Network Simulator for Public Safety Communications

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Outline





Motivations

Modeling Public Safety Scenarios

Case Study: High school shooting incident

Motivations







Develop widely accessible tools



Leverage existing open-source projects



Leverage collaboration with other researchers

The Role of Simulations



First-order assessment of throughput, capacity, performance, etc.

Increasing realism
Increasing cost and complexity

Spreadsheets

Simulations

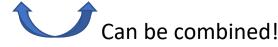
- Varying levels of abstraction
- Can be largescale
- Reproducible and easily shared

Testbeds

- Study actual implementation performance and limitations
- Typically smallscale scenarios

Live networks

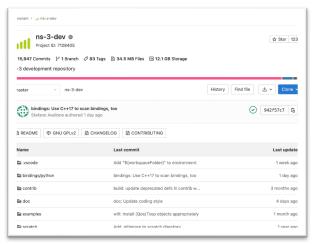
 Most realistic but tests are very expensive (preparation time, personnel)



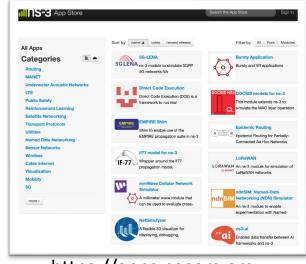
ns-3 Network Simulator III 15-3



- Open-source
- Active community modeling Fourth Generation (4G) and Fifth Generation (5G) technologies
 - 3GPP Long Term Evolution (LTE) and New Radio (NR)
 - Extensive Wi-Fi module
 - Millimeter Wave (mmWave) communication
 - Internet and transport protocols
 - Vehicle to Everything (V2X) communication
 - Machine Learning / Artificial Intelligence
- Support various modes of operation
 - Run entire process as a simulation
 - Run in real-time mode, with possible interaction with internal Linux containers or with external testbed equipment



https://gitlab.com/nsnam/ns-3-dev



https://apps.nsnam.org

Technical Approach





Discuss

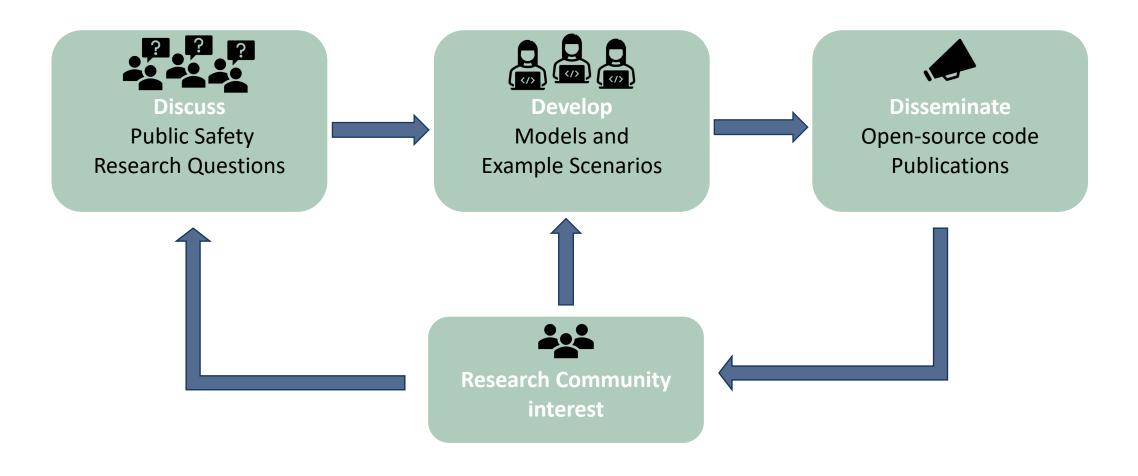
Public Safety Research Questions

Examples:

- How does Mission Critical Push-to-Talk (MCPTT)-enabled core network performance differ from 'over-the-top' MCPTT deployment?
- How do network capacity requirements change as a scenario evolves?
- How to design a resource scheduler for a User Equipment (UE)-to-network relay?
- What are the performance expectations of 5G NR sidelink?

