Least Congested Channel Recommendation for Uncoordinated Access Point

Ahmad Tajuddin Samsudin, Norman Fadhil Idham Muhammad, Awang Ibrahim Awang Daud, Syaiful Nizam Yahya, Khalil Huzairi Ahmad

TM Research & Development Sdn. Bhd., Cyberjaya, Malaysia

tajuddin@tmrnd.com.my, fadhil@tmrnd.com.my, awang@tmrnd.com.my, snizam@tmrnd.com.my, khalil@tmrnd.com.my

Abstract—**When Telekom Malaysia Berhad (TM) introduces the Wi-Fi residential gateway to its broadband customers, it faces issues related to Wi-Fi signal strength that caused degraded Wi-Fi network performance. The convenience of wireless connectivity has increased the usage of wireless devices such as mobile phones, smart TVs, tablets, wireless speakers and CCTV. The problem with wireless residential gateway arises when there are multiple access points nearby which uses the same channel or overlapping channel which caused signal interferences. Even when the signal strength is high, interference from other nearby access points which uses the same channel or overlapping channel can still cause signal interference. When an access point is using channel that is congested; channels that are used by other access points or channels that overlap with other channels that is used by other access points, network performance in terms of data transmission is degraded. In this paper, we propose a new mechanism to find the best channel in a congested channel environment. The scheme can run on client devices such as wireless laptops, tablets and mobile phones. Once the scheme has suggested the least congested channel, the TM customer will be able to switch to that channel—thus reducing signal interference and improving network performance. Results from tests show that our algorithm to find the least congested channel performed better than auto-channel selection implemented by 10 different residential gateway models provided by TM to the customer.**

Keyword—**Least congested channel, adjacent-channel, co-channel, received signal strength indicator, Wi-Fi.**

Ahmad Tajuddin Samsudin became a Member (M) of IEEE in 2004. He holds a PhD in Information Technology from Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM), Malaysia in 2010. Currently, he works as a Principal Researcher at TM Research and Development, Cyberjaya, Malaysia since 2003. He has 6 patents granted, 19 patents pending and more than 50 copyrights and technical papers published. He has Red Hat Certified System Administrator in Red Hat OpenStack (certified no: 150-025-153).

Norman Fadhil Idham Muhammad received the Bachelor degree in Bachelor in Applied Physics from the Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang Malaysia, in 2000. He is currently working as Researcher in the Analog Design lab, TM Research and Development, Cyberjaya, Malaysia. His current research interests include wireless communication, radio frequency front end and III-V material devices.

Awang Ibrahim Awang Daud was born in Papar, Sabah, Malaysia, in 1973. He received the Bachelor degree in Computer Science from the University Putra Malaysia, Malaysia, in 2000. He is currently working as Researcher in the Computational Science Division of TM Research and Development, Cyberjaya, Malaysia. He has 10 years of research work with TM Research and Development.

Syaiful Nizam Yahya was born in Johor, Malaysia in 1980. He holds a Masters in Computer Graphics from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia in 2009. He has more than 14 years of research experience in the field of computer graphics and computer networks. Currently, he works as a Researcher at TM Research and Development, Malaysia where he focuses on network performance analysis and its impact of people's daily lives.

Khalil Huzairi Ahmad was born in Johor Bharu, Malaysia, in 1976. He received the Bachelor(Hons.) degree in Information Technology from the MARA University of Technology, Malaysia, in 1999. In 2007, he joined the TM Research & Development, as a Researcher and Web Developer. His current research interests include wireless networks, web services, cloud computing, web portal development, and operating system.