

# TDMA Scheduling with Leach protocol

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**ABSTRACT:** In this paper, we propose a solution to the scheduling problem in clustered wireless sensor networks (WSNs). The objective is to provide network-wide optimized time division multiple access (TDMA) schedules that can achieve high power efficiency, zero conflict, and reduced end-to-end delay. To achieve this objective, we first build a nonlinear cross-layer optimization model involving the network, medium access control (MAC), and physical layers, which aims at reducing the overall energy consumption. We solve this problem by transforming the model into two simpler sub problems. Based on the network-wide flow distribution calculated from the optimization model and transmission power on every link, we then propose an algorithm for deriving the TDMA schedules, utilizing the slot reuse concept to achieve minimum TDMA frame length. Numerical results reveal that our proposed solution reduces the energy consumption and delay significantly, while simultaneously satisfying a specified reliability objective. In wireless sensor networks (WSNs), due to the limitation of nodes energy, energy efficiency is an important factor should be considered when the protocols are designing. As a typical representative of hierarchical routing protocols, LEACH Protocol plays an important role. In response to the uneven energy distribution that is caused by the randomness of cluster heads forming, this paper proposes a new improved algorithm of LEACH protocol (LEACH-TLCH) which is intended to balance the energy consumption of the entire network and extend the life of the network. The new algorithm simulation results indicate that both energy efficiency and the lifetime of the network are better than that of LEACH Protocol.

**KEYWORDS:** LEACH Protocol; Energy consumption; Network lifetime

## I. INTRODUCTION

SCHEDULING of medium access plays an important role in the performance of wireless sensor networks (WSNs). In the literature, time division multiple access (TDMA) and carrier sensing multiple access (CSMA) are two major medium access approaches in WSNs. This work will only focus on the TDMA approach because the scenario specification of our research is a static network in which TDMA is said to be more effective than CSMA, especially under medium to high traffic load. In this paper, we aim at deriving TDMA schedules with optimized power consumption and minimum latency in clustered WSNs. Energy efficiency is a major concern in WSNs, since the batteries are often impossible to be replaced or recharged in many cases in TDMA.

LEACH Protocol is the first protocol of hierarchical routings which proposed data fusion, it is of milestone significance in clustering routing protocols. Many hierarchical routing protocols are improved ones based on LEACH protocol. So, when wireless sensor networks gradually go into our lives, it is of great significance to research on LEACH protocol.

## II. LEACH PROTOCOL

LEACH Protocol is a typical representative of hierarchical routing protocols. It is self-adaptive and self-organized. LEACH protocol uses round as unit, each round is made up of cluster set-up stage and steady-state stage, for the purpose of reducing unnecessary energy costs, the steady-state stage must be much longer than the set-up stage. The process of it is shown in Figure.

# International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

(An ISO 3297: 2007 Certified Organization)

Vol. 4, Issue 4, April 2015

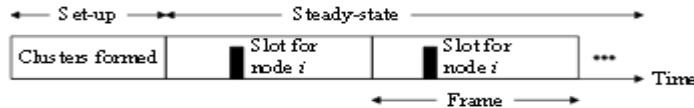


Fig 1 LEACH Protocol process.

At the stage of cluster forming, a node randomly picks a number between 0 to 1, compared this number to the threshold values  $t(n)$ , if the number is less than  $t(n)$ , then it became cluster head in this round, else it became common node. Threshold  $t(n)$  is determined by the following:

$$t(n) = \begin{cases} \frac{p}{1 - p * (r \bmod \frac{1}{p})} & \text{if } n \in G \\ 0 & \text{if } n \notin G \end{cases}$$

### III. RELATED WORK

Earlier works on TDMA scheduling for WSNs mainly focus on obtaining the shortest schedules, or distributed implementation. In non-conflicted schedules are obtained first, and a following algorithm then goes through all nodes and slots, in turn, to produce maximal broadcasting sets, thus reducing the schedule length. The authors of further take into account the number of packets being sent at every node, and provide the shortest schedules by eliminating the nodes without packets to send at each loop of the proposed algorithm. Compared to the approaches demanding global topology information, distributed scheduling is more flexible, but at a cost of increased schedule length.

In LEACH protocol, due to the randomness of clusters forming, the energy of cluster head is very different, so do the distances between cluster heads and base station. Cluster heads are responsible not only for sending data to the base station but also for collecting and fusing the data from common nodes in their own clusters. In the process of data collection and transmission, the energy consumed by data transmission is greater than that of data fusion. If the current energy of a cluster head is less or the distance to base station is much far, then the cluster head will be died quickly because of a heavy energy burden. To address these issues, this article proposes a new improved algorithm on how to balance the energy loads of these cluster heads.

