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MODIFIED ALERTS FOR OFF HOUR CALENDAR EVENTS

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MODIFIED ALERTS FOR OFF HOUR CALENDAR EVENTS

ABSTRACT

A modified alert triggering system modifies alerts associated with calendar events. The system identifies a user's normal calendar hours. Further, the system determines that a calendar event is scheduled outside of user's normal calendar hours. Based on determining that the calendar event is scheduled outside of user's normal calendar hours, the system modifies an alert for the calendar event. For example, the modified alert can be louder than a normal alert, the modified alert can be a different alert tone than the normal alert tone, etc. The system then triggers the modified alert for the calendar event.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Use of electronic calendar applications is increasingly prevalent to help manage people's schedules. Many calendar applications provide an alert, for example, a message, a ringtone, a pop-up notification, etc., to a user for a calendar event prior to the calendar event. The user can select a type of alert that has to be provided for each calendar event, however, the alert remains the same for all the calendar events regardless of whether the calendar events are scheduled within or outside of the user's normal calendar hours. For various events scheduled outside of a user's normal calendar hours, the user can be present at a place farther from the place where the event is scheduled to take place. In such a scenario, if a preset alert with a preset tone, volume, etc., is provided at a preset time prior to the calendar event, the user can miss the alert and run

late or completely miss the event. A system that provides for more aggressive alerting for events scheduled outside of user's normal calendar hours is described.

MODIFIED ALERT TRIGGERING SYSTEM

The systems and techniques described in this disclosure relate to a modified alert triggering system. The system can be implemented for use in an Internet, an intranet, or another client and server environment. The system can be implemented locally on a client device or implemented across a client device and server environment. The client device can be any electronic device such as a mobile device, a smartphone, a tablet, a handheld electronic device, a wearable device etc.

Fig. 1 illustrates an example method 100 for triggering a modified alert to a user. The method can be performed by a system that provides a modified alert to the user, for example, the modified alert triggering system. The system identifies the user's normal calendar hours (Block 102). The user's normal calendar hours can be working hours, waking hours, non-working hours, etc. The user's working hours can be user's common working hours, e.g., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m i.e., when the user is at his work location. The user's non-working hours can be common time left after user's working hours. The user's waking hours can be common hours when the user is not asleep. The user's waking hours may include user's working hours and non-working hours, excluding user's sleep time. The user's non-working hours can include common hours when the user is not at his work location. The user can manually provide his normal calendar hours to the system. Alternatively, the system can automatically identify the user's normal calendar hours by analyzing the user's historical location data. The user's historical location data can be obtained

from Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates or the IP address of the user's client device. For example, from the user's historical location data, the system can determine the user's office location based on his most common location during common working hours, e.g., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Or the user may manually identify his office location for the system. The system can analyze the times when the user usually reaches and leaves the determined office location to determine the user's working hours. For example, the system determines the user's working hours to be between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Alternatively, the system can determine user's waking hours or non-working hours.

The system determines that a calendar event is scheduled outside of user's normal calendar hours (Block 104). The system can access a digital calendar maintained by the user. The digital calendar can be a web-based application or an application that runs on the user's client device. The system analyzes the scheduled times of the scheduled events on the user's calendar. The system compares the scheduled time of the calendar event with the user's identified normal calendar hours to determine that the calendar event is scheduled outside of user's normal calendar hours. For example, the system identifies that a calendar event scheduled for 9 a.m. is scheduled outside of the user's normal calendar hours of 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The system modifies an alert for the calendar event based on determining that the calendar event is scheduled outside of the user's normal calendar hours (Block 106). The modified alert can be different from an alert which is triggered when the calendar event is scheduled within user's normal calendar hours. The modified alert alerts the user that he has an event scheduled for outside his normal calendar hours. The system can modify the alert in a variety of ways. For example, the modified alert can be louder than a normal alert. In another

example, the modified alert can be a different alert tone than the normal alert tone. In yet another example, the modified alert can provide vibration along with the alert tone, while the normal alert is without vibration or vice-versa. Additionally or alternatively, the modification causes the modified alert to be triggered earlier than the normal alert, e.g., one hour before the scheduled event rather than ten minutes before the scheduled event. The system then triggers the modified alert for the calendar event (Block 108).

