

# The performance assessment of MAC Protocols in Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs)

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## Article Info

Volume 82

Page Number: 9598 - 9605

Publication Issue:

January-February 2020

## Abstract:

Numerous analysts utilize IEEE802.15.4 as a communication method for WSNs. Nevertheless, MAC layer needs for correspondences in WSNs differ due to network will be generally optimized for particular applications. Therefore, one specific standard will scarcely be appropriate for each probable application. The two common kinds of MAC methods exist: schedule based & contention based. This manuscript describes these two main methods & incorporates the instances of every one. The manuscript finishes up with an interesting execution examination & comparison of advantages and disadvantages of every protocol w.r.t WSNs.

**Keywords:** *wireless sensor networks (WSNs), "medium access control (MAC) layer, LAN (local area network), MAN (metropolitan area network), Maximum Latency column (MLC), request to send (RTS) frame, clear to send (CTS) frame, Berkeley Media Access Control (B-MAC), LPL (low-power listening), Predictive Wake-UP MAC (PW-MAC), linear congenital generator (LCG), Low-Energy Adaptive Clustering Hierarchy (LEACH), Priority-Based MAC (PRIMA), Power-Efficient and Delay-Aware Medium Access Protocol (PEDAMACS)"*

## Article History

Article Received: 18 May 2019

Revised: 14 July 2019

Accepted: 22 December 2019

Publication: 12 February 2020

## 1. Introduction

The WSNs have many nodes, and WSNs might be utilized in observing applications like surveillance, weather, structural health, crops, & health care of human [1], [2]. Though, WSNs have dissimilar from distinctive networks in that unique nodes have extremely restricting limits in processing power & memory. Furthermore, usage of energy will be a main restriction since nodes generally utilize physically minor hardware platforms & they are really prone with be powered battery. When a battery will be depleted, it is regularly very critical, whether not problematic to replace or recharge it, so node will be deliberated dead [1]. As a design, deliberate the application introduced in [3], where as a

hardware platform utilizes 120.12 joules & node transmits each 80 milliseconds in 1 hour. Whether the hardware utilizes 2AA batteries with the capacity is 1200 mAh, anode might work 65.96 hours in front of somebody should climb the span to displace many batteries. Another application will be spillage in industrial plant with risky chemicals.

An extra problem will be that singular observing applications provisions are broadly separate necessities in through-network topology, delay, & put etc. In regards physical topology, the chemical leak & bridge monitoring have applications utilizing nodes probably placed in irregular situations. In distinction, whether the circumstance will be patient monitoring in

medicinal facility, network might require a particular layout to evade interference with medical apparatus. In regards delay, health monitoring of human might have a tighter delay prerequisite over the other 2 specified applications since fundamental indications of patient might demonstrate the requirement of prompt medication. Since diverse applications have diverse necessities, WSNs will utilize a communication standard family, every participant outlined to optimize incredulous parameter(s).

## 2. Background

Meanwhile the wording for WSNs will be regularly utilized with diverse implications in review, common group of definitions will be fundamental to avoid confusion.

- (i) MAC layer: the work [4] characterizes MAC as “sub layer of data link layer” exhibited in OSI method. The MAC layer fundamental works are addressing, error protection, “frame delimiting & recognition”, data transmission from upper layers, & access arbitration to 1 channel imparted toward whole nodes [4]. The “MAC layer protocols for WSNs” should be energy proficient to expand lifetime. Furthermore, the protocols should be accessible as stated by size of network & must adapt to variations in network for example death of present nodes, addition of novel nodes, & “transient noise on wireless channel” [5].
- (ii) Sleep: The state of node whereas a radio will be turned off [6].
- (iii) Frame: The information unit holding data from the MAC & probably from the higher layers [4].

- (iv) Packet: The information unit with data from “network layer protocol” & probably from the higher layers [4].
- (v) Collision: 2 or many frames have received at similar time, harming the resultant signal. Whole data will be lost [5].
- (vi) Overhearing: To get a packet, whose target will be whatever node [6], this is outcomes in unused energy.
- (vii) Idle listening: The additional source of unused energy happens whereas a node has its radio on [6].
- (viii) Over-emitting: To convey a message while the target will be not prepared for getting it. The energy for send a message is unused [5].
- (ix) Broadcast: The send a message to whole nodes in a network [5].

