

Querying Private Data in Moving-Object Environments

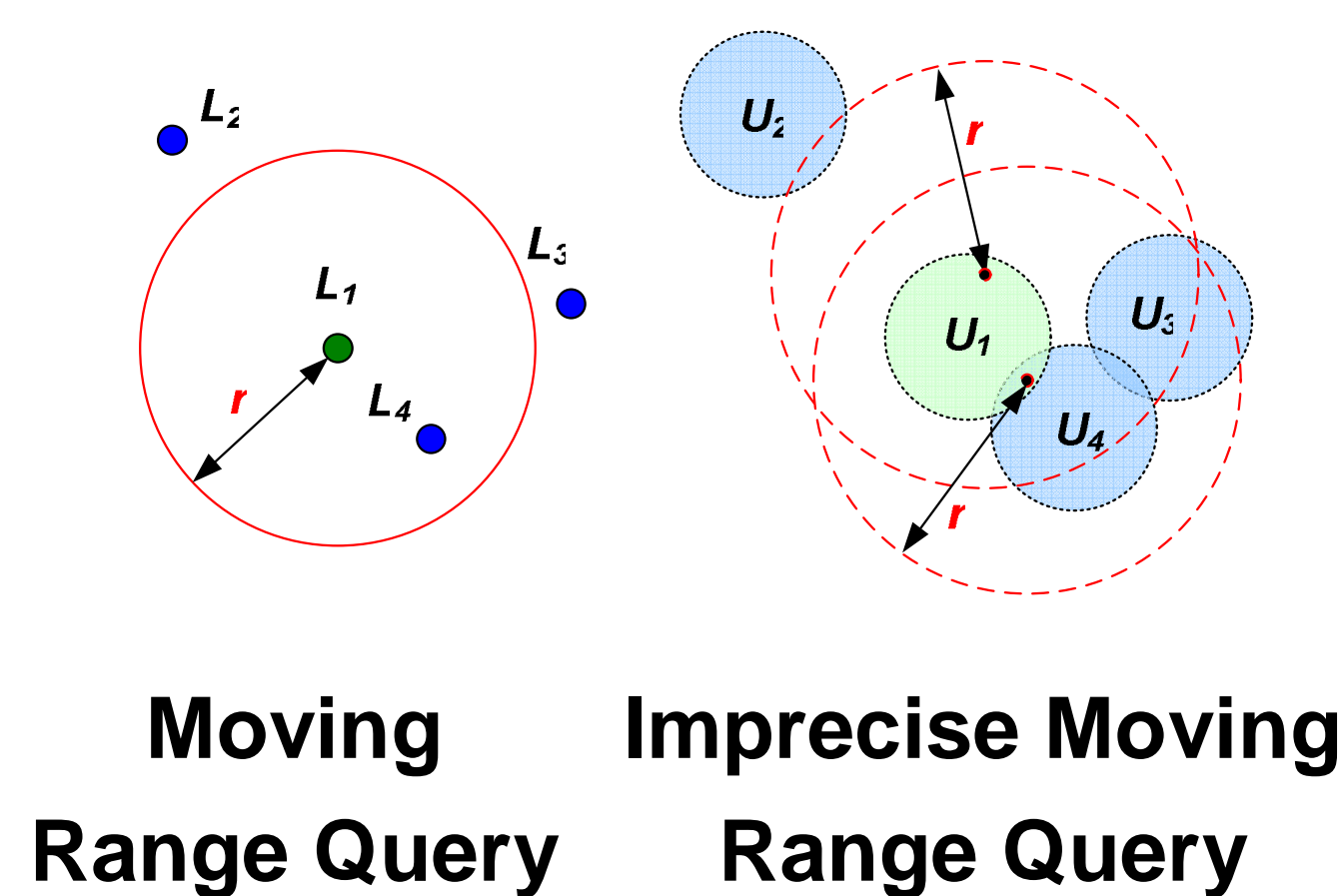
Reynold Cheng Yu Zhang Elisa Bertino Sunil Prabhakar
 Department of Computer Science, Purdue University
 {ckcheng,zhangyu,bertino,sunil}@cs.purdue.edu

