Evolving the End-to-End Transport Layer in Times of Emerging Computing In The Network (COIN)

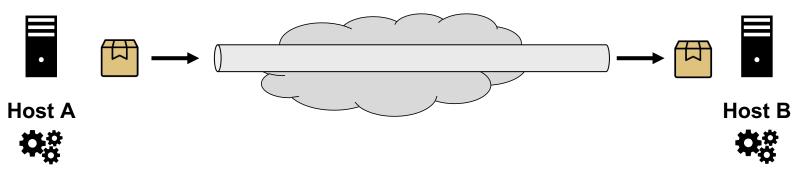
Ike Kunze^{*}, Dirk Trossen[#], Klaus Wehrle^{*}

* RWTH Aachen University # Huawei

1st Workshop on New IP and Beyond, October 2022 COIN RG @ IETF 115, November 2022



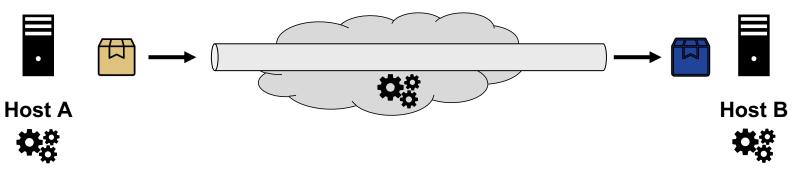
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• End-to-end principle

- Network as a dumb pipe
- Basis for transport protocols





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 - Basis for transport protocols

• COIN

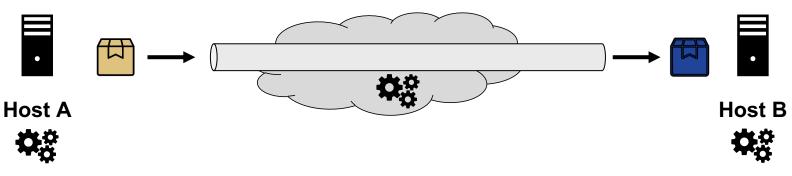
- Network no longer a dumb pipe
- Breaks transport layer assumptions^[1]

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Computing In The Network – From Dumb to Smart Networks



- End-to-end principle
 - Network as a dumb pipe
 - Basis for transport protocols

• COIN

- Network no longer a dumb pipe
- Breaks transport layer assumptions^[1]

CON

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What does it take to have a COIN-enabled transport?

[1] Stephens et al.: TCP is Harmful to In-Network Computing: Designing a Message Transport Protocol (MTP), HotNets '21

• Seminal work by Saltzer et al.^[2]

 "The function [...] can completely and correctly be implemented only with the knowledge [...] of the application [...] at the endpoints [...]."

Seemingly at odds with COIN

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Aligns COIN with the end-to-end argument

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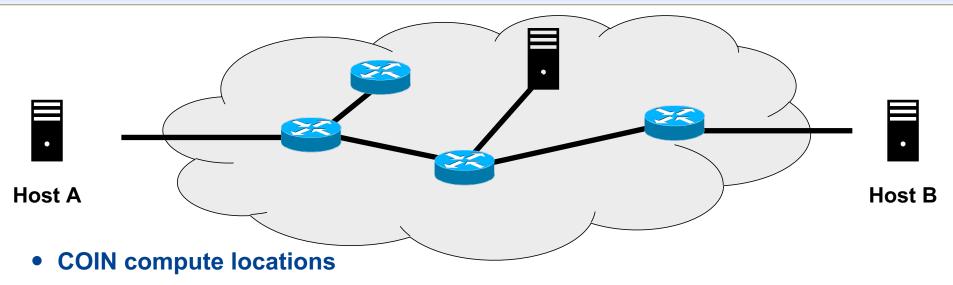
Aligns COIN with the end-to-end argument

- Two critical aspects
 - Location

Which computation?

