

An Advanced Geo-location Approach Based on location sharing Services and login logs from PCs

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Abstract : Location-based technologies allow users with increasing, interconnected location-based data services with each other and with the Internet. Geolocation Implementation can be deriving at many different points in an application request's lifecycle. To understand the extreme rate through the largest range of use cases, collection of geolocation information is best competently derived when a demand is first made for a given resource. Accurately determining the geographic location of an Internet host is important for location-based applications such as location-based publicity and network diagnostics. Despite their fast response time, widely used database-driven geolocation approaches provide only inaccurate locations. In this paper, we propose an efficient methodology for Reliability Analysis of Client-independent Internet Protocol Geolocation, which can be very helpful for evolution in Advertising, weather forecast, crime scene investigation, android mobile applications and many more.

Keywords: Geolocation, Geolocation Applications, Geolocation Techniques

1. INTRODUCTION

Identifying the physical location of users by using devices that can passively or actively determine their location. As the accuracy of geolocation technology has improved, there are more use cases for location-based networking than ever before. Conventional wisdom dictates that the Internet is a medium in which federalism is destined to fail. Virtually, the Internet naturally repels parameter by a diverse set of GOVERNMENT actors. Certainly, courts have reasoned that federalism on the Internet is either technically not possible or constitutionally forbidden. The development in geolocation technology, which make it possible to rapidly, reasonably, & correctly recognize geolocation, challenges this is appreciative & propose new approaches that could radically alter the way electronic commerce is governed. To illustrate this point, this Essay explores the ways that such technologies could be used to make Internet gambling regulation more responsive to longstanding federalism principles. As demonstrated below, geolocation technologies have the potential to make Internet gambling law both more effective and more efficient by enabling each state to enforce its own substantive regulations.

Geolocation integration can be accomplished at many different points in an application request's lifecycle. To realize the greatest value across the broadest spectrum of use cases, gathering of geolocation data is most efficiently accomplished when a request is first made for a given resource. The Application Delivery Controller is typically deployed at a strategic point in the application and network architecture: at the perimeter of the network, acting as an intermediary between clients and resources. Given this strategic location, geolocation data should be incorporated into the existing context that is already associated with every request such as IP address, user-agent, and ability to accept specific types of content.

2. DEFINITIONS

Geolocation can be defined as a technology that uses information gain from specific PC or any type of radio or network-connection-enabled device to identify user's actual physical location. It is one of the most popular manifestations of the current development of information technologies and is recently experiencing a significant rise in popularity. When a GPS signal is unavailable, geolocation applications can use information from cell towers to triangulate the approximate position, a method that is not as accurate as GPS but has greatly improved in recent years. [1]

"Geolocation is the identification of the real-world geographic location of an object, such as a radar, mobile phone or an Internet-connected computer terminal. Geolocation may refer to the practice of assessing the location, or to the actual assessed location [2]. Technically meanings are various like GPS or satellite tracing, smartphones location, identifying locations of WiFi hot spot & identifying locations of IP addresses.

3. RELATED WORK

2.1 Geolocation Techniques

1) Client-dependent Geolocation Techniques:

The Global Positioning System (GPS) has been widely used and it provides precise location information to any device with a GPS receiver. However, GPS is energy expensive for mobile devices (e.g., smartphones) and cannot be used indoors due to weak GPS signals. Skyhook [3], Place Lab [4], and Google My Location [5] scan the location information of cell towers and Wi-Fi access points all around the world (typically through a car), and estimate the location of a client through information broadcast from nearby cell towers or Wi-Fi access points. However, the cost of deploying cars for surveying location information is high and there is a debate on whether scanning this information is legal in some countries for privacy concerns. Moreover, all client-dependent geolocation techniques suffer from the following two limitations [6]. Firstly, these techniques require clients' support to report their locations to the server, which is not applicable for scenarios such as location-based targeted advertising, context-aware security, location-based access restrictions, and online service analysis. Secondly, there are many devices with only wired access [7], and they do not have a capability of GPS, cellular, or Wi-Fi.

2) Client-independent Geolocation Techniques:

Database-driven Geolocation. Database-driven geolocation techniques try to build a database with a huge number of IP/location mapping records, whose geolocation resources come from the Whois database [8], DNS [9], postal addresses from the Web [10], user contributions [11] and users' registration records [9]. Database-driven geolocations are widely used in commercial systems for their fast response time and easy deployment. However, the geolocation error is large since the geolocation resources are quite coarse-grained.

