

SpotFi: Decimeter Level Localization Using WiFi



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Overview

- Background
 - We need such a localization system that is:
 - Easy to install (Deployable)
 - Work on any WiFi devices (Universal)
 - With a good enough accuracy (Accurate)
 - ...which existing methods failed to achieve
 - ArrayTrack → 6-8 antennas required
 - LTEye → rotatable antennas required
 - Ubicarse → additional sensors required
- Goal
 - A more accurate, ubiquitous WiFi localization system

Approaches

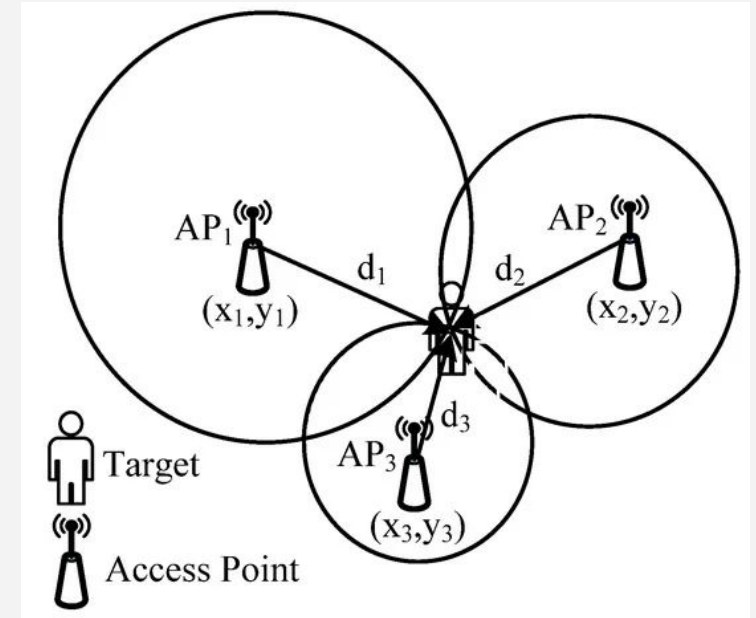
- Triangulation Localization

- By RSSI (Received Signal Strength Indicator)
 - Estimate distance d from at least 3 APs
- By AoA (Angle of Arrival)
 - Intersect lines at AoAs
- By timestamps
 - Estimate distance d from ToF

$$d = d_0 \cdot 10^{\frac{P_t - \text{RSSI}}{10n}}$$

- Fingerprinting Localization

- Build a RSSI vector map(fingerprint) at known locations
- Return the location with the most similar fingerprint
 - Median accuracy of 0.6m



Multiple Signal Classification

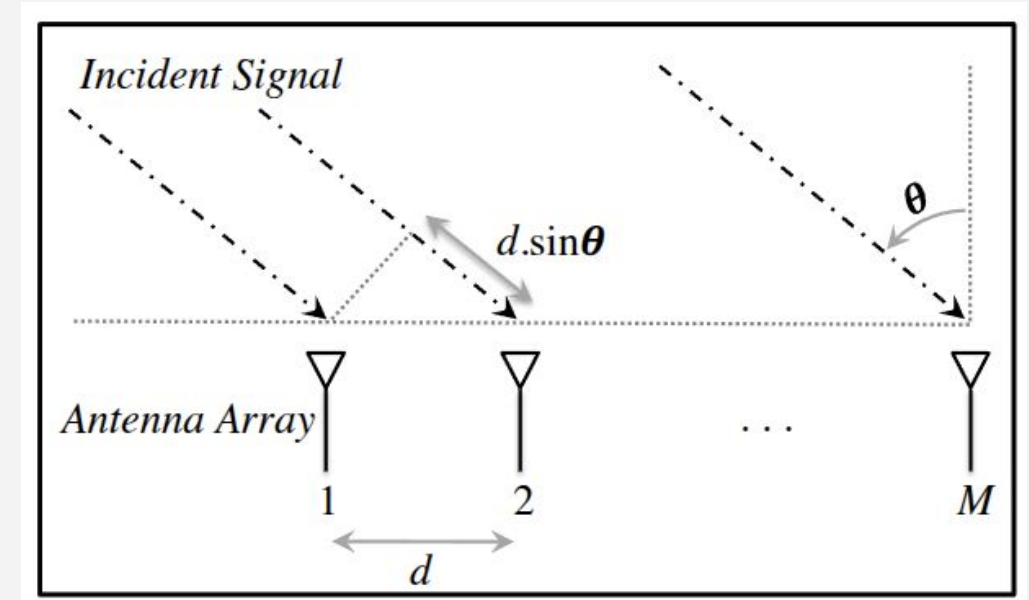
- AoA and CSI
 - m -th antenna' phase shift $\Phi^m(\theta_k)$ is given as
 - θ_k : k -th propagation path' angle of arrival
 - λ : Wavelength

$$\Phi^m(\theta_k) = e^{-j2\pi \frac{d(m-1) \sin(\theta_k)}{\lambda}}$$

- A received signal x decomposes into L propagation paths
 - γ_k : The first antenna's channel attenuation

$$x_m = \sum_k^L \gamma_k \Phi^m(\theta_k) \longrightarrow x_m = CSI !!$$

→ **AoA**(θ_k) lies in CSI matrix



CSI Matrix

• CSI Matrix Representation

- 1. Vectorize received signal x into all M antennas (1 x M case)

