# Operating Systems (Honor Track)

# Memory 5: Memory Management in Modern Computer Systems

Xin Jin Spring 2024

#### Memory Management in Modern Computer Systems

- Memory Abstraction
  - NSDI'14 FaRM
- Demand paging: remote memory over RDMA
  - NSDI'17 InfiniSwap
  - OSDI'20 AIFM
- Demand paging: memory swapping between GPU memory and host memory
  - OSDI'20 PipeSwitch
  - NSDI'23 TGS





# FaRM: Fast Remote Memory

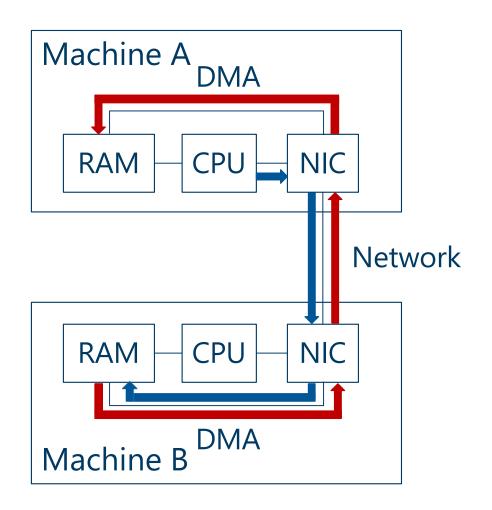
Aleksandar Dragojević, Dushyanth Narayanan, Orion Hodson, Miguel Castro

# Hardware trends

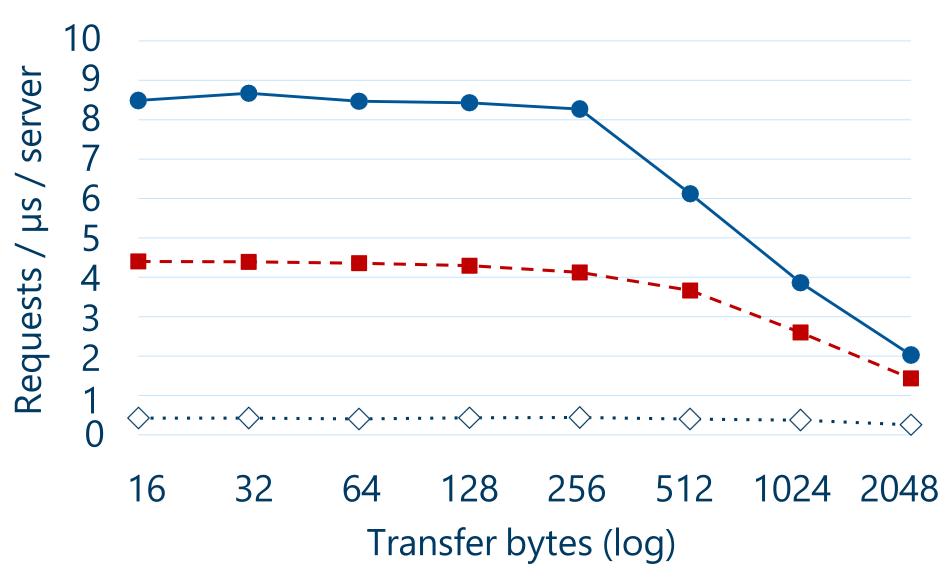
- Main memory is cheap
  - · 100 GB 1 TB per server
  - · 10 100 TBs in a small cluster
- New data centre networks
  - 40 Gbps throughput (100 this year)
  - · 1-3 µs latency
  - RDMA primitives

# Remote direct memory access

- Read / write remote memory
  - NIC performs DMA requests
- FaRM uses RDMA extensively
  - · Reads to directly read data
  - · Writes into remote buffers for messaging
- Great performance
  - · Bypasses the kernel
  - · Bypasses the remote CPU



#### →RDMA →RDMA msg ◇ TCP



# ◆RDMA →RDMA msg <>TCP 100 (log) hS Average latency 16 32 128 256 512 1024 2048 Transfer bytes (log)

# Applications

- Data centre applications
  - · Irregular access patterns
  - Latency sensitive
- Data serving
  - · Key-value store
  - Graph store
- Enabling new applications

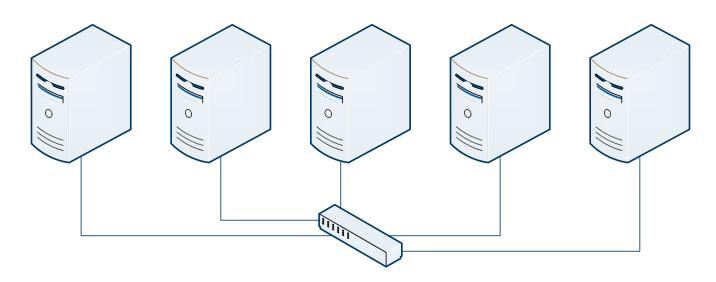
# How to program a modern cluster?

#### We have:

- TBs of DRAM
- 100s of CPU cores
- RDMA network

### Desirable:

- Keep data in memory
- Access data using RDMA
- Collocate data and computation



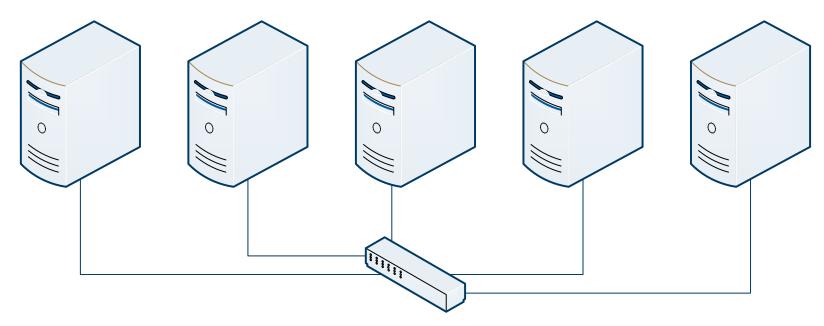
# Traditional model

Servers: store data Clients: execute application

# Symmetric model

Access to local memory is much faster

Server CPUs are mostly idle with RDMA

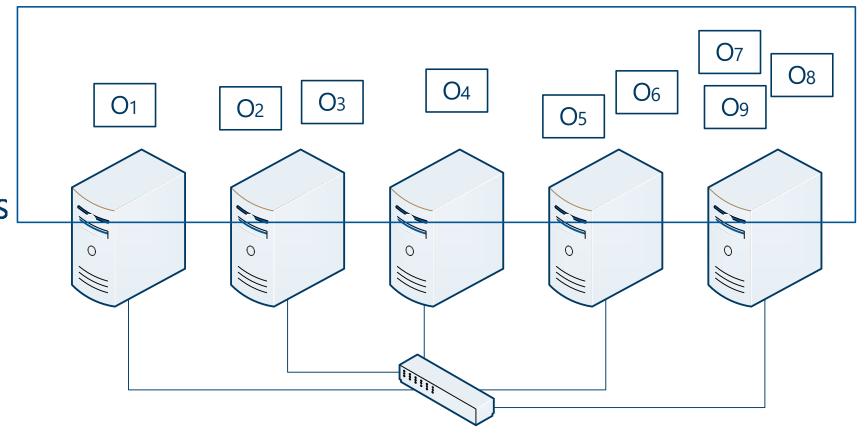


Machines store data and execute application

# Shared address space

Supports direct RDMA of objects

Programmability a welcome bonus



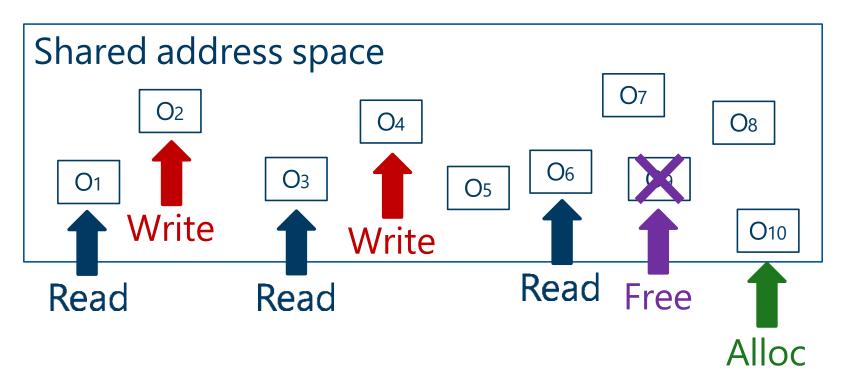
# Shared address space

General primitive

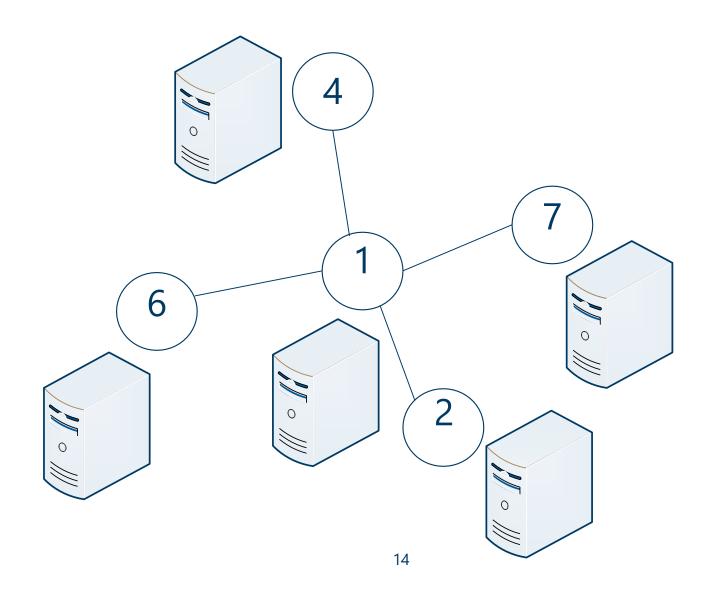
Strong consistency: serializability

#### Transparent:

- location
- concurrency
- failures



# Optimizations: locality awareness

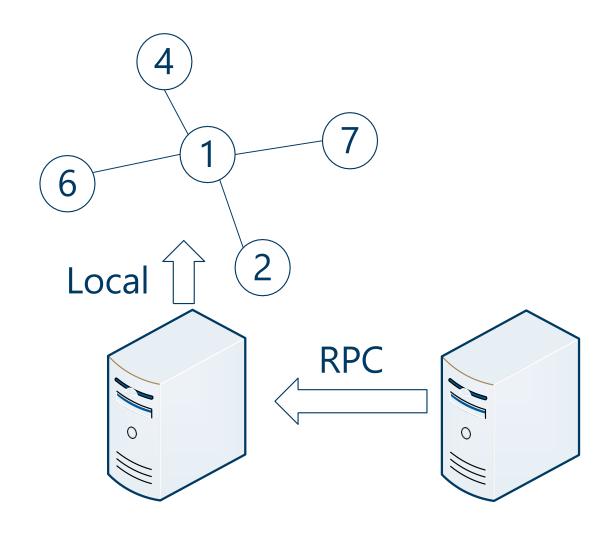


# Optimizations: locality awareness

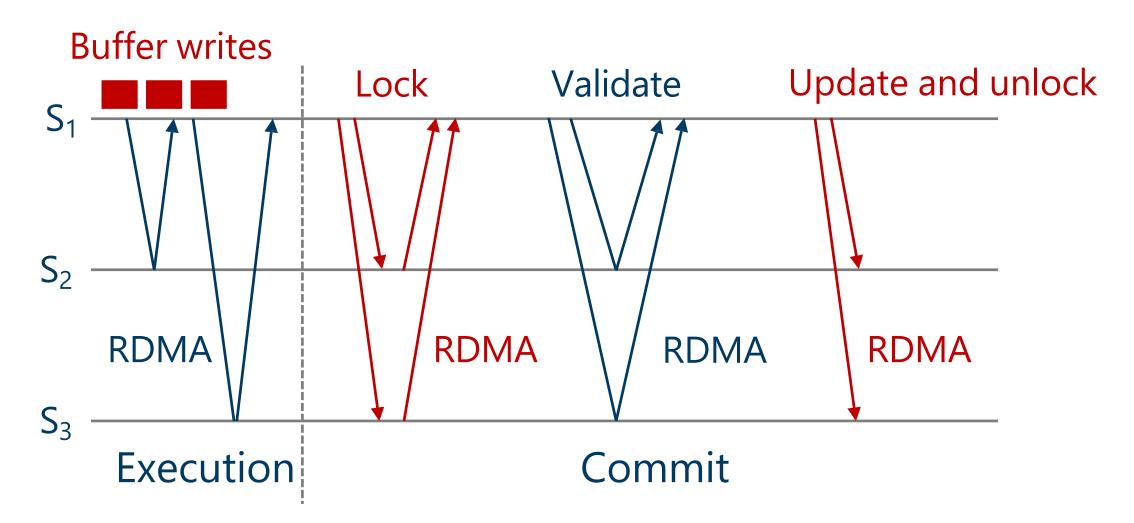
Collocate data accessed together

Ship computation to target data

Optimized single server transactions



# Transactions



# TAO [Bronson '13, Armstrong '13]

- Facebook's in-memory graph store
- Workload
  - · Read-dominated (99.8%)
  - 10 operation types
- FaRM implementation
  - Nodes and edges are FaRM objects
  - Lock-free reads for lookups
  - Transactions for updates

6 Mops/s/srv (10x improvement)

42 μs average latency (40 – 50x improvement)

## FaRM

- Platform for distributed computing
  - · Data is in memory
  - RDMA
- Shared memory abstraction
  - Transactions
  - · Lock-free reads
- Order-of-magnitude performance improvements
  - Enables new applications

