

# Securing Network Services for Wireless Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks

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**Abstract**

Securing Network Services for Wireless Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks

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Wireless ad hoc and sensor networks are envisioned to be self-organized, self-healing and autonomous networks, deployed when no fixed infrastructure is either feasible or cost-effective. However, the successful commercialization of such networks depends on the implementation of *secure* network services, for supporting secure applications.

In this dissertation, we investigate the following important problems for the wireless ad hoc environment. We address the problem of group access control for secure group communications in ad hoc networks. Compared to the existing approaches for infrastructure-based networks, we show that in the ad hoc case, the network topology must be taken into account in the design of a resource-efficient key management schemes. To conserve energy, we incorporate the node location, the “power proximity” between nodes, the path loss characteristics of the medium and the routing topology, in the key management scheme design.

Furthermore, we address the problem of *secure localization*, that is, the problem of enabling the nodes of an ad hoc network to determine their location, in the presence of adversaries. We propose a novel range-independent localization algorithm called SeRLoc that is well suited in resource-constrained environments such as Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN). Furthermore we propose a high-resolution localization algorithm called HiRLoc, that improves the accuracy of SeRLoc, with no extra hardware requirements, while it provides the same robustness against attacks.

We also investigate the *wormhole attack* in ad hoc networks, an attack that can disrupt





vital network functions. We present a graph theoretic framework for modeling wormholes and derive the necessary and sufficient conditions for detecting and defending against wormhole attacks. Based on our framework, we show that any candidate solution preventing wormholes should satisfy our framework, and propose a cryptographic mechanism based on *local broadcast keys* that prevents wormholes.

Finally, we study two fundamental problems on the quantification of the performance of WSN. We address the problem of coverage in stochastically deployed WSN and the problem of detecting mobile targets crossing the deployment region. Using tools from Integral Geometry and Geometric Probability we provide analytical formulas for heterogeneous WSN, where sensors do not have identical sensing capabilities.



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACLA: Attach to Closer Locator Algorithm

CGA: Closest Guard Algorithm

ELRA: Enhanced Location Resolution Algorithm

FOI: Field of Interest

GC: Group Controller

GPS: Global Positioning System

HIRLOC: High-resolution Robust Localization

ID: Instant Detection

KEK: Key Encryption Key

LE: Localization Error

LH: Locators Heard

LOCKED: Location-Aware Key Distribution

MG: Multicast Group

PAKED-KM: Power-Aware Key Distribution - K-medoids

PAKED-DH: Power-Aware Key Distribution - Divisible Hierarchy



RA: Refinement Algorithm

RAWKEY: Routing-Aware Key Distribution

ROI: Region of Intersection

SD: Sampling Detection

SEK: Session Encryption Key

SERLOC: Secure Range-independent Localization

TEK: Traffic Encryption Key

WSN: Wireless Sensor Network

VP3: Vertex Path Power Proximity Algorithm

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## Chapter 1

**INTRODUCTION**

The ability to manufacture low-cost wireless-embedded devices, has facilitated the deployment of a large number of those devices, interconnected in an ad hoc networking mode. Wireless ad hoc networks, as opposed to cellular or wireless LAN networks, do not rely on a pre-deployed network infrastructure. Communication is realized via multi-hop message forwarding, with the intermediate network nodes being responsible for relaying traffic from the source to the destination. Hence, ad hoc networks appear as the solution to numerous applications where cost, time, or space do not allow the deployment of an infrastructure-based network. As an example, ad hoc networks are expected to significantly facilitate civilian applications such as disaster relief and emergency rescue operations, patient monitoring and drug inventory management, home networking, as well as military applications such as surveillance networks, target monitoring and real-time information distribution [1].

While ad hoc networks offer significant advantages in terms of flexibility and cost, they pose great challenges in realizing secure communications via attack-resistant network functions. Oftentimes, ad hoc networks operate untethered in hostile environments in which case, an adversary may eavesdrop communications, attempt to inject false messages into the network, impersonate valid network nodes, or compromise nodes causing them to misbehave. Given that ad hoc networks rely on the cooperation principle, attacks on even a few network nodes can have a significant impact in the overall network performance.

Furthermore, the wireless devices operate on limited battery capacity and, hence, are constrained in both computational power and communication capabilities. Hence, security mechanisms developed for wired networks cannot always be applied to the resource constrained ad hoc networks. As an example, public key cryptography solutions cannot be adopted in sensor networks, due to the computationally intensive exponentiations re-

quired [20]. While computational constraints limit the range of cryptographic mechanism that can be employed, the energy expenditure due to communication has been noted as the dominant factor in battery depletion [97]. In fact, studies in [97] show that the ratio of the energy required to transmit one bit of information compared to the energy required to execute one instruction is on the order of 1,500 to 2,200 for the sensors in [105]. To extend the lifetime of the devices, it is critical that both the communication model and the algorithms used, reduce the energy requirements for communication.

If network nodes are equipped with omnidirectional antennae, the broadcast communication model conserves significant amounts of energy when one message must be delivered to multiple recipients. A single transmission is sufficient to deliver the same message to any receiver within the sender's communication range. However, while group communications benefit in terms of energy efficiency from the broadcast nature of the communication medium, anyone within the communication range of the sender can eavesdrop the broadcasted data. Hence, one needs to develop mechanisms that will ensure that only authorized parties have access to the broadcasted data, at any time.

While access control protects the confidentiality of the data transmitted, securing the communication medium does not guarantee the uninterrupted provision of network service. There have been numerous side channel attacks reported in the literature [32, 48, 52, 85, 93] that have been shown to degrade the network functionality and interrupt the network communications. As an example, an adversary may attempt to disrupt the routing service in order to prevent the communication among the network nodes [52, 85]. Routing can be disrupted by launching a variety of attacks [52, 64, 85], that are not necessarily related to routing. For instance, by spoofing the locations of the network nodes, an adversary can cause a significant disruption of routing that relies on geographical forwarding [64]. Hence, security must be considered at all layers of the network, in order to provide the required fault tolerance to attacks. We now describe the problems investigated in this dissertation.

### ***1.1 Problems Addressed and Contributions***

In this dissertation, we investigate five challenging problems in wireless ad hoc networks. We initially study the problem of energy efficient key management for secure multicast in

wireless ad hoc networks. We then study the problem of secure location estimation for ad hoc and sensor networks. Furthermore, we address the problem of the wormhole attack [48, 52], a type of attack that is easy to mount and difficult to detect [48]. To facilitate the analytical evaluation of the security level achieved using our methods, we also investigate the problem of stochastic coverage in heterogeneous sensor networks. Finally, we address the problem of detecting mobile targets in heterogeneous sensor networks.

### 1.1.1 Resource-Efficient Group Key Management for Secure Multicast in Ad Hoc Networks

As group-oriented services become the focal point of ad hoc network applications, securing the group communications becomes a default requirement. Group applications such as broadcast-on-demand, teleconferencing, telemedicine, pay-per-view, are expected to migrate from the wired networks to the wireless ad-hoc networks. Due to the anticipated size of such networks and the limited energy resources of the wireless devices, securing group communications requires the availability of an energy-efficient and scalable key management system, that can accommodate the dynamics of the communication group. Group membership is expected to be highly dynamic due to users subscribing and unsubscribing from the multicast services, as well as intermittent connectivity due to the varying network topology.

In this dissertation, we address the problem of key management for secure multicast communications in wireless ad hoc networks, that is, *the energy-efficient distribution and maintenance of cryptographic quantities to the members of a communication group called, the multicast group, so that access to group data is restricted only to valid group members, at any time.* We formulate the problem of key management as an optimization problem and study its complexity under three important network resources; storage, bandwidth and energy expenditure. While optimal solutions exist in terms of storage and number of messages transmitted by the entity managing the group membership, also known as the *Group Controller (GC)*, we show that finding the optimal solution with respect to the network bandwidth and energy expenditure requirements, is an NP-hard problem.

We also show that optimization of storage requires bandwidth and energy resource that grow exponentially with the group size and, hence, no universal solution exists that would

simultaneously optimize all three resources. Hence, we study tree-based key structures that are known to be scalable in both storage and bandwidth [52, 90, 123], and attempt to optimize these structures with respect to energy expenditure.

We show that the energy expended by the network to distribute cryptographic quantities depends both on the network topology and path-loss parameters of the medium, and introduce a new metric called *average key update energy* to evaluate the energy efficiency of key management schemes. To reduce the energy expended by the ad hoc network to perform key management, we devise a topology dependent key management scheme that exploits node location information to build a key-tree hierarchy, in the absence of any other information. When routing information is available, we first propose a simple heuristic algorithm that takes into account the energy required to deliver a message to each member of the communication group. We illustrate the impact of different routing strategies on the energy efficiency of the key management schemes. Finally, we propose a cross-layer design based on network flows, that explicitly takes into account the flow of the information from the *GC* to the members of the communication group, and show that its performance is within a bound from the optimal solution. Our cross-layer designs for key management lead to a significant reduction in energy expenditure compared to previous approaches that did not take into account the network topology [21, 111, 112].

### 1.1.2 *Secure Location Estimation in Wireless Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks*

Wireless ad hoc and sensor networks primarily provide network services, such as environment monitoring, and/or user communication. While communication among users does not always require knowledge of location information, in environmental monitoring application collected data need to be correlated with the geographical position where the information is recorded. As an example, the report for an overheated room from a sensor  $s_i$  is useful only when the report is associated with the location  $(x_i, y_i)$  of  $s_i$ . Given the location of the sensor, one can react either using the network itself (actuation networks), or using some external intervention method. Hence, nodes need to be aware of their positions in order to stamp the reported events with the location where the events occurred. Finally, location



is assumed to be known in many ad hoc network protocols such as the key management scheme we develop in this dissertation, or geographical routing [6].

Since ad hoc networks may be deployed in a non-deterministic way, the position of the nodes cannot be known a priori. Hence, nodes need to estimate their location via a process known as the *location estimation process* or the *localization process* [4, 15, 31, 44, 45, 81, 83, 84, 94, 104, 106, 117]. The use of the widely available Global Positioning System (GPS) [45] may not be feasible, since the network devices are envisioned to be low-cost and have a small form factor. Furthermore, even if GPS-enabled devices are assumed, GPS cannot be employed in indoor environments. Hence, a number of techniques have been proposed for node localization in ad hoc networks that do not make use of the GPS, except for a small number of reference points [4, 15, 44, 81, 83, 94, 104, 117]. These techniques investigate the problem of location estimation in a non-adversarial setting.

However, ad hoc networks may be deployed in hostile environments where nodes operate untethered. The network becomes vulnerable to conventional and new attacks [48, 52, 85] aimed at interrupting the functionality of location-aware applications and network functions by exploiting the vulnerabilities of the location estimation process. Hence, one needs to ensure that the location of nodes is robustly estimated in the presence of adversaries.

In this dissertation, we investigate the problem of secure location estimation in the presence of adversaries. We propose *SeRLoc*, a novel range-independent localization scheme for wireless ad hoc networks based on a two-tier network architecture, that achieves decentralized, resource-efficient robust node localization, and can accommodate limited node mobility. We illustrate well known security threats against the localization process, such as the wormhole attack [48, 85], the Sybil attack [32, 82], and compromise of network entities, and provide mechanisms that allow each node to determine its location *even* in the presence of those threats. Furthermore, we analytically evaluate the probability of success for each type of attack using *spatial statistics* theory [29]. Based on our performance evaluation, we show that SeRLoc localizes nodes with higher accuracy than state-of-the-art decentralized range-independent localization schemes [15, 44, 81, 83], and is robust against varying sources of error. We also present HiRLoc, a high resolution localization algorithm that improves the accuracy of SeRLoc, while not degrading its robustness to attacks.

### 1.1.3 Graph Theoretic Framework for Preventing the Wormhole Attack in Ad Hoc Networks

One severe attack in ad hoc networks, able to disrupt vital network function such as the location estimation process [63–65], routing [48,52,85], and the data aggregation process [96] is the *wormhole attack*. In the wormhole attack, the adversary establishes a low-latency unidirectional or bi-directional link, such as a wired or long-range wireless link, between two points in the network that are not within communication range of each other. The attacker then records one or more messages at one end of the link, tunnels them via the link to the other end, and replays them into the network in a timely manner. The wormhole attack is easily implemented and particularly challenging to detect, since it does not require breach of the authenticity and confidentiality of communication, or the compromise of any host.

In this dissertation, we present a graph theoretic framework for modeling wormhole links and derive the necessary and sufficient conditions for detecting and defending against wormhole attacks. Based on our framework, we show that any candidate solution preventing wormholes should construct a communication graph that is a subgraph of the geometric graph defined by the radio range of the network nodes. Making use of our framework, we propose a cryptographic mechanism based on *local broadcast keys* in order to prevent wormholes. Our solution does not need time synchronization or time measurement, requires only a small fraction of the nodes to know their location, and is decentralized. Hence, it is suitable for networks with the most stringent constraints such as ad hoc networks.

### 1.1.4 Stochastic Coverage for Heterogeneous Sensor Networks

Sensors networks may be deployed to monitor physical properties such as temperature, humidity, air quality, or track the motion of objects moving within the *FoI*. The availability of monitoring information can be measured by computing the *coverage* of the *FoI*, achieved by the sensor network deployment. Coverage quantifies how well a *FoI* is monitored<sup>1</sup>. The

---

<sup>1</sup>Once the information has been collected by the sensors, an additional mechanism known as data aggregation [56], is required to timely communicate the available information for processing.

coverage problem has been studied under different objectives, depending on the requirements and constraints of the applications. If the location of the deployed sensors can be pre-selected, the coverage problem reduces to the problem of finding the optimal placement for sensors such that a target coverage is met [51, 92].

However, for large sensor networks, it is impractical to perform deterministic coverage of the *FoI*, since the number of sensors that need to be placed is often prohibitively large. Instead, sensors are deployed in the field of interest according to a pre-selected distribution. For stochastically deployed sensor networks, the coverage problem quantifies how well the *FoI* is monitored when a number of sensors is deployed according to a known distribution. This problem is also known as the stochastic coverage problem [55, 72, 75, 78, 125].

In this dissertation, we analyze the following stochastic coverage problem. Given a planar *FoI* and  $N$  sensors deployed according to a known distribution, compute the fraction of the *FoI* that is covered by at least  $k$  sensors ( $k \geq 1$ ). The problem can also be rephrased as, given a *FoI* and a sensor distribution, how many sensors must be deployed in order for every point in the field of interest to be covered by at least  $k$  sensors with a probability  $p$  ( $k$ -coverage problem) [125]. We formulate the stochastic coverage problem as a set intersection problem, arising in Integral geometry and Geometric Probability [102]. Our formulation allows us to derive analytical coverage expressions even when the sensors have heterogeneous sensing capabilities and are deployed according to any stochastic distribution.

### 1.1.5 Detecting Mobile Targets in Heterogeneous Sensor Networks

Target detection and field surveillance are among the most prominent applications of Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN). The quality of detection achieved by the deployment of a WSN can be quantified by evaluating the probability of detecting a mobile target crossing an *FoI*. For the purposes of target detection, a smaller number of sensors needs to be deployed compared to the number of nodes that must be deployed to achieve coverage of the *FoI*, since sensors have the opportunity to detect a mobile target along its trajectory within the *FoI*.

In this dissertation, we analytically evaluate the target detection probability when  $N$

sensors are deployed to monitor a  $FoI$ . We map the target detection problem under both stochastic and deterministic sensor deployment, to a line-set intersection problem, and derive analytic formulas using tools from Integral Geometry and Geometric Probability. Compared to previous works, our formulation allows us to consider a heterogeneous sensing model, where each sensor can have a different and arbitrary sensing area.

For stochastic sensor deployment, we also analytically evaluate the mean time until a target is first detected, a critical measure for timely detection. For the deterministic deployment case, we show that the probability of detecting a target increases as the distance among the sensors monitoring the  $FoI$  increases. We also show that the number of terms required to compute the placement of sensors that maximizes the target detection probability, grows exponentially with the number of sensors that monitor the  $FoI$ .

## **1.2 Organization of the Dissertation**

The rest of the dissertation is organized as follows. In Chapter 2, we investigate the problem of key management for secure group communication in wireless ad hoc networks. In Chapter 3, we address the problem of secure location estimation in wireless ad hoc and sensor networks. In Chapter 4, we present a graph theoretic formulation of the wormhole attack in ad hoc networks, and propose a distributed solution. In Chapter 5, we address the problem of stochastic coverage in heterogeneous sensor networks. In Chapter 6, we analytically characterize the detection probability of mobile targets in heterogeneous sensor networks. In Chapter 7, we present the summary of our contributions and future research directions.

## Chapter 2

**RESOURCE-EFFICIENT GROUP KEY MANAGEMENT FOR  
SECURE MULTICAST IN AD HOC NETWORKS**

Many group applications already implemented in wired networks will be extended to wireless ad hoc networks. As an example, video-on-demand, teleconferencing, telemedicine, are envisioned to be realized in the wireless ad hoc environment. Critical requirements for the commercial success of such group applications is the provision of security and resource-efficiency. Multicast is the most suitable model for reducing the incurring network load when traffic needs to be securely delivered from a single authorized sender to a large group of valid receivers. Provision of security for multicast sessions can be realized through encrypting the session traffic with cryptographic keys [17, 120, 123]. All multicast members must hold valid keys in order to be able to decrypt the received information.

While multicasting in group communications provides both energy and bandwidth efficiency, *access control* policies are necessary in order to restrict access to the contents of multicast transmissions to valid members of the *Multicast Group* (*MG*). A bandwidth and computationally efficient solution to this problem uses a single symmetric cryptographic key, called the *Session Encryption Key* (*SEK*), that is shared by the multicast source and all members of the *MG* [17, 120, 123]. Using the *SEK*, the sender needs to perform only one encryption and one transmission to send data to the *MG*, while the *MG* members need only perform a single decryption to receive the data.

In the case where the *MG* is dynamic, the valid members of *MG* need to be updated with a new *SEK* after every membership change so that new members do not gain access to past data (backward secrecy [17, 120, 123]), and deleted members do not access future transmissions (forward secrecy [17, 120, 123]). In order to update the *SEK*, additional keys called *Key Encryption Keys* (*KEKs*) are used by the entity managing the cryptographic keys, known as the *Group Controller* (*GC*). Hence, the problem of controlling access to the

multicast data reduces to the problem of managing and distributing the SEK and KEKs to the members of  $MG$ . This problem is known as the *Key Management Problem* or *Key Distribution Problem* (KDP) [17, 120, 123].

Previous research on the KDP in wired networks [17, 120, 123] mainly focused on designing scalable systems that reduce costs in terms of key storage at each member, and number of messages the  $GC$  has to transmit to update keys after a membership change. Through the use of tree-based key structures, member key storage and  $GC$  transmissions have been reduced to the order of  $\mathcal{O}(\log |MG|)$  [17, 120, 123].

While key storage and sender communication cost are important performance metrics even in wireless ad-hoc networks, total energy expended by the network, and total communication overhead, are critical parameters for the viability and operability of many network services, including the secure multicast service, when the network devices are resource-limited. However, the energy and total communication overhead were not a major concern in wired networks. Thus, the solutions proposed for the KDP in wired networks [17, 120, 123], are not sufficient for wireless ad-hoc networks.

## 2.1 Our Contributions

We make the observation that, for the wireless ad hoc network environment, the energy expenditure and bandwidth requirement for distributing messages from a single source to multiple receivers (physical layer), depends upon the network topology (network layer). Hence, one can distribute cryptographic keys in a resource efficient way (application layer) by employing a cross-layer design. The Figure 2.1 shows the type of cross-layer interaction used in the design of the key management scheme.

We examine the KDP under four metrics, each of which involves optimizing one of following network resources: (a) *member key storage*, (b) *GC transmissions*, (c) number of messages sent by the network to update the SEK and related KEKs, which we refer to as *MG update messages*, and (d) the energy expended by the network for delivering the update messages to valid members of  $MG$  after a member deletion, which we refer to as *average update energy cost*. We formulate the relevant optimization problem for each metric, and provide the optimal solution when possible. We show that metrics (a) and (b) do not

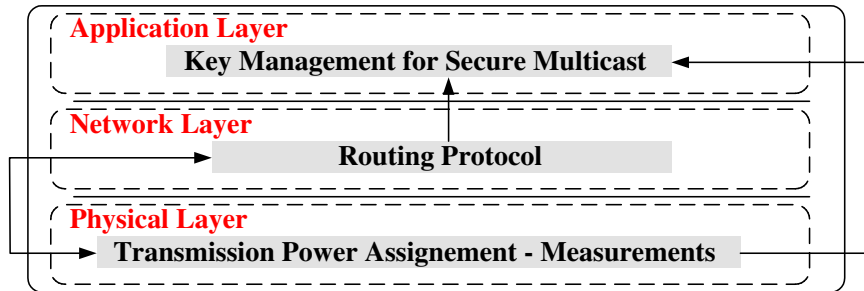


Figure 2.1: Schematic of the type of cross-layer interaction that is used in our energy-efficient key management scheme.

depend on the network topology and unique solutions to the KDP can be obtained that are equivalent to the optimal solutions provided for wired networks [17, 120, 123]. Metrics (c) and (d), however, are directly related to the network topology and depend on both the network and physical layer.

We prove that finding the key assignment structure that minimizes the  $MG$  update messages is an NP-complete problem. We further prove that finding the key assignment structure that minimizes update energy cost for rekeying is also an NP-complete problem. In addition, we show that no solution can concurrently optimize all four metrics and hence, there exists a tradeoff among them. Hence, we focus on finding a heuristic that bounds member key storage and  $GC$  transmissions, and at the same time provides suboptimal performance in terms of  $MG$  update messages and update energy cost.

Our proposed heuristics rely on the key-tree structures used in wired networks [17, 120, 123] however, they take the network topology into account to reduce the average update energy cost and bandwidth requirements. We study the properties of the average update energy cost in terms of the network size, key tree degree and medium path loss model, and derive an upper bound of the metric in terms of these parameters. We optimize the degree of the key tree to derive the lowest upper bound.

Observing that energy savings occur when an identical message is delivered to a set of nodes reached by common routing paths, we define and use the idea of “power proximity” to group nodes in the key tree. We also make the observation that when the transmission medium is homogeneous with constant attenuation factor, the “power proximity” property is a monotonically increasing mapping to physical proximity. Hence, we replace “power

proximity” with physical proximity by using Euclidean distance. When the medium is heterogeneous, we note that due to varying path loss parameter, “power proximity” is no longer a monotonic mapping to physical proximity. In this case, we directly incorporate “power proximity” by considering the transmission power in grouping nodes in the key tree.

We also present an analytical computation of the average update energy when routing information is available. We develop a simple suboptimal, cross-layer algorithm called RawKey that considers the node transmission power (physical layer property) and the multicast routing topology (network layer property) in order to construct an energy-efficient key management scheme (application layer property). After showing that the cross-layer design has to make use of underlying broadcast routing, we analyze the impact of recently proposed multicast routing protocols on the energy expenditure due to key updated communication overhead. We consider power-efficient multicast routing algorithms such as the Broadcast Incremental Power (BIP) [122], the Embedded Wireless Multicast Advantage (EWMA) [16], the Minimum Spanning Tree (MST) [7] and the Shortest Path Routing (SPR) [7].

Finally we propose a heuristic called VP3, that makes use of network flows to build an energy and bandwidth efficient key assignment structure. We establish performance bounds for VP3 and through extensive simulations, show that VP3 makes near optimal key assignment decisions. We present the energy and bandwidth efficiency improvement achieved by VP3 over RawKey. This improvement comes at the expense of increased algorithmic complexity of  $\mathcal{O}(|MG|^2)$  versus  $\mathcal{O}(|MG|)$  of RawKey. Finally, we propose On-line VP3, an  $\mathcal{O}(|MG|)$  complexity algorithm, that performs dynamic maintenance of the key assignment structure, by inserting and deleting members without having to rebuild the key assignment structure after each membership change.

## 2.2 Network Assumptions and Notation

### *Network deployment*

We assume that the network consists of  $N$  multicast members plus the  $GC$ , randomly distributed in a specific area. We consider a single-sender multiple-receiver communication model. All users are capable of being relay nodes and can collaboratively relay information



Table 2.1: Notation used for the key distribution problem.

$GC$	: Group Controller
$\{m\}_{K_{l,j}}$	: Message $m$ is encrypted with key $K_{l,j}$
$MG$	: Multicast Group
$S_{l,j}(T)$	: Set of multicast group members that hold key $K_{l,j}$ in $T$
$N$	: Multicast group size
$P_{M_i}$	: Total power required to unicast a message from $GC$ to $M_i$
$M_i$	: $i^{th}$ member of $MG$
$E_{M_i}$	: Total energy required to unicast a message from $GC$ to $M_i$
$T$	: Key distribution tree
$E_{M_i \rightarrow M_j}$	: Energy expenditure of $M_i$ when transmitting a message to $M_j$
$h$	: Height of $T$
$E_S$	: Energy cost the $GC$ and $MG$ , when multicasting to group $S$
$d$	: Degree of $T$
$l$	: Level of a node in $T$
$A \rightarrow B : m$	: $A$ sends message $m$ to $B$
$K_{l,j}$	: Key assigned to the $j^{th}$ node at level $l$ in $T$
$R$	: The multicast routing tree with set of nodes $MG$

between an origin and destination. We also assume that the network nodes have the ability to generate and manage cryptographic keys. The nodes of the network are assumed to be in a fixed location, after their initial placement. We assume that nodes have a mechanism to acquire their location information via a localization method [4, 15, 44, 64, 65, 83, 94].

#### *Network initialization*

We assume that the network has been successfully initialized and initial cryptographic quantities for trust establishment (at least pairwise trust) have been distributed [23, 33, 73]. We further assume that the underlying routing is optimized in order to minimize the total power required for broadcast. Although it is known that finding the optimal solution for total minimum power broadcast is NP-complete [16], several heuristics with suboptimal performance have been proposed in the recent literature [16, 122]. Since our goal is to design key management algorithms and not protocols, we do not address the MAC layer implementation of our algorithms.

### *Wireless medium and signal transmission*

We consider the cases of a homogeneous and heterogeneous medium separately, since the complexity and inputs of the algorithms that we propose differ depending on the type of the medium. In the case of the homogeneous medium, we assume that the transmission power  $P(d_{i,j})$  required for establishing a communication link between nodes  $i$  and  $j$ , is proportional to a constant exponent (attenuation factor  $\gamma$ ) of the distance  $d_{i,j}$ , i.e.  $P(d_{i,j}) \propto d_{i,j}^\gamma$ . For simplicity, we set the proportionality constant to be equal to one. An example of a homogeneous path loss medium is an obstacle-free, open space terrain with Line of Sight (LOS) transmission. Note that for fixed length messages, transmission power is proportional to energy expenditure and vice versa.

For a heterogeneous medium, no single path loss model may characterize the signal transmission in the network deployment region. Even when node locations are relatively static, path loss attenuation can vary significantly when the network is deployed in mountains, dense foliage, urban region, or inside different floors of a building. In [98], different path loss models have been presented based on empirical data. Two most common models with varying path loss for calculating the power attenuation at a distance  $d$  from the transmitter are: (a) Suburban area - A slowly varying environment where the attenuation loss factor changes slowly across space. (b) Office building - A highly heterogeneous environment where the attenuation loss factor changes rapidly over space. We will use these models in simulations where we illustrate our algorithms.

### *Antenna model*

We assume that omnidirectional antennas are used for transmission and reception of the signal [122]. The omnidirectionality of the antennas results in a property unique in the wireless environment known as the *wireless broadcast advantage* (WBA) [122]. However, in secure multicast the broadcast advantage can be exploited *only if* more than one receiver within the range holds the decryption key. Hence, the use of omnidirectional antenna does not guarantee WBA when the security is an added feature. Table 2.1 presents the notation used in the rest of the chapter.

### 2.3 Basic Problems on Key Management for Group Communications in Ad Hoc Networks

In this section, we present four suitable metrics for the KDP in wireless ad-hoc networks. For each metric, we formulate an optimization problem and present the optimal solution. We show that the formulations for the member key storage and *GC* transmission metrics reduce to equivalent formulations to wired networks and hence, the same solutions apply. On the other hand, the formulations for the *MG* transmissions and energy update cost are specific to wireless networks.

#### 2.3.1 Member Key Storage, $k(M_i, D_k)$

Let  $D_k$  denote a key assignment structure to the members of *MG*. We want to find the optimal key assignment structure  $D_k^*$  that minimizes the average number of keys assigned to each member  $M_i$ :

$$D_k^* = \arg \min_{D_k} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N k(M_i, D_k). \quad (2.1)$$

Note that in (2.1), the quantity minimized is the average number of keys since key assignment structures need not assign the same number of keys to every member.

**Theorem 2.1.** *The optimal key assignment structure  $D_k^*$  that minimizes member key storage can be represented as an  $N$ -ary key tree, where the *GC* shares a unique KEK with each member, and the SEK with all members of *MG* [17, 120, 123].*

*Proof.* Each member needs to hold the SEK in order to decrypt the multicast data. In addition, the *GC* needs to be able to securely update the SEK to every member in case of a membership change. Hence, each member needs to share at least one pairwise KEK with the *GC*, to decrypt the SEK update. Thus, the optimal member key storage solution assigns two keys to each member of *MG*, and can be represented as an  $N$ -ary key tree.  $\square$

Note that the optimal solution for the member key storage metric is independent of the nature of the network, wireless or wired. Hence, the solution for wireless networks is the same as the one provided for wired networks in [17, 120, 123].

### 2.3.2 GC Transmissions, $t_x(M_i, D_{t_x})$

Let  $t_x(M_i, D_{t_x})$  denote the number of messages transmitted by the GC when  $M_i$  leaves  $MG$ , and keys are assigned according to the key assignment structure  $D_{t_x}$ . We want to find the optimal  $D_{t_x}^*$  that minimizes the average number of key messages transmitted by the GC, to the members of  $MG$ , after  $M_i$  leaves the group.

$$D_{t_x}^* = \arg \min_{D_{t_x}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N t_x(M_i, D_{t_x}) \quad (2.2)$$

Note that we minimize the average number of GC transmissions required to rekey  $MG$ , to take into account unbalanced key assignment structures as well.

**Theorem 2.2.** *The optimal key assignment structure  $D_{t_x}^*$  for member deletions, can be obtained by distributing one KEK to every possible subset of  $MG$  [17, 120, 123].*

*Proof.* If each possible subset of  $MG$  shares a unique KEK, an arbitrary set of members can be represented by the index of the corresponding KEK. Hence, after the deletion of any set of members, the GC can notify all remaining valid members of  $MG$  to use their unique common KEK as the new SEK, by just broadcasting the index of the KEK corresponding to the remaining members. Hence, by assigning a unique key to every possible subset of members, the GC can update the SEK after the deletion of any set of members, by transmitting a single message.  $\square$

As in the case of member key storage, the number of GC transmissions depends on  $D_{t_x}$  and not on the network topology. Hence, the optimal solution for wireless networks is identical to the one for wired networks [17, 120, 123].

### 2.3.3 MG Key Update Messages, $m_{M_i}(D_m)$

Let  $m_{M_i}(D_m)$  denote the number of messages transmitted/relayed by the nodes of the network in order to update the SEK and KEKs after deletion of  $M_i$ . We want to find the optimal key assignment structure  $D_m^*$  that minimizes the average number of messages  $m_{Ave}$  transmitted/relayed by all network nodes for updating the SEK and KEKs, when a member

leaves the group.

$$D_m^* = \arg \min_{D_m} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N m_{M_i}(D_m) \quad (2.3)$$

In contrast to the previous two metrics,  $m_{M_i}$  depends both on the network topology as well as the choice of  $D_m$ . The number of messages the nodes of the network have to transmit/relay after the deletion of a member, varies depending on the specific member being deleted. Thus, we use the average number of *MG* update messages  $m_{Ave}$ , to evaluate the efficiency of a key assignment structure  $D_m$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** *Finding the optimal key assignment structure  $D_m^*$ , that minimizes the average number of *MG* update messages  $m_{Ave}$ , is an NP-complete problem.*

*Proof.* Under Theorem 2, the *GC* can update the *SEK* after the deletion of any set of members from *MG*, by transmitting a single message to the remaining valid members of *MG*, when using the optimal structure  $D_{t_x}^*$ . Hence, the problem of minimizing the number of messages transmitted/relayed by the network nodes *reduces* to the problem of minimizing the number of messages transmitted/relayed by the nodes of the network to deliver one message from the *GC* to every member of *MG*. In turn, the latter problem can be mapped to the problem of finding the minimum power broadcast routing tree  $R_m$  rooted at the *GC*, in which each node of the network can either broadcast a message with unit power  $p = 1$ , or not transmit at all ( $p = 0$ ). This routing problem is known as the *Single Power Minimum Broadcast Cover problem* (SPMBC) [16], with input parameter  $p = 1$  and has been proven NP-complete in [16]. Hence, the problem of minimizing the average number  $m_{Ave}$  of *MG* update messages is also NP-complete.  $\square$

#### 2.3.4 Average Energy Update Cost, $\tilde{E}_{M_i}(D_E)$

Let  $\tilde{E}_{M_i}(D_E)$  denote the total energy expended by all network nodes, in order to deliver the rekey messages to *MG* after a member deletion. We want to find the optimal key assignment structure  $D_E^*$ , that minimizes the average update energy  $E_{Ave}$ .

$$D_E^* = \arg \min_{D_E} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \tilde{E}_{M_i}(D_E) \quad (2.4)$$

The total energy expenditure depends on the network topology and the choice of  $D_E$ . Thus, as was the case for  $m_{M_i}$ ,  $\tilde{E}_{M_i}$  varies depending on which member is deleted from  $MG$ . Therefore, we choose the average update energy cost  $E_{Ave}$ , to evaluate the performance of  $D_E$  over  $MG$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** *Finding the optimal key assignment structure  $D_E^*$ , that minimizes the average update energy  $E_{Ave}$ , is an NP-complete problem.*

*Proof.* Under Theorem 2, the  $GC$  can update the  $SEK$  after the deletion of any set of members from  $MG$ , by transmitting a single message to the remaining valid members of  $MG$ , when using the optimal structure  $D_{i_x}^*$ . Hence, the problem of minimizing the total energy expenditure required to update the  $SEK$  after the deletion of any set of members *reduces* to the problem of distributing one message to all valid members of  $MG$ , expending the least amount of energy. The latter problem is equivalent to finding a broadcast routing tree  $R_E$ , rooted at the  $GC$ , that minimizes the energy required to deliver one message from the  $GC$  to every valid member of  $MG$ . This problem is known as the *Minimum Broadcast Cover problem* (MBC) [16, 24], a generalized version of the SPMBC problem, for cases in which the transmission power level for a node can adopt any value  $p \in [0, p_{max}]$ . The MBC problem has been proved to be NP-complete in [16, 24] and, hence, the problem of minimizing the average update energy  $E_{Ave}$  is also NP-complete.  $\square$

Our notation stresses the fact that the optimal solution for one of the four problems does not imply optimality for the other three. For instance, the optimal solution to the member key storage problem, requires the  $GC$  to unicast the  $SEK$  to each member of  $MG$  every time a member joins or leaves  $MG$ . Hence, demanding  $\mathcal{O}(N)$  number of  $GC$  transmissions. On the other hand, the optimal solution to the  $GC$  key transmission problem for leave operations requires each user to store at least  $2^{(N-1)}$  keys, thus making user storage requirements grow exponentially with group size [17, 120, 123]. Hence, we must make some tradeoffs in order to build a scalable solution in all four metrics, and energy and bandwidth efficient.

A key assignment structure that is scalable in both member key storage and  $GC$  transmissions was independently proposed in [123] and in [120]. In both proposals it was shown

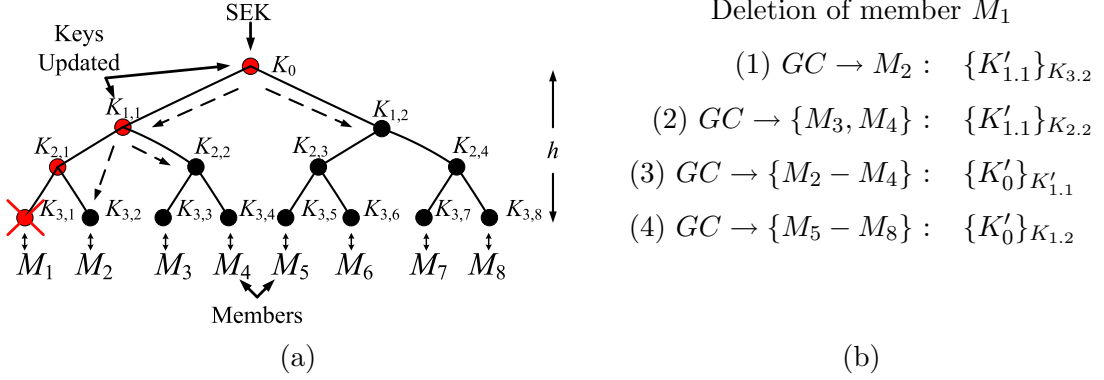


Figure 2.2: (a) A binary logical hierarchical key tree. Members are placed at the leaf nodes. Each member holds the keys traced along the path from the leaf to the root of the tree. If  $M_1$  leaves  $MG$  all keys known to it ( $K_0, K_{1,1}$ ) are updated. (b) Update messages in the order in which they are sent by the  $GC$  after  $M_1$  leaves the multicast group.

that using a *Logical Key Hierarchy* (LKH) such as  $d$ -ary key trees reduces member key storage and  $GC$  transmissions to  $\mathcal{O}(\log_d N)$ . While key trees are minimal structures in terms of member key storage and  $GC$  transmissions, not all key trees are energy-efficient. However, we show that key tree structures designed by incorporating the metrics of  $m_{Ave}$  and  $E_{Ave}$ , lead to energy and bandwidth-efficient solutions to the KDP. Before we present the problem formulation for key trees, we introduce the LKH structure.

#### 2.4 Logical Key Hierarchies and Key Distribution Trees

To explain the logical key hierarchy (LKH) structure, we first provide some necessary definitions:

**Definition 2.1.** –*Node Depth,  $r(i)$* –The depth  $r(i)$  of node  $i$  is the length, measured in edges, of the path traced from the node to the root of the tree.

**Definition 2.2.** –*Node Weight,  $w(i)$* –The node weight  $w(i)$  of node  $i$ , is equal to the number of edges leaving  $i$ .

**Definition 2.3.** –*Leaf Ancestor Weight,  $w_a(i)$* –The leaf ancestor weight  $w_a(i)$  of node  $i$  is the sum of the weights of all nodes traced on the path from  $i$  to the root of the tree.

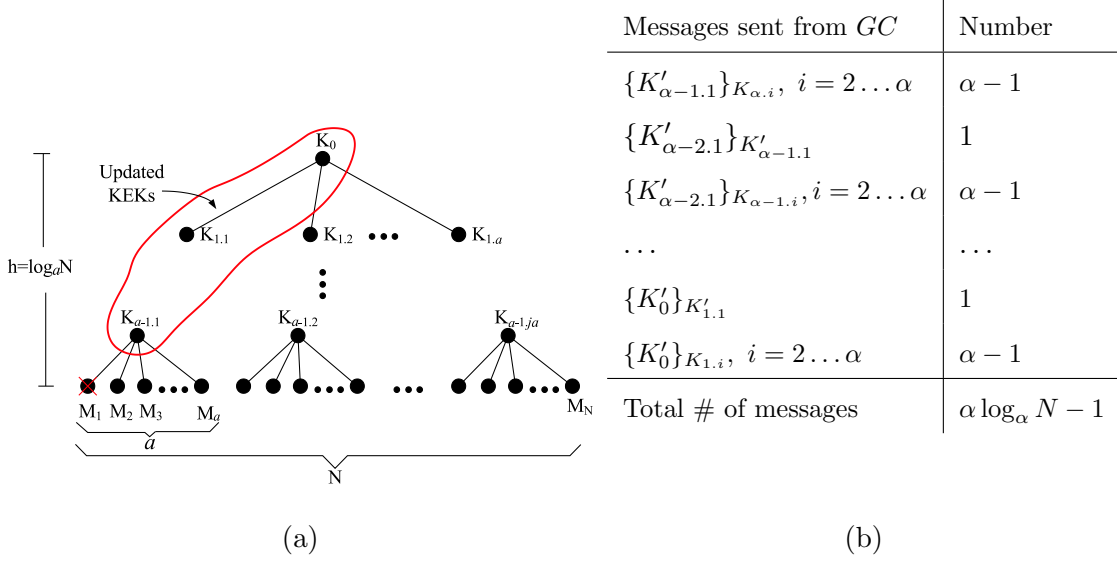


Figure 2.3: (a) An  $\alpha$ -ary hierarchical tree of height  $h = \log_\alpha N$ . After the deletion of member  $M_1$ , the  $\log_\alpha N$  keys traced from  $M_1$  to the root (except for the pairwise key shared between  $M_1$  and the GC) of tree need to be updated, (b) the update messages sent from the GC to sub-groups to update the KEKs and SEK due to the deletion of  $M_1$ .

Figure 2.2 shows a binary key distribution tree for a network of  $N = 8$  nodes, plus the GC. Each node of the tree is assigned a KEK,  $K_{l,j}$ , where  $l$  denotes the tree level, and  $j$  denotes the node index. (i.e.  $K_{1,2}$  is assigned to node 2 at level 1 of the tree). The root node is at level 0, and  $K_0$  can also be used as the SEK.

In [120,123], each user is *randomly* assigned to a tree leaf, and holds the keys traced on the path from the leaf to the root of the tree. (i.e. user  $M_5$  in Figure 2.2 is assigned the set of keys  $\{K_{3,5}, K_{2,3}, K_{1,2}, K_0\}$ ). We denote the subset of users that receive key  $K_{l,j}$ , as  $S_{l,j}$ . For example,  $S_{1,1} = \{M_1, M_2, M_3, M_4\}$ . Under this regime, the number of KEKs stored by each member is equal to the depth of its leaf. Thus, worst-case storage requirements for any node will be  $\lceil \log_d N \rceil$  KEKs, and the SEK.

Figure 2.2(a) shows what keys will have to be updated if user  $M_1$  leaves  $MG$ . In this case, the GC will have to transmit the sequence of messages shown in 2.2(b). Each message in 2.2(b) is represented in Figure 2.2(a) by a dashed arrow. The arrows leaving  $K_{1,1}$  represent the first two messages in figure 2.2(b), while the arrows leaving  $K_0$  represent the



last two messages in figure 2.2(b). It has been shown that *GC* transmissions due to member deletions increase as a function of  $\alpha \log_\alpha N$  [41, 79, 107]. The cost of join operations on the other hand, is proportional to the depth of the leaf the new user is assigned, a function of  $\log_\alpha N$  [41, 79, 107].

In figure 2.3(a), we show the general case of an  $\alpha$ -ary hierarchical tree of height  $h = \log_\alpha N$ . We can verify that the communication for deleting a member from the multicast group is  $\alpha \log_\alpha N - 1$  messages [17]. If  $M_1$  is deleted, the *GC* needs to update all the keys traced at the path from  $M_1$  to the root of the tree, except for the pairwise key shared between  $M_1$  and the *GC* (a total of  $\log_\alpha N$  keys). In figure 2.3(b), we show the encrypted messages sent by the *GC* to update all keys (except for the pairwise key) known to member  $M_1$ . The *GC* needs to send  $(\alpha - 1)$  messages to update  $K_{a-1.1}$  ( $(\alpha - 1)$  members hold  $K_{a-1.1}$  after the deletion of  $M_1$ ), and  $\alpha$  messages to update each of the rest  $\log_\alpha N - 1$  keys. Hence, the number of keys sent by the *GC* for deleting  $M_1$  or any other member is equal to  $\alpha \log_\alpha N - 1$ . In [17], the authors propose the use of key trees in conjunction with pseudo-random functions to reduce the communication cost to  $(\alpha - 1) \log_\alpha N$  messages per member deletion.

## 2.5 The Average Update Energy Cost

In this section, we examine the dependency of the average update energy cost when the key assignment structure is a tree of degree  $\alpha$  with  $N$  leaves (a multicast group size of  $N$  members) on  $\alpha, N$ , and derive an upper bound for  $E_{Ave}$ .

### 2.5.1 Dependency of $E_{Ave}$ on the group size $N$ , the tree degree $\alpha$ , and the network topology

Let  $\tilde{E}_{M_i}$  denote the energy expenditure for updating the compromised keys after the deletion of the  $i^{th}$  member. Also, let  $p(M_i)$  denote the probability for member  $M_i$  to leave the multicast group. We define the average key update energy,  $E_{Ave}$ , required for key update after a member deletion as:

$$E_{Ave} = \sum_{i=1}^N p(M_i) \tilde{E}_{M_i}. \quad (2.5)$$

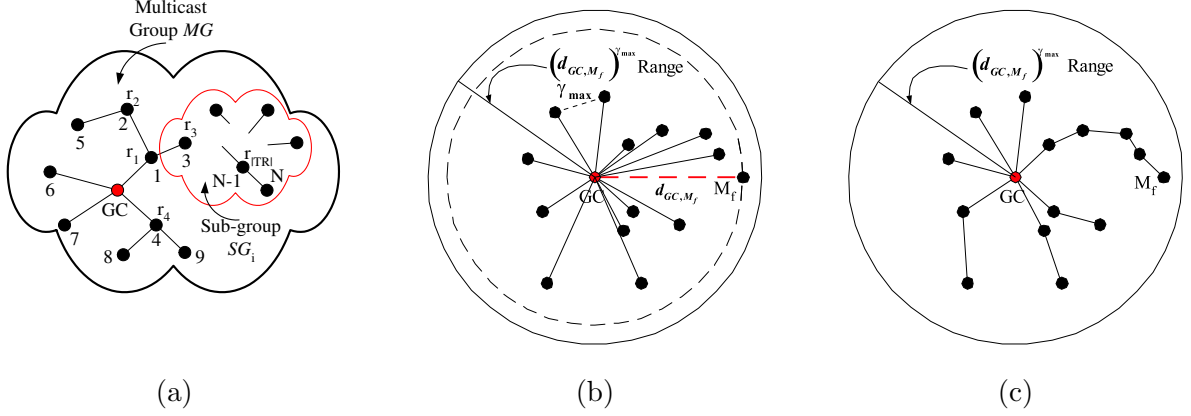


Figure 2.4: (a) Theorem 1: When a message is sent to all members of  $MG$ , all relay nodes  $TR = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{|TR|}\}$  have to transmit. When a message is sent to any sub-group  $SG_i \subseteq MG$ , a subset  $TR_i \subseteq TR$  of relay nodes need to transmit. (b) Theorem 2: A single transmission of power  $(d_{GC, M_f})^{\gamma_{max}}$  reaches all members of  $MG$  with one hop, resulting in routing tree  $R$ , (c) The optimal multicast routing tree  $R^*$  always requires less power than  $R$ , by definition.

$E_{Ave}$  depends on the energy  $\tilde{E}_{M_i}$  required to deliver key updates if each member  $M_i$  were to be deleted from the multicast group  $MG$ . Regardless of which member is deleted, the  $GC$  needs to transmit  $(\alpha \log_\alpha N - 1)$  key update messages [123]. These messages are routed to different sub-groups  $SG_i \subseteq MG$ , where  $i = 1 \dots (\alpha \log_\alpha N - 1)$ . Letting  $E_X^R$  denote the energy expenditure for sending an identical message to every member of the sub-group  $X \subseteq MG$  via the routing tree  $R$ , the energy expenditure  $\tilde{E}_{M_i}$  for updating keys after the deletion of member  $M_i \in MG$  is:

$$\tilde{E}_{M_i} = \sum_{i=1}^{\alpha \log_\alpha N - 1} E_{SG_i}^R. \quad (2.6)$$

The  $\tilde{E}_{M_i}$  depends on the routing tree  $R$  and cannot be analytically expressed unless a specific realization of  $R$  is provided. Hence, we derive an upper bound on  $\tilde{E}_{M_i}$ , making use of a sequence of properties of the WBA. To do so, we first prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 2.5.** *The energy required to deliver a message to a sub-group of members  $SG_i \subseteq MG$  via a routing tree  $R$ , cannot be greater than the energy required to deliver a message*

to all members of  $MG$ , via the same routing tree  $R$ .

$$E_{SG_i}^R \leq E_{MG}^R, \quad \forall SG_i \subseteq MG. \quad (2.7)$$

*Proof.* Let  $TR = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{|TR|}\}$  denote the set of all relay nodes in the multicast routing tree  $R$  utilized by the multicast group  $MG$ . In order to deliver a single message to every member of the multicast group  $MG$ , every node in  $TR$  has to transmit. Hence,

$$E_{MG}^R = \sum_{r_i \in TR} E_{r_i}, \quad (2.8)$$

where  $E_{r_i}$  denotes the energy required for transmission of one message by relay node  $r_i$ . In order to deliver a message to a sub-group  $SG_i \subseteq MG$ , a subset  $TR_i \subseteq TR$  of the relay nodes has to transmit (no more than the total number of relay nodes can transmit). Hence,  $|TR_i| \leq |TR|$ ,  $\forall SG_i \subseteq MG$ . The energy to deliver a message to a sub-group  $SG_i$  is:

$$E_{SG_i}^R = \sum_{TR_i} E_{r_i} \leq \sum_{TR} E_{r_i} = E_{MG}^R, \quad \forall SG_i \subseteq MG \quad (2.9)$$

□

In figure 2.4(a) we illustrate Theorem 1. To deliver a message to all members of  $MG$ , all relay nodes need to transmit. However, in order to deliver a message to a sub-group  $SG_i$  no more than the whole set  $TR$  of relay nodes may transmit. Hence, the energy required to deliver a message to any sub-group of  $MG$ , is no greater than the energy required to deliver a message to all members of  $MG$ .

Using Theorem 2.5, we can bound the energy expenditure for updating keys after the deletion of  $M_i$  expressed in (2.6) as:

$$\tilde{E}_{M_i} = \sum_{i=1}^{\alpha \log_{\alpha} N - 1} E_{SG_i}^R \leq E_{MG}^R (\alpha \log_{\alpha} N - 1). \quad (2.10)$$

The bound in (2.10) holds for an arbitrary routing tree  $R$ . Hence, when we use the minimum

total power routing tree  $R^*$ , and bound the average key update energy  $E_{Ave}$  as:

$$\begin{aligned}
E_{Ave} &= \sum_{i=1}^N p(M_i) \tilde{E}_{M_i} \leq \sum_{i=1}^N p(M_i) E_{MG}^{R^*} (\alpha \log_{\alpha} N - 1) \\
&\leq E_{MG}^{R^*} (\alpha \log_{\alpha} N - 1) \sum_{i=1}^N p(M_i) \\
&\leq E_{MG}^{R^*} (\alpha \log_{\alpha} N - 1). \tag{2.11}
\end{aligned}$$

The bound in (2.11) has two different components. The first component is the minimum energy  $E_{MG}^{R^*}$ , required for sending a message to the whole multicast group  $MG$ . While  $E_{MG}^{R^*}$  depends on the wireless medium characteristics and the network topology, we can relax the network topology dependency by bounding  $E_{MG}^{R^*}$  using only the wireless medium characteristics and the size of the deployment region.

Let  $\gamma_{max}$  denote the maximum value of the attenuation factor for the heterogeneous medium where the network is deployed, and  $T_{trans}$  denote the duration of the transmission of one message. Let  $M_f$  denote the farthest member from the  $GC$ , and let  $d_{GC, M_f}$ , the distance between  $GC$  and  $M_f$ , denote the radius of the deployment region<sup>1</sup>. Then, the following theorem holds:

**Theorem 2.6.** *The energy required to deliver a single message to every member of the multicast group  $MG$  via the minimum total power routing tree  $R^*$  is no greater than the energy required to deliver a single message from the  $GC$  to  $M_f$  via a one hop transmission and assuming an attenuation factor of  $\gamma_{max}$  between the  $GC$  and  $M_f$ .*

$$E_{MG}^{R^*} \leq E_{M_f}^R = (d_{GC, M_f})^{\gamma_{max}} T_{trans}. \tag{2.12}$$

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma_i$  denote the attenuation factor in the link between the  $GC$  and member  $M_i$ , with  $\gamma_i \leq \gamma_{max} \forall M_i \in MG$ . The transmission power required for communication via a one hop link between  $M_i$  and  $GC$  is,  $P(d_{GC, M_i}) = (d_{GC, M_i})^{\gamma_i}$ . Since  $d_{GC, M_i} \leq d_{GC, M_f}$ ,  $\gamma_i \leq$

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<sup>1</sup>The diameter or the size of the deployment region may also be defined as the maximum physical distance between any two nodes of the network. However, such a definition leads to a looser upper bound and is not considered.

$\gamma_{max}$ ,  $\forall M_i \in MG$ , it follows that:

$$P(d_{GC,M_i}) = (d_{GC,M_i})^{\gamma_i} \leq (d_{GC,M_f})^{\gamma_{max}}, \quad \forall M_i \in MG. \quad (2.13)$$

Hence, by letting the  $GC$  transmit with power  $(d_{GC,M_f})^{\gamma_{max}}$ , we reach every member  $M_i \in MG$ . This is equivalent to constructing a multicast routing tree  $R$  where every member is connected to the  $GC$  with one hop. The power required to deliver a message to all members of  $MG$  according to  $R$ , cannot be less than the minimum total power obtained by  $R^*$ . Hence, the energy expenditure to deliver a message to all  $M_i \in MG$ , via  $R^*$  cannot be greater than the energy expenditure to deliver the same message to all  $M_i \in MG$  via  $R$ ,

$$E_{MG}^{R^*} \leq E_{MG}^R \leq (d_{GC,M_f})^{\gamma_{max}} T_{trans}. \quad (2.14)$$

□

In figure 2.4(b), the  $GC$  transmits with power  $(d_{GC,M_f})^{\gamma_{max}}$ , thus being able to reach every member with one hop. In figure 2.4(c) we show a generic optimal multicast routing tree  $R^*$  for the same network as in figure 2.4(b). Since  $R^*$  is optimal it holds that  $E_{MG}^{R^*} \leq (d_{GC,M_f})^{\gamma_{max}} T_{trans}$ . The second component of the bound in (2.11), is the number of update messages sent by the  $GC$  for deleting a member from the multicast group. While the number of messages grows logarithmically with the group size  $N$ , and  $N$  is not a design parameter, we can calculate the tree degree  $\alpha^*$  that minimizes the number of update messages.

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} (\alpha \log_{\alpha} N - 1) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \alpha^* = e. \quad (2.15)$$

The degree of the tree has to be an integer number and hence, the lowest upper bound for  $E_{Ave}$  is achieved when  $\alpha = 3$ . The lowest upper bound for the average key update energy, independent of the network topology and probability distribution of member deletions is:

$$E_{Ave} \leq (\alpha^* \log_{\alpha^*} N) (d_{GC,M_f})^{\gamma_{max}} T_{trans} = (3 \log_3 N) (d_{GC,M_f})^{\gamma_{max}} T_{trans}. \quad (2.16)$$

We now examine how we can reduce  $E_{Ave}$  by exploiting the ‘‘power proximity’’ property.

## 2.6 Impact of “Power Proximity” on the Energy Efficiency of Key Management

$E_{Ave}$  is directly related to the individual energies  $\tilde{E}_{M_i}$ , for updating keys after each member leaves the multicast group. In (2.6), we expressed  $\tilde{E}_{M_i}$ , as the sum of the energies  $E_{SG_i}^R$ , required to deliver key updates to sub-groups  $SG_i$ , via the routing tree  $R$ . The routing tree  $R$  is optimized for distributing the multicast application data to group members and hence, is not a design parameter. The sub-groups  $SG_i$  are determined by how we place the members to the leafs of the key distribution tree, i.e. the way that we choose to assign common KEKs to members. To reduce  $E_{SG_i}^R$ , we need to group members in the key tree in such a way that less energy is required to deliver to them key updates via  $R$ . To do so, we introduce the property of “power proximity.” “Power proximity” is similar to the physical proximity, with transmission power used as a metric instead of Euclidean distance. A formal definition is given below.

**Definition 2.4.** – “Power proximity” – Given nodes  $(i, j, k)$  we say that the node  $i$  is in “power proximity” to node  $j$  compared to node  $k$ , if  $P(d_{i,j}) < P(d_{j,k})$ , where  $P(d_{a,b})$  denotes the transmission power required for establishing communication<sup>2</sup> between nodes  $a, b$ .

Given the definition of “power proximity,” we show how we can incorporate it in the key tree design in both the cases of a homogeneous and heterogeneous medium.

### 2.6.1 Network deployed in a homogeneous medium

In a homogeneous medium, the transmission power for communication between nodes  $i, j$  is a monotonically increasing function of the distance  $d_{i,j}$ . Under the assumption that routing is designed to reduce the total transmission power, nodes in physical proximity have overlapping routing paths [122]. Intuitively, nodes that are physically close will also have common links in the path traced from the  $GC$  towards them. Hence, if nodes located

---

<sup>2</sup>Note that although we do not directly consider the routing tree as a design parameter, the idea of “power proximity” is inherent in energy-aware routing [122]. By letting the weights of each link to indicate the amount of power required to maintain the link connectivity, we can construct a minimum spanning routing (MST) tree based on “power proximity.” In fact, the MST of this type uses the criterion of the definition of “power proximity.”

physically close also share common keys, they receive the same key updates from the  $GC$  and the energy and bandwidth overhead associated with the key distribution is reduced.

To illustrate the need for designing a physical proximity based key distribution, we consider the ad hoc network in figure 2.5(a), which is deployed in a homogeneous medium. Note that  $E_{GC,M_2} > E_{GC,M_1}$  since  $d_{GC,M_2} > d_{GC,M_1}$ . The routing tree shown in figure 2.5(a) is optimal in total transmit power. In the key tree of figure 2.5(c), denoted as Tree  $A$ , we randomly place the four members of the multicast group in the leaves of the key tree, independent of the network topology as in wired networks. The second row of Table 2.2 shows the average key update energy for Tree  $A$ , denoted as  $E_{Ave}^A$ , and computed based on (2.5) by assuming that it is equally likely ( $p(M_i) = \frac{1}{N}$ ) for each member to leave the multicast group.

Assume now that the members are grouped according to their physical proximity. Then,  $M_1$  is grouped with  $M_4$ , and  $M_2$  with  $M_3$ , resulting in the physical proximity based key tree of figure 2.5(d), denoted as Tree  $B$ . The third row of Table 2.2, shows the average key update energy for Tree  $B$ , denoted as  $E_{Ave}^B$ , and computed based on (2.5) by assuming that it is equally likely ( $p(M_i) = \frac{1}{N}$ ) for each member to leave the multicast group. The energy saved by performing a rekey operation with the physical proximity based key Tree  $B$  over the random key Tree  $A$  for the network of figure 2.5(a) is computed as:

$$\begin{aligned} E_{Ave}^A - E_{Ave}^B &= \frac{2}{4} \left( E_{\{M_2, M_4\}}^R + E_{\{M_1, M_3\}}^R - E_{\{M_1, M_4\}}^R - E_{\{M_2, M_3\}}^R \right) \\ &= \frac{2}{4} (E_{GC \rightarrow M_2} - E_{GC \rightarrow M_1}) > 0, \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

where  $E_{A \rightarrow B}$  denotes the energy required for transmission of a key from node  $A$  to node  $B$ . The saved energy in (2.17) is positive since for a homogeneous medium (constant  $\gamma$ ) and  $d_{GC,M_2} > d_{GC,M_1}$ , it is implied  $E_{GC \rightarrow M_2} > E_{GC \rightarrow M_1}$ .

### 2.6.2 Network deployed in a heterogeneous medium

We now consider the case of an ad hoc network deployed in a heterogeneous medium, where the attenuation factor  $\gamma$  varies over space. Under heterogeneous path loss, physical proximity is not a monotonic property of ‘‘power proximity.’’ Closely located nodes do not

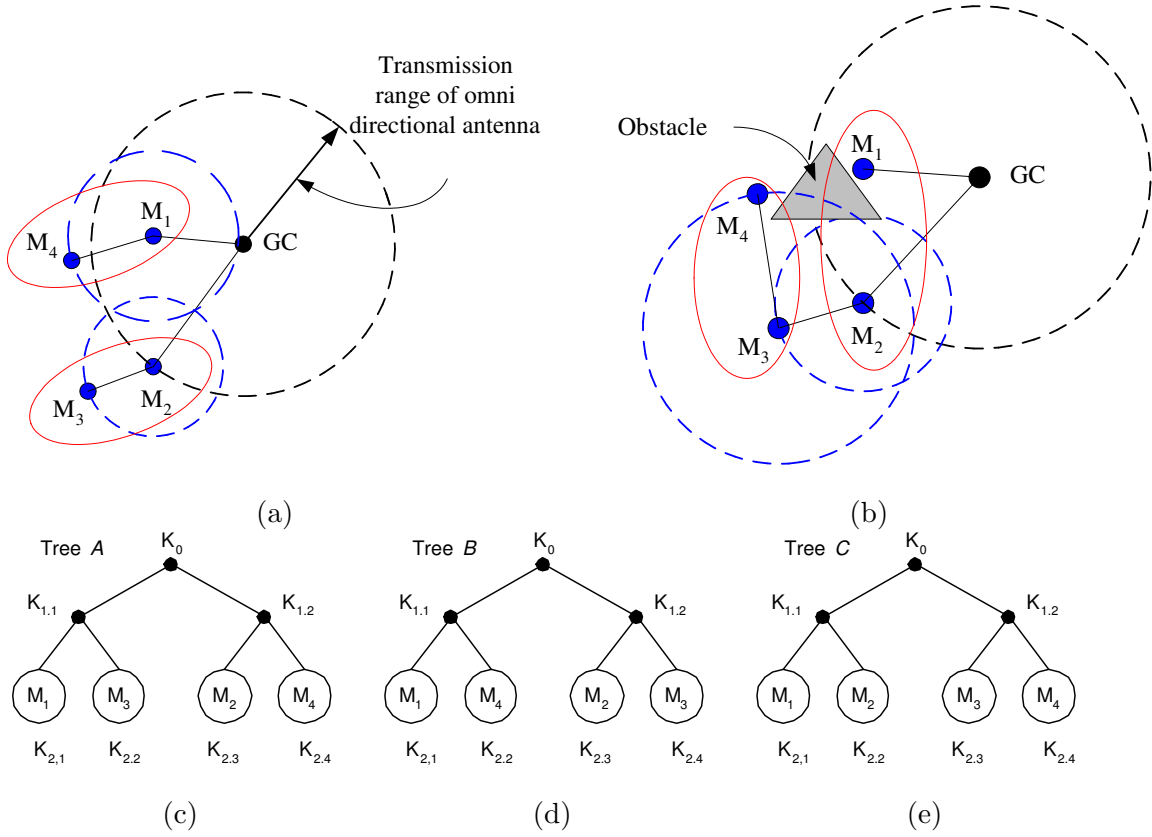


Figure 2.5: An ad hoc network and the corresponding routing tree with the minimum total transmission power, deployed in (a) a homogeneous medium, (b) a heterogeneous medium, (c) a random key distribution tree, Tree A, (d) a key distribution tree based on physical proximity, Tree B, (e) a key distribution tree based on “power proximity,” Tree C.

necessarily receive messages via overlapping routing paths. Hence, node location information alone is not sufficient for constructing an energy-efficient key tree.

To illustrate the above observation, we consider the ad hoc network shown in figure 2.5(b), in which nodes have the same locations as in figure 2.5(a). However, there exists a physical obstacle between nodes  $M_1$  and  $M_4$ . Thus, the attenuation factor for signal transmission between  $M_1$  and  $M_4$  is significantly higher than the obstacle-free network regions, and in the optimal routing tree in total transmission power,  $M_4$  is connected to the network through  $M_3$ .

We now show that in an environment with variable path loss, we are able to construct an energy-efficient key tree by correlating nodes according to their “power proximity,” rather



Table 2.2: Comparison of  $E_{Ave}$  for the key trees of figure 2.5(c), (d), (e).  $E_{Ave}$  is computed based on eq. (2.5) for  $p(M_i) = \frac{1}{4}, i = 1 \dots 4$

Method	Average key update energy
Random tree	$E_{Ave}^A = \frac{1}{4} \left( \sum_i E_{\{M_i\}}^R + 2E_{\{M_2, M_4\}}^R + 2E_{\{M_1, M_3\}}^R \right)$
Physical proximity	$E_{Ave}^B = \frac{1}{4} \left( \sum_i E_{\{M_i\}}^R + 2E_{\{M_1, M_4\}}^R + 2E_{\{M_2, M_3\}}^R \right)$
“Power proximity”	$E_{Ave}^C = \frac{1}{4} \left( \sum_i E_{\{M_i\}}^R + 2E_{\{M_1, M_2\}}^R + 2E_{\{M_3, M_4\}}^R \right)$

than physical proximity. We may acquire such information either by using path loss information in addition to the node location [44, 45, 63, 64, 83], or by measuring the required transmission power for communication between pairs of nodes. Members that are closely located in terms of power are grouped together (placed adjacently to the key tree).

For the network in figure 2.5(b), we construct the key distribution tree in figure 2.5(e) denoted as Tree  $C$ . We place members adjacent to the key tree according to their “power proximity.”  $M_1$  is grouped with  $M_2$ , and  $M_3$  with  $M_4$  in order to minimize the total communication power variance of clusters of two members. The last row of Table 2.2, shows the average key update energy for Tree  $C$ , denoted as  $E_{Ave}^C$ , and computed based on (2.5) by assuming that it is equally likely ( $p(M_i) = \frac{1}{N}$ ) for each member to leave the multicast group. The energy saved for performing a rekey operation by incorporating location as well as the path loss information instead of location alone is computed as the energy gain due to use of Tree  $C$  over Tree  $B$  :

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_{Ave}^B - E_{Ave}^C &= \frac{2}{4} \left( E_{\{M_1, M_4\}}^R + E_{\{M_2, M_3\}}^R - E_{\{M_1, M_2\}}^R - E_{\{M_3, M_4\}}^R \right) \\
 &= \frac{2}{4} (E_{M_2 \rightarrow M_3}) > 0.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.18}$$

Based on our analysis in Sections 2.6.1 and 2.6.2 we make the following conclusions:

**Remark 1:** When the medium is homogeneous, we can reduce the energy expenditure for key distribution by assigning common keys to members within physical proximity.

**Remark 2:** When the medium is heterogeneous medium, we need to employ “power prox-

imity” to generate an energy-efficient key tree hierarchy.

Based on remarks 1 and 2, we develop our key distribution algorithms for the homogeneous and heterogeneous cases.

## 2.7 Physical Proximity Based Key Distribution for a Homogeneous Medium

In this Section, we present an algorithm for the homogeneous medium that exploit physical proximity to generate an energy-efficient key distribution tree. In order to systematically construct a key tree hierarchy, we cluster nodes based on their location. We translate the physical clustering of the nodes into a key tree hierarchy, thus obtaining an energy-efficient key distribution tree. The task of developing an energy-efficient key distribution scheme is reduced to the task of identifying (a) a physical proximity based clustering mechanism, and (b) building a cluster hierarchy that utilizes the physical proximity based clustering. We discuss both tasks in the following sections.

### 2.7.1 Physical proximity based clustering for energy-efficient key distribution

For the homogeneous medium, we assume that only the node location information is available. Hence, any clustering technique needs to be model-free while taking the location into account. We also note that for the homogeneous case, the Euclidean distance between the nodes is a natural metric for identifying and grouping neighbor nodes. Certainly some other distance metric such as the Minkowsky metric [115] can be used as well, but the monotonicity of the power to the distance in the case of constant  $\gamma$ , makes the Euclidean distance a very attractive metric, since it leads to low complexity algorithms.

#### Problem formulation

Let the coordinates of node  $i$  be  $x_i = (x_{i_1}, x_{i_2})$ . The squared Euclidean distance between two nodes  $i$  and  $i'$  is equal to:

$$d_{i,i'}^2 = \sum_{j=1}^2 (x_{ij} - x_{i'j})^2 = \|x_i - x_{i'}\|^2. \quad (2.19)$$

If  $C$  denotes an assignment of the nodes of the network into  $\alpha$  clusters, the dissimilarity

function expressing the total inter-cluster dissimilarity  $W(C)$  is:

$$W(C) = \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha} \sum_{C(i)=k} \|x_i - m_k\|^2, \quad (2.20)$$

where  $C(i) = k$  denotes the assignment of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  point to the  $k^{\text{th}}$  cluster, and  $m_k$  denotes the mean (centroid) of cluster  $k$ . Inter-cluster dissimilarity refers to the dissimilarity between the nodes of the same cluster. We want to compute the optimal cluster configuration  $C^*$  that minimizes (2.20), subject to the constraint that the sizes of the resulting clusters are equal. This can be expressed as:

$$C^* = \arg \min_C \sum_{k=1}^{\alpha} \sum_{C(i)=k} \|x_i - m_k\|^2, \quad \ni |C(i)| = |C(j)|, \quad \forall i, j. \quad (2.21)$$

Note that this formulation provides an optimal way to create  $\alpha$  sub-clusters from one cluster. This location based clustering has to be iteratively applied to generate the desired cluster hierarchy.

### Solution approach

If we relax the constraint  $|C(i)| = |C(j)|, \quad \forall i, j$ , in (2.21), and allow clusters of different sizes, the solution to the optimization problem in (2.21), can be efficiently approximated by any mean square based clustering algorithm that uses Euclidean metric. The K-means [115] algorithm uses squared Euclidean distance as a dissimilarity measure to cluster different objects, by minimizing the total cluster variance (minimum square error approach). Note that K-means may result in a sub-optimal local minimum solution depending on the initial selection of clusters, and hence, the best solution out of several random initial cluster assignments should be adopted [115]. However, K-means is easily implemented and hence, is an ideal solution for computationally limited devices. Algorithmic details on solving (2.21) without any constraint on the cluster size are given in [115].

In order to satisfy the equal cluster size constraint, posed in (2.21), we need a refinement algorithm (RA) that balances the cluster sizes. According to (2.21), the RA should result in balanced clusters with the lowest total inter-cluster dissimilarity. In the binary tree case, given two clusters  $A, B$  with  $|A| > |B|$ , the refinement algorithm moves objects  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k \in A$ , with  $k = \left\lfloor \frac{|A| - |B|}{2} \right\rfloor$ , from cluster  $A$  to cluster  $B$ , such that the inter-cluster dissimilarity after the refinement is minimally increased. We choose the objects

$i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k \in A$  such that:

$$i_j = \arg \min_{i \in A} [d_{i, m_B}^2 - d_{i, m_A}^2], \quad j = 1 : \left\lfloor \frac{|A| - |B|}{2} \right\rfloor, \quad (2.22)$$

where  $m_A$  and  $m_B$  are the centroids of clusters  $A, B$ . We study the optimality of the refinement algorithm in Appendix 2.14.1

### 2.7.2 A suboptimal energy-efficient key distribution scheme based on physical proximity

We now develop an algorithm that maps the physical proximity based clustering into a hierarchical key tree structure. We need to construct a key tree of fixed degree  $\alpha$ . Initially, the global cluster is divided into  $\alpha$  sub-clusters using K-means. Then, we employ the RA algorithm that balances the cluster sizes by moving the most dissimilar objects to appropriate clusters. The RA leads to the construction of a balanced key tree when  $N = \alpha^n, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and allows us to construct a structure as close to the balanced as possible when  $N \neq \alpha^n$ . Each cluster is subsequently divided into  $\alpha$  new ones, until clusters of at most  $\alpha$  members are created (after  $\log_\alpha N$  splits). Since our algorithm uses only location information as input, we call it *Location-Aware Key Distribution Algorithm* (LocKeD). The figure 2.6 presents the pseudo code for LocKeD. We now describe the notational and algorithmic details of figure (2.6).

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  denote the set containing all the two-dimensional points (objects) corresponding to the location of the nodes. Let  $C = \{C(1), C(2), \dots, C(\alpha)\}$  denote a partition of  $\mathcal{P}$  into  $\alpha$  subsets (clusters), i.e.  $\bigcup_i C(i) = \mathcal{P}$ . Initially, all objects belong to the global cluster  $\mathcal{P}$ . The function *AssignKey()* assigns a common key to every subset (cluster) of its argument set. For example, *AssignKey*( $\mathcal{P}$ ) will assign the SEK to every member of the global cluster  $\mathcal{P}$ .

