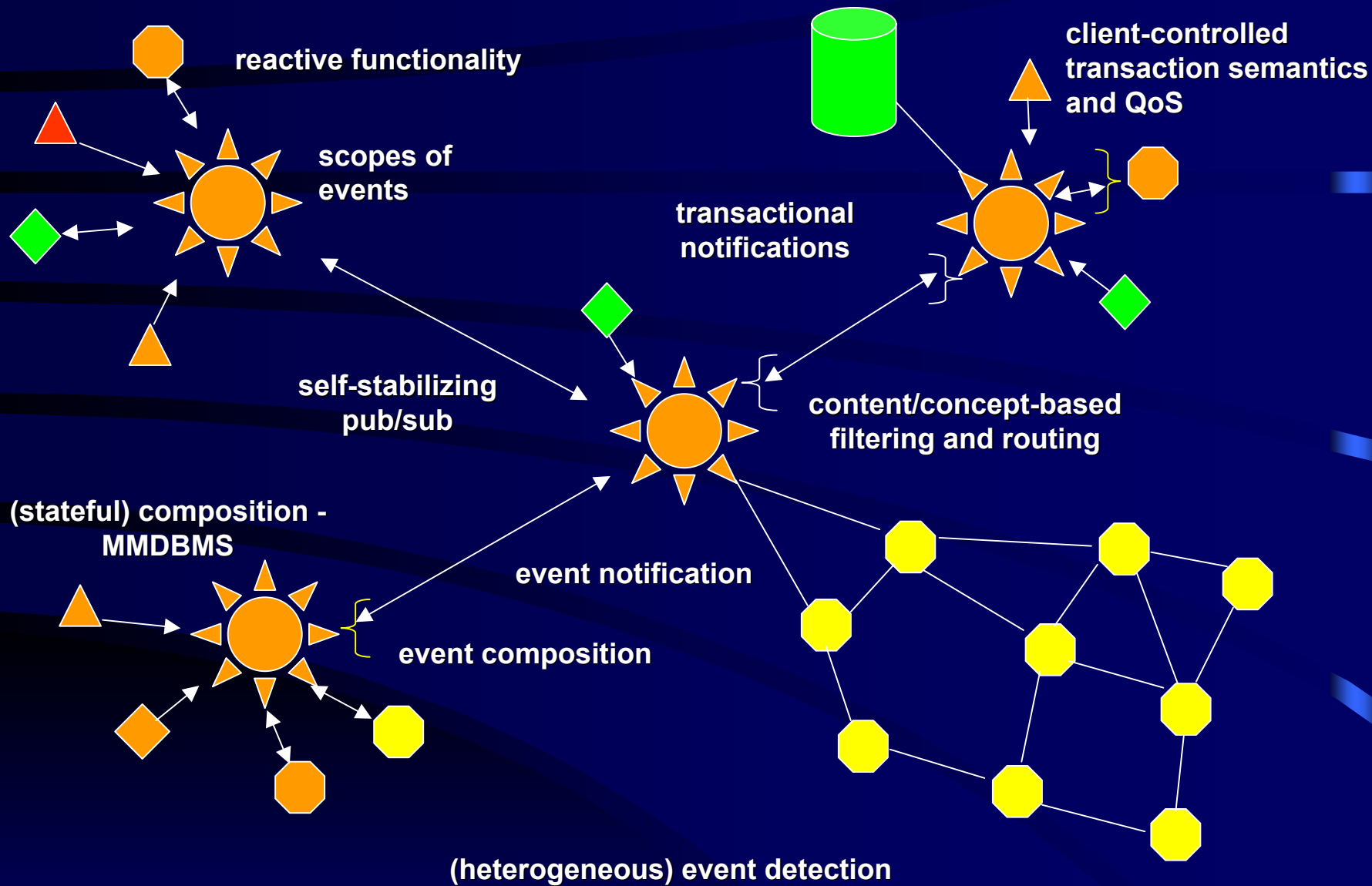


Data Aggregation and Management in Sensor Networks

Alejandro Buchmann
Databases and Distributed Systems
Dept. of Computer Science
Darmstadt University of Technology
buchmann@informatik.tu-darmstadt.de



Data/Event Aggregation

- Diffusion/Percolation (DIMENSIONS et al.)
 - Multi-resolution data storage
 - Spatial & temporal correlations to reduce dimensionality
 - Mostly simple aggregation function w. homogeneous data
- Streaming Queries (Cougar, Fjords, etc.)
 - SQL extensions for continuous querying
 - Tuple aggregation w. windowing relational operators
- Event Graphs (reactive middleware, Hermes, Dream, etc.)
 - Event algebra: $\text{ANY } 2(e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4) \wedge (e_5 \vee e_6)$
 - Event consumption modes (chronological, recent, window)
 - Garbage collection of events

Issues in Data/Event Aggregation

- Where is aggregation performed
- How to deal with time in a distributed and unreliable environment
- How to deal with state/persistence
- How to deal with asynchrony and intermittent communication
- How to deal with (uncontrolled) redundancy and failed sensors

Where to aggregate

- Whereever aggregation takes place, state must be maintained
 - Size
 - Reliability (replication, persistent storage,...)
 - Recoverability
- Different aggregation mechanisms require different resources
 - Heavy duty query processing on simple sensor node?
 - Filters at peripheral nodes, QP on central node?
- Adapting the routing to the aggregation vs. adapting the aggregation to the routing

