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# Clipping for More Efficient Large-Scale Simulations in ns-3

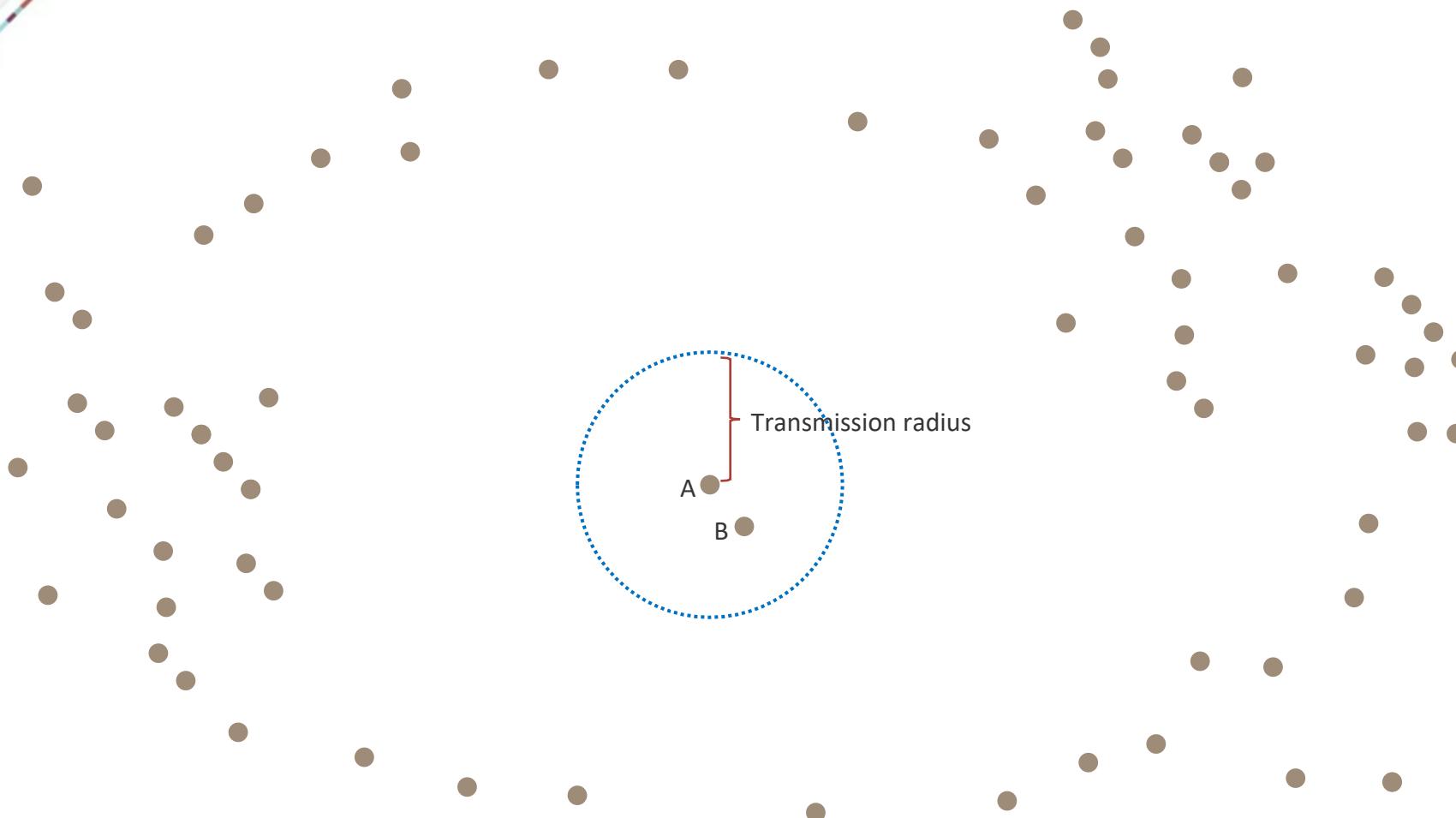
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Candace Diaz, Vince Hietala, Vic Echeverria, Joseph  
Dickinson, Jacob Fenger

