

Enhancing Energy Efficiency in Wireless Sensor Networks Using Optimal Gradient Routing Protocol

K. Nattar Kannan and B. Paramasivan

Abstract—In recent day, Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs) adequately needs effective mechanisms for data forwarding to enhance the energy efficiency in networks. Energy efficiency and is the critical parameters for routing in WSNs. Routing protocols play a major role in WSNs for maintaining routes to ensure reliable communication. In this paper, on demand acquisitions of neighborhood information is used to find the optimal routing paths that reduce the message exchange overhead. It optimizes the number of hops for packet forwarding to the sink node which gives a better solution for energy consumption and delay. The proposed protocol combining on demand Multi hop information based multipath routing (OMLRP) and a gradient based network for achieving optimal path and reduces energy consumption. The network lifetime is prolonged up to 82% when adopting both OMLRP and gradient based network. OMLRP provides the least routing overhead which is most suitable to real time data delivery.

Index Terms—Wireless sensor networks, gradient network, energy efficiency, optimal routing, routing overhead.

I. INTRODUCTION

WSNs [1] are consisting of sensor nodes that are connected through a wireless media. Multi hop transmission is occurring to route the data from the source to destination. Large number of sensor nodes can deploy in environment that assemble and configure themselves. A tiny sensor device has the capability for sensing, computation, and communication into other device. WSNs are used to monitor and measure the environmental conditions like temperature, humidity, sound, pollution levels, pressure etc. The energy efficiency is a most challenges in multimedia communication due to the resource constraints, efficient channel access and low transmission delay. The energy efficient routing is a key research area in wireless sensor networks for dynamic topology nature property. Therefore we need to design the effective routing protocols. In recent days, various energy efficient routing protocols have been proposed for WSNs [2]-[4]. The energy efficient routing protocols are classified into four schemes including Structure of Network, Communication structure, Topology structure and Reliable Routing. The structure of a network can be classified based on the node uniformity which is considered to be deployed uniformly in the field. The design of routing protocols of this category based on the network architecture might change dynamically. This

category provides various features including energy efficiency, stability, scalability, minimal routing overhead. The Communication structure can deliver data effectively that has achieved energy efficiency in WSNs. It also provides optimal communication in both point to point and broadcast networks in terms of energy usage. Data delivery ratio is a key challenge in this category. Topology structure [5] uses topology information of the networks for routing phase. It provides position information in order to relay the received packets to certain regions in the networks. Node can enables us to learn the location of neighboring nodes to find optimal path from a source to destination for minimum energy consumption. This structure also provides network flexibility for migrating nodes to other network based on its autonomous and intelligent properties. Reliable Routing Structure has achieved the load balancing and satisfying certain QoS metrics [6] including Jitter, delay, latency, and bandwidth. Fault tolerance routing protocols is designed based on reliable routing structure with QoS metrics.

II. RELATED WORKS

F. Yu *et al.* [7] proposed Energy aware Temporarily Ordered Routing Algorithm (E-TORA). It is the extension of TORA that focuses on minimizing the energy consumption of the nodes. The classic TORA made least cost hops for selecting the routing paths in the networks. This makes routing over head on main routing path because of the same node repeatedly involved in route phase and also the repeated nodes are run out of its energy that degrade the routing performance. This mechanism used shorter path approach which is not considering their power that decrease entire network lifetime. E-TORA solved this problem that takes into the account of power of each node. It also avoids nodes with low energy for participating routing process. In this, node's energy consumption is balanced in order to avoid the some nodes drawn their energy earlier that are used frequently for routing. E-TORA takes into the account of energy left on the nodes in order to use nodes with more power that increases the lifetime of the network.

Jung *et al.* [8] proposed an on demand multi hop look ahead based real time routing protocol that offered on demand acquisition of neighborhood information around data forwarding paths. It allows lighter message exchange overhead than with two hops velocity based routing (THVR). THVR is does not optimize the number of hops needed to relay the packet to the sink that make more energy consumption and delay than OMLRP. The optimal path is achieved by combining OMLRP and gradient based network in terms of the number of hops and to reduce energy

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consumption of nodes.

