

Sensor & Sensor Data Processing

• • •

Part I

Learning Objectives

- Characteristics of different types of signal sources and sensors
- Wireless
- IMU data processing
 - Device attitude
 - Step counting
- Camera

Sensor

- Narrowly speaking, sensors are

A device, such as a photoelectric cell, that receives and responds to a signal or stimulus – The Free Dictionary

- Examples of **hardware sensors**

- Camera, photodiode, gyro, compass, accelerometer, temperature sensor, barometer, IR sensor, microphone, EEG, EMG, ECG, GPS,..., and WIRELESS NETWORK INTERFACES

- Today's mobile OS also offers **software-based sensors** that derive data from one or more hardware sensors

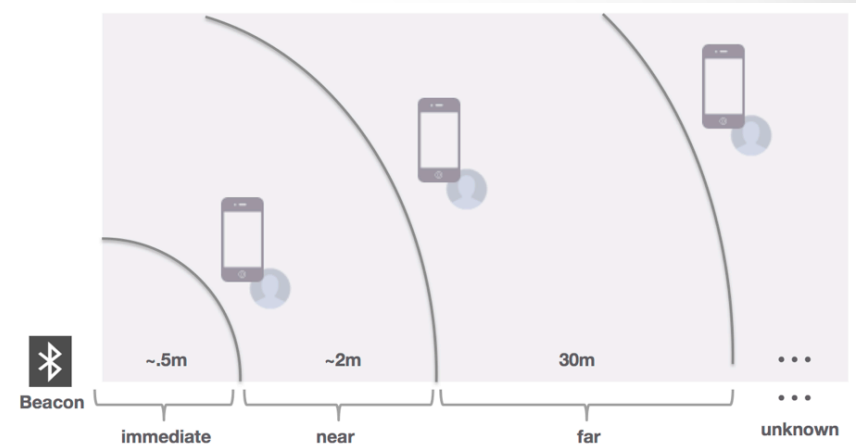
- e.g., on Android, linear acceleration and orientation

- And, humans as sensors



Wireless Interfaces as Sensors

- Not such a radical idea
- Positioning
 - Global positioning system (GPS)
 - Cellular e-911
 - iBeacon
- Proximity
 - NFC
 - RFID
- Others
 - Motion detection
 - Gesture recognition



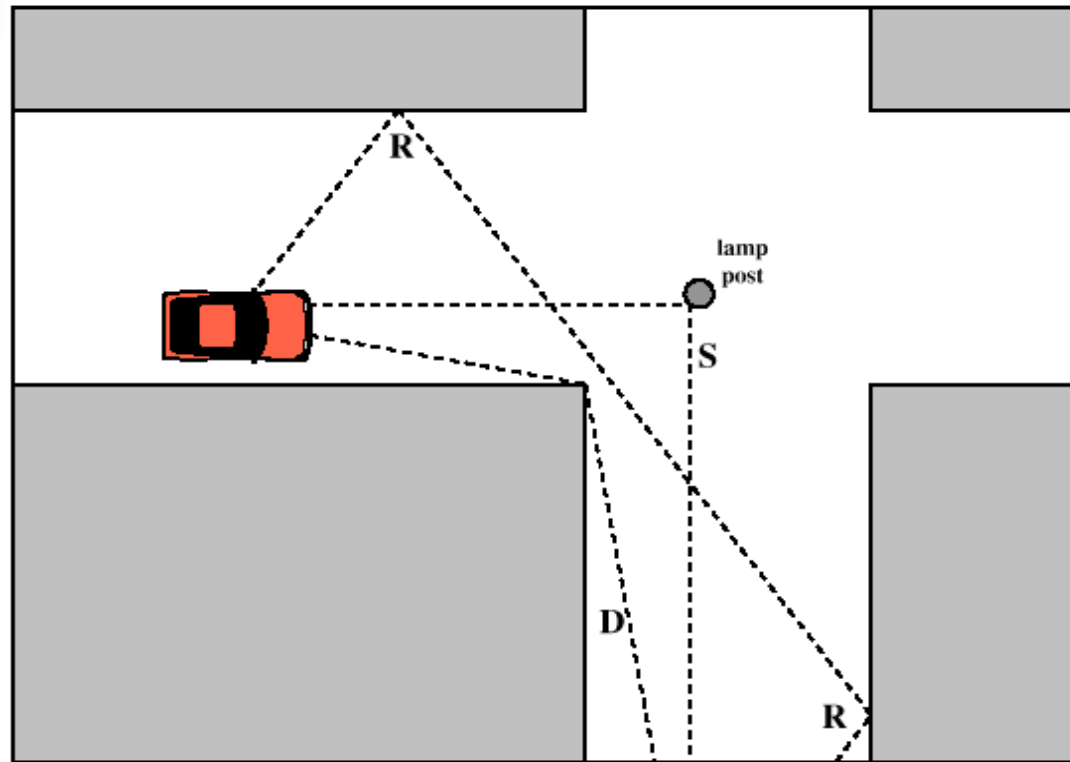
iBeacon for dummies



Whole-Home Gesture Recognition Using Wireless Signals
<http://wisee.cs.washington.edu>

Qifan Pu, Sidhant Gupta, Shyam Gollakota, Shwetak Patel

Wireless Sensors: Why, How and Limitations



$$\lambda = C / f$$

Ex: $3e8 / 2.4e9 = 12.5\text{cm}$

R: reflection

D: diffraction -- a modification which light undergoes especially in passing by the edges of opaque bodies or through narrow openings

