

STUDIO ED IMPLEMENTAZIONE DI UN MODELLO D'ANTENNA INTELLIGENTE E MODELLO DI CANALE IN AMBIENTE DI SIMULAZIONE PER WIRELESS SENSORS NETWORK (AVRORA)

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Abstract

Una Wireless Sensor Network (WSN) è una rete di sensori spazialmente distribuiti che comunicano e cooperano tra loro in modo dinamico senza bisogno di costose infrastrutture di comunicazione. Il basso costo e l'elevata versatilità di questo tipo di reti, rendono questa tecnologia adatta al monitoraggio di diversi parametri ambientali in modo autonomo e distribuito.

L'utilizzo di sistemi d'antenna adattivi in tale ambito è tuttora un campo inesplorato, ma molto promettente. Le antenne adattive sono infatti dei sistemi d'antenna in grado di modificare il diagramma di radiazione al variare delle configurazioni di controllo. Recentemente il gruppo Eledialab ha sviluppato alcuni prototipi di antenne adattive ad elementi parassiti con tecnologia in microstriscia ottenendo dispositivi di ridotte dimensioni a basso costo e consumi ridotti. L'utilizzo di questa tipologia d'antenna su reti WSN unitamente ad un opportuno algoritmo di controllo permette di ridurre la potenza in trasmissione necessaria e incrementare drasticamente il rapporto segnale rumore + interferente (e quindi ridurre la packet error rate) posizionando i nulli del diagramma di radiazione nella direzione d'arrivo dei segnali interferenti. In tale ambito è di notevole interesse l'analisi delle prestazioni e del risparmio in termini di consumo energetico che possibile ottenere dotando i nodi di una rete WSN di un sistema d'antenna adattivo. Per valutarne le prestazioni su reti di elevate dimensioni è fondamentale implementare un modello di tale antenna in un simulatore di reti (ad es. AVRORA). Di notevole interesse al fine della valutazione delle prestazioni della rete è l'introduzione di un modello di canale (attualmente non considerato nel simulatore) che utilizzando un opportuno algoritmo (es: Random Walk Model) sia in grado di determinare l'attenuazione del segnale introdotta dal canale basandosi su informazioni geometriche (posizione nodi) e statistiche (presenza di ostacoli).

Avrora presenta una architettura flessibile e facilmente adattabile ed espandibile, è quindi possibile introdurre un nuovo modello relativo al componente RADIO.

Il progetto verrà svolto in collaborazione con il Prof. G. Picco che seguirà la parte legata al simulatore di reti mentre il gruppo Eledia si occuperà di fornire il supporto necessario per l'implementazione del modello d'antenna e il modello di canale.

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This report is submitted in partial fulfillment of the degree of the course "TPCW".

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