The *index* variable counts the number of steps required until the termination of the algorithm. The *thres* variable holds the number of members each cluster ought to contain at level  $l = \text{index}$  of the key tree construction. The root of the tree is at level  $l = 0$ . The *Kmeans*( $C(i), \alpha$ ) function divides the set  $C(i)$  into  $\alpha$  clusters and returns the cluster configuration to variable  $R$ . The *Refine*( $R, \text{thres}$ ) function balances the clusters sizes of

Location-Aware Key Distribution	Refinement Algorithm - RA
<pre> C = {P} AssignKey(C) index=1 while index &lt; [log<sub>α</sub>(N)]   C_temp = {∅}   thres = [N / α<sup>index</sup>]   for i = 1 :  C      R = Kmeans(C(i), α)     R = Refine(R, thres)     AssignKey(R)     C_temp = C_temp ∪ R   index++ end for C = C_temp end while </pre>	<pre> C<sub>Low</sub> = {C(i) ∈ C :  C(i)  &lt; thres} C<sub>High</sub> = {C(i) ∈ C :  C(i)  &gt; thres} repeat until C<sub>High</sub> = ∅   find x* ∈ A, A ∈ C<sub>High</sub>   x* = arg min<sub>x ∈ A</sub> [diss(x, m<sub>B</sub>) - diss(x, m<sub>A</sub>)],   ∀ x ∈ A, ∀ A ∈ C<sub>High</sub>, ∀ B ∈ C<sub>Low</sub>   move x* to cluster B   C<sub>Low</sub> = {C(i) ∈ C :  C(i)  &lt; thres}   C<sub>High</sub> = {C(i) ∈ C :  C(i)  &gt; thres} end repeat </pre>
(a)	(b)

Figure 2.6: Pseudo code for (a) the location-aware key distribution algorithm (LockeD) and (b) the Refinement Algorithm (RA). Repeated application of  $Kmeans()$  function followed by the Refinement Algorithm  $Refine()$  for balancing the clustering sizes, generates the cluster hierarchy. Function  $AssignKey()$  assigns a common key to every member of its argument.

clusters in  $R$  according to the  $thres$  variable. Then,  $AssignKey()$  is applied to assign different keys to every cluster in  $R$ . The process is repeated until  $\lceil \log_{\alpha} N \rceil$  steps have been completed.

**Computational Complexity of LockeD:** In terms of algorithmic complexity, the LockeD algorithm iteratively applies K-means up to  $N$  times in the worst case (generation of a binary tree). K-means has algorithmic complexity of  $O(N)$  [115]. Hence, the complexity of the LockeD is  $O(N^2)$ .

**Application of LockeD on a sample network:** Consider the network in figure 2.7(a), deployed in a homogeneous medium with an attenuation factor  $\gamma = 2$ . We will construct a location-aware key distribution tree of degree  $\alpha = 2$  with nodes  $\{2, 3, \dots, 9\}$  being the members  $\{M_2, M_3, \dots, M_9\}$  of the multicast group, respectively. Initially, all members belong to the global cluster  $\mathcal{P}$ .

Note that the  $GC$  does not participate in the clustering. The key tree is constructed by

executing the following steps:

**Step 1:** Assign the SEK  $K_0$  to every member of the global cluster  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Step 2:** Create two clusters by splitting the global cluster. The two clusters that yield minimal total cluster dissimilarity are:

$$C_1 = \{M_2, M_3, M_4, M_6, M_8, M_9\}, C_2 = \{M_5, M_7\}.$$

Since we seek to construct a balanced key tree, apply the refinement algorithm to balance the clusters sizes. Move  $M_2$  and  $M_6$  to cluster  $C_2$ . Assign two different KEKs to members of clusters  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ . Members of  $C_1$  are assigned KEK  $K_{1.1}$  and members of  $C_2$  are assigned KEK  $K_{1.2}$ .

**Step 3:** Create clusters of two members, by splitting the clusters of four members. The four created clusters are:

$$C_3 = \{M_2, M_6\}, C_4 = \{M_3, M_4\}, C_5 = \{M_8, M_9\}, C_6 = \{M_5, M_7\}.$$

Again, different KEKs are assigned to members of clusters  $C_3$ - $C_6$ . Members of  $C_3$  are assigned KEK  $K_{2.1}$ , members of  $C_4$  are assigned KEK  $K_{2.2}$ , members of  $C_5$  are assigned KEK  $K_{2.3}$  and members of  $C_6$  are assigned KEK  $K_{2.4}$ . At this point we have completed the  $\lceil \log_\alpha N \rceil$  steps required by LockED and the algorithm terminates.

The resulting hierarchical key tree constructed using LockED is shown in figure 2.7(b). We now study the heterogeneous case.

## 2.8 “Power Proximity” Based Key Distribution for a Heterogeneous Medium

### 2.8.1 Characteristics of the heterogeneous medium

When the wireless medium is heterogeneous, the signal attenuation factor is not unique for the network deployment area. An office building is a typical example of an environment where the attenuation factor varies even across very short distances. The signal attenuation for nodes located in different floors is significantly higher than for nodes located in the same floor [98]. The heterogeneity of the medium creates additional challenges in performing energy-efficient key distribution.

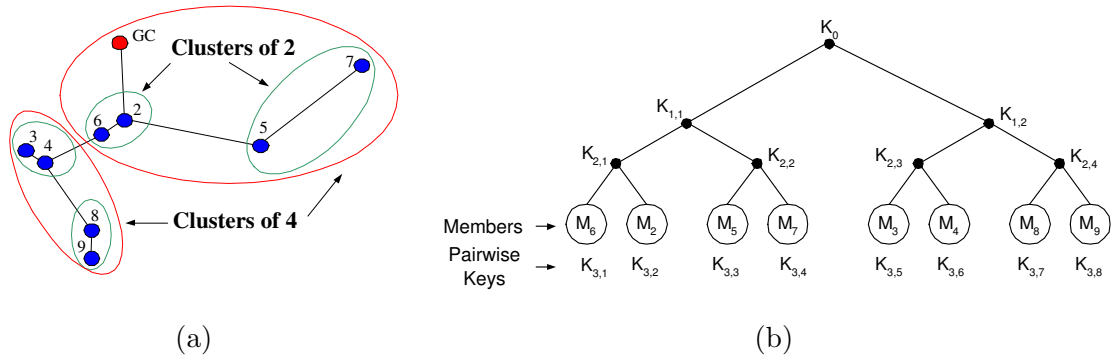


Figure 2.7: (a) An ad hoc network deployed in a homogeneous medium and the corresponding routing paths. Iterative application of the location based clustering and the resulting cluster hierarchy. (b) The key distribution tree resulting from the application of LockED.

**Constraint 1:** As shown by the example in Section 2.6.2, in a heterogeneous medium, physical proximity between two nodes does not equate to less transmission power needed for communication between those nodes. Hence, in a heterogeneous medium, Euclidean distance is not a suitable metric to express the dissimilarity between the objects (nodes) that need to be clustered.

We showed in Section 2.6.2 that direct use of “power proximity” leads to energy-efficient key distribution, when the medium is heterogeneous. Hence, we propose the use of transmission power as the dissimilarity measure for performing the clustering. We define the dissimilarity between two nodes  $i, j$  for the heterogeneous medium as:

$$diss(i, j) = P(d_{i,j}). \quad (2.23)$$

We note that the K-means algorithm used as critical component of the balanced clustering algorithm in the homogeneous medium case, cannot use any arbitrary dissimilarity measure but Euclidean distance, since it utilizes the notion of mean vectors. Hence, for heterogeneous case, we cannot use K-means as a component of our “power proximity” based algorithm.

**Constraint 2:** In a heterogeneous environment, different network regions need to be described using different path loss models [98]. Depending upon node location and the medium, a different function shall be used to calculate the dissimilarity between two nodes.

Hence, any solution approach should allow the simultaneous use of arbitrary and multiple dissimilarity measures representing different network regions.

Our task of developing an energy-efficient key distribution algorithm for the heterogeneous medium is reduced to, (a) identifying a “power proximity” based algorithm to identify clusters with high success, (b) generating a cluster hierarchy that will be mapped into a key tree hierarchy. We now present techniques suitable for “power proximity” based clustering.

### *2.8.2 “Power proximity” based clustering for energy-efficient key distribution*

As noted above, the K-means clustering cannot be part of the balanced clustering algorithm to be developed in heterogeneous case. A candidate solution needs to be able to handle arbitrary dissimilarity metrics. We use two different approaches for clustering in the heterogeneous case. The first approach employs a clustering technique known as K-medoids [53], that minimizes the total inter-cluster dissimilarity. Hence, K-medoids exploits “power proximity” in the optimal way. In order to create a key tree of fixed degree, K-medoids clusters have to be balanced and the algorithm has to be iteratively applied for every level of the tree. Though optimal in cluster quality, the complexity of K-medoids is prohibitive for large networks and therefore, we adopt a sub-optimal solution based on randomized sampling.

Our second approach is based on Divisible Hierarchical Clustering (DHC) [53]. DHC minimizes the average inter-cluster dissimilarity within each cluster, while directly generating a cluster hierarchy. The hierarchical feature of DHC, along with the ability to use any arbitrary dissimilarity measure, makes this solution attractive for creating a key tree hierarchy. In order to produce a balanced key tree, we need to ensure that at each stage the clusters are balanced. We describe both approaches in detail in the following sections.

#### *Minimizing the total inter-cluster dissimilarity*

We now describe the first formulation that satisfies the constraint 1 and constraint 2 and exploits the “power proximity”.

#### **Problem formulation**

We need a clustering technique that, (a) uses power  $P(d_{i,j})$  as a dissimilarity measure



to generate clusters and group together the most “similar” nodes, (b) generates clusters of equal size. While using an arbitrary dissimilarity metric other than the Euclidean distance, it is not feasible to define the centroid of a cluster. Hence, the total cluster dissimilarity cannot be computed with respect to the centroid, as in (2.21).

To overcome this limitation, we identify the most centrally located object within a cluster as a cluster representative, called medoid. We then compute the inter-cluster dissimilarity by adding the dissimilarities of each object of a cluster with its medoid. In order to construct  $\alpha$  clusters  $C = \{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_\alpha\}$ , we select  $\alpha$  medoids,  $M = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_\alpha\}$ , one for each cluster. For each choice of medoids, an object  $i$ ,  $i \notin M$ , is assigned to the cluster  $C_j$ ,  $j = 1 \dots \alpha$ , if:

$$diss(i, m_j) \leq diss(i, m_r), \forall r = 1, \dots, \alpha, \quad (2.24)$$

where  $m_x$  denotes the medoid of the cluster  $C_x$ . Using the medoids as reference points, the total inter-cluster dissimilarity is computed as:

$$W(C) = \sum_{i=1}^N \min_{m_j=1, \dots, \alpha} diss(i, m_j). \quad (2.25)$$

We want to find the optimal medoids  $M^* = \{m_1^*, m_2^*, \dots, m_\alpha^*\}$  that minimize (2.25), subject to the constraint that the sizes of the resulting clusters are equal. Therefore:

$$C^* = \arg \min_{\{m_r\}, C} \sum_{i=1}^N \min_{m_j=1, \dots, \alpha} diss(i, m_j), \quad \ni |C(i)| = |C(j)|, \quad \forall i, j. \quad (2.26)$$

### Solution approach

Let us first consider solving the optimization problem in (2.26), without the constraint  $|C(i)| = |C(j)|$ ,  $\forall i, j$ , imposed on the cluster sizes. Kaufman and Rousseeuw [53] proposed a solution that minimizes the total inter-cluster dissimilarity in (2.26). Their K-medoids method called *Partitioning Around Medoids* (PAM) [53], repeats successive exchanges between medoids and ordinary objects until the medoid set resulting in the smallest cluster dissimilarity is found. While PAM is optimal, it scales poorly with group size and hence, Kaufman and Rousseeuw proposed a scalable sub-optimal K-medoids method called *Clustering LARge Applications* (CLARA) [53], based on randomized sampling.

K-medoids algorithm however, leads to clusters of unequal sizes [53]. Hence, in order to satisfy the constraint posed in (2.26), we need the refinement algorithm (RA) of figure

2.6(b) to balance the cluster sizes. The criterion by which successive objects  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k \in A$  with  $k = \left\lfloor \frac{|A|-|B|}{2} \right\rfloor$ , are moved from cluster  $A$  to cluster  $B$  with  $|A| > |B|$ , is modified to reflect the dissimilarity metric used in the heterogeneous medium. We choose the objects  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k \in A$  such that:

$$i_j = \arg \min_{i \in A} [P(d_{i,m_B}) - P(d_{i,m_A})], \quad j = 1 : \left\lfloor \frac{|A| - |B|}{2} \right\rfloor, \quad (2.27)$$

where  $m_A$  and  $m_B$  refer to the medoids of clusters  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively. By minimally increasing  $W(C)$  at each object re-assignment, we achieve the optimal solution for the constrained optimization problem in (2.26) in the case of binary trees. Following similar analysis as in the case of the homogeneous medium, when more than two clusters need to be balanced (degree of the tree  $> 2$ ), we can show that while the refinement algorithm presented is only sub-optimal, the complexity of the optimal solution is prohibitively high as the number of nodes grows. Hence, we adopt the sub-optimal solution. The algorithmic details of k-medoids are presented in Appendix 2.14.2.

We now present the second approach that is based on minimizing the average dissimilarity within each cluster.

#### *Minimizing the average inter-cluster dissimilarity*

We now describe a clustering technique that minimizes the average dissimilarity within a cluster, instead of the total cluster dissimilarity. The advantage of using the average over the total dissimilarity is that we do not comparably compute the dissimilarity with respect to a single cluster object as in K-medoids method. Furthermore, we can provide a solution inspired by divisible hierarchical clustering (DHC) that inherently provides a cluster hierarchy. We first introduce the following quantities.

*Cluster Diameter:* Diameter  $diam$  of a cluster  $A$  is defined as the highest dissimilarity between two objects within the cluster given by:

$$diam(A) := \max_{i,j \in A} P(d_{i,j}) \quad (2.28)$$

*Average inter-cluster dissimilarity of an object:* For an object  $i$  in cluster  $A$ , the average inter-cluster dissimilarity, denoted by  $a(i)$  is defined as the average of the dissimilarities of

$i$  with all other objects in  $A$  as:

$$a(i) = \frac{1}{|A|-1} \sum_{j \in A, j \neq i} P(d_{i,j}). \quad (2.29)$$

*Average intra-cluster dissimilarity of an object:* For an object  $i$ ,  $i \in A$ , and given a cluster  $B$ ,  $i \in B$ , the average intra-cluster dissimilarity, denoted  $w(i, B)$  is given by:

$$w(i, B) = \frac{1}{|B|} \sum_{j \in B} P(d_{i,j}). \quad (2.30)$$

**Description of the algorithm:** Initially, all objects are moved to a global cluster  $A$ . The object  $i^* \in A$

$$i^* = \arg \max_{i \in A} a(i), \quad (2.31)$$

with the highest dissimilarity is moved to a new cluster  $B$ . Quantities  $a(i)$  and  $w(i, B)$  are then recomputed for all  $i \in A$ . An

object  $m \in A$  is moved from cluster  $A$  to cluster  $B$ , only if  $m$  is more similar to cluster  $B$ ,

$$m = \arg \max_{i \in A} [a(m) - w(m, B)], \quad a(m) - w(m, B) \geq 0. \quad (2.32)$$

The moving of objects is repeated until no object in  $A$  is more similar to  $B$ , i.e.  $a(i) \leq w(i, B)$ ,  $\forall i \in A$ . At this stage clusters  $A$  and  $B$  have been finalized as parent clusters. In the next step, the cluster with the biggest diameter is further split into two new clusters using the previous steps. Though this procedure generates a binary hierarchical tree, we can modify it to generate a tree of arbitrary degree  $\alpha$ . To construct one level of a hierarchical tree of degree  $\alpha$ , the following steps are followed:

**Step 1:** Perform  $(\alpha-1)$  successive splits of the global cluster, leading to  $\alpha$  total clusters.

**Step 2:** Set  $\alpha$  clusters as parents on the first level of the hierarchy.

**Step 3:** Repeat steps 1-2 until every child cluster contains  $\alpha$  objects.

In DHC, the two clusters created by a split of one cluster have minimum average inter-cluster dissimilarity. However, this minimization need not necessarily lead to clusters of equal sizes. Hence, the RA algorithm needs to be applied to balance the cluster sizes.

After Step 1, we utilize the RA algorithm developed in figure 2.6(b). According to figure 2.6(b), an object  $x^* \in A$  is moved from a cluster  $A \in C_{High}$  with more objects than the threshold  $thres$ , to a cluster  $B \in C_{Low}$  with less objects than  $thres$ , if:

$$x^* = \arg \min_{x \in A} [diss(x, m_A) - diss(x, m_B)], \quad \forall x \in A, \forall A \in C_{High}, \forall B \in C_{Low}. \quad (2.33)$$

However, no notion of a mean point or representative cluster object exists if average inter-cluster dissimilarity is used. We therefore move the object  $x^* \in A$ , from a cluster  $A \in C_{High}$  with more objects than the threshold  $thres$ , to a cluster  $B \in C_{Low}$  with less objects than  $thres$ , if:

$$x^* = \arg \max_{x \in A} [a(x) - w(x, B)], \quad \forall x \in A, \forall A \in C_{High}, \forall B \in C_{Low}. \quad (2.34)$$

The algorithmic details of DHC are given in the Appendix 2.14.2. We now present the performance evaluation of the algorithms we developed.

## 2.9 Routing-aware Key Distribution

The solutions developed so far do not take into account the routing paths of the routing tree. In this section we develop a solution that relies on the multicast routing tree  $R$  for constructing an energy-efficient key distribution tree  $T$ . By accumulating information from the routing tables during the route path establishment, the  $GC$  can compute the energy  $E_i(R)$ ,  $i = 1..N$  required to unicast a message to each member of the multicast group. Then, the  $GC$  can characterize a node  $I$  as inner compared to an outer node  $O$ , if  $E_I(R) \leq E_O(R)$ . As an example in Figure 2.8(a), node six is an outer node compared to node seven, but is an inner node compared to node eight. As the total network transmission power increases, one expects more inner nodes to be covered by transmissions to outer nodes.

Assume that node  $I$  is an inner node compared to node  $O$ , i.e.  $E_I \leq E_O$  and that by transmitting to  $O$  we cover  $I$ . The energy expenditure for sending a message to both  $I$  and  $O$  is  $E_O$  if  $I$  and  $O$  share a common key, and  $\mathcal{E}_O + \mathcal{E}_I$  if  $I$  and  $O$  do not share a common key. Hence, by assigning a common key to  $I$  and  $O$  we save  $\mathcal{E}_I$  with maximum savings achieved when  $\mathcal{E}_I = \mathcal{E}_O$ . Consider for example nodes nine (inner node) and five (outer node) in Figure 2.8(a). By transmitting to node five we cover node nine, due to the

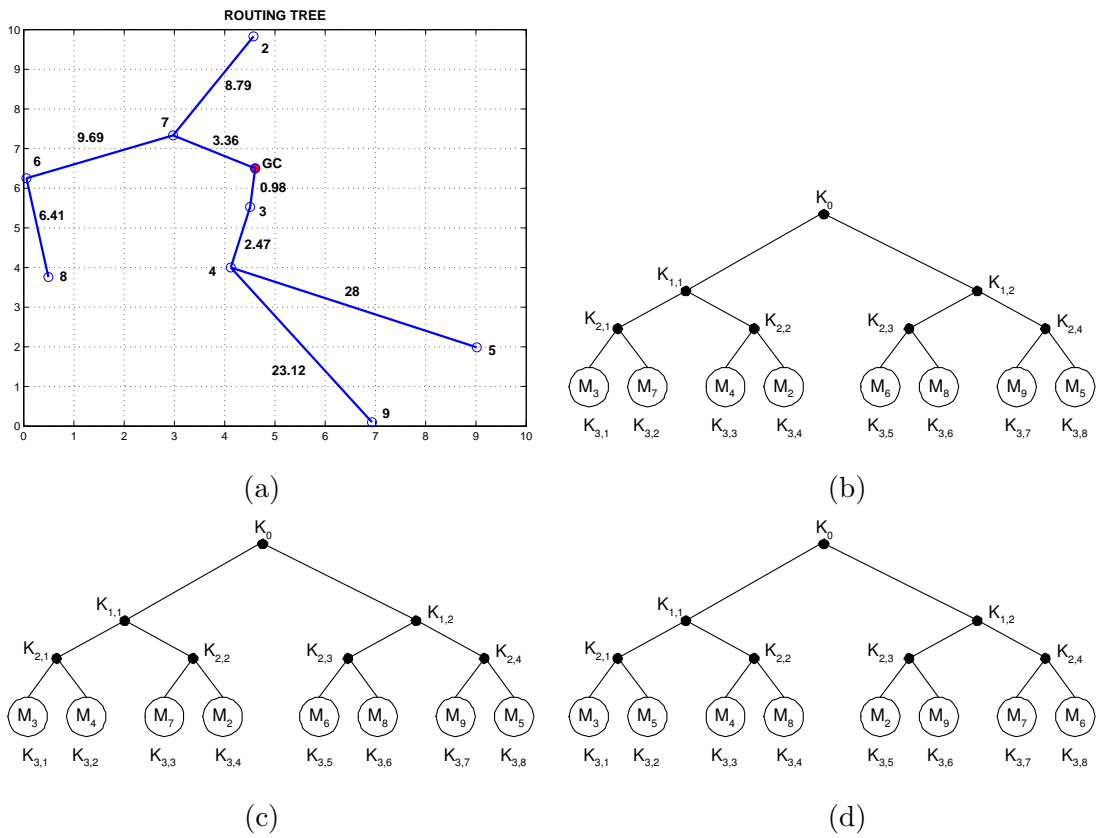


Figure 2.8: (a) The routing paths of a wireless ad hoc network. (b) Key distribution tree built with the Routing-Aware key distribution algorithm. (c) Best possible Key distribution tree. (d) Worst possible key distribution tree

broadcast advantage. Assume that nodes five and nine need to receive a key only common to them and i) they already share a common key, ii) they do not share a common key. In the first case the energy expenditure for sending a key to both five and nine is  $E_{\{5,9\}} = 31.45$  Energy Units (EU), while in the second case the key has to be unicasted to each node and the required energy is  $E_{\{6,7\}} = 58.02$  EU.

By assigning common keys to groups of nodes that differ the least in  $\mathcal{E}_i$ , we save the most energy for sending keys common only to those groups. Consider nodes nine and five in Figure 2.8(a), and assume they already share a common key. We save 26.57 EU for transmitting a key to both of them, which is the highest out of any other possible member pairing. By also assigning a common key to  $\{5, 6, 8, 9\}$  we need only 31.45 EU to update a key to the subgroup, saving 19.46 EU if only pairs  $\{6, 8\}$  and  $\{5, 9\}$  shared a common key and 46.03 EU if there was no key overlap.

If we sort all members according to  $E_i$ ,  $i = 1..N$  in ascending order, we minimize the energy expenditure difference ( $\mathcal{E}_{i+1} - \mathcal{E}_i$ ) between consecutive members and maximize the energy savings  $E_i$  if transmission to node  $O$  covers node  $I$ . Therefore, by assigning common keys to members differing the least in  $\mathcal{E}_i$  (placing them under the same parent node in the key distribution tree) we achieve high energy savings. We propose the placement of the multicast members to the leaves of the key distribution tree according to the ascending order of energy expenditure  $E_i$ . In figure 2.9 we present our Routing-Aware Key distribution scheme (RAwKey).

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**Routing-Aware Key Distribution Scheme (RAwKey)**

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- Step 1: Compute all  $E_i(R)$  from the  $GC$  to each member of the multicast group.
  - Step 2: Sort  $E = \{E_1, \mathcal{E}_2, \dots, \mathcal{E}_N\}$  in ascending order.
  - Step 3: Add members as leaf nodes to the key distribution tree from left to right in the same order as  $E$ .
- 

Figure 2.9: The steps of the Routing-Aware Key Distribution scheme (RAwKey).

Though this is not the optimal solution, its performance and implementation simplicity make

it an extremely attractive method for key management in secure multicast communications for ad hoc networks.

### 2.9.1 Application of RAwKey to a sample network

We now illustrate the construct of the key tree for the nine-node network shown in Figure 2.8(a). The *GC* can communicate with each member of the multicast group by using the routing paths indicated. Sorting the energies for reaching each member of the multicast group gives  $E_{\{M_3\}} < E_{\{M_7\}} < E_{\{M_4\}} < E_{\{M_2\}} < E_{\{M_6\}} < E_{\{M_8\}} < E_{\{M_9\}} < E_{\{M_5\}}$ . The resulting key distribution tree is shown in Figure 2.8(b). The optimal key distribution tree, obtained by exhaustive searching, is shown in Figure 2.8(c). We can observe that the two trees are almost identical with only members  $M_4$  and  $M_7$  been interchanged. The worst possible tree, also obtained through exhaustive search is shown in Figure 2.8(d). The optimal possible tree has  $E_{AVE}^{Optim}(R, T) = 62.7$  EU, the tree created with RAwKey has  $E_{AVE}^{RAwKey}(R, T) = 63$  EU (0.5% worse than the optimal tree) and the worst possible tree has  $E_{AVE}^{Worst}(R, T) = 78.3$  EU (24.9% worse than the optimal tree).

### 2.9.2 Complexity of RAwKey

RAwKey requires the computation of the unicast energies to reach every member of the multicast group sorted in ascending order. During the building of the multicast routing tree the *GC* can acquire the order by which nodes are added to the tree. In the case of SPR the order of adding nodes to the multicast tree is the same as sorting the unicast energies and no further steps are required.

When BIP or MST is used as a routing algorithm, the order by which nodes are added to the multicast tree is not the same as the ascending order of unicast energies. However, the set is almost ordered since nodes requiring less transmit power to be reached are in general added first to the routing tree. Hence, an efficient sorting algorithm for almost sorted data can significantly reduce the sorting time. Bubblesort [7] is known to have very good performance for almost sorted data with  $\mathcal{O}(N)$  complexity in the best case (almost sorted sets). The EWMA uses MST as a base algorithm and hence, an almost ordered set

can also be acquired.

### 2.10 VP3: Vertex-Path, Power-Proximity, A Cross-Layer Approach

The VP3 algorithm borrows its name from the network and physical layer information it exploits, in order to build an energy-efficient key distribution tree; **V**ertex-**P**ath, **P**ower-**P**roximity (VP3). We first introduce the main ideas of VP3, and then present algorithmic details. VP3 reduces  $E_{Ave}$  by constructing key trees that assign the same KEKs to members that receive messages via common routing paths. For instance, if a member  $M_i$  lies on the path from the  $GC$  to member  $M_j$ , and a message is sent to both  $M_j$  and  $M_i$ , the latter will receive the message for free. Hence, by assigning a common KEK,  $K_{k,l}$  to subgroup  $S_{k,l} = (M_i, M_j)$ , VP3 decreases the energy expenditure required for updating the SEK and common KEKs, whenever transmitting a message to both nodes.

To explore this idea, VP3 discovers which members of  $MG$  share the longest paths or, equivalently, which members have paths that differ the least, a property that is extracted from a given broadcast routing tree  $R$ . The network paths from the  $GC$  to each node are represented as binary codewords of length equal to  $N$ . The  $k^{th}$  position of the  $i^{th}$  codeword  $C_i(k)$ , has a value of one if node  $k$  has to transmit in order for a message unicasted by the  $GC$  to reach node  $i$ , and a zero otherwise<sup>3</sup>. Thus, the length of a path from the  $GC$  to node  $i$ ,  $PA_i$ , can be obtained by computing the *Hamming Weight*  $H_w(C_i)$  of the codeword  $C_i$  that represents  $PA_i$  [119]:

$$H_w(C_i) = \sum_{k=1}^N C_i(k). \quad (2.35)$$

Once codewords have been constructed for each node, we need a metric that allows us to measure the *path distance*, defined below, between the paths of any two nodes:

**Definition 2.5** (Path Distance). *Let  $PA_i$  and  $PA_j$  represent the sets of nodes in the broadcast routing tree  $R$  that will relay a unicast message from the  $GC$  to nodes  $i$  and  $j$  respectively. We define the path distance between  $i$  and  $j$  as the sum of the nodes  $k \in \{(PA_i \cup PA_j) - (PA_i \cap PA_j)\}$ .*

---

<sup>3</sup>Construction of the codewords is equivalent to generating the connectivity matrix for the network.



Path distance expresses the difference between two paths, in number of nodes. We measure the path distance between  $i$  and  $j$ , by computing the *Hamming Distance*  $H_d(i, j)$ , between their corresponding codewords [119]:

$$H_d(i, j) = \sum_{k=1}^N C_i(k) \oplus C_j(k). \quad (2.36)$$

### 2.10.1 The VP3 Algorithm

We assume two sets of parameters as inputs: (a) the  $N \times N$  binary connectivity matrix  $C$ , where each row  $C_i$  is a codeword that represents the node path from the  $GC$  to node  $i$ , such that entry  $C_i(k) = 1$  if node  $k \in PA_i$ , and  $C_i(k) = 0$  otherwise and, (b) a vector  $E$  of length  $N$ , where the  $i^{th}$  entry  $E_i$ , indicates the energy expenditure required to unicast a message from the  $GC$  to node  $i$ , following the path indicated by the connectivity matrix  $C$ . To construct a  $d$ -ary key distribution tree, we execute the following steps:

**Step 1:** Calculate the Hamming weight  $H_w(C_i)$  for each row in  $C$ , corresponding to the path from the  $GC$  to node  $i$ .

**Step 2:** Choose the node  $i^*$  with the *maximum Hamming weight*  $i^* = \arg \max_{i \in MG} (H_w(C_i))$ .

If there is more than one node that satisfies this condition then, from this list, pick the node  $i^*$  to be the one with maximum  $E_i$ .

**Step 3:** Pick the  $(d-1)$  nodes with the shortest Hamming distances  $H_d(i^*, j)$ ,  $j \in MG \setminus i^*$ .

If there are more than  $(d-1)$  nodes with equal  $H_d(i^*, j)$  always pick first, if any, the node or nodes found on the path from the  $GC$  to  $i^*$ . For the remaining nodes, pick those with the largest  $E_j$ . Assign a unique KEK to all members chosen in this step.

**Step 4:** Repeat Steps 2, 3 until all nodes belong in subgroups of at most  $d$  nodes and are assigned a unique KEK.

**Step 5:** Generate a matrix  $C'$  with rows corresponding to the subgroups generated in Step 4 and columns corresponding to the network nodes. An entry  $C'_i(k) = 1$  if node

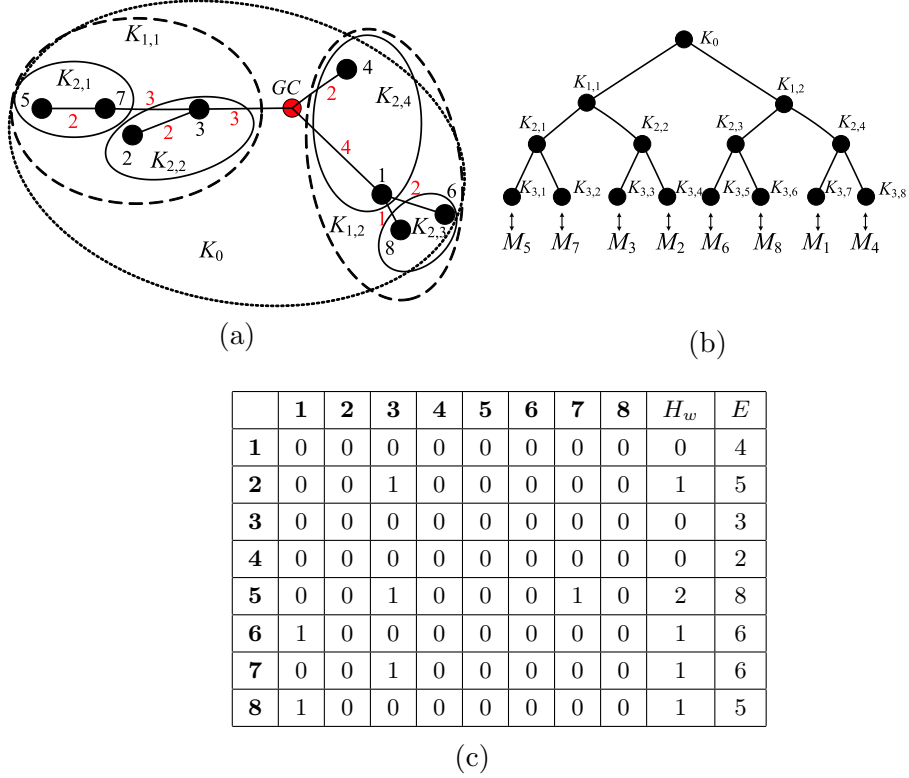


Figure 2.10: (a) The broadcast routing tree for an ad-hoc network of eight nodes plus the GC. Nodes {1 – 8} are members of MG. The numbers on the links indicate the units of energy required to transmit a message through that link. The ovals indicate the grouping of the members into the key tree after the execution of VP3. (b) The key distribution tree constructed by VP3 for the network in Figure 2.10(a). (c) The Connectivity Matrix for the network in Figure 2.10(a). The first row and first column denote the node ID, column 10 denotes the Hamming weight of each codeword, and the last column denotes the energy required to unicast a message to each node.

$k$  is traversed by the path from the GC to any of the members of subgroup  $S_i$ , and  $C'_i(k) = 0$  otherwise. Compute the vector  $E'$ , the  $i^{th}$  entry of which indicates the energy expenditure required to multicast a message from GC to all members of  $S_i$ , following the paths indicated by the connectivity matrix  $C'$ . Execute Steps 1 ~ 4 with inputs  $C', E'$ .

**Step 6:** Repeat Steps 1 ~ 5 until all nodes belong to a single group.

### 2.10.2 Applying VP3 on a Sample Network

We now present the application of VP3 on the sample network of Figure 2.10(a). The numbers on the links indicate the energy link cost. Nodes 1 – 8 correspond to members  $M_1 – M_8$  of  $MG$ . Figure 2.10(c) shows the connectivity matrix  $C$  for  $MG$ , the Hamming weights  $H_w(C_i)$  for each row  $C_i$ , and the energy expenditure  $E_i$  necessary to send a message from the  $GC$  to member  $M_i$ .

We want to construct a binary key tree ( $d = 2$ ) using VP3. Column  $H_w$  in Figure 2.10(c) shows the result of executing Step 1. Step 2, identifies node  $i^* = 5$  as the node with the greatest  $H_w$ , and withdraws it from the pool.

Using Step 3, VP3 finds nodes  $\{7, 2\}$  to have the shortest  $H_d$  to 5. Since we need to choose only one node ( $d = 2$ ), and 7 is on the path from  $GC$  to 5,  $\{M_5, M_7\}$  are assigned a unique KEK, and node 7 is removed from the pool. Note that because node 7 lies on the path from the  $GC$  to node 5, the choice made by VP3 maximizes the length of the common path over the set of available choices, nodes 2 and 7.

In Step 4, VP3 repeats Steps 2, 3; nodes  $\{2, 6, 8\}$  have the highest  $H_w$ , and 6 is selected since it has the highest  $E_i$ . Since node 8 has the smallest  $H_d$  to 6, nodes 6, 8 are paired and  $\{M_8, M_6\}$  are assigned a unique KEK. Similarly, VP3 groups  $\{M_2, M_3\}$  and  $\{M_1, M_4\}$  and a unique KEK is assigned to each group.

In Step 5, VP3 recomputes the connectivity matrix  $C'$  and energy matrix  $E'$  for the pairs generated in Step 4, and repeats Steps 1 to 4. Nodes  $\{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ ,  $\{1, 4, 6, 8\}$  are grouped, and members  $\{M_2, M_3, M_5, M_7\}$ ,  $\{M_1, M_4, M_6, M_8\}$ , are assigned unique KEKs, respectively. At this point the SEK is assigned to all members and the key tree construction is completed. Figure 2.10(b) presents the key distribution tree.

### 2.10.3 Balancing Trees for Improved Energy-Efficiency

In [79], Moyer et al. define the concept of *balanced trees* and show that maintaining such trees ensures that  $GC$  transmissions during rekey operations are kept at  $\mathcal{O}(d \log_d N)$ .

**Definition 2.6** (Balanced Tree). *A tree is said to be balanced, if leaf depth differs by at most one between any two leaves of the tree [79].*

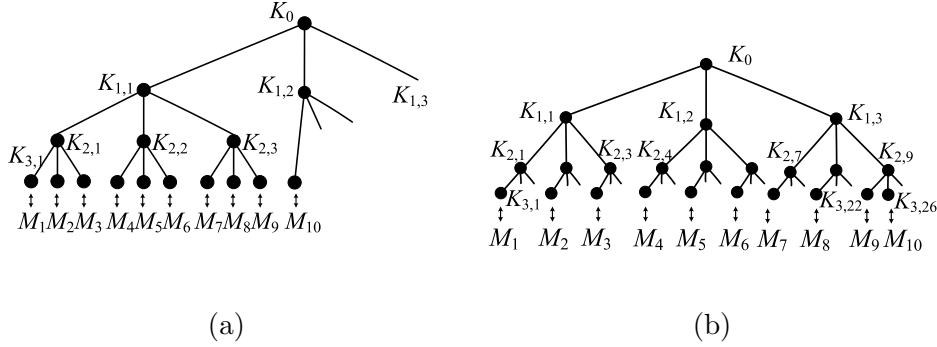


Figure 2.11: (a) An unbalanced ternary key tree of  $N = 10$ ,  $\bar{w}_a(T) = 7.5$ . (b) Balancing the tree reduces  $\bar{w}_a(T)$  to 7.2.

We note that, depending on the size of  $MG$ , the application of VP3 may yield an unbalanced tree. Unbalanced trees have been shown to require more  $GC$  key transmissions, since their average leaf ancestor weight  $\bar{w}_a(T)$ , is larger compared to that of balanced trees [41, 79, 107]. Hence, unbalanced trees, on average, require more energy for rekeying, as will be shown in Section 2.11.

We now illustrate how the use of balanced trees reduces  $\bar{w}_a(T)$  in a tree, which leads to savings in  $GC$  transmissions. Figure 2.11(a) shows an unbalanced ternary key tree for a ten node network, in which the empty branches at levels 0 and 1 are left indicated. The ancestor weight  $w_a(M_i)$ , for the leftmost nine leaves is eight,  $w_a(M_{10}) = 3$ , and  $\bar{w}_a(T) = 7.5$ . By contrast, Figure 2.11(b) shows a balanced tree with  $w_a(M_i) = 7, i \in \{1, \dots, 8\}$ ,  $w_a(M_9) = w_a(M_{10}) = 8$ , and  $\bar{w}_a(T) = 7.2$ . Nevertheless, an analysis of Figures 2.11(a) and 2.11(b) reveals that the subgroups in both representations are mostly unaffected. For example, subgroups  $S_{2,1}$  and  $S_{2,2}$  in Figure 2.11(a), have the same members as  $S_{1,1}$  and  $S_{1,2}$  in Figure 2.11(b).

Our simulation results show that balancing trees has significant impact on energy consumption as  $N$  increases. Hence, we have modified VP3 to always construct balanced trees without affecting the efficiency of the resulting partitions of  $MG$  into subgroups of the desired size. We do this by distributing members among the branches of  $T$ , as evenly as  $N$

will allow. If an even distribution of members among the branches of  $T$  is not feasible, we favor grouping of the remaining members into the subgroups with shortest paths. We now describe the algorithmic steps involved in balancing the tree.

Before building the key tree structure, we calculate the number of members that should be assigned to each subgroup at level  $h$  of the tree. This is done by computing the number of branches  $B$ , in the balanced tree at level  $(h-1)$ ,  $B = d^{\lceil \log_d N \rceil - 1}$ . We then assign  $g = \lfloor \frac{N}{B} \rfloor$  members to each subgroup at level  $h$ . The remaining  $L = N - gB$  members are assigned one to each of the last  $L$  subgroups to be formed by the first iteration of VP3. For example, for the tree in Figure 2.11(b), the number of subgroups at level  $h$  is equal to the number of nodes in the balanced tree at level  $(h-1)$ ,  $B = 3^{\lceil \log_3 10 \rceil - 1} = 9$ , and each subgroup will have at least  $g = \lfloor \frac{10}{9} \rfloor = 1$  node. We then have  $L = 10 - (1)(9) = 1$  node left ( $M_{10}$ ), which is assigned to the last group formed by the first iteration of the algorithm,  $S_{2,9}$ . Note that the added computational cost of balancing the trees is that of computing three quantities:  $B$ ,  $g$  and  $L$ .

In Figure 2.12, we present the pseudo-code for VP3, including the balanced tree modification. The *ConnectivityMatrix()* function computes the connectivity matrix for its argument set. The *EnergyMatrix()* function computes the energy required to reach a set of nodes sharing a common key from the *GC*, where each set is an element of the argument. Initially, the argument to both functions is the set of all members of *MG*. With the construction of every subsequent level  $l$  of the key tree, the argument will be the set of groups generated in the previous level. The *AssignKey()* function assigns a KEK to every element of the argument set.

#### 2.10.4 Algorithmic Complexity of VP3

The algorithmic complexity of VP3 is determined by the complexity of its subgrouping process. The algorithm first identifies the codeword  $C_{i^*}$ , with the largest Hamming weight, then computes the Hamming distances from all other codewords to  $C_{i^*}$ , and picks the  $(d-1)$  codewords with the shortest Hamming distance to  $C_{i^*}$ . This process has to be repeated  $\lceil \frac{N}{d^j} \rceil$  times at each of  $(h-1)$  tree levels, where  $j = h - i$ , and  $i$  is the tree level being built. The

