

Wireless Sensor Networks

Principles and Practice



Fei Hu • Xiaojun Cao

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FEI HU • XIAOJUN CAO



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To Fei's family—*Fang and Gloria*

To Matt's family

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Preface

Wireless sensor networks (WSNs) are one of the hottest topics of research in today's era of information explosion. The latest advances in science and engineering have paved the way for employing the low-power, low-cost WSN, which provides a high order of spatial and effective resolution for an ever-increasing number of applications, such as infrastructure protection and security, surveillance, health-care, habitat/environment monitoring, food safety, and smart energy. Although the use of WSNs has many advantages over traditional networking techniques and sensing methods in the aforementioned applications, it also poses many challenging issues and optimization problems in the design of network architectures, protocols, and algorithms. To resolve these challenges despite constraints on available energy, bandwidth, memory space and computing power, high rates of node failure and data loss, adverse communication environments, and unique application requirements, significant efforts have been made in the academia and industry.

Although some books on sensor networks have been published recently, most (if not all) of them are not suitable to be used as textbooks due to the limited number of topics covered or to the nature of editorial collections. This textbook attempts to comprehensively discuss all the major technologies, standards, topics, and developments in sensor networks. It covers almost all aspects that readers need to know to enter this burgeoning field, including hardware design, medium access control, routing schemes, transport protocols, OS support, middleware, data management, localization, synchronization, security, actuator/underwater/video sensor networking, power control, and sensor simulations.

This textbook makes complicated concepts easy to understand through interesting examples and WSN applications. In addition, it has exercises, assignments, and detailed case studies that help readers understand the contents and then apply their knowledge in designing their own applications or for solving real-world problems. We have also included some practical sensor network design cases such as medical applications.

Targeted Audiences

This book is ideal for senior college students or first-year graduate students who are majoring in computer engineering, electrical engineering, or computer science. It is also an excellent reference book for sensor network designers, researchers, and engineers who wish to fully exploit WSN technology, and for government employees who wish to use WSNs to enhance homeland security.

Scope of This Book

Because we target both engineering and science students, we have covered both hardware and software topics in this textbook. This book, which consists of 18 chapters, is organized in the following manner:

	Chapter 1. Introduction (WSN overview; basic network concepts)
Computer engineering knowledge	Chapter 2. Hardware (micro-sensors with microcontrollers and radio)
Network protocol stack	Chapter 3. MAC layer (neighborhood wireless transmission)
	Chapter 4. Routing layer (find an optimal source-to-end path)
	Chapter 5. Transport layer (loss recovery, congestion control)
Computer science knowledge	Chapter 6. Operating system (such as TinyOS)
	Chapter 7. Middleware (hide networking details for programmers)
	Chapter 8. Sensor data management
Advanced WSN topics	Chapter 9. Localization (also called calibration; very useful)
	Chapter 10. Clock synchronization (correct clock drifts in sensors)
	Chapter 11. Security (countermeasure WSN attacks)

(continued)

Special sensor networks	Chapter 12. Wireless actor and sensor networks (with mobile actors)
	Chapter 13. Underwater sensor networks (using acoustic; not RF)
	Chapter 14. Video sensor networks
Miscellaneous	Chapter 15. Energy models and low-energy design
	Chapter 16. WSN simulators
Case studies	Chapter 17. WSN for tele-healthcare applications
	Chapter 18. WSN for light control

What Can Be Covered in a Course

For a One-Semester (15 Weeks) Course: The following table is our suggested time allocation plan among different topics. Instructors should adjust their teaching plan based on students’ feedback and learning practices.

<i>Time Length</i>	<i>Teaching Topics</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
2 weeks	WSN basics; sensor hardware (for computer science major, the hardware part can be shortened)	Chapters 1 and 2
2 weeks	MAC layer (teach at least two MAC schemes, emphasizing “energy-saving” design)	Chapter 3
2.5 weeks	Routing layer (teach proactive/reactive routing schemes, emphasizing “scalable” design)	Chapter 4
1.5 weeks	Transport layer (teach both “reliable end-to-end transmission” and “congestion control”)	Chapter 5
1 week	Operating system; middleware (for computer science major, 2 weeks may be used)	Chapters 6 and 7
1 week	Sensor data management (for computer science major, 2 weeks may be used)	Chapter 8
1 week	Sensor localization; time synchronization (for PhD/MS students, 2–3 weeks may be used)	Chapters 9 and 10

