System Performance Evaluation Georgia Koutsandria

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System Performance Evaluation



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System Performance Evaluation

- Allows to obtain the highest performance at the lowest cost.
- Allows performance comparison of a number of alternative designs/solutions to find the best one.
- Gives good insights on how well a system is performing and whether any improvements need to be made.
 - Useful at any stage of the system's life cycle, i.e., design, manufacturing, use, upgrade, etc..

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- Most performance problems are unique.
- Evaluation techniques used for one problem generally cannot be used for a different problem.
- Steps common to all performance evaluation projects:
 - State goals and define the system under evaluation
 O Define the boundaries of the system.

- 2. List services and outcomes
 - o Each system provides a set of services
 - E.g., A computer network allows its users to send packets to specified destinations
 - A list of services and possible outcomes is useful in selecting the right metrics and workloads.
- 3. Select metrics
 - Select the criteria(metrics) to compare the performance
 - E.g., delay, accuracy, speed etc..



- 4. List of parameters that affect the performance
 - System parameters (hardware and software)
 - Workload parameters (depend on users' requests)
- 5. Select factors to study
 - Some parameters will be varied during the simulation (factors) and will get different values (levels)
- 6. Select evaluation technique
 - o Analytical modeling
 - o Simulation
 - o Real test-bed



7. Select Workload

- o A list of service requests to the system
- Analytical modeling: A probability of various requests
- o Simulation: Trace of requests measured on a real system
- Test-bed: Scripts to be executed on the system.

8. Design Experiments

- Decide on a sequence of experiments that offer maximum information with minimal effort
 - Varying number of factors and levels to determine their relative effect.

9. Analyze and Interpret Data

- The analysis procudes results (not conclusions)
- Each repetition of an experiment has a different outcome.

10. Present results

- They should be presented in a manner that is easily understood, e.g., in a graph form
 - If it is needed, redefine system boundaries, included other factors and performance metrics...(several cycles).



Selecting an evaluation technique

Criterion	Analytical modeling	Simulation	Measurement
Stage	Any	Any	Post-prototype
Time required	Small	Medium	Varies
Tools	Analysts	Computer Languages	Instrumentation
Accuracy ^a	Low	Moderate	Varies
Trade-off evaluation	Easy	Moderate	Difficult
Cost	Small	Medium	High
Scalability	Low	Medium	High

a In all cases, results may be misleading or wrong.



Selecting an evaluation technique

- Three rules of validation:
 - 1. Do not trust the results of a simulation model until they have been validated by analytical modeling or measurements.
 - Do not trust the results of an analytical model until they have been validated by a simulation model or measurements.
 - 3. Do not trust the results of a measurement until they have been validated by simulation or analytical modeling.

- For each performance study, a set of performance criteria must be chosen.
- Time to execute a task
 - Execution time, response time, latency
- Number of tasks per day, hour, sec, ns, etc.
 - Throughput, bandwidth.

Aircraft	DC to Paris	Speed (mph)	Passengers	Throughput (pmph)
Boeing 747	6.5 hours	610	470	286,700
Concorde	3 hours	1350	132	178,200



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- Flight time of Concorde vs. Boeing 747?
 - Concorde: 1350 mph / 610 mph = 2.2 times faster

= 6.5 hours / 3 hours



• Concorde is 2.2 times («120%») faster in terms of flight time.

Aircraft	DC to Paris	Speed (mph)	Passengers	Throughput (pmph)
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- Flight time of Concorde vs. Boeing 747:
 - Concorde: 1350 mph / 610 mph = 2.2 times faster





- Concorde is 2.2 times (120%) faster in terms of flight time.
- Throughput = profit per passenger = speed per passenger (pmph)
 - Boeing 747 = 286,700 pmph
 - Concorde = 178,200 pmph
 - Boeing 747 procudes 286,700 pmph / 178,200 pmph =
 - 1.6 times (60%) more profit in terms of throughput.