S: scattering -- obstacle \ll wave length

Wireless Link Characteristics

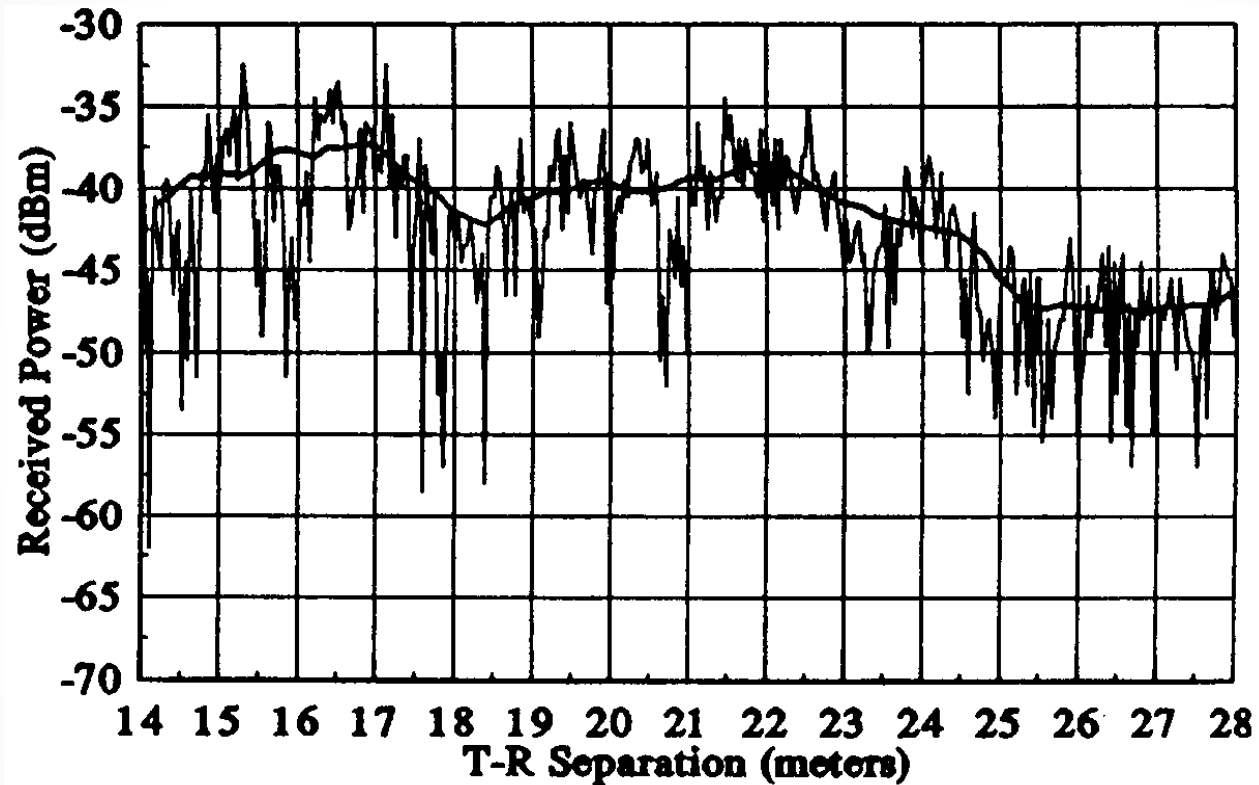
Differences from wired link

- **decreased signal strength over distance:** radio signal attenuates as it propagates through matter (path loss)
- **interference from other sources:** standardized wireless network frequencies (e.g., 2.4 GHz) shared by other devices (e.g., phone); devices (motors) interfere as well
- **multipath propagation:** radio signal reflects off objects ground, arriving at destination at slightly different times

... make communication across (even a point-to-point) wireless link much more “difficult”



Radio Propagation Models



How to characterize the signal at the receiver?

- Transmitter, receiver, environment, time
- Large scale, small scale

Propagation Models

- Large scale models predict behavior averaged over distances \gg wave length $\lambda=c/f$
 - Function of distance & significant environmental features, roughly frequency independent
 - Breaks down as distance decreases
 - Useful for modeling the range of a radio system and rough capacity planning
- Small scale (fading) models describe signal variability on the scale of λ
 - Multipath effects (phase cancellation) dominate, path attenuation considered constant
 - Frequency and bandwidth dependent
 - Focus is on modeling “Fading”: rapid change in signal over a short distance or length of time

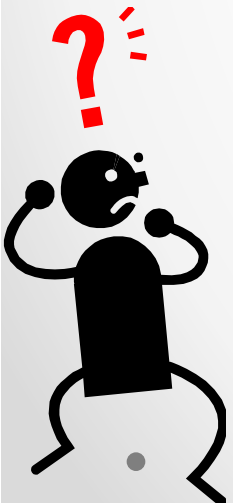
Large-scale Models

- Path loss models
 - Free space
 - Log-distance
 - Log-normal shadowing
- Outdoor models
 - “2-Ray” Ground Reflection model
 - Diffraction model for hilly terrain
- Indoor models

