

# **ITW-2018 TUTORIAL**

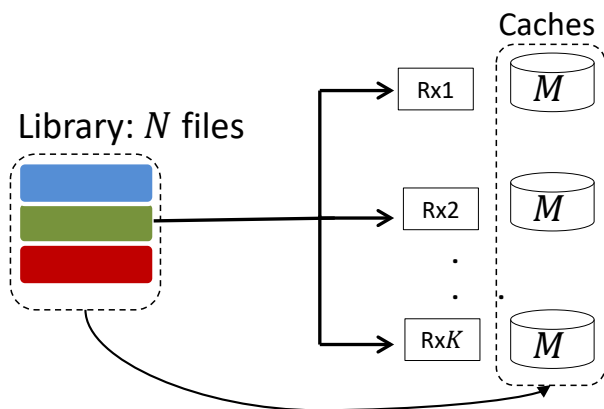
## **CODED CACHING AND DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**

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# Two Problems Sharing Some Fundamentals

## Cache-aided Communications



## Communications in Distributed Computing

Common ingredients:  
Communication cost and redundancy of stored/computed data

Common tool: Clique-based coding  
Common Bottlenecks/Challenges

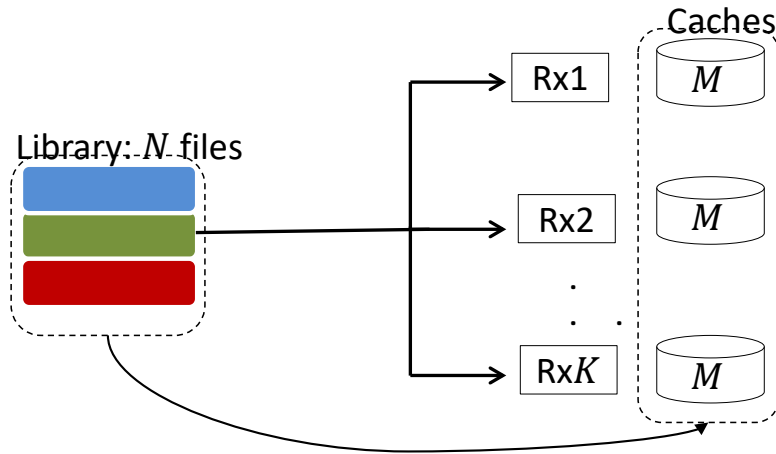
# Outline

- Basic elements of coded caching (first communications)
  - Basic properties
  - Main gains & Important variants
- Ramifications of coded caching in distributed computing
  - Coded map reduce
  - Tradeoff between computing and communicating
  - Main bottlenecks
- Main challenges
  - Subpacketization: The bottleneck and new algorithmic solutions
  - Non uniformity: The bottleneck and new solutions
- Exploiting multiple dimensions to alleviate bottlenecks
  - Multiplicative gains by reducing subpacketization
  - Reducing effect of non uniformity
  - New coding structures
- Open problems and closing remarks

## Simple Caching



# First: Cache-Aided Communications

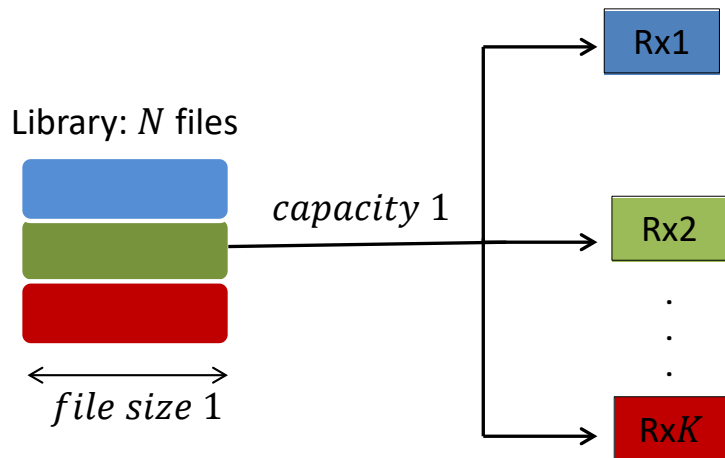


$$\gamma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{M}{N} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\text{individual cache size}}{\text{library size}}$$

$T(\gamma)$ : duration of delivery phase

OBJECTIVE: reduce  $T(\gamma)$

# Single-stream Channel: No Caching ( $M = 0$ )

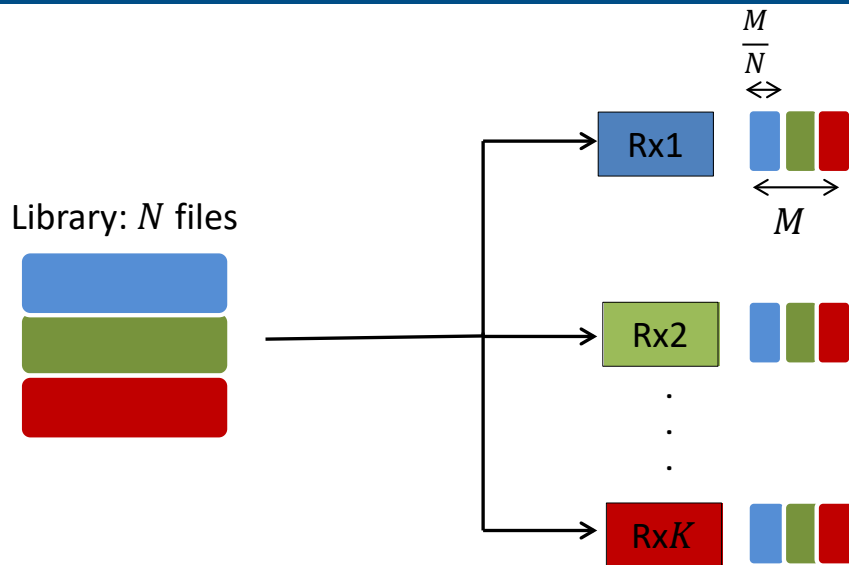



- Transmission sequence:



$$T = K$$

# Traditional Caching (Worst-Case Consideration)

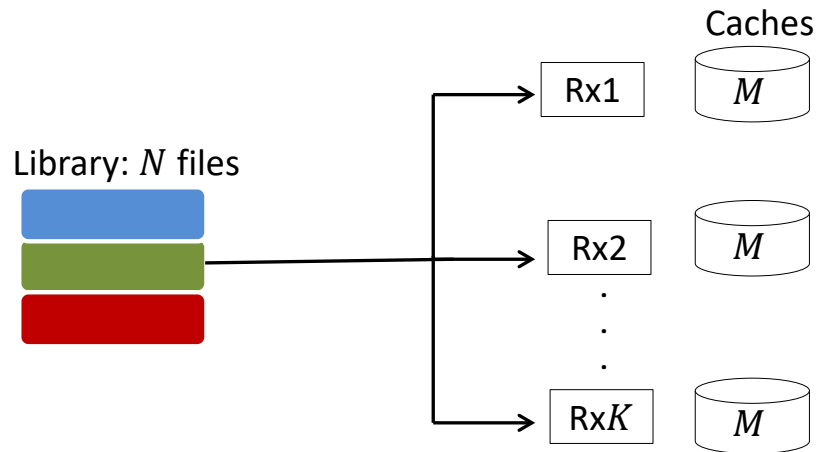


- Transmission sequence: 
- Local cache gain:  $(1 - M/N)$  for each user
- The rate:

$$T = K(1 - M/N) = K(1 - \gamma),$$

$$\gamma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{M}{N}$$

## The power of advanced caching

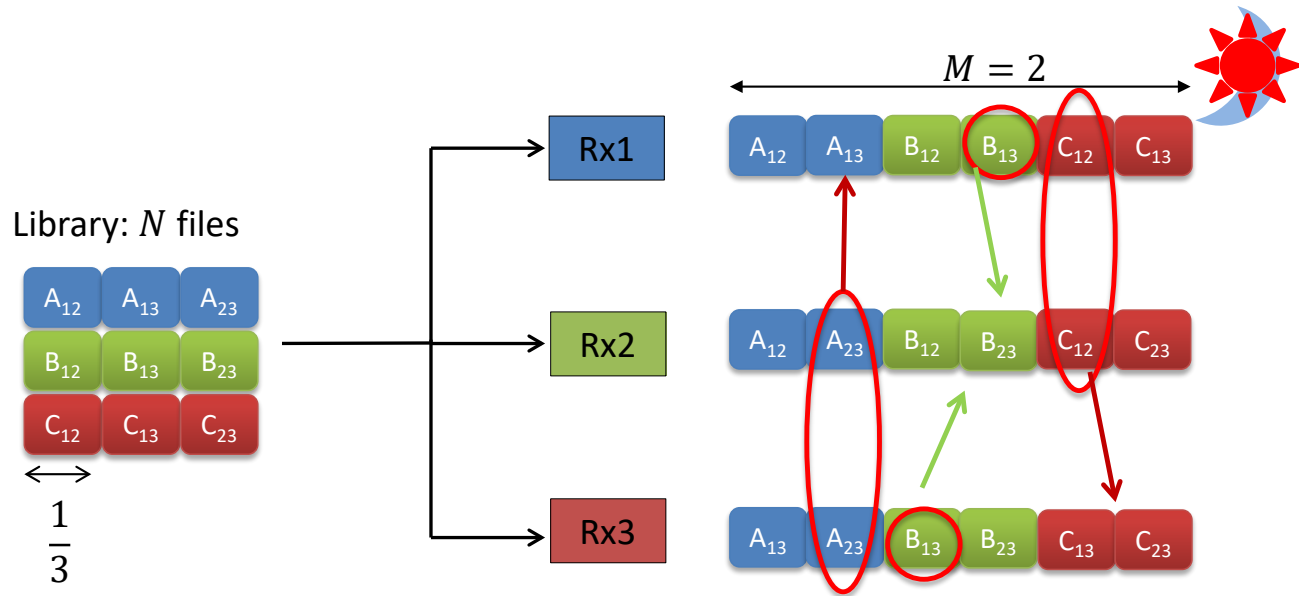


## Key breakthrough: USE CACHES TO CANCEL INTERFERENCE

- Cache so that one transmission is useful to many
  - Even if requested files are different
- Large decreases in delay

Result: Maddah-Ali, Niesen (2013)

Example:  $N = K = 3, M = 2$  ( $\gamma = \frac{M}{N} = \frac{2}{3}$ )



- Transmit :  $A_{23} \oplus B_{13} \oplus C_{12}$  (a common message for all)

$$Gain = 3 = \frac{KM}{N} \text{ users at a time}$$

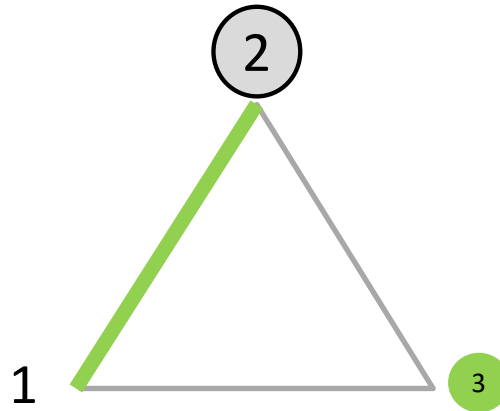
# Coded Caching: Intuition - Clique

- *Deliver to  $K\gamma + 1$  users at a time*
- *Via XORs with  $K\gamma + 1$  subfiles.*
  - ***Each user (out of the  $K\gamma + 1$  now served) knows all summands except its own***

$$T = \frac{K(1 - \gamma)}{1 + K\gamma} \approx \frac{1 - \gamma}{\gamma}$$

# Coded Caching: Intuition - Clique

$$K = 3, K\gamma = 2$$

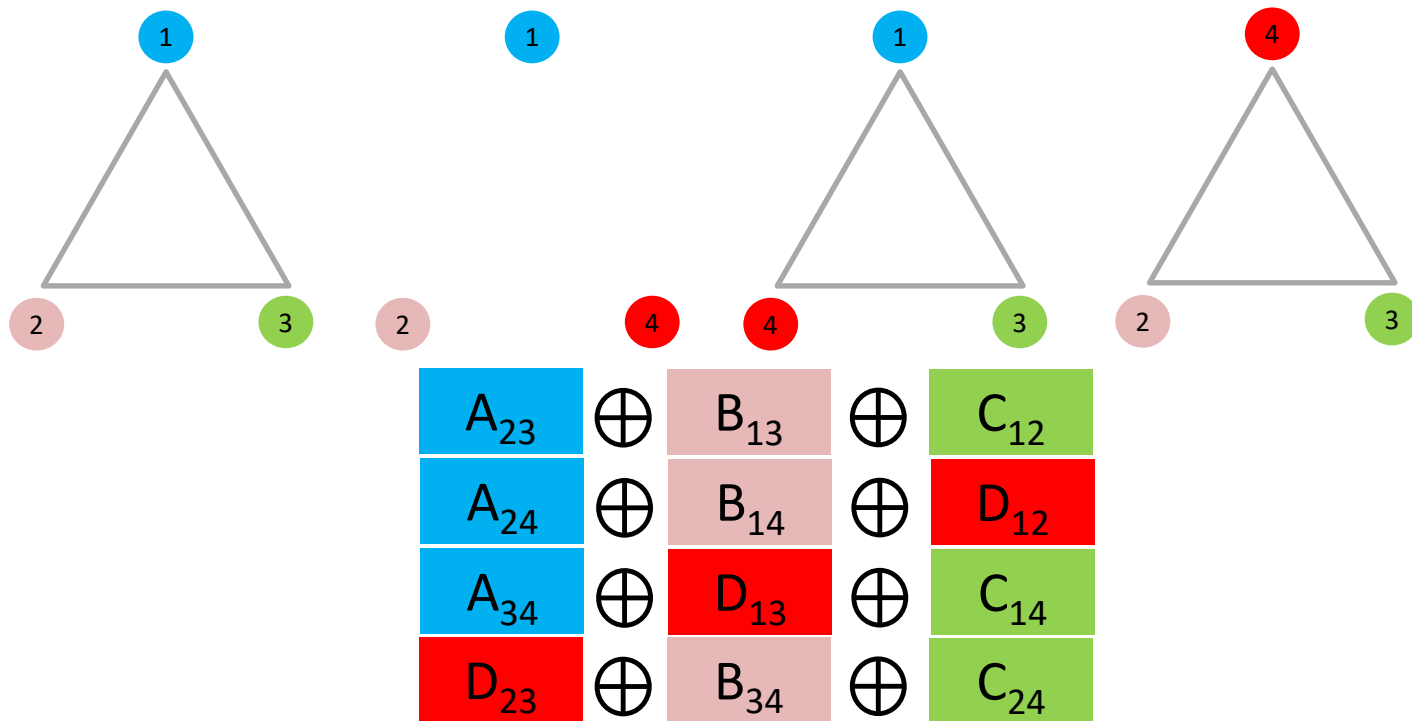


$$A_{23} \oplus B_{13} \oplus C_{12}$$



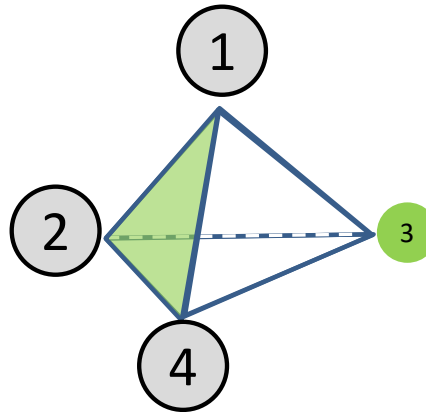
# Coded Caching: Intuition - Cliques

$$K = 4, K\gamma = 2$$



# Coded Caching: Intuition - Clique

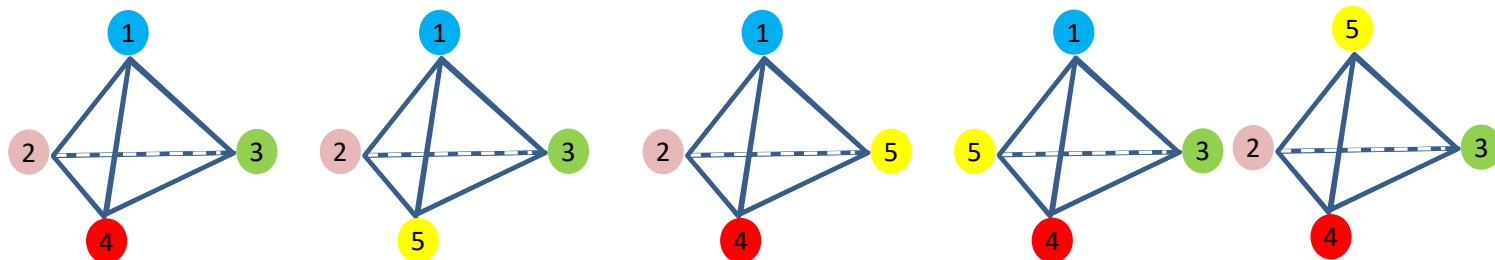
$$K = 4, K\gamma = 3$$



$$D_{123} \oplus A_{234} \oplus B_{134} \oplus C_{124}$$

# Coded Caching: Intuition - Cliques

$$K = 5, K\gamma = 3$$

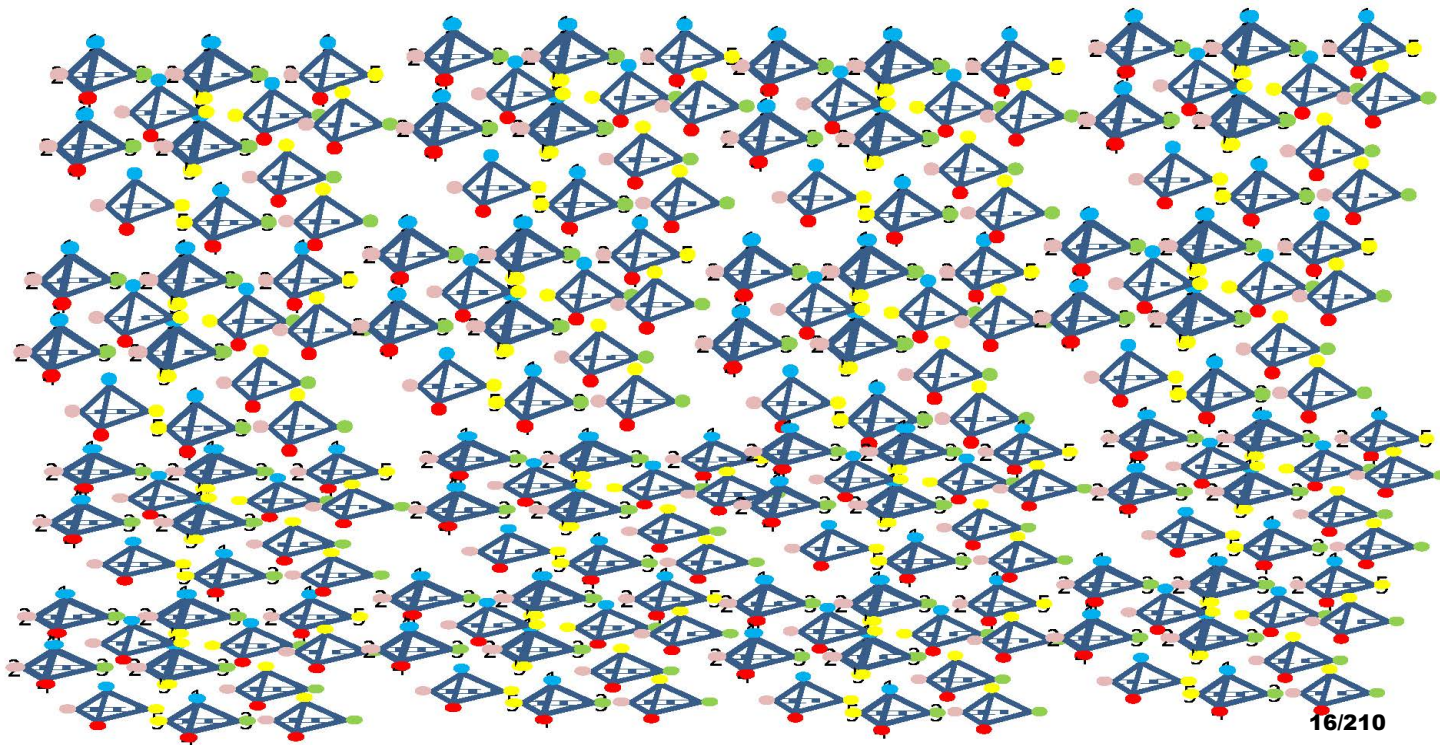


$D_{123}$	$\oplus$	$A_{234}$	$\oplus$	$B_{134}$	$\oplus$	$C_{124}$
$E_{123}$	$\oplus$	$A_{235}$	$\oplus$	$B_{135}$	$\oplus$	$C_{125}$
$E_{124}$	$\oplus$	$A_{245}$	$\oplus$	$D_{125}$	$\oplus$	$B_{145}$
$E_{134}$	$\oplus$	$A_{345}$	$\oplus$	$D_{135}$	$\oplus$	$C_{145}$
$E_{234}$	$\oplus$	$B_{345}$	$\oplus$	$D_{235}$	$\oplus$	$C_{245}$

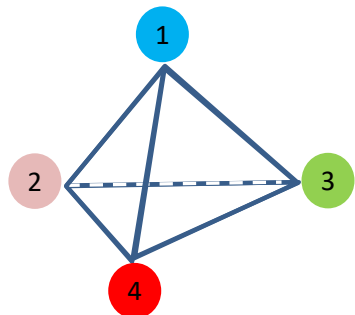
# Coded Caching: Intuition – Problematically Many Cliques

$$K = 100, \quad K\gamma = 9$$

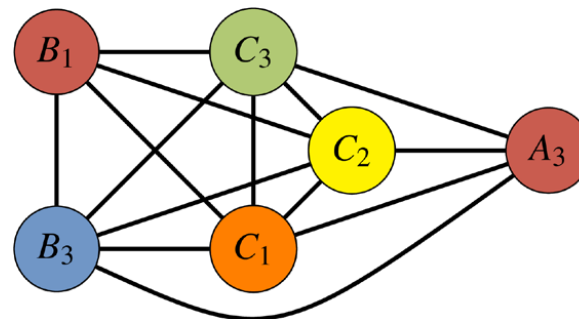
9 users at a time,  $2 \cdot 10^{13}$  cliques



# Extension of Clique-based Idea



$$D_{123} \oplus A_{234} \oplus B_{134} \oplus C_{124}$$



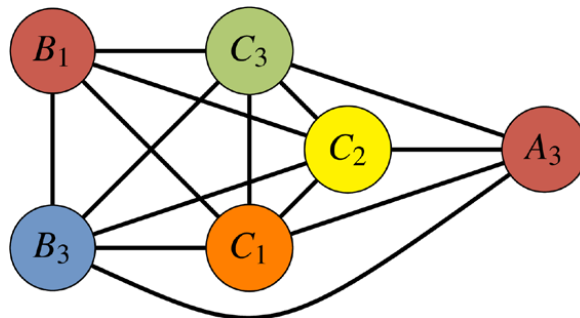
$$A_3 \oplus B_1 \oplus B_3 \oplus C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus C_3$$

Variety of settings:

- Non-uniform demands
- Decentralized placement

# Non-uniform Example: Graph Coloring for XORs

Connected vertices must have different colors



Transmission



$$T(\gamma) = 5/3$$

Gain

$$\frac{|Q|}{\chi(H_{C,Q})} \quad (\chi \text{ is chromatic number})$$

Calculation:

