

10-15 April 2016 San Francisco, CA, USA

Mobility-Aware Real-Time Scheduling for Low-Power Wireless Networks

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Non Real-Time vs Real-Time Wireless Networks

Non Real-Time Networks	Real-Time Networks
 Provide a best-effort service No guarantee of timeliness or reliability Network dynamics affect the service provided 	 Packets should be delivered in a timely and reliable manner Network dynamics do not affect the service provided
Nodes contend for transmission whenever they have data	Nodes' transmission schedules are predetermined
For example: Connecting devices using WiFi	• For example: Connecting devices using WirelessHART WirelessHART

Industrial Real-Time Wireless Networks

Make wireless technology an attractive solution for process monitoring and control applications

- Reducing the cost
- Simplifying the deployment



- Wireless devices in industrial applications: annual growth rate of 27.2%
- 43.5 million devices by 2020



Introduction

WirelessHART



Central Network Management

Gateway is responsible for managing medium access schedules

Through time slot and channel assignment

(FTDMA: Frequency-Time Division Multiple Access)

The schedules assigned to the red and blue links



Why Centralized Medium Access Scheduling?

- 1. Shortcomings of contention-based medium access:
 - Does not guarantee end-to-end delay
 - Significant packet collision and loss
- 2. Shortcomings of distributed schedule-based medium access:
 - Does not guarantee end-to-end delay
 - Moderate packet loss due to intra-network interference
- 3. Benefits of centralized schedule-based medium access:
 - Guaranteed end-to-end delay
 - Avoids packet loss due to intra-network interference

Research Gap

Existing real-time wireless networks assume: Nodes are stationary, and The set of traffic flows are fixed



Limits the applicability of these solutions to dynamic applications with mobile entities such as patients, robots, firefighters, etc.

How to support real-time communication with mobile nodes?

Objective

Sample Application

- Timely and reliable delivery of patients' vital signs to the Gateway



Basic Assumptions and Requirements

- Each mobile node can generate one or more data flows
- Each flow *i* is characterized by its period (P_i) and deadline (D_i)
- $\cdot\,$ The mobility pattern of the mobile nodes is unknown
- Packets of each data flow should be delivered to the Gateway before their deadline
- For example:
 - A mobile node samples heart rate every 1 sec
 - The sample should be delivered to the Gateway no later than 0.9 sec after its generation



Network Design

Architecture

A Low-Power Wireless Infrastructure Node



 Communicates in a real-time manner with the Gateway

Infrastructure Nodes

Architecture

Wired infrastructure

- Base stations are connected through wire links
- Similar to cellular (3G, 4G) and most
 WiFi networks
- Hard network deployment
- Bandwidth reservation only between mobile-infrastructure



Wireless infrastructure (our choice)

- A multi-hop wireless infrastructure
- Easy network deployment
- Bandwidth reservation between infrastructure-infrastructure as well as mobile-infrastructure



Network Design

Implication of Assumptions on Scheduling



Mobility and Data Forwarding Paths



Two Bandwidth Reservation Strategies

1: On-Demand Bandwidth Reservation

- Whenever a mobile node needs to communicate over a path, it sends a request to the Gateway
 - Shortcoming #1: Huge bandwidth should be reserved for exchanging control data
- Gateway performs bandwidth reservation over the new communication path after receiving a request
 - Shortcoming #2: The Gateway may not be able to reserve bandwidth over the new communication path: CONNECTION LOSS!



