Capacity and Delay of Hybrid Wireless Broadband Access Networks

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Abstract-An optical network is too costly to act as a broadband access network. On the other hand, a pure wireless ad hoc network with n nodes and total bandwidth of W bits per second cannot provide satisfactory broadband services since the pernode throughput diminishes as the number of users goes large. In this paper, we propose a hybrid wireless network, which is an integrated wireless and optical network, as the broadband access network. Specifically, we assume a hybrid wireless network consisting of n randomly distributed normal nodes, and mregularly placed base stations connected via an optical network. A source node transmits to its destination only with the help of normal nodes, i.e., in the ad hoc mode, if the destination can be reached within L ($L \ge 1$) hops from the source. Otherwise, the transmission will be carried out in the infrastructure mode, i.e., with the help of base stations. Two transmission modes share the same bandwidth of W bits/sec. We first study the throughput capacity of such a hybrid wireless network, and observe that the throughput capacity greatly depends on the maximum hop count L and the number of base stations m. We show that the throughput capacity of a hybrid wireless network can scale linearly with n only if $m = \Omega(n)$, and when we assign all the bandwidth to the infrastructure mode traffics. We then investigate the delay in hybrid wireless networks. We find that the average packet delay can be maintained as low as $\Theta(1)$ even when the per-node throughput capacity is $\Theta(W)$.

Index Terms—Hybrid wireless networks; capacity; delay; broadband access networks.

I. Introduction

THE INTERNET'S phenomenal growth has triggered great increase on demands for broadband services. Thus, how to design a broadband access network to provide broadband services is essential to the further success of the Internet. Optical networks can provide high bandwidth and low network delay [3] [25] [26]. However, they are too costly to act as broadband access networks. Since wireless networks can be deployed easily and quickly with low cost, we then turn to them for help.

In their seminal paper [12], Gupta and Kumar show that the per-node throughput capacity in random wireless ad hoc networks is $\Theta(\frac{W}{\sqrt{n\log n}})^1$ bits/sec, which means random ad hoc networks cannot scale. Later on, Buragohain et al. [4] study

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¹In this paper, we use the Knuth's notations [13]: f(n) = O(g(n)) means f(n) is asymptotically upper bounded by g(n); $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$ means f(n) is asymptotically lower bounded by g(n); $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ means f(n) is asymptotically tight bounded by g(n); f(n) = o(g(n)) means f(n) is asymptotically negligible with respect to g(n); $f(n) = \omega(g(n))$ means f(n) is asymptotically dominant with respect to g(n).

the throughput capacity in grid networks where there are n nodes and the average source-destination distance is d. They show that the $\Omega(n/d)$ throughput can be achieved. Thus, grid networks cannot scale either since $d=\omega(1)$ for most of the cases.

The work in [12] deals with *dense* networks, i.e., the area is fixed and the node density increases linearly as the number of nodes, and the authors assume the whole network is connected. Dousse et al. [6] study the throughput capacity in extended networks where the density of nodes is fixed and the area increases linearly with the number of nodes n. They show that by allowing an arbitrary small fraction of the nodes to be disconnected in 2-dimensional extended networks, a nonvanishing rate can be achieved for each node. Ozgur et al. [22] also investigate the throughput capacity of a connected ad hoc network. Their results show that by intelligent node cooperation and distributed MIMO communication, the dense networks can scale linearly with the number of nodes n, and the extended networks scale as $n^{2-\alpha/2}$ for $2 \le \alpha < 3$ and \sqrt{n} for $\alpha \geq 3$, where α is the path loss exponent in power propagation model. Moreover, Duarte-Melo et al. [7] study the case of semi-extended networks, where both node density and the network area increase as the number of nodes n increases. Specifically, they assume the network area is a disk of radius n^{γ} , $0 < \gamma < \frac{1}{2}$. With a $\frac{1}{(1+d)^{\alpha}}$ propagation model, they show that the per-node throughput capacity is $\Omega(\frac{1}{n^{1-\gamma}})$, i.e., semiextended networks cannot scale.

Since we prefer the network to be connected, and the nodes in the network to be loosely coupled as well, the results for pure ad hoc networks are pessimistic, i.e., they cannot scale as the number of nodes. This means pure wireless ad hoc networks cannot provide satisfactory broadband service when the number of network users goes large. In this study, we propose to use hybrid wireless networks as the broadband access networks, which are also called multihop cellular networks [18]. Hybrid wireless networks can be one-dimensional, two-dimensional with strip area [17], or two-dimensional with square area [16]. Traffic pattern in the network can be asymmetric [27] or symmetric [14] [23] [28]. In this study, we only focus on two-dimensional square hybrid wireless networks with symmetric traffics.

We first investigate the throughput capacity of hybrid wireless networks. Kozat and Tassiulas [14] study the throughput capacity of hybrid wireless networks where both ad hoc nodes and access points are randomly distributed. They show that the per-node throughput capacity can be $\Theta(W/\log n)$ bits per second if the number of access points scales linearly with the number of nodes, which means the network cannot scale. Similar results are also reported in [1]. Zemlianov and Veciana [28] investigate the throughput capacity of hybrid wireless

networks where ad hoc nodes are randomly distributed and base stations are arbitrarily placed. They show that the pernode throughput capacity depends on the number of base stations, but the network still cannot scale.

Assuming n nodes are randomly distributed and m base stations are regularly placed, Liu et al. [16] study the throughput capacity of hybrid wireless networks. They consider two different routing strategies. Under k-nearest-cell routing strategy, if m grows asymptotically slower than \sqrt{n} , the maximum per-node throughput capacity is $\Theta(\sqrt{\frac{1}{n\log n/m^2}}W)$, and the benefit of adding base stations is insignificant. However, if m grows asymptotically faster than \sqrt{n} , the maximum per-node throughput capacity is $\Theta(\frac{m}{n}W)$, which increases linearly with the number of base stations. Under probabilistic routing strategy, similar results are obtained. The threshold of the number of base stations above which the per-node throughput capacity increases linearly with m is $\sqrt{\frac{n}{\log n}}$. Thus, the network can scale if $m = \Omega(n)$.

