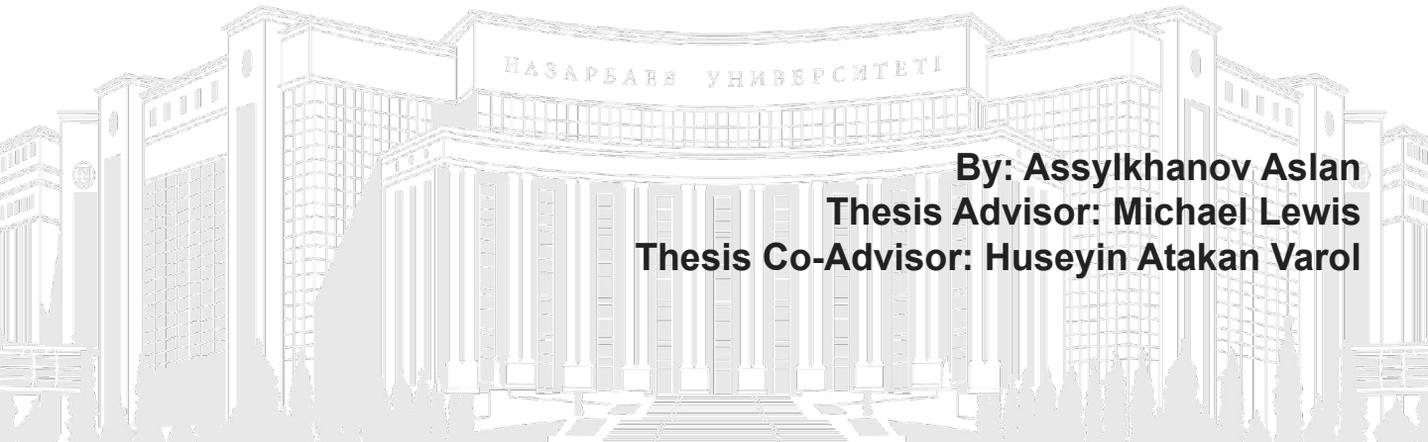




# Transformer-Based Multimodel Indoor Localization Using Wireless and Inertial Sensors



**By: Assylkhanov Aslan**  
**Thesis Advisor: Michael Lewis**  
**Thesis Co-Advisor: Huseyin Atakan Varol**

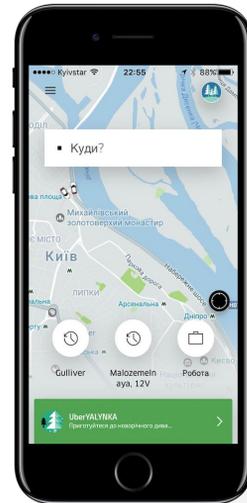
# Outline

- Introduction
- Related Work
- Methodology
- Dataset
- Results
- Discussion



# Introduction

- What is Localization?
- Localization services are used in a number of application types (Health, Transportation, Emergency etc. )



Localization-based app

# Introduction

- One can separate the localization into two categories:
  - Indoor
  - Outdoor
- Outdoor can be considered as an already solved issue (GPS, GLONASS, Galileo)
- Indoor localization still remains an open problem



Weird indoor localization mistakes

# Related Work

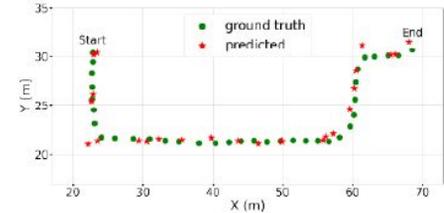
- Started poorly
- Many different solutions
  - Deep Neural Network (DNN) with a Hidden Markov Model (HMM)
    - two separate module
  - Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) with two dimension map
    - data collected arbitrarily
  - RNN solutions
    - both real and simulated data
    - generated trajectories
    - employed a roving robot

Classifiers	Without PCA	With PCA	Enhanced
$K = 1$	7.24m	4.24m	41.44%
$K = 2$	6m	4.24m	29.33%
$K = 20$	6.24m	4.24m	32.05%
Linear SVM	7.24m	5.24m	27.62%
Random Forest	9.12m	6.12m	32.9%