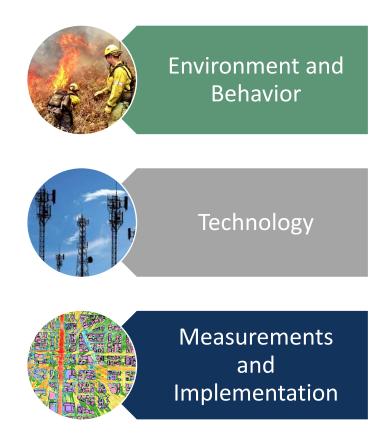
Technical Approach

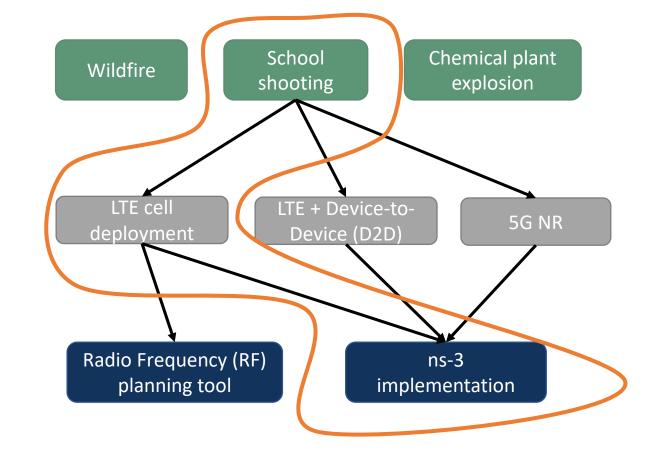




Modeling Public Safety Scenarios







New or Improved Models













Applications

MCPTT (on* and off network)

Video streaming

HyperText Transfer Protocol

(HTTP)

Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)*

Generic client/server model

Technologies

LTE Proximity Services (ProSe)*
LTE UE-to-Network Relay
Wireless Backhaul*
Drone energy model
NR V2X*
NR Prose

Scenarios

Incident framework
School shooting
Group mobility*
Visualizer (NetSimulyzer)

^{*} Involves one or more collaborators











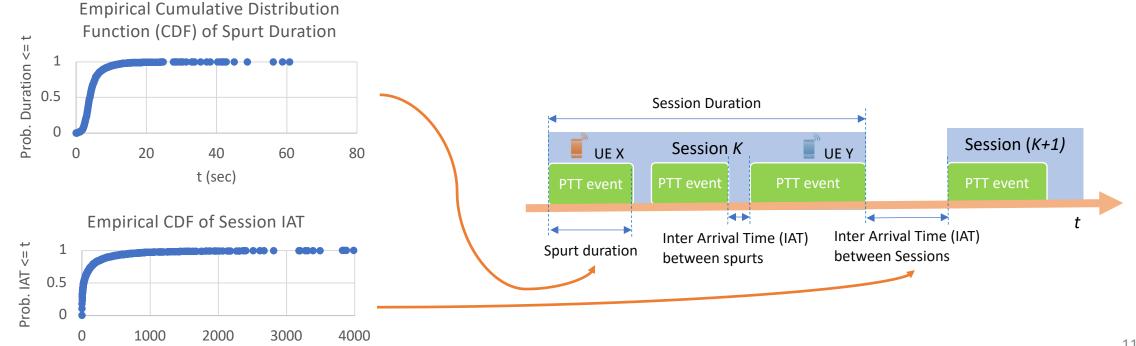
New MCPTT Application



- High fidelity model of the application to enable detailed study of key performance parameters (e.g., tail distributions of mouth-to-ear latency)
 - Off-network over LTE and NR sidelink

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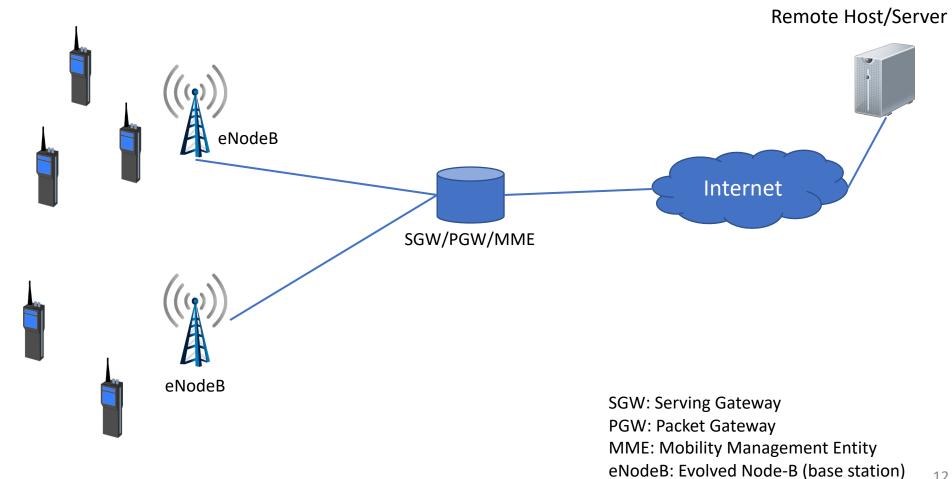
- On-network using SIP/IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS) server
- User behavior attributes based on call logs from public safety agencies



