

Gang Xiong, Yu-xiang Hu, Ju-long Lan, Jun-fei Li, Qiao Zhou, 2016.

A virtual service placement approach based on improved quantum genetic algorithm. *Frontiers of Information Technology & Electronic Engineering*, 17(7):661-671. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1631/FITEE.1500494>

# A Virtual Service Placement Approach Based on Improved Quantum Genetic Algorithm

National Digital Switching System Engineering & Technology  
Research Center, Zhengzhou 450002, China

**Key words:** Software-defined networking, Network function virtualization, Quantum genetic algorithm, Middlebox

Contact: Gang Xiong

E-mail: [xg1226@126.com](mailto:xg1226@126.com)

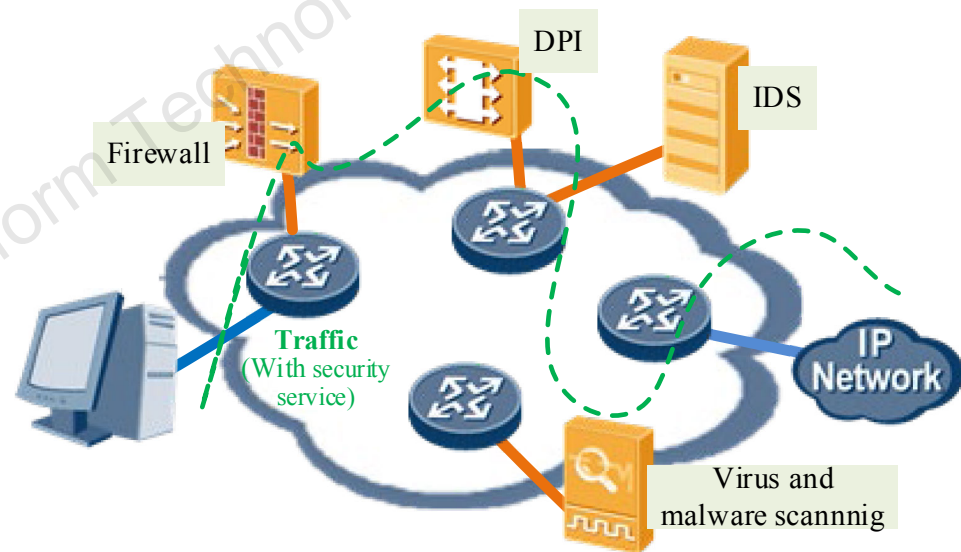
 ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4249-6820>

# Traditional Middleboxes Service

- **Infrastructure providers build** substrate network .
- **Service providers** deploy different middleboxes (e.g., Firewall, IDS) to provide security service for the traffics of users.

## Disadvantages

- high cost
- limited flexibility
- long cycles
- .....