Feng Yuan Ren *et al.* [9] introduced the packet attribute to identify different packets generated by heterogeneous networks. They also proposed an attribute aware data aggregation (ADA) scheme for making the data aggregation more efficient. They used a packet driven timing algorithm and a dynamic routing protocol for energy efficiency. In attribute aware data aggregation scheme, packets are treated as ants for finding paths and attracted the packets with the same attribute to gather them. They combined adaptive timing control algorithm with attribute aware data aggregation scheme which make the packets with the same attribute spatially convergent for improving the effective data aggregation. The ADA scheme provides various properties including scalability and reliable routing with respect to network size. The following data aggregation schemes [10]-[15] have been proposed to save the limited energy on sensor nodes in WSNs.

Nitin Mittal *et al.* [16] have proposed the Improved LEACH (Low - Energy Adaptive Clustering Hierarchy) communication protocol which is extending of classic LEACH because classical LEACH do not dissipation of energy evenly throughout a networks. In this, Cluster based mechanism is used for minimizing energy dissipation in sensor networks. Improved LEACH is performed well than classical clustering algorithms by using adaptive clustering mechanism and rotating cluster heads for load balancing.

TEEN (Threshold Sensitive Energy Efficient Sensor Network protocol) [17] utilized multi-level clustering mechanism to save the more energy. Cluster head broadcast three parameters including attribute, HT and ST to its members when changing the cell. Nodes in the networks are sensed information continuous from environment. If the information value beyond HT or the varied range of characteristic value beyond ST, the node will send sensed information to cluster head that reduces network traffic and increase networks life time.

PEGASIS (Power-Efficient Gathering in Sensor Information Systems) [18] used greedy algorithm to form data chain for gathering data. Each node aggregates the data from downstream node and sends it to upstream node along the chain. The distance between nodes on chain is shorter than from member nodes to cluster head. PEGASIS save much energy because it reduces the routing overhead for dynamic formation of cluster. Greedy algorithm construct the chain result in distance between a pair of sensors is too long. In this condition, this pair of sensors will consume much energy than other sensors in transmitting data phase.

III. PROPOSED WORK

In recent days Researchers have proposed various routing schemes [5], [6], [19] for enhancing real time properties of WSNs to provide reliable transmission. In that one hop information is used to select forwarding nodes. THVR algorithm [20] was introduced to reduce the deadline miss ratio that uses geographic information that provide optimal path to forward packets to the destination. Recently, Jung *et al.* [8] proposed OMLRP that offered on demand acquisition of

neighborhood information around data forwarding paths. It reduces the message exchange overhead than THVR. By combining OMLRP and a gradient based network, the optimal path and energy efficiency is achieved. This paper combined these two approaches for achieving optimal reliable routing

A. Gradient-Based Network Setup

Gradient Based Network Setup take the minimum hop count and remaining energy of a node while routing data from source node to the sink. The optimal route is established autonomously, the scheme is composed of three sections discussed in [20], [21].

1) Gradient setup

It can optimize the transmission energy and reduce the energy consumption of each node to prolong the network lifetime. In this sink broadcasts a packet which contains a counter set to 1 initially. After receiving a packet, the receiving node sets its height equal to the counter in the packet and increases the counter by 1, then forwards the packet.

2) Height calculation

The sink sets its height to 0. The heights of other nodes are equal to the smallest number of hops to the sink which is reduced the routing overhead because it select the minimum hop to involve the routing.

3) Data forwarding approach

Each node calculates joint parameters for forwarding the packets to sink. A node compares with its joint parameters to neighboring nodes and selects a neighbor to relay its packets to the sink. It is considered both the semi minor axis of the elliptical region denoted by H_{ellipse} and node energy is defined from formula 1 as follows:

$$H_{\text{ellipse}} = \frac{D(s,d)}{2} \times \left(\frac{1}{h}\right) + c \times \frac{E_j / E_j^o}{\sum_j (E_j / E_j^o)}, h \geq 1 \quad (1)$$

where Coefficient $C \in [0, 1]$. The maximum value of C indicates that end to end delay, the minimum value of C leads the traffic to nodes with higher remaining energy. E_j^o is the initial energy of node, E_j is the remaining energy of node. The Fig. 1 shows that Elliptical region of source and destination to select the neighboring node for forwarding packets.