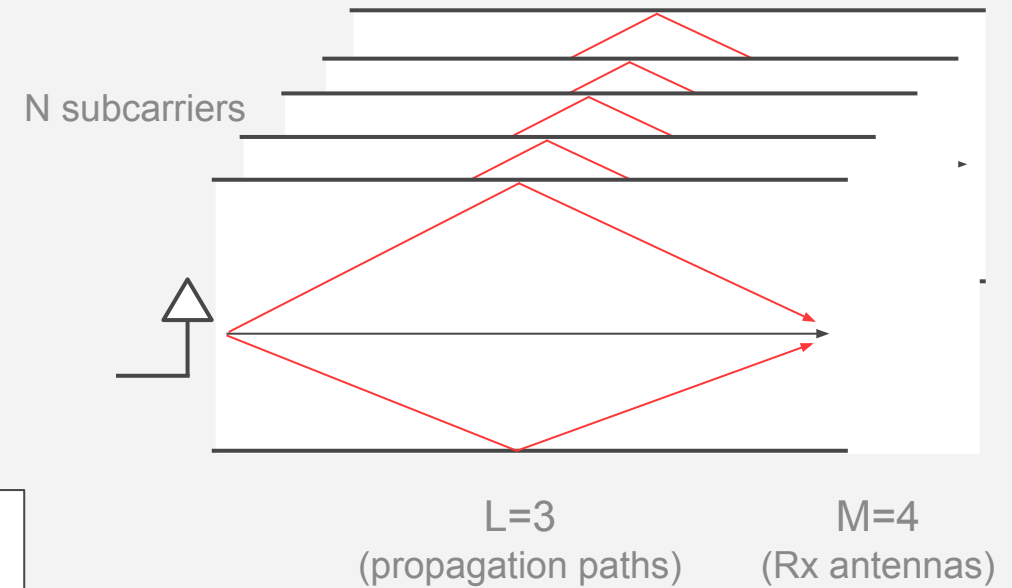
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_M \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Phi^1(\theta_1) & \dots & \Phi^1(\theta_L) \\ \Phi^2(\theta_1) & & \Phi^2(\theta_L) \\ \dots & & \dots \\ \Phi^M(\theta_1) & & \Phi^M(\theta_L) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 \\ \dots \\ \gamma_L \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \vec{x} = A\vec{\gamma}$$

- x_m : Received signal at m -th antenna
- A : Steering matrix (vectors)

- 2. Expand it to N subcarriers

$$[\vec{x}_1 \quad \dots \quad \vec{x}_N] = A [\vec{\gamma}_1 \quad \dots \quad \vec{\gamma}_N] \Rightarrow X_{(M \times N)} = A_{(M \times L)} \Gamma_{(L \times N)}$$

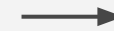
- Steering vectors A doesn't change
- is a CSI matrix for single Tx antenna



Key Idea

- Signal Space, Noise Space

the eigenvectors of XX^H corresponding to the eigenvalue zero, are orthogonal to the steering vectors in A

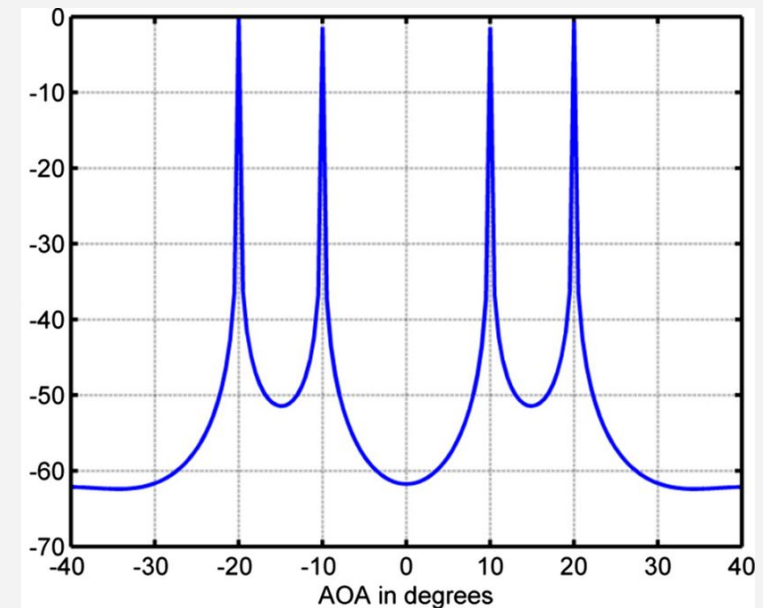
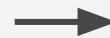


$$u \in N(XX^H) \Rightarrow u \perp R(A)$$

- 1. Find noise eigenvectors U_n from XX^H 's eigen-decomposition
 - 2. Form a steering vector $\vec{a}(\theta)$ with candidate AoA θ
 - 3. Find peaks at **MUSIC Spectrum**
- Peaks are the dominant paths' AoA

