

Lecture 1: Introduction

Chenshu Wu

Department of Computer Science

2025 Spring

ACK: Part of the course materials are adapted with permission from below course/companies. Many thanks!
ECE439@UIUC, CMSC715@UMD, CSE-891@MSU, CS462@SMU, Origin Wireless Inc., TI, etc.



香港大學
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG



What's a computer?

Dictionary

Search for a word



com·put·er

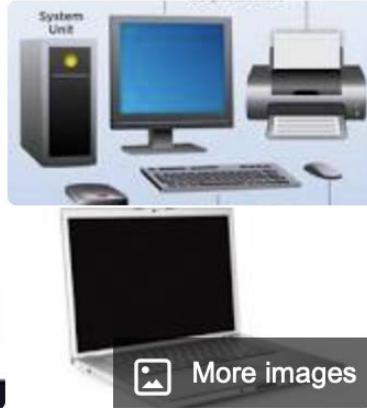
/kəm'pyoȯdər/

noun

an electronic device for storing and processing data, typically in binary form, according to instructions given to it in a variable program.



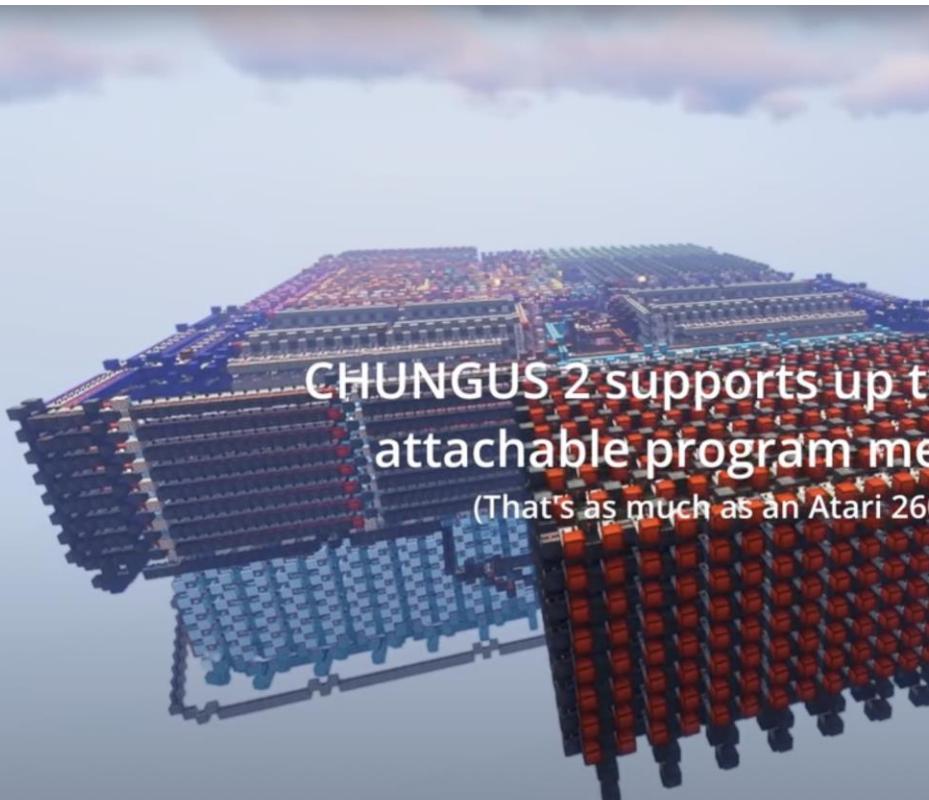
- a person who makes calculations, especially with a calculating machine.



More images

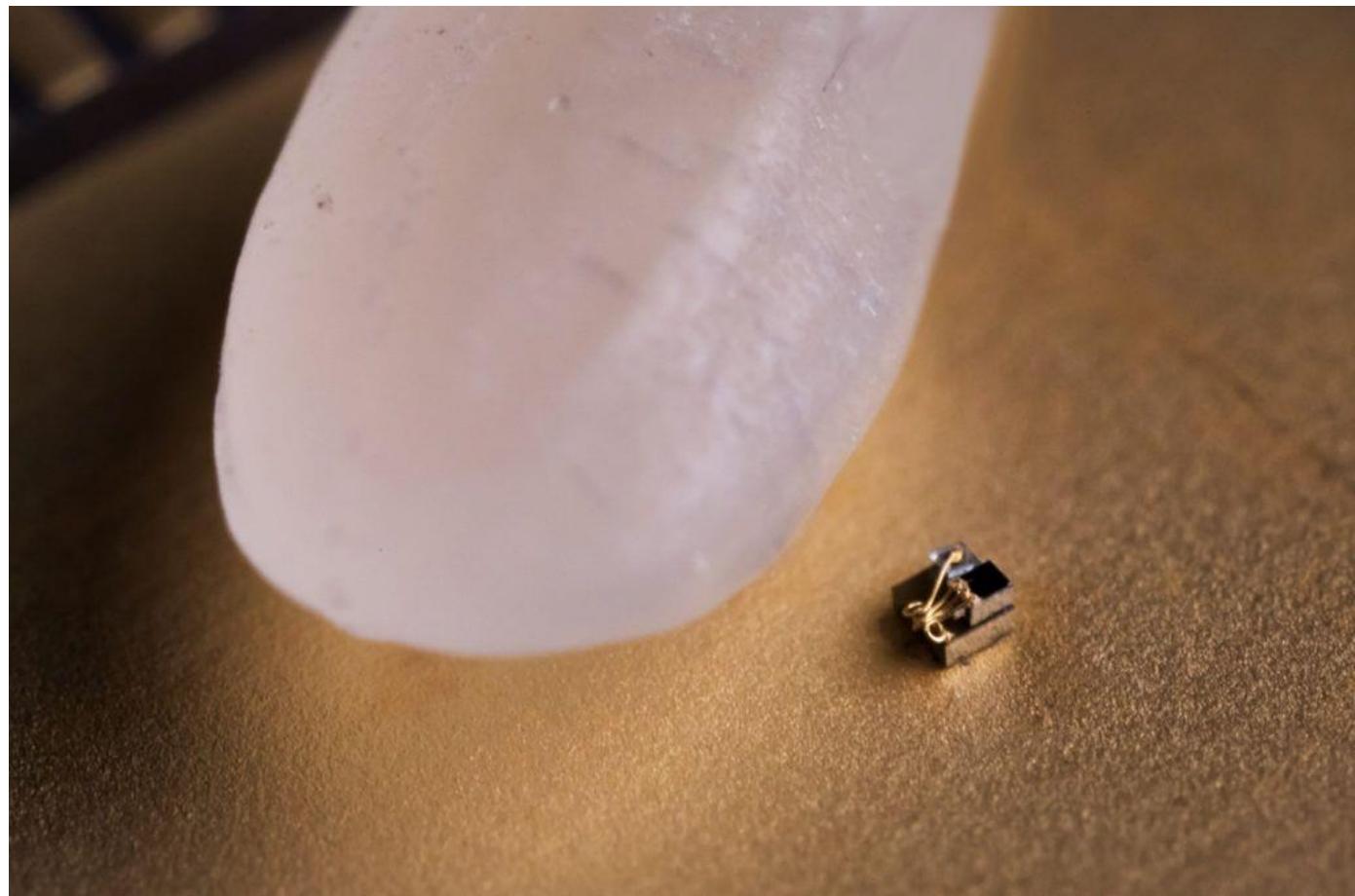
A computer is a machine that can be instructed to carry out sequences of arithmetic or logical operations automatically via computer programming. Modern computers have the ability to follow generalized sets of operations, called programs. These programs enable computers to perform an extremely wide range of tasks. [Wikipedia](#)

What's a computer?



What's a computer?

- M3: Michigan Micro Mote
- The device was designed to be a precision temperature sensor that can report temperatures in clusters of cells with an error of about 0.1 degrees Celsius.



What's a computer?

- By the middle of the 20th century, this term referred to a human computer, a person who carried out calculations or computations.

Computers have replaced
“computers” (humans)!



So, will AI replace humans?

- Today?
 - Will probably replace those who truly believe today's AI will replace humans :-P
- Eventually?
 - Maybe yes, maybe not...



How the desk changed over time

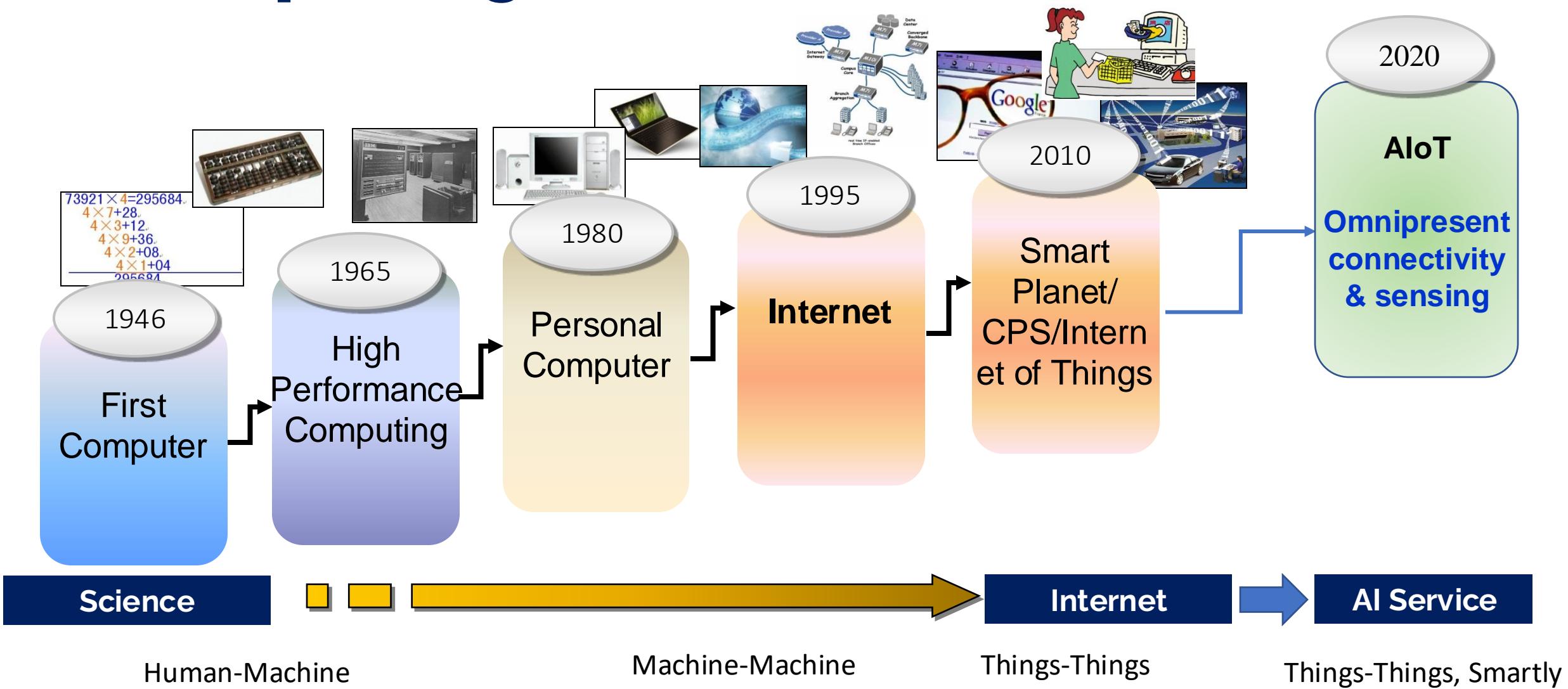


How the desk changed over time



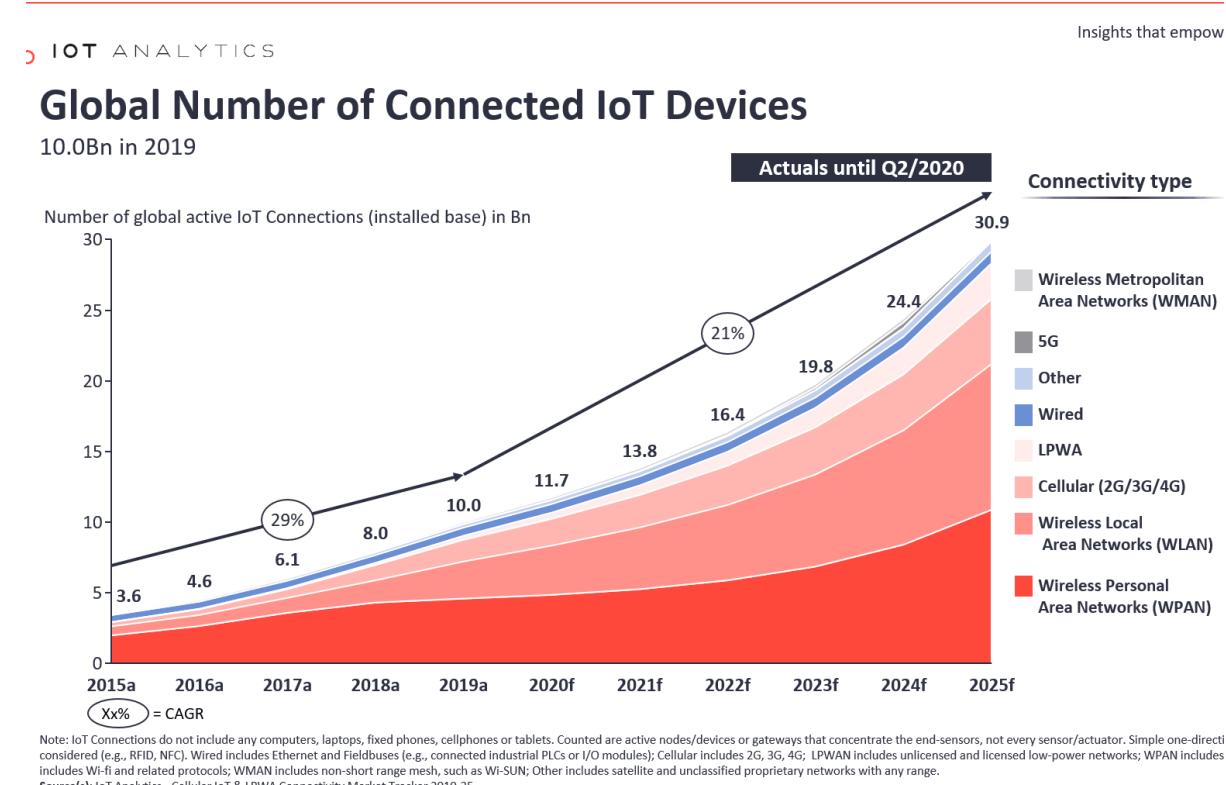
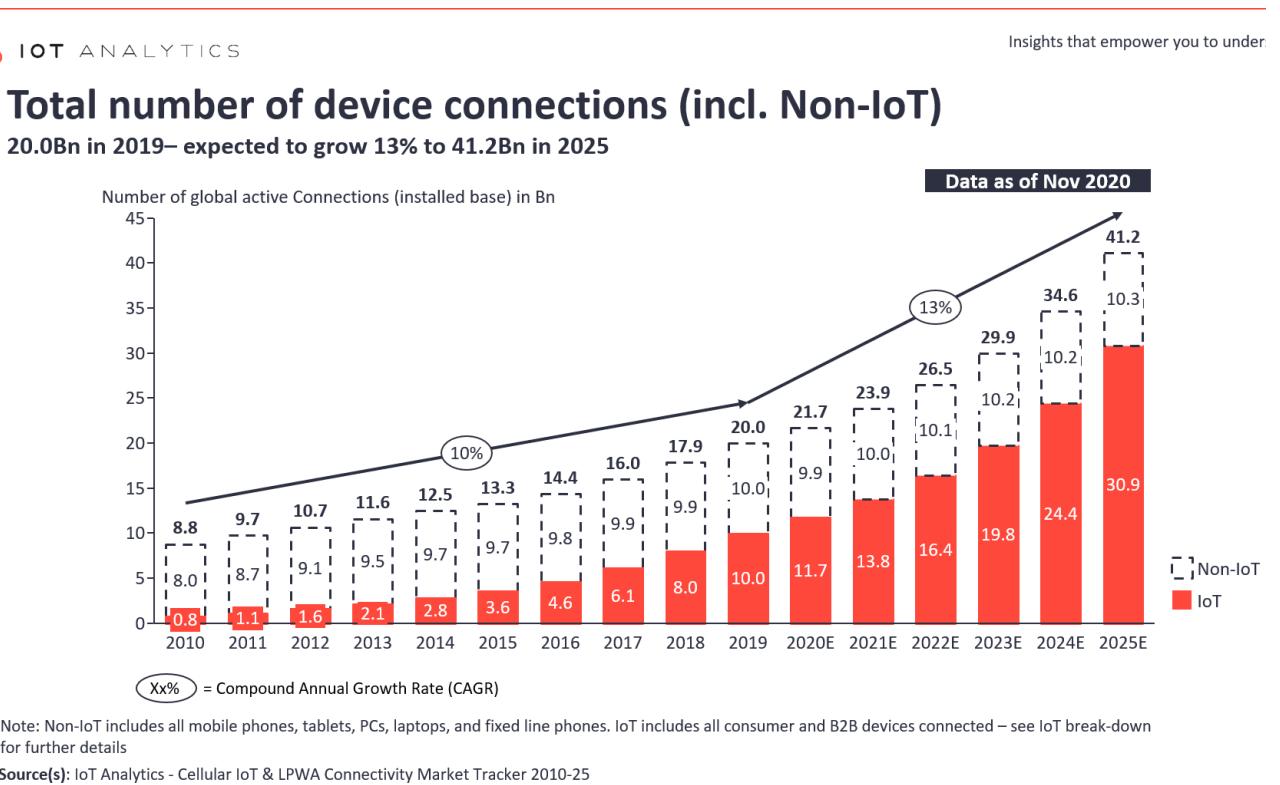
Computing as Science

