

# Communication Technologies 2 (CT2)

## Machine Learning:

## Applications and Algorithms

# Wi-Fi Fingerprinting

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Lecture in WS 2018 / 2019

29.11.2018



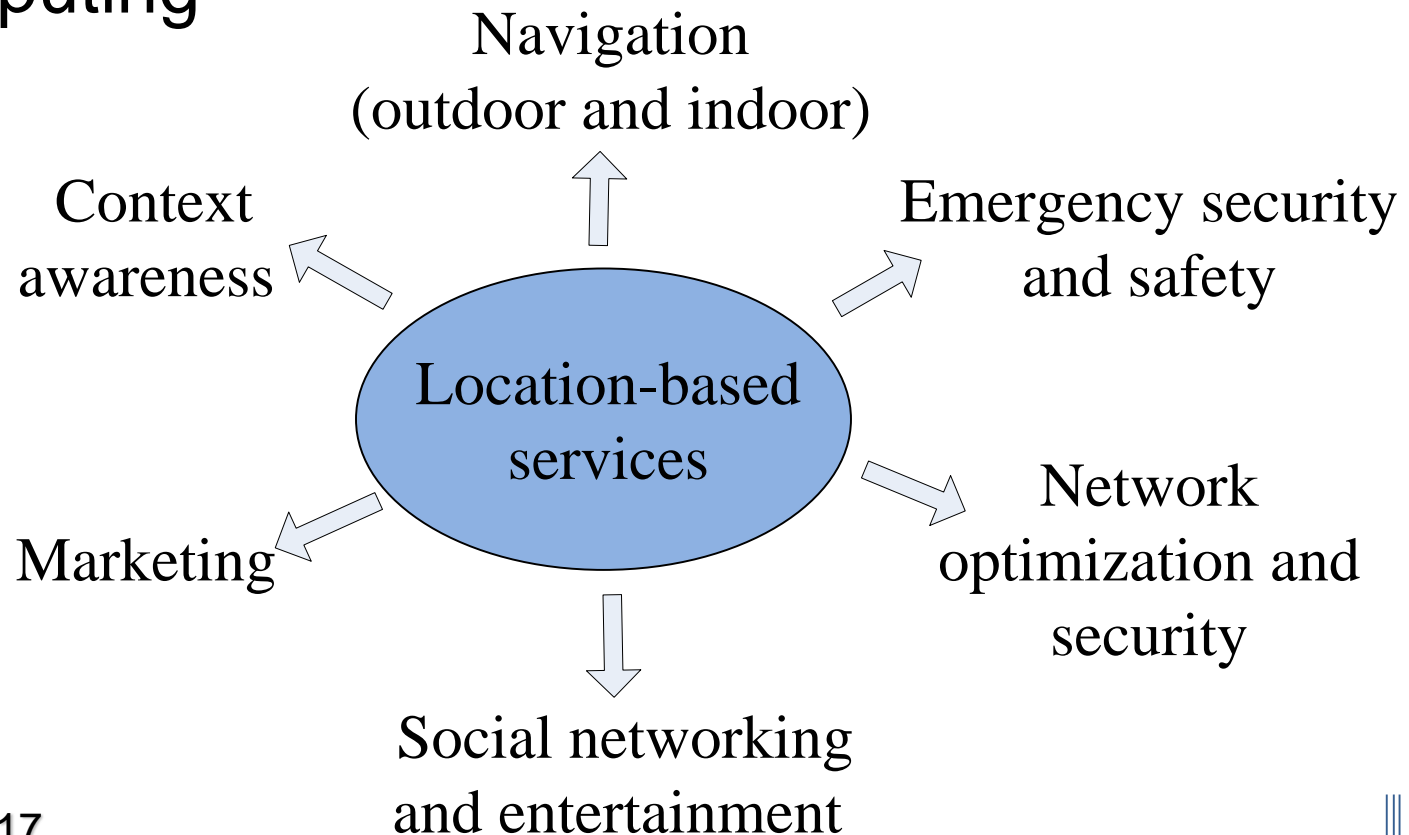
# Outline



- Location-based services
- Indoor positioning
- Wi-Fi based positioning
- Wi-Fi fingerprinting system
- DCCLA algorithm
- Challenges

# Location-based Services

- The location information provided is now one of the most important contexts for context-aware computing



# The Global Positioning System (GPS)

- Widely used for providing positioning services.
- Require line-of-sight (LoS) transmission with the GPS satellites.
- Poor coverage for indoor environments



Source: <http://www.mio.com/>

# Free-space Path Loss

- Assume there are no obstructions between the transmitter and receiver. The signal propagates along a straight line
- Free-space path loss is defined as the path loss of the free-space model:

$$P_L \text{ (dB)} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_t}{P_r} = -10 \log_{10} \frac{G_t \lambda^2}{(4\pi d)^2}.$$

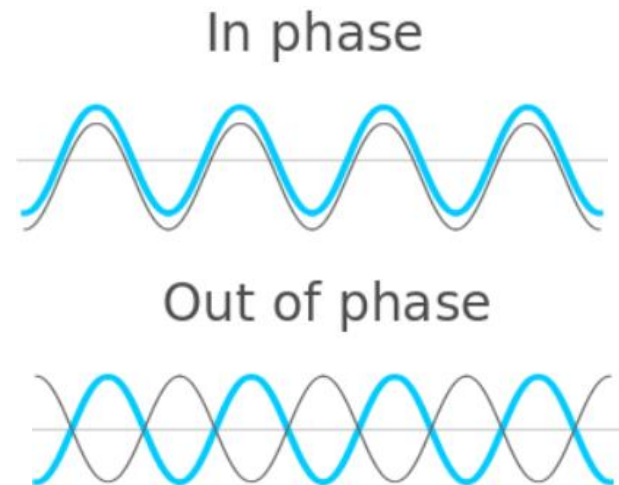
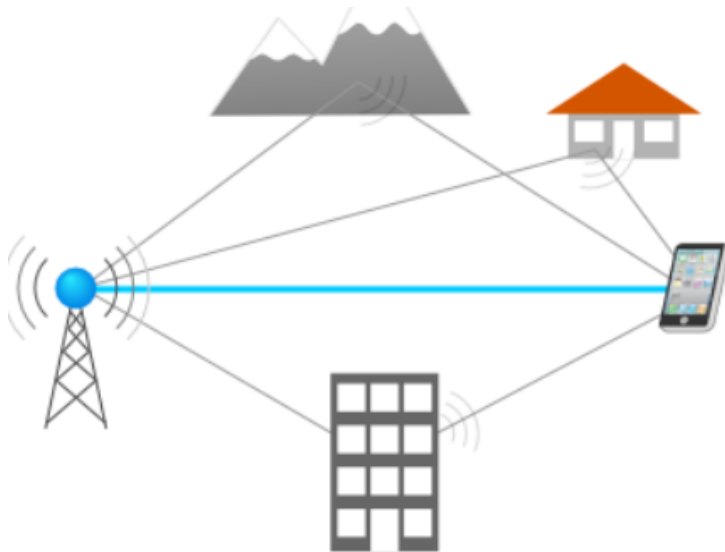
$d$ : distance between the transmit and receive antennas

$\lambda$ : the wavelength of the transmitted signal

$G_t$ : the product of the transmit and receive antenna gains

# Free-space Path Loss

- Difficult to model the radio propagation in the indoor environment:
  - Multipath, fading
  - non light-of-sight transmission because of obstacles



Source:  
[http://wiki.yatebts.com/index.php/Radio\\_Propagation\\_Concepts](http://wiki.yatebts.com/index.php/Radio_Propagation_Concepts)

- Different locations can be distinguished by particular features surrounded those locations
  - light, noise, temperature
  - radio signals: Bluetooth, GSM or Wi-Fi
- Good characteristic help to recognize different locations.
- The selected characteristic should be stable over time.

# Wi-Fi Positioning System



- Uses the received signal strengths (RSS) from surrounded access points (AP) to locate a mobile node.
- Two methods of using the Wi-Fi RSS to determine a receiver's position
  - lateration methods
  - fingerprinting methods

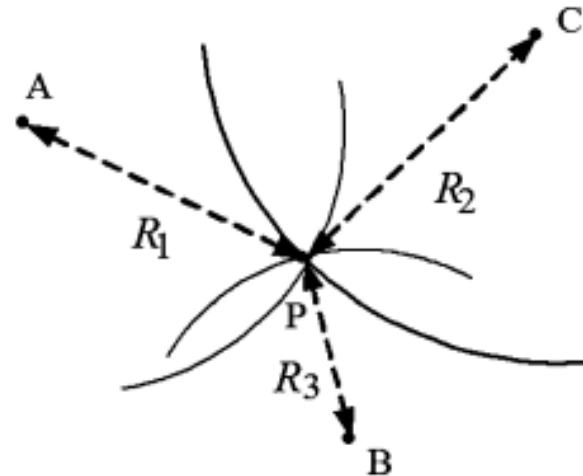


# Methods & positioning principle

- Time of Arrival (TOA)
- Time Difference of Arrival (TDOA)
- RSS-Based (Signal Attenuation-Based)
- Roundtrip time of flight of the signal (RTOF)
- Angulation estimation (AOA Estimation)
- Receive Signal Strength (RSS)

# Trilateration methods

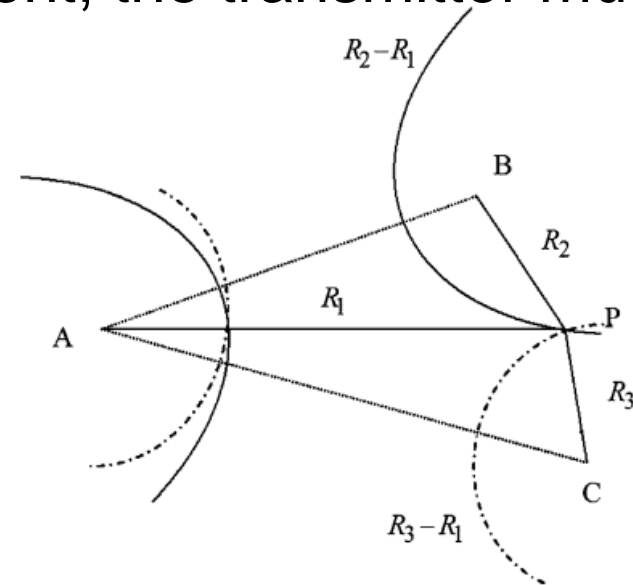
- Time of Arrival (TOA)
  - Measure the propagation time
  - Calculate the distance between the receiver and the transmitter.
  - The clock of transmitters and receivers must be precisely synchronized



Source: [2]

# Trilateration methods

- Time Difference of Arrival (TDOA)
  - the time difference to send signal to multiple receivers
  - The hyperbolic has a constant range difference between the two measuring units.
  - For each TDOA measurement, the transmitter must lie on a hyperbolic.



Source: [2]

- RSS-Based (Signal Attenuation-Based)
  - Calculate the attenuation of emitted signal strength
  - Base on the signal path loss model, estimate the travel distance
- Roundtrip time of flight of the signal (RTOF)
  - Measure the propagation time from the transmitter to the receiver and back

# Fingerprinting method

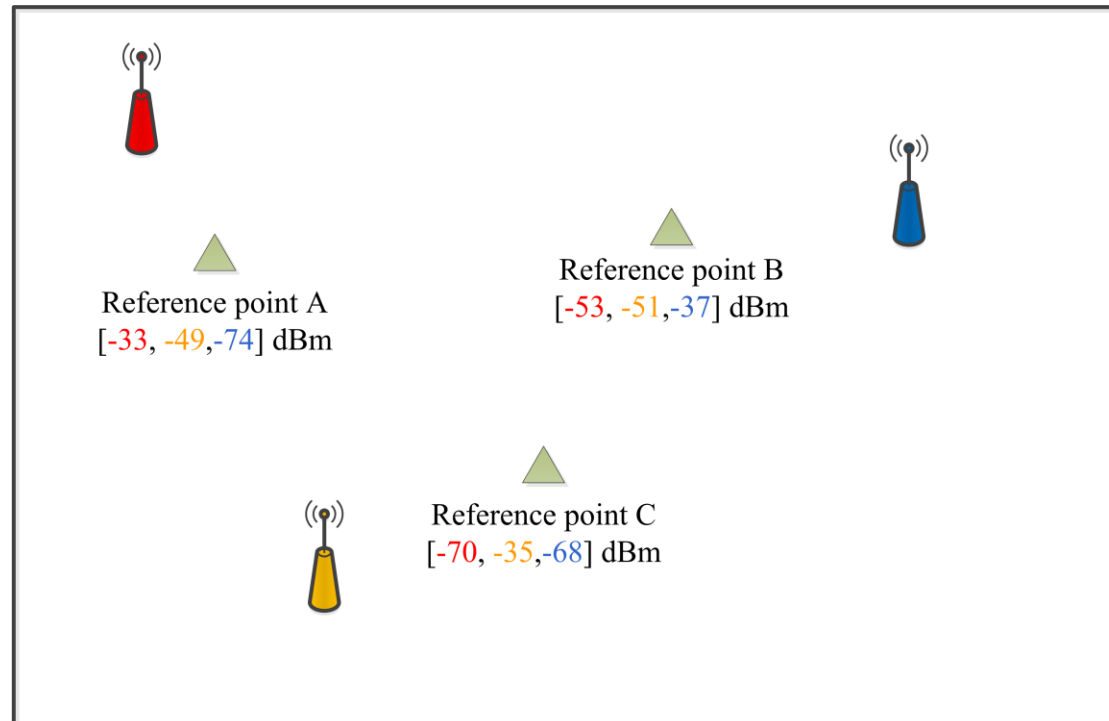
- Human fingerprint is unique
  - Collect human fingerprint and store in a database
  - To identify any person, compare his/her fingerprint with the fingerprinting database.



Source: [1]

# Wi-Fi signal

- MAC address
- Receive signal strength (RSS)
- Service set identifier (SSID)
- Channel (frequency)



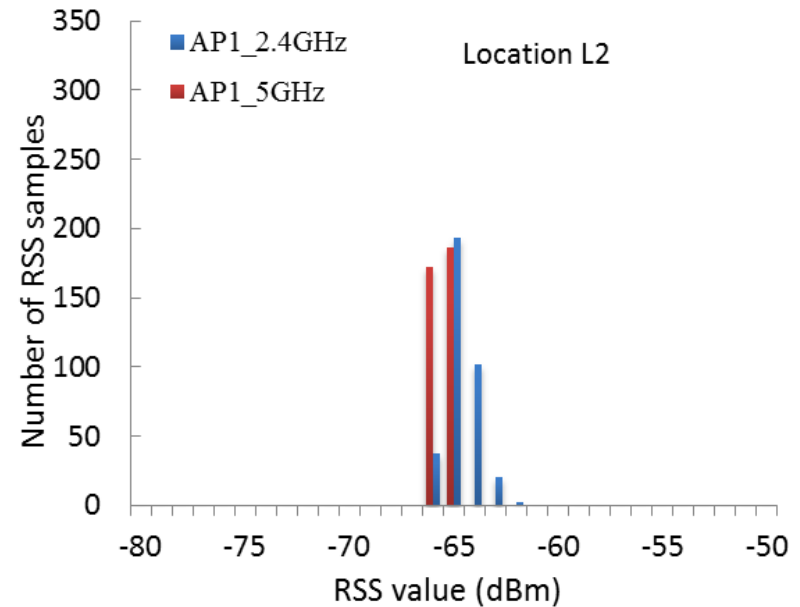
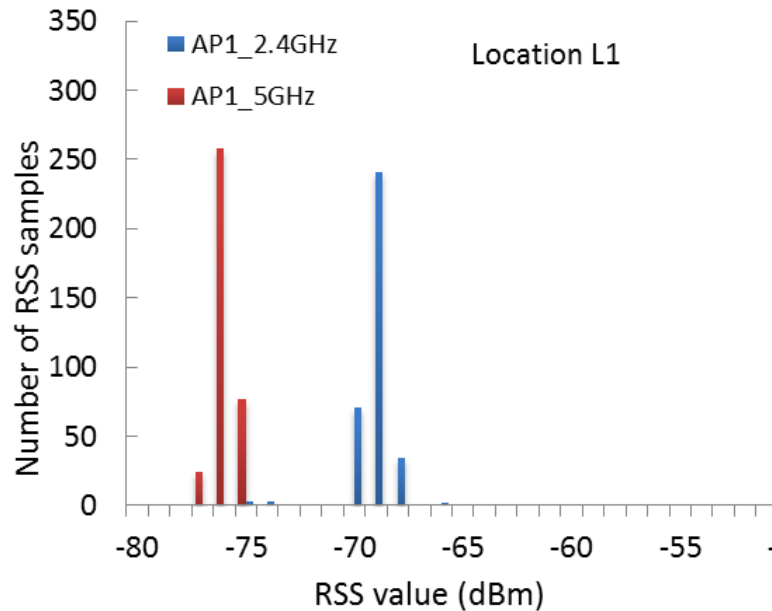
# Wi-Fi signal