- MUSIC Spectrum

$$P_{MUSIC}(\theta) = \frac{1}{||U_n^H \vec{a}(\theta)||^2}$$



Limitations

$$X_{(M \times N)} = A_{(M \times L)} \Gamma_{(L \times N)}$$

L : number of propagation paths

M : number of antennas

N : number of subcarriers

- 1. XX^H must have the rank of L
 - $M > L$ from A : **More Rx antennas** than the number of propagation paths
 - $N > L$ from Γ : **More subcarriers** than the number of propagation paths
- 2. MUSIC alone cannot find LoS (direct path)
 - It only measures **orthogonality** between steering vector θ and noise subspace
 - Cannot tell which is the direct path among multipaths

Frequency Shift

- Phase Shift Across Frequency

- Time of Flight(ToF) introduces phase shift across subcarriers

- Phase shift at n -th subcarrier $\Omega^n(\tau_k)$ at a fixed antenna:

$$\Omega^n(\tau_k) = e^{-j2\pi f_\delta(n-1)\tau_k}$$

f_δ : Frequency spacing between two subcarriers

τ_k : ToF of k -th propagation path

→ We can extend steering vector $\vec{a}(\theta_k)$ to $\vec{a}(\theta_k, \tau_k)$

- By jointly estimating phase shift with antennas and subcarriers

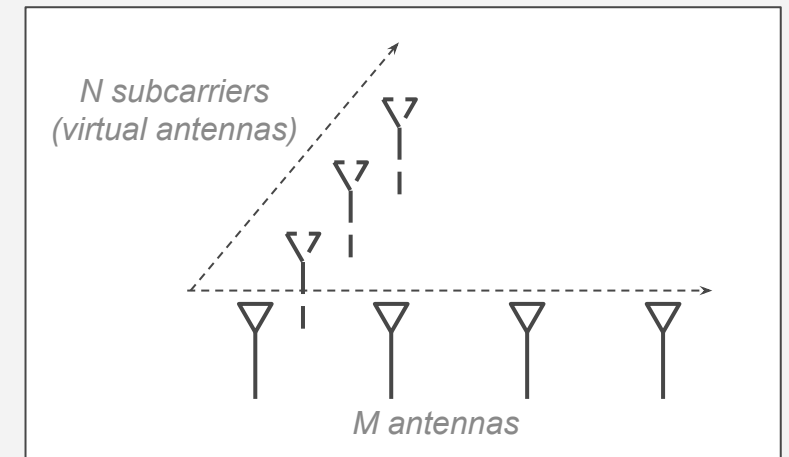
- Virtual Sensor Array

- Subcarriers act as virtual spaces

- Virtually extending M antennas to MN antennas

- New steering vector $\vec{a}(\theta_k, \tau_k) \in C^{MN \times 1}$

$$\vec{a}(\theta, \tau) = \underbrace{[1, \dots, \Omega_\tau^{N-1}]^T}_{\text{antenna 1}}, \underbrace{[\Phi_\theta, \dots, \Omega_\tau^{N-1} \Phi_\theta]^T}_{\text{antenna 2}}, \dots, \underbrace{[\Phi_\theta^{M-1}, \dots, \Omega_\tau^{N-1} \Phi_\theta^{M-1}]^T}_{\text{antenna M}}$$



CSI Smoothing (1)

