



# Felicitous Computing

David S. Rosenblum  
School of Computing  
National University of Singapore





# From UCI to NUS







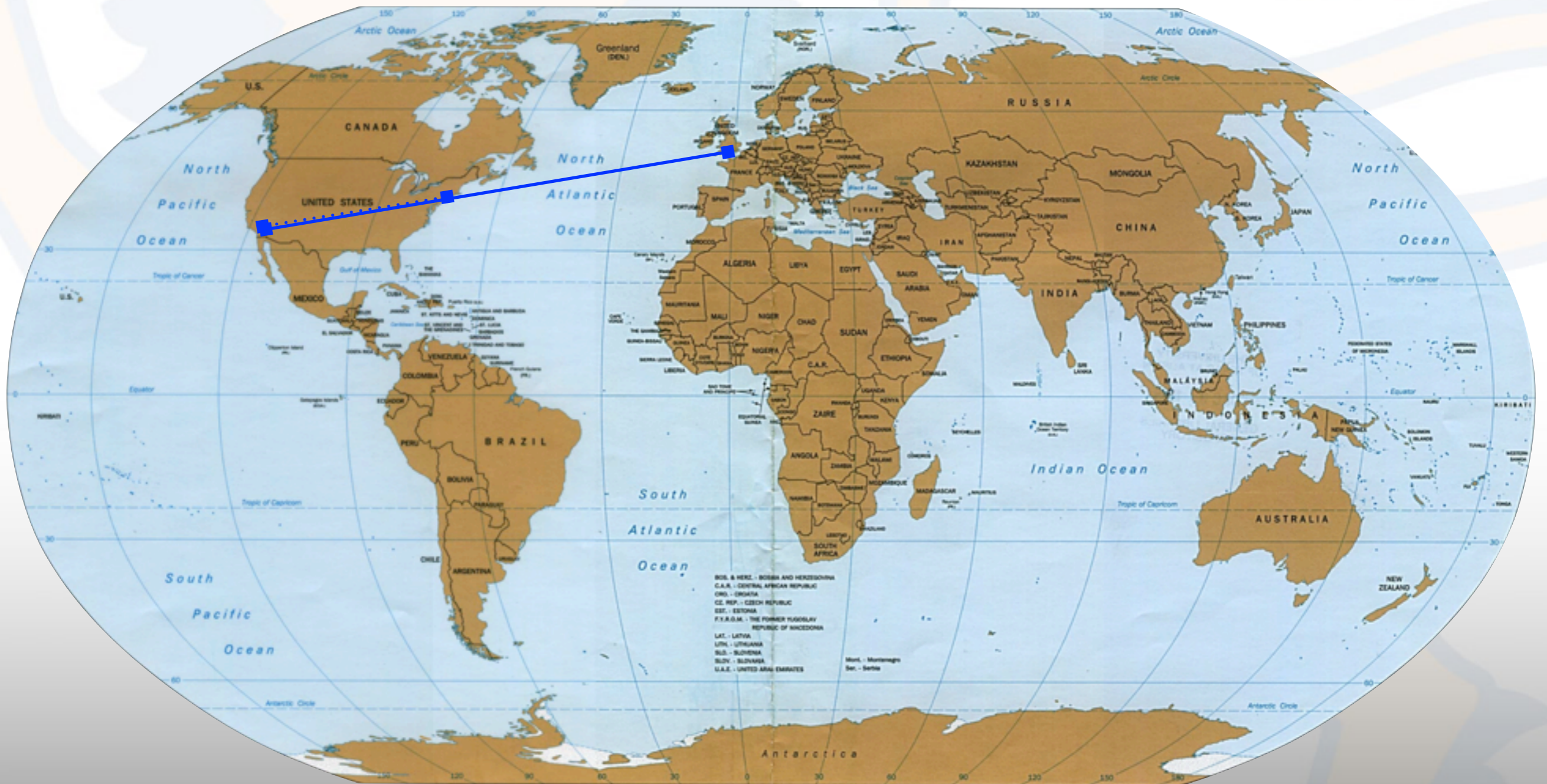
# From UCI to NUS







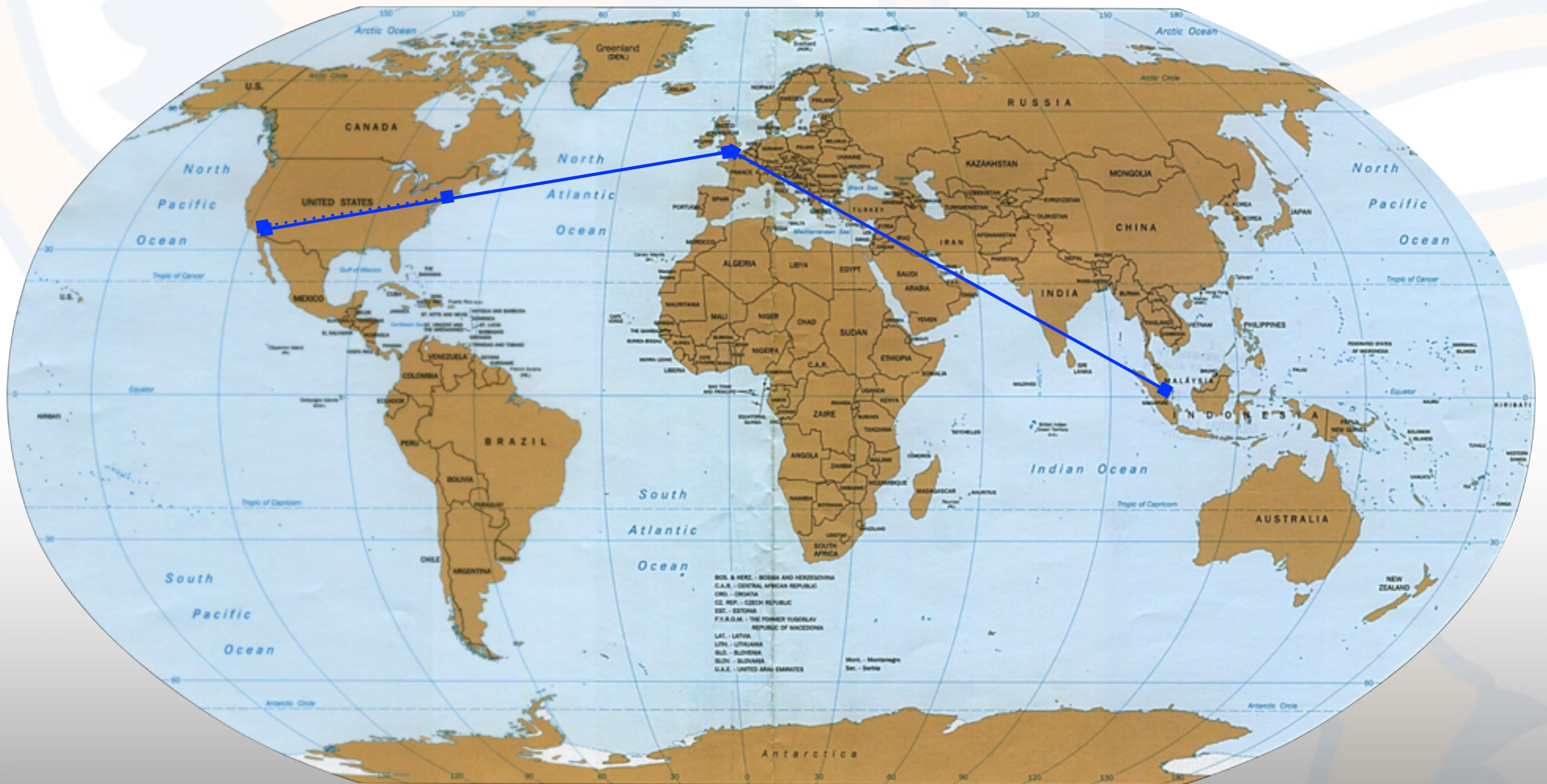
# From UCI to NUS







# From UCI to NUS







# Singapore







# Singapore







# Singapore







# Ubiquitous Computing

## The Ideal

*“The most profound technologies are those that  
**disappear.**”*

[Mark Weiser, *Scientific American*, 1991]

Weiser envisioned computing being

*“an integral, **invisible** part of people’s lives”,*

where

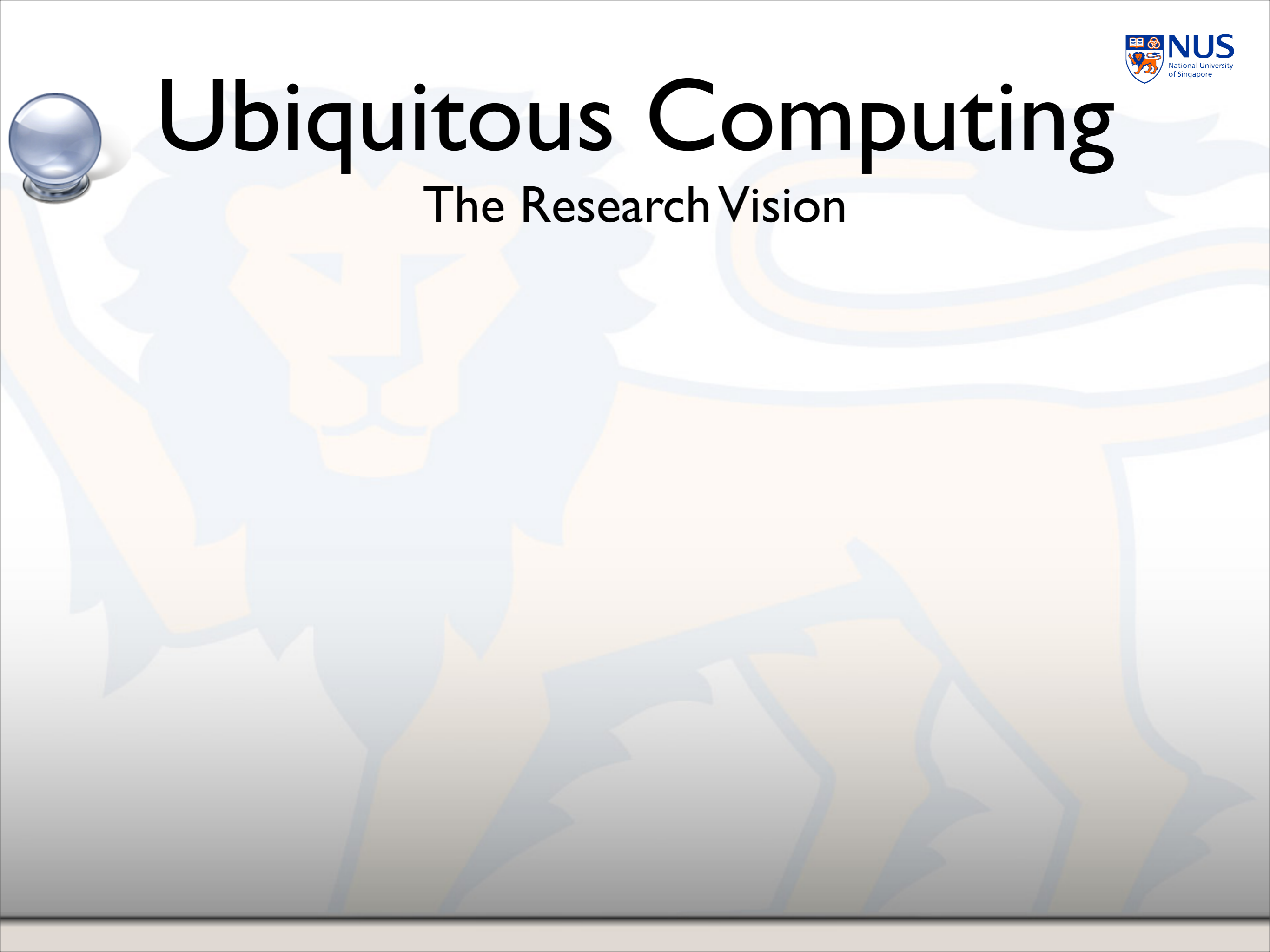
*“the computers themselves ... **vanish** into the  
**background**”*





# Ubiquitous Computing

## The Research Vision





# Ubiquitous Computing

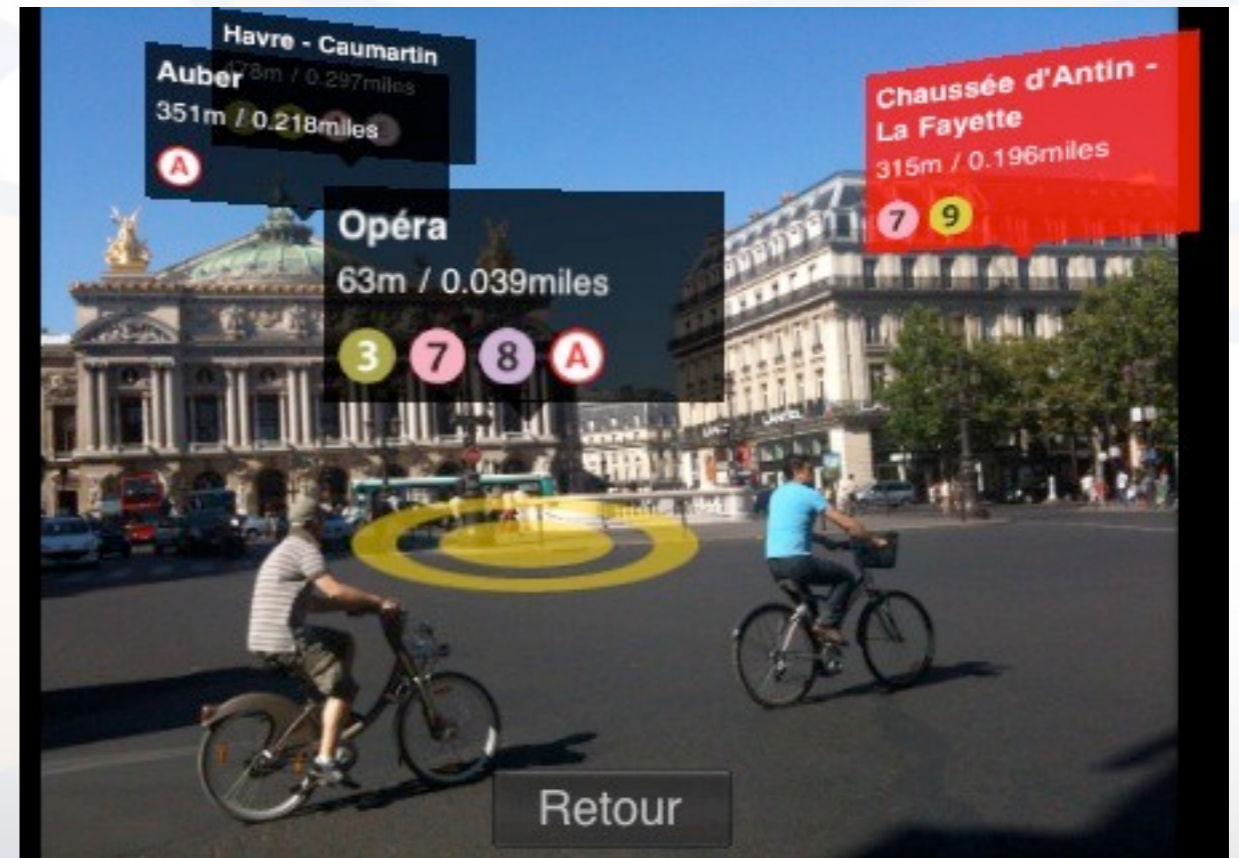
## The Research Vision





# Ubiquitous Computing

## The Research Vision





# Ubiquitous Computing

## The Research Vision

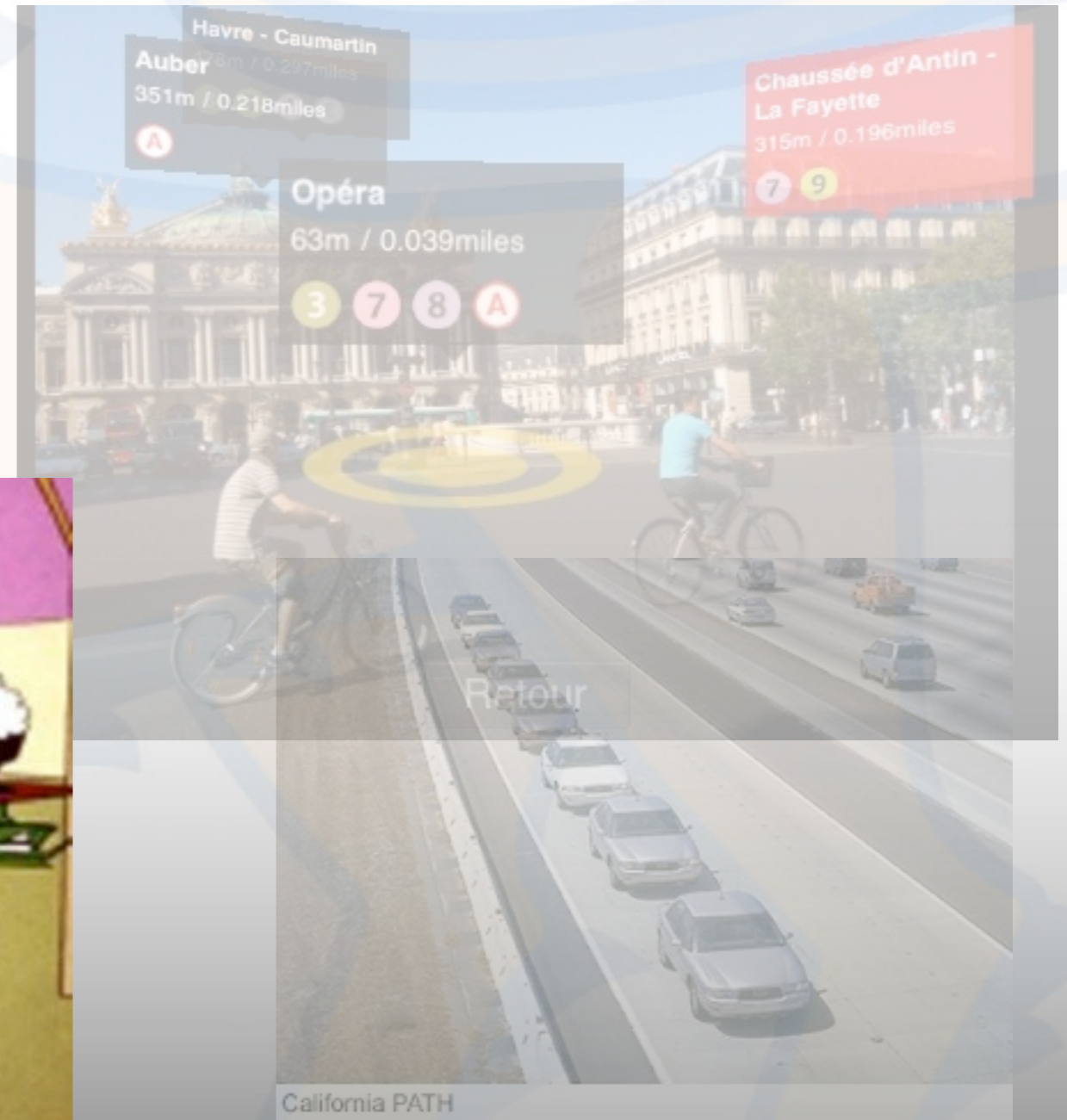
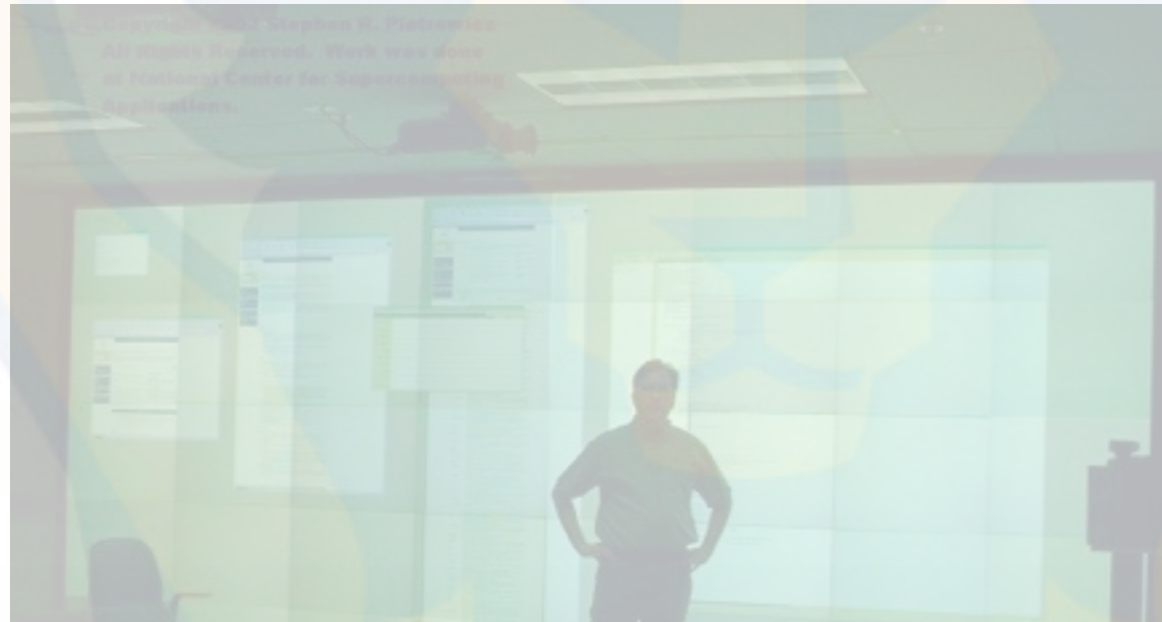


