

In-Kernel Passive Measurement of the Performance Impact of Hidden Terminals in IEEE 802.11 Wireless Networks

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Measurement of Wireless Networks

- Passive external capture
 - “vicinity sniffing”
- Passive internal capture
 - Userspace
 - Direct kernel driver modifications

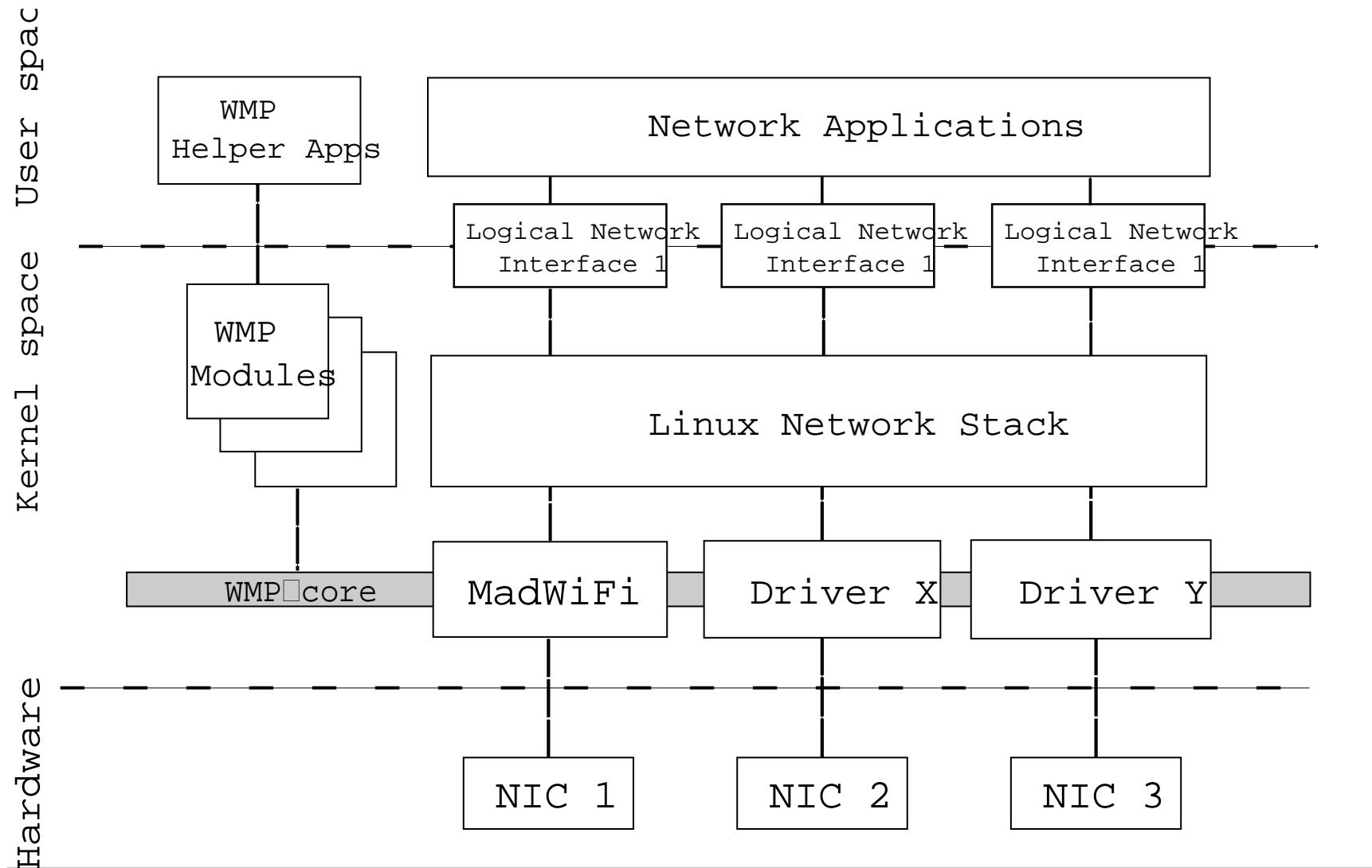
Measurement of Wireless Networks

- Passive external capture
 - Costly, extra hardware
 - Not an accurate view of measured host
- Passive internal capture
 - Performance impact

WMP Framework

- In kernel, passive measurement
- Measurement decoupled from drivers
- Zero-copy, low overhead
- Meta-data describing RX/TX

WMP Framework



WMP Framework

- Accurate, complete capture
- Reusable measurement code
- Long term measurement
- Wide spread deployment

Examples

- Commodity wireless measurement
- Community driven networks
- Empower non-expert operators

