turning knowledge into practice

Data Collection Platforms for Integrated Longitudinal Surveys of Human Exposure-Related Behavior

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Need for Integrated Data Collection

Routes of exposure

- Inhalation
- Ingestion
- Dermal contact

Modifiers of exposure

- Breathing rate, exertion, specific activities
- Food and beverage consumption
- Use of consumer products
- Carpet, gloves, open doors/windows, microenvironment)
- Season, geographical location, temperature, humidity



Overall Objectives

Develop a personal data collection system that:

- integrates data input streams for collection of human exposurerelated behaviors
- supports EPA human exposure assessment models
- is easily adapted for other human exposure assessment studies
- has sufficiently low burden that most members of the general household population of the U.S. will be willing to participate in the study for at least 1 week per season for 1 year



Approach

- Develop diary methodologies for data collection
- Develop sensors & automation to reduce burden
- Evaluate methods in the general population
- Assess, improve, and enhance developments
- Re-evaluate methods and technologies
- Facilitate system use for other research studies



Methods

Activity/Location/Exertion/Environment Data Collection

- Paper diary traditional forms and booklets
- Menu diary menus and forms on Pocket PC (PPC)
- Voice diary questions/answers on PPC
- Photo diary periodic photos on PPC
- Automation
 - GPS for outdoor location and movement.
 - Wireless beacons for indoor residential locations
 - Wireless Polar chest belt for heart rate monitoring
 - Accelerometers for movement and compliance monitoring



Methods Dietary Data Collection

- Paper diary forms and booklets (24-hour recall)
- Menu diary menus and forms on PPC (real-time)
- Voice diary questions/answers on PPC (real-time)
- Automation none



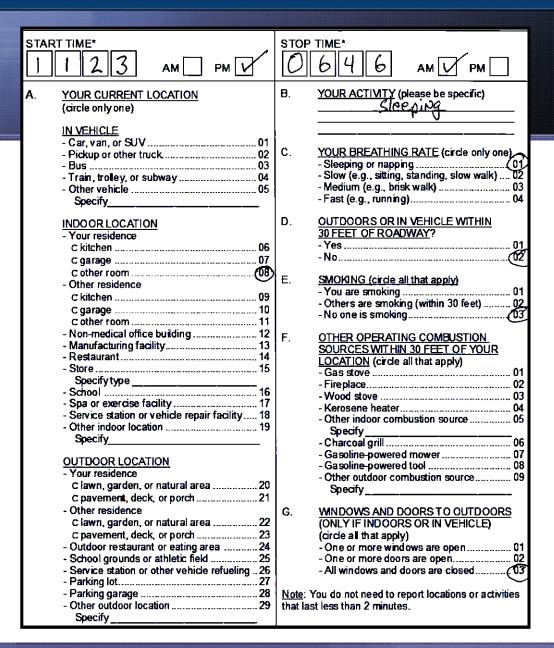
Methods

Consumer Product Data Collection

- Paper diary forms and booklets (24-hour recall)
- Menu diary menus and forms on PPC (real-time)
- Automation wireless buttons record each product use event
 - Personal care products
 - Soaps and shampoos
 - Fob-initiated time stamp
 - Household cleaning products
 - Kitchen and bathroom cleaners and sanitizers
 - Fob-initiated time stamp; then Pocket PC forms/questionnaire
 - Pesticide products
 - Fob-initiated time stamp; Pocket PC-based forms/questionnaire
 - Aerosols weighed before and after use; weights sent wirelessly to PPC

