Smart usage of context information for the analysis, design and generation of power-aware policies for mobile sensing apps

Doctoral seminar 2016
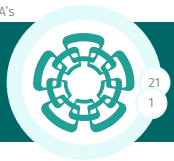
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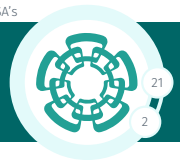
Agenda

Background

Problem statement

Previous work

Methodology

Proposed solution

Schedule

Background
Motivation

- ▶ The popularity of mobile devices is a result of advances in their computation, **sensing**, and communication dimensions [3].
    - ▶ The sensing facilities improve interaction with user, turning them into *omni-sensors* able to *know* about its surrounding environment.
    - ▶ Smartphones have become *context-aware*, gaining understanding about user's activity and environment.
- ▶ However, battery is not evolving at the same pace than the advances in other smartphone's characteristics [4], growing only 5-10% each year [5, 1].
    - ▶ The energy constraint becomes critical when continuous access to sensors is needed, which a the core requirement of **mobile sensing applications**.
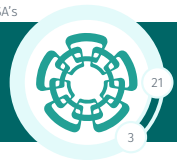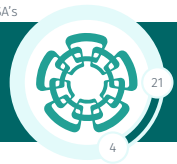
Background
Stages of mobile sensing applications
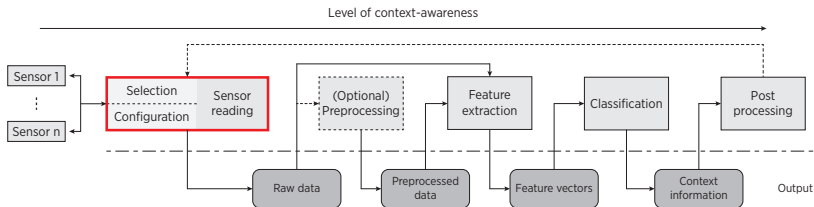
Figure: Stages of mobile sensing applications

There is a tradeoff between the accuracy of context information retrieved and the associated energy consumption [7, 6]. How to face it?
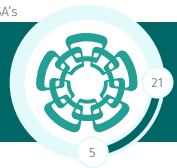
Problem definition
Hypothesis

Hypothesis

Intelligent policies produced through context information built from sensors data could be employed to reduce the energy consumption in a mobile device when performing continuous sensor readings.

▶ An intelligent policy is a special rule that defines how sensors should be selected and configured to reduce energy consumption and achieve the mobile sensing app's requirements. It is intelligent in terms of self-adaptness to changes detected in context information.

▶ This research work is aimed at employing GPS and inertial sensors data (accelerometer) for inferring context information in terms of mobility patterns. This context information will then be exploited to adapt sensors' operation and produce power savings.

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Problem definition
Problem statement

Problem 1: Mobility pattern identification

Given a set $V = \{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n\}$ of data values read from sensor S in the time interval $T \in [t_1, t_2]$, identify the current mobility pattern p_S that represents the activity of user.

$$\text{PatternIdentifier}(V) \longrightarrow p_S \in \textbf{Patterns} \qquad (1)$$

Where **Patterns** is a set of patterns that represent an interesting state in user mobility, specifically the set `{no movement, walking, running, vehicle transportation, arriving stay point, leaving stay point}`.
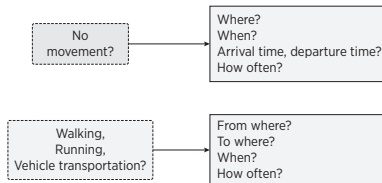
Figure: Context information related to mobility patterns
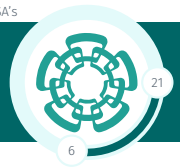
Problem definition
Problem statement

Problem 2: Policy generation

Given the set of detected mobility patterns $\mathcal{P} = \{p_{S_1}, p_{S_2}, \ldots, p_{S_n}\}$ in data from sensors $\mathcal{S} = \{S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_n\}$, accuracy required a, and physical constraints status c of a mobile device, find a policy that select the proper set of sensors $\mathcal{S}_{new}$ and its associated configuration $\mathcal{S}_{new_{conf}}$ while meeting application requirements.

$$PolicyGeneration(\mathcal{P}, a, c) \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}_{new}, \mathcal{S}_{new_{conf}} \qquad (2)$$

The $\mathcal{S}_{new_{conf}}$ configuration is referred as the *adaptive duty cycle* of associated sensors.

