

# Integrated Sensing and Communication: Challenges and Prospects

Siti Nur

Department of Computer Science, Lampung University, Bandar Lampung, Indonesia

Correspondence should be addressed to Siti Nur; [req.a@yahoo.com](mailto:req.a@yahoo.com)

Received: 17 November 2024

Revised: 2 December 2024

Accepted: 15 December 2024

Copyright © 2024 Made Siti Nur. This is an open-access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

**ABSTRACT-** This paper explores the concept of Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC), a dual-use technology that combines sensing and communication capabilities into a unified system. As wireless communication networks evolve, ISAC is positioned to play a crucial role in overcoming existing limitations in network efficiency, coverage, and resource utilization. The study discusses current challenges in the field, including spectrum management, hardware complexity, power consumption, and security concerns. Additionally, it highlights future directions for ISAC, including advancements in artificial intelligence, edge computing, and high-frequency communication. Through interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation, ISAC technology has the potential to drive significant improvements in various applications such as autonomous vehicles, healthcare, and smart cities. By addressing these challenges and exploring new possibilities, ISAC offers a promising pathway toward more efficient, scalable, and adaptable communication and sensing systems.

**KEYWORDS-** Integrated Sensing, Drones, Localization, Vehicle.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC) is emerging as a transformative paradigm in the realm of wireless communication systems, driven by the increasing demand for seamless integration of multiple functionalities in modern technologies. Traditionally, sensing and communication systems have been designed and operated as separate entities, each with its own infrastructure, resource allocation, and performance optimization frameworks. Sensing systems, such as radar and LiDAR, have primarily focused on detecting and interpreting environmental data, enabling applications in areas like navigation, surveillance, and environmental monitoring [1-3]. Conversely, communication systems aim to provide reliable and efficient data transfer between devices, forming the backbone of modern connectivity in applications like 5G and beyond, Internet of Things (IoT), and smart city infrastructures. However, with the advent of 6G networks and the proliferation of intelligent devices, the boundaries between sensing and communication are becoming increasingly blurred, giving rise to the concept of ISAC, which seeks to unify these two critical functionalities into a single system [4-7].

The need for ISAC stems from several factors, including the growing scarcity of wireless spectrum, the increasing demand for energy-efficient systems, and the rise of applications that inherently require both sensing and communication capabilities. For instance, autonomous vehicles rely on real-time environmental sensing for navigation while simultaneously communicating with other vehicles and infrastructure to ensure safety and efficiency. Similarly, in smart manufacturing environments, sensors collect data on machinery performance and transmit it to centralized systems for analysis and decision-making. These use cases underscore the potential of ISAC to reduce the hardware and spectrum resources required for separate sensing and communication systems, thereby enhancing overall system efficiency and paving the way for innovative applications that were previously unattainable [8-11]. One of the central challenges in ISAC lies in the effective utilization of the shared spectrum for both sensing and communication tasks. The traditional approach of reserving distinct frequency bands for these functionalities is no longer sustainable, given the increasing congestion in the radio spectrum. As a result, ISAC systems aim to develop joint waveform designs and resource allocation strategies that enable simultaneous operation of sensing and communication without compromising the performance of either. This involves addressing complex trade-offs between factors such as signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), interference, and latency. For example, while a high-power signal may enhance sensing accuracy, it could also lead to increased interference in communication, necessitating sophisticated algorithms to balance these competing requirements [12-16].

Another critical aspect of ISAC is the design of hardware capable of supporting dual functionalities. Traditional sensing systems, such as radar, rely on specialized hardware that is often not compatible with communication systems. Conversely, communication devices prioritize compact and cost-effective designs optimized for data transmission. Integrating these functionalities into a single hardware platform requires innovative solutions that can handle the demands of both tasks. This includes developing reconfigurable antennas, multifunctional transceivers, and efficient signal processing units. The convergence of these technologies not only reduces hardware redundancy but also enables new capabilities, such as adaptive operation in dynamic environments.

The role of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) in ISAC cannot be overstated. These technologies have demonstrated remarkable potential in optimizing complex systems by enabling real-time decision-making based on vast amounts of data. In the context of ISAC, AI and ML can be employed for tasks such as dynamic waveform adaptation, interference management, and resource allocation [17-19]. For instance, machine learning algorithms can analyze historical data to predict interference patterns and adjust system parameters accordingly, ensuring optimal performance under varying conditions. Additionally, AI-driven approaches can facilitate the fusion of sensing and communication data, enabling more accurate environmental modeling and better decision-making.

One of the most promising developments in ISAC is the use of higher frequency bands, such as millimeter-wave (mmWave) and terahertz (THz) frequencies. These bands offer significant advantages in terms of bandwidth availability and spatial resolution, making them ideal for ISAC applications. However, operating at these frequencies also introduces new challenges, such as increased propagation loss and susceptibility to blockages. Addressing these issues requires advancements in antenna design, beamforming techniques, and signal processing algorithms. Moreover, the adoption of higher frequency bands necessitates a reevaluation of existing regulatory frameworks to ensure that spectrum sharing between sensing and communication systems is both efficient and fair [20-22].

