Software-Defined Vehicular Networks: Architecture, Algorithms, and Applications: Part 2

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SOFTWARE-DEFINED VEHICULAR NETWORKS: ARCHITECTURE, ALGORITHMS, AND APPLICATIONS: PART 2

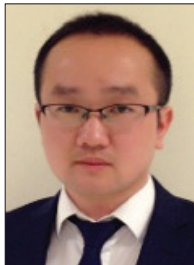

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Due to the random vehicle mobility and varying communication environment, an integrated vehicular network comprising heterogeneous access technologies (DSRC, WiFi, 4G/LTE, 5G, etc.) will be indispensable to provide ubiquitous mobile coverage. Although heterogeneous networking has been extensively studied in different contexts, the salient features of vehicular communications (e.g., varying road density, fast mobility) have brought new challenges and led to fundamental and interesting research issues, such as how to flexibly configure and efficiently conduct resource allocation, how to enable interoperation among multiple coexisting networks, and how to effectively accommodate a large number of traveling users with various kinds of smart devices.

In addition to the advances in the underlying access technologies, cloud computing as a centralized control and management solution has become mature, representing an indispensable component of large scale vehicular networks. In particular, software-defined networking (SDN) has emerged as a promising paradigm to control the network in a systematic way, gaining attention from both academia and industry. The flexibility and programmability of SDN not only make it attractive to satisfy the quality of service (QoS) requirements of vehicular services, but also greatly simplify resource management in heterogeneous vehicular networks.

In this Feature Topic (FT), we invited authors from the industry and academic research communities to discuss the architecture, applications, challenges, and standardization efforts on enabling software-defined vehicular networking (SDVN). We received a large number of submissions and conducted a rigorous review process. This is Part 2 of the FT.

To deliver content to remote vehicles, path establishment, maintenance, and identity assignment in dynamic vehicular networks generate much overhead. S. H. Ahmed *et al.*, in ''Named Data Networking for Software Defined Vehicular Networks,'' present an architecture that utilizes SDN in vehicular networks to support content retrieval by named data networking. Furthermore, a number of current research challenges are discussed, and a precise roadmap to address these issues is provided.

The high user mobility in vehicular networks usually results in long handover delay among eNodeBs (eNBs) in 5G communications. C. F. Lai *et al.*, in "A Buffer-Aware QoS Streaming Approach for SDN-Enabled 5G Vehicular Networks," propose a buffer-aware QoS streaming approach over SDN-enabled 5G vehicular networks, which provides various priority levels of streaming services to mobile users. Experimental results show that the proposed approach can adjust the priority of streaming content segments and avoid the delay of streaming content transmissions for 5G vehicular networks.

In order to support software updates in vehicles, M. Azizian *et al.* propose an SDN-based vehicular cloud architecture (SVC) that leverages vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) communications in ''Vehicle Software Updates Distribution with SDN and Cloud Computing.'' In SVC, solutions on how vehicular networks can be modeled as connectivity graphs are proposed, and an SDN-based scheme that assigns different frequency bands to graph edges is presented to improve network performance.

The highly coupled design of traditional networks cannot satisfy various QoS requirements in vehicular networks. W.

Quan *et al.*, in ''Enhancing Crowd Collaborations for Software Defined Vehicular Networks,'' propose a customized smart identifier networking (SINET)-based solution to enable crowd collaboration for SDVN. It utilizes crowd sensing to flexibly select virtualized function slices, and enables crowd collaboration to dynamically adapt to various vehicular scenarios and applications.

In edge networks, a network may suffer from potential interference, resource congestion, or underutilization in the absence of joint resource optimization. D. J. Deng *et al.*, in ''Latency Control in Software Defined Mobile Edge Vehicular Networking,'' point out a complete series of latency control mechanisms and principles for edge-up software-defined cloud/edge vehicular networking. The proposal thus creates a paradigm shift to enable SDVN.

Drivers' fatigue and their mood shifts may lead to traffic accidents. Y. Zhang *et al.*, in ''SOVCAN: Safety-Oriented Vehicular Controller Area Network,'' propose an SDN-based approach to develop a safety-oriented vehicular controller area network (SOVCAN), which can improve traffic safety by detecting drivers' fatigue and recognize their emotions.

In order to offload the data to centralized servers or other devices, an intelligent controller is indispensable to make decisions. G. S. Aujla *et al.*, in ''Data Offloading in 5G-Enabled Software-Defined Vehicular Networks: A Stackelberg-Game-Based Approach,'' propose a novel data offloading scheme for 5G-enabled SDN-based vehicular networks. The SDN-based controller makes decisions for data offloading by using the priority manager and load balancer. In addition, a single leader multi-follower Stackelberg game is designed for network selection. The performance evaluations of the proposed scheme demonstrate the superiority of the scheme to other existing proposals.

In closing, we would like to thank all of those who have made significant contributions to this FT, including the contributing authors, the anonymous reviewers, and the *IEEE Communications Magazine* publications staff, in particular the Editor-in-Chief. We believe that the research results presented in this FT will further stimulate research and development ideas in vehicular networks.

BIOGRAPHIES

GUANGJIE HAN [S'01, M'05] is currently a professor with the Department of Information and Communication Systems, Hohai University, China. His current research interests include sensor networks, computer communications, mobile cloud computing, and multimedia communication and security. He has served on the Editorial Boards of up to 14 international journals, including *IEEE Access* and *Telecommunication Systems*. He has been a Guest Editor for a number of Special Issues in IEEE journals and magazines. He is a member of ACM.

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TOM H. LUAN received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, in 2012. Since December 2013, he has been a lecturer in mobile and apps with the School of Information Technology, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia. His research mainly focuses on vehicular networking, wireless content distribution, peer-to peer networking, and mobile cloud computing.

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WAEL GUIBENE is a research scientist at Intel Labs since June 2015. He was awarded his Ph.D. from Telecom ParisTech in July 2013. He also holds an M.Eng. and a Master's degree in telecommunications obtained in 2009 and 2010, respectively. He worked at Eurecom as a research engineer from 2010 to November 2013, and then joined Semtech to work on LoRa systems from 2013 to June 2015. His research activities include IoT, 5G, and wireless communications.