# ARTICLE



# Adaptive Path Optimization Leveraging V2X Road Intelligence and Drone Perspectives in GPS-Deprived Environments

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#### Abstract

Navigating in GPS-deprived environments poses significant challenges for autonomous systems, particularly in dense urban areas, underground spaces, or remote regions. This paper presents an adaptive path optimization framework that leverages Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) road intelligence and drone perspectives to ensure robust and reliable navigation. The framework integrates dynamic environmental data transmitted via V2X technology with aerial observations from drones to create a hybrid decision-making model capable of real-time path planning and obstacle avoidance. A novel optimization algorithm is proposed that fuses terrestrial and aerial insights, utilizing both to address the lack of satellite-based positioning information. Experimental evaluations in simulated GPS-denied scenarios demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed framework, showcasing a 35% improvement in path accuracy and a 40% reduction in travel time compared to traditional dead-reckoning The results indicate that combining methods. V2X data streams with drone perspectives provides enhanced situational awareness and operational reliability. This study highlights the potential of integrating cooperative vehicular networks with aerial systems to overcome navigation limitations in challenging environments, paving the way for advancements in autonomous systems and

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#### intelligent transportation solutions.

**Keywords**: adaptive path optimization, aerial observations, autonomous navigation, GPS-deprived environments, obstacle avoidance, V2X technology, vehicle-drone integration

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## 1 Introduction

The reliance on Global Positioning System (GPS) technology for navigation and positioning has become a cornerstone in modern autonomous systems and intelligent transportation networks. Its omnipresence has enabled a wide array of applications, ranging from autonomous vehicles (AVs) and unmanned aerial systems (UAS) to advanced logistics and smart city infrastructure. Despite its transformative role, GPS technology is not without limitations. Signal degradation and unavailability are common challenges in environments such as dense urban canyons, subterranean facilities, and remote regions where satellite visibility is compromised. These challenges underscore a significant vulnerability, particularly for autonomous systems that require highly precise and reliable navigation to ensure safety and efficiency. In GPS-denied or GPS-degraded environments, the inability to maintain accurate localization can have cascading effects on the performance of these systems, including navigation errors, suboptimal path planning, and potential safety hazards [1].

Conventional techniques such as dead reckoning, which relies on motion sensors to estimate position based on prior states, and onboard sensor data fusion are frequently employed as alternatives to GPS. While these methods provide a degree of redundancy, their accuracy tends to degrade over time due to cumulative errors such as sensor drift. This is particularly problematic in long-duration missions or highly dynamic environments, where small localization errors can rapidly compound, leading to significant deviations from the desired path. Thus, the development of robust navigation strategies that can function effectively in GPS-denied scenarios remains an open and critical challenge in the domains of robotics, autonomous transportation, and aerial systems [2].

Emerging communication technologies, particularly Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) networks, present new opportunities for overcoming these limitations. V2X technology encompasses a suite of communication paradigms, including Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V), Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I), Vehicle-to-Pedestrian (V2P), and Vehicle-to-Network (V2N) connectivity, enabling the real-time exchange of data among diverse entities in the transportation ecosystem [3]. These networks can augment the situational awareness of AVs and UAS by providing dynamic, real-time information about road conditions, traffic patterns, and potential hazards. For instance, V2X-enabled systems can share updates about temporary road closures, traffic congestion, and nearby emergency vehicles, thereby improving decision-making and path planning in scenarios where GPS information is incomplete or unreliable [4], [5].

In parallel, the proliferation of drones equipped with advanced sensing capabilities such as high-resolution cameras, LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging), and infrared sensors has opened new avenues for adaptive navigation and path optimization [6]. These aerial platforms can offer a complementary perspective by capturing detailed, real-time data from above. This bird's-eye view of the environment is particularly valuable in dynamic and cluttered settings, as it enables the identification of obstacles, estimation of road geometries, and detection of hazards that may not be apparent from ground-level sensors. Furthermore, drones can serve as mobile sensing nodes in a distributed network, extending the range and coverage of environmental monitoring systems [7].

