
MobilityFirst Architecture and Security Analysis


Arun Venkataramani

University of Massachusetts Amherst

MobilityFirst architectural components

- Name resolution
- Routing
- Transport

- Context-awareness
- Management plane
- Computing layer

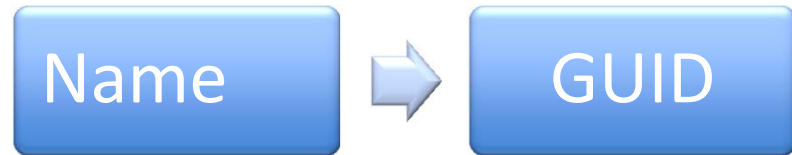


Standard components of a network stack, but better refactoring in MobilityFirst

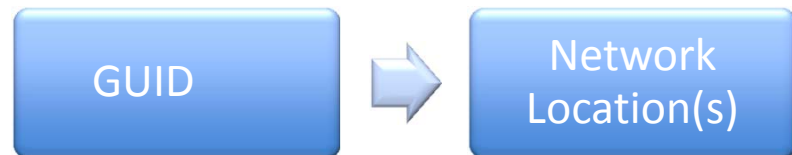
Global name resolution service (GNRS)

■ Functions

- Name certification



- Location resolution



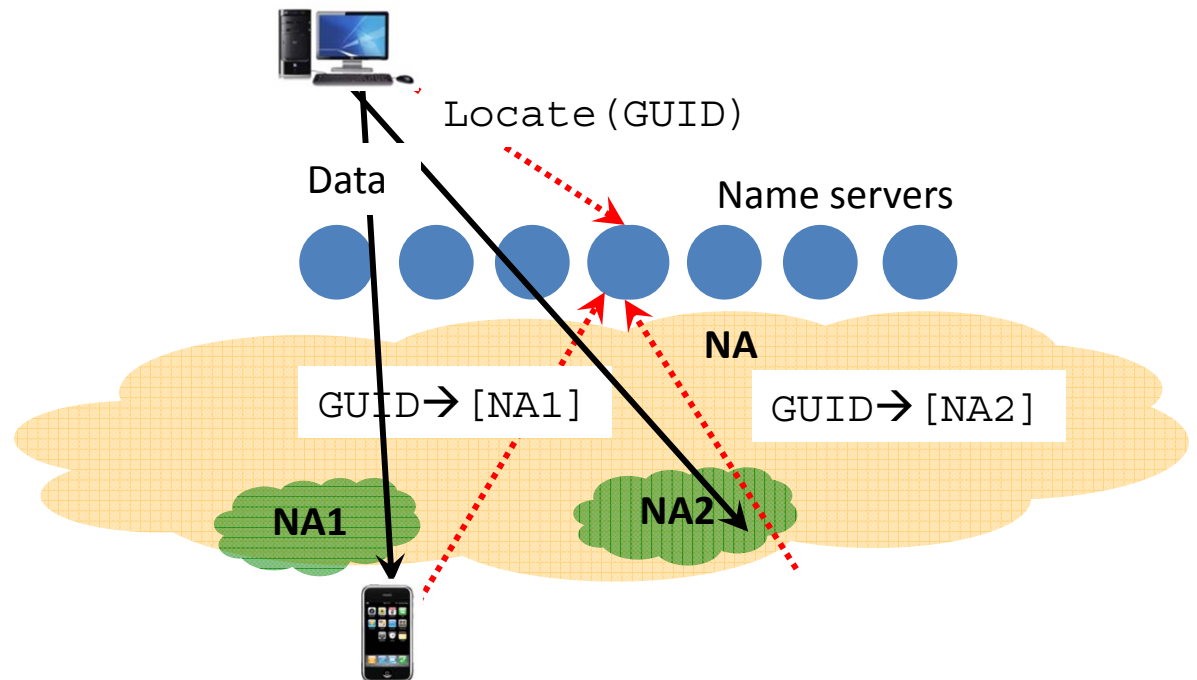
- Content retrieval

Global name resolution service (GNRS)

- Design metrics
 - Fast
 - Scalable
 - Fault-tolerant
 - Secure
 - Privacy-aware

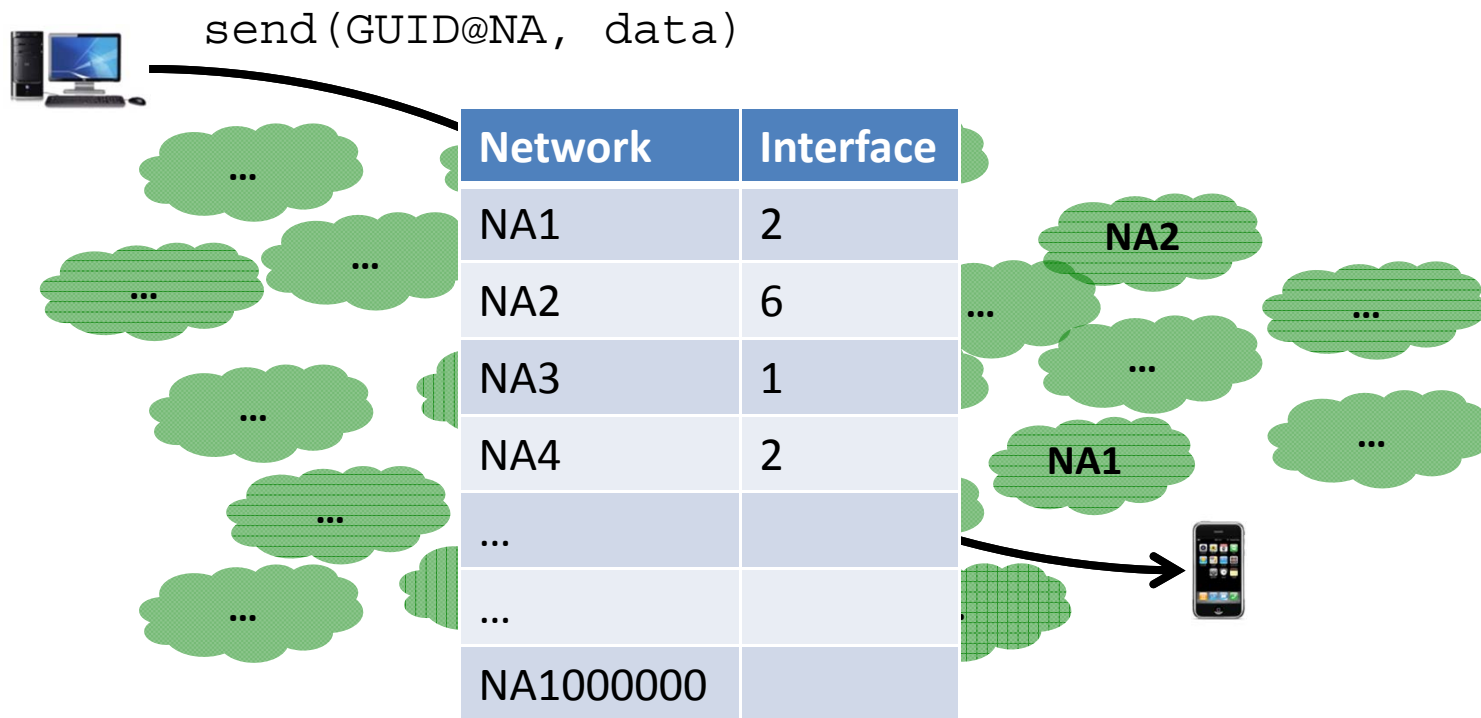
Location Service: **Scale to billions of mobiles**

