Newest smartphones - Global Positioning System,supported by many newer mobile devices, provides extremely accurate location information based on satellites. Location data may include altitude, speed and heading information. To use it, though, your device has to be able to see the sky, and it can take a long time to get a location. GPS can also be hard on your batteries.

Desktop - your IP address uses an external database to map the IP address to a physical location. The advantage of this approach is that it can work anywhere; however, often IP addresses are resolved to locations such as your ISP’s local office. Think of this method as being reliable to the city or sometimes neighbourhood level.

Cell Phone: Cell phone triangulation figures out your location based on your distance from one or more cell phone towers (obviously the more towers, the more accurate your location will be). This method can be fairly accurate and works indoors (unlike GPS); it also can be much quicker than GPS. Then again, if you’re in the middle of nowhere with only one cell tower, your accuracy is going to suffer.

WiFi: WiFi positioning uses one or more WiFi access points to triangulate your location. This method can be very accurate, works indoors and is fast. Obviously it requires you are somewhat stationary (perhaps drinking a iced tea at a coffee house).

The browser implementation is going to determine how location is determined. But the good news is the browser can use any of these means to determine your location. In fact, a smart browser might first use cell phone triangulation, if it is available, to give you a rough idea of location, and then later give you a more accurate location with WiFi or GPS.