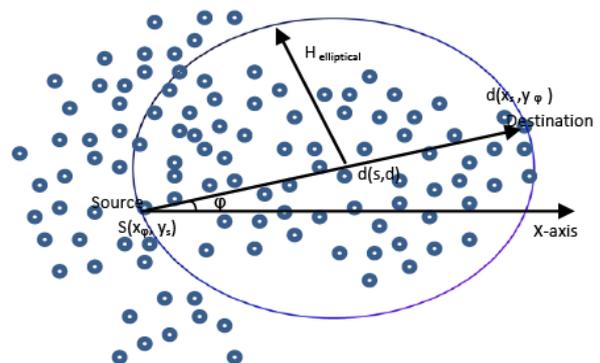


Fig. 1. Elliptical region of source and destination.

Acknowledgement mechanism is applied to calculate the delay of the packets. A node will stamp the time to identify the delay of packets of each node, when it receives the packet and then compare it with the time when the ACK packet is received. The delay estimation of T_j^i for time instant $(T+1)$ is calculated by (2)

$$\tau_i^j(t+1) = \alpha M_i^j(t) + \frac{1-\alpha}{T} \sum_{k=\max(1, t-T)}^{t-1} \tau_i^j(k) \quad (2)$$

where T is time window, $0 < \alpha < 1$ is the configurable weighting coefficient. M_j^i is the newly measured delay which is defined by larger value of α . This Gradient Based Network Setup is then combined with OMLRP to make energy efficiency in WSNs which improves the network life time.

B. On Demand Multi Hop Information Based Multipath Routing

OMLRP considered the following assumptions for real time routing which is followed from [22], [23]. The assumptions are as follows:

- Homogeneous sensor nodes are deployed in the network.
- Global Positioning System (GPS) is used by each sensor node to aware of its location in the field.
- One of them initiates to generate packets that became the source node.

This approach performed multi hop look ahead around the paths from the source to destination within an elliptical region. It selects an optimal path among multiple paths [24] within the elliptical region. The Fig. 2 shows that on demand Multi-hop information based Multipath routing with in elliptical region with $K_{hop} = 4$. A multipath algorithm is obtained from [25], [26] that select multiple routes from source to destination within elliptical region with high link quality and low latency. In this, a node sends its packets to neighbors through multiple alternative paths. Optimal path is selected for data transmission from source to destination. If a problem occurred in selected path, it select next available shortest path for forwarding data to destination. The elliptical region is restricted the look ahead around the packet forwarding path for reliable routing. The elliptical region is calculated using location information of the source and the destination from GPS systems [27]. When the source node starts for forwarding the packet to the destination, the multi hop look ahead is triggered within the restricted elliptical region. The elliptical region is calculated by using location of the source node $s(x_s, y_s)$ and destination node $d(x_d, y_d)$ from Equation (3).

$$D(s, d) = \sqrt{(x_d - x_s)^2 + (y_d - y_s)^2} \quad (3)$$

where $D(s, d)$ is a distance between source node s and destination node d .

C. Look Ahead Algorithm

As A sensor node can distinguish whether it is within the elliptical region determined by the function (4). Look ahead algorithm is used to found out each sensor node located within

elliptical region.

Algorithm:

Sensor node N_a determine its location (x_a, y_a)

$$X = X_a \cos \Phi + Y_a \sin \Phi \quad (4)$$

$$Y = -X_a \sin \Phi + Y_a \cos \Phi \quad (5)$$

N_a calculates $f(x, y)$ from (4) and (5)

If the $f(x, y) > 0$

N_a is located at out of the elliptical region.

If the $f(x, y) \leq 0$,

N_a is located within the elliptical region.

