

MapBiquitous: An integrated System for Indoor and Outdoor Location-based Services

Motivation

Presetting

- Ubiquitous outdoor location services available to general audience
- Available not only for desktop computers, but also mobile devices
- Limited to outdoor areas, e.g. navigation between two buildings

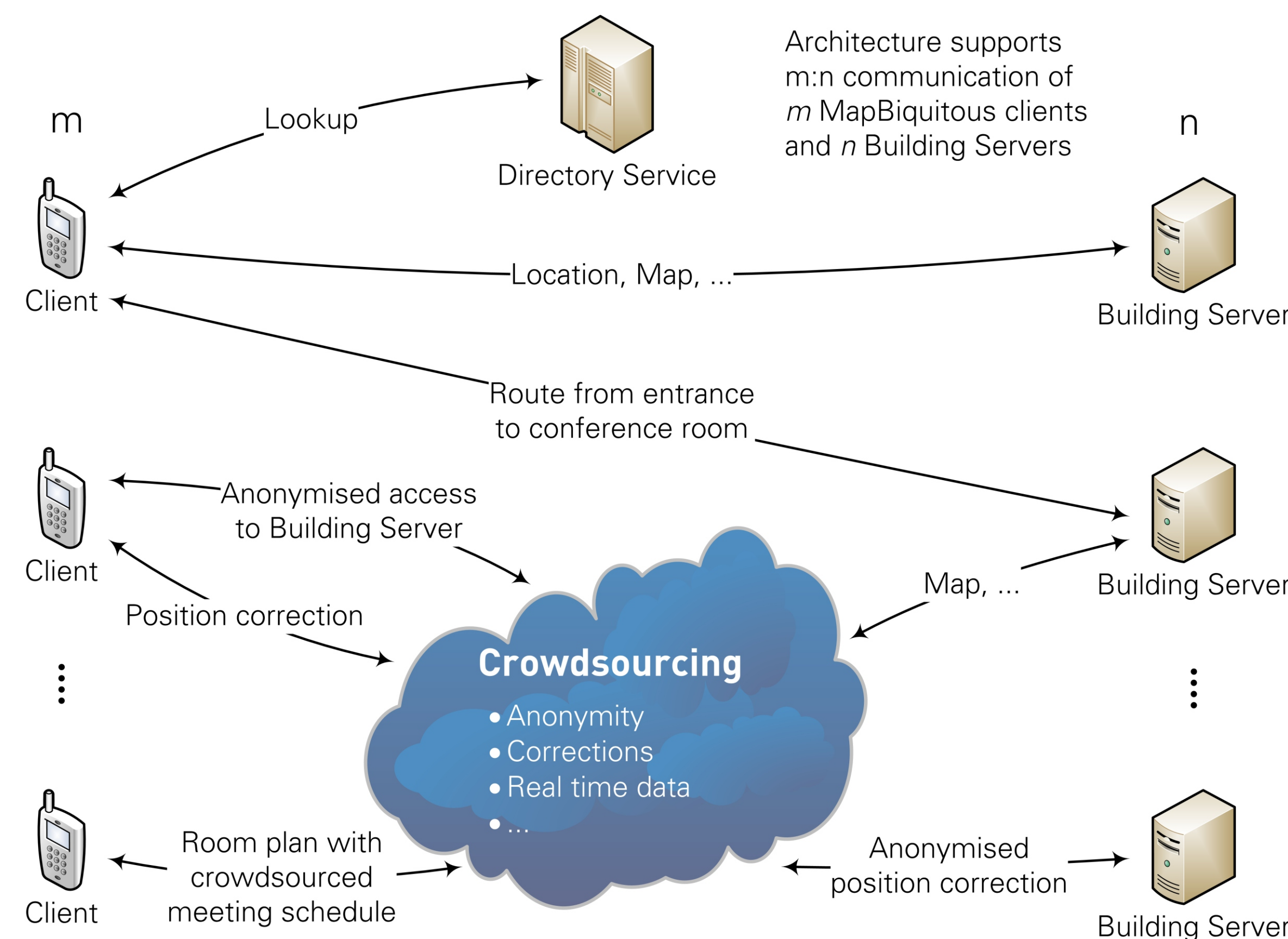
Idea

- Expansion to the indoor area
- Overcome lack of global coverage
- Integrate outdoor and indoor aspects into one location-based system

Questions and Challenges

- Functionality of indoor navigation must be
 - Providable ad hoc
 - Independent of underlying infrastructure
- Interoperable and scalable provisioning of building information
 - Availability of building information
 - Source of way points
 - Crowdsourcing
- Cross-building navigation with paths inside and outside buildings
 - Catenation of indoor and outdoor routing ("Which door to use?")
 - Support of heterogeneous indoor positioning technologies, e.g. based on various technologies like WiFi, RFID, or smartphone sensors

