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A Provider-Independent, Proactive Service for Location Sensing in Cellular Networks

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Motivation

- Straightforward idea: LBS in cellular networks can use cell information
- Tedious implementation how to get this data?
- Project Gulliver, 2000: "We are using additional context data such as location"
 - Cellular provider could not give access to cell information
 - → Location inferred from suggested position, manual correction
- Since then: Implementation of ETSI 3GPP TS 03.71 increasing
 - Getting data still complicated and costly
- Austaller, 2004: Getting data by parsing from provider's webpage

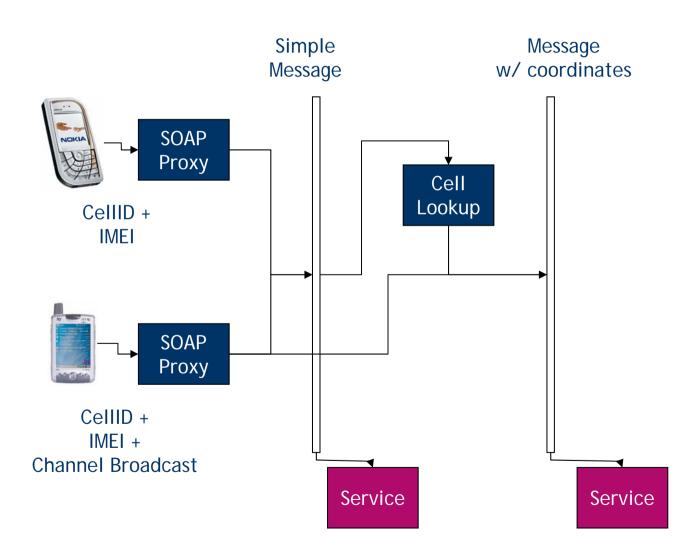


Architecture

- Web services based
 - LBS get SOAP messages w/ location data
 - Currently different transport than HTTP used, HTTP possible
- Cost-sensitive
 - Only uses small UDP packets on handheld
 - Proxy transforms data into SOAP messages
 - ~5-50 KB additional traffic/day
- 2 Message types
 - Simple: IMEI + cell data
 - Coordinates: Augmented w/ geocoordinates of base station



Architecture





Using LBS

Sample code (Python)

```
from mundocore import *

class LocationService(PyService):

def init(self):
    PyService.init(self)
    self.subscribeObject("org.mundo.service.location", self.received)

def received(self, msg):
    print msg.user
    print msg.potsdam #print potsdam coordinates
```

Java, C++ Bindings also available, about 50 LOC



Security & Privacy

- Research prototype neither security, nor privacy yet
- Use IPSec or other key-exchange method for communication phone⇔proxy
 - Keep low footprint for communication w/ cell-phone
- Use XML-Signature for SOAP message
- Privacy to be guaranteed by the middleware