Computing
infrastructure



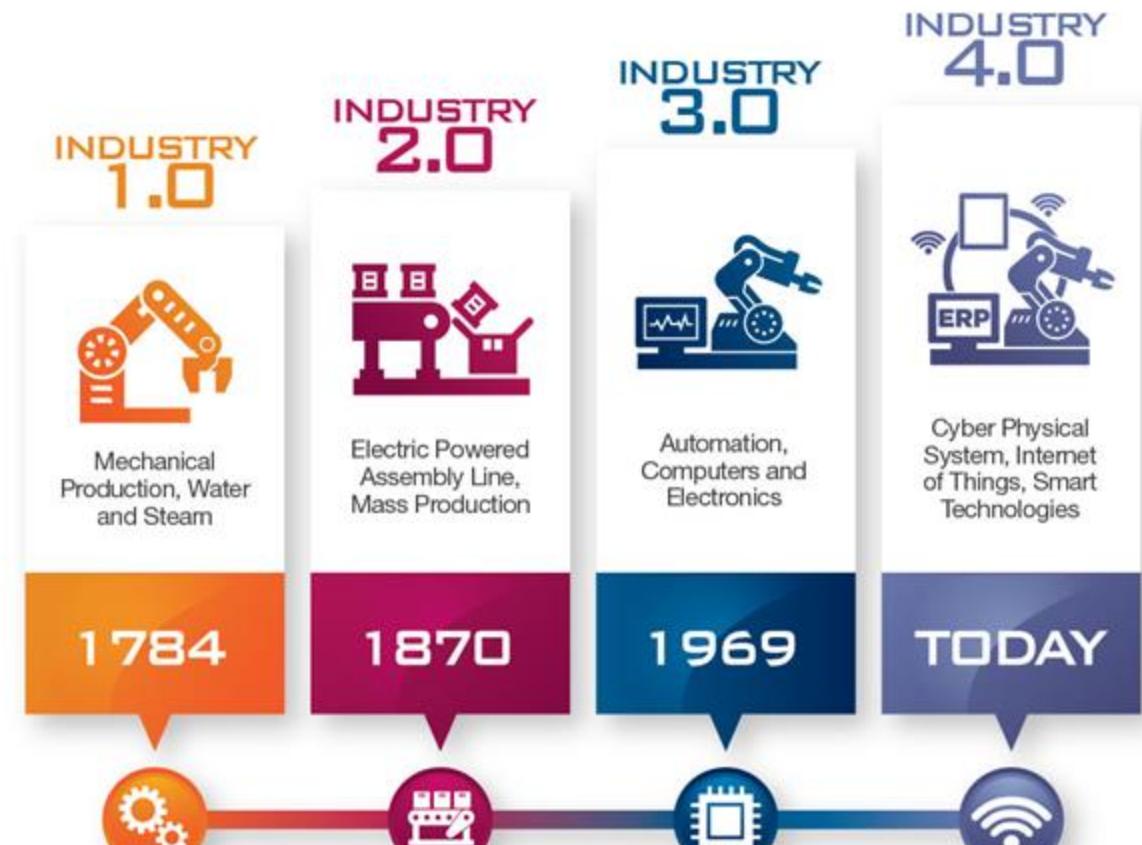
Internet of Everything

- Billions or even trillions of connected things.



Industry 4.0: Industrial Internet of Things

- The Fourth Industry Revolution, Another 100 Years?



What is AI?

Alan Turing in 1950:
“Can Machines Think?”



A. M. Turing (1950) Computing Machinery and Intelligence. *Mind* 49: 433-460.

COMPUTING MACHINERY AND INTELLIGENCE

By A. M. Turing

1. The Imitation Game

I propose to consider the question, "Can machines think?" This should begin with definitions of the meaning of the terms "machine" and "think." The definitions might be framed so as to reflect so far as possible the normal use of the words, but this attitude is dangerous. If the meaning of the words "machine" and "think" are to be found by examining how they are commonly used it is difficult to escape the conclusion that the meaning and the answer to the question, "Can machines think?" is to be sought in a statistical survey such as a Gallup poll. But this is absurd. Instead of attempting such a definition I shall replace the question by another, which is closely related to it and is expressed in relatively unambiguous words.

What is AI?

Alan Turing in 1950:
“Can Machines Think?”

**“Completely Automated
Public Turing test to tell
Computers and Humans Apart”**

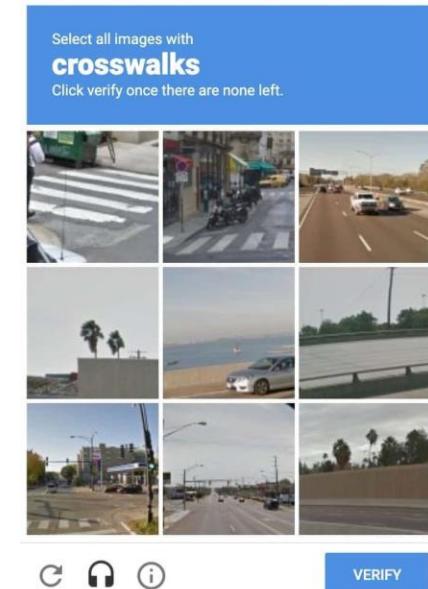


I'm not a robot 

Type the text



C A i Verify



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

A Proposal for the Dartmouth Summer Research Project on Artificial Intelligence

August 31, 1955



John McCarthy



Marvin Minsky



Claude Shannon



Ray Solomonoff

Alan Newell



Herbert Simon



Arthur Samuel



And three others...
Oliver Selfridge
(Pandemonium theory)
Nathaniel Rochester
(IBM, designed 701)
Trenchard More
(Natural Deduction)



Computational Intelligence

Machines can do calculating as human beings and process huge amounts of data.

5 Dartmouth Workshop participants
on AI 50th anniversary, 2006

Perceptual Intelligence

Machines can read and understand, typically like speech and vision recognition.

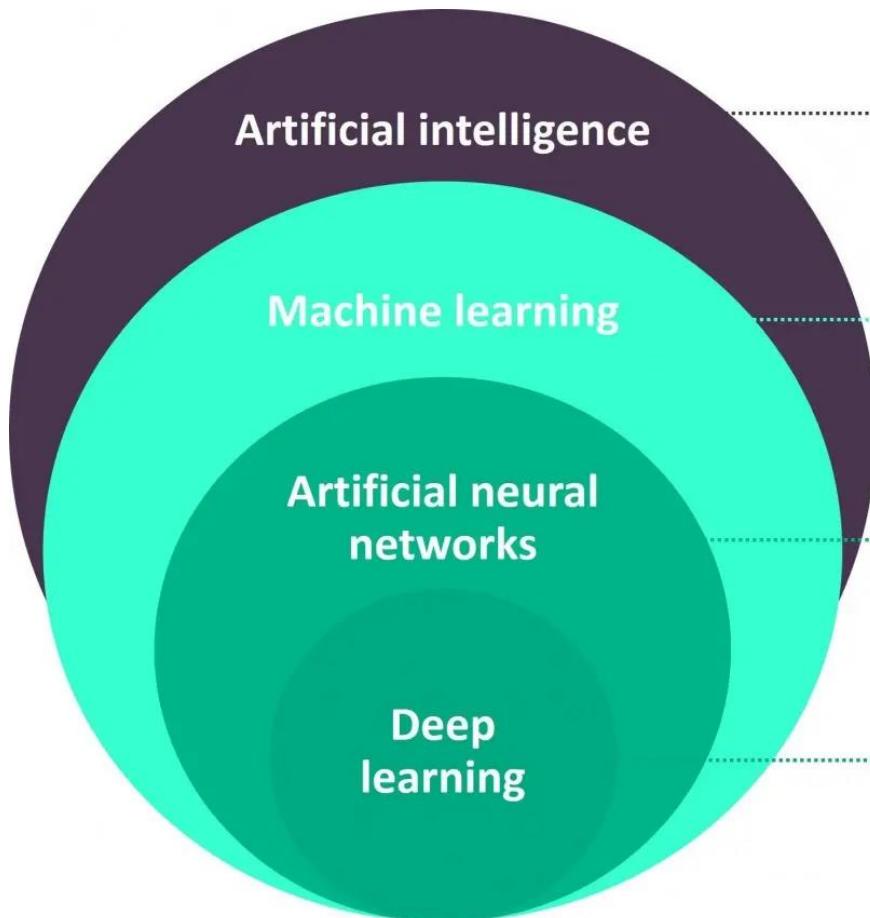


Cognitive intelligence

Machines can turn information into knowledge while trying to think of, assist or even substitute human beings for most of the work.



What is AI?



Artificial intelligence (AI)

Any techniques that enable machines to solve a task in a way like humans do

Machine learning (ML)

Algorithms that allow computers to learn from examples without being explicitly programmed

Artificial neural networks (ANN)

Brain-inspired machine learning models

Deep learning (DL)

A subset of ML which uses deep artificial neural networks as models and automatically builds a hierarchy of data representations

Three Laws



01

Moore's Law

02

Gilder's Law

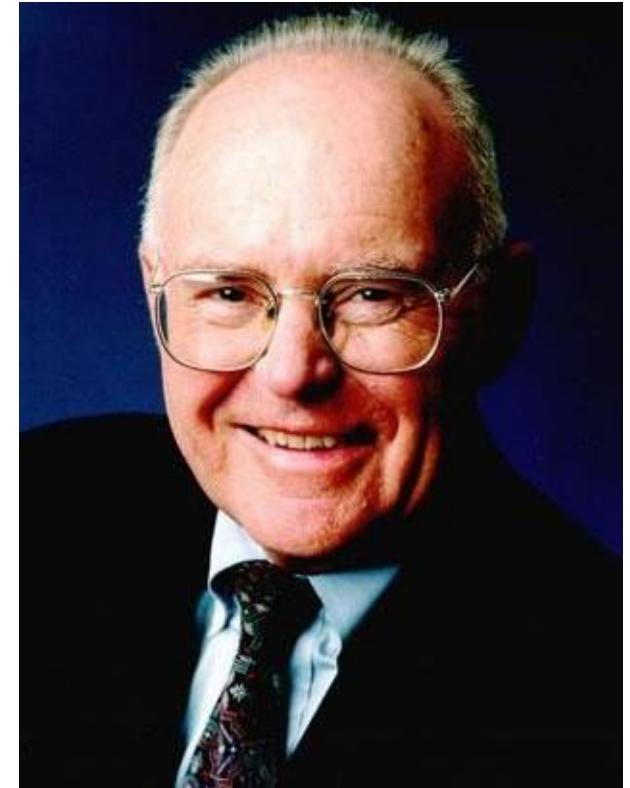
03

Metcalfe's law

1

Moore's Law

- The number of transistors that can be packed into a given unit of space will double every two years.
- Processor speeds, or overall processing power for computers will double about every 18 month's.



Gordon E. Moore
Co-Founder of Intel

2 Gilder's Law

- The bandwidth of communications systems doubles every 6 months.



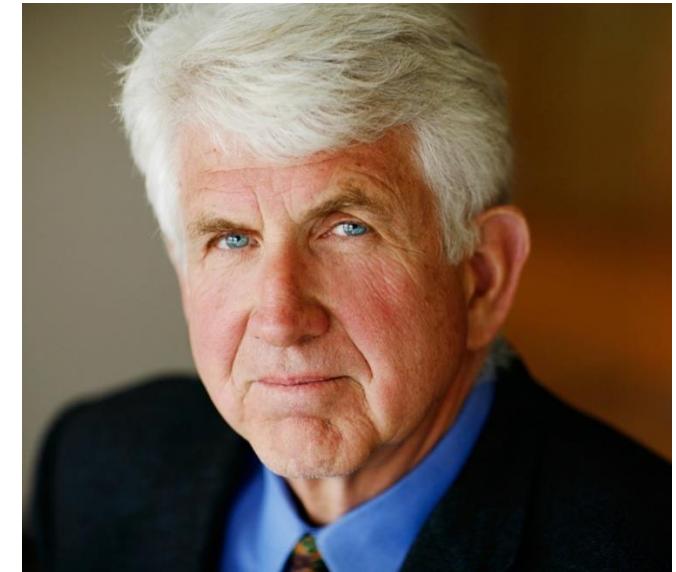
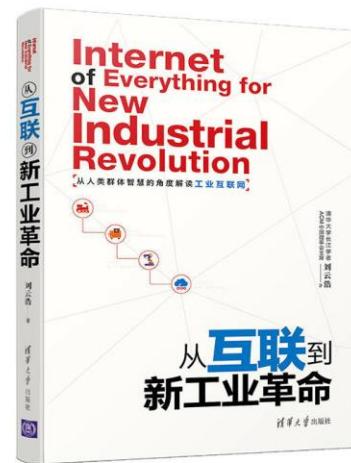
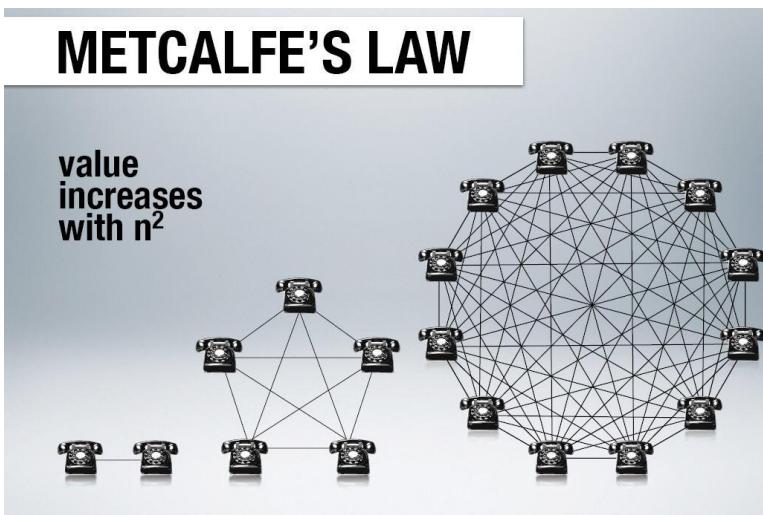
George Gilder

Investor, Writer, and
Economist

3

Metcalf's Law

- The value of a telecommunications network is proportional to the square of the number of connected users (compatible communicating devices) of the system



Robert Melancton Metcalfe
Turing Award (2022)
Co-Inventor of Ethernet
Co-Founder of 3Com

The Fourth Industry Revolution Is Coming.



**THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION:
WHAT IT IS AND HOW TO PREPARE**



: Take an IoT course at HKU.

What Is IoT?

Dates back to the 1980s...