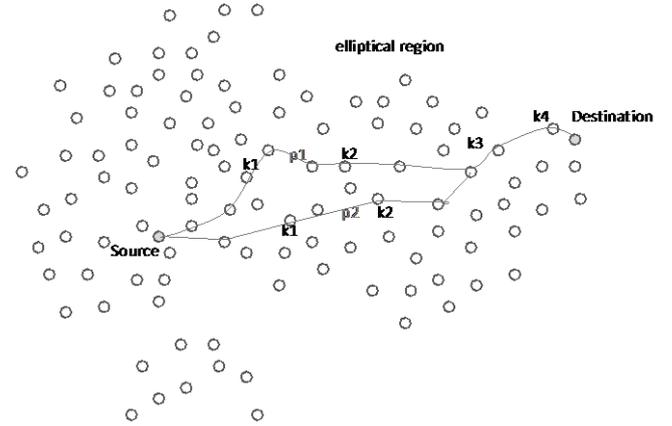


Fig. 2. On demand Multi-hop information based Multipath routing with in elliptical region with K hop = 4.

This algorithm provides an effective way to retain the energy efficiency and scalability. A hybrid metrics such as link quality and latency are used as the criteria for optimal path selection. Look ahead message mechanism is used which includes five tuples $(K_{hop}, s(x_s, y_s), d(x_d, y_d), H_{ellipse}, R)$. where K_{hop} indicates no of look ahead hops; $s(x_s, y_s), d(x_d, y_d)$ – indicate location of source and destination nodes respectively; $H_{ellipse}$ - elliptical region from (6).

$$H_{ellipse} = \frac{D(s, d)}{2} \times \frac{1}{h}, h \geq 1 \quad (6)$$

where $D(s, d)/2$ is the semi axis of the elliptical region and h is the size of the elliptical region.

It calculates average speed of every path from the source to the destination until K_{hop} for selecting optimal path. R is a selected optimal path among multiple paths from source to destination within the elliptical region based on multi hop look ahead mechanism. Fig. 2 noticed that the on demand Multi hop information based Multipath routing with in elliptical region with $K_{hop} = 4$. If $K_{hop} = 4$, every node in an elliptical region maintains location until four hop neighborhoods. From Equation (6), if h is 1, the elliptical region is a circular region between $s(x_s, y_s)$ and $d(x_d, y_d)$ and h value may be dynamically determined by system. The traffic load balancing is performed in the previous real time protocols [28]. Source and forwarding node can deliver data to a destination using selected optimal path that satisfy a desired speed and also perform traffic load balancing which make even energy consumption by all nodes.

D. Energy Dissipation Radio Model

This paper, a radio hardware energy dissipation model was used where the transmitter dissipates energy to run the radio electronics and the power amplifier, and the receiver dissipates energy to run the radio electronics. Thus, to transmit a k -bit of message and distance d , the radio expends

$$E_{TX}(k, d) = E_{TX_elec}(k) + E_{TX_amp}(k, d) \quad (7)$$

To receive k -bit message, the radio expends

$$E_{RX}(k, d) = kE_{TX_elec} \quad (8)$$

where E_{TX_elec} - electronics energy for receiving k bit message, E_{TX_amp} - amplifier energy depends on the distance to the receiver.

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

The proposed Energy efficient optimal Gradient based routing protocol (EEOGRP) is evaluated and simulated in Network Simulator (NS2). In this evaluation, the EEOGRP has compared with two existing real time routing protocols in sensor networks such as OMLRP-4hop [8] and THVR [20]. The Simulation parameters for WSNs are shown in Table I.

TABLE I: SIMULATION PARAMETER

Parameter	Value
number of nodes (N)	25,50,75,100
Area	200 m x 200 m
Source location	175 m, 175 m
Sink location	20 m, 20 m
Pause time	300ms
constant bit rate	1 packet/s
packet frame size	30 bytes
Initial Energy	2 joules

A. Energy Consumption

Each node is initialized with initial energy source of 2J to evaluate the energy balancing performance. Fig. 3 shows that total amount of energy consumption in which EEOGRP consume less energy. Each node exchanges beacon signals with its neighbors every 5000ms. A source node transmits data at 5000ms. THVR and OMLRP-4hop shows higher energy consumption of the all nodes in terms of two hops looks ahead approach. The EEOGRP has selected the minimum hop for end to end data delivery than other two protocols. Because THVR has heavy message exchange overhead and high computational complexity. EEOGRP consumes lower energy compare to others. The Table II noticed that average energy consumption per packets for three protocols.

