Study and Implementation of Routing Protocol for Data Gathering in WSN

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ABSTRACT: In WSN, most existing mechanism around data gathering and optimal path selection result in collision. Collision further increases the possibility of packet drop. So the need is to eliminate collision during data aggregation. This research is an effort to come up with a reliable and an energy efficient Wireless Sensor Network (WSN) routing protocol. To find the rendezvous point for optimal transmission of data a “Splitting tree” technique is employed in tree-shaped network topology and then to determine all the subsequent position of a sink the “Biased Random Walk” model is used. In case of an event, the sink gathers the data from all the source, when they are in the sensing range of rendezvous point. Otherwise relay node is selected from its neighbor to transfer packets from the rendezvous point to sink. The proposed routing protocol simulation results proves there is significant improvement in preventing data collision and increase in the network lifetime compared with other routing protocol.

Keywords: Relay Node Selection, Rendezvous Point and Data Aggregation, Mobile Sink

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1. Introduction

Wireless Sensor Network is a self-organized, distributed, sensing and data propagation network formed by a large number of sensor nodes. Nodes are resource constrained tiny autonomous devices. They are used to sense the environmental conditions in their immediate surroundings, process the data and communicate the processed data to the base station. Sensor nodes generate data and transmit the gathered data to a distant base station (BS) [1]. WSN can be used to monitor environment, surveillance of property and collecting data of massive fields at low cost and with less manpower. Vehicles, animals or people moving around large geographic areas are attached to the sensors with robotic elements and the data is exchanged between individual sensors and infrastructure nodes to drive applications like traffic, wild life monitoring, smart homes and pollution control [2].

1.1 Current challenges in WSN
Data collection from sensors is the key issue in WSN[3]
• Reliability and robustness of transferring data is another significant challenge [3]

• With limited battery power, sensors are expected to sense for very long time hence, energy efficient data collection arises as one of the critical issues in WSN.

• WSN have limited processing and communication capabilities.

• In real applications, the deterministic lifetime of sensor node is still an issue.

1.2 Data Gathering Using Mobile Sink

A mobile sink is used for data collection from energy constrained sensor fields. It brings the sink closer to the sensors and conserves precious sensor node energy. The effectiveness of it can be determined by the total sensor energy conserved and the time consumed in gathering the sensor data from the field or from the trajectory length implemented by the mobile sinks [4]. Mobile sink in WSN optimizes the energy consumption and reduces the delay observed during data gathering. It can also reduce possibility of “routing hotspots” caused by fixed sinks due to the nearby heavy data flow. As the lifetime of the battery-operated sensor node is limited, mobile sink is deployed in a robot, vehicle or portable device to selectively activate only the sensor nodes interesting to the sink and deactivate the other nodes. This can considerably extend the lifetime of the sensor nodes to reduce unnecessary power consumption. Mobile sink technique involves controlled movement of sink towards nodes with higher energy for even distribution of energy in the entire network to avoid network partitioning [5-6].

1.3 Routing And Issues on Mobile Sink Data Gathering

The sink possesses significant and easily replenishable energy reserves, it should move closer to the subset of sensor devices to collect the recorded data. The energy consumption during this process is very minimal. The sink should be within a sensor range for single hop communication and remain within the transmitter range for successful communication. This problem becomes severe while having a high density of sensors in an area. This results in inadequacy in network communication time to upload the data of nodes to the sink and if the sink moves out of transmitter range, node has to wait till the sink returns back. As a result, high delivery delay occurs. A network with a few mobile sinks calculates the gradients using proactive approach which is costly in terms of energy [7]. Mobile sink brings new challenges to densely deployed and large WSN [8].

2. Literature Survey

Jae-Wan Kim et al [9] proposed IAR, an Intelligent Agent-based Routing protocol for providing efficient data delivery to mobile sink. The performance of the IAR protocol is evaluated using mathematical analysis. Results proved that the scheme effectively supports sink mobility with low overhead and an improvement over the triangular routing problem. However, retransmission will occur four times, if collision occurs and this action fails.

Packet loss occurs due to the link failure between the sink and its immediate relay in this scenario.