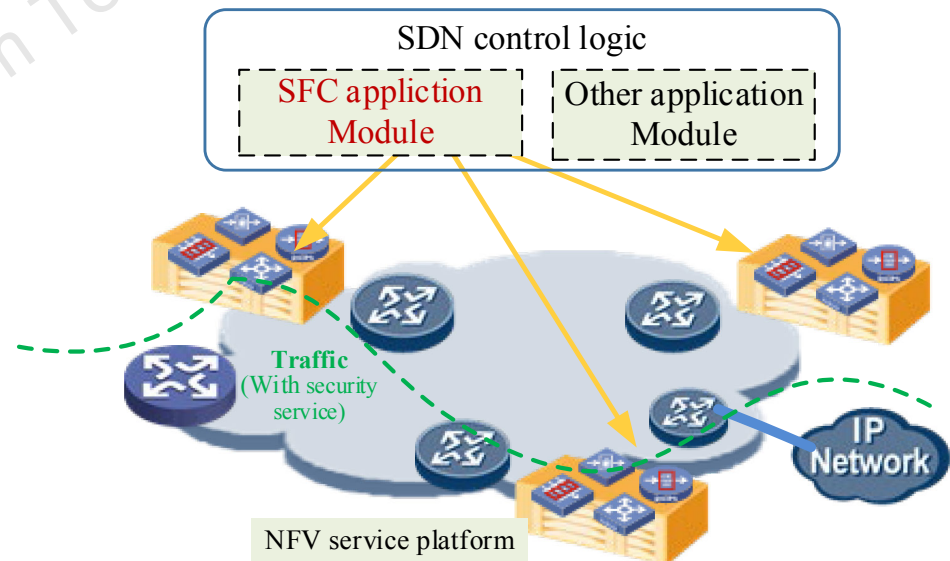


# Virtual Middleboxes Service

- **NFV (Network Functions Virtualization):** proposes to run the network functions as software instances on commodity
- **SDN (Software-Defined Networking ):** supports a decomposition of the network into control-plane and data-plane functions

## Advantages

- cost reduction,
- scalability
- flexibility
- .....



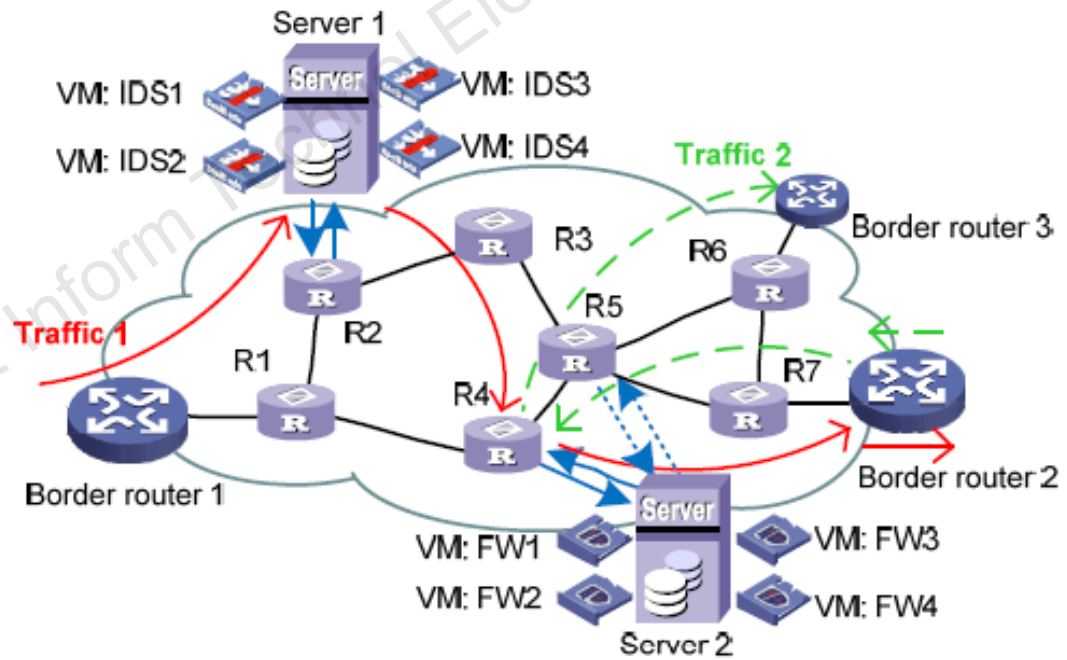
# Motivation

## ● Service Placement Problem:

- ✓ where do we connect these middlebox services so that this network performance (such as delay) penalty is minimized.

