### Université Catholique de Louvain

LOUVAIN SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING





#### Master thesis

# Analysis and performance monitoring of a large WiFi network

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A thesis submitted to obtain the degree of Master 120 in computer science with option in networking and security.

Louvain-la-Neuve January 2014 "Thanks to my solid academic training, today I can write hundreds of words on virtually any topic without possessing a shred of information, which is how I got a good job in journalism."

Dave Barry

# Contents

$\mathbf{C}_{0}$	onter	nts	ii			
1	Intr	Introduction				
	1.1	Presentation	1			
		1.1.1 Data Gathering	1			
		1.1.2 Data Analysis	2			
2	Overview of the network infrastructure of the UCL 3					
	2.1	Overview of the UCL wireless network	3			
		2.1.1 Subsection 1	4			
		2.1.2 Subsection 2	4			
	2.2	Main Section 2	4			
3	Laboratory Experimental Setup					
	3.1	Main Section 1	6			
		3.1.1 Subsection 1	6			
		3.1.2 Subsection 2	6			
	3.2	Main Section 2	7			
4	Details of experiment 1					
	4.1	Main Section 1	8			
		4.1.1 Subsection 1	8			
		4.1.2 Subsection 2	8			
	4.2	Main Section 2	9			
5	Details of experiment 2					
	5.1	Main Section 1	10			
		5.1.1 Subsection 1	10			
		5.1.2 Subsection 2	10			
	5.2	Main Section 2	11			
6	Discussion of experimental results					
	6.1	Main Section 1	12			
		6.1.1 Subsection 1	12			
		6.1.2 Subsection 2	12			
	6.2	Main Section 2	13			
7	Cor	nclusion and future directions	14			

Contents	iii

	7.1	Main Section 1	14
		7.1.1 Subsection 1	14
		7.1.2 Subsection 2	14
	7.2	Main Section 2	15
$\mathbf{A}$	Sou	rce Code	16

# Introduction

#### 1.1 Presentation

This project constitute our master thesis. The goal is to implement a set of tools to help the network administrators monitoring the wireless infrastructure. To achieve that, we have to proceed in two steps. First, we will have to collect all the information available. The sources of information are completely heterogeneous. They range from simple logs to active monitoring through customized routers. The main difficulty here will be to aggregate all the information in a coherent and efficient way. The amount of data will force us to choose which ones are pertinent and which ones are not. Once the gathering steps is done, the raw data will be available but they will be useless if the user can't understand and use them. So, the second step will be to analyse and present them to the users. We will have to define the profile of the end-user and understand what are his needs. The success of our work will be directly link to the fact if our implementation is helpful or not. If the data collected are correct but we are unable to present them in the right way, our work would be meaningless.

#### 1.1.1 Data Gathering

As said before, the sources of data are quite heterogeneous. To handle that, we'll have to implement a system that can hold and represent all the information in a coherent way.

#### 1.1.2 Data Analysis

The core will be responsible to centralized, analyse and take the action accordingly the information received from the probes. Its actions will mainly depend on the access that it will have the network. Typical action would be to adapt the controller or inform precisely the administrator of the problems detected. Most of the time, there most difficult is not to be aware of the problem but to understand the causes of it.

# Overview of the UCL Network Infrastructure

#### 2.1 Overview of the UCL wireless network

L'Université Catholique de Louvain est l'une des plus grande université de Belgique. Elle rassemble presque 30.000 étudiants et quelques 10.000 autres membres allant du personnel aux enseignants ainsi qu'aux chercheurs.

L'Université Catholique de Louvain possède également plusieurs campus. Le siège central de l'Université est situé dans la ville de Louvain-la-Neuve. Le campus regroupant les sciences de la santé se trouve, quant-à-lui, à Woluwe-Saint-Lambert et plus récemment Tournai, Mons ainsi que Charleroi se sont rajoutés à la liste.

Face à une telle envergure, il est vital pour l'UCL de se doter d'une connexion internet et d'un réseau wireless performant capable de délivrer une connectivité sur l'ensemble de ses campus et à l'ensemble des ses étudiants et personnel à tout moment.

L'optique dans laquelle l'Université Catholique de Louvain s'est inscrite est de fournir une connectivité en fonction du status de l'utilisateur qui souhaite s'y connecter. Pour ce faire, l'Université dispose de trois réseaux principaux ayant chacun un SSID différent. Ces différents réseaux sont:

- student. UCLouvain: Uniquement réservé aux étudiants inscrits à l'Université Catholique de Louvain.
- UCLouvain-prive: Uniquement réservé au personnel ainsi qu'aux chercheurs de l'Univeristé.
- UCLouvain: Accessible pour les visiteurs invités par l'UCL.

L'UCL participe également au projet eduroam qui signifie Education Roaming. Il s'agit d'un service d'accès mondial et sécurisé à l'Internet développé pour la recherche internationale et l'éducation. Le système eduroam est basé sur une infrastrucutre RADIUS qui utilise la technologie 802.1X pour permettre ce roaming inter-institutionnel. Il permet aux utilisateurs visitant une autre institution connectée à eduroam de pouvoir se connecter en utilisant leurs mêmes informations (nom d'utilisateur et mot de passe) que s'ils voulaient se connecter au réseau de leur institution d'origine.

Nous retrouvons donc également sur les campus de l'Université un quatrième SSID (eduroam) permettant aux étudiants étrangers de pouvoir se connecter à tout moment sur les sites de l'UCL.

#### 2.1.1 Subsection 1

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#### 2.2 Main Section 2

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# Laboratory Experimental Setup

#### 3.1 Main Section 1

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#### 3.1.2 Subsection 2

#### 3.2 Main Section 2

# Details of experiment 1

#### 4.1 Main Section 1

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#### 4.1.2 Subsection 2

#### 4.2 Main Section 2

# Details of experiment 2

#### 5.1 Main Section 1

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#### 5.1.1 Subsection 1

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#### 5.1.2 Subsection 2

#### 5.2 Main Section 2

# Discussion of experimental results

#### 6.1 Main Section 1

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#### 6.1.1 Subsection 1

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#### 6.1.2 Subsection 2

#### 6.2 Main Section 2

### Conclusion and future directions

#### 7.1 Main Section 1

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#### 7.1.1 Subsection 1

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#### 7.1.2 Subsection 2

#### 7.2 Main Section 2

# Appendix A

# Source Code

Write your Appendix content here.