Luo et al[10] have highlighted the difference between a mobile relay and a mobile sink. A Mobile relay collects data whenever it is closer to the sensor nodes. It transports the data to the sink through mechanical movement. As it does not use the wireless links for transmission to the sink, the latency in delivering data is significant. In contrast, a mobile sink performs various operations like distributing the load among the sensor nodes, collecting data continuously from the sensor nodes, and moving slowly and discontinuously in the data collection process.

Bi et al [11] have considered the mobile sink as moving strategy based on residual energy of the static nodes, which is used to balance the network workload and thereby prolong the life of the network.

Cheng et al [12] have proposed a query-based data collection in which mobile sink issues queries in the specific area while moving through the sensing field and the corresponding response is received through multi hop communication. The problem with such query based systems is that the mobility of the sink causes the query and response packets to take different routes. Cheng et al (2009) analyzed the prevailing query based protocols and proposed an efficient Query-Based Data Collection Scheme which consumes lesser energy and delivered packet with minimum latency. Moreover, QBDCS chooses the optimal time to send the query packet and tailored the routing mechanism for partial sensor nodes forwarding packets. The performance of the QBDCS was evaluated by comparing with a “Naïve” scheme using the simulation tool OMNeT++.
Lei & Kwon [13] propose RECPE a reliable collection protocol for aggregating data packets from the sensor nodes to the sink in a large-scale wireless sensor network. RECPE has successfully covered all the routes in the network by employing expected transmission count over forward links (ETF) method to construct a one-way collection tree, thereby reducing the effect of asymmetric link in the network. Moreover, the proposed protocol also utilized Trickle algorithm and pipeline mechanism to reduce the control information and improve the efficiency of data delivery.

3. The Proposed solution

3.1 Problem Formulation

In paper [14] Mobile Sink based Reliable and Energy Efficient Data Gathering technique (MSREEDG) was proposed for data gathering in tree based network topology in WSN and compared with Biased sink mobility with adaptive stop times for low latency data collection (BSMASD). The sink’s next moving position is determined by using a Biased Random Walk model. The optimal path for data transmission estimated by rendezvous point selection method and splitting tree process. When the sensor

Senses the data and when it is ready for transmission, the data are encoded and transmitted to the sink. The sink nodes receive the data which is encoded from the sensors, and then it decodes the data and the resulting message is stored in local buffer. After decoding all the blocks, the original data bundle is reconstructed by the mobile sink. The increase in the packet loss can be prevented by increasing the pause time of the sink.

This process can be enhanced for multiple number of sinks and designing an efficient routing protocol for data gathering. In this paper, a relay node based routing protocol for mobile sink for data gathering for WSN is proposed.

3.2 Proposed Architecture

Figure 1. Proposed architecture of Multiple Mobile Sink

It is assumed that the sensor nodes as well as the sink deployed in the network are aware of their own location. It is also assumed that multiple sinks move around the sensor field and the number of sinks may vary over the time. The proposed architecture is shown in Figure 1.

3.2 Data gathering routing protocol

Let S and D be the source and sink node
Let QP be the query packet
Let RePmr be rendezvous point
Let RNi be the relay node
Let RPn be the new relay path
Let RPo be the old relay path
Let RP_seq be the sequence number of relay path
Let RP_mes and R_CLR are the relay path setup and clear message with RP_seq
(1) If event occurs, initially, a rendezvous point (RePmr) is selected.
(2) Then sink has to transmit QP to RePmr once the event occurs.
The fields in the QP are shown in table-1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table -1 Format of Query Packet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sink ID</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) RePmr broadcasts the QP with hop count counter value as zero.
(4) When the neighboring nodes receives the QP, it rebroadcasts the packet by incrementing hop count counter as 1. Thus, as the query propagates, each sensor node \( N_i \) estimates the next new hop node towards RePmr that are in one hop communication distance.
(5) If next new hop node \( > 2 \),

Then

\[ \text{two nodes compares the packets arrival time (Tpa-)} \]
\[ \text{The next hop node with earlier Tpa- is chosen} \]
End if

Source transmits the path request message (P_REQ) to its neighbors and the neighbor node that sends the (P_REP) is chosen as next new hop node.

