

A SURVEY OF THE LITERATURE ON WIRELESS SENSOR NETWORK ROUTING TECHNIQUES

Dr.N.Mohana Suganthi ,SUMANTA KUMAR SINGH Department of Computer Science & Engineering Raajdhanni Engineering College

Abstract:

Steering in Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs) plays a significant job in the field of climate situated checking, traffic observing, and so forth. Here, wide commitments that are made toward directing in WSN are investigated. The paper predominantly expects to arrange the directing issues and analyzes the steering related streamlining issues. For accomplishing the thought process, 50 papers from the standard diaries are gathered and essentially explored in a sequential manner. Afterward, different highlights that are connected with energy, security, speed and unwavering quality issues of steering are talked about. In this manner, the writing is dissected in view of the reproduction climate and exploratory arrangement, mindfulness over the Quality of Service (QoS) and the sending against different applica-tions. Likewise, the advancement of the directing calculations and the meta-heuristic investigation of defeat ing improvement are investigated. Steering is an immense region with various perplexing issues and consequently, different exploration holes alongside future headings are likewise introduced.

KEYWORDS Routing; QoS; Optimization; Meta-heuristic

1. Introduction

Remote Sensor Networks (WSNs) are as of late evolved to help a lot of uses, which incorporate traffic control, home computerization, savvy battlefield, climate checking and some more. WSN consolidates different sensors that are circulated around a specific hub for accomplishing the compu-tational tasks [51,41].

In WSN, steering is a vital undertaking that will be han-dled cautiously. Steering strategy is required for sending the data between the sensor nodes and the base stations, so as to establish

communication. The main criterion, which is focused in this paper, is about the routing protocol that varies based on the application. The routing problem leads to decreased net- work lifetime with increased energy consumption. So, various routing protocols have been developed to minimize the energy consumption and to maximize the network lifetime. The rout- ing protocols can be categorized based on the nodes' participa- tion, clustering protocols, mode of functioning and network structure. The various challenges in routing include energy consumption, node deployment, scalability, connectivity, cov- erage, security. [52]. Fig. 1 explains the routing protocol of the wireless sensor networks.

The presented paper collectively reviews the routing analy- sis, which is performed in the wireless sensor networks such as the mobile ad hoc network, to maximize the network lifetime

and to decrease the energy consumption. The review is done using 50 research articles that occupy a supreme position in the leading journals of the past 10 years. The articles are acquired based on the top search results from the online library of the leading journals. The papers that are based on routing and its optimization are mostly selected. Section 2 is dealt with the chronological survey of all the papers that are collected. The collected papers are then used to select, categorize and describe various features. Section 3 gives a detailed analysis of the routing protocols, explaining about various simulators, tools, network configurations, QoS parameters and their applications. Section 4 reveals various optimization problems as well as the meta-heuristic procedures that solve them in the cloud environment. Next, Section 5 conveys the research gaps and the challenges. Finally, Section 6 ends the review with an informative conclusion.

2. Routing protocols for wireless sensor networks

Review chronology

Fig. 2 illustrates the chronology-based percentage calculation for routing in wireless sensor networks. In 2015, 42% of works are done in the field of routing, which is comparatively 4% higher than the works that are done in the consecutive years 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012. About 8% works are done in 2014 and 2016. The predicted data represent the recent research and developments in the field of routing in wireless sensor networks. The routing protocols have been developed to face the challenges, which are caused due to the features such as energy, security, delay and error. The protocol that