California PATH



# Ubiquitous Computing

## The Research Vision







# The Reality

## Fading into the Background?





# The Reality

## Fading into the Background?







# The Reality

## Google Android Market (early 2012)

- The average price of the top 50 *paid* applications is *just US\$3.79* [modymi.com]



# The Reality

## Google Android Market (early 2012)

- The average price of the top 50 *paid* applications is *just US\$3.79* [modymi.com]
- 79.3% of paid applications have been downloaded *less than 100 times* [Distimo]





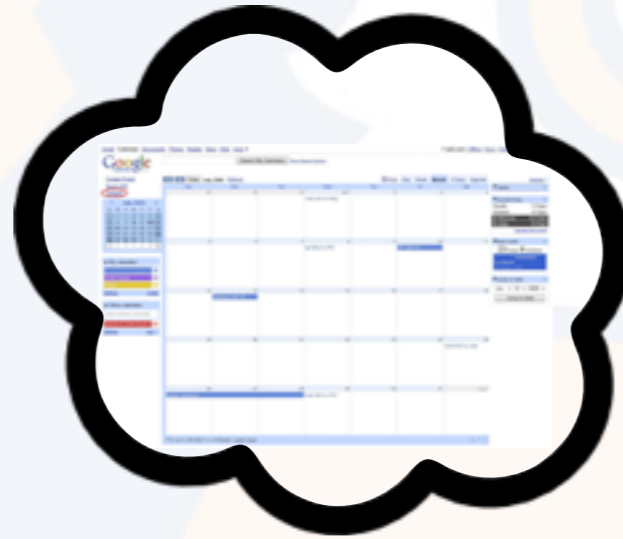
# The Reality

## Google Android Market (early 2012)

- The average price of the top 50 *paid* applications is *just US\$3.79* [modymi.com]
- 79.3% of paid applications have been downloaded *less than 100 times* [Distimo]
- *Only 0.1%* of paid applications have been downloaded 50,000 times or more [Distimo]

# The Reality

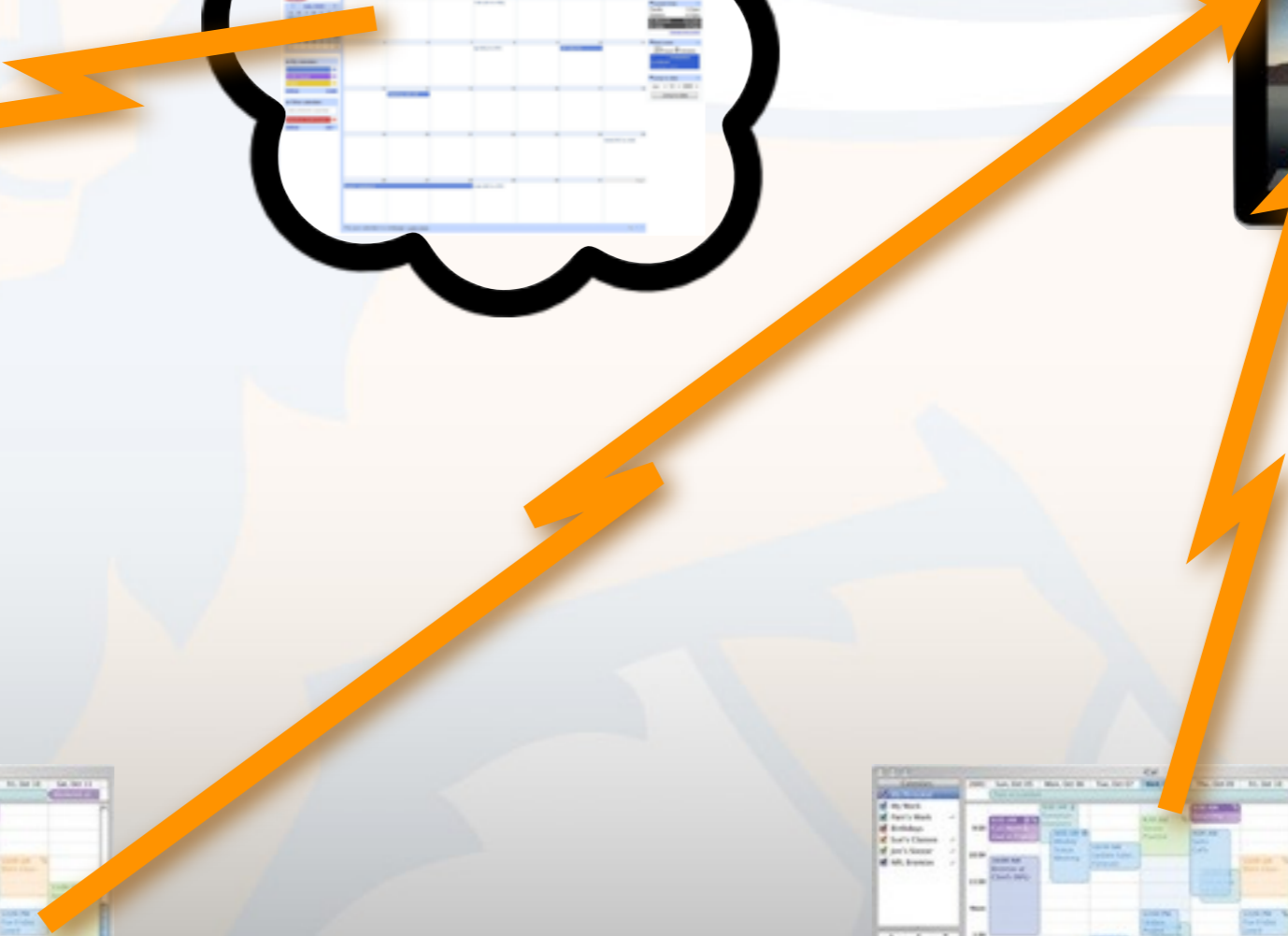
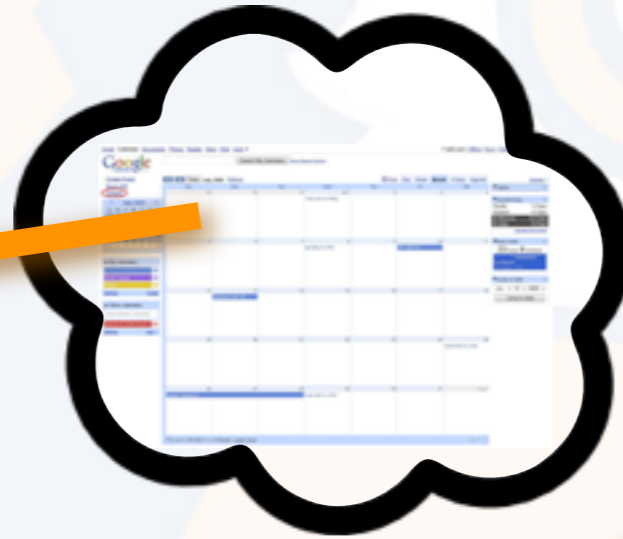
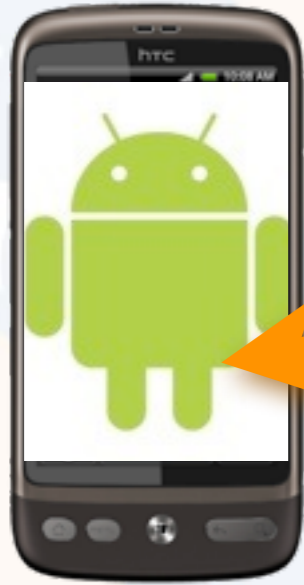
Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right





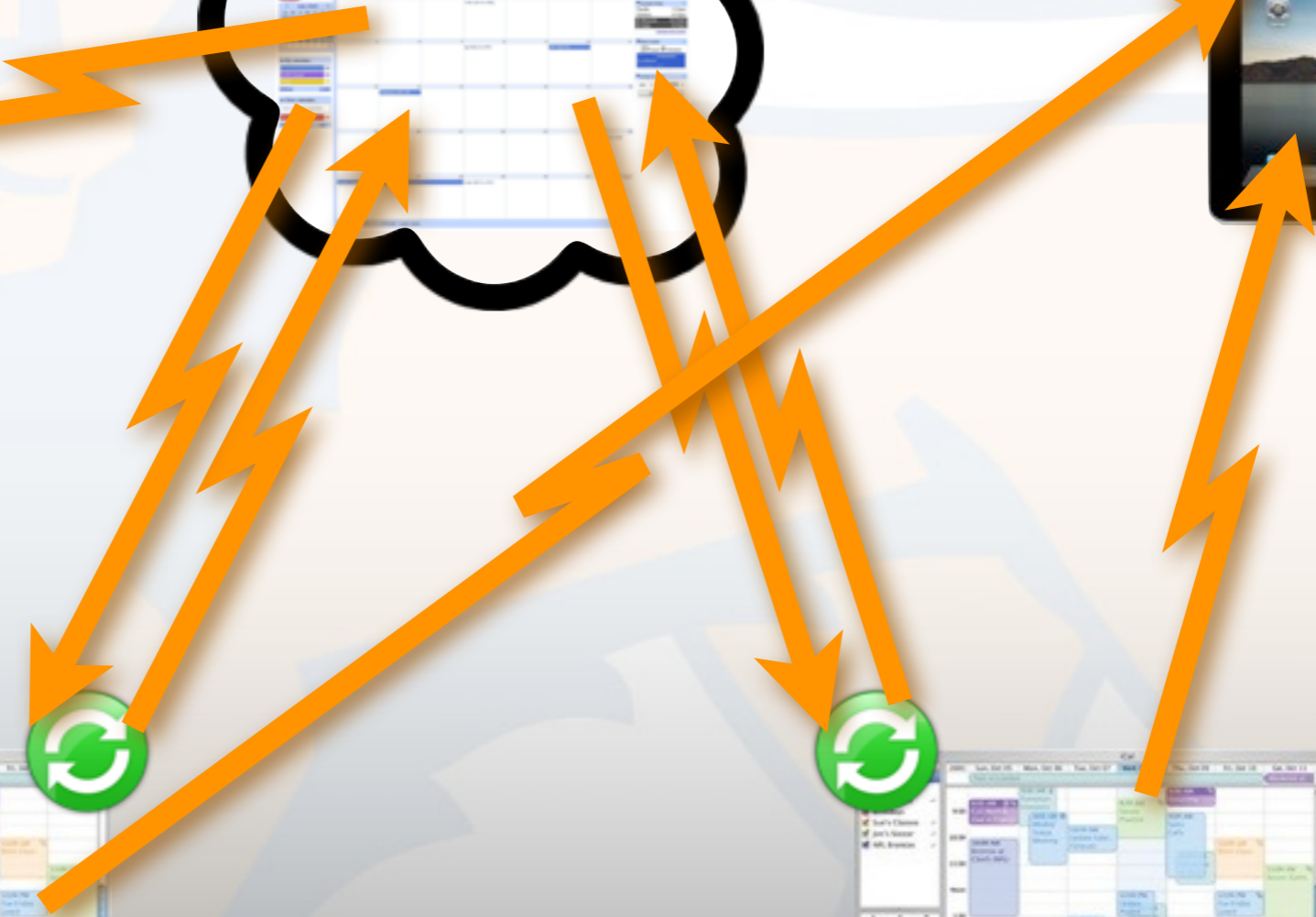
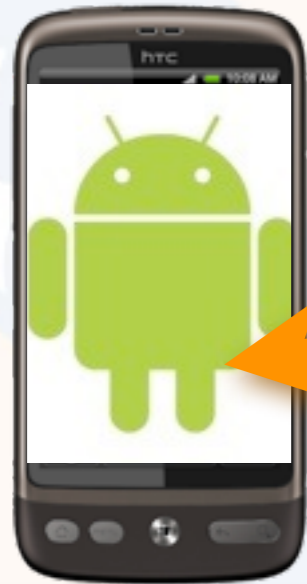
# The Reality

Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right



# The Reality

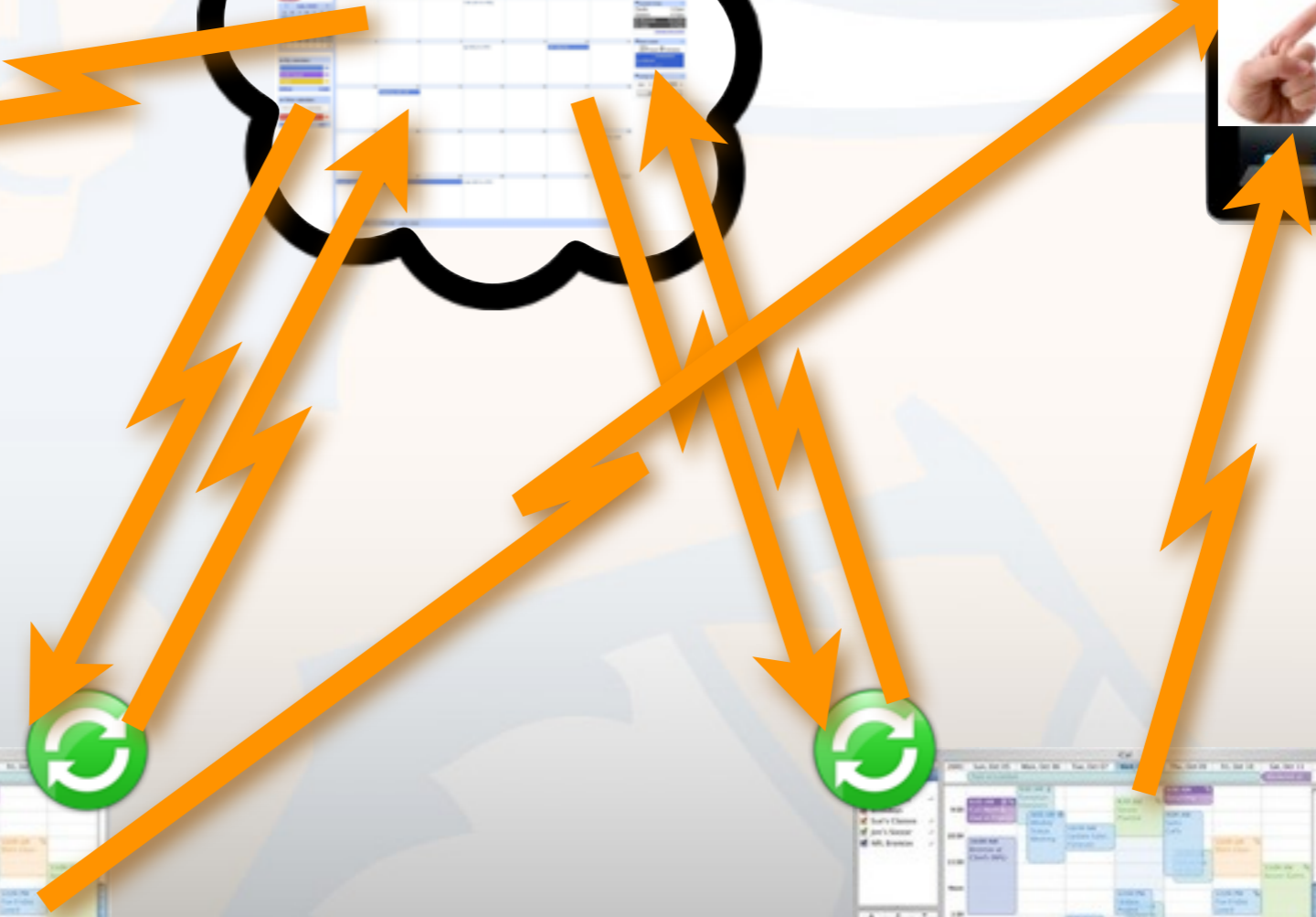
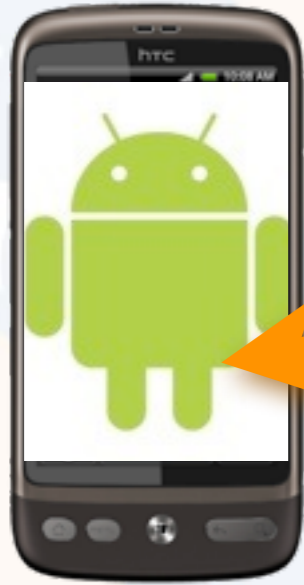
Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right





