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**18-452/18-750**  
**Wireless Networks and Applications**  
**Lecture 23: Localization**

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**Spring Semester 2024**  
**<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~prs/wirelessS24/>**

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1

1

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**Announcements**

- **I added a slide with a sketch of the binary search algorithm for RFID tags to the lecture**
- **Homework 3 has been posted**
  - » It uses gradescope for submission and grading
- **Please sign up for P2 meetings next week**
  - » See Piazza for URL

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2

2

## Outline

- **Properties of localization procedures**
- **Approaches**
  - » Proximity
  - » Trilateration and triangulation (GPS)
  - » Finger printing (RADAR)
  - » Hybrid systems

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3

3

## Properties of localization procedures

- **Data types used for specifying locations**
- **Reference systems**
- **Processing: localized vs centralized**
- **Data quality**
  - » Accuracy and precision
  - » Scale
- **Deployment aspects**
  - » Limitations
  - » Cost
- ➔ **Very diverse systems – lots of research**

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4

4

## Data types

- **Point locations in terms of coordinates:**
  - » *physical or geometric locations*
  - » GPS: latitude and longitude, height
  - » Cartesian coordinate system based on three orthogonal planes
- **Extended region locations given by names:**
  - » *symbolic locations*
  - » CMU, Wean Hall, room 8202

5

## Location-awareness

- **Location model: data structure that organizes locations**
- **Location-based routing**
  - » symbolic location model
  - » geometric location model
  - » hybrid location model

### Examples

- » **symbolic location model:**  
address hierarchy  
DH.Floor2.2105
- » **geometric location model:**  
GPS coordinate  
(12.3456°N, 123.456°E)
- » **hybrid location model:**  
combination of address and coordinate  
DH.Floor2.2105.Seat(0,4)

6

# Quality of Position Information

## Positioning accuracy:

largest distance between an estimated position and the true position

Only pairs of precision and accuracy make sense

## Precision:

the ratio with which a given accuracy is reached, averaged over many repeated attempts





**Example:**  
average error of less than 20cm in 95% of cases

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7

7

# Precision vs. Accuracy

	Accurate	Inaccurate (systematic error)
Precise		
Imprecise (reproducibility error)		

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<https://www.sophia.org/tutorials/accuracy-and-precision-3>

8

8

## Approaches

- **Proximity: estimate distance between two nodes**
- **Trilateration and triangulation**
  - » using elementary trigonometric properties: a triangle is completely determined,
    - if two angles and a side length are known
    - if the lengths of all three sides are known
  - » infer a 3d position from information about two triangles
- **Fingerprinting (scene analysis)**
  - » using radio characteristics as fingerprint to identify it
- **Hybrid methods: multiple sources of information**

## Proximity and Distance

- **Binary nearness: using finite range of wireless communication and/or threshold**
  - » within range of a beacon signal from a source with known position
  - » yields region locations, e.g.: cell in cellular network
- **Distance measurement (ranging)**
  - » Received signal strength
  - » Time of flight (time of arrival)
  - » Time difference of arrival

# Measuring Location: Trigonometry Basics

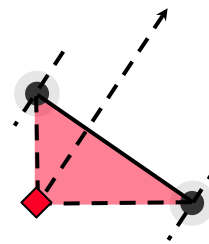
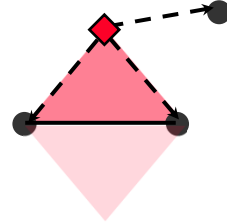
- **Triangles in a plane**

- » **Lateration: distance measurement to known reference points**

- a triangle is fully determined by the length of its sides
- Time of Flight (e.g. GPS, Active Bat)
- Attenuation (e.g. RSSI)

- » **Angulation: measuring the angle with respect to two known reference points and a reference direction or a third point**

- a triangle is fully determined by two angles and one side as shown
- Phased antenna arrays
- aircraft navigation (VOR)

