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Efficient Online Virtual Machines Migration for Alert-Based Disaster Resilience

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- Background
 - Weather-Based Disasters
 - Data Center Virtualization
 - Virtual Machines (VMs) Migration
- Disaster-Resilient Online VM Migration
 - Motivation
 - Problem Statement
 - Integer Linear Programming Model
 - Evaluation Settings
 - Results
- Conclusion

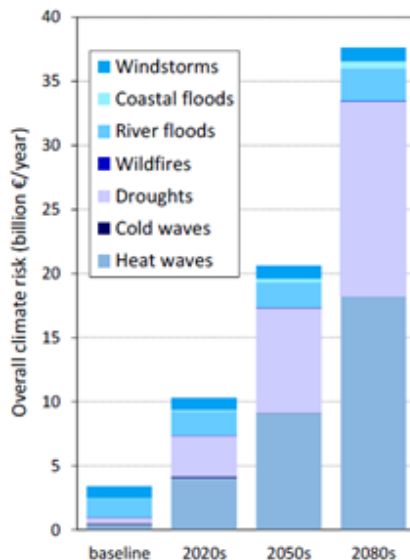


Background

Weather-Based Disasters

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- Welcome to Anthropocene!
 - Geological era when/where earth system processes (e.g., atmospheric) are altered by humans
- Extreme weather conditions will become much more common
 - Europe is expected to see a progressive and very strong climate change



2017 was the most costly year ever due to weather-based disasters (€3.4 billion)



Source: "Escalating impacts of climate extremes on critical infrastructures in Europe", *Global Environmental Change*, 2017



Weather-Based Disasters: impact on data centers

- 10% of data center disruptions are caused by natural disasters*
- **Hurricane Sandy, New York, 2012:** Sudden flooding caused extensive data center disruption
 - **Backup systems were located in same geographic area!!**
- Data evacuation as a prime solution.. But **is it enough in the five 9's availability era?**



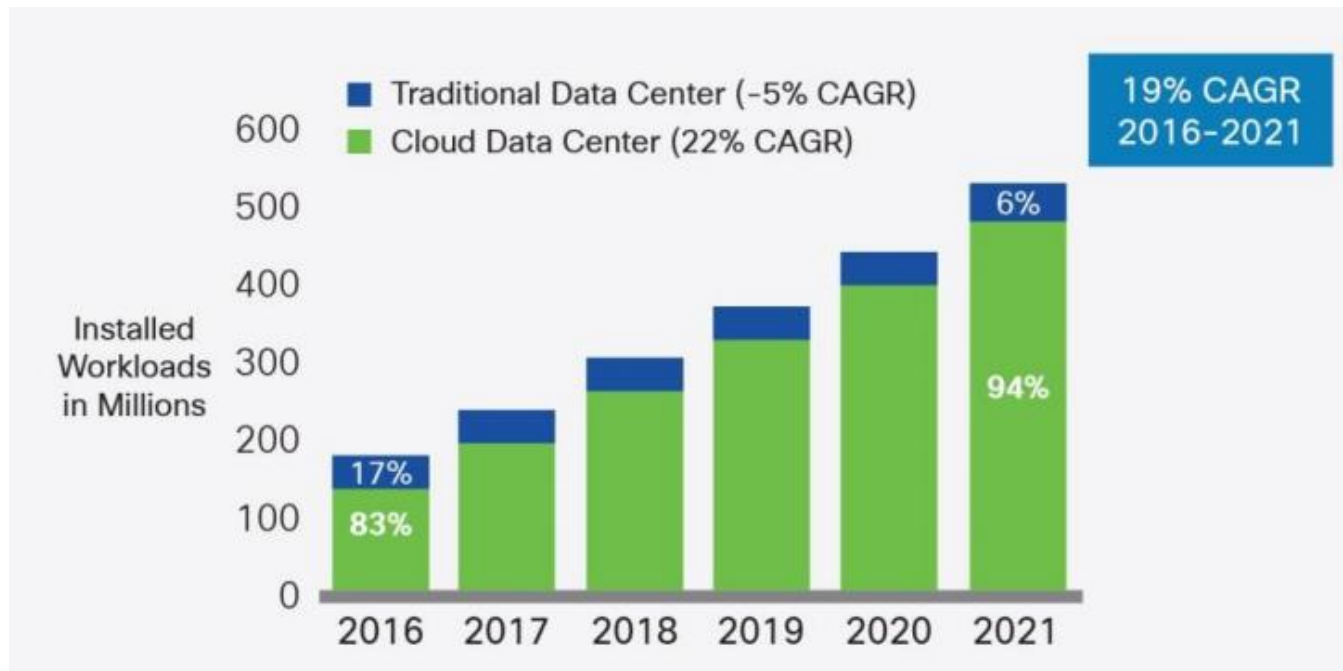
Rethinking disaster resiliency

Not only avoid data-loss but also avoid service-disruptions thanks to data center virtualization

*Source: <https://www.365datacenters.com>



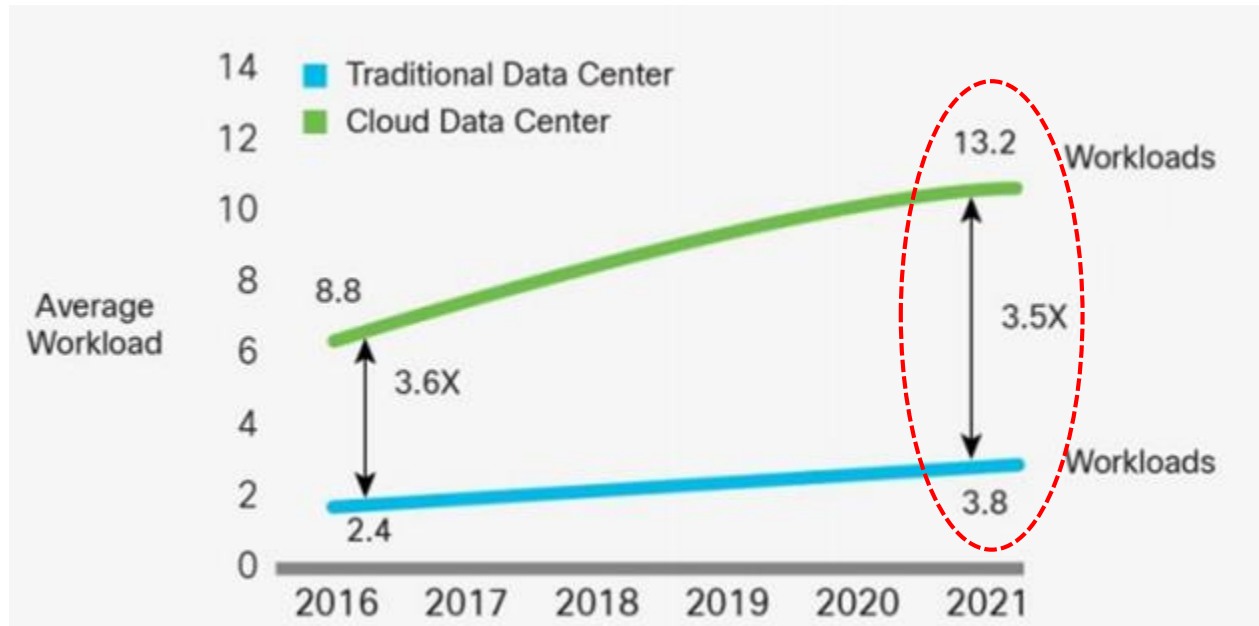
- Continued global data center virtualization
 - 83% of all DC workload were in Virtual Machines (VMs) in 2016
 - Expected to reach 94% in 2021



