

Container Image Placement for Service Provisioning in the Edge

J.Darrous, T.Lambert, S.Ibrahim

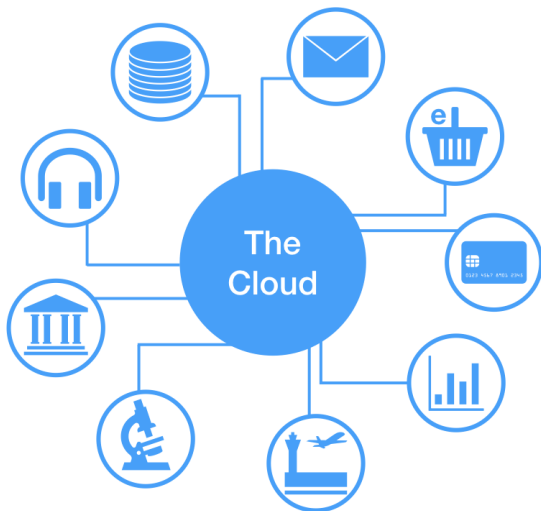
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May 30 2023

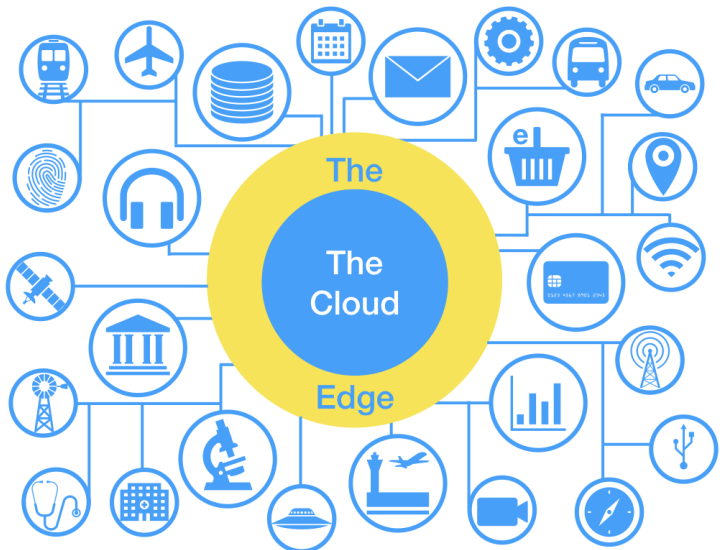
Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction
 - Context
 - Goal and Challenges
- 2 Formal Models and algorithms
- 3 Experimental Evaluation
- 4 Conclusion

Context



Context



Containers in Edge

- Containers are extensively used in cloud data centers
 - Google launches more than 2 billion containers a week¹

¹www.theregister.co.uk/2014/05/23/google_containerization_two_billion

Containers in Edge

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- Retrieving images from a central (remote) repository is time consuming
 - Downloading a 500 MB image over 5 MB/s link takes 100s

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What we propose

Placing container images across Edge servers!

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Service provisioning

- **Goal:** providing *fast* and *predictable* retrieving times for a set of images on the entire network

- **Challenges:**
 - **Heterogeneity of the network (bandwidth)**
 - **Ensure data availability**
 - **Limited storage capacities**

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↳ Reduce the maximum time to retrieve an image to any Edge-server
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 - **Limited storage capacities**
 - ↔ Not too much replications!

Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Formal Models and algorithms
 - MaxLayerRetrievalTime
 - KCBP
 - MaxImageRetrievalTime
 - KCBP-WC
- 3 Experimental Evaluation
- 4 Conclusion

Docker, Images and Layers

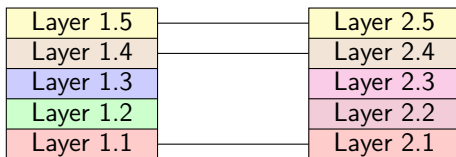
- We base our model on the Docker structure of containers.
- Each image is composed of several layers.
- A layer can be shared between several images.



- Layers are replicated, not images.
- Gain in term of storage cost.

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Retrieving assumptions

- We focus on placement here but we need to define the retrieving policy.
- **Policy:** If an image is requested on one node, each layer is individually retrieve from the node that owns a replica that has the largest bandwidth.
- **The retrieving time of an image is determined by the longest retrieving time among the ones of its layers.**

MaxLayerRetrievalTime

Problem (*MaxLayerRetrievalTime*)

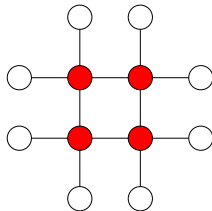
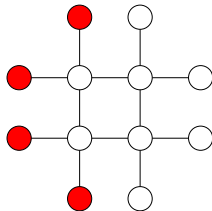
Let V be a set of nodes with storage capacity c and \mathcal{L} be a set of layers. Return a valid placement that minimizes: $\max_{u \in V, l_i \in \mathcal{L}} T_i^u$.

