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Obtaining and providing positioning assistance data

Abstract

A method performed by a target device to obtain positioning assistance data from a location server is provided. The target device and the location server are operating in a wireless communications network. The target device transmits a request to the location server. The request is a request for positioning assistance data and provides first logical position information. The target device obtains positioning assistance data from the location server. The positioning assistance data is based on the first logical position information. When being associated with a second logical position, the target device transmits a request to the location server. The request requests for positioning assistance data and provides second logical position information. The target device obtains positioning assistance data from the location server. The positioning assistance data is based on the second logical position information.

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Background/Summary

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS (1) This application is a 35 U.S.C. § 371 national stage application of PCT International Application No. PCT/SE2020/050272 filed on Mar. 17, 2020, which in turn claims domestic priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/820,291, filed on Mar. 19, 2019, the disclosures and content of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

(1) Embodiments herein relate to a target device, a location server and methods therein. In particular, they relate to obtaining positioning assistance data from the location server and to provide positioning assistance data to the target device.

BACKGROUND

(2) In a typical wireless communication network, wireless devices, also known as wireless communication devices, mobile stations, stations (STA) and/or User Equipments (UE), communicate via a Local Area Network (LAN) such as a WiFi network or a Radio Access Network (RAN) to one or more Core Networks (CN). The RAN covers a geographical area which is divided into service areas or cell areas, which may also be referred to as a beam or a beam group, with each service area or cell area being served by a radio network node such as a radio access node e.g., a Wi-Fi access point or a Radio Base Station (RBS), which in some networks may also be denoted, for example, a NodeB, eNodeB (eNB), or gNB as denoted in 5G. A service area or cell area is a geographical area where radio coverage is provided by the radio network node. The radio network node communicates over an air interface operating on radio frequencies with the wireless device within range of the radio network node.

(3) Specifications for the Evolved Packet System (EPS), also called a Fourth Generation (4G) network, have been completed within the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) and this work continues in the coming 3GPP releases, for example to specify a Fifth Generation (5G) network also referred to as 5G New Radio (NR). The EPS comprises the Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN), also known as the Long Term Evolution (LTE) radio access network, and the Evolved Packet Core (EPC), also known as System Architecture Evolution (SAE) core network. E-UTRAN/LTE is a variant of a 3GPP radio access network wherein the radio network nodes are directly connected to the EPC core network rather than to RNCs used in 3G networks. In general, in E-UTRAN/LTE the functions of a 3G RNC are distributed between the radio network nodes, e.g. eNodeBs in LTE, and the core network. As such, the RAN of an EPS has an essentially “flat” architecture comprising radio network nodes connected directly to one or more core networks, i.e. they are not connected to RNCs. To compensate for that, the E-UTRAN specification defines a direct interface between the radio network nodes, this interface being denoted the X2 interface.

(4) Multi-antenna techniques may significantly increase the data rates and reliability of a wireless communication system. The performance is in particular improved if both the transmitter and the receiver are equipped with multiple antennas, which results in a Multiple-Input Multiple-Output (MIMO) communication channel. Such systems and/or related techniques are commonly referred to as MIMO.

(5) In addition to faster peak Internet connection speeds, 5G planning aims at higher capacity than current 4G, allowing higher number of mobile broadband users per area unit, and allowing consumption of higher or unlimited data quantities in gigabyte per month and user. This would make it feasible for a large portion of the population to stream high-definition media many hours

per day with their mobile devices, when out of reach of Wi-Fi hotspots. 5G research and development also aims at improved support of machine to machine communication, also known as the Internet of things, aiming at lower cost, lower battery consumption and lower latency than 4G equipment.

(6) Positioning of a UE, sometimes referred to as UE positioning, is recognized as an important feature for the LTE and the 5G networks due to its potential for massive commercial applications in for example intelligent transportation, entertainment, industry automation, robotics, remote operation, healthcare, smart parking and so on, as well as its relevance to US FCC E911 requirements.

(7) Positioning in LTE is supported by the architecture schematically shown in FIG. 1, with direct interactions between a UE and a location server, such as an E-SMLC, is via the LTE Positioning Protocol (LPP). Moreover, there are also interactions between the location server and the eNodeB via the LPPa protocol, to some extent supported by interactions between the eNodeB and the UE via the Radio Resource Control (RRC) protocol.

(8) The following positioning techniques are considered in LTE: Enhanced Cell ID. Essentially cell ID information to associate the UE to the serving area of a serving cell, and then additional information to determine a finer granularity position. Assisted GNSS. GNSS information retrieved by the UE, supported by assistance information provided to the UE from E-SMLC Observed Time Difference of Arrival (OTDOA). The UE estimates the time difference of reference signals from different base stations and sends to the E-SMLC for multilateration. Uplink Time Difference of Arrival (UTDOA). The UE is requested to transmit a specific waveform that is detected by multiple location measurement units (e.g. an eNB) at known positions. These measurements are forwarded to E-SMLC for multilateration

(9) Recent enhancements in GNSS technology include Real Time Kinematic (RTK) GNSS, which is a differential GNSS positioning technology which enables positioning accuracy improvement from metre level to decimetre or even centimetre level in the right conditions in real-time by exploiting the carrier phase of the GNSS signal rather than only the code phase. Support for RTK GNSS in LTE networks should therefore be provided and are under standardization in the Release 15 work item. The support for RTK in LTE networks comprises providing RTK correction data as part of positioning assistance data to the UE via LPP. Three provisioning means of positioning assistance data to the UE are supported: Unicast via a user plane connection Unicast via a control plane connection Broadcast via system information broadcast

(10) The unicast provisioning of positioning assistance data is also supported by NR devices, while NR broadcast is also a plausible enhancement that can be specified.

(11) US20140113608A1 discusses how to change from a first Virtual Reference Receivers (VRR) to a second VRR in a system providing periodic assistance data, where the first and second VRRs are generated location references.

SUMMARY

(12) As a part of developing embodiments herein a problem will first be identified and discussed. For unicast provisioning of positioning assistance data, the location server is made aware of the logical position of the UE, e.g. the target device, by obtaining information such as the tracking area, identity of the serving cell, etc. The logical position information of the target device is used in the location server to determine how to compile the positioning assistance data. The positioning assistance data may optionally be provided periodically at a number of points in time.

(13) By the expression “logical position” when used in this disclosure is meant an association between the target device and a network entity. Examples of network entities, e.g. physical network entities, comprises a radio base station, a radio network node, a Transmission Point (TP), a Reception Point (RP), a Transmission and Reception Point (TRP), a Remote Radio Head (RRH), etc. The physical network entities are typically assigned identifiers, e.g. identities (IDs) such as an eNB ID, a gNB ID, a base station ID, a TP ID, an RP ID, a TRP ID, a RRH ID, etc. The physical

network entities may also be assigned a reference signal with an ID, such as a cell specific reference signal, a physical cell ID, a channel state information reference signal, or a group of network entities may be assigned an ID such as a tracking area (TA) code or ID, a routing area ID, a location area ID etc.

(14) A logical position may in the location server, e.g. by the location server, be mapped to a physical position. For example, a target device may report its logical position in terms of the cell ID of the serving cell to the location server, and the location server may map this logical position to a physical position, e.g. a geographic position, using the configured mapping.

(15) In the existing solutions for providing periodic positioning assistance data via unicast, the logical position information is only provided once, while the logical position of a target device may change due to mobility. Thereby, the periodic positioning assistance data provided by the location server will not take the mobility of the target device, e.g. the UE, from a first logical position to a second logical position into account when determining the periodic positioning assistance data. Thus, if a first positioning assistance data was determined at a first point in time and a second positioning assistance data determined at a second point in time, the location server will not take into account a movement of the target device from a first logical position at the first point in time to a second logical position at the second point in time.

(16) An object of embodiments herein is therefore to provide an improved way of providing position assistance data whereby the performance of a wireless communications network is improved.

(17) According to an aspect of embodiments herein, the object is achieved by a method performed by a target device to obtain positioning assistance data from a location server. The target device and the location server are operating in a wireless communications network. The target device transmits a request to the location server. The request is a request for positioning assistance data and provides first logical position information. The target device obtains positioning assistance data from the location server. The positioning assistance data is based on the first logical position information. When being associated with a second logical position, the target device transmits a request to the location server. The request requests for positioning assistance data and provides second logical position information. The target device obtains positioning assistance data from the location server. The positioning assistance data is based on the second logical position information.