Reconfigurable intelligent surfaces (RIS) represent another groundbreaking technology that holds great promise for ISAC. These surfaces consist of arrays of passive elements that can be dynamically reconfigured to manipulate electromagnetic waves, enabling functionalities such as beam steering, signal enhancement, and interference suppression. In ISAC systems, RIS can be used to enhance both sensing and communication performance by directing signals toward desired targets or reducing interference in densely populated environments. The integration of RIS with ISAC systems opens up new possibilities for achieving unprecedented levels of efficiency and adaptability.

Despite its immense potential, ISAC also faces significant challenges in terms of standardization and practical deployment. The lack of unified protocols and frameworks for ISAC systems hinders their widespread adoption, as stakeholders must navigate a complex landscape of proprietary solutions and competing standards. Additionally, deploying ISAC systems in real-world environments requires extensive testing and validation to ensure that they can operate reliably under diverse conditions. This includes addressing issues such as multipath propagation, dynamic obstacles, and varying weather conditions, which can impact both sensing and communication performance.

The energy efficiency of ISAC systems is another critical consideration, particularly in the context of battery-powered devices and IoT applications. Integrating sensing and communication functionalities into a single system can reduce energy consumption by eliminating redundant operations. However, achieving this requires careful optimization of system components, such as power amplifiers, signal processing units, and network protocols. Energy-efficient ISAC systems are essential for enabling sustainable operation in resource-constrained environments,

such as remote monitoring stations and wearable devices [23-27].

As we look toward the future, the potential applications of ISAC are virtually limitless. From autonomous transportation systems and smart cities to healthcare monitoring and environmental conservation, ISAC has the potential to revolutionize a wide range of industries. For example, in healthcare, ISAC systems can be used to monitor patients' vital signs while simultaneously transmitting the data to medical professionals in real-time. Similarly, in environmental conservation, ISAC systems can enable real-time monitoring of wildlife habitats and ecosystem health, providing valuable insights for researchers and policymakers. In conclusion, Integrated Sensing and Communication represents a paradigm shift in the design and operation of wireless systems. By unifying sensing and communication functionalities, ISAC has the potential to overcome the limitations of traditional systems and unlock new possibilities for innovation. However, realizing this potential requires addressing a range of technical, regulatory, and practical challenges. Through continued research and collaboration, the ISAC community can pave the way for a future in which sensing and communication are seamlessly integrated, enabling smarter, more efficient, and more connected systems.

## II. CURRENT CHALLENGES

While the concept of Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC) holds immense potential, its practical implementation faces numerous challenges that span technological, operational, and regulatory domains. These challenges must be systematically addressed to ensure the successful deployment and scalability of ISAC systems across diverse applications and environments. Below are some of the key areas that require attention:

- **Spectrum Sharing Complexity:** A fundamental challenge in ISAC lies in the efficient utilization of the radio spectrum. Sharing spectrum between sensing and communication functionalities without causing significant interference is a complex task. Joint waveform designs that cater to both sensing and communication often involve trade-offs that can degrade the performance of one or both functionalities. Determining the optimal balance requires sophisticated algorithms and an in-depth understanding of dynamic spectrum usage patterns [28-29].
- **Signal Design and Processing:** The development of joint waveforms that support both sensing and communication is fraught with difficulties. Such waveforms must meet the high sensitivity requirements of sensing while maintaining the reliability and throughput demanded by communication. Additionally, designing algorithms to process these signals effectively and extract meaningful information for both purposes presents significant computational and engineering challenges.
- **Interference Management:** In densely populated wireless environments, managing interference is a critical issue. Signals intended for communication may interfere with sensing tasks and vice versa, particularly in multi-user scenarios. Existing interference mitigation techniques often fall short of addressing the unique

requirements of ISAC, necessitating novel approaches to interference modeling and management.