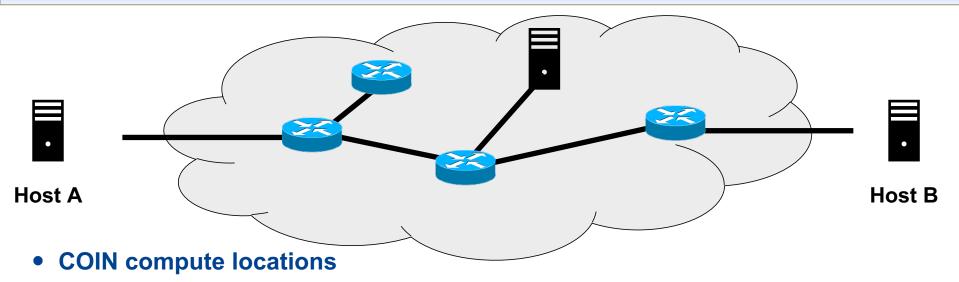
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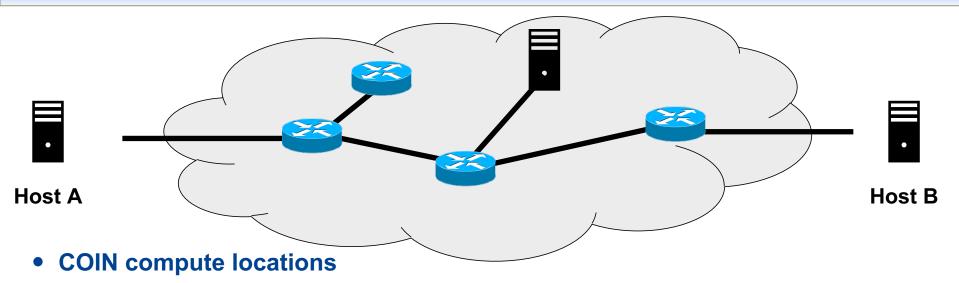
Strict (only networking devices)





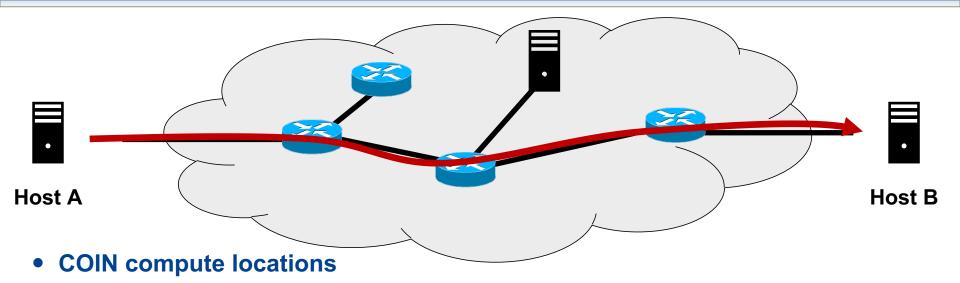
Strict (only networking devices) to lax (subset of edge/cloud computing)





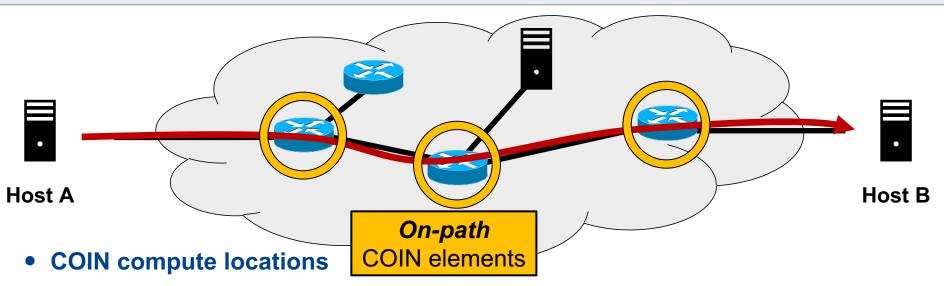
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- Abstraction: COIN element





