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Real Time Video Streaming Over Homogeneous Systems

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A B S T R A C T

Streaming videos from one device to another become more important due to the spread of mobile devices and social media applications. The process of sending video from one device to another have a set of challenges. The video must be delivered in time, otherwise the service quality will decrease. Packet drop and lip synchronization is another challenge that streaming video will encounter. Real Time Protocol (RTP) is a simple, lightweight protocol that used to perform video streaming with low burden. RTP uses User Datagram Protocol (UDP) in video transferring. This paper use streaming video through RTP over homogeneous systems and measure the Packet Loss Rate, Jitter, Out-of-Order Packets, Datagram Size, Packet Delivery Ratio, latency, and throughput. Four experiments were performed with (15, 30, 45, 60) seconds to check the effect on the previous measures. The results show that video jitter increases as streaming time increases, it also shows that latency and throughput doesn't depend on the streaming period.



Introduction

Streaming video file from one device to another device or devices is referred as video streaming and it has greatly growth in the last two decades. Videos like news, cooking, fishing, sport, music, movies and other activities are now available on the Internet. Video streaming adds another extra burden on the Internet due to the fact that video files usually have more size than audios or images [1].

Internet Engineering Task Force or (IETF) group has developed a protocol that responsible about end to end real time user communication for delivering audio and video over IP services, this protocol is named RTP. RTP stands for real time protocol and is responsible about end to end transmission for real time applications, but it doesn't guarantee the quality of service [2], [3].

Streaming videos has many benefits, one of them is that they allow users to watch videos without the need for downloading them, another benefit is that it can provide the same video with different resolutions up to 4K. As well as the affordability. Nevertheless, video streaming still has a set of challenges such as the limitations imposed by client device (receiver) as well as slow connection. In the former case the client device may be old or run a set of processes which causes errors in stream receiving, this may cause low Quality of Service [4], [5].

This paper studies the effect of transferring video using RTP in the context of the following measures:-

1. **Packet Loss Rate:** - packet loss is defined as the loss of one or more packets from the original message, this occurs due to many causes such as bad channel connection or network status like congestion [6], [7].
2. **Jitter:** - jitter can be defined as the loss of transmitted data while hopping via network devices. Losing packets may cause to incorrectly reassemble the packets [8], [9].
3. **Latency:** - is one of the important measures for videos streaming. Latency defined as the difference in time between the instant of when the live streaming occurs and the instant when it starts at the receiver screen [10], [11], [12].
4. **Out of order packets:** - as the name implies out of order measure means that the packets reach the destination in sequence differs from the sequence they send from the source. This may happen if the network has some troubles and it definitely affects the video quality [13], [14].
5. **Packet Delivery ratio:** - The ratio between the number of received packets at destination to the number of actually sent packets from the source node is called PDR [15], [16].
6. **Throughput:** - the rate of transmitting video from source to destination successfully, it is measured by (bps), (Kbps), (Mbps) which are bit per second, Kilo bit per second, Mega bit per second respectively [1], [17].

The rest of this paper is organized as follows: Section two views a set of related works about real time video streaming. Section three describes the methodology of the proposed work, the results are discussed in section four, section five views challenges and future works.

Related Works

This section will view a set of related works, their challenges and benefits.

