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Mobile Agents

Over the years computer technology has been advancing at a blistering rate. Internet applications are just one of those computer technologies that have grown in size and complexity. As computer applications grow they are taking up big chunks of bandwidth when they travel from server to client. There are also other valuable resources such as CPU time that are being used up by these applications.

One technology being developed to help alleviate the resource problem is the mobile agent technology. Mobile agents are pieces of code or programs that are designed to travel within a network and perform specialized tasks. Mobile agents can be used in distributed database systems where a mobile agent must update all parts that make up the database. Mobile agents could also be used in applications that make reservations. In this case the mobile agent must go through various servers and find the desired reservation that meets the request. In my discussion I will explain how mobile agents work, how they are being developed and some of the financial, social and ethical issues behind them.

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