

A New Compositional Adaptation Technique for Pervasive Computing



SPARKLE @ HKU

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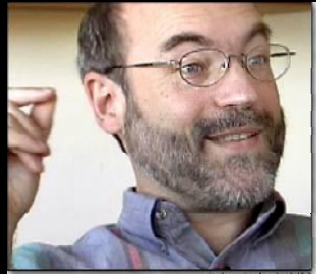
Oct. 26, 2005 at HHME2005, Kunmin

Outline



- Origin (a “system” viewpoint)
- Representative Projects
- Retrospection
- Future Blueprint
- Sparkle Legendary
- Conclusion

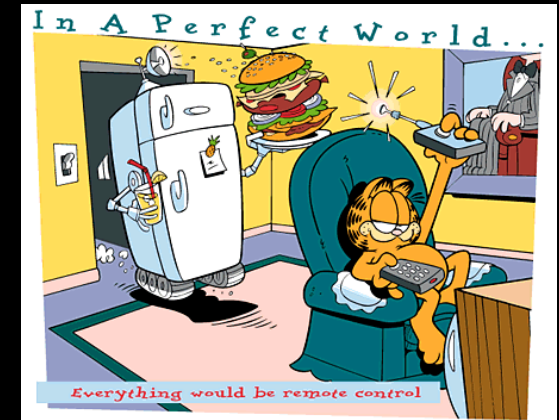
Origin



Mark Weiser's 1991



- *Pervasive Computing: An environment saturated with computing and communication capability, yet so gracefully integrated with users that it becomes a "technology that disappears".*
-- Computing Anytime, Anywhere



Smart Meeting Room



Smart Office



Smart Home

What's cool



- Extended scale of space
 - The halo of computation feels free to move, and to span any number and type of devices
- Extended scale of time
 - 7*24 hrs Schedule, Life-long
- Extended application domain
 - Healthcare, daily activities, yet to imagine...

Dynamic Context

+

High Mobility

Representatives



- **Aura [CMU] : *Distraction-free computing***
 - User attention is costly
 - Abstraction: A "Task" = Multiple Applications.
 - *Task-driven Adaptation* : (re)configuring environment's resources based on user intent and preferences before a task starts
- **Oxygen [MIT] : *Goal-oriented programming***
 - Goal is "beyond task" !
 - Core: *Goals* (policies) + *Pebbles* (implementation)
 - Higher-level adaptation : Revision of *goal tree*

Representatives



- **Gaia [UIUC] : *Programming over smart space***
 - An OS-like infrastructure to abstract the smart space
 - *Structural adaptation + 1st order predicates ("&", "||", "-"..).*
 - Intra- and Inter-space application-level mobility (same task)
- **One.world [UW] : *Programming for change***
 - Very dynamic environment
 - Virtualization of smart space (Virtual Machine)
 - “Environment” (application) = *Tuples* (data) + functional components
 - Control model : Discovery Service + Event-driven
 - Mobility support: very easy (checkpointing + migration)

Retrospection



- **Closed spaces**
 - Small, familiar and well-controlled working space
 - Limited users, applications, context sources.
- **Limited context usage**
 - Limited context types (location, time, user identity, etc.). A small number of rules
 - Prediction of user intention is less exploited
 - Research in context acquisition/provision has just started
- **Lack of sophisticated adaptation**
 - Restricted adaptation strategies
 - Mostly deals with resources' changes
 - Decision is made in a straight-forward way

