

# Online Learning for Network Resource Allocation

## Ph.D. Presentation

Tareq Si Salem

Inria center at Université Côte d'Azur

17 October 2022

### Jury members:

Douglas LEITH	Professor, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland	Reviewer
Edmund YEH	Professor, Northeastern University, USA	Examiner
Giovanni NEGLIA	Research Director, Inria, France	Supervisor
György DÁN	Professor, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden	Examiner
Leandros TASSIULAS	Professor, Yale University, USA	Reviewer
Walid DABBOUS	Research Director, Inria, France	Examiner



# Presentation Organization

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1. Network Resource Allocation
2. Caching
3. Similarity Caching
4. Inference Delivery Networks
5. Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation
6. Concluding Remarks

# Presentation Organization

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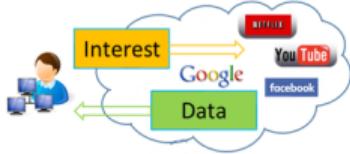
1. Network Resource Allocation
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# Network Resource Allocation

Network resource allocation is ubiquitous



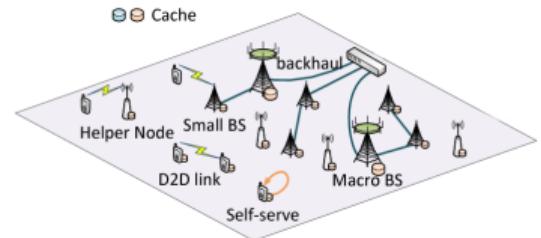
(a) CDNs



(b) ICNs



(c) Cloud computing



(d) Edge/Wireless IoT

## Goal

To provide *faster* service to demands generated by users (😊), or to *reduce* the computation or communication load on the system (\$).

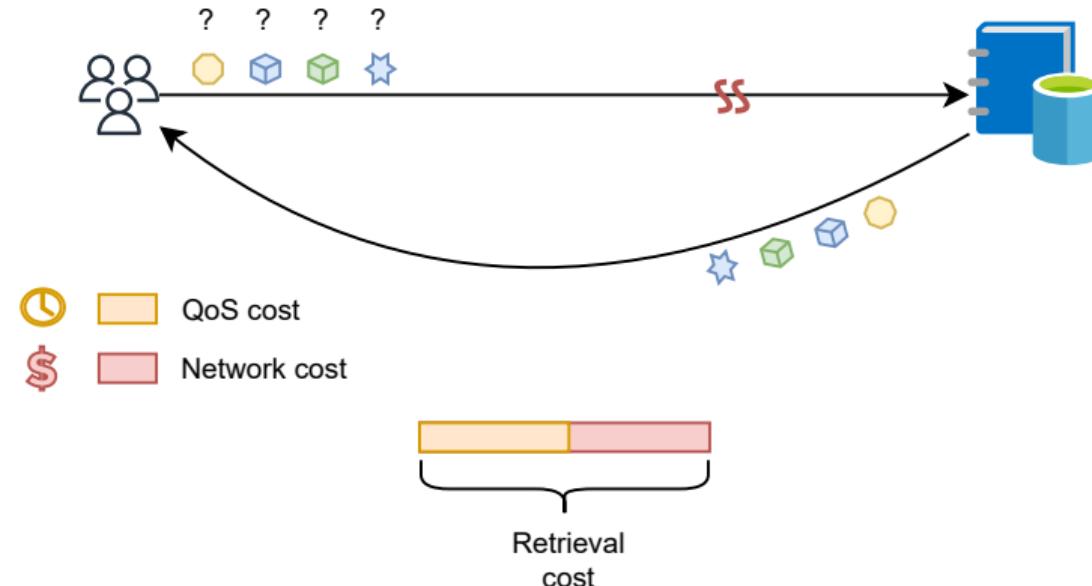
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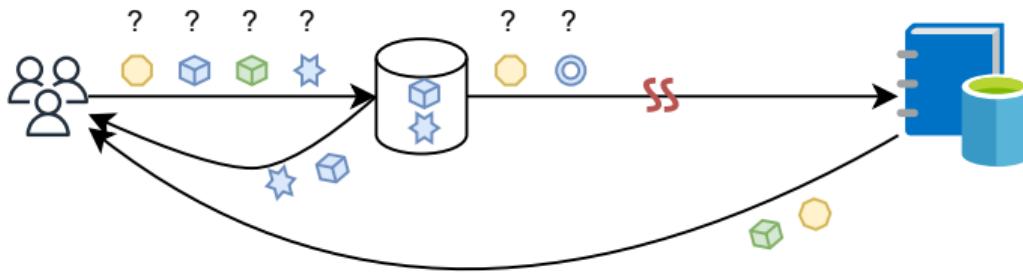
# Caching

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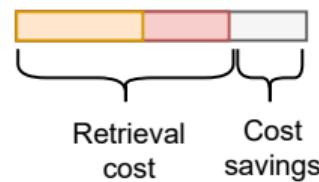
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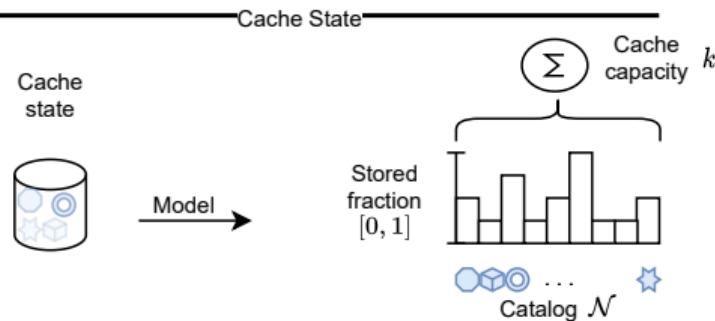
⌚ QoS cost

\$ Network cost

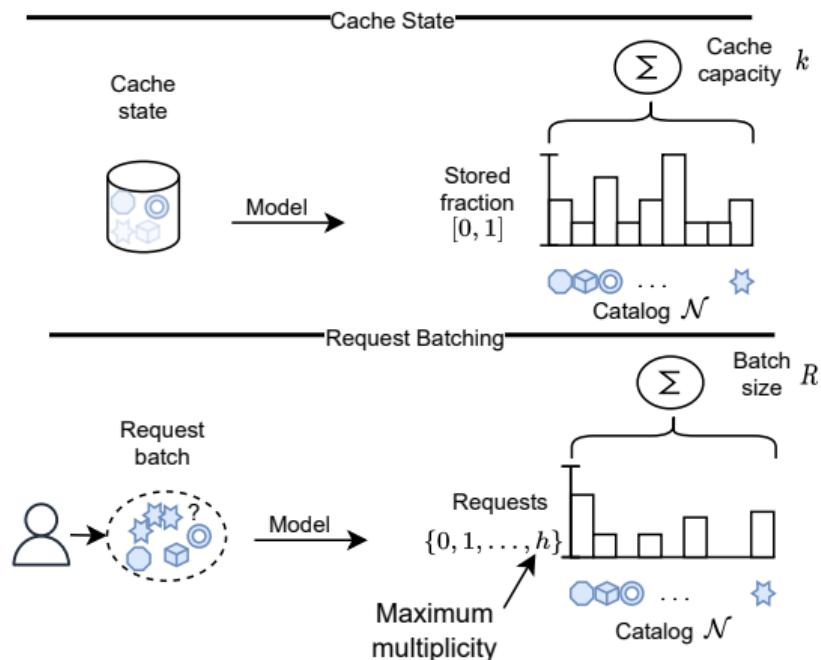


# Caching – Model

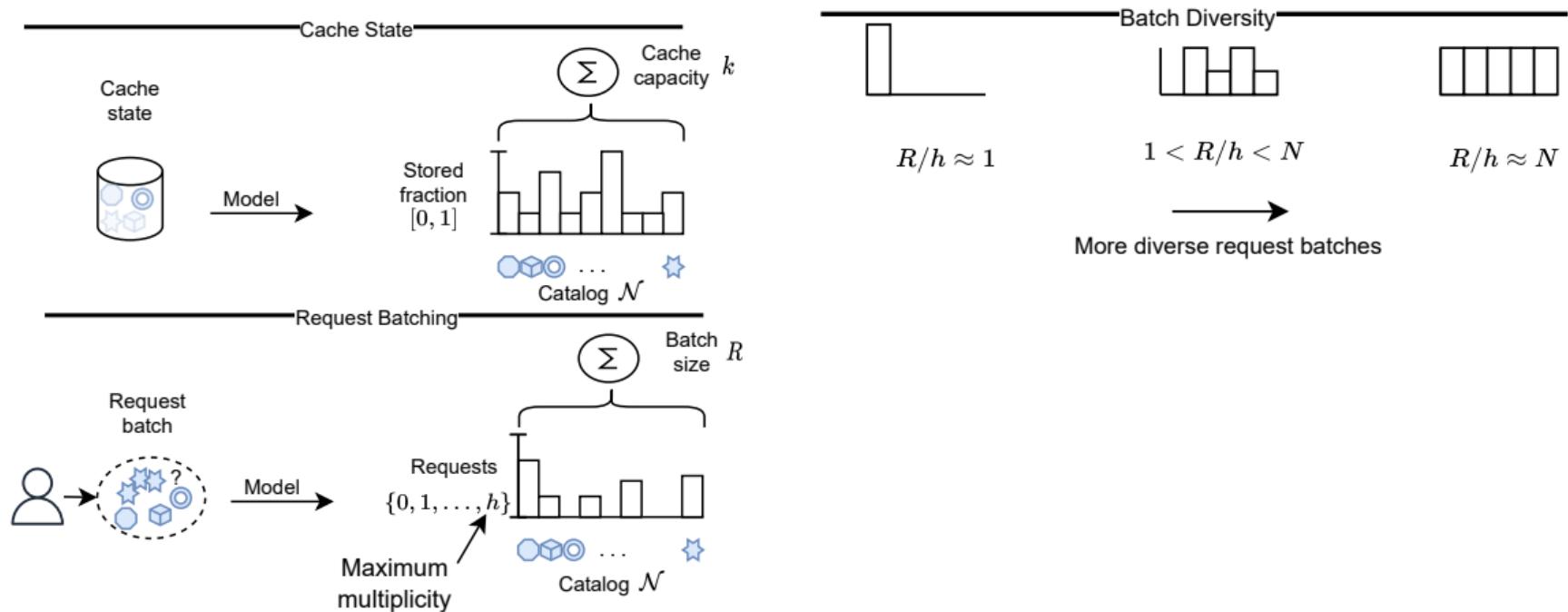
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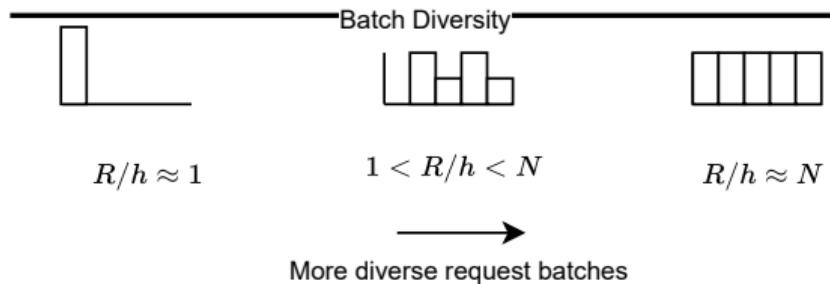
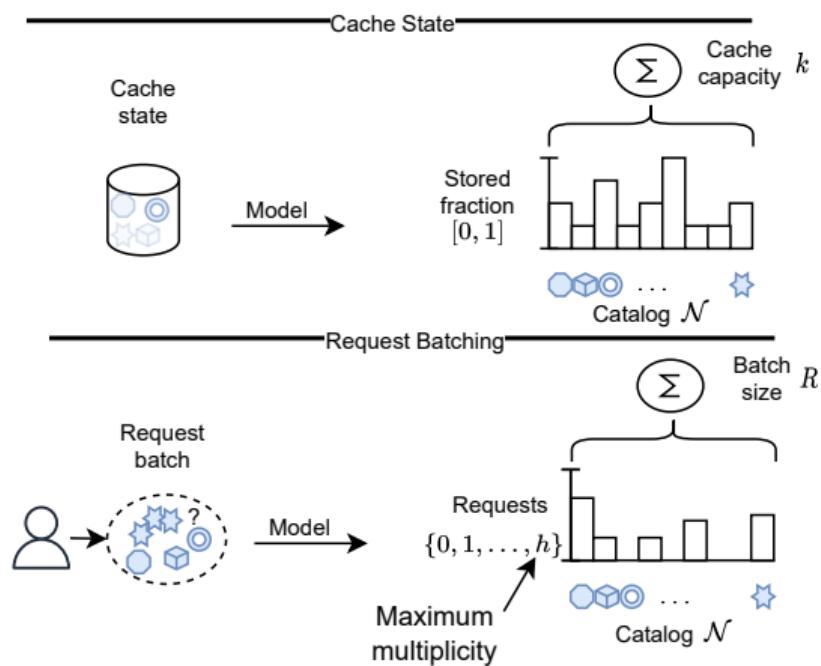
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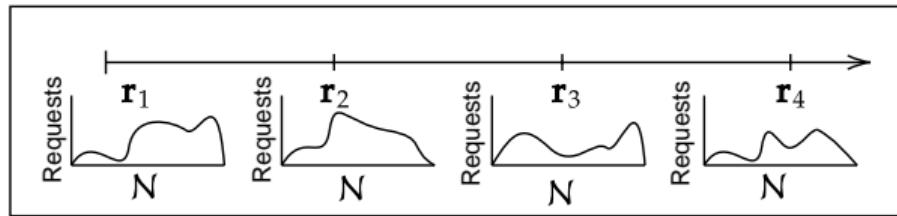


