

Energy Harvesting Wireless Sensor Networks

Deniz Gündüz

Imperial College London

Joint work with Oner Orhan (NYU), Elza Erkip (NYU), Bertrand Devillers (EPO),
Pol Blasco (Imperial College), Mischa Dohler (CTTC)

5 July 2013

harvest

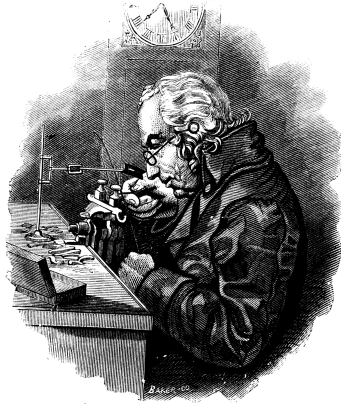
the act or process of gathering a crop

scavenge

to search for (anything usable) among discarded material

energy harvesting/scavenging (EH)

take advantage of previously “wasted” environmental energy



The self-winding pocket watch (1777)

“...15 minutes walking was necessary to wind the watch sufficiently for 8 days”

- An EHD harvests energy from the environment to collect, process and transmit/receive information
- The environment is a **power reservoir**: light, vibration, motion, pressure, heat, radio, human activity
- Applications: autonomous networked systems where providing line power or maintaining batteries is inconvenient
 - Ad hoc, sensor, machine-to-machine networks
 - Consumer electronics
 - Structural monitoring
 - Medical systems
 - Homes, offices, factories, roadways, hospitals, humans, animals

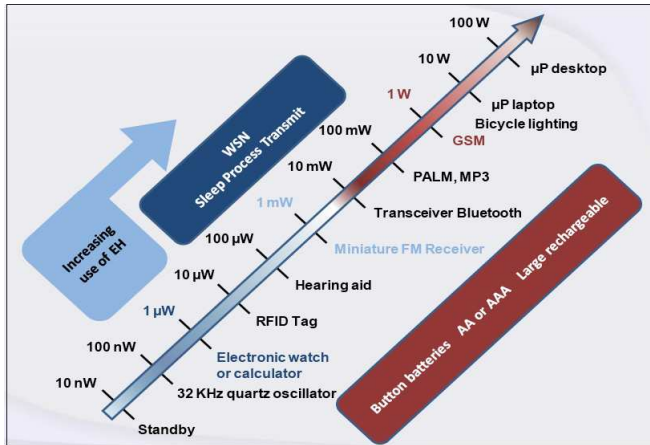
Energy harvesting estimates

Source	Type	$\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}$
Vibration/motion	Human	4
	Industry	100
Temperature difference	Human	25
	Industry	10^3 - 10^4
Light	Indoor	10
	Outdoor	10^4
RF	GSM	0.1
	WiFi	0.001

- Same order of magnitude as **carefully designed** low-power circuits typically consume
- Duty cycling, highly efficient sleep mode

Raju and Grazier, ULP meets energy harvesting, White Paper, Texas Instruments, 2008

Enabling technologies: energy harvesters



IDTechEx, Energy Harvesting and Storage, Cambridge 2009

Rechargeable batteries

- High energy density (large capacity)
- Wear-out fast with charge/discharge cycles

Super-capacitors

- High power density, large number of charge/discharge cycles
- Self-discharge, temperature-dependent equivalent series resistance (ESR)

Solid-state batteries

- High energy density, large number of charge/discharge cycles, minimal self-discharge, thin-film form, eco-friendly

- Ultra-low power microprocessors (μ P)
- Low standby current, low active current, low operating voltage, low pin leakage
- Low-power RF transceivers
- Energy consumption: μ P with fast processing core
- Integration adds value: reduced package size and cost, fewer losses

Pros

- Increased lifetime
- No battery replacement, minimal/no maintenance
- Ecological

Challenges

- Power is scarce ($\mu\text{W} \sim \text{mW}$) and intermittent
- Storage limited and leaky
- Stringent constraints on size and complexity

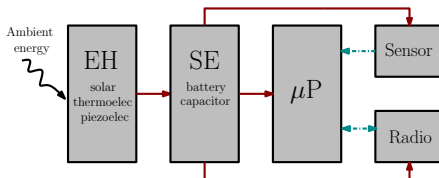
Ultimate promise

Self-sustainable, maintenance-free network of perpetually communicating devices

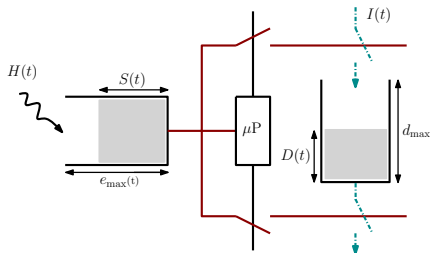
Up to now

- Advances in EH, storage, μ P technology... but there is a need to integrate these solutions
- Holistic system design

energy efficiency → intelligent energy management



Typical EHD block diagram



Mathematical model

Energy management policy

Rules that determine decisions of μP to activate switches at a given time t

Goal

Optimize a utility function over a given time period

Solution depends on

- characteristics of $H(t)$ and $I(t)$
- degree of knowledge of μP about $H(t)$ and $I(t)$
- physical constraints

Offline optimization

μ P knows values of $H(t)$ and $I(t)$ **in advance** at the μ P for duration of operation

Online optimization

μ P knows **past** values of $H(t)$ and $I(t)$ but has only **statistical** knowledge of their future values

Learning-theoretic optimization

μ P **learns** characteristics of $H(t)$ and $I(t)$ and adapts policy accordingly

- Energy and data arrival processes are known **in advance**
 - Deterministic processes (e.g. solar harvesters for given time of the day and season of operation, vibration based harvester on train tracks)
 - Serves as a bound for the general problem
 - Provides heuristics for low-complexity online algorithms
- No randomness
- Optimization problem

- Point-to-point data backlogged system
- Energy arrives in packets at discrete time instants
- Focus on transmission energy: long-range communication
- A **rate-power function: $r(P)$ bits/sec**
 - $r(0) = 0$
 - $r(\cdot)$ is monotonically increasing
 - Strictly concave
- Examples:
 - Shannon capacity for AWGN channel: $r(P) = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(1 + \frac{P}{N} \right)$
 - BPSK signalling with hard-decisions: $r(P) = 1 - h \left(Q \left(\sqrt{\frac{P}{N}} \right) \right)$

- Battery-limited system: Energy H_0 available at $t = 0$
- Given $r(\cdot)$ and deadline T
- How many bits can you transmit?
- Variable to optimize: Transmission power $P(t)$ for $t \in [0, T]$
- Optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{P(t), t \in [0, T]} \quad & \int_0^T r(P(t)) dt \\ \text{such that} \quad & \int_0^T P(t) \leq H_0. \end{aligned}$$

- Battery-limited system: Energy H_0 available at $t = 0$
- Given $r(\cdot)$ and deadline T
- How many bits can you transmit?
- Variable to optimize: Transmission power $P(t)$ for $t \in [0, T]$
- Optimization problem:

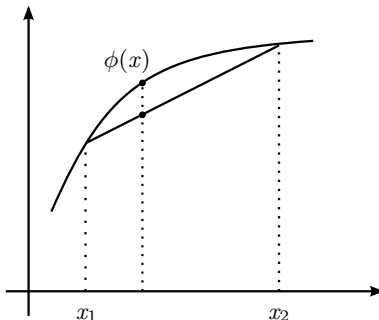
$$\begin{aligned} \max_{P(t), t \in [0, T]} \quad & \int_0^T r(P(t)) dt \\ \text{such that} \quad & \int_0^T P(t) \leq H_0. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Jensen's inequality)

Let $\phi(\cdot)$ be a concave function on the real line, then

$$\phi\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i}{\sum_{j=1}^n a_j}\right) \geq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \phi(x_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^n a_j},$$

with strict inequality if $\phi(\cdot)$ is strictly concave.