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Source: [1]

# Wi-Fi signal



Wi-Fi RSS histogram in 2 adjacent rooms

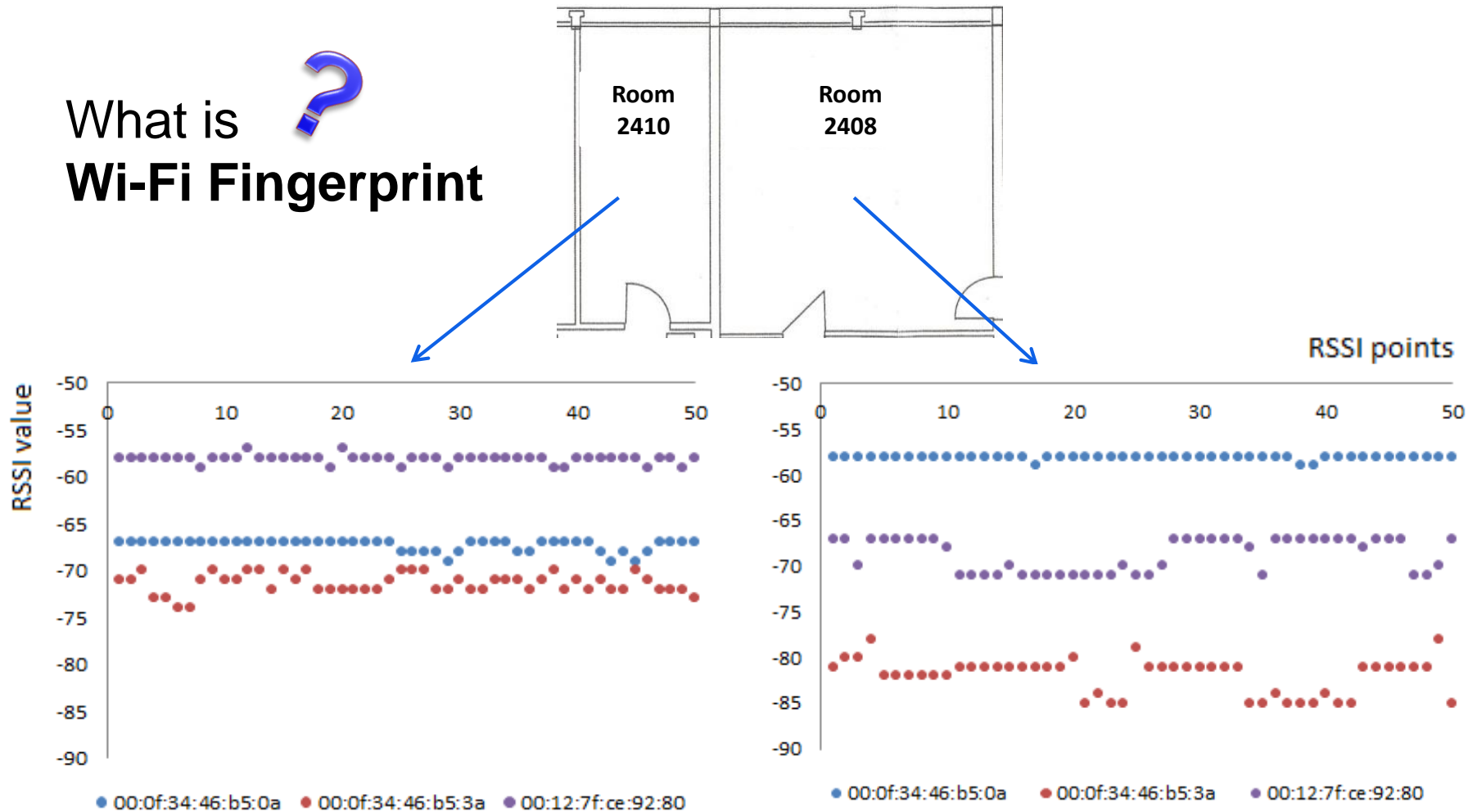


# Wi-Fi fingerprinting

- The fingerprinting technique uses location specific RSSI pattern of neighboring WLAN APs to distinguish different locations
- Not require the dedicated infrastructure installation.
  - Easy to implement
  - Reduce cost

# Wi-Fi fingerprinting

What is   
**Wi-Fi Fingerprint**

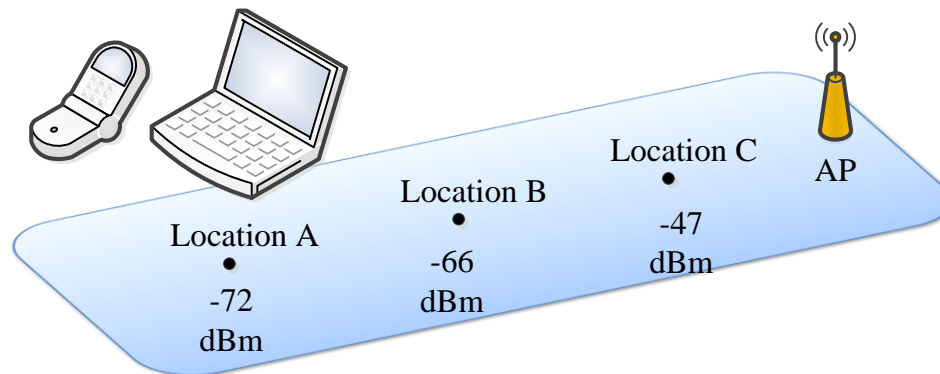


**Wi-Fi fingerprint**

RSSI: Received Signal Strength Indicator

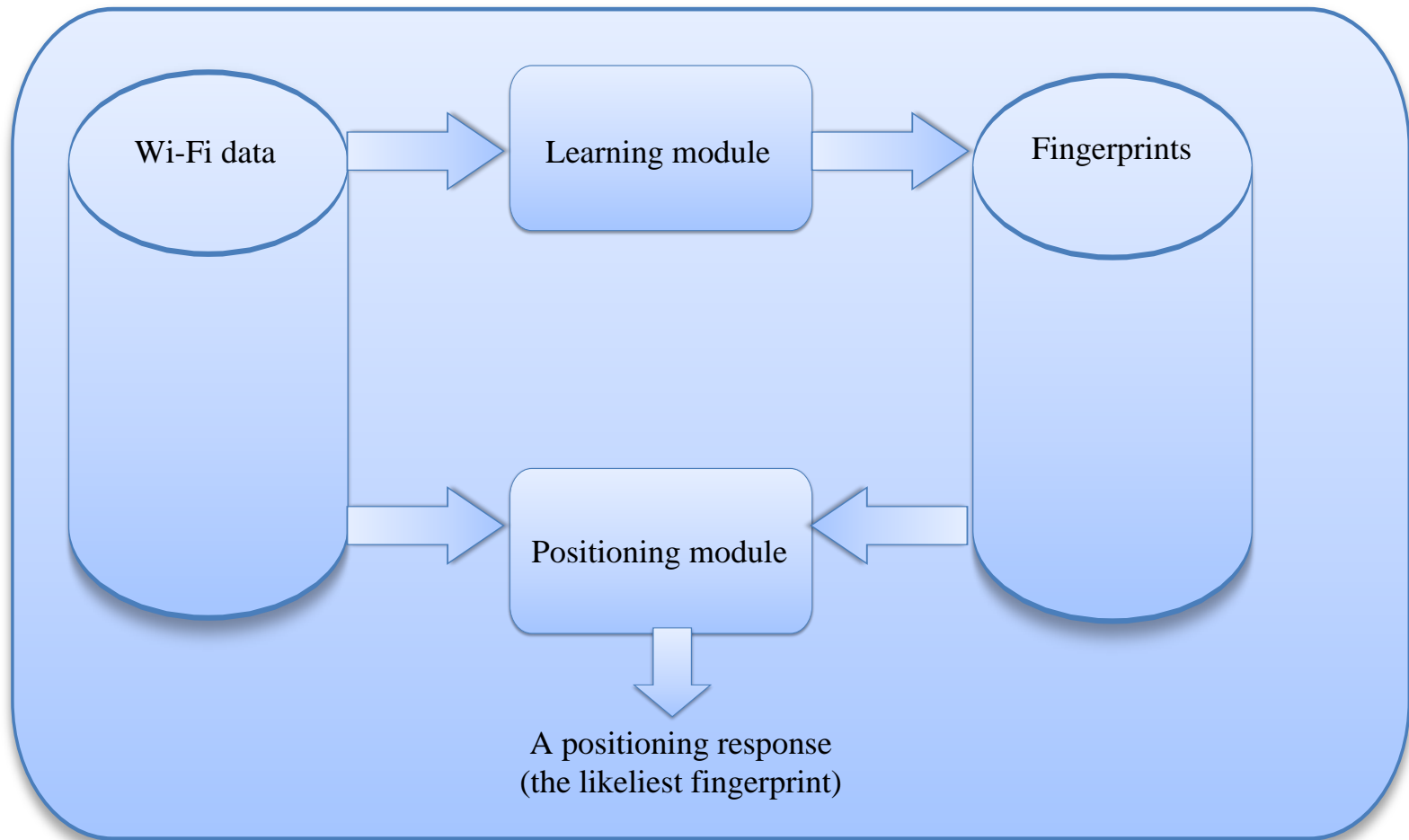
# Concepts

- Wi-Fi fingerprint
  - Wi-Fi information sensed at a location



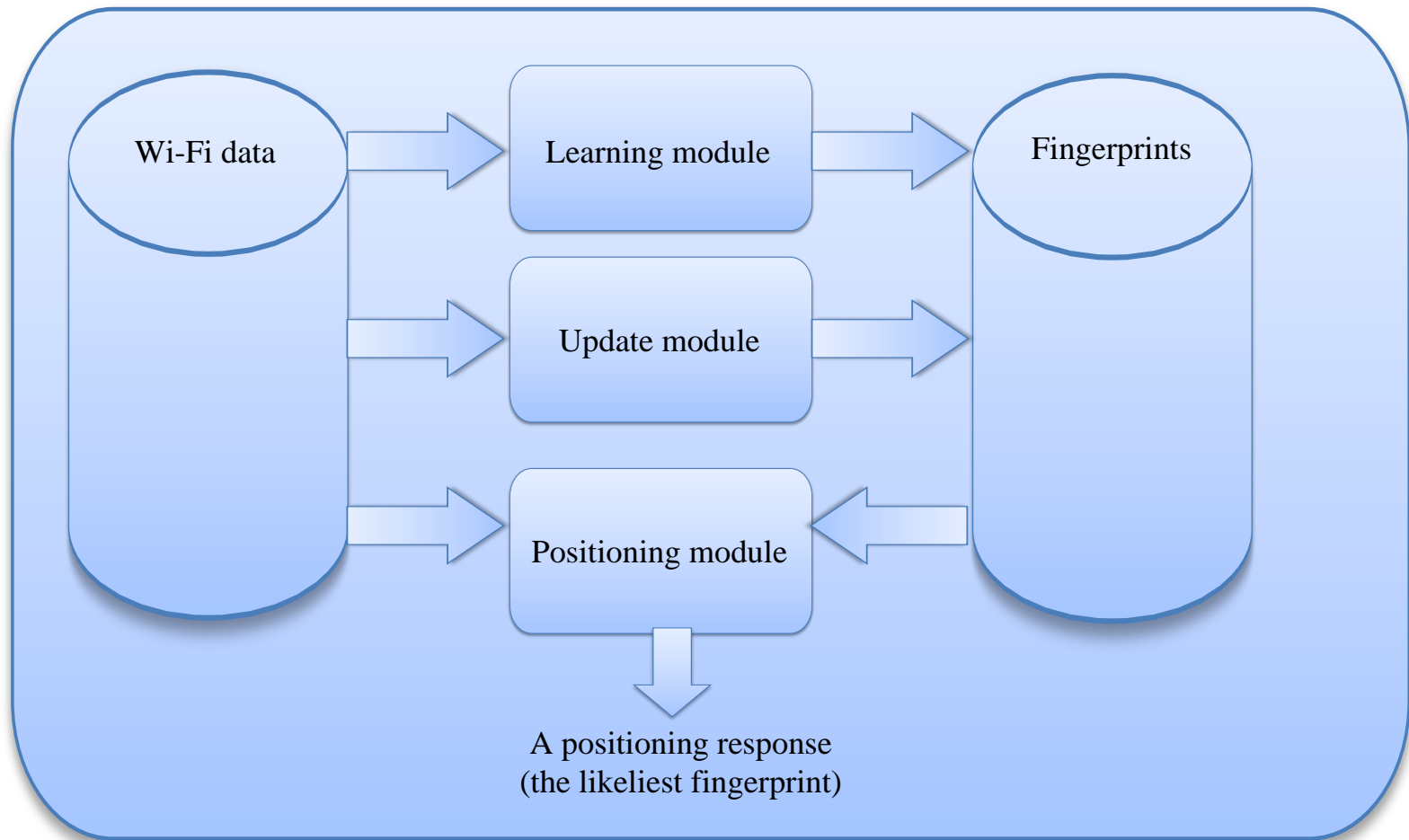
- Wi-Fi fingerprint
  - Wi-Fi information sensed at a location
- Wi-Fi fingerprinting
  - practice of recording the fingerprint of Wi-Fi signal
  - the method of finding the particular pattern of Wi-Fi signal in a particular location
- Wi-Fi fingerprint database
  - a database which contains the generated fingerprints
  - radio map

# Overview of Wi-Fi fingerprinting System



Source: [1]

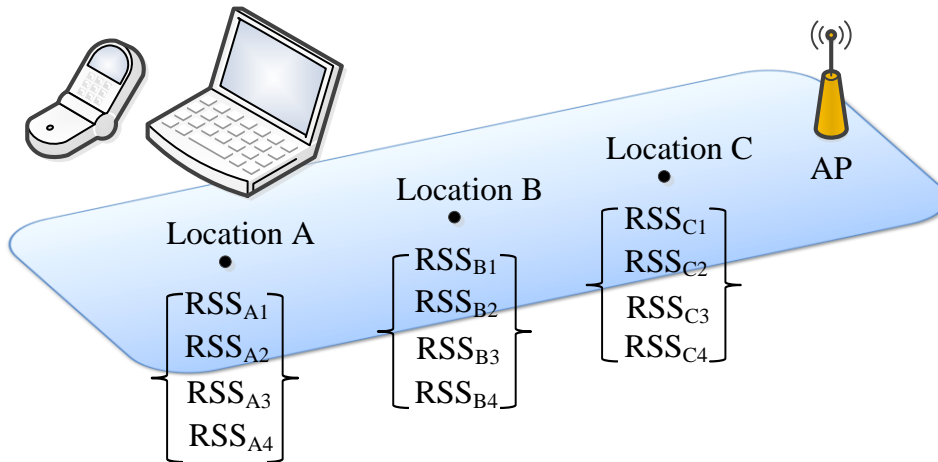
# Overview of Wi-Fi fingerprinting System



Source: [1]