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```

C = ConnectivityMatrix(MG), E = EnergyMatrix(MG)
B = d(⌈logd N⌉-1), g = ⌊N/B⌋
for l = 1 : ⌈logd(N)⌋
  Hw(i) = ∑j=1; j≠iN Ci(j), ∀ rows Ci
  for k = 1 : B
    i* = arg maxi∈MG Hw(i)
    if |i*| > 1 then i* = arg maxi∈i* Ei
    MG = MG \ {i*}
    j' = {j ∈ MG ∋ arg minj∈MG Hd(i*, j)}
    if l > 1 then gs = d, else gs = g
    if l = 1 and k ≥ N - gB then gs = gs + 1
    if |j'| > (gs - 1) choose j' path GC → i*
      and (gs - 2) ∈ j' ∋ arg maxi∈j' Ei
    MG = MG \ {j'}, G = G ∪ j'
    AssignKey(j')
  endfor
  MG = G
  C = ConnectivityMatrix(MG)
  E = EnergyMatrix(MG)
endfor

```

---

Figure 2.12: Pseudo-code for VP3. The *ConnectivityMatrix()* function computes the connectivity matrix for its argument set. The *EnergyMatrix()* function computes the energy required to reach a group of vertices from the *GC*, where the groups are elements of the vector argument. The *AssignKey()* function assigns a common key to every element of the argument set.

total number of operations for this process is:

$$\sum_{j=0}^{h-1} \sum_{i=0}^{\lceil \frac{N}{d^j} \rceil - d} \left[ (d+2) \left( \left\lceil \frac{N}{d^j} \right\rceil + id \right) - d - 1 \right] < d^3 N^2. \quad (2.37)$$

Since in general, we are interested in trees with small  $d$ , the worst case algorithmic complexity of VP3 is  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$ .<sup>4</sup>

### 2.10.5 An Analytical Bound for Subgroup Choices in VP3

In this section we evaluate the deviation of a subgrouping choice made by VP3 from the optimal choice, by computing the worst case *cumulative path divergence*  $\Delta(S)$ , defined be-

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<sup>4</sup>Our simulation results show that  $d \in \{3, 4\}$  provide the best results in both, average update energy and *MG* update messages.

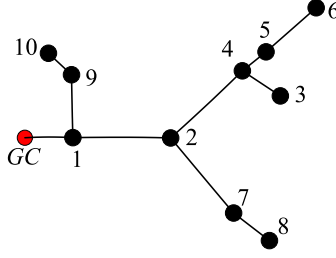


Figure 2.13: The cumulative path divergence between nodes 6 and 8 is  $\Delta(6, 8) = 1$ . Note that the common path between nodes 6 and 8 goes from the *GC* to node 2 and  $\Delta(2, 6) = 0$ .

low, for a subgroup  $S$ , of arbitrary size, with subgroup head  $\alpha(S)$ :

**Definition 2.7.** *-(Sub)group Head,  $\alpha(S)$ -We define the (sub)group head  $\alpha(S)$ , of a (sub)group  $S$ , as the (sub)group member that satisfies  $\alpha(S) = \arg \max_{i \in S} \{E_i\}$ .*

**Definition 2.8.** *-Cumulative Path Divergence-The cumulative path divergence  $\Delta(S)$  of a subgroup  $S$  with subgroup head  $\alpha(S)$ , is defined as:*

$$\Delta(S) = \sum_{k=1}^N \left[ \bar{C}_{\alpha(S)} \circ \left( \bigvee_{j \in S, j \neq \alpha(S)} C_j \right) \right], \quad (2.38)$$

where the symbol  $\vee$  denotes successive bitwise OR operations over the codewords of all members of the set  $S \setminus \alpha(S)$ , the symbol  $\circ$  denotes a single bitwise AND operation, and  $\bar{C}_i$  denotes the complement operation on codeword  $C_i$ .

$\Delta(S)$ , expresses the number of additional transmissions required by the network, so that a multicast message sent by the *GC* reaches all members of  $S \setminus \alpha(S)$ , once the subgroup head  $\alpha(S)$  has already been reached.

As an example, in Figure 2.13 the path distance between nodes  $\{2, 6\}$  is  $H_d(2, 6) = 3$ , but their path divergence is  $\Delta(2, 6) = 0$ , since node 2 is in the path from *GC* to node 6, and is reached for free whenever a message is sent to node 6. Similarly, for  $S = \{6, 8, 10\}$ ,

$\alpha(S) = 6$ , and  $\Delta(S)$  can be computed as:

$$\begin{aligned} C_6 &= 1101100000, \overline{C}_6 = 0010011111, \\ C_8 &= 1100001000, C_{10} = 1000000010, \\ \Delta(S) &= \sum_{k=1}^{10} [\overline{C}_6 \circ (C_8 \vee C_{10})] = 2. \end{aligned}$$

$\Delta(S) = 2$  denotes the two additional transmissions  $7 \rightarrow 8$  and  $9 \rightarrow 10$  required to deliver a message  $m$  to nodes 8 and 10, when  $m$  is sent to 6.

VP3 aims to reduce the energy cost of the key distribution tree by maximizing energy savings when building a partition of  $MG$  into subgroups of size  $d$ . The idea is to maintain total subgroup cost  $E_S$ , as close to the unicast cost of the subgroup head as possible. Thus, we consider a subgroup  $S$  achieves optimal cost if  $E_S = E_{\alpha(S)}$ , where  $\alpha(S) = \arg \max_{i \in S} \{E_i\}$ .

It is important to point out that  $E_S = E_{\alpha(S)}$  implies that  $\Delta_S = 0$ , i.e., no additional transmissions are required to reach any of the members in  $S \setminus \alpha(S)$ , when  $\alpha(S)$  is reached. Hence,  $E_S = E_{\alpha(S)}$  indicates that a message multicasted from the  $GC$  to  $S$  will be relayed with the *minimum number of  $MG$  update messages* for the given routing tree  $R$ . That is,  $E_S = E_{\alpha(S)}$  implies optimal energy update cost *and* optimal  $MG$  update messages when transmitting a message to  $S$ , for fixed  $R$ .

We note that while  $E_S = E_{\alpha(S)}$  implies  $\Delta(S) = 0$ , the converse is not true, as can be shown by the example of Figure 2.13. Let  $S = \{3, 5, 6\}$ , and assume that  $E_{4 \rightarrow 3} > E_{4 \rightarrow 5}$ . In that case, though  $\Delta(S) = 0$ , we can see that  $E_S = E_6 - E_{4 \rightarrow 5} + E_{4 \rightarrow 3} > E_6$ .

We now calculate the worst case cumulative path divergence for a subgroup  $S$  of size  $d$ , when  $S$  is generated using the decision process of VP3:

**Lemma 2.1.** *The maximum cumulative path divergence  $\Delta_d^*(S)$ , for a subgroup  $S$  of size  $d > 2$  is:*

$$\Delta_d^*(S) = (d - 1) \max H_w(i), i \in R.$$

*Proof.* VP3 will achieve its worst-case bound when  $|S \setminus \alpha(S)| = (d - 1)$  subgroup members have  $\Delta(\alpha(S), i) = \max[H_w(j), i \in S \setminus \alpha(S), j \in R]$ . We present a construct that achieves



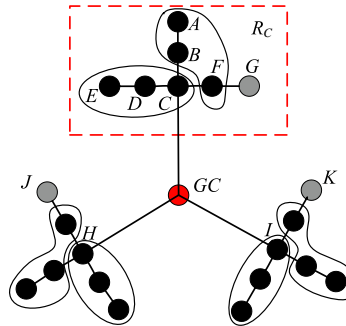


Figure 2.14: (a) Worst case for VP3. For the subtree rooted at  $C$ , VP3 will select the following subgroups:  $\{A, B, F\}$ ,  $\{C, D, E\}$  first, and leave node  $G$  isolated. Similar choices will leave nodes  $K$  and  $J$  isolated. Therefore  $S_7 = \{G, K, J\}$ .

this worst-case bound in Figure 2.14. Assume  $d = 3$  and, without loss of generality, assume  $E_A > E_E > E_G > E_F > E_D$ , so that VP3's first subgroup choices within the subtree  $R_C$  rooted at node  $C$  will be  $S_1 = \{A, B, F\}$  and  $S_2 = \{C, D, E\}$ , as shown in Figure 2.14. Note that these choices leave node  $G$  isolated from those nodes of the broadcast routing tree  $R$  that have not been grouped yet. Similarly, VP3's subgrouping choices for subtrees  $R_H$  and  $R_I$ , rooted at nodes  $H$  and  $I$  respectively, will leave one isolated node in each subtree, nodes  $J$  and  $K$ . Since the roots of  $d = 3$  subtrees are all connected to  $GC$ , the only subgrouping choice there remains for VP3 to take, is  $S_7 = \{G, J, K\}$ , the three nodes shown in gray in Figure 2.14. Note that the paths of the three subgroup members have a common node in  $GC$ , hence, the length of their common path is zero, and  $\Delta(\alpha(S_7), i) = H_d(i, GC) = H_w(i), \forall i \in S_7 \setminus \alpha(S_7)$ . Finally, since  $H_w(G) = H_w(J) = H_w(K) = \max H_w(i)$  for  $i \in R$ , and  $|S_7 \setminus \alpha(S_7)| = (d - 1)$ , we have that  $\Delta(S_7) = (d - 1) \max H_w(i)$ .  $\square$

## 2.11 Performance Evaluation in the Absence of Routing Information

### 2.11.1 Simulation setup

Simulation studies were performed on randomly generated network topologies confined in a specific region. Since there is no algorithm to provide the minimum energy solution for the key distribution tree construction, we performed an exhaustive search for small group

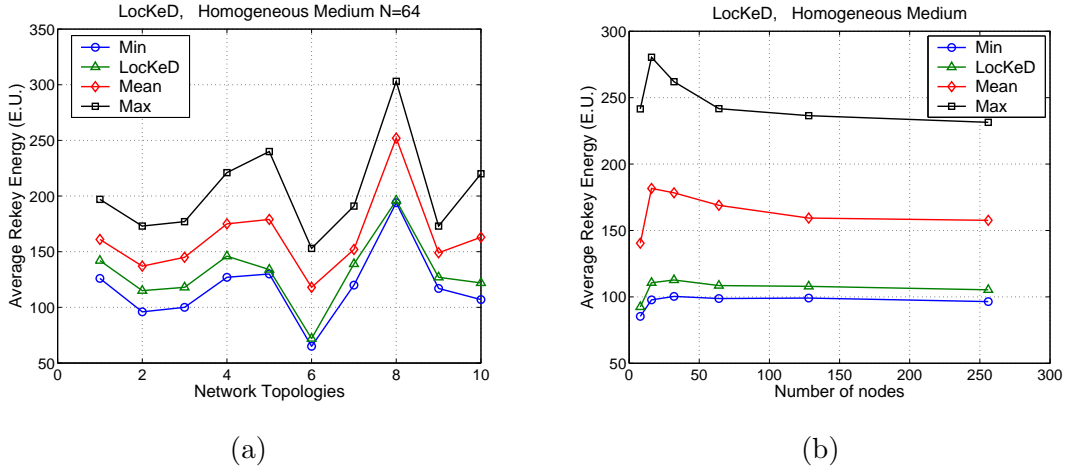


Figure 2.15: Experiment 1- Homogeneous Medium: (a) Application of LockKeD in a free space area for 10 different network topologies of 64 nodes plus the  $GC$ , compared with the energy expenditure of the minimum, maximum and mean performing tree out of the 10,000 examined tree structures. (b) Application of LockKeD in a free space area for different network sizes averaged over 100 network topologies.

sizes  $N = 8, N = 16$ . For larger group sizes,  $N = 32, 64, 128, 256$ , we generated for each network instance, 10,000 different random key tree structures. Out of the 10,000 randomly generated structures, we selected the key trees that resulted in the minimum and maximum  $E_{Ave}$ , and compared them with the performance of our algorithms. We also computed the mean performance of the 10,000 random key trees and compared that with LockKeD and PAKeD-KM. We repeated the same comparison for 100 different network topologies and averaged the results.

### 2.11.2 Experiment 1: Network deployed in a homogeneous medium - Free space case

In our first experiment we assumed that the network was deployed in an open space area. We confined the network in a  $10 \times 10$  region and evaluated the performance of LockKeD. In figure 2.15(a), we compare the LockKeD with the minimum and maximum performing tree as well as the average, out of the 10,000 randomly generated tree structures. We can observe the key tree with the best performance spends 1.3%-16.7% less energy than LockKeD. However, if location is neglected, LockKeD spends 24.4%-54.2% less, compared to the key tree with

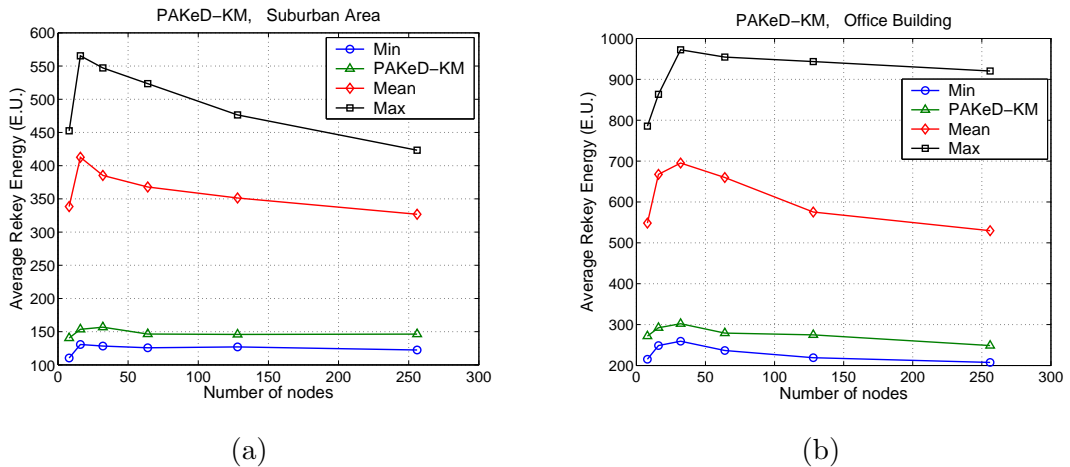


Figure 2.16: Experiment 2 Heterogeneous Medium: Application of PAKeD for different network sizes, compared with the energy expenditure of the minimum, maximum and mean performing tree out of the 10,000 randomly generated tree structures when, (a) the network is deployed in a suburban area (b) the network is deployed in an office building.

the maximum average key update energy and 14.2%-36.4% less, compared to the mean of all generated trees, for the 10 networks in figure 2.15(a).

In figure 2.15(b), we show the results of LockKeD as a function of the multicast group size  $N$ , averaged over 100 network topologies for each  $N$ . The LockKeD spends on average 9% more energy for re-keying, compared to the key tree with the minimum  $E_{Ave}$ . LockKeD spends on average 57% less energy for re-keying, compared to the key tree with the maximum  $E_{Ave}$ , and 32% less, compared to the mean of all randomly generated trees.

### 2.11.3 Experiment 2: Network deployed in a heterogeneous Medium - Suburban area

In our second experiment, we evaluated the performance of the PAKeD for a slowly varying heterogeneous medium. We considered a suburban area where the attenuation factor  $\gamma$  is not constant throughout the network deployment region. However, we assumed that it changes slowly across space. In figure 2.16(a), we compare the PAKeD-KM with the minimum, maximum, and average performing tree out of the 10,000 randomly generated trees, as a function of the multicast group size  $N$ , for networks deployed in a suburban area. We observe that the PAKeD-KM spends on average 19% more energy for rekeying,

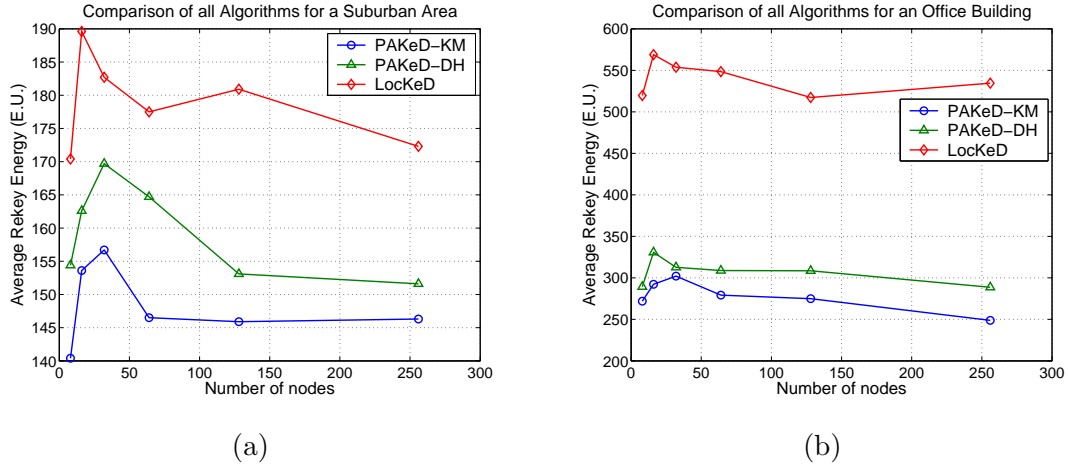


Figure 2.17: Comparison of PAKeD-KM with LockKeD for a network deployed in a, (c) suburban area, (d) office building.

compared to the key tree with the minimum average key update energy. The PAKeD-KM spends on average 70% less energy for rekeying, compared to the key tree with the maximum average update, and 59%, compared to the mean of all randomly generated trees.

We note that the key tree with the maximum  $E_{Ave}$  spends *almost three times* as much energy as the tree constructed with PAKeD-KM. This is due to the fact that sending messages in a heterogeneous environment requires more energy than in a homogeneous one, and using an inefficient key distribution scheme can lead to great waste of energy resources.

In figure 2.17(a), we compare the PAKeD-KM with LockKeD, for networks of different group sizes deployed in a suburban area. We observe that LockKeD performs 20% worse than the PAKeD-KM. By comparing figures 2.16(a) and 2.17(a), we note that the performance of the LockKeD is still significantly better than the average and worst case random key trees.

#### 2.11.4 Experiment 3: Network deployed in a heterogeneous medium - indoor environment

In our third simulation experiment, we evaluated the performance of the PAKeD algorithm for a rapidly changing heterogeneous medium. In figure 2.16(b), we compare the PAKeD-KM with the minimum and maximum performing tree as well as the average out of the 10,000 randomly generated trees, for different multicast group sizes in an indoor environment. We

observe that the PAKeD-KM spends on average 17% more energy for rekeying, compared to the key tree with the minimum average key update energy. The PAKeD-KM spends on average 72% less energy for rekeying, compared to the key tree with the maximum average update, and 56% less when compared to the mean of all randomly generated trees.

In figure 2.17(b), we compare PAKeD-KM with LockeD for different group sizes deployed in an office building. As expected, LockeD performs poorly in the indoor environment by spending 96% more energy for rekeying than PAKeD-KM. In the indoor environment physical proximity is not increasing monotonically with “power proximity” and clustering based on location fails to give an energy-efficient key distribution tree.

## 2.12 Performance Evaluation in the Presence of Routing Information

### *Evaluation of RAwKey algorithm*

In this section we evaluate the performance of our routing aware key distribution algorithm. In Figure 2.18(a), we observe that RAwKey yields significant savings compared to a tree structure that does not take into account the routing information. It has slightly worse performance compared to the best tree out of the 10,000 trees and gives significant savings compared to the median and worse possible tree. In Figure 2.18(b), we compare the performance of RAwKey with the location-aware key distribution scheme (LockeD). We show the percentage difference ( $\frac{E_{AVE}^{RAwKey} - E_{AVE}^{LockeD}}{E_{AVE}^{RAwKey}}$  %) between RAwKey and LockeD for different number of nodes. RAwKey outperforms LockeD by 5.4-8.2%, since LockeD may fail to capture the circularity of the broadcast advantage.

### *2.12.1 Performance of RAwKey under different routing algorithms*

In our fifth experiment we compared the performance of RAwKey under different routing algorithms and for different multicast group sizes. We generated random topologies and constructed the multicast routing tree using BIP [122], EWMA [16], MST [7] and SPR [7]. We applied RAwKey under the different routing algorithms and measured  $E_{AVE}$ . In Figure 2.20 we observe that SPR gives the minimum re-key energy expenditure, BIP and MST have similar performance, while EWMA needs increasing energy for re-keying as the

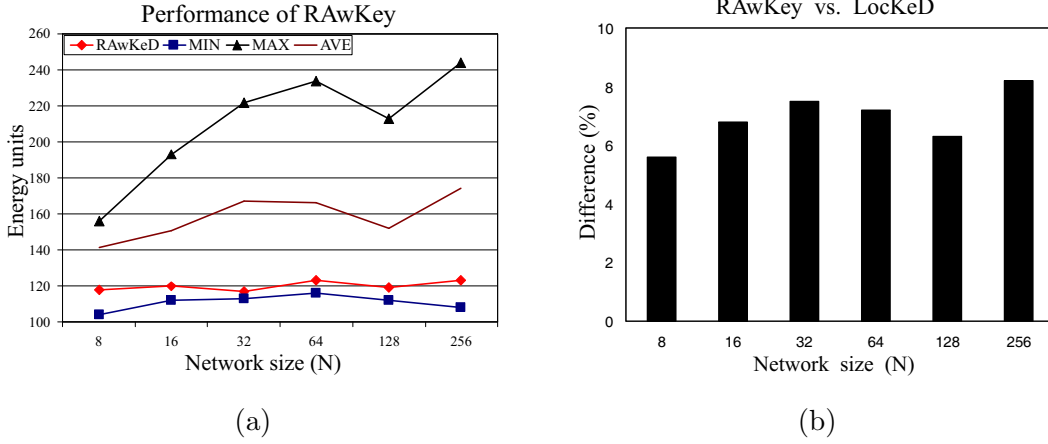


Figure 2.18: (a) Performance of RAwKey for different  $N$ . (b) Comparison RAwKey with LockeD for different  $N$ . (c) Comparison of the RAwKey under different routing algorithms.

multicast group size grows.

If we study the routing trees resulting from the application of the four algorithms (Figure 2.19) we observe that SPR, BIP and MST tend to be multi-hop in contrast to EWMA that covers many nodes with one transmission. Although a single transmission is beneficial for broadcasting a message to all members of the multicast group and reducing the total transmit power, it proves inefficient when messages need to be transmitted to small subgroups or even unicasted. Re-keying after a member deletion involves many transmissions to smaller groups than  $MG$ . SPR is optimized for unicast transmissions and therefore delivers keys to single members with minimal energy cost. On the other hand, EWMA requires the most energy for unicasting, since it favors long range transmission to cover many nodes.

### 2.12.2 Evaluation of VP3 algorithm

To evaluate the performance of VP3, we generated random network topologies confined to a region of size 100x100. Following the network generation, we used the Broadcast Incremental Power (BIP) algorithm [122] to construct and acquire the routing paths from the  $GC$  to every group member<sup>5</sup>. The routing tree was also used to calculate the energy

<sup>5</sup>Any other suitable routing algorithm can be applied as well [16, 122].

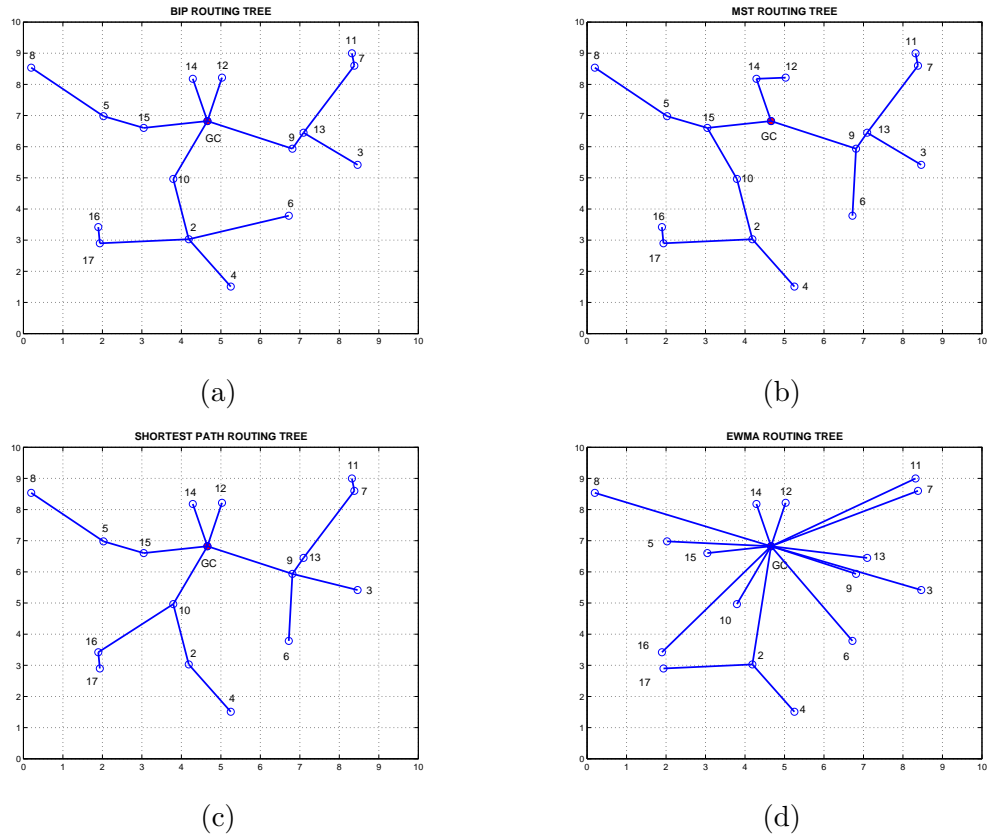


Figure 2.19: Multicast routing tree constructed with (a) BIP, (b) MST, (c) SPR, (d) EWMA.

required to reach any group of members.

### 2.12.3 Comparison between VP3 and RAwKey

In our first experiment, we compared VP3 with RAwKey. We also compared VP3 with a random key assignment algorithm as in wired networks [120, 123]. Since for a fixed key tree degree  $d$ , the key assignment structures built by VP3, RAwKey, and the random key tree algorithm have the same member storage and  $GC$  transmissions requirements, we compared the three methods in terms of average  $MG$  update messages  $m_{Ave}$ , and average update energy  $E_{Ave}$ .

Figure 2.23(a) shows the  $m_{Ave}$  (top graph), and  $E_{Ave}$  (bottom graph), for trees of degree  $d = 4$  and for different multicast group sizes  $N$ . All trees were left *unbalanced*. Due to space limitations, we have omitted the results for binary and ternary trees. In the top graph of

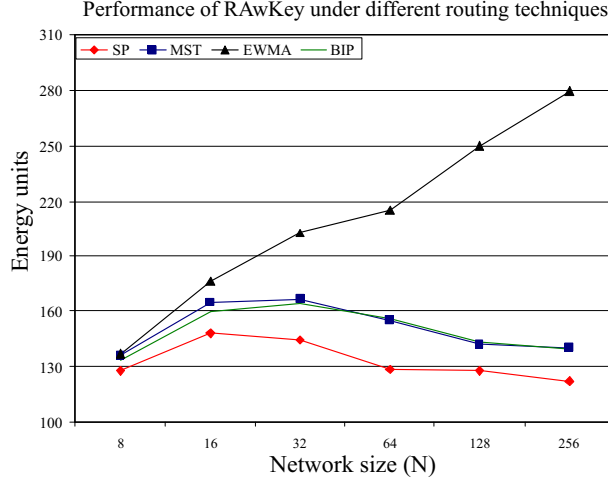


Figure 2.20: Comparison of the RAwKey under different routing algorithms.

Figure 7(a), we observe that sudden increases in  $m_{Ave}$  occur when  $N = d^i + 1, i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . The increases in  $m_{Ave}$  are a consequence of leaving the key tree unbalanced, since in that case the average leaf ancestor weight  $w_a(M_i)$  significantly increases for those nodes with large Hamming weight  $H_w$  during the transition from  $N = d^i$  to  $N = d^i + 1$ . As noted, an increase in  $w_a(M_i)$  for those nodes with large  $H_w$  implies an increase in the number of  $GC$  transmissions directed to nodes with longer paths, which in turn leads to an increased number of relaying messages.

The bottom graph of Figure 2.23(a) shows the  $E_{Ave}$  for different multicast group sizes  $N$ . We observe that the sudden increases in  $m_{Ave}$  from the top graph of Figure 2.23(a), translate into sudden increases in  $E_{Ave}$ , also due to the use of unbalanced trees. As  $N$  continues to increase, however,  $\bar{w}_a(T)$  decreases, and  $E_{Ave}$  is reduced. This happens because the size of the deployment area is fixed. Thus, as  $N$  increases and the nodes become more densely packed, the number of relaying messages required to rekey  $MG$  increases, but the average energy cost per relayed message decreases.

Figure 2.23(b) shows the performance improvement achieved by VP3, over RAwKey, on both  $m_{Ave}$  and  $E_{Ave}$ , for key trees of degree  $d \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ . While average improvement on both metrics is 20%, the average for networks of size  $N \geq 150$  increases to 28%. The



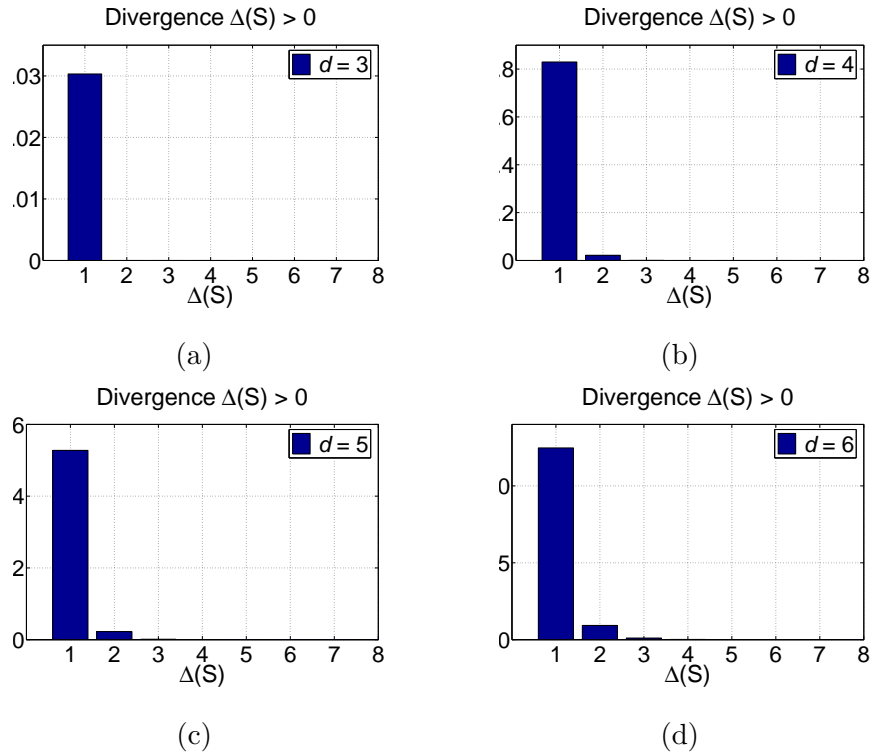


Figure 2.21:  $\Delta(S)$  that was observed in 29,300 randomly generated networks. Networks of size  $N \in [8, 300]$  were generated at random, 100 networks for each size. The histograms show the percentage of subgroups of size  $d \in \{3, 4, 5, 6\}$  that showed  $\Delta(S) > 0$ , over the *total* number of subgroups that were formed by VP3, for all networks.

difference in performance between VP3 and RAwKey occurs due to the near optimal decision process of VP3 when compared to RAwKey, which ignores path direction [67, 68].

Figure 2.22(a) compares both,  $m_{Ave}$  and  $E_{Ave}$  for key trees of degree  $d \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ , generated using VP3. We note that binary trees are clearly outperformed by ternary and quaternary trees, which in turn perform quite similarly for the selected sizes of  $MG$ . This happens because the number of  $GC$  transmissions increase much more rapidly for binary trees, due to the increase in tree height. Nevertheless, the trend is inverted for  $d > 4$ , because the increase in subgroup size  $d$  implies an increase in the number of unicast transmissions required for rekeying. This increase outweighs reductions due to shorter tree height. Our simulations show that the best results are obtained when we use key trees of degree  $d \in$

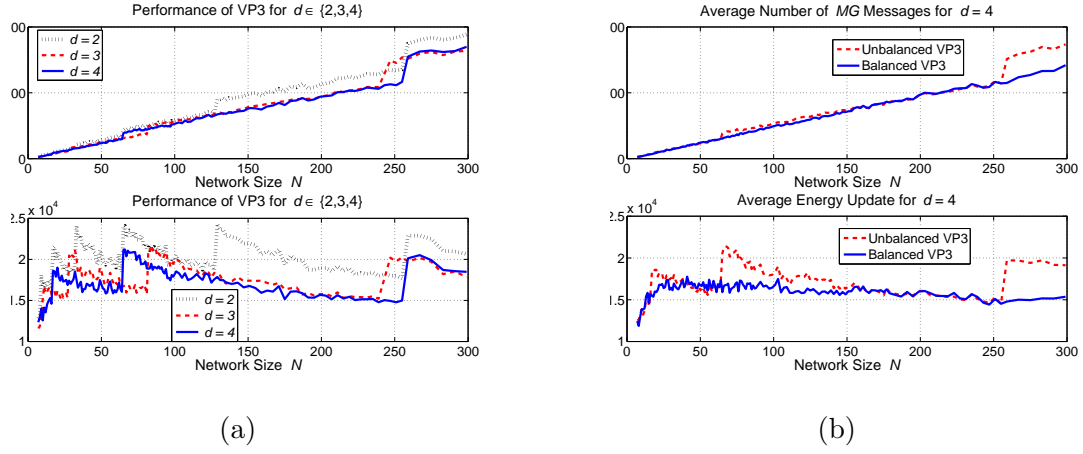


Figure 2.22: (a) Comparison in performance of VP3 for trees of degree  $d \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ . The graph on the top shows  $m_{Ave}$ , and the graph on the bottom shows  $E_{Ave}$ . (b) Average MG update messages and average update energy for different multicast group sizes, for balanced and unbalanced trees.

$\{3, 4\}$ .

#### 2.12.4 Effect of the Use of Balanced Tree Topologies with VP3

In our second experiment, we evaluated the effect of balancing the key tree structures, as described in Section 2.10.

The top graph in Figure 2.22(b) shows the effect of balanced tree topologies on  $m_{Ave}$ . We observe that  $m_{Ave}$  grows almost linearly with  $N$ . This is to be expected, since the MG update messages required to complete rekey operations are not bounded by the size of the area in which networks were generated.

The bottom graph in Figure 2.22(b) shows the improved  $E_{Ave}$  achieved by VP3 when balancing the tree structure.  $E_{Ave}$  is almost constant for networks of size  $N \geq 50$ , both for ternary and quaternary trees. The size of the deployment area is fixed, thus, as  $N$  increases and the nodes become more densely packed, the number of MG update messages increases, but the average energy cost per message decreases. Since VP3 provides near optimal grouping of members, the increase in relay messages does not increase  $E_{Ave}$ .

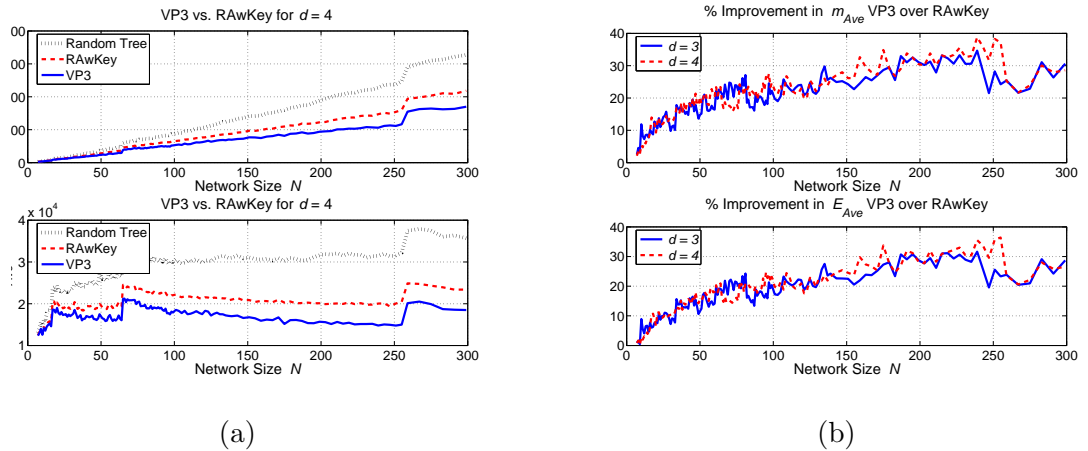


Figure 2.23: A comparison between the VP3, RAwKey and the random key tree algorithm. (a) The graph on top shows the average number of  $MG$  update messages, and the graph below shows average update energy. Each data point is the average result over 100 randomly generated networks. (b) % of improvement in both  $m_{Ave}$  and  $E_{Ave}$  obtained by VP3 over RAwKey for different sizes of  $MG$ .

### 2.12.5 Path Divergence of VP3

For our third experiment, we generated 100 networks for each network size  $N \in [8, 300]$  (a total of 29,300 networks), in an area of  $100 \times 100$ . We then employed VP3 to partition each network into groups of size  $d \in \{3, 4, 5, 6\}$  (steps 1 – 4 of VP3) and evaluated  $\Delta(S_i)$  for each of the resulting subgroups, using (2.38)<sup>6</sup>.

The histograms in Figure 2.21 present the percentage of subgroups that showed a  $\Delta(S_i) > 0$ , for subgroups of different size. As an example, in Figure 2.21(a) only 0.03% subgroups of size  $d = 3$  out of the subgroups formed from the 29,300 networks tried, had  $\Delta(S) > 0$ .

Note that while the worst-case bound indicates that  $\Delta_3^*(S) = \max H_w(i)$ , the conditions required to achieve this divergence occur in the specific network topology shown in the Figure 2.14 in Appendix II, and all its isomorphics. In fact, none of the subgroups obtained in our simulations exceeded  $\Delta(S) = 1$ , for  $d = 3$ , and we did not find a case in which  $\Delta(S) > 7$ , for  $d \in \{3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . Our simulations suggest that the worst-case bound in (2.38)

<sup>6</sup>For  $d = 2$  it can be proved analytically that VP3 partitions each network into subgroups with  $\Delta(S) = 0$ .

may be overly pessimistic for most networks, and that the vast majority of groups generated by the decision process of VP3 have zero path divergence.

### 2.13 Summary of Contributions

We studied the problem of energy-efficient key management for group communications in wireless ad hoc networks. We considered the key management problem under four metrics, namely member key storage, *GC* transmissions, *MG* update messages and average update energy. For each metric we formulated an optimization problem and showed that the problem has unique solutions in terms of member key storage and *GC* transmissions, while it is NP-complete in terms of *MG* messages and average update energy. Since no unique solution concurrently optimizes all four metrics, we considered the problem of minimizing the *MG* update messages and average update energy, while keeping the member key storage and the *GC* transmissions bounded.

We noted that while the balanced key trees are efficient solutions in terms of key storage and *MG* update messages, the key trees did not consider energy and network bandwidth as a design parameter. In order to incorporate the energy/bandwidth-efficiency into the key trees, we introduced a new performance evaluation metric called average energy update cost. We characterized this metric in terms of the network topology, the properties of the propagation medium and the degree of the key tree. We then noted that depending on whether the propagation medium is homogeneous or heterogeneous, we could formulate problems with different cost functions and computational complexities for the cross-layer design problem. We also presented the complexities of our algorithms and showed the pitfalls of trying to find a globally optimal solution. We also proposed RAwKey, a routing-aware key distribution algorithm that takes into account the routing paths used to distribute keys to valid members of the multicast group. Finally, we presented VP3, a heuristic cross-layer key distribution algorithm that takes into account network flows in order to provide a resource efficient key distribution scheme. We presented simulation results and applied our algorithms to different environments and showed significant energy savings using our algorithms that demonstrate the advantage of a cross-layer design approach.

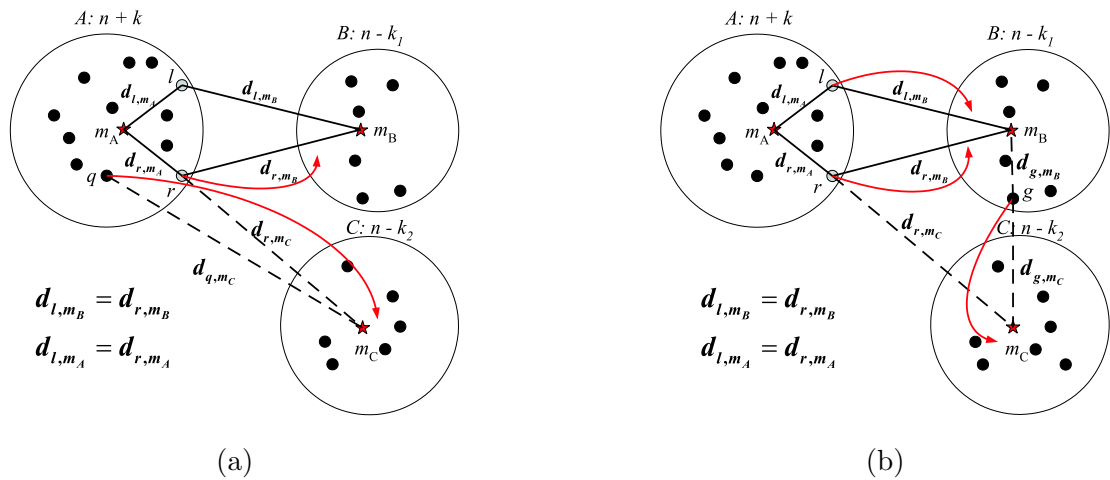


Figure 2.24: Sub-optimality of the refinement algorithm. Three un-balanced clusters  $A, B, C$  with  $|A| = n + k$ ,  $|B| = n - k_1$ ,  $|C| = n - k_2$  and  $k = k_1 + k_2$ , (a) moving  $r$  to  $B$  and  $q$  to  $C$ , results in a sub-optimal solution, (b) moving  $l, r$  to  $B$  and  $g$  to  $C$ , results in a better solution than moving  $l$  to  $B$  and  $r$  to  $C$ .

## 2.14 Appendix

### 2.14.1 On the Optimality of the Refinement Algorithm

The refinement algorithm<sup>7</sup> balances the clusters sizes obtained from the application of the clustering algorithm. When we balance two clusters, we move an object from cluster  $A$  to cluster  $B$  so that we minimally increase the total inter-cluster dissimilarity. For the binary case, this greedy approach leads to an optimal solution for the constrained optimization problem in (2.21). However, if the number of clusters is greater than two, the refinement algorithm in (2.22) need not lead to balanced clusters of minimum total dissimilarity. We illustrate these points with the example given below.

Consider the clusters  $A, B, C$  shown in figure 2.24, with  $|A| = n + k$ ,  $|B| = n - k_1$ ,  $|C| = n - k_2$  and  $k = k_1 + k_2$ . We specialize to the case where  $k = 2$ ,  $k_1 = 1$  and  $k_2 = 1$ . According to the refinement algorithm, we must move two objects from  $A$  to  $B, C$  (one to

<sup>7</sup>The pseudo-code of the algorithm is presented in figure 2.6(b).

$B$ , one to  $C$ ). We initially find the object  $i^* \in A$  such that:

$$i^* = \arg \min_{i \in A} [d_{i,m_X}^2 - d_{i,m_A}^2], \quad X = \{B, C\}. \quad (2.39)$$

For figure 2.24(a) there are two optimal objects,  $i^* = \{l, r\}$  that can be moved from set  $A$  since  $d_{l,m_A} = d_{r,m_A}$  and  $d_{l,m_B} = d_{r,m_B}$ . Assume that object  $r$  is moved from  $A$  to  $B$ . Note that object  $r$  minimally increases the cluster dissimilarity, out of all objects of  $A$  that could be possibly moved to cluster  $C$ . Hence, if any other object ( $q$  for example) is moved from  $A$  to  $C$  to balance  $C$ , the total cluster dissimilarity will be higher compared to the case where  $l$  is moved to  $B$  and  $r$  is moved to  $C$ .

Finding the two objects from cluster  $A$  to be moved to clusters  $B$  and  $C$  respectively so that the total dissimilarity is minimized requires exhaustive search through all possible combinations of object movements. In our example, two points out of the  $(n + 2)$  points in set  $A$  need to be moved. There are  $(n + 2)(n + 1)$  possible combinations to be inspected. In the general case where  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_s$  objects need to be moved from cluster  $A$  that has  $n + k$  initial points, to clusters  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_s$  which contain  $n - k_1, n - k_2, \dots, n - k_s$  points respectively, where  $k = \sum_{i=1}^s k_i$ , the number of possible combination is:

$$\binom{n+k}{k_1} \binom{n+k-k_1}{k_2} \cdots \binom{n+k_s}{k_s}. \quad (2.40)$$

A careful consideration shows that when the number of clusters involved is more than two, identification and moving of a set of objects to different clusters need to consider *all* clusters simultaneously, not just the cluster with extra objects. In other words, simply moving the extra objects with the highest dissimilarity from the bigger clusters to the smaller ones need not lead to optimality. We illustrate it now.

Consider the figure 2.24(b). Set  $k = 2$ ,  $k_1 = 1$ , and  $k_2 = 1$ . Hence, to construct balanced clusters, two objects need to be removed from the cluster  $A$  and the size of the clusters  $B$  and  $C$  should increase by one. We need to move objects with minimal increase in dissimilarity. Assume that moving node  $r$  or  $l$  from  $A$  to  $B$  increases minimally the total cluster dissimilarity. Also assume that the node  $g$  in cluster  $B$  has the lowest dissimilarity with respect to cluster  $C$ . Then, moving both objects  $l, r$  to cluster  $B$  and then moving

object  $g$  from cluster  $B$  to cluster  $C$  will result in lower total cluster dissimilarity than simply moving  $l$  to  $B$  and  $r$  to  $C$ .

From this example, we note that examining and maintaining a list of points and their dissimilarities for the every cluster and every point is important. Hence, when there are more than two clusters, the complexity of finding the globally optimal solution for the optimization problem in (2.21) requires inspection in each cluster and is even higher than the one expressed in (2.40). *Therefore, due to the complexity of finding the optimal solution, it is preferable to adopt the sub-optimal solution for balancing the clusters, provided by the refinement algorithm.*

#### 2.14.2 Algorithmic details of PaKeD-KM and PaKeD-DH

##### *Power Aware Key Distribution based on K-Medoids (PAKeD-KM)*

In figure 2.25(a), we present the pseudo code for the Power-Aware Key Distribution - K-Medoids (PAKeD-KM) algorithm, that utilizes a “power proximity” clustering algorithm based on K-medoids [115], [53]. We now describe the notational and algorithmic details of PAKeD-KM given in figure 2.25(a).

Initially, all members (objects) belong to the global cluster  $\mathcal{P}$ . The *AssignKey*( $\mathcal{P}$ ) function assigns the SEK to all members of the group. The *Power*( $C, \gamma$ ) function computes the dissimilarities between members according to the path loss information, and stores them in matrix *diss*.

**Choice between CLARA and PAM in PAKeD-KM:** Depending on the network size, we employ either PAM or CLARA as a method for dividing the global cluster into sub clusters. CLARA algorithm is chosen over PAM if the network size  $N$  is bigger than a threshold *MaxSize*. Studies in [53] showed that PAM becomes inefficient for data sets bigger than 100 objects. The choice is stored in variable *Clust* with the default being PAM. If *MaxSize*  $>$  100, *Clust* is set to CLARA.

The *Divide*( $C(i), \alpha, Clust$ ) function partitions  $C(i)$  to  $\alpha$  clusters according to *Clust* method, and returns the created clusters to variable  $R$ . The *Refine*( $R, thres$ ) function *balances* the cluster sizes and the *AssignKey*( $R$ ) assigns keys to the clusters in  $R$ . After

$\lceil \log_\alpha(N) \rceil$  steps the algorithm terminates.

*Power Aware Key Distribution based on Divisible Hierarchy (PAKeD-DH)*

In figure 2.25(b), we present the pseudo code for the Power-Aware Key Distribution - Divisible Hierarchical clustering (PAKeD-DH) algorithm, that utilizes a “power proximity” clustering algorithm, based on divisible hierarchical clustering [115], [53].

For the PAKeD-DH algorithm, the basic steps are as described in Section 2.8.2. Initially, the SEK is assigned to all members of the multicast group with  $AssignKey(\mathcal{P})$  and the dissimilarity matrix  $diss$  is computed as in PAKeD-KM algorithm. The cluster with the highest diameter is split into sub clusters  $A, B$ . In order to create the cluster  $B$ , the average dissimilarities  $a(i)$  and  $w(i, B)$  are stored in  $Diss\_A, Diss\_B$ , respectively. Cluster splitting is repeated until  $\alpha$  clusters have been created. Then, the  $\alpha$  clusters are balanced with the refinement algorithm  $Refine()$ , according to the threshold  $thres$ , and a key is assigned to each cluster. This process is repeated for every level of the tree hierarchy. The algorithm terminates after  $\lceil \log_\alpha(N) \rceil$  steps.

**Computational Complexity of PAKeD-DH:** The complexity of divisible hierarchical clustering is  $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$  [53]. Divisible hierarchical clustering outputs a cluster hierarchy and need not be iteratively applied as in the case of K-means or K-medoids clustering. Hence, the complexity of PAKeD-DH is  $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$ .



**Power-Aware Key Distribution (PAKeD)**

K-medoids Clustering (PAKeD-KM)	DH Clustering (PAKeD-DH)
<pre> C = {P} AssignKey(C) diss = Power(C, γ)  if  C  &gt; MaxSize     Clust=CLARA end if  index=1  while index &lt; ⌈log<sub>α</sub>(N)⌉     C_temp = {∅},     thres = ⌈<math>\frac{N}{\alpha^{index}}</math>⌉      for i = 1 :  C          R=Divide(C(i), α, Clust)         R=Refine(R, thres)         AssignKey(R),         C_temp = C_temp ∪ R         index++     end for  C = C_temp end while </pre>	<pre> C = {P}, index = 1 AssignKey(C) diss = Power(C, γ) while index &lt; ⌈log<sub>α</sub>(N)⌉     thres = ⌈<math>\frac{N}{\alpha^{index}}</math>⌉     for j=1: C          C_temp = ∅         while  C_temp  ≤ α             A := max<sub>J∈C_temp</sub> diam(J), B = ∅             Diss_A = Ave_Diss(A, diss)             i* = arg max<sub>i∈A</sub> Diss_A             A = A - {i*}, B = {i*}             If  A  = 1 stop             else repeat                 Diss_A = Ave_Diss(A, diss)                 Diss_B = Ave_Diss(B, diss)                 max_diss = max<sub>i∈A</sub> (Diss_A - Diss_B)                 m = arg max<sub>i∈A</sub> (Diss_A - Diss_B)                 if max_diss &gt; 0                     B = B ∪ {m}, A = A - {m}                 else                     end repeat             end repeat             C_temp = C_temp ∪ {A, B}         end while     end for     C = Refine(C_temp, thres)     index=index++ end while </pre>
(a)	(b)

Figure 2.25: Pseudo code for the Power-Aware Key Distribution algorithm (PAKeD), (a) when clustering is performed using K-medoids (PAKeD-KM), and (b) when we directly generate a hierarchical key tree using divisible hierarchical clustering (PAKeD-DH).

## Chapter 3

**SECURE LOCALIZATION IN WIRELESS AD HOC NETWORKS**

Many of the applications proposed for wireless ad hoc and node networks require knowledge of the origin of the sensed information. For example, in a disaster relief operation using a node network, to locate any survivor in a collapsed building, it is critical that nodes report monitoring information along with their location. Furthermore, location is assumed to be known in many ad hoc network operations such as, routing protocols, or security protocols where location information is used to prevent threats against network services [48, 62]. In the previous chapter, we assumed that the node location is known in order to perform energy-efficient key management.

Since ad hoc networks may be deployed in hostile environments and operate unsupervised, they are vulnerable to conventional and new attacks [48, 52] aimed at interrupting the functionality of location-aware applications by exploiting the vulnerabilities of the localization scheme. Though many localization techniques have been proposed for wireless ad hoc networks [4, 15, 44, 81, 83, 94, 104, 117], research in secure location estimation is in its infancy.

In this chapter, we address the problem of location estimation in wireless ad hoc and node networks in an adversarial environment. We propose two localization algorithms called SeRLoc and HiRLoc, that enable the network nodes to estimate their position robustly even in the presence of security threats. Since network nodes are hardware and power limited, we rely on a two-tier network architecture to limit the computation at the node side. Our network is comprised of a small number of nodes equipped with special hardware, we call *locators*, and a large number of resource constrained node devices. However, we preserve the characteristics of ad hoc networks by randomly deploying both the nodes and the locators, and by allowing them to communicate in ad hoc mode. Moreover, since distance measurements are susceptible to distance enlargement/reduction, we do not use any such

measurements to infer the node location. We refer to methods that are not using distance measurements as range-independent localization schemes [15, 44, 81, 83]. For the problem of secure location estimation, we make the following contributions.

### 3.1 Our Contributions

We address the problem of *secure localization* in wireless ad hoc networks, and propose *SeRLoc*, a novel range-independent localization scheme based on a two-tier network architecture, that achieves decentralized, resource-efficient node localization. We describe well known security threats against ad hoc networks, such as the wormhole attack [48, 85], the Sybil attack [32, 82], and compromise of network entities, and provide mechanisms that allow each node to determine its location *even* in the presence of those threats. Furthermore, we analytically evaluate the probability of success for each type of attack using *spatial statistics* theory [29]. Based on our performance evaluation, we show that SeRLoc localizes nodes with higher accuracy than state-of-the-art decentralized range-independent localization schemes [15, 44, 81, 83], and is robust against varying sources of error. We also present HiRLoc, a high-resolution localization algorithm that provides improved localization accuracy compared to SeRLoc, while it preserves the robustness against attacks and does not require additional hardware resources.

### 3.2 Related Work

#### 3.2.1 Related Work on Localization

Localization schemes can be classified to range-dependent and range-independent based schemes. In range-dependent schemes, nodes determine their location based on distance or angle estimates to some reference points with known coordinates. Such estimates may be acquired through different methods such as time of arrival (TOA) [45, 117], time difference of arrival (TDOA) [94, 104], angle of arrival (AOA) [84], or received signal strength indicator (RSSI) [4].

In the range-independent localization schemes, nodes determine their location without any time, angle, or power measurements. In [15], the authors propose an outdoor localization

scheme called *Centroid*, where nodes estimate their position as the centroid of the locations of all the beacons transmitted from reference points. Centroid method is easy to implement and incurs low communication cost. However, it results in a very crude approximation of node location.

In [83], the authors propose *DV-hop*, where each node determines the number of hops to nodes with known locations called landmarks, using a distance vector like method. Once the number of hops to at least three landmarks is known, nodes use an average hop size estimate to determine their distance to the landmarks, and apply multilateration to determine their absolute location. In [81], the authors follow a similar approach to DV-hop, with the exception of computing the average hop size offline using an approximate formula [54] with the assumption that every network node has at least a neighborhood of 15 nodes.

In [44], the authors propose APIT, a range-independent localization scheme that localizes nodes based on beacons transmitted from reference points called anchors, and neighbor node information. In APIT, a node  $s$  performs a test to determine whether it is inside the triangle defined by a 3-tuple of anchors heard by the node. The test is repeated for all 3-tuples of anchors heard by  $s$  and the location is computed as the center of gravity of the triangles' overlapping region.

Two methods have been proposed that utilize connectivity information to determine the node location. In [31], the authors formulate a semi-definite program based on the connectivity-induced constraints, and obtain the optimal position estimates. In [106], the authors use multidimensional scaling to acquire an arbitrary rotation of the network topology. Further more, if any three nodes know their location, the network topology can be mapped to the absolute node location. Both schemes in [31, 106] require centralized computation and extensive communications and hence, are not used for comparison in the performance evaluation.

### 3.2.2 Related Work on Secure Localization

While an extensive literature exists for location estimation schemes for WSN in a benign environment [15, 31, 44, 45, 81, 83, 94, 104, 106], few articles have appeared addressing the

problem of sensor location estimation and verification in an adversarial setting [13, 59, 63–66, 71, 73, 103, 116, 118].

Sastry et al. [103] proposed the *ECHO* protocol for verifying the location claim of a node, using a challenge response scheme and a combination of RF and Ultrasound signals. *ECHO* is based on a distance bounding protocol proposed by Brands and Chaum [13]. Čapkun and Hubaux proposed Verifiable Multilateration (VM) for securing range-based localization schemes [118]. In VM, a node must verify its distance to at least three reference points in order to securely estimate its position. Čapkun et al. also proposed a location verification method based on hidden reference points that can verify the validity of the location claims of nodes [116].

Liu et al. [74] proposed an attack-resistant location estimation technique that can filter bogus beacon information provided that the majority of significant majority of beacons is benign. Li et al. [71] discuss a variety of attacks specific to the localization process and propose robust statistical methods that provide attack resistant localization. Finally, Kuhn [59] has proposed an asymmetric security mechanism for securing GPS-like navigation signals.

### 3.3 Problem Statement & Network Model

#### 3.3.1 Problem Statement

We study the problem of *enabling nodes of an ad hoc network to determine their location even in the presence of malicious adversaries*. This problem will be referred to as *Secure Localization*. We consider secure localization in the context of the following design goals: (a) decentralized implementation, (b) resource efficiency, (c) range-independence, and (d) robustness against security threats.

#### 3.3.2 Network Model

##### *Network deployment*

We assume a two-tier network architecture with a set of nodes  $S$  of unknown location randomly deployed with a density  $\rho_s$  within an area  $\mathcal{A}$ , and a set of specially equipped nodes

$L$  we call *locators*, with known location<sup>1</sup> and orientation, also randomly deployed with a density  $\rho_L \ll \rho_s$ .

### *Antenna model*

We assume that nodes are equipped with omnidirectional antennas and transmit with a power  $P_s$ , while locators are equipped with  $M$  directional antennas with a directivity gain  $G > 1$ , and can transmit with a power  $P_L > P_s$ . Let the signal attenuation over space be proportional to some exponent  $\gamma$  of the distance  $d$  between two nodes, times the antenna directivity gain  $G$ , ( $G = 1$  for omnidirectional antennas) i.e.  $\frac{P_s}{P_r} = cG^2d^\gamma$ , with  $2 \leq \gamma \leq 5$ , where  $c$  denotes a proportionality constant and  $P_r$  denotes the minimum required receive power for communication. If  $r_{ss}$  denotes the node-to-node communication range and  $r_{sL}$  denotes the node-to-locator communication range then,

$$\frac{P_s}{P_r} = c(r_{ss})^\gamma, \quad \frac{P_s}{P_r} = cG(r_{sL})^\gamma \quad (3.1)$$

From (3.1), it follows  $r_{sL} = r_{ss}G^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$ . Similarly, if  $r_{Ls}$  denotes the locator-to-node communication range, the locator-to-locator communication range  $r_{LL}$  is equal to  $r_{LL} = r_{Ls}G^{\frac{2}{\gamma}}$ . For notational simplicity we will refer to  $r_{ss}$  as  $r$ , and to  $r_{Ls}$  as  $R$ .

### *System parameters*

Since both locators and network nodes are randomly and independently deployed, it is essential to select the system parameters, so that locators can communicate with the network nodes. The random deployment of the locators with a density  $\rho_L = \frac{|L|}{\mathcal{A}}$  ( $|\cdot|$  denotes the cardinality of a set) is equivalent to a sequence of events following a *homogeneous Poisson point process* of rate  $\rho_L$  [29]. The random deployment of the nodes with a density  $\rho_s = \frac{|S|}{\mathcal{A}}$ , is equivalent to a random sampling of the area  $\mathcal{A}$  with rate  $\rho_s$  [29]. Making use of *Spatial Statistics* theory [29], if  $LH_s$  denotes the set of locators heard by a node  $s$ , i.e. being within

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<sup>1</sup>By acquiring their position either through manual insertion or through GPS receivers [45]. Though GPS signals can be spoofed, knowledge of the coordinates of several nodes is essential to achieve any kind of node localization, for any localization scheme.

range  $R$  from  $s$ , the probability that  $s$  hears exactly  $k$  locators, given that the locators are randomly and independently deployed, is given by the Poisson distribution:

$$P(|LH_s| = k) = \frac{(\rho_L \pi R^2)^k}{k!} e^{-\rho_L \pi R^2}. \quad (3.2)$$

Based on (3.2), we compute the probability for *every* node to hear at least  $k$  locators  $P(|LH_s| > k)$ :

$$P(|LH_s| \geq k, \forall s \in S) = \left(1 - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{(\rho_L \pi R^2)^i}{i!} e^{-\rho_L \pi R^2}\right)^{|S|}. \quad (3.3)$$

Equation (3.3) allows the choice of  $\rho_L$ ,  $R$  so that a node will hear at least  $k$  locators with any desired probability. Derivations of (3.2), (3.3) are presented in Appendix 3.10.1.

### 3.4 SeRLoc: Secure Range-Independent Localization Scheme

In this Section we present the SEcure Range-independent LOCalization scheme (*SeRLoc*) that enables nodes to determine their location based on beacon information transmitted by the locators, even in the presence of security threats.

#### 3.4.1 Location Determination

In SeRLoc, nodes determine their location based on the beacon information transmitted by locators. Figure 3.1(a) illustrates the idea behind the scheme. Each locator transmits different beacons at each antenna sector with each beacon containing, (a) the locator's coordinates, (b) the angles of the antenna boundary lines with respect to a global axis.

If a node receives a beacon transmitted at a specific antenna sector of a locator  $L_i$ , it has to be included within that sector. Given the locator-to-node communication range  $R$ , the coordinates of the transmitting locators and the sector boundary lines provided by the beacons, each node determines its location as the center of gravity (CoG) of the overlapping region of the different sectors. The *CoG* is the least square error solution given that a node can lie with equal probability at any point of the overlapping region. In figure 3.1(a), the node hears beacons from locators  $L_1 \sim L_4$  and determines its position as the *CoG* of the overlapping region between the four antenna sectors. We now present the algorithmic details of SeRLoc.

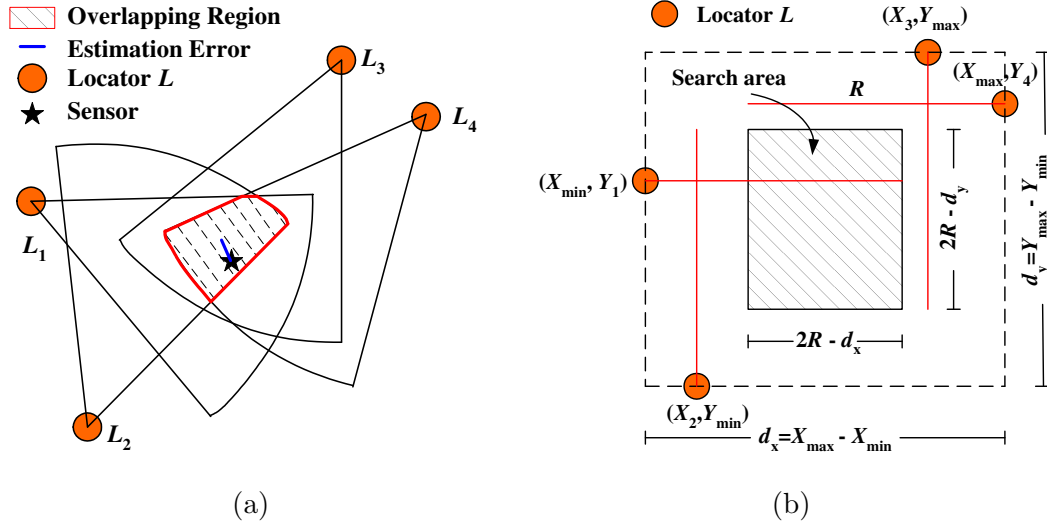


Figure 3.1: (a) The node hears locators  $L_1 \sim L_4$  and estimates its location as the Center of Gravity  $CoG$  of the overlapping region of the sectors that include it. (b) Determination of the search area.

**Step 1** –Collection of localization information–In step 1, the node collects information from all the locators that it can hear. A node  $s$  can hear all locators  $L_i \in L$  that lie within a circle of radius  $R$ , centered at  $s$ .

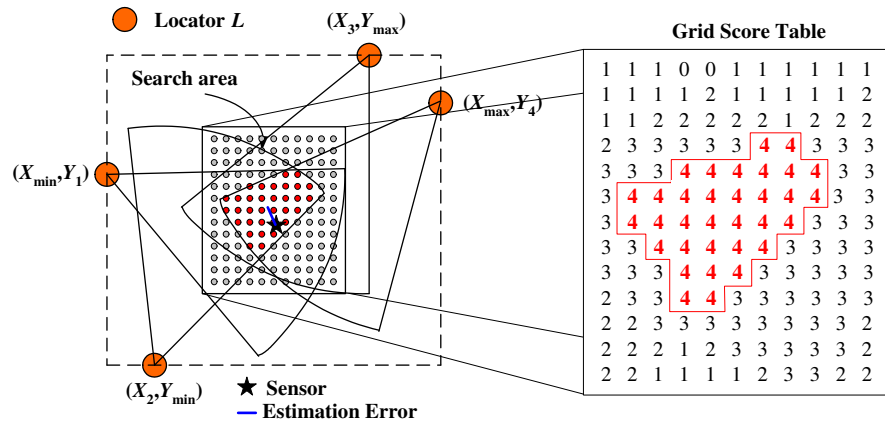
$$LH_s = \{L_i : \|s - L_i\| \leq R, \quad L_i \in L\}. \quad (3.4)$$

**Step 2** –Search area–In step 2, the node computes a search area for its location. Let  $X_{\min}, Y_{\min}, X_{\max}, Y_{\max}$  denote the minimum and the maximum locator coordinates from the set  $LH_s$ .

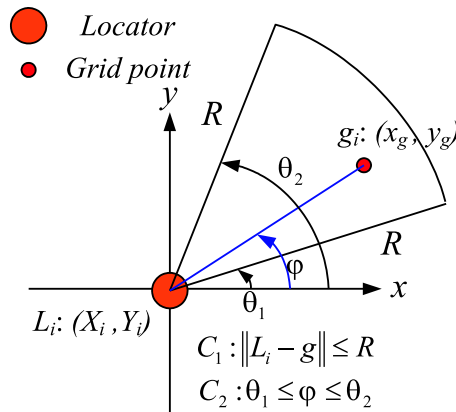
$$X_{\min} = \min_{L_i \in LH_s} X_i, \quad X_{\max} = \max_{L_i \in LH_s} X_i, \quad Y_{\min} = \min_{L_i \in LH_s} Y_i, \quad Y_{\max} = \max_{L_i \in LH_s} Y_i. \quad (3.5)$$

Since every locator of set  $LH_s$  needs to be within a range  $R$  from node  $s$ , if  $s$  can hear locator  $L_i$  with coordinates  $(X_{\min}, Y_i)$ , it has to be located *left* from the vertical boundary of  $(X_{\min} + R)$ . Similarly,  $s$  has to be located *right* from the vertical boundary of  $(X_{\max} - R)$ , *below* the horizontal boundary of  $(Y_{\min} + R)$ , and *above* the horizontal boundary of  $(Y_{\max} - R)$ . The dimensions of the rectangular search area are  $(2R - d_x) \times (2R - d_y)$  where  $d_x, d_y$  are the horizontal distance  $d_x = X_{\max} - X_{\min} \leq 2R$  and





(a)



(b)

Figure 3.2: (a) Steps 3,4: Placement of a grid of equally spaced points in the search area, and the corresponding grid score table. The node estimates its position as the centroid of all grid points with the highest score, (b) Step 3: Grid-sector test for a point  $g$  of the search area.

the vertical distance  $d_y = Y_{max} - Y_{min} \leq 2R$ , respectively. In figure 3.1(b), we show the search area for the network setup in figure 3.1(a).

**Step 3 –Overlapping region, Majority vote–**In step 3, nodes determine the overlapping region of all sectors they hear. Since it is computationally expensive for each node to analytically determine the overlapping region based on the line intersections, we employ a grid scoring system that defines the overlapping region based on majority vote.

**Grid score table:** The node places a grid of equally spaced points within the rectangular search area as shown in figure 3.2(a). For each grid point, the node holds a score in a grid score table, with initial values equal to zero. For each grid point, the node executes the *grid-sector test* detailed below, to decide if the grid point is included in a sector heard by a locator of set  $LH_s$ . If the grid score test is positive the node increments the corresponding grid score table value by one, otherwise the value remains unchanged. This process is repeated for all locators heard  $LH_s$ , and all the grid points. The overlapping region is defined by the grid points that have the highest score in the grid score table. In figure 3.2(a), we show the grid score table and the corresponding overlapping region.

Note that due to the finite grid resolution, the use of grid points for the definition of the overlapping region induces error in the calculation. The resolution of the grid can be increased to reduce the error at the expense of energy consumption due to the increased processing time.

**Grid-sector test:** A point  $g : (x_g, y_g)$  is included in a sector of angles  $[\theta_1, \theta_2]$  originating from locator  $L_i$  if it satisfies two conditions:

$$C_1 : \|g - L_i\| \leq R, \quad C_2 : \theta_1 \leq \phi \leq \theta_2, \quad (3.6)$$

where  $\phi$  is the slope of the line connecting  $g$  with  $L_i$ . Note that the node *does not have to* perform any angle-of-arrival (AOA) measurements. Both the coordinates of the locators and the grid points are known, and hence the node can analytically calculate  $\phi$ . In figure 3.2(b), we show the grid-sector test, with all angles referred to the  $x$  axis.

**Step 4 –Location estimation–**The node determines its location as the centroid of all the grid points that define the overlapping region:

$$\tilde{s} : (x_{est}, y_{est}) = \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_{g_i}, \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_{g_i} \right), \quad (3.7)$$

where  $n$  is the number of grid points of the overlapping region, and  $(x_{g_i}, y_{g_i})$  are the coordinates of the grid points. Alternatively, the sensor may define the *Region*

of *Intersection* (ROI) of all the sectors as the region where it is located, without computing a single point as its position.

### 3.4.2 Security Mechanisms of SeRLoc

We now describe the security mechanisms of SeRLoc, that facilitate node localization in the presence of security threats.

#### *Encryption*

All beacons transmitted from locators are encrypted with a globally shared symmetric key  $K_0$ . In addition, every node  $s$  shares a symmetric pairwise key  $K_s^{L_i}$  with every locator  $L_i$ , also pre-loaded. Since the number of locators deployed is relatively small, the storage requirement at the node side is within the storage constraints (a total of  $|L|$  keys). For example, mica motes [76] have 128Kbytes of programmable flash memory. Using 64-bit RC5 [99] symmetric keys and for a network with 200 locators, a total of 1.6Kbytes of memory is required to store all the keys of the node with every locator. In order to save storage space at the locator (locators would have to store  $|S|$  keys), pairwise keys  $K_{L_i,s}$  are derived by a master key  $K_{L_i}$ , using a pseudo-random function [109]  $h$  and the unique node  $ID_s$ :  $K_{L_i,s} = h(K_{L_i}(ID_s))$ .

#### *Locator ID authentication*

The use of a globally shared key for the beacon encryption allows to a malicious node to inject bogus beacons into the network. To prevent nodes from broadcasting bogus beacons, we require nodes to authenticate the source of the beacons *using collision-resistant hash functions* [109].

We use the following scheme based on *efficient one-way hash chains* [61], to provide locator ID authentication. Each locator  $L_i$  has a unique password  $PW_i$ , blinded with the use of a *collision-resistant* hash function such as SHA1 [109]. Due to the collision resistance property, it is computationally infeasible for an attacker to find a  $PW_j$ , such that  $H(PW_i) = H(PW_j)$ ,  $PW_i \neq PW_j$ . The hash sequence is generated using the following

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**SeRLoc: Secure Range-Independent Localization Scheme**


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L : broadcast  $L_i : \{ (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_1, \theta_2) \parallel (H^{n-j}(PW_i)) \parallel j \parallel ID_{L_i} \}_{K_0}$ 
LHs =  $\{L_i : \|s - L_i\| \leq R\} \cap \{H(H^{n-j}(PW_i)) = H^{n-j+1}(PW_i)\}$ 
s : define  $A_s = [X_{max} - R, X_{min} + R, Y_{max} - R, Y_{min} + R]$ 
for  $k=1:res$ 
  for  $w=1:res$ 
     $g(k, w) = (x_{g_i}, y_{g_i}) = \left( X_{max} - R + k \frac{X_{max} - X_{min}}{res}, Y_{max} - R + w \frac{Y_{max} - Y_{min}}{res} \right)$ 
    for  $z = 1 : |LH_s|$ 
      if  $\{\|g(k, w) - L_z\| \leq R\} \cap \{\theta_1 \leq \angle g(k, w) \leq \theta_2\}$ 
         $GST(k, w) = GST(k, w) + 1$ 
   $MG_s = \{g(k, w) : \{k, w\} = \arg \max GST\}$ 

 $\tilde{s} : (x_{est}, y_{est}) = \left( \frac{1}{|MG_s|} \sum_{i=1}^{|MG_s|} x_{g_i}, \frac{1}{|MG_s|} \sum_{i=1}^{|MG_s|} y_{g_i} \right)$ 

```

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Figure 3.3: The pseudo-code of SeRLoc.

equation:

$$H^0 = PW_i, \quad H^i = H(H^{i-1}), \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad (3.8)$$

with  $n$  being a large number and  $H^0$  never revealed to any node. Each node is pre-loaded with a table containing the ID of each locator and the corresponding hash value  $H^n(PW_i)$ . For a network with 200 locators, we need 8 bits to represent locator IDs. In addition, collision-resistant hash functions such as SHA1 [109] have a 160-bit output. Hence, the storage requirement of the hash table at any node is only 4.2Kbytes. To reduce the storage needed at the locators, we employ an efficient storage/computation method for hash chains of time/storage complexity  $\mathcal{O}(\log^2(n))$  [27].

The  $j^{th}$  broadcasted beacon from locator  $L_i$  includes the hash value  $H^{n-j}(PW_i)$ , along with the index  $j$ . Every node that hears the beacon accepts the message only if:

$$H(H^{n-j+1}(PW_i)) = H^{n-j}(PW_i). \quad (3.9)$$

After verification, the node replaces  $H^{n-j+1}(PW_i)$  with  $H^{n-j}(PW_i)$  in its memory, and increases the hash counter by one, so as to perform only one hash operation in the reception of the next beacon from the same locator  $L_i$ . The index  $j$  is included in the beacons, so

that nodes can re-synchronize with the current published hash value, in case of loss of some intermediate hash values. The beacon of locator  $L_i$  has the following format:

$$L_i : \{ (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_1, \theta_2) \parallel (H^{n-j}(PW_i)) \parallel j \parallel ID_{L_i} \}_{K_0}, \quad (3.10)$$

where  $\parallel$  denotes the concatenation operation and  $\{m\}_K$  denotes the encryption of message  $m$  with key  $K$ . Note that our method does not provide end-to-end locator authentication, but only guarantees authenticity for the messages received from locators directly heard to a node. This condition is sufficient to secure our localization scheme against possible attacks. The pseudo-code for SeRLoc is presented in figure 3.3.

### 3.5 Threat Analysis

In this section we describe possible security threats against SeRLoc and show that SeRLoc is resilient against those threats. *Note that our goal is not to prevent the attacks that may be harmful in many network protocols, but to allow sensors to determine their location, even in the presence of such attacks.*

#### 3.5.1 The Wormhole Attack

##### *Threat model*

To mount a wormhole attack, an attacker initially establishes a direct link referred as *wormhole link* between two points in the network. Once the wormhole link is established, the attacker eavesdrops messages at one end of the link, referred as the *origin point*, tunnels them through the wormhole link and replays them at the other end, referred as the *destination point*. The wormhole attack is very difficult to detect, since it is launched without compromising any host, or the integrity and authenticity of the communication [48, 85].

In the case of SeRLoc, an attacker records the beacons transmitted from locators at the origin point and replays them at the destination point, thus providing false localization information to the sensors attacked. In figure 3.4(a), the attacker records beacons at region  $B$ , tunnels them via the wormhole link in region  $A$  and replays them, thus leading sensor  $s$  to believe that it can hear locators  $\{L_1 \sim L_8\}$ .

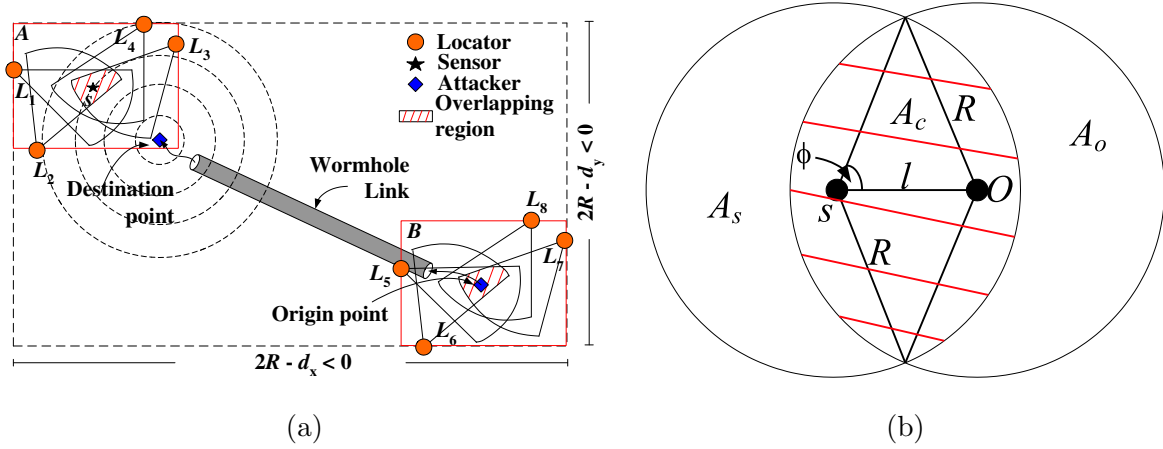


Figure 3.4: (a) Wormhole attack: An attacker records beacons in area  $B$ , tunnels them via the wormhole link in area  $A$  and re-broadcasts them. (b) Computation of the common area  $A_c$ , where locators are heard to both  $s, O$ .

#### Detecting wormholes in SeRLoc

We now show how a node can detect a wormhole attack using two properties: The *single message/sector per locator* property and the *communication range constraint* property.

**Single message/sector per locator property:** The origin point  $O$  of the wormhole attack defines the set of locators  $LH_s^r$  replayed to the sensor  $s$  under attack. The location of the sensor defines the set of locators  $LH_s^d$  directly heard to the sensor  $s$ , with  $LH_s = LH_s^r \cup LH_s^d$ . Based on the single message/sector per locator property we show that the wormhole attack is detected when  $LH_s^r \cap LH_s^d \neq \emptyset$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** *Single message per locator/sector property: Reception of multiple messages authenticated with the same hash value is due to replay, multipath effects, or imperfect sectorization.*

*Proof.* In the absence of any attack, it is feasible for a sensor to hear multiple sectors due to multipath effects. In addition, a sensor located at the boundary of two sectors can also hear multiple sectors even if there is no multipath or attack, due to imperfect sectorization. We assume that the locator transmits simultaneously the same but fresh hash value is used to authenticate them per beacon transmission. Due to the use of an identical but fresh hash in all sectors per transmission, if an adversary replays a message from any sector of a locator

directly heard to the sensor under attack, the sensor will have already received the hash via the direct path and hence, detect the attack.  $\square$

If we consider reception of multiple messages containing the same hash value due to multipath effects or imperfect sectorization to be a replay attack, a sensor will always assume it is under attack when it receives messages with the same hash value. Hence, an adversary launching a wormhole attack will always be detected if it replays a message from locator  $L_i \in LH_s^d$ , i.e. if  $LH_s^r \cap LH_s^d \neq \emptyset$ . In figure 3.5(a),  $A_s$  denotes the area where  $L_i \in LH_s^d$  (circle of radius  $R$  centered at  $s$ ),  $A_o$  denotes the area where  $L_i \in LH_s^r$  (circle of radius  $R$  centered at  $O$ ), and the shaded area  $A_c$  denotes the common area  $A_c = A_s \cap A_o$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** *The detection probability  $P(SG)$  due to the single message/sector per locator property is equal to the probability that at least one locator lies within an area of size  $A_c$ , and is given by:*

$$P(SG) = 1 - e^{-\rho L A_c}, \quad \text{with } A_c = 2R^2\phi - Rl \sin \phi, \quad \phi = \cos^{-1} \frac{l}{2R}. \quad (3.11)$$

with  $l$  being the distance between the origin point and the sensor under attack.

*Proof.* If a locator  $L_i$  lies inside  $A_c$ , it is less than  $R$  units away from a sensor  $s$  and therefore  $L_i \in LH_s^d$ . Locator  $L_i$  is also less than  $R$  units away from the origin point of the attack  $O$ , and therefore,  $L_i \in LH_s^r$ . Hence, if a locator lies inside  $A_c$ ,  $LH_s^r \cap LH_s^d \neq \emptyset$ , and the attack is detected due to the single message/sector per locator property. The detection probability  $P(SG)$  is equal to the probability that at least one locator lies within  $A_c$ . If  $LH_{A_c}$  denotes the set of locators located within area  $A_c$  then:

$$P(SG) = P(|LH_{A_c}| \geq 1) = 1 - P(|LH_{A_c}| = 0) = 1 - e^{-\rho L A_c}, \quad (3.12)$$

where  $A_c$  can be computed from figure 3.4(b) to be:

$$A_c = 2R^2\phi - Rl \sin \phi, \quad \phi = \cos^{-1} \frac{l}{2R}, \quad (3.13)$$

with  $l = \|s - O\|$ .  $\square$

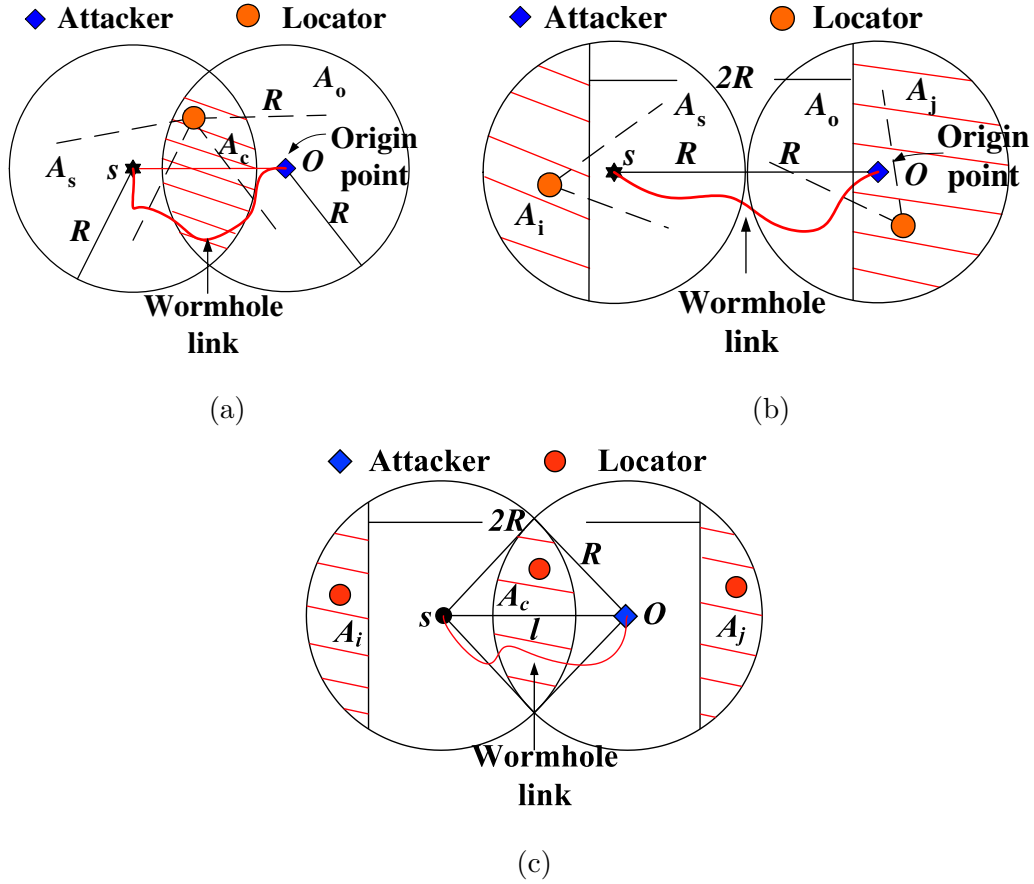


Figure 3.5: (a) Single message/sector per locator property: a node  $s$  cannot hear two messages authenticated with the same hash value. (b) Communication range violation property: a node  $s$  cannot hear two locators more than  $2R$  apart. (c) Combination of the two properties for wormhole detection.

Figure 3.6(a) presents the detection probability  $P(SG)$  vs. the locator density  $\rho_L$  and the distance  $\|s - O\|$  between the origin point and the sensor under attack, normalized over  $R$ . We observe that if  $\|s - O\| \geq 2R$ , then  $A_c = 0$  and the use of the single message/sector per locator property is not sufficient to detect a wormhole attack. For distances  $\|s - O\| \geq 2R$ , a wormhole attack can be detected using the communication range constraint property presented below.

**Communication range violation property:** Given the coordinates of node  $s$ , all locators  $LH_s$  heard by  $s$  should lie within a circle of radius  $R$ , centered at  $s$ . Since node  $s$  is not



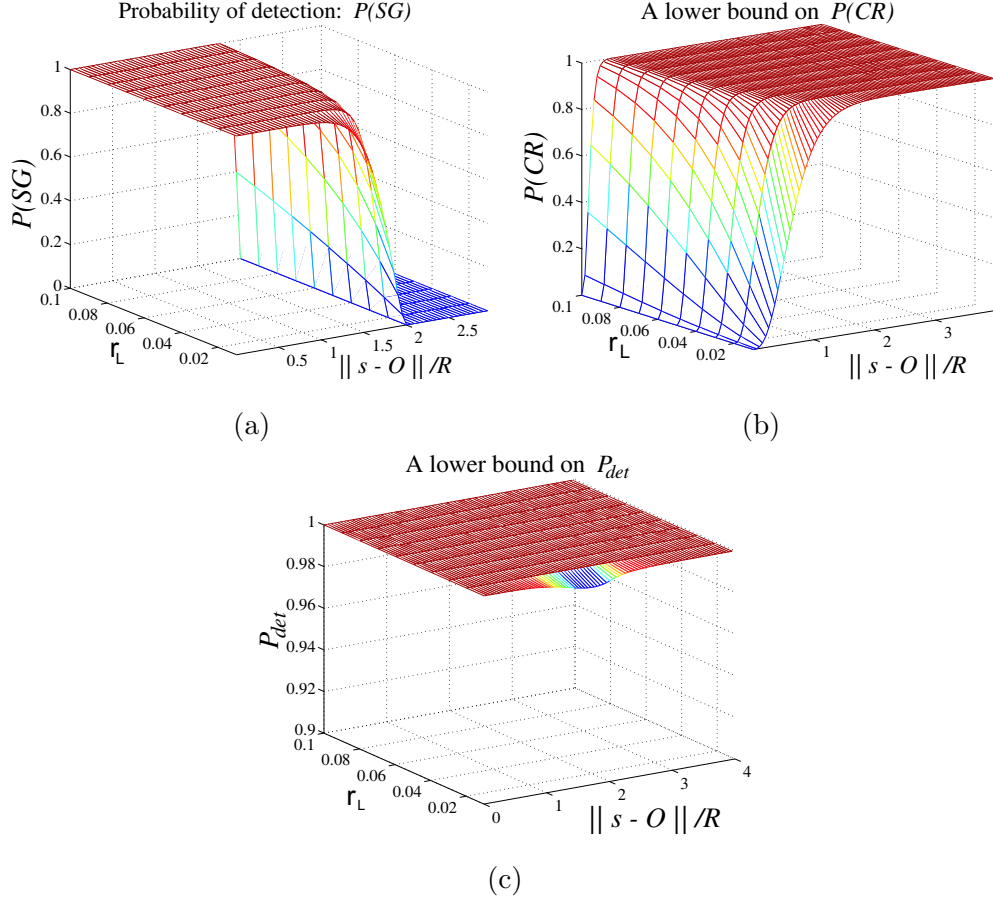


Figure 3.6: Wormhole detection probability based on, (a) the single message/sector per locator property:  $P(SG)$ . (b) A lower bound on the wormhole detection based on the communication range violation property:  $P(CR)$ . (c) A lower bound on the wormhole detection probability for SerLoc.

aware of its location it relies on its knowledge of the locator-to-sensor communication range  $R$  to verify that the set  $LH_s$  satisfies lemma 3.2.

**Lemma 3.2.** *Communication range constraint property: A sensor  $s$  cannot hear two locators  $L_i, L_j \in LH_s$ , more than  $2R$  apart, i.e.  $\|L_i - L_j\| \leq 2R, \forall L_i, L_j \in LH_s$ .*

*Proof.* Any locator  $L_i \in LH_s$  has to lie within a circle of radius  $R$ , centered at the sensor  $s$  (area  $A_s$  in figure 3.5(b)),  $\|L_i - s\| \leq R, \forall L_i \in LH_s$ . Hence,

$$\|L_i - L_j\| = \|L_i - s + s - L_j\| \leq \|L_i - s\| + \|s - L_j\| \leq R + R = 2R. \quad (3.14)$$

□

Using the coordinates of  $LH_s$ , a sensor can detect a wormhole attack if the communication range constraint property is violated. We now compute the detection probability  $P(CR)$  due to the communication range constraint property.

**Proposition 3.2.** *A wormhole attack is detected due to the communication range constraint property, with a probability:*

$$P(CR) \geq \left(1 - e^{-\rho L A_i^*}\right)^2, \quad A_i^* = x\sqrt{R^2 - x^2} - R^2 \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x\sqrt{R^2 - x^2}}{x^2 - R^2}\right), \quad (3.15)$$

where  $x = \frac{\|s-O\|}{2}$ .

*Proof.* Consider figure 3.5(b), where  $\|s - O\| = 2R$ . If any two locators within  $A_s, A_o$  have a distance larger than  $2R$ , a wormhole attack is detected. Though  $P(CR)$  is not easily computed analytically, we can obtain a lower bound on  $P(CR)$  by considering the following event. In figure 3.5(b), the vertical lines defining shaded areas  $A_i, A_j$ , are perpendicular to the line connecting  $s, O$ , and have a separation of  $2R$ . If there is at least one locator  $L_i$  in the shaded area  $A_i$  and at least one locator  $L_j$  in the shaded area  $A_j$ , then  $\|L_i - L_j\| > 2R$  and the attack is detected. Note that this event does not include all possible locations of locators for which  $\|L_i - L_j\| > 2R$ , and hence it yields a lower bound. If  $\mathcal{LH}_{A_i, A_j}$  denotes the event  $(|LH_{A_i}| > 0 \cap |LH_{A_j}| > 0)$  then,

$$\begin{aligned} P(CR) &= P(\|L_i - L_j\| > 2R, L_i, L_j \in LH_s) \\ &\geq P(CR \cap \mathcal{LH}_{A_i, A_j}) \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

$$= P(CR | \mathcal{LH}_{A_i, A_j}) P(\mathcal{LH}_{A_i, A_j}) \quad (3.17)$$

$$= P(\mathcal{LH}_{A_i, A_j}) \quad (3.18)$$

$$= (1 - e^{-\rho L A_i})(1 - e^{-\rho L A_j}), \quad (3.19)$$

where (3.16) follows from the fact that the probability of the intersection of two events is always less or equal to the probability of one of the events, (3.17) follows from the definition of the conditional probability, (3.18) follows from the fact that when  $\mathcal{LH}_{A_i, A_j}$  is true, we

always have a communication range constraint violation ( $P(CR | \mathcal{LH}_{A_i, A_j}) = 1$ ), and (3.19) follows from the fact that  $A_i, A_j$  are disjoint areas and that locators are randomly deployed.

We can maximize the lower bound of  $P(CR)$ , by finding the optimal values  $A_i^*, A_j^*$ . In Appendix 3.10.2 we prove that the lower bound in (3.19) attains its maximum value when  $A_i^* = \max_i\{A_i\}$  subject to the constraint  $A_i = A_j$  ( $A_i, A_j$  are symmetric). We also prove that  $A_i^*, A_j^*$ , are expressed by:

$$A_i^* = A_j^* = x\sqrt{R^2 - x^2} - R^2 \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x\sqrt{R^2 - x^2}}{x^2 - R^2}\right), \quad \text{and } x = \frac{\|s - O\|}{2}. \quad (3.20)$$

Substituting (3.20) into (3.19) yields the required result:  $P(CR) \geq (1 - e^{-\rho_L A_i^*})^2$ .  $\square$

In figure 3.6(b), we show the maximum lower bound on  $P(CR)$  vs. the locator density  $\rho_L$ , and the distance  $\|s - O\|$  normalized over  $R$ . The lower bound on  $P(CR)$  increases with the increase of  $\|s - O\|$  and attains its maximum value for  $\|s - O\| = 4R$  when  $A_i^* = A_j^* = \pi R^2$ . For distances  $\|s - O\| > 4R$  a wormhole attack is always detected based on the communication range constraint property, since any locator within  $A_o$  will be more than  $2R$  apart from any locator within  $A_s$ .

**Detection probability  $P_{det}$  of the wormhole attack against SeRLoc:** We now combine the two detection mechanisms, namely the single message/sector per locator property and the communication range constraint property for computing the detection probability of a wormhole attack against SeRLoc.

**Proposition 3.3.** *The detection probability of a wormhole attack against SeRLoc is lower bounded by  $P_{det} \geq (1 - e^{-\rho_L A_c}) + (1 - e^{-\rho_L A_i^*})^2 e^{-\rho_L A_c}$ .*

*Proof.* In the computation of the communication range constraint property, by setting  $A_i = A_j$  and maximizing  $A_i$  regardless of the distance  $\|s - O\|$ , the areas  $A_i, A_j$ , and  $A_c$  do not overlap as shown in figure 3.5(c). Hence, the corresponding events of finding a locator at any of these areas are independent and we can derive a lower bound on the detection probability

$P_{det}$  by combining the two properties.

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{det} = P(SG \cup CR) &= P(SG) + P(CR) - P(SG)P(CR) \\
&= P(SG) + P(CR)(1 - P(SG)) \\
&\geq (1 - e^{-\rho_L A_c}) + (1 - e^{-\rho_L A_i^*})^2 e^{-\rho_L A_c}. \tag{3.21}
\end{aligned}$$

The left side of (3.21) is a lower bound on  $P_{det}$  since  $P(CR)$  was also lower bounded.  $\square$

In figure 3.6(c), we show the lower bound on  $P_{det}$  vs. the locator density  $\rho_L$  and the distance  $\|s - O\|$  normalized over  $R$ . For values of  $\|s - O\| > 4R$ ,  $P_{CR} = 1$ , since any  $L_i \in LH_s^d$  will be more than  $2R$  away from any  $L_j \in LH_s^r$  and hence, the wormhole attack is always detected. From figure 3.6(c), we observe that a wormhole attack is detected with a probability very close to unity, independent of the origin and destination point of the attack. The intuition behind (3.21) is that there is at most  $(1 - P_{det})$  probability for a specific realization of the network, to have an origin and destination point where a wormhole attack would be successful. Even if such realization occurs, the attacker has to acquire full knowledge of the network topology and based on the geometry, locate the origin and destination point where the wormhole link can be established.

**Location resolution algorithm:** Although a wormhole can be detected using one of the two detection mechanisms, a sensor  $s$  under attack cannot distinguish the set of locators directly heard  $LH_s^d$  from the set of locators replayed  $LH_s^r$  and hence, estimate its location. To resolve the location ambiguity sensor  $s$  executes the *Attach to Closer Locator Algorithm* (ACLA). Assume that a sensor authenticates a set of locators  $LH_s = LH_s^d \cup LH_s^r$ , but detects that it is under attack.

**Step 1:** Sensor  $s$  broadcasts a randomly generated nonce  $\eta_s$  and its  $ID_s$ .

**Step 2:** Every locator hearing the broadcast of node  $s$  replies with a beacon that includes localization information and the nonce  $\eta_s$ , encrypted with the pairwise key  $K_{L_i,s}$  instead of the broadcast key  $K_0$ . The sensor identifies the locator  $L_i'$  that replies first with an authentic message that includes  $\eta_s$ .

---

**Attach to Closer Locator Algorithm (ACLA)**

---

$s$  : **broadcast**  $\{ \eta_s \parallel ID_s \}$   
 if  $L_i$  hears  $\{ \eta_s \parallel ID_s \}$  **reply**  
 $L_i$  :  $\{ \eta_s \parallel (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_1, \theta_2) \parallel (HE^{n-j}(PW_i)) \parallel j \parallel ID_{L_i} \}_{K_{L_i, s}}$   
 $L'_i$  : first authentic reply from a locator.  
 $LH_s^d = \{ L_i \in LH_s : \text{sector}\{L_i\} \text{ intersects } \text{sector}\{L'_i\} \}$   
 $s$  : **execute** SeRLoc with  $LH_s = LH_s^d$

---

Figure 3.7: The pseudo-code of ACLA.

**Step 3:** Sensor  $s$  identifies the set  $LH_s^d$  as all the locators whose sectors overlap with the sector of  $L'_i$ , and executes SeRLoc with  $LH_s = LH_s^d$ .

The pseudo-code of ACLA is presented in figure 3.7. Note that the closest locator to sensor  $s$  will always reply first if it directly hears the broadcast from  $s$ , and not through a replay from an adversary. In order for an adversary to force sensor  $s$  to accept set  $LH_s^r$  as the valid locator set, it can only replay the nonce  $\eta_s$  to a locator  $L_i \in LH_s^r$ , record the reply, tunnel via the wormhole and replay it in the vicinity of  $s$ . However, a reply from a locator in  $LH_s^r$  will arrive later than any reply from a locator in  $LH_s^d$ , since locators in  $LH_s^r$  are further away from  $s$  than locators in  $LH_s^d$ .

To execute ACLA, a sensor must be able to communicate bi-directionally with at least one locator. The probability  $P_{s \rightarrow L}$  of a sensor having a bi-directional link with at least one locator and the probability  $P_{bd}$  that *all* sensors can bi-directionally communicate with at least one locator can be computed as:

$$P_{s \rightarrow L} = 1 - e^{-\rho_L \pi r^2 G^{\frac{2}{\gamma}}}, \quad P_{bd} = (1 - e^{-\rho_L \pi r^2 G^{\frac{2}{\gamma}}})^{|S|}. \quad (3.22)$$

Hence, we can select the system parameters  $\rho_L$ ,  $G$  so every sensor has a bi-directional link with at least one locator with any desired probability.

### 3.5.2 Sybil Attack

#### *Threat model*

In the Sybil attack [32,82], an adversary is able to fabricate legitimate node IDs or assume the IDs of existing nodes, in order to impersonate multiple network entities. Unlike the wormhole attack, in the Sybil attack model, the adversary may have access to cryptographic quantities necessary to assume node IDs. Hence, the adversary can insert bogus information into the network. A solution for the Sybil attack was recently proposed in [82].

#### *Sybil attack against SeRLoc*

In SeRLoc, nodes do not rely on other nodes to compute their location. Hence, an attacker has no incentive to assume node IDs. An adversary can impact SeRLoc if it successfully impersonates locators. Since nodes are pre-loaded with valid locator IDs along with the hash values corresponding to the head of the reversed hash chain, an adversary can only duplicate existing locator IDs by compromising the globally shared key  $K_0$ .

Once  $K_0$  has been compromised, the adversary has access to both locators IDs, the hash chain values published by the locators, as well as the coordinates of the locators. Since nodes always have the latest published hash values from the locators that they directly hear, an adversary can only impersonate locators that are not directly heard to the nodes under attack. The adversary can generate bogus beacons, attach a published hash value from a locator not heard to the node under attack, and encrypt it with the  $K_0$ .

#### *Defense against the Sybil attack*

Though we do not provide a mechanism to prevent an adversary from impersonating locators except for the ones directly heard to a node, we can still determine the position of nodes in the presence of Sybil attack. In order to compromise the location estimation process of SeRLoc, the adversary needs to impersonate more than  $LH_s^d$  locators in order to displace the node  $s$ . To avoid node displacement we propose the following enhancement.

Since the locator density  $\rho_L$  is known before deployment, we can select a threshold value  $L_{max}$  as the maximum allowable number of locators heard by each node. If a node hears

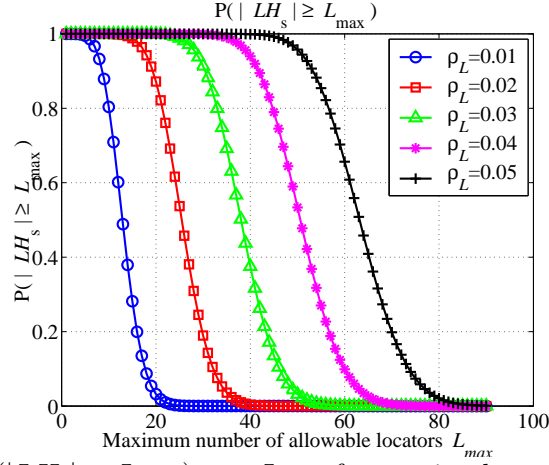


Figure 3.8:  $P(|LH_s| \geq L_{max})$ , vs.  $L_{max}$  for varying locator densities  $\rho_L$ .

more than  $L_{max}$  locators, it assumes that is under attack and executes ALCA to determine its position. The probability that a node  $s$  hears more than  $L_{max}$  locators is given by:

$$P(|LH_s| \geq L_{max}) = 1 - P(|LH_s| < L_{max}) = 1 - \sum_{i=0}^{L_{max}-1} \frac{(\rho_L \pi R^2)^i}{i!} e^{-\rho_L \pi R^2}. \quad (3.23)$$

Using (3.23), we can select the value of  $L_{max}$  so that there is a very small probability for a node to hear more than  $L_{max}$  locators, while there is a very high probability for a node to hear more than  $\frac{L_{max}}{2}$  locators. If a node hears more than  $L_{max}$  locators without being under attack, the detection mechanism will result in a false positive alarm and force the node to execute ACLA to successfully locate itself. However, if a node hears less than  $\frac{L_{max}}{2}$ , the node is vulnerable to a Sybil attack. Hence, we must select a threshold  $L_{max}$  so that any node hears less than  $\frac{L_{max}}{2}$  locators with a probability very close to zero.

In figure 3.8, we show  $P(|LH_s| \geq L_{max})$  vs.  $L_{max}$ , for varying locator densities  $\rho_L$ . Based on figure 3.8, we can select the appropriate  $L_{max}$  for each value of  $\rho_L$ . For example, when  $\rho_L = 0.03$ , a choice of  $L_{max} = 46$  allows a node to localize itself when under Sybil attack with a probability  $P(|LH_s| \geq 23) = 0.995$ , while the false positive alarm probability is  $P(|LH_s| > 46) = 0.1045$ .

### 3.5.3 Compromised network entities

In this section we examine the robustness of SeRLoc against compromised network entities. We consider a node or a locator node to be compromised if an attacker assumes full control over the behavior of the node and knows all the keys stored at the compromised node.

#### *Compromised nodes*

Though nodes are assumed to be easier to compromise, an attacker has no incentive in compromising nodes, since they do not actively participate in the localization procedure. The only benefit from compromising a node is gain access to the globally shared key  $K_0$ .

#### *Compromised locators*

An adversary that compromises a locator  $L_i$  gains access to the globally shared key  $K_0$ , the pairwise keys  $K_{L_i,s}$  that the compromised locator shares with every node, as well as all the hash values of the locator's hash chain. By compromising a single locator, the adversary can displace any node, by impersonating the compromised locator from a position closer to the node under attack compared to the closest legitimate locator. The adversary impersonates multiple locators in order to force location ambiguity to the node under attack. Once the attack is being detected, node  $s$  executes ACLA to resolve its location ambiguity. Since the adversary is closer to the node  $s$  than the closest legitimate locator, its reply will arrive to  $s$  the earliest. Hence,  $s$  will assume that the impersonated set of locators is the valid one and will be displaced.

To avoid node displacement by a single locator compromise we can intensify the resilience of SeRLoc to locator compromise by involving more than one locators in the location resolution algorithm at the expense of higher communication overhead. A node  $s$  under attack, can execute the *enhanced location resolution algorithm* detailed below.