MapBiquitous Platform and Architecture



Building Server

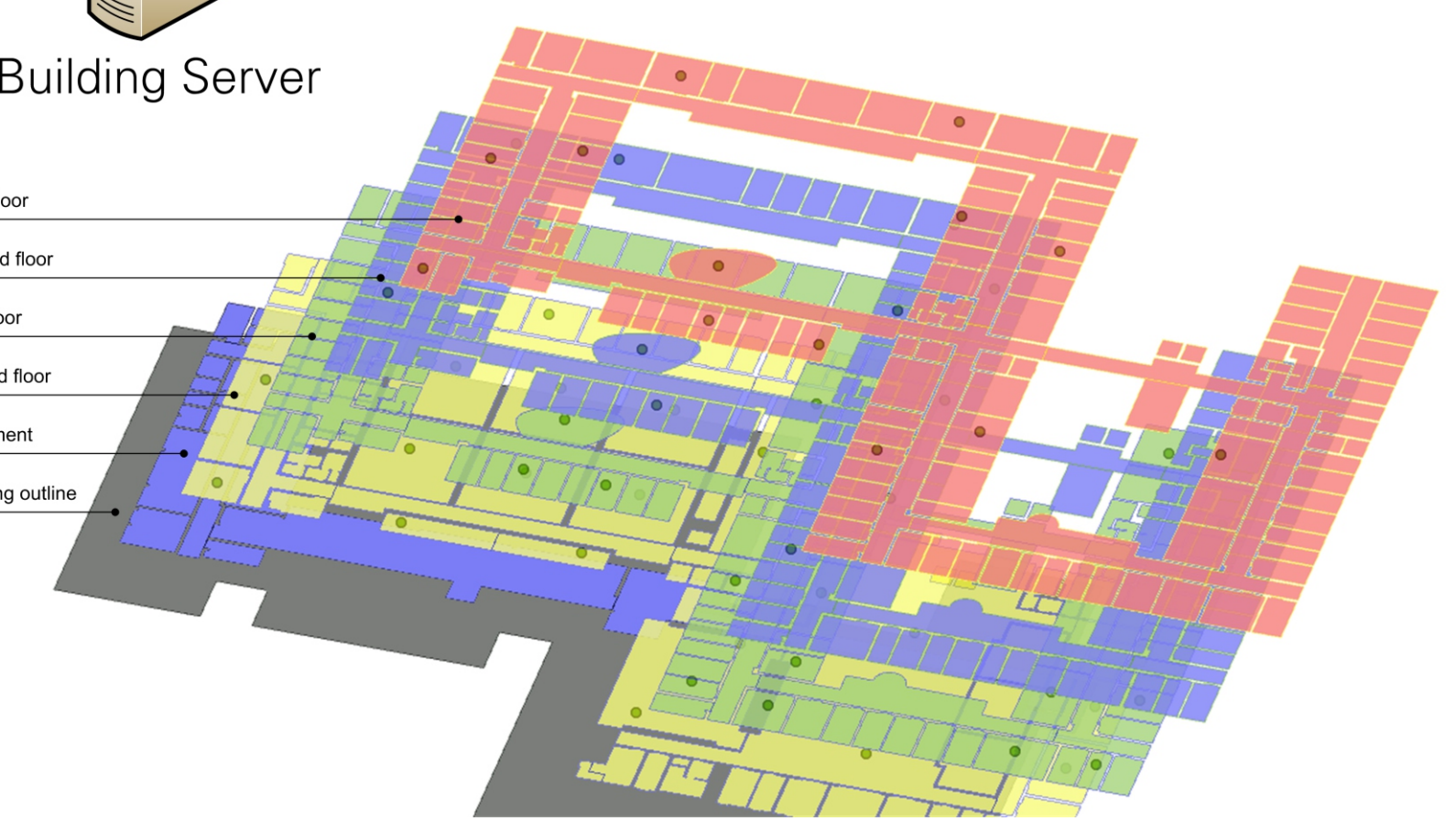
- Building-specific
- Use of Web Feature Service (WFS)
- Within maintenance and legal scope of building owner/maintainer
- Easy provision of additional information, e.g. reservation plan of a room
- One building server may provide for multiple buildings
- Register with Directory Service by providing WGS-84 position of their building as well as their contact URL and WFS version
- Native conversion of local coordinate systems into WGS-84