(18) According to another aspect of embodiments, the object is achieved by a method performed by a location server to provide positioning assistance data to a target device. The target device and the location server are operating in a wireless communications network. The location server obtains a request from the target device. The request is a request for positioning assistance data and first logical position information. The location server provides positioning assistance data to the target device. The positioning assistance data is based on the first logical position information. The location server obtains a request from the target device. The request is a request for positioning assistance data and second logical position information. The location server provides positioning assistance data to the target device. The positioning assistance data is based on the second logical position information.

(19) According to an aspect of embodiments herein, the object is achieved by target device to obtain positioning assistance data from a location server. The target device and the location server are operable in a wireless communications network.

(20) The target device comprises a transmitting unit configured to transmit to the location server, a request for positioning assistance data and providing first logical position information, and an obtaining unit configured to obtain from the location server, positioning assistance data, based on the first logical position information.

(21) The transmitting unit is further configured to, when being associated with a second logical position, transmit to the location server, a request for positioning assistance data and provide second logical position information.

- (22) The obtaining unit is further configured to obtain from the location server, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information.
- (23) According to another aspect of embodiments, the object is achieved by a location server to provide positioning assistance data to a target device. The target device and the location server are operable in a wireless communications network.
- (24) The location server comprises an obtaining unit configured to obtain from the target device, a request for positioning assistance data and first logical position information; and a providing unit configured to provide to the target device, positioning assistance data based on the first logical position information.
- (25) The obtaining unit is further configured to obtain from the target device, a request for positioning assistance data and second logical position information; and
- (26) The providing unit is further configured to provide to the target device, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information.
- (27) An advantage of embodiments disclosed herein is that they enable provisioning of positioning assistance data, based on logical position information such as the second logical position information, for the case of mobile target devices where the logical position information changes because of the target devices are moving.
- (28) This results in an improved way of providing position assistance data whereby the performance of a wireless communications network is improved.
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Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- (1) Examples of embodiments herein are described in more detail with reference to attached drawings in which:
- (2) FIG. 1 is a schematic block diagram illustrating prior art.
- (3) FIG. 2A is a schematic block diagram illustrating prior art.
- (4) FIG. 2B is a schematic block diagram illustrating embodiments of a wireless communications network.
- (5) FIG. 3A is a flowchart depicting embodiments of a method performed by a target device.
- (6) FIG. 3B is a schematic block diagram depicting embodiments of a target device.
- (7) FIG. 4A is a flowchart depicting embodiments of a method performed by a location server.
- (8) FIG. 4B is a schematic block diagram depicting embodiments of a location server.
- (9) FIG. 5 is a signalling diagram depicting embodiments of a method.
- (10) FIG. 6 is a signalling diagram depicting embodiments of a method.
- (11) FIG. 7A is a signalling diagram depicting embodiments of a method.
- (12) FIG. 7B is a signalling diagram depicting embodiments of a method.
- (13) FIGS. 8A and B are signalling diagrams depicting embodiments of a method.
- (14) FIGS. 9A, B and C are signalling diagrams depicting embodiments of a method.
- (15) FIGS. 10A, B and C are signalling diagrams depicting embodiments of a method.
- (16) FIG. 11 is a table depicting examples of information elements according to embodiments herein.
- (17) FIG. 12 schematically illustrates a telecommunication network connected via an intermediate network to a host computer.
- (18) FIG. 13 is a generalized block diagram of a host computer communicating via a base station with a user equipment over a partially wireless connection.
- (19) FIGS. 14-17 are flowcharts illustrating methods implemented in a communication system including a host computer, a base station and a user equipment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

(20) Some embodiments disclosed herein relate to facilitate seamless positioning session continuity and/or to allow a location server to route the positioning periodic message, e.g. periodic positioning assistance data, in the correct location when a target device, e.g. the UE, has moved from a first location to a second location.

(21) By the expression “seamless positioning session continuity” is meant that the provisioning of periodic assistance data to the target device is contiguous even when the target device is mobile and will change its logical position and physical position over time.

(22) Some embodiments disclosed herein relate to methods to update logical position information for periodic positioning assistance data provisioning.

(23) It should be understood that one or more features from one or more exemplifying embodiments described herein may be combined.

(24) Embodiments herein may refer to positioning, assistance data, GNSS, RTK.

(25) An advantage of embodiments disclosed herein is that they enable provisioning of positioning assistance data based on logical position information for the case of mobile target devices.

(26) Embodiments herein relate to wireless communication networks in general. FIGS. 2A and 2B is a schematic overview depicting a wireless communications network **200**. The wireless communications network **200** may be referred to as a radio communications network. The wireless communications network **200** comprises one or more Radio Access Networks (RANs) and one or more Core Networks (CNs). The radio communications network **100** may use a number of different technologies, such as NB-IoT, CAT-M, Wi-Fi, eMTC, Long Term Evolution (LTE), LTE-Advanced, 5G, New Radio (NR), Wideband Code Division Multiple Access (WCDMA), Global System for Mobile communications/enhanced Data rate for GSM Evolution (GSM/EDGE), Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMax), or Ultra Mobile Broadband (UMB), just to mention a few possible implementations. Sometimes in this disclosure the wireless communications network **200** is referred to as just a network.

(27) In the wireless communication network **200**, wireless devices e.g. a wireless device **210** also referred to as the first UE **210**, is operating in the wireless communications network **200**. One or more further wireless devices may operate in the wireless communications network **200**. As schematically illustrated in FIGS. 2A, 2B, the wireless device **210** may communicate with a network node, e.g. a radio network node **220** which will be described below.

(28) The wireless device **210** may e.g. be a mobile station, a non-Access Point (non-AP) STA, a STA, a user equipment and/or a wireless terminals, an NB-IoT device, an eMTC device and a CAT-M device, a WiFi device, an LTE device and an NR device communicate via one or more Access Networks (AN), e.g. RAN, to one or more Core Networks (CN). It should be understood by the skilled in the art that “wireless device” is a non-limiting term which means any terminal, wireless communication terminal, user equipment, Device to Device (D2D) terminal, or node e.g. smart phone, laptop, mobile phone, sensor, relay, mobile tablets or even a small base station communicating within a cell. In this disclosure, the wireless device **210** is sometimes referred to as a target device, and the terms wireless device and target device may be used interchangeably.

(29) Network nodes operate in the radio communications network **200**, such as a radio network node **220** also referred to as a first network node **220**, providing radio coverage over a geographical area, a service area **220a**, which may also be referred to as a cell, a beam or a beam group of a Radio Access Technology (RAT), such as 5G, LTE, Wi-Fi, NB-IoT, CAT-M, Wi-Fi, eMTC or similar. A second radio network node **222** is operating in the wireless communications network **200** and provides radio coverage over a geographical area, a service area **222a**, which may also be referred to as a cell, a beam or a beam group of a Radio Access Technology (RAT), such as 5G, LTE, Wi-Fi, NB-IoT, CAT-M, Wi-Fi, eMTC or similar. The network nodes **220,222** may be a transmission and reception point e.g. a radio access network node such as a Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) access point or an Access Point Station (AP STA), an access controller, a base station, e.g. a radio base station such as a NodeB, an evolved Node B (eNB, eNode B), a gNB, a

base transceiver station, a radio remote unit, an Access Point Base Station, a base station router, a transmission arrangement of a radio base station, a stand-alone access point or any other network unit capable of communicating with a wireless device within the service area served by the network node **220,222** depending e.g. on the radio access technology and terminology used. The network node **220,222** may be referred to as a serving radio network node and communicates with the wireless device **210** with Downlink (DL) transmissions to the wireless device **210** and Uplink (UL) transmissions from the wireless device **210**.

(30) Further network nodes operate in the radio communications network **200**, such as a core network node **250**. The core network node may be an MME which is a control node for an LTE access network, a Serving Gateway (SGW), and a Packet Data Network Gateway (PGW). An MME is amongst other responsible for tracking and paging procedure including retransmissions. Further, the network node **250** may be an Operation And Maintenance (OAM) node such as an OSS-RC (Operation and Support System Radio and Core (OSS-RC) node or an Ericsson Network Management (ENM) node. As another example the network node **250** may be an Access Management Function (AMF) of the 5G core network.