Dealing with Time in Aggregation

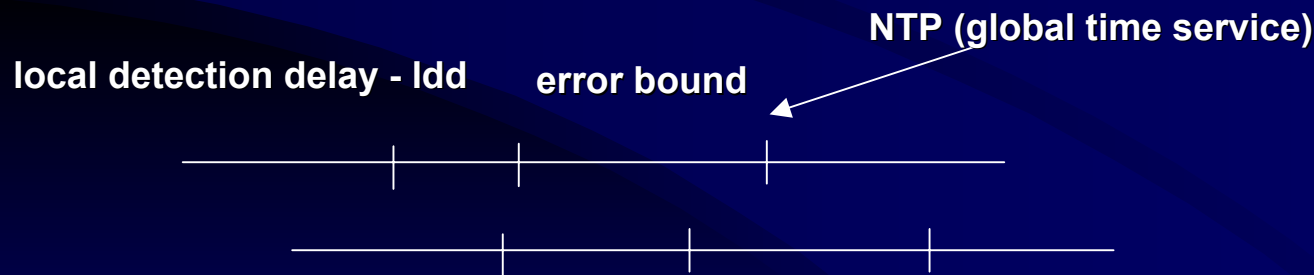
- Absolute temporal consistency: between state of environment and its representation
 - Data is described by a triplet d : (value, avi, ts)
 - Absolute consistency $(t.current - d.ts) \leq d.avi$
- Relative temporal consistency
 - Data used to derive new data form a relative consistency set R
 - R is associated with a relative validity interval R_{rvi}
 - For $d_k \in R \forall d_i \in R \mid d_k.ts - d_i.ts \mid \leq R_{rvi}$

Event detection and composition in distributed systems

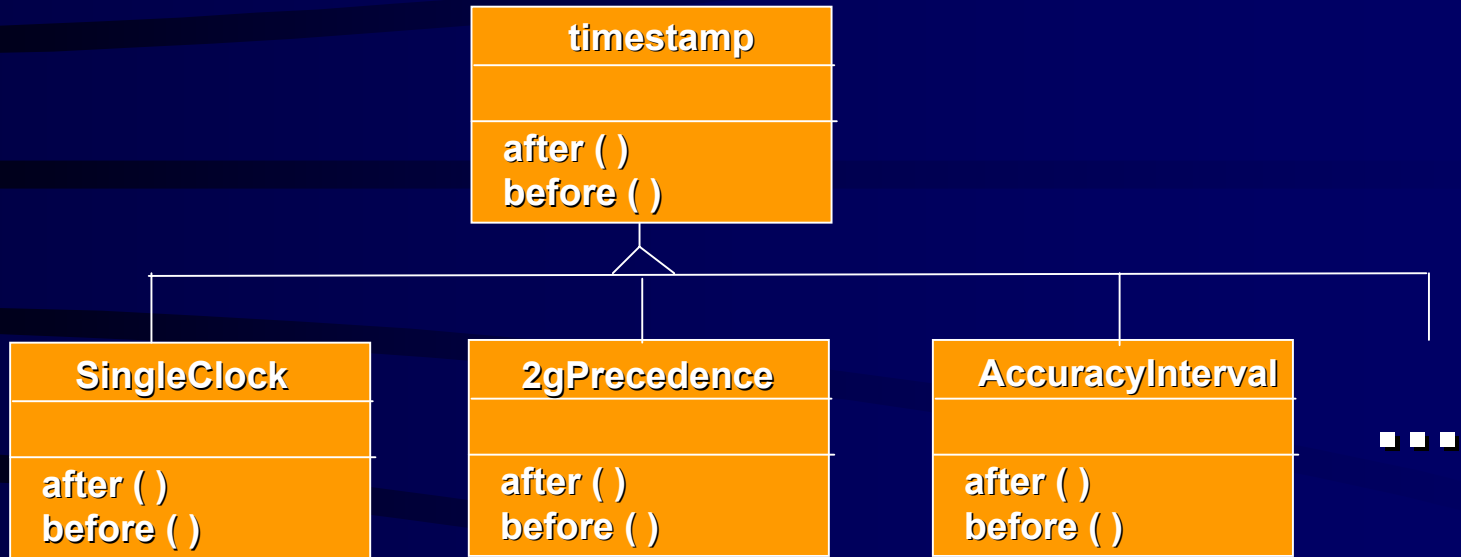
- 2g-precedence for closed networks and bounded imprecision



- Accuracy Interval Approach for timestamping events in large-scale, loosely coupled DS



Variable Timestamp Representation



- Must provide interval-based time model with explicit (in)accuracy intervals
- Allen's interval semantics ==> indeterminacy
- Stable past vs. unstable past and present
- Middleware must expose indeterminacy, resolve through application semantics

Dealing with Stateful Aggregation

- Need persistence for filters and incomplete event/data compositions
- Achieve reliability through replication
- (Selectively) write to persistent medium
- Write asynchronously from secondary copy

Redundancy and Incompleteness

- Must eliminate redundant readings
- May have to avoid overload by dropping events → must be able to give confidence bounds for the result
- Must annotate result with (sub)set of sensors that contributed to answer

There is no silver bullet!

Support for the Elderly