Two Bandwidth Reservation Strategies

2: On-Join Bandwidth Reservation (our choice)

- Bandwidth is reserved over all the potential communication paths upon node join
- Gateway admits a mobile node if bandwidth reservation over all the potential communications paths was successful
 - Shortcoming: If performed naively, the number of admitted mobile nodes would be very small
 - We propose techniques to address this shortcoming



Mobile Node Admission

Admitting a mobile node:

1. Beaconing:

- Infrastructure nodes periodically broadcast beacon packets
- Mobile node can discover nearby infrastructure nodes

2. Request for Join:

- Mobile node sends a request for join
- Infrastructure nodes forward the request towards the Gateway

3. Schedule Computation and Dissemination

- The Gateway computes a new schedule to accommodate for the new node
- Infrastructure nodes distribute the computed schedule
- · The mobile node receives the schedule

Admission: First Step

- 1. Beaconing
 - Infrastructure nodes regularly broadcast beacon packets
 - Mobile nodes discover nearby nodes



Admission: Second Step

2. Join Request

- The mobile node sends a join request
- Infrastructure nodes forward the request to the Gateway
- $\cdot\,$ Gateway decides about the admission of the mobile node



Gateway implements a scheduling algorithm that reserves bandwidth for the new mobile node

Admission: Third Step

3. Schedule Computation and Dissemination



Schedule Computation and Dissemination

How much data should be distributed when a mobile node is admitted?



Observations

Observation 1

We should employ on-join scheduling instead of on-demand scheduling

Contribution:

We propose mechanisms that increase real-time capacity

Observation 2

We should minimize the amount of control data required for schedule dissemination

Contribution:

We propose additive scheduling

Frequency-Time Division Multiple Access

Mobility, Association, and Routing Paths

- To forward a flow *i*:
 - *M* associates with infrastructures nodes, depending on its location
- On-join bandwidth reservation:
 - Reserve bandwidth for *M* over all the potential communication paths

Potentia	Commun	ication I	Paths
Path 1	MA		
Path 2	MB	BA	
Path 3	МС	СА	
Path 4	MD	DC	CA
Path 5	ME	EC	СА



- How a scheduling algorithm designed for stationary real-time networks would perform the scheduling?
- We refer to this algorithm as Static Real-time Scheduling (SRS)

Scheduling Constraints:

- A node cannot send and receive simultaneously
- On a path, a transmission BC can be scheduled after transmission AB has been scheduled

Path	1	MA		
Path	2	MB	BA	
Path	3	МС	CA	
Path	4	MD	DC	CA
Path	5	ME	EC	СА



The scheduling matrix produced by SRS

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
C 1	ME	MD	MB	МС	MA	CA	CA	CA				
C ₂		EC	DC	BA								
C ₃												
			Thi	s sc	hedu	ıle is	inef	ficie	nt!			

Potential	Commun	ication	Paths
Path 1	MA		
Path 2	MB	BA	
Path 3	MC	CA	
Path 4	MD	DC	СА
Path 5	ME	EC	CA

ready transmissions =

{(*ME*), (*MD*), (*MC*), (*MB*), (*MA*)}

highest depth: higher priority lowest depth: lower priority



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C 1	ME											
C 2												
C 3												

Potential Communication Paths									
Path 1	MA								
Path 2	MB	BA							
Path 3	MC	СА							
Path 4	MD	DC	СА						
Path 5		EC	CA						

ready transmissions =
{(MD), (EC), (MC), (MB), (MA)}



0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
ME	MD										
	EC										
	0 ME	0 1 ME MD EC Image: state sta	0 1 2 ME MD EC I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	0 1 2 3 ME MD	0 1 2 3 4 ME MD	0 1 2 3 4 5 ME MD I I I I EC I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 ME MD I I I I I EC I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I </td <td>0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 ME MD I I I I I I I EC I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I</td> <td>$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$</td> <td>$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$</td> <td>$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$</td>	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 ME MD I I I I I I I EC I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

Potential	Commun	ication	Paths
Path 1	MA		
Path 2	MB	BA	
Path 3	MC	СА	
Path 4		DC	СА
Path 5			CA

ready transmissions = {(*MB*), (*MC*), (*DC*), (*MA*), (*CA*)}



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C 1	ME	MD	MB									
C ₂		EC	DC									
C 3												
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:: Department of Computer Science :: 1

