# NADA: A Unified Congestion Control Scheme for Real-Time Media 

Xiaoqing Zhu and Rong Pan<br>Advanced Architecture \& Research<br>Cisco Systems

March 2013

## Agenda

- Design goals
- Network congestion signals
- Receiver behavior
- Sender operations
- Highlight of results


## Design Goal \#1: Limit Self-Inflicted Delay



network queue


network queue

## Design Goal \#2: Leverage A Suite of Feedback Mechanisms



## Design Goal \#3: Weighted Bandwidth Sharing



## Congestion Signals At the Network Node



Avg. Queue Occupancy


## Receiver Behavior

- Obtain per-packet observations:

$$
d_{n}=t_{r, n}-t_{s, n} \quad \mathbf{1}_{M}:=\left\{\begin{array}{ll}
0, & \text { no marking } \\
1, & \text { w } / \text { marking }
\end{array} \mathbf{1}_{L}:= \begin{cases}0, & \text { no loss } \\
1, & \text { w/ loss }\end{cases}\right.
$$

- Calculate equivalent delay:

$$
\tilde{d}_{n}=d_{n}+\mathbf{1}_{M} \stackrel{\downarrow}{d_{M}}+\mathbf{1}_{L} d_{L}^{\downarrow}
$$

- Exponential smoothing:

$$
x_{n}=(1-\alpha) x_{n-1}+\alpha \tilde{d}_{n}
$$

## Sender Operation



- Linear prediction:

$$
\hat{x}=x_{n}+\frac{\left(x_{n}-x_{n-1}\right)}{\delta} \tau_{o}
$$

- Calculate target rate:

$$
R_{o}=R_{\min }+w\left(R_{\max }-R_{\min }\right) \frac{x_{r e f}}{\hat{x}_{n}}
$$

- Adjust for sending buffer:

$$
R_{s}=R_{o}+\beta \frac{L_{s}}{\tau_{v}}
$$

## Result at Equilibrium



## Simulation Setup



- Six competing streams
- Comparison of three modes: w/o ECN, ECN-based, and PCN-based.


## Without ECN: Per-Stream Rate



## Without ECN: Bottleneck Queue Length



## Without ECN: Congestion Signal



## Without ECN: Packet Loss Ratio



## With ECN: Congestion Signal



## With PCN: Congestion Signal



## Key Benefits of NADA

- Fast rate adaptation
- Weighted bandwidth sharing
- Graceful transition within a range of congestion signals: delay, loss, ECN/PCN markings
- In case of PCN: zero standing queue

$.1|\cdot| l \mid$.<br>cISCO

## Backup Slides

## System Overview



## Slow-Start Rate



$$
R_{s s}(t)=R_{\min }+\frac{t-t_{o}}{T}\left(R_{\max }-R_{\min }\right)
$$

time horizon