Actually, the authors in [16] assume k=0, i.e., a node transmits to its destination in the ad hoc mode only if it is in the same cell. However, the 0-nearest-cell routing strategy cannot efficiently make use of the wireless channel. For example, if a source node and its destination are within one-hop distance of each other, but they are not in the same cell, then they cannot directly communicate in the ad hoc mode according to the routing strategy. Instead, the transmissions between these two nodes can only be carried out through base stations. Besides, the case k=0 is too specific. To provide a solution to a more general case, and to better utilize the bandwidth resource, Pei et al. [23] propose to use the L-maximum-hop routing strategy. Unfortunately, the capacity bounds derived in [23] are not tight.

In this paper, we revisit the throughput capacity problem in hybrid wireless networks by using the L-maximum-hop resource allocation strategy in $[23]^2$. Specifically, a source node transmits to its destination in the ad hoc mode if the destination can be reached from the source within L ($L \ge 1$) hops. Otherwise, the transmission will be carried out in the infrastructure mode. Assuming a total bandwidth of W bits/sec is split into three parts, i.e., W_1 for ad hoc mode, W_2 for uplink in the infrastructure mode, and W_3 for downlink in the infrastructure mode, we show that:

- 1) when $L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{3}{3}}n})$, the throughput capacity of the network is $\Theta(\frac{nW_1}{L\log n}) + \Theta(mW_2)$. If $m = \Omega(\frac{n}{L\log n})$, we can have higher throughput when all the traffics are carried in the infrastructure mode. The per-node throughput capacity increases linearly with the number of base stations m, and the network can scale only if $m = \Omega(n)$. If $m = O(\frac{n}{L\log n})$, we can achieve higher throughput when all the traffics are carried in the ad hoc mode, and the network cannot scale.
- 2) when $L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, the throughput capacity of the network is $\Theta(L^2 \log nW_1) + \Theta(mW_2)$. If $m = \Omega(L^2 \log n)$, we can have higher throughput when all

²We call it a resource allocation strategy instead of a routing strategy because we only decide which kind of resource a transmission uses, and do not specify how to choose a route from a source to a destination.

the traffics are carried in the infrastructure mode. The per-node throughput capacity increases linearly with the number of base stations m, and the network can scale only if $m = \Omega(n)$. If $m = O(L^2 \log n)$, we can achieve higher throughput when all the traffics are carried in the ad hoc mode, and the network cannot scale.

It can be easily shown that the results obtained in [16] under the 0-nearest-cell routing strategy is just a special case in 2) presented above. Furthermore, we also compare the throughput capacity of our hybrid wireless networks with that of pure ad hoc networks. The capacity gain is clearly shown.

In addition to the throughput capacity, the packet delay is also an important issue in the network. [2], [8], [10], [15], [19], and [20] propose to utilize nodes' mobility to deliver packets. Each packet is only relayed for very few times before arriving at the destination. For example, in [10], each packet is at most relayed once, i.e., relayed by at most one relaying node. They find that there is a trade-off between the capacity and the delay. Specifically, in pure ad hoc networks, the capacity can only be increased at the cost of greatly increased delay. Moreover, Gamal et al. [9] show that using mobility to increase throughput, even slightly, would lead to an abrupt and large increase in delay. In this paper, we also study the delay in hybrid wireless networks. We find that by adding base stations in pure ad hoc networks, the capacity can be improved without increasing the delay. Particularly, in hybrid wireless networks, the average packet delay can be maintained as low as $\Theta(1)$ even when the per-node throughput capacity is $\Theta(W)$.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section II we introduce some definitions. Section III gives the hybrid wireless network model, including the network architecture, the interference model, and the resource allocation strategy. In Section IV and Section V, we derive the throughput capacity and delay of hybrid wireless networks, respectively. We finally conclude this paper in Section VI.

II. DEFINITIONS

Throughput: As defined in the usual way, the time average of the number of bits per second that can be transmitted by each node to its destination is called the *per-node throughput*. The sum of per-node throughput over all the nodes in a network is called the *throughput of the network*.

Feasible Throughput: We say that the throughput of a network, denoted by $\lambda(n)$, is *feasible* if there exists a spatial and temporal scheduling scheme that yields an aggregate network throughput of $\lambda(n)$ bits/sec.

Throughput Capacity of A Network: We say that the throughput capacity of a network ([14]) is of order O(f(n)) bits per second if there is a deterministic constant $c_1 < +\infty$ such that

$$\liminf_{n \to +\infty} \operatorname{Prob}(\lambda(n) = c_1 f(n) \text{ is feasible}) < 1,$$

and is of order $\Theta(f(n))$ bits per second if there are deterministic constants $0 < c_2 < c_3 < +\infty$ such that

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \inf \text{Prob}(\lambda(n) = c_2 f(n) \text{ is feasible}) = 1,$$

$$\liminf_{n \to +\infty} \operatorname{Prob}(\lambda(n) = c_3 f(n) \text{ is feasible}) < 1.$$

Average Packet Delay of A Network: The *delay* of a packet in a network is the time it takes the packet to reach the destination after it leaves the source. As in [15], [20], we do not consider the queuing delay at the source node since we are more interested in the network delay. The *average packet delay* of a network is obtained by averaging over all transmitted packets in the network. Besides, we also assume the packet size scales as the per-node throughput³.