- **Function:** Resolve GUID \rightarrow [NA₁, NA₂,...]
- **Target scale:** 10B devices moving across 100 networks/day \Leftrightarrow 10M updates/sec



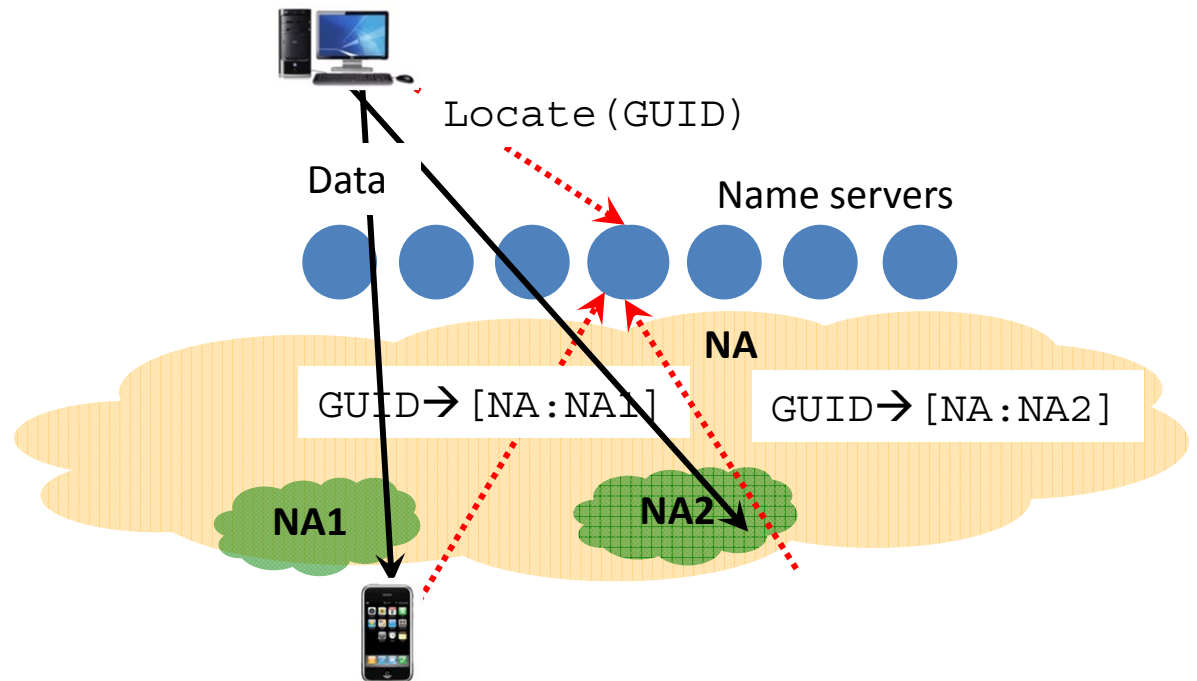
Routing: Scale to millions of networks (1)

- **Function:** Route to GUID@NA
- **Scale:** Millions of NA's \Leftrightarrow huge forwarding tables



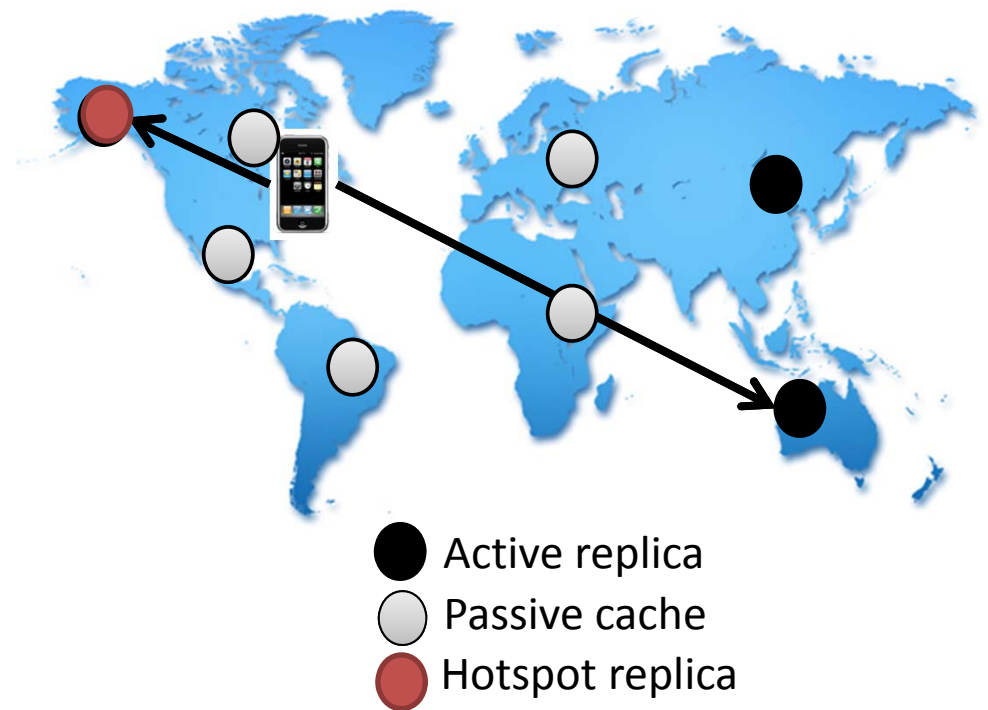
Routing: Scale to millions of networks (2)

- **Function:** Route to GUID@NA scalably
- **Approach:** Leverage natural hierarchy in networks



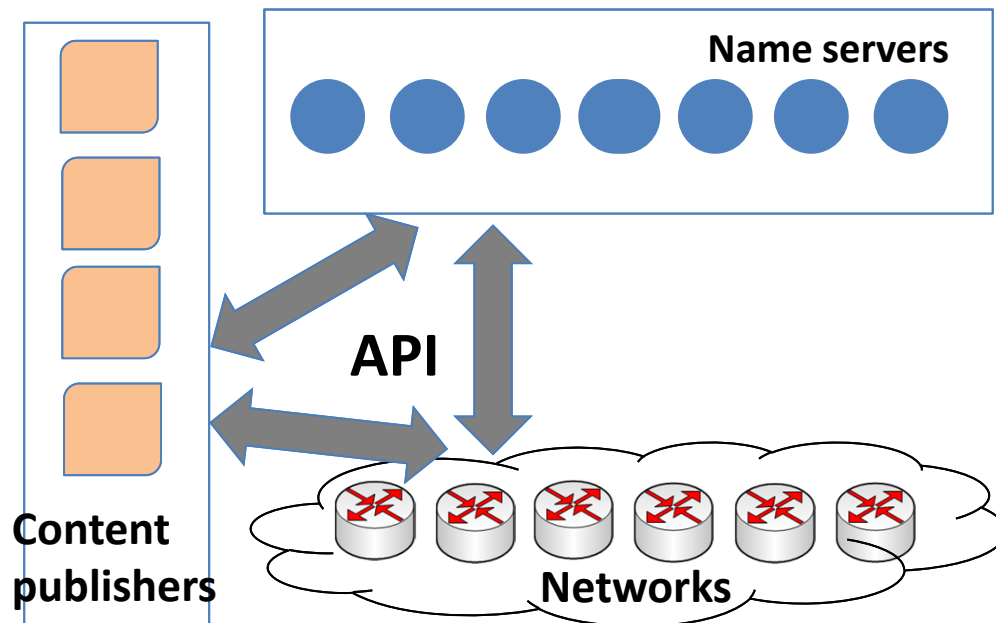
Location Service: Mechanisms and tradeoffs