Potential	Commun	ication	Paths
Path 1	MA		
Path 2		BA	
Path 3	МС	СА	
Path 4			СА
Path 5			CA

ready transmissions = {(MC), (BA), (MA), (CA), (CA)}



C1 ME MD MC Image: MB Image: MB <th< th=""><th></th></th<>	
$C_2 \qquad EC DC BA$	
C3	

Potential	Commun	ication	Paths
Path 1	MA		
Path 2			
Path 3		CA	
Path 4			СА
Path 5			CA

ready transmissions = {(MA), (CA), (CA), (CA)}



0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
ME	MD	MB	МС	MA							
	EC	DC	BA								
	0 ME	0 1 ME MD EC Image: state sta	0 1 2 ME MD MB EC DC Image: Distribution of the second seco	0 1 2 3 ME MD MB MC EC DC BA Image: Second	0 1 2 3 4 ME MD MB MC MA EC DC BA I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I<	0 1 2 3 4 5 ME MD MB MC MA EC DC BA -1 I <tr< td=""><td>0$1$$2$$3$$4$$5$$6$$ME$$MD$$MB$$MC$$MA$$EC$$DC$$BA$$-$<!--</td--><td>0$1$$2$$3$$4$$5$$6$$7$$ME$$MD$$MB$$MC$$MA$$1$$1$$1$$1$$EC$$DC$$BA$$1$<!--</td--><td>0$1$$2$$3$$4$$5$$6$$7$$8$$ME$$MD$$MB$$MC$$MA$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$EC$$DC$$BA$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$$<$<th< td=""><td>$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c 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Potential Comn	nunication Paths
Path 1	
Path 2	
Path 3	CA
Path 4	СА
Path 5	CA

ready transmissions =
 {(CA), (CA), (CA)}



		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
С	1	ME	MD	MB	МС	MA	CA						
С	2		EC	DC	BA								
С	3												

Potential	Commun	ication	Paths
Path 1			
Path 2			
Path 3		CA	
Path 4			CA
Path 5			

ready transmissions = {(CA), (CA)}



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C 1	ME	MD	MB	МС	MA	CA	CA					
C 2		EC	DC	BA								
C 3												

Potential	Commun	ication	Paths
Path 1			
Path 2			
Path 3		CA	
Path 4			
Path 5			

ready transmissions = {(CA)}



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C 1	ME	MD	MB	МС	MA	СА	СА	CA				
C ₂		EC	DC	BA								
C 3												

Path-Dependent Schedule Activation



Path-Dependent Schedule Activation



For a flow i, two transmissions belonging to two different paths can be combined in one entry of the scheduling matrix.



For Example:

- Transmissions (MA), (MB), (MC), (MD) and (ME) can be combined.
- Transmissions (MC), (DC) and (EC) can be combined.

. .

Potential Communication Paths											
Path 1	MA										
Path 2	MB	BA									
Path 3	МС	CA									
Path 4	MD	DC	СА								
Path 5	ME	EC	CA								

ready transmissions =
{(ME), (MD), (MC), (MB), (MA)}



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C ₁	ME MD MC MB MA											

Potential Commun	ication	Paths
Path 1		
Path 2	BA	
Path 3	CA	
Path 4	DC	СА
Path 5	EC	CA

ready transmissions = {(*BA*), (*CA*), (*DC*), (*EC*)}



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C 1	ME MD MC MB MA	BA CA DC EC										

Potential	Communication	Paths
Path 1		
Path 2		
Path 3		
Path 4		СА
Path 5		CA

ready transmissions = {(CA), (CA)}



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C1	ME MD MC MB MA	BA CA DC EC	CA CA									

The scheduling matrix produced by employing: Schedule Combination

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C 1	ME MD MC MB MA	BA CA DC EC	CA CA									

3 entries of the scheduling matrix are used

We have scheduled the five paths more efficiently However:

