

Radio Mesh Networking & Distributed Systems

Ganesh

Trying to be Activist, Independent Researcher & Hacker

31gane@gmail.com

May 20, 2016

Overview

Fundas ... !

Why ?

Lots of Reasons !

What ?

Mesh Fount

Radio Mesh - come again !

Convergence & Symbiosis

How ?

Community Fount

Hardware

How we Feel ?

Spectrum

Work ! - Real Physical Work

Radiation

Guiding

Routers

Software

How we Feel ?

Firmware & OS

Protocol Stacks

Services & Apps

This document is licensed under Creative Commons NC ND 4.0.
This document represents mostly my thoughts, research,
experiences and references to other creative works.



Read the CC NC ND 4.0 License Deed [here](#)
Read the CC NC ND 4.0 Legal Code [here](#)

WHY ?



Change

Interest

Frustration



Common guys !, what are the possibilities.... ?

- ▶ Building a RMN(Radio Mesh N/W) Locally is itself Fun, Exhilarating
- ▶ Great Hobby - similar to Amateur Radio, Astronomy...
- ▶ Converging experience of Hardware & Software Equally
- ▶ Really get to know mechanism of OSI Layers
- ▶ Hack the Physical Layer
- ▶ Create & test new protocols

Learning & Sharing



What is a Mesh?



What is a B.A.T.M.A.N?



What is a OLSR?



Where is the J.O.K.E.R?



Awesooooe :)

Am i profiled?



Asta La GNU !



What is a Wave really?



Chat without Track!



EM wave is like "beebabeebee"!



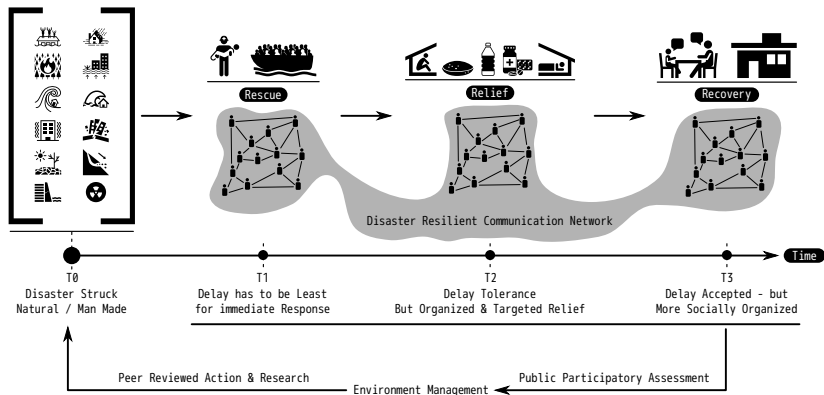
Commons Produced?
Aawessomnee !



Yeah Dude !

Times of Emergency - Disaster & Calamity

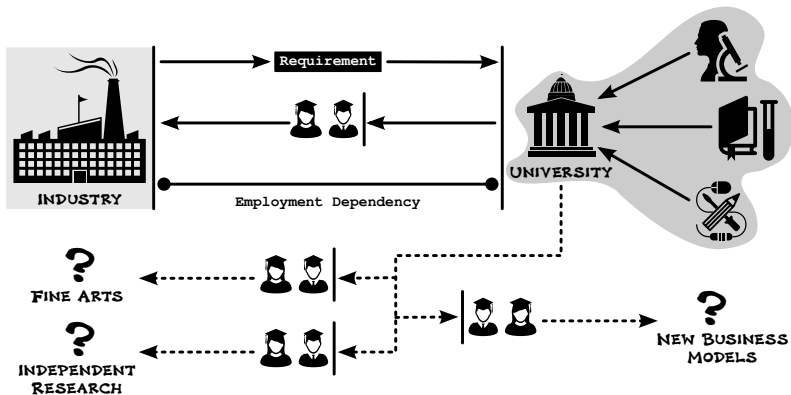
Meshed/Distributed - (Un)Licensed Network play a Vital Role.