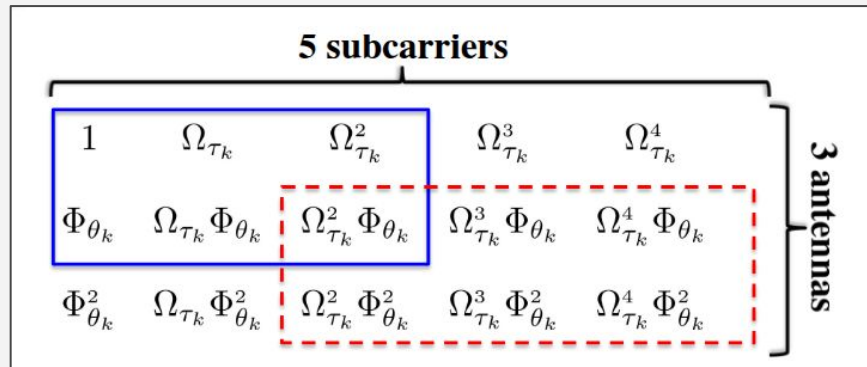
- Insufficient Rank

$$\begin{bmatrix} CSI_{1,1} \\ CSI_{1,2} \\ \dots \\ CSI_{M,N} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \Omega_{\tau_1}^2 & \Omega_{\tau_2}^2 & & \Omega_{\tau_L}^2 \\ \dots & & & \\ \Phi_{\theta_1}^M \Omega_{\tau_1}^N & \Phi_{\theta_2}^M \Omega_{\tau_2}^N & & \Phi_{\theta_L}^M \Omega_{\tau_L}^N \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \dots \\ \alpha_L \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \boxed{X_{(MN \times 1)} = A_{(MN \times L)} \Gamma_{(L \times 1)}}$$

- $rank(XX^H) \leq \min(rank(A), rank(\Gamma)) = 1$
 - Only a single (AoA, ToF) pair will be found
- We need a way around to expand $\Gamma_{(L \times 1)}$

CSI Smoothing (2)

- Shifting Trick



$$L = 2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{csi}_{1,1} & \text{csi}_{2,3} \\ \text{csi}_{1,2} & \text{csi}_{2,4} \\ \text{csi}_{1,3} & \text{csi}_{2,5} \\ \text{csi}_{2,1} & \text{csi}_{3,3} \\ \text{csi}_{2,2} & \text{csi}_{3,4} \\ \text{csi}_{2,3} & \text{csi}_{3,5} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \Omega_{\tau_1} & \Omega_{\tau_2} \\ \Omega_{\tau_1}^2 & \Omega_{\tau_2}^2 \\ \Phi_{\theta_1} & \Phi_{\theta_2} \\ \Omega_{\tau_1} \Phi_{\theta_1} & \Omega_{\tau_2} \Phi_{\theta_2} \\ \Omega_{\tau_1}^2 \Phi_{\theta_1} & \Omega_{\tau_2}^2 \Phi_{\theta_2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \alpha_1 \Omega_{\tau_1}^2 \Phi_{\theta_1} \\ \alpha_2 & \alpha_2 \Omega_{\tau_2}^2 \Phi_{\theta_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

CSI values at the two subarrays Same steering matrix Independent vectors of gains

- Rectangular subarrays can be written as linear combination
 - The subarrays are linearly scaled to each other
 - $\Omega_{\tau_k}^2$ to the column direction (\rightarrow)
 - Φ_{θ_k} to the row direction (\downarrow)
- Choose the rectangular block $R_{W \times H}$ that ensures $\text{rank}(XX^H) \leq L$
 - (Size of R) $> L$
 - (Total shifts of R) $> L$

$$X'_{(\text{size}(R) \times \text{shift}(R))} = A'_{(\text{size}(R) \times L)} \Gamma'_{(L \times \text{shift}(R))}$$

Super Resolution MUSIC Algorithm

- Smoothed CSI Matrix

$$X'_{(size(R) \times shift(R))} = A'_{(size(R) \times L)} \Gamma'_{(L \times shift(R))}$$