- Global metrics: Reflect the systemwide utility
 - Resource utilization, reliability, availability.
- Individual metrics: Reflect the utility of each single user
 - Response time, throughput.
- There are cases when the decision that optimizes individual metrics is different from the one that optimizes the system metric.



- E.g.: Total vs. per node throughput
 - Keep the system throughput constant while increasing the number of packets from one source may lead to increasing its throughput, but it may also decrease someone's else throughput.
 - Using only the system throughput or the individual throughput may lead to unfair situations.

- 1. Low variability: Reduce the number of repetitions required to obtain a given level of statistical confidence.
- 2. Nonredudancy: Similar metrics should be avoided.
- 3. Completeness: All possible outcomes should be reflected in the set of performance metrics.





Evaluation

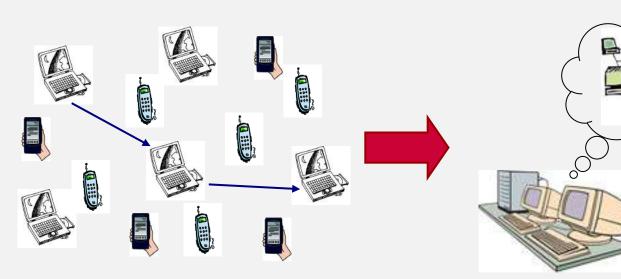
Performance



Introduction to Simulation



Introduction to Simulation





- A software for modeling network applications and protocols (wired and wireless).
 - What is it used for?
 - Rebuilding a system that evolves like the real system according to certain aspects, based on a model. Internet of Things A.Y. 19-20

Simulation: When to use it

- Study and experimentation of the internal interactions of a complex system.
- System performance evaluation before the prototype.
- Verify analytical solutions.
- Common approach in research:
 - Design of new protocols
 - Comparison of protocols
 - Traffic analysis

Simulation: Why to use it

- Only one workstation is enough to run simulations.
- Allows the study of a wide range of scenarios in a relatively short time.
- Allows realization of complex and expensive networks to be implemented in a real test-bed.
- Easy to test/check the impact of changes in a simulated solution.





Simulation: Pros & Cons

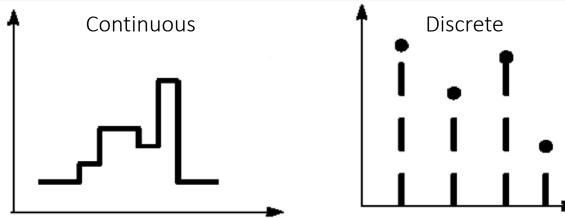
- Pros
 - System verification before the production of a prototype
 - Easy debugging of the simulated protocol
 - Possibility to analyze the system's scalability
 - Identification of system vulnerabilities
 - Flexibility on studying the behavior of the system.
 - Cons
 - The design/implementation of a model and its validation require the understanding of the simulation tool.
 - It is not always possible to capture the various aspects of the simulated system. Internet of Things A.Y. 19-20



- State variables:
 - The variables whose values define the state of the system
 - Network simulation: number of nodes, packet queue, mac and routing protocols used etc..
- Event:
 - A change in the system state.
 - Network simulation: packet transmission, packet reception etc..

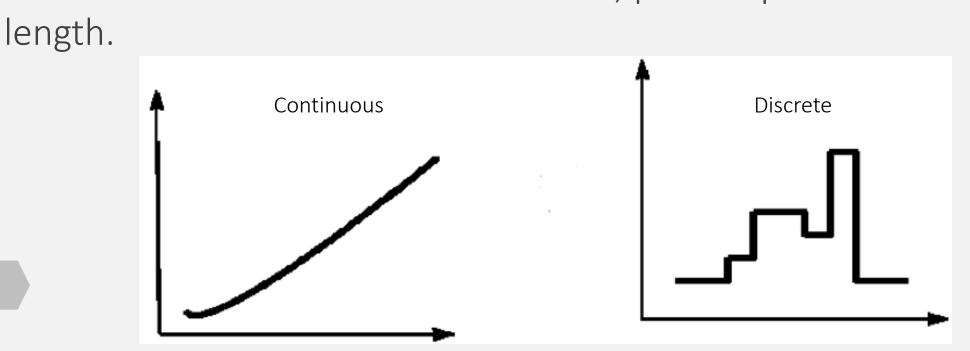


- Continuous-Time and Discrete-Time models:
 - Continuous time model: A model in which the system state is defined at all times.
 - Network simulation: number of nodes, communication among nodes is defined at any time.
 - *Discrete-Time model:* The system state is defined only at particular instants in time.
 - Classes: weekly



