

A Synergy of the Wireless Sensor Network and the Data Center System

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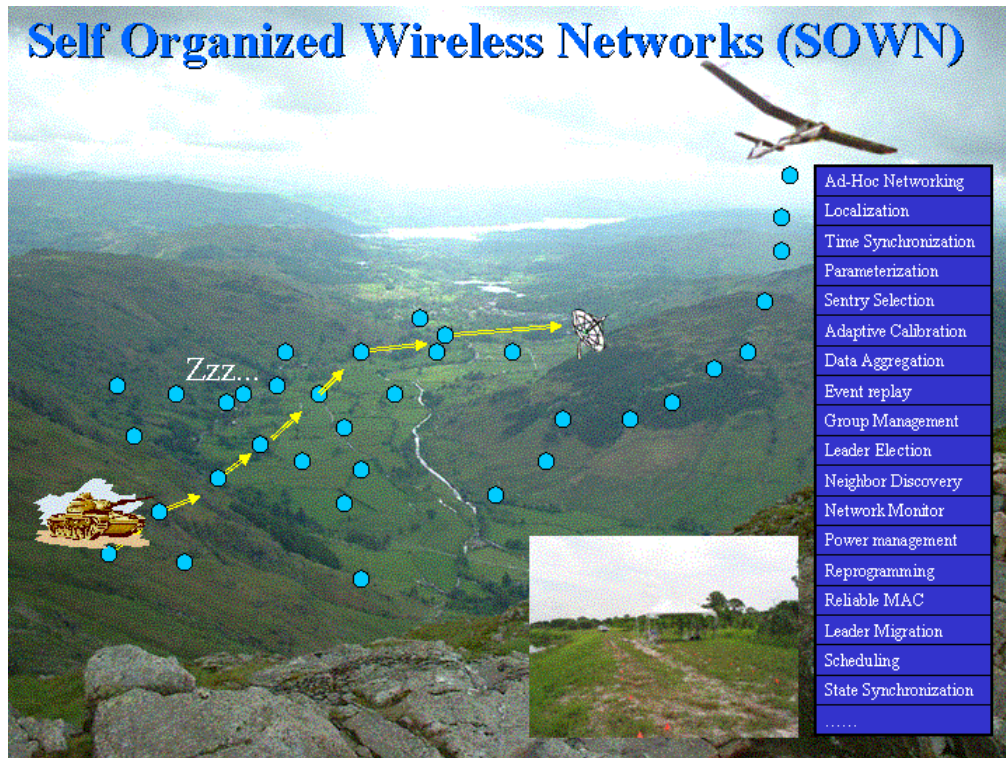
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Data Center vs. Sensornet

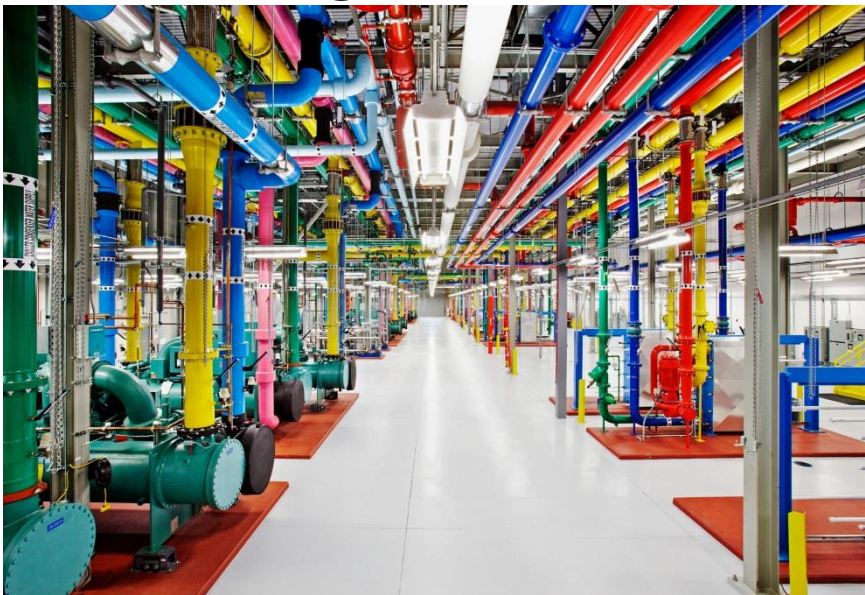
- Both distributed, dense, scalable
 - 300 nodes in VigilNet, hundreds in GreenOrbs, 1000+ in ExScal

Self Organized Wireless Networks (SOWN)



Data Center vs. Sensornet

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 - Thousands of compute servers organized in racks [Google, Microsoft Quincy]

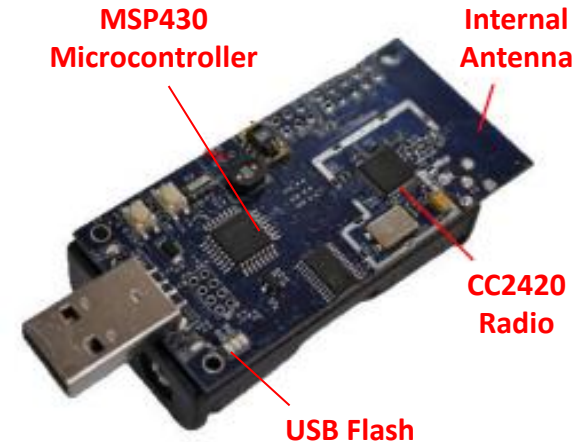


Data Center vs. Sensornet

- Both distributed, dense, scalable
 - 300 nodes in VigilNet, hundreds in GreenOrbs, 1000+ in ExScal
 - Thousands of compute servers organized in racks [Google, Microsoft Quincy]
- Low-end and high-end of computation
 - Limited computing resource on each sensor node
 - Abundant computing resources on rack servers