**Step 1:** Node  $s$  broadcasts a randomly generated nonce  $\eta_s$ , the set of locators heard  $LH_s$  and its  $ID_s$ .

$$s : \{ \eta_s \parallel LH_s \parallel ID_s \}. \quad (3.24)$$



---

### Enhanced Location Resolution Algorithm

---

$s$  : **broadcast**  $\{ \eta_s \parallel LH_s \parallel ID_s \}$   
 $RL_s = \{L_i : \|s - L_i\| \leq r_{sL}\}$   
 $RL_s$  : **broadcast**  $\{ \eta_s \parallel LH_s \parallel ID_s \parallel (X_i, Y_i) \parallel H^{n-k}(PW_i) \parallel j \parallel ID_{L_i} \}_{K_0}$   
 $BL_s = \{L_i : \|RL_s - L_i\| \leq r_{LL}\} \cap LH_s$   
 $BL_s$  : **broadcast**  $\{ \eta_s \parallel (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_1, \theta_2) \parallel H^{n-k}(PW_i) \parallel j \parallel ID_{L_i} \}_{K_{L_i,s}}$   
 $s$  : **collect** first  $L_{max}$  authentic beacons from  $BL_s$   
 $s$  : **execute** *SeRLoc* with collected beacons

---

Figure 3.9: The pseudo-code for the enhanced location resolution algorithm.

**Step 2:** Every locator  $L_i$  receiving the broadcast from  $s$  appends its coordinates, the next hash value of its hash chain and its  $ID_{L_i}$ , encrypts the message with  $K_0$  and re-broadcasts the message to all sectors.

$$L_i : \{ \eta_s \parallel LH_s \parallel ID_s \parallel (X_i, Y_i) \parallel H^{n-k}(PW_i) \parallel j \parallel ID_{L_i} \}_{K_0}. \quad (3.25)$$

**Step 3:** Every locator receiving the re-broadcast, verifies the authenticity of the message, and that the transmitting locator is within its range. If the verification is correct and the receiving locator belongs to  $LH_s$ , the locator broadcasts a new beacon with location information and the nonce  $\eta_s$  encrypted with the pairwise key with node  $s$ .

$$L_i : \{ \eta_s \parallel (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_1, \theta_2) \parallel H^{n-k}(PW_i) \parallel j \parallel ID_{L_i} \}_{K_{L_i,s}}. \quad (3.26)$$

**Step 4:** The node collects the first  $L_{max}$  authentic replies from locators, and executes *SeRLoc* with  $LH_s = L_{max}$ .

The pseudo-code for the enhanced location resolution algorithm is presented in figure 3.9. Note that for a locator to hear the node's broadcast it has to be within a range  $r_{sL} = rG^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$  from the node. Furthermore, in order for a the node to make the correct location estimate, all locators within a range  $R$  from  $s$  need to provide new beacon information. Every locator positioned within  $R$  from a node  $s$  is within the range of any locator positioned at a distance  $r_{sL}$  from the node  $s$ .

Each beacon broadcast from a locator has to include the nonce  $\eta_s$  initially broadcasted by the node and be encrypted with the pairwise key between the node and the locator. Hence,

given that the node has at least  $\frac{L_{max}}{2}$  locators within range  $R$  with very high probability (see figure 3.8), the adversary has to compromise at least  $(\frac{L_{max}}{2} + 1)$  locators, in order to compromise the majority vote scheme of SeRLoc. In addition, the attacker has to possess the hardware capabilities to process and transmit  $(\frac{L_{max}}{2} + 1)$  replies before  $\frac{L_{max}}{2}$  replies from valid locators reach the node under attack. Our enhanced location resolution algorithm significantly increases the resilience of SeRLoc to locator compromise, at the expense of higher communication overhead at the locators.

### 3.6 *HiRLoc: A High-resolution Range-Independent Localization Scheme*

Though SeRLoc, localizes nodes with sufficient accuracy for most applications, there might be requirements for high-resolution localization with no degradation on the security level or significant increase of the hardware requirements. In this section we examine whether such requirements of high accuracy localization can be satisfied.

In SeRLoc, nodes compute their location by collecting only one beacon transmission from each locator. Since subsequent rounds of transmissions contain identical sector information as the first round of transmissions, the reduction of the *ROI* in SeRLoc can only be achieved by, (a) increasing the locator density  $\rho_L$  so that more locators are heard at each node, and higher number of sectors intersect or, (b) by using narrower antenna sectors to reduce the size of the sectors  $S_i(j)$ . Both these methods reduce the localization error at the expense of higher number of devices with special capabilities (more locators), and more complex hardware at each locator (more antenna sectors).

In this section we present the High-resolution Range-independent Localization scheme (*HiRLoc*) that allows nodes to determine their location with high accuracy even in the presence of security threats. In *HiRLoc*, the location estimation accuracy is increased by exploiting the temporal dimension, and without incurring the costs of deploying more locators, or equipping them with expensive antenna systems. The locators provide different localization information at consecutive beacon transmissions by, (a) varying the direction of their antennas and, (b) varying the communication range of the transmission via power control. We now explore how both these methods lead to the reduction of the *ROI*.

### 3.6.1 Location Determination

As in SeRLoc, in order to determine their location, nodes rely on beacon information transmitted from the locators. Locators change their orientation over time and retransmit beacons in order to improve the accuracy of the location estimate. Based on the beacon information, nodes define the sector area  $S_i(j)$  as the confined area covered by the  $j^{\text{th}}$  transmission of a locator  $L_i$ .

A node  $s$  receiving the  $j^{\text{th}}$  beacon transmission from locator  $L_i$ , is included within the sector area  $S_i(j)$ . Let  $LH_s(j)$  denote the set of locators heard by a node  $s$ , during the  $j^{\text{th}}$  transmission round. By collecting beacons from the locators  $L_i \in LH_s(j)$ , the node can compute its location as the *CoG* of the *Region of Intersection* (*ROI*) of all the sectors  $S_i(j)$ . Note that a node can hear beacons from multiple locators, or multiple beacons generated by the same locator. Hence, the *ROI* after the  $m^{\text{th}}$  round of beacon transmissions can be expressed as the intersection of all the sectors corresponding to the beacons available at each node:

$$ROI(m) = \bigcap_{j=0}^m \left( \bigcap_{i=1}^{|LH_s(j)|} S_i(j) \right). \quad (3.27)$$

Since the *ROI* indicates the confined region where the node is located, reducing the size of the *ROI* leads to an increase in the localization accuracy. Based on equation (3.27), we can reduce the size of the *ROI* by, (a) reducing the size of the sector areas  $S_i(j)$  and, (b) increase the number of intersecting sectors  $S_i(j)$ .

#### *Varying the antenna orientation*

The locators are capable of transmitting at all directions (omnidirectional coverage) using multiple directional antennas. Every antenna has a specific orientation and hence corresponds to a fixed sector area  $S_i(j)$ . The antenna orientation is expressed by the angle information contained in the beacon  $\theta_i(j) = \{\theta_{i,1}(j), \theta_{i,2}(j)\}$ , where  $\theta_{i,1}(j), \theta_{i,2}(j)$  denote the lower and upper bounds of the sector  $S_i(j)$ .

Instead of reducing the size of the intersecting sectors by narrowing the antenna beamwidth, locators can change the orientation of their antennas and re-transmit beacons with the

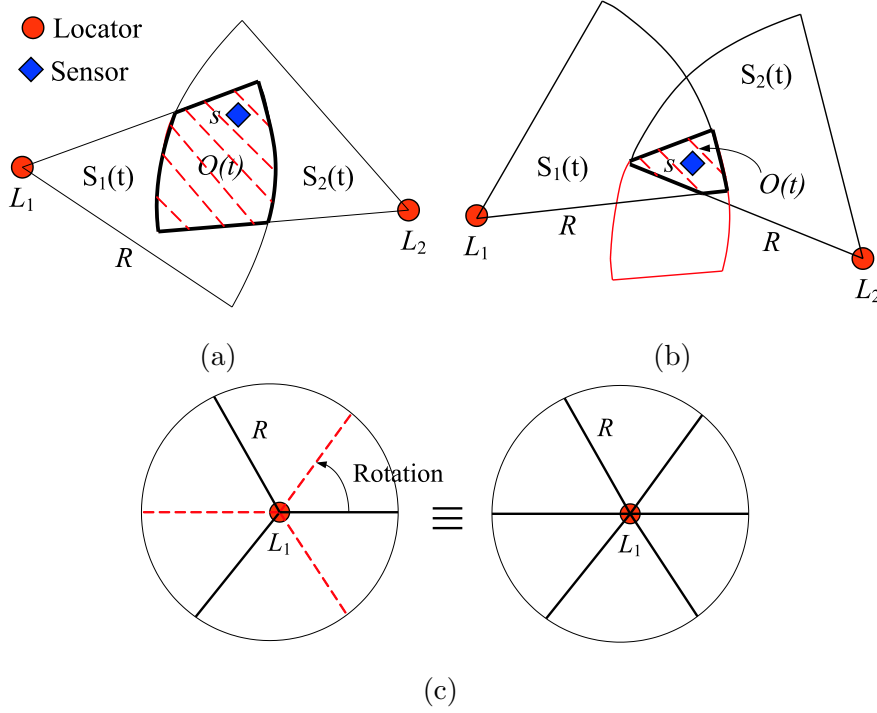


Figure 3.10: (a) The node is located within the intersection of the sectors  $S_1(j), S_2(j)$ , which defines the region of intersection  $ROI$ . (b) The  $ROI$  is reduced by the rotation of the antenna sectors by some angle  $\alpha$ . (c) Locator  $L_1$  is equipped with three directional antennas of beamwidth  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$  each. The transmission of beacons at each sector, followed by antenna rotation by  $\frac{\pi}{3}$ , followed by a transmission of update beacons, is equivalent to equipping  $L_1$  with six directional antennas of beamwidth  $\frac{\pi}{3}$ .

new sector boundaries. A change in the antenna orientation can occur either by changing the orientation of the locators, or by rotation of their antenna system. A node collects multiple sector information from each locator over a sequence of transmissions:  $S_i(j) = S_i(\theta_i(j), j), j = 1 \dots Q$ . As expressed by equation (3.27), the intersection of a larger number of sectors can lead to a reduction in the size of the  $ROI$ . As an example, consider figure 3.10 where a node  $s$  hears locators  $L_1, L_2$ . In figure 3.10(a), we show the first round of beacon transmissions by the locators  $L_1, L_2$ , and the corresponding  $ROI(1)$ . In figure 3.10(b), the locators  $L_1, L_2$  rotate their antennas by an angle  $\alpha$  and transmit the second round of beacons with the new sector boundaries. The  $ROI$  in the two rounds of beacon transmissions, can be expressed as:

$$ROI(1) = S_1(1) \cap S_2(1), \quad ROI(2) = S_1(1) \cap S_1(2) \cap S_2(1) \cap S_2(2). \quad (3.28)$$

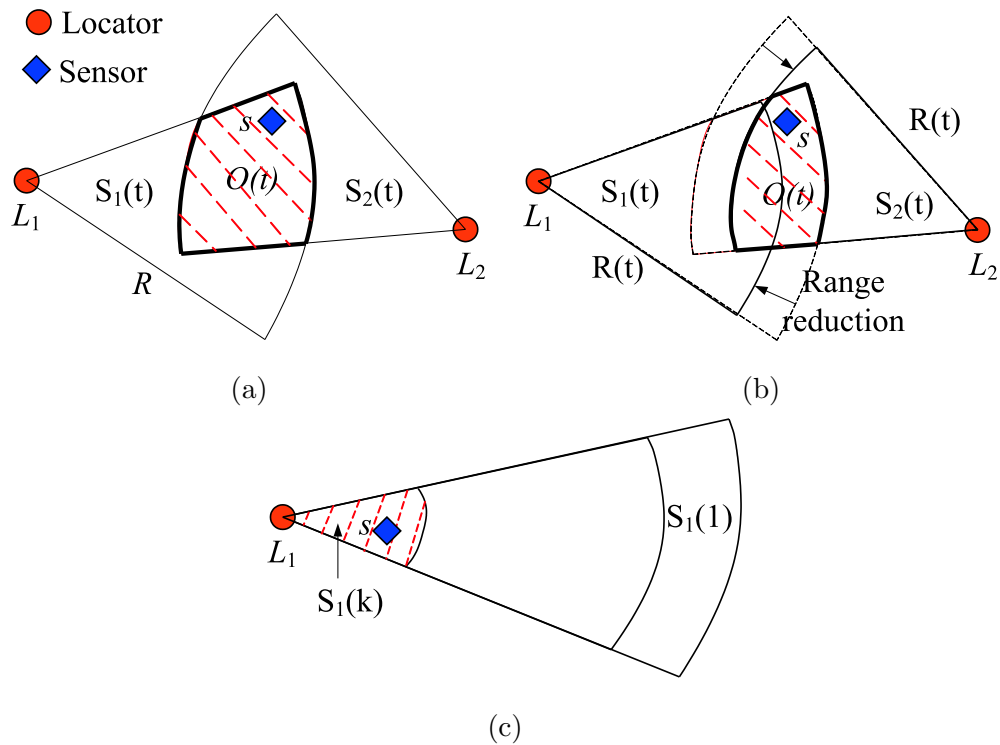


Figure 3.11: (a) The node is located within the intersection of the sectors  $S_1(j), S_2(j)$ , which defines the *ROI*, (b) the locators reduce their communication range and transmit updated beacons. While  $s$  is outside the communication range of  $L_1$ , it can still hear the transmission of  $L_2$ . The new beacon information leads to the reduction of the *ROI*. (c) The intersection of multiple sectors originating from the same locator with the same angle boundaries but different transmission range  $R_i(j)$  is equal to the sector with the smallest communication range.

The antenna rotation can be interpreted as an increase on the number of antenna sectors of each locator via superposition over time. For example, consider figure 3.10(c), where a locator is equipped with three directional antennas of beamwidth  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ . Transmission of one round of beacons, followed by antenna rotation by  $\frac{\pi}{3}$  and re-transmission of the updated beacons is equivalent to transmitting one round of beacons when locators are equipped with six directional antennas of beamwidth  $\frac{\pi}{3}$ .

#### *Varying the Communication range*

A second approach to reduce the area of the *ROI*, is to reduce the size of the intersecting sectors. This can be achieved by allowing locators to decrease their transmission power and

re-broadcast beacons with the new communication range information. In such a case, the sector area  $S_i(j)$  is dependent upon the communication range  $R_i(j)$  at the  $j^{\text{th}}$  transmission, i.e.  $S_i(j) = S_i(R(j), j)$ . To illustrate the *ROI* reduction, consider figure 3.11(a), where locators  $L_1, L_2$  transmit with their maximum power; node  $s$  computes:  $ROI(1) = S_1(1) \cap S_2(1)$ . In figure 3.11(b), locators  $L_1, L_2$  reduce their communication range by lowering their transmission power and re-transmit the updated beacons. While locator  $L_1$  is out of range from node  $s$  and, hence, does not further refine the node's location,  $s$  can still hear locator  $L_2$  and therefore, reduce the size of the *ROI*.

### *Hybrid approach*

The combination of the variation of the antenna orientation and communication range leads to a dual dependency of the sector area  $S_i(\theta_i(j), R(j), j)$ . Such a dependency can also be interpreted as a limited mobility model for the locators. For a locator  $L_i$  moving in a confined area, the antenna orientation and communication range with respect to a static node varies, thus providing the node with multiple sector areas  $S_i(j)$ . The mobility model is characterized as limited, since the locator has to be within the range of the node for at least a fraction of its transmissions in order to provide the necessary localization information. The algorithmic details of HiRLoc are given in 3.12

## **3.7 Security Threats Against HiRLoc**

In this section, we explore the security threats against HiRLoc, that can occur when nodes are deployed in an untrusted environment. We show that HiRLoc has equivalent security to SeRLoc and the same detection and prevention mechanisms can be employed.

### *3.7.1 The Wormhole Attack*

#### *Wormhole attack against HiRLoc—antenna orientation variation*

An adversary launching a wormhole attack against HiRLoc, records beacons at the origin point, and replays them at the destination point, in order to provide false localization information. Note that since in step 1 of HiRLoc, the node determines the set of locators

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**HiRLoc-I: High-resolution Robust Localization Scheme**


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 $L_i$  : broadcast  $\{ (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_{i,1}(1), \theta_{i,2}(1)) \parallel R_i(1) \}$ 
 $s$  : define  $LH_s = \{ L_i : \|s - L_i\| \leq R_i(1) \}$ 
 $s$  : define  $A_s = [X_{max} - R_i(1), X_{min} + R_i(1), Y_{max} - R_i(1), Y_{min} + R_i(1)]$ 
 $s$  : store  $S \leftarrow S_i(1) : \{ (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_{i,1}(1), \theta_{i,2}(1)) \parallel R_i(1) \}, \forall L_i \in LH_s$ 
 $j = 1$ 
for  $k = 1 : Q - 1$ 
  for  $w = 1 : N - 1$ 
     $j ++$ 
     $L$  reduce  $R(j) = R(j - 1) - \frac{R(1)}{N}$ 
     $L$  : broadcast  $\{ (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_{i,1}(j), \theta_{i,2}(j)) \parallel R_i(j) \}$ 
     $s : S \leftarrow S_i(j) : \{ (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_{i,1}(j), \theta_{i,2}(j)) \parallel R_i(j) \}, \forall L_i : \|s - L_i\| \leq R_i(j) \cap L_i \in LH_s$ 
    endfor
     $j ++$ 
     $R_i(j) = R_i(1), \forall L_i \in LH_s$ 
     $L$  rotate  $\theta_i(j) = \{ \theta_{i,1}(j - 1) + \frac{2\pi}{MQ}, \theta_{i,2}(j - 1) + \frac{2\pi}{MQ} \}$ 
     $L$  : broadcast  $L_i : \{ (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_{i,1}(j), \theta_{i,2}(j)) \parallel R_i(j) \}$ 
     $s : \text{store } S \leftarrow S_i(j) : \{ (X_i, Y_i) \parallel (\theta_{i,1}(j), \theta_{i,2}(j)) \parallel R_i(j) \}, \forall L_i : \|s - L_i\| \leq R(j) \cap L_i \in LH_s$ 
  endfor
 $s$  : compute  $ROI = \bigcap_{i=1}^{|S|} S_i$ 

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Figure 3.12: The pseudo-code for the High-resolution Robust Localization algorithm (version I).

$LH_s$  that are within range, and accepts future transmissions only from that set of locators, the attacker has to replay the recorded beacons in a timely manner, i.e. before the second round of beacon transmissions occurs.

Furthermore, the attacker must continue to forward all subsequent beacon transmissions occurring at the origin point due to the antenna orientation variation, in order to compromise the majority vote scheme used in step 3, and displace the node. For example if each locator performs  $(Q - 1)$  antenna rotations, due to majority voting the attacker has to replay more than  $Q|LH_s|$  beacons corresponding to sectors that lead to a  $ROI$  different than the node's location.

*Defending against the wormhole attack—antenna orientation variation*

All beacons considered in the  $ROI$  computation originate from locators  $L_i \in LH_s$  determined in step 1 of HiRLoc. To avoid node displacement the node must be capable of

identifying the valid set of locators  $LH_s^v$  from the replayed one,  $LH_s^r$ . Since the set  $LH_s$  is defined before any antenna rotation, this step is identical to the  $LH_s$  determination in SeRLoc. Hence, the mechanisms developed for SeRLoc for identifying  $LH_s^v$  can also be employed in the case of HiRLoc.

*Wormhole attack against HiRLoc—communication range variation*

When HiRLoc is applied with the communication range variation option, identifying the set of valid locators from the replayed ones is not sufficient to prevent wormhole attacks. Even if locator  $L_i$  belongs to the valid set of locators  $LH_s^v$ , node  $s$  can get out of the range of locator  $L_i$ , when  $L_i$  reduces its communication range. Hence, an adversary can replay beacons from valid locators as soon as the node under attack gets out of the communication range of locators.

*Defending against the wormhole attack—communication range variation*

In the case of the communication range variation we can detect a wormhole attack using the following approach. Instead of computing the  $ROI$  after the collection of all beacon transmissions, the node computes an estimate of the  $ROI(1)$  by using all the beacons transmitted with the maximum communication range. The computation of the  $ROI(1)$  is identical to the computation of the  $ROI$  in the case of the SeRLoc. Once the initial estimate of the  $ROI(1)$  is computed robustly, any subsequent estimation of the  $ROI(j)$  must intersect with the initial one. Since subsequent  $ROI$  estimates are refinements of  $ROI(1)$ , if the node computes a  $ROI(j)$  that does not intersect with the initial one, it detects that it is under attack. Hence, an adversary can only hope to displace the node within the region of the initial estimation of the  $ROI(1)$ .

### 3.7.2 Sybil Attack

*Sybil attack against HiRLoc—antenna orientation variation*

In order for an attacker to impersonate a locator and provide bogus beacon information to a node  $s$ , the attacker has to, (a) compromise the globally shared key  $K_0$  used for the



beacon encryption, (b) acquire a published hash value from a locator not directly heard by the node  $s$ .

Once the attacker compromises  $K_0$ , it can record a beacon from a locator not heard by  $s$ , decrypt the beacon using  $K_0$ , alter the beacon content, and forward the bogus beacon to node  $s$ . Since the node does not directly hear the transmission from the impersonated locator, it will authenticate the bogus beacon. By impersonating sufficient number of locators, the attacker can forward to a node  $s$  a higher number of bogus beacons than the valid ones, compromise the majority vote scheme, and displace  $s$ .

#### *Defense against the Sybil attack*

Since the locators are randomly distributed, on average, each node will hear the same number of locators. Hence, when a node is under attack, it will hear an unusually high number of locators (more than double the valid ones). We can use our knowledge of the locator distribution to detect the Sybil attack by selecting a threshold value  $L_{max}$  as the maximum allowable number of locators heard by each node. If a node hears more than  $L_{max}$  locators, it assumes that it is under attack and executes ALCA to determine its position. Since ACLA utilizes the pairwise keys  $K_s^{L_i}$  to identify the valid set of locators, the Sybil attack will not be successful, unless the attacker compromises locators.

#### *Sybil attack against HiRLoc—communication range variation*

When HiRLoc uses the communication range variation option, an adversary launching a Sybil attack can also impersonate locators  $L_i \in LH_s$  when their communication range is reduced so that they are no longer heard to the node. In such a case, limiting the number of locators heard to a maximum allowable number does not guarantee that the valid beacons will be more than the fabricated ones. In order to avoid node displacement we follow the same approach as in the case of the wormhole attack in the communication range variation option. The node computes an estimate of the  $ROI$  by using only the beacons with the maximum communication range and by limiting the number of locators heard. Once the initial estimate of the  $ROI$  is computed, any subsequent estimation  $ROI(j)$  has to intersect

with the initial one. Otherwise the node detects that is under attack and rejects that estimate. Hence, an adversary can only hope to displace the node within the region of the initial estimation  $ROI(1)$ .

### 3.7.3 *Compromised network entities*

Network entities are assumed to be compromised when the attacker gains full control over their behavior. While an attacker has no incentive to compromise nodes, since nodes do not actively participate in the localization procedure, compromise of a single locator can potentially lead to the displacement of any node in the network, as we analyzed in SeRLoc.

An adversary compromising a locator gains access to both the globally shared key  $K_0$ , the master key  $K_{L_i}$  used for the construction of all the pairwise keys, as well as the locator's hash chain. During the execution of ACLA, a compromised locator can displace a node if it transmits from a location that is closer to the node than the closest valid locator. To avoid node displacement by a single locator compromise, we strengthen the robustness of the ACLA algorithm by adopting the *Enhanced Location Resolution Algorithm* (ELRA), in order to resolve any location ambiguity. The advantage of ELRA is that it involves replies from more than one locators, so that a single locator compromise is not sufficient to displace a node. The pseudo-code of ERLA is presented in 3.9.

## 3.8 *Performance Evaluation*

In this section we compare the performance of SeRLoc with state-of-the-art localization techniques, namely DV-Hop [83], Amorphous localization [81], Centroid localization [15], APIT [44] and its theoretical ideal version PIT [44]. We show that SeRLoc has superior performance in localization error and requires significantly fewer resources than other methods. We also show that SeRLoc is robust against both error in the locators' coordinates and estimation of the antenna sector that includes the sensors.

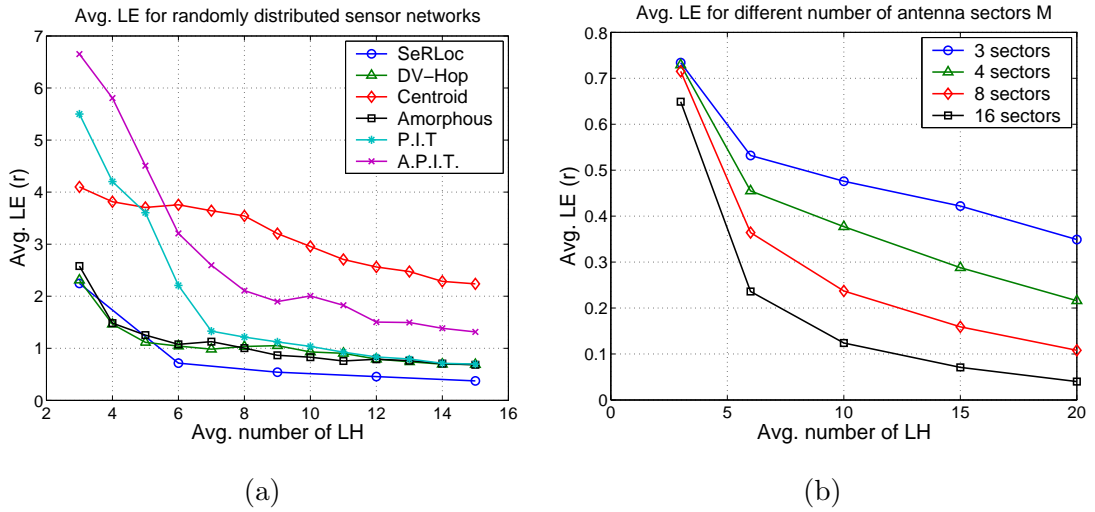


Figure 3.13: (a) Average localization error  $\overline{LE}$  vs. average number of locators heard  $\overline{LH}$  for a network of  $|N| = 5,000$  and locator-to-sensor ratio  $\frac{R}{r} = 10$ . (b)  $\overline{LE}$  vs.  $\overline{LH}$  for varying antenna sectors.

### 3.8.1 Simulation Setup

We randomly distributed 5,000 sensors within a 100x100 rectangular area. We also randomly placed locators within the same area and computed the average localization error as:

$$\overline{LE} = \frac{1}{|S|} \sum_i \frac{\|\tilde{s}_i - s_i\|}{r}, \quad (3.29)$$

where  $S$  is the set of sensors,  $\tilde{s}_i$  is the sensor estimated position,  $s_i$  is the real position and  $r$  is the sensor-to-sensor communication range.

### 3.8.2 Localization Error vs. Locators heard

In our first experiment, we investigated the impact of the average number of locators heard  $\overline{LH}$  in the localization error. In order to provide a fair comparison of SeRLoc with other methods, we normalize  $\overline{LH}$  for SeRLoc by multiplying  $\overline{LH}$  with the number of sectors used. For example, when  $\overline{LH} = 9$ , with SeRLoc using three sectors, every sensor hears on average three locators and not nine.

In figure 3.13(a), we show the  $\overline{LE}$  vs.  $\overline{LH}$  with SeRLoc using three sectors and  $\frac{R}{r} = 10$ . We observe that in terms of location estimation alone, SeRLoc is superior to all other range-

independent algorithms compared [15, 44, 81, 83]. Note that SeRLoc achieves a localization error of  $0.5r$ , with very few locators ( $\overline{LH} = 12$  which is equivalent to four locators with 3-sectored antennas). To achieve  $\overline{LE} = 0.5r$ , we need a locator density of  $\rho_L = \frac{4}{\pi R^2} = 0.0032$  for  $R = 20$ .

### 3.8.3 Localization Error vs. Antenna Sectors

In our second experiment, we examined the impact of the number of antenna sectors  $M$  on the average localization error  $\overline{LE}$ . In figure 3.13(b), we show the  $\overline{LE}$  vs.  $\overline{LH}$ , for varying number of antenna sectors. We can observe that for  $\overline{LH} = 3$ , the  $\overline{LE}$  is comparable for all values of  $M$ . However, as the value of  $\overline{LH}$  increases, the  $\overline{LE}$  decreases more rapidly for higher number of antenna sectors, due to the fact that the overlapping region becomes smaller when the antenna sectors become narrower.

The gain in the localization accuracy, comes at the expense of hardware complexity at the locator, since more complex antenna designs have to be employed to generate the sectoring. Additionally, errors in the estimation of the antenna sector where a sensor is included, become more frequent, since more sensors are located at the boundary between two sectors.

### 3.8.4 Localization Error vs. Sector Error

Sensors may be located close to the boundary of two sectors of a locator, or be deployed in a region with high multipath effects. In such a case, a sensor may falsely assume that it is located in another sector, than the actual sector that includes it. We refer to this phenomenon as sector error ( $SE$ ) and define it as:

$$SE = \frac{\# \text{ of sectors falsely estimated}}{LH}. \quad (3.30)$$

A sector error of 0.5 indicates that *every* sensor falsely estimated the sectors of half the locators heard. In figure 3.14(a), we show the  $\overline{LE}$  vs. the  $SE$  for varying  $\overline{LH}$ , and 8-sector antennas. We observe that the  $\overline{LE}$  does not grow significantly large (larger than the sensor communication range  $r$ ), until a fraction of 0.7 of the sectors are falsely estimated.

SeRLoc algorithm is resilient to sector error due to the majority vote scheme employed in the determination of the overlapping region. Even if a significant fraction of sectors are falsely estimated, these sectors do not overlap in the same network area and hence a score low in the grid-sector table.

Note that the for a  $SE > 0.7$ ,  $\overline{LE}$  increases with  $\overline{LH}$ . When the  $SE$  grows beyond a threshold, the falsely estimated sectors dominate in the location determination. As  $\overline{LH}$  grows, the falsely estimated overlapping region, shrinks due to the higher number of overlapping sectors. Hence the  $CoG$  that defines the sensor estimated location gets further apart than the actual sensor location.

In figure 3.14(b), we show the  $\overline{LE}$  vs.  $SE$  for  $\overline{LH} = 10$  and varying number of antenna sectors. We observe that the narrower the antenna sector the smaller the  $\overline{LE}$ , even in the presence of  $SE$ . For a small  $SE$  the overlapping region is dominated by the correctly estimated sectors and hence, shrinks with increasing antenna sectors. For large  $SE$  the overlapping region is dominated by the falsely estimated sectors and hence, an increase in  $\overline{LH}$  does not reduce the  $\overline{LE}$ .

Summarizing our findings for the sector error, we note that SeRLoc is resilient to sector error due to the majority vote mechanism employed in the overlapping region determination.

### 3.8.5 Localization Error vs. GPS Error

GPS, or any alternative localization scheme used to provide locators with their location, may have limited accuracy. To study the impact of the error in the locators' position, on  $\overline{LH}$ , we induced a GPS error ( $GPSE$ ) to every locator of the network. A value of  $GPSE = r$  means that every locator was randomly placed at a circle of radius  $r$  centered at the locator's actual position.

In figure 3.15(a), we show the average localization error  $\overline{LE}$  vs. the  $GPSE$  in units of  $r$ , for varying number of  $\overline{LH}$  when locators use 8-sector antennas. We observe that even for large  $GPSE$  the  $\overline{LE}$  does not grow larger than  $1.2r$ . For example, when  $GPSE = 1.8r$  and  $\overline{LH} = 3$ ,  $\overline{LE} = 1.1r$ . According to figure 3.13(a), DV-hop and amorphous localization require  $\overline{LH} = 5$  to achieve the same performance in complete absence of  $GPSE$ , while APIT

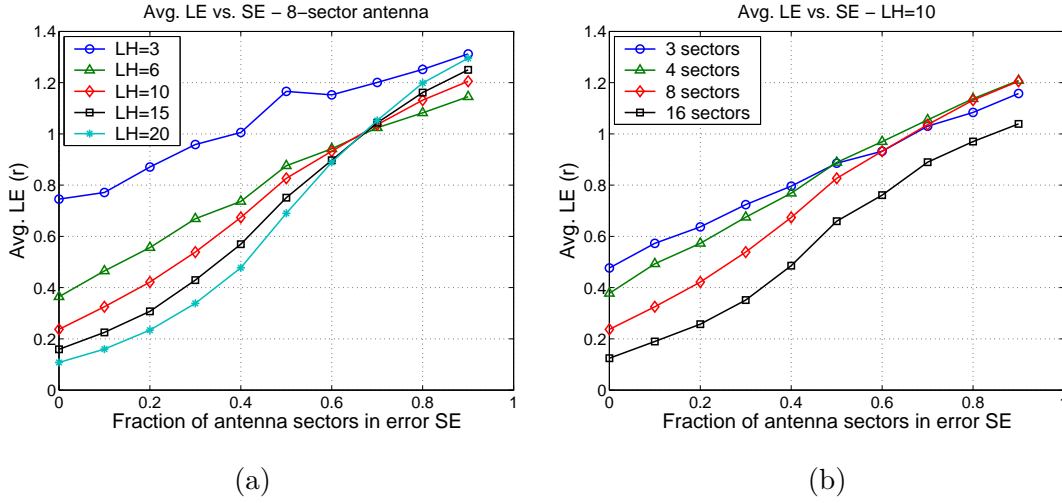


Figure 3.14: (a)  $\overline{LE}$  vs. sector error  $SE$  for varying  $\overline{LH}$ . (b) Average localization error  $\overline{LE}$  vs. sector error  $SE$  for varying number of antenna sectors for a network of  $|S| = 5,000$  and  $\frac{R}{r} = 10$ .

requires  $\overline{LH} = 12$  to reduce the  $\overline{LE} = 1.1r$ , with no GPSE induced in the locators' positions. Note that once the GPSE error becomes significantly large (over  $1.6r$ ) an increase in  $\overline{LH}$  does not improve the accuracy of the location estimation.

### 3.8.6 Communication Cost vs. Locators Heard

In this section we analyse the communication cost of SeRLoc and compare it with the communication cost of the existing range-independent localization algorithms. In figure 3.15(b), we show the communication cost in number of transmitted messages vs.  $\overline{LH}$ , when 200 sensors are randomly deployed.

We observe that DV-hop and Amorphous localization, have significantly higher communication cost compared to all other algorithms, due to the flood-based approach for the beacon propagation. The centroid scheme, has the lowest communication cost ( $|L|$ ) since it only transmits one beacon from each locator to localize the sensor. APIT requires  $|L| + |S|$  beacons to localize the sensors, while SeRLoc requires  $|ML|$  number of beacons, where  $L$  is the set of locators and  $M$  is the number of antenna sectors.

Under the assumption that the number of sensors is much higher than the number of

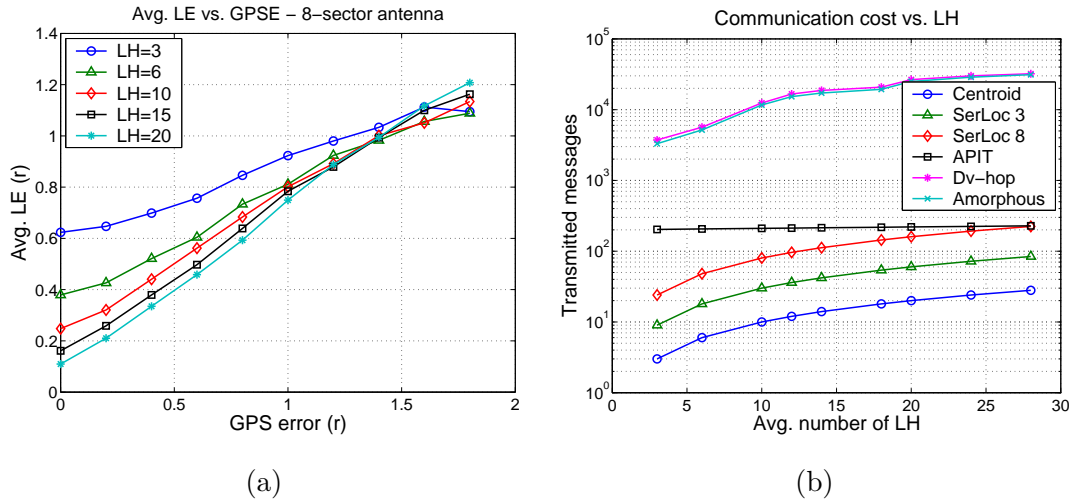


Figure 3.15: (a)  $\overline{LE}$  vs. locator GPS error in units of  $r$  for varying average number of locators heard  $\overline{LH}$ . (b) Communication cost vs.  $\overline{LH}$ , for a network of 200 sensors.

locators, ( $|S| \gg |L|$ ), SerLoc has a smaller communication than APIT, since SerLoc is independent of the number of sensors deployed. In addition, SerLoc achieves low localization error for smaller values of  $\overline{LH}$ , and hence requires a smaller number of reference points.

### 3.8.7 HiRLoc: Localization error vs. Locators heard and Communication overhead

In our first experiment for HiRLoc, we examined the impact of the average number of locators heard  $\overline{LH}$  on the localization accuracy of HiRLoc and compared it with the state-of-the-art range-independent localization algorithms.

In figure 3.16(a) we show the average localization error  $\overline{LE}$  in units of sensor communication range  $r$  for varying number of locators heard at each sensor. HiRLoc-AV denotes HiRLoc that uses antenna orientation variation to improve upon the accuracy of the location estimate of sensors. HiRLoc-RV denotes HiRLoc that uses communication range variation to improve upon the accuracy of the location estimate of sensors. For HiRLoc-AV and HiRLoc-RV, we performed only one rotation of the antenna at each locator and only one reduction in the communication range, respectively and used 3-sectored antennas.

We can observe that HiRLoc-AV has the best performance among all algorithms while HiRLoc-RV gives the second best performance. The localization error drops rapidly under

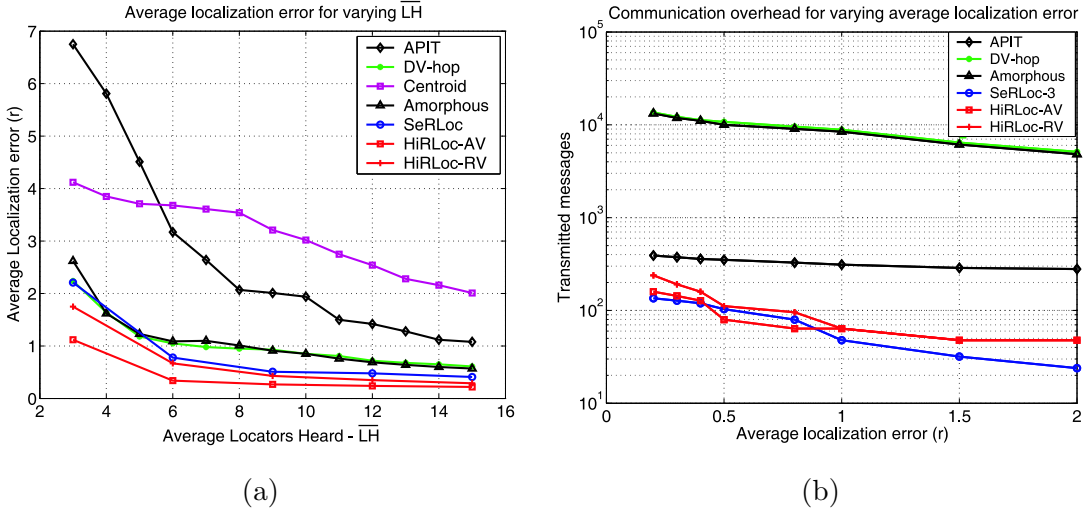


Figure 3.16: (a) Comparison of the average localization error in units of sensor communication range ( $r$ ) for varying average number of locators heard at each sensor. SeRLoc, HiRLoc-AV and HiRLoc-RV use three sectored antennas. One locator for SeRLoc and HiRLoc correspond to three locators for all other algorithms. HiRLoc-AV uses only one antenna rotation and HiRLoc-RV uses only one communication range reduction. (b) Comparison of the communication overhead in number of transmitted messages for varying average localization error. HiRLoc-AV uses only one antenna rotation and HiRLoc-RV uses only one communication range reduction.

$r$  even for small values of  $\overline{LH}$  while it is equal to  $\overline{LE} = 0.23r$  for  $\overline{LH} = 15$ .<sup>2</sup> HiRLoc-AV is superior than HiRLoc-RV for the same value of  $\overline{LH}$ , since in HiRLoc-AV locators still transmit with the same transmission power once their antenna has been rotated. Hence, the same set of locators is heard at each sensor in any transmission round. On the other hand, in HiRLoc-RV, once the transmission range has been reduced some of the locators heard in the previous round may get out of the range of the sensor and, hence, the improvement in the accuracy of the location estimation using HiRLoc-RV is less than the one achieved with HiRLoc-AV.

In figure 3.16(b) we show the communication cost required for localization in number of transmitted messages, for varying average localization error  $\overline{LE}$ . The communication cost was computed for a sensor network of 200 sensors. Note that SeRLoc and HiRLoc are

<sup>2</sup> $\overline{LH} = 15$  corresponds to each sensor hearing on average 5 locators since locators were equipped with 3-sectored antennas.



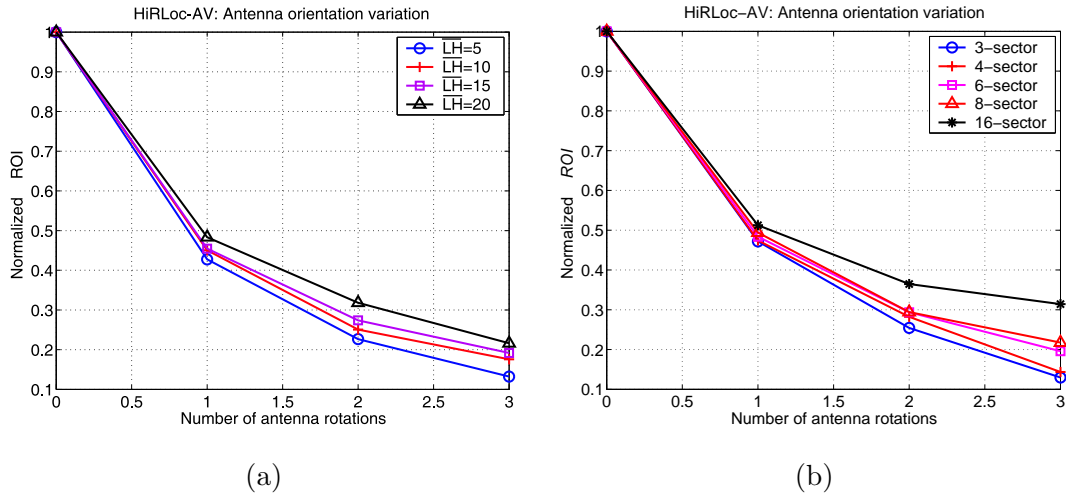


Figure 3.17: (a) Normalized  $ROI$  vs. number of antenna rotations for varying  $\overline{LH}$ . The  $ROI$  is normalized with respect to the  $ROI$  acquired with no variation of the antenna orientation (application of SeRLoc). (b) Normalized  $ROI$  vs. number of antenna rotations for varying size of antenna sectors.

the only algorithms whose communication cost is independent of the number of sensors deployed. All other algorithms rely on neighbor sensor information to estimate the sensor location and, hence, the communication cost grows with the increase of the size of the sensor network.

We observe that for small localization error (less than  $r$ ) HiRLoc requires less messages for localization compared to all other algorithms. This result seems counter intuitive, since each locators in our experiment had to transmit twice the number of messages compared to SeRLoc. However, fewer locators were required in order to achieve the desired localization accuracy, and, hence, the overall communication cost was lower for HiRLoc. As the required localization accuracy decreases (above  $r$ ) SeRLoc becomes more efficient than HiRLoc, since it can achieve good precision with a relatively small number of locators. It is important to note that though HiRLoc and SeRLoc have similar performance in communication overhead, HiRLoc needs a much smaller number of locators to achieve the same localization accuracy. This fact becomes evident in the following experiments.

### 3.8.8 HiRLoc: Antenna orientation variation

In our second experiment for HiRLoc, we examined the impact of the number of antenna rotations on the size of the  $ROI$ . In figure 3.17(a) we show the  $ROI$  vs. the number of antenna rotations, and for varying  $\overline{LH}$ , when 3-sector antennas are used at each locator. Note that the  $ROI$  is normalized over the size of the  $ROI$  given by SeRLoc denoted by  $ROI(1)$  (no antenna rotation). From figure 3.13(a), we observe that even a single antenna rotation, reduces the size of the  $ROI$  by more than 50%, while three antenna rotations reduce the size to  $ROI(4) = 0.12ROI(1)$ , when  $\overline{LH} = 5$ . A reduction of 50% in the size of the  $ROI$  by a single antenna rotation means that one can deploy half the locators compared to SeRLoc and achieve the same localization accuracy by just rotating the antenna system at each locator once. The savings in number of locators are significant considering that the reduction in hardware requirements comes at no additional cost in communication overhead.

We also observe that as  $\overline{LH}$  grows HiRLoc does not reduce the  $ROI$  by the same percentage compared to lower  $\overline{LH} = 5$ . This is due to the fact that when the number of locators heard at each sensor is high, SeRLoc provides an already good estimate of the sensor location (small  $ROI$ ) and hence, the margin for reduction of the  $ROI$  size is limited.

In figure 3.17(b) we show the normalized  $ROI$  vs. the number of antenna rotations, and for varying number of antenna sectors at each locator. As in the case of high  $\overline{LH}$ , when the antenna sectors become narrow (16-sector antennas) SeRLoc already gives a very good location estimate and hence, HiRLoc does not provide the same improvement as in the case of wider sectors. Furthermore, when the sectors are already very narrow, it would be expensive to develop a mechanism that would rotate the antennas at each locator with great precision. Hence, HiRLoc is very efficient when wide antenna sectors are used at each locator.

### 3.8.9 HiRLoc: Communication Range variation

In our third experiment for HiRLoc, we examined the impact of the communication range variation on the size of the ( $ROI$ ). In figure 3.18(a) we show the normalized  $ROI$  vs. the number of communication range variations, and for different  $\overline{LH}$  values, when 3-sector

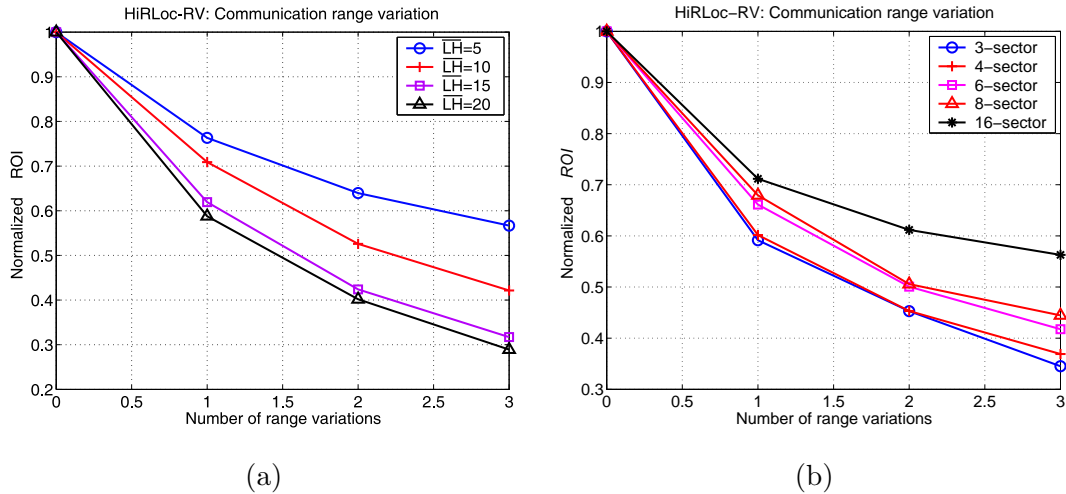


Figure 3.18: (a)  $ROI$  vs. number of range reductions for varying  $\overline{LH}$ . The  $ROI$  is normalized with respect to the  $ROI$  acquired with no variation of the communication range (application of SeRLoc). (b) Normalized  $ROI$  vs. number of range reductions for varying size of antenna sectors.

antennas are used at each locator. Each locator transmits beacons at four different communication ranges.

From figure 3.18(a), we observe that the communication range variation, though significantly improves the system performance, does not achieve the same  $ROI$  reduction as the antenna orientation variation<sup>3</sup>. This behavior is explained by the fact that the gradual reduction of the communication range reduces the number of beacons heard at each sensor, in contrast with the antenna orientation variation case where the same number of locators is heard at the sensors at each antenna rotation. In addition, we observe that greater  $ROI$  reduction occurs when the  $\overline{LH}$  at each locator is high. This is justified by considering that a higher  $\overline{LH}$  allows for more sectors with lower communication range to intersect and hence, smaller  $ROI$ .

In figure 3.18(b), we show the normalized  $ROI$  vs. the number of communication range variations, and for varying number of antenna sectors at each locator. Though the  $ROI$  reduction is not as high as in the antenna orientation variation case, the communication

<sup>3</sup>The comparison is valid for the same number of  $\overline{LH}$ , the same number of antenna sectors and the same number of variations in the antenna rotation and communication range, respectively.

range variation leads to significant performance improvement. As in our previous experiment, narrower antenna beams give a good location estimate and hence, has smaller margin for improvement.

### 3.9 Summary of Contributions

We introduced the problem of secure localization in wireless ad hoc and sensor networks. We proposed a range-independent, decentralized localization scheme called SeRLoc, that allows nodes to determine their location in an un-trusted environment. We also analytically evaluated the probability of spoofing the node's location due to security threats such as the wormhole attack, the Sybil attack and compromise of network entities, and showed that SeRLoc provides accurate location estimation even in the presence of those threats. In doing so, we used the geometric and radio range information to detect the attacks on localization scheme. Our simulation studies also show that SeRLoc localizes sensors with higher accuracy than state-of-the-art range-independent localization schemes, while requiring fewer reference points and lower communication cost. Furthermore, our simulation studies showed that SeRLoc is resilient to sources of error such as location error of reference points as well as error in the sector determination. We also presented HiRLoc, a high-resolution localization algorithm that provides improved localization accuracy compared to SeRLoc, while it preserves the robustness against attacks and does not require additional hardware resources.

### 3.10 Appendix

#### 3.10.1 Choosing the system parameters

The random deployment of a set  $L$  of locators with a density  $\rho_L = \frac{|L|}{\mathcal{A}}$  is equivalent to a sequence of events following a homogeneous Poisson point process of rate  $\rho_L$ . The random deployment of a set  $S$  of nodes with a density  $\rho_s = \frac{|S|}{\mathcal{A}}$ , is equivalent to a random sampling of the deployment area with rate  $\rho_s$  [29].

*Probability of hearing more than  $k$  locators*

Since locators are randomly deployed, the probability for a locator to be in an area of size  $A_g$  is  $p_g = \frac{A_g}{\mathcal{A}}$ . In addition, the random locator deployment implies statistical independence between locators being within a network region  $A_g$ . Hence, the probability that *exactly*  $k$  locators are in  $A_g$  is given by the binomial distribution.

$$P(k \in A_g) = \binom{|L|}{k} p_g^k (1 - p_g)^{|L|-k}. \quad (3.31)$$

For  $|L| \gg 1$  and  $\mathcal{A} \gg A_g$  we can approximate the binomial distribution with a Poisson distribution:

$$P(k \in A_g) = \frac{\frac{A_g}{\mathcal{A}} |L|}{k!} e^{-\frac{A_g}{\mathcal{A}} |L|} = \frac{\rho_L A_g}{k!} e^{-\rho_L A_g}. \quad (3.32)$$

By letting  $A_g = \pi R^2$  we can compute the probability of having exactly  $k$  locators inside a circle of radius  $R$ , centered at the sensor.

$$P(|LH_s| = k) = \frac{(\rho_L \pi R^2)^k}{k!} e^{-\rho_L \pi R^2}. \quad (3.33)$$

Using (3.33), we compute the probability that *every* sensor hears *at least*  $k$  locators. The random sensor deployment implies statistical independence in the number of locators heard by each sensor and hence:

$$P(|LH_s| \geq k, \forall s) = (1 - P(|LH_s| < k))^{|S|} = \left(1 - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \frac{(\rho_L \pi R^2)^i}{i!} e^{-\rho_L \pi R^2}\right)^{|S|}. \quad (3.34)$$

*3.10.2 Maximizing the lower bound on  $P(CR)$*

The lower bound on detection probability based on the communication range constraint property is given by:

$$P(CR) \geq (1 - e^{-\rho_L A_i})(1 - e^{-\rho_L A_j}). \quad (3.35)$$

We want to compute the values of  $A_i^*, A_j^*$ , that maximize the right side of (3.35). From figure 3.19,

$$A_i(x) = 2 \int_{R-x}^R \sqrt{R^2 - z^2} dz, \quad A_j(x) = 2 \int_{R+x-l}^R \sqrt{R^2 - z^2} dz. \quad (3.36)$$

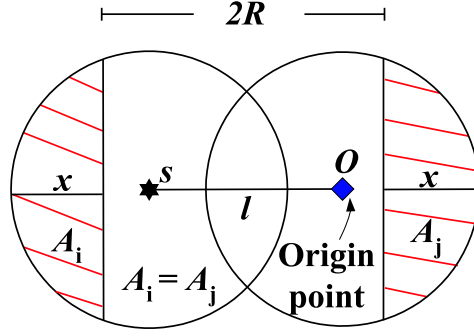


Figure 3.19: Computing the maximum lower bound on  $P(CR)$ .

where  $l = \|s - O\|$ . Since, both  $A_i, A_j$  are expressed as function of  $x$ , the lower bound  $LB(x)$  on  $P(CR)$  can be expressed as:

$$LB(x) = (1 - e^{-\rho_L A_i(x)})(1 - e^{-\rho_L A_j(x)}). \quad (3.37)$$

To maximize  $LB(x)$  we differentiate over  $x$  and set the derivative equal to zero:

$$\begin{aligned} LB'(x) &= \rho_L A_i'(x) e^{-\rho_L A_i(x)} + \rho_L A_j'(x) e^{-\rho_L A_j(x)} \\ &\quad - \rho_L (A_i'(x) + A_j'(x)) e^{-\rho_L (A_i(x) + A_j(x))} \\ &= \rho_L A_i'(x) \left( e^{-\rho_L A_i(x)} - e^{-\rho_L (A_i(x) + A_j(x))} \right) \\ &\quad + \rho_L A_j'(x) \left( e^{-\rho_L A_j(x)} - e^{-\rho_L (A_i(x) + A_j(x))} \right) = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.38)$$

A trivial solution to  $LB'(x) = 0$  is  $A_i(x) = 0$ , or  $A_j(x) = 0$ , but both yield a minimum rather than a maximum ( $LB(x) = 0$ ). However if we set  $A_i(x) = A_j(x)$ , from (3.36), (3.36),  $R + x - l = R - x \Rightarrow x = \frac{l}{2}$ . In addition, differentiating (3.36), (3.36) and evaluating at  $x = \frac{l}{2}$  yields  $A_i'(\frac{l}{2}) = -A_j'(\frac{l}{2})$ . Hence, for  $A_i(x) = A_j(x)$ ,  $LB'(x) = 0$ , and the maximum value on the lower bound  $LB(x)$  is achieved. The values of  $A_i, A_j$  that maximize  $LB(x)$  are,

$$A_i^*(x) = 2 \int_{R-x}^R \sqrt{R^2 - z^2} dz = x \sqrt{R^2 - x^2} - R^2 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{x \sqrt{R^2 - x^2}}{x^2 - R^2} \right), \quad (3.39)$$

## Chapter 4

**A GRAPH THEORETIC FRAMEWORK FOR PREVENTING THE WORMHOLE ATTACK IN WIRELESS AD HOC NETWORKS**

Infrastructureless networks such as wireless ad hoc and sensor networks rely on the collaboration among network nodes in implementing most, if not all, network operations. Moreover, due to limited resources of the wireless devices, algorithms and protocols are designed and implemented to allow distributed collaborative communication and computing involving multiple nodes. For example, two nodes that are not within the direct communication range will have to rely on intermediate nodes to exchange messages, thus forming multihop networks.

To implement distributed algorithms and coordinate the cooperation among network nodes, a number of control messages need to be exchanged in every local neighborhood. For example, to deliver protocol status updates, nodes broadcast their up-to-date information. In addition, the inherent broadcast nature of the wireless medium significantly reduces the energy expenditure for sending an identical message from a single sender to multiple receivers within the same neighborhood. Hence, broadcasting is an efficient and frequent operation in many network functions. However, a wireless ad hoc network may be deployed in hostile environments, where network nodes operate un-tethered. Moreover, the wireless medium exposes any message transmission to a receiver located within the communication range. Hence, in a wireless environment, it is critical to secure any broadcast transmission from a node to its immediate neighbors. A node receiving a broadcast transmission must verify that (a) the message has not been altered in transit (integrity), (b) it originates from a valid and identifiable network source (authenticity), (c) the message is not a replay of an old transmission (freshness) and that, (d) in case of a local broadcast intended only for immediate neighbors, that the source lies within the receiving node's communication range.

Recently, it has become evident that verification of the integrity, authenticity and

freshness of a message via cryptographic methods, is not sufficient to conclude that a local broadcast message originated from a one-hop (immediate) neighbor of the receiving node [48, 85, 127]. In this paper, we investigate a specific type of attack, known as the *wormhole attack* [48, 85, 127]. Such attacks are relatively easy to mount, while being difficult to detect and prevent. In a wormhole attack, an adversary records information at one point of the network (origin point), tunnels it to another point of the network via a low-latency link (destination point), and injects the information back into the network. Since in the wormhole attack the adversary replays recorded messages, it can be launched without compromising any network node, or the integrity and authenticity of the communication, and hence, the success of the attack is independent of the strength of the cryptographic method used to protect the communication. In addition, the lack of communication compromise makes this type of attack “invisible” to the upper network layers [48]. As a consequence, using a wormhole attack, an adversary can lead two nodes located more than one hop away into believing that they are within communication range and into exchanging information as if they were immediate neighbors.

Several approaches have been presented for defending against the wormhole attack [19, 46–48, 124, 127]. The solutions proposed attempt to bound the distance that any message can travel [48] or securely discover the set of one-hop neighbors [19, 46, 47, 124, 127]. In this paper, we show that any defense mechanism against the wormhole attack can be interpreted by a graph theoretic framework. We make the following contributions.

#### *4.0.3 Our Contributions*

We present a graph theoretic framework for modeling of the wormhole attack and state the necessary and sufficient conditions for any candidate solution to prevent such an attack. We show that any previously proposed methods [19, 46–48, 124, 127] or future solutions have to satisfy our conditions in order to prevent wormholes. In addition, we also propose a cryptographic mechanism based on keys only known within each neighborhood, which we call local broadcast keys (LBKs), in order to secure the network from wormhole attacks and show that our solution satisfies the conditions of the graph theoretic framework. We present



a centralized method for establishing LBKs, when the location of all the nodes is known to a central authority (base station). Furthermore, we propose a decentralized mechanism for LBK establishment that defends against wormholes with a probability very close to unity. Based on *Spatial Statistics* theory [29], we provide an analytical evaluation of the level of security achieved by our scheme to support our claims.

Compared to previously proposed methods [19, 47, 48], our solution does not require any time synchronization or highly accurate clocks. In addition, our method requires only a small fraction of the network nodes to know their location. Finally, our approach is based on symmetric cryptography rather than expensive asymmetric cryptography and hence is computationally efficient, while it requires each node to broadcast only a small number of messages thus having a small communication overhead. Due to its efficiency, our method is applicable to ad hoc networks with very stringent resource constraints, such as wireless sensor networks.

#### **4.1 Problem Statement**

In this section, we present the wormhole attack model and illustrate how a wormhole attack can significantly impact the performance of network protocols, such as routing, and applications of wireless ad hoc networks, such as monitoring. We then abstract the problem using graph theory and provide the necessary and sufficient conditions to prevent the wormhole attack. Throughout the rest of the paper, we will use the terms wormhole attack and wormhole problem interchangeably to refer to a network with wormhole links.

##### *4.1.1 Wormhole Attack Model*

To launch a wormhole attack, an adversary initially establishes a low-latency link between two points in the network. We will refer to the attacker's link as *wormhole link* or simply *wormhole*. Once the wormhole link is established, the attacker eavesdrops on messages at one end of the link, referred to as the *origin point*, tunnels them through the wormhole link, and replays them at the other end of the link, referred to as the *destination point*.

If the distance separation between the origin point and destination point is longer than the communication range of the nodes, any node at the origin point will rely on multi-hop

paths to communicate with nodes at the destination point. Hence, the attacker can use the low-latency link to re-broadcast recorded packets at the destination point faster than they would normally arrive via the multi-hop route. A low-latency link can be realized with a wired connection, an optic connection, a long-range, out-of-band wireless directional transmission, or even a multi-hop combination of any of the aforementioned types of connections, as long as the latency in the wormhole path is less than or equal to the latency in the legitimate multi-hop path.

In a wormhole attack, the devices and wormhole links deployed by the adversary do not become part of the network. The devices used to mount the attack do not need to hold any valid network Ids and, hence, the adversary does not need to compromise any cryptographic quantities or network nodes in order to perform the attack. Any key used by valid network nodes for encryption remains secret, and the integrity and authenticity of the replayed messages is preserved. The lack of need to compromise any valid network entity makes the wormhole attack “invisible” to the upper layers of the network [48]. Furthermore, the adversary need not allocate computational resources for compromising the communications, thus making the wormhole attack very easy to implement.

The assumption of not compromising the network communications is a reasonable one since if the adversary were to gain access to cryptographic keys used in the network, it would have no need to record messages at one part of the network, tunnel them via a direct link, and replay them to some other part of the network. Instead, the adversary can use the compromised keys to fabricate any message and inject it into the network as legitimate. Using compromised keys to *impersonate* a valid node, and fabricate and inject bogus messages into the network, known as the Sybil attack [32, 82], is overall a different problem than the wormhole attack and is not addressed in this paper. We present our reasoning on assuming non-compromise of cryptographic keys and nodes in our discussion in Section 4.7.

Finally, in our wormhole attack model, we assume that the adversary does not launch any Denial-of-Service (DoS) attacks against network entities. The goal of the adversary is to remain undetected and, hence, DoS attacks, such as jamming of the communication medium as well as battery exhaustion attacks, are not performed by an adversary mounting

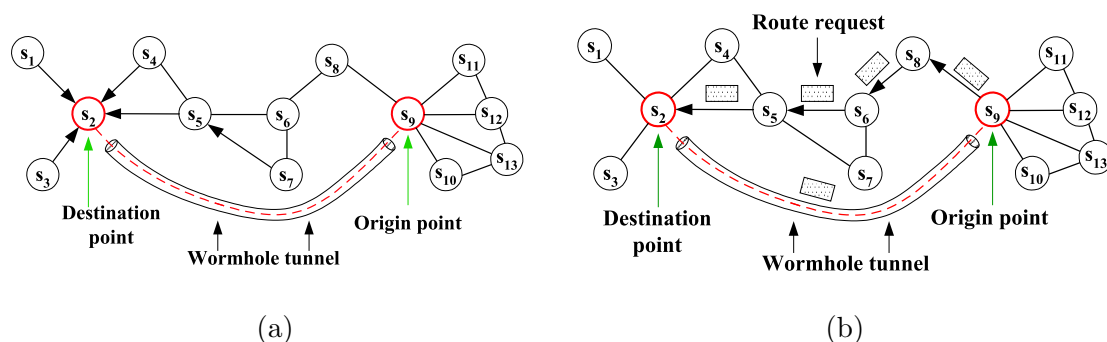


Figure 4.1: (a) Wormhole attack on a distance vector-based routing protocol. (b) Wormhole attack against an on-demand routing protocol.

a wormhole attack. We now present examples on the impact of a wormhole attack on network protocols.

#### 4.1.2 Wormhole Threat Against Network Protocols

##### *Wormhole attack against routing protocols*

Ad hoc network routing protocols can be classified into *periodic* protocols [12, 80, 88] and *on-demand* protocols [50, 87]. In periodic protocols, every node is aware of the routing path towards any destination at any given time and periodically exchanges information with its neighbors to maintain the best network routes. In on-demand protocols, a routing path is discovered only when a node wants to send messages to some destination. A wormhole attack can affect both categories of routing protocols in the following ways.

##### *Periodic Protocols*

Periodic protocols are based on the distance vector routing algorithm, which was initially proposed for wired networks [7]. In distance vector routing, each node stores a routing table that contains for each possible destination the associated routing cost, usually in number of hops, and the corresponding next hop towards that destination. Periodically, or when a route change occurs, each node broadcasts its routing table in order to inform its neighbors

about possible route changes. Every node that receives a route update adjusts its own routing table based on the broadcast received from the neighboring nodes.

As an example, consider figure 4.1(a) which shows an ad hoc network of 13 nodes. In figure 4.1(a), a node  $s_i$  is connected to a node  $s_j$  if the distance between them is less than the communication range  $r$ . Consider an attacker establishing a wormhole link between nodes  $s_9$  and  $s_2$ , using a low-latency link. When node  $s_9$  broadcasts its routing table, node  $s_2$  will hear the broadcast via the wormhole and assume it is one hop away from  $s_9$ . Then,  $s_2$  will update its table entries for node  $s_9$ , reachable via one hop, nodes  $\{s_8, s_{10}, s_{11}, s_{12}\}$ , reachable via two hops, and broadcast its own routing table. Similarly, the neighbors of  $s_2$  will adjust their own routing tables. Note that nodes  $\{s_1, s_3, s_4, s_5, s_7\}$  now route via  $s_2$  to reach any of the nodes  $\{s_9, s_{10}, s_{11}, s_{12}\}$ .

#### *On-demand Protocols*

A wormhole attack against on-demand routing protocols can result in similar false route establishment as in the case of periodic protocols. Consider the route discovery mechanism employed in DSR [50] and AODV [87] protocols. A node  $A$  initiates a route discovery to node  $B$  by broadcasting a *route request* message. All nodes that hear the *route request* message will re-broadcast the request until the destination  $B$  has been discovered. Once the destination  $B$  is reached, node  $B$  will respond with a *route reply* message. The *route reply* message will follow a similar route discovery procedure, if the path from  $B$  to  $A$  has not been previously discovered. If an attacker mounts a wormhole link between the *route request* initiator  $A$  and the destination  $B$ , and if  $A, B$  are more than one hop away, then a one-hop route via the wormhole will be established from  $A$  to  $B$ .

As an example, consider figure 4.1(b) which is the same topology as in figure 4.1(a). Consider that the attacker establishes a wormhole link between nodes  $s_9$  and  $s_2$  and assume that node  $s_9$  wants to send data to node  $s_2$ . When node  $s_9$  broadcasts the *route request*, the attacker will forward the request via the wormhole link to node  $s_2$ . Node  $s_2$  will reply with a *route reply* and the attacker using wormhole link will forward the reply to node  $s_9$ . At this point, nodes  $s_2, s_9$  will establish a route via the wormhole link, as if they were one

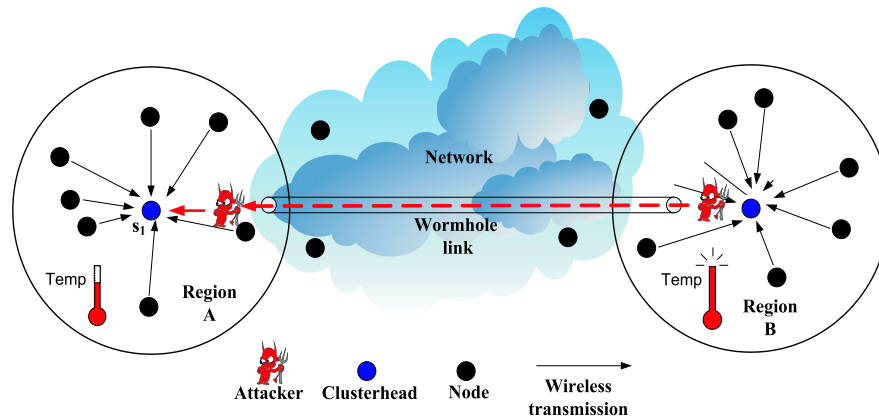


Figure 4.2: Wormhole attack against a local broadcast protocol.

hop neighbors. Similarly, if any of the nodes  $\{s_1, s_3, s_4, s_5, s_7\}$  wants to send data to any of the nodes  $\{s_9, s_{10}, s_{11}, s_{12}\}$ , the routing paths established will include the wormhole link.

From our examples and the existing literature [48], we note that the existence of wormhole links impacts the network routing service performance in the following three ways: (1) nodes can become sinkholes [52] without even being aware that they are victims of a wormhole attack (as noted in both figures 4.1(a), and 4.1(b), nodes  $s_2, s_9$  become sinkhole nodes and attract all traffic from surrounding nodes). Hence, a significant amount of traffic is routed through the wormhole link and the attacker can control and observe a significant amount of traffic flow without the need to deploy multiple observation points. (2) If an attacker kept the wormhole link functional at all times and did not drop any packets, the wormhole would actually provide a useful network service by expediting the packet delivery. However, by selectively dropping packets, the attacker can lower the throughput of the network. (3) Furthermore, by simply switching the wormhole link on and off, the attacker can trigger a route oscillation within the network, thus leading to a DoS attack, driving the routing service to be unusable.

#### *Wormhole attack against local broadcast protocols*

In many applications, nodes need to communicate some information only within their neighborhood. For example, in localization protocols [63,104,106], nodes determine their location based on information provided by the neighbors. In wireless sensor networks, sensors per-

forming monitoring (for example tracking the movement of an object), may broadcast local measurements to a *central node or clusterhead* that estimates target related parameters, such as location and velocity of the target. In such applications, false local information can lead to significant performance degradation of the estimation algorithms. Currently, all the tracking algorithms assume that the input data is noisy and at times may use cryptographic mechanisms to verify the authenticity of the data.

As an example, consider the setup in figure 4.2, where sensor node  $s_1$  is responsible for triggering an alarm in region  $A$ , if the temperature in region  $A$  rises above a certain threshold. Let's assume that sensor  $s_1$  makes use of a majority-based algorithm that triggers the alarm if the majority of its immediate neighbors report temperature measurements above a specific threshold. Assume that an attacker records the temperature broadcasts from region  $B$  and re-broadcasts the data to region  $A$  via the wormhole link. If the number of distinct measurements replayed via the wormhole link exceeds the collected distinct measurements from region  $A$ , the temperature in region  $A$  may never impact the decision to trigger the alarm in  $A$ .

From the above examples, we note that in order to prevent the wormhole attack, there must be some mechanism to ensure that any transmission received by a node  $s$  indeed originates from a valid one-hop neighbor of  $s$  that is located within its communication range. We now show that these ideas can be formalized using a graph theoretic framework.

#### 4.1.3 Graph theoretic formulation of the wormhole problem and its solution

Consider an ad hoc network deployed with any node  $i$  having a communication range  $r$ . Such a network can be modeled as a geometric graph [86], defined as follows:

**Definition 4.1.** –*Geometric Graph*–Given a finite set of vertices  $V \subset \mathcal{R}^d$  ( $d = 2$ , for planar graphs), we denote by  $G(V, r)$  the undirected graph with vertex set  $V$  and with undirected edges connecting pairs of vertices  $(i, j)$  with  $\|i - j\| \leq r$ , where  $\|\cdot\|$  is some norm on  $\mathcal{R}^d$  [86].

The entries of the edge, or connectivity matrix, denoted by  $e$ , are given by

$$e(i, j) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \|i - j\| \leq r \\ 0, & \text{if } \|i - j\| > r. \end{cases} \quad (4.1)$$

Geometric graphs have long been considered a useful model for deriving insightful analytic results in wireless ad hoc networks [8, 23, 33, 34]. The network protocols developed for ad hoc networks are *implicitly* designed based on the geometric graph model. For example, routing algorithms assume that for two nodes that are not within communication range, a multi-hop route must be constructed. In addition, the networking protocols define one-hop neighbors of an arbitrary node  $s$  as those nodes that can directly hear any broadcast transmission from node  $s$ . However, the existence of wormhole links violates the model in (4.1) by allowing direct links longer than  $r$ , thus transforming the initial geometric graph  $G(V, r)$  into a logical graph  $\tilde{G}(V, E_{\tilde{G}})$ , where arbitrary connections can be established. Hence, even a single non-trivial wormhole will always result in a communication graph with increased number of *ones* in the binary connectivity matrix compared to the connectivity matrix of the wormhole-free communication graph. We now formalize the wormhole problem based on the geometric graph property expressed in (4.1).

