A Context-Aware Multi-Agent System for Ambient Intelligence Environments
Andrei Olaru
University "Politehnica" of Bucharest
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18.05.2010



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A Context-Aware Multi-Agent System for Ambient Intelligence Environments

overview



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Departments:

- Department of Automatic Control and Systems Engineering Head: prof. Ioan Dumitrache
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Artificial Intelligence and Multi Agent Systems Laboratory Head: prof. Adina Magda Florea http://aimas.cs.pub.ro

- · Research areas:
  - Multi-agent systems
  - Autonomous agents
  - Coordination mechanisms, negotiation
  - Emotional agents
  - Self-organization

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- · Application areas:
  - e-commerce
  - e-learning
  - SCM
  - semantic web services for business processes
  - Ambient Intelligence







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# A Context-Aware Multi-Agent System for Ambient Intelligence Environments

 $\cdot$  develop a multi-agent system based model for Ambient Intelligence, considering various AmI scenarios and verifying it by means of simulation.

· advisor: prof. Adina Magda Florea

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 $\cdot$  in cotutelle with Laboratoire d'Informatique de Paris 6 (LIP6), UPMC, advised by prof. Amal El Fallah Seghrouchni





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Ubiquitous electronic environment that supports people in their daily tasks, in a proactive, but "invisible"

non-intrusive manner [Ramos et al., 2008, Weiser, 1993]



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Ubiquitous electronic environment that supports people in their daily tasks, in a proactive, but "invisible" and non-intrusive manner  $_{\rm [Ramos\ et\ al.,\ 2008,\ Weiser,\ 1993]}$ 

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People

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Ubiquitous electronic environment that supports people in their daily tasks, in a proactive, but "invisible" and non-intrusive manner [Ramos et al., 2008, Weiser, 1993]



People · Devices

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Ubiquitous electronic environment that supports people in their daily tasks, in a proactive, but "invisible" and non-intrusive manner  $_{[Ramos\ et\ al.,\ 2008,\ Weiser,\ 1993]}$ 



 $\mathsf{People} \, \cdot \, \mathsf{Devices} \, \cdot \, \mathsf{Communication}$ 







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The large screen can be used to display context-aware advertisements...



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... or to draw attention of the user...





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 $\ldots to \ draw$  attention towards important events, if the phone cannot  $\ldots$ 







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...or take part in a more complex scenario in which it facilitates the communication with another user in distress.





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- Scenario

· How to make Aml reliable and dependable?

in every situation?

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• How to manage the large quantity of information generated by sensors and devices?

· How to provide only interesting information to the user

# Aml Challenges and Concerns

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· How to make Aml privacy-aware and trustable?



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make Aml "intelligent".

an AmI system's application layer.

 $\cdot$  address the application layer – above hardware, network and

· this is where most of the challenges and most features that

· answer some of these challenges, by providing a model for

interoperability, below intelligent user interfaces.



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 $\cdot$  address the application layer – above hardware, network and interoperability, below intelligent user interfaces.

- $\cdot$  this is where most of the challenges and most features that make AmI "intelligent".
- $\cdot$  answer some of these challenges, by providing a model for an AmI system's application layer.
- $\cdot$  Approach
  - multi-agent system

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Agents provide proactivity, reasoning, have beliefs and goals represented semantically; one or more agents per device; flexible structure in function of device capabilities; coordination and collaboration.





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- $\cdot$  answer some of these challenges, by providing a model for an AmI system's application layer.
- $\cdot$  Approach
  - multi-agent system
  - system distribution

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Distribute the system, using centralized databases or ontologies as little as possible.





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# Research Approach

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- · Approach
  - multi-agent system
  - system distribution

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self-organization

Provides organization without centralized control, leading to robustness and flexibility.





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- $\cdot$  answer some of these challenges, by providing a model for an AmI system's application layer.
- · Approach
  - multi-agent system
  - system distribution
  - self-organization
  - context-awareness

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Make behaviour, communication and information processing context-aware.







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# Self-Organization

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Both AmI and self-organizing systems characterized by:

- $\cdot$  large number of individuals / devices
- distributed system
- $\cdot$  heavy interaction

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 $\cdot$  unreliability of individual devices and connections





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# Self-Organization

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Both AmI and self-organizing systems characterized by:

- $\cdot$  large number of individuals / devices
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- unreliability of individual devices and connections Self-organization brings:
  - robustness
  - resilience
  - fault tolerance
  - decentralization

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implicit coordination





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# Self-Organization

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Both Aml and self-organizing systems characterized by:

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  - implicit coordination



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[Zambonelli et al., 2004, Picard, 2005]



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- $\cdot$  We developed some simple, generic measures of context, for use by simple cognitive agents:
- $\cdot$  Directed at information sharing based on importance, relatedness to domains of interest, and validity in time.
  - pressure translates directly into relevance of the information
  - specialty specifies to which domains of interest the information is related
  - persistence specifies for how long the information is valid
  - space-locality the information spreads around its source

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Data Facts Orid - D0	Data Facts Orld - D1	Data Facts Orld - D2	Data Facts Ond - D3		Data Facts Orid - D5
Interest G	Interest G. C C C X	Interest G_ B & X	Interest Gild - C	Pressure ond Pressure Ond	Selection



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# Future Work

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#### Future directions:

- Find an application and scenarios to connect current work with more real-life requirements
- Further develop context-awareness to include other types of context, namely social context and semantic relatedness between pieces of information
- Separate agents into different types, with different capabilities and interests.





#### **AI-MAS Events**

· SEE-MAS 2010 - the South-Eastern European Multi-Agent

MASTS 2010 – the 2nd International Workshop on

(in conjunction with IDC'2010, Tangier, Morocco, September

ACSys 2010 – the 7th Workshop on Agents for Complex

(in conjunction with SYNASC-2010, Timisoara, Romania,

Multi-Agent Systems Technology and Semantics

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http://synasc10.info.uvt.ro/workshops/acsys

September 23 - 26, 2010)

Systems Summer School

16-18, 2010)

**Systems** 

http://see-mas2010.cs.pub.ro/

http://aimas.cs.pub.ro/masts2010/

Bucharest, Romania, July 5-10, 2010



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