Decentralized modular architecture for live video analytics at the edge

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Why Edge for Video Analytics?

- Increase in CCTV cameras
  ⇒ High data influx
  ⇒ More video analytics pipelines
    ○ for safety, security and traffic control

- Why not continue using cloud?
  ○ Network Congestion
  ○ Real-time requirement
Challenges

● Scenes observed by cameras change over time
  ○ Lighting conditions
  ○ Visibility
  ○ Traffic conditions

● Mobility of cameras
  ○ More information
  ○ Blind spots

⇒ Changing network conditions
Edge deployment challenges

- Resource constraints
- Video analytics ⇒ GPU
- Heterogeneity
  - Accelerators - GPU, TPU
  - New nodes with new technologies like FPGA, ASIC
  - Upgrading ⇒ Gradual roll-out

- Distribution of load
Prior works

- **Rocket**  
  Microsoft Research Blog, 2020  
  - Live video analytics  
  - Pipeline with pluggable models  
  - Offload to Azure cloud

- **Spatula**  
  SEC, 2020  
  - Cross-camera analytics  
  - Temporal and spatial correlations

- **Chameleon**  
  SIGCOMM, 2018  
  - Adaptation to scene of video stream - Accuracy vs speed  
  - Adaptation using cross camera inference

- **JCAB**  
  INFOCOM, 2020  
  - Optimize config and bandwidth allocation  
  - Network conditions, Energy Util, Processing latency and video scene

- **Hetero-Edge**  
  INFOCOM, 2020  
  - Distributes tasks and exploit concurrency  
  - Not decentralized

- **VideoEdge, Follow Me at Edge**  
  SEC, 2018; JSAC, 2018  
  - Task placement and migration in mobile cameras
Design goals

1. Vision pipeline modularity

2. Improved latency and resource utilization

3. Adaptability
Vision pipeline modularity: Split-process execution

- Processing is sequential
- Each block as an independent microservice
- Easy addition of new functions
Improved latency and resource utilization

- Parallel utilization
- Sharing of common functions
- Conditional processing of functions
Improved latency and resource utilization

- Parallel utilization
- Sharing of common functions
- Conditional processing of functions
Adaptability

- Every task on one node
- Distributing all the tasks across different nodes in different networks

Our Solution - Partly distributing the tasks among different networks
Experimental Setup

- **NVIDIA Jetson Nano**
  - Quad-core CPU
  - 128-core GPU
  - 4 GB shared RAM

- **Functions**
  - HTTP based microservices
  - Containers
    - CPU utilization and binding
  - Future - kubernetes like

- **Traffic Control (TC)**
  - Network Emulation (netem)
  - LAN - 1ms, 100 Mbps
  - WAN - 40 ms, 50 Mbps
Experimental Setup

Applications Implemented

- Vehicle Counting
- Vehicle Color Recognition

Blocks implemented

- Decoding
- Compression/resize
- Object Detection
- Vehicle Counter
- Cropping
- Recognition
Evaluation

1. How is the resource utilization?
   ○ Memory, CPU, GPU utilization

2. Does distribution of blocks affect the performance?

Baseline -

Both application pipelines on a single machine
Evaluation - Memory Utilization

Baseline consumes more memory
Obj detection needs more memory
Evaluation - CPU and GPU Utilization

Change in processor utilization in single node pipeline over time

Change in processor utilization in distributed pipeline over time

GPU Util is sparse

Distributed pipeline processes more frames per sec
Evaluation - Impact of distribution of blocks

Amount of data transferred over LAN and WAN in different distributions

Time taken per frame in different settings
Conclusion

- Modular decentralized architecture for video analytics at edge
- Functions splitting and distribution
- Feasibility study - more utilization and throughput

Future work-

- Easy programming construct - new blocks, pipelines
- Automated pipeline deployment
- Block deployment strategies
Thanks for your attention

Any Questions?

Summary-
- Modular decentralized architecture for video analytics at edge
- Functions splitting and distribution
- Feasibility study - more utilization and throughput

Future work-
- Automated pipeline deployment
- Block deployment strategies
- Easy programming construct