### IV. SYSTEM MODEL

#### i) NETWORK ARCHITECTURE

The nodes in the network are divided into multiple clusters, each comprising a CH and cluster members that communicate via one hop to the CH. A graph  $G = (V, L)$  is used to denote the backbone. Where  $V$  is the set of nodes and  $L$  the set of links. Henceforth, in this paper, the term network refers to the backbone network with node set of  $V$  and link set of  $L$ . The total number of nodes in the network is  $N = |V|$ , in which the sink is taken as node #1, without loss of generality. If a maximum transmission power is specified, we use  $G = (V, L')$ , instead of  $G = (V, L)$ , where  $L'$ , a subset of  $L$ , is the set of links that can be formed according to the specified maximum transmission power  $P_{tx,max}$ . A link  $(i, j)$  is valid only if  $(i, j) \in L'$ . The links are unidirectional so that link  $(i, j)$  and link  $(j, i)$  are two different links. We assume that the sensor nodes in the network are stationary, for simplicity.

#### ii) PHYSICAL LAYER

A realistic physical layer model considers the propagation model, modulation, encoding, demodulation, and decoding techniques, thus linking major parameters such as power, signal to noise ratio (SNR), and bit error rate together. Examples of such a physical layer model can be found.

# International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

(An ISO 3297: 2007 Certified Organization)

Vol. 4, Issue 4, April 2015

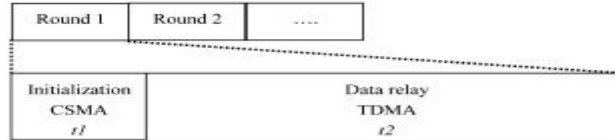


Fig. 2. Operation rounds.

In this paper, we use the following path loss model [19]:

$$Pl(d) = Pl(d_0) + 10\gamma \log_{10}(d/d_0), \quad (1)$$

### iii) MAC LAYER

As stated in Section 1, the TDMA scheme is the MAC layer protocol employed during the data relay phase. A TDMA frame consists of a number of slots, each with fixed length  $\Delta t$ . We assume that NACKs and retransmissions are used at the MAC layer. However, to simplify the analysis and the scheduling algorithm, we neglect the cost of NACKs by assuming that a NACK is only generated once in each fixed feedback period to inform the source nodes of packets not correctly received in the last period. Given the packet loss rate  $p$ , the per-hop average number of total transmissions for a packet to be successfully received is  $1/(1-p)$ .

### V. CROSS-LAYER OPTIMIZATION MODEL

Across layer optimization model is formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} \\ & \left( \sum_{i=2}^N \sum_{j=1}^N E(P_{tx,ij}) \frac{1}{1-p_{ij}} f_{ij} + \sum_{i=2}^N \sum_{j=2}^N E(P_{rx}) \frac{1}{1-p_{ij}} f_{ij} \right. \\ & \left. + \sum_{i=2}^N \lambda_i E(P_{rx}) + \sum_{i=2}^N \sum_{k=1}^{N_{SN,i}} [E_{sens,k} + E(P_{tx,ki}) (\lambda_i / N_{SN,i})] \right), \\ & (i, j) \in L', i \neq j \end{aligned} \quad (6a)$$

$$\text{s.t. } f_{ij} \geq 0, \quad i \in [2, N], j \in [1, N], i \neq j, \quad (6b)$$

$$f_{ij} = 0 \quad \text{iff } (i, j) \notin L' \text{ or } i = j, \quad (6c)$$

$$\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N (f_{ij} - f_{ji}) = \lambda_i / C_i, \quad i \in [2, N], \quad (6d)$$

$$\sum_{i=2}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{1-p_{ij}} f_{ij} \leq R, \quad i \neq j, \quad (6e)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \left( E(P_{tx,ij}) f_{ij} \frac{1}{1-p_{ij}} + E(P_{rx}) f_{ji} \frac{1}{1-p_{ji}} \right) \\ & + \lambda_i E(P_{rx}) \leq e_i \quad i \in [2, N], \end{aligned} \quad (6f)$$

where  $E(P_{tx,ij})$  is the per bit average transmission energy consumed at node  $i$  when transmitting to node  $j$

## International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

(An ISO 3297: 2007 Certified Organization)