(31) A location server **230** and a positioning server **240** operate in the radio communications network **200**. For example, the location server **230** may be an E-SMLC as in LTE or an LMF as in 5G, e.g. a location management function, and the positioning server **240** may be an RTK server. The location server **230** and the positioning server **240** may communicate with each other over a communications interface.

(32) It should be understood that the positioning server **240** may be arranged external of the radio communications network **200** and in such a scenario the positioning server **240** may be referred to as an external positioning server **240** and the location server **230** and the positioning server **240** may communicate over an IP interface.

(33) The positioning server **240** may sometimes herein be referred to as an RTK server, a Network RTK server or an RTK network provider.

(34) Methods according to embodiments herein may be performed by any of the network node **220,222** such as e.g. a first or second radio network node **220,222**, the wireless device **210**, e.g. the UE, the location server **230** and/or by the positioning server **240**. As an alternative, a Distributed Node (DN) and functionality, e.g. comprised in a cloud **260** may be used for performing or partly performing the methods.

Actions of Some Embodiments Herein

(35) Example embodiments of a flowchart depicting embodiments of a method performed by the target device **210**, e.g. to obtain positioning assistance data, is depicted in FIG. 3A and will be described more in detail in the following. The target device **210** and the location server **230** are operating in the wireless communications network **200**.

(36) The method may comprise one or more of the following actions which actions may be taken in any suitable order. Further, it should be understood that one or more actions may be optional and that actions may be combined.

(37) In embodiments disclosed herein the target device **210** provides updated logical position information to the location server **230**. The expression “logical position information” when used herein refers to an identifier of a network entity, associated to the target device **210**. Such information may be an identity of a cell, e.g. the first cell **220a**, serving the target device **210**. Other examples of logical position information are base station ID, eNB ID, gNB ID, TRP ID, TP ID, RP ID, RRH ID, tracking area code, etc. The updated logical position information relates to updated information of the target device's **210** position. For example, when the target device **210** has moved from a first position served by the first cell **220a** to a second position served by a second cell **222a**, the updated position information relates to the second cell **222a** and may for example be the identity of the second cell **222a**.

(38) In action **301**, the target device **210** requests positioning assistance data and provides a first

logical position information to the location server **230**.

(39) The target device **210** may request the location server **230** to send the positioning assistance data. The request may be transmitted from the target device **210** to the location server **230**, transparent through the radio network node **220** or via the radio network node **220** serving the target device **210**.

(40) In action **302**, the target device **210** obtains positioning assistance data from the location server **230**. The positioning assistance data is based on the first logical position information, e.g. based on the first cell **220a**. The positioning assistance data may be periodic positioning assistance data obtained from the location sever **230**. By the term “obtain” when used herein means that the target device **210** may receive or retrieve the positioning assistance data from the location server **230**. The positioning assistance data may be obtained directly from the location server **230** transparent through the radio network node **220** serving the target device **210** or via the radio network node **220** serving the target device **210**.

(41) By the expression “periodic positioning assistance data” when used herein is meant positioning assistance data obtained at a number of points in time or instants in time, typically regular points in time or time instants. Thus, by obtaining periodic positioning assistance data the target device **210** will obtain updated positioning assistance data based on the logical position information.

(42) In action **303**, the target device **210** becomes associated to a second logical position, such as a second cell **222a**. This may be because the target device **210** has moved from the first location to the second location.

(43) In action **304**, the target device **210** sends a positioning assistance data request comprising a second logical position information to the location server **230**. This is to enable the location server **230** to take into account the movement of the target device **210** from the first logical position to the second logical position for updating the positioning assistance data.

(44) In action **305**, the target device **210** obtains positioning assistance data associated to the second logical position to confirm the request.

(45) In action **306**, the target device **210** obtains periodic positioning assistance data associated to the second logical position. Thus, by obtaining periodic positioning assistance data the target device **210** will obtain updated positioning assistance data based on the second logical position information and associated to the second logical position.

(46) In action **307**, the target device **210** uses the provided positioning assistance data to enable positioning of the target device **210**. Thus, by means of the obtained positioning assistance data the target device **210** determines its position. In this way the movement of the target device **210** from the first logical position to the second logical position has been taken into account for updating the positioning assistance data, resulting in an accurate determining of the position of the target device **210**.

(47) The first logical position information may be information about the first logical position corresponding to the first cell **220a** served by the first radio network node **220** and the second logical position information may be information about a second logical position corresponding to the second cell **222a** served by the second radio network node (**222**).

(48) To perform the method actions e.g. to obtain positioning assistance data, the target device **210** may comprise the arrangement depicted in FIG. **3B**. As mentioned above, the target device **210** and the location server **230** are operable in a wireless communications network **200**. The target device **210** may e.g. comprise a transmitting unit, a receiving unit, an obtaining unit, an associating unit, and an enabling unit.

(49) The target device **210** comprises the transmitting unit configured to transmit to the location server **230**, a request for positioning assistance data and providing first logical position information.

(50) The target device **210** further comprises the obtaining unit configured to obtain from the

location server **230**, positioning assistance data, based on the first logical position information.

(51) The transmitting unit is further configured to, when being associated with a second logical position, transmit to the location server **230**, a request for positioning assistance data and provide second logical position information.

(52) The obtaining unit is further configured to obtain from the location server **230**, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information.

(53) In some embodiments, the obtained positioning assistance data is to be used to determine the position of the target device **210**.

(54) The positioning assistance data may be periodic positioning assistance data obtained at a number of periodic points in time in order to obtain updated positioning assistance data.

(55) The first logical position information may be information about a first logical position corresponding to the first cell **220a** served by the first radio network node **220** and the second logical position information may be information about the second logical position corresponding to the second cell **222a** served by the second radio network node **222**.

(56) Those skilled in the art will also appreciate that the units in the target device **210** described above may refer to a combination of analogue and digital circuits, and/or one or more processors configured with software and/or firmware, e.g. stored in target device **210**, that when executed by the respective one or more processors such as the processors described above. One or more of these processors, as well as the other digital hardware, may be included in a single Application-Specific Integrated Circuitry (ASIC), or several processors and various digital hardware may be distributed among several separate components, whether individually packaged or assembled into a System-on-a-Chip (SoC).

(57) The target device **210** may comprise an input and output interface configured to communicate with one or more network nodes, e.g. with one or more of the network nodes **220,222**, the location server **230**, and the positioning server **240**. The input and output interface may comprise a wireless receiver (not shown) and a wireless transmitter (not shown).

(58) The embodiments herein may be implemented through a respective processor or one or more processors, such as the processor of a processing circuitry in target device **210** depicted in FIG. 3B, together with respective computer program code for performing the functions and actions of the embodiments herein. The program code mentioned above may also be provided as a computer program product, for instance in the form of a data carrier carrying computer program code for performing the embodiments herein when being loaded into the target device **210**. One such carrier may be in the form of a CD ROM disc. It is however feasible with other data carriers such as a memory stick. The computer program code may furthermore be provided as pure program code on a server and downloaded to the target device **210**.

(59) The target device **210** may further comprise a memory comprising one or more memory units. The memory comprises instructions executable by the processor in the target device **210**.

(60) The memory is arranged to be used to store e.g. data, configurations, and applications to perform the methods herein when being executed in the target device **210**.

(61) Some embodiments of the target device **210** may comprise:

(62) a radio circuitry configured to transmit one or more requests to the location server **230**, to provide logical position information to the location server **230**, and to obtain positioning assistance data from the location server **230**;

(63) a storage configured to store logical position information and positioning assistance data; and

(64) a processing unit configured to determine a position based on received positioning assistance data.

(65) Example embodiments of a flowchart depicting embodiments of a method performed by the location server **230**, e.g. to provide positioning assistance data to the target device **210**, is depicted in FIG. 4A and will be described more in detail in the following. The method may comprise one or more of the following actions which actions may be taken in any suitable order. Further, it should

be understood that one or more actions may be optional and that actions may be combined.

(66) In action **401**, the location server **230** obtains, e.g. receives or retrieves, from the target device **210** a positioning assistance data request comprising a first logical position information.