# The Reality

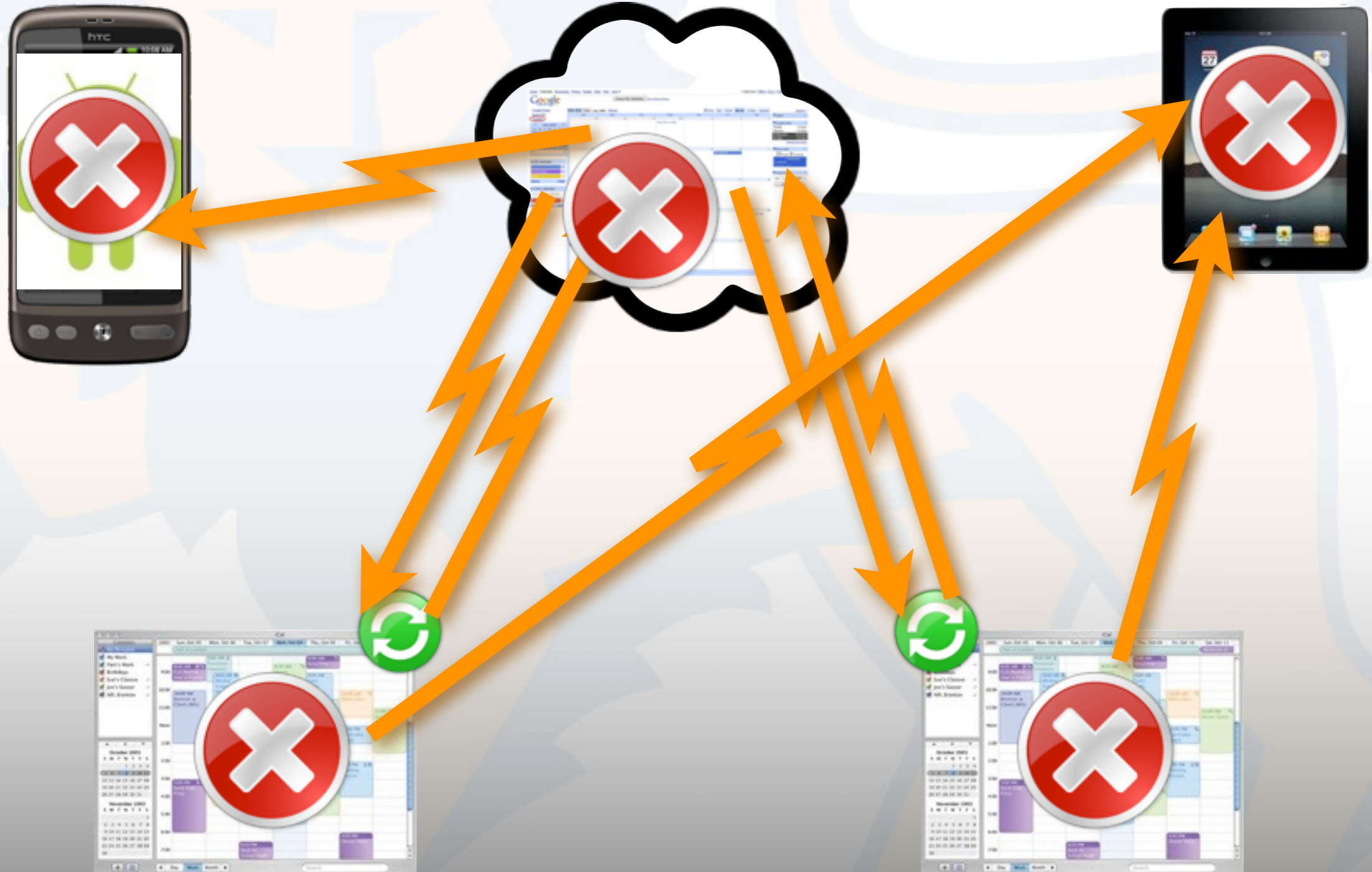
Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right





# The Reality

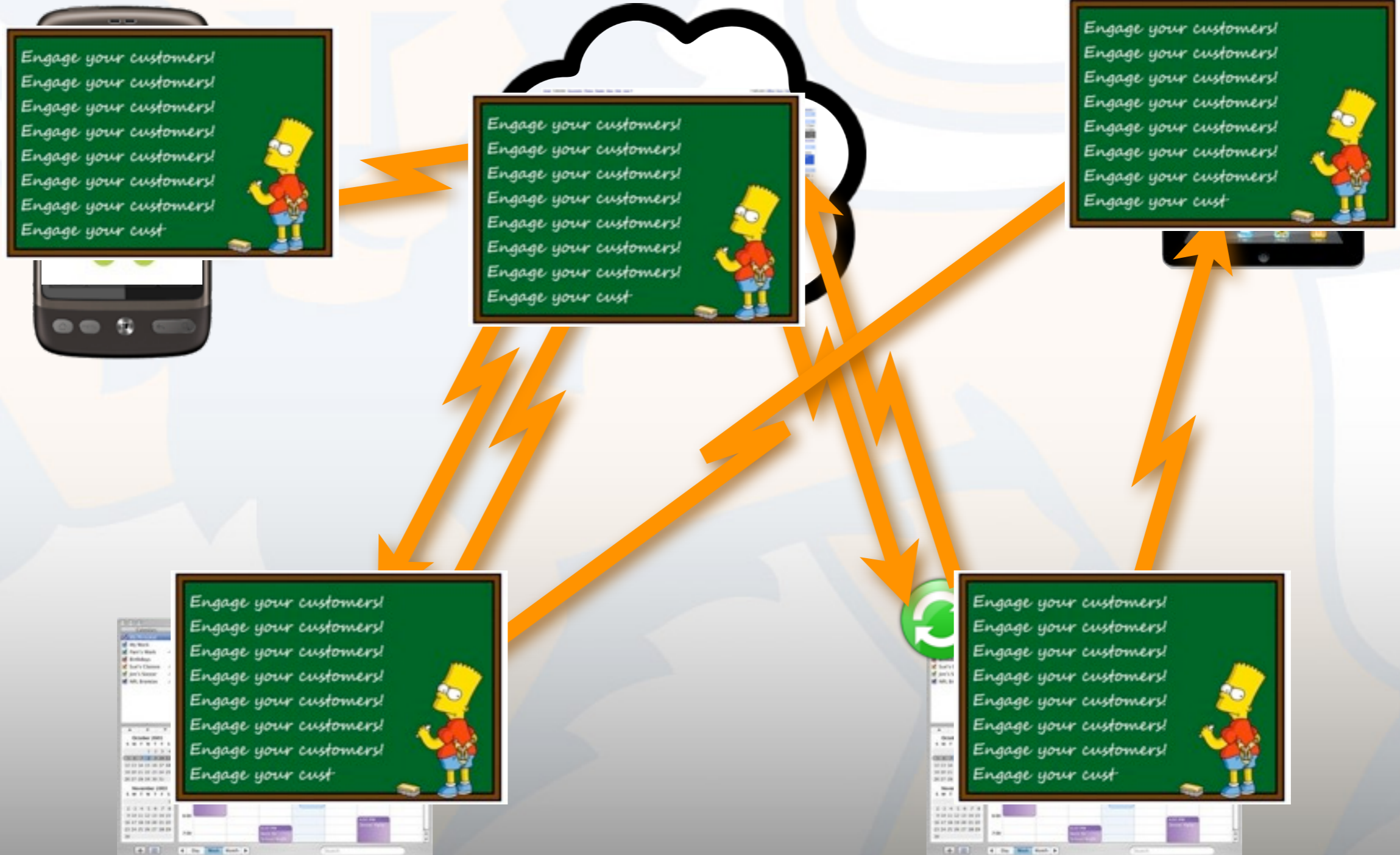
Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right





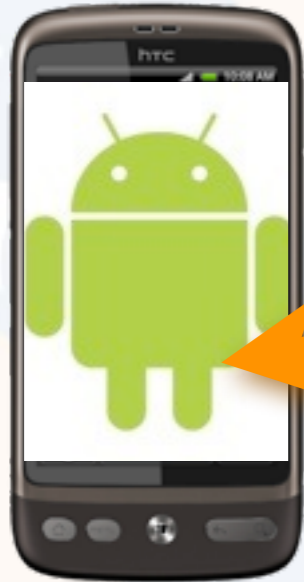
# The Reality

## Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right



# The Reality

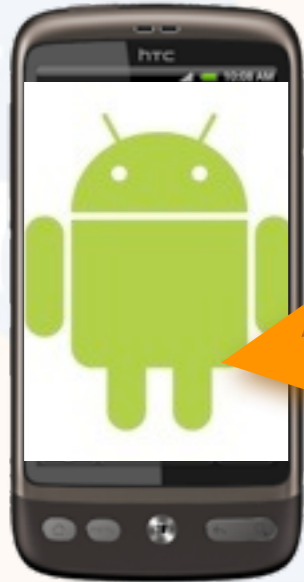
Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right





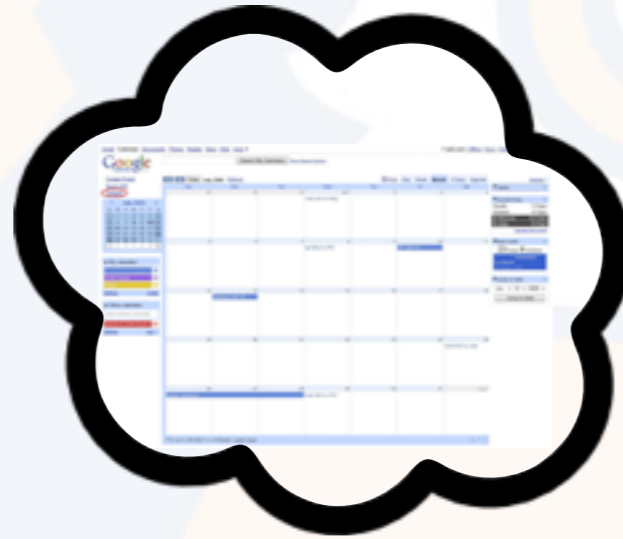
# The Reality

Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right



# The Reality

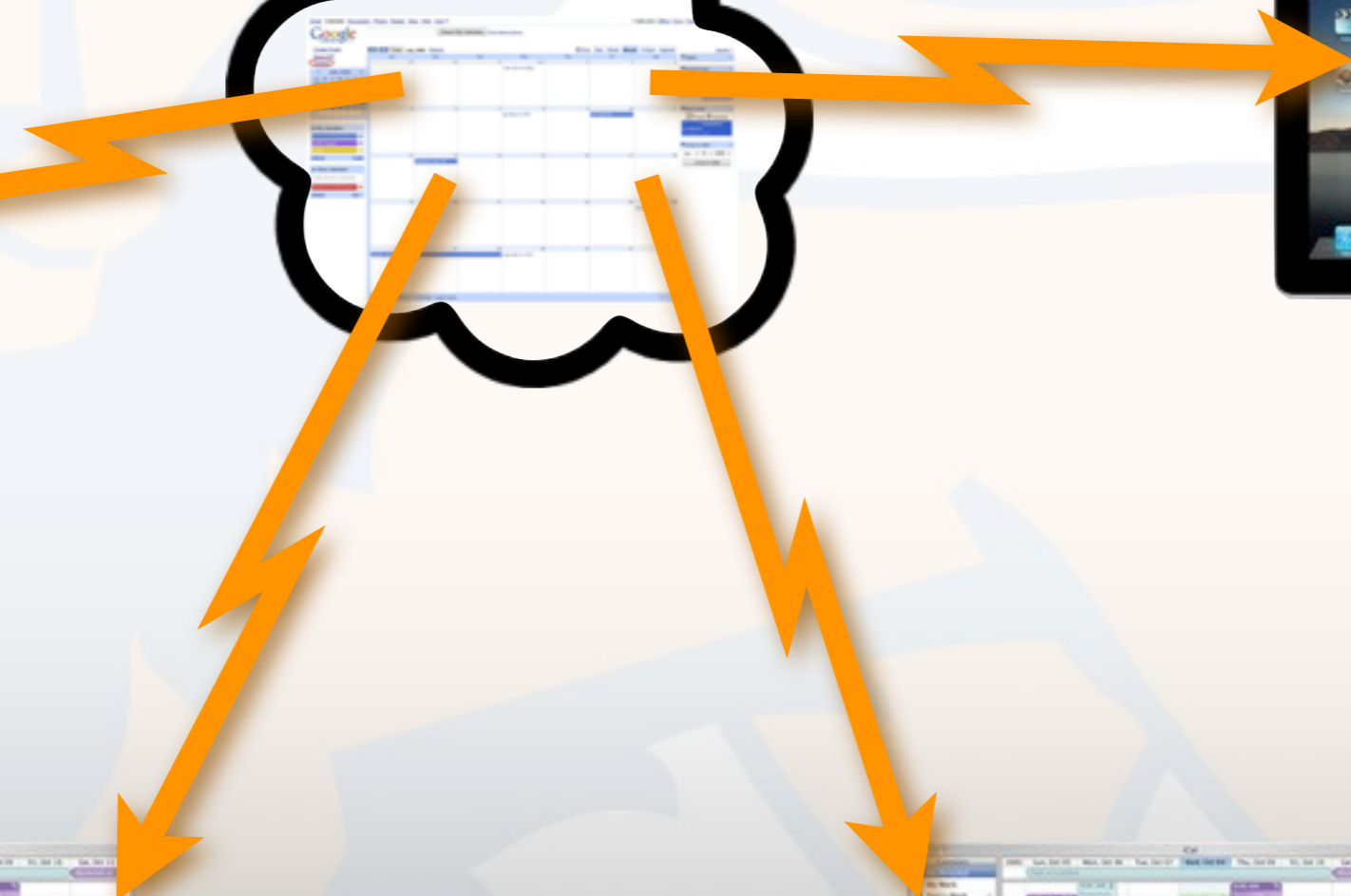
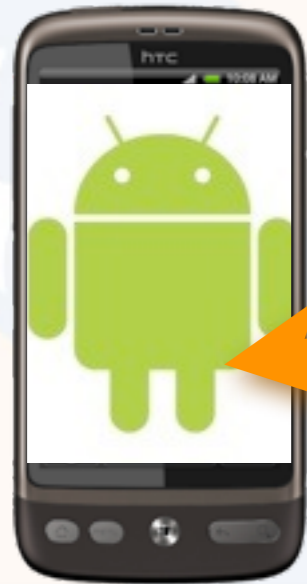
Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right





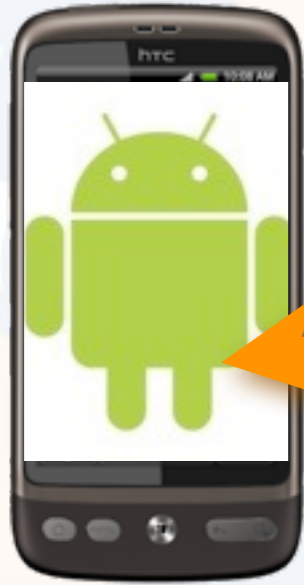
# The Reality

Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right



# The Reality

Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right

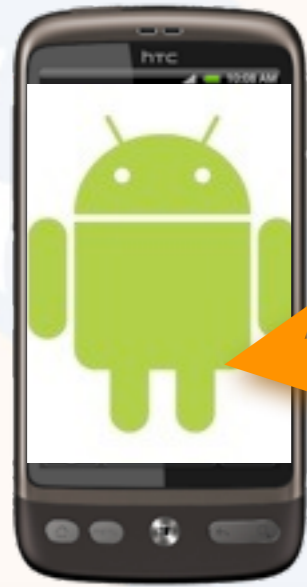






# The Reality

Stuff Just Doesn't Work Right



# My Next Appointments Calendar?







# Felicitous Computing Institute

*Goal:*

*to realize the original ideals of  
ubiquitous computing*

- A new multi-disciplinary research institute hosted in the NUS School of Computing
- Strongly driven by challenge problems in a variety of application domains

# Felicitous Computing

## Definition

**fe•lic•i•tous**, *adj.*, well chosen or suited to the circumstances; pleasing and fortunate

[Oxford American Dictionary]

- Computing that is **not** poorly chosen, ill-suited, displeasing or unfortunate!
- An overarching **philosophy** of technology development *and* evaluation





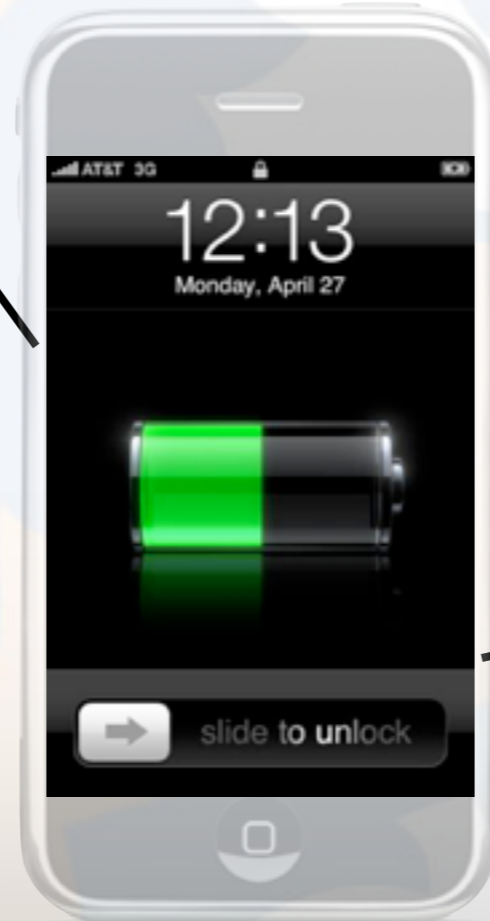
# Felicitous Computing

## Some Key Elements



# Felicitous Computing

## Some Key Elements



*context-awareness*



# Felicitous Computing

## Some Key Elements

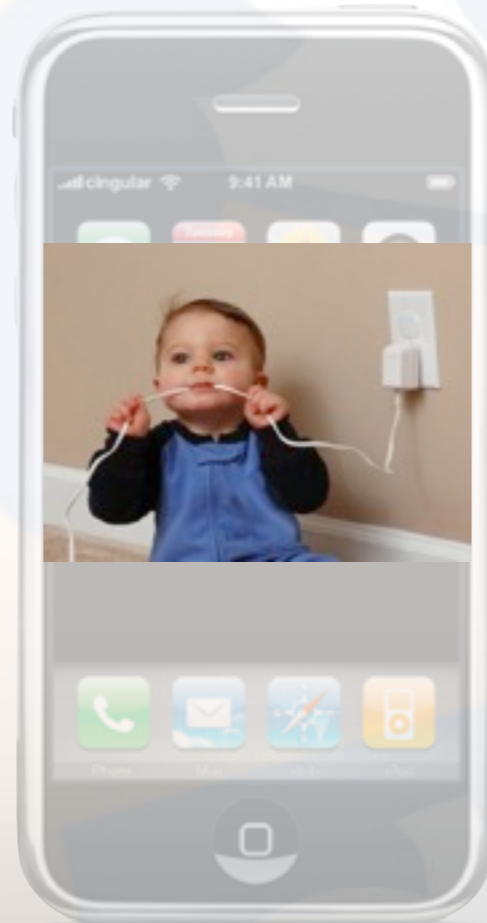


*intelligent, unobtrusive processing*



# Felicitous Computing

## Some Key Elements



*robustness*



# Felicitous Computing

## Some Key Elements



*multi-modal interaction*



# Felicitous Computing

## Some Key Elements

- Beyond these technical characteristics ...