When a request batch  $\mathbf{r}_t$  arrives, the cache incurs the following cost:

$$f_{\mathbf{r}_t}(\mathbf{x}_t) = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i r_{t,i} (1 - x_{t,i}).$$

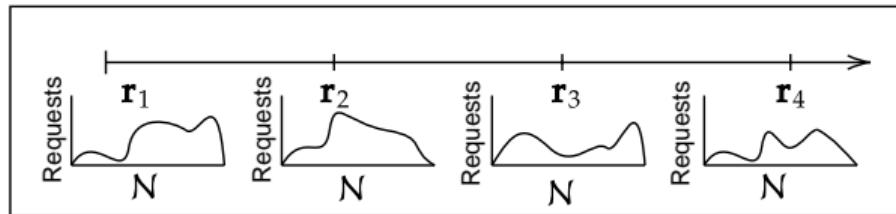
# Caching – Setting

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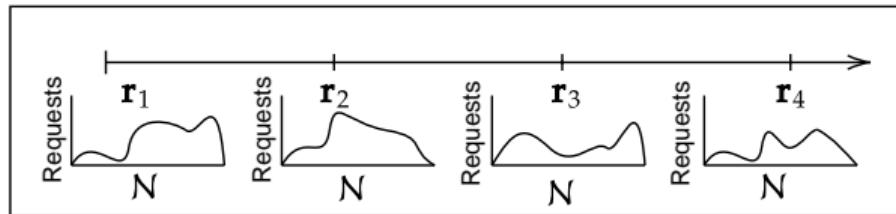
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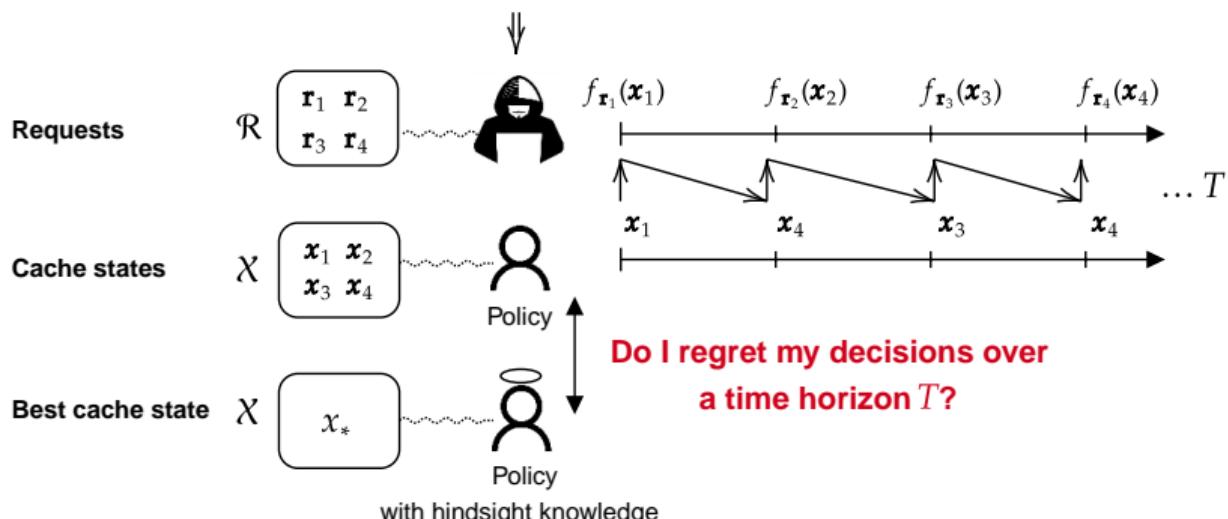


Noisy unpredictable environment can act as an **adversary** in the worst case scenario

# Caching – Setting



Noisy unpredictable environment can act as an **adversary** in the worst case scenario



# Caching – Performance Metric

## Definition

The regret of a policy  $\mathcal{A}$  is defined as

$$\text{Regret}_T(\mathcal{A}) \triangleq \sup_{\{\mathbf{r}_t\}_{t=1}^T \in \mathcal{R}^T} \left\{ \sum_{t=1}^T f_{\mathbf{r}_t}(\mathbf{x}_t) - \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \sum_{t=1}^T f_{\mathbf{r}_t}(\mathbf{x}) \right\}.$$

When  $\text{Regret}_T(\mathcal{A})$  is sublinear in  $T$ , the policy  $\mathcal{A}$  experiences no regret on average as  $T \rightarrow \infty$ .

# Caching – Online Mirror Descent (OMD)

A mirror map  $\Phi : \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defines a unique algorithm, e.g.,  $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \|x\|_2^2$  defines OGD, and  $\Phi(x) = \sum_{i \in N} x_i \log(x_i)$  (negative entropy) defines OMD<sub>NE</sub>.

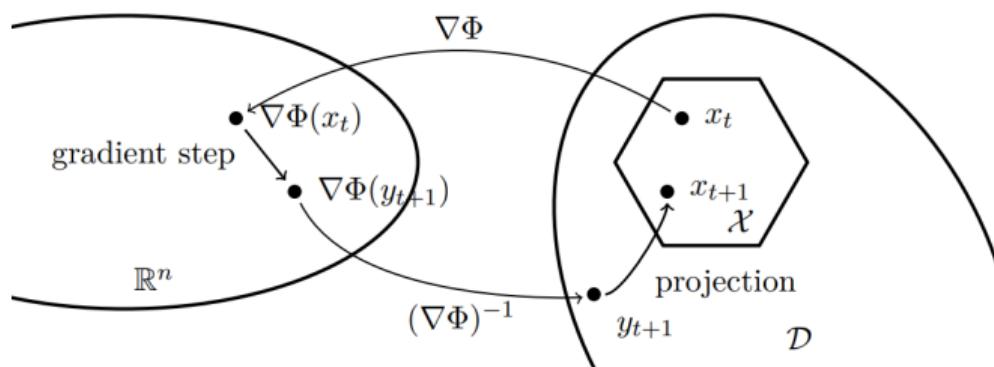


Figure: OMD update rule [Bub15].

# Caching – Contributions

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- We provide the first results to guide the selection of the best policy.

## Theorem

OGD is optimal for  $\frac{R}{h} \leq k$  (low diversity and large cache sizes). OMD<sub>NE</sub> is optimal for  $\frac{R}{h} > 2\sqrt{Nk}$  (high diversity and small cache sizes).

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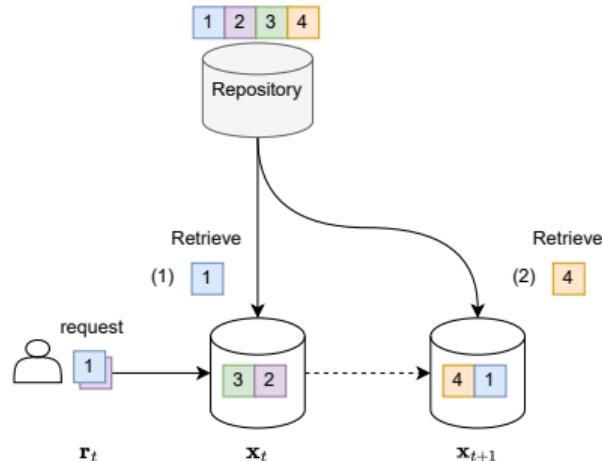
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- Highly efficient projection algorithm for OMD<sub>NE</sub> that yields a policy that has the lowest time-complexity per iteration among recent works [PDVI19, PS21, BBS20, MS21].

# Caching – Update Costs

We define the update cost at time  $t$  as  $\text{UC}_{\mathbf{r}_t}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t+1}) \triangleq \sum_{i \notin \text{supp}(\mathbf{r}_t)} w'_i \max \{0, x_{t+1,i} - x_{t,i}\}$ .

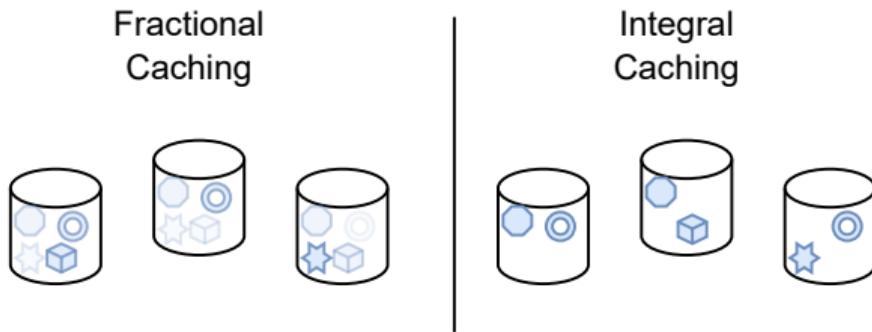


$$(1) \quad f_{\mathbf{r}_t}(\mathbf{x}_t) = w_{\square} \quad (2) \quad \text{UC}_{\mathbf{r}_t}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t+1}) = w'_{\square}$$

## Fractional Caching Incurs no Update Costs

We prove that any request batch  $\mathbf{r}_t$ , for OMD<sub>NE</sub> or OGD, it holds  $\text{UC}_{\mathbf{r}_t}(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{x}_{t+1}) = 0$ .

