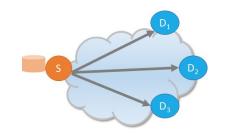
#### Reconfigurable Networks: Enablers, Algorithms, Complexity

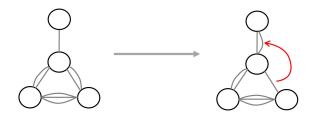
Ramakrishnan Durairajan, Klaus-Tycho Forster, Stefan Schmid

Tutorial @ ACM Sigmetrics 2019 Phoenix, Arizona, USA

#### DarTree: Reconfigurable WAN Multicast

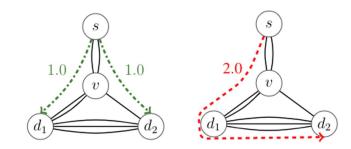
- Multicast transfers: common in WAN
  - E.g., 90% multicast traffic of inter-DC traffic from Baidu





- How to support in reconfigurable WANs?
  - Can change wavelengths and routing!

Large potential and interesting optimization problem: Tmrw @ IWQoS



#### Roadmap

 Last part: WAN, now: Data Center Networks (DCNs)

This part: Mostly 1) estimate demand, 2) build topologies, 3) repeat

Next part: Dynamic settings, demand structures, data structure connections

Focus on Algorithmic Challenges in DCNs

Technology, system developments etc. would require their own tutorial(s)

- Paper-based approach
  - Selection of papers from 2009 to 2019

#### Timeline

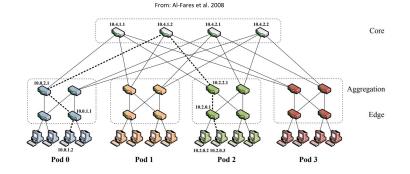
Reconfiguration time: from milliseconds to microseconds (and decentralized).

**Survey of Reconfigurable Data Center** Networks. Foerster and Schmid. SIGACT News, 2019.

Flyways [51]: Steerable antennas (narrow beamwidth at 60 GHz [78]) to serve hotspots Helios [33]/c-Through [98, 99]: Hybrid switch architecture, maximum matching (Edmond's 2010 algorithm [30]), single-hop reconfigurable connections (O(10)ms reconfiguration time). Proteus [21, 89]: k reconfigurable connections per ToR, multi-hop path stitching, multi-hop reconfigurable connections (weighted b-matching [69], edge-exchanges for connectivity [72], wavelength assignment via edge-coloring [67] on multigraphs) Extension of Flyways [51] to better handle practical concerns such as stability and interference for 2011 60GHz links, along with greedy heuristics for dynamic link placement [45] Mirror Mirror on the ceiling [106]: 3D-beamforming (60 Ghz wireless), signals bounce off the ceiling 2012 2013 Mordia [31, 32, 77]: Traffic matrix scheduling, matrix decomposition (Birkhoff-von-Neumann (BvN) [18, 97]), fiber ring structure with wavelengths  $(O(10)\mu s$  reconfiguration time) SplayNets [6, 76, 82]: Fine-grained and online reconfigurations in the spirit of self-adjusting datastructures (all links are reconfigurable), aiming to strike a balance between short route lengths - REACToR [56]: Buffer burst of packets at end-hosts until circuit provisioned, employs [77] 2014 Firefly [14] Combination of Free Space Optics and Galvo/switchable mirrors (small fan-out) Solstice [57]: Greedy perfect matching based hybrid scheduling heuristic that outperforms BvN [77] 2015 Designs for optical switches with a reconfiguration latency of O(10)ns [3] ProjecToR [39]: Distributed Free Space Optics with digital micromirrors (high fan-out) [38] (Stable 2016 Matching [26]), goal of (starvation-free) low latency Eclipse [95, 96]:  $(1-1/e^{(1-\varepsilon)})$ -approximation for throughput in traffic matrix scheduling (single-hop reconfigurable connections, hybrid switch architecture), outperforms heuristics in [57] DAN [7, 8, 11, 12]: Demand-aware networks based on reconfigurable links only and optimized for a demand snapshot, to minimized average route length and/or minimize load MegaSwitch [23]: Non-blocking circuits over multiple fiber rings (stacking rings in [77] doesn't suffice) - Rotornet [63]: Oblivious cyclical reconfiguration w. selector switches [64] (Valiant load balancing [94]) Tale of Two Topologies [105]: Convert locally between Clos [24] topology and random graphs [87, 88] - DeepConf [81]/xWeaver [102]: Machine learning approaches for topology reconfiguration 2018 Complexity classifications for weighted average path lengths in reconfigurable topologies [34, 35, 36] 2019 ReNet [13] and Push-Down-Trees [9] providing statically and dynamically optimal reconfigurations DisSplayNets [75]: fully decentralized SplayNets Opera [60]: Maintaining expander-based topologies under (oblivious) reconfiguration

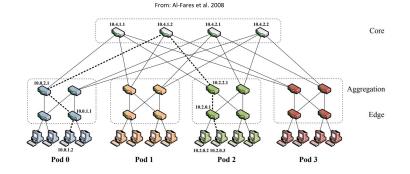
#### Today's Data Center Topologies

- Often Clos-based (e.g. Fat-tree)
  - Goal: optimize for all-to-all communication
    - Idea: Obtain good bisection bandwidth

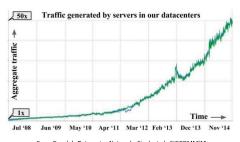


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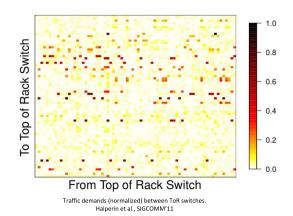
- However, traffic is growing at unprecedented rates
  - What can we do?
  - Exponentially bigger networks?