## 3. MAC Protocols classification for WSNs

The MAC protocols introduced in survey might be categorized in 2 types as stated by the method utilized to handle medium access: schedule based & contention based [12]. All protocols exhibited in this manuscript accept without out mobility in network, only 1 radio accessible in every bidirectional & sensor links.

### 3.1. Contention Based

The medium access will be dispersed; here no necessity to vital coordination for nodes to utilize medium. The instances incorporate the subsequent.

- (a) S-MAC [6] works by putting a node, which listens to medium. Throughout node

with a packet to send performs a methodology comparable to “802.11 virtual channels sensing”, it is send a frame of RTS & recipient node will response with frame of CTS. Complete nodes not included in discussion will enter a state of sleep same

time the communicating nodes send ACKs & information packets. The sleep declines energy utilization, however, presents latency since correspondence with a sleep node should wait till it wakes dependent upon [6].

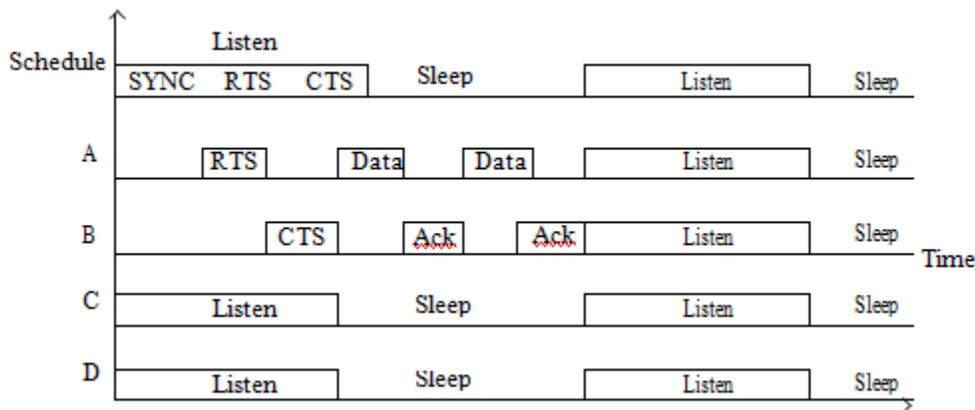


Figure 1: S-MAC example. Nodes A, B, and C are within range of each other. D is within range of C and A transmits to B.

Figure 1 indicates a sample of event sequences happening in communication among 4 nodes utilizing SMAC. The benefits of S-MAC incorporate sleeping that declines energy usage. The protocol adjusts effectively to transforms in the topology & tested in hardware. Moreover, there will be no necessity for a focal substance. The constraints of S-MAC incorporate the essential to handle detached synchronization to schedules to effort appropriately. The clock drift in nodes might outcome in nodes become to be unsynchronized. The control frames like CTS & RTS create overhead & expand energy utilization. The idle listening still happens, as demonstrated in figure 5, whereas D node is not getting whatever packet, however, should stay awake throughout the whole listening stage.

S-MAC is broadly surveyed & few resulting protocols incorporate suggestions for execution change. The instances incorporate “dynamic sensor-MAC (DS-MAC)” [27] & timeout MAC (T-MAC) [13]. The “B-MAC protocol” recommends a diverse methodology that declines the overhead created by control frames & doesn't unequivocally synchronize the receiver & transmitter.

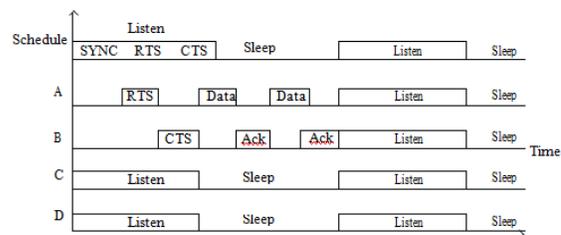


Figure 2: B-MAC communication example. All nodes are within range of each other.

