



Internet of Vehicle Layered Architecture and Network Model

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays most people and manufacturers willing to facilitate their life by applying the new technology, which is the Internet of Things (IoT). IoT is a multidisciplinary model that allows and grants everything with connectivity property. Internet of Vehicles (IoV), a modern IoT, is a communication system between vehicles and networks, which boosts the vehicles to be intelligent by connecting to the internet and providing different mobile application services. This paper reviews the prevalent and emerging IoV paradigms and network layered architectures, with an emphasis on their functions, and main elements in the network model. Then how the IoV ecosystem works as a network model from sensing, gathering, storing and processing the collected information, and finally accessing the service is proposed in a new Contemporary architecture of the IoV model (CIoV). CIoV consists of four layers namely client layer, communication layer, a cloud layer, and cater a service layer. CIoV is approached in light of the main functions of the IoV ecosystem, which can be implemented for different and heterogeneous communication models. Finally, based on a case study the CIoV protocol stack is discussed for each layer in the architecture by considering operational and security planes.

Key words: InternetofThings(IoT), InternetofVehicle (IoV), Network layered architecturesContemporary IoV (CIoV).

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years and with the rapid progress in technologies, the Internet of Things (IoT) is important for a wide range of scientific and industrial processes and research. Aspect to the future of the Internet, IoT will comprise millions of intelligent communicating 'things' through using the Internet, and the connectivity will be in anything, anyone, anywhere and anytime[1]. With increased sophistication in the IoT, it is expected that about 50 billion devices will be interconnected by 2020 and traffic data flow will grow 1000 times than before[2].

IoT comprises of sensors, network communicating devices, web storage and data processing, and the applications. Sensors sense and collect the required data. Network components transfer and store the information on cloud servers. Web storage tools apply data mining methods and techniques on voluminous data to derive valuable information. Then by using an application on a physical device, the processed information will utilize [3]. Devices availability in the IoT which will be related to the connectivity of those devices must be fulfilled in the hardware and software planes to provide anytime and anywhere services for customers. The ability of IoT applications indicates as software availability will provide the services for every person at different places and at the same time. Meanwhile, hardware availability indicates the presence of the devices all the time[4].

The future of the Internet will consist of heterogeneously connected devices (stationary and mobile devices) moreover, this will sustain the borders of the world with physical entities and virtual components. Recently, a major paradigm shift has been on the way toward using IoT in the vehicular domain, e.g., vehicle-to-person (V2P), vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V), vehicle-to-sensors (V2S), vehicle-to-roadside (V2R) and vehicle-to-transportation infrastructure (V2I), also referred to Vehicular-to-Everything (V2X)[5].

To work on the IoV ecosystem and provide applications or services to vehicles/users, the procedure of the system starting from the vehicle up to getting the services should be understood. IoV moves the control of connecting, managing and processing from humans to autonomous vehicles[6]. With the high ability of these vehicles, the disposal will be much better and faster than the human and decision will be best in many cases, such as: if earthquake happens, the vehicle will be able to check the affected area and which roads are empty and consequently also alert other vehicles or calling emergency ambulance[7].

Thus far, this paper proposes an exhaustive and full IoV network paradigm, with the assertion on a layered architecture. The proposed framework has considerable capability to supply dependable vehicular communications. The main contributions of this paper are as follows.

- A network model is proposed by determining four network elements of IoV including user, connected vehicle, network connection, and cloud computing.
- A Contemporary IoV (CIoV) from four-layered architectures is proposed focusing on functionalities, operational land representations of the layers. A protocol stack for the layered architecture is constructed taking into account, operational and security planes.
- Visualization of IoV benefits and challenges

The overall structure of the paper takes the form of eight sections, sort out as follows. Section 2 presents the network environment model of IoV. Different proposed layered architectures are derived in Section 3. In Section 4, new Contemporary IoV architecture introduced. The protocol stack structure presented in Section 5. Section 6 set out a case study about the proposed CIoV. And the challenges of the network layered model in IoV are inscribed in section 7. Finally, the most obvious finding to emerge from this study is concluded in Section 8.