From Google's Datacenter Network. Singh at al., SIGCOMM'15

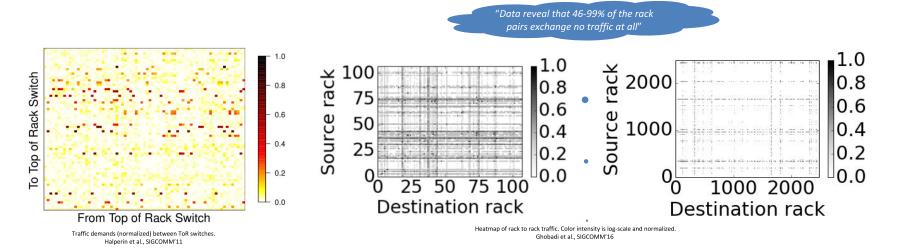
#### Data Center Traffic ≠ Uniform

• However, DCN traffic is often **not** all-to-all

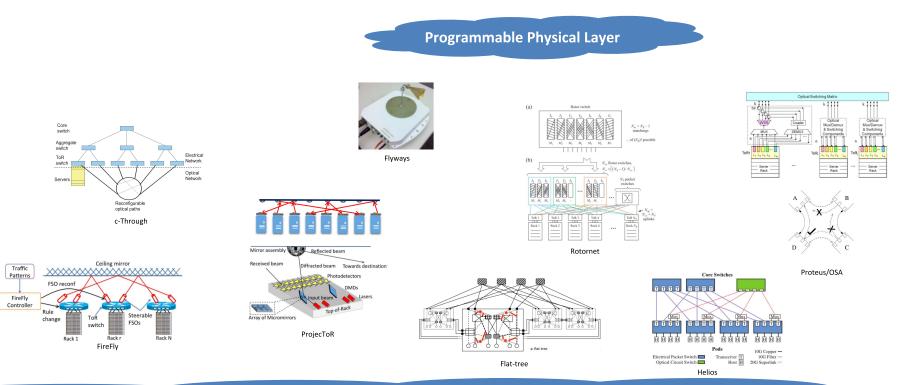


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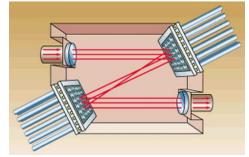


### **Enablers for Reconfigurable DCNs**



# Overview of Technological Enablers

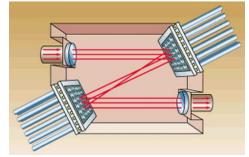
- Microelectromechanical systems (MEMS)
  - In 3D: 2N mirrors can connect N input to N output ports
  - In 2D: Less connectivity, but faster



https://www.laserfocusworld.com/optics/article/16556781/many-approaches-taken-for-alloptical-switching (Hecht, 2001)

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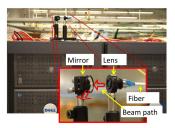


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(Beamformed) Wireless



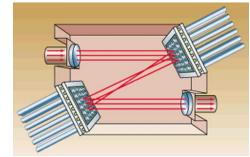
and Free-Space Optics



FireFly

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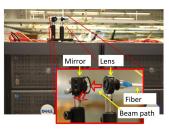


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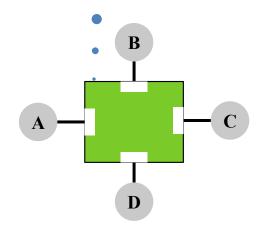
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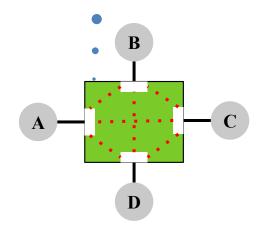
FireFly

Connection medium can also often be shared, e.g., different wavelengths

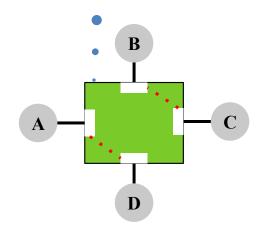
• Idea: Create "physical" connections



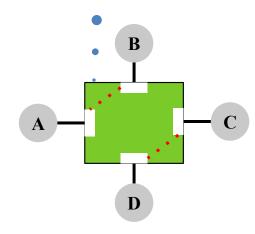
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  - Difference: Not all-to-all switch
    - E.g. just 1 connection per node



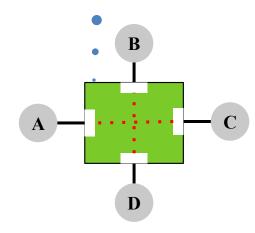
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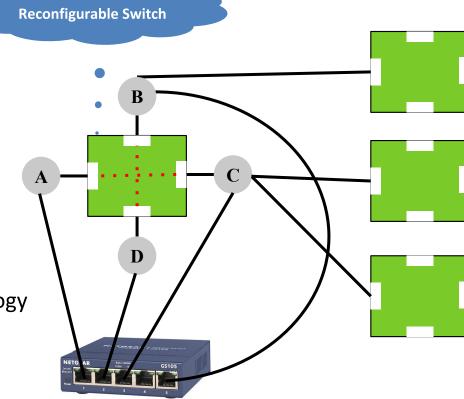
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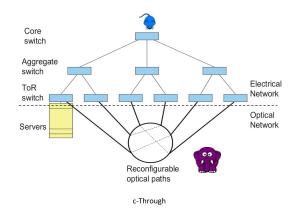
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  - Difference: Not all-to-all switch
    - E.g. just 1 connection per node
    - Or many more than 1
    - Or separated sender/receiver

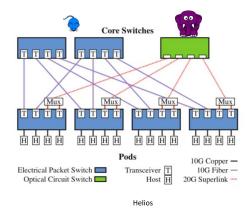
Basic connectivity often by static topology

Hybrid: Static+Reconfigurable



- Layout:
  - DCN-Topology + optical circuit switch (OCS, ~O(10)ms)

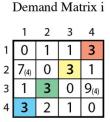


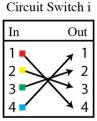


- Algorithmic Idea:
  - Estimate demand between racks/pods
  - Pose as matching problem (throughput/volume per epoch as weights)
    - Unidirectional in Helios
  - Compute maximum matching (eg with Edmond's)

