





IETF 117 side meeting

Transport Protocol Performance over Deployed Satellite Systems

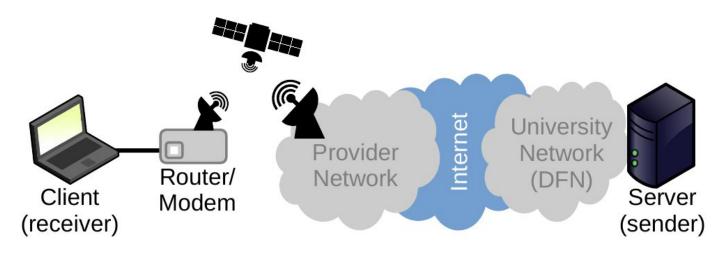
July 26, 2023

Hystart Experiments using Linux over commercial satellite systems

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Setup

- Initiate {TCP,QUIC} connection
- Focus on Forward Link (Internet to user terminal)
- Measure when HyStart(++) exits



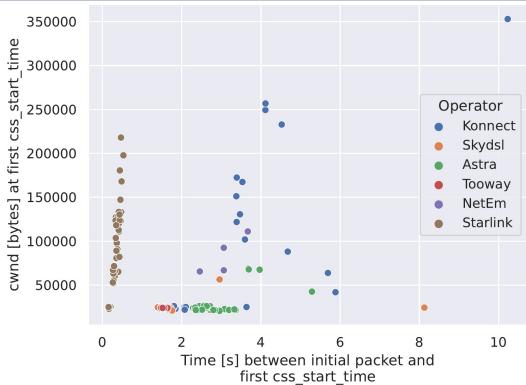
For GEO satellite links, PEPs are disabled by using Wireguard

Network operators



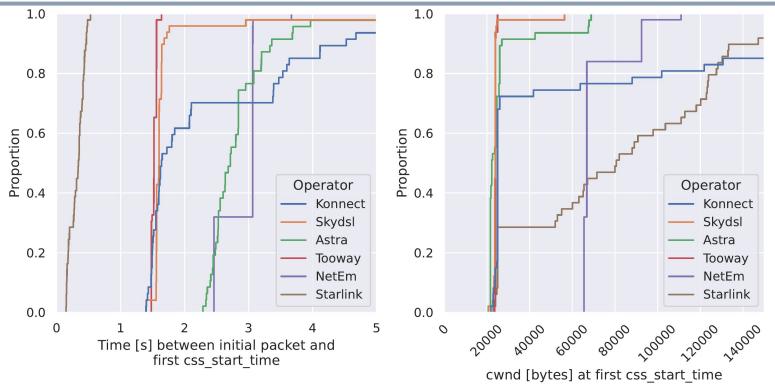
Provider SLA	FL [Mbit/s]	RL [Mbit/s]	RTT [ms]	BDP FL [Mbyte]
Konnect Zen (Eutelsat Konnect) 7.2° East	50	5	~600	~3.75
skyDSL2+ (Eutelsat KA-SAT) 9° East	50	6	~600	~3.75
Novostream Astra Connect L+ (Astra) 28.2° East	20	2	~600	~1.5
Bigblu Konnect Bronze DE (Eutelsat KA-SAT) 9° East	16	3	~600	~1.2
NetEm	50	50	600	3.75
SpaceX Starlink	1300	140	~20 ~80	≨ 3

QUIC Quiche HyStart++



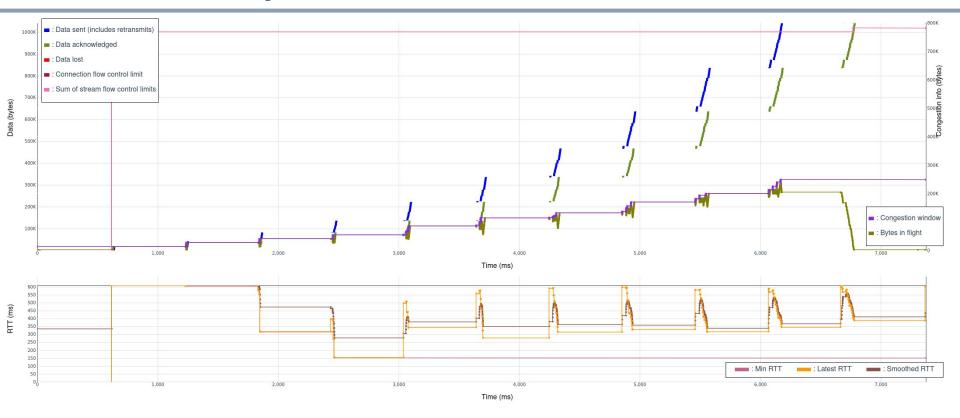
- https://github.com/cloudflare/quiche commit 9bbccd5 (July 22, 2023)
- Time until CSS is initially entered (css start time)

