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Dynamic deployment and quality adaptation for mobile augmented reality applications

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Abstract

With the increasing popularity of smartphones and netbooks, more and more applications are developed for the mobile platform. Notwithstanding the recent advances in mobile hardware, most mobile devices still lack sufficient resources (e.g. CPU power and memory) to execute complex multimedia applications such as augmented reality. Application developers also have difficulties to cope with the changing device context (e.g. network connectivity and remaining battery life) and the many different hardware platforms and operating systems to run applications on. Therefore, we introduce the concept where the developer can provide different configurations of an application, each having different resource requirements and a different quality offered to the end user. The middleware framework presented in this paper will select and deploy the configuration offering the best quality possible for the current connectivity and available resources. As these change over time, the framework will dynamically adapt the configuration and deployment at runtime, enhancing the quality by offloading parts of

configuration and deployment of services, enhancing the quality by offloading parts of the application when a remote server is discovered, or gracefully degrading the quality when the network connection is lost. Based on experimental results on the augmented reality use case the performance and effectiveness of our middleware has been characterized in different scenarios.

Highlights

- Mobile applications are enhanced by offloading parts to a remote server.
- The middleware will select and deploy the best configuration possible.
- Depending on resource availability, different quality levels can be deployed.
- The effectiveness of the middleware is shown on an augmented reality use case.



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Keywords

Distributed systems; Cyber foraging; Deployment optimization; Mobile computing

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Tim Verbelen received his M.Sc degree in Computer Science from Ghent University, Belgium in June 2009. Since then he is working as a Ph.D. researcher at the

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Bart Dhoedt received a Masters degree in Electro-technical Engineering (1990) from Ghent University. His research, addressing the use of micro-optics to realize parallel free space optical interconnects, resulted in a Ph.D. degree in 1995. After a 2-year post-doc in opto-electronics, he became Professor at the Department of Information Technology. Bart Dhoedt is responsible for various courses on algorithms, advanced programming, software development and distributed systems. His research interests include software engineering, distributed systems, mobile and ubiquitous computing, smart clients, middleware, cloud computing and autonomic systems. He is author or co-author of more than 300 publications in international journals or conference proceedings.

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