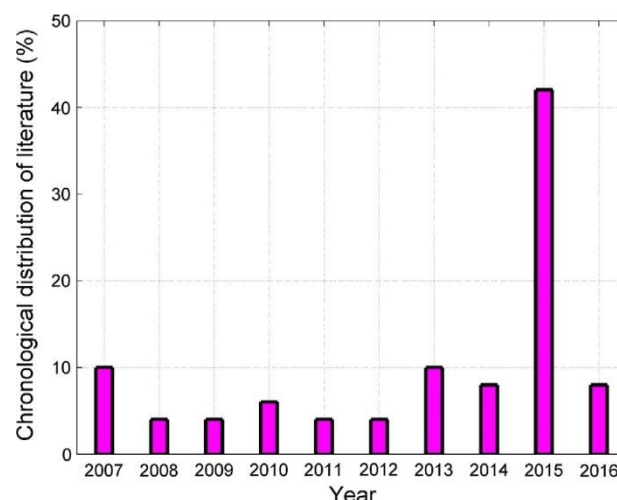


Figure 2 Development of routing protocols for WSN over the time period.

imparts energy efficiency has been developed more in number than the other featured protocols and it has peaked 38.46% in 2015. The percentage of works that pertain to the development of security-based routing protocols has been found to double every year, since 2013. Further, the number of delay-less protocols that has been developed from 2011 onward is found to exhibit a constant percentage of 6.67%, except for the year 2015. The interest shown toward developing a reliable protocol has dropped in 2012. However, the demand for error-free protocols has risen to about 50% in 2015.

Featured routing protocols

The routing problems of WSN have been addressed in a large number of works. On reviewing the work, various features such as Energy, security, delay and error that pose challenges are identified. This section gives a discussion on the works, pertaining to those features, in a separate manner.

Energy efficient protocols

In 2008, Wang et al. [1] have developed a multi-rate routing scheme to optimize routing in Distributed Source coding (DSC). The network performance was enhanced by energy scheduling, which satisfies the end to end transmission rate. In addition, they have also proposed the energy usage scheduling concept for efficient energy optimization.

Phan et al. [2] have worked on the joint cross-layer optimization method for efficient routing and energy distribution to meet the QoS requirements. They have found that the optimization problem equals the two-step convex problem and the problem of increasing the network lifetime is quasiconvex. In 2007, Baek and Veciana [9] have focussed on the trade-off optimization problem to achieve energy efficiency in ad hoc network systems. The trade-off optimization is done between the improved spatial balance of energy burdens and the energy cost of spreading traffic. Further, multipath routing was found to minimize the probability of energy loss. Guha et al. [11] have examined power-aware routing schemes in wireless networks to propose a fair coalition routing algorithm. They have found the group sharing properties to vary for individual sharing. Lin et al. [28] have proposed routing algorithms for efficient energy usage with great competitive ratio, which is asymptotically optimal to the number of nodes. Kim et al.

[34] have tried to maximize the wireless sensor networks and proposed the

distributed joint routing and medium access control algorithm. The addressed linear programming problem has been evaded with dual composition. In 2009, Yang et al.

[14] have optimized the routing and detection in a fusion center for route pre-computation and proposed three routing metrics. The joint optimization technique involves the Neyman-Pearson concept to solve the energy-efficient routing problem. Chamam and Pierre [35] have addressed two main problems in wireless sensor networks, namely increased network lifetime and less energy dissipation. To meet these goals, they have optimally planned the sensors states in cluster-based sensor networks. The problem was viewed as an integer linear programming model and Tabu search heuristic has reduced the computational time. In 2010, Luo and Hubaux [30] have addressed the problem of longevity of wireless sensor networks and proposed a primal-dual algorithm. They have also dealt with the joint optimization problem of routing and joint sink mobility to raise the network lifetime. Valentin et al. [39] have used the dynamic multi-objective routing algorithm to frame the simple hybrid routing protocol. Energy efficiency was assessed to find the best route to the sink node.

