



# 27<sup>th</sup> European Signal Processing Conference

## A Coruña, Spain

System-Level Analysis and Optimization in Large-Scale Wireless Networks

## Coverage Analysis for Backscatter Communication Empowered Cellular Internet-of-Things

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UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



BGS © NERC

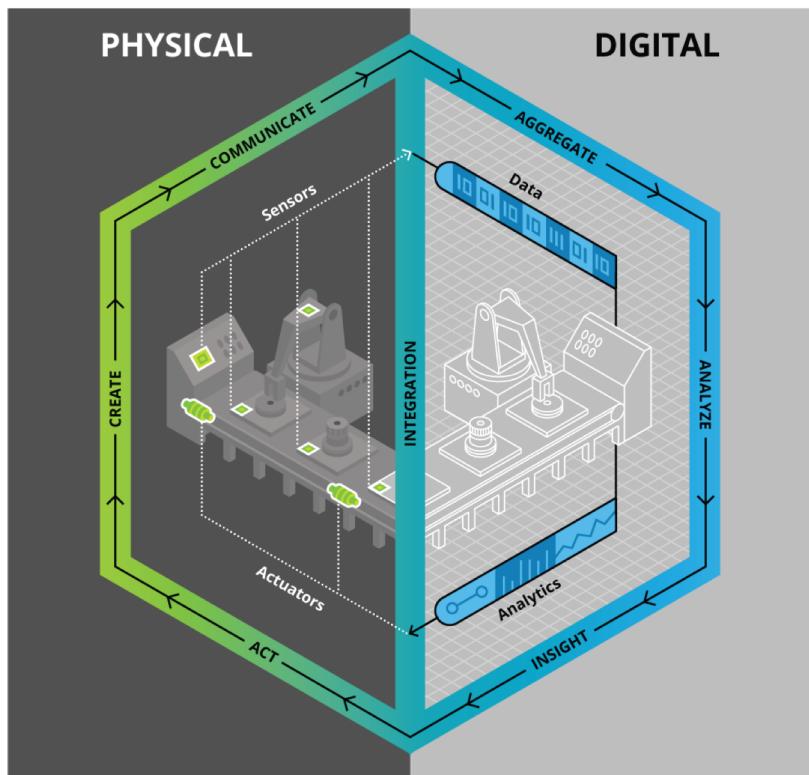


# Agenda

- Motivation
- Background
- Performance Analysis
  - Distribution of Dyadic Channel Gain
  - Co-channel Interference Modelling
  - Coverage Probability Characterization
- Conclusion and Future Outlook