# Overview of Wi-Fi fingerprinting System

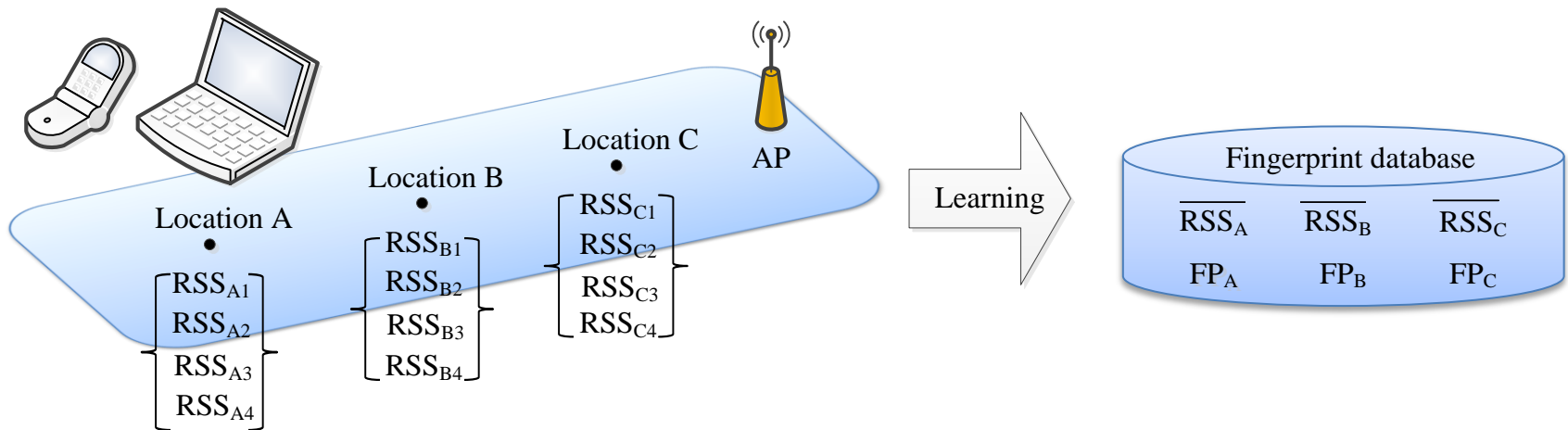
- Learning phase (training, offline phase)
  - Collecting Wi-Fi data
  - Generating Wi-Fi fingerprint: building a database containing Wi-Fi fingerprints



Source: [1]

# Overview of Wi-Fi fingerprinting System

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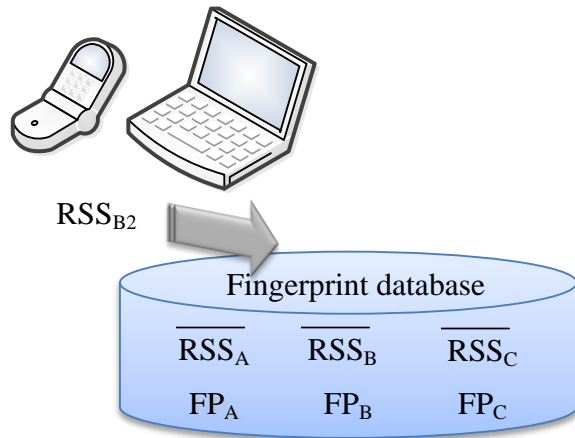


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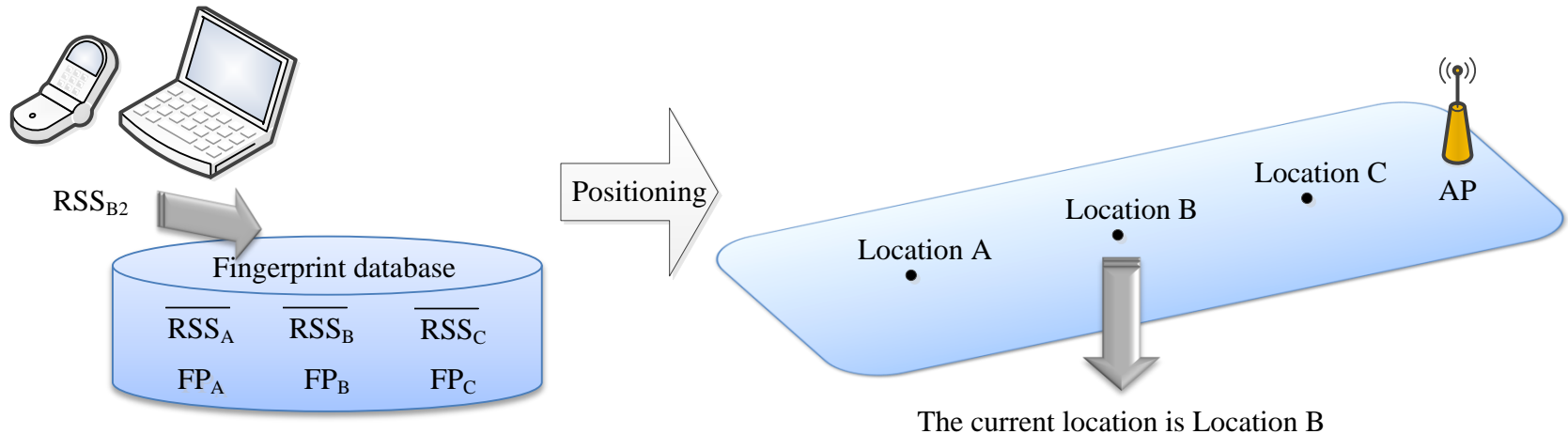
- Positioning phase (testing, online phase)
  - Comparing the current Wi-Fi scans with the FP database to infer the location



Source: [1]

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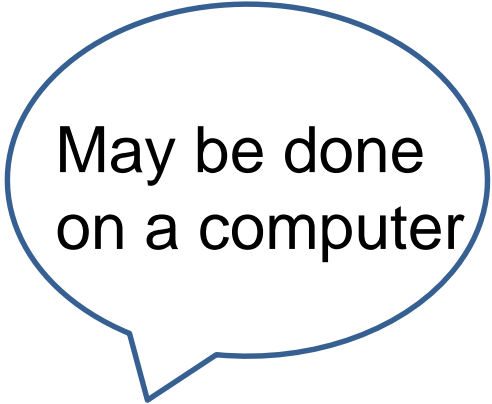
# Components of Wi-Fi fingerprinting System



- Wi-Fi APs
  - broadcast Wi-Fi signal
- Mobile devices
  - collect the Wi-Fi RSS from APs
  - manage fingerprint database
  - execute the learning and positioning algorithms
  - user interface (UI)
- Users
  - carry the mobile device in their daily lives
  - interact with the mobile device through the UI.

# Components of Wi-Fi fingerprinting System

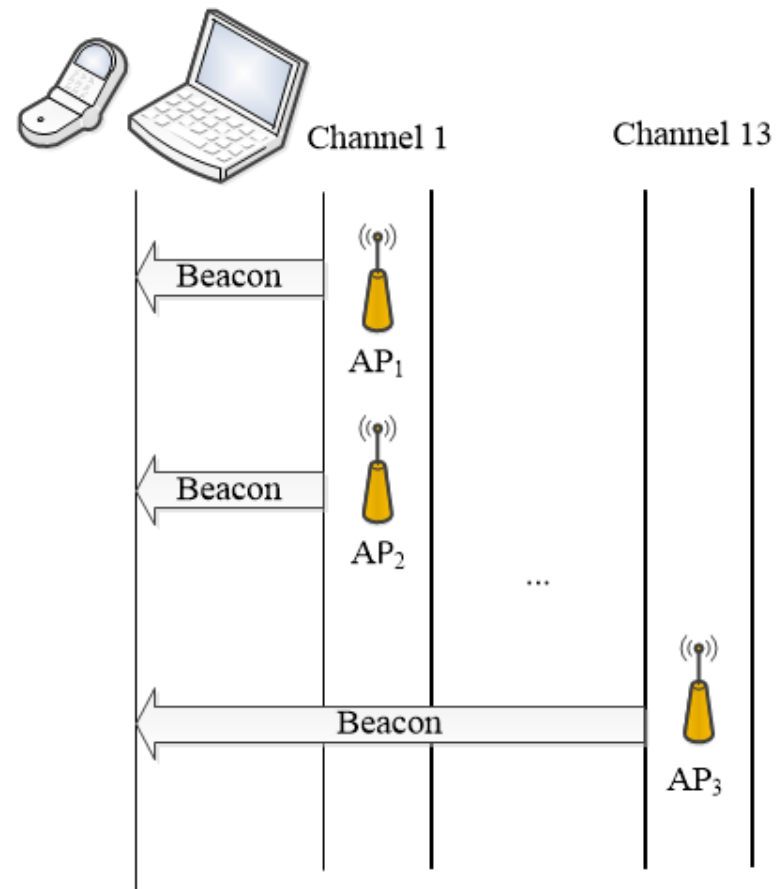
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May be done  
on a computer

# Scanning methods

- Passive scanning
  - Moves to each channel in the channel list
  - Listen to the beacon frames from nearby APs

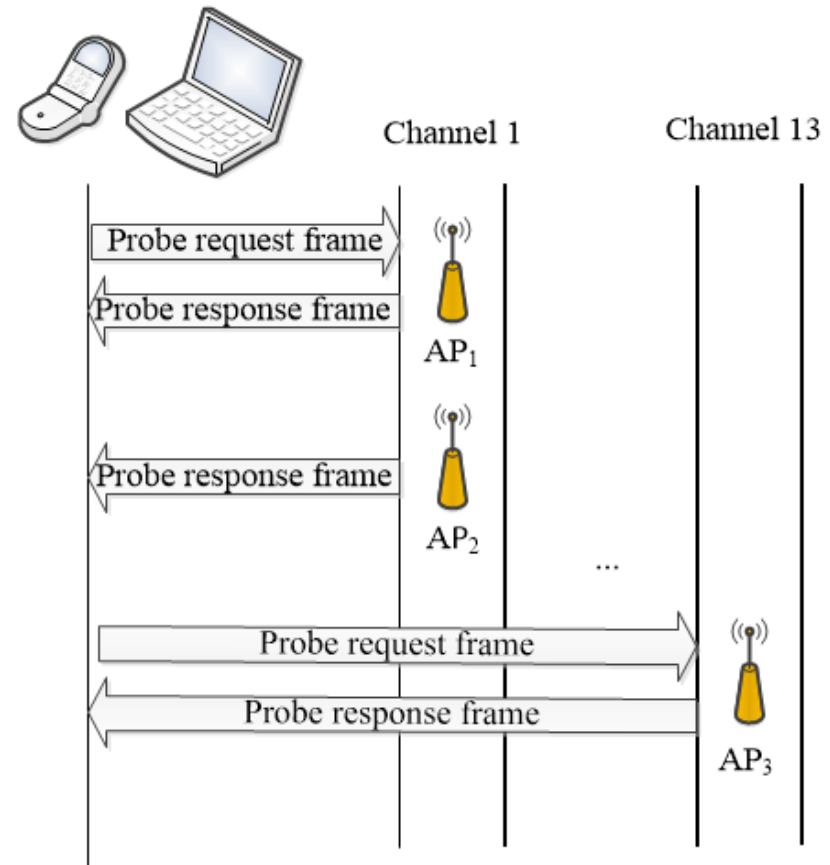


Passive scanning

Source: [1]

# Scanning methods

- Active scanning:
  - Mobile device transmits a Probe Request frame on each of the channel
  - Wait to receive response from any APs
  - Move on to the next channel
  - This process is iterated until all channels have been scanned



Source: [1]

# Wi-Fi collection approaches

- Grid-based
  - split a selected area into many small grids
  - measure Wi-Fi signal in those grids
- Interpolation-based
  - measure Wi-Fi data in observed locations
  - based on the fingerprints of the observed locations, interpolate fingerprints for other locations
- Path survey (War-driving)
  - collect Wi-Fi data when moving
  - record the walking distances at the same time

# Wi-Fi collection approaches

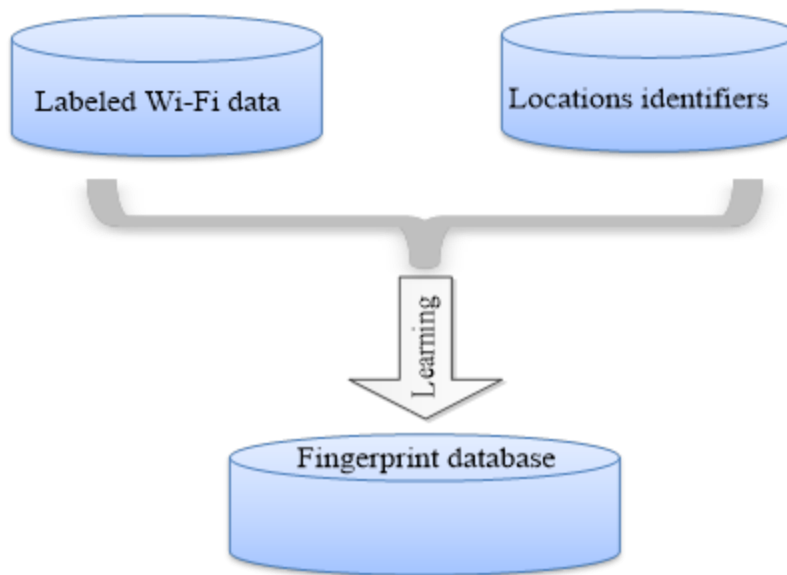


- Dead Reckoning
  - infer location based on previously determined locations
  - combine with the traveled distance and the direction of movement
- Place learning
  - discover the significant locations where people spend much time by analyzing various sensor data
- Crowdsourcing
  - Using raw Wi-Fi data, fingerprints contributed by different users, devices



# Learning approaches

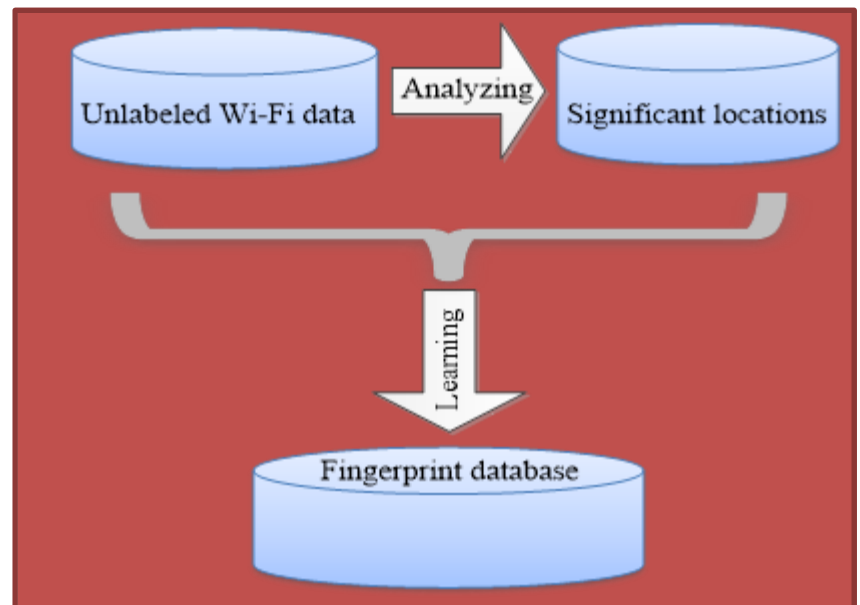
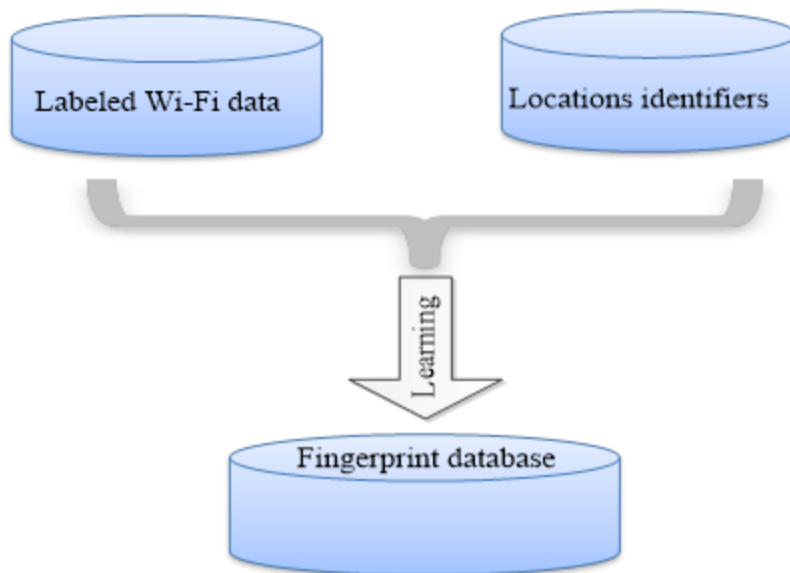
- Supervised
- Semi supervised



