

An overview of next generation technologies and its applications

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Abstract – The term Next Generation Technology has been often used by IT enthusiasts. Many see next generation technologies as one of the solution vectors for the global challenges of the 21st century. However, a small research has shed light on this term and specified its characteristics and meaning of it. Next generation technologies are critical to solve large problems faced by this world. Therefore, this paper aims to highlight the benefits of Next Generation Technology. The primary aim of this research paper was to highlight the importance of Next Generation Technology, to create awareness about its working principles and advantages and to inform its disadvantages. We have included the following concepts of the Next Generation Technology along with its implementing technology: Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Autonomous Driving, Internet of Things, Modular Smartphones.

Keywords – next generation technology, augmented reality, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, machine learning, autonomous driving, internet of things, modular smartphones

I. INTRODUCTION.

Next Generation Technologies are technologies which are perceived as capable of transforming the status quo. Next Generation Technology can be termed as "a radically innovative and relatively fast growing technology characterized by the certain degree of coherence existing over the time and with the potential to exercise a substantial effect on the socio-economic domain(s) which can be seen in terms of the arrangement of actors, institutions and motif of interactions among these, along with the related knowledge production processes. Its most noteworthy impact, however, lies in future and thus the emergence phase is still in some measure undetermined and ambivalent." New technological fields would lead to the technological convergence of various systems evolving towards similar goals

Convergence brings formerly various technologies such as

data (and productivity instances) and video combined so that they can allot resources and communicate with each other, creating new efficiencies.

Next Generation Technologies are the ones technical innovations which depict continuous development within a field for competitive advantage. The converging technologies represent formerly distinct fields which are moving towards stronger interconnection and identical goals.

II. AUGMENTED REALITY AND VIRTUAL REALITY.

A. Augmented Reality

Augmented reality (AR) is a real-time view of the physical environment whose components are augmented by a computer-generated inputs like video, voice or graphics. This technology actually functions with the enhancement of one's current insight of reality. By using some advanced technologies, the information about the real world user becomes interactive and digitally manipulable. Information regarding the physical environment and its objects are overlaid on the real world. This sort of information can be virtual or real. By contrast, VR technology substitutes the real world with a simulated world.

It is the fusion of the real world and the digital world. Augmented Reality Devices do enhance and boost one's perception of reality through the incorporation of computer generated information and images into our senses [1]. These devices actually overlay data and rendered images onto physical objects and real life environments.

B. Virtual Reality

Virtual reality can be seen as an immersive multimedia or also as computer-simulated reality. It replicates an environment which simulates physical environment in an imaginary world and thereby allowing the user to interact with the simulated world. Virtual reality is capable of

artificially creating sensory experiences that includes sight, touch, smell and hearing.

Virtual Reality is an artificial environment that can mimic the physical features of the real world. This immersive medium has the power to create novel experiences that are unattainable anywhere else [2].

C. Working Principle

Augmented Reality: The software must be able to derive the real-world coordinates, which are independent from camera images. This process is known as image registration and it has various methods for computer vision, generally related to the video tracking. Many computer vision methods regarding AR are inherited from visual odometry. Mostly those methods are divided into two stages. The 1st stage has some methods like blob detection, edge detection, corner detection, thresholding and various image processing methods. The second stage functionally restores the real-world coordinate system from data obtained in the first stage.

Virtual Reality: Virtual Reality can be viewed with the help of special stereoscopic Virtual Reality displays, and few of the simulations that include some additional sensory information and focus on the sound through speakers or headphones. The simulated environment is quite similar to the real world in order to create a real-time experience. A few of the advanced systems are now capable of including the tactile information which is known as force feedback [2].

D. Applications

Augmented Reality: Microsoft HoloLens



HoloLens - Product of Microsoft

Microsoft HoloLens is an Augmented Reality device developed by Microsoft. It runs as a self-contained Windows 10 computer. It is part of the Windows Holographic AR Platform. It can be worn over a user's eyes. Unlike Oculus Rift and VR Devices, the eye-piece component of HoloLens is actually transparent and the headsets require neither PC nor smartphone. It is able to project high-definition virtual content over real-world objects [3].