WNS3 2021 – Lightning Talk – June 24, 2021



# Events Scheduled on Every Node

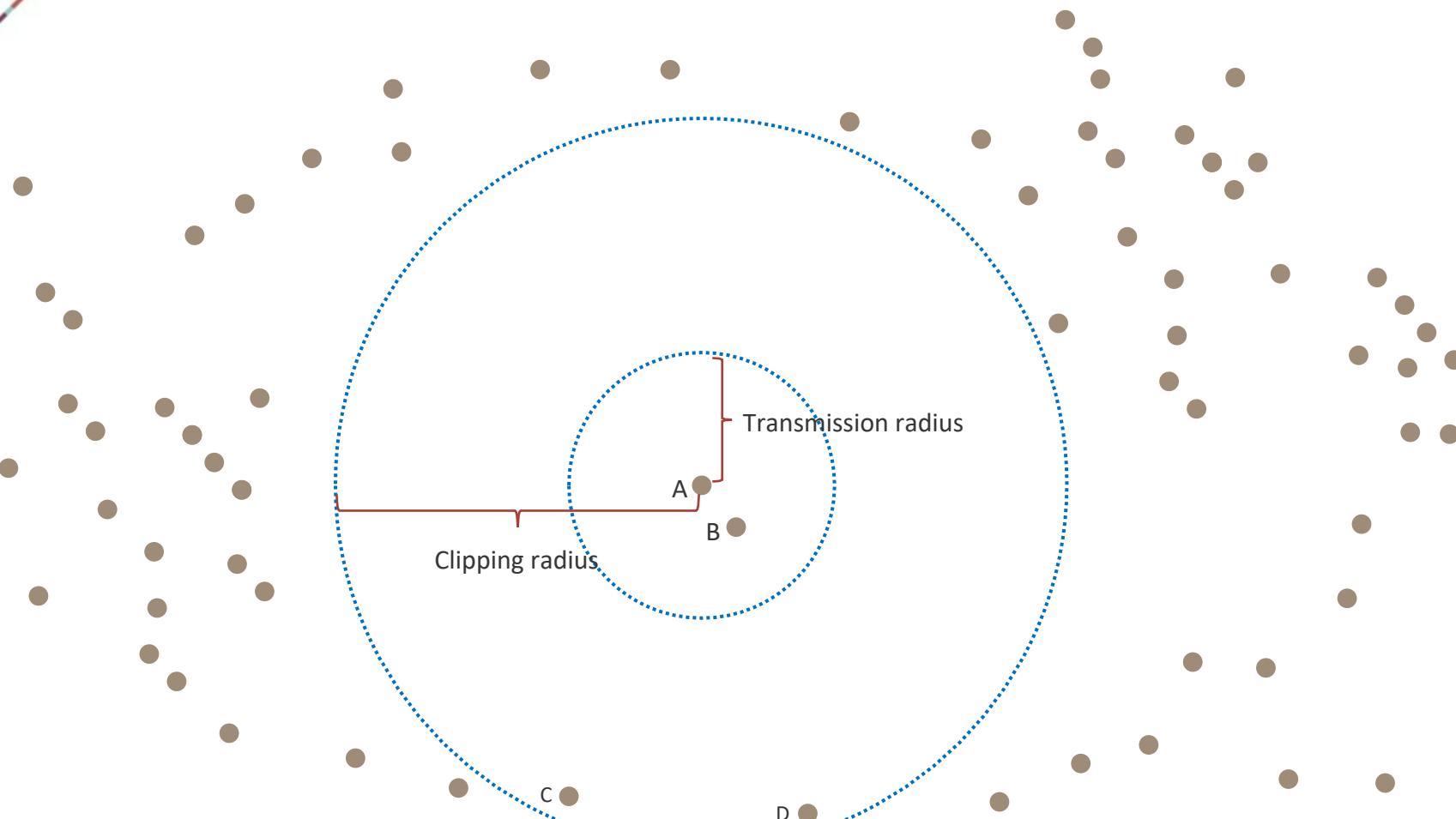


Event Priority Queue	
Receive N	10.008
Receive M	10.0078
Receive L	10.0075
Receive K	10.007
Receive J	10.0068
Receive I	10.0067
Receive H	10.0066
Receive G	10.0065
Receive F	10.0064
Receive E	10.0062
Receive D	10.006
Receive C	10.005
Receive B	10.001



ns-3 sends every packet to every wireless receiver in the same channel in a simulation  
This can be inefficient for certain large-scale simulations

