

Energy-Efficient Voltage Scheduling of Peripheral Components on Wireless Sensor Nodes

E2Nets 2014

Stephan Friedrichs, [Ulf Kulau](#) and Lars Wolf, June 14, 2014
Technische Universität Braunschweig, IBR

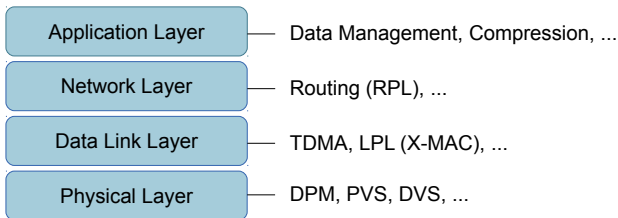
Energy Efficiency in WSNs – Motivation

- Energy Efficiency in WSNs / IoT plays a significant role
 - Usability, feasibility, acceptance...
- Limping evolution of batteries (capacity)
- Various existing approaches on several layers



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Starting Point – Peripherals

Existing work focuses on the transceiver and the processing unit:

- Peripheral energy consumption may dominate
 - Transceiver (16 mA) vs. GPS(44 mA)
 - Various multi-sensing applications (many peripherals)



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Basic Idea:

- Reducing overall energy consumption by adding DVS to peripherals

Voltage Level and Energy Consumption – Basics

Background:

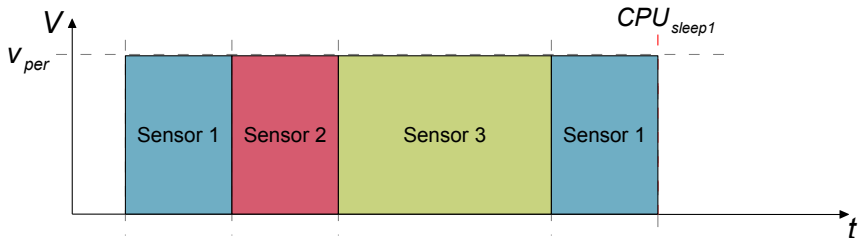
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Classical approach:

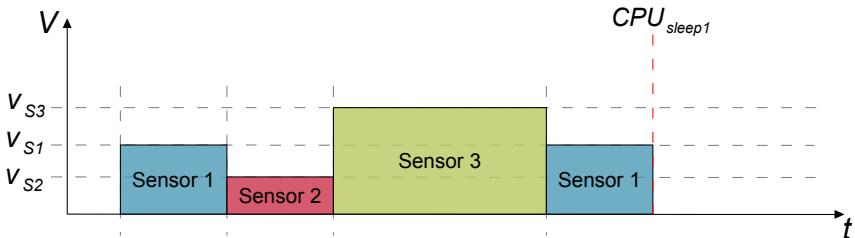


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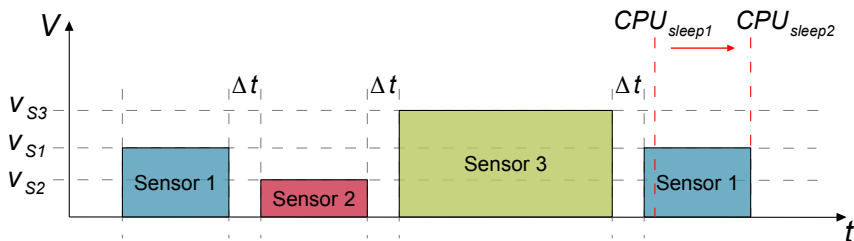
Our approach: Dynamic adaptation of the peripherals voltage



Individual Voltage Adaptation – Tradeoff

Dynamic adjustment of the peripherals voltage, but how?