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- Continuous-State and Discrete-State models:
 - Continuous: State variables are continuous.
 - Discrete: State variables are discrete.
 - Network simulation: number of nodes, packet queue length.





- Continuous-state models = Continuous-event models
- Discrete-state models = Disctete-event models
- Continuity of time does not imply continuity of state and vice versa!
- Four possible combinations:
 - 1. Continuous state/continuous time
 - 2. Discrete state/discrete time
 - 3. Continuous state/discrtete time
 - 4. Discrete state/continuous time

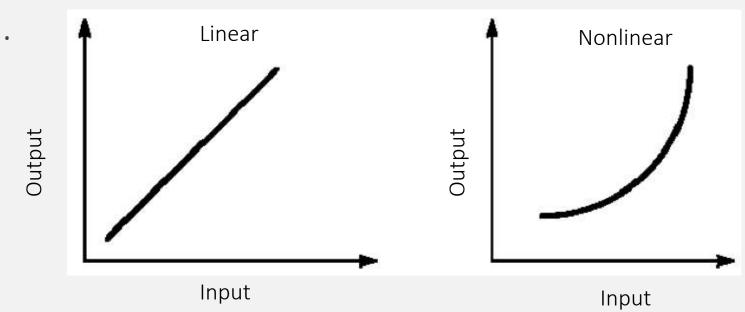




- Deterministic and Probabilistic models:
 - *Deterministic:* The output (results) of a model can be predicted with certainty.
 - *Probabilistic:* For the same set on input parameters, each repetition gives a different output.
- Static and Dynamic models:
 - *Static:* Time is not a variable.
 - *Dynamic:* The system state changes with time.
- Open and Closed models:
 - *Open*: The input is external to the model and is independent of it.
 - *Closed:* No external input.

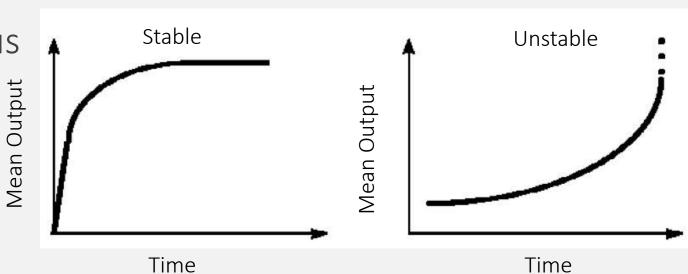


- Linear and Nonlinear models:
 - *Linear:* The output parameters are a linear function of the input parameter.
 - Nonlinear: Otherwise.



Computer system models: tempo continuo, stato discreto, probabilistico, dinamico e non lineare. Aperti o chiusi, stabili o instabili.

- Stable and Unstable models:
 - *Stable:* The dynamic behavior of the model settles down to a steady state.
 - Unstable: The bevavior of the model is continuous changing.



Computer system models: tempo continuo, stato discreto, probabilistico, dinamico e non lineare. Aperti o chiusi, stabili o instabili.

EVALUATION

Simulation: Types

- Model Carlo method:
 - Static simulation without a time axis.
 - Model probabilistic phenomena that do not change characteristics with time.
- Trace-driven:
 - The simulation uses a trace as its input (a time-ordered record of events on a real system.)
- Discrete-event:
 - Discrete-state model of system.
 - Network simulation: number of packets in the queue.
 - Discrete- or continuous-time values. Internet of Things A.Y. 19-20

Discrete-event Simulation

- Components:
 - 1. Event scheduler: It keeps a linked list of events waiting to happen.
 - 2. Simulation clock: Each simulation has a global variable representing simulated time.
 - The scheduler is responsible for advancing this time.
 - Unit time: Increments time by small increment and then checks to see if there are any events that can occur.
 - *Event-driven:* Increments the time automatically to the time of the next earliest occurring time.



