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Location-aware mobile applications based on directory services

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Location-aware applications are becoming increasingly attractive due to the widespread dissemination of wireless networks and the emergence of small and cheap locating technologies. We developed a location information server that simplifies and speeds up the development of these applications by offering a set of generic location retrieval and notification services to the application. The data model and the access protocols of these services are based on the X 500 directory service and the lightweight directory access protocol LDAP since these are becoming the standard attribute-value-pair retrieval mechanisms for Internet and Intranet environments. This approach establishes a smooth migration path from conventional to location-aware applications. The paper presents the location information server concepts, defines its directory data model and access services, and discusses the implementation options of the location information server.

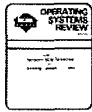
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Providing location information in a ubiquitous computing environment (panel session)

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Volume 27 Issue 5, Dec 1993 doi>[10.1145/173668.168641](#)

To take full advantage of the promise of ubiquitous computing requires the use of location information, yet people should have control over who may know their whereabouts. We present an architecture that achieves these goals for an interesting set of applications. Personal information is managed by User Agents, and a partially decentralized Location Query Service is used to facilitate location-based operations. This architecture gives users primary control over their location information, at the cost of making more expensive certain queries, such as those wherein location and identity closely interact. We also discuss various extensions to our architecture that offer users additional trade offs between privacy and efficiency. Finally, we report some measurements of the unextended system in operation, focusing on how well the system is actually able to track people. Our system uses two kinds of location information, which turn out to provide partial and complementary coverage.

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Multi-sensor location tracking

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