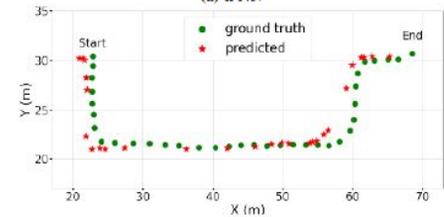
Localization results at 2016

# Related Work

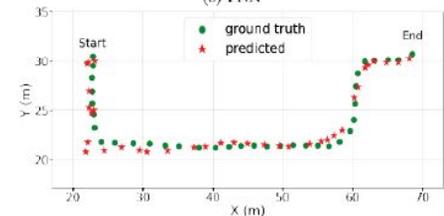
- IPIN 2018 & 2019 competition have winners with results of 0.5m and 1.9m respectively
  - However, no explanation of the algorithm used
- NU ISSAI Work
- No solution employing the Transformer neural network



(a) k-NN



(b) FNN



(c) RNN

Illustrated comparisons between different algorithms

# Methodology

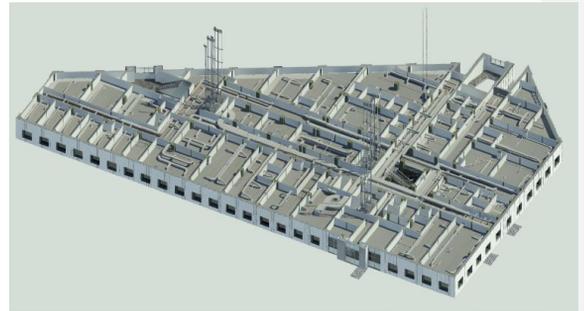
- This work is an extension to the research that has been done by the ISSAI team of Nazarbayev University
- My work is dependent on the testbed setup that has been prearranged by the ISSAI team



ISSAI team setting up the Testbed environment

# Methodology. Testbed

- The testbed environment
  - C4 block of NU: 4-6 floor, including transition spaces (stairs, elevators)
  - The area covered: 9564 m<sup>2</sup>



The layout of the fourth floor in C4 building



# Methodology. Testbed Setup

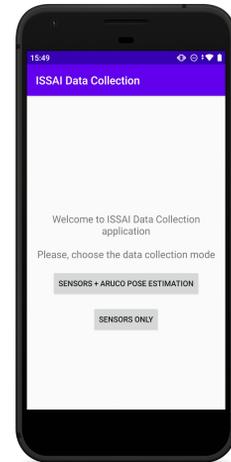
- The testbed environment has been setup with ArUco markers whose position was calibrated via Leica TS06 plus total station
- Overall, 654 *14cm x 14 cm* markers were attached all over the testbed



ArUco markers calibrated

# Methodology. Data collection setup

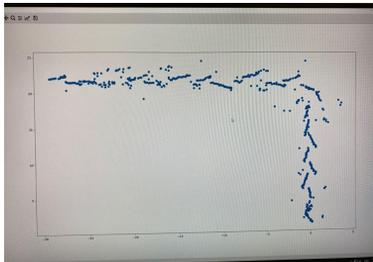
- To collect the WiFi, IMU and Position information we have created data collecting Android application
- The application was installed on Samsung Galaxy A21 & Oppo A5, both running Android 10



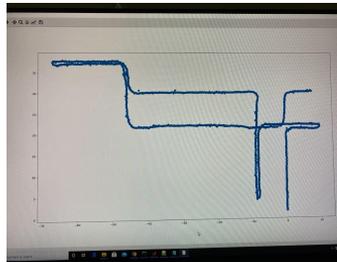
ISSAI Data Collection app

# Methodology. Data collection setup

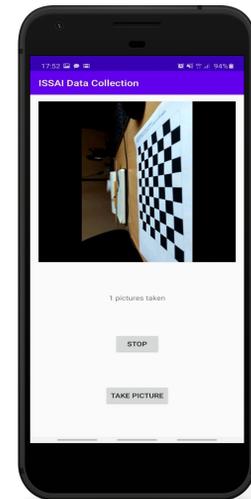
- During the first run the following steps should be made
  - Calibrate the camera
  - Set the focus and record it



