

# A Network Evolution Story:

from Communication, to Content Distribution, to Real-Time Computation

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## Outline

- Communication
- Content Distribution Efficient Content Storage and Delivery
  - Cache-aided coded multicast
  - Distributed network compression
  - Dynamic Data
- Real-time Computation

Efficient Service Configuration (Storage/Computation/Delivery)

- Network Slicing (NFV/SDN)
- Mobile Edge Computing (MEC)
- Real-time Stream processing



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(5G & beyond) cloud-integrated networks will become universal general-purpose compute platforms, where a large variety of services and applications will be deployed in the form of slices within a common physical infrastructure taking advantage of the cloud network's reach, elasticity, and flexibility.

M. Weldon, "The Future X Network: A Bell Labs Perspective," CRC PRESS, October 2015.

Cloud Network Slice

APP

•

- Ideal for next generation services
  - 1) Network services
    - 5G slices

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  - 1) Network services
    - 5G slices
  - 2) Automation services Smart X, IoT
  - 3) Augmented experience services

Virtual X, Augmented X (e.g. reality/cognition) Immersive video

Real-time computer vision/scene analysis



- Opportunities
  - Users can consume resource- and <u>interaction</u>intensive applications from resource-limited devices
  - Operators can reduce costs and create new valueadded services
  - Overall sustainability





- ork compression
  - Understand the fundamental efficiency limits of the future networked cloud
  - Develop practical solutions that push the network closer to its limits

NFV: move hardware appliances into software functions deployed at multiple cloud locations and elastically scaled computing resources.

- SDN: program the network in between and steer network flows through the appropriate set of functions.
- Network slicing: create cloud network slices which are hence elastic and programmable.

Elastically allocate both cloud (storage and computing) and network resources according to changing demands, in order to meet service requirements while minimizing the use of the physical infrastructure.





Communication



- Resource limited
- Interaction limited





• Resource intensive

Interaction limited



Bridging the time-scale gap between information capture/sensing, analysis/processing, and delivery/consumption

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### Approaches

### FemtoCaching: Caching at the infrastructure side (SBS, Helpers)



N: number of files



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Requires infrastructure nodes to grow linearly with the users.

Approaches

D2D Caching: content replication and multi-hop.

M: Memory at user device

N: number of files





Approaches



Requires no infrastructure but very hard to implement

- no good D2D standard in place,
- coordination across a large network

#### Question:

Can we achieve scalability with finite infrastructure and no D2D communication?

Yes we can!

### Cache-Aided Coded Multicast (CCM):

#### Main Idea:

- leverages side information at wireless edge caches to efficiently serve jointly multiple unicast demands via common multicast transmissions,
- leads to load reductions that are proportional to the aggregate cache size.







Source

N files



Think of  $\mu = \frac{M}{N} \neq \frac{\text{cache size}}{\text{num. of files}}$  as a constant

#### Fractional Cooperative Caching (Cache Encoder)

• Split files into F packets and store them strategically

#### Coded Multicast

• Coded multicast transmission simultaneously serve multiple distinct requests via index coding

Source

N files



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#### Coded Multicast

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In the relevant regime of KM  $\gg$  N (i.e. K $\mu \gg 1$ ) Local caching gain  $Locad \simeq \frac{K(1-\mu)}{1+K\mu} \simeq \Theta(1/\mu) \simeq O(1)$ Global caching gain



# Index Coding



Source: Broadcasts to all users.

Each transmission is 1 file.

Side information allows savings

#### Minimum number of transmissions?



Graph Coloring solution



# Index Coding



Minimum number of transmissions?

IC is a fundamental and challenging problem (Birk & Kol'98; Bar-Yossef et al.; Alon et al.; El Rouayheb et al.; Effros et al.; Maleki et al.)

# At the beginning...

- Maddah-Ali, and Niesen, 2012. "Fundamental limits of caching", ArXiv.
- J. Llorca, A.M. Tulino K. Guan, and D. Kilper, 2013 Network-coded caching-aided multicast for efficient content delivery", ICC.
- M. Ji, A. M. Tulino, J. Llorca, and G. Caire, 2014 "On the average performance of caching and coded multicasting with random demands." SWCS.