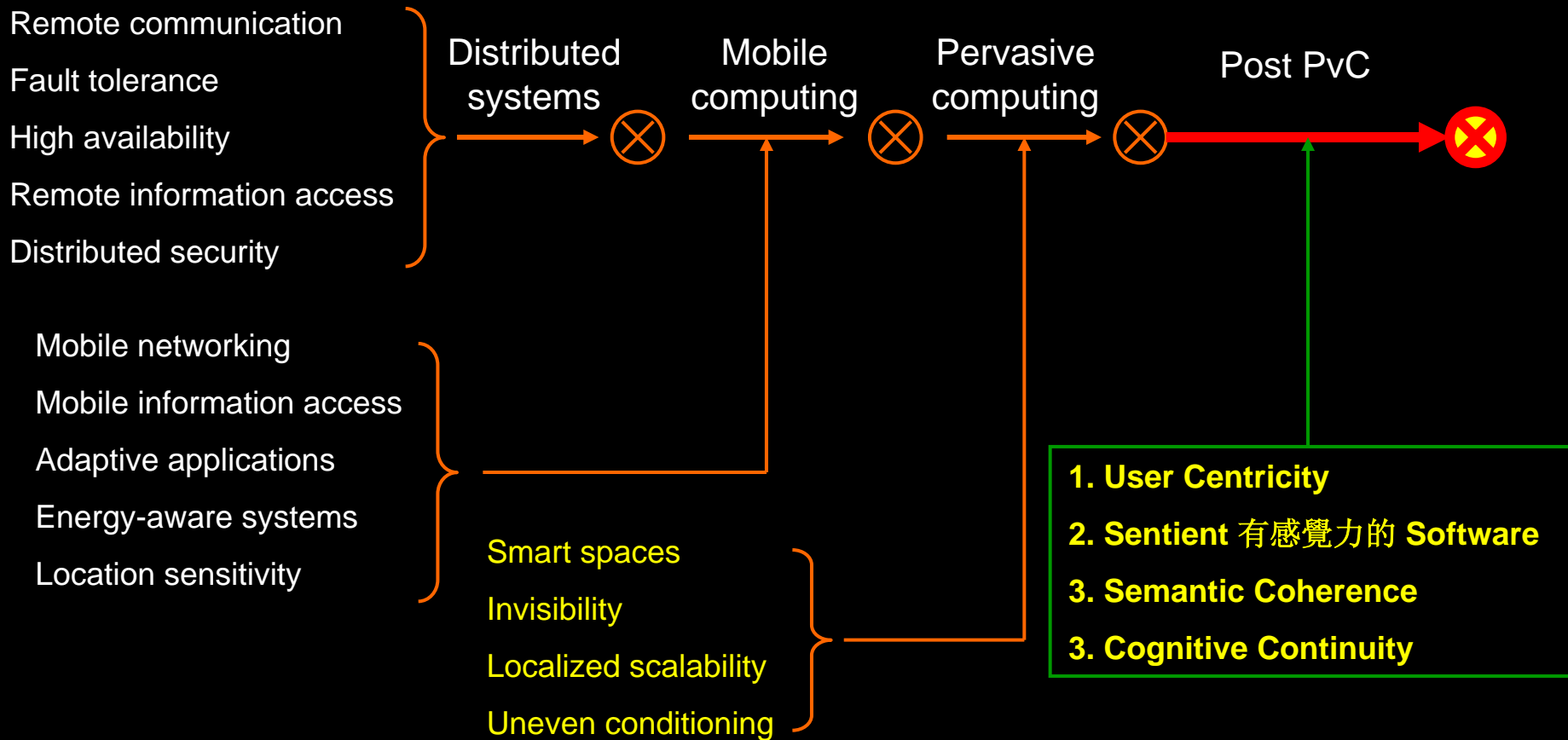


Retrospection

- Lack of flexible software architecture
 - The notion of “application” still remains
- Lack of high-level mobility support
 - User-perceivable continuity
- Lack of sparkling applications
 - Extension of legacy application
 - Utilization of office application
 - Where is the killer application?