QUIC Quiche HyStart++



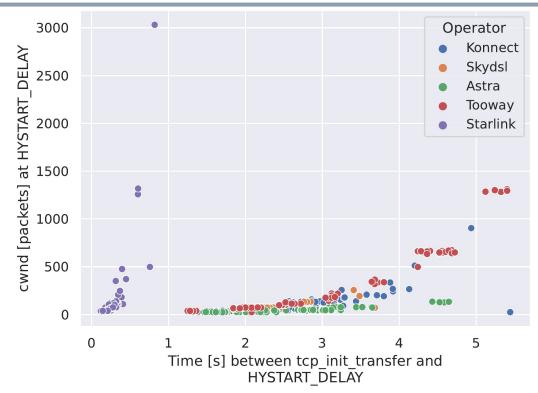
- https://github.com/cloudflare/quiche commit 9bbccd5 (July 22, 2023)
- Time until CSS is initially entered (css_start_time)

QUIC Quiche HyStart++



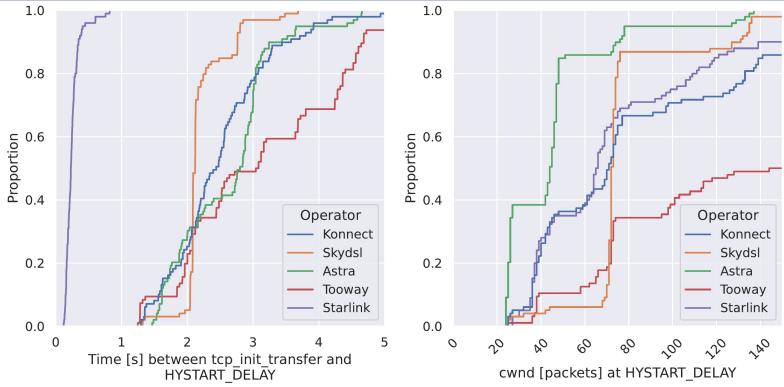
Quiche has RTTs << 600ms in log file, why?

Linux TCP HyStart



- Ubuntu 22.04, updated Kernel 6.4.6 with printk() tracing
- Time from handshake until LINUX MIB TCPHYSTARTDELAYDETECT

Linux TCP HyStart



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Linux TCP HyStart – older measurements

Evaluation based on

https://www.kernel.org/doc/html/latest/networking/snmp_counter.html#tcp-hybrid-slow-start

TCP Hybrid Slow Start

The Hybrid Slow Start algorithm is an enhancement of the traditional TCP congestion window Slow Start algorithm. It uses two pieces of information to detect whether the max bandwidth of the TCP path is approached. The two pieces of information are ACK train length and increase in packet delay. For detail information, please refer the Hybrid Slow Start paper. Either ACK train length or packet delay hits a specific threshold, the congestion control algorithm will come into the Congestion Avoidance state. Until v4.20, two congestion control algorithms are using Hybrid Slow Start, they are cubic (the default congestion control algorithm) and cdg. Four snmp counters relate with the Hybrid Slow Start algorithm.

• TcpExtTCPHystartTrainDetect

How many times the ACK train length threshold is detected

• TcpExtTCPHystartTrainCwnd

The sum of CWND detected by ACK train length. Dividing this value by TcpExtTCPHystartTrainDetect is the average CWND which detected by the ACK train length.

• TcpExtTCPHystartDelayDetect

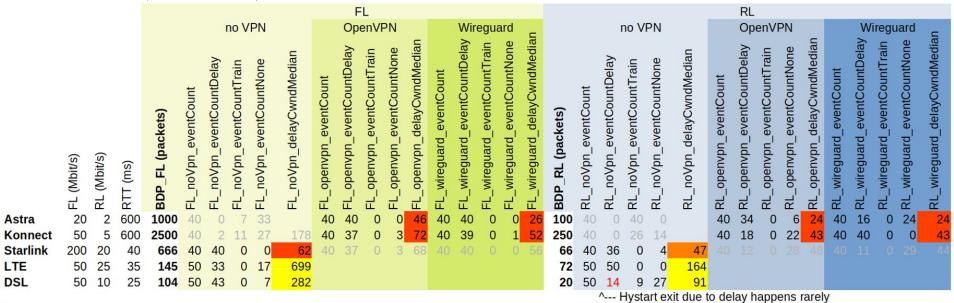
How many times the packet delay threshold is detected.

TcpExtTCPHystartDelayCwnd

The sum of CWND detected by packet delay. Dividing this value by TcpExtTCPHystartDelayDetect is the average CWND which detected by the packet delay.

Linux TCP HyStart – older measurements

- Forward Link / Return Link, OpenVPN / Wireguard
- 2x GEO, 1x LEO, 2x terrestrial



Legend

Hystart exit too early
Hystart exit slightly too early
Hystart overshoot

Issues and related work

- Measurements indicate that HyStart(++) exits too early for satellite paths
 - Not surprising, delay variation is high
- So far: Evaluation when HyStart(++) exits initially
 - Evaluate RTTs to understand why HyStart(++) exits
 - Parameter tuning?
 - Benefit of CSS?
 How often continuation with normal slow start vs. congestion avoidance?

Literature

- Maryam Ataei Kachooei, Pinhan Zhao, Feng Li, Jae Won Chung, and Mark Claypool Fixing TCP Slow Start for Slow Fat Links, October 2022 https://web.cs.wpi.edu/~claypool/papers/tcp-best-netdev-22/
- Philipp Bruhn, Mirja Kühlewind, Maciej Muehleisen
 Performance and improvements of TCP CUBIC in low-delay cellular networks, April 2023
 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.comnet.2023.109609