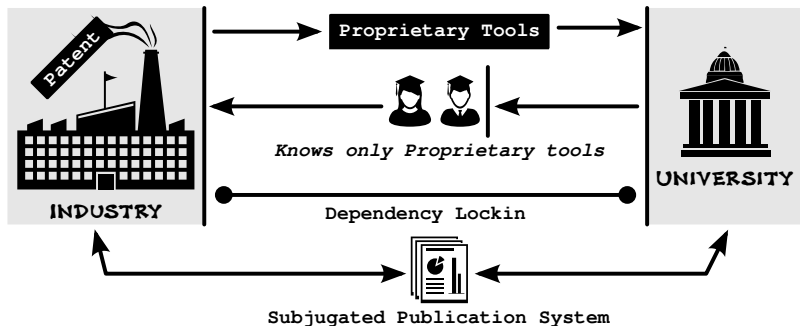
Ex: Mesh Networks(Amateur Radio, Community Radio)

Education & Business Models

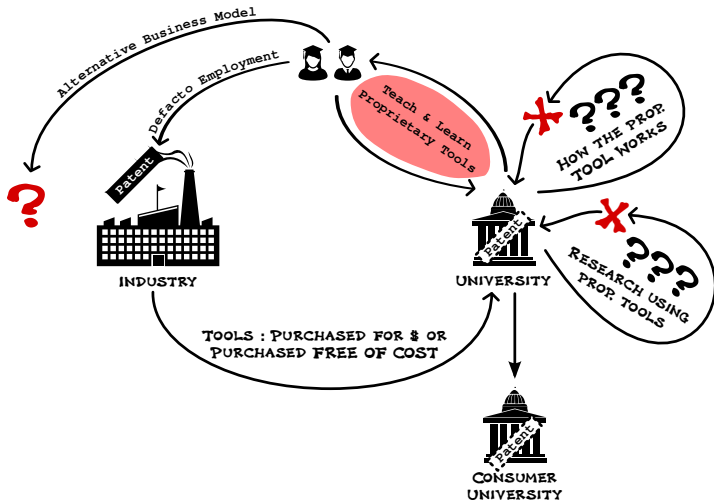
Paradigm change in Education & Business Models are necessary



Really ? Common..... be Honest !



Is this even possible ???



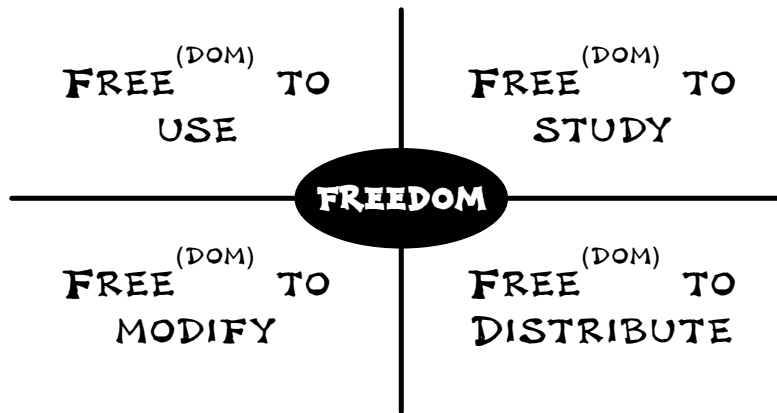
What about Internet ?



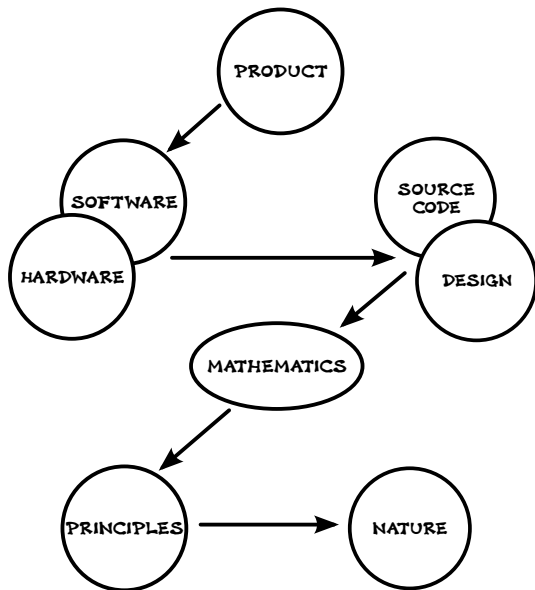
Sidewalk Bubblegum ©1998 Clay Butler

WHAT ?