2. ENVIRONMENT OF IOV NETWORK MODEL

The IoV network model is a full descriptive model of the communication system in the IoV environment. The network environment model as shown in Figure (1), illustrates the interactions and communications between different elements and networks in the system such as V2V, V2R, V2S and V2I [8].



Figure 1: IoV network environment model [9].

IoV network model has four major elements: user, connected-vehicles, network connection, and cloud computing, illustrated in Figure 2.

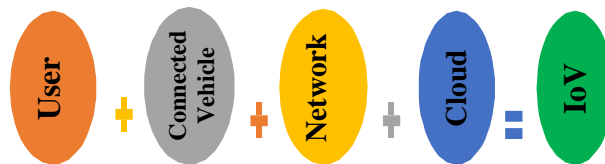


Figure 2: IoV elements.

The user is the beneficiary of the IoV services maybe a driver or any person in the road connected to the vehicle or another vehicle. IoV can provide many services to the users such as aiding the driver in route information including public purposes like congestion information and reducing air pollution, and emergency purposes like calling emergency vehicles in accident cases [10, 11].

Connected vehicles refer to the epochal vehicles contained many sensors and look forward to reaching 200 sensors per vehicle by 2020 [10]. Those sensors offer the data collection functionality such as detecting road conditions, driver habits and autonomous control [12]. With the growth of industrial, nowadays different automobile manufacturers have two options for supporting the internet to the vehicles: brought-in and built-in. In brought-in connectivity, cars can connect to the internet through user smartphone networks via wires (e.g., Universal Serial Bus (USB)) or wirelessly (e.g., wireless fidelity (Wi-Fi) or Bluetooth) so that the vehicle achieves direct access to the Internet and also extra benefits by using smartphone applications. Built-in connectivity supports the cars with the internet by consolidating the on-board system with cellular service, which lets the cars connect to the Internet through the cellular network such as Fourth Generation-Long Term Evolution (4G-LTE). As a comparison built-in option offers a strong connection to the vehicles and passengers, but the cellular connectivity cannot be changed when established [9, 13, 14].

The third important element of IoV is a network connection, and this explains how other elements in the IoV ecosystem can be connected together by using one of the network technologies. IoV can be connected to the short-range communication networks, such as Bluetooth and ZigBee in the intra-vehicle communication (i.e. inside the car; e.g. V2S) and for long or medium-range communication network for inter-vehicle communication (i.e. outside the car, e.g. V2V, V2I, V2R, and V2P) such as Wi-Fi, Wireless access in vehicular environment (WAVE), Ultra-Wideband (UWB), 3rd-Generation (3G), 4G/LTE and 5G [15], which that 5G will be the suitable one for IoT services [16]. According to the mobility of the vehicle, the most prevalent technology

used in intra-vehicle communication is the vehicle ad-hoc network (VANET). The excellent feature of VANET is a self-organized communication network whereby the pre-infrastructure network is not required as the vehicle is considered as a wireless access point (AP). Furthermore, the full infrastructure is updated periodically depending on the position of the vehicles. The driver/vehicles can get updated information about the new external environment from some hints, such as red lights [10, 17].

The last element is the cloud, which is the brain of the system. The functions of the cloud are numerous including intelligent decision making, computing processing, analysis of the payoff services to modify or update the applications using different tools for critical analysis such as flowchart and graphs, etc. [6, 10, 18].

3. IOV NETWORK LAYERED ARCHITECTURE

Many studies conducted on “how heterogeneous networks actuate in IoV ecosystem with different functions and jobs grouped and designed in network layered architecture”. Turning now to six different approaches proposed from different aspects of three, five and seven network layered architectures.

Nanjie *et al.* approached three-layered architecture (client, connection, cloud) for Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) as IoV technology in Europe and Japan.

The client layer represents whole sensors and devices inner and exterior the vehicle, responsible for gathering information about the vehicle, the driver status and events occurred around vehicles, then sending the information to the second layer (connection). The connection layer ensures the communication between all heterogeneous networks and models (i.e. V2V, V2R, V2P, V2I) sending the data to the third layer (cloud). In the cloud layer, all functions are processed and computed to satisfy the applications in the IoV ecosystem [19].