TABLE I: A Comparison of Geolocation result & related work in IP Geolocation

Methods		Geolocation Resources	Median Estimation Error (km)	Response Time (sec)	Deployment
Delay Measurement Based Geolocation	GeoPing	Network Delay	382	Tens of seconds to several Minutes	Tens of Geographically Dispersed Servers
	CBG	Network Delay	228		
	TBG	Network Delay & Topology	67		
	Octant	Network Delay & Topology	35.4		
	Wang-Geo	Network Delay & Topology & Postal Address from web	7.7		
Database-driven Geolocation	Existing Approaches	Whois, DNS, Postal Addresses from web, User Contributions	City Level	Negligible	Negligible
	Proposed Approach	Result of our method & Login Logs	0.8		

Typically, database-driven geolocations can only provide a city-level geolocation [12], [13], which cannot meet the demand of precise geolocation for many location-aware applications. Delay Measurement Based Geolocation. Delay measurement based geolocation approaches estimate the geographic location of a target IP based on the network delays from known landmarks to the target. The rationale beneath these approaches is the positive correlation between network delay and geographic distance. Thus measured network delays can be converted to distances or distance constraints. In these approaches, a number of geographically dispersed servers are deployed to measure the network delays or routes from these servers to the target IP. Depending on the geolocation resources that these approaches leverage, they can be categorized into:

- 1) estimating the location simply based on network delay measurements, e.g., GeoPing [9] and CBG [14];
 - 2) combining network delay and topology measurements, e.g., TBG [15] and Octant [16]; and
 - 3) combining network delays, network topology and postal addresses from websites, e.g., Wang-Geo [6].
- With contributions from these works, the median estimation error of delay measurement based geolocation has been reduced from the original hundreds of kilometers to under 10 km [6], [16], [14], [9], [14].

However, delay measurement based geolocation techniques have never been widely deployed in reality for the following two reasons [12]. First, they need a number of geographically dispersed servers for probing and

measuring the target IP. Thus the deployment is difficult. Second, these techniques usually suffer from large measurement overhead, with a response time ranging from tens of seconds to several minutes to localize a single IP [12], [14]. For example, Wang-Geo [6] needs a response time of 25.9 seconds on average. Compared with existing client-independent geolocation techniques, this method proves the following advantages:

- (i) Better geolocation accuracy with an order of magnitude smaller than the state-of-the-art;
- (ii) Fast response time; &
- (iii) Easy deployment. Table I shows the detailed comparison among this method and related works in IP Geolocation.

B. Studying and Mining Location Data

With the increasing popularity of location-aware devices, a considerable amount of research efforts have been attracted to study location data in recent years. Leveraging the movement trajectories sampled at high frequency from volunteers, researchers have tried to predict users' future activities [17], infer people's transportation modes [18], and identify semantic regions associated with users' activities [19]. Based on the observation that phone call records contain both the time and the associated cell tower ID of each call event, Isaacman et al. [20] propose an algorithm to identify important locations for users, and Cho et al. [21] develop a model to predict the locations and dynamics of future human movements. In particular, Isaacman et al. [20] design a logistic regression to identify important locations including home/work for a user. Different from [20] which focuses on the exact single home or work location, we are interested in all the potential home/office location candidates. Experimental results show that the candidates produced by our method based on check-ins cover home/office locations for 98% of users with an accuracy of 2 km, while [20] estimates the exact home/work with 95th percentile error of 3.86 miles (home) and 21.23 miles (work).

4. IMPLEMENTATION

The activity to find out the exact geographic location of IP hosts is significant for location-receptive applications like Internet advertising, Cyber-attack detection and faults diagnosis. Even though their quick feedback, regular used database-driven geolocation methods provides incorrect locations.

4.1. Based on Smartphone Application

Devices like smartphones, whether they are different platform based on Operating systems, are extremely able to check-in geo location data. Smartphone applications depend on such geo data for targeting of advertisements; and many platforms will be making use of the mass of data being developed from smartphones.

4.2. Based on public wifi

While identifying geolocation from public wifi is not much accurate because the range of these devices are less. As any device is connected to these hotspots they will identify.

