

Testing & Emulation Solutions

WiFi Access Point Roaming Test

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ROAMING PROCESS



Roam Initiation

- Measure RSSI, Packet Loss, Reties etc..
- Off Channel Scanning
- Create Neighbor AP lists
- Opportunistic Key Caching

Roam Decision

- Check if RSSI, Loss, Retry Thresholds are hit.
- Monitor AP assisted handoff commands.
- Look for loss of connectivity/service disruption of any kind

Roam Execution

- Disconnect with old AP.
- Initiate 802.11 connection with new AP.
- 802.1x Authentication Handshakes
- Session Key generation.
- Routing traffic through new AP.

ROAMING TEST METHODS



Walk Tests



<u>Pros</u>

- ✓ Highly realistic.
- Can test Interoperability with most popular stations.
- ✓ Can test all three steps of roaming (initiation, decision and execution)

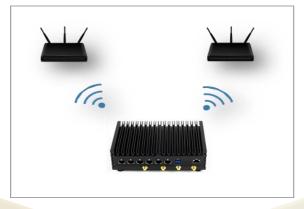
Cons

- ✓ Not Scalable
- ✓ Not Repeatable✓ Not Automatable
- Kot Automatable
 Extremely time consuming
- ✓ Extremely hard to debug issues

Pros

- ✓ Reapable
- ✓ Automatable.
- Can test all three steps of roaming (initiation, decision and execution)
- **Cons**
- ✓ Not Scalable
- ✓ Expensive setup
- Not easy to measure roaming delays and debug issues.
- Not easy to isolate AP issues from station issues.

Forced Roaming



<u>Pros</u>

- Can scale to 1000s of roams for many hours and the only way to find
- issues related to scale. ✓ Can run tests very fast.
- ✓ Fully Automatable, Controllable and
- Repeatable ✓ Cost per roam the lowest

<u>Cons</u>

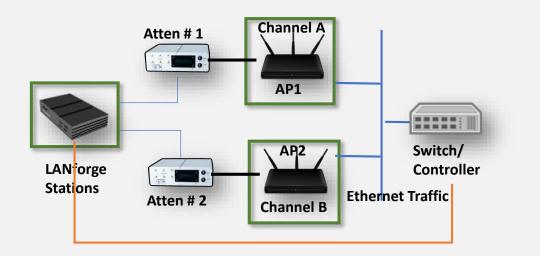
- ✓ Can only test Roam execution.
- ✓ Cannot test improvements in execution because of steps taking during roam initiation.
- ✓ Not very real-world

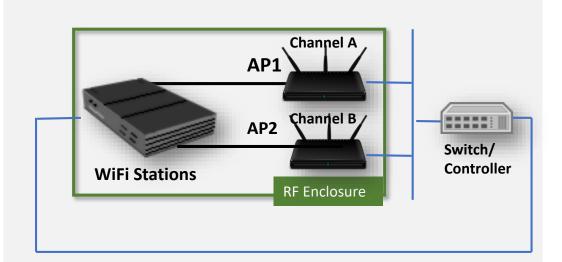
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Using Attenuators







