New Applications via Opportunistic Peer-to-Peer Wireless Communications

Lixia Zhang
UCLA
February 2016

Smartphones play a big role in our digital life today

- Yet they largely remain as sensing/display tool that communicate with/largely rely on servers in the cloud
- Direct D2D communication will
 - (not limited to direct neighbors but multihop, ad hoc)
 - Reduce network load and reliance on cloud
 - Good for energy saving, privacy preserving
 - Potentially much higher bandwidth/shorter delay
 - Enable smartphones to do a lot more

Why not much direct D2D comm. yet

- Physically phones can reach each other directly
- Logically it is difficult if not imporsible
 - Specific technologies exist for one-hop D2D
 - Not easy to use/available by default in general across products of different vendors
 - Most apps run over TCP/IP stack can't communicate w/o getting IP address or knowing other ends' IP address
 - Do not utilize all available interfaces of multihomed hosts
 - Security is a BIG concern

Enabling D2D, multihop comm.

- NDN uses application data names to communicate → phones running the same apps can exchange data w/o IP address
- NDN secures data directly, enabling a receiver to authenticate all incoming data before accepting it

Remaining issues to be addressed

- Pervasive, usable security to enable everyone getting crypto protection without crypto training
- new energy efficient communication solutions
- efficient information discovery to enable one fetch desired data from the nearest available copy
- (your questions go here)

Initial results/ongoing work

NDN running on Android

https://github.com/named-data-mobile/NFD-android

- done a few demo apps
 - Simple game
 - https://github.com/dchimeraan/ndn-hangman
 - NDN Whiteboard
 - https://github.com/sumitgouthaman/NDNWhiteboard
 - Photo sharing app
 - https://github.com/ohnonoho/photoSharing
- The work is at its beginning
- Making progressing on mobility solutions