



## Can experiments lead to scientific results?



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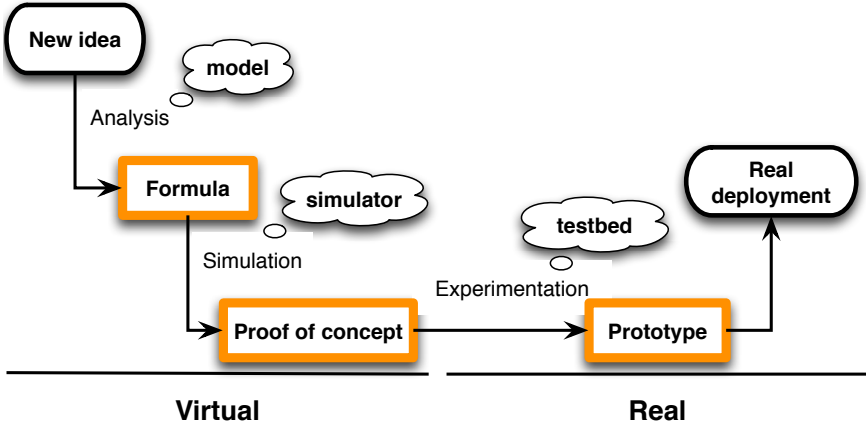
**Network Research Team**  
**ICube Laboratory**  
**University of Strasbourg**



Workshop Internet Of Things / Equipex FIT IoT-LAB

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## Testing before deploying (in real-world)?



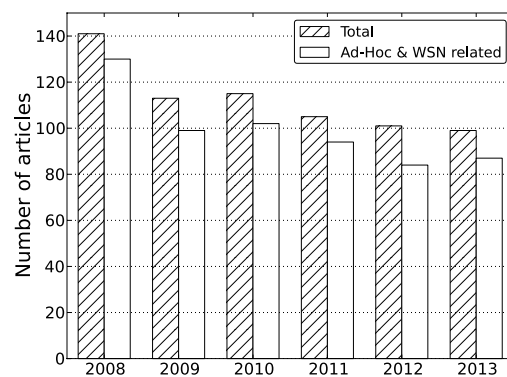
**Virtual**
**Real**

[1] I. Stojmenovic, "Simulations in Wireless Sensor and Ad Hoc Networks: Matching and Advancing Models, Metrics, and Solutions," IEEE Communications Magazine, 2008.

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## Current tendency of the validation methods

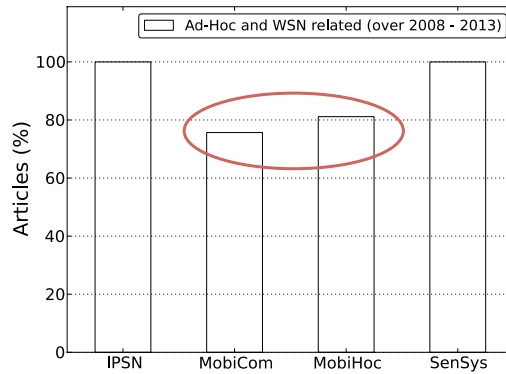
## # of published articles per year



- ACM/IEEE IPSN, ACM MobiCom, ACM MobiHoc and ACM SenSys from 2008 to 2013
- We studied 674 articles in total, out of which 596 are related to Ad Hoc & WSN [2]

[2] G. Z. Papadopoulos, K. Kritsis, A. Gallais, P. Chatzimisios and T. Noel, "Performance Evaluation Methods in Ad-Hoc and Wireless Sensor Networks: A Literature Study," to appear IEEE Communication Magazine, 2015.

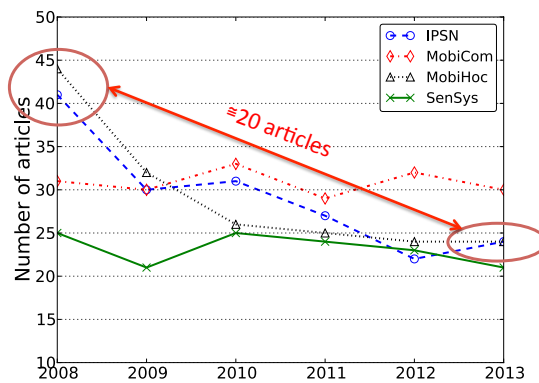
## Appropriateness of our conference sample



- 78 articles on other wireless technologies (e.g., WiFi, WiMAX)
- Published in MobiCom and MobiHoc conference

[2] G. Z. Papadopoulos, K. Kritsis, A. Gallais, P. Chatzimisios and T. Noel, "Performance Evaluation Methods in Ad-Hoc and Wireless Sensor Networks: A Literature Study," to appear IEEE Communication Magazine, 2015.

