

Performance Enhancement of Wireless Sensor Networks based on a Novel Data Quality Framework-An approach

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Abstract— Wireless sensor networks are key to the formation of internet of things and internet of things and wireless sensor networks are very important components for building smart cities which have become very popular since the last few years.. Although WSN is featured with various advantageous characteristics, but still WSN share many similarities with other distributed systems, but at the same time the challenges are also huge which impact the design of a WSN. Various significant problems that are being addressed in the literatures are energy issues, security issues, bandwidth issues, deployment issues, networking etc. This paper briefs about the issues of data quality from the data aggregation or fusion process in wireless sensor network. This paper has presented a technique to enhance energy efficiency and data consistency.

Keywords— Data Quality, Energy Efficiency, Data Consistency, WSN

I. Introduction

The usage and commercial adoption of Wireless Sensor Network (WSN) is more than two decades old, where it is found increasingly used in habitat monitoring system, forest fire detection, industrial monitoring system and healthcare etc., Fahmy et al. (2016) & Emary et al. (2013). With the presence of infrastructure, the sensor nodes capture environmental information and forward this information to the base station. This process is called as data aggregation Lu et al. (2017). At present, various studies give a quick overview of different data aggregation procedures Ranjan et al. (2015) & Pantazis et al. (2013). The research work carried out till date essentially focuses on solving energy problems Pantazis et al. (2013), traffic management issues Ploumis et al. (2012), scheduling and provisioning Nithya et al. (2015) and security Modirkhazeni et al. (2010), etc. In addition to this, there have been various studies in WSN that has only emphasized on incorporating optimization techniques to improve communication performance among the sensor nodes Fei et al. (2017).

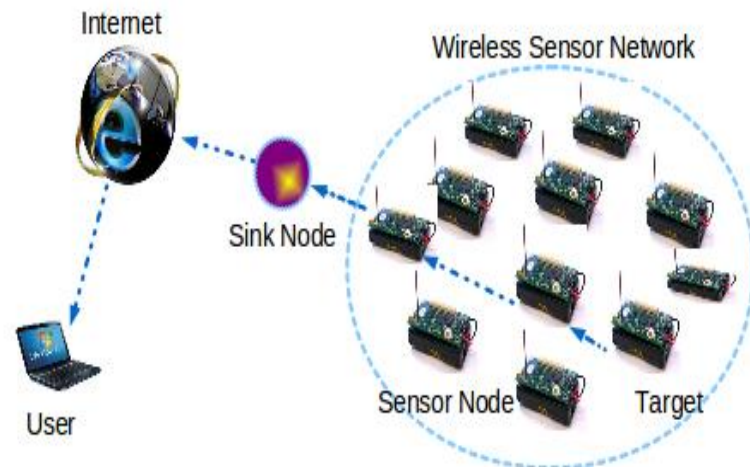


Fig.1 Architecture of WSN

The pace of such research work is quite good even today, as there are many problems in WSN that are quite unsolved even with the presence of a series of dedicated research contributions. A closer look in all the 99% methodologies adopted in research contribution is only limited to communication from member node to cluster head that completes at base station Wang et al. (2018), Sivagami et al. (2016), Rajeswari et al. (2017), Sasirekha et al. (2017), Nayak et al. (2017), Liu et al. (2017) and Zhou et al. (2017). Little information is reported in the research work about what happens to the aggregated data when it finally arrives in the base station. Existing studies of analytical base operation used in Internet-of-Things (IoT) explains, that there is a massive generation of voluminous sensory data that is subjected to mining process to extract specific knowledge Kaiwartya et al. (2018), Sheng et al. (2015), Abidoeye et al. (2017), Zhu et al. (2016) and Bijarbooneh et al. (2016). Interestingly, such sensory data suffers from various problems of heterogeneity, veracity, and velocity if a heterogeneous sensor application is considered.

Another significant problem is that the data quality is highly unstructured. As a result it is quite hard to subject it to any specific storage model. Although there are various causes and reasons of such advance problems, one simple cause of all of the issues is the presence of redundant data in the base station.

The initiation of this problem begins right from the clustering process. In existing system of clustering Firdaus et al. (2016), Subha et al. (2013), Kumari et al. (2013), Tiwari et al. (2015) and Krishnakumar et al. (2016), the algorithms are more inclined on grouping the nodes on the basis of distance from the base station to generate clusters followed by selection of cluster head. The existing research work towards such problems is successful in solving the problem of cluster head selection but is unable to solve the ongoing issues of data redundancy. It is a computational challenge if the assumed network is multi-hop in WSN which calls for a vicious loop of internal communication among the nodes. Hence, at present, we do not find much work where clustering operation is developed to address the issue of data quality. An absence of data quality has various adverse effects on communication.

