The Rapid Rise of the Mobile Multihomed Host, and what it might mean to the network

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Mobile Multihomed Host – A Definition

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CC Image courtesy of Julie Jordan Scott http://www.flickr.com/photos/iulieiordanscott/4247673227/sizes/l/in/photostream/

Mobile - moves around

Multihomed – connected to multiple networks, but not a router

Host – Hosts applications that use the network

MMHH - Smartphone



CC Image courtesy of Kārlis Dambrāns a.k.a. Janitors http://www.flickr.com/photos/janitors/8781826986/sizes/c/in/photostream/

MMHH - Tablet



CC Image courtesy of Josué Goge http://tinyurl.com/lr9ng9v

Rapidly Adopted



Tablet Growth = More Rapid than Smartphones, iPad = \sim 3x iPhone Growth



First 12 Quarters Cumulative Unit Shipments, iPhone vs. iPad



Courtesy "2013 Internet Trends", KPCB, http://www.kpcb.com/insights/ 2013-internet-trends Courtesy "Our Mobile Planet" http://www.thinkwithgoogle.com/mobilep lanet/en/

Diffusion of Innovations



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diffusion_of_innovations



"An *innovation* is an idea, practice, or object that is perceived as new by an individual or other unit of adoption".

5 innovation attributes that influence adoption

Relative Advantage - Better than what you've had in the past

Smartphone/Tablet - Mobile rather than fixed Internet

Compatibility - Similar to what you already know

Smartphone/Tablet - Pretty familiar GUI, finger instead of mouse

Complexity - Easy to understand?

Smartphone/Tablet - Intuitive to use, no manual required

Trialability - Easy to "try before you buy"?

Smartphone/Tablet - Borrow a friend's, try in a shop

Observability - Easy to see others using it?

Smartphone/Tablet - People using them in the street, on public transport

A Bit of Internet Architecture



CC Image courtesy of azhararchitecture http://tinyurl.com/n7whzjk

END-TO-END ARGUMENTS IN SYSTEM DESIGN J.H. Salzer, D.P. Reed and D.D. Clark

When it comes to deciding where a function should be located and performed within a system,

"The function in question can completely and correctly be implemented only with the knowledge and help of the application standing at the endpoints of the communication system. Therefore, providing that questioned function as a feature of the communication system itself is not possible. (Sometimes an incomplete version of the function provided by the communication system may be useful as a performance enhancement.)" So what is this really saying?

Applications exist on hosts (the **endpoints**), so functions related to how applications use the network are best done on the hosts

Example : TCP implemented on hosts, **not in the network**

Or Simpler

Do things where the results matter the most

Do things where the best knowledge of what is and isn't required is available

Sounds familiar

If you want something done properly, you need to do it yourself



Actually, Charles-Guillaume Étienne originally said "On n'est jamais servi si bien que par soi-même.", which literally translates to,

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles-Guillaume_ %C3%89tienne

"One is never served so well as by oneself."

So if the hosts are going to do it themselves to do it properly, **the network may as well be as simple as possible**,

and just carry the packets



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Dumb Network, Smart Hosts

Middle Boxes



CC Image courtesy of BiblioArchives / LibraryArchives http://www.flickr.com/photos/lacbac/8056743490/sizes/o/in/photostream/ Boxes in the middle of the network that try to make it smart

- NATs
- (TCP)
 - Performance Enhancing Proxies
- Network Firewalls
- IDS/IPS
- Web Proxies
- P2P Caches

"All these middle boxes optimise current applications at the expense of future applications." (RFC6182)

Middle boxes make deploying changes to existing protocols or deploying new protocols hard



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They can drop or damage packets they don't understand

CC Image courtesy of Tracey Adams a.k.a. bikracer http://tinyurl.com/pnnqoxf

Datagram Congestion Control Protocol (DCCP)

"Congestion Controlled UDP"

Better for both network and applications

Protocol number 33 (UDP is 17)

IPv4 NATs likely to drop it

Evading Middle Boxes

Look like what they know

Use covert channels and indirection



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HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS)



CC Image courtesy of kelp http://www.flickr.com/photos/kelp/167089710/sizes/z/in/phot ostream/ HTTP Get



HTTP server www.example.com

HTTP Response : Strict-Transport-Security (ALWAYS use HTTPS for next 6 months)



HTTP client



HTTP server www.example.com



- HTTPS only, even if http://www.example.com
- Hard fail if any page components are http from non-HSTS server



HTTP client

A reaction to the Firesheep Firefox extension

It sniffed and then reused unencrypted cookies for unauthorised access to Facebook etc.