Source: Cisco Global Cloud Index, 2016-2021



- Main factors to DC virtualization:
 - Higher physical resource utilization (*3.5X with virtualization*)

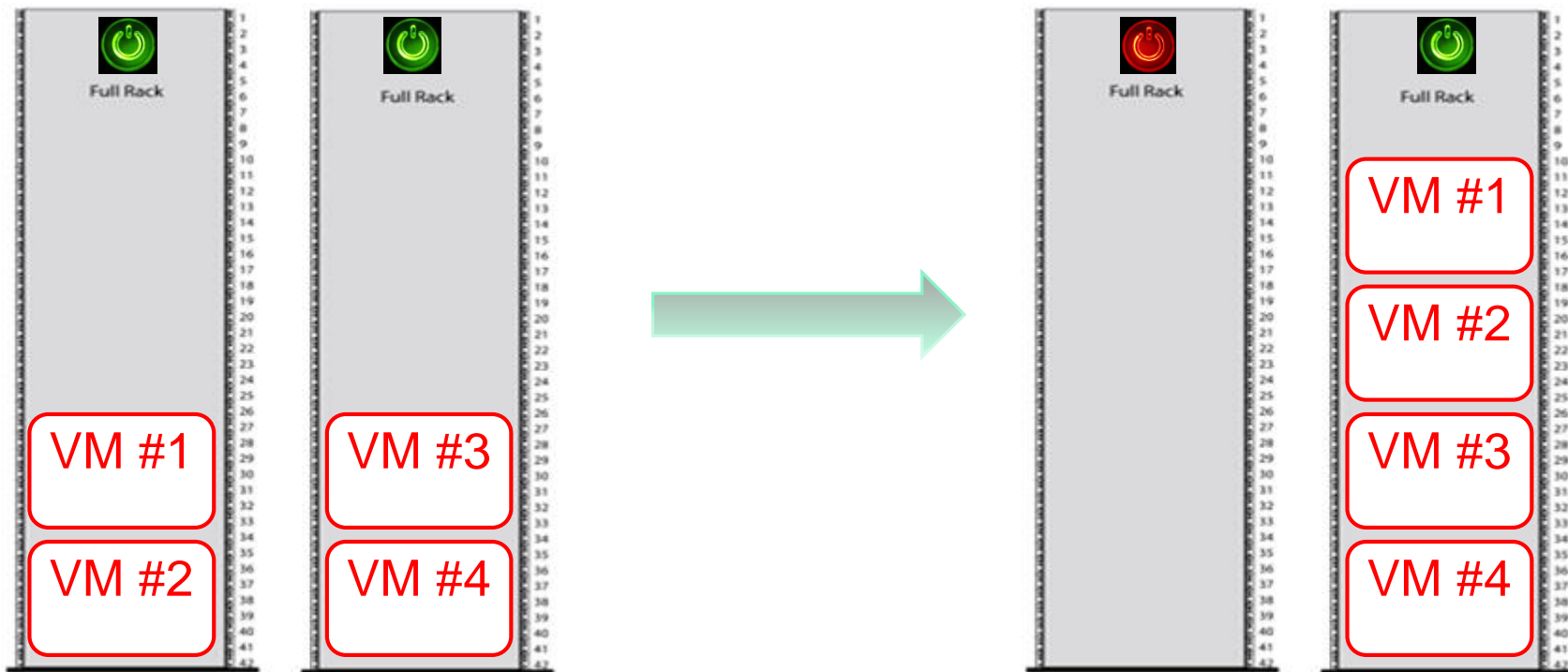


Source: Cisco Global Cloud Index, 2016-2021

- Dynamic migration of VM/workloads to meet dynamic demands
- VMs Migration: Transferring all VM data, i.e., disk memory and processors states from one server to another



- Consolidating VMs into servers and servers into racks
- Objective: **power** (..hence cost) **savings**

