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## Dwell Timer Based Vertical Handoff Scheme

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Abstract - It has been observed from literature that next generation mobile communication system aims at meeting the increasing demand for services with higher data rates and enhanced service quality. Instead of developing a new uniform standards for wireless communications the next generation communication networks strive to seamlessly integrate various existing wireless communication networks with IP as backbone network and thereby provide anywhere, anytime connectivity with high data rate and enhanced service quality. A typical scenario of this network integration is an interworking between wireless local area network (WLAN) and third generation (3G) cellular networks (CN). The 3G cellular networks provide ubiquitous connectivity but low data rate, where WLAN can offer much higher data rates but only cover small area. With combined strengths, the integrated networks will provide both wide area coverage and high rate data services in hotspots. Also the varying characteristics of these integrated networks degrade the service quality during frequent handoffs. To minimize the service quality degradations like handoff delay, packet losses, decreased throughput and network disconnection, a dwell timer based vertical handoff scheme for CN and WLAN integrated proposed in this paper. This handoff algorithm will be very much useful to minimize handoff delay and maximize the throughput.