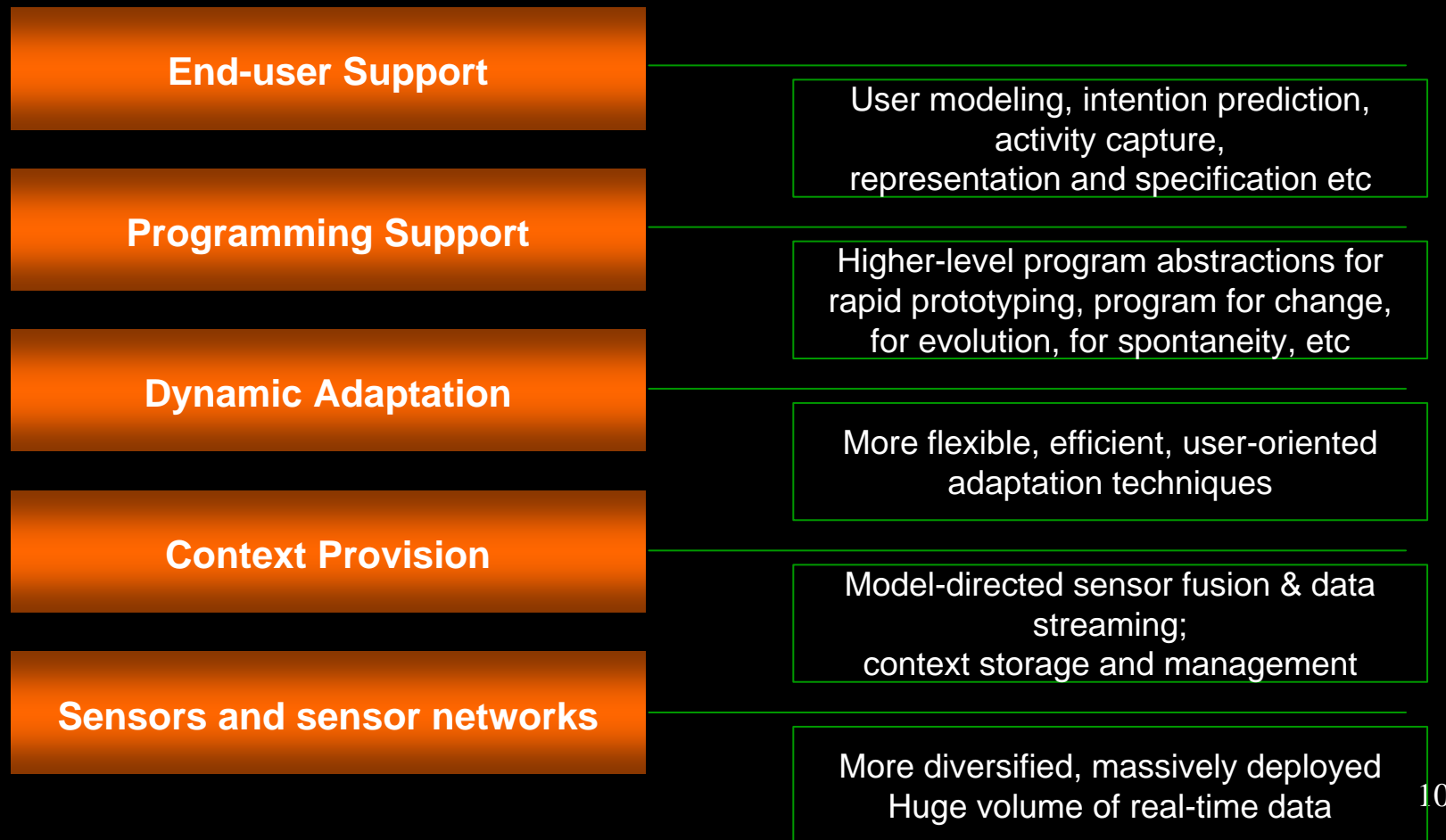


The Pervasive Expedition



M. Satyanarayanan [CMU, 1991]

Post-PvC Architecture



Sparkle Legendary



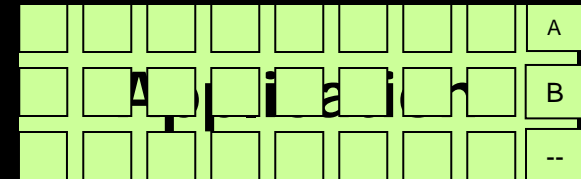
- Sparkle I – Functionality adaptation
- Sparkle II – Semantic adaptation
- Sparkle III – Deep awareness

Sparkle I: Functionality adaptation

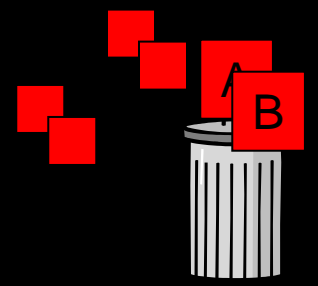
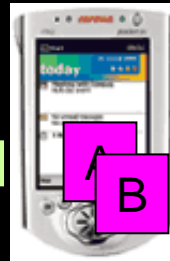
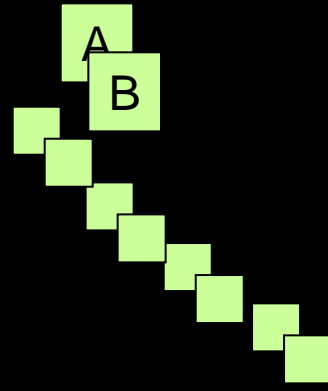
- Dynamic Software Architecture for Pervasive Computing – “Computing in Small”
- Resource-aware adaptation: Anytime, anywhere, any device, and any application



Application



Won't Fit



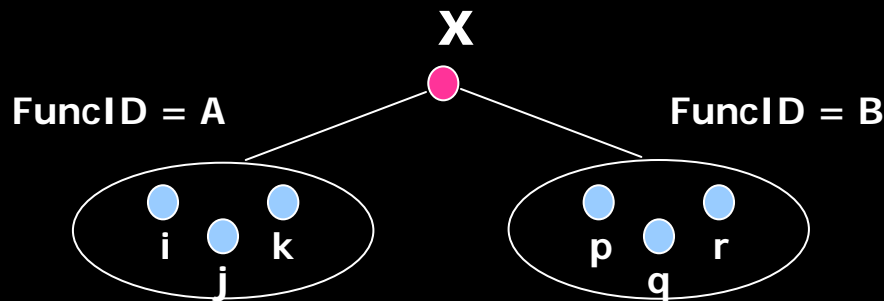
Applications distributed as monolithic blocks

Facet Model

"Facet" = code (Java) + shadow (XML)

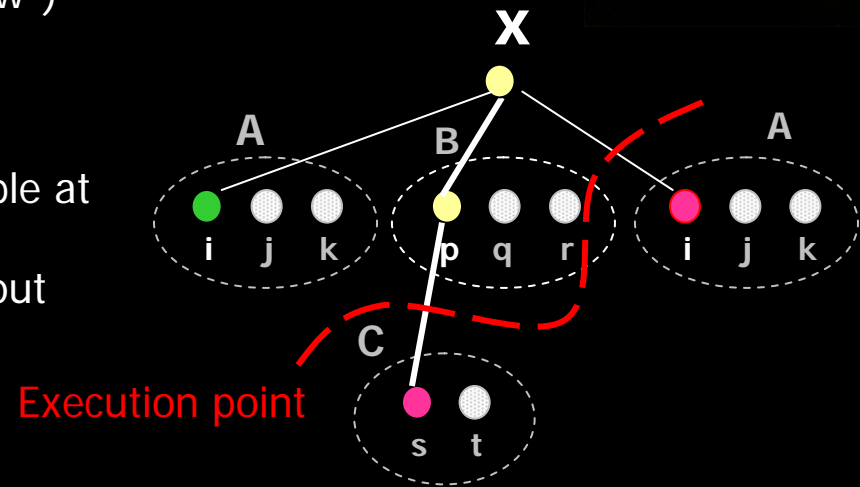
- Pure functional units (described by "Shadow")
- Downloaded to client devices on demand
- Implement **single functionality**: single publicly callable method
- **Stateless**: Makes it throwable & replaceable at run-time