Source: [1]

# Learning approaches

- Supervised
- Semi supervised
- **Unsupervised**



Source: [1]

# Fingerprint feature

- Deterministic technique

- Mean RSS value

$$FP_l = \{MAC_1: \overline{RSS_1}, \dots, MAC_p: \overline{RSS_p}\} \mid (p \in \mathbb{N}_+)$$

- Wi-Fi scan

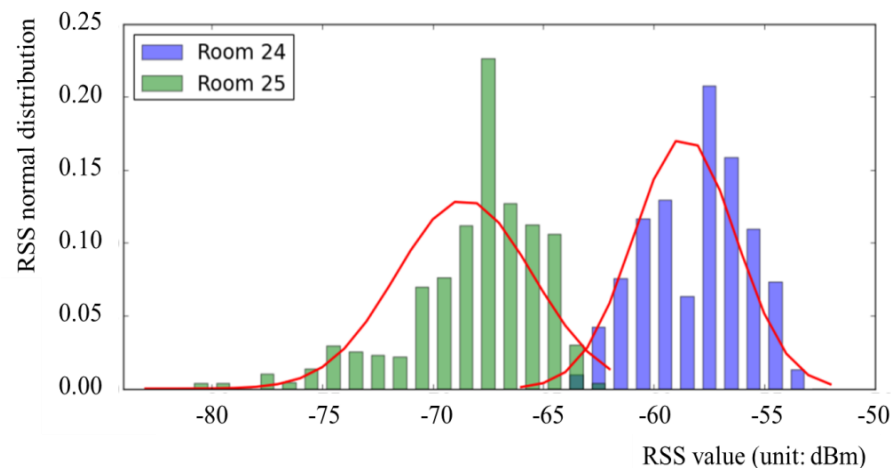
$$S_l^i = \{MAC_1: RSS_1^i, \dots, MAC_p: RSS_p^i\} \mid (i, p \in \mathbb{N}_+)$$

- RSS range

00:24:fe:04:b2:d3 : [-58, -66]  
00:24:fe:ac:72:02 : [-71, -79]

- RSS histogram

$MAC_i$ : MAC address of  $AP_i$   
 $\overline{RSS_i}$ : averaged received signal strength of  $AP_i$



Source: [1]

- Deterministic technique

- Wi-Fi ratio: the RSS ratio between pairs of APs

$$r(AP_i, AP_j) = \frac{RSS_i}{RSS_j} \mid (i, j \in \mathbb{N}_+; i < j)$$

- RSS difference: the differences between pairs of APs

$$d(AP_i, AP_j) = RSS_i - RSS_j \mid 1 \leq i < j \leq n$$

- AP rank: rank values are assigned to APs based on their RSS

$$FP_i = \{1: MAC_i, \dots, p: MAC_i\} \mid (RSS_i \geq RSS_j; i, j, p \in \mathbb{N}_+)$$

- The response rate: the times of sensing the AP divided by the times of scans.

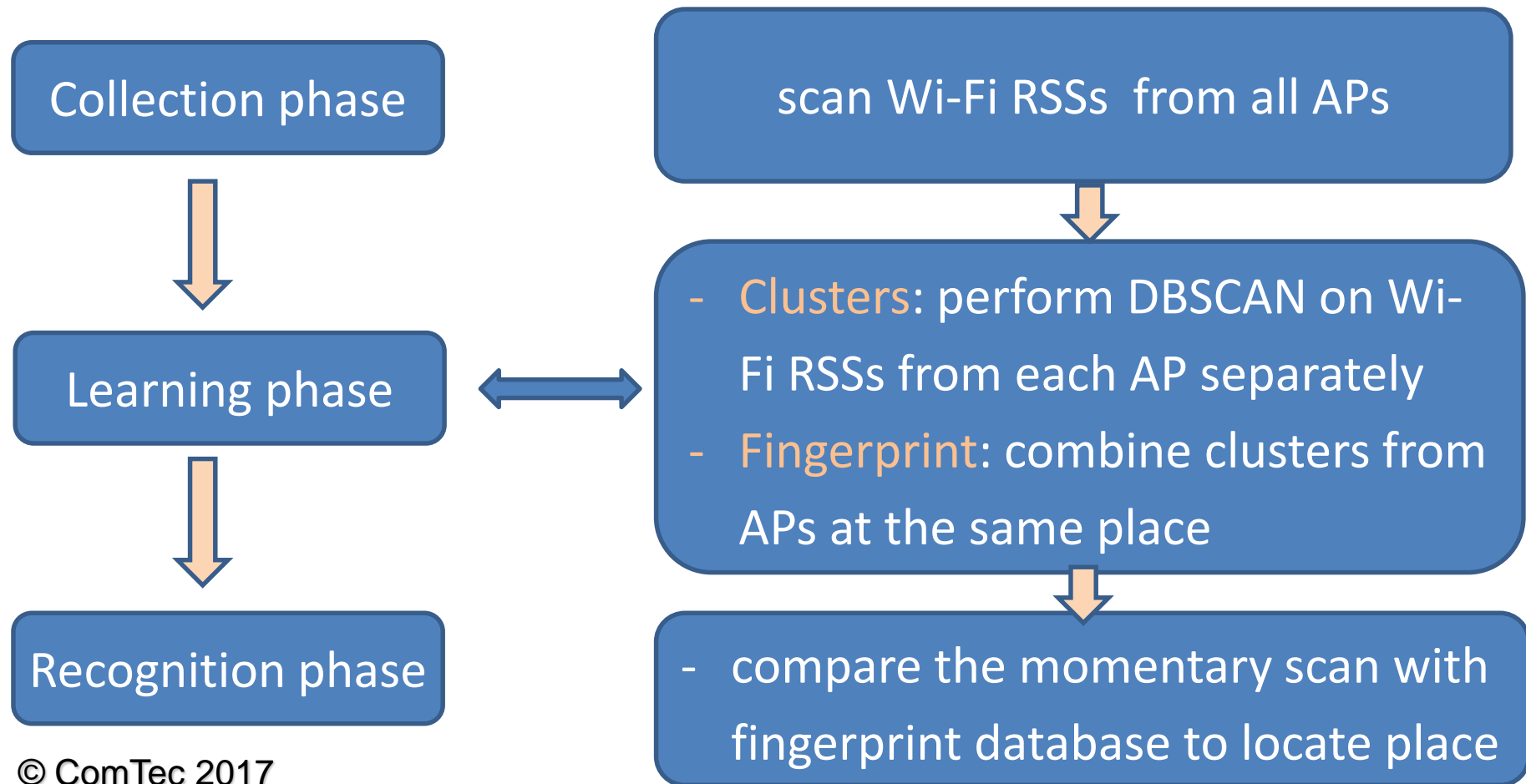
MAC<sub>i</sub>: MAC address of AP<sub>i</sub>  
RSS<sub>i</sub>: received signal strength of AP<sub>i</sub>

- Probabilistic technique
  - Gaussian distribution
    - In case the RSS values of an AP are distributed as a Gaussian model.
    - A statistical signature, as a fingerprint, is generated for each location by using the Gaussian model.
  - Non-Gaussian distribution
    - In case the RSS distribution is non-Gaussian, an improved double-peak Gaussian distribution has been proposed to approximate the RSS distribution.
  - Log-normal distribution
    - The RSS distribution may be asymmetric

- In meter
  - how close is the estimated location to the true location indicated as *error distance (m)*
- Room level
  - locating a user within a room

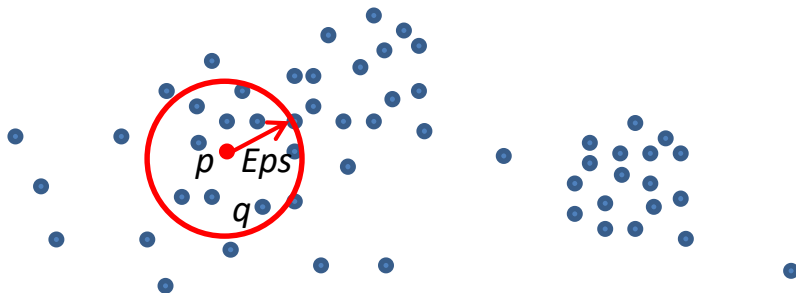
# DCCLA algorithm

- Wi-Fi Fingerprinting-based localization
- Unsupervised Density-based Clustering method



# Density-based clustering

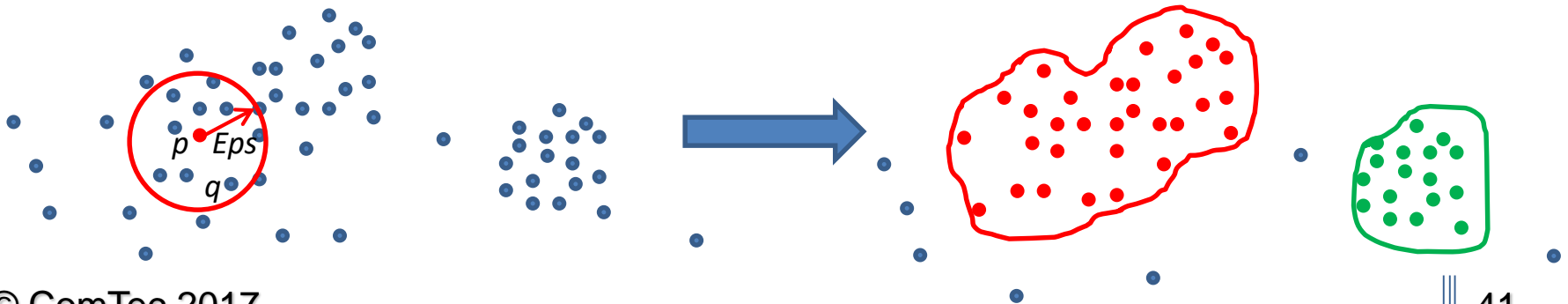
- the *density-based spatial clustering of applications with noise* (DBSCAN) algorithm utilizes concepts of *neighborhood* and *neighborhood-density* to extract clusters.
- 2 parameters
  - *Eps*: radius of the neighborhood
  - *MinPts*: minimum number of points in a cluster





# Density-based clustering

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# Wi-Fi clustering using DBSCAN

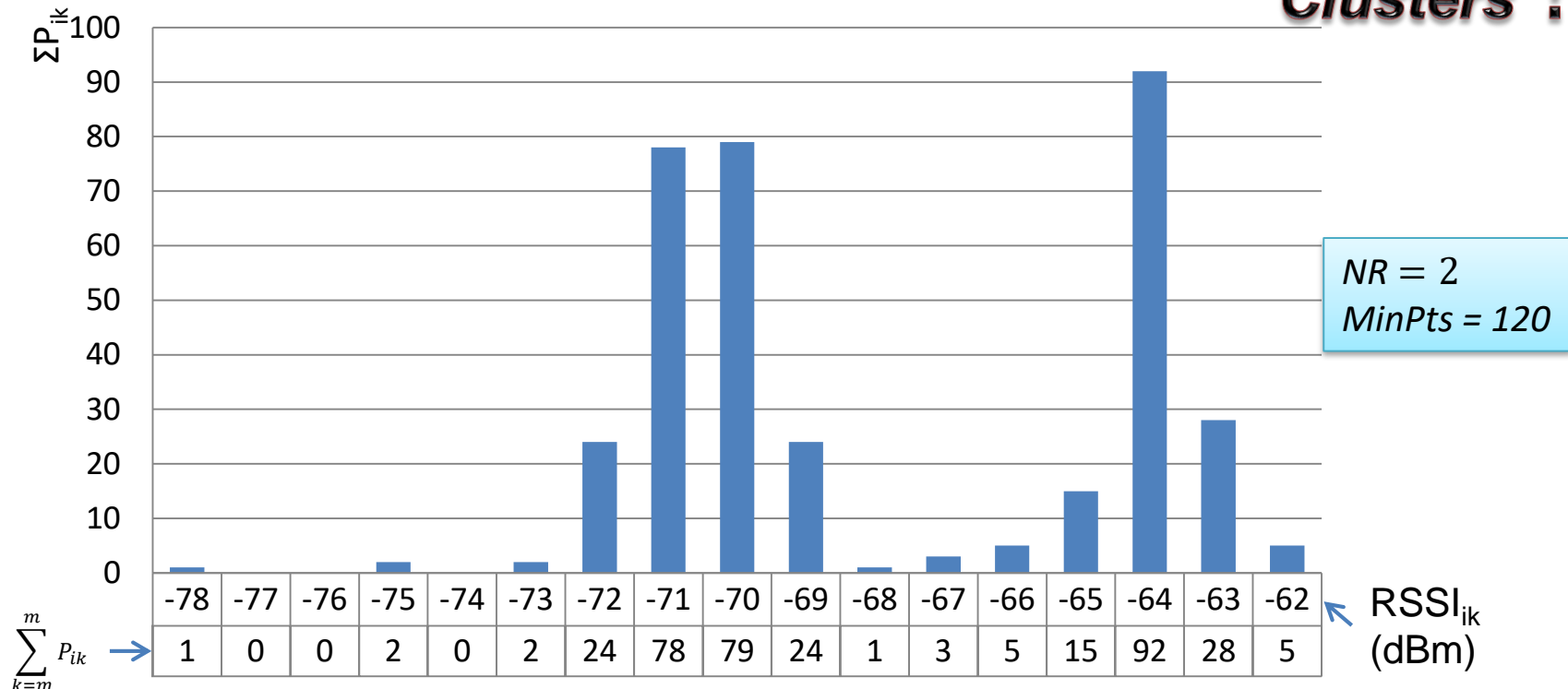


- Discover clusters
  - perform DBSCAN on each AP to discover high-density clusters.
  - cluster: consecutive RSS range with high RSS density
- Fingerprint
  - Clusters appear at the same time from different APs