CC Image courtesy of Ryo Chijiiwa a.k.a. Ryochiji http://www.flickr.com/photos/ryochijiiwa/291996188/sizes/z/i n/photostream/
Unencrypted cookies were typically sniffed off of WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) protected public Wi-Fi Networks

Yeah, WEP protected



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CC Image courtesy of Scott Hingst a.k.a. shingst http://www.flickr.com/photos/shingst/4759579496/sizes/l/in/ photostream/

So much for trusting the network to protect you



Our friend Charles-Guillaume might say,

"One is never served so well as by oneself, so don't rely on network protection, and use HSTS."

HSTS Implementations

- **Chromium and Google Chrome**
- Firefox
- Opera
- Safari
- **Internet Explorer**

Multipath TCP (MPTCP)



CC Image courtesy of Robbie Sproule a.k.a. Robbie1 http://www.flickr.com/photos/robbie1/4359491/sizes/l/in/phot ostream/



RFC6182

Two hosts, Four paths

A1-B1, A1-B2, A2-B1, A2-B2



RFC6182



RFC6182

Standard TCP stack

Multipath TCP stack

Hosts announce MPTCP support to each other using new MP_CAPABLE TCP option

This first connection becomes the first Subflow

The MPTCP connection is identified using a 32 bit token

Additional Subflows supply the MPTCP connection token

If there are multiple Subflows between hosts, data is spread across them

Brief Interlude



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Subflows can be added when host interfaces come up

Or go away when a host interface goes down

Subflows look like TCP, to evade Middle Boxes

Subflows can be established over IPv4 or IPv6, regardless of what the application uses

Subflows can be flagged as a "backup path", used if there are no "regular path" Subflows

What does this all mean?

Hosts and TCP applications get

Better Throughput Better Resiliance Basic IPv6 for IPv4 applications Basic IPv4 for IPv6 applications



Our good friend Charles-Guillaume might say,

"One is never served so well as by oneself, so use all the networks."

MPTCP Implementations

(draft-eardley-mptcp-implementations-survey)

Linux implementation from UCLouvain FreeBSD implementation from our friends at Swinburne anonymous implementation in a commercial OS NetScaler Firmware implementation from Citrix

Systems, Inc.

HSTS & MPTCP – Trend Indicators?



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Host traffic encrypted more often



CC Image courtesy of kelp http://www.flickr.com/photos/kelp/167089710/sizes/z/in/phot ostream/





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More evidence of a trend?



CC image courtesy of vintagedept http://www.flickr.com/photos/vintagedept/4361921235/sizes/ l/in/photostream/

RFC5386 - "Better-Than-Nothing Security: An Unauthenticated Mode of Ipsec." N. Williams, M. Richardson. November 2008.

And more?



"Happy Eyeballs Extension for Multiple Interfaces", G. Chen, C. Williams, D. Wing, A. Yourtchenko, draft-ietf-mif-happy-eyeballs-extension

Impacts



CC image courtesy of Gemma Stiles http://www.flickr.com/photos/gemmastiles/6927436488/size s/c/in/photostream/

Current Traffic Assumptions

If a host is attached to our network, we'll see all of its traffic

(single homed)

Traffic is usually not encrypted

IPv4 applications only send IPv4 traffic

IPv6 applications only send IPv6 traffic

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It's a Geoff Huston scale train wreck!



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montparnasse_derailment

Trouble for Middle Boxes?

Middle Boxes won't see all the traffic, so they might

- Break host communications (fortunately there is an alternate path)
- **Go transparent**, making them valueless
- **Degrade hosts' throughput**, perhaps badly (fortunately there is an alternate path)



Trouble for Troubleshooting?



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We won't be able to rely on seeing all the host's traffic inside the network

Better troubleshooting tools and methods on hosts will need to be developed

Trouble for VPNs?

Multipathing may cause to-be-secured traffic to leak outside the VPN

Traffic should be secured (encrypted) on the host itself

Any point to VPNs if hosts encrypt everything?



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Trouble for network QoS?



Smarter hosts may or will "multipath" around congestion, also helping to reduce it

Is network QoS necessary after that?

CC image courtesy of Steve Snodgrass http://www.flickr.com/photos/stevensnodgrass/7390067836/ sizes/c/in/photostream/

So are there any bright sides?

Smarter hosts will probably reward networks that are dumb, fast and well interconnected

So we'll need to keep building them
So, to the final question



CC image courtesy of Anthony Cramp http://www.flickr.com/photos/anthonycramp/4314540519/siz es/l/in/photostream/ How likely are encryption and multipathing going to be implemented on MMHHs?

Is there an organisation who has the

- Motivation
- Capability and
- Resources

to have encryption and multipathing implemented on MMHHs, for the benefit of its customers?

Is there an organisation who

provides money making content,

provides services where application traffic encryption over the network would be important,

and ...

leads the development of an OS for MMHHs?

So I'm guessing you've guessed who I've guessed.

But in case you haven't,



Google Search I'm Feeling Luck

Questions?



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Thanks for listening