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A Graph-Based Approach to Context Matching

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- Approach
- Context-Awareness
- Representation
- Patterns
- Solving Problems

A Graph-Based Approach to Context Matching

overview



■ Approach

Elements of our approach:

- Context-Awareness
 - fully distributed system
- Representation
 - use of software agents
 - use local information and local communication
- Patterns
- Solving Problems



■ Approach

Any information that can be used to characterize the situation of entities (i.e. whether a person, place or object) that are considered relevant to the interaction between a user and an application, including the user and the application themselves. [Dey, 2001]

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Context-awareness enables:

- **pro-activity** – anticipate problems, detect compatible or incompatible contexts.
- non-intrusiveness – communicate with other agents, considering privacy, in order to obtain more information on the context.



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Our goal: A simple, generic formalism that allows agents in a multi-agent system, that have only local knowledge, to share and process context-related information and to solve problems.



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· context-matching ·



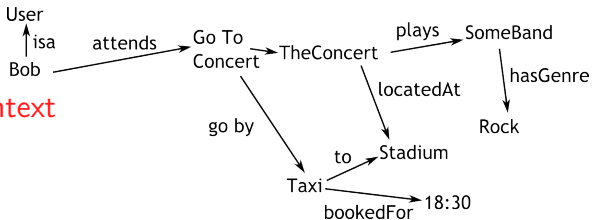
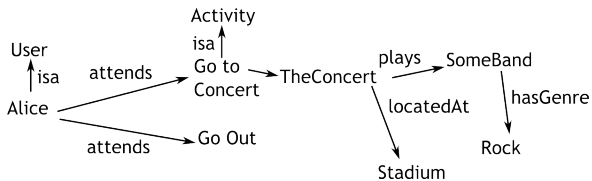
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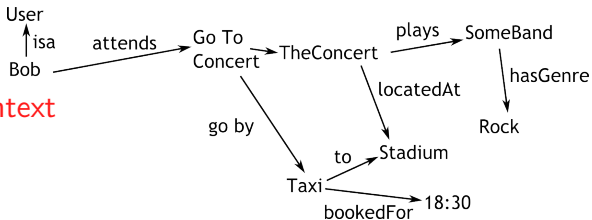
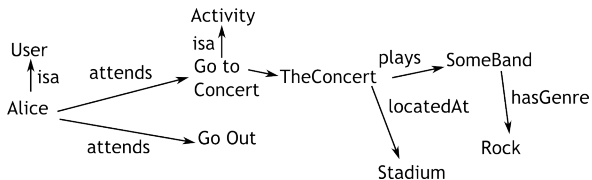
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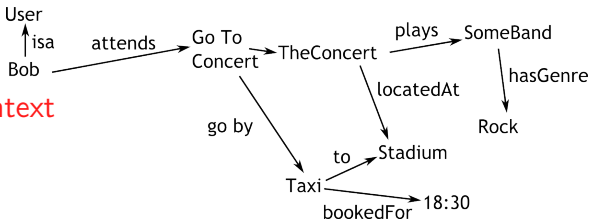
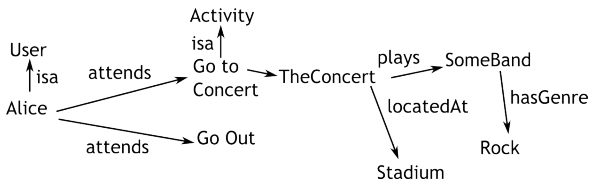
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The agent of a user holds a context graph G :

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$V = \{v_i\}, E = \{e_k\}, e_k = (v_i, v_j, value)$$

where $v_i, v_j \in V, i, j = \overline{1, n}, k = \overline{1, m}$

values are strings or URI identifiers.



■ Approach

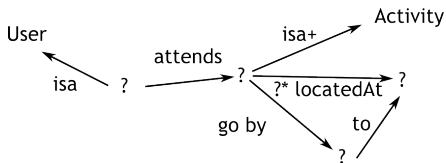
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Problem: Alice should also think about some means of transportation to the concert.



· patterns are also graphs. The graph for pattern s :

$$G_s^P = (V_s^P, E_s^P)$$

$$V_s^P = \{v_i\}, v_i = \text{string} \mid \text{URI} \mid ?, i = \overline{1, n}$$

$$E_s^P = \{e_k\}, e_k = (v_i, v_j, E_RegExp), v_i, v_j \in V_s^P, k = \overline{1, m}$$

where E_RegExp is a regular expression formed of strings or URIs.



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- agents can communicate and share information.
- information sharing is done by starting from shared context and try to extend the common context.