Wan *et al.* also approached a three-layered architecture (vehicular, location and cloud) the work of each layer similar to, i.e. vehicular layer the same as client layer, location layer represents connection layer and cloud layer like cloud layer. But the bottleneck is that used short-range communication although it can be provided for long-distance communications by connecting far vehicles and infrastructure networks via neighboring vehicles [20].

Also, Gandotra *et al.* proposed three-layered architectures (area network, network management, and D2D applications) for only Devices to Devices (D2D) communications, without sending any

information through the network base station (BS). All devices are represented and communicated together via a direct link in the first layer (area network). In network management the D2D data are accumulated and sent to the core network named (D2D Applications layer), to provide the selected application such as public safety and security services, etc. [8].

On the other hand, Kaiwartya *et al.* proposed five-layered architecture (perception, coordination, artificial intelligence (AI), application and business). The perception layer collects the information from the different actuators in the area like sensors inside the vehicle (e.g. speed, direction and position of the vehicle and the driver attitudes) and outside the vehicles (e.g. traffic environment and weather condition) and sends data to the coordination layer securely. The coordination layer ensures that information gathered from the perception layer is transferred for processing in the artificial intelligence securely and in unified structure, as the latter is collected from different heterogeneous networks such as wireless access in vehicular environment (WAVE), Wireless-Fidelity (Wi-Fi), fourth-generation/Long term evolution (4G/LTE) and fifth-generation (5G). The (AI) layer is the brain of the IoV ecosystem symbolized by the virtual cloud substructure. It is in charge of dealing with the information from the coordination layer and analyzed this aggregating information by using decision-making algorithms. It manages many services in the cloud environment depending on the critical analysis of the information received. The application layer forms the smart applications that finding out from the AI layer to the end-users. The upper layer is a business model that analyzes the usage data of the smart applications by using different strategies such as use case diagram, graphs, differentiation tables, flowchart, etc., to evaluate the budget preparation for managing the applications [10].

However, Juan Contreras-Castillo *et al.* proposed seven-layered architecture (user interaction, acquisition, pre-processing, communication, management, business, and security). The job of the user interaction layer is to provide a smart interface for the users inside the vehicle, this interface monitors the area outside the vehicle to get information such as traffic, route condition, and car parking. Inside the vehicle, the interface monitors the behavior of the driver to display the best action in the interface based on the current case. The main benefit of the interface is to reduce driver omissions to make driving safe. The liability of the acquisition layer is deciding how to collect the different data and information from inside and outside the vehicles and how to send it by using the suitable network

technology (short-range technology for inside the vehicle e.g. Bluetooth or ZigBee, and for outside transmission e.g. Bluetooth or ZigBee, and for outside transmission long-range technology e.g. Wi-Fi or ultra-wideband). The pre-processing layer analysis the collected information and filters them to avoid the dissemination of unrelated data. The main purpose of Communication layer is to decide how the devices will communicate together to send the gathered information, i.e. how to select the best network from different heterogeneous networks by using intelligent technologies such as fuzzy algorithms, which work on several parameters such as Quality of services (QoS), privacy and security information. The main job of the Management layer is to manage the data transformed among the different elements in the IoV ecosystem. To get better services from the IoV system Business model must be designed in the Business layer depending on processing and analyzing all the coming information from other layers by using different statistical and crucial tools such as flowchart with various types of cloud computing substructure. The last layer (Security layer) interacts with all layers to ensure that all functions and information transfer are done in a secure manner [15].

