
IN:SIGHT – Supporting Situation-Awareness in Mobile Applications

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June 2005

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Outline

Introduction

- WIND – Weather Information on Demand
- modeling situations

IN:SIGHT

- application
- basic idea

Situation algebra

- situation sequences
- operators

Back to IN:SIGHT

- general procedure
- walk-through

Conclusion



WIND – a location-based service in practice



WIND – Weather Information on Demand



Institut
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May 2002

first demonstrator with 5.000 users
of an insurance company



January 2003

start as a commercial service in
Germany



March 2003

WIND gained the Innovation Award
of the insurance sector in Germany

October 2004

start of WIND in Austria

Verband öffentlicher Versicherer 

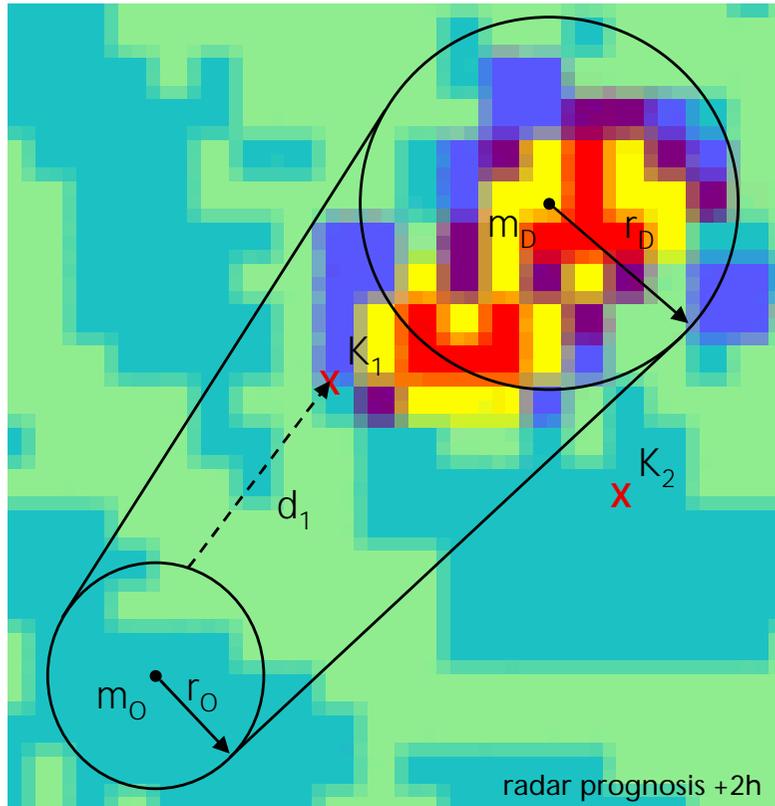
2005 – 2007

establishing the service in Sweden,
Switzerland and Italy



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WIND – Precise radar-based warnings



K_1 : geographic location **inside** the storm prognosis

K_2 : geographic location **outside** the storm prognosis

d_1 : distance of position K_1 to the storm front

further development

⇒ **WIND for mobile users**

Situation model

Situations

Context- or situation-aware applications require a model of a user's environment

characteristics

Situations model *characteristics* of the environment.

time and dynamics

Situations model *changes* of the environment.

