# Wi-Go: Accurate and Scalable Vehicle Positioning using WiFi Fine Timing Measurement

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#### **Motivation**

The rapid evolution of advanced driver assistance and vehicle automation systems have led to:

Increased demand for **lane-level vehicle positioning** that is accurate even in urban canyon environments.



# Today's vehicle positioning

Today's vehicles primarily use the Global Positioning System (GPS), often in conjunction with vehicle odometry for correcting short term GPS biases.



# Today's vehicle positioning

Position accuracy can be further improved to a few meters with motion sensors and map matching.

For lane-level positioning, highly instrumented automated vehicle prototypes use **cameras** or **LiDAR** sensors to reference their measurements against available detailed models and imagery of the roadway.



#### Can Wifi FTM help?



Single Burst with 3 FTMs per Burst

Wifi Fine Time Measurement (FTM)

$$RTT = \frac{1}{n} (\sum_{k=1}^{n} t_4(k) - \sum_{k=1}^{n} t_1(k)) - \frac{1}{n} (\sum_{k=1}^{n} t_3(k) - \sum_{k=1}^{n} t_2(k))$$

# Can Wifi FTM help?

Specially with high WiFi access points density

Can WiFi FTM complement the existing GPS and odometry systems to achieve lane-level positioning in urban canyons?







# Can Wifi FTM Augment GPS?

Upper Manhattan (Parked Cars)



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Error (m)	9.04		18.2	19.6	
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Actively signaling client in FTM





iw wlan0 measurement ftm\_request apList



$$\begin{array}{c} & AP_1 \\ & AP_2 \\ & AP_2 \\ & AP_3 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{c|c} & AP_1 \\ \hline & AP_2 \\ \hline & AP_3 \end{array}$$





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- iw wlan0 measurement ftm\_request apList
  apList:
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- Need to simultaneously track vehicles and APs with range-only measurement.
- In urban canyons, WiFi communication can be heavily affected by multipath fading and shadowing.



- FTM causing WiFi congestion
- Noisy FTM
- Unknown AP locations
- Range-only



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The vehicle and the surrounding WiFi APs are localized and tracked, by incorporating **WiFi FTMs**, **GPS**, and **on-board sensor** measurements.

1. Initialization





- 1. Initialization
- 2. Update





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- 2. Update



- 1. Initialization
- 2. Update



- 1. Initialization
- 2. Update
- 3. Correction



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- let d be the estimated displacement distance reported by the inertial sensors between two FTM measurement locations.
- let r1 and r2 be the measured FTM ranges at these two locations.
- the following triangular inequality must be satisfied:
  |r1−r2 | ≤ d ≤ r1+r2



Algorithm:

- For each FTM measurement r(t), we evaluate the triangle inequality of r(t) with another FTM measurement within a small time window.
- The weight for measurement r(t) is thus the ratio of measurement pairs that satisfy the triangle inequality over the total number of pairs.



#### **APs Location Estimation**

Location is estimated by solving the following weighted nonlinear least square optimization problem. They called it **Uncertainty-Weighted Mobile Multilateration** problem.

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{x}_j} \sum_{i}^{n} \sum_{t}^{T} w_{ij}^{FTM}(t) \left( distance(\boldsymbol{x}_j, \boldsymbol{v}_i(t)) - r_{ij}(t) \right)^2$$

Where  $x_j$  is the AP location,  $v_i(t)$  is the location of vehicle 'i' at time stamp 't',  $r_{ij}(t)$  is the collected FTM range, and  $w_{ij}$  is the computed weight.

#### Bearing estimation





$$\theta_i = tan^{-1} \frac{r_{min}}{d_i}$$



### **Congestion-Aware Adaptation of FTM Request Transmission**

- Adapt FTM request rate (spb) for surrounding APs, in order to maximize the tracking accuracy while remaining under the maximum message rate constraint.
- Vehicle networks estimate the maximum message rate that is allowed to send messages without causing congestion

## Congestion-Aware Adaptation of FTM Request Transmission (Cont'd)

- Aim: minimize the vehicle localization error while avoiding congestion
- Error Contributing Factor:
  - Geometry of chosen subset of APs (HDoP)
  - $\circ$  Error model in AP location (e<sub>AP</sub>)
  - FTM ranging error ( $e_r$ )

#### **Congestion-Aware Adaptation of FTM Request Transmission (Cont'd)**

• Optimization Problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \underset{spb}{\operatorname{argmin}} & VehicleLocError(HDoP, \boldsymbol{e}_{AP}, \boldsymbol{e}_{r}, ) \\ s.t. & \sum spb_{i} = rate_{limit} \\ spb_{i} \geq 0, & 1 \leq i \leq |APs| \end{aligned}$$

#### **Experimental Setup**

#### ➢ Vehicles

- Small form factor computer
- WiFi Card: 2x Intel Dual Band Wireless-AC 8260
- WiFi external antennas: 4x 6dBi RP-SMA
  Dual Band 2.4GHz, 5GHz with 1.637m
  cable to attach antennas on the roof
- Linux FTM tool to initiate and extract FTMs from these WiFi cards
- > WiFi APs
  - ASUS Wireless AC1300 RT-ACRH13 APs



# Experimental Setup (Cont'd)

#### ➢ Ground Truth

- High precision GPS (<1m error)
- Intel RealSense Depth Cameras (<0.7 m error)
- > Existing Technologies
  - Standalone GPS
  - Vehicle GPS (GPS + Odometry)
  - Android Fusion Location API



#### **Evaluation Metrics**

> Localization Error







#### **Vehicle Localization Error**

Upper Manhattan (Parked Cars)





#### **Vehicle Localization Error**

#### Midtown Manhattan (Indoor APs)



#### **Access Points Localization**

Approach	Parked Cars	Indoor APs	
Wi-Go	1.9 m	3.6 m	
GPS+Odometry	14.3 m	16.4 m	
GPS	18.9 m	27.4 m	
Smartphone Fused Loc.	17.8 m	16 m	

#### ns-3 Simulation Results



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#### Micro Benchmark: Effect of number of APs



#### Micro Benchmark: Comparing Approaches



#### Conclusion

- A vehicle localization system that uses WiFi Fine Time Measurements to achieve lane level accuracy in challenging urban canyons.
- Simultaneously estimate vehicle and WiFi APs positions by fusing WiFi FTMs with GPS, and Odometry in FTMSLAM framework.
- Wi-GO achieves median localization error of 1.3m in urban canyons when WiFi APs are on parked vehicles, and 2.1m when WiFi APs are in buildings.
- Wi-GO achieves median localization error of 0.8m in Suburban environments when APs are in apartment buildings.

# Insights!

- Use already converged Access points in estimating the position of the new APs.
- Self localization in indoor environments
- Range Only Bearing Estimation technique
- Latency vs Positioning Accuracy
- Computational complexity

# Thank You!

# Any questions?