In 2011 Li et al. [22] have studied the dual optimization problem of lifetime and distortion to develop a generalized power consumption model. The dual-level optimization problem was solved using the gradient algorithm. In 2013, Habibi et al. [7] have proposed an optimization method to assess the direct transmission's preference in a given node configuration or in a cooperative transmission. The optimal broadcasting

power and the optimal power values for the cooperative transmission phase were identified and the whole technique can solve the real-world problems. Shah and Lozano [16] have developed Fixed tree Relaxation-based algorithm and Iterative distributed algorithm to solve the power efficient distribution issues. The problem

was assumed as an optimization problem. The Iterative distributed algorithm has offered good trade-off between the energy efficiency and the estimation accuracy. Hamadi and Chen [32] has utilized the trade-off among the timeliness and the energy consumption to manage the redundancy in heterogeneous wireless sensor networks. In the trade-off optimization problem, the best level of redundancy in both the path and the source was identified to increase the network lifetime. In 2014, Long et al. [48] have developed a new routing scheme, called tree-based diversionary, to raise the network lifetime. Chen et al. [50] have maximized the system utility with energy allocation in routing. They have developed a low complexity online solution and used a distributed algorithm to check it. In 2015, Maddali

[20] have proposed the multi-cast routing protocol to maximize the network performance. Alanis et al. [26] have developed an optimal quantum-assisted algorithm, called non-dominated quantum iterative optimization algorithm, for the wireless multi-hop networks. The synergy among the quantum parallelism and hardware has greatly reduced the computational complexity. Zhang et al. [27] have proposed a multi-objective optimization problem, which solves the trade-off between load balancing and energy efficiency. A Nash bargaining framework for green network routing was developed based on the game theoretical model. The model is considered as a threat value game, since the performance of the model threatens the value to minimize the cost. Gupta and Bose [31] have developed dual minimum total power strategies to reduce the energy intake in wireless sensor networks by maximizing the path lifetime and

minimum-weighted total power strategy. Luo et al. [37] have saved energy via an opportunistic routing algorithm to increase the networks' lifetime. Tang et al. [38] have developed a cost-aware secure routing algorithm, which involves probabilistic-based random walking and energy balance control, to solve the network lifetime issue. Ghaderi et al.

[40] have solved the minimum energy routing problem in wireless networks by offering solutions to pseudo-polynomial complexity and its related optimal approximation. Gupta et al.

[45] have applied an energy efficient homogeneous clustering method on the wireless sensor network to maximize the network lifetime. Additionally, the Dijkstra's shortest path algorithm was introduced to perform route optimization in the clustered network. Rahat et al. [46] have presented a novel multi-objective routing optimization for the sensor mesh networks to increase the networks' lifetime. The search space with the shortest path pruning and a graph reduction method was used to identify the routes clearly. The optimal routes were got using the evolutionary algorithm. Hsu et al. [49] have developed an opportunistic-based routing model to solve the energy consumption issue in the underwater sensor networks.

Delay-less protocols

In 2011, Basan and Jaseemuddin [3] have considered both the operations of the underlying directional MAC protocols and the physical interference to develop a

abstraction. The developed model renders a framework to analyze the wireless link conflicts by evaluating the end-to-end delay transmission. In 2012, Dai et al. [24] have proposed a correlation-aware QoS routing algorithm to send the visual information with quality of service. A correlation-aware internode differential coding scheme was introduced to minimize the traffic hub and the average delay in different source codings is studied. In 2013, Chen and Shen [18] have worked on the routing schemes in delay tolerant networks and developed an inter-landmark data routing algorithm, called DTN-FLOW. In 2014, Cheng et al. [41] have developed an efficient QoS-aware geographic opportunistic routing scheme for the wireless sensor networks. In terms of latency, the protocol has organized the prioritized sets. In 2015, Tang et al. [5] have studied the routing algorithm of network-on-chip and introduced a novel metric, known as routing pressure, for evaluating the performance of the routing method. The traditional methods use degree of adaptiveness as the metric measure, but it imparts very less performance. So, the new metric measure that has the capacity to predict congestion has been introduced. Jie et al. [15] have addressed the issue in the publishing or the subscriber system and proposed a novel algorithm, known as Hierarchy hybrid routing scheme. The proposed scheme was able to deliver the local publication to the core domain and solves the issue in remote publication routing into the edge domain, allowing the objects to be routed aptly to the subscribers. Zhang and Dong [19] have examined few issues in routing such as the delay in transmission and proposed a bypassing void routing protocol. The whole theory was dependent upon the virtual coordinates to prevent the void problem, occurring from the source to the destination. Maddali [20] have developed the multicast routing protocol for maximizing the network performance. For this study, they have considered the parameter-delay to optimize the developed protocol. Hsin et