Shadow: specifies properties of the facet: Input and output specification, Resource requirements: memory, processing, etc



Facet Dependency Graph

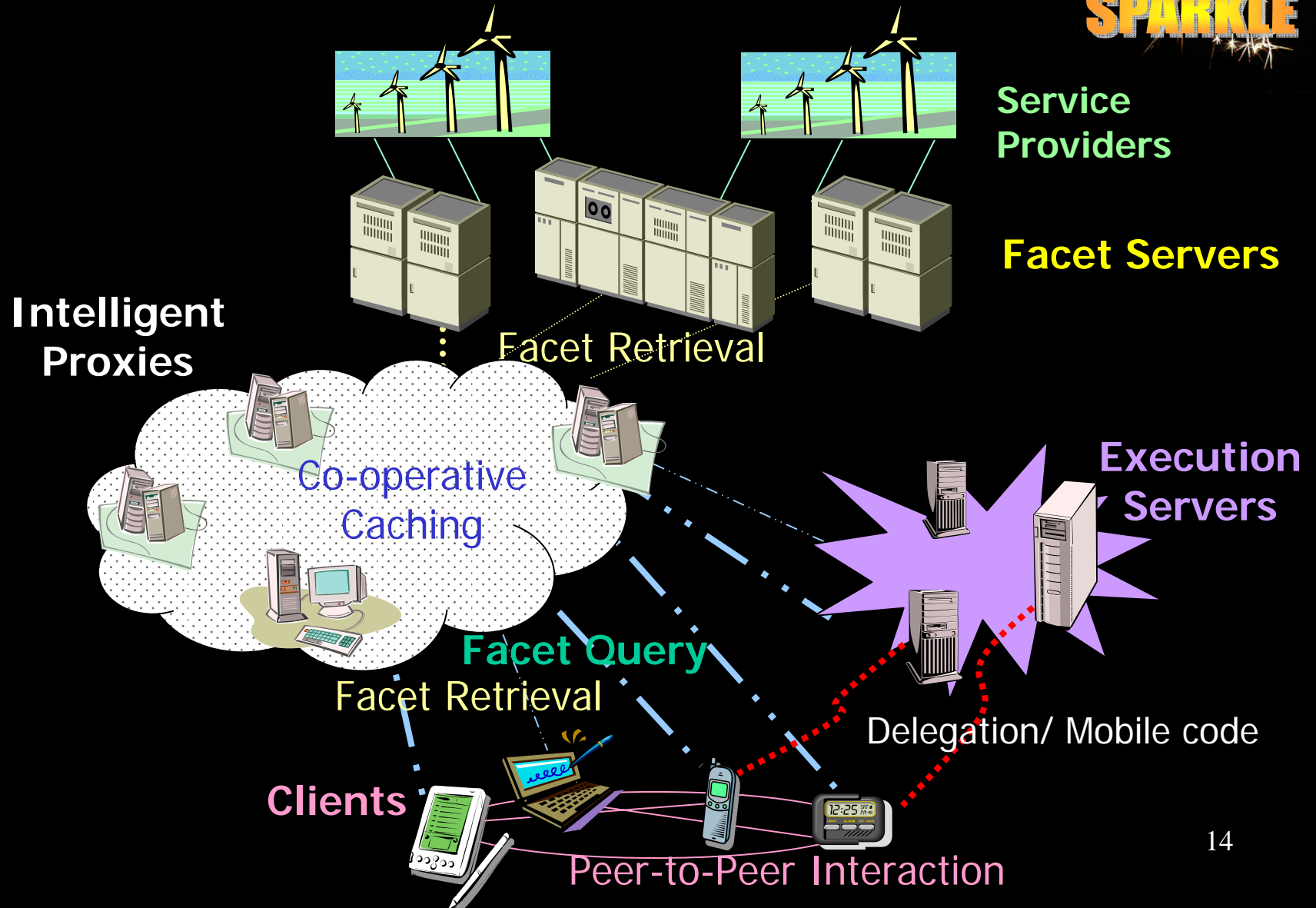
- Facets may call upon other facets to achieve their functionality
- May have more than one facet fulfilling the functionality (e.g., i,j, k for A)



During execution, facets which are no longer active can be thrown

- Inactive Facet
-already executed completely
- Active Facet
- currently running
- Facet which Has not yet been Brought in/loaded