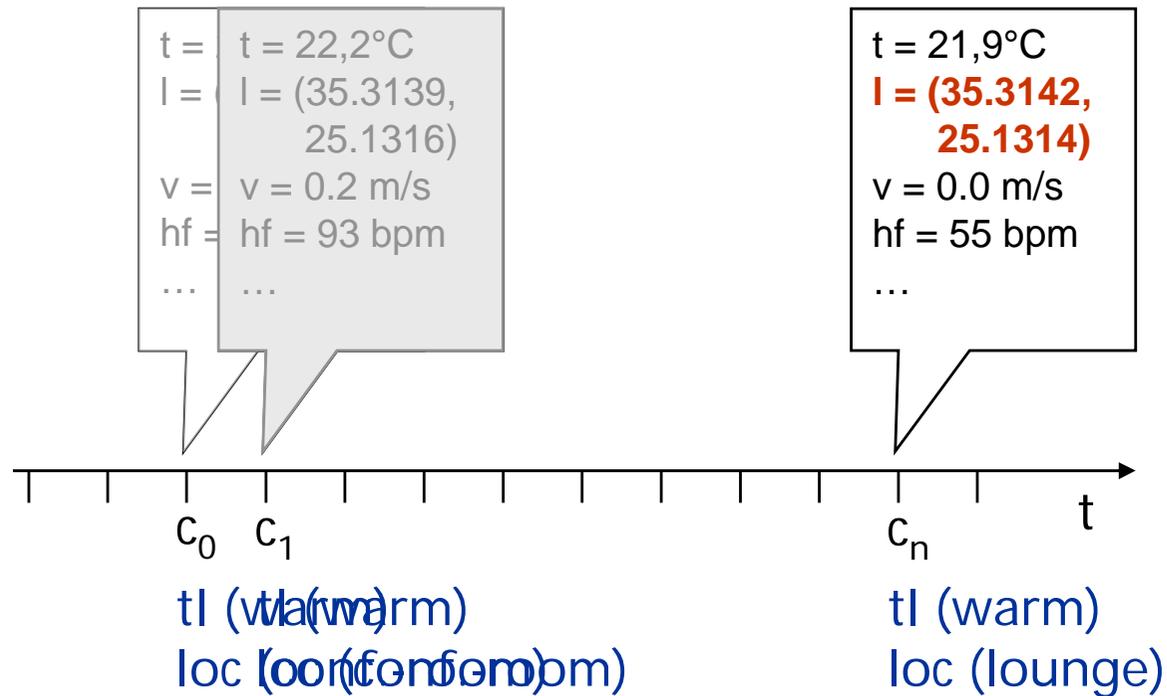
used for

- proactively inferring information need
- situation-based message rating

⇒ need-oriented information supply

Contexts and characteristics

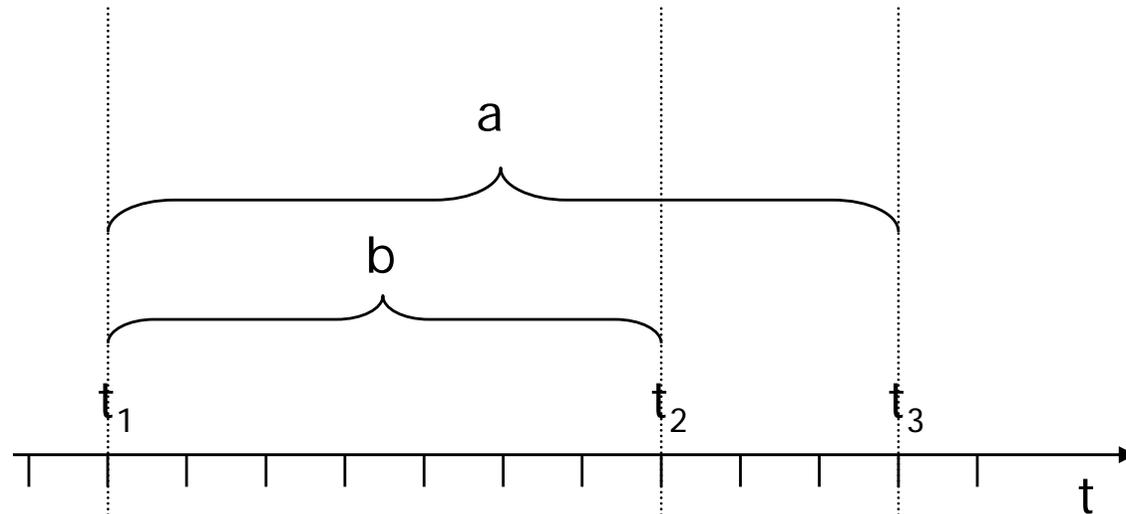
contexts are snapshots



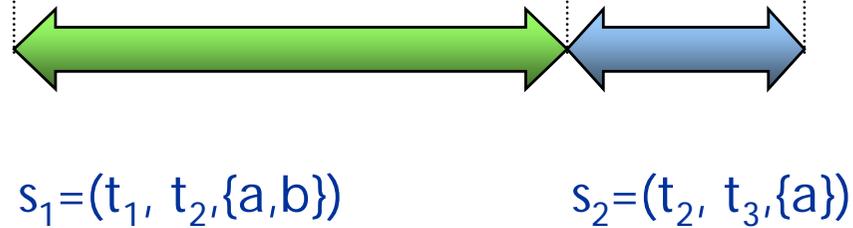
characteristic features

Contexts sequences and situations

context
sequences



situations



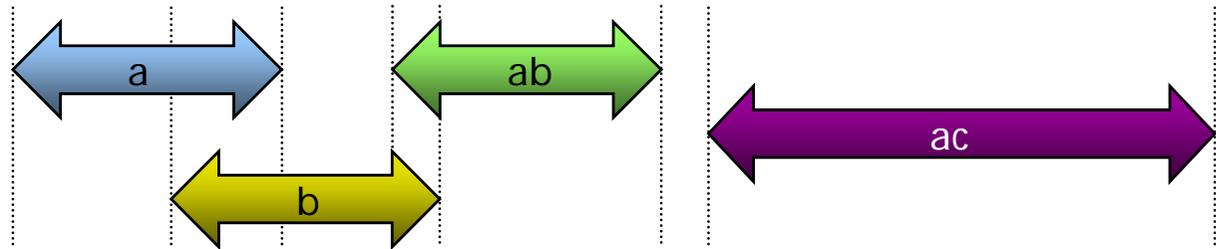
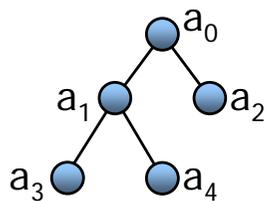
Situation

A situation consists of a set of characteristic features associated with a time interval.