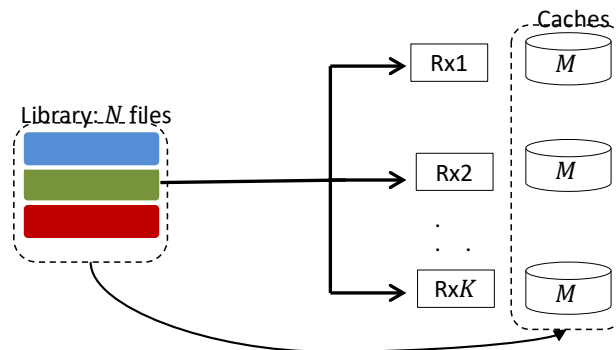
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{|Q|}{\chi(H_{C,Q})} &= \frac{K(1-\gamma)}{T} \\ &= \frac{3\left(1-\frac{1}{3}\right)}{5/3} = \frac{6}{5} \end{aligned}$$

## The Optimization Problem:

Optimize how you cache and send each bit

Another (ongoing) Success of  
Information Theory

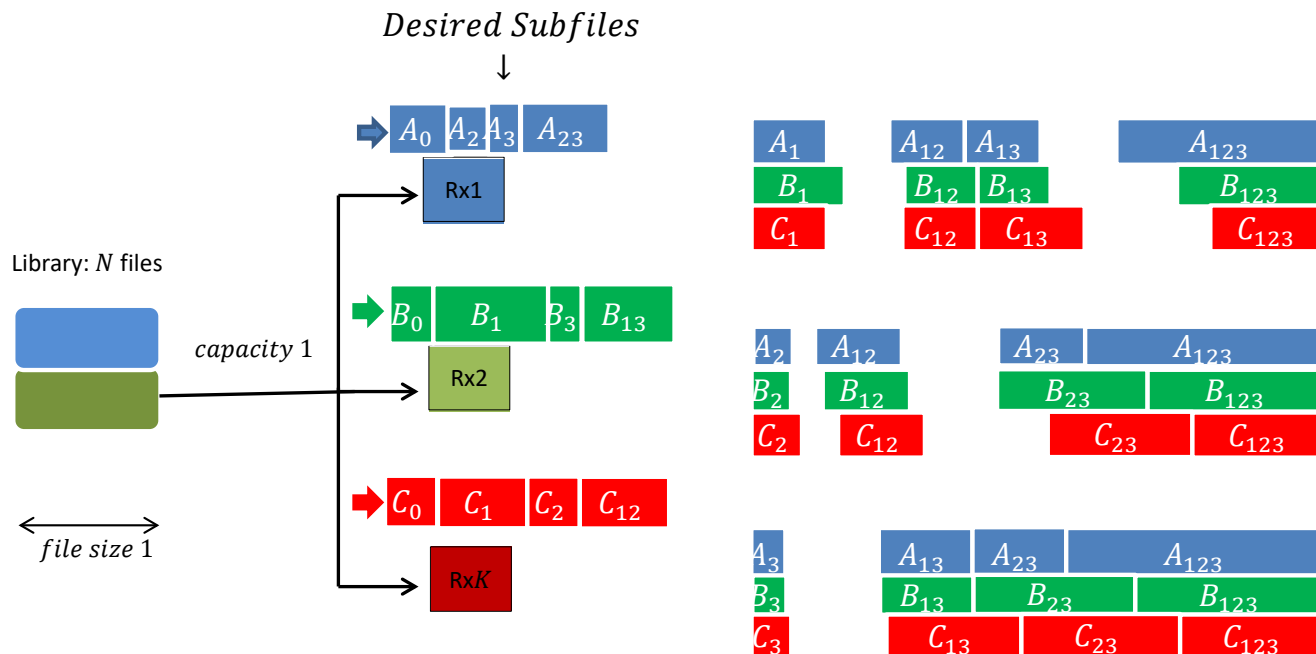
# The Optimization Problem (Caching Placement Part)



$$T^*(M) = \min_{\text{schemes } \chi} \max_{\text{demands } d} T(d, \chi, M)$$



# The Optimization Problem (Delivery Part)



*Transmission*

Scheme  $F \rightarrow F_1(A_{P_1}, B_{Q_1}, C_{R_1}) \quad F_2(A_{P_2}, B_{Q_2}, C_{R_2}) \quad \dots \quad F_{T_F}(A_{P_T}, B_{Q_T}, C_{R_T})$

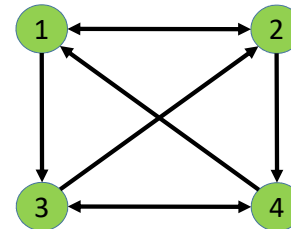
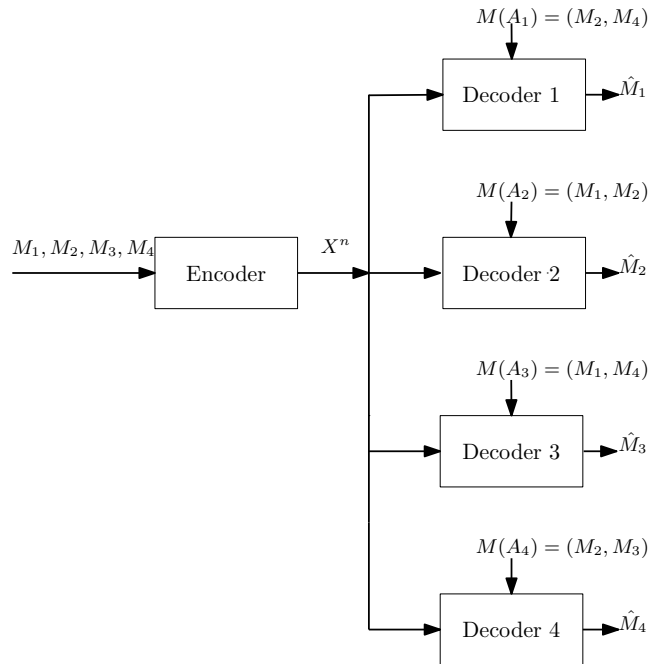
Scheme  $\Phi \rightarrow \Phi_1(A_{P_1}, B_{Q_1}, C_{R_1}) \quad \Phi_2(A_{P_2}, B_{Q_2}, C_{R_2}) \quad \dots \quad \Phi_{T_\Phi}(A_{P_T}, B_{Q_T}, C_{R_T})$

Scheme  $\mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_1(A_{P_1}, B_{Q_1}, C_{R_1}) \quad \mathcal{K}_2(A_{P_2}, B_{Q_2}, C_{R_2}) \quad \dots \quad \mathcal{K}_{T_{\mathcal{K}}}(A_{P_T}, B_{Q_T}, C_{R_T})$

$\vdots$

# Tool: Coded Caching $\rightarrow$ Index Coding $\rightarrow$ Graphs

- This is an index coding problem
- Example: 4-message index coding problem



# Tool: Maximum Acyclic Subgraph Bound

## Theorem

*If  $G$  is acyclic, then optimal delay is*

$$T^*(G) = |G|.$$



**Figure:** As if no side information (i.e., TDMA is best you can do)

## Theorem

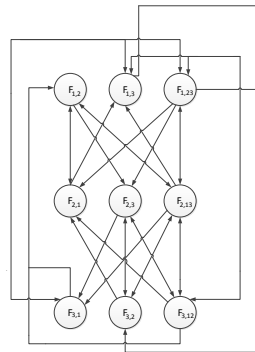
*For any problem corresponding to an arbitrary  $G$ , then*

$$T \geq \sum_{j \in J} |M_j|$$

*for all acyclic subgraphs  $J \subset G$ .*

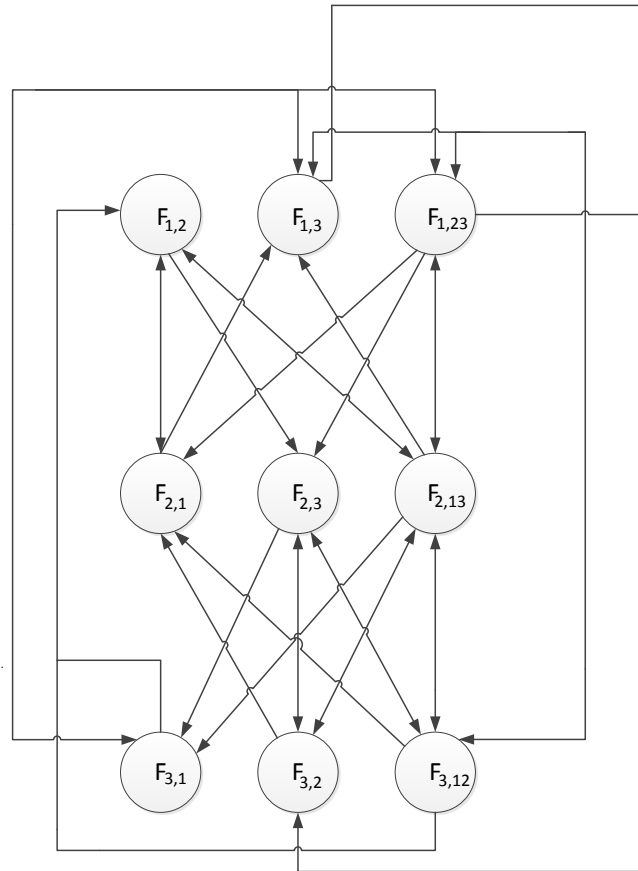
# Step: Create Graph for One Caching Problem

- Get  $\mathbf{d}$  (e.g.  $\mathbf{d} = (1, 2, 3)$ )
- General split  $F_i$  to  $F_{i,\mathcal{W}}$ 
  - $\mathcal{W} \in 2^{[3]} = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$
- Each node = desired sub-file
- Row  $j$  for user  $j$
- Edge from  $i$  to  $j$  if user  $j$  knows sub-file  $i$



- K. Wan, D. Tuninetti and P. Piantanida, "On the Optimality of Uncoded Cache Placement", 2016

# Step: Create Graph for One Caching Problem



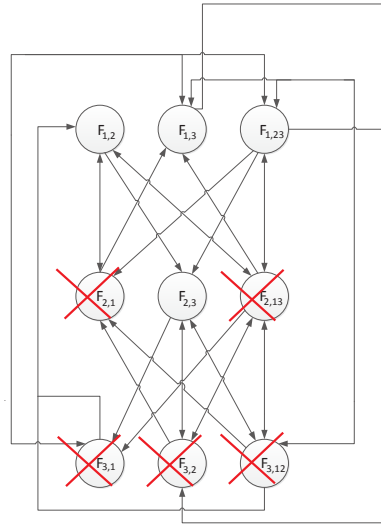
<sup>1</sup>Image source: Wan et al. 2017

# Step: Create Maximal Acyclic Subgraph - Arrows Down

$F_{d_1, \mathcal{W}_1}$  for all  $\mathcal{W}_1 \subseteq [1 : 3] \setminus \{1\}$

$F_{d_2, \mathcal{W}_2}$  for all  $\mathcal{W}_2 \subseteq [1 : 3] \setminus \{1, 2\}$

$F_{d_3, \mathcal{W}_3}$  for all  $\mathcal{W}_3 \subseteq [1 : 3] \setminus \{1, 2, 3\} = \emptyset$



$$T_u(M) \geq |F_{1,\emptyset}| + |F_{1,2}| + |F_{1,3}| + |F_{1,23}| + |F_{2,\emptyset}| + |F_{2,3}| + |F_{3,\emptyset}|$$

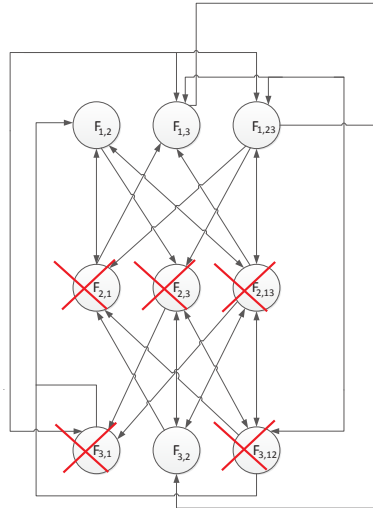
# Step: More Acyclic Subgraphs - Permute Users ( $\pi = (1, 3, 2)$ )

$$d_{\pi_1} = d_1 = 1; \mathcal{W}_1 \subseteq [1 : 3] \setminus \{\pi_1\} = \{2, 3\}$$

$$d_{\pi_2} = d_3 = 3; \mathcal{W}_2 \subseteq [1 : 3] \setminus \{\pi_1, \pi_2\} = \{2\}$$

$$d_{\pi_3} = d_2 = 2; \mathcal{W}_3 \subseteq [1 : 3] \setminus \{\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3\} = \emptyset$$

$$T_u(M) \geq |F_{1,\emptyset}| + |F_{1,2}| + |F_{1,3}| + |F_{1,23}| + |F_{3,2}| + |F_{3,\emptyset}| + |F_{2,\emptyset}|$$



## Step: More Graphs for Symmetry - Add Acyclic Subgraphs

- $[3!]$  possible demand vectors
- $[3!]$  possible permutations
- sum  $[3!]^2$  possible bounds

$$T_u(M) \geq |F_{1,\emptyset}| + |F_{1,2}| + |F_{1,3}| + |F_{1,23}| + |F_{2,\emptyset}| + |F_{2,3}| + |F_{3,\emptyset}|$$

$$T_u(M) \geq |F_{1,\emptyset}| + |F_{1,2}| + |F_{1,3}| + |F_{1,23}| + |F_{3,2}| + |F_{3,\emptyset}| + |F_{2,\emptyset}|$$

$\vdots$

$$T_u(M)(3!)^2 \geq \sum_{\mathbf{d}} \sum_{\pi} \sum_{j \in [3]} \sum_{\mathcal{W}_j \in 2^{[3]} : \mathcal{W}_j \setminus \{\pi_1, \dots, \pi_j\}} |F_{d_{\pi_j}, \mathcal{W}_j}|$$



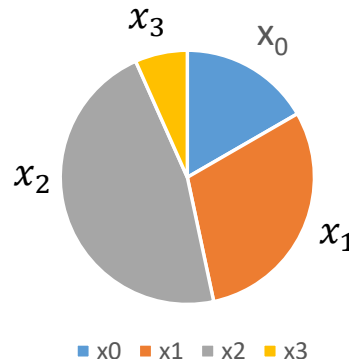
## Step: Exploit Symmetry - Counting Arguments

- Each sub-file that is cached in  $|\mathcal{W}| = t$  caches, appears an equal number of times
- Allows for nice transition, from

$$T_u(M) \geq \sum_{j \in [3]} \sum_{\mathcal{W}_j \in 2^{[3]} : \mathcal{W}_j \setminus \{\pi_1, \dots, \pi_j\}} |F_{d_{\pi_j}, \mathcal{W}_j}|$$

- to

$$T_u(M) \geq \sum_{i \in [0:3]} x_i \frac{1 - i/3}{1 + i} = x_0 + \frac{1}{3}x_1 + \frac{1}{9}x_2 + 0x_3 \quad (1)$$



## Step: Final optimization

- Optimize

$$x_0 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot x_1 + \frac{1}{9} \cdot x_2 + 0 \cdot x_3$$

- Under total file size constraint:

$$x_0 + x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 3$$

- total cache size constraint:

$$0 \cdot x_0 + 1 \cdot x_1 + 2x_2 + 3 \cdot x_3 \leq 3M$$

- Solution (*See also Yu, Maddah-Ali, Avestimehr*):

$$x_2 = 3 = 100\%$$



- Final answer:

$$T^* \geq \frac{K - t}{1 + t} = \frac{K(1 - \gamma)}{1 + K\gamma}$$

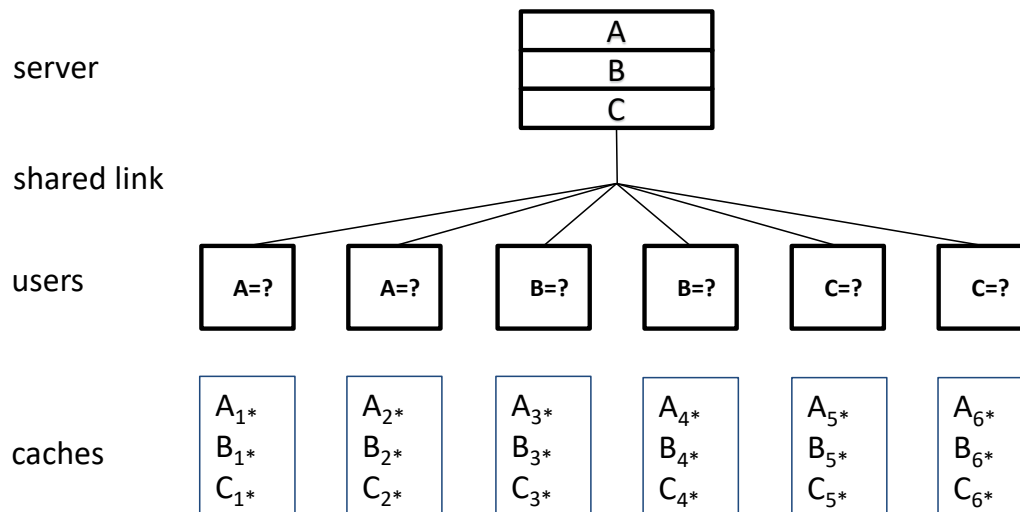
# Toward average delay: $N < K$

- Optimality result extends to case of  $N < K$

$$T^* = \frac{\binom{K}{K\gamma + 1} - \binom{K - \min(K, N)}{K\gamma + 1}}{\binom{K}{K\gamma}}$$

- As well as to average-delay case for uniform distribution
  - Single stream scenario
- Proof based on new scheme for  $N < K$

# Toward average delay: $N < K$



- $K = 6, N = 3, M = 1$

- Subpacketization  $\binom{6}{2} = 15$

$$A_{12}, A_{13}, A_{14}, \dots, A_{56}, \\ B_{12}, \dots, B_{56}, C_{12}, \dots, C_{56}.$$

- MN Placement

- MN Delivery:

$$\text{Broadcast } \binom{6}{3} = 20 \text{ XORs} \Rightarrow T = \frac{20}{15}.$$

- Modified scheme can skip 1 XOR

$$\Rightarrow T = \frac{19}{15} \text{ Optimal}$$

# Toward average delay: $N < K$

- Ordinarily would send 20 XORs

- $X_{123} = A_{23} \oplus A_{13} \oplus B_{12}$

- $X_{124} = A_{24} \oplus A_{14} \oplus B_{12}$

- $X_{125} = A_{25} \oplus A_{15} \oplus C_{12}$

- $X_{126} = A_{46} \oplus A_{26} \oplus C_{12}$

- .....

- $X_{146} = A_{46} \oplus B_{16} \oplus C_{14}$

- .....

- ~~$X_{246} = A_{46} \oplus B_{26} \oplus C_{24}$~~

- .....

- $X_{456} = B_{56} \oplus C_{46} \oplus C_{45}$

# Toward average delay: $N < K$

- Skip  $\mathbf{X}_{246} = \mathbf{A}_{46} \oplus \mathbf{B}_{26} \oplus \mathbf{C}_{24}$
- Focus on user 2 ( needs  $\mathbf{A}_{46}$  )
- Have transmitted:
  - $\mathbf{X}_{146} = \mathbf{A}_{46} \oplus \mathbf{B}_{16} \oplus \mathbf{C}_{14}$
  - $\mathbf{X}_{145} = \mathbf{A}_{45} \oplus \mathbf{B}_{15} \oplus \mathbf{C}_{14}$
  - $\mathbf{X}_{136} = \mathbf{A}_{36} \oplus \mathbf{B}_{16} \oplus \mathbf{C}_{13}$
  - $\mathbf{X}_{135} = \mathbf{A}_{35} \oplus \mathbf{B}_{15} \oplus \mathbf{C}_{13}$
- Adding up:
  - $\mathbf{X}_{146} \oplus \mathbf{X}_{145} \oplus \mathbf{X}_{136} \oplus \mathbf{X}_{135} = \mathbf{A}_{46} \oplus \mathbf{A}_{45} \oplus \mathbf{A}_{36} \oplus \mathbf{A}_{35}$
- $\mathbf{A}_{45} \leftarrow \mathbf{X}_{245} = \mathbf{A}_{45} \oplus \mathbf{B}_{25} \oplus \mathbf{C}_{24}$
- $\mathbf{A}_{36} \leftarrow \mathbf{X}_{236} = \mathbf{A}_{36} \oplus \mathbf{B}_{26} \oplus \mathbf{C}_{23}$
- $\mathbf{A}_{35} \leftarrow \mathbf{X}_{235} = \mathbf{A}_{35} \oplus \mathbf{B}_{25} \oplus \mathbf{C}_{23}$
- $\rightarrow$  Decode  $\mathbf{A}_{\{4,6\}}$  ( $\rightarrow$  similarly  $\mathbf{B}_{26}$  for user 4,  $\mathbf{C}_{24}$  for user 6).

- This is for the very special case of the single stream Broadcast Channel pause
- Approach requires new tools when setting changes slightly
  - Shared caches (Hachem, Karamchandrani et Diggavi)
  - multiple file demands (Wei-Ulukus)
  - Multi-layer files (high-def, low-def) (Yang-Gündüz)
- Need methods needed that preserve topology, and non-uniformity
- Need methods for reflecting multiple-transmitters/multiple-antennas.

# Coded Distributed Computing: Another side of the same coin ...

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# BigData Analytics and Distributed Computing

## Distributed Computing Platforms

### BigData Analytics



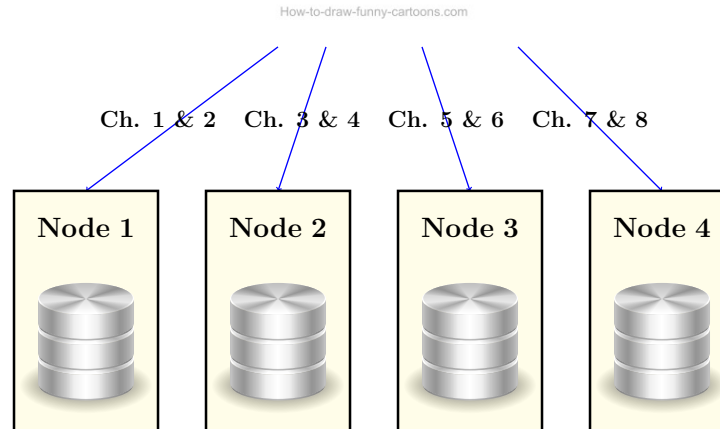
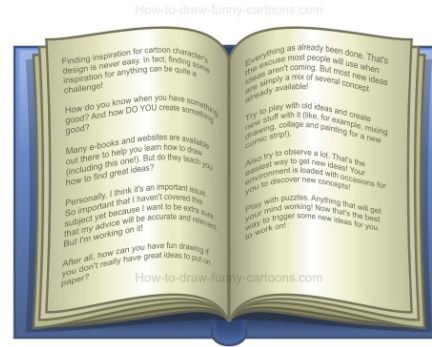
# Distributed Computing Platforms

- BigData Analytics often have data that too large to be stored on one machine.
  - **Distributed computing is necessity, not a luxury.**
- Hadoop MapReduce, Apache Spark etc. are popular platforms that allow the end user to use a computing cluster for running large scale jobs.

