

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OBTAINING LOCATION INFORMATION

Cross Reference to Related Patent Application

This application claims foreign priority to Chinese Patent Application No. 201410437944.5 filed on August 29, 2014, entitled "Method and Apparatus of Obtaining Location Information", which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Technical Field

The present disclosure relates to the field of computer technologies, and in particular, to methods and apparatuses for obtaining location information.

Background

With the popularity of transaction devices such as Point of Sales (POS) machines and vending machines, users can conveniently purchase their desired commodities without the need of carrying a large amount of cash.

Recently, geographical location information of a transaction device such as a POS machine or a vending machine needs to be obtained in many application scenarios.

For example, in order to help a user to purchase commodities nearby, a server may obtain geographical location information of each transaction device in the vicinity of the user and provide the information to the user. For another example, when alarm information of a failure returned by a transaction device is received, geographical location information of that transaction device may be obtained, and an operation and maintenance personnel nearby may be timely notified, so that the operation and maintenance personnel may repair the transaction device.

However, a large number of current transaction devices do not have a functionality of reporting respective location information to a server. Therefore, location information of each transaction device has to be recorded manually, and then entered into the server in existing technologies.

Apparently, the existing technologies have a low efficiency in obtaining location information.

Summary

This Summary is provided to introduce a selection of concepts in a simplified form that are further described below in the Detailed Description. This Summary is not intended to identify all key features or essential features of the claimed subject matter, nor is it intended to be used alone as an aid in determining the scope of the claimed subject matter. The term “techniques,” for instance, may refer to device(s), system(s), method(s) and/or computer-readable instructions as permitted by the context above and throughout the present disclosure.

Embodiments of the present disclosure provide methods and apparatuses of obtaining location information to solve the problem of a low efficiency in obtaining location information in the existing technologies.

In an embodiment of the present disclosure, a method of obtaining location information may include obtaining transaction data uploaded by a terminal; determining a transaction device identifier and transaction address information included in the transaction data; and determining and storing location information of a transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on the transaction address information.

In an embodiment of the present disclosure, a method of obtaining location information may include receiving each piece of geographical location information reported by a terminal at different reporting time points; obtaining transaction data uploaded by the terminal; determining a transaction device identifier and a transaction time point included in the transaction data; determining a reporting time point having the shortest period of time from the transaction time point based on the different reporting time points and the transaction time point; and determining and storing location information of a transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on geographical location information reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point.

In an embodiment of the present disclosure, an apparatus of obtaining location information may include an acquisition module to obtain transaction data uploaded by a terminal; a determination module to determine a transaction device identifier and

transaction address information included in the transaction data that is obtained by the acquisition module; and a storage module to determine and store location information of a transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on the transaction address information that is determined by the determination module.

5 In an embodiment of the present disclosure, an apparatus of obtaining location information may include a receiving module to receive each piece of geographical location information reported by a terminal at different reporting time points; an acquisition module to obtain transaction data uploaded by the terminal; a first determination module to determine a transaction device identifier and a transaction time point included in the
10 transaction data; a second determination module to determine a reporting time point having the shortest period of time from the transaction time point based on the different reporting time points and the transaction time point; and a storage module to determine and store location information of a transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on geographical location information reported by the terminal at the
15 determined reporting time point.

According to the methods and apparatuses of obtaining location information provided by the embodiments of the present disclosure, a server obtains transaction data uploaded by a terminal, determines a transaction device identifier and transaction address information included in the transaction data, determines and stores location information of
20 a transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on the transaction address information. Using the foregoing methods, the server is able to automatically record the location information of the transaction device using the transaction data that is uploaded by the terminal without the need of recording the location information of the transaction device manually, thereby effectively enhancing the efficiency in obtaining
25 the location information of the transaction device.

