

Disposable Maps: Ad hoc Location Sharing

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ABSTRACT

The gathering of people in everyday life is intertwined with travelling to negotiated locations. As a result, mobile phones are often used to rearrange meetings when one or more participants are late or cannot make it on time. Our research is based on the hypothesis that the provision of location data can enhance the experience of people who are meeting each other in different locations. This paper presents work-in-progress on a novel approach to share one's location data in real-time which is visualised on a web-based map in a privacy conscious way. *Disposable Maps* allows users to select contacts from their phone's address book who then receive up-to-date location data.

The utilisation of peer-to-peer notifications and the application of unique URLs for location storage and presentation enable location sharing whilst ensuring users' location privacy. In contrast to other location sharing services like *Google Latitude*, *Disposable Maps* enables ad hoc location sharing to actively selected location receivers for a fixed period of time in a specific given situation. We present first insights from an initial application user test and show future work on the approach of disposable information allocation.