

A Smartwatch-Based
Assistance System for the
Elderly Performing Fall
Detection, Unusual Inactivity
Recognition and Medication
Reminding



Markus DEUTSCH, Harald BURGSTEINER
Institute for eHealth, Graz University of Applied Sciences

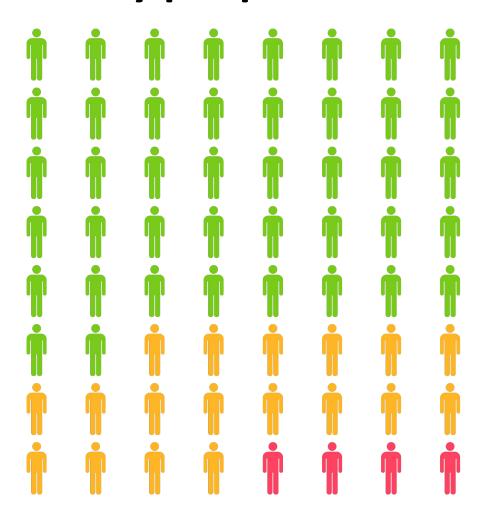


Medication





Elderly people tend to fall



30-40%

of people aged 65 or older fall at least once a year

10-20%

of those get seriously injured



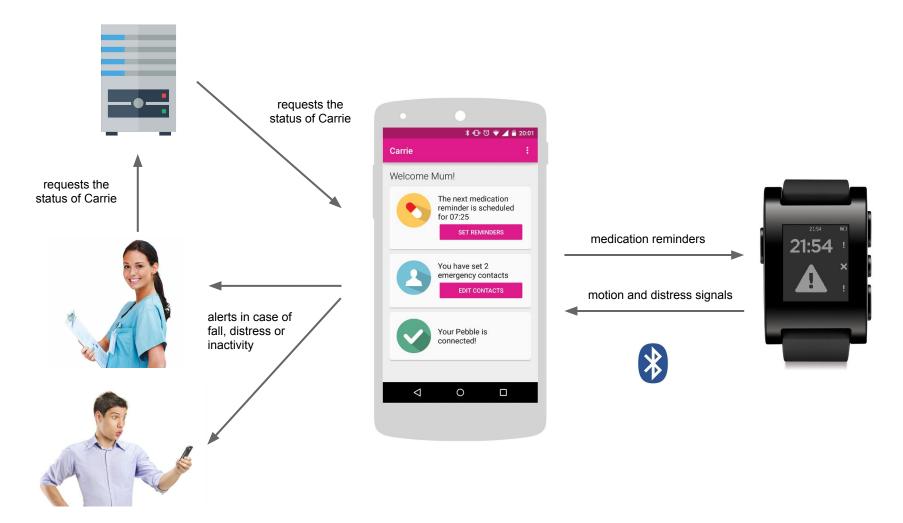


Pebble smartwatch

- 3D acceleration sensor
- Bluetooth
- battery performance
- water resistant







emergency contacts smartphone smartwatch



Fall Detection

- Machine learning-based approach
- Multilayer perceptron is trained with prerecorded data of falls and non-fall situations

Sensitivity: 98.4%
 Specificity: 99.4% (on staged falls)



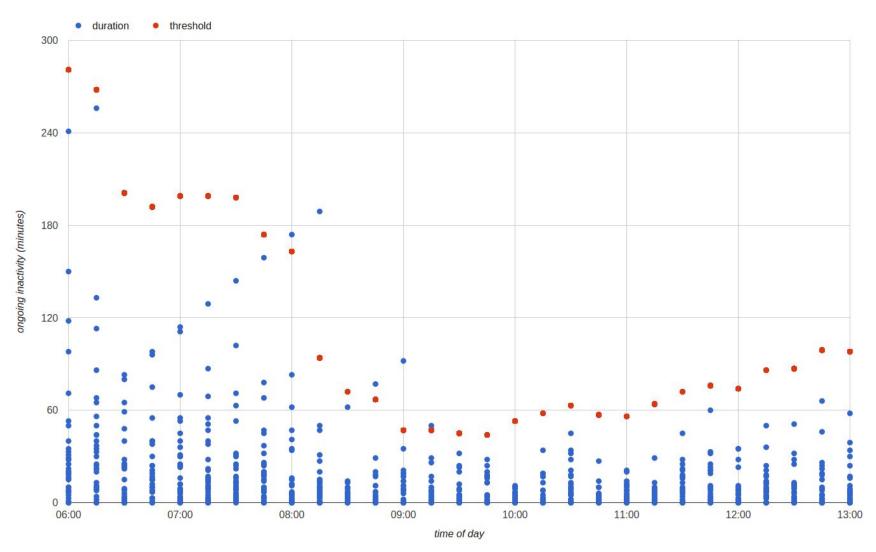


Inactivity Recognition

- Threshold-based approach
- Adapts itself to the user's daily routines
- Respects weekly recurring patterns
- Calculates "usual" inactivity for any given time of day







inactivity durations and the calculated thresholds





manual help requests & automatic fall detection

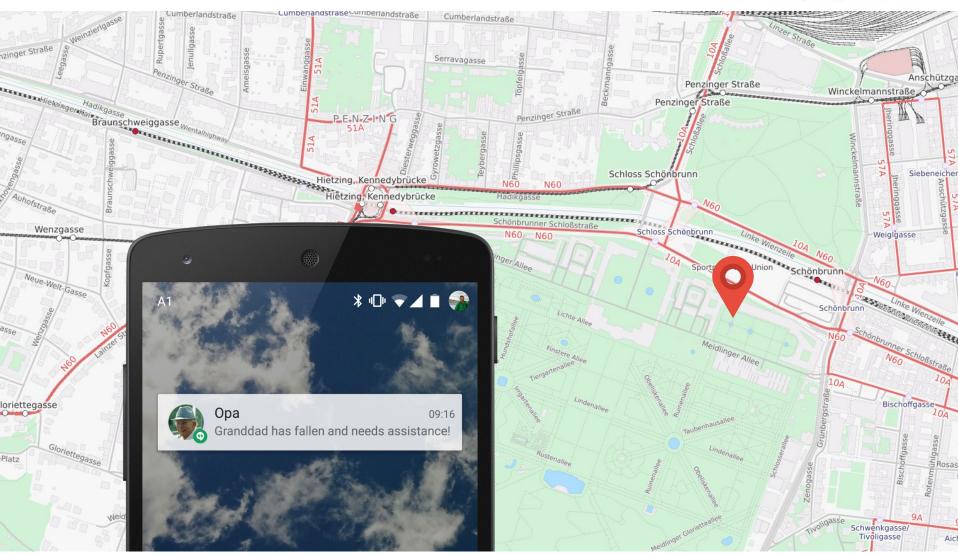




inactivity recognition

Photo: https://flic.kr/p/5SEJUi





alerts are texted to emergency contacts





medication reminders





Future research

- evaluation of performance and acceptance in field tests
- usability tests
- alternative wearables
- improvements to fall detection (online learning, custom network per user)



Markus DEUTSCH markus.deutsch@edu.fh-joanneum.at

Harald BURGSTEINER harald.burgsteiner@fh-joanneum.at