Vol. 4, Issue 4, April 2015

using transmission power  $P_{tx,ij}$ ,  $p_{ij}$  is the packet loss rate on link  $(i,j)$ ,  $f_{ij}$  is the data flow rate (in bits per second) from node  $i$  to  $j$  without accounting for the retransmissions,  $\lambda_i$  is the new generated traffic (in bits per second),  $C_i$  is the traffic aggregation factor at node  $i$  if node  $i$  is a source CH, at node  $i$  (e.g.,  $e_i e_i \text{avail}/T$ , where  $e_i \text{avail}$  is the initial available energy in mill joule (mJ) at node  $i$  and  $T$  is a fixed lifetime in seconds). The objective function in (6a) gives the total consumed energy of the whole network per unit time (i.e., mJ/sec = mW), which is composed of transmission and receiving mode energy consumption at all backbone nodes excluding the sink (the energy consumed at the sink is neglected because its power source is replaceable), and the energy consumed by each active sensor node (cluster member) in sensing and transmitting the data to its CH.

$$\left( \sum_{i=2}^N \sum_{j=1}^N E(P_{tx,ij}) \frac{1}{1-p_{ij}} f_{ij} + \sum_{i=2}^N \sum_{j=2}^N E(P_{rx}) \frac{1}{1-p_{ij}} f_{ij} + \sum_{i=2}^N \lambda_i E(P_{rx}) \right), \quad (i,j) \in L', i \neq j. \tag{6a'}$$

The first two constraints (6b) and (6c) state that the flow rate should be nonnegative and flows can only exist on valid links. The third constraint (6d) indicates that the output data rate at each node should be the sum of input data rate and data generation rate at that node (the data are generated by cluster member nodes, aggregated at the corresponding CH, and then, relayed to the sink). The fourth constraint (6e) is the data rate or bandwidth limit of the network, showing that the summed data rate with retransmissions at all links should not be greater than the maximal allowed data rate. This is a conservative constraint, since slots can be reused in our model. The fifth constraint (6f) is the per unit time energy consumption constraint at every node. The optimization model depicted by (6) is cross-layer based because it jointly combines network layer traffic loads, MAC layer retransmission scheme, and physical layer modulation scheme and bit error rate together, in order to derive appropriate transmission power  $P_{tx,ij}$  and flow rate  $f_{ij}$  at every link  $(i,j)$ ,  $(i,j)$  belongs to  $L'$ ;  $i \neq j$ , to achieve network-wide optimal power efficiency. Applying (2)-(5), this model is obviously nonlinear due to the terms  $E(P_{tx,ij})/(1-p_{ij})$  and  $E(P_{rx})/(1-p_{ij})$  belongs to  $L'$ ;  $i \neq j$ , which are, respectively, the transmit and receive energy consumed in relaying a bit from node  $i$  to  $j$ . Solving this nonlinear optimization problem directly is a nontrivial task, so we transform the problem into two simpler subproblems. We, therefore, propose to solve the following subproblem #1 first.

Sub\_Problem #1:

$$\begin{aligned} \min. & \quad (E(P_{tx,ij}) + E(P_{rx})) \frac{1}{1-p_{ij}} \quad (i,j) \in L' \\ \text{s.t.} & \quad lb < P_{tx,ij} < ub \quad i \in [2, N], j \in [1, N], i \neq j, \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

where  $lb$  and  $ub$  are the lower and upper bounds of the transmission power, respectively. The purpose of subproblem #1 is to find the optimal transmission power on link  $(i,j)$   $P_{opt,tx,ij}$  in order to consume the least energy  $E_{opt,tx,ij}$  for transmitting a bit from node  $i$  to  $j$ . Subproblem #1 is actually a simple problem of deriving the minimum value of a function. Numerical methods such as golden section search [23] can be adopted to solve this problem. The solution to (7) then serves as input to (6). However, before being able to use the results of (7) as input to (6), we need to prove that the optimal transmission power on each link obtained from solving (6) is equivalent to that obtained from solving (7).