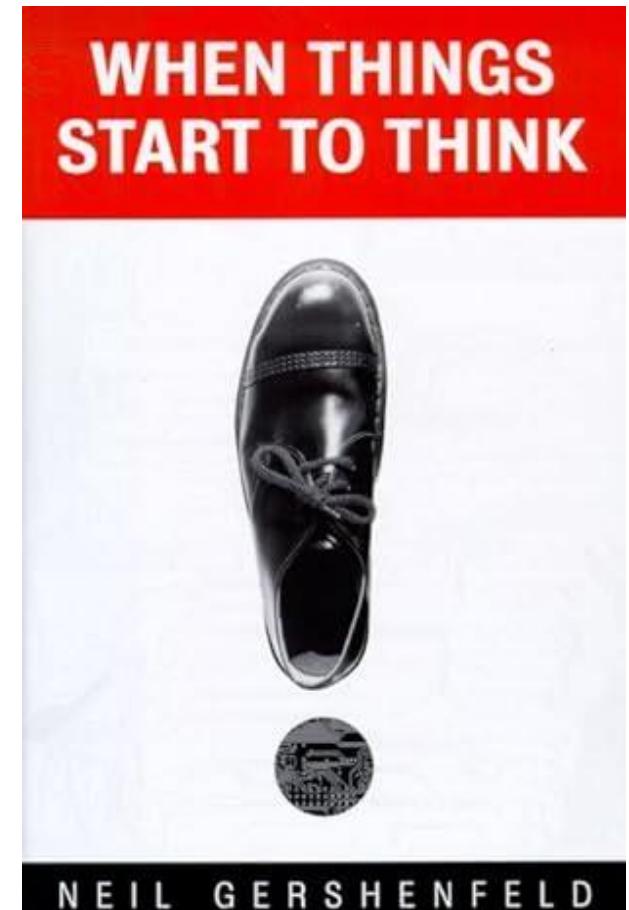
- The first connected object: Coca-Cola cans!
- A vending machine in the Carnegie Mellon University School of Computer Science.
- To go or not to go: because the machine was four minutes from his office and would occasionally be out of stock...
- “Great, now I can find out whether I have a coke.”



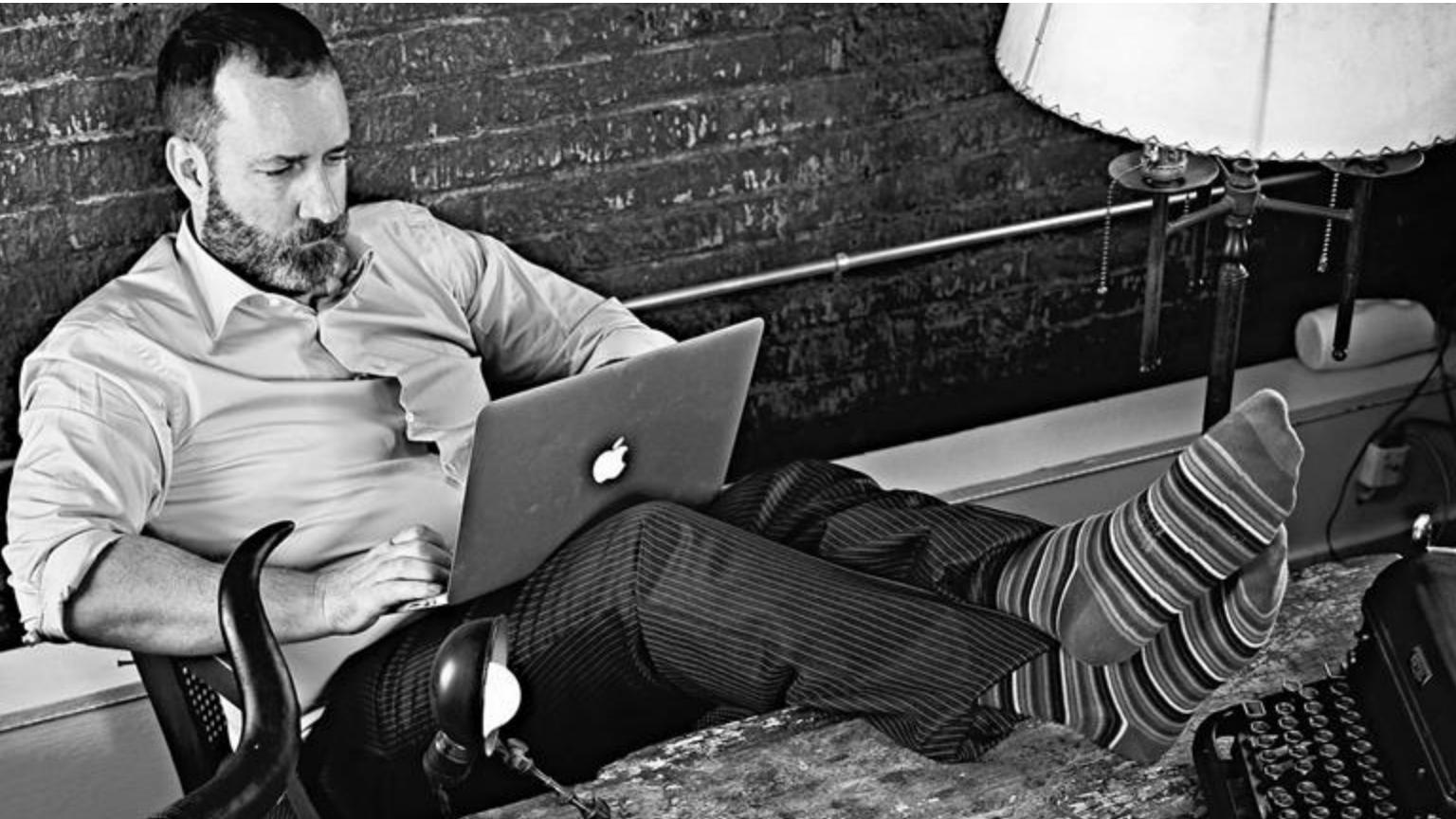
Source: <https://csd.cmu.edu/news/decoding-the-internet-of-things>

“When Things Start to Think”

- January 12, 1999
- MIT professor Neil Gershenfeld, Director of The Center for Bits and Atoms
- "the real electronic revolution will come when computers have all but disappeared into the walls around us."
- Explained the concept but not using the term.



“Father of IoT”



"I was talking about the supply chain being a ‘Network of Things,’ and the Internet being a ‘Network of Bits,’ and how sensor technology would merge the two together. Then I thought of an ‘Internet of Things,’ and I thought, ‘That’ll do – or maybe even better.’ It had a ring to it. It became the title of the presentation." (1999)

- Kevin ASHTON

How Kevin Ashton named The Internet of Things, Avast, 2019

Kevin Ashton, Father of the Internet of Things & Network Trailblazer, Cisco, 2014

Definition of IoT

- No Universally Agreed IoT Definition

giant network of connected things and people - all of which collect and share data about the way they are used and about the environment around them

- IBM

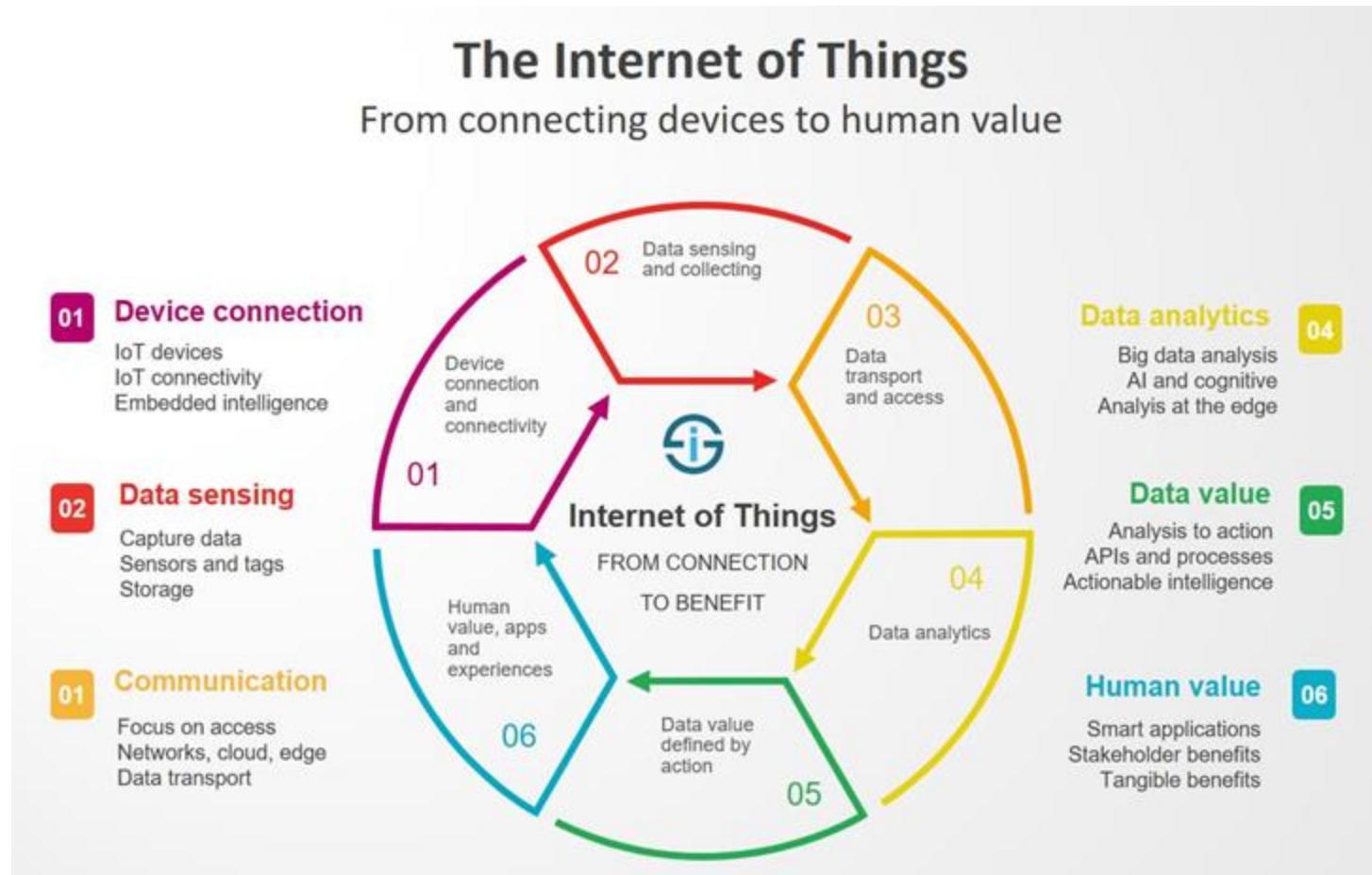
Definition of IoT

- No Universally Agreed IoT Definition

IoT is an umbrella term which describes a multi-faceted foundation for a range of applications and goals which are enabled through the connection of items (devices, sensors, tagged beings), equipped with data capture and communication capacities, uniquely identifiable and connected, in order to transmit and/or received data for a clear human, business or societal purpose.

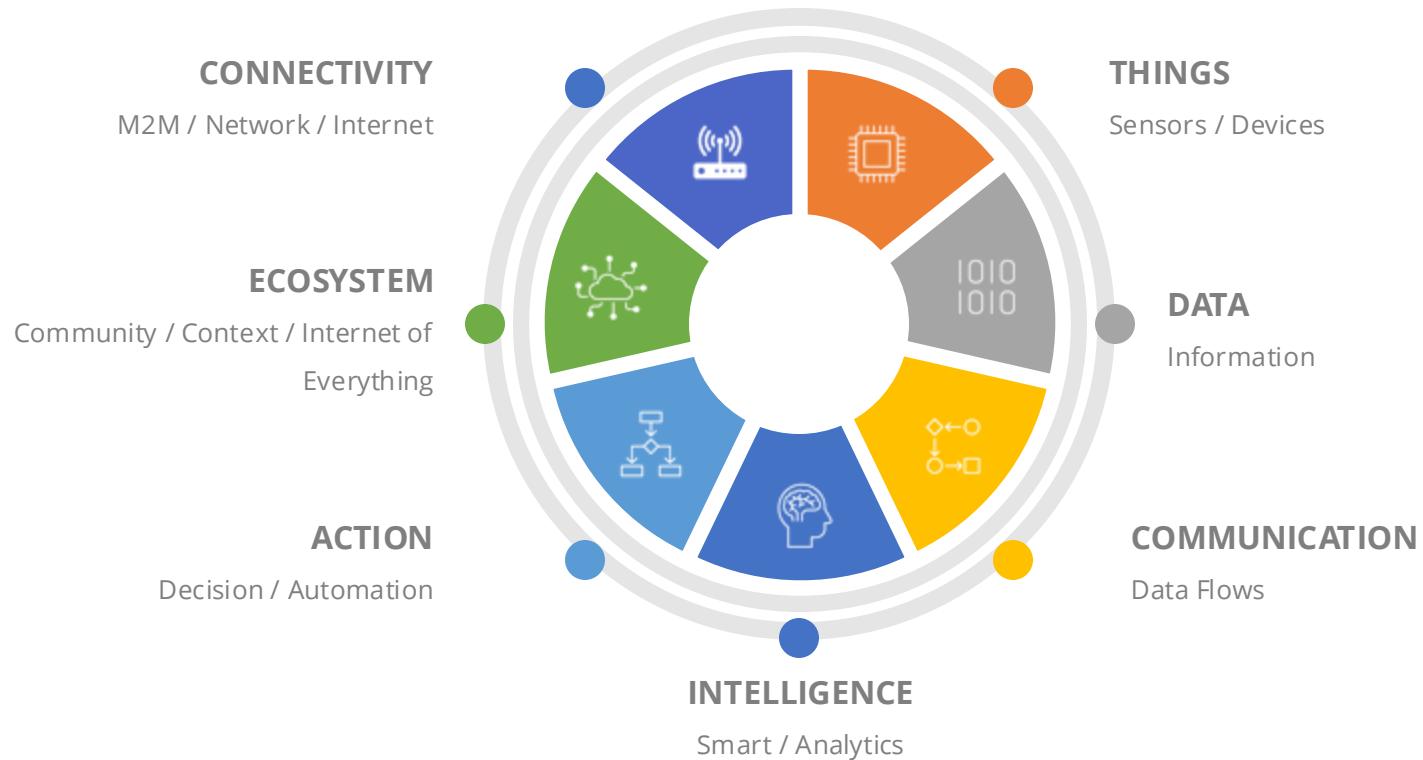
“ - i-scoop.eu ”

What is IoT?



