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Priority based Congestion Control Mechanism in Multipath Wireless Sensor Network

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Abstract- Wireless Sensor Network (WSN) is a network composed of distributed autonomous devices using sensors. Sensor nodes send their collected data to a determined node called Sink. The sink processes data and performs appropriate actions. Nodes using routing protocol determine a path for sending data to sink. Congestion occurs when too many sources are sending too much of data for network to handle. Congestion in a wireless sensor network can cause missing packets, long delay, overall channel quality to degrade, leads to buffer drops. Congestion control mechanism has three phases, namely congestion detection, congestion notification and congestion control. In this paper is propose two bit binary notification flag to notify the congested network status for implicit congestion detection. For congested network status, we propose a priority based rate adjustment technique for controlling congestion in link level. Congested packet will be distributed equally to the child node to avoid packet loss and transition delays based on technique. Furthermore, this technique allocates the priority of many applications simultaneously running on the sensor nodes, which route is own data as well as the data generated from other sensor nodes. The results show that the proposed technique achieves better normalized throughput and total scheduling rate with the avoiding packet loss and delay.

Keywords: congestion control, multipath, weighted fairness, queue overflow and channel overloading.

I. INTRODUCTION

Wireless sensor network typically has little or no infrastructure. It consists of a number of sensor nodes (few tens to thousands) working together to monitor a region to obtain data about the environment. WSN has gained worldwide attention in recent years. These sensor nodes can sense, measure to gather information from the environment. Based on some local decision process, they can transmit the sensed data to the user. A variety of mechanical, thermal, biological, chemical, optical, and magnetic sensors may be attached to the sensor node to measure properties of the environment. WSN consists of spatially distributed autonomous sensor nodes to cooperatively monitor physical or environmental conditions.

The sensor nodes of a WSN sense the physical phenomena and transmit the information to base

stations. When an event occurs, the load becomes heavy and the data traffic also increases. This might lead to congestion.

There are mainly two causes for congestion in WSN. The first case is node level congestion, which occurs when the packet-arrival rate exceeds the packet-service rate. This is more likely to occur at sensor nodes close to the sink, as they usually carry more combined upstream traffic. The second case is link level congestion, which occurs due to contention, interference, and bit-error rate. Congestion control mechanism has three phases: congestion detection, congestion notification and congestion control with rate adjustment technique.

In recent years, lots of work going on in congestion control for wireless sensor network. Most of the work deals with the priority based rate adjustment algorithm for different types of application for heterogeneous traffic. Congestion Control and Fairness for Many-to-one Routing in Sensor Networks [1] proposes a distributed and scalable algorithm that eliminates congestion within a sensor network and that ensures the fair delivery of packets to a central node or base station. Priority Based Congestion Control for Heterogeneous Traffic in Multipath Wireless Sensor Networks [2] proposes a priority based congestion control for heterogeneous traffic in multi path wireless sensor network. The proposed protocol allocates bandwidth proportional to the priority of many applications simultaneously running on the sensor nodes. Congestion Detection and Avoidance (CODA) [4] uses buffer occupancy and the channel load for measuring congestion level. It handles both transient and persistent congestion. For transient congestion, the node sends explicit backpressure messages to its neighbors were as for persistent congestion; it needs explicit ACK from the sink. It uses three mechanisms as follows: 1) Receiver based congestion detection, 2) open loop, hop-by hop backpressure, 3) closed loop multi source regulation. PCCP (Priority Based Congestion Control Protocol) [7] is a node priority based congestion control protocol. It defines priority from the nodes point of view instead of the traffic flows point of view.

For implicit congestion detection, we proposed two bit binary flags such as 00, 01, 10 or 11 for congestion notification. Based on congested or heavily loaded network status, we propose different activities

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such as pass packet with delay factor or pass packets with rate adjustment technique. In rate adjustment technique, here also calculated with a delay factor. The rate adjustment technique also distributes congested packet, equally to all child nodes to avoid packet loss.