Description of the Drawings

The accompanying drawings described herein are used for providing a deeper understanding of the present disclosure, and constitute a part of the present disclosure.
30 Exemplary embodiments of the present disclosure and a description thereof are used for

illustrating the present disclosure and are not to be construed as limitations of the present disclosure. In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a process of obtaining location information according to an embodiment of the present disclosure.

5 FIG. 2 is another process of obtaining location information according to an embodiment of the present disclosure.

FIG. 3 is a schematic structural diagram of an apparatus of obtaining location information according to an embodiment of the present disclosure.

10 FIG. 4 is a schematic structural diagram of another apparatus of obtaining location information according to an embodiment of the present disclosure.

Detailed Description

15 In order to make objectives, technical solutions, and advantages of the present disclosure more comprehensible, the objectives, technical solutions and advantages of the present disclosure are described in a clear and comprehensive manner herein with reference to exemplary embodiments of the present disclosure and accompanying drawings corresponding thereto. Apparently, the described embodiments merely represent a part of but not all of the embodiments of the present disclosure. All other embodiments obtained by one of ordinary skill in the art based on the embodiments of the present disclosure without making any creative effort shall belong to the scope of protection of the present disclosure.

25 In an embodiment of the present disclosure, an application (i.e., APP) may be installed in a terminal to replace a conventional banking card for electronic payment. When a user makes a payment using the APP installed in the terminal, the APP may upload transaction data which includes an identifier of a transaction device (such as an identifier of a vending machine, an identifier of a POS machine, etc.) and transaction address information to a server at the backend. As such, the server may obtain and store location information of the transaction device based on the transaction data uploaded by the terminal. Examples are given hereinafter for illustration.

FIG. 1 is a process of obtaining location information according to an embodiment of the present disclosure, which may include the following method blocks.

S101 obtains transaction data uploaded by a terminal.

5 In an embodiment of the present disclosure, when a user makes an electronic payment via a certain transaction device using an application (APP) installed in a terminal, the APP may upload transaction data associated with this payment to a server. The server may therefore obtain the transaction data uploaded by the terminal.

For example, a certain payment APP is installed in a terminal of a user. The payment APP may generate a unique digital object unique identifier (DOI), such as a barcode or a
10 two-dimensional code, etc., for the user, and the DOI is bound with an account of the user on the APP.

When a user makes a payment on a vending machine or a POS machine, a terminal displaying the DOI may be deployed directly in front of an image capture apparatus of the vending machine or the POS machine, to allow the vending machine or the POS machine to
15 scan the DOI.

After scanning the DOI, the vending machine or the POS machine deducts an amount of consumption from a balance of an account bound with the DOI to complete the payment. After deducting the corresponding amount from the balance of the account bound with the DOI, the vending machine or the POS machine may upload information such as a transaction
20 identifier (such as a transaction swift number) of the current transaction, the deducted amount, an identifier (i.e., a transaction device identifier) of the vending machine or the POS machine, information of a predefined transaction type of the vending machine or the POS machine (e.g., a predefined transaction type for the vending machine is a self-service type, and a predefined transaction type for the POS machine is a supermarket transaction type,
25 etc.), a transaction time, etc., into the server for recording.

After detecting that the corresponding amount has been deducted from the account of the user, the APP may generate transaction data that includes the transaction device identifier and transaction address information of the current transaction, and upload the transaction data to the server.

Specifically, upon detecting that the corresponding amount is deducted from the account of the user, the APP may obtain the transaction device identifier corresponding to the transaction identifier uploaded by the vending machine or the POS machine from the server based on the transaction identifier of the current transaction, determine information of a current location of the terminal via a Global Positioning System (GPS) of the terminal as the transaction address information of the current transaction, and include the obtained transaction device identifier and the determined transaction address information into the transaction data for uploading to the server.

Apparently, the above description is merely given using an example of a vending machine or POS machine performing a deduction by scanning the DOI generated from the APP. In a real application scenario, the vending machine or the POS machine may also make a deduction by interacting with an APP installed in the terminal in other manners, such as an APP supporting acoustic payment, etc.