What is IoT? The Internet of Things – definitions and facts, i-scoop.eu

7 Characteristics of IoT

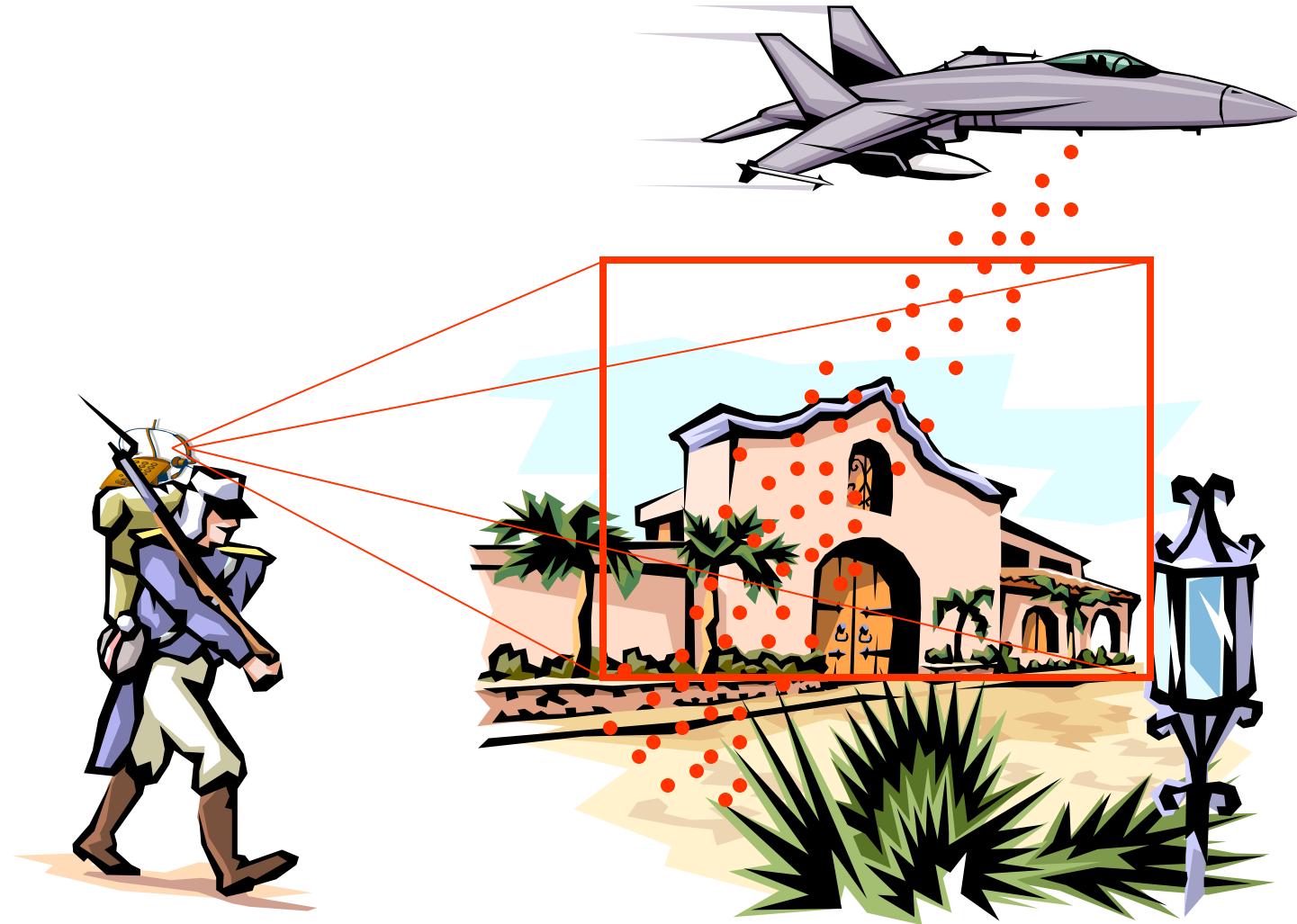


[What is IoT? The Internet of Things – definitions and facts, i-scoop.eu](#)

Early Efforts in IoT: WSN

- In early days (2000-2010), great efforts in WSNs
- Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN)
 - Smart Dust
 - Great Duck Island
 - VigilNet
 - ZebraNet
 - GreenOrbs
 -
- The FOCUS: Connectivity
 - Wireless, Ad-hoc, large-scale connectivity

Military Applications – Smart Dust

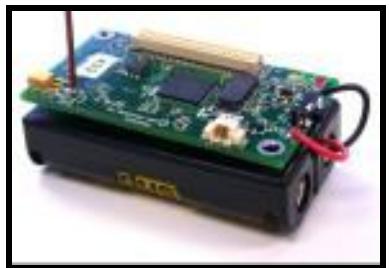


Great Duck Island

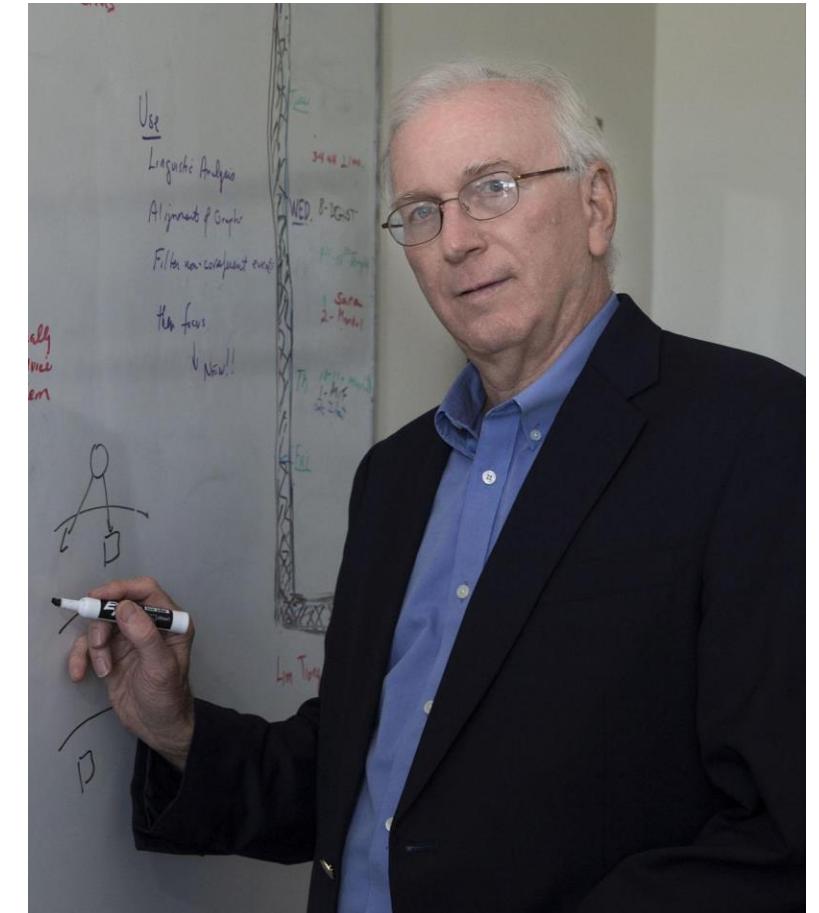
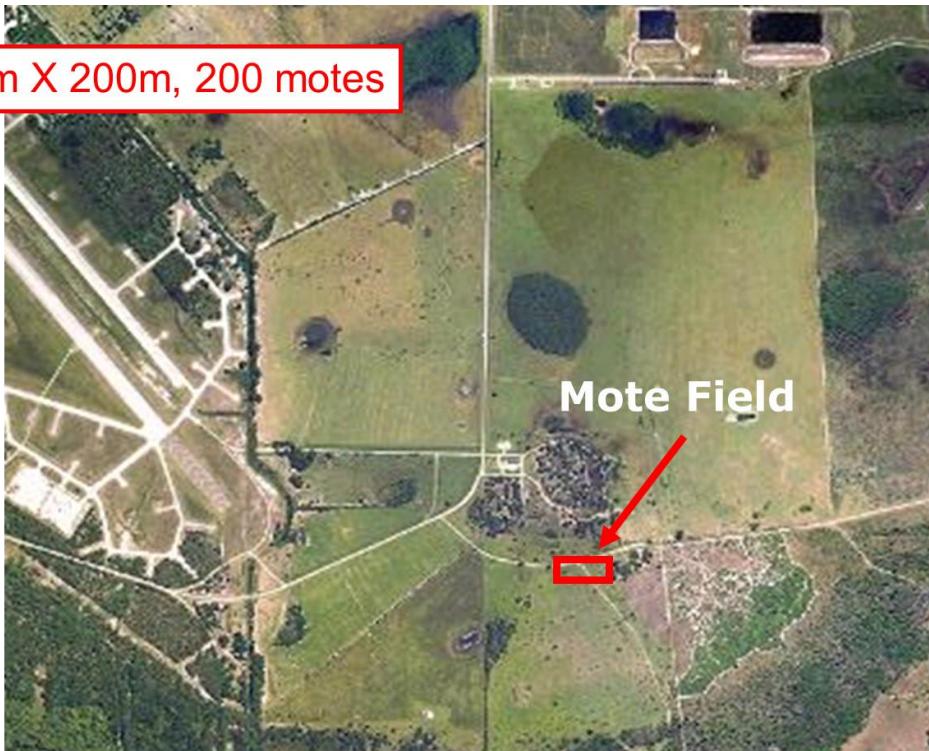