# Over the years...

### Several optimality results

- M. Maddah-Ali, and U. Niesen, TIT 2014]: order optimal under uncoded placement.
- K. Wan, D. Tuninetti, P. Piantanida, ITW 2016]: optimality under distinct demands K ≤ N and uncoded placement.
- M. Ji, A. M. Tulino, J. Llorca, and G. Caire, TIT 2017]: order optimal for arbitrary popularity distribution
- Q. Yu, M. A. Maddah-Ali, S. Avestimehr, TIT 2018]: optimal for uncoded placement.
- Q. Yu, M. A. Maddah–Ali, S. Avestimehr, TIT 2019]: optimal within a factor of 2 (no restriction on placement).

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Gains of CCM unbounded for uniform distribution, M/m=1/10, n=1000 users, only 10 transmissions!

$$\mathcal{Load} \simeq \frac{K(1-\mu)}{1+K\mu} \qquad \qquad \text{Think of } \mu = \frac{M}{N} = \frac{\text{cache size}}{\text{num. of files}} \text{ as a constant}$$

BUT Still very far from achieving these gains because of two main technical barriers

# Technical Barriers

Gains of CCM theoretical unbounded

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Think of 
$$\mu = \frac{M}{N} = \frac{\text{cache size}}{\text{num. of files}}$$
 as a constant

BUT Still very far from achieving these gains because of two main technical barriers

## • Coding Complexity

- Number of packets grows exponentially with number of caches.
- How should F scale as a function of M,m,n to get these gains?

### • Heterogeneous Channels

- Different caches have different channels: worst cache channel dictates the overall performance
- How to include channel coding in order to maintains the gains.

# Technical Barriers

• Coding Complexity

Think of  $\mu = \frac{M}{N} = \frac{\text{cache size}}{\text{num. of files}}$  as a constant

- How should F scale as a function of M,K,N to get these gains?



$$F = \exp\left(Kf(\mu)\right) = \exp\left(\Theta(K)\right)$$

all original schemes number of packets grows exponentially with number of caches

# Coding Complexity

#### Centralized

Think of 
$$\mu = \frac{M}{N} = \frac{\text{cache size}}{\text{num. of files}}$$
 as a constant



**Distributed** 

# Technical Barriers

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$$\mathcal{Load} \simeq \frac{K(1-\mu)}{1+K\mu}$$

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- ✓ Two Caches [Asadi-Ong-Johnson, 2015]
  - Capacity-memory trade off of two cache-aided receiver broadcast channel.
  - Each receiver side information is part of the private message of the other.
- ✓ Multiple Caches divided in two classes:
  - [Karamchandani-Diggavi-Caire-Shamai, 2016]
    - Two links (1 & 2) between caches and source.
    - One class receiving only from link 1 the other from both links cache size M.
  - [Bidokhti-Wigger-Timo, 2016]
    - Weak receivers with equal "large" BC erasure probabilities and cache size M.
    - Strong receivers with equal "small" BC erasure probabilities with zero cache-size.
    - This especially useful in a designing phase for dimensioning the caches
- ✓ General Setting [Cacciapuoti-Caleffi-Ji-Llorca-Tulino, 2016]
  - Channel, cache size, demand distribution, number of requested files arbitrary across users
  - Random Fractional Caching
  - Channel-Aware Chromatic Index Coding

#### Special settings

# Extension to different network topologies

Tree Topology:



#### SHINE (Secure Hybrid In Network caching Environment)

#### Multiserver/linear network





Combination network



# Shared Caches

## **Combination network**

- Ji, M., Wong, M.F., Tulino, A.M., Llorca, J., Caire, G., Effros, M. and Langberg, M., IEEE SPAWC 2015 .
- M. Ji, A. M. Tulino, J. Llorca, G. Caire, IEEE ASILOMAR, 2015
- Kai Wan, Daniela Tuninetti, Mingyue Ji, and Pablo Piantanida, IEEE ASILOMAR, 2017

Simple achievable scheme: concatenation of classical Cache-Aided Coded Multicast (CCM) and MDS coding combined with naive multicasting of all the library and routing (naive unicast), is given by: (V = V(1 - v) - N)

Maximum link load = 
$$\mathcal{L}oad \simeq \min\left\{\frac{K}{k}(1-\mu), \frac{K(1-\mu)}{r(1+K\mu)}, \frac{N}{r}\right\}$$
  
not optimal BUT completely topology-agnostic.  
Recently extensions with caches at the relays

## **Shared Caches**

- Hachem, Karamchandani, Diggavi, TIT 63(5), 2017,
- G. Vettigli, M. Ji, K. Shanmugan, J. Llorca, A. Tulino, G. Caire, MDPI Entropy, March 2019
- Parrinello, Unsal and Elia, arXiv:1809.09422, : 2018

The goal is to minimize the worst-case load over the shared link (backhaul).