# Steps in the Map-Reduce pipeline

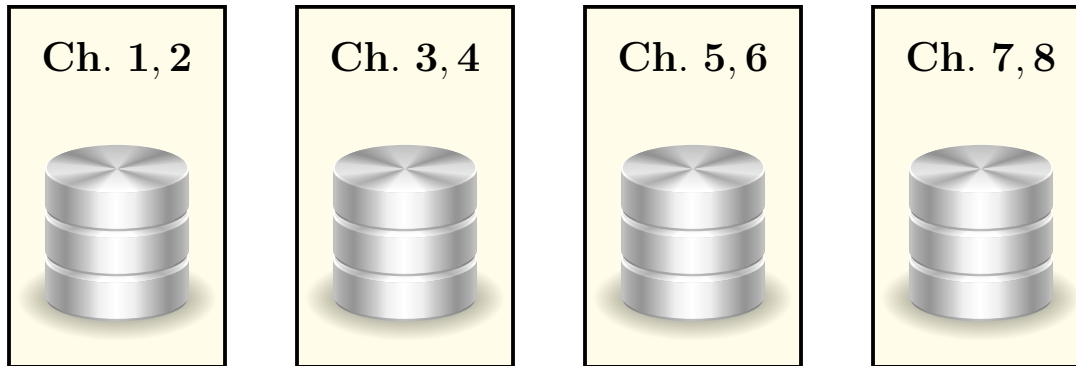
- **MAP:** Split the job/data into smaller pieces. Each part goes to a node (mapper) who work in parallel.
- **SHUFFLE:** Upon completion of the MAP step, nodes exchange appropriate information between themselves so that they can complete the execution.
- **REDUCE:** Each node works (in parallel) on its stored data and data received in the shuffle phase to complete the overall job.

# Classic Example: Word Counting in a book



# Classic Example: Word Counting in a book

- Suppose that we want to count the occurrences of the words: "and", "the", "if" and "when" in a book with 8 chapters.
- We use four servers, each server is assigned two chapters.



# Classic Example: Word Counting in a book

## MAP PHASE

(and,100,20)[1,2]  
(the,20,30)[1,2]  
(if,50,40)[1,2]  
(when,60,70)[1,2]



(and,60,10)[3,4]  
(the,30,35)[3,4]  
(if,70,45)[3,4]  
(when,80,20)[3,4]



(and,64,13)[5,6]  
(the,31,37)[5,6]  
(if,72,49)[5,6]  
(when,81,23)[5,6]



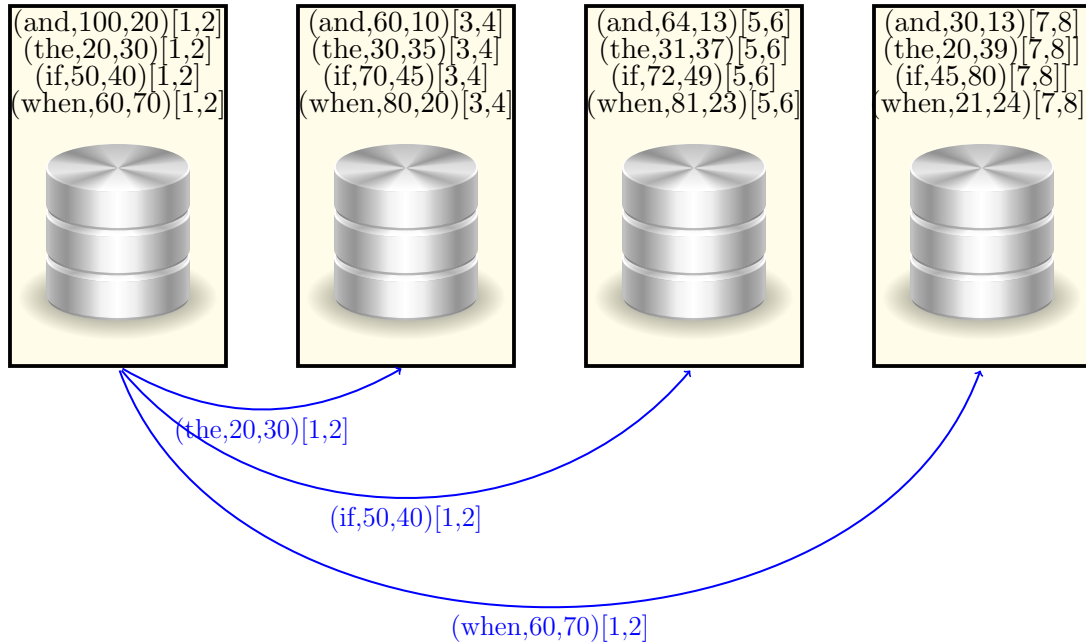
(and,30,13)[7,8]  
(the,20,39)[7,8]  
(if,45,80)[7,8]  
(when,21,24)[7,8]



# Classic Example: Word Counting in a book

## SHUFFLE PHASE

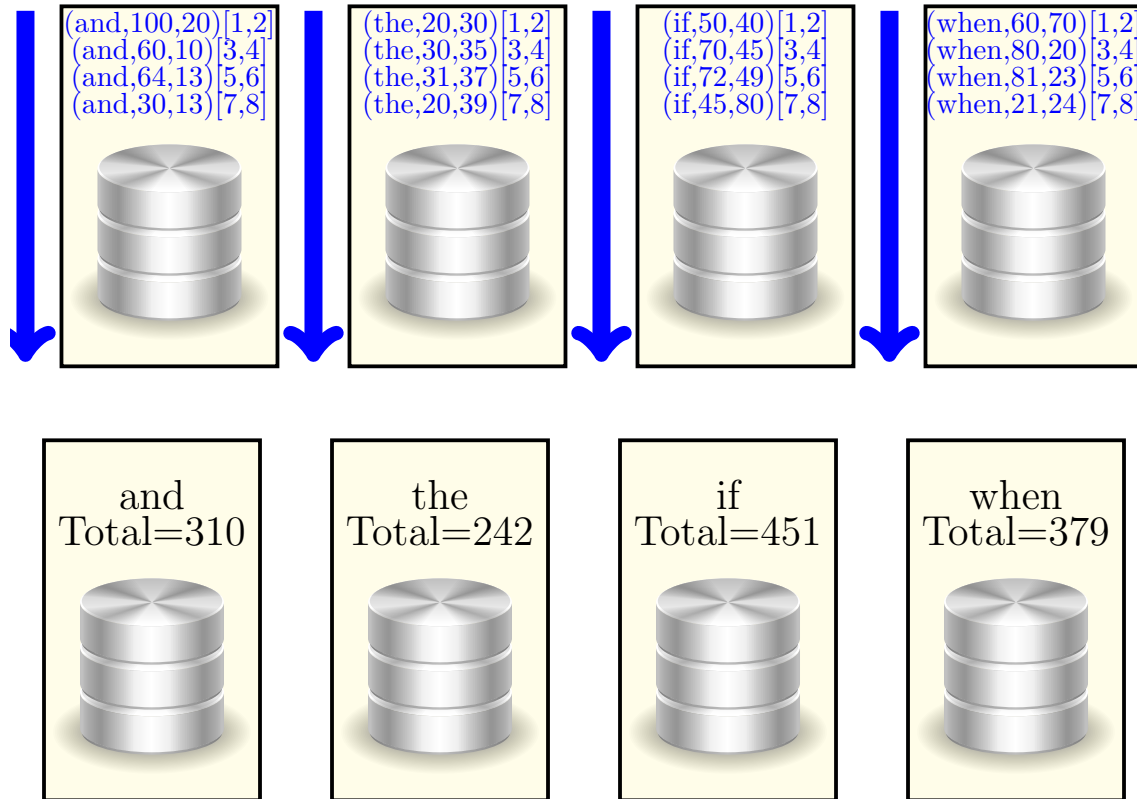
### 3 transmissions from node 1



### 3 transmissions from node 2

# Classic Example: Word Counting in a book

## REDUCE PHASE





# Classic Example: Observations

- Typically, Map and Reduce phases are “Computation Intensive”.
- In contrast, Shuffle phase is “Communication Intensive”.
- In Word Count, each server sends three messages to others.
- Depending upon application, these network transfers can be rather time-consuming.

# Terasort & Machine Learning

- A large number of records that are indexed by (key, value) pairs.
- Need to be sorted by key values in a distributed fashion.

Communication phase poses a significant bottleneck for the algorithm.

*"... these transfers can have a significant impact on job performance accounting for more than 50% of the job completion times ..."* <sup>1</sup>

188,000 MapReduce jobs on a Facebook Hadoop cluster in a week

33% of running time spent on shuffling (on average).

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<sup>1</sup>M. Chowdhury, M. Zaharia, J. Ma, M. I. Jordan, and I. Stoica, Managing Data Transfers in Computer Clusters with Orchestra, *SIGCOMM Comput. Commun. Rev.*, Aug. 2011.

# Experimental Results on Amazon Web Services (AWS)

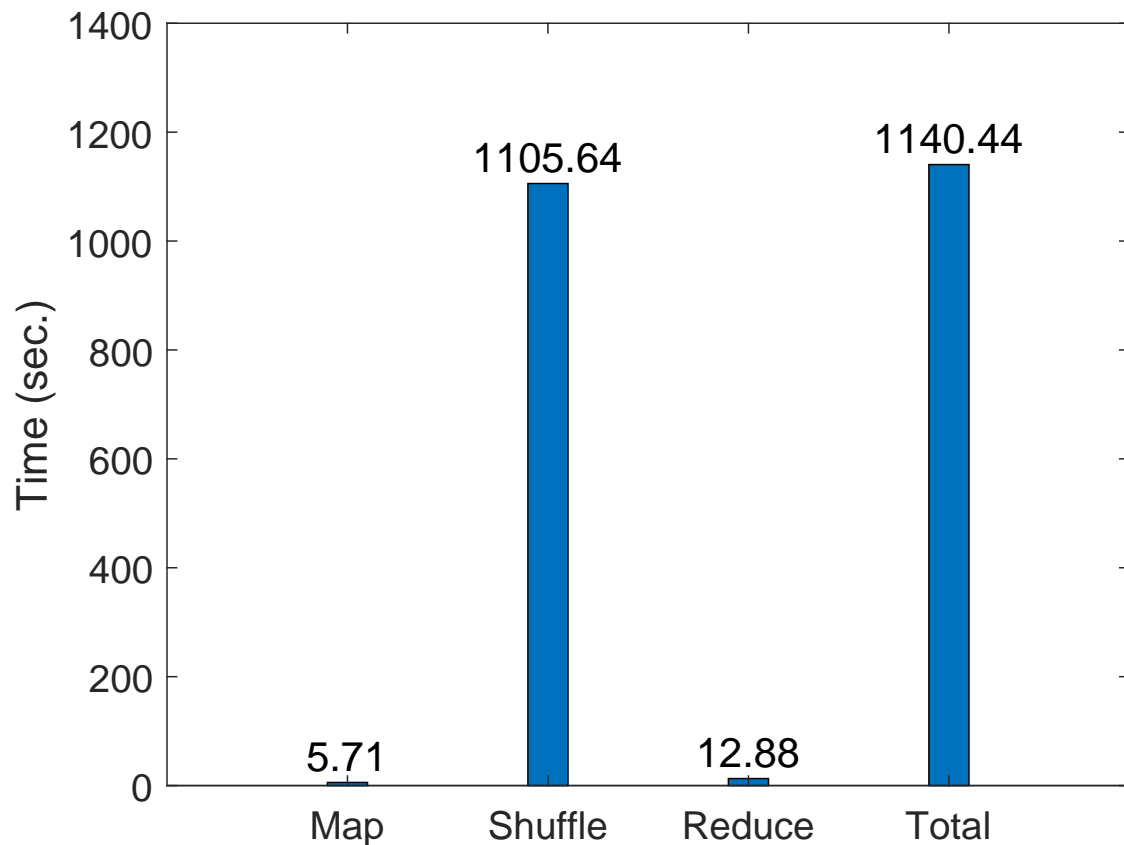
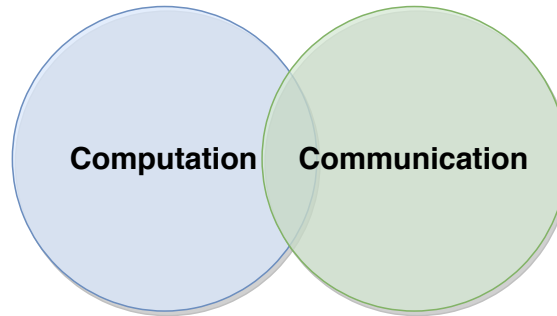


Figure: Uncoded TeraSort on a 12GB dataset with 16 worker nodes. 47/210

# Computation-Communication tradeoff



- Natural tradeoff between communication and computation (*inversely proportional*)<sup>2</sup>.

How can we optimally trade off computing load and communication load?

- The main idea is to run multiple copies of each task on carefully chosen servers. Appropriate (coded) data is exchanged among the servers so that the final result can be computed.

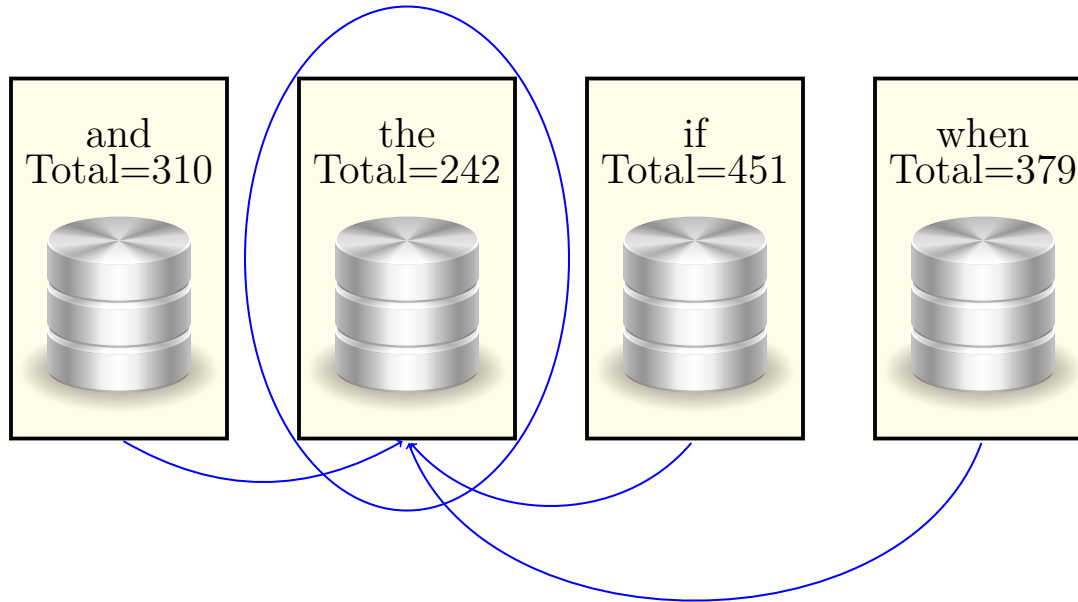
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<sup>2</sup>S. Li, M. A. Maddah-Ali, Q. Yu, and A. S. Avestimehr, A Fundamental Tradeoff Between Computation and Communication in Distributed Computing, *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory*, vol. 64, no. 1, pp. 109–128, Jan 2018.

# Nature of shuffle traffic

**Each node knows all the counts on its assigned chapters**

Knows all counts on Ch. 3 & 4



**Needs the counts on the word that it reduces**

# Nature of shuffle traffic

- Can we gain if more than one server processes the same chapter?

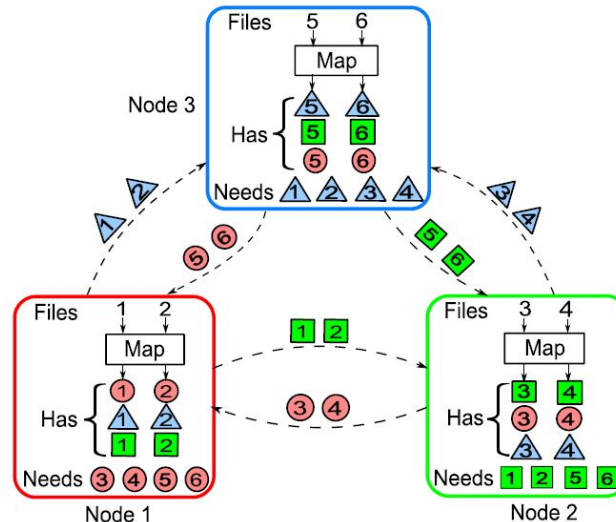
Network coding in action!



# Shuffle traffic: Uncoded Example

## Uncoded scenario

$r = 1$ , # servers = 3, # functions = 3, # subfiles = 6



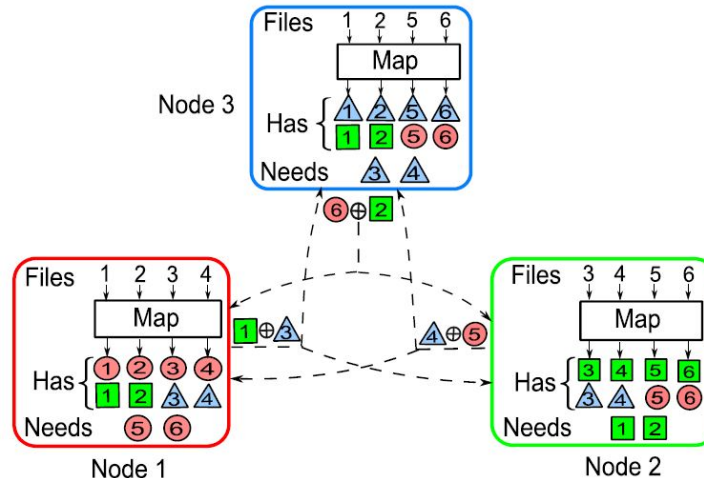
3

**Total of 12 packets tx. over network**

# Shuffle traffic: Coded Example

## Coded scenario

$r = 2$ , # servers = 3, # functions = 3, # subfiles = 6



4

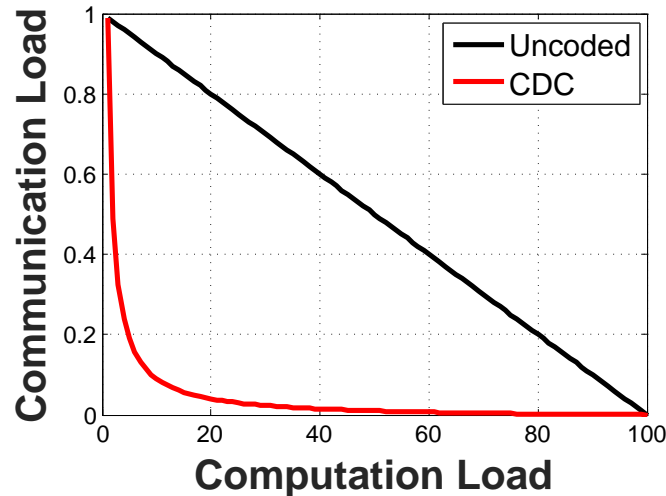
Uncoded approach will require 6 packets tx.

Coded approach requires 3 multicast tx.



# Communication vs. Computation Tradeoff in MapReduce-like systems

## Coded Distributed Computing Framework



Coded caching ideas are at the core of this tradeoff ...  
“Subpacketize and place (properly)” ...

# Formal Problem Statement

- $K$  servers.
- A file split into  $N$  input subfiles  $w_1, \dots, w_N$ .
- $Q$  functions to be computed  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_Q$  where  $\phi_q$  is a function of all input subfiles.

$$u_q = \phi_q(w_1, \dots, w_N)$$

# Formal Problem Statement

- Splitting function computation as Map & Reduce.

$$\phi_q(w_1, \dots, w_N) = h_q(g_{q,1}(w_1), \dots, g_{q,N}(w_N)),$$

- Map function.

$$\vec{g}_n = (g_{1,n}, \dots, g_{Q,n}),$$

maps  $w_n$  into  $Q$  intermediate values  $\nu_{q,n} = g_{q,n}(w_n)$  for  $q = 1, \dots, Q$ .

- Reduce function  $h_q$  takes  $\nu_{q,1}, \dots, \nu_{q,N}$  as input and completes the computation of  $\phi_q$ .

# Map Phase

- Node  $k$  computes the Map function on the set of subfiles  $\mathcal{M}_k$  stored on it. We assume that no subfile is left unmapped.

## Computation Load

The total number of Map functions computed across all the  $K$  nodes normalized by the number of files.

$$r \triangleq \frac{\sum_{k=1}^K |\mathcal{M}_k|}{N}$$

- Average number of nodes that map a given subfile.

# Shuffle Phase

- For simplicity, assume that  $Q = K$  and that node  $k$  is responsible for reducing function  $\phi_k$ .
- Node  $k$  needs the intermediate values that it does not have at the end of the Map phase. This is precisely the set

$$\{\nu_{k,n} : w_n \notin \mathcal{M}_k\}.$$

# Shuffle Phase

- Requires the transmission of the messages over the network. For simplicity, assume that each message of size  $T$  bits. Suppose that there are  $\mathcal{L}_K$  such messages transmitted.

## Communication Load

The communication load of the scheme, denoted by  $L$ , where  $0 \leq L \leq 1$  is defined as

$$L = \frac{\mathcal{L}_K}{QNT}$$

- Represents the normalized number of bits communicated in the Shuffle phase.

# Reduce Phase

- Shuffle phase ensures that the  $i$ -th node has enough information to reduce  $\phi_i(w_1, \dots, w_N)$ , i.e. it has the values  $\nu_{i,1}, \dots, \nu_{i,N}$
- It thus performs the computation

$$h_i(\nu_{i,1}, \dots, \nu_{i,N}).$$

## Computation-Communication Function

$$L^*(r) \triangleq \inf\{L : (r, L) \text{ is feasible}\}$$

## Coded Distributed Computing Theorem

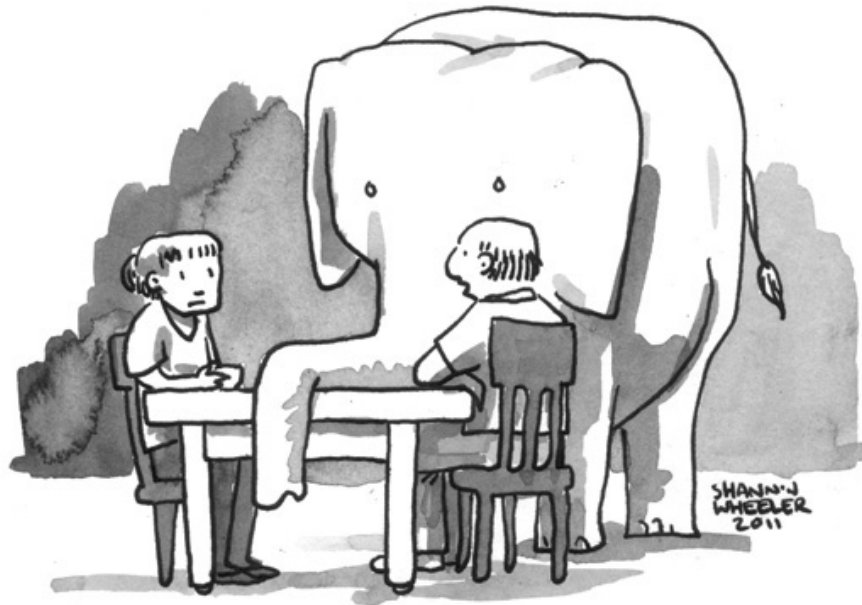
The computation-communication function of the CDC framework,  $L_{coded}(r)$  is given by

$$L_{coded}(r) = \frac{1}{r} \left(1 - \frac{r}{K}\right), \text{ where } r \in \{1, \dots, K\},$$

for sufficiently large packets.



As with most things ...



"HONESTLY? I PREFERRED WHEN WE  
DIDN'T TALK ABOUT THE ELEPHANT"

Source: [www.appitierre.com](http://www.appitierre.com)

# Practical Issues: Subpacketization Level in Coded Caching

- Huge gains of coded caching require each file to be divided into a large number of parts (exponential in problem parameters).