- **Hardware Integration:** Traditional sensing systems such as radar and LiDAR use specialized hardware that is often incompatible with communication devices. Merging these functionalities into a single hardware platform requires substantial innovation. Multifunctional antennas, reconfigurable transceivers, and adaptive signal processors must be developed to handle the dual demands of sensing and communication without compromising efficiency, cost, or size [29].
- **Energy Efficiency:** Power consumption is a critical concern, especially for battery-operated devices and systems deployed in remote or resource-constrained environments. The integration of sensing and communication functionalities can reduce overall energy consumption by eliminating redundancies, but this requires careful design and optimization of system components. Achieving energy efficiency while maintaining high performance in both sensing and communication remains a significant hurdle.
- **Latency Constraints:** Real-time applications such as autonomous vehicles and industrial automation demand ultra-low latency. However, the joint processing of sensing and communication signals often introduces delays that can hinder system responsiveness. Addressing this issue requires advancements in realtime signal processing techniques and hardware acceleration [30].
- **Dynamic Environments:** ISAC systems must operate reliably in dynamic environments characterized by changing conditions such as varying user mobility, multipath propagation, and environmental obstructions. Developing systems that can adapt to these changes in real time without performance degradation is a complex challenge that requires robust adaptive algorithms.
- **High-Frequency Operation:** Operating in higher frequency bands, such as millimeter-wave (mmWave) and terahertz (THz), is essential for ISAC systems due to the increased bandwidth and spatial resolution these frequencies offer. However, these bands are highly susceptible to propagation losses, blockages, and atmospheric attenuation. Addressing these limitations involves advancements in beamforming, channel modeling, and antenna design [31-33].
- **Reconfigurable Intelligent Surfaces (RIS):** While RIS technology has the potential to enhance ISAC systems, its practical implementation is still in the early stages. Designing and deploying RIS that can dynamically reconfigure to support both sensing and communication functions in real time is a complex task that requires new hardware architectures and control algorithms.
- **Data Fusion and Analysis:** ISAC systems generate massive amounts of data from both sensing and communication processes. Effectively fusing and analyzing this data to extract actionable insights is a significant challenge. Machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques can play a crucial role, but their integration into ISAC systems must be optimized to ensure scalability and reliability [34].
- **Machine Learning Integration:** While machine learning and artificial intelligence offer promising solutions for tasks such as waveform optimization and resource allocation, their integration into ISAC systems presents challenges. Training models for real-time operation requires large datasets and computational resources, which may not be readily available in all deployment scenarios. Furthermore, ensuring the reliability and interpretability of AI-driven decisions is a critical concern.
- **Standardization and Interoperability:** The lack of unified standards for ISAC systems poses a major barrier to their widespread adoption. Without standardized protocols and frameworks, stakeholders face difficulties in ensuring interoperability between devices and systems from different manufacturers. Establishing global standards for ISAC is essential to facilitate its deployment and integration into existing infrastructure [35].
- **Security and Privacy:** Integrating sensing and communication raises new security and privacy concerns. The sensing functionality of ISAC systems can inadvertently collect sensitive data, raising issues related to user privacy. Similarly, the dual-use nature of ISAC systems makes them vulnerable to cyberattacks that can disrupt both sensing and communication operations. Developing robust security frameworks for ISAC systems is therefore imperative.
- **Cost and Scalability:** The initial development and deployment of ISAC systems involve significant costs due to the need for specialized hardware and advanced algorithms. Reducing these costs while ensuring scalability for large-scale deployment is a pressing challenge. Economical solutions that do not compromise performance are critical for the widespread adoption of ISAC technology [36].
- **Application-Specific Constraints:** Different applications of ISAC have unique requirements and constraints. For example, autonomous vehicles require high-resolution sensing and low-latency communication, while smart city applications prioritize energy efficiency and scalability. Designing ISAC systems that can meet the diverse needs of various applications is a complex task that requires a tailored approach.
- **Regulatory and Legal Issues:** The dual-use nature of ISAC systems introduces regulatory challenges, particularly in terms of spectrum allocation and usage. Current spectrum policies are often not designed to accommodate systems that simultaneously perform sensing and communication. Revising these policies to support ISAC while ensuring fair spectrum access for other users is a significant challenge.
- **Testing and Validation:** Deploying ISAC systems in real-world scenarios requires extensive testing and validation to ensure reliability under diverse conditions. This includes addressing issues such as environmental variability, user mobility, and hardware imperfections. Developing comprehensive testing frameworks and methodologies is essential to accelerate the deployment of ISAC technology [37].
- **Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** The development of ISAC systems requires collaboration between experts in fields such as wireless communication, signal processing, hardware engineering, and artificial intelligence.

Coordinating efforts across these disciplines and bridging knowledge gaps is a significant challenge that must be overcome to realize the full potential of ISAC.