Before the focus is set



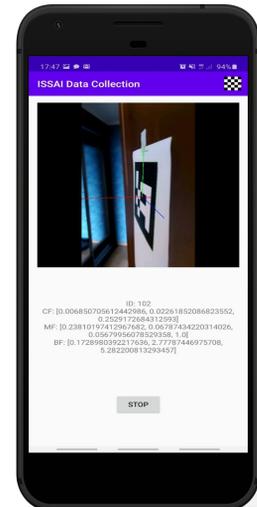
After the focus is set



Camera calibration process

# Methodology. Data collection

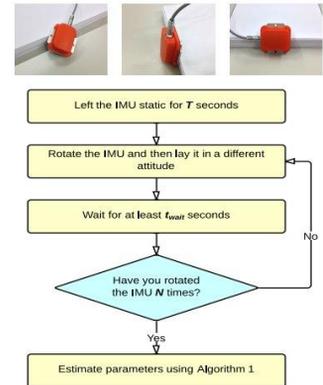
- As the operator starts the data collection process the IMU calibration routine should be performed. This is a required step for every trajectory
- While the operator is moving at random, sometimes changes floors, the app collects the sensors data and estimates the position using ArUco markers



Position estimation on ArUco marker

# Methodology. Data processing

- After the trajectories are collected they are run through alignment and calibration algorithms
- Calibration: reduces bias that can lead to drift of the estimated orientation
- Alignment: sort data, label WAPs, identify undetected WAPs, map data to the timestamp



IMU calibration routine

# Methodology. Data analytics

- Task definition

- position vector:  $p = (x; y; z) \in R^3$
- sensors vector:

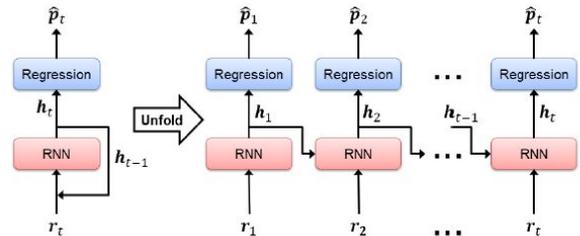
$$r = (r_1; r_2; ; r_n ; a_x; a_y; a_z; g_x; g_y; g_z; m_x; m_y; m_z) \in R^{n+9}$$

- RNN structure

- $h_t = \text{RNN}(r_t; h_{t-1})$
- $\hat{p}_t = Wh_t + b$

■ where

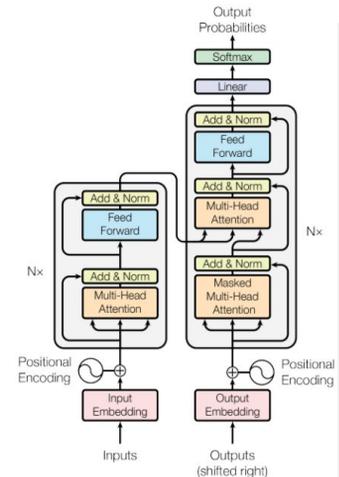
- $W$  - weight matrix
- $b$  - bias vector



Baseline RNN structure

# Methodology. Data analysis

- Previous work, baseline RNN, was focusing on the the sequential data
- In this work we try using the Transformer neural network
  - It can “pay attention” to the various data before it
  - Our idea is that it can not only look at  $h_{t-1}$ , but also at the  $h_{t-2}; h_{t-3}; h_{t-4}; \dots; h_{t-n}$



Transformer structure

# Methodology. Data analysis

- When the models provides the prediction of the position  $\hat{p}_i$  we estimate its accuracy using the Mean Error Distance (MED) formula

$$\text{MED} = \frac{\sum_i \text{dist}(\mathbf{p}_i, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_i)}{N}$$

