

Job2P: Job Scheduling APIs for Wi-Fi Peer-to-peer Mobile Network

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Abstract—These days, along with the rapid revolution of mobile device industry, software is also being built heavier and consumes more CPU performance and energy than they were in the past few years. Since the modern mobile devices support multiple connection methods like Wi-Fi, Bluetooth or NFC, the requirements of sharing the workloads and resources among the devices within a network to reduce full workload on an arbitrary device are being considered, especially in the areas Internet is not available, which can be found anywhere.

To address those limitations on mobile devices, we proposed Job2P as the Job Scheduling APIs for Android development that leverages Wi-Fi Direct to support sharing workloads and resources over peer-to-peer mobile device network, which doesn't require any Internet connections. Job2P provides a simple and straightforward API interface to get rid of sophistication of network implementation, letting developers easily create their distributed mobile applications with capability of forming closed range network. In term of workload distribution, Job2P splits task and resource into parts and packs them into the smaller units called jobs and dispatch to the peers. To distributed jobs equitably among the peers, a Decision Maker is added to decide the amount of resource the peer has to handle bases on its percentage of availability. Moreover, our APIs can handle fault tolerant for network malfunctions.

Through our experiments with image processing, text processing and GPS location, we realized that Job2P improves significant productivity in term of performance and energy consumption.

I. INTRODUCTION

These days, mobile phones have been playing a very important role in human society. People need their cellphone everyday for surfing Internet, searching for information, online shopping, communicating with friends, taking and sharing photos etc. As a result of highly intensive completions between the global mobile phone manufactures like Samsung and Apple, the cellphones are more and more equipped themselves with high specifications (CPU, RAM and built-in storage) and top functionality so that they are powerful enough in compare with those in the past or even with a desktop.

With the hardware rapid development, software is also being built more and more sophisticated in many aspects. They may occupy more space on local storage, use more memory, and thus consume more energy. Even though the software is designed to run on mobile device, its size may vary up to 1GB (like image processing or image recognizing) and memory consumption can be up to 1GB as well. Since there are possibly many heavy workloads running on a device at some points, the needs of sharing workloads among the mobile

devices is really necessary with respect to performance and energy efficiency.

Distributed computing are so far well-developed in PC or embedded networks, bringing the synthesized power of computation from multiple computers to solve a problem. Up to now, there are thousands of solutions for the developers to create a distributed computing system. For instance, the emergency of a number of message-oriented middleware like DataTurbine [1], RabbitMQ [2] or NaradaBrokering [3] lessened the effort of development for distributed applications to the minimum but still maintained all equipped functionality like data mirroring, dynamic network topology or fault tolerant. However, despite of stunning equipments, it is revealed that the most disadvantage of this kind of applications is the dependence of network connection or wireless access point. Without a network established, nothing happens.

Unlike the other PCs or wired devices, the mobile devices have their own advantage of multiple non-equivalent network capability. One of the remarkable network capability is installed on modern mobile devices are Wi-Fi Direct, which allows them to discover the others in any short distance less than 200 meters without utilizing Internet and wireless access point. No internet connections are required, and it will help the owner to connect to the devices within a closed distance. By establishing connection between the two devices to form a pair, Wi-Fi Direct can provide the simple way to dynamically initiate a peer-to-peer network. Available on Android devices from version 4.0 (which more than 96% of devices are using these days), as well as a number of Intel-featured laptops and game consoles, there is the high possibility of discovering the other mobile devices at anywhere.

To address those limitations with heavy software on mobile devices, we proposed Job2P as the Job Scheduling APIs for Android development that leverages Wi-Fi Direct to support sharing workloads and resources over peer-to-peer mobile device network, which doesn't require any Internet connections. Job2P provides a simple and straightforward API interface to get rid of sophistication of network implementation, letting developers easily create their distributed mobile applications with capability of forming closed range network. In term of workload distribution, Job2P splits task and resource into the smaller units called jobs, and dispatch to the peers. To distributed jobs equitably among the peers, a decision making module is added to decide the amount of resource the peer has

to handle bases on its percentage of availability. Moreover, our APIs can handle fault tolerant for network malfunctions.

