

IP Mobility to Support Live Migration of Virtual Machines Across Subnets

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IP Mobility to Support Live Migration of VMs Across Subnets

Motivation - migrate VMs between physical hosts

- Good for load-balancing, hardware maintenance, etc.
- No (a.k.a. minimal) down time
- How it works
 - Create a VM on target
 - Mirror source VM state (memory)
 - Suspend source VM, **synchronize**, resume VM on target system



IP Mobility to Support Live Migration of VMs Across Subnets

Motivation:

- Support mobile hosts when moving across IP subnets
- The problem:
 - IP address defines location not identity



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Goal

Enable Live Virtual Machine Migration Across Subnets

Adapt solutions to the IP Mobility problem

- Treat a migrating VM as a mobile device
- Are these the same problem?
 - What are the unique properties of VM migration?
 - Can we exploit them to do better than std. IP mobility?



Outline

- Background & Goals
- IP Mobility Optimization for Live VM Migration
- Implementation
- Conclusions



Application Outage During Migration



- Total application outage is
 (VM down time) + (Network down time)
 - Network handoff starts only after VM is resumed on target
 - Layer-3 handoff added for cross-subnet migration
 - Application resumes only after higher levels recover (TCP, etc.)

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Application Outage During Migration





Properties of VM Migration

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	IP Mobility	VM Migration
Network QoS	Typically wireless	Wired
Collaboration	Sometimes	Always
Trust	Un-trusted foreign network Authentication for home net	Hypervisors fully trusted Established prior to migration
Mobility agents	Require discovery	Always exist, More powerful
Transparent	Typically no	Yes
Synchronized	No host moves, network reacts	Yes (need events)





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Implementation Architecture



Evaluation I: It works!

We enabled live VM migration across subnets

- Working implementations for Xen, pHype

Transparent

- Outside the hypervisor
 - -Can work on any virtualization technology (e.g., Xen, VMWare)
- No changes to VMs

Simple agents for forwarding & tunneling

- No special code is installed on agents



Evaluation II: Downtime



Within IP subnet Across IP subnet





Evaluation III: Steady State Latency



Samples

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Conclusions

We extend VM migration across subnets

- Can adapt existing technology
 - -Similar, but different

Promote open standards migration events

- Also useful for other optimizations (storage, application)

Future / alternatives

- Forward events into existing IP mobility
 - -No special agents, allow network-level optimization
- Integrate solution into hypervisor
 - -No extra agents, better isolation, scalability
- Further optimizations
 - -E.g., shortcut routing, for better steady-state performance





The End

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Solutions to IP Mobility

- Mobile IP
- Above network layer
 - Mobility aware protocols (TCP-MH, MSOCS, SIP)
 - Mobility aware applications (can handle IP change)

Below network layer

- Layer 2 routing, forwarding, and tunneling
- Ignore IP just send stuff to the right place

Overlay networks

- Virtual network topology
 - -"mobile wires"
- Works best for all virtual environments