S102 determines a transaction device identifier and transaction address information included in the transaction data.

S103 determines and stores location information of a transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on the transaction address information.

Upon receiving the transaction data including the transaction device identifier and the transaction address information uploaded by the terminal, the server determines the transaction device identifier and the transaction address information included in the transaction data at S102. Since the terminal is in the vicinity of the transaction device with certainty when the user uses the terminal to make a payment on the transaction device, the current location information of the terminal may basically be considered to be location information of the transaction device. Therefore, the server may determine and store the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on the transaction address information included in the transaction data at S103. Specifically, the server may directly store the transaction address information included in the transaction data as the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier.

Continue with the above example, when a user uses an APP on a terminal to make a payment on a vending machine or a POS machine in a real application scenario, the terminal is located in the vicinity of the vending machine or the POS machine with certainty. As such, current location information of the terminal uploaded by the APP at this time may be treated to be location information of the vending machine or the POS machine. Therefore, the server stores the location information included in the transaction data uploaded by the APP as the location information of the vending machine or the POS machine.

Using the above method, the server may obtain location information of a transaction device through transaction data uploaded by a terminal, without the need of recording the location information of the transaction device manually, thereby effectively enhancing the efficiency of obtaining the location information of the transaction device.

Further, after the server determines the transaction device identifier and the transaction location information uploaded by the terminal at S102, the server may determine and store the transaction address information included in the transaction data as the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier at S103 if the server does not store the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier at that time. However, if the server has previously stored the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier, the server may modify the stored location information according to the transaction address information in the transaction data, and store the modified location information at S103 as shown in FIG. 1. For example, the server may determine a connection line between the stored location information of the transaction device and the transaction address information in the transaction data, store a midpoint of the connection line as the modified location information of the transaction device. Based on transaction information reported from multiple terminals and through modification(s) of the location information of the transaction device, the accuracy and the reliability of the location of the transaction device can be ensured.

In order to help users search for a nearby transaction device to purchase commodities desired thereby, after the server stores location information of each transaction device using the above method, the server may further determine transaction

device(s) having a distance from a terminal is currently less than a set distance based on current location information of the terminal and the stored location information of each transaction device, and provide respective location information and attribute information of each determined transaction device to the terminal.

5 The terminal may report location information thereof to the server periodically. The above attribute information of the transaction device may indicate a type of a store in which the transaction device is located, and a transaction type supported by the transaction device, e.g., an attribute of a small commodity self-service, an attribute of a supermarket POS machine, an attribute of a restaurant POS machine, an attribute of a clothing store POS
10 machine, etc. In this way, a user can obtain surrounding stores and available payment modes through location information and attribute information of transaction device(s) provided by the server, thus facilitating user spending.

 In an embodiment of the present disclosure, other than providing the location information and the attribute information of the transaction device(s) in the vicinity of the
15 terminal to the terminal based on the stored location information of the transaction device(s), the server may further provide respective location information of transaction devices within a preset geographical location range to the terminal. Specifically, the server may provide location information and attribute information of each transaction device located within a preset geographical location range as well as type information
20 corresponding to the geographical location range to the terminal based on the stored location information of each transaction device and the geographical location range.

 For example, a merchant runs a sales promotion in a certain region, and the region where the sales promotion is located may be stored in the server as a preset geographical location range, with type information corresponding to the geographical location range
25 being set as a promotion type. The server may provide respective location information and attribute information of each transaction device within the geographical location range to the terminal, and then provide the type information of "promotion" corresponding to the geographical location range to the terminal based on the stored location information of each transaction device and the preset geographical location range, thus helping a user to obtain
30 available sales promotion by spending via these transaction devices. Apparently, the server

may also pre-store detailed information of the sales promotion, and provide the detailed information to the terminal.