Subpacketization level  $F_s$

$$F_s = \binom{K}{KM/N} \approx 2^{KH_2(M/N)}$$

- **Example:** System with  $K = 50$  users, with  $M/N = 0.4$ , original scheme needs  $F_s \approx 10^{14}$ .
  - At the bare minimum each file should be of size 100 terabits.
  - In practice, much higher since the basic unit of storage on a computer is a sector.

# Practical Issues: Subpacketization Level in Coded Distributed Computing

- Communication load under CDC is

$$L_{\text{coded}}(r) = \frac{1}{r} L_{\text{uncoded}}(r)$$

where  $r$  is the replication factor

- Result requires the number of subfiles to be

$$N = \binom{K}{r} \eta_1, \text{ where } \eta_1 \text{ is a positive integer.}$$

- In practical implementation, small subfiles present rather serious problems.

## Related Work

- Problem was first noticed and studied in the context of decentralized coded caching in the work of [\[Shanmugam et al.\]](#).
- For the centralized case, a placement delivery array (PDA) based scheme was proposed in [\[Yan et al.\]](#).
- Prior work by us [\[Tang-Ramamoorthy\]](#) also matches the parameters in [\[Yan et al.\]](#).

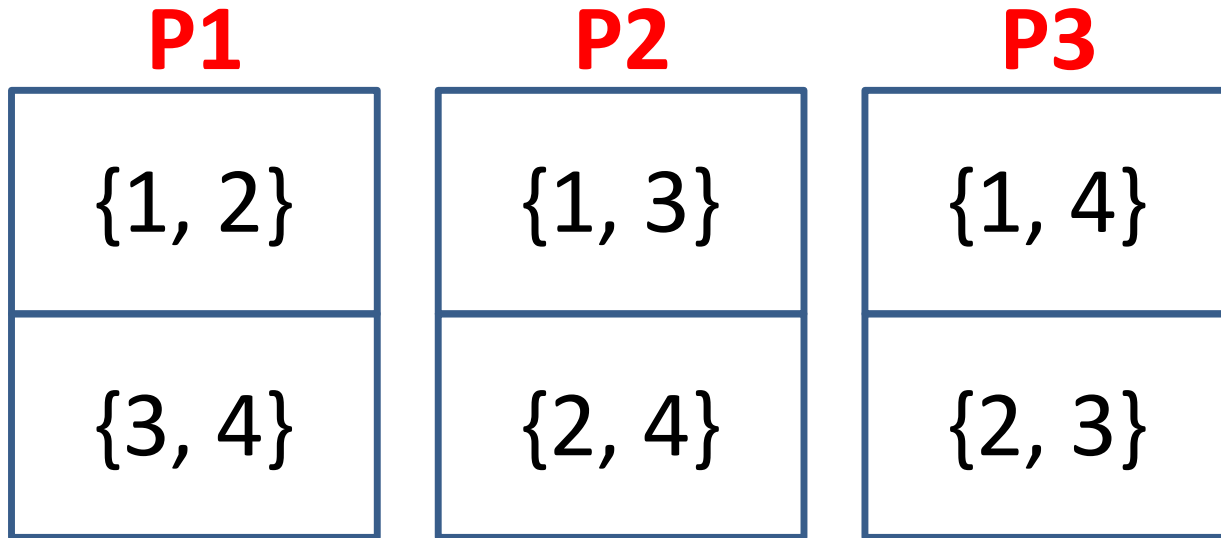
- A hypergraph perspective introduced by [Shangguan et al.]
  - Demonstrates that (asymptotically) constant rate with subpacketization  $F_s$  linear in  $K$  is impossible.
  - Shows the existence of schemes where subpacketization scales as  $\exp(c\sqrt{K})$ .
- Work by [Shanmugam et al.] demonstrates connections with induced matchings in Ruzsa-Szemerédi graphs.
  - Shows the existence of schemes where subpacketization is linear but rate scales as  $K^\delta$ , where  $0 < \delta < 1$ .
- Both these results require rather large values of  $K$  and are not applicable in a real-life scenarios.

# Tackling the subpacketization problems in both these areas

...

- Huge gains appear to need exponential scaling (in  $K$ ) of the number of subfiles  $N$ .
- Key issue is that both cases  $N = \binom{K}{\alpha}$  where the value  $\alpha$  depends on the problem setting
  - $\alpha = KM/N$  for coded caching
  - $\alpha = r$  for coded distributed computing
- Can we do better with fewer subsets with structure ...

## An illustrative example



- What can this simple set system do for us?

# Usage in a coded caching scenario

- Users correspond to blocks (total of six). System with  $K = 6$  users and  $N \geq K$ .

$$\{1, 2\} \Rightarrow U_{\{1,2\}} \quad \{3, 4\} \Rightarrow U_{\{3,4\}}$$

$$\{1, 3\} \Rightarrow U_{\{1,3\}} \quad \{2, 4\} \Rightarrow U_{\{2,4\}}$$

$$\{1, 4\} \Rightarrow U_{\{1,4\}} \quad \{2, 3\} \Rightarrow U_{\{2,3\}}$$

- Subfiles correspond to points (total of four). Split each file into 4 subfiles  $W_n = \{W_{n,1}, \dots, W_{n,4}\}$ .
- For original scheme, users correspond to points ( $K$  points), subfiles correspond to  $\binom{K}{\frac{KM}{N}}$  blocks (all subsets of size  $\frac{KM}{N}$  of  $\{1, \dots, K\}$ )
- **Placement Phase:** User  $U_{\{i,j\}}$  caches for each file  $W_n$  in the library,

$$Z_{i,j} = \{W_{n,i}, W_{n,j}\}$$

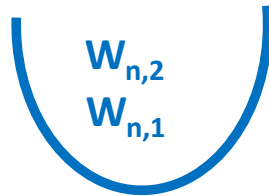
- For example, user  $U_{\{1,2\}}$  caches  $\{W_{n,1}, W_{n,2}\}_{n=1}^N$ .

- Each user thus caches exactly half of each file. Therefore,

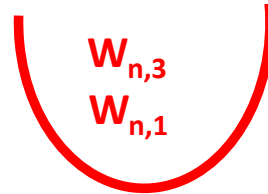
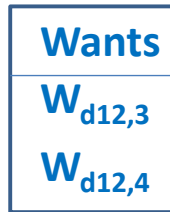
$$\frac{M}{N} = \frac{1}{2}$$



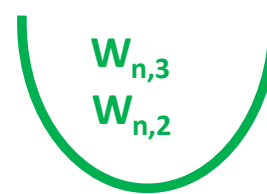
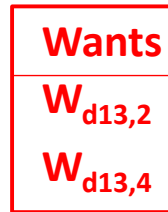
# Example of delivery phase scheme



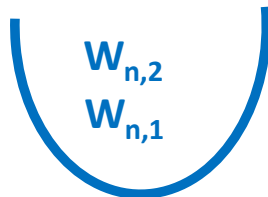
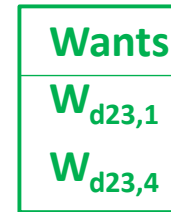
User  $U_{12}$



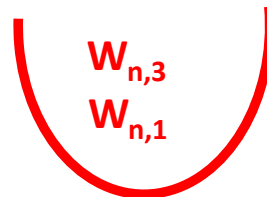
User  $U_{13}$



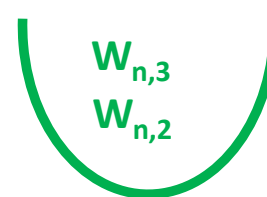
User  $U_{23}$



User  $U_{12}$



User  $U_{13}$



User  $U_{23}$



# Rate Analysis

- Four such equations can be found. Each equation corresponds to  $\frac{1}{4}$ -th of a file. Total rate is therefore 1 (normalized by file size).
- System has  $K = 6$  users,  $N \geq K$ ,  $M/N = 1/2$  and a subpacketization level of  $F_s = 4$ .
- Original scheme would have subpacketization level of  $\binom{6}{3} = 20$  and a rate of 0.75.

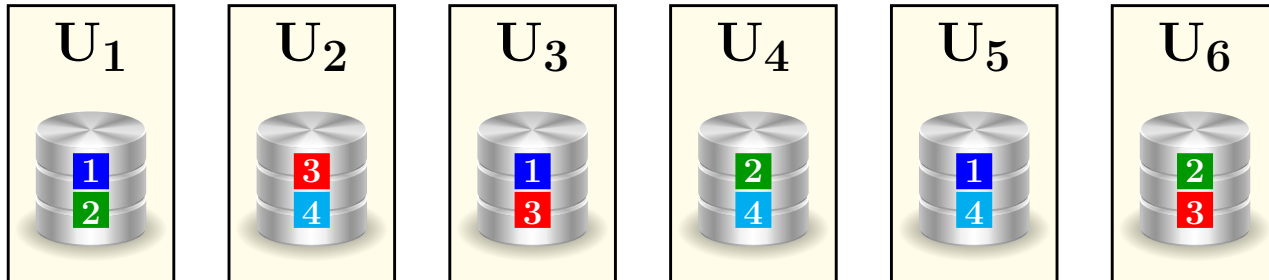
# Usage in a Coded Distributed Computing Scenario

The same set system can be used in a Coded Distributed Computing setting!!

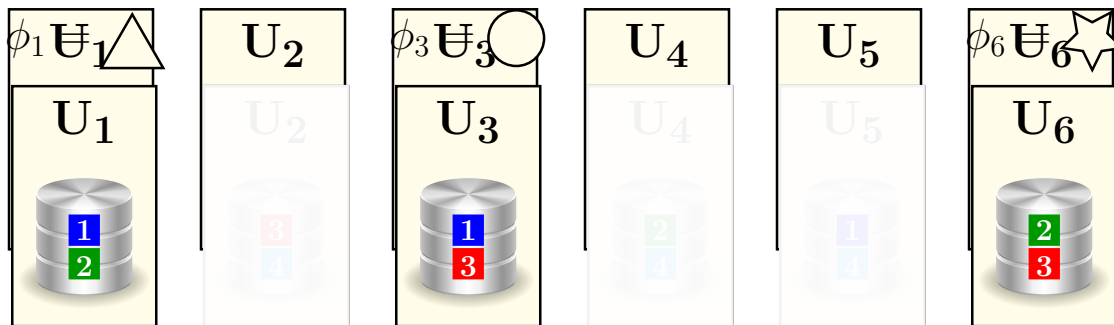
# Usage in a Coded Distributed Computing Scenario

- $K = 6, Q = 6, N = 4, r = 3$

Consider the following Map policy and let the  $i$ -th server reduce the  $i$ -th function (Reduce policy)



# Usage in a Coded Distributed Computing Scenario



Group of servers  $G = \{U_1, U_3, U_6\}$

$$\triangle_n = \phi_1(w_n)$$

Each value  $\triangle_n$  can be split into two parts  $\triangle_n[1]$  and  $\triangle_n[2]$ .

Server	Knows	Needs	Transmits	Recovers
$U_1$	$\phi_j(w_1), \phi_j(w_2), \forall j$	$\phi_1(w_n), n = 3, 4$	$\text{green } 2_{[1]} \oplus \text{blue } 1_{[2]}$	$\text{red } 3$
$U_3$	$\phi_j(w_1), \phi_j(w_3), \forall j$	$\phi_3(w_n), n = 2, 4$	$\text{blue } 1_{[1]} \oplus \text{red } 3_{[2]}$	$\text{green } 2$
$U_6$	$\phi_j(w_2), \phi_j(w_3), \forall j$	$\phi_6(w_n), n = 1, 4$	$\text{green } 2_{[2]} \oplus \text{red } 3_{[1]}$	$\text{blue } 1$

Server	Knows	Needs	Transmits	Recovers
$U_1$	$\phi_j(w_1), \phi_j(w_2), \forall j$	$\phi_1(w_n), n = 3, 4$	$\text{light green } 2_{[1]} \oplus \text{light blue } 1_{[2]}$	$\text{light red } 3$
$U_3$	$\phi_j(w_1), \phi_j(w_3), \forall j$	$\phi_3(w_n), n = 2, 4$	$\text{light blue } 1_{[1]} \oplus \text{light red } 3_{[2]}$	$\text{light green } 2$
$U_6$	$\phi_j(w_2), \phi_j(w_3), \forall j$	$\phi_6(w_n), n = 1, 4$	$\text{light green } 2_{[2]} \oplus \text{light red } 3_{[1]}$	$\text{light blue } 1$

# Coded Distributed Computing example

- Choice of groups can be made systematic

Group	Server	Transmits
$G_1$	$U_1$	$\nu_{3,2}[1] \oplus \nu_{6,1}[2]$
	$U_3$	$\nu_{6,1}[1] \oplus \nu_{1,3}[2]$
	$U_6$	$\nu_{3,2}[2] \oplus \nu_{1,3}[1]$
$G_2$	$U_1$	$\nu_{5,2}[1] \oplus \nu_{4,1}[1]$
	$U_4$	$\nu_{5,2}[2] \oplus \nu_{1,4}[1]$
	$U_5$	$\nu_{4,1}[2] \oplus \nu_{1,4}[2]$
$G_3$	$U_2$	$\nu_{5,3}[1] \oplus \nu_{3,4}[1]$
	$U_3$	$\nu_{5,3}[2] \oplus \nu_{1,1}[1]$
	$U_5$	$\nu_{3,4}[2] \oplus \nu_{1,1}[2]$
$G_4$	$U_2$	$\nu_{6,4}[1] \oplus \nu_{4,3}[1]$
	$U_4$	$\nu_{6,4}[2] \oplus \nu_{2,2}[1]$
	$U_6$	$\nu_{2,2}[2] \oplus \nu_{4,3}[2]$

## Rate Analysis

- Each group has three equations each of size  $T/2$ . Therefore

$$L_{prop} = \frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot T/2}{N \cdot Q \cdot T} = \frac{1}{4}$$

# Addressing the subpacketization bottleneck

**Some systematic techniques for addressing the subpacketization issue(s) ..**

# Placement Delivery Arrays (Coded Caching)

- $K$  - number of server,  $M$  - cache size,  $N$  - number of files,  $F$  - subpacketization level.

## Placement Delivery Array (PDA)

A PDA is a  $F \times K$  array  $\mathbf{P}$  whose entries lie in  $\{0, 1, \dots, S-1\} \cup \{*\}$ . Columns correspond to users and rows to subfiles.

- $P_{j,k} = *$  implies that user  $k$  caches  $W_{i,j}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ .
- The other entries indicate the equations to be transmitted in the delivery phase

Simultaneously specifies placement and the delivery phase.

- Some conditions need to be satisfied ...<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>Q. Yan, M. Cheng, X. Tang and Q. Chen, On the Placement Delivery Array Design for Centralized Coded Caching Scheme, *IEEE Trans. on Info. Th.*, vol. 63, no. 9, pp. 5821-5833, Sep. 2017.



# PDA Example

- Same running example can be represented as a PDA

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} * & 1 & * & 2 & * & 0 \\ 0 & * & * & 3 & 1 & * \\ * & 3 & 0 & * & 2 & * \\ 2 & * & 1 & * & * & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} * & 1 & * & 2 & * & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & * & * & 3 & 1 & * \\ * & 3 & \mathbf{0} & * & 2 & * \\ 2 & * & 1 & * & * & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Delivery phase equations are coded into  $\mathbf{P}$ . For instance, in first time slot server transmits

## Placement Delivery Array

A  $(K, F, Z, S)$  PDA  $\mathbf{P}$  is an array of size  $F \times K$  with entries from  $\{0, \dots, S-1\} \cup \{*\}$  such that

- C1. Symbol  $*$  appears  $Z$  times in each column.
- C2. Each integer occurs at least once in the array. If each integer occurs exactly  $g$  times, then we call it  $g - (K, F, Z, S)$  PDA.
- C3. Let  $P_{j_1, k_1} = P_{j_2, k_2} = s$ . Then,
  - $j_1 \neq j_2$  and  $k_1 \neq k_2$ , i.e., the entries are on different rows and columns.
  - The  $2 \times 2$  sub-array induced by rows  $j_1, j_2$  and columns  $k_1, k_2$  looks like

$$\begin{pmatrix} s & * \\ * & s \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{pmatrix} * & s \\ s & * \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Placement Phase using PDA

- Each of the  $N$  files in the server is split into  $F$  subfiles.

- User  $k$  caches

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^N \{W_{i,j} : P_{j,k} = *\}.$$

- Simple calculation yields

$$\frac{Z}{F} = \frac{M}{N}.$$

# Delivery Phase using PDA

- Suppose that server receives request

$$\mathbf{d} = (d_0, \dots, d_{K-1})$$

- Server successively transmits  $S$  equations that are specified by the locations of the integers in  $\mathbf{P}$ . Specifically, for  $s \in \{0, \dots, S-1\}$

$$\bigoplus_{P_{j,k}=s, j \in \{0, \dots, F-1\}, k \in \{0, \dots, K-1\}} W_{d_k, j}.$$

# Why does the delivery phase work?

- For a given  $s \in \{0, \dots, S-1\}$ , the sub-array induced by the rows & columns where  $s$  occurs looks like

$$\begin{pmatrix} s & * & \dots & * \\ * & s & \dots & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ * & * & * \dots & s \end{pmatrix}$$

under appropriate row-column permutations.

- The  $s$ -th equation transmitted by the server has the “all-but-one” property.

# PDA Scheme - Main Results

## Lower Bound on Subpacketization for PDA schemes

For a  $g - (K, F, Z, S)$  PDA  $\mathbf{P}$ , if  $g = KZ/F + 1 \geq 2$ , then

$$F \geq \binom{K}{K \frac{Z}{F}}.$$

## Achievable Scheme with PDAs

There exists  $g - (K, F, Z, S) = (m+1) - (q(m+1), q^m, q^{m-1}, q^{m+1} - q^m)$  PDA  $\mathbf{P}$ . This results in a coded caching scheme with

$$K = q(m+1),$$

$$\frac{M}{N} = 1/q, \text{ and}$$

$$R = q - 1.$$

Can be shown to be exponentially smaller than  $\binom{q(m+1)}{m+1}$ .

Linear block codes (under mild conditions)  $\Rightarrow$  Caching schemes  
and Coded Distributed Schemes<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>L. Tang and A. Ramamoorthy, Coded caching schemes with reduced subpacketization from linear block codes, *IEEE Trans. on Info. Th.*, vol. 64, no. 4, pp. 3099–3120, Apr. 2018.

## Definition

A design is a pair  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  such that

- 1  $X$  is a set of elements called points, and
- 2  $\mathcal{A}$  is a collection (i.e., multiset) of nonempty subsets of  $X$  called blocks, where each block contains the same number of points.

$$X = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \text{ (Point set)}$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}, \{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}\} \text{ (Block set)}$$



# Resolvable design

## Definition

A parallel class  $\mathcal{P}$  in a design  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  is a subset of disjoint blocks from  $\mathcal{A}$  whose union is  $X$ . A partition of  $\mathcal{A}$  into several parallel classes is called a resolution, and  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  is said to be a resolvable design if  $\mathcal{A}$  has at least one resolution.

$$X = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \text{ (Point set)}$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}, \{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}\} \text{ (Block set)}$$

Each parallel class is a partition of  $X$ .

P1	P2	P3
{1, 2}	{1, 3}	{1, 4}
{3, 4}	{2, 4}	{2, 3}

# Linear Codes and Resolvable Designs

Let  $q = 2$ ,  $k = 3$ . Consider a  $(3, 2)$  Single Parity Check code over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ ,

$$\mathbf{G}_{SPC} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ (Generator Matrix)}$$

Columns of matrix  $\mathbf{T}$  list all  $2^2 = 4$  codewords.

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

obtained by computing  $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{G}_{SPC}$  for all possible message vectors  $\mathbf{u}$ .

# Codes and Resolvable Designs

- Points correspond to columns  $\{1, \dots, 4\}$ .

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{array} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

- Blocks are constructed by identifying column index of points in a row.

$$[0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1] \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}_1 : \{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}$$

$$[0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1] \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}_2 : \{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}$$

$$[0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0] \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}_3 : \{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}$$

**What are the properties of “good” linear block codes for coded caching?**

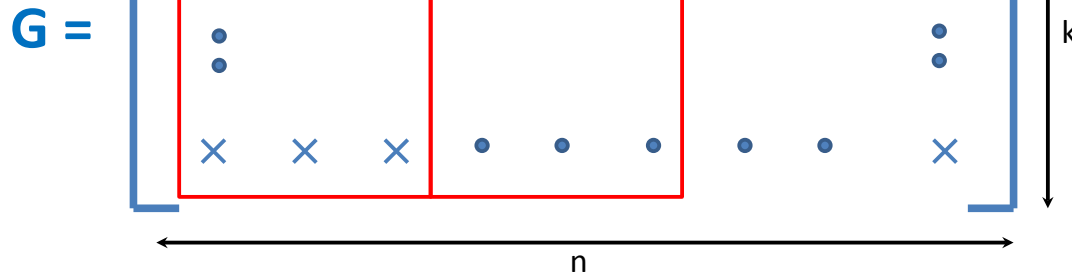
# $(k, k + 1)$ - Consecutive Column Property (CCP)

- Generator matrix  $\mathbf{G}$  of size  $k \times n$  over  $GF(q)$ . Let  $z$  be the *least* integer such that  $k + 1 \mid nz$
- Recovery Set: Consider the columns of  $\mathbf{G}$  specified by  $\mathcal{S}_a$   

$$\mathcal{S}_a = \{a(k + 1), \dots, a(k + 1) + k\} \pmod n.$$

## Definition

Consider the submatrices of  $\mathbf{G}$  specified by  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{S}_a}$  for  $0 \leq a \leq \frac{zn}{k+1} - 1$ . We say that  $\mathbf{G}$  satisfies the  $(k, k + 1)$ -consecutive column property if all  $k \times k$  submatrices of each  $\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{S}_a}$  are full rank.



# CCP Example - $(4, 2)$ code over $GF(3)$

$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \{0, 1, 2\}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{1} & 1 \\ \boxed{0} & \boxed{1} & \boxed{1} & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{S}_0} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**All  $2 \times 2$  submatrices are full-rank.**

$$\mathcal{S}_1 = \{3, 1, 0\}$$

# Usage in coded caching scenario

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Point set

$$X = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}.$$

- Block set (Parallel class)

$$P_0 : \{\{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}\}, \{3, 4, 5\}, \{6, 7, 8\}\}$$

$$P_1 : \{\{0, 3, 6\}, \{1, 4, 7\}, \{2, 5, 8\}\}$$

$$P_2 : \{\{0, 5, 7\}, \{1, 3, 8\}, \{2, 4, 6\}\}$$

$$P_3 : \{\{0, 4, 8\}, \{2, 3, 7\}, \{1, 5, 6\}\}$$

# Usage in coded caching scenario

$$X = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$$

$$P_0 : \{\{0, 1, 2\}, \{3, 4, 5\}, \{6, 7, 8\}\}$$

$$P_1 : \{\{0, 3, 6\}, \{1, 4, 7\}, \{2, 5, 8\}\}$$

$$P_2 : \{\{0, 5, 7\}, \{1, 3, 8\}, \{2, 4, 6\}\}$$

$$P_3 : \{\{0, 4, 8\}, \{2, 3, 7\}, \{1, 5, 6\}\}$$

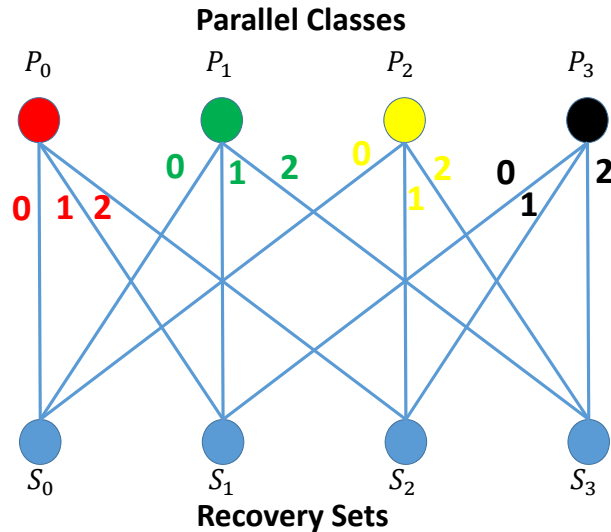
- Users correspond to blocks.
- Subfiles correspond to points and another index  $\in \{0, \dots, z - 1\}$ .