Mean Error Distance formula



# Dataset

- We have collected 113 trajectories
  - via Samsung A21 - 79
  - via Oppo A5 - 34
- Trajectories are collected at random path and represents the real human walking path
- Data stored in separate .csv files

Column	Description
1	Timestamp of recorded sample ( $\mu s$ )
2	Acceleration value on X-axis ( $m/s^2$ )
3	Acceleration value on Y-axis ( $m/s^2$ )
4	Acceleration value on Z-axis ( $m/s^2$ )
5	Gyroscope value on X-axis (rad/s)
6	Gyroscope value on Y-axis (rad/s)
7	Gyroscope value on Z-axis (rad/s)
8	Magnetic field value on X-axis ( $\mu T$ )
9	Magnetic field value on Y-axis ( $\mu T$ )
10	Magnetic field value on Z-axis ( $\mu T$ )
11	Position on X-axis (m)
12	Position on Y-axis (m)
13	Position on Z-axis (m)
14-449	RSS values of WAPs (dBm)

Dataset column description

# Dataset

- The data is split into:
  - Training
  - Validation
  - Test

Dataset	Subsets	Total length (m)	Total duration (s)
IPIN 2016	Training	≈ 8,470	13,908
	Test	≈ 4,400	8,605
	<b>Total</b>	≈ <b>12,860</b>	<b>22,513</b>
IPIN 2017	Training	≈ 10,940	18,411
	Validation	≈ 3,725	7,930
	Test	≈ 3,220	6,518
	<b>Total</b>	≈ <b>17,890</b>	<b>32,859</b>
WiFine	Training	≈ 31,843	112,330
	Validation	≈ 4,786	17,273
	Test	≈ 6,149	21,911
	<b>Total</b>	≈ <b>42,778</b>	<b>151,514</b>
Current work	Training	≈ 21,628	76,682
	Validation	≈ 4,374	15,849
	Test	≈ 3,830	13,133
	<b>Total</b>	≈ <b>29,832</b>	<b>105,664</b>

Comparison of dataset statistics

# Dataset

- 436 WAPs
- Reference points estimation error
  - 2-3mm on average
  - max 5cm at furthest locations

Dataset	$N_B$	$N_F$	$N_{RP}$	$N_S$	$N_W$	$N_T$	Area
UJIIndoorLoc	3	4-5	933	21,049	520	n/a	108,703
XJTUIndoorLoc	1	2	969	n/a	515	n/a	306
UTSIndoorLoc	1	16	1,840	9,494	589	n/a	44,000
Tampere	1	5	4,648	4,648	991	n/a	22,570
Library	1	2	n/a	63,504	448	n/a	308
JUIndoorLoc	1	3	1,000	25,364	172	n/a	2,646
IPIN2016	4	1-6	2,007	n/a	n/a	26	n/a
IPIN2017	3	1-6	2,697	n/a	n/a	38	n/a
IPIN2018	1	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	38	9,000
WiFine	1	3	26,418	26,418	436	290	9,564
Current work	1	3	5,146	10,283	436	113	9,564

The open-source datasets for WiFi-based indoor localization.

$N_B$  - number of buildings,  $N_F$  - number of floors,  $N_{RP}$  - number of reference points,  $N_S$  - number of samples,  $N_W$  - number of WAPs,  $N_T$  - number of trajectories, Area ( $m^2$ ) - over buildings and floors, n/a - not available

# Results

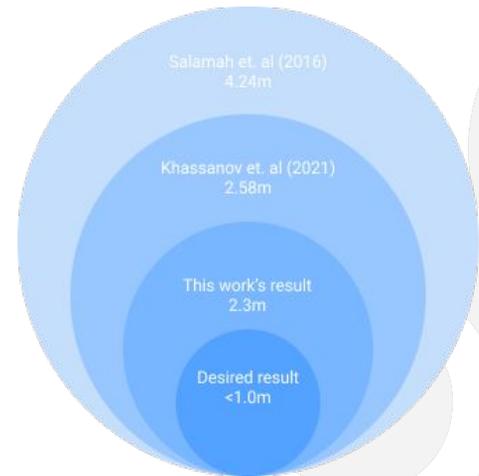
- Ran RNN and Transformer models with both Wi-Fi only and Wi-Fi + IMU data
- 4 prepended rectified linear activation unit (ReLU) layers with 64 hidden units to all models

