

Network type

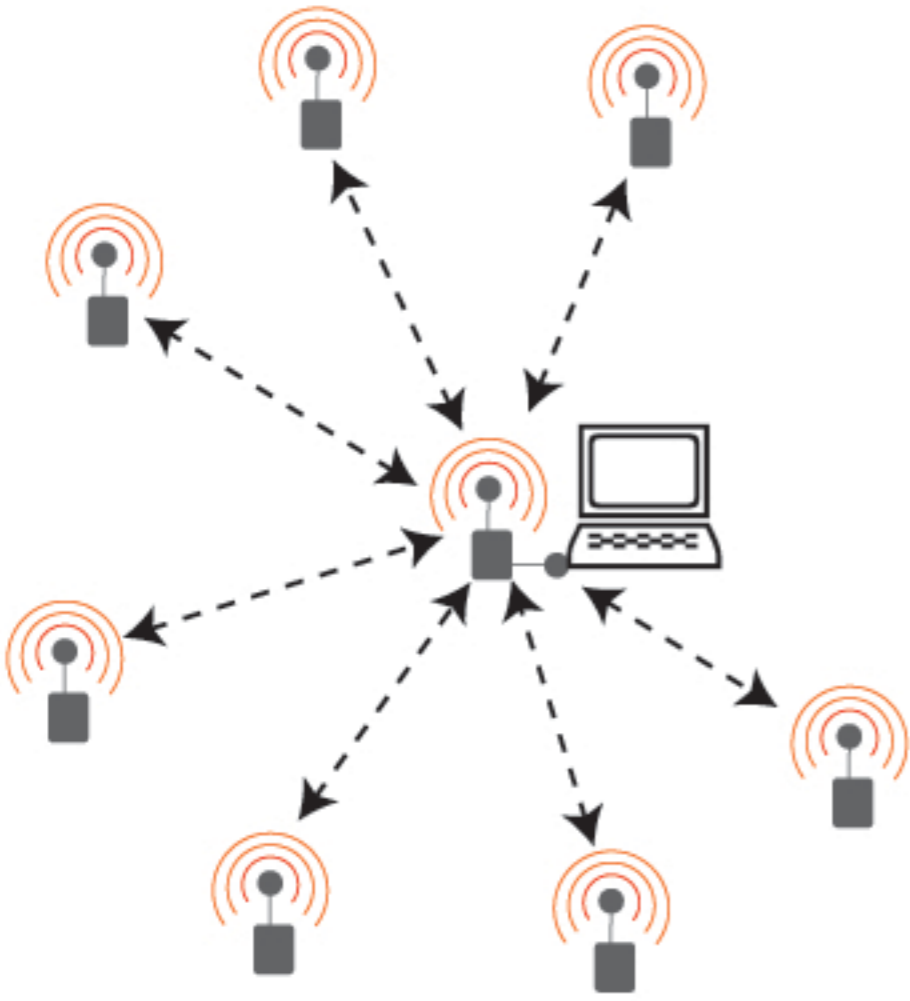
Point to point



Features

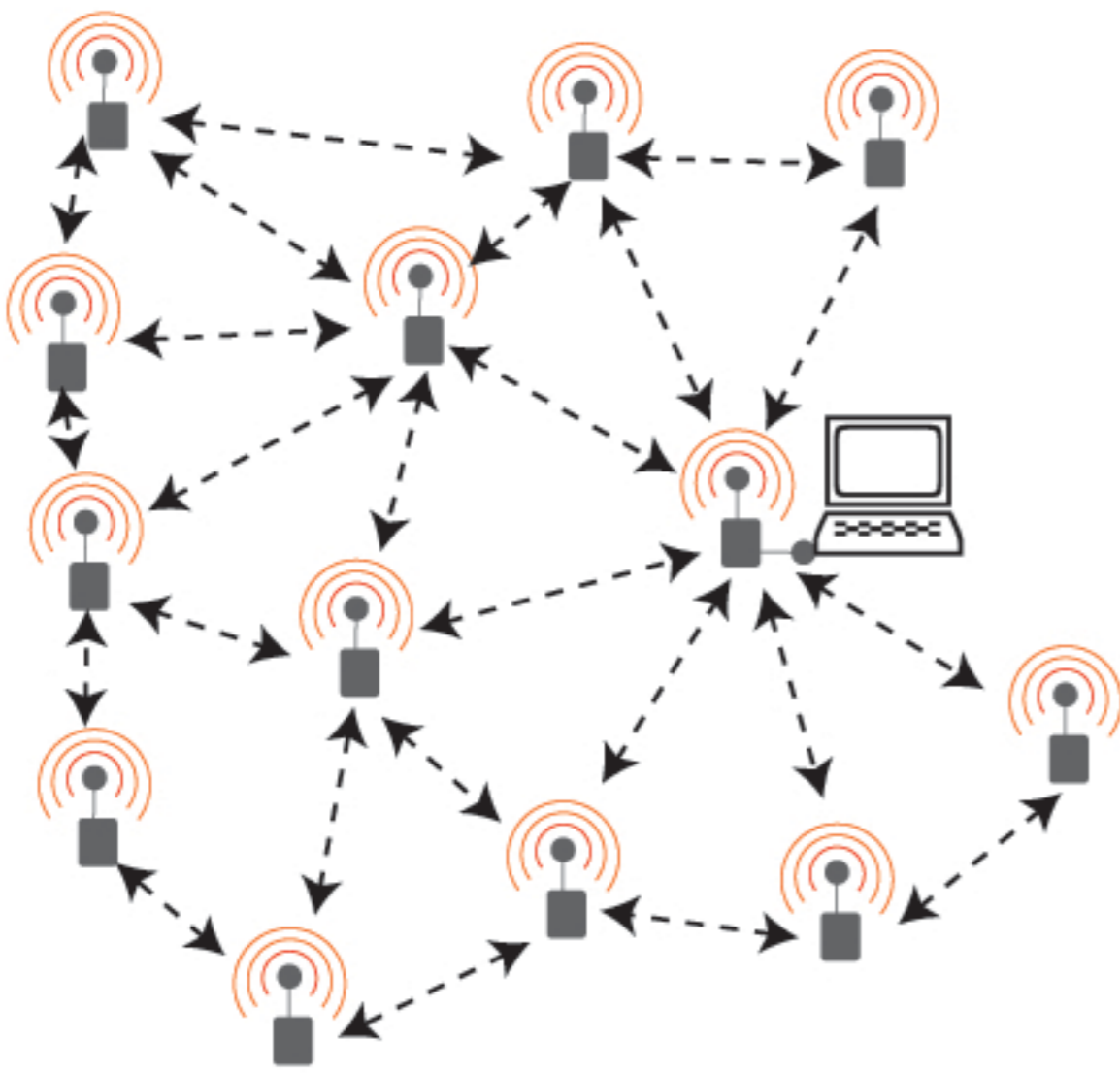
The point to point set up uses direct connection from one device to another. In practice, one controller may be linked to a nearby network hub, or signals can be relayed over a long distance, from a single device to the next.

Point to multi-point



The point to multi-point set up relies on a hub-and-spoke arrangement, with a central controller for all of the other wireless nodes. Area covered is restricted by signal strength. Interference between hub and any node will disrupt traffic. It is commonly used for Wi-Fi, Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) and Bluetooth.

Mesh network



The mesh approach uses distributed intelligence for communication with all devices within range. Nodes can send and receive messages, and they can function as routers, relaying messages for their neighbours. By this process, packets of wireless data can reach their destination by passing through whatever intermediate nodes are necessary. Signal range can be extended as required by using simple and low-cost repeaters. The result is full RF redundancy, with self-configuring and self-healing multiple data paths.

A mesh network installation