The first harmful effect is non-reliable data that generates false positive. Such data is non-tolerable for some applications, e.g., healthcare, weather broadcasting, etc., where precision is the sole important factor in data captured from the sensory application. There can be a definition of data quality, where it is mainly related to how unique it could be. Data quality will also mean that each sensor node should be able to forward unique information during the process of data aggregation as well as data fusion process. However, it is very likely that same event could happen in multiple places and information about the same event is captured by multiple sensors. Although such information may be unique for local cluster, it may pose a higher degree of redundancy in the more significant number of clusters. As an aggregated data are time-stamped, so even same data could be time-stamped in a different way, and they successfully bypass the redundancy check within a base station. This phenomenon also adversely affect when the analysis is carried out in this aggregated data. Hence, data redundancy directly affects data quality and is worth investigating this problem to ensure that data aggregation smoothly takes place and also saves some energy while forwarding the data.

Although our work is limited only till base station, knowing what happens to the data in the base station may give a better realization of some potential protocol to offer better quality of data. Therefore, we introduce *a new design approach to enhance data quality with an aid of new mathematical model for ensuring energy efficiency and data consistency*.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

This section briefs various existing research techniques towards data quality problems associated with WSN. Our prior study (Prathiba et al., 2016) has briefed certain approaches while this section further updates more. Xenekis et al. (2015) have presented a weighted clustering approach by introducing

a cost-based factor on the selection of cluster head in WSN as an enhancement from LEACH. Study towards uneven clustering technique was proven to be solving the energy problem associated with the sensor nodes especially in the case of heterogeneous networks (Zhang et al., 2016). Omari and Fateh et al. (2015) have implemented ant colony optimization for enhancing the performance of a hierarchical clustering technique in sensory application. Energy-efficient clustering approaches are also proven to be effective towards multi-hop network formation (Liu et al., 2013). Katiyar et al. (2011) have presented a clustering technique especially focusing on heterogeneous WSN. The work was focused entirely on incorporating energy efficiency in WSN using multilevel clustering approach. There are also literatures reported to use weighted clustering mechanism for solving energy efficiency issues. The works carried out by Zhang et al. (2016) have jointly used hierarchical approach integrated with weighted method to carry out clustering operation. The work carried out by Ambekari and Sirsakar (2016) have presented a study where different forms of the clustering techniques have been evaluated to address the energy efficiency problems in WSN.

The mechanism of selection of cluster head was advocated to be one of the most effective approaches for clustering as studied by Belabed et al. (2017) and Bouallegue et al. (2016). This approach integrates the clustering methodology with the fountain code. Adoption of similar form of weighted methodology towards enhancing clustering operation was discussed by Kumrawat and Dhawan (2015). The work has discussed a unique optimization mechanism for improving the battery of node. The research work carried out by Ebadi et al. (2012) had presented such mechanism where the selection of cluster-head is encouraged for enhancing network lifetime using degree of node and remnant energy. Li et al. (2017) have recently implemented the concept of compressive sensing to perform routing operation during clustering in WSN. The complete work has focused on energy dissipation problems and uses sparse sensing in modeling purpose. The analysis of the clustering mechanism for designing a specific performance metric was carried out by Zeb et al. (2016).

Inclusion of network concept over clustering method was also found to be an effective part of energy efficiency techniques (Chidean et al., 2016). Literature has also contributed increasing number of work towards using weighted clustering mechanism. Discussion of varied clustering schemes was carried out by Tripathy and Chinara et al. (2012). Similar direction of problem addressing was carried out by Hong et al. (2016) where the energy modeling is carried out by tree-based topologies. Usage of received signal strength indicator was reported to contribute for energy efficient clustering (Wang et al., 2014). There are also existing research works focusing on energy-problems, e.g., Aldawsari et al. (2015), Baker et al. (2017), Baker et al. (2013), Baker et al. (2015), and Baker et al. (2010). Irrespective of varied clustering schemes, majority of the existing mechanisms of clustering is only focused on solving energy dissipation issue among the sensor nodes in WSN. Few research works have emphasized on solving the

