

Analysis of Node Density and Pause Time Effects in MANET Routing Protocols using NS-3

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Abstract—Networks which function without having any centralized fixed infrastructure or central administration are called MANETs (Mobile Ad hoc Networks). These networks are formed by small or large set of mobile nodes and communicate through the wireless links. Such Networks requires best routing protocols to establish error-free and efficient communication links. MANETs has the property of dynamically changing topology due to their mobile nodes, which move from one place to another. Overall performance of MANET routing protocols depends upon various network and protocol parameters. Mobile ad hoc networks have the characteristics of self-forming and self-healing. The routing algorithms of the routing protocols ensure selection of routes and connectivity between the mobile nodes. This paper presents analysis of three well known routing protocols of MANETs, namely; AODV (Ad hoc On Demand Distance Vector), DSDV (Destination Sequenced Distance Vector) and OLSR (Optimized Link State Routing). Analyses of these routing protocols have been carried out using NS-3 (Network Simulator-3) by varying node density and node pause time. Different performance metrics such as throughput, packet delivery ratio, end to end delay, packet loss and normalized routing load have been considered for this analysis. This analysis concludes better performance of the OLSR routing protocol.

Index Terms—Throughput, Packet delivery ratio, End to end delay, Packet loss Routing, Simulation, NS-3 (Network Simulator -3).

I. INTRODUCTION

A mobile ad-hoc network often referred as MANET is a set of wireless nodes which move freely from one point to another without having any fixed infrastructure [1, 2]. These are self-forming and self-healing networks, nodes of such networks are mobile in nature, hence they acquire dynamic network topologies. In MANETs, any node can openly establish connection with the other nodes of the network with in the transmission range of the other nodes. Mobile ad hoc networks are lively subject of popular researches because of their application in Wi-Fi/802.11 supported portable devices that become extensive [3]. The aim behind all such new research is to improve performances of MANETs by improving performances of their routing protocols with the help of routing algorithms. MANET survivability varies with different routing protocols. Their survivability is also depends on factors like; node density, node pause time, varied transmission power and node mobility speed etc. MANET routing protocols are designed to regulate efficient and error free route links between the mobile nodes. Advancement in technology have achieved performance improvements in small, mobile-wireless devices like laptops, mobile phones etc. [4]. Based on procedure of route discovery, these routing protocols are classified into three types; proactive or table-driven, reactive or on-demand and hybrid. Hybrid routing protocols are developed by combining the features of proactive and reactive routing protocols [5].



Fig.1. Mobile Ad-hoc Network

In mobile ad-hoc networks, mobile nodes communicate each other using multi hop wireless links. These networks are usually deployed for various diverse applications like; military networks, conference rooms and in commercial applications like vehicle ad-hoc networks [6]. Due to mobility nature of the nodes, the physical network topology of these networks often changes randomly. MANETs do not possesses any stationary infrastructure like access points or base stations, thus, every node acts as router. These routers forward the progressing data packets to all their neighboring nodes. The well-known MANET routing protocols are; AODV (Ad hoc On

DSDV Demand Distance Vector), (Destination Sequenced Distance Vector), OLSR (Optimized Link State Routing), DSR (Dynamic Source Routing), and TORA (Temporally Ordered Routing Algorithm) [7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13]. Performance of these routing protocols depends upon various factors like; complex interplay of the protocol mechanisms and their specific parameter settings with traffic intensity, mobility, node density and conduct of the mobile wireless nodes. This paper presents simulation based analysis of AODV, DSDV and OLSR routing protocols with varied number of nodes and their pause time in different scenarios. Over the last few years, various MANET routing protocols have been developed and presented by the researchers. These researches improved their performance with respect to establishing error free and efficient routes between the nodes. We have carried out this analysis to study node density and node pause time effects in AODV, DSDV and OLSR. Our upcoming research will focus; presenting improved version of these routing protocols. This paper presents related works in section II, MANET routing protocols in section III, performance calculating matrices in section IV, simulation tools in section V, results and discussions in section VI and conclusions in section VII.

