

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

PHASE DIFFERENCE BASED RFID NAVIGATION FOR MEDICAL APPLICATIONS

ANDREAS WILLE
INSTITUT FÜR NEUROINFORMATIK

RFID 2011

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Medical Navigation

What is medical navigation ?

1

Take images (MRI/CT) of a patient in advance.

2

Plan a procedure on these images.

3

During surgery **register** the images with the patient.

4

Track medical instruments.

5

Visualize their **position** relative to the planning.

Why use RFID localization ?

■

no line of sight required

■

small equipment

■

multi tag support

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RFID Localization

Several different approaches:

■

Time of arrival

■

Identification grid

■

RSSI

■

Phase differences

because:

■

simple hardware setup

■

less affected by noise than RSSI

Special requirements/features of medical applications:

■

high accuracy required (0.1 mm - 1 m)

■

high reliability essential

■

limited operating range (≤ 5 m)

■

no electromagnetic noise

■

limited set of obstacles

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RFID Localization

Several different approaches:

- Time of arrival
- Identification grid
- RSSI
- Phase differences

because:

- simple hardware setup
- less affected by noise than RSSI

Special requirements/features of medical applications:

- high accuracy required (0.1 mm - 1 m)
- high reliability essential
- limited operating range (≤ 5 m)
- no electromagnetic noise
- limited set of obstacles

Hardware

PRPS Prototype (amedo)

- 8 receivers / 1 reader
- passive tags (868 MHz)
- 16 measurements of phase differences
- Update rate: 1 Hz

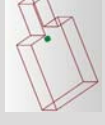


Experimental Environment

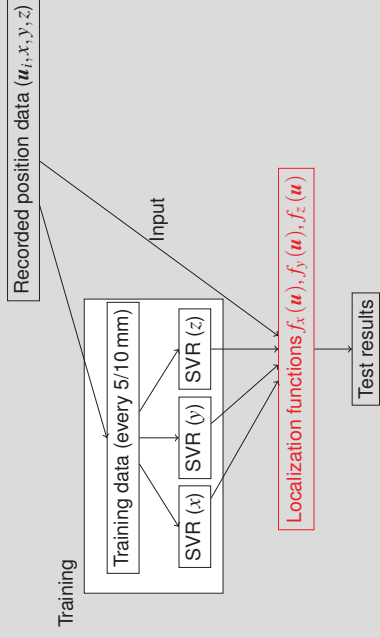
- plastic basin (50 cm \times 90 cm \times 20 cm)
- no obstacles
- CNC device for tag movement (0.1 mm accuracy)

Series of Measurements

- Line data:
 - 4 linear paths with 20 cm length
 - each line with 200 positions
 - 1 mm distance between positions
 - 20,000 measurements in total
- Volume data:
 - box (20 cm \times 1 cm \times 1 cm) with 20,000 positions
 - cube (27 cm³) with 35,000 positions
 - 1 mm distance between positions
 - 500,000 / 900,000 measurements in total



Data Processing



Support Vector Regression

Kernel based supervised learning algorithm

Input: l training examples $(u_i, y_i) \in U \times \mathbb{R}, l = 1, \dots, l$

Output:

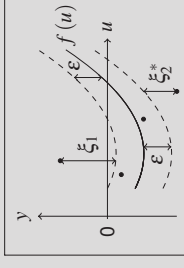
$$f(u) = k(w, u) + b \quad w = \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i y_i u_i$$

by solving:

$$\min_{w, \xi, \xi^*} \frac{1}{2} \|w\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^l (\xi_i + \xi_i^*)$$

$$\text{subject to : } \begin{aligned} y_i - f(u_i) &\leq \varepsilon + \xi_i \\ y_i - f(u_i) &\geq -\varepsilon - \xi_i^* \\ \xi_i, \xi_i^* &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Parameters: ε, C , kernel k



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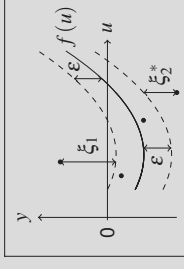
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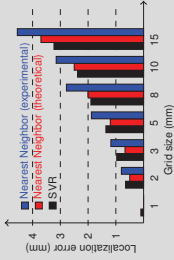
Parameters: ε, C , kernel k



Line Data

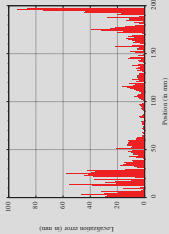
Basic properties:

- SVR results strongly depend on position
⇒ Use central parts only !
- Training accuracy: 0.1 mm (as requested)
- General accuracy: depends on grid size



Successful localization but:

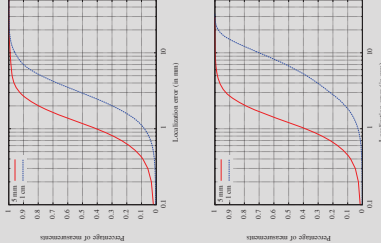
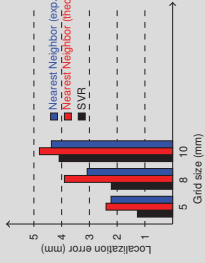
- high variance in accuracy
- limited systematic miscalculations
- best benefit for coarse grids



Volume Data

Improved situation:

- reduced border effects
- almost independent of position
- reasonable scaling with grid size
- training accuracy still 0.1 mm



General Results

Comparison of accuracy

- General RFID localization: ≈ 0.3 m
- Polaris (optical): 0.1 mm
- PRPS (alpha version): 3.8 mm (no interpolation)
- PRPS + SVR: 1.6 mm (volume, 5 mm grid)

Learning positions from RFID phase information with 2 mm accuracy is currently no problem

- with oversized 10 mm one-dimensional grid for volumes of room size.
- with 5 mm three-dimensional grid for small volumes.

More optimized SVR training offers potential for even better accuracies (at cost of decreasing reliability).

Conclusions

RFID is ready to be used in medical application for

- medical instruments count / patient identification
- coarse scale patient/device placement
- addition to optical navigation
- stand-alone navigation in volumes with special focus

Still left to do:

- Solve multipath problems
- Perform measurements inside the human body
- Improve accuracy to < 0.5 mm
- Reduce calibration time and efforts

Thank you for your attention !

Phase Difference Based RFID Navigation for Medical Applications

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