PTT: Push-to-talk

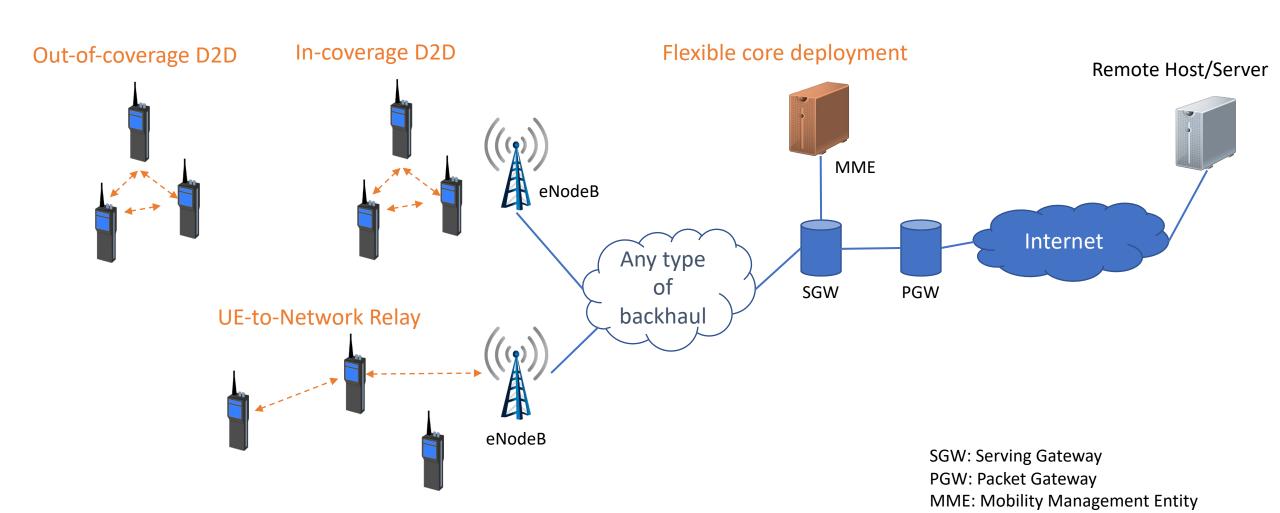
Improved LTE Model





Improved LTE Model

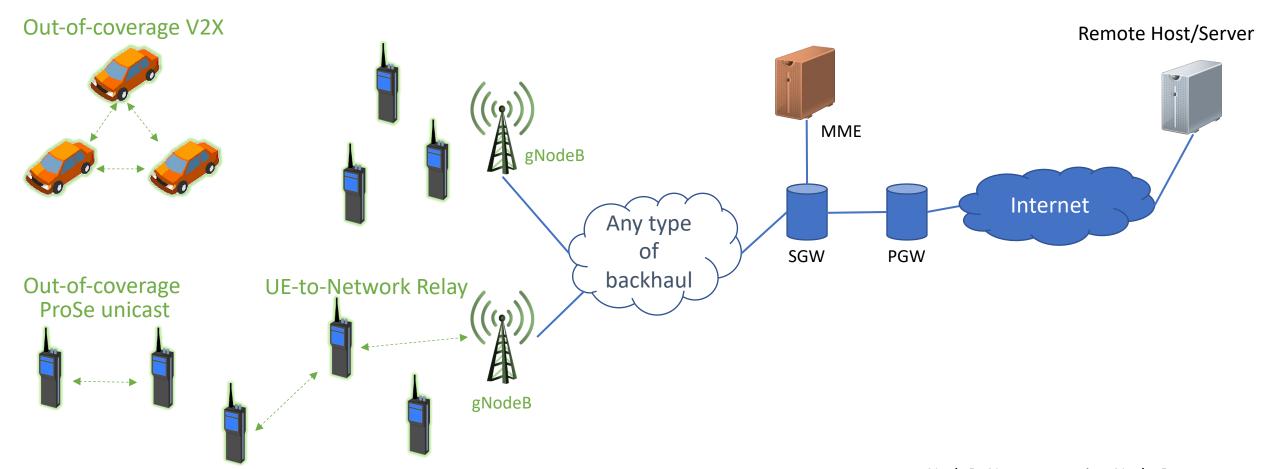




eNodeB: Evolved Node-B (base station)