1. Consistent hashing
 - + Load balance, fault-tolerance
 - Proximity
2. Active replication
 - + Proximity
 - Update bandwidth
3. Passive Caching
 - + Proximity
 - Staleness



Location Service for content retrieval

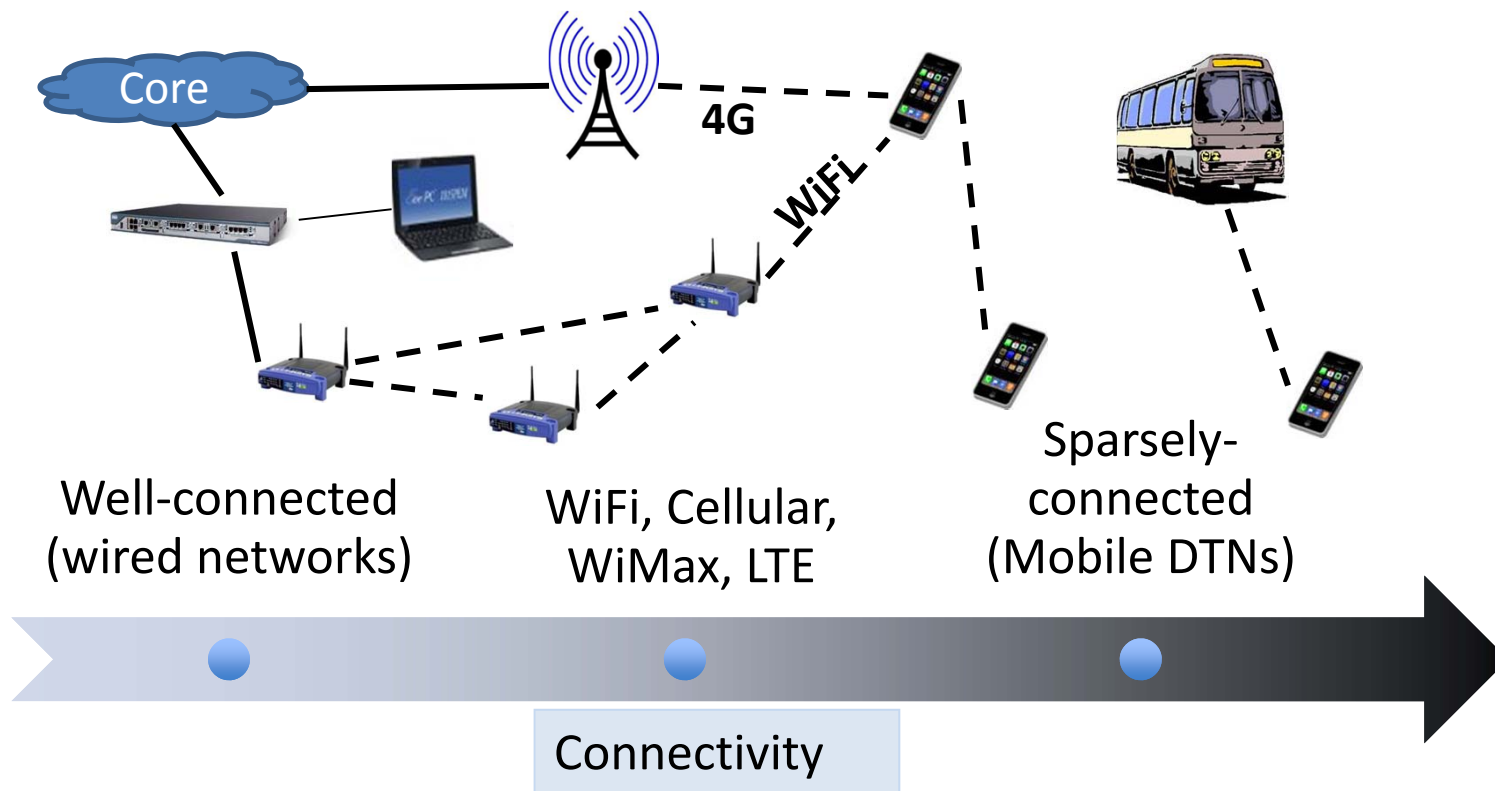
- **Function:** Resolve **GUID** \rightarrow $[NA_1, NA_2, ..]$, where NA_i 's are locations where GUID is cached or can be authoritatively tracked
- **API design challenges:**
 1. Proximate content retrieval
 2. Storage-aware routing and traffic engineering
 3. Customizing and tracking consumed content



Routing

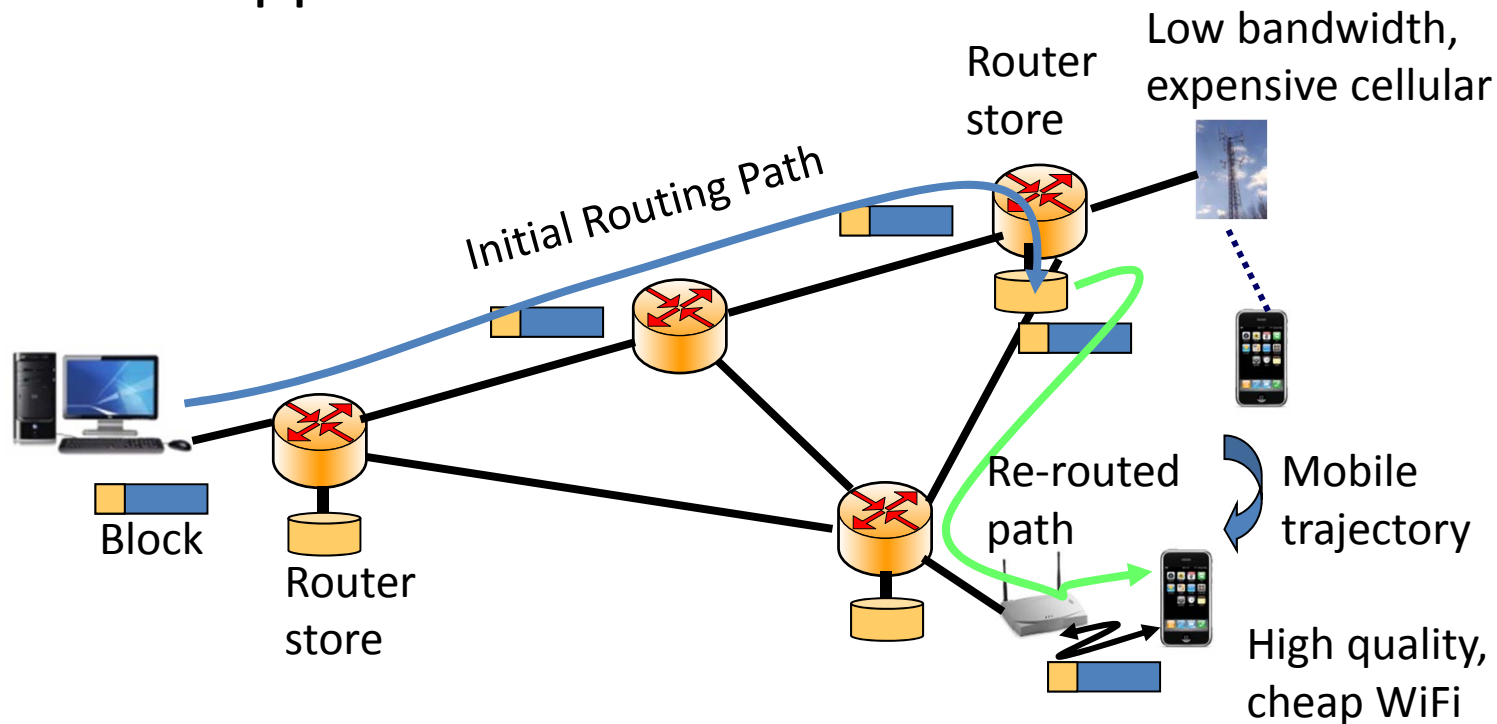
Routing mechanisms (1)

