CCN/NDN

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Global Future Internet Summit Seoul, Korea 30 November 2011 For 150 years 'communication' has meant a conversation over a wire connecting two devices:



For 150 years 'communication' has meant a conversation over a wire connecting two devices:



The information matters, not how or where you get it.









A home information inventory – 2007

- 30,000 songs 300 GB
- 1,000 movies 300 GB
- 40,000 pictures 200 GB

71,000 items 800 GB

A home information inventory – 2007

- 30,000 songs 300 GB
- 1,000 movies 300 GB
- 40,000 pictures 200 GB



Where information lives



Where information lives



We're drowning in bits and our machines don't help

- Our interaction with content must evolve to a higher level than moving individual items.
- People should specify policy, machines should implement it:
 - I tell our media server to store my pictures.
 - I tell my cameras that they're mine.
 - New pictures move to the media servers as soon as a camera's in proximity.

To implement our policies machines need context

- Ontology (how is this information related to other information)
- Provenance (what is my relationship to the source of this information)
- Locality (what is my proximity to this information)

Reducing friction

- Moving up-level is an amplifier.
 - We shouldn't amplify mistakes.
 (E.g., if you accidentally delete a file anywhere, FolderShare makes sure it's deleted everywhere.)
 - We shouldn't amplify attacks.
 (Machines need a very high level of confidence in context & data integrity).

- CCN gets rid of a useless abstraction (the host and file that contain the bits) and captures:
 - Ontology via hierarchical names and links.
 - Provenance via signing the binding between the bits and their name ("Z asserts that X is his name for Y")
 - Locality via a "guided diffusion" dissemination model.
- CCN reduces friction by moving from a 'container' to a 'collection' model.

Making content move itself



Making content move itself



 Devices express 'interest' in data collections.

 Devices with data in collection respond.

Making content move itself



- Devices express 'interest' in data collections.
- Devices with data in collection respond.

- Users specify the objective, not how to accomplish it.
- Data appears wherever it needs to be.
- Model loves wireless and broadcast (802.11, RFID, Bluetooth, NFC, ...).
- Data security and integrity are the architectural foundation, not an add-on.
- There's no distinction between bits in a memory and bits in a wire.



Today's network architecture embraces wires & interconnects



but not cycles or storage.

They are different only because we conceptualize in terms of process rather than outcome.

If we view networking as *information delivery* all three can work together seamlessly.

Architecture

Application	
Transport	
Network	
Link - LLC	
Link - MAC	
Physical	

Application	Individual	
Transport	apps	
Network	Every node	
Link - LLC		
Link - MAC	Individual links	
Physical		



























- Intermediate nodes are invisible
- Intermediate nodes can't choose.
- Intermediate nodes can't measure success



Path determined by global routing, not local choice.

Structural asymmetry precludes market mechanisms and encourages monopoly formation.









- Packets say 'what' not 'who' (no src or dst)
- communication is to local peer(s)
- upstream performance is measurable
- memory makes loops impossible

At startup:


At startup:



Interest handling: hit



Interest handling: hit



Interest handling: hit



Interest handling: miss



Interest handling: miss



The cache expresses it's own interest in the data so it will get a copy when it arrives.

It works automatically and autonomously with minimal configuration, just like a line card.

?/netflix/im2

Customer-edge PoP



- Rigid qualification for all equipment
- Hostile, lights-out environment
- Remote subscriber configuration
- No other configuration (IP line cards hook themselves up)

4x 10Gb Ethernet line card



40 Gbps 20"x14"x2" 500W \$65K

I TB SATA-3 SSD



48 Gbps 4"x0.75" 5mW \$2K / TB

How different are IP & CCN?



They're similar: it's easy to add CCN to an IP router

CCN packets



There are two packet types: *Interest* (a question) and *Data* (an answer). Both are encoded in an efficient binary XML.

CCN names are opaque, structured byte strings

/parc.com/van/cal/417.vcf/v3/s0/0x3fdc96a4...

is represented as a component count then, for each component, a byte count followed by that many bytes:

The *only* assumption CCN makes about names is hierarchical structure. E.g., names or components can be encrypted or contain arbitrary binary data.

Basic CCN forwarding

Consumer 'broadcasts' an interest over any available communications media:

want '/parc.com/van/slides.pdf'

- Interest identifies a collection of data all data items whose name has the interest as a prefix.
- Anything that hears the interest and has an element of the collection can respond with it:

HereIs '/parc.com/van/slides.pdf/v6/p1' <data>

Basic CCN transport

- Data that matches an interest 'consumes' it.
- Interest must be re-expressed to get new data. (Controlling the re-expression allows for traffic management and environmental adaptation.)
- Multiple (distinct) interests in same collection may be expessed (similar to TCP window).





















- Content goes only where there's interest.
- It follows the shortest path.
- It crosses any link at most once.
- Average latency is minimized.
- Total bandwidth is minimized.
- There's no new routing or control traffic.

'Discovery' problem & Name tree ordering



Newest nytimes: nytimes.com/web/frontPage <rightmost child>

Newest that's more recent than mine: nytimes.com/web/frontPage/v20100301 <rightmost sibling>

Conventions:

- name tree child nodes are lexically ordered
- <leftmost child> assumed if relationship unspecified

'Discovery' problem & Name tree ordering



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Examples: sharing pictures



Examples: sharing pictures



Examples: sharing pictures





Friend's TV

Everybody knows that ...

- Content-based networking is great for content dissemination ...
- ... but can't handle conversational or real-time traffic.

This is half right.

Content networking is more general than IP

It does anything that IP can.

To demonstrate this we implemented VoCCN, a VoIP-functional-equivalent based on CCN.

VoCCN – why bother?

- VoIP works badly for multi-point, multi-interface and mobility.
- VolP security is poor.
- VolP setup is complex.



IP builds conversations using two patterns:

- Service to instance
- Uni- to bi-directional



These are just 'name' manipulations that should map to any (topic-based) pub-sub system with hierarchical or algorithmic names.

VoCCN has only a few moving parts



- Resulting system is simple, secure and scalable.
- Robust support for mobility and multi-point.
- Supports secure, stateless, VoIP inter-operation.



Performance



Security
Attacker's job is a lot harder with CCN

- Can't target hosts because communication isn't to hosts.
- Can't target topology since multi-source makes topology a hint, not a requirement.
- Can't DDoS with Data packets because
 Data must match an Interest.

Attacker's job is a lot harder with CCN

- Can't DDoS with real Interests because local caching will negate attack.
- Can't DDoS with fake Interests since every intermediate node has a limit on pending Interests and services unsatisfied Interests at lowest priority.

Files, hosts and network connections are *containers* for information

- A secured perimeter is the only way to secure containers.
- For today's network use, any realistic perimeter encloses the planet.

Forget containers – secure the content

Do it as the final production step to minimize attack surface.

Ron Rivest's SDSI has shown this can be done if any consumer can assess solely from the data:

- Integrity (is data intact and complete?)
- Relevance (what question does this answer?)
- Provenance (who asserts this is an answer?)

CCN data



A rich web of trustworthy information arises from named, signed data:



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- Attacker's job gets exponentially harder as you accumulate information.
- Security is emergent property of the system.



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Named Data Networking (NDN) NSF FIA 3 year project



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Information on CCN is available at

www.ccnx.org

including a GPL'd open-source release of our current research prototype.

Information on NDN is available at named-data.net