Title: Trends and Challenges in the Key Enabling Technologies of Smart Cities and Homes and Samples of Our Research Outcomes

Author: Mohammad S. Obaidat, Ph.D.

Abstract: Smart homes and cities have become an important research and development area in the 21st century due mainly to their significance to national and international health, economy, safety, transportation, and security, among others. ICT Systems have played a vital role in the emergence and development of smart cities and homes. The impressive advances in areas of information and wired and wireless communications technology have brought with them the prospect of embedding different hierarchies of smartness and intelligence in modern home and cities. Offering comfort and safe and healthy living with an intelligent form of collaboration with their residents has been the prime goal of smart and digital homes and cities. Contingent upon the settings, the communications may be multifaceted such as mobile agent based and context-aware services or they may be uncomplicated such as controlling the room temperature or its humidity level. Sophisticated situations include the delivery of position/location-aware info content of the resident of the digital home as well as his/her activities.
The availability of inexpensive low-power sensors, the RF IC chips, and the embedded microprocessors/microcontrollers have made tremendous impact on digital homes and cities; with large quantity of sensors, which jointly manage and make the inferences from the collected data on the state of the home and city as well as the actions and behavior of the inhabitants.

As the worldwide life expectancy, especially in developed countries and newly industrialized counties is increasing, the percentage of senior/elderly citizens is increasing at an accelerated pace and most projections suggest that this increase worldwide will reach about 10 millions in the coming decade. Senior citizens usually live in care centers, hospitals or their own homes with some relative supervision/care. Smart homes and cities can be used efficiently and economically in order to accommodate the needs of this population.

The increase of worldwide population, especially in populous countries and cities and the increase migration of citizens to cities have also brought with it challenges in transportation systems, health care, utility’s supplies, learning & education, sensing city dynamics, computing with heterogeneous data sources, managing urban big data, and environmental protection including pollution and others.

In this keynote, we will shed some light on the key enabling Information and Communications technology to smart cities and homes. We will also investigate the advances, current trends, challenges and future in the research and development in smart homes and cities.

Some of our recent research results, especially the ones related to the use of wireless networks and security for smart and digital homes will be presented. Among these, we present or advanced Internet of Thing based Security Alert System for Smart Home in order to detect an intruder or any unusual event at home, when nobody is available there. This low-cost home security system utilizes a small pyroelectric Infrared (PIR) module and raspberry pi for minimizing the delay during process of e-mail alert.

Moreover, we will introduce an adaptive MAC protocol for distributed wireless LANs that is capable of operating efficiently under bursty traffic conditions. According to the proposed protocol, the mobile station that is granted permission to transmit is selected by means of a neural-based algorithm. Another new protocol for dynamically setting 802.11 wireless LAN waveforms and transmission power levels based on the wireless channel’s signal to noise ratio will be introduced. Our method, known as Signal-to-Noise Ratio-Waveform Power Adaptation (SNR-WPA), changes the power in discrete steps matched to each of the 802.11 data rate-waveform steps.

We present an energy-efficient ad hoc on-demand routing protocol that balances energy load among nodes so that a minimum energy level is maintained among nodes and the network life increases. Other related wireless research efforts by our group will be presented.
**Biography:**

Inductee of SCS Hall of Fame-Life Achievement Award  
Past President, Society for Modeling & Simulation International (SCS)  
Past Advisor to the President of Philadelphia University  
Founding Editor-in-Chief, Security and Privacy Journal, Wiley  
Editor-in-Chief, International Journal of Communication Systems, Wiley  
Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Convergence  
Editor, IEEE Wireless Communications  
Editor, IEEE Systems Journal  
Distinguished Lecturer of ACM (1995-Present)  
Distinguished Lecturer of SCS (2006-Present)

Professor Mohammad S. Obaidat (Fellow of IEEE and Fellow of SCS) is an internationally well-known academic/researcher/scientist. He received his Ph.D. and M. S. degrees in Computer Engineering from Ohio State University, USA.

He has received extensive research funding and has published to date over Fifty five (55) books, over Fifty (55) Book Chapters and over Seven Hundred and Fifty (750) refereed technical articles in scholarly international journals and proceedings of international conferences-about half of them are Journal Papers. Professor Obaidat has served as a consultant for several corporations and organizations worldwide. Dr. Obaidat is the Founding Editor-in-Chief of the Wiley Security and Privacy Journal. He is also Editor-in-Chief of the Wiley International Journal of Communication Systems, the FTRA Journal of Convergence. He served as the Editor-in-Chief of KSIP Journal of Information Processing.

Among his previous positions are Advisor to the President of Philadelphia University for Research, Development and Information Technology, President of the Society for Molding and Simulation International, SCS, Senior Vice President of SCS, Dean of Engineering at Prince Sultan University, Chair and tenured full Professor at the Department of Computer and Information Science at Fordham university, Chair and tenured Professor of the Department of Computer Science and Director of the Graduate Program at Monmouth University. He is now a tenured full professor at the King Abdullah II School of Information Technology, University of Jordan.

He serve also as editor or advisory editor of many other journals such as IEEE Wireless Communications, IEEE Systems Journal, Elsevier Commuter Communications, Springer Supercomputing Journal, IET Wireless Sensor Systems, among others.

He served as an IEEE CS Distinguished Speaker and and ACM Distinguished Lecturer. He has been serving as SCS Distinguished Lecturer since 2004. He is the founder/co-founder of 4 international conferences. He has given about 150 invited keynote speeches worldwide and has chaired over 160 international conferences.
He has received numerous worldwide awards for his technical and service contributions, such as Nokia Research Fellowship, distinguished Fulbright Scholar Award SCS Outstanding Service Award, the prestigious McLeod Founder’s Award, IEEE ComSoc-GLOBECOM 2010 Outstanding Leadership Award, SCS Presidential Award, SCS Hall of Fame–Lifetime Achievement Award, IEEE CITS Hall of Fame Distinguished and Eminent Award. He has been awarded with the Amity University Distinguished Honorary Professor Award and the University of Science and Technology Beijing Distinguished Visiting Professor Award. Prof. Obaidat is a Fellow of IEEE and SCS.