The model	Result
RNN (Wi-Fi only)	2.6m
RNN (Wi-Fi + IMU)	2.54m
Transformer (Wi-Fi only)	2.4m
Transformer (Wi-Fi + IMU)	2.3m

Mean Error Distance (MED) results  
of different model variations

# Discussion

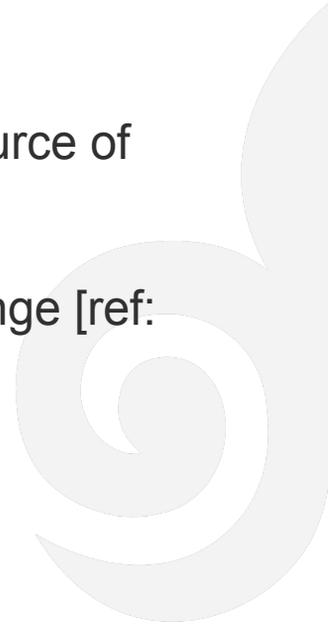
- Our aim was to
  - Collect data from Wi-Fi & IMU sensors within the C4 Testbed ✓
  - Replicate the previous results & improve on them ✓
    - 3.05m -> 2.45m
  - Achieve accuracy within 1m or less ✗
  - Try new neural network model for the task of indoor localization ✓



Localization results compared

# Discussion. Future work

- Collect more data. Especially using Oppo phone
- Regularize the Wi-Fi data [ref: regularization]
- Different Wi-Fi representation
- Leveraging building layout as an additional source of information
- Using other sensors. Barometers for floor change [ref: barometer]

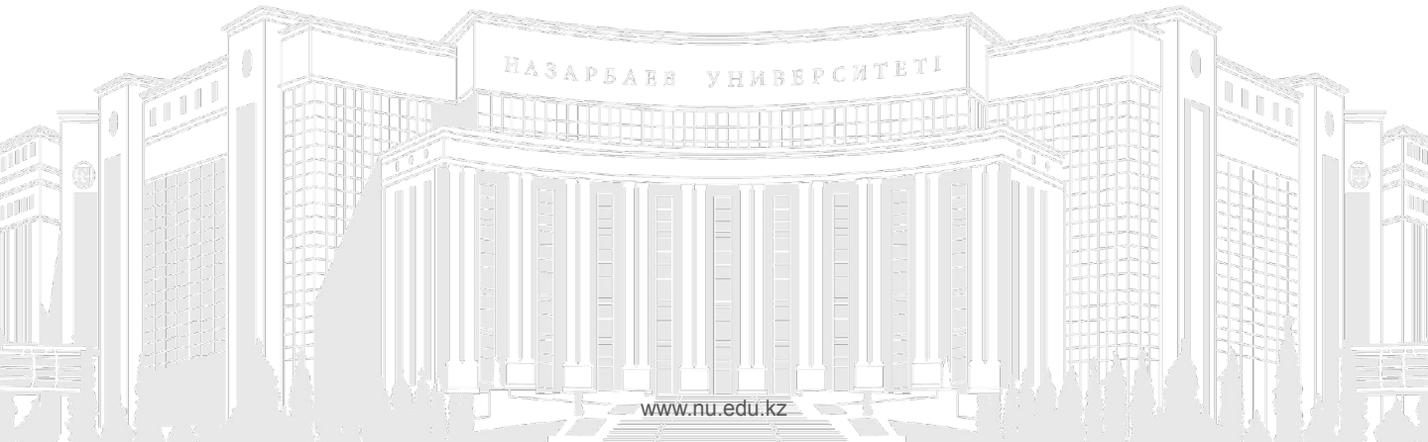




NAZARBAYEV  
UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING  
AND DIGITAL SCIENCES

**THE END**

**Thank you for your attention**



[www.nu.edu.kz](http://www.nu.edu.kz)