

# Realizing Context Services in the Mobility First Architecture

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# Outline

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Background on MobilityFirst  
GUID overloading  
Delivery Services

Examples:  
Sending to an event  
Routing communications

Realizing Context Services  
Dual stacks  
Implementation strategies

Challenges and next steps

# Mobility First: GUID overloading

Globally Unique Identifiers (GUIDs)

- Large ID (few kb) that serves as source/destination

Overload GUIDs to many kinds abstract entities:

- Places, meetings, vehicles, people, sensors, devices, content
- Communication of messages to these entities

Like IP address overloading, but MobilityFirst is overload aware  
Service IDs provide type hint

# MobilityFirst Delivery Services

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Global Name Resolution Service (GNRS):

Fast translation (low 100's of ms) of GUIDs

GUIDs → to list of route-able Network Addresses (NAs)

GUIDs → to list of GUIDs (recursive)

GNRS translations + a service ID supports the following primitives:

Unicast, Multicast, Anycast

Could build using translation trees

MobilityFirst also provides delay, store and forward services

Buffer, segment, reassemble large messages

Send as devices and connectivity become available

We will use these basics to build context services

# Defining Context

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Environmental states external to the network that:

Define Entities

Impact communication

Example states:

Network:

- sender, receiver, connection point, channel state

Spatial-temporal:

- Time and Location

Device:

- Type, energy stored, off/asleep/awake

Social:

- In a meeting, busy, free, neighbors

# Example: Entity Definition Example

## Send a message to an event:

Define “tea time” as a GUID to NA map:

```
If ((# of phones in the break room > 3) AND  
    (the time is between 2-5 PM )           AND  
    (coffee is pot is > 45°c))
```

THEN

```
    Set the GUID translation to the list of all the  
    network addresses of phones in the break room.
```

# Example: Communication Impact

## Routing calls on entry and exit:

```
If ((my phone enters the conference room) AND
    (the time is between 8AM-5PM ) AND
    (the source caller is NOT the day care))
    THEN
        Set my personal GUID translation to a voice-mail
NA instead of my Phone's NA.

If (my phone exits the conference room)
    THEN
        Set my personal GUID translation to my phone's NA
```

# Context Communication Paradigms

Communicate messages to an identity rather than an address

- covered by GUID layer

Communicate messages to an identity on conditional context:

- receive only during work hours, unless from a specific identity
- send a message to whomever is in a car's passenger seat
- send a message to a phone but not when in a moving car

Send a message to an event

- all people at the Winlab's teatime
- anyone at a talk posted on the calendar
- anyone who is in the building that isn't in a meeting

# Context Actions

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## **The network's response to changing context:**

Add or remove devices from a logical group

Forward messages to another device

Defer messages

Deliver prior deferred messages

# Realizing Context

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## **Realizing context requires sensing:**

- external to the network
- internal to the device
- network state and conditions