Another work by li-minnn et al. proposed universal IoV (UIoV) architecture also consists of seven-layered (Identification Layer, Physical Objects Layer, Inter-Intra Devices Layer, Communication Layer, Cloud Services Layer, Multimedia & Big Data Computation Layer and Application) for smart cities. Identification Layer responsible for uniquely identify each object in the system by giving Naming and Addressing. The main job of Physical Object Layer to pick up all the data from other objects and send them to the Inter-Intra Devices Layer for more processing. The Inter-Intra Devices Layer is a new and unique layer of UIoV that works with the Communication Layer to provide the inter communications between all actors in the system such as V2I, V2P, V2V, V2R, V2S, and V2D. The cloud layer responsible for all computing environments such as software and hardware infrastructure and processing platforms to grant the scalability of IoV applications and services. The Multimedia and Big Data Layer is a new and exclusive layer in the UIoV, which be composed of three sublayers: Data Pre-processing, Big Data Computation, and Intelligent Transport sub-layers. All the computation for intelligent transportation overall UIoV layers is the main responsibility of the

Multimedia and Big Data Layer. The last layer of the UIoV is the application layer that performs brilliant services to end-users based on relevant information from the upper layer, also it defines a group of protocols for transmitting the message[21].

Generally, from the above reviews, it can be concluded that in respect of model layer similar functionalities must be executed, and this is clarified in Table I.

4. PROPOSED ARCHITECTURE OF IOV

It has been shown from this review that to enjoy the services or smart application in the IoV ecosystem, the functionalities of the IoV as follows: firstly data is collected by one of the sensors inside or outside the vehicle. Next, the data is disseminated to other elements in the environment by connecting to one of the network technologies according to the type of communication; inside or outside the vehicle. The vehicle is connected to cloud computing to process the data. Finally, the best decision by using one of the artificial intelligence algorithms is selected to provide smart service from the vehicle to the user/vehicle. In order to recognize these functionalities, The present study was designed to exemplify them as a group of layers in new proposed universal architecture for the IoV named Contemporary IoV (CIoV), which will be applied as powerful platforms for different and heterogeneous communication models. There are four main layers within this architecture which are: Client layer, Communication layer, Cloud layer, and Cater Services layer. Figure. 3 shows a diagram of the CIoV layers and their main functions.

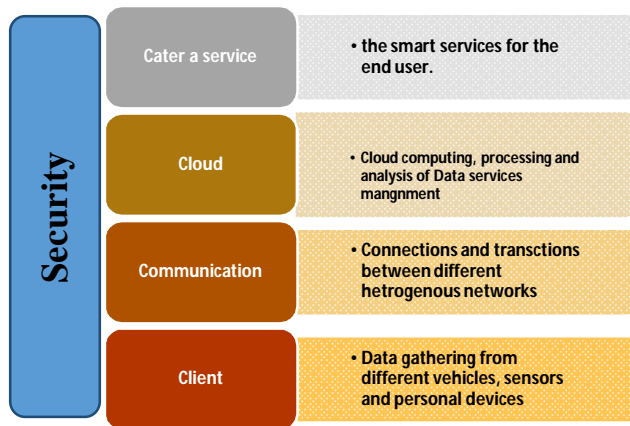


Figure 3: Proposed CIoV

Table 1: Different Functions of the Network Layered Architecture in IoV

IoV Functions	IoV Network Layer Architecture					
	Three Layers			Five Layers	Seven Layers	
	[16]	[17]	[6]	[8]	[13]	[18]
Collect Data from IOV actuators	Client	Vehicular	Area network	Perception	Acquisition	Identification + object
Disseminate Data between different actuators					Preprocessing	Inter-Intra Devices
Connect to the best Network technology				Connection	Location	Coordination
Process the data in the Cloud area	Cloud	Cloud	Network management	AI	Business	Cloud + Multimedia and Big Data
Provide smart service			D2D application	Application		Application
Analysis of the Usage of Data			x	x		x
Security	As a service	Cross layered	Not specified	Security plane	As a layer	Cross layered

Consistent with the literature, CIOV supports previous functionalities to enjoy a service in the IoV ecosystem. CIOV will be detailed in the next parts as an operational and security plane. For the operational plane, it is a description of the major functions in each layer in the architecture, and for the security plane will work as across layer means security function will be as a protocol in each layer. Then the protocol stack will describe in the next section. CIOV will consolidate the different network characteristics regarding the accuracy, interoperability, scalability and has the capability to connect vehicles to heterogeneous networks. The following is a detailed description of each layer.