Natural

Useful

to Users

Realistic

Beneficial





# Felicitous Computing

## Current Research Directions

- ✓ Context-Aware Adaptation
- ✓ Multi-Modal Interaction
- ✓ Emotion Sensing and Inference
- ✓ Software Engineering for Mobile Systems



# Two Example Projects

1. Automated Fault Detection in Context-Aware Adaptive Applications (**CAAAAs**)
  2. Context-Aware Mobile Music Recommendation (**CAMMR**)
- ✓ Solved problems of both **design** and **robustness**
  - ✓ Revealed new, interesting research **challenges**



# CAAAAs

## Context-Aware Adaptive Applications



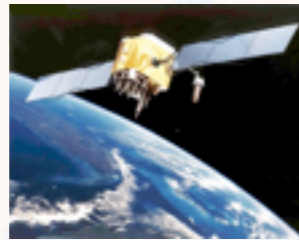
# CAAAAs

## **Context-Aware** Adaptive Applications



# CAAAAs

## Context-Aware Adaptive Applications





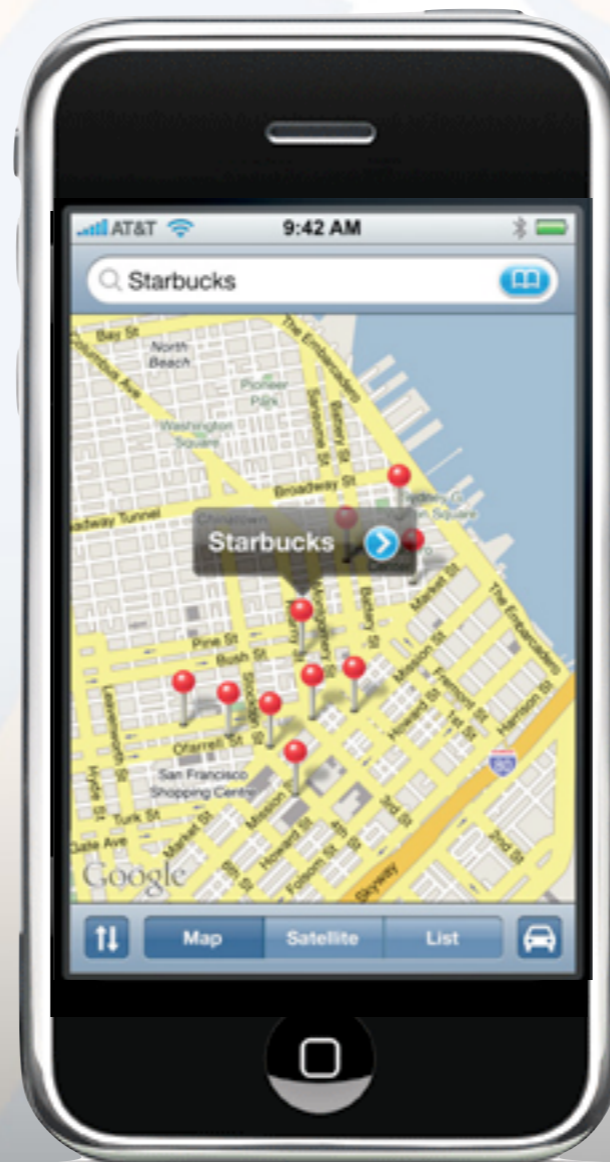
# CAAAAs

Context-Aware **Adaptive** Applications

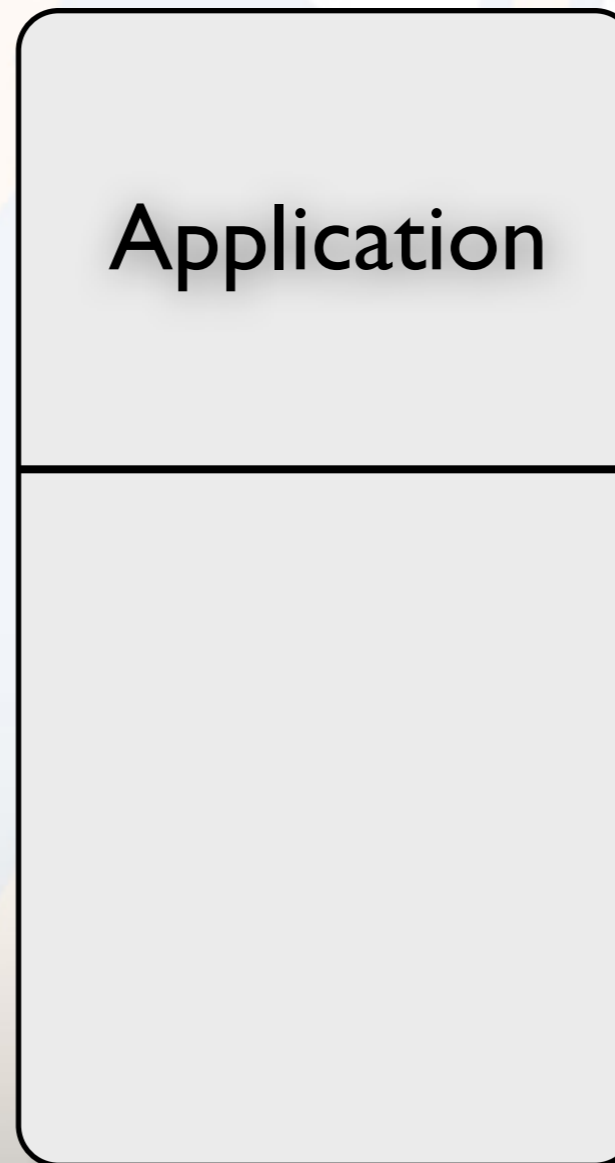


# CAAAAs

Context-Aware **Adaptive** Applications



# Adaptation in CAAAs



Environment



# Adaptation in CAAAs

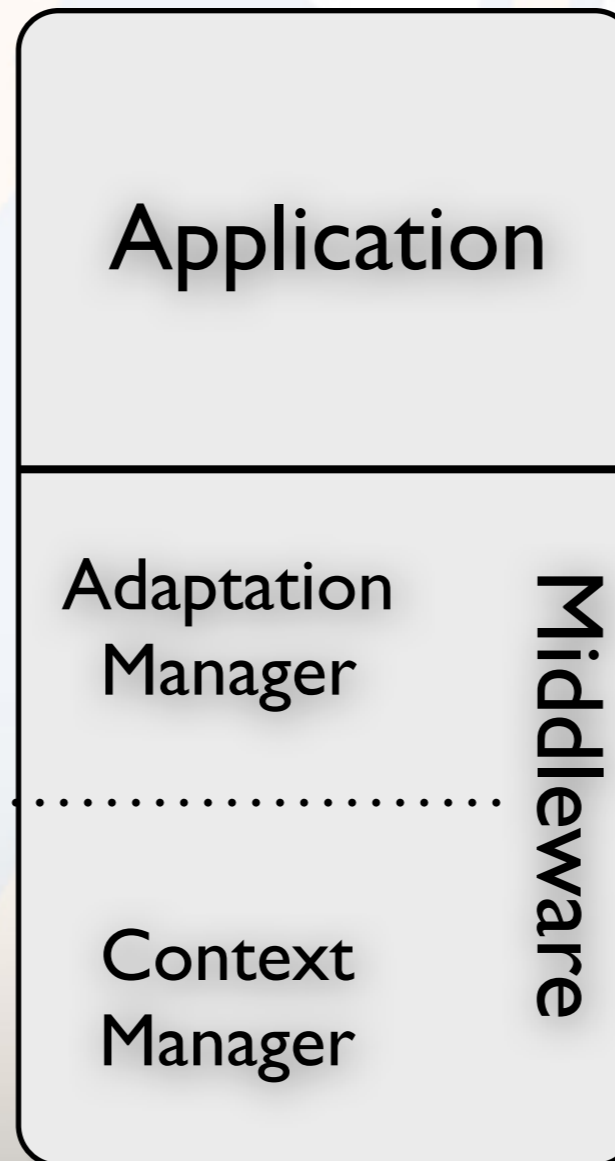


Application

*Physical Context*

Environment

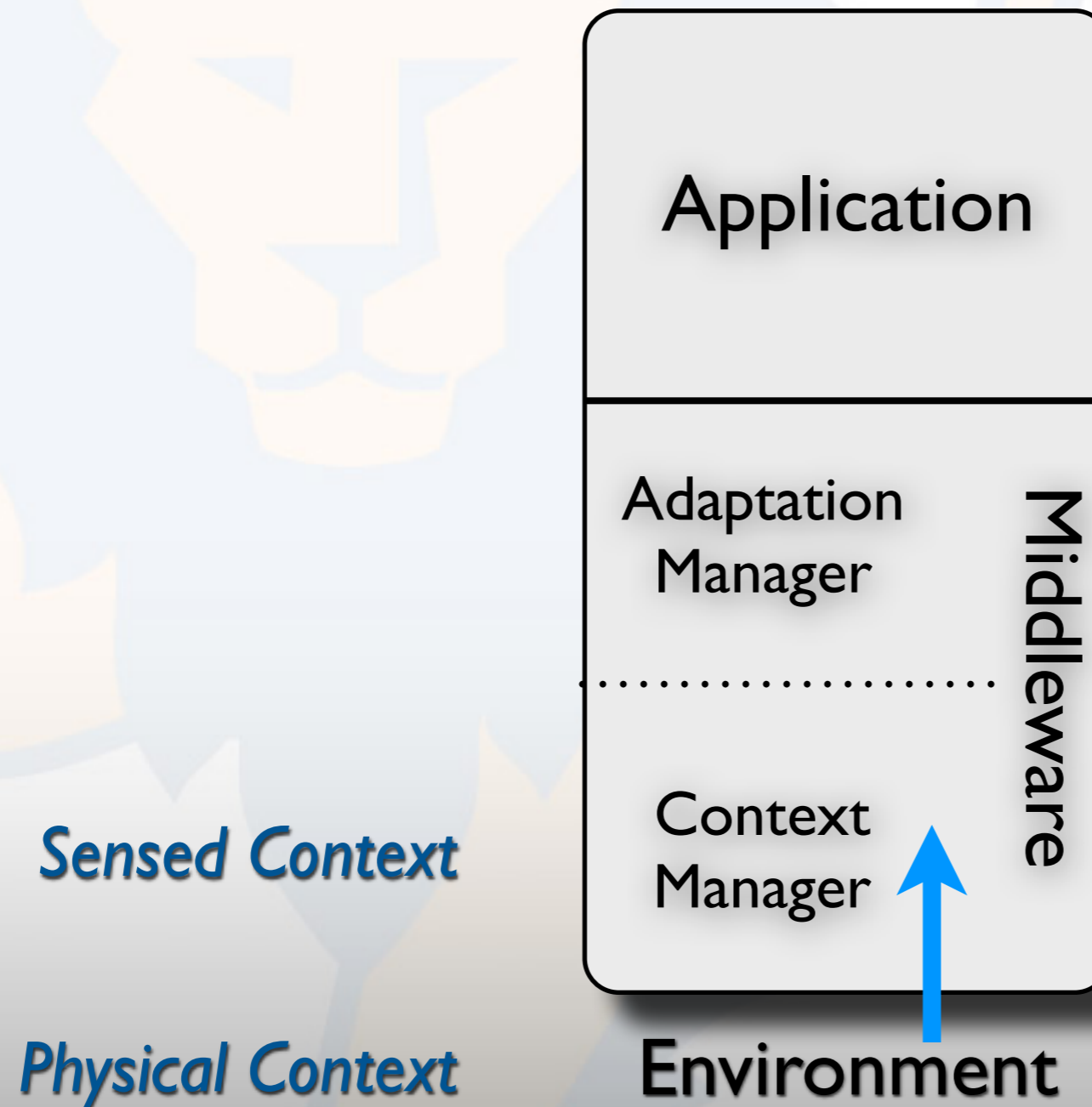
# Adaptation in CAAAs



*Physical Context*

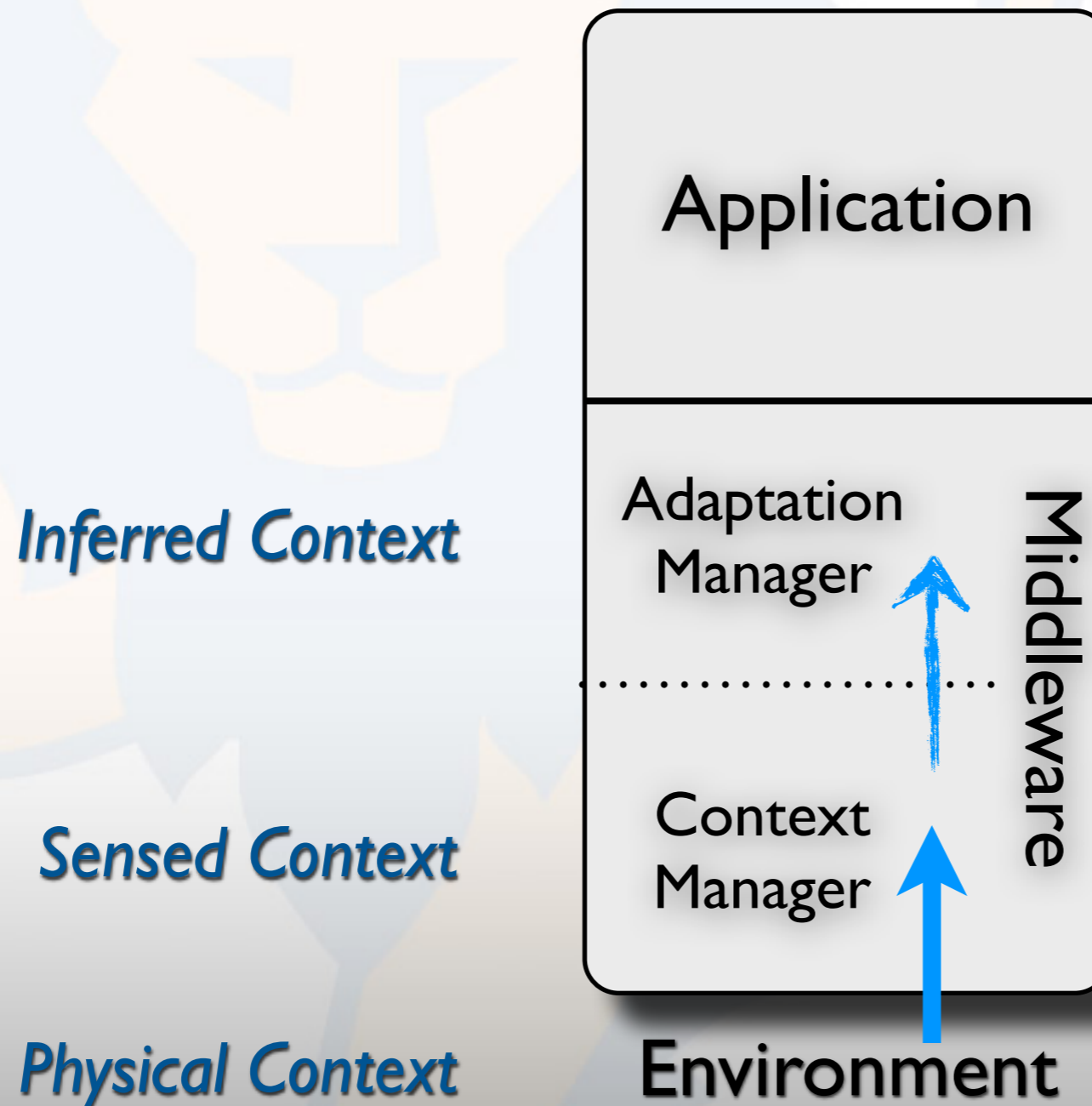
**Environment**

# Adaptation in CAAAs





# Adaptation in CAAAs



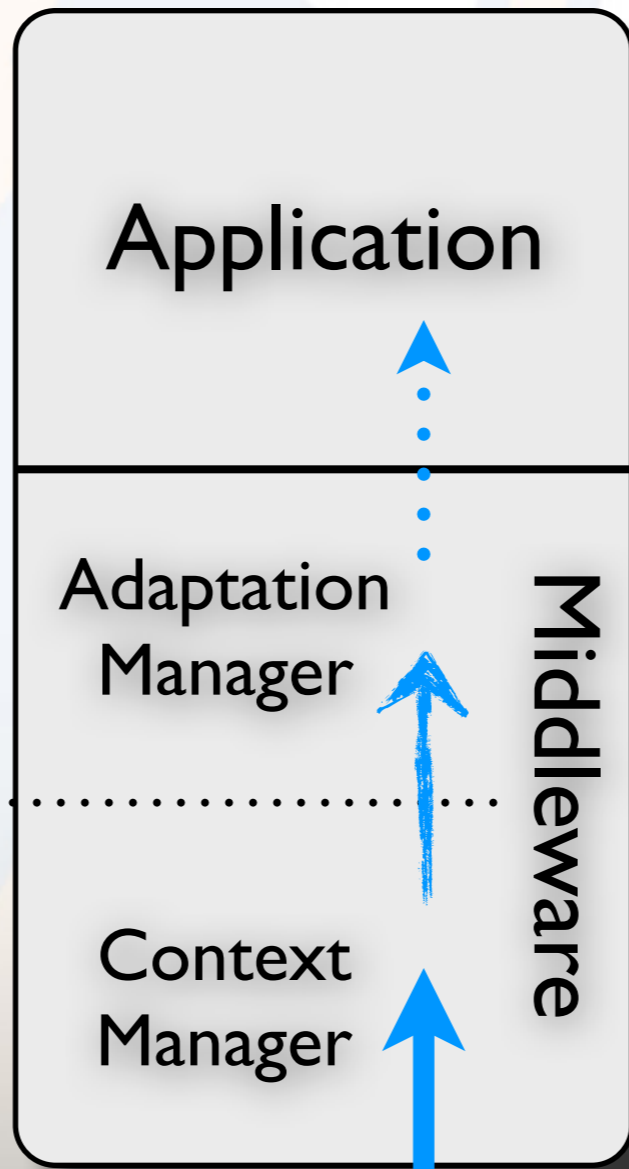
# Adaptation in CAAAs

*Presumed Context*

*Inferred Context*

*Sensed Context*

*Physical Context*



**Environment**

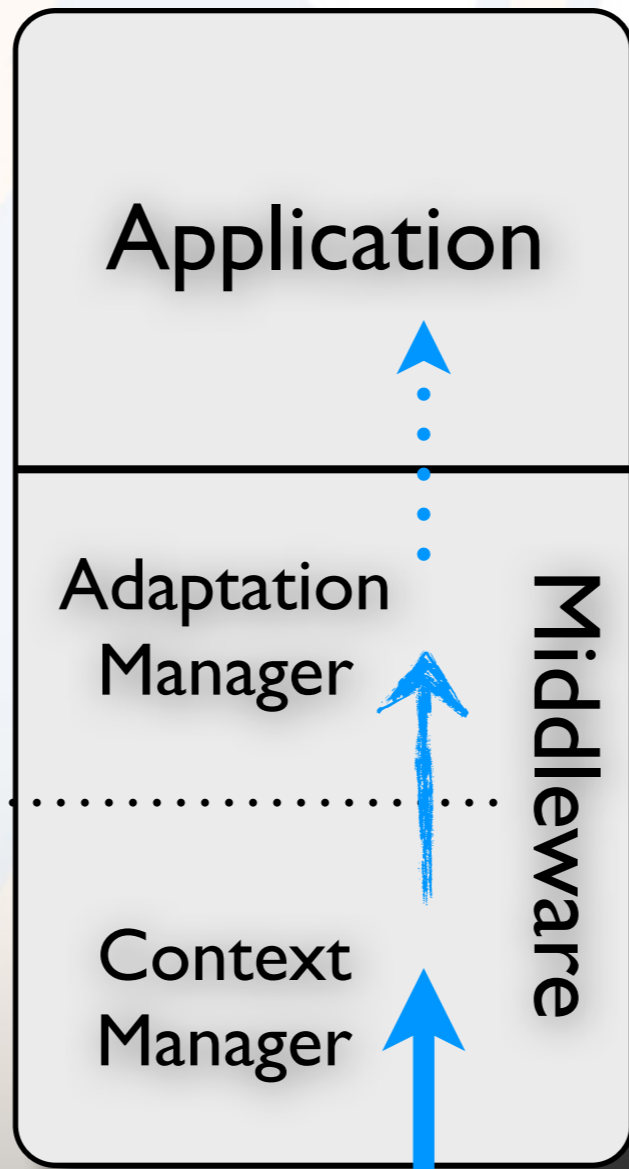