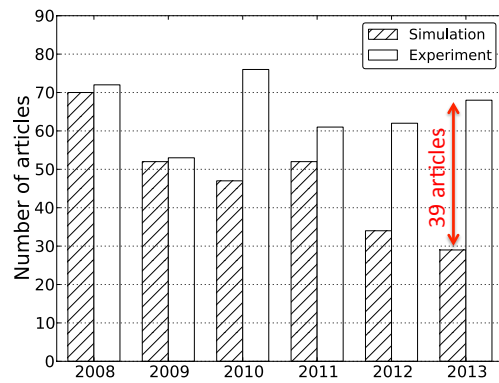
## Publication flows



- "Decreasing" tendency of published articles in the proceedings

[2] G. Z. Papadopoulos, K. Kritsis, A. Gallais, P. Chatzimisios and T. Noel, "Performance Evaluation Methods in Ad-Hoc and Wireless Sensor Networks: A Literature Study," to appear IEEE Communication Magazine, 2015.

## Simulations vs. experiments



- Simulations is decreasing every year (except in 2011)
- Experiments present at a relatively stable rate.

[2] G. Z. Papadopoulos, K. Kritsis, A. Gallais, P. Chatzimisios and T. Noel, "Performance Evaluation Methods in Ad-Hoc and Wireless Sensor Networks: A Literature Study," to appear IEEE Communication Magazine, 2015.

## Simulations

## Simulators / emulators [3, 4]

- I. OMNeT++, ns-2, etc.
  - Retain or simplify **many** assumptions
  - Provide “unlimited” memory and computation resources
- II. TOSSIM, COOJA, etc.
  - Retain or simplify **some** assumptions
  - **Bridge the gap** between simulations and experiments
  - Rely on the same code for both emulation and experimental campaigns

[3] A. Dwivedi and O. Vyas, “An Exploratory Study of Experimental Tools for Wireless Sensor Networks,” *Wireless Sensor Network*, 2011.  
 [4] E. Egea-Lopez, J. Vales-Alonso, A. S. Martinez-Sala, P. Pavon-Marino, and J. Garcia-Haro, “Elder Care Based on Cognitive Sensor Network,” *Summer Simulation Multiconference - SPECTS*, 2005.

## Advantages and limitations

- I. Better control of the scenario
  - Start from “any” assumption
    - ◆ Simplified assumptions
    - ◆ Localization (e.g., mobility, geographic routing)
  - Allow to build large-scale networks
  - Reproducible results
- II. But ...
  - Not necessarily realistic
    - ◆ No weather impacts (e.g., temperature [5])
  - Do not take into account the *node failure or network disconnection* [6, 7]
  - Imperfect radio models

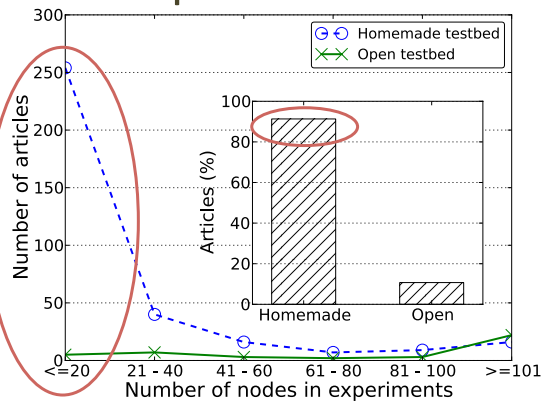
[5] C. A. Boano, J. Brown, Z. He, U. Roedig, and T. Voigt, “Lowpower radio communication in industrial outdoor deployments: The impact of weather conditions and atex-compliance,” *Sensor Applications, Experimentation, and Logistics*, 2010.

[6] G. Barreneitea, F. Ingelrest, G. Schaefer, and M. Vetterli, “The hitchhiker’s guide to successful wireless sensor network deployments,” in *Proc. of ACM SenSys*, 2008.