# Wi-Fi clustering using DBSCAN

## Density-based Cluster Learning Algorithm

**Clusters ?**

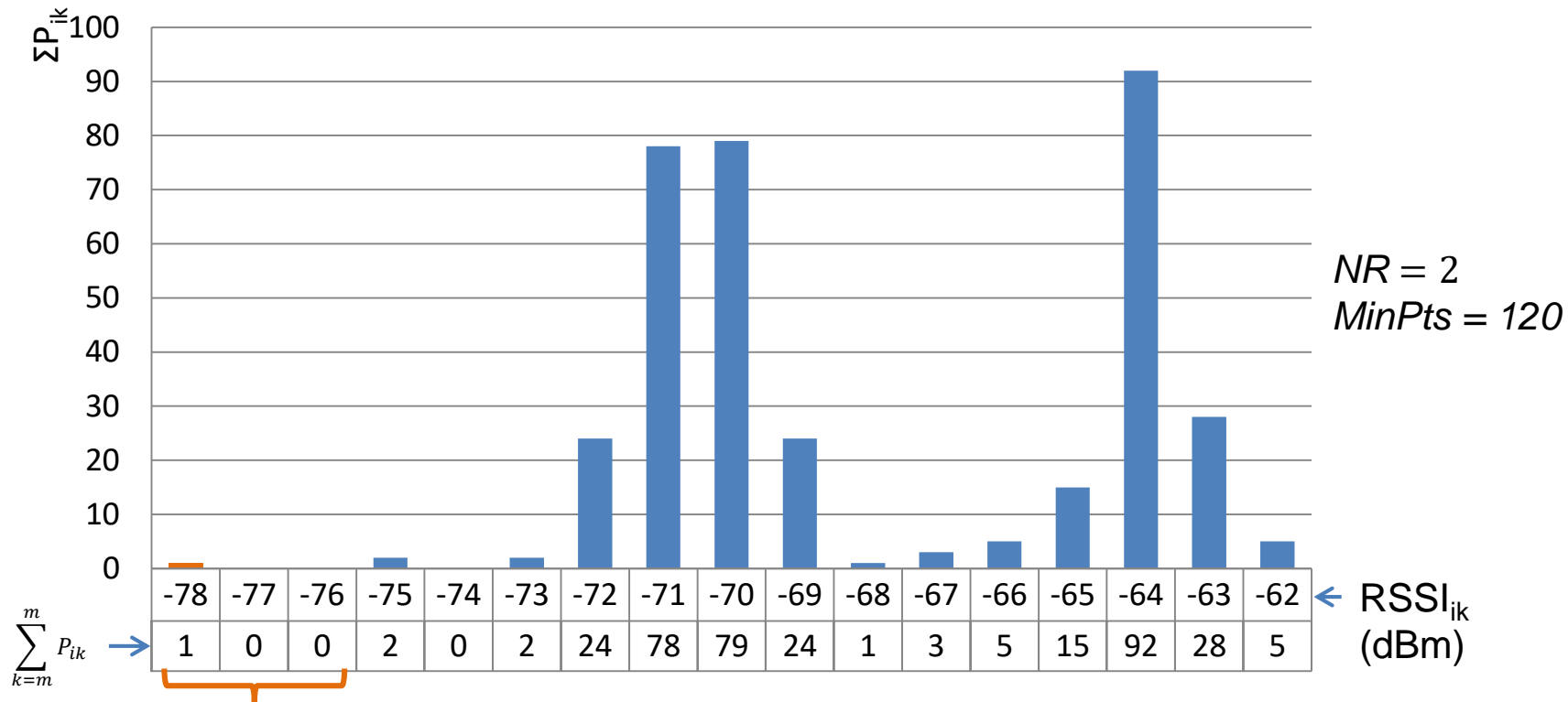


Data in a Wi-Fi database: collected in room 2408 between 09:00 - 09:30 on 15.08.2012.  $MAC_i = 00:0f:34:46:b5:0a$

$$\sum_{k=-78}^{-62} P_{ik} = 359$$

# Wi-Fi clustering using DBSCAN

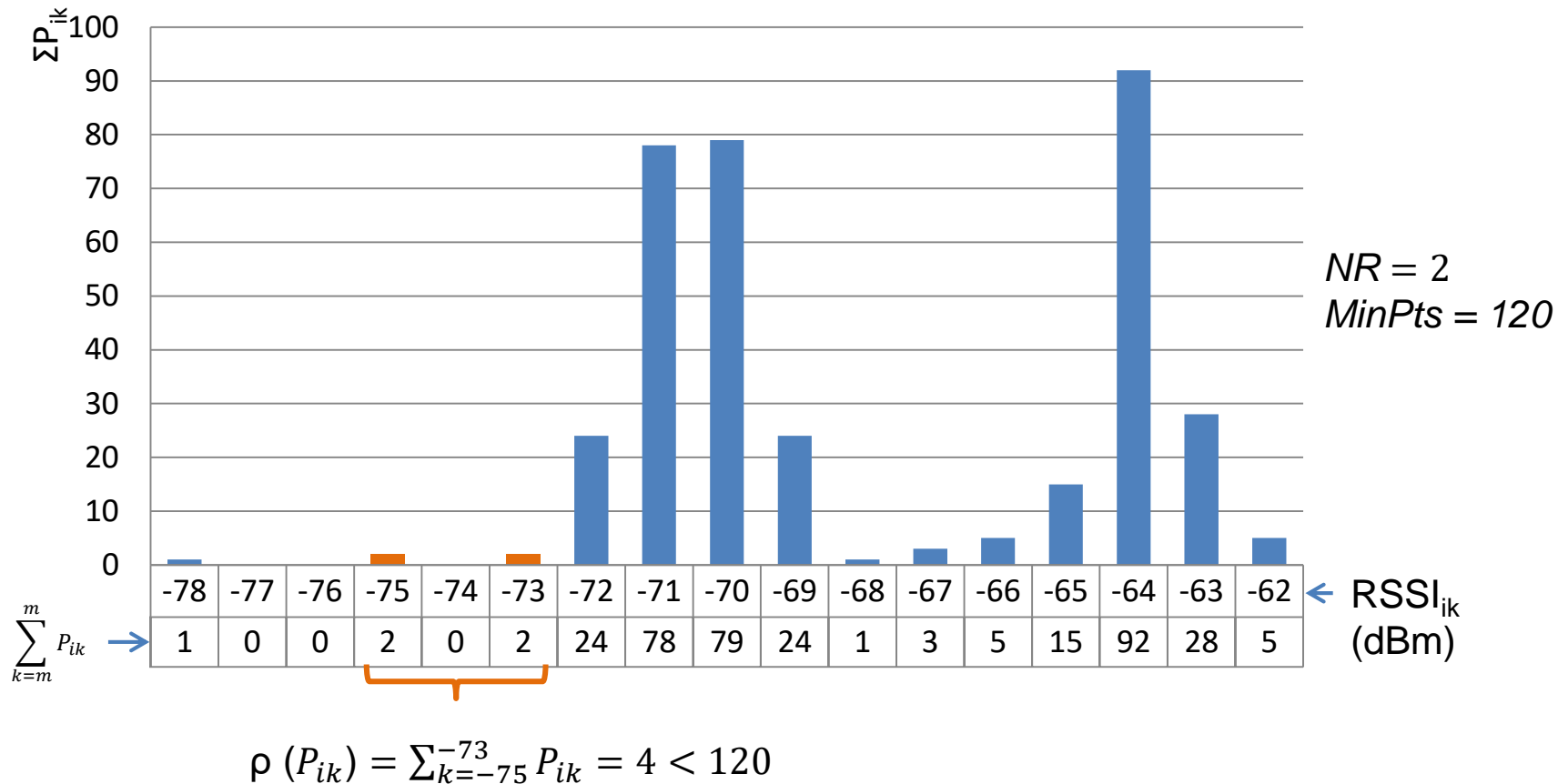
## Density-based Cluster Learning Algorithm



$$\rho(P_{ik}) = \sum_{k=-78}^{-76} P_{ik} = 1 < 120$$

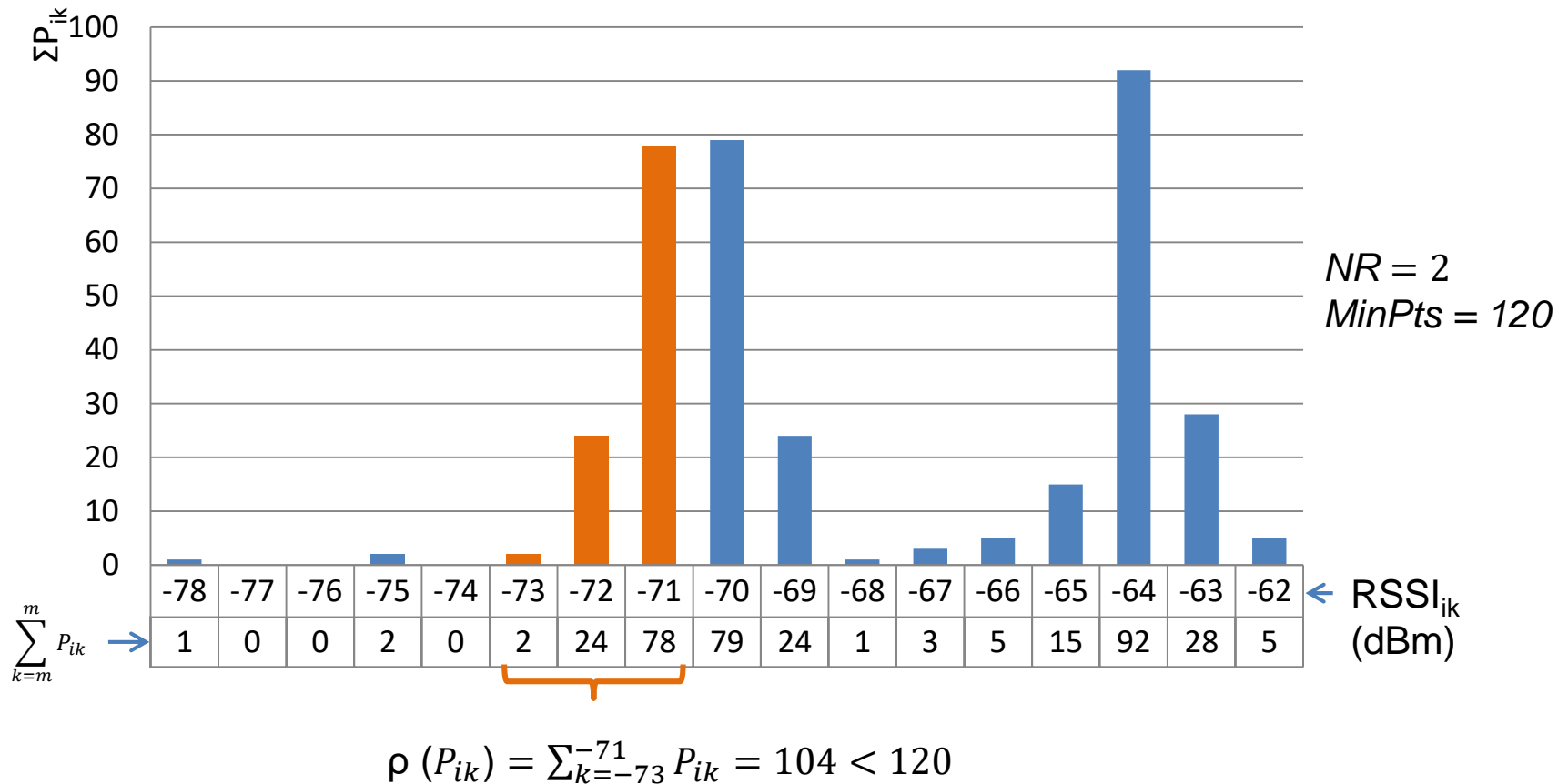
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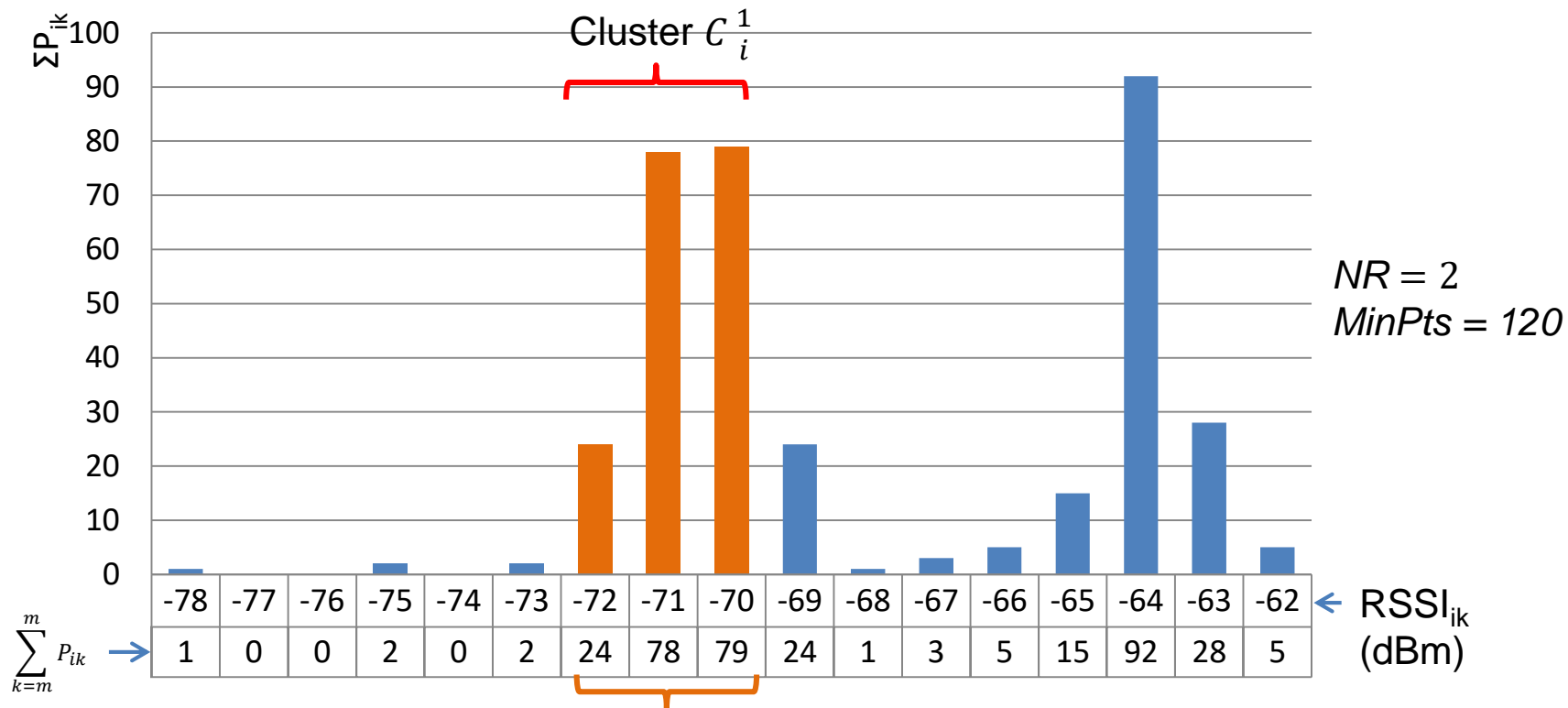
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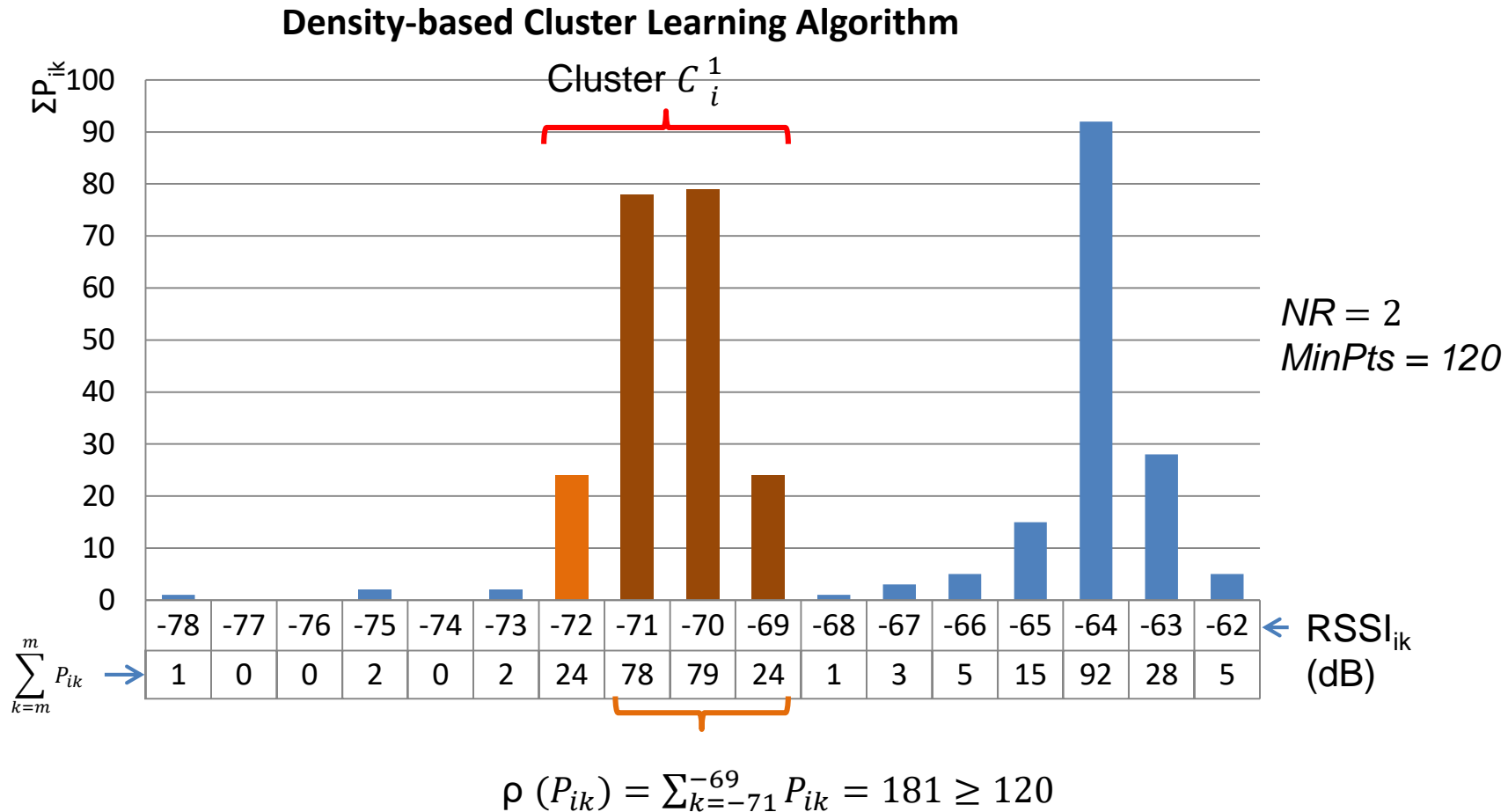
# Wi-Fi clustering using DBSCAN