Sparkle I - Architecture

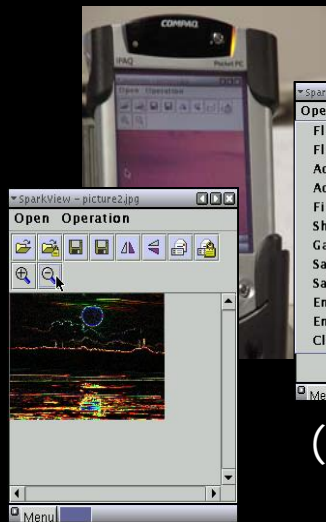


Sparkle I (Image Viewer)



Developing a real-world application utilizing the facet model

(1) Image Viewer



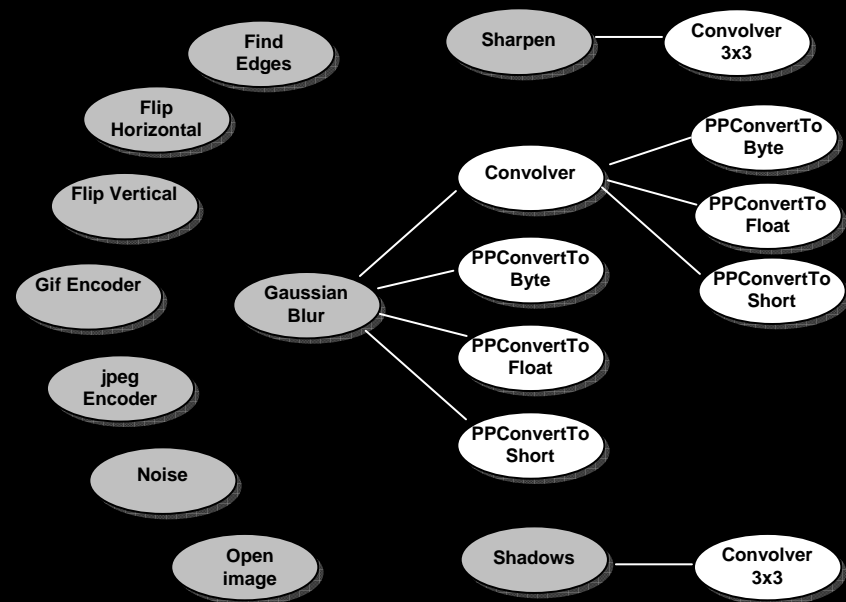
(3) Image rendering



(2) Menu

(5) Sizing

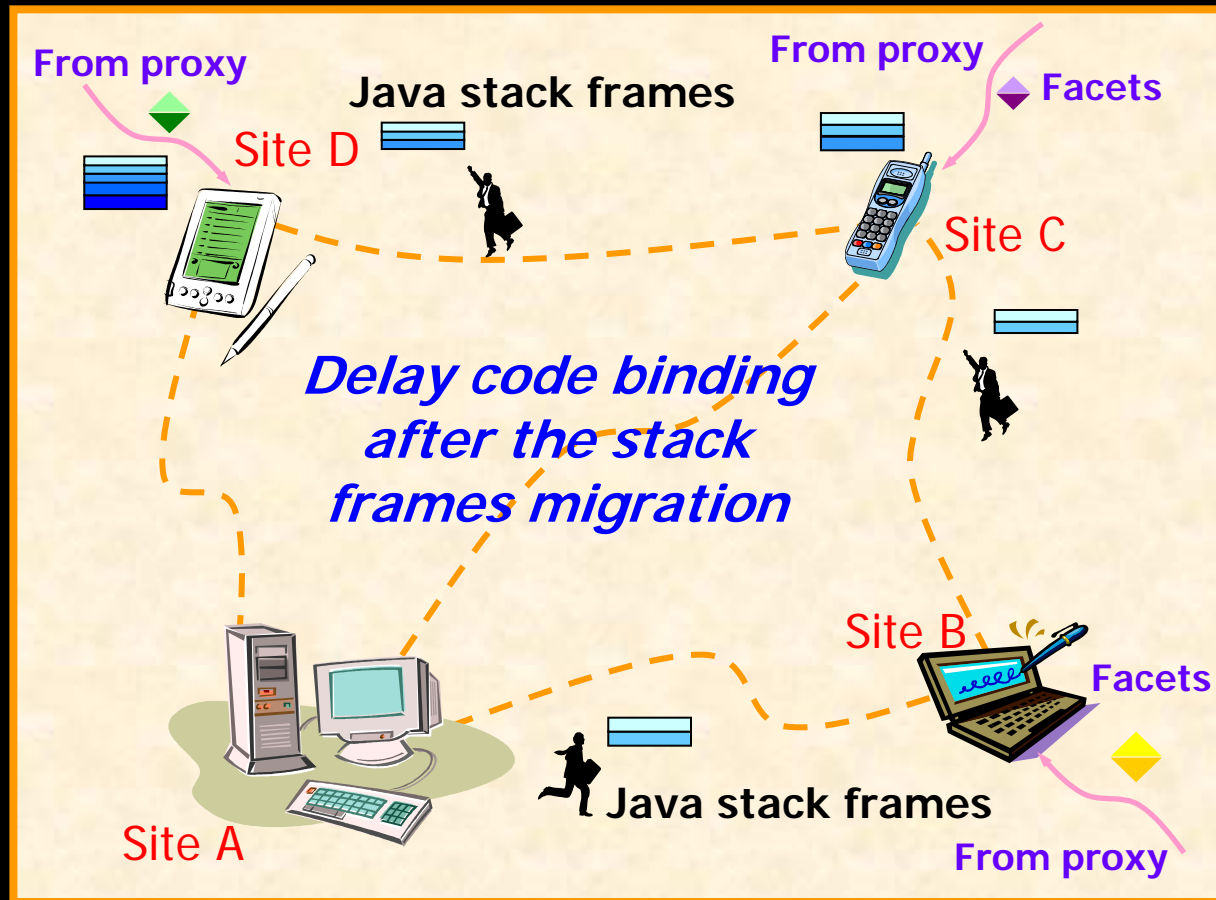
(4) Negative



N. Belaramani, C.L. Wang and F. Lau, "Dynamic Component Composition for Functionality Adaptation in Pervasive Environments," *The 9th Intl. Workshop on Future Trends of Distributed Computing Systems (FTDCS2003)*, May 2003.