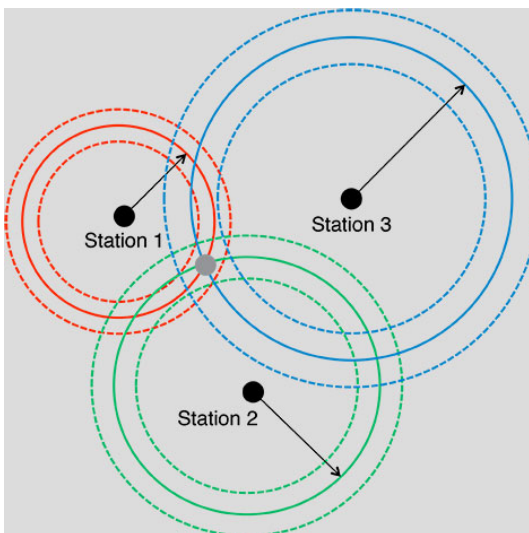


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11

11

# Trilateration



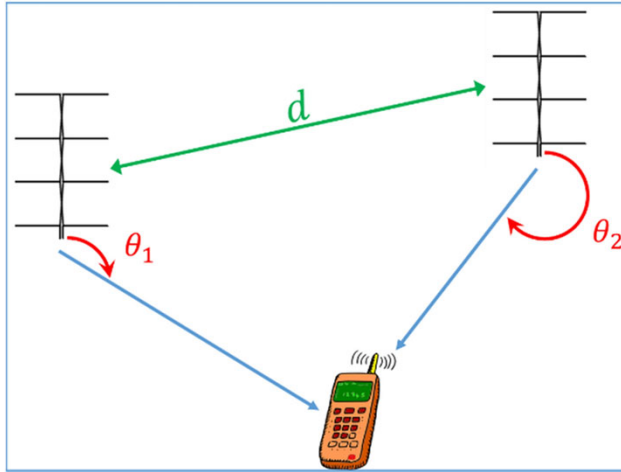
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<http://gpsworld.com/innovation-where-are-we/>

12

12

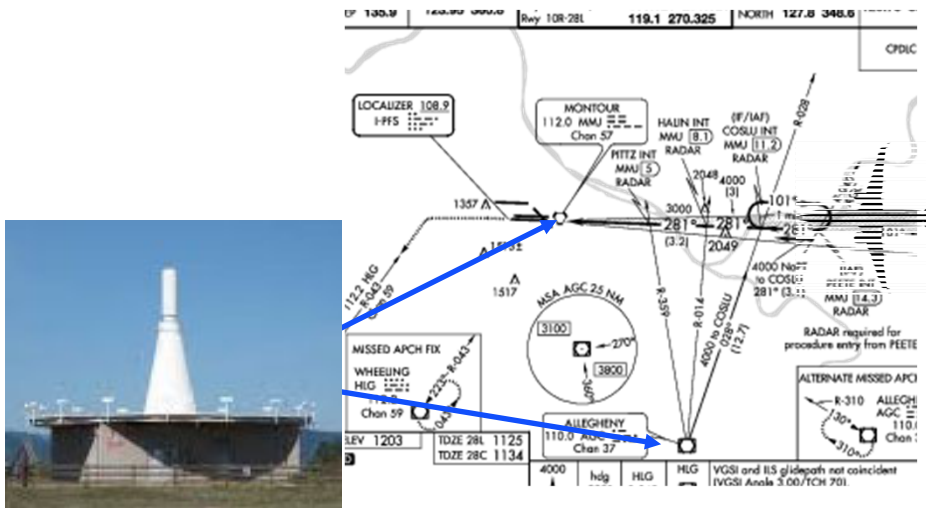
# Angulation



Peter A. Steenkiste, CMU [https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Angulation-using-two-known-angles-and-known-distance\\_fig3\\_349450502](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Angulation-using-two-known-angles-and-known-distance_fig3_349450502) 13

13

# Angulation



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14

## Mathematical Background

- Computing positions between three known positions  $(x_i, y_i)$  and an unknown position  $(x_u, y_u)$  given distances  $r_i$  btw  $(x_i, y_i)$  and  $(x_u, y_u)$
- Yields three equations  $(x_i - x_u)^2 + (y_i - y_u)^2 = r_i^2$
- Linear equations by subtracting 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>: quadratic terms  $x_u^2$  and  $y_u^2$  disappear
  - »  $2(x_3 - x_1)x_u + 2(y_3 - y_1)y_u = (r_1^2 - r_3^2) - (x_1^2 - x_3^2) - (y_1^2 - y_3^2)$
  - »  $2(x_3 - x_2)x_u + 2(y_3 - y_2)y_u = (r_2^2 - r_3^2) - (x_2^2 - x_3^2) - (y_2^2 - y_3^2)$
- In 3D: yields two points
- Positioning with imprecise information:
  - » Add redundancy: over determined solution
  - » Least squares estimates