Four Necessary Freedoms



Affordability - Availability - Accessibility



Radio Mesh Network Infrastructure

Mesh Community = Commons Peer Production + Collaboration

Mesh Medium = (Un)Licensed Spectrum + Shared Channel

Mesh Node = Radio(TX/RX) + Feeder + Antenna

Mesh Service = Framing + Routing + Encryption

Mesh Application = Distribution Framework + Human Touch

Radio Spectrum

Radio Spectrum = Collection of Radio Frequency

Spectrum Usage = Exploration + Communication = E + C

E = Radio Astronomy + Spectroscopy + BioMedical

C = Broadcasting + Telecom + Community Radio + Amateur License

Radio Regulations for **Ethical** Usage

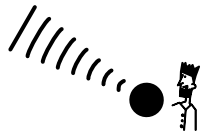
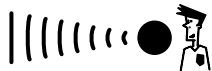
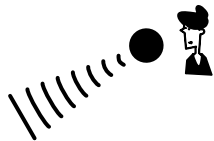
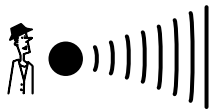
Beware of Radio **Spectrum Adjudication** based on Local Law & Regulation

Radio Mesh Network Connections



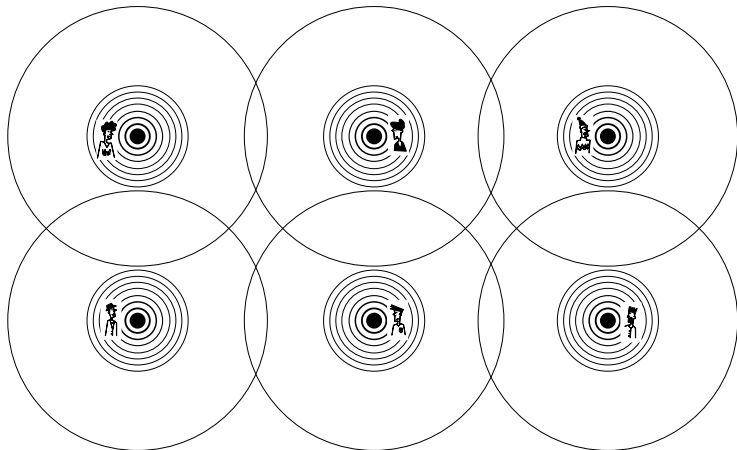
Point to Point

Radio Mesh Network Connections...



Point to Multi-Point

Radio Mesh Network Connections...



Multi-Point to Multi-Point

Radio Mesh Networking

Radio Mesh Network (RMN)

=

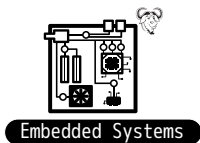
Radio Backbone links (*Adhoc - Mesh Aware*)

+

Radio Access-point links (*Infrastrcutre - Mesh Agnostic*)

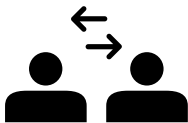
Awesome ! Convergence

DREW = Desktop + Radio + Embedded + Web

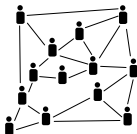


Awesome ! Convergence ...

Distributed Peer to Peer + Collaboration + Cryptography



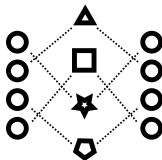
Peer to Peer Systems



Distri-Mesh Systems



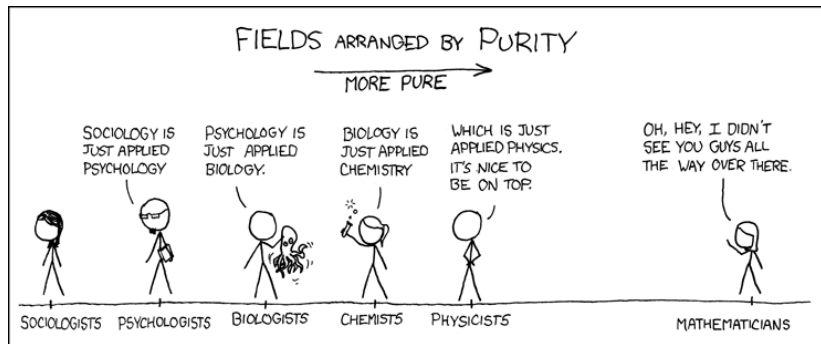
Collaborative Systems



Crypto Systems

HOW ?