Theorem (Jensen's inequality)

Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a non-negative real valued function, and $\phi(\cdot)$ be a concave function on the real line, then

$$\phi\left(\int_a^b f(t) dt\right) \geq \int_a^b \frac{\phi((b-a)f(t))}{b-a} dt,$$

with strict inequality if $\phi(\cdot)$ is strictly concave, $a \neq b$, and f is not constant over the interval $[a, b]$.

$$f(t) = \frac{P(t)}{T}, a = 0, b = T, \phi(\cdot) = r(\cdot)$$

Theorem (Jensen's inequality)

Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a non-negative real valued function, and $\phi(\cdot)$ be a concave function on the real line, then

$$\phi\left(\int_a^b f(t) dt\right) \geq \int_a^b \frac{\phi((b-a)f(t))}{b-a} dt,$$

with strict inequality if $\phi(\cdot)$ is strictly concave, $a \neq b$, and f is not constant over the interval $[a, b]$.

$$f(t) = \frac{P(t)}{T}, a = 0, b = T, \phi(\cdot) = r(\cdot)$$

$$r\left(\int_0^T \frac{P(t)}{T} dt\right) > \int_0^T \frac{r(P(t))}{T} dt$$

$$T \cdot r\left(\frac{H_0}{T}\right) > \int_0^T r(P(t)) dt$$

- Constant power transmission is optimal!
- $T \cdot r\left(\frac{H_0}{T}\right)$ increases with T : Zero-power transmission is optimal (well-known minimum energy-per-bit)

$$r\left(\int_0^T \frac{P(t)}{T} dt\right) > \int_0^T \frac{r(P(t))}{T} dt$$

$$T \cdot r\left(\frac{H_0}{T}\right) > \int_0^T r(P(t)) dt$$

- Constant power transmission is optimal!
- $T \cdot r\left(\frac{H_0}{T}\right)$ increases with T : Zero-power transmission is optimal (well-known minimum energy-per-bit)

$$r\left(\int_0^T \frac{P(t)}{T} dt\right) > \int_0^T \frac{r(P(t))}{T} dt$$

$$T \cdot r\left(\frac{H_0}{T}\right) > \int_0^T r(P(t)) dt$$

- Constant power transmission is optimal!
- $T \cdot r\left(\frac{H_0}{T}\right)$ increases with T : Zero-power transmission is optimal (well-known minimum energy-per-bit)

$$r\left(\int_0^T \frac{P(t)}{T} dt\right) > \int_0^T \frac{r(P(t))}{T} dt$$

$$T \cdot r\left(\frac{H_0}{T}\right) > \int_0^T r(P(t)) dt$$

- Constant power transmission is optimal!
- $T \cdot r\left(\frac{H_0}{T}\right)$ increases with T : Zero-power transmission is optimal (well-known minimum energy-per-bit)

- Better to transmit over longer time periods (with low power)
- No silent periods
- Finish all available energy by deadline
- Constant power transmission between energy arrivals
- **Energy causality condition:** Energy cannot be used before it arrives

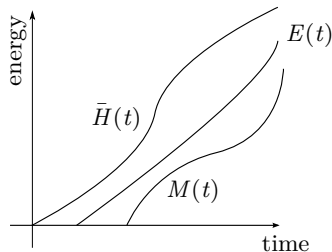
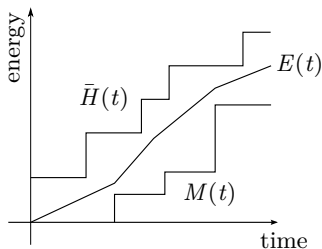
- Better to transmit over longer time periods (with low power)
- No silent periods
- Finish all available energy by deadline
- Constant power transmission between energy arrivals
- **Energy causality condition:** Energy cannot be used before it arrives

- **Harvested Energy Curve, $\bar{H}(t)$:** Total energy harvested in $[0, t]$, i.e., $\bar{H}(t) = \int_0^t H(\tau) d\tau$
- **Transmitted Energy Curve, $E(t)$:** Total energy used in $[0, t]$, i.e., $E(t) = \int_0^t P(\tau) d\tau$
- Energy causality constraint: $E(t) \leq \bar{H}(t) \forall t \in [0, T]$
- **Minimum energy curve, $\bar{M}(t)$:** Total energy that must be used by t , i.e., $\bar{M}(t) \leq E(t)$
- **Admissible** if $\bar{M}(t) \leq E(t) \leq \bar{H}(t)$

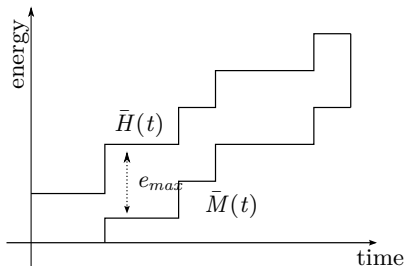
- **Harvested Energy Curve, $\bar{H}(t)$:** Total energy harvested in $[0, t]$, i.e., $\bar{H}(t) = \int_0^t H(\tau) d\tau$
- **Transmitted Energy Curve, $E(t)$:** Total energy used in $[0, t]$, i.e., $E(t) = \int_0^t P(\tau) d\tau$
- Energy causality constraint: $E(t) \leq \bar{H}(t) \forall t \in [0, T]$
- Minimum energy curve, $\bar{M}(t)$: Total energy that must be used by t , i.e., $\bar{M}(t) \leq E(t)$
- Admissible if $\bar{M}(t) \leq E(t) \leq \bar{H}(t)$