III. HYBRID WIRELESS NETWORK MODEL

A. Network Architecture

We consider a two-tier hybrid wireless network on the surface of a torus of unit area. The low tier is composed of n normal nodes, and the higher tier consists of m base stations, respectively. The assumption of a torus enables us to avoid technicalities arising out of edge effects, but the results derived in the paper are applicable for nodes located on an unit square as well.

We assume n nodes are uniformly and independently distributed. They have the same transmission power, and hence the same transmission range denoted by r(n). We follow the process in [10] to choose random sender-receiver pairs so that each node is a source node for one flow and a destination node for at most O(1) flows.

The m base stations are regularly placed in the network, dividing the area into a hexagonal tessellation, which is exactly the classical 7-cell reuse model as described in [24]. Each hexagon is called a cell and there is one base station in the center of each cell. Base stations do not serve as data sources or data destinations. Instead, they only help relay the packets for the normal nodes. Furthermore, we also assume base stations are inter-connected by an optical network, in which the link bandwidth is large enough. Thus, the wired network has no bandwidth constraints.

B. Interference Model

We employ the Protocol Model in [12] as the interference model. Suppose node X_i transmits to another node X_j . X_i and X_j also denote the positions of these two nodes. Then, the transmission is successful if the following two conditions are satisfied:

1) The distance between X_i and X_j is no more than r(n), the transmission range of the nodes, i.e.,

$$|X_i - X_j| \le r(n)$$
.

2) The positions of other transmitters X_k simultaneously transmitting over the same channel should satisfy:

$$|X_k - X_i| \ge (1 + \Delta)r(n)$$
.

The quantity $\Delta>0$ models situations where a guard zone is specified by the protocol to prevent a neighboring node from transmitting on the same channel at the same time. It also allows for imprecision in the achieved range of transmissions.

C. Resource Allocation Strategy

In hybrid wireless networks, packets can be transmitted in two modes: ad hoc mode and infrastructure mode. In the ad hoc mode, packets are forwarded from the source to the destination with only the help of normal nodes, i.e., without the help of base stations. While in the infrastructure mode, packets are first transmitted from the source to the wired network, and then to the destination.

In this paper, we consider a L-maximum-hop ($L \geq 1$) resource allocation strategy. In particular, if a destination node can be reached within L hops from a source node, then the packets between this source and destination pair are transmitted in the ad hoc mode. Otherwise, packets are transmitted in the infrastructure mode.

Moreover, we assume a total bandwidth of W bits/sec⁴, which is split into three frequency bands, i.e., W_1 for ad hoc mode, W_2 for uplink for infrastructure mode, and W_3 for downlink for infrastructure mode, respectively. Since the uplink has the same amount of traffic as the downlink, we have $W_2 = W_3$. Thus, $W = W_1 + 2W_2$.

IV. CAPACITY OF HYBRID WIRELESS NETWORKS UNDER L-MAXIMUM-HOP RESOURCE ALLOCATION STRATEGY

In this section, we derive the capacity of hybrid wireless networks under L-maximum-hop resource allocation strategy. We assume all nodes are equipped with omnidirectional antennas.

Recall that the transmissions in the ad hoc mode, the uplink and downlink transmissions in the infrastructure mode use different frequency bands, i.e., W_1 , W_2 , and W_3 , respectively. We assume there is no interference between these three types of traffics, and they can be carried out simultaneously. Thus, the throughput capacity of the network with n nodes and m base stations, denoted by $\lambda(n,m)$, can be represented as

$$\lambda(n,m) = \lambda_a(n,m) + \lambda_i(n,m)$$

where $\lambda_a(n,m)$ and $\lambda_i(n,m)$ denote the throughput capacity contributed by the ad hoc mode transmissions and the infrastructure mode transmissions, respectively. Notice that $\lambda(n,m)$, $\lambda_a(n,m)$, and $\lambda_i(n,m)$ all denote the aggregated throughput capacity. We use $\lambda^0(n,m)$, $\lambda_a^0(n,m)$, and $\lambda_i^0(n,m)$ to denote the corresponding per-node throughput capacity, respectively.

A. Ad Hoc Mode Throughput Capacity

Consider the low tier network component, i.e., n uniformly and independently distributed nodes on a planar torus. We first introduce some of the definitions and results in [12], listed as follows. c_i 's are used to denote deterministic constants independent of n.

Voronoi Tessellation [21]: Given a set of n points in a plane, Voronoi tessellation divides the domain into a set of polygonal regions, the boundaries of which are the perpendicular bisectors of the lines joining the points.

³As pointed out in [9], under this assumption, queuing delay at source node can actually be a constant, which gives us another reason to focus on network delay.

⁴Notice that bandwith has several meanings. In signal processing, it is a measure of the width of a range of frequencies, measured in hertz. Here, however, we refer it to be a rate of data transfer, measured in bits per second.

Lemma 4.1 in [12]: For every $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a Voronoi tessellation with the property that every Voronoi cell contains a disk of radius ε and is contained in a disk of radius 2ε .

Then for the n nodes, we can construct a Voronoi tessellation V_n for which

- (V1) Every Voronoi cell contains a disk of area $100 \log n/n$.
- (V2) Every Voronoi cell is contained in a disk of radius $2\rho(n)$, where $\rho(n) :=$ the radius of a disk of area

Adjacent Voronoi Cells: We say two Voronoi cells are adjacent if they share a common point (every Voronoi cell is

We choose the range r(n) of each transmission so that

$$r(n) = 8\rho(n),$$

which allows direct communication within a Voronoi cell and between adjacent Voronoi cells.

Interfering Neighbors: we say two cells are interfering neighbors if there is a point in one cell which is within a distance $(2 + \Delta)r(n)$ of some point in the other cell.