Based on our experiments and results, our contributions are as follow

- **Simple Job Scheduling APIs** a library for developers facilitates establishing mobile peer-to-peer network.
- **Job Scheduler** for scheduling job execution and resource heterogeneity adaptation
- **Decision making module** determines the number of devices with according appropriate jobs for the remote execution bases on applied algorithm on level of availability.
- **High productivity results** our test case experiments will give the proof of APIs productivity

II. RELATED WORKS

III. APPROACH

To retrieve the goals, as well as making our APIs widely adaptive to different context and usages, our penetrating idea of design is hiding the complexity of system implementation and open to the developers the capability of customization. This below figure describes the internal architecture of a typical application utilizing our APIs to form a distributed mobile peer-to-peer system (Figure 1). Basically, our system comprises of two main components:

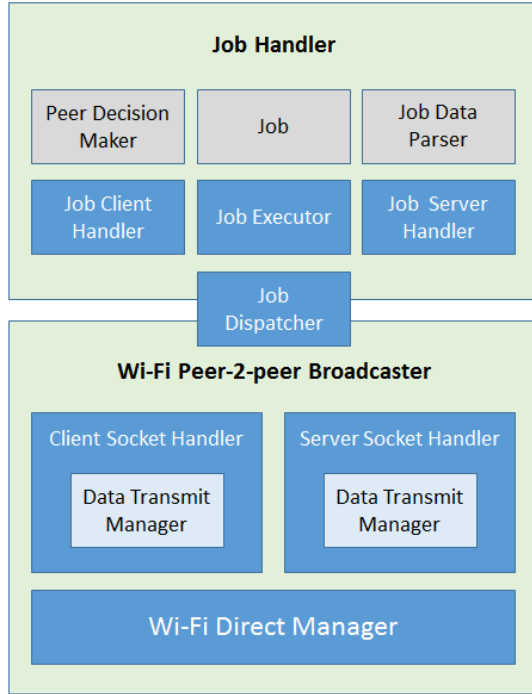


Figure 1: Architecture of a typical application implementing Job2P

- **Job Handler** in charge of splitting the task into jobs, each contains a process definition and resources, and base on making decision on conditions of peers, dispatch jobs to the appropriate peers. Moreover, it handles merging

results completed by peers by predefined splitting and merging mechanisms.

- **Wi-Fi Peer-to-peer Broadcaster** hides the details implementation and provide a simpler API interface for forming peer-to-peer network.

A. APIs for Peer-to-peer Network

To easily form up multiple pair connections between devices in the network, we utilized Wi-Fi Direct, the new feature available on Android 4.0 and later. Wi-Fi Peer-to-peer Broadcaster (WPB) module wrapped up the complexity of Wi-Fi Direct library of Android APIs and simplify the functions to minimum to let developers get rid of low level network implementation. These below steps figures out a way to simply initiate a mobile network.

When the app starts up, WPB will call `discoverPeers()` to send a message to the other peers to let them know its availability. Once a peer receives such message WPB will update the list of devices, therefore reform the network. See figure 2

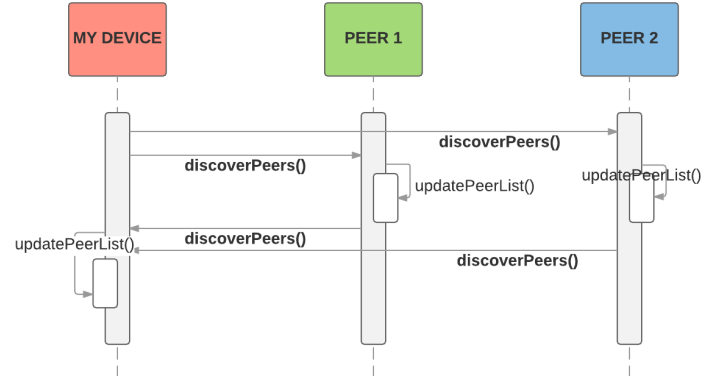


Figure 2: Forming peer-to-peer network

When peers have information of the others, they are ready to connect. We provide function `connectToDevice()` holding `WifiP2pDevice` as one input parameter to invoke the handshake with another device. Once connection established, the device actively invoked will be assigned as client, which utilize the `ClientSocketHandler` to listen to a client socket. The device passively received the invocation will be promoted as server and use the `ServerSocketHandler` to initiate server socket with an random port. If the invoked device is already a server, it will maintain its current state and continuously accept the new client. Moreover, since a device can either be a server to some peers, or serve as client to the others, this method is able to build up a close range peer-to-peer network.

