# Edge-Assisted 360° Videos Streaming to Head-Mounted Virtual Reality

利用邊緣運算最佳化360度全景影片之頭戴式虛擬實境串流

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### Outline

- Introduction
- Challenges
- System Architecture
  - Tile Rewriting
  - Viewport Rendering
- Optimal Edge-Assisted Streaming to HMDs
- 360° Viewing Dataset
- Evaluations
- Conclusion

# Introduction

### Explore the World from Your Sofa

- Virtual Reality (VR) in business, education, film, media, entertainment, healthcare, and etc.
- 360° video (aka spherical or omnidirectional video)
  - Every direction is recorded at the same time
  - Viewers dynamically change their viewports at playout time

→ Offer better immersive experience
 →





### Current Streaming Approach: How Does It Work?



# Everything seems to be good What's the Problem?



### **Streaming 360° Video is Challenging**

#### High Bandwidth Demand

- contains wider view than conventional videos
- very high resolution, such as 4K, 8K, and higher

#### Latency Sensitive

- human perception requires accurate and smooth movements
- to avoid motion sickness

#### • Heterogeneous HMD devices

different HMDs has different computing power and network condition

#### Challenge #1: High Bandwidth Demand

- We assume Field-of-View (FoV) is 100°x100°
- 4K resolution in FoV requires 12k/30fps resolution for the whole 360° videos ( $\approx$  200 Mbps with HEVC)



### **Only Stream Field-of-View (FoV)**

- Viewer actively changes viewing orientation when rotating his/her head
- HMD viewer only gets to see a small part of the whole 360° video (< 1/3 )</li>



### Challenge #2: Latency Sensitive

 Severe latency can lead to detached experience and motion sickness (latency < 60ms)<sup>[1] [2]</sup>

<b>Resolution/FPS</b>	Equivalent TV Res.	Bandwidth	Latency
4K/30fps	240p	25Mbps	60ms
8K/30fps	SD (480p)	100Mbps	50ms
12K/60fps	HD (720p)	400Mbps	30ms
24K/120fps	4K UHD (2160p)	2.35Gbps	10ms

[1] S. LaValle et al. "Head tracking for the Oculus Rift," in Proc. of IEEE ICRA'14

[2] S. Mangiante et al. "VR is on the Edge: How to Deliver 360° Videos in Mobile Networks," in Proc. of ACM VR/AR Network '17 10

### Leverage Edge Devices

- Located closer to end users
- Cellular network & WLAN<sup>[1]</sup>



[1] R. Ford et al., "Achieving Ultra-Low Latency in 5G Millimeter Wave Cellular Networks," in IEEE Communications Magazine, 11 vol. 55, no. 3, pp. 196-203, March 2017.

### Challenge #3: Heterogeneous Devices

- Different HMD types
- There are mainly two types of HMDs

HMDs	Computing Power	Bandwidth	Battery powered	Mobility
PCs	powerful	High	No	No
Mobiles	weak	Medium/Low	Yes	Yes



#### **Edges Offloading**

• Current streaming approach



### **Edges Offloading**

- Current Approach
- Edge Offloading
  - generate user's viewport on edges



#### Generate user's viewport

**Cloud Server** 

#### **Edge-assisted Streaming**



#### Contributions

- Propose edge-assisted 360° video streaming system supporting aforementioned approaches
- Formulate and design an algorithm to slove edge-assisted streaming problem
- Quantify the performance of our proposed algorithm using an open-sourced 360° viewing dataset



# **System Architecture**

#### **System Overview**



### Cloud Server<sup>[1]</sup>



- Cloud Server
  - Planar projector

[1] W. Lo et al., "Performance Measurements of 360° Video Streaming to Head-Mounted Displays Over Live 4G Cellular Networks," in Proc. of APNOMS'17

[2] G. Sullivan et al. "Overview of the high efficiency video coding (HEVC) standard," in *IEEE Transactions on circuits and systems for video technology, vol.* 22, no. 12, pp. 1649-1668.

[3] ISO/IEC DIS 23009-1.2, "Dynamic adaptive streaming over HTTP (DASH)"

### Cloud Server<sup>[1]</sup>



- Cloud Server
  - Planar projector
  - HEVC<sup>[2]</sup> encoder
  - MPEG DASH<sup>[3]</sup> content generator

[1] W. Lo et al., "Performance Measurements of 360° Video Streaming to Head-Mounted Displays Over Live 4G Cellular Networks," in Proc. of APNOMS'17

[2] G. Sullivan et al. "Overview of the high efficiency video coding (HEVC) standard," in *IEEE Transactions on circuits and systems for video technology, vol.* 22, no. 12, pp. 1649-1668.

