

MDSmartBracelets

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June 2022

1 Operating system

As operating system, we decided to use TinyOS since the application is mainly based on timers, which are easy to handle in TinyOS. Moreover, we decided to build a single application in common for the child and the parent to simulate the interaction both with Cooja and Tossim. We couldn't find a way to use Tossim with different applications, yet we preferred to use it since it's more dynamic and allows to define more test cases.

2 Communication

2.1 Pairing

The pairing protocol allows to pair two devices A and B . The protocol works as follows:

1. Mote A broadcasts a PAIR message with its 20-bit key.
2. Mote B receives a PAIR message from A .
3. Mote B checks if the 20-bit key in the received message is the same as the one stored in memory.
4. Mote B replies with a PAIREND message.
5. Mote A , upon receiving the PAIREND message from B , stops broadcasting PAIR messages.
6. Mote A acknowledges B 's PAIREND message.

The same procedure happens with inverted role and the whole procedure ends when both devices have received a PAIR message and the acknowledgement for the PAIREND response.

2.2 State machine

A mote can logically be in one of three states:

- **BROADCASTING**: the mote broadcasts PAIR messages.
- **PAIRING**: the mote is pairing with another mote. No PAIR message is sent.

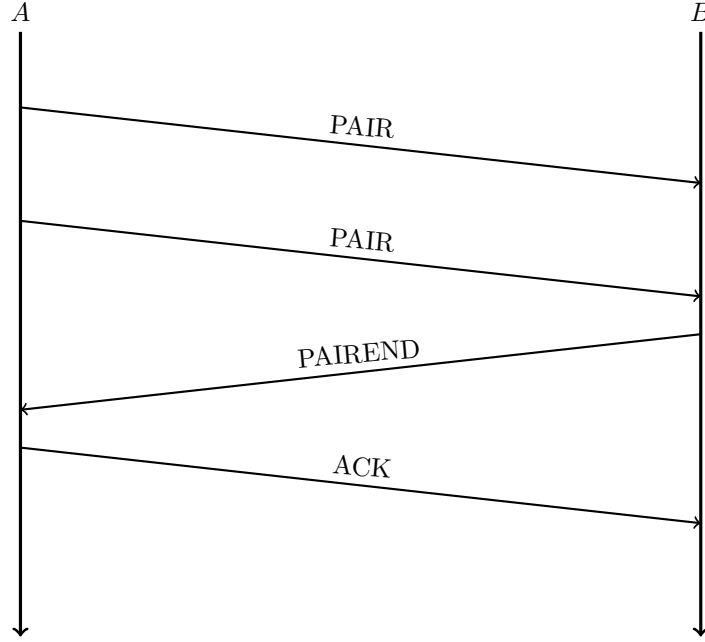


Figure 1: Pairing protocol from *A*'s perspective.

- **OPERATION**: the mote is exchanging information messages with the paired mote.

Initially, a mote is in the **BROADCASTING** state. Whenever a mote receives a message from a node with the same key as its, the mote goes in the **PAIRING** state. A mote in the **PAIRING** state goes in the **OPERATION** state as soon as

- The mote receives an acknowledgement for a **PAIREND** message.
- The mote receives a **PAIREND** message.

2.3 Missing alerts

This section describes how missing alerts are handled. A parent can receive a missing alert when:

- The child is too far.
- The child's bracelet turns off.

To handle both cases we decided to reset the parent device, whenever it receives a missing alert. This solution works well if the child's bracelet turns off (both bracelets are in the **BROADCASTING** state), however it requires more attention for the cases in which the bracelet is out of reach. In particular, the child's bracelet keeps sending **INFO** messages, however the parent's send **PAIRING** messages. To solve this problem, we decided to implement a keep-alive mechanism in which the parent's bracelet periodically sends a **KEEP_ALIVE** message so that, when the child's bracelet doesn't receive a **KEEP_ALIVE**, it realises that it went out of reach and it resets to the initial state (i.e., both devices are in the **BROADCAST** state).

We know that, this solution is not power efficient, however, it allows to handle both cases in which a missing alert may rise. We also realised that, the same mechanism could be implemented with acknowledgements (i.e., the parent acknowledges `INFO` messages from the child), however our solution is more flexible since it allows to add some information in the `KEEP_ALIVE` message if required and it allows us to decide the rate at which messages are exchanged.