Free-space Path Loss Model

- Friis free space equation:
 - G_t, G_r are the antenna gains at the transmitter and receiver
 - λ is the wavelength
 - d is the distance
 - L is a loss factor not related to propagation
 - Transmission power P_t
 - Received power

$$P_r(d) = \frac{P_t G_t G_r \lambda^2}{(4\pi)^2 d^2 L}$$



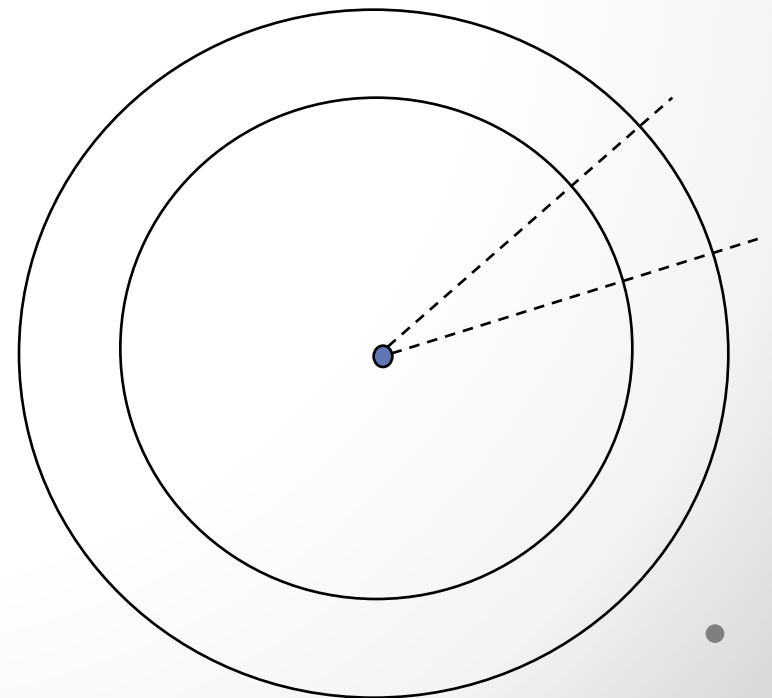
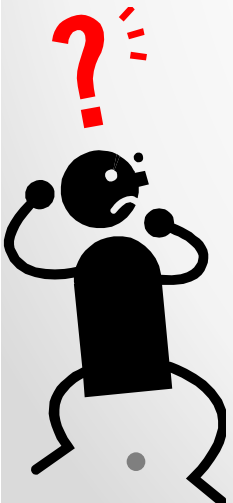
Free-space Path Loss Model

- Friis free space equation:
 - G_t, G_r are the antenna gains at the transmitter and receiver
 - λ is the wavelength
 - d is the distance
 - L is a loss factor not related to propagation
 - Transmission power P_t
 - Received power

$$P_r(d) = \frac{P_t G_t G_r \lambda^2}{(4\pi)^2 d^2 L}$$

$$E_r(f, t) = \frac{\alpha \cos 2\pi f(t - d/c)}{d}$$

$$P_r(d) \propto E_r^2(f, t)$$



Free Space Model

- Path loss $P_r(d) = P_r(d_0) \left(\frac{d_0}{d}\right)^2, d \geq d_0 \geq d_f$

$$PL(dB) = 10 \log \frac{P_t}{P_r} = -10 \log \left[\frac{G_t G_r \lambda^2}{(4\pi)^2 d^2} \right]$$

- Only valid beyond far-field distance

$$d_f = \frac{2D^2}{\lambda}$$

, where D is the transmit antenna aperture

$$d_f \gg D, d_f \gg \lambda$$

dB = 10 log(P2/P1), use to represent power ratio; P1 is called the power reference.

dBm indicates dB refers to P1 = 1mW

dBW indicated dB refers to P1 = 1W

Example: 0dBW = 1W = 30dBmW = 1000mW

Example

- Far field distance for an antenna with maximum dimension of 1m and operating freq of 900MHz

$$d_f = \frac{2D^2}{\lambda} = \frac{2}{3 \times 10^8 / 900 \times 10^6} = 6m$$

- Consider a transmitter producing 50w of power and with a unity gain antenna at 900MHz. What is the received power in dBm at a free space distance of 100? What about 10Km? (assume L = 1)

$$P_t = 10 \log(50 \times 10^3) = 47dBm$$

$$P_r(100) = \frac{P_t G_t G_r \lambda^2}{(4\pi)^2 d^2 L} = 3.5 \times 10^{-3} mW = -24.5dBm$$

$$P_r(10km) = -24.5 - 20 \log(100) = -64.5dBm$$

Log-distance Path Loss Model

- Log-distance generalizes path loss to account for other environmental factors

$$PL(d)[dB] = PL(d_0) + 10\beta \log(d / d_0)$$

- Choose a d_0 in the far field.
- Measure $PL(d_0)$
- Take measurements and derive β empirically

Table 4.2 Path Loss Exponents for Different Environments

Environment	Path Loss Exponent, n
Free space	2
Urban area cellular radio	2.7 to 3.5
Shadowed urban cellular radio	3 to 5
In building line-of-sight	1.6 to 1.8
Obstructed in building	4 to 6
Obstructed in factories	2 to 3

Log-normal Shadowing

- Shadowing occurs when objects block light of sight (LOS) between transmitter and receiver

$$PL(d)[dB] = \overline{PL}(d) + X_{\sigma} = \overline{PL}(d_0) + 10\beta \log\left(\frac{d}{d_0}\right) + X_{\sigma}$$

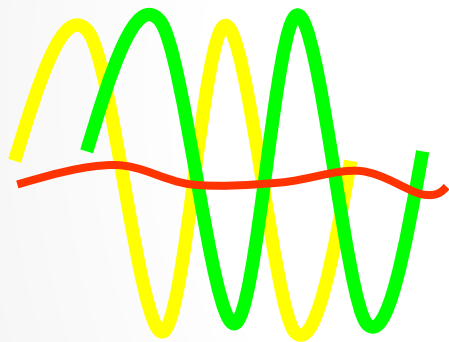
X_{σ} is a zero-mean Gaussian distributed random variable (in dB) with standard deviation σ (also in dB)