B. Job definition

We give the job definition to developers. To avoid any mis-configuration from remote execution, we provide a common Job definition interface

Listing 1: Job Definition

```

1 public class Job {
2     public Object exec(Object originalObject) {
3         // job implementation
4     }
5 }

```

Since Dalvik VM didn't support loading class the way Java VM does. Instead it will load Dalvik execution ("dex") files from an alternative locations such as internal storage or network. We provide DexCreator tool, the windows application supports compiling the Job java file into the dex job package (a jar file). Dex package and splitted resources in binary format will be added into one JobData object by JobDispatcher, signed with checksum for consistency and dispatched to the other peers.

When client peer receives an object of JobData sent from server, it will firstly check checksum to confirm the consistency, then deserialize it into Job and resources and execute the job with that data.

C. Job Scheduling and Decision Maker

In peer-to-peer network supported by our APIs, the server will distribute jobs to peers bases on investigating their availability by DecisionMaker (Figure 3). At the early stage before the transmission, the DecisionMaker of the calling device sends inquiring request for status (IRS) to some of selected peers in the network. If one receives this IRS request, its DecisionMaker will estimate its capability of response using the measurements of CPU, memory and battery usage at that time.

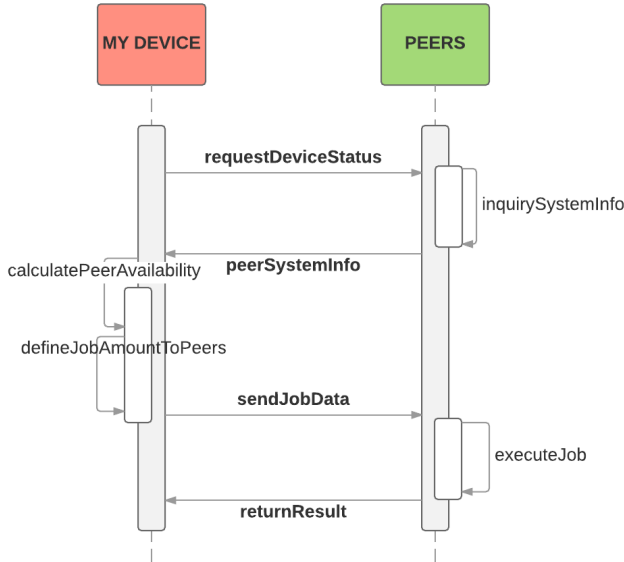


Figure 3: Decision making workflow

1) *Determine feasible peers:* A mobile device at any time maintains a certain number of connection with the others. Before delivering jobs, it dispatches IRS messages to all the peers for acknowledgment of their availability

(*RL* - Level of Responsibility). If a peer receives an IRS, its DecisionMaker will capture its configuration and corresponding usage states to generate a response in JSON format, The code snipe 2 shows such a typical response.

Listing 2: JSON response from peer

```

1 {
2     "device" : "LG-Volt",
3     "RL" : 24.83,
4     "availability" : "low",
5     "cpu" : {
6         "usage" : "0.3",
7         "speed" : "1.3",
8         "cores" : 4
9     },
10    "memory" : {
11        "usage" : "0.5",
12        "total" : 2
13    },
14    "battery" : {
15        "usage" : 0.85,
16        "total" : 2800
17    }
18 }

```

Where *RL* is peer's Level of Responsibility (for estimation of *RL* as well as the other usage parameters, see III-C2), *availability* indicates whether the peer is feasible for handling job, and *cpu*, *memory* and *battery* are essential status information of the resources accordingly at the time of response.

In any IRS response, parameter *availability* can be assigned with value of low, medium or high. The low availability will inform the calling peer that it is not available due to temporary resource limitation, therefore eliminate the caller from sending jobs to. Only the peers with *availability* higher than medium will accept jobs for execution. The decision is given bases on the thresholds of battery usage which are set by default at value higher than 0.8 (or 80% overall usage) for the low, 0.5 to 0.8 for the medium and lower than 0.5 for the high. User can override those thresholds by updating the *availability-thresholds* in the configuration file before app initialization.