## Example

User  $U_{012}$  caches  $W_{n,0}^s, W_{n,1}^s, W_{n,2}^s$  for  $s = 0, 1, 2$ .



# Delivery Phase Algorithm



- Each parallel class  $\mathcal{P}_i$  recovers missing subfiles with a specific superscript for each user.
  - Similar to single-parity-check (SPC) code.
- Recovery set bipartite graph formalizes the idea.
- Recovery set  $\mathcal{S}_0$ : Constructive procedure that picks a user from each parallel class in  $\mathcal{P}_0, \mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$ .

# Delivery Phase Algorithm

- With some work, we can show that the number of user is  $K = nq$ , cache size is  $\frac{M}{N} = \frac{1}{q}$ , the rate of our scheme is

$$R^* = \frac{(q-1)n}{k+1}.$$

Then coded gain is

$$g^* = k + 1.$$

- The subpacketization level is

$$F_s^* = q^k z$$

- Important fact: Both coded gain  $g^*$  and subpacketization level  $F_s^*$  increase with larger  $k$ !!

# Delivery Phase Algorithm

- Scheme for  $\frac{M}{N} = \frac{1}{q}$  can be converted into a scheme for  $\frac{M}{N} = 1 - \frac{k+1}{nq}$  with

$$R^* = \frac{k+1}{(q-1)n}$$

$$F_s^* = (q-1)q^k \frac{zn}{k+1}$$

# Some Linear Codes satisfying the CCP

- MDS code over  $GF(q)$  of dimension  $k \times n$
- Satisfies a stronger condition. *Any  $k \times k$  submatrix is full-rank.*
  - Drawback: MDS codes typically need  $q + 1 \geq n$ .
  - Thus, with increasing  $n$ , the cached fraction  $M/N = 1/q$  keeps decreasing.
- A large class of cyclic codes!!

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{bmatrix} g_0 & g_1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & g_{n-k} & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \\ 0 & g_0 & g_1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & g_{n-k} & 0 & \cdot & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & & & & & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdot & 0 & g_0 & g_1 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & g_{n-k} \end{bmatrix}$$

Example:  $K = nq = 60$  users,  $M/N = 1/q = 1/5$

$k$	$F_s$	$g$	$R$	Notes
-	$1.4 \times 10^{12}$	13	3.69	Maddah-Ali & Niesen
11	$4.9 \times 10^7$	12	4	
10	-	-	-	$(k, k + 1)$ -CCP code doesn't exist
9	$6.8 \times 10^6$	10	4.8	
8	$1.2 \times 10^6$	9	5.3	
7	$1.5 \times 10^5$	8	6	
6	$10^5$	7	6.85	
5	3125	6	8	
4	3125	5	9.6	
3	125	4	12	
2	25	3	16	
1	5	2	24	

**Table:** List of  $k$  values and corresponding  $F_s$ ,  $g$  and  $R$

Parameters:  $K = nq$  users,  $M/N = 1/q$  cache fraction,  
 $F_s = q^k z$  subpacketization level

- Rate comparison (loss is tunable with choice of  $(n, k)$  code)

$$\frac{R^*}{R^{MN}} = \frac{n+1}{k+1}$$

- Subpacketization level (exponential improvement)

$$\frac{F_s^*}{F_s^{MN}} \approx q^{k-n} z \left( \frac{q-1}{q} \right)^{n(q-1)}.$$

Parameters:  $K = nq$  users,  $M/N = 1/q$  cache fraction,  
 $F_s = q^k z$  subpacketization level

- Comparisons when rates of both schemes are almost the same is somewhat harder ...
- Use memory-sharing in Maddah-Ali & Niesen.
- $(9, 5)$  linear block code over  $GF(2)$  that satisfies CCP.

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Parameters:  $K = 9 \times 2 = 18$ ,  $\frac{M}{N} = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $R^* = \frac{3}{2}$  and  $F_s^* = 64$ .

- Maddah-Ali & Niesen approach would need memory-sharing between  $\frac{M_1}{N_1} = \frac{2}{9}$  and  $\frac{M_2}{N_2} = \frac{7}{9}$ .  
 $R^{MN} \approx 3/2$ . However, the subpacketization level is

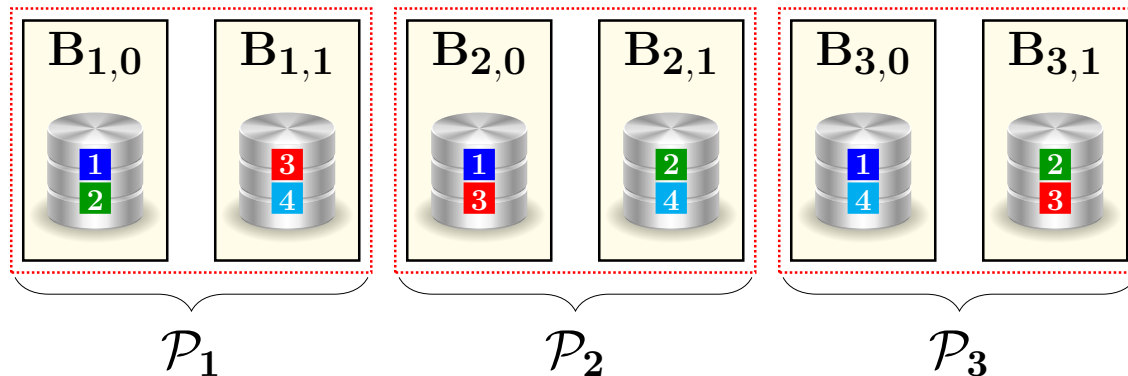
# Linear codes and coded distributed computing

## Codewords

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{c}_1^T \quad \mathbf{c}_2^T \quad \mathbf{c}_3^T \quad \mathbf{c}_4^T \\ \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

## Blocks

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} B_{1,0} = \{1, 2\} \\ B_{1,1} = \{3, 4\} \end{array} \right\} \mathcal{P}_1$$
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} B_{2,0} = \{1, 3\} \\ B_{2,1} = \{2, 4\} \end{array} \right\} \mathcal{P}_2$$
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} B_{3,0} = \{1, 4\} \\ B_{3,1} = \{2, 3\} \end{array} \right\} \mathcal{P}_3$$





# Placement Phase

- Inputs: File  $\mathcal{W}$ ,  $Q$  functions; number of servers  $K = k \times q$ .  $K$  divides  $Q$ .
- Split  $\mathcal{W}$  into  $q^{k-1}$  disjoint subfiles,  $w_1, \dots, w_{q^{k-1}}$ .
- Assign subfiles to servers such that server  $B_{i,j}$  is assigned subfile  $w_\ell$  if  $\ell \in B_{i,j}$

# Shuffle phase

- Carried out within groups.
- Form groups of  $k$  servers so that every subset of  $k - 1$  of them shares a file that the remaining server needs.
- Use coded multicast transmission within the group.

# Main Results

## Communication Load of proposed scheme

The proposed resolvable design based scheme for Coded distributed Computing achieves the following communication load.

$$L_{prop} = \frac{1}{k-1} \left( 1 - \frac{k}{K} \right)$$

with a subpacketization level of  $q^{k-1}$ . The computation load is  $r = k$ .

- In contrast, original scheme has  $L_{CDC} = \frac{1}{k} \left( 1 - \frac{k}{K} \right)$  with a subpacketization of  $\binom{kq}{k}$ .<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup>K. Konstantinidis and A. Ramamoorthy, Leveraging coding techniques for speeding up distributed computing, *IEEE Global Communications Conference (GLOBECOM)*, 2018 (to appear).

# Some observations

- Analysis roughly parallels the coded caching setting.
- The Shuffle phase is inspired by, though slightly different from coded caching.
  - In coded caching the server makes all the transmissions.
  - In distributed computing, we form communication groups.

- **TeraSort**

Widely used sorting benchmark for clusters.

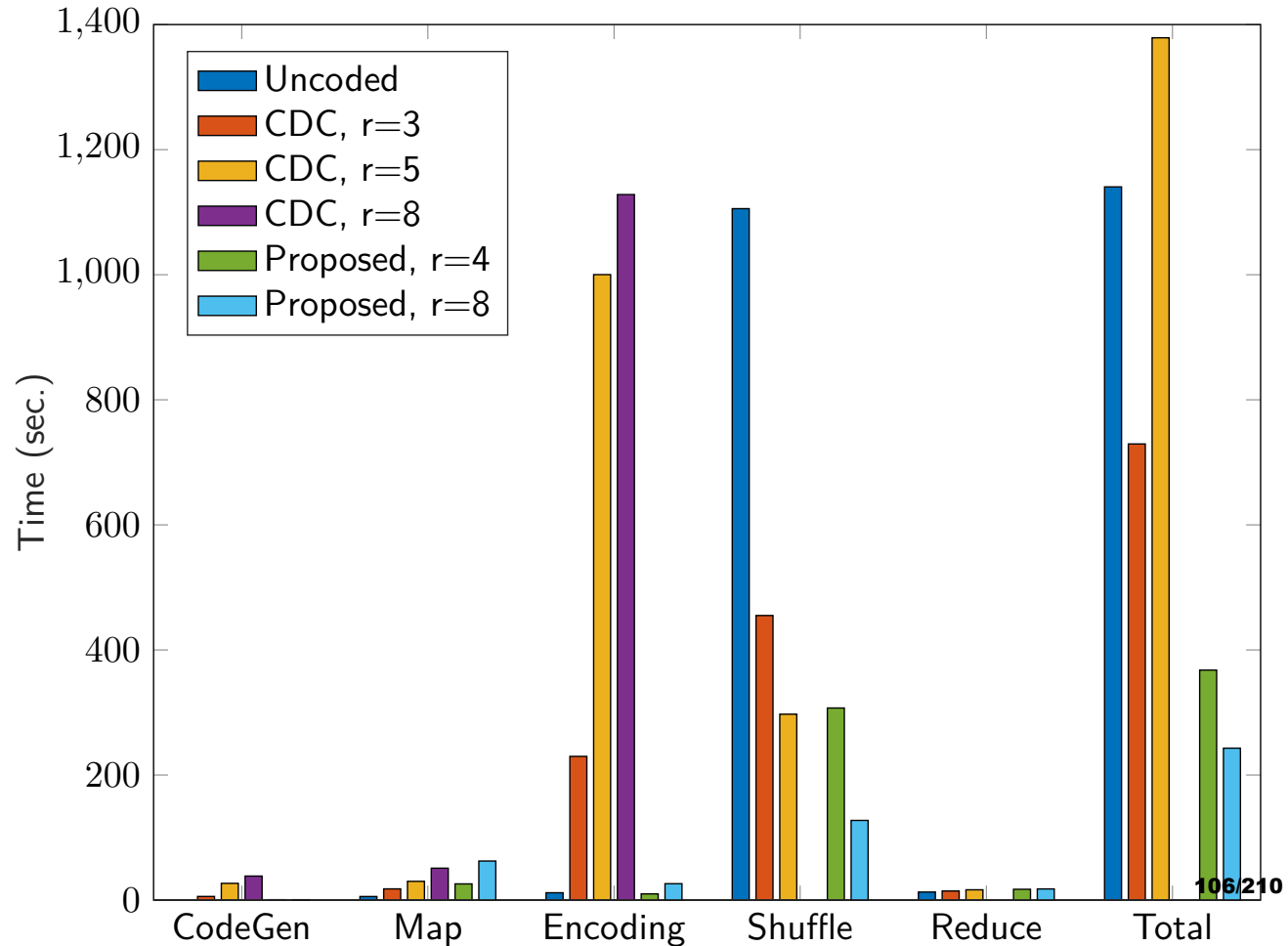
- **Experiment**

Implemented TeraSort on Amazon Web Services (AWS) cluster.

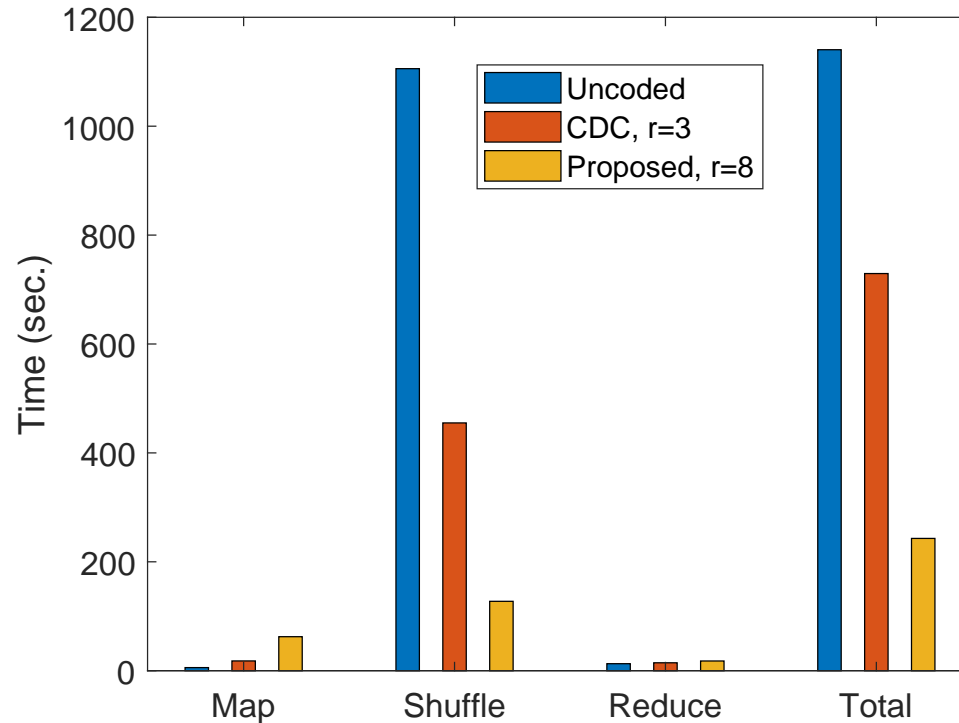
Data set: 12 GB.

$K = 16$  servers.

# Exhaustive Experimental Results on AWS



# Exhaustive Experimental Results on AWS



CDC gain:  $\approx 1.56\times$

Proposed gain:  $\approx 4.69\times$

# Some observations

- Information theoretic load analysis ignores several practical implementation realities that can really affect job execution time.
- Excessive subpacketization can actually cause the execution time to go over the trivial uncoded scheme.



# Several Open Questions

- The subpacketization level of most useful constructions still scales exponentially with the problem parameters.
  - Albeit with a much smaller exponent.
  - Provides constructions for tens of users with manageable subpacketization.
  - Open issue: Constructions for general values of  $K$  that scale polynomially in problem parameters.
- Constructions that are flexible with respect to the cache fractions that they support.

**Is synchronization necessary for coded caching to be useful ....?**

# Misconceptions with respect to synchronization

- Huge rate gains assume that the requests of all the users arrive at the same time.
- Users do not have any deadline constraints.

## Main Question under consideration

- Effect of coded caching rate under asynchronous request arrival times and hard deadlines.

# Motivation

## Netflix and YouTube Are America's Biggest Traffic Hogs

Percentage of peak period downstream traffic in North America, by application\*

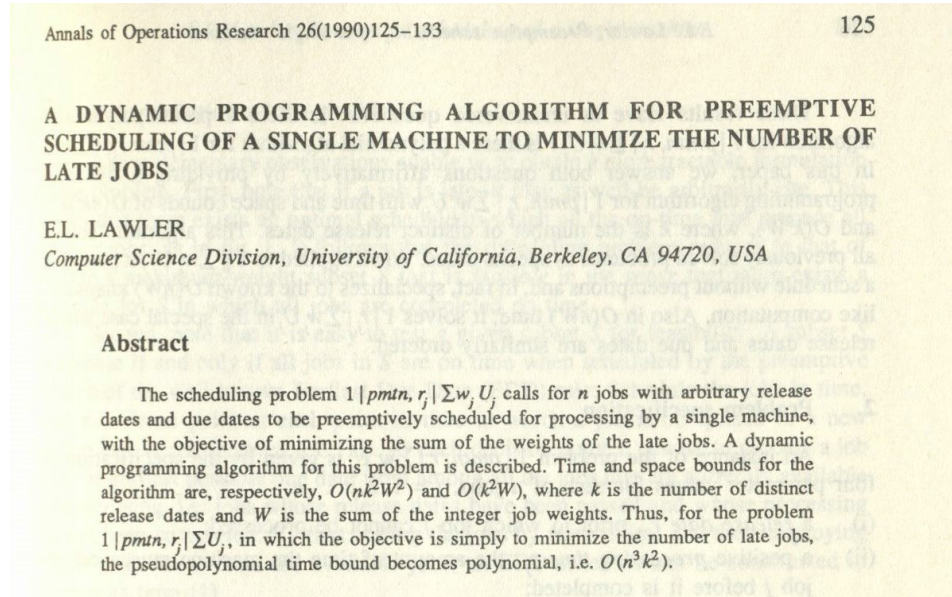


- Different users do not necessarily start watching movies at the same time.
- Users have different levels of delay tolerance.

- Considered in the work of [Niesen & Maddah-Ali 2014].
  - Users require different video chunks (part of video).
  - Chunks have deadlines.
  - Algorithm attempts to merge requests to reduce rate of transmission while respecting deadlines.
- To our best knowledge a formal problem setting/analysis that establishes lower bounds on the asynchronous coded caching rate has not been presented.

# Related Work: Operations Research

- Problems of this flavor have a rich history in the Operations Research area.

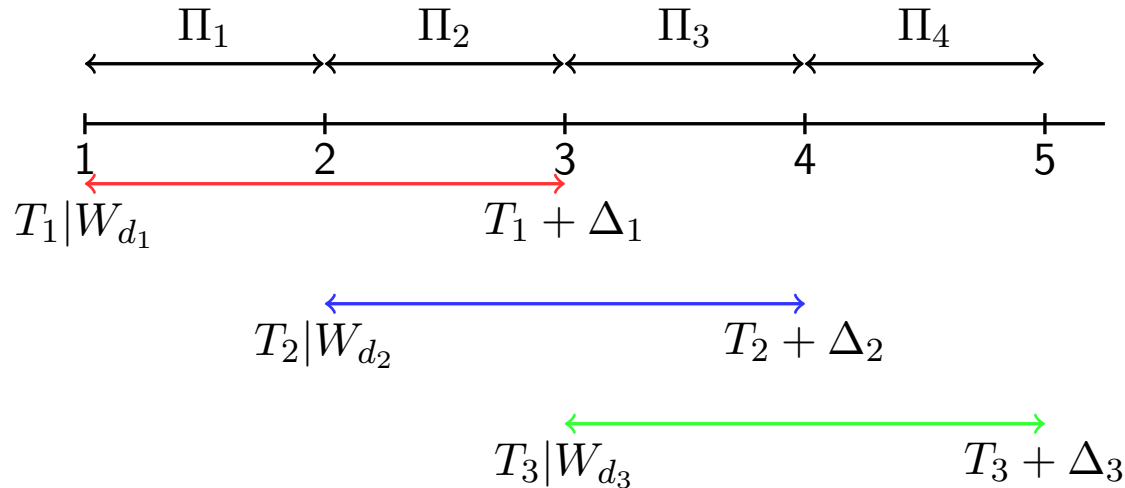


## **Preemptive Scheduling with Release Times, Deadlines, and Due Times**

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# Asynchronous Coded Caching: Problem Formulation

- User requests arrive at **different times**.
  - $T_i$ : arrival time of the  $i$ -th user.
- Each user has a **prescribed deadline** by which they want their request to be serviced.
  - $\Delta_i$ : deadline of the  $i$ -th user.
- Packet transmission takes a certain number of time slots.



# Placement and delivery schemes

- Assumed a fixed placement scheme and delivery scheme.
- Presented with Maddah-Ali-Niesen placement scheme (approach works for any fixed uncoded placement).
  - Let  $t = KM/N$  be an integer and  $W_i = \{W_{i,\mathcal{A}} : \forall \mathcal{A} \subseteq [K], |\mathcal{A}| = t\}$  then  $Z_i = \{W_{j,\mathcal{A}} : i \in \mathcal{A}, j \in [K]\}$ .
- Delivery scheme: *All-but-one* type delivery signals.



# Precise problem statement

- Given the placement scheme and all-but-one type delivery signals.
- Given a sequence of arrival times, deadlines and file requests.
- Determine a **schedule of transmissions with minimum rate** so that each user is satisfied within their deadline OR **determine infeasibility**.

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## Offline

- The server is aware of  $\{T_i, \Delta_i, d_i\}_{i=1}^K$  for determining schedule.

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## Online

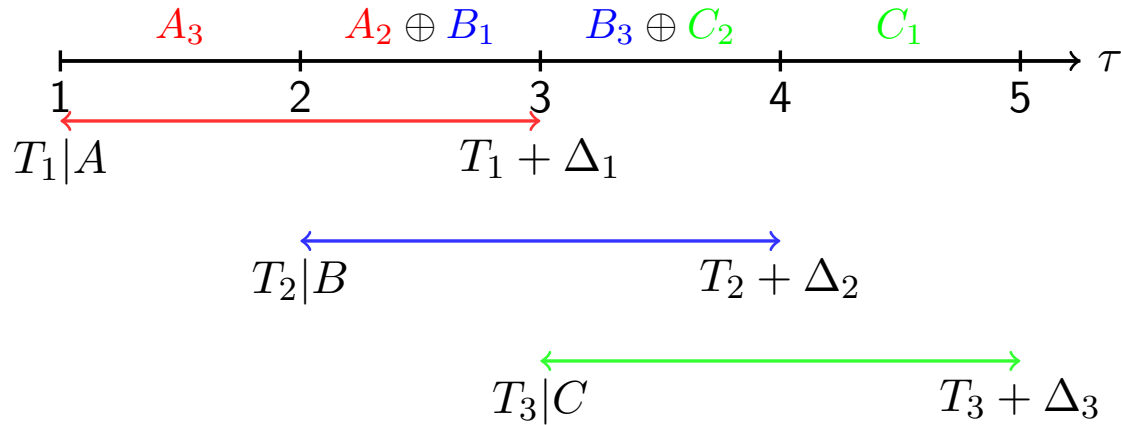
- $\{T_i, \Delta_i, d_i\}$  is revealed to the server as time progress.

- **Offline case is a lower bound on the online case.**

# Illustrative Example

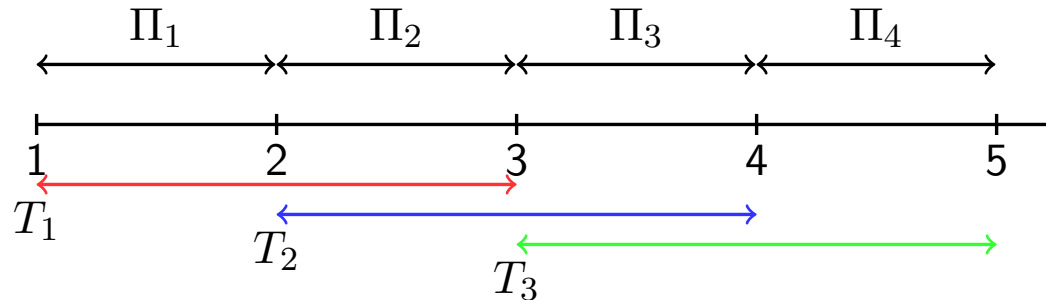
System with  $N = 3$  files and  $K = 3$  users with  $M/N = 1/3$ .