- Robust to connectivity and technology diversity
 - Uncertainty-driven metrics + self-adaptive replication

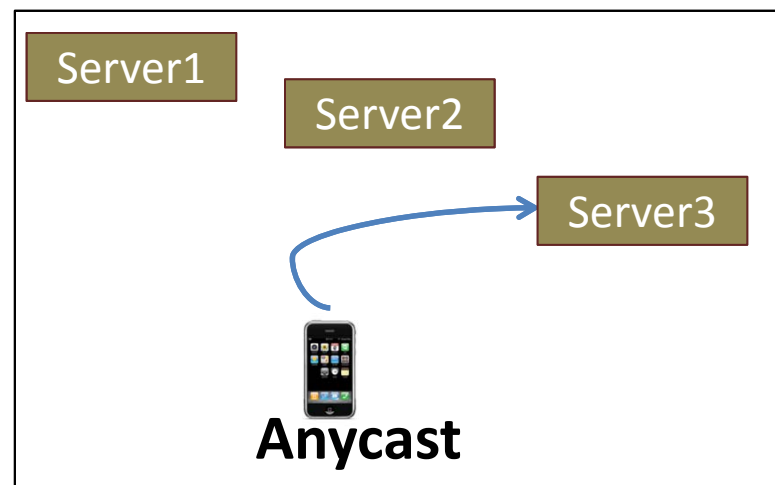
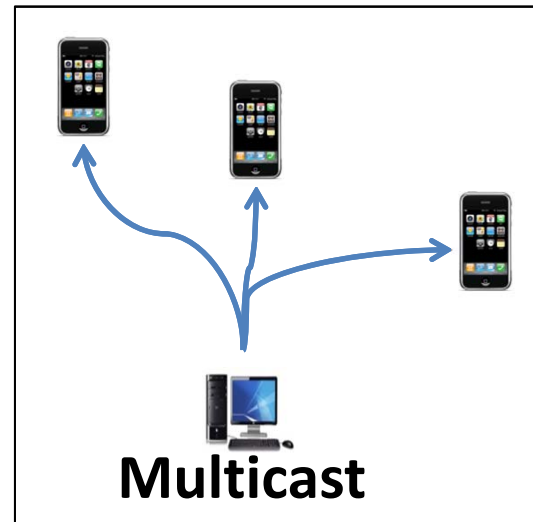
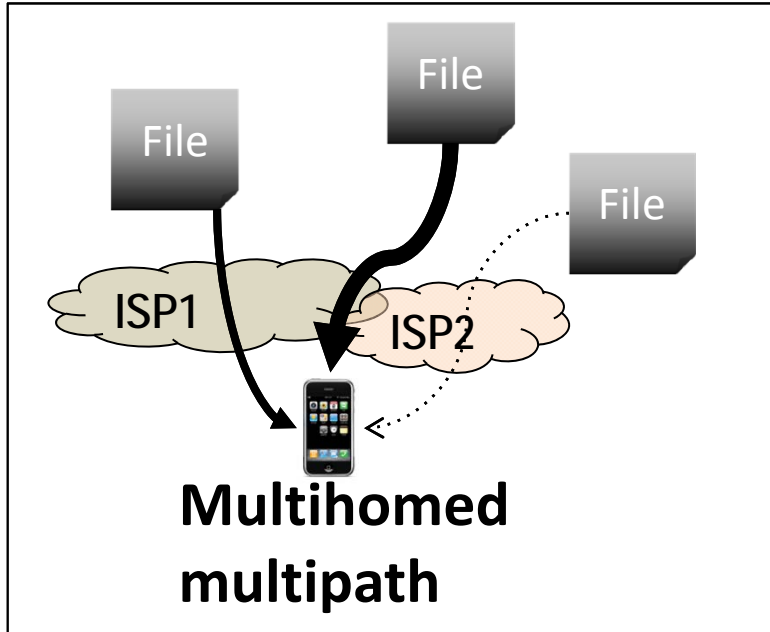


Routing mechanisms (2)

- Storage-aware routing
 - Deferred delivery
 - Opportunistic retrieval

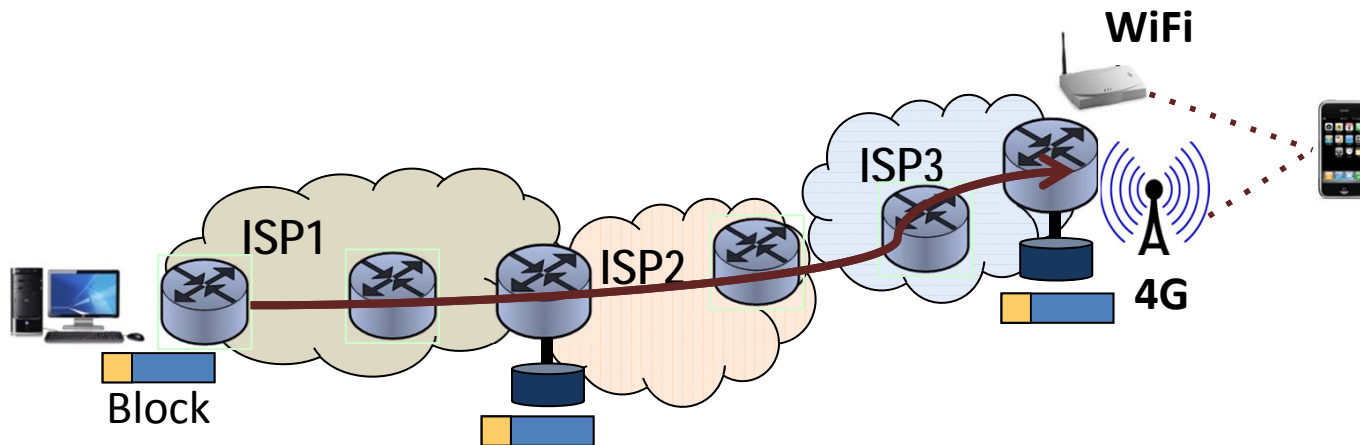


Routing mechanisms (3)



Segmented transport design

- Storage at segment (contiguous sequence of links) boundaries
- Unit of transmission a large block (instead of small packets in E2E TCP)



Security and Privacy

Verifiable identifiers (unlike IP)