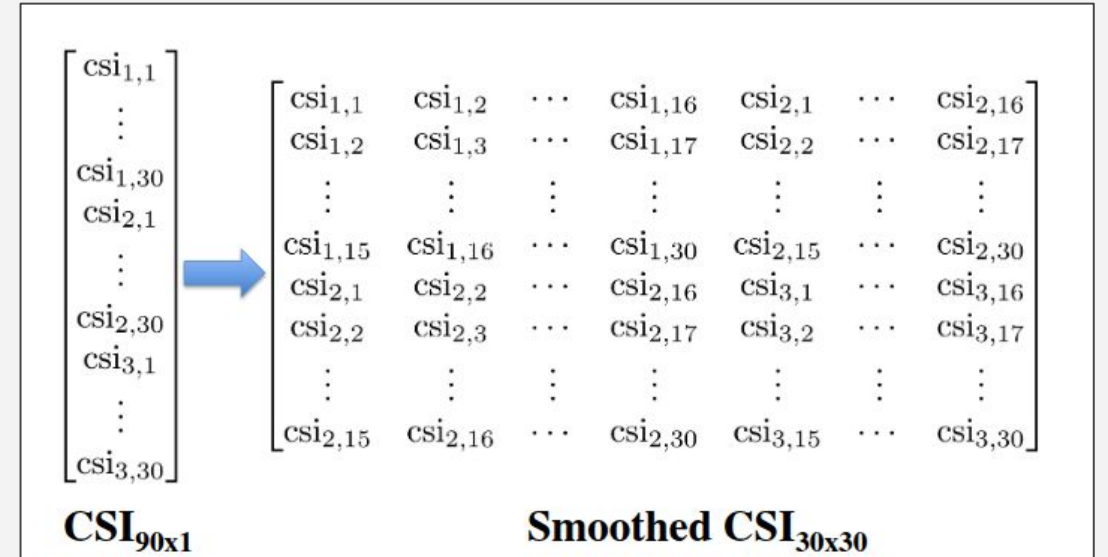
ex) 3 antennas, 30 subcarriers

- Shift block $R_{2 \times 15}$
- $size(R) = 30 > L$
- $shift(R) = 30 > L$

→ Smoothed CSI matrix $X'_{30 \times 30}$

- MUSIC Algorithm

- 1. Find noise vector from $X'X'^H$'s eigen-decomposition
- 2. Form a steering vector $\vec{a}(\theta, \tau)$ with candidate AoA and ToF
- 3. Find peaks at **Super Resolution MUSIC Spectrum** $P'_{MUSIC}(\theta, \tau)$
 $\theta \quad \tau$



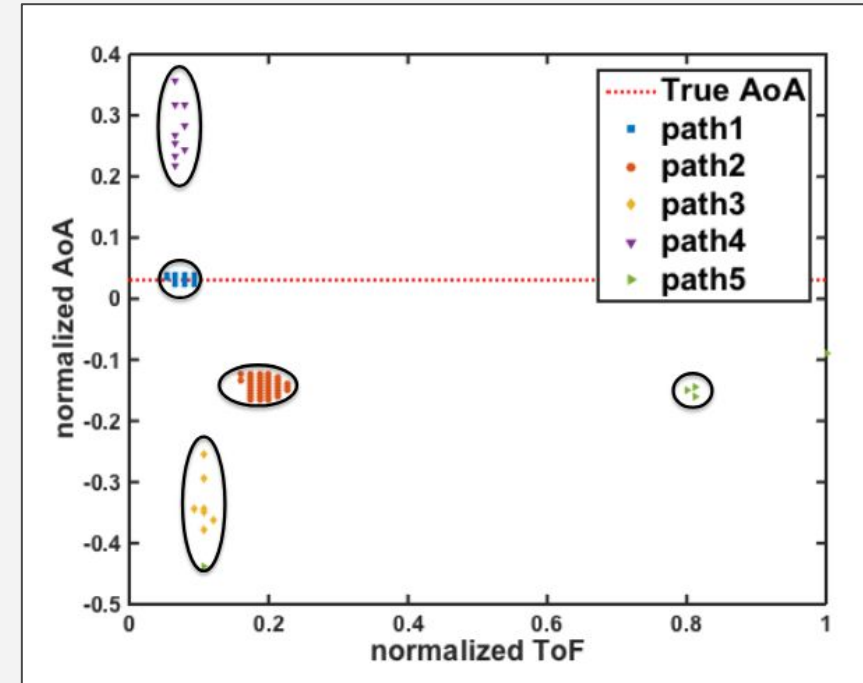
Direct Path Likelihood

- Key Idea
 - Use the consistency of AoA-ToF estimates across packets
 - Small variances, small ToF
- AoA-ToF Cluster
 - The same path but different packets will be clustered together
 - The diameter will be a function of variations
- Likelihood Score (Weight)

$$\text{likelihood}_k = \exp(w_C C_k - w_\theta \sigma_{\theta_k} - w_\tau \sigma_{\tau_k} - w_s \bar{\tau}_k)$$

C_k : Number of points in cluster k
 $\sigma_{\tau_k}, \sigma_{\theta_k}$: Variances of ToF, AoA
 $\hat{\tau}_k$: Mean of ToF

→ Highest likelihood = most stable + shortest → likely **direct path**



Modified CSI Phase (1)