- Additional overhead: Switching the voltage consumes energy
 - Timing overhead (Δt) leads to higher CPU duty cycles
 - Static power dissipation of a voltage scaling module

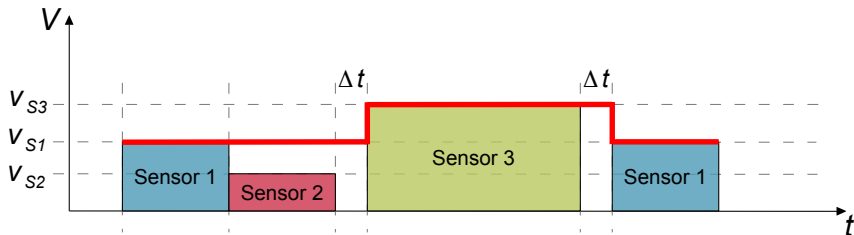


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Calculation of an optimal voltage schedule for arbitrary sequences



Voltage Scheduling Problem – Definitions

- Consider a sensor node with a set S of peripheral hardware
- Energy consumption of a peripheral $s \in S$

$$e_s(v) = v \int_0^{t_s} I_s(v, t), dt$$

$I_s(v, t)$ flowing through s as well as through the inactive peripheral hardware $S \setminus \{s\}$

- Constant amount C of energy – the switching overhead
- Given sequence of queries $[1, \dots, n]$
 - Query i operates the peripheral device $s_i \in S$
 - s_i requires minimum voltage level $v_{min}(s_i)$
- Searched for optimal voltage schedule $v(1), \dots, v(n)$

Voltage Scheduling Problem – Optimal Solution

- The energy consumption E of a voltage schedule is:

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^n e_{s_i}(v(i)) + \sum_{i=2}^n \begin{cases} C & \text{if } v(i-1) \neq v(i), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- Result: Voltage schedule is optimal if E is minimal

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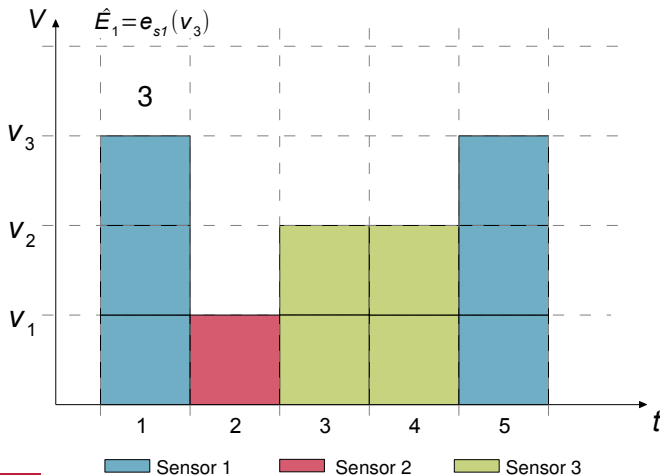
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Solution:

- Optimal voltage schedule would only use $v(i) \in \{v_{min}(s) \mid s \in S\}$
- Determining an optimal schedule by *dynamic programming*

