Intent-Based Networking systems and MEC

IRTF NMRG Interim Meeting

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ETSI Multi-access Edge Computing

Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC) offers application developers and content providers cloud-computing capabilities and an IT service environment at the edge of the network. This environment is characterized by ultra-low latency and high bandwidth as well as real-time access to radio network information that can be leveraged by applications.

MEC provides a new ecosystem and value chain. Operators can open their Radio Access Network (RAN) edge to authorized third-parties, allowing them to flexibly and rapidly deploy innovative applications and services towards mobile subscribers, enterprises and vertical segments.

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System Design

An IBN agent is deployed in the MEC host to consume the services exposed by the MEC Platform over the *mp1* interface (e.g., Radio Network Information Service, Location Service). This data could be used to assist the IBN Monitor Block. For example it could track down the position of the intent-requesting user and alert the IBN system whenever the required MEC application should be moved (e.g., from Zone 1 to Zone 2).

Furthermore it could execute all the health-checking functions on the MEC application (GET /*services/{appInstanceId}* -> extract contact point -> Health check).

IBN and **MEC** integration

IBN component communicates with the MEC system level through the Mx2 interface toward the "User app LCM proxy", using MEC 016 standardized API. Specifically:

GET <u>/app_list</u> -> To monitor existing applications (Monitor/Observe IBN block)

POST <u>/obtain_app_loc_availability</u> -> To request an available location (MEC host) to deploy the desired MEC application (Configure/Provision IBN block)

POST <u>/app_contexts</u> -> To launch a new MEC application (Configure/Provision IBN block). It replies with the address(es) (reference URIs) provided for clients that are external to the MEC system to interact with the user application (Monitor/Observe IBN block for app Health-Check)

PUT <u>/app_contexts</u> -> To update the location constraints of an existing MEC application (Monitor/Observe -> Configure/Provision IBN blocks)

DELETE <u>/app_contexts</u> -> To stop an existing MEC application (Configure/Provision IBN block)

MEC 013 - Location API - Get Users location



MEC 013 - Location API - Tracking Users movement



MEC 013 - Location API - Tracking Users movement



When the user enters a new zone, the MEP notifies the subscribed user { "zonalPresenceNotification": { "address": "10.100.0.1", "callbackData": "0123", "currentAccessPointId": "4g-macro-cell-4", "timestamp": { "nanoSeconds": 0, "seconds": 0, "seconds": 1613171308 }, "userEventType": "Entering", "zoneId": "zone02" } }

Example taken from <u>ETSI MEC Sandbox</u>





Contact points

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