al. [23] have developed the ACO-based Pheromone Diffusion adaptive routing framework, which depends on the Network information region framework and combines the spatial and the temporal network information. High performance improvement with more importance toward the delay measure was achieved with their work. Chang et al. [25] have modified the ant colony optimization-based adaptive routing and proposed the regional ACO-based cascaded adaptive routing for enhancing the load balancing and performance. The delay distribution of the developed method has also been studied. Alani et al.

[26] have focussed on routing in wireless multi-hop networks and proposed an optimal quantum-assisted algorithm, called non-dominated quantum iterative optimization algorithm. The end-to-end delay parameter was considered to optimize. Tang et al. [38] have proposed a cost-aware secure routing algorithm to increase network lifetime and security. The average delay of various security parameters was addressed. Gupta et al. [45] have employed clustering technique and considered the delay problem in wireless sensor networks to increase the network lifetime. Hsu et al. [49] have addressed the issue of long propagation delay in underwater sensor networks and developed the opportunistic-based routing. In 2016, Noh et al. [13] have examined the challenges in unreliable underwater sensor events such as ocean current to develop a HydroCast, a hydraulic pressure-based anycast routing protocol and the average end-to-end delay performance was evaluated.

Secure protocols

In 2012, Liu et al. [29] have introduced a novel three-phase disjoint routing scheme, called the Security and Energy-efficient Disjoint route, to maintain network security. The optimization problem was solved by selecting apt routing strategies and hence, information sharing was protected. In 2013, Hamadi and Chen [32] have used trade-off optimization in security and managed redundancy in heterogeneous wireless sensor networks.

In 2014, Saleem et al. [44] have suggested a biologically-inspired self-organized secure autonomous routing that relies on improved ant colony optimization to achieve secure data transformation. Long et al. [48] have addressed the issue of source location privacy and developed a new routing scheme, called tree-based diversionary. Hide and seek strategy has generated fake source routes to protect the source location and diversionary routes have preserved privacy in the non-hotspot region. They have also detected a new direction-oriented attack in the wireless sensor networks. In 2015, Frechette et al. [21] have proposed a capped hose model for robust network design traffic problems. They have found that the multi-hub routing designs are needed for both the hub and the shortest path. Tang et al. [38] have proposed a cost-aware secure routing algorithm, involving probabilistic-based random walking, to solve the security issue. Ghaderi et al. [40] have extended the single-hop physical layer security technique to multi-hop wireless networks.

Reliable protocols

Despite the reliability of the routing protocol said to be characterized based on simply error, the causes of error differ in various aspects. They rely on the reliability of the topology, link

between the nodes, protocol flow and many more. Yet, the discrepancy on the aforesaid aspects leads to error in the communicating messages. Some significant protocols that are robust against such errors are reviewed here. In 2007, Lin et al. [28] have used packet delivery rate as the metric measure and proposed a model to detect the efficiency of multi-hop radio networks. In 2010, Wu et al. [33] have worked on the routing schemes of multi-hop wireless networks, mainly concentrating on the application-oriented quality of service during video transmission, and proposed a novel routing algorithm. They have also investigated the routing flexibility by analyzing the PSNR levels and developed a quality-driven cross-layer optimization scheme to increase the video quality. The reliability of delivery ratio in wireless sensor networks has also been discussed using a multi-objective algorithm, known as dynamic multi-objective routing algorithm, by Valentini et al. [39]. In 2011, Basan and Jaseemuddin [3] have considered the average packet delivery ratio for studying the performance of the proposed underlying directional MAC protocols and the physical interference, in order to develop a color conflict graph abstraction. Li et al. [22] have considered the packet loss probability measure to study the effectiveness of the proposed method in solving the dual optimization problem of lifetime as well as distortion and developed a generalized power consumption model.