The structure of this paper is as follows. Section II represents the research methodology of the study. Section III represents details about the technical implementation. Section IV provides result and discussion on the basis of technical implementation of the research. This section also shows a comparison between simple fairness and weighted fairness. Finally, section V summarized a set of conclusion and through an outlook of the future work.

II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A literature review to find about wireless sensor network and also find about congestion in it. Congestion in wireless sensor network causes overall channel quality to degrade and loss rates rise, leads to buffer drops, packet loss and increased delays. Most of the work in recent years has been done in congestion control to avoid packet loss or to minimize packet loss.

In order to find a congestion control technique which avoid packet loss and capable of reducing delay. In these circumstances we discover a system architecture which contains congestion detection unit, congestion notification unit and congestion controlling

unit. The analytical data provide different network status from which we can make a decision whether the congestion is occurring or not.

Furthermore, we found some analytical data from the multipath multihop network model. From the basis of these analyses data, a plot represents the comparison of simple fairness, weighted fairness and throughput. Finally, careful study of the plots is expected to provide a fairness measure of the effect of different packets.

III. TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION

We discuss in this section the detail of our proposed work namely.

a) System Architecture

In Figure 1 represents the system architecture of the proposed work. The Congestion Detection Unit (CDU) calculates the packet service ratio [8]. With the help of congestion control Unit each packet, equally distributed to the child node with existing priority allocates the bandwidth to the child nodes according to the source traffic priority and transit traffic priority. The Congestion Notification Unit (CNU) uses an implicit congestion notification by piggybacking the rate information in its packet header. All the child nodes of a parent node overhear the congestion notification information[12].

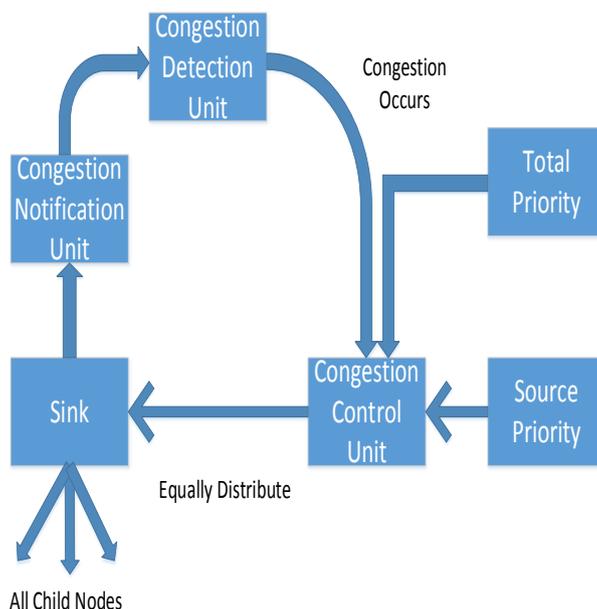


Figure 1: Side Channel Power Analysis Attack

b) Queuing Model

In Figure 2 shows the queuing model of each sensor node. To differentiate different types of traffic in the heterogeneous network, source sensor node adds a traffic class identifier to identify the traffic class [9]. For

each traffic class a separate queue is maintained in the sensor nodes. The classifier classifies the packets based on the traffic class and sends them to the matching unit to set them in a single queue.

The following are the descriptions of the queuing model.

- Source Rate r_s^i : It is the rate at which a sensor node originates data.

- Scheduling rate r_{sch}^i : It is defined as the rate at which the scheduler schedules the packets from the queues. The scheduler of node i , forwards the packet from node $i-1$ to the next node $i+1$.