- **Sustainability Considerations:** As ISAC systems become more widespread, their environmental impact must be considered. This includes minimizing energy consumption, reducing e-waste, and ensuring the sustainable production of hardware components. Developing eco-friendly ISAC solutions is essential for achieving long-term sustainability [38].
- **Joint Optimization Complexity:** Achieving an optimal balance between sensing and communication performance is inherently complex. Joint optimization often involves multi-objective trade-offs that require advanced mathematical models and iterative algorithms. Designing systems that can simultaneously maximize throughput and sensing accuracy under varying conditions remains a daunting task.
- **High Dimensionality in Data Processing:** ISAC systems generate data that is both voluminous and high-dimensional, combining information from multiple sensing modalities and communication channels. Processing such data in real time requires computationally efficient algorithms and architectures, which are still an active area of research. The challenge is compounded when considering limited on-device computational resources in mobile or embedded systems [39].
- **Real-Time Beamforming Control:** ISAC systems operating in high-frequency bands rely heavily on directional beamforming to ensure adequate coverage and spatial resolution. However, real-time beamforming that dynamically adapts to user movements and environmental changes is challenging. Developing algorithms capable of fast and accurate beamforming control is crucial for the reliable operation of ISAC systems.
- **Integration of Heterogeneous Networks:** Modern wireless networks often consist of a mix of technologies such as 5G, Wi-Fi, and IoT-specific networks. Integrating ISAC capabilities into such heterogeneous environments poses challenges related to compatibility, synchronization, and resource sharing. Ensuring seamless interoperability across different network types is a critical requirement [36].
- **Localization and Tracking Precision:** Many ISAC applications, such as autonomous navigation and industrial automation, require highly accurate localization and tracking capabilities. Achieving centimeter-level accuracy in real-world scenarios with dense multipath reflections and dynamic obstacles is a significant technical challenge.
- **Mobility Management:** High-speed mobility, as seen in vehicular networks or drones, introduces additional complexity in ISAC systems. Maintaining reliable communication and precise sensing in such scenarios requires robust mobility management protocols and adaptive system designs [34].
- **Multi-User Resource Allocation:** ISAC systems often need to serve multiple users or devices simultaneously. Allocating resources such as spectrum, power, and computational capacity in a way that satisfies the demands of both sensing and communication for all users is an open research problem. Techniques like game theory and reinforcement learning are being explored, but their practical implementation remains a challenge.
- **Channel Modeling and Estimation:** ISAC systems operating in complex environments require accurate channel models that account for both communication and sensing requirements. Existing models are often insufficient for capturing the intricate interactions between these two functions, especially in non-line-of-sight (NLOS) scenarios or environments with significant scattering and diffraction [40].
- **Scalability in Dense Environments:** Deploying ISAC systems in densely populated areas, such as urban centers or smart factories, introduces scalability issues. Managing interference, resource contention, and network coordination becomes increasingly difficult as the number of devices and users grows.
- **Hardware Miniaturization:** For applications such as wearable devices, autonomous drones, and IoT sensors, minimizing the size and weight of ISAC hardware is essential. Achieving this without sacrificing performance or functionality is a significant engineering challenge that requires innovations in materials, circuits, and antenna design.
- **Deployment in Harsh Environments:** ISAC systems are expected to operate in a wide range of environments, including those with extreme weather conditions, high electromagnetic interference, or limited infrastructure. Ensuring reliability and robustness under such conditions requires specialized designs and testing procedures.
- **Latency in Data Fusion:** Many ISAC applications require the fusion of data from multiple sensors and communication sources. However, latency introduced during data collection, transmission, and processing can hinder system performance. Developing lowlatency fusion algorithms that maintain high accuracy is a critical requirement.
- **Economic Viability:** The cost of deploying ISAC systems, including hardware, software, and maintenance, can be prohibitive, especially for largescale applications. Ensuring economic viability without compromising on performance or scalability is a key challenge that must be addressed to facilitate widespread adoption.
- **User-Centric Customization:** ISAC systems must cater to diverse user requirements, ranging from high data rates for video streaming to high-resolution sensing for security applications. Designing systems that can dynamically adapt to user-specific needs without overburdening resources is a non-trivial challenge.
- **Cross-Layer Optimization:** ISAC systems require optimization across multiple layers of the protocol stack, from physical layer waveform design to network layer routing. Achieving such cross-layer optimization is complex and requires new paradigms that integrate traditionally siloed functionalities [32].
- **Distributed and Decentralized Architectures:** In scenarios such as smart cities or autonomous vehicular networks, ISAC systems often rely on distributed architectures. Ensuring efficient coordination and

synchronization in decentralized systems is challenging, particularly when dealing with limited communication bandwidth and varying latency.

- **Integration with Emerging Technologies:** The integration of ISAC with emerging technologies such as quantum communication, blockchain, and the metaverse presents new challenges. These technologies bring unique requirements and constraints that may conflict with existing ISAC designs, necessitating novel approaches to system architecture and operation.
- **Dynamic Spectrum Regulation:** As ISAC systems become more prevalent, regulators will need to develop dynamic spectrum policies that allow for the flexible allocation of resources. Achieving consensus among stakeholders and addressing the potential for spectrum monopolization are key regulatory challenges.
- **Environmental Interference:** ISAC systems are often susceptible to interference from environmental factors such as weather, foliage, and structural materials. Developing techniques to mitigate these effects, such as adaptive signal processing and environmental modeling, is essential for reliable operation [27,38].
- **Ethical and Privacy Concerns:** The dual-use nature of ISAC systems raises ethical questions related to data collection and usage. For instance, the sensing functionality may inadvertently invade user privacy or be used for surveillance. Establishing ethical guidelines and ensuring compliance with data protection regulations is critical.
- **Lack of Real-World Testbeds:** Developing and testing ISAC systems in real-world conditions is limited by the availability of comprehensive testbeds. Most experimental setups are constrained by scale, diversity, or environmental conditions, limiting the validation of ISAC technologies under practical scenarios.
- **Limited Workforce Expertise:** The interdisciplinary nature of ISAC requires expertise in diverse fields, including wireless communication, signal processing, radar systems, and machine learning. The shortage of professionals with the requisite knowledge and skills is a barrier to rapid development and deployment.
- **Evolution of Standards with 6G:** As the industry moves toward 6G networks, incorporating ISAC as a native feature introduces challenges in standardization. Defining protocols, performance metrics, and interoperability requirements that encompass both sensing and communication is an ongoing effort.
- **To Failures:** Ensuring the resilience of ISAC systems to hardware malfunctions, software bugs, and cyberattacks is critical. Designing systems with built-in redundancy and robust fault-tolerance mechanisms adds complexity to **Resilience** system development.

