A Course on Foundations of

Cyber Community Computing:
Peer-to-Peer Systems, Crowd Computing & Other Models

CS 6/75995
Foundation of Peer-to-Peer
Applications & Systems

Kent State University
Dept. of Computer Science
www.cs.kent.edu/~javed/class-P2P13F/
Today’s Topic

Unit background and administrivia

*Cyber Community Computing*

**General Course Information**

This course will not teach you how to write HTML or Java code. Nor will make you a Web Master!

In this course you will learn:

- Current limitations and standing open problems
2013 Topics

- **Case Study: Architectures**
  - Napster
  - Gnutella
  - Bit-Torrent
  - Chord,
  - CAN
  - Pastry
  - ToR

- **Theory**
  - Internet and web networks
  - Distributed hashing
  - Routing and search
  - Self-organization neighborhood optimization
  - Fault tolerance, stability, churning

- **P2P overlay networks**
  - Publish/subscribe
  - event routing overlays
  - Multicast optimization
  - Multimedia and streaming overlays

- **Crowd Sourcing**
  - Captcha
  - Wikipedia
  - Mechanical Turk

- **Social engineering**
  - Security and vulnerabilities
  - Reputation and trust functions.
  - Social engineering

- **Sample applications**
  - File sharing,
  - distributed storage/caching
  - backup storage.
  - Social networks.
  - News feed
  - Multimedia streaming
  - Anonymous systems
  - Digital Currency

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- **TA**
  - TBA

- **Web Page:**
Reference Books

- **Text:** Chapter Notes, Research Papers.


Course Format

It is a graduate level course. Good amount of independent study will be required from you.

- **Research Paper Analytical Reading & Presentation**
  - We will study 16 selected papers on the four theme topics.
  - Each student will be assigned two papers (one to present one to shadow).
  - Estimated time required 2x10=20 hours.

- **OR Project**
  - One individual/group class project/experiment.
  - C/C++/Java language can be used.
  - Estimated time requirement 40 hours.

- **Survey Paper**
  - One survey paper on a special internet topic.
  - Estimated time required 20 hours.
What is Expected Out of You?

- About 8 hours per week
- Learning by doing
- Questions and exercises
- Reading the papers and materials
- Taking active part in paper discussions

  - Read/Listen Think Do Ask

Grading

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Introduction of Students

Some Sample Topics of This Year
Bit Torrent

• As of January 2012, BitTorrent has 150 million active users according to BitTorrent, Inc. Based on this the total number of monthly BitTorrent users can be estimated at more than a quarter billion. At any given instant BitTorrent has, on average, more active users than YouTube and Facebook combined.

TOR: Onion Routing

• A P2P system designed to provide anonymity.
• Used by Wikileaks to collect leaked information.
P2P Monitoring Systems: BitCoin, Ripple, Ven

- Bitcoins are directly backed by the continued actions of the computing power within the Bitcoin network. It is the first of a new breed of cryptocurrencies that do not require a central authority. [2]

Amazon Mechanical Turk

- In March 2007, there were reportedly more than 100,000 workers in over 100 countries. [3] In 2011, techlist published an interactive map pinpointing the locations of 50,000 of their MTurk workers around the world. [6]
Kick Starter

- As of August 22, 2012, there were 68,224 launched projects (3,772 in progress), with a success rate of 44.01%. The completed successful projects had raised a total of $275 million. [27].

Galaxy Zoo

- Galaxy Zoo is an online astronomy project which invites members of the public to assist in the morphological classification of large numbers of galaxies. It is an example of citizen science as it enlists the help of members of the public to help in scientific research. An improved version—Galaxy Zoo 2—went live on 17 February 2009.
OpenGarden

- Open Garden enables peer-to-peer mobile Internet connection sharing with faster and more efficient data transmissions by automatically and actively choosing and switching to the best available network. It was founded in 2011 by Micha Benoliel, Internet architect Stanislav Shalunov, and software developer Greg.