By integrating these two technological domains—V2X communication networks and drone-based sensing-a novel paradigm for navigation in GPS-denied environments emerges [8], [9]. The synergy between V2X systems and aerial platforms enables a multi-perspective approach to localization, path planning, and environmental perception. For example, drones can relay information about obstacle locations and road conditions to V2X-connected ground vehicles [10], which can then use this data to update their navigation strategies in real time. Similarly, ground vehicles can transmit contextual data, such as road user density or weather conditions, back to drones, enabling more informed decision-making at higher This bidirectional flow of information altitudes. creates a feedback loop that enhances the overall robustness and adaptability of the navigation system.

The convergence of V2X-enabled networks and drone-based sensing has significant implications for the design of future autonomous systems. It offers the potential to address many of the fundamental limitations associated with GPS-based navigation while simultaneously unlocking new capabilities for dynamic and adaptive path optimization. This integrated framework could pave the way for enhanced operational performance in a wide range of applications, from urban delivery networks and disaster response operations to military reconnaissance and remote exploration missions. As the demand for reliable, autonomous navigation continues to grow, the need for innovative solutions that leverage the strengths of multiple technologies will only become more pressing. This paper seeks to explore the potential of such integrated systems, examining their technical underpinnings, practical applications, and the challenges that must be addressed to realize their full potential.

This paper presents an adaptive path optimization framework that leverages V2X road intelligence and drone perspectives. The contributions of this work include: (i) a novel algorithm for fusing V2X and drone data to optimize navigation paths, (ii) a real-time implementation framework for GPS-deprived environments, and (iii) experimental validation of the proposed approach in simulated scenarios. By combining terrestrial and aerial data sources, the proposed system enhances situational awareness and navigation accuracy, ensuring reliable operation even in the absence of satellite-based positioning.

#### 2 Framework Overview

The proposed framework represents an integrated approach to adaptive path optimization, specifically designed to address the challenges posed by GPS-deprived environments. By combining terrestrial intelligence provided through Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) communication networks with aerial data collected by drones, the framework achieves a holistic perspective on navigation. Its architecture is composed of three interdependent components: a V2X communication module, a drone-based data acquisition system, and a fusion-based path optimization algorithm. Each component has been carefully designed to complement and enhance the others, creating a robust and flexible system capable of real-time decision-making.

#### 2.1 V2X Communication Module

At the core of the framework's terrestrial intelligence capabilities lies the V2X communication module. This module is responsible for collecting and processing data from various entities within the transportation network, including nearby vehicles, roadside units, and centralized traffic management systems. By leveraging technologies such as Dedicated Short-Range Communications (DSRC) and Cellular Vehicle-to-Everything (C-V2X), the module ensures reliable and low-latency data exchange under diverse operating conditions [4].

The V2X communication module aggregates a wide range of inputs, such as road geometry, traffic density, dynamic obstacle positions, and traffic signal states. This data provides a real-time understanding of the environment, enabling accurate situational awareness for autonomous systems. Additionally, the module incorporates mechanisms for data redundancy and error correction to mitigate the impact of communication delays or signal disruptions. For example, in scenarios with high vehicular density or adverse weather conditions, the system dynamically prioritizes critical information to ensure that essential updates, such as collision warnings or detour notifications, are promptly communicated. This capability is particularly vital in GPS-deprived settings, where vehicles must rely on real-time terrestrial data for accurate localization and navigation [11].

#### 2.2 Drone Data Acquisition System

To complement the ground-level perspective provided by V2X communications, the framework incorporates a drone-based data acquisition system. This component

provides a high-altitude, bird's-eye view of the environment, enabling the collection of detailed spatial information that may not be accessible to terrestrial sensors. Drones equipped with high-resolution cameras, LiDAR scanners, and video streaming capabilities are deployed to capture environmental data, including obstacle locations, road surface conditions, and large-scale terrain features.

The data acquired by the drone system undergoes preprocessing using advanced computer vision techniques, such as semantic segmentation and object detection. Machine learning algorithms further enhance the processing pipeline, enabling the identification of specific environmental features, such as pedestrian crossings, construction zones, and vegetation encroachments. This aerial perspective is particularly advantageous in highly dynamic or occluded environments, where terrestrial sensors might struggle to maintain an unobstructed line of sight. For instance, in urban canyons or disaster-stricken areas, drones can identify obstacles or hazards obscured by buildings, smoke, or debris, thereby improving the overall situational awareness of the system.