#### Memory Management in Modern Computer Systems

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  - NSDI'23 TGS

# Efficient Memory Disaggregation with Infiniswap

Juncheng Gu, Youngmoon Lee, Yiwen Zhang, Mosharaf Chowdhury, Kang G. Shin



# Agenda

Motivation and related work

Design and system overview

Implementation and evaluation

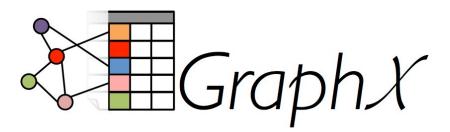
Future work and conclusion

### Memory-intensive applications

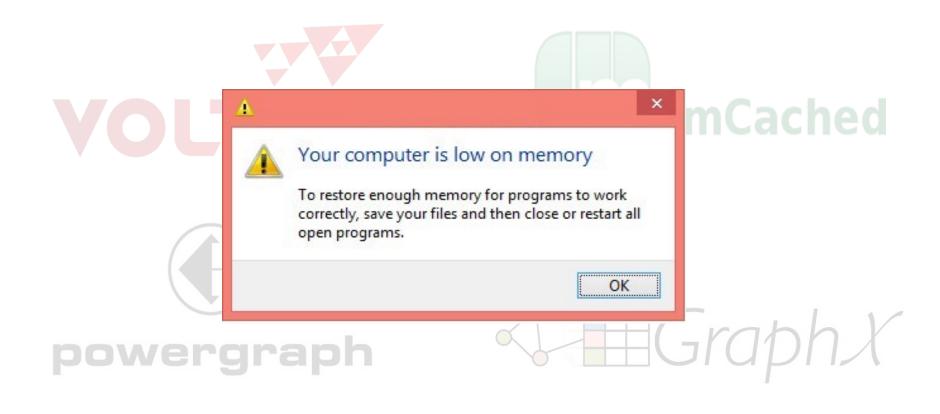






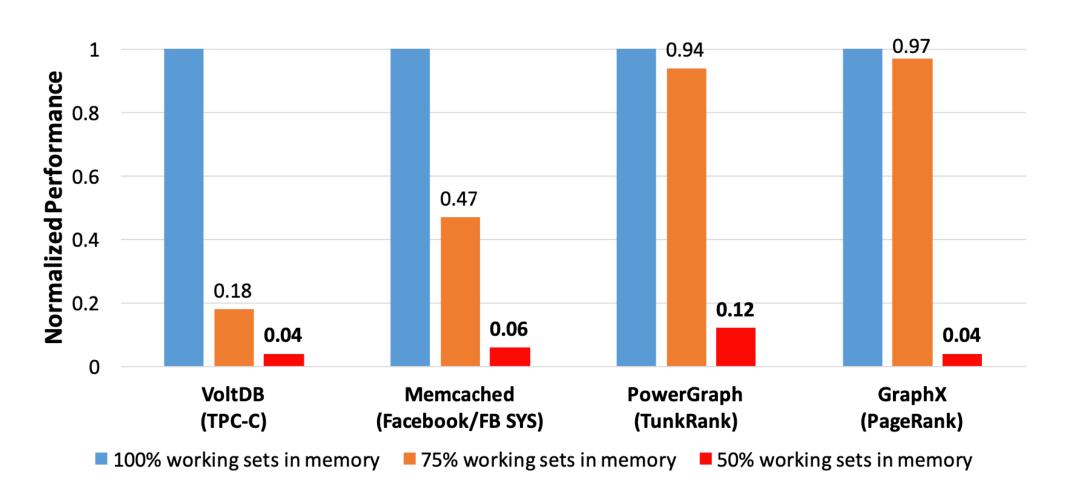


### Memory-intensive applications



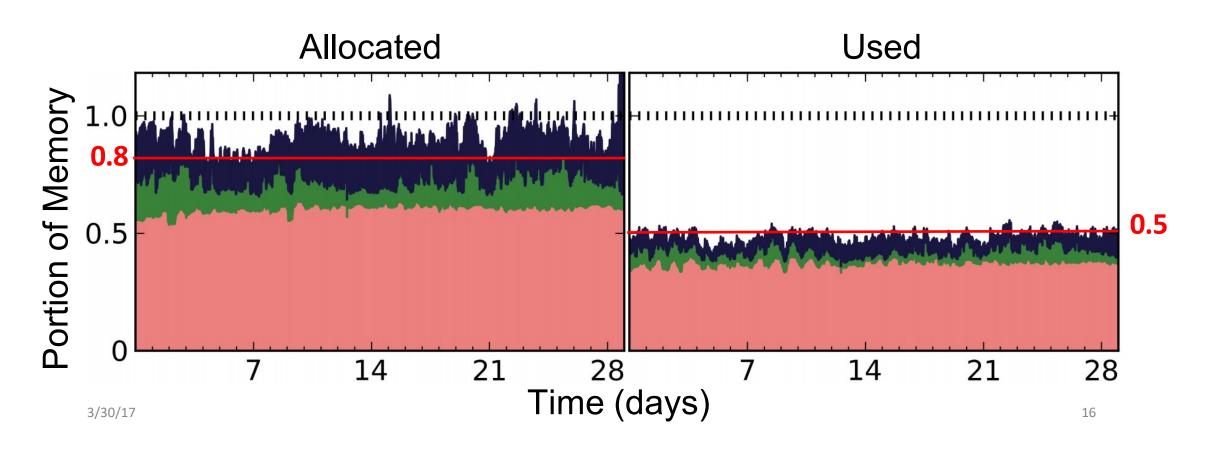
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### Performance degradation



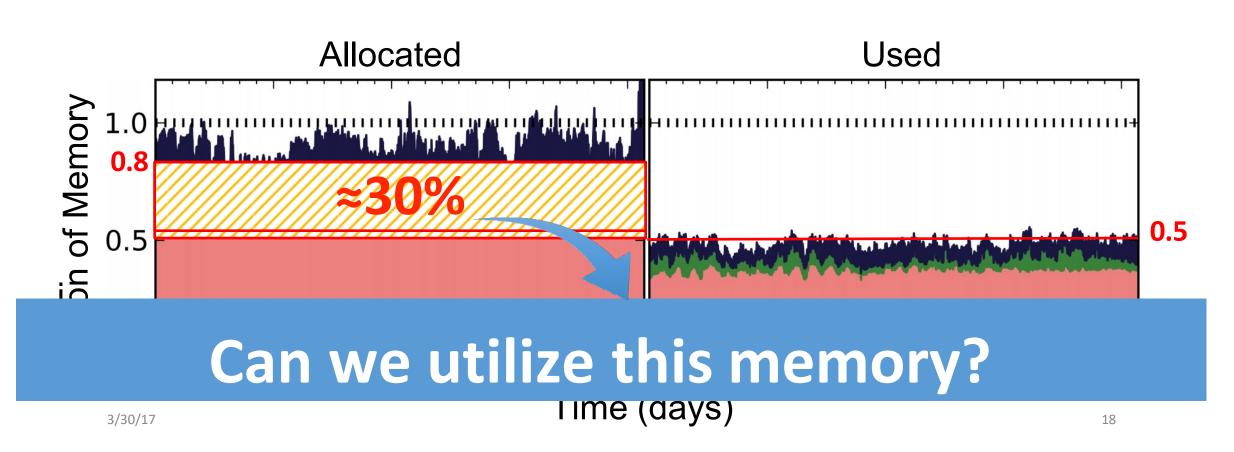
### **Memory underutilization**

• Google Cluster Analysis<sub>[1]</sub>

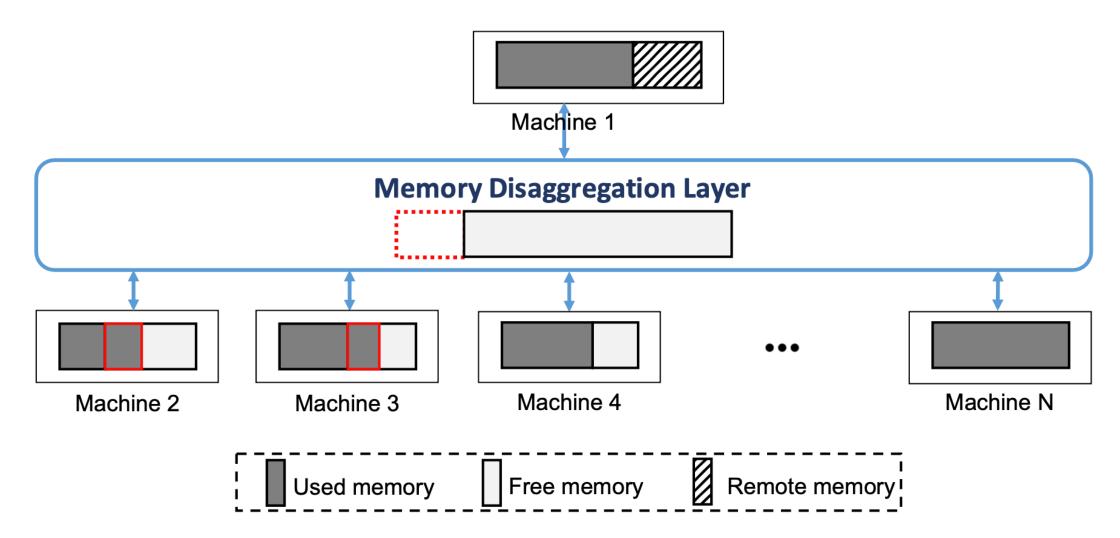


### Memory underutilization

Google Cluster Analysis<sub>[1]</sub>



### Disaggregate free memory



### What are the challenges?

- Minimize deployment overhead
  - No hardware design
  - No application modification
- Tolerate failures
  - e.g. network disconnection, machine crash
- Manage remote memory at scale

## Recent work on memory disaggregation

	No HW design	No app modification	Fault- tolerance	Scalability
Memory Blade[ISCA'09]	×			
HPBD[CLUSTER'05] / NBDX[1]			X	×
RDMA key-value service (e.g. HERD[SIGCOMM'14], FaRM[NSDI'14])		×		
Intel Rack Scale Architecture (RSA)[2]	×			
Infiniswap				

l https://github.com/accelio/NBDX

<sup>2</sup> http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/architecture-and-technology/rack-scale-design-overview.html

# Agenda

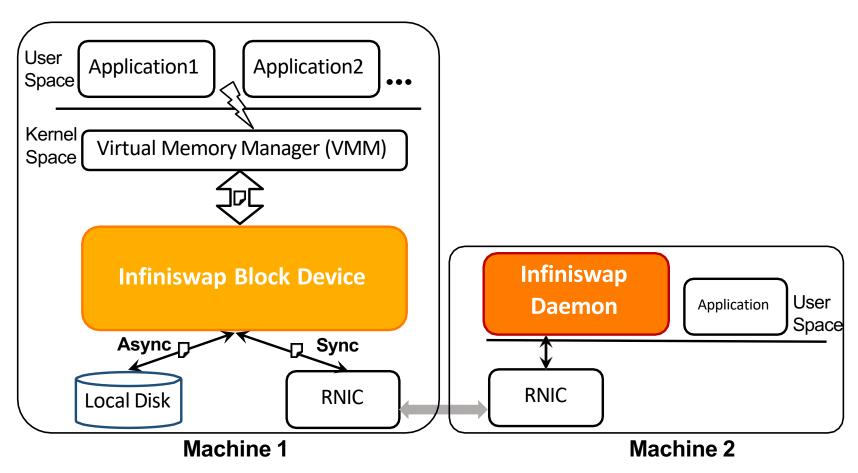
Motivation and related work

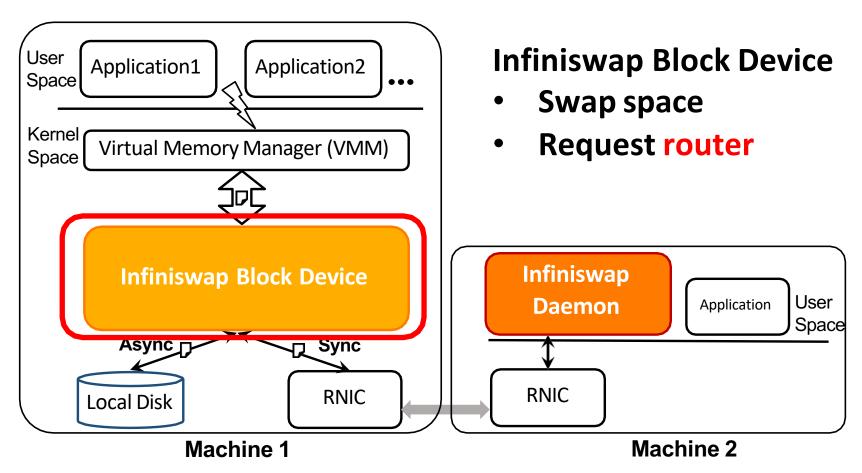
Design and system overview

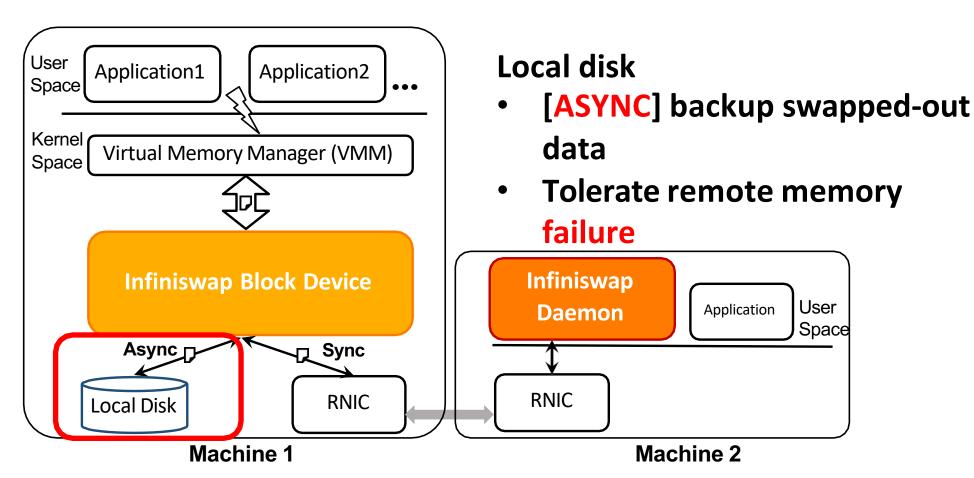
Implementation and evaluation

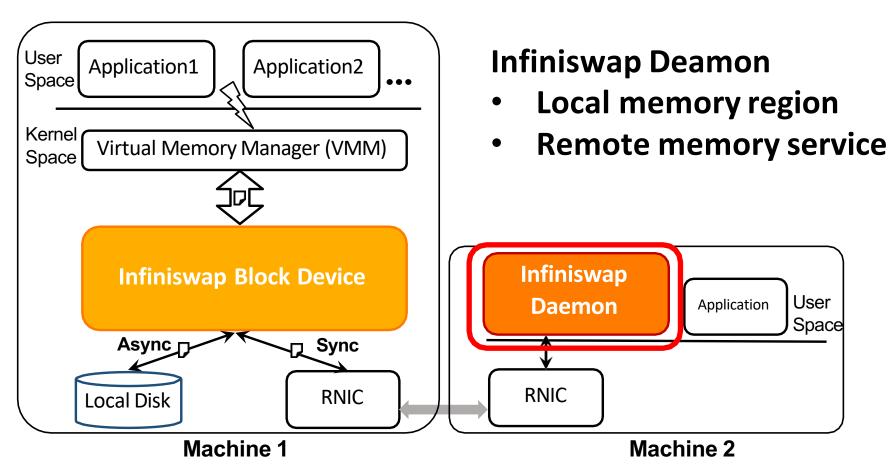
Future work and conclusion

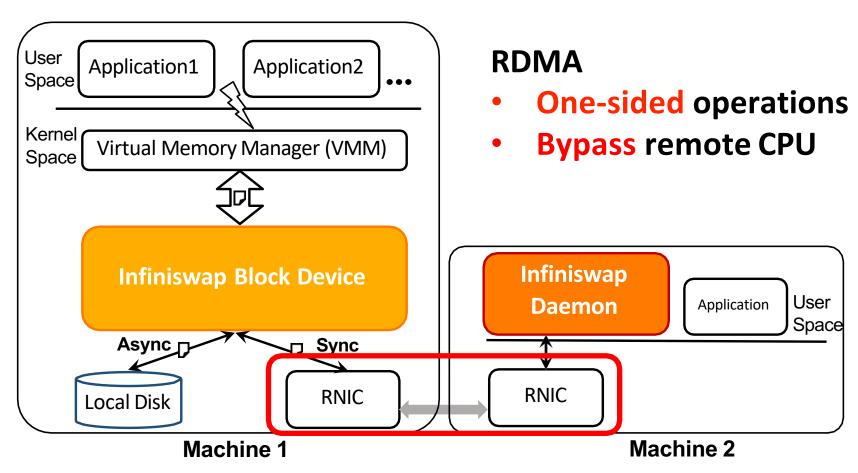
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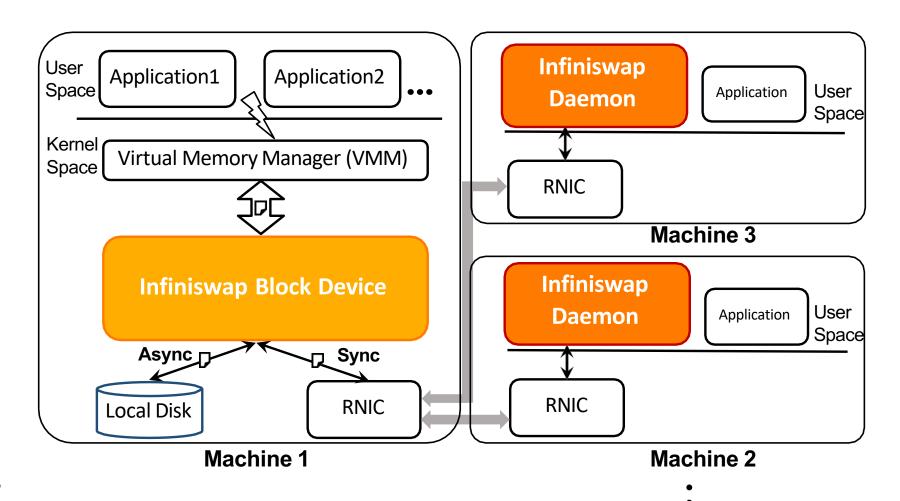