**Wormhole problem:** *A network is vulnerable to the wormhole attack if there exists at least one edge  $e(i, j)$  such that  $e(i, j) = 1$  for  $\|i - j\| > r$ , where  $r$  is the communication range of nodes.*

Any candidate solution to the wormhole problem should construct a communication graph  $G'(V, E_{G'})$ , where no link longer than  $r$  exists. Any edge  $e(i, j)$  of the communication graph  $G'(V, E_{G'})$  satisfies (4.1), and hence, the communication graph solving the wormhole problem will always be a subgraph of the geometric graph of the network, i.e.  $G'(V, E_{G'}) \subseteq G(V, r)$ . figure 4.3 graphically represents the extraction of the wormhole-free communication graph  $G'(V, E_{G'})$  from the wormhole-infected graph  $\tilde{G}(V, E_{\tilde{G}})$  via the application of a transformation  $S : G \times \tilde{G} \rightarrow G'$ , when the geometric graph  $G(V, r)$  is known.

Note that the wormhole infected graph  $\tilde{G}$ , the geometric graph  $G$ , and the communication graph  $G'$ , have the same set of vertices  $V$  since, as mentioned in Section 4.1.1, the devices deployed by the adversary launching a wormhole attack do not become part of the network (they do not acquire valid network identities). Also, note that the sets of edges  $E_r, E_{G'}, E_{\tilde{G}}$  are determined based on fixed node locations. If the nodes of the network are mobile, the set of edges on each graph may change according to the node locations at any

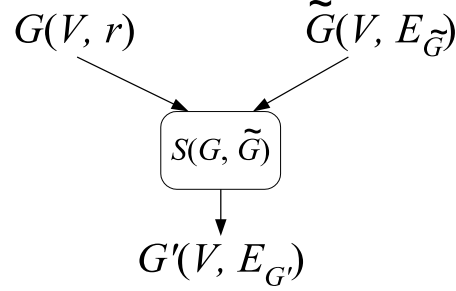


Figure 4.3: The wormhole embedded graph theoretic model. The wormhole-infected graph  $\tilde{G}(V, E_{\tilde{G}})$  is transformed via a solution  $S(G, \tilde{G})$  into a communication graph  $G'(V, E_{G'})$ , with  $E_{G'} \subseteq E_G$ .

given time. Despite the changing network topology, at any time and for a given location, any valid solution to the wormhole problem should construct a communication graph that is a subgraph of the geometric graph. We now formalize the necessary and sufficient condition for solving the wormhole problem in the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Given a geometric graph  $G(V, r)$  defined as in (4.1), and an arbitrary logical graph  $\tilde{G}(V, E_{\tilde{G}})$ , a transformation  $S : G \times \tilde{G} \rightarrow G'$  of  $\tilde{G}(V, E_{\tilde{G}})$  into a communication graph  $G'(V, E_{G'})$  is a solution to the wormhole problem iff the set of edges of  $G'$  is a subset of the set of edges of the  $G(V, r)$ , i.e.  $E_{G'} \subseteq E_G$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $G' = S(G, \tilde{G})$  prevents the wormhole attack. Let  $C_X$  denote the connectivity matrix of graph  $X$ . If  $E_{G'} \not\subseteq E_G$ , there exists a pair of nodes  $(i, j)$  for which:  $C_G(i, j) = 0$  and  $C_{G'}(i, j) = 1$ . For such node pairs,  $e(i, j) = 1$ , with  $\|i - j\| > r$ , and the communication range constraint is violated. Hence, in order for  $S(G, \tilde{G})$  to prevent the wormhole attack, it follows that  $E_{G'} \subseteq E_G$ .

The converse follows immediately. If  $E_{G'} \subseteq E_G$ , then  $C_{G'}(i, j) \leq C_G(i, j), \forall i, j \in V$ . Hence, there is no edge  $e'(i, j) \in E_{G'}$  such that  $e'(i, j) = 1, \|i - j\| > r$ , and the graph  $G'$  is wormhole free.  $\square$

Note that a trivial graph  $G'$  with no links ( $E_{G'} = \emptyset$ ) satisfies the conditions of the Theorem 4.1. However, to ensure communication between all network nodes, we seek solutions



that construct a connected subgraph of  $G$ . A necessary but not sufficient condition for a connected subgraph to exist is that the original graph  $G$  is also connected.

We also note that the transformation  $G' = S(G, \tilde{G})$  requires the knowledge of the geometric random graph  $G(V, r)$ , defined by the location of the vertices, and the communication range  $r$ . When nodes do not have a global view of the network (know the location of other nodes), to verify Theorem 4.1, an alternative way to construct a connected subgraph of the geometric random graph  $G(V, r)$  must be developed. If the geometric graph can be constructed, all wormhole links can be eliminated using corollaries 4.1, 4.2.

**Corollary 4.1.** *We can identify and eliminate the wormhole links of a logical graph  $\tilde{G}(V, E_{\tilde{G}})$  by performing an exclusive or (XOR) operation between the connectivity matrices of  $\tilde{G}$  and the geometric graph  $G(V, r)$ , corresponding to the set of vertices  $V$  and communication range  $r$ .*

To illustrate how we can identify the wormhole links using Corollary 4.1, consider the network of figure 4.1(a). Each row  $i$  of the connectivity matrix denotes the links of node  $i$  (we have assumed that links between nodes are bi-directional). Using the notation  $C_X(i)$  for the row vector of matrix  $C_X$  corresponding to the node  $s_i$ , the row vectors corresponding to node  $s_2$ , for the connectivity matrices  $C_G$ , and  $C_{\tilde{G}}$  are

$$C_{\tilde{G}}(2) = [1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0], \quad C_G(2) = [1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0].$$

By performing an XOR operation between  $C_{\tilde{G}}, C_G$ , we can identify all wormhole links and corresponding nodes that are affected by the non-zero entries in matrix  $(C_{\tilde{G}} \oplus C_G)$ . In figure 4.1(a), the second row of the matrix  $C_{\tilde{G}} \oplus C_G$  resulting from the XOR operation is

$$(C_{\tilde{G}} \oplus C_G)(2) = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0], \quad (4.2)$$

and a wormhole link exists between node  $s_2$  and node  $j$  for which  $(C_{\tilde{G}} \oplus C_G)(2, j) = 1$ . In our example the wormhole link between node  $s_2$  and node  $s_9$  is successfully identified.

Note that according to Theorem 4.1 any connected subgraph of  $G(V, r)$  is sufficient to prevent any wormhole attack. For a subgraph of  $G(V, r)$  an XOR operation may identify valid links of  $G(V, r)$  as wormhole links. However, along with the false positives, all the

wormhole links are detected. For example, consider a subgraph  $G'(V, E_{G'}) \subset G(V, r)$  for the network of figure 4.1(a), for which node  $s_2$  is not connected to node  $s_3$ . For the subgraph  $G'$ , the second row of the connectivity matrix is

$$C_{G'}(2) = [1\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0], \quad (C_{\tilde{G}} \oplus C_{G'})(2) = [0\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 0].$$

By performing an XOR operation between  $C_{\tilde{G}}, C_{G'}$ , we identify all wormhole links (link from node  $s_2$  to node  $s_9$ ) and some false positives (link from node  $s_2$  to node  $s_3$ ). Eliminating both the wormhole links and the false positives to construct graph  $G'$  is an acceptable solution as long as  $G'$  is a connected graph. We summarize the wormhole elimination in Corollary 4.2.

**Corollary 4.2.** *We can identify and eliminate the wormhole links of a logical graph  $\tilde{G}(V, E_{\tilde{G}})$  by performing an exclusive or (XOR) operation between the connectivity matrices of  $\tilde{G}$  and any subgraph  $G'(V', E'_{G'})$  of  $G(V, r)$ , where  $G(V, r)$  is the geometric random graph corresponding to the set of vertices  $V$  and communication range  $r$ .*

Theorem 4.1 and corollaries 4.1, 4.2, provide the necessary framework to detect and prevent any wormhole attack. We will specifically utilize them in the context of *geometric random graphs*, since we assume that our network is randomly deployed. Based on our graph theoretic formulation, the wormhole problem can be reduced to the problem of constructing a communication graph that is a connected subgraph of the geometric random graph, without the explicit knowledge about the geometric graph. Before we present our solution on constructing a subgraph of the geometric random graph, we describe the needed network model assumptions.

## 4.2 Network Model Assumptions

### *Network deployment*

We assume that the network consists of a large number of nodes, randomly deployed within the network region  $\mathcal{A}$ . We also assume that a small fraction of network nodes, *called guards*, is assigned special network operations. Network nodes are deployed with a density  $\rho_s$  while guards are deployed with a density  $\rho_g$ , with  $\rho_s \gg \rho_g$ .

### Antenna model

We assume that the guards can transmit with higher power than regular nodes and/or are equipped with different antenna types. Specifically:

(a) *Network nodes* - We assume that network nodes are equipped with omnidirectional antennas and transmit with a power  $P_s$ . The directivity gain of the node antenna is  $D_s = 1$ .

(b) *Guards* - We assume that guards can transmit with a power  $P_g > P_s$ . We also assume that guards can be equipped with either omnidirectional or directional antennas, with a directivity gain  $D_g \geq 1$ .

Based on the antenna model assumptions, both symmetric as well as asymmetric modes of communication between different network nodes are possible. Let the signal attenuation over space be proportional to some exponent  $\gamma$  of the distance  $d$  between two nodes, times the antenna directivity gain  $D \in \{D_s, D_g\}$ , i.e.  $\frac{P_s}{P_r} = cD^2d^\gamma$ , with  $2 \leq \gamma \leq 5$ , where  $c$  denotes the proportionality constant and  $P_r$  denotes the minimum required receive power for communication. If  $r_{nn}$  denotes the node-to-node communication range and  $r_{ng}$  denotes the node-to-guard communication range, then [5],

$$\frac{P_s}{P_r} = cD_s^2(r_{nn})^\gamma = c(r_{nn})^\gamma, \quad \frac{P_s}{P_r} = cD_sD_g(r_{ng})^\gamma = cD_g(r_{ng})^\gamma. \quad (4.3)$$

From (4.3), it follows  $r_{ng} = r_{nn}(D_g)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$ . Similarly, if  $r_{gn}$  denotes the guard-to-node communication range (guards transmit with  $P_g > P_s$  and hence,  $r_{gn} > r_{ng}$ ), the guard-to-guard communication range  $r_{gg}$  is equal to  $r_{gg} = r_{gn}(D_g)^{\frac{2}{\gamma}}$ . For notational simplicity, we will refer to the node-to node communication range as  $r_{nn} = r$ , the guard-to-node communication range as  $r_{gn} = R$ , and the guard directivity gain as  $D$ . Table 4.1 summarizes the four possible communication modes with appropriate ranges indicated.

The assumption that guards are able to transmit with higher power than network nodes is a reasonable one, especially for low-power networks such as sensor networks. A typical sensor has a communication range from  $3 \sim 30m$  with a transmission power of  $P_s = 0.75mW$  [76]. Hence, guards need to transmit with a power  $P_g = 75mW$  to achieve a communication range ratio  $\frac{R}{r} = 10$  when  $\gamma = 2$  even without the use of directional antennas.

Note that we have assumed that the communication range of both the guards and the nodes does not vary with direction and the environment (unit disk graph model). This

Table 4.1: The four communication modes between nodes and guards. Each entry denotes the range of communication for that mode.

	<b>Receiver</b>	
<b>Sender</b>	Node	Guard
Node	$r$	$rD^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$
Guard	$R$	$RD^{\frac{2}{\gamma}}$

assumption has been made to facilitate the derivation of analytical expressions quantifying the level of security achievable by our method<sup>1</sup>. Clearly, while the unit disk model provides theoretical performance bounds, knowledge of the statistics of the variation of the communication range is needed to provide a more robust approach. We discuss the effect of the variation of the communication range due to the heterogeneity of the wireless medium in Section 3.8 and present performance evaluation analysis that takes the variation into account.

#### *Resource constraints*

We assume that network nodes are resource limited in the following ways:

(a) Due to hardware limitations (lack of GPS receiver), nodes may not know their location at all times. In addition, due to limited resource-constraints, generic nodes may not attempt to determine their location. However, we assume that guards do know their location either through GPS [45] or through some other localization method [104, 106].

(b) We also assume that due to hardware limitations, there is no time synchronization between the network nodes or the guards. In addition, nodes do not possess hardware to perform highly accurate time measurements in the nanoseconds.

(c) Due to computational power limitations, network nodes cannot perform expensive asymmetric cryptographic operations such as digital signatures [30, 100]. Instead, they

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<sup>1</sup>The unit disk graph model has been used to represent ad hoc networks with identical devices being deployed in order to derive insightful theoretical results in diverse research topics, such as security [23, 33], network connectivity [8, 34], routing [40, 57, 58], and topology control [121].

rely on efficient symmetric cryptography to generate, manage, and distribute cryptographic quantities and execute cryptographic operations, such as encryption/decryption, authentication, and hashing. We also assume that nodes and guards can be pre-loaded with needed cryptographic quantities before deployment.

### *System parameters*

Since both guards and network nodes are randomly deployed, it is essential that we appropriately choose the network parameters, namely the guard density  $\rho_g$  and the guard-to-node communication range  $R$ , for a given deployment area  $\mathcal{A}$ , so that guards can communicate with nodes.

The random deployment of the network nodes and guards can be modeled after a *Spatial Homogeneous Poisson Point Process* [29]. The random placement of a set  $U$  of guards with a density  $\rho_g = \frac{|U|}{\mathcal{A}}$  ( $|\cdot|$  denotes the cardinality of a set) is equivalent to a sequence of events following a homogeneous Poisson point process of rate  $\rho_g$ . Given that  $|U|$  events occur in area  $\mathcal{A}$ , these events are uniformly distributed within that area. The random deployment of a set  $S$  of nodes with a density  $\rho_s = \frac{|S|}{\mathcal{A}}$ , is equivalent to a random sampling of the deployment area with rate  $\rho_s$  [29].

Based on *Spatial Statistics* theory [29], if  $GH_s$  denotes the set of guards heard by a sensor  $s$ , (i.e., being within range  $R$  from  $s$ ), then the probability that a node hears exactly  $k$  guards is given by the Poisson distribution

$$P(|GH_s| = k) = \frac{(\rho_g \pi R^2)^k}{k!} e^{-\rho_g \pi R^2}. \quad (4.4)$$

Based on (4.4), we can compute the probability that every node of the network hears at least one guard as

$$P(|GH_s| > 0, \forall s \in S) = (1 - e^{-\rho_g \pi R^2})^{|S|}. \quad (4.5)$$

Using (4.5), we can determine the desired guard density  $\rho_g$  or guard-to-node communication range  $R$ , so that each node hears at least one guard with a probability  $p$ ,

$$\rho_g \geq \frac{-\ln(1 - p^{\frac{1}{|S|}})}{\pi R^2}, \quad R \geq \sqrt{\frac{-\ln(1 - p^{\frac{1}{|S|}})}{\pi \rho_g}}. \quad (4.6)$$

Both inequalities in (4.6) are independent from the node density  $\rho_s$ . Hence, once the deployment region is sufficiently covered by guards, nodes can be deployed as dense as desired with  $P(|GH_s| > 0, \forall s \in S)$  remaining constant.

### 4.3 Local Broadcast Keys

As we showed in Section 4.1.3, broadcasted messages that are destined only to the local neighborhood are timely replayed in regions that are not within the communication range of the source of the messages. Since the replayed messages are both authentic and decryptable at the destination point of the attack, a wormhole link is established between the nodes at the origin point of the attack and the nodes at the destination point, as if the nodes were one-hop neighbors. Hence, wormhole links violate the communication range constraint by allowing nodes that are not within communication range to directly communicate. In order to prevent the establishment of wormhole links, we showed that any candidate solution should construct a communication graph that is a subgraph of the geometric graph of the network.

A wormhole attack is successful when the replayed messages that are destined only to the local neighborhood are decryptable and can be authenticated outside that neighborhood. Once the attacker replays broadcasted messages outside the local neighborhood in a timely manner, nodes at the ends of the wormhole link are led to believe that they are one-hop neighbors. However, if only the nodes within a local neighborhood can decrypt and/or authenticate the messages broadcasted within that neighborhood, nodes out of communication range of each other will not conclude that they are one-hop away. Hence, the communication graph constructed by securely identifying the one-hop neighbors is a subgraph of the geometric graph of the network and the wormhole attack is eliminated.

In order for a broadcast message intended for one-hop neighbors to be decryptable only by the one-hop neighbors, each node should be able to encrypt broadcast messages with keys only known to all of its one-hop neighbors. We call such keys *Local Broadcast Keys* (LBKs). Hence, the problem of eliminating wormhole links reduces the problem of allowing nodes to establish LBKs with their one-hop neighbors. Once the LBKs are established, the resulting communication graph will be a subgraph of the geometric graph of the network.

In this section, we first define local broadcast keys and constructively show that LBKs construct a wormhole-free communication graph that is a subgraph of the geometric graph of the network. We then present one centralized and one decentralized mechanism for establishing LBKs, followed by a probabilistic analysis of the level of security achieved.

#### 4.3.1 Definition and Correctness

**Definition 4.2.** *Local Broadcast Key*—For a node  $i$ , we define the neighborhood  $N_i$  as  $N_i = \{j : \|i - j\| \leq r\}$ . Given a cryptographic key  $K$ , let  $U_K$  denote the set of nodes that hold key  $K$ . We assign a unique key  $K_i$  called *Local Broadcast Key LBK* of  $i$ , to all  $j \in N_i$  so that  $U_{K_i} = N_i$  and  $K_i \neq K_j, \forall i \neq j$ . Hence, by definition, all one-hop neighbors of node  $i$  possess the LBK of node  $i$ . We follow the convention that any message from node  $i$  to  $j$  is encrypted with  $K_i$ , though either  $K_i$  or  $K_j$  can be used between nodes  $i, j$ . Hence, a link between nodes  $i, j$  exists iff  $i \in N_j$  or  $j \in N_i$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** *Given  $K_i, N_i, \forall i \in V$ , where  $V$  is the set of vertices defined by network nodes, and an arbitrary logical random graph  $\tilde{G}(V, E_{\tilde{G}})$ , the edge matrix  $E_{G'}$ , defined by*

$$e_{G'}(i, j) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i \in U_{K_j} \cup j \in U_{K_i} \\ 0, & \text{if } \text{Else,} \end{cases} \quad (4.7)$$

*yields the desired wormhole-free graph  $G'(V, E_{G'})$ , such that  $E_{G'} \subseteq E_G$ , where  $G(V, r)$  is the geometric random graph defined in (4.1).*

*Proof.* By the definition of  $E_{G'}$ , there exists a link  $e_{G'}(i, j) = 1$  if and only if the two nodes hold at least one LBK. But, according to the definition of LBK, a node  $i \in U_{K_j}$  iff  $i \in N_j$ , which in turn implies that  $i, j$  satisfy (4.1), which defines the links of the geometric graph  $G(V, r)$ . Hence,  $e_{G'}(i, j) = 1$ , iff  $\|i - j\| \leq r$ ,  $E_{G'} = E_G$  and, therefore,  $G' \equiv G$ . According to theorem 4.1, if a transformation  $S(G, \tilde{G})$  results in a graph  $G'(V, E_{G'})$  such that  $E_{G'} \subseteq E_G$ , then  $G'$  is a *wormhole-free* graph.  $\square$

As a side remark, we note that since  $G' \equiv G$  and if  $G$  is connected, then  $G'$  is also connected. Also, given that LBKs are established for any network nodes, the wormhole attack

can be prevented even in the absence of any location information. The LBK solution reconstructs the geometric graph  $G(V, r)$  by encrypting the information exchange and disclosing the decryption keys only to direct neighbors. However, the challenge of establishing LBKs in a network may or may not require location information. In what follows, we present two mechanisms by which we can assign local broadcast keys to the nodes of the network.

#### 4.3.2 Local broadcast key establishment mechanisms

##### *Key distribution from a central authority*

Wireless ad hoc networks have been visualized to operate under both centralized and decentralized control depending on the applications and the services that they provide. Though our research mainly focuses on decentralized systems, for completeness, we first show how LBKs can also be established in centralized systems.

Assume that a central authority has a global view of the network topology (knows the location of all nodes) and that a security association has been established between every node and the central authority (every node shares a pairwise key with the central authority). Similar assumptions have been made in the centralized wormhole prevention scheme presented in [124]<sup>2</sup>. It is quite simple to see that the central authority can construct the geometric graph  $G(V, r)$  using the location of the nodes and the communication range constraint  $r$ . Once the geometric graph  $G(V, r)$  is constructed, the central authority can distribute a unique LBK to each node and its one-hop neighbors, via the secure channel established based on the security association shared with each node. Once the LBKs have been established, any broadcast encrypted with the LBK of a node  $s_i$  can only be decrypted by the one-hop neighbors of  $s_i$ . Hence, using wormhole to replay messages at one neighborhood encrypted with the LBK of another will not introduce any vulnerability<sup>3</sup>.

The centralized authority-based LBK establishment mechanism exhibits drawbacks that are commonly noted in any centralized solution. First, the central authority constitutes a

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<sup>2</sup>The authors in [124] assume that a base station receives information about the relative position of each node via a channel secured with a group key known to all nodes and the base station.

<sup>3</sup>Since the central authority can reconstruct the geometric graph  $G(V, r)$ , it can also inform every node about their one-hop neighbors via a secure channel and, hence, prevent the wormhole attack.



single point of failure. Second, in case of a mobile ad hoc network, the base station needs frequent updates of the location of each node in order to maintain an up-to-date geometric graph and update the LBKs according to the changing topology. The LBK update has to be performed via unicast messages from the base station to every node and, hence, can add prohibitively high overhead for the network. Finally, the centralized method requires knowledge of the entire network topology (location of all nodes). A base station can acquire the node location if the network is systematically deployed, or by using a wormhole-resistant localization method [63,66,71,73,118]. We now describe a decentralized LBK establishment mechanism that requires only a small fraction of the nodes to have knowledge of their location.

#### *Decentralized establishment of local broadcast keys*

We present a three-step algorithm to allow nodes to establish LBK in a decentralized manner. In step one, every guard  $G_i$  broadcasts fractional keys  $FK_i$  to the network. Every node collects the fractional keys from all guards that it can hear. In step two, every node broadcasts the Ids of the fractional keys that it holds. If two nodes  $s_i, s_j$  share more than  $th$  fractional keys, they use all common fractional keys to generate a pairwise key  $K_{s_i, s_j}$ . In step three, a node  $s$  generates an LBK  $K_s$  and unicasts it to every node that it shares a pairwise key with. Before we describe the three steps in detail, we present the cryptographic mechanisms of our decentralized LBK scheme.

#### *Cryptographic Mechanisms*

**Encryption:** To protect the distribution of the fractional keys, all broadcasts from the guards are encrypted with a global symmetric key  $K_0$ , preloaded before deployment. In addition, a node  $s$  shares a symmetric pairwise key  $K_{s, g_i}$  with every guard  $g_i$ , also preloaded. Since the number of guards deployed is relatively small, the storage requirement at the node is within the storage constraints (a total of  $|U|$  keys), even for memory scarce nodes. For example, mica motes [76] have 128Kbytes of programmable flash memory. Using 64-bit RC5 [99] symmetric keys and for a network with 200 guards, a total of 1.6Kbytes of memory

is required to store all the symmetric pairwise keys of the node with all the guards.

In order to save storage space at the guard side (guards would have to store  $|S|$  keys), the pairwise key  $K_{s,g_i}$  is derived by a master key  $K_{g_i}$ , using a pseudo-random function [109]  $h$  and the unique node  $Id_s$ ,  $K_{s,g_i} = h_{K_{g_i}}(Id_s)$ . Hence, given an  $Id_s$ , a guard can compute its pairwise key with any node whenever needed, without having to store any pairwise keys.

#### *Guard ID authentication*

The use of a global symmetric key  $K_0$  does not provide any authentication on the source of the message. Hence, any guard or node holding the global key can broadcast fractional keys encrypted with  $K_0$ . Though we have assumed that the global symmetric key  $K_0$  is not compromised and that network entities do not operate maliciously, in order to allow nodes to authenticate the guards within one-hop, we provide a lightweight authentication mechanism<sup>4</sup>. Our scheme is based on *efficient one-way hash chains* [61], that have also been used extensively in broadcast authentication protocols [89,91].

Each guard  $g_i$  is assigned a unique password  $PW_i$ . The password is blinded with the use of a *collision-resistant* hash function such as SHA-1 [109]. Due to the collision resistance property, it is computationally infeasible for an attacker to find a value  $PW'_i$ , such that  $H(PW_i) = H(PW'_i)$ ,  $PW_i \neq PW'_i$ . The hash sequence is generated using the following equation:

$$H^0 = PW_i, \quad H^q = H(H^{q-1}), \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

with  $n$  being a large number and  $H^0$  never revealed to any node. In addition, due to the one-way property of the hash chain, it is computationally infeasible for an adversary to derive values of the hash chain that have not been already published by the guard [61]. Each node is preloaded with a table containing the Id of each guard and the corresponding hash value  $H^n(PW_i)$ . For a network with 200 guards, we need 8 bits to represent node Ids. In addition, hash functions such as SHA-1 [109] have a 128-bit output. Hence, the storage requirement of the hash table at any node is only 3.4Kbytes. To reduce the storage needed

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<sup>4</sup>The guard authentication mechanism provides a basis for the future enhancement of the system against other type of attacks, such as the Sybil attack [32,82].

at the guard side, we employ an efficient storage/computation method for hash chains of time/storage complexity  $\mathcal{O}(\log^2(n))$  and compute any hash chain values when needed [27].

*Steps of the key establishment scheme*

**Step 1:** Initially, every guard  $g_i$  generates a random fractional key  $FK_i$ . Guards broadcast their fractional keys encrypted with the global symmetric key  $K_0$ . Every broadcast message also contains the coordinates  $(X_i, Y_i)$  of the transmitting guard, the next hash value in the hash chain that has not been published,  $H^{n-q}(PW_i)$ , and the hash chain index  $q$ . The broadcast message format is

$$\text{Guard } g_i : \{ FK_i \parallel (X_i, Y_i) \parallel H^{n-q}(PW_i) \parallel q \}_{K_0}, \quad (4.8)$$

where  $\{A\parallel B\}_K$  denotes concatenation of  $A, B$  and encryption with key  $K$ .

Every node collects the fractional keys from all the guards that it can hear and verifies that  $H(H^{n-q}(PW_i)) = H^{n-q+1}(PW_i)$ . If a node has not received some intermediate values of the hash chain due to packet loss, it can use the hash index  $q$  to re-synchronize to the current published hash value. Assume that the latest hash value of the chain of guard  $g_i$  stored by a node  $s$  is  $H^{n-z}(PW_i)$ , with  $z < q$ . Node  $s$  can re-synchronize with the hash chain of guard  $g_i$  upon receipt of the hash value  $H^{n-q}(PW_i)$  by applying  $(q - z)$  consecutive hash operations to  $H^{n-z}(PW_i)$ .

For all received messages for which the verification of the hash is correct, the node stores the fractional keys  $FK_i$ , the coordinates of each guard  $(X_i, Y_i)$ , the latest published hash values of the chain,  $H(H^{n-q}(PW_i))$ , and the hash index  $m$ . In figure 4.4(a), guards  $g_1 \sim g_5$  broadcast their fractional keys  $FK_i$  encrypted with the global broadcast key  $K_0$ . Nodes  $s_1 \sim s_7$  decrypt the message with the key  $K_0$ , and verify the authenticity of the broadcasting guards.

**Step 2:** Once the nodes have collected the fractional keys from all the guards that they hear, they broadcast a message indicating the identities of the fractional keys that they hold and a node specific threshold value, encrypted with the global symmetric

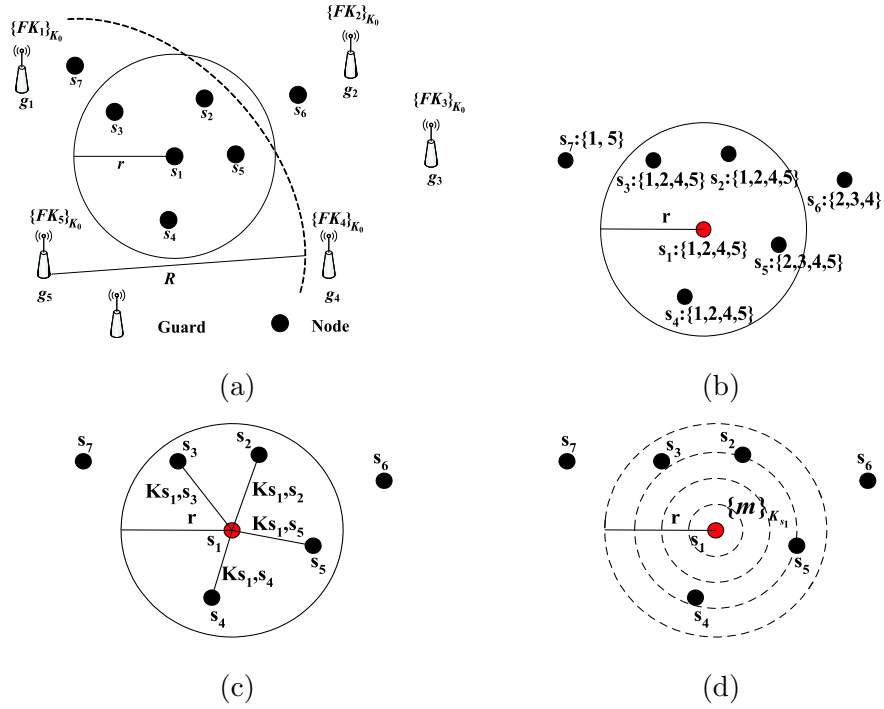


Figure 4.4: (a) Guards  $g_1 \sim g_5$  broadcast fractional keys  $FK_1 \sim FK_5$  encrypted with the global broadcast key  $K_0$ . The location of the guards and the hash chain value is also included in every broadcast. (b) Nodes announce the Id's of the fractional keys that they hold. (c) Neighbor nodes that have in common at least three fractional keys ( $th = 3$ ) establish a pairwise key. Node  $s_1$  has at least three common fractional keys with all nodes within one hop. (d) Node  $s_1$  establishes a broadcast key  $K_{s_1}$  with every one hop neighbor and uses it to broadcast a message  $m$  encrypted with  $K_{s_1}$ .

key  $K_0$ . Since every node is aware of the correspondence between the fractional keys that it has acquired and the identities of the guards that provided the fractional keys, the nodes need only broadcast the identities of the guards that they heard, in order to indicate which fractional keys they hold. The identities of the guards uniquely define the identities of the fractional keys broadcasted by those guards<sup>5</sup>.

If two neighbor nodes  $s_1, s_2$  have in common fractional keys  $\{FK_1, FK_2, \dots, FK_m\}$  with  $m$  above a threshold  $th$ , they individually generate a pairwise key,  $K_{s_1, s_2} = H(FK_1 || FK_2 ||$

<sup>5</sup>Note that two guards may individually generate the same FK, but given a guard Id, the FK is unique

$\dots \|FK_m$ ), where  $H$  is a collision-resistant hash function [61]. A node  $s_1$  can verify the claim of another node  $s_2$  about holding a specific set of keys by challenging the claimant node. If node  $s_2$  claims to hold a set of keys  $\{FK_1 \| FK_2 \| \dots \| FK_m\}$ , it should be able to generate the key  $K_{s_1, s_2}$ . To verify such a claim, the verifying node  $s_1$  first broadcasts a nonce, encrypted with the key  $K_{s_1, s_2}$  generated from the fractional keys corresponding to the guard Ids transmitted by the claimant node  $s_2$ . If the claimant node  $s_2$  indeed holds the keys  $\{FK_1 \| FK_2 \| \dots \| FK_m\}$ , it will be able to generate the same pairwise key  $K_{s_1, s_2}$ , decrypt the nonce, and reply to the verifying node.

For example, if node  $s_1$  is the verifying node and  $s_2$  is the claimant node,  $s_1$  encrypts a nonce  $\eta_1$  with  $K_{s_1, s_2}$  and challenges node  $s_2$  to reply with  $J(\eta_1)$ , where  $J(x)$  is a simple function, such as  $J(x) = x - 1$ . If node  $s_2$  were to really hold the fractional keys that it advertised, it would generate the pairwise key  $K_{s_1, s_2}$ , and hence, will be able to decrypt the nonce and reply with  $J(\eta_1)$ , encrypted with  $K_{s_1, s_2}$ . The message exchange occurring between  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  in Step 2 is

$$s_1 \rightarrow s_2 : \{\eta_1\}_{K_{s_1, s_2}} \qquad s_1 \rightarrow s_2 : \{J(\eta_1)\}_{K_{s_1, s_2}}.$$

Note that we require that the claimant node replies to the challenge  $\eta_1$  with  $J(\eta_1)$  rather than the nonce itself in order to prevent an adversary from replaying the challenge message as a valid response.

In figure 4.4(c), the threshold value is set to  $th = 3$ . Node  $s_1$  establishes a pairwise key with all its neighbors that have at least three fractional keys in common. Note that  $s_1$  does not share sufficient fractional keys with  $s_6$  and  $s_7$  in order to establish a pairwise key. Hence, even in the presence of a wormhole link between  $s_1$  and  $s_6$  or  $s_7$ , non-neighbor nodes will not be able to establish a pairwise key.

**Step 3:** After pairwise keys have been established with one-hop neighbors, node  $s_i$  randomly generates an LBK  $K_{s_i}$  and unicasts it to every neighbor, encrypted with the pairwise key  $K_{s_i, s_j}$ . Node  $s_i$  stores its LBK  $K_{s_i}$ , used for encrypting its own messages, and also stores the LBKs of all its one-hop neighbors that it shares sufficient

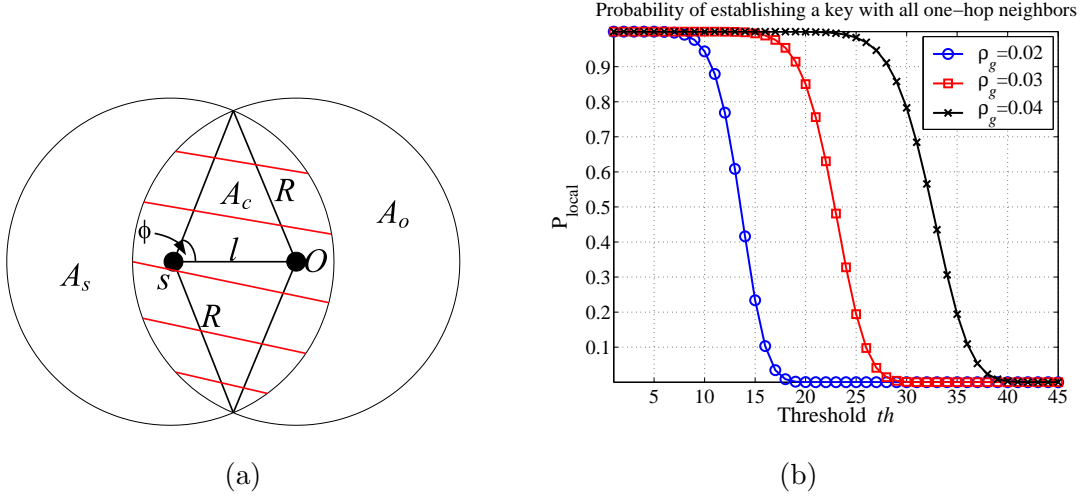


Figure 4.5: (a) Nodes  $s_1, s_2$  are within communication range ( $l \leq r$ ). All guards located in the area  $A_c$  are heard to both nodes  $s_1, s_2$ . (b) A lower bound on  $P_{local}$  for varying guard densities  $\rho_g$  and for a node density  $\rho_s = 0.5$ , when  $\frac{R}{r} = 10$ .

fractional keys with, in order to decrypt their broadcast messages. We assume that  $K_{s_i} \neq K_{s_j}, \forall s_i \neq s_j$ . In figure 4.4(d),  $s_1$  has established a LBK  $K_{s_1}$  with its neighbors  $s_1 \sim s_5$  and uses it to encrypt the transmission of message  $m$ .

Before we present our decentralized local broadcast key establishment scheme in algorithmic form, we analyze the critical problem of allowing nodes to determine the threshold value for establishing pairwise keys with their immediate neighbors.

#### 4.3.3 Setting the threshold for key establishment

In this section, we examine how the value of the threshold  $th$  affects the probability of sharing more than  $th$  fractional keys with immediate and non-immediate neighbors. We then propose mechanisms to increase the connectivity with one-hop neighbors while decreasing the probability of non-immediate neighbors to share more than  $th$  fractional keys.

*Key establishment with immediate neighbors*

Let the distance between two nodes  $s_1, s_2$  be  $l = \|s_1 - s_2\|$ , as in figure 4.5(a). Any guard  $g_i$  that lies within the shaded area  $A_c$  is heard by both nodes  $s_1, s_2$  and hence, its fractional key  $FK_i$  is received by both  $s_1, s_2$ . From figure 4.5(a), we can compute the area  $A_c$  as follows

$$\phi = \cos^{-1} \frac{l}{2R}, \quad A_c = 2R^2\phi - Rl \sin \phi. \quad (4.9)$$

If  $GH_{A_c}$  denotes the set of guards located within  $A_c$ , the probability  $P_{key}$  for two nodes that are at a distance  $l \leq r$  to establish a pairwise key is equal to the probability that more than  $th$  guards are located in  $A_c$ ,

$$P_{key} = P(|GH_{A_c}| \geq th) = 1 - P(|GH_{A_c}| < th) = 1 - \sum_{i=0}^{th-1} \left[ \frac{(\rho_g A_c)^i}{i!} e^{-\rho_g A_c} \right]. \quad (4.10)$$

From (4.10), we compute the probability  $P_{local}$  for a node to be connected to *all* the nodes within its neighborhood. Let  $P(N_s = i)$  denote the probability for a node  $s$  to have  $i$  neighbors. Since neighbors' nodes can be located at any distance  $0 \leq l \leq r$  from node  $s$ , we can derive a lower bound on  $P_{local}$  by considering the worst case where every neighbor is located at the circle of radius  $r$  centered at the node  $s$ . Assuming that every one-hop neighbor is at the boundary of the communication range yields the worst case for  $P_{local}$ , since  $A_c$  attains its minimum value for  $l = r$ , and, hence, the probability of finding  $th$  guards in  $A_c$  becomes the smallest.  $P_{local}$  is expressed as

$$P_{local} \geq \sum_{i=0}^{|S|} P(N_s = i, |GH_{A_c}| \geq th, \forall i) \quad (4.11)$$

$$\geq \sum_{i=0}^{|S|} P(N_s = i) P(|GH_{A_c}| \geq th, \forall i) \quad (4.12)$$

$$\geq \sum_{i=0}^{|S|} P(N_s = i) P_{key}^i \quad (4.13)$$

$$\geq \sum_{i=0}^{|S|} \left( \frac{(\rho_s \pi r^2)^i}{i!} e^{-\rho_s \pi r^2} \right) \left( 1 - \sum_{j=0}^{th-1} \left( \frac{(\rho_g A_c)^j}{j!} e^{-\rho_g A_c} \right) \right)^i, \quad (4.14)$$

with  $A_c$  given by (4.9) for  $l = r$ . In the computation of  $P_{local}$ , (4.12) follows from the fact that nodes are independently deployed from guards, (4.13) follows from the randomness in

the guard deployment (finding  $GH_{A_c}$  guards in an area  $A_c$  is independent on where  $A_c$  is located), and (4.14) follows from (4.10).

Given parameters  $r$ ,  $\rho_s$ , we can select the threshold  $th$  and the parameters  $R$ ,  $\rho_g$ , so that the probability  $P_{local}$  is close to unity (i.e., nodes establish pairwise keys with almost all their neighbors). In figure 4.5(b), we show the lower bound on  $P_{local}$  vs.  $th$ , for varying guard densities  $\rho_g$  and for a node density  $\rho_s = 0.5$ , when  $\frac{R}{r} = 10$ .

From (4.14), we can select the threshold  $th$  such that  $P_{local}$  is very close to unity. For example, for  $\rho_g = 0.03$ , setting the threshold to  $th \leq 15$  will allow one-hop neighbors to share more than  $th$  fractional keys with a probability very close to unity. However, if we choose a low threshold value, neighbors more than one-hop away will also have in common more than  $th$  fractional keys. Hence, an adversary can establish a wormhole link between nodes more than one-hop away. In the next section, we examine the statistics on establishing keys between non-immediate neighbors.

#### *Avoiding key establishment with non-immediate neighbors*

To satisfy the definition of LBKs, nodes more than one hop away must not have more than  $th$  fractional keys in common. In figure 4.6(a), we show the probability  $P_{key}(l)$  of two nodes to share more than  $th$  fractional keys depending on the distance  $l$  between them, as expressed by (4.10).

From figure 4.6(a), we observe that the value of the node-to-node communication range  $r$  is critical for the selection of the threshold. For example, if we set  $r = 10m$  and  $th = 5$ , two nodes within communication range ( $l < 10m$ ) establish a pairwise key with a probability almost unity. Two-hop neighbors located at a distance  $l = 2r$  from a node  $s$  have a  $P_{key} = 0.43$  to share more than  $th = 5$  fractional keys. Such a probability value is prohibitively high. In order to reduce the  $P_{key}$  for non-immediate neighbors, we examine the reasons why  $P_{key}$  is high for distances  $l > r$  and propose remedies to avoid key establishment between non-immediate neighbors.

**Problem 1:** In our analysis in Section 4.3.3, we have considered the threshold to be a global variable, the same for all deployed nodes. However, in a random deployment, not



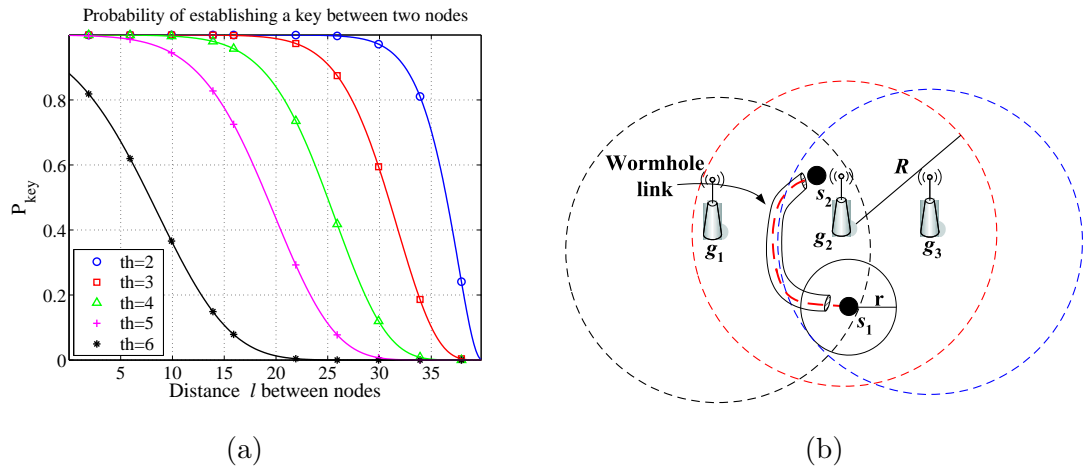


Figure 4.6: (a)  $P_{key}$  for varying threshold values when  $\rho_g = 0.03$ . (b) Nodes  $s_1, s_2$  hear guards  $g_1 \sim g_3$ . An adversary replays the fractional key Id broadcast information of  $s_1$  at point  $s_2$ , and the fractional key Id broadcast information of  $s_2$  at point  $s_1$ . If the threshold is set to  $th = 3$ , sensors  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are led to believe they are one hop away, establish a pairwise key and communicate through the wormhole link.

all nodes hear the same number of guards. Hence, for some nodes, the threshold value is too high to allow them to connect to their immediate neighbors, while for other nodes, the threshold value is too low to isolate non-immediate neighbors. To avoid the shortcomings of selecting a global threshold for all nodes, we propose each node to select its own threshold, based on number of guards heard at each node.

**Problem 2:** The use of omnidirectional antennas can increase the number of non-immediate neighbors vulnerable to the wormhole attack under the following scenario. Consider figure 4.6(b), where nodes  $s_1, s_2$  are not within communication range. Due to the omnidirectionality of the guard antennas, both  $s_1, s_2$  are able to hear the same set of guards  $\{g_1, g_2, g_3\}$  and, hence, acquire the same set of fractional keys  $\{FK_1, FK_2, FK_3\}$ . In Step 2 of our decentralized LBK establishment scheme, the two nodes broadcast the Ids of the fractional keys that they hold, indicating the guards that they hear. Since the two nodes are not within communication range, in the absence of a wormhole they would not be able to establish an LBK. However, consider an adversary mounting wormhole attack that records the fractional key Ids broadcast information of  $s_1$ , tunnels it via the wormhole link to  $s_2$ ,

and replays it. Similarly, the adversary records the fractional key Id broadcast of  $s_2$ , tunnels it at  $s_1$  and replays it. If the threshold for establishing communication is set to  $th = 3$ ,  $s_1, s_2$  will establish a pairwise key  $K_{s_1, s_2}$ , assuming that they are one hop away.

To account for the lack of direction in the distribution of the fractional keys at the expense of increased hardware complexity, guards may be equipped with  $M$  directional antennas of beamwidth  $\frac{2\pi}{M}$  each. Guards transmit different fractional keys at each antenna sector and, hence, two nodes need to hear the same antenna sectors of the same guards in order to acquire common fractional keys.

#### *Local threshold computation*

In the previous section, we argued that setting the threshold globally can prohibit some immediate neighbors from establishing pairwise keys and allow some non-immediate neighbors to share more than  $th$  fractional keys. Hence, it is preferable that each node locally computes the threshold  $th$  based on the number of guards that it hears.

Assume that a sensor  $s_1$  can hear  $|GH_{s_1}|$  guards and wants to establish a pairwise key with node  $s_2$  located at distance  $l \leq r$  from  $s_1$ , as in figure 4.5(a). The probability that  $s_1, s_2$  hear  $th$  common guards, given that  $|GH_{s_1}|$  guards are heard by  $s_1$ , is equivalent to the probability that  $th$  guards are located within  $A_c$ , given that  $|GH_{s_1}|$  of them are located within the area inside the circle of radius  $R$  centered at  $s_1$ . Due to the random guard deployment, if  $GH_{s_1}$  guards are located within a specific region, those guards are uniformly distributed [29]. Hence, if a single guard is deployed within the communication area of a node  $\pi R^2$ , the probability for that guard to be within  $A_c$  is  $p_g = \frac{A_c}{\pi R^2}$ . Since we assume random guard deployment, the event of a guard  $g_i$  being within  $A_c$  is independent of the event of guard  $g_j$  being within  $A_c$ . Hence, the probability that more than  $th$  guards are deployed within  $A_c$ , given that a total of  $|GH_{s_1}|$  are deployed within  $\pi R^2$  is,

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{key} &= P(|GH_{A_c}| \geq th \mid |GH_{s_1}| = k) \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^{k-th} \binom{k}{th+i} p_g^{th+i} (1-p_g)^{k-th-i} \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^{k-th} \binom{k}{th+i} \frac{A_c}{\pi R^2}^{th+i} \left(1 - \frac{A_c}{\pi R^2}\right)^{k-th-i}. \tag{4.15}
\end{aligned}$$

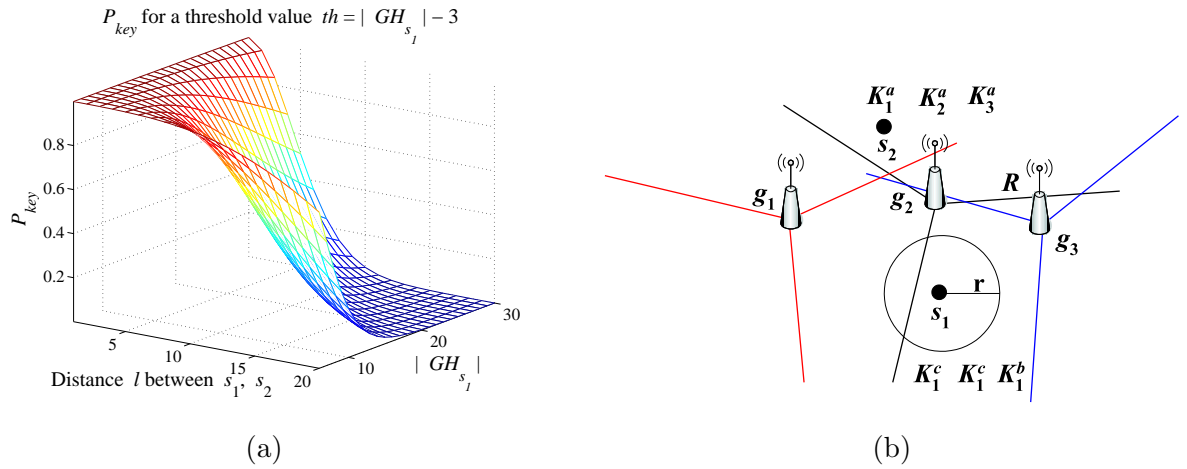


Figure 4.7: (a)  $P_{key}$  for a varying threshold value equal to  $th = |GH_{s_1}| - 3$ . (b) Use of directional antennas for the distribution of fractional keys.

Note that the binomial in (4.15) cannot be approximated by a Poisson distribution since  $k$  may not be much bigger than one and  $A_c$  has a comparable size to  $\pi R^2$ . In figure 4.7(a), we show the  $P_{key}$ , for different values of guards heard  $|GH_{s_1}|$  and different distances between  $s_1, s_2$ , when the threshold is set to  $th = |GH_{s_1}| - 3$ . The selection of  $th = |GH_{s_1}| - 3$  serves as an example to illustrate the idea of the locally computed threshold. In Section 3.8, we will provide extensive simulation studies for the selection of  $th$ .

Using (4.15), each node  $s_i$  can determine the threshold  $th_{s_i}$  individually depending on the number of guards that it hears. For example, if node  $s_i$  has a threshold of  $th_{s_i}$  and node  $s_j$  has announced that it holds at least  $th_{s_i}$  fractional keys known to  $s_i$ , node  $s_i$  will challenge  $s_j$  with a nonce  $\eta_i$  and  $s_j$  will reply with  $J(\eta_i)$  encrypted with  $K_{s_i, s_j}$ . However, node  $s_j$  may hear a different number of guards and, hence, decide upon a different threshold value  $th_{s_j}$ . In such a case,  $s_j$  will repeat the pairwise key establishment process in order to agree on an additional pairwise key with node  $s_i$ . It is also possible that  $\min(th_{s_i}, th_{s_j}) \leq |\bigcap(ID_{s_i}, ID_{s_j})| < \max(th_{s_i}, th_{s_j})$  and, hence, only unidirectional secure communication can be established between two one-hop neighbors. To establish only bi-directional links between one-hop neighbors, we can modify the pairwise key establishment condition by selecting a common threshold value  $th_{s_i, s_j}$  at both engaging nodes. To achieve maximum

network connectivity, nodes,  $s_i, s_j$  can set the common threshold value  $th_{s_i, s_j}$  equal to the minimum of the two individual thresholds,  $th_{s_i}, th_{s_j}$ . However, in such a case, the probability of establishing a wormhole with a non-immediate neighbor grows larger for the node with the higher threshold. To tradeoff connectivity for protection against wormholes, nodes  $s_i, s_j$  can set the threshold value  $th_{s_i, s_j}$  equal to the maximum of the two individual thresholds,  $th_{s_i}, th_{s_j}$ . Two nodes  $s_i, s_j$  establish a pairwise key according to the following rule

$$K_{s_i, s_j} = \begin{cases} H(FK_1, FK_2, \dots, FK_m), & \text{if } m = |\cap(ID_{s_i}, ID_{s_j})| \geq \max\{th_{s_i}, th_{s_j}\} \\ \emptyset, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (4.16)$$

The algorithm in figure 4.8 summarizes our decentralized local broadcast key establishment scheme. In the local threshold computation, each node individually determines its own threshold (a parameter directly related to the success in preventing wormholes) based on the number of guards it hears. However, during the wormhole attack, a node may hear a much higher number of guards compared to its neighbors. In such a case, the node under attack can be misled to compute a threshold value that cannot be met by any of its one-hop neighbors and, hence, be disconnected from the rest of the network. To address this problem, using our method, the node first detects if it is under wormhole attack. If a wormhole is detected, the node uses a mechanism called Closest Guard Algorithm (CGA) described in Section 4.4.3 to separate the one-hop guards from the replayed ones. Once the one-hop guards have been determined, the node selects the threshold value based on the guards that are directly heard.

#### *Key establishment using directional antennas.*

In figure 4.6(b), we showed how the omnidirectionality of the guards' antennas allows non-immediate neighbors to have more than  $th$  fractional keys in common. In order to avoid the distribution of the same fractional keys to nodes located more than one-hop away, guards may be equipped with directional antennas.

Each guard has  $M$  directional antennas with sectors being  $\frac{2\pi}{M}$  wide. At each sector, guards transmit different fractional keys. However, guards include the same hash value of the hash chain to all  $M$  messages transmitted at the different antenna sectors. The use of

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**Decentralized local broadcast key establishment scheme**

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U = {Set of guards},      S = {Set of nodes}
U : Broadcast {FKi || (Xi, Yi) || Hn-q(PWi) || q}K0.
S : Verify H(Hn-q(PWi)) = Hn-q+1(PWi), ∀ gi ∈ GHs.
S : Broadcast IDsi = {Idg1 || Idg2 || ... || IDgm || thsi}K0, where m = |GHs|.
for all si ∈ S
  for all IDsj heard by si
    if |∩(IDsi, IDsj)| ≥ thsi,sj, Generate: Ksi,sj = H(FK1 || FK2 || ... || FKm)
      si: {ηi}Ksi,sj → sj      sj: {J(ηi)}Ksi,sj → si
      if J(ηi) valid → Nsi = Nsi ∪ {sj} end if
    end if
  end for
end for
for all si ∈ S
  for all sj ∈ Nsi
    Send si: {Ksi}Ksi,sj
  end for
end for

```

---

Figure 4.8: The decentralized local broadcast key establishment scheme.

the same hash value in all sectors for every periodic transmission of fractional keys will not allow an attacker to replay a message heard at another antenna sector. If a node  $s$  hears sector  $j$  of a guard  $g_i$  and an attacker replays to  $s$  a message transmitted at sector  $k$  of  $g_i$ , node  $s$  will have already received the latest published hash value of the hash chain via the directly heard sector  $j$  and will not authenticate the replay of the sector  $k$ .

In figure 4.7(b), we show the same network as in figure 4.6(b) with each guard using three directional antennas of beamwidth  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ . Although nodes  $s_1, s_2$  hear the same guards  $g_1 \sim g_3$ , since they are located in different directions, they acquire different fractional keys. Hence,  $s_1, s_2$  do not share sufficient number of fractional keys for the establishment of a pairwise key, even if an attacker mounts a wormhole link between  $s_1, s_2$ .

*Communication cost of the decentralized key establishment scheme*

In this section, we compute the communication cost of the decentralized LBK establishment scheme in terms of number of messages that are transmitted in the whole network as well as the number of messages transmitted individually by each node. In Step 1, guards broadcast

the beacons containing the fractional keys. If  $U$  denotes the set of guards deployed in the network, the cost of Step 1 is equal to  $|U|$ , where  $|\cdot|$  denotes the cardinality of the set.

In Step 2, every node broadcasts the identities of the guards that it heard. If  $S$  denotes the set of nodes deployed in the network, the number of broadcasts is equal to  $|S|$ . Once the fractional keys have been broadcasted, each node establishes pairwise keys with all their one-hop neighbors. The challenge response scheme executed for the establishment of the pairwise keys requires the exchange of two messages with each one-hop neighbor, and every node has, on average,  $\rho_s \pi r^2$  neighbors. Hence, the communication cost of the challenge response scheme is equal to  $2|S|\rho_s \pi r^2$ .

In Step 3, every node unicasts the LBK to all its one-hop neighbors. The cost of this step is equal to  $|S|\rho_s \pi r^2$  messages. Adding the cost of all three steps yields a network-wide communication cost  $C$  for the decentralized key establishment scheme equal to

$$C = |U| + |S| + 3|S|\rho_s \pi r^2. \quad (4.17)$$

The communication cost  $C_g$  for each guard  $g$  is equal to one message per LBK establishment (guards may periodically broadcast new fractional keys to update the current LBKs or accommodate changes in the network topology). The communication cost  $C_s$  for each node  $s$  is computed as follows: each node broadcasts one message to announce the fractional keys that it holds. In addition, each node  $s$  exchanges one message with each one-hop neighbor in order to establish a pairwise key when it initiates the key establishment, and one message when the key establishment is initiated by the one-hop neighbors. Finally, each node  $s$  needs to unicast its LBK to each of its one-hop neighbors, thus the communication cost for each node is  $C_s = 3\rho_s \pi r^2 + 1$ .

Note that the network-wide communication cost  $C$  and the individual node communication cost have been calculated based on the assumption that two pairwise keys are established between one-hop neighbors. If only one key is established according to (4.16), the network-wide communication cost reduces to  $C = |U| + |S| + 2|S|\rho_s \pi r^2$ , and the individual node communication cost reduces to  $C_s = 2\rho_s \pi r^2 + 1$ .

In the case where the guards are equipped with directional antennas, they transmit a different fractional key at each antenna sector. Hence, each guard needs to transmit

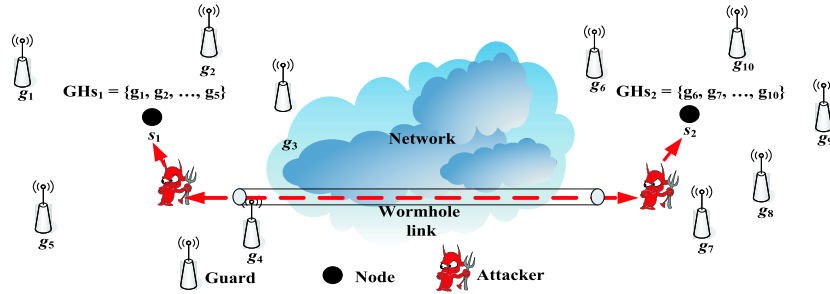


Figure 4.9: A wormhole attack scenario. Node  $s_1$  hears broadcasts from guard set  $GH_{s_1} = \{g_1, \dots, g_5\}$  and node  $s_2$  hears broadcast from guard set  $GH_{s_2} = \{g_6, \dots, g_{10}\}$ , with  $GH_{s_1} \cap GH_{s_2} = \emptyset$ . An attacker replays messages from  $GH_{s_1}$  in the vicinity of  $s_2$  and messages from  $GH_{s_2}$  in the vicinity of  $s_1$ . Nodes  $s_1, s_2$  have  $|GH_{s_1} \cup GH_{s_2}| > th$  fractional keys in common and hence establish pairwise key  $K_{s_1, s_2}$ .

$C_g = M$  messages per LBK establishment, where  $M$  denotes the number of antenna sectors at each guard. While the node communication cost  $C_s$  does not change, the network-wide communication for the case of guards equipped with directional antennas becomes  $C = M|U| + |S| + 2|S|\rho_s\pi r^2$ .

#### 4.4 Securing the Broadcast of Fractional Keys

The LBKs prevent wormhole attacks once they have been established. However, we need to ensure that an adversary does not mount a wormhole attack during the broadcasting of the fractional keys. In this section, we provide mechanisms to secure the fractional key distribution from wormholes.

##### 4.4.1 Wormhole attack against the fractional key distribution

We first show how an adversary can successfully operate a wormhole link between two nodes that are out of communication range by exploiting the fractional key distribution mechanism. Recalling that  $R(> r)$  is the range of the guard, consider figure 4.9, where an adversary establishes a bi-directional wormhole link between nodes  $s_1, s_2$ , with  $s_1, s_2$  being several hops away. In step 1 of the decentralized LBK establishment scheme, guards broadcast their fractional keys. The adversary records all messages heard by  $s_1, s_2$  and

replays the messages heard by  $s_1$  in the vicinity of node  $s_2$ , and messages heard by  $s_2$  in the vicinity of  $s_1$ . After the replay, nodes  $s_1, s_2$  have a common set of fractional keys of size  $|GH_{s_1} \cup GH_{s_2}|$ . Independent of the threshold value selected,  $s_1, s_2$  will share more than  $th$  fractional keys since they hear exactly the same sets of guards.

In step two of the LBK establishment scheme, the nodes  $s_1, s_2$  will broadcast the Ids of the fractional keys that they hold. The adversary will forward those messages to both nodes, and since  $s_1, s_2$  share more than  $th$  fractional keys, they establish a pairwise key through the wormhole link. Once the pairwise key is established, the two nodes will also share LBKs and the wormhole link will be in operation.

#### 4.4.2 Detection of the wormhole attack

We now show how a node can detect a wormhole attack during the broadcast of the fractional keys using two properties: The *single message per guard/sector* property and the *communication range constraint* property.

##### *Single message per guard/sector property*

**Lemma 4.1.** *Single message per guard/sector property: Reception of multiple copies of an identical message from the same guard is due to replay or multipath effects.*

*Proof.* Proof of Lemma 4.1 is the same as the proof of Lemma 3.1. □

Based on proposition 4.1, we can detect wormhole attacks, in case the origin point of the attack is close to the nodes under attack so that the attacker records transmissions from guards that are directly heard to the nodes under attack. Assume that guards use omnidirectional antennas for the transmission of the fractional keys. If an attacker replays a transmission of a guard  $g_i$  that is directly heard to node  $s$ , the node can detect the attack since it will have received the same fractional key through the direct link at an earlier time.

If the guards use directional antennas and the attacker replays messages from guards directly heard to the node under attack but from a different sector, the attacked node will detect that it is infeasible to hear two sectors of a single guard. Moreover, the hash values being identical for all sectors per transmission, the replay will be detected. Since the direct



signal from  $g_i$  will reach  $s$  earlier than any replay, assuming that the guard transmits in all sectors simultaneously. In addition, the node will acquire the latest published value of the hash chain of  $g_i$  through the direct link. Hence, any replay containing an already published hash value will not be authenticated. Note that in the case of directional antennas a node can hear two different sectors if it located at the boundary between two sector regions due to imperfect sectorization or due to multipath effects. We also treat imperfect sectorization as a replay attack, and a node accepts the earliest received message as the authentic one.

**Proposition 4.1.** *The detection probability  $P(SG)$  due to the single message per guard/sector property is equal to the probability that at least one guard lies within an area of size  $A_c$  and is given by*

$$P(SG) = 1 - e^{-\rho_g A_c}, \quad \text{with } A_c = 2R^2\phi - Rl \sin \phi, \quad \phi = \cos^{-1} \frac{l}{2R}, \quad (4.18)$$

with  $l$  being the distance between the origin and the destination.

*Proof.* The proof of Proposition 4.1 is the same as the proof of Proposition 3.1  $\square$

In figure 3.6(a), we show the detection probability  $P(SG)$  vs. the guard density  $\rho_g$  and the distance  $\|s - O\|$  between the origin point and the node under attack, normalized over  $R$ , for  $\frac{R}{r} = 10$ . We observe that if  $\|s - O\| \geq 2R$ , the single message per guard/sector property cannot be used to detect a wormhole attack since the disks  $A_s, A_o$  do not overlap ( $A_c = 0$ ). For distances  $\|s - O\| \geq 2R$ , a wormhole attack can be detected using the communication range constraint property detailed next.

#### *Communication range constraint property*

The set of guards  $GH_s$  heard by a node  $s$  has to satisfy the Communication Range constraint (CR). Given the coordinates of node  $s$ , all guards heard should lie within a circle of radius  $R$ , centered at  $s$ . Since node  $s$  is not aware of its location, it relies on its knowledge of the guard-to-node communication range  $R$  to verify that the set  $GH_s$  satisfies the communication range constraint.

**Proposition 4.2.** *Communication Range constraint property (CR): A node  $s$  cannot hear two guards  $g_i, g_j \in GH_s$ , that are more than  $2R$  apart, (i.e.,  $\|g_i - g_j\| \leq 2R, \forall i, j, i \neq j$ ).*

*Proof.* Any guard  $g_i \in GH_s$  heard by node  $s$ , has to lie within a circle of radius  $R$ , centered at the node  $s$  (area  $A_s$  in 3.4(a)),  $\|g_i - s\| \leq R, \forall i \in GH_s$ . Hence, there cannot be two guards within a circle of radius  $R$ , that are more than  $2R$  apart.

$$\|g_i - g_j\| = \|g_i - s + s - g_j\| \leq \|g_i - s\| + \|s - g_j\| \leq R + R = 2R. \quad (4.19)$$

□

Recall that guards include their coordinates with every transmission of fractional keys and, hence, a node  $s$  knows the location of all the guards  $g_i \in GH_s$ . Using the guards' coordinates, a node can detect a wormhole attack if the communication range constraint property is violated. We now compute the probability  $P(CR)$  of detecting a wormhole attack using the communication range constraint property.

**Proposition 4.3.** *A wormhole attack is detected using the communication range constraint property, with a probability*

$$P(CR) \geq \left(1 - e^{-\rho_g A_i^*}\right)^2, \quad \text{with } A_i^* = d\sqrt{R^2 - d^2} - R^2 \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{d\sqrt{R^2 - d^2}}{d^2 - R^2}\right), \quad (4.20)$$

$$\text{and } d = \frac{\|s - O\|}{2}.$$

*Proof.* The proof of Proposition 4.3 is the same as the proof of Proposition 3.2. □

*Detection probability  $P_{det}$  of the wormhole attack*

We now combine the two detection mechanisms, namely the single message per guard/sector property and the communication range constraint property, for computing the detection probability of a wormhole attack during the broadcast of the fractional keys.

**Proposition 4.4.** *The detection probability of a wormhole attack during the broadcast of fractional keys is lower bounded by  $P_{det} \geq (1 - e^{-\rho_g A_c}) + (1 - e^{-\rho_L A_i^*})^2 e^{-\rho_g A_c}$ .*

In figure 4.10, we show the lower bound on  $P_{det}$  vs. the guard density  $\rho_g$  and the distance  $\|s - O\|$  normalized over  $R$ . For values of  $\|s - O\| > 4R$ ,  $P_{CR} = 1$ , and, hence, a

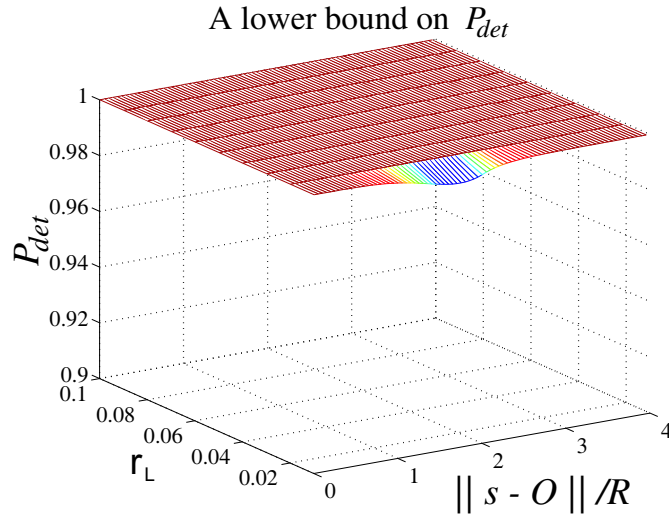


Figure 4.10: A lower bound on the wormhole detection probability  $P_{det}$ .

wormhole attack is always detected. From figure 3.6(c), we observe that a wormhole attack during the distribution of the fractional keys is detected with a probability very close to unity, independent of where the origin and destination point of the attack are located. The intuition behind (6.29) is that there is at most  $(1 - P_{det})$  probability for a specific realization of the network, to have an origin and destination point where a wormhole attack would be successful. Even if such realization occurs, the attacker has to acquire full knowledge of the network topology and, based on the geometry, locate the origin and destination point where the wormhole link can be established.

#### 4.4.3 Key establishment in the presence of wormholes

Although a wormhole can be detected using the two detection mechanisms, a node under attack cannot distinguish the valid subset of guards from the replayed ones. Once a wormhole is detected, there needs to be an additional mechanism to identify the set of guards directly heard to the node, from those replayed. We now describe the *Closest Guard Algorithm (CGA)* that resolves the guard ambiguity.

*Closest Guard Algorithm (CGA)*

Assume that a node  $s$  authenticates a set of guards  $GH'_s$ , but detects that it is under attack. To determine the valid set of guards (guards within one hop from  $s$ ), node  $s$  executes the following three-step algorithm:

**Step 1:** The node  $s$  broadcasts a message containing a Closest Guard Reply Request *CGR\_REQ* and a nonce  $\eta_s$  encrypted with the globally shared key  $K_0$ , and its  $Id_s$  concatenated at the end of the encrypted part of the message. The message format of the request transmitted by sensor  $s$  is as follows

$$\{CGR\_REQ\|\eta_s\}_{K_0}\|Id_s.$$

**Step 2:** Every guard hearing the message broadcasted from  $s$  replies with a message containing  $J(\eta_s)$ , where  $J(x)$  is a computationally efficient function, such as  $J(x) = x - 1$ , its coordinates, the next hash value of its chain that has not been published, and its  $Id_g$ . The message is encrypted using the pairwise key  $K_{s,g_i}$ , shared between the sensor  $s$  and each guard  $g_i$ . The message format broadcasted by each guard  $g_i$  hearing the sensor's request is as follows

$$\left\{ (X_i, Y_i) \| J(\eta_s) \| H^{n-k}(PW_i) \right\}_{K_{s,g_i}} \| Id_{g_i}.$$

The node identifies the guard  $g'_i$ , whose reply arrives first as the closest guard to  $s$ .

**Step 3:** Using the communication range constraint property, node  $s$  identifies the valid set of guards  $GH_s$  as all the guards that are not more than  $2R$  away<sup>6</sup> from  $g'_i$  and uses the fractional keys received from  $GH_s$  to establish pairwise keys and LBKs with its immediate neighbors. Figure 4.11 summarizes the steps of the *CGA* algorithm. Note that in order for a node  $s$  to identify its closest guard, we assume that no packet loss occurs during the execution of the *CGA*.

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<sup>6</sup>In the case where the guards are equipped with directional antennas, node  $s$  identifies the valid set of guards  $GH_s$  as all the guards whose sectors overlap with the sector of the closest guard  $g'_i$ .

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**Closest Guard Algorithm (CGA)**

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GH's : Guards heard by node s
s : broadcast {CGA_REQ||ηs}K0||Ids
forall gi ∃ ||gi - s|| ≤ r(Dg)1/γ

gi : broadcast {(Xi, Yi)||J(ηs)||Hn-k(PWi)}Ks,gi||Idgi
endfor
s : identify g'i ∈ GH's that replies first with the correct J(ηs)
s : set GHs : {gi ∈ GH's ∃ ||g'i - gi|| ≤ 2R}

```

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Figure 4.11: The pseudo-code for the Closest Guard Algorithm (CGA). A node under a wormhole attack uses the CGA to separate the valid set of guards (one-hop) from the replayed ones.

An implementation issue with the CGA algorithm involves collisions of multiple *CGA\_REQ* messages at the guards and collisions of multiple replies at the nodes. Known techniques for multiple access of the same medium, such as CSMA protocols [7] and/or CDMA mode of communication [95] can be employed to enable the use of the same medium by multiple users. To mitigate the effect of collisions at the guards, nodes may randomize the time of broadcasting the *CGA\_REQ* messages. Note that just a few nodes that are under attack need to execute the CGA algorithm, unless the adversary performs a large scale wormhole attack by deploying multiple wormhole links to attack many nodes at once.

For the case of collisions of replies originating from guards occurring at the node side, note that although a node may hear several guards, it can only bi-directionally communicate with a small fraction of the guards it hears, since regular nodes have a much smaller communication range than guards. In fact, in our deployment, bi-directional communication with only one guard is sufficient to resolve the ambiguity between the valid set of guards and the replayed one. Hence, not many guards (if more than one) will reply to the node's request. Moreover, in order to provide a valid response from the replayed set of one-hop guards, an adversary needs to (a) record the *CGA\_REQ* transmitted by the node, (b) tunnel it via the wormhole link at the origin point of the attack, (c) replay it at the origin point of the attack, (d) record the guards reply, (e) tunnel the reply via the wormhole link to the destination point of the attack, and (f) replay the guards' reply at the destination point.

However, any replies from the replayed guards will arrive at the node much later than the reply originating from the one-hop guards<sup>7</sup>. Hence, the replies provided by the attacker will not collide with the one provided by the closest guard.

In the case where no additional mechanism exists to resolve collisions, the node can engage in a challenge-response protocol with each guard within the set  $GH'_s$ , such as the one in [47]. In order to compare the distances between different guards, the node needs to be equipped with an accurate timer, so that it can measure the round-trip-time (RTT) in the challenge-response exchange. Using the RTT from the challenge-response for different guards, the node can identify the closest guard and, hence, the valid set of guards. In our present scheme, nodes are not required to be equipped with such accurate timers (that was the reason why the CGA was proposed as opposed to a method that uses timers). However, if nodes can be equipped with timers, the node can also reject any reply that has an RTT longer than  $2\frac{r(D_g)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}}{c} + \delta$ , where  $r(D_g)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}$  denotes the node-to-guard communication range,  $c$  denotes the speed of light, and  $\delta$  denotes an upper bound on the guard processing delay. Hence, the node can verify that any reply with a RTT smaller than  $2\frac{r(D_g)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}}{c} + \delta$  comes from a guard within its range and can reject those replies taking more than  $2\frac{r(D_g)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}}{c} + \delta$ .

