



## PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF ROUTING PROTOCOL IN MOBILE AD-HOC NETWORKS

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**Abstract:** Routing in a mobile ad hoc network (MANET) is a difficult task due to the constantly changing network topology and the absence of a fixed infrastructure. In such a scenario, mobile hosts can act as both hosts and routers, forwarding packets for other mobile nodes in the network. Routing protocols used in MANETs must be able to adapt to frequent changes in topology, while minimizing the impact on wireless resources. The AODV, DSR, ZRP and DYMO protocol are specifically designed for mobile nodes in wireless multihop ad hoc networks. It is capable of adapting to the changing network topology and determining unicast routes between nodes within the network. This paper presents a comparative analysis of commonly used routing protocols in terms of key performance metrics, including packet delivery ratio, throughput, end-to-end delay, and network overhead. The study's findings demonstrate that the routing protocols' performance is influenced by the network's size, node density, and mobility patterns. These routing protocols showing the simulation performance using random waypoint model on qualnet simulator.

**Keywords:** component; Ad-hoc Networks, Random Waypoint Model, Routing Protocols, AODV, DSR, ZRP, DYMO etc

### I. INTRODUCTION

Routing protocols for wireless ad hoc networks have made significant progress in recent research [1-2]. A mobile ad hoc network (MANET) is a collection of mobile devices that form a network as needed, without relying on any existing Internet infrastructure or fixed stations. Efficient routing protocols are essential for organizing and maintaining communication between nodes due to frequent changes in network topology caused by node mobility and power limitations. Routing protocols for ad hoc networks can be classified as proactive and reactive routing protocols. Proactive routing protocols [3] store routing information about every possible destination at each node and propagate updates throughout the network in response to any change in network topology, leading to heavy bandwidth utilization. In contrast, reactive routing protocols [3-5] create routes only when needed by the source node, utilizing network bandwidth more effectively. Examples of reactive (on-demand) ad hoc network routing protocols include Ad Hoc On-Demand Distance Vector (AODV), Temporally Ordered Routing Algorithm (TORA), and Dynamic Source Routing (DSR) [6-8].

The Ad-hoc On-demand Distance Vector (AODV) routing protocol is a reactive protocol that utilizes on-demand route discovery and hop-by-hop routing principles. Each node in the network maintains a routing table that contains information about available routes. When a node needs to communicate with another node, it broadcasts a route request (RREQ) [7] packet that includes the source and destination node addresses and a unique sequence number. Upon receiving an RREQ packet, a node checks its routing table to see if it has a route to the destination node. If it does not have a route, it rebroadcasts the RREQ packet to its neighbors, incrementing the hop count. This process continues until the destination node is found or the maximum hop count is reached. Each node caches the route

information and sends a route reply (RREP) [7] packet back to the source node along the same path as the RREQ packet. As each node receives the RREP packet, it updates its routing table with the new route information. Once the source node receives the RREP packet, it has the complete route information and can start sending data packets. The AODV protocol also includes a route maintenance mechanism that monitors the availability of routes and updates the routing tables accordingly. If a node detects a link failure, it sends a route error (RERR) packet to all nodes that have a route through that link. The nodes that receive the RERR packet update their routing tables and initiate a new route discovery process if necessary.

The Dynamic Source Routing (DSR) [8] protocol is widely used as a reactive protocol in Mobile Ad hoc Networks (MANETs). The protocol operates in two phases, namely, route discovery and route maintenance. In the route discovery phase, a node that intends to send a packet to another node checks its route cache for an available route. If no route is found, the node broadcasts a route request (RREQ) packet that contains the source and destination addresses along with a unique identifier. Each intermediate node that receives the RREQ packet adds its address to the packet and forwards it to its neighbors until the packet reaches either the destination node or a node that already has a valid route in its cache. Upon receiving the RREQ packet, the destination node sends a route reply (RREP) packet back to the source node.

The RREP packet includes the source and destination addresses, a unique identifier, and the route from the destination node to the source node. The RREP packet follows the reverse path of the RREQ packet, and each intermediate node caches the route information. In the route maintenance phase, each node regularly monitors the routes in its cache and sends a route error (RERR) message to its

neighbors if a route or link fails. If a node detects a route failure, it removes the affected route from its cache and initiates a new route discovery process if necessary. The DSR protocol offers several advantages, such as its ability to quickly find routes and support multiple routes to a destination. However, it may increase network overhead due to the broadcast of RREQ packets, particularly in larger networks with numerous nodes.