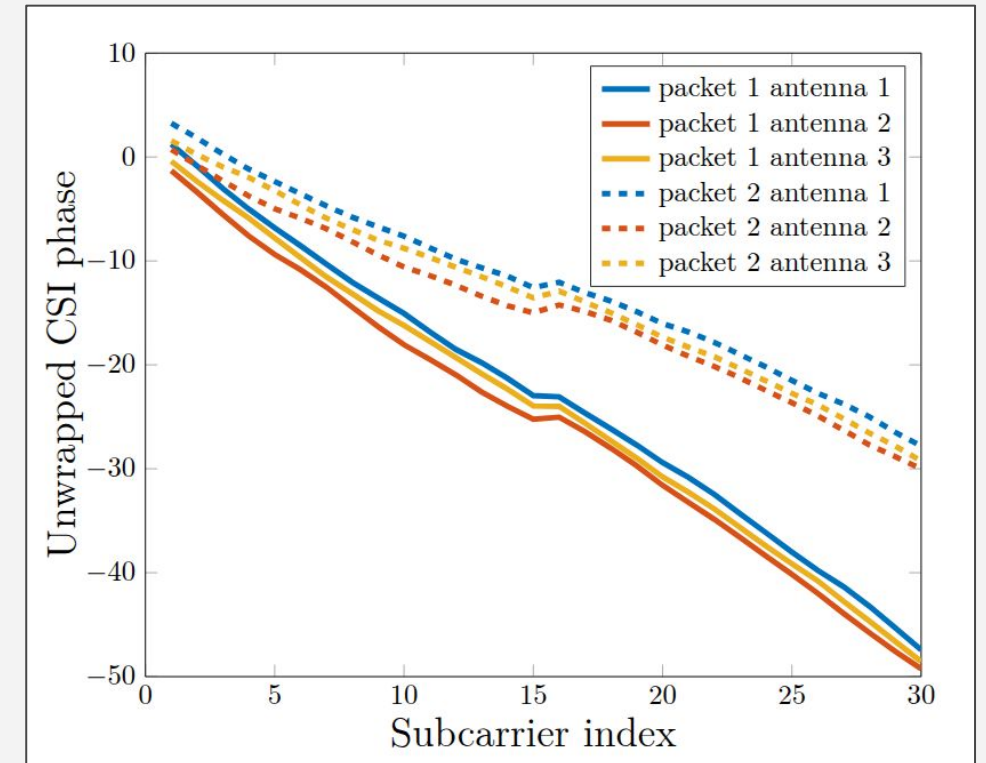
- Problem

- The receiver introduces a random STO (Sampling Time Offset)
 - STO: The receiver samples slightly after the arrival of signal
 - Due to timing unsynchronization
- Inconsistent ToF across packets

$$\tau^{\text{measured}} = \tau^{\text{true}} + \tau^{\text{STO}}$$

- Solution

- Eliminate the variance due to changing STO
 - ToF sanitization algorithm



Modified CSI Phase (2)

• Solution

▪ ToF sanitization algorithm

- Obtain the linear trend of unwrapped CSI phase

$$\hat{\tau}_s = \arg \min_{\rho} \sum_{m,n=1}^{M,N} (\psi(m,n) + 2\pi f_{\delta}(n-1)\rho + \beta)^2$$

▪ Modified CSI Phase

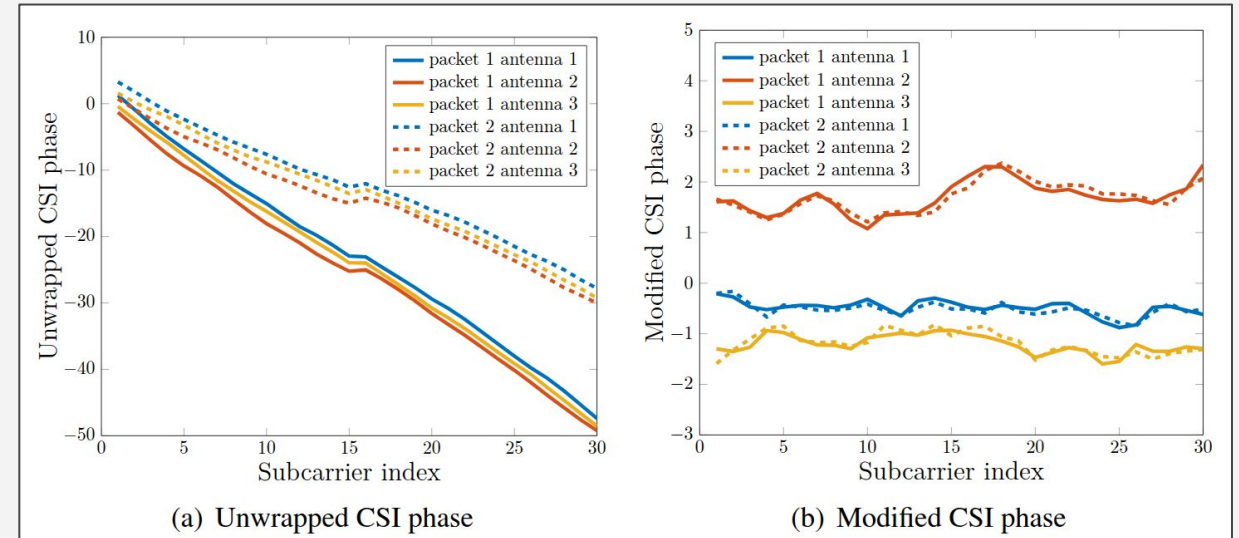
- Subtract the linear trend from the CSI phase

$$\hat{\psi}_i(m,n) = \psi_i(m,n) + 2\pi f_{\delta}(n-1)\hat{\tau}_{s,i}$$

→ ToF sanitization on CSI matrix + super resolution

$\tau_{s,i}$: STO for i -th packet

$\psi_i(m,n)$: CSI phase response for i -th packet at n -th subcarrier of m -th antenna