Placement Scheme:  $Z_i = \{A_i, B_i, C_i\}$ .



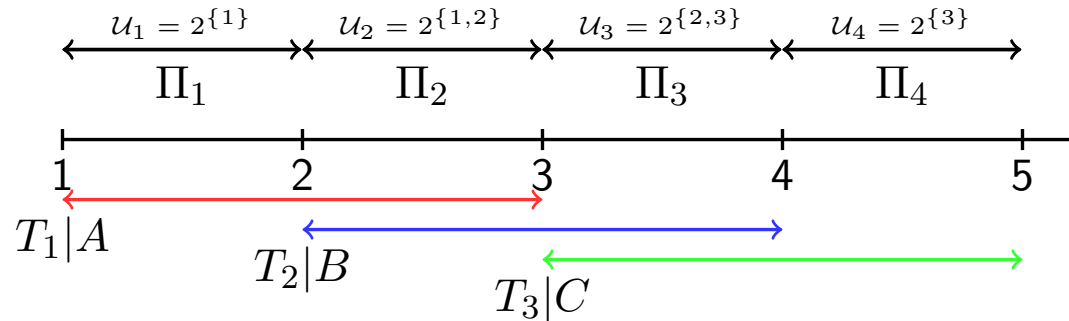
# Time intervals

- $K$  arrival times  $T_i$  and  $K$  deadlines  $T_i + \Delta_i$ .
- Determine at most  $2K - 1$  time intervals.
- Suffices to determine the set of transmitted equations for each interval (rather than each slot).
  - Solution complexity does NOT grow with number of time slots.



# User groups

- In each interval, certain user groups can be serviced.
- Let  $2^A$  represent all non-empty subsets of  $A$ .



# User Groups

- Missing subfile  $\mathcal{A}$  of user  $i$  can be transmitted within user group  $U$  if  $U \setminus \{i\} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ .

## Example

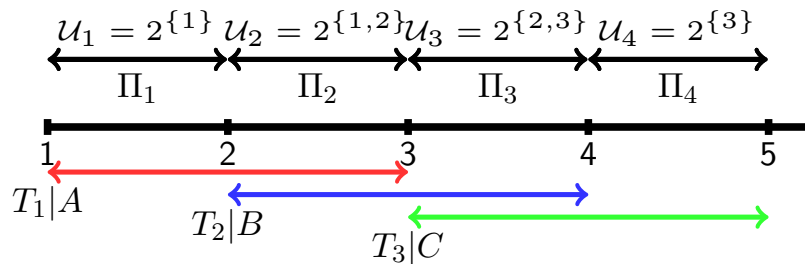
With  $N = K = 4$  and  $KM/N = t = 2$ . Subfile  $W_{d_3,\{1,2\}}$  can be transmitted as

$$W_{d_3,\{1,2\}} \text{ (User group } \{3\})$$

$$W_{d_3,\{1,2\}} \oplus W_{d_2,\{1,3\}} \text{ (User group } \{2, 3\})$$

$$W_{d_3,\{1,2\}} \oplus W_{d_2,\{1,3\}} \oplus W_{d_3,\{1,2\}} \text{ (User group } \{1, 2, 3\})$$

# Modeling as a multi-commodity flow like problem



Missing subfiles User 2

$B_1$

$B_3$

User Groups

$\{2\}$

$\{1, 2\}$

$\{2, 3\}$

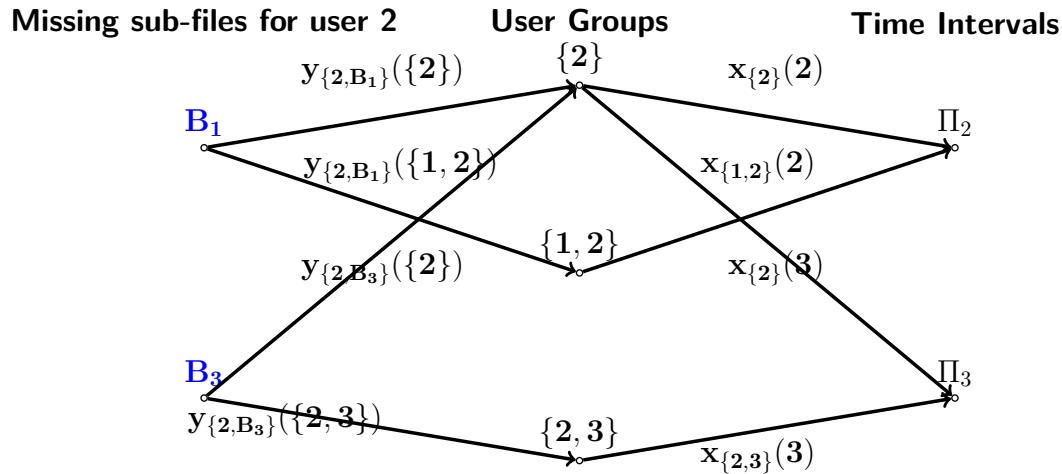
Time Intervals

$\Pi_2$

$\Pi_3$

# Modeling as a multi-commodity flow like problem

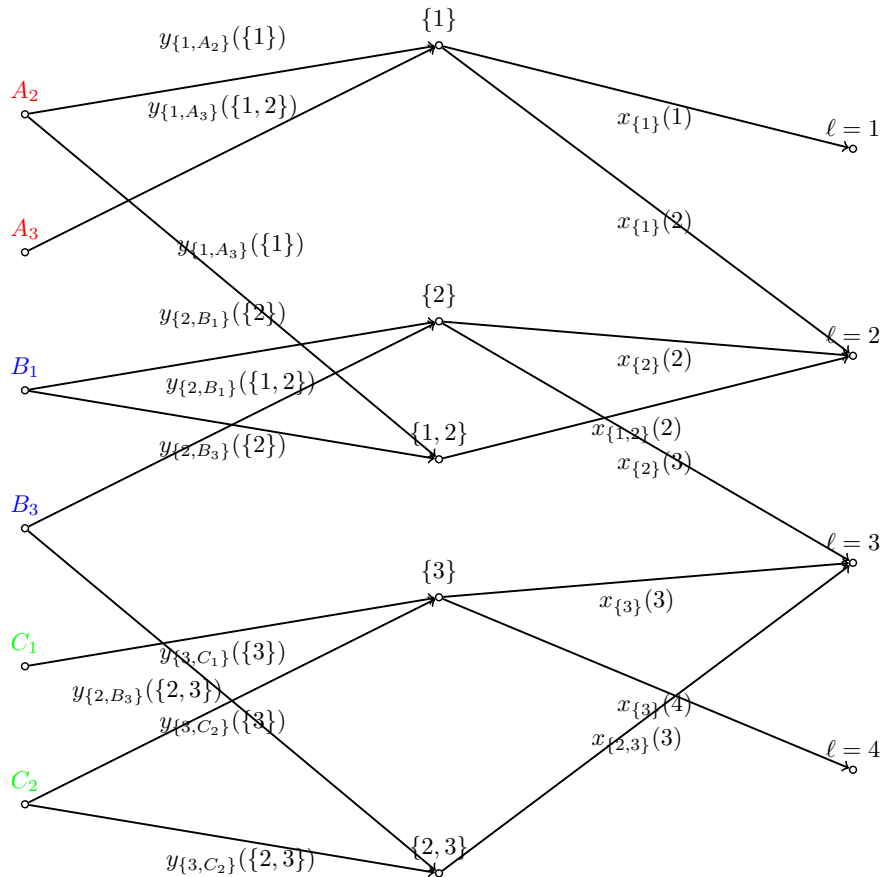
- $\mathcal{A}$  : missing subfile for user  $i$  if  $i \notin \mathcal{A}$ .
- $y_{i,\mathcal{A}}(U)$  : portion of subfile  $W_{d_i,\mathcal{A}}$  transmitted within user group  $U$  for some interval  $\Pi_\ell$ .
- $x_U(\ell)$  : portion of interval  $\Pi_\ell$  allocated to user group  $U$ .



Missing sub-files

User Groups

Time Intervals





# Constraints on the flow variables

- All of  $W_{d_i, \mathcal{A}}$  needs to be transmitted.

$$\sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}_{\{i, \mathcal{A}\}}} y_{\{i, \mathcal{A}\}}(U) = r \quad \forall \text{ missing subfiles } \mathcal{A}.$$

$\mathcal{U}_{\{i, \mathcal{A}\}}$ : active user groups within deadline of  $i$ -th user that can carry  $\mathcal{A}$ .

- Missing subfiles of user  $i$  can share user group  $U$ .

$$\sum_{\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{B}_{\{i, U\}}} y_{\{i, \mathcal{A}\}}(U) \leq \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_U} x_U(\ell), \quad \forall U \in \mathcal{V}_i, \quad \forall i \in [K]$$

- $\Pi_\ell$  is shared between active user groups.

$$\sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}_\ell} x_U(\ell) \leq |\Pi_\ell|$$

where  $\mathcal{U}_\ell$  is set of active user groups in time interval  $\Pi_\ell$ .

# LP formulation of the Offline case

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min \sum_{\ell=1}^{\beta} \sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}_{\ell}} x_U(\ell) \\
 & \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}_{\ell}} x_U(\ell) \leq |\Pi_{\ell}|, \quad \forall \ell = 1, \dots, \beta, \\
 & \quad \sum_{\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{B}_{\{i, U\}}} y_{\{i, \mathcal{A}\}}(U) \leq \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_U} x_U(\ell), \quad \forall U \in \mathcal{V}_i, \forall i \in [K], \\
 & \quad \sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}_{\{i, \mathcal{A}\}}} y_{\{i, \mathcal{A}\}}(U) = r, \quad \forall \mathcal{A} \in \Omega^{(i)}, \forall i \in [K], \\
 & \quad 0 \leq x_U(\ell) \leq |\Pi_{\ell}|, \text{ and} \\
 & \quad 0 \leq y_{\{i, \mathcal{A}\}}(U) \leq r.
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

8

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<sup>8</sup>H. Ghasemi and A. Ramamoorthy, Asynchronous coded caching, *IEEE Intl. Symp. on Information Theory*, 2017.

H. Ghasemi and A. Ramamoorthy, Algorithms for asynchronous coded caching, *Asilomar Conf. on Signals, Systems and Computers*, 2017. 126/210

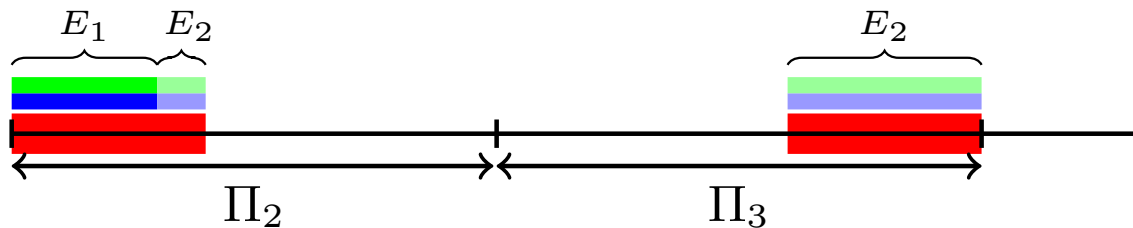
# Interpreting LP Solution: Key Idea

- Main point:  $y_{i,\mathcal{A}}(U)$  only exists if  $U \setminus \{i\} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ .
- $y_{i_1,\mathcal{A}_1}(U), y_{i_2,\mathcal{A}_2}(U), \dots$  can be superimposed on top of each other.  
Simple XOR suffices.

Let  $U = \{1, 2\}$  with  $\mathcal{I}_U = \{2, 3\}$  we have

$$x_U(2) = 0.4 \quad x_U(3) = 0.4$$

$$y_{\{1,\{2,3\}\}}(U) = 0.3 \quad y_{\{2,\{1,3\}\}}(U) = 0.3 \quad y_{\{1,\{2,4\}\}}(U) = 0.5 \quad y_{\{2,\{1,4\}\}}(U) = 0.5$$



■  $x_U(2), x_U(3)$

■  $y_{\{1,\{2,3\}\}}(U)$

■  $y_{\{1,\{2,4\}\}}(U)$

■  $y_{\{2,\{1,3\}\}}(U)$

■  $y_{\{2,\{1,4\}\}}(U)$

$E_1 = W_{d_1,\{2,3\}} \oplus W_{d_2,\{1,3\}}$

# Dealing with LP complexity

- Number of variables:

$$\leq \{K \binom{K-1}{t} + 2K - 1\} \sum_{j=0}^{t+1} \binom{K}{j}.$$

- Number of constraints:

$$\leq 2K - 1 + (5K - 2) \sum_{i=1}^{t+1} \binom{K}{i} + K \binom{K-1}{t} (2 \sum_{j=0}^{t+1} \binom{K}{j} + 1).$$

- Usage of time intervals, user groups and interpretation of LP solution reduces complexity substantially with respect to a naive formulation.
  - Still the LP size is large ...
- LP structure is reminiscent of the max-of-flows structure in network coding.
- Can use dual decomposition followed by iterative primal recovery to significantly reduce the time-complexity of determining the schedule.
  - Leverage fast  $s - t$  minimum cost network flow algorithms.
  - Simple cycle-Canceling, Minimum-mean cycle-canceling,

# Dual Decomposition

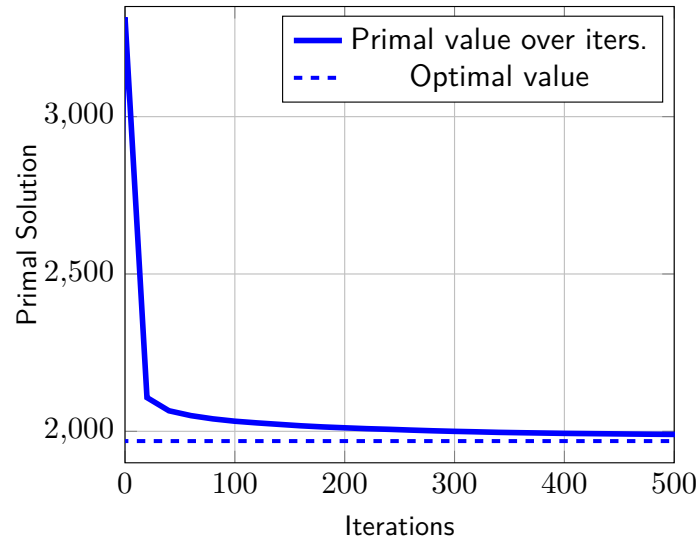
## Original LP

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min \sum_{\ell=1}^{\beta} \sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}_{\ell}} x_U(\ell) \\
 & \text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}_{\ell}} x_U(\ell) \leq |\Pi_{\ell}|, \quad \forall \ell = 1, \dots, \beta, \\
 & \quad \sum_{\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{B}_{\{i,U\}}} y_{\{i,\mathcal{A}\}}(U) \leq \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_U} x_U(\ell), \quad \forall U \in \mathcal{V}_i, \forall i \in [K], \\
 & \quad \sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}_{\{i,\mathcal{A}\}}} y_{\{i,\mathcal{A}\}}(U) = r, \quad \forall \mathcal{A} \in \Omega^{(i)}, \forall i \in [K], \\
 & \quad 0 \leq x_U(\ell) \leq |\Pi_{\ell}|, \text{ and} \\
 & \quad 0 \leq y_{\{i,\mathcal{A}\}}(U) \leq r.
 \end{aligned}$$

- Recall that  $\sum_{\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{B}_{\{i,U\}}} y_{\{i,\mathcal{A}\}}(U)$  represents the total amount of missing subfiles of user  $i$  that are supported by user group  $U$ .
- Main idea: Introduce a variable  $x_U^{(i)}(\ell)$  such that

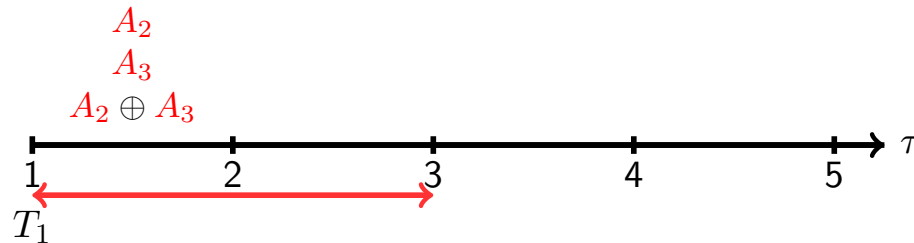
$$\sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}_{\{i,\mathcal{A}\}}} y_{\{i,\mathcal{A}\}}(U) = \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{I}_U} x_U^{(i)}(\ell)$$

## Simulation Results: $N = K = 20, M = 2$

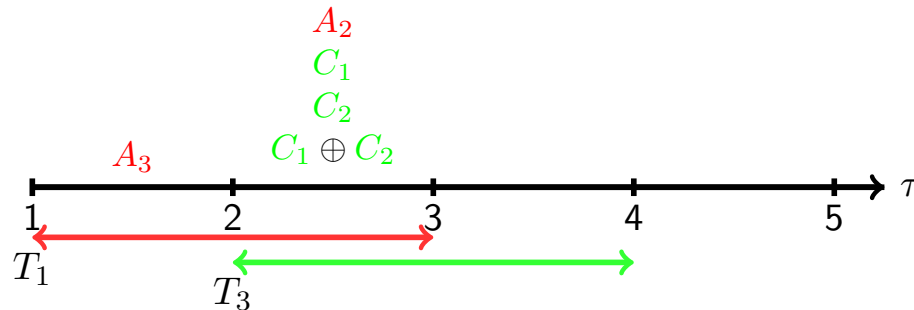


- Dual decomposition based solution  $\approx 14$  seconds.
- Original LP solution takes over 10 minutes.

# Online Case: Necessity of coding within missing subfiles of the same user



Suppose, server transmits  $A_3$  in the first time slot.



No way to satisfy first and second arrivals within deadline!

Suppose, server transmits  $A_2$  in first time slot.

## Online Case: Minimization of overall completion time

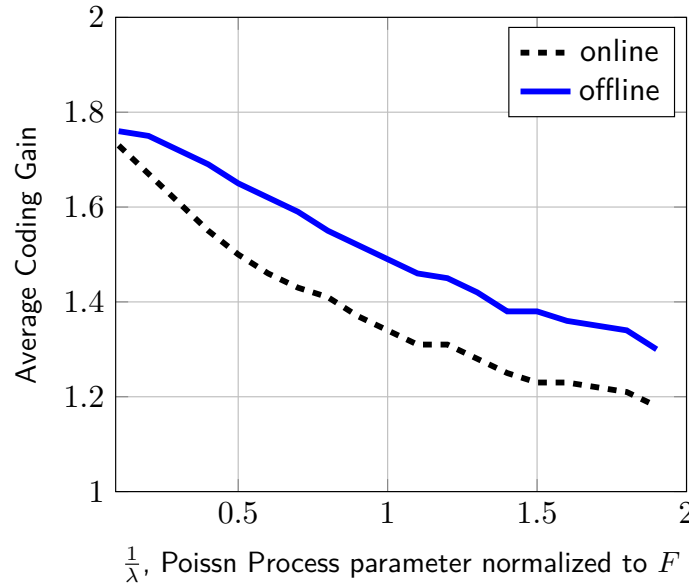
- Suppose that users do not have strict deadlines but want to minimize the overall completion time with minimum rate of transmission from the server.
- With a little work, we can show that the online rate can be as good as the offline rate.
  - Wait until  $t + 1$  requests come.
  - Greedily transmit equations that benefit  $t + 1$  users whenever possible.



# An online algorithm inspired by offline LP

- In more recent work, we have developed an online algorithm that solves a new LP whenever a new user makes a request.
- The transmissions use coding over subfiles of the same user.
- The decision to transmit at a certain time depends on a threshold  $\gamma$ , which is calculated based on the severity of the deadlines and the number of users served by the equation.
- The offline LP serves as the limit of what is achievable based on *all-but-one* equations.

# Simulation Results: $K = N = 8, M = 2$



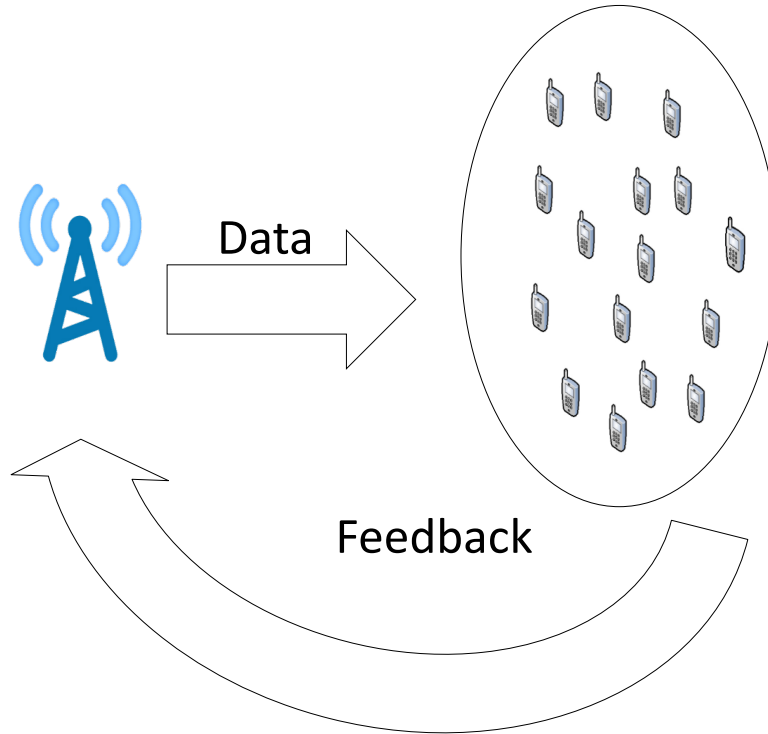
- Decentralized placement with  $F = 20$ .
- Arrivals generated by a Poisson process with parameter  $\lambda$  and deadlines uniformly from a certain interval.
- Graceful degradation of coded caching gain in the presence of asynchronism.

# Summary of Asynchronous coded caching

- Presented a formulation of the asynchronous coded caching problem.
- Offline scenario: Can be posed as an LP. Serves as a lower bound on the performance of *any* scheme.
  - Interpretation of the LP as a coding solution.
  - Presented a dual decomposition based fast method for solving the LP. Can solve very large instances ( $K = 100$  has been tested).
- Online scenario: Demonstrated the necessity of coding within subfiles intended for the same user. Not required in the synchronized case.
- Several open issues in the online case. Bounding the gap between online vs. offline?