Problem definition
Interaction between problems

Sensors data

Mobility pattern identification
(Context information)
[Problem 1]

Status of mobile devices's
constraints

Mobile app's accuracy and
energy requirements

Sensors' usage
policy generation
[Problem 2]

Selection & configuration
of sensors
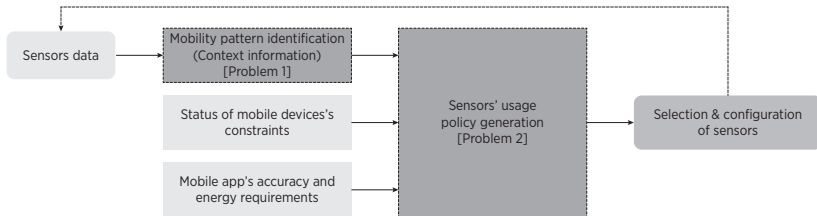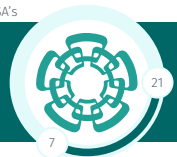
Figure: Interaction between problems
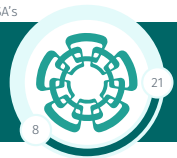
Problem definition
Objectives

Main objective

To reduce energy consumption in the mobile sensing apps, which perform continuous sensor readings, through self-adapting power-aware policies generated from context information obtained from sensors data.

Particular objectives

► To identify mobility patterns from context information obtained from an inertial sensor (accelerometer) and location providers (GPS).

► To generate policies for a self-adapting sensors' usage (GPS) from identified mobility patterns, accuracy and energy requirements of mobile application, and status of mobile device's constraints.

► To ease the development of mobile sensing applications that require user location tracking, i.e., LBS, isolating the complexity of sensors' access and the associated efficient energy management.

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Problem definition
Expected contributions

- ▶ A mechanism for detecting mobility patterns from the data read by sensors of mobile devices (GPS and accelerometer).
- ▶ A mechanism for generating policies for accessing sensors. The produced policies will allow to perform an intelligent usage of smartphone's sensing infrastructure in continuous sensor readings, reducing the energy consumption.
- ▶ A middleware implementing the previous power-aware mechanisms for easing the development of location based services.

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Problem definition
Problem's scenario

POIs detected from GPS data.
Probabilities from transitions between
POIs should be also considered

Duty cycling variations, caused by
changes in speed or direction

Inside building, GPS is turned off.
Acc helps to detect idleness

Wi-Fi access points fingerprinting
for identifying previous known POIs
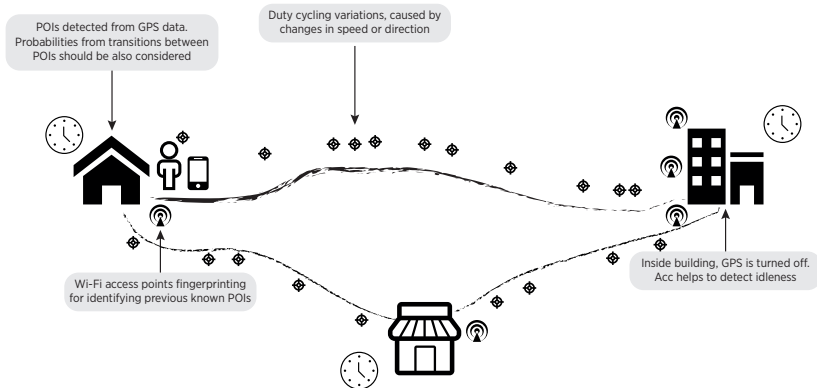
Figure: Basic problem's scenario