Related Work

- Sensornet in data centers
 - “Cool” scheduling [USENIX ‘05]
 - RACNet [SenSys ‘09]
 - Thermocast [KDD ‘11]



- The combined computational and networking capability of a sensornet enables it to interact with compute clusters in a more sophisticated way

Cluster-Area Sensor Network

- CASN as a complementary solution
 - To improve the cluster management
 - To enhance the operational security
- Cluster-wide command dissemination
- Verification of server's physical presence

Management in Data Centers

- Software reprogramming on compute servers
 - System settings, configuration files, software upgrade
 - Usually performed on a management station
 - Require certain manual operations
- Why not wirelessly broadcast commands and small files via a sensornet?
 - Wireless as a convenient and flexible broadcast medium


Security Hints

Step 1 Security Check Step 2 Verify Account **Step 3 Review Recent Activity** Step 4 Review Information Step 5 Restore Account

Do you recognize the following suspicious login?

Suspicious Login

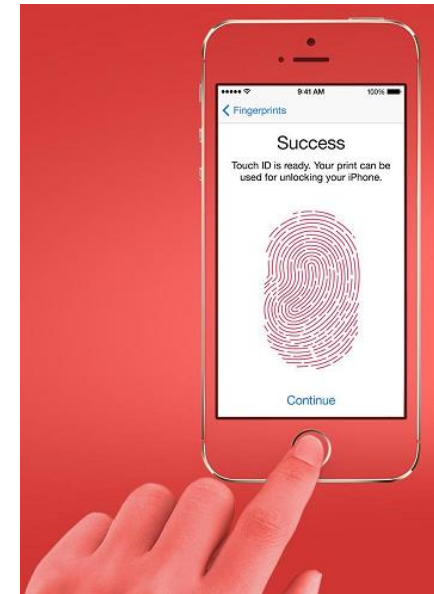
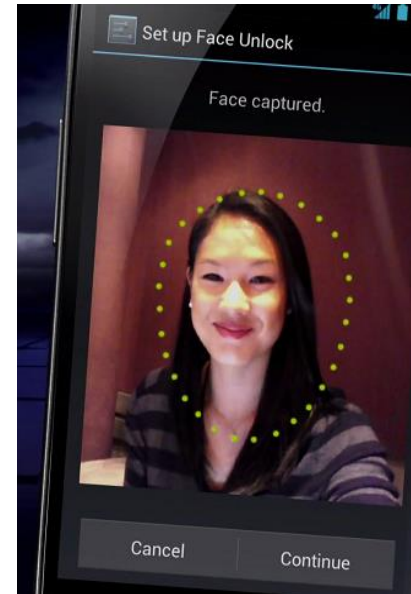
- 🚫 **Sydney, AU**
Today at 9:54pm using Firefox for Win7



Your Safe Login Locations

- ✅ **Dortmund, DE** [?]
September 19 at 2:43pm using Firefox for MacOSX
... and 4 other recent logins

[I don't recognize](#) [This is Okay](#)