3 Serial communication

Serial communication has been implemented using TinyOS's abstractions and Java's `SerialForwarder`. Tossim correctly attaches to the `SerialForwarder` though TCP on port 9001, however when we connect a Node-Red's TCP input node to the `SerialForwarder`, it doesn't receive the serial messages forwarded by the `SerialForwarder`. The node is correctly attached to the `SerialForwarder` since it says that one client is connected (i.e., the node) and the `SerialForwarder` receives the messages sent by the motes, however, the message doesn't reach Node-Red. We also tried to use the `SerialForwarder` with the actual serial port (e.g. `\dev\ttys1`, giving read and write permissions), still without success. Figure 2 shows that the forwarder is correctly attached to Tossim (`Num Clients: 1`), that it receives the messages sent by the motes correctly (`Pckts read: 4`) and that the mote confirms that the message has been sent (`Message correctly delivered on serial bus.`). Figure 3 shows that the TCP input node in Node-Red correctly attaches to the `SerialForwarder`. The only way we could read the messages sent by the motes is using a Java `MessageListener` class. The `MessageListener` class, implemented in `TestSerial.java`, emulates a terminal attached to the `SerialForwarder` and, as shown in Figure 4, correctly receives the messages sent by the motes.

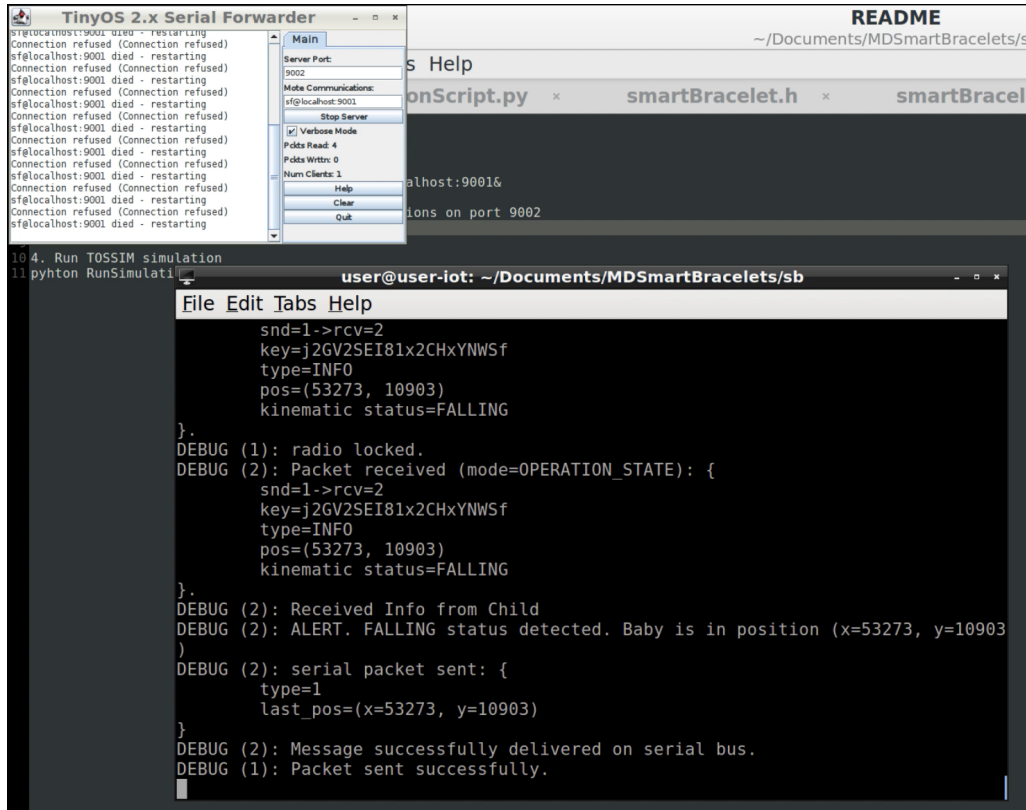


Figure 2: A screenshot that shows that the SerialForwarder correctly connects to Tossim and receives the messages sent by the motes.