[7] K. Langendoen, A. Baggio, and O. Visser, “Murphy loves potatoes: experiences from a pilot sensor network deployment in precision agriculture,” in *Proc. of IEEE IPDPS*, 2006.

# Experiments

## Testbed usage & scales of experimented networks



- 91.3% choose to set up their own testbeds
- For small-scale networks, researchers choose homemade testbeds

[2] G. Z. Papadopoulos, K. Kritsis, A. Gallais, P. Chatzimisios and T. Noel, "Performance Evaluation Methods in Ad-Hoc and Wireless Sensor Networks: A Literature Study," to appear IEEE Communication Magazine, 2015.

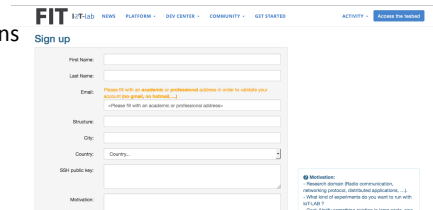
# Facilities for IoT and WSN experimentation [8, 9]

## I. Open testbeds

- MotelLAB (USA: in 2005), TWIST (Germany: in 2006), SensLAB – FIT IoT-LAB (France: in 2008) WISEBED (Europe: in 2008), INDRIYA (Singapore: in 2011) ...

## II. Allow to construct pertinent networks

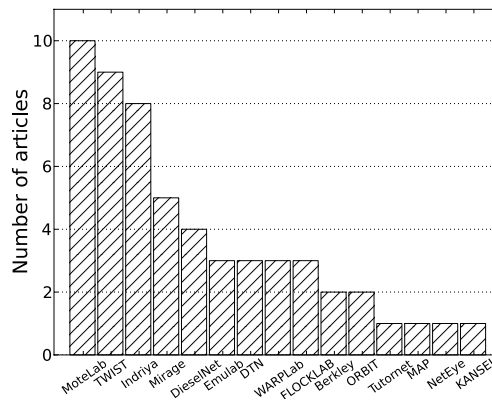
- Tens or even hundreds of nodes
- Real (or close) real world conditions
- Creating an account (i.e., no cost)



[8] A. Gluhak, S. Krco, M. Nati, D. Pfisterer, N. Mitton, and T. Razafindralambo, "A Survey on Facilities for Experimental Internet of Things Research," IEEE Communications Magazine, 2011.

[9] A.-S. Tonneau, N. Mitton, and J. Vandaele, "A Survey on (mobile) Wireless Sensor Network Experimentation Testbeds," in Proc. IEEE DCROSS, 2014.

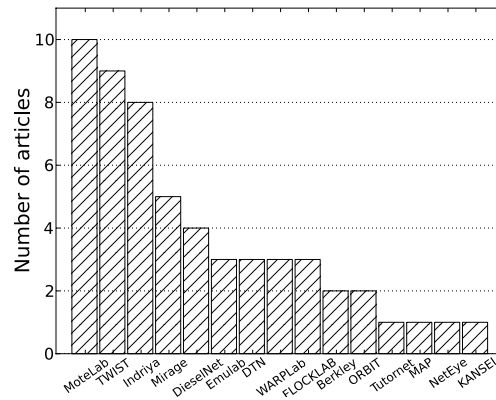
# Popularity of open testbeds



- MotelLab and TWIST were among the very first to provide such a service
- They consist consist in widespread hardware (Telosb for Indriya)

[2] G. Z. Papadopoulos, K. Kritsis, A. Gallais, P. Chatzimisios and T. Noel, "Performance Evaluation Methods in Ad-Hoc and Wireless Sensor Networks: A Literature Study," to appear IEEE Communication Magazine, 2015.

## Popularity of open testbeds




- FIT IoT-LAB is still a “young” testbed
- Articles are published in other venues (e.g., IEEE DCOSS, MASS, Globecom)

[2] G. Z. Papadopoulos, K. Kritsis, A. Gallais, P. Chatzimisios and T. Noel, “Performance Evaluation Methods in Ad-Hoc and Wireless Sensor Networks: A Literature Study,” to appear IEEE Communication Magazine, 2015.