symbolically

$$(t_b, t_e, C)$$

characteristic features:

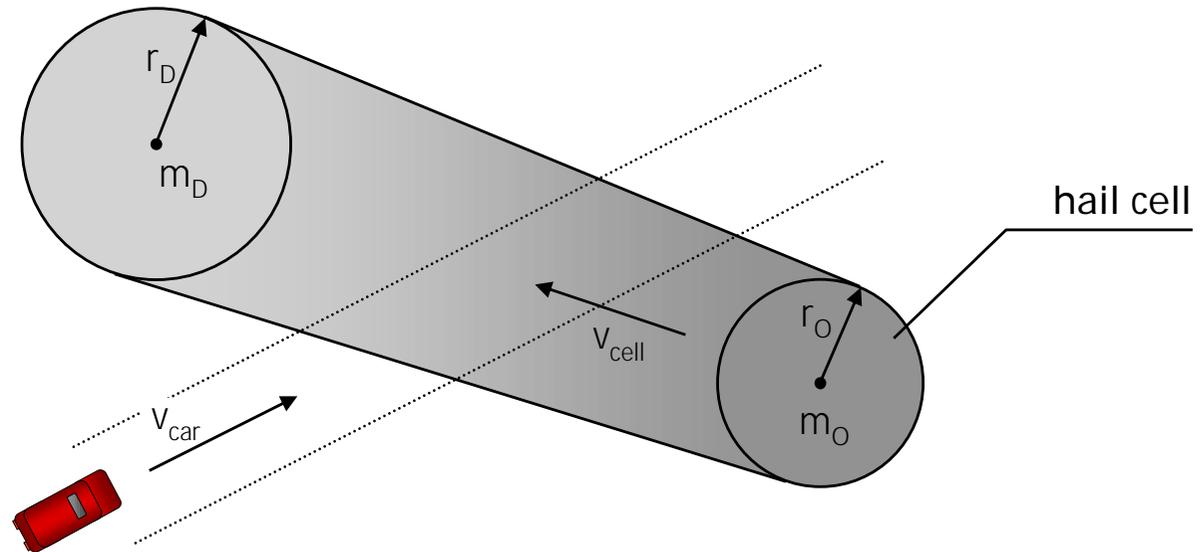


● a = A(a₁) ● b = B(b₁) ● c = C(c₁)

IN:SIGHT

IN:SIGHT

Integrated
Situation-based
Guidance and
Hazard Detection



objectives:

supporting situation-awareness
predicting situations, informing the driver



IN:SIGHT – General idea

two basic ideas

1. predicting (dangerous) situations

2. matching the system knowledge against expectations of a user



⇒ identifying information to deliver

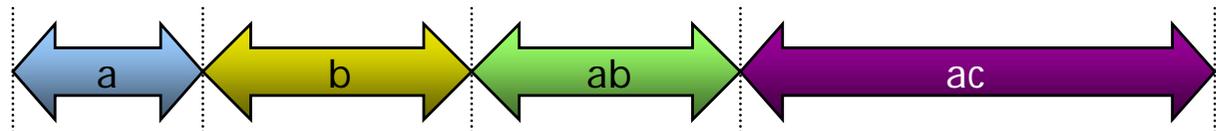
Parenthesis: Situation algebra

Situation sequence

A situation sequence is a well-ordered set of not overlapping situations. The order is given by the time intervals.

symbolically

$(S, \prec:)$



Situation sequences: relations

Predecessor

s_p is called predecessor of s if all situations following s_p (except s) are also following s

Successor

s_s is called successor of s if all situations following s (except s_s itself) are also following s_s

Completeness

a situation sequence is considered complete if for any situation s the following is true:

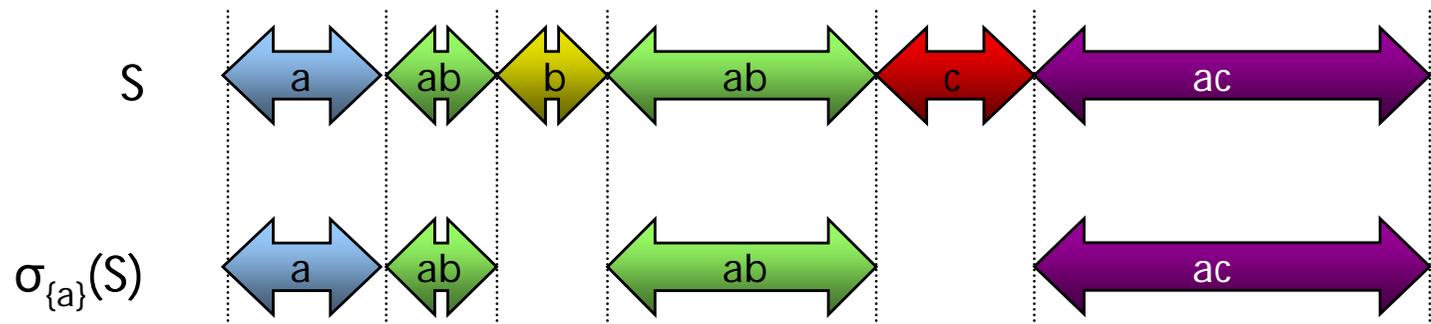
If there is a predecessor s_p to s then s_p meets s and
if there is a successor s_s to s then s_s is met by s