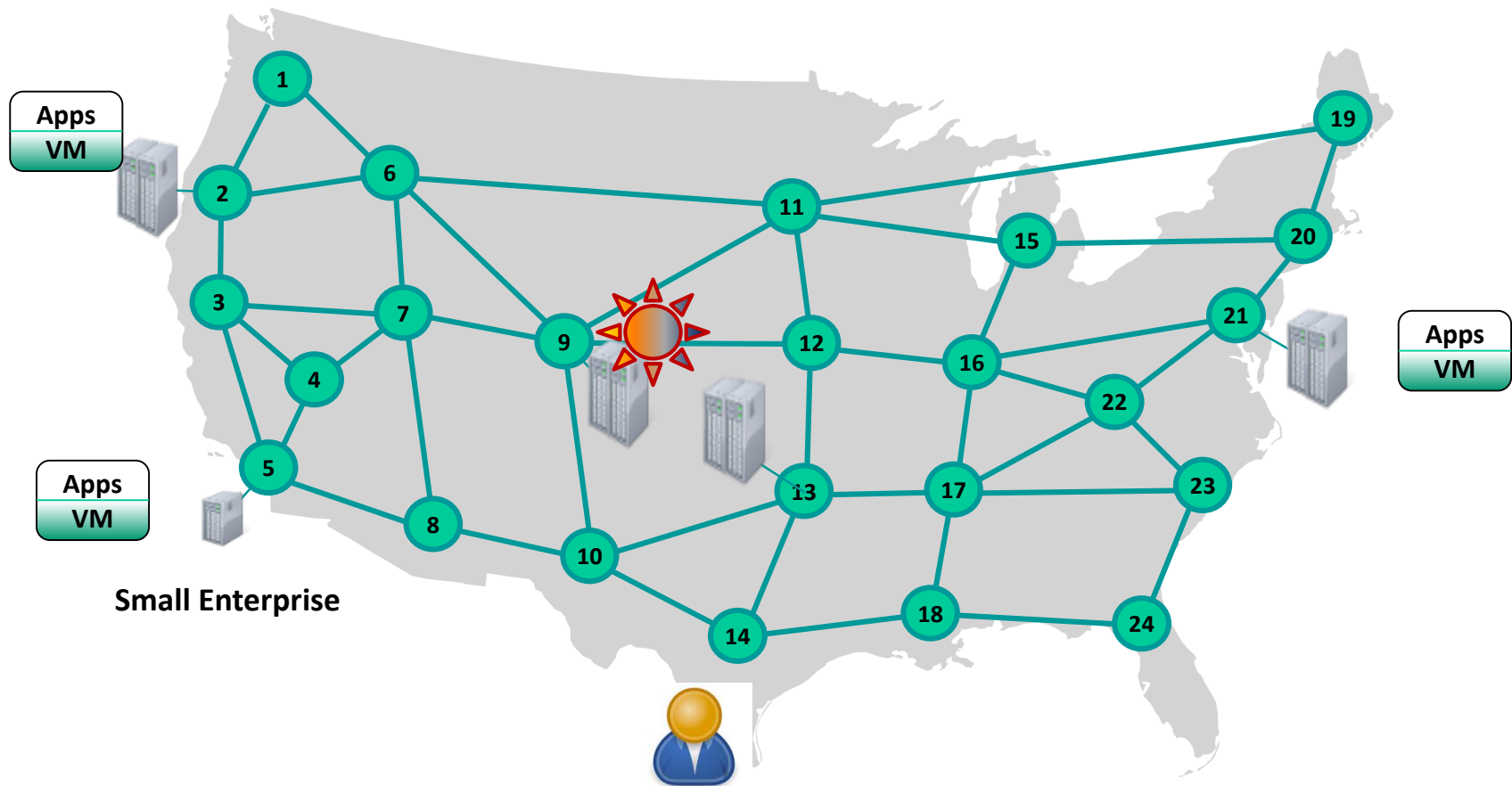


Each rack has its own power
and cooling



VM Migration: Inter-Data Center

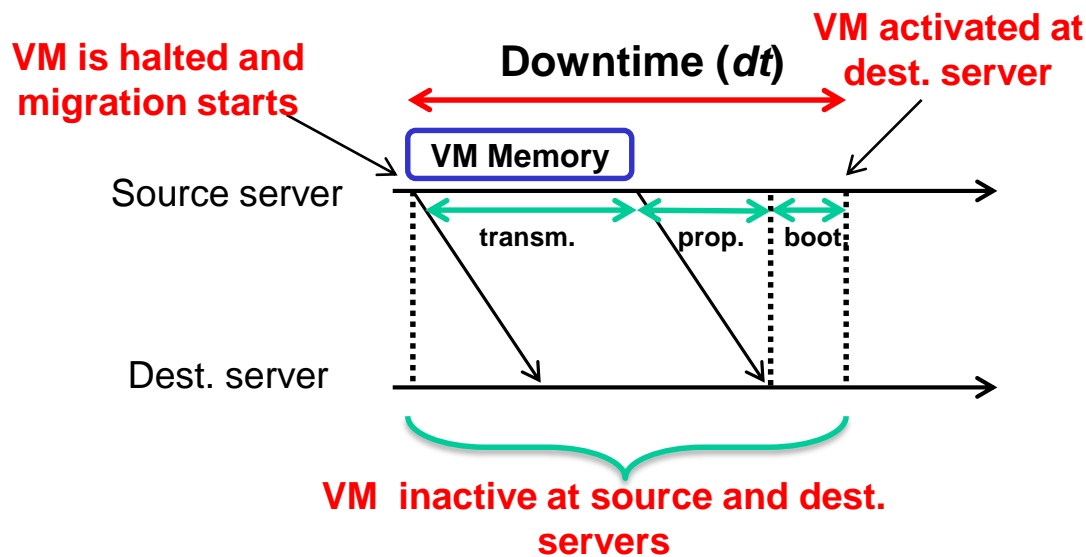
- Still consolidating VMs into servers and servers into racks, but across geographically distributed DCs
- Objectives: **quality of service, cloud bursting, use of renewable energy**





VMs Migration: Offline vs. Online

- Offline
 - VM is halted at the source
 - All data (we refer to this by *VM size*) is transferred
 - VM is set up again at destination