Each user receives from  $L\,\, {\rm distinct}\,\, {\rm BSs}$ 



Each user receives from one BS with N<sub>0</sub> antennas number users served by each BS  $\ge$  N<sub>0</sub> L = Number of BSs  $\frac{K(1-\mu)}{N_0(1+L\mu)}$ Interplay between shared caches and multiple antennas: • adding 1 degree of cache-redundancy increases a DoF to NO,

going from 1 to No antennas reduces delivery time by NO.





Secure Hybrid In Network caching Environment

S. P. Romano, C. Roseti, A. M. Tulino, ISNCC, 2018 SHINE: Secure Hybrid In Network caching Environment, ESA Project 2017–2019

#### Goal:

E2E secure delivery of multimedia content over integrated satellite-terrestrial cache-aided networks.

Combination of both unicast and network-coded multicast Two main building blocks:



a satellite-enabled broadcast distribution backbone leveraging the CCM in order to improve both performance and security of the transmissions;

a MPEG-DASH/WebRTC-enabled edge distribution network.

(i) relying cache-aided coded multicast to improve both performance and security of communications.

(ii) leveraging cutting-edge streaming technologies (MPEG-DASH WebRTC) to optimize E2E content distribution



# Dynamic Network Compression

So far...

used previously in-network stored exact copies of the information that need to be delivered as references for network compression during delivery



# Dynamic Network Compression

#### So far...

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#### BUT

Moving towards real-time (personalized media dominated) services exact cache hits are almost non-existent.



# Dynamic Network Compression

Compressing information as it travels through the network

#### FROM STATIC LOCAL COMPRESSION TO DYNAMIC NETWORK COMPRESSION

# Static local compression is myopic to spatiotemporal information lifecycle

We still compress information based solely on local intra-file correlations, without taking into account increasingly relevant network-wide spatiotemporal correlations

#### Dynamic e2e compression adaptively exploits redundancy throughout the network

Exploiting cloud network wide spatiotemporal redundancy to push the fundamental limits of information compression

Previously stored information are exploited as references for network compression during delivery





#### Cache-Aided Coded Multicast with Correlated library

#### [Timo, Bidokthi, Wigger and Geiger TIT'18]:

- Lossy reconstruction.
- Two receivers and one cache, no coded multicasting.

#### [Op 't Veld and Gastpar ISIT'17]:

- Lossy reconstruction Gaussian sources.
- Distortion-rate-memory region two files.

#### [Yang and Gunduz ICC'18]:

- Specific correlation structure.
- Worst-case rate-memory trade-off.

#### [Hassanzadeh, Tulino, Llorca, Erkip, ITW'2016, TIT'20]

- Lossless reconstruction.
- Arbitrary correlated sources.
- Dynamic content.
- General system parameters, prove optimality in some cases.

Cache-Aided Coded Multicast with Correlated library

- Library Compression Approach
  - Two step approach:
    - Step 1: Sender jointly compresses the library.
      - Gray-Wyner source-coding.
    - Step 2: Correlation-unaware caching and coded multicast.
      - Multiple-request scheme.
- On-demand Compression Approach
  - Store individually compressed.
  - Deliver jointly compressed

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## • Effective for Dynamic Library

Cache-Aided Coded Multicast with Correlated library

- Library Compression Approach (two step approach):
  - First compress the library
  - Then apply a correlation unaware CCM (Cache-aided Coded Multicast) scheme which assume independent files and consisting of
    - a cache phase (to populate caches)
    - a delivery phase



Cache-Aided Coded Multicast with Correlated library

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# Example two files



Cache-Aided Coded Multicast with Correlated library

• Library Compression Approach (two step approach):



Cache-Aided Coded Multicast with Correlated library

• Library Compression Approach (two step approach):



# Library Compression Approach

#### **Optimality Results:**

- Two files and K users:
  - Optimal for small and large memory.
  - Half of the conditional entropy of files elsewhere.
- Two files and two users:
  - Optimal over a larger region.
  - Optimal for special source.
- Extension to three files:
  - Optimal for large memory.
  - Half of  $H(W_1, W_2 | W_3)$  elsewhere.
- Lower bound on the optimal load-memory trade-off.