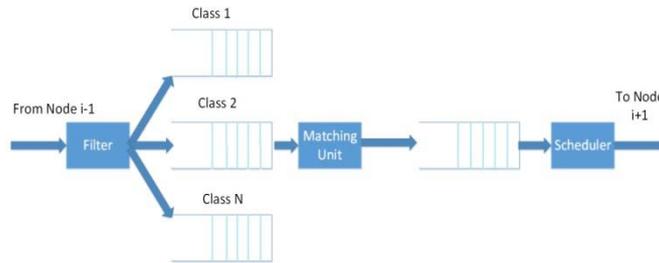


Figure 2: Queuing Model

The scheduler schedules the packets from queues according to the queue priority [10]. The packets from a higher priority queue will be serviced more than the packets from the lower priority queue. The packets in a particular queue are processed based on its sourced traffic and transit traffic [3]. Transit traffic gives more priority than source traffic, since the transit traffic data have already been traversed several paths, and dropping them would cause more waste of network resources. The classifier differentiates the transit traffic from source traffic by examining the source address in the packet header [11].

Congestion control mechanism containing three phase congestion detection, congestion notification and finally congestion control with rate adjustment technique [5]. Theoretically, we implement our proposed technique that avoids congestion occurrence and minimize packet loss.

i. Congestion Detection

For congestion detection we use, congestion notification flag based on different types of data stored in a single queue to pass the packet through the channel to destination. Sensor node may have multiple

sensors with different types of characteristics stored in a single queue. Based on queue for different types of data with different characteristics we use, congestion notification flag such as if the queue is lightly loaded than it notify 00 and the packet pass through the channel without any modification, if it is loaded then it notify 01 and the packet also pass through the channel with queue priority. If the queue is heavily loaded, then it notifies 10 and we propose a delay to avoid congestion in our mechanism and if the queue notify 11 means congestion than we control it with our proposed priority based rate adjustment technique.

ii. Congestion Notification

Congestion notification is calculated based on queue size. If the queue average less than queue minimum than it notify 00, If the queue average greater than or equal queue minimum or less than queue warning value than it notify 01, If the queue average less than or equal queue maximum or greater than equal warning, it notifies 10, otherwise queue average greater than the queue minimum than it notify 11 means congestion occurred.

Table1: Congestion Notification Flag and Action Status

CN Flag	Network Status	Action
00	Lightly loaded	Pass packet without modification
01	Loaded	Pass packet based on queue priority
10	Heavily loaded	Using delay factor & pass packet
11	Congested	Controlling with rate adjustment technique

iii. Rate Adjustment Technique

Rate adjustment is done in the single queue. It ensures that the heterogeneous data from different queue will reach the base queue at the desired rate.

When each node receives the congestion notification information, it adjusts the queue rate accordingly [14].

The following describe the rate adjustment technique:

The packet service ratio $r(i)$ is used to measure the congestion level at each node i . The packet service ratio is calculated as follows:

$$r(i) = rs(i) / rsch(i)$$

Here $r(i)$ denoted as packet service ratio used to measure the congestion level for each node where $rs(i)$ denotes packet service rate of node i and $rsch(i)$ denotes packet scheduling rate of node i .

The average service time can be calculated as follows by using Exponential weighted moving average formula.

$$\bar{T}_s(i) = (1-k)\bar{T}_s(i) + kT_s(i)$$

Where K is a constant value in the range between $0 < K < 1$ and $T_s(i)$ denotes the service time of the current packet in sink node. By using EWMA formula is updated each time a packet is forwarder to the next [6]. The average packet service rate is calculated as the inverse of the average service time.

$$R_{serv}^i = \frac{1}{\bar{T}_s(i)}$$

If $r(i) < Q_{min}$ normal operation. Else if $r(i) \geq Q_{min} \& r(i) < Q_{avr}$ prefer queue priority and pass packet. Else if $r(i) \geq Q_{avr} \& r(i) < Q_{warn}$ pass packet with delay to avoid congestion. Else $r(i) \geq Q_{max}$ distribute packet to the child node.

Let the traffic source priority $SP(i)$ for parent node i of application j where j as child node and i as sense node. For each node i , total traffic source priority can be calculated as the sum of all application running in it.

$$SP(i) = \sum_{j=1}^n (SP_j^i)$$

Where SP_{ij} denotes the traffic source priority of application j . The symbol n denotes the number of application running in sensor node i under multipath routing. The packets of a flow may pass through multiple paths before they arrive at the sink and only a fraction of a flow passes through a particular node or link. The traffic of a particular flow forwarded in one path is defined as a sub flow [15]. Transit traffic priority at sensor node i is used to represent the relative priority of transit traffic from other nodes routed through node i .

