Optimization of Stability Period in WSN using GA based Stable Election Protocol

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ABSTRACT

Wireless sensor network is an emerging and new technology in the field of data processing and wireless communication. The wireless network is composed of tiny nodes called as sensor nodes which are battery powered and are capable of transferring information to the destination i.e. Sink. Being battery powered these nodes are limited in energy and loose the energy during the process of routing. Once the sensor node has lost all its energy, it is dead. With the death of first sensor node the network becomes unstable. The stable election protocol (SEP) aims to increase the stability period of the network i.e. the period before the death of the first node. In this paper we propose the optimization of the stability period the sensor network and optimizing tool used here is genetic algorithm (GA). For the proficiency in stability period, the GA is applied on SEP. The simulation of the proposed algorithm is done on MATLAB and the results are compared with heterogeneous LEACH and SEP.

Keywords

Clustering, GA, Optimization, SEP, Stability period, WSNs.

1. INTRODUCTION

Wireless sensor network is a widely developing field and find applications in different areas such as military-target tracing, habitat monitoring, environmental conditions monitoring, security management etc. A wireless sensor network is a collection of tiny sensor nodes that are capable of monitoring and processing the surrounding geographical area. These Sensor nodes are deployed very densely inside the phenomenon or very close to it, where the position of these nodes needs not to be pre-defined or engineered [1], [2]. This allows the random deployment of the sensor network in the area of interest. The number of nodes deployed in WSN can vary from tens to tens of thousands depending on the particular application. Their positions can be static or mobile.

The tiny sensor nodes are battery powered and are equipped with their own sensor processor and radio transceiver for communicating wirelessly [13]. In WSNs to utilize the energy of the network efficiently number of protocols has been developed that are based on direct transmission (DT) or minimum transmission energy (MTE) or clustering based protocols. In case of direct transmission (DT) the nodes transmit data directly to the sink, as a result the nodes that are far away from the sink die fast [12]. On the other hand, in minimum transmission energy, data is relayed onto the minimum cost route, i.e. the path on which least power is consumed. As the nodes near to the sink act as relay, tend to die fast. Thus the design of the protocol for the WSNs should be such that it should be energy aware and helpful in maximizing the network lifetime. A solution to this problem is LEACH (Low-energy adaptive clustering hierarchy) protocol that guarantees well distribution of energy amongst all the nodes by dynamically created clusters & cluster heads dynamically elected according to optimal probability.

LEACH is a hierarchical clustering algorithm that performs well in homogeneous WSN. A homogeneous WSN is one in which all nodes are identical in terms of energy and have equal probability to become cluster head. Amongst all the nodes the cluster heads are elected randomly and the role of each node becoming cluster head is rotated periodically according to a random number between 0 and 1 [14]. A node can become cluster head for the current rotation if the number is less than the following threshold:

$$T(s) = \begin{cases} \frac{p}{1-p*(r*mod\left(\frac{1}{p}\right))} & s \in G \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where p is the desired percentage of the CH nodes in the sensor population, r is the current round number, and G is the set of nodes that have not been CHs in the last 1/p rounds. However, LEACH is not well suited for heterogeneous environment [4]. SEP is two level heterogeneous protocol that introduces two types of nodes i.e. normal nodes and advanced nodes. A fraction m (advanced nodes) of total nodes n is provided with an additional energy factor α. So due to the presence of advanced nodes the stability period of the sensor network is increased.

Paper Organization

Rest of the paper is organized as: section 2 describes the standard stable election protocol. In section 3 we describe our GA based optimized protocol. Section 4 explains the communication model for the wireless sensor network. In section 5 simulation results of our proposed protocol are given compared with other protocols. Finally the paper is concluded in section 6

2. STABLE ELECTION PROTOCOL (SEP)

In SEP, the probability of each node becoming CH is weighted by initial energy of node relative to that of other nodes in the network. Suppose E_0 is the initial energy of each normal node. The energy of each advanced node is then $E_0(1+\alpha)$. Also:

$$p_{nrm} = p/(1 + \alpha * m) \quad (2)$$

$$p_{adv} = (p/(1 + \alpha * m)) * (1 + \alpha) \quad (3)$$

and the threshold in SEP is replaced by threshold for normal sensor, T (s_{nrm}), and threshold for advanced sensor, T (s_{adv}), as follows:

$$T(s_{nrm}) = \begin{cases} \frac{p_{nrm}}{1-p_{nrm}*(r*mod\,(1/p_{nrm}))} & if\ s \in G' \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

