

# Supporting Secure Communication in Distributed Environments

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## Motivation

- Interaction between entities with very limited knowledge about themselves can take place only if trust between the parties is high enough.
  - trust is not a static phenomena;
  - new relationships may emerge,
  - existing relationship may disappear or
  - level of trust may change during the time.
- A motivation scenario: Assume user A being asked for personal information by user B. User A can reject the request, or accept it. However, if user A cannot find out to whom the data will be sent, it should better reject the request. This, however, will lead to the situation when all requests are rejected. On the contrary, if user A is able to find out who user B is, he will make the decision whether share information or not much more easily.

## Virtual Organization Model

- Virtual Organization structure is represented as an oriented hypergraph
- where :  $H = (U, N, W_U, W_N)$
- users equal to vertices  $U$
- hyperedge  $N$  represents a group of users
- $W_N$  stands for the security level of a group
- $W_U$  represents user's abilities

## Implementation

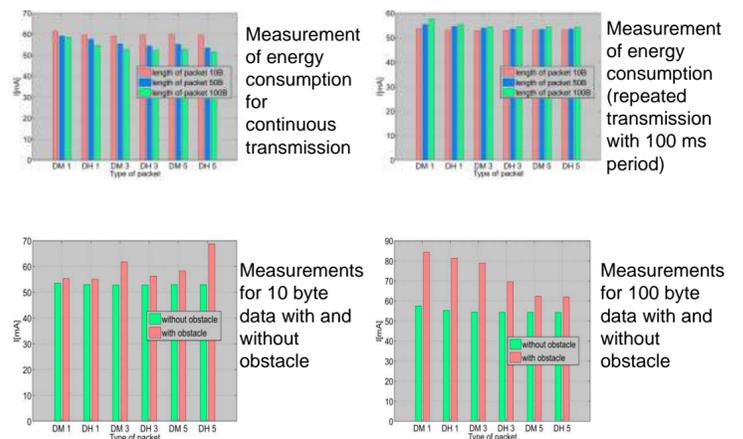
- the platform should be well accessible
- the platform should be widely known to as many users as possible
- the platform should be supported across environments
- the platform should offer unbound wireless communication support

=> mobile phones

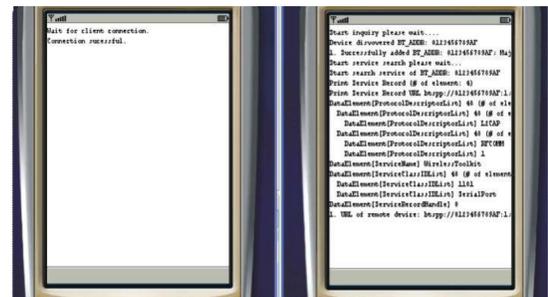
## MyKeys

- Experimental implementation MyKeys,
  - programmed in J2ME
  - JSR-82 for Bluetooth support
- MyKeys offers a storage and management for user keys
- MyKeys supports concurrent connection up to 8 devices
- MyKeys supports Bluetooth service search
- MyKeys consists of few main classes, particularly:
  - Graphic User Interface
  - Bluetooth Server class
  - Bluetooth Client class
  - Data coding and encoding class
  - Record Management System (RMS) class

## On Energy Consumption



## MyKey Implementation



- MyKey application was tested on Nokia 6600 and N70 mobile phones
- MyKeys verified connectivity of current mobile phones
- In a clear area mobile phones were discovered up to 33 meters
- Services were discovered up to 30 meters.
- Indoor abilities are highly limited by the surroundings
- Generally indoor distances were round 10 meters

## Conclusion

- A novel approach for treating trust in a distributed environment is described
- The approach utilizes ideas from reputation systems based on social network
- Structure of Virtual Organization is modeled by a hypergraphs supporting dynamics of the VO
- MyKey experimental application for mobile phones provides keys exchange and management in a real environment on real devices
- Currently available Bluetooth devices are experimentally compared on energy consumption, accessibility and connectivity

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