# Adaptation in CAAAs

*Presumed Context*

*Inferred Context*

*Sensed Context*

*Physical Context*



**Middleware**

**3rd-Party Libraries**

**Environment**



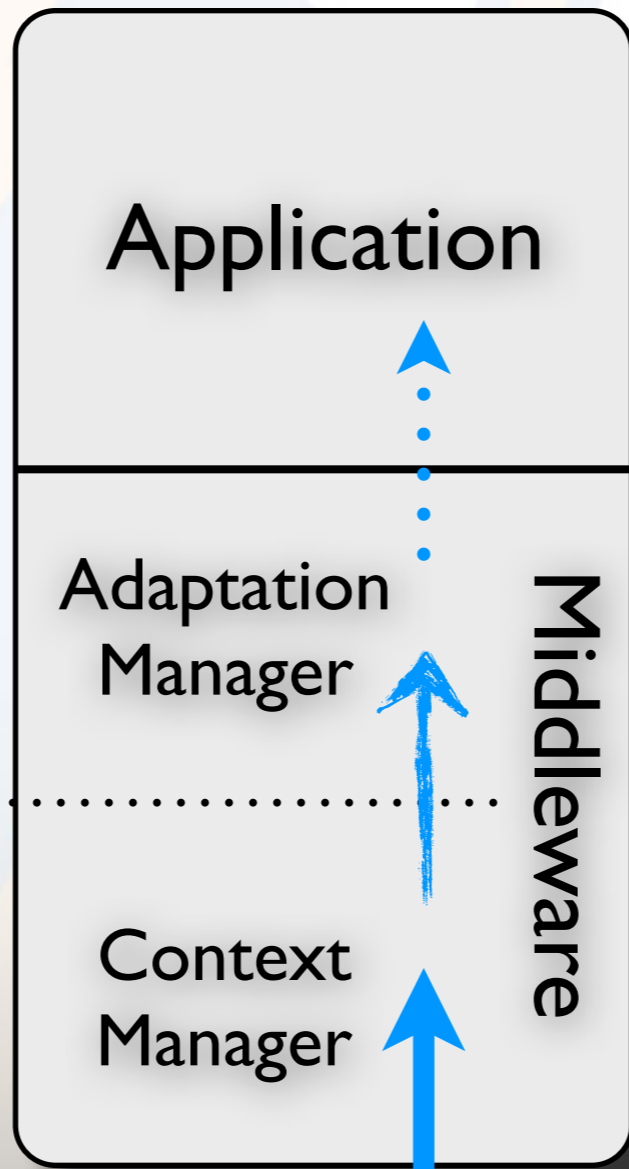
# Adaptation in CAAAs

*Presumed Context*

*Inferred Context*

*Sensed Context*

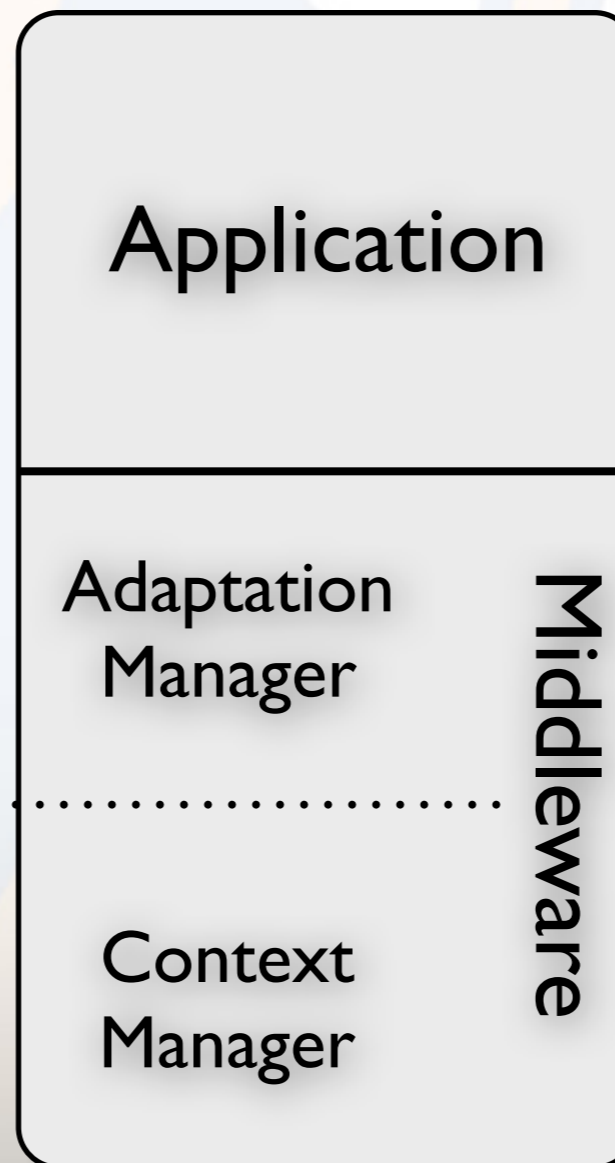
*Physical Context*



**Rule Engine**

**3rd-Party Libraries**

# Validation of CAAAs

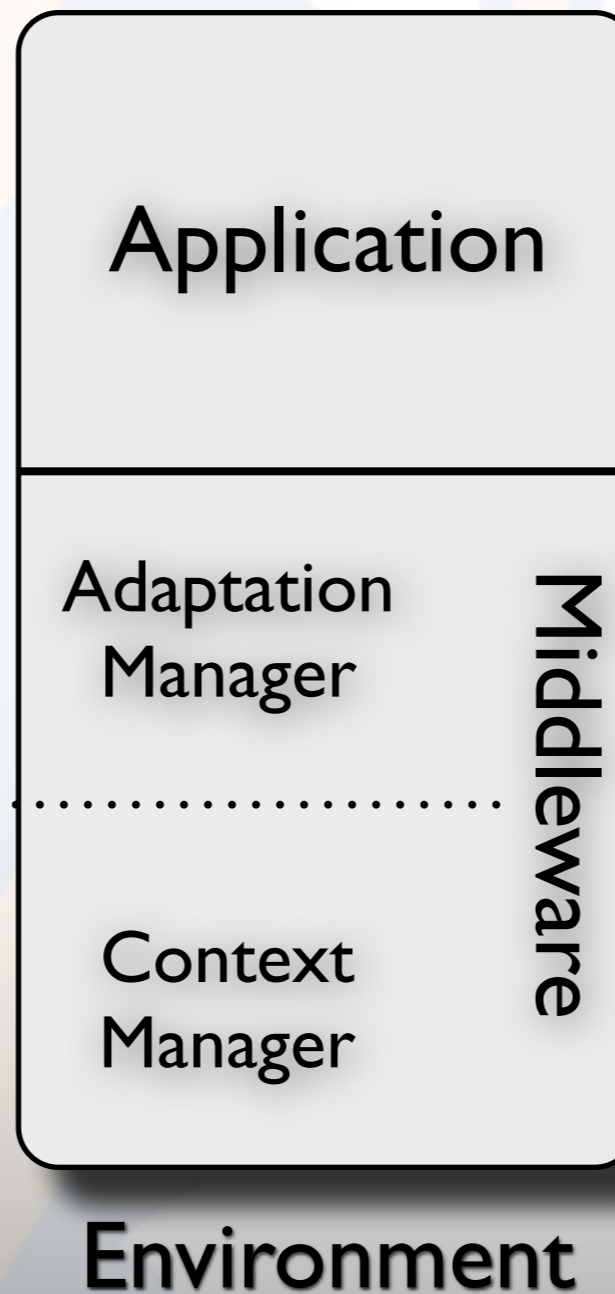


# Validation of CAAAs

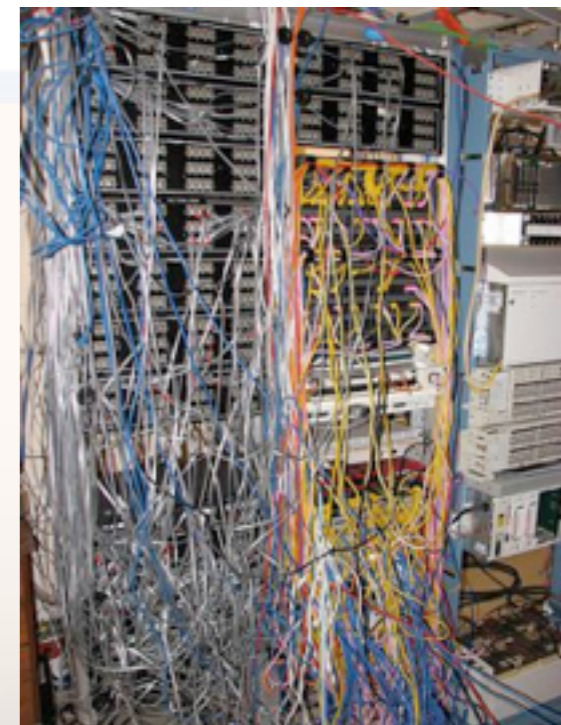
*Rules are strongly interdependent*

*and have multiple priorities*

*which makes reasoning difficult even for a small number of rules*

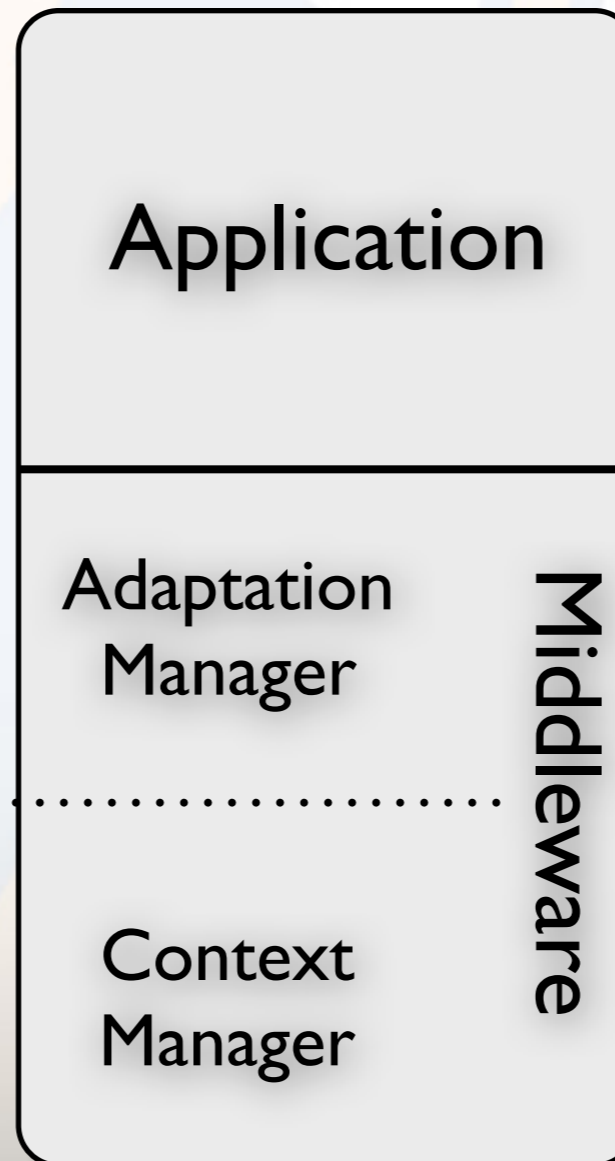


**Rule Engine**





# Validation of CAAAs



**3rd-Party Libraries**

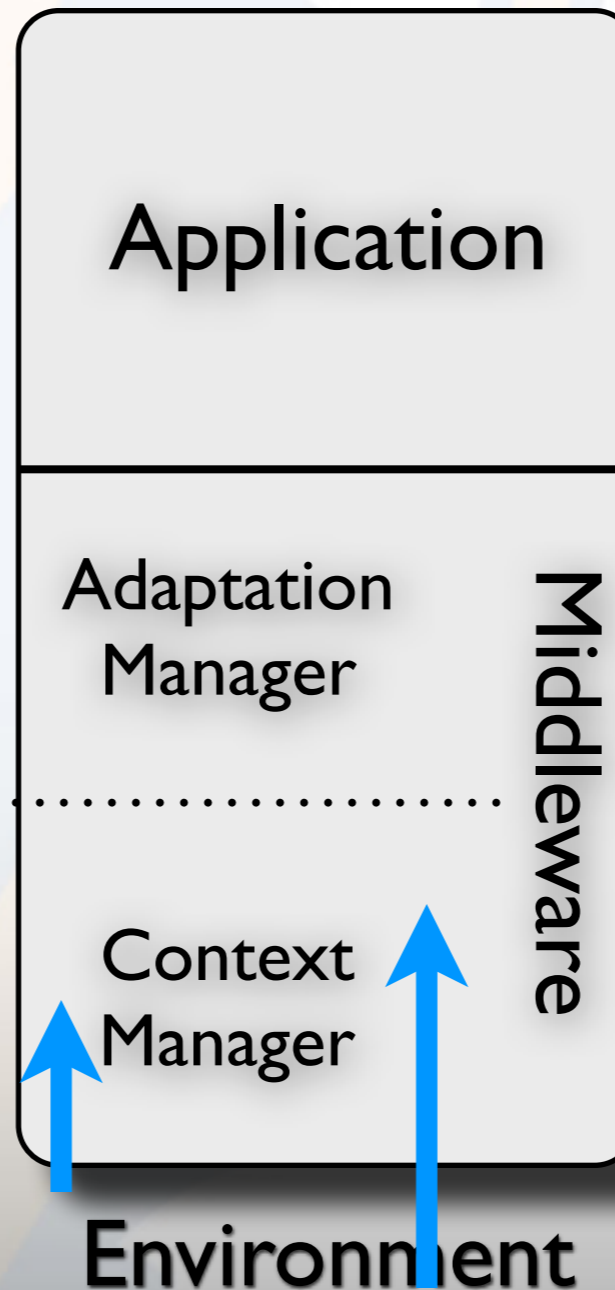
Environment

# Validation of CAAAs

*Context is sensed periodically*

*from multiple sources*

*at varying rates*



**3rd-Party Libraries**

# Approach

1. Derive *Adaptation Finite-State Machine* (A-FSM) from rule logic
2. Explore state space of A-FSM to discover potential faults
  - ✓ *Enumerative algorithms*
  - ✓ *Symbolic algorithms*
3. (Confirm existence of discovered faults)



# PhoneAdapter



# PhoneAdapter



*silent, vibrate*



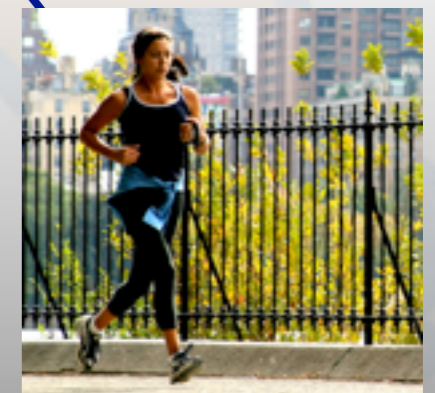
*normal,  
vibrate*



*loud,  
divert to  
hands-free*



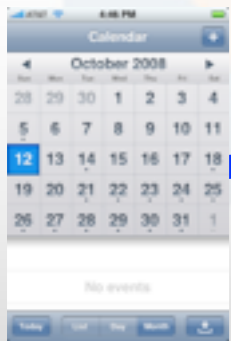
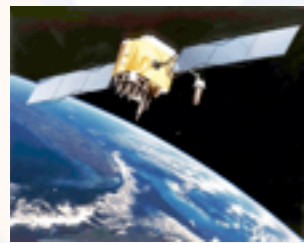
*silent, divert to voicemail*



