

ROUTING PROTOCOL FOR WIRELESS SENSOR NETWORKS

^[1]KAYATHRI, ^[2]S. SELVAKUMARI, ^[3]CHINNASAMY

^{[1][2][3]} ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN COMPUTER SCIENCE,

DHANALAKSHMI SRINIVASAN COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE FOR WOMEN (AUTONOMOUS),
PERAMBALUR.

Abstract -Recently, Wireless Sensor Network (WSN) has received increased interest of research thanks to its many real-life applications. In WSNs, the sensor nodes sense different phenomenon from the encompassing area and forward data to the sink. Among the available routing protocols (RP), most of them used Low Energy Adaptive Clustering Hierarchy (LEACH) but did not consider the battery energy state while selecting the cluster head (CH). This paper proposed a multi-energy threshold-based routing protocol supported LEACH, which provides different energy thresholds of battery energy state, called multi-energy threshold LEACH (MET-LEACH). The MET-LEACH uses remaining battery energy state to pick the CHs. The primary node dies (FND), the half nodes die (HND), the last node dies (LND), packet reception ratio (PRR) and therefore the application level latency are the performance parameters to evaluate the performance of the proposed MET-LEACH protocol using the Castalia simulator. The simulation results show that MET-LEACH gives significant improvement in terms of FND (112% to 290%), HND (76% to 161%) and LND (76% to 185%) over the performance of LEACH.

Keywords—routing protocol, wireless sensor networks, LEACH

I. INTRODUCTION

The set of small, inexpensive, low-powered sensor nodes which can sense the natural phenomenon from the surrounding area is understood as wireless sensor networks (WSN)[1]. The sensor nodes sense the info from the encompassing area and send these data from the source to the sink. The sink then processes the info. WSN may be a field with rapid climb and has many real world applications like environmental monitoring[2], agriculture [3], health, industry, military, commercial and others. Usually, non-rechargeable batteries with finite capacity are wont to supply energy to the networks. These networks are called battery-powered wireless sensor networks (BP-WSNs).

Routing protocol (RP) plays a big role in WSNs [4]. It specifies the communication among the sensor nodes and provides information about different routes for data transmission. All the

RPs should meet some criteria like energy saving, low latency, longer lifetime and low application level latency. There are three sorts of RPs based on the specification which are: 1) Flat routing protocol 2) Location-based routing protocol and 3) Hierarchical routing protocol [5]. Hierarchical routing protocol is additionally known as the cluster-based RP. The cluster heads (CH) are selected randomly to balance the consumed energy among the nodes. The cluster members (CM) sense the info from the surrounding and send to the CHs. After processing like aggregation, the CHs forward the aggregated data to the sink.

Several sorts of hierarchical RPs are proposed and developed supported different applications. There are many popular hierarchical RPs available for BP-WSNs and LEACH is one among them. LBCH-LEACH [6],

I-LEACH [7], and VH LEACH [8] are several models of variation of LEACH.

Multi-Hop LEACH (MH-LEACH) in [9] proposed the technique which established multi hop communication among the sensor nodes. It improved the consumed energy as compared to the normal LEACH protocol. Distance-Based Threshold (LEACH-DT) in [10] proposed a distributed CH selection algorithm. This algorithm is especially supported the distance of the sensor nodes to the sink. LEACH-DT proposed that the nodes with smallest distance from the sink were to be chosen as CHs in each round in order that it could reduce the energy consumption for transferring the info. This protocol showed improvement in network's lifetime. The Hybrid LEACH (HLEACH) in [11] modified the LEACH by partitioning the network area with the knowledge of nodes' location. It showed an improvement in energy conservation compared to the original Leach.

However, in H-LEACH, GPS system is required to understand the nodes' location which isn't cost-effective. Enhanced LEACH (E-LEACH) in [12] chose CHs according to the minimum distance from the sink. In the literature, only a couple of the prevailing routing protocols considered energy threshold of battery energy state in CH selection. The Node Ranked-LEACH (NR-LEACH) in [13] proposed a way that balanced the load of energy among the nodes during the method of CH selection. It showed the development in network's lifetime also because the energy consumption. This protocol used an algorithm called node rank algorithm. The Energy-Efficient Centroid-based Routing Protocol (EECRP) in [14] considered energy centroid of the clusters for choosing CHs. Also, it considered

the residual energy to calculate centroid's position. Furthermore, in [15] proposed protocol was an efficient method for CH selection. During this protocol, one threshold was calculated and each of the node's random number was compared to the threshold. The weighted coefficients of the residual energy and the distance of every node from the sink were used to calculate this threshold. The protocol showed improvement in both lifetime and therefore the energy consumption. The Multi-Threshold Long Lifetime Protocol (MDLLP) presented in [16] proposed a way to improve the lifespan of the network. It calculated the edge by considering the energy and the distance from the nodes to the sink. However, the protocol used GPS system. Therefore, the protocol was no longer cost-effective. Additionally thereto, Energy Aware Cluster-Head Selection (EACHS) developed in [17], considered battery energy state because the threshold in CH selection process, but they assumed just one energy threshold.