 V. Kwan, F. Lau, and C.L. Wang, "Functionality Adaptation: A Context-Aware Service Code Adaptation for Pervasive Computing Environments", *Web Intelligence 2003*.

Sparkle I: Mobility Support

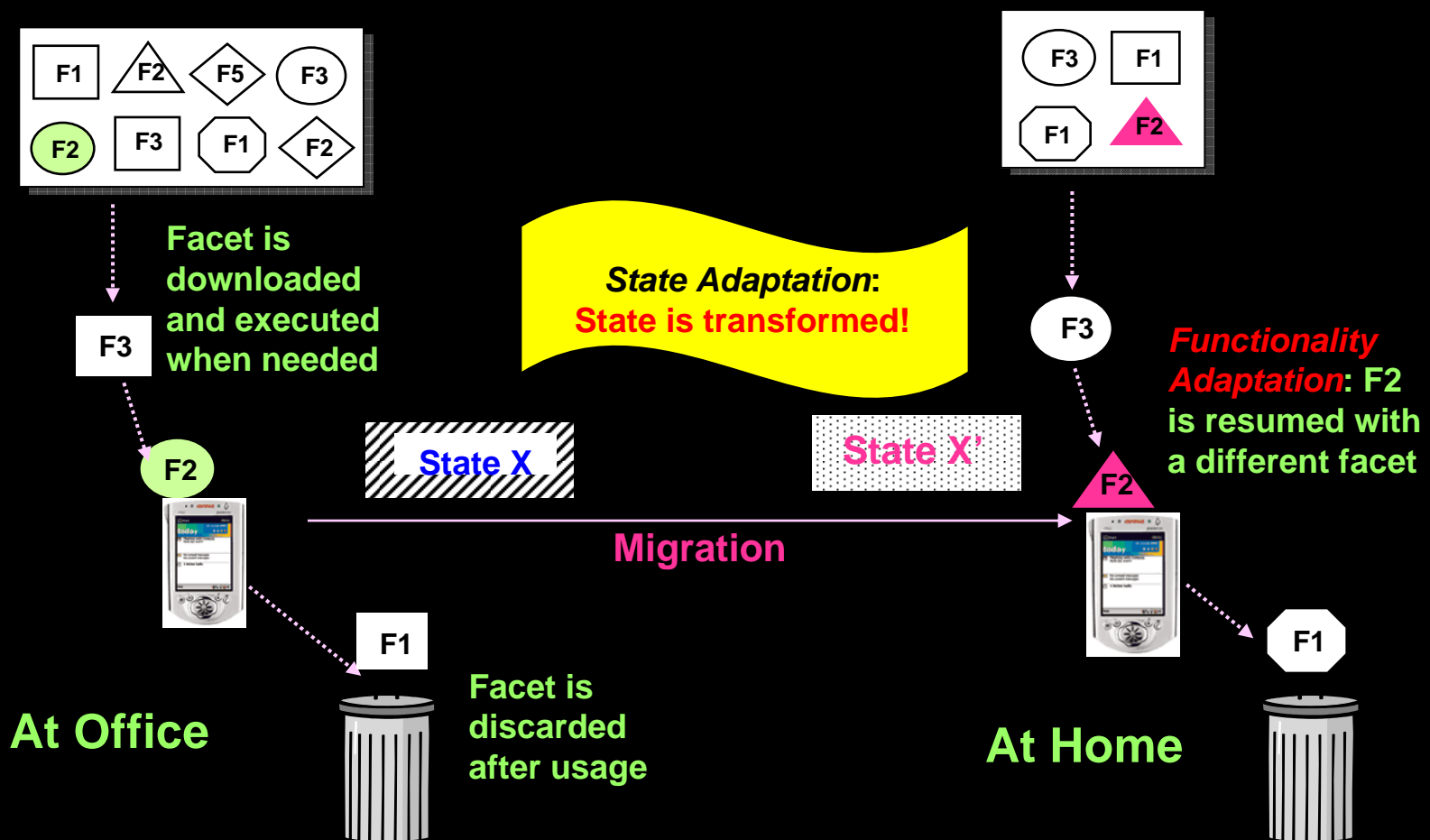
Combining *code-on-demand* (COD) and *state-on-demand* (SOD) for distributed execution



Y. Chow, W. Zhu, C.L. Wang, F. Lau, "The State-On-Demand Execution for Adaptive Component-based Mobile Agent Systems," ICPADS 2004.