*loud, vibrate*



# PhoneAdapter



*silent, vibrate*



*normal, vibrate*



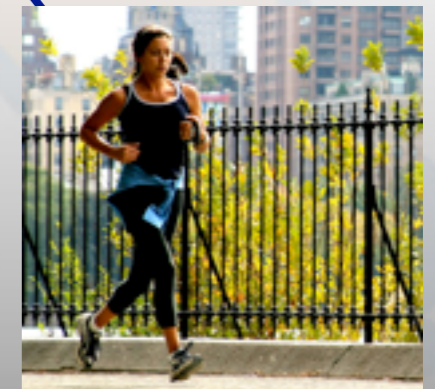
*loud, divert to hands-free*



*silent, divert to voicemail*

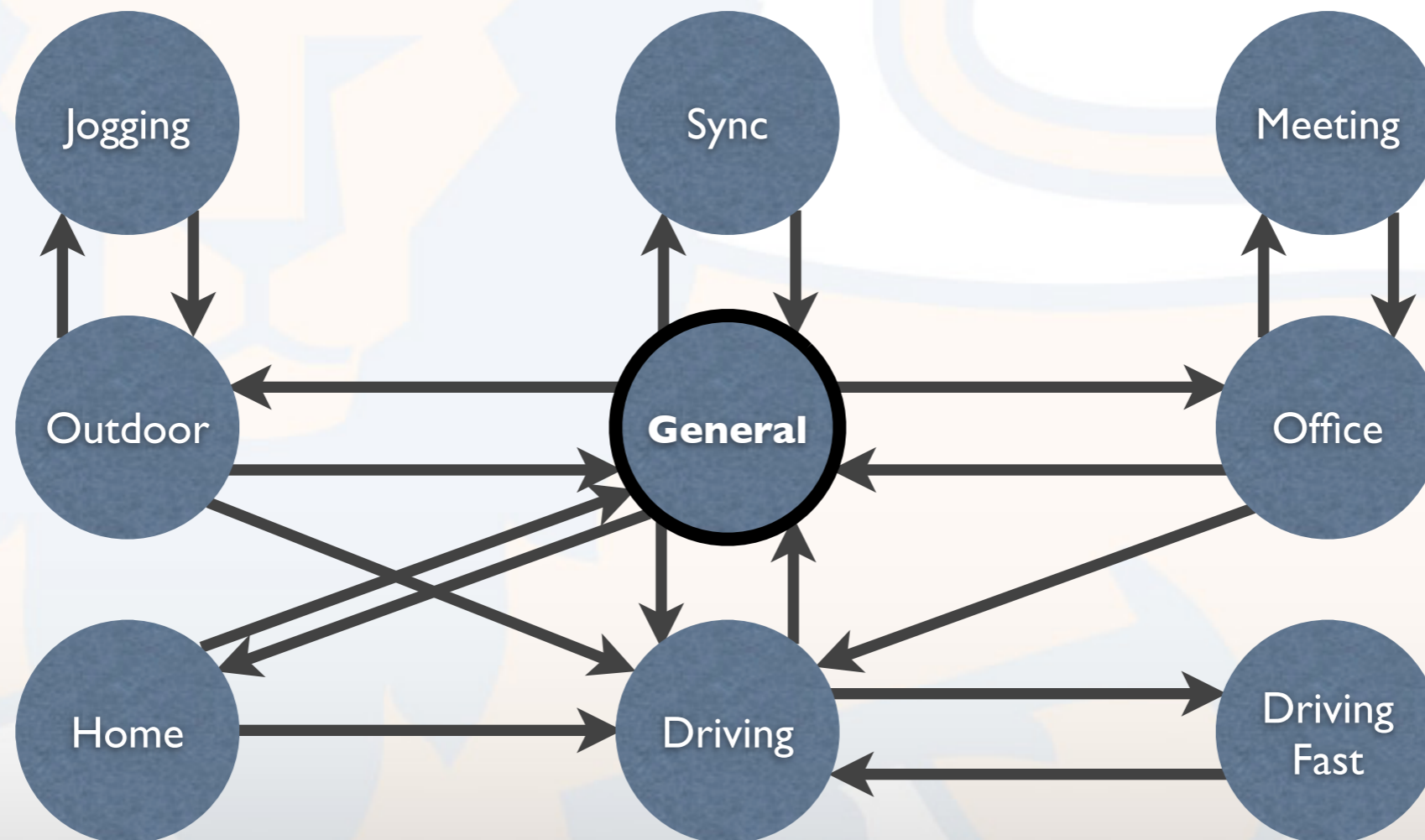


*loud, vibrate*

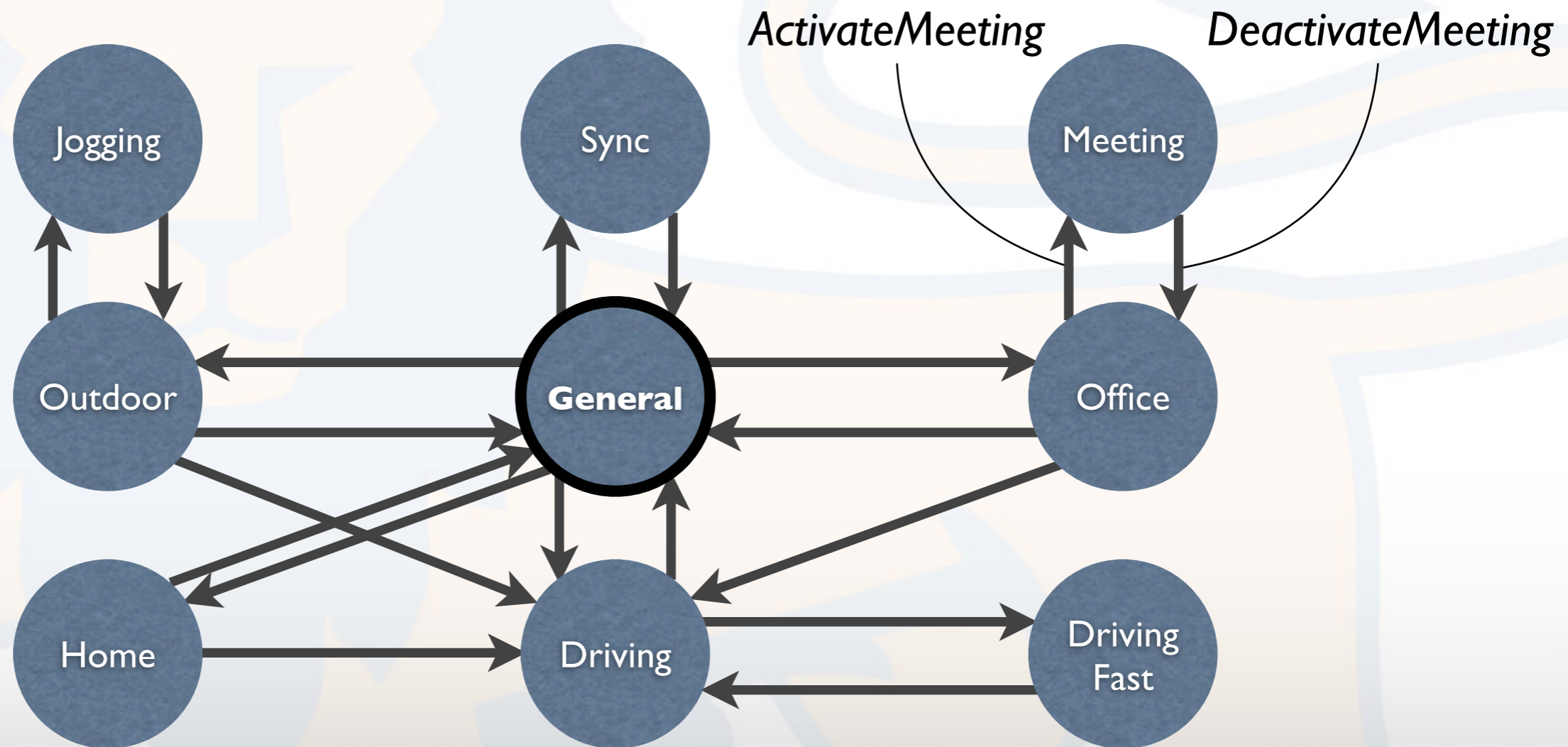




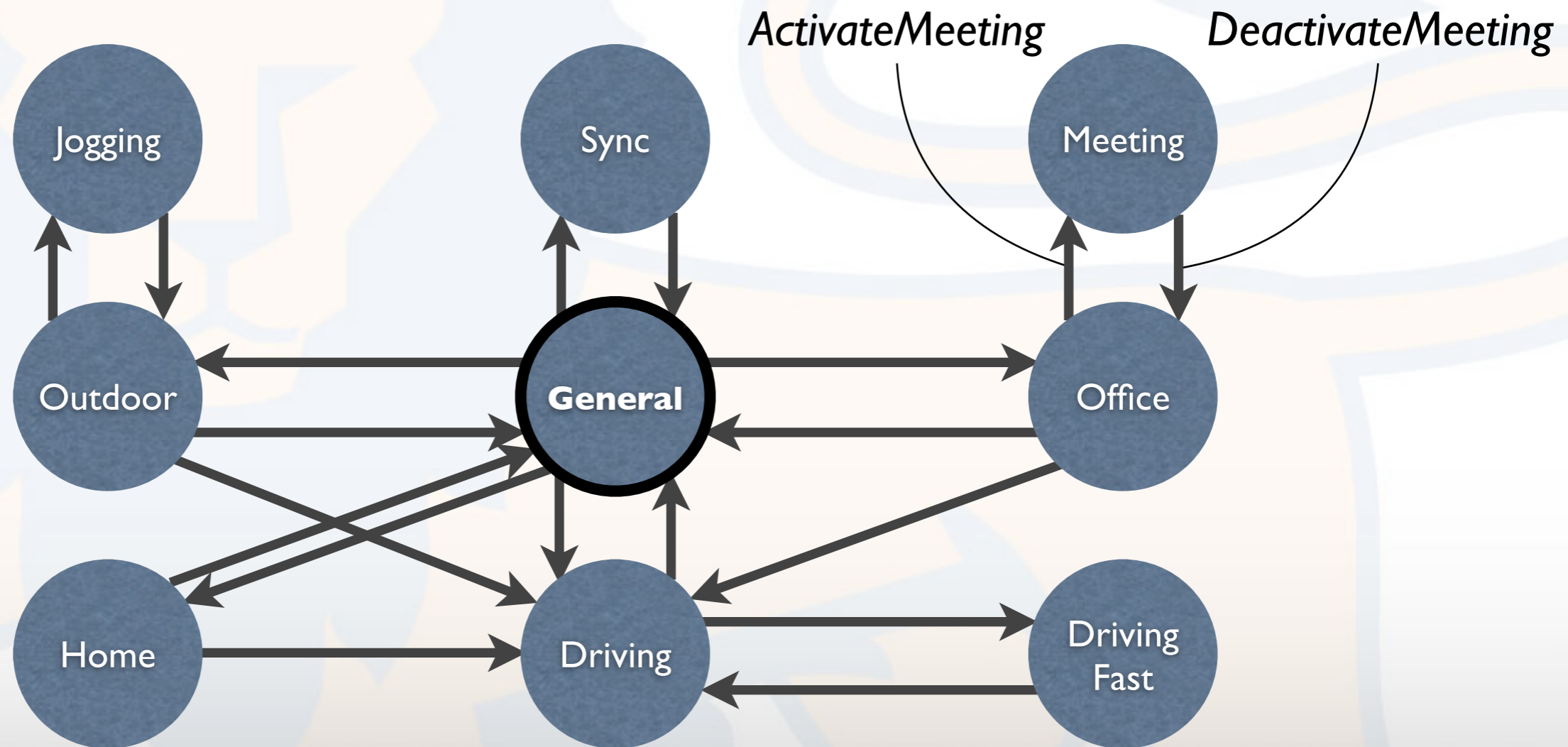
# PhoneAdapter A-FSM



# PhoneAdapter A-FSM



# PhoneAdapter A-FSM



**Global constraints:**

*checking location implies GPS is on*

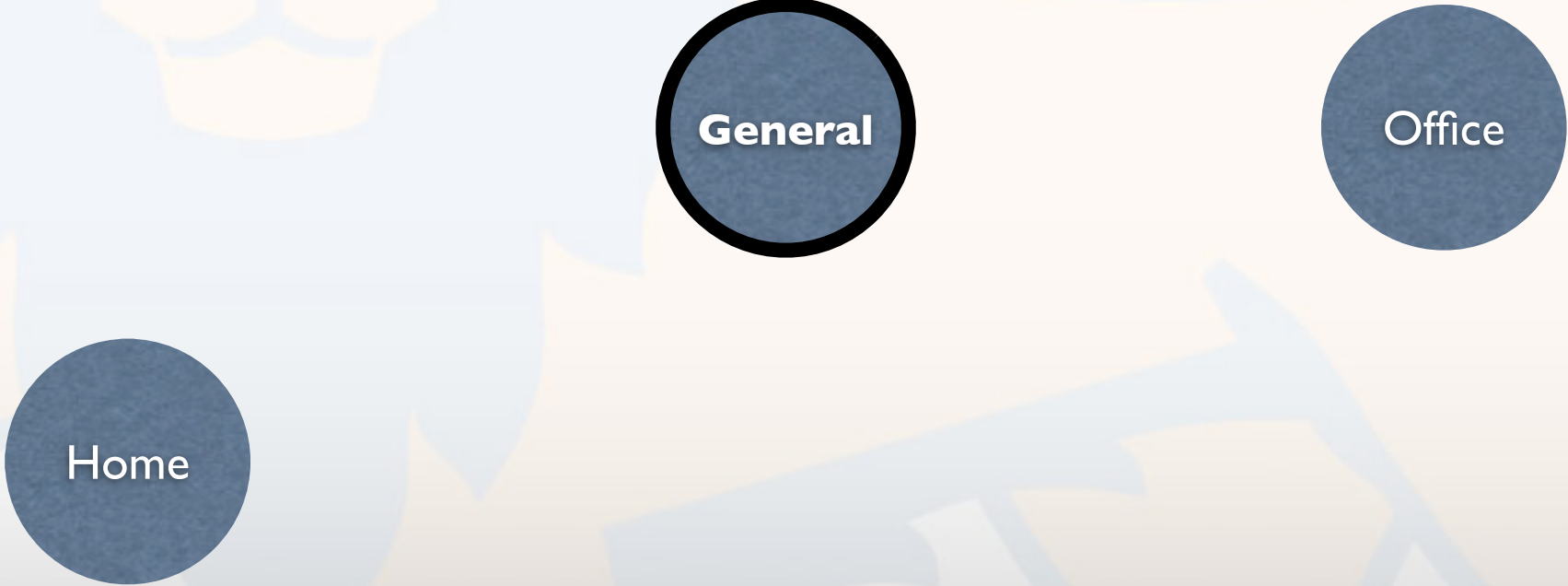
*locations are mutually exclusive*

*speeds monotonically increase*

*a meeting's end time is later than its start time*



# Example Faults in PhoneAdapter

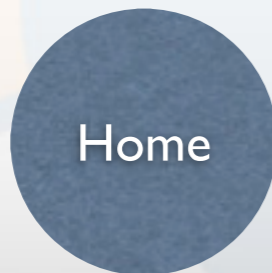
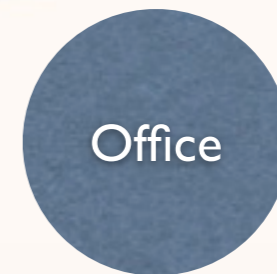


General

Office

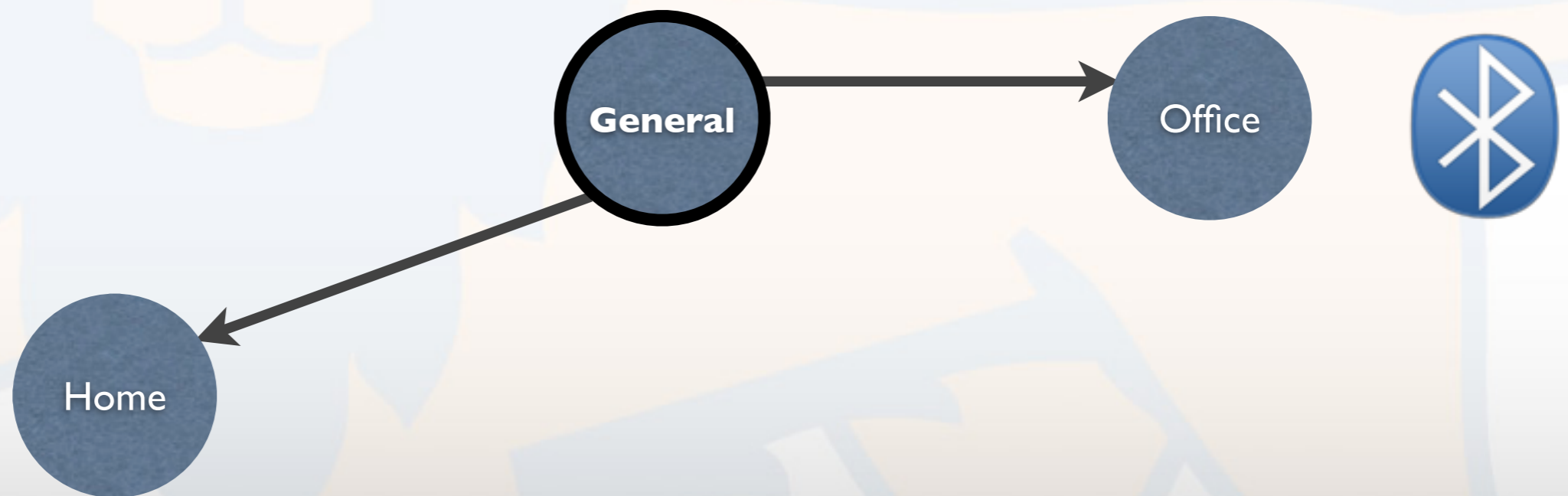
Home

# Example Faults in PhoneAdapter



*User's phone discovers office PC at home (or vice versa)*


# Example Faults in PhoneAdapter



*Nondeterminism!*

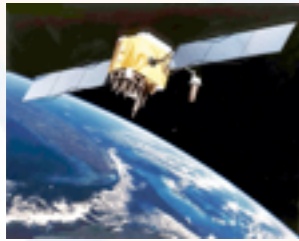


# Example Faults in PhoneAdapter



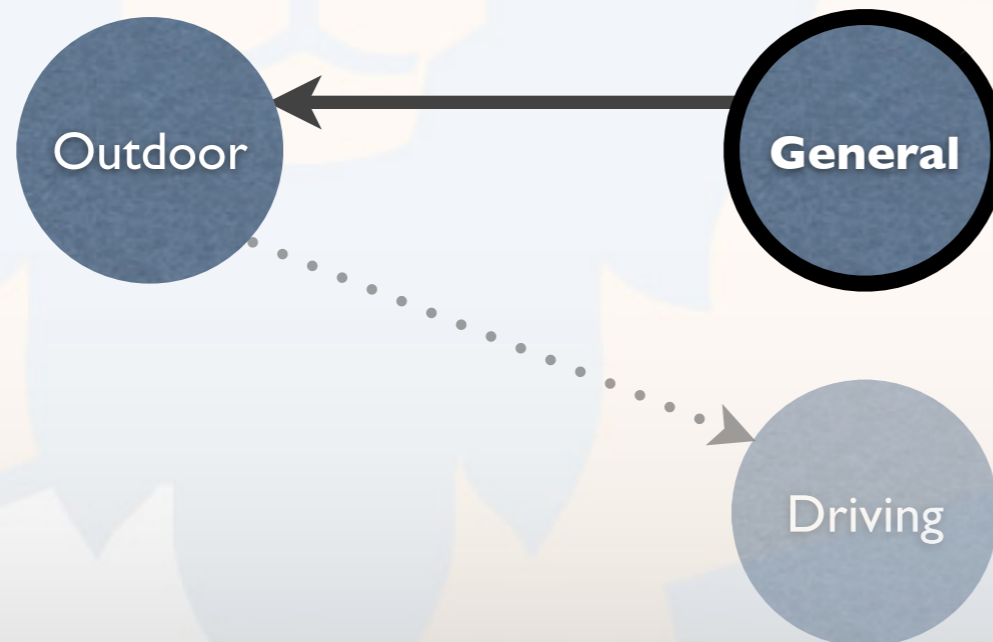
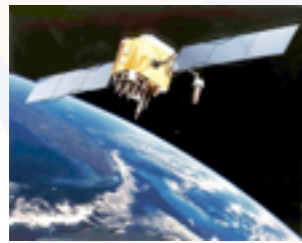
General