Normality

a situation sequence S is called normalized if all neighboring situations do have different characteristics

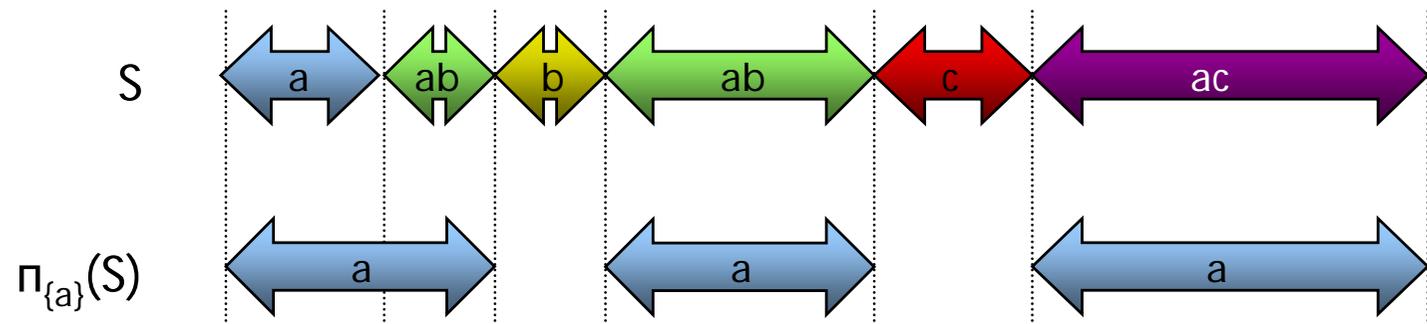
Selection: $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$

Extracts all situations from a sequence satisfying a certain pattern.



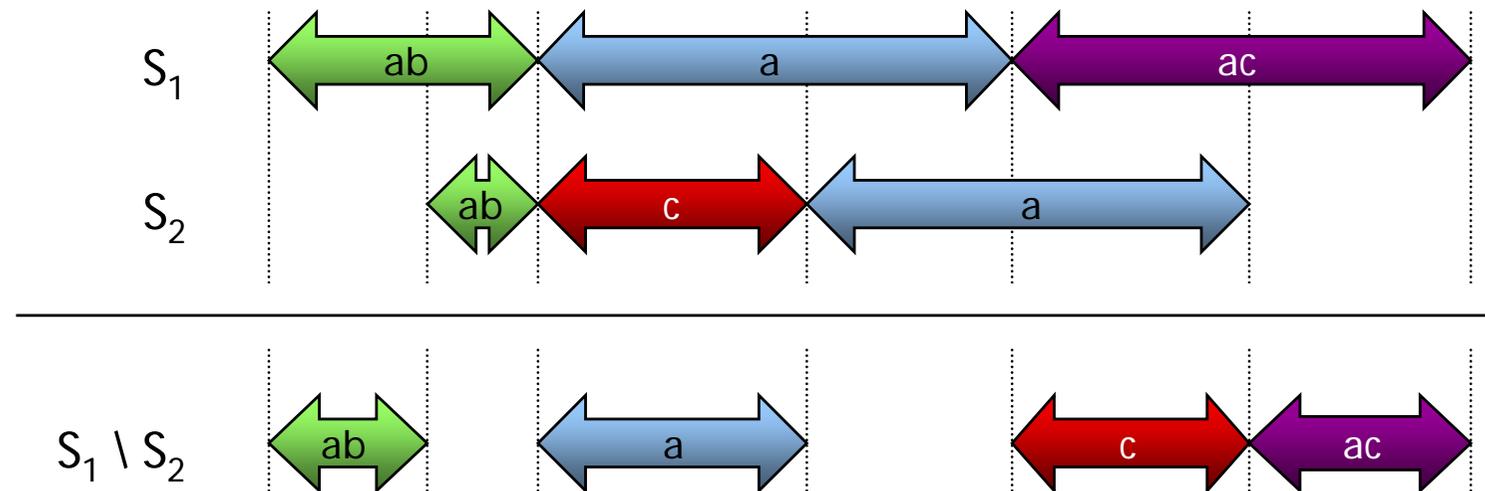
Extraction: $\pi: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$

Extracts those parts of situations from a sequence defined by a certain pattern.