Community in Diversity :p



Common Interest Group



Hardware Wing

Electromagnetics

- Antennas
- Transmission Lines
- Connectors
- Radio Planning
- Link Budget
- Manual Survey
- GIS Survey

Electronics

- Radio TX/RX
- Microcontroller
- Schematics
- PCB
- DataSheet

Free Hardware

Firmware Wing

- Bootloader
- Uboot
- Build System
- Buildroot
- BitBake
- Operating System
- GNU/Linux
- Device Driver
- Kernel Module
- Mesh Network Services

Free Software

Applications Wing

- Education
- Transportation
- Environmental
- Citizen Research
- Citizen Science
- Commons Journalism
- Community Radio
- GeoTransformation
- Collective Weather
- Disaster resilience

Free Software

Propagation Wing

- Workshops
- Mesh-athon
- Map-athon
- Sharing Parties
- Field Day
- Out Reaching Societies
- Sports
- Local Entrepreneurship

Free Culture

Form a Critical Thinking Group



DIY Routers or Hackable Routers

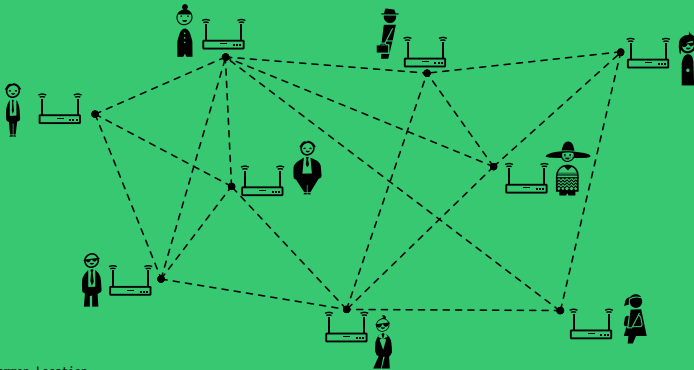


Flash the custom Firmware and Mesh system Module



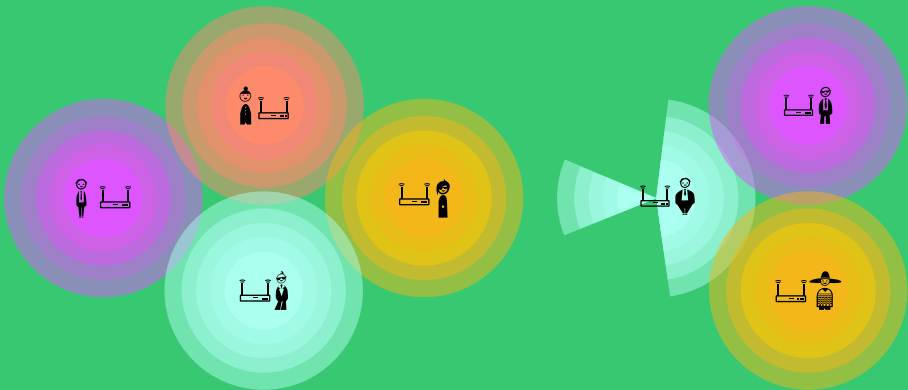
Share the Procedure





Select a common Location
Start connecting with each other
Test by increasing the density
Test by moving around

