Emerging Trends in IoT Testbeds

Prof. Sotiris Nikoletseas U. of Patras and CTI, Greece





loT Week 2016 Belgrade, Serbia, May 31 – June 2



IoT Testbeds: Novel aspects and challenges

- a. Federation of constrained IoT devices
- b. Crowdsourced resources (smartphone sensors)
- c. User incentivization
- d. Mobile and portable testbeds
- e. Virtual and modelled testbeds
- f. Experiment composition (generic yet specific)
- g. Wireless power transfer algorithms



Testbed as a Service – TBaaS

- Making diverse testbeds accessible in a uniform and transparent way by using cloud technologies
- Testbeds integrated into a "meta-testbed facility"
- Ad-hoc nature and big expected volume of collected data

Different to other approaches, the main focus lies on federating heterogeneous, constrained IoT devices

- Virtualization of a wide and **heterogeneous set of resources** (IoT, smartphones, virtual, vehicles, etc.)
- Extended representation scheme, to support more resources with more attributes



b. Crowdsourced resources

- Ubiquitous presence of smart devices capability of being always connected from everywhere
- Ephemeral nature of crowdsourced resources
- **Personalization** device correlated to corresponding user
- Privacy oriented design
- Focus on **crowdsensing**/exploiting device sensory capabilities
- Mobile sensing and feature extraction of the user's state using machine learning



User state / Temperature

Accelerometer readings (walking / running)





How Many Sensors are in a Smartphone?



- Light
- Proximity
- 2 cameras
- 3 microphones (ultrasound)
- Touch
- Position
 - GPS
 - WiFi (fingerprint)
 - Cellular (tri-lateration)
 - NFC, Bluetooth (beacons)
- Accelerometer
- Magnetometer
- Gyroscope
- Pressure
- Temperature
- Humidity



c. Incentive mechanism design

- Necessary for effective user engagement in the experiments
- Persuade users to complete task segments
- Particularly useful in large scale applications (e.g. airport scenario)

- Each user is an autonomous agent with different join patterns
- **Different incentives** for different applications (utility functions)
- **Direct** (monetary, prizes) / **indirect** (bandwidth allocation, road traffic info, donations to charities) awards
- Game-theoretic approaches apply

d. Mobile/portable resources



- **Portable** resources/testbeds
 - Easily deployable in any environment at different geographical locations -Flexible configuration
 - All devices and interfaces are set through "one step" procedures -"Plug&Play" character with minimum user effort
 - Automatic device discovery and resource advertising in databases, which can be seen and accessed globally
 - Resources can be **manipulated** and **reserved remotely**, gaining access to previously **non reachable locations or services**
 - That gives a great advantage to a user, with no previous experience, who can receive the resources and **set up a testbed** in their own settlement
 - A testbed provider can **spatially augment** an existing facility
- Mobile resources
 - Smartphones
 - Mobile sensor motes
 - Vehicles (e.g. ekoNET buses in Novi Sad, Serbia)



Regular extension of testbed facilities infers costs in budget/effort

- New, customized testbeds including both physical and virtual resources
- Such facilities are **not simulators**

Two methods for extending IoT testbed facilities

- Virtual Testbeds: increasing the number and types of available resources seamlessly
 - Virtual resources are **interlaced with physical** resources
- Modelled Testbeds: using 3D models to visualize facilities and enable custom testbeds and testbed libraries definition.
 - Visual model of the actual facility



f. Experiment composition (simple but expressive)

Efficient description of diverse experiments in a generic yet specific way:

- Automated procedure for the execution of experiments
- Specific mechanism, yet generic wide experiments variety supported
- Enables reservation/provisioning/construction of '**If-This-Then-That**' experiments.
- **Complexity/Specialization** via **compositions** of simple conditional/logical expressions.

g. Wireless power transfer algorithms

A new paradigm: Chargers wirelessly transferring energy to nodes

Algorithmic issues

- Optimal charger **movement trajectories**
- Good energy exchange strategies
- Electromagnetic radiation control
- Inter-charger coordination
- Peer-to-peer energy exchange



New Book:

Wireless Power Transfer Algorithms and Applications in Ad hoc Communication Networks Springer, July 2016

Editors:

Sotiris Nikoletseas, Yuanyuan Yang, Apostolos Georgiadis





The IoT Lab project

 IoT Lab is a European Research project which aims at researching the potential of crowdsourcing to extend IoT testbed infrastructure for multidisciplinary experiments with more end-user interactions.

It addresses topics such as:

- **Crowdsourcing** mechanisms and tools
- Crowdsourcing-driven research
- Virtualization of crowdsourcing and testbeds
- Ubiquitous Interconnection **Cloudification** of testbeds
- Testbed as a Service platform
- Multidisciplinary experiments
- End-user and societal value creation



Federation of testbed facilities





IoT Lab testbeds evolution



Mobile and virtual resources



Mobile Resources - ekoNET

- Mobile **environment monitoring** solution
- ekoNET devices are placed on public buses in the city of Novi Sad, Serbia
- Network of **moving resources** with multiple sensors.
- **Easily deployable** in any environment at different geographical locations.





Virtual testbeds and resources

- **Extend the number of available resources** seamlessly to the end-user of the facility
- Virtual resources belong to the same testbed provider and are interlaced with physical resources and extrapolate ambient readings by them
- Virtual resources run on software and are virtualized via the same IoT Lab virtualization interfaces
- An experimenter can discover, provision and use in experiments both virtual and physical resources via the same IoT Lab tools and systems

Crowdsensing support: a UoP campus use case





- User-enabled Architecture with Mobile Crowdsensing Support for Smart Buildings
- Seamless and scalable interaction with crowdenabled resources
- Agile experimenting platform
- Smart luminance scenario users are incentivized to provide access to their hand-held devices from which data on the ambient environmental conditions are collected and aggregated into live luminance maps

- Indoor lighting units are adjusted based on
 - Iuminance maps
 - feedback provided by the users to the system on their personal preferences and comfort



An IoT Lab use case in Heineken brewery





- Smart energy management lights control via sensors, actuators, powermeters
- CO2 monitoring sensors, alerts, notifications
- Mobility/portability support
- Federation with the IoT Lab platform
- Virtual sensors for **extrapolation of physical readings**



Thank you!