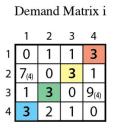


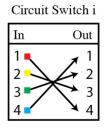
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- Example from Helios with 4 pods and link capacity of 4

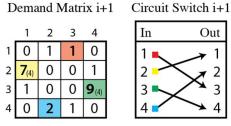




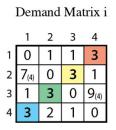
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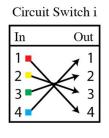


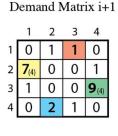


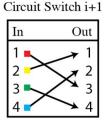


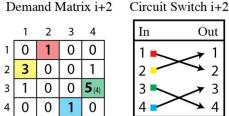
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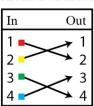






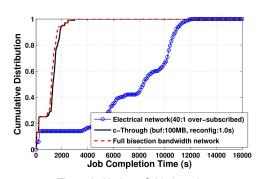




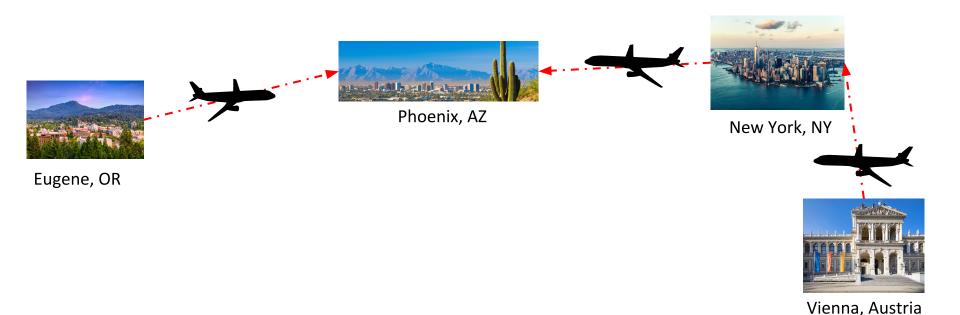


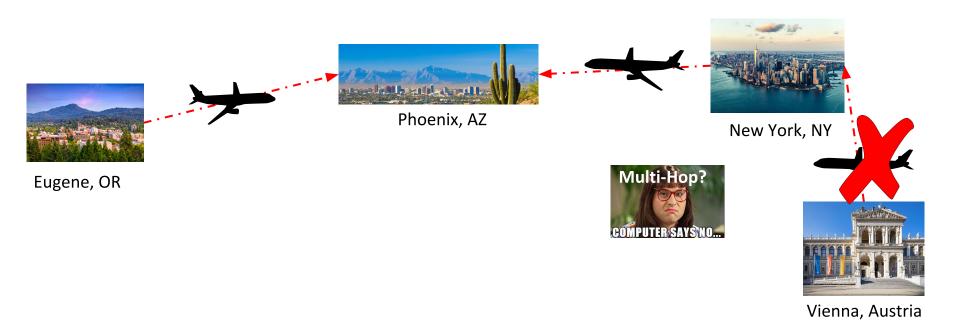
(Farrington et al. / Wang et al. @SIGCOMM 2010)

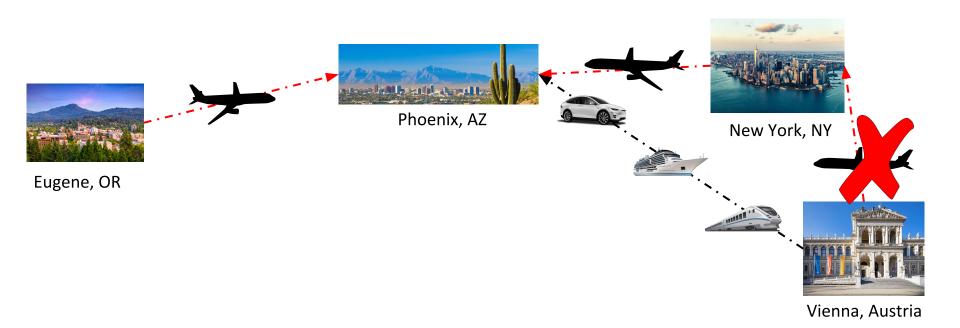
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- Performance example for data-intensive tasks:

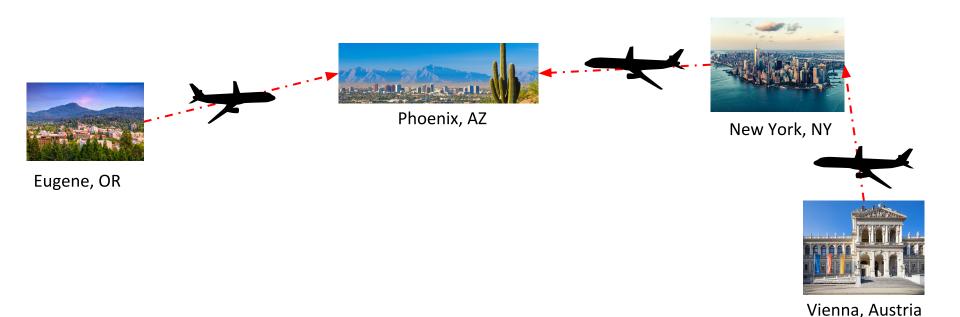


c-Through: Hadoop Gridmix tasks











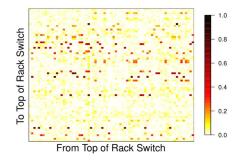




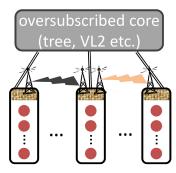
# **Flyways**

(Kandula et al., HotNets 2009/SIGCOMM 2011)

- Idea: Tackle hotspots by adding so-called flyways
  - Directional wireless (60GHz) [or also 802.11n/new static links]
    - ~O(10)ms (also propose the use of phased arrays, delay in microseconds)