#### Shortcomings of this Approach

- Not robust to system dynamics: a new file is added.
  - Jointly re-compressed entire library.
  - Update receiver caches.
- General setting with multiple files and receivers.

# **On-demand Compression Approach**



## Cache-Aided Coded Multicast with Correlated library





 Deterministic cache placement.

## Cache-Aided Coded Multicast with Correlated library

#### Performance assessments



## Efficient Storage of Dynamic Data in Distributed Clouds

Rapid access to fresh and consistent data without costly replication [Wang and Cadambe, TIT'14], [Ali, Cadambe, Llorca, Tulino, TC'20]



#### **BIG CHALLENGE**

Extend the benefits of distributed cloud storage (low latency access, robustness to failures) to highly dynamic applications, where the main challenges are data freshness and consistency

#### BASELINE

Existing systems don't use coding and end up unnecessarily keeping old versions to ensure consistency via replication (e.g., Microsoft Azure) leading to unbearable cloud resource usage, specially for highly dynamic data.

#### BREAKTHROUGH

Holistic analytical understanding of the fundamental trade-offs between consistency, freshness, storage cost, and access latency. Efficient codes able to approach such fundamental trade-offs.

A NOVEL INFORMATION THEORETIC FRAMEWORK FOR CONSISTENT DELIVERY OF FRESH DYNAMIC DATA

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#### CLOUD-INTEGRATED NETWORKS AS UNIVERSAL COMPUTE PLATFORMS



Every human experience will be supported by a collection of services running over a cloud-integrated network.

M. Weldon, "The Future X Network: A Bell Labs Perspective," CRC PRESS, October 2015.

#### CLOUD-INTEGRATED NETWORKS AS UNIVERSAL COMPUTE PLATFORMS



These services take information sources from the physical world, route them through multiple functions instantiated across the cloud network until delivering output flows that create some form of augmented value for the end user

M. Weldon, "The Future X Network: A Bell Labs Perspective," CRC PRESS, October 2015.

#### CLOUD-INTEGRATED NETWORKS AS UNIVERSAL COMPUTE PLATFORMS

- Opportunities
  - Users can consume resource- and <u>interaction</u>intensive applications from resource-limited devices
  - Operators can reduce costs and create new valueadded services
  - Overall sustainability
- Challenges
  - Optimized elastic consumption of compute/storage/network resources
  - End-to-end autonomous configuration and control







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#### JOINT END-TO-END SERVICE OPTIMIZATION





- Function placement
  - Function chaining, splitting, and replication
- Flow routing
  - Flow scaling
  - Mix of unicast and multicast traffic

## EXISTING APPROACHES

COMPLEX DISJOINT SOLUTIONS



Separate data/function placement, flow routing, cloud and network resource allocation

- Driven by old vision of cloud and network separation
- No joint placement/routing optimization
- Unacceptable QoE, limited knowledge augmentation, and/or unsustainable costs with resource overprovisioning.

#### CLOUD NETWORK FLOW APPROACH





#### Comprehensive model

- Arbitrary flow chaining, scaling, splitting, and replication
- Arbitrary traffic mix (unicast and multicast flows)
- Non-isomorphic embeddings
- Approximation guarantees
#### 1. Service Graph



• Directed acyclic graph that encodes the relationship between service functions and associated input/output flows

## 1. Service Graph



- Directed acyclic graph that encodes the relationship between service functions and associated input/output flows
- Control/data plane as well as hardware/software based functions
- Heterogeneous function complexity (proc. res. units per flow unit) and flow scaling (output flow units per input flow unit)