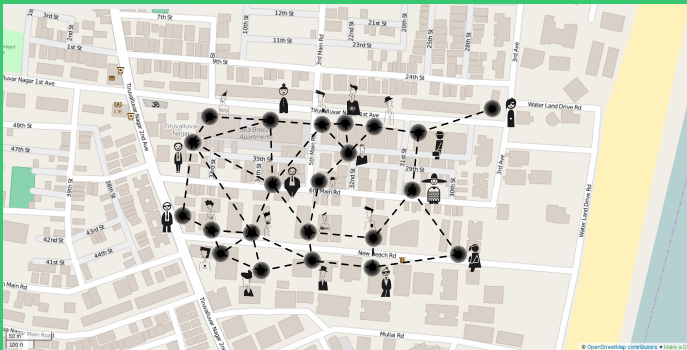
Understand the Networks Scalability, Efficiency, Effective Range, Quality by measuring Network Parameters



Choose a Local Area Geography - with optimum distances overlapping each routers effective range

Mount the Routers, Supply power (Mains powered or Renewable Powered)

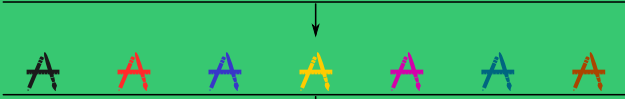
Try to Connect with another peer in adjacent geographical area using Line of Sight Connection



Choose a Local Area Geography - Map their locations in Community map application
Fire up the Antennas, Radios, Routers, Form the topology
Try to Establish the Mesh Network



Discover Requirments
of Local People



Develop applications
to meet those
requirements



Organize Public
Meetings



Make them Participate
Make them Use the Network
in Interesting Ways !!!

Symbiotically relate Local Business Ecosystem & Education with the Mesh Network Infastructure

HARDWARE

When it comes to Physics, Ground Work & Hardware

— — — — —

i have seen people GO LIKE THIS !!!



Me ??????

— — — — —

YEAH !!! Me Toooooooooooooo !

EM Spectrum \equiv Water, Land, Atmosphere

- - - - -

- ▶ A channel (frequency/band) becomes a resource
- ▶ Resource mgmt. between Stake Holders(SH)
- ▶ SH = Commons + Fraternities + Establishments
- ▶ Resource mgmt. through Mutual sharing strategy
- ▶ Resource mgmt. through "Regulatory" agencies

Which Spectrum for RMN ?

Licensed \equiv (Amateur, Military) Bands

Unlicensed \equiv (ISM, Wifi) Bands

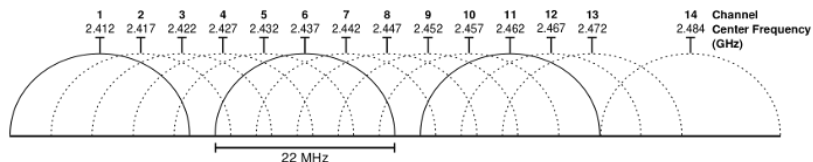
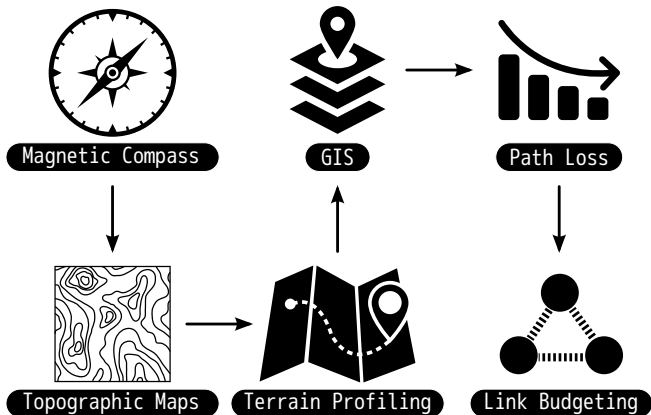


Figure: 2.4GHz Wifi Band

Radio Planning, Budgeting

≡ Survey, Geography, Material, Resources

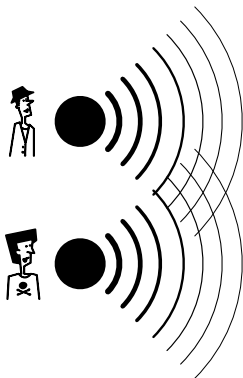


≡ Eyes, Ears, 7/11 Mouth

1. Resonance, Frequency, Phase, Amplitude
2. Propagation, Reflection, Refraction, Diffraction, Scattering
3. Constructive & Destructive Interference
4. Standing Wave, Reflections & Matching
5. Antenna Gain, Directivity, EIRP
6. Bandwidth - Narrow Band & Broad Band
7. Multipath Channeling = SISO, SIMO, MISO, MIMO
8. Free Space Path Loss