In 2012, Liu et al. [29] have introduced a novel three-phase disjoint routing scheme, called the Security and Energy-efficient Disjoint route, for maintaining the network security and increasing the network lifetime. In addition, the packet

interception probability was measured during the routing process. The Bit error rate with their power transmission strategies has been simulated and compared by Habibi et al. [7], in 2013, to propose an optimization method that determines the direct transmission's preference with cooperative transmission. Shah and Lozano [16] have used mean square error as the metric for their two algorithms, namely Fixed tree Relaxation-based algorithm and Iterative distributed algorithm analysis. In 2014, Chen et al. [41] have investigated QoS routing in wireless sensor networks and introduced QoS-aware geographic opportunistic routing scheme. In terms of packet speed ratio, the protocol has organized the prioritized sets. Saleem et al.

[44] have proposed a biologically-inspired self-organized secure autonomous routing for increasing the network lifetime with low energy consumption and used the metric measures such as packet rate and delivery ratio.

In 2015, Tang et al. [5] have studied the routing of WSN and introduced a novel metric, known as routing pressure, for evaluating the performance of the routing method using packet injection rate. Surendran and Prakash [17] have developed a QoS-constrained fault tolerant and look-ahead routing algorithm for efficient MANET routing. It is important to take the routing decisions for the maximization of network life and the developed model has aided in detecting the correct route and look-ahead route pairs. In this study, the packet delivery ratio was used. Zhang and Dong [19] have solved the issue of routing such as packet delivery ratio and proposed a bypassing void routing protocol. Maddali [20] have considered various parameters such as bandwidth and packet delivery ratio for optimizing the developed multicast routing protocol. Hsin et al. [23] have utilized packet injection rate, along with other

parameters, for studying the performance of the developed ACO-based Pheromone Diffusion adaptive routing framework. Chang et al. [25] have used packet injection rate as the metric measure for evaluating the performance of the ACO-based cascaded adaptive routing and to enhance the load balancing as well as the performance. The BER analysis has been performed by Alanis et al. [26] to achieve routing in the wireless multi-hop networks using the optimal quantum-assisted algorithm, called as the non-dominated quantum iterative optimization algorithm. Gupta and Bose [31] have also used the BER analysis for studying the performance of the developed dual minimum total power strategies, in order to reduce the energy consumption in the wireless sensor networks. Luo et al. [37] have achieved energy saving through the opportunistic routing algorithm and compared its performance with the existing route algorithms using the receiving packet ratio. For the developed cost-aware secure routing algorithm, Tang et al. [38] have used delivery ratio and other parameters to solve the issues of network lifetime. Puggelli et al. [43] have developed a tool, which helps in the deployment of wireless sensor networks and promotes rapid prototyping. They have developed a mixed-integer linear program and a polynomial time heuristic to obtain the desired results for the identified issues. They have performed OPNET simulation and used packet injection rate as the metric measure for evaluating the network models.

In 2016, Noh et al. [13] have concentrated on the problems such as ocean current and used the packet delivery ratio as the metric measure to develop a HydroCast, a hydraulic pressure-based anycast routing protocol.

3. Analysis on routing protocols

Simulation

Simulations are performed in various platforms or software or tools or simulators to analyze the routing protocols in wireless sensor networks. Majority of works are simulated using NS-2 simulator [8,12,14,17,19,28,39–41,44,45], MATLAB platform [11,31,37,43], OPNET simulator [3,38,43], Nox simulator [5,23,25], CVX 1.22 simulator [27,6] and IEEE.802.11 tool [8,12,28]. Works have also tested on the following: (i) other platforms such as OPDMAC [3], C++ [14,15], JAVA [24] and Micaz [41,49]; (ii) simulators that include Monte Carlo [14], HHR [15], CVX 1.22 [27,6], OMNET ++ [29,48] and TOSSIM [47]; (iii) tools that include Grin Graph theory software [1], Link contention graph and maximal clique Set-dest [12], LEDA [14], JM12.2 [33] and IL OGC PLEX [35] and (iv) standards that include IEEE.802.11.4 [45], NSFNET [15,27], DART and NET [18], IEEE.802.15.4 [36,39], IEEE 802.15.4/zigbee [37] and Tiny OS 2.11 with CTP standard [47]. Table 1 lists the details regarding the various simulations that are performed in earlier works.