Discrete-event Simulation

- Components:
 - 3. Event routine: Each event is simulated by its routine.
 - 4. Input routines: Get the model parameters.
 - 5. Initialization routines: Set the initial state of the system.
 - 6. Trace routines: Print out intermediate variables as the simulation proceeds; Useful on debugging.
 - 7. *Report generator:* Output routines executed at the end of the simulation; Calculate the final result.
 - 8. Main program: It brings all the routines together.



Common mistakes

- 1. Inappropriate level of detail
 - More details => Longer simulations => More bugs => More computations => More parameters ≠ Higher accuracy
- 2. Inappropriate experimental design
 - Too much generic => longer simulations and less accurate
- 3. Unverified models
 - Bugs in the code
- 4. Invalid models
 - Non realistic results



Common mistakes

- 5. Improperly handled initial conditions
 - Generally not representative of the system behavior in a steady state.
- 6. Too short simulations
- 7. Poor random-number generators
- 8. Improper selection of seeds
 - The seed for different random-number streams should be carefully chosen to maintain independence among the streams.

Model Verification and Validation

- **1. Antibugging:** Include additional checks and output in the program that will point out the bugs (if any).
 - E.g. 1: Check if the probabilities for certain events add up to 1.
 - E.g. 2: Packets received = pkts generated pkts lost/dropped.
- 2. Structured walk-through: Explain the code to another person or a group. (It works even when the others do not understand the model!).
- 3. Run simplified cases: Easy to analyze them.
- **4. Consistenty test:** Check that the model produces similar results for input parameter values that have similar effects.
 - **5. Degeneracy test**: Check that the model works for extreme values of system configuration or workload parameters.

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Simulation Results Analysis

- In most simulations, only the steady-state performance is of interest!
- Results of the initial part of the simulation should not be included in the final computations.
- **Transient removal:** Identify the end of the transient state.
 - It is not possible to define exactly what consistutes the transient state and when the transient state ends.
 - All methods for transient removal are heuristic.



Steady state

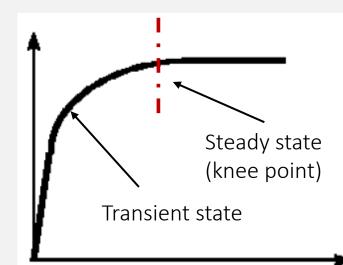
(knee point)

Transient state

Simulation Results Analysis

- Six methods for transient removal:
 - 1. Long runs
 - 2. Proper initialization
 - 3. Truncation
 - 4. Initial data deletion
 - 5. Moving average of independent replications
 - 6. Batch means





Terminating Simulations

- Short simulations => low degree confidence
- Long simulations => waste of resources
- There are systems that never reach a steady-state performance.
 - These systems always operate under transient conditions.
 - Such simulations are called **terminating simulations**; they do not require transient removal.
 - E.g.: A system shuts down at 5pm every day.
 - To increase data confidence take the average over several independent repetitions.





Simulators for IoT Systems



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What is a Simulator?

- A tool/software that realistically imitates/models the behavior of IoT systems.
- Different types of simulators; Most commonly used:
 - Trace-Driven Simulators
 - Discrete-Event Simulators



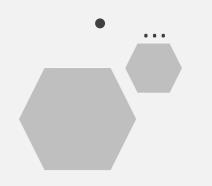
Why do we use Simulators?