Virtual Reality: PlayStation VR



PlayStation VR – Product of Sony

PlayStation VR is a head-mounted display being developed by Sony. It is also capable of rendering two separate displays simultaneously: one display for the headset and one completely different display for the television. The intention is preventing VR from invariably being a solitary experience [4]. A user can play games, stream videos and can share gameplay. It uses a special type of lenses called curved lenses which enlarges a 5.7-inch screen across user's field of vision.

E. Disadvantages

Augmented Reality:

1) Privacy breach will become a major issue with today's information saturation levels. Interacting with a stranger or a group of people may reveal thoughts or other set information that usually come with an introduction, might cause an unwarranted violation of privacy.

2) Content may obscure or narrow a user's interests or tastes.

Virtual Reality:

1) Virtual reality faces many challenges like, motion sickness and other technical matters. A user may become bewildered in a virtual environment, causing balance difficulties; computer latencies may affect the process of simulation, providing average end-user experience; the complex nature of VR displays and input systems like specialized gloves require specialized training in order to operate and navigate the original environment might prove vulnerable without any external sensory information [5].

III. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING.

A. Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to the intelligence which is exhibited by machines or the similar software. It is also the name of an academic field that studies how to create computer systems and computer software which are capable of demonstrating the intelligent behaviour. Major Artificial Intelligence researchers have defined the AI as "the study and design of the intelligent agents" in which "the intelligent agents" is a system which is involved in perceiving of its environment and taking of the actions which maximize its chances of success. It can also be defined as "the engineering and science of making the intelligent machines".

B. Machine Learning

Machine learning is a field of study which gives computer systems the ability to grasp or absorb without any need of being externally programmed. Machine learning expands the study and building of the algorithms that learn from and make predictions on data. It is closely associated with and generally overlapped with computational statistics; a discipline that focuses on making predictions through the use of computers. It has strong ties to mathematical optimization that deliver theories, methods and application domains to the field.

C. Working Principle

Artificial Intelligence: There is no specific way in which AI works. Over the past few years, many of the different approaches of solving the wide range of problems have been conceived by Artificial Intelligence researchers. For instance, chess is now being played by computers. It works by scrutinizing many hundreds of chess board patterns, to check the result of executing some pre-defined moves. Another instance is expert systems, which solve the problems in the areas such as engineering and medicine by duplicating the problems solved by real humans.

Machine Learning: All of the machine learning algorithms basically consists of the following three things:

- 1) A set of possible models to look assiduously.
- 2) A way to test whether a model is good.
- 3) A clever way to find a really good model with only a few test.

There are two most popular methods of machine Learning:

1) **Supervised learning:** These algorithms are trained by using labelled examples. The aforementioned learning algorithm actually receives a set of inputs along with its corresponding correct outputs, and thus algorithm learns by comparing the actual output with the correct outputs to find errors. It will then modify the model by correcting it accordingly.

2) **Unsupervised learning:** Unsupervised Learning (U.L.) algorithms are used in contrast to the data which has no particular past labels. The system has not been given the "correct answer." The algorithm must identify what exactly is being displayed. The aim is to analyse the data and find some part of the structure within itself. Unsupervised learning goes well self-organizing maps, k-means clustering of and singular valued decomposition.

D. Applications

Artificial Intelligence: Viv is a global platform that allows developers to plug in and create an intelligent as well as conversational interface to anything. Viv is the simplest way for the users to interact by communicating with devices, services and things everywhere. Viv has the property of learning something new on a daily basis.

Viv will also learn a huge portfolio of user's choices, credit-card numbers, addresses, and so on with user's consent. Hence Viv can answer some of the queries like "Please book an appointment for me with a French-speaking optometrist whose office falls on my way home from work," and "I want to pick up a diet coke can from a general store on the way to my brother's house as it is recommended by my doctor as a supplement for wine."

Machine Learning: Cloud era is partnering with E8 Security to provide scalable and self-learning security analytics for detection and prioritizing of enterprise cyber security attacks. The E8 Security will fully automate the analysis of huge data with the help of machine learning and

the multi-dimensional algorithms for latest security analytics. The primary feature of E8 Security's performance is the usage of advanced machine learning and multi-dimensional modelling to continuously adapt to upcoming breakdown data silos, threats, and integrate with the current technology investments in real-time.

E. Disadvantages

Artificial Intelligence:

1) **Excessive reliance on AI:** If we depend too much on machines to do all things for us, we tend to become over dependent so that they acquire the potential to destroy our lives if anything goes wrong.