Data flows over these five paths can be coordinated

We propose the *Flow Coordination* technique to: Reduce the number of transmissions scheduled in each entry

Replicated transmission schedules can be eliminated through coordinating the scheduling of potential communication paths

Without Flow Coordination									
Path	1	MA							
Path	2	MB	BA						
Path	3	МС	CA						
Path	4	MD	DC	CA					
Path	5	ME	EC	CA					

With Flow Coordination

Path	1	MA		
Path	2	MB	BA	
Path	3	МС		
Path	4	MD	DC	
Path	5	ME	EC	CA

Transmission CA is scheduled once after transmissions MC, DC, and EC have been scheduled

Potential Communication Paths									
Path 1	MA								
Path 2	MB	BA							
Path 3	МС								
Path 4	MD	DC							
Path 5	ME	EC	CA						

ready transmissions =
{(ME), (MD), (MC), (MB), (MA)}



ME MD MD MC MB		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
	C 1	ME MD MC MB MA											

Potential Communication Paths								
Path 1								
Path 2	BA							
Path 3								
Path 4	DC							
Path 5	EC	CA						

ready transmissions = {(*BA*), (*DC*), (*EC*)}



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C1	ME MD MC MB MA	BA DC EC										

Potential Communication Paths									
Path 1									
Path 2									
Path 3									
Path 4									
Path 5			CA						

ready transmissions = {(CA)}



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	•••
C1	ME MD MC MB MA	BA DC EC	СА									

- · So far we have employed "forward scheduling"
- -Forward Scheduling:
 - We perform link scheduling starting from the flow generator
- -Cannot effectively use the schedule combination technique

	0	1	2	• •
C1	ME MD MC MB MA	BA DC EC	СА	





For Example:

Using forward scheduling, node *A* is blocked in 3 slots, i.e., node *A* cannot be used for scheduling other flows in time slots 0, 1, 2

-Forward Scheduling:

- The set of ready transmissions initially includes the transmissions that origin from the flow generator
- Scheduling is started from time slot 0

Unfortunately, forward scheduling does not effectively benefit from the schedule combination technique we proposed earlier

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
C 1	ME MD MC MB MA	BA DC EC	CA									

Transmissions *MA* and *BA* could be scheduled in the same entry as that of *CA*



- We propose "Reverse Scheduling" to improve schedule combination
- -Reverse Scheduling:
 - We perform link scheduling from the destination

	•••	5	6	7
C 1		ME MD	MB DC EC MC	MA BA CA





For Example: Using reverse scheduling, node A is blocked in 1 slot only.

- To improve the efficiency of Flow Merging, we propose "Reverse Scheduling"
- -Reverse Scheduling:
 - The set of ready transmissions initially includes the transmissions that deliver a flow to its destination
 - Scheduling is started from the deadline of the flow





Potential Communication Paths													
Path 1	MA												
Path 2	MB	BA											
Path 3	МС												
Path 4	MD	DC											
Path 5	ME	EC	CA										

ready transmissions = {(CA), (BA), (MA)}





Potential Communication Paths													
Path 1													
Path 2	MB												
Path 3	МС												
Path 4	MD	DC											
Path 5	ME	EC											

ready transmissions =
{(MB), (DC), (EC), (MC)}





Potential	Commun	ication	Paths
Path 1			
Path 2			
Path 3			
Path 4	MD		
Path 5	ME		

ready transmissions =
 {(ME), (MD)}





Slot Blocking: Forward and Reverse Scheduling





Flow-Ordered Mobility-Aware Scheduling Algorithm (FO-MARS)

Request for Admission



Reserve bandwidth for: **new mobile node + existing nodes**

Distribute the schedules for: **new mobile node + existing nodes** FO-MARS

- Input:

- new mobile node's flows +
 existing flows
- Output:
- Approve: The algorithm has scheduled all the flows
- Reject: The algorithm cannot schedule all the flows

- Operation Summary:

- Schedule flows in the order of their deadlines
- Employ the techniques we proposed earlier

Frequency-Time Division Multiple Access

Algorithm may-schedule()



Flow-Ordered Mobility-Aware Real-Time Scheduling (FO-MARS)

- Schedules one flow at a time
- The order of flow scheduling is based on flows' deadlines

NOTE: Scheduling a flow with longer period may reduce the schedulability chance of flows with shorter periods...

