



Promoting and Maximizing Independence Through New Technologies

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Agenda

- I.L.S.A. Introduction
- Field Test and Test Subject Description
- Mobility Monitoring Design and Results
- Medication Monitoring Design and Results
- Conclusions



Independent LifeStyle Assistant

Program Objective

Develop an intelligent home automation system with situation awareness and decision-making capability based on integration of diverse sensors, devices, and appliances to support caregivers and enable elderly users to live independently at home.

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Honeywell

And

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

Advanced Technology Program (ATP)



Program Aims

- Support elder independent living
- Provide peace of mind to caregivers
- Support efficient quality of care for caregiving organizations
- Provide cost savings for government and industry



Factors Precipitating Institutionalization

Literature reviews, interviews with adult children caregivers, and discussions with geriatric experts identified the most significant factors that pose a threat to the independence of elders.

- Mobility
- Medication Management
- Eating
- Toileting
- Isolation
- Medical Monitoring
- Cognitive Decline
- Safety
- Caregiver Burnout

Existing monitoring solutions often focus on a single function—little or no integration.



Monitoring Functional Status

- Ability to stay at home depends on mental and physical ability
- Clinic visits inadequate for functional assessment due to brief visit and out of context
- About 75% of elders maintain a structured life. An elder who has changing or deteriorating structure will probably leave the home soon.
- Changes in eating, drinking, and vital signs typically begin to decline 2 weeks prior to a serious event.

Recognizing changes in routine daily behaviors is an important predictor of change in status.



The I.L.S.A. Vision

- **Gather** information about elder, activity, and home status by listening to the home and communicating with devices
- **Assess** the need for assistance based on the system's understanding the elder's condition and what activities are going on inside the home
- **Respond** to a given situation by providing assistance to the elder and getting help when necessary
- **Share** health and status information with authorized caregivers and the elderly client to help improve the quality and timely delivery of care



Lois is doing well.
I don't need to look
in on her today.



Lois is in the
living room.



Lois is safe and
comfortable.

Lois ate breakfast
at 8:20.



Help when
she needs it.



ILSA tells me if
things aren't right with Mom.
I don't worry so much.



10:00 A.M.
Time for medicine

**It's time to take
your medicine!**



Test Criteria

ILSA Test Subject Inclusion Criteria

- Living alone
- MMSE > 24
- Availability of high speed internet service
- Agreement of participation from a family member/caregiver



Test Subject Demographics

Location	N	Situation	Gender	Age
Minnesota	7	1 assisted apartment 6 independent apartment	1 male, 6 female	Ave: 83.42 Range 76-96
Florida	4	All in own homes	1 male 3 female	Ave: 70 Range (56-76)

- Relatively high education, High School to PhD
- Relatively high acceptance of technology
- “Early Adoptors” who want to influence technology

Identifying willing elder/caregiver teams was more difficult than anticipated



Field Test Participants

- Elders were living independently
- All were physically active
- Most were “healthy”, some managed a chronic condition
- All were comfortable with remotes, programmable appliances
- Most had some computer literacy-wide variation in ability
- Assisted living resident used a walker in her apartment and a wheelchair for some transports in the facility.
- All but one (assisted living) still managed own medications
- Medications ranged from 1-16 doses per day



Field Test Measures

- Usability questionnaires-weekly, monthly
- Motion sensors
- Medication caddy sensors
- Elder health: SF-36
- Elder cognition level: MMSE
 - Pre-install, midpoint, end
- Elder comfort with technology
- Focus groups: elders and caregivers



Caregiver Profile

- I.L.S.A. test subjects required to have at least one family caregiver
- Total of 17 caregivers registered for 11 clients
 - 8 Men, 9 Women
 - Access to web was a criteria for our test
- Professional caregivers were not targeted in this study



Implementation...