# Clipping Avoids Extra Overhead



Clipping: Only schedule receive events on nodes within some clipping radius

Receive events  
only for nodes  
within clipping  
radius

Event Priority Queue	
Receive D	10.006
Receive C	10.005
Receive B	10.001

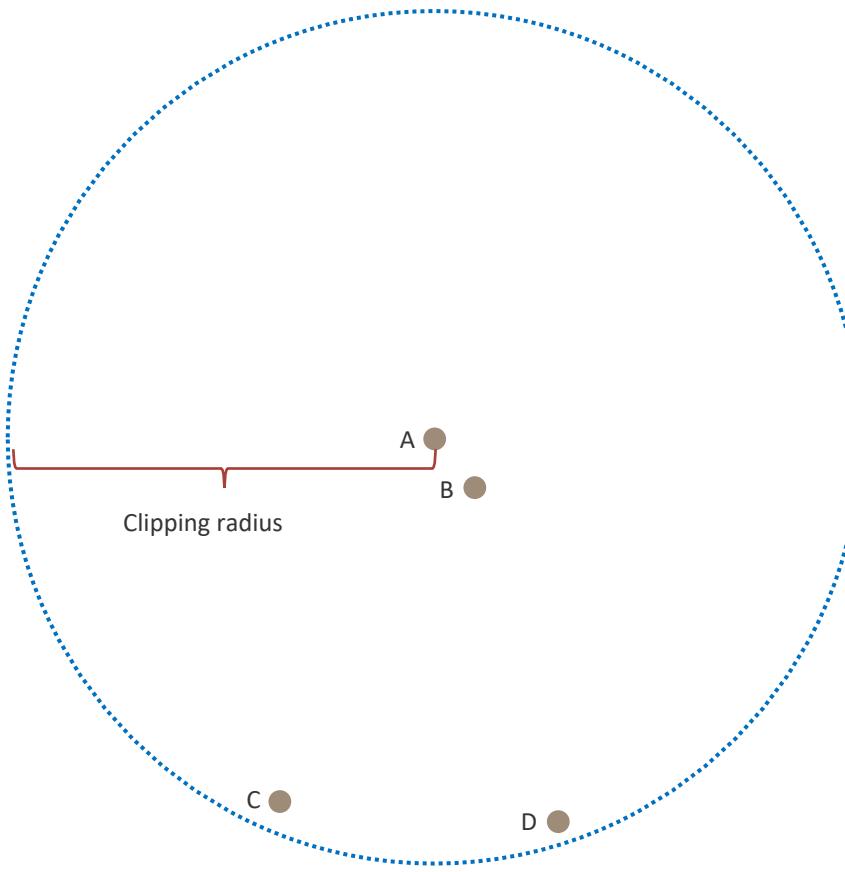


# Determining Nodes Within the Clipping Radius

Need to be able to list all the nodes within A's clipping radius. {B,C,D}

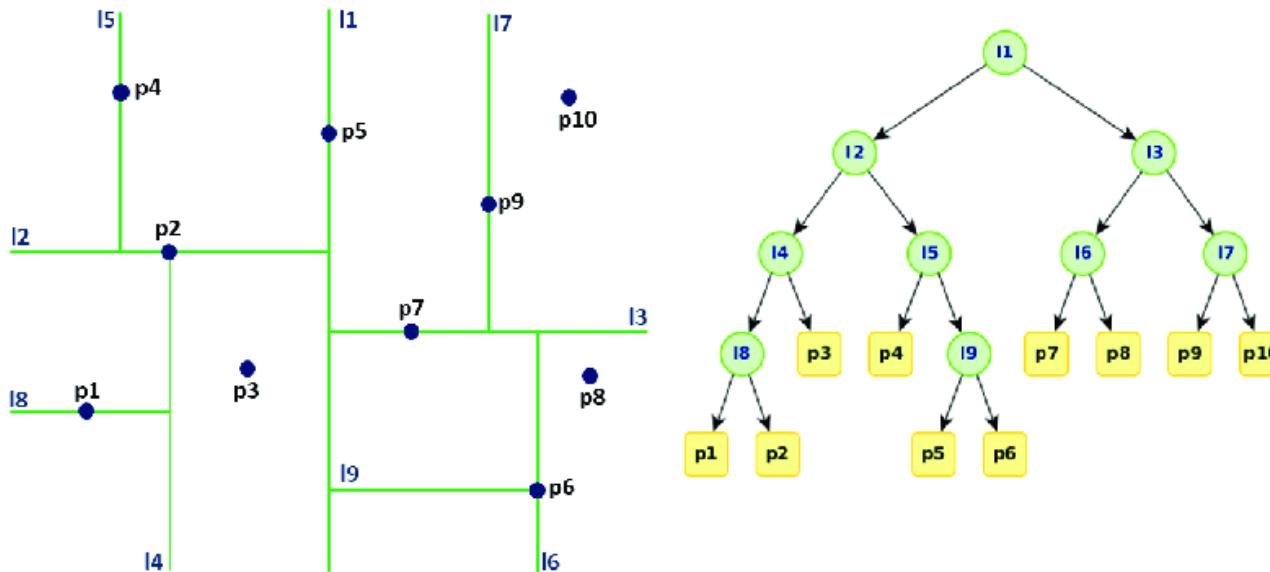