# **Flyways**

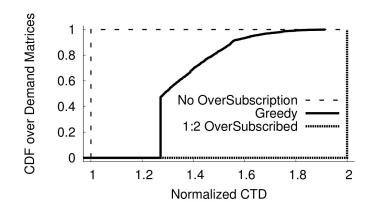
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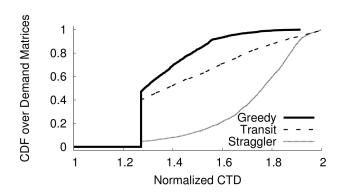
- Idea: Tackle hotspots by adding so-called flyways
  - Directional wireless (60GHz) [or also 802.11n/new static links]
- How to choose new links?
  - Three preliminary different strategies proposed w.r.t. completion time:
    - Optimization program
      - downside: intractable
    - Stragglers: help biggest demands on bottleneck links
      - downside: might not help much per bottleneck, fan-out/in of demands
    - Allow transit on straggler links
      - helps, but not optimized for it

# **Flyways**

(Kandula et al., HotNets 2009/SIGCOMM 2011)

- Final strategy: Greedy with transit
  - Consider bottleneck link connected to ToR
    - Take flyway link that helps most w.r.t.
      - deviating traffic from bottleneck link + allowing transit





#### Mirror Mirror on the Ceiling

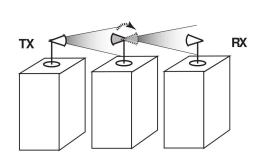
(Zhou et al., SIGCOMM 2012)

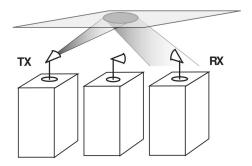
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  - Transmission might be blocked by obstacles (already 2.5mm is bad)
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  - In combination limits many possible flyway configurations

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- Problem in Flyways: Limited any-to-any connections
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  - Radio interference between links
  - In combination limits many possible flyway configurations
- Approach from Zhou et al.: Go from 2D to 3D

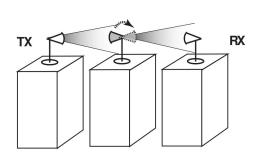


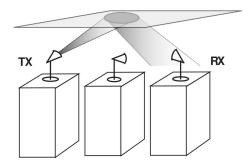


## Mirror On the Ceiling

(Zhou et al., SIGCOMM 2012)

- Algorithmic/technical idea:
  - Leverage multiple radios per rack and multiple 60GHz frequency channels
  - Keep Signal-to-Interference-Noise-Ratio (SINR) in mind for conflicts
    - Greedily schedule requests ordered by conflict degrees
      - No preemption, no multi-hop

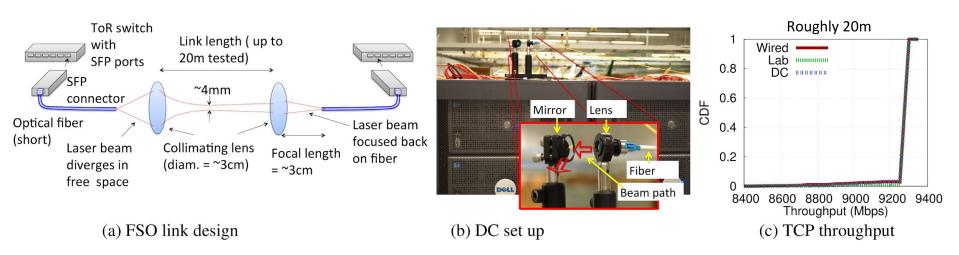




# FireFly

(Hamedazimi et al., SIGCOMM 2012)

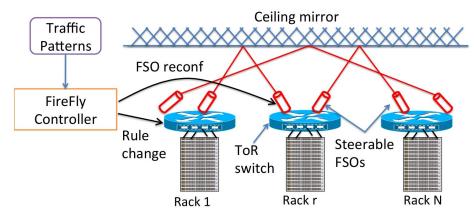
- Even beamformed wireless still suffers from interference/range
- Idea: Use Free-Space Optics (FSO)
  - O(10)ms steering, O(10) fan-out



# FireFly

(Hamedazimi et al., SIGCOMM 2012)

- Bring concept from Mirror, Mirror to FSO
- Core algorithmic idea:
  - Periodically recompute topology for throughput (optim. formulation)
  - Greedily augment current matching to shorten routes for eg new
    - (don't disconnect)



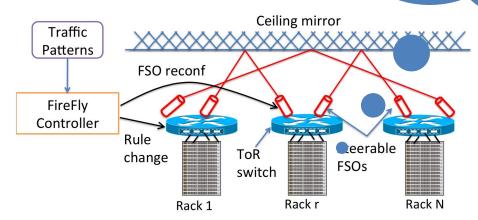
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(Hamedazimi et al., SIGCOMM 2012)

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#### More on FSO later in ProjecToR

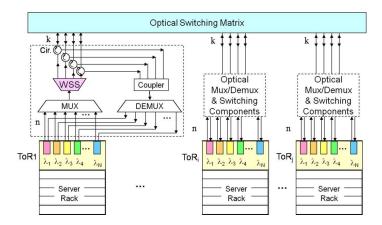
- Distributed algorithm
- Microsecond reconfigurations
  - Programmable mirrors
- O(1000) fan-out



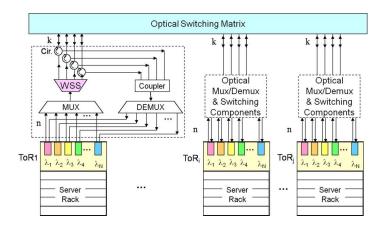
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  - What if traffic is extremely dynamic?
    - Prior studies show: Usually somewhat stable for many DCN applications
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    - Need multi-hop connections

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  - What if traffic is extremely dynamic?
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  - Recall:
    - Need multi-hop connections
- Multi-hop and single connection to OCS?
  - Not so good in all-reconfigurable setting
    - No connectivity (even with 2: requires Hamiltonian Cycle)
    - No scaling of link capacities