- **Harvested Energy Curve, $\bar{H}(t)$:** Total energy harvested in $[0, t]$, i.e., $\bar{H}(t) = \int_0^t H(\tau) d\tau$
- **Transmitted Energy Curve, $E(t)$:** Total energy used in $[0, t]$, i.e., $E(t) = \int_0^t P(\tau) d\tau$
- Energy causality constraint: $E(t) \leq \bar{H}(t) \forall t \in [0, T]$
- **Minimum energy curve, $\bar{M}(t)$:** Total energy that must be used by t , i.e., $\bar{M}(t) \leq E(t)$
- **Admissible** if $\bar{M}(t) \leq E(t) \leq \bar{H}(t)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{E(t), t \in [0, T]} \int_0^T r(E'(t)) dt \\ & \text{such that } \bar{H}(t) \geq E(t) \geq \bar{M}(t), \forall t \in [0, T], \end{aligned}$$



Example 1: Limited battery capacity

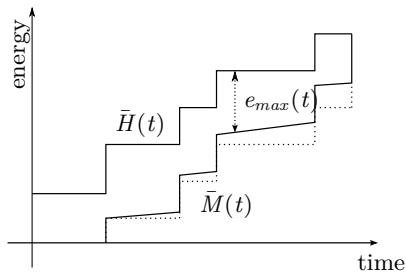


- Battery capacity: e_{max}
- Use energy for transmission rather than wasting:

$$\bar{H}(t) - E(t) \leq e_{max} \quad \longrightarrow \quad E(t) \geq \bar{H}(t) - e_{max}$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \bar{M}(t) = \max(\bar{H}(t) - e_{max}, 0)$$

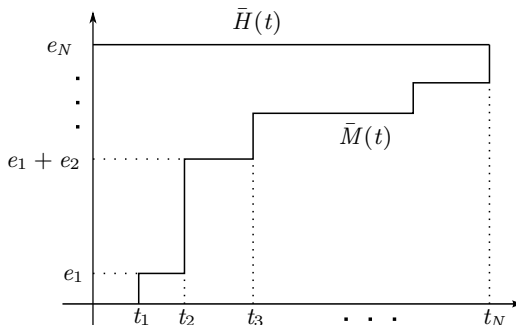
Example 2: Time-varying battery size



- Battery size decreases with multiple discharges: $e_{max}(t)$

$$\bar{M}(t) = \max(\bar{H}(t) - e_{max}(t), 0)$$

Example 3: Dying Batteries



- N batteries (all full at $t = 0$)
- battery i has e_i units of energy and dies at time t_i
- Question: maximum data that can be transmitted until last battery dies?

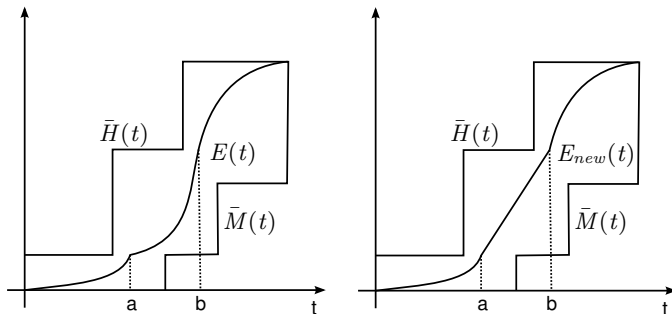
- $E(t)$: admissible transmit energy curve
- $S(t)$: straight line over $[a, b]$ joining $E(a)$ and $E(b)$, $0 \leq a < b \leq T$
- Let $\bar{M}(t) \leq S(t) \leq \bar{H}(t)$ and $S(t) \neq E(t)$
- Construct:

$$E_{new}(t) = \begin{cases} E(t) & t \in [0, a) \\ S(t) & t \in [a, b] \\ E(t) & t \in (b, T] \end{cases}$$

- We have:

$$\int_0^T r(E'_{new}(t)) dt < \int_0^T r(E'(t)) dt$$

- Take any admissible curve $E(t)$
- Connect any two points with a straight line
- If it doesn't violate admissibility constraints, replacing that part with a straight line increases transmitted data!



- Strictly concave rate function $r(\cdot)$
- $E(t)$ is an admissible transmitted energy curve
- No two points of $E(t)$ that can be connected by a distinct admissible straight line

Then, $E(t)$ is unique and optimal

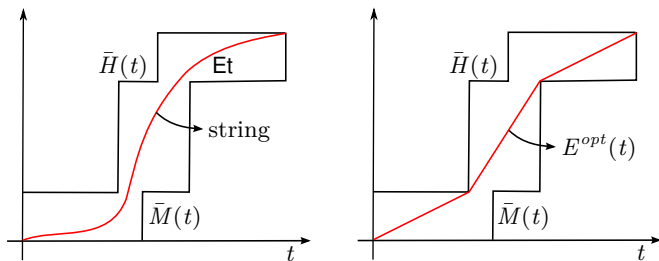
- Strictly concave rate function $r(\cdot)$
- $E(t)$ is an admissible transmitted energy curve
- No two points of $E(t)$ that can be connected by a distinct admissible straight line

Then, $E(t)$ is unique and optimal

Optimal departure curve $E_{opt}(t)$ has the shortest length among all admissible curves. It minimizes the metric

$$length(E(t)) \triangleq \int_0^T \sqrt{1 + (E'(t))^2} dt$$

String visualization:

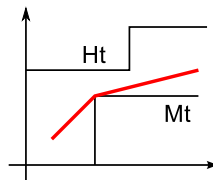
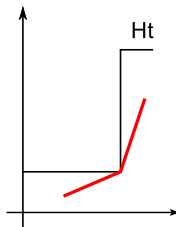
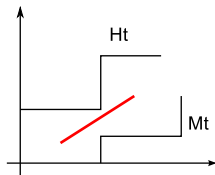


$E_{opt}(t)$: optimal transmitted energy curve

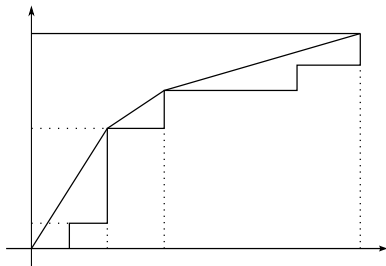
t_0 : any point at which transmission power changes

- at t_0 , $E^{opt}(t)$ intersects either $\bar{H}(t)$ or $\bar{M}(t)$
- if $E_{opt}(t_0) = \bar{H}(t_0)$, then slope change must be positive
- if $E_{opt}(t_0) = \bar{M}(t_0)$, then slope change must be negative

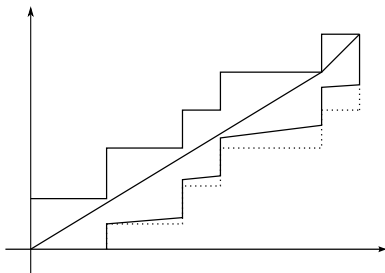
- No change in $\bar{H}(t)$ or $\bar{M}(t)$: constant power tx
- Increase tx power only when battery is empty
- Decrease tx power only when battery is full



