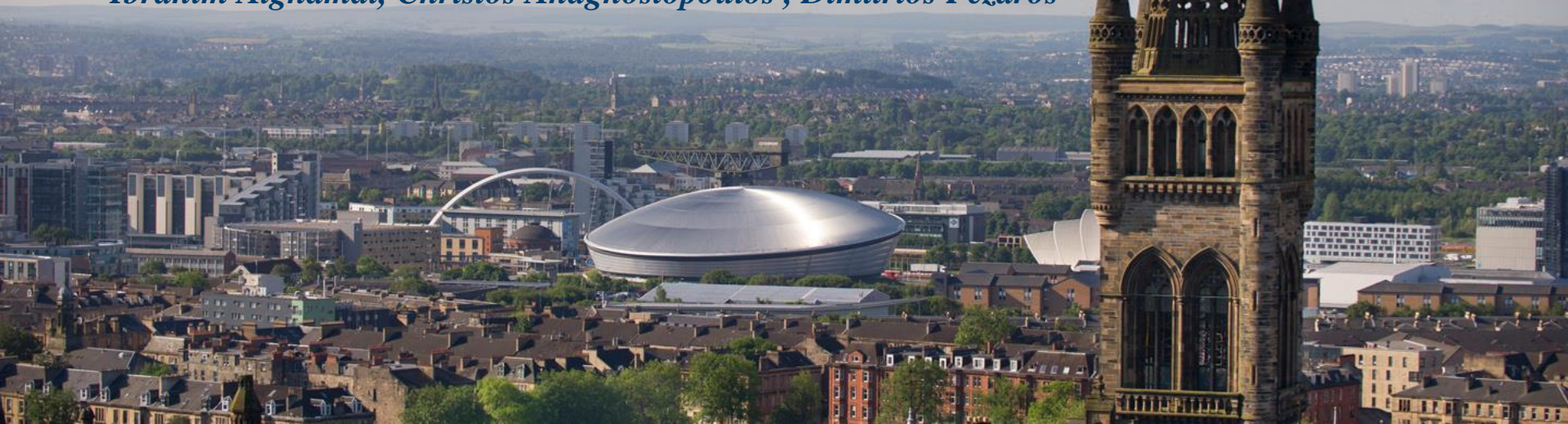


# Optimized Contextual Data Offloading in Mobile Edge Computing

IFIP/IEEE International Symposium on Integrated Network  
Management (IFIP/IEEE IM 2021), 17-21 May 2021

*Ibrahim Alghamdi, Christos Anagnostopoulos, Dimitrios Pezaros*



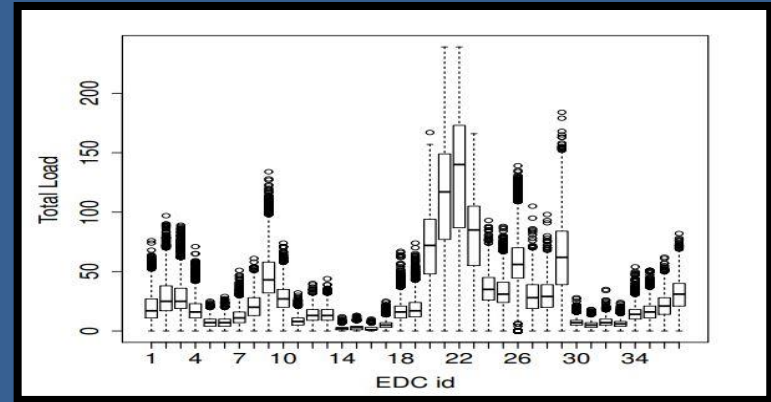
# Outline

- Introduction
  - Motivation & Challenge
  - Related Work and Contribution
- Data offloading decision making
  - System Model
  - Problem Formulation and Solution
- Performance evaluation
  - Data Set
  - Results
- Future work