(b) B-MAC [14] uses a versatile preamble to decrease idle listening, main energy source utilization in numerous protocols. Whereas a node has packet to send, it waits throughout a “backoff time before checking the channel”. Whether channel will be perfect, node transfers; generally it starts a second backoff. Every node should check a channel occasionally utilizing LPL; whether the channel will be idle & node has no information to transmit [28]. Figure 2 demonstrates one sample transmission utilizing B-MAC. This testing plan modifies interval in that channel will be checked to equivalent frame preamble size. The upper layers might transform the preamble duration, as stated by the application necessities [15]. As a benefit of utilizing B-MAC in WSN is not utilizes CTS, RTS, & ACK or whatever a control frame by default, however, they might be included. Moreover, it will be “specialized MAC protocol execution” is tested in the hardware. The synchronization will be not essential, & protocol execution might be turned by upper layers to requirements of different applications. The fundamental restriction is preamble makes substantial overhead. One case displays “271 bytes of preamble to send 36 bytes of information” [15].

(c) PW-MAC [16] enhances in protocols such as B-MAC & S-MAC due to it utilizes pseudo random schedule. Toward utilizing the seed in LCG, sender in the PW-MAC could anticipate whereas a recipient will get up; subsequently sender sleeps till a small bit before collector may be awake. Though, there are hardware differences, which produce errors in sender calculation. The

PW-MAC utilizes a “sender wake-up development time” [16], a compensating value specific to each platform, OS delay, hardware latency, & incorporating clock drift. Furthermore, the protocol is tested in hardware, utilizing MicaZ nodes, & memory foot shaped impression will be little. The limitations of utilizing PW-MAC incorporate overhead made by idle listening & beacons [16] contrasted with different protocols like WiseMAC [17], RIMAC [18], & X-MAC [19].

### 3.2. Schedule Based

The protocols referee medium access by describing a sequence for nodes to receive, transmit, or inactive. By speaking, every node interconnects throughout particular duration of the time slot(s) & could be inactive remaining time. The “schedule-based protocols” utilize an assortment of methods, as demonstrated in following.

(a) LEACH [20] incorporates application, MAC, routing, & physical qualities for correspondence in WSNs. A particular application deliberated will be remote monitoring whereas information collected through adjacent nodes might be redundant. In the LEACH, the nodes establish in clusters, choose a “cluster head (CH)”, & then begin sending data. Each cluster utilizes DSSS for a diverse code, to diminish interference [33].

Throughout setup phase, “non persistent CSMA” will be utilized as MAC. The CH makes a TDMA schedule utilizing this data & sends it to complete nodes in cluster. The heads of cluster combined their cluster

information & send it to BS utilizing CSMA [33]. The benefits of LEACH incorporate sparing energy by sleeping. The CH revolution prolongs the network lifetime by adjusting the energy utilization rate over whole nodes. Comprising a few other network layers in protocol design advantages the all communication plan toward diminishing utilization of energy because of inefficiencies among layers. LEACH needs tight synchronization that will be not incorporated as segment of protocol & need extra energy & overhead to fulfill.

(b) PEDAMACS [21] accepts 1 access point is also known as sink with capability to arrive all sensor nodes in 1 hop. Though, sensor hubs might utilize more than 1 hop to arrive AP. There are 3 “transmission power levels” described to arrive 3 distances:  $P_s$  is the minimum,  $P_m$  is the medium, &  $P_l$  is the maximum. The protocol is the subsequent 4 stages are demonstrated in Figure 8. PEDAMACS recognizes qualities from network & physical layers, to its benefit. Other benefits incorporate PEDMACS might be utilized for sending “event driven sensing”, utilizing an assigned timeslots only whereas the event occurs; then, the nodes keep on sleeping. The protocol could be enlarged to utilize more than 1 AP & to manage nodes outside extent of AP. The delay outcomes have limited for diverse sizes of network [21]. The constraints of PEDAMACS incorporate extensive extra overhead by RTS, ACK, & CTS packets. The protocol accepts an AP that might connect to whole nodes with unlimited energy supply. One sample with

Mica2 motes indicates 25cm radio extent for  $-20\text{dBm}$  that will be the “minimum transmission power” [3], thus nodes should be much near to every other to handle connectivity in a network.

(c) PRIMA [22] utilizes a same process as LEACH [33] to make clusters & choose CHs & to handle communication & keep synchronization in every cluster; CH will turn each 15 minutes. PRIMA describes 4 necessities to data toward create “application layer” to include 2 bits at target of every packet. The MAC layer utilizes 2 diverse protocols: “classifier MAC (C-MAC)” includes every packet to 1 of 4 diverse queues, as stated by each necessity. The other protocol will be “channel access MAC (CAMAC)” that utilizes TDMA & CSMA/CA slots. A comparable circumstance occurs where as CHs need to transmit to BS. There are CSMA stages to make schedules & TDMA stage whereas every CH might exchange information without collisions.