Addressing these challenges requires a concerted effort from researchers, industry stakeholders, and policymakers. By tackling these issues head-on, the ISAC community can unlock the full potential of this transformative technology and pave the way for innovative applications that benefit society as a whole. As research and development in ISAC continue to advance, overcoming these challenges will be key to ensuring the successful integration of sensing and communication functionalities into a single unified system

that meets the demands of future wireless networks and intelligent systems.

### III. FUTURE DIRECTION

The future of Integrated Sensing and COMMUNICATION (ISAC) is marked by immense potential to revolutionize communication and sensing paradigms across multiple domains. As technological capabilities evolve, future research will emphasize innovation, multidisciplinary collaboration, and real-world application to overcome existing limitations and exploit emerging opportunities. The following areas are likely to witness substantial development in ISAC, ensuring its integration into increasingly complex and dynamic environments.

A central focus will be the creation of more robust algorithms capable of optimizing the trade-offs between sensing and communication tasks. Advanced artificial intelligence and machine learning models will enable predictive, proactive system adjustments based on real-time environmental changes, resource availability, and user demands. These adaptive systems will ensure higher reliability, even in environments with high mobility, dense interference, or rapidly changing conditions, such as urban centers or industrial automation settings.

Future directions will also explore deeper integration with intelligent networks, including 6G and beyond. In these networks, ISAC will be used not only for dual sensing and communication purposes but also as a fundamental component of network intelligence. Sensing data could inform dynamic resource allocation, improve network efficiency, and support advanced services like holographic communication or digital twins. Such innovations will require the development of novel architectures that leverage ISAC capabilities to reshape traditional communication infrastructures.

Another critical avenue for research is the miniaturization and power efficiency of ISAC devices. As the demand for wearable technology, Internet of Things (IoT) devices, and autonomous platforms continues to grow, ISAC systems will need to operate on smaller, battery-powered devices with minimal energy consumption. Solutions may include energy harvesting techniques, hybrid power sources, or more efficient signal processing methods that reduce the computational and power overhead of integrated systems.

The push toward higher frequency bands, such as millimeter-wave, terahertz (THz), and optical communication bands, will open unprecedented possibilities for ISAC. These frequencies provide higher bandwidths for communication and finer resolution for sensing applications. However, they also present challenges such as higher propagation losses and susceptibility to atmospheric conditions. Future research will focus on overcoming these challenges through the development of advanced antenna designs, innovative modulation techniques, and hybrid systems that combine multiple frequency bands for improved reliability and performance.

Interdisciplinary collaboration will play a pivotal role in addressing these challenges. Researchers in fields like material science, nanotechnology, and quantum physics will contribute to the development of advanced hardware, such as reconfigurable intelligent surfaces (RIS) and metamaterials, to enhance the performance and versatility of ISAC systems. RIS, for instance, can dynamically manipulate the

propagation environment, enabling more efficient sensing and communication in cluttered or challenging environments. Security and privacy considerations will also drive future ISAC innovations. Dual-use systems inherently increase the risk of data breaches, unauthorized access, or misuse of sensing data. To mitigate these risks, researchers will develop enhanced encryption techniques, secure multi-party computation methods, and privacy-preserving protocols that safeguard user data while ensuring system functionality. Additionally, regulatory frameworks will be established to ensure ethical use and prevent misuse of ISAC technology in sensitive applications.

Incorporating sustainability into ISAC development will become increasingly important as global energy consumption concerns grow. Future systems will prioritize energy efficiency, incorporating green technologies such as low-power operation modes, solar-powered sensing devices, and intelligent energy management. Researchers will also explore ways to recycle and repurpose ISAC hardware, reducing electronic waste and the environmental impact of widespread deployment.

Collaboration across multiple nodes in distributed systems will be a major area of future exploration. Cooperative sensing and communication, where devices share resources and coordinate efforts, can significantly enhance the accuracy and reliability of ISAC systems. This approach is particularly useful in applications like drone swarms, autonomous vehicles, or smart city networks, where coordination and real-time data sharing are critical for achieving optimal performance.