Peer to Peer System
Past & Present
Peer-to-Peer

- A new and very interesting paradigm in networked based systems.
- Many ISP is reporting 50%-75% of Internet traffic today is due to P2P.
- Today the conventional client/server based applications are facing tremendous effort and resources to meet the growth of Internet user and usage.

Three Challenges

- Scalability:
  - Billions of users,
  - Varied systems,
  - Bandwidth? Storage? Computing?
- Security & Reliability:
  - Security for various domains?
  - Anonymity?
- Flexibility and Quality of Service
  - Quick and easy integration of new service?
  - Asymmetric capabilities?
Overview

1. Status Quo: Networks (Over)Filled with Peer-to-Peer Traffic
2. How It All Began: From Arpanet to Peer-to-Peer
3. The Napster Story
5. Driving Forces Behind Peer-to-Peer

What is P2P?

P2P systems are overlay architectures, with the following characteristics:

- Two logically separate networks
- Mostly IP based
- Decentralized and self organizing
- Employ distributed shared resources (computing power and data storage)
- Initially developed for file-sharing
- Various realizations
- Common basis for signaling: IP (TCP and UDP)
- Common basis for data transmission: HTTP
- Use flooding in the overlay to a certain extent
**Definition?**

- Oram:
  
  * [a peer to peer system is] a self organizing system of equal, autonomous entities (peers) [which] aims for shared usage of distributed resources in a networked environment avoiding central services.

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**Decentralized Resource Usage**

- Resources (bandwidth, storage, processing power) are used in a manner equally distributed as possible and are located at the edges of the network, close to the peers.

- With a set of peers, each utilized the resources provided by the others. Resources are not only storage or bandwidth but also human presence, connectivity etc.

- Peers are interconnected through a network and distributed globally. Peers however does not need fixed IP.
Decentralized Self-Organization

- Peers interact directly with each other and decide resource sharing. Does not require [or minimally require] a centralized authority for co-ordination.
- Peers exchange data directly too- without requiring any centralized exchange point.
- Any peer can act both as client and server.
- Peers are equal partners. Each peer is fully autonomous regarding its respective resources.

Impacts of P2P

- Rising flow sizes (60 kbyte -> 2 Gbyte)
- 30%-60% of the traffic in the Abilene backbone is caused by P2P applications
- 70% of the traffic in the German Research Network (DFN) is caused by P2P applications.
- T-Online observes an increasing symmetry at the access-level.
- LRZ (Munich Network Center) observes an increasing symmetry between US and Europe
**Impacts of P2P at the Abilene Backbone**

- **Unidentified + data_transfers + file_sharing causes 90% of the traffic**
- **Unidentified traffic and data_transfers increased significantly**
  - Parts of P2P is hidden (port hopping,...)
  - Some P2P applications use port 80 → data_transfers

Data source: [http://netflow.internet2.edu/weekly/](http://netflow.internet2.edu/weekly/)

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**Impacts of P2P at the Abilene Backbone**

- P2P Traffic amount (only signaling)
  - Is still high (~50 TByte per week)
  - Becomes a constant part of the traffic (since end 2002)
- Slumps are assumed to be caused by
  - Port closures (firewalls, NATs)
  - Verdicts (Napster Case,...)
- Data Transfers are caused presumably to a large extent by P2P apps

Data source: [http://netflow.internet2.edu/weekly/](http://netflow.internet2.edu/weekly/)
Reason for These Experiences

How it Begun: From ARPANET to Peer-to-Peer

- Late 1960s: Establishment of the ARPANET
  - Goal: share computing resources and documents between US research facilities
  - Every host treated equally
  - BUT: the virtual network matched the physical network to a large extent
  - Applications: FTP and TelNet → client server mode, with no decentralized search and storage
  - Central steering committee to organize the network
- 1979: Development of the UseNet protocol
  - Newsgroup application to organize content
  - Self organizing approach to add and remove newsgroup servers
  - Application itself is still a client server application
- ~1990 rush of the general public to join the Internet
  - Applications following the client server approach: WWW, email, streaming
  - Based on modem connections via the SLIP and PPP protocol
  - Straightforward model to administrate and control the content distribution
  - Security concerns resulted in a partitioned Internet by firewalls
The Napster Story