## **Dual stack approach:**

Context Stack provides sensing/logic

GUIDs used at different levels between network and

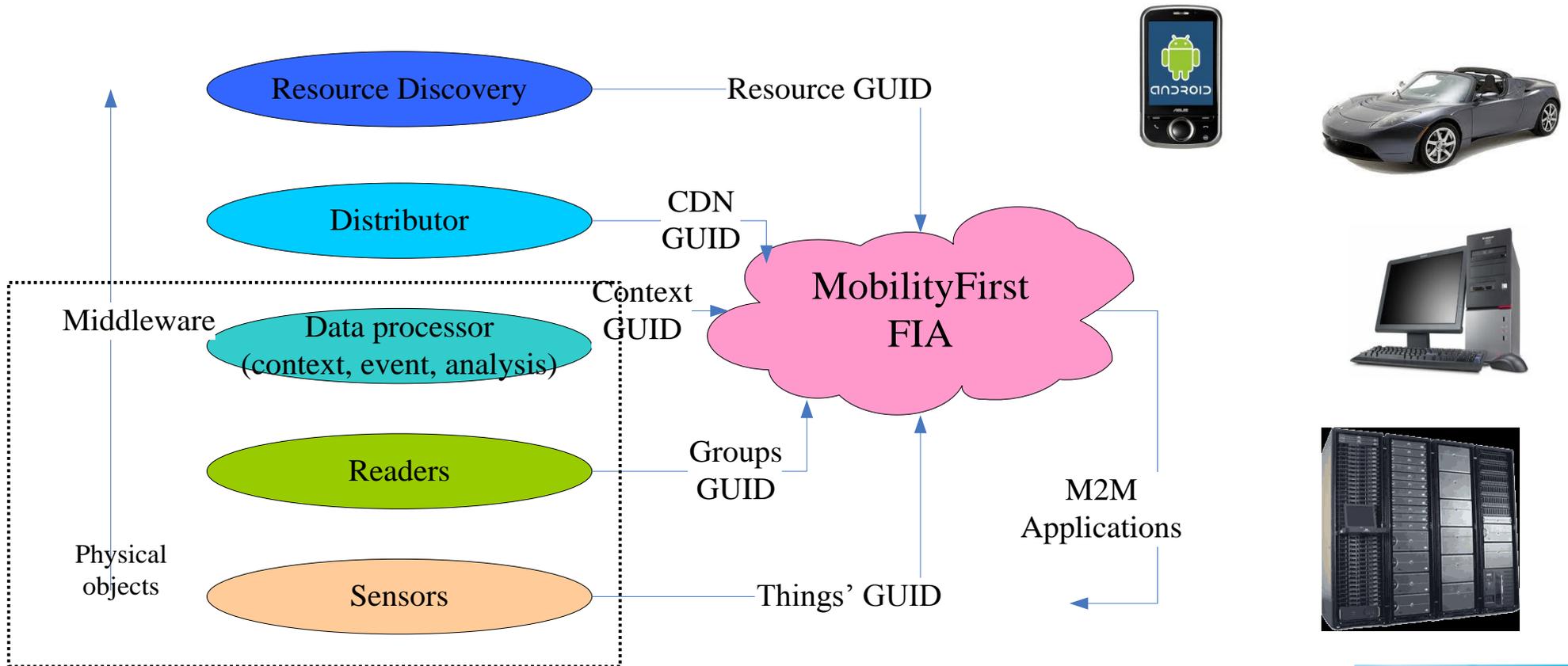
# Context Resolution Service (CRS)