This work introduces multi-energy threshold-based routing protocol supported LEACH (MET-LEACH) for BP-WSNs. In MET-LEACH, a replacement technique is proposed to increase the network's lifetime. This protocol sets up four thresholds of energy levels which help to categorize the nodes consistent with their remaining energy in order that the nodes with energy above the thresholds can participate within the CH selection process. On the opposite hand, the nodes with less energy become the cluster members (CM). Using this technique gives more CHs in MET-LEACH as compared to LEACH which ensures an extended lifetime.

Furthermore, the evaluation and comparison of both MET-LEACH and LEACH are done.

II. MET-ROUTING PROTOCOL

The proposed MET-LEACH routing protocol is described in this section. It's proposed to enhance the network performance by implementing multiple energy thresholds based on the battery energy. The proposed protocol operates in two phases as follows: i) the setting phase and ii) the fixed phase. The proposed protocol calculates the probability of being CH almost like the traditional LEACH as in Eq. (1):

$$T(i, r) = P / (1 - P \times (r \bmod (1/P))) \quad i \in A \quad (1)$$

Where i node has the probability, $T(i, r)$ in round r to be CH. A denotes a group of nodes. In last $1/p$ rounds, these nodes have not been selected because the CHs. If the probability is higher, the possibility of becoming the CH gets higher. Therefore, when there are more nodes, the prospect to become CH is additionally less for every node.

During the set-up phase, the probability of every node is calculated using Equation (1) and it then selects one random value from 0 to 1. If the randomly selected number has less value than the probability $T(i, r)$ for the present round, the node is selected because the CH. Otherwise, it's a cluster member (CM). After the CH is chosen, it sends the advertisement (ADV) message to the non-cluster head nodes (NCH) to hitch the cluster. NCHs may get many ADV messages from different CHs. Each NCH decides to hitch the CH having the very best RSSI (Received Signal Strength Indicator) value. Thus, NCHs send join messages to CHs. After receiving the join messages, the CH forms the cluster. Next, each CH broadcasts a TDMA schedule to its CMs where individual

slots are assigned to every of the cluster members in order that they will transmit their data to the CHs. By this, the setting phase ends. During the steady-state phase, data transmission from source to the sink occurs. Each cluster member transmits the individual data through its reassigned timeslot which helps to avoid collision among CMs' data packets. During the information transmission by a node, other nodes attend the sleep mode by turning off their radio which helps in reducing the energy consumption. At the last slot, the CH aggregates all the received data from its CMs. Then the aggregated data is directly sent to the sink. Figure 1 shows the phase diagram of the MET-LEACH protocol where it's seen that, the set-up phase is split into three sub-phases. They are: i) Cluster head advertisement ii) Cluster set-up and iii) TDMA schedule creation. Within the steady state phase, TDMA schedule is in operation.

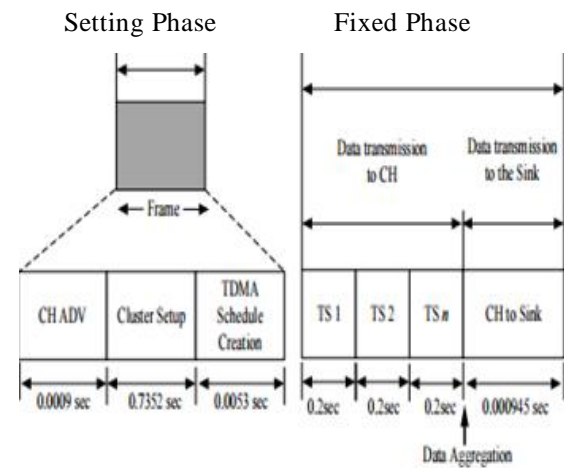


Fig. 1. Phase diagram of MET-LEACH routing protocol

In the MET-LEACH protocol, initial assumption is that each one of the nodes within the network are active, i.e. fully charged. The remaining energy, ER of every node is compared with four energy thresholds, where threshold, E_{th1} is 75%, E_{th2} is 50%, E_{th3} is 25% and E_{th4} is eighteen of the battery energy state. At first, the energy threshold E_{th1} is

employed. When most of the nodes have energy levels below E_{th1} , the energy threshold E_{th2} is applied instead. After a particular period, it sets E_{th3} because the energy threshold when most of the nodes have energy below than the E_{th2} . This process is repeated for E_{th4} also.