### VI. IMPLEMENTATION

Solving the optimization model in (6) gives the flow distribution and transmission power on every link, which achieves the energy-efficient data relay. We can, of course, calculate the TDMA slots assigned to every link accordingly without slot reuse. However, this results in very long TDMA frame length, and thus, unacceptable delay in large size WSNs. Our goal then is to derive a relationship between the delay incurred by a data packet at each backbone network node (along its path to the sink) and the TDMA frame length  $M$  so that, by reducing the frame length through slot reuse, the delay is minimized. For this analysis, we determine the node delay from the instant the first bit arrives at the node until the time the last bit exits the node. With the TDMA MAC adopted, the nodal delay can be approximated by the time interval

## International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

(An ISO 3297: 2007 Certified Organization)

Vol. 4, Issue 4, April 2015

between the input time slot where the data are read and the output time slot from which the data are read out. Suppose the data packet is received at a node in slot  $m_1$ ,  $m_1$  belongs to  $[1, M]$ , and relayed out in slot  $m_2$ ,  $m_2 \in [1, M]$  the delay experienced by the relayed data packet at this node is

$$D(m_1, m_2) = \begin{cases} m_2 - m_1, & m_2 > m_1, \\ M - m_1 + m_2, & m_2 < m_1, \end{cases} \quad m_1, m_2 \in [1, M]. \quad (9)$$

Assuming that  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  are independent of each other, the average delay experienced by the data packet at this node is then

$$\frac{\sum_{m_2=1, m_2 \neq m_1}^M D(m_1, m_2)}{M - 1} = \frac{M}{2}, \quad m_1 \in [1, M], \quad (10)$$

from which we conclude that reducing the TDMA frame length translates to a reduction in nodal delay. The end-to-end delay is the sum of the nodal delays along a path to the sink, plus the associated propagation delays which are negligible due to short distances between the backbone nodes. Hence, minimizing the TDMA frame length also minimizes the end-to-end delay. Next, we apply the slot reuse concept to achieve a reduction in TDMA frame length. That is, a slot already assigned to a link can be reused at another link provided that the interference between the two links is below a specified threshold. In the following, a scheduling scheme that implements the slot reuse concept is presented. The first step is to determine the number of slots required by each link in the backbone network and the virtual link in each cluster. For a backbone link  $i, j$  with flow  $f_{ij}$ , maximum data rate  $R$  (both in bits per second), and per-hop packet loss rate  $p_{ij}$ , the slots needed (each of length  $\Delta t$ ) per second are:

$$M_{ij} = \left\lceil \frac{f_{ij}}{R \Delta t (1 - p_{ij})} \right\rceil, \quad i \in [2, N], j \in [1, N], \quad (11)$$

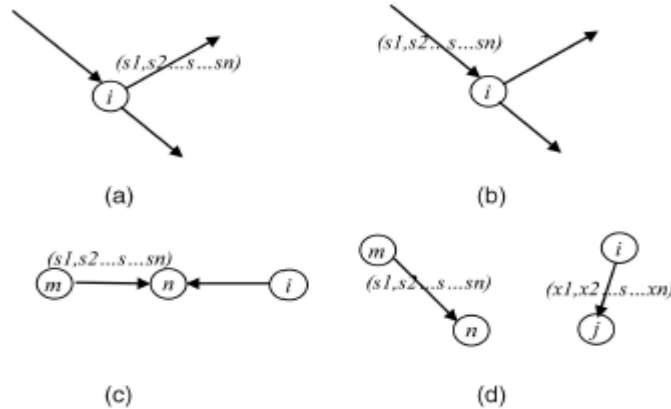
where  $\lceil x \rceil$  is the smallest integer greater than or equal to  $x$ . Note that the slot length  $\Delta t$  should be selected as small as possible to reduce the error introduced by the ceiling function in (11). Also, note that the flow distribution  $f_{ij}$  derived from the optimization model in (6) need not be uniform for all the links; hence, the  $M_{ij}$  can be different for different links. Let  $M_{v,i}$  denote the number of slots required by the virtual link directed to CH  $i$ , which is determined by CH  $i$  according to the aggregate intracluster traffic, and then, sent to the sink. The sink uses the virtual link slot requirements, along with the corresponding requirements for the backbone links to determine the slots needed per second at each node  $i$  (CH or gateway):

$$M_i = \begin{cases} M_{v,i} + \sum_{j=1}^N M_{ij}, & i \in CHs, \\ \sum_{j=1}^N M_{ij}, & i \in Gateways, \end{cases} \quad i \in [2, N], i \neq j. \quad (12)$$

## International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

(An ISO 3297: 2007 Certified Organization)

Vol. 4, Issue 4, April 2015



Without slot reuse, the TDMA frame length is,  $\sum_{i=2}^N M_i$ , which can become too long (i.e., too long delay) for a large size backbone network.

**Criterion 1.** Node  $i$  is not the sender or receiver of a previously scheduled link using slot  $s$ , and the link of node  $i$  to be scheduled with slot  $s$  does not have the same receiver as that of a previously scheduled link currently assigned slot  $s$ .

**Criterion 2.** Scheduling  $s$  as a slot used by one of node  $i$ 's links causes negligible interference to the receiver of a previously scheduled link also using slot  $s$ .