## How to meet the design objectives?

Objectives	Ideas	
No hardware design	Remote paging	
No application modification		
Fault-tolerance	Local backup disk	

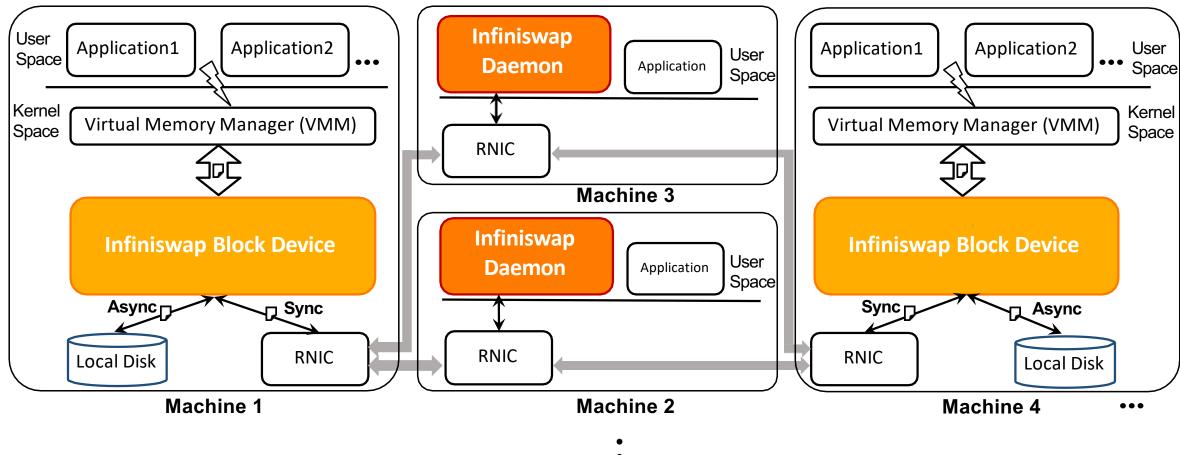
### **One-to-many**



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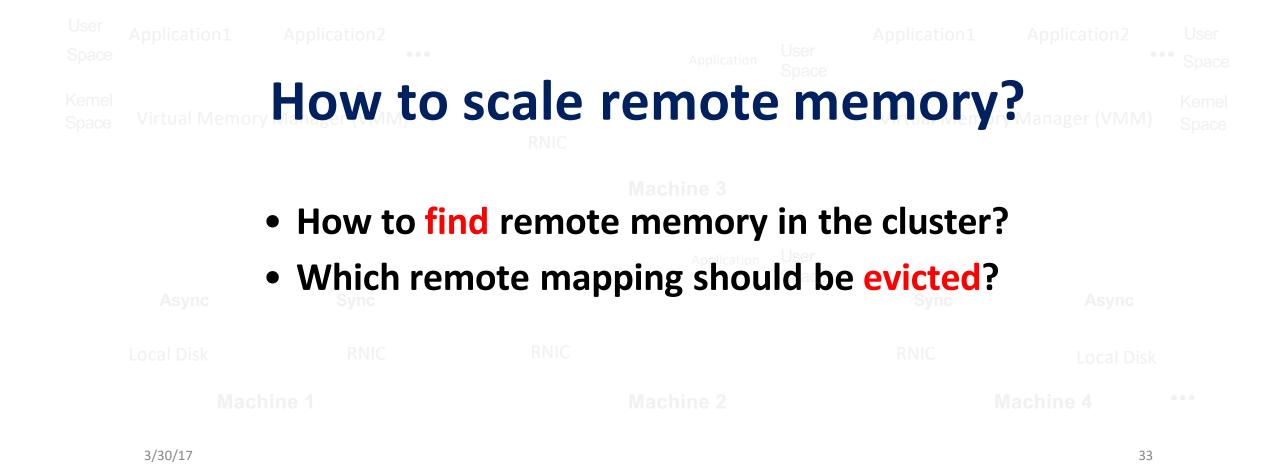
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### **Many-to-many**



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### **Many-to-many**



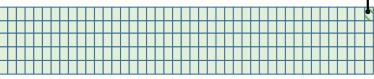
# How to meet the design objectives?

Objectives	Ideas
Scalability	Decentralized remote memory management

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## Management unit: memory page?





Local Page	Remote Page
p100	<s1, p1=""></s1,>

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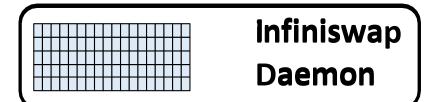
**1GB = 256K entries** 

 $^{3/30/17}$  **1GB = 256K RTTs** 

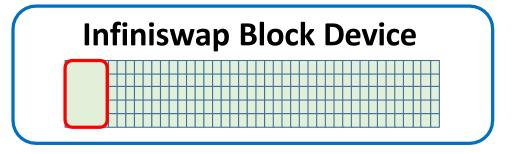


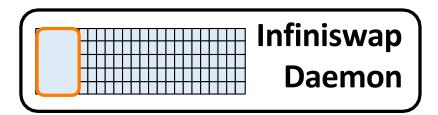


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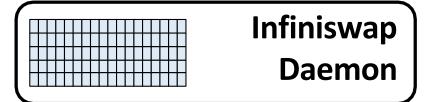
### Management unit: memory slab!





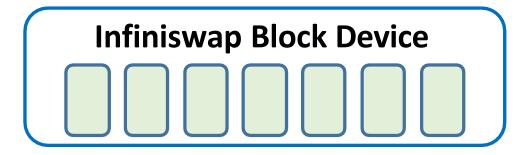


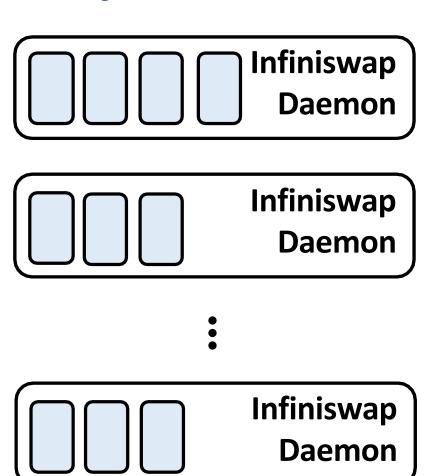
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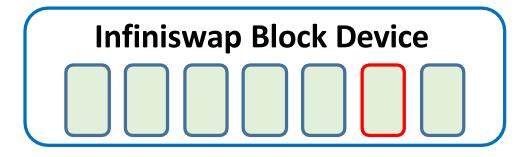
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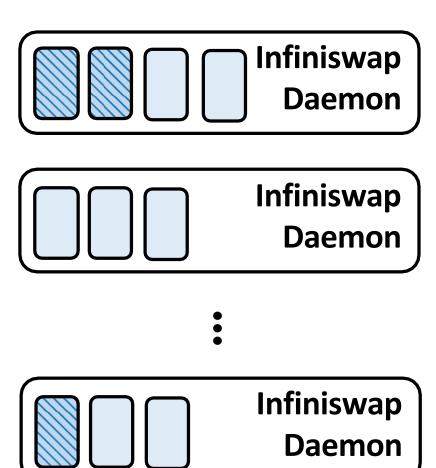
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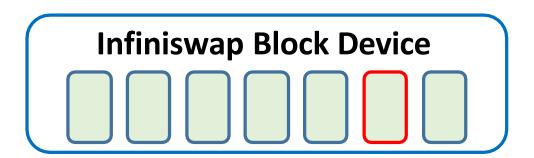


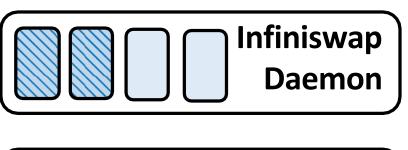
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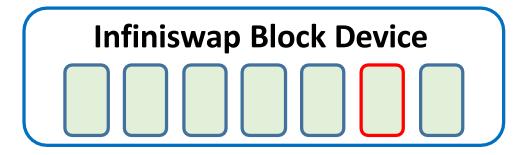




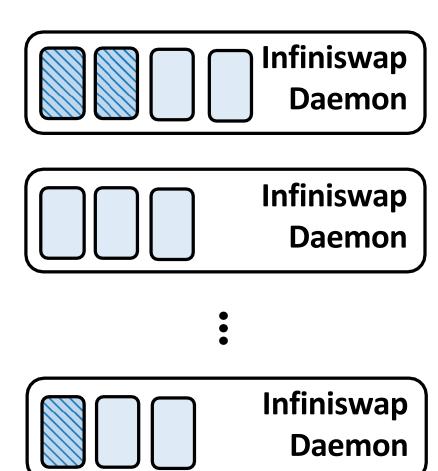
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# Goal: balance memory utilization

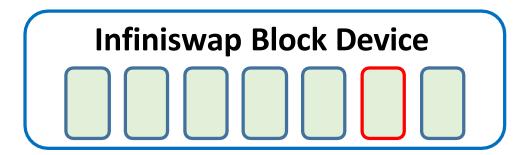
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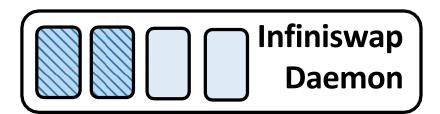
**►** Central controller



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- Central controller
- **▶** Decentralized approach



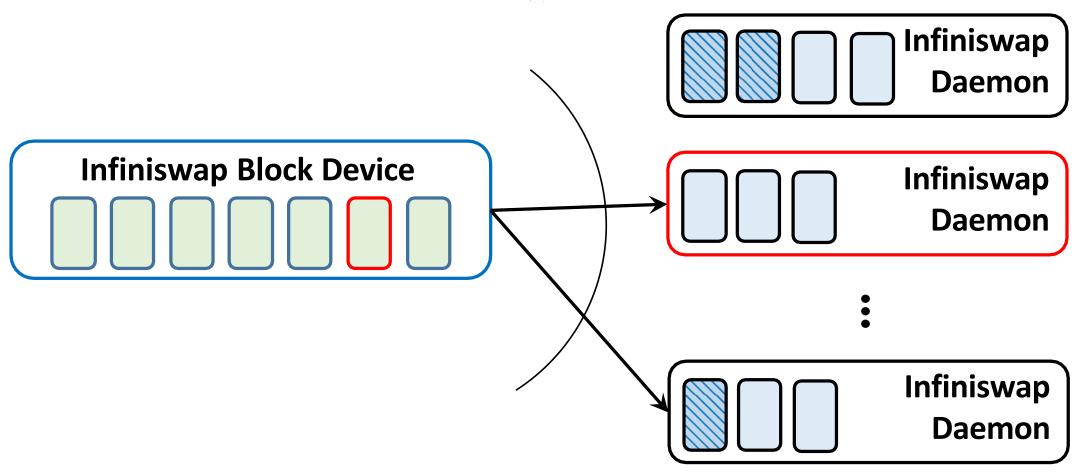






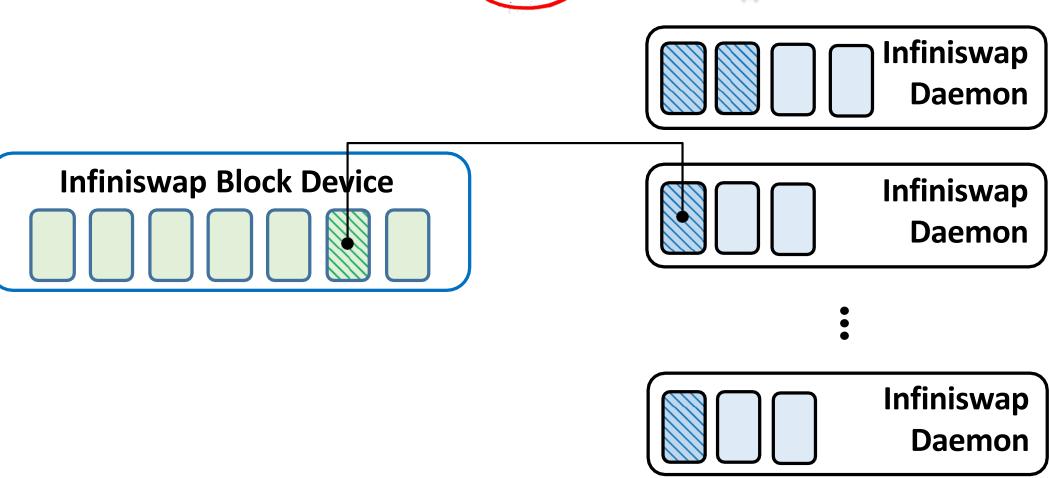
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# Agenda

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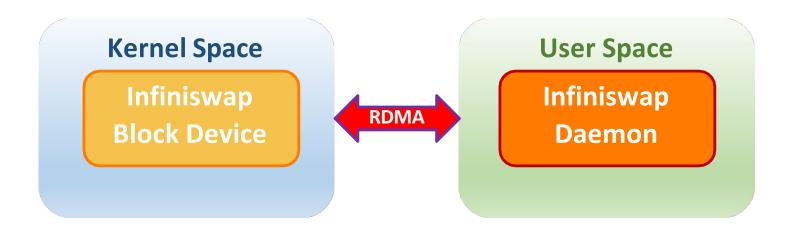
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### **Implementation**



- Connection Management
  - One RDMA connection per active block device daemon pair
- Control Plane
  - SEND, RECV
- Data Plane
  - One-sided RDMA READ, WRITE

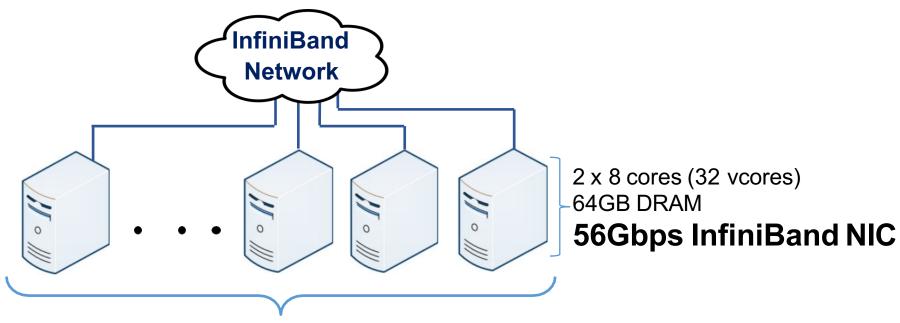
## What are we expecting from Infiniswap?