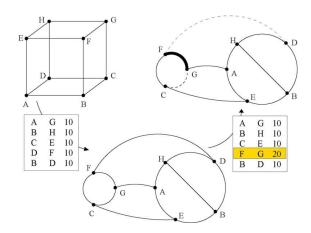
- Creating connectivity:
  - Multiple connections per rack



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- Scaling link capacities
  - Allow "parallel" links



- Algorithmic idea:
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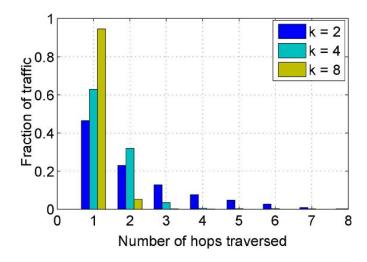
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- 3. Deploy routing (eg shortest paths)
- 4. Assign wavelengths along links to distribute capacity
  - a. Each link at least one wavelength color, no color connected twice to a node
  - Solved by link-coloring on multigraphs (efficient heuristics exist)

- Impact of degree on hop-counts (OSA uses k=4 in most evaluations)
- Using Mapreduce-demands with 80 ToRs



- So far: Optimizing for throughput
  - Recall last slide: short paths are desired
    - Also used in FireFly for new elephants
  - Respectively: "bandwidth tax" (Mellette et al., 2019)

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- Different objective:
  - Minimize (weighted) average path length
  - Popular in many fields, e.g., OSPF
- How difficult from an algorithmic perspective?

(Foerster et al., ANCS 2018, SIGCOMM CCR 2019, Networking 2019)

• In model from Helios/c-Through?



(Foerster et al., ANCS 2018, SIGCOMM CCR 2019, Networking 2019)

• In model from Helios/c-Through?



Recall: packet switched network XOR single-hop reconfigurable (eg OCS)



- Good algorithmic news:
  - Efficiently polynomial-time solvable (weighted matching algorithms)
  - Also for many connections per node to the OCS

(Foerster et al., ANCS 2018, SIGCOMM CCR 2019, Networking 2019)

• In model from Helios/c-Through?



Recall: packet switched network XOR single-hop reconfigurable (eg OCS)



- Good algorithmic news:
  - Efficiently polynomial-time solvable (weighted matching algorithms)
  - Also for many connections per node to the OCS



- Bad algorithmic news:
  - Such a restriction is self-imposed and hurts performance



- How hard to be optimal after lifting restrictions?
  - Already "simple" settings are NP-hard
    - E.g., each route may use at most one reconfigurable link

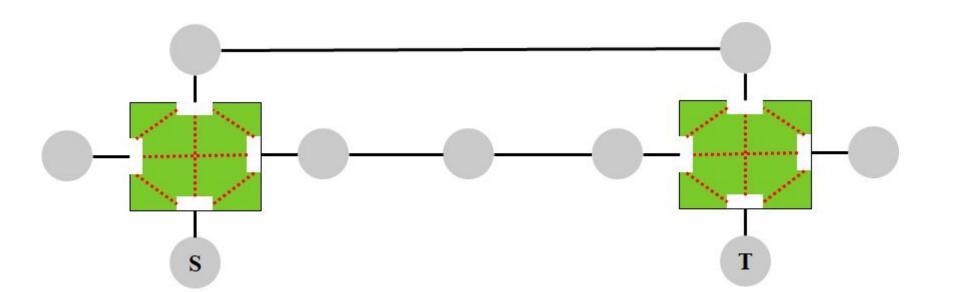


- How hard to be optimal after lifting restrictions?
  - Already "simple" settings are NP-hard
    - E.g., each route may use at most one reconfigurable link



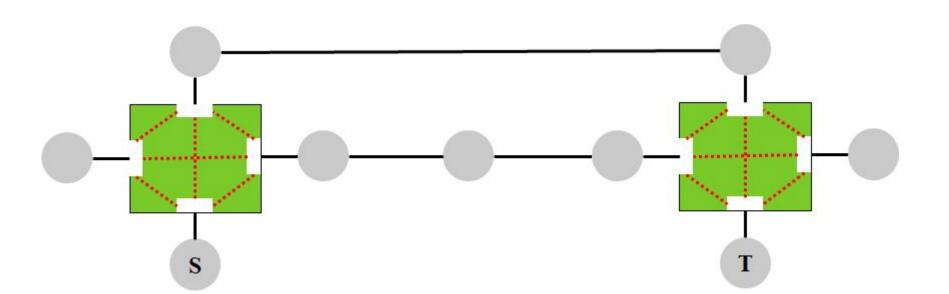
- But: We can lift Dijkstra's algorithm into this setting\*
  - Each reconfigurable switch traversed at most once per flow





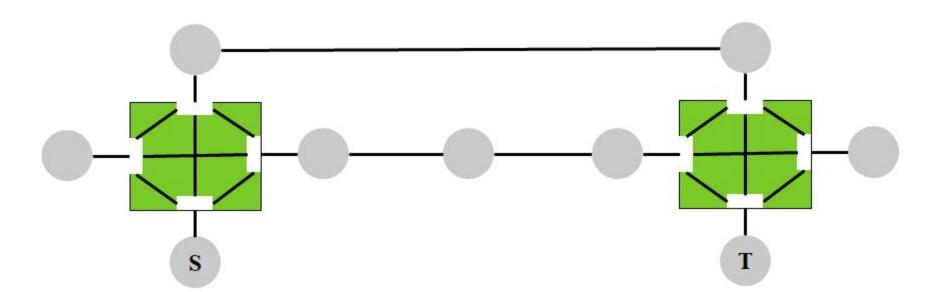
(Foerster et al., ANCS 2018, SIGCOMM CCR 2019, Networking 2019)