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15

15

## GPS

- Radio-based navigation system developed by DoD
  - » Initial operation in 1993
  - » Fully operational in 1995
- System is called NAVSTAR
  - » NAVigation with Satellite Timing And Ranging
  - » Referred to as GPS
  - » Has been improved over time
- Series of 24 (now 32) satellites, in 6 orbital planes
- Works anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day, in all weather conditions and provides:
  - » Location or positional fix
  - » Velocity, direction of travel
  - » Accurate time

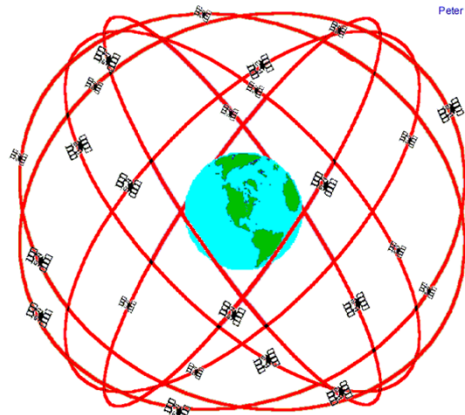
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[www.fws.gov/southeast/gis/training\\_2k5/GPS\\_overview\\_APR\\_04.ppt](http://www.fws.gov/southeast/gis/training_2k5/GPS_overview_APR_04.ppt) 16

16



## GPS Constellation



- **24 satellites are needed to guarantee that 4 are always visible everywhere**
- **Extra satellites provide redundancy**
  - » Deal with maintenance, replacement, ...

**GPS Nominal Constellation**  
**24 Satellites in 6 Orbital Planes**  
**4 Satellites in each Plane**  
**20,200 km Altitudes, 55 Degree Inclination**

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[https://www.colorado.edu/geography/gcraft/notes/gps/gps\\_f.html](https://www.colorado.edu/geography/gcraft/notes/gps/gps_f.html)

17

17

## GPS involves 5 Basic Steps

- **Satellite Ranging**
  - » Determining distance from satellite
- **Trilateration**
  - » Intersection of spheres
- **Timing**
  - » Why consistent, accurate clocks are required
- **Positioning**
  - » Knowing where satellite is in space
- **Correction of errors**
  - » Correcting for ionospheric and tropospheric delays

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18

18

## How GPS works?

- **Range from each satellite calculated**  
*range = time delay X speed of light*
- **Technique called trilateration is used to determine your position or “fix”**
  - » Intersection of spheres as described earlier
- **At least 3 satellites required for 2D fix**
- **However, 4 satellites are used**
  - » The 4<sup>th</sup> satellite used to calculate drift of clock in GPS receivers relative to that of the satellites
  - » Yields much better accuracy and provides 3D fix

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19

19

## Satellite Positions

- **Each satellite has an atomic clock that keeps time very accurately**
  - » Satellites synchronize their clocks
  - » Also periodically synchronize with the true time maintained on earth
- **Satellites also know their location very accurately**

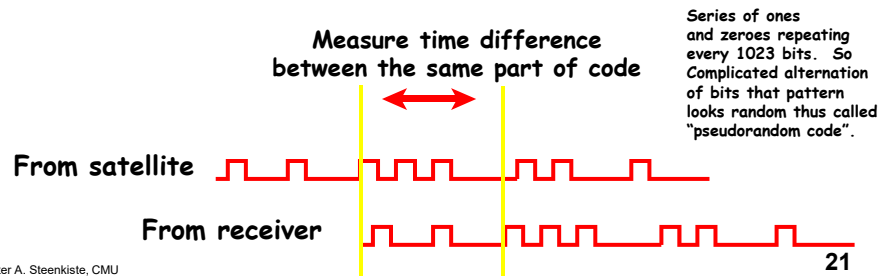
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20

