

Power Aware Networks (PANET): problem statement and requirements

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The Problem

- Increasing energy consumption of network infrastructures
 - More network devices: routers, switches, ...
 - Devices are more power-hungry.
- Impacts
 - Power delivery, Cooling
 - Financial and environmental
 - Limiting system performance and future growth
- In ISPs, IXPs, data centers, enterprises, ...

The Opportunity

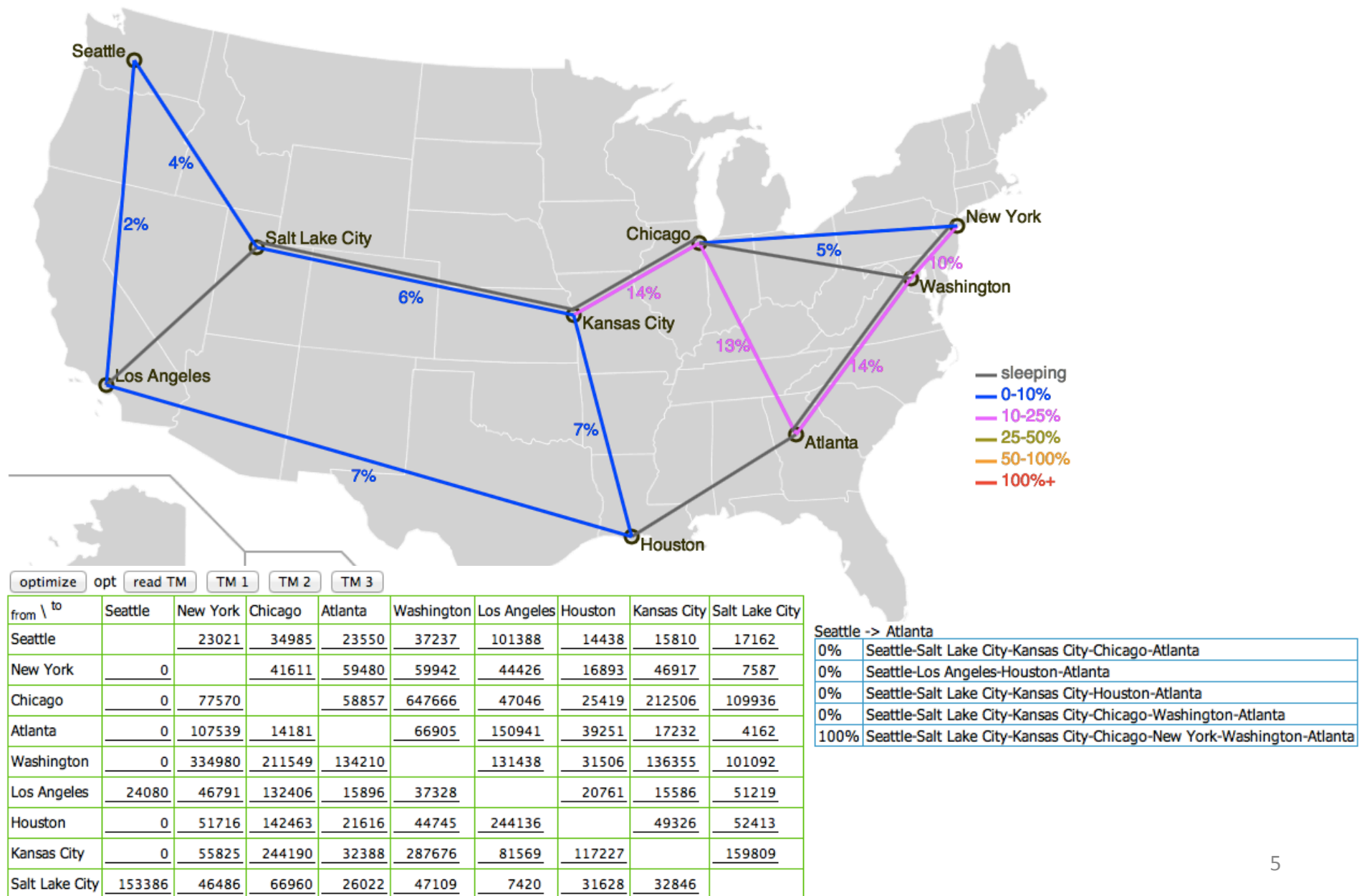
- Networks have lots of redundancy
 - Redundant links and nodes
 - Overprovisioned link capacity
 - Load-balancing traffic engineering
- Average link utilization is low but all devices are running at full capacity all the time.
 - High resiliency, low energy efficiency.
- Need a better tradeoff between the two.

Solutions

- More energy-efficient hardware components
- Better energy management mechanisms
 - E.g., Energy Efficient Ethernet (IEEE 802.3az)
 - Allow a link to go Low Power Idle or even deeper sleep.
 - Keep the link alive and remain the same speed.
- At Layer-3
 - Coordinate forwarding workload to give lower layers more chance of saving power network-wide.
 - E.g., aggregate traffic onto fewer links, to save standby power of others.
 - GreenTE web demo: <http://greente.65536.cn>

GreenTE Web Demo

GreenTE demo



Proposed PANET Problem Statement

- Develop power-aware layer-3 mechanisms to improve network energy efficiency.
 - Fully realize lower-layer's energy-saving potential.
 - Satisfy upper-layer's performance requirements.
 - Compatible with other protocols at the same layer.
- Scope
 - Focus on a single domain.
 - What type of networks?
- First steps:
 - Understand router's power consumption model
 - Understand the technology and trends
 - Problem statement, framework, low-hanging fruit.

Dependency/Assumption

- Lower layer's energy-saving mechanisms and parameters
 - E.g., wakeup time, shutdown time, transition cost, link alive or not, durability, granularity of power control, etc.
- Power status of network elements.
 - E.g., EMAN.

Requirements

- Maintain network resiliency
 - Node/link failures, congestion, etc.
 - FRR mechanisms?
- Satisfy QoS
 - Delay, jitter, etc.
- Compatible with other protocols.
 - Work properly when only a subset of network elements are in power-saving mode.
- Support operational policies.
- Understand the impacts on network operation and management.

Comments?