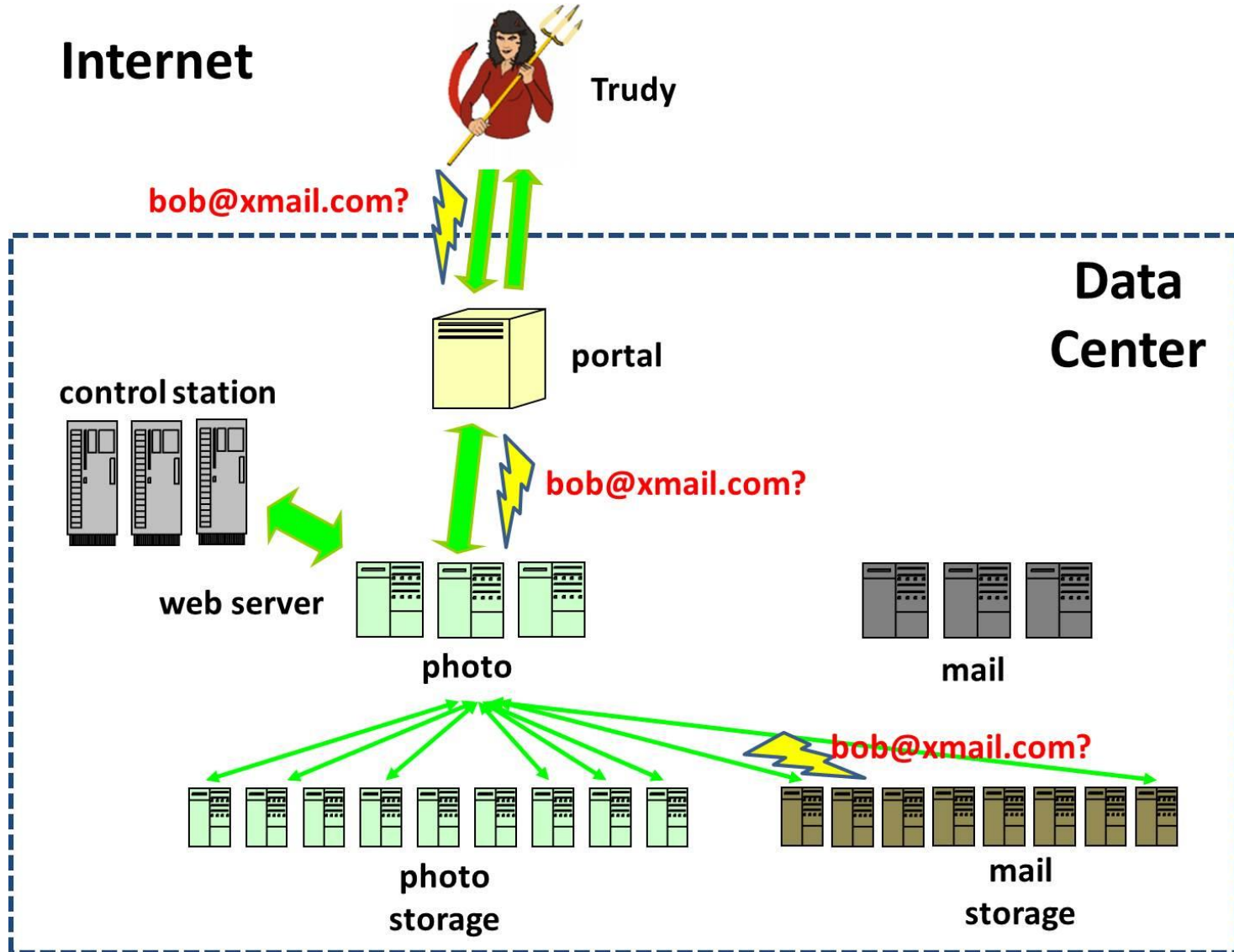


Two-step verification adds an extra layer of protection to your account. Whenever you sign in to the Dropbox website or link a new device, you'll need to enter both your password and a security code sent to your mobile phone.

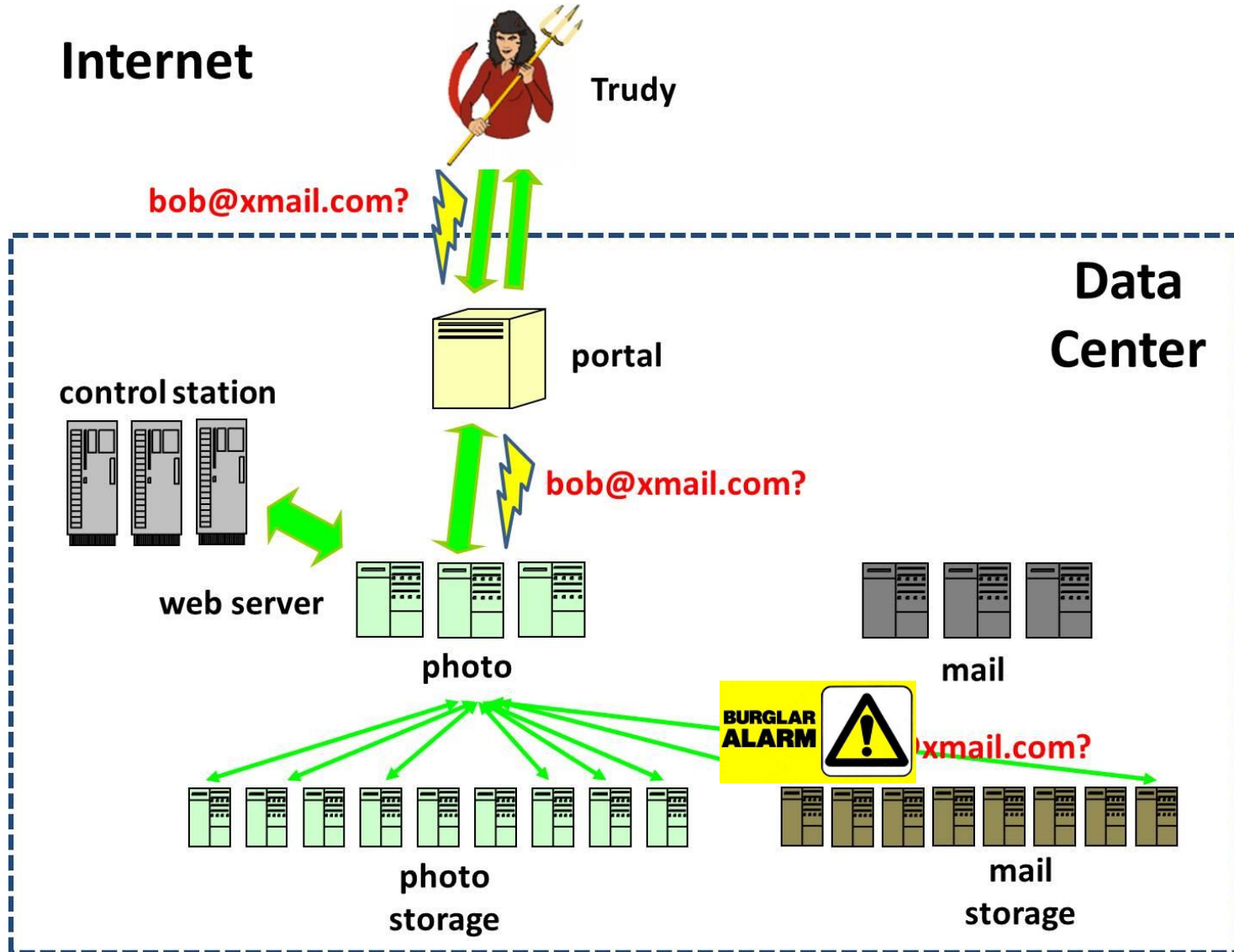
Security in Data Centers

- Existing cryptologic methods do not entirely ensure the operational security of data centers
 - User account leakage at *Yahoo!*, *Sony PlayStation Network* and *Qriocity*
 - Need additional measures for security monitoring
- New security hint: **servers' physical presence**
 - Servers in data centers usually serve different roles (i.e. management, web agent, mail agent, storage)
 - Alarm triggered upon request from strange roles