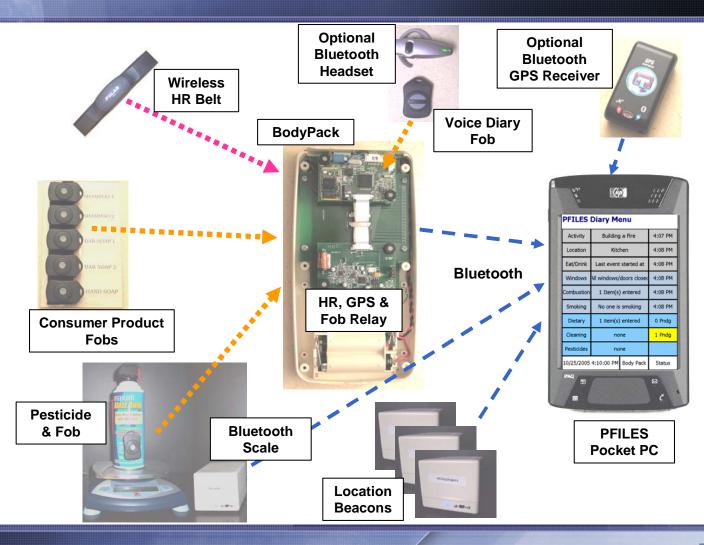


Paper Form Diary



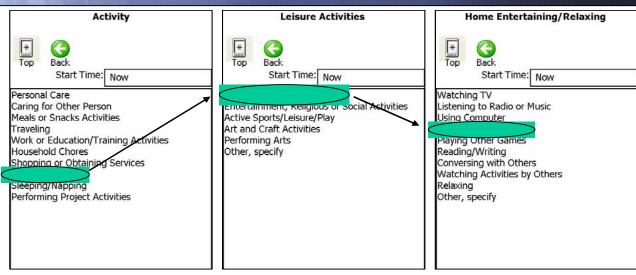


Personal Data Collection Platform

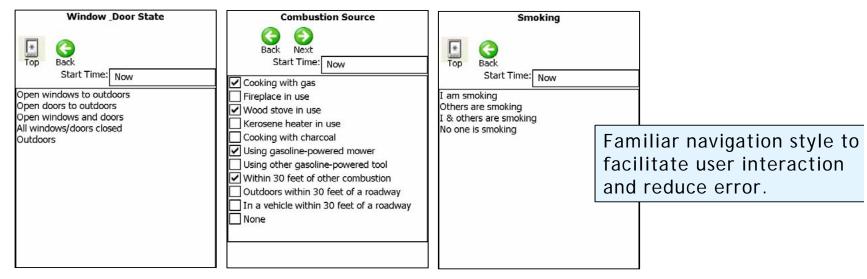




Pocket PC Menu Diaries

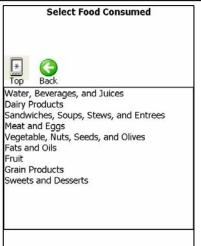


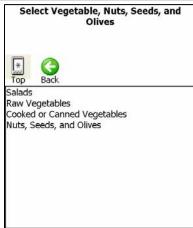
Multilevel menus are used to capture activity and location data.

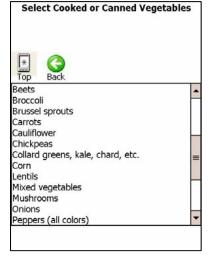


Single and multi-selection menus are used for environmental data.

Pocket PC Menu Diaries (continued)

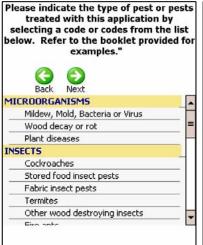




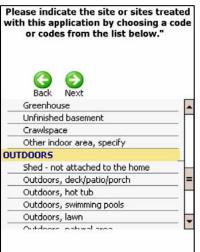




Multilevel menus are used to capture dietary data, with radio-buttons for serving size.