- The most common approach to delelop and test new protocols/applications.
- Evulate the performance of new solutions.
- Consider a large-scale IoT network:
 - Low cost
 - Easy(?) to implement
 - Practical



Simulators for IoT Systems

- Several simulators exist:
 - ns-3/ns-2
 - OMNeT
 - Castalia
 - GreenCastalia
 - SUNSET
 - COOJA
 - Avrora







GreenCastalia: An energy harvesting-enabled simulator for IoT

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What is GreenCastalia?

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- An extension of the Castalia simulator.
- Allows to model and simulate networks of IoT devices,
 i.e., embedded devices, with energy harvesting capabilities.
- Castalia: Am OMNeT++ based simulator for WSNs, BANs, and networks of low-power embedded devices.
 - A realistic framework for fisrt order validation.
 - Not platform(device) specific.
 - Highly parametric.

How to install GC

- You will first need to install OMNET++
 - OMNET++ (recommended version 4.6): https://omnetpp.org
 - Castalia: https://github.com/boulis/Castalia
- Complete instructions:
 - http://senseslab.di.uniroma1.it/greencastaliav01d



How to install GC

- We strongly recommend that you use a Unix-based machine.
 - Alternative Option: Download the VM (available link on twiki) with the GC simulator already installed on it (pwd: iot2018)
 - You will first need to install the VirtualBox software
 - https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads



GreenCastalia: Main features

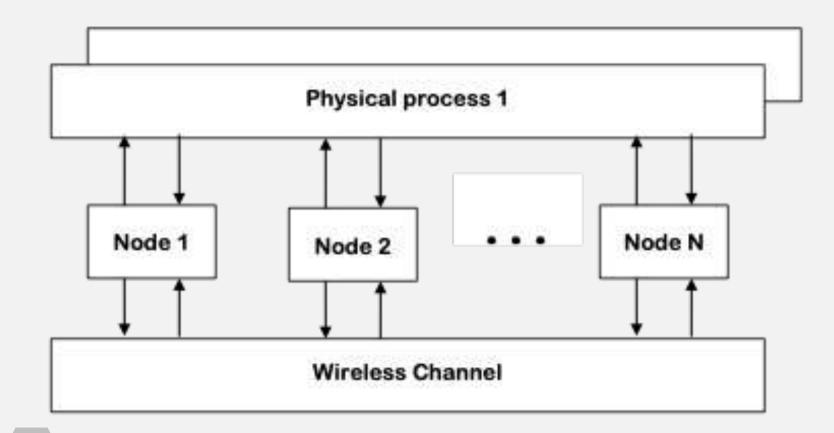
- Inherited by the Castalia simulator:
 - Channel model based on empirically measured data.
 - Radio model based on real traces for low-power communication.
 - Sensing modelling provisions.
 - MAC and routing protocols available.
 - Designed for adaption and expansion.



GreenCastalia: Main features

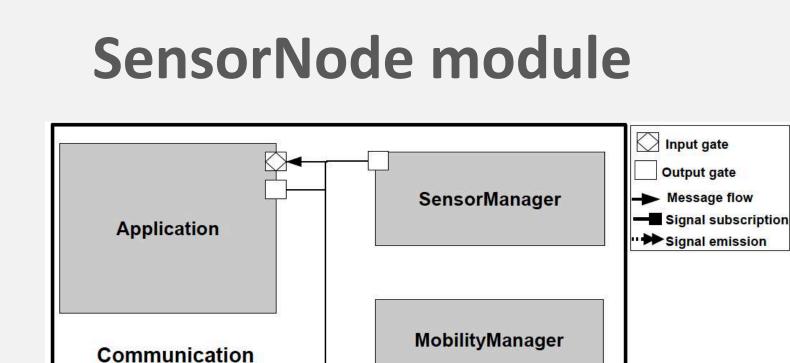
- GC-specific:
 - Multiple energy sources and multi-source harvesters.
 - Networks of embedded devices with heterogeneous harvesting and storage capabilities.
 - Multi-storage architectures (batteries, supercaps, rechargeable batteries).
 - Non-ideal battery models based on empirical discharge patterns, and supercaps leakage models.
 - Energy prediction models.