# Integral Caching – Necessity of Randomization



## Proposition

Any deterministic policy restricted to select integral cache states in  $\mathcal{Z} \triangleq \mathcal{X} \cap \{0, 1\}^N$  has linear regret, i.e.,

$$\text{Regret}_T(\mathcal{A}) \geq k (1 - k/N) T.$$

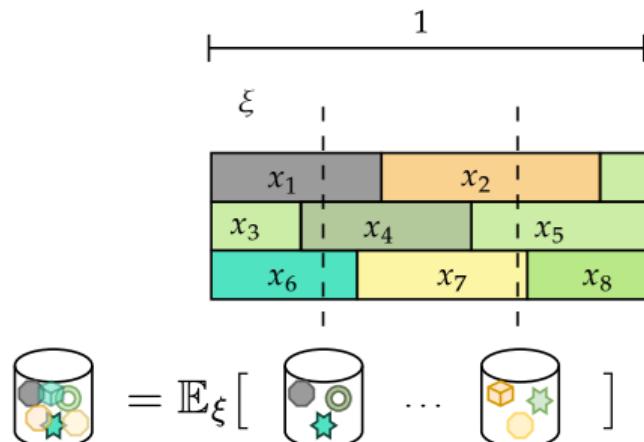
# Randomized Integral Caching

We restrict ourselves to randomized rounding schemes that output  $z_t \in \mathcal{Z}$  such that  $\mathbb{E}[z_t] = x_t$  through some rounding  $\Xi$ .

## Remark

The expected regret  $\text{Regret}_T(\mathcal{A}, \Xi)$  is the same as the regret of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

A scheme that has this property is Madow's sampling [MM44]:



# Randomized Integral Caching

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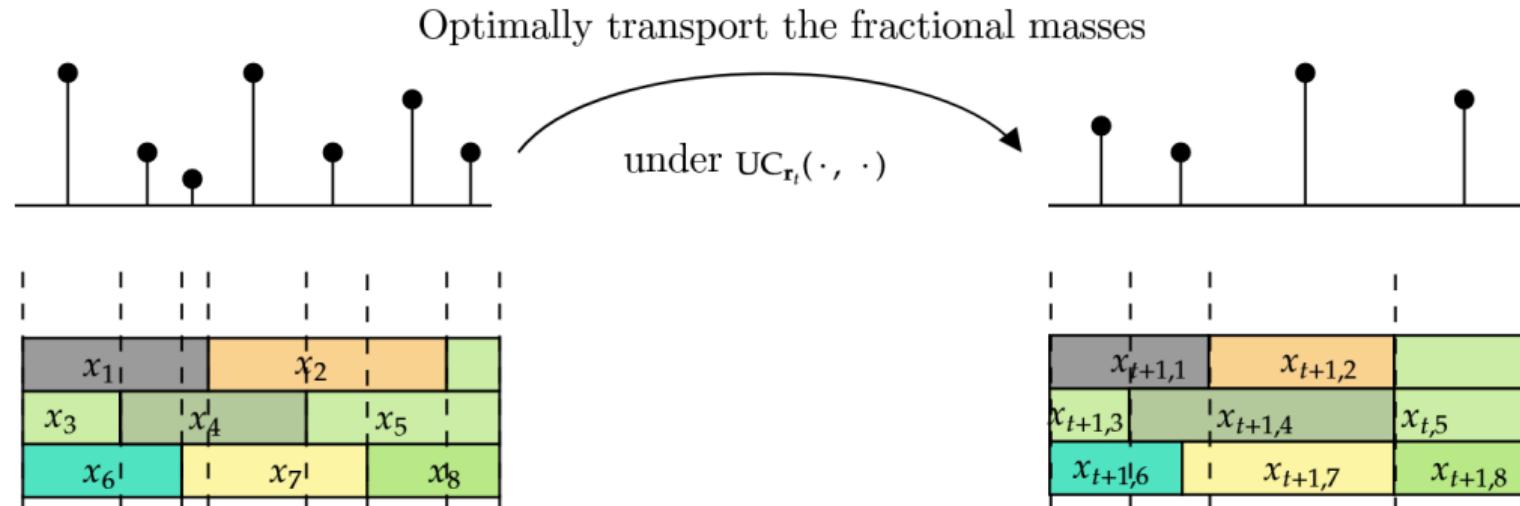
When considering the extended regret ( $\text{E-Regret}_T(\mathcal{A}, \Xi)$ ) we lose immediately the regret guarantee:

## Theorem

Any randomized caching policy constructed by an online policy  $\mathcal{A}$  combined with online independent rounding as  $\Xi$  leads to  $\Omega(T)$  E-Regret( $\mathcal{A}, \Xi$ ).

Imposing dependence (coupling) between the two consecutive random states may significantly reduce the expected update cost.

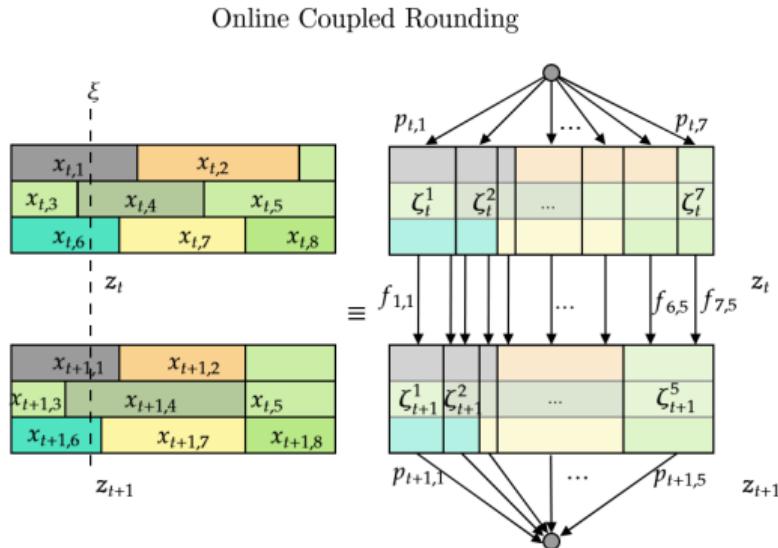
# Randomized Integral Caching – Optimal Transport



## Remark

We prove that this scheme selected as  $\Xi$ , coupled with a no-regret policy  $\mathcal{A}$ , has sublinear extended regret guarantee. However, it has a time-complexity  $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$ .

# Randomized Integral Caching – Simpler Approach

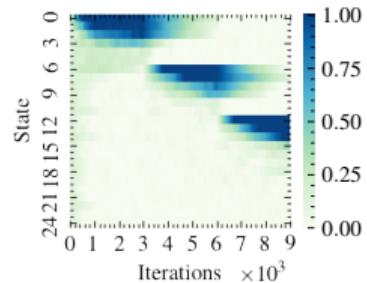


## Theorem

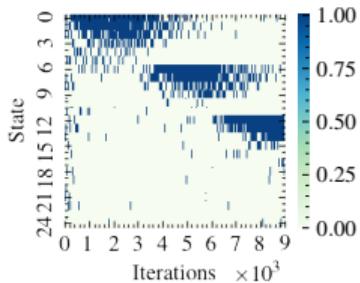
A no-regret policy  $\mathcal{A}$  combined with online coupled rounding  $\Xi$  has  $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{T})$  E-Regret $_T(\mathcal{A}, \Xi)$ .

Online Coupled Rounding has linear time complexity.

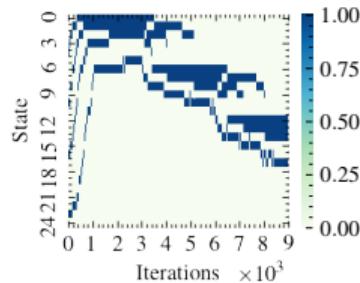
# Randomized Integral Caching – Summary



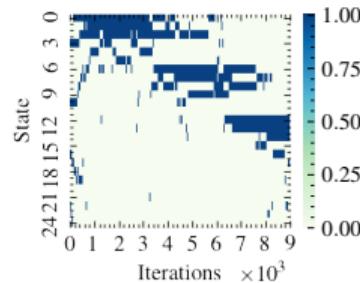
(a) Fractional cache states



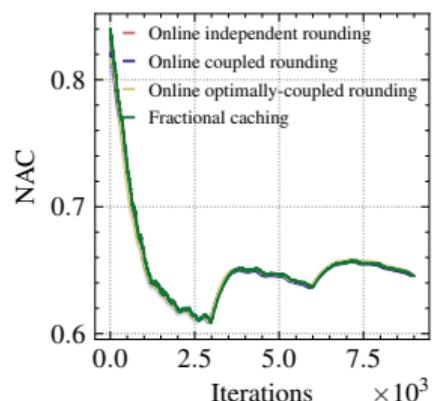
(b) Online independent rounding



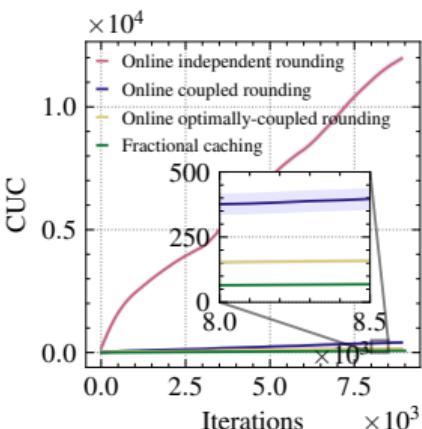
(c) Online coupled rounding



(d) Online optimally-coupled rounding



(a) Normalized average cost



(b) Cumulative update cost

# Caching – Research Output

No-Regret Caching via Online Mirror Descent

[C1]

IEEE ICC, 2021

T. Si Salem , G. Neglia, and S. Ioannidis

Online Caching Networks with Adversarial Guarantees

[C2]

ACM SIGMETRICS, 2022

Y. Li, T. Si Salem et al.

Online Caching Networks with Adversarial Guarantees

[J1]

ACM POMACS, 2022

Y. Li, T. Si Salem et al.

No-Regret Caching via Online Mirror Descent (extended)

[S1]

ACM ToMPECS (under review)

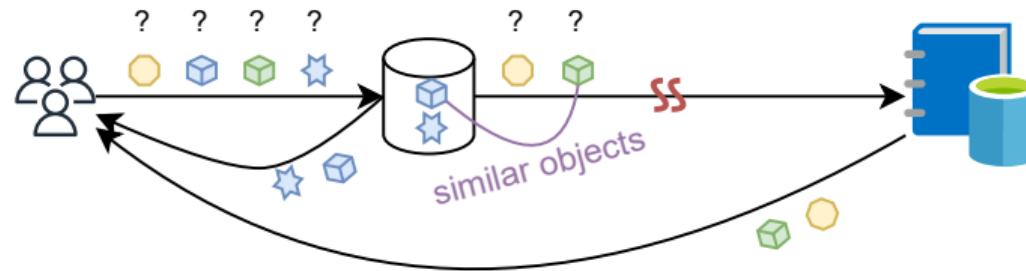
T. Si Salem , G. Neglia, and S. Ioannidis

