

Selected Topics in HCI

Fall Semester 2025

Exercise 06 - Case Studies

In the lecture, we have looked at the COVID-19 contact tracing protocol based on Bluetooth Low Energy.

For this exercise, consider why this system did not end up being widely used, even though it was ultimately deployed on millions of smartphones. Write up two scenarios in which the app could give a false positive (warning about a potential infection, even though you were never exposed) and two scenarios for false negatives (not warning you despite potential exposure).

Based on what you learned previously about wireless communication and alternative input/output channels, speculate about potential ways to mitigate these false positives and negatives.