## FIT IoT-LAB



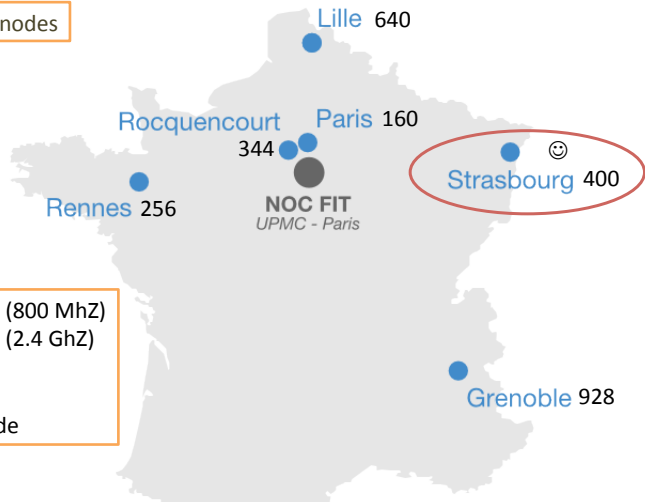


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Future Internet (of Things) - FRANCE

## FIT IoT-LAB [10]





2728 wireless nodes



WSN430 node (800 Mhz)  
WSN430 node (2.4 Ghz)  
M3 node  
A8 node  
Open Host node


[10] C. Adjih, E. Baccelli, E. Fleury, G. Harter, N. Mitton, T. Noel, R. Pissard-Gibollet, F. Saint-Marcel, G. Schreiner, J. Vandaele, T. Watteyne, "FIT IoT-LAB: A Large Scale Open Experimental IoT Testbed," to appear in Proc. IEEE WF-IoT, 2015.

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Future Internet (of Things) - FRANCE


## ICube platform [11]



- I. 400 nodes
  - Total 120 M3
  - Total 24 A8
  - Total 256 WSN430
- II. 318 fixed nodes
  - 64 M3 and 14 A8 (AT86RF231)
    - ◆ 2 layers of 38 (1x1x2 meter spacing)
  - 240 WSN430 (CC1101)
    - ◆ 3 layers of 80 (1x1x1 meter spacing)
- III. 45 mobile nodes
  - 35 M3,
  - 10 WSN430

[11] G. Z. Papadopoulos, J. Beaudaux, A. Gallais, T. Noel, and G. Schreiner, "Adding value to WSN simulation using the IoT-LAB experimental platform," in Proc. IEEE WiMob, 2013.

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## Advantages and limitations

- I. **Many advantages**
  - Remote administration
    - ◆ Accessibility from any place (i.e., internet connection)
  - Building a network is less complex (and time-consuming)
  - Results are closer to real-world deployments
    - ◆ e.g., humidity, temperature, noise etc.
  - Enlarges the potentials of academic institutes
    - ◆ e.g., more “qualitative” articles, collaborations
- II. **But ... there are limitations (or challenges) as well**

## “Large-scale” networks ?

## “Large-scale” networks ?

ICube platform (10m x 8m x 3m): 240 WSN430 nodes distributed in 3 layers of 80 (1x1x1)

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## Examples from real-world deployments

<http://postscapes.com/internet-of-things-examples/>

**GET AN ADVANCE**

**STOP THE BLEEDIN**

**HELP PROTECT WILDLIFE**

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## Link stability & symmetry

## Bursty traffic

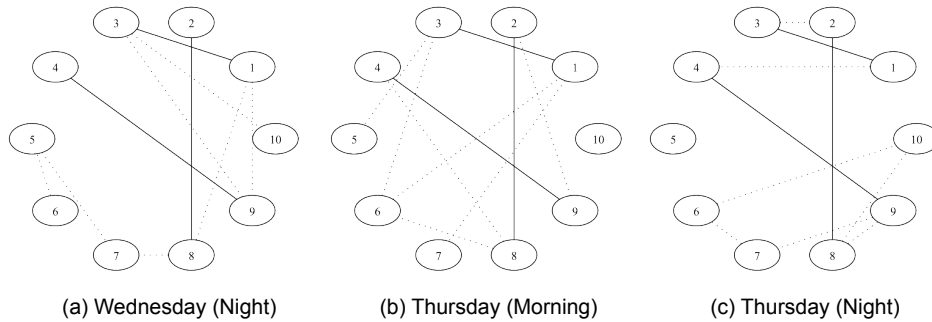
- I. **Wildlife monitoring, biotelemetry etc.**
  - Bursty data transmissions may occur [12, 13]
- II. **Link quality fluctuation**
  - Has a negative impact on successful packet delivery [14]
- III. **Repeated retransmission of lost packets increases:**
  - Latency at all levels of communication
  - But also the energy consumption

[12] G. Z. Papadopoulos, J. Beaudaux, A. Gallais and T. Noel, "T-AAD: Lightweight Traffic Auto-Adaptations for Low-power MAC Protocols," in Proc. IFIP/IEEE Med-Hoc-Net, 2014.