The Zone Routing Protocol (ZRP)[9-10] is a specialized routing protocol that has been designed for mobile ad hoc networks (MANETs). It is unique in that it combines the best features of both proactive and reactive routing protocols, making it a more efficient and effective solution than traditional routing protocols.

ZRP is composed of two main components: the Intrazone Routing Protocol (IARP) and the Interzone Routing Protocol (IERP). IARP is a proactive protocol that maintains routing information within a node's local zone, also known as the routing zone. Every node periodically sends out a hello message to its neighbors to detect their presence and update its routing table with the most recent routing information. This ensures that each node has an updated view of its immediate neighborhood, allowing it to make forwarding decisions based on the latest routing information. IERP, on the other hand, is a reactive protocol used for route discovery and maintenance outside the routing zone. Whenever a node wants to send a packet to a destination outside its routing zone, it sends a route request (RREQ) packet to its neighbors. If a neighbor has the requested route information in its routing table, it sends a route reply (RREP) packet to the source node. If not, the RREQ packet is forwarded to the next hop until the destination is reached or a node with the requested route information is found. The path taken by the RREQ packet is recorded, and if any link in the path fails, a route error (RERR) message is sent to the source node to initiate a new route discovery process.

ZRP divides the network into zones to minimize the size of the routing table. Each zone has a designated node known as the zone leader. Each node maintains a routing table for nodes within its routing zone and a summary table for nodes in other zones. The summary table contains the next hop to the zone border, and the zone leader is responsible for maintaining routing information between zones. ZRP has several advantages over traditional routing protocols, including reduced routing overhead, faster route discovery, and more efficient use of network resources. However, it also has some limitations, such as increased control message overhead due to zone maintenance and the need for additional processing power and memory resources to maintain the routing tables.

The Dynamic MANET On-demand (DYMO) [12-15] routing protocol is specifically designed for mobile ad hoc networks (MANETs) and operates as a reactive protocol, allowing nodes to establish routes on-demand without relying on a pre-existing network infrastructure. When a node needs to send data to another node, it first checks its routing table for an established route to the destination. If no route exists, the source node broadcasts a Route Request (RREQ) packet to its neighboring nodes, including the

source and destination node addresses and a sequence number that ensures the most current route is used and prevents loop formation.

The receiving node checks its routing table for a route to the destination node, and if it does not have one, it broadcasts the RREQ packet to its neighboring nodes. This process continues until the RREQ packet reaches the destination node or a node with an established route to the destination. If the destination node receives the RREQ packet, it responds with a Route Reply (RREP) packet that contains its address, sequence number, and hop count, which indicates the number of hops required to reach the destination node. After the source node receives the RREP packet, it can begin transmitting data packets to the destination node using the established route. Nodes along the route monitor link quality and update their routing tables accordingly. If a link fails or a better route becomes available, nodes update their routing tables accordingly.

The DYMO[20-22] protocol supports several optional messages that optimize the routing process, such as the Route Error (RERR) message, which notifies nodes when a link or route fails, and the Hello message, which maintains neighbor connectivity and monitors link quality. DYMO also supports multiple routing metrics that enable nodes to choose routes based on different criteria, such as the shortest path or the path with the highest bandwidth. Additionally, the protocol supports route caching to minimize the overhead of route discovery and improve network performance.

Overall, DYMO is a lightweight and scalable protocol that facilitates on-demand routing in MANETs. It enables nodes to establish routes dynamically and optimizes the process through optional messages and multiple routing metrics.

## II. PARAMETERS FOR SIMULATION SETUP SCENARIOS

Parameters for Simulation Setup

Parameters	Values
Area	700m * 700m
Channel Frequency	2.4 GHz
Fading Model	Rayleigh
Mica Motes Battery Model	Simple Linear
No. of Nodes	20 nodes
Node Placement model	Random node placement
Routing Protocols	AODV, DSR, ZRP and DYMO
Shadowing Model	Constant Energy Model
Simulation Time	120 seconds
Terrain File	DEM
Traffic Source	Constant Bit Rate (CBR) traffic with default parameters