- Application performance
- Cluster memory utilization
- Network usage
- **■** Eviction overhead
- Fault-tolerance overhead
- Performance as a block device

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#### **Evaluation**



32-node cluster

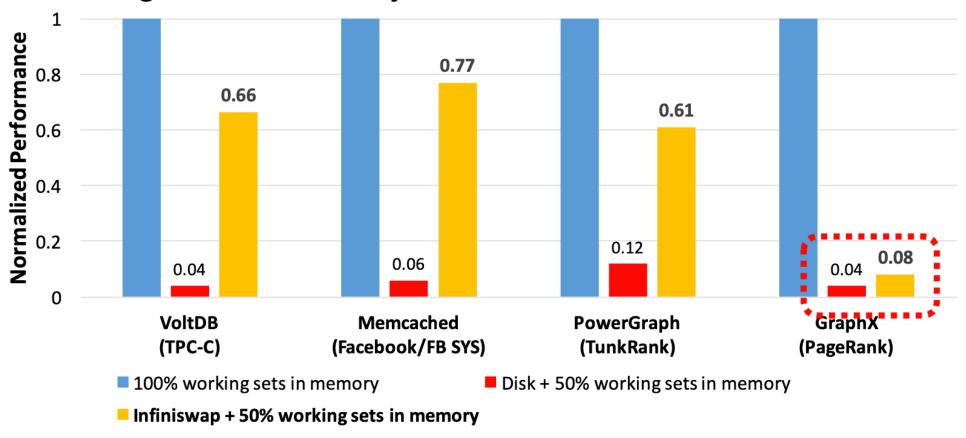






# **Application performance**

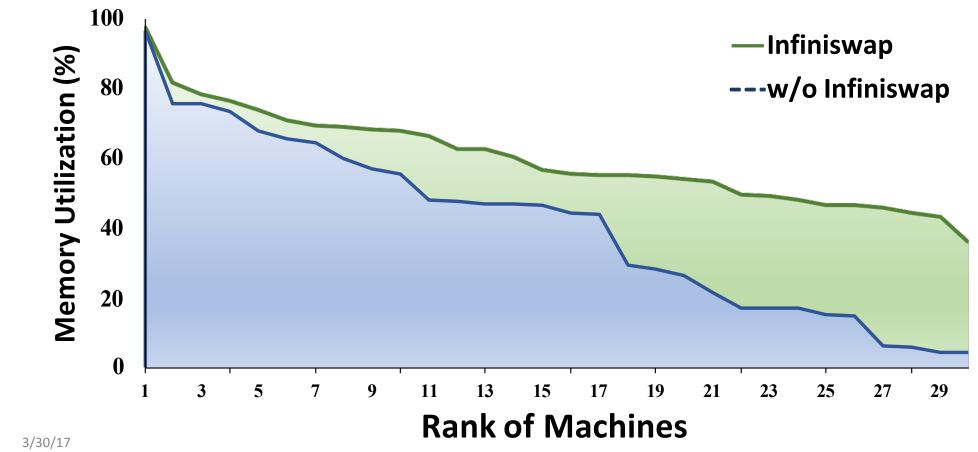
50% working sets in memory



Application performance is improved by 2-16x

### Cluster memory utilization

• 90 containers (applications), mixing all applications and memory constraints.



Cluster memory utilization is improved from 40.8% to 60% (1.47x)

60

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#### **Limitations and future work**

- Trade-off in fault-tolerance
  - Local disk is the bottleneck
  - Multiple remote replicas
    - Fault-tolerance vs. space-efficiency

Performance isolation among applications

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#### **Conclusion**

- Infiniswap: remote paging over RDMA
  - Application performance
  - Cluster memory utilization
- Efficient, practical memory disaggregation
  - No hardware design
  - No application modification
  - Fault-tolerance
  - Scalability

https://github.com/Infiniswap/infiniswap.git

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# AIFM: High-Performance, Application-Integrated Far Memory

**Zain (Zhenyuan) Ruan\*** Malte Schwarzkopf † Marcos K. Aguilera ‡ Adam Belay\*

\*MIT CSAIL

<sup>†</sup>Brown University

<sup>‡</sup>VMware Research



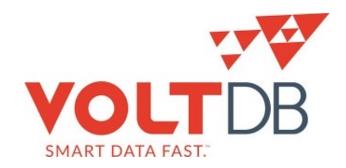




## In-Memory Applications



**Data Analytics** 



Database



Web Caching



**Graph Processing** 

# Memory Is Inelastic

- Limited by the server physical boundary.
- Applications cannot overcommit memory.

### Opening a 20GB file for analysis with pandas

Asked 2 years, 8 months ago Active 1 year, 4 months ago Viewed 81k times

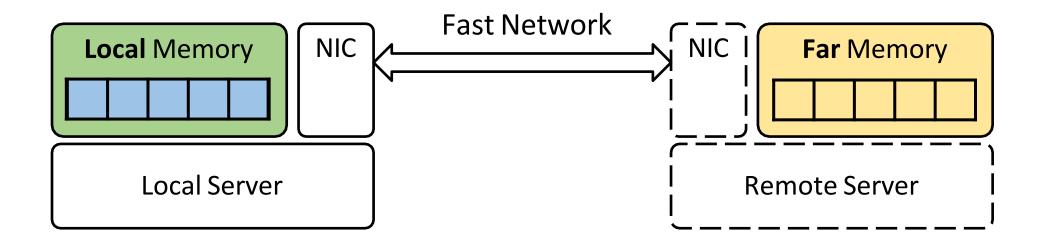


I am currently trying to open a file with pandas and python for machine learning purposes it would be ideal for me to have them all in a DataFrame. My RAM is 32 GB. I keep getting memory errors.

> Expensive solution: overprovision memory for peak usage.

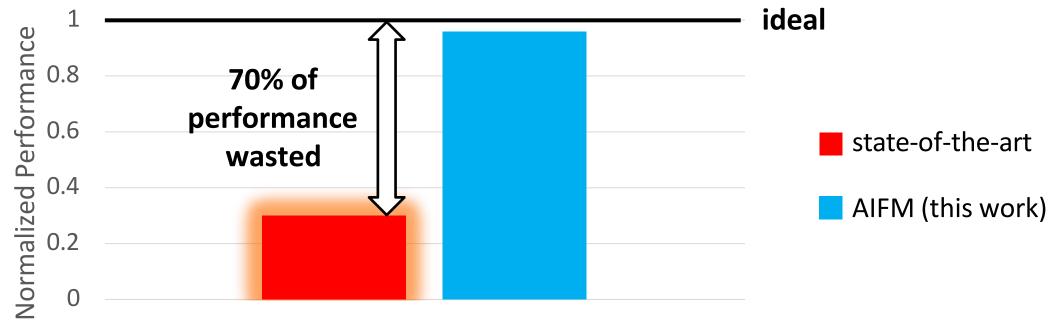
# Trending Solution: Far Memory

> Leverage the idle memory of remote servers (with fast network).



# Existing Far-Memory Systems Perform Poorly

- Real-world Data Analytics from Kaggle.
  - Provision 25% of working set in local mem.
- ➤ Goal: reclaim the wasted performance.

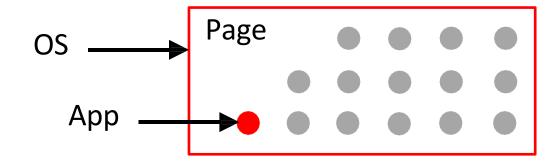


# Why Do Existing Systems Waste Performance?

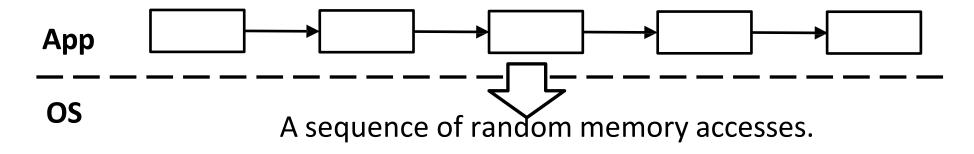
- Problem: based on OS paging.
  - Semantic gap.
  - High kernel overheads.

# Challenge 1: Semantic Gap

Page granularity → R/W amplification.

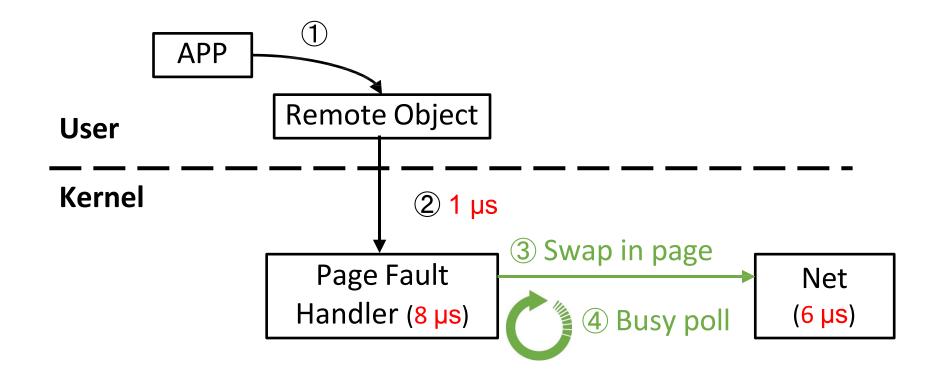


➤ OS lacks app knowledge → hard to prefetch, etc.

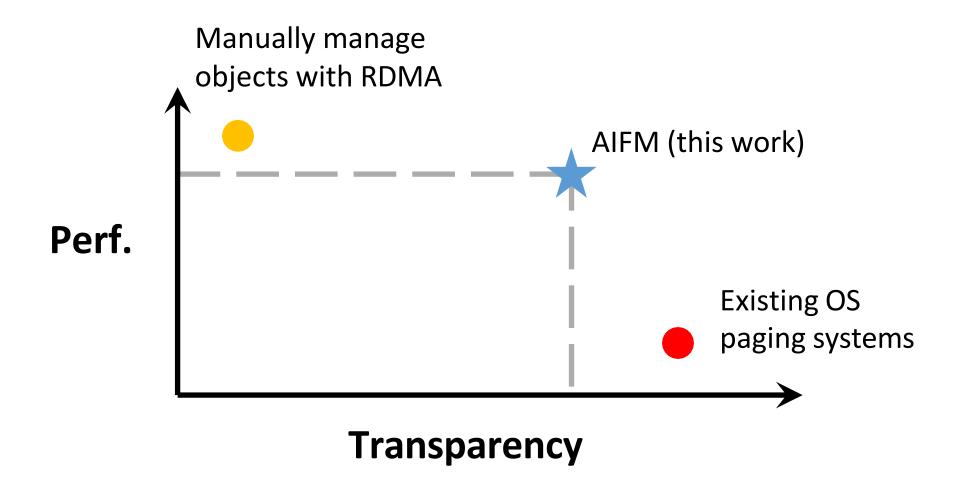


# Challenge 2: High Kernel Overheads

- Expensive page faults.
- ➤ Busy Polling for in-kernel net I/O → burn CPU cycles.



# Design Space



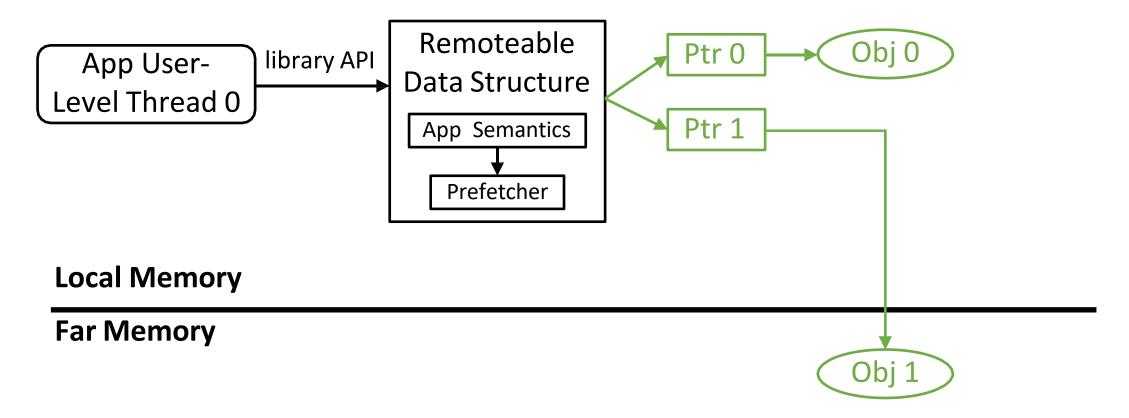
# AIFM's Design Overview

> Key idea: swap memory using a userspace runtime.

Challenge	Solution
1. Semantic gap (Amplification, Hard to prefetch)	Remoteable Data structure library
2. Kernel overheads (page faults, busy poll for net I/O)	Userspace runtime
3. Impact of Memory Reclamation (pause app threads)	Pauseless evacuator
4. network BW < DRAM BW	Remote Agent

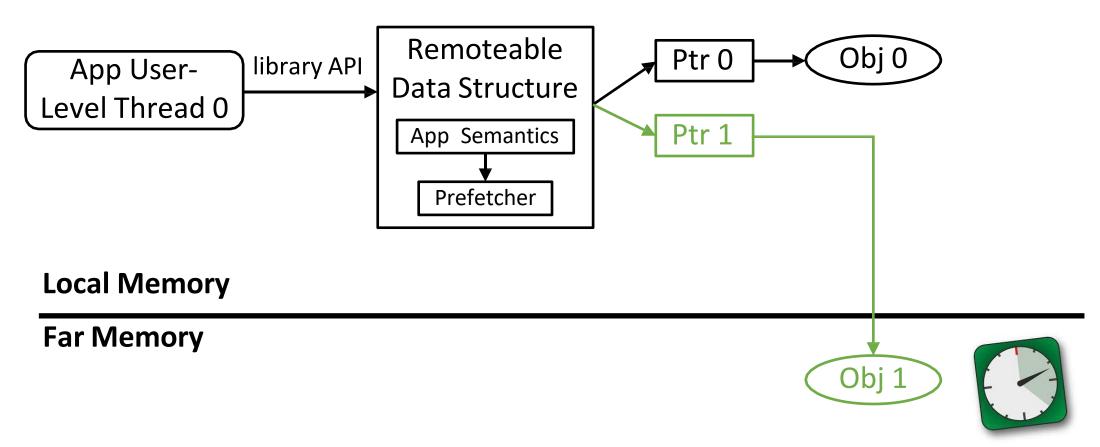
### 1. Remoteable Data Structure Library

➤ Solved challenge: semantic gap.



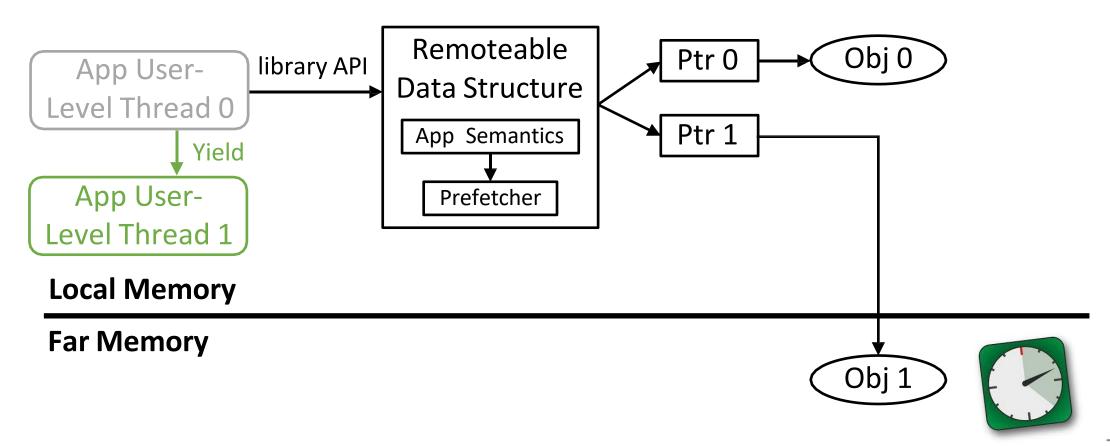
### 2. Userspace Runtime

➤ Solved challenge: kernel overheads.