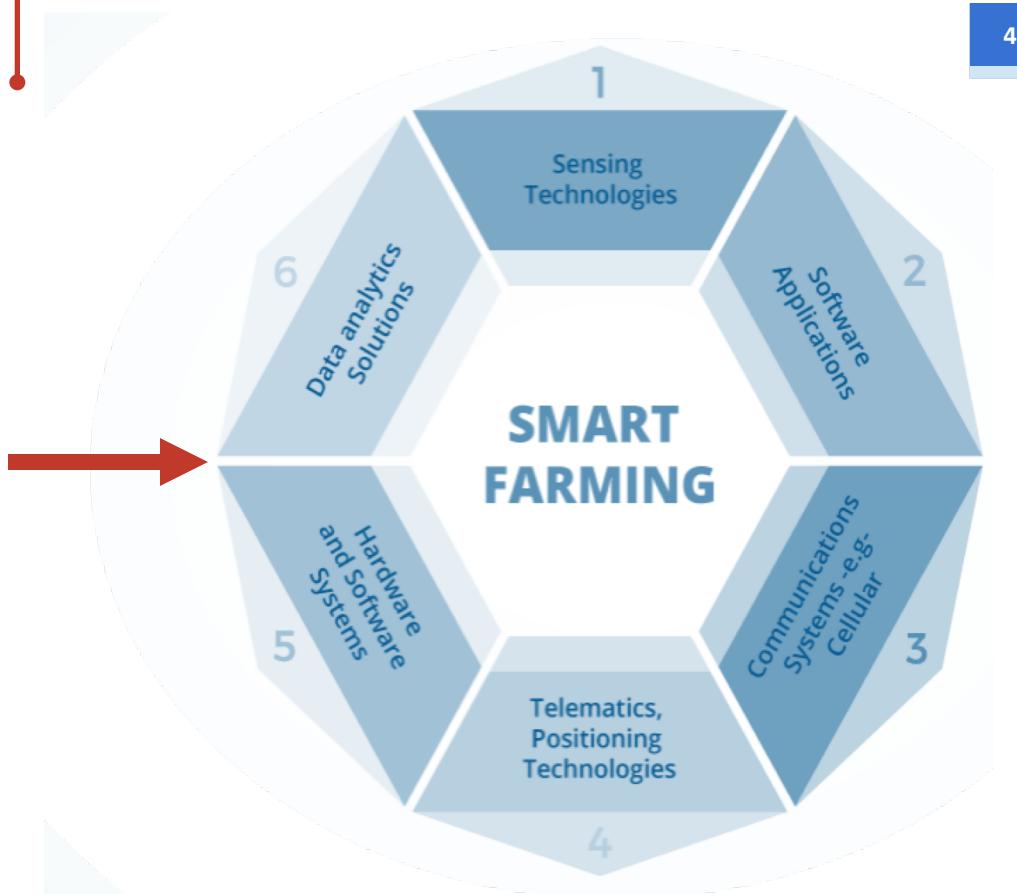
# Motivation

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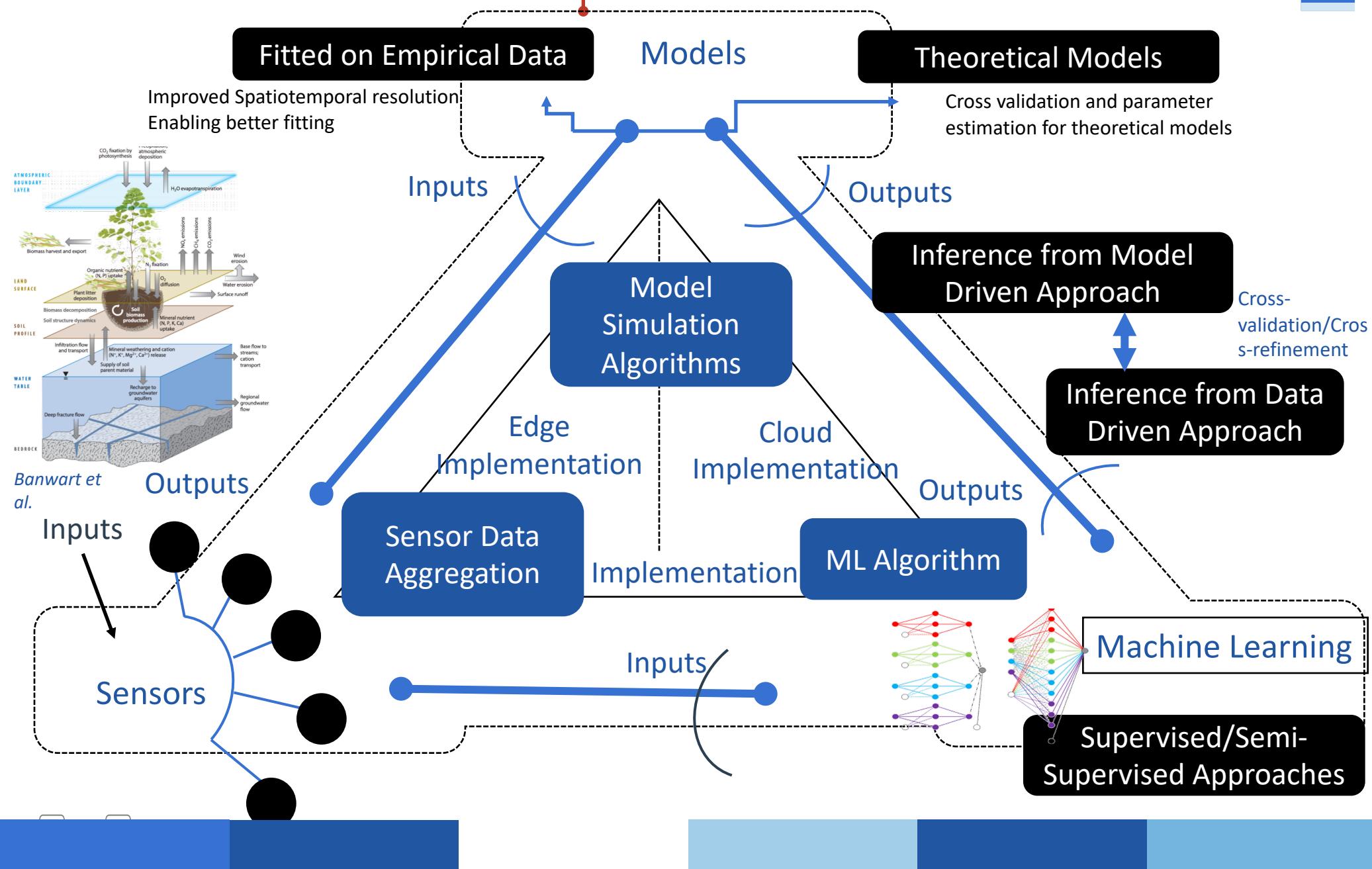
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- 1. Operational efficiency** through real-time process analytics or even end-to-end process control.
- Significantly enhance overall **productivity** by realizing zero-downtime through proactive response

# Model Mediated AI



# Climate Smart Agriculture

CSA is an approach that helps to guide actions needed to transform and reorient agricultural systems to effectively support the development and ensure food security in a changing climate. CSA aims to tackle three main objectives: sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and incomes; adapting and building resilience to climate change; and reducing and/or removing greenhouse gas emissions, where possible.

FAO Framework: <https://csa.guide/>

CSA implementations aim to exploit technological solutions which can enable efficiently:

- (i) water management;
- (ii) precision agriculture; and
- (iii) livestock management.

This project is geared towards the development of new low-cost sensing platform which can accelerate implementation and adaptation of these CSA approaches.

# Challenge

- CSA → Collection of information → Inferences and Deployment of Appropriate Response Mechanisms.
- Data-driven smart farming → Internet-of-Things (IoT)

Energy Efficiency



# Background

# RF Backscatter based IoT Nodes

Takes advantage of ambient RF waves

Small environmental footprint

- No additional energy is consumed since it uses what's already in the air

Changes the impedance of the antenna

- When a wave encounters an antenna with two different impedances, it reflects the wave

Controlling the strength of the reflection energy allows for information to be transmitted (ASK as example)