Building Type	Frequency of Transmission	γ	σ [dB]
Vacuum, infinite space		2.0	0
Retail store	914 MHz	2.2	8.7
Grocery store	914 MHz	1.8	5.2
Office with hard partition	1.5 GHz	3.0	7
Office with soft partition	900 MHz	2.4	9.6
Office with soft partition	1.9 GHz	2.6	14.1
Textile or chemical	1.3 GHz	2.0	3.0
Textile or chemical	4 GHz	2.1	7.0, 9.7
Metalworking	1.3 GHz	1.6	5.8
Metalworking	1.3 GHz	3.3	6.8

Small-scale Fading

- Factors that contribute to small-scale fading
 - Multi-path propagation -- phase cancellation etc.
 - Speed of the mobile -- Doppler effect
 - Speed of surrounding objects
 - The transmission bandwidth of the signal wrt bw of the channel

Multipath Causes Phase Difference

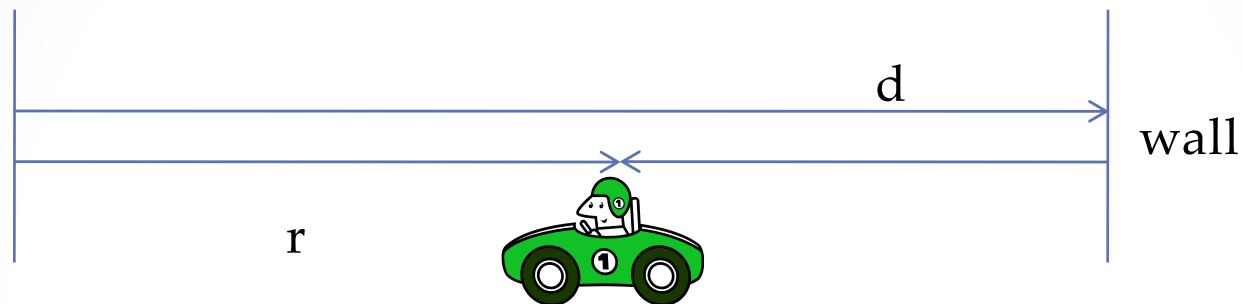


Direct path

Green signal travels $1/2\lambda$ farther than Yellow to reach receiver, who sees Red.
For 2.4 GHz, λ (wavelength) = 12.5cm.

Reflecting wall, fixed antenna

Transmit antenna



$$E_r(f, t) = \frac{\alpha \cos 2\pi f(t - r/c)}{r} - \frac{\alpha \cos 2\pi f(t - (2d - r)/c)}{2d - r}$$

$$\text{Phase difference: } \Delta\theta = \frac{4\pi f}{c}(d - r) + \pi$$

Doppler Shift

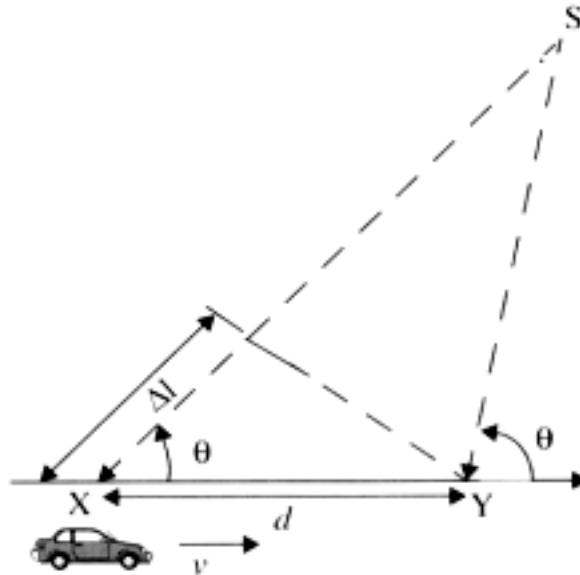
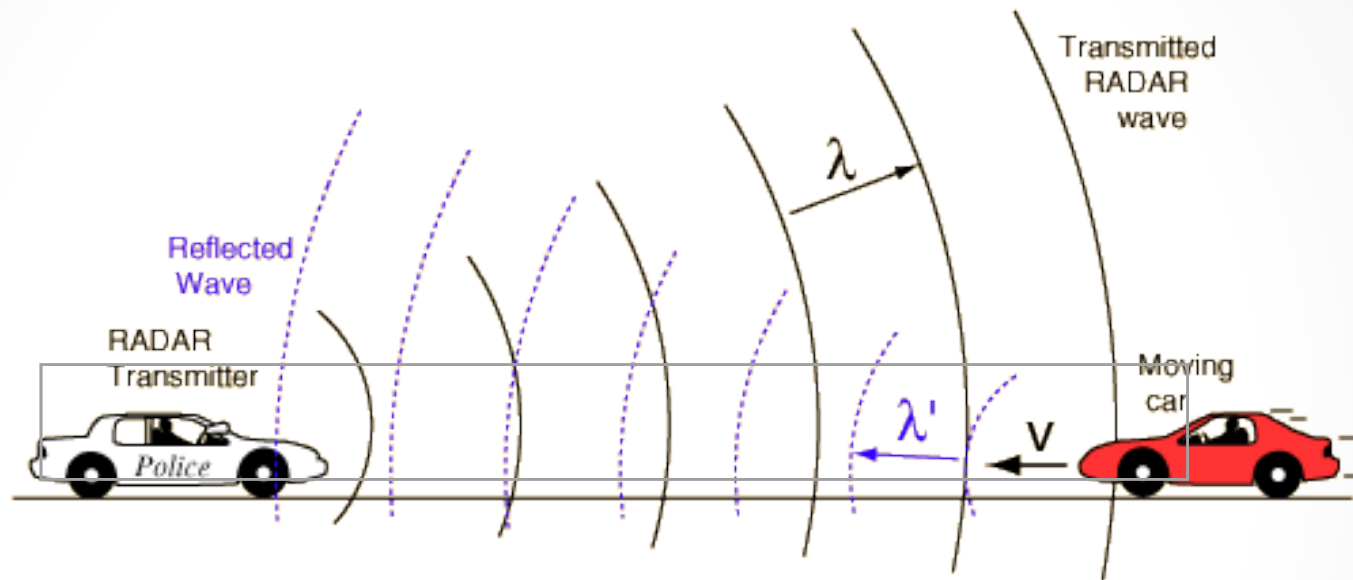