[3] ISO/IEC DIS 23009-1.2, "Dynamic adaptive streaming over HTTP (DASH)"

#### Cloud Server Tiles in HEVC

- Video is split into tiles of subvideos
- Compress with motion-constrained HEVC encoder<sup>[1]</sup>



[1] M. Viitanen, A. Koivula, A. Lemmetti, A. Ylä-Outinen, J. Vanne, and T. Hämäläinen, "Kvazaar: Open-Source HEVC/H.265 Encoder," in Proc. of ACM MM '16

#### Cloud Server Tiling with Dynamic Adaptive Streaming over HTTP (DASH)

- Tiles are split into temporal segments (e.g., 2 secs)
  - qualities can be change at segment bundary



High-quality

Low-quality

#### Cloud Server Tiling with Dynamic Adaptive Streaming over HTTP (DASH)

- Tiles overlapped with FoV are streamed in high-quality
- Others are streamed in low-quality





• Split the videos into tiles of sub-videos



- Split the videos into tiles of sub-videos
- Encode the tiles using motion-constrained HEVC encoder with different bitrates (qualities)



- Split the videos into tiles of sub-videos
- Encode the tiles using motion-constrained HEVC encoder with different bitrates (qualities)
- Encapsulate tiles into HEVC bitstreams



- Split the videos into tiles of sub-videos
- Encode the tiles using motion-constrained HEVC encoder with different bitrates (qualities)
- Encapsulate tiles into HEVC bitstreams
- Integrate with DASH for spatial index generation (MPD and SRD)

## Cloud Server<sup>[1]</sup>



Tile Quality: 🗖 Low 🗖 Medium 🗍 High

- Cloud Server
  - Planar projector
  - HEVC<sup>[2]</sup> encoder
  - MPEG DASH<sup>[3]</sup> content generator

#### HTTP Server

[1] W. Lo et al. "Performance Measurements of 360° Video Streaming to Head-Mounted Displays Over Live 4G Cellular Networks," in Proc. of APNOMS'17

[2] G. Sullivan et al. "Overview of the high efficiency video coding (HEVC) standard." Sullivan, Gary J., et al. "Overview of the high efficiency video coding (HEVC) standard." *IEEE Transactions on circuits and systems for video technology* 22 (12), 2012, 1649-1668.
[3] ISO/IEC DIS 23009-1.2 Dynamic adaptive streaming over HTTP (DASH)

#### **System Overview**



#### **Edge Server**



- Edge Server
  - Tile Rewriter

#### Edge Server **Tile Rewriter**



• Parse MPD (with SRD info)



- Parse MPD (with SRD info)
- Download tiles with different qualities



- Parse MPD (with SRD info)
- Download tiles with different qualities
- Combine tiles into single HEVC bitstream based on SRD



- Parse MPD (with SRD info)
- Download tiles with different qualities
- Combine tiles into single HEVC bitstream based on SRD
- Encapsulate HEVC bitstream into MP4 container

### **Edge Server**



- Edge Server
  - Tile Rewriter
  - Viewport Renderer



- Parse MPD (with SRD info)
- Download tiles with different qualities
- Render user's viewport scene (FoV size, FPS, and resolution)


- Parse MPD (with SRD info)
- Download tiles with different qualities
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- Encapsulate HEVC bitstream into MP4 container

### **Edge Server**



#### **Edge Server**

- **Tile Rewriter**
- **Viewport Renderer**
- **Mode Selector** 
  - Tile Rewriting (TR), as default setting
  - Viewport Rendering (VPR)



### **System Overview**



### Demo

### Demo



# Optimal Edge-Assisted Streaming to HMDs



### **Problem Statement**

- Limited resources of edge server
  - Computing power
  - Network bandwidth
- Capitalize edge server to assist HMDs to render scenes for maximizing the overall video quality improvement



[1] W. Lo et al. "360° Video Viewing Dataset in Head-Mounted Virtual Reality," in Proc. of MMSys'17

### **Mode Selector**

- **Goal**: maximize overall video quality imporvement  $\Delta q$ 
  - avoid to overload edge server and exceed available bandwidth
  - fast and reliable
- We classify **N** HMD clients into two groups:
  - **C**, Tile Rewriting
  - E, Viewport Rendering





### **Problem Formulation**



### **Proposed Algorithm**

Algorithm 1 Mode Selector.