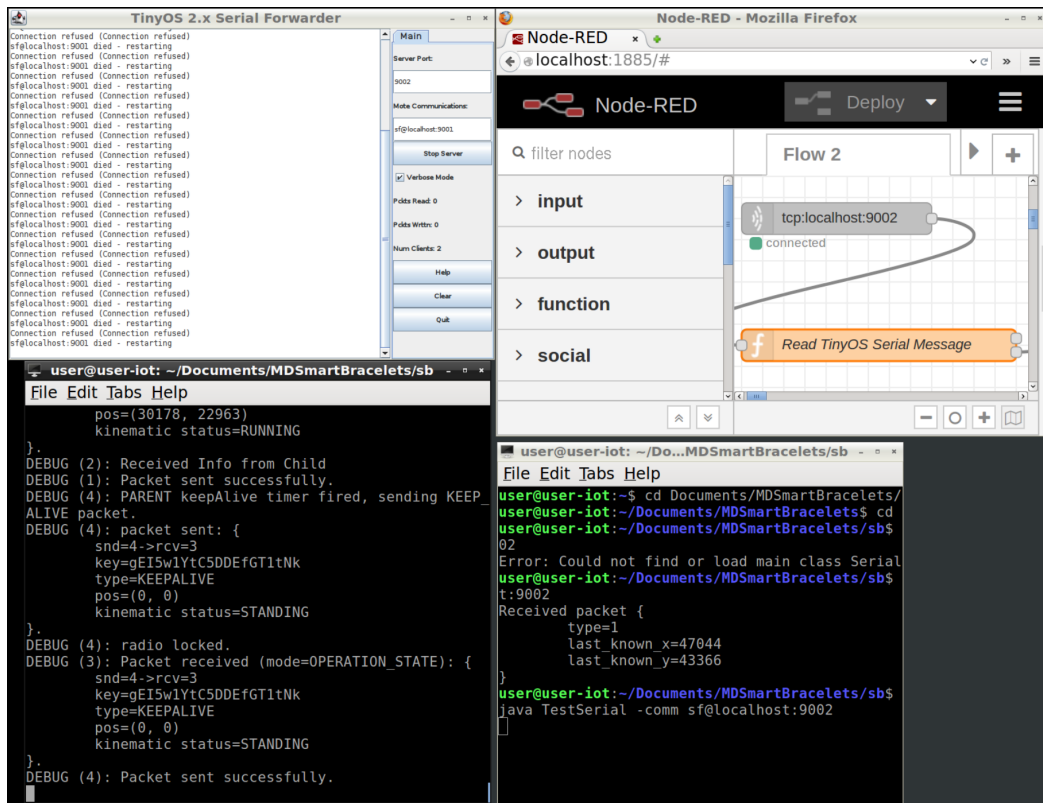


Figure 3: A screenshot that shows that the SerialForwarder correctly connects to Tossim and Node-Red.

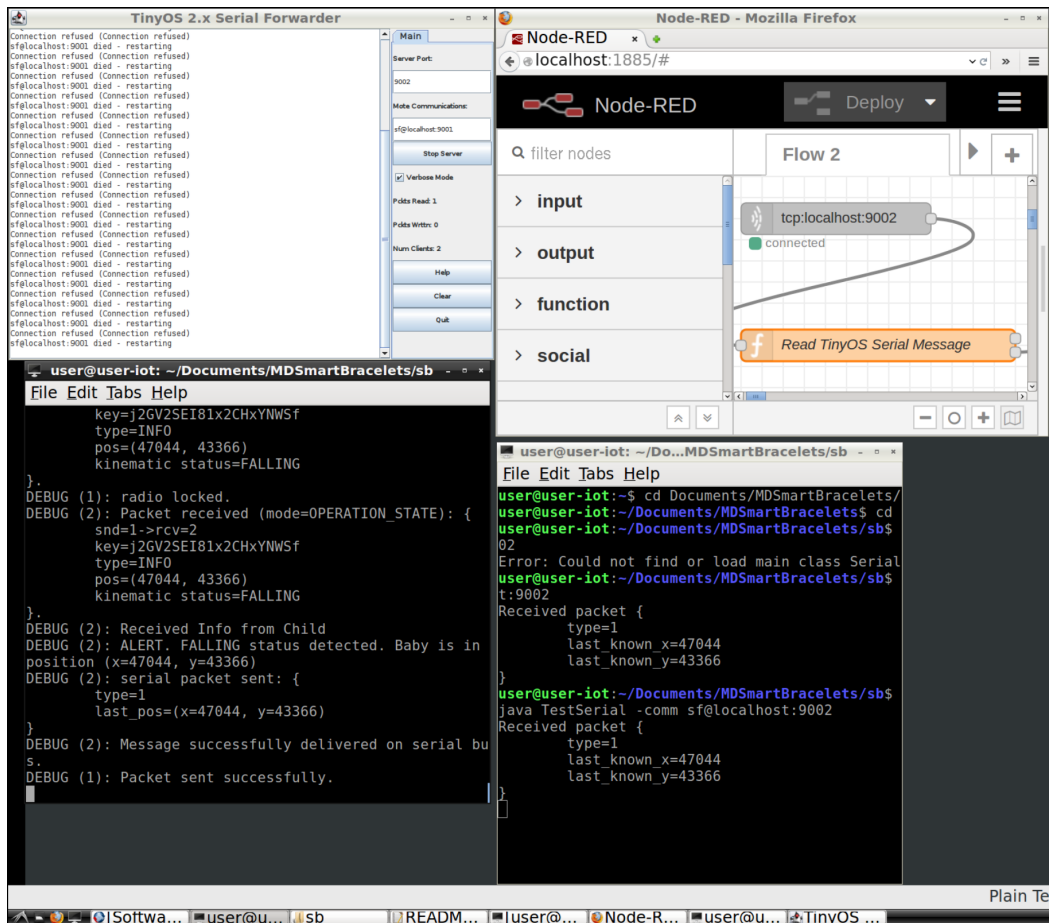


Figure 4: A screenshot that shows that a Java MessageListener correctly connects to the SerialForwarder and receives the messages sent by the mote.