20

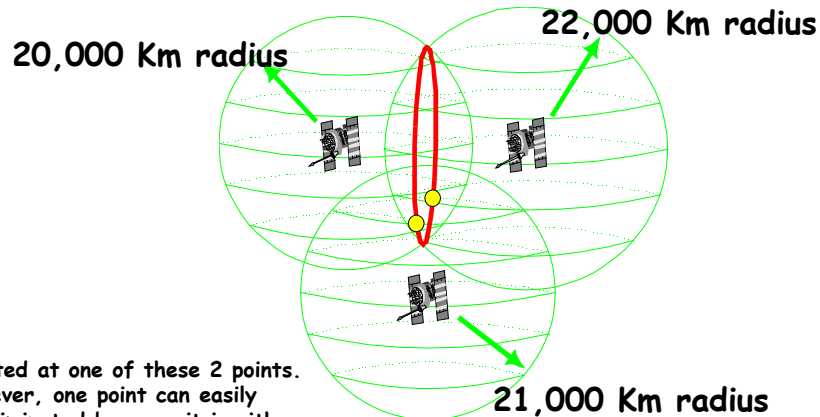
## Determining Range

- Each satellite periodically generates a pseudo random code
  - » Receivers also locally generate the codes in synchronized fashion
- Receivers measure Time of Arrival (TOA) of codes
- Transmission includes Time of Transmission (TOT) of code and the location of the satellite at that time
  - » Allows receiver to calculate Time of Flight and distance



21

## Three Satellite Ranges Known



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22

22

## Accurate Timing is the Key

- **Satellites have very accurate atomic clocks**
- **Receivers have less accurate clocks**
- **Measurements made in nanoseconds**
  - » Speed of light (c) ~ 1 ft/nanosecond
- **1/100<sup>th</sup> of a second error could introduce error of 1,860 miles**
- **Discrepancy between the satellite clock and the receiver clocks must be resolved**
- **Fourth satellite is used to solve the 4 unknowns (X, Y, Z and receiver clock error)**

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23

23

## Satellite Positioning

- **Required in the equation to solve the 4 unknowns is the actual location of the satellite.**
  - » 3 coordinates for location, plus clock drift of receiver relative to the satellite clocks
- **Satellites are in relatively stable orbits and constantly monitored on the ground**
- **Satellite's position is broadcast in the "ephemeris" data streamed down to receiver**
  - » Downloading complete set of almanac data requires 12.5 minutes (transmitted at 50 bps)

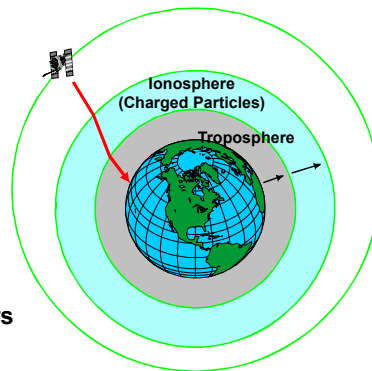
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24

24

## Sources of Errors

- **Largest source is due to the atmosphere**
  - » Atmospheric refraction
    - Charged particles
    - Water vapor
- **Other sources:**
  - » Geometry of satellite positions
  - » Multi-path errors
  - » Satellite clock errors
  - » Satellite position or “ephemeris” errors
  - » Quality of GPS receiver



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25

25

## Limits of Localization Using Signal Strength

- **Measuring distance based on signal strength is an attractive idea**
  - » RSS does not require additional hardware
  - » RSS declines with distance
- **But accuracy is quite limited**
  - » 802.11 technology with a range of methods and environments tested
  - » Median localization error of 10ft and 97<sup>th</sup> percentile of 30ft
- **Many technologies have higher accuracy**
  - » E.g., UWB, use of AoA (multiple antennas), ...
- **How about using time of arrival?**
  - » E.g., based on sound, radar-like techniques, ...
  - » Reflections can also create inaccuracies: longer path!

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27

27

# CAESAR: Carrier Sense-based Ranging

- Question: can we use time of flight ranging using commodity WiFi hardware?
- Yes, but it gets a bit messy
  - » Need to include SNR measurement
- Local station determines location of (mobile) remote stations
- Design criteria
  - » Exploit standard 802.11 protocol implementations
  - » Real time results
  - » Low cost (low network usage, no additional hardware, minimal calibration)

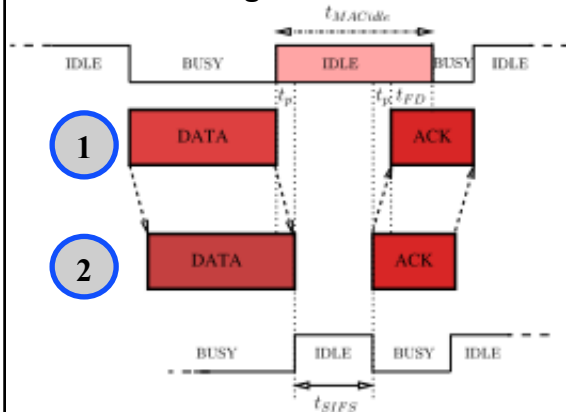
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28

