

# VirtualWalls: Protecting Digital Privacy in Pervasive Environments?

Apu Kapadia, Tristan Henderson,  
Jeffrey J. Fielding, and David Kotz

- There is a sensor-rich privacy environment
- Users may unwittingly leave information
- The digital footprints can be stored or queried later by context-aware applications
- Proposed mechanisms of protection for all types of footprints are needed.
- Variety and numbers of sensors are growing



## Introduction-Architecture-Virtual Walls Model-Evaluation-Discussion-Related Work-Conclusion

- **Specific Problem: Confidentiality of digital footprints**
- contextual information derived from raw sensor readings.
- only authorized users should be able to access footprints

as defined by the user's privacy policy.

“digital footprints” vs. “context.”



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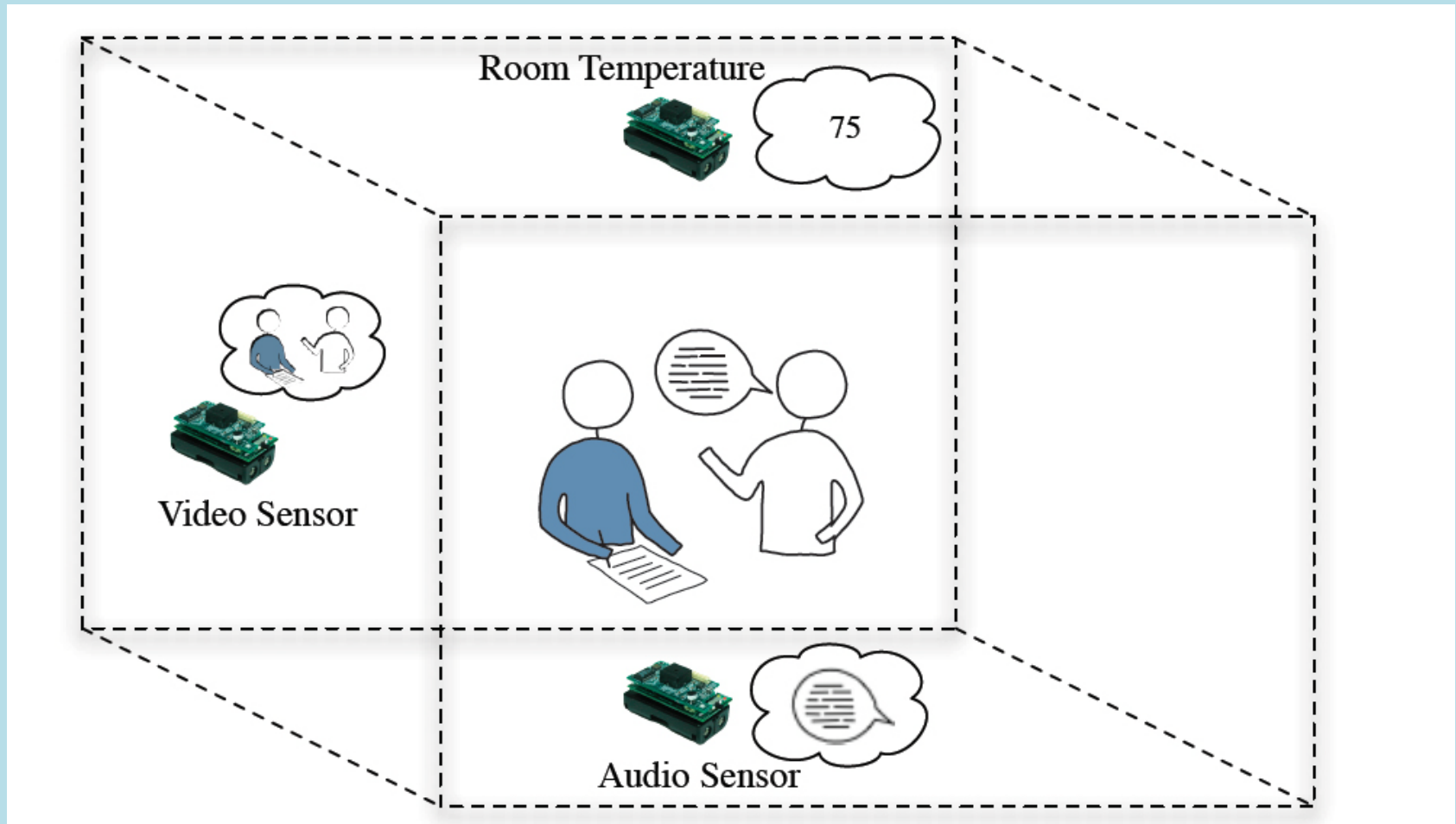