**Criterion 3.** The sender of a scheduled link using slot  $s$  causes negligible interference to the current receiver if it is using slot  $s$  on one of node  $i$ 's links.

**Algorithm 1.** Incremental heuristic for conflict free TDMA frame slot assignment (implemented at the sink)

**Input:** backbone network graph  $G = (V, L)$ ,  $M_i, d_{ij}$  &  $P_{ix,ij}$

**Output:** Conflict-free schedule with frame length  $M$

- 1: for each node  $i (i \neq \text{sink})$  of  $V$  do
- 2:     for each required slot  $m$  in  $M_i$  do
- 3:         Try assigning slot  $s = 1$ ;
- 4:         while any of the 3 interference criteria is not satisfied do
- 5:             Try assigning the next slot  $s = s + 1$ ;
- 6:         end while
- 7:         Assign slot  $s$  to required slot  $m$  of node  $i$ ;
- 8:     end for
- 9:     Store the Id of the last slot  $s$  assigned to node  $i$ ,  $\Gamma_i = s$ ;
- 10: end for
- 11: Calculate the frame length  $M = \max\{\Gamma_i\}, \forall i \in \{2, N\}$

After deriving  $M$ , which is the maximum slot ID being assigned in Algorithm 1, one must verify that  $M\Delta t \leq 1$ . This means that the frame duration should be less than 1 second in accordance with the definition of  $M_i$ . Otherwise, smaller values of  $\Delta t$  are needed to regenerate  $M$  until  $M\Delta t \leq 1$ . In this algorithm, and also in the optimization model described in Section 4, we assume that the distance between every two nodes is known, and the sink can obtain the distance information during the deployment phase of a WSN, or by GPS devices.

# International Journal of Innovative Research in Science, Engineering and Technology

(An ISO 3297: 2007 Certified Organization)

Vol. 4, Issue 4, April 2015

## VII. SYSTEM USABILITY AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

### Simulation scenarios:

1. Sensor nodes are randomly distributed in a square region;
2. Sensor nodes are homogeneous and have a unique ID number throughout the network, nodes energy is limited. The node's location is fixed after deployed;
3. The base station is in the centre of region with fixed location;
4. Nodes communicate with base station via single-hop or multi-hop;
5. The wireless transmitter power is adjustable.

### The network lifetime:

In WSN, the network life is divided into stable and unstable period [6]. Stable period usually means the time from the beginning of the simulation to the time when the first node dies, the unstable period refers to the time from the death of first node to the end of simulation. If it happened that some nodes begin to die, the network operation may become unstable and unreliable data transferring will occur. Therefore, the longer the stable period is, the better the performance of the network. In LEACH Protocol, cluster heads are responsible not only for communicating with the base station, but for the data fusing. Randomly distributing the nodes and randomly selecting the cluster heads causes some cluster heads die earlier because of the low energy or the long distance to base station. Secondary cluster heads are set for these clusters to be responsible for the communication with common nodes and data fusing; this balances the energy load of cluster heads and avoids premature death of these cluster heads, so the stable period of network lifetime will be prolonged.

### The total energy consumption:

Improved algorithm reduced the energy consumption of few cluster heads which has low energy or is far away to base station by setting secondary cluster heads reasonably. This balanced the energy consumption of the whole networks extended the lifetime of cluster heads which may die earlier and optimized the performance of the network thereby reduced the total energy consumption of the effective lifecycle. We know that in the whole running of the network, the energy consumption of improved algorithm is much lower than that of LEACH Protocol at the same round of simulation. These results are consistent with the design purposes of improved algorithm.

## VII. CONCLUSION

Realizing the relationship between the transmission power and retransmissions on a link determining the optimal transmission power, we build a cross-layer design-based nonlinear optimization model which aims at minimizing the network-wide energy consumption. We solve this problem by transforming it into two subproblems with less complexity. Based on the results obtained from the model, we further propose an algorithm that provides a conflict-free schedule utilizing the slot reuse concept. The scheduling algorithm can be applied to WSNs with non-uniformly distributed traffic and different link transmission power. Electing cluster head randomly causes that the current energy of some cluster heads are less or their distances to base station are far, because of the heavy energy burden, these cluster heads will soon die. For this issue, this article proposed a new improved algorithm with LEACH protocol which is aim at balancing energy consumption of the whole network and extending the network lifetime by balancing the energy consumption of these cluster heads. The simulation results indicate that the energy efficiency and the lifetime of network are both better with LEACH Protocol.

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