

Everything You Need to Know About RSSI

Nantawat Pinkam

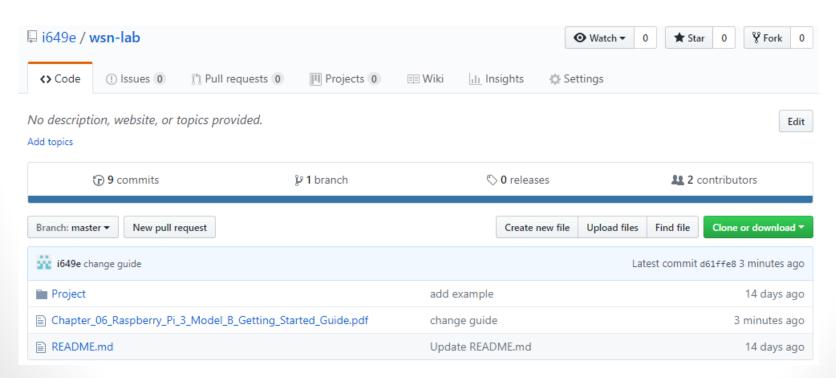
I649E Wireless Sensor Networks

July 11, 2018



I649E's Github

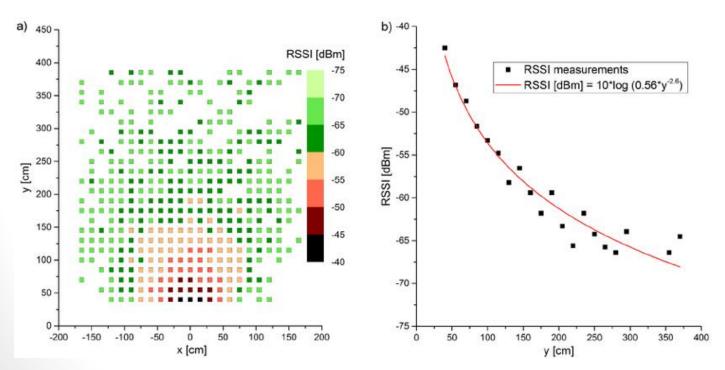
https://github.com/i649e/wsn-lab





Received Signal Strength Indication (RSSI)

RSSI indicates the power present in a received radio signal.





Raspberry Pi RSSI

When two nodes are in the same network, they can get RSSI of each other using:

```
iw dev wlan0 station get <destination_mac_address>
```

The result should be like this:

Station xx:xx:xx:xx:xx
rx packets: 400605
tx packets: 225023
tx failed: 3
rx drop misc: 2641
signal: -48 dBm << This is your RSSI reading!
tx bitrate: 72.0 MBit/s</pre>



Log Distance Path Loss Model

$$PL_{d_0 \to d} = PL(d_0) + 10nlog_{10} \left(\frac{d}{d_0}\right) + \chi$$

 $PL_{d_0 \to d}$ = path loss at an arbitrary distance d

 $PL(d_0)$ = path loss at distance d_0

 d_0 = initial distance. Usually set it very small \approx 10cm

d = arbitrary distance

n = path loss exponent

d = current distance of the node

 χ = gaussian noise with $N(0, \sigma^2)$



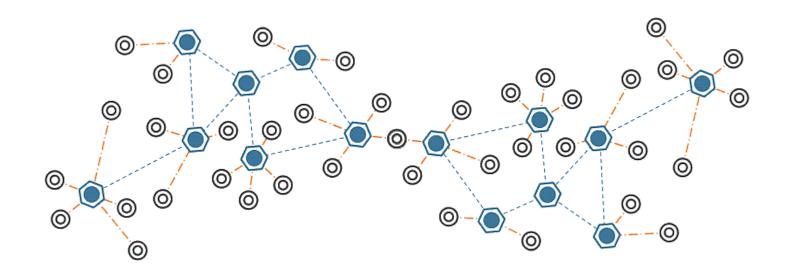
Find *n* (Path Loss Exponent) of the Environment

- 1. Place two raspberry pi according to d_0 value
- Read RSSI from the device and record it
- 3. Place two raspberry pi further away from each other (d = 1-2 m)
- 4. Read RSSI from the device and record it
- 5. Use log distance path loss model to find the path loss exponent n

Note: the path loss exponent n depends a lot on environment, node positions and different nodes may have different values. Try to find the indoor open area with a clear line of sight to get a good value.



Question and Answer



THANK YOU.