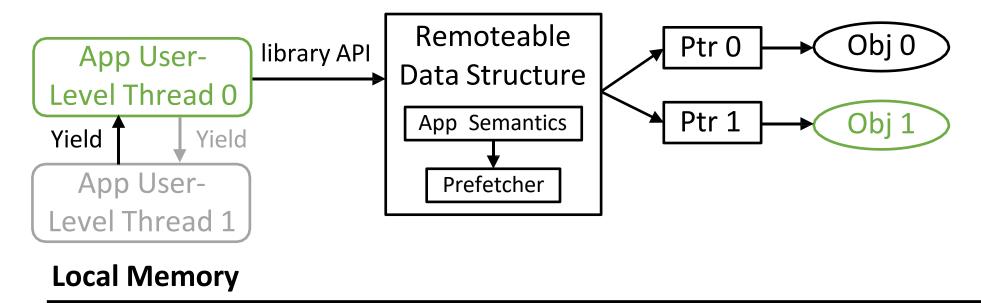
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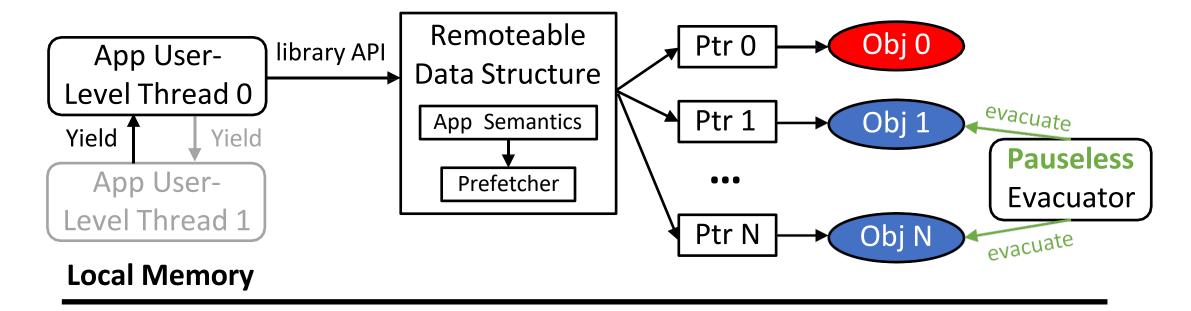


**Far Memory** 

#### 3. Pauseless Evacuator

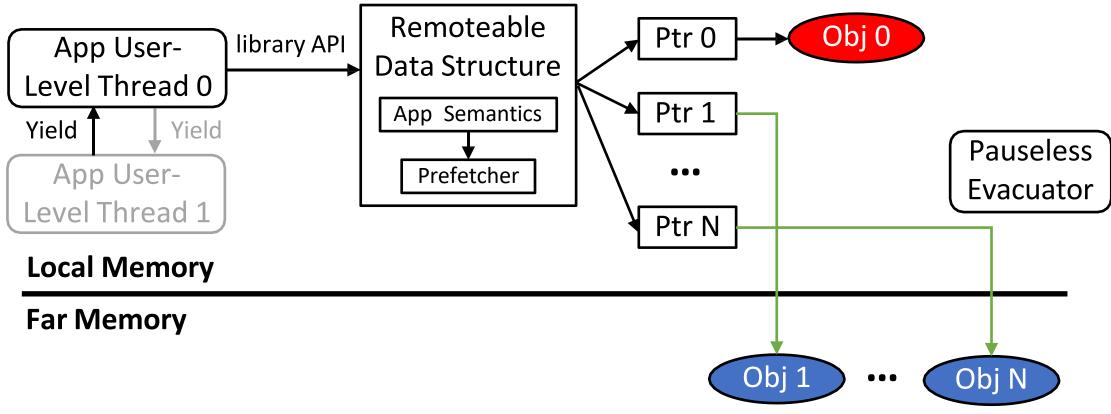
**Far Memory** 

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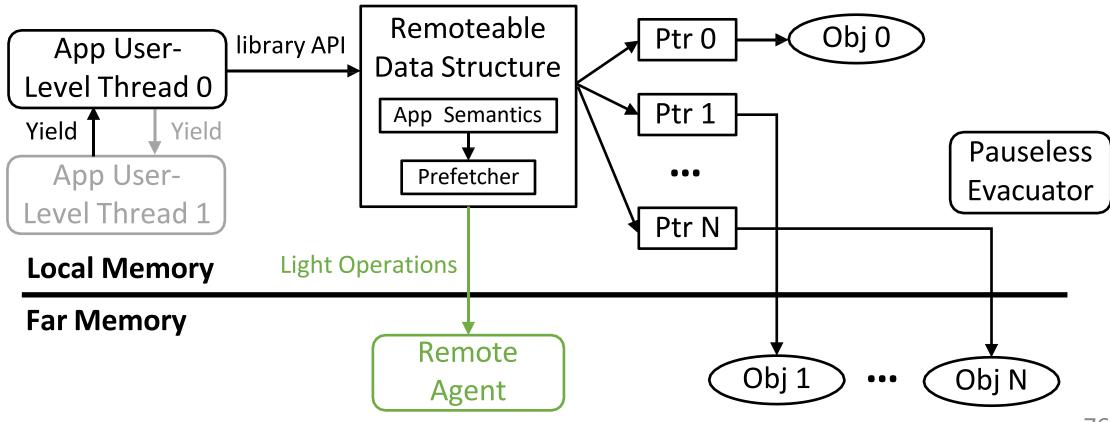
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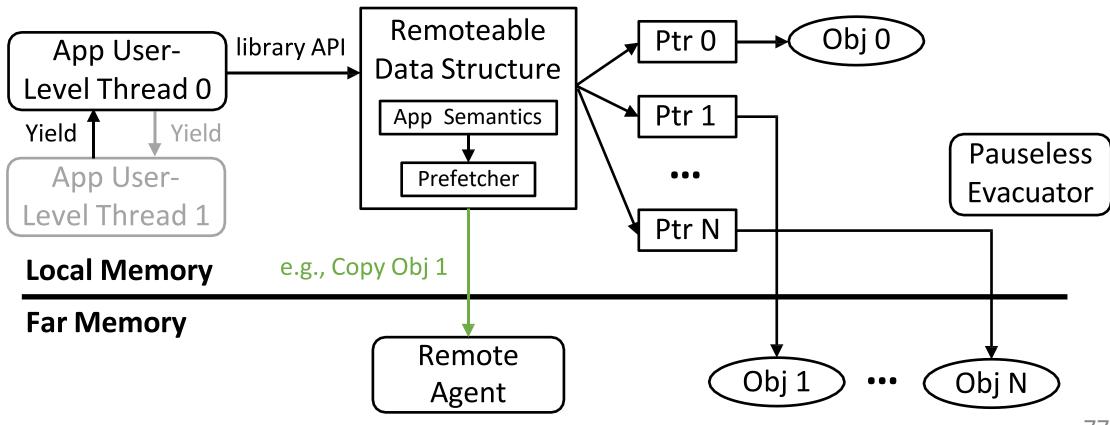
#### 4. Remote Agent

➤ Solved challenge: network BW < DRAM BW.



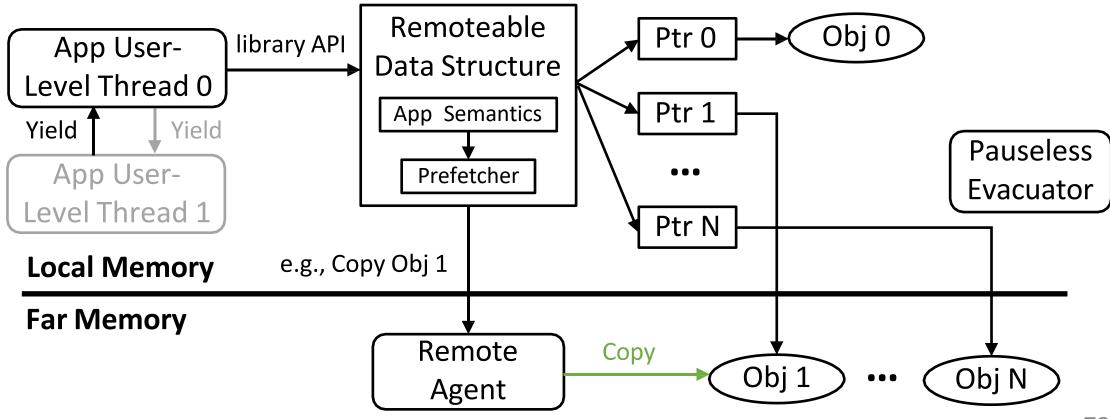
#### 4. Remote Agent

➤ Solved challenge: network BW < DRAM BW.



#### 4. Remote Agent

➤ Solved challenge: network BW < DRAM BW.



#### Sample Code

```
std::unordered_map<key_t, int> hashtable;
std::array<LargeData> arr;
LargeData foo(std::list<key_t> &keys_list) {
  int sum = 0;
  for (auto key : keys_list) {
    sum += hashtable.at(key);
  LargeData ret = arr.at(sum);
  return ret;
```

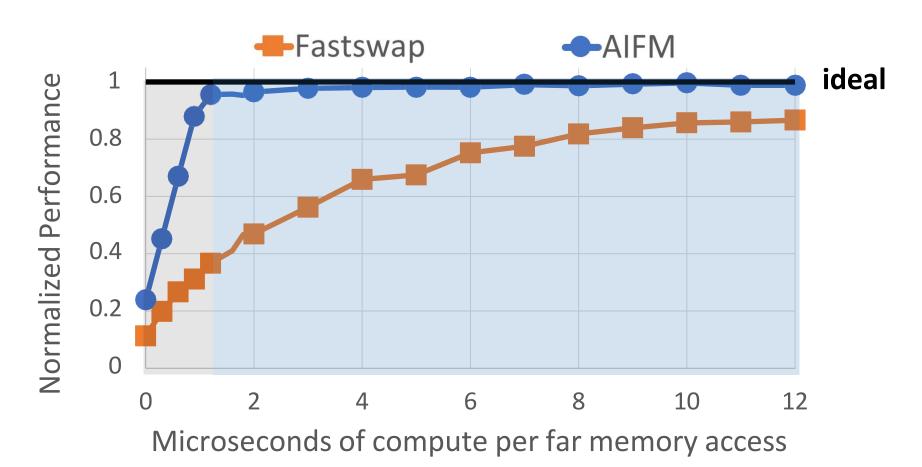
#### Sample Code

```
RemHashTable<key_t, int> hashtable;
RemArray<br/>
Large<br/>
Data> arr;
LargeData foo(RemList<key_t> &keys_list) {
  int sum = 0;
  for (auto key : keys_list) {
                                                                Prefetch list data.
    DerefScope scope;
    sum += hashtable.at(key, scope);
                                                                Cache hot objects.
  DerefScope scope;
                                                                Avoid polluting local mem.
  LargeData ret = arr.at</*don't cache*/ true>(sum, scope);
  return ret;
```

#### Implementation

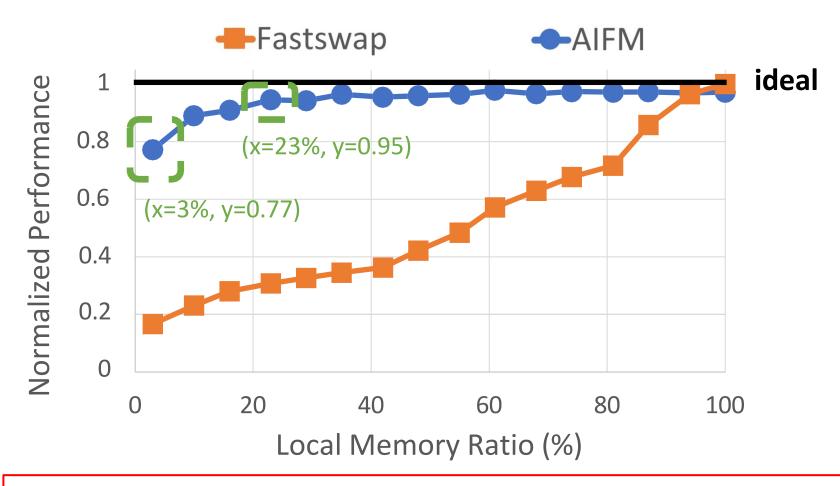
- Implemented 6 data structures.
  - Array, List, Hashtable, Vector, Stack, and Queue.
- Runtime is built on top of Shenango [NSDI' 19].
- TCP far-memory backend.
- > LoC: 6.5K (runtime) + 5.5K (data structures) + 0.8K (Shenango)

#### Performance on Different Compute Intensities



AIFM hides far memory latency with moderate compute.

### NYC Taxi Analysis (C++ DataFrame)



AIFM achieves near-ideal performance with small local memory.

#### Other Experiments

- Synthetic web frontend: up to 13X end-to-end speedup.
- Data structures microbenchmarks: up to 61X speedup.
- Design Drill-Down.

Read our paper for details.

#### Related Work

- OS-paging systems.
  - Fastswap [EuroSys' 20], Leap [ATC' 20]
- Distributed shared memory.
  - Treadmarks [IEEE Computer' 96]
- Garbage collection (GC).

#### Conclusion

- AIFM: Application-Integrated Far Memory.
- Key idea: swap memory using a userspace runtime.
  - Data Structure Library: captures application semantics.
  - Userspace Runtime: efficiently manages objects and memory.
- Achieves 13X end-to-end speedup over Fastswap.
- Code released at <a href="https://github.com/AIFM-sys/AIFM">https://github.com/AIFM-sys/AIFM</a>

Please send your questions to us zainruan@csail.mit.edu

#### Memory Management in Modern Computer Systems

- Memory Abstraction
  - NSDI'14 FaRM
- Demand paging: remote memory over RDMA
  - NSDI'17 InfiniSwap
  - OSDI'20 AIFM
- Demand paging: memory swapping between GPU memory and host memory
  - OSDI'20 PipeSwitch
  - NSDI'23 TGS

# *PipeSwitch*: Fast Pipelined Context Switching for Deep Learning Applications

Zhihao Bai, Zhen Zhang, Yibo Zhu, Xin Jin





# Deep learning powers intelligent applications in many domains



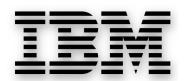








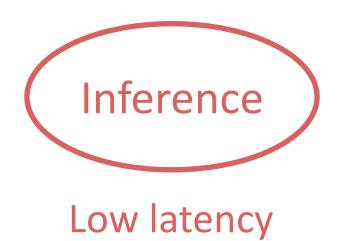




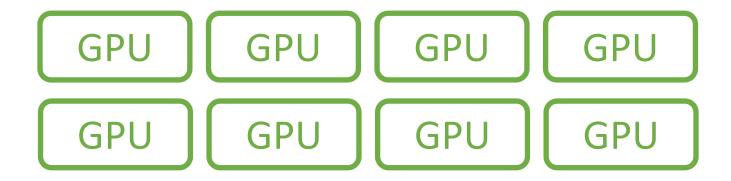


# Training and inference

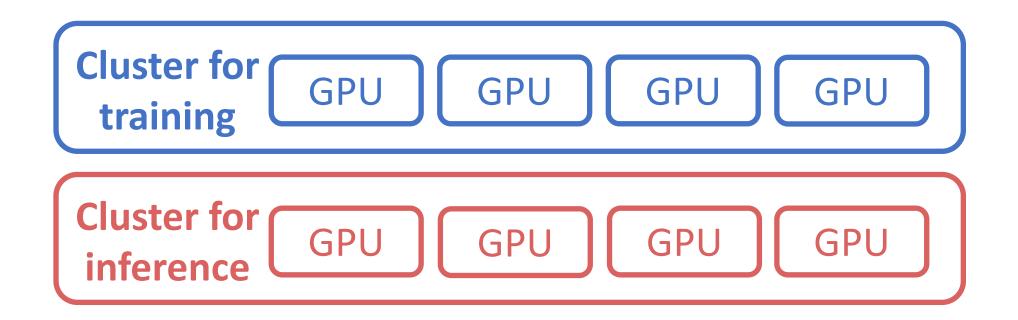




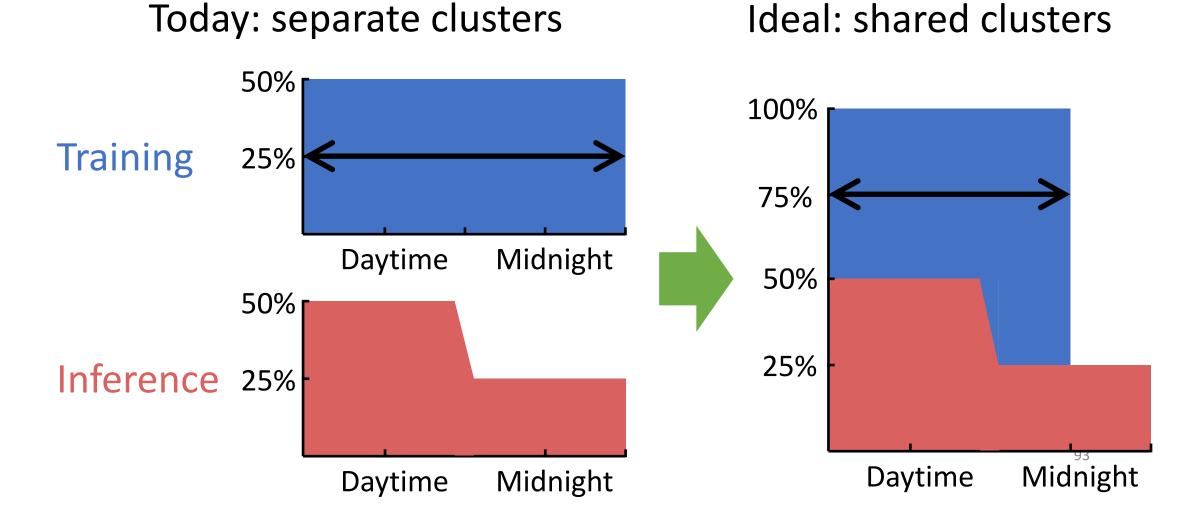
#### GPUs clusters for DL workloads



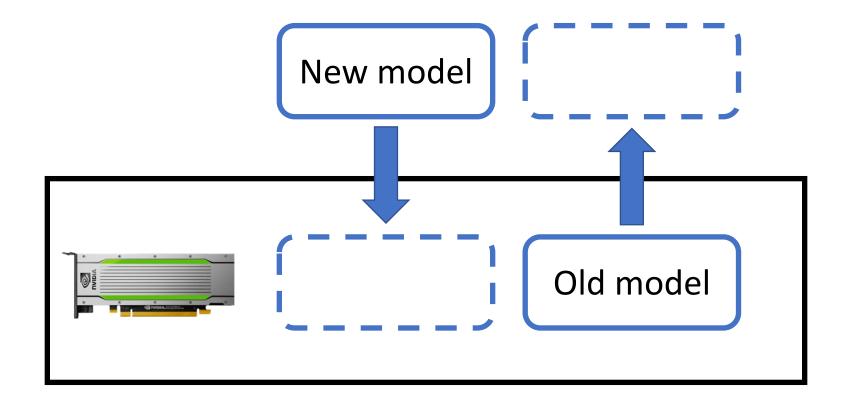
# Separate clusters for training and inference