Access Path Verification

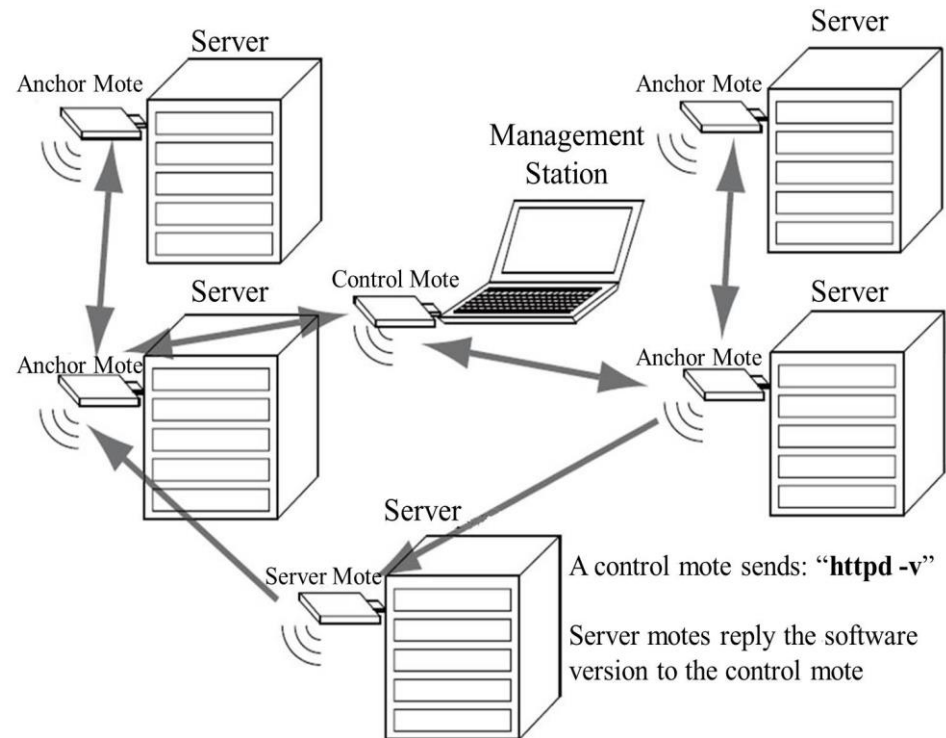


Access Path Verification



CASN Architecture

- System components
 - Sensor network
 - Compute servers
- Three types of motes
 - Control motes
 - Anchor motes
 - Server motes



Prototype Implementation

A prototype of CASN consisting of 1 control mote and 4 anchor motes (Telos B) in a research cluster