The system can also determine the user's current location and compare it with a location identified for the calendar event. If the user's current location is different from event location, the system triggers the modified alert at a predetermined time, e.g., one hour, in advance of the calendar event. The system may also obtain a time estimate for the user to travel from the user's current location to the location for the calendar event location, e.g., the office. The system may trigger the modified alert early enough to give the user enough time to travel to the office before the scheduled event time. Additionally, if the user has muted calendar event alerts and the calendar event is scheduled outside of the normal hours, the system automatically overrides the mute and proceeds to trigger an alert for the calendar event.

The subject matter described in this disclosure can be implemented in software and/or hardware (for example, computers, circuits, or processors). The subject matter can be implemented on a single device or across multiple devices (for example, a client device and a server device). Devices implementing the subject matter can be connected through a wired and/or wireless network. Such devices can receive inputs from a user (for example, from a mouse, keyboard, or touchscreen) and produce an output to a user (for example, through a

display). Specific examples disclosed are provided for illustrative purposes and do not limit the scope of the disclosure.

DRAWINGS

100

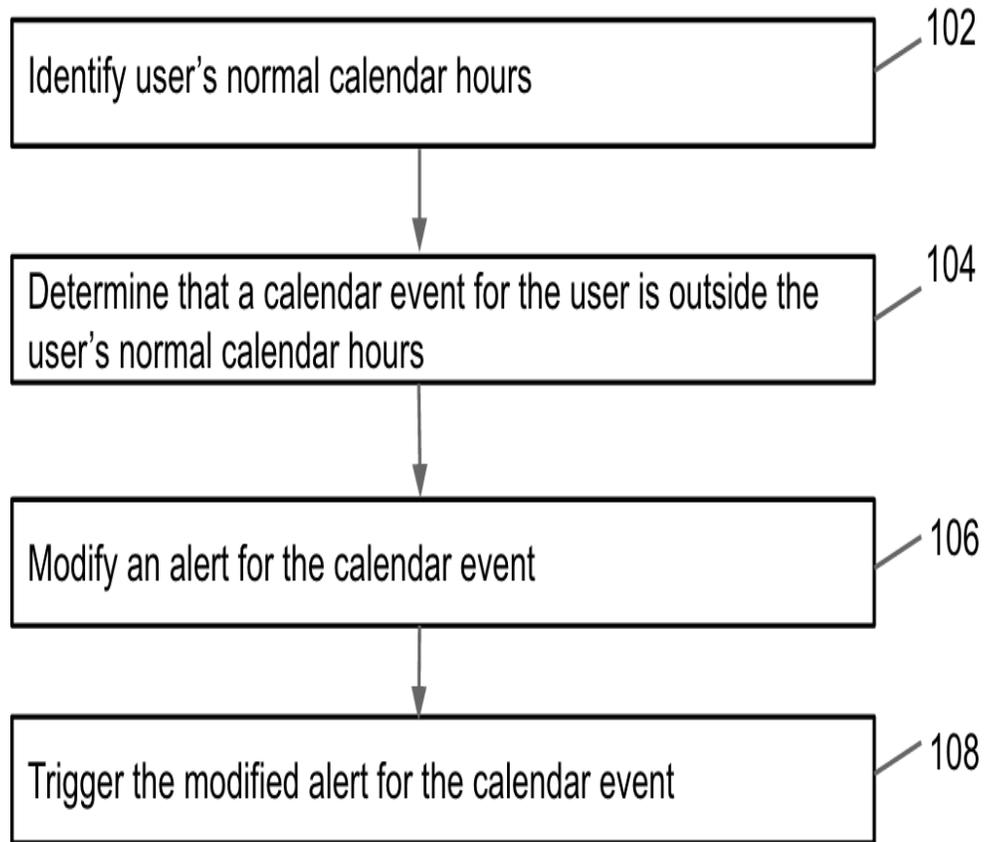


FIG. 1