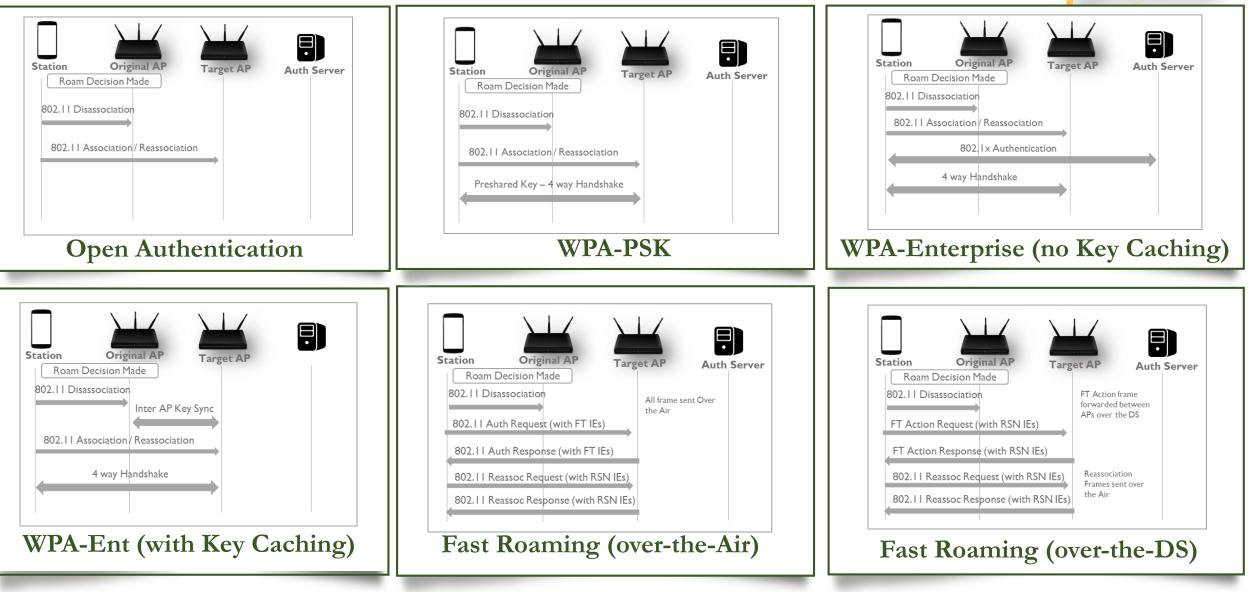


ROAM USING ATTENUATION

FORCED ROAM METHOD

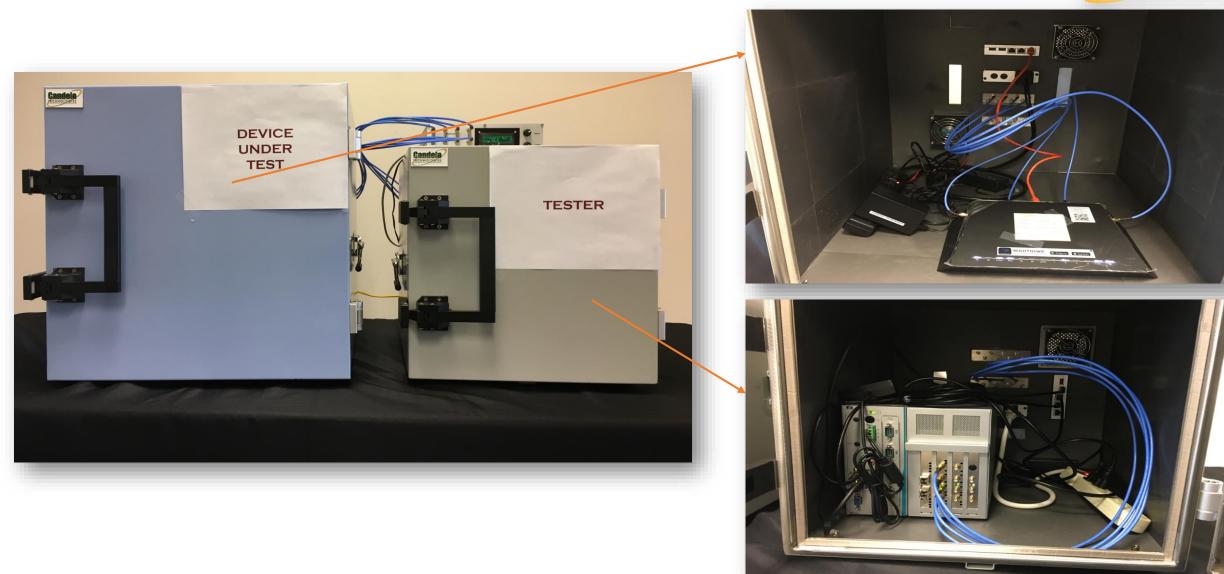
ROAM EXECUTION METHODS