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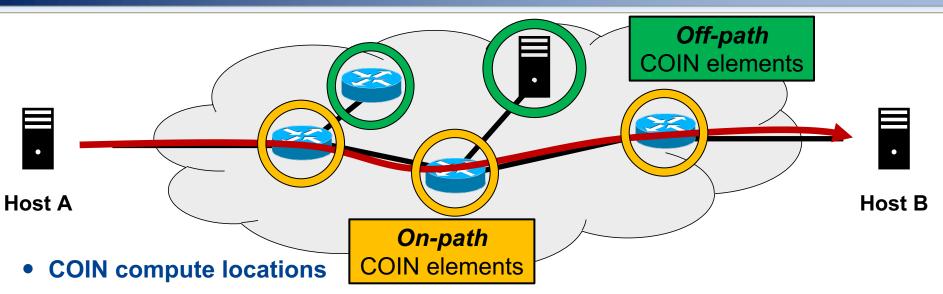


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• Location in relation to the endpoints

▶ On-path



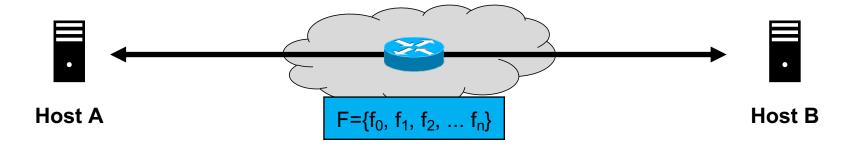


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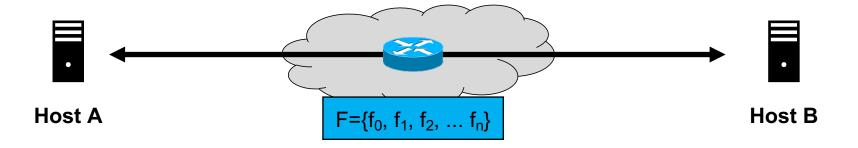
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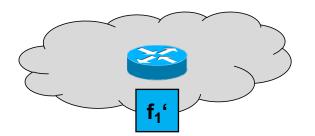
▶ On-path vs. off-path





