pCache: Proxy Cache for P2P Traffic

Mohamed Hefeeda, ChengHsin Hsu, Kianoosh Mokhtarian School of Computing Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Canada

1. Motivation

SFU

P2P traffic is enormous

- > Huge cost for ISPs, campuses, etc.
- > Increased load on backbone links
- Previous works show benefits of P2P caching
- We designed an open-source P2P cache: pCache
 - Works with different P2P systems
 - > Fully transparent
 - Efficient storage system customized for P2P traffic



2. Overview

		pCa
Storage System Manager		
In-memory Structures	Block Allocation Method	Replacement Policy
		ce D
Connection	P2P Traffic Processor	
Manager	Parser (Con	1poser][Analyzer

3. Storage System

Partial caching and serving of objects

- Requested segment sizes are highly variable
- P2P-protocol-independence
 - Support for cross-system caching
- Different object replacement policies
- Minimize disk I/O operations
 - Segment merging



4. Traffic Processor

- Parser: extracts messages (control/data)
- **Composer:** prepares protocol-specific messages
- Analyzer: placeholder for auxiliary functions
 - Piece length inference for **BitTorrent objects using:**
 - o First few requests issued by clients
 - o A priori knowledge about piece lengths
 - > Quantifiable confidence as input
 - > Incorrect inference: minor performance penalty



7. Future Works

- Encrypted P2P traffic
 - > Cache as a man-in-the-middle
- Cross-system caching
- New replacement policies

More info at http://nsl.cs.sfu.ca/wiki/

6. Evaluation of pCache

With real P2P traffic

- Test #1: the whole system
 - > 2700 downloads, 500 GB
 - > pCache software passed all validation tests
 - pCache Benefits the ISPs
 - o 90% of traffic was served from cache
 - PCache Benefits the P2P clients
 - o No impact on connectivity
 - o Higher download speed (With no higher upload speed)



Test #2: the storage system

- Storage implemented in two versions
 - o On a large file on ext2 Linux file system o On a raw partition (direct I/O)

Test #3: scalability

- Scalability of the bottleneck: storage system
- > 200 Mbps throughput for P2P traffic

Test #4: Piece length inference

Tested for 2100 downloads: 99.7% accuracy by observing only 3% of download traffic of a file