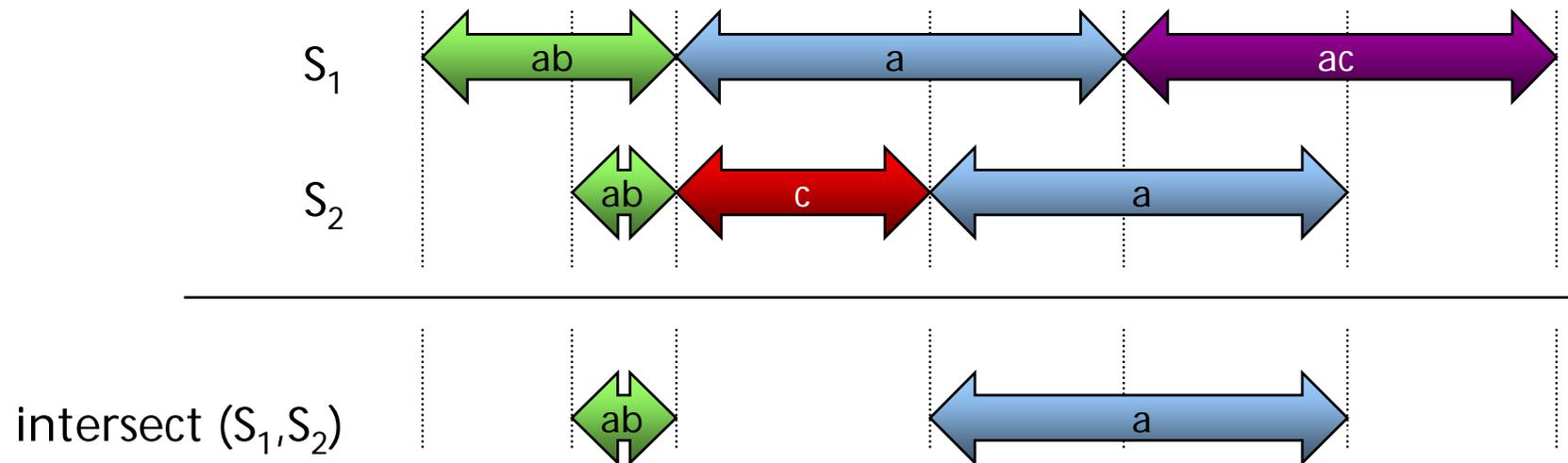
Difference: $\setminus : \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$

The difference of two situation sequences S_1 and S_2 is the situation sequence describing the “situational knowledge” contained in S_1 that do not appear in S_2 .



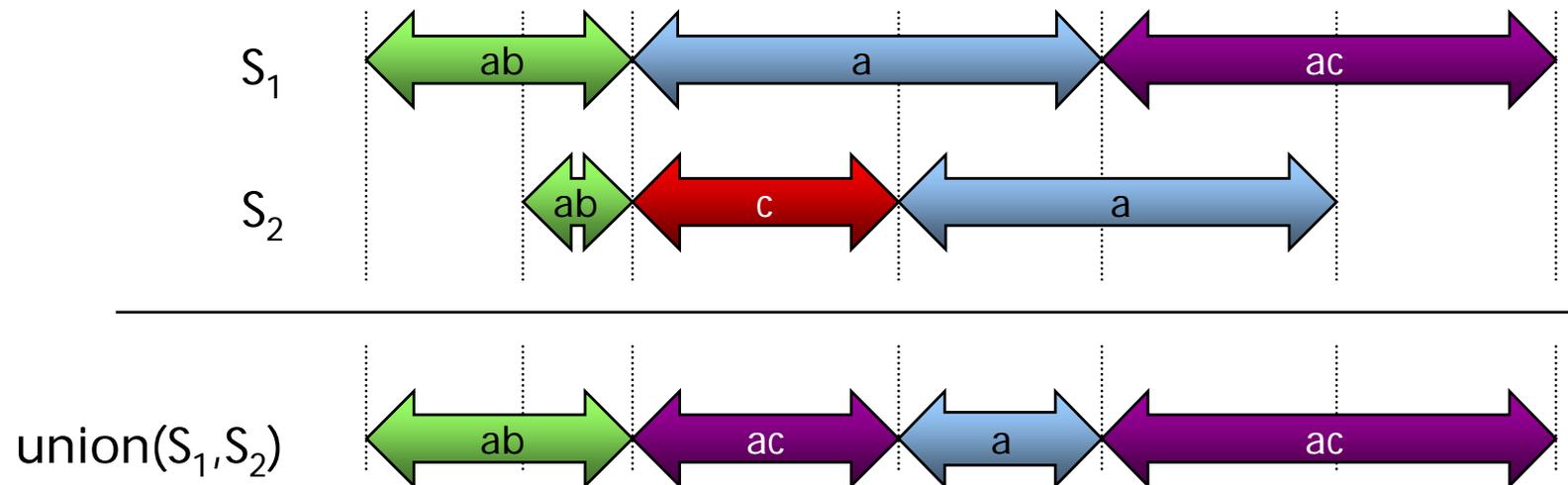
Intersection: $\cap: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$

The intersection of two situation sequences S_1 and S_2 is the situation sequence describing the “situational knowledge” contained in S_1 as well as in S_2 .



Union: $\cup: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$

The union of two situation sequences S_1 and S_2 is the situation sequence describing the combined “situational knowledge” of both sequences.