Field Test Features

- **Mobility Monitoring**
Sensed and summarized activity level for each time period of the day compared to an expected baseline
- **Medication Compliance**
List of the medications elder should take and whether he or she opened the caddy at the correct time
- **Reminders**
Notes to help elder remember what to do today
- **Control**
Allowed elder to turn the system on/off

I.L.S.A. System



Client Interface
Honeywell Webpad™
anywhere in client's home



Caregiver Browser
From any internet connection

Wireless Sensors
monitor general or
specific activities

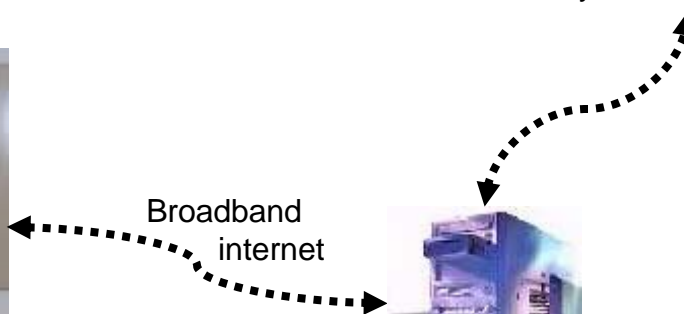


Hidden **control and communication** components



I.L.S.A. Server
Modular agent-based System

Broadband internet



Installation

Example apartment layout with sensor locations

- Zones 11-16
IR motion detectors

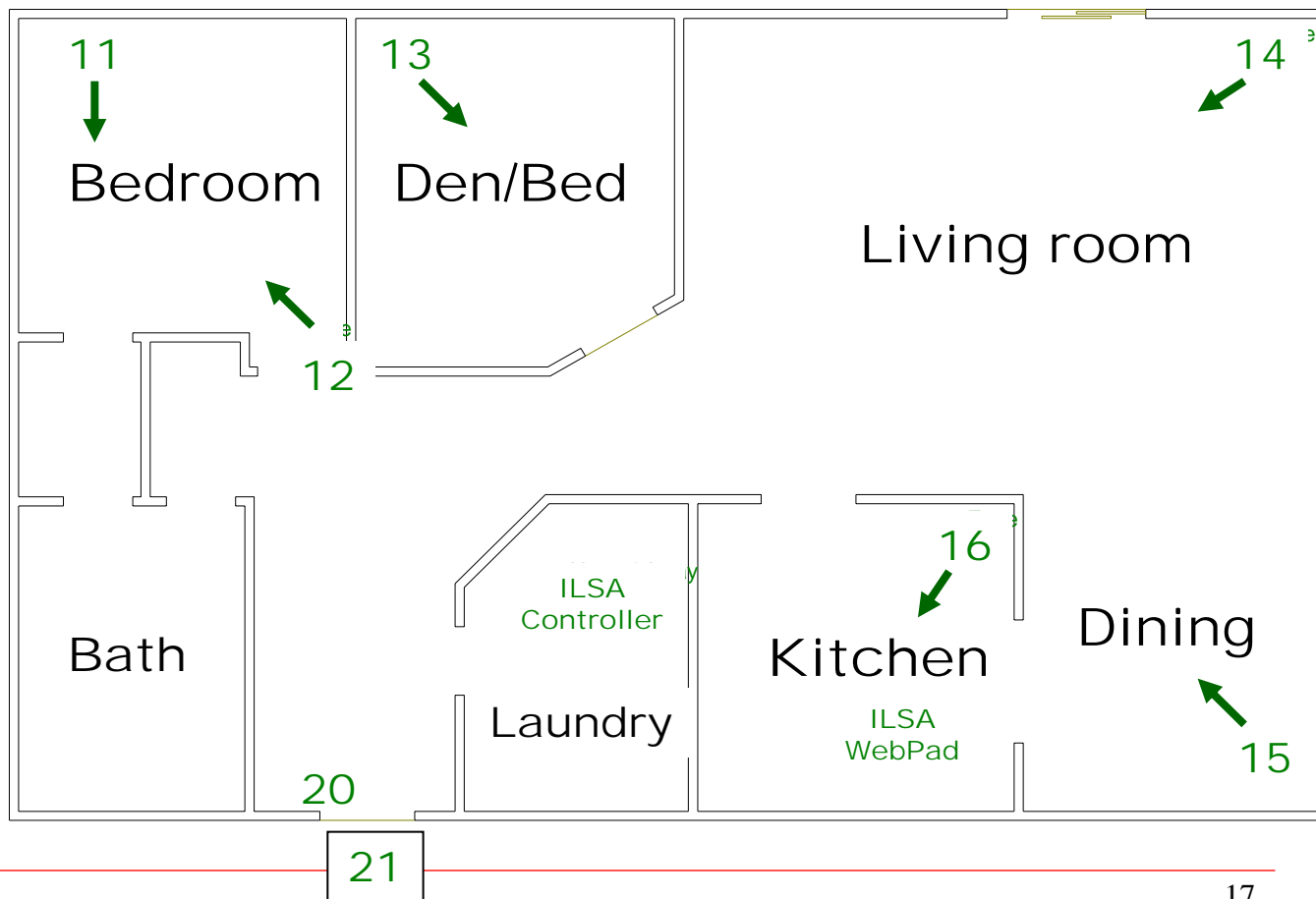


- Zone 20
Entry Door contact switch

- Zone 21
Hallway Pressure Mat



- Zone 10
med caddy contact switch





I.L.S.A. Client Interface

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Reminders - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The interface is divided into a left sidebar and a main content area. The sidebar contains five menu items, each with an icon and a label: "Reminders" (a hand pointing), "Mobility" (a cane), "Medicine" (two pill bottles), "Controls" (a remote control), and "Caregiver" (a bell). The "Reminders" menu item is highlighted in blue. The main content area is titled "Reminders List" and shows the date "Saturday, May 25". Below the title, there are two bullet points: "Angie is coming to clean your house at 3:00." and "You have a doctor's appointment on Monday at 9:00 AM." The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Done" and "Local intranet".

Reminders - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Reminders All Larger Saturday, May 25

Mobility

Medicine

Controls

Caregiver

Reminders List

- Angie is coming to clean your house at 3:00.
- You have a doctor's appointment on Monday at 9:00 AM.

Done Local intranet



Design Philosophies

- **Passive**
Allow elders to follow regular routines without imposing new ones
- **No worn devices**
Panic buttons not adequate in many instances (not handy, unconscious patient)
- **Minimal intrusions**
No noises from system except automated reminders (as needed) via telephone
- **Web Pad optional**
No requirement for them to use the Webpad™ for proper system behavior.



Mobility Monitoring Design