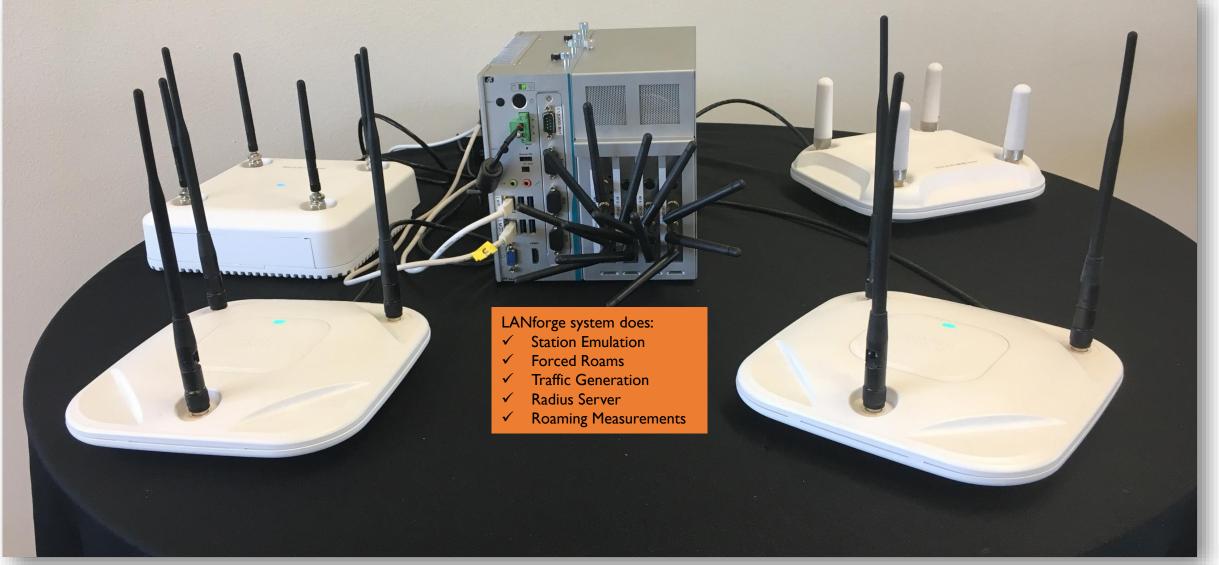
Testbed Setup





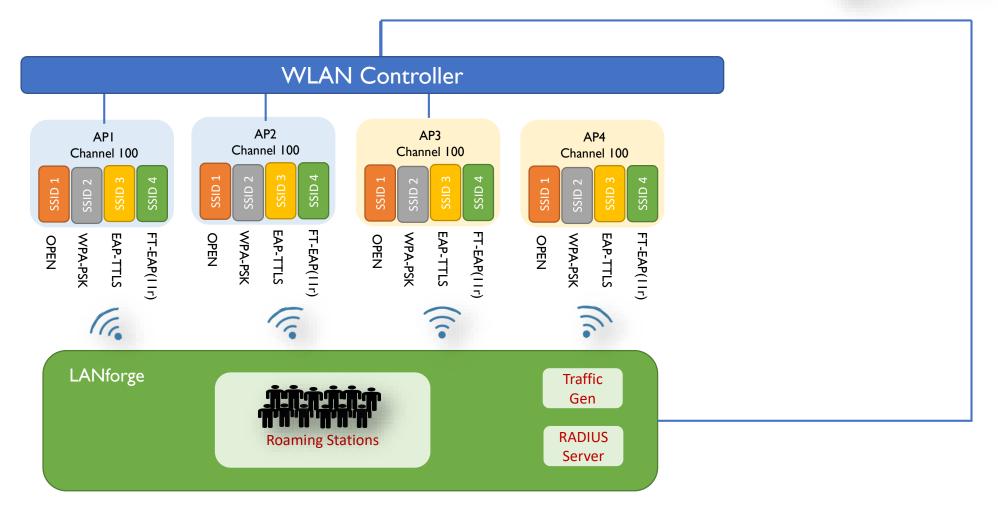
FORCED ROAM TEST SETUP PICTURE