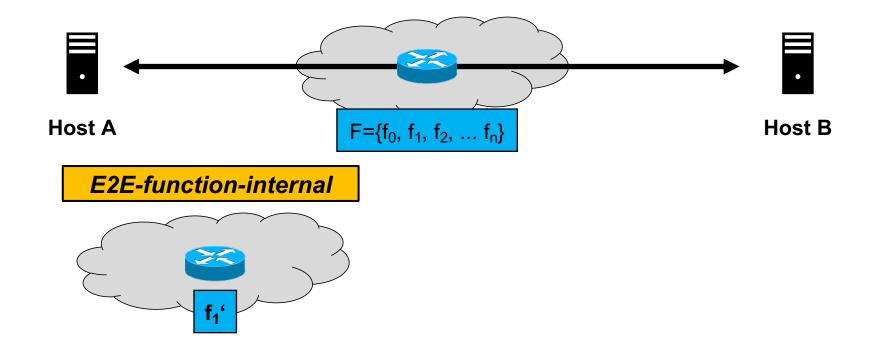




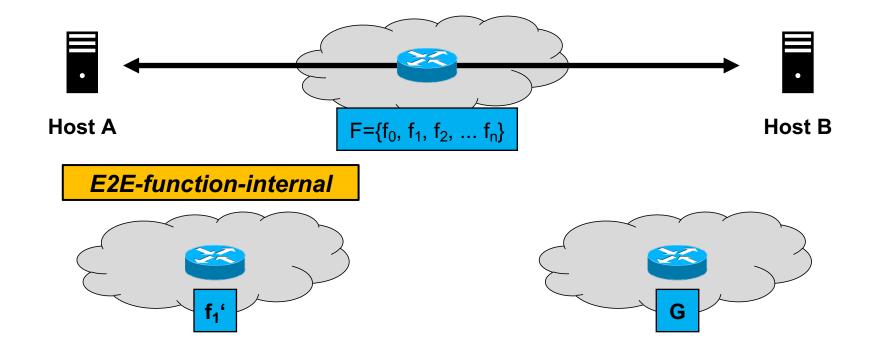




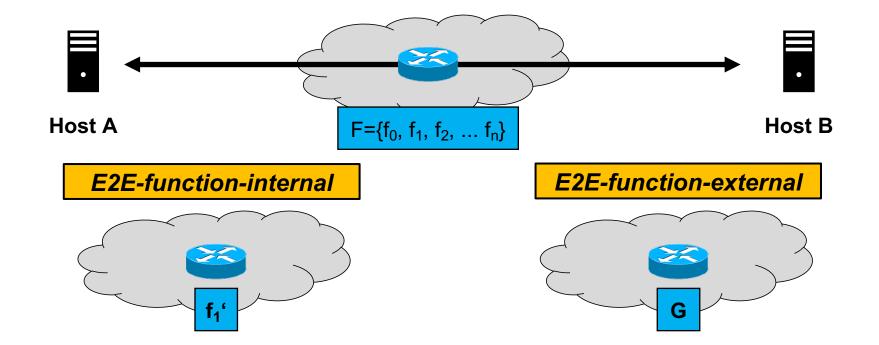
lke Kunze (kunze@comsys.rwth-aachen.de)



