

# Survey on Controller Placement Problem in Software Defined Network

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# Overview

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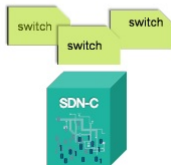
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# Introduction

- Software Defined Networking: emerging network architecture
- Separates control plane from data plane
- Control plane provides a global view and is programmable



Traditional network



SDN

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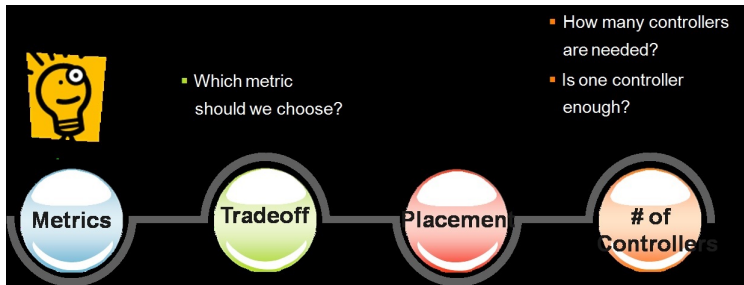
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# Controller Placement Problem

- How many controllers are needed?
- Where in the topology should they go?



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# Controller Placement Problem Solving Methods

Brandon Heller, Rob Sherwood, Nick McKeown, *The Controller Placement Problem* 2012

- First paper about controller placement
- Placement Metric: Propagation latency between controller and switch
- Similar to facility location problem

- Average case Latency

$$L_{avg}(p) = \frac{1}{|V|} \sum \min_{p \in P} d_{v,p}$$

- Worst case Latency

$$L_{worst}(p) = \max_{v \in V} \min_{p \in P} d_{v,p}$$



# K- Median Algorithm

- Identify the shortest link  $d(i; j)$
- Selecting node  $k$  as a candidate to become a controller,  $k = i; j$ , which minimizes the  $L_{avg}$
- Create a cluster by joining nodes  $v$  for which  $d(k; v) \leq D_{req}$  to the selected node  $k$ .
- If a node  $n \neq k$  exists that minimizes the  $L_{avg}$ , it is selected as a controller and the cluster is updated. Otherwise, the node  $k$  is selected as a controller.
- After that, the algorithm finds the nearest node to the cluster, repeating the process.
- This algorithm finishes when all nodes are included in a cluster.

# K- Center Algorithm

- Select randomly a node  $k$  in the network
- Create a cluster with all nodes for which  $d(k; v) \leq D_{req}$
- If there exists a node  $n$  in the cluster that minimizes the delay to the nodes, it is selected as a controller and the cluster is updated. Otherwise, the node  $k$  is selected as a controller.
- Find the furthest node on average to the cluster
- Repeating the process until all nodes are included in a cluster

# Controller Placement Problem Solving Methods

Guang Yao, Jun Bi, Yuliang Li, and Luyi Guo: *On the Capacitated Controller Placement Problem in Software Defined Networks*

- This paper considered load on controllers along with latency
- Capacitated controller placement problem
- Why should we consider load??
  - Server capacity limitation
  - Latency of message processing
  - Failure
- Capacitated K-center algorithm can be used for controller placement

# Controller Placement Problem Solving Methods

David Hock, Matthias Hartmann, Steffen Gebert, Michael Jarschel, Thomas Zinner, Phuoc Tran-Gia: *Pareto-Optimal Resilient Controller Placement in SDN-based Core Networks*

This paper extended controller placement analysis to include different resilience aspects that are important in the context of SDN Resiliency metrics

- Controller Failures
- Inter-Controller Latency
- Load Imbalance

# Controller Placement Problem Solving Methods

- **Resiliency Metrics**

- Inter-Controller Latency

- Worst case latency between controllers

$$\pi^{Latency-worst-C2C}(P) = \max_{p_1, p_2 \in P} d_{p_1, p_2}$$

- Average case latency between switch and controller

$$\pi^{Latency-avg-C2C}(P) = \frac{1}{|P|} \sum d_{p_1, p_2}$$

- Load Imbalance

$$\pi^{Imbalance}(P) = \max_{p \in P} n_p - \min_{p \in P} n_p$$

- Multiple objectives

- Solution: Pareto optimization

# Controller Placement Problem Solving Methods

Stanislav Lange, Steffen Gebert, Thomas Zinner, Phuoc Tran-Gia: *Heuristic Approaches to the Controller Placement Problem in Large Scale SDN Networks*

- Multiple objectives
- no single best placement is available
- need to find a balanced trade-off
- Pareto optimal placement performs an exhaustive evaluation of all possible placements
- Heuristic methods are used

# Controller Placement Problem Solving Methods

A. Jalili, V. Ahmadi, M. Keshtgari and M. Kazemi: *Controller placement in software-defined WAN using multi objective genetic algorithm*

- Multiobjective combinatorial problem
- Uses NSGA II: approximation of pareto

# Controller Placement Problem Solving Methods

Guodong Wang, Yanxiao Zhao, Jun Huang, Qiang Duan, Jun Li:  
*A K-means-based Network Partition Algorithm for Controller Placement in Software Defined Network*

- Uses network partition to simplify controller placement problem
- For Network partition, K-means clustering algorithm is used



# Controller Placement Problem Solving Methods

Peng Xiao, Wenyu Qu, Heng Qi , Zhiyang Li, Yujie Xu: *The SDN Controller Placement Problem for WAN*

- Spectral clustering algorithm is used

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# Conclusion

- K- center approach can be used only when latency is considered. It can not be used for multi objective controller placement.
- Pareto optimization gives an optimal multi objective controller placement. But for large networks exhaustive evaluation is needed and it takes more computational time and memory
- So heuristic methods are used for multi objective controller placement. Even though they give solution faster and the need less memory, the solution not accurate. It gives an approximate solution.
- To simplify controller placement, network partition can be used. K- Means clustering can be used for network partition.
- But none of the above approaches give a proper controller placement in the perceptive of load balancing, scalability, and optimal number of controllers.

# Thank you!