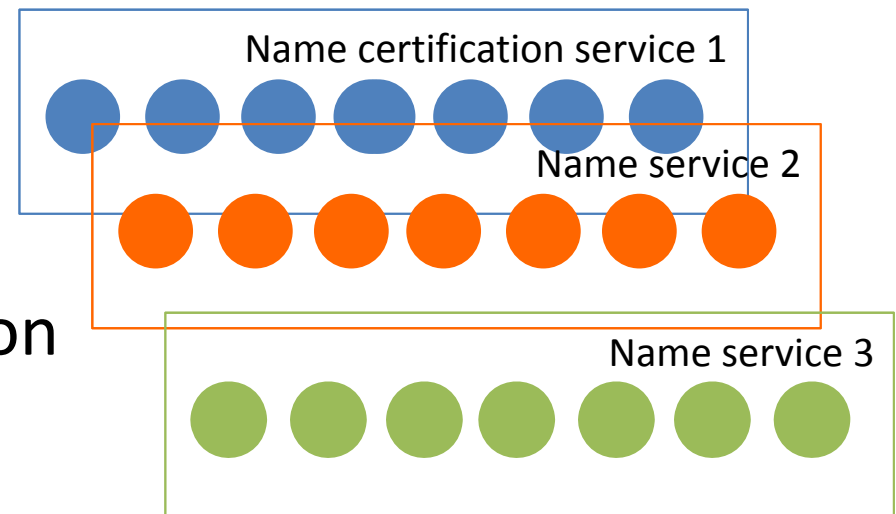
- Name certification service
 - human_readable_name → public_key
 - contextual_keywords → public_key
 - network_name → public_key

Verifiable identifiers are robust to hijacking or spoofing
unlike location-encoding IP addresses

- Network operations
 - send(GUID, <data>) or send(NA:GUID, <data>)
 - get(GUID) or get(NA:GUID)

Decentralizing trust in naming

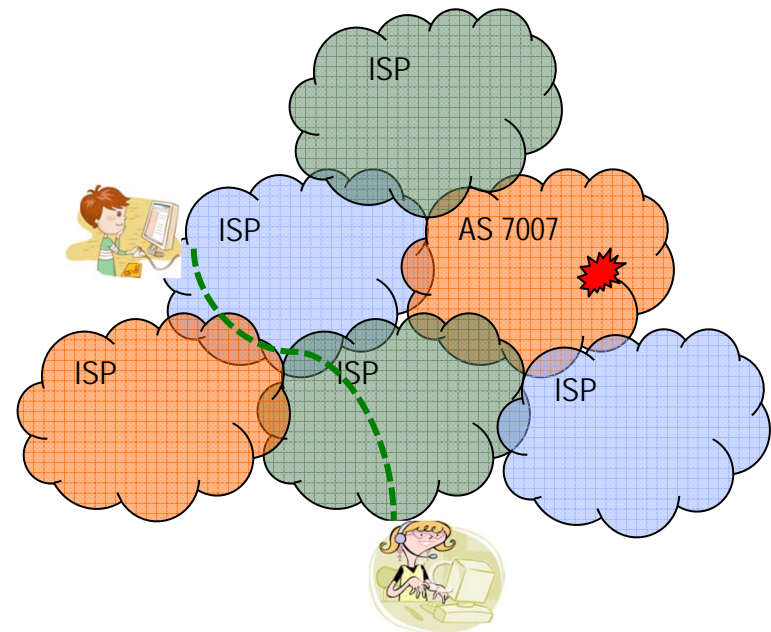
- **Goal:** No single root of trust in name certification
- **Approach:**
 - Multiple name certification service (NCS) providers
 - Many-to-many mapping from namespaces to NCSs
 - Quorum-based certification



Proportional robustness

Goal: A small number of malicious nodes must not be able to disproportionately impact network performance/availability

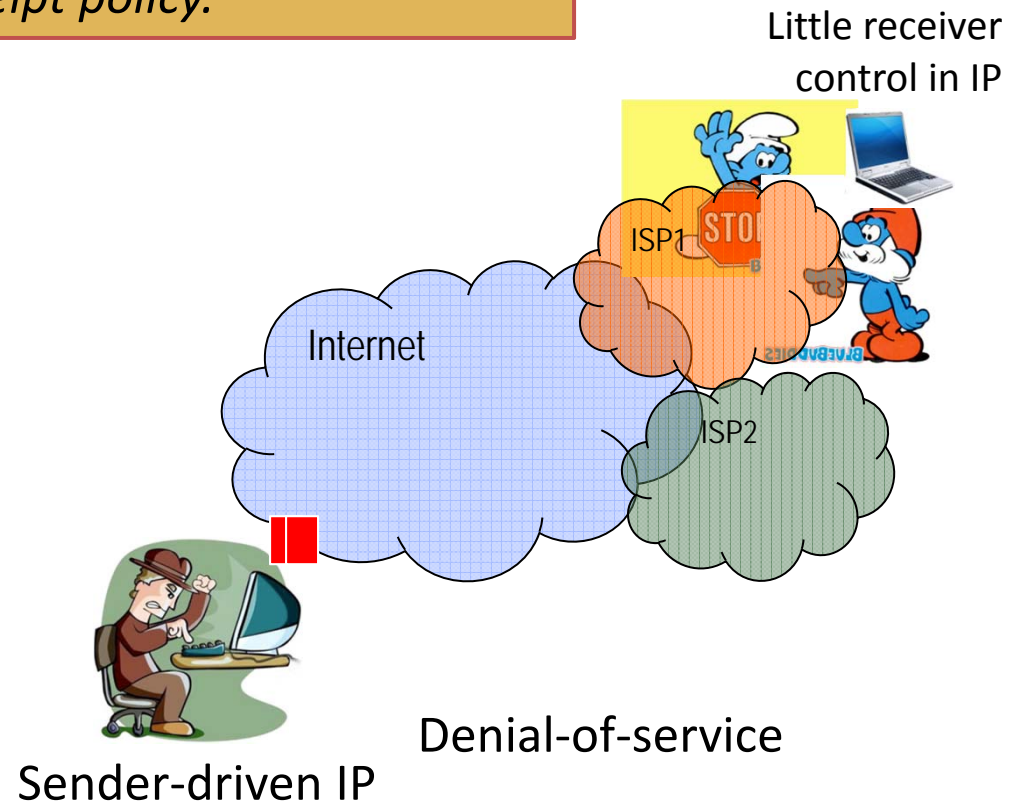
- Byzantine fault-tolerant name service
- Routing
 - Multihomed multipath
 - Disruption-tolerant
 - Storage-aware
 - Logically centralized intradomain decisions



Today, a single faulty router can render most of Internet unavailable.

Intentional data receipt

An end-host must be contactable only if the transmission is consistent with its receipt policy.



Intentional data receipt for security + privacy

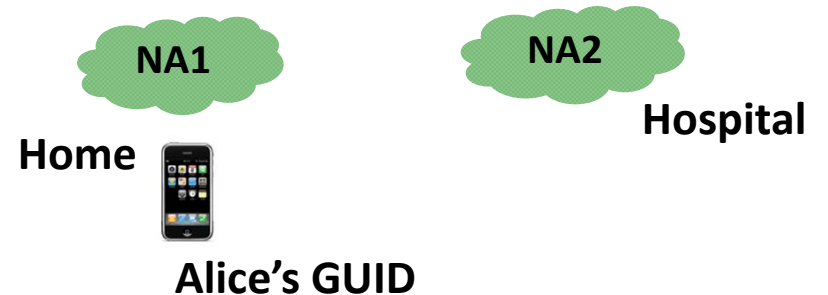
Goal: Controlling access to network location

Approaches:

- Blacklist known bad senders
- Whitelist known good senders
- Switch GUID pseudonyms

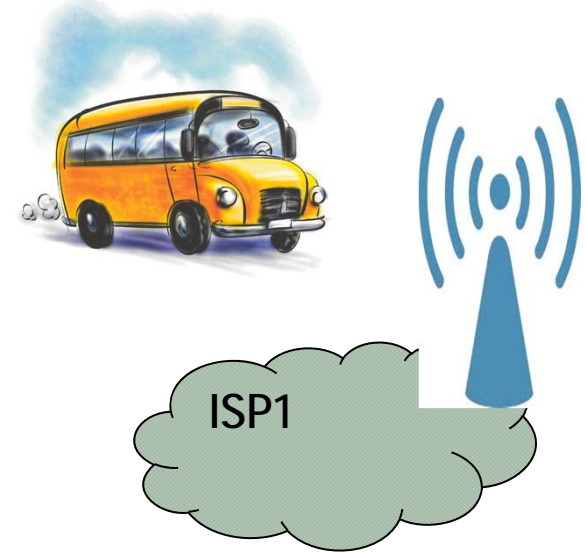


Pseudonym switching can help both security and privacy.