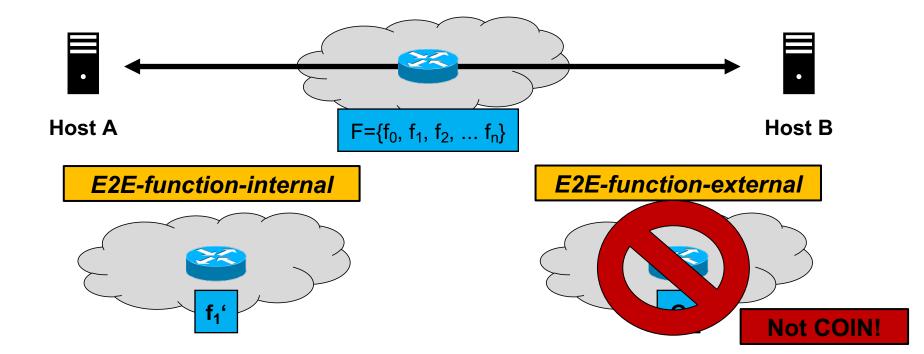




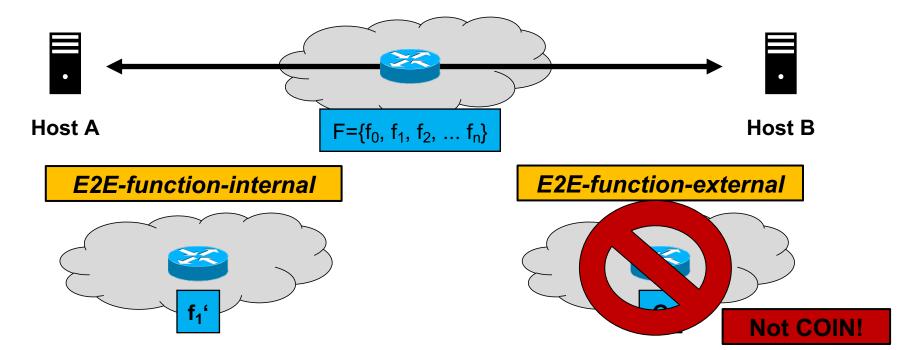






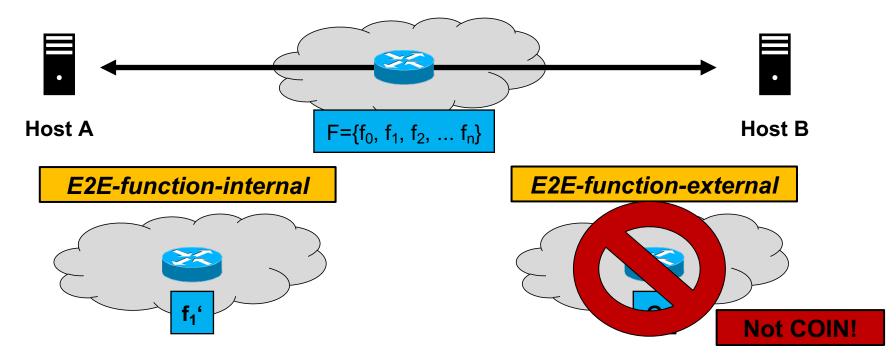




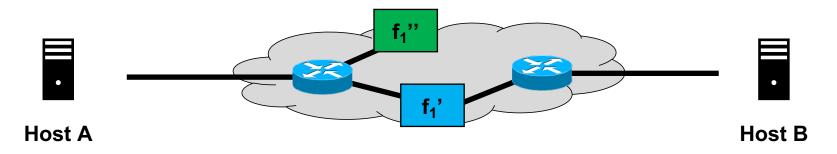


• **E2E-function-internal** computation on **on-** & **off-path COIN elements**

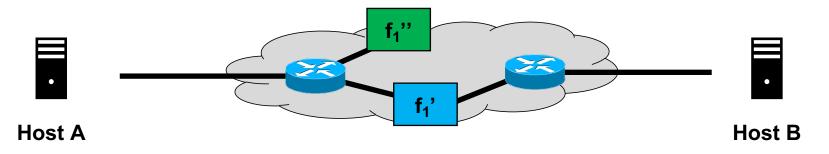




- E2E-function-internal computation on on- & off-path COIN elements
- How and where to place functionality?





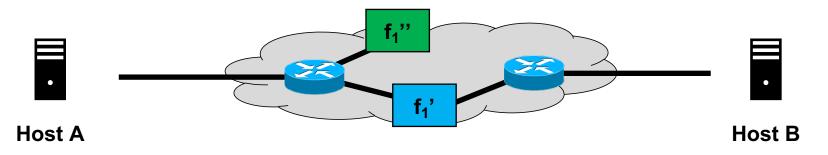


• First COIN Design Principle

Adhere to the original requirements of the E2E function,

Enrich its functionality





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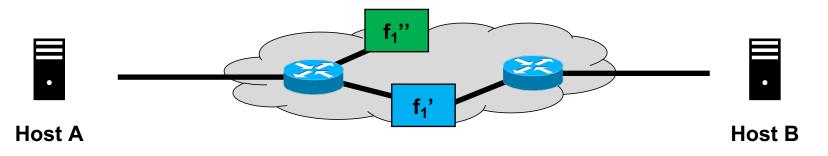
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"[...] we must drive our architectures and designs toward the simplest possible solutions."





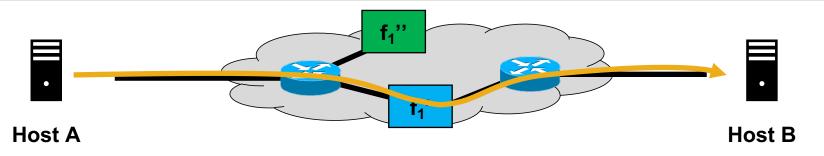
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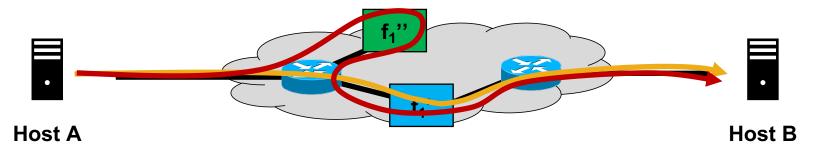
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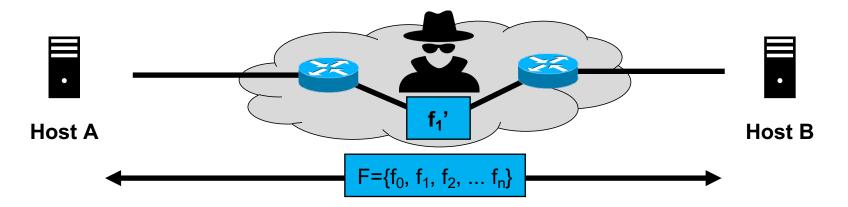
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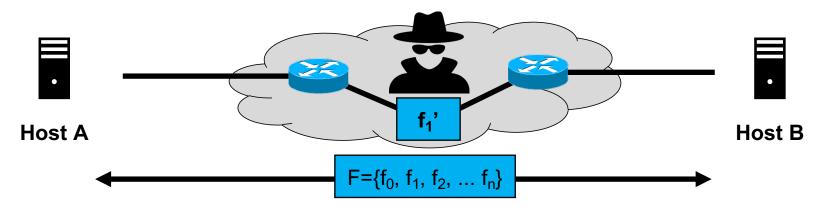