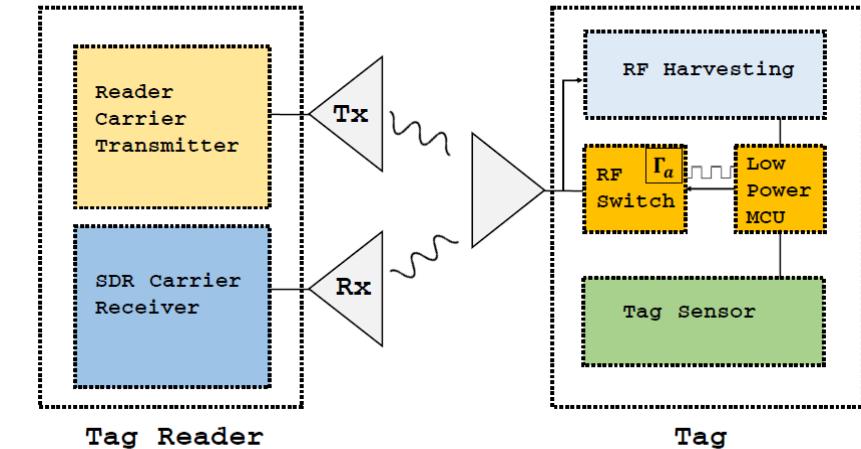
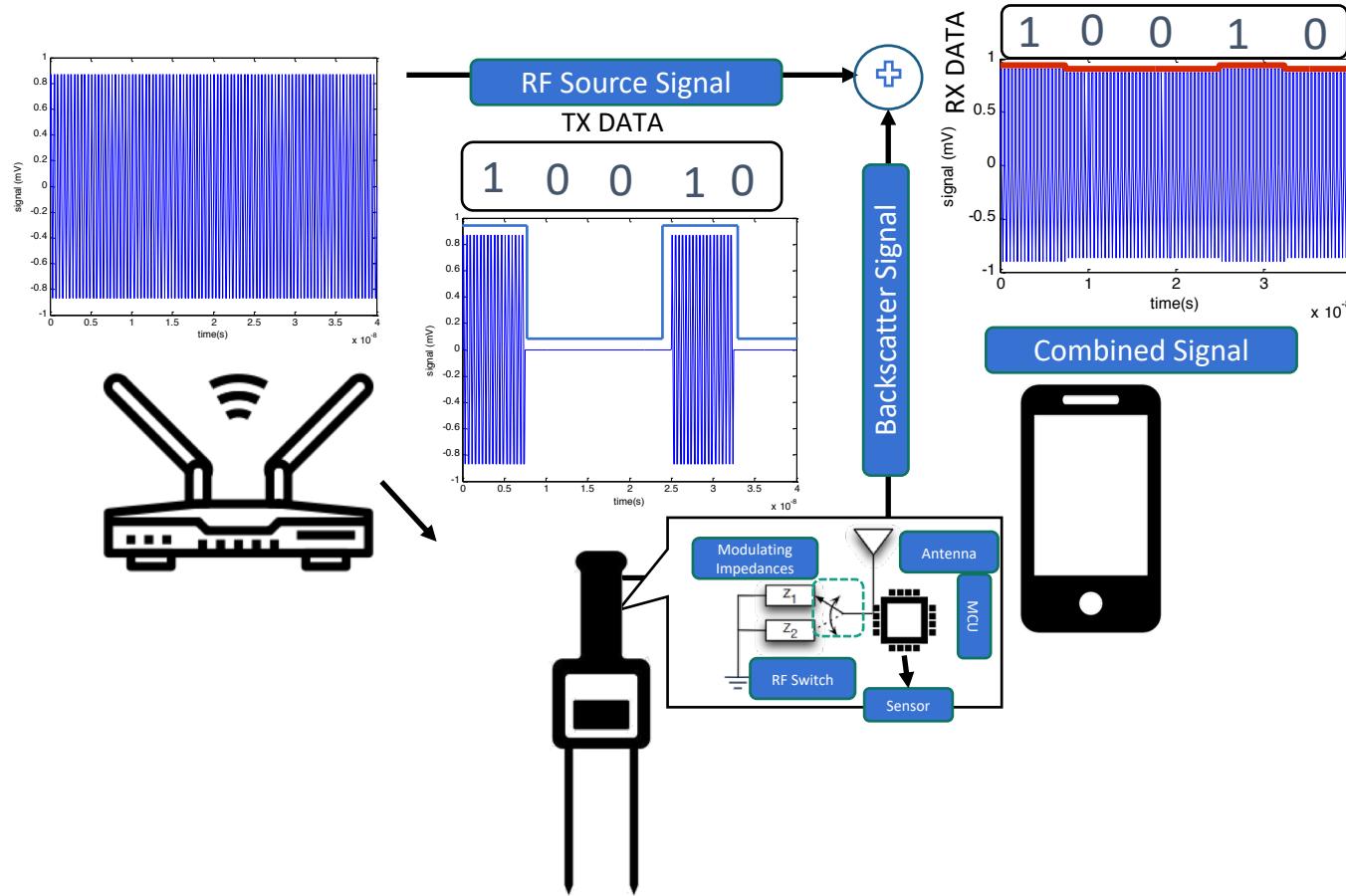


FIGURE 7.2: Architecture of backscatter DFR and SN.



$$x_{Tag}(t) = \begin{cases} \Gamma_a b_n(t - nT), & \text{Logic 0,} \\ 0, & \text{Logic 1,} \end{cases}$$

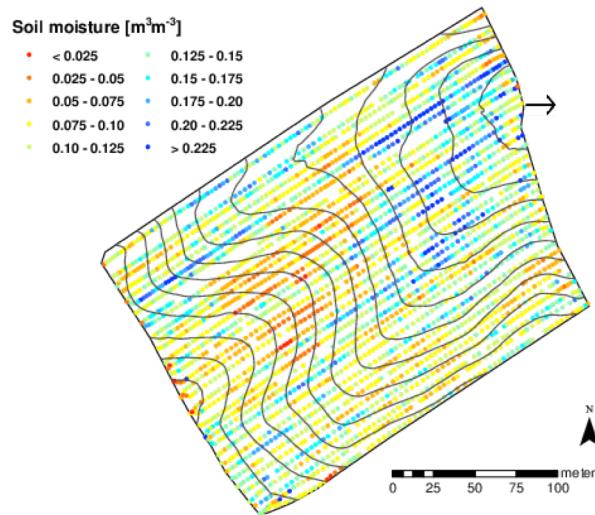
# RF Backscatter



# Design Questions



- What is the maximum attainable range for Backscatter SN?
- How many SNs can be covered by a single reader?
- Can we exploit controlled mobility to reduce infrastructure costs?
- Can we compare theoretical results with actual hardware based prototypes?
- How can we enable multiple access for these SNs?

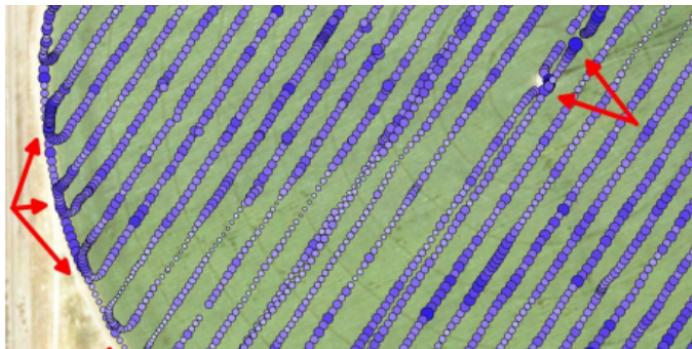


Optimal Spatio-temporal Estimation

# Hardware Implementation

	<b>OPENs RFID</b>	Meter Group 5TM <sup>4</sup>	DFRobot <u>Gravity</u> <sup>5</sup>	SMAP (Soil Moisture Active Passive Satellite)
Moisture Accuracy	Medium	High	Low	Low
Area Resolution	Point	Point	Point	100 Acre
Max Soil Depth	10 cm	2 m	2 m	5 cm <sup>2</sup>
Wireless Read Range	15 cm	N/A	N/A	685 km <sup>3</sup>
Cost per Sensor (cost per data point)	\$0.25	\$200	\$5	Free*
Data Logger Cost	\$600	\$500	\$300	N/A
Environmental Impact	Low	Medium	Medium	None
Requires Battery	No	Yes	Yes	No

\*Through NASA's SMAP program.