This multi-threshold ensures that the majority of the nodes can participate within the CH selection for an extended period and become CH which prolongs the lifetime of the network. Furthermore, the nodes with less energy than the thresholds are prevented from participating within the CH selection process. This guarantees that only nodes with higher energy participate within the CH selection.

III. PROTOCOL EVALUATION

The performance of the MET-LEACH is evaluated using Castalia simulator of version 3.3 in Ubuntu 16.04. CC2420 is used as a radio model to gauge the network's performance. The performance of the proposed protocol is compared with LEACH. For the simulation, the world of the network is chosen as $100m \times 100m$ with 100 static nodes deployed randomly. The sink of the network is placed at the centre. Besides, the initial energy of the battery of every sensor node is 25J, and for the sink, it's 18720J. During this simulation, a complete of 10,000 packets are generated with packet rate of 0.04 packets/second. Figure 2 shows the randomly deployed 100 nodes during a $100m \times 100m$ area of the network. Table I shows the various parameters that are utilized in the simulation.

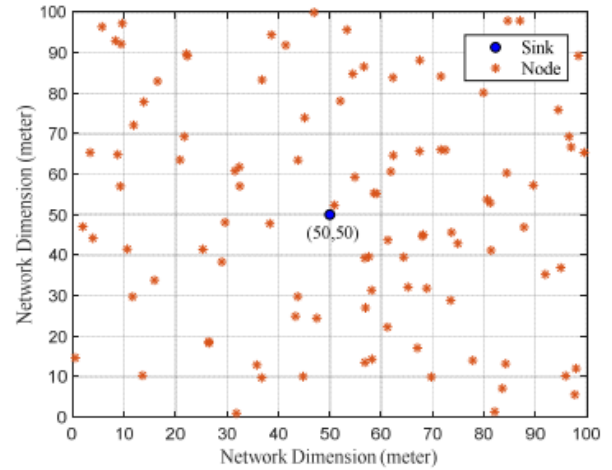


Fig. 2. A sensor network of 100m x 100m with randomly deployed 100

TABLE I: SIMULATION PARAMETERS

Parameters	Values
Sensor nodes	100
Network Size	100m x 100m
Simulation Time	2500 seconds
Location of the Sink	Center
Initial energy of the sink (J)	18720
Initial energy of sensor node (J)	25
Only Static nodes	True
Round duration	20 seconds
CH percentage	0.05
Data Payload	30 bytes
Data rate	250 kbps
Packet rate	0.04
Slot length	0.2s
netBufferSize	1000
MAC type	Tunable
Radio type	CC2420
Battery capacity	100%
Remaining energy	E_R
Energy threshold, E_{th1}	75%
Energy threshold, E_{th2}	50%
Energy threshold, E_{th3}	25%
Energy threshold, E_{th4}	1%

The lifetime of the network is one among the important performance parameters of the network. In a WSN, the lifetime is calculated using three common metrics namely: first node dies (FND), Half nodes die (HND), and Last node dies (LND). The performance matrices which are considered during this paper are as follows: i) Lifetime of the network ii) Packet reception ratio and iii) Application level latency. The FND, HND and LND are defined accordingly:

- The time span from the starting of the network's operation until the primary node dies defines the FND.
- The time span within the time half the entire nodes of the network have consumed each of their total energy defines the HND.
- The time span from the starting of the network's operation until the last node dies defines the LND.

A. First node dies (FND)

Figure 3 shows the comparison of FND between LEACH and MET-LEACH routing protocol for various number of sensor nodes. FND is a crucial performance metric to measure the lifetime of a network. In LEACH, clustering occurs frequently without taking the energy state of the nodes into consideration. This leads to consumption of high energy by each sensor nodes during data transmission of the CMs and the data aggregation by the CHs. As a result, they quickly loss energy. This is often the rationale the primary node dies sooner in LEACH as compared to MET-LEACH. On the opposite hand, MET-LEACH only allows the nodes that have high energy level to become CHs. As a result, the clustering can continue for a extended time and therefore the first node death are going to be delayed in MET-LEACH as compared to LEACH.