4.1 CLIENT LAYER

The top layer of the CIOV architecture is the Client layer, which constituted of diverse types of sensors and actuators inside and outside the vehicles, roadside units (RSUs), and further personal devices. The major

liability of this layer is to gather data and information about the vehicle and traffic environment also about other devices in the ecosystem. Most of the information includes velocity, position, motor status and journey archive related to the vehicle, on-road vehicle traffic and climate conditions concerning traffic environment, and multimedia and documentary enrollments regarding people. so The considerable responsibility of the layer after collecting this information is to differentiate it in an efficacious and secure manner and send it to the Communication layer.

4.2 COMMUNICATION LAYER

The secondary layer of the CIOV architecture is symbolized by a Communication model for different heterogeneous networks such as Wi-Fi, WAVE, 4G/LTE, 5G, mmWave and satellite networks to provide fast and reliable connections between different actuators in the system, and over those networks, the collected information from the first layer will transfer to the cloud layer for preprocessing.

First of all, the selected network will depend on the connection types is it inter-vehicular or intra-vehicular. For inter-vehicular will be long-range communication because it will be outside the vehicle, and the best network technology will be mmWave technology because it will be suitable for high mobility of the vehicle and will satisfy the expected high data rate services[22]. Intra-vehicular will be one of short-range communications such as Bluetooth or Zigbee and this no need high-frequency range because it will not affect by the mobility of the vehicle. Over the past decade, the selection of a suitable network depends on the assessment of single property such as Received Signal Strength or Signal to Interference Noise [15, 23, 24]. According to [25]the selection depends on the requirements of the service and the network availability. The most challenge was to design a smart technique that selects the most convenient network depending on some related information such as vehicle velocity and beamforming techniques.

4.3 CLOUD LAYER

The third layer of the CIOV architecture is symbolized by intelligent cloud infrastructure. The main responsibility of this layer is dealing with the information gathered from the lower layer; saving and analyzing them and make a decision based on the critical analysis. According to [10], the primary components of this layer are computing and analysis techniques such as Expert System, Vehicular Cloud Computing (VCC), and Big Data Analysis (BDA).

4.4 CATER A SERVICE LAYER

The last layer of the CIOV architecture is a Cater a Services layer, which appears as a smart application to provide safety and non-safety services to the vehicles and end-users in an efficient manner. This layer is based on a rational and accurate analysis of the processed information by the Cloud layer.

5. CIOV PROTOCOL STACK

The Protocol stack of the CIOV architecture is discussed as two-planes (operational and security) to aid the current protocols in the various layers. The protocol stack is based on several projects for vehicular networks which include WAVE [26], Car-2-Car (C2C)[27], and Communication Architecture for Land Mobile (CALM)[28, 29], and projects for IoT including HyDRA [30], IoT6 and IoT-A[31].

The operational plane explained the protocols used in the four layers of the CIOV. The client layer implicates different ways to be in contact with the driver and trippers, such as attributes, voice and visual which covers physical layer connections and example of suitable protocols Worldwide Interoperability for

Microwave (WiMax) [32], Ethernet, 4G/Long Term Evolution (LTE) [33], satellite communications and Global System for Mobile communication (GSM)[34]. In the communication layer, active and outlet protocols are categorized into two transmission classification: Intra- vehicular and inter-vehicular. Intravehicular means the communication inside the vehicle such as NearField Communication, Bluetooth, IEEE 1609, Radio Frequency Identification, WAVE, ultra-wideband, and WiFi. Inter-vehicular includes all protocols to communicate outside of the vehicle such as 2G/3G/4G/LTE/5G, IEEE802.15.4, 802.11p, WiMAX, Low-Power Wide Area Network and mmWave. The protocols in the Cloud layer, are new research issues and challenges in IoV due to the inaccessibility of appropriate protocols for Vehicular Cloud Computing (VCC) and Big Data Analysis (BDA), some related protocols in this layer such as CALM Service Layer (CALM-SL) and WAVE-1609.6 service-related protocols[15]. In the Cater Services layer, an example of one asset manager protocol 1609.1 defined in WAVE used for controlling the resources by using smart and brilliant interfaces and applications[10].

