Special Issue

Ambient Sensors for Elderly Care and Independent Living

Message from the Guest Editors

Ambient sensors can support older adults' independence and safety in many ways. For example, they can monitor their behaviors to observe activity patterns, identify risks of falls and cognitive decline, and support them in achieving physical activity goals or serve as medication reminders. Ambient sensors include pressure, video, object contact, motion capture, and sound sensors. They can be combined with wearable sensors or video capturing and may be supported by artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms to identify behavior and activity patterns and detect risks. Ambient sensors on the one hand hold great potential for supporting the wellbeing of older adults; however, unethical use can lead to unintended consequences such as privacy violations. We invite high-scale studies that increase our evidence of the contribution of ambient sensors to different aspects of life for older adults and demonstrate their long-term effects on independent living. We also invite papers that discuss ethical issues surrounding this technology and provide recommendations on their development and implementation for the next generation.

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Sensors is a leading journal devoted to fast publication of the latest achievements of technological developments and scientific research in the huge area of physical, chemical and biochemical sensors, including remote sensing and sensor networks. Both experimental and theoretical papers are published, including all aspects of sensor design, technology, proof of concept and application. Sensors organizes Special Issues devoted to specific sensing areas and applications each year.

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