Lemma 4.3 in [12]: When all nodes in the network use omnidirectional antennas, every cell in V_n has no more than c_1 interfering neighbors, where c_1 depends only on Δ and grows no faster than linearly in $(1 + \Delta)^2$.

Proof: Let V be a Voronoi cell. If V' is an interfering neighboring Voronoi cell, there must be two points, one in Vand the other in V', which are no more than $(2+\Delta)r(n)$ units apart. From (V2), the diameter of a cell is bounded by $4\rho(n)$. Hence V', and similarly every other interfering neighbor in the Protocol Model, must be contained within a common large disk D of radius $6\rho(n) + (2 + \Delta)r(n)$. Such a disk cannot contain more than $c_2 = \frac{[6\rho(n) + (2+\Delta)r(n)]^2}{\rho^2(n)} = (22 + 8\Delta)^2 \sim O((1+\Delta)^2)$ disks of radius $\rho(n)$. By (V1), there can therefore be no more than this number of cells within D. Thus, $c_1 =$ $c_2 - 1$ is then an upper bound on the number of interfering neighbors of the cell.

Lemma 4.4 in [12]: In the Protocol Model, there is a schedule for transmitting packets such that in every $(1+c_1)$ slots, each cell in the tessellation V_n gets one slot for packet transmission, and all transmissions are successfully received within a distance r(n) from their transmitters.

We first derive a lower bound on the per-node throughput capacity by choosing the routes of packets to approximate the straightline connecting the source and the destination. Denote the straight line connecting a source node X_i and a destination node Y_i as L_i . Under the L-maximum-hop resource allocation strategy, we now bound the probability that L_i intersects a given Voronoi cell V.

Lemma 1: For segment L_i and Voronoi cell V, under the L-maximum-hop routing strategy,

 $Prob(L_i \text{ intersects } V \text{ and } L_i \text{ is using } W_1) \leq c_3 L^3 (\frac{\log n}{n})^2.$

Proof: As mentioned before, Voronoi cell V is contained in a disk of radius $2\rho(n)$, i.e., $\sqrt{\frac{400\log n}{\pi n}}$. Suppose X_i lies at a distance x from the center of this disk as shown in Fig. 1, then the angel α subtended at X_i by the disk is no

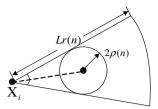


Fig. 1. Illustration for calculating the probability that L_i intersects Voronoi

more than $\frac{c_4}{x}\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{n}}$. The area of the sector formed is no more than $\frac{c_5L^2r^2(n)\alpha}{2\pi}$. If Y_i does not lie in the sector, then the line L_i cannot intersect the disk containing the cell V. Thus, the probability that L_i intersects the disk is no more than $\frac{c_6L^2}{x} \cdot (\frac{\log n}{n})^{\frac{3}{2}}$.

Since X_i is uniformly distributed on the plane of unit disk, the probability density that it is at a distance x from the center of the disk is bounded above by $2c_7\pi x$. Besides, in order for L_i to intersect V, we need $2\rho(n) \le x \le Lr(n)$. As a result, we can obtain

$$Prob(L_i \text{ intersects } V \text{ and } L_i \text{ is using } W_1)$$

$$\leq \int_{\sqrt{\frac{400 \log n}{\pi n}}}^{8L\sqrt{\frac{100 \log n}{n}}} \frac{c_6 L^2}{x} (\frac{\log n}{n})^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot 2c_7 \pi x dx$$

$$\leq c_3 L^3 (\frac{\log n}{n})^2.$$

Since there are n lines $\{L_i\}_{i=1}^n$, connecting X_i and Y_i , the mean number of lines passing through a Voronoi cell that use frequency band W_1 is bounded as follows:

$$E(\text{Number of lines in } \{L_i\}_{i=1}^n \text{ intersects } V$$
 and L_i is using $W_1) \leq c_3 L^3 \frac{\log^2 n}{n}$.

Notice that routes follow lines. By exploiting uniform convergence in the law of large numbers along the line in [12], we have the following two results.

Lemma 2: There is a $\delta'(n) \to 0$ such that

$$Probig(\sup_{V\in V_n} (\text{Number of lines } L_i \text{ intersecting } V \text{ and } L_i$$
 is using $W_1) \leq c_3 L^3 \frac{\log^2 n}{n} ig) \geq 1 - \delta'(n)$.

Note that the traffic handled by a cell is proportional to the number of lines passing through it. Since each line on frequency band W_1 carries traffic of rate $\lambda_a^0(n,m)$ bits per second, we have the following bound.

Lemma 3: There is a $\delta'(n) \to 0$ such that

 $\operatorname{Prob}\big(\sup_{V\in V_n}(\operatorname{Traffic\ needing\ to\ be\ carried\ by\ cell\ }V)$

$$\leq c_3 \lambda_a^0(n,m) L^3 \frac{\log^2 n}{n} \geq 1 - \delta'(n).$$

This implies that the rate at which each cell needs to transmit is less than $c_3\lambda_a^0(n,m)L^3\frac{\log^2 n}{n}$ with high probability. This rate can be accommodated by all cells if it is less than the rate available, i.e., if

$$c_3 \lambda_a^0(n, m) L^3 \frac{\log^2 n}{n} \le \frac{W_1}{c_2}.$$

Thus, we arrive at a lower bound on the per-node throughput capacity contributed by ad hoc mode transmissions, as shown in the following lemma.