$$T(s_{adv}) = \begin{cases} \frac{p_{adv}}{1 - p_{adv} * (r * mod (1/p_{adv}))} & if\ s \in G'' \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

where r is the current round, G' is the set of normal nodes that have not become cluster heads within the last $1/p_{nrm}$ rounds of the epoch, and $T((s_{nrm})$ is the threshold applied to a population of n*(1−m) normal nodes. This guarantees that each normal node will become a cluster head exactly once every 1/p*(1 +α*m) rounds and that the average number of cluster heads that are normal nodes per round is equal to n*(1−m)* p_{nrm}. Similarly, G'' is the set of advanced nodes that have not become cluster heads within the last $1/p_{adv}$ rounds of the epoch, and $T(s_{adv})$ is the threshold applied to a population of n*m advanced nodes. This guarantees that each advanced node will become a cluster head exactly once every ((1)/(p)×((1 +α*m))/(1 +α)))) rounds [8]. Being a heterogeneity protocol SEP aims to improve the stability period and the network lifetime of the WSN. But it has a demerit that the throughput is also increased causing decrease in network lifetime [12]. Our proposed algorithm is observed to be better option to control the tradeoff between energy efficiency, accuracy and response time.

3. GENETIC ALGORITHM

Genetic Algorithm is used to create cluster members, cluster heads and next clusters dynamically, which evaluate the average fitness of the system and is used to increase the network lifetime. In [5], Hussain and Matin described the genetic algorithm for dynamic clustering in WSNs. In the WSNs each node is described by a chromosome, the value of which is specified by binary bits '0' or '1'. If the value is '1' the corresponding node is an advanced node else it is a regular node. For the optimization of the stability the genetic algorithm is applied on SEP. The main features of genetic algorithm are: crossover, mutation and fitness function.

3.1 Population

A population is collection of several chromosomes and the best chromosome is used to generate the next population. Initially the GA starts with a population of predefined number of chromosomes and randomly selected cluster heads. Then each chromosome is evaluated by GA by calculating its fitness. After evaluating the fitness GA selects best suitable chromosome and then applies crossover and mutation operators.

3.2 Fitness

The fitness of a chromosome is its ability to pass on its genetic material & also its quality to survive. The fitness of the chromosome is designed to minimize the energy consumption and to increase the network lifetime. The fitness function of the chromosome is defined as:

$$F = (w_i, f_i)\ \forall\ f_i \in \{C, D, E, SD, T\} \quad (6)$$

The initial weight s of the fitness function are selected arbitrarily, which are updated in each round to select the best chromosome. In the fitness function the term D is defined as direct distance and is the sum of all the distances from cluster nodes to the sink. C (Cluster Distance) is the sum of distances from nodes to CH and from CH to the sink. D =$\sum_{i=1}^{m} d_i$.

C (Cluster Distance) is the sum of distances from nodes to CH and from CH to the sink. C = $\sum_{i=1}^{k} d_i + d_h$ where d_i is the distance from the node i to the cluster head and d_h is the distance from the cluster head to the sink.

E (Transfer Energy) is the energy consumed by the network to transfer the aggregated data from cluster to the base station

where a part of the total transfer energy is consumed to transfer the message from node to cluster head, another part is consumed by the cluster head to receive k-bit message and finally by the cluster head to transfer the message to the base station (sink). SD is the cluster distance Standard Deviation and T defines the number of transmissions assigned by the base station for each data transfer stage. Initially the fitness parameters are assigned arbitrary weights and after every aggregation these weights are updated and best fit chromosome is evaluated to produce the next generation. In [8] & [9], Attea and Khalil described the Genetic algorithm for WSNs with improved fitness function by redefining the distance function.

3.3 Selection

Selection is the process of determining which two chromosomes will mate to form a new chromosome. The chromosomes with higher fitness values have more chances to of matting.

3.4 Crossover

Crossover is a binary genetic operation applied on two chromosomes. Crossover recombines the genetic materials of two parent chromosomes to produce a child chromosome. The results of the crossover depend on the selection procedure.

3.5 Mutation

In mutation the genetic material of individual changes of its own. The mutation adds variations in the next generation.