#### 4.5 Performance Evaluation

In this section, we provide simulation studies that evaluate to what extent our method prevents the wormhole attack. For varying network parameters, we evaluate the percentage of one-hop neighbors that are able to establish a pairwise key and, hence, a local broadcast key, as a function of the threshold  $th$ . We also evaluate the percentage of non-immediate neighbors that have more than  $th$  fractional keys in common, as a function of  $th$ . Finally, we show that in the case where it is possible to establish a wormhole link, that link is no longer than two hops, and based on our simulation results, we provide the rationale to determine the appropriate threshold value to establish LBK for each network setup.

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<sup>7</sup>Note that we have assumed that the adversary does not jam the communication medium.

#### 4.5.1 Simulation setup

We generated random network topologies confined in a square area of size  $\mathcal{A}=10,000m^2$ . For each network topology we randomly placed 5,000 nodes within  $\mathcal{A}$ , equivalent to a node density of  $\rho_s = 0.5$  nodes/ $m^2$ . We then randomly placed the guards with density  $\rho_g$ , varying from 0.005 to 0.05 guards/ $m^2$ . To ensure statistical validity, we repeated each experiment for 1,000 networks and averaged the results.

Since the level of protection against wormholes depends upon the guard density  $\rho_g$ , we want to maintain a constant density across the whole network deployment area. However, if we deploy guards in the same area as the nodes of the network, nodes located at the border of the deployment area will experience a smaller guard density than nodes in the center of the area. To eliminate the border effects, we need to over-deploy guards at the borders of the deployment area or deploy guards at a slightly larger area than the area of the nodes.

To illustrate how deploying guards at a larger area can address the border effects issue, assume that nodes are to be deployed in a square of size  $\mathcal{A}= AxA$ . In order to provide the same level of security at the borders as in the inside of the deployment area, we randomly deploy guards within a square of size  $(A + R)x(A + R)$ , where  $R$  is the guard-to-node communication range. The number of guards that need to be over-deployed in order to eliminate the border effects is equal to  $G_{over} = \rho_g(R^2+2AR)$ . In our performance evaluation, we simulated the constant deployment density by deploying guards in the area  $(A+R)x(A+R)$  and nodes in the area  $AxA$ .

In addition, as described in Section 4.3.3, we allowed each node  $s$  to locally compute the threshold based on the number of guards  $|GH_s|$  that it hears. Hence, depending on  $|GH_s|$ , each node selects a different threshold value equal to  $th = |GH_s| - c$ , where  $c$  is some constant value. Our simulation graphs provide a mechanism to choose the appropriate value for the constant  $c$ , in order to maximize the probability of key establishment with one-hop neighbors, while keeping the probability of sharing more than the threshold keys with non-immediate neighbors below a desired value. In order to refer all results to a common axis, we use  $|GH_s| - th$  instead of  $th$ .

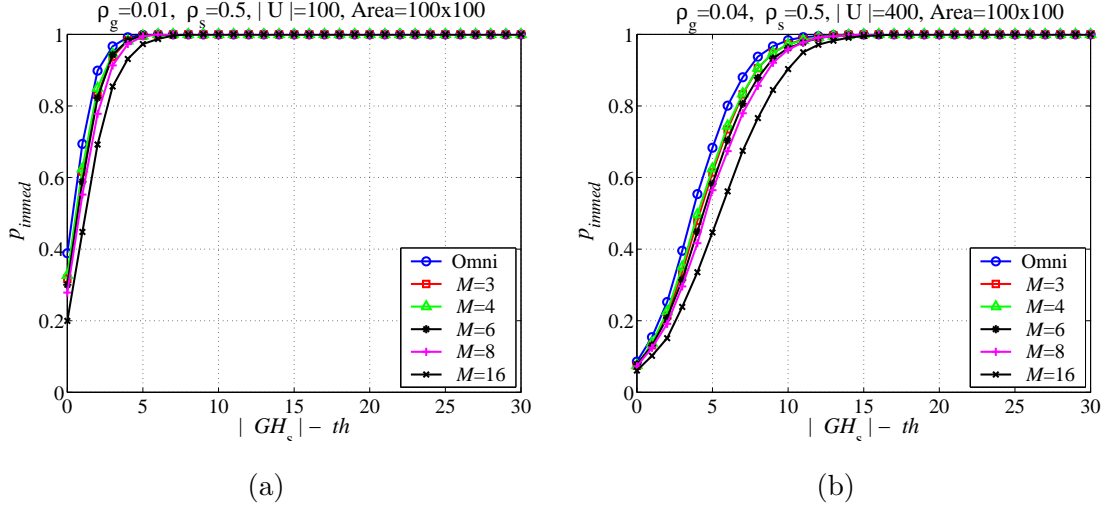


Figure 4.12: Percentage of immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys for  $r_s = 0.5$  nodes/ $m^2$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = 10,000m^2$  when, (a) different antennas are used at the guards and  $r_g = 0.01$  guards/ $m^2$ , (b) different antennas are used at the guards and  $r_g = 0.04$  guards/ $m^2$ .

#### 4.5.2 Key establishment with one-hop neighbors

In our first experiment, we evaluated the percentage of one-hop (immediate) neighbors  $p_{immed}$  that each node is able to establish a pairwise key with, as a function of the threshold  $th$ , the guard density  $\rho_g$  and the number of antenna sectors  $M$  used by the guards. In figure 4.12(a), we present  $p_{immed}$  vs.  $|GH_s| - th$ , for a guard density  $\rho_g = 0.01$  guards/ $m^2$  and for different antennas sectors. We observe that for a threshold value  $th \leq |GH_s| - 5$ , the nodes establish a pairwise key with almost all their neighbors when omnidirectional or sectored antennas with  $M = 3, 4, 6, 8$  sectors are used ( $p_{immed} > 0.99$ ). For  $M = 16$  we achieve<sup>8</sup> a  $p_{immed} > 0.99$  for threshold values smaller than  $th \leq |GH_s| - 7$ .

Note that the use of directional antennas does not significantly affect the threshold value for which nodes are able to establish pairwise keys with their immediate neighbors. This fact

<sup>8</sup>In today's technology, it may seem excessive to assume that guard nodes have 16 antennas each. However, as the frequency used for communication increases, the size of the antennas will decrease and, hence, in the near future it will be feasible to install more directional antennas in a single guard. Furthermore, the use of multiple-array patched antennas (antennas integrated on a chip) has enabled the implementation of directional antennas of very small factor. The goal of simulating such a high number of antennas at the guards is to explore the tradeoff between hardware complexity and level of security.



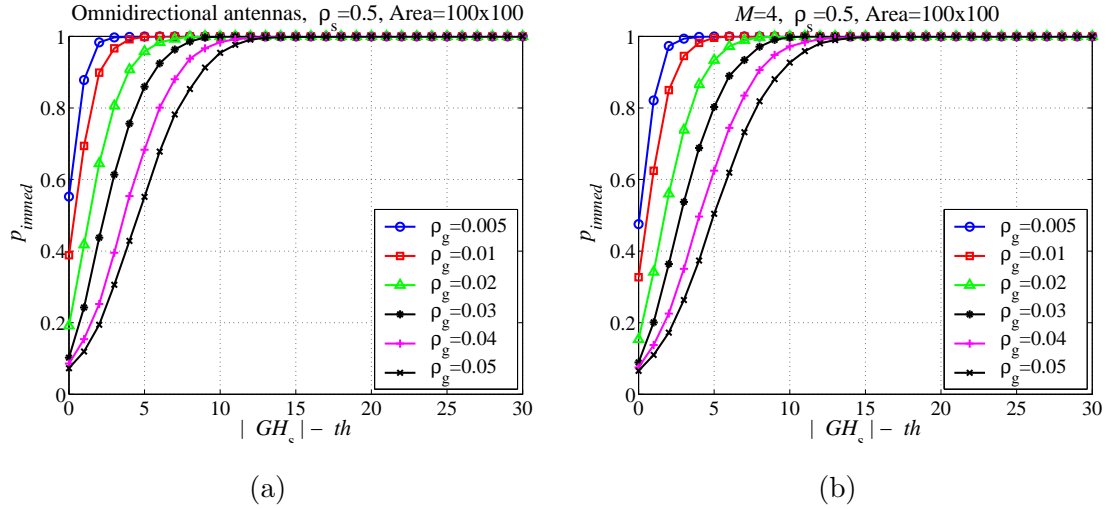


Figure 4.13: Percentage of immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys for  $r_s = 0.5$  nodes/m<sup>2</sup>,  $\mathcal{A} = 10,000$ m<sup>2</sup> when, (a) omnidirectional antennas are used at the guards and  $r_g$  varies, (b) 4-sector directional antennas are used at the guards and  $r_g$  varies.

is an indication that immediate neighbors hear the same antenna sectors and, hence, acquire the same fractional keys. However, when directional antennas are used, less neighbors more than one-hop away will share more than  $th$  fractional keys as we will show in our second experiment.

In figure 4.12(b), we present  $p_{immed}$  vs.  $|GH_s| - th$  for a higher guard density  $\rho_g = 0.04$  guards/m<sup>2</sup>. We observe that for  $\rho_g = 0.04$  guards/m<sup>2</sup> we need a threshold value  $th \leq |GH_s| - 13$  to allow all one-hop neighbors to establish pairwise keys. Since for  $\rho_g = 0.04$  guards/m<sup>2</sup> each node hears almost four times more guards than for  $\rho_g = 0.01$  guards/m<sup>2</sup>, more guards are likely to be heard only to a fraction of the local neighborhood rather than the whole. Hence, we need a threshold value significantly lower than  $GH_s$  to allow all immediate neighbors to share a sufficient number of fractional keys for establishing a pairwise key. To further reinforce this fact, in figures 4.13(a) and 4.13(b) we present  $p_{immed}$  vs.  $|GH_s| - th$ , for varying guard densities  $\rho_g$ , and for omnidirectional and 4-sector directional antennas, respectively. We observe that from  $\rho_g = 0.005$  guards/m<sup>2</sup> to  $\rho_g = 0.05$  guards/m<sup>2</sup> we need to increase the  $|GH_s| - th$  by 10 in order to achieve the same  $p_{immed}$ .

In figures 4.14(a) and 4.14(b), we present  $p_{immed}$  vs.  $|GH_s| - th$  for varying guard-to-

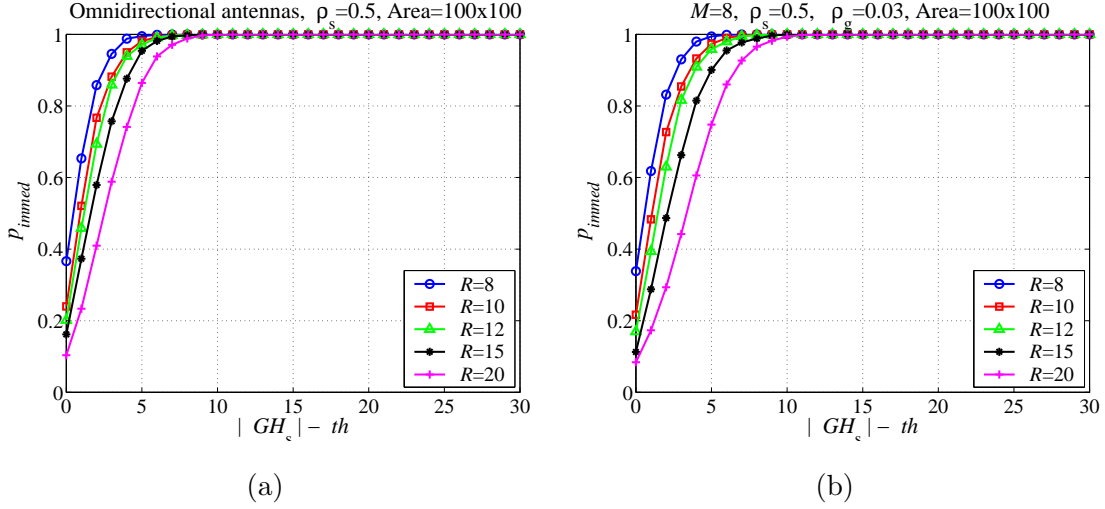


Figure 4.14: Percentage of immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys for  $r_s = 0.5$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = 10,000$  when, (a) Omnidirectional antennas are used at the guards,  $r_g = 0.03$ , and  $R$  varies, (b) 8-sector antennas are used at the guards,  $r_g = 0.03$ , and  $R$  varies.

node communication ranges  $R$ , for omnidirectional and eight-sector directional antennas, respectively. We observe that as the communication range  $R$  increases we need a higher difference  $|GH_s| - th$  in order to achieve the same  $p_{immed}$ . This is due to the fact that as  $R$  increases, each node is able to hear more guards (same effect as increasing the guard density  $\rho_g$ ). Hence, out of the bigger set of possible guards heard, more guards are heard only to a fraction of the local neighborhood, and a lower threshold value relative to  $|GH_s|$  is needed to allow all immediate neighbors to share more than  $th$  fractional keys.

#### 4.5.3 Isolation of non-immediate neighbors

In order to prevent wormhole attacks, we must ensure that non-immediate neighbors remain isolated by not being able to establish a pairwise key. In our second experiment, we evaluated the percentage of non-immediate neighbors  $p_{non-im}$  that share more than  $th$  fractional keys as a function of  $th$ , for different guard densities  $\rho_g$  and number of antenna sectors  $M$ . For each node, we took into account in the percentage calculation only those neighbors that heard at least one common guard with the node under consideration.

In figure 4.15(a), we show  $p_{non-im}$  vs.  $|GH_s| - th$  in a logarithmic scale for a guard

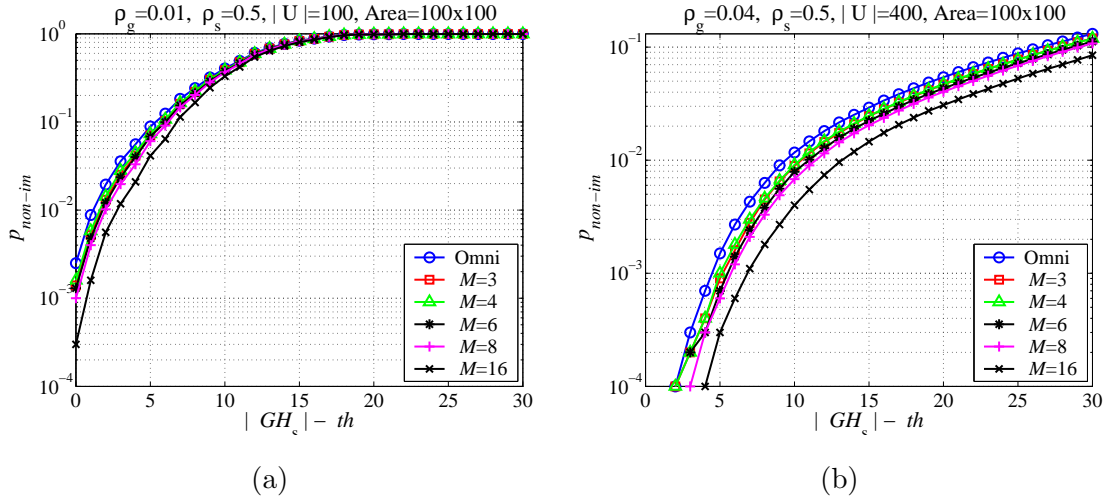


Figure 4.15: Percentage of non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys for  $r_s = 0.5$  nodes/ $m^2$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = 10,000m^2$  when (a) different antennas are used at the guards and  $r_g = 0.01$  guards/ $m^2$ , (b) different antennas are used at the guards and  $r_g = 0.04$  guards  $m^2$ .

density of  $\rho_g = 0.01$  guards/ $m^2$ . From figure 4.15(a), we observe that the use of directional antennas can drop the  $p_{non-im}$  up to half compared to the omnidirectional antennas case, at the expense of hardware complexity at the guards. For example, for a threshold value  $th = |GH_s| - 3$ ,  $p_{non-im} = 0.0358, 0.0280, 0.0252, 0.0236, 0.0197, 0.0118$  for  $M = 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 16$  antenna sectors, respectively. In figure 4.15(b), we present  $p_{non-im}$  vs.  $|GH_s| - th$  for a guard density  $\rho_g = 0.04$  guards/ $m^2$ . We observe that for a higher guard density we are able to further limit the number of non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys. For example, when  $th = |GH_s| - 10$ ,  $p_{non-im} = 0.0117, 0.091, 0.089, 0.0079, 0.0068, 0.004$  for  $M = 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 16$  antenna sectors, respectively.

In figures 4.16(a), (b) we present  $p_{non-im}$  vs.  $|GH_s| - th$  for varying guard densities and show how we achieve higher isolation of non-immediate neighbors with the increase of  $\rho_g$ . In figure 4.17(a), we present  $p_{non-im}$  for different guard-to-node communication ranges  $R$  and show how we achieve higher isolation of non-immediate neighbors with the increase of  $R$ . As expected, a higher guard density  $\rho_g$  and a higher  $R$  achieve better non-immediate neighbor isolation for all values of the threshold  $th$ , since for both cases the set of guards

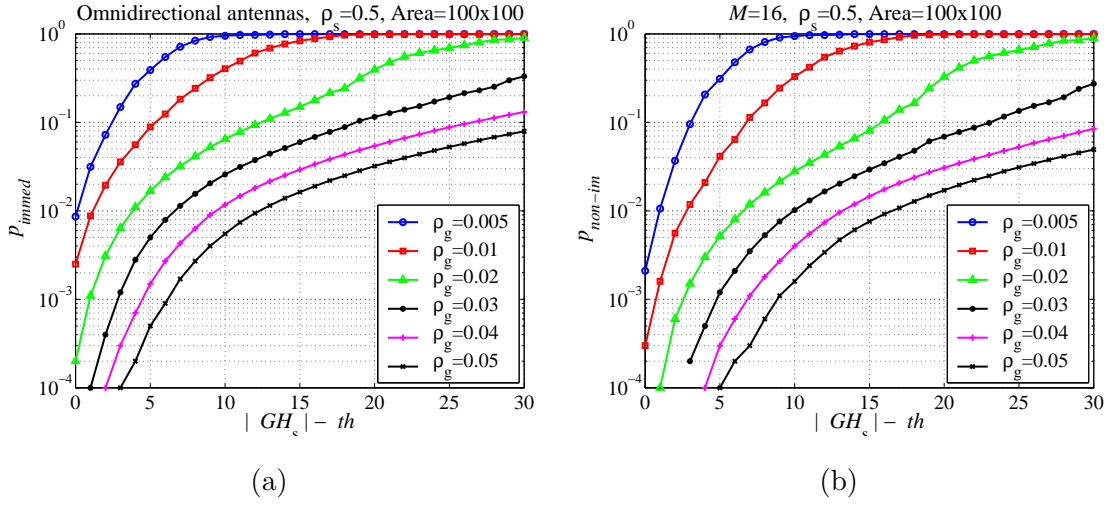


Figure 4.16: Percentage of non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys for  $r_s = 0.5$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = 10,000$  when, (a) Omnidirectional antennas are used at the guards and  $r_g$  varies, (b) 16-sector directional antennas are used at the guards and  $r_g$  varies.

heard at each node becomes bigger and more guards are only heard to a fraction of the non-immediate neighbors.

#### 4.5.4 Length of a potential wormhole link

Our simulation results confirmed that by choosing appropriate network parameters, namely guard-to-node communication range  $R$ , guard density  $\rho_g$ , and number of directional antennas  $M$ , we can eliminate wormhole links with a very high probability. An adversary would have to gain a global view of the network topology by knowing all the locations of the nodes and the guards in order to identify, if any, a potential origin and destination point to launch its attack. In this section, we show that even in the case where that adversary does identify two points to launch his attack, the length of the wormhole link established is not longer than two hops. In fact, any non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys are located just outside the perimeter that defines their node-to-node communication range  $r$ .

In figure 4.17(b), we show the average distance normalized over  $r$ , between non-immediate neighbors that have in common more than  $th$  fractional keys. We observe that for thresh-

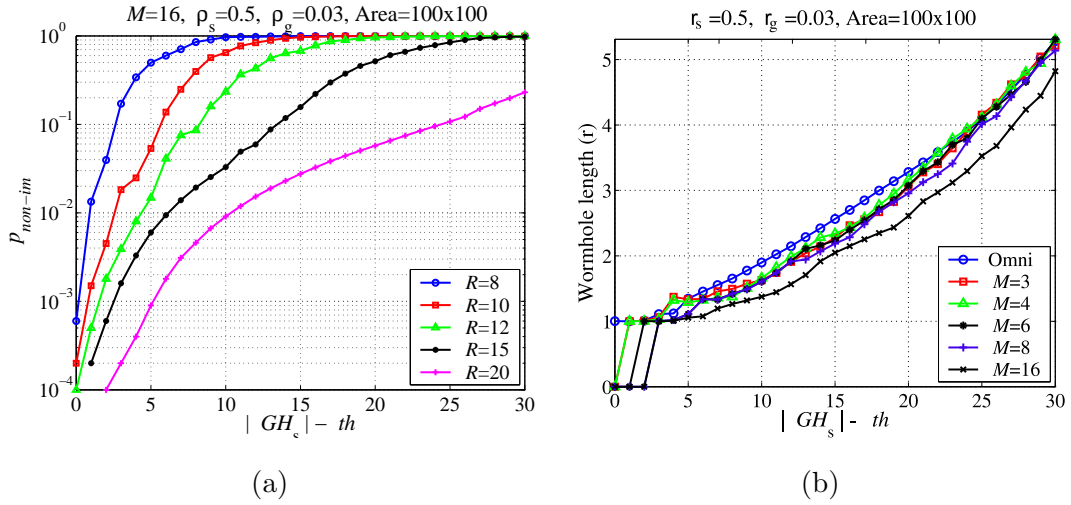


Figure 4.17: Percentage of non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys for  $r_s = 0.5$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = 10,000$  when, (a) 16-sector directional antennas are used at the guards,  $r_g = 0.03$ , and  $R$  varies. (b) Average distance in number of hops between non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys.

old values lower than  $th \leq |GH_s| - 10$ , all non-immediate neighbors that share sufficient fractional keys are no more than two hops away, regardless of the number of directional antennas used at the guards. As the threshold increases towards its maximum value  $|GH_s|$ , the length of any potential wormhole link becomes smaller. For example, by examining figures 4.15(b) and 4.17(b), for 16-sector directional antennas and  $th = |GH_s| - 5$ , an attacker has a  $p_{non-im} = 0.0004$  probability to establish a wormhole link between two non-immediate neighbors and that the link is  $1.05r$  long.

The worst case result of our approach allows the establishment of two-hop wormhole links with a very small probability. Those wormhole links can be a disruption for the nodes around the destination point. However, the impact of such wormholes is localized in the two-hop neighborhood around the destination point of the wormhole attack and does not affect the whole network. To illustrate this, consider a wormhole attack against a distance vector-based routing protocol as shown in figure 4.1(a) of Section 4.1. If a wormhole link is established between nodes  $s_3$  and  $s_4$ , no traffic will be affected except for the messages directed from  $s_3$  to  $s_4$ . On the other hand, if a wormhole link is established between nodes  $s_6$

and  $s_9$ , all traffic that is passing through the vertex cut between  $s_6$  and  $s_9$  will be controlled by the attacker. While in our simple example the minimum cut between nodes  $s_1 \sim s_7$  and  $s_9 \sim s_{13}$  consists of only one edge, in real network deployment scenarios the minimum cut is expected to have a much bigger size, due to the high network density and size<sup>9</sup>.

Another possible effect of a short wormhole is to disrupt the communication of certain *key nodes* of the network. As previously noted in the paper, a two-hop wormhole can force a single node to route through the wormhole link and give the attacker the advantage to control the traffic flow from/to that node. Our scheme does not prevent this type of attack. However, we anticipate that the operation of ad hoc networks that are envisioned to operate in a decentralized manner will not be dependent upon the existence of a single or a small number of “key nodes” that can be easily targeted by an attacker. Instead, the network operation will depend on the cooperation principle of an abundance of densely deployed devices with similar capabilities. If the network operation relies on the existence of few key nodes, the adversary can significantly disrupt the network by launching a variety of attacks, such as DoS attacks, since a key node is a single point of failure.

Finally, as an example, short wormholes are not a major network disruption in majority-based event-driven applications such as the one described in the figure 4.2 of Section 4.1. Revisiting the example of temperature monitoring, a clusterhead triggers an alarm if the majority of one-hop neighbors reports a temperature measurement greater than a threshold. In the case of a short wormhole, one can anticipate that nodes located within a two-hop range from the clusterhead will not have significantly different temperature readings compared to the nodes within the one-hop range. Furthermore, the number of nodes located within the ring between the circles of radius  $r$  and  $1.05r$  centered at the clusterhead is significantly smaller compared to the number of nodes located within the disk of radius  $r$  centered at the clusterhead ( $[\rho_s \pi (1.05r^2 - r^2)] = 0.0625 \rho_s \pi r^2$ ) and, hence, even if the measurements of the two-hop nodes are greater than the threshold, they cannot overcome the majority of the measurements originating from nodes within the communication range  $r$ . As an example,

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<sup>9</sup>Having a minimum cut of very few edges leaves the network vulnerable to many types of attacks such as DoS attacks, and node capture attacks, since it allows the adversary to concentrate its attack on a very small part of the network.

if  $r = 10m$  and  $\rho_s = 0.05$  nodes/ $m^2$ , then there are 15.7 nodes on average within one hop from the clusterhead, while only 1.6 nodes on average exist between  $r$  and  $1.05r$  from the clusterhead.

#### 4.5.5 Determining the threshold value

For different system parameters, combining the plots for immediate and non-immediate neighbors, we can determine what is the appropriate threshold value to achieve both isolation of non-immediate neighbors, and allow one-hop neighbors to establish pairwise keys. For example, when  $\rho_g = 0.01$  guards/ $m^2$ , from figures 4.12(a) and 4.15(a), a threshold of  $th = |GH_s| - 4$  isolates 97.91% of the non-immediate neighbors, while allowing 93.13% of one-hop neighbors to establish pairwise keys, when  $M = 16$ . From figures 4.12(b) and 4.15(b), a threshold of  $th = |GH_s| - 14$  isolates 99.996% of the non-immediate neighbors, while allowing 98.64% of the immediate neighbors to establish pairwise keys for  $M = 16$ .

Depending on the hardware complexity constraints at the guards (transmission power and number of directional antennas) and the security requirements, we can select the appropriate threshold value  $th$  to achieve the maximum connectivity to immediate neighbors. For example, if due to hardware complexity constraints only omnidirectional antennas can be used and the required non-immediate neighbor isolation is above 99%, one can achieve a  $p_{immed} = 0.64$  for  $\rho_g = 0.01$  when  $th = |GH_s| - 2$  (see figures 4.12(a) and 4.15(a)). By increasing the guard density to  $\rho_g = 0.04$  guards/ $m^2$  for the same constraints, we can achieve a  $P_{immed} = 0.90$  (see figures 4.12(b) and 4.15(b)). Hence, for any hardware constraint and security requirement, we can select the threshold value  $th$  and the network parameters,  $\rho_g$ ,  $R$ , so that we maximize  $p_{immed}$ , while keeping  $p_{non-im}$  below a specific value.

#### 4.5.6 Re-evaluating the system behavior under irregular radio pattern

In our simulation study up to Section 4.5.5 we have considered an idealized model for the communication range of both the guards and the nodes of the network. Every guard has the same communication range  $R$  and every node has the same communication range  $r$ . In this section, we study how the security parameters, namely the probability of establishing a

pairwise key with a one-hop neighbor  $p_{immed}$ , the probability of sharing more than  $th$  fractional keys with a non-immediate neighbor  $p_{non-im}$ , and the length of a potential wormhole link vary, when the communication range  $R$  varies at each direction.

To simulate the variation of the communication range of each guard, we considered three different experiments. In the first experiment, each guard is equipped with an omnidirectional antenna, and for each possible direction it has a communication range  $R'$  that is randomly selected between the values of  $[(1-f)R, (1+f)R]$ , where  $f$  denotes the fraction of variation of the communication range<sup>10</sup>. We assigned to  $f$  the values  $f : \{0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5\}$ . During this experiment, nodes could directly communicate with guards outside the nominal communication range  $R$ , on average, every guard heard the same number of guards  $|GH_s|$  as in the case where the communication range  $R$  did not vary. Hence, the probability of establishing a pairwise key with a one-hop neighbor  $p_{immed}$ , the probability of sharing more than  $th$  fractional keys with a non-immediate neighbor  $p_{non-im}$ , and the length of a potential wormhole link did not show any variation.

In the second experiment, we biased the communication range of each guard to have smaller values than the nominal communication range  $R$ . Specifically, we assigned to each guard a communication range value randomly selected between the values of  $[(1-f)R, R]$ . Hence, each node would hear, on average, a smaller number of guards compared to the case where the guard communication range was equal to  $R$  for all guards. In figure 4.18(a), we show the  $p_{immed}$  vs. the  $|GH_s| - th$  for varying values of  $f$ . We observe that the probability of establishing a pairwise key with the one-hop neighbor does not vary significantly with the variation of  $R$ . This is due to the fact that the threshold is locally decided at each node and, hence, the parameter that affects the  $P_{immed}$  is the threshold relative to  $|GH_s|$  and not the absolute value of  $GH_s$ . Furthermore, as we observe in figure 4.17(a), varying the value of  $R$  does not have a significant impact on  $p_{immed}$ .

In figure 4.18(b), we show the probability for two non-immediate neighbors to share more fractional keys than the threshold, vs.  $|GH_s| - th$  for varying values of  $f$ . We observe that as  $f$  increases, the curves for the  $P_{non-im}$  are shifted to the left of the graph. This is essentially

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<sup>10</sup>A similar radio model was used for the evaluating the performance of the localization scheme in [44].



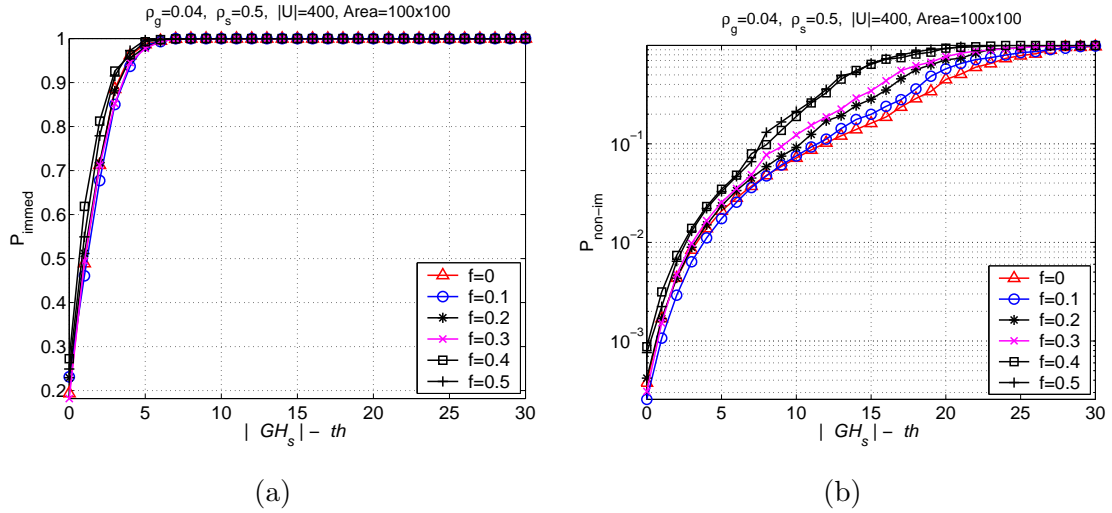


Figure 4.18: Network parameter values:  $r_s = 0.5$  nodes/ $m^2$ ,  $\rho_g = 0.04$  guards/ $m^2$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = 10,000m^2$ . (a) Percentage of immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys when  $R' \in [(1-f)R, R]$ . (b) Percentage of non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys when  $R' \in [(1-f)R, R]$ .

the same result as if we were decreasing the density of the guards (i.e., each node would hear a smaller number of guards (see figure 4.16(a))). In figure 4.19(a), we show the average distance normalized over  $r$  between non-immediate neighbors that have in common more than  $th$  fractional keys. We observe that for threshold values lower than  $th \leq |GH_s| - 10$ , all non-immediate neighbors that share sufficient fractional keys are no more than two hops away, for any value of the fraction  $f$ . We also note that when the communication range of the guards is smaller than the nominal range  $R$ , the average wormhole length increases (the curves of the wormhole length are shifted to the left). This is due to the fact that as the fraction  $f$  increases, each node hears, on average, a smaller number of guards. Hence, it is more probable that two nodes not within communication range have in common a smaller number of fractional keys.

In the third experiment, we biased the communication range of each guard to have higher values than the nominal communication range  $R$ . Specifically, we assigned to each guard a communication range value randomly selected between the values of  $[R, (1+f)R]$ . Hence, each node would hear, on average, a higher number of guards compared to the case where

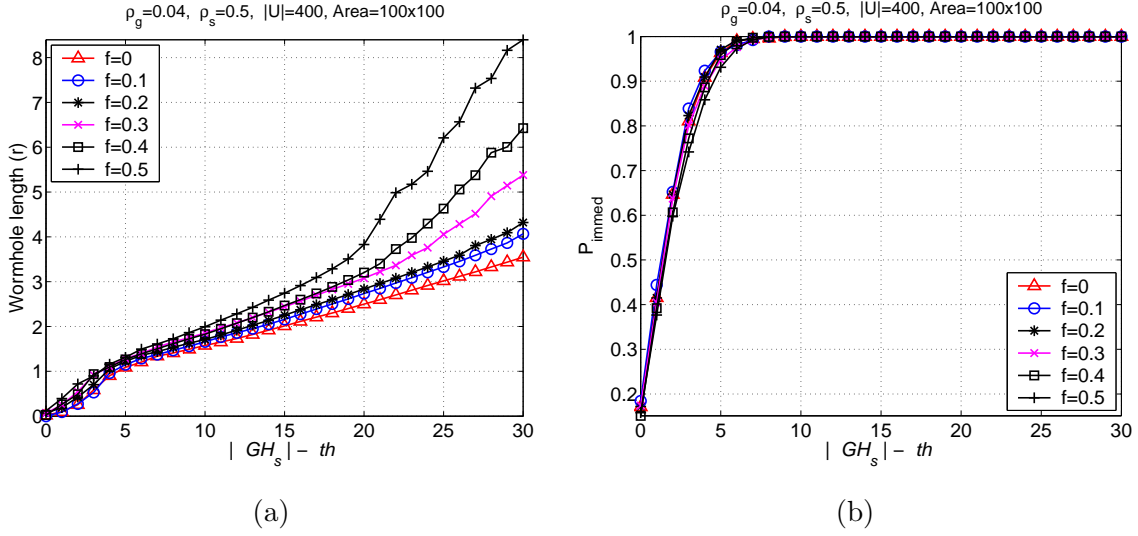


Figure 4.19: Network parameter values:  $r_s = 0.5$  nodes/ $m^2$ ,  $\rho_g = 0.04$  guards/ $m^2$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = 10,000m^2$ . (a) Average distance in number of hops between non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys when  $R' \in [(1-f)R, R]$ . (b) Percentage of immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys when  $R' \in [R, (1+f)R]$ .

the guard communication range was equal to  $R$  for all guards. In figure 4.19(b), we show the  $P_{immed}$  vs. the  $|GH_s| - th$  for varying values of  $f$ . Again, the probability of establishing a pairwise key with the one-hop neighbor does not vary significantly with the variation of  $R$ . This result is consistent with the graph of figure 4.13(a), where the variation of  $R$  does not have a significant impact on  $P_{immed}$ .

In figure 4.20(a), we show the probability for two non-immediate neighbors to share more fractional keys than the threshold vs.  $|GH_s| - th$  for varying values of  $f$ . We observe that as  $f$  increases, the curves for the  $P_{non-im}$  are shifted to the right of the graph. This is essentially the same result as if we were increasing the density of the guards, (i.e., each node would hear a higher number of guards (see figure 4.16(a))). In figure 4.20(b), we show the average distance normalized over  $r$  between non-immediate neighbors that have in common more than  $th$  fractional keys. We observe that for threshold values lower than  $th \leq |GH_s| - 10$ , all non-immediate neighbors that share sufficient fractional keys are no more than two hops away, for any value of the fraction  $f$ . We also note that when the communication range variation is biased towards a higher value than the nominal communication range  $R$ , the average wormhole length decreases (the curves of the wormhole length are shifted

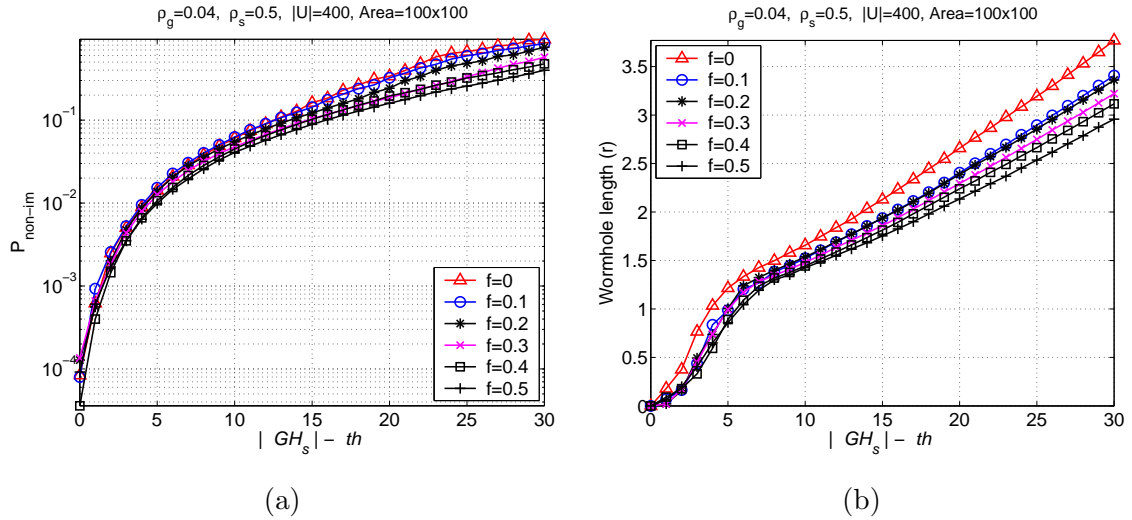


Figure 4.20: Network parameter values:  $r_s = 0.5$  nodes/ $m^2$ ,  $\rho_g = 0.04$  guards/ $m^2$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = 10,000m^2$ . (a) Percentage of non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys when  $R' \in [R, (1+f)R]$ . (b) Average distance in number of hops between non-immediate neighbors that share more than  $th$  fractional keys when  $R' \in [R, (1+f)R]$ .

to the left). This is due to the fact that as the fraction  $f$  increases, each node hears, on average, a higher number of guards. Hence, it is less probable that two nodes not within communication range have in common a higher number of fractional keys.

As a conclusion, based on our simulation results, we showed that our system can adapt to the variation of the communication range at the guards, since the threshold value is decided based on the number of guards heard at each node  $|GH_s|$ . While the variation of the communication range  $R$  affects the absolute value of  $GH_s$ , each node locally adapts its threshold to account for the variation.

## 4.6 Related Work

### 4.6.1 Previously proposed mechanisms for preventing the wormhole attack.

The wormhole attack in wireless ad-hoc networks was first introduced in [48, 85]. In [48], Hu et al. propose two solutions for the wormhole attack. The first is based upon the notion of geographical leashes. Each node includes in every packet its location  $l_i$  and a timestamp

indicating the time  $t_s$  the packet is sent. Since nodes are loosely synchronized, when a node with location  $l_j$  receives a packet at time  $t_p$ , it verifies the packet could have traveled the distance  $\|l_i - l_j\| + \delta$  in a time  $t_p - t_s + \Delta$ , where  $\delta$  is the location error and  $\Delta$  is the synchronization error.

The second solution in [48] is based on temporal leashes. To implement a temporal leash, the sender includes in every packet a timestamp  $t_s$  indicating the time  $t_s$  the packet is sent and an expiration time  $t_e$ . A node that receives a packet at time  $t_r$  verifies that  $t_r < t_e$  before it accepts the packet. Temporal packet leashes require tight synchronization between all nodes of the network. To illustrate the importance of the synchronization error if the sender's time is  $\Delta$  time units ahead of the receiver's time, a packet can travel a distance up to  $\Delta * c$  ( $c = 3 \times 10^8$  m/sec) longer than the distance imposed by the expiration time  $t_e$ . Similarly if the sender's time is  $\Delta$  units behind the receiver's time, the receiver has to lie within a distance  $\Delta * c$  closer to the sender, compared to the distance imposed by  $t_e$ . Hence, the synchronization error should be in the order of nanoseconds for the synchronization error to be negligible.

In [47], Hu et al. provide a bounding distance protocol based on [14] that utilizes a three-way handshake scheme to ensure that the communicating parties are within some distance. The sender sends a challenge to a receiver, who replies immediately with a response. The sender acknowledges the response by another response to complete the three-way handshake. Both parties verify that they lie within some distance by multiplying the round-trip time of flight with the speed of light. Though this protocol does not require the two nodes to be synchronized in order for the protocol to be executed, each node needs to have immediate access to the radio transmitter in order to bypass any queuing and processing delays. In addition, nodes should be equipped with highly accurate clocks with nanosecond precision to avoid distance enlargement.

In [127], Zhu et al. propose a cryptographic solution as a defense mechanism against the wormhole. Based on pre-loaded keys, nodes are able to derive a pairwise key with any other node without the need for any information exchange. Following a neighbor discovery phase, nodes unicast to every neighbor a cluster key encrypted with the previously derived pairwise key. While the network is secured against the wormhole attack once pairwise keys

have been established, the authors of [127] point out that the network is still vulnerable to wormholes during the neighbor discovery phase. If an attacker tunnels and replays the *HELLO* messages between two nodes that are not one hop neighbors, the two nodes will assume that they are one-hop away and establish a cluster key.

A centralized solution for detecting wormhole links, based on multidimensional scaling (MDS), is presented by Wang and Bhargava [124]. Using received signal strength measurements, every node estimates its distance to all its neighbors and reports its distance estimates to a powerful base station. The base station applies MDS to generate a visualization of the network topology. In addition, a smoothing surface operation mitigates the effects of the error in the distance estimation. In a wormhole-free network, the reconstructed topology will correspond to a flat surface. However, in the presence of wormholes, the surface is bent in a circular pattern in order for the two nodes communicating via the wormhole to appear connected. The main limitation of this method is that it requires a relatively dense and uniformly distributed network to detect the wormhole links. Such a visualization cannot be applied to networks with irregular shapes, such as a string topology (nodes connected in one line) or networks with string parts. In addition, based on the simulation results in [124], while the method detects long wormholes (several hops long), smaller wormholes (two to three hops long) can stay undetected with a significantly high probability.

In [46], Hu and Evans utilize directional antennas to prevent wormhole links. Unlike our method, every node of the network is equipped with directional antennas and all antennas should have the same orientation. Different directions called zones are sequentially numbered and every node includes the transmitting zone at each message. A receiver hearing information at a zone  $A$  verifies that the sender transmitted the message at the correct zone  $B$ , where  $A, B$  are opposite zones. Based on information provided by neighbors that assist the wormhole detection by acting as verifiers, every node discovers its neighbors. As pointed out by the authors of [46], a valid verifier must exist in order for the wormhole to be detected, since not all neighbors can act as verifiers. Finally, as noted by the authors of [46], this method can only prevent single wormholes and does not secure the network against multiple wormhole links [46].

#### 4.6.2 Interpretation of related work based on our framework

In this section, we show that previously proposed defense mechanisms against the wormhole attack satisfy the graph theoretic model we presented in section 4.1.

##### *Time-based methods*

In time-based methods [48], every transmitted message has a limited lifetime, less or equal to the communication range  $r$  of the nodes divided by the speed light. Hence, messages cannot travel distances longer than the communication range, and links are only established between direct neighbors. For any two synchronized neighbors  $i, j$ , node  $i$  accepts a message transmitted at time  $T_s$  from node  $j$  if it is received at a time  $T_r < T_s + \frac{r}{c}$ , where  $c$  is the speed of light. Hence,  $e_{i,j} = 1$  if and only if  $\|i - j\| \leq r$ , a condition that satisfies the geometric graph model in (4.1). Note that as a requirement, time-based methods have to use the fastest available medium (RF or optical transmission) in order to prevent the wormhole attack.

In an alternative time-based method [14, 19, 47], nodes measure the time of flight of a challenge-response message before communicating with another node. By limiting the time of flight to twice the communication range over the speed of light, nodes ensure that they establish a link only with their direct neighbors. Hence, time of flight methods also satisfy the geometric graph model in (4.1).

##### *Location-based methods*

In location-based methods [48], every message contains the coordinates of its origin. Hence, any receiving node can infer its distance from the origin of the message and compare it to the communication range  $r$ . If  $\|i - j\| \leq r$ , the message is accepted, otherwise the message is rejected. Hence, a link between two nodes  $i, j$  can be established  $e_{i,j} = 1$  if and only if  $\|i - j\| \leq r$ , a condition that satisfies the geometric graph model.

### *Wormhole visualization*

In the wormhole visualization method [124], the base station executing the Multidimensional Scaling (MDS) algorithm constructs the logical graph  $\tilde{G}$  of the network based on the distance estimations of each node of the network. By visualizing wormholes as links that will cause the flat network area to curve in a circular way and eliminating surface anomalies, the base station applies a transformation to  $\tilde{G}$  that reconstructs the corresponding geometric graph  $G$ .

### **4.7 Discussion**

In our wormhole attack model in Section 4.1.1, we have assumed that the adversary mounting the attack does not compromise the integrity and authenticity of the communication. Hence, the success of the attack is independent of the cryptographic methods used to secure the communication. The strength of the wormhole attack lies in the fact that the adversary does not need to compromise any cryptographic quantities or network nodes in order to perform the attack in a timely manner. The lack of any compromised entities makes the wormhole attack “invisible” to the upper layers and, hence, the attack is very difficult to detect [48]. Furthermore, the attacker does not need to allocate any computational resources to compromise the communication, thus making the wormhole attack very easy to implement.

Our most compelling argument for assuming no key or host compromise in a wormhole attack scenario is that, if the adversary were to be able to compromise cryptographic keys, there would be no need to record messages at one part of the network, tunnel them via a low-latency link, and replay them to some other part of the network. Instead, the adversary could use the compromised keys to fabricate any message and inject it into the network as legitimate. Using compromised keys to fabricate and inject bogus messages into the network, known as the Sybil attack [32, 82], is overall a different problem than the one addressed in this chapter.

Since the wormhole attacker does not need to compromise the network communications, we have used a globally shared symmetric key for the protection of the beacon broadcasts

from the guards in order to achieve energy-efficient communications (utilize the broadcast advantage of the wireless medium in omnidirectional transmissions). We are indeed aware that a compromise of a single node exposes the globally shared key and allows access to the contents of the guards broadcasts. However, alternative methods for concealing and authenticating the broadcasts of the guards come at the expense of energy-efficiency. Asymmetric key cryptography is known to be computationally expensive for the energy-constrained devices [21]. On the other hand, using pairwise keys shared between the guards and the nodes would provide a higher level of security under key compromise, since only the communication of the node holding the pairwise key is exposed. However, the use of pairwise keys requires the fractional keys to be unicasted from each guard to each node within the communication range, thus making the use of the wireless medium highly inefficient in energy resources.

Furthermore, under key and/or node compromise the wormhole problem essentially becomes a node impersonation (Sybil attack) problem and, hence, cannot be prevented by any of the methods that address the wormhole attack. To illustrate this, consider the case where two nodes not within range have been compromised and that an attacker has deployed a wormhole link between the two nodes<sup>11</sup>. In such a case, the attacker can implement the wormhole attack via the compromised nodes by recording the information at the origin point, decrypting it and modifying necessary quantities to make the message look legitimate, re-encrypting the message, and tunneling it to the destination point. To prevent this type of attack, additional verifiable information needs to be available, such as verifiable geographical positions for each node or protection against impersonation attacks [82]. In this paper, we have not assumed that such information is available.

Similarly, other schemes that have been proposed for preventing the wormhole attack [46, 48, 124, 127] cannot eliminate wormholes under key/node compromise. We now show for each of the methods in [46, 48, 124, 127] which step is vulnerable to wormholes under key/node compromise.

In [127], different cluster keys are used to encrypt the communication within different

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<sup>11</sup>A similar scenario can be considered if the cryptographic keys held by the nodes are compromised and the attacker impersonates the two nodes without using the actual nodes for the attack implementation.



one-hop neighborhoods. If cluster keys are compromised, an adversary can record messages at one neighborhood A, decrypt them with the compromised cluster key of neighborhood A, tunnel the messages via the wormhole link to a neighborhood B that is not within the communication range of neighborhood A, re-encrypt the messages with the compromised key of neighborhood B, and replay the messages in neighborhood B. Cluster keys can also be compromised if the adversary compromises the pairwise keys that are used by the nodes to distribute the cluster keys during the initialization phase. For the method in [127], compromise of two nodes that are not within communication range or two pairwise keys is sufficient to create a wormhole.

In [48], the authors use temporal packet leashes to prevent a message from traveling distances longer than a pre-defined distance. Each packet contains an expiration time  $t_e$  whose integrity is verified via the use of a keyed message authentication code, such as a key hash function (HMAC). When a node receives a packet, first it verifies that the HMAC for the expiration time is correct (i.e., the expiration time has not been altered while the packet is in transit). If the integrity verification is correct, the receiving node verifies that the packet has not traveled longer than the distance indicated by  $t_e$  (the nodes in the network are tightly synchronized). If an adversary were to compromise the keys of a node, it could alter the expiration time to any desired value and properly adjust the keyed message authentication code so that the message can travel any desired length. Thus, the compromise of a single node allows the creation of a wormhole of arbitrary length.

In the wormhole visualization method [124], detection of a wormhole is based on the reconstruction of the network topology via multi-dimensional scaling (MDS) and visualization of wormholes as loops in the network plane. In order to visualize the network topology, every sensor of the network has to report the distance from its one-hop neighbors to a base station. The distance report is protected by a group key known to every sensor. If the group key gets compromised, the adversary can alter the distance reports from the legitimate sensors and manufacture false reports, allowing the creation of wormhole links undetectable by the visualization method. Moreover, it would be very difficult for the visualization method to capture short wormholes in the case where the attacker manipulates the distance reports of the nodes. In the directional antenna method presented in [46], nodes rely upon re-

ports from neighbor nodes to verify the validity of the neighbor discovery protocol. Hence, compromised neighbors can mislead nodes into accepting wormhole links [46] as valid ones.

Though we have shown that the adversary can mount a wormhole attack under node/key compromise, as in the seminal paper in [48], we argue that the strength of the wormhole attack lies in the fact that the adversary does not allocate computational resources to compromise nodes/keys and that it remains “invisible” to upper layers of the network (the attack is implementable with minimal resources). Furthermore, under the node/key compromise assumption, relatively more powerful attacks, such as the Sybil attack [32, 82], can be mounted, and there is no need for the adversary to record and replay messages (it can forge messages instead of recording them). Nevertheless, the wormhole attack can still cause significant disruption to vital network operations, such as routing, even if the network communications are not compromised, and, hence, needs to be addressed.

#### **4.8 Summary of Contributions**

We presented a graph theoretic framework for characterizing the wormhole attack in wireless ad hoc networks. We showed that any candidate prevention mechanism should construct a communication graph that is a connected subgraph of the geometric graph of the network. We then proposed a cryptography-based solution to the wormhole attack that makes use of local broadcast keys. We provided a distributed mechanism for establishing local broadcast keys in randomly deployed networks and provided an analytical evaluation of the probability of wormhole detection based on spatial statistics theory. We analytically related network parameters such as deployment density and communication range with the probability of detecting and eliminating wormholes, thus providing a design choice for preventing wormholes with any desired probability. Finally, we also illustrated the validity of our results with extensive simulations.

## Chapter 5

**STOCHASTIC COVERAGE IN HETEROGENEOUS SENSOR NETWORKS**

One of the primary tasks of sensor networks is to monitor a Field of Interest (*FoI*). Sensors may monitor physical properties such as temperature, humidity, air quality, or track the motion of objects moving within the *FoI*. In many cases sensor networks may initiate an automated reaction to the observed events (actuation networks). As an example, motion detection sensors may trigger the lights to turn on after motion has been detected, or sensors monitoring a patient's blood stream may automatically increase the intake of sugars in the event of low sugar level detection. In actuation networks, in order to guarantee the robustness of the decision mechanism, it is critical to improve the detection accuracy and reduce the probability of false alarm.

While robustness may be achieved by pursuing a multimodal approach that involves multiple consistency checks before any actuation decision is taken, robustness also depends, to a high degree, on the availability of monitoring information. In order to evaluate a specific event, one needs to have sufficient observations of the event. On the other hand, the number of available observations is directly related to the number of sensors able to sense a particular event. Hence, to improve the robustness of the system, one needs to increase the availability of the collected information.

The availability of monitoring information can be measured by computing the *coverage* of the *FoI*, achieved by the sensor network deployment. Coverage quantifies how well a *FoI* is monitored<sup>1</sup>. The coverage problem has been studied under different objectives, depending on the requirements and constraints of the applications. If the location of the deployed sensors can be pre-selected, the coverage problem reduces to the problem of finding the

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<sup>1</sup>Once the information has been collected by the sensors, an additional mechanism known as data aggregation [56], is required to timely communicate the available information for processing. We do not address the aggregation problem in this article.

optimal placement for sensors such that a target coverage is met [51,92].

However, for large sensor networks, it is impractical to perform deterministic coverage of the *FoI*, since the number of sensors that need to be placed is often prohibitively large. Instead, sensors are deployed in the field of interest according to a pre-selected distribution. For stochastically deployed sensor networks, the coverage problem quantifies how well the *FoI* is monitored when a number of sensors is deployed according to a known distribution. This problem is also known as the stochastic coverage problem [55,72,75,78,125].

In this chapter, we analyze the following stochastic coverage problem. Given a planar *FoI* and  $N$  sensors deployed according to a known distribution, compute the fraction of the *FoI* that is covered by at least  $k$  sensors ( $k \geq 1$ ). The problem can also be rephrased as, given a *FoI* and a sensor distribution, how many sensors must be deployed in order for every point in the field of interest to be covered by at least  $k$  sensors with a probability  $p$  (k-coverage problem) [125].

### 5.0.1 Our Contributions

On the problem of stochastic coverage in sensor networks, we make the following contributions. We formulate the problem of coverage in sensor networks as a set intersection problem. We use results from Integral Geometry to derive analytical expressions quantifying the coverage achieved by stochastic deployment of sensors into a planar field of interest. Compared to previous analytical results [72,78,92], our formulation allows us to consider a heterogeneous sensing model, where sensors need not have an identical sensing capability. In addition, our approach is applicable to scenarios where the sensing area of a sensor does not follow the unit disk model, but has any arbitrary shape. To the best of our knowledge, only [78] considers a heterogeneous sensing model, though obtaining results that eventually only incorporate the mean value of the sensing range in the coverage computation. Furthermore, the formulation in [78] considers only uniformly deployed sensors. In our approach, sensors can be deployed according to any distribution.

We provide formulas for k-coverage in the case of heterogeneous sensing areas, as well as the simplified forms in the case of identical sensing areas. We verify our theoretical

results by performing extensive simulations that show an almost exact match between our theoretical derivation and simulation. We compare our analytical formulas with previous analytic results [72, 78, 92] by computing the Kullback-Leibler distance [28] and illustrate that our expressions provide a higher accuracy, since they do not suffer from the border effects [9, 10]. Finally, we provide examples on how to use our analytical expressions to compute the number of sensors that need to be deployed, in order to cover a  $FoI$  with a desired probability.

The rest of the chapter is organized as follows. In Section 5.1, we present related work. In Section 5.2, we state our network model and formulate the coverage problem as a set intersection problem. In Section 5.3, we derive analytical expressions for coverage for both heterogeneous and homogeneous sensor networks. In Section 5.4, we validate our analytical expressions, by computing coverage via simulation, and provide examples of computing the coverage in randomly deployed sensor networks. Section 5.5 presents a summary of our contributions.

### **5.1 Related Work**

In this section we describe previous work related to the coverage problem in wireless sensor networks. The coverage problem in wireless sensor networks has been studied under different objectives and metrics. The characteristic attributes that classify different approaches to the coverage problem are, deterministic or stochastic sensor deployment, homogeneous or heterogeneous sensing area, additional design constraints such as energy efficiency, minimum number of sensors that need to be deployed, or network connectivity. Based on the objective, the coverage problem formulation varies to reflect the different assumptions and objectives.

In [51], the authors studied the problem of deterministic node placement in order to achieve connected coverage, that is, sense the  $FoI$  with the minimum number of sensors, while keeping the sensor network connected. In [51], the sensing area is modeled after the unit disk model and consider sensors with identical sensing range. The problem of connected coverage has also been recently studied in [125]. The authors provide a geometric analysis that relates coverage to connectivity and defines the necessary conditions for a network covering a  $FoI$  to be connected. The conditions for coverage and connectivity are derived

Table 5.1: Comparison of the related work on the coverage problem for sensor networks, in terms of assumptions and constraints. Sensor deployment refers to the deployment method, deterministic or stochastic as well as the prior knowledge about the location of the sensors. Sensing model refers to the assumptions about the sensing areas. Heterogeneous model refers to whether the analysis supports sensors with heterogeneous sensing capabilities. Additional constraints refers to other objectives set, such as connectivity, energy efficiency or minimization of the number of sensors deployed.

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Sensor Deployment</b>	<b>Sensing Model</b>
Kar and Banerjee [51]	Deterministic	Unit Disk
Xing et. al. [125]	Known Location	Unit Disk
Poduri and Sukhatme [92]	Deterministic	Unit Disk
Meguerdichian et. al. [75]	Known Location	Any
koushanfar et. al. [55]	Known Location	Any
Liu and Towsley [72]	Random	Any
Li et. al.	Known Location	Any
Miorandi and Altman [78]	Random	Any
<i>Our work</i>	<i>Stochastic</i>	<i>Any</i>
<b>Reference</b>	<b>Heterogeneous Model</b>	<b>Additional Constraints</b>
Kar and Banerjee [51]	No	Connectivity
Xing et. al. [125]	No	Connectivity
Poduri and Sukhatme [92]	No	K-connectivity
Meguerdichian et. al. [75]	Yes	Worst Coverage
koushanfar et. al. [55]	Yes	Best, Worst Coverage
Liu and Towsley [72]	No	None
Li et. al. [70]	Yes	Best, Worst Coverage
Miorandi and Altman [78]	Yes	None
<i>Our work</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>None</i>

based on the assumptions that the sensing area of each node is identical and circular, and the location of the nodes is known. The authors extend their algorithms for the case of probabilistic deployment, and also relax their assumptions to non-unit disk sensing areas, by approximating the real sensing area with the biggest possible circular area included in the real sensing area.

In [92], the authors study the problem of deterministic coverage under the additional constraint that each sensor must have at least  $k$  neighbors. They propose a deployment strategy that would maximize the coverage while the degree of each node is guaranteed to

be at least  $k$ , under the assumption that the sensing range of the sensors is isotropic.

In [75], the authors study the problem of coverage, as a path exposure problem. Using a generic sensing model and an arbitrary sensor distribution, they propose a systematic method for discovering the minimum exposure path, that is the path along which the network exhibits the minimum *integral* observability<sup>2</sup>. In [55], the authors investigate the problem of best- and worst-case coverage. In their formulation of the coverage problem, given the location of the sensors and a generic sensing model where the sensing ability of each sensor diminishes with distance, the authors use Voronoi diagrams and Delaunay triangulation to compute the path that maximizes the smallest observability (best coverage) and the path that minimizes the observability by all sensors (worst coverage). Authors in [70] provide a decentralized and localized algorithm for calculating the best coverage.

In [72] the authors study the problem of stochastic coverage in large scale sensor networks. For a randomly distributed sensor network, the authors provide the fraction of the *FoI* covered by  $k$  sensors, the fraction of nodes that can be removed without reducing the covered area as well as the ability of the network to detect moving objects. The results presented in [72], hold only for randomly (uniformly) deployed networks and under the assumption that the sensing area of each sensor is identical. Furthermore, the analysis presented in [72], suffers from the border effects problem, illustrated in [9,10]. The results hold asymptotically under the assumption that the *FoI* expands infinitely in the plane, while the density of the sensor deployment remains constant.

In [78], the authors study the stochastic coverage problem in ad hoc networks in the presence of channel randomness. For a randomly deployed sensor network, the authors analyze the effects of shadowing and fading to the connectivity and coverage. They show that in the case of channel randomness, the coverage problem can still be modeled with the assistance of the spatial Poisson distribution, by using *expected* size of the sensing area of sensors. While the results in [78] are applicable to heterogeneous sensor networks they hold only for randomly deployed networks, and are impacted from the border effects problem [9,10], as noted in [78].

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<sup>2</sup>The integral observability is defined as the aggregate of the time that a target was observable by sensors while traversing a sensor network.

The authors in [43] study the problem of selecting the minimum number of sensors from a set of sensors that are randomly (uniformly) deployed such that the *FoI* is covered, and the selected sensors form a connected network. The authors provide centralized and decentralized heuristic algorithms that perform within a bound from the optimal solution. The authors assume that the sensing area of the sensors can have any convex shape, and sensors can have heterogeneous capabilities. As a requirement, the position as well as the shape and size of each sensing area must be known after deployment.

Compared to previous work that derives analytical coverage expressions [72, 78, 92], our formulation allows us to consider a network model where, (a) sensors can be deployed according to *any* distribution, (b) sensors can have a sensing area of *any* arbitrary shape, (c) sensors can have heterogeneous sensing areas. Furthermore, our formulation does not suffer from the border effects problem. Table 5.1 summarizes the different assumptions and objectives of previous works.

## **5.2 Model Assumptions, Problem Formulation and Background**

### *5.2.1 Network Model*

In many wireless sensor network applications, it is not practical to deploy the sensors deterministically due to the large number of sensors that need to be deployed and/or the type of environment where they are deployed. As an example, sensors may be dropped off an aircraft into a forest in order to monitor environmental parameters such as humidity, temperature, air quality etc. Furthermore, in many applications, sensors do not remain static, even after they have been placed in the *FoI*. Environmental changes, such as air, rain, river streams etc., may move sensors over time [114]. For these types of applications the relevant coverage question that quantifies the availability of monitoring information is how many sensors do we need to deploy in order to achieve the desired coverage with a probability higher than a threshold value.

Furthermore, sensors may not be deployed according to a random distribution over the *FoI*. As an example, a subset of points in the *FoI* may be of greater interest than other points and, hence, must be monitored by a larger number of sensors. In such a



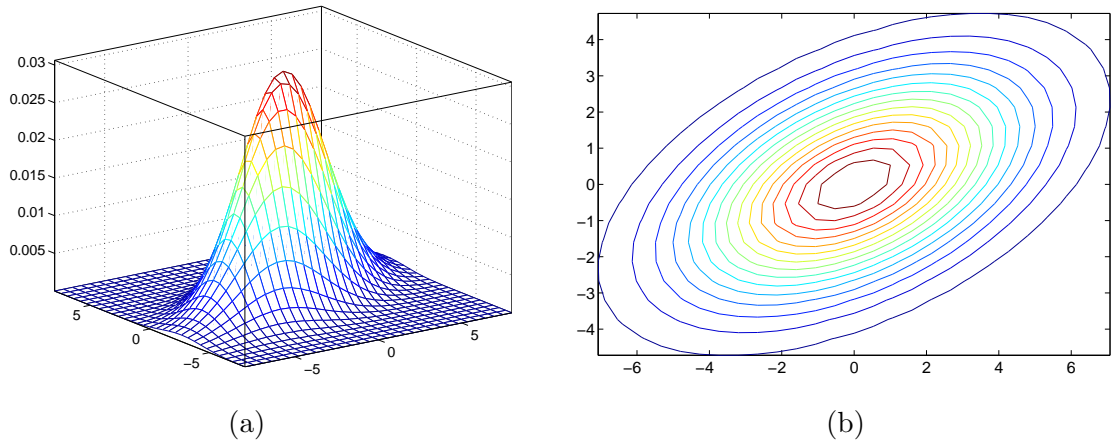


Figure 5.1: (a) A two-dimensional Gaussian distribution with mean value  $E(X, Y) = [0, 0]$ , (b) projection of the Gaussian distribution into the planar field.

case, more sensors may be deployed around the critical subset of points. For example, a desired heterogeneous coverage may be achieved by deploying sensors according to a two-dimensional Gaussian distribution. In figure 5.1(a), we show the probability density function for a two-dimensional Gaussian distribution with mean value equal to  $E(X, Y) = [0, 0]$ . In figure 5.1(b), we show the projection of the Gaussian probability density function into the planar field.

Since the sensor deployment distribution may vary, it is desirable to have analytical coverage results that can incorporate any arbitrary sensor distribution. In our analysis, we study the stochastic coverage problem when sensors are deployed according to any distribution and derive analytical results even in the case of non-uniform sensor distribution.

In addition, it is desirable to develop analytical coverage formulas that hold not only for homogeneous, but also for heterogeneous sensor networks. Heterogeneity in the sensing area of sensors may be due to the following reasons. First, the manufacturing process for sensors does not guarantee that sensors are equipped with identical hardware, able to produce an identical sensing model. Furthermore, the heterogeneity of the environment where the sensors are deployed distorts the sensing capabilities of the sensors measured in an ideal

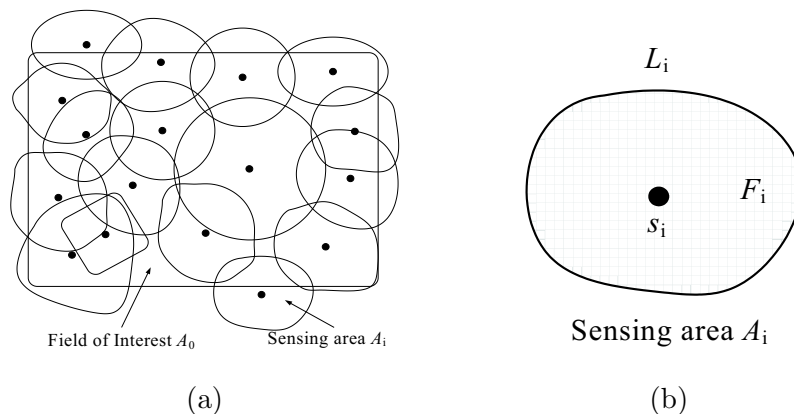


Figure 5.2: (a) A heterogeneous sensor network with randomly deployed sensors covering an *FoI*  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , (b) The sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of a sensor  $s_i$ .

environment. Finally, the sensor network may consist of sensors with different sensing capabilities by design (hierarchical sensor networks). We analyse the coverage problem adopting a general sensing model that captures the heterogeneity in the sensing capabilities of sensors.

In this article we adopt the following network model.

- **Field of Interest (FoI):** Let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  denote the *Field of Interest (FoI)* we want to monitor, with area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$ . We assume that the *FoI* is planar and can have any arbitrary shape.
- **Sensing area:** Let  $\mathcal{A}_i$  denote the sensing area of each sensor  $s_i$ ,  $i = 1 \dots N$ , with  $F_i, L_i$  denoting the size of the area and perimeter of  $\mathcal{A}_i$ . The sensing area can have any arbitrary shape.
- **Sensor deployment:** We assume that  $N$  sensors are deployed according to a distribution  $Y(\mathcal{A}_0)$  and in such a way that they sense some part of the *FoI*. For sensing, it is not necessary that the sensors are located within the *FoI*. Instead, we require that sensors can monitor some part of the *FoI* even if they are located outside of it.

### 5.2.2 Problem Formulation

We study the following stochastic coverage problem.

**Stochastic coverage problem:** *Given a FoI  $\mathcal{A}_0$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$ , sensed by  $N$  sensors with each sensor  $s_i$  having a sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$  deployed in the plane according to a distribution  $Y(\mathcal{A}_0)$ , compute the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  that is sensed by at least  $k$  sensors, i.e. the fraction that is  $k$ -covered.*

This problem is equivalent to computing the probability that a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  is sensed by at least  $k$  sensors. The stochastic coverage problem can be mapped to the following set intersection problem.

**Set intersection problem:** *Let  $\mathcal{S}_0$  be a fixed bounded set defined as a collection of points in the plane, and let  $F_0$  and  $L_0$  denote the area and perimeter of  $\mathcal{S}_0$ . Let  $N$  bounded sets  $\mathcal{S}_i$  ( $i = 1 \dots N$ ) of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$  be dropped in the plane of  $\mathcal{S}_0$  according to a distribution  $Y(\mathcal{S}_0)$  and in such a way that every set  $\mathcal{S}_i$  intersects with  $\mathcal{S}_0$ . Compute the fraction of  $\mathcal{S}_0$  where at least  $k$  out of the  $N$  sets  $\mathcal{S}_i$  intersect.*

In the mapping of the stochastic coverage problem to the set intersection problem, the fixed bounded set  $\mathcal{S}_0$  corresponds to the FoI  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . The  $N$  bounded sets dropped according to the distribution  $Y(\mathcal{S}_0)$  correspond to the sensing areas of the  $N$  sensors deployed according to the distribution  $Y(\mathcal{A}_0)$ . By computing the fraction of the set  $\mathcal{S}_0$ , where at least  $k$  out of  $N$  sets  $\mathcal{S}_i$  intersect, we equivalently compute the fraction of the FoI that is  $k$ -covered<sup>3</sup>. In figure 5.2(a), we show a sensor network randomly deployed over a FoI. In figure 5.2(b), we show the sensing area of a sensor  $s_i$ . Note that our formulation does not require the FoI to be infinitely extending in the plane. Instead, the FoI has to be a bounded region and, hence, our formulation does not suffer from the border effects problem [9, 10].

The set intersection problem has been a topic of research of Integral Geometry and Geometric Probability [36, 77, 101, 102, 110]. In the following section, we show that the results obtained for the set intersection problem can be used to analyse the coverage problem in

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<sup>3</sup>Due to their equivalence,  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{S}_0$  as well as the terms sensing area and set are used interchangeably in the rest of the article.

wireless sensor networks. Before we provide analytical coverage expressions based on our formulation, we present relevant background.

### 5.2.3 Background on Integral Geometry

In this section, we present relevant background on Integral Geometry that we use in Section 5.3 for deriving analytical coverage expressions based on our formulation. Interested reader is referred to [36, 77, 101, 102, 110], as reference to Integral Geometry. We first introduce the notion of motion for a point  $P$  in the plane, defined as follows [102]:

**Definition 5.1. Motion in the Plane:** Let  $P(x_i, y_i)$  denote a point in the Euclidean plane, where  $x_i, y_i$  denote Cartesian coordinates. A motion is defined as a transformation  $T : P(x_i, y_i) \rightarrow P'(x'_i, y'_i)$  such that,

$$\begin{aligned} x'_i &= x_i \cos \phi - y_i \sin \phi + x, & y'_i &= x_i \sin \phi + y_i \cos \phi + y \\ -\infty < x < \infty, & & -\infty < y < \infty, & 0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi. \end{aligned} \quad (5.1)$$

Any motion of a point  $P$  or a set of points<sup>4</sup>  $\mathcal{A}$ , is characterized by the horizontal displacement  $\alpha$ , the vertical displacement  $\beta$  and the rotation  $\phi$ . A group of motions  $\mathcal{M}$  denotes a collection (set) of transformations in the Euclidean plane, i.e. the respective range for the 3-space  $(\alpha, \beta, \phi)$ .

To quantify a group of motions  $\mathcal{M}$  in the plane, we must define an appropriate measure for the set of transformations of  $\mathcal{A}$  determined by  $\mathcal{M}$ . Such a measure is called the *kinematic measure* and it must be invariant to the initial position of  $\mathcal{A}$ , invariant under translation as well as invariant under inversion of the motion. The need for such invariance will become clear in the example following the definition of the kinematic measure.

To define the kinematic measure we must introduce the notion of *kinematic density* for the group of motions  $\mathcal{M}$  of a point  $P(x, y)$  or set of points  $\mathcal{A}$  in the plane. The kinematic density expresses the differential element of motion of a set of points in the plane, and is defined as follows [102].

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<sup>4</sup>In the case of a set of points, the set can be represented by a single point  $O$  based on which all other points are determined.