For another example, if a certain area has a frequent occurrence of credit card frauds, that area may be stored in the server as a preset geographical location range, and type information corresponding to the geographical location range is set as a dangerous consumption area type. The server may provide respective location information and attribute information of each transaction device in that geographical location range to the terminal, and provide the type information of "dangerous consumption area" corresponding to that geographical location range to the terminal based on the stored location information of each transaction device and the preset geographical location range, so that users may know that an identity theft likely occurs when making a payment on these transaction devices within that geographical location range, thus enhancing security awareness of the users and reducing the possibility of identity thefts or credit card frauds.

As can be seen, the foregoing example method of obtaining location information of the present disclosure is based on a premise that a user uses an APP on a terminal for making a payment, and the APP is able to report a transaction device identifier and current location information of the terminal to a server. If the user does not make a payment through the APP on the terminal, the server is not able to obtain the location information of the transaction device. Thus, in order to enable the server to obtain location information of a transaction device in other scenarios, the embodiments of the present disclosure further provide a method of obtaining location information of a transaction device as shown in FIG. 2 hereinafter.

FIG. 2 is another process of obtaining location information according to the embodiments of the present disclosure, which includes the following method blocks.

S201 receives respective pieces of geographical location information reported by a terminal at different reporting time points.

In an embodiment of the present disclosure, the terminal may determine geographical location information thereof via a GPS, and report the information to the server on a regular basis, with each time point of reporting the geographical location information being a reporting time point. The server may receive the geographical location

information reported by the terminal at each reporting time point, and store respective pieces of geographical location information and respective reporting time points when the terminal uploads the respective pieces of geographical location information.

S202 obtains transaction data uploaded by the terminal.

5 S203 determines a transaction device identifier and a transaction time point included in the transaction data.

In an embodiment of the present disclosure, transaction data uploaded by the terminal may include a transaction device identifier and a transaction time point.

Specifically, since an increasing number of users record respective daily spending using an accounting APP installed in respective terminals, and the accounting APP typically records amounts of consumption, times of consumption and identifiers of transaction devices in receipts of the users (such as supermarket receipts, invoices, etc.) by scanning the receipts, the accounting APP may use a time of consumption obtained by scanning as a transaction time point, and generate transaction data including the transaction time point and an associated transaction device identifier for uploading to the server. The server obtains the transaction data uploaded by the terminal at S202, and determines the transaction device identifier and the transaction time point included in the transaction data at S203.

20 S204 determines a reporting time point having the shortest period of time from the transaction time point based on the reporting time points and the transaction time point.

Since the server has recorded each piece of geographical location information reported by the terminal and respective reporting time points when each piece of geographical location information is reported, the server may determine a reporting time point having the shortest period of time from the transaction time point based on the transaction time point included in the transaction data uploaded by the terminal.

For example, if the terminal reports a piece of geographical location information, P1, at 17:55:00, reports a piece of geographical location information, P2m at 17:55:30, and reports a piece of geographical location information, P3, at 17:56:00, the server records these three reporting time points (17:55:00, 17:55:30, and 17:56:00) and corresponding pieces of geographical location information (P1, P2 and P3). If the transaction time point

determined by the server at S203 is 17:55:20, the server may determine a reporting time point having the shortest period of time from the transaction time point is 17:55:30 based on the transaction time point of 17:55:20.

S205 determines and stores location information of a transaction device
5 corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on geographical location information reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point.

Specifically, the server may directly use and store the geographical location information reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point as location information of a transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier.

10 Continue with the above example, the geographical location information P2 reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point 17:55:30 is stored as the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier included in the transaction data because the server has determined that the reporting time point having the shortest period of time from the transaction time point 17:55:20 is
15 17:55:30.