4. WIRELESS COMMUNICATION MODEL

According to the communication model [4] of wireless sensor networks the energy consumed to transmit a k-bit message over a distance d is given by:

$$E_{Tx}(k,d) = \begin{cases} k * E_{elec} + k * E_{fc} d^2 & d \le d_0 \\ k * E_{elec} + k * E_{mp} d^4 & d > d_0 \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

Where d_0 is the short distance defined as $d_0 = \sqrt{E_{fc}/E_{mp}}$ and E_{elec} = 50nl/bit. Then the energy consumed to receive the above k-bit message is given by E_{Rx} (k,d) = k* E_{elec}

5. SIMULATION RESULTS

In this section we investigate our GA based SEP protocol against LEACH and SEP. The results of simulation show that our proposed protocol is better than other protocols in terms of stability period of the network

5.1 Simulation Settings

The different routing protocols are implemented in MATLAB. The simulation is performed on different sensor networks, each composed of 100 sensor nodes deployed randomly in an area of 100 m × 100 m, assuming sink to be located at the center of the sensor network. The initial energy of a normal node is set as E_0 = 0.5 J, E_{fc} =10 pJ/bit/m^2, E_{mp} = 0.0013pJ/bit/m^4 and E_{DA} = 5nJ/bit/report. The message length is taken to be 4000 bits.

Table1 shows the comparison of different protocols with 10% advanced nodes and α=2 and Table 2 shows the comparison with 20% advanced nodes and α=1.

Table1. Comparison of LEACH, SEP and GASEP with m=0.1 and α=2

S. No.	LEACH		SEP		GASEP	
	FND	LND	FND	LND	FND	LND
1	1025	4353	1122	3032	2282	3455
2	1030	5148	1069	3707	2280	3359
3	1043	3724	1131	3486	2218	3396
4	1048	4388	1133	3715	2322	3501
5	1068	5502	1098	3212	2208	3456

Table 2. Comparison of LEACH, SEP and GASEP with m=0.2 and α=1

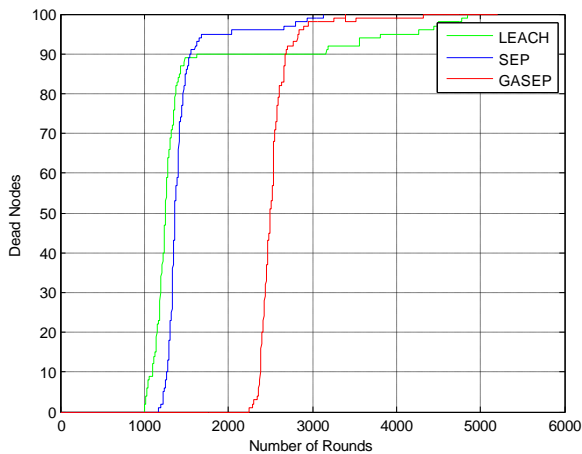| S. No.	LEACH		SEP		GASEP	
	FND	LND	FND	LND	FND	LND
1	996	4851	1173	3130	2250	3378
2	942	6759	1078	3862	2258	3367
3	1003	6414	1145	3752	2260	3452
4	954	6138	1063	4218	2218	3383
5	981	6792	1176	3239	2208	3414

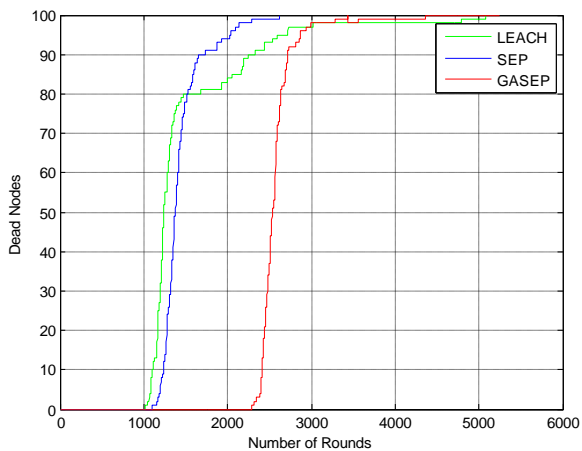**Fig 1: Stability of LEACH, SEP and GASEP with m=0.1 and α=2**

Fig 2. Stability of LEACH, SEP and GASEP with m=0.2 and α=1

6. CONCLUSION

This paper concludes that the results of our protocol are better than that of heterogeneous LEACH and SEP. In this paper we tried to improve the network stability using genetic algorithm. Furthermore, in this proposed protocol we used two levels of heterogeneity and only two types of nodes (i.e. normal nodes and advanced nodes) are used.

In future the protocol can be further modified to improve the network lifetime too. Moreover the results of the protocol can be further modified by considering three levels of heterogeneity.

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