$$T_{mig,off} = \frac{VM\ size}{B}$$

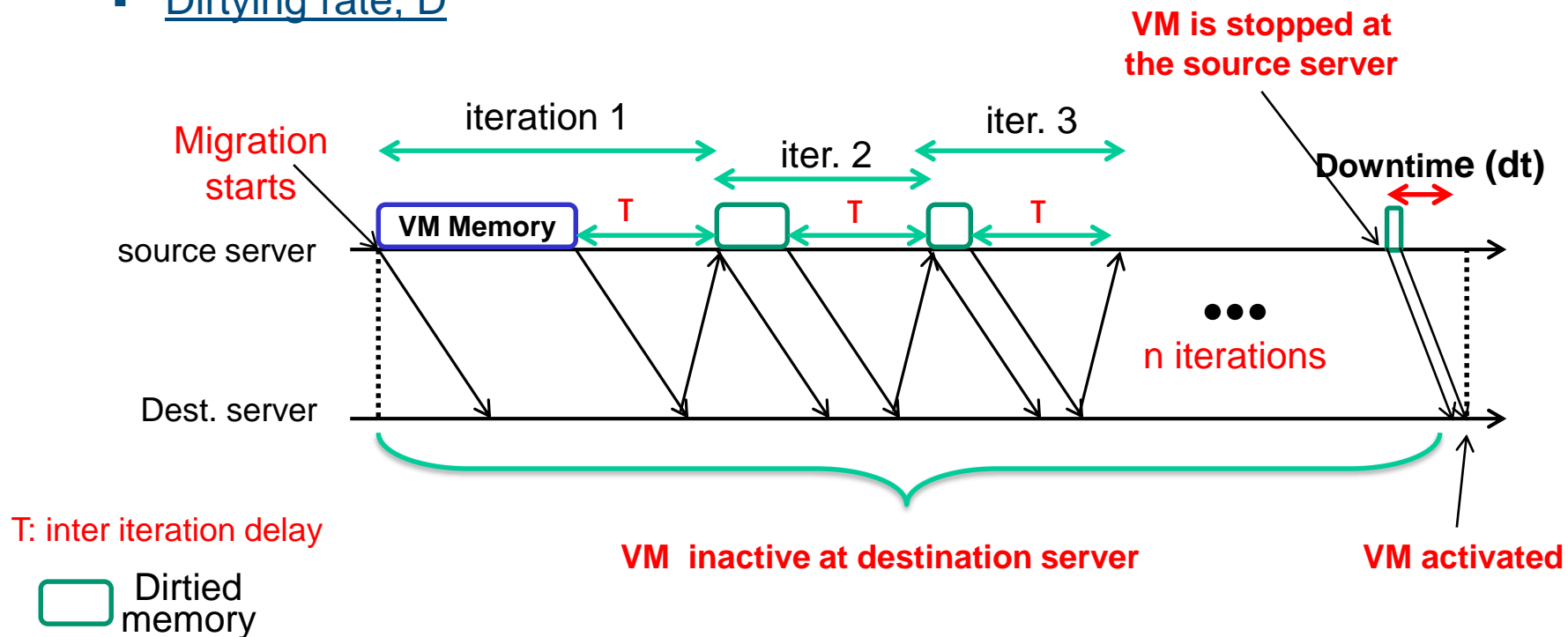
**Untoleratable
Service
Downtime?**

Migration time (almost) coincides with downtime



VMs Migration: Offline vs. Online

- Online
 - Iterative data transfer (while VM is running)
 - Users still access the server and modify VM memory (dirty memory)
 - Dirtying rate, D



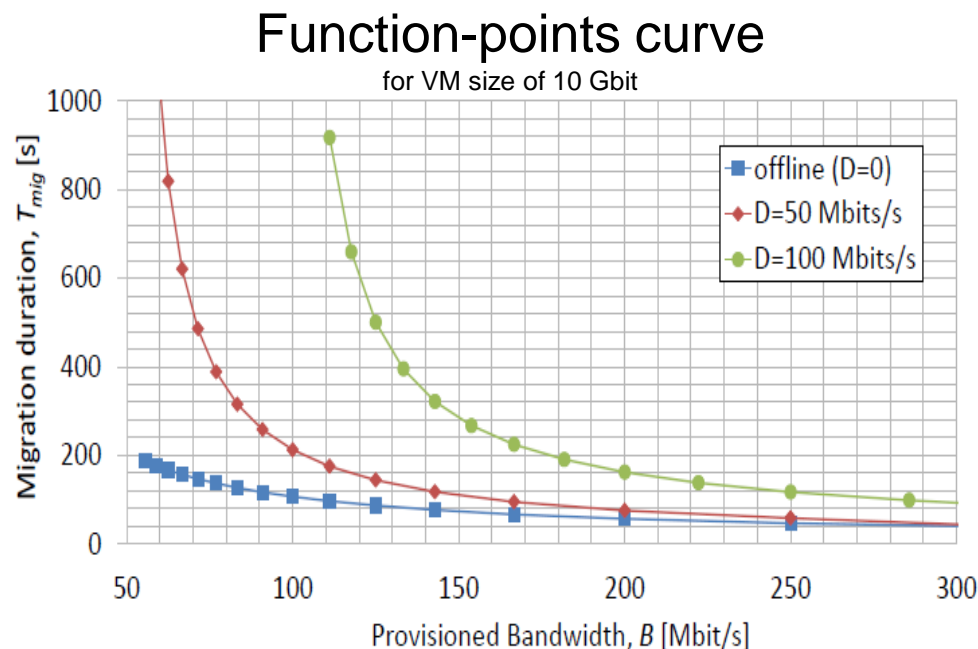
$$T_{mig,on} = \frac{VM\ size}{B} + F\{D, B, VM\ size\}$$



VMs Migration Duration: Offline vs. Online

- Migration Duration (T_{mig}) vs. Assigned Bandwidth (B_{mig})
- Online VM migration → Significant Network *Resource Occupation*
 $RO = B_{mig} \cdot T_{mig} \cdot Hops$ [Mbit]

	Offline	Online
B_{mig}	200 Mbps	200 Mbps
T_{mig}	50 sec.	180 sec.
Hops	4	4
RO	40,000	144,000
dt	50 sec.	≈0 sec.

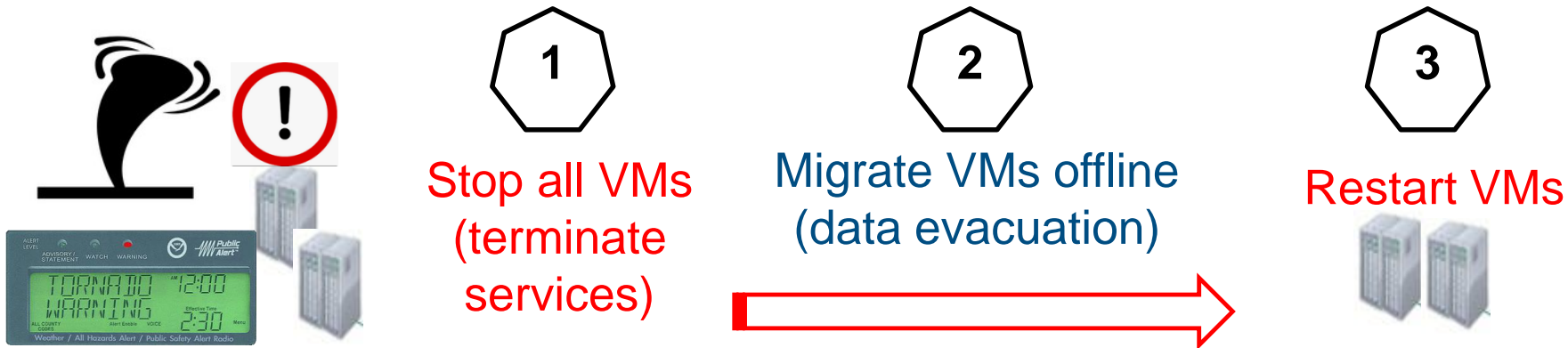


NB: Selection of migration bandwidth to minimize RO is not trivial



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- A baseline approach in case of a disaster warning (“alert time”)



- Five 9's availability requirements demand service providers to always keep services alive
- Do we have enough time to keep VMs alive?