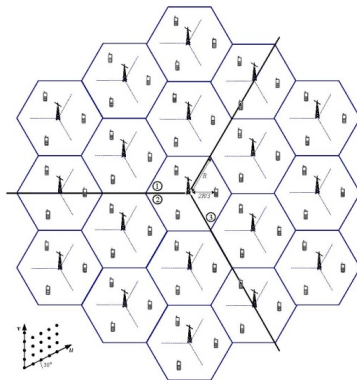
## Limitations of Current Communications Paradigms

# Main Challenges



- 'Feedback': channel-state information (CSI)
  - The instantaneous strengths of each propagation-path between different nodes
- As  $K$  increases, the overhead consumes more and more resources
  - No room for actual data
  - Brings current systems and envisioned methods to a halt

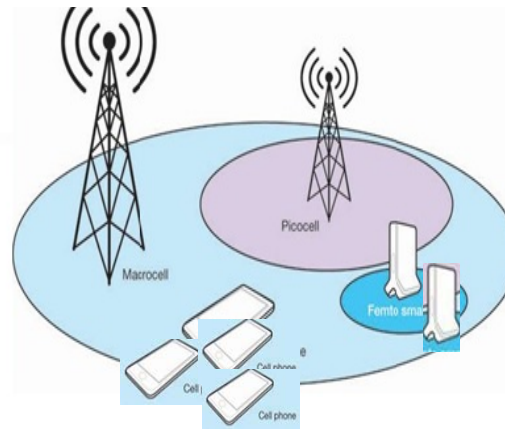
# Main Challenges: Multi-cell Cooperation



- Even full BS cooperation cannot handle interference
- Spectral efficiency independent of the transmit power
- Cooperation possible only within clusters of limited size (due to CSI)
  - subject to out-of-cluster interference with power similar to in-cluster signals

$$DOF \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\text{Per User Capacity}}{\log SNR} \rightarrow 0 \text{ (as } K \text{ increases)}$$

# Challenges: Wireless Network Densification



Deployment of more base-stations/access-points per unit area

- Short-range wireless channels different from classical cellular counterparts
  - Exhibit path loss subduction (reduced path loss exponent)
  - Extreme fading (more severe deep-fades)
- SINR decrease after certain densification threshold
- Similar trends are observed for the throughput

⇒ Disruption of densification gains

# Novel Use of Storage

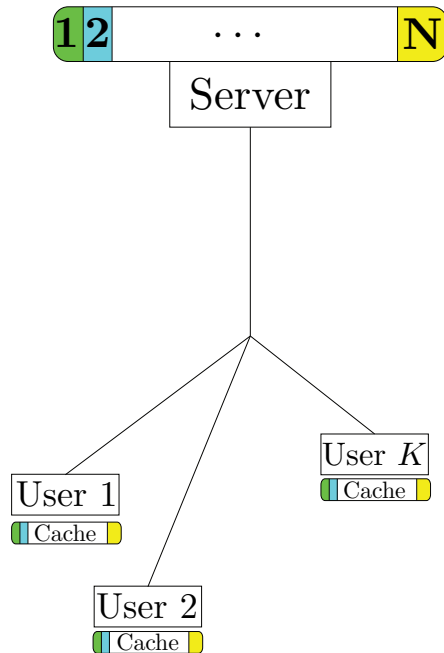
- This tutorial encourages a novel use of storage in communication and computing networks
- Using on-board memory at the communicating/computing nodes:
  - NOT to reduce the volume/size of the problem
    - “Prefetch/compute today so that you don’t have to tomorrow”
  - BUT to surgically alter the structure of networks
    - Use memory to change networks to something faster and simpler.



## Challenge

Modest Sizes for Caches  
Close to “the Edge”

# Bottleneck: Caches ( $\gamma$ ) are generally small



[Maddah-Ali, Niesen '12]

## Setting

- $K$  Users
- $\gamma \in (0, 1)$  fractional cache

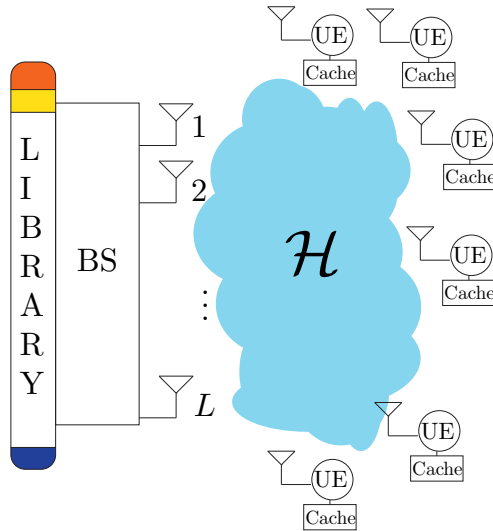
## Users Served Simultaneously

$$d_{\Sigma} = K\gamma + 1$$

## Big bottleneck: small $\gamma$

- Close to 'the edge',  $\gamma$  is expected to be small.
- $\gamma \approx 10^{-3} \rightarrow 10^{-2}$   
(ElAyoubi-Roberts, ICN 2015)
- Boost Rx-side caching?! **142/210**

# Coded Caching Using Multiple Antennas



## Setting

- $K$  users
- $\gamma$  fractional cache size
- $L$  antennas

## Users served per time-slot

$$d_{\Sigma} = K\gamma + L$$

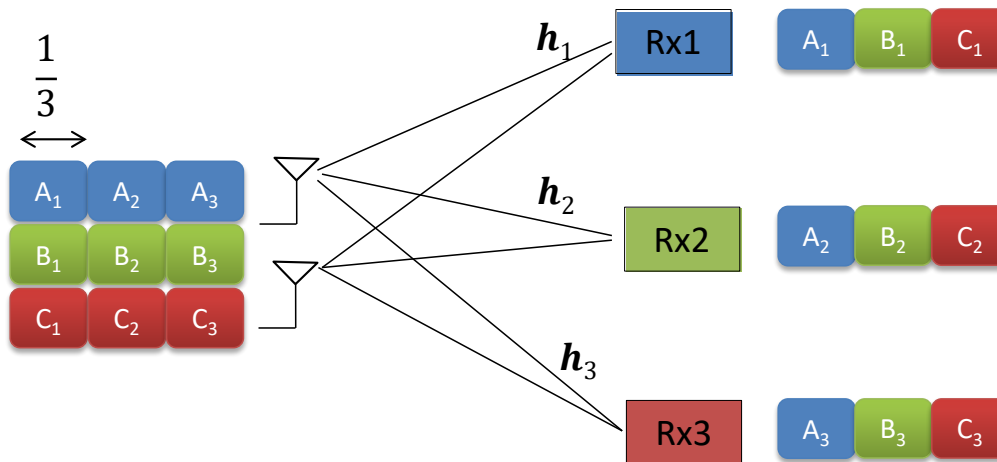
[Shariatpanahi, Motahari & Khalaj, '15]

## Remark

Multiplexing and multicasting gains combine additively.

[Naderializadeh, Maddah-Ali & Avestimehr, '16]

# Multi-Server Example: $N = K = 3, L = 2, M = 1$



- Setting: MISO-BC (full connectivity) with perfect CSI
- “XORs” of size  $K\gamma = 2$
- Find efficient way to deliver these multicasting messages  
 $(A_2, B_1); (A_3, C_1); (B_3, C_2)$

# Multi-Server Example: $N = K = 3, L = 2, M = 1$

- Precode with perfect channel estimates:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{h}_1^\perp L_1^1(C_2, B_3) + \mathbf{h}_2^\perp L_2^1(A_3, C_1) + \mathbf{h}_3^\perp L_3^1(A_2, B_1)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{h}_1^\perp L_1^2(C_2, B_3) + \mathbf{h}_2^\perp L_2^2(A_3, C_1) + \mathbf{h}_3^\perp L_3^2(A_2, B_1)$$

where  $L(m, n)$  are different linear combinations.

- Take Rx1 for example:

$$y_1 = \mathbf{h}_1 \mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{h}_1 \mathbf{h}_2^\perp L_2^1(A_3, C_1) + \mathbf{h}_1 \mathbf{h}_3^\perp L_3^1(A_2, B_1)$$

$$y_2 = \mathbf{h}_1 \mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{h}_1 \mathbf{h}_2^\perp L_2^2(A_3, C_1) + \mathbf{h}_1 \mathbf{h}_3^\perp L_3^2(A_2, B_1)$$

- By removing  $C_1$  and  $B_1$  from the cache of receiver 1,  $A_3$  and  $A_2$  can be solved from  $y_1$  and  $y_2$

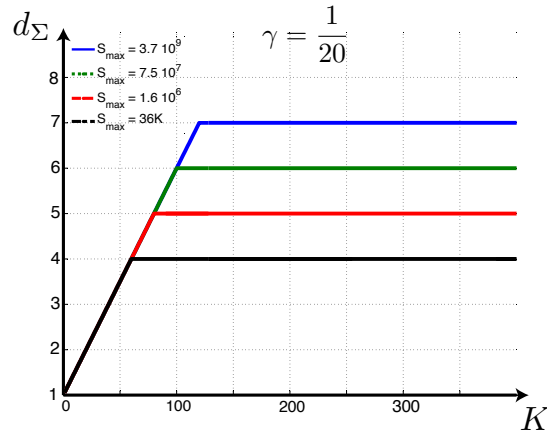
- The rate : each subfile:  $|A_3| = \frac{1}{3}$ . Sending  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$ , takes  $\frac{1}{3}$  each

$$T = \frac{2}{3}$$

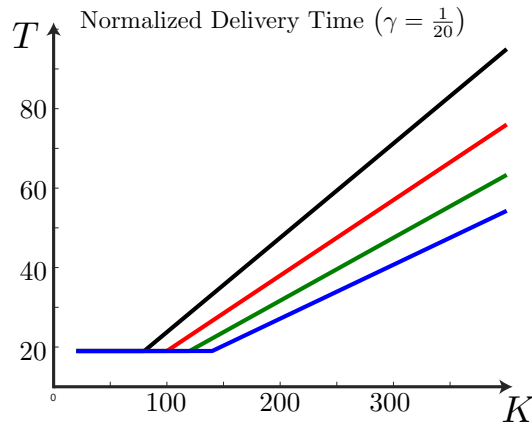
Algorithm: Shariatpanahi et al. (2016)



# Subpacketization Ramifications



Users Served : 7  
File size :  $\sim 3.7$  TB  
[min packet size 1KB].



Users Served : 7  
File size :  $\sim 3.7$  TB  
[min packet size 1KB].

### Remark

No known setting or algorithm could achieve

$$G > 5, \text{ if } \gamma \leq \frac{1}{20} \text{ and } S_{\max} = 10^5.$$

[achievability: Shangguan et al. '16]



# Subpacketization Bottleneck - Example

State of Art

$$K = 50, \gamma = 3/10$$

$$S_1 = \binom{50}{15} > 10^{12}$$

$$d_{\Sigma} = 16$$

$$S_{L=5} = \binom{35}{4} \binom{50}{15} > 10^{17}$$

$$d_{\Sigma} = 20$$

Proposed Solution

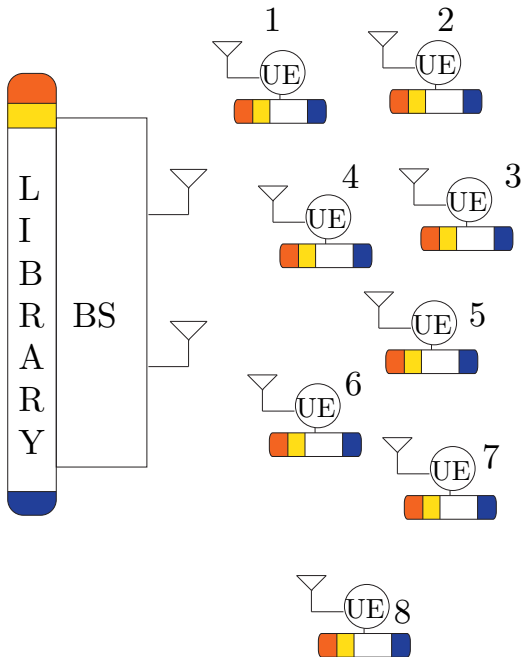
New Method

$$S = \binom{50/5}{15/5} = 120$$

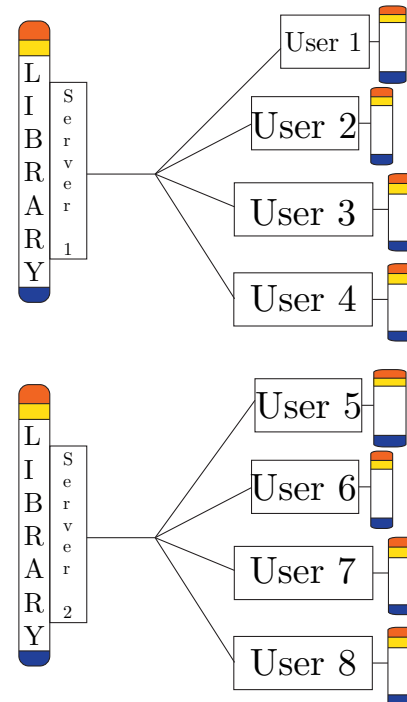
$$d_{\Sigma} = 20$$

# Algorithm Via Example - Wishful Decomposition

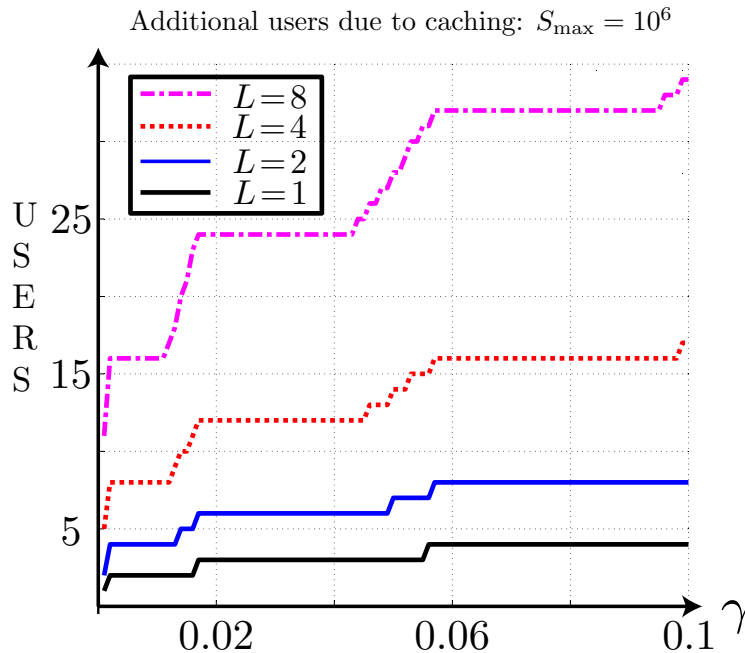
$$\text{Reality } S \geq \binom{K}{K\gamma}$$



$$\text{Wishful Thinking } S = \binom{K/2}{K\gamma/2}$$



# Gains



## Users Served

$$G = \min\{L \cdot \bar{d}_1, L + K\gamma\}.$$

## Subpacketization for unbounded file size

$$S_L = \binom{K/L}{K\gamma/L} \approx \sqrt[L]{\binom{K}{K\gamma}}.$$

$[\bar{d}_1$ : CC gain under supacketization constraint in Single Stream setting]

# Remarks - Practical Impact of Caching

## Perfect World Scenario

$\infty$ -File Size

### Adding Antennas

$$1 + 28 = 29$$

$$2 + 28 = 30$$

$$3 + 28 = 31$$

$$4 + 28 = 32$$

$\vdots$

## Harsh Reality

Limited File Sizes

### Adding Antennas

$$1 + 7 \rightarrow 8$$

$$2 + 7 \rightarrow 16$$

$$3 + 7 \rightarrow 24$$

$$4 + 7 \rightarrow 32$$

$\vdots$

“One Bad Apple Spoils the Bunch”



“木桶效应”

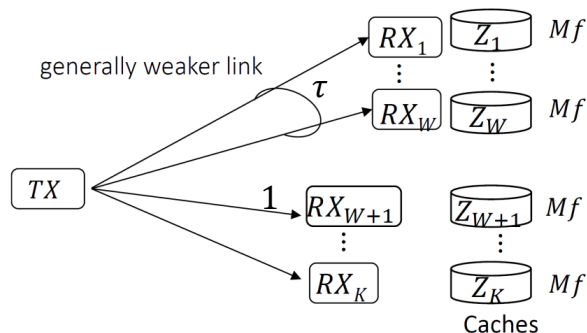


# Topology Bottleneck of Coded Caching

## Features/Opportunities:

- Topological 'holes' to attenuate interference
- XORING on the air

# Coded Caching with Uneven Link Strengths



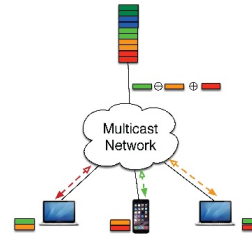
Topologically-uneven wireless SISO  $K$ -user BC:

- $W$  weak users with normalized capacity  $\tau < 1$
- $K - W$  strong users with normalized capacity = 1
- Same cache size per user ( $M$ )

- Multiple tx-antennas to reduce channel non-homogeneity



Massive MIMO



Coded caching

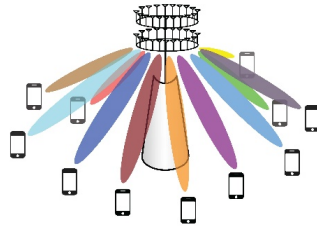
- Setting: iid quasi-static Rayleigh fading
- Using  $n_t$  transmit antennas to get 'spatial diversity'
  - Isotropic Multicasting
  - No feedback
- Multicast channel hardens after  $\approx \log K$  transmit antennas

$$n_t \geq \ln(K) + O(1)$$

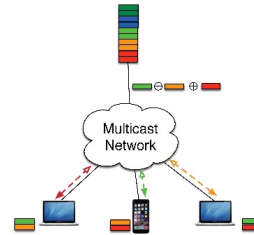
$P = o(1)$	$\bar{R}_0 = \Theta(P) = o(1)$
$P = \Theta(1)$	$\bar{R}_0 = \Theta(1)$
$P \rightarrow \infty$	$\bar{R}_0 \sim \ln(1 + P)$



- Multiple tx-antennas to reduce channel non-homogeneity



Massive MIMO



Coded caching

## TEMPORAL DIVERSITY ALSO HELPS (no feedback)

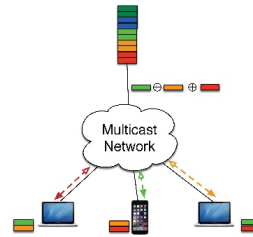
*If  $Ln_t \geq \ln(K) + O(1)$  and  $P$  is fixed, then  $\bar{R}_0 = \Theta(1)$  when  $K \rightarrow \infty$ .*

What matters is the total diversity:  
space, time, or frequency

- Multiple tx-antennas to reduce channel non-homogeneity



Massive MIMO



Coded caching

One bit of feedback is enough for scalability)

- Don't send to users with bad channels (SNR threshold  $s^*$ )

Optimizing over the content delivery rate:

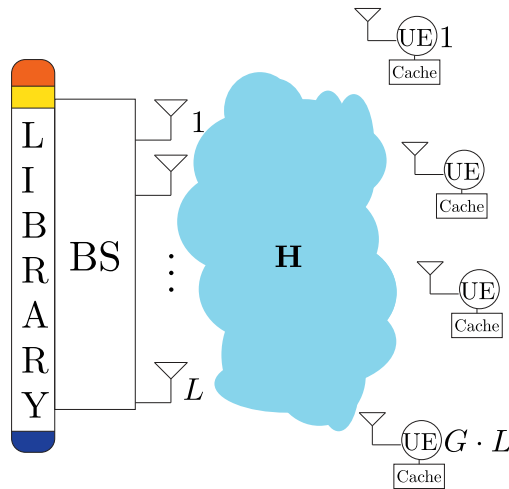
$$s^* = e^{W(P)} - 1$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{mul}} \sim \frac{m}{1-m} K e^{\frac{1}{W(P)} - \frac{1}{P}} W(P)$$

## Challenge

### Coded Caching and CSI Feedback

# Coded Caching in the Overloaded MISO BC



## Setting

- $L$  antennas
- $K = G \cdot L$  Users
- $\gamma \in (0, 1)$  fractional cache

## Consequences

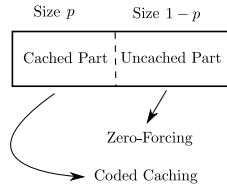
- Multiplexing needs  $G$  slots
- If  $K\gamma \leq L - 1 \Rightarrow$   
ZF outperforms Coded Caching

## Proposed Solution

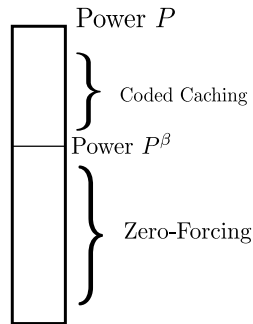
Combine the two

# Coded Caching in the Overloaded MISO BC

## File Allocation



## Power Allocation



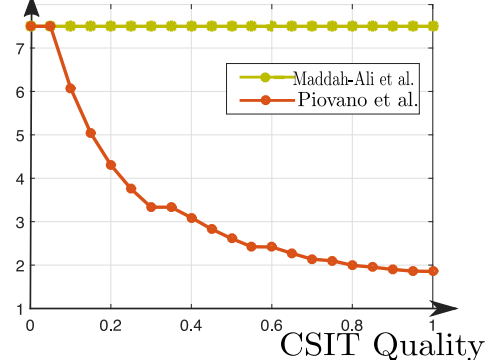
## Delivery Time

$$T^*(p) = \frac{K}{L} (1 - p) + \frac{K(p-\gamma)}{\frac{K\gamma}{p} + 1}$$

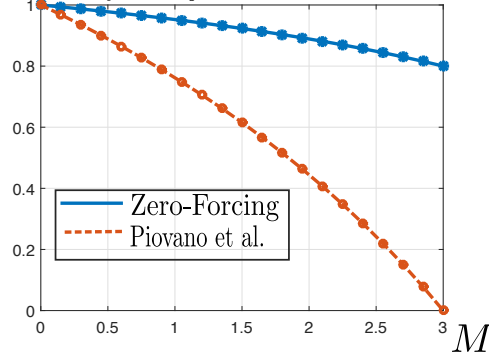
## Goal

Optimize with respect to  $p$

## Delivery Time



## CSIT Quality

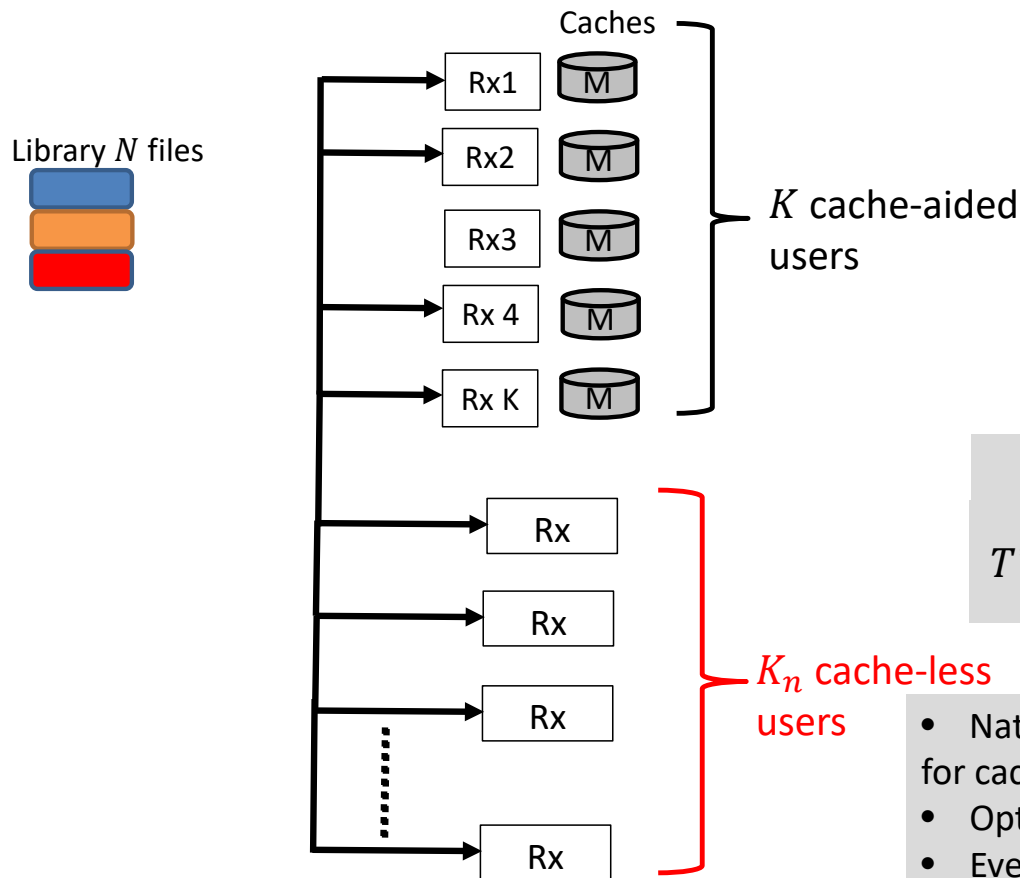


[Piovano et al '17]