Dirt Cheap to Manufacture

Enclosure 5¢

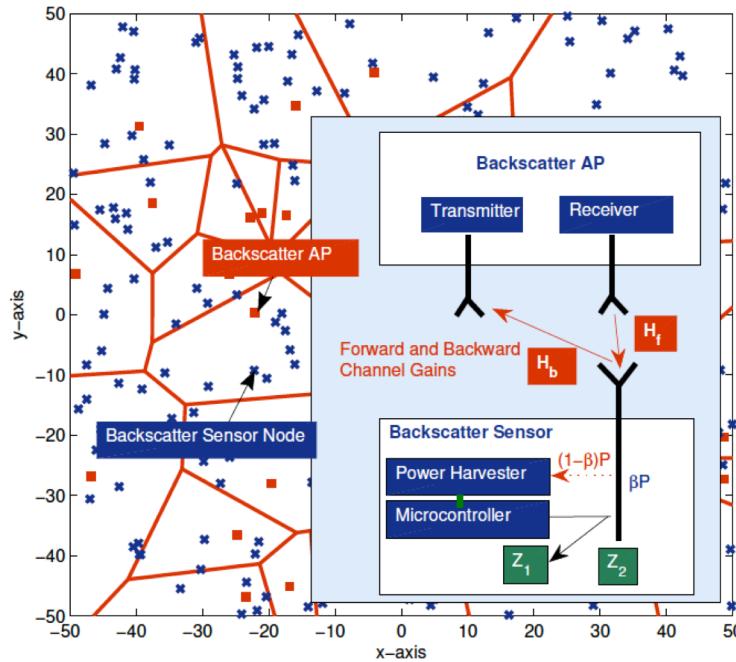
RFID Sensor 22¢

Manufacturing Labor 18¢

**+      Install Labor 45¢**



# System Level Performance



- The spatial distribution of both APs and SNs is captured by a two independent homogeneous Poisson point processes (HPPPs);
- Dyadic Fading Channel Model;
- Monostatic-Architecture;
- Interference Limited operation;

Fig. 1. Network Model and Architecture of Backscatter AP and SN.

S. Zaidi et al. *Coverage Analysis for Backscatter Communication Empowered Cellular Internet-of-Things* in proceedings of IEEE European Signal Processing Conference, A Coruna, Spain, 2019.

# Dyadic Fading Channel

- Joint PDF of Channel Gains:

$$f_{\mathcal{H}_f, \mathcal{H}_b}(h_f, h_b; \rho) = \frac{2}{\tilde{\rho} \sigma_f^2 \sigma_b^2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\tilde{\rho}} \left[ \frac{h_f}{\sigma_f^2} + \frac{h_b}{\sigma_b^2} \right]\right) \times \mathcal{I}_o\left(\frac{\rho \sqrt{h_f h_b}}{(1 - \rho^2) \sigma_f^2 \sigma_b^2}\right),$$

- Approximation

$$f_{\mathcal{H}}(h, \rho) = \frac{1}{2\tilde{\rho} \sigma_f^2 \sigma_b^2} \mathcal{I}_o\left(\frac{\rho \sqrt{h}}{\tilde{\rho} \sigma_f \sigma_b}\right) \mathcal{K}_o\left(\frac{\rho \sqrt{h}}{\tilde{\rho} \sigma_f \sigma_b}\right)$$

**Proposition 1 [Monotonicity of Product]:** Let  $\mathcal{I}_v$  and  $\mathcal{K}_v$  be the modified Bessel functions of first and second kind of order  $v$ , then their product  $x \mapsto P_v(x) = \mathcal{I}_v(x)\mathcal{K}_v(x)$  is monotonically decreasing on the interval  $(0, \infty)$ . Also following bounds hold from asymptotic Hankel expansion

$$\mathcal{I}_v(x) \sim \frac{\exp(x)}{\sqrt{2\pi x}} (1 + O(x^{-1})), \quad (9)$$

$$\mathcal{K}_v(x) \sim \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \exp(-x)}{\sqrt{2x}} (1 + O(x^{-1})). \quad (10)$$

# Dyadic Fading Channel

- We can write the approximate PDF and CDF for the dyadic channel as:

$$\text{PDF: } f_{\mathcal{H}}(h, \rho) \approx \frac{h^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{2\sqrt{\rho}} \exp\left(-\frac{2(1-\rho)\sqrt{h}}{1-\rho^2}\right) \quad (7.10)$$

$$\text{CDF: } F_{\mathcal{H}}(h, \rho) \approx 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{2(1-\rho)\sqrt{h}}{1-\rho^2}\right). \quad (7.11)$$

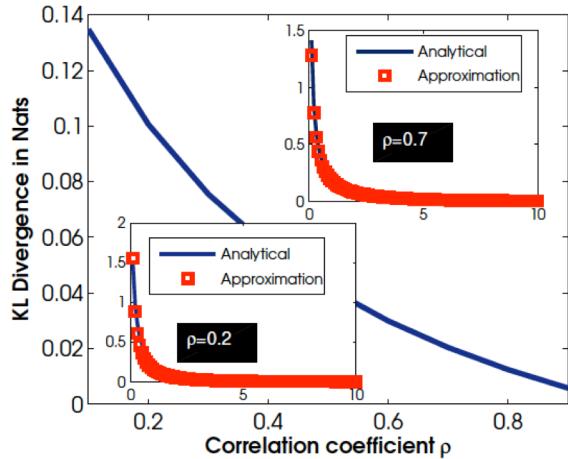


Fig. 2. Accuracy of the approximation in Eq. (13) vs. the exact PDF in Eq. (8) for varying correlation coefficient  $\rho$  using KL divergence.