Bad idea: compute distance from A to every other node.





# Spatial Indexing



[John Anzola, et. al.]

Instead, use a k-d tree space partitioning data structure to organize node locations for fast "look up" of nodes within range.

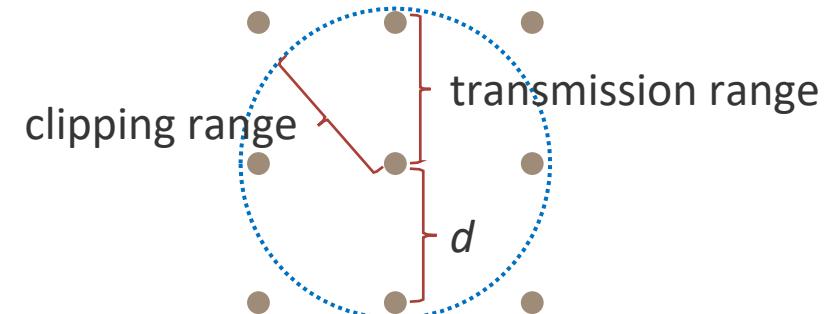
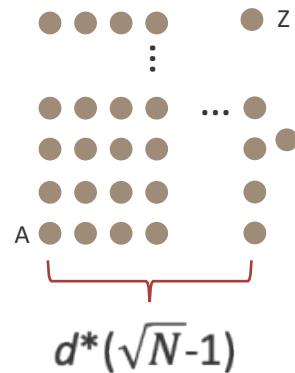
# Clipping Feature is Being Merged into ns-3



Published simulation improvements have now been integrated into the ns-3 simulator and are under review for inclusion