Second Design Principle for COIN





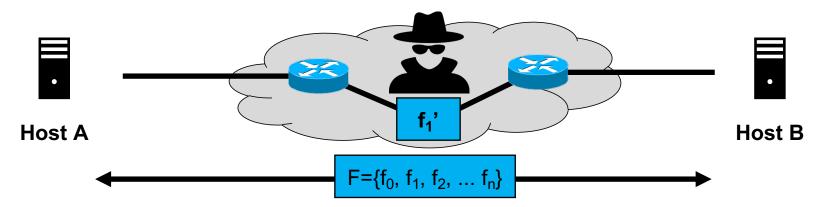
Second Design Principle for COIN



• Missing transparency might lead to problems



Second Design Principle for COIN



- Missing transparency might lead to problems
- Second COIN Design Principle

Insert in full transparency to the endpoints



- Functionality traditionally implemented in endpoints only
- Directly impacted by emerging COIN capabilities



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- Several aspects to consider
 - Adressing





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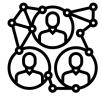


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Collective Communication





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Collective Communication



• More details

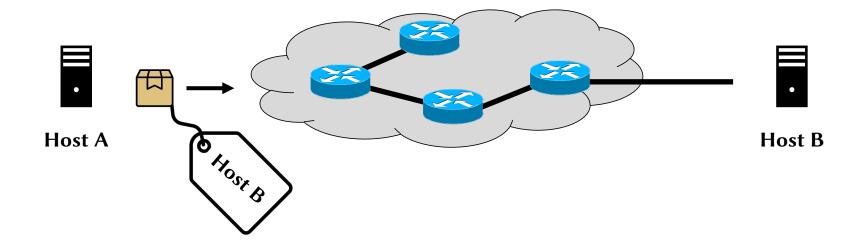


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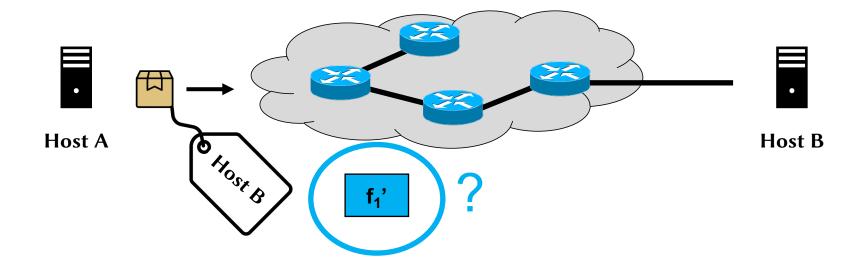


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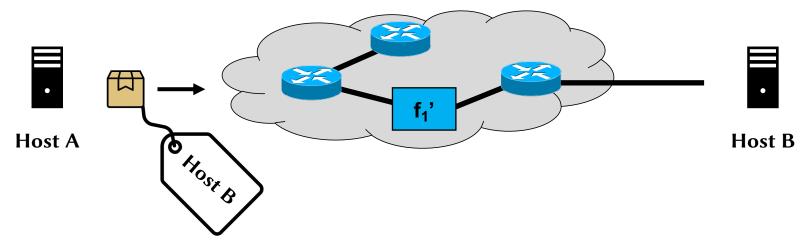