### A. Performance metrics

Term	Explanation
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Term	Explanation
Broadcast sent packets	Data packets sent from a single sender to all devices on a network, addressed to a broadcast address
CTS packets sent	Clear-to-send packets sent in response to a Request-to-send packet, to reserve the medium for a specified duration
Packet drops due to re-transmission	Packets that are dropped due to the failure of re-transmission attempts, typically caused by a collision or congestion
RTS re-transmission timeout	The timeout period for Request-to-send packets to be re-transmitted in case the sender doesn't receive a Clear-to-send response
Unicast packet received	A data packet that is sent from one sender to a specific receiver on the network
RTS packets sent	Request-to-send packets sent by a sender to reserve the medium for transmission
Packet due to ACK timeout	Packets that are dropped due to the failure of the receiver to acknowledge receipt of the packet within a specified timeout period
ACK packet sent	Acknowledgment packets sent by the receiver to confirm the receipt of a packet
Unicast sent packet	A data packet that is sent from a single sender to a specific receiver on the network
Broadcast Packet Received	Data packets received by all devices on a network, addressed to a broadcast address

### ANIMATION VIEW OF SCENARIOS

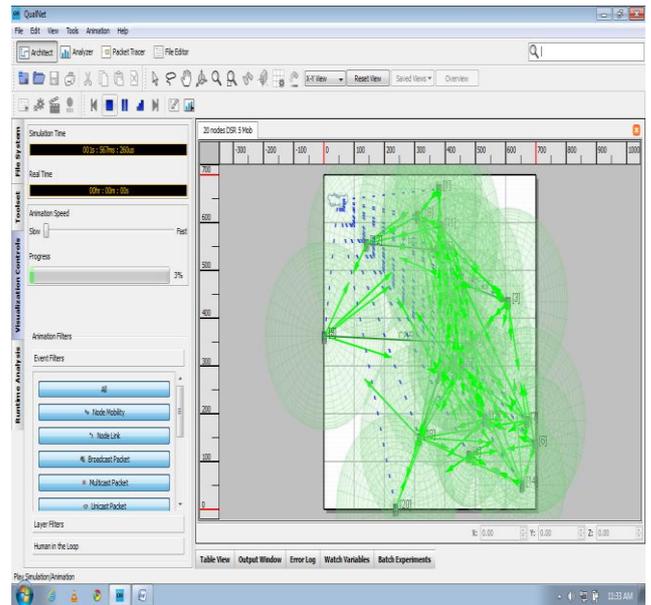


Figure 2 shows the animation view of scenarios for the routing protocols

### III. SIMULATION RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

AODV (Ad hoc On-Demand Distance Vector), DSR (Dynamic Source Routing), ZRP (Zone Routing Protocol), and DYMO (Dynamic MANET On-demand) are all routing protocols designed for mobile ad hoc networks (MANETs). Here's a comparison of these protocols based on the factors you listed [23-26]:

### Nodes Placement Scenarios

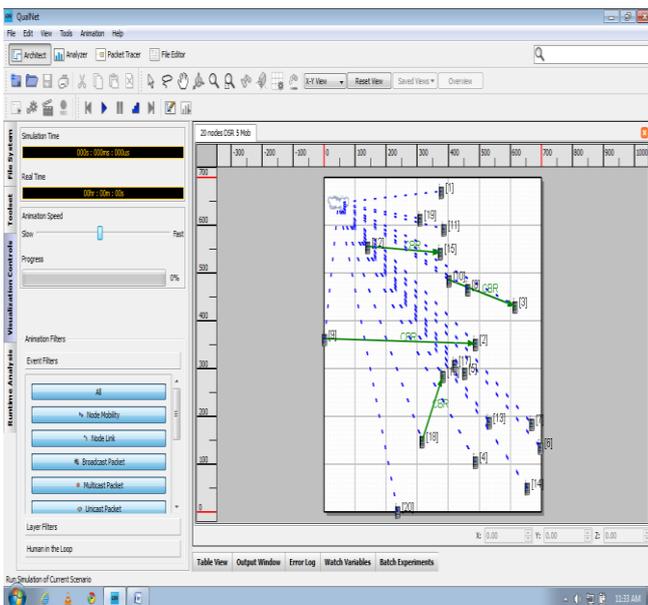


Figure 1 shows the node placement scenarios for the routing protocols.

Broadcast sent packets[27-30]:

- AODV and DYMO use route discovery packets for broadcasting. DSR does not use broadcast packets for route discovery, but it does use Route Error (RERR) packets to notify the network of a broken link.
- ZRP uses both proactive and reactive routing, and does not rely on broadcast packets for route discovery.

CTS packets sent:

- AODV, DSR, ZRP, and DYMO do not use CTS packets.

Packet drops due to re-transmission:

- All four protocols may experience packet drops due to re-transmission, as they use reactive routing (i.e., route discovery and maintenance) to adapt to network changes.