GreenCastalia Structure





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ResourceManager

EnergySubsystem

Routing

MAC

PHY



GreenCastalia

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EnergySource(s)

source changed

subscribe()

GC Organization

- Each module or submodule has its corrsponding directory.
- All reside in the directory ~/Castalia/src/
- E.g.: Module node resides in the directory:

~/Castalia/src/node/

Module communication resides in the directory:

~/Castalia/src/node/communication/

Submodule routing resides in the directory:

~/Castalia/src/node/communication/routing



GC Organization

- In the GC directory there is a folder named Simulations
 ~/Castalia/Simulations/
- PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- This folder includes:
 - Existing simulation examples with their simulation configuration files.
 - A subfolder named *Parameters*
 - Includes specially fromatted files with parameters that define the basic operational properties of specific modules (MAC, Radio, WirelessChannel, SensorDevice, PhysicalProcess).

Building GreenCastalia

- (Re)Build GC by using the following commands at the top-most GC directory ~/Castalia/
 make clean
 ./makemake
 make
- After the creation of new files or any modifications in existing ones, rebuild GC using the same commands.





Using GreenCastalia

- Files with the suffice «.ned» contain NED language code
 - Define a module's name and interfaces (gates in/out)
 - Define parameters
- Module directories always contain a «.ned» file defining them
- Simple modules include C++ code (.cc and .h files) defining their behavior
- Composite modules, e.g., node, include subdirectories to define the submodules.



- All simulation examples/tests reside in the directory ~/Castalia/Simulations
- Configuration file typically named omnetpp.ini
 - Assigns values to parameters; Defines the simulation scenario.
 - The following file should be always included in the configuration file
 - include ../Parameters/Castalia.ini
 - It containes basic parameter assignment.
 - Defines the simulation time
 - Parameters always start with SN (sensor network: the top-most composite module)



[General]

include ../Parameters/Castalia.ini

sim-time-limit = 100s

SN.field_x = 200 #meters SN.field_y = 200 #meters



- Defining the area of deployment using the parameter SN.deployment
- Several options:
 - uniform: random uniform distribution
 - NxM: nodes are placed in a NxM grid area
 - NxMxK: 3D dimension; nodes are placed in a NxMxK grid area
 - randomized_NxM: nodes are randomly places to NxM grid
 - Randomized_NxMxK: nodes are randomly places to NxMxK grid
 - center: nodes are placed in the center of the deployment area



- The sensor network compound module (SN) contains many Node sub-modules.
- Sub-modules are addressed in the form of an array.
- Assigning values to multiple nodes:
 - [*]: all indexes
 - [3..5]: indexes 3,4,5
 - [..4]: indexes 1, 2, 3, 4
 - [5..]: indexes 5 till last one



Running a simulation

- How to use the Castalia input script
 - ../../bin/Castalia -h
- Available configurations
 - ../../bin/Castalia
- Run a simulation using a specific configuration
 - ../../bin/Castalia -c General
- Two files created in the directory
 - 1. YYMMDD-HHMMSS.txt: Output file which includes results.
 - 2. Castalia-Trace.txt: Contains traces of all events requested.



The CastaliaResults script

- Directory:
 - ~/Castalia/bin/CastaliaResults/
- CastaliaResults
 - Full list of Castalia output files with information about the configurations and the creation date.
 - Number of repetitions is indicated in the parenthesis.
 - CastaliaResults -i YYMMDD-HHMMSS.txt
 - Parses the given file and finds out what output was recorded by the different modules .

