Future of Internet Applications

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The Internet provides a flexible, scalable, and inter-operable platform that can support many diverse applications. Its popularity has led to a wealth of applications, such as smart phones, PDAs, sensor networks, smart homes, emergency and lifeline support, distributed multimedia, and telemedicine. However, unrealistic expectations on some of these applications led to the Internet boom in the late 1990s and the burst of the Internet bubble a few years ago. Recently, we have witnessed continued and strong interest on Internet applications. A number of the companies focusing on these applications are beginning to turn profitable.

In this closing panel, we plan to address the future of Internet applications. The issues we will discuss include the following:

- Are there any killer applications?
- Is the current Internet ready to support these applications?
- What are open research issues on these applications?
- What are the economic and business factors for supporting these applications?