- V : set of nodes of the network (seen as a complete graph).
- c : storage capacity of a node (equal for all nodes).
 \hookrightarrow The sum of the sizes of layers stored on each node has to be lower than c .
- T_i^u : retrieving time of layer l_i on node u .
 \hookrightarrow Depends on the size of l_i and on the bandwidth between u and the chosen node.

K-Center

Problem (*K-Center*)

Placing k facilities on a graph such that the maximum distance from any node to any facility is minimized.



- Popular model for Content Delivery Networks (CDNs).

K-Center

- *K-Center* is NP-complete.
 - The best possible approximation ratio is 2^2 .
 - Some algorithm with good average ratio exist $(1.058)^3$.
- With only one layer, replicated k times,
MaxLayerRetrievalTime is equivalent to *K-center*.
 \Rightarrow *MaxLayerRetrievalTime* is NP-complete.
- Because of limited storage capacities, all layers cannot be placed on the k most central nodes.

²W.-L. Hsu and G. L. Nemhauser, 1979

³B. Robič and J. Mihelič, 2005

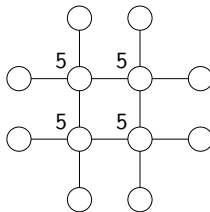
K-Center Based Placement

- Our solution: iterating a K-center approximation algorithm.
- Sort the layers by decreasing sizes
- For each layer:
 - s_i size of the layer
 - Use a K-Center solver (k number of replicas) on the subgraph with all nodes with remaining storage capacities $c_j \geq s_i$

$L_1(s = 3)$ ● ● ● ●

$L_2(s = 2)$ ● ● ● ●

$L_3(s = 1)$ ● ● ● ●

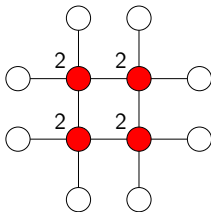


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$L_2(s = 2)$ 

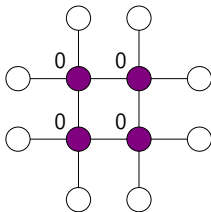
$L_3(s = 1)$ 



K-Center Based Placement

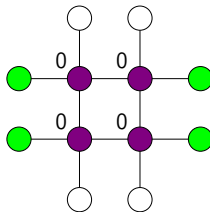
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MaxImageRetrievalTime

- Several downloads from the same node may degrade the bandwidth.
- Layer level may be too optimistic.
- **New rule:** if several layers are retrieved from the same node, these downloads are done sequentially.

Problem (*MaxImageRetrievalTime*)

Let V be a set of nodes with storage capacity c and \mathcal{I} be a set of images. Return a valid placement that minimizes: $\max_{u \in V, l_j \in \mathcal{I}} T_{l_j}^u$.

- An image is a set of layers.

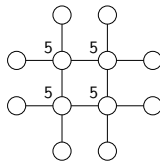
K-Center Based Placement-Without Conflict

- KCBP tends to gather many layers on same nodes \rightarrow higher chance to have two layers of an image on the same nodes.
- Sort the layers by decreasing sizes
- For each layer:
 - s_i size of the layer
 - Use a K-Center solver (k number of replicas) on the subgraph with all nodes with remaining storage capacities $c_j \geq s_i$ **and that do not own layers that share an image with this layer**

$L_1(s = 3)$ 

$L_2(s = 2)$ 

$L_3(s = 1)$ 

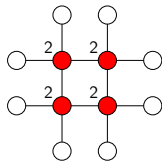


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$L_2(s = 2)$ 

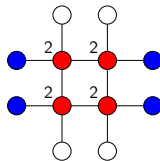
$L_3(s = 1)$ 



K-Center Based Placement-Without Conflict

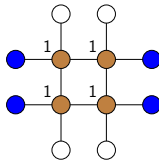
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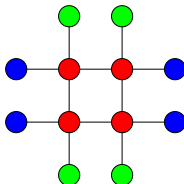
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K-Center Based Placement-Without Conflict

- We do not want to spread too much!



- What if another layer share an image with the three previous ones?
- We only apply the criterion "not sharing an image" on the $\alpha\%$ largest layers ($\alpha = 10$ here).

Table of Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Formal Models and algorithms
- 3 Experimental Evaluation**
 - Settings
 - Experimental Results
- 4 Conclusion

Simulation Methodology

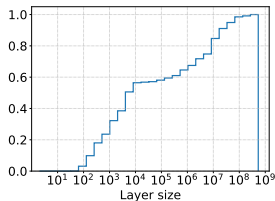
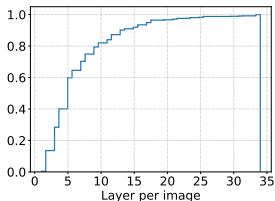
Simulation Methodology

- **Simulator:** written in Python and publicly available at gitlab.inria.fr/jdarrouis/image-placement-edge
- **Dataset:** cloud container images dataset
- **Networks:** synthetic and real network topologies

Container Images

- IBM cloud traces from Frankfort data centers.