David Culler

VigilNet

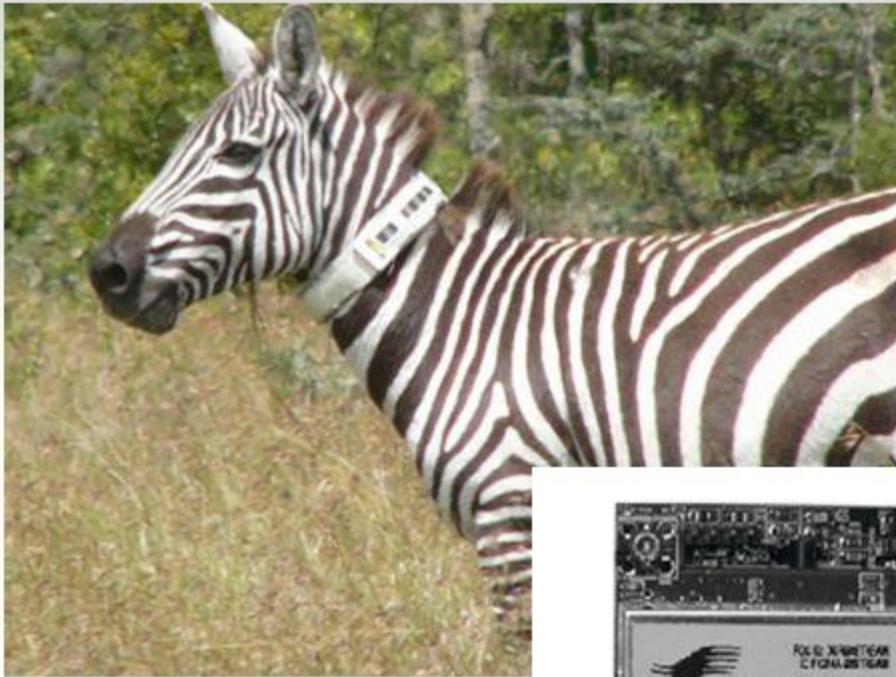


300m X 200m, 200 motes

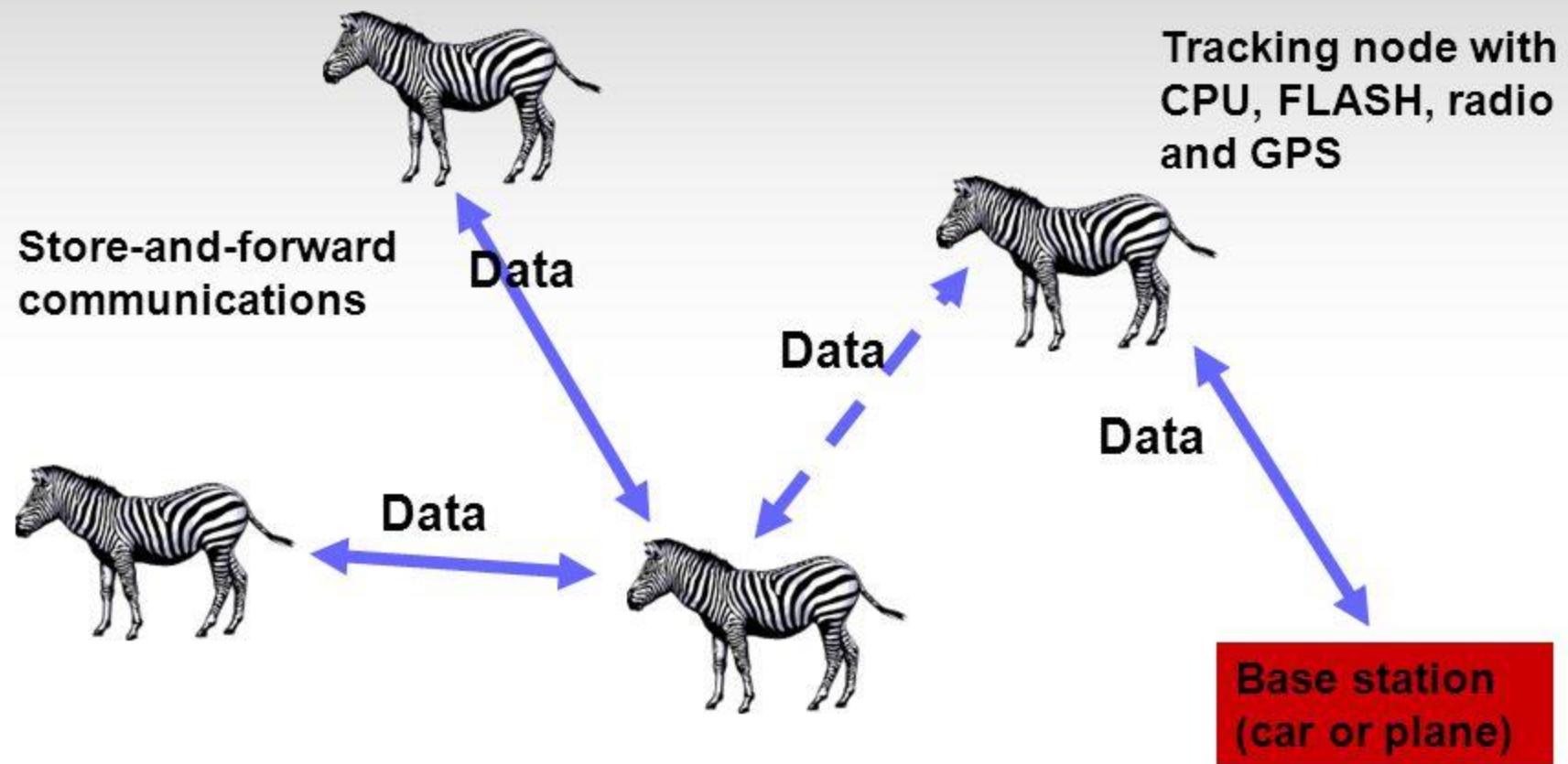


John Stankovic

ZebraNet: An application of sensor networks



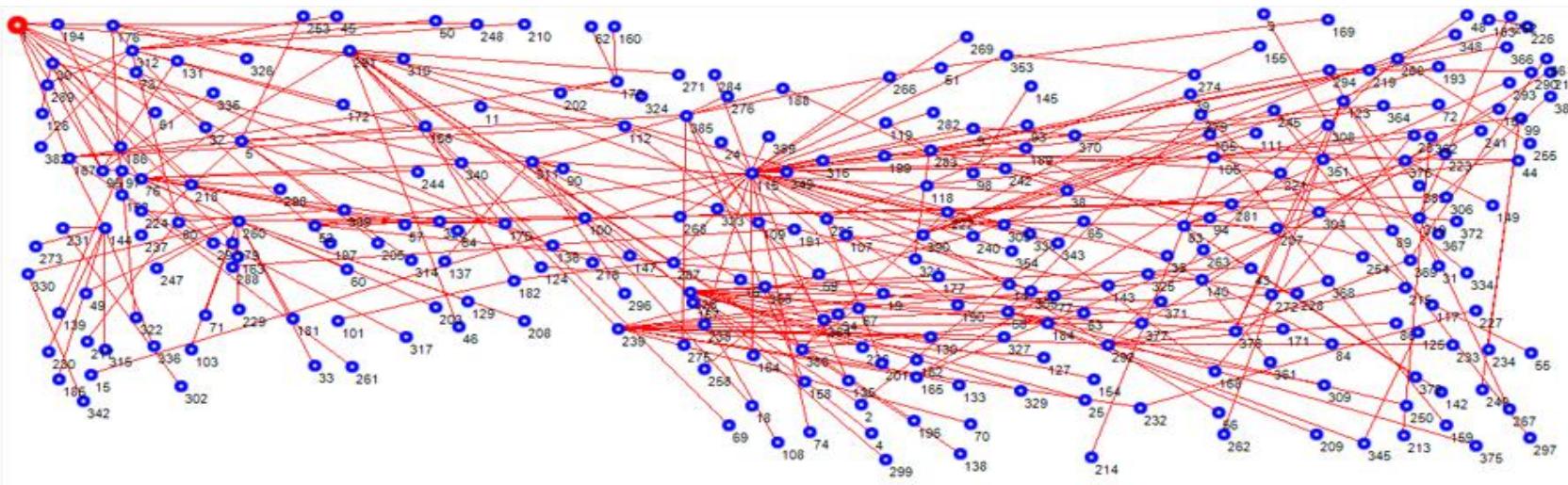
ZebraNet as Computing Research



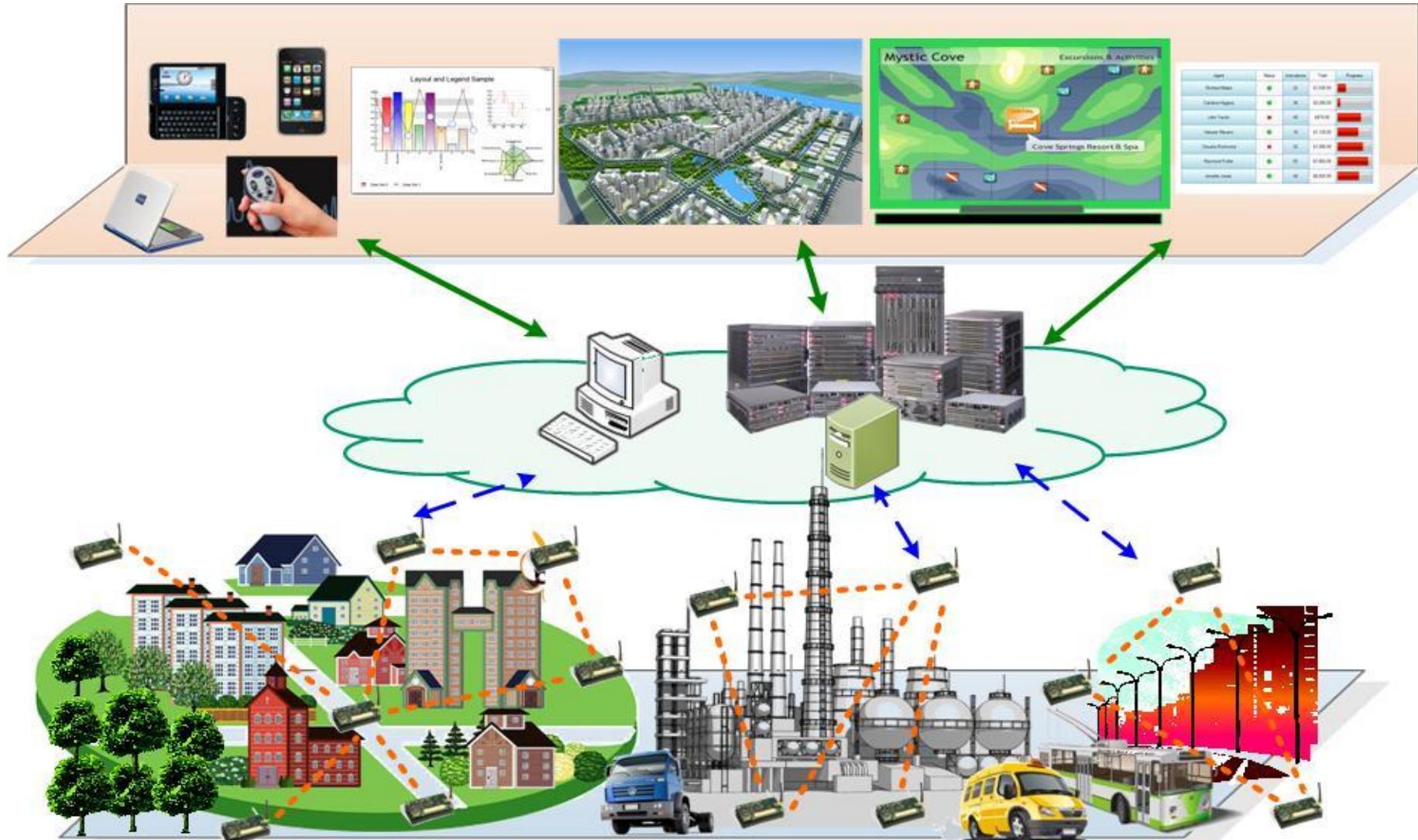
GreenOrbs System Deployment



System Deployment on Campus



CitySee: City-Wide Urban Sensing



FarmBeats: AI, Edge & IoT for Agriculture



Once you have collected data, you could then analyse the data to predict what the future would look like.

How about Sensing?

- Sensing is mostly done by sensors, but not always.
- Dedicated sensors
 - Usually basic sensors, e.g., temperature, light, humidity sensors
 - Embedded in “sensor node” in WSNs
- Sensorless sensing
 - Re-use Radio-Frequency/sound/infrared/etc for sensing

Sensing is usually done by Sensors

Which of these are binary / multi-level sensors?



door
contact



motion



touch



light



3-axis
accelerometer



moisture



loudness



gas



temperature



gyroscope



ultrasonic (range)



camera

Sensors on smartphones?

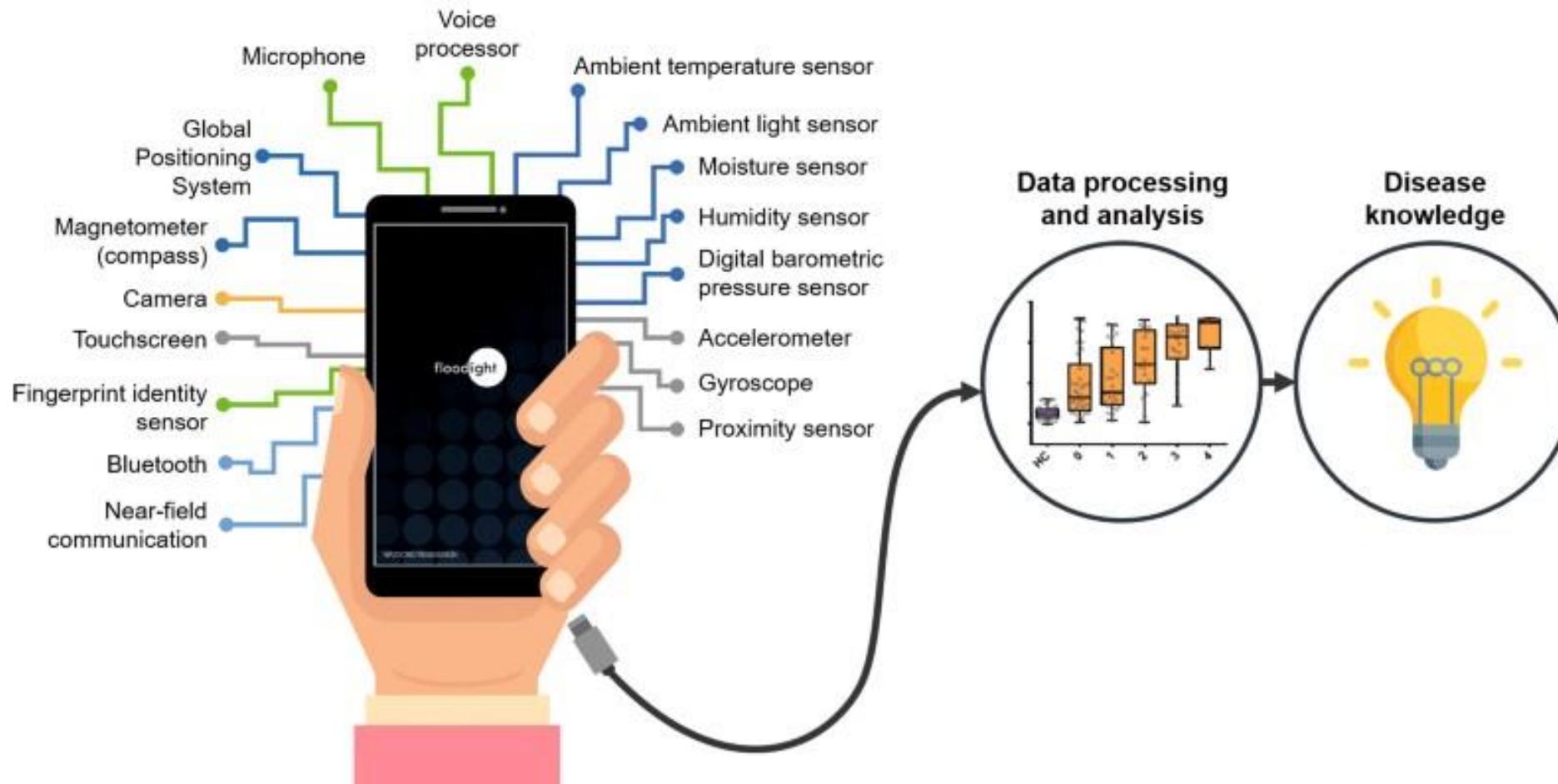


Role of “Things” in IoT

- mimic the role of ‘people’ connected over Internet

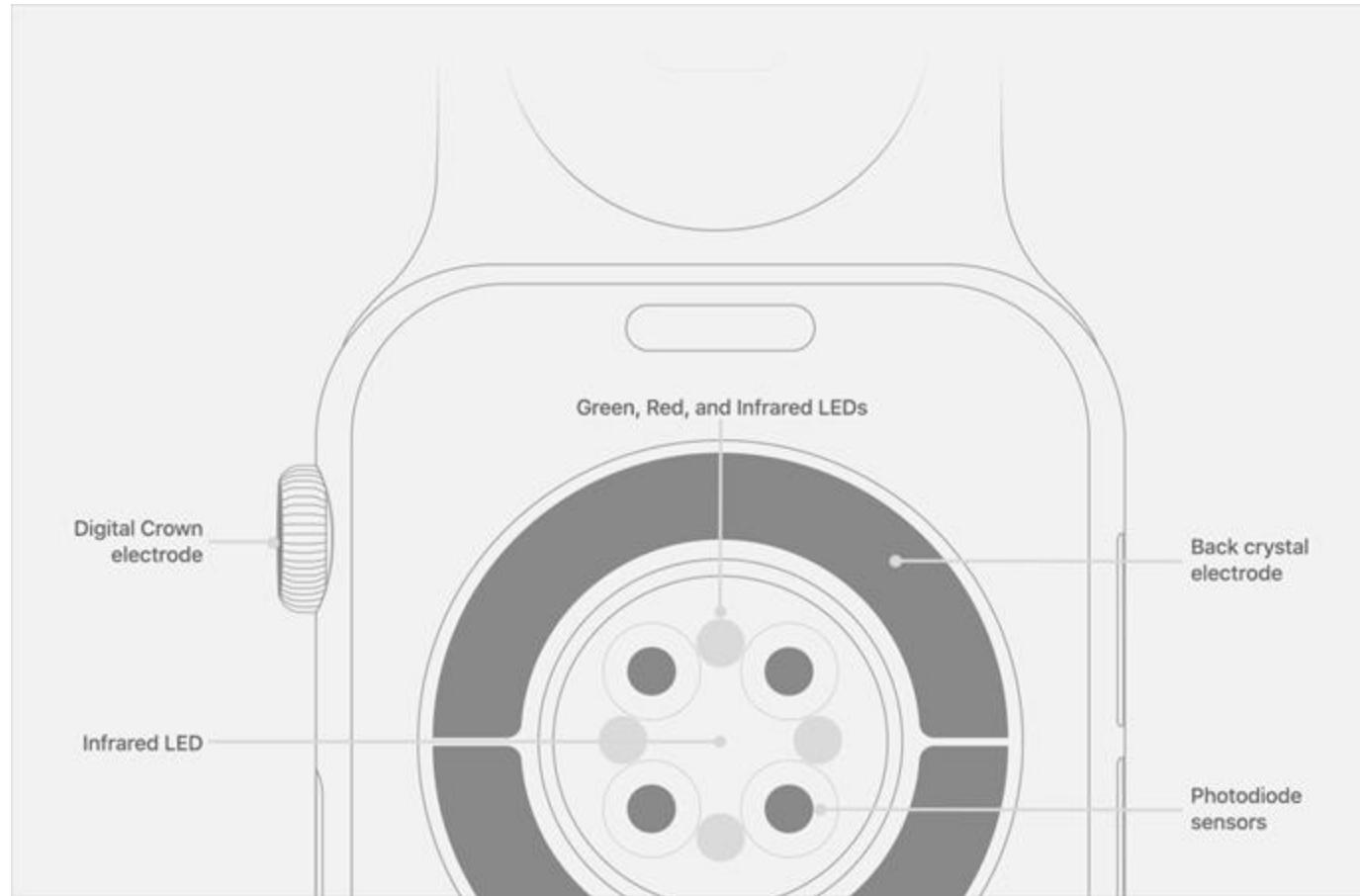
Ability to express context	sensors
Ability to respond	actuators
Intelligent	embedded processing/memory
Energized	battery/AC/energy-harvesting
Identifiable	unique addressing
Locatable	positioning
Reachable	wired/wireless connectivity

Things: Smartphones



Digital health: Smartphone-based monitoring of multiple sclerosis using Floodlight, Nature

Things: Wearables



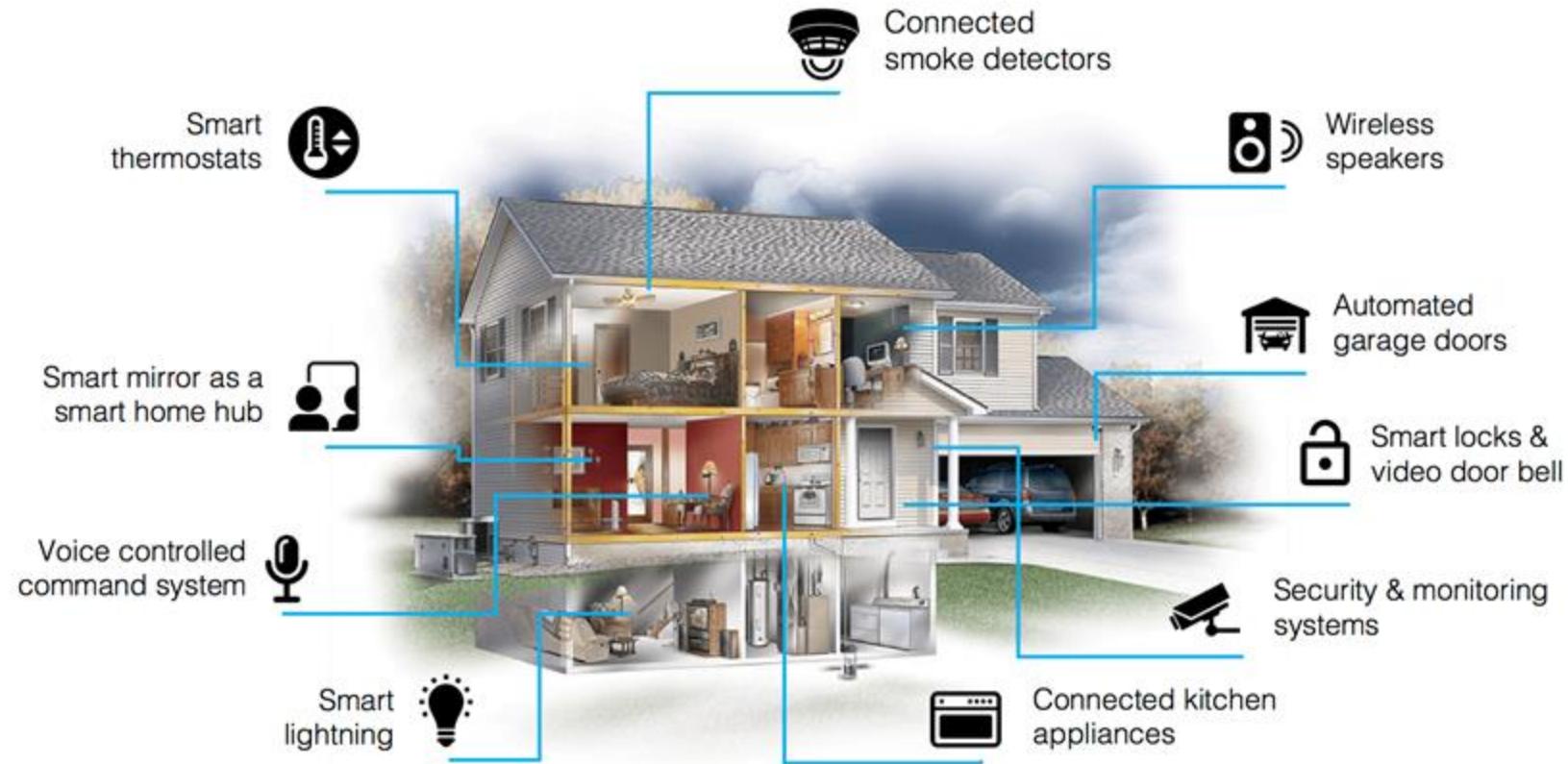
Monitor your heart rate with Apple Watch, apple.com