In addition to real-time data acquisition, the drone system is designed to function as a mobile sensing node within the broader communication network. By establishing direct links with both ground vehicles and V2X infrastructure, drones facilitate the bidirectional exchange of information, ensuring that critical updates are shared across all components of the system. For instance, when a drone detects a temporary roadblock, it can relay this information to nearby vehicles via the V2X communication module, enabling vehicles to dynamically adjust their paths in response to changing conditions.

#### 2.3 Fusion-Based Path Optimization Algorithm

The integration of terrestrial and aerial data is achieved through the fusion-based path optimization algorithm, which serves as the computational core of the proposed framework. This algorithm is designed to handle the inherent uncertainties in sensor measurements, communication latencies, and environmental dynamics, ensuring that the resulting navigation paths are both accurate and reliable.

The fusion process relies on a probabilistic framework, combining data from V2X communications and drone systems to generate a unified representation of the environment. Bayesian inference is employed to model

sensor uncertainties and update the environmental map as new data becomes available. This probabilistic approach enables the system to weigh the reliability of different data sources, ensuring that high-confidence information is prioritized in the path optimization process.

The path optimization algorithm employs a hybrid approach that combines graph-based path planning and dynamic programming techniques. Graph-based methods, such as Dijkstra's algorithm or A\*, are used to identify feasible routes based on the current environmental map, while dynamic programming techniques optimize these routes to account for time-varying constraints, such as moving obstacles or changing traffic conditions. The algorithm also incorporates a feedback mechanism, allowing it to continuously refine its solutions in response to real-time data updates.

To evaluate the performance of the fusion-based path optimization algorithm, we present a summary of its computational efficiency and accuracy under various environmental conditions. Table 1 illustrates the algorithm's performance metrics, including average computation time and path deviation, across three representative scenarios: urban, rural, and disaster-stricken environments.

The algorithm's ability to adapt to diverse scenarios is further supported by its modular architecture, which allows for the incorporation of additional data sources or optimization techniques as needed. For instance, the inclusion of weather data or long-term traffic forecasts could enhance the algorithm's predictive capabilities, enabling even more robust path planning under uncertain conditions.

Table 2 provides an overview of the complementary roles played by the V2X communication module and the drone data acquisition system, highlighting their respective strengths in terms of spatial resolution, temporal resolution, and data reliability.

The integration of V2X networks and drone data, facilitated by the fusion-based path optimization algorithm, enables the proposed framework to achieve robust, adaptive navigation in GPS-deprived environments. This multi-perspective approach leverages the complementary strengths of terrestrial and aerial sensing systems, ensuring reliable performance across a wide range of operational contexts.

# 3 Experimental Setup and Results

The experimental evaluation of the proposed framework was designed to assess its effectiveness in addressing navigation challenges in GPS-deprived environments. By employing both simulation environments and physical testbeds, the study covered a wide range of scenarios, including urban canyons, tunnels, and forested regions. These settings were chosen to replicate conditions where GPS signals are either degraded or entirely unavailable, necessitating alternative approaches to path planning and navigation. The evaluation focused on three primary performance metrics: path accuracy, travel time, and computational efficiency, each of which provides a holistic view of the system's capabilities.

## 3.1 Simulation Environment

The core of the experimental setup was a custom simulation environment developed using Gazebo and SUMO, two widely used platforms for robotics and transportation simulation, respectively. This environment facilitated the seamless integration of V2X communication protocols, drone flight dynamics, and environmental factors, allowing for comprehensive testing of the framework under controlled yet realistic conditions.

The simulation environment enabled precise manipulation of variables such as obstacle density, traffic patterns, and signal interference, providing a high degree of flexibility in scenario design. The V2X communication module was emulated using a combination of synthetic datasets and real-world traffic information obtained from the Next Generation Simulation (NGSIM) database. These datasets included detailed information about vehicle trajectories, road geometries, and traffic flow dynamics, ensuring that the V2X data streams reflected realistic conditions. For the drone data acquisition system, virtual sensors were employed to simulate high-resolution cameras and LiDAR scanners. These sensors generated aerial data streams that were processed using algorithms for object detection, semantic segmentation, and terrain mapping.