## Challenge

### Cache-size Non-Homogeneity

# Coded Caching with Cache-less Users



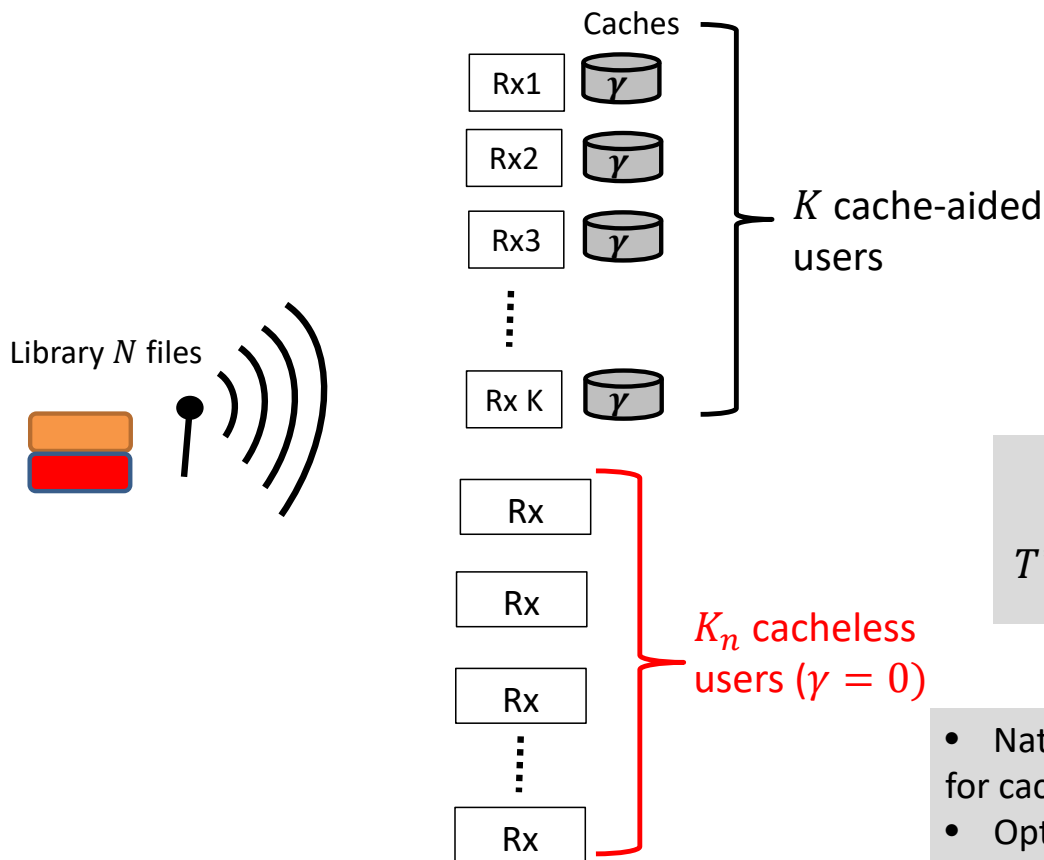
$$T^* = \frac{K(1 - \gamma)}{1 + K\gamma}$$

Optimal

$$T^* = \frac{K(1 - \gamma)}{1 + K\gamma} + K_n$$

- Naturally no caching gain for cache-less users
- Optimal: treat separately
- Every time we add a cache-less users, we pay full penalty

# Same for SISO Coded Caching



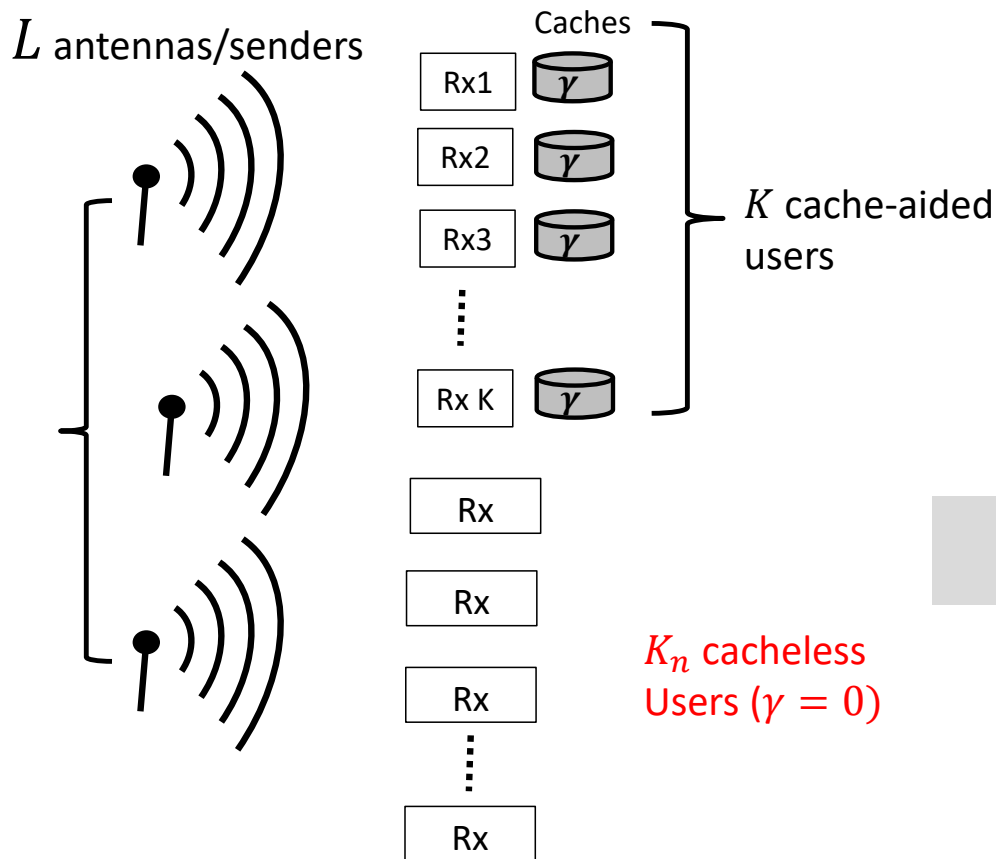
$$T^* = \frac{K(1 - \gamma)}{1 + K\gamma}$$

$$T^* = \frac{K(1 - \gamma)}{1 + K\gamma} + K_n$$

- Naturally no caching gain for cache-less users
- Optimal: treat separately
- Every time we add a cache-less users, we pay full penalty



# Separated Approach with Multiple Antennas



$$T^* = \frac{K(1 - \gamma)}{L + K\gamma}$$

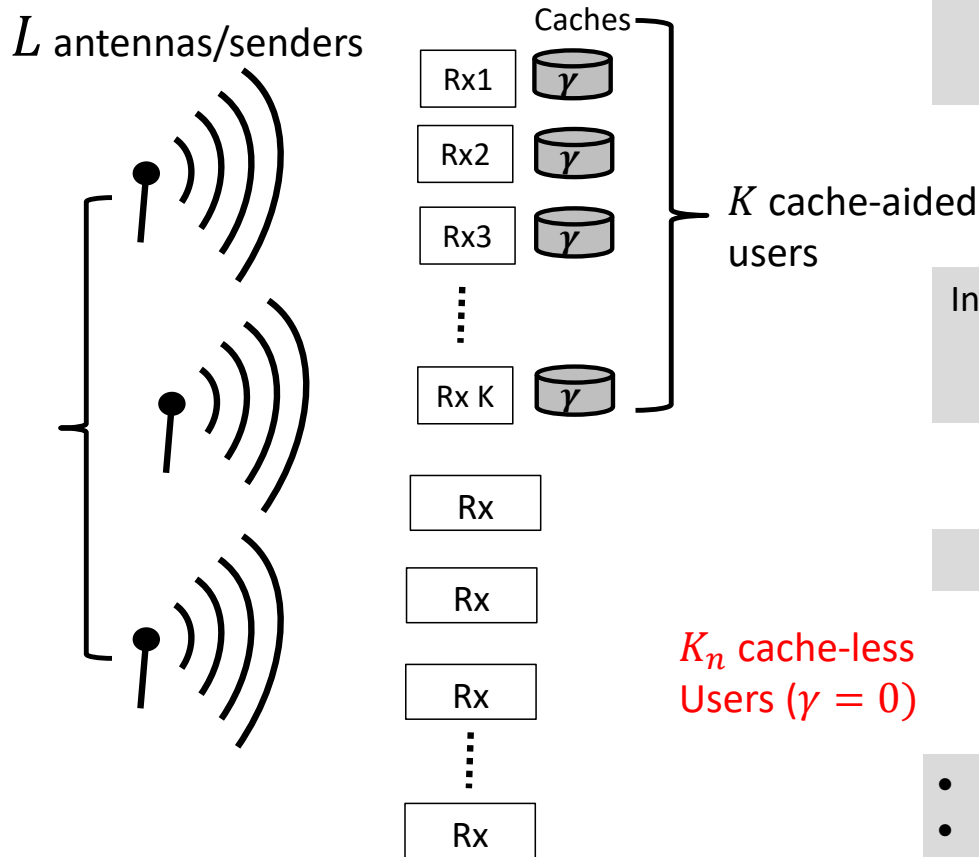
$$DoF = L + K\gamma$$

(Shariatpanahi et al. 2016)

Separated approach with multiple antennas

$$T_{sep} = \frac{K(1-\gamma)}{L+K\gamma} + \frac{K_n}{L}$$

# MISO Coded Caching with Cache-less Users (separate)



Separated approach with multiple antennas

$$T_{sep} = \frac{K(1-\gamma)}{L+K\gamma} + \frac{K_n}{L}$$

In separated approach, naturally only cache-aided users get both gains  $L + K\gamma$

We will show

$$T^* = \frac{K(1-\gamma)}{L+K\gamma} + \frac{K_n}{L+K\gamma}$$

- All users get full gains  $L + K\gamma$
- Even cache-less users can get full caching gain  $K\gamma$

## Basic parameters

- $\tau$ :  $K\gamma$  cache-aided users
- $\phi$ : cache-aided user with precoding
- $\chi = \tau \cup \{\phi\}$ : XOR of  $K\gamma + 1$  files
- $g_t$ : group of  $L - 1$  cacheless users

$$\mathbf{x}_{\tau, \phi}^t = \mathcal{H}_{\phi \cup g_t}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \bigoplus_{k \in \chi} W_{d_k, \chi \setminus \{k\}}^{\phi_k} \\ W_{d_{g_t(1)}, \tau}^{\phi} \\ \vdots \\ W_{d_{g_t(L-1)}, \tau}^{\phi} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Understanding the source of the gains

- Realization: to get full DoF, *not all* served users require caches
- Allows substituting  $L - 1$  cache-aided users per transmission with cache-less users
- These substituted caches can be used in later transmissions to boost performance.

# Main theorem

We will use  $T_1 \triangleq T_1(K, \gamma) = \frac{K(1-\gamma)}{1+K\gamma}$  ( $T_1 \approx \frac{1}{\gamma}$ ).

## Theorem

*In the MISO BC with  $L$  antennas,  $K$  cache-aided users, fractional cache size  $\gamma$ , and  $K_n \geq (L-1)T_1$  cache-less users, the delivery time*

$$T = \frac{(L-1)T_1 + K(1-\gamma)}{K\gamma + L} + \frac{K_n - (L-1)T_1}{\min\{L, K_n - (L-1)T_1\}}$$

*is achievable and within a factor of 2 from optimal, while if  $K_n \leq (L-1)T_1(K, \gamma)$  then*

$$T = \frac{K_n + K(1-\gamma)}{K\gamma + L}$$

*is achievable and within a factor of 3 from optimal.*

# Ramifications: Increasing impact of adding antennas

Context: In completely cache-less system

In completely cache-less  $K_n$ -user MISO BC, adding one more antenna allows (without added delay costs) the addition of only a diminishing number of  $\frac{K_n}{L}$  extra cache-less users.

Corollary

*Starting from the single-stream BC with  $K$  cache-aided users ( $\gamma$ ), then adding an extra  $L - 1$  transmit antennas, allows for the addition of*

$$(L - 1)T_1(K, \gamma) \approx \frac{L - 1}{\gamma}$$

*extra cache-less users, at no added delay costs.*

## Example: Full caching gain for cacheless users

Example ( $\gamma \approx 1/100$ ,  $K = 600$ ,  $T_1 = 99$ )

- Add 5 antennas ( $L = 6$ )
- Can add  $\approx 500$  cache-less users
- Served with full caching + multiplexing gain
- Total delay  $T = T_1 = 99$

## Example: Multiplicative DoF boosts from increasing $L$

Example ( $\gamma \approx 1/100, K = 600, T_1 = 99$ )

- Observing multiplicative effect of adding antennas

## Example: Multiplicative DoF boosts from increasing $L$

### Only cache-aided users ( $K_n = 0$ )

- Add 1 antenna: delay reduction 1.16
- Add 2 antennas: delay reduction 1.33
- Add 3 antennas: delay reduction 1.5

### Cacheless and cache-aided coexistence ( $K_n = 300$ ) ( $L' = 4$ )

- Add 1 antenna: delay reduction 2
- Add 2 antennas: delay reduction 3



## Example: Full caching gain for cacheless users

### Traditional MISO system (no caching)

- MISO traditional (cache-less) systems
- $L = 50$  tx-antennas
- Serving  $K_n = 1000$  users
- Per-user  $DoF = \frac{50}{1000} = \frac{1}{20}$

### MISO system - Now add cache-aided users

- Can add an UNLIMITED number of cache-aided users with  $\gamma \geq 1/20$
- at delay cost of less than 2%

# Ramifications: Multiple antennas for 'balancing' cache-size unevenness

Context: Cache-size unevenness generally hurts performance

In single-stream, having cache-size asymmetry generally causes delay penalties (best is uniform cache sizes).

## Corollary

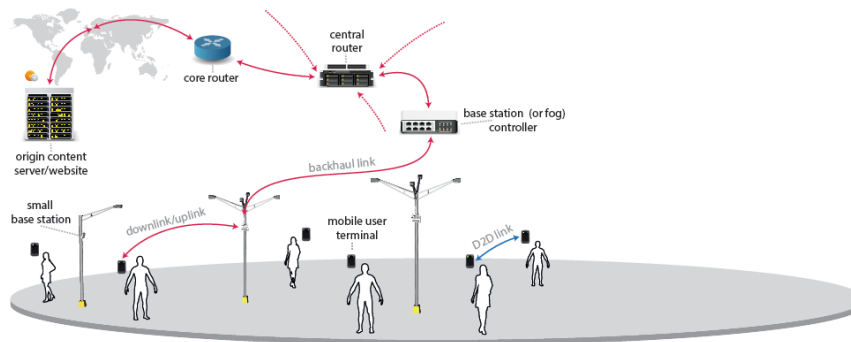
*The  $(K, \gamma, K_n)$  MISO BC with  $K_n \leq (L - 1) \frac{K(1-\gamma)}{1+K\gamma}$  cache-less users, incurs the same achievable delay*

$$T(K, \gamma, K_n) = \frac{K_n + K(1 - \gamma)}{L + K\gamma} = \frac{(K + K_n)(1 - \gamma_{av})}{L + (K + K_n)\gamma_{av}}$$

*as the optimal homogeneous  $(K + K_n)$ -user MISO BC with equal cache sizes  $\gamma_{av} = \frac{K\gamma}{(K+K_n)}$  (same cumulative cache  $K\gamma = (K + K_n)\gamma_{av}$ ).*

## General Conclusions

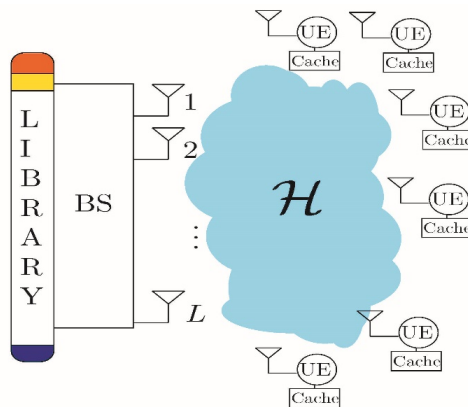
# Addressed Misconceptions



- Where to install memory
  - *“No need of deploying too many caches due to its costly nature”*
  - Now, much higher needs and gains though. Change of mind?
- In the future network, caches can be installed in BS, but also in mobile phones, laptops.
  - Last step can alleviate wireless capacity constraints

# Addressed Misconceptions

- The differences between advanced and “traditional” caching
  - Caching is an upper layer problem
  - Fusion is fascinating, and very powerful
- Example: Boosting a Multi-antenna system



Separable approach:  
MISO system with 50 antennas  
Users served: 50 → 55

True fusion of PHY and Coded Caching:  
Same system, same constraints, same resources  
Users served: 50 → 250

# Addressed Misconceptions

*“Coded caching can never work”*

- Press Release: “Airlines can provide huge video libraries with .. Coded Caching”



- See Cadami (Coded Caching startup – Background, IT, Network coding - TUM)
- Big challenges in extending this (relatively clean) setting, to wireless

# Caching in wireless: a set of different challenges

## Several salient features when caching is for wireless

- Interesting tradeoffs, **synergies**, and opportunities
- Feedback and topology are unexplored frontiers in caching for wireless.
  - Among many interesting differentiating ingredients
- Certain non-separability between caching and PHY. Unbounded gains if:
  - Finite file sizes
  - Shared caches
  - Imperfect CSI

# Open Problems and Future Directions

- Fusing PHY and CC to improve performance and subpacketization
  - Need to boost DoF gains for small  $\gamma$
  - Under subpacketization constraints
  - Need to explore new cache-endowed powerful PHY resources
- CC in different network topologies.
  - Topologies affect FB, interference, and multicasting capabilities (all connected)



## Subpacketization bottleneck

### STILL A MASSIVE PROBLEM:

- Expect  $S_{max} \leq 10^5$  (generous) – especially for streaming, (closer to  $10^4$ )

### BAD NEWS:

- In single stream coded caching, no known algorithm can achieve gain  $G > 5$ 
  - If  $\gamma \leq \frac{1}{20}$  and  $S_{max} \leq 10^5$

### GOOD NEWS:

- With multi-antenna (multi-sender) decomposition, any new algorithm's improvement, will be multiplied by a factor of up to  $L$

# Open Problems and Future Directions

- Computational and implementation complexity (subpacketization, clique-finding, cache-allocation)
- Increasing effective cache size.
  - Machine Learning
  - Recommendations

## Outer bounds

- Main challenges:
  - Asymmetry (Parrinello et al ITW 2018),
  - Topology
  - Feedback (Quality: Piovano et al)
  - Multiple senders/antennas (Naderializadeh et al – 2017)
- We are just beginning to scratch the surface.

## Finite SNR – error prone channels

- Mostly considered error-free communications
- Interesting solutions if you consider finite SNR
  - Precoder optimization for multicasting (Tolli et al. 2018)
  - Unicast/multicast optimization (Shariatpanahi et al 2018).

# Challenge: talking caching with network theorists

- Info theory and network theory have different methodologies
  - More emphasis on optimization under specific protocol assumptions
- Different measures of performance (beyond rate, capacity, delay, DoF, etc)
  - Infuse CC approach with network-theoretic considerations.
- Cost of cache placement
  - Mainly we have assumed zero-cost placement
  - Updating is also an issue (see 'Online coded caching' – Pedarsani et al. 2016)
- More emphasis on backhaul
  - Mainly emphasizing on bandwidth reduction
  - Some works: Tang et al 2018, see also Sengupta et al 2016

# Challenge: speaking to network theorist caching experts

- Caching with secure communications (e.g. https)
  - Public key encryption changes files differently at different receivers
  - Paschos et al. , also Engelmann-Elia.
- Synchronicity
  - See Ghasemi 2018
- What is the best way to utilize file popularity and user behavior
  - Open problem and could be key in solidifying usefulness of coded caching

## Distributed Computing

- **Structured Reduce Functions:** For many problems, the Reduce function may be linear. A worker node only needs a linear function of the other nodes at the end of the Map Phase.
  - Leveraging this structure<sup>9</sup> needs to be systematically investigated.
- **Reducing Shuffle phase traffic & mitigating stragglers simultaneously:** In practice, MapReduce systems also suffer from the problem of stragglers, where some workers are slower. Coding techniques to simultaneously address both issues are of interest.
- **Asymmetry in job assignments:** Impact of asymmetry in task assignments needs a systematic investigation. Could be useful for certain job types.

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<sup>9</sup>S. Li, M. A. Maddah-Ali and A. S. Avestimehr, Compressed coded distributed computing, *IEEE Intl. Symp. on Information Theory*, 2018.

## Distributed Computing

- **Systems Challenges:** Current distributed computing paradigms such as MapReduce, Spark, Hadoop etc. do not allow a user to specify the location of jobs.
  - Coded Distributed Computing requires “Subpacketize and Place (carefully)”; requires engaging the networking and distributed systems community



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

## Subpacketization

- *K. Shanmugam, M. Ji, A. M. Tulino, J. Llorca, and A. G. Dimakis, "Finite-length analysis of caching-aided coded multicasting," IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, Oct. 2016.*
- *Q. Yan, M. Cheng, X. Tang, and Q. Chen, "On the placement delivery array design for centralized coded caching scheme," IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, Sept. 2017.*
- *L. Tang and A. Ramamoorthy, "Low subpacketization schemes for coded caching," ISIT 2017.*
- *C. Shangguan, Y. Zhang, and G. Ge, "Centralized coded caching schemes: A hypergraph theoretical approach," IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, Aug. 2018.*

## Subpacketization

- *C. Shangguan, Y. Zhang, and G. Ge, "Centralized coded caching schemes: A hypergraph theoretical approach," IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, Aug. 2018.*
- *K. Shanmugam, A. M. Tulino, and A. G. Dimakis, "Coded caching with linear subpacketization is possible using Ruzsa-Szemerédi graphs," ISIT 2017.*
- *S. Jin, Y. Cui, H. Liu, and G. Caire, "Order-optimal decentralized coded caching schemes with good performance in finite file size regime," GLOBECOM 2016.*
- *E. Lampaeri and P. Elia, "Adding transmitters dramatically boosts coded-caching gains for finite file sizes," IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications (Caching), June 2018.*
- *E. Lampaeri and P. Elia, "Achieving full multiplexing and unbounded caching gains with bounded feedback resources," ISIT 2018.*

## Multiple senders/antennas

- *S. P. Shariatpanahi, S. A. Motahari, and B. H. Khalaj, "Multi-server coded caching," IEEE Trans. Inf. Theory, Dec. 2016.*
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