Things: Earables/Hearables

Earable computing

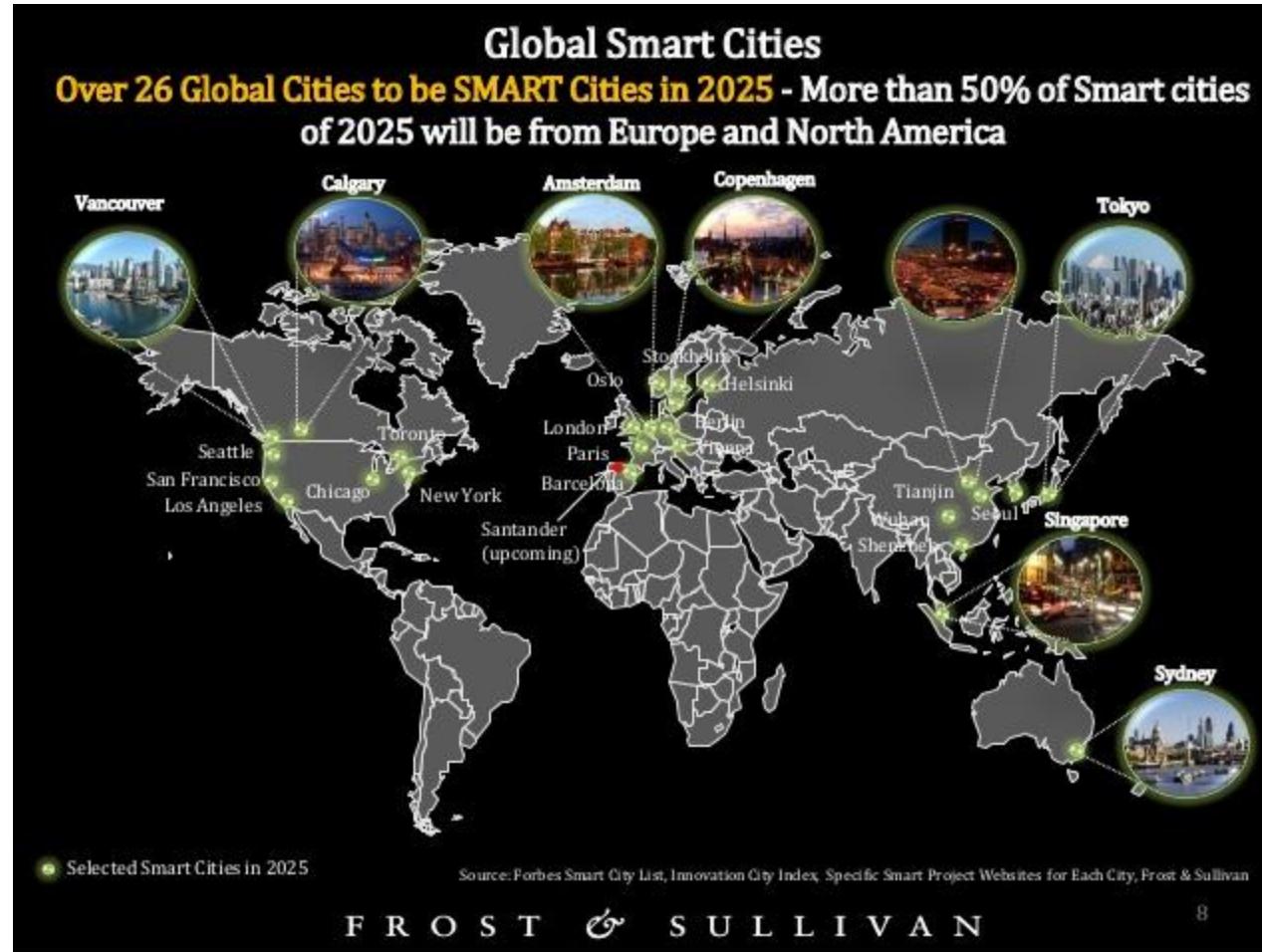


Things: Smart Home



[Smart home infographic, drror.com](http://smart-home-infographic.drror.com)

Things: Over 26 Smart Cities in 2025



Smart cities' spending on technology in the next six years is expected to reach \$327 billion by 2025 from \$96 billion in 2019.

Smart Cities to Create Business Opportunities Worth \$2.46 Trillion by 2025, Frost & Sullivan, 2020

What are we talking about when we talk about IoT?

- **Connectivity**
 - How to connect billions/trillions of things?
- **Sensing**
 - How to enable those connected things to sense the space?



How Does IoT Work?

IoT works by utilizing all its three main components:



1 SENSING: sensorized things to generate context (data)

2 CONNECTIVITY: interconnect data from things to the internet, and to sense-making infrastructure

3 SENSE-MAKING: converts data to actionable wisdom

IoT: Bridging Cyber and Physical Space

Connecting Billions of Things
Sensing the Environments



Today's AI Has Achieved Big Success



**Cannot see in the dark or through
the wall;
Neither with privacy.**

Why Wireless Sensing?

Any other concerns for Vision?

Tesla Vision Update: Replacing Ultrasonic Sensors with Tesla Vision

Safety is at the core of our design and engineering decisions. In 2021, we began our transition to Tesla Vision by removing radar from Model 3 and Model Y, followed by Model S and Model X in 2022. Today, in most regions around the globe, these vehicles now rely on Tesla Vision, our camera-based Autopilot system.

Now it appears **radar** is back. It's not yet clear which models will get the new **radar**. The type of **radar** Tesla intends to market next year is of a frequency that's allocated by the FCC for ADAS use cases, according to Ram Machness, chief business officer at Arbe Robotics, which produces ultra-high-resolution 4D imaging **radar**.

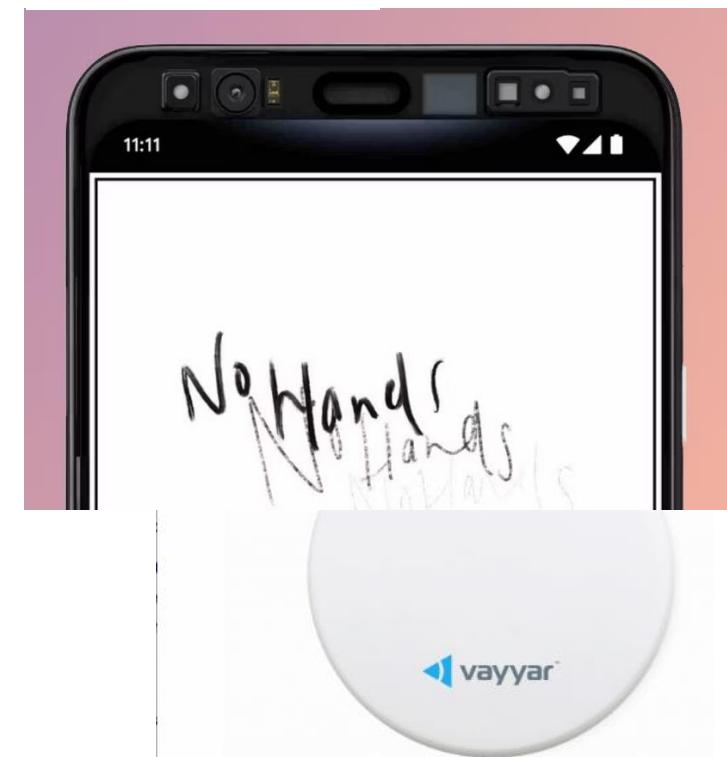
Tesla had originally filed with the FCC to use the new **radar** — which is described in filings as “76-77 GHz Automotive **Radar**” — in its vehicles back in June.

“From the frequency of operation (76-77GHz) as well as the mechanical design of the sensor from Tesla’s FCC filing, it

Tesla Adding Radar Back

Steven Hong, VP and general manager of **radar** ch.

Google Pixel 4



Amazon + Vayyar

Constant protection.
Touchless fall detection.

BUY NOW FROM AMAZON

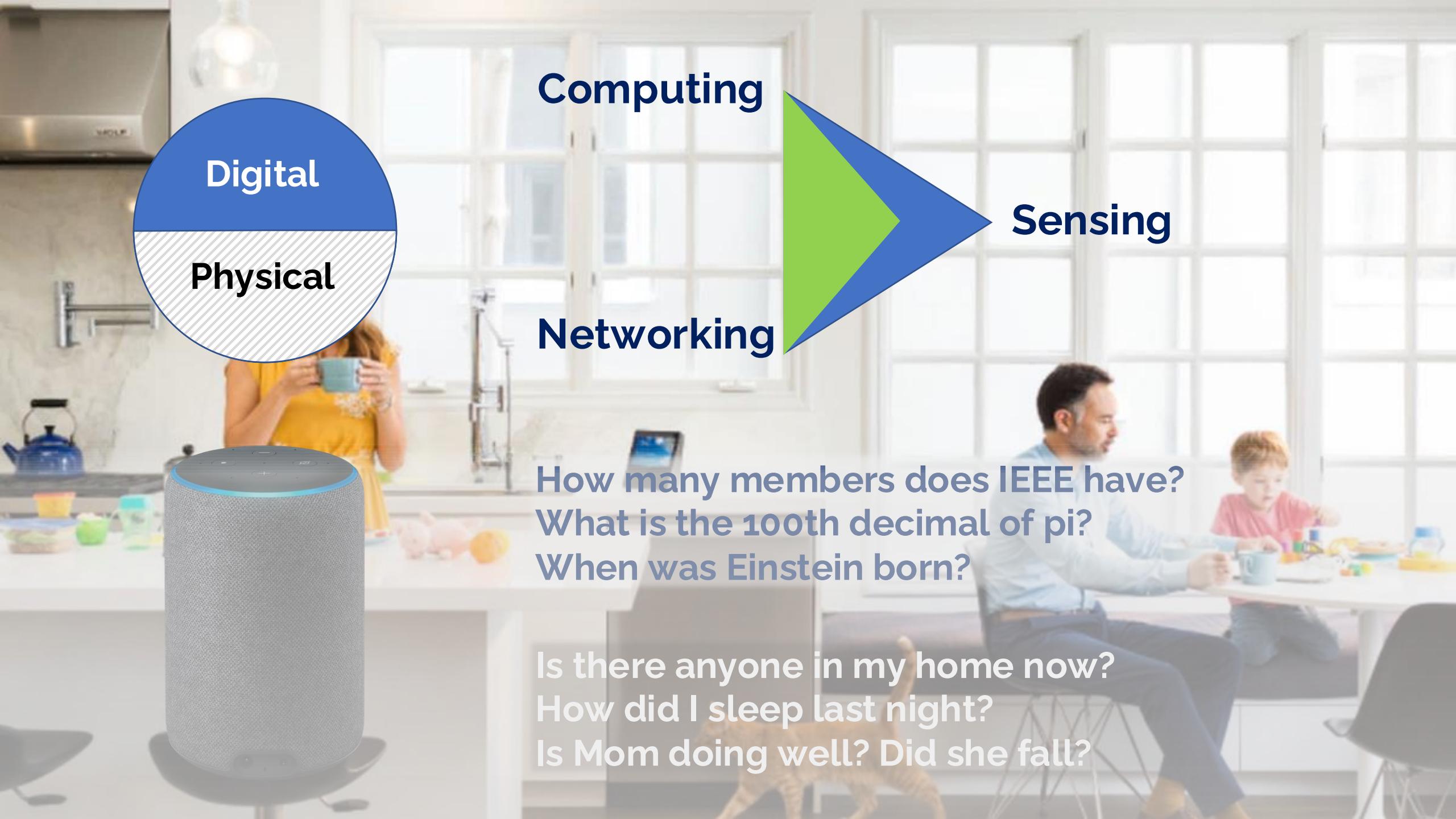
AI Also Has “Big” Problems...

A Tyrannosaurus Rex is shown from the waist up, facing left. It has its mouth slightly open, showing its teeth. The background consists of rolling green hills under a clear blue sky. A large green rectangular box is overlaid on the middle-left portion of the image. Inside this box, the text "GET SMALL, GET PHYSICAL" is written in white, sans-serif capital letters.

GET SMALL, GET PHYSICAL

TOO BIG

VIRTUAL



Computing

Sensing

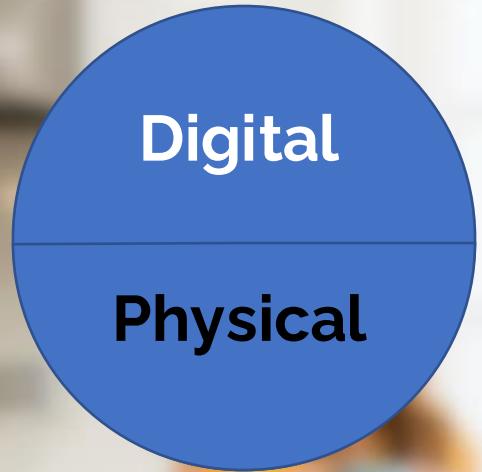
Networking

Digital

Physical

How many members does IEEE have?
What is the 100th decimal of pi?
When was Einstein born?

Is there anyone in my home now?
How did I sleep last night?
Is Mom doing well? Did she fall?



Sensing AI

**Equip connected devices with sensing AI
to bridge the cyber and physical spaces**

What Is Sensing AI?



Computer Vision

deals with how computers understand [visual signals](#)



Speech Recognition

enables machines to recognize human [speech signals](#)

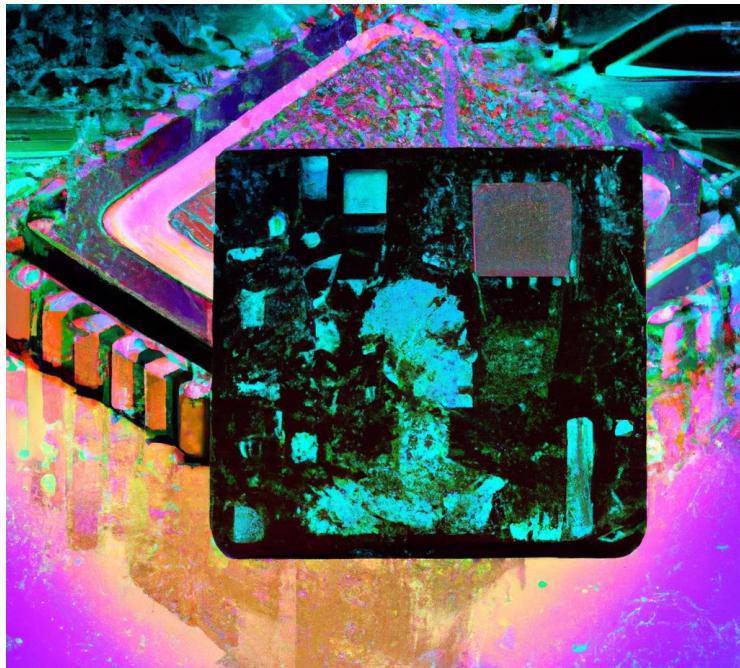


Photo courtesy: *

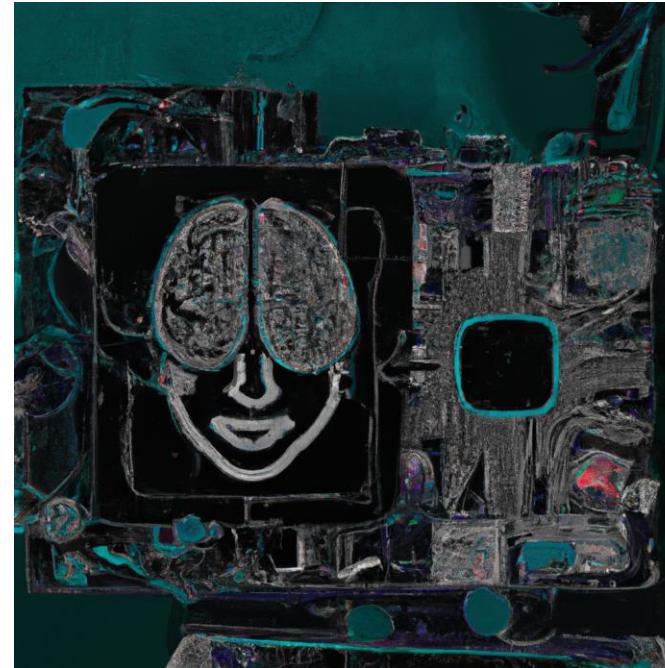
Sensing AI

enables IoT to [sense](#) the physical world with [various signals](#)

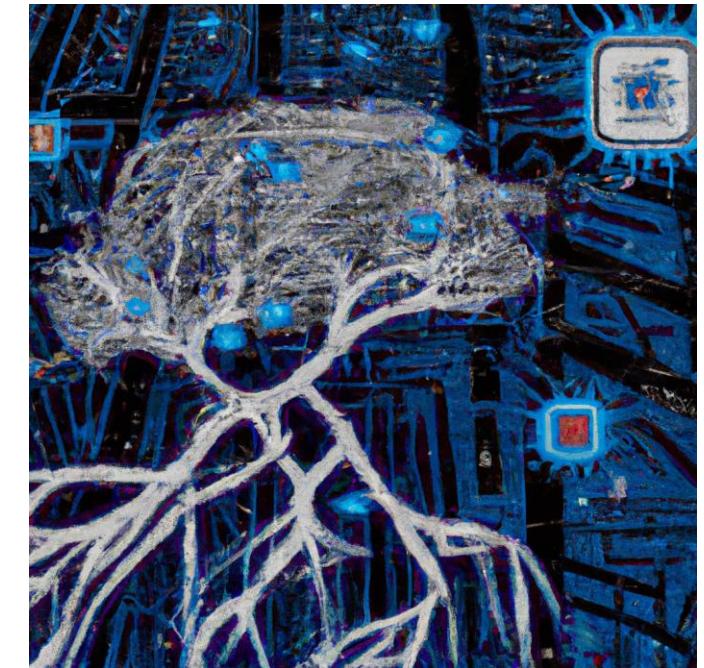
The Era of AI



Computational AI



Perceptual AI



Cognitive AI

What are we talking about when we talk about AIoT?