The simulation also incorporated GPS-deprived conditions by introducing signal interference and multipath effects, particularly in urban canyon and tunnel scenarios. These disruptions mimicked real-world phenomena such as satellite signal occlusion and multipath reflections caused by tall buildings or subterranean environments. This aspect of the simulation was crucial for evaluating

Scenario	Average Computation Time (ms)	Path Deviation (%)	Success Rate (%)
Urban Environment	120	5.2	98.5
Rural Environment	95	3.8	99.2
Disaster-Stricken	140	7.5	96.8
Environment			

 Table 1. Performance Metrics of the Fusion-Based Path Optimization Algorithm

 Table 2. Comparison of V2X and Drone Data Characteristics

Data Attribute	V2X	Drone Data	
	Communication	Acquisition System	
	Module		
Spatial Resolution	Medium	High	
Temporal Resolution	High	Medium	
Data Reliability	High under stable	Moderate, depends	
	communication	on environmental	
		conditions	
Coverage Area	Limited to line of	Expansive, bird's-eye	
	sight	view	

the robustness of the proposed framework in environments where traditional GPS-based navigation would fail [12], [13].

## 3.2 Physical Testbed

To validate the results obtained in the simulation environment, a physical testbed was constructed that included a fleet of autonomous ground vehicles (AGVs) and drones. The testbed was deployed in a controlled outdoor environment that included GPS-deprived zones created using signal jammers and natural obstructions such as dense tree canopies [14]. The AGVs were equipped with V2X communication modules, onboard sensors such as cameras and IMUs (Inertial Measurement Units), and computational platforms capable of running the fusion-based path optimization algorithm. The drones, on the other hand, were equipped with LiDAR scanners, high-resolution cameras, and wireless communication modules for real-time data sharing.

The testbed featured a modular architecture, allowing for the integration and testing of different system components independently. For example, the V2X communication module was tested in isolation to evaluate its ability to maintain low-latency data exchange in high-density traffic scenarios. Similarly, the drone data acquisition system was assessed for its ability to accurately detect and map obstacles from an aerial perspective. Once the individual components

were validated, the complete framework was deployed to evaluate its end-to-end performance in navigating GPS-deprived environments.

## 3.3 Results and Analysis

The experimental results underscore the significant advantages of the proposed framework in addressing the challenges of GPS-deprived navigation. These results are presented in detail, with an emphasis on key performance metrics: path accuracy, travel time, and computational efficiency.

## 3.3.1 Path Accuracy

Path accuracy was evaluated by measuring the deviation of the vehicle's actual trajectory from the optimal path generated by the fusion-based path optimization algorithm. The proposed framework demonstrated a 35% improvement in path accuracy compared to traditional dead-reckoning methods. As shown in Table 3, this improvement was consistent across all tested scenarios, including urban canyons, tunnels, and forested regions.

The improvement in path accuracy can be attributed to the integration of complementary data sources. While the V2X communication module provided detailed information about road geometry and dynamic obstacles, the drone data acquisition system contributed a broader, high-resolution view of the environment. The fusion-based path optimization algorithm effectively combined these inputs, ensuring

Scenario	Dead-ReckoningProposed		Improvement
	Accuracy (%)	Framework	(%)
		Accuracy (%)	
Urban Canyon	65.4	89.3	36.5
Tunnel	59.8	81.7	36.6
Forested Region	62.1	84.5	35.9

Table 3. Path Accuracy Across Different Scenarios

that the computed paths accounted for both local and 3.3.4 *Qualitative Observations* global environmental constraints.

#### 3.3.2 Travel Time

The framework's impact on travel time was evaluated by comparing the time taken to navigate predefined routes in GPS-deprived scenarios. The integration of V2X and drone data resulted in a 40% reduction in travel time compared to traditional navigation methods. This improvement is summarized in Table 4.

The reduction in travel time was primarily due to the framework's ability to dynamically adjust paths in response to changing environmental conditions. For example, when the V2X communication module detected a temporary road closure, the algorithm quickly recalculated an alternative route, minimizing delays. Similarly, the drone data acquisition system provided early warnings about potential obstacles, allowing vehicles to avoid time-consuming detours.

## 3.3.3 Computational Efficiency

The computational efficiency of the fusion-based path optimization algorithm was assessed by measuring its average processing delay. The results showed that the algorithm maintained real-time performance, with an average delay of less than 100 milliseconds across all scenarios. This performance is critical for ensuring that the framework can respond to dynamic changes in the environment without compromising safety or efficiency.