Figure 5.1 Illustration of Doppler effect.

$$E_r(f, t) = \frac{\alpha \cos 2\pi f \left(t + \frac{v \cos \theta}{c} t + t_0 \right)}{r}$$

$$f' = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\Delta \phi}{\Delta t} = f + \frac{v}{\lambda} \cos \theta, f_d = \frac{v}{\lambda} \cos \theta$$

Example: Police Radar



$$f_{\text{reflected}} - f_{\text{transmitted}} = \Delta f = \frac{2v_{\text{target}}}{\lambda}$$

$$f = 900 \text{ MHz}, \lambda = 0.333 \text{ m}, v = 60 \text{ Km / hr}$$

$$\Delta f = 100 \text{ Hz}$$

Statistical Fading Models

- Fading models model the probability of a fade occurring at a particular location
 - Used to generate an impulse response
 - In fixed receivers, channel is *slowly* time-varying; the fading model is reevaluated at a rate related to motion
- Rayleigh fading distribution
 - Models a flat fading signal
 - Used for individual multipath components
- Ricean fading distribution
 - Used when there is a dominant signal component, e.g. LOS + weaker multipaths
 - parameter K (dB) defines strength of dominant component; for $K=-\infty$, equivalent to Rayleigh

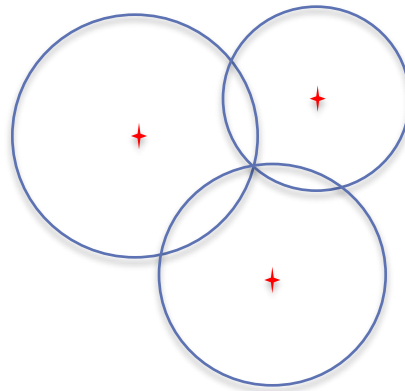
$$p(r) = \frac{r}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

Wireless Sensors Can ...

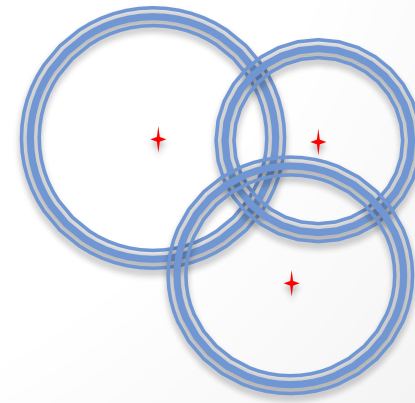
- Positioning
 - Global positioning system (GPS)
 - Cellular e-911 ✓
 - iBeacon ✓
- Proximity
 - NFC
 - RFID
- Others
 - Motion detection ✓
 - Gesture recognition

Trilateration with Wireless Signals

- If we know **distances** to **known** anchors (e.g, WLAN APs, cellular tower) **exactly**
 - Trilateration → location in 2D



- In reality,
 - Anchors location may not be known exactly
 - No actual ranging measurements
 - Instantaneous measurements fluctuate
 - Path loss exponent unknown/changes
 - Antenna gain not known
 - The circles may not intersect



Solution Ideas (I)

- Anchors location may not be known exactly
 - Simultaneous mapping and location (SLAM)
 - Use fingerprinting based approaches
- Instantaneous measurements fluctuate
 - Averaging over multiple measurements
- Path loss exponent unknown/changes
 - Estimation from the table
 - Field experiments
 - Ray tracing

$$PL(d)[dB] = \overline{PL}(d) + X_{\sigma} = \overline{PL}(d_0) + 10\beta \log\left(\frac{d}{d_0}\right) + X_{\sigma}$$

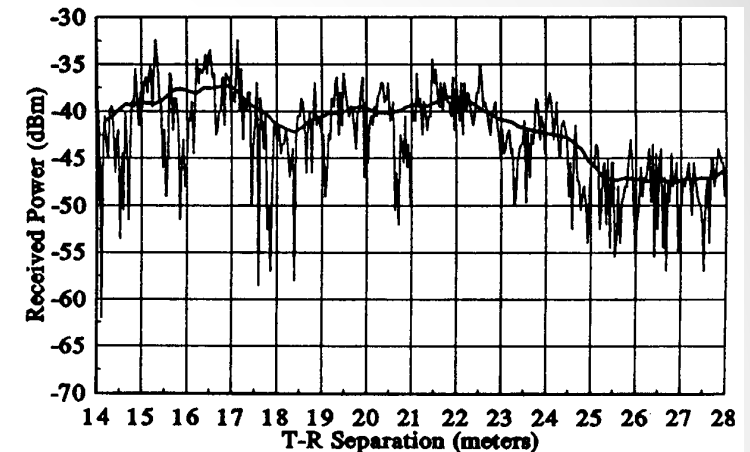


Table 4.2 Path Loss Exponents for Different Environments

Environment	Path Loss Exponent, n
Free space	2
Urban area cellular radio	2.7 to 3.5
Shadowed urban cellular radio	3 to 5
In building line-of-sight	1.6 to 1.8
Obstructed in building	4 to 6
Obstructed in factories	2 to 3