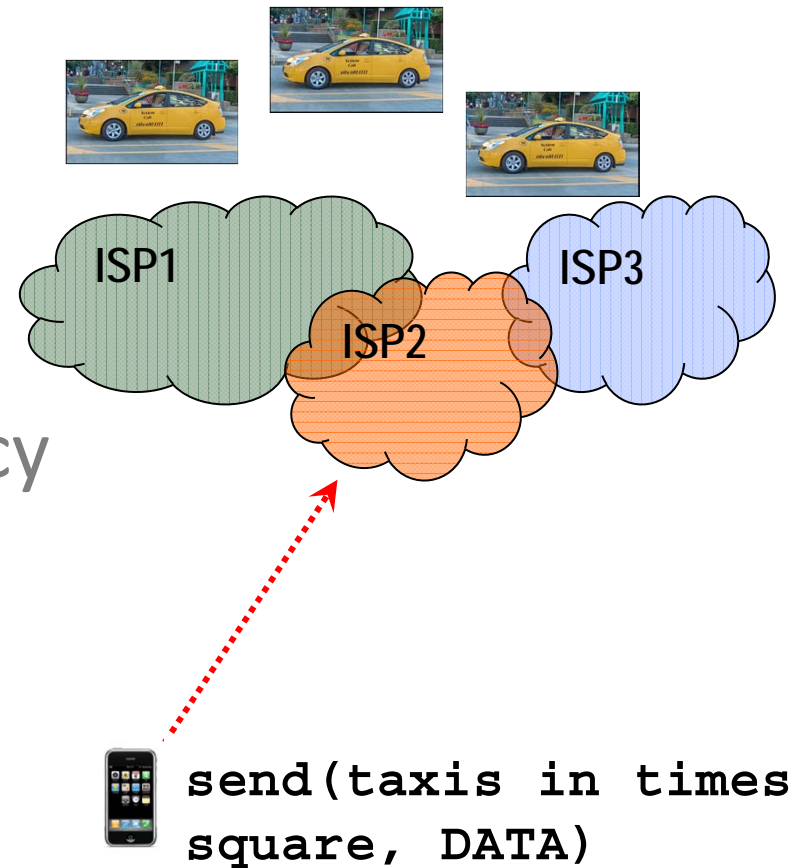
Other threats and mitigations

- **Dynamic peering with unknown mobile network**
 - **Trust management service**
- Ensuring fair resource allocation with multicast
- Balancing utility and privacy in context-aware services



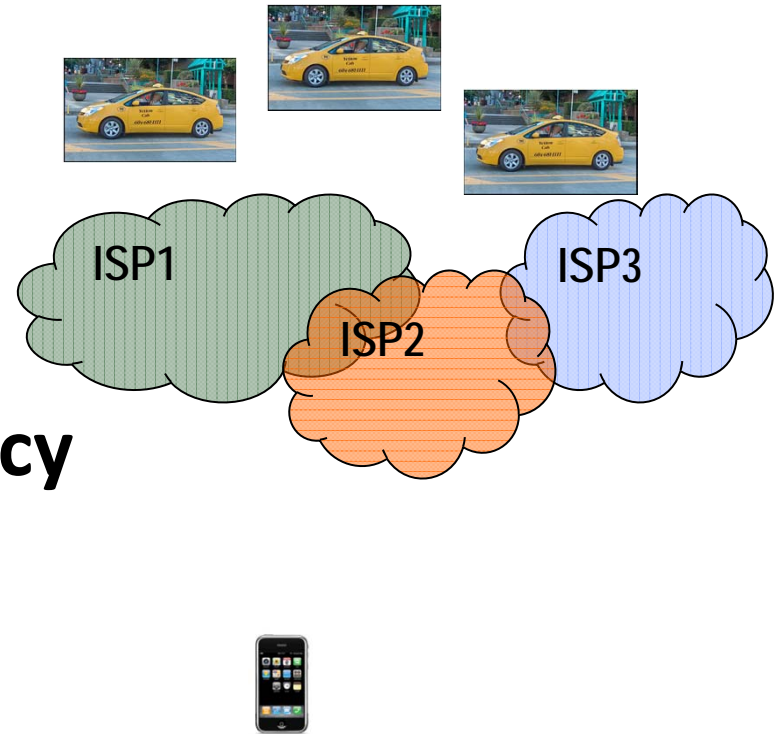
Other threats and mitigations

- Dynamic peering with unknown mobile network
- **Ensuring fair resource allocation with multicast**
- Balancing utility and privacy in context-aware services



Other threats and mitigations

- Dynamic peering with unknown mobile network
- Ensuring fair resource allocation with multicast
- **Balancing utility and privacy in context-aware services**