2) **Human Touch:** Machines will go on lacking the ability to sympathise and empathise like human beings, and might act irrationally as an outcome.

3) **Inferior:** Machines do perform almost every task marginally better than human beings in all possible ways. They will take up several jobs, which will then result in an increase in the percentage of unemployment.

4) **Misuse:** This level of technology could be misused and could lead to mass destruction, or they could perhaps even result in malfunction or can be corrupted.

Machine Learning:

1) **Error prone:** Usually impossible to get required accuracy.

2) **The need of labelled data:** Human resources should be used to manually classify the documents for the preparation of training set. Additionally, the number and the type of document that must be included in the training set is not straightforward.

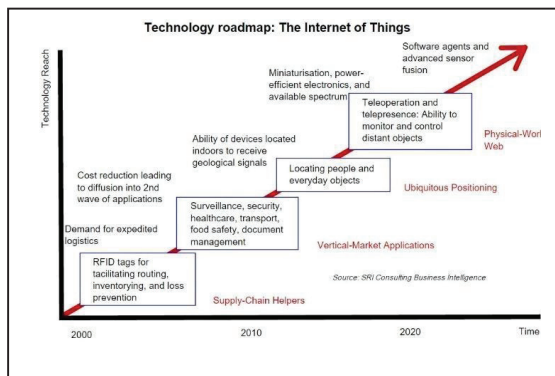
IV. INTERNET OF THINGS.

A. Internet of Things

The Internet of Things is the network of physical object(s), device(s), vehicle(s), building(s) and other resources which are embedded with electronic gadgets, software, sensor(s), and internet connectivity that authorizes these objects for the collection and sharing of the data. The IoT actually permits objects that are to be sensed and controlled by the user throughout the current network infrastructure, creating opportunities for the integration of the real world into computer systems, and thereby resulting in economic advantage, improved accuracy and efficiency.

B. Working Principle

The original idea is based on RFID-tags and those unique identification through EPC Code howbeit this has evolved into objects with a unique IP address or URI [6]. It mainly focuses on making all the required things addressable by the existing naming protocols. The objects don't converse themselves, but are referred to by some of the other agents, like powerful centralized servers working for their owners.

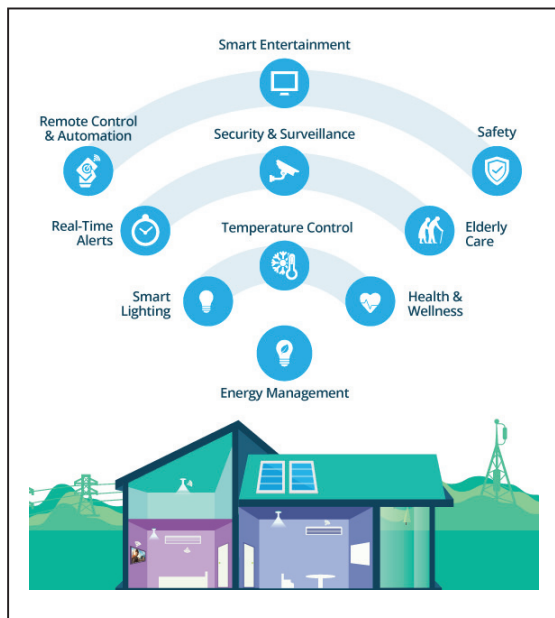


IoT Roadmap

The next generation of Internet-based applications use IPv6 protocol which is capable of interacting with the devices attached to virtually any electronically compatible object due to the very large address space of the IPv6 protocol [6]. This system can be used to identify objects in industries that range from aerospace to transportation logistics and fast moving consumer goods (FMCG).

C. Applications

RF Technology for Smart Homes:



Features of Smart Home

Smart Homes are founded on an integrated effort of applications that enable homeowners to scrutinize and control a wide range of important applications namely improved energy efficiency, access control, home or office security, home surveillance and home care.

Smart Home can be used for: Home monitoring and surveillance, Access control permission, Lighting control, Fire detection and control, Leak detection and corrective measures, Energy efficiency, Temperature monitoring and control, Family care.

D. Disadvantages

1) Threat to privacy and security: As all the household appliances, locks, industrial machinery, public sector services and many other devices all are connected with Internet and a huge amount of information is available over it. This

information may be prone to attack by the black hat hackers. It would be very dangerous if there is a security breach and confidential information is accessed by unauthorized intruders.