(67) In action **402**, the location server **230** provides, e.g. transmits, to the target device **210** positioning assistance data to confirm the request, optionally also periodic positioning assistance data, based on the first logical position information. As mentioned above, the expression periodic positioning assistance data refers to positioning assistance data provided to the target device **210** at a number of points in time or instants in time. The positioning assistance data may be provided periodically at a certain time interval.

(68) In action **403**, the location server **230** obtains, e.g. receives or retrieves, from the target device **210** a positioning assistance data request comprising second logical position information. As mentioned above, the second logical position information may relate to a second cell to which the target device **210** has moved. This is to enable the location server **230** to take into account the movement of the target device **210** from the first logical position to the second logical position for updating the positioning assistance data.

(69) In action **404**, the location server **230** provides, e.g. transmits, to the target device **210**, positioning assistance data associated to, such as based on, the second logical position. The location server **230** may provide the positioning assistance data to confirm receipt of the second logical position information.

(70) In action **405**, the location server **230** provides, e.g. transmits, to the target device **210**, positioning assistance data, e.g. periodic positioning assistance data, associated to the second logical position.

(71) To perform the method actions e.g. to provide positioning assistance data, the location server **230** may comprise the arrangement depicted in FIG. **4B**. The location server **230** may e.g. comprise a transmitting unit, a receiving unit, an obtaining unit, and a providing unit. As mentioned above, the target device **210** and the location server **230** are operable in a wireless communications network **200**.

(72) The location server **230** comprises the obtaining unit configured to obtain from the target device **210**, a request for positioning assistance data and first logical position information.

(73) The location server **230** further comprises the providing unit configured to provide to the target device **210**, positioning assistance data based on the first logical position information.

(74) The obtaining unit is further configured to obtain from the target device **210**, a request for positioning assistance data and second logical position information.

(75) The providing unit is further configured to provide to the target device **210**, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information.

(76) The positioning assistance data may be periodic positioning assistance data provided at a number of periodic points in time in order to provide updated positioning assistance data.

(77) The first logical position information may be information about a first logical position corresponding to the first cell **220a** served by the first radio network node **220** and the second logical position information may be information about a second logical position corresponding to the second cell **222a** served by the second radio network node **222**.

(78) In an example embodiment, the location server obtains a request from the target device. The request is a request for periodic positioning assistance data and from first logical position information, if the request can be supported. If the request can be supported, the message contains the control parameters in the positioning method specific assistance data. The location server provides positioning assistance data to the target device along with the control parameters. The positioning assistance data is based on the first logical position information. The location server obtains a request from the target device. The request is a request for an update of positioning assistance data and from second logical position information. The location server provides positioning assistance data to the target device. The positioning assistance data is based on the

second logical position information.

(79) Those skilled in the art will also appreciate that the units in the location server **230** described above may refer to a combination of analogue and digital circuits, and/or one or more processors configured with software and/or firmware, e.g. stored in location server **230**, that when executed by the respective one or more processors such as the processors described above. One or more of these processors, as well as the other digital hardware, may be included in a single Application-Specific Integrated Circuitry (ASIC), or several processors and various digital hardware may be distributed among several separate components, whether individually packaged or assembled into a System-on-a-Chip (SoC).

(80) The location server **230** may comprise an input and output interface configured to communicate with one or more network nodes, e.g. with one or more of the network nodes **220, 222**, the target device **210**, and the positioning server **240**. The input and output interface may comprise a wireless receiver (not shown) and a wireless transmitter (not shown).

(81) The embodiments herein may be implemented through a respective processor or one or more processors, such as the processor of a processing circuitry in location server **230** depicted in FIG. **4B**, together with respective computer program code for performing the functions and actions of the embodiments herein. The program code mentioned above may also be provided as a computer program product, for instance in the form of a data carrier carrying computer program code for performing the embodiments herein when being loaded into the location server **230**. One such carrier may be in the form of a CD ROM disc. It is however feasible with other data carriers such as a memory stick. The computer program code may furthermore be provided as pure program code on a server and downloaded to the location server **230**.

(82) The location server **230** may further comprise a memory comprising one or more memory units. The memory comprises instructions executable by the processor in the location server **230**.

(83) The memory is arranged to be used to store e.g. data, configurations, and applications to perform the methods herein when being executed in the location server **230**.

(84) Some embodiments of the location server **230** may comprise:

(85) a radio circuitry configured to obtain one or more requests from the target device **210**, to obtain logical position information from the target device **210**, and to provide positioning assistance data to the target device **210**;

(86) a storage configured to e.g. store logical position information and positioning assistance data; and

(87) a processing unit configured to determine positioning assistance data to the target device **210** based on obtained request and logical position information.

(88) In some embodiments, the signalling between the target device **210**, the first and second radio network nodes **220, 222** and the location server **230** may be illustrated as schematically shown in FIG. **5**. It should be understood that one or more actions may be optional and that actions may be taken in another suitable order. Actions may also be combined.

(89) In action **501**, the target device **210** requests positioning assistance data and provides a first logical position information to the location server **230**. The first logical position corresponds to the first radio network node **220**.

(90) In action **502**, the target device **210** obtains positioning assistance data from the location server **230**, optionally also periodic assistance data, based on the first logical position information.

(91) In action **503**, the target device **210** transmits, to the first radio network node **220**, information about the ongoing positioning session before becoming associated to a second logical position corresponding to the second radio network node **222**.

(92) In action **504**, the first radio network node **220** transmits, to the second radio network node **222**, information over an XnAP/X2 (NR/LTE) interface about the ongoing positioning session.

(93) In action **505**, the first radio network node **220** or the second radio network node **222** transmits, to the location server **230**, information about the change of radio network node via

LPPa/NRPPa or via a core network node such as the AMF **250**.

(94) In action **506**, the location server **230** routes the periodic positioning assistance data to the second radio network node **222**.

(95) Below a more detailed description will follow.

(96) Embodiments disclosed herein relate to a positioning scenario as depicted in FIGS. 2A and 2B comprising the target device **210** supported by the location server **230**. The location server **230** is configured to provide positioning assistance data to the target device **210**. The positioning assistance data may be periodic positioning assistance data, i.e. positioning assistance data provided periodically. Thus, at periodic points in time, the location server **230** may provide positioning assistance data to the target device **210**. The location server **230** may receive the positioning assistance data from an assistance data provider, e.g. from the positioning server **240**. The target device **210** may be served by or may be camping at a first radio network node **220** associated to a first logical position information (for example a cell ID), and the first radio network node **220** provides communication services in a first cell **220a**. In the shown example, the target device **210** is mobile and moving with a velocity v . Therefore, at a later point in time the target device **210** will be served by or be camping at a second radio network node **222** associated to a second logical position information and providing communication services in a second cell **222a**. Furthermore, the first and second radio network nodes **220,222** are associated to a core network node **250**, which may route messages between the UE **210** and the location server **230** via the first radio network node **220** or the second radio network node **222**. The core network node **250** may interact with the first radio network node **220** and the second radio network node **222**. Further, the first radio network node **220** and the second radio network node **222** may have a direct signaling interface between them.

(97) Some embodiments herein describe different means to indicate a change in the logical position of the target device **210** from a first logical position to a second logical position information. Some embodiments herein also describe means to continue with providing periodic positioning assistance data but based on the second logical position information instead of the first logical position information.

(98) One possible situation is that despite a change of logical position from a first logical position to a second logical position, the configuration of the positioning assistance data remains the same. This is the case, since the same configuration is applicable across rather wide spatial regions.

(99) The basic signaling flow with a target device **210** sending a first logical position information to the location server **230** and obtaining periodic positioning assistance data is known in the art and documented in 3GPP TS 36.355 V.15.1.0. For reference, the signaling flow is depicted in FIG. 6 and the following seven messages 1-7: In the below example, the target device **210** is referred to as “target”, and the location server **230** is referred to as “server”. 1. The target sends a RequestAssistanceData message to the server using some available transactionID T1. The message contains a periodicSessionID S (different to any other periodicSessionID currently in use between the target and server) in the IE CommonIEsRequestAssistanceData. The message also includes a positioning method specific assistance data request element (e.g., IE A-GNSS-RequestAssistanceData) identifying the type of assistance data being requested together with desired periodicity conditions for sending it and a duration for ending the assistance data transfer (e.g., in IE GNSS-PeriodicAssistDataReq). 2. The server responds with a ProvideAssistanceData message to the target. The message uses the transactionID T1 in action 1 and indicates the end of this transaction. The message contains the periodicSessionID S in IE CommonIEsProvideAssistanceData. If the request can be supported, the message contains the control parameters in the positioning method specific assistance data (e.g., IE A-GNSS-ProvideAssistanceData) which may confirm or redefine the type of assistance data or periodicity parameters requested at action 1 (e.g., in IE GNSS-PeriodicAssistData). If the target requested non-periodic assistance data in addition to the periodic assistance data in action 1, the

ProvideAssistanceData message may also include the non-periodic assistance data in this action 2 (but not any periodic assistance data).