[13] G. Z. Papadopoulos, V. Kotsiou, A. Gallais, P. Chatzimisios and T. Noel, "Wireless Medium Access Control under Mobility and Bursty Traffic Assumptions in WSN," in Springer Mobile Networks and Applications, 2015.

[14] Z. Ansar, J. Wen an E. Debebe Ayele and W. Dargie, "An efficient burst transmission scheme for wireless sensor networks," in Proc. ACM MSWIM, 2015.

## Link stability & symmetry [11]



# of neighbors in average (per node):

**13.95 (2.16)**

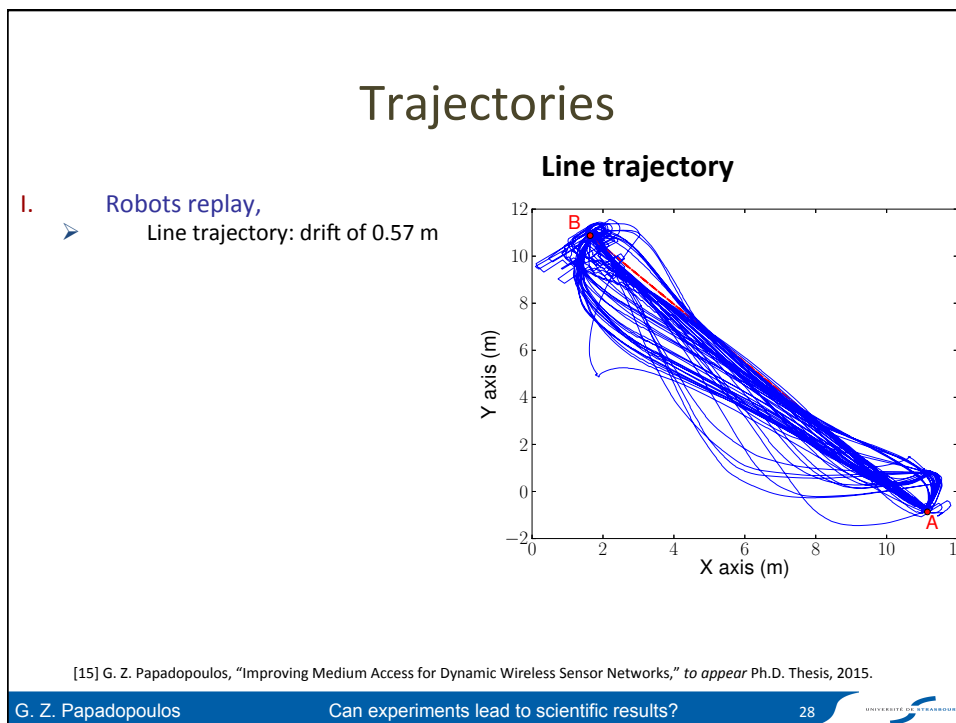
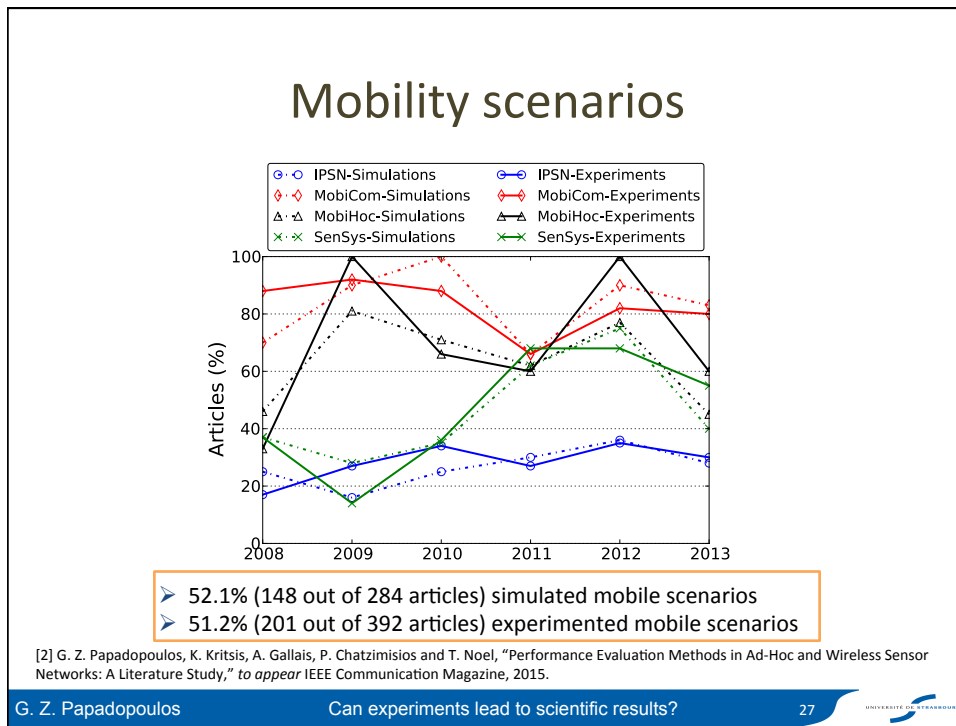
**13.38 (1.9)**