Client

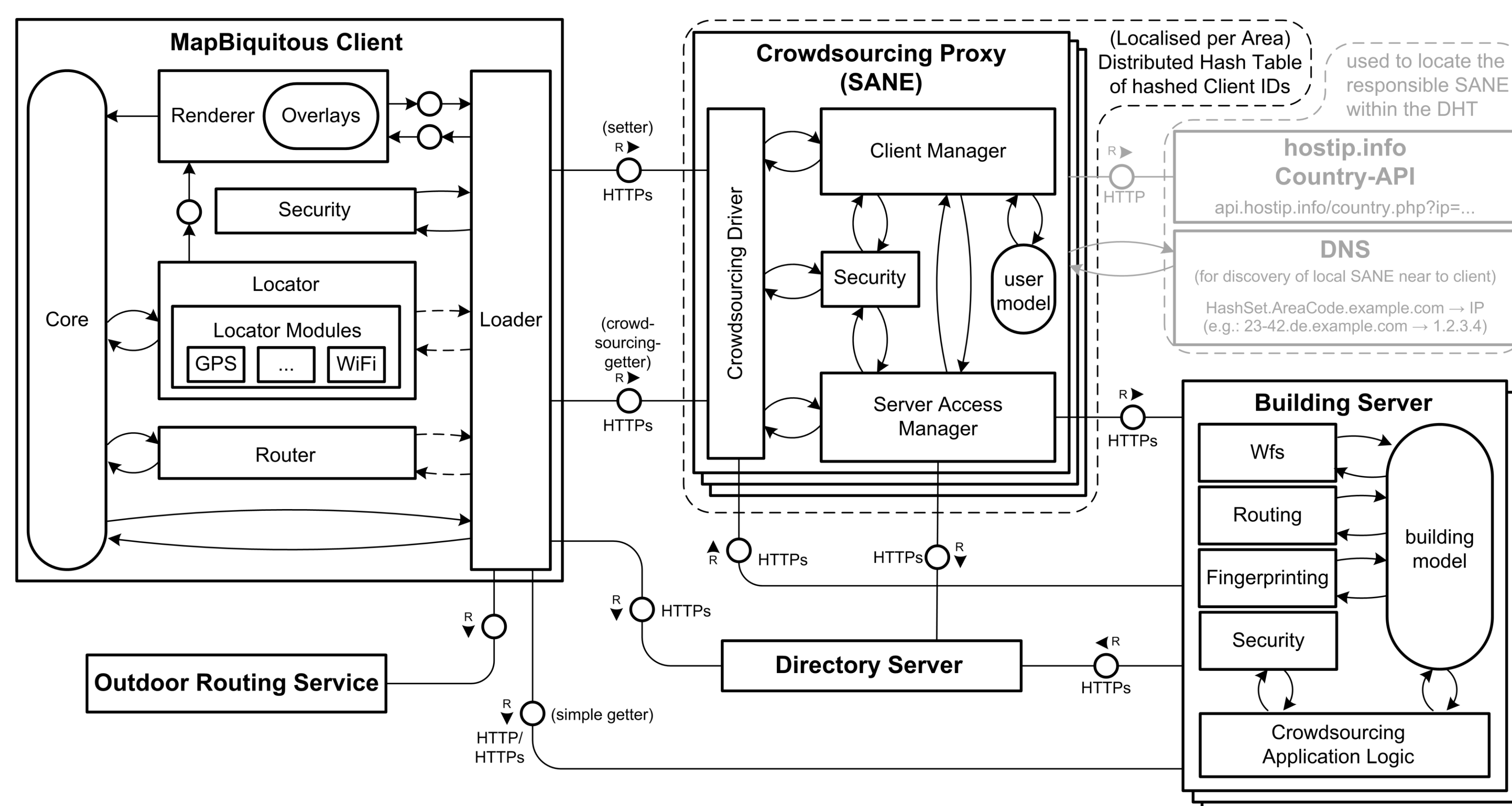
- Location data based on GPS, GSM, gyroscope, or combination of these
- Integrates general outdoor location-based service (e.g. GoogleMaps)
- Utilises MapBiquitous for indoor location-based services
- Thin Client → Navigation handled by Building Server
- Looks up building servers via Directory Server utilising GPS-based bounding box of WGS-84 coordinates

Crowdsourcing

- Ascertainment and maintenance of building data
- Anonymous client → server access enabled
- Access to real time data (e.g. "How many persons are in the conference room?")
- Collaborative localisation and positioning of clients (e.g. "The neighbour of my neighbour is in my proximity.")



Implemented Architecture



General MapBiquitous

- Supports arbitrary localisation/positioning
- Navigation utilises shortest path algorithm
- Supports infinite client counts (only limited by server performance)
- Easily extensible

Crowdsourced Version

- Allows usage without crowdsourcing participation (simple getter)
- Allows anonymisation (via crowdsourcing getter)
- Supports quasi infinite client counts (limited by SHA-256 collision space)
- Supports arbitrary crowdsourcing methods

Contact

Dr.-Ing. Thomas Springer
Dipl.-Inf. Tenshi Hara
{thomas.springer|tenshi.hara}@tu-dresden.de

Technische Universität Dresden
Faculty of Computer Science, Institute of Systems Architecture
Chair of Computer Networks, 01062 Dresden, Germany
<http://www.rn.inf.tu-dresden.de/>