Network configuration

The selection of network configuration is highly necessitated, while running the simulation experiments. The 8-level routing topology [1], 2-D mesh topology [5], Abilene and Telstra [21], Regular grid topology [9], 8-ary-2 mesh network topology [23], 16 16 mesh network topology [25], Abilene [27], Global network topology [33], Energy optimal topology [35], Random topology [36], Grid topology [39], One source one sink topology [37], and Telos B

notes-hardware [44] are the types of topologies, which have been used in the study of routing in WSN, and they are interpreted in Table 1.

QoS awareness

The quality of service routing plays a significant role in the wireless sensor networks. Various parameters are considered for studying the QoS. Energy efficiency, network lifetime, delay, packet delivery ratio, overhead [8,17,20,47], bandwidth, packet usage, utility, network throughput, error probability [1,33,22,7,16,18,26,31], data rate [1,14,3,22,24,38,47], hop [41,48,45], transmission cost, controlling cost, differential coding efficiency, link quality and spatial correlation coefficient are those parameters, which are collected from various review papers, and they are shown in Table 3. The relative focus on those parameters by the researchers is illustrated in Fig. 3.

Among the QoS parameters, energy efficiency [9,28,1,2,14,39,22,7,16,48,50,20,21,26,27,31,37,38,40,45–47], network lifetime [1,2,11,30,31,35,37,46,48], packet delivery ratio [3,5,13,17,19,20,23–25,28,33,37,38,41,43,44], delay [3,5,13,15,18–20,23–26,38,41,45] and throughput [3,8,12,17,20,33,25,49] were given a wide consideration for improving the performance of routing in wireless sensor networks. About 44% of the works were done to increase the

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measure. Maximization of the network lifetime was also given importance that 24% of the works have dealt with it.

Applications

The types of routing protocols are analyzed and their applications are discussed in this section. The applications of the routing protocol can be categorized into three, namely Environment-specific, Task-specific and general. Table 2 reveals all these categories. The environment-specific category involves applications such as Underwater sensor network [13,49], Australian telecom network, American backbone network [21,27] and Renewable energy sources [28]. The task-specific applications include Distributed video coding [22,24] and Multimedia system [23,25]. Other applications include Beam forming antenna [3], Zigbee [37], Sensor network for office [43], NoC [25], Open field [44], Victoria & Albert

Museum Network, London [46], CitySee large scale urban network [47], Panda-Hunter Game [48], Video streaming [33], Distributed Source Coding Based Applications [1], Multi-hop network [2,12], Distributed network [6], Hybrid network [8], Information centric network [15], Delay tolerant network of buildings and other landmarks [18], Seismic exploration [19], Core network [20], Heterogeneous network [32] and Dynamic network [36].

4. Optimizing routing protocols

Problem models

The researchers have developed routing algorithms to solve several routing issues. Most of these problems are related to optimization and the problem models are tabulated in Table 4. The optimization approaches are greatly used to solve problems such as joint routing [28], trade-off optimization [9,32,46], cost of communication [42], cross-layer optimization [1,2], Energy efficient joint routing and power allocation optimization [28], multi-objective routing optimization [26,27,39], opportunistic-based routing [49], energy saving and network lifetime problem [43,38], two-level routing optimization [22,6], combinatorial optimization [14], collision probability minimization [36] and Discrete optimization [44]. Of these works, trade-off optimization and multi-objective routing optimization problems have been largely solved.

Table 3 QoS awareness in the current routing protocols.