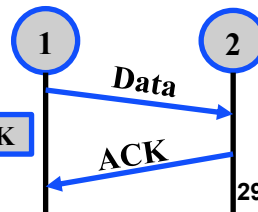
28

# CAESAR: Key Idea

- Time of flight from ACKs



- Speed of light:  $c = \sim 300\text{m/s}$
- WLAN clock 44MHz
- Resolution:  $300/(2 \cdot 44) = 3.4\text{m}$
- Distance  $d = c \cdot (t_{MacIdle} - t_{SIFS} - t_{FD})/2$



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29

29

## CAESAR: Adjustment to Noise

- **Method depends on correct estimation of response time, which depends on the SNR**
- **Automatic gain control is used if**
  - » Preferred region (PR): no AGC
  - » Strong signal detected (SSD): e.g. subtract 30dB from signal
  - » Weak signal detected (WSD): may need adjust signal to bring it into PR (or signal is not detected)
- **Proposed solution:**
  - » Detect states SSD, WSD, and preferred range
  - » Use different values for Time for Frame Detection ( $t_{FD}$ )

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30

30

## Outline

- **Properties of localization procedures**
- **Approaches**
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  - » Finger printing (RADAR)
  - » Hybrid systems

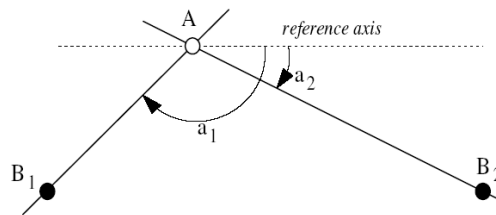
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31

31

## Angle of Arrival (AoA)

- A measures the direction of the incoming signal using a radio array.
- By using 2 anchors, A can determine its position
- Alternatively: the anchor measure the angle of A's signal and coordinate



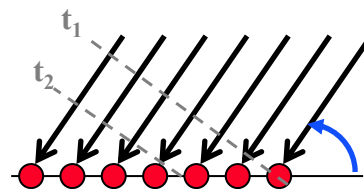
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32

32

## Angle of Arrival Techniques

- Antenna arrays are increasingly popular
- They are usually used to steer the signal, but can be used to identify the angle at which it arrives
- Difference in arrival time can be used to measure angle



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33

33



## Outline

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34

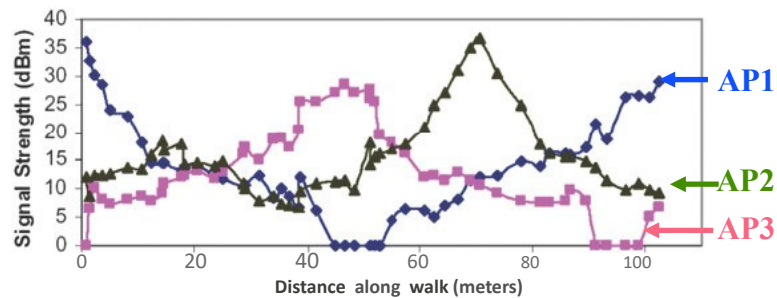
## Location Fingerprinting

- **Fingerprint Methods for Recognizing Locations**
  - » **Examples**
    - Visual identification of places from photos
    - Recognition of horizon shapes
    - Measurement of signal strengths of nearby networks (e.g. RADAR)
  - » **Method: computing the difference between a feature set extracted measurements with a feature database**
  - » **Advantages: passive observation only (protect privacy, prevent communication overhead)**
  - » **Disadvantage: access to feature database needed**

35

## RADAR: Key Idea

- RSS from multiple APs tends to be unique to a location



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36

36

## Hybrid Technologies

- Cell phones: have many other sensors
  - » Accelerometer, compass, ...
- Can be used to estimate the user's walking speed, direction, ...
- This information can be combined with finger printing based techniques
- Especially useful if finger printing provides accurate location in specific locations
  - » When entering a store, escalator, elevators
  - » Can use the other sensors starting with these well-known locations

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38

38

## Literature

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- E. Elnahrawy et al. (2004). **The limits of localization using signal strength: a comparative study**. IEEE SECON 2004, pp. 406-414 .
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