Using ICN in disaster scenarios (draft-seedorf-icn-disaster-01)

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Outline

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 - GreenICN Project Overview
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 - What disasters are we talking about
 - Research challenges
 - Why ICN approaches may be promising
 - Concrete use cases and requirements (new)

Background: GreenICN Project

 GreenICN: Architecture and Applications of Green Information Centric Networking

Duration: 3 years (1 Apr 2013 – 31 Mar 2016)

Website: http://www.greenicn.org

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GreenICN Objectives

- ICN: A new networking paradigm where the network provides users with named content, instead of communication channels between hosts
 - Many issues stay open: naming, routing, resource control, security, privacy and migration path from today's Internet
 - Missing seamless support of content-based publish/subscribe for efficient information dissemination
 - Existing solutions do not sufficiently address energy efficiency
- GreenICN 's scientific aim:
 - Develop innovative methodologies and approaches to optimize ICN paradigm in a highly-scalable and energy-efficient manner
 - Support two use scenarios: disaster recovery; video delivery

Disaster Scenarios

What scenarios are we considering?

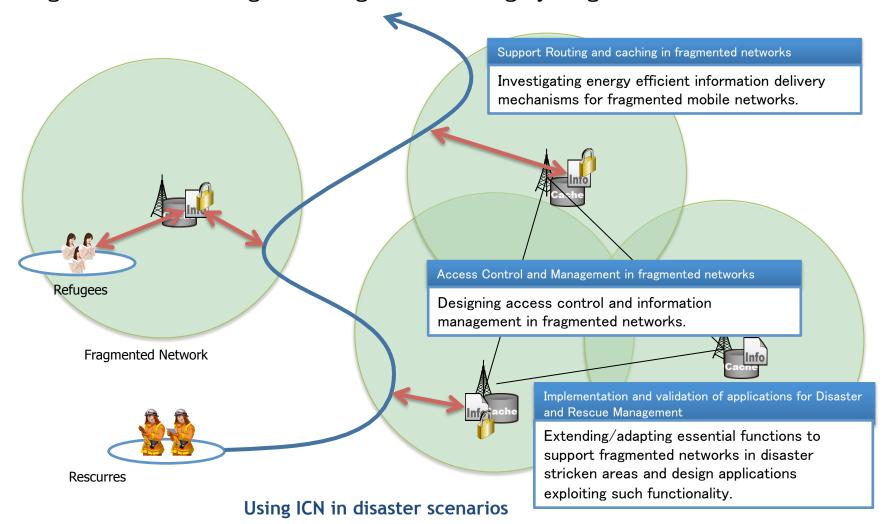
- The aftermath of a disaster, e.g. hurricane, earthquake, tsunami, or a human-generated network breakdown
 - E.g. the enormous earthquake which hit Northeastern Japan (Tohoku areas) on March 11, 2011, and caused extensive damages including blackouts, fires, tsunamis and a nuclear crisis

What are the constraints and requirements in such situations?

- Energy and communication resources are at a premium
 - E.g. due to failure of certain devices and communication links
- It is critical to efficiently distribute disaster notification and critical rescue information
 - Authorities would like to inform the citizens of possible shelters, food, or even of impending danger
 - Relatives would like to communicate with each other and be informed about their wellbeing
 - Affected citizens would like to make enquiries of food distribution centres, shelters or report trapped, missing people to the authorities

Vision: Green Disaster Information Delivery and Rescue Management

 Objective: Provide support for large-scale energy-efficient disaster information delivery for fragmented/disrupted mobile networks, including routing and cache management algorithm for highly fragmented networks



High-Level Research Challenges

- Enabling usage of functional parts of the infrastructure, even when these are disconnected from the rest of the network
 - it is desirable to be able to continue using functional components for communication as much as possible
 - challenging when these components are disconnected from the backhaul, thus forming fragmented networks

Decentralised authentication

- In today's mobile networks, users are authenticated via central entities; in order to communicate in fragmented or disconnected parts of a mobile network, the challenge of decentralising user authentication arises
- data origin authentication of content retrieved from the network is challenging when being 'offline' (e.g. disconnected from servers of a security infrastructure such as a PKI)

Delivering/obtaining information in congested networks

- Significant congestion can be expected in parts of the infrastructure due to broken cables, failed routers, etc.
- even more important as in the case of a disaster aftermath, it may be crucial to deliver certain information to recipients (e.g. warnings to citizens)

How ICN can be Beneficial

Routing-by-name

- very handy in a fragmented network where reference to location-based, fixed addresses may not work as a consequence of disruptions
- for instance, name resolution with ICN does not necessarily rely on the reachability of application-layer servers (e.g. DNS resolvers)

Authentication of named data objects

 With 'self-certifying data' approaches, the origin of data retrieved from the network can be authenticated without relying on a trusted third party or PKI

Content-based access control

- ICN can regulate access to data objects (e.g. only to a specific user or class of users) by means of content-based security
- this functionality could facilitate trusted communications among peer users in isolated areas of the network

Caching

 Caching helps in handling huge amounts of traffic, and can help to avoid congestion in the network (e.g. congestion in backhaul links can be avoided by delivering content from caches at access nodes)

Use Cases and Requirements

- New Section in draft-seedorf-icn-disaster-01
- Example Use Cases
 - Delivering Messages to Relatives/Friends
 - Citizens want to confirm to each other that they are safe
 - Technical Requirements:
 - A scalable message forwarding scheme that dynamically adapts to changing conditions in disconnected networks
 - DTN-like mechanisms for getting information from disconnected island to another disconnected island
 - Data origin authentication to be able to confirm that messages are indeed from relatives or friends
 - Spreading Crucial Information to Citizens
 - State authorities want to be able to convey important information (e.g. warnings, or information on where to go or how to behave) to citizens
 - Technical Requirements:
 - Data origin authentication
 - Mechanisms that guarantee the timeliness and loss-free delivery of such information
 - DTN-like mechanisms for getting information from disconnected island to another disconnected island
 - Verifying and Spreading Information from Citizens to Citizens
 - Citizens want to spread observations and warnings, these potentially need to be verified by authorities before making available to all users
 - Technical Requirements:
 - Mechanisms that guarantee the timeliness and loss-free delivery of such information
 - DTN-like mechanisms for getting information from disconnected island to another disconnected island
 - Third party verification so that users can confirm that the messages they receive are verified by authorities

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