Non-Anonymy Applications

- When I enter the CS building, notify my project groupmates
- Send (**identity, location**) to service provider
- User may not want to reveal her location is in a sensitive area e.g., hospital
- **Location privacy** is lost

1

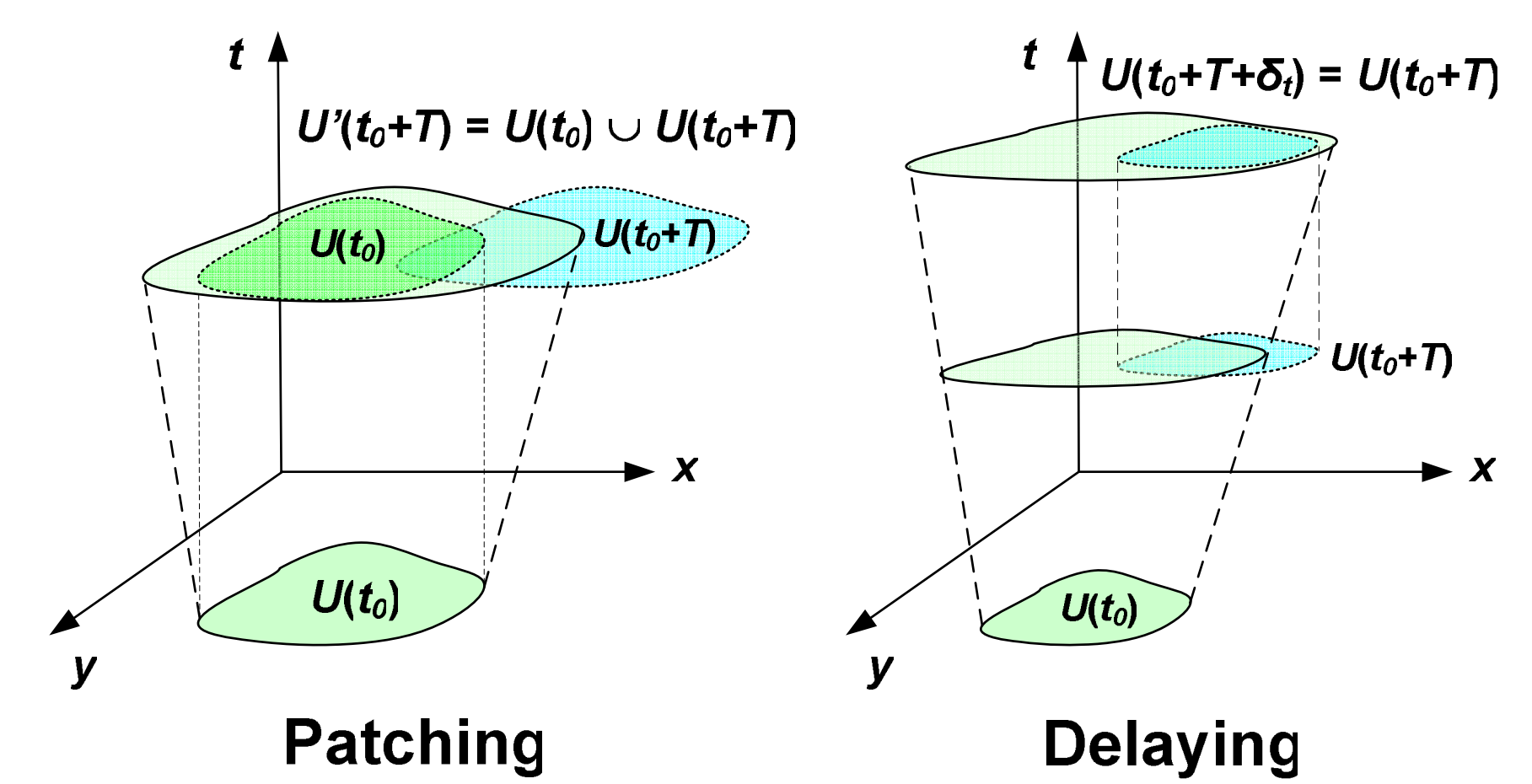
Imprecise Moving Range Queries



- Is a probabilistic query for producing inexact answer: $(S_2, 0.1, S_3, 0.5, S_4, 0.9)$
- **Quality Score** measures answer ambiguity