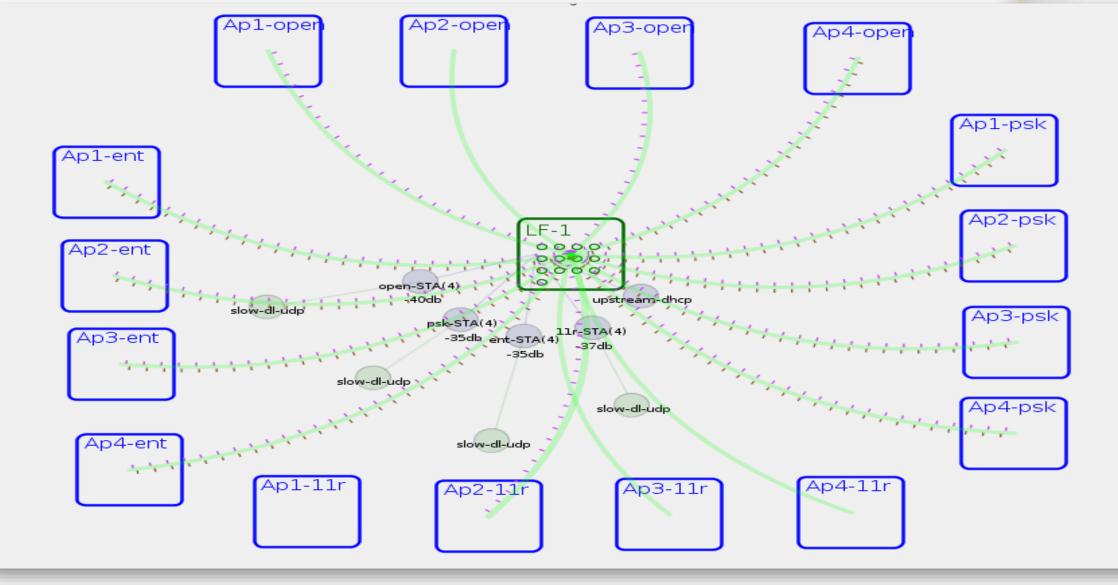
FORCED ROAM TEST SETUP





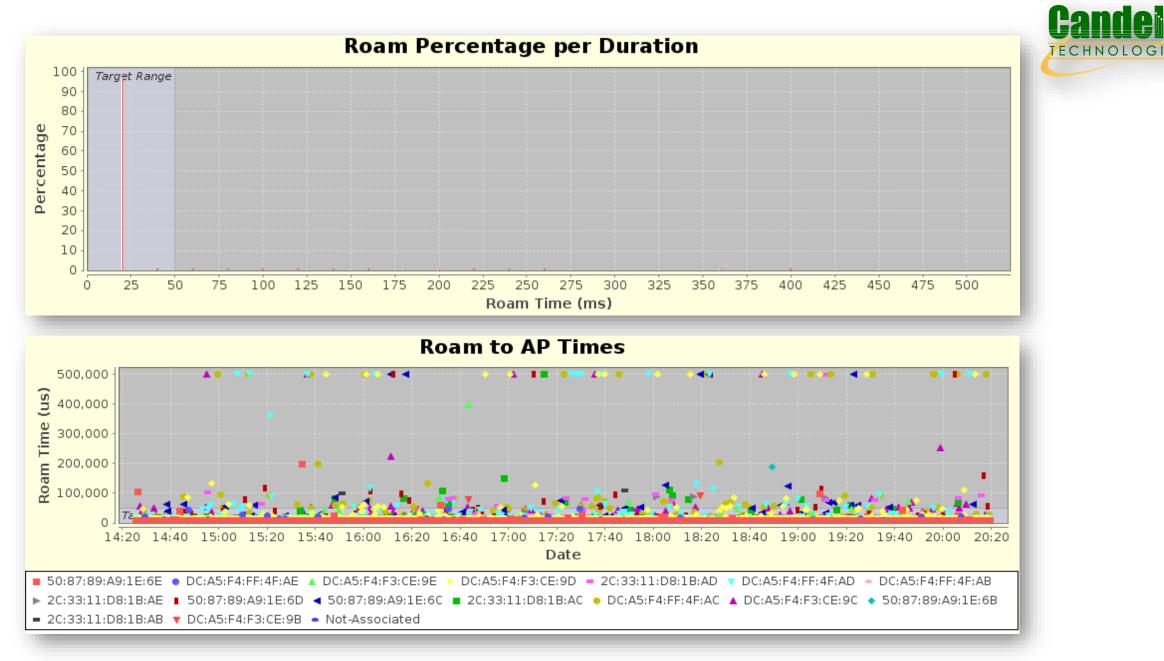
LANforge GUI View