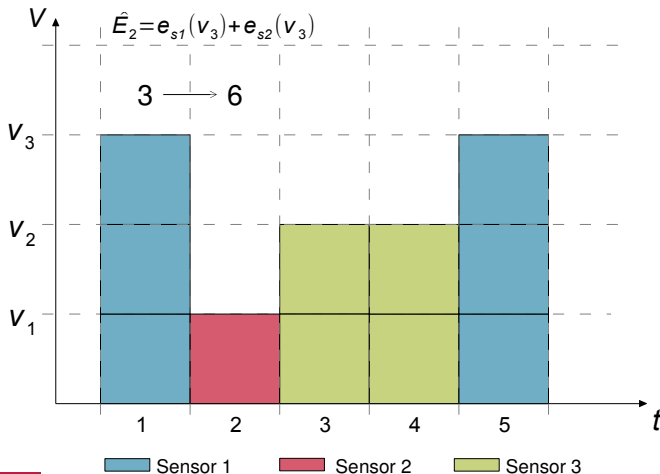
Example – Optimal Voltage Schedule

Simplification: $C = 1$, $v_i = i$ and $e_{s_i} = v_i$,



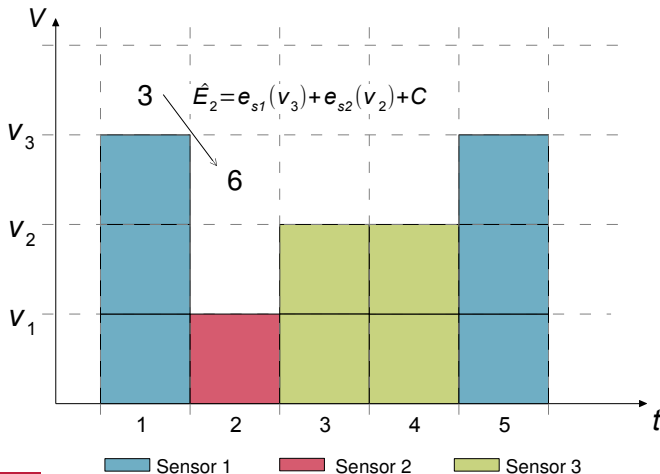
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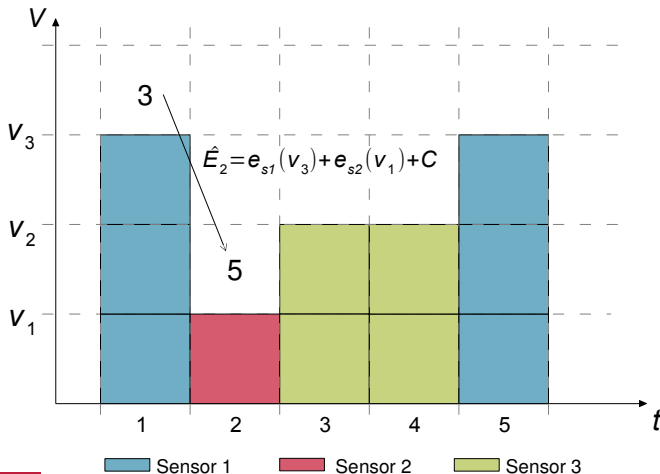
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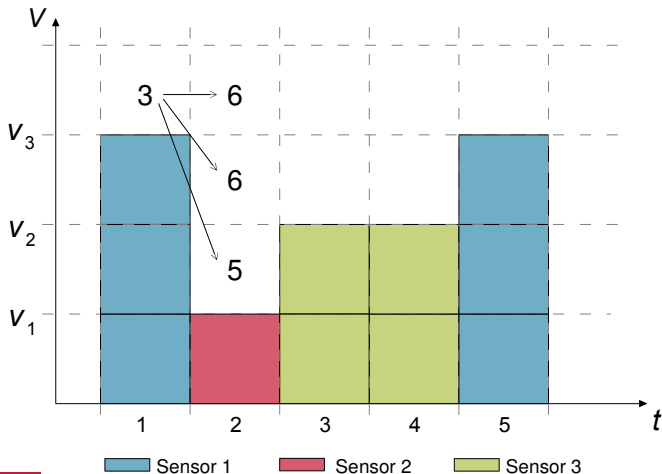
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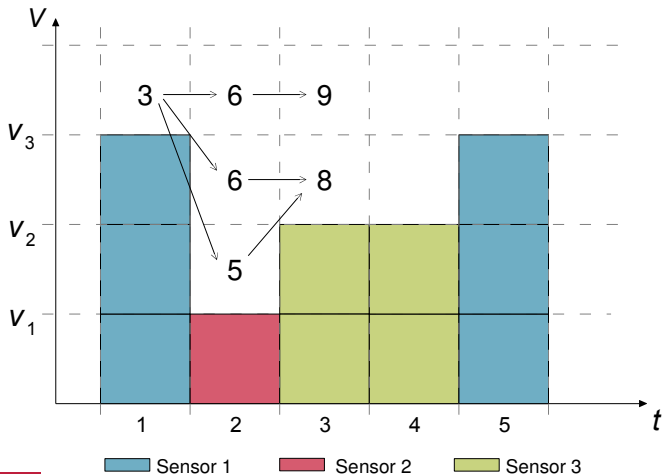
