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4.6 Stream Processing in the Context of CTS

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The recent development of innovative technologies related to mobile computing combined with smart city infrastructures is generating massive, heterogeneous data and creating opportunities for novel applications in transportation science. The heterogeneous data sources provide streams of information that can be used to create smart cities. The knowledge on stream analysis is thus crucial and requires collaboration of people working in logistics, city planning, transportation engineering and data science.

We provide a list of materials for a course on stream processing for computational transportation science. The objectives of the course are:

- Motivate data stream and event processing, its model and challenges.
- Acquire basic knowledge about data stream processing systems.
- Understand and analyze their application in the transportation domain.

Since the subject is large and comprises many aspects, we propose that the course should start with an exemplary application which is familiar to the audience. The chosen example expands through the whole course and illustrates a particular aspect in each section.

Topics to be covered

1. Introduction
 - Literature
 - Models and Issues in Data Stream Systems [4, 13]
 - Data Stream Management: [21]
 - Transportation and Data Streams: [40]
 - Smart Cities and Heterogeneous Data Streams: [36]
 - Event stream examples in transportation

- linear ordered sequence events, e.g., bus arrival times
 - an event cloud consists of many event streams, e.g., traveler arrival time and bus arrival time at interchange
 - moving car trajectories
 - Challenges in stream processing
 - OGC standards and interfaces [15]
2. Data Stream Management Systems (DSMSs)
 - Lambda Architecture for Stream Processing [31]
 - Speed Layer: STREAM [1], Aurora [6], Borealis [39], Storm [38], streams [9], S4 [32], Kafka [19]
 - Batch Layer: MapReduce [14], Hadoop [41], Spark [42], Disco [16]
 - Distributed NoSQL Databases: Cassandra [24], MongoDB [35]
 3. Data Analysis
 - Query Languages: Esper [30], NiagaraCQ [10], and others [5, 22, 25]
 - Complex Event Processing (CEP): [7, 12, 27]
 - Learning: streams [9], Mahout [33], MOA [8]
 - Distributed streams: [37]
 - Sketches: [11, 18] privacy with sketches [23]
 4. Example applications in the transportation domain: [2, 3, 17, 20, 26, 28, 29, 34, 43]

Possible home assignment

- Study a certain DSMS and summarize its features in a report.

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4.7 Data Modeling

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The recommended Data Modeling course would be structured as follows:

Class subsections

- The term ‘model’, definition and properties (mapping, abstraction and reduction, goal orientation)
- Three levels for CTS tasks: sensing, control, and planning
- Conceptual data models for movement traces and movement spaces
 - conceptual data models for spatial information: entities and fields
 - graphs, networks
 - trajectories

Learning objectives

- The students can give a concise definition of the concept ‘model’, and can list its key properties.
- The students can assign given CTS tasks to the three task levels (1) sensing, (2) control, and (3) planning, and can name methods suitable for the given tasks.
- The students acquire a workbench of basic conceptual data models required for CTS (including conceptual data models for spatial information, ...).
- The students understand that depending on the task at hand, different data models are required.

4.8 Incentive Design

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The recommended Incentive Design course would be structured as follows:

Class subsections

- introductory microeconomics
- game theory/mechanism design
- examples of incentive schemes in transportation

Learning objectives

- Understand Nash equilibrium/Pareto efficiency – personal versus global optima
- Understand law of supply and demand / differential pricing
- Understand mechanism design, taking into account “attacks”
- Review uses of incentives, with regards to transportation/mobility
- Understand types of incentives

Sample assignments

- Simulate introduction of HOV lane
- Walk-or-wait at stalled elevator