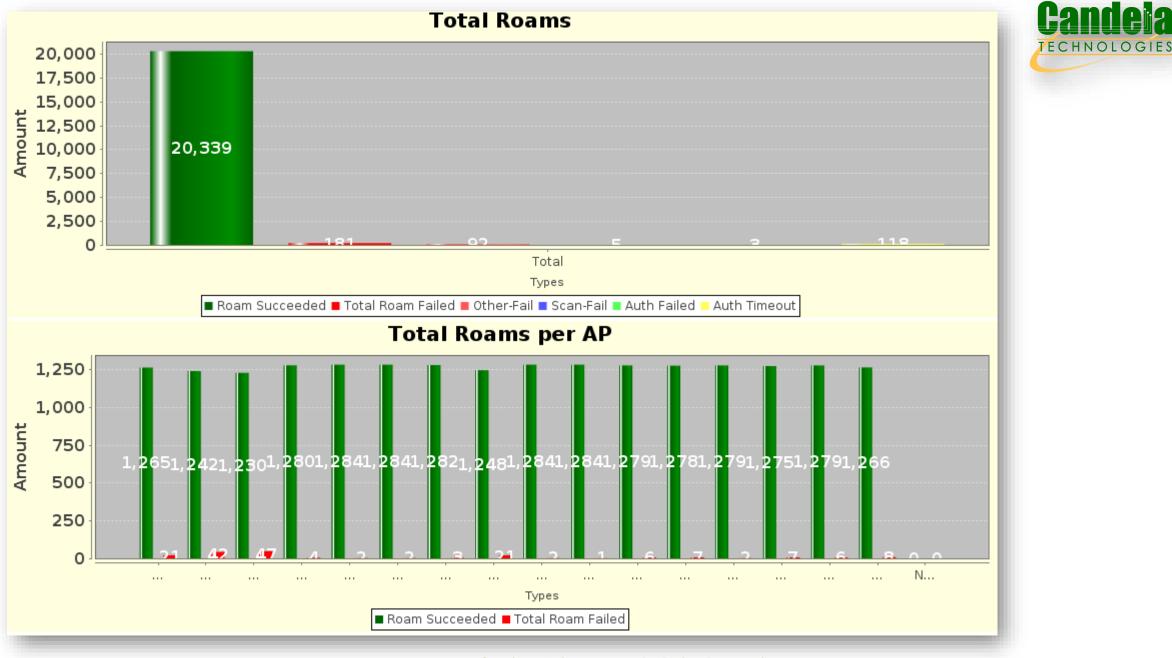






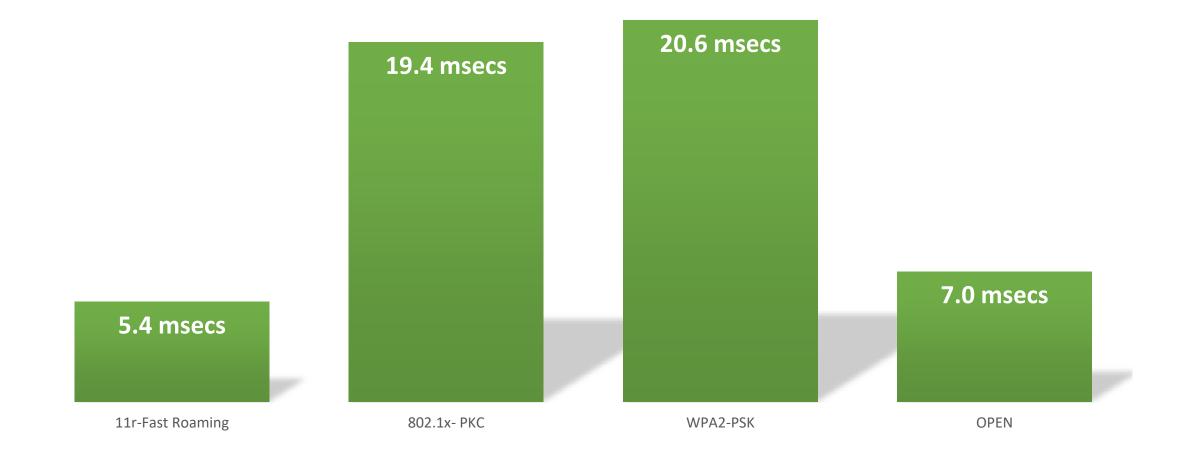
GOOD Performance



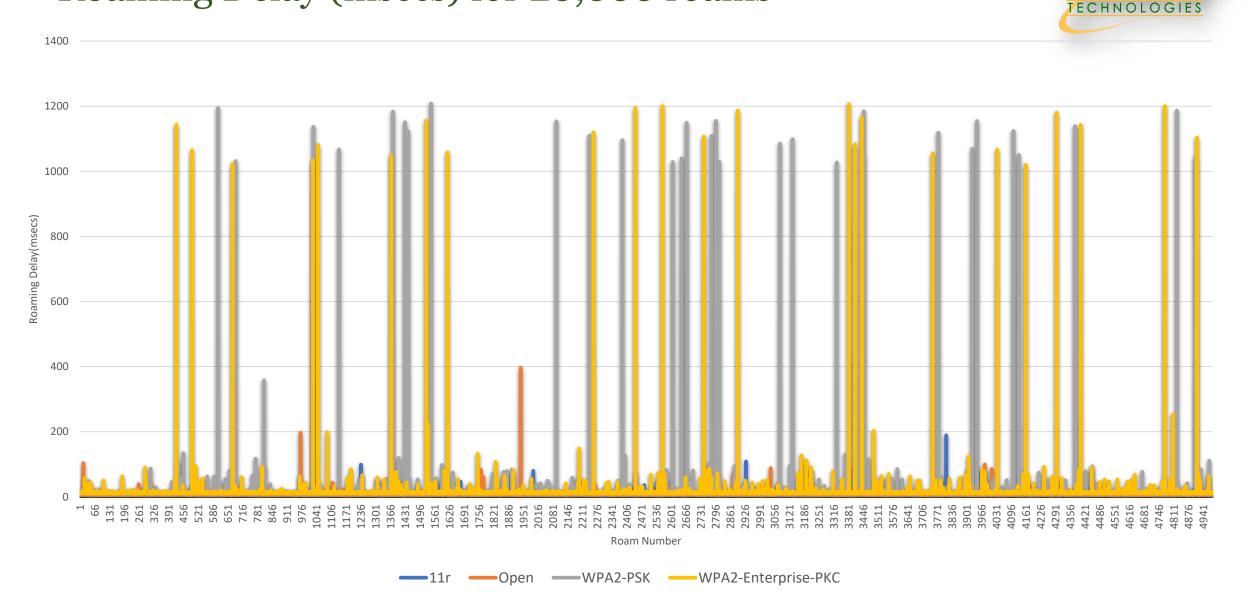


Average Roaming Delay (msecs) – 20,000 Roams





Roaming Delay (msecs) for 20,000 roams



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BAD Performance