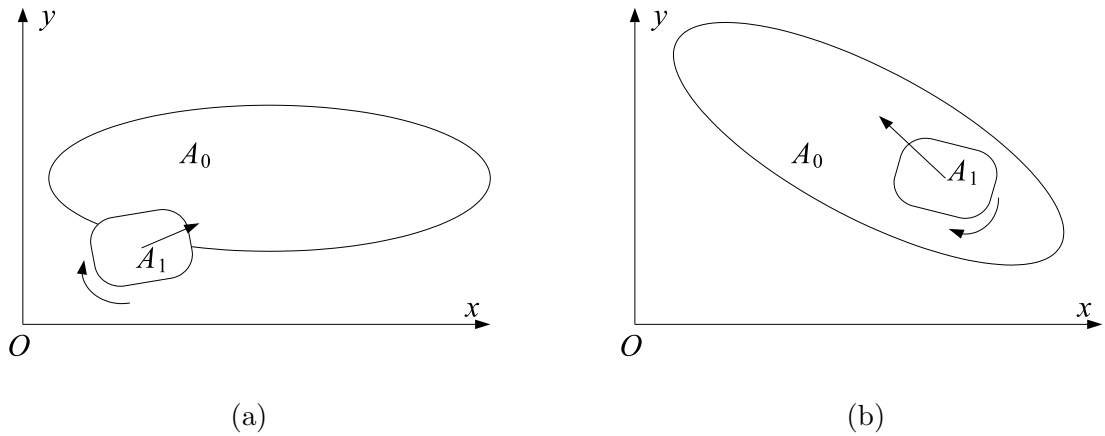


Figure 5.3: (a) Set  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is free to move within the plane in such a way that it intersects with fixed set  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . (b) Fixed set  $\mathcal{A}_0$  has a different initial orientation and position. The measure of the set of positions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that it intersects  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , expressed via the kinematic density, is the same regardless of the initial configuration of the two sets. The measure is invariant to translations and rotations of any of the two sets.

**Definition 5.2. Kinematic Density**—The kinematic density  $d\mathcal{A}$  for a group of motions  $\mathcal{M}$  in the plane for the set  $\mathcal{A}$ , is defined as the differential form:

$$d\mathcal{A} = dx \wedge dy \wedge d\phi, \quad (5.2)$$

where  $\wedge$  denotes the exterior product used in exterior calculus [37, 38, 102].

The above definition of the kinematic density, using the exterior product form, is the only form up to a constant factor invariant under translation and inversion of motion. Integrating the kinematic density of a set  $\mathcal{A}$  over a group of motions  $\mathcal{M}$  in the plane, yields a measure for the set of motions  $\mathcal{M}$ .

**Definition 5.3. Kinematic measure**—The kinematic measure  $m$  of a set of motions  $\mathcal{M}$  in the plane is defined by the integral of the kinematic density  $d\mathcal{A}$  over  $\mathcal{M}$ :

$$m = \int_{\mathcal{M}} d\mathcal{A}. \quad (5.3)$$

To provide intuition behind the definition of the kinematic measure and the properties of the kinematic density consider figure 5.3(a) showing a fixed set  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and a set  $\mathcal{A}_1$  free to

move within the plane. We want to measure the set of motions (transformations)  $T$  such that  $T(\mathcal{A}_1) \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \neq \emptyset$ , that is, measure the set of transformations  $T(\mathcal{A}_1)$  such that the two sets intersect. This measure is the integral of  $d\mathcal{A}_1$  over all points  $P'(x, y)$  and all angles  $\phi$  such that  $T(\mathcal{A}_1) \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \neq \emptyset$ .

The invariant under translation property states that for any transformation  $T'(\mathcal{A}_0)$ , the measure of the set of motions  $T$  such that  $T(\mathcal{A}_1) \cap T'(\mathcal{A}_0) \neq \emptyset$ , must be equal to the measure of the set of motions such that  $T(\mathcal{A}_1) \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \neq \emptyset$ . Similarly the measure must be invariant to any translations of set  $\mathcal{A}_1$ . Furthermore, the measure is invariant to the order by which we consider the possible motions of the set  $\mathcal{A}_1$ , or the initial positioning of sets  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1$  [102]. Figure 5.3(b) shows a different positioning and orientation of the fixed set  $\mathcal{A}_0$  that could be due to the application of a translation or a different initial positioning.

The quotient of the measure of a group of motions  $Z$  over the measure of a group of motions  $\mathcal{M}$  in the plane, where  $Z \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  yields the probability  $p(Z)$  for that group of motions to occur:

$$p(Z) = \frac{m(Z)}{m(\mathcal{M})}. \quad (5.4)$$

The kinematic measure allows us to compute the geometric probability for a specific set configuration to occur, as depicted in (5.4). Equation (5.4), is used in our formulation to derive the fraction of the *FoI* covered by a sensor deployment, as it is illustrated in the following section.

### 5.3 Analytical Evaluation of Coverage in Heterogeneous Sensor Networks

In this section, we derive analytical expressions for stochastic coverage in heterogeneous sensor networks. We first study the coverage problem for the case where only one sensor is deployed, by studying the intersection of two sets in a plane. We initially consider a sensor with a sensing area of convex shape. When the sensing area is convex, only the size and perimeter of the sensing area are required to compute coverage. When the sensing area has a non-convex shape, additional information such as the decomposition of the sensing area to a union of disjoint convex shapes is required. In Section 5.3.3 extend our results for

non-convex sensing areas.

We modify our analytical formulas for the case where the sensor is deployed according to an arbitrary distribution. Using the results from the single sensor deployment, we generalize for the case where multiple sensors are deployed and compute the fraction of the *FoI* covered by at least  $k$  sensors, when a total of  $N$  sensors are deployed. Finally, we show how we can derive previous analytical results [72, 92] as specific cases of our model.

### 5.3.1 Random Deployment of a Single Sensor

In this section, we analyze the simplest case where a sensor  $s_1$  is randomly deployed in the plane. We assume that  $s_1$  has a convex sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_1$  of size  $F_1$  and perimeter  $L_1$ . We want to compute the fraction of the *FoI* covered by the sensor  $s_1$ . The equivalent set intersection problem is as follows. Let  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1$  denote two sets in a plane with  $\mathcal{A}_0$  being fixed, while  $\mathcal{A}_1$  can move freely within the plane. Assume that all positions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  are equiprobable (sensor  $s_i$  is deployed at random). Compute the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by  $\mathcal{A}_1$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$  denote the intersection between sets  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1$ . Since  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1$  are convex,  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$  is also convex. The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by  $\mathcal{A}_1$ , is computed by normalizing the size of the area of  $\mathcal{A}_{01}$  over the size of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . The intersection area between the two sets  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1$  can be computed with tools from integral geometry [101, 102].

To compute  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$ , we randomly select a point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$ . Let  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$  denote the probability that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$ , that is, that point  $P$  belongs in the intersection between the sets  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_1$ . Integrating  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$  over all  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  yields the probability that any point of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}_1$ . Since all points are equiprobable, integration of  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$  over all  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  also computes the area  $F_{01}$  of the intersection set between  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1$ . Normalizing  $F_{01}$  over the  $F_0$ , yields the desired fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$ . The following theorem holds for convex sets, and will be extended in Section 5.3.3 for the case of non-convex sets [102].

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  be a fixed convex set of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$ , and let  $\mathcal{A}_1$  be a convex set of area  $F_1$  and perimeter  $L_1$ , randomly dropped in the plane in such a way that it intersects with  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . The probability that a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  is covered by*

$\mathcal{A}_1$  is given by:

$$p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1) = \frac{2\pi F_1}{2\pi(F_0 + F_1) + L_0 L_1}. \quad (5.5)$$

*Proof.* According to (5.4), in order to compute the probability that  $P$  is covered by  $\mathcal{A}_1$ , we need to compute the quotient of the measure of all motions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$ , over the measure of the set of motions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset$ . The latter represents all possible positions where  $\mathcal{A}_1$  can be dropped (recall that as a constraint, we require that  $\mathcal{A}_1$  always intersects  $\mathcal{A}_0$ ). We now provide the computation of the two measures, also sketched in [101, 102]:

$$\begin{aligned} m(\mathcal{A}_1 : P \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1) &\stackrel{(i)}{=} \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1} d\mathcal{A}_1 \\ &\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_1} d\mathcal{A}_1 \\ &\stackrel{(iii)}{=} \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_1} dx \wedge dy \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \stackrel{(iv)}{=} 2\pi F_1. \end{aligned} \quad (5.6)$$

In (i), we integrate the kinematic density  $d\mathcal{A}_1$  of set  $\mathcal{A}_1$  over all motions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1$ . Since by assumption  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_0$  is fixed, we only need to integrate over all  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$ . In (ii), we integrate  $d\mathcal{A}_1$  over all motions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$ . In (iii), we express the kinematic density as its differential product form, and consider all possible rotations of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$ . In (iv), the integral of  $dx \wedge dy$  over all  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$  is equal to the area  $F_1$  of  $\mathcal{A}_1$ . The integral of  $d\phi$  over all  $\phi$  is equal to  $2\pi$  since  $\mathcal{A}_1$  can freely rotate around its reference point, leading to the value of  $2\pi F_1$ .

The result in (5.6) is intuitive. Given a fixed point  $P$  the number of translation motions of the set  $\mathcal{A}_1$  that can include  $P$ , is equal to the area  $F_1$  of  $\mathcal{A}_1$ . For each position of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  that include  $P$ , we can rotate  $\mathcal{A}_1$  a total of  $2\pi$  positions before we repeat the initial configuration. Hence, the measure of positions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$  under both rotation and translation is equal to  $2\pi F_1$ .

Let  $P$  be a randomly selected point of the fixed set  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . All possible positions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  that include  $P$  can be obtained by translating  $\mathcal{A}_1$  according to the vector  $v$ , and rotating  $\mathcal{A}_1$  by  $\phi \in [0, 2\pi]$ . The measure of all translation is  $F_1$  while the measure of all rotations is  $2\pi$ , hence the measure of all positions such that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$  is  $2\pi F_1$ .



We now compute the measure of all motions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset$  :

$$\begin{aligned}
m(\mathcal{A}_1 : \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset) &\stackrel{(i)}{=} \int_{\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset} d\mathcal{A}_1 \\
&\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \int_{\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset} dx \wedge dy \wedge d\phi \\
&\stackrel{(iii)}{=} \int_0^{2\pi} (F_0 + F_1 + 2F_{01}) d\phi \\
&\stackrel{(iv)}{=} 2\pi(F_0 + F_1) + L_0L_1.
\end{aligned} \tag{5.7}$$

In (i), we integrate the kinematic density  $d\mathcal{A}_1$  of set  $\mathcal{A}_1$  over all motions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset$ . In (ii), we write the kinematic density in its expanded differential form as defined in (5.2). In (iii), we compute the area between  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1$  which is called *mixed area of Minkowski* and integrate over all possible rotations. The integration yields the desired result. Proofs of (iii), (iv) are provided in the Appendix.

Given the two measures (5.6), (5.7) we can compute the probability  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$  as:

$$p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1) = \frac{m(\mathcal{A}_1 : P \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1)}{m(\mathcal{A}_1 : \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset)} = \frac{2\pi F_1}{2\pi(F_0 + F_1) + L_0L_1}. \tag{5.8}$$

□

Note that  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$  is only dependent on the area and the perimeter of the convex sets that intersect and not on the shape of those sets. Hence, there can be sets of arbitrary shapes as long as they are convex. In Section 5.3.3, we will generalize (5.8) for non-convex sets, corresponding to non-convex sensing areas. Based on Theorem 5.1 we can now compute the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by  $\mathcal{A}_1$ , stated in the following lemma.

**Lemma 5.1.** *The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of a fixed convex set  $\mathcal{A}_0$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  that is covered by a convex set  $\mathcal{A}_1$  of area  $F_1$  and perimeter  $L_1$ , when  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is randomly dropped in the plane in such a way that it intersects  $\mathcal{A}_0$  is given by:*

$$fr(\mathcal{A}_0) = \frac{2\pi F_1}{2\pi(F_0 + F_1) + L_0L_1}. \tag{5.9}$$

*Proof.* In Theorem 5.1 we showed the probability that a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  also belongs to  $\mathcal{A}_1$  when  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is randomly dropped in the plane so that it intersects with  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . Integrating (5.8) over all points  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  provides the size of the area  $F_C$  covered by  $\mathcal{A}_1$  :

$$\begin{aligned} F_C &= \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_0} p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1) dP \stackrel{(i)}{=} p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1) \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_0} dP \\ &\stackrel{(ii)}{=} p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1) F_0 \stackrel{(iii)}{=} \frac{2\pi F_0 F_1}{2\pi(F_0 + F_1) + L_0 L_1}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.10)$$

In (i), the probability  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$  is independent of the coordinates of  $P$ . In (ii), integrating  $dP$  over all  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  yields the size  $F_0$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . In (iii), we substitute  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$  from (5.8). Normalizing  $F_C$  by  $F_0$  yields:

$$fr(\mathcal{A}_0) = \frac{F_C}{F_0} = \frac{2\pi F_0 F_1}{2\pi(F_0 + F_1) + L_0 L_1} \frac{1}{F_0} = p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1). \quad (5.11)$$

□

### 5.3.2 Deployment of a Single Sensor According to a Distribution $F(\mathcal{A}_0)$

In this section, we consider the problem of computing the coverage achieved by a single sensor, when the sensor deployment in the plane follows some non-uniform distribution  $F(\mathcal{A}_0)$ , with a probability density function  $f(x, y)$ . As an example, the distribution of the sensor may follow a zero-mean two dimensional gaussian distribution around the center of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , as illustrated in figure 5.1. This scenario may apply for instance, when the sensors are dropped in groups above target points and disperse around the target points.

In the case of a non-uniform sensor distribution the problem of coverage can also be mapped to the set intersection problem. As in the case of a random distribution, there is a fixed set  $\mathcal{A}_0$  that represents the *FoI*, and a “free” set  $\mathcal{A}_1$  that is dropped into the plane according to the non-uniform distribution  $F(\mathcal{A}_0)$ , and in such a way that it intersects with  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . We want to calculate the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by  $\mathcal{A}_1$ .

In order to compute  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$ , in the case of a non-uniform distribution, we repeat the same process as in the uniform distribution. First, we randomly select a point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  and compute the probability that  $P$  also belongs to  $\mathcal{A}_1$ . This probability is again computed as the quotient between the measures in (5.6) and (5.7). However, these measures are now calculated as weighted functions of the probability density function  $f(x, y)$ .

**Theorem 5.2.** Let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  be a fixed convex set of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$ , and let  $\mathcal{A}_1$  be a convex set of area  $F_1$  and perimeter  $L_1$ , dropped into the plane according to a distribution  $F(\mathcal{A}_0)$  and in such a way that it intersects with  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . The probability that a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  is covered by  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is given by:

$$p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1) = \frac{2\pi \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_1} f(x, y) dx \wedge dy}{\int_{\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset} f(x, y) dx \wedge dy \wedge d\phi}. \quad (5.12)$$

*Proof.* The measure of all positions of set  $\mathcal{A}_1$  that include point  $P$  is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned} m(\mathcal{A}_1 : P \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1) &\stackrel{(i)}{=} \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1} f(x, y) d\mathcal{A}_1 \\ &\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1} f(x, y) dx \wedge dy \wedge d\phi \\ &\stackrel{(iii)}{=} \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_1} f(x, y) dx \wedge dy \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \\ &\stackrel{(iv)}{=} 2\pi \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_1} f(x, y) dx \wedge dy. \end{aligned} \quad (5.13)$$

In (i), we integrate the kinematic density of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  over all motions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1 \cap \mathcal{A}_0$ , weighted over the probability density function  $f(x, y)$ , of the sensor deployment. In (ii), we expand  $d\mathcal{A}_1$  according to 5.2. In (iii), we integrate over all angles  $\phi$ , such that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$ <sup>5</sup>. In (iv), we substitute the integral over all angles  $\phi$  with  $2\pi$ . The measure of all positions of set  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset$  is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned} m(\mathcal{A}_1 : \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset) &\stackrel{(i)}{=} \int_{\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset} f(x, y) d\mathcal{A}_1 \\ &\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \int_{\mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset} f(x, y) dx \wedge dy \wedge d\phi. \end{aligned} \quad (5.14)$$

In (i), we integrate the kinematic density of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  over all motions of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that  $\mathcal{A}_1 \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \neq \emptyset$ , weighted over the probability density function  $f(x, y)$ , of the sensor deployment. In (ii), we expand  $d\mathcal{A}_1$ , according to 5.2. The probability that  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$  is equal to

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<sup>5</sup>Since  $P$  is selected from  $\mathcal{A}_0$ ,  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1$  is equivalent to  $P \in \mathcal{A}_1$ .

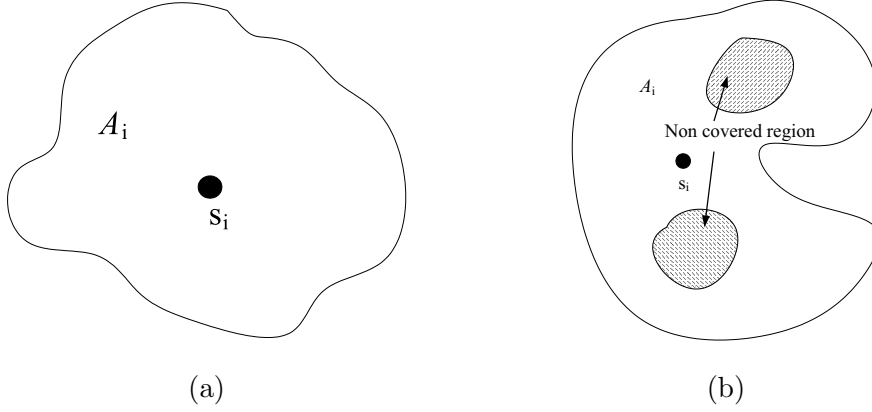


Figure 5.4: Non-convex sensing areas. (a) A rigid non-convex sensing area, (b) non-convex sensing area with obstructed regions.

the quotient of the two measures:

$$p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1) = \frac{m(\mathcal{A}_1 : P \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1)}{m(\mathcal{A}_1 : \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset)} = \frac{2\pi \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_1} f(x, y) dx \wedge dy}{\int_{\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_1 \neq \emptyset} f(x, y) dx \wedge dy \wedge d\phi}. \quad (5.15)$$

Based on Lemma 5.1, the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is equal to  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$ .

□

We now derive expressions for coverage in the general case where sensors do not have convex sensing areas.

### 5.3.3 Random Deployment of Single Sensor with Non-convex Sensing Area

In our analysis so far we have assumed the sensing area of the sensors deployed has a convex shape and is bounded by a single curve. However, the shape of the sensing area may not necessarily be convex, or it may consist of multiple separate regions due to obstacles, such as walls pillars, trees, etc. In figure 5.4(i), we show the a non-convex sensing area bounded by a single curve. In figure 5.4(ii), we show a sensing area with certain areas obstructed by obstacles. Such a non-convex sensing region is bounded by more than one closed curves. In this section we compute the coverage achieved by the random deployment of a single sensor with a non-convex<sup>6</sup> sensing area.

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<sup>6</sup>The boundary of the sensing area must be piecewise twice differentiable.

**Theorem 5.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  denote the FoI bounded by a simple<sup>7</sup> curve, and let  $\mathcal{A}_1$  denote the sensing area of a sensor  $s_i$ , with  $\mathcal{A}_1$  being the union of a finite number of separate convex regions  $\mathcal{A}_1^i$ ,  $i = 1 \dots m$ , of total area  $F_1$  and total perimeter  $L_1$ . The probability that a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  is covered by  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is given by:*

$$p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1) = \frac{2\pi F_1}{2\pi(mF_0 + F_1) + L_0L_1}. \quad (5.16)$$

*Proof.* Theorem 5.3 is a special case of the fundamental kinematic formula of Blaschke [11] that measures a group of motions in the plane for the case where non-convex areas intersect. In Theorem 5.3, the number of separate convex sets  $m$  is defined by the number of closed curves required to bound  $\mathcal{A}_1$ , that intersect with the FoI. When the sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_1$  is bounded by a simple curve, as in the case of a compact bounded set, or a convex set, (5.16) reduces to (5.5) [102] (pp. 116). Detailed proof of Theorem 5.3 is omitted here, but is provided in [102] (pp. 113–118).  $\square$

Theorem 5.3 allows us to compute the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by the deployment of a single sensor, when the sensing area of the sensor is non-convex, by applying Lemma 5.1. Note that to compute  $p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1)$  prior knowledge of a decomposition of the sensing area to a union of disjoint convex areas is required.

#### 5.3.4 Random Deployment of Multiple Sensors

In this section, we compute the coverage achieved by the random deployment of  $N$  sensors, with each sensor  $s_i$  having a sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ . As it is implied by our notations, sensors need not have the same sensing area but can be heterogeneous. We derive formulas for randomly deployed sensors with convex sensing areas. However, equivalent formulas can be obtained for any other distribution and non-convex shapes by using the results of the coverage achieved by a single sensor deployment, derived in Sections 5.3.2, 5.3.3.

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<sup>7</sup>A simple curve is defined as a closed curve with no double points [102], pp. 113.

We initially derive the probability  $p(S = k)$  that a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  is covered by  $k$  sensors when  $N$  sensors are randomly deployed, using the results from Section 5.3.1. We then compute the probability that  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  is covered by at least  $k$  sensors, as well as the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors.

We then simplify our expressions in the case where the sensing areas are identical, and provide formulas for the unit disk model commonly assumed in coverage problems [72, 92]. Finally, we show how our expressions can be reduced to formulas derived in [72, 92] under the assumption that the *FoI* is infinite and the deployment density remains constant.

**Theorem 5.4.** *Let  $N$  sensors be randomly and independently deployed over a *FoI*  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$ . Let each sensor  $s_i$  have a sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ . The probability  $p(S = k)$  that a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  is covered by exactly  $k$  sensors is given by:*

$$p(S = k) = \begin{cases} \prod_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_i}{2\pi(F_0 + F_i) + L_0 L_i} \right), & k = 0 \\ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{N}{k}} \left( \prod_{j=1}^k (2\pi F_{T(i,j)}) \prod_{z=1}^{N-k} (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_{G(i,z)}) \right)}{\prod_{r=1}^N (2\pi(F_0 + F_r) + L_0 L_r)}, & k \geq 1. \end{cases} \quad (5.17)$$

where  $T$  is a matrix in which each row  $j$  is a “ $k$ -choice” of  $[1 \dots N]$  (a vector of  $k$  elements out of  $N$ ), and  $G$  is a matrix in which each row  $j$  contains the elements of  $[1 \dots N]$ , that do not appear in the  $j^{\text{th}}$  row of  $T$ .

*Proof.* In order to prove Theorem 5.4, we map the problem of coverage to the set intersection problem, as illustrated in our problem formulation in Section 6.1.2. Consider first, the case where  $k = 0$ . When a single sensor  $s_i$  is deployed, the probability that it covers a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  is given by Theorem 5.1. Hence, the probability  $p(P \notin \mathcal{A}_i)$  can be computed as:

$$\begin{aligned} p(P \notin \mathcal{A}_i) &= 1 - p(P \in \mathcal{A}_i) \\ &= 1 - \frac{2\pi F_i}{2\pi(F_0 + F_i) + L_0 L_i} \\ &= \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_i}{2\pi(F_0 + F_i) + L_0 L_i}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.18)$$

Given that fact that the  $N$  sensors are *independently* deployed in the plane so that they cover some part of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , the probability  $p(S = 0)$  that none of the  $\mathcal{A}_i$ ,  $i = 1 \dots N$  covers

point  $P$  is:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(S = 0) &= p(P \notin \mathcal{A}_1, \dots, P \notin \mathcal{A}_N) \\
&\stackrel{(i)}{=} \prod_{i=1}^N p(P \notin \mathcal{A}_i) \\
&\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \prod_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_i}{2\pi(F_0 + F_i) + L_0 L_i} \right). \tag{5.19}
\end{aligned}$$

Equality in (i) holds due to the independence in the deployment of the sensors  $s_i$ . In (ii), we substitute  $p(P \notin \mathcal{A}_i)$  from (5.18).

In the case where  $k \geq 1$ , we first need to compute the probability that  $P$  is covered by exactly  $k$  specific sets. Let  $T$  denote a  $k \times \binom{N}{k}$  matrix where each row  $j$  is a  $k$ -choice of the vector  $[1 \dots N]$ , and let  $G$  denote a  $(N - k + 1) \times \binom{N}{k}$  matrix where each row  $j$  contains the elements of  $[1 \dots N]$ , that do not appear in the  $j^{\text{th}}$  row of  $T$ . Consider for example,  $T(1) = [1 \dots k]$  and  $G(1) = [k + 1 \dots N]$ . The probability  $p(T(1))$  that  $P$  is covered by exactly the sets with indexes in the first row of  $T$  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(T(1)) &\stackrel{(i)}{=} p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1, \dots, P \in \mathcal{A}_k, P \notin \mathcal{A}_{k+1}, \dots, P \notin \mathcal{A}_N) \\
&\stackrel{(ii)}{=} p(P \in \mathcal{A}_1), \dots, p(P \in \mathcal{A}_k) p(P \notin \mathcal{A}_{k+1}), \dots, p(P \notin \mathcal{A}_N) \\
&\stackrel{(iii)}{=} \frac{2\pi F_1}{2\pi(F_0 + F_1) + L_0 L_1} \cdots \frac{2\pi F_k}{2\pi(F_0 + F_k) + L_0 L_k} \\
&\quad \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_{k+1}}{2\pi(F_0 + F_{k+1}) + L_0 L_{k+1}} \cdots \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_N}{2\pi(F_0 + F_N) + L_0 L_N} \\
&= \frac{\prod_{j=1}^k (2\pi F_j) \prod_{z=k+1}^N (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_z)}{\prod_{r=1}^N (2\pi(F_0 + F_r) + L_0 L_r)} \\
&= \frac{\prod_{j=1}^k (2\pi F_{T(1,j)}) \prod_{z=1}^{N-k} (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_{G(1,z)})}{\prod_{r=1}^N (2\pi(F_0 + F_r) + L_0 L_r)}. \tag{5.20}
\end{aligned}$$

In (i), we show which  $k$  sets include point  $P$ . Due to the independence in the set deployment, in (ii), the intersection of the events in (i) becomes a product of the individual events. In (iii), we substitute the individual probabilities from (5.8), (5.18). In the general case, the probability that the sets with indexes of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  row of  $T$  cover point  $P$  is given by:

$$p(T(i)) = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^k (2\pi F_{T(i,j)}) \prod_{z=1}^{N-k} (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_{G(i,z)})}{\prod_{r=1}^N (2\pi(F_0 + F_r) + L_0 L_r)}. \tag{5.21}$$

Since we are not interested in a specific choice of sets to cover point  $P$ , the probability that  $p(S = k)$  is a summation of  $p(T(i))$  for all possible  $k$ -choices. Summing  $p(T(i))$  over all  $i$  yields (5.17):

$$\begin{aligned}
p(S = k) &= \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{N}{k}} p(T(i)) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{N}{k}} \left( \frac{\prod_{j=1}^k (2\pi F_{T(i,j)}) \prod_{z=1}^{N-k} (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_{G(i,z)})}{\prod_{r=1}^N (2\pi(F_0 + F_r) + L_0 L_r)} \right) \\
&= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{N}{k}} \left( \prod_{j=1}^k (2\pi F_{T(i,j)}) \prod_{z=1}^{N-k} (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_{G(i,z)}) \right)}{\prod_{r=1}^N (2\pi(F_0 + F_r) + L_0 L_r)}. \tag{5.22}
\end{aligned}$$

□

Once we have computed  $p(S = k)$ , we can derive the probability that the randomly selected point  $P$  is covered by *at least*  $k$  sensors.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  be a FoI of size  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$ , and let  $N$  sensors with sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$  be independently and randomly deployed over  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . The probability that a randomly selected point of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  is covered by at least  $k$  sensors is given by:*

$$p(S \geq k) = \begin{cases} 1 & k = 0, \\ 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{N}{l}} \left( \prod_{j=1}^l (2\pi F_{T(i,j)}) \prod_{z=1}^{N-l} (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_{G(i,z)}) \right)}{\prod_{r=1}^N (2\pi(F_0 + F_r) + L_0 L_r)} & k \geq 1. \end{cases} \tag{5.23}$$

*Proof.* Lemma 5.2, holds by observing:

$$p(S \geq k) = 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} p(l = i), \tag{5.24}$$

and substituting (5.17) to (5.24). □

Lemma 5.2, allows us to compute the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sets.

**Theorem 5.5.** *The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of a FoI  $\mathcal{A}_0$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  that is covered by at least  $k$  sensors when  $N$  sensors of sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ , are randomly and independently deployed in the plane in such a way that they cover some part*



of the FoI is given by:

$$fr(\mathcal{A}_0) = \begin{cases} 1 & k = 0, \\ 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\binom{N}{l}} (\prod_{j=1}^l (2\pi F_{T(i,j)}) \prod_{z=1}^{N-l} (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_G(i,z)))}{\prod_{r=1}^N (2\pi(F_0 + F_r) + L_0 L_r)} & k \geq 1. \end{cases} \quad (5.25)$$

*Proof.* By mapping the coverage problem to the set intersection problem, the size  $F_C$  of the area covered by at least  $k$  sensors can be computed by integrating the probability that a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$  is covered by at least  $k$  sets, over all points  $P$  :

$$F_C = \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_0} p(S \geq k) dP = p(P \geq k) \int_{P \in \mathcal{A}_0} dP = p(P \geq k) F_0. \quad (5.26)$$

Normalizing  $F_C$  by  $F_0$  yields the result of Theorem 5.5.  $\square$

The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors is equal to the probability that a randomly selected point  $P$  is covered by at least  $k$  sensors.

**Corollary 5.1.** *The fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  that is not covered by any sensor when  $N$  sensors are randomly deployed is given by:*

$$p(S = 0) = \prod_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_i}{2\pi(F_0 + F_i) + L_0 L_i} \right). \quad (5.27)$$

*Proof.* The Corollary follows from Theorem 5.4, for  $k = 0$ .  $\square$

### 5.3.5 Coverage in the Case of Homogeneous Sensing Areas

The analytic expressions derived in Section 5.3.4 hold for heterogeneous sensor networks where the sensing areas of the sensors are of different size and perimeter. In the case of homogeneous sensor networks where for each sensor  $s_i, i = 1 \dots N$   $F_i = F$  and  $L_i = L$ , the coverage expressions can be simplified to expressions involving binomials.

**Corollary 5.2.** *The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of a FoI  $\mathcal{A}_0$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  that is covered by at least  $k$  sensors when  $N$  sensors of sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i = F$  and perimeter  $L_i = L$  are randomly and independently deployed in the plane in such a way that they cover some*

part of  $FoI$  is given by:

$$fr(\mathcal{A}_0) = \begin{cases} 1 & k = 0, \\ 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \left( \frac{\binom{N}{l} (2\pi F)^l (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L)^{N-l}}{(2\pi(F_0+F) + L_0 L)^N} \right) & k \geq 1. \end{cases} \quad (5.28)$$

*Proof.* The corollary holds by substituting  $F_{T(i,j)} = F, L_{G(i,j)} = L$  in (5.25).  $\square$

Note that so far in our computations, the  $FoI$  is a bounded region. Previous analytical results for homogeneous sensor networks require that the  $FoI$  of interest is infinitely expanding in the plane [72, 78, 92], and provide asymptotic formulas of coverage. Under the same assumption and using Corollary 5.2, we can derive the same asymptotic results expressed in the following Corollary.

**Corollary 5.3.** *Let  $N$  sensors of sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i = F$  and perimeter  $L_i = L$  be randomly and independently deployed in the plane, in such a way that they cover some part of a  $FoI$   $\mathcal{A}_0$  of size  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$ . If  $\mathcal{A}_0$  expands in the whole plane in such a way such that the sensor density remains a constant ( $\frac{N}{F_0} \rightarrow \rho$ ), the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors is given by:*

$$fr(\mathcal{A}_0) \rightarrow \begin{cases} 1 & k = 0, \\ 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \left( \frac{(\rho F)^l}{k!} e^{-\rho F} \right), & k \geq 1. \end{cases} \quad (5.29)$$

*Proof.* Let us first compute the probability that exactly  $k$  sets intersect in a randomly selected point  $P \in \mathcal{A}_0$ . Substituting  $F_i = F, L_i = L$  in (5.17) yields:

$$\begin{aligned} p(S = k) &= \binom{N}{k} \left( \frac{2\pi F}{2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L} \right)^k \left( \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L}{2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L} \right)^{N-k} \\ &= \binom{N}{k} q^k (1 - q)^{N-k}, \end{aligned} \quad (5.30)$$

where  $q = \frac{2\pi F}{2\pi(F_0+F) + L_0 L}$ . The binomial distribution can be approximated by a Poisson distribution when  $N$  goes to infinity:

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p(S = k) = \frac{(Nq)^k}{k!} e^{-Nq}. \quad (5.31)$$

As  $F_0 \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\frac{F}{F_0} \rightarrow 0$  and if the sensor deployment density  $\frac{N}{F_0} \rightarrow \rho$  where  $\rho$  is constant,  $Nq$  asymptotically tends to:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{F_0 \rightarrow \infty, \frac{N}{F_0} \rightarrow \rho} (Nq) &= \lim_{F_0 \rightarrow \infty, \frac{N}{F_0} \rightarrow \rho} \left( \frac{2\pi NF}{2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L} \right) \\ &= \lim_{F_0 \rightarrow \infty, \frac{N}{F_0} \rightarrow \rho} \left( \frac{2\pi NF}{2\pi F_0 \left(1 + \frac{F}{F_0} + \frac{L_0 L}{2\pi F_0}\right)} \right) \\ &= \frac{NF}{F_0} = \rho F, \end{aligned} \quad (5.32)$$

since  $\frac{L_0}{F_0} \rightarrow 0$  regardless of the shape of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  [102]. Substituting (5.32) into (5.31), yields:

$$p(S = k) \rightarrow \frac{(Nq)^k}{k!} e^{-Nq} = \frac{\left(\frac{NF}{F_0}\right)^k}{k!} e^{-N\frac{F}{F_0}} = \frac{(\rho F)^k}{k!} e^{-\rho F}. \quad (5.33)$$

Hence, the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors with identical sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$ , when sensors are deployed randomly with a constant density  $\rho$ , as  $\mathcal{A}_0$  expands in the whole plane is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} fr(\mathcal{A}_0) &= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} p(S = l) \right) \\ &= 1 - \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} p(S = l) \right) = 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \left( \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} p(S = l) \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} 1 & k = 0, \\ 1 - \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \left( \frac{(\rho F)^l}{l!} e^{-\rho F} \right), & k \geq 1. \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (5.34)$$

□

We now validate our theoretical results via simulation.

#### 5.4 Validation of the Theoretical Results

In this section, we validate our theoretical results via simulation. We also compare our results with the approximation formulas derived in [72, 78, 92]. Our evaluation is done in terms of the Kullback Leibler distance (KL-distance) of the probability density functions (pdfs), which provides a performance comparison in the average sense. Considering the pdf obtained via simulation to be the desired distribution  $q$ , we compute the KL-distance of

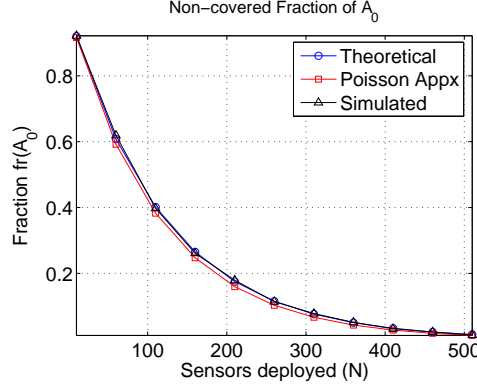


Figure 5.5: Fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , that remains non-covered as a function of the number of sensors  $N$  that are deployed to monitor the  $FoI$ .

our theoretical formulas and the approximations provided in [72, 78, 92]. The KL-distance for two distributions  $p, q$ , when  $q$  is the desired distribution and  $p$  is the true distribution is defined as follows [28],

**Definition 5.4.** *Kullback Leibler distance*—The Kullback Leibler distance between a desired distribution  $q$  and a true distribution  $p$  is equal to:

$$KL(p, q) = \sum_{p_i} p_i \log_2 \frac{p_i}{q_i}, \quad (5.35)$$

where  $p_i, q_i$  denote the discrete values of the distributions  $p, q$  respectively.

We also compare theory, simulation and approximation results with respect to the total variation distance (TV-distance), a metric that reflects the worst case performance and is defined as follows.

**Definition 5.5.** *Total variation distance*—The total variation distance between two distributions  $q, p$  is the maximum difference between the probabilities that can be assigned to the same event,

$$TV(p, q) = \sup_i \{|p_i - q_i|\}. \quad (5.36)$$

We validate our formulas for homogeneous networks (sensors have identical sensing area) as well as heterogeneous networks (sensors have different sensing areas).

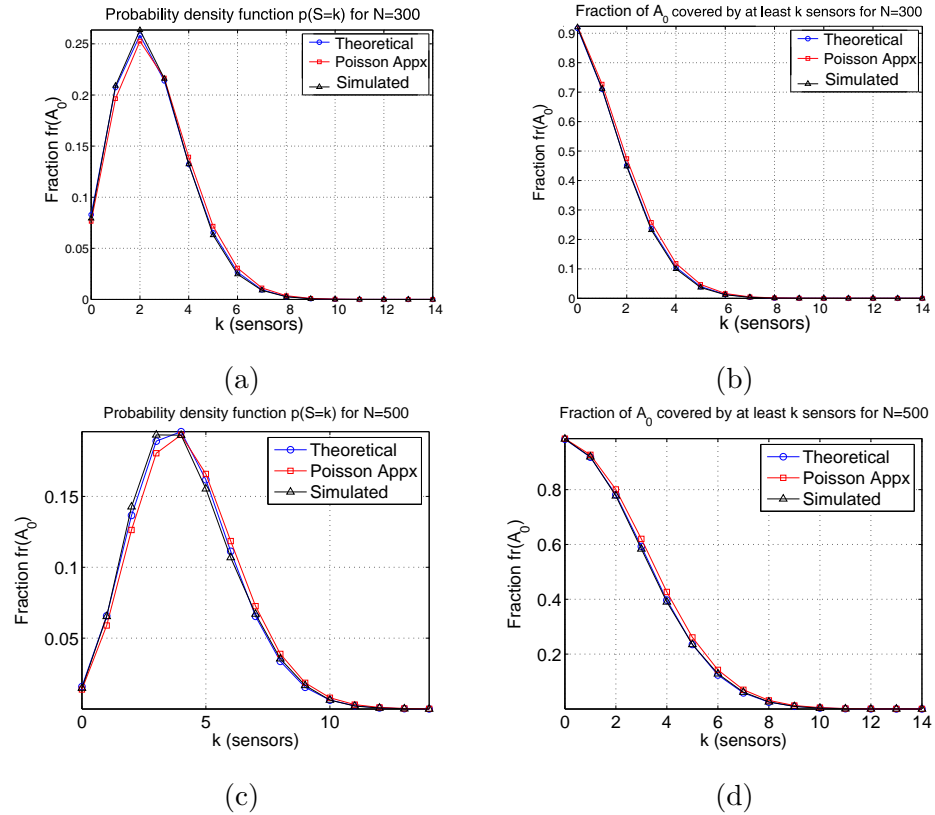


Figure 5.6: (a) The pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 300$  sensors with identical sensing area are randomly deployed. (b) The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors when  $N = 300$  sensors with identical sensing area are randomly deployed. (c) The pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 500$  sensors with identical sensing area are randomly deployed. (d) The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors when 500 sensors with identical sensing are randomly deployed.

#### 5.4.1 Homogeneous Sensor Network- Unit Disk Sensing Area

In our first experiment, we randomly deployed a variable number of sensors with identical sensing area in a circular  $FoI$  of radius  $R = 100\text{m}$ . All sensors had a circular sensing area of radius  $r = 10\text{m}$ . We repeated the random deployment of sensors 100 times and averaged the results. In figure 5.5(a), we show the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , that remains non-covered as a function of the number of sensors  $N$  that are deployed to monitor the  $FoI$ . The theoretical formula that computes that desired fraction is obtained from Corollary 5.1 and is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned}
fr(\mathcal{A}_0) = p(S = 0) &= \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_i}{2\pi(F_0 + F_i) + L_0 L_i} = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L}{2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L} \\
&= \left( \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L}{2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L} \right)^N, \quad (5.37)
\end{aligned}$$

where  $F_0 = \pi R^2$ ,  $L_0 = 2\pi R$ ,  $F = \pi r^2$ ,  $L = 2\pi r$ . The Poisson approximation of the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  that is non-covered is given by [ [72, 78, 92]:

$$fr'(\mathcal{A}_0) = p'(S = 0) = e^{-\frac{NF}{F_0}}. \quad (5.38)$$

We observe that the simulation results verify our theoretical expression, while the Poisson approximation deviates from the simulation results. In figure 5.6(a), we show the pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 300$  sensors with identical sensing area are randomly deployed. The equivalent sensor density is equal to  $\rho = 0.0095$  sensors/ $m^2$ . The same graphs for  $N = 500$ ,  $N = 1,000$  (densities  $\rho = 0.016$  sensors/ $m^2$ ,  $\rho = 0.032$  sensors/ $m^2$ ) are provided in figures 5.6(c) and 5.7(a), respectively. According to Theorem 5.5,  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  is equal to the pdf of the probability that a randomly selected point  $P$  is covered by exactly  $k$  sensors. Our analytical derivation in Section 5.3.5, yields:

$$fr(\mathcal{A}_0) = p(S = k) = \frac{\binom{N}{k} (2\pi F)^k (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L)^{N-k}}{(2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L)^N}. \quad (5.39)$$

The Poisson approximation of the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  that is covered by exactly  $k$  sensors is equal to [72],

$$fr'(\mathcal{A}_0) = p'(S = k) = \frac{\left(\frac{NF}{F_0}\right)^k}{k!} e^{-\frac{NF}{F_0}}. \quad (5.40)$$

For the pdf of the number of sensors covering exactly a fraction of the  $FoI$ , we computed the KL-distance and TV-distance between the theoretical pdf in (5.39) from the simulated pdf as well as KL-distance and TV-distance of the Poisson approximated pdf in (5.40) from the simulated pdf. In Table 5.2, we summarize the comparison of the theoretical pdf and its Poisson approximation. We observe a deviation of the Poisson approximated formula from the simulated results, mainly due to the border effects [10]. On the other hand, our theoretical pdf is almost identical to a real pdf (the KL-distance is equal to zero when the

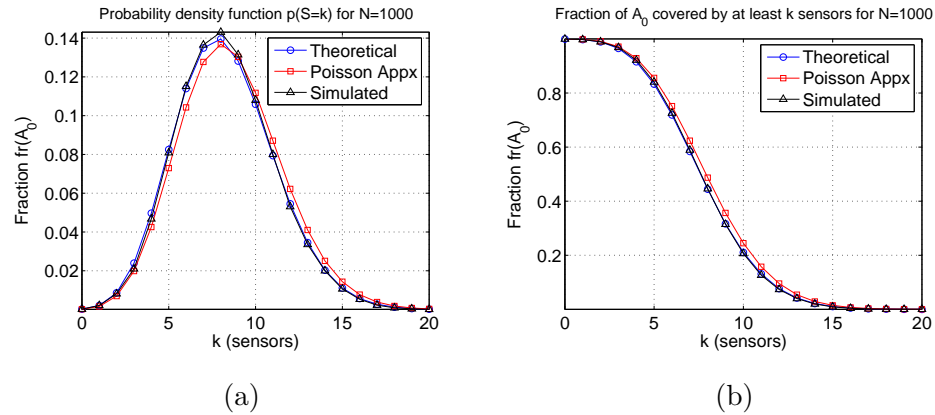


Figure 5.7: (a) The pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 1000$  sensors with identical sensing area are randomly deployed. (b) The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors when  $N = 1000$  sensors with identical sensing area are randomly deployed.

two distribution compared are identical), showing that our analytical derivation accurately predict the coverage achieved by the sensor deployment.

We also observe that the KL-distance for the Poisson approximation increases with the increase of  $N$ . This is due to the fact that as the number of sensors increases, more sensors will be deployed at the border of the deployment region, and, hence, the border effect becomes more significant. On the other hand no such pattern occurs for the KL-distance for our theoretical result. In terms of the worst case performance, the TV-distance using (5.39) is significantly smaller compared to the TV-distance between the simulation the Poisson approximation in (5.40).

In figure 5.6(b), we show the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by *at least*  $k$  sensors when  $N = 300$ . The same graphs for  $N = 500$ ,  $N = 1,000$  are provided in figures 5.6(d) and 5.7(b), respectively. For all graphs in figures 5.6, 5.7 we show the theoretical result according to our expressions, the simulation values as well as the Poisson approximation.

#### 5.4.2 Homogeneous Sensor Networks - Triangular sensing area

In our second experiment, we studied the impact of the shape of the sensing area of the sensor to coverage. We randomly deployed 500 sensors in a circular *FoI* of radius 100m. Each sensor had a triangular sensing area with each side of the triangle being equal to

Table 5.2: Comparison of the KL-distance and TV-distance of our theoretical pdf  $p(S = k)$  with the spatial Poisson approximation  $p'(S = k)$  for varying number of sensors with identical sensing areas, randomly deployed in the  $FoI$ .

Number of Nodes ( $N$ )	Theoretical Result in (5.39)		Poisson Approximation in (5.40)	
	KL dist. ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )	TV dist. ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )	KL dist. ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )	TV dist. ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )
300	0.56	14.3	4.2	34.4
500	0.11	6.4	5.9	58.5
700	0.062	4.4	7.1	48.0
1000	0.096	3.6	9.4	52.1
1500	0.01	2.8	13.4	40.6
$R = 100m, r = 10m, F_0 = \pi R^2, L_0 = 2\pi, F = \pi r^2, L = 2\pi r$				

$r = 10m$ . The size of the sensing area of each sensor is equal to  $F = r^2 \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}$  while the perimeter is equal to  $L = 3r$ . We repeated the experiment 100 times, computed the coverage probability and averaged the results.

We then repeated the same experiment with sensors having a circular sensing area of size equal to the triangular one, and compute the achieved coverage. for the circular sensing area, the equivalent radius is equal to  $r_c = r \frac{3^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\sqrt{4\pi}}$ . In figure 5.8(a), we compare the pdf of the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors obtained via theoretical computation as well as the simulation outcome, for both triangular and circular sensing areas. In figure 5.8(b) we show fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors obtained via theoretical computation as well as the simulation outcome, for both triangular and circular sensing areas.

We observe that independent of the shape of the sensing area the theoretical computation using triangular sensing areas is almost equal to the theoretical computation using circular sensing areas. This result shows that if the number of sensors deployed is relatively large, the coverage achieved does not depend on the shape of the sensing area, but only on the size of the sensing area. Though the circular and the triangular sensing areas have a different perimeter, they achieve the same coverage since they have the same size  $F$ .

Analyzing formula (5.23), the coverage probability depends on the fractions  $\frac{F}{F_0}, \frac{L_0 L}{F_0}$ . Since in our experiment the triangular sensing area had the same size as the circular sensing



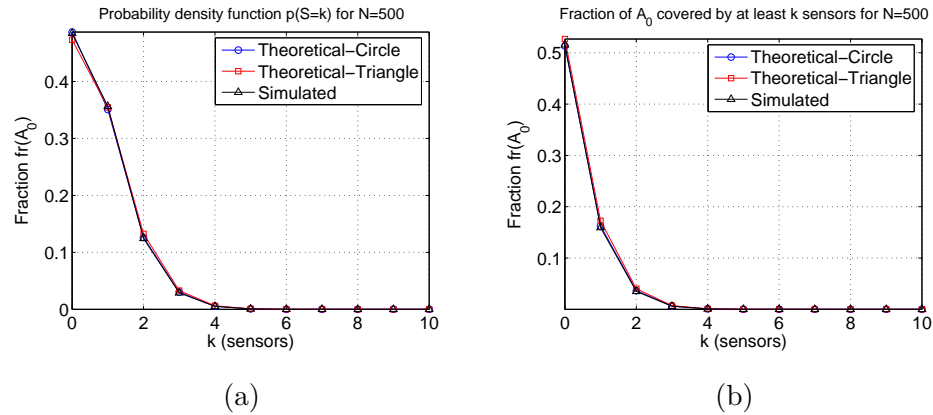


Figure 5.8: (a) The pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 1000$  sensors with identical sensing area are randomly deployed. (b) The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors when  $N = 1000$  sensors with identical sensing area are randomly deployed.

area the difference in the coverage probability in the two deployments depends only on the fraction  $\frac{L_0 L}{F_0}$ . However, the difference in the fraction  $\frac{L_0 L}{F_0}$  for triangles and circles is negligible with respect to the value of  $2\pi$ , or  $\left(2\pi + \frac{F}{F_0}\right)$  where it is added. Hence, although  $\mathcal{A}_0$  does not extend infinitely, its size is sufficiently large such that the impact of the perimeter of the sensing area  $L$  is negligible. This would not be the case if  $F_0$  and  $L$  were of comparable size, or the perimeters of the sensing areas differed significantly.

The independence of the coverage achieved from the shape of the sensing areas, is also illustrated in the Poisson approximation shown in (5.31), where the coverage only depends on the size of the area  $F$  and not the perimeter  $L$ . As  $F_0$  increases both  $\frac{L}{F_0}$  and  $\frac{L_0}{F_0}$  tend to zero [102] and, hence, the perimeter of both the  $F \circ I$  and the sensing area do not influence the coverage probability.

#### 5.4.3 Heterogeneous Sensor Networks

In our second experiment, we considered a hierarchical (heterogeneous) sensor network, where two types of sensors are deployed. Type  $A$  has a sensing area of disk shape with a sensing range  $r_A = 10m$ , while type  $B$  has a sensing area of disk shape with a sensing range

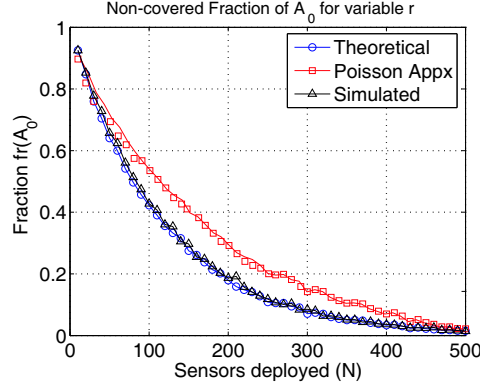


Figure 5.9: Fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , that remains non-covered as a function of the number of sensors  $N$  that are deployed to monitor the  $FoI$ , for the heterogeneous network deployed in the second experiment.

of  $r_B = 15m$ . We randomly deployed an equal number  $N_A = N_B = \frac{N}{2}$  of sensors of each type over a circular  $FoI$  of size  $F_0 = \pi R^2$  where  $R = 100m$ . In figure 5.9, we show the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , that remains non-covered as a function of the number of sensors  $N$  that are deployed to monitor the  $FoI$ . The theoretical formula that compute that is equal to:

$$fr(\mathcal{A}_0) = p(S = 0) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_i}{2\pi(F_0 + F_i) + L_0 L_i}, \quad (5.41)$$

where  $F_0 = \pi R^2$ ,  $L_0 = 2\pi R$ ,  $F_i = \pi r_i^2$ ,  $L = 2\pi r_i$ . The Poisson approximation of the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  that is non-covered was illustrated in [78], and is given by,

$$fr'(\mathcal{A}_0) = p'(S = 0) = e^{-\frac{NE[F]}{F_0}}. \quad (5.42)$$

where  $E[F] = \pi E[r^2]$  denotes the expected value of the sensing area of the sensors deployed.

We observe that the simulation results verify our theoretical expression, while the Poisson approximation deviates from the simulation results. In figure 5.10(a), we show the pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 300$  sensors are randomly deployed. The equivalent sensor density is equal to  $\rho = 0.0095$  sensors/ $m^2$ . The same graphs for  $N = 500$ ,  $N = 1,000$  (densities  $\rho = 0.016$  sensors/ $m^2$ ,  $\rho = 0.032$  sensors/ $m^2$ ) are provided in figures 5.10(c) and 5.11(a), respectively. According to Theorem 5.5,  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  is equal to

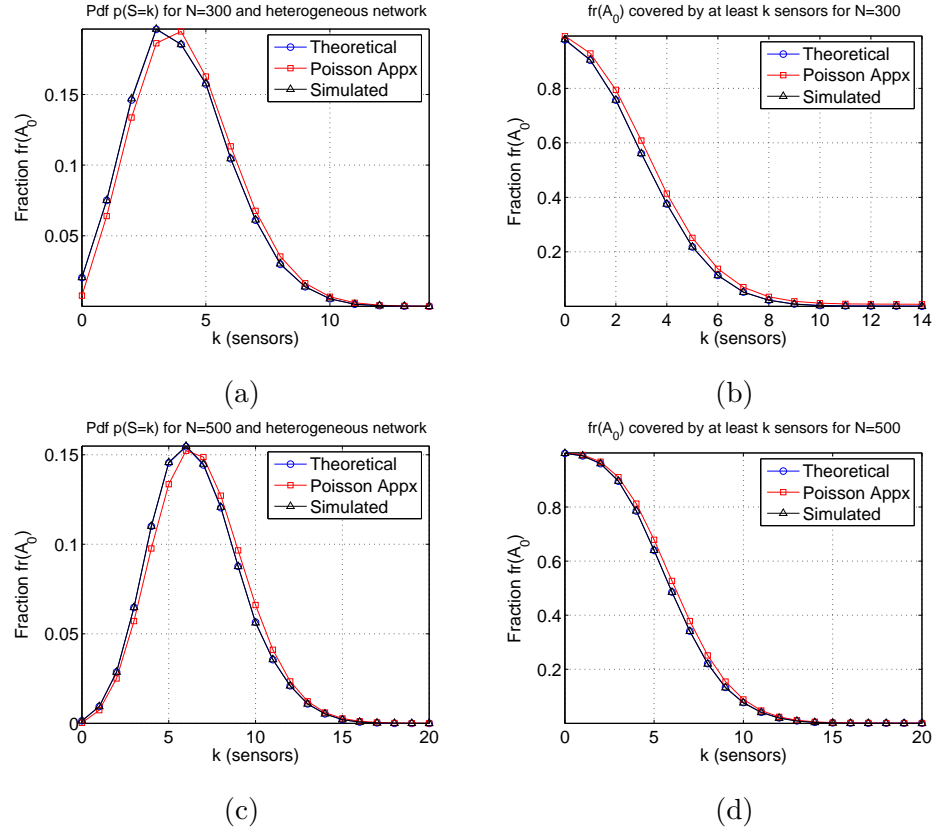


Figure 5.10: Heterogeneous sensor network, with  $FoI$  being a disk of radius  $R = 100m$ . An equal number of two types of sensors are deployed; Type  $A$  has a sensing area of radius  $r_A = 10m$ , while type  $B$  has a sensing area of  $r_B = 15m$ . (a) The pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 300$  sensors. (b) The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors when  $N = 300$  sensors. (c) The pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 500$  sensors. (d) The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors when  $N = 500$  sensors.

the pdf  $p(S = k)$  of the probability that a randomly selected point  $P$  is covered by exactly  $k$  sensors. Our analytical derivation in Section 5.3.4, yields:

$$fr(\mathcal{A}_0) = p(S = k) = \begin{cases} \prod_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_i}{2\pi(F_0 + F_i) + L_0 L_i} \right), & k = 0 \\ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \binom{N}{k} \left( \prod_{j=1}^k (2\pi F_{T(i,j)}) \prod_{z=1}^{N-k} (2\pi F_0 + L_0 L_{G(i,z)}) \right)}{\prod_{r=1}^N (2\pi(F_0 + F_r) + L_0 L_r)}, & k \geq 1. \end{cases} \quad (5.43)$$

The Poisson approximation of the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  that is covered by exactly  $k$  sensors is

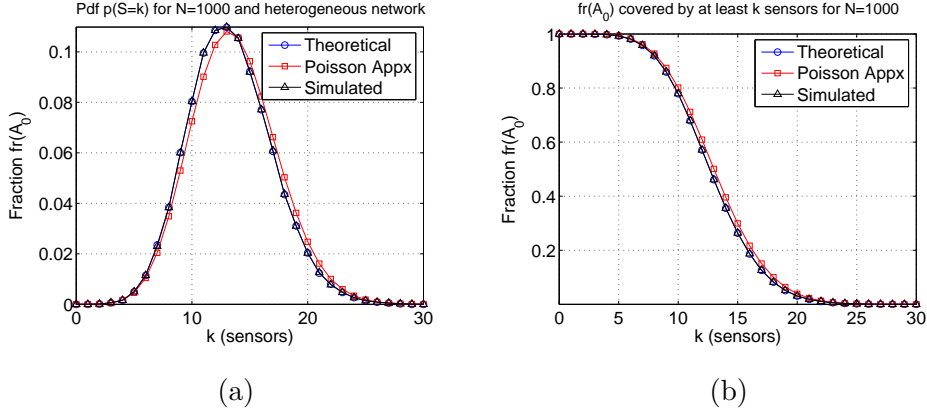


Figure 5.11: Heterogeneous sensor network, with  $FoI$  being a disk of radius  $R = 100m$ . An equal number of two types of sensors are deployed; Type  $A$  has a sensing area of a disk shape with radius  $r_A = 10m$ , while type  $B$  has a sensing area of a disk shape with  $r_B = 15m$ . (a) The pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 1000$  sensors. (b) The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors when  $N = 1000$  sensors.

equal to,

$$fr'(A_0) = p'(S = k) = \frac{\left(\frac{NE[F]}{F_0}\right)^k}{k!} e^{-\frac{NE[F]}{F_0}}. \tag{5.44}$$

For the pdf of the number of sensors covering exactly a fraction of the FoI in the heterogeneous case, we again computed the KL-distance and TV-distance between the theoretical pdf in (5.43) from the simulated pdf as well as the KL-distance and TV-distance of the Poisson approximated pdf in (5.43) from the simulated pdf. In Table 5.3, we summarize the comparison of the theoretical pdf and its Poisson approximation. As in the case of the homogeneous network, we observe a higher deviation of the Poisson approximated formula from the simulated results. This deviation is not only due to the border effects [9, 10], but also due to the use of the expected size of the sensing area of the sensors in the Poisson approximated formula. On the other hand, our theoretical pdf is almost identical to a real pdf, showing that our analytical derivation accurately predicts the coverage achieved by the sensor deployment.

As in the case of the homogeneous sensor network, we also observe that the KL-distance and TV-distance for the Poisson approximation increases with the increase of  $N$ . This is due to the fact that the as the number of deployed sensors increases, more sensors will

be deployed at the border of the deployment region and, hence, the border effect becomes more significant. On the other hand no such pattern occurs for the KL-distance between our theoretical result and the simulations.

Table 5.3: Comparison in terms of the KL-distance and TV-distance of our theoretical pdf  $p(S = k)$  with the spatial Poisson approximation  $p'(S = k)$  for varying number of sensors with identical sensing areas, randomly deployed in the *FoI*.

Number of Nodes ( $N$ )	Theoretical Result in (5.43)		Poisson Approximation in (5.44)	
	KL dist. ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )	TV dist. ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )	KL dist. ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )	TV dist. ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )
300	0.86	14.7	2.2	36.3
500	1.4	18.3	6.9	38.4
700	0.062	7.8	8.4	49.4
1000	0.096	10.9	12.3	59.6
1500	0.15	11.5	15.7	65.2
$R = 100m, \quad r_A = 10m, \quad r_B = 15m, \quad F_0 = \pi R^2, \quad L_0 = 2\pi$ $F_A = \pi r_A^2, \quad L_A = 2\pi r_A, \quad F_B = \pi r_B^2, \quad L_B = 2\pi r_B, \quad N_A = N_B = \frac{N}{2}$				

In figure 5.10(b), we show the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by *at least*  $k$  sensors when  $N = 300$ . The same graphs for  $N = 500, N = 1,000$  are provided in figures 5.10(d) and 5.11(b), respectively. For all graphs in figures 5.6, 5.7 we show the theoretical result according to our expressions, the simulation values as well as the Poisson approximation.

In the case of heterogeneous sensor networks where each sensor has a different sensing area, the formula in (5.43) has an exponentially increasing computational cost, since an exponentially increasing summation of terms must be computed in order to derive the exact coverage achieved. Such a computation may not be feasible for large networks. The higher accuracy obtained using the exact formula, does not justify the tradeoff in computational complexity with respect to the Poisson approximation provided by [78].

In such a case, a similar approximation can be used for our formulas by employing the expressions derived for a homogeneous sensor network and substituting the size  $F$  and perimeter  $L$  of the sensing area of the sensors with the expected size  $E[F]$  and expected

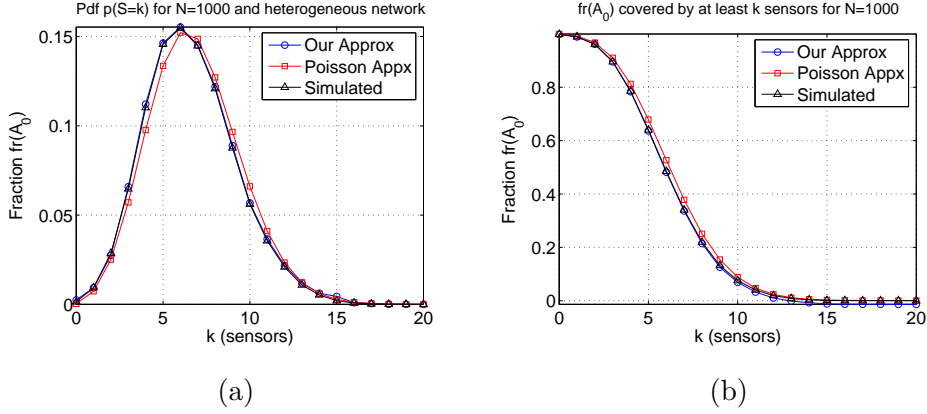


Figure 5.12: Heterogeneous sensor network, with  $FoI$  being a disk of radius  $R = 100m$ . An equal number of two types of sensors are deployed; Type  $A$  has a sensing area of a disk shape with radius  $r_A = 10m$ , while type  $B$  has a sensing area of a disk shape with  $r_B = 15m$ . (a) The pdf of the fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by exactly  $k$  sensors when  $N = 500$  sensors. (b) The fraction  $fr(\mathcal{A}_0)$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors when  $N = 500$  sensors.

perimeter  $E[L]$ . The theoretical approximation for such a case is:

$$fr(\mathcal{A}_0) = p(S = k) = \frac{\binom{N}{k} (2\pi E[F])^k (2\pi F_0 + L_0 E[L])^{N-k}}{(2\pi (F_0 + E[F]) + L_0 E[L])^N}. \quad (5.45)$$

In figure 5.12(a) we show the pdf obtained via simulation for our heterogeneous sensor network experiment, for  $N = 500$  sensors, the theoretical values based on the exact formula in (5.43), the Poisson approximation in (5.44), and the approximation in (5.45). In figure 5.12(b), we show the fraction of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  covered by at least  $k$  sensors. We observe that for the case of heterogeneous sensor networks where each sensor has a different sensing area, (5.45) provides a better approximation than the (5.44), without incurring the computational cost of (5.43). The KL-distance for the approximation obtained via (5.45) is equal to  $2.3 \times 10^{-3}$ , while the Poisson approximation gives a KL-distance equal to  $6.8 \times 10^{-3}$ . With respect to the worst case, the TV-distance for the approximation obtained via (5.45) is equal to  $6.4 \times 10^{-3}$ , while the Poisson approximation gives a TV-distance equal to  $54.6 \times 10^{-3}$ .

#### 5.4.4 An Example of Computing the Coverage in a Sample Network

In this section, we provide an example of applying our results to a sample sensor network. Consider an  $FoI$  of size  $F_0 = 10^6 m^2$  and perimeter  $L_0 = 4,000m$  where sensors of identical

sensing area  $F = 100\pi$  and perimeter  $L = 20\pi$  are randomly deployed. We want to compute the number of sensors needed in order for a randomly selected point of the  $FoI$  to be covered by at least one sensor with a probability  $p_C = 95\%$ . Or alternatively, the number of sensors  $N$  needed, so that a fraction  $p_C = 0.95$  of the field of interest is covered by at least one sensor.

Lemma 5.2 and Corollary 5.1 yield:

$$\begin{aligned} p(S \geq 1) &= 1 - p(S = 0) \\ &= 1 - \prod_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L}{2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L} \right) \\ &= 1 - \left( \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L}{2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L} \right)^N. \end{aligned}$$

We want the probability of 1-coverage to be at least  $p(S \geq 1) \geq p$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} P(S \geq 1) &= 1 - \left( \frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L}{2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L} \right)^N \geq p_C \Rightarrow \\ N &\geq \frac{\log(1 - p_C)}{\log\left(\frac{2\pi F_0 + L_0 L}{2\pi(F_0 + F) + L_0 L}\right)}. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the values for  $p_C, F_0, L_0, F, L$  yields  $N \geq 9,728$  sensors.

### 5.5 Summary of Contributions

We studied the problem of stochastic coverage in heterogeneous sensor networks. By mapping the coverage problem to the set intersection problem, we derived analytical formulas that compute the  $k$ -coverage when sensors are deployed in a Field of Interest according to an arbitrary distribution  $Y$ . In our analysis, the sensors can have a sensing area of any shape and also need not have identical sensing areas. We provided simplified expressions for the case when the sensors are randomly deployed, as well as when the sensors have identical sensing areas.

We verified our theoretical results via simulation and compared them with previous formulas that characterized coverage in both homogeneous and heterogeneous sensor networks. By evaluating the KL-distance between the analytic coverage formulas and the simulation, we showed that our expressions provide a significantly higher accuracy. This is due to the

fact that our results do not suffer from the border effects and hold exactly rather than approximately. We also provided examples on how to utilize our expressions in order to compute the number of sensors that need to be deployed in a Field of Interest, so that a coverage requirement is met.



## Chapter 6

## DETECTION OF MOBILE TARGETS IN HETEROGENEOUS SENSOR NETWORKS

Target detection is a fundamental service required by most WSN applications. As an example, in a habitat monitoring scenario, it is of interest to detect when an animal under surveillance enters the *FoI*. In a military scenario, timely detection of any intrusion in secure areas is critical. In this chapter, *we address the problem of analytically quantifying the quality of the target detection capability of a WSN.*

When WSN are used for the purposes of target detection, a number of sensors  $N$  are deployed to monitor a *FoI*. The sensor deployment can be either stochastic or deterministic depending on the type of application and the *FoI*. Stochastic deployment is preferred when (a) the *FoI* is not under the designer's control at the time of deployment (hostile environment) [18, 26] or, (b) it is more cost-effective to randomly drop the sensors than physically place them (large-scale networks) [26, 55]. Deterministic sensor deployment is preferred when maximizing the target detection probability and/or minimizing the number of sensors deployed is a priority [55].

In order to quantify the target detection capability of a WSN, we consider two detection models. In the first model called the *Instant Detection* model (ID), a sensor  $s$  detects a target  $X$  when the trajectory of  $X$  intersects the sensing area of  $s_i$ . A similar model has also been considered in [3, 18, 22, 42, 126]. Often in realistic scenarios, a sensor needs to collect multiple samples of the target for information processing, in order to perform reliable detection, classify the target, and reduce the false alarm<sup>1</sup> [2, 69]. Hence, we also consider the *Sampling Detection* model (SD), where a sensor  $s$  must sample the target  $X$  for at least  $t$ th units of time, before  $s$  can reliably determine the presence of  $X$ . Several previous works have assumed the *Energy Detection* model (ED), where a target is detected if the energy

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<sup>1</sup>We do not address the problem of data processing for target detection.

level measured by a set of sensors exceeds a pre-defined threshold [25,55,75]. The ED model also requires a threshold number of samples to reliably detect a target [2], and hence, ED is a special case of the SD model.

If the number of sensors to be deployed is not sufficient to cover the entire border of the *FoI* target detection is achieved only probabilistically. In such a case, a widely used metric that quantifies the detection capability of a WSN is the probability of target detection by at least one sensor [18]. This metric provides a worst-case guarantee on the number of sensors able to detect a moving target. For applications that require enhanced fault tolerance and reduced false alarms, detection by more than one sensors is critical [26,55,75]. In such cases, the quality of detection is characterized by probability of detection by at least  $k$  sensors, where  $k$  is a design parameter. Furthermore, in several applications it is critical that any target crossing the *FoI* is detected in a timely fashion. The relevant metric that quantifies the time delay in the detection process, is the mean time until the first detection [18,42]. This metric is dependent not only on the sensor deployment and characteristics, but also on the speed  $v$  of the target.

### 6.0.1 Our Contributions

In this chapter we make the following contributions. We map the target detection problem to a line-set intersection problem. Based on our mapping, we use tools from Integral Geometry and Geometric Probability to analytically evaluate the probability of detecting targets moving at a random direction within the *FoI*. Compared to previous works, [3,18,22,25,42,55,75,126], our formulation allows us to consider a heterogeneous sensing model where sensors need not have identical sensing capabilities. We show our derivations for sensing areas of arbitrary shape, and simplify our formulas when the sensing areas conform to the special case of the unit disk model, that is commonly adopted [3,18,22,42,126]. We consider the problem of target detection under both the ID and SD models, and by introducing the concept of the effective sensing area, we show that the target detection problem under the SD model can be reduced to the target detection problem under the ID model.

We analyze the target detection probability for both stochastic and deterministic sensor deployment. For the stochastic deployment case, we compute the probability  $P_D(k)$  that a target  $X$  is detected by at least  $k$  sensors when it crosses a  $FoI$ . We also compute the mean time until the target is first detected as a function of the network parameters. For the deterministic deployment case, we compute the worst-case probability of detection, denoted as  $P_D(1)$ , in which the target is detected by at least one sensor, as a function of the pairwise distances among the sensors. We show that  $P_D(1)$  increases with the increase of pairwise distances among sensors, and asymptotically approaches a fixed upper bound that is never achieved. We show that the complexity of the exact formula for  $P_D(1)$  grows exponentially with the network size, and, hence, we provide lower and upper bounds.

The rest of the chapter is organized as follows. In Section 6.1, we state our model assumptions, formulate the target detection problem, and provide relevant background on Integral Geometry. In Section 6.2, we analytically evaluate the target detection probability for stochastically deployed WSN. In Section 6.3, we analytically evaluate the probability of detection for deterministically deployed WSN. In Section 6.4, we verify our theoretical results via simulations. In Section 6.5 we present related work. Section 6.6 presents the summary of our contributions.

## **6.1 Model Assumptions, Problem Formulation and Background**

### *6.1.1 Network and Target Model Assumptions*

In this section we state our assumptions about the network deployment, as well as the sensor and target models we adopt.

#### *Field of Interest (FoI)*

We assume that sensors are deployed in the plane<sup>2</sup> in order to detect targets crossing a planar  $FoI$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . The  $FoI$  is assumed to be a connected and closed set of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  of arbitrary shape. In the case where the  $FoI$  is not convex, we assume that

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<sup>2</sup>Although we present our analysis for the case where sensors are deployed in a plane, our results can be extended in the three dimensions in a straightforward manner.

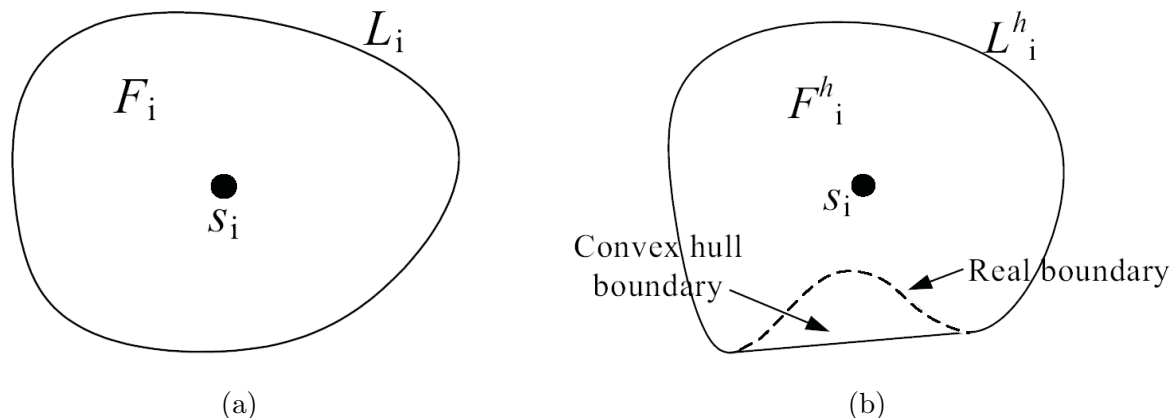


Figure 6.1: (a) A convex sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ , (b) A non-convex sensing area with a convex hull boundary of size  $L_i^h$  and area size  $F_i^h$ .

the size, denoted as  $F_0^h$ , and perimeter, denoted as  $L_0^h$ , of the convex hull of  $FoI$  are known. We do not address the case where the  $FoI$  has holes.

### Network Deployment

**Stochastic Network Deployment:** Under stochastic network deployment, we assume that  $N$  sensors are identically and independently distributed within a planar  $FoI$ , according to a random (uniform) distribution.

