CS 268: Project Suggestions

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Project Related with Internet Indirection Infrastructure (*i*3)

- Goal: provide an uniform abstraction for basic communication primitives:
  - Anycast
- Next: overview of *i*3

Motivations

- Today's Internet is built around a point-to-point communication abstraction:
  - Send packet "p" from host "A" to host "B"
- This abstraction allows Internet to be highly scalable and efficient, but…
- … not appropriate for applications that require other communication abstractions:
  - Multicast
  - Anycast
  - Mobility
  - …

Why?

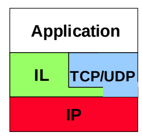
- Point-to-point communication abstraction implicitly assumes that there is one sender and one receiver, and that they are placed at fixed and well-known locations
  - E.g., a host identified by the IP address 128.32.xxx.xxx is most likely located in the Berkeley area

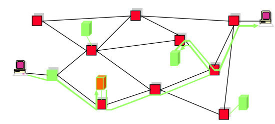
Key Observation

- All previous solutions use a simple but powerful technique: indirection
  - Assume a logical or physical indirection point interposed between sender(s) and receiver(s)
- Examples:
  - IP multicast assumes a logical indirection point: the IP multicast address
  - Mobile IP assumes a physical indirection point: the home agent

Our Solution

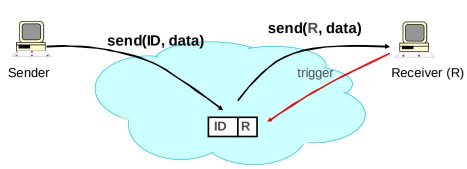
- Add an efficient indirection layer (IL) on top of IP
  - Transparent for legacy applications
- Use an overlay network to implement IL
  - Incrementally deployable; don't need to change IP





Internet Indirection Infrastructure

- Change communication abstraction: instead of point-to-point, exchange data by name
  - Each packet is associated an identifier ID
  - To receive a packet with identifier ID, receiver R maintains a trigger (ID, R) into the overlay network

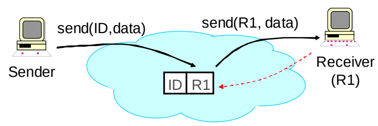


Service Model

- Best-effort service model (like IP)
- Triggers are periodically refreshed by end-hosts
- Reliability, congestion control, and flow-control implemented at end-hosts

Mobility

- Host just needs to update its trigger as moves from one subnet to another
- Both sender and receiver can be mobile
- Can eliminate the "triangle routing problem"



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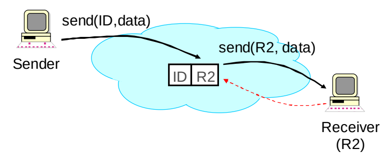
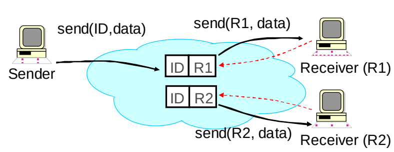


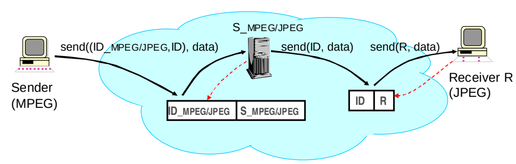
Multicast

- Unifies multicast and unicast abstraction
  - Multicast: receivers insert triggers with the same identifier
- An application can dynamically switch between multicast and unicast



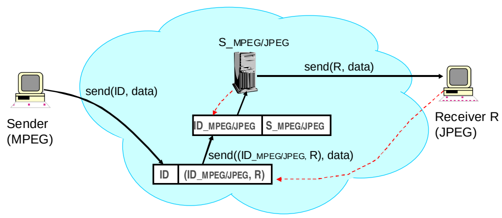
Composable Services

- Use a stack of IDs to encode the successions of operations to be performed on data (e.g., transcoding)
- Advantages
  - Don't need to configure path
  - Load balancing and robustness easy to achieve



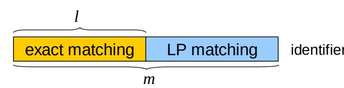
Composable Services (cont'd)