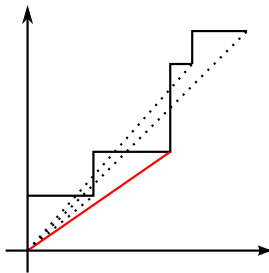
N dying batteries



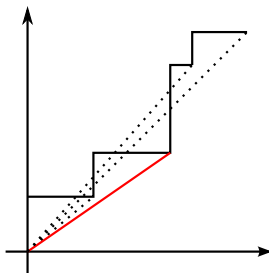
Degrading battery



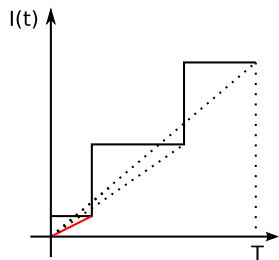
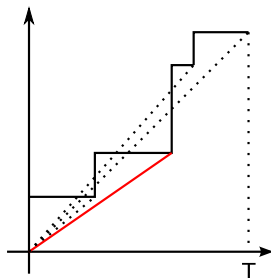
- 1 Packetized energy arrivals
- 2 N energy packets H_0, \dots, H_{N-1} at times t_0, \dots, t_{N-1}
- 3 \tilde{H}_i : total energy harvested just before t_i
- 4 Starting $t = 0$, consider line segments from $(0, 0)$ to (t_i, \tilde{H}_i)
- 5 Choose the one with minimum slope
- 6 First transmission power: $\min_i \frac{\tilde{H}_i}{t_i}$
- 7 Continue recursively



- 1 Packetized energy arrivals
- 2 N energy packets H_0, \dots, H_{N-1} at times t_0, \dots, t_{N-1}
- 3 \tilde{H}_i : total energy harvested just before t_i
- 4 Starting $t = 0$, consider line segments from $(0, 0)$ to (t_i, \tilde{H}_i)
- 5 Choose the one with minimum slope
- 6 First transmission power: $\min_i \frac{\tilde{H}_i}{t_i}$
- 7 Continue recursively



- Both energy and data arrive in packets (Yang&Ulukus'12)
- Both energy and data causality constraints
- Assume unlimited battery
- Minimize transmission time, or maximize remaining battery by a deadline



- In practice batteries are non-ideal and leak energy
- **Energy Leakage Curve, $L(t)$:** Total energy that has leaked in $[0, t]$
- Consider a constant-rate leakage

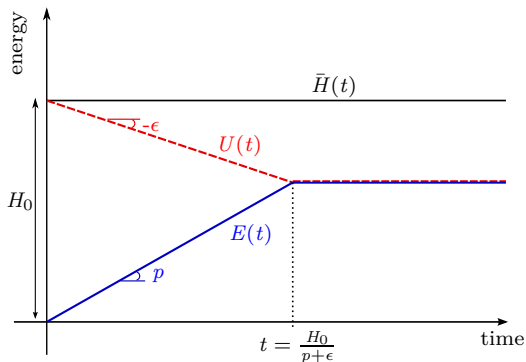
$$L'_+(t) = \begin{cases} \epsilon, & \text{if } E(t) < \bar{H}(t) - L(t) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Similar to a maximum energy curve :

$$U(t) = \bar{H}(t) - L(t)$$

- But, leakage curve depends on transmitted energy curve
- Previous framework does not hold

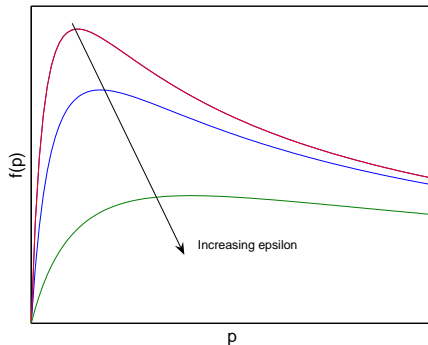
Single Energy Packet (no deadline)



- Constant power transmission is optimal as before
- low power \rightarrow more energy efficient
- high power \rightarrow less leakage

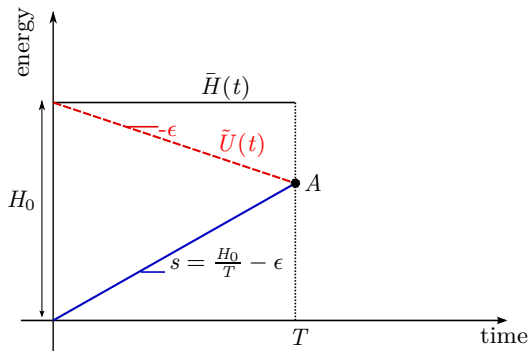
$$\max_{p \geq 0} \int_0^T r(E'(t)) dt = \frac{H_0}{p + \epsilon} r(p)$$

- $\max_{p \geq 0} \int_0^T r(E'(t)) dt = \frac{H_0}{p+\epsilon} r(p) = H_0 f(p)$
- $f(p) \triangleq \frac{r(p)}{p+\epsilon}$:



- Unique optimal transmission power $p^* = \max f(p)$
(does not depend on H_0)

Single Energy Packet (with deadline T)

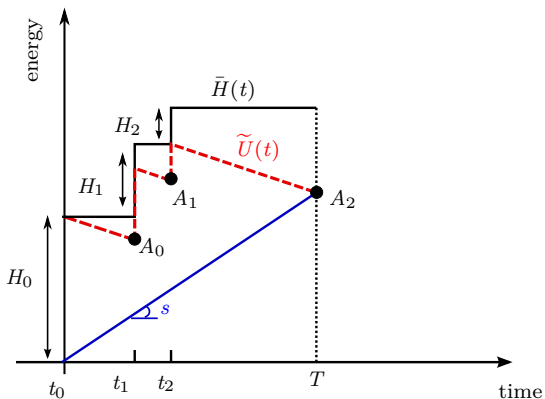


- Optimal transmission power

$$\tilde{p} = \max\{p^*, s\}$$

$$\text{with } p^* = \max f(p), \quad s = \frac{H_0}{T} - \epsilon$$

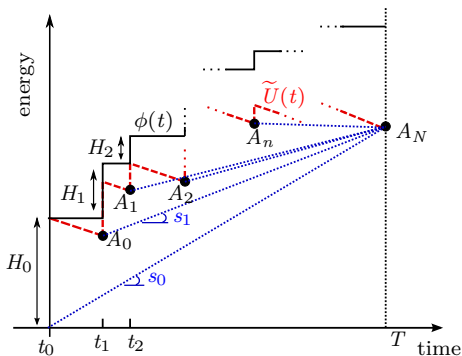
Multiple Energy Packets



Multi-packet solution can be obtained from single-packet problem: Having all energy packets at $t = 0$ is at least as good as having them arrive over time.