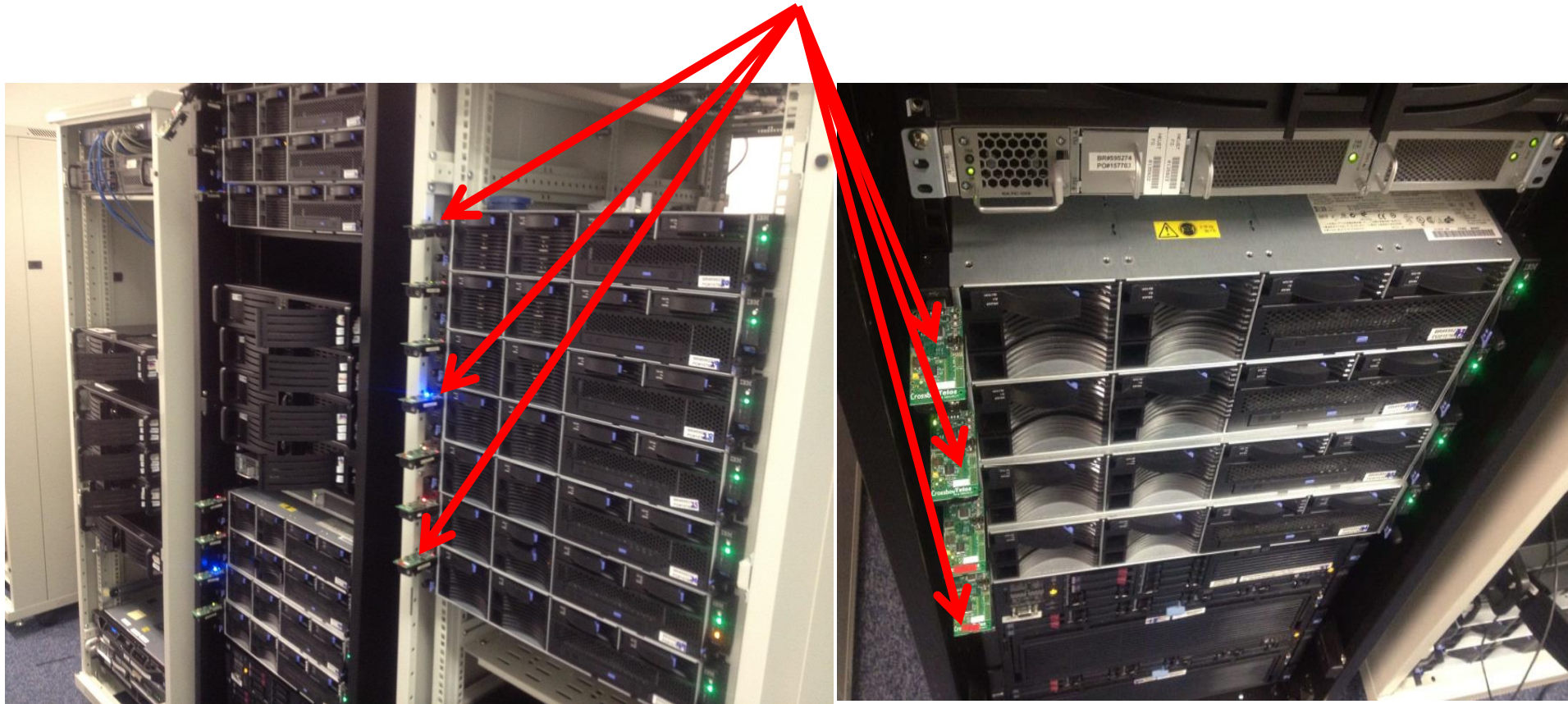
Prototype Implementation

motes attached to servers via USB interfaces



Prototype Implementation

motes attached to servers via USB interfaces

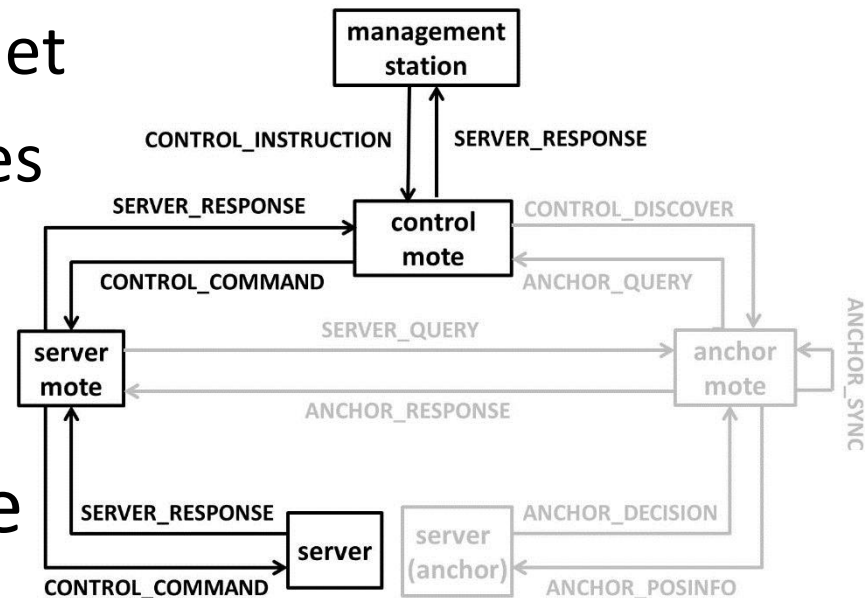


Cluster-Area Sensor Network

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 - To enhance the operational security
- **Cluster-wide command dissemination**
- Verification of server's physical presence

Command Dissemination

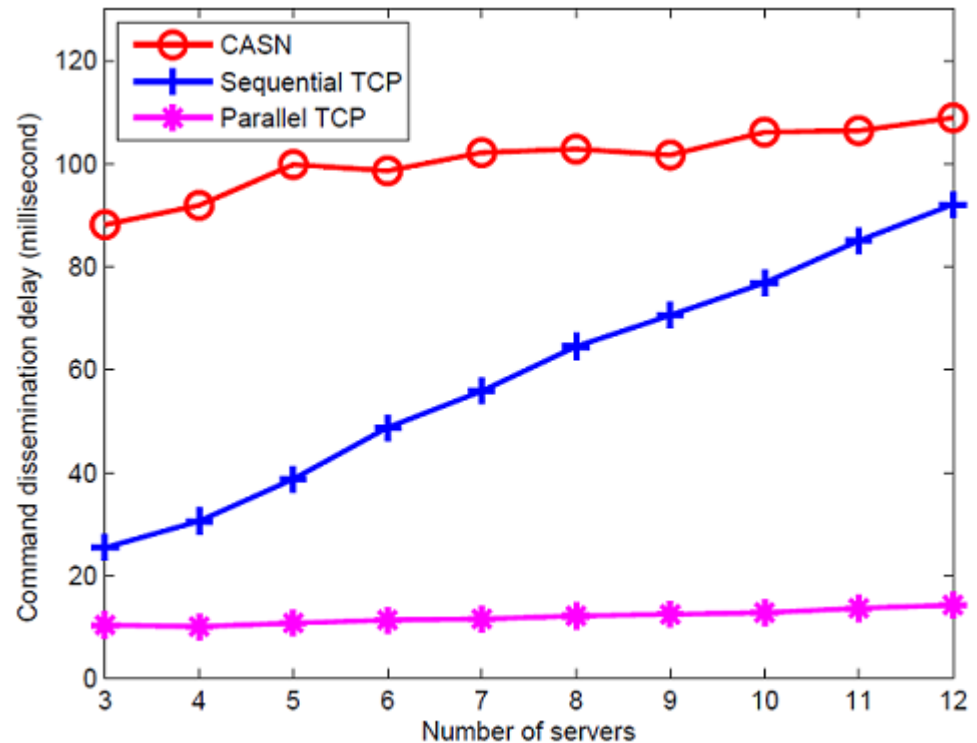
- Workflow of command dissemination
 - Issued from the management station
 - Forwarded to the control mote
 - Broadcasted via sensornet
 - Received by server motes
 - Executed on servers