## Density-based Cluster Learning Algorithm



$$\rho(P_{ik}) = \sum_{k=-72}^{-70} P_{ik} = 181 \geq 120$$

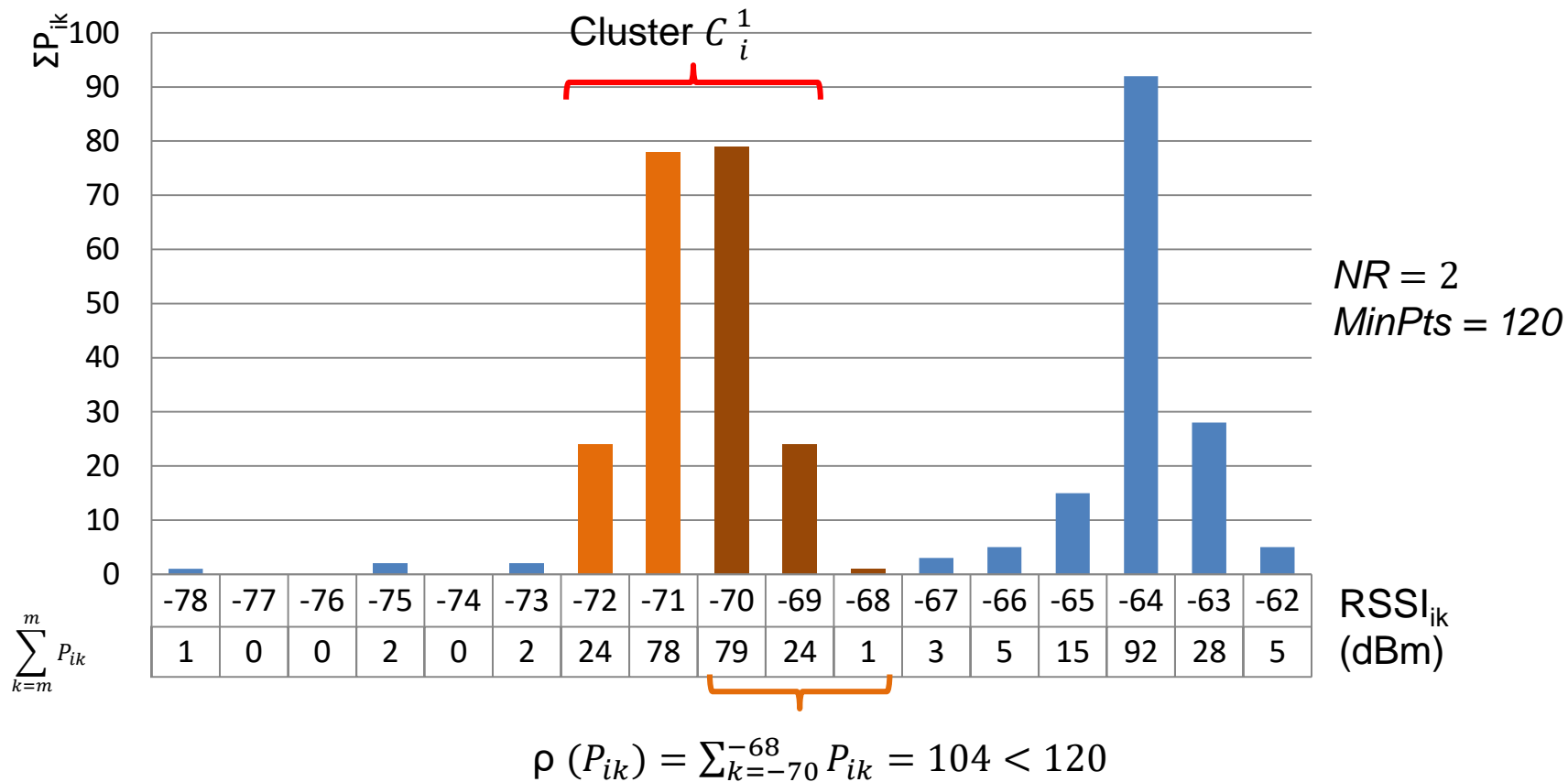
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# Wi-Fi clustering using DBSCAN

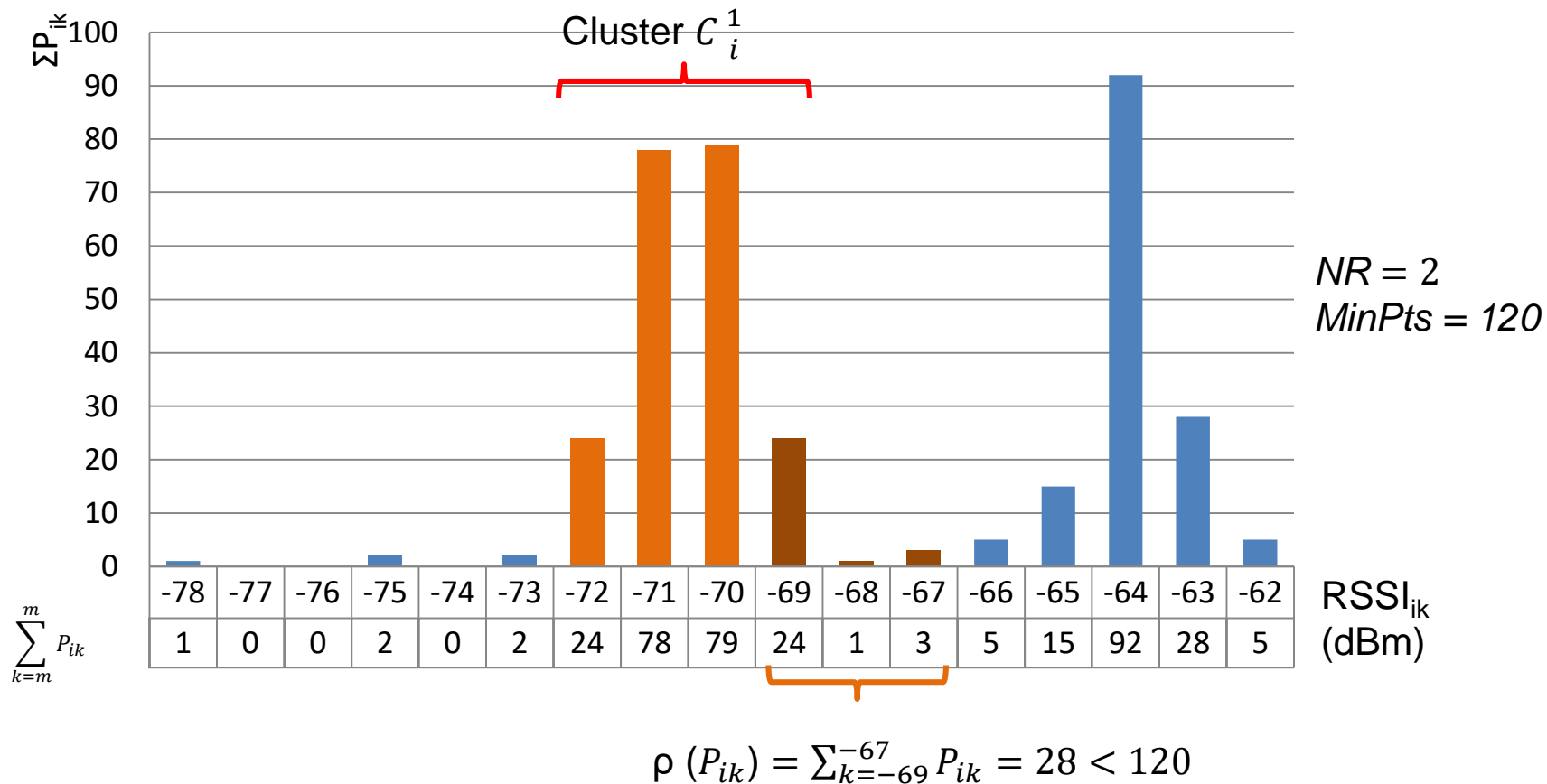
## Density-based Cluster Learning Algorithm



Note: if  $\rho(P_{ik}) < 120$ , the density check will continue, since  $P_{ik}$  with  $RSSI_{ik} = -69$  dB still belongs to the cluster  $C_i^1$

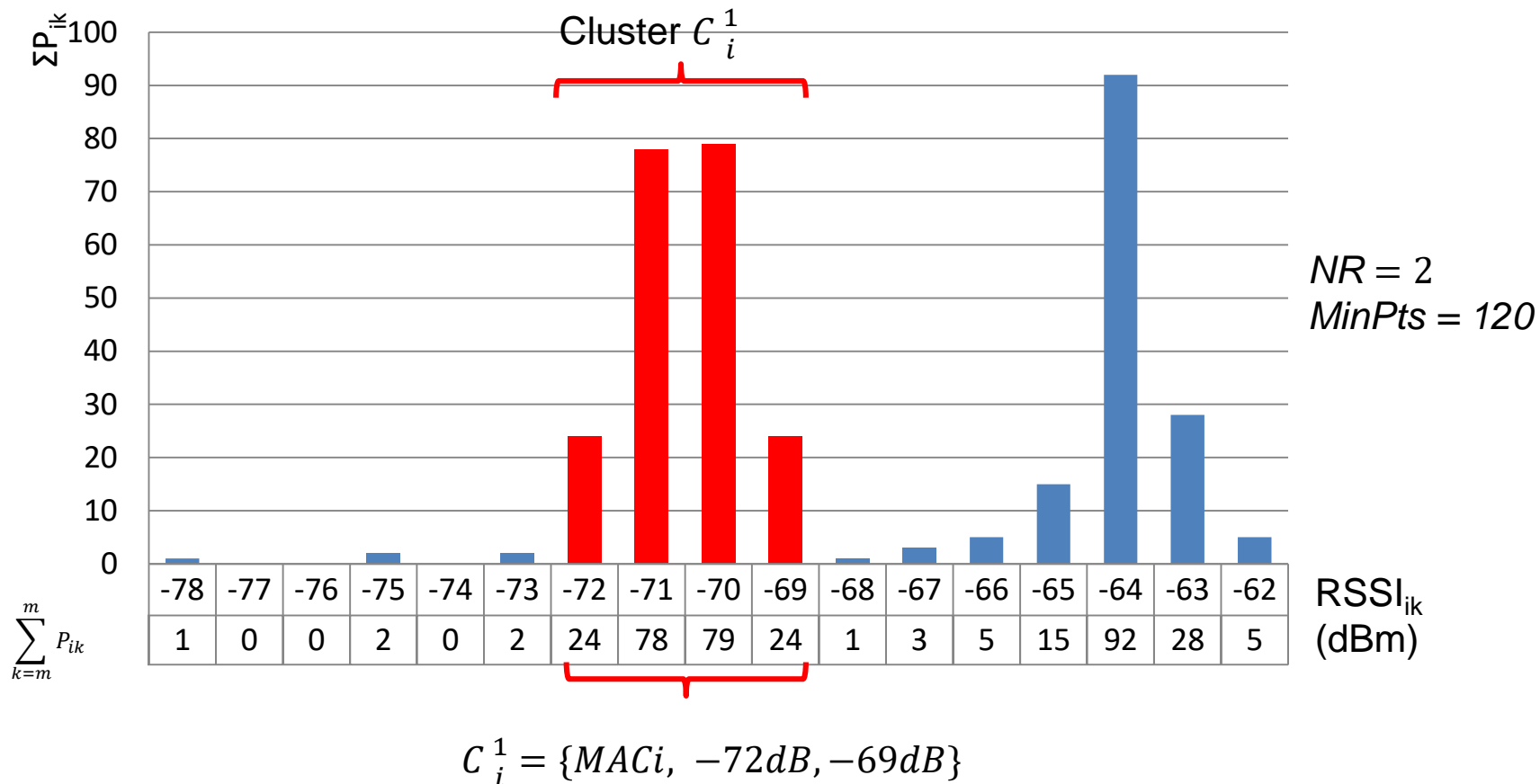
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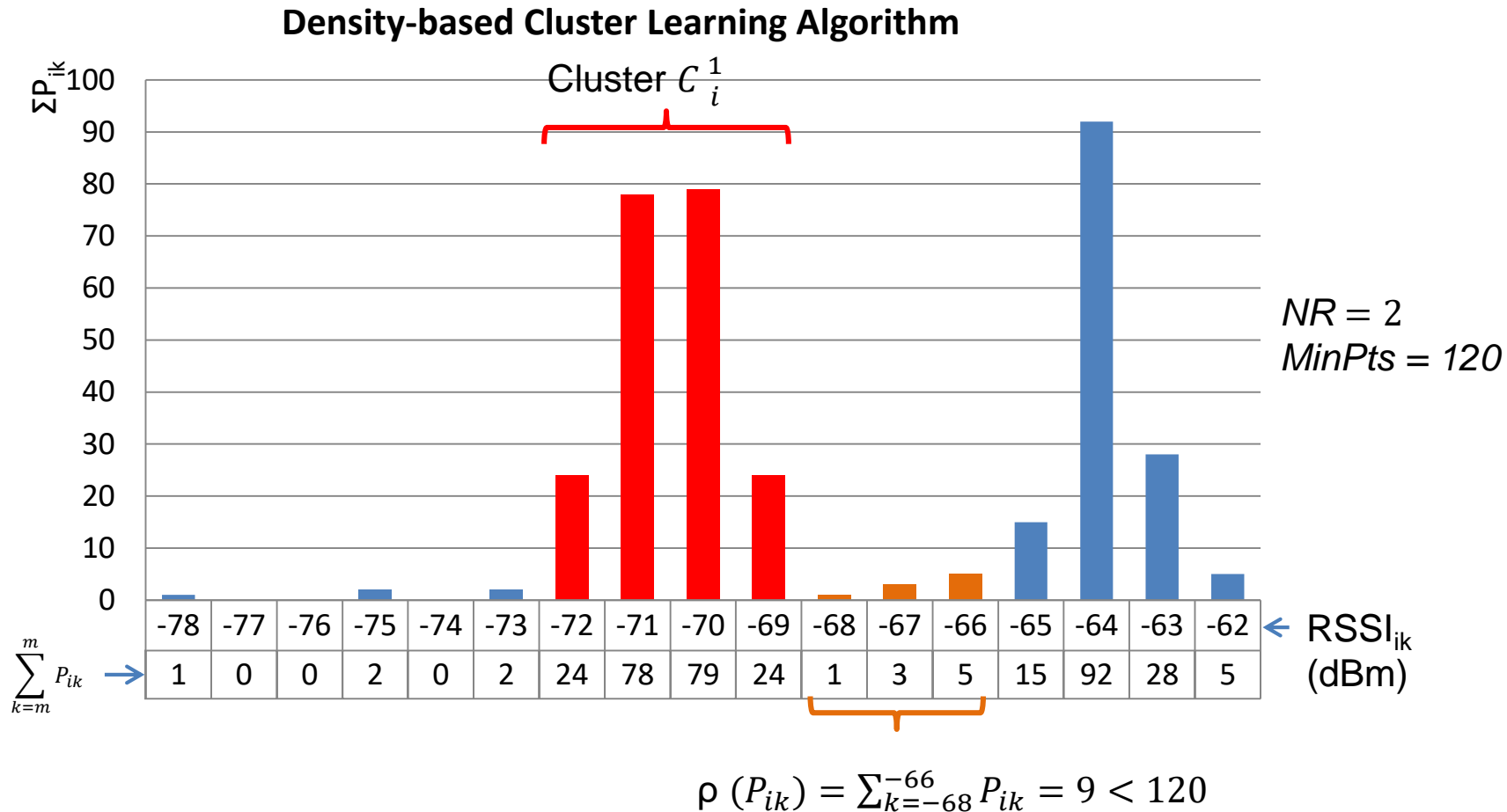