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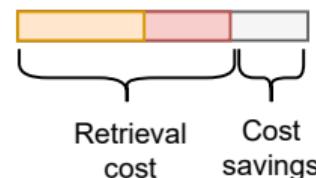
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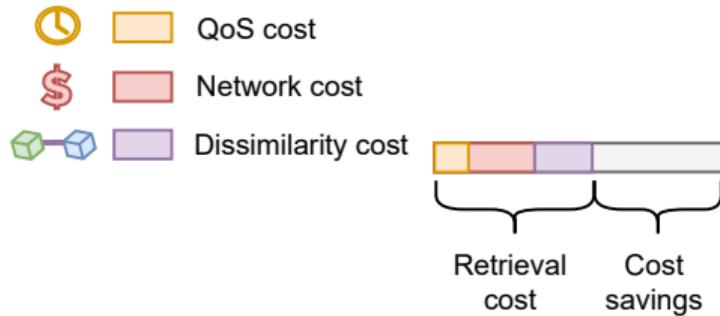
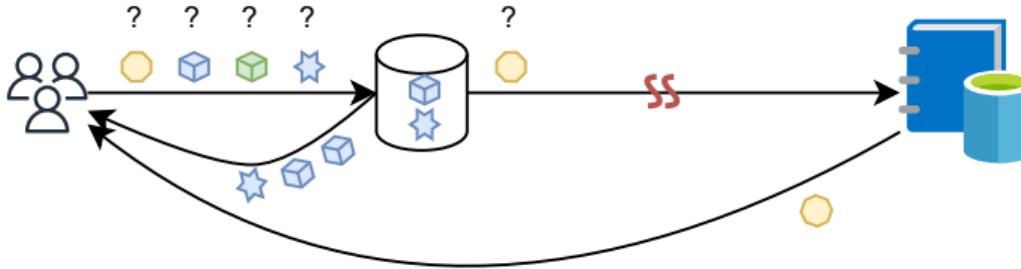
# Similarity Caching



⌚ QoS cost  
💲 Network cost

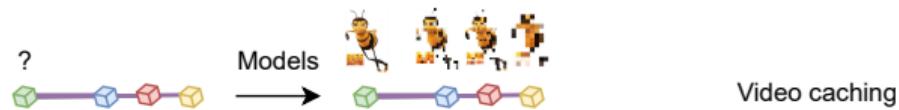


# Similarity Caching



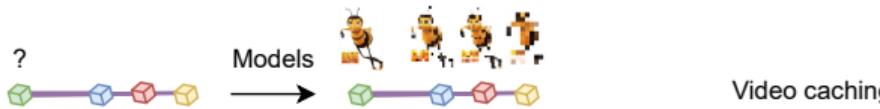
# Similarity Caching – Motivation

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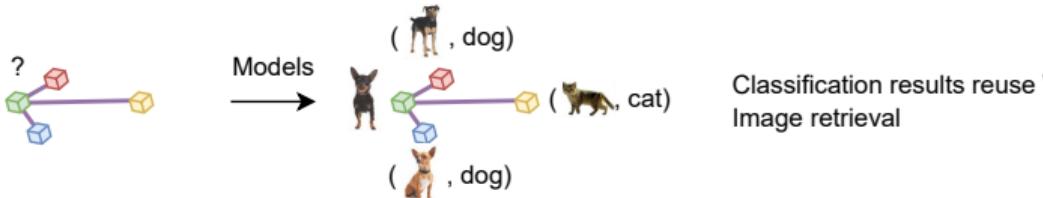


Video caching

# Similarity Caching – Motivation

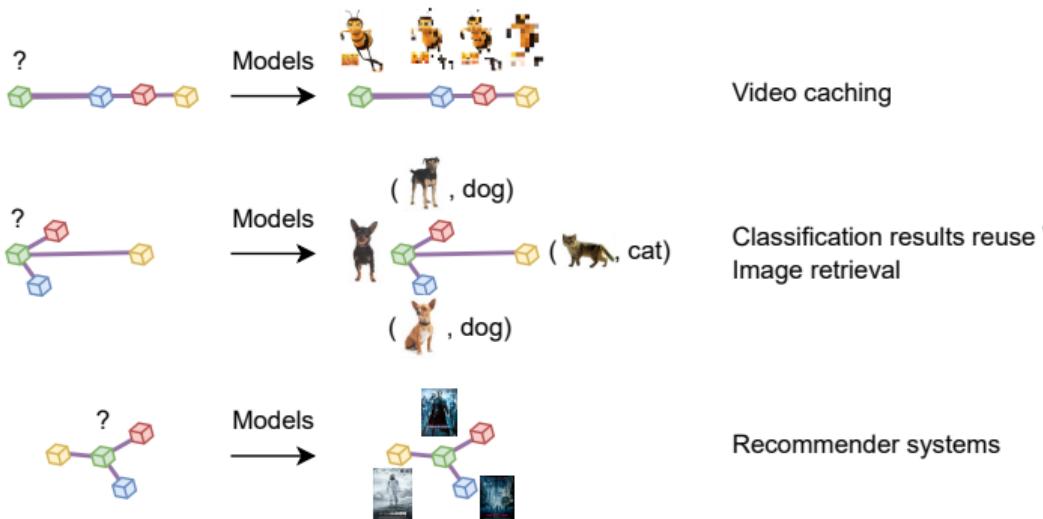


Video caching

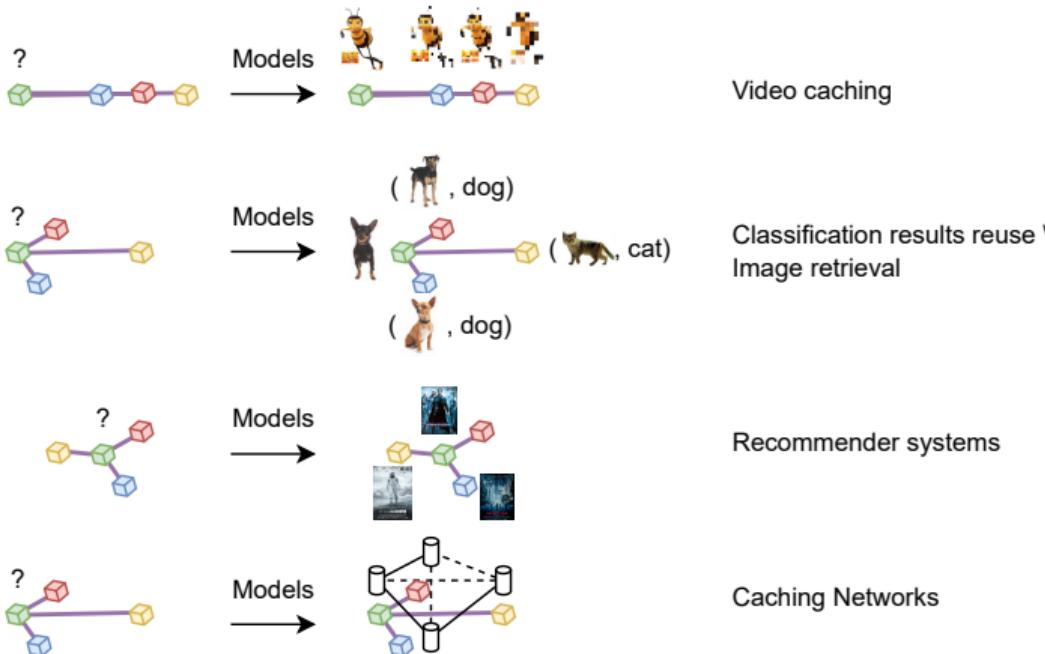


Classification results reuse \  
Image retrieval

# Similarity Caching – Motivation

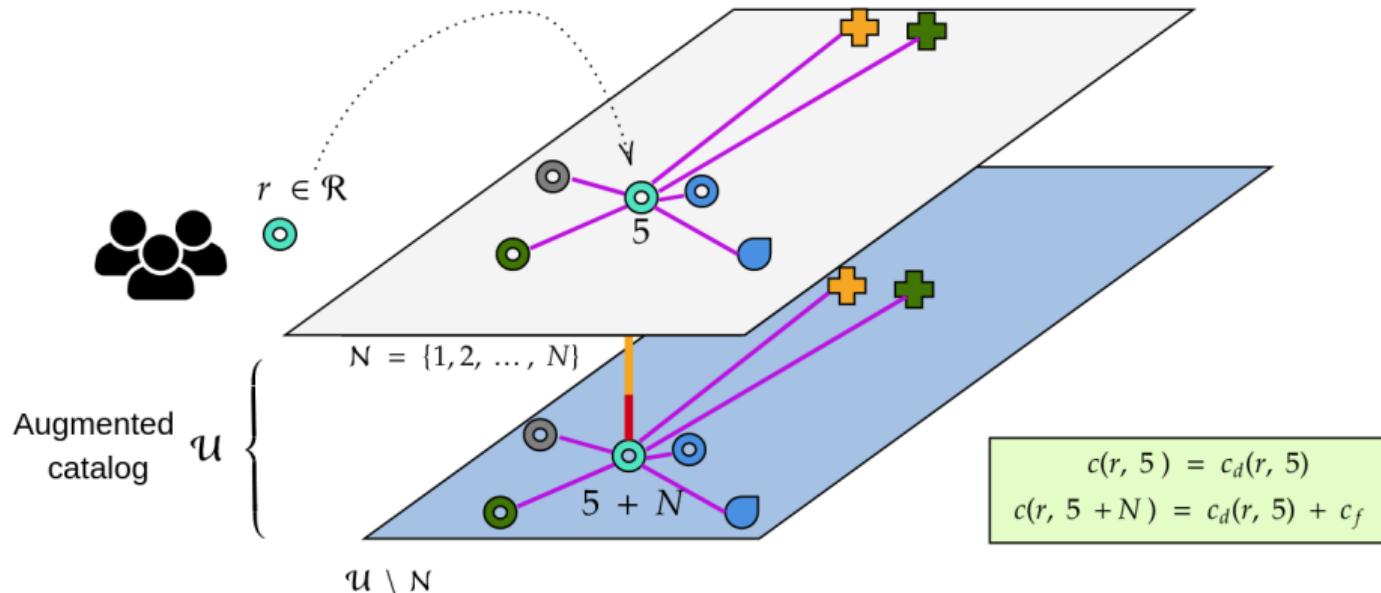


# Similarity Caching – Motivation



Content recommendation [SS16, SGSV18, CS20], content retrieval [FLO<sup>+</sup>08, PBC<sup>+</sup>09], Machine Learning serving [DGT<sup>+</sup>17, DGN17, CWZ<sup>+</sup>17, VGGK18, KBVA19].