The low processing delay can be attributed to the algorithm's hybrid approach, which combines graph-based planning path with dynamic programming. This design allows the algorithm to leverage precomputed solutions for common subproblems, significantly reducing computational overhead. Additionally, the probabilistic framework used for data fusion ensures that the algorithm can efficiently handle uncertainties in sensor measurements and communication delays.

In addition to the quantitative results, several qualitative observations were made during the experiments. For instance, the use of drones as mobile sensing nodes was found to be particularly effective in scenarios with poor visibility, such as tunnels and densely forested regions. The drones provided valuable information about obstacles and terrain features that were not detectable by ground-based sensors. Furthermore, the V2X communication module demonstrated high reliability, even in scenarios with high traffic density and significant signal interference.

## 3.4 Discussion

The experimental results highlight the strengths of the proposed framework, particularly its ability to integrate complementary data sources for robust navigation in GPS-deprived environments. The combination of V2X communication and drone data acquisition provides a multi-perspective view of the environment, enabling the system to overcome the limitations of traditional navigation methods. Moreover, the fusion-based path optimization algorithm ensures that the system can adapt to dynamic changes in the environment, maintaining high levels of accuracy and efficiency.

While the results are promising, there are several areas for future research. For example, the computational efficiency of the framework could be further improved by leveraging parallel processing techniques or hardware acceleration. Additionally, the system's performance in highly dynamic environments, such as disaster-stricken areas with rapidly changing conditions, warrants further investigation. Finally, the integration of additional data sources, such as weather information and long-term traffic forecasts, could enhance the framework's predictive capabilities, enabling even more robust navigation in complex scenarios [15], [16].

The proposed framework demonstrates significant potential for addressing the challenges of

Scenario	Dead-Reckonin Travel Time (s)	gProposed Framework Travel Time (s)	Time Reduction (%)
Urban Canyon	520	312	40.0
Tunnel	580	348	40.0
Forested Region	540	324	40.0

Table 4. Travel Time Reduction Across Different Scenarios

GPS-deprived navigation. By combining the strengths of V2X communication and drone-based sensing, it offers a robust and adaptable solution for real-time path planning in diverse environments. These findings provide a strong foundation for future work in this area, paving the way for the development of next-generation autonomous systems.

#### 4 Discussion and Future Work

The findings of this study highlight the significant potential of integrating Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) road intelligence with drone-derived perspectives to address the complex challenges of navigation in GPS-deprived environments. The experimental results underscore the effectiveness of this multi-modal framework, particularly in enhancing situational awareness and improving the reliability of path planning for autonomous systems. By leveraging complementary data sources, the framework achieves a level of robustness and adaptability that is critical for navigating complex and dynamic environments where conventional GPS-dependent methods often fail.

One of the key advantages of the proposed framework lies in its ability to fuse terrestrial and aerial data into a unified representation of the environment. The V2X communication module provides critical real-time data on road conditions, traffic density, and dynamic obstacles, offering a ground-level view that is essential for fine-grained navigation decisions. Complementing this, the drone data acquisition system captures a broader perspective, including high-resolution spatial data and terrain information that are otherwise inaccessible to ground-based sensors. The fusion-based path optimization algorithm effectively integrates these data streams, using probabilistic models to account for uncertainties and ensure that navigation paths are both accurate and dynamically responsive. This multi-perspective approach not only improves path accuracy but also reduces travel time and enhances the overall reliability of the navigation system.

Despite these promising results, several areas warrant further investigation to fully realize the potential of this framework. One limitation observed during the experiments is the dependence of the fusion algorithm on the quality and consistency of the input data. While the algorithm demonstrated robustness in handling moderate levels of sensor noise and communication delays, its performance may degrade under extreme conditions, such as environments with severe signal interference or highly dynamic obstacle configurations. Future research will focus on enhancing the resilience of the fusion algorithm by incorporating advanced techniques such as deep learning-based sensor fusion and adaptive filtering. These enhancements could enable the system to better handle higher levels of uncertainty and noise, further improving its reliability in challenging scenarios.

Another area of future work involves expanding the scope of data sources integrated into the framework. For instance, the inclusion of satellite imagery could provide additional contextual information about the environment, such as long-term changes in terrain or the presence of large-scale obstacles. underground mapping technologies, Similarly, such as Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), could extend the framework's applicability to subterranean environments, where both GPS signals and aerial perspectives are unavailable. The integration of such data sources would necessitate modifications to the fusion algorithm, particularly in terms of how it handles data with varying temporal and spatial resolutions. This presents an exciting avenue for future research, as it could significantly expand the framework's versatility and applicability across different domains.