Lemma 4: For ad hoc mode transmissions, under the L-maximum-hop resource allocation strategy,

1) when $L=\Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, there is a deterministic constant c>0 not depending on n, Δ , or W_1 , such that

$$\lambda_a^0(n,m) = \frac{cnW_1}{(1+\Delta)^2 L^3 \log^2 n}$$

bits per second is feasible with high probability, i.e.,

$$\lambda_a^0(n,m) = \Omega(\frac{nW_1}{L^3 \log^2 n}).$$

2) and when $L=o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, there is a deterministic constant c>0 not depending on n, Δ , or W_1 , such that

$$\lambda_a^0(n,m) = W_1.$$

bits per second is feasible with high probability.

Next, we find an upper bound on the per-node throughput capacity.

Lemma 5.4 in [12]: The number of simultaneous transmissions on any particular channel is no more than

$$N_{max} = \frac{4}{c_8 \pi \Delta^2 r^2(n)}$$

in the Protocol Model.

Under the L-maximum-hop resource allocation strategy, the mean number of hops taken by a packet transmitted in the ad hoc mode, denoted by \bar{h} , is calculated as follows:

$$\bar{h} \geq 1 \cdot \frac{\pi r^2(n)}{\pi L^2 r^2(n)} + 2 \cdot \frac{3\pi r^2(n)}{\pi L^2 r^2(n)} + \dots$$

$$+ L \frac{[L^2 - (L-1)^2]\pi r^2(n)}{\pi L^2 r^2(n)}$$

$$= \frac{4L^3 + 3L^2 - L}{6L^2}$$

Since each source generates $\lambda_a^0(n,m)$ bits per second, there are n sources, each of which transmits to its destination in ad hoc mode with a probability of $\pi L^2 r^2(n)$, then the total number of bits per second second by the entire network needs to be at least $n\pi L^2 r^2(n)\bar{h}\lambda_a^0(n,m)$. To ensure that all the required traffic is carried, we therefore need

$$n\pi L^2 r^2(n) \bar{h} \lambda_a^0(n,m) \leq N_{max} W_1.$$

Thus,

$$\lambda_a^0(n,m) \le \frac{c_9 W_1}{\Delta^2 n L^3 r^4(n)}.$$

Since $r(n)>\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{\pi n}}$ is necessary to guarantee connectivity with high probability [11], then we obtain

$$\lambda_a^0(n,m) \le \frac{c'nW_1}{\Delta^2 L^3 \log^2 n}.$$

Besides, we also have $\lambda_a^0(n,m) \leq W_1$. Thus, we arrive at the following lemma.

Lemma 5: For ad hoc mode transmissions, under the L-maximum-hop resource allocation strategy,

1) when $L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^3 n})$, an upper bound on per-node throughput capacity is

$$\lambda_a^0(n,m) = \frac{c'nW_1}{\Delta^2 L^3 \log^2 n}$$

bits per second, where $c' < +\infty$, not depending on n, Δ , or W_1 ,

2) and when $L=o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n}),$ an upper bound on per-node throughput capacity is

$$\lambda_a^0(n,m) = W_1.$$

Notice that the probability that one node will transmit to its destination node in ad hoc mode is $\pi L^2 r^2(n)$. Let N_i $(1 \le j \le n)$ be a random variable defined as follows:

$$N_i = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1, & \text{source node } i \text{ transmits to its destination node} \\ & \text{in ad hoc mode;} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{array} \right.$$

Let N_T be a random variable defined as the total number of source nodes transmitting in ad hoc mode, i.e., $N_T = \sum_{i=1}^{n} N_i$. Thus, the expected number source nodes in ad hoc mode is:

$$E(N_T) = E(\sum_{i=1}^{n} N_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} E(N_i).$$

Since $f(N_i = 1) = \pi L^2 r^2(n)$, and r(n) needs to be $\Theta(\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{n}})$ to make the network connected [11], we have⁵ $E(N_i) = 1 \cdot \pi L^2 r^2(n) + 0 \cdot (1 - \pi L^2 r^2(n)) = \pi L^2 \frac{\log n}{n}$.

$$E(N_T) = n \cdot \pi L^2 \frac{\log n}{n} = \pi L^2 \log n.$$

Recall the Chernoff bounds [5]:

• For any $\delta > 0$,

Thus.

$$P[N_T > (1+\delta)\pi L^2 \log n] < (\frac{e^{\delta}}{(1+\delta)^{1+\delta}})^{\pi L^2 \log n}.$$

• For any $0 < \delta < 1$,

$$P[N_T < (1 - \delta)\pi L^2 \log n] < e^{-\frac{1}{2}\delta^2\pi L^2 \log n}.$$

From the above, we can obtain for any $0 < \delta < 1$,

$$P[|N_T - \pi L^2 \log n| > \delta \pi L^2 \log n] < e^{-\theta \pi L^2 \log n}.$$

where $\theta > 0$. So, as $n \to \infty$, the total number of source nodes transmitting in ad hoc mode is equal to $\pi L^2 \log n$ with probability 1.

Thus, the total ad hoc mode traffic is $n\pi L^2 r^2(n) \lambda_a^0(n,m)$, i.e., $c'' L^2 \log n W_1$. Combining Lemma 4 and Lemma 5 leads to the following theorem.

⁵Note $r(n) = \Theta(\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{n}})$ means $r(n) = c_r \sqrt{\frac{\log n}{n}}$ where $0 < c_r < +\infty$. We ignore c_r in the following derivations for simplicity, which will not change our final results.

Theorem 1: Under the L-maximum-hop routing strategy, the throughput capacity of the network contributed by ad hoc mode transmissions is

$$\lambda_a(n,m) = \begin{cases} \Theta(\frac{nW_1}{L \log n}), & L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n}); \\ \Theta((L^2 \log n)W_1), & L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n}). \end{cases}$$

B. Infrastructure Mode Throughput Capacity

We then derive the throughput capacity contributed by transmissions in the infrastructure mode. Notice that each packet transmitted from a source to its destination in infrastructure mode will use one uplink and one downlink, and hence it should be counted only once for the throughput capacity.