- Equivalent to single-packet problem with $H_0 = \sum_{n=0}^N H_n$
- Consider solution of multi-packet problem:
 - Consider epochs $[t_0, t_1], [t_1, t_2], \dots, [t_N, \infty]$
 - In each epoch: $p_i > 0$ for period $0 \leq a_i \leq t_i$ and remain silent when no energy left
- Emulate with a single packet by transmitting for a_1, a_2, \dots, a_N with powers p_1, \dots, p_N

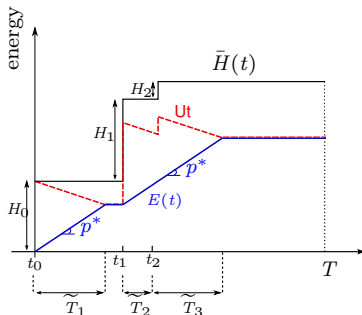
If the line segment from origin to A_N does not cross $\tilde{U}(t) = E(t) - \epsilon t$, then single-packet solution with $\tilde{H}_0 = \sum_{n=0}^N H_n$ can be obtained from multi-packet solution.



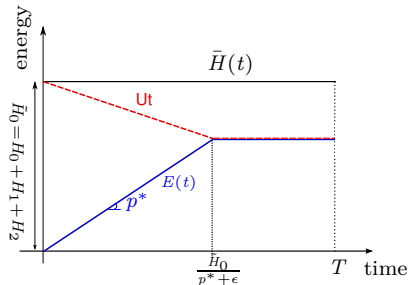
In that case,

- equivalence between multiple- and single-packet problems
- Multi-packet solution: transmit with \tilde{p} whenever battery is non-empty; remain silent otherwise. \tilde{p} evaluated from single-packet problem:

$$\tilde{p} = \max\{p^*, \frac{\bar{H}_0}{T} - \epsilon\}$$



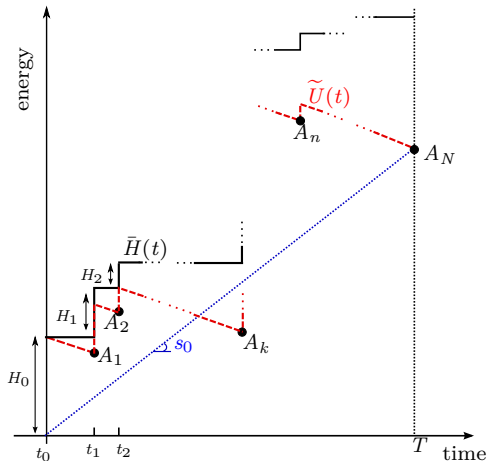
(a) multiple-packet problem



(b) equivalent single-packet problem

Multiple Energy Packets

General algorithm: find the rightmost end-point that is “seen” from the origin, and solve the k -packet problem. Proceed recursively.

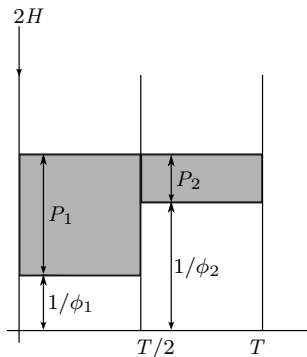


- More complicated and realistic leakage models
- Multiple batteries: serial/ parallel connections
- Leakage over transmission
- Battery state depended leakage
- Modeling information regarding battery state

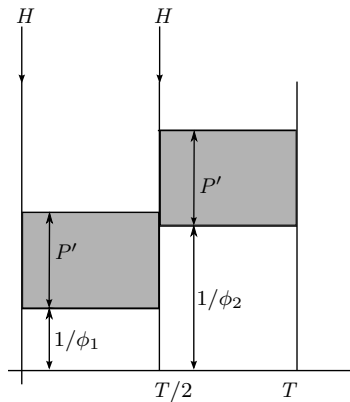
- Channel gain (ϕ) changes over energy harvesting epochs
- Rate-power function: $r(t) = \log(1 + \phi(t)P(t))$
- Maximize transmitted data by T
- Offline optimization: channel states are known in advance

Example

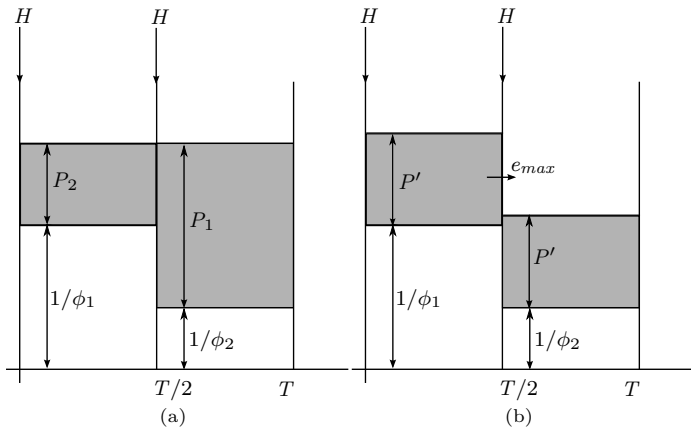
- Battery operated model: $\bar{H}(t) = \bar{H}(0) = 2H$
- Two epochs of equal length
- First epoch has better channel: $\phi_1 > \phi_2$
- Problem: power allocation over parallel Gaussian channels
- Solution: Waterfilling



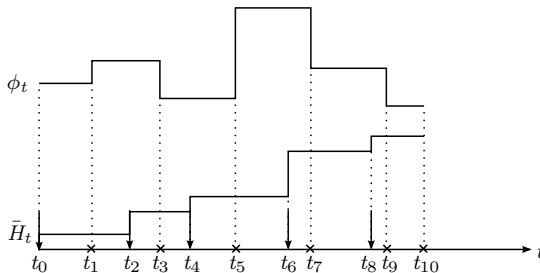
- Waterfilling allocates more than half to first epoch
- What if that much energy is not yet available?



- Waterfilling solution ignores the finite SE capacity e_{max}
- Assume: $\phi_2 > \phi_1$
- We can allocate at most e_{max} to the second epoch



Max Throughput over a Fading Channel



- N epochs
- Channel gains: ϕ_1, \dots, ϕ_N
- Durations: τ_1, \dots, τ_N , where $\tau_i = t_i - t_{i-1}$
- Transmission power in each epoch: p_i

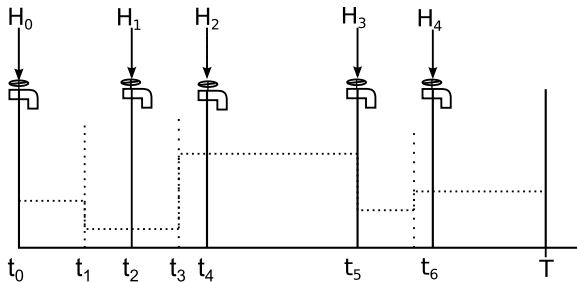
$$\begin{aligned} \max_{p_i} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\tau_i}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i p_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^i \tau_j p_j \leq \sum_{j=1}^i H_{j-1}, i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i \tau_j p_j \leq e_{max}, i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & 0 \leq p_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N. \end{aligned}$$

Convex optimization problem!