If the request cannot be supported (fully or partly), an error reason is provided in the positioning method specific IE (e.g., IE A-GNSS-Error). If the request cannot even partly be supported remaining steps are then not performed.

(100) NOTE 2: The target infers from an absence of the periodicSessionID that the server does not support periodic assistance data delivery. In that case, the target device does not expect the Data Transaction (Actions 3-7). 3. When the first periodic message is available, the server sends an unsolicited ProvideAssistanceData message to the target containing the periodicSessionID S and the periodic assistance data confirmed in action 2. The message uses some available transactionID T2 that may be different to T1.

(101) NOTE 3: The positioning method specific control parameters (e.g., IE GNSS-PeriodicAssistData) are not included in the data transaction. 4. The server may continue to send further ProvideAssistanceData messages to the target containing the periodic assistance data confirmed or redefined in action 2 when each additional periodicity condition occurs.

(102) NOTE 4: The target expects a ProvideAssistanceData messages at the in Step 2 confirmed interval(s). If some or all of the assistance data is not available at each periodic interval, an error indication is provided in the positioning method specific IE (e.g., IE A-GNSS-Error). 5. If the target device requires the session to end, the target sends an Abort message to the server for transaction T2 that may optionally include an abortCause. Remaining steps are then omitted. 6. If the server requires the session to end, the server sends an Abort message to the target for transaction T2 that may optionally include an abortCause. Remaining steps are then omitted. 7. When the duration or other conditions for ending the periodic assistance data transfer occur, the last ProvideAssistanceData message transferred indicates the end of transaction T2.

Signaling Embodiments

(103) Exemplifying embodiments will now be described in more detail with reference to different signaling flows as illustrated by FIGS. 7 to 10.

(104) FIGS. 7A (steps 600-630) and 7B (steps 635-665) schematically illustrate a signaling chart depicting an example embodiment herein. The target device 210 first aborts 620, 665, 660 ongoing periodic transactions, e.g. ongoing periodic transmission of positioning assistance data, and then requests 635 and receives 640, 645, 650, 665 new periodic transmissions of positioning assistance data. This relates to Actions 304, 305, 306, 403, 404 and 404 described above.

(105) FIGS. 8A (steps 700-705) and 8B (steps 710-730) schematically illustrate a signaling chart depicting an example embodiment herein. The target device 210 indicates an updated logical position by requesting 716 and obtaining a confirmation by obtaining 717 non-periodic transmissions of positioning assistance data again, cf. control transaction T3 in FIG. 8. The updated positioning assistance data is obtained in periodic transmissions 719. This relates to Actions 304, 305, 306, 403, 404 and 404 described above.

(106) a signaling chart depicting an example embodiment herein. The target device 210 indicates an updated logical position by requesting 716 periodic transmissions of positioning assistance data again and obtains a confirmation by obtaining 717 a non-periodic transmissions of positioning assistance data again, cf. control transaction T3 in FIG. 8. The updated positioning assistance data is obtained in periodic transmissions 719. This relates to Actions 304, 305, 306, 403, 404 and 404 described above.

(107) FIGS. 9A, 9B and 9C schematically illustrate a signaling chart depicting an example embodiment herein.

(108) The target device 210 indicates an updated logical position by requesting 816 periodic transmissions of positioning assistance data. In this scenario, the request triggers an abort 818 from the location server 230 and an end to the current periodic provisioning of the positioning assistance data and the initiation of a new transmission of periodic positioning assistance data.

(109) All of these are started in the same way in actions **600**, **605**, **610** and **615** (which are the same first four signals in FIGS. **8**, **9** and **10** and also in the legacy signaling flow in FIG. **6**). In action **600,700, 800, 900**, the target device **210** initiates the periodic positioning assistance data with a request assistance data message comprising a first transaction ID, a first periodic session ID, a logical position information and some further information (e.g. other control parameters, requested assistance data types, etc). This relates to Actions **301** and **401** described above. In response, the location server **230** sends a provide assistance data message and ends the transaction (**605,705,805,905**). Then, the location server **230** initiates periodic provisioning of positioning assistance data associated to a new second transaction ID T2 and the same periodic session ID S, cf. action **610,615; 710,715; 810,815; 910,915**. This relates to Actions **304, 305, 306, 403, 404** and **405** described above.

(110) All of these also ends with the same four messages (the abort messages are optional) as in the legacy signaling flow.

(111) Abort and Restart

(112) In some embodiments illustrated by FIG. **7**, the target device **210** updates the logical position information by sending an Abort message **620** to the server **230**, which responds by ending the periodic positioning assistance data with message **630**. Then the device **210** will start a new periodic session identical to the legacy signaling flow based on a second session ID S2 with messages **635, 640, 645, 650, 655, 660** and **665** being the same as actions 1-7 of FIG. **6**.

(113) Indicate Update and Continue

(114) In some embodiment illustrated by FIG. **8**, the target device **210** only updates the logical position information by two messages **716** and **717** during the periodic positioning assistance data provisioning. The session ID remains the same and also the transaction ID of the periodic AD provisioning. The two control messages **716** and **717** should be associated to a separate third transaction ID, but it may also be possible to reuse the first transaction ID. The other actions are the same as the legacy signaling flow. Note that since the configuration changes due to the logical position info update are indicated as part of the assistance data, there may be optionally a message associated to the configuration associated to a first logical position information before a message associated to the configuration associated to a second logical position information.

(115) This is the most signaling efficient embodiment and it also is very reasonable since most often the configuration of the periodic positioning assistance data remains the same also after an update of the logical position information as discussed in the section “Periodic Positioning Assistance Data Information” below.

(116) Indicated Update Triggers Server Abort

(117) In some embodiments illustrated by FIG. **9**, the target **210** updates the logical position information by two messages **816** and **817** during the periodic positioning assistance data provisioning, indicating a second session ID S2 (may be the same as the first session ID). This triggers an abort message **818** and an end transaction message **819** from the location server. Then the server **230** initiates a new periodic assistance data provisioning, associated to the second periodic session ID. These steps **820, 825, 830, 835, and 840** correspond to the last steps of the legacy signaling flow messages 3-7.

(118) Indicated Update Triggers Serve Ends Periodic Data

(119) In some embodiments illustrated by FIG. **10**, the target updates the logical position information by two messages **916** and **917** during the periodic positioning assistance data provisioning, indicating a second session ID S2 (may be the same as the first session ID). This triggers an end transaction message **919** from the location server **230**. Then the server **230** initiates a new periodic assistance data provisioning, associated to the second periodic session ID. These steps **920, 925, 930, 935, and 940** corresponds to the last steps of the legacy signaling flow messages 3-7.

(120) Signaling Among Different Nodes

(121) In some embodiments the target device **210** will notify to the first radio network node **220** that it has an ongoing positioning session along with the associated Positioning Session ID.

(122) In some alternate embodiments, the first radio network node **220** will notify change of UE location to Location Server **230** using NRPPa or via NgAP and N2 interface. The information may comprise UE identifier, Positioning Session ID, previous serving cell, new Serving cell id etc.

(123) In some embodiments, the AMF **250** will indicate to the location server **230**, e.g. an LMF, that the target device **210** has changed its position from a first logical position associated to a first radio network node **220** and the associated new second logical position associated to a second radio network node **222**. The information may comprise UE identifier, Positioning Session ID, previous serving cell, new Serving cell id etc.

(124) The above terminologies are for NR/5G; for LTE, it would be MME **250**, ESMLC **230**, nodes and LPPa, S1AP interfaces.