Online VM migration emerges as a solution

Performing efficient evacuation (i.e., selecting destination DC, route, migration bandwidth) is not trivial

- Alert time (A) limits the range of bandwidth values that may be utilized for VM migration

+

Many VMs are involved

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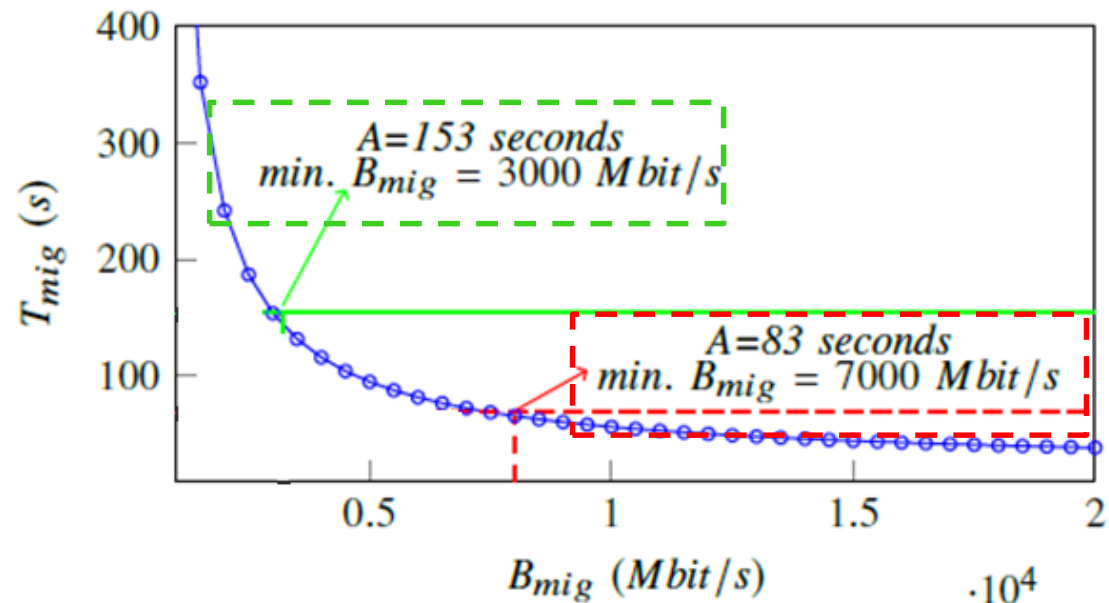
Limited network capacity

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Limited available time



Also scheduling is decisive

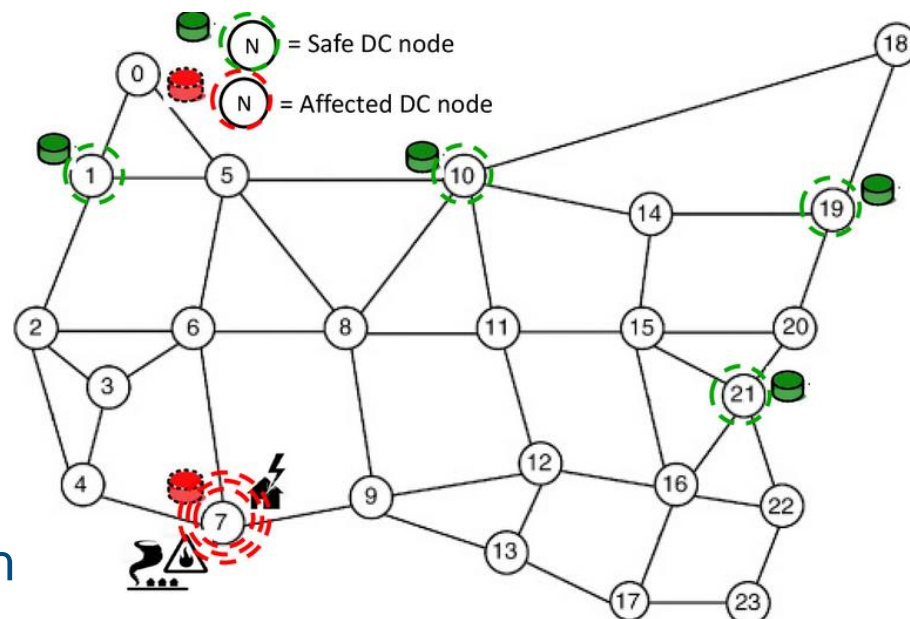


Minimum acceptable B_{mig} for two different values of alert A



Problem Statement

- Given
 - Network with a risky DC and safe DC locations
 - VMs to be migrated (size, dirtying rate, function-points curve)
 - Alert time/evacuation deadline (seconds)
- Decide, for each VM:
 - If migrated, online or offline
 - Destination DC
 - Route and migration bandwidth
 - Starting (and ending) time of migration (scheduling)
 - Note that VM migration duration is not known a-priori





ILP Model (1/3)

Multi-objective:

- 1) Maximize number of VMs migrated (either offline or online)
- 2) Minimize downtime (maximize online migration)
- 3) Minimize Resource Occupation (RO)
- 4) Minimize migration duration (T_{mig})

$$\min \left(\sum_{v \in V} (-\alpha(x_v + y_v)) + \beta\psi_v + \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \sum_{t \in T} \gamma z_{v,t}^{i,j} \omega_v + \delta \lambda_v \right)$$

of Migrated VMs

$x_v = 1$ iff VM v was migrated online

$y_v = 1$ iff VM v was migrated offline

**RO: sum of all bandwidth
occupied on all links at all time
instances for all VMs**

ψ_v = overall downtime

Migration duration of VM v

α , β , γ and δ are positive constants used to set the priority of different terms



ILP Model (2/3)

- Subject to:
 - Migration process and bandwidth constraints
 - Scheduling constraints
 - Flow and capacity constraints
- Migration process and bandwidth constraints

$x_v + y_v \leq 1, \quad \forall v \in V$ VM v may be migrate either online or offline

If online, a function-point is chosen and migration duration is found accordingly

$$\sum_{i \in I} l_{v,i} = x_v, \quad \forall v \in V$$
$$b_v^{on} = \sum_{i \in I} b_{i,v}^{on} \cdot l_{v,i}, \quad \forall v \in V$$
$$d_v^{on} = \sum_{i \in I} d_{i,v}^{on} \cdot l_{v,i}, \quad \forall v \in V$$