# Motivation

- Computational Offloading.
- The deployment of MEC servers.<sup>1</sup>
- MEC servers' load have large variation.<sup>2</sup>
- MEC servers as platform for data offloaded by mobile nodes.<sup>3</sup>



**Figure 1: Workload in 37 EDCs according to the simulation in <sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> M. Patel, B. Naughton, C. Chan, N. Sprecher, S. Abeta, A. Neal et al., “Mobile-edge computing introductory technical white paper,” *White Paper, Mobile-edge Computing (MEC) industry initiative*, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> C. N. Le Tan, C. Klein, and E. Elmroth, “Location-aware load prediction in edge data centers,” in *2nd FMEC*. IEEE, 2017, pp. 25–31.

<sup>3</sup> Q.-V. Pham, F. Fang, V. N. Ha, M. Le, Z. Ding, L. B. Le, and W.-J. Hwang, “A survey of multi-access edge computing in 5g and beyond: Fundamentals, technology integration, and state-of-the-art,” arXiv preprint arXiv:1906.08452, 2019.

# Motivation Example: MEC in RSU

- *Autonomous, Smart Vehicles:*

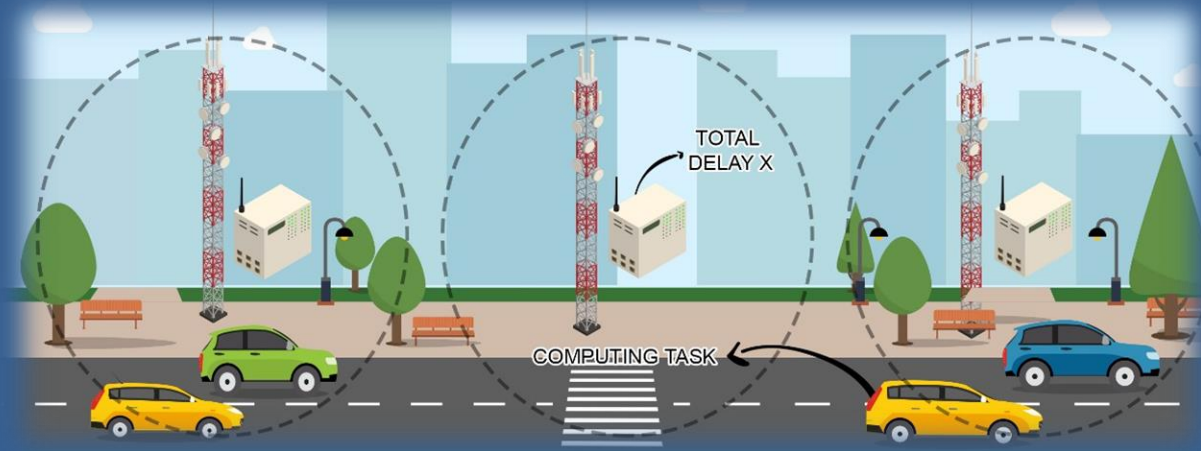


Figure 2: MEC environment. <sup>4,5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> K. Zhang, Y. Mao, S. Leng, Y. He, and Y. Zhang, "Mobile-edge computing for vehicular networks: A promising network paradigm with predictive off-loading," *IEEE Vehicular Technology Magazine*, vol. 12, no. 2, pp. 36–44, 2017.

<sup>5</sup> R. Akmal Dziauddin, D. Niyato, N. Cong Luong, M. A. M. Izhar, M. Hadhari, and S. Daud, "Computation offloading and content caching delivery in vehicular edge computing: A survey," *arXiv*, pp. arXiv-1912, 2019.