Sparkle II :

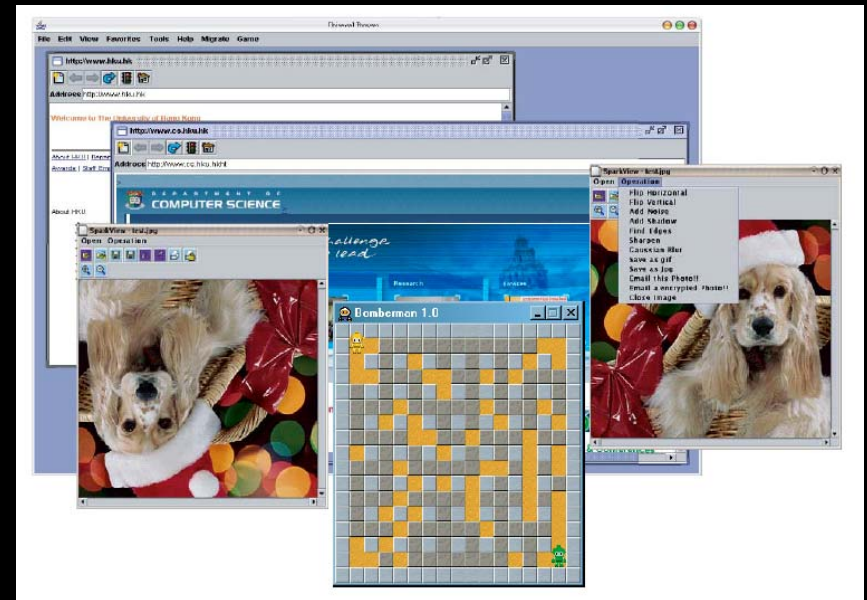
Semantic adaptation for *Cognitive Continuity*



Sparkle II : Universal Browser (UB)



- The UB targets “browsing whatever you want”. The special graphical user interface allows users to dynamically retrieve the functionalities they want, such as playing games, editing photos etc. State is captured, migrated, transformed, and application is then rebuilt.



Pauline P. L. Siu, C. L. Wang, and F. C. M. Lau, "Context-aware State Management for Ubiquitous Applications," EUC2004

Sparkle III: Towards Deep Awareness



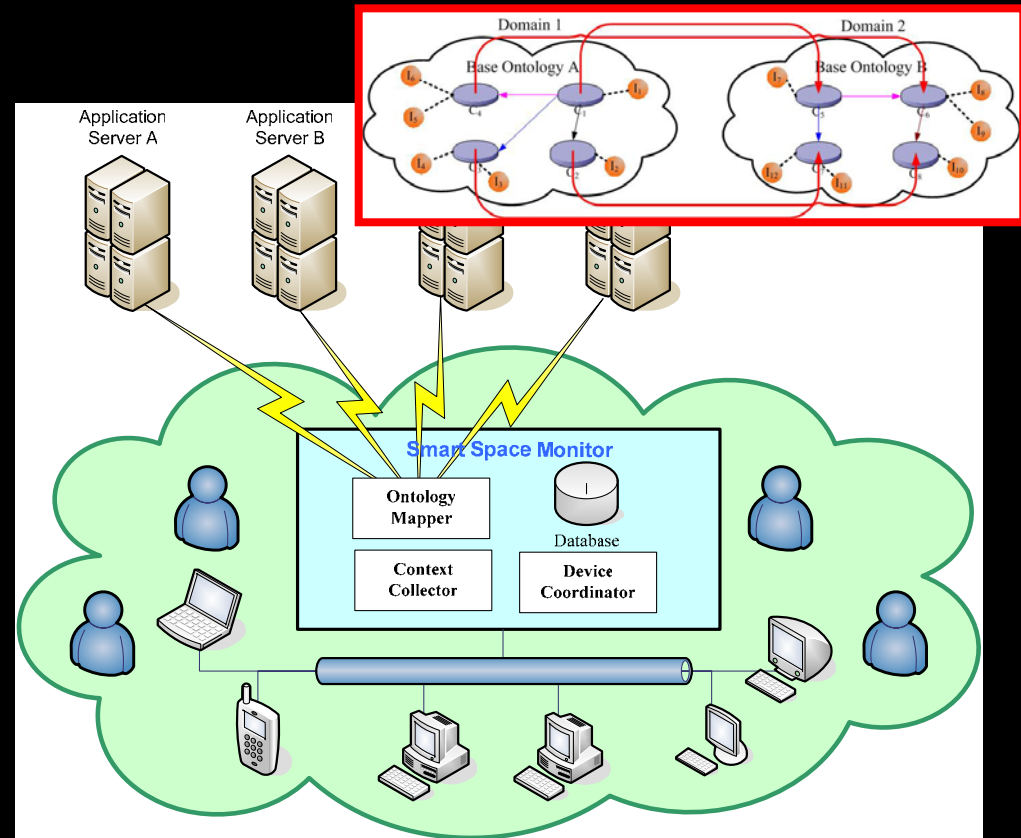
- **Ontology-based Context Server**
 - Ontology mapping for *Semantic Coherence*
- **Sentient software**
 - Smart Instant Messenger (ongoing)