If offline, a migration bandwidth value is selected and migration duration is simply calculated

$$b_v^{off} \leq M \cdot y_v, \quad \forall v \in V$$
$$d_v^{off} = \frac{S_v}{b_v^{off}}, \quad \forall v \in V$$

linearized

- Scheduling constraints

$$\begin{aligned} e_v &\leq A, \quad \forall v \in V \\ e_v &= r_v + \lambda_v, \quad \forall v \in V \end{aligned} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Migration ends before the alert time} \\ \text{(evacuation deadline)} \end{array}$$

This scheduling problem is different than traditional ones. Migration duration is not known a-priori and is a decision variable in the problem

$$\left. \begin{aligned} k_t - r_v + 1 &\leq M \cdot n_{v,t}, \quad \forall v \in V, t \in T \\ e_v - k_t &\leq M \cdot m_{v,t}, \quad \forall v \in V, t \in T \\ A - r_v &= \sum_{t \in T} n_{v,t}, \quad \forall v \in V \\ e_v &= \sum_{t \in T} m_{v,t}, \quad \forall v \in V \\ w_{v,t} &\leq n_{v,t} \cdot m_{v,t}, \quad \forall v \in V, t \in T \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Set of constraints that capture} \\ \text{scheduling} \end{array}$$

$$z_{v,t}^{i,j} \geq w_{v,t} \cdot h_v^{i,j}, \quad \forall v \in V, t \in T, (i,j) \in E$$

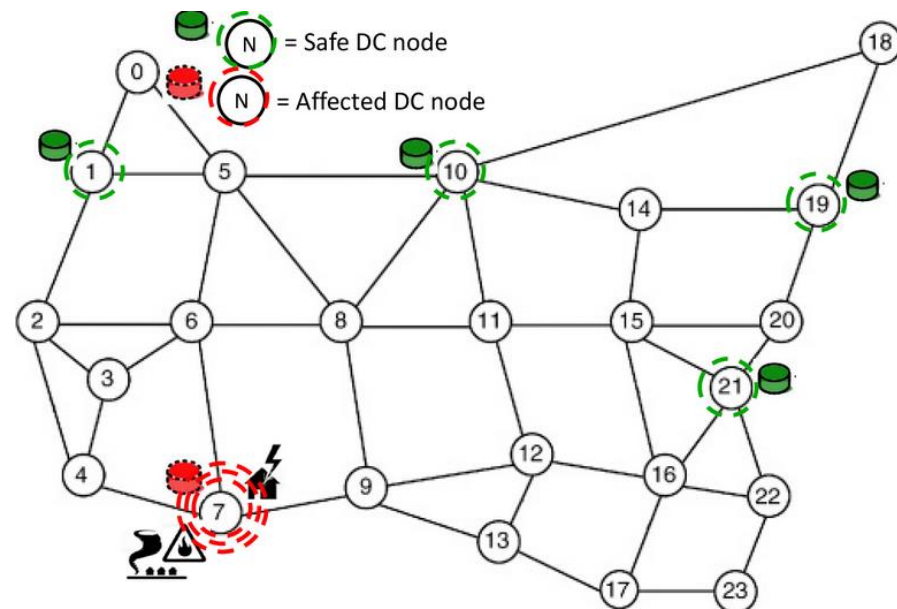


Disaster-Resilient Online VM Migration

Evaluation Settings

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- USA topology
 - 24 nodes (5 are DC locations)
 - 43 links@100 Gbps
- 30 VMs (size 40 GB)
- *Dirtying rate D*:
100 Mbps and 500 Mbps
- Alert time *A*: (10s -- 100s)
(short alerts)
- 3 strategies

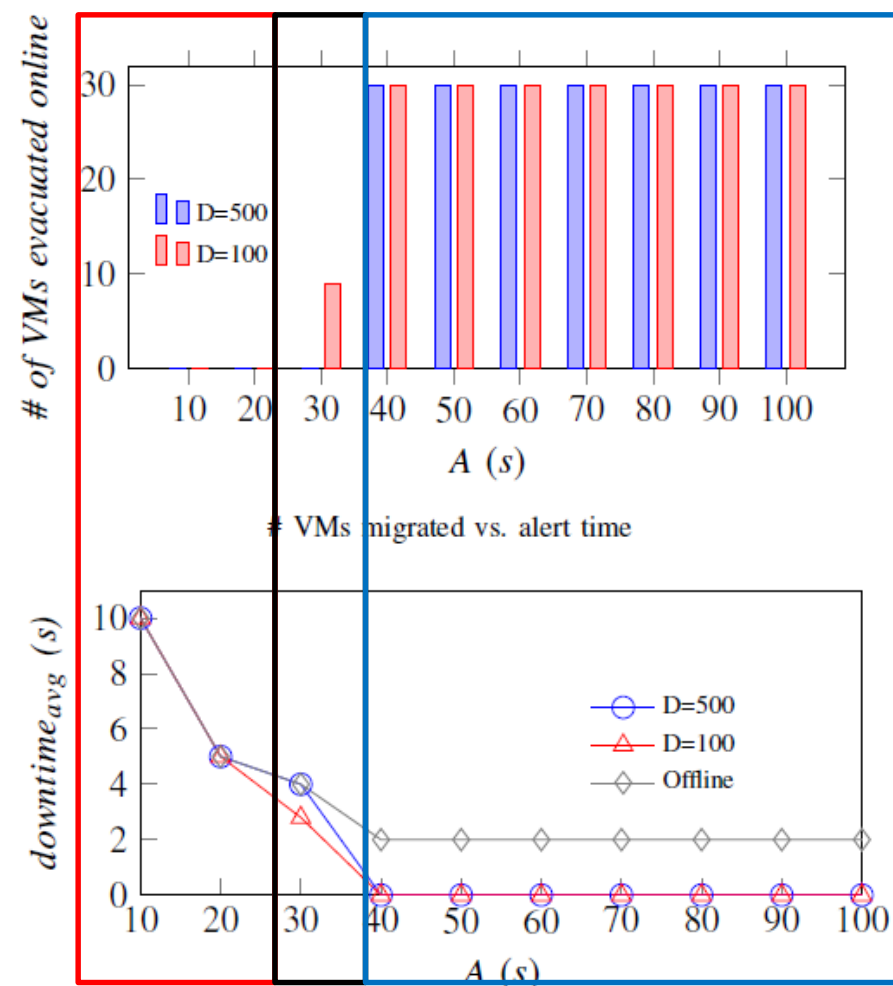


Strategies		RO-minimized	T-minimized	Offline
Multi-objective priority	1	Number of VMs migrated (offline + online)		
	2	Service downtime		
	3	Average RO	Average T_{mig}	
	4	Average T_{mig}	Average RO	

