UWB Antenna System for Digital Key

デジタルキー向け統合UWBアンテナシステム

Background

Tokai Rika, a car key manufacturing leading company for 70 years, is offering a one-stop secure digital key system from the server to the device.

The doors can be locked and unlocked when the key is around the car. The engine is started only when the key is inside.

UWB unit **UWB** Multiple use of UWB communications locates a key accurately, improving safety and convenience.

The digital key can access a car through NFC when the smartphone battery is dead.



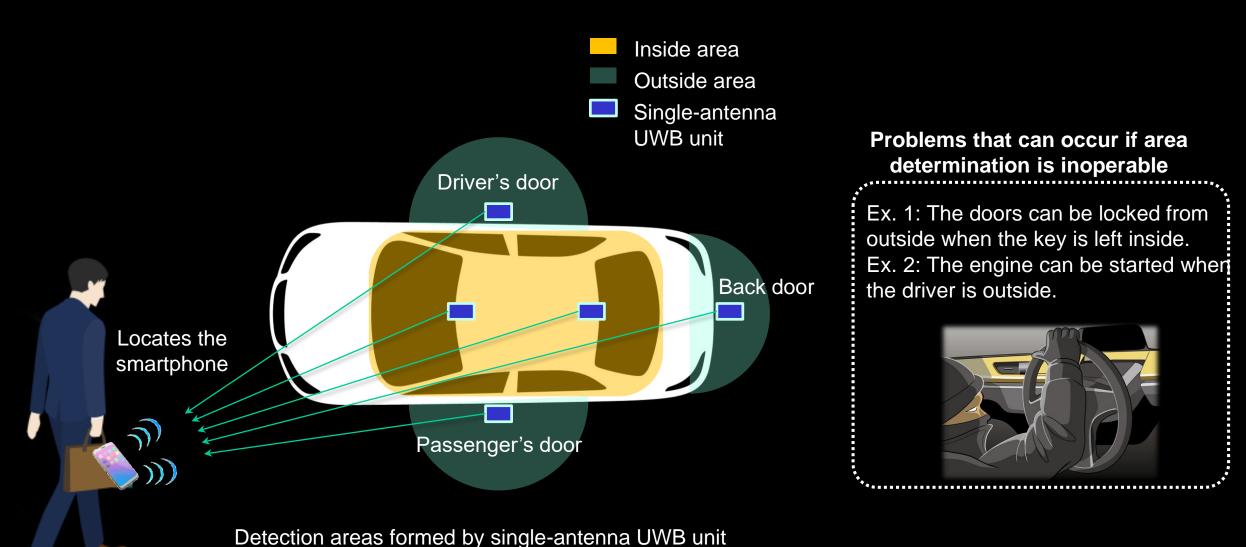
Purpose

Cost saving by using fewer UWB units in a smartphone digital key system

Outline

Existing technology

Requires at least one conventional single-antenna UWB unit for each detection area to locate the key.

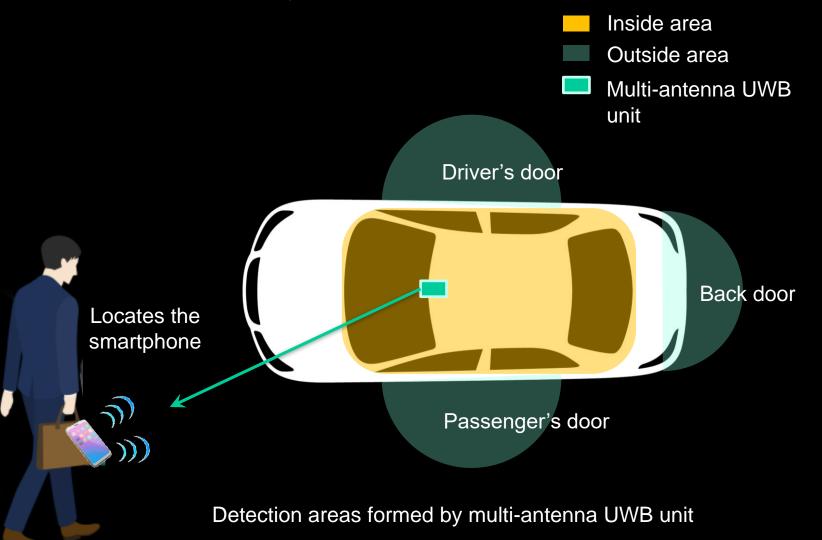


Outline

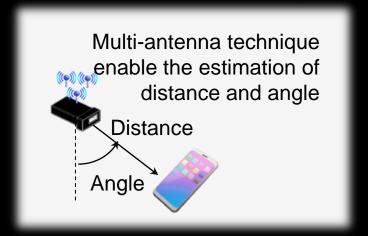
Developed technology

Our multi-antenna system consists of **fewer UWB units** because it detects distance and angle (locate the key).

Practical use will be in 2026 or later.



Principle of multi-antenna system



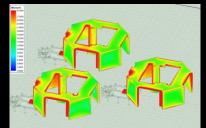
Technology

- The multi-antenna detects incoming wave angle.
- · The patented multi-antenna technology and the area determination logic improve performance.

Multi-antenna technology (three patents)

Antennas installed close to each other are deteriorated in accuracy by electromagnetic bonding.

⇒ Our patented technology enables downsizing and high accuracy by preventing electromagnetic bonding.



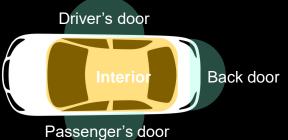
Each antenna has the same current distribution (same colors in the figure), showing that the characteristic change is prevented.

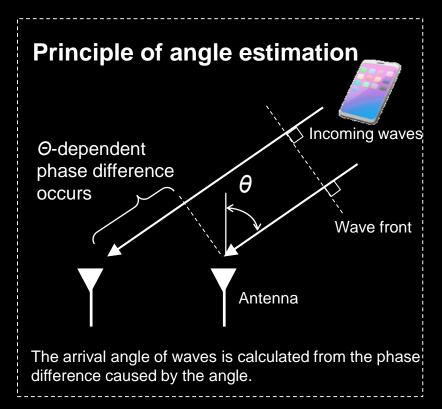
Multi-antenna current distribution

Area determination logic (13 patents)

In a car, a wave diffusive environment, the accuracy of angle measurement is poor, causing false area detection.

⇒ The patented technology enables the detection of proper waves, improving the accuracy of area determination.







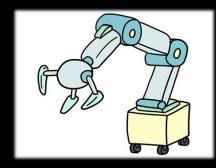
Ranging accuracy	Distance accuracy: ±15 cm, Angle accuracy: ±5°
Installed function	UWB & BLE transmit and receive circuit, antenna, clock device incorporated
Conformance UWB	IEEE802.15.4z
Conformance bluetooth	Ver.5.x
CPU core	32-bit ARM Cortex M4 CPU
Memory area	512 kB Flash and 64 kB SRAM
Interface	CAN FD
Power supply voltage	12 V
Dimensions	45 x 85 x 17 mm (target values)
Operating temperature range	-40 to +105 °C

Future use

■ Area forming or ranging systems



Drones



Automatic transfer robots



Indoor navigation systems