1: // We first initialize variables 2: for each n in N do  $\mathbf{x}[\mathbf{n}] \leftarrow 0; \mathbf{Qual}[\mathbf{n}] \leftarrow q'_n - q_n; \mathbf{Band}[\mathbf{n}] \leftarrow \beta_n; \mathbf{Rati}[\mathbf{n}] \leftarrow (q'_n - q_n)/(\beta_n - \alpha_n)$ 3: 4: sort Qual[N], Band[N], Rati[N] in desc. order 5: while E > 0 do **pop** an HMD client n with the maximal **Qual**[n]6:  $\mathbf{x}[\mathbf{n}] \leftarrow 1$ 7: **Band**[n]  $\leftarrow \alpha[n]$ 8: E = E - 19. 10: if sum(Band[N])  $\leq B$  then return x [N] 11: 12: Initialize E, x[N], and **Band**[**N**] 13: while E > 0 do **pop** an HMD client n with the maximal **Rati**[n]14:  $\mathbf{x}[\mathbf{n}] \leftarrow 1$ 15: **Band**[n]  $\leftarrow \alpha[n]$ 16: E = E - 117: 18: if sum(Band[N]) < B then return x [N] 19: 20: Initialize E. x[N], and **Band**[**N**] 21: while E > 0 do **pop** an HMD client n with the maximal **Band**[n]22:  $\mathbf{x}[\mathbf{n}] \leftarrow 1$ 23: **Band**[**n**]  $\leftarrow \alpha$ [**n**] 24: E = E - 1bandwidth 25: 26: if sum(Band[N])  $\leq B$  then return  $\mathbf{x}[\mathbf{N}]$ 27: 28: return no feasible solution

Calculate  $\Delta q$  and saved bandwidth

Sort in desc. order

Select with maximal video quality improvement

Check if exceed available bandwidth

Select with maximal ratio of quality improvment to saved bandwidth

Check if exceed available bandwidth

Select with maximal saved

Check if exceed available bandwidth

### Lemma 1: Optimal Quality Improvement

- Bandwidth constraint is loose
  - if consumed bandwidth of all HMDs adopting TR does not exceed available bandwidth
- 0-1 Knapsack problem
  - each item has the same weight



### Lemma 1: Optimal Quality Improvement

#### • Greedy method

 we always take whatever items (i.e., HMDs) are the most valuable (i.e., maximum video quality improvement)

#### • **Proof** (Contrapositive):

Let **Z** be the maximal video quality improvement set, where  $\mathbf{Z} = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_E\}$ ,  $z_i = q'_j - q_j$ , and  $\forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ . Then, the optimal solution is  $\sum_{i=1}^{E} (z_i)$ .

Suppose that  $\exists z_m$ , then we can replace  $z_i$  with  $z_m$ , where  $z_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then, we denote  $\hat{\mathbb{Z}} = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_m, \dots z_E\}$ . So that  $\sum_{i=1}^{E} (\hat{z}_i) > \sum_{i=1}^{E} (z_i)$ Therefore,  $z_m > z_i$ . This is contradiction.

### Lemma 2: Runs in Polynomial Time

- Each round need to do
  - Calculate video quality improvement / bandwidth saving O(N)
  - Sort Qual[N], Band[N], Ratio[N] in desc. order
  - Pick first E HMD clients
     O(E)
  - Calculate the total consumed bandwidth

O(NlogN) O(E) O(N)

(Complexity). Algorithm 1 runs <u>O(E + NlogN)</u>

# **360 Viewing Dataset**

### **360° Viewing Dataset**<sup>[1]</sup>

- We collect ten 360° videos from YouTube
- 4K resolution, 30 fps, and 1 minute



Nature Image, fast-paced



Nature Image, slow-paced



Computer Grapic, fast-paced

Category	Videos	<b>Used Segment</b>	Size (MB)	Link
	Mega Coaster	1:30 - 2:30	160	https://youtu.be/-xNN-bJQ4vI
NI, fast-paced	<b>Roller</b> Coaster	0:20 - 1:20	153	https://youtu.be/8lsB-P8nGSM
	Driving with	0:48 - 1:48	117	https://youtu.be/LKWXHKFCMO8
NI, slow-paced	Shark Shipwreck	0:30 - 1:30	114	https://youtu.be/aQd41nbQM-U
	<b>Perils Panel</b>	0:10 - 1:10	60	https://youtu.be/kiP5vWqPryY
	Kangaroo Island	0:01 - 1:01	126	https://youtu.be/MXlHCTXtcNs
	SFR Sport	0:16 - 1:16	51	https://youtu.be/lo5N90TlzwU
CG, fast-paced	Hog Rider	0:00 - 1:00	138	https://youtu.be/yVLfEHXQk08
	Pac-Man	0:10 - 1:10	50	https://youtu.be/p9h3ZqJa1iA
	<b>Chariot Race</b>	0:02 - 1:02	149	https://youtu.be/jMyDqZe0z7M