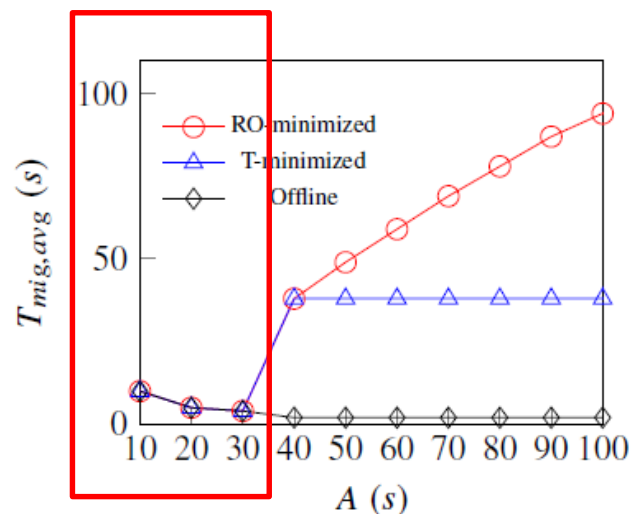


Results (1/4): effect of alert time

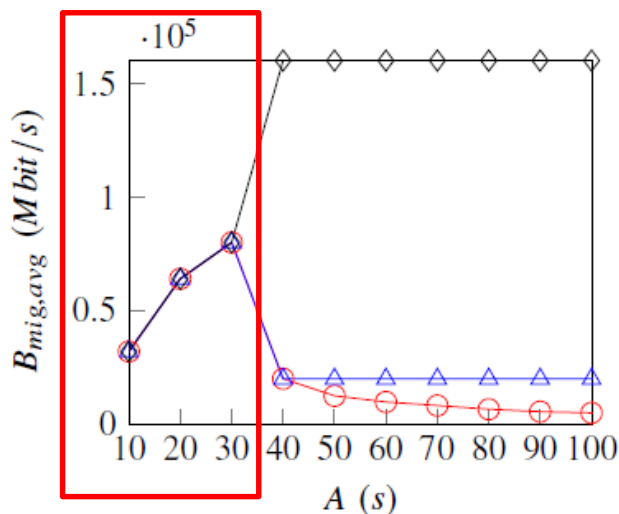
- On # of online migration
 - For $A \leq 20$ sec. no VMs are migrated online
 - For $A = 30$ sec., 10 VMs are migrated online ($D = 100$ Mbps)
 - For $A \geq 40$ sec., all VMs are migrated online
- On downtime
 - Downtime decreases for higher A as it allows utilizing higher bandwidth values and scheduling