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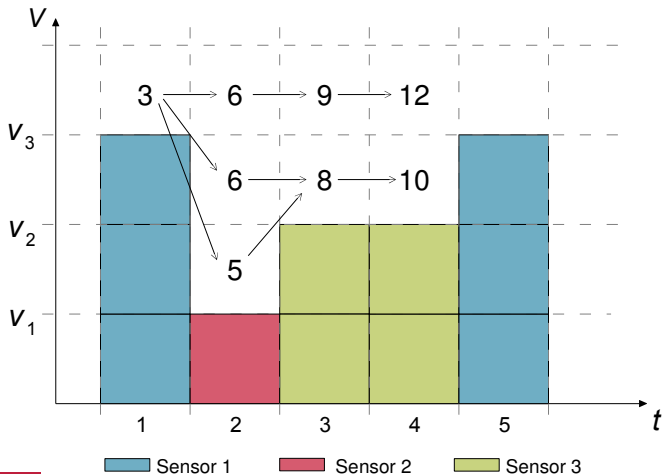
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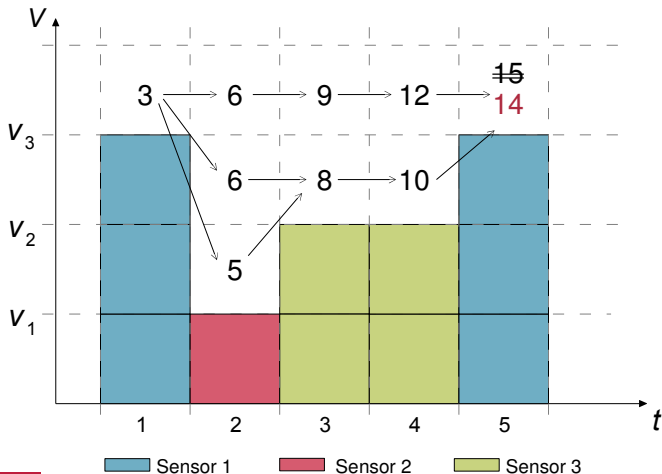
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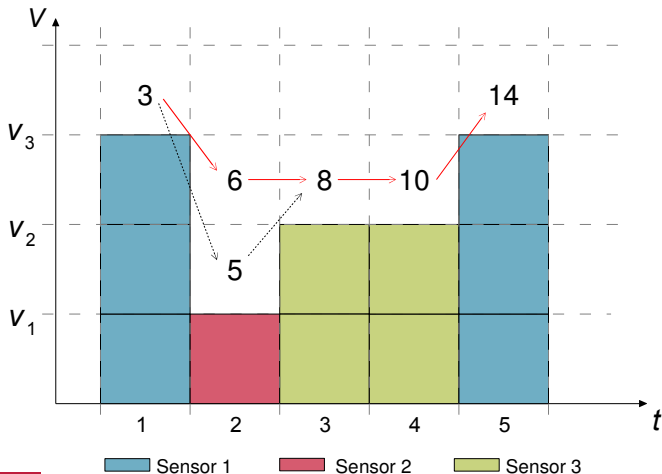
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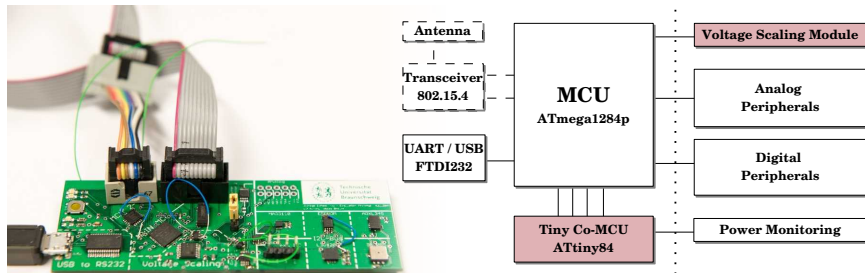
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Theory and Practice – Prototype Implementation