(continued)

(continued)

<i>Time Length</i>	<i>Teaching Topics</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
1 week	WSN security (Teach μ TESLA, Key pre-distribution)	Chapter 11
1.5 weeks	Special sensor networks (especially underwater WSN)	Chapters 12 through 14
0.5 week	Energy models; WSN simulators	Chapters 15 and 16
1 week	Case studies	Chapters 17 and 18
Total: 15 weeks	In each chapter, teach both math principles and concrete design cases. Leave some topics for after-class reading assignments.	

Note that some time should also be allocated for class labs.

For a One-Quarter (10 Weeks) Course:

<i>Time Length</i>	<i>Teaching Topics</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
1.5 weeks	WSN basics; sensor hardware	Chapters 1 and 2
1 week	MAC layer (emphasizing “energy-saving” design)	Chapter 3
1.5 weeks	Routing layer (teach proactive/reactive routing schemes; emphasizing “scalable” design)	Chapter 4
1 week	Transport layer (teach both “reliable end-to-end transmission” and “congestion control”)	Chapter 5
0.5 week	Operating system; middleware (for computer science major, 1.5 weeks may be used)	Chapters 6 and 7
0.5 week	Sensor data management (for computer science major, 1.5 weeks may be used)	Chapter 8
1 week	Sensor localization; time synchronization (for PhD/MS students, 2–3 weeks may be used)	Chapters 9 and 10

(continued)

<i>Time Length</i>	<i>Teaching Topics</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
0.5 week	WSN security (Teach μ TESLA, Key pre-distribution)	Chapter 11
1 week	Special sensor networks (especially underwater WSN)	Chapters 12 through 14
0.5 week	Energy models; WSN simulators	Chapters 15 and 16
1 week	Case studies	Chapters 17 and 18
Total: 10 weeks	In each chapter, teach both math principles and concrete design cases. Leave some topics for after-class reading assignments.	

For computer engineering majors, Chapter 2 (sensor hardware) is important. This chapter may be allocated more time as it would require a detailed study. For computer science majors, Chapters 6 through 8 (OS, data management) should be covered in more details.

Some chapters, such as Chapters 8 through 10 (localization, synchronization, and security), may be assigned to PhD/MS students as term paper topics (i.e., the students are required to explore this topic in more detail and submit a research paper based on their investigations). Chapters 17 and 18 could be used as projects for senior students.

While teaching, the use of survey-like PowerPoint® slides is not recommended in class as this book covers WSN topics in detail. Instructors should select good design examples to elaborate certain concepts. For instance, when studying MAC layers, at least one of the MAC schemes (such as S-MAC) should be taught in detail.

Math principles are extremely important to WSN design. Therefore, if any chapter has some good math models, they should be studied carefully. These math principles should especially be emphasized for PhD/MS students.

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A final note: Much of the content and concepts of the textbook are based on existing research efforts from the literature that we cannot list here specifically. We would like to particularly express our appreciation to those authors who have published excellent materials on WSNs.

Disclaimer

As the purpose of this textbook is to explain the latest concepts on wireless sensor network (WSN) design in a textbook format to train students and engineers, we would like to make it clear that this book is not meant for publishing innovative research ideas. Although we have tried our best to provide due credit to all publications cited in this book, there could still be some errors. We would like to sincerely thank all the authors who have published WSN materials that have been cited by us. Any errors or questions on the content of this book can be addressed to us (Fei Hu: fei.hu@ieee.org or Matt Cao: cao@cs.gsu.edu); we will correct the errors and thus improve this textbook in future editions.

Fei Hu received his B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Clarkson University, New York. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in telecommunication engineering from Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China, in 1994 and 1996, respectively.



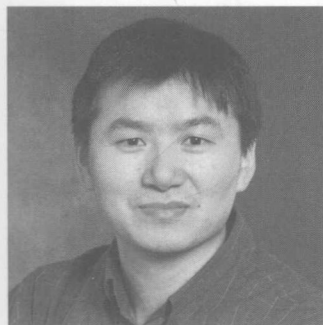
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