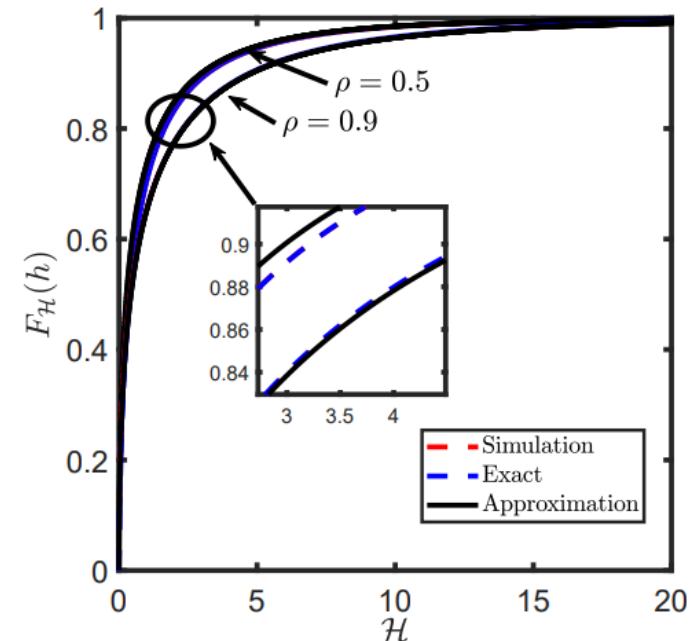


Fig. 4: Cumulative distribution function for the backscatter dyadic fading channel coefficient  $\mathcal{H}$ .

# Coverage Analysis

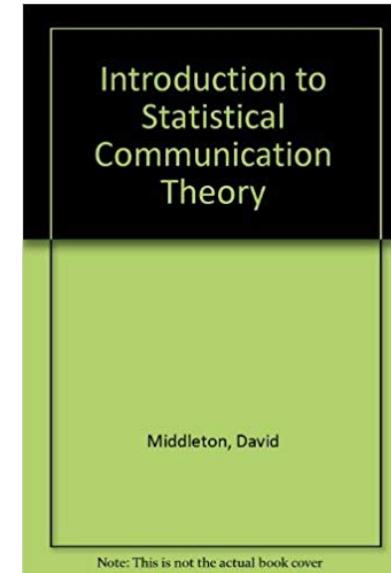
**Proposition 2 [Coverage Probability]:** The coverage probability of a SN located at a distance  $r$  from the transmitter can be upper-bounded as:

$$p_c(\gamma_{th}|r) \lesssim \exp\left(-\lambda_{SN}\pi\mu_1^\delta\gamma_{th}^{\delta/2}\Gamma(1-\delta)\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{H}^\delta)r^2\right), \quad (16)$$

where  $\delta = 2/\alpha$  and  $\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{H}^\delta) = \mathbb{E}(\mathcal{H}_f^\delta\mathcal{H}_b^\delta)$  and  $\Gamma(x)$  is the Gamma function. The unconditional coverage probability can be quantified by deconditioning  $p_c(\gamma_{th}|r)$  by employing PDF of  $R$  as:

$$p_c(\gamma_{th}) \approx \frac{1}{1 + \tilde{\lambda}\mu_1^\delta\gamma_{th}^{\delta/2}\Gamma(1-\delta)\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{H}^\delta)}, \quad (17)$$

where  $\tilde{\lambda} = \lambda_{SN}/\lambda_{AP}$  is the average number of SNs per AP.



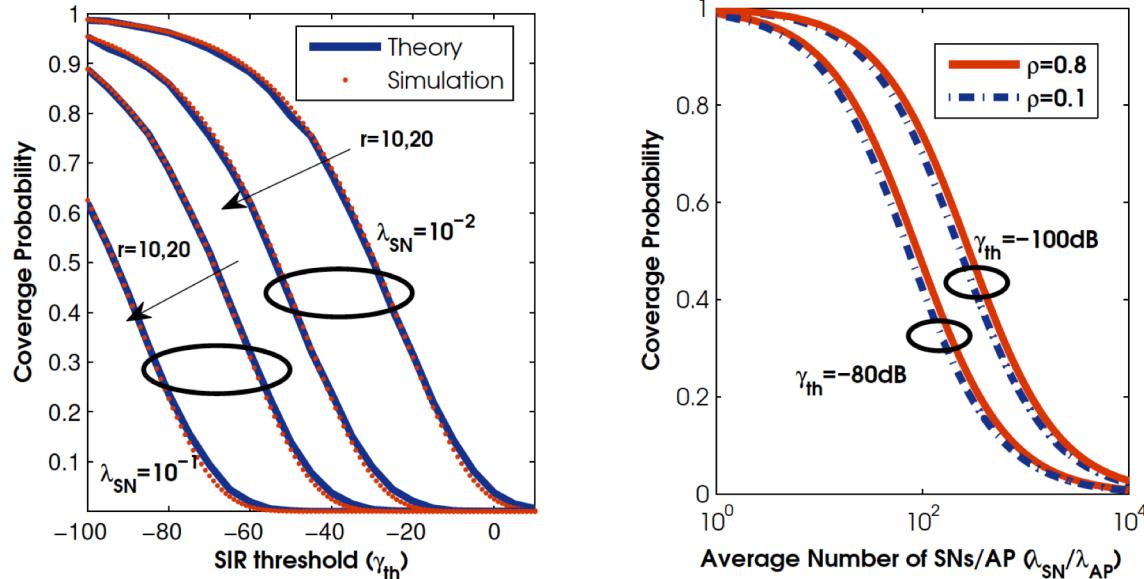
Note: This is not the actual book cover

**Proposition 4 [Joint Moments]:** The joint moments of correlated bivariate Exponential random variable with correlation factor  $\rho$  can be computed as:

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_{\mathcal{H}}(n, m) &= \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{H}_f^n\mathcal{H}_b^m], \\ &= \frac{\tilde{\rho}\Gamma(n+1)\Gamma(m+1)_2\mathcal{F}_1(n+1, m+1, 1; \rho^2)}{\Omega_f^n\Omega_b^m}, \\ &= 2^{n+m}(1-\rho^2)^{n+m+1}\sigma_f^{2n}\sigma_b^{2m}\Gamma(n+1) \\ &\times \Gamma(m+1)_2\mathcal{F}_1(n+1, m+1, 1; \rho^2). \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

where  $\Gamma(x)$  is the Gamma function and  $_2\mathcal{F}_1(a, b, c; z)$  is the Gauss hypergeometric function.