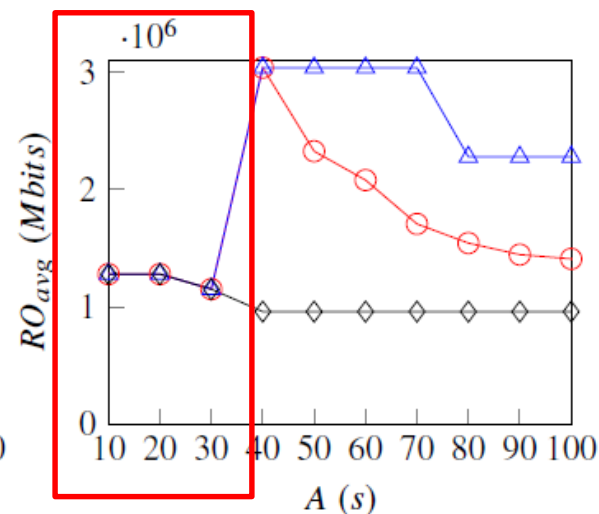
Downtime vs. alert time



$T_{mig,avg}$ vs. alert time

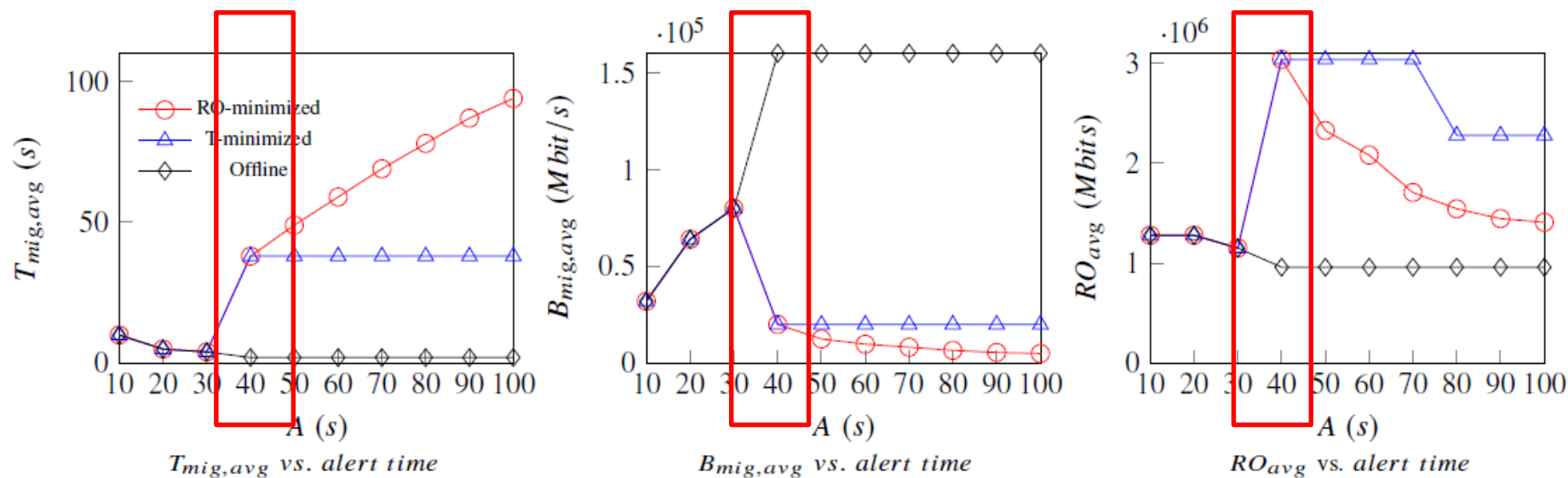


$B_{mig,avg}$ vs. alert time

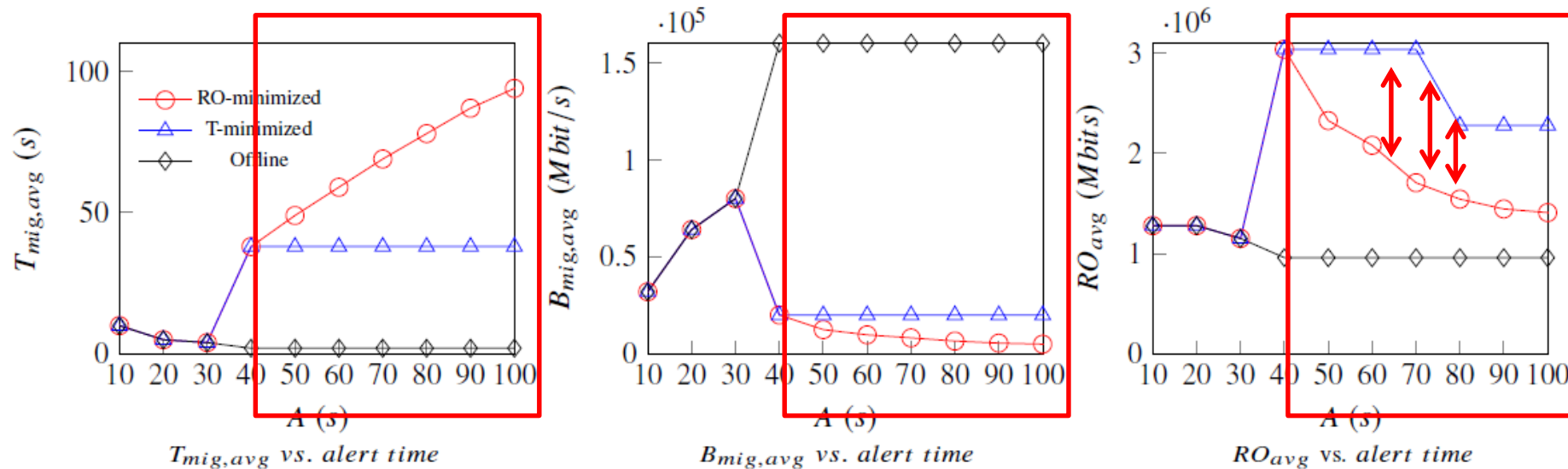


RO_{avg} vs. alert time

- For $10 \leq A \leq 30$ sec.
 - All VMs are migrated offline
 - All strategies show exact same behavior
 - B_{mig} (T_{mig} and RO) increases (decreased) with A , as higher A permits utilizing higher bandwidth



- For $A = 40$ sec., *RO-minimized* & *T-minimized* migrate all VMs online
 - Same behavior as only one function point can be used (maximum bandwidth value for online migration)
 - T_{mig} increases as online migration is performed
 - RO_{avg} increases to its maximum value meaning there was no room to choose efficient function-points to lower RO
- *Offline* utilizes maximum bandwidth value available → min. downtime

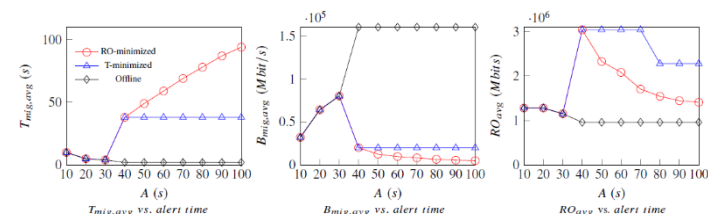
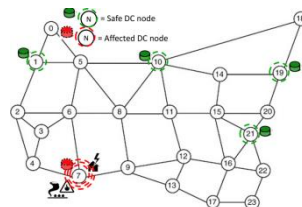
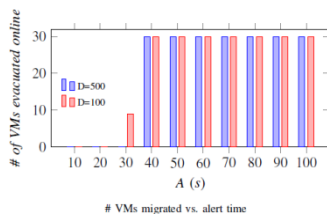


- For $A \geq 40$ sec.

- RO-minimized keeps decreasing B_{mig} → leading to higher T_{mig} but to more efficient network RO_{avg}
- *T-minimized* continues to utilize maximum bandwidth value possible as the objective is to minimize T_{mig}



- ILP model for online VM migration for alert-based disaster resilience
 - Objective: Evacuate VMs online from risky to safe DC locations
- Thanks to our model, an DC operator can optimally decide
 - exact maximum number of VM to be migrated online
 - bandwidth to be assigned to VMs
 - destination DCs
 - routes to reach the destination DC
 - Migration scheduling
- Future work: a heuristic shall be devised for larger problem instances





Thank you!

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..and thanks to them!



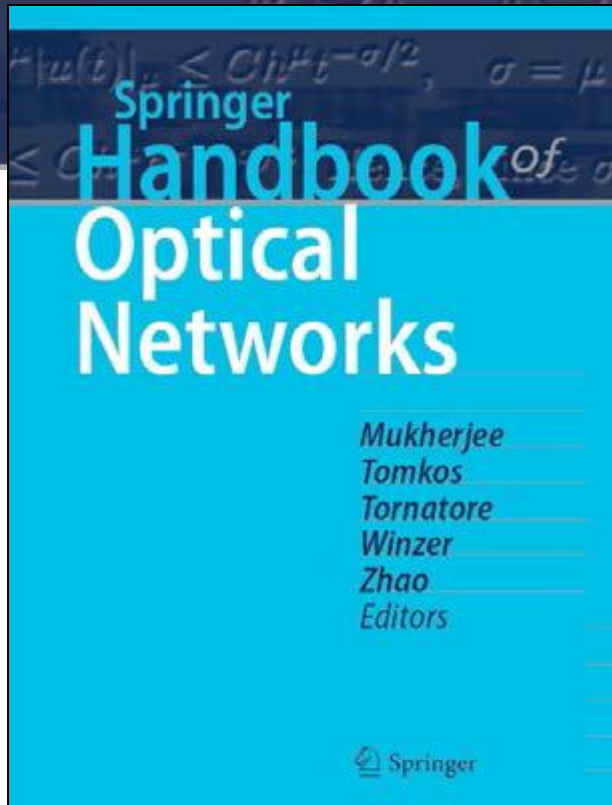
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- If
 - If possible,
 - If not, how many VMs can be migrated
1. Higher dirtying rate (i.e., higher user activity) affects the online migration process requiring higher bandwidth and longer migration duration
 2. There exist trade-offs between minimizing the downtime and network resource occupation on one side and minimizing the VM migration duration and the network resource occupation on another side