Ontology-based Context Server

Ontology Mapping

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- **Domain ontology**
 - Smart space context, resources, activities done.
 - One in each smart space
 - **Static**
- **Application ontology**
 - Device configuration, application parameters, service descriptions
- **User ontology**
 - **High level:** User identify, social status, user preferences/intentions
 - **Very dynamic**

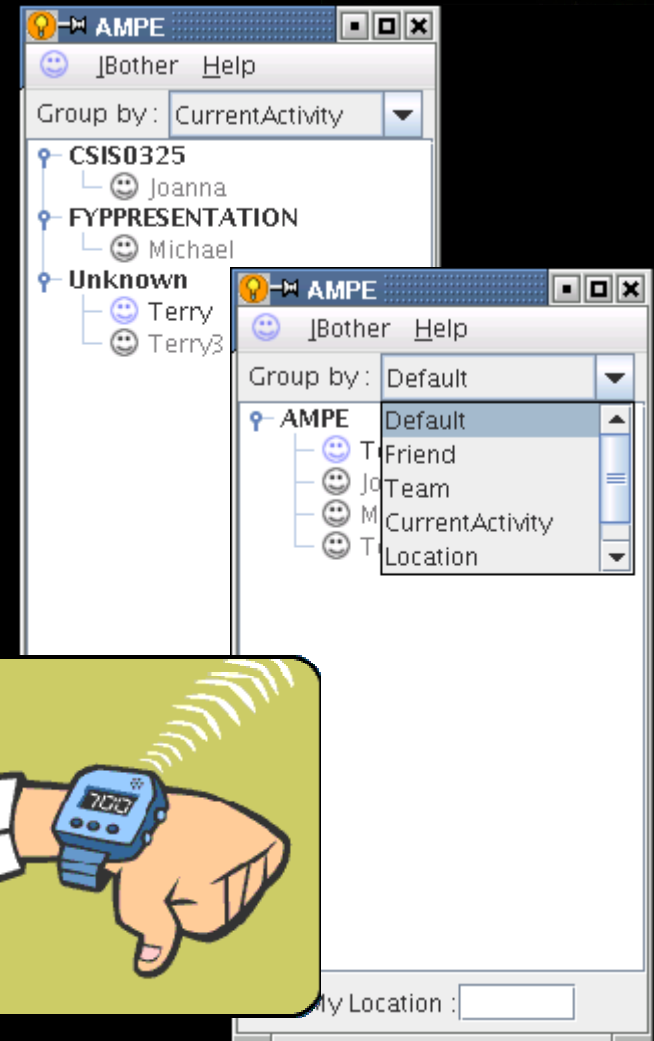


Laurel C. Y. Kong, C. L. Wang, and F. C. M. Lau, "Ontology Mapping in Pervasive Computing Environment," EUC 2004.

Smart Instant Messenger



- **Main Features:**
 - **Dynamic buddy grouping:** Creating groups base on the context information
 - **Adaptive presence update:** inference of current activities and prediction of future events
 - **Resource buddy:** Modeling each resource as buddy can allow quick access through the unified contact list interface
- A rule-based inference engine (Jena) for deriving useful context information



Conclusion (Our View)



- ``*Technology that disappears*'' is hard to achieve, but
 - human intention is more predictable
 - A short step could make a great impact
 - Computer won't disappear, but in what form ?
- **Sentient software** is hard to develop, but techniques are all there:
 - Aspect-oriented programming (AOP), reflection, runtime weaving, and various other adaptation techniques
 - Context Models (情境信息建模) : Call for a dynamic approach to context modeling: **activity theory, situation theory, mental models** could be useful
 - How to fit them in ?

More Sparkle references



- Project URL: <http://www.cs.hku.hk/~clwang/projects/sparkle.html>
- C.L. Wang , X.L. Zhang, N. Belaramani, P.L. Siu, Y. Chow, and F.C.M. Lau, **Software Infrastructure for Context-aware Mobile Computing**, to appear in *Enabling Technologies for Wireless e-Business Applications*, Springer.
- Francis C.M. Lau , Nalini Belaramani, Vivien W.M. Kwan, Pauline P.L. Siu, W.K. Wing, and C.L. Wang, ``**Code-on-demand and code adaptation for mobile computing**,'' to appear in *Mobile Middleware*, CRC Press, 2005.
- Nalini Moti Belaramani, Yuk Chow, Vivien Wai-Man Kwan, Cho-Li Wang, and Francis C.M. Lau, ``**A Component-based Software Architecture for Pervasive Computing**,'' *Intelligent Virtual World: Technologies and Applications in Distributed Virtual Environments*, chapter 10, pp. 191-212, World Scientific Publishing Co., Release: 07/31/2004.

Thanks !!

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