# WiFi Networks Research Testbed for Commodity Routers

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Introduction

Motivation

What is that?

Architecture
Overview
Implementation
WiBed Server

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Motivation

#### Wait what?





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Introduction

Really?

• Are you into networking?



Motivation

# Really?

- Are you into networking?
- Do you want to do realistic experiments?



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Introduction

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Motivation

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- Are you desperate to perform L2 or lower experiments?





Motivation

## Really?

- Are you into networking?
- Do you want to do realistic experiments?
- Are you sick of all the virtualization hype?
- Are you desperate to perform L2 or lower experiments?

Then you need:





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What is that?

#### What is WiBed?

#### WiBed is:

- A software platform aimed at deploying network experiments
- Also an OpenWRT-based platform to easily deploy and manage your mesh network
- Designed to run on commodity (cheap) IEEE802.11 routers
- Your best option for wireless networking experiments :)





What is that?

Introduction

#### What is WiBed?

#### but WiBed is also:

- An effort started by "hackers" in the WBMv6
- Complement Community-Lab.net testbed (Low Cost, Low layer Experiments)
- Fast-installed self-organized mesh network





Introduction

Motivation

What is that?

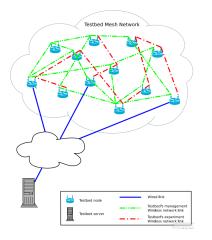
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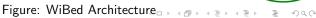


Overview

#### Architecture Overview







#### Design Overview

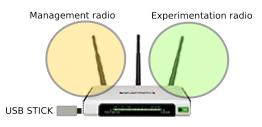
- Nodes behave like FSM (idle-prepare-deploy-run-finish-idle)
- Communication with server through management mesh network
- REST-API pulling mechanism: every N seconds nodes pull state info and orders from server
- Node access mainly from the server web-UI
- Based on OpenWrt trunk
- Organized in packages, OpenWRT-compatible feed
- Management Network based on batman-adv





#### Hardware

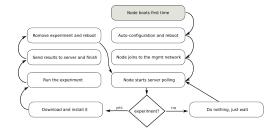
- Node must be compatible with OpenWRT Linux (minimum 4MB flash)
- Node must have at least two radios (one for mgmt, one for experiments)
- Node must have at least one USB port (to store the overlay)





# Diagram

- Nodes self-configure during the first boot
- IP address, hostname, ssid, etc. based on MAC address
- Experiments are overlays which are installed in the nodes
- Once an experiment finish, the overlay is removed and node goes back to initial state





# OverlayFS 1/2

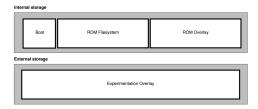


Figure: WiBed Node Filesystem



# OverlayFS 2/2

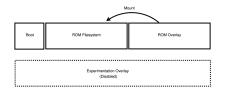


Figure: Node in IDLE state

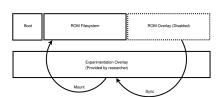


Figure: Node performing experiment



# Config file

- WiBed uses UCI to manage the configuration
- It is flexible and allows many options
   For instance, management network device can be defined as "list ifaces radio2/radio1" meaning if radio2 exists, it will be used, otherwise radio1

```
config wibed general
                                                                 config wibed management
  option node id '00ff'
                                                                   list ifaces 'eth0.1'
  option recovery timer '00'
                                                                   list ifaces 'radio0/radio1'
  option last cmd id '0'
                                                                   option channel5 '36'
  option command id '00'
                                                                   option channel2 '11'
  option status '0'
                                                                   option bssid '02:C0:FF:EE:C0:DE'
  option api url 'http://wibed.confine-project.eu/'
                                                                   option ssid 'wibed'
                                                                   option ipv4 net '10.99.R1.R2'
config wibed experiment
                                                                   option ipv6 net 'fdba:99:R1R2::1/64
  option exp id '0000'
                                                                   option ipv4_lan_net '192.168.R2.1'
  option ov url 'http://wibed.confine-project.eu/send ov'
                                                                   option country 'UZ'
  option save url 'http://wibed.confine-project.eu/api/results
                                                                   option txpower '20'
                                                                   option is gw '0'
config wibed upgrade
  option version '01
  option model '
  option auto '0'
  option upg_url 'http://wibed.confine-project.eu/upgrade'
  option upg timer 'http://wibed.confine-project.eu/upgtimer
```



#### Wibed Server

- Server: Tornado Web Server
- Our system: Flask app + SQLite
- A REST API for interaction with nodes
- A web interface for interaction with users





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Architecture

#### More info

- Wiki
- Paper
- Repo
- Us





## Got you!





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