Key Idea

- Data

- Localization

- AoA (Angle of Arrival)
 - RSSI (Received Signal Strength Indicator)

- Likelihood Score

- ToF (Time of Flight)
 - Not used in localization due to delay (STO*)

$$d = d_0 \cdot 10^{\frac{P_t - \text{RSSI}}{10n}}$$

- Objective Function

- Find the location that minimized the following cost function

$$\sum_{i=1}^R l_i [(\bar{p}_i - p_i)^2 + (\bar{\theta}_i - \theta_i)^2]$$

R : # of APs

l_i : Likelihood score

$\hat{p}_i, \hat{\theta}_i$: Predicted RSSI, AoA of i -th AP at target location (x,y)

p_i, θ_i : Measured RSSI, AoA of i -th AP

***STO**: Sampling Time Offset

Algorithm

Data: CSI and RSSI measurements

Result: Location of the target (x, y)

for each AP **do**

for each packet **do**

 (*ToF Sanitization*) Remove linear fit of CSI phase response

 (*CSI Smoothing*) Obtain smoothed CSI matrix X

 (*Super Resolution*) Obtain AoA-ToF pairs using MUSIC algorithm

end

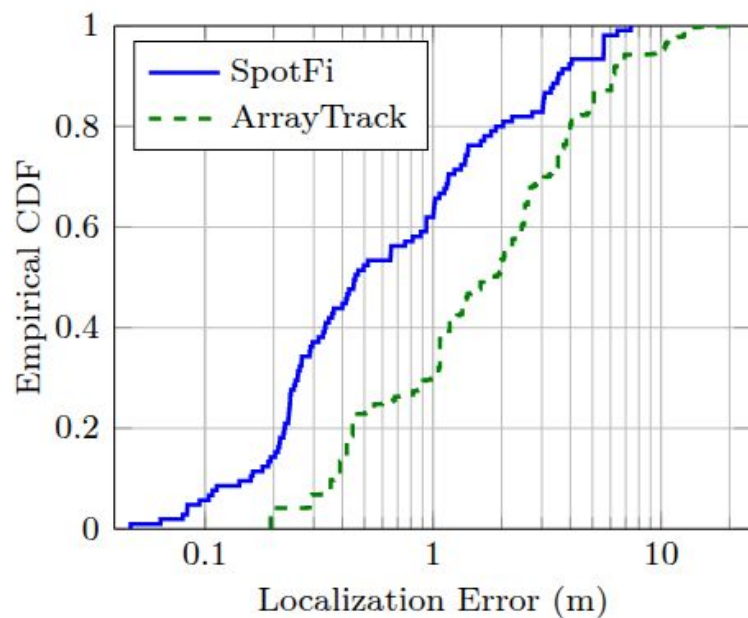
 (*AoA-ToF Cluster*) Cluster AoA-ToF from multiple packets

 (*Direct Path Likelihood*) Compute likelihood score and pick the highest one

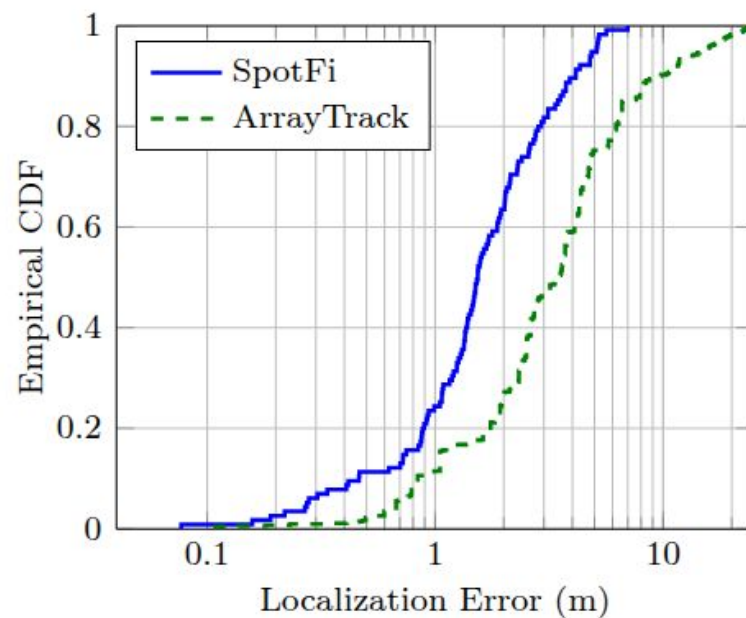
end

(*Localization*) Minimize the objective function with predicted location (x, y)

