Advances in mobile and wireless communication are enlarging and enhancing the services provided by the Internet infrastructure towards any time, any place and any device features. Ubiquitous services impose new requirements to the entire infrastructure, from the system to the middleware and the applications that should adapt traditional services to different mobile user terminals and profiles, and embed new functions and tools to support the new services and new requirements of the future scenario.

The new Internet service infrastructure can only succeed on the basis of a strict synergism between the heterogeneous variety of mobile wireless devices and the fixed network organization that should suite and follow the requirements and constraints imposed by the wireless and mobile counterpart. The specific limitations of mobile wireless devices, such as discontinuity in connections, disconnection, and energy and resource shortages, connected with the new location- and context-sensitivity property, are challenging issues. Only a new methodology to produce a synergic design of an integrated and unified middleware can permit the deployment of all viable and available services that make possible to consider new properties for fruition, mainly connected with the new features of context-awareness. Many different provisioning scenarios are on the way, from the possibility of providing non-strict real-time data streaming adapted to very different wireless devices, by taking advantage of caching and multicast wherever possible, to a possibility of creating dynamic and impromptu communities based on common current locality and on presently available heterogeneous devices, by taking into account different resources and energy consumption limitations.

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