**Scheme1:**  
**{R2, R4}**

✓ **Scheme2:**  
**{R2, R5}**



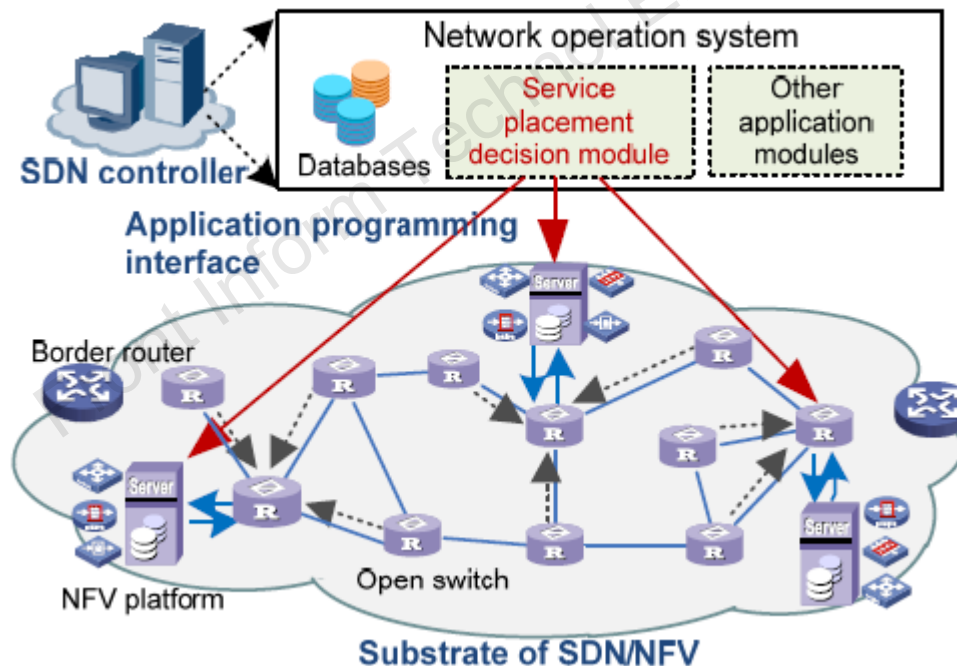
# Related Work

- **Existing middleboxes placement:** not consider network topology
  - ✓ SIMPLE: [Qazi *et al.*, 2013]
  - ✓ StEERING: [Zhang *et al.*, 2013]
- **Traditional agent placement:** short in Performance
  - ✓ On the selection of management/monitoring nodes in highly dynamic networks[J]. IEEE Trans. on Computers, [Clegg R.G., 2013]
  - ✓ Towards an information management overlay for emerging networks[C]. [Mamatas L., 2010]

# The *Proposed* framework

## 1. System overview based on SDN +NFV

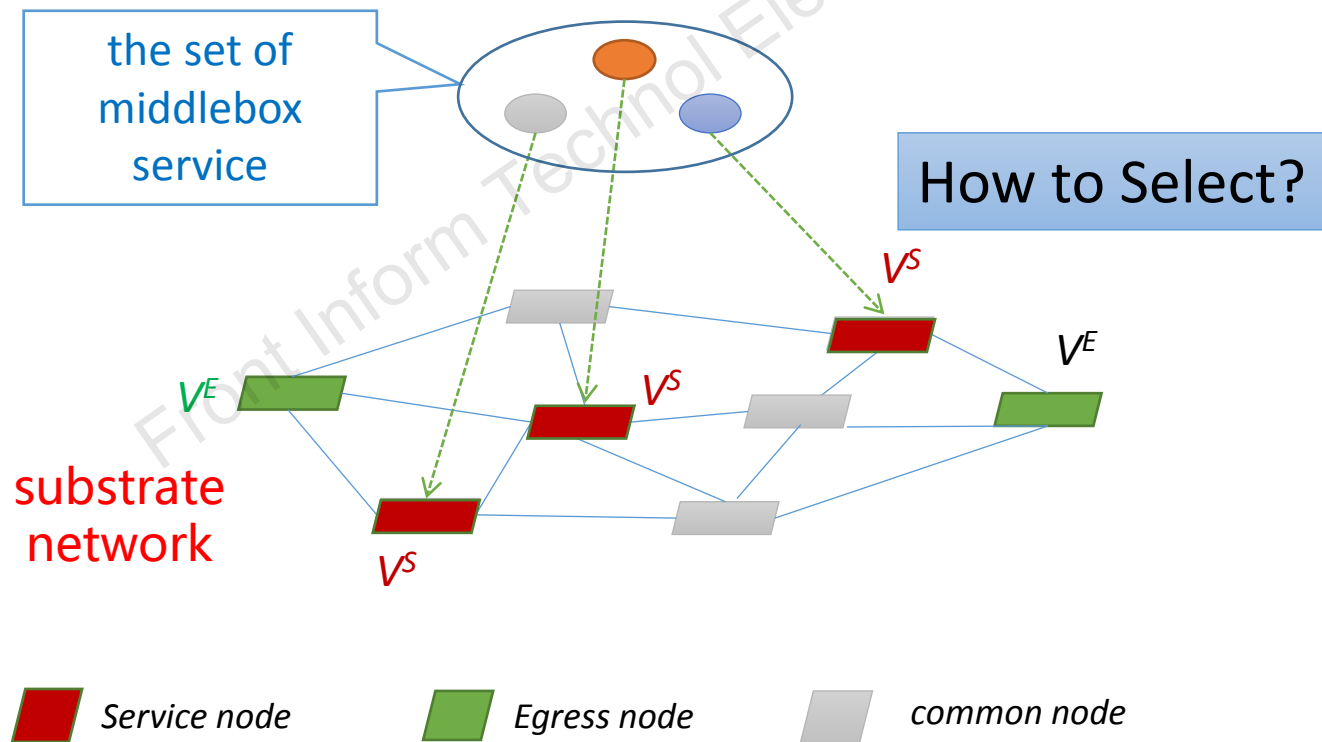
- ✓The control plane is based on the SDN controller (such as ONOS)
- ✓The data plane is based on the NFV platform (such as clickos)