EXAMPLE:

- *f*₁:<*m*₁, 32, 32> requires 4 transmissions
- *f*₂:<*m*₂, 8, 8> requires 4 transmissions

Ordering 1: f₁:<m₁, 32, 32>, then f₂:<m₂, 8, 8>

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
																								We cannot schedule <i>f</i> ₂ here								

Ordering 2: *f*₂:<*m*₂, 8, 8>, then *f*₁:<*m*₁, 32, 32>

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Flow-Ordered Mobility-Aware Real-Time Scheduling (FO-MARS)

Two shortcomings of FO-MARS:

- 1. When a request for bandwidth reservation is received, all the existing flows with shorter period must also be rescheduled
 - Significant control data dissemination
 - Long node join delay
- 2. A newly received schedule can be used at the beginning of the next hyper period
 - Long node join delay

Flow-Ordered Mobility-Aware Real-Time Scheduling (FO-MARS)

We cannot switch to a new scheduling matrix at any time

+ Example:



New Scheduling Matrix



Flow-Ordered Mobility-Aware Scheduling Algorithm (FO-MARS)



Reserve bandwidth for: **new mobile node + existing nodes**

Distribute the schedules for: **new mobile node + existing nodes**



Additive Mobility-Aware Real-Time Scheduling (A-MARS)





Challenge of Additive Scheduling



The flows of each node should be scheduled so that future mobile nodes can be scheduled as well

We need a smart bandwidth reservation algorithm that predicts the future to enhance the schedulability of future flows

Challenge of Additive Scheduling

- Assume P_{γ} = 16 and P_{β} = 8
- γ and β require 5 transmissions
- + γ and β cannot be scheduled using the same time slots



	Successful admission of flow β														
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	n^{th} Period of flow γ (Scheduling ok!)														
						Y	Y						Y	Y	γ
n	th Peric	od of fl	low β	(sche	edulin	ıg ok!	$n+1^{\text{th}}$ Period of flow β (scheduling ok!)								
	β	β	β	β	β	γ	γ	β	β	β	β	β	γ	γ	γ

How to know which slots should be used for scheduling a flow?

Flow Classes and Slot Prioritization

- Assume the network services a set of flow classes γ , β , α ,...
- All the flows in a flow class have similar period and deadline
- We prepare a prioritized list of slots for scheduling each flow class



Slot Prioritization

• We propose the notion of Potential Utilization (PU) to measure the effect of choosing each slot

demand = percentage of flows belonging to class $\beta \times \#$ required transmissions



Performance Evaluation

Performance Evaluation

Setup



- Trace-driven simulator using exhaustive floor plan measurements
- Realistic and repeatable experimentation

Performance Evaluation

Scalability: How Many Mobile Nodes can be Supported?



Admission Delay





A-MARS'S Admission delay < 20 seconds

Network Lifetime



Conclusion

- Real-time wireless networks can be used in mission-critical applications such as industrial process control and medical monitoring
- Existing real-time networks do not efficiently handle network dynamics such as mobility and flow addition/removal
- We proposed scheduling techniques for efficient bandwidth reservation for mobile nodes
- We proposed an additive scheduling algorithm for effective handling of flow admission and removal
- Compared to the algorithms designed for stationary real-time networks, our proposed network admits a significantly higher number of mobile nodes, archives short admission delay, and handles network dynamics efficiently

Acknowledgement



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This work was supported by the National Science Foundation and the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust 69