

Wireless Energy Harvesting for the Internet of Things

Software Used: NetSim Standard v11, Visual Studio 2015/2017

Project Download Link:

https://github.com/NetSim-TETCOS/Energy_Harvesting_IoT_v11.0/archive/master.zip

Among different energy harvesting methods, such as vibration, light, and thermal energy extraction, wireless energy harvesting (WEH) has proven to be one of the most promising solutions by virtue of its simplicity, ease of implementation, and availability. This recent technology trend in energy harvesting provides a fundamental method to prolong battery longevity. While harvesting from the aforementioned environmental sources is dependent on the presence of the corresponding energy source, RF energy harvesting provides key benefits in terms of being wireless, readily available in the form of transmitted energy (TV/radio broadcasters, mobile base stations and handheld radios), low cost, and small form factor implementation.

A WEH-enabled sensor device usually consists of an antenna, a transceiver, a WEH unit, a power management unit (PMU), a sensor/processor unit, and possibly an onboard battery. The available harvested power, PH , is given by a Friis equation and is directly proportional to the transmitted power, PT , path loss, PL , transmitter antenna gain, GT , receiver antenna gain, GR , power conversion efficiency of the converter, $PCEH$, and the square of the wavelength, λ , and is inversely proportional to the square of the communication distance, r , between the source and the device.

The communication energy consists of ELS (listening energy), ERX (receiver energy), and ETX (transmitter energy). The computation energy includes EPR (processing energy) and ESN (sensing energy). To capture the energy distribution among the aforementioned energy consumers, weighting coefficients $aLS > aTX > aRX > aPR > aSN$ are assigned to them. The total average energy consumption $ED = aLS ELS + aTX ETX + aRX ERX + aPR EPR + aSN ESN$. EB is the total energy stored in the battery, and EH is the available harvested energy per active duty cycle. We assume constant energy consumptions for receiver, processor, and sensor. However, the energy consumption of the transmitter (ETX) is directly proportional to r_{ij}^{-2} , where r_{ij} is the distance between the originating device j and the sink node i (in ring topology) or the sink node/sensor device (in multihop topology). The harvested energy EH is inversely proportional to r_{ij}^2 (here j is the sink node and $r_{ij} = r_{ji}$).

IEEE Ref Paper:

Wireless Energy Harvesting for the Internet of Things

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The code given below is for an example implementation of WEH whereby energy is harvested based on the received signal power. The Steps to be followed for Implementation in NetSim are:

1. This implementation involves modifications to BatteryModel and ZigBee Projects present in <NetSim_Install_Directory>/src/Simulation directory.
2. As a best practice create a new directory for your project. From <NetSim_Install_Directory>/src/Simulation path copy the folders BatteryModel, ZigBee, Include, lib along with NetSim.sln file to your new folder.
3. Load the source codes in Visual studio by double clicking on NetSim.sln file.
4. Remove all unloaded projects leaving only ZigBee and BatteryModel in the Solution explorer to avoid confusion.
5. Expand BatteryModel Project and double click on the BatteryModel.h file to load the open the file and make the following changes(highlighted in red):

```

_declspec(dllexport) void battery_animation();
_declspec(dllexport) void battery_metrics(PMETRICSWRITER metricsWriter);
_declspec(dllexport) double battery_get_remaining_energy(ptrBATTERY battery);
_declspec(dllexport) int battery_energy_harvesting(ptrBATTERY battery, double eh_energy);
_declspec(dllexport) double battery_get_consumed_energy(ptrBATTERY battery, int mode);

```

6. Now double click on the BatteryModel.c file to load the open the file and make the following changes(highlighted in red):

```

_declspec(dllexport) double battery_get_remaining_energy(ptrBATTERY battery)
{
    return battery->remainingEnergy;
}

```

```

_declspec(dllexport) int battery_energy_harvesting(ptrBATTERY battery, double eh_energy)
{
    battery->remainingEnergy += eh_energy;
}