# The *Proposed* framework

## 2. Mathematical model for the service location selection

- ✓ Modeling by integer linear programming
- ✓ Solving by improved quantum genetic algorithm



## 2. Mathematical model for the service location selection

### ● Modeling by integer linear programming

#### ✓ Variables:

- Service location variable  $x_i = \{0, 1\}, i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .

#### ✓ Objective: find *the minimum total transport delay* under the optimal location solution

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^N x_i d(v_i, v_i^E) + \sum_{i=1}^N (1 - x_i) d(v_i, v_i^S)$$

#### ✓ Constraints:

- Service location constraint

$$v_i^S = \{v_n \mid v_n \in V, x_n = 1, d(v_i, v_n) = \arg \min_{j \in N, x_j = 1} d(v_i, v_j)\}, \forall v_i \in V;$$

- Egress location constraint

$$v_i^E = \{v_k \mid v_k \in V^E, d(v_i, v_k) = \arg \min_{v_j \in V^E} d(v_i, v_j)\}, \forall v_i \in V;$$



## 2. Mathematical model for the service location selection

### ● Solving by improved quantum genetic algorithm

① Getting the shortest path matrix  $\mathbf{D} = \left[ d(v_i, v_j) \right]_{N \times N}$

② Initialization of algorithm

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle, \alpha^2 + \beta^2 = 1 \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_1 & \psi_2 & \cdots & \psi_N \\ \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \cdots & \alpha_N \\ \beta_1 & \beta_2 & \cdots & \beta_N \end{bmatrix}$$

③ Measuring the observation value

$$X_C = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$$

④ Fitness calculation

$$Fit(X_C) = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N x_i d(v_i, v_i^E) + \sum_{i=1}^N (1-x_i) d(v_i, v_i^S) \right]^{-1}$$

⑤ Adaptive adjustment

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha'_{mi} \\ \beta'_{mi} \end{bmatrix} = U(\theta) \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{mi} \\ \beta_{mi} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_i & -\sin \theta_i \\ \sin \theta_i & \cos \theta_i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{mi} \\ \beta_{mi} \end{bmatrix}$$

⑥ Quantum variation and quantum crossover

# Simulation Setup

## ● Experimental environment

- ✓ *a computer equipped with an Intel(R) Core(TM) i7 CPU 2.67 GHz processor with 2 cores, and 4 GB RAM.*