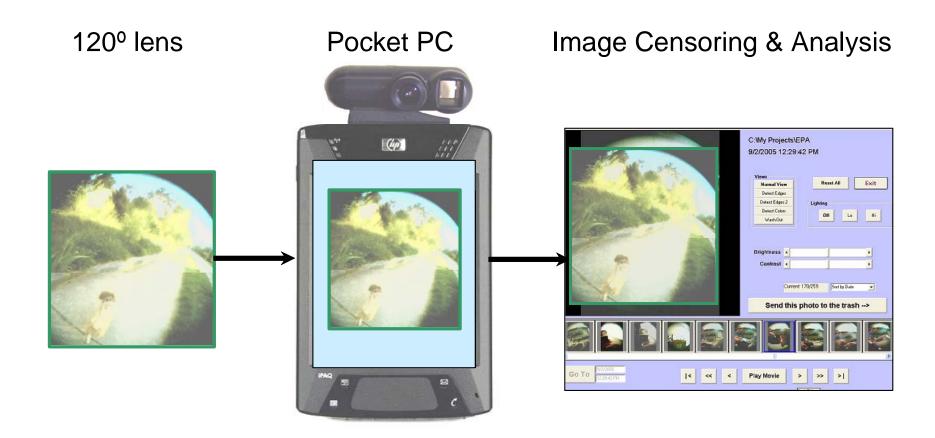






A sequence of questionnaire forms are presented in response to a pesticide fob event.

Photo Diary



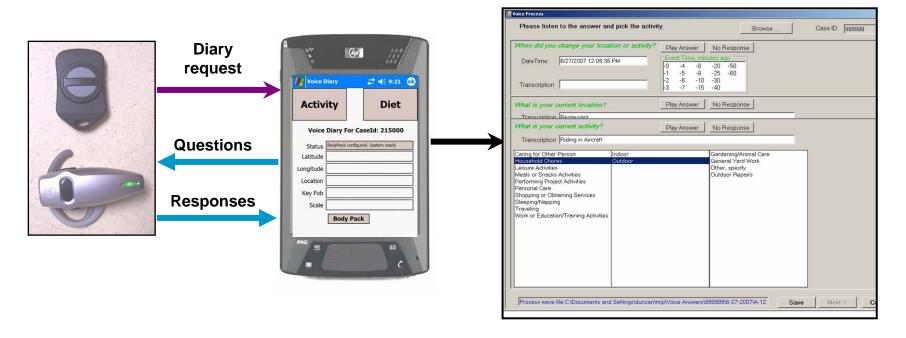


Voice Diary



Pocket PC

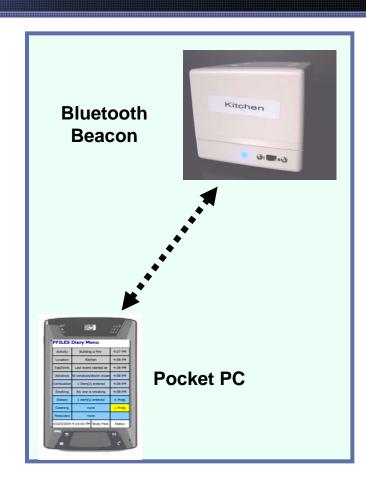
Activity / Location / Diet Coding





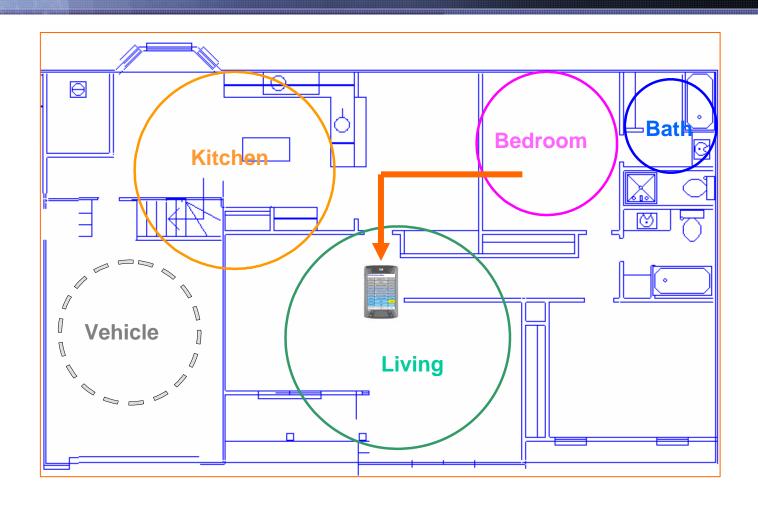
Locator Beacons ...