# Example Faults in PhoneAdapter



*User leaves home*

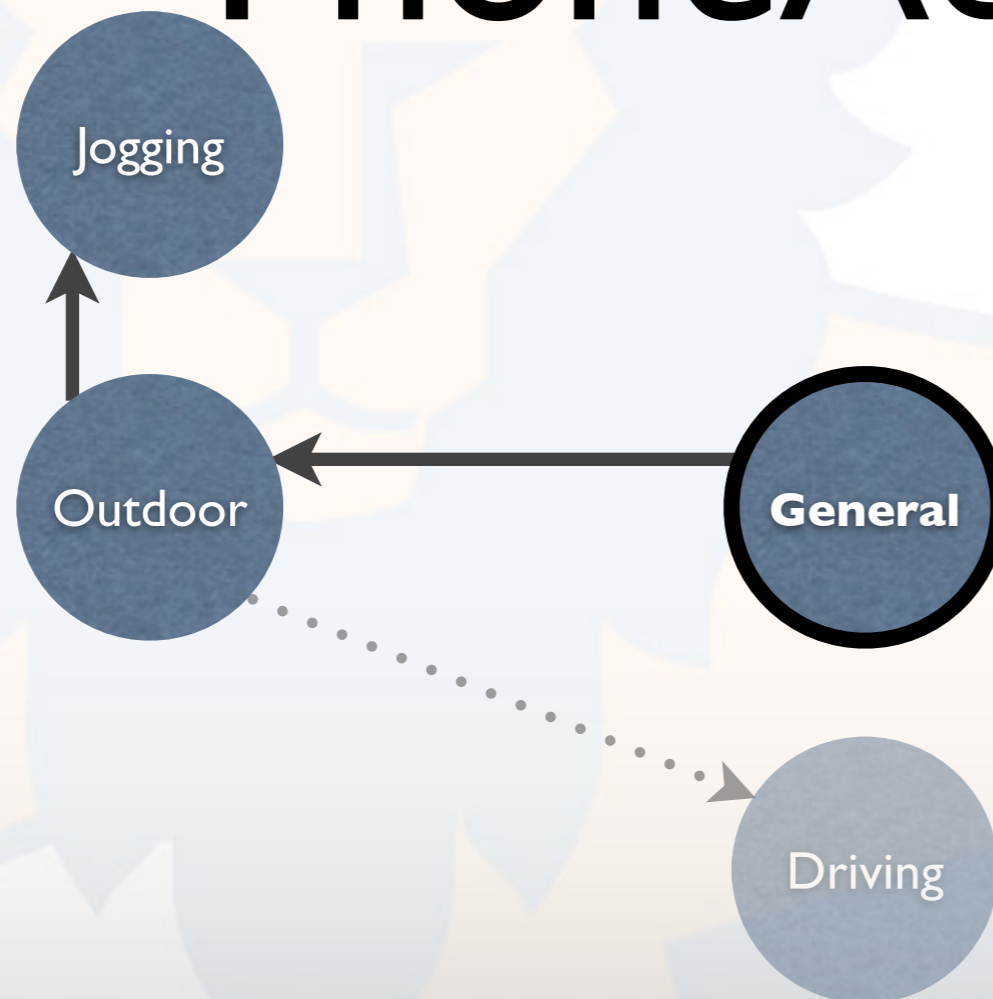
# Example Faults in PhoneAdapter



*User starts driving before Bluetooth detects hands-free system*

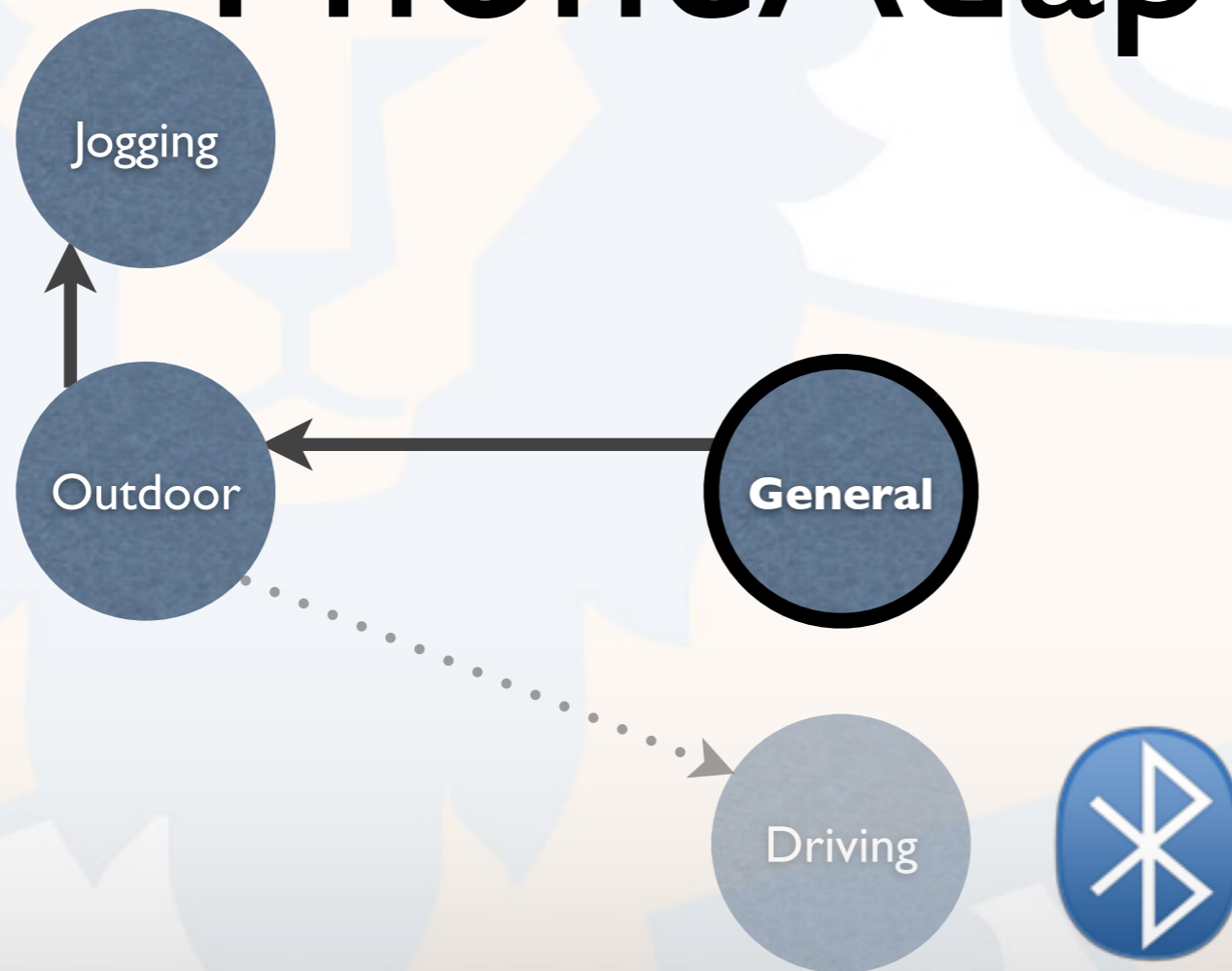
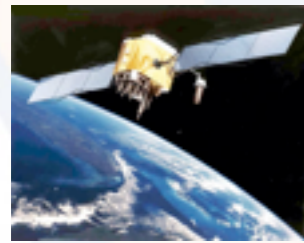


# Example Faults in PhoneAdapter



*Activation hazard!*

# Example Faults in PhoneAdapter



*Activation hazard!*

# Faults in CAAAs

- Behavioral Faults
  - *Nondeterminism*
  - *Dead rule*
  - *Dead state*
  - *Unreachable state*
  - *Activation race*
  - *Activation cycle*



# Faults in CAAAs

- Behavioral Faults

- *Nondeterminism*

- *Dead rule*

- *Dead state*

- *Unreachable state*

- *Activation race*

- *Activation cycle*

- Hazards

- *Hold hazard*

- *Activation hazard*

- *Priority inversion hazard*

# PhoneAdapter Results

## Behavioral Faults: Enumerative, Symbolic

State	Nondeterministic Adaptations	Dead Predicates	Adaptation		Unreachable States
			Races	Cycles	
General	37	1	45	13	0
Outdoor	3	0	135	23	0
Jogging	0	0	97	19	0
Driving	0	0	36	13	0
DrivingFast	0	0	58	19	0
Home	0	0	76	19	0
Office	0	0	29	1	0
Meeting	0	0	32	1	0
Sync	0	0	27	5	1

# PhoneAdapter Results


## Hazards: Enumerative

State	Context Hazards			
	Paths	Hold	Activ.	Prior.
General	14085	0	11	3182
Outdoor	161	0	0	52
Jogging	2	0	0	0
Driving	16	2	2	4
DrivingFast	2	0	0	0
Home	104	8	0	13
Office	82634	1828	368	2164
Meeting	0	0	0	0
Sync	2	2	0	0



# CAAAAs

## Summary

- 
- ✓ Rule-based CAAAs can be **extremely** fault-prone, even with a **small** set of rules and context variables
  - ✓ The fault detection algorithms find many **actual** faults, with different **tradeoffs**
  - ✓ Some **alternative** to rule-based adaptation is needed ...

# CAMMR

## Context-Aware Mobile Music Recommendation

- ✓ Users' **short-term** music needs are driven by their current **activity**
- ✓ Fully automated music recommendation requires solving the **cold-start problem**:
  - Which existing user will like a **new song**?
  - Which existing songs will a **new user** like?

# CAMMR

## Functionality





# CAMMR

## Functionality



# CAMMR

## Functionality



# CAMMR

## Functionality





# CAMMR

## Key Characteristics

- ✓ Real-time sensor-driven activity inference  
Running, Walking, Sleeping,  
Working, Studying, Shopping
- ✓ Offline low-level audio content analysis
- ✓ Personalization of recommendations

# CAMMR

## Supervised Learning

✓ **Machine learning**, not handcrafted rules!

Ground truth:

**Activity:** Manually tagged sensor streams

**Music:** Activity-tagged Grooveshark playlists

Coupled with **incremental learning** of individual preferences

# CAMMR

## Architecture

**Back End**



**Front End**





# CAMMR

## Architecture

Back End



Audio Feature  
Extraction

Binary Classifiers  
(Adaboost)

Running

Walking

Sleeping

Working

Studying

Shopping

Front End



# CAMMR

## Architecture

Back End



Audio Feature  
Extraction

Binary Classifiers  
(Adaboost)

Running

Walking

Sleeping

Working

Studying

Shopping

Front End



Sensor Stream  
Feature Extraction

Sensor signal  
features

# CAMMR

## Architecture

Back End



Audio Feature  
Extraction

Binary Classifiers  
(Adaboost)

Running

Walking

Sleeping

Working

Studying

Shopping

Classification  
Results

Front End



Sensor Stream  
Feature Extraction

Sensor signal  
features

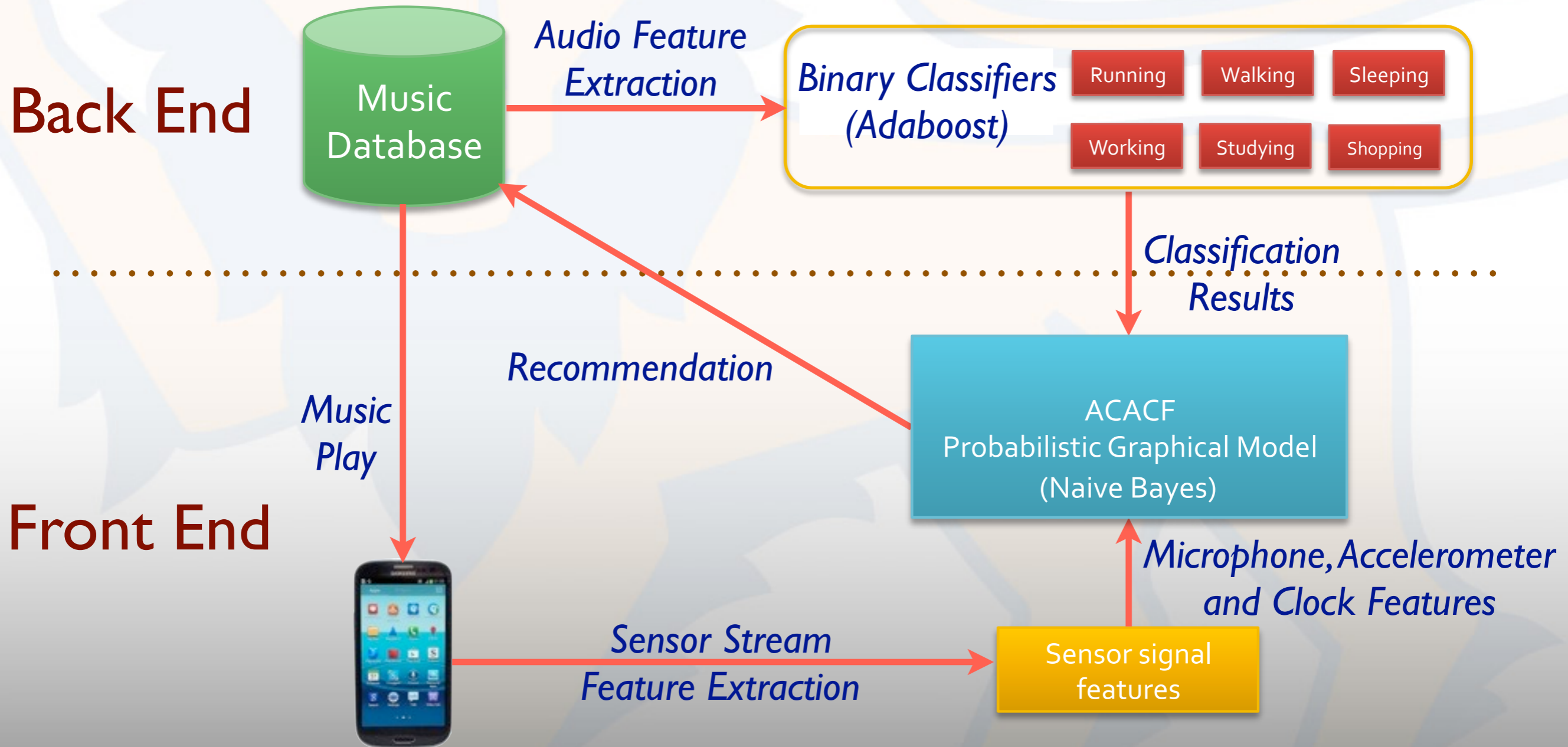
ACACF  
Probabilistic Graphical Model  
(Naive Bayes)

Microphone, Accelerometer  
and Clock Features



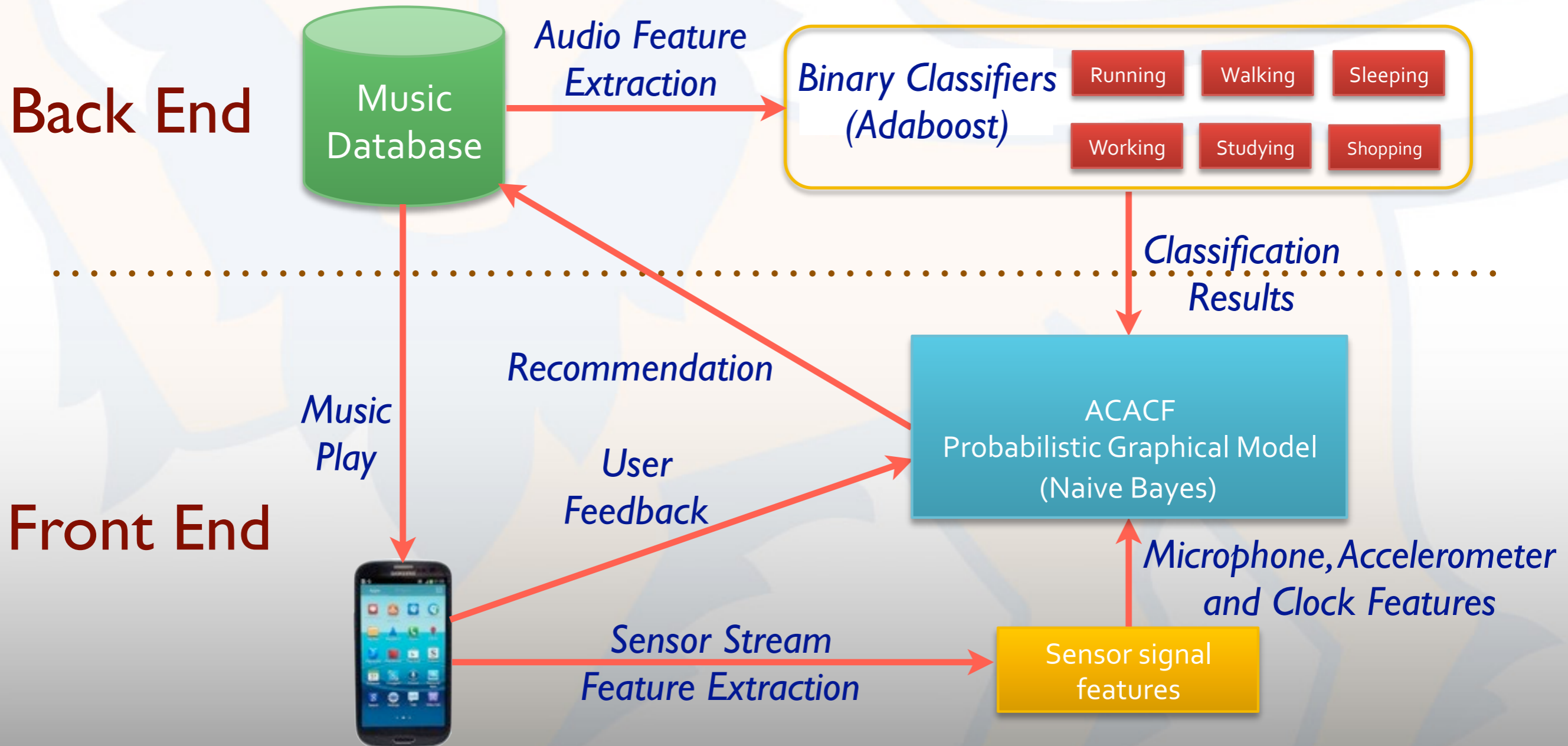
# CAMMR

## Architecture



# CAMMR

## Architecture



# Results

## Inter-Subject Agreement on Music Preferences

Activity	Kappa Agreement	Percent Agreement
<i>Running</i>	<b>0.27</b>	0.35
<i>Working</i>	0.03	0.02
<i>Sleeping</i>	<b>0.29</b>	0.28
<i>Walking</i>	0.03	0.03
<i>Shopping</i>	0.07	0.17
<i>Studying</i>	0.09	0.11