RTS re-transmission timeout:

- AODV, DSR, and DYMO use RTS/CTS packets for channel reservation and to avoid collisions with other devices. The re-transmission timeout for these packets is protocol-specific and can be set by the network administrator.
- ZRP does not use RTS/CTS packets.

Unicast packet received:

- All four protocols use unicast packets for point-to-point communication between two devices.

RTS packets sent:

- AODV, DSR, and DYMO use RTS packets for channel reservation and to avoid collisions with other devices.
- ZRP does not use RTS packets.

Packet due to ACK timeout:

- All four protocols use ACK packets to acknowledge received data packets and to notify the sender that the packet was received successfully. Packet drops due to ACK timeouts may occur if the ACK packet is lost or delayed.

ACK packet sent:

- All four protocols use ACK packets to acknowledge received data packets.

Unicast sent packet:

- All four protocols use unicast packets for point-to-point communication between two devices.

Broadcast Packet Received:

- All four protocols can receive broadcast packets for network-wide communication.

Overall, each of these protocols has its own strengths and weaknesses based on the specific requirements and characteristics of the network. For example, AODV and DSR are more suited for small to medium-sized networks with low mobility, while ZRP is better suited for large networks with high mobility. DYMO is designed for networks with a high degree of mobility and frequent network topology changes. It's important to carefully evaluate and choose the best protocol for a specific network based on its characteristics and requirements.