# Coverage Analysis

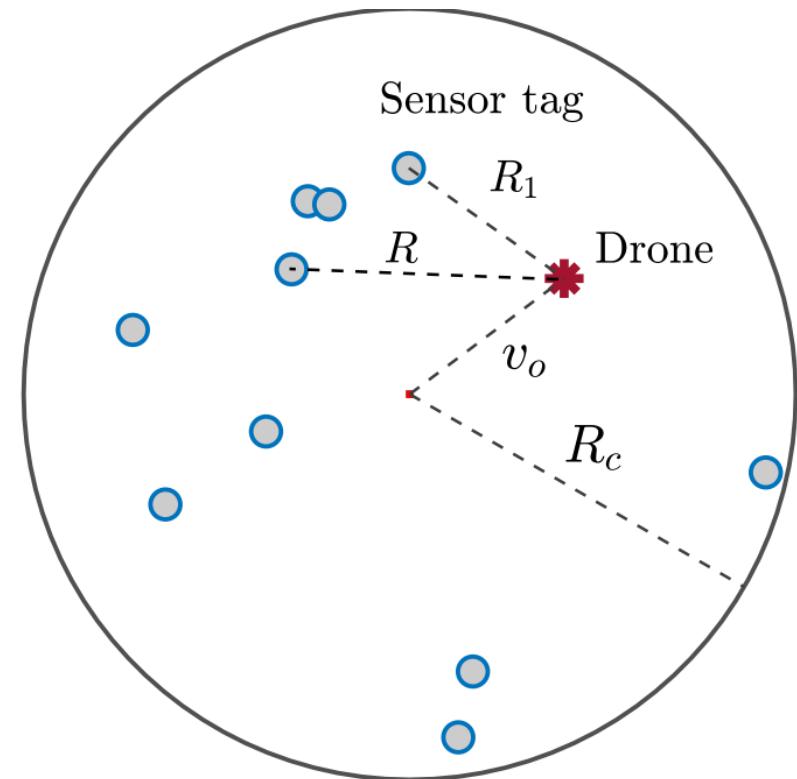
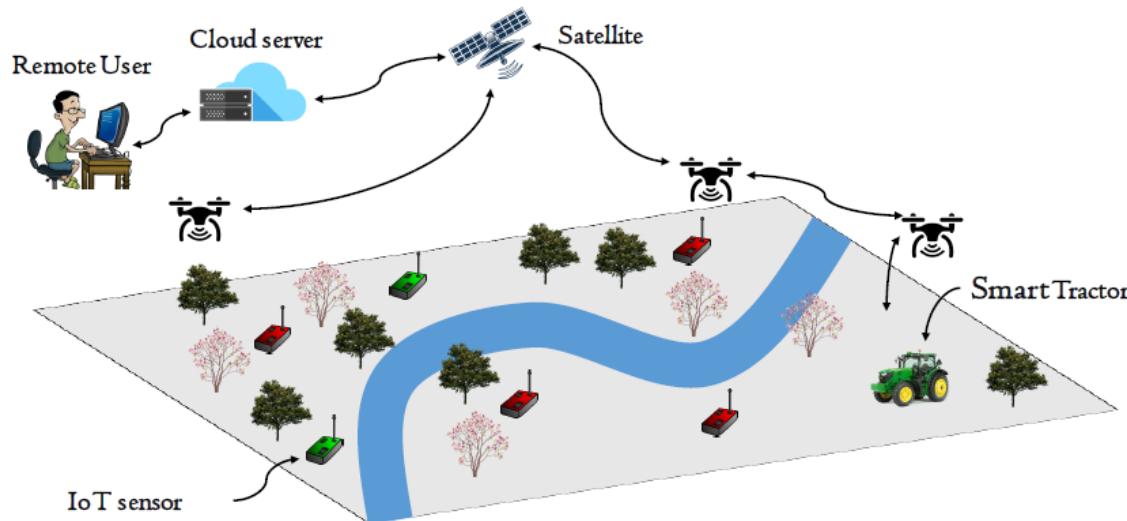


(a) Conditional coverage probability with varying desired SIR threshold ( $\gamma_{th}$ ), link distance ( $r$ ) and SN density ( $\lambda_{SN}$ ) for the fixed  $\rho = 0.5$  and  $\alpha = 4$  (see Eq. (16)).

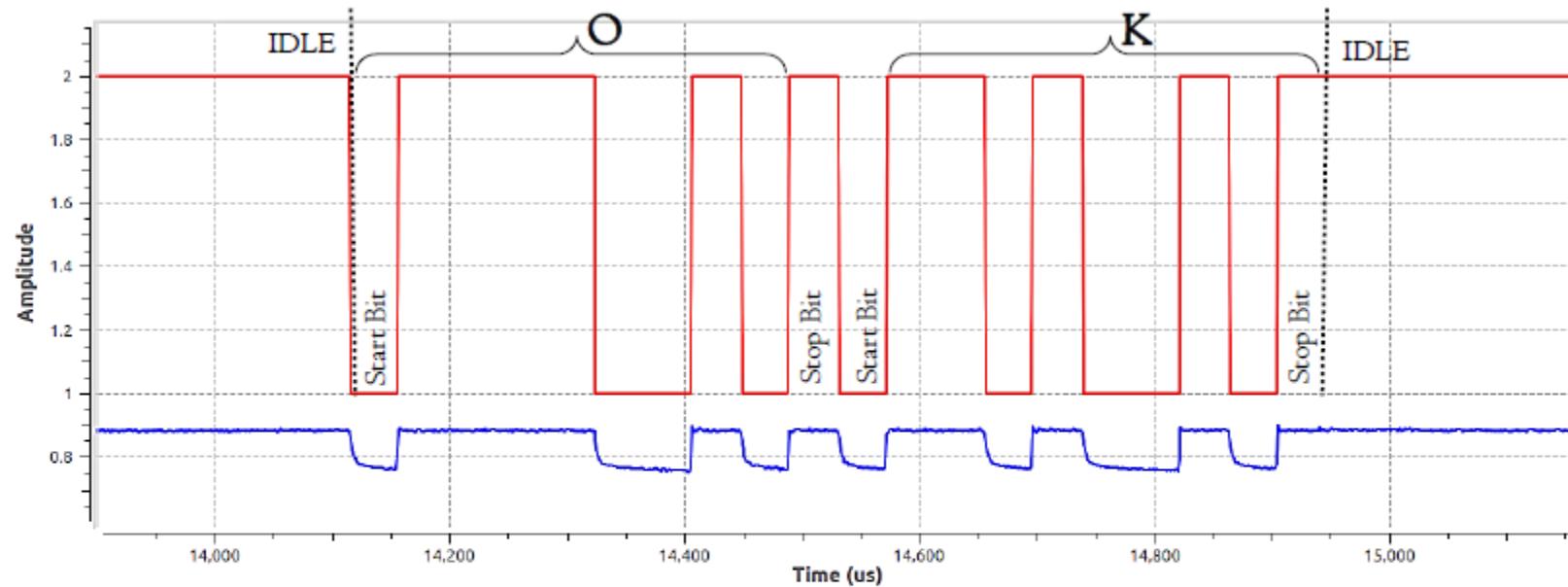
(b) Coverage probability for varying SN to AP ratio ( $\tilde{\lambda}$ ) and channel correlation ( $\rho$ ) for  $\alpha = 4$  (see Eq. (17)).