The main goal of the security plane is to hold up all security functions in the CioV as a cross-layer over the four layers. Some examples of the works security protocols in the IoV ecosystem are: The security information connector designed in the WAVE project, Hardware Security Module proposed in the CALM project and the Security Management Information Base sophisticated based on the C2C project [10].

6. CIOV CASE STUDY

This section will explain CIOV as a case study, assume that the Ambulance vehicle wants fast connections in the IoV ecosystem for an emergency case. The steps will be as follows, and Figure 4 illustrates it:

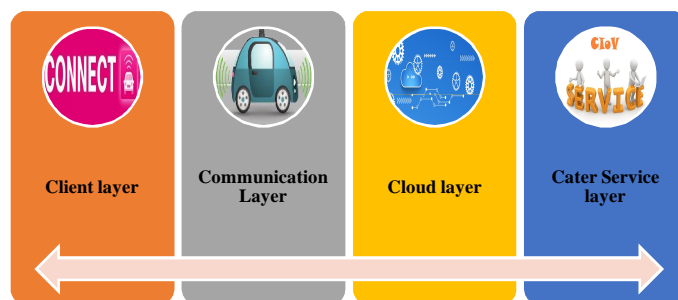


Figure 4: CIOV case study

- The vehicle sensor forms the client layer will collect information about the need of the Ambulance vehicle to communicate using a

standard protocol such as Ethernet and start to alert the signal to disseminate the data such as vehicle velocity to a nearby base station (BS).

- As a part of the communication layer, the client will select the suitable access technology for data dissemination and begin the broadcasting process to the BS using a standard protocol such as mmWave technology. The received BS notifies the vehicle to start the connection.
- All the data and knowledge that disseminated in the system stored and analyzed in the cloud layer using a standard protocol such as BDA or VCC to process reports about the case which will be useful in other similar cases and overcome future connection and service failures.
- Finally, the vehicle gets the service which is a connection to the hospital unit through any user interface inside the vehicle, and all the data will be transmitted in a secure manner (security layer).

7. IOV CHALLENGES

A key issue of the IoV is to provide the best and reasonable communications between different users, vehicles and heterogeneous networks. Obviously, IoV has several and special issues, tasks and challenges must be addressed, most of them questioned as which network model should be selected, which network technology will be suitable for communications with moving vehicles, how different actuators in the same network environment will participate and how smart services will be offered to vehicles and users. On the face of these questions, we put forward the most challenges as follow:

Technological challenges: Most studies in the field of IoV have only focused on its applications, not the deployment and how to implement the whole system. However, there are technological challenges for deployment in smart cities, such as the combinations of all components and communications items[21].

Big data challenges: Another challenge is the fast development in the vehicle and the different objects connected to the vehicles. Also, the huge data collections between different actuators in the ecosystem resulting in the challenge and research gaps in the analysis and processing of this Big data. There is less research considering the Big data in the IoV system, but the recent work[21], introduces a unique layer in their architectures named Multimedia and Big Data, focused on Big data aggregations, processing, and analytics.

Connectivity challenges: The most important challenge is how to select the best network for connections from

heterogeneous networks based on the vehicle and environment status to improve the connection ability in real-time[35].

Security challenges: the dynamic environment of the IoV ecosystem with different heterogeneous networks and the increasing number of vehicles requires the vehicle to validate the connected networks and receiver in real-time[10].

8. CONCLUSION

Internet of Vehicles (IoV) is formulating from heterogeneous vehicular networks to achieve the concept of smart transport by connected vehicles. Overall, this paper contributes to an exhaustive structure of IoV. Successively, it will be a basis to acquire the overall understanding of the layered architecture, network model and challenges of IoV. Followed by proposed Contemporary IoV (CIoV) architecture, consisting of four layers, client layer, communication layer, cloud layer and cater services layer. CIoV covers the four main functions of the IoV ecosystem, to allow combination and transaction between different heterogeneous objects and networks. Then a brief explanation of the protocols task for each layer is described, and a case study was added for more explanation. Finally detailed about IoV challenges have been discussed.

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