- Used four six-hour periods per day for assessment and reporting to clients and caregivers to accommodate normal fluctuations in daily living patterns.
- Activity levels were rated High, Normal or Low based on comparison to a static model for each client
- Alerts, not Alarms



Mobility Design Cont.

- Alerts for “No Mobility”
 - No mobility was defined by the complete lack of sensor events (from all sensors in the home) for a configurable duration. (e.g., 5 hours) during waking hours.
- Alerts for significant change in pattern
 - A significant change was described as a 50% increase or decrease sustained for three days, as compared to the previous seven days.
- Up-at-Night Notification
 - Sensor readings during the time when the client was normally asleep (static settings for wake/sleep) resulted in notifications of nighttime activity.
- Communication
 - Alerts were issued via telephone to caregiver, and listed on the web site.
 - Caregivers could access web site or telephone status reports on demand.
 - Clients could see a list of alerts issued in the last 48 hours



Results – Sensor Placement

- Sensor Placement
 - Placement of bedroom sensors picked up motion in bed and required modification of up-at-night evaluation.
 - In small apartments, where zones may overlap, few assumptions can be made about location of activity.
 - Improper sensor placement can pick up motion on the floor – such as a person in distress moving their arms.

Sensor placement concerns require an experienced installer.



Results – Occupancy Detection

Occupancy Detection

- Clients did not consistently report absences by turning I.L.S.A. “OFF.”
- Lack of reliable occupancy information makes real-time mobility assessment unreliable. Long-term trends are still noticeable, but not interpretable.
- The “No mobility” threshold was raised in many cases to prevent false alarms. This reduced its utility for passive detection of emergencies.
- **Pressure pad and door sensor combined with other evidence filtered 95% of false alerts when the client was actually away from the apartment.**



Machine Learning: Sleep/Wake Cycles

Client	Reported Wake	Reported Sleep	Number of Alerts Generated	Observed Wake	Observed Sleep	Number of Alerts Generated	Percent Reduction in Alerts
1	06:30	23:00	492	05:23	23:33	241	51%
2	07:30	20:30	811	05:51	22:34	425	48%
3	07:00	22:30	862	06:52	23:27	370	57%
4	08:00	23:30	535	07:17	23:54	397	26%
5	06:00	23:30	1360	07:09	00:00	776	43%
6	07:00	22:00	778	06:09	22:19	563	28%
7	07:30	22:00	370	07:04	23:14	263	29%

The rate of false alerts is significantly decreased by learning actual patterns over time.



