# Research Methods in computer science

Lecture 7

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### Agenda

Research Conference Updates

Experiment and metric design exercise

Experiments in uncontrolled environment

Description of experiment setup

HW

### Metric Design Exercise

Project: Instruction system (HCI)

Goal: Make furniture assembly faster

Possible metrics and experiments?

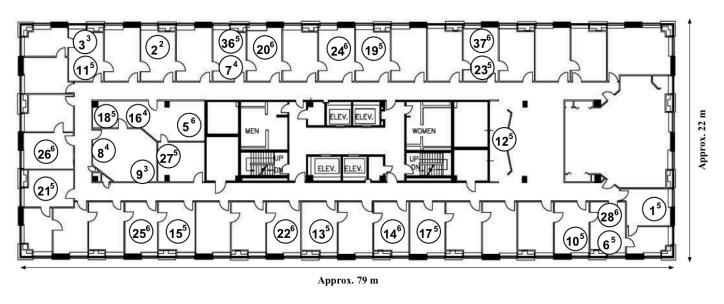
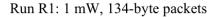


Figure 1: A map of the test-bed. Each circle is a node; the large number is the node ID, and the superscript indicates which floor of the building the node is on.



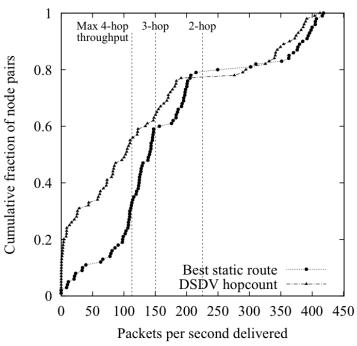


Figure 2: When using the minimum hop-count metric, DSDV chooses paths with far less throughput than the best available routes. Each line is a throughput CDF for the same 100 randomly selected node pairs. The left curve is the throughput CDF of DSDV with minimum hop-count. The right curve is the CDF of the best throughput between each pair, found by trying a number of promising paths. The dotted vertical lines mark the theoretical maximum throughput of routes of each hop-count.

## **Deployment Experiments**

Realistic setup and inputs

Uncontrolled environment Spans the parameter space?

## Wireless Experiments Today

**Protocol Comparison Experiments** 

Run the new protocol

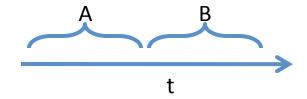
Run best-known prior work

Compare

Simulations + Testbed experiments

### Serial Experiments

Run one protocol at a time Compare the results

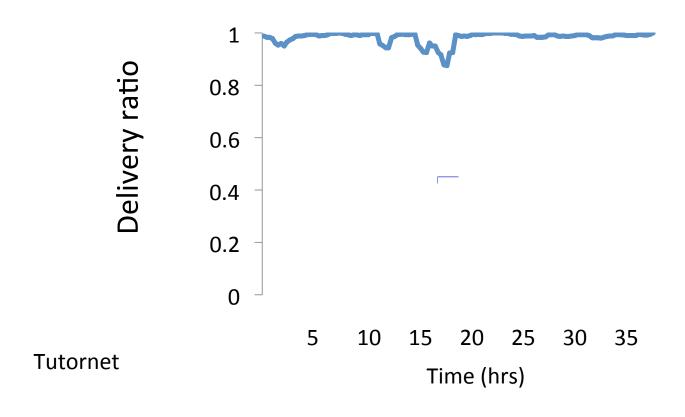


Difficult to distinguish the contribution of these these variables

**Environment** 

Protocol mechanisms

### Repeating Experiments Enough?



High delivery ratio across time (short experiments can be misleading!)

### **Concurrent Experiments**

Run multiple protocols concurrently
Compare the results

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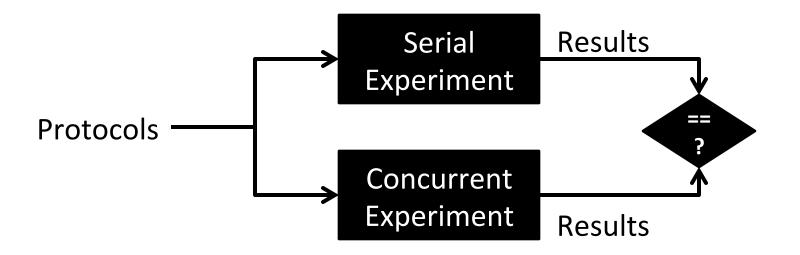
### Advantages

Consistent environment for both the protocols

#### Concerns

Contention of different types

## **Evaluation Strategy**



Ideally same conclusions from both methods
Evaluating methodologies not protocols
Experiments on Tutornet testbed

