Privacy-Driven and User-Centric Resource Allocation and Offloading for Smart Homes: Simulation and Prototype Validation

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1. Introduction

Problem:

Smart home applications are growing in number and complexity.

- Edge devices risk resource overload and delay applications.
- Users want privacy, limited trust in cloud!



Solution:

A resource allocation and offloading algorithm that utilizes both edge and cloud resources, guided by the following design goals:

- Adaptive to computational load
- Privacy-driven
- 🙋 User-centric

2. System Model

 α_i : Binary decision variable (0 = local, 1 = remote) P_i: Task privacy sensitivity, based on data type and data source location

Processing schemes:

- Local processing ($\alpha_i = 0$)
- Remote processing ($\alpha_i = 1$)

3. Problem Formulation

Allocate computation and bandwidth resources and decide where to execute tasks to minimize privacy leakage across all tasks.

Subject to:

- Time budget constraints
- Resource feasibility constraints

4. Simulation and Prototype Design

Privacy leakage model:

• $r_i = \alpha_i \cdot p_i$

- Python-based Simulator: Developed using the Gurobi solver.
- Prototype Implementation: Deployed on a Raspberry Pi.



5. Results

W Up to 3× faster application completion compared to localonly solutions by balancing tasks between local and remote execution.



9 application instances

15 application instances

Fig 1. Distribution of completion time of applications under varying loads measured over 15 independent experiments (our approach: AdaptHub).

6. Conclusion and Future Work

By selectively balancing tasks between edge and cloud, our approach not only accelerates completion times but also ensures that highly privacy-sensitive tasks are prioritized for local execution, reducing privacy exposure.

Future direction:

- Leverage trusted execution environments (TEEs) to enable secure computation in cloud.
- Apply data minimization prior to offloading.

65% of highly privacy-sensitive tasks executed locally, significantly outperforming the 40% rate of privacy-oblivious baselines.

Users enhance privacy by relaxing completion time (e.g., doubling the time budget), enabling more sensitive tasks to be executed locally with minimal performance overhead (~300 ms).

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Find the implementation here!