If \( D \) is moving in the radio range of \( ReP_{mr} \)

Then

\[ D \text{ receives the data directly from the } ReP_{mr}. \]

Else

\[ D \text{ chooses } RN_i \text{ from its neighbor nodes to transmit the data from } ReP_{mr} \text{ to sink. (Relay node selection) } \]
End if

Here, the node, which is nearest to \( D \) is selected as RN.

(6) If an event occurs, \( N_i \) enclosing it collectively processes the signal. One among the nodes becomes S to generate the data reports
(7) When S matches the data sent by QP, the data is forwarded to one hop distance node.
(8) If the next new hop node is failed or its battery is exhausted

Then

\[ S \xrightarrow{P_{REQ}} Neigh_i \]
\[ Neigh_i \xrightarrow{P_{REP}} S \]

\( S \) chooses the respective \( Neigh_i \) as next new hop node.
End if
3.3 Relay Node Selection

When $D$ does not receive the data packets for the pre-defined time interval $T$, it suspects that they are out of the coverage radio range. In order to prevent this action, the following steps are executed.

- $ReP_{mr}$ transmits at least one packet at interval of $T/n$ period. ($n$ is integer number which consider channel loss).
- If $ReP_{mr}$ has no data to transmit in $T/n$ duration, it transmits NULL packet. Thus, when $D$ does not receive the data packet for $T$, it performs the following actions to select the relay node.

1) Relay node request message (R_REQ) is sent to its $Neigh_j$.

$$D \xrightarrow{R\_REQ} Neigh_j$$

2) $Neigh_j$ node will reply to the sink.

$$Neigh_j \xrightarrow{R\_REP} D$$

3) Sink chooses the node which is nearer to it as immediate relay node.

4) The relay path message is sent through IRN.

$$D \xrightarrow{RP\_mes} IRN_i \xrightarrow{RP\_mes} ReP_{mr}$$

**Note:** If $D$’s speed is rapid, then the distance among $ReP_{mr}$ and IRN is more. In this case, the $RN_i$ count is increased.

5) When $ReP_{mr}$ receives the $RP\_mes$, data packets are transmitted in the path traversed by $RP\_mes$. This relay path is flagged with $RP\_seq$.

**Note:** When $D$ moves away of radio range or after completing its relay path set up, there may be possibility of packet drop. This is prevented by $ReP_{mr}$ by caching the overheard packets which are transmitted to $D$. The cached packets are routed to $D$ when the $ReP_{mr}$ receives $RP\_mes$.

6) If $D$ is again away from its transmission range of $IRN_i$, then it selects new $IRN_i$ (as per step 3).

7) $D$ then transmits $RP\_mes$ to the $ReP_{mr}$ through the newly selected $IRN_i$ in separate relay path $RP_n$ which is flagged with $RP_n\_SEQ$.

a) When $ReP_{mr}$ receives relay path setup message,

   If an $RP_o$ exists for the same sink
   
   Then
   $$ReP_{mr} \xrightarrow{R\_CLR} RP_o$$
   
   End if

If there is an old relay path for the same sink, then the $ReP_{mr}$ transmits $R\_CLR$ message along $RP_o$ which is flagged with $RP_o\_SEQ$.

b) If a relay path receives a new $RP\_mes$, then it does not remove the $RP_o$ state. $RP_o$ state is maintained until the path receives $R\_CLR$ for $RP_o$. Then a relay path is set up in the reverse path of $RP\_mes$.

3.4 Relay Node based Routing Protocol for Multiple Mobile Sink

If an event occurs, the sink comes into contact with the RP and starts collecting the data. When the sink moves out of its
coverage range of the RP, it selects a relay node among its neighboring nodes to transfer packets from the RP to sink. When the sink does not receive any packet for time $T$, the sink broadcasts the relay request message to all its neighbors. The neighbor nodes reply to the R_REQ by a relay message (R_REP). A R_REP includes the coordinates of the sending node. The closest node from sink is selected as the relay node and it is named immediate relay nodes. The sink transmits relay path message to RP via the selected IRN. Figure 2 shows the flow chart of the proposed routing protocol. As soon as the RP receives the RP_mes, data packets are routed along the reverse path of the RP_mes called as relay path. Some packets may be dropped during the time between the movement of the sink out of the RP radio range and the time when the relay path is completely setup. To prevent packet loss in this interval, the RP caches the packets overheard transmitted to the sink for last $T$. These cached packets are routed to the sink when the RP receives the RP_mes. This protocol is used for increase in number of sinks. By increasing number of mobile sinks low latency can be achieved.