From the result, it's seen that, MET-LEACH get significant improvement over LEACH in terms of FND for both low-density and high-density network. The simulation results depict that, for 25 sensor nodes, the development is upto 290% whereas the development is 112% for 100 nodes. For 50 and 75 nodes, the improvements are 120% and 112% respectively. of these results illustrate a concluding point that MET-LEACH work efficiently with low-density network. Therefore,

MET-LEACH protocol is usually recommended for low-density networks.

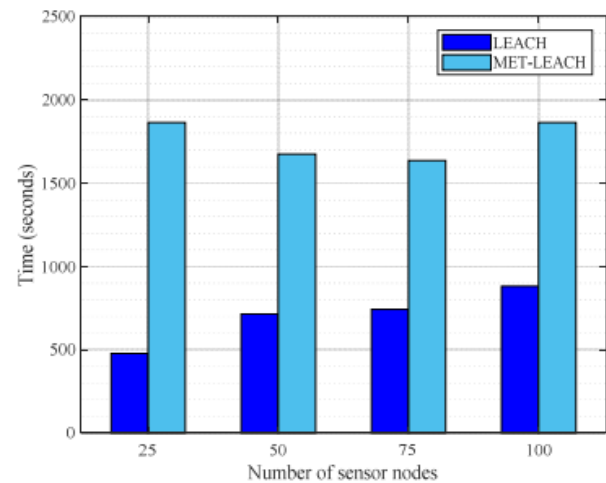


Fig. 3. First node dies (FND) for different number of sensor nodes

B. Half nodes die (HND)

Figure 4 depicts the HND for both LEACH and METLEACH for various number of nodes. The results illustrate that MET-LEACH gives improvement across all the various number of sensor nodes over LEACH. Since the sensor nodes follow multi thresholds while being chosen as CHs, it helps to utilize the energy for every node wisely. An improvement of HND in MET-LEACH is obtained as compared to LEACH. The HND is delayed in MET-LEACH which shows that the rotation of the CHs is performed during a proper way and most of the nodes get the prospect to become CHs. The simulation results show that, the development in terms of HND is up to 161%, 104%, 86% and 76% for 25, 50, 75, and 100 nodes respectively. These results show that the METLEACH is efficient for low-density network.

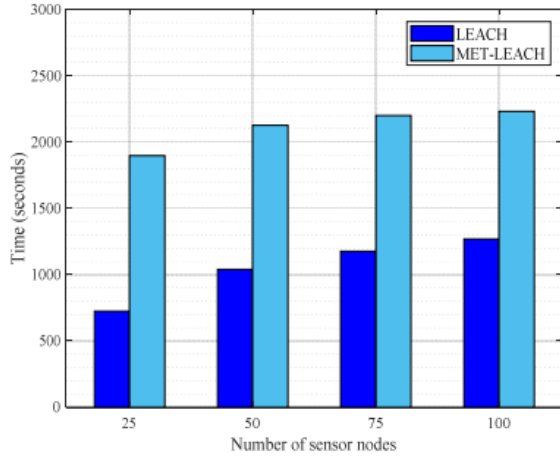


Fig. 4. Half nodes die (HND) for different number of sensor nodes

C. Last node dies (LND)

Figure 5 demonstrates the comparison between LEACH and MET-LEACH in terms of LND for various number of sensor nodes. LND also represents the time when the operation of the network stops. This metric helps to spot the longevity of a sensor network.

The simulation results represent that, MET-LEACH attains significant improvement across all the various number of sensor nodes compared to LEACH and therefore the improvement is consistent. The development for nodes 25, 50, 75 and 100 is 185%, 105%, 86% and 76% respectively. These results help to conclude that the proposed MET-LEACH gives better performance if it's applied to the low-density network which requires an extended lifetime.