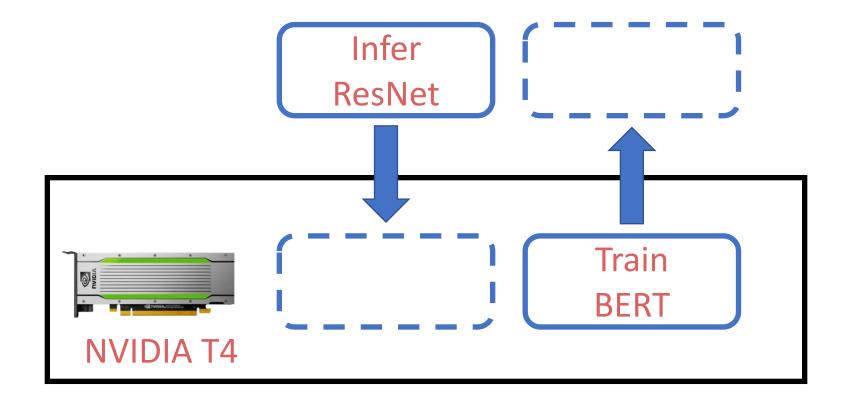
#### Utilization of GPU clusters is low



# Context switching overhead is high



### Context switching overhead is high



# Latency: 6s

# Drawbacks of existing solutions

Infer

- NVIDIA MPS
  - High overhead due to contention
- Salus[MLSys'20]
  - Requires all the models to be preloaded into the GPU memory

# Latency: 6s

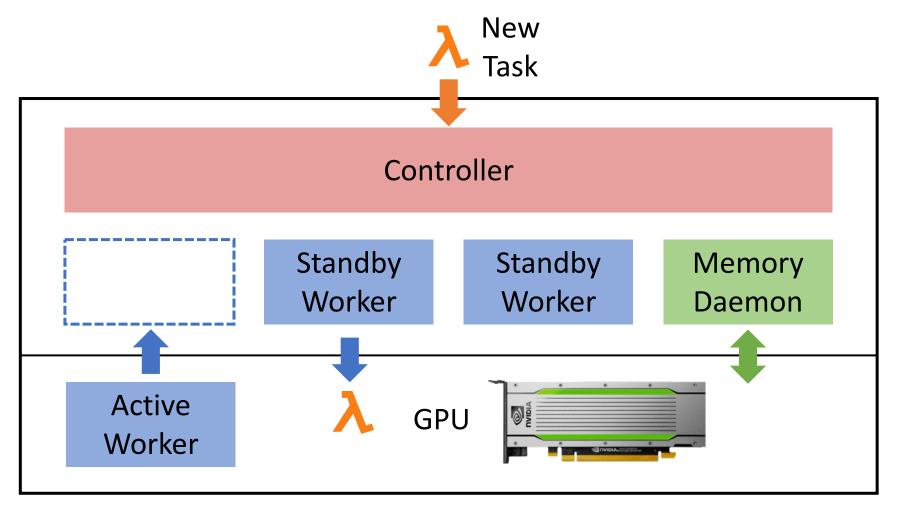
# Goal: fast context switching

Infer

- Enable GPU-efficient multiplexing of multiple DL apps with fine-grained time-sharing
- Achieve millisecond-scale context switching latencies and high throughput

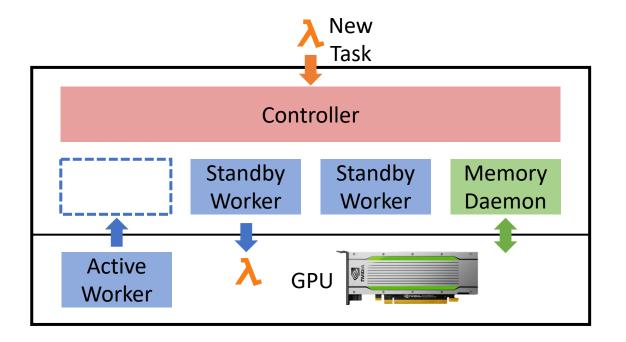
# Latency: 6s

# PipeSwitch overview: architecture



#### PipeSwitch overview: execution

- Stop the current task and prepare for the next task.
- Execute the task with pipelined model transmission.
- Clean the environment for the previous task.



# Sources of context switching overhead

Model transmission

Memory allocation

Task initialization

Task cleaning

#### How to reduce the overhead?

Model transmission

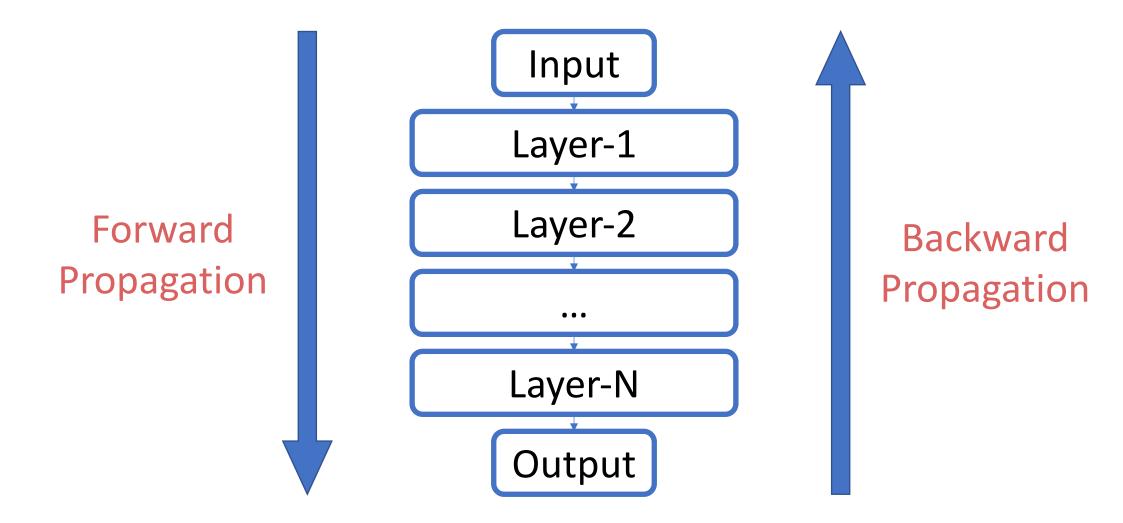
Pipelined model transmission

Memory allocation

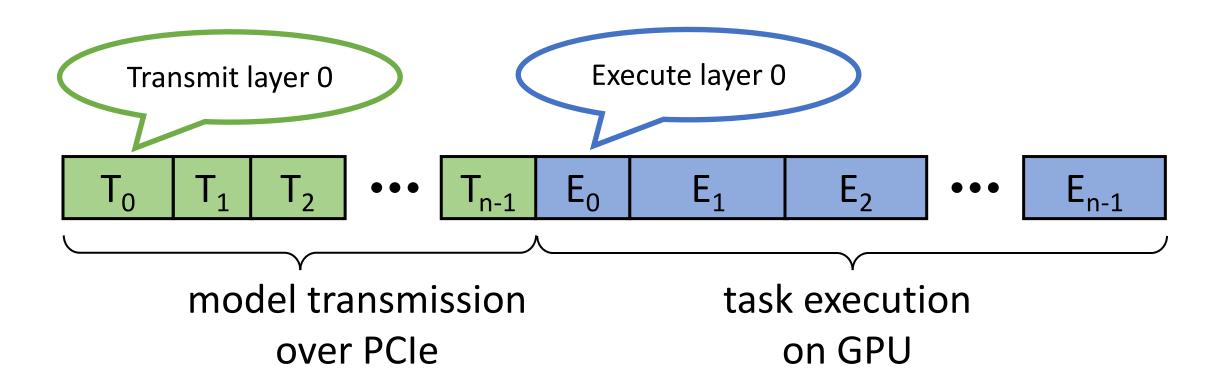
Task initialization

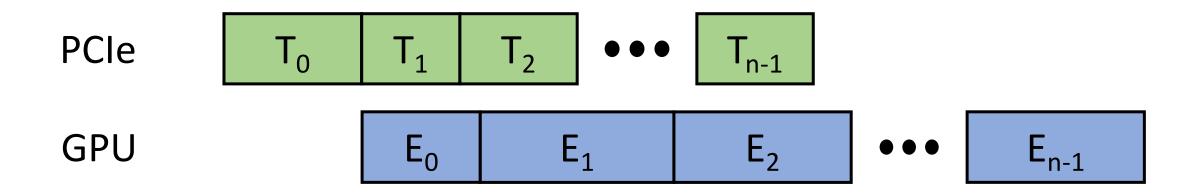
Task cleaning

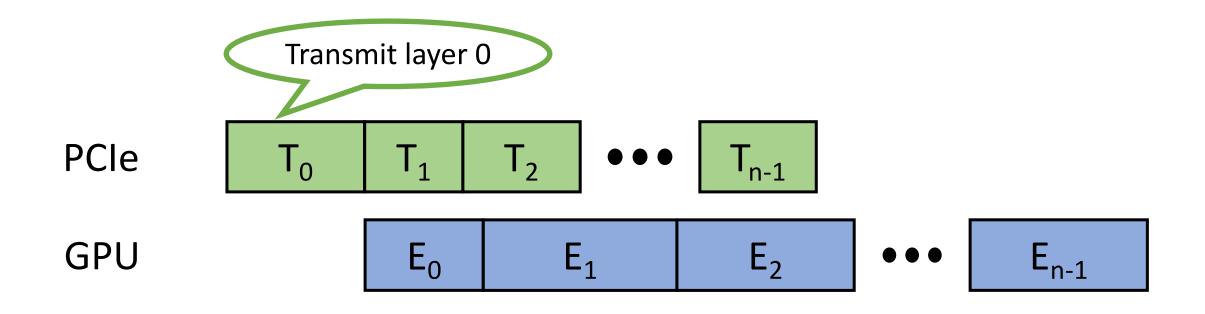
# DL models have layered structures

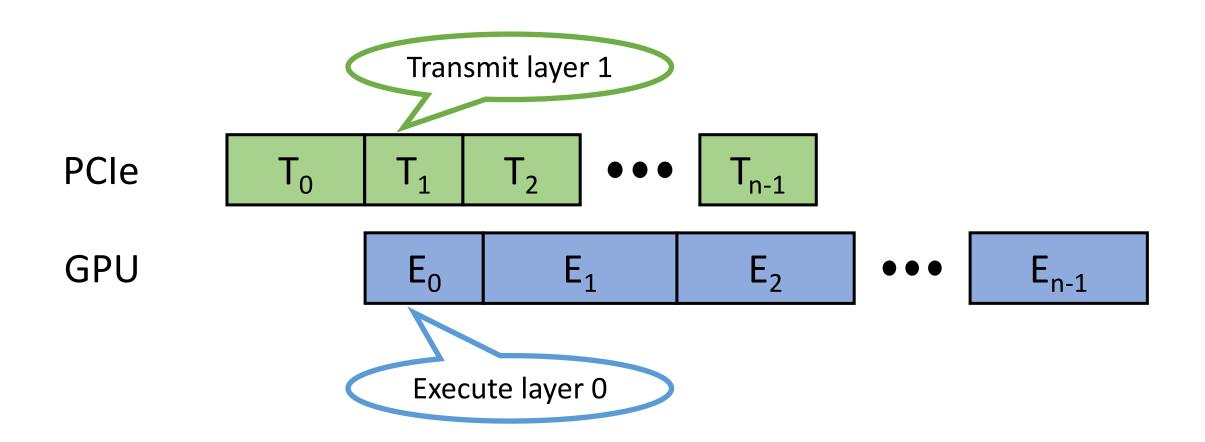


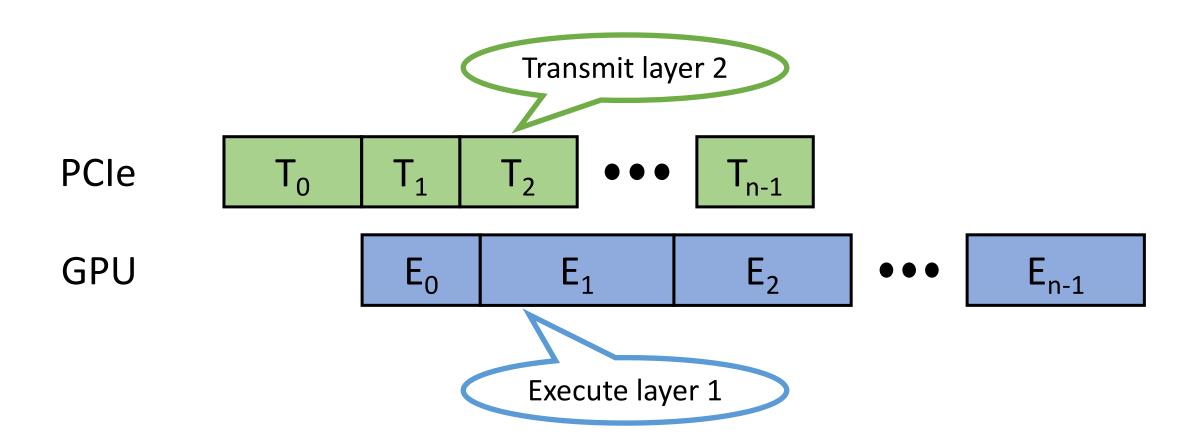
### Sequential model transmission and execution





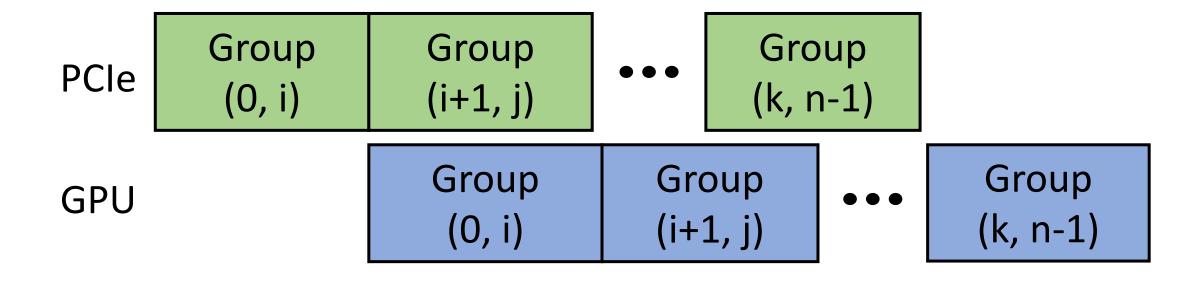




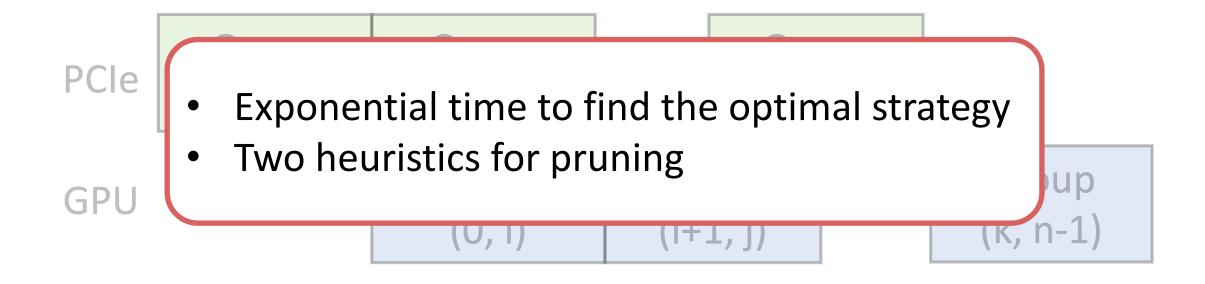


- 1. Multiple calls to PCIe;2. Synchronize transmission and execution.