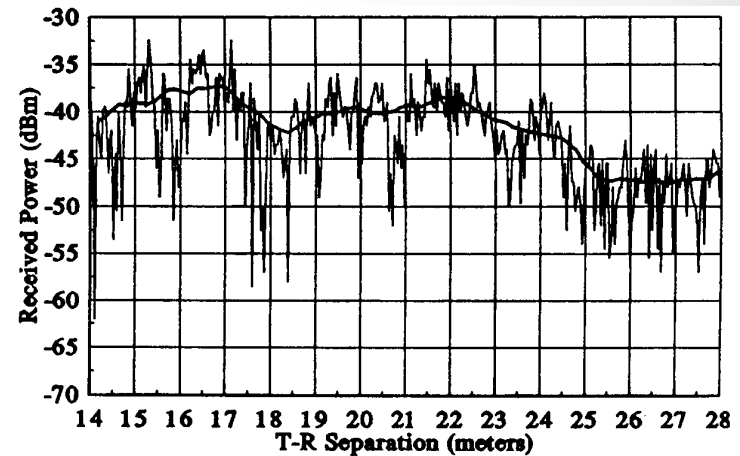
Solution Ideas(II)

- Antenna gain unknown
 - Treat as a variable to solve
 - Subtract out
- The circles may not intersect
 - Minimizing square errors

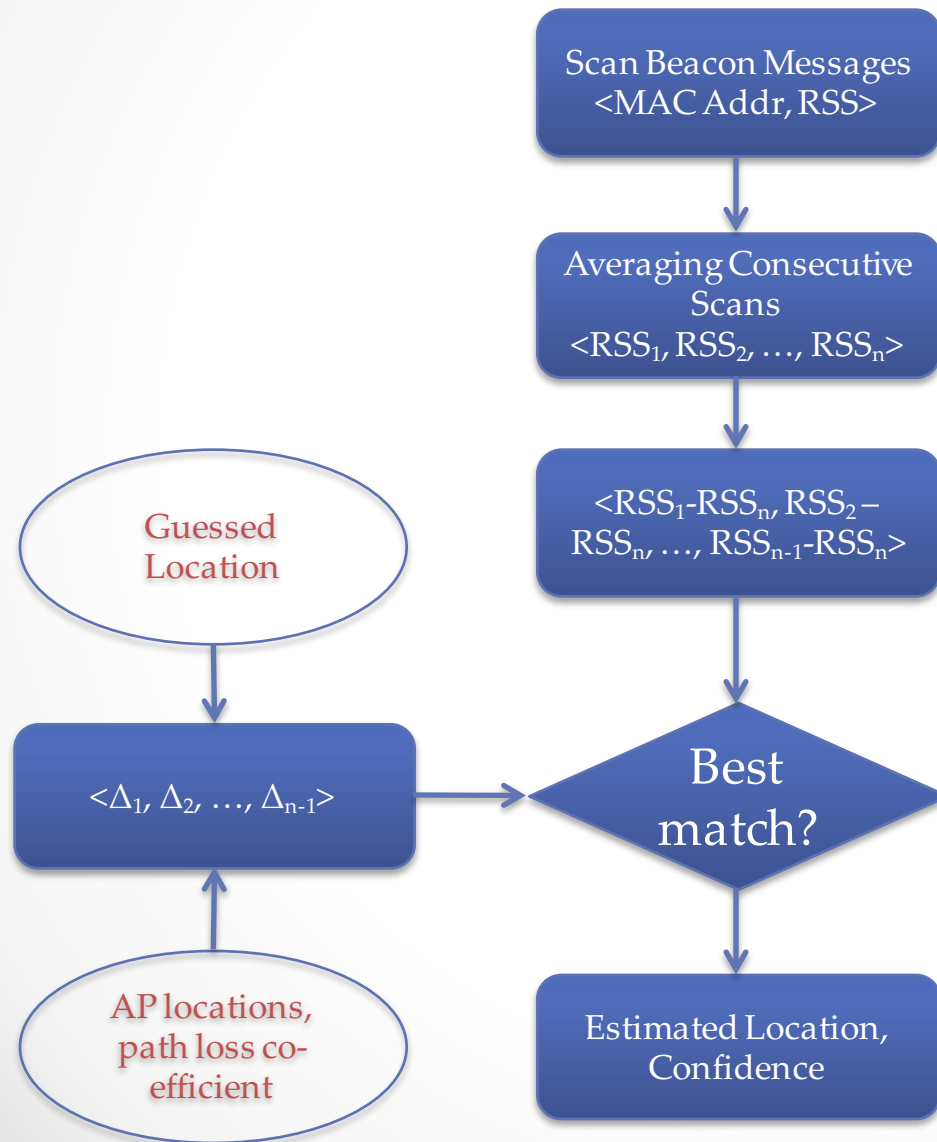
$$\arg_{\hat{x}, \hat{y}} \min \left(\left(d_1 - \sqrt{(x_1 - \hat{x})^2 + (y_1 - \hat{y})^2} \right)^2 + \left(d_2 - \sqrt{(x_2 - \hat{x})^2 + (y_2 - \hat{y})^2} \right)^2 + \left(d_3 - \sqrt{(x_3 - \hat{x})^2 + (y_3 - \hat{y})^2} \right)^2 \right)$$

where d_1, d_2, d_3 are distances estimation from the pathloss model, $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3)$ are the anchor locations

- Can implement using an exhaustive search



Algorithm Sketch (WiFi)