Let dly_{ji} for application j in sense node i carries priority that depends on child node that means single node to single node or single node to multi node. If we denote transit priority $TP(i)$ for node i than it would be

$$TP(i) = dly_{ji} \times \sum_{j=0}^j GP(j)$$

$$GP(i) = SP(i) + TP(i)$$

Where $GP(i)$ stands for global priority for node i , Here (dly_{ji}) calculation depends on node number, here we assume that if single node to single node, the value of dly_{ji} must be 1, otherwise it is calculated by dividing delay with the number of parent node connected with [13]. Where $SP(i)$ denotes the source priority for each node carrying with. The process running continuously to pass packet to the sink varied with transit priority and global priority. The packet service ratio reflects the congestion level at each sensor node. When this ratio is equal to 1, the scheduling rate is equal to the service rate. When this ratio is greater than 1, the scheduling rate is less than the packet service rate. In both these cases, there is no congestion. When the packet service ratio is less than 1, the scheduling rate is more than service rate and it causes the queuing up of packets. It indicates congestion. Let threshold value is 0.75. If the packet service ratio is less than the threshold value, it notifies congestion. Then node i will adjust the scheduling rate. If the packet service ratio is greater than 1, indicates that the packet service rate is greater than the scheduling rate. So each node will increase the scheduling rate for parent j to improve link utilization otherwise the packet service rate is equal to the scheduling rate.

$$r_{sch}(i) = GP(i) / (GP(i-1) + GP(i) + GP(i+1))$$

$$Tr_{sch}(i) = r_{sch}(i) / (r_{sch}(i-1) + r_{sch}(i) + r_{sch}(i+1))$$

Scheduling rate can be calculated based on threshold and its directly connected to service ratio to pass packet, and if the service ratio $r(i)$ exceeds the queue maximum value distribute the packet to the child node to avoid packet loss and continue the process to avoid congestion.

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

All the child nodes of the node i overhear the congestion notification information and they control their rate according to it. Rate adjustment is done in a queue. It ensures that the heterogeneous data from different class will reach the base queue at the desired rate. When the queue explodes the congestion notification flag, it adjusts its rate accordingly. Figure 3, shows the multipath multi hop heterogeneous network model considered in the network. In case of multipath routing, each node divides its total traffic into multipath flows and those flows pass through multiple downstream nodes. For simplicity, we assume that each node divides its rate equally among all its parents. We assume that application 1 generates traffic of class 1 and its priority is 1 and for application 2 the priority is 2 and so on. Then the total priority is calculated based on the traffic class of application running on the nodes. The rate allocates to each node is calculated based on the total priority.

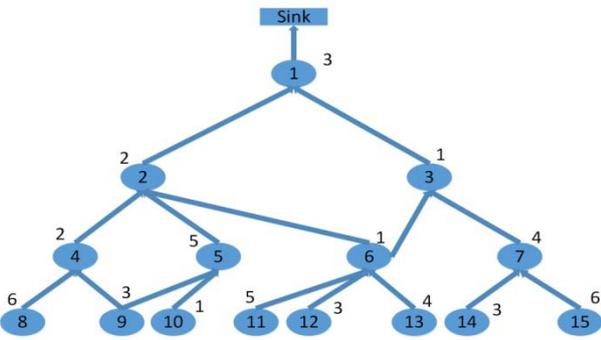


Figure 3 : Multipath multi hop network model

9	0	0	1	3
10	1	0	0	1
11	0	1	1	5
12	1	1	0	3
13	1	0	1	4
14	0	0	1	3
15	1	1	1	6

Table II shows the source traffic priorities of nodes *i* in heterogeneous environments.

As shown in line 5, node 5 has applications 2 and 3 running on it, which generates heterogeneous data with traffic class priority 2 and 3 respectively. The source traffic priority of node 5 is 0+2+3 = 5.