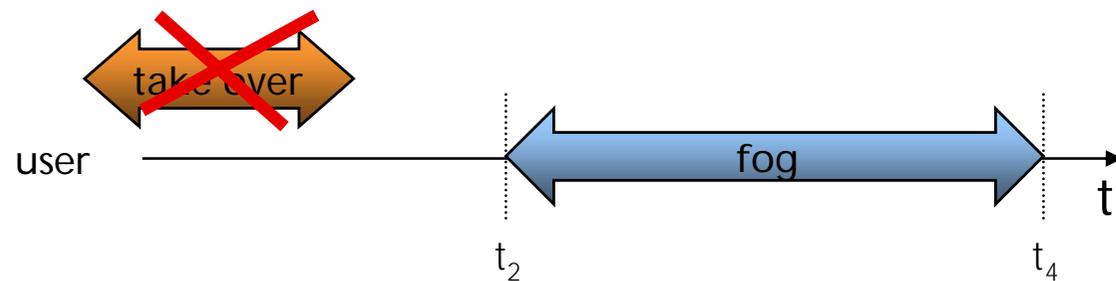
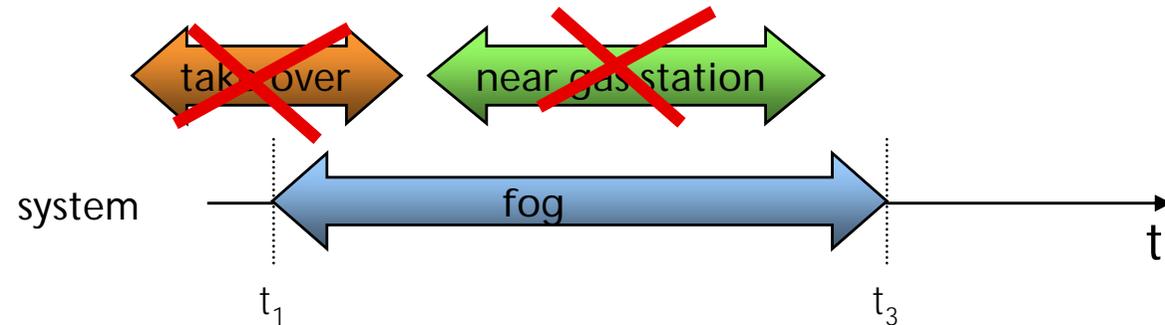


Operands need to be compatible!