```

7. Expand ZigBee project and double click on the ChangeRadioState.c file to open it. At the end of ChangeRadioState.c file add the following lines of code:

```

#define EH_FRACTION 0.1
// EH_FRACTION is the fraction of the received signal energy that can be
// captured and harvested by the sensor.
int calculate_eh(NETSIM_ID dev1, NETSIM_ID dev2)
{
    double rx_pwr = GET_RX_POWER_mw(dev1, dev2, pstruEventDetails->dEventTime);
    double eh_energy= EH_FRACTION * rx_pwr;
    ptrBATTERY battery = WSN_PHY(dev2)->battery;
    if(battery)
        battery_energy_harvesting(battery, eh_energy);
}

```

8. Add the function call shown in red in 802_15_4.c file

```

case UPDATE_MEDIUM:
{
    double dtime=pstruEventDetails->dEventTime;
    NETSIM_ID nLink_Id, nConnectionID, nConnectionPortID, nLoop;
    NETSIM_ID nTransmitterID;
    nTransmitterID = pstruEventDetails->nDeviceId;
    ZIGBEE_CHANGERADIOSTATE(nTransmitterID,
    WSN_PHY(nTransmitterID)->nRadioState, RX_ON_IDLE);
    if(WSN_PHY(nTransmitterID)->nRadioState != RX_OFF)
        WSN_MAC(nTransmitterID)->nNodeStatus = IDLE;
        nLink_Id =
    fn_NetSim_Stack_GetConnectedDevice(pstruEventDetails->nDeviceId,pstruEventD
    etails->nInterfacelId,&nConnectionID,&nConnectionPortID);
        for(nLoop=1;
    nLoop<=NETWORK->ppstruNetSimLinks[nLink_Id-1]->puniDevList.pstruMP2MP.nC
    onnectedDeviceCount; nLoop++)
    {
        NETSIM_ID ncon =
    NETWORK->ppstruNetSimLinks[nLink_Id-1]->puniDevList.pstruMP2MP.anDevIds[n
    Loop-1];
        if(ncon != pstruEventDetails->nDeviceId)

```

```

    {
    calculate_eh(nTransmitterID, nLoop);

```

```

WSN_PHY(ncon)->dTotalReceivedPower -=
    GET_RX_POWER_mw(nTransmitterID,ncon,pstruEventDetails->dEventTime);
if(WSN_PHY(ncon)->dTotalReceivedPower <
    WSN_PHY(ncon)->dReceiverSensivity)
    WSN_PHY(ncon)->dTotalReceivedPower = 0;
    }
}

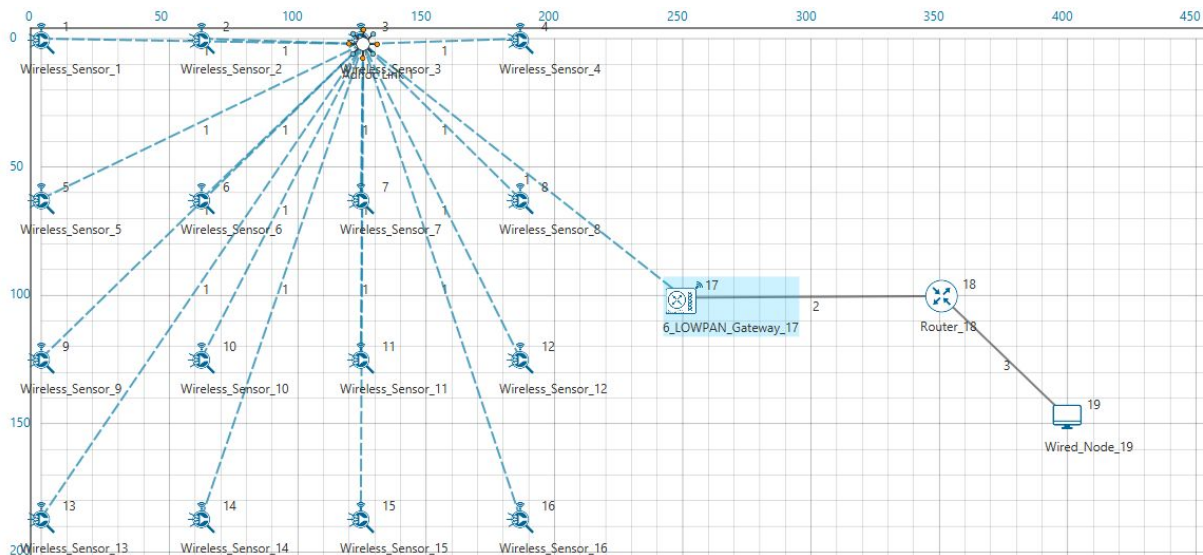
```

This completes the code for energy harvesting.

