Networking for Sensor Nets (I)

Feng Zhao
Where is the data and how to move it to where it will be needed?

Key questions:

• How should the information obtained by the sensor net be named and routed to where it is needed?

• How should sensors collaborate in a way that scales gracefully to large sensor nets?

• How can the system conserve resources, adapt to changing conditions in the environment, and tolerate node failures?
Directed diffusion: data centric routing [Intanagonwiwat00, heidemann01]

- Name data (not nodes) with physical attributes
  - data type, time, location of node, SNR, etc
- Sources publish data, sinks subscribe to data
  - diffuse requests and responses across network using application driven routing (e.g., geo sensitive or not)
  - optimize path with reinforcement

Support in-network aggregation and processing
  - nested queries reduce network overhead

Figure 1: A simplified schematic for directed diffusion
Aggregation tree: On a general graph if k nodes are sources and one is a sink, the aggregation tree that minimizes the number of transmissions is the minimum Steiner tree. NP-complete. Approximations:
- Center at Nearest Source (CNSDC): All sources send through source nearest to the sink.
- Shortest Path Tree (SPTDC): Merge paths.
- Greedy Incremental Tree (GITDC): Start with path from sink to nearest source. Successively add next nearest source to the existing tree.