• MAY 1999: Disruption of the Internet community
  First Generation of P2P
  – Introduction of Napster
  – User not only consume and download content but also offer and provide content to other participants
  – Users establish a virtual network, entirely independent from physical network and administrative authorities or restrictions
  – Basis: UDP and TCP connections between the peers
• December 1999: RIAA files a lawsuit against Napster Inc.
  – Target of the RIAA: the central lookup server of Napster
• February 2001: 2.79 billion files exchanged via the Napster network per month
• July 2001: Napster Inc. is convicted
  – Napster has to stop the operation of the Napster server
  – Napster network breaks down
  – BUT: Already a number of promising successors available

Gnutella and Its Relatives

• March 2000: Nullsoft releases Gnutella as an open source project
  – Major developer: Gene Khan
  – Additionally to servant functionality, the peers also take over routing tasks
  – Fully decentralized, no central lookup server  ➔ no single point of failure
• October 2000: introduction of hierarchical routing layers. Second Generation of P2P
  – Gnutella: reflector/Superpeer concept
  – Increases the scalability significantly
• Variety of similar fully decentralized P2P-protocols followed soon:
  – Audiogalaxy
  – FastTrack/KaZaA
  – iMesh
  – Freenet
Gnutella and Its Relatives. The story goes on

- **August 2001**
  - Users adapt very fast to the breakdown of Napster
  - Already 3.05 billion files exchanged per month via the Gnutella network
- **Year 2001:** Third Generation of P2P initiated
  - First research started on the third generation of P2P, so-called structured P2P networks
  - Basic characteristics: Usage of a proactive routing algorithm based on Distributed Hash Tables (DHTs)
- **August 2002**
  - Amount of exchanged data in KaZaA decreases, caused by a high number of defected files
    (reason: weak hash keys to identify files)
  - Edonkey and Gnutella regain popularity
- **May 2003**
  - Bittorrent is released
  - Soon causes majority of the observed traffic. Reason: Its popularity, but also that user data is
    exchanged via the signaling channels in contrast to Gnutella, edonkey,...
- **Middle of 2003**
  - Beyond the exchange of content, new concepts are developed to use P2P also for other
    applications
  - Skype a Voice over P2P application is developed
- **Today:**
  - Major efforts are made to increase the reliability of P2P-searches, to use P2P also in mobile
    networks,...
  - Ebay buys in the Middle of 2005 Skype to use the paradigm for the communication between the
    Ebay bidders and sellers

**Development of P2P Applications**

Traffic portions of the different P2P applications and protocols from the traffic measured per
week in the Abilene backbone from 18.02.2002 until 18.01.2004

Data source: http://netflow.internet2.edu/weekly/
Driving Forces Behind Peer-to-Peer

Development of the terminal capabilities:
- 1992:
  - Average hard disk size: ~0.3 Gbyte
  - Average processing power (clock frequency) of personal computers: ~100 MHz
- 2002:
  - Average hard disk size: 100 Gbyte
- 2004:
  - Average processing power (clock frequency) of personal computers: ~3 GHz
  - Personal computers have capabilities comparable to servers in the 1990s

Development of the communication networks:
- Early 1990s: private users start to connect to the Internet via 56kbps modem connections
  - First broadband connections for residential users become available
  - Cable modems with up to 10 Mbps
- 1999
  - Introduction of DSL and ADSL connections
  - Data rates of up to 8.5 Mbps via common telephone connections become available
  - The deregulation of the telephone market shows first effects with significantly reduced tariffs, due to increased competition on the last mile
  - Bandwidth is plentiful and cheap!

Next Class:
Early Architectures