1. Add all still possible reconfigurable links as static links

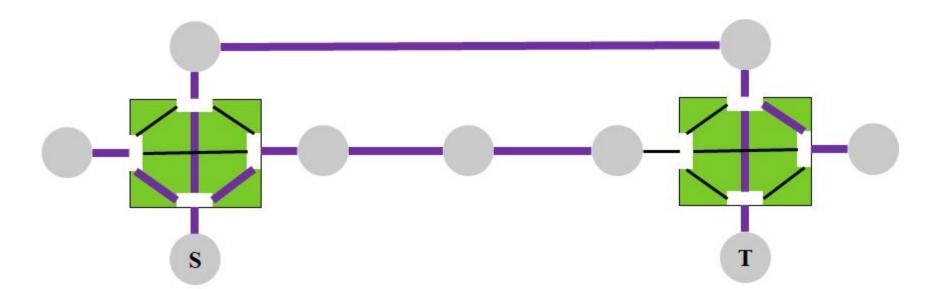


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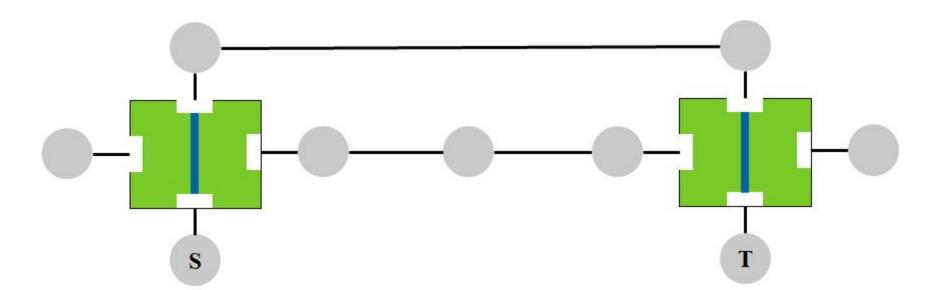
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- 1. Add all still possible reconfigurable links as static links
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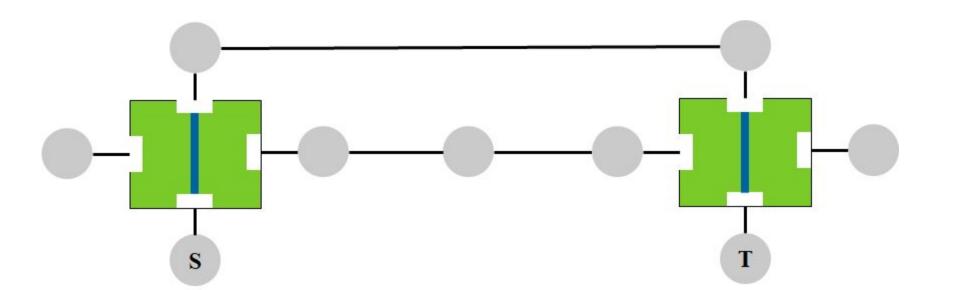
- 1. Add all still possible reconfigurable links as static links
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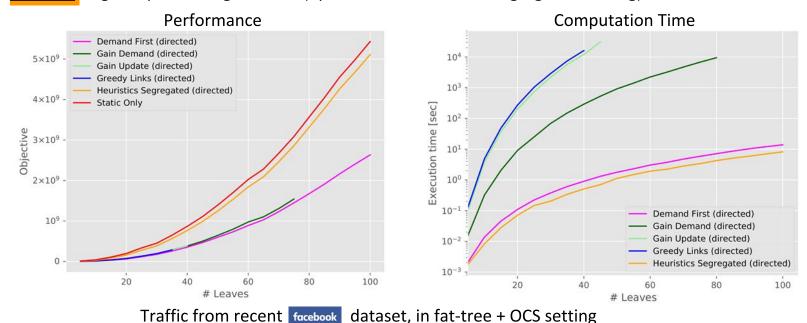
Also works if some matching links already exist



(Foerster et al., ANCS 2018, SIGCOMM CCR 2019, Networking 2019)

Leverage for greedy heuristics (eg greedily run Dijkstra:

single hop matching baseline (optimal w.r.t. restricted segregated routing)



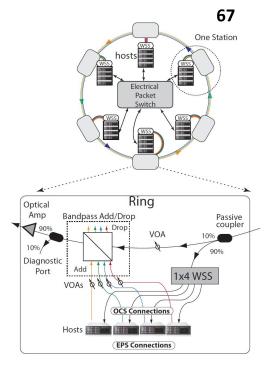
(Porter et al., SIGCOMM 2014)

Back to the throughput objective

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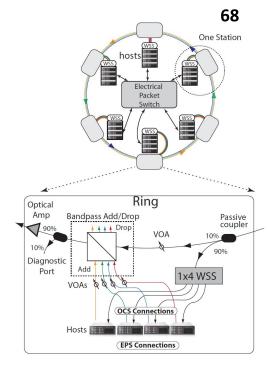
- What if reconfiguration time goes
  - from milliseconds
  - to microseconds?



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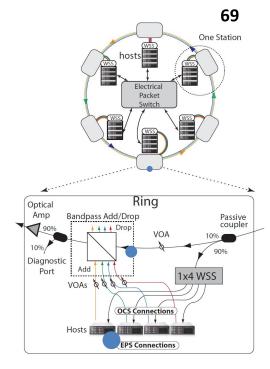


Can't really compute well at microsecond scale?

(Porter et al., SIGCOMM 2014)

Back to the throughput objective

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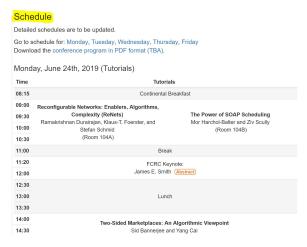


Can't really compute well at microsecond scale?

Extended to multi-ring in Megaswitch (Chen et al., NSDI 2017)

(Porter et al., SIGCOMM 2014)

- Key idea:
  - Instead of a single reconfiguration...
  - ... compute a traffic matrix schedule (TMS)!