Improving 5G NR Model

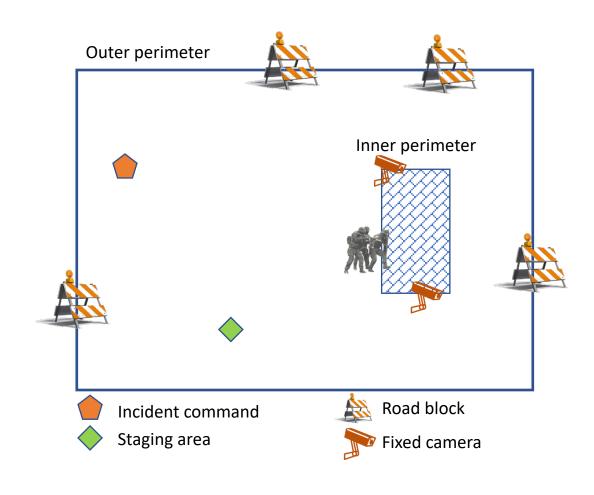




High School Shooting Incident

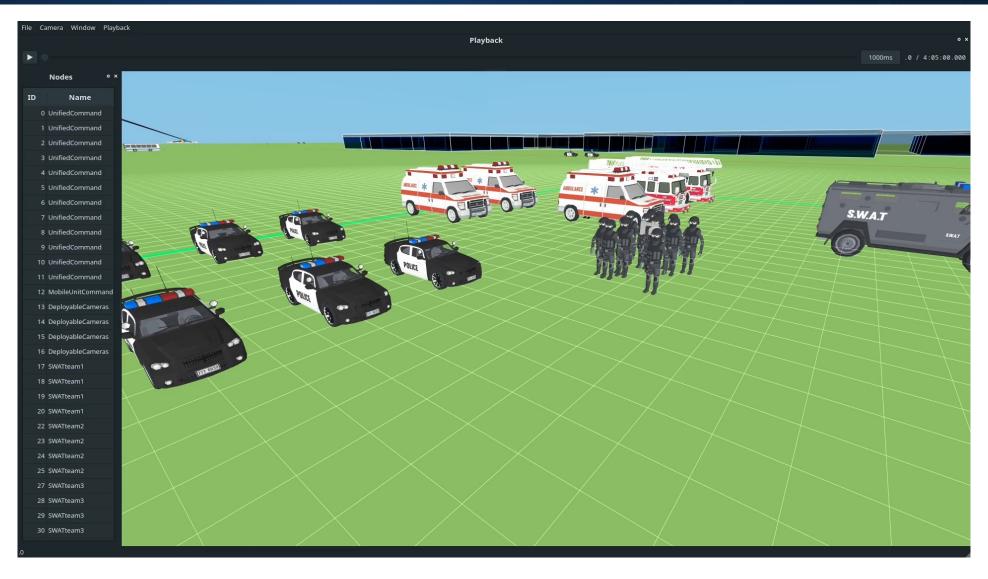


- Report of an active shooter at a large high school and involves casualties
- More than 100 public safety responders representing:
 - Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) teams
 - Law enforcement (for perimeter security)
 - Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
 - Firefighters
 - Incident Command / Unified Command (IC/UC)
- First responders use a mix of real-time streaming video, telemetry, biometrics, preplans, and other applications (more than 20 different applications in total)



Scenario Visualization





E. Black, S. Gamboa Quintiliani, and R. A. Rouil, "NetSimulyzer: a 3D network simulation analyzer for ns-3", in Workshop on ns-3 (WNS3)

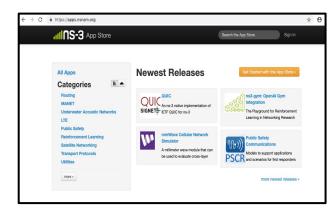
Conclusions



- Real world public safety scenarios are complex
- Realistic inputs and models are needed
- Simulations can provide a performance assessment in scenarios where testbeds or real deployments are not feasible
- Simulators are becoming more capable of reporting Quality of Experience (QoE) metrics

The ns-3 Public Safety Communications (PSC) module (currently version 5.0) is publicly available:

- https://github.com/usnistgov/psc-ns3
- https://github.com/usnistgov/NetSimulyzer



Also available in the ns-3 App Store

Thank you

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Project: https://www.nist.gov/programs-projects/network-modeling-public-safety-communications