Since the bandwidth for uplink is W_2 bits/sec, the throughput capacity per cell, denoted by $\lambda_i^c(n,m)$, is upper bounded by W_2 . As we mentioned before, the base stations divide the area into a hexagon tessellation, i.e., a 7-cell frequency reuse pattern. Thus, the throughput capacity per cell is lower bounded by $\frac{1}{2}W_2$. Finally, we obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 2: Under the L-maximum-hop routing strategy, the throughput capacity of the network contributed by infrastructure mode transmissions is

$$\lambda_i(n,m) = \Theta(mW_2).$$

Proof: We have shown that $\lambda_i^c(n,m) = \Theta(W_2)$. There are m cells, which leads to $\lambda_i(n,m) = \Theta(mW_2)$.

C. Throughput Capacity of the Network

From Theorem 1 and Theorem 2, we can obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 3: Under the L-maximum-hop resource allocation strategy, the throughput capacity of the network is

$$\lambda_a(n,m) = \begin{cases} \Theta(\frac{nW_1}{L \log n}) + \Theta(mW_2), & L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}} n}); \\ \Theta(L^2 \log nW_1) + \Theta(mW_2), & L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}} n}). \end{cases}$$

Case 1: $L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$. According to Theorem 3, we have

$$\lambda(n,m) = \Theta(\frac{nW_1}{L\log n}) + \Theta(mW_2).$$

• If $m=\Omega(\frac{n}{L\log n})$, then we can have higher throughput when $W_1=0$, i.e., $W_2=W/2$, and

$$\lambda_{max}(n,m) = \Theta(mW),$$

and hence.

$$\lambda_{max}^{0}(n,m) = \begin{cases} \Theta(W), & \text{if } m = \Omega(n); \\ \Theta(\frac{mW}{n}), & \text{if } m = o(n). \end{cases}$$

• If $m=o(\frac{n}{L\log n})$, then we can have higher throughput when $W_2=0$, i.e., $W_1=W$, and

$$\lambda_{max}(n,m) = \Theta(\frac{nW}{L\log n}),$$

and hence,

$$\lambda_{max}^0(n,m) = \Theta(\frac{W}{L\log n}).$$

Since $L=\Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, then $L\log n\to\infty$, and hence $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)\to 0$ as $n\to\infty$, which means the per-node throughput capacity diminishes as n goes large and the network cannot scale.

Case 2: $L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$. According to Theorem 3, we have

$$\lambda(n, m) = \Theta(L^2 \log nW_1) + \Theta(mW_2).$$

• If $m = \Omega(L^2 \log n)$, then we can have higher throughput when $W_1 = 0$, i.e., $W_2 = W/2$, and

$$\lambda_{max}(n,m) = \Theta(mW),$$

and hence.

$$\lambda_{max}^0(n,m) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \Theta(W), & \text{if } m = \Omega(n); \\ \Theta(\frac{mW}{n}), & \text{if } m = o(n). \end{array} \right.$$

• If $m = o(L^2 \log n)$, then we can have higher throughput when $W_2 = 0$, i.e., $W_1 = W$, and

$$\lambda_{max}(n,m) = \Theta(L^2 \log nW),$$

and hence.

$$\lambda_{max}^0(n,m) = \Theta(\frac{L^2 \log n}{n}W).$$

Since $L=o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, then $\frac{L^2\log n}{n}\to 0$ as $n\to\infty$, which means the per-node throughput capacity diminishes as ngoes large and the network cannot scale.

From the above, we arrive at the following results.

Corollary 1: Under the L-maximum-hop resource allocation strategy,

- 1) when $L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, (i) if $m = \Omega(\frac{n}{L \log n})$, we can have higher throughput when $W_1 = 0$, and the network can scale only if $m = \Omega(n)$; (ii) if $m = o(\frac{n}{L \log n})$, we can have higher throughput when $W_2 = 0$, and the network
- 2) when $L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^3 n})$, (i) if $m = \Omega(L^2 \log n)$, we can have higher throughput when $W_1 = 0$, and the network can scale only if $m = \Omega(n)$; (ii) if $m = o(L^2 \log n)$, we can have higher throughput when $W_2 = 0$, and the network cannot scale.

D. Comparisons with Pure Ad Hoc Networks

Gupta and Kumar have shown in [12] that for pure ad hoc networks, when each node randomly chooses another node as its destination with no limit to the maximum number of hops, the per-node throughput capacity is $\Theta(\frac{W}{\sqrt{n\log n}})$. We discuss in the following whether the per-node throughput capacity can be enhanced by placing some base stations in the network and the impacts of L and m on the throughput capacity of hybrid

wireless networks. Case 1:
$$L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$$
.

1) If
$$m = \Omega(\frac{n}{L \log n})$$
,

• If $m=\Omega(n)$, then $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=\Theta(W)$. • If m=o(n), then $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=\Theta(\frac{mW}{n})=\Omega(\frac{W}{L\log n})$. Since the transmission range of the

nodes satisfies $r(n) > \sqrt{\frac{\log n}{\pi n}}$ as mentioned before, then $L = O(\sqrt{\frac{n}{\log n}})$. Thus, we obtain $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m) = \Omega(\frac{W}{\sqrt{n\log n}})$. Moreover, when $L = \Theta(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, we can obtain $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m) = \Omega(\frac{W}{n^{\frac{1}{3}\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n}})$, and when $L = \omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, we can obtain $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m) = \Omega(o(\frac{W}{n^{\frac{1}{3}\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n}}))$.