Fig. 3. Validation of Results and Impact of Parametric variations on Coverage Probability.

# Exploitation of Mobility



# Practical Tests



Backscatter transmission of the serial data for the word “OK” which is equivalent to the hexadecimal representation of “0x4F,0x4B” from a sensor node tag. The lower curve is the ASK modulated carrier at the reader antenna. Serial data bit rate is 2.4 kbps.

# Results

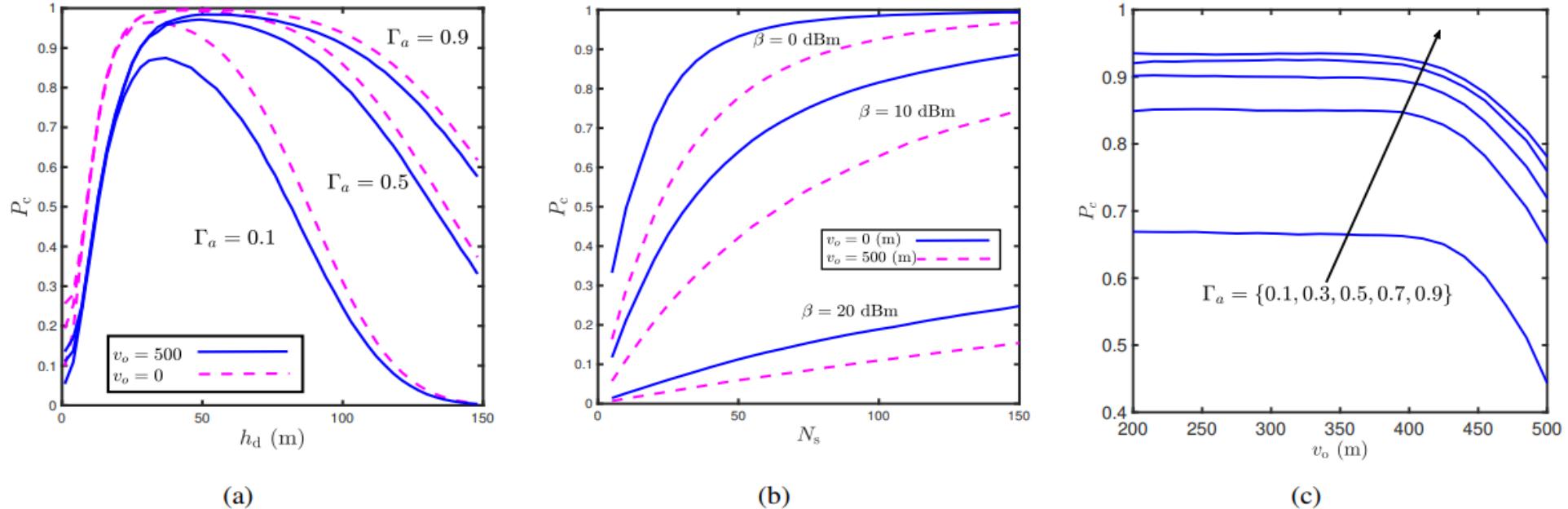
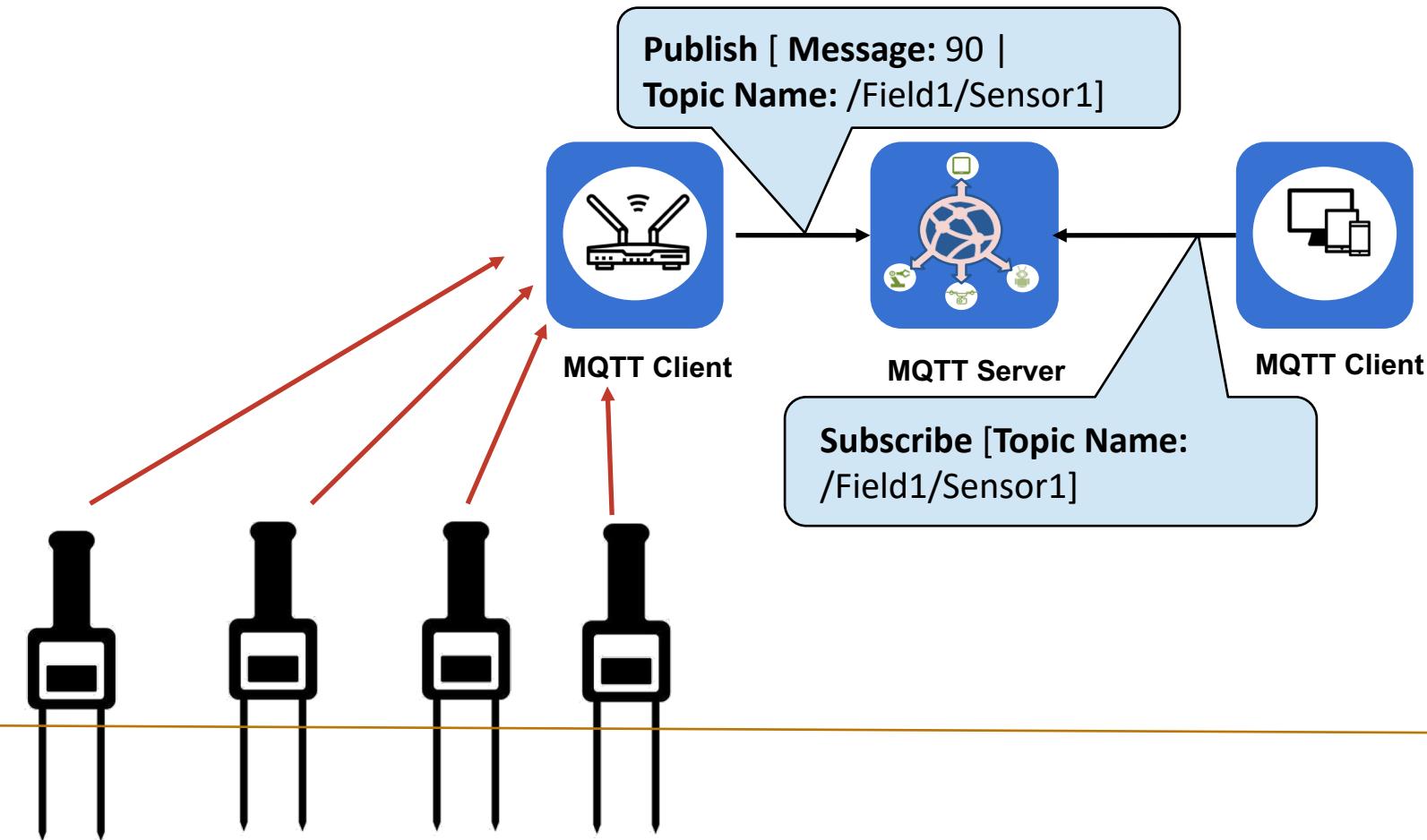