Q: What word do you use to describe a smart person in Chinese?



HUMAN SENSES



HEARING



SMELL



TASTE



TOUCH

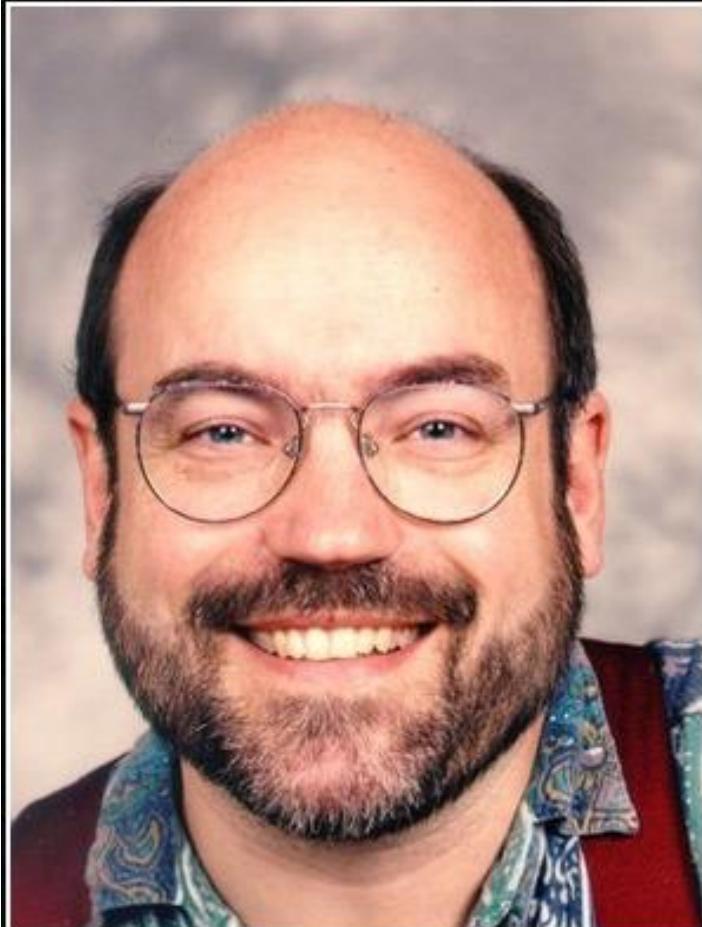


VISION

MACHINE SENSES

Sensors, CV, Speech Recognition...

Ubiquitous Computing



The most profound technologies are those that disappear. They weave themselves into the fabric of everyday life until they are indistinguishable from it.

-- Mark Weiser
(The Father of Ubiquitous Computing)

The Computer
for the 21st Century

Specialized elements of hardware and software, connected by video, radio waves and infrared, will be so ubiquitous that no one will notice their presence.

The more protocol violations a patient had at discharge, the less likely it was that the patient would be readmitted within 30 days. Patients with more protocol violations were more likely to be readmitted than patients with fewer protocol violations. This study also found significant associations between the presence of specific comorbidities and the risk of hospital readmission. Patients with heart failure, hypertension, and stroke were more likely to be readmitted than patients without these conditions. Comorbidity was associated with an increased risk of readmission after discharge from hospitalization due to stroke.

So far, the use of financial instruments by pension funds has been limited to the use of derivatives to hedge interest rate risk. In 1995, the U.S. Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) issued a final rule that permits savings and loan associations to invest up to 10 percent of their assets in derivative instruments. The rule also permits S&Ls to invest up to 10 percent of their assets in derivatives to hedge interest rate risk. This rule is the first step toward allowing S&Ls to invest in derivatives to hedge interest rate risk.

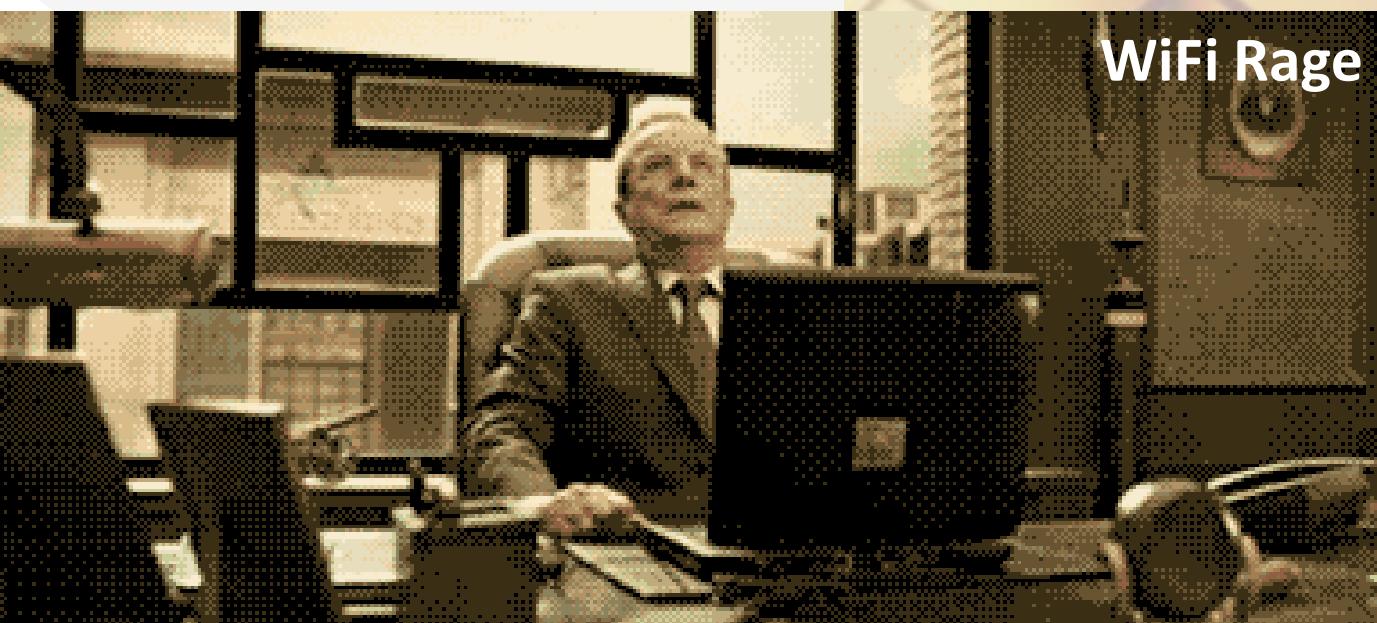
(Scientific American, 1991)

This course dives deeper into
the “most profound sensing
technologies that disappear”.

“Is WiFi bad to our health?”

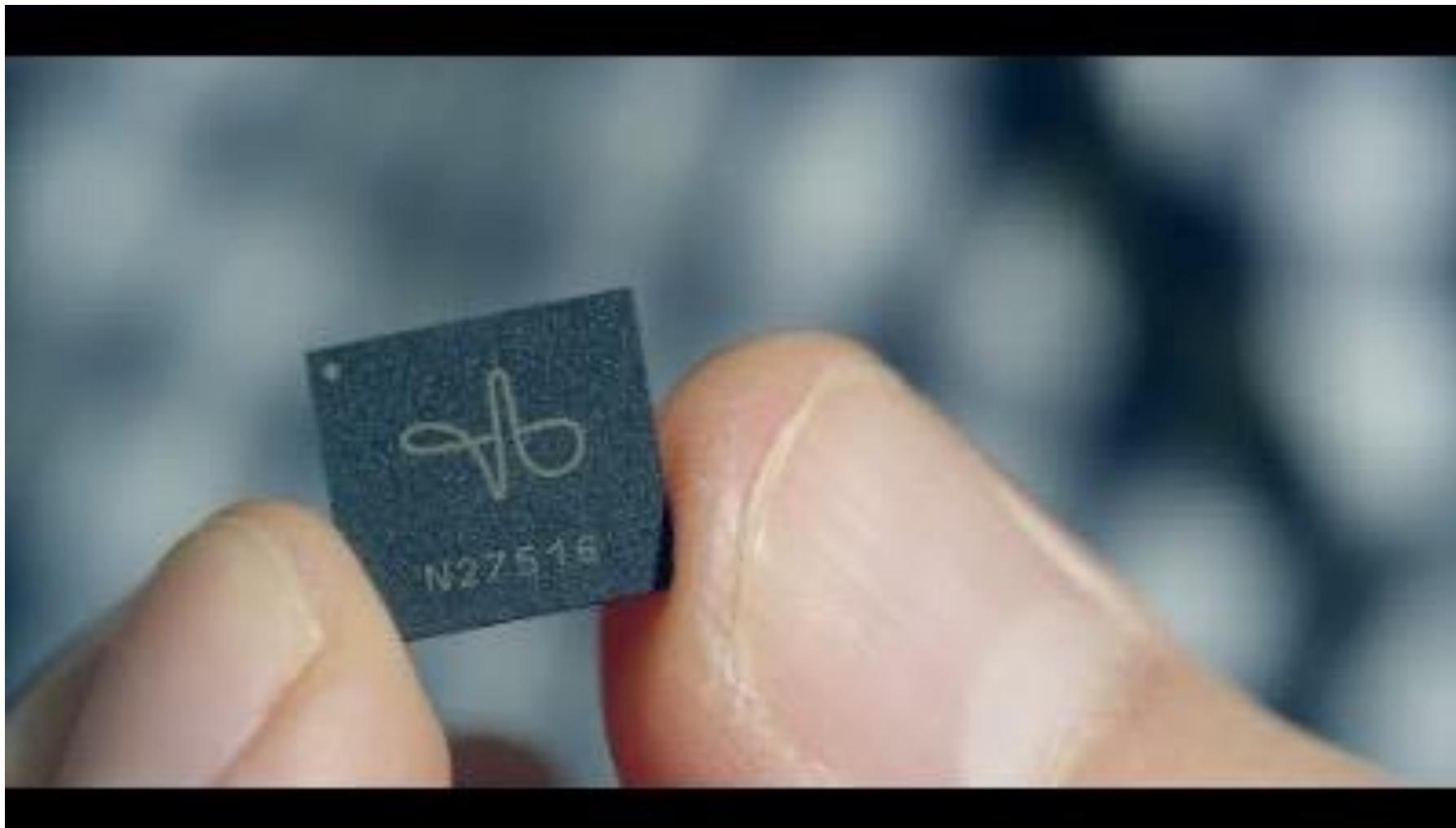
“Yes! Absolutely!

I feel anxiety once there's NO WiFi!”