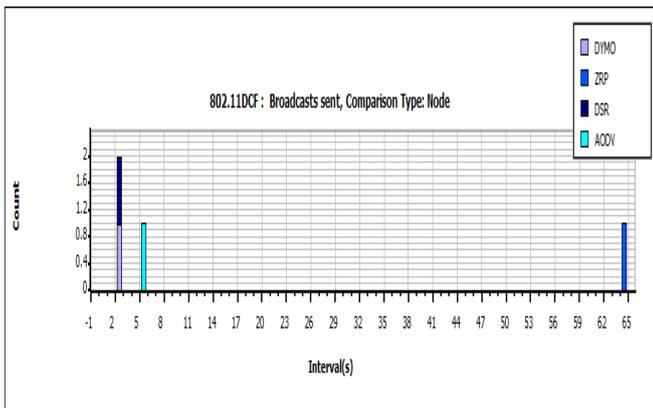


Figure 3 Broadcast sent packets

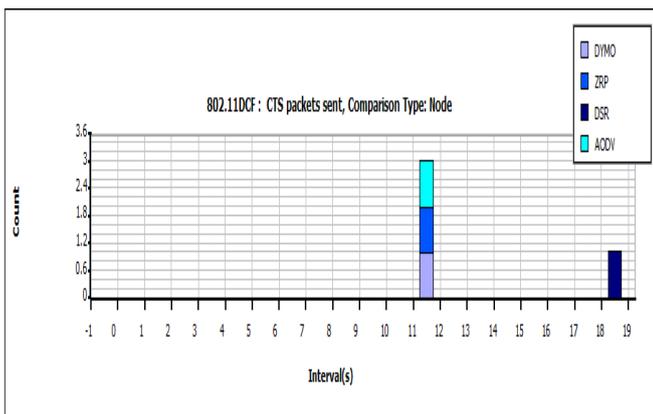


Figure 4 CTS packets sent

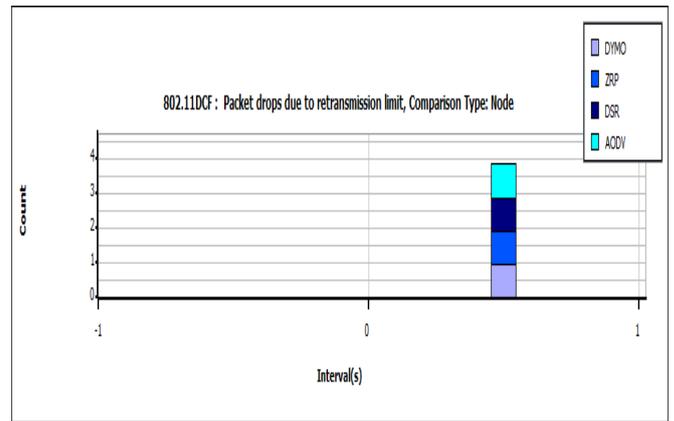


Figure 5 Packet drops due to retransmission

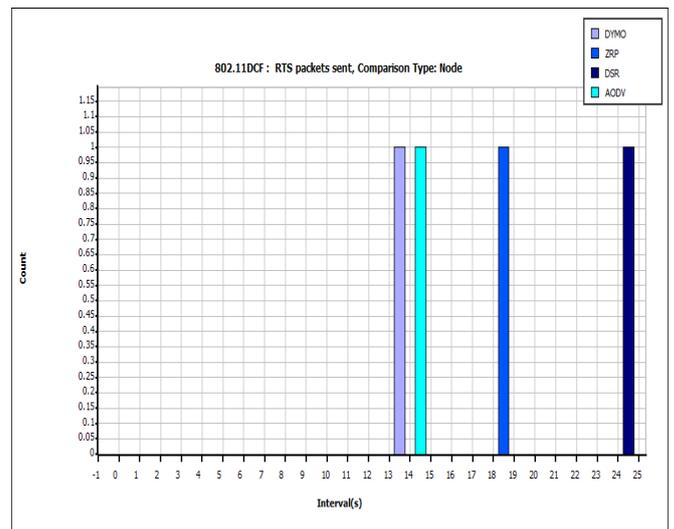


Figure 6 RTS packets sent

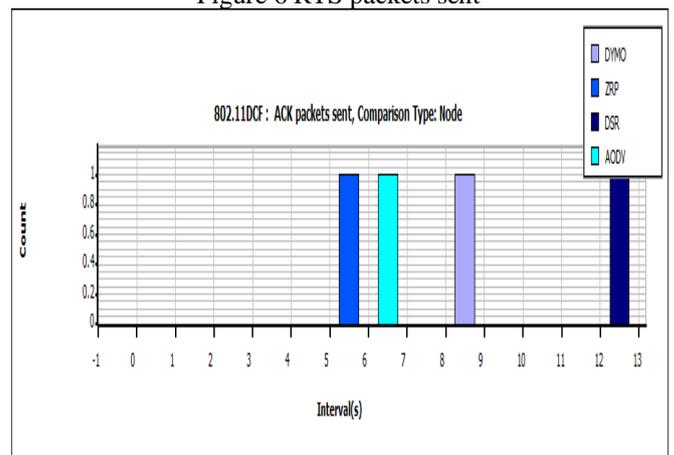


Figure 7 ACK packet sent

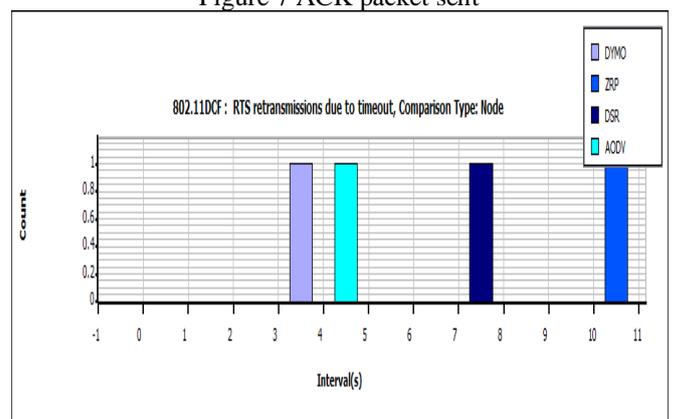


Figure 8 RTS retransmission the timeout

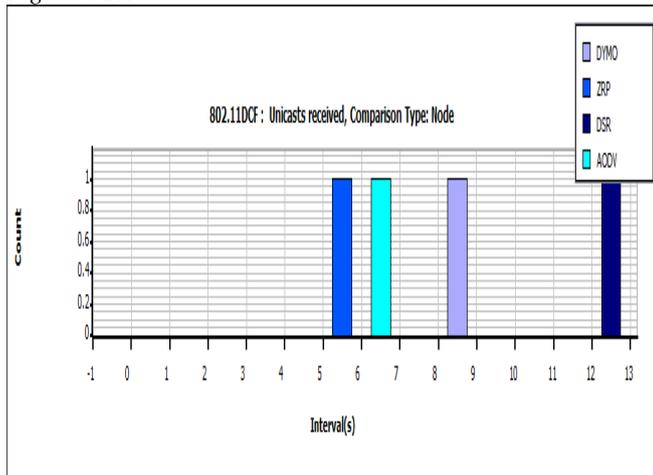


Figure 9 Unicast packet received

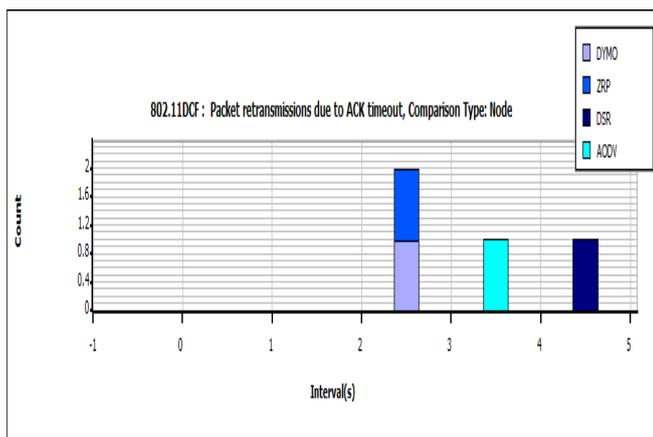


Figure 10 Packet due to ACK timeout

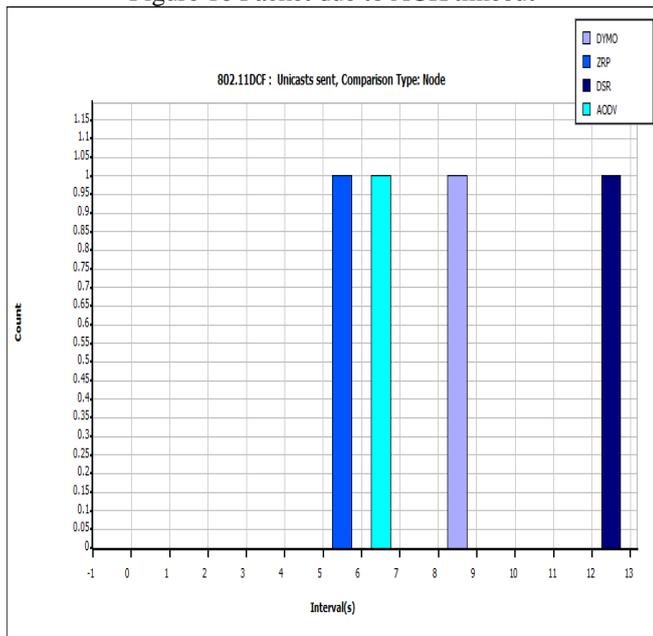


Figure 11 Unicast sent packet

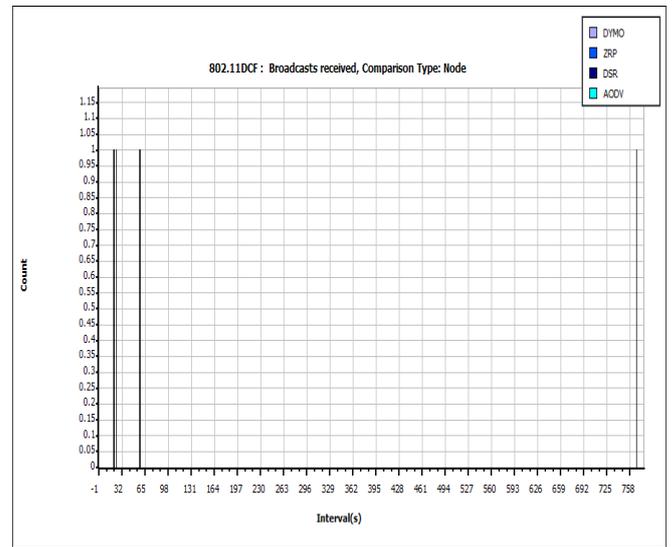


Figure 12 Broadcast Packet Received

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, AODV, DSR, ZRP, and DYMO are routing protocols commonly used in mobile ad hoc networks, with each protocol having its own set of advantages and disadvantages in terms of various performance factors, such as broadcast sent packets, CTS packets sent, packet drops due to re-transmission, RTS re-transmission timeout, unicast packet received, RTS packets sent, packet due to ACK timeout, ACK packet sent, unicast sent packet, and broadcast packet received.

AODV and DSR are reactive routing protocols that only establish routes when required, whereas ZRP and DYMO are hybrid routing protocols that combine both proactive and reactive approaches. AODV and DSR have higher overheads due to route discovery and maintenance, while ZRP and DYMO have higher control overheads due to their hybrid approach.

Ultimately, the choice of routing protocol will depend on the specific needs and limitations of the network. AODV and DSR are suitable for smaller networks that frequently undergo topology changes, while ZRP and DYMO are better suited for larger networks with stable topologies. It is essential to carefully evaluate the performance factors of each protocol and choose the one that is best suited to the network's requirements.

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