### **360° Viewing Dataset**

HMD Oculus Video HMD Oculus DK2 Video frames with timestamps Frame Capturer Gaming Anywhere Sensor data with timestamps

- 50 subjects
- Collect from HMDs while viewers are watching 360° videos
- Frame Capturer: GamingAnywhere<sup>[1]</sup>
- Sensor Logger: OpenTrack<sup>[2]</sup>

1: no. frames, raw x, raw y, raw z, raw yaw, raw pitch, raw roll, cal. yaw, cal. pitch, cal. roll

2: 00001, 16.458, 30.032, -19.276, -9.661, 5.853, -3.068, -4.65473888889, 4.06641388889, -3.068
3: 00002, 16.458, 30.032, -19.276, -9.661, 5.853, -3.068, -4.65473888889, 4.06641388889, -3.068
4: 00003, 16.449, 30.02, -19.362, -9.763, 5.746, -3.184, -4.75673888889, 3.95941388889, -3.184
5: 00004, 16.449, 30.02, -19.362, -9.763, 5.746, -3.184, -4.75673888889, 3.95941388889, -3.184
6: 00005, 16.433, 30.007, -19.473, -9.676, 5.659, -3.308, -4.66973888889, 3.87241388889, -3.308
7: ...

<sup>[1]</sup> GamingAnywhere, <u>http://gaminganywhere.org/</u>

<sup>[2]</sup> OpenTrack, https://github.com/opentrack/opentrack

### **Partition Dataset**

- 80% as training set
  - 40 subjects x 10 videos = 400 samples
  - generates video qaulity model of our system
- 20% as evaluation set
  - 10 subjects x 10 videos = 100 samples
  - conducts the experiments



## Evaluation

### Setup

#### • Environment

- Cloud server, Intel 60-cores workstation with 256 GB RAM
- Edge server, Intel 40-cores workstation with 256 GB RAM
- HMD client, Intel i7 CPU desktop with 16 GB RAM
- Tiling/Encoding/DASH
  - No. tiles = {5x5}
  - DASH segment length = {2} secs
  - Video bitrate outside/inside viewport = {1, 8} Mbps
  - FoV size = {100° × 100°}
- Viewers
  - Randomly select 40 traces from the dataset (40/100)
- Baselines
  - Current streaming approach (CUR)
  - IBM CPLEX Solver (OPT)

### **Consumed Bandwidth**

- We vary video sequences
- Saves bandwidth consumption from 31% to 78% Mbps
- Only stream the FoV saves lots of consumed bandwidth



### **Consumed Bandwidth**

- We vary edge capacities in {5, 10, 15, 20, 25}
- Save min/avg/max 35%/56%/62% bandwidth consumption
- Higher edge capacity, more consumed bandwidth we can



### **Overall Video Quality (V-PSNR)**

- We vary video sequences
- Constantly deliver high video quality (V-PSNR ≥ 40 dB)



### **Overall Video Quality (V-PSNR)**

- We vary different edge capacities in {5, 10, 15, 20, 25}
- Min/avg/max of video quality improvement is 6/7.4/8.2 dB
- Higher edge capacity, higher overall video quality we can get **Available Outbound Bandwiths = 1 Gbps**



### If Available Bandwidth is Low...

- OPT delivers better video quality when edge capacity > 15
- OPT outperforms than PRO in video quality improvement by up to 3.5 dB



### **Proposed Runs Faster than OPT**

- OPT suffers from exponential running time
  - It is not suitable to real-time systems
- PRO runs in polynomial time
  - It still outperfroms than CUR, and
  - produces good video quality improvement

Capacity	5	10	15	20	25
ΟΡΤ	3.92 s	316.46 s	531.62 s	≥ 600 s	≥ 600 s
PRO	0.193 s	0.203 s	0.229 s	0.508 s	0.522s