The fundamental benefit of PRIMA will be lessening packet delivery delay as stated by traffic necessities. PRIMA is offers with LEACH benefits in a CH rotation, serving expansion lifetime. Nevertheless, whether a CH expires, whole nodes in a cluster get pointless until a novel CH selection in the same way in LEACH. Moreover, overhead packets expand energy utilization.

#### 4. Summary of MAC

Table 1 reviews the protocols introduced in this manuscript, contrasting few features. Perceive all “contention based protocols”

are executed in hardware, as a minimum for tests indicated in specific cited review; whereas schedule-based ones are executed only in experiments. Also particularly, just PEDAMACS demonstrates limited delay for diverse sizes of network. Table 1 represents features of applications, which might advantage from the specific protocol. In regards “standards, control

frames” stated in table utilized in every instance: 802.15.1 utilizes control frames (C), supervisory (S), 802.11 utilizes management & control frames, & 802.15.4 has “command frames”. A complete demonstration of all “control frames” is in principles exhibited in [9], [10], [11], [23], [24].

TABLE 1: WSNs MAC Protocol Comparison.

Name	Implemented	Applications	Synch requirement	Overhead
S-MAC	Hardware	Event-driven, long idle periods, delay order of message time	Loose	RTS, CTS, ACK, SYNC
B-MAC	Simulation/hardware	Delay tolerant	None	Preamble
PW-MAC	Hardware	Low delay, long idle periods	None	Beacon
LEACH	Simulation	Periodic data collection and monitoring	Tight	ADV, Join-Req, schedule
Pedamacs	Simulation	Delay bounded	Tight	RTS, CTS, ACK, Synch, topology learning
PRIMA	Simulation	Different QoS	Tight	Synch, Schedule, CH election
IEEE 802.11	Simulation/hardware	High data rates, large energy source, smart terminals	None	RTS, CTS, ACK
IEEE 802.15.1	Simulation/hardware	Medium to low data rates, low energy consumption	Tight	Synch transmissions, S, C
IEEE 802.15.4	Simulation/hardware	Medium to low data rates, low energy consumption	Tight	Beacon, ACK
WirelessHART	Simulation/hardware	Process automation	Tight	Synch, schedule, routing, other
ISA100a	Simulation/hardware	Process automation	Tight	Synch, schedule, routing,

Each protocol attempts to enhance on specific metric, subsequently diverse execution variables are utilized to assess protocol convenience. Table 2 represents the complete outcomes of utilizing every protocol. The protocol section indicates the primary protocol introduced in each examines utilizing protocol & bold characters utilized as benchmark in every manuscript with general features. The “maximum energy consumption” section in table 2 displays maximum value accounted for every protocol. All manuscripts not utilized energy estimation units, so this section displays information for power, energy for correlation reasons, since the measurements are related. The platform indicates the particular software or hardware

utilized in investigations for every protocol, since not complete protocols have tested utilizing the similar methods.

The MLC demonstrates the highest delay introduced for every protocol. The tests have executed with diverse energy consumption methods, topologies, & sizes of network in every manuscript, making it critical to directly analyze protocols. Not complete tests utilize the similar units.

### 5. Conclusion

In past, there are no comparing standard techniques of contention based & scheduled based protocols. The absence of standard assessment measurements has produced it critical to assess & choose a protocol,

regardless of the necessities of a specific application are recognized. Many WSN protocols will be quickly extending so a group of protocols covering the broadest conceivable breadth is chosen to examination. Utilizing the investigation technique and measurements exhibited in this paper recommends that contention-based methodologies might a chance to be supportive whereas the application necessities have not delay constrained, system topology will be random, & there may be no component to guarantee tight synchronization. The investigation also demonstrates that “schedule-based methodologies” might be much energy efficient whether deployment will be not random. The protocol users & designers advantage from standard test techniques, which might be connected crosswise over all “communication protocols for WSN”, so that protocols might be calculated utilizing the similar units, permitting for evaluation & assessment.

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