2) If $m=o(\frac{n}{L\log n})$, we have shown that $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=\Theta(\frac{W}{L\log n})$. Since $L=O(\sqrt{\frac{n}{\log n}})$, we have $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=\Omega(\frac{W}{\sqrt{n\log n}})$. Furthermore, when $L=\Theta(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, we have $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=\Theta(\frac{W}{n^{\frac{1}{3}\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n}})$, and when $L=\omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, we have $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=o(\frac{W}{n^{\frac{1}{3}\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n}})$.

In this case, we limit L to $\Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$. If $m=o(\frac{n}{L\log n})$, the increase of base stations does not increase the per-node throughput capacity. But, the throughput capacity of hybrid wireless networks is greater than that of pure ad hoc networks. If we add some more base stations in the network so that m is lower bounded by $\frac{n}{L\log n}$ but upper bounded by n, the per-node throughput capacity increases linearly with the number of base stations, which is $\Theta(\frac{mW}{n})$, and also greater than that of pure ad hoc networks. Moreover, if we keep adding base stations in the network such that $m=\Omega(n)$, the per-node throughput capacity will reach its maximum, i.e., $\Theta(W)$. Besides, we also observe that except for the case that $m=\Omega(n)$, the throughput capacity of hybrid wireless networks always gets smaller as the maximum number of hops L increases.

Case 2:
$$L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}} n})$$
.

We notice that in this case, $L^2 \log n = o(\frac{n^{\frac{2}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n})$.

- 1) If $m = \Omega(L^2 \log n)$,
 - If $m = \Omega(n)$, we have shown that $\lambda_{max}^0(n, m) = \Theta(W)$.
 - If m=o(n), $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=\Theta(\frac{mW}{n})$. Thus, if $m=\Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{2}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n})$, then $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=\Omega(\frac{W}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n})$; and if $m=o(\frac{n^{\frac{2}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n})$, then $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=o(\frac{W}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n})$. Furthermore, when $L=\Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\log^{\frac{3}{4}}n})$, we obtain that $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=\Omega(\frac{W}{\sqrt{n\log n}})$, and when $L=o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\log^{\frac{3}{4}}n})$, we obtain that $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m)=\Omega(\frac{W}{\sqrt{n\log n}})$).
- 2) If $m = o(L^2 \log n) = o(\frac{n^{\frac{2}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n})$, then $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m) = \Theta(\frac{L^2 \log n}{n}W) = o(\frac{W}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n})$. Moreover, when $L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\log^{\frac{3}{4}}n})$, we obtain that $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m) = \Omega(\frac{W}{\sqrt{n\log n}})$, and when $L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\log^{\frac{3}{4}}n})$, we obtain that $\lambda_{max}^0(n,m) = o(\frac{W}{\sqrt{n\log n}})$.

In this case, we further limit L to $o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$. If $m=o(L^2\log n)$, the increase of base stations does not increase the per-node throughput capacity, which is $o(\frac{W}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n})$. If we add some more base stations in the network so that $m=\Omega(L^2\log n)$, the per-node throughput capacity increases linearly with the number of base stations. If $m=\Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{2}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{1}{3}}n})$, then the per-node throughput capacity will be lower bounded by $\frac{W}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}\log^{\frac{1}{3}n}}$. If $m=\Omega(n)$, the per-node throughput capacity will reach its maximum, i.e., $\Theta(W)$. Besides, we observe that except for the case that $m=\Omega(n)$, the throughput capacity of hybrid wireless networks gets larger as the maximum number of hops L increases, which is quite different from that in Case 1. Notice that when L is as small as $o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\log^{\frac{1}{4}n}})$, the capacity of hybrid wireless networks can be even smaller than that of pure ad hoc networks. This is because in this case too many nodes share the resource in the infrastructure mode, which significantly limits the network capacity.

From the above, we also find that adding base stations into the pure ad hoc networks can have significant impacts on the network capacity only if $m = \Omega(\frac{n}{L\log n})$ when $L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, or $m = \Omega(L^2\log n)$ when $L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$. In other words, as the maximum hop count L increases, the threshold of m, above which the capacity of hybrid wireless networks increases linearly with m, first increases when L is small, and then decreases when L is large.

E. More Discussions

In [16], the authors use a routing strategy such that a source node transmits to its destination node in the ad hoc mode only if the destination is in the same cell as the source. They show that under this routing strategy, the maximum throughput capacity increases linearly with the number of base stations m if $m = \Omega(\sqrt{n})$. We show in the following that this can be considered as a special case in our analysis.

When $m=\Omega(\sqrt{n})$, we can obtain that $L=O(\frac{1}{\sqrt{m}}/r(n))=O(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\sqrt{\log n}})$, and hence $m=\Omega(L^2\log n)$. Actually, this is included in the case that $L=o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$ as we have shown before. According to our results, when $m=\Omega(\sqrt{n})=\Omega(L^2\log n)$, the maximum throughput capacity increases linearly with m, which is the same as that in [16].

V. Delay in Hybrid Wireless Networks under L-maximum-hop Resource Allocation Strategy

In the literature, there are some works ([2], [8], [9], [15], [19], [20]) about the trade-off between capacity and delay in mobile ad hoc networks. They show that by using mobility to increase the capacity of the network, the delay will also be increased. Recall that in static random ad hoc networks, the per-node throughput capacity is $\Theta(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n\log n}})$, and the average packet delay is $\Theta(\sqrt{\frac{n}{\log n}})$. Gammal et al. [9] show that when the capacity of mobile random ad hoc networks increases to $\Theta(1)$, the average packet delay increases to $\Theta(n\log n)$. In this

L	m	Per-node Throughput Capacity	Average Packet Delay
	$\Omega(n)$	$\Theta(W)$	
$\Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$	$(\Omega(\frac{n}{L\log n}), o(n))$	$\Theta(\frac{mW}{n})$	$\Theta(1)$
	$o(\frac{n}{L \log n})$	$\Theta(\frac{W}{L \log n})$	$\Theta(L)$
	$\Omega(n)$	$\Theta(W)$	
$o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$	$(\Omega(L^2\log n), o(n))$	$\Theta(\frac{mW}{n})$	$\Theta(1)$
	$o(L^2 \log n)$	$\Theta(\frac{L^2 \log n}{n}W)$	$\Theta(L)$

TABLE I THROUGHPUT CAPACITY AND PACKET DELAY IN HYBRID WIRELESS NETWORKS.

section, we study the delay in hybrid wireless networks to see whether there also exists such a trade-off.