Note: need to distinguish virtual APs

Remove effects of antenna gains

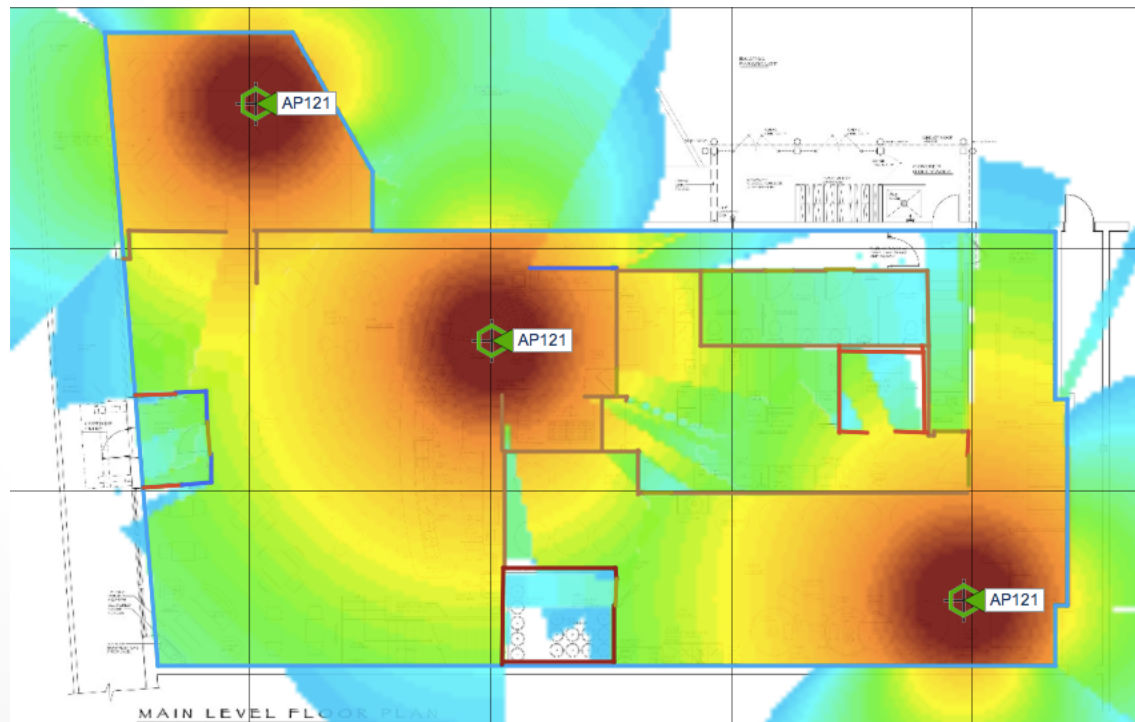
Confidence can be computed using the log-normal model assuming independent distributions

In Practice

- Signal propagation depends on many factors
 - Movement
 - Body blockage
 - ...
- RSS itself is a coarse grained measurement – averaging over the entire bandwidth (e.g., 20MHz in 802.11a/b/g)
- Wireless signal trilateration cannot provide fine-grained location
 - “Immediate, near, far” in iBeacon positioning explained

Wireless Fingerprinting

- Trilateration approaches face difficulties in 1) locations of APs, and 2) RSS not a good measure for distance
- Alternatively, we can treat wireless signal propagation as a blackbox and associate RF signal measurements as “fingerprints” at locations



Algorithm Sketch (WiFi)



Implementation notes:

- For both the site survey and online phases, need to take averages of multiple RSS readings respective to the same AP
- Can use $\langle \Delta_1, \Delta_2, \dots, \Delta_{n-1} \rangle$ as fingerprints to mitigate device heterogeneity

Implementation Notes

- The training phase:
 - Can be as simple as just setting up a lookup table
 - Or, performing regression/function fitting to derive the mapping $f: \langle x, y, z \rangle \rightarrow FP$ (more on regression later)
- In the online phase,
 - Table lookup
 - Solving an optimization problem or using an exhaustive search
 - Be aware of missing AP data

Observation 1

AP	1001	1002	1074	1073	1050	1075
RSS	-67	-69	-89	-76	-69	-76

Observation 2

AP	1001	1002	1074	1073
RSS	-66	-66	-89	-76

Observation 3

AP	1001	1002	1068	1070	1073	1076	1077	1078
RSS	-63	-63	-86	-89	-96	-91	-87	-88

Incomplete data

Distance/Similarity Function

- Given two RSS vectors (in dB or dBm) A, B
- How similar are those two vectors
 - Euclidean distance, L1 norm
 - Cosine similarity

$$\text{similarity} = \cos(\theta) = \frac{A \cdot B}{\|A\| \|B\|} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n A_i \times B_i}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (A_i)^2} \times \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (B_i)^2}}$$