- ✓ *The GT-ITM Tool is used for generating different network topologies*

## ● Performance metrics

- ✓ *overall delay of network traffic*

- ✓ *the average delay of each flow*

# Results: Comparison of algorithms

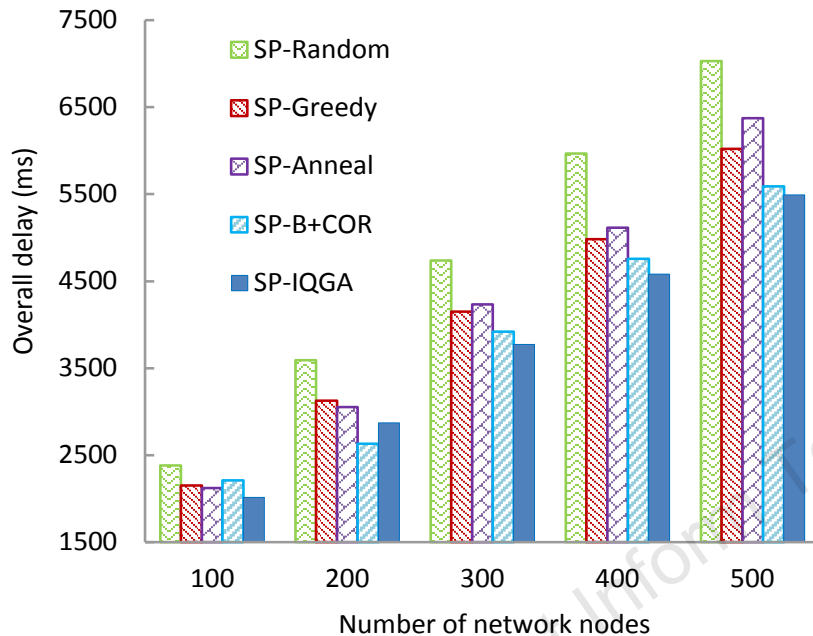


Fig. 7 Overall transport delay comparison under different network sizes

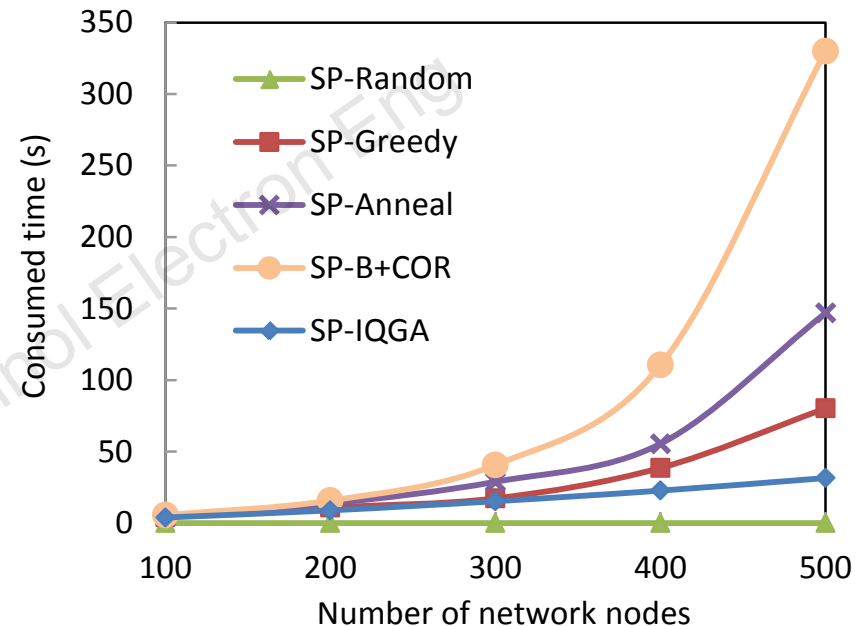


Fig. 8 Time cost comparison under different network sizes

# Results: Comparison of algorithms

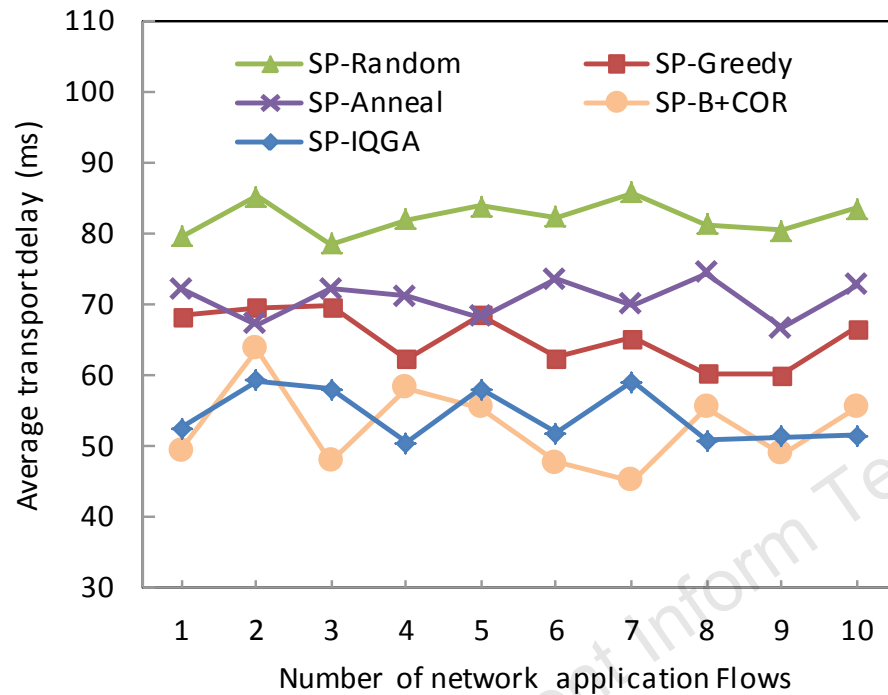