1. GROOT: - In 2020, Kyungjin Lee and et. Al present GROOT which is a video streaming system that can stream real time and on demand videos. The former is live video streaming while the latter is streaming previously recorded videos. In either the cases GROOT allow to adapt user video viewing continuously. GROOT works on 3D video which is a great challenge because the size of file will increase, the authors also work on algorithm to filter and clarify the 3D points outside of a user's view. The results show that GROOT achieves stable and faster frame rates compared to any previous method to stream and visualize volumetric videos on mobile devices [18].
2. In 2021, Yu and Chung propose analyzing the content of live video streaming to extract information about the content of video streaming. The authors explain that this information will be very necessary to manage the process of streaming live videos, this is due to the fact that controlling on live videos is very necessary. The challenge here is that information extracted from live videos are usually not ordered and mixed most of the times [19].
3. Yang, et. al propose in 2022 an object detection in real time live video streaming that will help in autonomous driving. The authors develop an algorithm for streaming perception. Furthermore, the system supplied with novel Dual-Flow Perception module (DFP) which capture moving trend that helps in prediction. The system applied on Argoverse-HD dataset and improves the AP by 4.9% compared to the strong baseline [20].
4. In 2023, Foo, et. al propose Systemstatus-aware Adaptive Network (SAN) that can provide high quality and low latency system status prediction. The prediction of the system states considering real time instantaneous variables is very helpful to manage efficiency and robustness to fluctuations of the system status. The authors also propose a Meta Self-supervised Adaptation (MSA) method to adaptively configure new hardware at test time. This is due to the fact that in some times any change in hardware

will affect on the system behaviour and the proposed MSA will make the deployment easier even with unseen devices [21].

Methodology

This section describes the algorithm used to transmit the video over the network using real time protocol. This section is split into two subsections, the first one describes the algorithm used on the sender device, i.e. source, while the other one describes the algorithm on the receiver device or the destination. It is worth mentioning that this application was done using Python PyCharm Community Edition 3023.3.3. The sender and receiver devices have the following properties.

Table 1. Sender and Receiver Devices Properties.

Property	Sender Device	Receiver Device
Device type	VAIO sony VPCEL 17FX	HP Pavilion DV6
Processor	AMD E-350 Processor 1.60 GHz	Intel Core i5 M 460 2.53GHz
RAM Size	4.00 GB	4.00 GB
OS	Windows 10	Windows 10
System Architecture	64-bit operating system, x64-based processor	64-bit operating system, x64-based processor

A. Sender Device

At the sender side, the sender first initializes the buffer size to be 65536 bytes, then initializes the socket that will send the data from. The socket here represents the IP address along with the port address. The former represents the IP of the sender device while the latter represents the process to be used at both sender and receiver sides which in our case equals to 9999.

At this point the connection from the sender side is completed and the device is ready to stream the video to the other side, which is the receiver side. After that the sender must initialize the variables and buffers that will be used for results measurement. Some variables are measured like the number of lost packets are scalar, while other needs an array to measure the value for each packet such as frame jitter.

It is worth mentioning that at this time there are a set of operations performed at the receiver side, these steps are very necessary to complete the streaming operation. These steps will be mentioned in the next subsection.

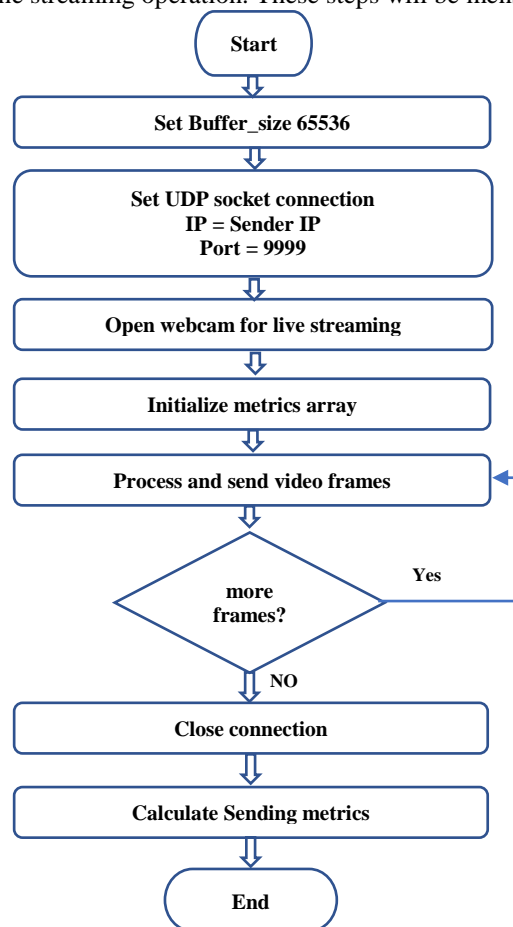


Fig1. Sender side flowchart.