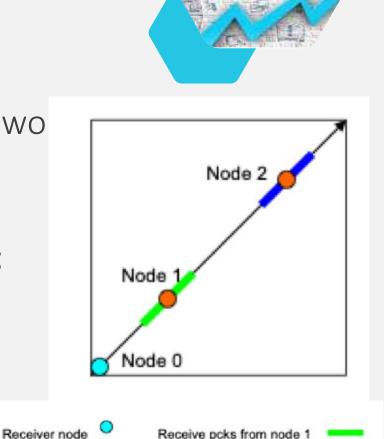


The CastaliaResults script

- PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
- Use the -s switch to select among outputs, e.g., packets; Results are the average of all modules and indices. ../../bin/CastaliaResults -i YYMMDD-HHMMSS.txt -s packets
- Get the sum of all nodes
- ../../bin/CastaliaResults -i YYMMDD-HHMMSS.txt -s packets -sum
- Get per node results
- ../../bin/CastaliaResults -i YYMMDD-HHMMSS.txt -s packets -n

Simulation: An Example

- Goto ~/Castalia/Simulations/radioTest
- Scenario: General (Tests reception)
 - A receiver (node 0) moves through the area of two transmitters (nodes 1 and 2).
 - No interference between transmitters.
 - Receiver moves in a straight line back and forth;
 - The receiver should receive packets when it is close to each of the two transmitters.



GreenCastali

Receive pcks from node 2

Transmitter node

Simulation: An Example

- Type the following commands:
 - 1.rm 1*.txt
 - 2.rm Castalia-Trace.txt

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- Run a simulation using the default configuration

 ./../bin/Castalia -c General
- Two files created in the directory
 - 1. YYMMDD-HHMMSS.txt: Output file which includes results.
 - 2. Castalia-Trace.txt: Contains traces of all events requested.

Modeling in GC

- Different aspects of a wireless sensor network from communications to physical processes.
- Single common point for all non-composite modules:
 - A parameter called collectTraceInfo
 - Is set by default to false; If set to true, then the module will produce trace information
 - Traces will be written in the Castalia-Trace.txt file (in the directory of the simulation scenario folder)



The wireless channel

- GC implements a realistic wireless channel for IoT systems, such as WSNs and BANs.
- Average path loss modeling
 - Lognormal shadowing model has been shown to give accurate estimates.
- Path loss in dB as a function of the distance between two nodes

$$PL(d) = PL(d_0) + 10 \cdot \eta \cdot \log\left(\frac{d}{d_0}\right) + X_{\sigma}$$



The wireless channel

- Directory: ~/Castalia/src/wirelessChannel/defaultChannel/
- File WirelessChannel.ned:
 - Defines parameters related to the wireless channel
 - pathLossExponent, PLd0, d0, sigma
- To access these parameters in the .ini file you have to prefix their name with "SN.wirelessChannel."

Node mobility

- Taking the path loss between two nodes is not enough.
- Keep state about the path losses between points in the space.
- Space is broken in discrete cells and calculate the path losses from each cell to each other cell.
- Use cell locations and cell IDs instead of specific node locations and node IDs.



Node mobility

- Parameters that set the cell size (default=5m)
- SN.wirelessChannel.xCellSize
- SN.wirelessChannel.yCellSize
- SN.wirelessChannel.zCellSize
- No mobility
- SN.wirelessChannel.onlyStaticNodes





- Captures many features for real low-power radios.
- Main features include:
 - Multiple states: Transmit, receive, listen, configurable sleep states.
 - Transition delays from one state to another.
 - Different power consumption for the different states and Tx levels used.
 - ...
 - GC includes 3 already defined radios.

- Directory: ~/Simulations/Parameters/Radio/
- Available radios
 - BANRadio.txt: defines the narrowband radio proposed in the IEEE 802.15 Task Group 6 documents
 - CC1000.txt: defines the CC1000 real radio by Texas Instruments
 - CC2420.txt: defines the CC2420 real radio by Texas Instruments
- In the omnetpp.ini file the parameter RadioParametersFile of the radio module points to one of these files.