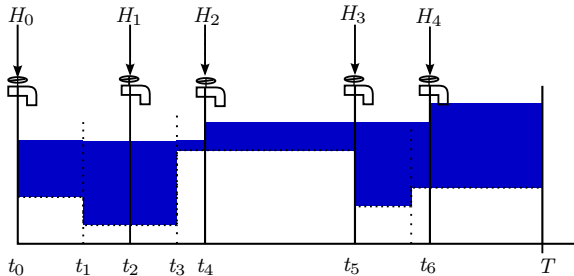
$$\begin{aligned} \max_{p_i} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\tau_i}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i p_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{j=1}^i \tau_j p_j \leq \sum_{j=1}^i H_{j-1}, i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i \tau_j p_j \leq e_{max}, i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & 0 \leq p_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N. \end{aligned}$$

Convex optimization problem!

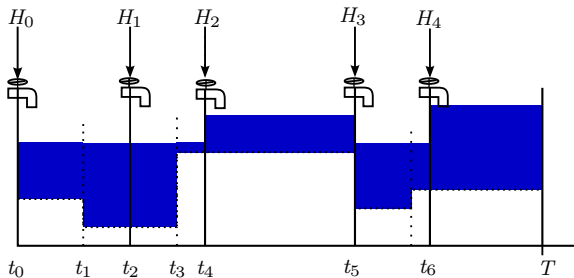
Directional Waterfilling



$$e_{max} = \infty$$



e_{max} is finite



- Processing circuitry consumes energy:
 - Static energy drawn by the transmitter,
 - Energy consumed for coding/signal processing (A/D conversion, filters, mixers, etc.)
 - Also: protocol overhead, power amplifier inefficiencies
- For sensors, even the startup energy of the transceiver may exceed transmission energy

- ϵ joules per unit time: only when transmitting
- Discrete events: $t_0 = 0 < t_1 < \dots < t_{N-1} < T$
- Duration of epoch i : $\tau_i \triangleq t_i - t_{i-1}$
- Energy harvest at t_i : H_i
- Channel state in epoch i : ϕ_i
- Battery capacity: e_{max}
- Rate-power function: $\frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \phi(t)p(t))$

- Transmission power in each epoch: p_i
- Transmission time in each epoch: θ_i

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{p_i, \Theta_i} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i p_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & 0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^i (H_{j-1} - \Theta_j(p_j + \epsilon)), i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i \Theta_j(p_j + \epsilon) \leq e_{max}, i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & 0 \leq \Theta_i \leq \tau_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq p_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N. \end{aligned}$$

- Non-convex optimization

- Transmission power in each epoch: p_i
- Transmission time in each epoch: θ_i

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{p_i, \Theta_i} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i p_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & 0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^i (H_{j-1} - \Theta_j(p_j + \epsilon)), i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i \Theta_j(p_j + \epsilon) \leq e_{max}, i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & 0 \leq \Theta_i \leq \tau_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq p_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N. \end{aligned}$$

- Non-convex optimization

- Transmission power in each epoch: p_i
- Transmission time in each epoch: θ_i

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{p_i, \Theta_i} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i p_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & 0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^i (H_{j-1} - \Theta_j(p_j + \epsilon)), i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i \Theta_j(p_j + \epsilon) \leq e_{max}, i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & 0 \leq \Theta_i \leq \tau_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq p_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N. \end{aligned}$$

- Non-convex optimization

- Transmission power in each epoch: p_i
- Transmission time in each epoch: θ_i

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{p_i, \Theta_i} \quad & \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i p_i) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & 0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^i (H_{j-1} - \Theta_j(p_j + \epsilon)), i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i \Theta_j(p_j + \epsilon) \leq e_{max}, i = 1, \dots, N, \\ & 0 \leq \Theta_i \leq \tau_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq p_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N. \end{aligned}$$

- Non-convex optimization

- $\alpha_i \triangleq \Theta_i p_i$: energy consumed by power amplifier in epoch i

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \max_{\alpha_i, \Theta_i} \quad \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log \left(1 + \frac{\phi_i \alpha_i}{\Theta_i} \right) \\
 & \text{s.t.} \quad 0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^i (H_{j-1} - \alpha_j - \epsilon \Theta_j), \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \\
 & \quad \quad \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i (\alpha_j + \epsilon \Theta_j) \leq e_{max}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \\
 & \quad \quad 0 \leq \Theta_i \leq \tau_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log(1 + \frac{\phi_i \alpha_i}{\Theta_i})$: perspective of $\frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i \alpha_i)$
- Strictly concave function
- Perspective operation preserves concavity
- Convex optimization problem

- $\alpha_i \triangleq \Theta_i p_i$: energy consumed by power amplifier in epoch i

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \max_{\alpha_i, \Theta_i} && \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log \left(1 + \frac{\phi_i \alpha_i}{\Theta_i} \right) \\
 & \text{s.t.} && 0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^i (H_{j-1} - \alpha_j - \epsilon \Theta_j), \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \\
 & && \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i (\alpha_j + \epsilon \Theta_j) \leq e_{max}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \\
 & && 0 \leq \Theta_i \leq \tau_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log(1 + \frac{\phi_i \alpha_i}{\Theta_i})$: perspective of $\frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i \alpha_i)$
- Strictly concave function
- Perspective operation preserves concavity
- Convex optimization problem

- $\alpha_i \triangleq \Theta_i p_i$: energy consumed by power amplifier in epoch i

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \max_{\alpha_i, \Theta_i} \quad \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log \left(1 + \frac{\phi_i \alpha_i}{\Theta_i} \right) \\
 & \text{s.t.} \quad 0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^i (H_{j-1} - \alpha_j - \epsilon \Theta_j), \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \\
 & \quad \quad \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i (\alpha_j + \epsilon \Theta_j) \leq e_{max}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \\
 & \quad \quad 0 \leq \Theta_i \leq \tau_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.
 \end{aligned}$$

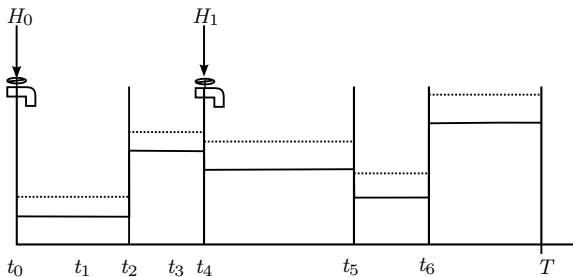
- $\frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log(1 + \frac{\phi_i \alpha_i}{\Theta_i})$: perspective of $\frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i \alpha_i)$
- Strictly concave function
- Perspective operation preserves concavity
- Convex optimization problem

- $\alpha_i \triangleq \Theta_i p_i$: energy consumed by power amplifier in epoch i