# Wi-Fi clustering using DBSCAN

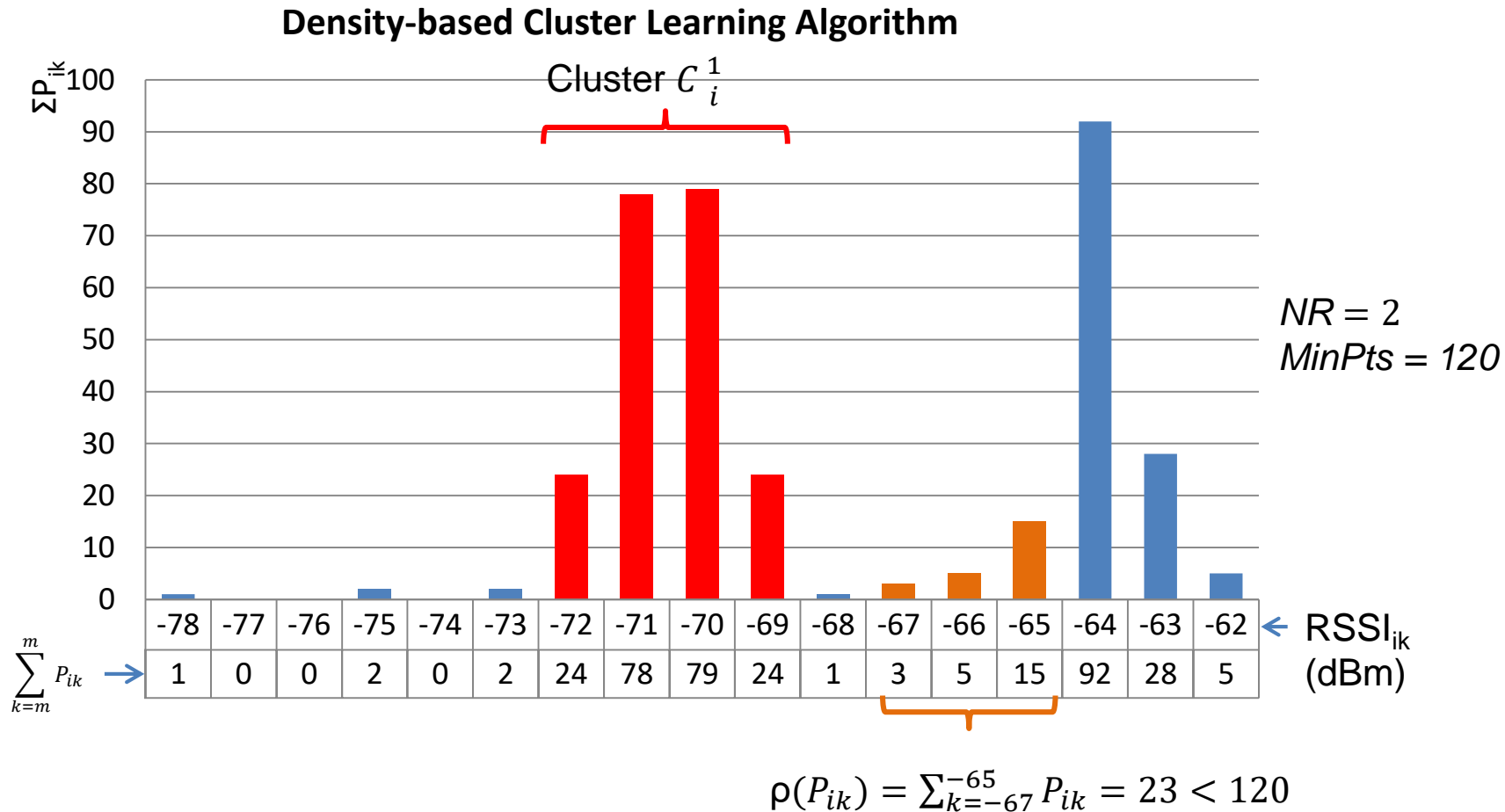
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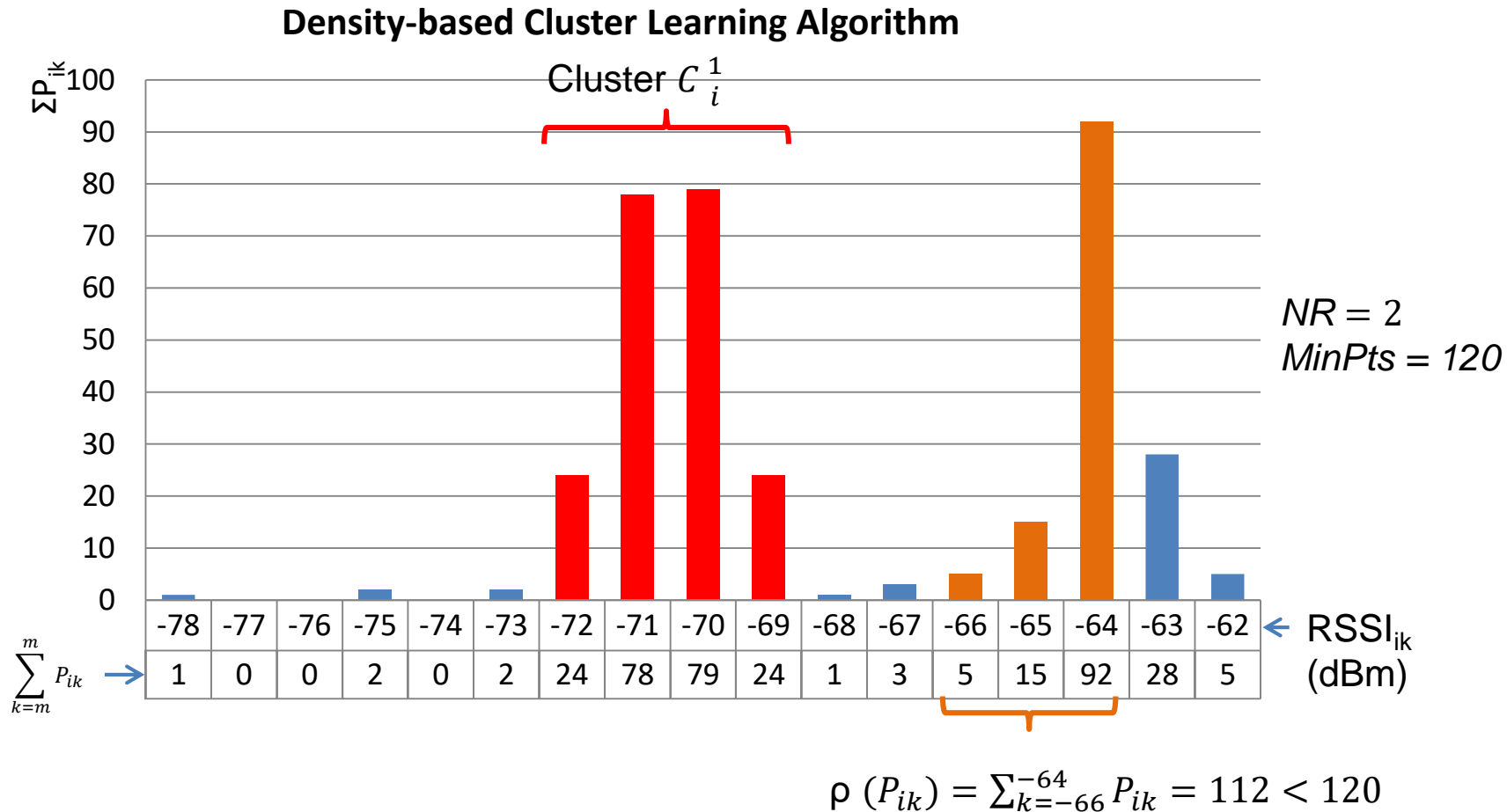
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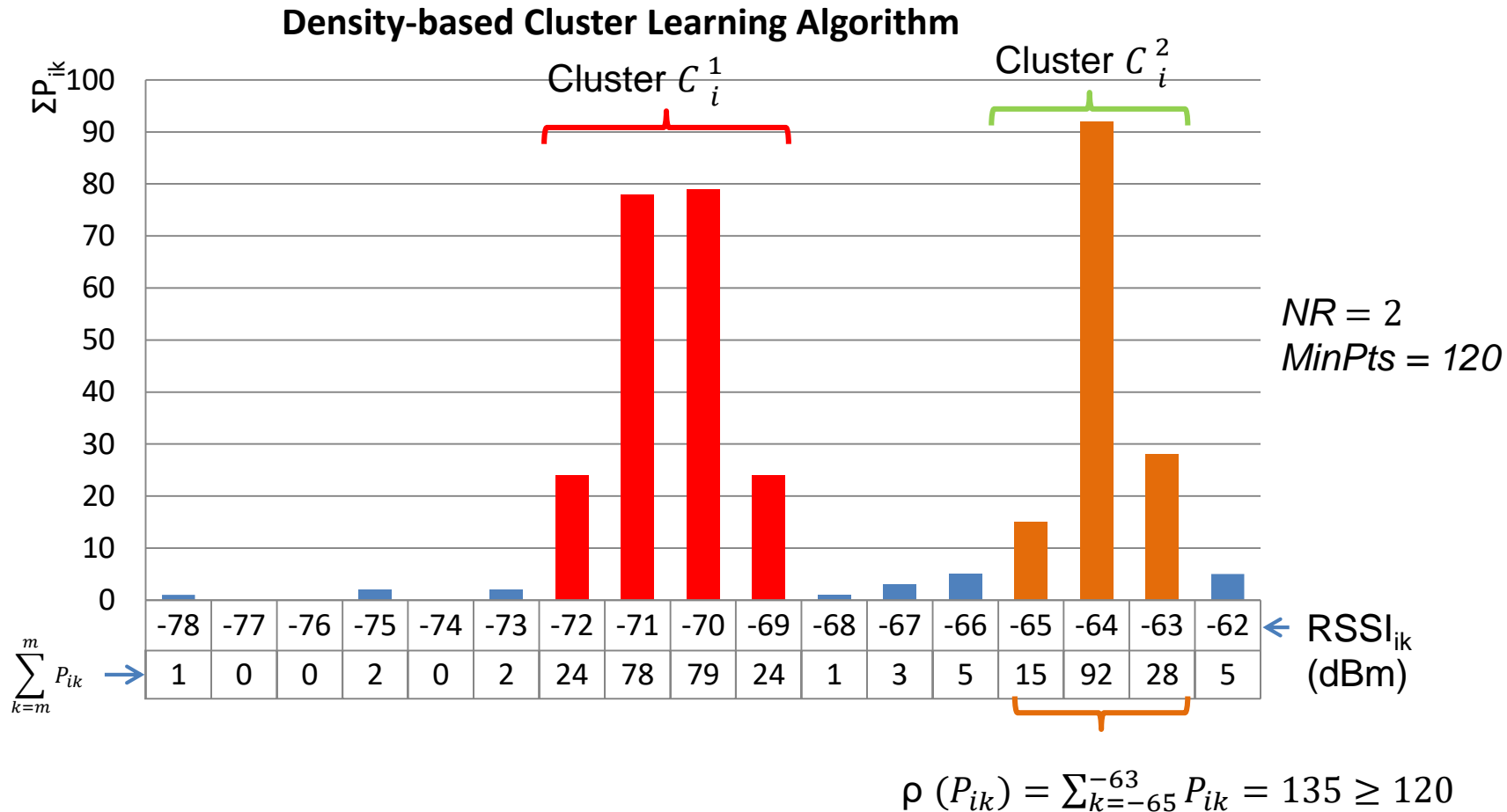
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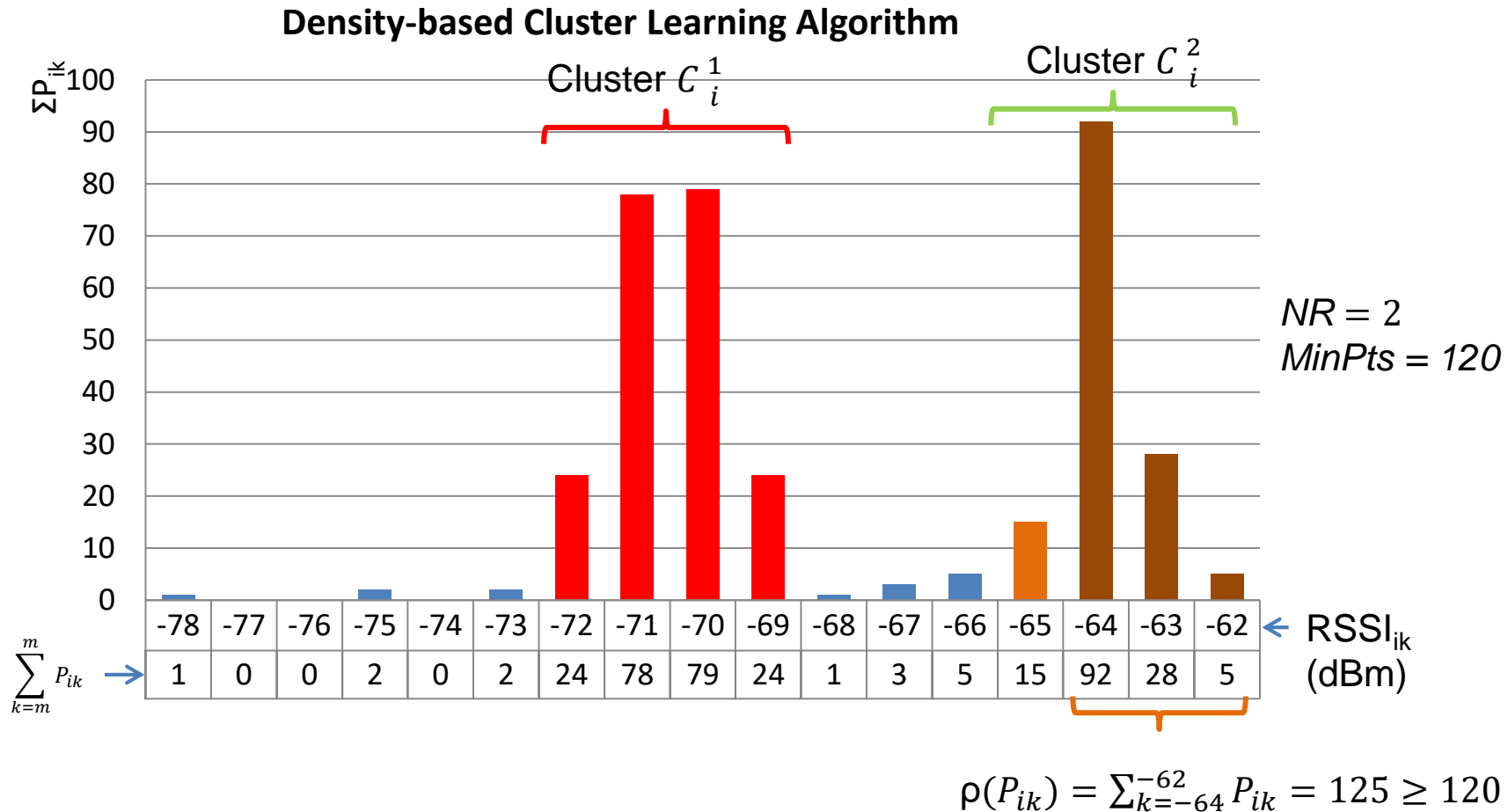
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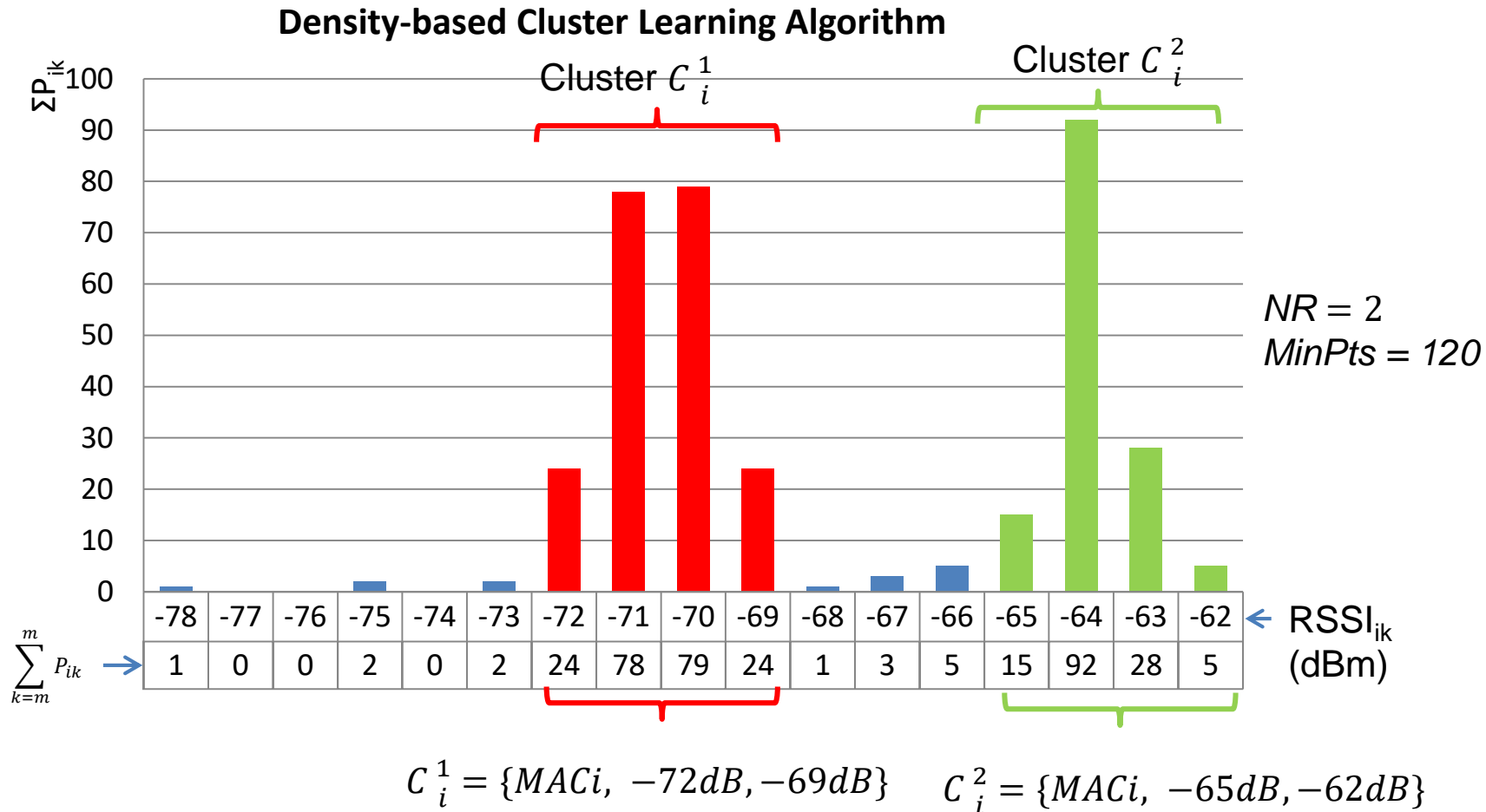


