

Preface

Mobile agents refer to self-contained and identifiable computer programs that can move within the network and can act on behalf of the user or another entity. Most of the current research work on the mobile agent paradigm has two general goals: reduction of network traffic and asynchronous interaction. These two goals stem directly from the desire to reduce information overload and to efficiently use network resources.

There are certainly many motivations for the use of a mobile agent paradigm; however, intelligent information retrieval, network and mobility management, and network services are currently the three most cited application targets for a mobile agent system. The aim of the workshop is to provide a unique opportunity for researchers, software and application developers, and computer network technologists to discuss new developments in the mobile agent technology and applications.

After last year's very successful workshop in Ottawa, Canada (110 attendees), this year's workshop will focus on mobile agent issues across the areas of network management, mobile applications, nomadic computing, e-commerce, ad-hoc networks and applications, feature interactions, Internet applications, QoS management, policybased management, interactive multimedia, and computer-telephony integration.

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