II. RELATED WORKS

Many researchers have studied comparative analysis of MANET routing protocols and presented their results to the research community for further research. Most of them used NS-2 (Network Simulator-2) in their analysis. Some of such research works have been discussed here. Teressa Longjam and Neha Bagoria have studied comparative analysis of DSDV and AODV and declared better performance of DSDV as per their simulation scenarios [14]. Rakesh Kumar Jha and Pooja Kharga have studied comparative analysis of OLSR, AODV and DSR, their conclusion states better performance of AODV [15]. D.Kumar & S.C.Gupta have studied transmission range, density & speed based performance analysis of OLSR, DSR and ZRP (Zone Routing Protocol). Based on their analysis and network scenarios, they concluded better performance of DSR [16]. Rajneesh Kumar, Jitender Grover and Anjali have studied analysis of network survivability with variable transmission range and mobility on AODV over MANET, their conclusion declares that the AODV has better performance with highest node mobility speed and higher transmission ranges; in terms of network survival and QoS parameters [17]. Researchers Ali Khosrozadeh, Abolfazle Akbari, Maryam Bagheri and Neda Beikmahdavi have studied conventional AODV routing protocol, their analysis have presented a new algorithm of AODV to the research community [25]. Some researchers have worked on solution to the energy constraints in mobile ad-hoc protocols. Researchers D.Loganathan, network P.Ramamoorthy have studied DSDV routing protocol, they presented the multicast parameters based DSDV (MPB-DSDV) routing protocol to enhance the energy efficient of ad hoc networks [26]. Researchers Charles E.

Perkins, T.J. Watson and Pravin Bhagwat have proposed an ad-hoc network which has supportive appointment of set of mobile nodes without the requisite involvement of any centralized base station or access point. Charles E. Perkins presented a state-of-the-art design for the ad-hoc networks operation. The indication behind the design is to make each mobile node as a specialized router. These nodes periodically announce their interconnection topology information with their neighbouring nodes and other mobile nodes within the network. These extents to a new kind of routing protocol in mobile ad-hoc networks. Charles E. Perkins has examined amendments to the basic Bellman-Ford routing mechanism, as quantified by conventional RIP (Routing Information Protocol), to mark it appropriate for a dynamic and self-starting network appliance for user's choice. These modifications address looping issues of conventional Bellman-Ford techniques, and helpful for the broken links [27].

III. MANET ROUTING PROTOCOLS

Here, in this paper, we present simulation based study and analysis of AODV, DSDV and OLSR routing protocols. These routing protocols are liable to establish the correct and efficient routes among the mobile nodes in MANETs. Routing is a process which discovers the error free and efficient routes between a source node and the destination node; it makes sure correct and timely delivery of data packets.

A. Ad-hoc on demand distance vector (AODV)

AODV is developed for mobile ad-hoc networks and other wireless ad-hoc networks. It is a reactive routing protocol; AODV was developed by C.Perkins, S.Das and E.Belding-Royer during July 2003 [18]. In ad-hoc on demand distance vector routing, discovery of route takes place subjected to route requests received from the neighboring nodes and other nodes in the network [19]. AODV maintains newest routing information by means of route discovery procedures and updated routing tables [20]. In AODV, path discovery takes place when a source node transmits RREQ (Route Request) message throughout the network until required destination reached.

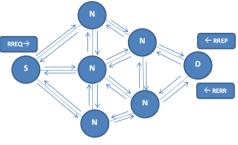


Fig.2. Message Transmission in AODV

Upon receiving RREQ message, the destination node generates RREP (Route Reply) message for the source node to ensure the path. During path breaks, the destination node generates a RERR (Route Error) message and transmits it throughout the network so that every node receives it. In Fig. 2, the source node 'S' is transmitting RREQ message, whereas the destination node 'D' is transmitting RREP message throughout the network of mobile nodes 'N'. The destination node 'D' generates RERR message when path break occurs between the source node 'S' and the destination node 'D.

B. Destination sequenced distance vector (DSDV)

DSDV is one of the proactive routing protocols of the MANETs. DSDV is an altered version of DBF (Distributed Bellman Ford) technique. This technique is used to calculate the shortest path. The conventional DBF technique creates certain routing loops during the routing process. The DSDV was developed to suppress this looping problem with the help of DSN (Destination Sequence Number) [21]. DSDV is similar to the RIP (Routing Information Protocol), excepting the DBF technique. In DSDV, mobile nodes transmit updated routing information and incremented sequence number throughout the network. Route selection process is carried out by the distance vector shortest path algorithm. DSDV minimizes its transmission overheads by using two updated packets namely; "full dump" and "incremental dump". The full dump packet holds the routing data, whereas the incremental dump holds only the changed data successively since the previous full dump.