We first present a fundamental result, which will be used frequently, as follows.

Lemma 6: Under L-maximum-hop resource allocation strategy, if we choose the route of packets to approximate the straightline connecting the source and the destination, for packets transmitted in the ad hoc mode, the average delay is $\Theta(L)$, and for packets transmitted in the infrastructure mode, the average delay is $\Theta(1)$.

Recall that the number of transmitters in the ad hoc mode is $\pi L^2 \log n$ with probability 1. Then, the number of transmitters in the infrastructure mode is $n - \pi L^2 \log n$ with probability 1. Thus, the average delay of all the packets in the hybrid network, denoted by $D^0(n)$, is

$$D^{0}(n) = \Theta(\frac{\pi L^{2} \log n \cdot L + (n - \pi L^{2} \log n) \cdot 1}{n})$$
$$= \Theta(\frac{L^{3} \log n}{n} + 1).$$

Case 1:
$$L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}} n}).$$

As we mentioned before, the average delay of all the packets in the hybrid network is

$$D^{0}(n) = \Theta\left(\frac{L^{3} \log n}{n} + 1\right) = \Omega(1).$$

1) If $m = \Omega(\frac{n}{L \log n})$, we can have higher throughput when all the bandwidth is assigned to the traffics in the infrastructure mode, i.e., there are no traffics in the ad hoc mode. Thus, the average delay of all the packets is

$$D_{max}^0(n) = \Theta(1).$$

2) $m = o(\frac{n}{L \log n})$, we can have higher throughput when all the bandwidth is assigned to the ad mode traffics. In this case, the average delay of all the packets is

$$D_{max}^{0}(n) = \Theta(L) = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n}).$$

Besides, since
$$L=O(\sqrt{\frac{n}{\log n}})$$
, we also have $D^0_{max}(n)=O(\sqrt{\frac{n}{\log n}}).$

Thus, we observe that in this case, as we put more and more base stations in the network so that m increases from $o(\frac{n}{L\log n})$ to $\Omega(\frac{n}{L\log n})$, the delay decreases while the capacity increases as we show in Section IV-D. Case 2: $L=o(\frac{n^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$.

Case 2:
$$L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{3}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}} n})$$
.

The same as before, the average delay of all the packets in the hybrid network is

$$D^0(n) = \Theta(\frac{L^3 \log n}{n} + 1) = \Theta(1).$$

1) If $m = \Omega(L^2 \log n)$, we can have higher throughput when all the bandwidth is assigned to the traffics in the infrastructure mode, and the average delay of all the packets is

$$D_{max}^0(n) = \Theta(1).$$

2) $m = o(L^2 \log n)$, we can have higher throughput when all the bandwidth is assigned to the ad mode traffics, and the average delay of all the packets is

$$D_{max}^{0}(n) = \Theta(L) = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n}).$$

Besides, since $L = \Omega(1)$, we have

$$D_{max}^0(n) = \Theta(L) = \Omega(1).$$

Similar to that when $L = \Theta(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, as m increases from $o(L^2 \log n)$ to $\Omega(L^2 \log n)$, the delay decreases while the capacity increases.

In conclusion, we find that the smaller the maximum hop number L is, the smaller the average packet delay is. Specifically, when $L = \Omega(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$, the average delay is lower bounded by $\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n}$ if $m = o(\frac{n}{L\log n})$, and is $\Theta(1)$ if $m = \Omega(\frac{n}{L \log n})$. Besides, when $L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log \frac{2}{3}}n)$, the delay is $o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\log^{\frac{2}{3}}n})$ if $m = o(L^2 \log n)$, and is $\Theta(1)$ if $m = \Omega(L^2 \log n)$.

Combining the results of the throughput capacity and the corresponding delay, we arrive at Table I, from which we observe that in hybrid wireless networks, by adding base stations to help carry out transmissions, the per-node throughput capacity can achieve $\Theta(W)$ while the average packet delay is kept as low as $\Theta(1)$.

VI. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we study the throughput capacity and the average packet delay in hybrid wireless networks. We find that for most of the cases, hybrid wireless networks have greater throughput capacity and smaller average packet delay than pure ad hoc networks. Moreover, we observe that when m = $\Omega(n)$, the per-node throughput capacity can be $\Theta(W)$ while the average packet delay is maintained as low as $\Theta(1)$. Only

when $L = o(\frac{n^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\log^{\frac{3}{4}}n})$ and $m = o(L^2 \log n)$, hybrid wireless networks have smaller throughput capacity than pure ad hoc networks. This is because in this case, there are a small number of base stations while too many nodes share the bandwidth in the infrastructure mode.

We also notice that we need to assign all the bandwidth to either ad hoc mode transmissions or infrastructure mode transmissions in order to have higher throughput. In either case, one of the two mode transmissions will get no bandwidth at all. In order to avoid this situation, we can assign some minimum amount of bandwidth to each mode, as suggested in [16].

Since hybrid wireless networks can provide high throughput capacity and low packet delay, we can finally conclude that wireless hybrid networks is a good solution to broadband access networks.

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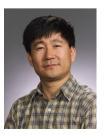
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