- Command-line interface

Command Dissemination Delay

- To evaluate the round-trip delay of command dissemination to a number of servers across three racks
- Results
 - Scalable broadcast via sensornet
 - Stable delay

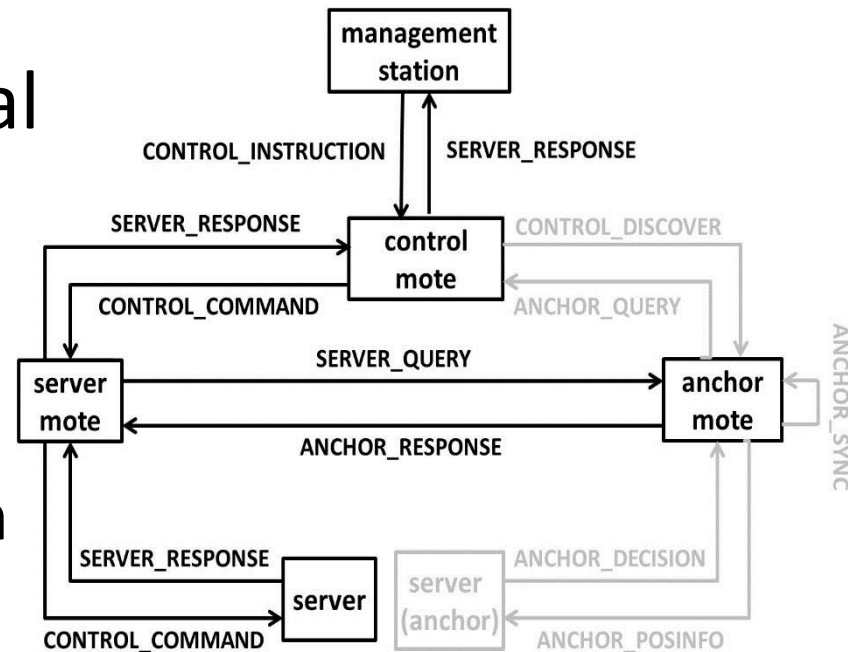


Cluster-Area Sensor Network

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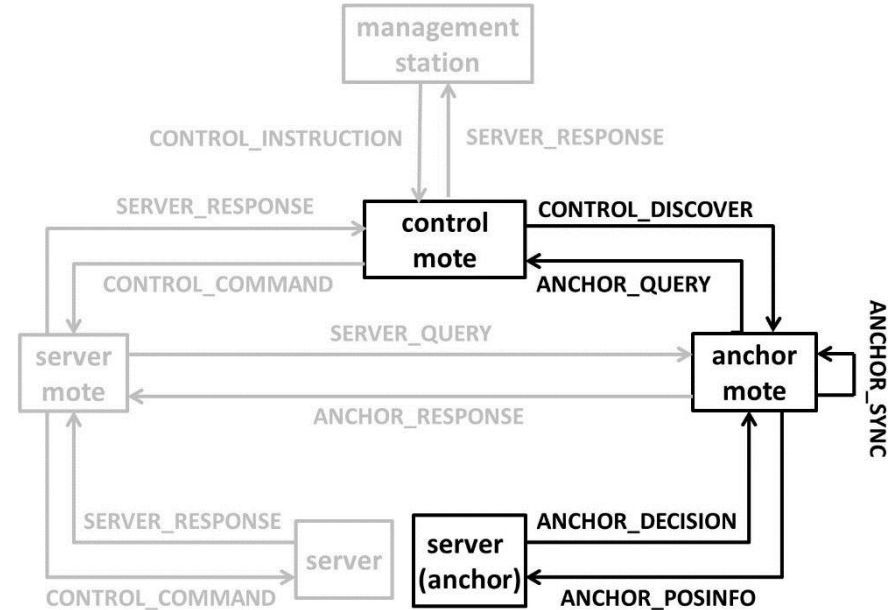
Verification of Physical Presence

- Operations in data center are yet to be secure
 - Example: impersonating the management station
- Example: verify the physical location of a control mote
 - Before execution, server motes query anchor motes for the legitimacy of certain control mote



Localizing Control Motes

- Workflow of physical localization
 - Passive discovery: anchor motes periodically query the location of control motes
 - Active discovery: control mote initiates discovery upon its arrival
 - Anchor motes together localize a control mote to determine its legitimacy

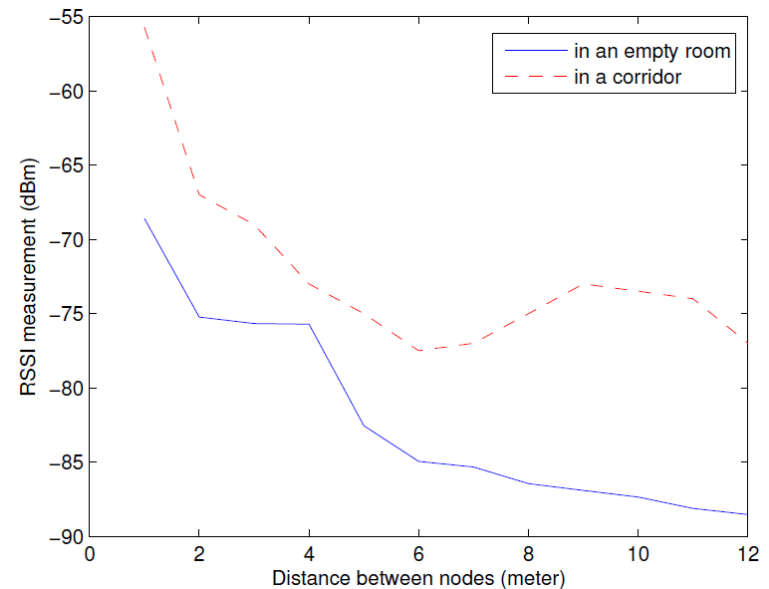


- Suffice with 4 anchors

Radio-based Localization

- Coarse-grained radio-based localization
 - Suffice even at 5-meter precision
 - Inefficacy of RSSI-based ranging approach