This is because when a user makes a payment through a transaction device at a transaction time point, the user needs to be positioned in the vicinity of the transaction device. A location in which the user is positioned at a reporting time point that is closest to the transaction time point is also closest to an actual location of the transaction device.
20 Therefore, the server may store the geographical location information reported by the terminal at the reporting time point that is closest to the transaction time point as the location information of the transaction device, without the need of manually recording the location information, thus effectively enhancing the efficiency of obtaining the location information.

25 Apparently, the method as shown in FIG. 2 may also be applicable in a scenario when a user uses an APP to conduct a payment via a transaction device. As long as the server is able to determine a reporting time point that is closest to a time point of the user payment, the server may store geographical location information reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point as the location information of the transaction device.

As can be seen, the method shown in FIG. 2 is applicable in not only a scenario where a user uses an APP to conduct a payment on a transaction device, but also a scenario where the user uses an accounting APP to scan a receipt to perform an accounting.

Similarly, when the method as shown in FIG. 2 is employed to obtain location information of a transaction device, the server may also determine whether the server has stored the location information of the transaction device therein when determining the location information of the transaction device based on the geographical location information reported by the terminal at the reporting time point that is closest to the transaction time point. If affirmative, the server may modify the stored location information of the transaction device according to the geographical location information reported by the terminal at the reporting time point that is closest to the transaction time point. Otherwise, the server may directly store the geographical location information reported by the terminal at the reporting time point that is closest to the transaction time point as the location information of the transaction device.

Similarly, after obtaining the location information of the transaction device using the method as shown in FIG. 2, the server may also provide respective location information and attribute information of transaction device(s) in the vicinity of the terminal to the terminal, or provide corresponding location information and attribute information of transaction device(s) within a preset geographical location range and type information corresponding to the geographical location range to the terminal. Details thereof are not repeatedly described herein.

A method of obtaining location information according to the embodiments of the present disclosure is described above. Based on the same concept, the embodiments of the present disclosure further provide a corresponding apparatus of obtaining location information, as shown in FIG. 3.

FIG. 3 is a schematic structural diagram of an apparatus 300 of obtaining location information according to the embodiments of the present disclosure. In an embodiment, the apparatus 300 may include one or more computing devices. In some embodiments, the apparatus 300 may include one or more Central Processing Units (CPUs) or processors 302, I/O interfaces 304, network interfaces 306, and memory 308.

The memory 308 may include a form of computer readable media such as volatile memory, Random Access Memory (RAM), and/or non-volatile memory, e.g., Read-Only Memory (ROM) or flash RAM, etc. The memory 308 is an example of a computer readable media.

5 The computer readable media may include a permanent or non-permanent type, a removable or non-removable media, which may achieve storage of information using any method or technology. The information may include a computer-readable command, a data structure, a program module or other data. Examples of computer storage media include, but not limited to, phase-change memory (PRAM), static random access memory (SRAM),
10 dynamic random access memory (DRAM), other types of random-access memory (RAM), read-only memory (ROM), electronically erasable programmable read-only memory (EEPROM), quick flash memory or other internal storage technology, compact disk read-only memory (CD-ROM), digital versatile disc (DVD) or other optical storage, magnetic cassette tape, magnetic disk storage or other magnetic storage devices, or any other
15 non-transmission media, which may be used to store information that may be accessed by a computing device. As defined herein, the computer readable media does not include transitory media, such as modulated data signals and carrier waves.

In an embodiment, the memory 308 may include program modules 310 and program data 312. The program modules 310 may include an acquisition module 314, a
20 determination module 316 and a storage module 318. The acquisition module is configured to obtain transaction data uploaded by a terminal. The determination module 316 is configured to determine a transaction device identifier and transaction address information included in the transaction data obtained by the acquisition module 314. The storage module 318 is configured to determine and store location information of a transaction
25 device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on the transaction address information determined by the determination module 316.

The storage module 318 is further configured to determine and store the transaction address information as the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier if the location information of the transaction device
30 corresponding to the transaction device identifier is not stored, and modify stored location

information according to the transaction address information and store the modified location information if the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier has been stored previously.