2) Compatibility: As devices from various manufacturers are interconnected, the issue of compatibility in tagging and tracking comes up. Compatibility issues may result in people buying appliances from a group of manufacturers, leading to a monopoly based market.

V. AUTONOMOUS DRIVING.

A. Autonomous Driving

An autonomous driving vehicle is a vehicle that has the ability to sense its environment and navigating without the interference of human beings. Autonomous driving vehicles have sensors that are designed to detect objects as far as few kilometres away in all different directions, including pedestrians, hikers, skaters, cyclists and vehicles or even fluttering shopping bags and rogue birds. The software gathers all the information for the car to safely navigate the road without getting tired or distracted.

B. Working Principle

Autonomous vehicles detect surroundings using methods like computer vision, radar, GPS and Odometry. Advanced systems understand and decipher sensory information in order to recognize convenient navigation paths and problems such as pot holes [7]. Autonomous cars do possess control systems which are capable of analysing sensory data so that one can easily differentiate between various cars on the road, amount of traffic, etc. which is very essential in planning a path to the required destination.

C. Applications

Google Self-Driving Car: It is an example of an autonomous car. The software installed in Google's car is named Google Chauffeur. The range finder is a Velodyne 64-beam mounted on the top. The laser enables the vehicle for generating a 3D map of its surroundings.



Google Self-Driving Car

Then the car takes these maps and merges them with high-quality world maps, and thus creating different types of data model which allows it to drive autonomously. This system works with a high definition precise map of the area wherein the vehicle is expected to be used, predicting how high the traffic is, in addition to the on-board systems, some

procedural computation is carried out on remote computer farms.

D. Disadvantages

1) Safety concerns: The car relies chiefly on previously programmed route information, they don't necessarily follow temporary traffic lights and, in some situations the car has problems in recognizing the objects that are harmless yet causing the vehicle to change the direction unnecessarily, such as light debris. Additionally, the lidar technology cannot identify some potholes or discern when a human, such as a cop, signals the car to stop.

2) Security: A car's computer could possibly be compromised, and also its system could be damaged between cars by interrupting camera sensors, GPS jammers/spoofing [8].

VI. MODULAR SMARTPHONES.

A. Modular Smartphone

It is a smartphone which is a combination of various components of the phone that can be independently upgraded or replaced. It targets to lower repair costs, to increase usability, reduce and electronic waste.

The main component in the modular smartphone is the main board, to which the other components are connected. These are embedded in easily removable modules which can be swapped with each other as per requirement without the need to rework the soldering. Components are available at open-source hardware stores.

B. Working Principle

Modular Smartphones are built using the modules inserted into metal frames called "endos". The frame as anticipated will be the only component in a Smartphone. It behaves like a switch on the device network binding all the modules together. Frames have certain slots in front for the display and other modules. On the rear side, there are additional slots for modules. The data within the modules can be transferred at a rate of 10 gigabits/sec per connection [9]. The 2x2 modules have total of two connections and will allow up to 20 gigabits/second. Each slot on the frame shall accept any module of the correct size [9]. Modules are secured using electro permanent magnets.

C. Applications

Project Ara: Project Ara is the codename assigned to an initiative by Google which targets to develop an open hardware platform for the making of highly modular smartphones. It would enable users to swap out malfunctioning or the faulty modules or upgrade individual modules into the ones having the latest features as innovations emerge, providing longer life cycles for the smartphone, and potentially decreasing the use of electronic waste.



Prototype of Modular Smartphone by Project Ara

D. Disadvantages

1) Weight and dimensions of the phone could be a concern. Usage of too many modules will lead to a bulkier phone.

2) Base frame is cheaper but other modules and parts may increase the costing.

3) Compatibility may become a difficult problem. Combination of hardware components could be similar to solving a complex puzzle for the less knowledgeable user.

4) Performance is still a big concern for Project Ara. This issue could be challenging when the customization of various components are integrated.

CONCLUSION

The Next Generation Technologies are currently in development stage. These technologies are very costly as of now and can't be afforded by masses. Moreover, its applications in real life scenarios are very much limited to specific tasks. Public wide use of these technologies is still a distant dream and it remains to be seen when everyone would be using these technologies to make their daily lives easier than before.

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