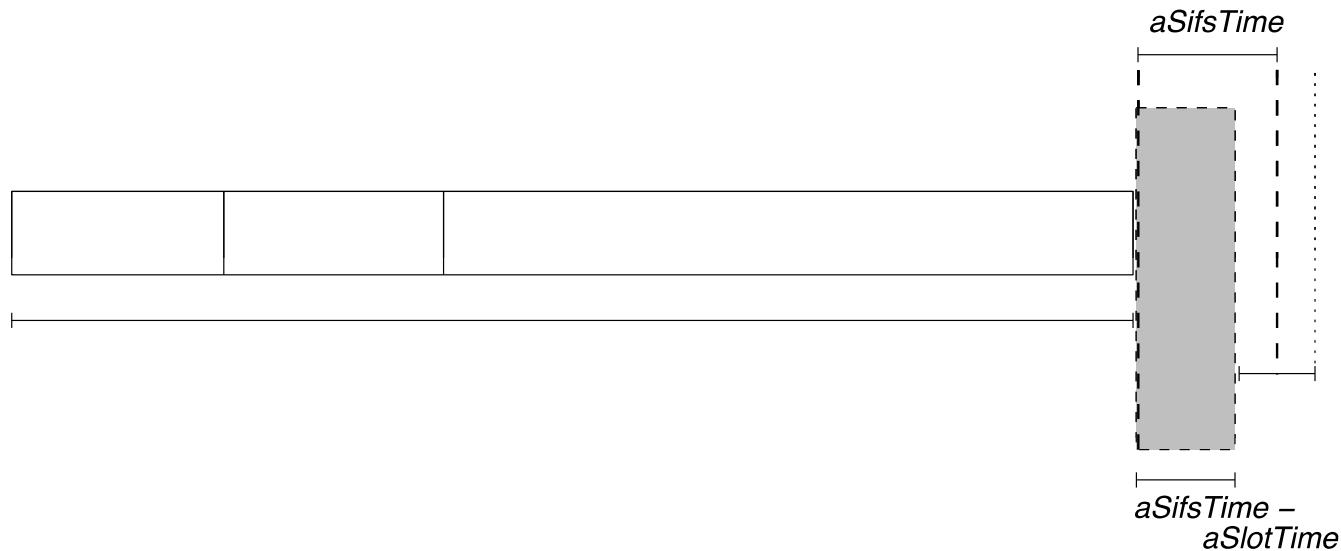
Hidden Terminals

- Classic problem faced by CSMA networks
- Unsyncronised terminals lead to collisions
- Collisions lead to poor network performance
- Other causes for poor performance
- Can we detect HTs as cause?

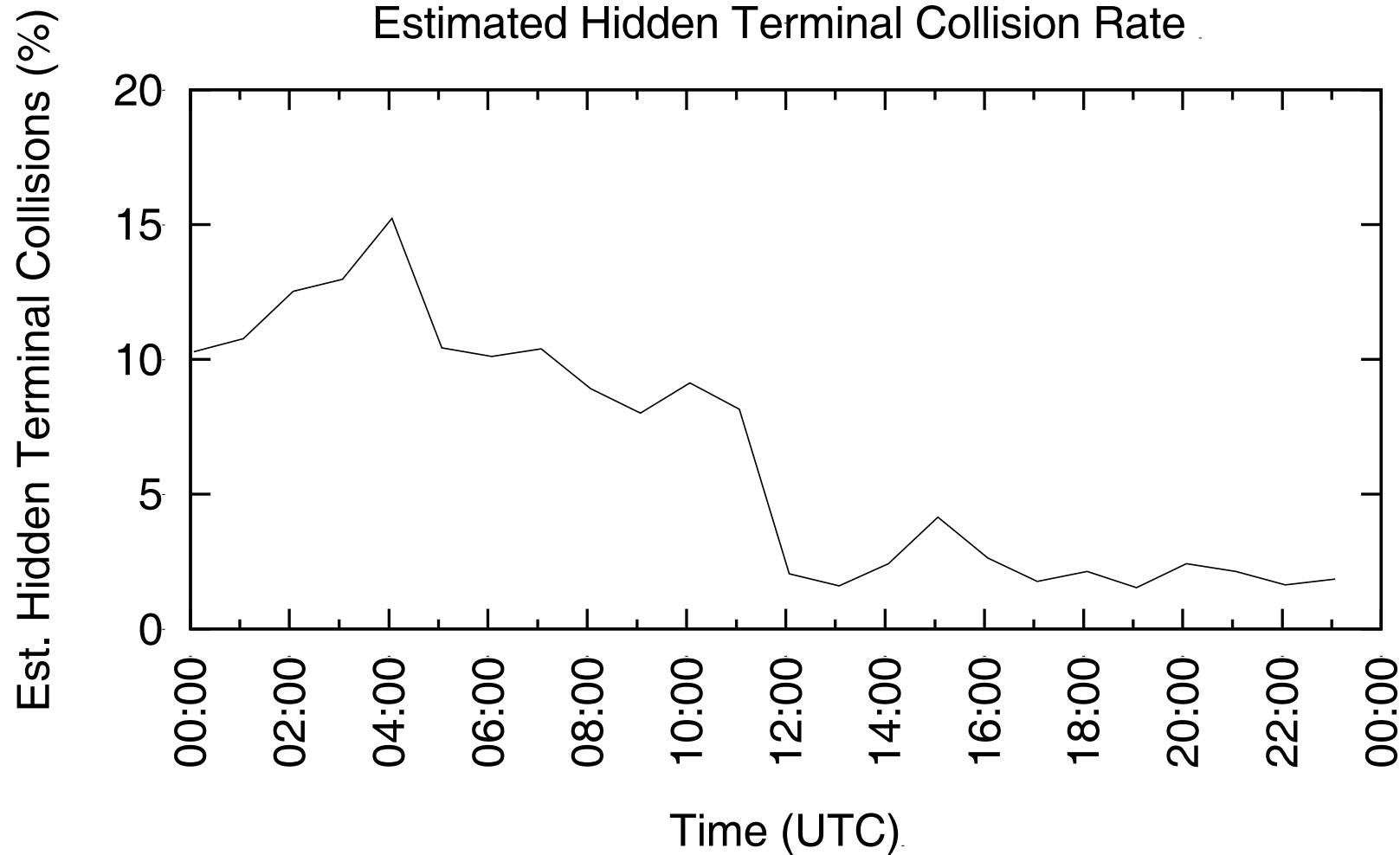
Measuring Connectivity

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Detecting DCF Violations



Detecting DCF Violations



Summary

- New framework for commodity wireless measurement
- Novel method for detecting and measuring hidden terminal problems
- Deployed on operational commercial network with useful real-world outcomes

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