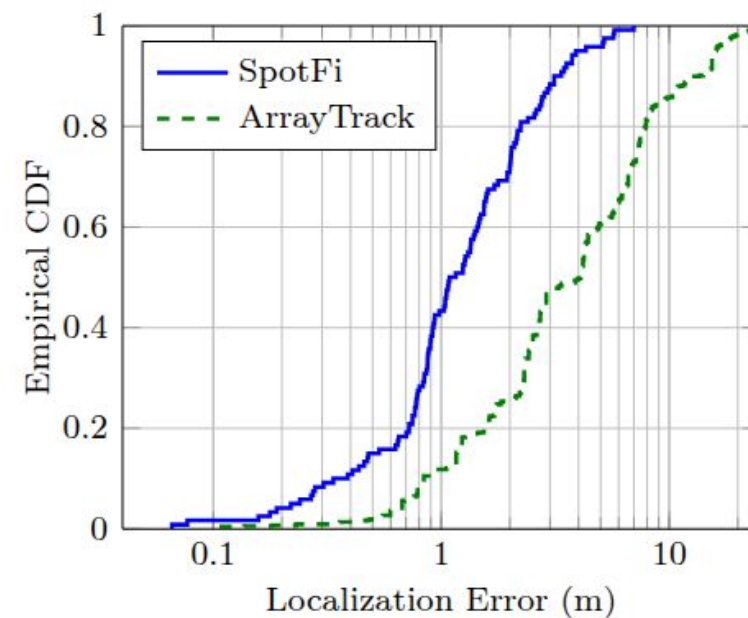
Experiments



(a) Indoor office deployment



(b) High NLoS deployment



(c) Corridors

RSSI, CSI

- Received Signal Strength Indicator (RSSI)

- How strong a signal is when it reaches a receiver

- P_t : Transmitter's power in dBm
 - Predefined default transmit power (varies by protocols)

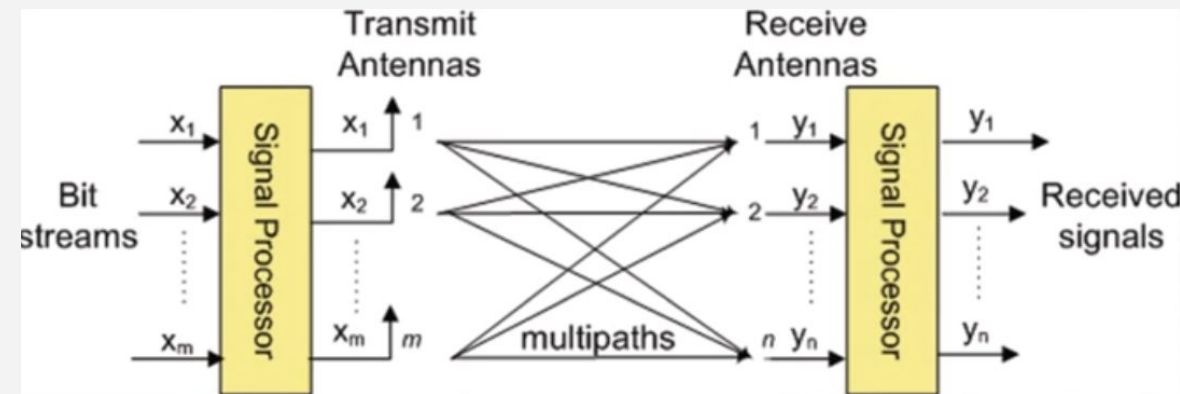
- $L_p(d)$: Path loss approximation at distance d

ex) -20 dBm \rightarrow roughly 0.01mW at receiver

- Channel State Information (CSI)

- A matrix H of channel coefficients h_{ij}
- h_{ij} is affected by both propagation path and frequency

$$\text{RSSI} = P_t - L_p(d)$$



Signal Space, Noise Space

- Without Noise (ideal case)

$$XX^H = A\Gamma\Gamma^H A^H \rightarrow \text{rank } L$$

- L non-zero eigenvalues
- $M-L$ zero eigenvalues
- A spans '**Signal Space**' only, so does XX^H

- With Noise

$$XX^H = A\Gamma\Gamma^H A^H + \sigma^2 I$$

- All eigenvalues are shifted by σ^2
 - Small eigenvalues of σ^2 are purely by noise
- Thus, null space is said to be '**Noise Space**'

$$X = A\Gamma + N$$



$$XX^H = (A\Gamma + N)(A\Gamma + N)^H$$



$$XX^H = A\Gamma\Gamma^H A^H + A\Gamma N^H + N\Gamma^H A^H + NN^H$$

$$\because E(NN^H) = \sigma^2 I \quad \downarrow \quad \because E(A\Gamma N^H) = E(N\Gamma^H A^H) = 0$$

$$XX^H = A\Gamma\Gamma^H A^H + \sigma^2 I$$