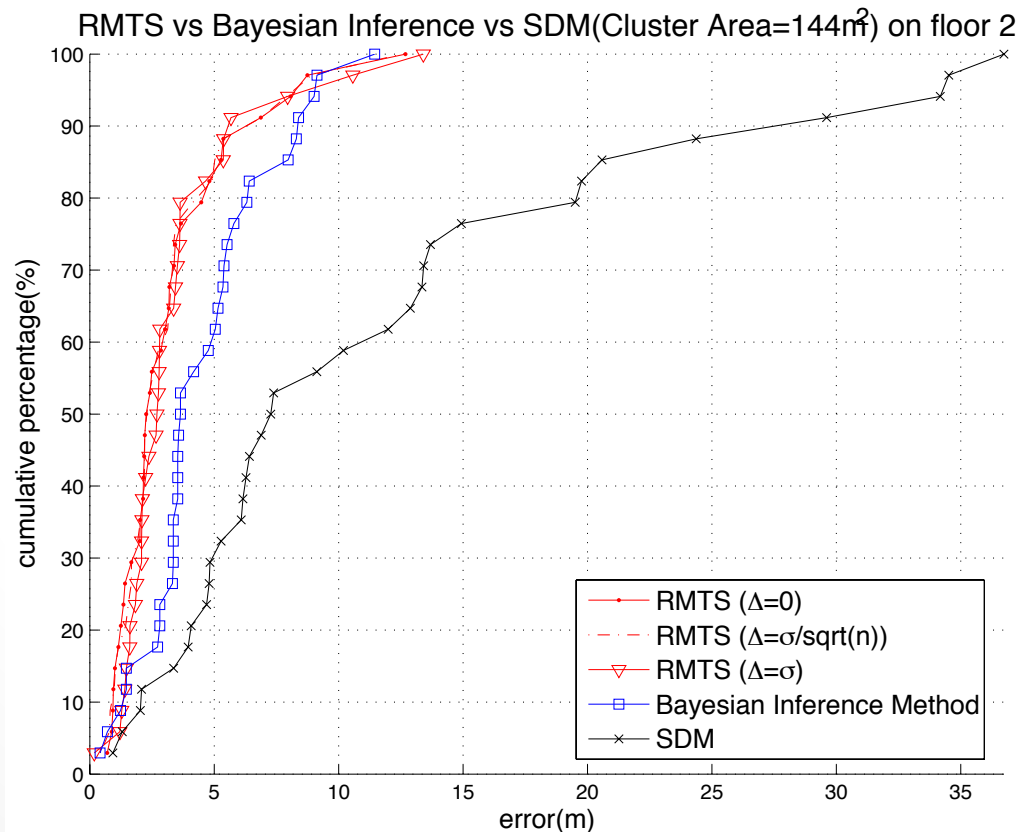
- Tanimoto similarity

$$f(A, B) = \frac{A \cdot B}{|A|^2 + |B|^2 - A \cdot B}$$

- Dealing with missing elements: put -90dBm

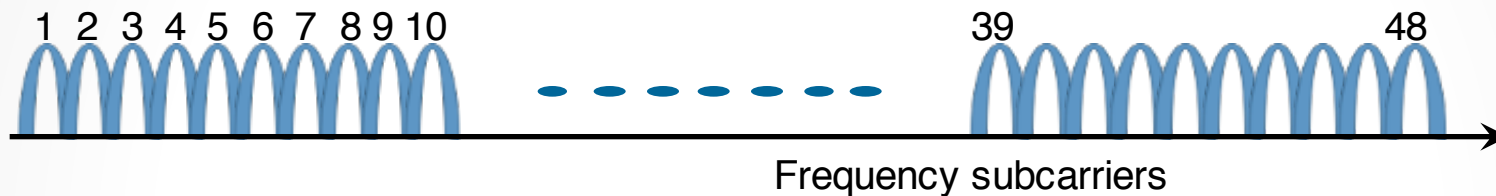
Limitations

- Due to the **variation** and the **coarse granularity** of RSS
- Average location error 2 – 3 meter, possibly heavy tail

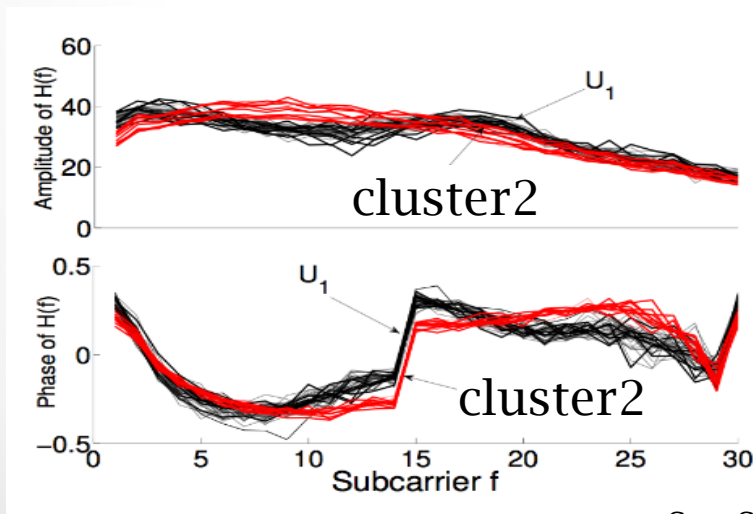


Fine-grained RF Fingerprints

- 802.11 a/g/n implements OFDM
 - Wideband channel divided into subcarriers



- Intel 5300 card exports frequency response per subcarrier



Higher resolution
but higher variability too

Motion Detection

- Channel state information (CSI) may not be suitable for indoor positioning but can be useful in motion detection and gesture recognition
 - Presence, movement of people in the environment
 - Changes in gesture/posture
- Can be used in device free scenarios (also called radio tomographic)



ELECTRICAL & COMPUTER ENGINEERING

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING | THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Take-home Messages

- RF signal power/phase → Channel → position (device-based), motion, gesture (device-free)
- Didn't cover direct time of flight (ToF), angle of arrival (AoA) based methods
 - GPS
 - WiZ
- Compared to visible lights and IR, no need for line of light in RF is both a curse and a blessing
 - Can be used to detect motion behind walls
 - Signal propagation is not easily confined
- Issues that will be addressed in later part of the course
 - Movement is more than a collection of positions -- Bayesian filtering
 - Moved or not? How many people? -- Classification

Further Reading

- T S Rappaport, Chapter 4, Wireless Communications Principles And Practice