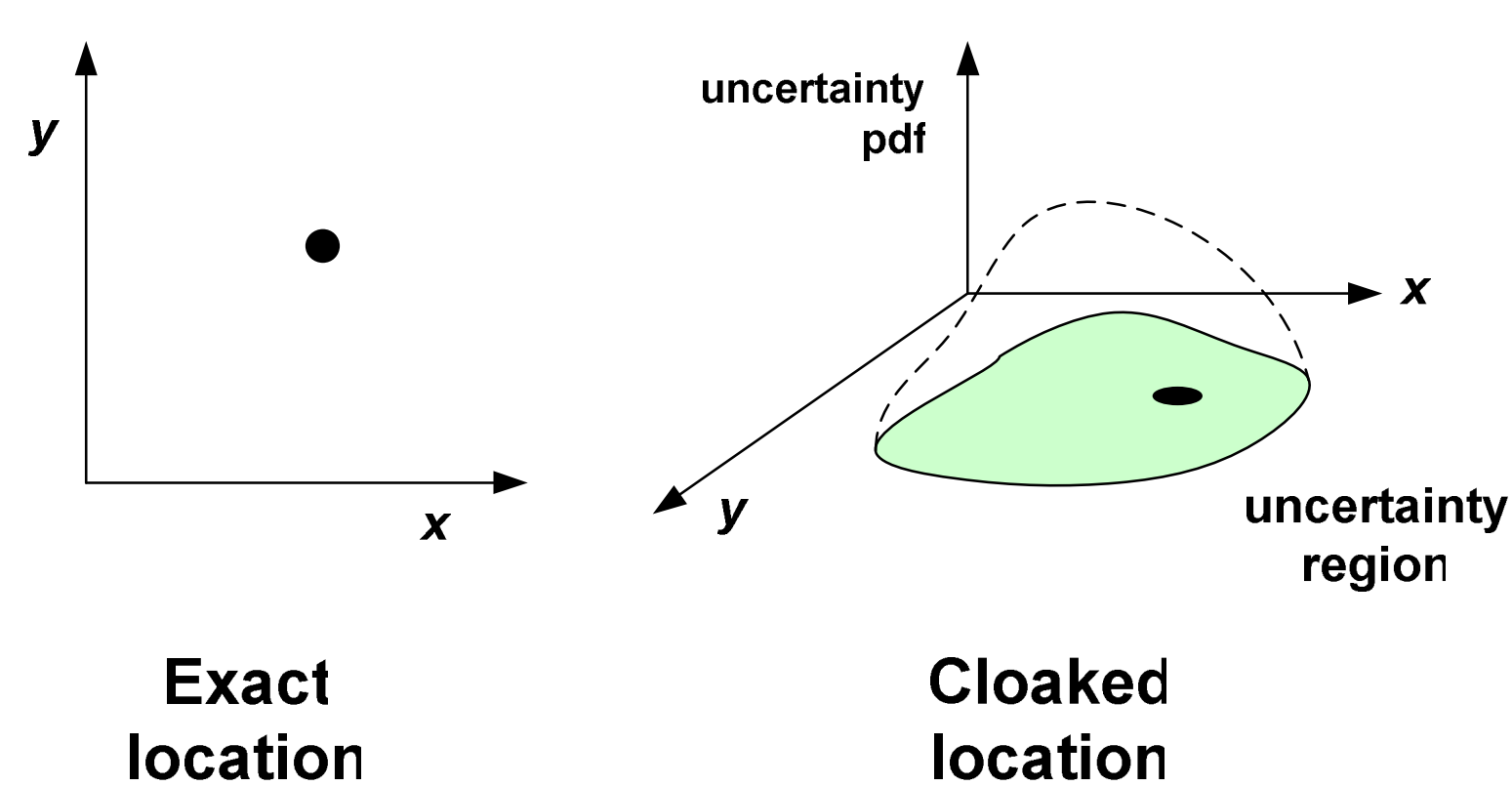
3

Protecting Linkability



5

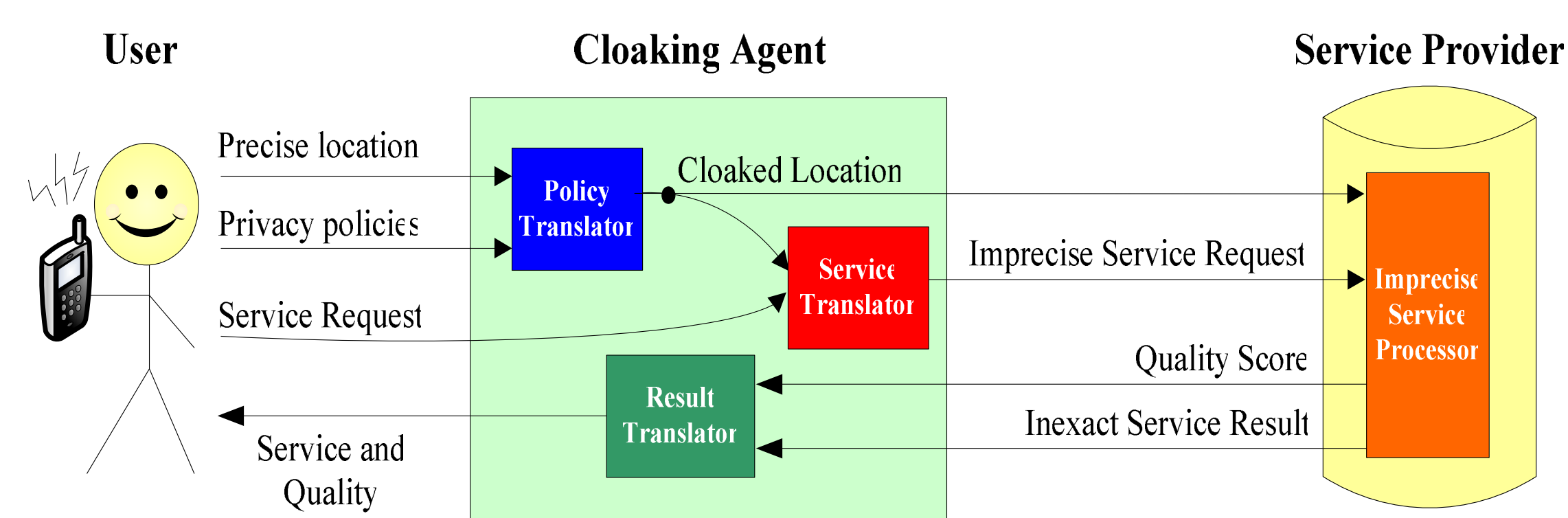
Location Cloaking Model



Location cloaking = uncertainty region + pdf

2

Cloaking Agent



- Capture the trade-off between *uncertainty, service quality and privacy*

4

References

1. R. Cheng and S. Prabhakar. *Using Uncertainty to Provide Privacy-Preserving and High-Quality Location-Based Service*. In Mobile HCI 2004 workshop on Location Systems Privacy and Control, Glasgow, Scotland, Sep, 2004.
2. R. Cheng, D. Kalashnikov and S. Prabhakar. *Evaluating Probabilistic Queries over Imprecise Data*. In *Proc. of ACM SIGMOD*, June 2003.
3. A. Beresford and F. Stajano. *Location Privacy in Pervasive Computing*. *IEEE Pervasive Computing*, 2(1):46-55, 2003.
4. M. Gruteser and D. Grunwald. *Anonymous Usage of Location-based Services through Spatial and Temporal Cloaking*. In *Proc. of the 1st Intl. Conf. on Mobile Systems, Applications and Services*, May 2003.

6