(125) Periodic Positioning Assistance Data Information

(126) FIG. **11** provides examples of information elements that may be considered for periodic positioning assistance data. For GNSS RTK, the information may be associated to physical or non-physical reference stations, each identified by a reference station ID defined in GNSS-RTK-ReferenceStationInfo. Related observations are provided frequently such as once a second for example via GNSS-RTK-CommonObservationInfo and GNSS-RTK-Observations. These observations are associated to reference station IDs.

(127) When the logical position information is updated, the location server **230** may associate the target device **210** to new, partly the same or the same reference stations compared to before. For example, if the non-physical reference stations are separated by a typical distance of 5 km, and a typical inter-site distance could be 500 m in some deployments, then several radio network nodes will be associated to the same non-physical (or physical) reference station

(128) Therefore, it is quite likely that an update of the logical position information may happen relatively frequently, but still will not cause any changes in the configuration of the periodic assistance data. Note that the observations will change for every provide assistance data message, but the set of reference stations that the observations are associated to is typically the same.

(129) Therefore, it is reasonable not to change the periodic session unnecessarily often. Therefore, the signaling flow captured by FIG. **8** is a preferred embodiment.

(130) The same conclusion about seldom changes to the configuration of the periodic positioning assistance data is also true for MAC (master and auxiliary encoding of data, a more efficient encoding), FKP (some interpolation parameters provided), direct error estimates provided (real-time PPP where the satellite errors are estimated), atmospheric models provided. All these are also considered to be the same over an area, and an update of the logical position information will typically not change the configuration of these either.

(131) Some example Embodiments numbered 1-7 are described below.

(132) The following embodiments refer among other things to FIGS. **2A**, **2B**, **3A**, **3B**, **4A** and **4B**.

(133) Embodiment 1. A method performed by a target device (**210**) to e.g. obtain positioning assistance data from a location server (**230**), wherein the target device (**210**) and the location server (**230**) are operating in a wireless communications network (**200**), and wherein the method comprises: transmitting (**301**), to the location server (**230**), a request for positioning assistance data and providing first logical position information; obtaining (**302**), from the location server (**230**), positioning assistance data, e.g. periodic positioning assistance data, based on the first logical position information; when being associated with a second logical position, transmitting (**303,304**), to the location server (**230**), a request for positioning assistance data and providing second logical position information; and obtaining (**305,306**), from the location server (**230**), positioning assistance data, e.g. periodic positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information.

(134) Embodiment 2. The method of Embodiment 1, further comprising: using (**307**) the obtained

positioning assistance data. For example, the target device **210** may use the obtained positioning assistance data to determine the position of the target device **210**.

(135) Embodiment 3. The method of Embodiment 1 or 2, wherein the positioning assistance data is periodic positioning assistance data obtained at a number of periodic points in time/instants in time in order to obtain updated positioning assistance data.

(136) Embodiment 4. The method of any of Embodiments 1-3, wherein the first logical position information is information about a first logical position corresponding to a first cell (**220a**) served by a first radio network node (**220**) and the second logical position information is information about a second logical position corresponding to a second cell (**222a**) served by a second radio network node (**222**).

(137) Embodiment 5. A method performed by a location server (**230**) to e.g. provide positioning assistance data to a target device (**210**), wherein the target device (**210**) and the location server (**230**) are operating in a wireless communications network (**200**), and wherein the method comprises: obtaining (**401**), from the target device (**210**), a request for positioning assistance data and first logical position information; providing (**402**), to the target device (**210**), positioning assistance data, e.g. periodic positioning assistance data, based on the first logical position information; obtaining (**403**), from the target device (**210**), a request for positioning assistance data and second logical position information; and providing (**404,405**), to the target device (**210**), positioning assistance data, e.g. periodic positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information.

(138) Embodiment 6. The method of Embodiment 5, wherein the positioning assistance data is periodic positioning assistance data provided at a number of periodic points in time/instants in time in order to provide updated positioning assistance data.

(139) Embodiment 7. The method of any of Embodiments 5-6, wherein the first logical position information is information about a first logical position corresponding to a first cell (**220a**) served by a first radio network node (**220**) and the second logical position information is information about a second logical position corresponding to a second cell (**222a**) served by a second radio network node (**222**).

FURTHER EXTENSIONS AND VARIATIONS

(140) With reference to FIG. **12**, in accordance with an embodiment, a communication system includes a telecommunication network **3210** such as the wireless communications network **200**, e.g. a WLAN, such as a 3GPP-type cellular network, which comprises an access network **3211**, such as a radio access network, and a core network **3214**. The access network **3211** comprises a plurality of base stations **3212a**, **3212b**, **3212c**, such as network nodes **220,222**, access nodes, AP STAs NBs, eNBs, gNBs or other types of wireless access points, each defining a corresponding coverage area **3213a**, **3213b**, **3213c**. Each base station **3212a**, **3212b**, **3212c** is connectable to the core network **3214** over a wired or wireless connection **3215**. A first user equipment (UE) e.g. the UE **210** such as a Non-AP STA **3291** located in coverage area **3213c** is configured to wirelessly connect to, or be paged by, the corresponding base station **3212c**. A second UE **3292** such as a Non-AP STA in coverage area **3213a** is wirelessly connectable to the corresponding base station **3212a**. While a plurality of UEs **3291**, **3292** are illustrated in this example, the disclosed embodiments are equally applicable to a situation where a sole UE is in the coverage area or where a sole UE is connecting to the corresponding base station **3212**.

(141) The telecommunication network **3210** is itself connected to a host computer **3230**, which may be embodied in the hardware and/or software of a standalone server, a cloud-implemented server, a distributed server or as processing resources in a server farm. The host computer **3230** may be under the ownership or control of a service provider, or may be operated by the service provider or on behalf of the service provider. The connections **3221**, **3222** between the telecommunication network **3210** and the host computer **3230** may extend directly from the core network **3214** to the host computer **3230** or may go via an optional intermediate network **3220**. The

intermediate network **3220** may be one of, or a combination of more than one of, a public, private or hosted network; the intermediate network **3220**, if any, may be a backbone network or the Internet; in particular, the intermediate network **3220** may comprise two or more sub-networks (not shown).

(142) The communication system of FIG. **12** as a whole enables connectivity between one of the connected UEs **3291**, **3292** and the host computer **3230**. The connectivity may be described as an over-the-top (OTT) connection **3250**. The host computer **3230** and the connected UEs **3291**, **3292** are configured to communicate data and/or signalling via the OTT connection **3250**, using the access network **3211**, the core network **3214**, any intermediate network **3220** and possible further infrastructure (not shown) as intermediaries. The OTT connection **3250** may be transparent in the sense that the participating communication devices through which the OTT connection **3250** passes are unaware of routing of uplink and downlink communications. For example, a base station **3212** may not or need not be informed about the past routing of an incoming downlink communication with data originating from a host computer **3230** to be forwarded (e.g., handed over) to a connected UE **3291**. Similarly, the base station **3212** need not be aware of the future routing of an outgoing uplink communication originating from the UE **3291** towards the host computer **3230**.

(143) Example implementations, in accordance with an embodiment, of the UE, base station and host computer discussed in the preceding paragraphs will now be described with reference to FIG. **13**. In a communication system **3300**, a host computer **3310** comprises hardware **3315** including a communication interface **3316** configured to set up and maintain a wired or wireless connection with an interface of a different communication device of the communication system **3300**. The host computer **3310** further comprises processing circuitry **3318**, which may have storage and/or processing capabilities. In particular, the processing circuitry **3318** may comprise one or more programmable processors, application-specific integrated circuits, field programmable gate arrays or combinations of these (not shown) adapted to execute instructions. The host computer **3310** further comprises software **3311**, which is stored in or accessible by the host computer **3310** and executable by the processing circuitry **3318**. The software **3311** includes a host application **3312**. The host application **3312** may be operable to provide a service to a remote user, such as a UE **3330** connecting via an OTT connection **3350** terminating at the UE **3330** and the host computer **3310**. In providing the service to the remote user, the host application **3312** may provide user data which is transmitted using the OTT connection **3350**.