Back to IN:SIGHT

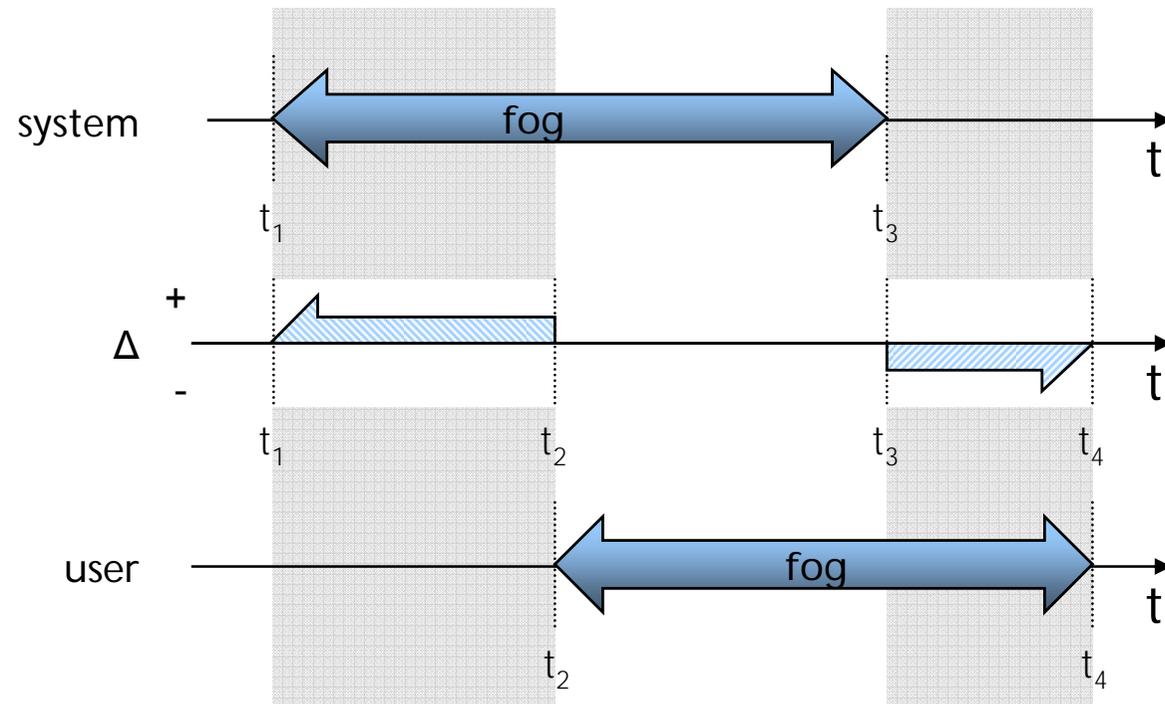
IN:SIGHT – General Procedure

- filtering
- computing Δ
- information value
- informing
- updating



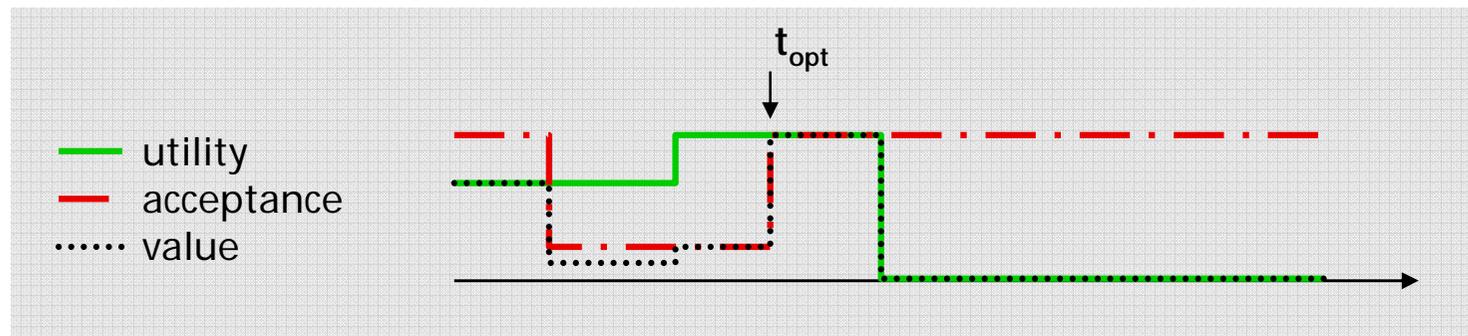
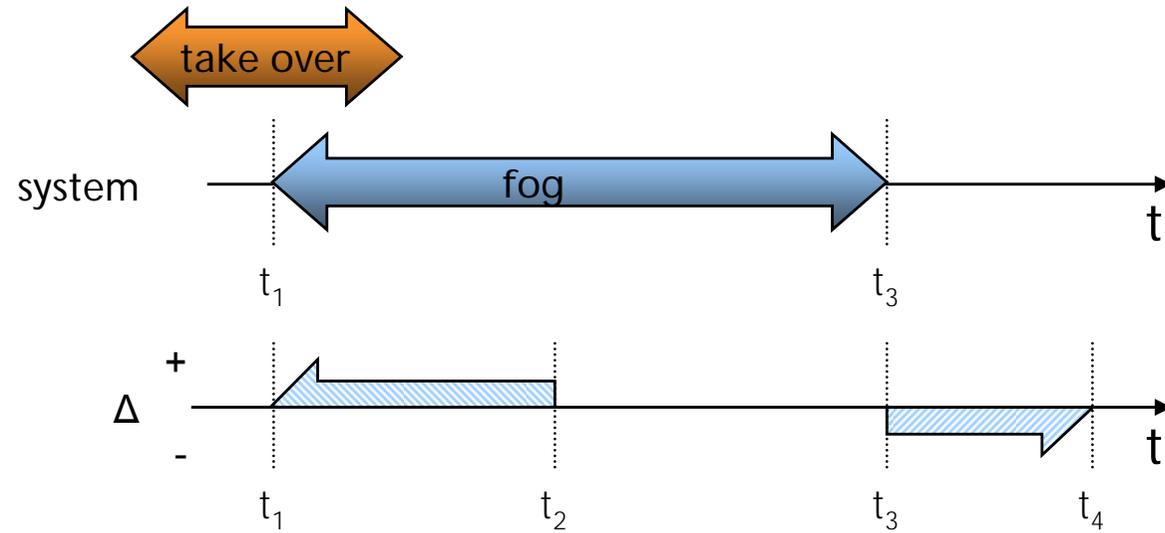
IN:SIGHT – General procedure (cont'd)