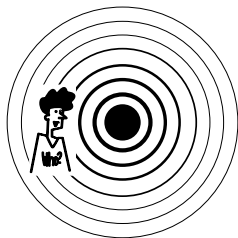
Phase, Frequency, Amplitude

What happens during Interference - Construction ? Destruction ?



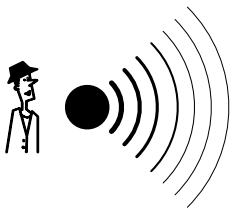
Ever heard of Double Slit Experiment ??

Omni-Directional Antenna



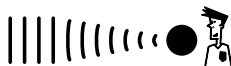
List

Sectoral Antenna



List

Highly Directional Antenna



List

How we Designed an Yagi-Uda Antenna ?

Scavenging Resources

DIY = Scavenge + Upcycle + Repurpose + Hacking

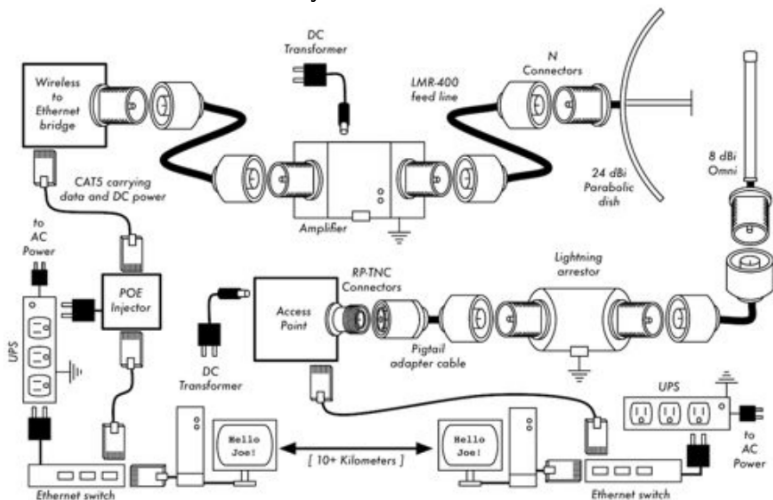


≡ Nerves

1. Wave Guiding, Skin Effect
2. Standing Wave, Reflections & Matching
3. Cable Loss, Filter effect
4. Connectors, Insertion Loss

RF Feeds & Connectors...

Could U see why i called them **Nervesssss** ?



≡ Mushy Mushy Organs

1. Stable RF Oscillator
2. RF Controller
3. Frequency, Amplitude, Phase Control
4. EM Regulation policy
5. Matching, Mixing, Conversion
6. Modulation, Demodulation, Encoding, Decoding
7. Filtering, FPGA, DSP

Atlast !