# Similarity Caching – Model



## Similarity Caching – Caching Gain

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When  $r \in \mathcal{R}$  is received, a cache with allocation vector  $\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^{2N}$  incurs the cost

$$C(r, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^{2N} c(r, \pi_i^r) x_{\pi_i^r} \cdot \mathbb{1} \left( \sum_{j=1}^i x_{\pi_j^r} \leq k \right).$$

### Objective

Our objective is to maximize the caching gain (cost savings) as the cache state  $\mathbf{x}$  changes, given as

$$G(r, \mathbf{x}) \triangleq C(r, \text{empty cache}) - C(r, \mathbf{x}).$$

# Similarity Caching – Performance Metric

## Definition

The regret of the randomized policy  $\mathcal{A}$  with the cache states  $\{\mathbf{x}_t\}_{t=1}^T$  is given by

$$\psi\text{-Regret}(\mathcal{A}) = \sup_{\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_T\} \in \mathcal{R}^T} \left\{ \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \psi \sum_{t=1}^T G(r_t, \mathbf{x}) - \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{t=1}^T G(r_t, \mathbf{x}_t) \right] \right\}.$$

The constant  $\psi = 1 - 1/e$  is the best approximation ratio achievable in P to the NP-Hard static optimum

When  $\psi\text{-Regret}(\mathcal{P})$  is sublinear in  $T$ , the policy experiences *no regret* on average as  $T \rightarrow \infty$  w.r.t. the  $\psi$ -approximation of the offline problem in hindsight.

# Similarity Caching – Exploiting OCO

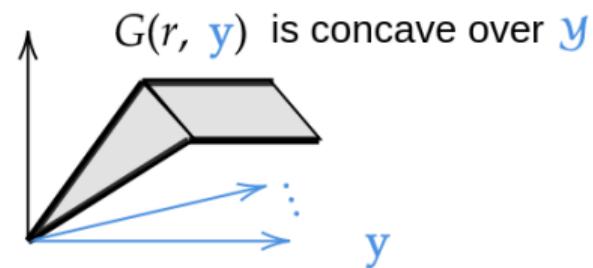
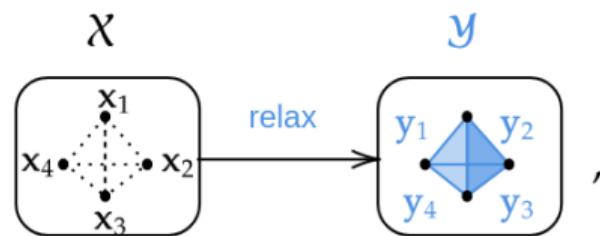
## Lemma

The caching gain can be expressed equivalently as

$$G(r, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^{K^r-1} \alpha_i^r \min \left\{ k, \sum_{j=1}^i x_{\pi_j^r} \right\} + G_0,$$

where  $\alpha_i^r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ ,  $G_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $K^r \in \mathbb{N}$  are constants.

Physical cache states    Virtual cache states



# Similarity Caching – Exploiting OCO

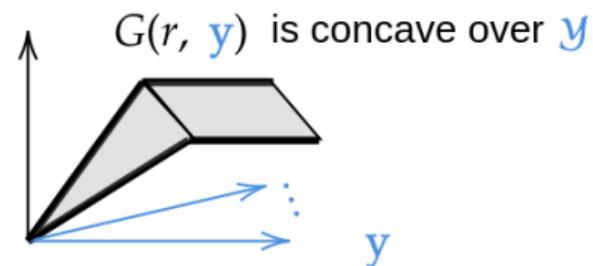
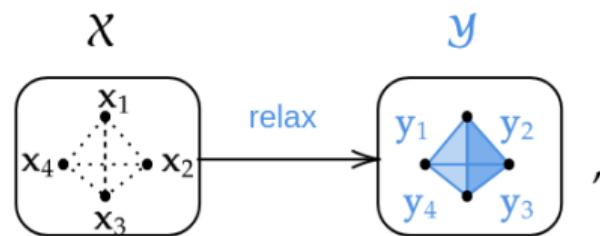
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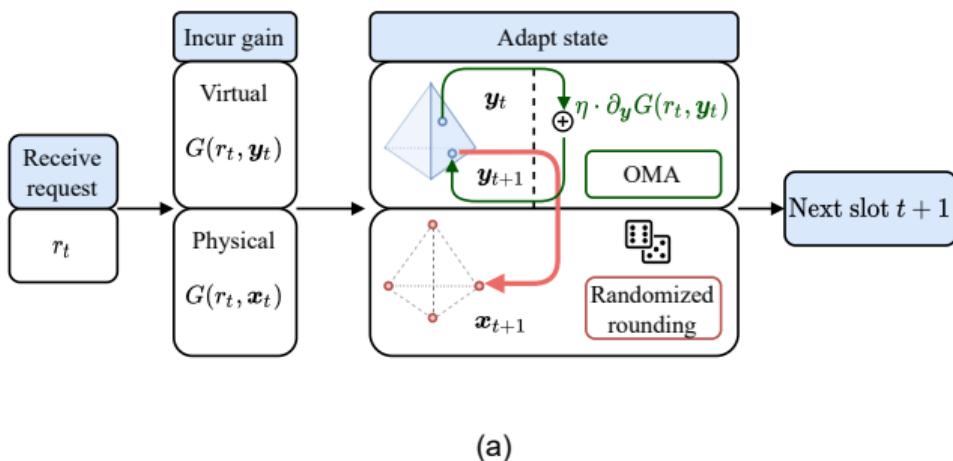
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Physical cache states    Virtual cache states

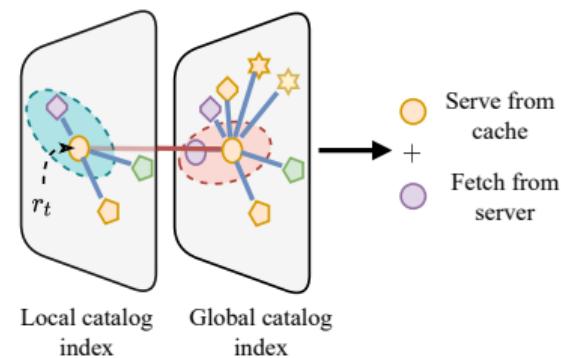


The fractionally relaxed problem can be cast in the framework of OCO [Haz16] + Exploit the property  $\mathbb{E}[G(r_t, \mathbf{x}_t)] \geq \psi G(r_t, \mathbf{y}_t)$ .

# Similarity Caching – ACAI (Ascent Similarity Caching with Approximate Indexes) Policy



- Dissimilarity cost  $c_d$
- Retrieval cost  $c_f$
- $k\text{NN}$  over cache index
- $k\text{NN}$  over catalog index



# Similarity Caching – AÇAI Policy Performance Guarantees

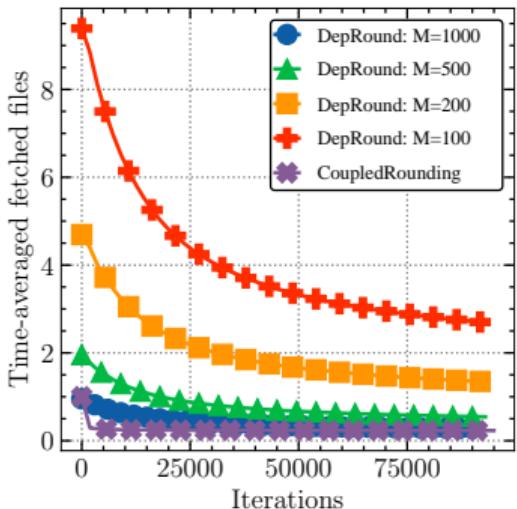
## Theorem

AÇAI configured with a negentropy mirror map, learning rate  $\eta^*$ , and rounding scheme ElasticCoupledRounding or DepRound with a freezing period  $M = \Theta(T^\beta)$  for  $\beta \in [0, 1)$  satisfies

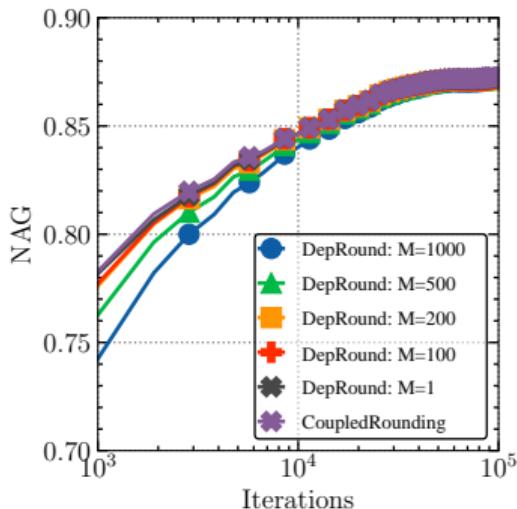
$$(1 - 1/e)\text{-Regret}_{\mathcal{X}}(\text{AÇAI}) = \mathcal{O}\left(T^{\frac{1+\beta}{2}}\right).$$

The parameter  $M$  reduces cache updates at the expense of reducing the cache reactivity. The update cost  $\mathcal{C}_{UC,T}$  is given as  $\mathcal{C}_{UC,T} = \mathcal{O}(T^{1-\beta})$  for DepRound and  $\mathcal{C}_{UC,T} = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{T})$  for ElasticCoupledRounding.

# Similarity Caching – Service/Update Costs Tradeoff

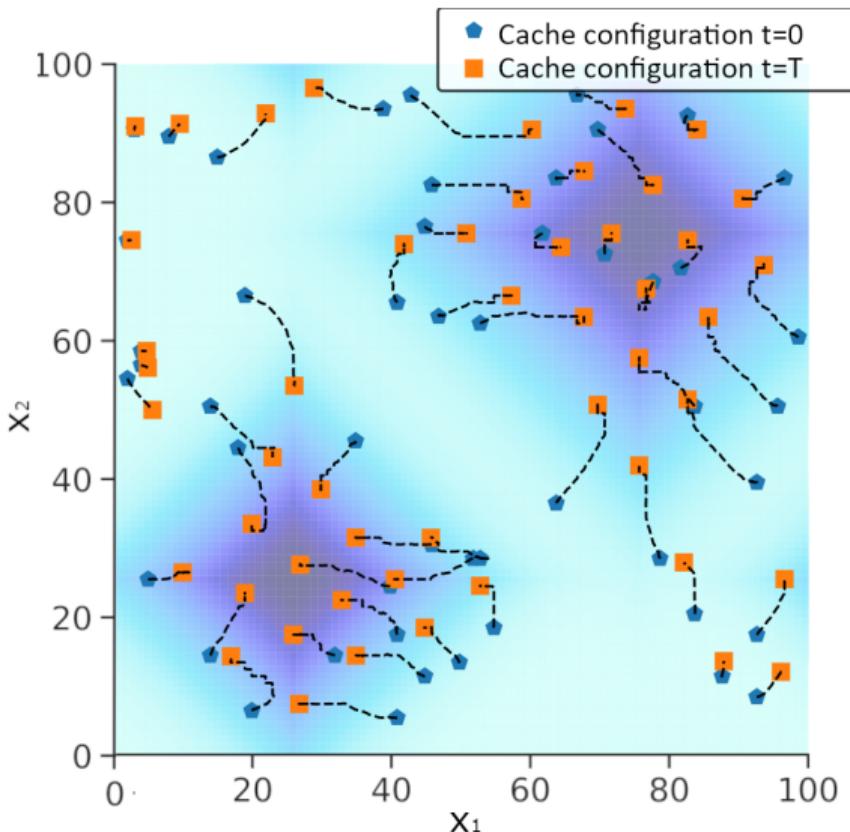


(a) Time-averaged fetched files



(b) Caching gain

# Similarity Caching – A Heuristic under Continuous Catalogs



## Caching Scheme

GRADES heuristic uses gradient descent to navigate the continuous space and find appropriate objects to store in the cache.