data redundancy issues that may exist large-scale network. Consideration of dense network and its adverse effect on data packet is also few to find. More importantly, there is no reported standard clustering model to claim robust data quality in any form of the environmental condition that the node may encounter. This is a significant research gap, which calls for immediate attention of researchers. The proposed study considers completely mathematical modeling approach as the standard of the research methodology. The prime reason behind this is majority of the existing system was found to propose a scheme which solves one problem factor responsible for degrading data quality in wireless sensor network, which makes the solution very much narrowed. Such solutions will not be applicable to solve other set of problems. Therefore, mathematical modeling is the better way to represents the problems and solve it, which can be tested based on its anticipated outcomes and actual outcomes in mathematical convergence testing. A technique with better convergence rate will only show better outcomes. In a nutshell, a highly validated outcomes can be generated by adopting mathematical modeling approach as well as it will also keep an open scope to fine-tune the model in future.

III. PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

At present, various research works are being carried out towards improving the energy efficiency approaches in WSN that also focus on data consistency. However various problems are found unaddressed. *Data consistency*, which is one of the most overlooked phenomenon in associated with data quality investigations. Every sensor nodes have a hardware clock and its operation depends on the residual energy (or rather battery life). The moment the residual energy depletes, the oscillation frequency too becomes slower and irregular. This process is very important to understand as it leads to wrong time stamping the sensed data that significant degrades the quality of the sensed data by the wireless sensor nodes. It is quite difficult to mathematically model the energy-efficient clock synchronization algorithm to ensure data quality by reducing the levels of synchronization errors.

A. Challenges to enhance data quality

- Conventional energy modeling techniques cannot ensure clock synchronization.
- Occurrence of clock drift is quite difficult to compensate considering large scale wireless sensor network.

IV. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

This work is an extended version of our prior work prathiba et al. (2017), prathiba et al. (2018).the core goal of the proposed study is to introduce an analytical model approach for enhancing the data quality of a sensor node using a technique to enhance energy efficiency and data consistency.

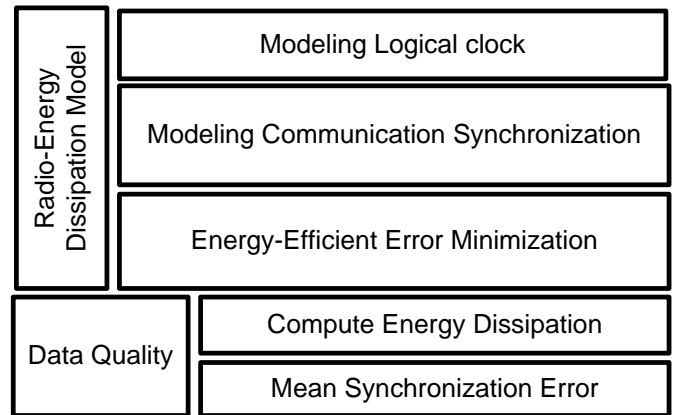


Fig.2 Architecture of proposed study

The design of the proposed system starts with a simple modeling of a logical clock in sensor nodes to develop a relationship among clock, oscillator frequency, and time. The study will consider uncertain amount of error in clock modeling in order to mimic the real-time scenario where hardware clock is error-prone. The proposed system will perform synchronization of clock by the means of exchanging the control messages among the sensor nodes.

Finally, the system will also formulate various test-condition that generates error in clock synchronization and then the proposed study will present a solution which will perform compensation of drift and thereby it will ensure that time stamping of the data packets are as fresh as possible. Moreover, an enhancement of the prior energy model is to be implemented to further ensure that maximum amount of energy is conserved. The system will also formulate strategy for minimizing the number of clock synchronization request for ensuring better data quality and also energy dissipation.

V. Conclusion

Conventional clustering technique in WSN has some good number of research contributions to ensure energy efficiency among the sensor nodes that tend to increase the network lifetime. The proposed system will be checked for its effectiveness using processing time, memory consumption of the algorithm, data quality, and synchronization error. The anticipated outcome of the proposed system will be quality of data which will be gauges with respective to minimization of synchronization error and maximization of energy efficiency. The proposed system is mainly meant to be applicable in the cases that demands higher precision/accuracy of the aggregated data in wireless sensor network e.g., healthcare

applications, nuclear plant surveillance system, climate monitoring system etc. The expected outcomes of the proposed study is to enhance quality of aggregated data, energy efficiency, minimization of synchronization errors and cost effective algorithm that can perform multiple operations in adherence to memory limitations of sensor nodes.

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