<u>A. Olaru</u>, A.M. Florea, A. El Fallah Seghrouchni Al-MAS Group, University Politehnica Bucharest LIP6, University Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris

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Graphs and Patterns for Context-Awareness

overview

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AmI – is an 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]

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based on [El Fallah Seghrouchni, 2008]



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People · Devices



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based on [El Fallah Seghrouchni, 2008]

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



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Important AmI requirements:

- pro-active behaviour
- non-intrusiveness
- scalability

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- pro-active behaviour
- non-intrusiveness
- scalability

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- anticipate problems;
- ← compatible / incompatible contexts



detect

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Important AmI requirements:

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pro-active behaviour
anticipate problems; detect
compatible / incompatible
contexts
try to solve problems by

 $\leftarrow$  communicating

with

other

- non-intrusiveness
- scalability

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agents (considering privacy)

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Important AmI requirements:

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Important AmI requirements:

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- scalability  $\leftarrow$  use a distributed system, with few
  - y ← (or no) centralized components

· Out approach: use a multi-agent system that relies on local communication and handles context information in a decentralized manner.





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 decentralized MAS for the directed exchange of information [Olaru and Gratie, 2010]



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- decentralized MAS for the directed exchange of information [Olaru and Gratie, 2010]
- simple topology
- · generic context measures



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- decentralized MAS for the . directed exchange of information [Olaru and Gratie, 2010]
- simple topology
- generic context measures
- context-related structure

[El Fallah Seghrouchni et al., 2010]







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 flexible representation that allows detection of compatible context

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· context-related structure

[El Fallah Seghrouchni et al., 2010]

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 flexible representation that allows detection of compatible context



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Device



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Context is any information that can be used to characterize the situation of entities (i.e. 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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 $\cdot$  context allows recognizing the situation, and acting accordingly.

 $\cdot$  there are multiple aspects of context, besides location and physical conditions.



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*Example:* it would probably be unwise to disturb a researcher with unimportant messages on the last day before a conference's deadline.



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*Example:* it would probably be unwise to disturb a researcher with unimportant messages on the last day before a conference's deadline.

• what we want: a representation for context information that is adequate for devices of different capabilities; that can be exchanged only in part and assembled; that can be used in a decentralized system.





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#### Related work presents two aspects:

# $\cdot$ infrastructures for the processing of context information

[Hong and Landay, 2001, Harter et al., 2002, Lech and Wienhofen, 2005, Henricksen and Indulska, 2006, Baldauf et al., 2007, Feng et al., 2004]

#### $\cdot$ context modeling

[Perttunen et al., 2009, Strang and Linnhoff-Popien, 2004]







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Related work presents two aspects:

 $\cdot$  infrastructures for the processing of context information  $\leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} layered \\ towards \end{bmatrix}$ 

[Hong and Landay, 2001, Harter et al., 2002,

Baldauf et al., 2007, Feng et al., 2004]

### $\cdot$ context modeling

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[Perttunen et al., 2009, Strang and Linnhoff-Popien, 2004]

layered, centralized, oriented towards physical context

Lech and Wienhofen, 2005,

15, Henricksen and Indulska, 2006,



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# $\cdot$ context modeling

← based on tuples, case-based reasoning, ontological representations

[Perttunen et al., 2009, Strang and Linnhoff-Popien, 2004]



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[Perttunen et al., 2009, Strang and Linnhoff-Popien, 2004]

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

 $\cdot$  semantic networks, concept maps  $_{[Novak and Cañas, 2006]}$  and conceptual graphs  $_{[Sowa, 2000]}.$ 

 $\cdot$  graph matching (e.g. for image processing [Bengoetxea et al., 2002], ontology matching [Laera et al., 2007]).





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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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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.



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. Edges may have no value.





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Graphs and Patterns for
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**Problem**: Albert should also think about some means of transportation to the conference.





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Problem: Albert should also think about some means of transportation to the conference.



· patterns are also graphs. The graph for pattern s is 
$$\begin{split} G_s^P &= \left(V_s^P, E_s^P\right) \\ V_s^P &= \{v_i\}, v_i = string \mid URI \mid ?, i = \overline{1,n} \\ E_s^P &= \{e_k\}, e_k = (v_i, v_j, E_-RegExp), v_i, v_j \in V_s^P, k = \overline{1,m} \\ \text{where } E_-RegExp \text{ is a regular expression formed of strings or URIs.} \end{split}$$







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• Context Matching 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 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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• Context Matching • Context Matching • Problem Solving • Context Matching • 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: • Context Matching • Cont

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the problem's graph:  $\begin{aligned} G_p^P &= G' \cup G_x^P \\ G_x^P &= (V_x^P, E_x^P) \\ V_x^P &= \{v \in V_s^P, v \notin dom(f)\} \\ E_x^P &= \{e \in E_s^P \text{ for which condition (2) is not fulfilled}\} \\ \text{Note that } G_x^P \text{ (the unsolved part of the problem) is a subgraph of } \\ G_s^P. \end{aligned}$ 







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 $\cdot$  matching can be used for:

- identifying what received information is relevant
- identify the situation of the user and missing information
- identify solutions



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· agents can communicate and share information.

Context-Awareness information sharing is done by starting from shared context and try to extend the common context.





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- identifying what received information is relevant
- identify the situation of the user and missing information
- identify solutions

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 $\cdot$  agents can communicate and share information.

information sharing is done by starting from shared context and try to extend the common context.



 $\cdot$  Solution to the problem: suggest to Albert that a taxi may be a good idea to go from the airport to the conference's venue.

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- $\cdot$  we are trying to bring a more powerful (yet basically simple) and flexible representation of context information to Ambient Intelligence applications.
- $\cdot$  we rely on previous work in knowledge representations (e.g. RDF) and graph matching.

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What we presented:

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- $\cdot$  a representation for context information has been developed, based on graphs.
- $\cdot$  context patterns are also graphs, but with incomplete information, that represent certain situations.
- $\cdot$  context matching can be used for detecting compatible context, for detecting problems and for potentially solving those problems.

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# Future Work

#### Future work:

- we are in the process of implementing based on our approach toward the application layer of AmI.
- we must identify or implement an efficient algorithm for context matching – graph matching, but considering the particular features of context patterns.
- consider temporality, history of context.
- consider uncertainty, use fuzzy relations?
- develop the idea of incompatible contexts.





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# Thank You!

#### Questions.



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#### Approach

- Context-Awareness
- Related Work
- Context
- Patterns
- Matching
- Problem Solving
- Conclusion
- Future Work

# Thank You!

#### Questions.



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