The source traffic priority of all the other nodes can be calculated by the sum of source traffic priorities of traffic classes of individual applications running in it. Node 2 routes the traffic from 4, 5 and 6. The delay factor must be 1/3. The transit traffic priority of node 2 is calculated from the global priorities of nodes 4, 5 and 6.

$$TP(i) = dly_i^j \times \sum_{j=0}^{j=1} GP(j)$$

$$TP(2) = 1/3 \times 29 = 10$$

Table 2 : Congestion Notification Flag and Action Status

Node	App1	App2	App3	SP(i)
1	0	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	2
3	1	0	0	1
4	0	1	0	2
5	0	1	1	5
6	1	0	0	1
7	1	0	1	4
8	1	1	1	6

Table 3 : Scheduling Rate and The Normalized Throughput of The Sensor Nodes

Node	TP(i)	dly _i ^j	GP (i)	r _{sch} (i)	Tr _{sch} (i)	Normalized throughput of node i
1	12	1	15	0.555	0.643	0.643
2	10	0.33	12	0.307	0.254	0.254
3	11	0.5	12	0.342	0.344	0.344
4	9	0.5	11	0.343	0.344	0.344
5	4	0.5	9	0.310	0.328	0.328
6	8	0.33	9	0.290	0.295	0.295
7	9	0.5	13	0.382	0.369	0.369
8	6	1	12	0.387	0.362	0.362
9	3	1	6	0.334	0.376	0.376
10	1	1	2	0.112	0.114	0.114
11	5	1	10	0.556	0.60	0.60
12	3	1	6	0.254	0.208	0.208
13	4	1	8	0.445	0.454	0.454
14	3	1	6	0.230	0.177	0.177
15	6	1	12	0.670	0.730	0.730

Table III. shows the scheduling rate and the normalized throughput of the sensor nodes.

Figure 4. compares the normalized throughput obtained from the proposed technique for priority based weighted fairness with the simple fairness case. As shown in Figure 4, in simple fairness when the priorities of all nodes are same, they receive equal throughput. The proposed method provides priority based weighted

fairness for all the sensor nodes according to the priority of heterogeneous traffic generated by the applications.

The rate allocation and scheduling are made according to the priority. The node 10 which has higher priority has highest normalized throughput and nodes 15 and 1 got lowest normalized throughput. Thus, the proposed mechanism allocates the bandwidth to each sensor node based on its priority.

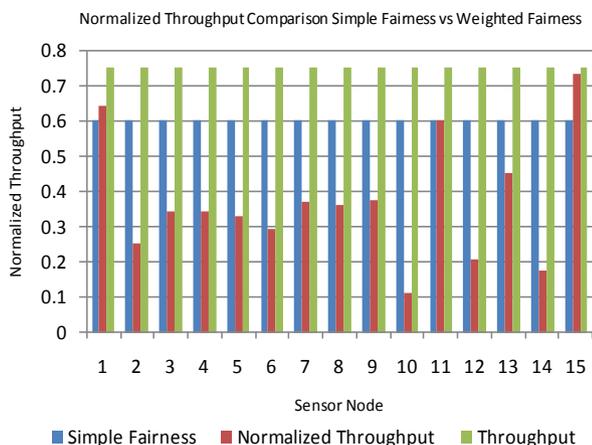


Figure 4 : Normalized Throughput Comparison

V. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper is proposed a priority based congestion control mechanism for heterogeneous data for multipath environment. We have calculated source priority depending on running applications of the sensor nodes and also calculates transit priority by multiplying with delay factor and global priority. In the proposed method the queue divides its congested packet to the child nodes equally and then running the controlling mechanism to prevent or avoid congestion. The proposed technique minimizes congestion occurrence through packet drop ratio, delay and normalized throughput.

In future work, a real time application will be made and the performance will be evaluated through congestion avoidance technique. It is anticipated that will be no packet loss or any kind of delay in packet transmission.

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