Fig. 9 Average transport delay comparison under different flows

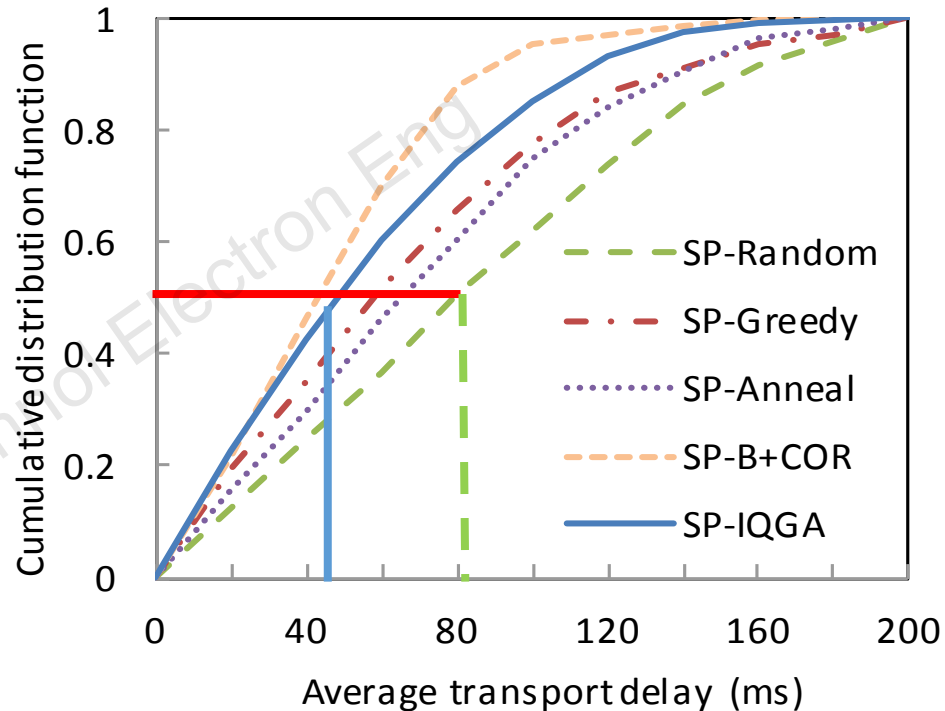


Fig. 10 Transport delay distribution of different strategies

# Conclusions

- We re-examined the virtual middlebox placement problem from the aspect
  - ✓ Reducing the overall delay of traffic
- We proposed a placement framework, which contains two main components
  - ✓ System overview based on SDN+NFV
  - ✓ Service location selection algorithm