



# Effect of fitness function on localization performance in range-free localization algorithm

Fengrong Han<sup>1</sup> · Izzeldin Ibrahim Mohamed Abdelaziz<sup>2</sup> · Kamarul Hawari Ghazali<sup>3</sup> · Yue Zhao<sup>4</sup>

Received: 24 August 2021 / Revised: 18 April 2023 / Accepted: 12 June 2023 /

Published online: 26 June 2023

© The Author(s), under exclusive licence to Springer Science+Business Media, LLC, part of Springer Nature 2023

## Abstract

The problem of solving the nonlinear equations in the range-free localization algorithm has been transformed into an optimal solution problem. Meta-heuristic optimization method has been widely adopted to tackle above issues. How to choose the best localization fitness function for a specific target is a key factor in determining whether the localization algorithm is accurate or not. However, so far there is no literature to investigate the effect of fitness function on range-free localization algorithm. Firstly, this study comprehensively reviews and classifies the frequently-used localization fitness function in range-free localization scheme. Next, multiple experiments are carried out for each typical localization fitness function. The experimental results are analyzed in terms of accuracy and stability. Besides, the advantage and disadvantage of each localization fitness function are also given. Finally, an advanced localization fitness function is proposed based on the above experimental results, which will provide a guide and reference for selection and improvement of the fitness function in range-free localization algorithm.

**Keywords** Wireless sensor network (WSNs) · DV-Hop Localization algorithm · Metaheuristic optimization algorithm · Fitness function · Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO)

---

✉ Fengrong Han  
hfr825@163.com

<sup>1</sup> School of Computer, Baoji University of Arts and Sciences, Baoji 721000, China

<sup>2</sup> College of Engineering, Universiti Malaysia Pahang, Lebuhraya Tun Razak, Gambang, 26300 Kuantan, Pahang, Malaysia

<sup>3</sup> Faculty of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, Universiti Malaysia Pahang, 26600 Pekan, Pahang, Malaysia

<sup>4</sup> College of Geography and Environment, Baoji University of Arts and Sciences, Baoji 721016, China