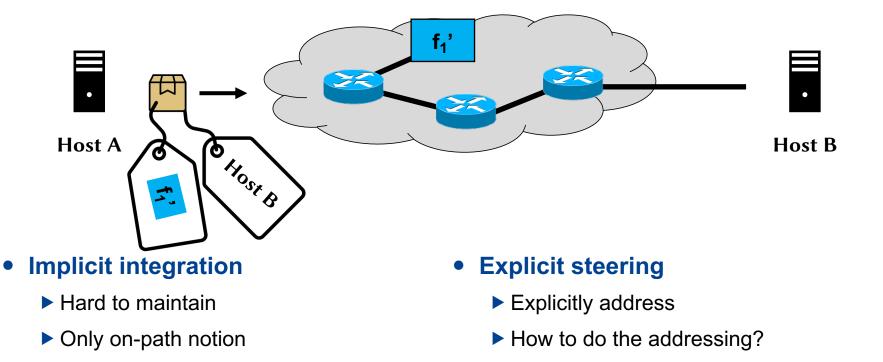




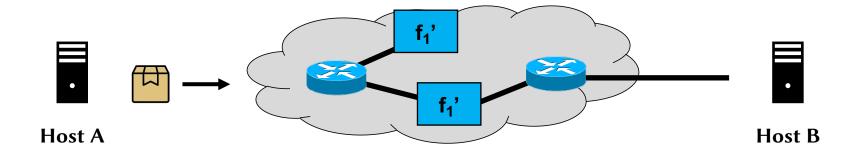


- Implicit integration
 - Hard to maintain
 - Only on-path notion

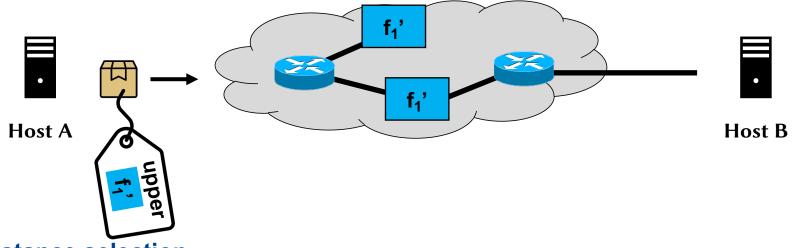






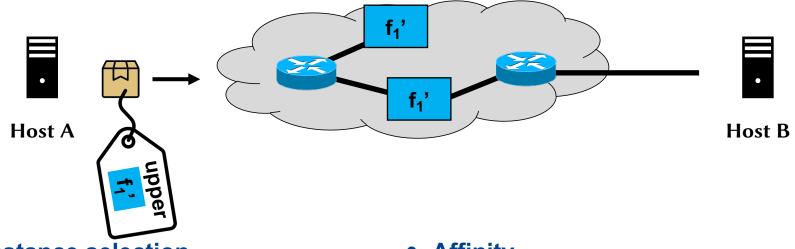






- Instance selection
 - Multiple possible locations
 - How to select them?
 - Specify constraints?
 - Specify locator?





- Instance selection
 - Multiple possible locations
 - ► How to select them?
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 - Specify locator?

• Affinity

- Might be needed
- How to realize that?
 - Setup during "orchestration"?
 - Route based on service identifier?



• Transport Addressing

- Source routing
 - Only which path not which functionality



• Transport Addressing

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 - Only which path not which functionality
- Service function chaining
 - Steer traffic through functions



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 - Address information rather than endpoints



Transport Addressing

- Source routing
 - Only which path not which functionality
- Service function chaining
 - Steer traffic through functions
- Information centric networking
 - Address information rather than endpoints
- Many possible solutions and open questions

• Main takeaway of this paper: COIN can align with end-to-end principle



• What should be our goal?

- Have one global E2E-compliant transport protocol for everything COIN-related?
 - MTP^[1]
 - TinTin^[4]

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- Specialized transport protocols for limited domains?
 - Required core features?
 - Standardized interaction?

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- Specialized transport protocols for limited domains?
 - Required core features
 - Standardized interaction?
- Abandon E2E principle for the limited domains?
 - Industrial networks

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Paper



Draft