Another area of development will be the incorporation of ISAC into edge computing environments. By processing data locally at the network's edge, ISAC systems can achieve lower latency and higher responsiveness, enabling real-time decision-making in critical applications. This will also reduce the reliance on centralized cloud infrastructures, making ISAC systems more resilient to network disruptions or bandwidth limitations.

Furthermore, ISAC will likely integrate seamlessly with emerging technologies like augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), and mixed reality (MR). These immersive technologies will benefit from ISAC's ability to provide precise location data and real-time environmental sensing, enhancing user experiences in gaming, training, and remote collaboration. Similarly, the role of ISAC in healthcare will expand, supporting applications such as remote diagnostics, patient monitoring, and robotic-assisted surgeries.

Standardization will be a cornerstone for future ISAC developments, ensuring interoperability across devices, systems, and regions. Collaborative efforts between industry consortia, academic researchers, and regulatory bodies will establish common protocols, testing standards, and performance benchmarks. These standards will pave the way for global adoption, ensuring that ISAC systems can operate seamlessly across diverse applications and geographic locations.

Future ISAC systems will also emphasize robustness and fault tolerance. Advanced designs will incorporate redundancy mechanisms, fault detection algorithms, and self-healing capabilities to ensure uninterrupted operation, even under challenging circumstances such as hardware failures, cyberattacks, or environmental disturbances. This is particularly important for mission-critical applications in public safety, disaster response, and military operations.

Finally, the future of ISAC will benefit from large-scale experimental platforms and real-world deployment trials. These testbeds will provide invaluable insights into system performance, user behavior, and operational challenges, guiding the development of more practical and effective solutions. Industry-academia partnerships will play a critical role in creating these platforms, accelerating the transition from theoretical research to practical implementation.

As the field of ISAC continues to evolve, the convergence of communication and sensing technologies will redefine the way we perceive and interact with the world around us. By addressing current limitations and embracing emerging opportunities, ISAC has the potential to transform industries, enhance human experiences, and enable new levels of connectivity and intelligence. This transformative impact will be driven by sustained research, innovation, and collaboration across disciplines and sectors.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the integration of sensing and communication technologies represents a transformative step toward realizing advanced systems capable of seamless interaction with their environments. Through the proposed approaches and discussions, this paper has highlighted the critical need to address the challenges of resource allocation, hardware constraints, and scalability in integrated systems. Moreover, by leveraging recent advancements in artificial intelligence, edge computing, and high-frequency communication, ISAC systems can achieve unparalleled efficiency, accuracy, and adaptability.

The future directions outlined in this study emphasize the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, sustainable design practices, and robust security frameworks to ensure that ISAC systems meet the demands of evolving realworld applications. As research in this domain progresses, the convergence of sensing and communication will continue to drive innovations in industries ranging from autonomous transportation and smart cities to healthcare and disaster management. By tackling current challenges and exploring emerging opportunities, ISAC technology has the potential to redefine connectivity and intelligence, paving the way for a smarter, more connected world.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] A. Ahuja, S. Agrawal, S. Acharya, N. Batra, and V. Daiya, "Advancements in wearable digital health technology: A review of epilepsy management," *Cureus*, vol. 16, no. 3, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.57037>
- [2] T. Ahmad, "3D localization techniques for wireless sensor networks," Ph.D. dissertation, Auckland Univ. of Technol., Auckland, New Zealand, 2019. Available: <https://openrepository.aut.ac.nz/handle/10292/12965>
- [3] P. Kaniewski and T. Kraszewski, "Drone-based system for localization of people inside buildings," in *Proc. 2018 14th Int. Conf. on Advanced Trends in Radioelectronics, Telecommunications and Computer Engineering (TCSET)*, pp. 46-51, IEEE, 2018. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/TCSET.2018.8336153>
- [4] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, and B. C. Seet, "Parametric loop division for 3D localization in wireless sensor networks," *Sensors*, vol. 17, no. 7, p. 1697, Jul. 2017. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/s17071697>
- [5] V. Rajendran, K. Obraczka, and J. J. Garcia-Luna-Aceves, "Energy-efficient, collision-free medium access control for wireless sensor networks," *Proc. ACM SenSys '03*, Los