Translation context descriptions into network destinations

Context (CRS) stack

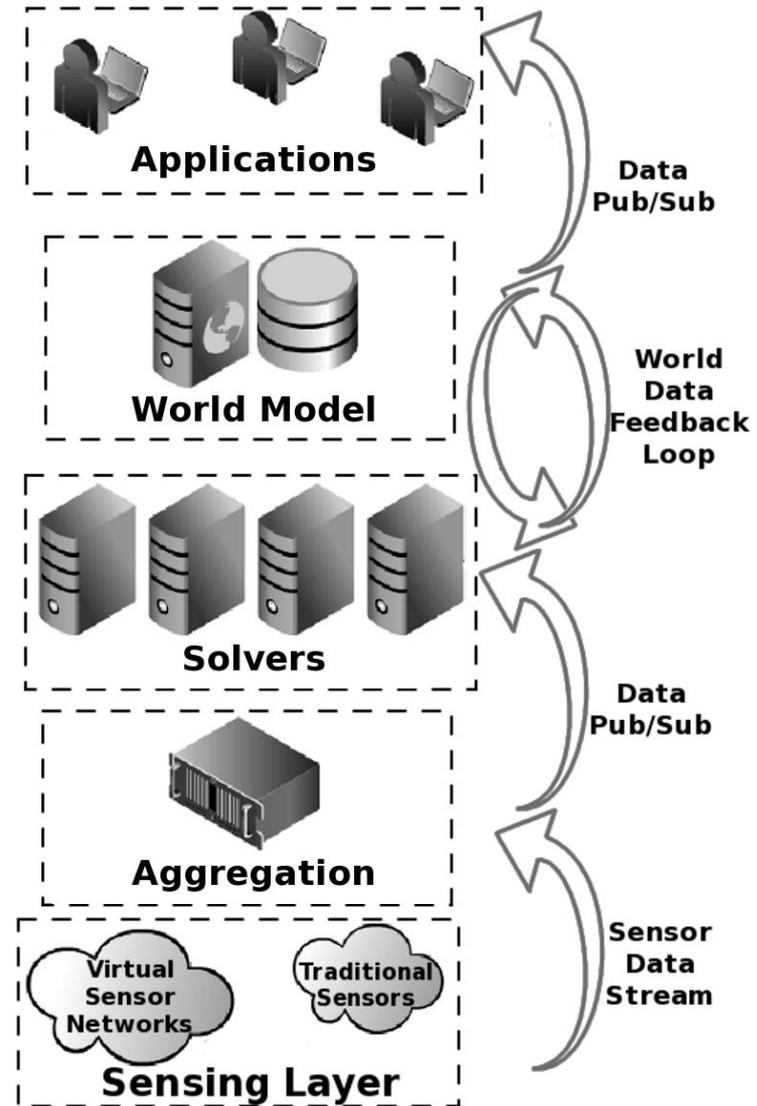
Network Stack

Clients



# Octopus Sensing Platform

- Sensors connect to an intermediate layer that hides details
- Solvers build higher-level representations from low-level ones
- A uniform model of the world allows sharing
- Applications run in standard environments in the cloud



# CRS: Implementation Strategies

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## Context Outside the Network: Heavy Lifting on sending client

- Client issues a SEND-lookup on a query
- Client talks to any of the Servers from the SEND-lookup GUID list

## Context Inside the Network: Heavy Lifting off of clients

- Client issues a SEND on a CGUID or query
- CRS computes context and carries out the SEND on the Client's behalf

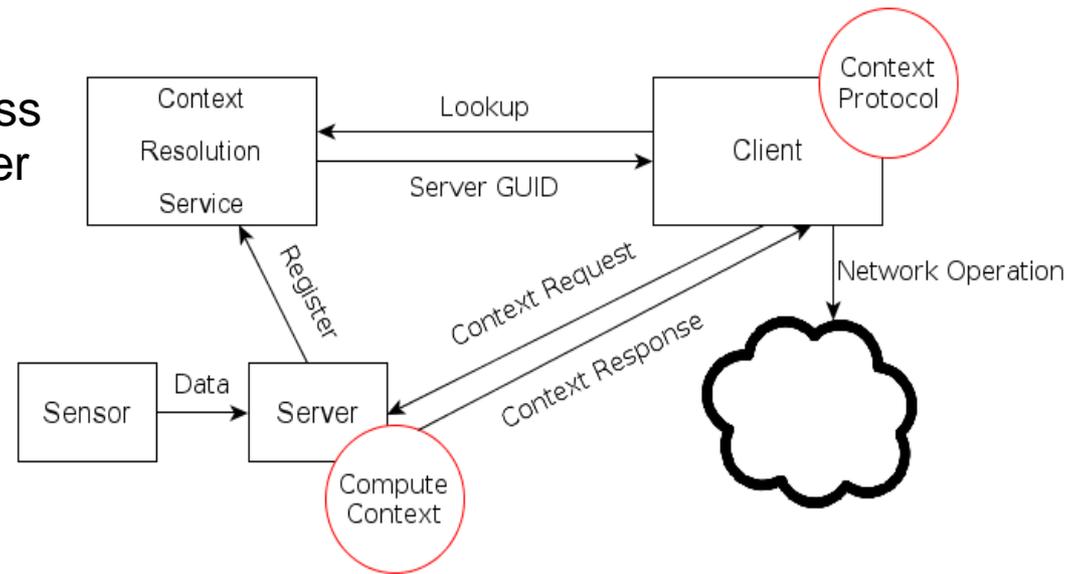
## Intentional Receipt: Client only gets *traffic it wants*

- Server/Sensor can issue a SEND with self-described, untargeted data
- Server/Sensor can also issue a GET-lookup for a data description
  - Server/Sensor can SEND to all returned Client GUIDs

# Context: Outside the network

## Context now:

- Client queries the server address
- Client talks with particular server
- Server computes context
- Server delivers result
- Client interprets result
- Client sends correct NetOp



## Aspects:

### Heavy lifting on client

- Client needs to understand a lot
- Client has to know what to do based on the server result
- Highly decoupled; can be implemented on nearly any data network