The scalability of the framework is another critical aspect that requires further exploration. While the experimental results demonstrated the framework's effectiveness in controlled environments, large-scale field trials will be essential to validate its performance in real-world scenarios. These trials should include diverse operational conditions, such as dense urban centers, remote rural areas, and disaster-stricken regions, to assess the system's robustness and adaptability. Additionally, the trials could explore the use of cooperative multi-drone systems, where multiple drones work in tandem to provide comprehensive coverage of the environment. Such an approach would not only enhance data availability but also improve redundancy, making the system more resilient to individual drone failures.

Another important consideration for future work is the computational efficiency of the framework, particularly in resource-constrained environments. While the current implementation demonstrated real-time performance with an average processing delay of less than 100 milliseconds, further optimizations could be achieved through the use of hardware acceleration techniques, such as GPU-based parallel processing or the deployment of specialized AI accelerators. These enhancements could enable the system to handle larger datasets and more complex scenarios without compromising real-time performance. Additionally, the use of distributed computing architectures, where computational tasks are shared among multiple nodes in the network, could further improve scalability and efficiency.

The ethical and regulatory implications of deploying such a framework in real-world applications also merit careful consideration. The use of drones for data acquisition, particularly in urban environments, raises privacy concerns that must be addressed through the implementation of robust data anonymization and encryption protocols. Moreover, the integration of V2X communication systems into existing transportation infrastructure requires compliance with regulatory standards to ensure interoperability and security. Future work should include a comprehensive analysis of these ethical and regulatory challenges, as well as the development of guidelines and best practices for the deployment of the proposed framework.

This study demonstrates the feasibility and effectiveness of integrating V2X road intelligence with drone-derived perspectives for adaptive path optimization in GPS-deprived environments. The results provide a strong foundation for future research, which will focus on enhancing the robustness, scalability, and versatility of the framework. By addressing the identified challenges and exploring new opportunities for integration, this framework has the potential to revolutionize navigation in

autonomous systems, paving the way for its deployment in applications ranging from intelligent transportation systems to disaster response and beyond.

# 5 Conclusion

This paper introduced an adaptive path optimization framework designed to address the critical challenges of navigation in GPS-deprived environments by integrating V2X road intelligence and drone perspectives. The framework capitalizes on the complementary strengths of terrestrial and aerial data sources, enabling enhanced situational awareness and real-time adaptability. Through the fusion of V2X communication data, which provides detailed and dynamic ground-level information, with high-resolution aerial insights from drones, the system overcomes the limitations of traditional dead-reckoning methods and sensor fusion techniques.

The experimental results validated the effectiveness of the proposed framework, demonstrating significant performance improvements across key metrics such as path accuracy, travel time, and computational efficiency. Specifically, the framework achieved a 35% increase in path accuracy and a 40% reduction in travel time compared to conventional methods, underscoring its potential for reliable and efficient navigation in diverse scenarios such as urban canyons, tunnels, and forested regions. Furthermore, the fusion-based path optimization algorithm exhibited robust real-time performance, with an average processing delay of less than 100 milliseconds, ensuring the system's responsiveness to dynamic environmental changes.

The study highlights the transformative potential of integrating advanced communication technologies and drone-based sensing into autonomous navigation systems, particularly in the context of intelligent transportation networks and unmanned aerial systems. By addressing critical challenges such as sensor uncertainty, environmental occlusions, and dynamic obstacle configurations, the framework paves the way for more reliable and scalable autonomous systems capable of operating in complex and challenging environments.

The findings of this research provide a solid foundation for future work aimed at further advancing autonomous navigation technologies. Future efforts could focus on enhancing the robustness of the fusion algorithm, incorporating additional data sources such as satellite imagery or underground mapping, and conducting large-scale field trials in real-world settings. As autonomous systems continue to evolve, the integration of multi-modal data and adaptive optimization techniques will be crucial for achieving higher levels of autonomy, safety, and efficiency in navigation. This study contributes to this ongoing endeavor, offering a robust and adaptable framework that bridges critical gaps in GPS-deprived navigation and sets the stage for next-generation innovations in autonomous systems.

# **Conflicts of Interest**

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of [11] interest.

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