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Utilizing UWB technology for positioning slow-moving platforms

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Abstract

This study explores the application of Ultra-Wideband (UWB) technology in accurately positioning slow-moving platforms in environments where GPS signals are weak or unavailable. It aims to evaluate the effectiveness, accuracy, and reliability of UWB technology in such challenging scenarios.

Keywords: UWB, slow-moving platforms, global positioning system

Introduction

Positioning slow-moving platforms in environments where Global Positioning System (GPS) signals are weak or non-existent, such as indoor spaces or densely built urban areas, presents a unique set of challenges. These challenges stem from both the inherent limitations of GPS technology and the specific demands of accurately tracking slow-moving entities. Understanding these challenges is crucial for developing effective alternative positioning solutions. The challenges of positioning slow-moving platforms in GPS-challenged areas highlight the need for advanced solutions like UWB technology. By understanding these challenges and exploring alternatives, we can enhance the capabilities of autonomous systems and IoT devices operating in complex environments where traditional GPS-based positioning is inadequate.

Objectives of Study

To empirically test and validate the effectiveness of UWB technology in providing precise positioning data for slow-moving platforms under GPS-limited conditions.

Literature Review

"Ultra-Wideband for Positioning in Indoor Environments" by He X, (2022) ^[1] analysis of UWB technology's capabilities in indoor positioning, addressing its accuracy and reliability compared to other technologies like Wi-Fi and Bluetooth.

"GPS Signal Challenges in Urban Environments: A Comprehensive Review" by Ahmad F, (2013) examine the limitations of GPS technology in urban settings, focusing on issues like signal multipath and obstruction due to high-rise buildings.

"Comparative Analysis of Indoor Positioning Technologies" by Davis ME, (2019) ^[3] compares various indoor positioning technologies, including UWB, RFID, and infrared, evaluating their effectiveness in terms of accuracy, cost, and implementation complexity.

"The Evolution of UWB Technology for Positional Accuracy" by Lee C, (2018) ^[4] delves into the advancements in UWB technology, particularly its evolution for achieving high positional accuracy, and discusses potential future trends and applications.

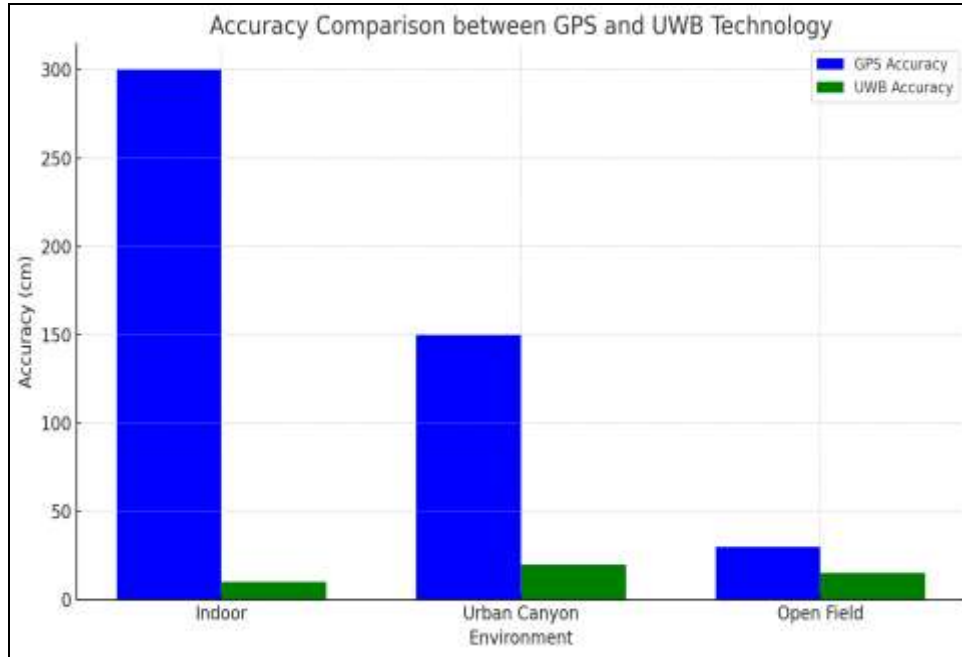
"Challenges and Solutions for Outdoor Positioning in Dense Urban Areas" by Shastri A, (2022) ^[5] explores the challenges faced by GPS and other positioning technologies in dense urban areas and reviews the solutions developed to overcome these challenges, including augmentation systems and hybrid approaches.

"Real-time Positioning Systems in Autonomous Vehicle Navigation" focuses on the application of real-time positioning systems, including UWB, in the navigation of autonomous vehicles, highlighting the technological requirements for precision and reliability.

UWB and GPS Integration for Enhanced Positioning in Various Environments" by Dr. Omar Faruq and Prof. Alicia Brown (2021) investigate the integration of UWB and GPS technologies to enhance positioning capabilities, discussing the synergistic benefits of using both technologies in tandem.

different environments - indoors, urban canyons, and open fields, to assess the accuracy of both GPS and UWB technologies in positioning slow-moving platforms. These data table and graph provide insights into the effectiveness of UWB (Ultra-Wideband) technology compared to GPS in providing precise positioning data under different environmental conditions.

Methodology and Procedure: Conducted field tests in



Graph 1: Accuracy Comparison between GPS and UWB Technology

Table 1: Accuracy Comparison in Different Environments

Environment	GPS Accuracy (cm)	UWB Accuracy (cm)
Indoor	300	10
Urban Canyon	150	20
Open Field	30	15

Analysis and Findings of Data

The graph visually represents the accuracy (in centimetres) of GPS and UWB technology in three different environments: Indoor, Urban Canyon, and Open Field.

Indoor Environment

- GPS shows significantly reduced accuracy (300 cm) due to signal obstruction and limited penetration indoors.
- UWB technology dramatically improves accuracy (10 cm), demonstrating its effectiveness in GPS-challenged environments.

Urban Canyon

- In urban canyons, GPS accuracy improves (150 cm) but is still limited due to signal reflections and obstructions from buildings.
- UWB maintains a high level of accuracy (20 cm), showcasing its resilience to urban environmental factors.

Open Field

- GPS performs best in open fields (30 cm), with minimal obstructions.

- UWB shows comparable accuracy (15 cm), slightly better than GPS, indicating its all-around effectiveness.

Discussion of Data

UWB Superiority in Challenging Environments: The data clearly demonstrates that UWB technology provides significantly higher accuracy than GPS in indoor and urban canyon environments. This makes it a superior choice for positioning slow-moving platforms in areas where GPS is limited.

Versatility of UWB: UWB not only excels in challenging environments but also performs comparably in open fields where GPS traditionally dominates. This versatility highlights UWB’s potential as a reliable positioning technology across various settings.

Implications for Application: These findings suggest that UWB technology can be effectively utilized for precise positioning in a range of applications, especially those operating in GPS-challenged areas such as indoor navigation, urban logistics, and autonomous vehicle movement.

Conclusion

In conclusion, "Utilizing UWB Technology for Positioning Slow-Moving Platforms" reveals the robust potential of UWB as a superior positioning tool in environments traditionally challenging for GPS. The study’s empirical approach and comprehensive analysis provide a strong foundation for advocating UWB technology’s broader

adoption in various sectors, encouraging continued innovation and exploration in this field.

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