Implementation of a HW and SW prototype

- Equipped with common peripherals for WSN applications
- Evaluation of the effect of Voltage Scheduling



Self-Parametrization $e_s(v)$

Prototype Peripherals:

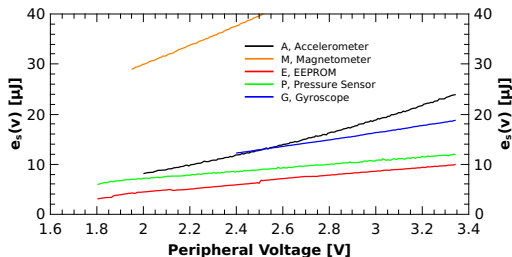
Peripheral s	Device	Description	$v_{min}(s)$ [V]
A	ADXL345	Accelerometer	2.000
E	AT24C08C	EEPROM	1.800
P	BMP085	Pressure Sensor	1.800
G	L3G4200D	Gyroscope	2.400
M	MAG3110	Magnetometer	1.950
M_b	MAG3110	Magnetometer (high accuracy)	1.950

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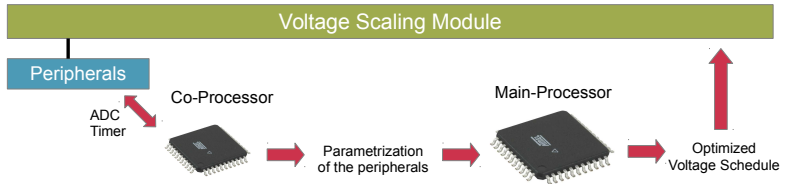
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- How to get information about the energy consumption?
- Modelling of $e_s(v)$ might be arbitrary complicated



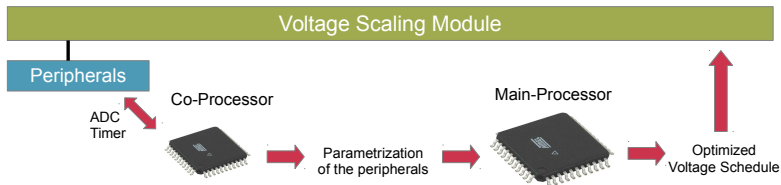
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- Fully self-optimizing approach
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Monotonicity: Schedule only uses minimum voltage levels

Reference Voltage		Energy Consumption $e_s(v_{min}(s'))$ [μJ] per Query				
s'	$v_{min}(s')$ [V]	$s = E$	$s = P$	$s = M$	$s = A$	$s = G$
E, P	$V_1 = 1.800$	4.943	13.140	—	—	—
M	$V_2 = 1.950$	6.106	15.072	282.827	—	—
A	$V_3 = 2.000$	6.363	15.466	292.033	18.962	—
G	$V_4 = 2.400$	8.019	18.915	365.285	25.585	14.391

Evaluation – Results

Test sequences are compared to three trivial strategies

#	Query Sequence	Energy saved by Scheduled compared to		
		ConstDefault	ConstMaxMin	AlwaysSwitch
1	AEPGMAEPM	45.80%	17.13%	0.97%
2	GAMGAMGAM	46.15%	17.04%	0.49%
3	GAMPE	46.91%	18.52%	1.40%
4	GAMPEGAMPE	46.26%	17.50%	1.79%
5	GEPGEPGEP	33.33%	0.81%	10.29%
6	PEMAG	46.91%	18.52%	1.68%
7	PEMAGPEMAG	46.39%	17.59%	1.79%
8	GAPEGAPE	37.80%	2.26%	8.45%
9	GPGPGPGPGP	31.54%	0.00%	20.29%
10	PAMPE	47.90%	20.41%	2.53%
11	APEGAME	46.53%	17.20%	3.27%

Note: A = Accelerometer, E = EEPROM, P = Pressure Sensor, G = Gyroscope, M = Magnetometer

- Scheduled voltage level saves energy
- Scheduling never uses more energy than other strategies (optimal)

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Prototype implementation and evaluation

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Thank you for your attention! Questions?

Ulf Kulau

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Appendix – Quality of Sensing