C. Optimized Link State Routing (OLSR)

OLSR is one of the proactive protocols of the mobile ad hoc networks. OLSR was developed based on link state routing algorithm; OLSR uses optimized technique to extract information pertaining to the network topology [22]. In optimized link state routing, when there is a change in network topology occurs, flooding of information to all the network nodes happens. These flooding are minimized by the help of MPR (Multi Point Relays). Table-driven nature of the OLSR helps to broadcast updated routing tables to all the mobile nodes of the network. Various control messages are used in OLSR routing protocol; HELLO, TC (Topology Control), HNA (Host and Network Association) and MID (Multiple Interface Declaration). The OLSR broadcasts these control messages periodically that is why OLSR does not require usage of control message delivery. This aids OLSR to have reasonable losses in control messages.

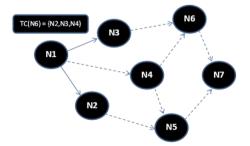


Fig.3. Control Message Transmission in OLSR

Fig.3 illustrates the processing of TC message from the node N1 to the network of seven mobile nodes N1, N2,

N3, N4, N5, N6 and N7, where N2, N3, and N4 are the neighbor nodes of the mobile node N1.

IV. PERFORMANCE METRICS

Various metrics are available to analyze the performances of the MANET routing protocols. Following metrics are taken into account for our simulation based analysis [15].

(1) Throughput

Throughput is the total data transmitted from the source node to the destination node in a time unit which is expressed in Kilobits per second (Kbps).

Throughput =
$$\frac{(\text{Total Received Bytes } \times \$)}{(\text{Simulation Time } \times 1024)}$$
 (1)

Unit of throughput is Kbps. Higher values of the throughput provide better performance.

(2) Packet Delivery Ratio (PDR)

Packet Delivery Ratio is the fraction of amount of received packets to the amount of sent packets.

$$PDR = \frac{Amount of Received Packets}{Amount of Packets Sent} \times 100\%$$
(2)

PDR is derived in % (percentage). Higher values of PDR provide better performance.

(3) End to End Delay (EED)

EED is the average time interval between packets generated at the source and effective delivery of these packets at the destination. EED is the fraction of delay sum to the packets received.

$$EED = \frac{Delay Sum}{Packets Received}$$
(3)

EED is derived in mille seconds (ms). Lower values of EED provide better performance.

(4) Packet Loss (PL)

Packet loss is the difference of total packets sent and the total packets received.

Packet loss is derived in number of packets.

(5) Normalized Routing Load (NRL)

NRL is the ratio of the numbers of transmitted routing packets to the number of packets received [23].

$$NRL = \frac{Number of Routing Packets Sent}{Number of Packets Received}$$
(5)

Larger values of NRL provide better and enhanced

performance however, higher values of NRL leads to reduced efficiency in terms of ingestion of bandwidth.

V. NETWORK SIMULATOR -3 (NS -3)

We have used NS-3(Network Simulator-3) version 3.13 for our simulation based experiments. NS-3 is an open source discrete-event based network simulating software developed specially for research and educational purposes. NS-3 is licensed under GNU GPLv2 license and it is publicly available for research and development. The NS-3 project builds a solid simulation core, easy to use and debug. "NS-3 core caters the needs of the simulation workflow, from the simulation configuration to trace collection and analysis. The NS-3 simulation core supports research on both IP and non-IP based networks" [24]. Majority of NS-3 users emphases on wireless/IP simulations. NS-3 is developed using C++ high level programming language with the optional python bindings. NS-3 has enhanced simulation reliability. It is not backward adjusted with NS-2 (Network Simulator-2). NS-3 is built from the scratch to replace application program interfaces (APIs) of NS-2. Some modules of NS-2 have been ported in it. NS-3 does not support APIs of

NS-2 [15]. NS-3 supports real-time schedulers which simplifies number of "simulations-in-the-loop". Packets generated by the NS-3 can be emitted and receive on real network devices. NS-3 is aligned with the simulation needs of modern networking research.