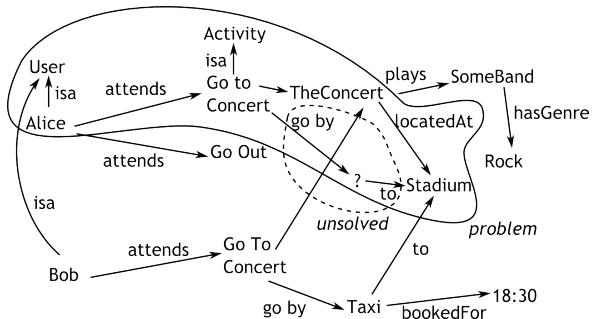
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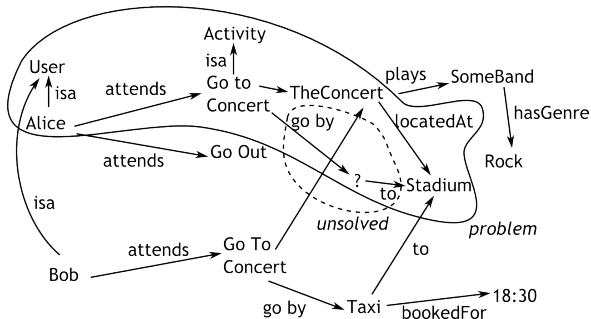
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If a pattern $G_s^P = (V_s^P, E_s^P)$ k -matches the subgraph $G' = (V', E')$ of G , we can define a problem p as a tuple (G_s^P, G_p^P) , where G_p^P is the problem's graph:

$$G_p^P = G' \cup G_x^P$$

$$G_x^P = (V_x^P, E_x^P)$$

$$V_x^P = \{v \in V_s^P, v \notin \text{dom}(f)\}$$

$$E_x^P = \{e \in E_s^P \text{ for which condition (2) is not fulfilled}\}$$

Note that G_x^P (the unsolved part of the problem) is a subgraph of G_s^P .



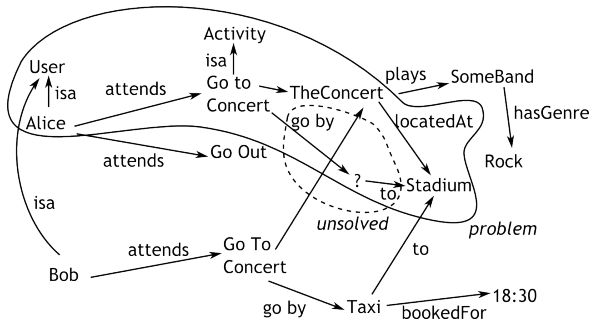
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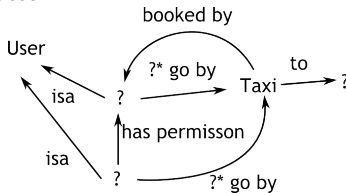
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One more pattern:



■ Approach

- infrastructures for the processing of context information have been proposed [Hong and Landay, 2001, Harter et al., 2002, Lech and Wienhofen, 2005, Henricksen and Indulska, 2006, Baldauf et al., 2007, Feng et al., 2004].

■ Context-Awareness

- context as associations [Henricksen and Indulska, 2006, Bettini et al., 2010].

■ Representation

- semantic networks, concept maps [Novak and Cañas, 2006] and conceptual graphs [Sowa, 2000].

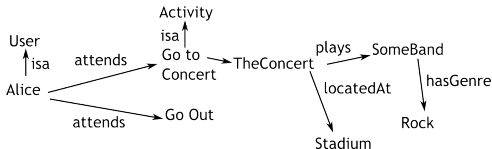
■ Patterns

- graph matching (e.g. for image processing [Bengoetxea et al., 2002])

- we are not discussing ontology alignment [Viterbo et al., 2008].

■ Solving Problems

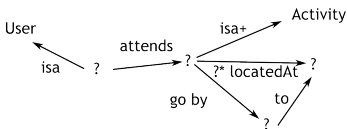




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The pattern *matches* subgraph G' of the context graph G if every non-? vertex from the pattern must match a different vertex from G' ; every non-regular-expression edge from the pattern must match an edge from G' ; and every regular expression edge from the pattern must match a series (possibly void, if the expression allows it) of edges from G' .

A pattern G_s^P *k-matches* a subgraph G' of G , if the condition for edges above is fulfilled for $m - k$ edges in E_s^P , $k \in [1, m - 1]$, $m = ||E_s^P||$ and G' remains connected.





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Thank You!

Any Questions?