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- Directory
 - ~/Simulations/Parameters/Radio/
- E.g.: CC2420.txt
- Radio parameters file
 - RX MODES
 - TX LEVELS
 - DELAY TRANSITION MATRIX
 - POWER TRANSITION MATRIX
 - SLEEP LEVELS



- A set of parameters can be specified in the configuration file
- Select the starting RX mode; default empty value means that the first mode listed will be used: string mode = default ("")
- Select the starting state once simulation begins; default value is set to listening (receiving) state: string state = default ("RX")



- Determine the correct location for the new code.
- Create a dedicated directory for the source code of the new module.
- Possible locations:
 - Application: ~/Castalia/src/node/application
 - Routing: ~/Castalia/src/node/communication/routing
 - MAC~/Castalia/src/node/communication/mac
 - Mobility:
 - ~/Castalia/src/node/communication/mobilityManager



- Define the module using the NED language; the .ned file is named by the name of the module:
 - E.g.: new module: newCastaliaModule
- Then the name of the corresponding .ned file will be NewCastaliaModule.ned
- The dedicated directory starts with a lower case letter, while the name of the .ned file starts with an upper case letter.





- In the .ned file define the following:
 - The package of the module
 - Obtain the package by taking the current directory path to the Castalia's src/ directory and by replacing each "/" symbol with "."
- Include all the parameters to be passed to the module at runtime from the simulation configuration; Some parameters are mandatory for all modules.



GreenCastal

Creating modules: An example

```
package node.communication.mac.newCastaliaModule;
simple NewCastaliaModule like node.communication.mac.iMac {
parameters:
bool collectTraceInfo = default(false);
int macMaxPacketSize = default(0);
int macBufferSize = default(16);
int macPacketOverhead = default(8);
int newParameter1;
string newParameter2 = default("default value");
bool newParameter3 = default(false);
gates:
output toNetworkModule;
output toRadioModule;
input fromNetworkModule;
input fromRadioModule;
input fromCommModuleResourceMgr;
```



- The next step is to include (and write in C++) the actual code of the module.
- The new module has to inherit some "properties" from appropriate base classes that are provided (Virtual classes).
- A .h file and a .cc file have to be created.
- In the source code file (.cc)
 - Include the .h file
 - Register the new creating as an OMNeT module
 - Define_Module(NewCastaliaModule);
 - Define the methods that the virtual class implements.

• Application:

class NewCastaliaModule : public VirtualApplication {

• Routing:

class NewCastaliaModule : public VirtualRouting{

• MAC:

class NewCastaliaModule : public VirtualMac{

MobilityManager:

class NewCastaliaModule : public VirtualMobilityManager{

Defining an application packet

- Default application packets have only one field (double) to carry data.
- Create a new .msg file in the new application directory

cplusplus {{
 #include "ApplicationPacket_m.h"
 }}
 class ApplicationPacket;
 struct info {
 unsigned short nodeID; //the ID of the Node
 double locX; // x-coordinate of the node
 double locY; // y-coordinate of the node
 }
 packet MyPacket extends ApplicationPacket {
 info extraData;
 }
}





Defining a new Routing module

- Directory: ~/src/node/communication/routing
- The VirtualRouting class defines a set of methods
 - Callback methods: Allow the specific routing protocol to react to certain events.
 - Pre-defined methods that perform generic operations.

Defining a new Routing module

Callbacks:

- void startup()
- void finishSpecific()
- void fromApplication Layer(cPacket *pkt, const char*dstAddr)
- void fromMacLayer(cPacket *pkt, int srcMacAddress, double RSSI, double LQI)
- void handleNetworkControlCommand(cMessage *)
- void handleMacControlMessage(cMessage *)
- void handleRadioControlMessage(cMessage *)



Defining a new Routing module

Methods:

- void encapsulatePacket(cPacket *, cPacket *
- int bufferPacket(cPacket *pkt)
- cPacket *decapsulatePacket(cPacket *)
- void toApplicationLayer(cMessage *msg)
- void toMacLayer(cMessage *msg)
- void toMacLayer(cPacket *pkt, int macAddr)
- int resolveNetworkAddress(const char *)
- bool is NotDuplicatePacket(cPacket *pkt)



Additional Resources



 R. Jain, "The Art of Computer Systems Performance Analysis: Techniques for Experimental Design, Measurement, Simulation, and Modeling", Wiley-Interscience, New York, NY, April 1991. (Chapters 2, 3, 24)