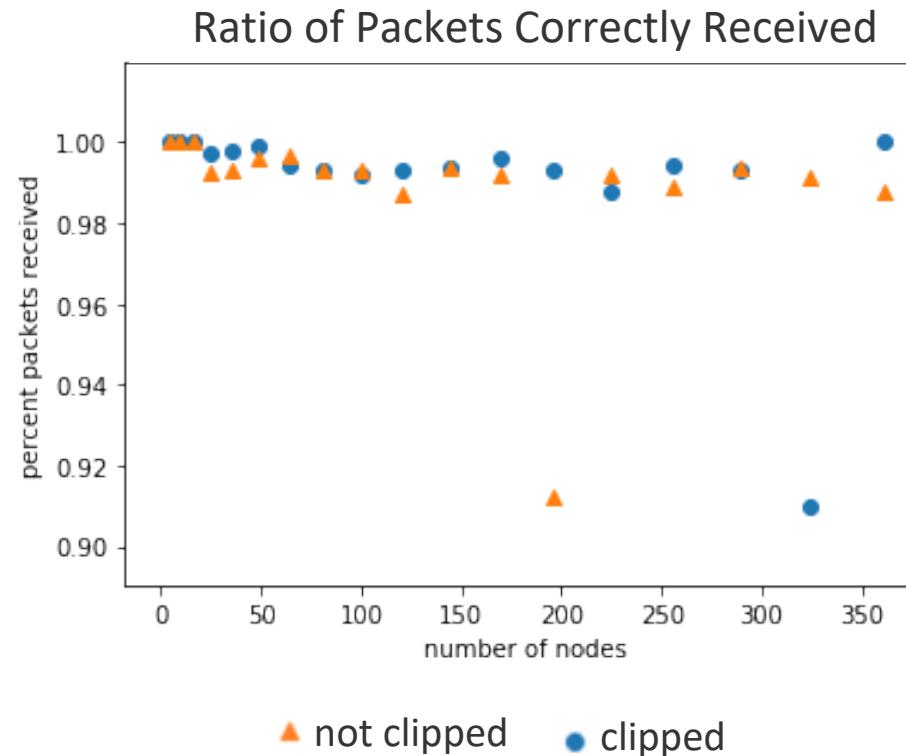
# AODV Example

Grid of  $N$  nodes spaced  $d$  units apart



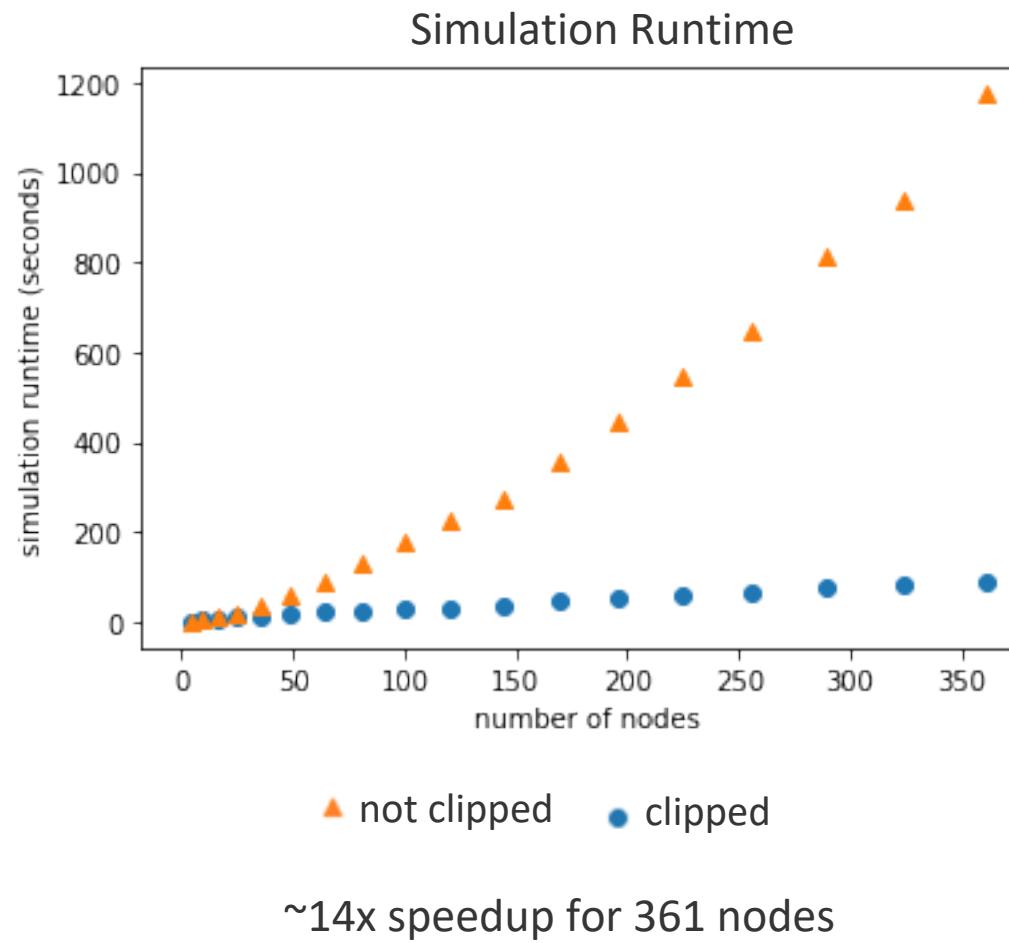
Use AODV Adhoc Routing protocol to route 1 packet/second from node A to node Z.

# AODV Results: Similar packets received



Comparison of number of packets received with and without “clipping”  
AODV drops a few packets (in both cases) while initially establishing routes.