$$P(d) = P(d_0) - 10n \log\left(\frac{d}{d_0}\right)$$

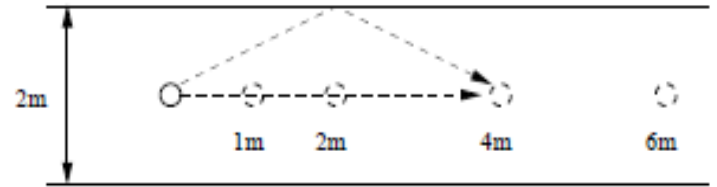


- Necessity for empirical RSSI modeling in a data center environment

Empirical Localization Model

- Cope with the multipath effect by considering indirect signals

$$P(d) = P(d_0) - 10n \log\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^k r_i d_i}{d_0}\right)$$



– $\mathbf{R} = [r_1 \ r_2 \ \dots \ r_k]$ as the amplitude coefficients of signal components

– $\mathbf{D} = [d_1 \ d_2 \ \dots \ d_k]$ as discretized distances of signal components

- Rician distribution used to model amplitudes of indirect signals

$$R(x|\gamma, \sigma) = \frac{x}{\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x^2 + \sigma^2)}{2\sigma^2}} I_0\left(\frac{x\gamma}{\sigma^2}\right)$$

Probabilistic Ranging

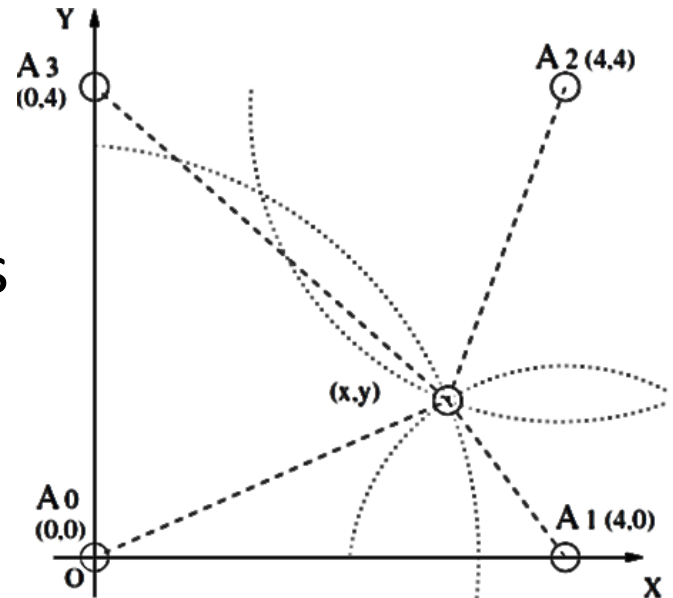
- Solving R in $R * D = d_0 * 10^{\frac{P(d_0) - P(d)}{10n}}$
 - Consider only the 5 shortest reflected signals
 - d_{AB} as the distance between the transmitter A and receiver B (i.e. 2 meters)

$$r_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } d_i < d_{AB} \text{ or } d_i - d_{AB} \geq 2 \\ 1 & \text{if } d_i = d_{AB} \\ a_i * R(d_i - d_{AB}) & \text{if } d_i > d_{AB} \text{ and } d_i - d_{AB} < 2 \end{cases}$$

- Localization: after obtaining the probabilistic ranging results, compute the most plausible location using trilateration

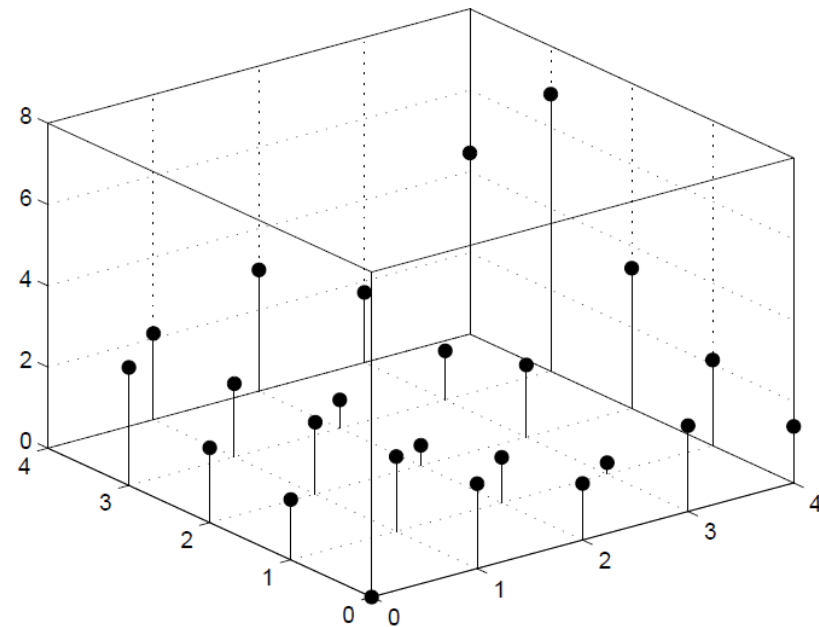
Reduce Computation Cost

- Computationally costly for all possible cases
 - In total K^H cases for H RSSI measurements per transmission, give that each maps to K Rs
- Reduce computation cost by
 - Narrowing down distances by applying geometric constraints
 - Utilizing the known distances between anchors