### Server

- Needs to manage Sensor data and Context computation

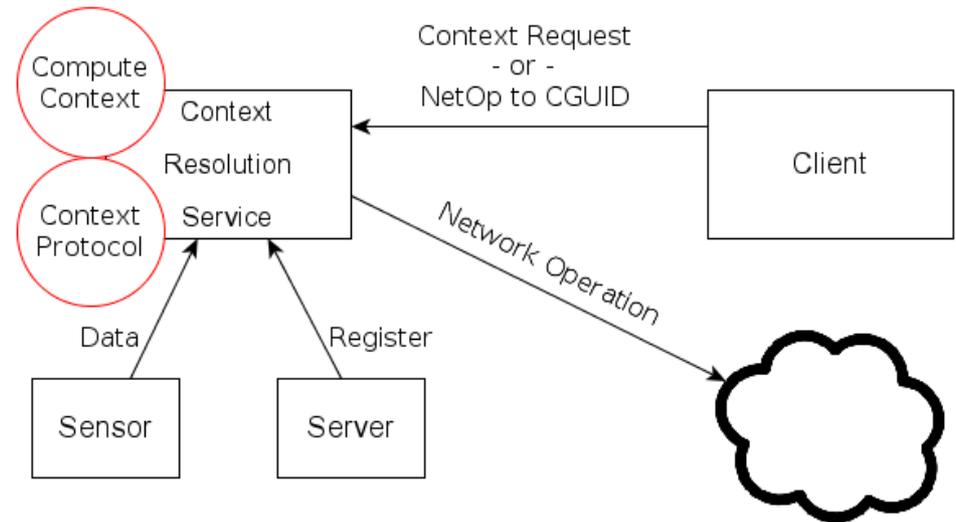
### Context Service

- Logically very simple; essentially a database

# Context: Inside the network

## Context service:

- CRS gets Data
- CRS gets context description
- Client delivers context request  
-or NetOp on context GUID
- CRS computes context
- CRS dispatches correct NetOp



## Aspects:

### Heavy lifting off of client

- Client does not need to know anything about context
- Client can act on a CGUID without knowing it

### Server/Sensor

- Could keep Sensor data local and register as a Sensor itself
- Could specify new operations based on data CRS knows about

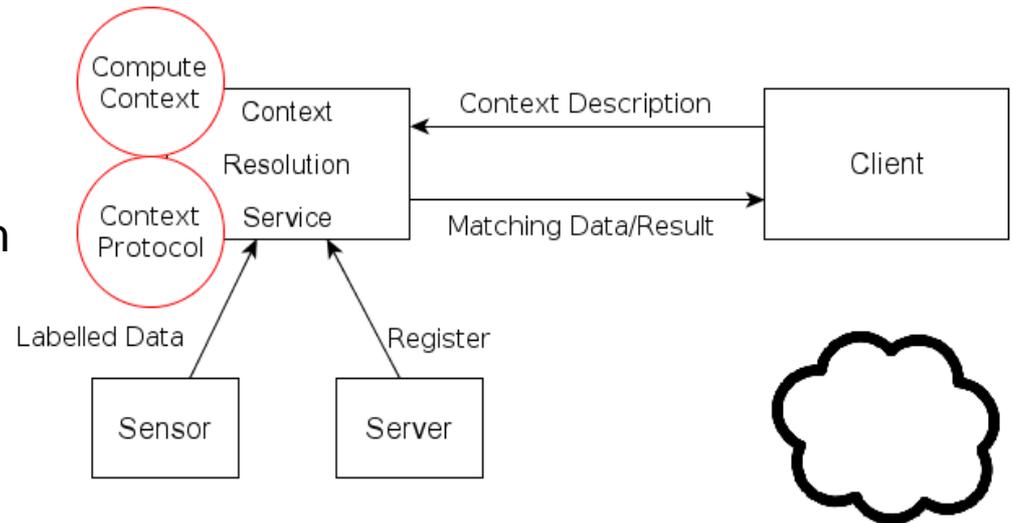
### Context Service

- Requires a compute layer
- Inherits problems of coherence and consistency

# Context: Intentional receipt

## Context Service:

- CRS gets Labeled Data
- Client registers a description
- CRS computes context
- CRS delivers results that match



## Aspects:

### Client only gets traffic it wants

- Client needs to quantify its traffic as context constraints
- Client can use a service to generate these constraints

### Server/Sensor

- Deliver data with no target address
- Data carries its own description (delivery as a continuation)

### Context Service

- Computes data self-description against client criteria
- Delivers to clients whose criteria match the data self-description

# Challenges and Next Steps

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## Connecting sensing, networking and context services

symbolic names → context expressions →  
“tea time” → “if () then {}” →

Incorporating Octopus sensing, CRS and MF

`winlab.teapot.temp > 45` → GUID/NA maps