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A Review of ALM Software in Practical Use

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Sean





Self Introduction: ALM-related work

- Apr 2001 Mar 2006 Research Scientist, AIST
 - Overlay Weaver: An overlay construction toolkit
 - A library and an emulation toolkit for (structured) overlays.
 - Provides DHT and ALM services. Implements Chord, Kademlia, ...
 - Runs a DHT service on PlanetLab with about 600 nodes.
 - Provides IP(v4) multicast router (bin/owmrouted),
 which connects native multicast domains with Scribe-style ALM.
- Apr 2006 Nov 2008 Director, CTO, Utagoe Inc.
 - UG Live: A peer-to-peer live streaming software
 - Mesh-based ALM (* tree-based).
 - Commercially provided. Achieved over 10^5 simultaneous viewers.









ALM in Practical Use

- PPlive, PPstream, Mysee, Roxbeam, UUsee, ...
- UG Live from Utagoe Inc.
- BBbroadcast from TV Bank Corp. BBbroadcast
 - Developed by Roxbeam and TV Bank.
 Originated from CoolStreaming/DONet (INFOCOM 2005).
- ShareCast from Bitmedia Inc and ANCL, Inc.



Dr. Hiroshi Kawahara former? CTO, TV Bank



Dr. Tomo Sonoda and me CEO and former CTO, Utagoe

Mr. Masaharu Takano Mr. Takayuki Saito CEO, Bitmedia Inc CEO, ANCL, Inc.



Radio broadcasting (from June 2 to 30, 2008) delivered by NIPPON BROADCASTING SYSTEM, Impress Imageworks, J-Stream and Utagoe



Nikkei CNBC broadcasting (from March 24 to 28, 2008) delivered by TV Tokyo Broadband Inc. and Utagoe Inc.

Simultaneous with TV

UG Live



Saopers Hokkein

APAN

NORTH Pyongyang

Seoul A

KOREA

Live broadcasting of an Online Multiplayer Game (from Sep 25, 2008 to Oct 14) delivered by SEGA SAMMY and Utagoe

Canthou

UG Live





Sachers Howkoins

iowsno.

HATAI

NORTH

Seoul

SOUTH

* Pyongyang

KOREA

• Professional baseball games (2009/4 -)

Lanzhou

Chenbell

UG Live: Traffic reduction

• More than 90% of traffic reduced around the source

SHODDES

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• with Utagoe's UG Live software



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Pr	operties	BBbroadcast	UG Live	ShareCast
	Developers	TV Bank & Roxbeam	Utagoe	Bitmedia & ANCL
	ALM method	Mesh-based	Mesh-based	Tree-based
	Prog. language	Python (to C++ ?)	Java	Java
	Soft. installation	required	Not req (Java Applet)	Not req (Java Applet)
	Max. simul.	79,227	10^4 -	10^2 - ???
	Business model	Delivery service	Licensing, Delivery service, B2C tried once	Licensing, Delivery service, B2C planned

- Common properties
 - Overlay maintenance: pure P2P (all nodes maintain their neighbors autonomically). cf. Some ALM systems deploy membership servers.
 - Windows Media Codecs and Players. They all support Windows, but Silverlight will help on other platforms.
 - An overlay works in its own protocol. \rightarrow PPSP WG ??
- Note
 - UG Live cooperates with a topology service (e.g. P4P, ALTO). See Kamei's talk in P2P-RG, IETF 75.
 - I believe mesh-based ALM is much better in unstable Internet environment. Most (or all) commercial ALM software from China is mesh-based.
 - Number of viewers is determined by the demand of the content, not technology. Content holders rule. The number can be raised by providing multiple overlays.

Today and Future

- Can ALM compete with Unicast streaming services like Ustream.tv and Stickam ?
 - Unicast biz requires plenty investment \rightarrow not sustainable ?
- Install-less
 - Achieved with Java Applet, but requires large Java runtime (JRE).
 - Does RTMFP, a peer-to-peer protocol in Flash Player help?
- Support Flash (RTMP) ? \rightarrow No or requires much work
 - In case upward traffic is shut up, Windows Media works and Flash does not.
 - Lesson: ALM software is not free from video streaming protocol.