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Auction-based Scheduling for Interactive Grid Applications

Jochen Stößer













Auction-based Scheduling

GREEDEX – A Truthful and Scalable Auction Mechanism

Preliminary Simulation Results

Conclusion & Outlook



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- Multicomputer Operating System for UnIX (www.mosix.org)
- Developed by the group of Prof. Barak at Hebrew University
- Objective: Virtualization of a cluster/grid of clusters on the operation system level → transparent and seamless access to distributed resources
- Cluster-enabled Linux-system
 - Extensions to the Linux kernel
- Jobs are automatically being migrated to faster nodes in the cluster/grid
 - Job: set of processes \rightarrow CPU and memory
 - Node: a computer (server), offering CPU and memory
 - Scheduling: load-balancing

Motivation: MOSIX







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- Allocative efficiency: maximize overall "happiness", no waste
- Budget balance: no outside payments
- Computational tractability: compute market outcome in polynomial time
- Individual rationality: no individual loss from participating
- Truthfulness: report true characteristics to the system



Auction mechanisms





Exact Mechanisms – Allocation





 \Rightarrow (optimal) welfare V* = \$3,420

- Vickrey-Clarke-Groves mechanism: not budget-balanced
- Parkes: budget-balanced, but only approximately truthful

(theoretically) computationally intractable



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GREEDEX – Motivation

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Is it possible to

- exploit the restrictions of the MOSIX scenario (computing power and memory only) so as to
- design a market mechanism which is...





GREEDEX – Allocation

A greedy heuristic:

- Rank jobs and nodes wrt to some norm, e.g. b_i, r_n ۲
- Sequentially run through the job ranking and for each job j ٠
 - Sequentially run through the node ranking
 - Assign j to the nodes with the highest ranking which can together accommodate j

$$\Rightarrow \text{maximize } b_j - r_n: \quad \max_X V \coloneqq \sum_{j \in J} \underline{c}_j \sum_{t \in T^b(j)} \sum_{n \in N(j)} x_{jn}(b_j - r_n)$$



Heuristics

Winner determination

Pricina

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Basic idea for the pricing:

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- The payment of each job depends on its critical value, i.e. the minimum valuation it would have needed to report to the mechanism in order to still remain in the allocation.
- The possible surplus (total revenue minus reservation prices) is distributed to the nodes so as to induce approximately truthful reports of reservation prices.

In the example: $\Phi_{J1}(A, b_{-J1}) = \$5 \rightarrow p_{J1} = \$600$ $\Phi_{J2}(A, b_{-J2}) = \$5 \rightarrow p_{J2} = \$1,200$ $\Phi_{J3}(A, b_{-J3}) = \$7 \rightarrow p_{J3} = \$2,520$ $\Phi_{J4}(A, b_{-J4}) = \$8 \rightarrow p_{J4} = \$2,080$ $p_{J5} = p_{J6} = p_{J7} = 0$

GREEDEX – Pricing





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- feed both mechanisms with identical order streams
- successively increase number of orders on both sides from 10, 20, 30, ... up to 170 orders per side
- run each setting 30 times
- exact mechanism is run with CPLEX 9.1 and stopped after a predefined time limit → "anytime" behavior
- underlying distributions:
 - attributes cpu and memory: lognormal distribution (cf. Feitelson)
 - time slots: normal distribution
 - valuations: uniform



Preliminary results – runtime behavior





Preliminary results – runtime behavior





Preliminary results – efficiency ratio





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positive results

- preliminary simulation results showcase the speedy allocation scheme and high efficiency ratio
- truthfulness of critical-valuebased pricing is analytically proven

negative results

- there is no payment scheme which can complement the greedy allocation algorithm so as to generate truthful payments to resource providers
- worst-case efficiency ratio can be made arbitrarily bad



- analyze
 - alternative norms, pricing schemes
 - lookahead extensions, random-based ranking
 - strategic behavior

- ...

- run simulations with real workload traces from MOSIX
- design a true online mechanism

Thanks for your attention!





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