VI. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Simulation based experiments and performance comparison of mobile ad-hoc network routing protocols (AODV, DSDV and OLSR) have been carried out in two different scenarios, in first scenario (SS-I), we varied node density and in another (SS-II), varied pause time have been taken into account. The simulation scenarios and obtained results are illustrated in the following tables and graphs.

A. Simulation Scenario - I (SS-I)

General Network parameters that have been taken into account for simulation scenario-I are mentioned in the Table 1. In SS-I, number of nodes have been varied keeping 10 number of source/sink connection fixed.

1	Number of Nodes	30,40,50,60,70,80,90,100		
2	Simulation Time	150 seconds		
3	Pause Time	No pause time		
4	Wi-Fi mode	Ad-hoc		
5	Wi-Fi Rate	2Mbps (802.11b)		
6	Transmit Power	7.5 dBm,		
7	Mobility model	Random Waypoint mobility model		
8	No.of Source/Sink	10		
9	Sent Data Rate	2048 bits per second (2.048Kbps)		
10	Packet Size	64 Bytes		
11	Node Speed	20 m/s		
12	Protocols used	AODV,DSDV and OLSR		
13	Region	300x1500 m		
14	Loss Model	Friis loss model		

Table 1. Network Parameters for SS-I

(1) Throughput

calculate the throughput as per throughput metrics, results so obtained are mentioned in Table 2.

Captured experimental packet data have been used to

Tabl	e 2	. Throug	ghput	in	Kbps
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No. of Nodes	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
30	16.04	14.95	18.27
40	17.93	14.3	16.93
50	14.47	12.64	17.99
60	1.87	14.87	18.91
70	9.73	14.58	18.99
80	11.62	15.6	18.60
90	0.68	13.47	17.47
100	1.42	13.58	18.45

Fig. 4 explores performance of AODV, DSDV and OLSR in terms of average throughput with the increasing

node density. OLSR has shown better performance as compared to AODV and DSDV. AODV has performed

better than DSDV for smaller number of nodes however, DSDV has shown better performance for large number of nodes.

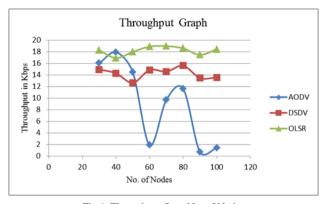


Fig.4. Throughput Over No. of Nodes

(2) Packet Delivery Ratio (PDR)

Data of Table 3 have been extracted from the packet data obtained from the experiments and the metrics of the packet delivery ratio.

		r	
No. of Nodes	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
30	80.22	74.73	91.33
40	89.63	71.52	84.67
50	72.33	63.22	89.93
60	9.35	74.35	94.55
70	48.63	72.88	94.97
80	58.08	77.98	93.00
90	3.42	67.33	87.37
100	7.08	67.88	92.25

Table 3. Packet Delivery Ratio in %

From the results, packet delivery ratio of the OLSR routing protocol is found better than that of AODV and DSDV. Here, AODV has performed well for smaller number of nodes but, DSDV has shown better results for higher number of nodes.

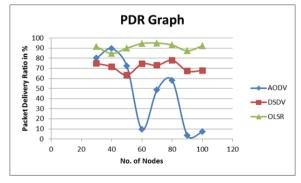


Fig.5. PDR Over No. of Nodes

(3) End to End Delay (EED)

Table 4 shows the data sheet of end to end delay calculated from the experimental data and the metrics.

Table 4. End to End Delay in Mille Seconds

No. of Nodes	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
30	6.17	8.45	2.37
40	2.89	9.96	4.53
50	9.56	14.55	2.8
60	242.38	8.62	1.44
70	26.41	9.30	1.33
80	18.04	7.06	1.88
90	706.71	12.13	3.62
100	327.94	11.83	2.10

OLSR has shown better results as compare to the rest two routing protocols however, when comparing AODV and DSDV, the AODV has performed fine for smaller number of nodes and the DSDV has shown better performance for higher number of nodes.