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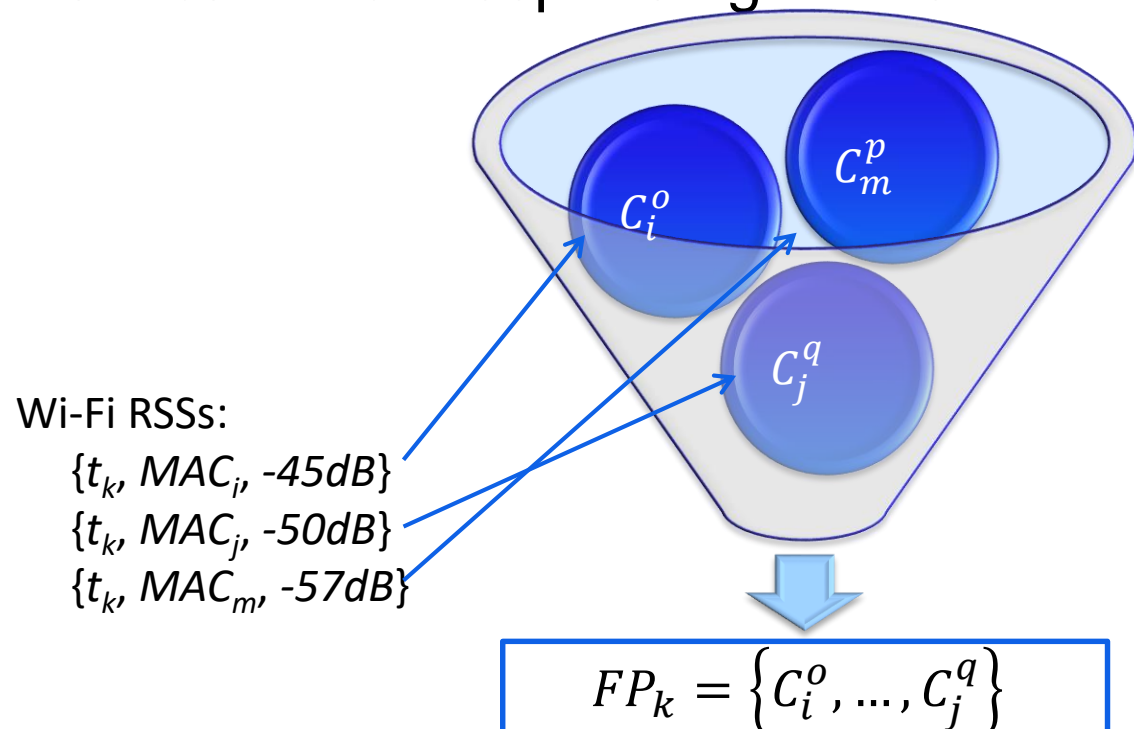


# Wi-Fi clustering using DBSCAN



# Positioning phase

- Compare the current Wi-Fi RSSs with learned Wi-Fi fingerprints
- The user returns to a location corresponding to this fingerprint



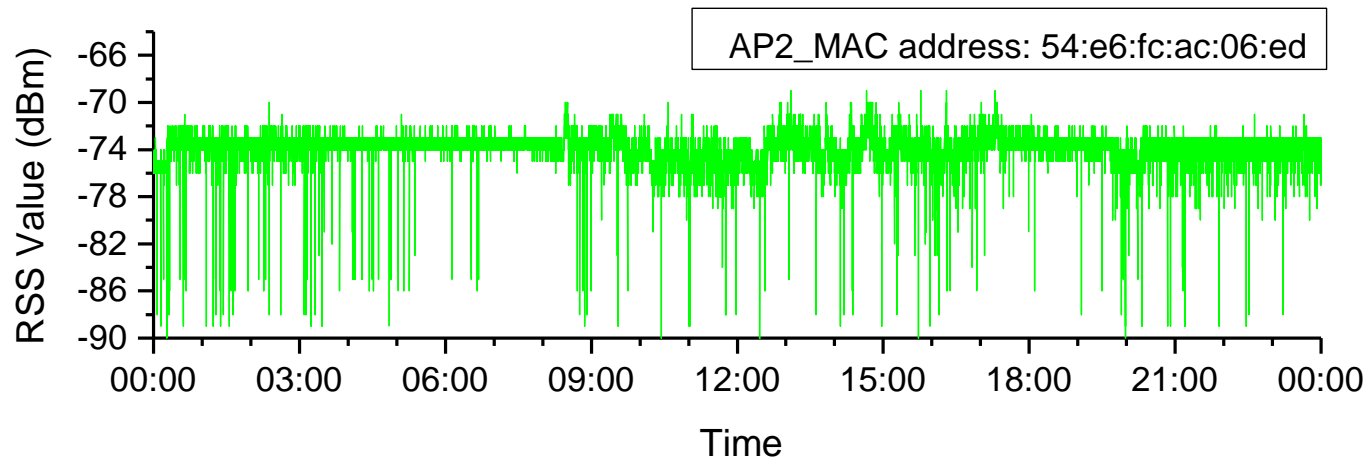
Source: [1]

# Common Positioning approaches

- Nearest neighbor
  - Euclidean distance, Manhattan distance
- Probabilistic framework
  - Estimating the likelihood function, e.g., histogram, kernel, Gaussian
- Neural network
- Support vector machine
- Filtering approaches

# RSS fluctuation

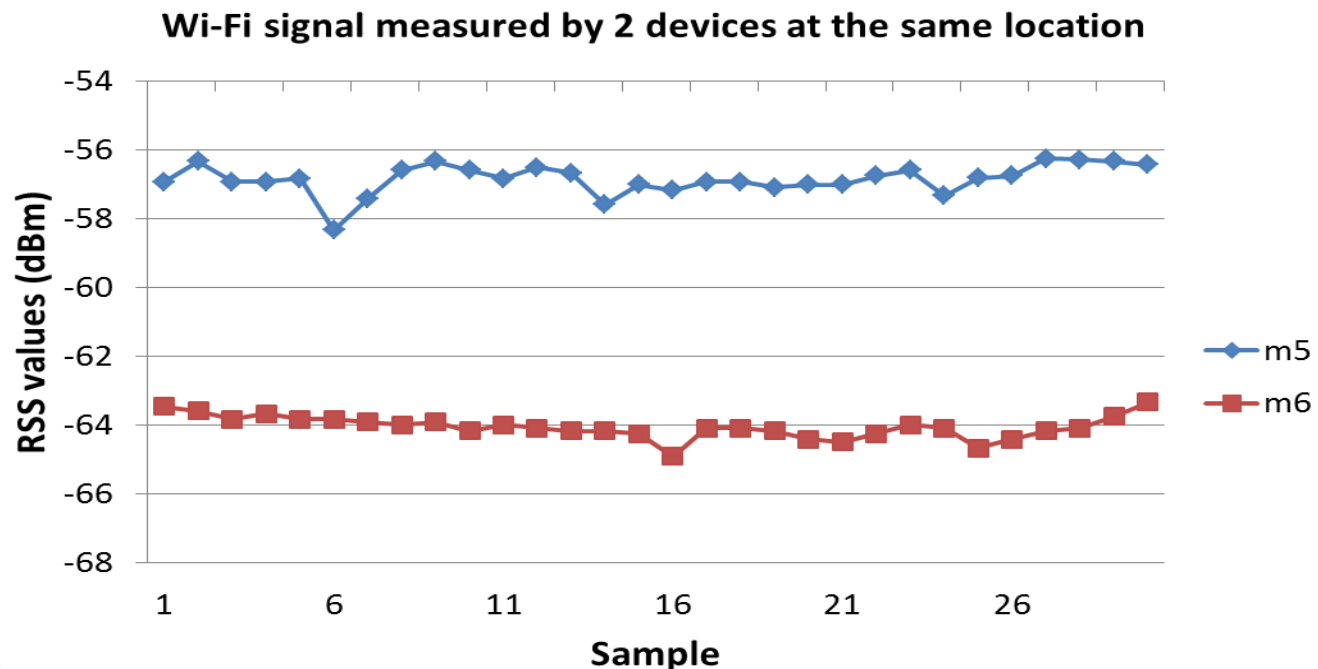
- Human presence
- Obstacles
- Change of environment



Source: [1]

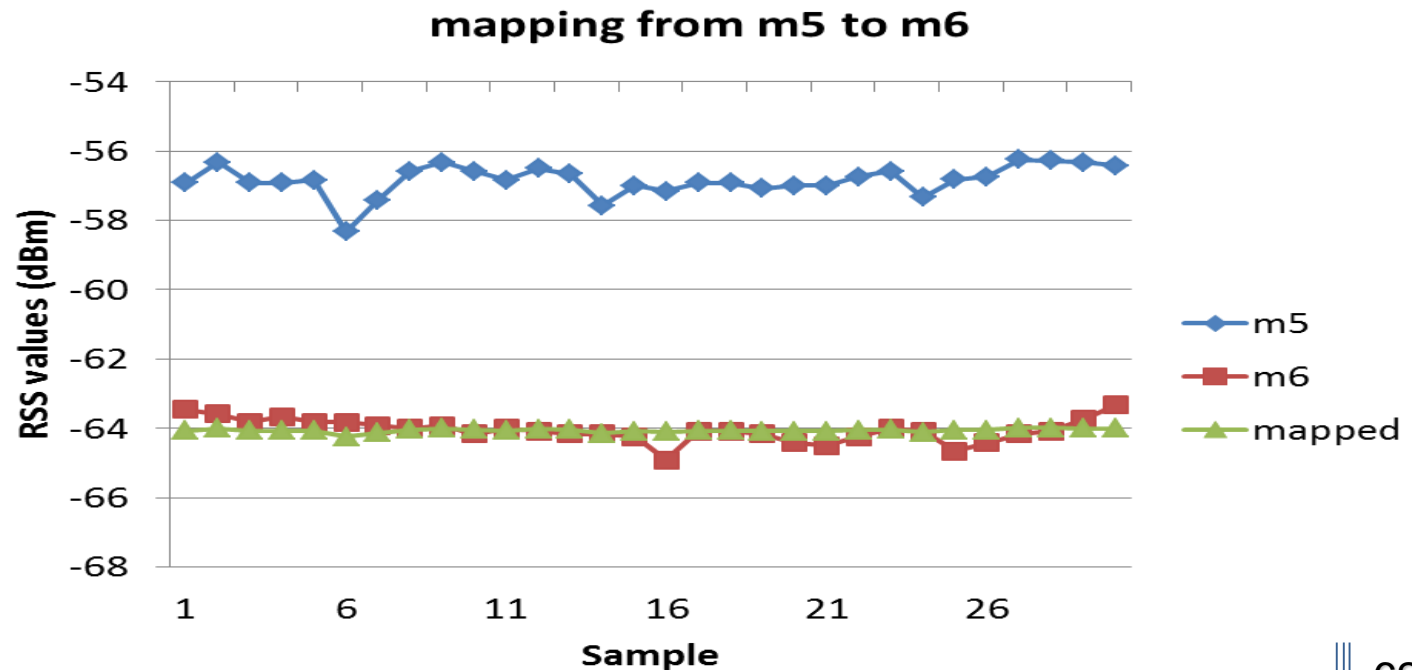
# Device heterogeneity

- Different devices are used in the training phase and positioning phase
- Those devices may have different Wi-Fi chipset, different antenna gain



# Solving Device heterogeneity

- Mapping device
  - Manual calibration
  - Linear transformation method
  - Ranking method



# Solving Device heterogeneity

- Extract features that do not depend on hardware
- Spatial mean normalization (SMN)

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \quad \hat{x}_i = F(x_i | 1, \dots, N) = x_i - \bar{x}$$

- Signal strengths difference (SSD)

$$d(AP_i, AP_j) = RSS_i - RSS_j$$

- Hyperbolic Location Fingerprinting (HLF)

$$r(AP_i, AP_j) = \frac{RSS_i}{RSS_j} \quad nlr(AP_i, AP_j) = \log r(AP_i, AP_j) - \log\left(\frac{1}{RSS_{max}}\right)$$

## 2.4 GHz vs 5 GHz

- The free space path loss index depends on the frequency of the signal

$$P_L \text{ (dB)} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_t}{P_r} = -10 \log_{10} \frac{G_l \lambda^2}{(4\pi d)^2}.$$

- The output power limit is different
- Different characteristic:
  - Scattering inside the building
  - Damping through water
  - Wall penetration
  - Fast fading



# Other factors

- Energy consumption
- Response rate
- Fingerprint database
- Different frequency
- Number of scan per location estimate
- Influence of the number of Wi-Fi APs
- Combination with other sensors

1. Y. Xu, “Autonomous Indoor Localization Using Unsupervised Wi-Fi Fingerprinting,” PhD. Dissertation, Kassel University Press, 2015.
2. H. Liu, H. Darabi, P. Banerjee, and J. Liu, “Survey of Wireless Indoor Positioning Techniques and Systems”, IEEE Transactions On Systems, Man, And Cybernetics—Part C: Applications And Reviews, Vol. 37, No. 6, November 2007.
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