In the above example (code snipe 2), the battery usage was 0.85 or 15% remained, so the DecisionMaker on it stated that its *availability* is low, in other words it is not able to handle any jobs and should be excluded from the dispatched list.

2) *Job quantitation for peers:* The calling peer quantitates the jobs from a task to distribute to the other available devices in the network suitably. To achieve this, the *RL* parameter will be used as the main coefficient for the split.

To calculate *RL* as well as the other parameters in IRS, retrieved from `/proc/stat` system file [5], the percentage of CPU usage is expressed by this following expression in two short consecutive times

$$Usage_{CPU} = \frac{(\sum T_{CPU2} - T_{Idle2}) - (\sum T_{CPU1} - T_{Idle1})}{(\sum T_{CPU2} - \sum T_{CPU1})}$$

When $\sum T_{CPU}$ is total time of running CPU and T_{Idle} is idle time correspondingly in hertz. In term of memory usage, the $Usage_{Mem}$ can be determined by using `MemoryInfo` from Android API to retrieve Mem_{Avail} and Mem_{Total} , so the $Usage_{Battery}$.

Since in the mobile device, the lower resource usage state states the higher availability, and the higher specifications represents the better responsibility. Then the level of responsibility of device can be simply summarized by the below expression

$$RL = \frac{CPU_{Spec}}{Usage_{CPU}} + \frac{Mem_{Spec}}{Usage_{Mem}} + \frac{Battery_{Spec}}{Usage_{Battery} \times 1000}$$

Where CPU_{Spec} has GHz unit, Mem_{Spec} has GB unit and $Battery_{Spec}$ has uAh unit. Especially CPU_{Spec} is determined by number of its core. For example, a quad-core CPU at speed of 1.3GHz can be counted as 1.3×4 or 5.2. At a certain time of that device, if $Usage_{CPU}$ is 0.3, $Usage_{Mem}$ is 0.5 (half of 1GB memory consumed), $Usage_{Battery}$ is 0.7 or 70% used over a 2800uAh capacity battery, the value of RL will be

$$RL = \frac{5.2}{0.3} + \frac{1}{0.5} + \frac{2800}{0.7 \times 1000} = 23.33$$

To reduce the latency and to avoid miscalculation at the calling peer, RL is prematurely calculated by each available called peer and wrapped up in the IRS response sending back to the caller.

In a peer-to-peer network comprising of n devices, where i -device has responsibility level RL_i , the DecisionMaker will assign the job with carrying amount of data (M_i) which is equivalent to

$$M_i = M \frac{RL_i}{\sum_{j=1, n} RL_j}$$

Where M is total size of data in bytes.

IV. PROGRAMMING MODEL

The library should be simple, so that developer can integrate within just a few steps. This section will describe step-by-step the way to utilize our API to enable a typical peer-to-peer network.

A. Define Job

Job implementation is the prerequisite work to determine what to execute on the remote device and how to cast and manipulate data from the abstract object. According to section III-B, developer needs to implement the Job class file separately by overriding the `exec()` method and cast the input abstract parameter to the concrete. Then run the DexCreator tool on the Job class to compile and compact it into the DEX jar package. The final outcome is the `job.jar` file, it should be saved in the internal storage of the caller device. To simplify, we can store it in the Download folder.

B. APIs for Android applications

This sub section will describe 3 basic steps to implement an Android application to utilize our APIs

1) *Message Handler*: The Message Handler is required to instantiate at the beginning. In particular, an instance of `UIHandler` is initiated to receive messages from system when it goes into runtime. While system is in progress, the log and information messages will periodically be returned with label `MAIN_INFO` (Snipe code 3). When each job result comes, `JobHandler` will collect and handle by to partially put into a placeholder. When all results arrived, the placeholder with label `MAIN_JOB_DONE` will be returned to inform the completion of job collaboration, as well as bring the final result back to the main app UI.