## Pipelined model transmission and execution



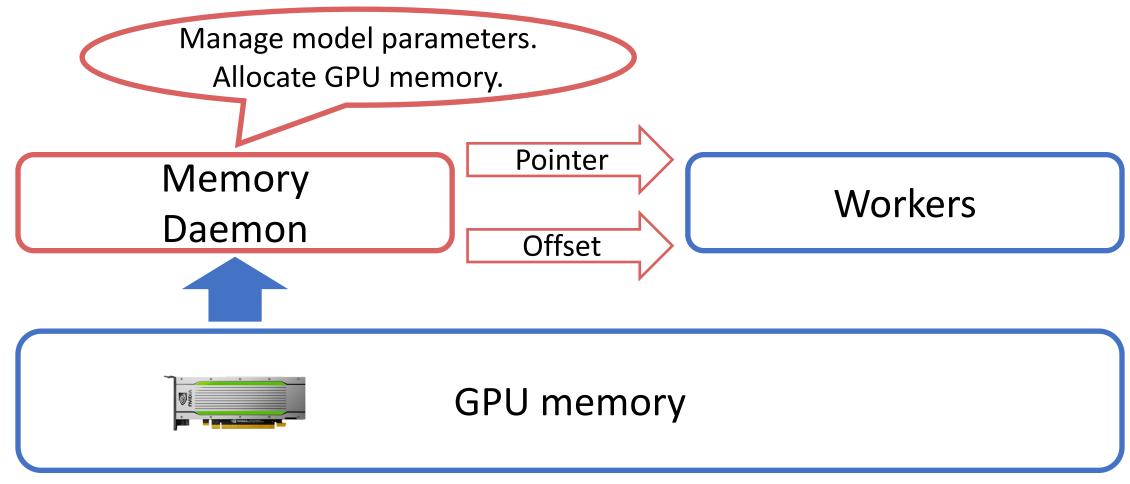
# Pipelined model transmission and execution



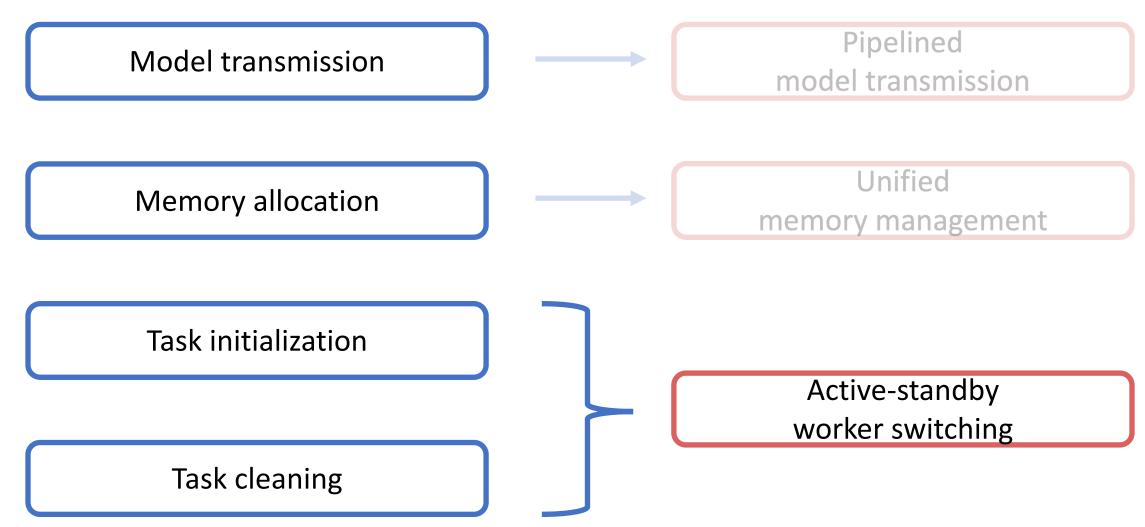
## How to reduce the overhead?

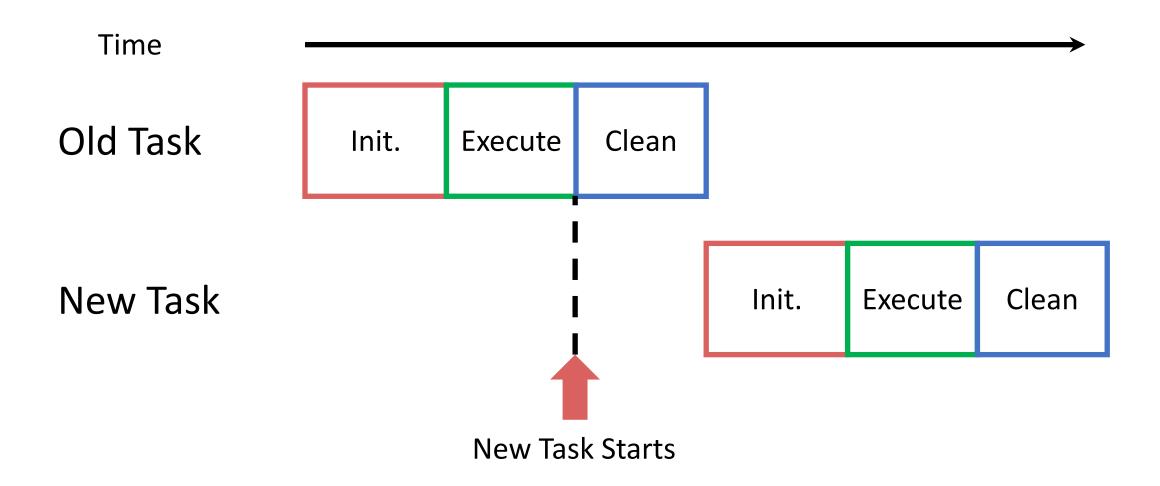
Pipelined Model transmission model transmission Unified Memory allocation memory management Task initialization Task cleaning

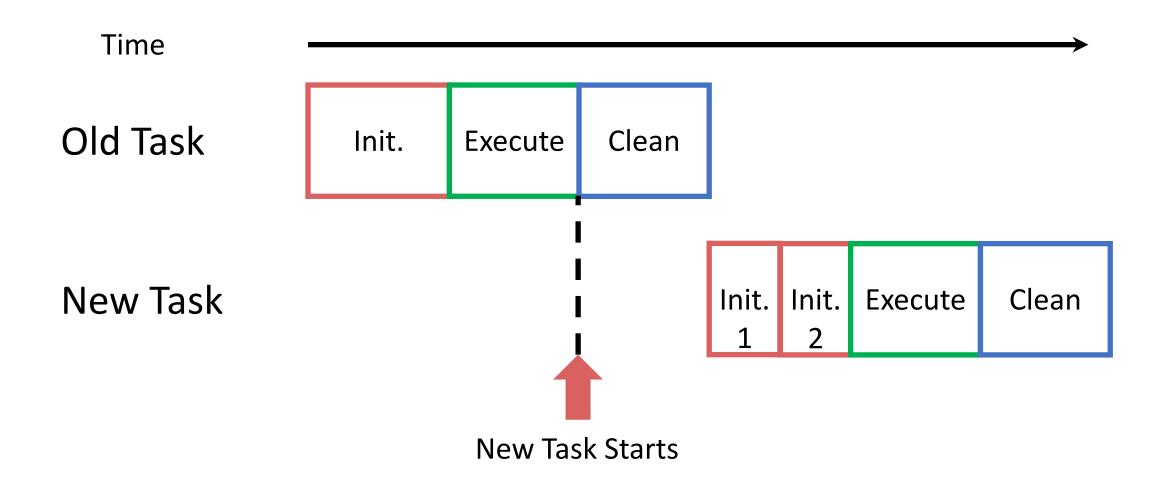
# Unified memory management

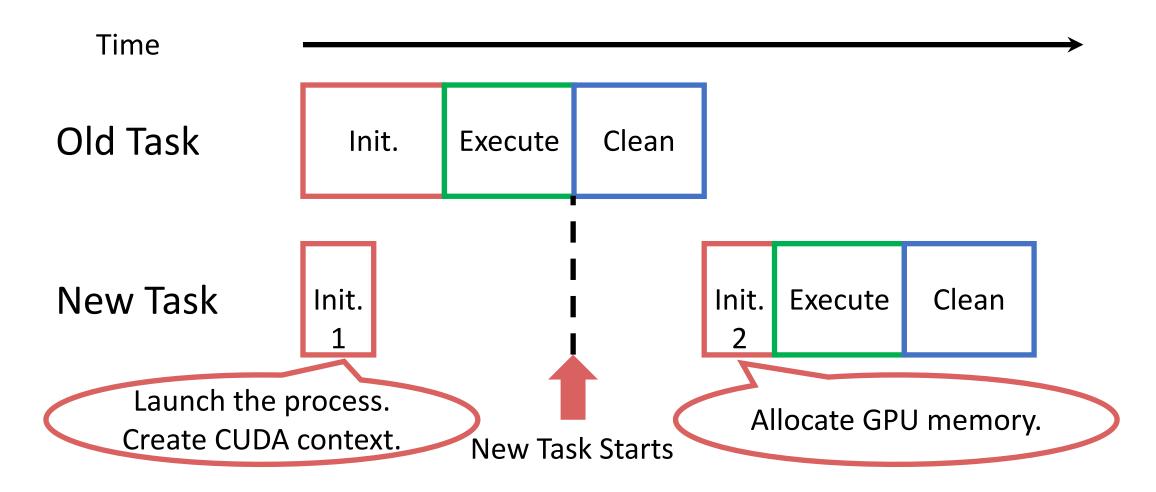


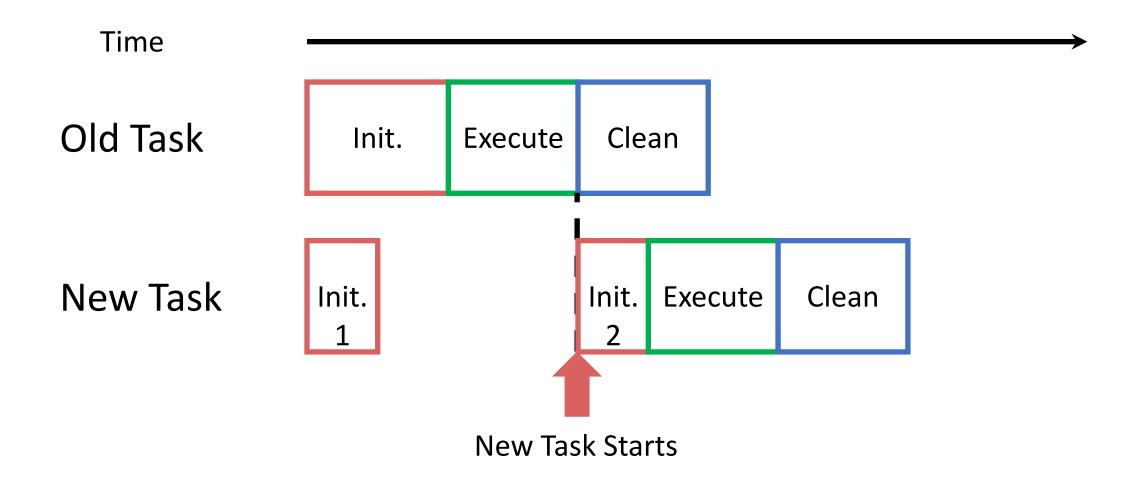
## How to reduce the overhead?











## Implementation

- Testbed: AWS EC2
  - p3.2xlarge: PCle 3.0x16, NVIDIA Tesla V100 GPU
  - g4dn.2xlarge: PCle 3.0x8, NVIDIA Tesla T4 GPU
- Software
  - CUDA 10.1
  - PyTorch 1.3.0
- Models
  - ResNet-152
  - Inception-v3
  - BERT-base

#### Evaluation

Can PipeSwitch satisfy SLOs?

Can PipeSwitch provide high utilization?

How well do the design choices of PipeSwitch work?

#### Evaluation

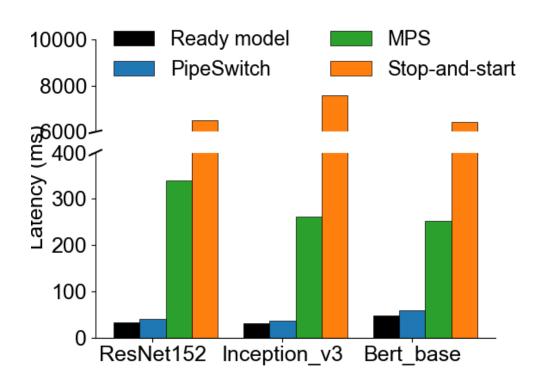
Can PipeSwitch satisfy SLOs?

Can PipeSwitch provide high utilization?

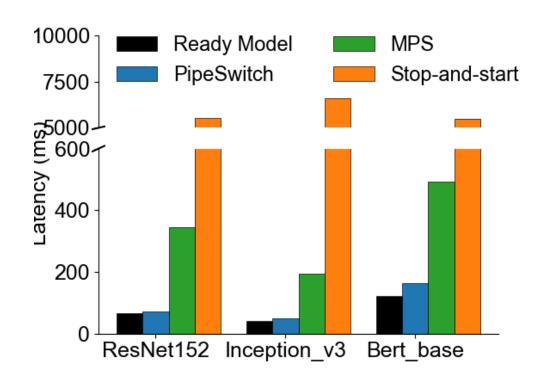
How well do the design choices of PipeSwitch work?

