Indoor Geolocation Science and Technology at the Emergence of Smart World and IoT by Kaveh Pahlavan



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Synopsis

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Precise and accurate localization is one of the fundamental scientific and engineering technologies needed for the applications enabling the emergence of the Smart World and the Internet of Things (IoT). Popularity of localization technology began when the GPS became open for commercial applications in early 1990s. Since most commercial localization applications are for indoors and GPS does not work indoors, the discovery of opportunistic indoor geolocation technologies began in mid-1990s. Because of the complexity and diversity of the science and technology involved in indoor Geolocation, this area has emerged as its own discipline over the past two decades.

At the time of this writing, received signal strength (RSS) based Wi-Fi localization is dominating the commercial market complementing cell tower localization and GPS technologies using the time of arrival (TOA) technology. Wi-Fi localization technology takes advantage of the random deployment of Wi-Fi devices worldwide to support indoor and urban area localization for hundreds of thousands of applications on smart devices.

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