- Both receivers and senders can specify the operations to be performed on data



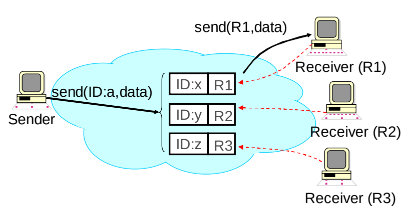
Anycast

- Generalize the matching scheme used to forward a packet
  - Until now we assumed exact matching
- Next, we assume:
  - Exact matching on the most significant *l* bits of ID
  - Longest prefix matching on the remaining bits (ID size = *m*)



Anycast (cont'd)

- Anycast is simply a byproduct of the new matching scheme
  - Each receiver in the anycast group inserts IDs that differ only in the last *l*-*m* bits



Anycast (cont'd)

- Highly flexibile: the least significant *l*-*m* bits of ID are application specific
- Two examples:
  - Load balancing
  - Proximity

Idea 1: Load Balancing

- Assumptions:
  - N servers of capacity C_i, 1 <= i <= N
  - M clients downloading files from these servers
- Goal: come up with an algorithm to insert triggers and set up their identifiers such that to balance the load in the presence of server failures

Idea 2: Transcoding Application

- Design a transcoding application
  - From one video format to another (e.g., MPEG → H.263), or
  - From one data format to another (e.g., HTML → WML)
- Note: the goal of the project is not to design the transcoder, but to demonstrate the service composition function

Idea 3: Migrate-able End-to-End Protocols

- Design a congestion control mechanism (e.g. TCP) such that it is possible to change the receiving machine in the middle of the transfer!
- A and B open a connection (A receiver; B source)
- A changes to A'
- B continues to send data to A' without creating a new connection
- Challenge: transparently transfer the receiver state from A to A'

Other Project Ideas

Idea 4: Reducing (elimination) Multicast State in Routers

- Today each router maintain state for each multicast group that has traffic traversing it
- Problem: state is hard to maintain and manage → not scalable
- Extreme solution: maintain all receiver addresses in each packet
  - Routers don't need to maintain any state, but
  - Packet headers can become very large → huge overhead
- Solution: design an algorithm in between
  - Maintain some state in routers and some in packets
- Note: you can think either at the IP or application layer

Forwarding in Low Energy Wireless Networks

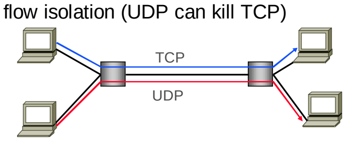
- Problem: each node cannot afford to remain ON all the time
  - a node can communicate/receive data only when it is ON
- Two nodes can communicate only when both of them are simultaneously ON
- A node stores a packet in transit until it finds the next hop ON

Ideas 5 & 6

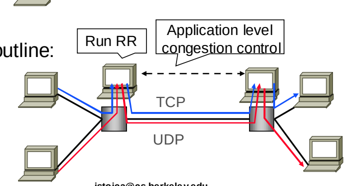
- Assume routing tables are known
- Assume that each node is independently switching between ON and OFF states
- Idea 5:
  - Study the tradeoff between the fraction of time a node is ON and the time to deliver a message and the amount of storage required by a node
- Idea 6:
  - Design a self-synchronization algorithm and study its properties (i.e., a distributed algorithm that will result in all nodes being ON at the same time)

Idea 7: Implement Round Robin at the Application Layer

- Problem: flow isolation (UDP can kill TCP)



- Solution outline:



Idea 8: N-TCP

- Design a congestion control algorithm that provides a throughput equivalent to N individual TCPs between the same source and destination

Ideas 9 & 10: Edge Control

- Consider a network domain in which you can only control all edge nodes, but not core nodes
- Idea 9: Derive an efficient measurement algorithm to infer the (approximate) topology and link capacities
- Idea 10: Assuming that you know the domain topology, what kind of services can you provide an how
  - Bandwidth and loss guarantees
  - What about delay?

Next Step

- You can either choose one of the projects we discussed during this lecture, or come up with your own
- Pick your partner, and submit a one page proposal by February 13. The proposal needs to contain:
  - The problem you are solving
  - Your plan of attack with milestones and dates
  - Any special resources you may need