At this time, the sender starts to process each video frame to make it ready to be encapsulated inside UDP packet and then sent to the receiver side using real time protocol RTP. This process will continue until all video packets are sent. When there are no more frames, the sender will close the connection and calculate the sending metrics, See figure 1.

B. Receiver Device

At the receiver side, the receiver first initializes the buffer size to be 65536 bytes, then initializes the socket that it will listen to it. The socket here represents the IP address of the sender and the port which is 9999. At this time the connection with the sender side is completed and the device is ready to receive video stream from the other side, which is the sender side. At this time the receiver listens to the port continuously and processes the received packets to extract frames and display them in order. Meanwhile the receiver still receives and processes packets continuously until the connection ends. When the connection ends the receiver calculates the result metrics.

It is worth mentioning that during the receiving process, the receiver may receive frames out of their order, this may happen due to the network status. The receiver machine will rearrange them to be in order. Also, the receiver may receive corrupted packets and this will affect the QoS and other metrics, See figure 2.

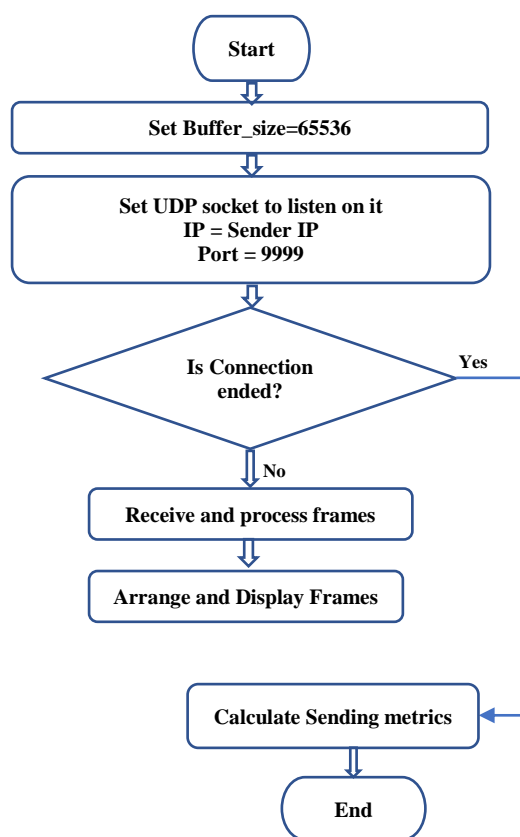


Fig2. Receiver side flowchart.

Results

This paper measures the results in four experiments with times equal to (15, 30, 45, 60) seconds respectively. Table 2 shows the jitter, latency, and throughput in the four experiments.

Table 2. Experiments result.

Time	Jitter	Latency	Throughput
15S	0.085962	0.06675194587	50515.38
30S	0.086789	0.06709719375	50255.45
45S	0.089085	0.0665985330	50631.74
60S	0.089317	0.06663094813	50607.11

Table 2 shows that the jitter increases as the streaming time increases, this is because the jitter represent the mean jitter for all the frames in the video during streaming time. Figure 3 (A) illustrates the curve of jitter.



Fig 3. video streaming metrics.

From the previous table you can see that the latency and throughput are not depend on the streaming interval. see figure 3.b and 3.c respectively. All experiments shows that Packet Loss Rate =0, Out-of-Order Packets=0, Datagram Size = 3372.0, Packet Delivery Ratio =100%. This is logical because there is no congestion on the network.

Conclusion

Video streamig is widly spreaded in multiple applications, streaming from source to destnation depends on many elements. One of these important elemnts is the network status during streaming. Jitter directly proportional with the streaming period. Latency and throughput are not related to the streaming period. When packet loos equals to zero this mean that delevary ration will be 100%.

Futuer works

This work can be expanded to measure the effect of add lode on the network during streaming process. It also can be expanded by changing the network to ad-hoc network and test the affect of nodes movig during streaming process. It also can be expanded to test the affect of streaming progressive video over such networks.

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