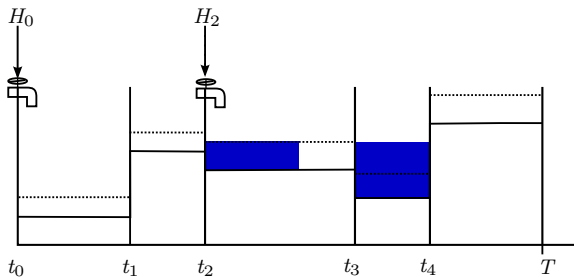
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \max_{\alpha_i, \Theta_i} && \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log \left(1 + \frac{\phi_i \alpha_i}{\Theta_i} \right) \\
 & \text{s.t.} && 0 \leq \sum_{j=1}^i (H_{j-1} - \alpha_j - \epsilon \Theta_j), \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \\
 & && \sum_{j=1}^{i+1} H_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^i (\alpha_j + \epsilon \Theta_j) \leq e_{max}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \\
 & && 0 \leq \Theta_i \leq \tau_i, \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\frac{\Theta_i}{2} \log(1 + \frac{\phi_i \alpha_i}{\Theta_i})$: perspective of $\frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \phi_i \alpha_i)$
- Strictly concave function
- Perspective operation preserves concavity
- **Convex optimization problem**

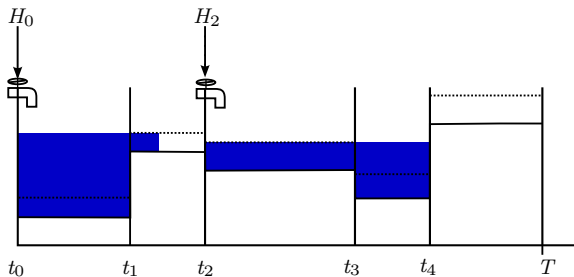
- Each epoch has a threshold value: v_i^*



- Glue Pouring
- Sleep periods



Optimal Solution



Effect of Processing Energy Cost

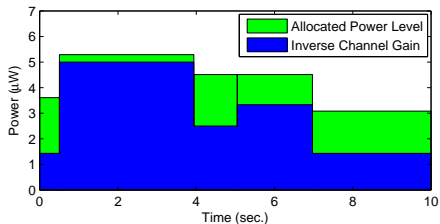


Figure: processing cost = 0

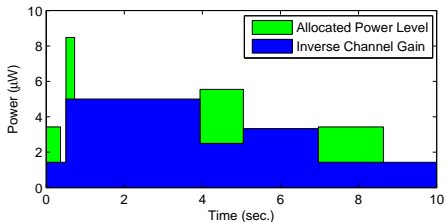


Figure: processing cost = 1 μW

- More realistic models for processing cost: rate/bandwidth dependence
- Cost for memory
- Cost of sleep/wake cycles
- Battery level dependent sleep/wake optimization

- Offline optimization: all processes are known in advance
- Deterministic optimization problem
- A general upper bound on the performance
- Provides heuristics, general principles
- Studied progressively more realistic models
- Many more open problems

- $H(t)$ and $I(t)$ are not known or accurately predictable
- More appropriate to model $H(t)$ and $I(t)$ as **random processes**
- μP must make decisions in **online** fashion
- Knowledge of past values of $H(t)$ and $I(t)$ and **statistical description** of future values
- Goal: optimization of expected outcome of decisions

- **Markov decision processes**: discrete-time stochastic control
- Policy: a set of **decision rules** based on **system state**
- Can be solved numerically with well known algorithms (linear programming, value iteration, policy iteration)
- But: complexity explodes with size of state space
- We can also use offline heuristics in online context: ignores statistics

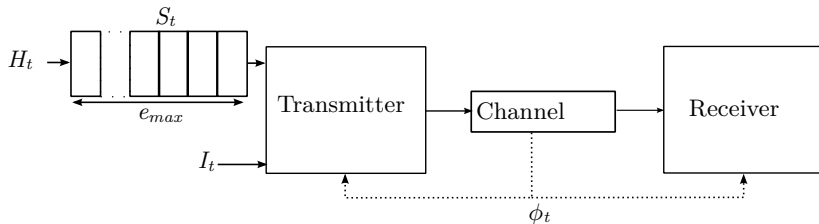
- Energy sources are sporadic
- Even the statistics of energy arrivals depend on sensor location, time of day or season
- Online/offline require calibrating sensor operation before deployment
- Why not learn harvesting/ data arrival/ channel processes, and adapt accordingly?

- Energy sources are sporadic
- Even the statistics of energy arrivals depend on sensor location, time of day or season
- Online/offline require calibrating sensor operation before deployment
- Why not learn harvesting/ data arrival/ channel processes, and adapt accordingly?

- Energy sources are sporadic
- Even the statistics of energy arrivals depend on sensor location, time of day or season
- Online/offline require calibrating sensor operation before deployment
- Why not learn harvesting/ data arrival/ channel processes, and adapt accordingly?

- Energy sources are sporadic
- Even the statistics of energy arrivals depend on sensor location, time of day or season
- Online/offline require calibrating sensor operation before deployment
- Why not learn harvesting/ data arrival/ channel processes, and adapt accordingly?

- Point to point system
- Transmitter has a rechargeable battery of size e_{max} .
- H_t : harvested energy at timeslot t
- I_t : size of data packet arriving at timeslot t
- Channel state : ϕ_t
- Decision made at each timeslot: transmit or drop incoming packet



- Energy/ data arrivals and channel state Markov processes
- At each timeslot sensor dies with probability $1 - \gamma$.
- Either transmit ($X_t = 1$) or drop ($X_t = 0$) a packet
 - No data buffer
 - (I_t, ϕ_t) pair requires E_t energy units
- Energy constraints:
 - Available energy is limited: $X_n E_t \leq S_t$.
 - Battery has finite capacity: $S_{t+1} = \min\{S_t - X_t E_t + H_t, e_{max}\}$.

Objective: Maximize average total data within activation time:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\{X_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}} \quad & \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} E \left[\sum_{t=0}^N \gamma^t X_t I_t \right], \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & S_{t+1} = \min\{S_t - X_t E_t + H_t, e_{\max}\}, \\ & X_t E_t \leq S_t, \\ & X_t \in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

	Assumptions	Solution methods
Offline	Non-causal knowledge Finite horizon optimization	Branch and bound
Online	Causal knowledge of current values Statistical knowledge of the Markov processes Infinite horizon optimization	Dynamic Prog.
Learning	Causal knowledge of current values Feedback from the receiver (i.e., ACK) Infinite horizon optimization	Reinforcement Learn.