- filtering
- **computing Δ**
- information value
- informing
- updating



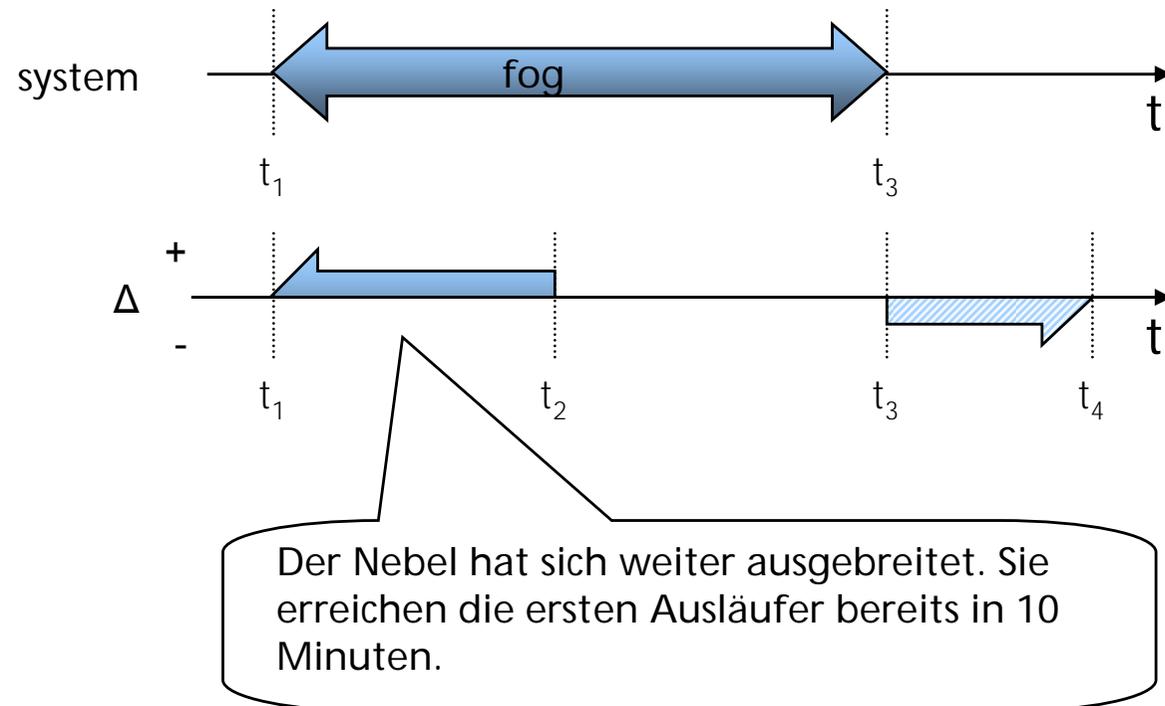
IN:SIGHT – General procedure (cont'd)

- filtering
- computing Δ
- **information value**
- informing
- updating



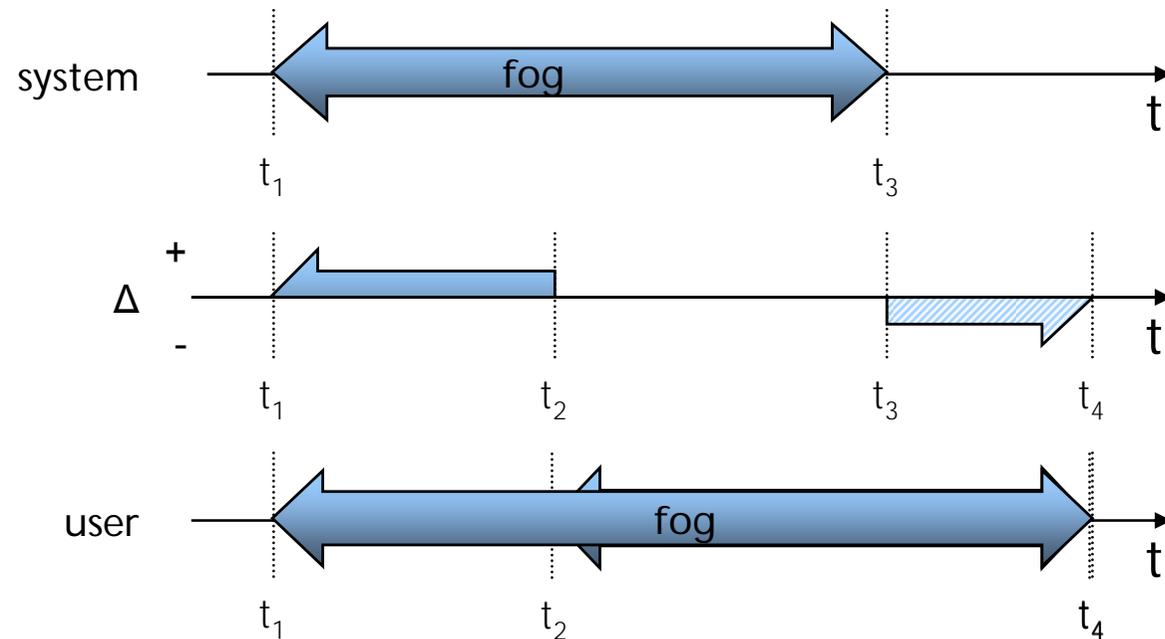
IN:SIGHT – General procedure (cont'd)

- filtering
- computing Δ
- information value
- **informing**
- updating



IN:SIGHT – General procedure (cont'd)

- filtering
- computing Δ
- information value
- informing
- **updating**



Conclusion

Conclusion

main points

- need-oriented information supply: only (new) information is delivered
- general model supporting various application cases

examples

- congestion information
- demand-oriented navigation
- cooperative work support
- mobile gaming

enhancement

- memory function
- using local sensor data (e.g., rain sensor)
- additional situation overview



Thank you very much!