TABLE II: AVERAGE ENERGY CONSUMPTION PER PACKETS

Routing Protocol	Energy per packets(mj/packet)
OMLRP-4hop	51.43
TVRPG	43.15
EEOGRP	43.02

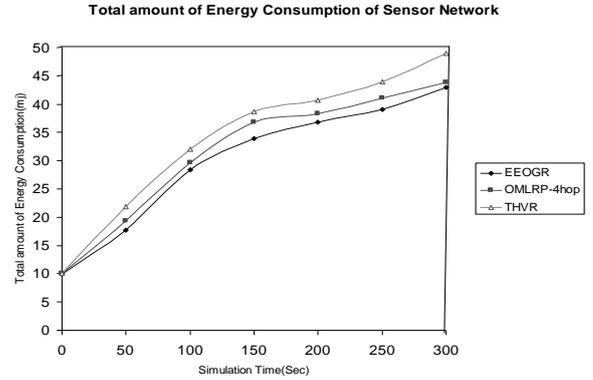


Fig. 3. Total amount of energy consumption of sensor networks.

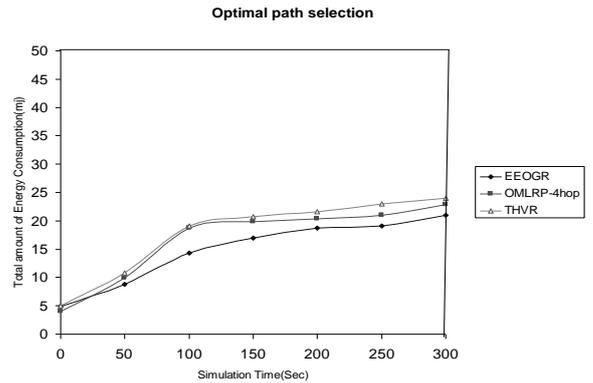


Fig. 4. Average energy consumption of sensor networks.

EEOGRP used the look ahead algorithm to make the network as energy efficient. EEOGRP shares large number of path between a source and a destination. Fig. 4 shown that optimal path selection and average Energy Consumption for selecting an optimal path to route data since sensor nodes in the elliptical region between the source and the destination are consumed energy evenly.

B. Routing overhead

In this simulation, the routing overhead is evaluated for EEOGRP, OMLRP-4hop and THVR while varying nodes in data forwarding. Fig. 5 shows that the minimal routing overhead caused by EEOGRP than other two protocols. EEOGRP exchanged the minimum of routing control message for selecting an optimal path and also it is forwarded the packets using minimum number of hops with less message exchange overhead. THVR used the proactive updating ACK scheme that makes overhead traffic for updating two hop information and OMLRP-4hop has longer waiting time for retrieving multi hop information for send the packets to sink.

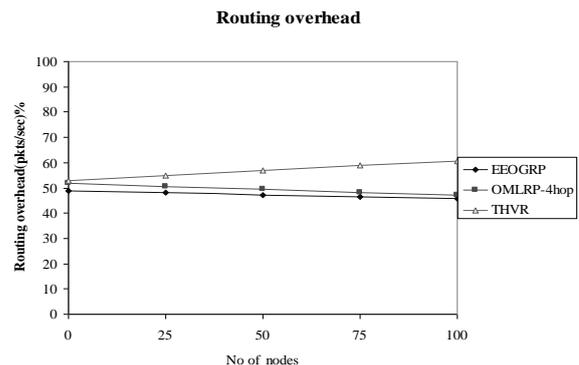


Fig. 5. Routing overhead.

V. CONCLUSION

In this paper, an energy efficient optimal gradient based routing protocol is proposed which is combination with OMLRP and a gradient based network that is achieved through optimal routing path and reduces energy consumption of sensor nodes. Simulation results shown that the EEOGRP used gradient routing and look ahead algorithm within an elliptic region for achieving good performances with respect to energy efficiency and routing overhead compare to other two protocols like OMLRP-4hop and THVR. In addition, the EEOGRP reduced the computational complexity and enhances the energy efficiency of the sensor nodes by selecting optimal path and also provides effective routing that increase network lifetime.

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