Changing the paradigm in forwarding : How transform daemons to angels?



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# **Classical forwarding**



# DTN, pocket networks forwarding



# Why to forward ?



- Let's define for each packet a set of attributes A<sub>i</sub>
  - Destination address D(P<sub>i</sub>)
  - Some Attributes are extracted from packet, some are coming from local context
- Let's define a utility function U(A<sub>i</sub>, D(P<sub>i</sub>), ID, A)
  - The utility of forwarding message i destinated to D(P<sub>i</sub>) to node ID with context A
  - The utility function capture the selfishness of the node
- Forwarding scheme :
  - Calculate for each packet in buffer its utility
  - Forward the largest utility

# Utility functions

- Classical routing : Assign the utility function 1 if the node ID is on the path to destination  $D(P_i)$  null otherwise
- PROPHET: The delivery likelihood is the utility
- Self Limiting Epidemic forwarding: The utility is scaled down everytime a packet is received or forwarded.
- Community or content networking :Give a higher utility to some contents or community.
- What if the utility doesn't depend on destination adress ?
  - Results in epidemic forwarding
- Might construct utility function changing over time and adapting to information increase
  - Spray and focus
  - Move from opportunistic to infrastructure mode

## Random utility

Utility is hard to assess, we might do mistakes
U(A<sub>i</sub>, D(P<sub>i</sub>), ID, A)=Û(A<sub>i</sub>, D(P<sub>i</sub>), ID, A)+noise
Knowing a set of estimed utility {Û<sub>i</sub>} what is the probability that choice j is the real best choice ?

 $\Pr\{j \text{ is the best choice}\} = \frac{e^{\mu U_j}}{\sum e^{\mu \hat{U}_i}}$ 

- Noise should follow a Gumble distribution
- Forwarding scheme
  - Choose packets to forward following above distibution

# Forwarding for challenging environments

- Very mobile, very dynamic environments
- No prediction on future encounters
  - No bias in the utility function based on destination address
  - Results in epidemic forwarding
- Flooding is evil !
  - Generate lots of redundancy
  - Reduce injection rate
    - Going from point to point capacity bound to broadcast capacity bounds
- But .... Flooding is great
  - Shortest path
  - No need for global information
  - Will work whenever communication is possible.
- Is it possible to male flooding less evil ?
  - Controlling the redundancy
  - Controlling the scope

# Controlling the redundancy

- Let's forward in place of a packet a linear combination of packets : Network coding !
  - Reduce the redundancy
- Use feedback to indicate received packets
  - How to do this feedback ?

### Issues

#### Generation problem

- How to ensure that the number of variables do not grow faster than the number of equation: congestion !
- Congestion control needed
  - How to?
- Incentives/punishment?
  - How to deal with selfish nodes
    - Node that are just sending their packets and not forwarding others

## **Collaboration Incentives**

- Nodes are selfish
  - Send as most a possible their own messages
  - Just forward message when there is a benefit
- They are pragmatic and rational
- They have a limited patience and resources



## Limited resources

- A node do not want to use more than K buffer space for forwarding
  - Out of these can k be undecoded and K-k are decoded
- A node piggyback
  - its capacity
  - List of packet decoded
  - List of packet received
    - List of packet non decoded is derived from the two above
- Neighbor should take care of this capacity in forwarding
  - A neighbor have no incentive to go higher than the advertised capacity
  - A node have no incentive to lie about its capacity

# Enforcing collaboration

- Finite buffer space for forwarding
- Informs other about your capacity
- Neighbor take care of your constraint for their own sake
  - Mixing packets help neighbors in solving their equations and freeing space for sending your packets
- Results in a Pareto-Optimal cooperation mechanism

#### Being social becomes helpful

- Entangling your transmission with others is a way of enforcing collaboration
- Totally antagonistic with QoS

### Cooperation by punishment not by incentives



When the monster came, Lola, like the peppered moth and the arctic hare, remained motionless and undetected. Harold, of course, was immediately devoured.



## Infocom 2006 scenario