Fig. 5: (a) Coverage probability with  $N_s = 200$ ,  $R_c = 500$ ,  $\rho = 0.5$ ,  $\sigma_N^2 = -110$  dBm,  $\beta = 10$  dBm. (b) Coverage probability with  $R_c = 500$ ,  $\rho = 0.5$ ,  $\sigma_N^2 = -110$  dBm,  $\Gamma_a = 0.9$  and (c) Coverage probability with  $h_d = 50$  (m),  $N_s = 50$ ,  $R_c = 500$ ,  $\rho = 0.5$ ,  $\sigma_N^2 = -110$  dBm,  $\beta = 0$  dBm.

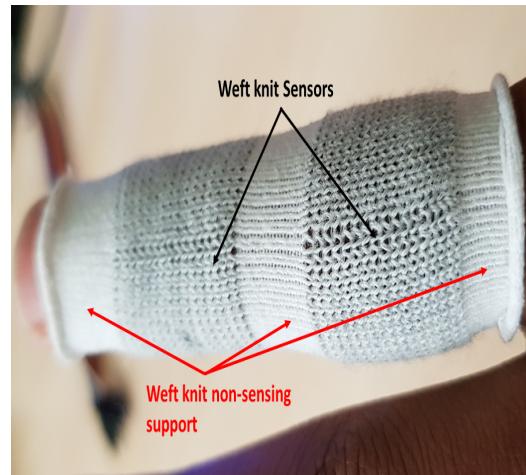
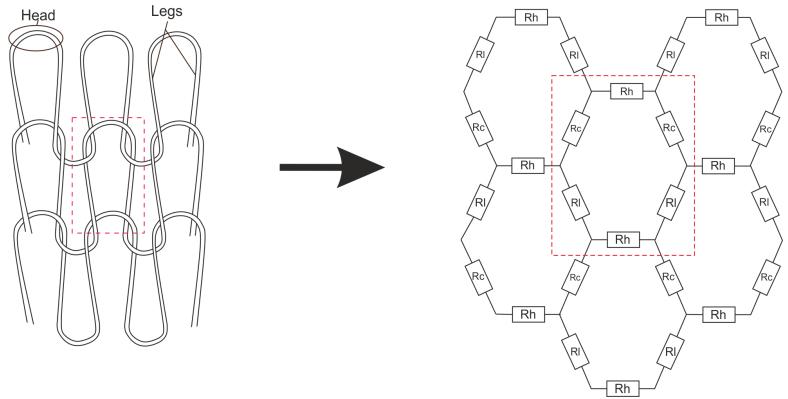
Hayajneh et al. *Coverage Analysis of Drone-Assisted Backscatter Communication for IoT Sensor Network*, in proceedings of IEEE DCOSS WiDRIoT, Santorini, Greece, 2019

# Connecting RF Backscatter to IoT Eco-System

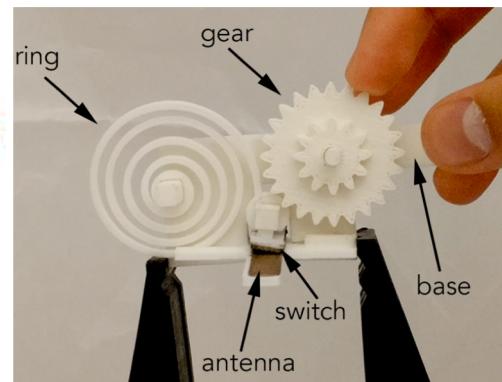
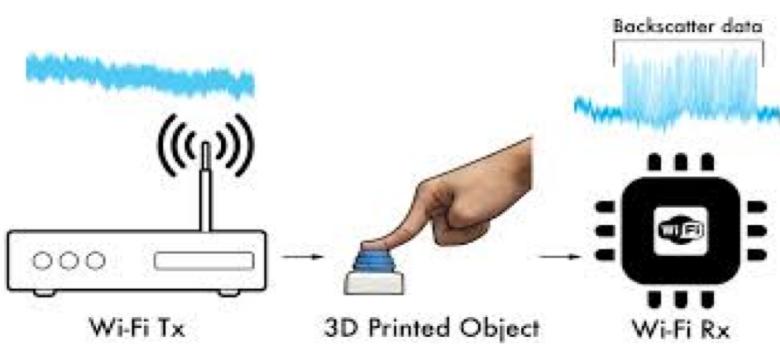


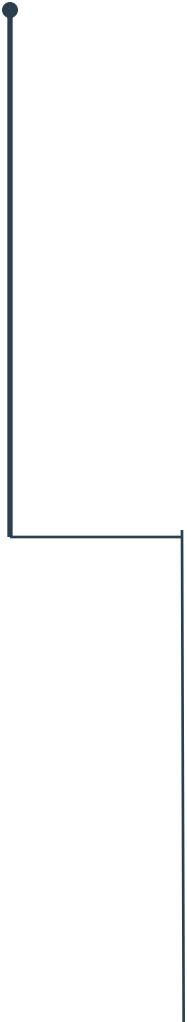
# Future Outlook for Backscatter Sensors

## Incorporation into wearable's



## Incorporation into printed objects





Thank you

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