We use Q-learning algorithm (a Reinforcement Learning technique):

- Q-learning by performing actions and observing their rewards arrives at an optimal policy which maximizes the expected discounted sum reward accumulated over time
- Q-learning assumes
 - State is known causally
 - The immediate reward value is known after taking an action
- Q-learning estimates iteratively the action-value function

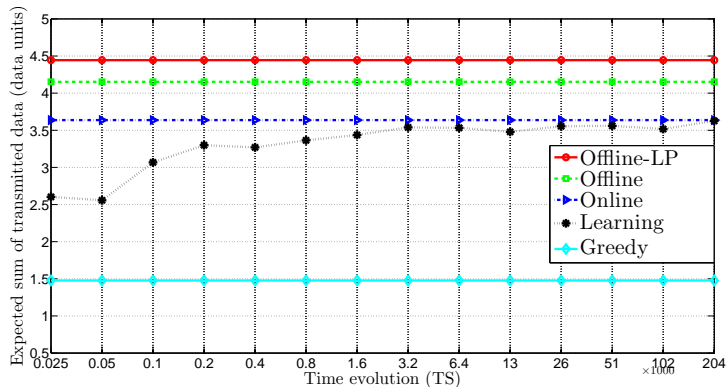
- **Two state EH** and **data** arrival process: $I_t = \{1, 2\}$ and $H_t = \{0, 2\}$.
- **Channel** can be either in **good** or in **bad** state (i.e. the energy required to tx a packet is doubled in the bad state).
- p_H : prob. of harvesting 2 energy units in epoch $n + 1$ given that 2 energy are harvested in epoch n
- **Upperbound**: in the **LP-Offline** the transmitter can partially transmit packets and has non causal knowledge.
- **Lowerbound**: in the **Greedy** algorithm the transmitter transmits a packet whenever there is enough energy in the battery.

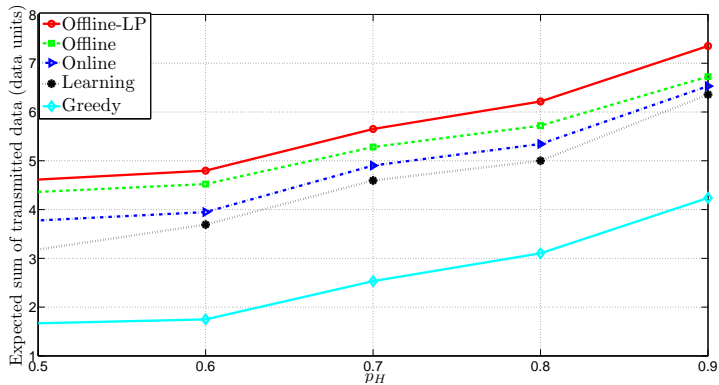
- **Two state EH** and **data** arrival process: $I_t = \{1, 2\}$ and $H_t = \{0, 2\}$.
- **Channel** can be either in **good** or in **bad** state (i.e. the energy required to tx a packet is doubled in the bad state).
- p_H : prob. of harvesting 2 energy units in epoch $n + 1$ given that 2 energy are harvested in epoch n
- **Upperbound**: in the **LP-Offline** the transmitter can partially transmit packets and has non causal knowledge.
- **Lowerbound**: in the **Greedy** algorithm the transmitter transmits a packet whenever there is enough energy in the battery.

- **Two state EH** and **data** arrival process: $I_t = \{1, 2\}$ and $H_t = \{0, 2\}$.
- **Channel** can be either in **good** or in **bad** state (i.e. the energy required to tx a packet is doubled in the bad state).
- p_H : prob. of harvesting 2 energy units in epoch $n + 1$ given that 2 energy are harvested in epoch n
- **Upperbound**: in the **LP-Offline** the transmitter can partially transmit packets and has non causal knowledge.
- **Lowerbound**: in the **Greedy** algorithm the transmitter transmits a packet whenever there is enough energy in the battery.

- **Two state EH** and **data** arrival process: $I_t = \{1, 2\}$ and $H_t = \{0, 2\}$.
- **Channel** can be either in **good** or in **bad** state (i.e. the energy required to tx a packet is doubled in the bad state).
- p_H : prob. of harvesting 2 energy units in epoch $n + 1$ given that 2 energy are harvested in epoch n
- **Upperbound**: in the **LP-Offline** the transmitter can partially transmit packets and has non causal knowledge.
- **Lowerbound**: in the **Greedy** algorithm the transmitter transmits a packet whenever there is enough energy in the battery.

- **Two state EH** and **data** arrival process: $I_t = \{1, 2\}$ and $H_t = \{0, 2\}$.
- **Channel** can be either in **good** or in **bad** state (i.e. the energy required to tx a packet is doubled in the bad state).
- p_H : prob. of harvesting 2 energy units in epoch $n + 1$ given that 2 energy are harvested in epoch n
- **Upperbound**: in the **LP-Offline** the transmitter can partially transmit packets and has non causal knowledge.
- **Lowerbound**: in the **Greedy** algorithm the transmitter transmits a packet whenever there is enough energy in the battery.





- Learning theoretic framework: Appropriate for time-varying/unknown energy sources
- Sensor learns harvesting/data arrival/channel state parameters and adapts transmission policy
- Future directions:
 - Distributed learning for multi-user systems
 - Partially observable models/ Bandit problems

Offline approach

- Well predictable environments, performance upper bounds
- Tools: cumulative curves, convex optimization

Online approach

- Random (stationary) environments, design based on statistical information and knowledge of past values
- Tools: stochastic optimization, steady-state analysis

Learning-theoretic approach

- Unknown environments, very limited information on energy and data processes
- Tools: Reinforcement learning

What next?

- Hard to study: we saw this even for simple cases
- Offline results for broadcast, multiple access, interference channels
- General networks? Local information?
- Characteristics of a **multi-agent system**
- Additional parameter: energy sharing/transfer, simultaneous transmission of energy and information
- Interesting resource allocation problems in many layers of the stack

- Measurement campaigns for EH models
- Implementation/testing of energy management algorithms in prototypes: Columbia's EnHants project
- Realistic models that “capture” key characteristics of underlying circuitry
- Realistic storage models: e.g., “degradation-aware” policies

- MAC protocols for wireless sensor networks typically designed for maximum network lifetime
- EH networks: not energy-limited
- Goal: energy neutral MAC protocol design
- EnOcean Alliance: ALOHA-based
- Intel WISP: EPC Class-1 Generation-2 (similar to slotted ALOHA)
- Need protocols adapted to EH sensors

- MAC protocols for wireless sensor networks typically designed for maximum network lifetime
- EH networks: not energy-limited
- Goal: energy neutral MAC protocol design
- EnOcean Alliance: ALOHA-based
- Intel WISP: EPC Class-1 Generation-2 (similar to slotted ALOHA)
- Need protocols adapted to EH sensors

- Energy sources are correlated: best-effort policies will lead to collisions
- Correlation in harvested energy can provide coordination
- EH processes can be asymmetrical over network
- Adapt ALOHA, framed-ALOHA, dynamic framed-ALOHA to EH networks (Iannello et al., '12)

- EnOcean Wireless Standard (ISO/IEC 14543-3-10): first standard optimized for ultra-low power and EH systems
- Standardization will aid EH market development: forecasted to 1894.87 million dollars by 2017

Global Forecast and Analysis of EH Market (2012-2017)

- An exciting research field
- Many open questions at the **intersection** of algorithm, circuit and network design