5 The apparatus 300 may further include a service module 320 configured to determine transaction device(s) having a distance from the terminal is/are currently less than a set distance based on current location information of the terminal and stored location information of each transaction device, and provide respective location information and attribute information of each determined transaction device to the terminal.

10 The apparatus 300 may further include a service module 320 configured to provide respective location information and attribute information of each transaction device located in a preset geographical location range and type information corresponding to the geographical location range to the terminal according to the stored location information of each transaction device and the geographical location range.

In an embodiment, the apparatus 300 as shown in FIG. 3 may be located in a server.

15 FIG. 4 is a schematic structural diagram of another apparatus 400 of obtaining location information according to the embodiments of the present disclosure. The apparatus 400 may include one or more processors 402, an input/output interface 404, a network interface 406 and memory 408. The memory 408 may include a form of computer readable media such as volatile memory, Random Access Memory (RAM), and/or non-volatile memory, e.g., Read-Only Memory (ROM) or flash RAM, etc. The memory 408 is an example
20 of a computer readable media as described in the foregoing description.

In an embodiment, the memory 408 may include program modules 410 and program data 412. The program modules 410 may include a receiving module 414 configured to receive respective pieces of geographical location information reported by a terminal at
25 different reporting time points, an acquisition module 416 configured to obtain transaction data uploaded by the terminal, a first determination module 418 configured to determine a transaction device identifier and a transaction time point included in the transaction data, a second determination module 420 configured to determine a reporting time point having the shortest period of time from the transaction time point based on the different reporting
30 time points and the transaction time point, and a storage module 422 configured to

determine and store location information of a transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based on a respective piece of geographical location information reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point.

In an embodiment, the apparatus 400 as shown in FIG. 4 may be located in a server.

5 According to the methods and apparatuses of obtaining location information provided by the embodiments of the present disclosure, a server may obtain transaction data uploaded by a terminal, and determine a transaction device identifier and transaction address information included in the transaction data, and determine and store location information of a transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier based
10 on the transaction address information. Using the foregoing method(s), the server may automatically record the location information of the transaction device through the transaction data uploaded by the terminal, without the need of manually recording the location information of the transaction device, thereby effectively enhancing the efficiency of obtaining the location information of the transaction device.

15 It should also be noted that terms such as "comprise", "include" or any other variations thereof are meant to cover the non-exclusive inclusions. The process, method, product or apparatus that includes a series of elements not only includes those elements, but also includes other elements that are not explicitly listed, or further includes elements that already existed in such process, method, product or apparatus. In a condition without
20 further limitations, an element defined by the phrase "include a/an ..." does not exclude any other similar elements from existing in the process, method, product or apparatus.

One skilled in the art should understand that the embodiments of the present disclosure can be provided as a method, a system or a computer program product. Therefore, the present disclosure can be implemented as an embodiment of only hardware, an
25 embodiment of only software or an embodiment of a combination of hardware and software. Moreover, the present disclosure can be implemented as a computer program product that may be stored in one or more computer readable storage media (which includes but is not limited to, a magnetic disk, a CD-ROM or an optical disk, etc.) that store computer-executable instructions.

The above descriptions are merely exemplary embodiments of the present disclosure, and are not intended to limit the present disclosure. For one skilled in the art, the present disclosure may have various modifications and changes. Any modifications, equivalent replacements and improvements, etc., made within the spirit and principle of the present disclosure should be included in the scope of protection of the claims in the present disclosure.