(144) The communication system **3300** further includes a base station **3320** provided in a telecommunication system and comprising hardware **3325** enabling it to communicate with the host computer **3310** and with the UE **3330**. The hardware **3325** may include a communication interface **3326** for setting up and maintaining a wired or wireless connection with an interface of a different communication device of the communication system **3300**, as well as a radio interface **3327** for setting up and maintaining at least a wireless connection **3370** with a UE **3330** located in a coverage area (not shown) served by the base station **3320**. The communication interface **3326** may be configured to facilitate a connection **3360** to the host computer **3310**. The connection **3360** may be direct or it may pass through a core network (not shown) of the telecommunication system and/or through one or more intermediate networks outside the telecommunication system. In the embodiment shown, the hardware **3325** of the base station **3320** further includes processing circuitry **3328**, which may comprise one or more programmable processors, application-specific integrated circuits, field programmable gate arrays or combinations of these (not shown) adapted to execute instructions. The base station **3320** further has software **3321** stored internally or accessible via an external connection.

(145) The communication system **3300** further includes the UE **3330** already referred to. Its hardware **3335** may include a radio interface **3337** configured to set up and maintain a wireless connection **3370** with a base station serving a coverage area in which the UE **3330** is currently located. The hardware **3335** of the UE **3330** further includes processing circuitry **3338**, which may

comprise one or more programmable processors, application-specific integrated circuits, field programmable gate arrays or combinations of these (not shown) adapted to execute instructions. The UE **3330** further comprises software **3331**, which is stored in or accessible by the UE **3330** and executable by the processing circuitry **3338**. The software **3331** includes a client application **3332**. The client application **3332** may be operable to provide a service to a human or non-human user via the UE **3330**, with the support of the host computer **3310**. In the host computer **3310**, an executing host application **3312** may communicate with the executing client application **3332** via the OTT connection **3350** terminating at the UE **3330** and the host computer **3310**. In providing the service to the user, the client application **3332** may receive request data from the host application **3312** and provide user data in response to the request data. The OTT connection **3350** may transfer both the request data and the user data. The client application **3332** may interact with the user to generate the user data that it provides.

(146) It is noted that the host computer **3310**, base station **3320** and UE **3330** illustrated in FIG. **13** may be identical to the host computer **3230**, one of the base stations **3212a**, **3212b**, **3212c** and one of the UEs **3291**, **3292** of FIG. **12**, respectively. This is to say, the inner workings of these entities may be as shown in FIG. **13** and independently, the surrounding network topology may be that of FIG. **12**.

(147) In FIG. **9**, the OTT connection **3350** has been drawn abstractly to illustrate the communication between the host computer **3310** and the use equipment **3330** via the base station **3320**, without explicit reference to any intermediary devices and the precise routing of messages via these devices. Network infrastructure may determine the routing, which it may be configured to hide from the UE **3330** or from the service provider operating the host computer **3310**, or both. While the OTT connection **3350** is active, the network infrastructure may further take decisions by which it dynamically changes the routing (e.g., on the basis of load balancing consideration or reconfiguration of the network).

(148) The wireless connection **3370** between the UE **3330** and the base station **3320** is in accordance with the teachings of the embodiments described throughout this disclosure. One or more of the various embodiments improve the performance of OTT services provided to the UE **3330** using the OTT connection **3350**, in which the wireless connection **3370** forms the last segment. More precisely, the teachings of these embodiments may improve the pSIM scheduling allowing more positioning assistance data to be broadcasted.

(149) A measurement procedure may be provided for the purpose of monitoring data rate, latency and other factors on which the one or more embodiments improve. There may further be an optional network functionality for reconfiguring the OTT connection **3350** between the host computer **3310** and UE **3330**, in response to variations in the measurement results. The measurement procedure and/or the network functionality for reconfiguring the OTT connection **3350** may be implemented in the software **3311** of the host computer **3310** or in the software **3331** of the UE **3330**, or both. In embodiments, sensors (not shown) may be deployed in or in association with communication devices through which the OTT connection **3350** passes; the sensors may participate in the measurement procedure by supplying values of the monitored quantities exemplified above, or supplying values of other physical quantities from which software **3311**, **3331** may compute or estimate the monitored quantities. The reconfiguring of the OTT connection **3350** may include message format, retransmission settings, preferred routing etc.; the reconfiguring need not affect the base station **3320**, and it may be unknown or imperceptible to the base station **3320**. Such procedures and functionalities may be known and practiced in the art. In certain embodiments, measurements may involve proprietary UE signalling facilitating the host computer's **3310** measurements of throughput, propagation times, latency and the like. The measurements may be implemented in that the software **3311**, **3331** causes messages to be transmitted, in particular empty or 'dummy' messages, using the OTT connection **3350** while it monitors propagation times, errors etc.

(150) FIGS. **12** and **13** and the corresponding text are about a downstream aspect of the radio-related invention, while FIGS. **14** and **15** and the corresponding text discuss an upstream aspect. (151) FIG. **14** is a flowchart illustrating a method implemented in a communication system, in accordance with one embodiment. The communication system includes a host computer, a base station such as a AP STA, and a UE such as a Non-AP STA which may be those described with reference to FIGS. **12** and **3**. For simplicity of the present disclosure, only drawing references to FIG. **12** will be included in this section. In a first action **3410** of the method, the host computer provides user data. In an optional subaction **3411** of the first action **3410**, the host computer provides the user data by executing a host application. In a second action **3420**, the host computer initiates a transmission carrying the user data to the UE. In an optional third action **3430**, the base station transmits to the UE the user data which was carried in the transmission that the host computer initiated, in accordance with the teachings of the embodiments described throughout this disclosure. In an optional fourth action **3440**, the UE executes a client application associated with the host application executed by the host computer.

(152) FIG. **15** is a flowchart illustrating a method implemented in a communication system, in accordance with one embodiment. The communication system includes a host computer, a base station such as a AP STA, and a UE such as a Non-AP STA which may be those described with reference to FIGS. **12** and **13**. For simplicity of the present disclosure, only drawing references to FIG. **15** will be included in this section. In a first action **3510** of the method, the host computer provides user data. In an optional subaction (not shown) the host computer provides the user data by executing a host application. In a second action **3520**, the host computer initiates a transmission carrying the user data to the UE. The transmission may pass via the base station, in accordance with the teachings of the embodiments described throughout this disclosure. In an optional third action **3530**, the UE receives the user data carried in the transmission.

(153) FIG. **16** is a flowchart illustrating a method implemented in a communication system, in accordance with one embodiment. The communication system includes a host computer, a base station such as a AP STA, and a UE such as a Non-AP STA which may be those described with reference to FIGS. **12** and **13**. For simplicity of the present disclosure, only drawing references to FIG. **16** will be included in this section. In an optional first action **3610** of the method, the UE receives input data provided by the host computer. Additionally or alternatively, in an optional second action **3620**, the UE provides user data. In an optional subaction **3621** of the second action **3620**, the UE provides the user data by executing a client application. In a further optional subaction **3611** of the first action **3610**, the UE executes a client application which provides the user data in reaction to the received input data provided by the host computer. In providing the user data, the executed client application may further consider user input received from the user. Regardless of the specific manner in which the user data was provided, the UE initiates, in an optional third subaction **3630**, transmission of the user data to the host computer. In a fourth action **3640** of the method, the host computer receives the user data transmitted from the UE, in accordance with the teachings of the embodiments described throughout this disclosure.

(154) FIG. **17** is a flowchart illustrating a method implemented in a communication system, in accordance with one embodiment. The communication system includes a host computer, a base station such as a AP STA, and a UE such as a Non-AP STA which may be those described with reference to FIGS. **12** and **13**. For simplicity of the present disclosure, only drawing references to FIG. **17** will be included in this section. In an optional first action **3710** of the method, in accordance with the teachings of the embodiments described throughout this disclosure, the base station receives user data from the UE. In an optional second action **3720**, the base station initiates transmission of the received user data to the host computer. In a third action **3730**, the host computer receives the user data carried in the transmission initiated by the base station.

(155) When using the word “comprise” or “comprising” it shall be interpreted as non-limiting, i.e. meaning “consist at least of”.

(156) The embodiments herein are not limited to the above described preferred embodiments.

Various alternatives, modifications and equivalents may be used.