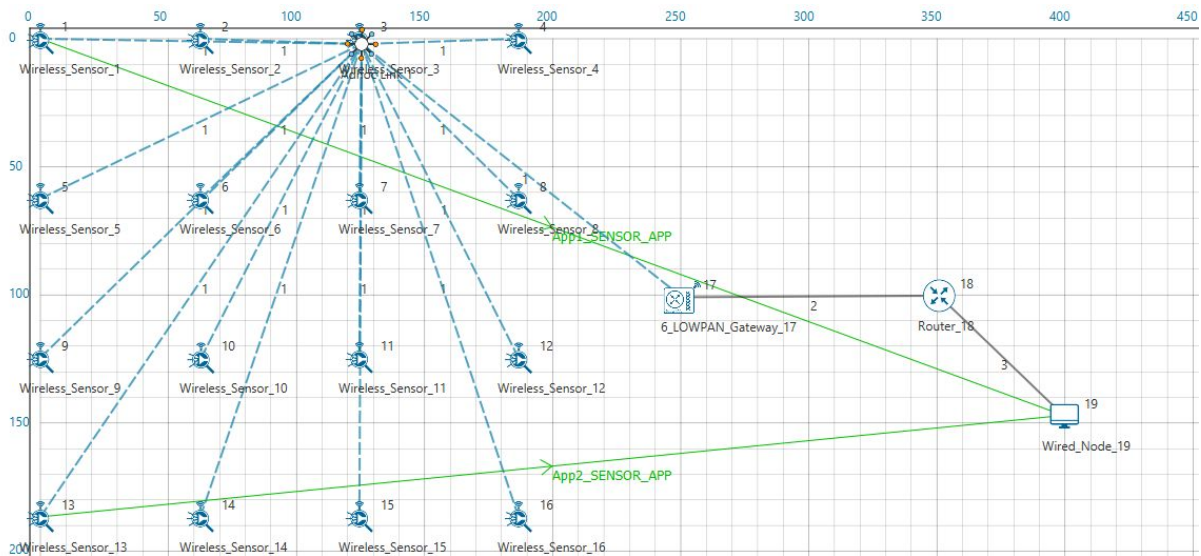
9. Right click on the BatteryModel Project in Solution Explorer and select Rebuild. Upon Successful build go to the DLL folder that has been created inside your project directory (created in Step 2). Copy the BatteryModel.lib file and place it in the lib folder which is present in your project folder.
10. Right click on the ZigBee project in Solution Explorer and select Rebuild. Upon successful build a new libZigBee.dll file will get created in the DLL folder present in your project directory (created in Step 2).

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS:

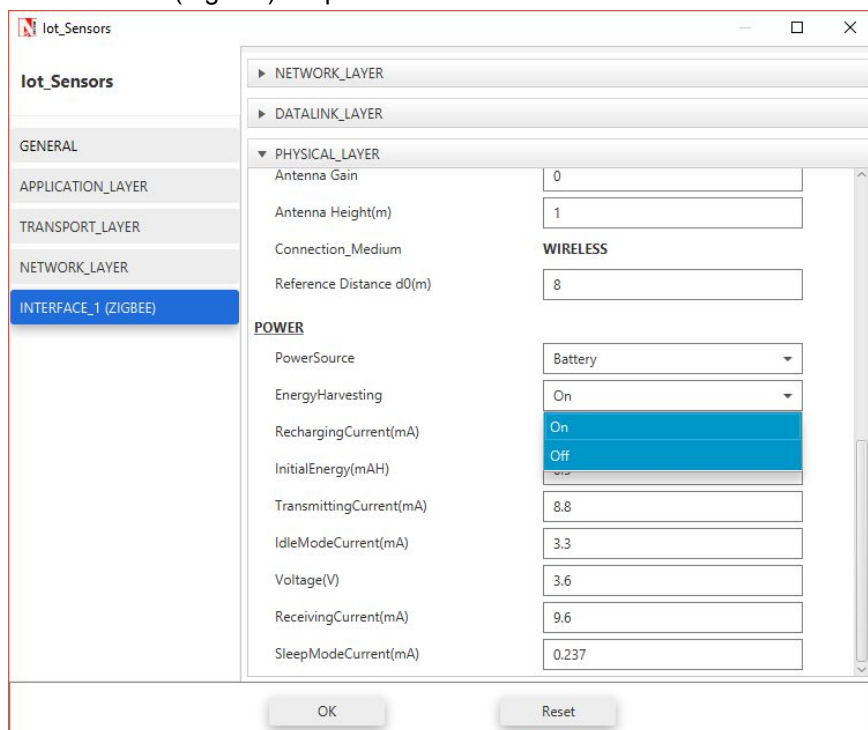
1. Create a network scenario in IoT with say 16 sensors, a 6LoWPAN Gateway, a Router and a Wired Node as shown below:



2. Configure traffic in the network by setting a few applications between some of the sensor nodes to the Wired Node using the Application Icon, as shown below:



3. Disable Energy Harvesting in the Sensor nodes by setting the EnergyHarvesting parameter to OFF in the Interface(ZigBee) Properties of the sensor nodes as shown below:



4. Run Simulation for say 300 seconds and save the simulation results. In NetSim Simulation Results Window, the Battery model table provides detailed metrics related to energy consumed by each sensor node. The column Remaining energy can be used to compare simulations with and without energy harvesting code modification.

WITH ENERGY HARVESTING

1. Copy the previously built BatteryModel.dll and libZigBee.dll files present in the DLL folder of your project directory (created in the beginning).

- Go to <NetSim_Install_Directory>/bin and rename the already existing BatteryModel.dll and libZigBee.dll files to say BatteryModel_original.dll and libZigBee_original.dll and paste the copied dll files.
- Now re-run the network simulation for 300 seconds and save the simulation results. You can use the table remaining energy column present in the Battery model table which is part of NetSim Simulation Results window to compare simulations with and without wireless energy harvesting.

Battery model_Table

Batter model Detailed View

Device Name	Initial energy(mJ)	Consumed energy(mJ)	Remaining Energy(mJ)	Transmitting energy(mJ)	Receiving energy(mJ)	Idle energy(mJ)	Sleep energy(mJ)
WIRELESS_SENSOR_1	6480.000000	1208.785999	6273.714001	18.100463	32.081633	1158.603902	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_2	6480.000000	1182.780044	6373.719956	4.010593	5.872435	1172.897015	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_3	6480.000000	1179.353731	6377.146269	4.010593	0.651387	1174.691751	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_4	6480.000000	1178.926258	6377.573742	4.010593	0.000000	1174.915665	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_5	6480.000000	1178.926258	6377.573742	4.010593	0.000000	1174.915665	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_6	6480.000000	1178.879332	6378.620668	3.935511	0.000000	1174.943821	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_7	6480.000000	1178.926258	6377.573742	4.010593	0.000000	1174.915665	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_8	6480.000000	1178.926258	6377.573742	4.010593	0.000000	1174.915665	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_9	6480.000000	1178.902795	6378.097205	3.973052	0.000000	1174.929743	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_10	6480.000000	1178.926258	6377.573742	4.010593	0.000000	1174.915665	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_11	6480.000000	1178.902795	6378.097205	3.973052	0.000000	1174.929743	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_12	6480.000000	1178.926258	6377.573742	4.010593	0.000000	1174.915665	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_13	6480.000000	1188.994004	6288.005996	19.258525	0.819487	1168.915992	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_14	6480.000000	1178.926258	6377.573742	4.010593	0.000000	1174.915665	0.000000
WIRELESS_SENSOR_15	6480.000000	1178.926258	6377.573742	4.010593	0.000000	1174.915665	0.000000

Now on comparing the custom IOT metrics we can observe that Energy Harvesting increases sensors' working capability. Simulations can be performed for different values of EH Fraction which may vary as per the efficiency of the Energy Harvesting unit.