Networking & Server

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Project Background & Motivation

Project Background:

Networking: Physical and virtual network testing and simulation

Server: Data translator and aggregator

Sending and Receiving data between the weatherboxes and server

Motivation:

- To learn more about servers and gain more experience software development as well as some experience with servers
- Gain experience in various hardware tools



Goals

Server:

- Create a data translator
- Comment code so it is easier for others to update

Networking:

- Document functionality of various XBees
- Create a way to reduce debugging progress



Block Diagram



Block Diagram



Overall Design

Networking:

- Computers = best way to test functionality
- Compare XBee modules

Server:

- Python 'struct' library is best way to pack/unpack data
- Packing format generated based on simple input file

Data Translator Testing Method

Packing Capability:

- Is the code capable of packing according to a specified format
- Does the code pack test data properly

Packing Methods Tested:

- "Manual Packing"
- Bitarray Packing
- Struct Packing

Testing Packing Methods "Manual" Packing:

- Completely Hardcoded
 - Created an array out of passed data
 - Converted each array entry into hex from binary and stored into a new array
 - Issue: Doesn't actually pack data, just converts it

Bitarray:

- Packs data
 - Issue: Data must be depicted as boolean values, and format cannot be specified

Current Data Translator Code

Struct:

- Packs data
- Can easily pack/unpack data according to a specified format

Packing Format:

- Packing format is no longer hard coded into functions
 - Both functions now read from a text file and generate packing/unpacking format based on file

Results of Current Code

Given Input:

- Given data to pack: data = (5, 151, 8, 300, 2, 25, 10, 45, 49, 10, 55)
- Input test file based on schema3:
 - uint16, uint16, uint8, uint32, uint8, uint16, uint16, uint32, int16, uint16

Output:

- Generated packing format: struct_fmt = H+H+B+I+B+H+H+H+H+H+H
 - Same as hard coded packing format also based on schema3
- Packed Data: Printing packed data

XBee Test Methods

Line of Sight Range:

• RSSI values measured at 25 yard increments



Through Wall:

• RSSI measured between concrete walls



Holmes:

• RSSI measured through each floor of Holmes



RSSI: Received Signal Strength Indicator

- Measure of the power level that a RF device is receiving from the radio infrastructure at a given location and time

Tested XBees

XBee Pro S2B

- XBee S1 Wire Antenna
- 1 mile range
- 250 kbps data rate
- 295 mA @ 3.3 V power consumption

- 300 ft range

- 250 kbps data rate
- 50 mA @ 3.3 V power consumption

XBee Pro S1 Trace Antenna

- 1 mile range
- 250 kbps data rate
- 215 mA @ 3.3 V power consumption

XBee Pro S3B

- 28 mile range
- 200 kbps data rate
- 215 mA @ 3.3 V power consumption









Through Wall Testing

	No Wall	1 Wall	2 Wall
	(dBm)	(dBm)	(dBm)
XBee Pro S2B	-32	-56	-77
	0/25 Packets lost	0/25 Packets lost	0/25 Packets lost
XBee S1 wire antenna	-67	-75	–
	0/25 Packets lost	0/25 Packets lost	All Packets lost
XBee Pro S1 trace	-70	–	–
antenna	0/25 Packets lost	All Packets lost	All Packets lost
XBee Pro S3B	–	–	–
	All Packets sent	All Packets sent	4/5 Packets lost

Holmes Hall Testing

	Roof	4th Floor	3rd Floor	2nd Floor	Ground Floor
	(RSSI)	(RSSI)	(RSSI)	(RSSI)	(RSSI)
XBee Pro S2B	-32	-57	-66	-70	–
	0/25 Packets lost	0/25 Packets lost	0/25 Packets lost	0/25 Packets lost	All Packets lost
XBee S1 wire	-67	-79	–	–	–
antenna	0/25 Packets lost	6/25 Packets lost	All Packets lost	All Packets lost	All Packets lost
XBee Pro S1 trace	-70	–	–	–	–
antenna	0/25 Packets lost	All Packets lost	All Packets lost	All Packets lost	All Packets lost
XBee Pro S3B	–	–	–	–	–
	All Packets sent	All Packets sent	3/5 Packets lost	4/5 Packets lost	All Packets lost

Line Of Sight (LOS) Testing

Strengh of Signal vs. Distance



XBee Pro S₃B

- Begins to lose packets at around 59 yards

Problems

- Time Management
- Metal contact
- Loopback hardware
- Better to have PCB with no plane under XBee

Reset your radio module. If the dialog is not closed within 10 seconds, click cancel.