- 10 subjects
- Manual activity tagging of 1200 Grooveshark and YouTube songs
- $p < 0.0001$



# Results

## Precision of Activity Inference

Activity	AdaBoost	C4.5	LR	NB	SVM	KNN
Running	0.974	0.976	0.975	0.841	0.974	0.970
Working	0.933	0.932	0.921	0.876	0.929	0.922
Sleeping	0.999	0.999	0.999	0.994	0.999	0.993
Walking	0.961	0.960	0.955	0.909	0.960	0.953
Shopping	0.972	0.972	0.948	0.953	0.965	0.955
Studying	0.854	0.867	0.835	0.694	0.860	0.855
OVERALL	0.951	0.952	0.941	0.893	0.950	0.943

- 10 subjects, 6 activities, 30 minutes/session
- Naive Bayes provides very good **precision and efficiency** for smartphones

# Results

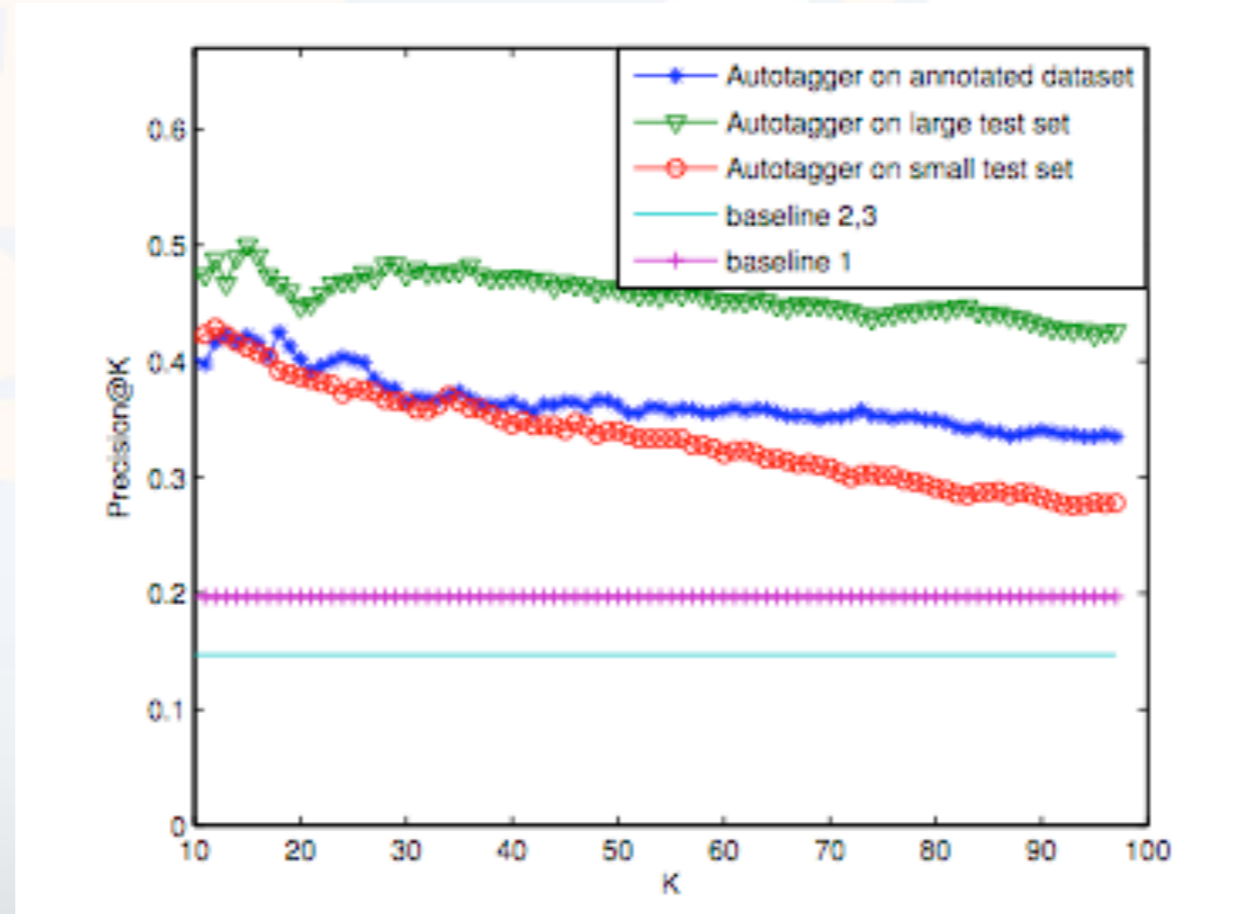
## Precision of Activity Inference

Activity	AdaBoost	C4.5	LR	NB	SVM	KNN
Running	0.974	0.976	0.975	0.841	0.974	0.970
Working	0.933	0.932	0.921	0.876	0.929	0.922
Sleeping	0.999	0.999	0.999	0.994	0.999	0.993
Walking	0.961	0.960	0.955	0.909	0.960	0.953
Shopping	0.972	0.972	0.948	0.953	0.965	0.955
Studying	0.854	0.867	0.835	0.694	0.860	0.855
OVERALL	0.951	0.952	0.941	0.893	0.950	0.943

- 10 subjects, 6 activities, 30 minutes/session
- Naive Bayes provides very good **precision and efficiency** for smartphones

# Results

## Retrieval Performance



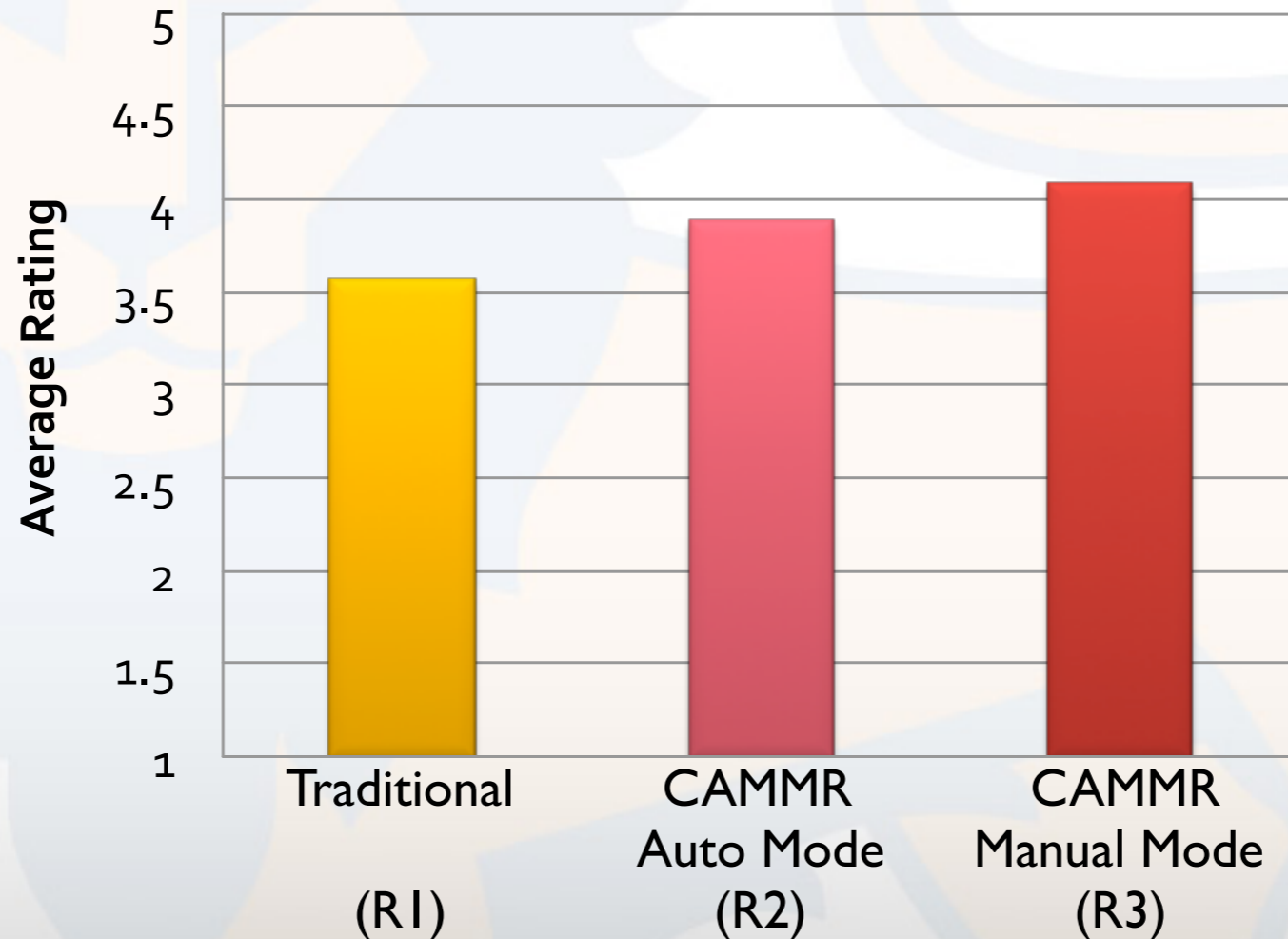
- Precision@K for top K songs
- Baselines are random rankings



# Results

## Accuracy of Music Recommendation

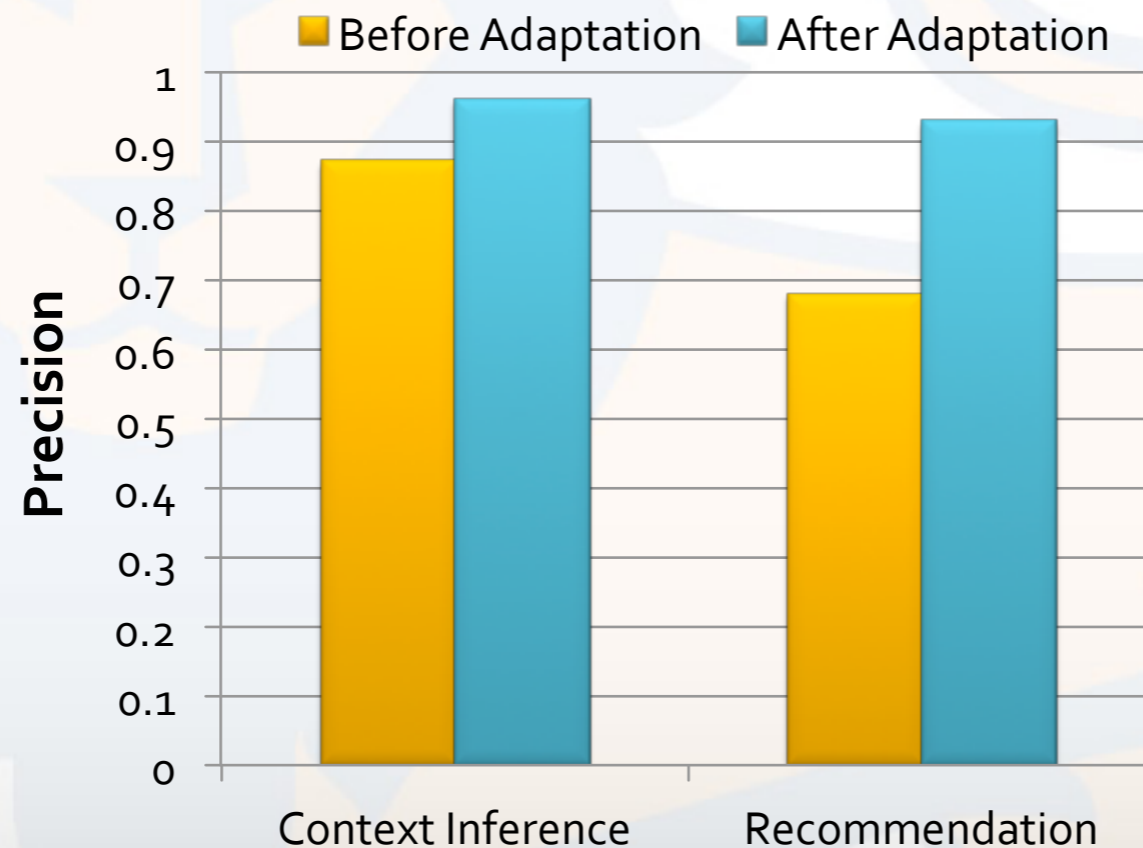
5-point Likert scale



- 10 subjects, divided into experimental and control group
- R2 vs R1:  $p = 0.0478$
- R3 vs R2:  $p = 0.1374$
- R3 vs R1:  $p = 0.0001$

# Results

## Effectiveness of Incremental Adaptation

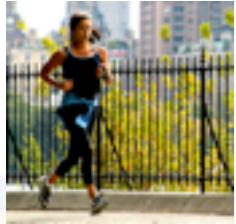


- 2 subjects, continuous usage for one week

# CAMMR

## Summary

- ✓ CAMMR is the first automated solution for **short-term** music listening needs
- ✓ Provides a complete solution to the **cold-start** problem
- ✓ Employs **machine learning** for more robust adaptation



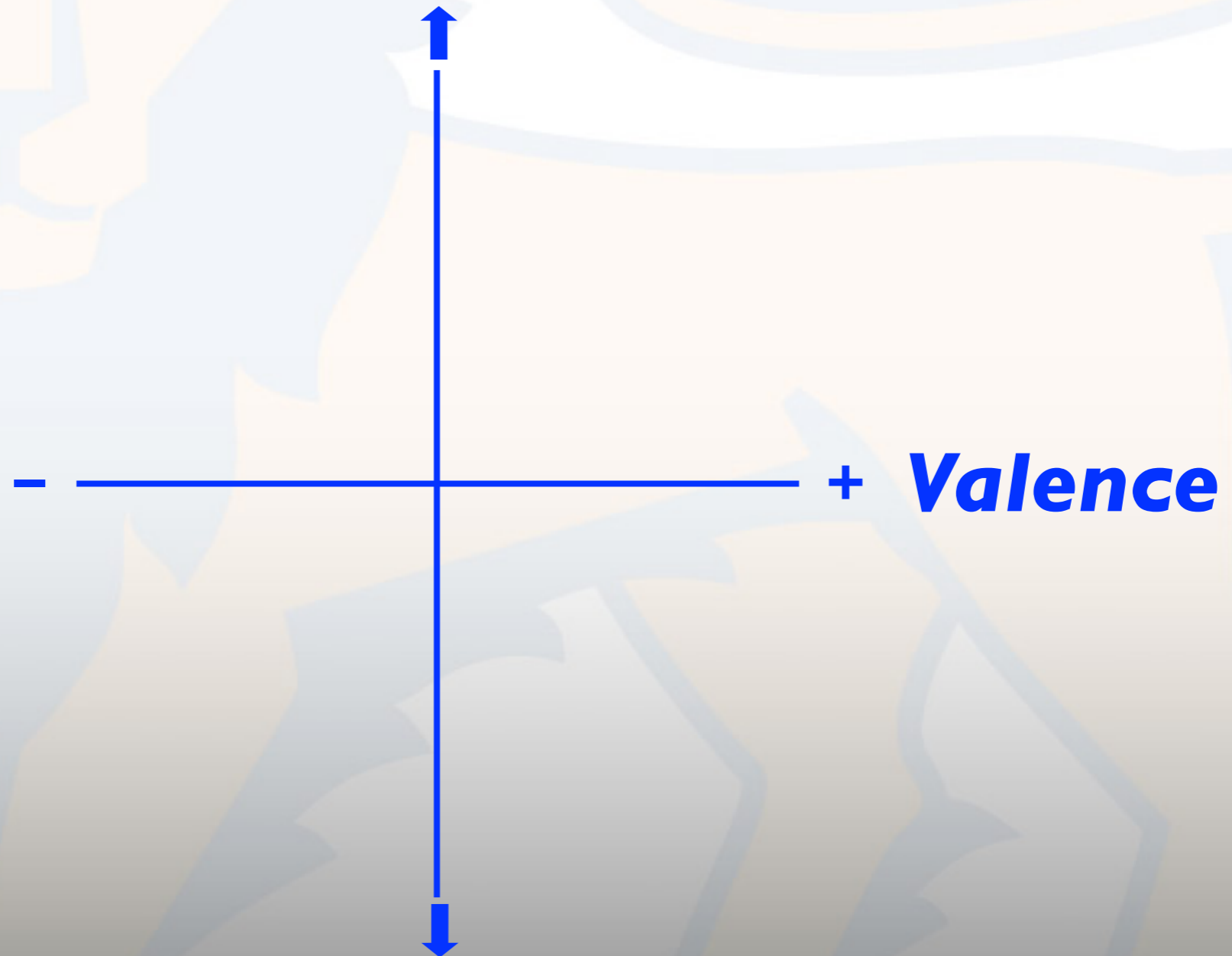




# Other Projects

Emotion Sensing

***Arousal***





# Other Projects

Emotion Sensing

**Arousal**



-



+ **Valence**





# Other Projects

## Emotion Sensing

- Sensing from Mobile & Wearable Sensors

**Microphone:** speech

**Camera:** facial expressions, eye tracking

**Accelerometer:** movement, orientation

**MS Kinect:** gesture

**GPS:** location

**GSR:** skin conductivity

**HRM:** pulse



# Other Projects

## Emotion Sensing

- Many Obstacles and Limitations
  - Lack of empirical evidence for **biological signatures** of emotions
  - Much **variability** in experiencing emotions
    - ➔ Short-term situations vs. long-term mood
    - ➔ Between and within cultures and languages
    - ➔ By the same individual
  - Difficulty of inducing **spontaneous, genuine emotion** in controlled experimental settings





# Other Projects

## Emotion Sensing

- Research Agenda
  - ✓ Multimodal sensing of **core affect**
  - ✓ **Contextualization** of emotion sensing
  - ✓ **Computational platform** for sensing and processing
  - ✓ **Realistic** empirical study designs

# Felicitous Computing

Software Engineering Challenges



# Felicitous Computing

## Software Engineering Challenges




*“There are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are **known unknowns**; that is to say, we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns – the ones we don’t know we don’t know.”*

*— Donald Rumsfeld*

# Felicitous Computing

## Software Engineering Challenges

- 
- Validation of ubiquitous computing systems is riddled with **uncertainty**
    - ➔ Unpredictable ambient environments
    - ➔ Imprecision of context inference
    - ➔ Disagreement among users and/or observers
    - ➔ Slippery slope between “known unknowns” and faults
  - Similar in spirit (but not in character) to Weyuker’s “non-testable programs”
  - May need to employ relative quality comparison of systems rather than absolute quality assessment





# Conclusion

- ✓ The **technology** for felicitous computing is here
- ✓ But building felicitous computing systems remains **challenging**
- ✓ We still lack a clear body of **design and engineering principles**
- ✓ At NUS we are pursuing research breakthroughs to make felicitous computing an **integrated and invisible** part of people's lives



# Felicitous Computing

David S. Rosenblum  
School of Computing  
National University of Singapore

*Thank you!*