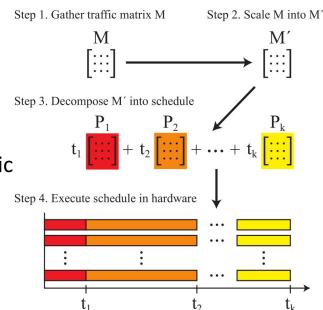


(Porter et al., SIGCOMM 2014)

- Traffic Matrix Scheduling
  - Look at all possible matchings
  - How much time to spend in each?

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- Idea: Single-hop, ideally fully utilize all links
  - Scale matrix s.t. is admissible & doubly-stochastic
    - Use Sinkhorn's algorithm, then
    - decompose with Birkhoff von
       Neumann decomposition (~O(n²) runtime)



Step 2. Scale M into M'

#### Mordia

(Porter et al., SIGCOMM 2014)

- Traffic Matrix Scheduling
  - Look at all possible matchings
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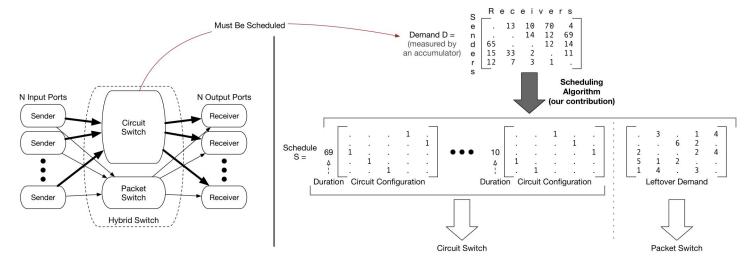
Step 1. Gather traffic matrix M Step 3. Decompose M' into schedule Step 4. Execute schedule in hardware

- Problem: Some slots extremely brief, up to O(n<sup>2</sup>) many
  - Approximate by longest first, recompute after cut-off, tail into static network

#### Solstice

(Liu et al., CoNEXT 2015)

- So far: TMS does not take static network into account
  - Also not the reconfiguration time



Network Model

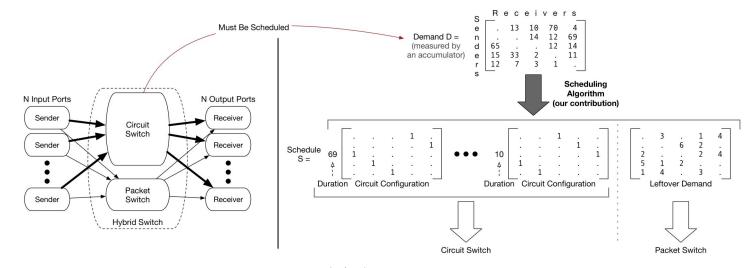
Images taken from the respective papers

Scheduling Overview

#### Solstice

(Liu et al., CoNEXT 2015)

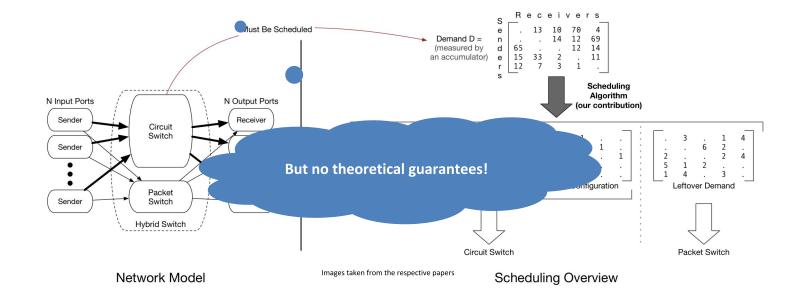
- Rough heuristic idea: Greedily schedule perfect matchings
  - Maximize minimum element in matching, repeat (outperforms BvN up to 2.9x)
    - About 14% away from optimal utilization, but runtime in ~O(n³)



### Solstice

(Liu et al., CoNEXT 2015)

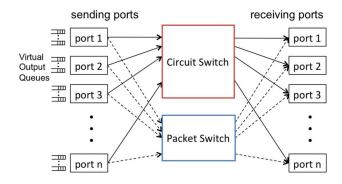
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## **Eclipse**

(Venkatakrishnan et al., SIGMETRICS 2016 / Queuing Syst. 2018)

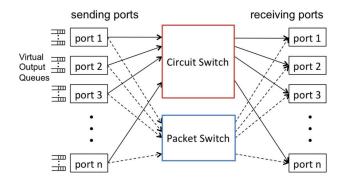
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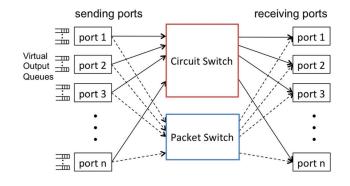
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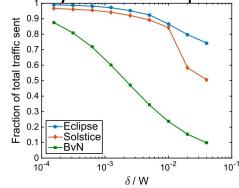
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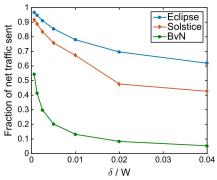
Theoretically similar computation time to Solstice, performance for window W:

Images taken from the respective papers

Sparse Skewed 100 ports



Different sparsity and skew in submatrices 200 ports

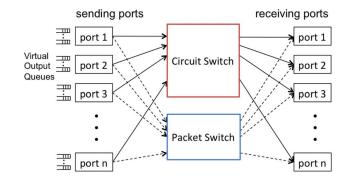


But no theoretical guarantees for multi-hop routing!