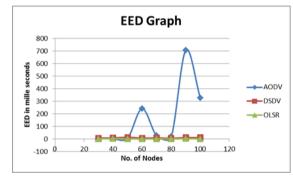


Fig.6. EED Over No. of Nodes

(4) Packet Loss (PL)

Here, OLSR has least number of packet losses as compare to AODV and DSDV. Table 5 explores the PL of all the three routing protocols.

Τa	able 5.	Packet	Los	s in	No.	of	Packe	ets

No. of Nodes	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
30	1187	1516	520
40	622	1709	920
50	1660	2207	604
60	5439	1539	327
70	3082	1627	302
80	2515	1321	420
90	5795	1960	758
100	5575	1927	465

When comparing AODV and DSDV, AODV has lesser packet losses for smaller number of nodes and the DSDV has less number of these losses for higher number of nodes.

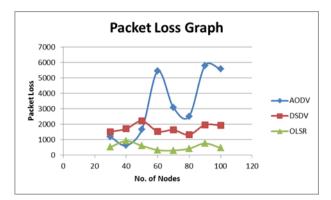


Fig.7. Packet loss Over No. of Nodes

(5) Normalized Routing Load (NRL)

NRL data sheet shows better performance of the OLSR as compare to AODV and DSDV.

No. of Nodes	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
30	0.802	0.747	0.913
40	0.896	0.715	0.847
50	0.723	0.632	0.899
60	0.094	0.744	0.946
70	0.486	0.729	0.95
80	0.581	0.78	0.93
90	0.034	0.673	0.874
100	0.071	0.679	0.923

Table 6. NRL

Like in other metrics discussed above, AODV has better values for smaller number of nodes and the DSDV has performed well for higher number of nodes.

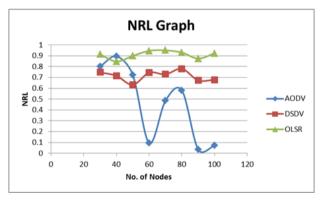


Fig.8. NRL Over No. of Nodes

B. Simulation Scenario - II (SS-II)

General Network parameters for SS-II have been chosen as per Table - 3.7. In SS-II, pause times of nodes have been varied while keeping 10 numbers of fixed source/sink connections. Random waypoint mobility model has been considered for this experiment.

1	Number of Nodes	50
2	Simulation Time	150 seconds
3	Pause Time (Seconds)	5,10,15,20,25,30
4	Wi-Fi mode	Ad-hoc
5	Wi-Fi Rate	2Mbps (802.11b)
6	Transmit Power	7.5 dBm,
7	Mobility model	Random Waypoint mobility model
8	No. of Source/Sink	10
9	Sent Data Rate	2048 bits per second (2.048Kbps)
10	Packet Size	64 Bytes
11	Node Speed	20 m/s
12	Protocols used	AODV,DSDV and OLSR
13	Region	300x1500 m
14	Loss Model	Friis loss model

Table 7. Network Parameters for SS-II

(1) Throughput

Here, average throughput of the OLSR is better found as compare to AODV and DSDV routing protocols.

Table 8. Throughput in Kbps

Pause Time in Seconds	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
5	2.88	12.96	17.91
10	5.20	13.25	17.80
15	13.55	14.31	17.48
20	16.27	12.75	18.74
25	16.42	12.21	18.69
30	14.21	12.76	18.27

When comparing AODV and DSDV, AODV is found better performing for higher node pause times, whereas DSDV has shown better results for smaller values of the node pause time.

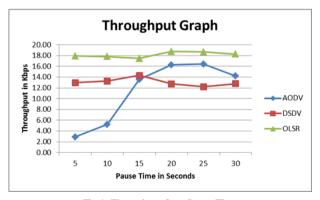


Fig.9. Throughput Over Pause Time

(2) Packet Delivery Ratio (PDR)

As per data sheet shown in Table 9, OLSR protocol has shown better results as compare to AODV and DSDV.

Pause Time in Seconds	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
5	14.42	64.82	89.55
10	25.98	66.23	89.02
15	67.77	71.53	87.40
20	81.37	63.73	93.72
25	82.10	61.03	93.45
30	71.07	63.78	91.35

Table 9. Packet Delivery Ratio in %

When comparing AODV and DSDV, AODV has shown better performance for higher node pause times, whereas DSDV has shown better results for the lower pause times.