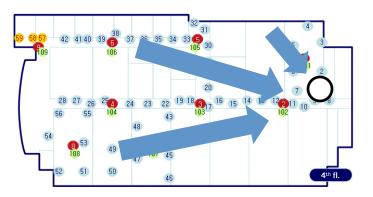
### **Protocols**

```
Collection

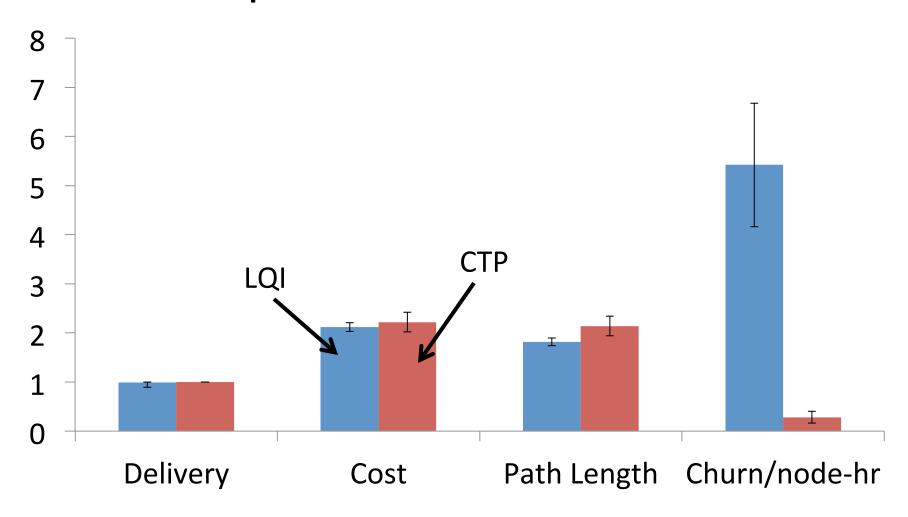
CTP [Gnawali 2009]

MultihopLQI [TinyOS 2007]

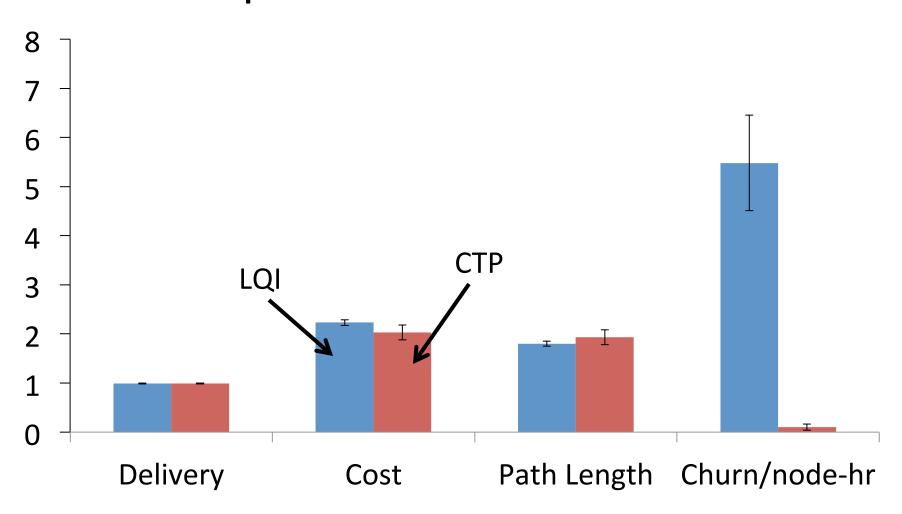
(LQI)
```



# Results from Serial CTP vs LQI Experiment on Tutornet

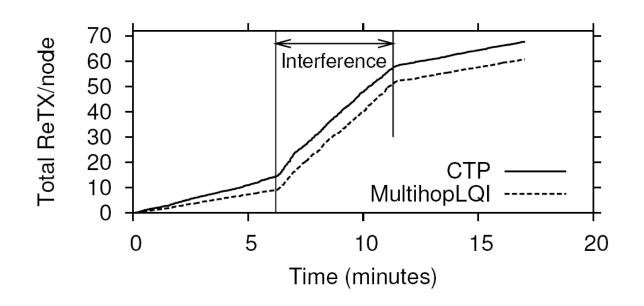


# Results from Concurrent CTP vs LQI Experiment on Tutornet



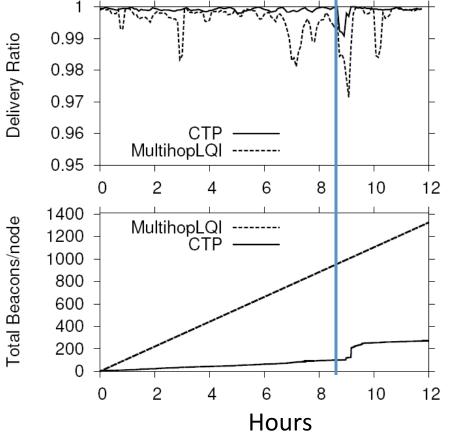
# Putting Concurrent Methodology to Use: Expts. with External Interference

### **Engineered Scenario**



Both protocols struggle in the same environment.

Putting Concurrent Methodology to Use: Experiments in a Dynamic Network



CTP and LQI react differently to dynamics.

### HW

Make a list of metrics from the ten research papers you selected

Most common metric, most uncommon metric

Most common and most unusual experiments