- Angeles, CA, pp. 181-192, Nov. 2003. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11276-006-6151-z>
- [6] E. S. Spatz, G. S. Ginsburg, J. S. Rumsfeld, and M. P. Turakhia, "Wearable digital health technologies for monitoring in cardiovascular medicine," *N. Engl. J. Med.*, vol. 390, no. 4, pp. 346-356, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMra2301903>
- [7] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, and B.-C. Seet, "A self-calibrated centroid localization algorithm for indoor ZigBee WSNs," in *Proc. 2016 8th IEEE Int. Conf. on Communication Software and Networks (ICCSN)*, pp. 455-461, IEEE, 2016. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICCSN.2016.7587200>
- [8] A. Albanese, V. Sciancalepore, and X. Costa-Pérez, "SARDO: An automated search-and-rescue drone-based solution for victims localization," *IEEE Trans. on Mobile Computing*, vol. 21, no. 9, pp. 3312-3325, 2021. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/TMC.2021.3051273>
- [9] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, and B.-C. Seet, "3D localization based on parametric loop division and subdivision surfaces for wireless sensor networks," in *Proc. 2016 25th Wireless and Optical Communication Conf. (WOCC)*, pp. 1-6, 2016. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/WOCC.2016.7506540>
- [10] Y. C. Tay, K. Jamieson, and H. Balakrishnan, "Collision minimizing CSMA and its applications to wireless sensor networks," *IEEE J. Sel. Areas Commun.*, vol. 22, no. 6, pp. 1048-1057, Aug. 2004. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/JSAC.2004.830898>
- [11] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, and B.-C. Seet, "3D localization using social network analysis for wireless sensor networks," in *Proc. 2018 IEEE 3rd Int. Conf. Communication and Information Systems (ICCIS)*, pp. 88-92, 2018. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICOMIS.2018.8644742>
- [12] I. Bisio, C. Garibotto, H. Haleem, F. Lavagetto, and A. Sciarrone, "On the localization of wireless targets: A drone surveillance perspective," *IEEE Network*, vol. 35, no. 5, pp. 249-255, 2021. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/MNET.011.2000648>
- [13] L. Jayatilleke and N. Zhang, "Landmark-based localization for unmanned aerial vehicles," in *Proc. 2013 IEEE Int. Systems Conf. (SysCon)*, pp. 448-451, Apr. 2013. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/SysCon.2013.6549921>
- [14] T. Ahmad, M. Usman, M. Murtaza, I. B. Benitez, A. Anwar, V. Vassiliou, A. Irshad, X. J. Li, and E. A. Al-Ammar, "A novel self-calibrated UWB based indoor localization system for context-aware applications," *IEEE Trans. Consum. Electron.*, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/TCE.2024.3369193>
- [15] H. Lu, "Ultrasonic signal design for beacon-based indoor localization," 2021. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/WISP.2005.1531684>
- [16] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, B.-C. Seet, and J. C. Cano, "Social network analysis based localization technique with clustered closeness centrality for 3D wireless sensor networks," *Electronics*, vol. 9, no. 5, p. 738, 2020. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICOMIS.2018.8644742>
- [17] M. A. Saleem, Z. Shijie, M. U. Sarwar, T. Ahmad, A. Maqbool, C. S. Shivachi, and M. Tariq, "Deep learning-based dynamic stable cluster head selection in VANET," *J. Adv. Transp.*, 2021. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2021/9936299>
- [18] H. Xu, Y. Tu, W. Xiao, Y. Mao, and T. Shen, "An Archimedes curve-based mobile anchor node localization algorithm in wireless sensor networks," in *Proc. 8th World Congr. Intell. Control Autom. (WCICA '10)*, pp. 6993-6997, Jinan, China, Jul. 2010. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/WCICA.2010.5554257>
- [19] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, and B.-C. Seet, "Noise reduction scheme for parametric loop division 3D wireless localization algorithm based on extended Kalman filtering," *J. Sensor Actuator Networks*, vol. 8, no. 2, p. 24, 2019. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/jsan8020024>
- [20] X. Cheng, W. Shi, W. Cai, W. Zhu, T. Shen, F. Shu, and J. Wang, "Communication-efficient coordinated RSS-based distributed passive localization via drone cluster," *IEEE Trans. Veh. Technol.*, vol. 71, no. 1, pp. 1072-1076, 2021. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/TVT.2021.3125361>
- [21] N. Yang, C. Fan, H. Chen, M. Tang, J. Hu, and Z. Zhang, "The next-generation of metaverse embodiment interaction devices: A self-powered sensing smart monitoring system," *Chem. Eng. J.*, vol. 499, p. 156512, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cej.2024.156512>
- [22] F. Ecer, İ. Yaran Ögel, H. Dinçer, and S. Yüksel, "Assessment of Metaverse wearable technologies for smart livestock farming through a neuro quantum spherical fuzzy decision-making model," *Expert Syst. Appl.*, vol. 255, p. 124722, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2024.124722>
- [23] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, and B.-C. Seet, "Fuzzy-logic based localization for mobile sensor networks," in *Proc. 2019 2nd Int. Conf. Communication, Computing and Digital Systems (CCODE)*, pp. 43-47, 2019. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/CCODE.2019.8681024>
- [24] N. L. Kazanskiy, S. N. Khonina, and M. A. Butt, "A review on flexible wearables-Recent developments in noninvasive continuous health monitoring," *Sensors Actuators A: Phys.*, 2024, p. 114993. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sna.2023.114993>
- [25] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, A. K. Cherukuri, and K. I. Kim, "Hierarchical localization algorithm for sustainable ocean health in large-scale underwater wireless sensor networks," *Sustainable Comput.: Informatics Syst.*, vol. 39, p. 100902, 2023. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.suscom.2023.100902>
- [26] N. Pini, W. P. Fifer, J. Oh, C. Nebeker, J. M. Croff, B. A. Smith, and Novel Technology/Wearable Sensors Working Group, "Remote data collection of infant activity and sleep patterns via wearable sensors in the HEALTHY Brain and Child Development Study (HBCD)," *Dev. Cogn. Neurosci.*, vol. 69, p. 101446, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcn.2024.101446>
- [27] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, W. Wenchao, and A. Ghaffar, "Frugal sensing: A novel approach of mobile sensor network localization based on fuzzy-logic," in *Proc. ACM MobiArch 2020 The 15th Workshop on Mobility in the Evolving Internet Architecture*, pp. 8-15, Sep. 2020. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3411043.3412509>
- [28] X. Wang, H. Ji, L. Gao, R. Hao, Y. Shi, J. Yang, Y. Hao, and J. Chen, "Wearable hydrogel-based health monitoring systems: A new paradigm for health monitoring?," *Chem. Eng. J.*, vol. 495, p. 153382, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cej.2024.153382>
- [29] T. Ahmad, I. Khan, A. Irshad, S. Ahmad, A. T. Soliman, A. A. Gardezi, M. Shafiq, and J.-G. Choi, "Spark spectrum allocation for D2D communication in cellular networks," *CMC-Computers, Mater. & Continua*, vol. 70, no. 3, pp. 6381-6394, 2022. Available: <https://doi.org/10.32604/cmc.2022.019787>
- [30] Z. Wang, J. Ji, and H. Jin, "Improvement on APIT localization algorithms for wireless sensor networks," in *Proc. 2009 Int. Conf. Networks Security, Wireless Commun. and Trusted Comput.*, vol. 1, pp. 719-723, 2009. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/NSWCTC.2009.370>
- [31] X. Li, X. He, X. Yang, G. Tian, C. Liu, and T. Xu, "A wearable sensor patch for joule-heating sweating and comfortable biofluid monitoring," *Sensors Actuators B: Chem.*, vol. 419, p. 136399, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.snb.2024.136399>
- [32] T. Ahmad, "An improved accelerated frame slotted ALOHA (AFSA) algorithm for tag collision in RFID," *arXiv preprint arXiv:1405.6217*, 2014. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5121/ijmnc.2012.2401>
- [33] M. A. Hasan, T. Ahmad, A. Anwar, S. Siddiq, A. Malik, W. Nazar, and I. Razzaq, "A novel multi-cell interference-aware cooperative QoS-based NOMA group D2D system," *Future Internet*, vol. 15, no. 4, p. 118, 2023. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/fi15040118>
- [34] Z. Shah, D. M. Khan, Z. Khan, N. Faiz, S. Hussain, A. Anwar, T. Ahmad, and K.-I. Kim, "A new generalized logarithmic-X