4.3. Based on Internet Protocol

Laptop or Personal Computer Users are normally uses Internet through wired or wireless connection & are typically inside home. The concluding guidelines out GPS location and neither networks are through cells. In this, to find exact geolocation IP Address is used. An IP address contains no geographic info whatever and ISPs modifies IP addresses manually. Though, blocks of IP addresses are applied to areas and records kept of where addresses are applied within these areas. Also there is a high degree of consistency over who is given which IP address, right down to the individual address level.

4.4. Based on Application Programming Interface

There are Geolocation Application Programming Interfaces which is inbuilt in web browsers. With the help of API it is very easy to collect geographical info based on what user surfing on internet.

4.5 Based on Social Media Sites

Sharing location on Social media sites like Facebook, LinkedIn & other site tells person where he is. With help of browser-Cookies advertisers can get information about interest, purchases, and enquiries from source computer. In summary, without users' permission – with help of these technique a large amount of info like from where this person is accessing internet, what he doing, etc.

Some unusual examples of use of Geolocation data:

- 1) A car rental company started using deployed GPS tracking devices to monitor driving speeds of its customers. If a customer's car exceeded 79 miles per hour for 2 continuous minutes, they were charged an additional \$150 (without their consent). [2]
- 2) A French insurance company used both mobile phone and GPS data to track sales executive locations and cross-reference their expense accounts. This policy resulted in 21 employee dismissals and the identification of over half a million euros in false claims! [3]

You might think that the use of geo data in these examples was necessary, but the same methods could be u in a mass way and for the wrong reasons.

Proposed Applications:

- 1) Languages change as Country changes, but if the content is static it becomes a pain to retrieve useful information. Hence the content will dynamically be presented to the user which will not hold language as a bound to gain useful information. Content favorable for specific location be arranged such a way that it will grab attention of the user.
- 2) Also web service will suggest what people near his location viewed recently to interest user in viewing more articles.
- 3) Web service will also facilitate user with weather forecast based on their location and on anonymous location as well.
- 4) Public interaction will prove a vital input through various social media eg. (Facebook, Twitter) which will be of great help to government officials in crime scene investigation or to cover some major event placed in that Location.

5. DISCUSSION

Limitations:

Compared with existing approaches, this method achieves both high estimation precision and fast response time, and thus it is ready to be deployed at large scale for precise location-based applications, by replacing/complementing existing widely used database-driven geolocation techniques.

However, the IP coverage of method depends on the data we use and typically cannot cover all IPs. In this case, we can combine this method and existing database-based on geolocation techniques to provide a city-level precision for IPs that proposed method cannot cover.

Data Collection:

This method needs to PC login logs from the same users. Collecting these data is not difficult given that most social network services (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, and Foursquare) provide both a mobile (app or web) and a PC version (typically through web) service. Moreover, most location-sharing services allow users to share result to other social networks. For example, result in Foursquare can be shared to Facebook and Twitter. In this case, both result and login logs can be collected from different services and associated through the same users. For example, Facebook can use its own login logs and result cross-posted from Twitter, Foursquare or Facebook itself. Note that account links among different services for a user are usually publicly posted on the user's profile page in social network services

Alternatives for IP/Location Mapping:

We map IPs to locations through the transition of home/office locations. In fact, we have tried other mapping alternatives. However, initial experiments show that these mapping alternatives are not promising. For example, we have tried to use result with a time close to a PC login time for estimating the corresponding

6. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we propose method, to find an accurate IP geolocation which exploits result from location sharing services and login logs from PCs, fundamentally different from existing approaches. Both our experimental results and commercial deployment show that this method achieves fine-grained geolocations. Although the precision of this method is impacted by 1) the density of geolocation result and 2) the mechanisms Internet Service Providers use to allocate IPs, our large-scale deployment in Tencent including almost all cities in China where the two factors change in a large range shows promising estimation precision. It should also be noted that although result of geolocation initially leverages home/office IPs, it covers many more IP addresses in

addition to the intuitive home/office IPs after IP segmenting (the IP range of an airport is the office IPs of employees in this airport, the IP range of an cafe can be used by nearby residents or employees as they are using the same IP /24 segment, etc.). The result of geolocation demonstrates good scalability as it is only a computation intensive approach so that we can speed up the tasks by parallelization and update the IP/Location mappings at high frequency (every day in our deployment as described in, which makes Geolocation a commercial-ready technique to complement existing database-driven techniques. On the contrary, delay-measurement based approaches are difficult to be used commercially as they 1) require to deploy widely dispersed servers and 2) cannot be parallelized at large scale so that the measurements cannot be done offline as the computation in this method.

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