**15.34 (1.94)**

This link fluctuations impact the MAC layer protocols

[11] G. Z. Papadopoulos, J. Beaudaux, A. Gallais, T. Noel, and G. Schreiner, "Adding value to WSN simulation using the IoT-LAB experimental platform," in Proc. IEEE WiMob, 2013.

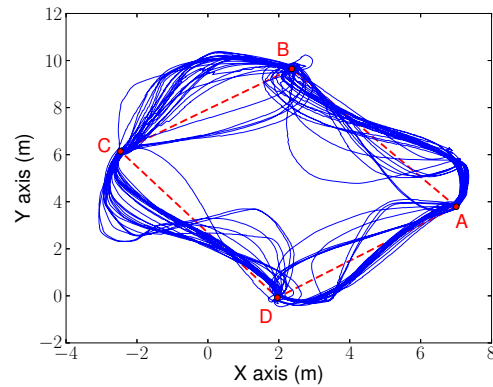
## Assigning and planning trajectories for mobile robots



## Trajectories

- I. Robots replay,
  - Line trajectory: drift of 0.57 m
  - Square circuit: drift of 0.46 m
- II. Miscalculation of AMCL module
- III. The 3D camera lacks in open-space & large-scale environment:

Square trajectory



Raising the question of cost versus accuracy versus quantity of robots in our community [15]

[15] G. Z. Papadopoulos, "Improving Medium Access for Dynamic Wireless Sensor Networks," to appear Ph.D. Thesis, 2015.

## Management

## Management

- I. Nodes reservation conflict
- II. Learning phase
  - Collecting and parsing the log files
  - Scripting
- III. Debug procedure is time-consuming and (tedious?)
- IV. Unexpected node (or nodes) crashes
  - ◆ Resume the experiment → time consuming

## Discussion



## Discussion

- I. Due to the real-world unexpected (or expected) issues
  - Link fluctuations
  - Weather conditions
  - Unexpected node (or nodes) crashes
- II. Experiments are hard to get repeatable setups for reproducible results
- III. Affects the performance of the MAC or routing layer solutions
- IV. The obtained (experimental) results are scientific or proof-of-concept?

## References

- [1] I. Stojmenovic, "Simulations in Wireless Sensor and Ad Hoc Networks: Matching and Advancing Models, Metrics, and Solutions," IEEE Communications Magazine, 2008.
- [2] G. Z. Papadopoulos, K. Kritsis, A. Gallais, P. Chatzimisios and T. Noel, "Performance Evaluation Methods in Ad-Hoc and Wireless Sensor Networks: A Literature Study," to appear IEEE Communication Magazine, 2015.
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- [10] C. Adjih, E. Baccelli, E. Fleury, G. Harter, N. Mitton, T. Noel, R. Pissard-Gibollet, F. Saint-Marcel, G. Schreiner, J. Vandaele, T. Watteyne, "FIT IoT-LAB: A Large Scale Open Experimental IoT Testbed," to appear in Proc. IEEE WF-IoT, 2015.
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Thank you!



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