- Beacons are placed throughout the residence in study-designated rooms
- Each beacon is configured for:
 - Maximum detection range for designated room
 - Study detection interval (e.g., 60 seconds)
 - Beacon ID code for room identification.
 - Designated Pocket PC Bluetooth address
- Location tracking:
 - At each interval, the beacon microcomputer powers up the internal Bluetooth module
 - The beacon attempts to establish a Bluetooth connection with the designated Pocket PC
 - If a connection is established, the beacon sends a time/date stamped Beacon ID code to the Pocket PC
 - The internal Bluetooth module is powered down until the next interval





Example Residential Beacon Use





Pilot Evaluation of Technologies

Purpose:

- Evaluate technical performance of technologies & systems
- Evaluate participant & analyst burden for various diary modes

Participants (N=48)

- Gender: Female (N=35); Male (N=13)
- Age: 18-34 (N=14); 35-65 (N=25); >64 (N=9)
- Ed: HS/GED (N=14); some college (N=16); college grad. (N=18)

Field study design

- Four data collection modes: Paper, PPC menu, PPC voice, PPC photo
- All had heart rate and residential location beacon monitoring
- All use wireless fobs to record product use events
- Each participants used the data collection system for 7 days

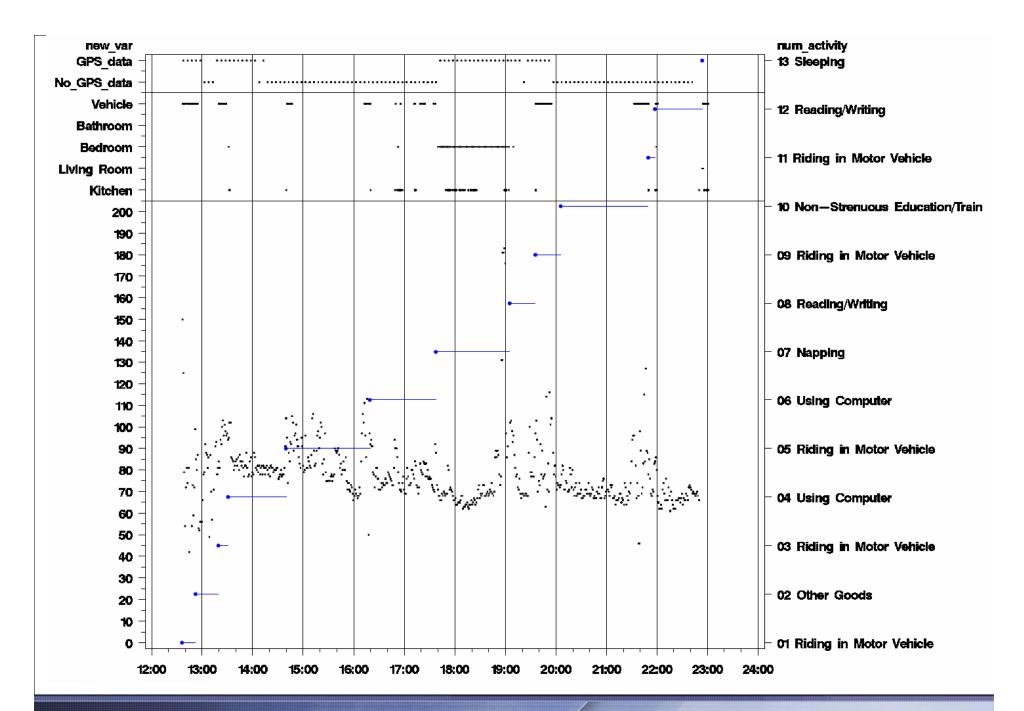


Example activity and dietary data

Time	Activity
12:00:44	Grooming/Dressing
15:24:06	Wash/Dry/Sort/Iron Clothes
15:25:40	Riding in Motor Vehicle
15:26:40	Clothes
16:42:33	Eating/Drinking
16:44:44	Picking up/Putting Away Items
18:23:56	Household Paperwork
18:24:57	Relaxing or Resting
19:38:21	Picking up/Putting Away Items
19:39:52	Preparing Food
19:40:33	Watching TV
23:14:07	Other Washing
23:14:38	Sleeping