#### 2. Cloud-augmented graph



#### 2. Cloud-augmented graph



#### 2. Cloud-augmented graph





- Mixed-cast multi-commodity-chain flow on a cloud-augmented graph
- Includes and generalizes placement and network flow problems
- Captures combined use of compute/storage/transport resources, unicast and multicast flows, and flow/function chaining, scaling, splitting, and replication
- Admits optimal polynomial time solutions under linear costs and splittable flows, and efficient approximations otherwise

## CLOUD NETWORK FLOW

#### 3. Mixed-cast chained information flow



## CLOUD NETWORK FLOW

#### 3. Mixed-cast chained information flow

 $\min \sum_{(u,v)} f_{uv} e_{uv}$ Cost Function s.t.  $\sum f_{vu}^{d,i} = \sum f_{uv}^{d,i}$ Generalized Flow  $\forall u,d,i$ Conservation  $f_{pu}^{d,i} = f_{up}^{d,j} \qquad \qquad \forall u, d, i, j \in \mathcal{Z}(i)$ Flow Chaining  $f_{su}^{d,i} = 1 \qquad \qquad \forall u, d, i \in \mathcal{S}(u)$ Sources and  $f_{uq}^{d,i} = 1 \qquad \qquad \forall u, d, i \in \mathcal{Q}(u)$ Demands  $f_{uv}^{d,i} \le f_{uv}^i \qquad \quad \forall (u,v), d, i$ Actual flow  $f_{uv}^i \le f_{uv}^k \qquad \quad \forall (u,v), d, k, i \in \mathcal{K}(k)$ sizing  $\sum f_{uv}^k R_{uv}^k \le f_{uv} \le c_{uv} \qquad \forall (u,v)$ Fractional/  $f_{uv}^{d,i}, f_{uv}^i, f_{uv}^k \in [0,1] \qquad \forall (u,v), d, i, k$ Integer flows

- Fractional flows
  - Good for network slices
  - Large aggregate flows
  - Per-flow splitting
  - Integer flows
    - Good for individual services
    - Unsplittable flows

#### SERVICE CLASSIFICATION AND SOLUTIONS

	Unicast		Multicast	
	Splittable	Unsplittable	Splittable	Unsplittable
Service Chain	Polynomial FPTAS	NP-Hard Bicriteria approx.	NP-Hard (no coding)	NP-Hard Bicriteria approx.
Service DAG	NP-Hard (no coding	NP-Hard Bicriteria approx.	NP-Hard (no coding)	NP-Hard Bicriteria approx.

#### SERVICE CLASSIFICATION AND SOLUTIONS

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# NETWORK SERVICE CHAINS

- Network: Generic US Metro
  - 4 Metro PoP, 12 Metro Agg, 60 Metro Edge
  - 10G links, CloudBand compute nodes
- Service: Fixed Residential Video
  - Data plane: vCDN, vBNG, FAN, CPE
  - Control Plane: vCDN, vBNG, vFAN, vCPE
- Demand:
  - 2014, 2018, 2022 video traffic
  - 50% VoD, 40% VS, 10% IPTV









# SMART CITY SERVICES

- IoT-Cloud Network:
  - Cloud layer (core, metro, edge)
  - Access layer
  - Device layer

- City Streams Service:
  - Deliver contextually relevant personalized city streams

• Operational cost as a function of personalized stream data rate







## WORLD WIDE STREAMS (WWS)

- Distributed stream processing platform
- Produces and delivers streams of real-time relevance to geographically dispersed users via the real-time processing of geographically dispersed source streams





2X-4X

# CONCLUSIONS

- Networks are becoming universal compute platforms, able to host a variety of services and applications that can optimize the automated operation of physical systems and augment human experiences in real time.
- New mathematical tools are required to jointly optimize the allocation of compute, storage, and network resources, as well as the efficient flow of information over such highly distributed computing infrastructures.
- Dynamic cloud-network compression aims to an E2E compression of information throughout its entire lifecycle capture/creation, upload, storage, computation, and delivery in order to maximize conveyed information per unit cost
- Using cloud-network-wide spatiotemporal redundancy to push the fundamental limits of information compression, pioneering algorithms in network compression, including compressed video delivery with up to 8X capacity gains has been designed.
- Cloud network flow generalizes traditional network information flow models to jointly capture the efficient storage, computation, and delivery of information of real-time relevance.
- Significant efficiency improvements can be obtained via the end-to-end optimization of next generation services over distributed cloud-integrated networks.

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