Past, Present, Future

1. Past

1.1 DX, APRS, WSPR

1.2 Software Controlled Radio

2. Present

2.1 HSMM, Community Wireless Networks

2.2 Software Defined Radio, FPRF modules

2.3 Cognitive Radio, Fractal Antennas

2.4 Spectrum Activism, Emergency Resilience

2.5 Citizen Research, Science, Journalism

3. Future

3.1 Configurable & Origami based Antennas

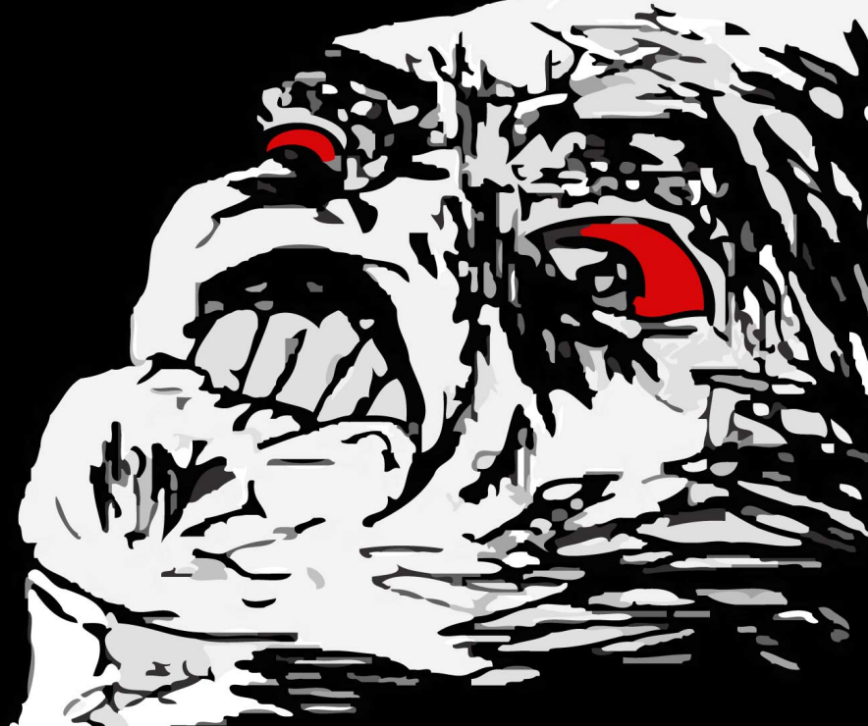
3.2 Affordable Meta-material Antennas

3.3 Grass Roots Telecommunication

3.4 Self Regulating, Self Healing Networks

SOFTWARE

When it comes to Software - Myself - GO LIKE THIS !!!



Router Firmware

```
#include <gnu/linux>

int void proprietary_hardware() {
char*[] OS = { "OpenWRT", "DDWRT", "Byzantium", "MeshPotato", "Custom_Build" };

switch(OS) {
case(" OpenWRT") { Check_Compatibility(); flash_os(OS); }
case(" DDWRT") { Check_Compatibility(); flash_os(OS); }
case(" Byzantium") { Check_Compatibility(); flash_os(OS); }
case(" MeshPotato") { Check_Compatibility(); flash_os(OS); }
case(" Custom_Build") { Check_Compatibility(); flash_os(OS); }
}

if(router == BRICKED) {
printf(" calm down");
try(reset_button());
if(router == STILL_BRIKED) {
try(serial_flashing_uboot_mode());
}
}

configure(wifi);
configure(access_point, adhoc);
configure(batman,install);
configure(configure_DHCP);

if(web_interface == NULL) {
try(ssh_root_access);
reset(all_network_settings);
}
else {
router_state = BRICKED ;
}

return(0);
}
```

Custom Build is Awesome...

- ▶ That's what learning is about
- ▶ Learn GNU/Linux for Embedded targets
- ▶ Writing Device Drivers + Kernel modules

In RMN we share a common medium (channel)

- ▶ Routing becomes Vital
- ▶ Layer 3 Routing like OLSR
- ▶ Layer 2 Routing like B.A.T.M.A.N
- ▶ Plenty of room for new protocols & experimentation
- ▶ Peer Identification Mechanism
- ▶ PKI Cryptography @ Session & Application Layers
- ▶ Distributed Hash Table @ Session & Application Layers

P2P + Distributed Applications

Services & Apps that fits P2P & Distributed, archs. are need of the day !

- ▶ Services that reduces information logistics
- ▶ Services that gaurantees Privacy
- ▶ Services that considers every node equal
- ▶ Services that require only knowledge as entry point with very minimal cost
- ▶ Apps. that Targets Local First - strategy
- ▶ Apps. that helps solve common social problems have great socio-economic impact
- ▶ Help shift from Central markets to Distributed & Collaborative markets
- ▶ Help Transform devices from Information Appliance to Computing Appliance



That's All Folks :)

Whaaaaaat ??? Still want more !

- - - - -

Something is definitely wrong dude :P

Credits

This Document Contains lot of icons, taken from collaborative internet web sites which offer the content under CC license.

Since every icons in each block diagram cannot be attributed seperately
So i am providing the link where it can be from.