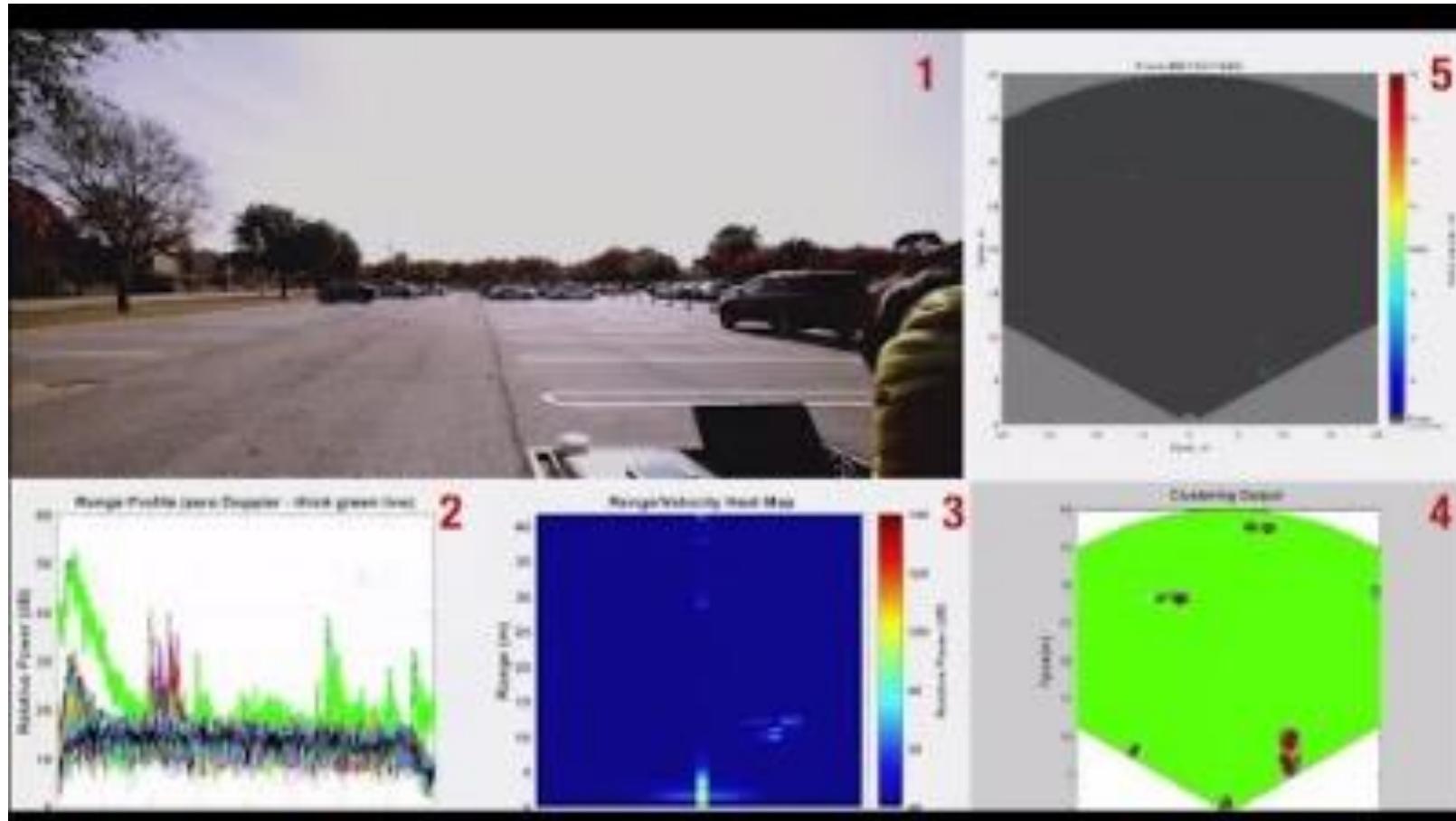


Google Soli Project



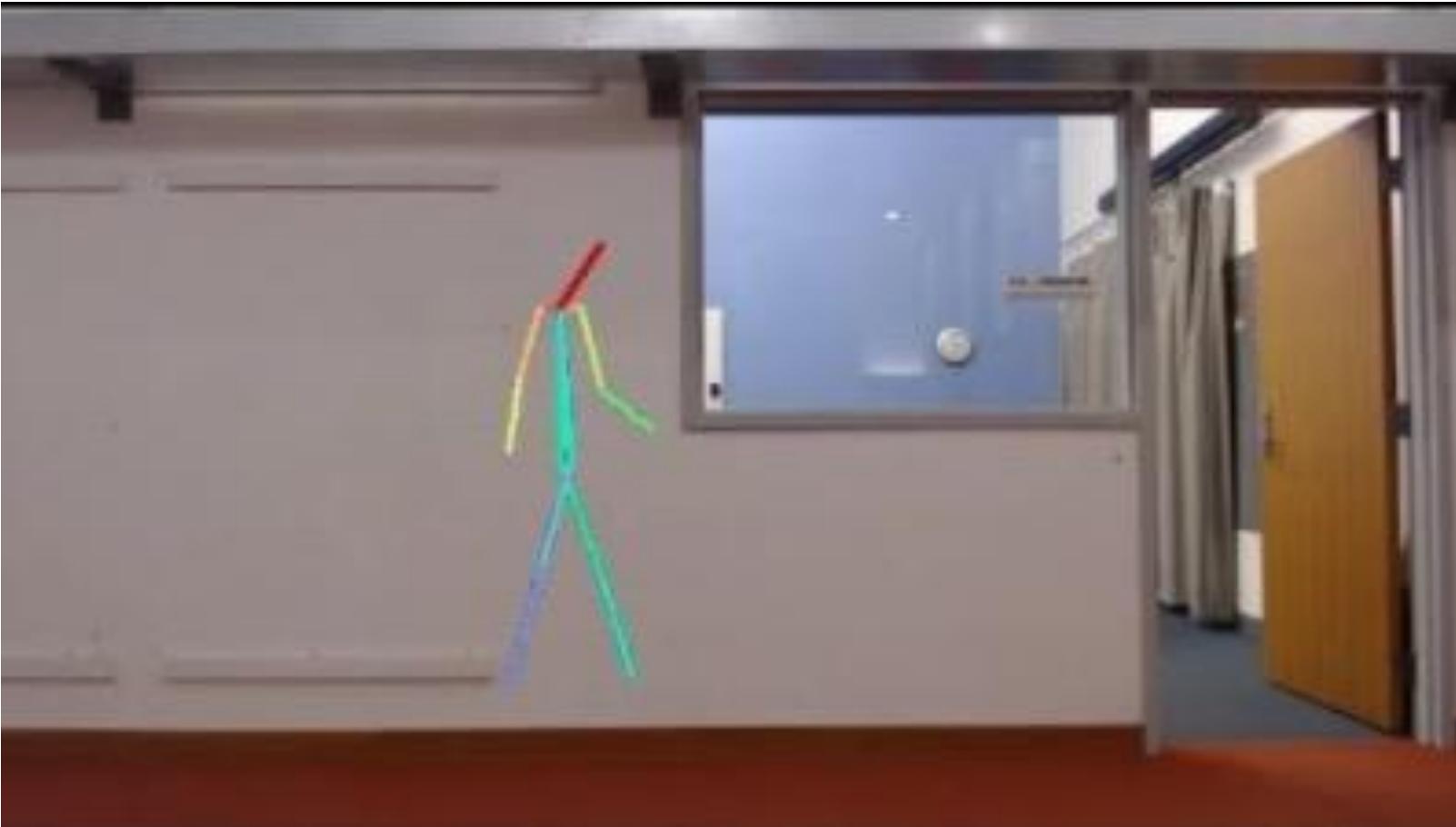
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0QNiZfSsPc0>

TI mmWave Radar



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziQjbVXcSts&t=140s>

RF Pose



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgDdaMy8KNE>

[CVPR'18] Through-Wall Human Pose Estimation Using Radio Signals
Mingmin Zhao, et al

WiFi DensePose

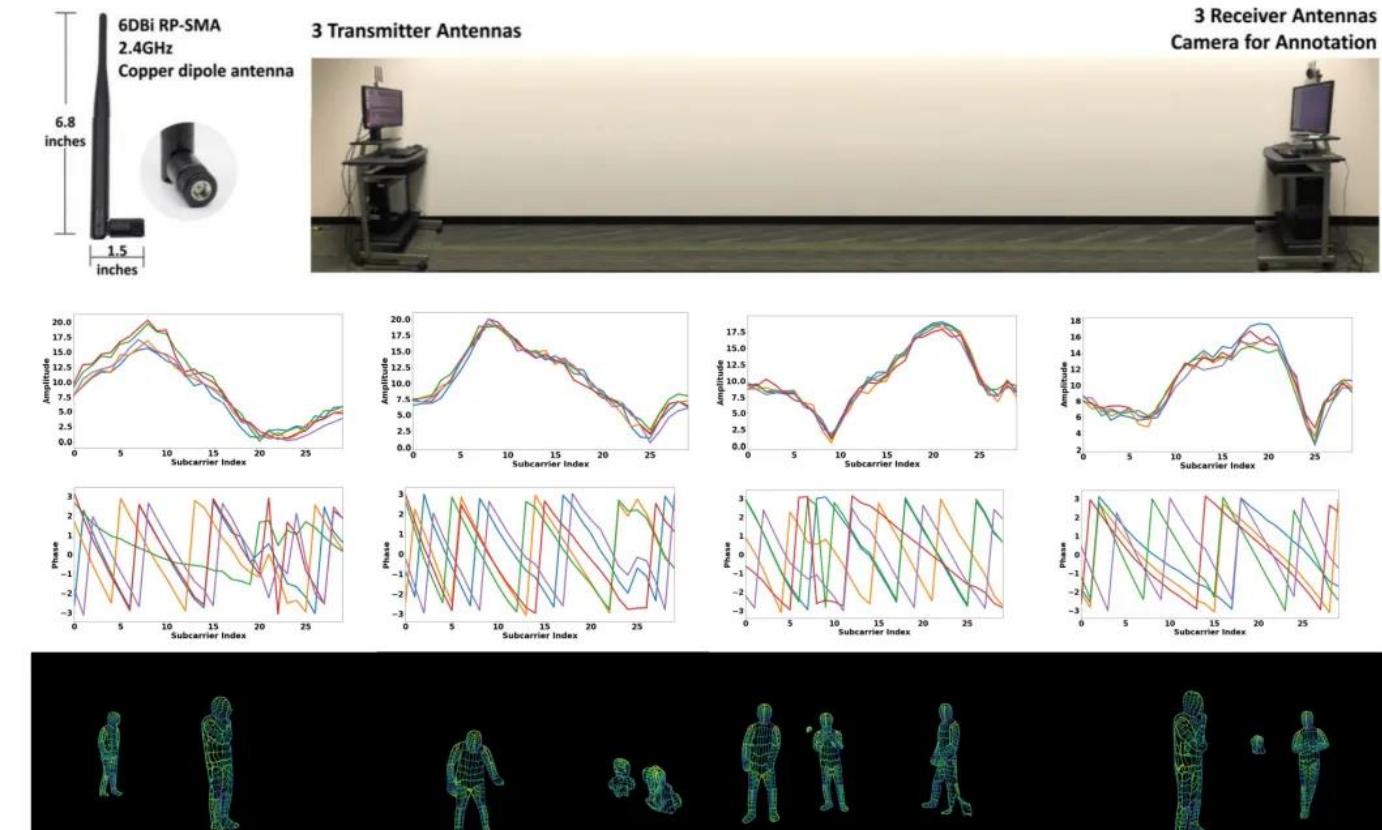
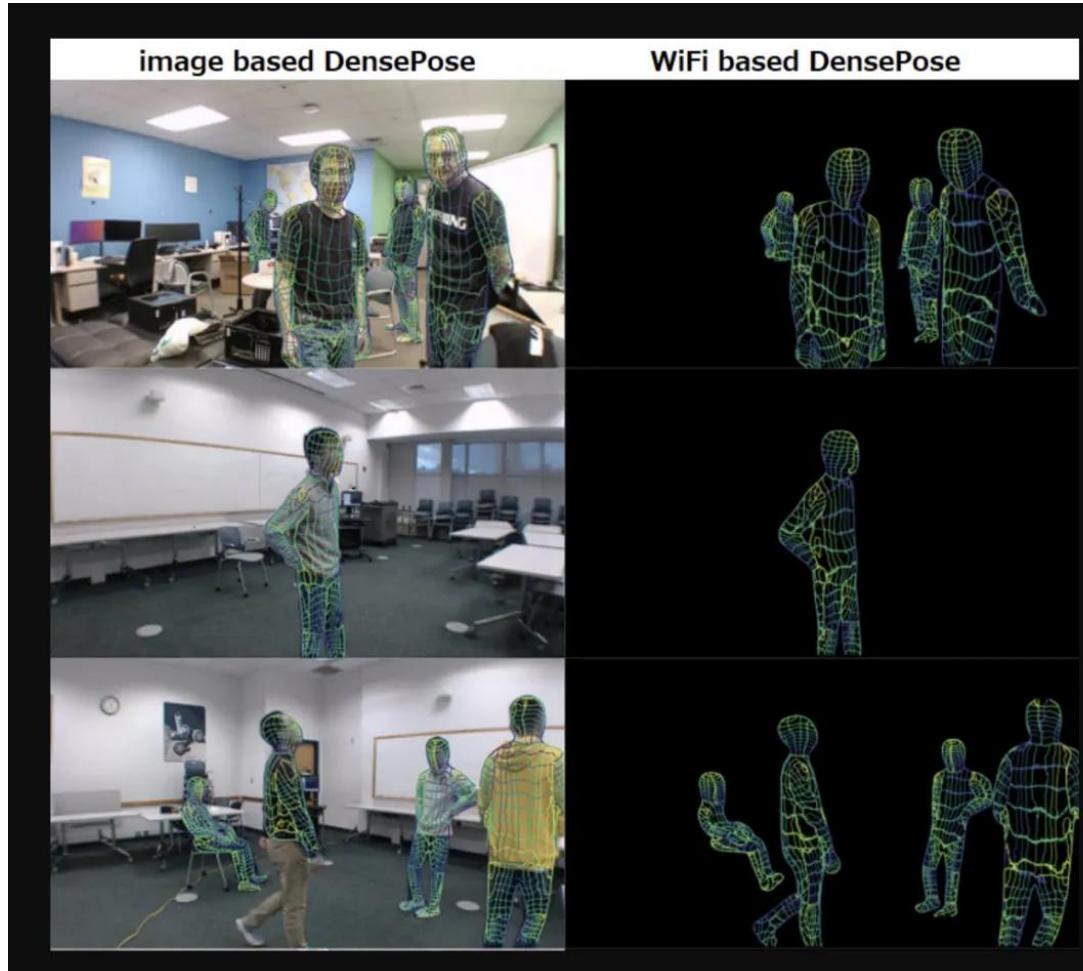


Figure 1: The first row illustrates the hardware setup. The second and third rows are the clips of amplitude and phase of the input WiFi signal. The fourth row contains the dense pose estimation of our algorithm from *only* the WiFi signal.

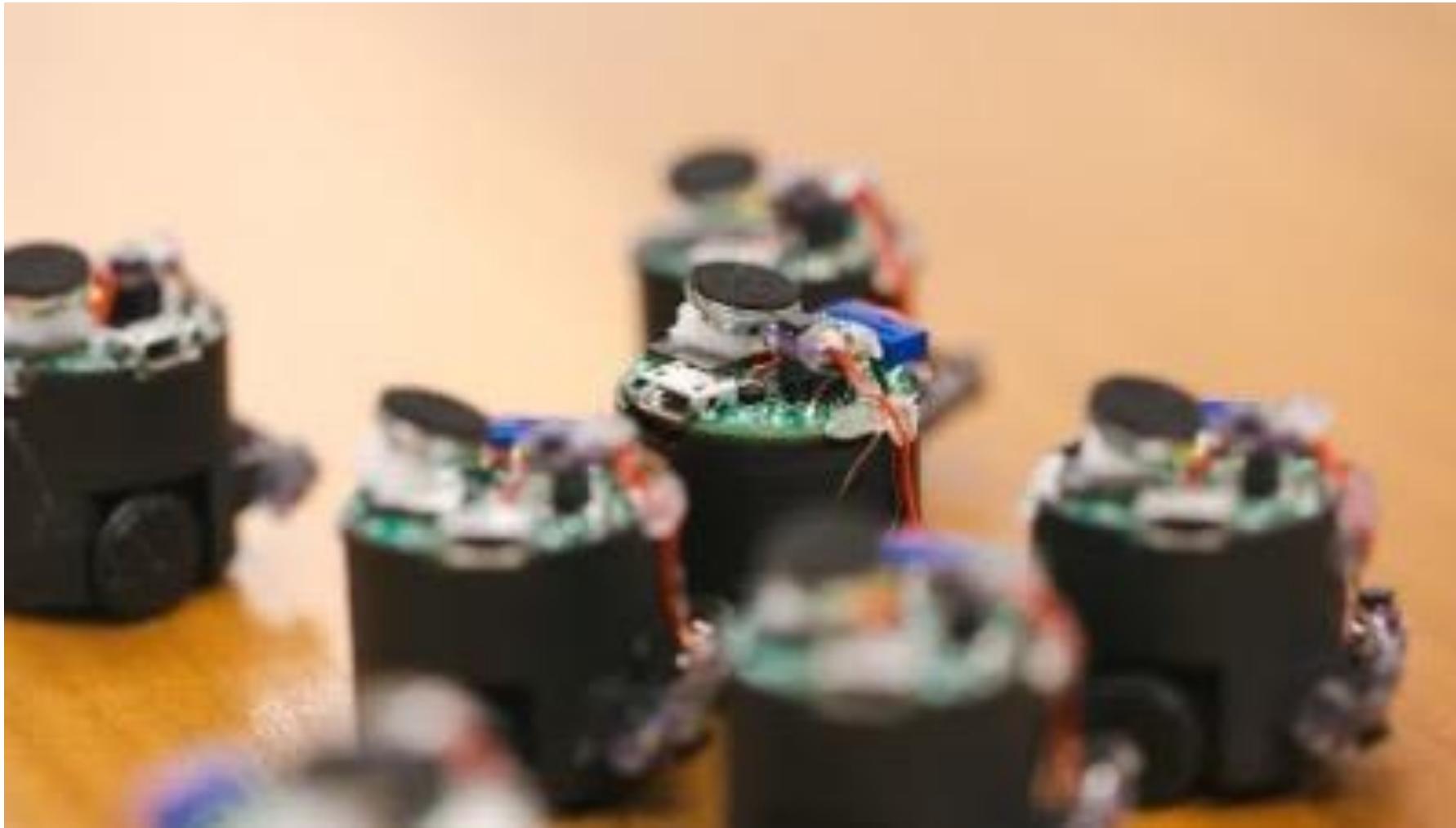


DensePose From WiFi: <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2301.00250>

Augmented Reality with X-Ray Vision



Sound Bubbles



88

This course dives deeper into
the “most profound sensing
technologies that disappear”.

Specifically, we will learn sensing
technologies beyond vision.

In absolute darkness

Through the walls/obstacles

Wireless, Contactless, Sensorless

Data Analytics for IoT

- Introduction
- Connectivity
 - Wireless networks
 - Wireless protocols
 - Wireless communication
- IoT Signals & Data
 - Signal basics
 - Time-frequency
 - Periodicity/Correlation
 - Detection
 - Filtering
 - Similarity
- Radio Analytics: mmWave Sensing
 - Range Estimation
 - Doppler Estimation
 - Angle Estimation
- Radio Analytics: Wi-Fi Sensing
 - Channel State Information
 - Signal modeling
 - Motion detection
 - Breathing rate estimation
 - Speed estimation
- Mobile Analytics: Mobile sensing
 - Inertial sensors
 - Sensing applications
- Location Analytics: Localization
 - Fingerprinting
 - Triangulation/Trilateration
 - Inertial Tracking
- Edge AI
 - Deep Wireless Sensing
 - Edge Learning
- Selected advanced topics

Questions?

- Thank you!

