OIKONOMIKO ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ



ATHENS UNIVERSITY
OF ECONOMICS
AND BUSINESS

Information-Centric Networks

Section # 2.3: Internet Evolution

Instructor: George Xylomenos

Department: Informatics





Funding

- These educational materials have been developed as part of the instructors educational tasks.
- The "Athens University of Economics and Business Open Courses" project only funded the reformatting of these educational materials.
- The project is being implemented as part of the Operational Program "Instruction and Lifelong Learning" and is cofinanced by the European Union (European Social Fund) and national funds.



Licencing

 These educational materials are subject to a Creative Commons License.



Week 2 / Paper 3

- Future Internet architecture: clean-slate versus evolutionary research
 - Jennifer Rexford, Constantine Dovrolis
 - Communications of the ACM, Volume 53 Issue 9, Sep 2010
- Main point
 - Should researchers focus on designing new architectures?
 - Point: Jennifer Rexford
 - Or should they focus on improving the current Internet
 - Counter-point: Constantine Dovrolis

Point: New network architectures

- The Internet has been hugely successful
 - A minimalist network with powerful endpoints
 - Easy to adopt new applications and link technologies
- Then why even consider clean-slate designs?
 - Evolutionary and clean-slate research are not at odds
 - Clean-slate can help guide Internet evolution
 - And maybe we do need a new Internet
 - Plant the seeds of a new network
- Towards a networking discipline
 - Networking is far from a mature field
 - We do not really understand the Internet
 - Example: the congestion collapse of 1987

Point: New network architectures

- How can we create a network science?
 - It is not enough to describe protocols
 - We need laws and rules of thumb
 - It is not enough to study today's Internet
 - We need to understand networks in general
 - Only clean-slate can allow us test different theories
 - New designs may offer solutions not feasible on the Internet
 - Clean-slate also requires experimental facilities
 - Paper designs are not enough
 - What we need is continuous network research
 - As in the early ARPANET
 - Who could think of what it would become?
 - · We should not consider the Internet as the end of networking

Point: New network architectures

- Toward an Internet worthy of our trust
 - The Internet has many obvious shortcomings
 - Pervasive security issues
 - No support for mobile hosts and countless sensors
 - Best-effort is a bad fit for IPTV
 - Reliability is much lower than in telephony
 - Some are deeply rooted in its early design decisions
 - Lack of security, coupling address and location
 - Clean-slate allows experiments in many directions
 - Some may fail, some may be added to the Internet
 - Some clean-slate ideas are already proving useful
 - OpenFlow adds programmability in the network
 - We should not assume that the Internet is the end
 - This is what telcos thought about telephony!

Counter-point: Improve the Internet

- What is evolutionary research?
 - Understand Internet behavior and identify problems
 - Resolve issues under two constraints
 - Backward compatibility
 - Incremental deployment
- Clean-slate research is not new
 - Active networks, per-flow QoS, CLNP, XCP, Nimrod
 - All have failed miserably
 - Even backwards compatible ideas have trouble
 - They were not incrementally deployable
 - IPv6, IP multicast, RSVP, IPsec, S-BGP
 - Evolutionary ideas are adopted though
 - · NATs, CDBs, caches, endpoint security

Counter-point: Improve the Internet

- Can emerging technologies replace entrenched ones?
 - Technical superiority is not enough
 - A valuable new service must be offered
 - Which cannot be offered by the entrenched solution
 - Only this can justify the switching cost
- So clean-slate needs to show new applications
 - The "security" promises do not seem realistic
 - A new network will probably be buggier than the Internet!
- Deployment experiments are not enough
 - It is the business issues that killed good ideas
- The Internet itself was not a clean-slate design
 - It evolved slowly from circuit switching

Counter-point: Improve the Internet

- Is the Internet really ossified?
 - The Internet Protocol is very hard to change
 - But what is so bad about this?
 - New applications are developed all the time
 - New link technologies are adopted all the time
 - Would these be possible with an evolving IP?
- An agenda for evolutionary Internet research
 - Measure and understand the Internet ecosystem
 - Mutate the design to avoid future problems
 - We need more monitoring and measurement infrastructure
 - We need an experimental wide area ISP
 - A lot has been achieved within the Internet framework.
 - · Congestion control, queue management, traffic characterization

OIKONOMIKO ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ



ATHENS UNIVERSITY
OF ECONOMICS
AND BUSINESS

End of Section #2.3

Course: Information-Centric Networks, Section # 2.3: Internet Evolution

Instructor: George Xylomenos, **Department:** Informatics