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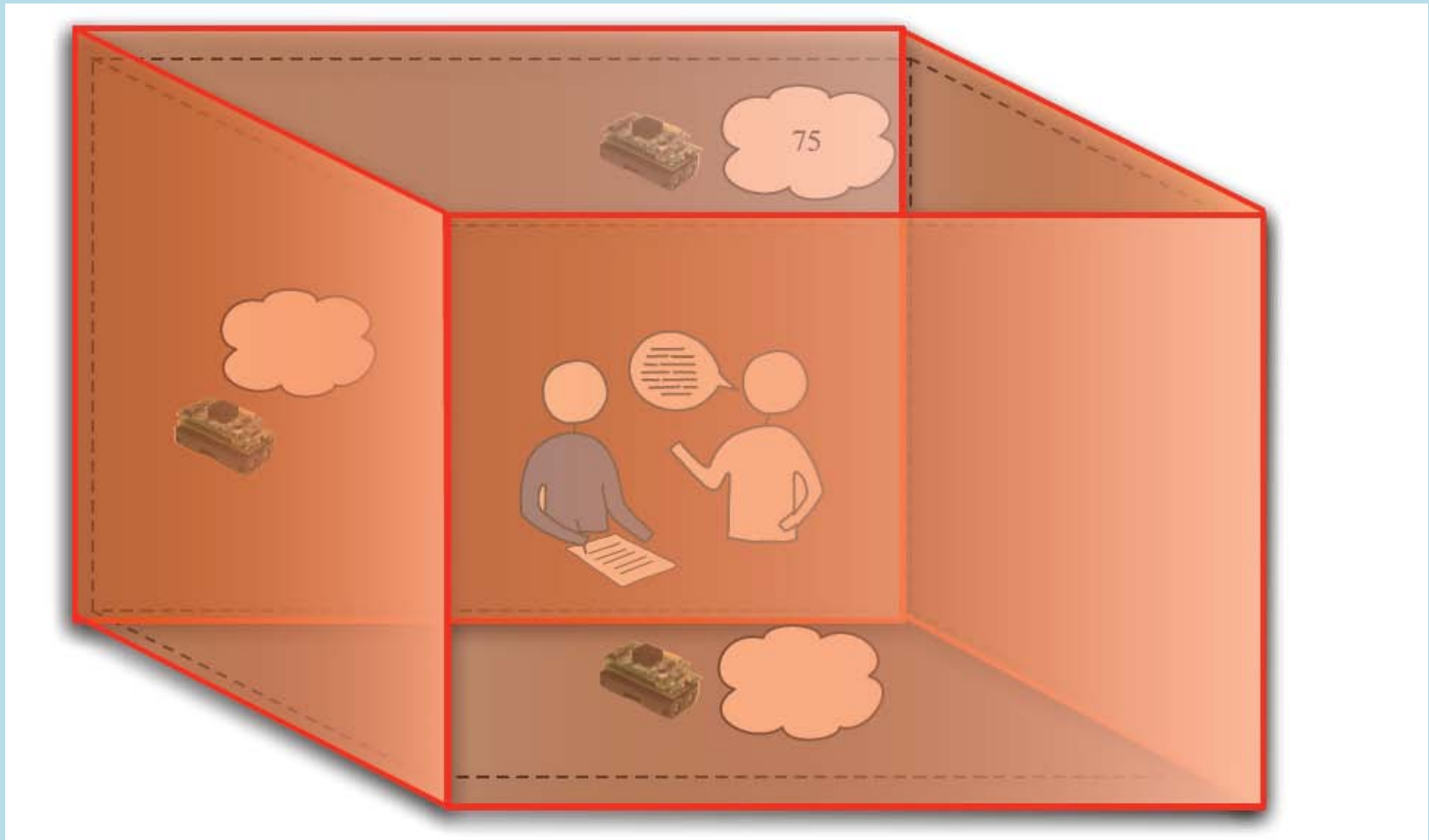