- family of distributions with biomedical data analysis," *Appl. Sci.*, vol. 13, no. 6, p. 3668, 2023. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/app13063668>
- [35] M. Ashfaq, T. Ahmad, A. Anwar, A. Irshad, I. B. Benitez, and M. Murtaza, "Optimizing message delivery in opportunistic networks with replication-based forwarding," in *Proc. 2024 Int. Conf. Engineering & Computing Technologies (ICECT)*, pp. 1–7, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICECT61618.2024.10581130>
- [36] S. S. Karaman, A. Akarsu, and T. Girici, "Use of particle filtering in RSSI-based localization by drone base stations," in *Proc. 2019 Int. Symp. Networks, Computers and Communications (ISNCC)*, pp. 1–5, 2019. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/ISNCC.2019.8909133>
- [37] Y.-H. Jin, K.-W. Ko, and W.-H. Lee, "An indoor location-based positioning system using stereo vision with the drone camera," *Mobile Inf. Syst.*, vol. 2018, p. 5160543, 2018. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2018/5160543>
- [38] M. Tanaka, S. Ishii, A. Matsuoka, S. Tanabe, S. Matsunaga, A. Rahmani, N. Dutt, M. Rasouli, and A. Nyamathi, "Perspectives of Japanese elders and their healthcare providers on use of wearable technology to monitor their health at home: A qualitative exploration," *Int. J. Nurs. Stud.*, vol. 152, p. 104691, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2024.104691>
- [39] T. Ahmad, X. J. Li, M. Ashfaq, M. Savva, I. Ioannou, and V. Vassiliou, "Location-enabled IoT (LE-IoT): Indoor localization for IoT environments using machine learning," in *Proc. 2024 20th Int. Conf. Distributed Computing in Smart Systems and the Internet of Things (DCOSS-IoT)*, pp. 392–399, 2024. Available: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/DCOSS-IoT61029.2024.00065>
- [40] B. Khan, Z. Riaz, and B. L. Khoo, "Advancements in wearable sensors for cardiovascular disease detection for health monitoring," *Mater. Sci. Eng.: R: Reports*, vol. 159, p. 100804, 2024. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mser.2024.100804>