Authors [Citation]	Network lifetime	Delay	Packet delivery ratio	Energy efficiency	Over Head	Through put	Error probability	Data rate	Hop count	Other metrics
Baek and Veciana [9]Guha et al. [11] Lin et al. [28]Kim et al. [34] Luo and Pottie [42] Wang et al. [1] Phan et al. [2] Yang et al. [14] Chamam and Pierre [35] Luo and Hubaux [30] Wu et al. [33] Valentini et al. [39] Basan and Jaseemuddin [3] Li et al. [22] Dai et al. [24]Liu et al. [29] Leinonen et al. [6] Habibi et al. [7] Shah and Lozano [16]Chen and Shen [18]Hamadi and Chen [32] Cheng et al. [41]	U		U	U						
	U			U			U	U		
	U			U		U				
	U			U				U		
	U			U						
	U		U	U			U			
	U	U	U			U		U		
	U			U			U	U		Spatial correlation coefficient
		U						U		
			U							
				U			U			
		U		U			U			
	U		U							Bandwidth, success rate
		U							U	Data transmission cost, control
										message cost

[illegible]

Table 3 (continued)

Authors [Citation]	Delay	Packet delivery ratio	Energy efficiency	Overhead	Throughput	Error probability	Data rate	Hop count	Other
Ghaderi et al. [40]	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	Collision
Puggelli et al. [43]	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	
Gupta et al. [45]	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	
Rahat et al. [46]	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	
Hsu et al. [49]	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	
Meng et al. [12]	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	
Noh et al. [13]	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	
Mansourkiaie and Ahmed [36]	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	
Gao et al. [47]	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	

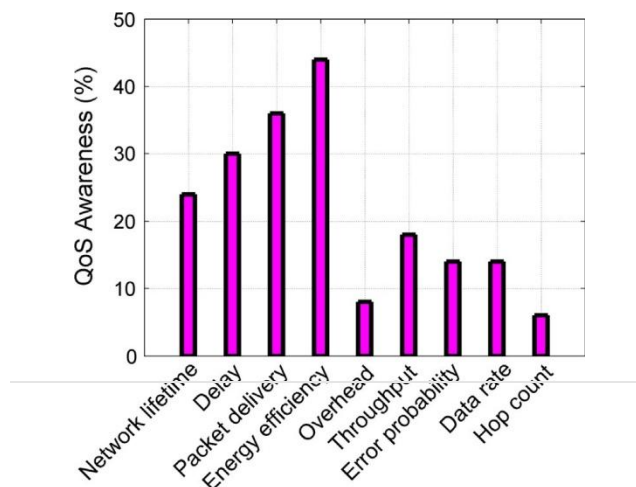


Figure3 Focus on QoSparameters.

Meta-heuristicprocedures

In this section, various procedures that are meta-heuristic or non-meta-heuristic in nature are discussed and tabulated in

Table 5. About 16% of the works, which achieves routing problem optimization, depends on the non-meta-heuristic procedure and only 10% is based on the bio-inspired algorithms. Among the bio-inspired routing protocols, ant colony optimization technique and its variants are largely used to optimize the issues in wireless sensor networks.

5. Research gaps and challenges

Practical challenges

1. **Diverse topologies:** In the hierarchical routing protocol of WSN, it is significant to develop merged and multiple topologies. Particularly, in hierarchical routing, executing and merging the cluster-based topology with the grid-based topology is a great challenge. All topologies have their own merits and demerits. Enhancing the performance with these merits is quite a hard task.
2. **Multiple sources/destinations:** Except few routing algorithms, most of the routing algorithms enable communication between a single source and destination. The packet collision may

result in multiple source as well as destination networks, due to the contention among the nodes. Hence, for avoiding the packet collision in these types of networks, multiple types of networks must be taken into account. Moreover, multiple sinks often cause information flooding, which the future researchers should substantially reduce along with the control overhead.