Action required

ACTION

REOUIRED

• Code able to create packing format only for certain variable types

Cancel

Bill of Materials

<u>Networking - Bill of Materials (BOM) v2</u>								
Part Description	Mounting Type	Part Value	Manufacturer	Manufacturer P/N	Distributor	Distributor P/N	Unit Cost	Sub-Cost
Arduino Uno R3 (Atmega328 - assembled)	-	-	Arduino	REV3	Adafruit	50	\$24.95	\$49.90
Sparkfun XBee Shield	PTH	-	Sparkfun	WRL-12847	Sparkfun	WRL-12847	\$14.95	\$29.90
XBee Pro S2B	PTH	-	Digi	XBP24BZ7SIT-004	Digi-Key	602-1677-ND	\$30.75	\$61.50
XBee Pro 802.15.4 63MW PCB	PTH	-	Digi	XB24-API-001	Digi-Key	602-1280-ND	\$32.00	\$64.00
XBee DigiMesh 2.4 1MW Wire Ant	PTH	-	Digi	XB24-DMWIT-250	Digi-Key	XB24-DMWIT-250-ND	\$19.00	\$38.00
XBee Pro XSC S3B 900MHZ 250Mw	PTH	-	Digi	XBP9B-XCWT-002	Digi-Key	602-1297-ND	\$39.00	\$78.00
XBee Pro 900	PTH	-	Digi	XBP09-DPSIT-156	Digi-Key	XBP09-DPSIT-156	\$42.00	\$84.00
Battery Pack NiMH 7.2V 2100mAh	-	7.2 V		-	Digi-Key	P017-F023-ND	\$31.83	\$63.66
Duck Antenna RP-SMA	-	900MHz	Sparkfun	WRL-09143	Sparkfun	WRL09143	\$7.95	\$15.90

- Summary:
 - XBee Pro S2B = \$30.75
 - XBee Pro S1 = \$32.00
 - XBee S1 = \$19.00
 - XBee Pro S3B = \$39.00
 - XBee Pro 900 = \$42.00

Power Budget

<u>Networking - Power Budget v2</u>							
Device Name	Idle(mA)	Typical Current Draw (mA)	Max Current Draw (mA)	Avg Current Draw (mA)	Avg Power Consumed (mW)	Max Power Consumed (mW)	
XBee Pro S2B	15	205	220	15.02077333	49.56855198	49.56855198	
XBee S1 wire antenna	50	45	45	49.99945333	164.998196	164.998196	
XBee Pro S1 trace antenna	55	250	250	55.02131999	181.570356	181.570356	
XBee Pro S3B	29	215	290	29.02033599	95.76710878	95.76710878	
XBee Pro 900	80	180	210	80.01093333	264.03608	264.03608	
Atmega 328P (3V)	0.7	1.7	2.7	1.2	3.96	8.91	
Vreg 3.3V (XBee Shield)		0.35	0.9	0.175	0.5775	2.97	

- Summary:
 - XBee Pro S2B = 49.57 mW
 - XBee Pro S1 = 165.00 mW
 - XBee S1 = 181.57 mW
 - \circ XBee Pro S3B = 95.77 mW
 - XBee Pro 900 = 264.04 mW

Project Status

Final Status:

- Work in Progress
- Complete XBee testing/documentation
- Majority of data translator completed

Remaining Tasks:

- Create both Postgres portions of server
- Add a few more features to data translator

Remaining Problems:

- Range testing with Pro S3B • XBIB (RSSI)
- Testing with circuit vs computers



Final Deliverables:

- Documentation of XBee testing
- Test setup for quick debugging
- Packing/unpacking functions that generate a packing format according to an input file

Future Improvements

- Use Python Package XBee 2.2.3 to test two XBee at the same time
- Test different antennas
- XBee Pro 900 RPSMA
 - Pros: Greater penetration and longer range than S2B
 - Cons: Cost \$54.95 and greater power
 consumption than S2B
- Tests with circuit



Thank You

Questions?



Works Cited

Website References:

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Photo References:

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