Food / Beverage
Tea
Cheese (plain or as part of dish)
Crackers, any kind
Beef or veal
Potatoes, any other
Other salad
Nuts (peanuts, etc.)
Coffee
Tea
Banana
Chicken, turkey or other poultry
Beans, green
Potatoes, any other







Participant reporting compliance

Diary Mode	Activities per hour	Locations per hour
Paper	1.42	0.95
PPC	1.12	0.75
Voice	1.29	1.34
Photo	2.69	2.59



Top 15 activities reported by mode

Activity	PPC (%)	Paper (%)	Voice (%)	Photo (%)
Riding in Motor Vehicle	23.0	22.4	21.9	16.2
Eating/Drinking	11.7	8.4	5.9	3.2
Non-strenuous Work	8.1	8.2	7.8	4.4
Sleeping	6.2	4.2	2.9	0.0
Watching TV	5.6	4.5	4.9	9.2
Walking	3.8	6.5	8.0	17.6
Grooming/Dressing	3.6	5.0	2.4	4.1
Visiting with Others	2.7	1.0	1.0	5.8
Picking up/Putting Away Items	2.5	1.3	0.9	2.4
Preparing Food	2.5	3.9	4.9	5.8
Tub Bath	2.5	0.1	0.0	0.0
Relaxing or Resting	2.2	2.0	3.4	2.8
Reading/Writing	2.1	2.1	1.2	1.8
Using Computer	2.0	1.6	1.2	3.2
Moderately Strenuous Work	1.6	0.1	1.4	0.00



Data Entry Burden (median)

Time to complete entry in seconds

	Measured	Perceived		
	Menu	Menu	Voice	Paper
Act/Loc/Environ	28	45	60	60
Activity	11			
Location	9			
Combustion	1			
Smoking	3			
Windows/doors	4			
Cleaning products	36	60	n/a	60
Pesticides	131	60	n/a	120

Burden for each entry of an activity/location and for each product use questionnaire



Data Coding Burden (median)

	Analyst hours	Study hours	Analyst hours per 24-hr day
Menu ¹	0.00	630.1	0.00
Photo ²	58.5	282.4	4.97
Voice ²	87.4	427.0	4.91
Paper ³	69.7	979.7	1.71

- 1. Pocket PC menu diary is self-coded by the participant
- 2. Time for coding by a single analyst.
- 3. Included time for 100% re-key verification.



Top 10 food items reported by mode

Order	Paper food item	Paper (%)	PPC food item	PPC (%)	Voice food item	Voice (%)
1	Tap water	6.5	Tea	8.2	Bottled water	10.5
2	Bottled water	6.3	Tap water	8.0	Tap water	7.9
3	Soft drink	5.1	Bottled water	6.2	Soft drink	4.7
4	Coffee	3.1	Soft drink (soda, cola, etc.)	5.6	Chicken, turkey or other poultry	4.2
5	Other grain product	2.9	Chicken, turkey or other poultry	3.8	Other grain product	3.9
6	Chicken, turkey or other poultry	2.6	Chocolate / candy	3.1	Rice and rice mixtures	3.7
7	Cheese	2.4	Beef or veal	2.5	Coffee	2.9
8	Tea	2.3	Juice mixtures	2.5	Cheese	2.6
9	Potatoes, any other	2.2	Lettuce salad with assorted vegs.	2.2	Other non- alcoholic drink	2.4
10	Butter	2.0	Other sweets or dessert	2.2	Pork or ham	2.4



Comments / Conclusions

- The burden for menu-based activity and location data entry is low; however several expressed difficulty with the menus.
- Activity and location reporting was lower than in previous studies.
- Participants liked using the voice diary, although technical issues affected recording quality.
- While most liked the photo diary, some participants expressed privacy issues in their workplace.
- Some participants reported avoiding activities and limiting diet to reduce entries for paper, voice, and menu diaries
- Further improvement in menu structures, prompting, and automation may help to improve compliance and avoid behavior modifications