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Related work
Previous work
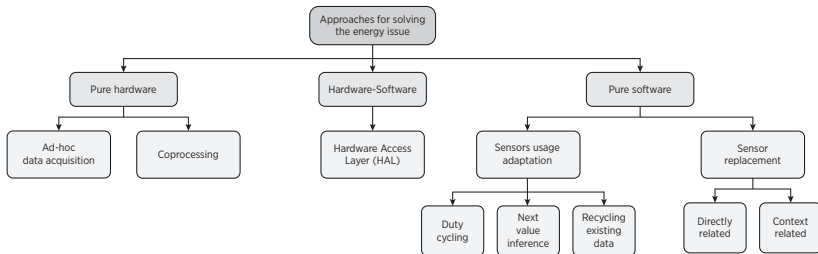
Figure: Taxonomy of related work solutions

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Methodology
Methodology steps
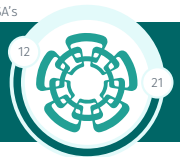
1. Familiarization with state-of-art power-aware sensing related techniques
2. Formal definition and selection of mobility patterns to be identified
3. Research on pattern recognition algorithms focused on mobility patterns identification
4. Design of the Pattern Identification Element (PIE)
5. Research on (and proposition of) adaptive policies for energy efficient usage of sensors
6. Design of the Policy Generation Element (PGE)
7. Development of a middleware involving the PIE and PGE for the Android platform
8. Experimentation in terms of accuracy and energy efficiency

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Proposed solution
Characteristics
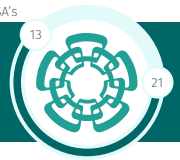
- ▶ Pure software approach.
- ▶ Event-driven oriented, completely on device.
    - ▶ Top level mobility states-events: `on trajectory`, `on stay point`.
    - ▶ Low level mobility states-events: `transportation mode changed`, `arriving to stay point`, `leaving stay point`.
- ▶ Inspired on Cognitive Dynamic Systems [2], including
    - ▶ Perception-action cycle.
    - ▶ Memory.
    - ▶ Attention.
    - ▶ Intelligence.

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Proposed solution
Overview
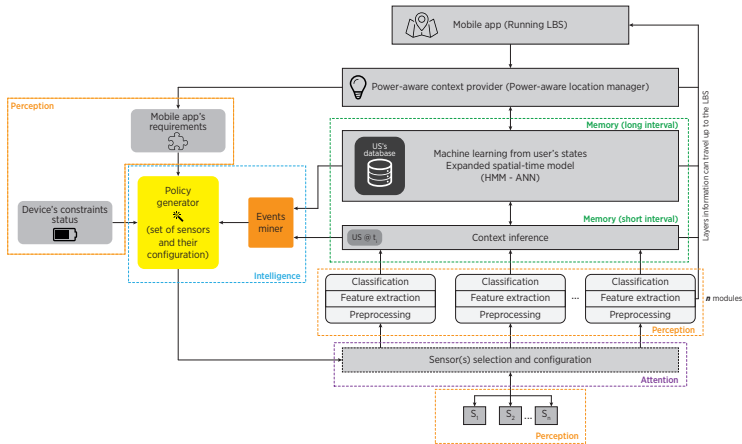
Figure: Overview of current solution

Proposed solution
Operation

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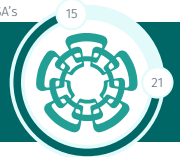
▶ Overall problem divided into:
  ▶ Detection of stay points (The anchor points that user visits frequently).
  ▶ Tracking of user commuting between stay points (Transition probability).