Localization Accuracy

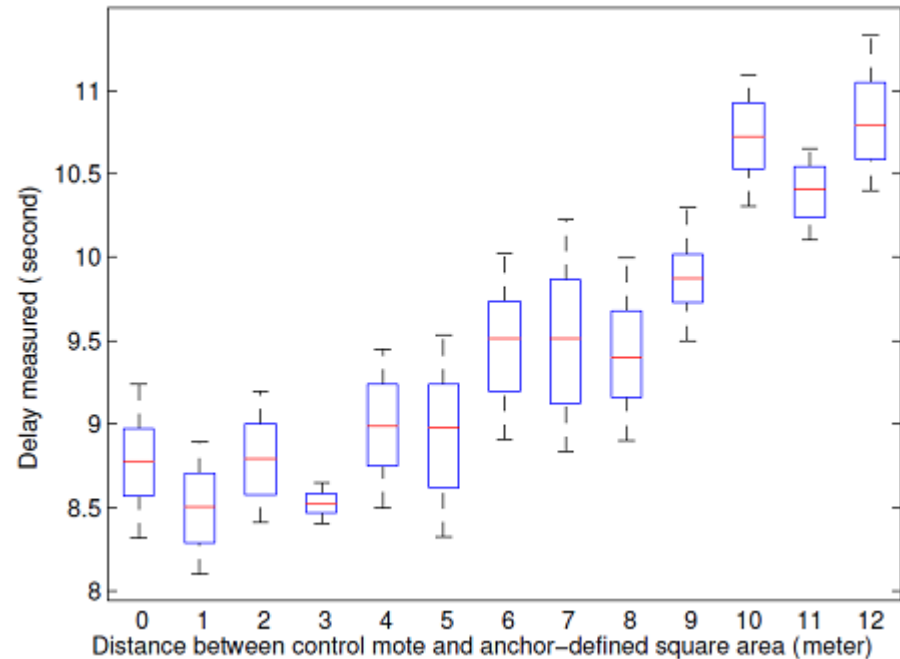
- Evaluate the localization accuracy in a 4m x 4m square field defined by A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3
 - Localization error $e = \sqrt{(x' - x)^2 + (y' - y)^2}$
- Results
 - 88% of localization errors within 5 meters
 - Errors for positions inside the square within 2 meters



Localization Delay

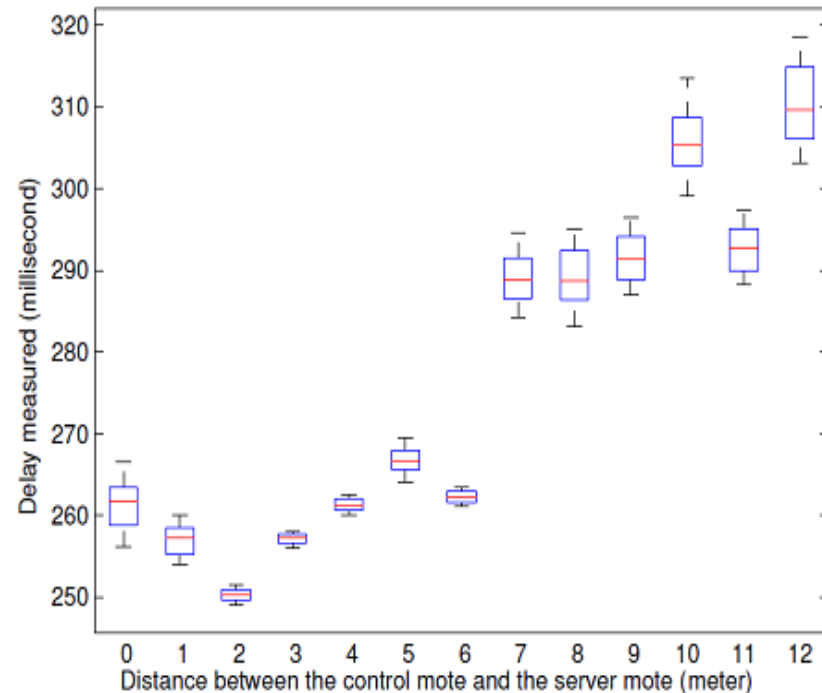
- To evaluate the localization delay by varying the distance between a control and an anchor mote inside the 4m x 4m square field

- Results
 - Overall 8-12 seconds
 - Small variation
 - Acceptable with 30-sec localizing period



Reprogramming Delay of CASN

- Reprogramming delay: command dissemination delay + physical verification delay
- Results
 - Less than 300 milliseconds with distance closer than 10 meters
 - Low enough for effective command dissemination



Summary

- We design and implement a cluster-area sensor network in a data center
 - Wireless cluster-wide command dissemination
 - Empirical localization for verification of server's physical presence
- Future work
 - CASN with fingerprint-based localization
 - CASN in geographically distributed data centers

Q&A

Thank You!

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