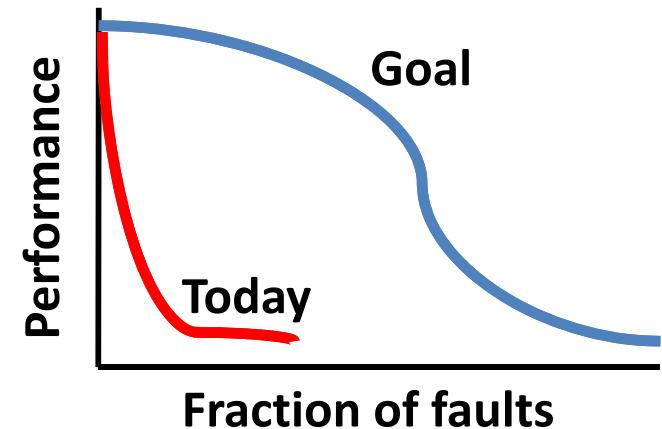


Summary

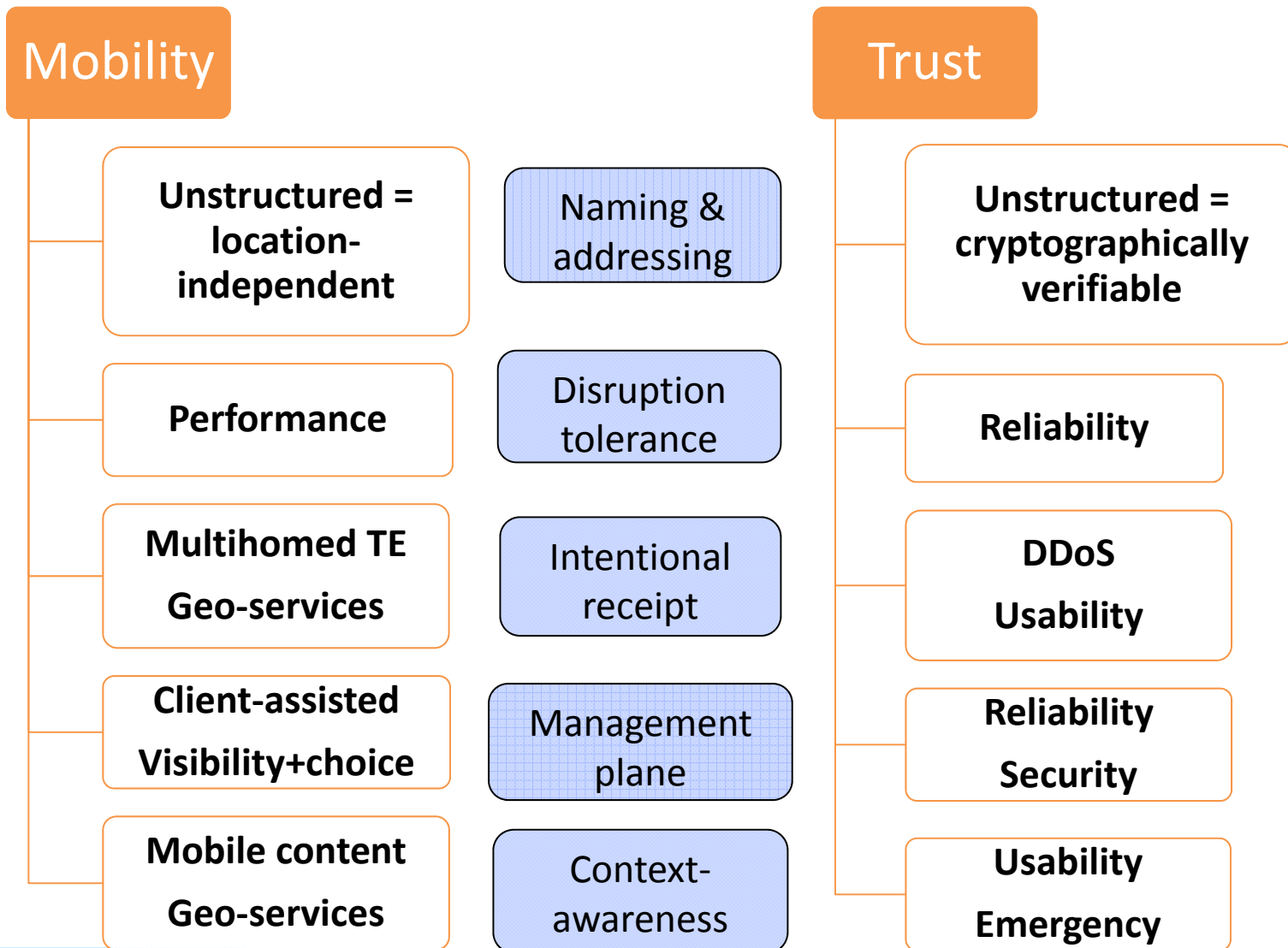
- Mobility and security synergistic – mechanisms for one improve other, e.g.,
 - Unstructured names
 - Disruption-tolerance
 - Intentional/context-aware receipt
 - Management plane
- Design, evaluation, re-design cycle ongoing

Summary

- Designing for mobility also improves trust
- Key challenge is performance security
 - Ensuring graceful performance/availability degradation with malicious node presence
- Logically centralized decision making is easier to secure



Mobility = Trust



MobilityFirst Design Goals

1. Host + network mobility

2. No global root of trust

3. Intentional data receipt

4. Proportional robustness

5. Content addressability

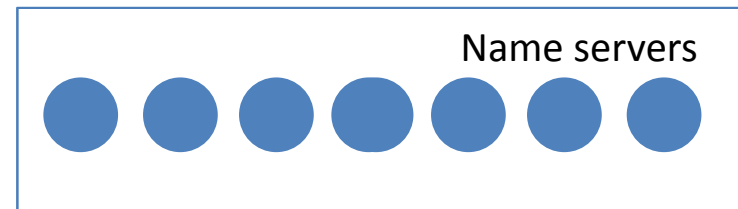
6. Evolvable network

Location Service: Scalability to billions of mobiles

- **Function:** Resolve GUID \rightarrow $[NA_1, NA_2, \dots]$
- **Scale:** 10B devices, 100 networks/day \leftrightarrow 10M/sec

- **Metrics:**

1. Query/Update delay (<50ms)
2. Response staleness (<500ms)
3. Load balance
4. Fault tolerance

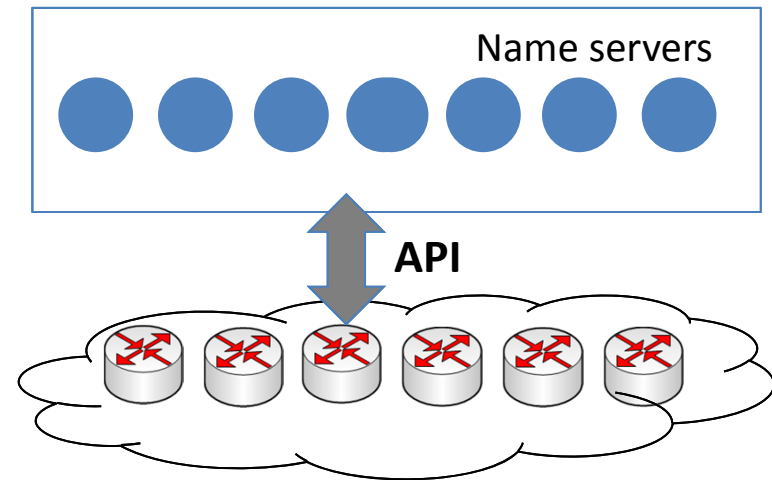


Location Service: Scalability to billions of mobiles

- **Function:** Resolve Host \rightarrow $[NA_1, NA_2, \dots]$
- **Scale:** 10B devices, 100 networks/day \leftrightarrow 10M/sec

- **Design issues:**

1. In-situ routing deflection (?)
2. Structured local scope IDs (?)
3. Network anycast to root servers
4. Context-based addressing



Proportional robustness (1)

Goal: A small number of malicious nodes must not be able to disproportionately impact network performance/availability

Approach for naming:

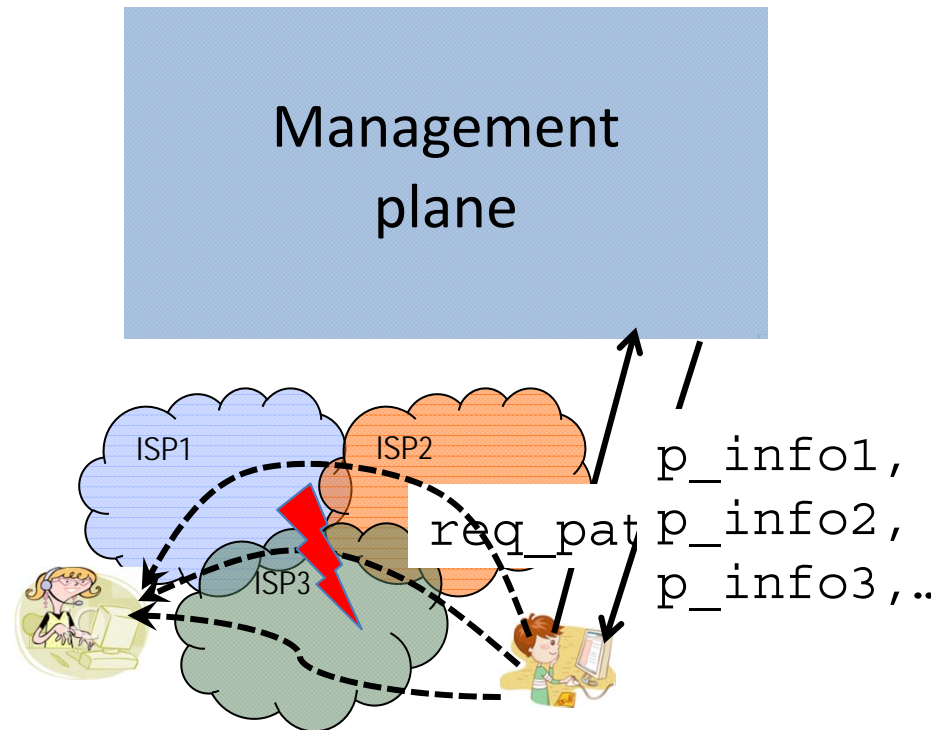
- ❑ Byzantine-fault tolerant (BFT) name certification and location service
- ❑ BFT both within and across name service providers