# Similarity Caching – Research Output

GRADES: Gradient Descent for Similarity Caching  
[C3] IEEE INFOCOM, 2021  
A. Sabnis, T. Si Salem et al.

AÇAI: Ascent Similarity Caching with Approximate Indexes  
[C4] ITC 33, 2021  
T. Si Salem, G. Neglia, and Damiano Carra.



Best Paper Award

GRADES: Gradient Descent for Similarity Caching (extended)  
[J2] IEEE/ACM ToN, 2022  
A. Sabnis, T. Si Salem et al.

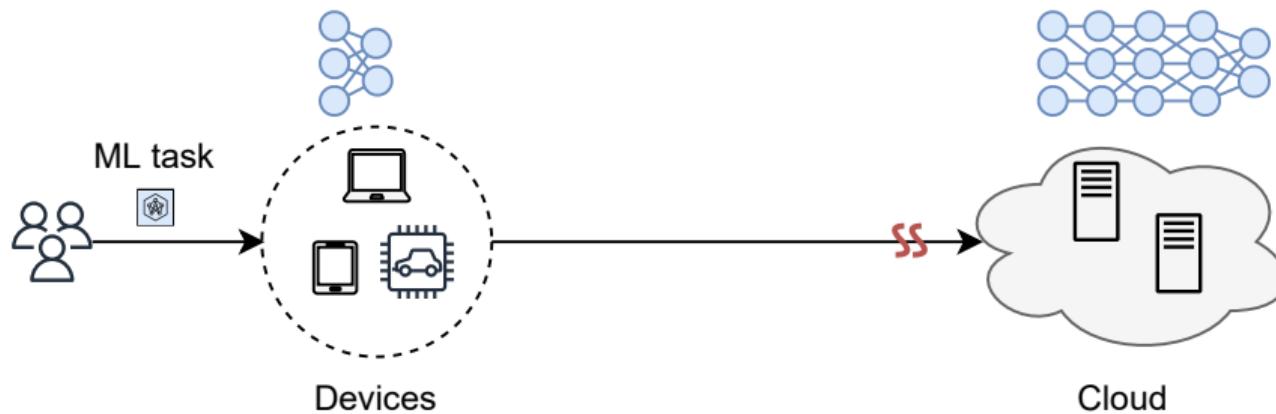
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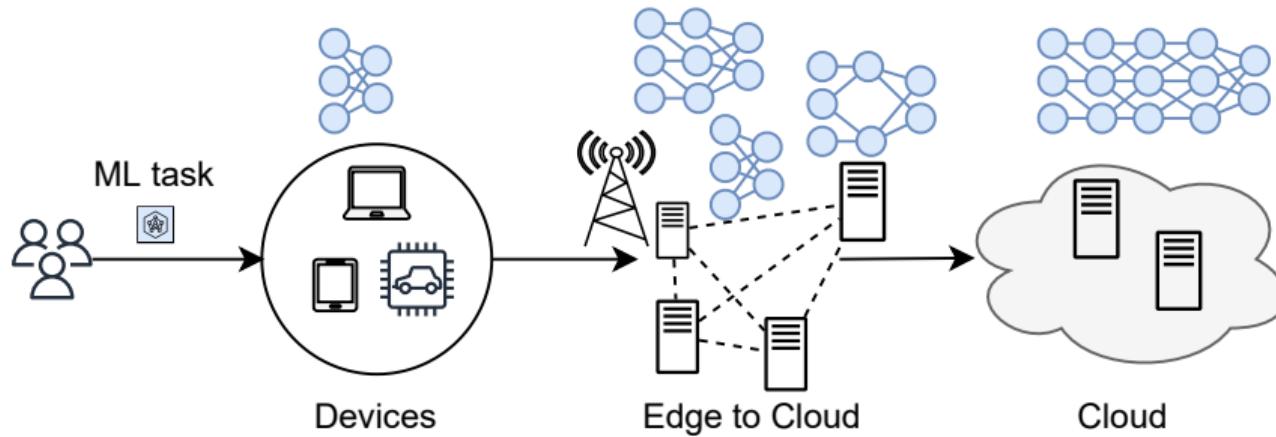
# Inference Delivery Networks



## Current ML deployment

Simpler models available locally have low accuracy. Complex models in the cloud may introduce high latency

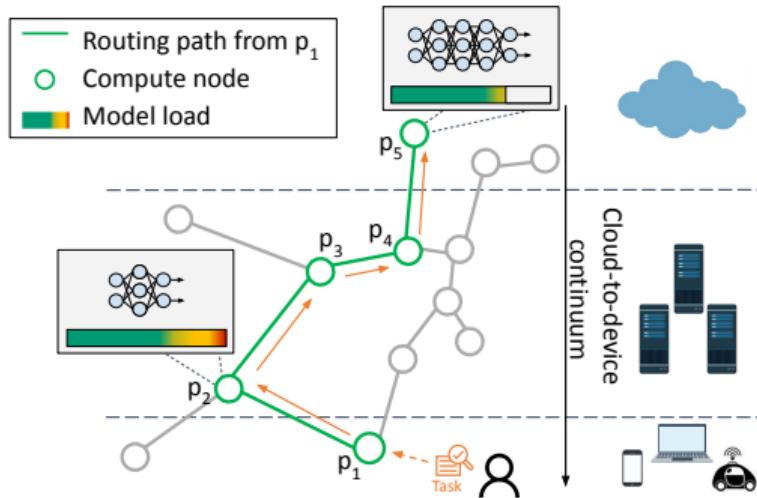
# Inference Delivery Networks



## IDNs

Integrate ML inference in the continuum between end-devices and the cloud.

# Inference Delivery Networks – Model



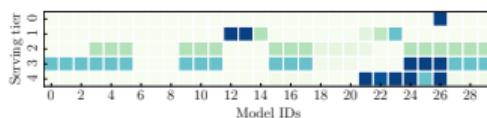
## Differences with Vanilla Similarity Caching

- Models have serving capacity, and can saturate when their capacity is exceeded
- Distribute allocation decisions among computing nodes with limited information exchange

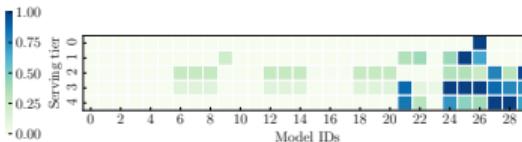
# Inference Delivery Networks – Contributions

## Contribution

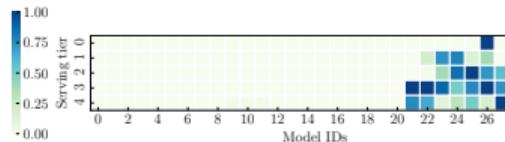
We propose a distributed online allocation algorithm for IDNs with a  $\psi$ -regret guarantee.



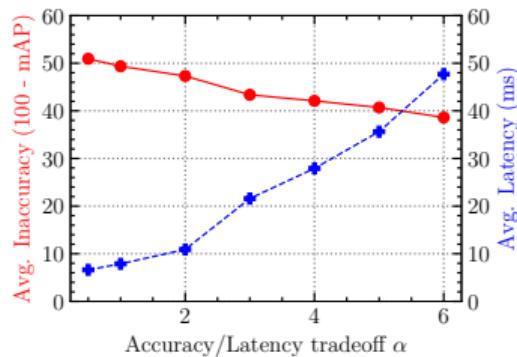
(a)  $\alpha = 3$



(b)  $\alpha = 4$



(c)  $\alpha = 5$



# Inference Delivery Networks – Research Output

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Towards Inference Delivery Networks: Distributing Machine  
Learning with Optimality Guarantees  
[C5]  
MedComNet, 2021  
T. Si Salem et al.

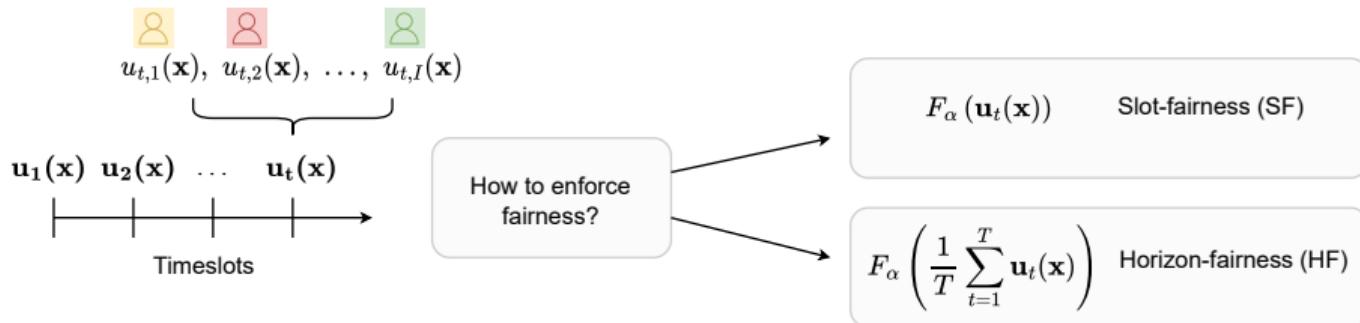
Towards Inference Delivery Networks: Distributing Machine  
Learning with Optimality Guarantees  
[S2]  
IEEE/ACM ToN, 2022 (under review)  
T. Si Salem et al.

# Presentation Organization

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1. Network Resource Allocation
2. Caching
3. Similarity Caching
4. Inference Delivery Networks
- 5. Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation**
6. Concluding Remarks

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation



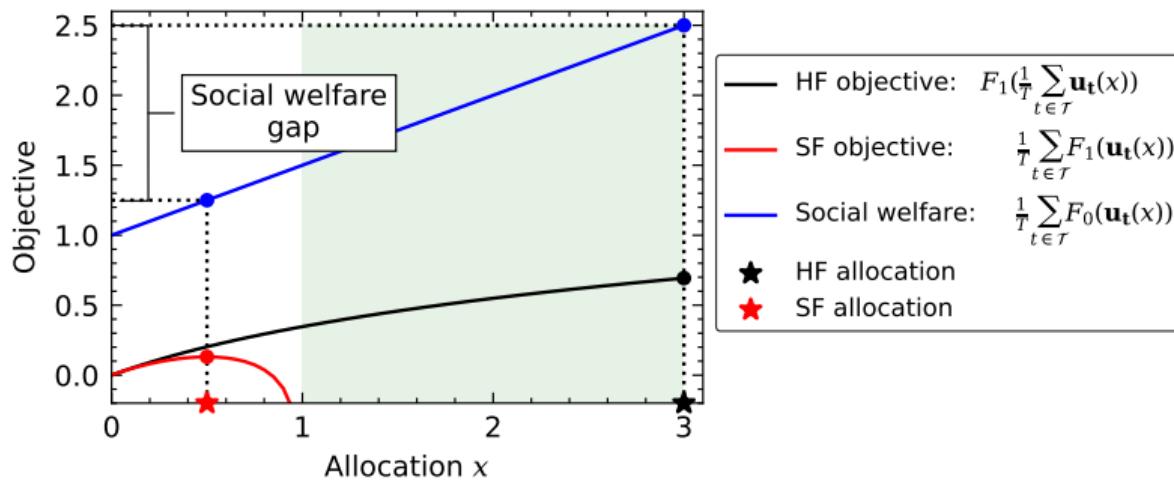
An  $\alpha$ -fairness function  $F_\alpha : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is parameterized by the *inequality aversion parameter*  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ , and it is given by

$$F_\alpha(\mathbf{u}) \triangleq \begin{cases} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \frac{u_i^{1-\alpha} - 1}{1-\alpha}, & \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \setminus \{1\}, \\ \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \log(u_i), & \text{for } \alpha = 1, \end{cases}$$

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation

Consider a system with two agents  $\mathcal{I} = \{1, 2\}$ , an allocation set  $\mathcal{X} = [0, x_{\max}]$  with  $x_{\max} > 1$ ,  $\alpha$ -fairness criterion with  $\alpha = 1$ , even  $T \in \mathbb{N}$ , and the following sequence of utilities

$$\{\mathbf{u}_t(x)\}_{t=1}^T = \{(1+x, 1-x), (1+x, 1+x), \dots\}.$$



Price of Fairness under HF and SF objectives for  $x_{\max} = 3$ . The green shaded area provides the set of allocation unachievable by the SF objective but achievable by the HF objective.

