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Smartphones as a Resource for Understanding People

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Commodity smart phones have made the visions of ubiquitous computing common place. We call these phones "smart phones" simply because they have a mobile operating system, not because they are smart. In fact, they are pretty dumb. They know nothing about their users, despite the fact that they spend hours a day with them. The Ubicomp lab at Carnegie Mellon University has been using these phones to collect a wide variety of data to enable a wide variety of context-aware user experiences, focusing on experiences that require a truly "smart" phone. In this talk, I will provide an overview of our projects and will discuss a number of assumptions we make about phone usage that are wrong and will dramatically impact the way we design mobile smartphone applications.

Anind K. Dey

Anind K. Dey is an Associate Professor in the Human-Computer Interaction Institute at Carnegie Mellon University. He is the director of the Ubicomp Lab, which performs research at the intersection of ubiquitous computing, human-computer interaction and machine learning, in the areas of mobile computing, health and sustainability among others. He has authored over 100 papers on these topics and serves on the editorial board of several journals. Anind received his PhD in computer science from Georgia Tech, along with a Masters of Science in both Computer Science and Aerospace Engineering. He received his Bachelors of Applied Science in Computer Engineering from Simon Fraser University.