Proportional robustness (2)

Goal: A small number of malicious nodes must not be able to disproportionately impact network performance/availability

Approach for routing:

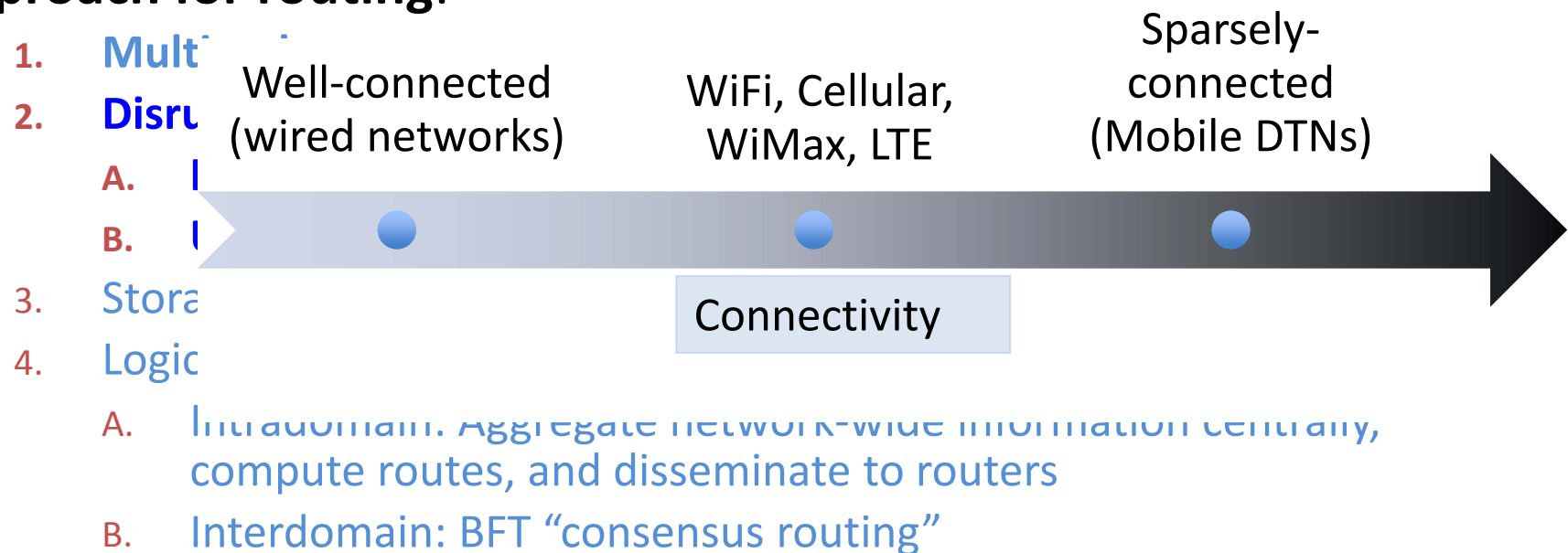
1. **Multipath routing and congestion control**
2. Disruption-tolerance
3. Storage-aware routing
4. Logically centralizing decisions with network-wide impact
 - A. Intradomain: Aggregate network-wide information centrally, compute routes, and disseminate to routers
 - B. Interdomain: BFT “consensus routing”



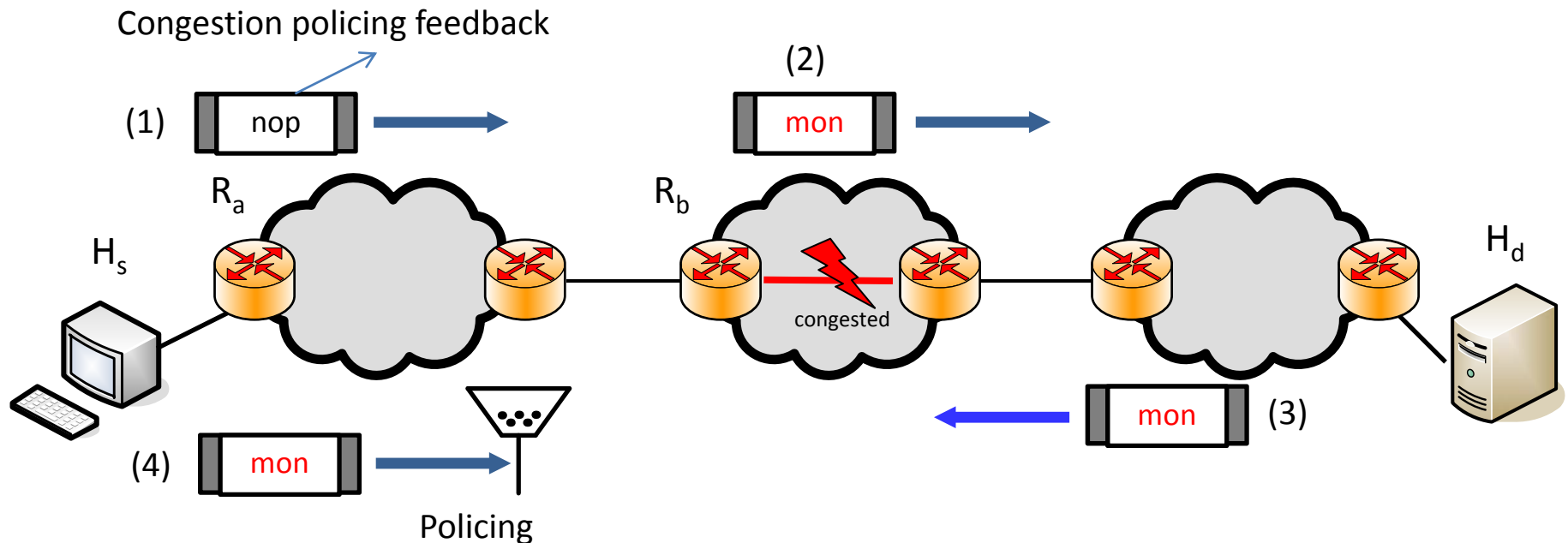
Proportional robustness (2)

Goal: A small number of malicious nodes must not be able to disproportionately impact network performance/availability

Approach for routing:



Intentional receipt for DDoS



Goal: Scalable fair resource allocation under DDoS

Approach:

- Packets carry unspoofable congestion policing feedback
- Congested routers use pair-wise keys for congestion policing feedback that receivers use as capability tokens
- Access routers police senders' traffic to guarantee per-sender fairness without per-sender queues