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation

We propose the *fairness regret* metric:

## Definition

The long-term fairness regret of a policy  $\mathcal{A}$  under  $\alpha$ -fairness is defined as follows:

$$\mathfrak{R}_T(F_\alpha, \mathcal{A}) \triangleq \sup_{\{\mathbf{u}_t\}_{t=1}^T \in \mathcal{U}^T} \left\{ F_\alpha \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} \mathbf{u}_t(\mathbf{x}_*) \right) - F_\alpha \left( \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} \mathbf{u}_t(\mathbf{x}_t) \right) \right\}.$$

When  $\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \mathfrak{R}_T(F_\alpha, \mathcal{A}) = 0$ , policy  $\mathcal{A}$  will attain the same fairness value as the static benchmark under any possible sequence of utility functions.

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation

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## Impossibility Result

We prove that vanishing regret cannot be achieved in presence of an unrestricted adversary (as the one assumed in OCO).

We prove that *mild* restrictions on the adversary's capabilities make vanishing regret achievable. We provide an online policy that indeed guarantees vanishing regret under these restrictions.

## Necessary Restrictions

These restrictions capture several practical utility patterns, such as non-stationary corruptions, ergodic and periodic inputs [LGK22, BLM22, ZLL<sup>+</sup>19, DAJJ12].

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation - OHF Policy

Require:

$$\mathcal{X}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, [u_{*,\min}, u_{*,\max}] \xleftarrow{\text{No learning rate tuning}}$$

- 1:  $\Theta \leftarrow [-1/u_{*,\min}^\alpha, -1/u_{*,\max}^\alpha]^{\mathcal{I}}$
- 2:  $x_1 \in \mathcal{X}; \theta_1 \in \Theta;$
- 3: **for**  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  **do**
- 4:   Reveal  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = (-F_\alpha)^*(\theta_t) - \theta_t \cdot u_t(x_t)$
- 5:    $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X},t} \in \partial_x \Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \theta_{t,i} \partial_{x_i} u_{t,i}$
- 6:    $\mathbf{g}_{\Theta,t} = \nabla_{\theta} \Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = ((-\theta_{t,i})^{-1/\alpha} - u_t(x_t))_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$
- 7:    $\eta_{\mathcal{X},t} = \frac{\text{diam}(\mathcal{X})}{\sqrt{\sum_{s=1}^t \|\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X},s}\|_2^2}}; \eta_{\Theta,t} = \frac{\alpha u_{\min}^{-1-1/\alpha}}{t}$
- 8:    $x_{t+1} = \Pi_{\mathcal{X}}(x_t + \eta_{\mathcal{X},t} \mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X},t}); \theta_{t+1} = \Pi_{\Theta}(\theta_t - \eta_{\Theta,t} \mathbf{g}_{\Theta,t})$   
      ▷ Compute a new allocation through OGA and a new dual decision through  
      OGD
- 9: **end for**

▷ Initialize the dual (conjugate) subspace  
▷ Initialize primal decision  $x_1$  and dual decision  $\theta_1$

▷ Incur reward  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t)$  and loss  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t)$   
▷ Compute supergradient  $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X},t}$  at  $x_t$  of reward  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, \cdot)$   
▷ Compute gradient  $\mathbf{g}_{\Theta,t}$  at  $\theta_t$  of loss  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\cdot, x_t)$

▷ Compute adaptive learning rates

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation - OHF Policy

Require:

- $\mathcal{X}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, [u_{*,\min}, u_{*,\max}]$
- 1:  $\Theta \leftarrow [-1/u_{*,\min}^\alpha, -1/u_{*,\max}^\alpha]^{\mathcal{I}}$
  - 2:  $x_1 \in \mathcal{X}; \theta_1 \in \Theta;$
  - 3: **for**  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  **do**
  - 4:   Reveal  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = (-F_\alpha)^*(\theta_t) - \theta_t \cdot u_t(x_t)$
  - 5:    $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X},t} \in \partial_x \Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \theta_{t,i} \partial_{x_i} u_{t,i}$
  - 6:    $\mathbf{g}_{\Theta,t} = \nabla_{\theta} \Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = ((-\theta_{t,i})^{-1/\alpha} - u_t(x_t))_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$
  - 7:    $\eta_{\mathcal{X},t} = \frac{\text{diam}(\mathcal{X})}{\sqrt{\sum_{s=1}^t \|\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X},s}\|_2^2}}; \eta_{\Theta,t} = \frac{\alpha u_{\min}^{-1-1/\alpha}}{t}$
  - 8:    $x_{t+1} = \Pi_{\mathcal{X}}(x_t + \eta_{\mathcal{X},t} \mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X},t}); \theta_{t+1} = \Pi_{\Theta}(\theta_t - \eta_{\Theta,t} \mathbf{g}_{\Theta,t})$
  - 9: **end for**

Formulate an Online Saddle Point problem

- ▷ Initialize the dual (conjugate) subspace
- ▷ Initialize primal decision  $x_1$  and dual decision  $\theta_1$
- ▷ Incur reward  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t)$  and loss  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, x_t)$
- ▷ Compute supergradient  $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X},t}$  at  $x_t$  of reward  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\theta_t, \cdot)$
- ▷ Compute gradient  $\mathbf{g}_{\Theta,t}$  at  $\theta_t$  of loss  $\Psi_{t,\alpha}(\cdot, x_t)$
- ▷ Compute adaptive learning rates
- ▷ Compute a new allocation through OGA and a new dual decision through OGD

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation - OHF Policy

Require:

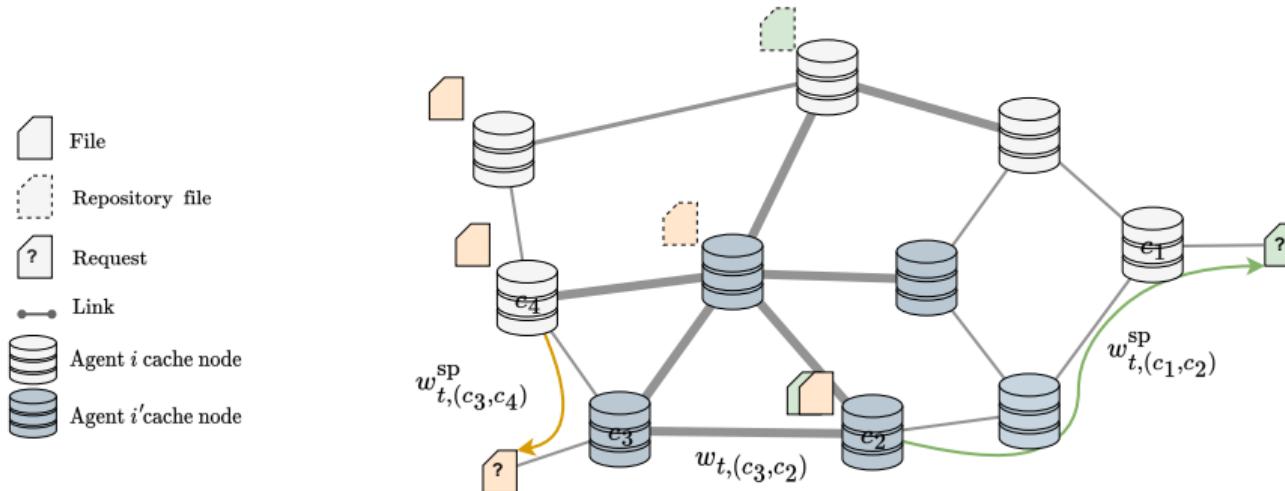
- $\mathcal{X}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, [u_{\star, \min}, u_{\star, \max}]$
- 1:  $\Theta \leftarrow [-1/u_{\star, \min}^{\alpha}, -1/u_{\star, \max}^{\alpha}]^{\mathcal{I}}$  ▷ Initialize the dual (conjugate) subspace
  - 2:  $x_1 \in \mathcal{X}; \theta_1 \in \Theta;$  ▷ Initialize primal decision  $x_1$  and dual decision  $\theta_1$
  - 3: **for**  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  **do**
  - 4:   Reveal  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = (-F_{\alpha})^*(\theta_t) - \theta_t \cdot u_t(x_t)$  ▷ Incur reward  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, x_t)$  and loss  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, \cdot)$
  - 5:    $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X}, t} \in \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \theta_{t, i} \partial_{\mathbf{x}} u_{t, i}$  ▷ Compute supergradient  $\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X}, t}$  at  $x_t$  of reward  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, \cdot)$
  - 6:    $\mathbf{g}_{\Theta, t} = \nabla_{\theta} \Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = ((-\theta_{t, i})^{-1/\alpha} - u_t(x_t))_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$  ▷ Compute gradient  $\mathbf{g}_{\Theta, t}$  at  $\theta_t$  of loss  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\cdot, x_t)$
  - 7:    $\eta_{\mathcal{X}, t} = \frac{\text{diam}(\mathcal{X})}{\sqrt{\sum_{s=1}^t \|\mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X}, s}\|_2^2}}; \eta_{\Theta, t} = \frac{\alpha u_{\min}^{-1-1/\alpha}}{t}$  ▷ Compute adaptive learning rates
  - 8:    $x_{t+1} = \Pi_{\mathcal{X}}(x_t + \eta_{\mathcal{X}, t} \mathbf{g}_{\mathcal{X}, t})$  ▷ Compute a new allocation through OGA and a new dual decision through  
OGD Adapt allocation
  - 9: **end for**

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation - OHF Policy

Require:

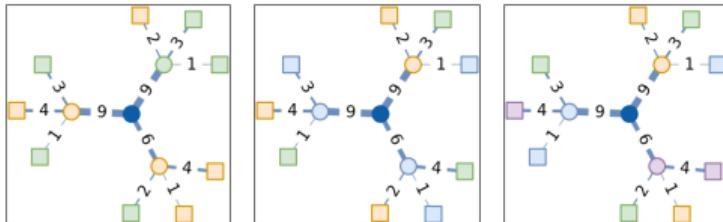
- $\mathcal{X}, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, [u_{\star, \min}, u_{\star, \max}]$
- 1:  $\Theta \leftarrow [-1/u_{\star, \min}^{\alpha}, -1/u_{\star, \max}^{\alpha}]^{\mathcal{I}}$  ▷ Initialize the dual (conjugate) subspace
  - 2:  $x_1 \in \mathcal{X}; \theta_1 \in \Theta;$  ▷ Initialize primal decision  $x_1$  and dual decision  $\theta_1$
  - 3: **for**  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  **do**
  - 4:   Reveal  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = (-F_{\alpha})^*(\theta_t) - \theta_t \cdot u_t(x_t)$  ▷ Incur reward  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, x_t)$  and loss  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, \cdot)$
  - 5:    $g_{\mathcal{X}, t} \in \partial_x \Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \theta_{t, i} \partial_x u_{t, i}$  ▷ Compute supergradient  $g_{\mathcal{X}, t}$  at  $x_t$  of reward  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, \cdot)$
  - 6:    $g_{\Theta, t} = \nabla_{\theta} \Psi_{t, \alpha}(\theta_t, x_t) = ((-\theta_{t, i})^{-1/\alpha} - u_t(x_t))_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$  ▷ Compute gradient  $g_{\Theta, t}$  at  $\theta_t$  of loss  $\Psi_{t, \alpha}(\cdot, x_t)$
  - 7:    $\eta_{\mathcal{X}, t} = \frac{\text{diam}(\mathcal{X})}{\sqrt{\sum_{s=1}^t \|g_{\mathcal{X}, s}\|_2^2}}; \eta_{\Theta, t} = \frac{\alpha u_{\min}^{-1-1/\alpha}}{t}$  ▷ Compute adaptive learning rates  
Correct fairness "weights"
  - 8:    $x_{t+1} = \Pi_{\mathcal{X}}(x_t + \eta_{\mathcal{X}, t} g_{\mathcal{X}, t}); \theta_{t+1} = \Pi_{\Theta}(\theta_t - \eta_{\Theta, t} g_{\Theta, t})$  ▷ Compute a new allocation through OGA and a new dual decision through OGD
  - 9: **end for**

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation

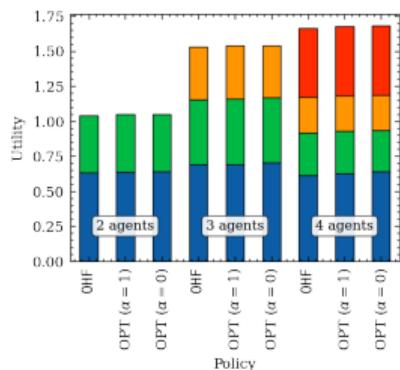


An application: a network comprised of a set of caching nodes  $\mathcal{C}$ . A request arrives at a cache node  $c \in \mathcal{C}$ , it can be partially served locally, and if needed, forwarded along the shortest retrieval path to another node to retrieve the remaining part of the file.

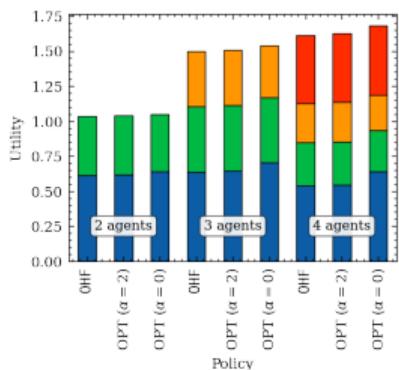
# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation – Some Results



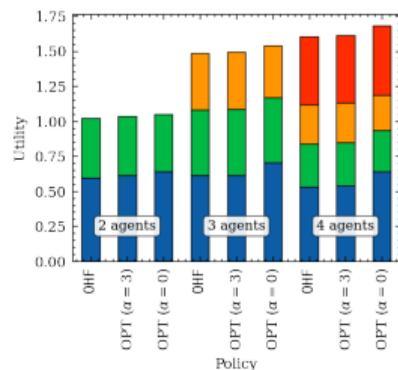
Agent 1 Agent 2 Agent 3 Agent 4



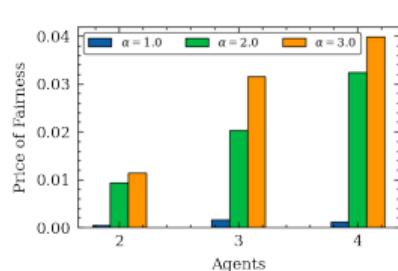
(a)  $\alpha = 1$



(b)  $\alpha = 2$

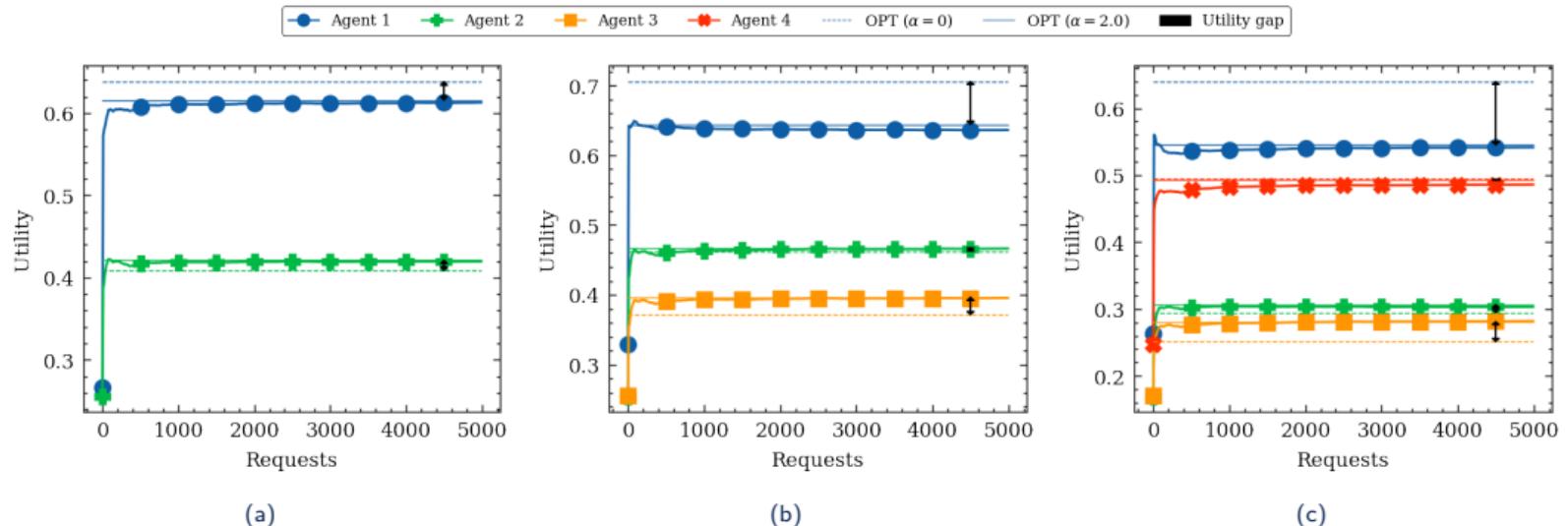


(c)  $\alpha = 3$



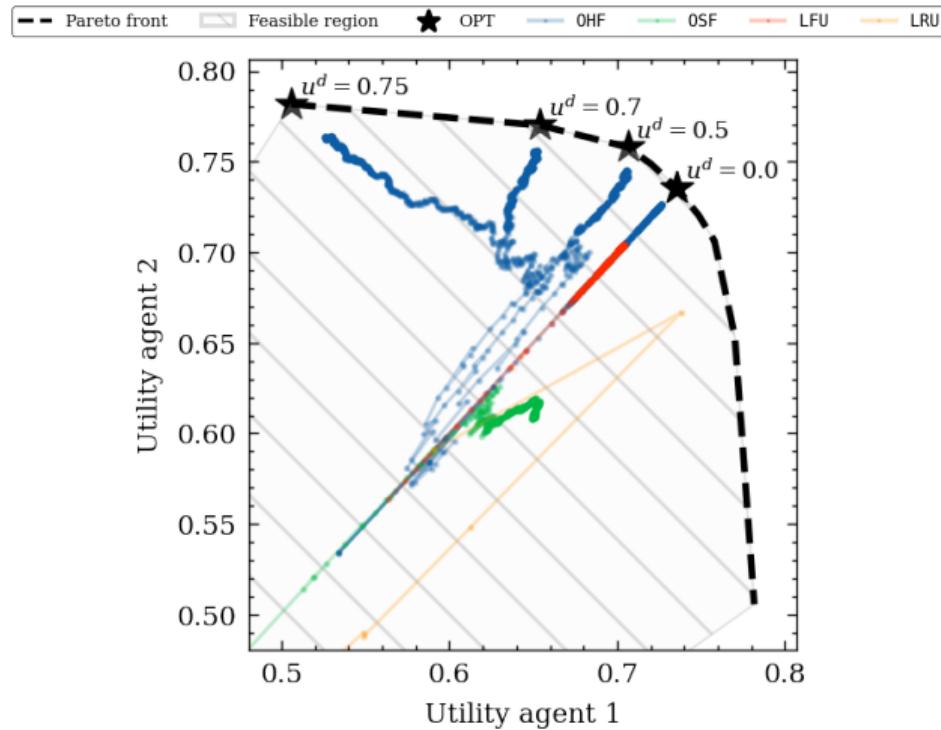
(d) Price of Fairness

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation – Some Results



The time-averaged utility across different agents obtained by OHF policy and OPT for  $\alpha = 2$  under an increasing number of agents in  $\{2, 3, 4\}$  and TREE 1–3 network topology.

# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation – Some Results



# Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation – Research Output

Enabling Long-term Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation  
[C6]  
ACM SIGMETRICS, 2023  
T. Si Salem, G. Iosifidis, and G. Neglia



During 5 months visit at **TU Delft, Netherlands**

Enabling Long-term Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation  
[J4]  
ACM POMACS, 2023  
T. Si Salem, G. Iosifidis, and G. Neglia.



# **Presentation Organization**

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1. Network Resource Allocation
2. Caching
3. Similarity Caching
4. Inference Delivery Networks
5. Fairness in Dynamic Resource Allocation
- 6. Concluding Remarks**

## Concluding Remarks

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- We demonstrated the versatility of gradient algorithms on inherently combinatorial problems when paired with an opportune randomized rounding scheme.
- Our extensive experimental findings support the thesis that these algorithms are robust and can adapt to changing external system's parameters.
- We proposed a novel long-term online fairness framework for settings where the agents' utilities are subject to unknown, time-varying, and potentially adversarial perturbations.

## Potential Future Work

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- Investigate dimensionality reduction techniques to diminish the operational complexity of online learning algorithms.
- Bridge the horizon-fairness and slot-fairness criteria to target applications where the agents are interested in ensuring fairness within a target time window.
- Add support for coalition formation in our fairness framework.
- Consider a limited feedback scenario where only part of the utility is revealed to the agents.

Thank you for your attention.

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