(157) TABLE-US-00001 Abbreviation Explanation A-GNSS Assisted-GNSS DGNSS Differential GNSS GNSS Global Navigation Satellite System OTDOA Observed Time Difference of Arrival RTK Real Time Kinematics PPP Precise Point Positioning

Claims

1. A method performed by a target device to obtain positioning assistance data from a location server, the target device and the location server operating in a wireless communications network, and the method comprising: transmitting, to the location server, a request for positioning assistance data and providing first logical position information, the request comprising a desired periodicity condition for sending the positioning assistance data and a duration for ending transfer of the positioning assistance data, the request for positioning assistance data comprising a request for non-periodic assistance data, obtaining, from the location server, an error reason when the request for positioning assistance data cannot be one of fully or partly supported, obtaining, from the location server, positioning assistance data including the non-periodic assistance data, based on the first logical position information, when some or all of the positioning assistance data is unavailable, obtaining an error indication in a positioning method specific information element, when being associated with a second logical position, transmitting, to the location server, a request for positioning assistance data and providing second logical position information; and obtaining, from the location server, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information, the positioning assistance data being periodic positioning assistance data obtained at a number of periodic points in time in order to obtain updated positioning assistance data, and the periodic positioning assistance data obtained at regular points in time or time instants; the first and second logical position information each referring to a respective identifier of a respective network entity associated with the target device, and each respective identifier being any one out of: a base station Identity, ID, an evolved NodeB, eNB, ID, a gNB ID, a Transmission and Reception Point, TRP, ID, a Transmission Point, TP, ID, a Reception Point, RP, ID, a Remote Radio Head, RRH, ID, and a tracking area code.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising: using the obtained positioning assistance data to determine the position of the target device.

3. A non-transitory, computer-readable medium storing computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, causes the processor to: transmit, to a location server, a request for positioning assistance data and provide first logical position information, the request comprising a desired periodicity condition for sending the positioning assistance data and a duration for ending transfer of the positioning assistance data, the request for positioning assistance data comprising a request for non-periodic assistance data, obtain, from the location server, an error reason when the request for positioning assistance data cannot be one of fully or partly supported, obtain, from the location server, positioning assistance data including the non-periodic assistance data, based on the first logical position information, when some or all of the positioning assistance data is unavailable, obtaining an error indication in a positioning method specific information element, when being associated with a second logical position, transmit, to the location server, a request for positioning assistance data and provide second logical position information; and obtain, from the location server, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information, the positioning assistance data being periodic positioning assistance data obtained at a number of periodic points in time in order to obtain updated positioning assistance data, and the periodic positioning assistance data obtained at regular points in time or time instants; the first and second logical position information each referring to a respective identifier of a respective network entity associated with the target device, and each respective identifier being any one out of: a base station

Identity, ID, an evolved NodeB, eNB, ID, a gNB ID, a Transmission and Reception Point, TRP, ID, a Transmission Point, TP, ID, a Reception Point, RP, ID, a Remote Radio Head, RRH, ID, and a tracking area code.

4. A method performed by a location server to provide positioning assistance data to a target device, the target device and the location server operating in a wireless communications network, and the method comprising: obtaining, from the target device, a request for positioning assistance data and first logical position information, the request comprising a desired periodicity condition for sending the positioning assistance data and a duration for ending transfer of the positioning assistance data, the request for positioning assistance data comprising a request for non-periodic assistance data; providing, to the target device, an error reason when the request for positioning assistance data cannot be one of fully or partly supported, providing, to the target device, positioning assistance data including the non-periodic assistance data, based on the first logical position information, the positioning assistance data being periodic positioning assistance data obtained at a number of periodic points in time in order to obtain updated positioning assistance data, and the periodic positioning assistance data obtained at regular points in time or time instants; when some or all of the positioning assistance data is unavailable, providing an error indication in a positioning method specific information element, obtaining, from the target device, a request for positioning assistance data and second logical position information; and providing, to the target device, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information; the first and second logical position information each referring to a respective identifier of a respective network entity associated with the target device, and each respective identifier being any one out of: a base station Identity, ID, an evolved NodeB, eNB, ID, a gNB ID, a Transmission and Reception Point, TRP, ID, a Transmission Point, TP, ID, a Reception Point, RP, ID, a Remote Radio Head, RRH, ID, and a tracking area code.

5. A non-transitory, computer-readable medium storing computer-executable instructions, which when executed by a processor, causes the processor to: obtain, from a target device, a request for positioning assistance data and first logical position information, the request comprising a desired periodicity condition for sending the positioning assistance data and a duration for ending transfer of the positioning assistance data, the request for positioning assistance data comprising a request for non-periodic assistance data; provide, to the target device, an error reason when the request cannot be one of fully or partly supported, provide, to the target device, positioning assistance data including the non-periodic assistance data, based on the first logical position information, the positioning assistance data being periodic positioning assistance data obtained at a number of periodic points in time in order to obtain updated positioning assistance data, and the periodic positioning assistance data obtained at regular points in time or time instants; when some or all of the positioning assistance data is unavailable, providing an error indication in a positioning method specific information element, obtain, from the target device, a request for positioning assistance data and second logical position information; and provide, to the target device, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information; the first and second logical position information each referring to a respective identifier of a respective network entity associated with the target device, and each respective identifier being any one out of: a base station Identity, ID, an evolved NodeB, eNB, ID, a gNB ID, a Transmission and Reception Point, TRP, ID, a Transmission Point, TP, ID, a Reception Point, RP, ID, a Remote Radio Head, RRH, ID, and a tracking area code.

6. A target device to obtain positioning assistance data from a location server, the target device and the location server operable in a wireless communications network, and the target device comprising: a transmitting unit configured to transmit to the location server, a request for positioning assistance data and providing first logical position information, the request comprising a desired periodicity condition for sending the positioning assistance data and a duration for ending transfer of the positioning assistance data, the request for positioning assistance data comprising a

request for non-periodic assistance data, an obtaining unit configured to obtain, from the location server, an error reason when the request cannot be one of fully or partly supported, and to obtain from the location server, positioning assistance data including the non-periodic assistance data, based on the first logical position information, the positioning assistance data being periodic positioning assistance data obtained at a number of periodic points in time in order to obtain updated positioning assistance data, and the periodic positioning assistance data obtained at regular points in time or time instants, the obtaining unit being configured to, when some or all of the positioning assistance data is unavailable, obtain an error indication in a positioning method specific information element, the transmitting unit further configured to, when being associated with a second logical position, transmit to the location server, a request for positioning assistance data and provide second logical position information; and the obtaining unit further configured to obtain from the location server, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information; the first and second logical position information each adapted to refer to a respective identifier of a respective network entity associated with the target device, and each respective identifier being adapted to be any one out of: a base station Identity, ID, an evolved NodeB, eNB, ID, a gNB ID, a Transmission and Reception Point, TRP, ID, a Transmission Point, TP, ID, a Reception Point, RP, ID, a Remote Radio Head, RRH, ID, and a tracking area code.

7. The target device of claim 6, wherein the obtained positioning assistance data is to be used to determine the position of the target device.

8. A location server to provide positioning assistance data to a target device, the target device and the location server operable in a wireless communications network, and the location server comprising: an obtaining unit configured to obtain from the target device, a request for positioning assistance data and first logical position information, the request comprising a desired periodicity condition for sending the positioning assistance data and a duration for ending transfer of the positioning assistance data, the request for positioning assistance data comprising a request for non-periodic assistance data; a providing unit configured to provide, to the target device, an error reason when the request cannot be one of fully or partly supported, and to provide to the target device, positioning assistance data, including the non-periodic assistance data, based on the first logical position information, the positioning assistance data being periodic positioning assistance data obtained at a number of periodic points in time in order to obtain updated positioning assistance data, and the periodic positioning assistance data obtained at regular points in time or time instants; the providing unit configured to, when some or all of the positioning assistance data is unavailable, provide an error indication in a positioning method specific information element; the obtaining unit further configured to obtain from the target device, a request for positioning assistance data and second logical position information; and the providing unit further configured to provide to the target device, positioning assistance data, based on the second logical position information; the first and second logical position information each adapted to refer to a respective identifier of a respective network entity associated with the target device, and each respective identifier adapted to be any one out of: a base station Identity, ID, an evolved NodeB, eNB, ID, a gNB ID, a Transmission and Reception Point, TRP, ID, a Transmission Point, TP, ID, a Reception Point, RP, ID, a Remote Radio Head, RRH, ID, and a tracking area code.