Mobility Conclusions

- *Accurate* mobility reports can provide value to both clients and caregivers.
- Access to reports has the potential to increase elder interaction and acceptance of monitoring.
- Activity sensors by themselves cannot provide 100% accurate detection of normal or abnormal mobility events.
- Installation and configuration of activity sensors is the single most significant barrier to cost-effective application of this technology.



Medication Compliance Monitoring Design

Simple approach.....

- ILSA knows the med schedule
- Senses when med caddy opens
- If caddy is not opened within X minutes of scheduled time, a reminder is delivered.
- Displays schedule and access record for client and caregiver(s)





Client Medication View

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Medication Today - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The page content is as follows:

- Reminders**: A button with a hand pointing icon.
- Mobility**: A button with a pair of crutches icon.
- Medicine**: A button with a pill bottle icon, currently selected. It has sub-links for "Today" and "Yesterday".
- Controls**: A button with a remote control icon.
- Caregiver**: A button with a bell icon.
- Help**: A button with a question mark icon.

The main content area is titled "Medicine Today" and shows the date "07:35 AM Saturday, June 01". It contains a table with the following data:

Medicine	Time	Status
Coumadin	7:30 AM	OK
Naproxen	5:30 PM	

Below the table, it states "Last Medication access at 8:00 AM". The I.L.S.A. logo is visible in the top right corner of the page content. The browser's status bar at the bottom indicates "Local intranet".



Medication Compliance Monitoring Design

- Time window for compliance is flexible and set in cooperation with the senior
- Time window approach greatly reduces the number of unnecessary reminders compared to fixed time approaches
- Elder can view schedule for the day and see her own compliance
- Reminders consisted of phone call and recorded voice message
- Twenty-four hours of noncompliance prompts an alert to caregiver



Medication Monitoring Results

- Most clients showed a reduction in missed medications while using I.L.S.A.
- Clients disliked the telephone reminders so much that they became more compliant to avoid them
- Encouraged them to exercise their own memory
- Some clients used I.L.S.A. to confirm that they took their medication
- For most clients, incidence of missed medications did not significantly increase when reminders were turned off near the end of the test period
- Elders were able to continue to manage their own medications using this simple system
- Clients want multiple caddies so they can keep their meds distributed throughout the home



Medication Monitoring Results

What seniors liked about it:

- Little disruption from current habits
- No additional interaction required beyond normal medication handling
- Time window reduced unnecessary reminders
- Exercised senior's cognitive faculties
- Device was simple and familiar-looking
- Selected boxes for each client based on the size of their pill sorter or bottles.



In Summary

Reactions to ILSA

- Privacy
 - Initial concerns about privacy were forgotten within a day or so of installation, though privacy was the number one barrier to finding willing participants.
 - Caregivers often had more significant negative reaction to privacy than their parent.
 - Having access to the same information shared with caregivers may have made elders feel less spied upon.
 - Salesmanship is key: misunderstanding and mistrust of technology is common
- Interactions with ILSA On/Off Modes
 - Clients didn't want to use this feature because they were afraid they'd forget to reset I.L.S.A. when they returned.



Reactions to ILSA continued

- Interest in mobility reporting
 - Clients were keenly interested in the reports of their mobility and wanted to send feedback about the accuracy of reports.
- Clients did not appear to become dependent on medication reminders
 - I.L.S.A.'s medication adherence design allowed clients to exercise their own memory to avoid reminders
- Clients were engaged by I.L.S.A. throughout the testing period
 - Most test subjects regularly checked I.L.S.A. at least once a day even in the last month of testing.



Conclusion

Our experience with I.L.S.A. highlighted topics for further study:

- System interaction concepts for elderly users
- Further study of machine learning algorithms in this domain
- Revised models of activity monitoring and sensor selection/placement
- Reminder behavior and adaptability
- Market questions: how to overcome barriers to acceptance of “invasive” technologies



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Thank You for sharing your time with us.

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