**Deterministic Network Deployment:** Under deterministic network deployment, we assume that  $N$  sensors can be placed at any desired position within the  $FoI$ .

### Target Model

We assume that a target  $X$  crosses the  $FoI$ , by moving at a constant speed  $v$ , and direction  $\theta$ . Targets are assumed to have no physical dimensions, and hence, their trajectories are assumed straight lines, with all trajectories crossing the  $FoI$  being equiprobable<sup>3</sup>. While in reality, moving targets may not follow straight lines, assuming straight line motion provides us with the worst case analysis, since the time the target remains within an  $FoI$ ,

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<sup>3</sup>Our analytic derivations can be extended to the case where the trajectory of the target is of arbitrary shape, but illustrations using straight lines are preferred here for simplicity.

given an entry and exit point, is minimized. Hence, the time that the target can be observed by a sensor is also minimized. Straight line motion models have also been assumed in [18,42].

### *Sensing Model*

We assume that each sensor  $s_i, i = 1 \dots N$  has a sensing area  $A_i$  that is a closed and connected set of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ . In the case where the sensing area is not convex, we assume that the size, denoted as  $F_i^h$  and perimeter, denoted as  $L_i^h$  of the convex hull of  $A_i$  are known. Based on our assumptions, sensors need not have an identical sensing area  $A_i$ . Figure 6.1.(a) illustrates a sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of convex shape. Figure 6.1.(b) illustrates a non-convex sensing area and the equivalent convex hull boundary. For detecting a moving target  $X$  we consider the following two cases:

- (a) ID model: A target  $X$  is detected by a sensor  $s_i$  if the trajectory of  $X$  crosses the sensing area of  $s_i$ .
- (b) SD model: A target  $X$  is detected by a sensor  $s_i$  if  $X$  is sensed (sampled) for at least  $t \geq t_{th}$  units of time, where  $t_{th}$  is a design parameter.

Figure 6.2(a) illustrates detection based on the ID model which places no constraint on the length of the line segment of the trajectory within  $\mathcal{A}_i$ . Figure 6.2(b) illustrates detection based on the SD model model, where a target  $X$  moving at a constant speed  $v$  is detected, only if the trajectory inside  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is longer than  $vt_{th}$ . We now provide our formulation for the moving target detection problem.

#### *6.1.2 Problem Formulation*

For the case of the stochastic sensor deployment we formulate the moving target detection problem as follows.

**Moving target detection problem under stochastic deployment:** *Given a FoI  $\mathcal{A}_0$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  sensed by  $N$  sensors with sensor  $s_i$  having a sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ , randomly and independently deployed within the FoI, compute*

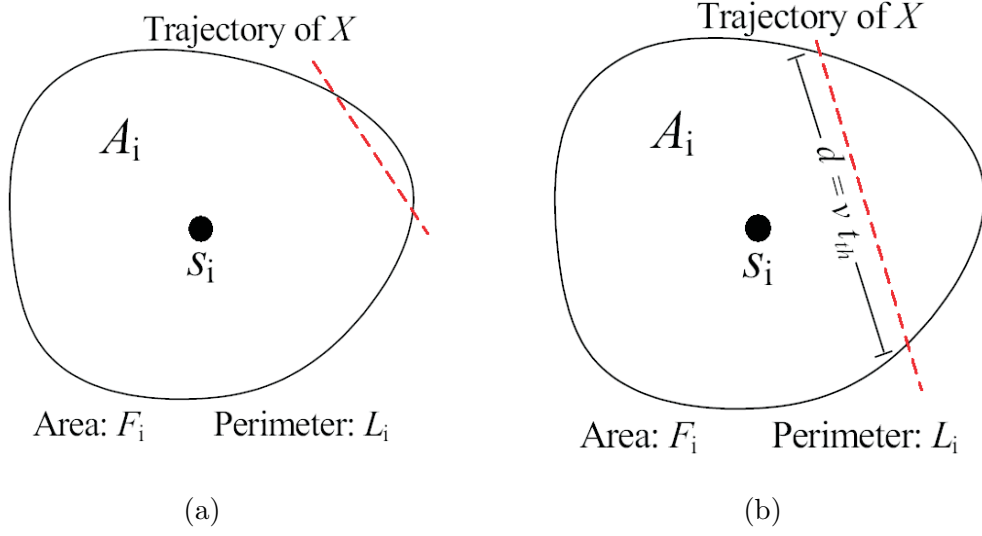


Figure 6.2: (a) The instant detection model: a target  $X$  is detected if its trajectory crosses the sensing area of  $s_i$ , (b) the sampling detection model: a target  $X$  is detected if it is sensed for at least  $t_{th}$  units of time. Given a constant speed  $v$  of  $X$ , the length of the trajectory of  $X$  within the sensing area of  $s_i$  must be greater than  $vt_{th}$ .

the probability  $P_D(k)$  that a target  $X$  randomly crossing  $A_0$  by moving on a straight line is detected by at least  $k$  sensors.

**Mapping the moving target detection problem:** The problem of moving target detection under stochastic deployment can be mapped to a line-set intersection problem by performing the following mapping. Let the  $FoI$  be mapped to a bounded set  $S_0$ , defined as a collection of points in the plane. Let  $S_0$  have an area of size  $F_0$  and perimeter of length  $L_0$ . Let the sensing area of sensor  $s_i$  be mapped to a bounded set  $S_i$  with area size  $F_i$  and perimeter length  $L_i$ . Let the trajectory of the target  $X$  be mapped to a straight line  $\ell(\xi, \theta)$  in the plane, with parameters  $\xi$  and  $\theta$  be the shortest distance of  $\ell$  to the origin, and  $\theta$  by the angle of the normal to the line, with reference to the coordinate system, respectively. Then, the moving target detection problem for stochastic WSN is equivalent to the following line-set intersection problem.

**Line-set intersection problem under stochastic deployment:** Given a bounded set  $S_0$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  and  $N$  sets  $S_i$  of area  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$  randomly and independently placed inside  $S_0$ , compute the probability  $P_D(k)$  that a random line  $\ell$  intersecting

$S_0$ , also intersects at least  $k$  out of the  $N$  sets  $S_i, i = 1 \dots N$ .

In the case of deterministic sensor deployment the moving target detection problem can be stated as follows.

**Moving target detection problem under deterministic deployment:** *Given a FoI  $\mathcal{A}_0$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  sensed by  $N$  sensors with each sensor  $s_i$  having a sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ , and a target  $X$  randomly crossing  $\mathcal{A}_0$  by moving on a straight line, find the positions  $c_1 \dots c_N$  of the  $N$  sensors that maximize the probability  $P_D$  of detecting the target  $X$ .*

Following a similar mapping as in the case of stochastic WSN, computing  $P_D$  under deterministic sensor deployment can be mapped to the following line-set intersection problem.

**Line-set intersection problem under stochastic deployment:** *Given a bounded set  $S_0$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  and  $N$  sets  $S_i$  of area  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ , and a random line  $l$  that intersects  $S_0$ , find the positions  $c_i \dots c_N$  where the  $N$  sets should be placed in order to maximize the probability that the line  $l$  intersects at least one of the  $N$  sets.*

The mapping of the moving target detection problem to a line-set intersection problem allows us to utilize tools from Integral Geometry and Geometric probability [102, 108, 113] in analytically evaluating the detection probability  $P_D$ . Throughout the rest of the paper the terms sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  and set  $S_i$  will be used interchangeably.

### 6.1.3 Relevant Background

To evaluate the detection probability  $P_D$  using the line-set intersection formulation, we need to quantify the number of lines that intersect with the any of the sets  $\mathcal{A}_i$ , as well as the number of lines that intersect with the FoI. However, the set of lines in the plane intersecting a set  $\mathcal{A}$  is uncountable. To bypass our difficulty in counting lines in the plane, we adopt a measure from Integral Geometry and Geometric Probability [102, 108]. In geometric probability, the measure  $m(l)$  of a set of lines  $\ell(\xi, \theta)$  in the plane is defined as follows [102, 108]:

**Definition 6.1. Measure of set of lines  $m(\ell)$ :** *The measure  $m$  of a set of lines  $\ell(\xi, \theta)$  is defined as the integral over the line density  $d\ell = d\xi \wedge d\theta$*

$$m(\ell) = \int d\xi \wedge d\theta, \quad (6.1)$$

where  $\wedge$  denotes the exterior product [39].

In the case where  $\mathcal{A}$  is convex, the measure of the set of lines that intersect  $\mathcal{A}$  is equal to:

$$m(\ell : \ell \cap \mathcal{A} \neq \emptyset) = \int_{v \cap \mathcal{A} \neq \emptyset} d\xi \wedge d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \xi d\theta = L, \quad (6.2)$$

where  $L$  is the perimeter of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Interested reader is referred to [102, 108], for the proof of (6.2). In the case where  $\mathcal{A}$  is non-convex, the measure in (6.2) can be computed by observing that any line intersecting the convex hull of  $\mathcal{A}$ , also intersects  $\mathcal{A}$ . Hence, the measure of the set of lines that intersect a non-convex set is equal to the perimeter of the convex hull of that set, denoted as  $L^h$ .

A geometric interpretation for (6.2), can be obtained by considering the thickness  $T(\theta)$  of a bounded set  $\mathcal{A}$ , defined as [108]:

**Definition 6.2. Thickness of a bounded set  $T(\theta)$  :** *The thickness of a bounded set  $\mathcal{A}$  at direction  $\theta$  is defined as the length of the projection of  $\mathcal{A}$  to a line of direction  $\theta$ .*

The thickness of a set  $\mathcal{A}$  measures the set of lines along the direction perpendicular to  $\theta$ , that intersect  $\mathcal{A}$ . Figure 6.3(a), illustrates the thickness of a set  $\mathcal{A}_i$  at direction  $\theta$ . Figure 6.3(b) illustrates the thickness of a circular sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$ , of radius  $r$ . Independent of the direction of projection, the thickness of a disk is always equal to the diameter of the sensing area, that is  $T(\theta) = 2r, \forall \theta$ . Thickness is related to  $m(\ell)$  via:

$$m(\ell) = \int_{\ell \cap \mathcal{A} \neq \emptyset} d\xi \wedge d\theta \stackrel{(i)}{=} \int_0^\pi T(\theta) d\theta \stackrel{(ii)}{=} \pi E(T) = L. \quad (6.3)$$

Step (i) holds due to the fact that for a fixed  $\theta$ , the integral of  $d\xi$  (set of positions) of the lines that intersect  $\mathcal{A}$  is equal to  $T(\theta)$ . Step (ii) holds due to the uniform distribution of the lines:

$$E(T) = \int_0^\pi \frac{1}{\pi} T(\theta) d\theta. \quad (6.4)$$



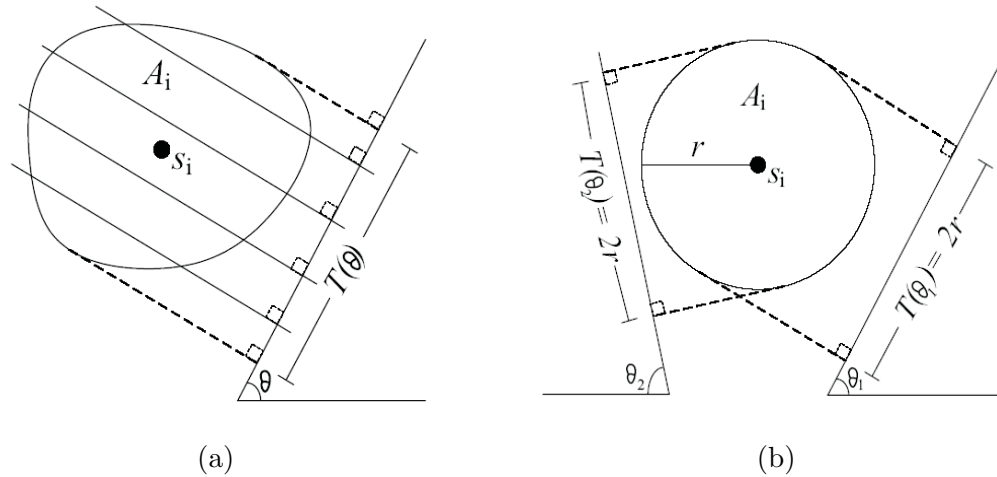


Figure 6.3: (a) The thickness  $T(\theta)$  of a set  $\mathcal{A}$  is equal to the length of the projection of  $\mathcal{A}$  on a line with direction  $\theta$ .  $T(\theta)$  measures the set of lines of direction perpendicular to  $\theta$  that intersect  $\mathcal{A}$ . (b) For the case of a disk,  $T(\theta) = 2r$ ,  $\forall \theta$ , where  $r$  is the radius of the disk  $\mathcal{A}$ .

The relation between between  $m(\ell)$  and  $L$  as expressed in (6.3) can be interpreted as follows. The measure  $m(\ell)$  of the set of lines  $\ell(\xi, \theta)$  intersecting a bounded set  $\mathcal{A}$  is equal to the average length  $E(T)$  of the projection of  $\mathcal{A}$  over all possible directions, times the measure of all the possible directions. In Section 6.2, making use of (6.2), (6.3), we analytically evaluate  $P_D(k)$ .

## 6.2 Detecting Mobile Targets under Stochastic Sensor Deployment

In this section, we analytically evaluate the detection probability  $P_D(k)$ , that a target crossing the  $FoI$  is detected by at least  $k$  sensors. We first evaluate the detection probability under the ID model and show that  $P_D(k)$  can be expressed as a function of the number of sensors deployed and the length of the perimeters of the sensing areas of the sensors. We then evaluate  $P_D(k)$  under the SD model. Finally, we compute the mean time until a target  $X$  crossing the  $FoI$  is first detected.

### 6.2.1 Instant Detection

In this section, we assume that a target  $X$  is detected when the trajectory of  $X$  crosses the sensing area of a sensor  $s_i$  deployed within  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . Under the instant detection model, the

probability that the target  $X$  is detected by at least  $k$  sensors is given by the following theorem.

**Theorem 6.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  be a bounded FoI of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  monitored by  $N$  sensors randomly deployed within  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , with sensor  $s_i, i = 1 \dots N$  having a sensing area of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ . The probability  $P_D(k)$  that at least  $k \geq 1$  sensors detect a target  $X$  crossing the FoI and moving on a straight line is given by:*

$$P_D(k) = 1 - \sum_{w=0}^{k-1} \sum_{j=1}^{|Z_{N,w}|} \prod_{i=1}^{|z_j|} q_{z_j(i)} \prod_{v=1}^{|\bar{z}_j|} (1 - q_{\bar{z}_j(v)}), \quad (6.5)$$

where  $Z_{N,w}$  denotes the  $\binom{N}{w}$   $w$ -tuples  $z_j$  of vector  $[1, \dots, N]$ . That is,  $Z_{N,w} = \{z_j : z_{j(1)}, \dots, z_{j(i)}, 0 \dots, z_{j(w)} \mid j(i) \in [1, N], j(i) \neq j(g), \forall i \neq g\}$ . The  $\bar{z}_j$  denotes the complement  $(N - w)$ -tuple of  $z_j$  with respect to vector  $[1, \dots, N]$ , and  $q_i$  is given by  $q_i = \frac{L_i}{L_0}$ .

*Proof.* Let us first compute the probability that a target is detected by a single sensor  $s_i$ . Based on our mapping in Section 6.1.2, this event is equivalent to the conditional probability  $q_i$  that a line intersecting  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , also intersects  $\mathcal{A}_i$ . This probability is equal to the quotient of the measure of the set of lines that intersect both  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_i$  over the measure of the set of lines that intersect  $\mathcal{A}_0$ .

$$q_i = \frac{m(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_i \neq \emptyset)}{m(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \neq \emptyset)} \stackrel{(i)}{=} \frac{m(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_i \neq \emptyset)}{m(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \neq \emptyset)} \stackrel{(ii)}{=} \frac{L_i}{L_0}. \quad (6.6)$$

Step (i) holds due to the fact that  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is within  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and hence, any line intersecting  $\mathcal{A}_i$  also intersects  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . Step (ii) follows due to (6.2). The probability  $q_i$  in (6.6) is computed for the case where both  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_i$  are convex sets. In the case where any of the sets are not convex, the length of the perimeter of the convex hull  $L^h$ , is used to compute  $q_i$ .

Using (6.6), we now compute the probability that a line  $\ell$  intersects exactly  $k$  sets. Let  $Z_{N,k}$  denote the  $\binom{N}{k}$   $k$ -tuples  $z_j$  of vector  $[1, \dots, N]$ . That is,  $Z_{N,k} = \{z_j : z_{j(1)}, \dots, z_{j(i)}, \dots, z_{j(k)} \mid j(i) \in [1, N], j(i) \neq j(g), \forall i \neq g\}$ . Let also  $\bar{z}_j$  denote the complement of  $z_j$  with respect to the vector  $[1, \dots, N]$ . The probability that a line  $\ell$  intersects all sets

indicated by the  $k$ -tuple  $z_j$  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
P(z_j) &\stackrel{(i)}{=} P\left(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_{z_j(1)} \neq \emptyset, \dots, \ell \cap \mathcal{A}_{z_j(k)} \neq \emptyset, \right. \\
&\quad \left. \ell \cap \mathcal{A}_{\bar{z}_j(1)} = \emptyset, \dots, \ell \cap \mathcal{A}_{\bar{z}_j(N-k)} = \emptyset\right) \\
&\stackrel{(ii)}{=} P\left(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_{z_j(1)} \neq \emptyset\right) \dots P\left(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_{z_j(k)} \neq \emptyset\right) \\
&\quad P\left(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_{\bar{z}_j(1)} = \emptyset\right) P\left(\dots \ell \cap \mathcal{A}_{\bar{z}_j(N-k)} = \emptyset\right) \\
&= \prod_{i=1}^{|z_j|} q_{z_j(i)} \prod_{v=1}^{|\bar{z}_j|} \left(1 - q_{\bar{z}_j(v)}\right), \tag{6.7}
\end{aligned}$$

In (i) we express  $P(z_j)$  as the probability that a random line intersects exactly the  $k$  sets denoted by the  $k$ -tuple  $z_j$ . Since the sets  $\mathcal{A}_i$  are randomly and independently deployed within the  $FoI$ , in (ii) the probability of the intersection of events becomes equal to the product of the probabilities of the individual events.

To compute the probability of a random line intersecting *any*  $k$  sets,  $P(z_j)$  must be summed over all possible  $k$ -tuples  $z_j$ .

$$P(Z_{N,k}) = \sum_{Z_{N,k}} \prod_{i=1}^{|z_j|} q_{z_j(i)} \prod_{v=1}^{|\bar{z}_j|} \left(1 - q_{\bar{z}_j(v)}\right). \tag{6.8}$$

Theorem 6.1 holds by noting that:

$$P_D(k) = 1 - \sum_{w=0}^{k-1} P(Z_{N,w}). \tag{6.9}$$

□

From Theorem 6.1, note that  $P_D(k)$  depends only on the ratios  $L_i L_0$  of  $\mathcal{A}_i$  and not the specific shape, or size of the sensing areas. Hence, Theorem 6.1 allows the analytic computation of the detection probability in the case of sensors with heterogeneous sensing areas. However, the complexity of computing (6.5) grows exponentially with the network size. For large-scale networks,  $P_D(k)$  can be efficiently computed with the use of the following result.

**Theorem 6.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  be a bounded  $FoI$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  monitored by  $N$  sensors randomly deployed within  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , with sensor  $s_i, i = 1 \dots N$  having a sensing area of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ . Let the probability  $q_i$  that a target  $X$  is detected by sensor  $s_i$*

be small, while the sum of the probabilities  $\sum_i q_i$  is nearly a constant  $\gamma$ , as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . The probability  $P(Z_{N,k})$  converges to a Poisson distribution of rate  $\gamma$ .

$$P(Z_{N,k}) = \frac{\gamma^k}{k!} e^{-\gamma}, \quad \sum_i q_i \rightarrow \gamma, \quad \max_i q_i \rightarrow 0. \quad (6.10)$$

*Proof.* The proof of Theorem 6.2 is a special case of *Lindeberg's Central Limit Theorem* and is provided in [49].  $\square$

Substituting (6.10) to (6.9) yields  $P_D(k)$ , for the case of large-scale heterogeneous WSN. If sensors have sensing areas with perimeters of equal length (not necessarily identical shapes), (6.5) can be simplified to the following form.

**Corollary 6.1.** *The probability  $P_D(k)$  that a target crossing the FoI will be detected by at least  $k$  sensors, when all sensors have sensing areas with equal perimeters  $L$  is equal to:*

$$P_D(k) = 1 - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \binom{N}{i} \frac{L^i (L_0 - L)^{N-i}}{L_0^N}. \quad (6.11)$$

*Proof.* Corollary 6.1 follows by setting  $q_i = \frac{L}{L_0}$  in (6.5).  $\square$

Using Theorem 6.1, we can also evaluate the probability that a target  $X$  crosses the FoI undetected by any sensor. Corollary 6.2, computes the probability of missing a target, denoted as  $P_M$ .

**Corollary 6.2.** *The probability  $P_M$  that a target crossing the FoI is not detected by any sensor is equal to:*

$$P_M = \prod_{i=1}^N \left(1 - \frac{L_i}{L_0}\right). \quad (6.12)$$

*Proof.* The proof of Corollary 6.2 follows, by observing that  $P_M = P(Z_{N,0})$ , and  $z_j = \emptyset$ ,  $\bar{z}_j = \{1, \dots, N\}$ .  $\square$

Depending on the application, (6.12) allows us to select  $L_i, N$  so that  $P_M$  remains below any desired threshold value.

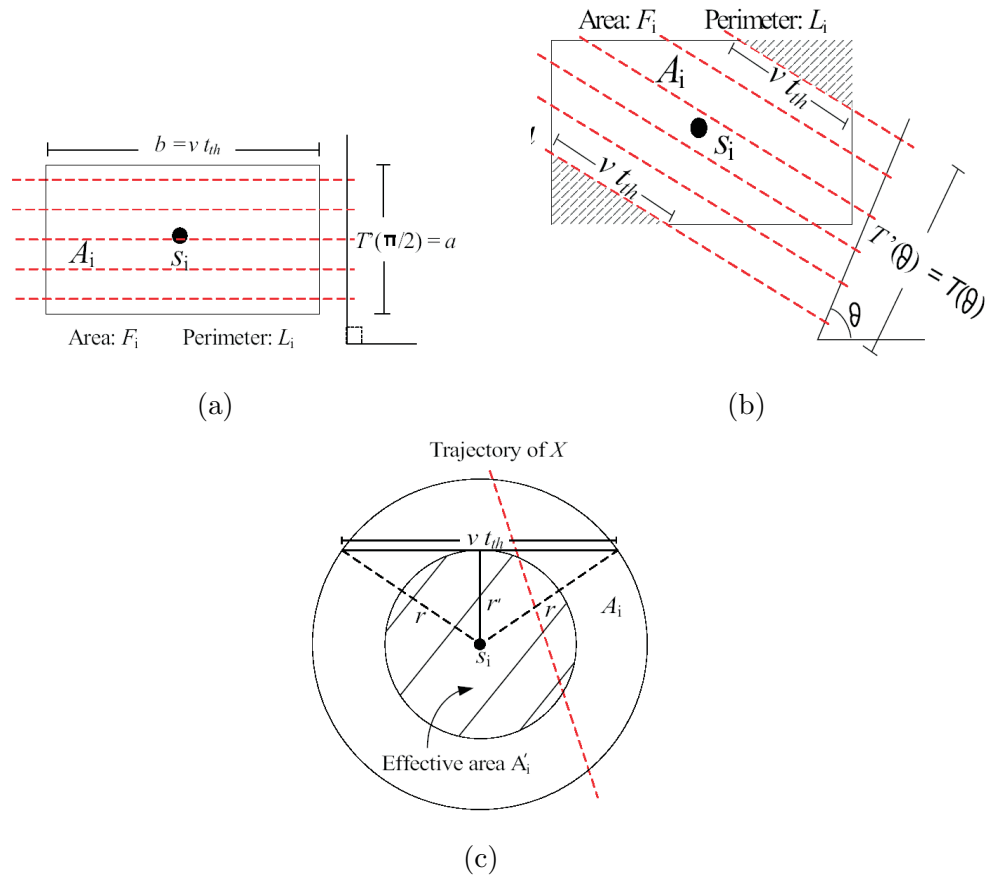


Figure 6.4: (a) The effective thickness of a rectangle on direction  $\theta = 0$ , (b) the effective thickness of a rectangle on a random direction  $\theta$ , (c) the effective sensing area of a disk.

### 6.2.2 Sampling Detection

In this section, we evaluate the detection probability under the SD model. We analytically compute the probability of detection  $P_D(k)$  for heterogeneous WSN. Furthermore, we show a mapping of the SD model to the ID model that allows us to derive detection results for the SD model, using detection results derived under the relative simpler ID model.

#### Probability of target detection under the SD model

In SD, a target  $X$  moving at a speed  $v$ , must remain within the sensing area of a sensor  $s_i$  for at least  $t_{th}$  units of time, before  $s_i$  can detect  $X$ . Hence, the length of the intersection of

the trajectory of  $X$  with the sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$  has to be at least  $vt_{th}$ . To measure the set of lines that intersect a set  $\mathcal{A}$  and have a cord within  $\mathcal{A}$  of length longer than  $vt_{th}$  we define the notion of effective thickness  $T'(\theta)$ .

**Definition 6.3. Effective Thickness**  $T'(\theta)$  : *The effective thickness  $T'(\theta)$  for a set  $\mathcal{A}$  is defined as the measure of the set of lines  $m(\ell)$  perpendicular to the direction  $\theta$ , for which the length of the cord within  $\mathcal{A}$  is greater or equal  $vt_{th}$ . That is,*

$$T'(\theta) = \int_{|\ell(\xi, \theta) \cap \mathcal{A}| \geq vt_{th}} d\xi. \quad (6.13)$$

The probability of moving target detection under the SD model is given by the following theorem.

**Theorem 6.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}_0$  be a bounded FoI of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$  monitored by  $N$  sensors randomly deployed within  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , with sensor  $s_i, i = 1 \dots N$  having a sensing area of size  $F_i$  and perimeter  $L_i$ . Let a target  $X$  cross the FoI moving on a straight line at a speed  $v$ . The probability  $P_D(k)$  that at least  $k$  sensors detect the target  $X$  when the target must be sensed for at least time  $t_{th}$  is given by*

$$P_D(k) = 1 - \sum_{w=0}^{k-1} \sum_{Z_{N,w}} \prod_{i=1}^{|z_j|} q'_{z_j(i)} \prod_{v=1}^{|\bar{z}_j|} (1 - q'_{\bar{z}_j(v)}), \quad (6.14)$$

where  $q'_i = \frac{E(T'_i)}{E(T_0)}$ .

*Proof.* The proof of Theorem 6.3, follows the same steps of the proof of Theorem 6.1 in the case of ID. The only difference between the two proofs is the computation of the probability  $q_i$  for a single sensor to detect a target  $X$ . Based on our mapping in Section 6.1.2, in the case of SD, target detection is equivalent to the conditional probability  $q'_i$  that a line that intersects  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , also intersects  $\mathcal{A}_i$ , with the length of the cord being  $|\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_i| \geq vt_{th}$ . This probability is equal to the quotient of the measure of the lines that intersect both  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_i$  and have a cord length  $|\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_i| \geq vt_{th}$ , over the measure of the set of lines that intersect  $\mathcal{A}_0$ .

$$q'_i = \frac{m(|\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_i| \geq vt_{th})}{m(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \neq \emptyset)} \quad (6.15)$$

The measure of the set of lines that intersect  $\mathcal{A}_0$  is given by (6.2) and is equal to  $E(T_0) = L_0$ . The measure of the set of lines that intersect both  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_i$  and have a cord length  $|\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_i| \geq vt_{th}$ , is computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
m(|\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_i| \geq vt_{th}) &\stackrel{(i)}{=} m(|\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_i| \geq vt_{th}) \\
&\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \int_{|\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_i| \geq vt_{th}} d\xi \wedge d\theta \\
&\stackrel{(iii)}{=} \int_0^\pi T'_i(\theta) d\theta \\
&\stackrel{(iv)}{=} \pi E(T') \tag{6.16}
\end{aligned}$$

Equation (i) holds due to the fact that  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . Hence, the length of the line that is common to both  $\mathcal{A}_0$  and  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is equal to the length of the cord in  $\mathcal{A}_i$ . In (ii), we integrate the line density  $dl = d\xi \wedge d\theta$  over all lines that intersect  $\mathcal{A}_i$  and have a length of at least  $vt_{th}$ . In (iii), for a fixed direction  $\theta$  the integral of  $d\xi$  over all lines for which  $|\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_i| \geq vt_{th}$  is equal to the effective thickness  $T'(\theta)$ . The average effective thickness for random lines is given by:

$$E(T') = \int_0^\pi \frac{1}{\pi} T'(\theta) d\theta. \tag{6.17}$$

Hence, (iv) follows. The combination of (6.15), (6.16), (6.2) and (6.3) yields:

$$q'_i = \frac{\pi E(T'_i)}{L_0} = \frac{\pi E(T'_i)}{\pi E(T_0)} = \frac{E(T'_i)}{E(T_0)} \tag{6.18}$$

Following the same steps as in the proof of Theorem 6.1, yields Theorem 6.3.  $\square$

### *Mapping the SD model to the ID model*

The ID model facilitates a geometric interpretation of the target detection problem. Any target crossing the sensing area of a sensor is detected. However, no such geometric interpretation exists for the SD model, and additional information is needed such as the length of the line segment within each sensing area. We now provide a reduction from the SD model to the ID model that allows us to map any results for the simpler ID model to the SD one.

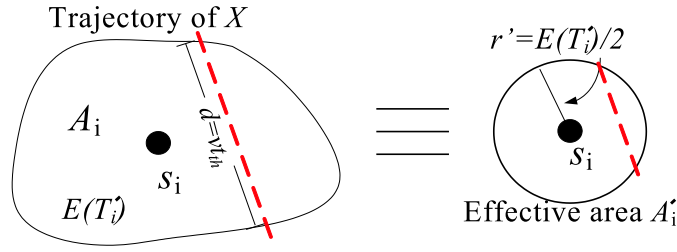


Figure 6.5: The equivalent effective area for a sensor  $s_i$  with non-circular sensing area.

To map the SD model to the ID model, our goal is to define for each sensor  $s_i$ , an effective sensing area  $\mathcal{A}'_i$  with the following property. If a target  $X$  crosses the boundary of  $\mathcal{A}'_i$  (ID model), then  $X$  is detected under the SD model, for the sensing area  $\mathcal{A}$ .

For sensing areas of arbitrary shape, the average effective thickness of  $\mathcal{A}_i$ , does not correspond to the average thickness of a subset of  $\mathcal{A}_i$ . As an example, in figure 6.4.(a), all lines of direction  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  intersecting the rectangular sensing area  $\mathcal{A}_i$ , have a line segment within  $\mathcal{A}$  longer than  $vt_{th}$  (assuming  $vt_{th} \leq b$ ). However, for a direction  $\theta \neq \{0, \frac{\pi}{2}, \pi\}$  there is a set of lines with a line segment within  $\mathcal{A}_i$  shorter than  $vt_{th}$ . The subset of  $\mathcal{A}_i$  that does not result in detection for lines in direction  $\theta$  is depicted by the shaded areas in figure 6.4.(b). Hence, one cannot define a subset of  $\mathcal{A}_i$  with average thickness equal to the average effective thickness of  $\mathcal{A}_i$ .

However, from (6.14), the probability of detection  $P_D(k)$  only depends on  $E(T'_i)$ , and not the shape of the sensing area. Hence, we can define an effective sensing area  $\mathcal{A}'$  for each sensor  $s_i$ , that is not necessarily a subset of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Definition 6.4. Effective Sensing Area  $\mathcal{A}'$  :** Let the average effective thickness of a set  $\mathcal{A}$  be equal to  $E(T')$ . The effective sensing area  $\mathcal{A}'$  is defined as a disk of radius  $r' = E(T')/2$ .

Using the notion of the effective sensing area, we can map the target detection probability under SD, to a target detection problem under ID, using the following corollary.

**Corollary 6.3.** The target detection probability under the SD model is equal to the target detection probability under the ID model, when the sensing areas of the sensors are replaced by the effective sensing areas.



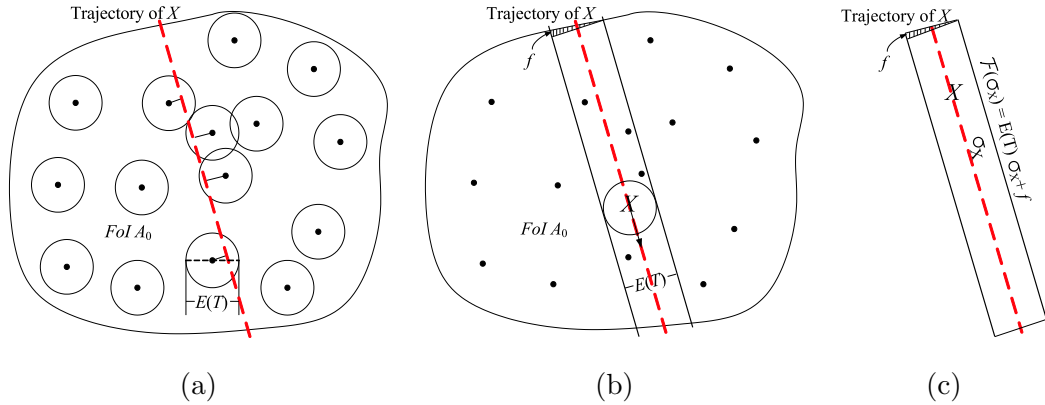


Figure 6.6: (a) Any sensor within a distance  $\frac{E(T)}{2}$  from the trajectory of the target  $X$ , detects  $X$ , (b) Equivalent formulation, for a target of average thickness  $E(T)$ , and sensors with sensing areas reduced to point masses, detection occurs if a sensor  $s_i$  "collides" with the target, (c) the mean free path of a target  $X$  and the equivalent free area.

*Proof.* The proof follows by substituting  $L_i = 2\pi r'$  in (6.5).  $\square$

In figure 6.5, we show the equivalence between the sensing area of a sensor  $s_i$  under sampling detection. Note that in the case of the unit disk model, the effective sensing area is a subset of the original sensing area. As an example, in figure 6.4.c the effective sensing area of a disk of radius  $r$ , is a concentric disk of radius:

$$r' = \sqrt{r^2 - \left(\frac{vt_{th}}{2}\right)^2}. \quad (6.19)$$

Through the rest of the paper we are focusing on the ID model, with equivalent results holding for the SD model. We now compute the mean time until a target is first detected.

### 6.3 Detecting Mobile Targets under Deterministic Sensor Deployment

In this section, we analytically evaluate the detection probability under deterministic deployment of sensors. Specifically, we study the problem of maximizing the detection probability of targets that randomly cross the  $FoI$ , by optimally placing  $N$  sensors within the  $FoI$ . This problem is relevant in applications where one has full control of the environment and it is cost efficient to physically place the sensors than randomly deploy them.

We initially analyze the optimal sensor placement when only two sensors are placed within the *FoI*. We then generalize for the result for the case of  $N$  sensors.

### 6.3.1 Optimal Placement of two Sensors

Assume that we have an *FoI* of arbitrary shape and two sensors  $s_1, s_2$  that can be placed anywhere within the *FoI*. For the simplicity of the calculation we assume that sensors  $s_1, s_2$  have identical circular sensing areas of radius  $r$ . That is,  $\mathcal{A}_1 = \mathcal{A}_2 = \mathcal{A}$ , with  $L = 2\pi r$  and  $F = \pi r^2$ . However, similar findings hold for sensing areas of any shape and size. We want to find the optimal placement of sensors such that the probability of detection  $P_D(1)$  of target  $X$  by at least one sensor is maximized. The location of the sensors that maximizes  $P_D$  is provided by the following theorem.

**Theorem 6.4.** *Let a target  $X$  cross a *FoI* of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$ , by moving on a straight line across the *FoI* and in random direction. Let two sensors be available to be placed within the *FoI* at any desired position. The probability of detection  $P_D(1)$  is maximized when sensors  $s_1, s_2$  are placed at the opposite ends of the diameter<sup>4</sup> of the *FoI*.*

*Proof.* Based on our mapping in Section 6.1.2, the probability that a target  $X$  crossing the *FoI* is detected by at least one sensor, is equal to the probability  $P_D(1)$  that a random line intersects with at least one set  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$ , given that it intersects  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . This can be expressed in terms of measures as:

$$P_D(1) = \frac{m(l \cap (\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2))}{m(l \cap \mathcal{A}_0)} = \frac{m_2}{L_0}, \quad (6.20)$$

where we denote  $m(l \cap (\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2))$  by  $m_2$  for simplicity. We now compute  $m_2$  depending on the relative position of  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$ .

#### *Overlapping sensing areas.*

Assume first that  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$  overlap as shown in figure 4.4.(a). Since  $\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$  is a connected and bounded set, the measure of the set of lines that intersects  $\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$  is equal to the length of the perimeter  $L^h$  of the convex hull of  $\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$ . The length of the perimeter  $L^h$

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<sup>4</sup>The diameter of the *FoI* is defined as the longest cord within the *FoI*.

depends upon the distance  $d$  between the centers of the two sensing areas and hence, the measure  $m_2$  can be expressed as a function of  $d$  :

$$m_2(d) = L^h(d) = 2\pi r + 2d, \quad 0 \leq d \leq 2r, \quad (6.21)$$

where  $d \leq 2r$  since for larger  $d$  the two sets do not intersect. Substituting (6.21) into (6.20) yields:

$$P_D(1) = \frac{L^h(d)}{L_0} = \frac{2\pi r + 2d}{L_0}, \quad \text{with } 0 \leq d \leq 2r. \quad (6.22)$$

The probability  $P_D(1)$  attains its maximum value for  $d = 2r$  :

$$P_D^*(1) = \frac{2\pi r + 4r}{L_0}. \quad (6.23)$$

We now evaluate the probability of detection for the case of non-overlapping sets.

#### *Non-overlapping sensing areas*

In the case where  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$  are non-overlapping sets, the union of the two sets is not a connected set. Hence, as illustrated in figure 4.4.(b), a line intersecting the convex hull does not necessarily intersect any of the two sets. In such a case, the measure of the set of lines that intersect any of the two sets is equal to the measure of the set of lines that intersect  $\mathcal{A}_1$  plus the measure of the set of lines that intersect  $\mathcal{A}_2$  minus the measure of the set of lines that intersect both  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$  [113]:

$$\begin{aligned} m_2 &= m(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_1) + m(\ell \cap \mathcal{A}_2) \\ &\quad - m(\ell \cap (\mathcal{A}_1 \cap \mathcal{A}_2)) \\ &= L_1 + L_2 - (L_{in} - L^h), \end{aligned} \quad (6.24)$$

where  $L_{in}$  denotes the length of the inner string that wraps around  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$  as shown in figure 4.4.(c), and  $(L_{in} - L^h)$  measures the set of lines that intersect both  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$ . The proof of (6.24) is due to [113]. The measure in (6.24) can be expressed as a function of the distance  $d > 2r$  between the centers  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$ , by calculating  $(L_{in} - L^h)$ . Using elementary geometric calculations based on figure 4.4.(c), it can be shown that:

$$L_{in}(d) - L^h(d) = 2d\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{2r}{d}\right)^2} + 4r \arcsin\left(\frac{2r}{d}\right) - 2d \quad (6.25)$$

Hence, the measure  $m_2$  as a function of  $d$  becomes:

$$m_2(d) = L_1 + L_2 - 2d\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{2r}{d}\right)^2} - 4r \arcsin\left(\frac{2r}{d}\right) + 2d. \quad (6.26)$$

The function  $m_2(d)$  in (6.26) is an increasing function of  $d$ , with an asymptote at  $L_1 + L_2$ . Simple algebra shows that  $m_2(d)$  for non-overlapping sets attains its minimum value for  $d = 2r$  which is equal to the maximum value of  $m_2(d)$  for overlapping sets. Hence, non-overlapping sets always provide higher detection probability than overlapping ones. In fact,  $P_D(d)$  attains its maximum value as  $d$  approaches infinity.

$$\max P_D(1) = \lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} P_D(d) = \frac{L_1 + L_2}{L_0}. \quad (6.27)$$

The geometrical interpretation of this fact is that when the relative distance between  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$  grows, fewer lines intersect both sets, and hence, the measure of set of lines that intersect any of the two sets tends to the sum of the measures of the set of lines that intersect only one of the two sets, that in turn, maximizes  $P_D(d)$ . Therefore, in the case of two sets, the probability of detection is maximized when the sets are placed the farthest apart given the boundary of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ . For a given  $FoI$ , this occurs when the two sets are placed at the two ends of the diameter of the set.  $\square$

Theorem 6.4 provides the sensor placement that maximizes the detection probability for the case of two sensors, and a given  $FoI$ . We now examine the probability of detection for the case of  $N$  sensors.

### 6.3.2 Generalization to the Optimum Placement of $N$ Sensors

When  $N$  sensors can be placed within the  $FoI$ , the probability of detecting a moving target can be expressed based on the inclusion exclusion principle for unions of sets [35, 113].

**Theorem 6.5.** *Let a target  $X$  cross a  $FoI$  of area  $F_0$  and perimeter  $L_0$ , by moving on a straight line across the  $FoI$  and in random direction. Let  $N$  sensors be available to be placed*

within the FoI at any desired position. The probability of detection  $P_D(1)$  is given by:

$$P_D(1) = \sum_{i=1}^N (-1)^{i+1} P(\Pi_{N,i}), \quad (6.28)$$

where  $P(\Pi_{N,i})$  is the probability that the target is detected by exactly  $i$  sensors<sup>5</sup>.

*Proof.* Theorem 6.5 holds by analyzing the union of events of detecting the target by any single sensor to elementary probabilities. The proof of 6.5 is a special case of the set inclusion exclusion principle [35].  $\square$

For the deterministic deployment the relevant question is what sensor topology maximizes  $P_D(1)$ . The intuitive interpretation of Theorem 6.5 is that the detection probability of a target by at least one sensor is equal to the probability that the target crosses each sensor individually, minus the probability that the sensor crosses exactly any two sensors, plus the probability that the target crosses exactly any three sensors, etc. Based on our mapping to the line-set intersection problem, this is equivalent to a line intersecting any of the  $N$  sets individually, minus the probability that a line intersects any two sets, etc. Though Theorem 6.5 provides us with an exact formula for  $P_D(1)$ , the number of terms to be evaluated grows exponentially in  $N$ . Since maximization of (6.28) becomes a difficult task, we consider the bounds expressed in the following Corollary.

**Corollary 6.4.** *The probability of target detection  $P_D(1)$  is bounded by:*

$$P(\Pi_{N,1}) - P(\Pi_{N,2}) \leq P_D(1) < P(\Pi_{N,1}) \quad (6.29)$$

*Proof.* Follows by noting  $\sum_{i=3}^N (-1)^{i+1} P(\Pi_{N,i}) \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{i=2}^N (-1)^{i+1} P(\Pi_{N,i}) < 0$ .  $\square$

We note that  $P_D(1)$  can never achieve the upper bound for  $N > 1$  since there will always be a non-zero number of lines crossing two sensing areas. Hence,  $P(\Pi_{N,2})$  is strictly positive. The lower bound in Corollary 6.4 can be made arbitrarily tight by including more terms  $P(\Pi_{N,i})$ .

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<sup>5</sup>For deterministic sensor deployment  $P(\Pi_{N,i})$  depends on the positioning of the sensors and is not given by (6.8).

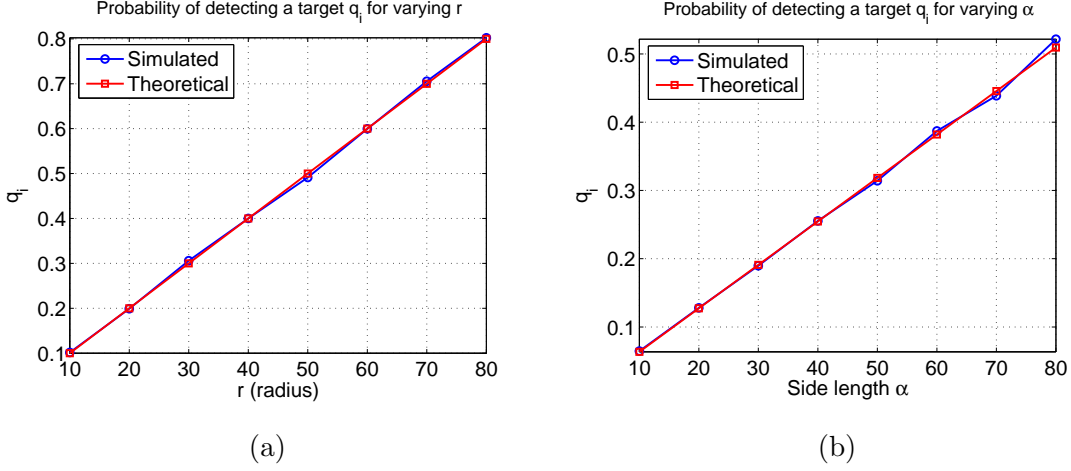


Figure 6.7: Homogeneous WSN: (a) Probability of detecting a target by the deployment of a single sensor with circular sensing area, as a function of the radius  $r$ . (b) Probability of detecting a target by the deployment of a single sensor with square sensing area, as a function of the side  $\alpha$ .

Both the lower and upper bound in (6.29) are known to us in terms of the length of the perimeters of the sensing areas and the pairwise distances among the sensors. Thus, we can write for  $P_D(1)$  :

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{L_i}{L_0} - \sum_{i=1}^{\binom{N}{2}} \frac{m_2(d_i)}{L_0} \leq P_D(1) < \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{L_i}{L_0}, \quad (6.30)$$

where  $m_2(d_i)$  is the measure of the set of lines that intersects a pair of sensors, expressed as a function of the pairwise distance  $d_i$ . To maximize the lower bound in (6.30), we need to minimize the  $\sum_i m_2(d_i)$ . In Section 6.3.1 we showed that  $m_2(d_i)$  is a monotonically decreasing function of  $d_i$ . Hence, increasing the relative distance among the sensors also increases the lower bound in (6.30). The exact solution that maximizes (6.30) depends both on the number of sensors to be deployed and the shape and size of the boundary of the  $FoI$ .

#### 6.4 Validation of the Theoretical Results

In this section, we validate our theoretical results by performing extensive simulations. Initially we verify our formulas for stochastic WSN, by randomly deploying sensors within an  $FoI$  and evaluating the probability of detection  $P_D(k)$ . We then repeat our experiments

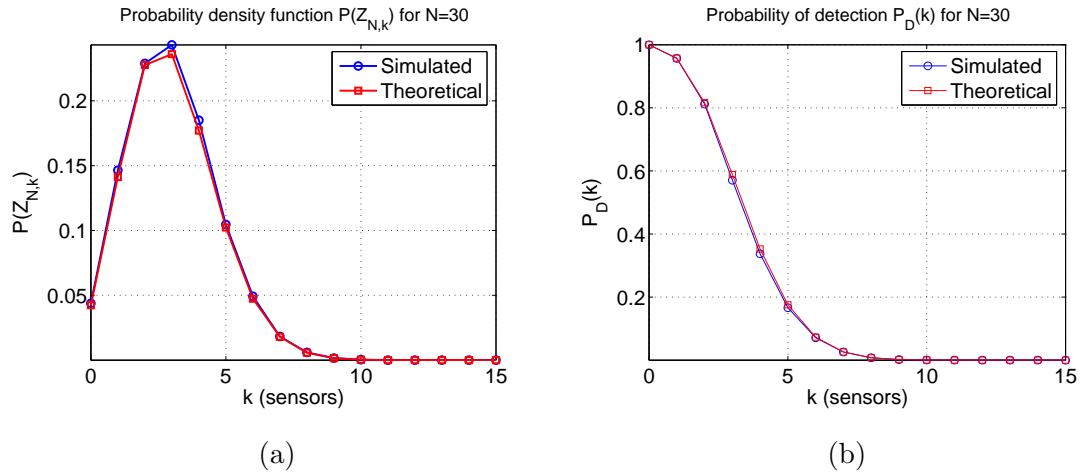


Figure 6.8: Homogeneous WSN: (a) Target detection probability by exactly  $k$  sensors. (b) Target detection probability by at least  $k$  sensors.

by deploying sensors in a deterministic way.

#### 6.4.1 Stochastic sensor deployment

In this section, we verify our theoretic formulas for stochastic WSN. We randomly deployed  $N$  sensors in a circular *FoI* of radius  $R = 100m$ . We then generated random lines corresponding to random trajectories of targets and measure the number of sensors that detect the moving targets. We performed the following experiments.

##### *Probability of detection for a single sensor*

In our first experiment, we randomly deployed a single sensor, with a circular sensing area of radius  $r$ . We varied  $r$  from 10m to 80m and measured the probability that a target moving at a random trajectory is detected by the sensor. For each radius  $r$  we repeated the experiment 100 times to ensure statistical validity. Based on our derivations in Section 6.2, the probability that the target is detected is equal to:

$$P_D = q_i = \frac{L_i}{L_0} = \frac{r}{R} \quad (6.31)$$

In figure 6.7(a) we show the probability of detection  $P_D$  for varying  $r$  for our first experiment. We observe an almost exact match between the theory and the simulation, confirming that the probability of a random line intersecting a set of perimeter  $L_i$  given that it intersects the overset of perimeter  $L_0$  is equal to the quotient of the two perimeters.

We also repeated our experiment when the deployed sensor had a square sensing area of perimeter  $4 * \alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  denotes the length of the side of the square and was varied from 10m to 80m. In figure 6.7(b) we show the probability of detection  $P_D$  for varying  $\alpha$  for the case of square sensing area. We observe that regardless of the shape of the sensing area, our theoretical formula agrees with the simulation.

#### *Probability of detection for homogeneous WSN*

In our second experiment, we evaluated the detection performance of a WSN when all deployed sensors have identical sensing areas. We initially deployed 30 sensors with a circular sensing area of radius  $r = 10m$  and measured the probability of detection  $P(Z_{N,k})$  that a target randomly crossing the *FoI* is detected by exactly  $k$  sensors. The probability  $P(Z_{N,k})$  for the homogeneous case is given by:

$$P(Z_{N,k}) = \binom{N}{k} \left(\frac{L}{L_0}\right)^k \left(1 - \frac{L}{L_0}\right)^{N-k}. \quad (6.32)$$

In figure 6.8(a) we show  $P(Z_{N,k})$  for a homogeneous WSN as a function of  $k$ . We also evaluate the probability  $P_D(k)$  that a target would be detected by at least  $k$  sensors, that in the homogeneous case is given by (6.11). In figure 6.8(b), we show  $P_D(k)$  as a function of  $k$ . We observe that our theoretical formulas match the simulation results.

We also evaluated the probability  $P_M$  of not detecting a target crossing the sensor field as well as the probability of detection by at least one sensor  $P_D(1)$ , a function of the number of sensors deployed. In figure 6.9(a) we show  $P_M$  as a function of  $N$ . In figure 6.9(b) we show  $P_D(1)$  as a function of  $N$ . From figures 6.9(a), 6.9(b), one can select the number of sensors to be deployed so that the probability of detection is above a pre-specified threshold. As an example, if the detection requirement is set to  $P_D(1) \geq 95\%$  more than 30 sensors must be deployed.



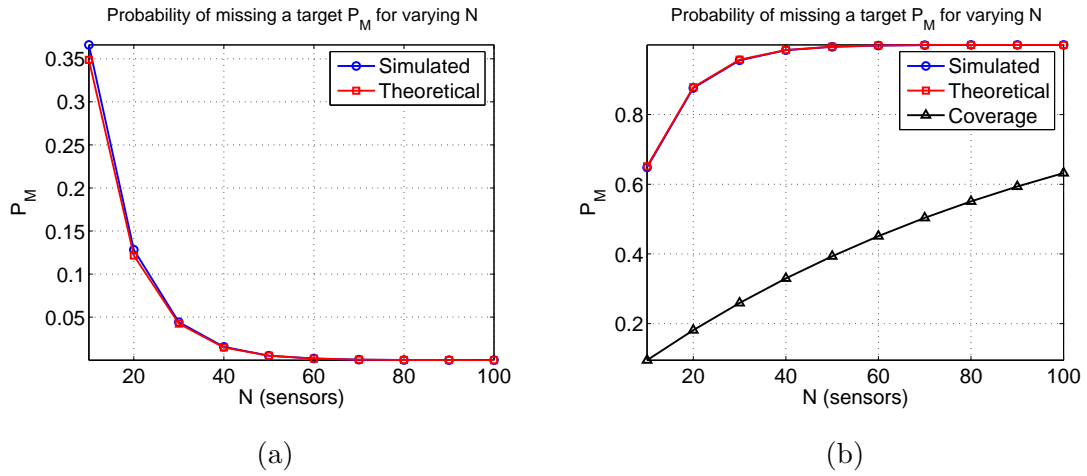


Figure 6.9: Homogeneous WSN: (a) Probability of missing a target as a function of the network size. (b) Probability of target detection by at least one sensor as a function of the network size.

#### *Probability of detection for heterogeneous WSN*

In our third experiment we deployed sensors with heterogeneous sensing capabilities and evaluated the detection performance of the WSN. Each sensor deployed had circular sensing area of a radius uniformly distributed in  $[0, 1]$ . We selected a small sensing area in order to satisfy the condition  $\max_i q_i \rightarrow 0$  while  $\sum_i q_i \rightarrow \gamma$ , so that the probability of detection of a target by exactly  $k$  sensors can be approximated by (6.10). We varied the number of sensors deployed from  $N = 100$  to  $N = 1000$ , and computed  $P_D(1)$ . The exact formula for  $P_D(1)$  is given by

$$P_D(1) = \prod_{i=1}^N \left(1 - \frac{L_i}{L_0}\right) \quad (6.33)$$

For large  $N$  according to Theorem 6.2,  $P_D(1)$  tends to:

$$P_D(1) = 1 - e^{-\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{L_i}{L_0}} \quad (6.34)$$

In figure 6.10(a), we show the theoretical value of  $P_D(1)$ , the value according to Theorem 6.2, and the simulated value, as a function of  $N$ . We observe that when the conditions of Theorem 6.2 are satisfied, one can compute  $P_D(k)$  without incurring the high computational cost of the exact formula (as  $k$  increases the number of terms in the exact formula of  $P_D(k)$

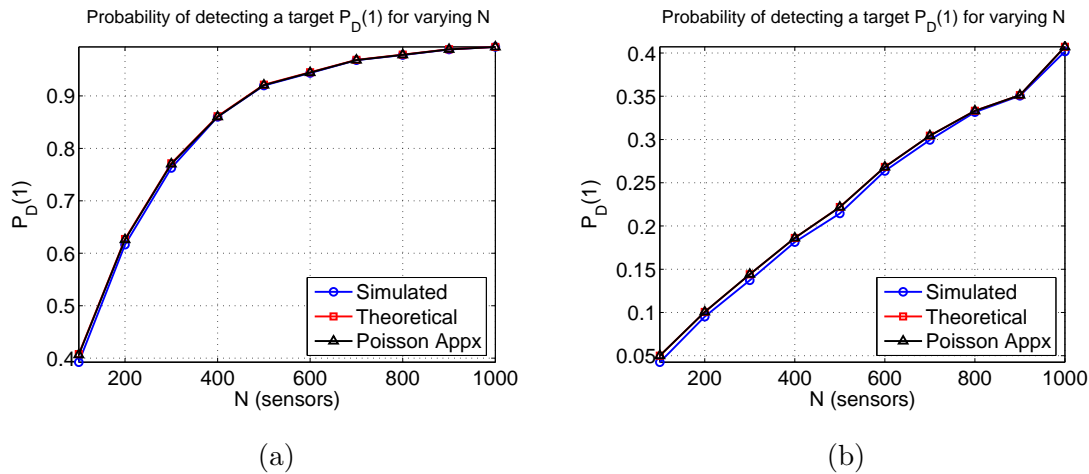


Figure 6.10: Heterogeneous WSN: (a) Probability of target detection by at least one sensor as a function of the network size, when the radius of the sensing area is uniformly distributed within  $r \in [0, 1]$ . (b) Heterogeneous WSN: Probability of target detection by at least one sensor as a function of the network size, when the radius of the sensing area is uniformly distributed within  $r \in [0, 0.1]$ .

increase exponentially). In figure 6.10(b) we show  $P_D(1)$  when the radius of the sensors is uniformly distributed in  $[0, 0.1]$ .

#### 6.4.2 Deterministic Deployment

In this section we examine the performance of deterministic deployment and compare it with the performance of stochastic deployment. Initially, we study the detection probability for just two sensors, and then we generalize for  $N$  sensors.

##### Deployment of two sensors

In the case of two sensors, we have shown that the highest detection probability is achieved when the sensors are placed at the diameter of the  $FoI$ . In figure 6.11(a), we show the detection probability as a function of the distance among two sensors normalized over the diameter of the  $FoI$ . The  $FoI$  is assumed to be a disk of radius  $R = 100m$  while the radius of the sensing area of the sensors varies from  $r=10m$  to  $r=40m$ . We observe that as the distance between the two sensors grows the detection probability asymptotically tends

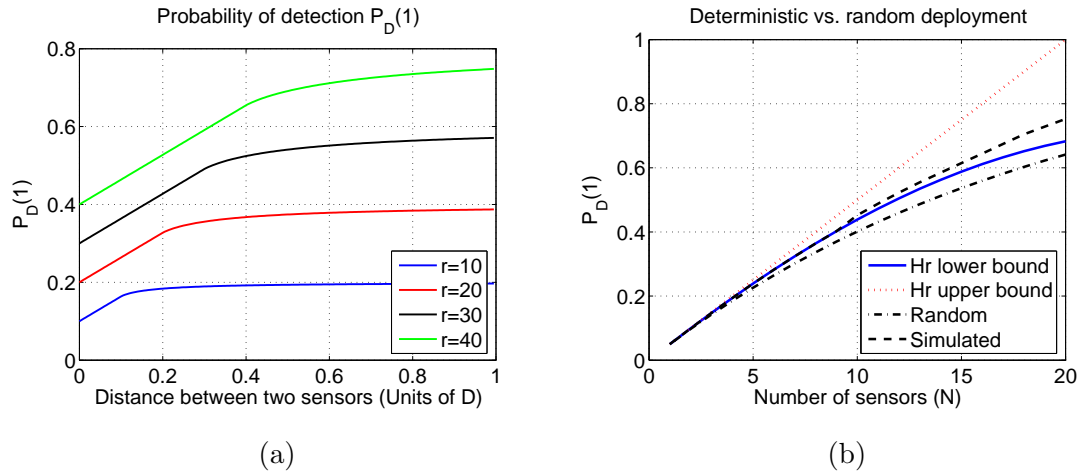


Figure 6.11: Deterministic deployment: (a) Detection probability by two sensors as a function of their distance, for varying  $r$ . (b) Detection probability bounds by deterministic deployment and comparison with random deployment.

to  $\frac{2r}{R}$ . Note also that in the worst case scenario, the two sensors are placed on the same position, in which case the detection probability is half of the asymptotic value.

#### *Deployment of $N$ sensors*

For the case of  $N > 2$  sensors no algorithm exists that will provide the positions of the sensors that maximize  $P_D(1)$ . In Section 6.3.2 we showed that the number of terms required to calculate the exact formula grows exponentially with  $N$ . Hence, we derived relevant lower and upper bounds. Since an algorithm for obtaining the optimum deterministic performance in the general case of  $N$  sensors is not known, we adopt a heuristic deployment strategy and evaluate the lower and upper bounds.

According to our heuristic we place the sensors on the boundary of the sensing area at the  $N$  vertices of a canonical polygon. This heuristic guarantees that sensing areas do not overlap, unless the whole boundary is covered, in which case the detection probability equals one. In figure 6.11(b) we show the lower and upper bound for the detection probability using our heuristic, as well as the detection probability under stochastic deployment.

We observe, that the lower bound of our heuristic always outperforms the random sensor

deployment. As the number of sensors deployed increases, the lower bounds deviates from the upper bound because an exponentially growing number of terms from the exact detection probability formula are ignored and hence, the bound becomes looser. Furthermore, the upper bound is not an achievable bound and hence, given a fixed  $FoI$  the difference between the upper bound and the maximum achievable detection probability grows. Recall that the upper bound is an asymptotic value for an infinite  $FoI$  in which case the detection probability tends to zero.

### **6.5 Related Work**

The target detection problem in WSN has been a topic of study under different metrics and assumptions [18,25,26,42,75]. In [42], the authors investigate the tradeoff between detection quality and power conservation. Compared to our work, their formulation models sensing areas as unit disks, and considers the mean free path as a quality of surveillance metric. In [18], the authors provide analytic formulas for the mean delay until a target is detected, when sensors follow a random scheduling sleeping pattern. In [25,75], the authors proposed a collaborative detection model, where sensors collectively arrive at a consensus about the presence of a target. Their formulation assumes homogeneous sensing areas, with detection capability decaying as a function of distance. In [60], the authors provided algorithms for optimum k-coverage of the boundary of a  $FoI$ . In their problem, there is no constraint on the number of sensors that can be deployed and, hence, detection occurs with probability one once the boundary is 1-covered.

### **6.6 Summary of Contributions**

We studied the problem of quantifying the target detection capability of heterogeneous WSN. We analytically evaluated the detection probability of a mobile target when  $N$  sensors are deployed to monitor a  $FoI$ . We considered both stochastically and deterministically deployed WSN and mapped the target detection problem to a line-set intersection problem. Using our formulation, we derived analytical expressions for the probability of detection for heterogeneous WSN. In the case of stochastic deployment, we also analytically evaluated the mean time until a target is first detected. For the case of deterministically deployed

WSN, we showed the difficulty of computing the optimal sensor placement that maximizes the detection probability and provided a heuristic. We derived lower and upper bounds for the detection probability that depend only on the length of the sensing areas and the pairwise distances among the sensors. Determining the sensor topology that maximizes the detection probability for a given number of sensors  $N$  and  $FoI$  remains an open problem. We verified our theoretical results via detailed simulations.

## Chapter 7

**CONTRIBUTIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS****7.1 Contributions**

The successful commercialization of ad hoc and sensor networks significantly depends on the ability to realize secure applications. The absence of infrastructure, the limited computational and energy resources as well as the untethered network operation in potentially hostile environments, make the problem of providing secure network functions a challenging one. In this dissertation we addressed the following problems related to network security of ad hoc and sensor networks, as well as performance evaluation of sensor networks.

In Chapter 2, we address the problem of key management for secure multicast communications in wireless ad hoc networks. We formulate the problem of key management as an optimization problem and studied its complexity under three important network resources; storage, bandwidth and energy expenditure. We showed that while optimal solutions exist in terms of storage and number of messages transmitted, finding the optimal solution with respect to the network bandwidth and energy expenditure requirements, is an NP-hard problem. We also show that no optimal solution exist that would concurrently optimize all three network resources. Hence, we studied tree-based key structures that are known to be scalable in both storage and bandwidth.

We showed that the energy expended by the network to distribute cryptographic quantities depends both on the network topology and path-loss parameters of the medium, and introduced the average key update energy as a new metric to evaluate the energy efficiency of key management schemes. To reduce the energy expended by the ad hoc network to perform key management, we devised a topology-dependent key management scheme that exploited node location information to built a key-tree hierarchy, in the absence of any other information. When routing information is assumed available, we improved upon the resource efficiency of our location-aware algorithm by employing a cross-layer design based

on network flows, that explicitly takes into account the flow of the information from the *GC* to the members of the communication group.

In Chapter 3, we investigated the problem of secure location estimation in the presence of adversaries. We proposed a novel range-independent localization scheme for wireless ad hoc networks based on a two-tier network architecture, that achieved decentralized, resource-efficient robust node localization. We showed that SeRLoc is resilient to well known security threats against the localization process, such as the wormhole attack, the Sybil attack and compromise of network entities, and provided security mechanisms that allow each node to determine its location *even* in the presence of those threats. Furthermore, we analytically evaluated the probability of success for each type of attack using tools from *spatial statistics* theory. Based on our performance evaluation, we showed that SeRLoc localizes nodes with higher accuracy than state-of-the-art decentralized range-independent localization schemes, and is robust against varying sources of error. We also presented HiRLoc, a high-resolution localization algorithm that improves the accuracy of SeRLoc, while not degrading its robustness to attacks.

In Chapter 4, we presented a graph theoretic framework for modeling wormhole attacks in wireless ad hoc networks, and derived the necessary and sufficient conditions for detecting and defending against wormhole attacks. Based on our framework, we showed that any candidate solution preventing wormholes should construct a communication graph that is a subgraph of the geometric graph defined by the radio range of the network nodes. Making use of our framework, we proposed a cryptographic mechanism based on *local broadcast keys* in order to prevent wormholes. Our solution does not need time synchronization or time measurement, requires only a small fraction of the nodes to know their location, and is decentralized.

In Chapter 5, we addressed the problem of stochastic coverage in heterogeneous sensor networks. We formulated the stochastic coverage problem as a set intersection problem, arising in Integral geometry and Geometric Probability. Our formulation allowed us to derive analytical coverage expressions even when the sensors have heterogeneous sensing capabilities and are deployed according to any stochastic distribution. We validated our theoretical derivations by evaluating both the KL-distance as well as the TV-distance of

our theoretical results from the results obtained via simulations and showed an almost exact match. Our analytical formulas provide a network design tool for guarantee quality of services in terms of coverage of a field of interest.

In Chapter 6, we addressed the problem of detection of mobile targets in sensor networks. We analytically evaluate the target detection probability when  $N$  sensors are deployed to monitor a field of interest. We mapped the target detection problem under both stochastic and deterministic sensor deployment, to a line-set intersection problem, and derived analytic formulas using tools from Integral Geometry and Geometric Probability. Compared to previous works, our formulation allows us to consider a heterogeneous sensing model, where each sensor can have a different and arbitrary sensing area.

For stochastic sensor deployment, we also analytically evaluated the mean time until a target is first detected, a critical measure for timely detection. For the deterministic deployment case, we showed that the probability of detecting a target increases as the distance among the sensors monitoring the field of interest increases. We also showed that the number of terms required to compute the placement of sensors that maximizes the target detection probability, grows exponentially with the number of sensors that monitor the field of interest.

## **7.2 Future Research Directions**

The work presented in this dissertation can be extended to the following directions.

### *7.2.1 Secure Localization in Wireless Ad Hoc Networks and Sensor Networks*

In Chapter 3, we stressed the importance of developing a secure location estimation scheme that is robust against attacks from malicious adversaries. We developed SeRLoc and HiRLoc, two range-independent localization schemes and illustrated their robustness to various types of attacks in wireless ad hoc networks, by analytically evaluating the detection probability and the false alarm probability.

Both SeRLoc and HiRLoc rely on two-tier architectures, with locators having higher capabilities than regular sensor nodes. For certain application such a node hierarchy may not be feasible. In such a case the problem of secure localization must be investigated under a flat



network architecture. Furthermore, detection of attacks using our algorithms is probabilistic and suffers from false alarm. The false alarm can be a frequent phenomenon given the imperfections of the communication medium. Developing methodologies to distinguish the false alarm from attacks remains an open problem. Such methodologies will allow us to increase the detection probability and at the same time reduce the false alarm rate. Finally, while we were able to analytically evaluate the detection probability using tools from spatial statistics, the problem of analytically evaluating the localization error in the presence of adversaries has not been addressed. An analytical evaluation of the localization error, will provide a design tool for selecting appropriate network parameters to guarantee the required accuracy to applications using the localization service.

### *7.2.2 Detection of Mobile Targets in Wireless Sensor Networks*

In Chapter 6, we provided formulas for analytical evaluation of the probability of detection of mobile targets in wireless sensor networks. Our formulation analyzed the worst case scenario in which targets were crossing the *FoI* moving on a straight line, thus remaining within the *FoI* the minimum amount of time. As a future research direction, these analytical formulas must be extended to arbitrary target trajectories, including simple curves or curves with double points. Furthermore, addressing the problem of target detection when the target has some knowledge of the network remains a challenge.

We also showed that in the deterministic sensor deployment the formula that characterizes the detection probability with respect to the locations of the sensors has exponentially increasing computational complexity. Hence, the positions of sensors that maximize the detection probability cannot be determined for large networks. Developing heuristic algorithms for sensor placement with suboptimal performance, remains an open problem. Finally, characterization of the target detection probability in three dimensions is a natural extension of this work, from the two-dimension plane.

### *7.2.3 Threat Modeling*

The threat models that are presently used in evaluating the security of network functions of ad hoc and sensor networks have migrated from the wired environment. The most

commonly assumed adversary model of a global powerful adversary able to eavesdrop all communications occurring in the network, and having unlimited computational resources, is not a realistic for the ad hoc environment. Adversaries have only partial access to the communications taking place in the network, constrained by their communication range.

Also the adversary goals in ad hoc networks vary significantly from the goals of adversaries in wired networks. The cross-layer designs adopted in ad hoc networks generate new types of network vulnerabilities. Adversaries disrupting protocols at one layer, can significantly impact the functionality at another layer due to the cross-layer interaction. Furthermore, the computational and energy constraints of the wireless devices make them vulnerable to denial of service attacks, aiming at exhausting the battery of the devices. Based on the ad hoc network characteristics and adopted applications, new threat models must be proposed that adequately capture the goals of the adversaries as well as their capabilities.

#### *7.2.4 Protocol Verification*

While the protocol details for the main network functions start to formalize, security mechanisms are being proposed to shield the network from adversaries aiming at interrupting and/or degrading the network functionality. However, most security protocols that have been proposed for wireless ad hoc and sensor networks do not provide provable security. In fact, oftentimes algorithmic details and critical assumptions are left un-stated, leading to implementation issues and flaws. Hence, it is imperative that any adopted security protocols undergo a formal protocol verification process. A rigorous and step by step protocol verification process can guarantee the provision of the acclaimed security for the critical network functionalities.

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## LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Publications

1. Loukas Lazos and Radha Poovendran, *Stochastic Coverage in Heterogeneous Sensor Networks*, to appear in ACM Transactions on Sensor Networks, August 2006.
2. Loukas Lazos and Radha Poovendran, *HiRLoc: High-Resolution Robust Localization for Wireless Sensor Networks*, in IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications, Special Issue on Wireless Security, February 2006, Vol. 24, no. 2, pp. 233–246.
3. Loukas Lazos and Radha Poovendran, *Power Proximity Based Key Management for Secure Multicast in Ad Hoc Networks*, to appear in ACM Journal on Wireless Networks (WINET).
4. Radha Poovendran and Loukas Lazos, *A Graph Theoretic Framework for Preventing the Wormhole Attack in Wireless Ad Hoc Networks*, to appear in ACM Journal on Wireless Networks (WINET).
5. Loukas Lazos and Radha Poovendran, *SeRLoc: Robust Localization for Wireless Sensor Networks*, ACM Transactions on Sensor Networks, August 2005, Vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 73–100.

### Conference Publications

1. Loukas Lazos and Radha Poovendran, *Coverage in Heterogeneous Sensor Networks*, in Proceedings of the 4th International Symposium on Modeling and Optimization in Mobile, Ad-hoc, and Wireless Networks (WiOpt '06), 2006.
2. Loukas Lazos, Srdjan Capkun, and Radha Poovendran, *ROPE: Robust Position Estimation in Wireless Sensor Networks*, The Fourth International Conference on Information Processing in Sensor Networks (IPSN '05), April 2005, pp. 324–331.

3. Loukas Lazos, Radha Poovendran, C. Meadows, P. Syverson, and L. W. Chang, *Preventing Wormhole Attacks on Wireless Ad Hoc Networks: A Graph Theoretic Approach*, IEEE Wireless Communications and Networking Conference (WCNC '05), 2005, New Orleans, vol. 2, 1193–1199.
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5. Loukas Lazos, Javier Salido, Radha Poovendran, *VP3: Using Vertex Path and Power Proximity for Energy Efficient Key Distribution*, in IEEE Vehicular Technology Conference, (VTC '04) September 2004, Los Angeles, CA, Vol. 2, pp. 1228–1232.
6. Loukas Lazos and Radha Poovendran, *Cross-Layer Design for Energy-Efficient Secure Multicast Communications in Ad Hoc Networks*, IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC '04), June 2004, Paris, France, Vol. 6, pp. 3633–3639.
7. Loukas Lazos and Radha Poovendran, *Energy-Aware Secure Multicast Communication in Ad-hoc Networks Using Geographic Location Information*, IEEE International Conference on Acoustics Speech and Signal Processing, (ICASSP '03) April 2003, Hong Kong, China, Vol. 4, pp. 201–204.
8. Loukas Lazos and Radha Poovendran, *Secure Broadcast in Energy-Aware Wireless Sensor Networks*, IEEE International Symposium on Advances in Wireless Communications (ISWC '02), September 2002, Victoria, BC, Canada.