Listing 3: UI handler

```

1  Handler mainUiHandler = new Handler() {
2      @Override
3      public void handleMessage(Message msg) {
4          switch (msg.what) {
5              case Utils.MAIN_JOB_DONE: {
6                  // when job is completely finished
7              }
8              case Utils.MAIN_INFO: {
9                  // to receive messages from the processor
10             }
11         }
12     }
13 };

```

2) *Data Parser*: Secondly, developer needs to declare `DataParser` to determine data-type and parser to equip for manipulating data at run-time (see sub section III-B). `JobHandler` is the main component which wraps up the complexity, and exposes only the necessary functions like `discoverPeers()` and `dispatchJob()`. To send ACK messages to other peers for exchanging acknowledgments and reforming network, we need to call `discoverPeers()` function on the program, this work should be done as soon as application starts.

3) *Discovery Peer and Dispatching Jobs*: When network is formed and connections are held from some of the peers, `dispatchJob()` will be call to locate the resources and job which predefined in local storage, it then invokes `DecisionMaker` (sub section III-C) for job splitting and binary serialization. Finally jobs will be dispatched over the socket

Listing 4: Declare DataParser and JobHandler

```

1 // data parser: to determine datatype how to split the data
2 dataParser = new BitmapJobDataParser();
3 ...
4 // handlers registration
5 jobHandler = new JobHandler(this, dataParser);
6 jobHandler.setSocketListener(
7     new JobHandler.JobSocketListener() {
8         @Override
9         public void socketUpdated(... isConnected) {
10             // when socket is updated
11         }
12     });
13 ...
14 // update the device list
15 deviceList.setAdapter(
16     jobHandler.getDeviceListAdapter());
17 ...
18 // send ACK to other members to reconstruct network
19 jobHandler.discoverPeers();
20 ...
21 // address resources and job to execute
22 String dataPath = downloadPath + "/mars.jpg";
23 String jobPath = downloadPath + "/Job.jar";
24 jobHandler.dispatchJob(dataPath, jobPath);

```

V. EXPERIMENTS AND RESULTS

To measure the performance of the system equipped with our APIs, we decorated a small testbed with collaboration of 5 different Android devices to perform our 3 test cases:

- **Image Processing** we will initiate the peer-to-peer network test to perform blurring a large scale image which is unable to process at any of our devices. Particularly, to process an image with size 4000×4000 and 4 bytes to express each pixel color, application must spare the amount of memory equivalent to 64MB which is too expensive for the system, occasionally this kind of image would be refused to load.
- **Text analysis** another proof of performance on text processing. Our APIs will yield the data parser to developer for data heterogeneous adaptation.
- **GPS** establishing a GPS connection is proof of high energy consuming. It would be impossible for a device with low battery to keep update with GPS frequently. We will base on Job2P to build a simple system so that one device can benefit GPS locations from the healthier devices.

A. Preliminary Estimations

Assume that we have a Wi-Fi peer-to-peer network available with n devices, each device at a certain time has level of responsibility $RL_i (i = \overline{1, n})$. According to the section III-C, if E is the energy consumed by the application for only completing the task regardless of other ambiances, the total energy E_0 will be

$$E_0 = E + E_w$$

Where E_w is energy the app requires for waiting. Also,

$$E_{p2p} = E\left(\frac{RL_0}{\sum_{i=1}^n RL_i}\right) + E_{WiFi} + E_w$$

Where E_{WiFi} is energy consumed by Wi-Fi for sending jobs to other peers.

In this estimation we skipped considering E_w since it will depend on appearance of applications. If application have no GUI like system background services, E_w will cause very little effect. From the two above equations, we can get the difference energy consumption between the two job processing mechanisms E_{Diff}

$$E_{Diff} = E_0 - E_{p2p}$$

or

$$E_{Diff} = E\left(1 - \frac{RL_0}{\sum_{i=1}^n RL_i}\right) - E_{WiFi}$$

According to [6], Wi-Fi caused battery drained linearly by time during the transmission, particularly the drain can be represented by $y = 17.01x - 0.93$ for downloading and $y = 17.31x - 2.28$ for uploading. Therefore, it is inferred that in a mobile system with a certain number of devices in different levels of responsibility, if E is big enough, in other words, if the task to perform is big enough, then $E_{Diff} > 0$ will happen, thus deploying a peer-to-peer cluster will give the great benefit in term of energy efficiency. The bigger value of E_{Diff} , the more benefit we will archive.

B. Results

- 1) *Applying Job2P to an Android project:*
- 2) *Performances:* Diagrams go here

VI. CONCLUSIONS

The conclusion goes here.

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