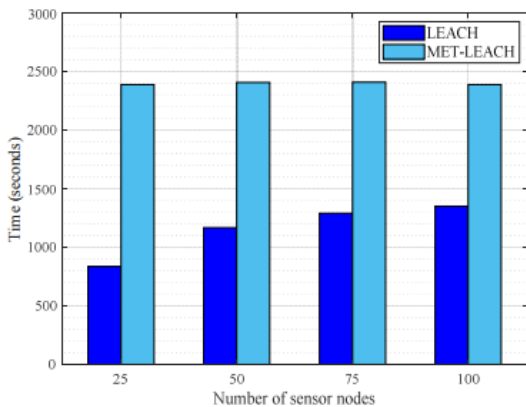


Fig. 5. Last node dies (LND) for different number of sensor nodes

D. Packet reception ratio

The ratio of total number of packets that are received by the sink to the entire number of packets sent by the CHs is known as packet reception ratio. In MET-LEACH, multi-energy threshold has been used. It allows more nodes to be CHs supported their remaining battery energy state. Thanks to this reason, there are more CHs in MET-LEACH as compared with the LEACH. As a result, more aggregated data must be sent from the CHs to the sink.

Figure 6 shows that, the proposed MET-LEACH protocol gives marginally better performance across all the various number of sensor nodes when it's compared to the LEACH. In MET-LEACH, the sink receives more number of packets in the same deployment area.

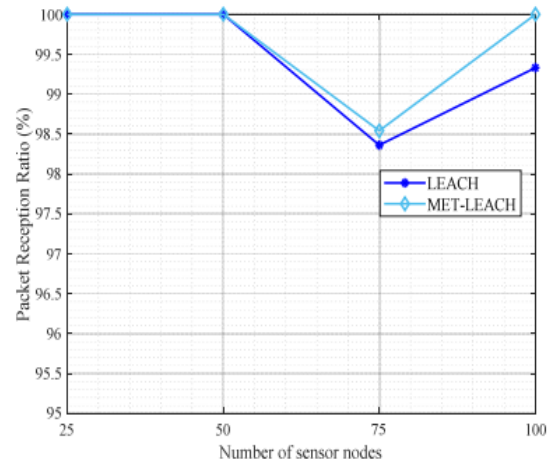


Fig. 6. Packet reception ratio

E. Application level latency

Latency is defined because the end-to-end delay experienced by the packets that are sent from the appliance layer of the CM to the sink through the CHs. The delay is defined because the time that a CM sends a packet until the sink receives it. A protocol with less end-to-end delay represents an efficient protocol. Figure 7 illustrates the latency for LEACH and MET-LEACH for 25 nodes. The x-axis and y-axis are the latency bands and therefore

the number of packets for the corresponding bands respectively. It's seen that, most of the packets in both LEACH and MET-LEACH protocol are located within the latency band of 0 to twenty milliseconds. MET-LEACH is in a position to send more packets within an equivalent band as compared to LEACH. The improvement within the number of packets is 62%. Therefore, MET-LEACH gives better performance for low-density networks as compared to the LEACH in terms of latency.

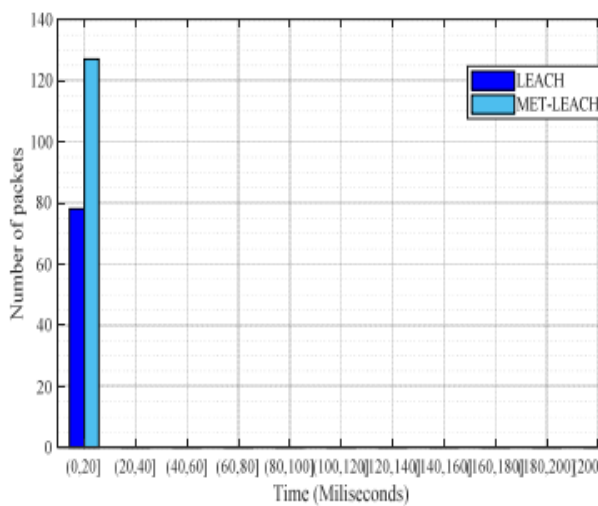


Fig. 7. Application level Latency

IV. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

The MET-LEACH routing protocol, proposed for BP-WSNs is introduced during this paper. It considers multi energy threshold for CH selection within the network. This new approach strictly allows the high energy state nodes to be CHs. Afterward; the energy of every node is preserved for extended period which helps in frequent re-clustering. This helps to increase the longevity of the network. The performance of the MET-LEACH is evaluated in terms of network lifetime, packet reception ratio and latency on low-density and high-density networks using Castalia simulator. The results are compared with the first LEACH. The results from this simulation show that, the MET-LEACH

got improvement in terms of FND that ranges from 112% to 290%, HND that ranges from 76% to 161%, LND that ranges from 76% to 185%. Future work are often included as extending the METLEACH to be compatible with energy harvesting wireless sensor network.

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