Welcome and Introduction

NDN Tutorial – ACM ICN 2015
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Slides available at: http://bit.ly/1Lk1Tlx
Outline

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• Brief Review
  • Architecture Overview
  • NDN Platform

• Tutorial Outline
  • Synchronization
  • Storage Options
  • Security
Core Idea

Modern communication consists of requests for named data

Today’s networks are based on host-to-host connections

NDN is a general-purpose network protocol built on requests for named data
Two Packet Types

Interest Packet

- Name
- Selectors (order preference, publisher filter, exclude filter, …)
- Nonce
- Guiders (scope, Interest lifetime)

Data Packet

- Name
- MetaInfo (content type, freshness period, …)
- Content
- Signature (signature type, key locator, signature bits, …)

No addresses

Publishers bind names to data; receivers verify
NDN Interest Forwarding

1. Do I have this data?

2. Is a request already pending?

3. Which next hop might lead to the source?
NDN Forwarding Illustrated

1 Emit Interest: xkcd.com/949/1
NDN Forwarding Illustrated

Interest packet arrives
1. Do my buffers contain xkcd.com/949/1?  
2. Is a pending request for it in flight?  
3. Where should I forward the interest? Add arriving interface to the pending interest list.
NDN Forwarding Illustrated

1. Emit Interest: xkcd.com/949/1
2. Interest arrives at switch
3. Interest arrives at gateway

Interest packet arrives
1. Do my buffers contain xkcd.com/949/1?
2. Is a pending request for it in flight?
3. Where should I forward the interest? Add arriving interface to the pending interest list.
What’s next

“A few years of designing and developing prototype applications on NDN has revealed five key areas of application research that map to important features of the architecture:

(1) namespaces;
(2) trust models;
(3) in-network storage;
(4) data synchronization;
(5) rendezvous, discovery, and bootstrapping.”

# NDN Platform

Core: NFD, the NDN Forwarding Daemon

Libraries: full featured implementations in a variety of languages

Applications: rich and growing software ecosystem

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See: [https://github.com/named-data](https://github.com/named-data)
NFD

NDN Forwarder, implementing the NDN network protocol and the latest packet format

Goals:

Facilitate research and experimentation
Provide free, open-source NDN implementation for the community

New features in the past year:

- NDNLPv2
- NACKs
- Links
- Permanent UDP Faces
- CS replacement policy interface
- Moved to C++11, lots of fixes and small improvements

https://github.com/named-data/nfd
NFD’s Major Pieces

- Management
- RIB Manager
- Strategies
- Forwarding
- Pipelines
- Faces
- ndn-cxx Library
- Tools
  - Tables: PIT, FIB, CS
  - Core
Evolution of the Libraries

All libraries reflect fundamental architectural abstractions directly in objects

Name, Interest, Data, Face, KeyChain, Validator, …

Libraries:

C++, C, Python (2 & 3), JavaScript (browser & Node.js), and Java

https://github.com/named-data/ndn-cxx
https://github.com/named-data/ndn-cpp
https://github.com/named-data/pyndn2
https://github.com/named-data/ndn-js
https://github.com/named-data/jndn
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Today’s Agenda

Goal: Help guide research and application development beyond basics

Use a new chat application as a motivating example for “intermediate” NDN concepts:
  - Synchronization – Abstractions beyond Interest/Data exchanges
  - Storage Options – Alternatives to relying on in-network Content Stores
  - Trust & Verification – Specifying what content to trust

Also explore access control to fitness data (NDNFit project)
Sync: Beyond Interests and Data

Sync : Interest/Data :: TCP : IP
  Provide higher-level abstraction for common functionality
  In IP: TCP provides features like reliability, ordering, etc.
  In NDN: Above features provided elsewhere, so we focus on improving knowledge about datasets/collections

Sync is an active NDN research topic
  ChronoSync (improved version coming)
  iSync

Today
  Discuss the sync’s role and the current landscape (Hila Ben Abraham)
  Illustrate sync in action by starting to build our app (Jeff Thompson)
Storage Options

Application In-Memory Storage (IMS): app regulated Data and Interest storage
  App can store Data packets in IMS
  IMS register prefix on app’s behalf, notify on cache miss
  Can also act as an in-memory PIT

Repository (repo): persistent, in-network, storage
  Stores Data packets on disk
  Interest/Data API for insertion and polling namespaces for new content

Content Store (CS): ephemeral, in-network, storage
  Useful for retransmission/recovery
  Essentially every node has (configurable) storage
  Entries stored in NFD’s memory

Today
  Discuss available & upcoming options over lunch (Jeff Burke)
Trust

Trust is a cornerstone of the NDN architecture

Requiring every Data packet to be signed puts trust at the front of the developer and user’s mind

   How do I identify the signer?
   How do I determine if I should trust someone?

Trust often follows structure (e.g. a particular organization)
   Structure can be reflected in content and key naming scheme

Today
   Demonstrate how construct and use trust schemas (Alex Afanasyev)
   Review Library trust API and add signing/verification to app (Jeff Thompson)
Access Control

NDN encourages securing content over channels

Want to enforce access control on cached content anywhere in the network

Channel’s security is gone once content arrives

Stock answer: just encrypt the content!

How do we make the content reusable? (Avoid per user encryption)
What is the granularity of control and how does it relate to naming?
How do we disseminate keys?

Today

Name-based access control in the context of NDNFit (Yingdi Yu)