Preface

It is becoming quite clear that there will be important technological advances in mobile and wireless connectivity, known as third-/fourth-generation (3G and 4G) mobile telecommunications systems. As a result we will be surrounded by ever-growing multidomain (technical and administrative) heterogeneous communications in both wired and wireless networks. This resulting environment deals with communication in multizoned networks, where people, devices, appliances and servers are connected to each other via different kinds of networks. Networks will be pervasive, ubiquitous, multiservice, multioperator and multiaccess. The mobility trend will also be spurred forward by the growing availability of mobile-enabled handheld devices.

Mobile systems are expected to provide mobile users with cost-effective, secure, yet ubiquitous service access anywhere and anytime. Users will then continue to enjoy the new-found freedom mobile access provides and will have increasingly high expectations of mobility-aware applications that should be capable of seamlessly supporting the mobile lifestyle.

The papers in this volume discuss issues from models, platforms, and architectures for mobility-aware systems to security, mobile agent technologies, sensitive communications, context awareness, mobile applications and management. They cover both practical experience and novel research ideas and concepts.

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