# AODV Results: Faster runtime





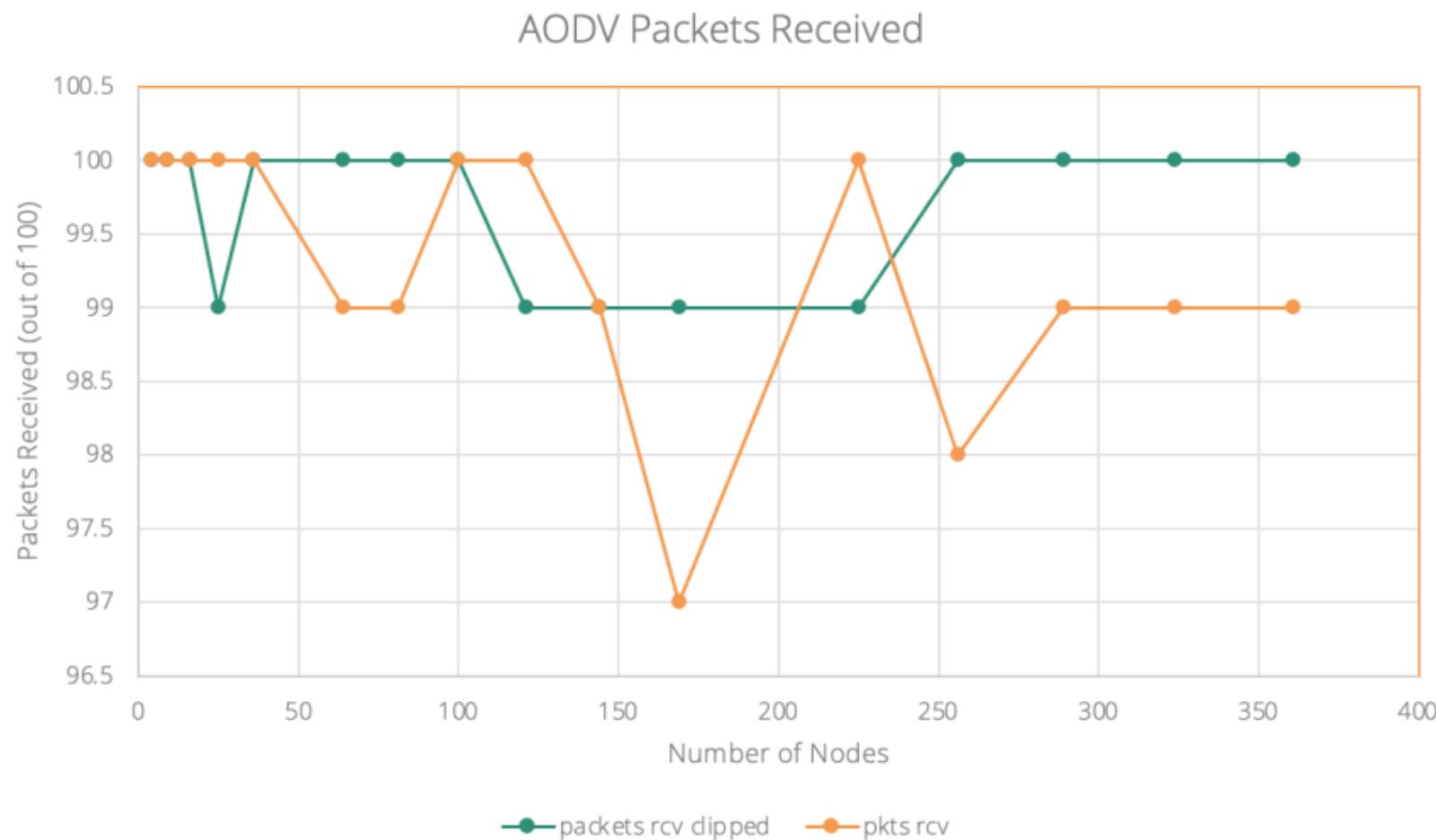
## Questions?

Happy to answer any questions now or  
later via email: [bdnewto@sandia.gov](mailto:bdnewto@sandia.gov)