![Flowchart of the Proposed Routing Protocol](image_url)

Figure 2. Flowchart of the Proposed Routing Protocol
4. Simulation Parameters

NS2 simulation is employed to evaluate Relay node based Routing Protocol for Mobile Sink (RRPMS) which is proposed. In this case a randomly deployed sensor nodes covering the area of 600 X 600m are varied from 50,100,150,200 and 250 kbps data rate and nodes are varied from 20 to 100 nodes. The time taken for simulation is 50 sec.

4.1 The Performance Evaluation In Terms Of Number Of Sinks

This section describes the simulation results of the proposed protocol when number of sinks is increased as 1, 2 and 5. All the performance parameters were evaluated for node as well as rate.

4.2 Simulation Results for Varying Nodes

4.2.1 Nodes Versus Delay

From Figure 3 the delay keeps reducing as and when number of sink increases. The operation with 5 sinks provides better performance than with two or single number of sinks.

![Nodes Vs Delay](image)

Figure 3. Nodes Vs Delay in terms of Sink

4.2.2 Nodes Versus Drop

![Nodes Vs Drop](image)

Figure 4. Nodes Vs Drop in terms of Sink
Figure 4 presents the packet drop for various node scenarios when the number of sinks is varied as 1, 2 and 5. It can be seen that when the number of nodes is increased, the drop decreases drastically for 5 sink scenario compared to 1 or 2 number of sinks.

### 4.2.3 Nodes Versus The Energy
Figure 5 presents the energy consumed by various nodes when the sink number is varied as 1, 2 and 5. It can be observed that when node number is increased, energy consumption for sink 5 is higher than 1 or 2 sinks due to the increased number of beacon messages received by the sensors.

![Nodes Vs Energy Consumption](image)

**Figure 5. Nodes Vs Energy in terms of Sink**

### 4.2.4 Nodes Versus Overhead
Figure 6 presents the overhead for various node scenarios when number of sinks are varied from 1, 2 and 5. It is observed that as the number of nodes is increased, the overhead also increases for all sink scenarios. However, the overhead is very low for sink 1 operation compared with 2 or 5 sink operations.

![Nodes Vs Overhead](image)

**Figure 6. Nodes Vs Overhead in terms of Sink**

### 4.3 Simulation Results for varying Data Rate

#### 4.3.1 Rate Versus Delay
Figure 7 presents the delay Vs rate for various rate scenarios when the number of sink is varied as 1, 2 and 5. It is very clear the delay is minimum for the 5 sink operation and maximum for a single sink operation.
4.3.2 Rate Versus Drop

Figure 8 presents the packet drop for various rate scenarios when the number of sink is varied as 1, 2 and 5. It can be seen that as the number of data rate is increased, the drop increases drastically for 1 sink scenario compared to 2 or 5 number of sinks.

4.3.3 Rate Versus Energy

Figure 9 presents the packet energy for various rate scenarios when the number of sink is varied as 1, 2 and 5. It can be seen that as the data rate is increased, energy consumption get increased. The residual energy of sink 5 is lesser than sink 1 and sink 2.
4.3.4 Rate Versus Overhead

Figure 10 presents the overhead in terms of data rate for various numbers of sinks. It is observed that overhead is maximum for 5 sinks scenario when compared to other sink scenarios.
Figure 11 shows the cumulative remaining energy of the schemes for 200kbps data rate with 100 nodes. Residual energy of MSREEDG produces better savings in residual energy when compared with BSMASD but lesser than RRPMS. RRPMS is higher than Intelligent Agent based Routing protocol by 7%. Thus the proposed protocol increases the energy efficiency and reliability of the data.

5. Conclusion

The proposed routing protocol performance was compared with traditional schemes like BSMASD and IAR techniques. The parameters of comparison included packet drop, energy, delay, overhead. The simulations were carried out using NS2 simulator under various conditions of operations like varying the number of nodes and data rate. The simulation result shows that, proposed relay node based routing protocol for mobile sink is energy efficient and thus increases the lifetime of the network when compared to other routing protocols.

References


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