- - - → A transitional state
◯ → Stationary (fixed, static) state.
✳ → A transition (event) from a stationary state to a transitional state, or viceversa
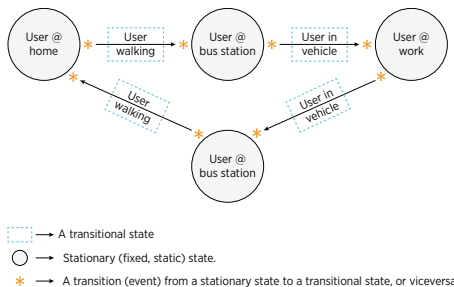
Figure: Information modeled by the expanded spatial-time model

Schedule (Option A)

Work: ● Done, ● In progress, ○ To be done	2014	2015			2016		
	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd
Step I							
1 State-of-art reading	●	●					
2 State-of-art works categorization		●	●				
3 Documentation of information found (committee request)				●			
Step II							
4 Development of a mobile app for accelerometer and location data collection			●	●			
5 Analysis of data				●			
6 Formal definition of mobility pattern				●			
7 Selection of mobility patterns				●	●		
Step III							
8 Research on classification algorithms for mobility patterns				●	●		
9 Definition of metrics for evaluating algorithms					●		
10 Implementation of algorithms in mobile platform					●	●	
11 Selection of best algorithms according to metrics						●	
Step IV							
12 Definition and modeling of parameters needed by the PIE				●	●	●	●
13 Building of the PIE				●	●	●	●

Table: Schedule of activities (each column represents a four months period)

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Schedule (Option A)

Work: ● Done, ● In progress, ○ To be done	2016			2017			2018
	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st
STEP V							
14 Formal definition of policy			●				
15 Research and evaluation of techniques for generation and adaption of policies			●	●			
16 Design and execution of experiments applied to use cases			●	●			
17 Selection of policies				●			
STEP VI							
18 Definition and modeling of PGE parameters					●		
19 Building of the PGE					●		
STEP VII							
20 Analysis of components into software abstractions					●		
21 Research on Android API for specialized components					●		
22 Development of middleware					●		
STEP VIII							
23 Definition of experiments aimed at accuracy and energy consumption metrics						○	
24 Development of experimental sample mobile apps						○	
25 Experiments execution						○	○
26 Final results analysis							○

Table: Schedule of activities (each column represents a four months period)

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Schedule (Option A)

		2014		2015			2016			2017		2018	
Work: ● Done, ● In progress, ○ To be done		3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd
	REQUIRED TASKS												
A	Related courses	●	●	●									
B	Research articles submission				●		●					○	
C	Predoctoral exam preparation									○			
D	Thesis writing	●			●			●			○	○	○

Table: Schedule of required activities
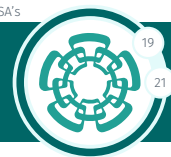
Schedule (Option B)

	2014	2015			2016			2017			2018	
Work: ● Done, ◑ In progress, ○ To be done	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	1st	2nd
METHODOLOGY STEPS												
1 Familiarization with state-of-art power-aware sensing related techniques	●	●	●									
2 Formal definition and selection of mobility patterns to be identified			●	●	●							
3 Research on pattern recognition algorithms focused on mobility patterns identification				●	●	●						
4 Design of the Pattern Identification Element (PIE)					●	●	●	◑				
5 Research on (and proposition of) adaptive policies for energy efficient usage of sensors								◑	◑			
6 Design of the Policy Generation Element (PGE)									◑			
7 Development of a middleware implementing the PIE and PGE for the Android platform									◑			
8 Experimentation in terms of accuracy and energy efficiency										○	○	
REQUIRED TASKS												
A Related courses	●	●	●									
B Research articles submission				●		●					○	
C Predoctoral exam preparation									○			
D Thesis writing		●		●			◑			○	○	○

Table: Schedule of methodology activities

Thank you for your attention!

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