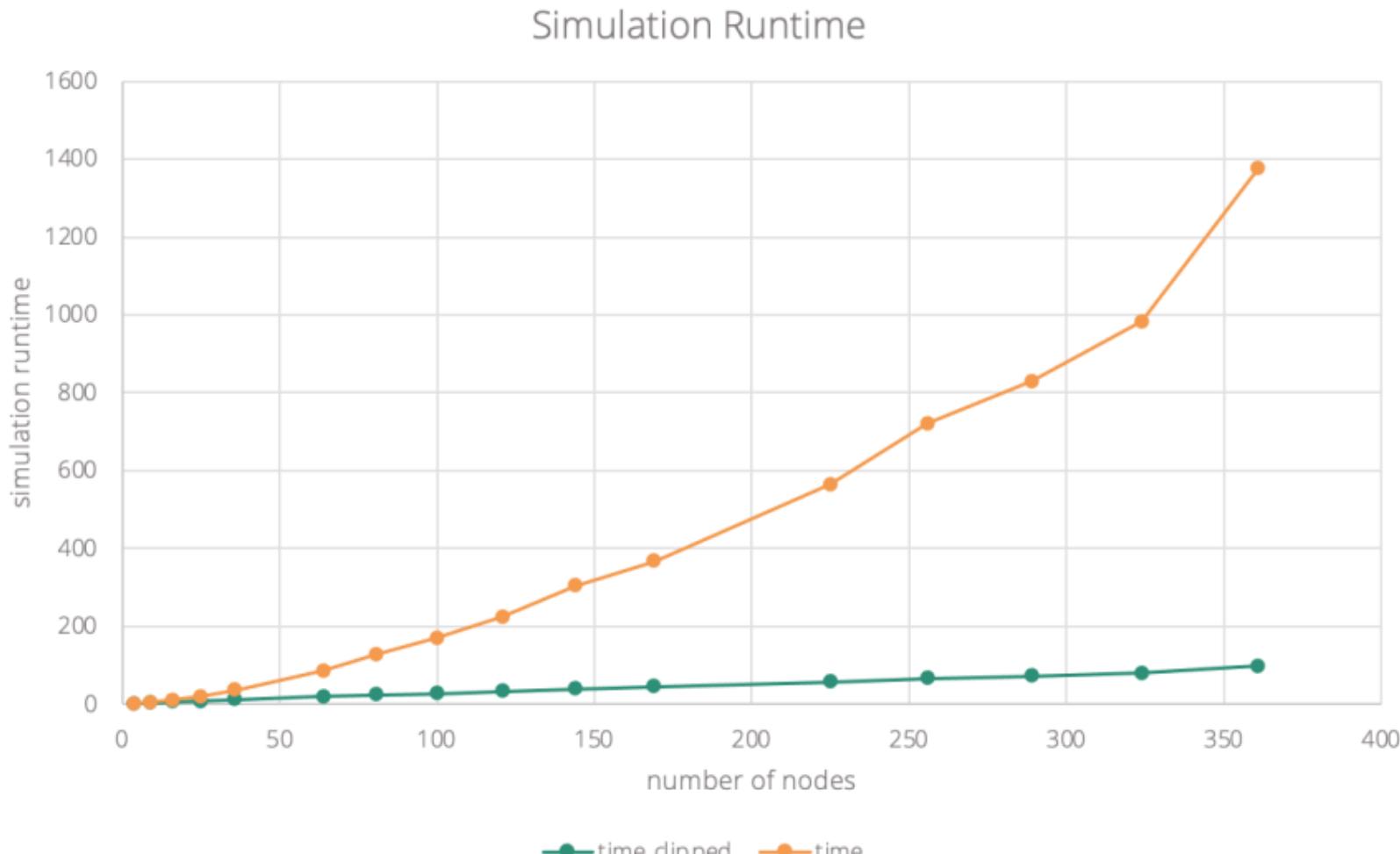
## Backup Content

## AODV Results: Similar packets received



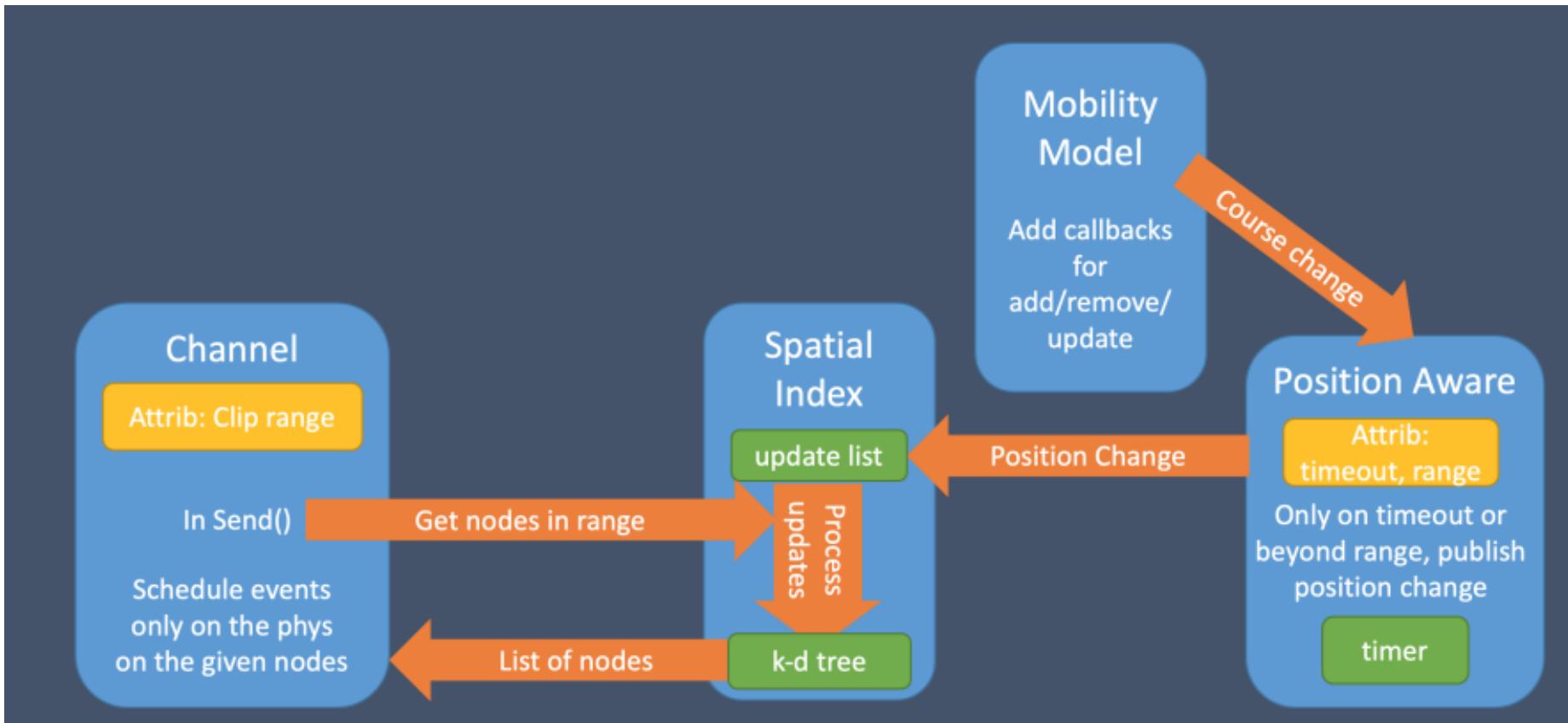
AODV drops a few packets (in both cases) while initially establishing routes.

# AODV Results: Faster runtime



14x speedup for 361 nodes

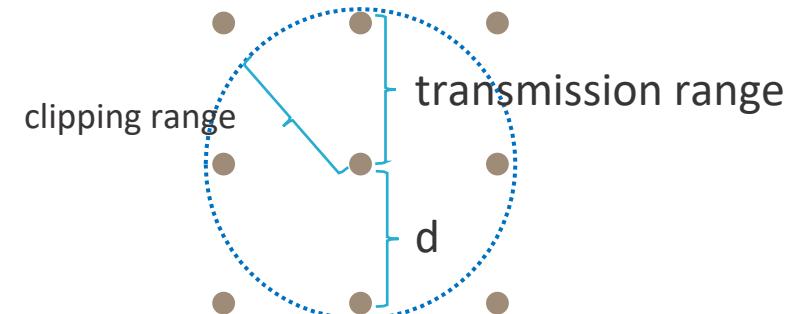
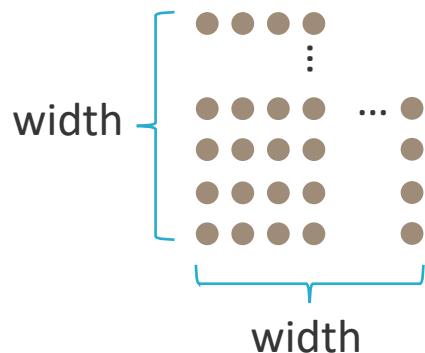
# System Diagram



Position Aware “buffers” position updates. Spatial Index maintains a k-d tree of node positions. Channel now gets “nodes in range” before scheduling receive events.



# Static Grid Simulation



Node separation distance ( $d$ ) is set to be just under maximum transmission range.  
Data can only flow vertical and horizontal (not diagonal).

Clipping range is set such that receive events are scheduled only for nodes that can actually receive the transmission

Every node sends a packet to the broadcast IP address. Received by every node “in range”. (in this case only vertical and horizontal neighbors).

# Static Grid Results

Simulation Performance Comparison  
using KMSim in NS-3.29