3. **Multi-objective routing:** The algorithms that are developed for routing should meet many application-specific requirements such as throughput, capacity, coverage, end-to-end delay, real-time delay and collision. Therefore, developing a routing protocol that meets multiple requirements to achieve optimization is one of the open challenges.
4. **QoS with multiple constraints:** The QoS requirements such as outage probability, delay jitter, end-to-end delay and bandwidth consumption should be considered to achieve a flexible routing algorithm. Outage probability is one of

the QoS requirements of the cooperative routing algorithms. In some wireless networks, meeting a single QoS requirement is itself a great issue.

5. Security routing: Most of the routing algorithms are designed to increase the coverage area and the network performance, but the security issues are given less importance. Hence, the means to achieve secure routing, with no loss in the network performance and the coverage area, is extremely encouraged by making a node to have its influence on the signals of other nodes.
6. Energy demand: Energy can be obtained by vibration, solar or any other physical criteria. The sensor nodes absorb the environmental energy for establishing an effective communication. In the energy-limited wireless networks, the energy harvesting nodes are used as the relay nodes in cooperative diversity. From the literature survey, it is found that the cooperative routing algorithms that are related to energy harvesting are very limited.
7. Network applications: Lot of works are done in the area of wireless sensor network applications. But, very few works are concentrated on the applications of other network area and they include the delay-sensitive applications and the bandwidth-limited applications. So, the potential applications of cooperative routing such as LTE networks, cognitive radio networks, cellular networks, and wireless LANs can be considered for future study.
8. Development platforms: In this survey paper, it is identified that most of the routing algorithms are estimated through theoretical analysis and simulation. Very few algorithms are related to the practical aspects of routing. So, executing these kind of approaches paves away for future work.

Practical challenges

The challenges that are addressed in the present routing algorithms can be rectified by using soft computing and computational intelligence. The future possibilities can be as follows.

1. Design and applications: Wireless sensor networks are applied in many areas, which include monitoring of the biological system with tissue-implanted sensors and monitoring forest fire with air-dropped sensors. The sensor nodes have to be in specific position for some applications and some don't need the nodes to be specific. So, it is important to design the type, location and the number of sensor nodes for future applications.
2. Sensor localization: Sensor localization refers to the creation of location awareness in all the sensor nodes that are deployed at a specific point. Geometric-aware routing can be used to obtain accurate information. Also, the localization methods that utilize the time-of-arrival of the signals from the base stations are used in WSNs.
3. Routing based on energy awareness: Maximizing the network lifetime in WSN is a major factor, which is to be paid attention. Frequent recharging of the nodes is not possible because of its expense. For some applications, the network life expectancy of several years is needed. Routing involves the retrieval of the path of a message, which is communicated from a source node toward a destination node. Among the two types of routing methods, the proactive

routing methods involve table generation and store the routes without any route matching. But, in the reactive routing methods, the routes are subjected to computation. In addition, the hybrid of both the routing methods is applied in the densely deployed networks to avoid large memory intake of the routing tables. The memory usage can be reduced by network clustering too.

4. QoS aware routing: QoS can be defined as the measure of the service quality that is concerned with the end-to-end applications/users. The QoS parameters include packet loss, jitter, delay, available bandwidth and fairness. It is very significant to increase the network utilization with the QoS parameters and in accordance with the application requirements.

6. Concluding remarks

Selecting the best route is more challenging in the field of WSN. The selection depends upon lot of parameters. Hence, various parametric features of the routing protocols have been discussed and analyzed in this paper. Further, the chronological survey reveals that about 42% of the works are done in 2015, which is comparatively high. The routing problems occur during data transmission from the source node to the destination node. The energy efficient problem, which constitutes about 44% of the works, has been discussed more. Trade-off optimization and the multi-objective routing optimization approach have been used in various studies. Moreover, the meta-heuristic study depicts that about 16% of the routing problems have been analyzed using the non-meta-heuristic procedures and only 10% have used the bio-inspired algorithms. Of all the bio-inspired algorithms, ACO has

been extensively applied to solve the routing issues. The future challenges include security routing, energy demand and multi-objective routing.

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