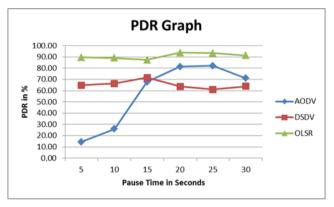


Fig.10. PDR Over Pause Time

(3) End to End Delay (EED)

Here, among all the three routing protocols, OLSR has shown better performance in terms of delay.

Т	able	10.	EED	in	Mille	Seconds	

Pause Time in Seconds	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
5	148.410	13.570	2.920
10	71.220	12.750	3.080
15	11.890	9.950	3.600
20	5.730	14.230	1.680
25	5.450	15.960	1.750
30	10.180	14.200	2.370

AODV has larger delays for lesser pause times but it has lesser delay values for higher node pause times. DSDV has lesser delay values for lesser node pause times as compare to AODV.

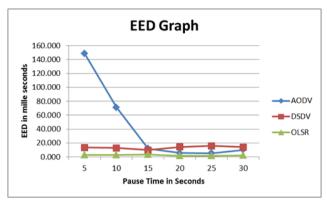


Fig.11. EED Over Pause Time

(4) Packet Loss (PL)

As compare to AODV and DSDV, OLSR has lesser packet losses for the node pause time variation.

Table 11	Packet lo	oss in No.	of packets

Pause Time in Seconds	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
5	5135	2111	627
10	4441	2026	659
15	1934	1708	756
20	1118	2176	377
25	1074	2338	393
30	1736	2173	519

When Comparing AODV and DSDV, DSDV has lesser packet losses for lesser pause time values and AODV has lesser packet losses for higher node pause times.

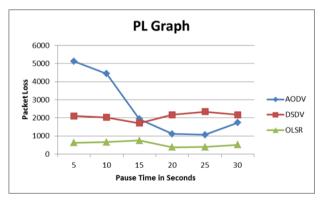


Fig.12. PL Over Pause Time

(5) Normalized Routing Load (NRL)

NRL values of OLSR protocol have shown better results as compare to AODV and DSDV routing protocols.

Pause Time in Seconds	AODV	DSDV	OLSR
5	0.144	0.648	0.896
10	0.260	0.662	0.890
15	0.678	0.715	0.874
20	0.814	0.637	0.937
25	0.821	0.610	0.935
30	0.711	0.638	0.914

Table 12. Normalized Routing Load

When comparing AODV and DSDV, AODV has performed better for higher pause times and the DSDV has better results for lesser node pause times. Fig. 13 illustrates the better performance of the OLSR routing protocol as compare to AODV and DSDV. The green line in the graph shows the performance of the OLSR routing protocol, likewise; blue line represents the performance of the AODV protocol and the brown line represents the performance of the DSDV routing protocol. These lines represent performance of all the three routing protocols with respect to increasing node density and the node pause times.

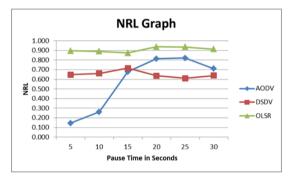


Fig.13. NRL Over Pause Time

VII. CONCLUSIONS

As per the simulation based experiments in both the scenarios (Scenario-I & Scenario-II), it is noticed that the performance of the OLSR routing protocol is better in all the metric calculations as compare to the DSDV and AODV routing protocols. In scenario-I, throughput of the OLSR is better, whereas AODV and DSDV are concerned, initially throughput of the AODV is better, but after certain point of time, it decreases. DSDV is performing well as compare to AODV, in terms of throughput. In rest metrics too, OLSR has good results as compare to AODV and DSDV. In scenario-II, OLSR is performing well as compared to rest two routing protocols. As far as AODV and DSDV are concerned, DSDV performed well as compare to AODV in all the metrics we used here. However, in some cases, performance of the DSDV routing protocol is found improved. In some other cases, performance of AODV is found well. These conclusions are totally based on the NS-3, version 3.13, and the network parameters that we set for our analysis. However, performance of the MANET routing protocols depends on various factors like, transmit power, no. of source/sink connections, node density, node velocity, transmission region, transmission range, type of load traffic, Wi-Fi rate and packet size etc. Future research can be carried out by varying the network parameters as well as protocol parameters for further improvement in the MANET routing protocols.

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