Total #images	996
Total size of images	93.76 GB
Total #layers	5672
Total size of unique layers	74.25 GB



Synthetic Networks

- Complete graphs with random bandwidths on edges.
- **Homogeneous**: same bandwidth for all.
- **Low**: most of the edges have low bandwidth.
- **High**: most of the edges have high bandwidth.
- **Uniform**: edges bandwidths follow a uniform distribution.

Network	Number of nodes	Links bandwidths (bps)				
		min	25th	median	75th	max
Homogeneous	50	4G	4G	4G	4G	4G
Low	50	8M	763M	1G	2G	8G
High	50	478M	5G	6G	7G	8G
Uniform	50	8M	2G	4G	6G	8G

Real Networks

- France and Slovakia national networks⁴.

Network	Number of nodes	Links bandwidths (bps)				
		min	25th	median	75th	max
Renater	38	102M	126M	132M	139M	155M
Sanet	35	63M	6G	8G	8G	10G



⁴<http://www.topology-zoo.org/>

Strategies

- Our placement strategies:
 - KCBP
 - KCBP-WC
- Comparison strategies:
 - Best-Fit (round-robin distribution of layers)
 - Random
 - 50 runs for each.
- All layers are replicated 3 times.
- Storage capacity: $f \times \frac{\text{size of total dataset}}{\text{number of nodes}}$, $f \in \{1.1, 2, INF\}$.

Impact of Conflicts

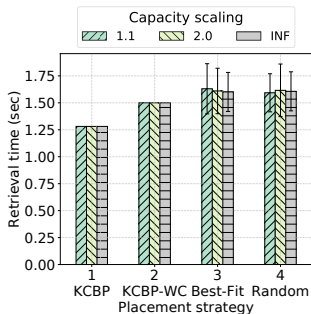


Figure: Layers Retrieval Times (High Network)

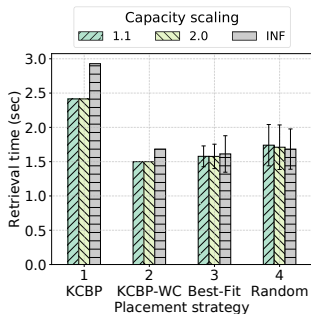


Figure: Images Retrieval Times (High Network)

- Conflicts have significant impact.
- "Extra space effect": having more storage capacity increase retrieving time.

Impact of Heterogeneity of Bandwidths

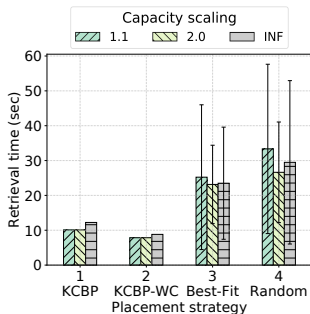


Figure: Low Network

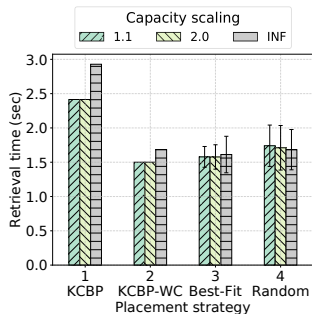


Figure: High Network

- Low Network: many "low connectivity nodes" → centrality of layers placement is important.
- High Network: few "low connectivity nodes".

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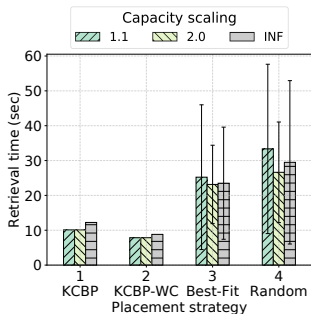


Figure: Low Network

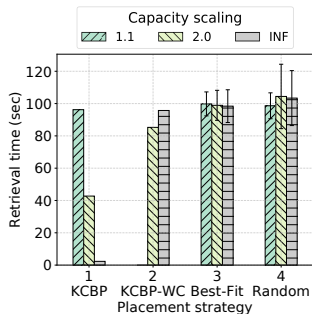


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Distribution of Image Retrieving Times

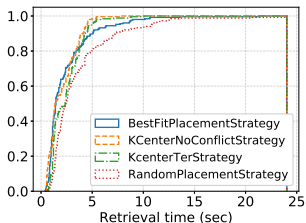


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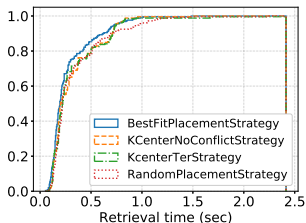


Figure: High Network

- Best-Fit has best retrieving time for 20% of the largest images on High Network.
- For Low Network, KCBP-WC has the lead on these images.

Table of Contents

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Contributions and Perspectives

- Contributions:
 - A formal model for containers placement on Edge networks.
 - Two placement strategies.
 - An experimental evaluation with state-of-the-art techniques.
- Perspectives:
 - Improvement of placement strategies ("extra space effect", α).
 - Adding several levels of replication.
 - Location-aware placements.
 - Retrieving strategies.

Any Question?