# 3 levels of transparency

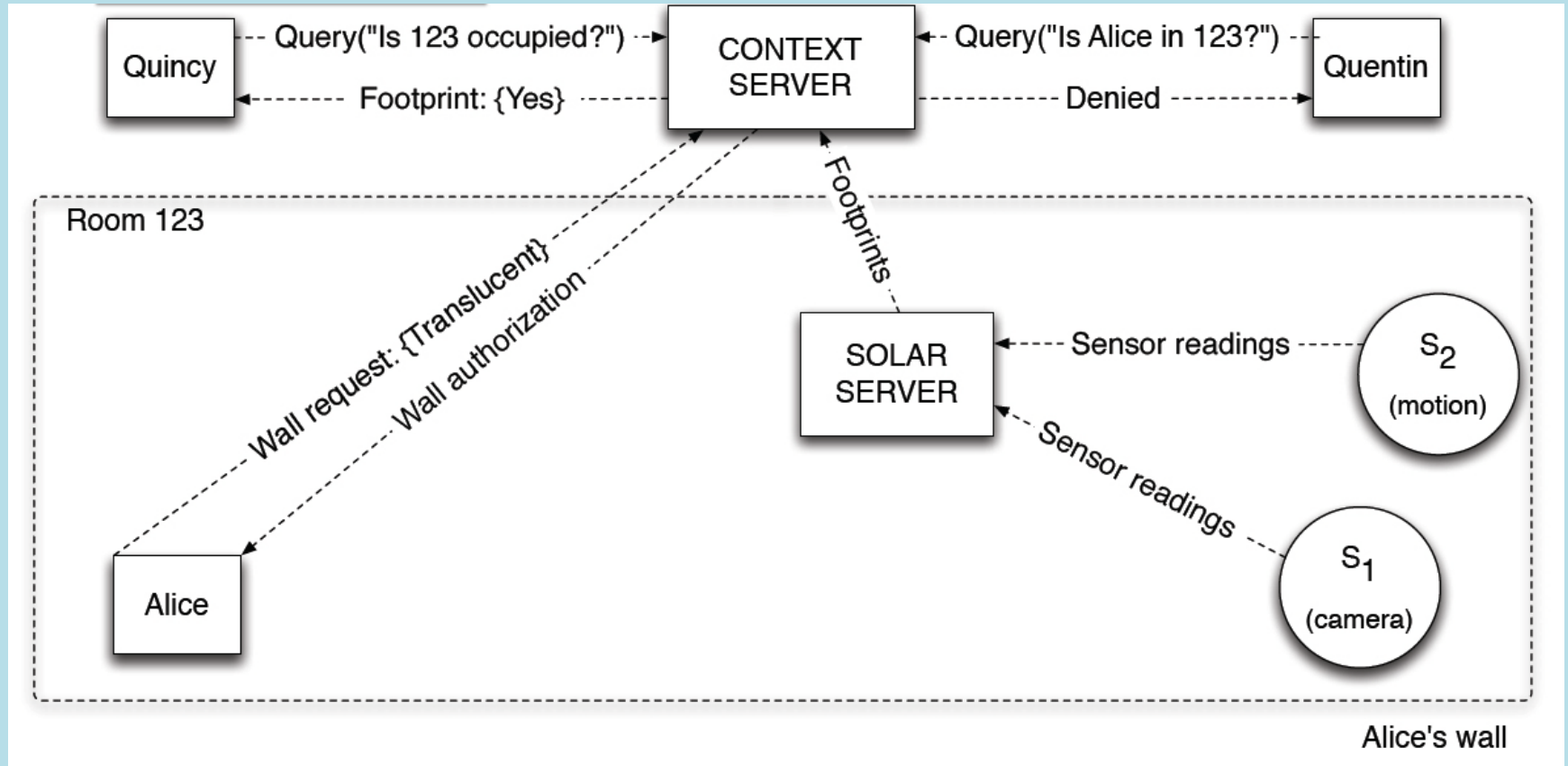
- Transparent
- Translucent
- Opaque



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# Introduction-**Architecture**-Virtual Walls Model-Evaluation-Discussion-Related Work-Conclusion





- Places- rooms and buildings.
- Footprints- general or personal.
- Conflicting virtual worlds.
- Limitations-
  - Difficulty with the term “general footprints”
  - Lack of knowledge about querriers.



- 23 participants-
- Using scenarios:
  - Ease of understanding
  - Ease of use of model
  - Ease of use of GUI

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**Virtual Walls Help**

Your walls:  
Default wall is:

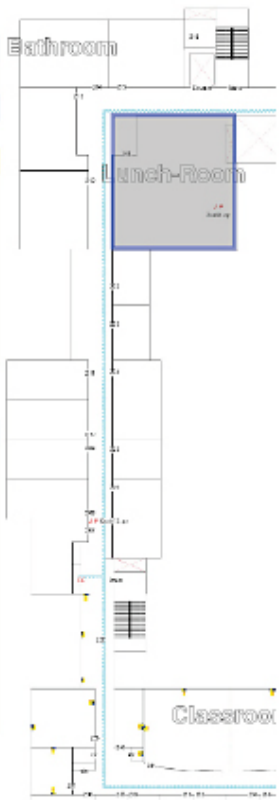
Wall	Room	Transparency
Wall 1	Lunch-Room	Transparent
Wall 2	Lunch-Room	Translucent

**New Wall**

Virtual Wall Properties:  
Name:   
Room/Place (or click on map):

Transparency:  
 Transparent  
 Translucent  
 Opaque

Applies to:  
 Friends  
 Family  
 Professors





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## Introduction-Architecture-Virtual Walls Model-Evaluation-**Discussion**-Related Work-Conclusion

- Creating walls
- Group ownership
- User disruption
- Data perturbation
- Mobile places
- Deception



- Digital territory
  - Proposes bubbles with numerous policies





Ease of use and Understanding is paramount in dealing with this problem!

Thank you!