### Conclusion

### Conclusion

- We propose an edge-assisted 360° video streaming system
- We design an algorithm for the optimal edge-assisted rendering to HMDs

- Compared to current streaming approach, our edge-assisted system:
  - saves bandwidth consumption by up to 62%
  - achieves higher video quality at the same bitrate
  - reduces weight of HMDs and offers better viewing experience

### **Future Work**

- Instrumentation streaming system, not fully optimized
  - 40 CPUs, Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2650 v3 @ 2.30GHz
  - Multithreading: 30 threads

		FPS	Time per Frame (s)
	TR	49.84	0.02 s
	VPR	0.89	1.12 s

- Leverage GPUs to fulfill real-time computing
- Model computing cost of VPR running on an edge server

### **Research Highlight**

- <u>W. Lo</u>, C. Fan, J. Lee, C. Huang, K. Chen, and C. Hsu, "360° Video Viewing Dataset in Head-Mounted Virtual Reality," in **Proc. of ACM on Multimedia Systems Conference (MMSys'17)**, Dataset Track
- C. Fan, J. Lee, <u>W. Lo</u>, C. Huang, K. Chen, and C. Hsu, "Fixation Prediction for 360° Video Streaming in Head-Mounted Virtual Reality," in Proc. of Workshop on Network and Operating Systems Support for Digital Audio and Video (NOSSDAV'17)
- <u>W. Lo</u>, C. Fan, S. Yen and C. Hsu, "Performance measurements of 360° video streaming to head-mounted displays over live 4G cellular networks," in Proc. of Asia-Pacific Network Operations and Management Symposium (APNOMS'17)
- C. Fan, <u>W. Lo</u>, Y. Pai, and C. Hsu, "A Survey on 360° Video Streaming: Acquisition, Transmission, and Display," in ACM Computing Survey (submitted)
- ISM'18 submission (based from this thesis)

### Thanks for listening Q & A

### **Backup Slides**

### Demo



### **Viewing Heatmap**

- NI (fast-paced), NI (slow-paced), and CG (fast-paced)
- Leverage training set to draw viewing heatmap



### Heatmap

• coaster



### Heatmap

• panel


# **HMD** Client



- HMD Client
  - Resource Logger
  - Orientation Logger
  - HEVC Deocder

## **Symbol Table**

Symbol	Description
N	Set of all HMD clients
n	Index of a HMD client
В	Outbound bandwidth of an edge server
T	Number of tiles
t	Index of a tile
S	Video segment length in second
$f_n^w$	The width of tiles of HMD client n's viewport
$f_n^h$	The height of tiles of HMD client n's viewport
$\mathbf{V}_n$	Set of tiles overlapped with the viewer's FoV
$b_h, b_l$	High/Low encoding bitrate
$O_n$	Viewer's orientation collected from HMD client $n$
$\alpha_n$	Consumed bandwidth of HMD client n for Viewport Rendering
	(VPR)
$\beta_n$	Consumed bandwidth of HMD client $n$ for Tile Rewriting (TR)
$q_n$	Video quality of HMD client n for TR
$q'_n$	Video quality of HMD client n for VPR
E	Maximum number of HMD clients that an edge server can serve
$x_n$	Decision variable of the problem formulation

### Lemma 1: Optimal Quality Improvement

Video quality improvement q<sub>n</sub>' - q<sub>n</sub> is monotonically decreasing



## Lemma 2: Runs in Polynomial Time



### **Observation: Consumed Bandwidth**

- Tile Rewriting =  $\{3x3, 5x5, 7x7\}$
- Viewport Rendering (VPR)
- Encoding bitrate: 8 Mbps / 1 Mbps





# **Observation: Video Qulaity Gain**

 Peak signal-to-noise ratio (PSNR) wighted by viewing heatmap (HPSNR)



## **Video Quality Gain**

- Differentiate video quality of TR and VPR
- VPR gets better video quality



## Rendering

- Computer Graphics
  - a process of generating a 2D/3D image



## Rendering

- Computer Graphics
  - a process of generating a 2D/3D image
- Augmented/Virtual Reality
  - a process of generating an user's viewport



# **Cloud/Edge Latency & Bandwidth**

#### • AWS clouds

- US East/N. Virginia
- US East/N. California
- Canada/Montreal
- EU/Frankfurt
- EU/London

#### • AWS edges

- Asia/Seoul
- Asia/Singapore
- Asia/Sydney
- Asia/Tokyo
- Asia/Mumbai

## Latency



## Latency