## Eclipse

ret al., SIGMETRICS 2016 / Queuing Syst. 2018)

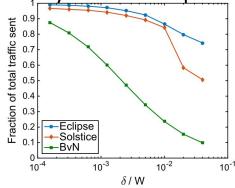
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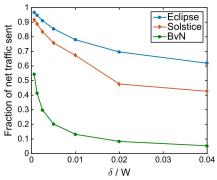
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- Trade-off: Computation time and efficiency
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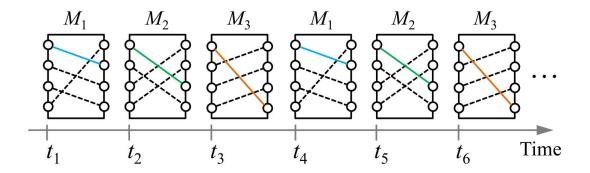
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  - E.g. ProjecToR (Ghobadi et al., 2016)
    - Next part of the tutorial
- Algorithmic idea #2: Oblivious Reconfiguration
  - Combine topology design and cyclic reconfiguration schedule

#### Rotornet

(Mellette et al., SIGCOMM 2017)

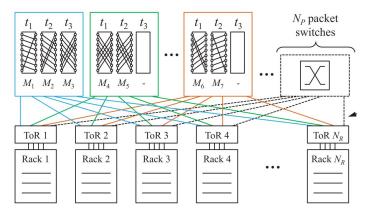
- Cycle through exponentially many matchings?
  - Observe: O(n) matchings suffice for connectivity
    - Also allows for faster and cheaper \$\mathbb{s}\$ hardware
- Provision 10%-20% as packet switching for ultra low latency traffic



#### Rotornet

(Mellette et al., SIGCOMM 2017)

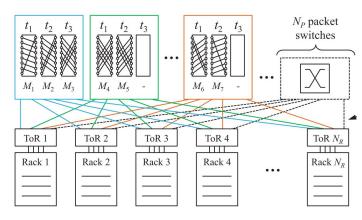
- Parallel less flexible switches to be even faster
  - Distribute matchings over rotor switches
    - E.g. 2048 racks: 16 different matchings with 128 switches
      - Reconfig in microseconds, serve traffic in O(1)ms
  - Also: No single point of failure



#### Rotornet

(Mellette et al., SIGCOMM 2017)

- For uniform traffic: great behaviour with single-hop
- For skewed traffic: leverage Valiant's routing
  - Buffer indirect traffic on per-rack basis
    - Don't hinder direct traffic: distributed offer-accept protocol



# Even More Oblivious: Static Networks

- Observation:
  - Random graphs are great for throughput via multi-hop
    - Build data centers randomly (Singla et al., Jellyfish, NSDI 2012)

## Even More Oblivious: Static Networks

Observation:

Algorithmica (2017) 78:1225-1245

DOI 10.1007/s00453-016-0269-x

- Random graphs are great for throughput via multi-hop
  - Build data centers randomly (Singla et al., Jellyfish, NSDI 2012)
- Go deterministic with Expanders:

Beyond fat-trees without antennae, mirrors, and disco-balls

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Michael Schapira Hebrew University of Jerusalem schapiram@huji.ac.il Ankit Singla ETH Zürich ankit.singla@inf.ethz.ch

SIGCOMM'17

**Explicit Expanding Expanders** 

Michael Dinitz<sup>1</sup> · Michael Schapira<sup>2</sup> · Asaf Valadarsky<sup>2</sup>

**Xpander: Towards Optimal-Performance Datacenters** 

Asaf Valadarsky\* asaf.valadarsky@mail.huji.ac.il

Gal Shahaf† gal.shahaf@mail.huji.ac.il Michael Dinitz‡ mdinitz@cs.jhu.edu

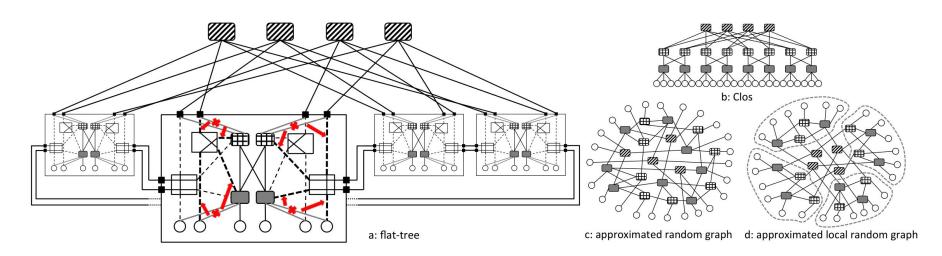
Michael Schapira\* schapiram@huji.ac.il

CoNEXT '16

#### Flat-Tree

(Xia et al, SIGCOMM 2017)

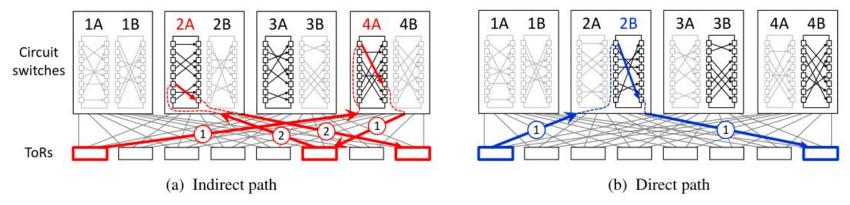
- Flat-Tree (note: not oblivious)
  - Locally convert between random graphs and Clos topologies
  - Use extremely cheap 4/6-port converter switches



## Opera

(Mellette et al, arXiv 2019)

- Extend Rotornet to cycle through Expanders
  - Delay-tolerant traffic can wait for direct connections
  - Other traffic can use the expander networks
    - Low "bandwidth tax"
  - (Valiant 2-hop routing also possible)



## Future (Algorithmic) Work Directions

- Single-hop reconfigurable "XOR" routing is sort of well-understood
  - But mixing with static network parts in general?

- Leveraging multi-hop connections?
  - Efficient heuristics exist, general theoretical framework?

- Speeding up the control plane
  - Oblivious is clearly very fast :-)
  - More distributed approaches

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#### Reconfigurable Networks: Enablers, Algorithms, Complexity

Ramakrishnan Durairajan, Klaus-Tycho Forster, Stefan Schmid

Tutorial @ ACM Sigmetrics 2019 Phoenix, Arizona, USA