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Claims

1. A method implementable by one or more computing devices, the method comprising:
obtaining transaction data uploaded by a terminal, wherein the transaction data is associated with a transaction between the terminal and a transaction device, wherein said transaction data includes transaction address information comprising a location of the terminal concurrent with the transaction, said transaction address information being determined via a Global Positioning System (GPS);
determining a transaction device identifier and the transaction address information included in the transaction data, wherein the transaction device identifier comprises an identifier of the transaction device; and
determining and storing the transaction address as a location of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction address information is determined and stored as the location of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier in response to the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier being not previously stored.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein determining and storing the transaction address information as the location of the transaction device includes modifying previously stored location information based at least in part on the transaction address information, and storing the modified location information in response to the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier having been stored previously.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining one or more transaction devices having a distance from the terminal being currently less than a set distance based at least in part on current location information of the terminal and respective stored location information of each transaction device.
5. The method of claim 4, further comprising providing respective location information and attribute information of the one or more transaction devices having the distance from the terminal being currently less than the set distance to the terminal.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing respective location information and attribute information of one or more transaction devices that are located in a preset geographical location range of the terminal and corresponding type information of the geographical location range to the terminal.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction device includes a vending machine or a point of sales machine.
8. One or more computer-readable media storing executable instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform acts comprising:
 - receiving respective pieces of geographical location information determined via a Global Positioning System (GPS) and reported by a terminal at different reporting time points;
 - obtaining transaction data uploaded by the terminal, wherein the transaction data is associated with a transaction between the terminal and a transaction device;
 - determining a transaction device identifier and a transaction time point included in the transaction data, wherein the transaction device identifier comprises an identifier of the transaction device;
 - determining a reporting time point having a shortest period of time from the transaction time point based at least in part on the respective reporting time points and the transaction time point; and
 - determining and storing the geographical location information reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point as a location of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier.
9. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 8, wherein the geographical location information reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point is determined and stored as the location of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier in response to the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier being not previously stored.

10. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 8, wherein determining and storing the geographical location information reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point is determined and stored as the location of the transaction device includes modifying previously stored location information based at least in part on the geographical location information reported by the terminal at the determined reporting time point, and storing the modified location information in response to the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier having been stored previously.
11. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 8, the acts further comprising determining one or more transaction devices having a distance from the terminal being currently less than a set distance based at least in part on current location information of the terminal and respective stored location information of each transaction device.
12. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 11, the acts further comprising providing respective location information and attribute information of the one or more transaction devices having the distance from the terminal being currently less than the set distance to the terminal.
13. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 8, the acts further comprising providing respective location information and attribute information of one or more transaction devices that are located in a preset geographical location range of the terminal and corresponding type information of the geographical location range to the terminal.
14. The one or more computer-readable media of claim 8, wherein the transaction device includes a vending machine or a point of sales machine.
15. An apparatus comprising:
 - one or more processors;
 - memory;
 - an acquisition module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to obtain transaction data uploaded by a terminal, wherein the transaction data is associated with a transaction between the terminal and a transaction device, wherein said transaction data includes transaction address information comprising a location of the

terminal concurrent with the transaction, said transaction address information being determined via a Global Positioning System (GPS);

a determination module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to determine a transaction device identifier and the transaction address information included in the transaction data obtained by the acquisition module, wherein the transaction device identifier comprises an identifier of the transaction device; and

a storage module stored in the memory and executable by the one or more processors to determine and store the transaction address determined by the determination module as a location of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the storage module is configured to determine and store the transaction address information as the location of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier in an event that the storage module has not previously stored the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier.

17. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the storage module is further configured to modify previously stored location information based at least in part on the transaction address information, and store the modified location information in an event that the storage module has previously stored the location information of the transaction device corresponding to the transaction device identifier.

18. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a service module to determine one or more transaction devices having a distance from the terminal being currently less than a set distance based at least in part on current location information of the terminal and respective stored location information of each transaction device.

19. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the service module is further configured to provide respective location information and attribute information of the one or more transaction devices having the distance from the terminal being currently less than the set distance to the terminal.

20. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a service module to provide respective location information and attribute information of one or more transaction devices that are

located in a preset geographical location range of the terminal and corresponding type information of the geographical location range to the terminal.