## PipeSwitch satisfies SLOs

#### **NVIDIA Tesla V100**

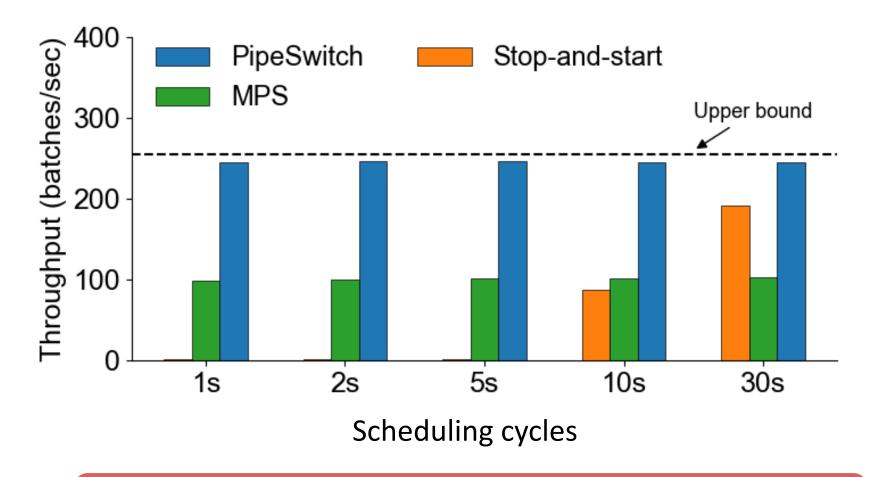


#### **NVIDIA Tesla T4**



PipeSwitch achieves low context switching latency.

## PipeSwitch provide high utilization



PipeSwitch achieves near 100% utilization.

## Summary

- GPU clusters for DL applications suffer from low utilization
  - Limited share between training and inference workloads

- PipeSwitch introduces pipelined context switching
  - Enable GPU-efficient multiplexing of DL apps with fine-grained time-sharing
  - Achieve millisecond-scale context switching latencies and high throughput

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# Transparent GPU Sharing in Container Clouds for Deep Learning Workloads

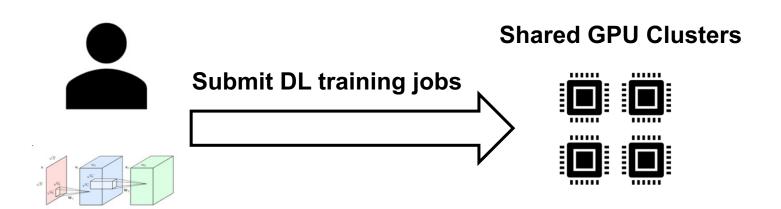
Bingyang Wu, Zili Zhang, Zhihao Bai, Xuanzhe Liu, Xin Jin



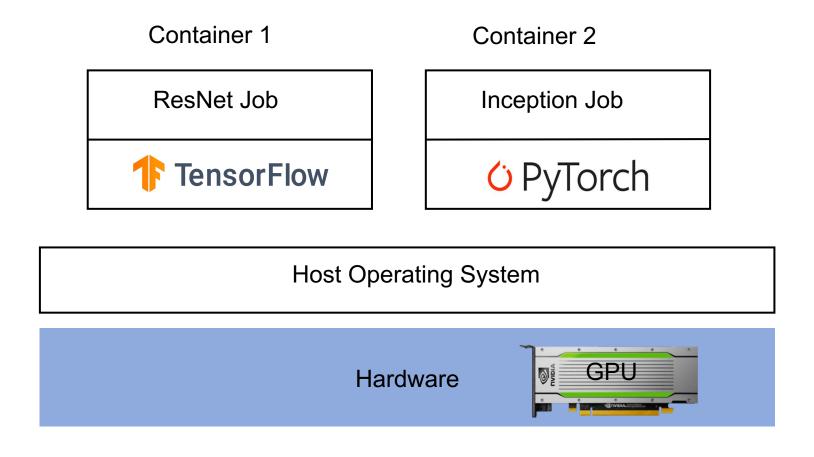


## Deep learning training jobs: important workloads in datacenters

- Deep learning is widely used in many applications
  - Recommendation
  - Machine Translation
  - Voice Assistant
  - •
- Deep learning models are often trained in shared GPU clusters



## Deep learning training jobs in container clouds



#### Low GPU utilization in production

- Microsoft [1]: the average GPU utilization is only 52%
- Alibaba [2]: the median GPU utilization is no more than 10%
- Low GPU utilization is bad
  - Container clouds: idle GPUs are a huge waste
  - Users: longer queueing delay, longer job completion time

Root cause: Each GPU is statically assigned to a single container

#### Existing GPU sharing solutions

- Key idea: Share GPUs to improve GPU utilization
- Classify DLT jobs into two classes
  - Production job: Run without performance degradation
  - Opportunistic job: Utilize spare GPU resources to execute

- SOTA solutions:
  - Application-layer solution: AntMan [OSDI' 20]
  - OS-layer solution: NVIDIA MPS, NVIDIA MIG

## Application-layer solution: AntMan

- Custom DL framework
  - Modify TensorFlow (~4000 LoC) or PyTorch (~2000 LoC)
- Support GPU compute sharing and GPU memory oversubscription

- Limitations: Lack of Transparency
  - Limited use cases: restricts users to use particular frameworks
  - Huge operation overhead: need to maintain custom frameworks

#### OS-layer solution: NVIDIA MPS

- A software solution for GPU sharing provided by NVIDIA
- Limitations:
  - Low GPU utilization
    - Does not support GPU memory oversubscription
    - Requires application knowledge to properly set the resource limit
  - Weak fault isolation
    - When a job fails, other jobs may be affected and even fails

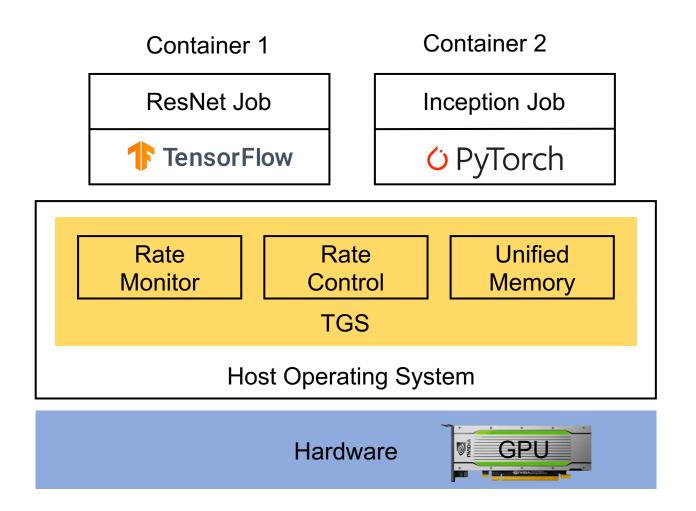
#### OS-layer solution: NVIDIA MIG

- A recent hardware solution for GPU sharing provided by NVIDIA
- Limitations:
  - Performance isolation
    - Cannot arbitrarily partition a GPU
    - Cannot dynamically change GPU resources
  - Compatibility
    - Only available on a few high-end GPUs
    - Does not support GPU sharing for the multi-GPU instance

## A more practical solution: TGS

	AntMan	MPS	MIG	TGS
Transparency		✓	✓	✓
High utilization	✓			✓
Performance isolation	<b>✓</b>	✓	✓	✓
Fault isolation	✓		✓	✓

#### TGS architecture

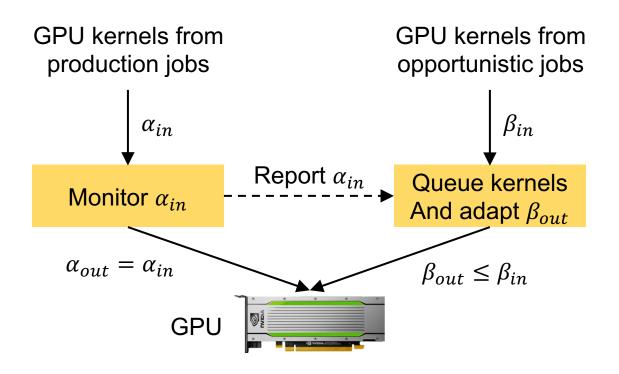


## Sharing GPU compute resources

- Strawman solution: priority scheduling
  - Control the opportunistic job based on the GPU kernel queues

- Low GPU utilization:
  - The state of queues do not reflect the remaining GPU resources

## Adaptive rate control of TGS



#### Sharing GPU memory resources

- Weak Fault isolation: total GPU memory consumption may exceed GPU memory capacity and cause OOM
- Low GPU utilization: some jobs always claim all GPU memory

- Application-layer technique cannot be used in the OS layer
  - Cannot directly ask DL framework to release unused GPU memory
  - Cannot directly change pointer address from GPU memory to host memory

#### Transparent unified memory of TGS

- Key ideas: leverage CUDA unified memory to transparently unify GPU memory and host memory
- High GPU utilization: The actual physical GPU memory is allocated when jobs first access to them
- Fault isolation: When GPU memory is oversubscribed, TGS changes virtual memory mapping to evict GPU memory of opportunistic job to host memory

#### Evaluation setup

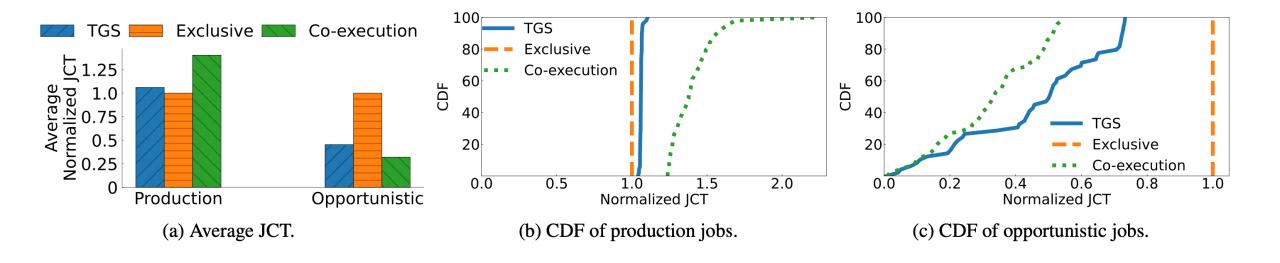
- Implementation: ~3000 LoC C++ & Python
  - Integration with Docker and Kubernetes
- Testbed: NVIDIA A100 GPUs and NVIDIA V100 GPUS
- Trace: Philly Trace from Microsoft [Jeon et al. 2019]
- Models
  - CV: ResNet, ShuffleNet, MobileNet
  - Graph: GCN
  - NLP: Bert, GPT-2
  - Recommendation: DLRM

#### **Evaluation baselines**

- TGS: our work
- AntMan: the state-of-the-art application-layer solution
- MPS: manually set appropriate limit
- MIG: manually set best configuration
- Exclusive: give exclusive access to a GPU
- Co-execution: share a GPU without any control

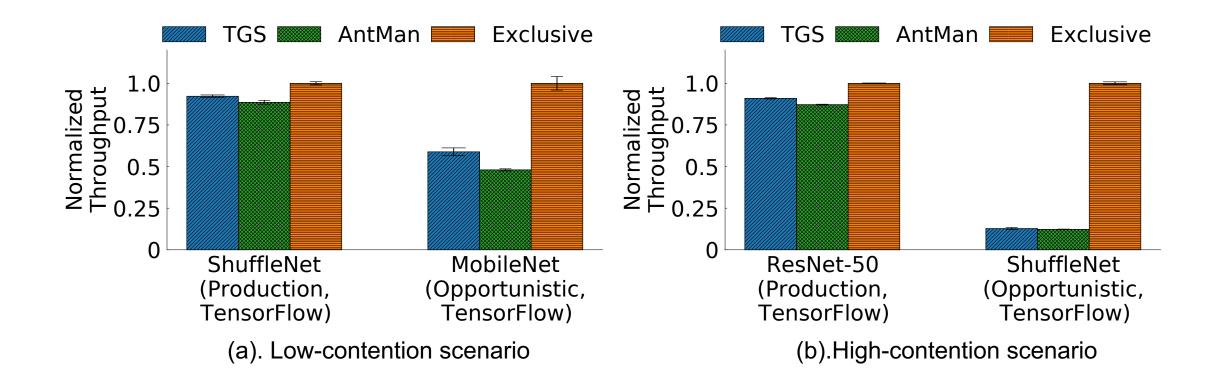
#### Mixed workload job stream

- A job stream contains 50 production jobs and 50 opportunistic jobs
- Opportunistic jobs: 52% JCT reduction compared to Exclusive
- Production jobs: 21% JCT reduction compared to Co-execution



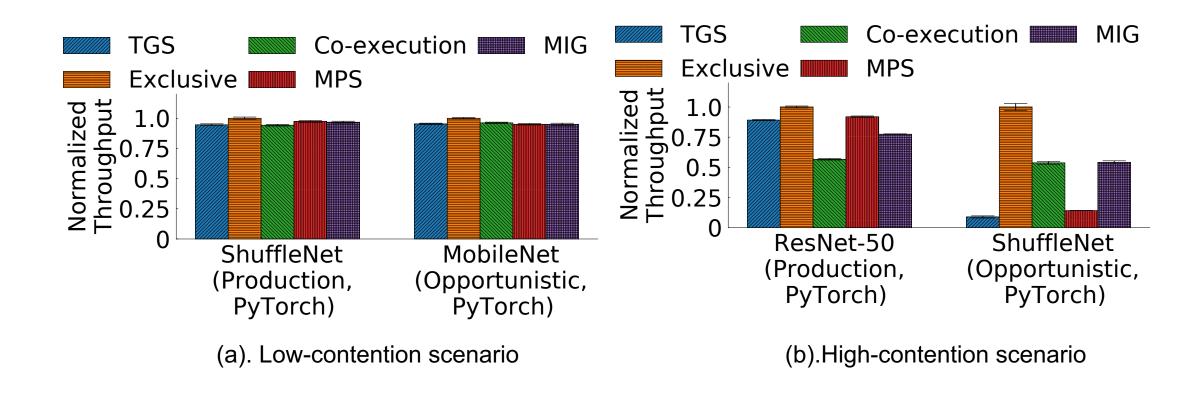
#### Comparison with AntMan

- Achieve comparable performance in different contention scenarios
- Provide transparency without sacrificing performance



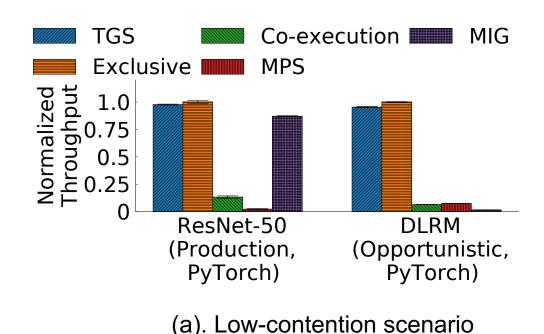
#### Adaptive rate control of TGS

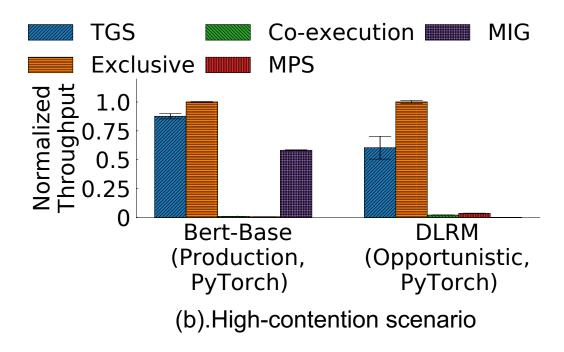
 TGS protects productions job with little overhead, while providing remaining GPU resources to opportunistic jobs



#### Transparent unified memory of TGS

- TGS protects production jobs under GPU memory oversubscription
- 15 × throughput improvement compared to MPS





#### More experiments in our paper

- System overhead
- Convergence of TGS in different scenarios
  - Convergence of the rate control under dynamic job arrival
  - Convergence of the rate control under dynamic resource usage
- Supporting different DL frameworks
- GPU sharing for large model training

#### Conclusion

- TGS provides transparent GPU sharing to DL training in container clouds with four important properties:
  - Transparency
  - Performance isolation
  - High GPU utilization
  - Fault isolation
- TGS improves the throughput of the opportunistic job by up to 15× compared to the existing OS-layer solution MPS



