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Connectivity and Edge Computing in IoT: Customized Designs and AI-based Solutions



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Preface

The Internet of Things (IoT) is revolutionizing the world and impacting the daily lives of billions of people. Supporting use cases for households, manufacturers, transportation, agriculture, healthcare, and much more, IoT carries many potentials and expectations for prospering human society. Technologically, we are at an early stage of IoT development, aiming at connecting tens of billions of devices to make homes, communities, factories, farms, and everywhere else smart and automated. Tremendous efforts are necessary to advance IoT research and development.

Two cornerstones of IoT are data collection/exchange and data analysis. The former demands connectivity solutions, while the latter requires computing solutions. Due to the broad scope of IoT and the drastically different characteristics and requirements of IoT use cases, no "one-size-fits-all" design can meet the expectations of all use cases. Therefore, customizing connectivity or computing solutions for specific use cases is challenging yet essential. There are many system features and performance measures to consider in the customization, such as connection link density, resource overhead, transmission and computation delay, service reliability, energy efficiency, and device mobility, and making proper tradeoffs among them is critical.

Accounting for all performance metrics and making optimal trade-offs can yield high complexity. Correspondingly, artificial intelligence (AI) solutions, such as neural networks and reinforcement learning, can become useful. Powered by AI methods, connectivity or computing solutions can learn from experience to handle the complexity, assuming that sufficient data are available for training. Specifically, AI can play various roles in IoT, including data traffic load prediction, access control, and computation task scheduling, to name a few.

In this book, we focus on connectivity and edge computing in IoT and present our designs for four representative IoT use cases, i.e., smart factory, rural IoT, Internet of vehicles, and mobile virtual reality. We thoroughly review the existing research in this field, including many works published in recent years. Then, through innovative designs, we demonstrate the necessity and potential of customizing solutions based on the use cases. In addition, we exploit AI methods to empower our solutions. The four research works included in this book serve a collective objective:

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enabling on-demand data collection and/or analysis for IoT use cases, especially in resource-limited IoT systems. We hope that this book will inspire further research on connectivity and edge computing in the field of IoT.

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Acronyms

3GPP Third generation partnership project

5G Fifth generation 5G NR 5G new radio AC Actor-critic AD Access delay

AD-F Access delay counted in frames

ADMM Alternating direction method of multipliers

AI Artificial intelligence

AP Access point
BFoV Base field-of-view
BS Base station

CNN Convolutional neural network
CSMA Carrier-sense multiple access
DCF Distributed coordination function
DDPG Deep deterministic policy gradient

DNN Deep neural network
DQN Deep Q network

DRL Deep reinforcement learning
EDT Early data transmission
EFoV Extended field-of-view
eMBB Enhanced mobile broadband

ET Enhanced tile FoV Field-of-view

HMD Head-mounted device

HP High priority

IIoT Industrial Internet of Things

IoT Internet of Things
IoV Internet of Vehicles
IT Information technology

LoRa Long range LP Low priority xiv Acronyms

LPWA Low-power wide-area
LSTM Long short-term memory
LTE Long-term evolution

LTE-M Long-term evolution for machine-type communications

M2M Machine-to-machine MAC Medium access control MDP Markov decision process

mMTC Massive machine-type communications

mmWave Millimeter-wave

MsCS Mini-slot based carrier sensing

MSE Mean squared error

MTC Machine-type communication

NB-IoT Narrowband IoT

NOMA Non-orthogonal multiple access

QoE Quality of experience
QoS Quality of service
RACH Random access channel
RAW Restricted access window
RMAB Restless multi-armed bandit

RP Regular priority
RSU Roadside unit

SCA Successive convex approximation

SOC Second order cone

SMsA Superimposed mini-slot assignment SyncCS Synchronization carrier sensing TDMA Time-division multiple access

TPSA Task partition and scheduling algorithm

TTI Transmission time interval UAV Unmanned aerial vehicle

URLLC Ultra-reliable low-latency communications

V2I Vehicle-to-infrastructure V2X Vehicle-to-everything

VR Virtual reality VS Video segment WI Whittle index

WLAN Wireless local area network