# Naive Approach

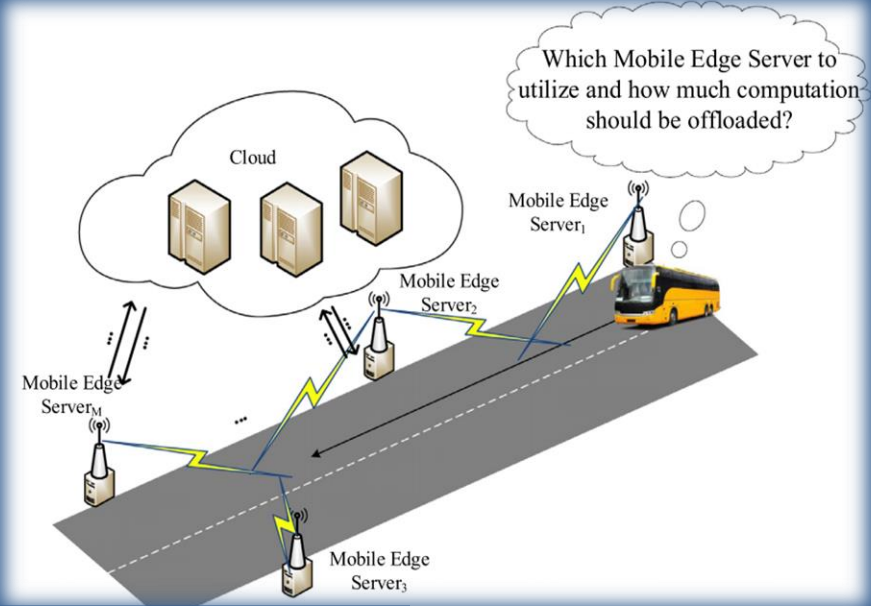
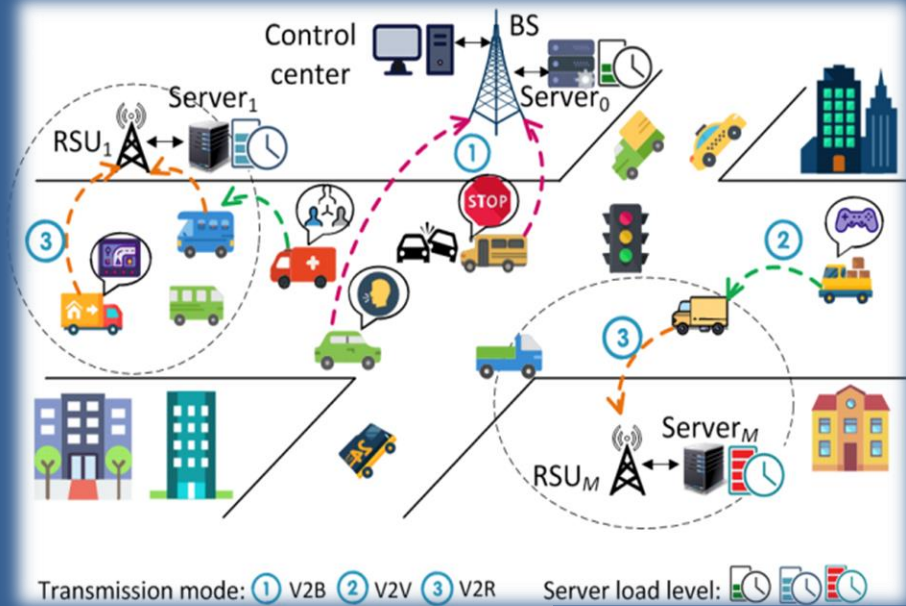


Figure 3: Centralised offloading. <sup>6,7</sup>

<sup>6</sup> W. Tang, X. Zhao, W. Rafique, L. Qi, W. Dou, and Q. Ni, "An offloading method using decentralized p2p-enabled mobile edge servers in edgecomputing," *Journal of Systems Architecture*, vol. 94, pp. 1–13, 2019.

<sup>7</sup> K. Zhang, Y. Zhu, S. Leng, Y. He, S. Maharjan, and Y. Zhang, "Deep learning empowered task offloading for mobile edge computing in urban informatics," *IEEE Internet of Things Journal*, vol. 6, no. 5, pp. 7635–7647, 2019



# V2V Approach

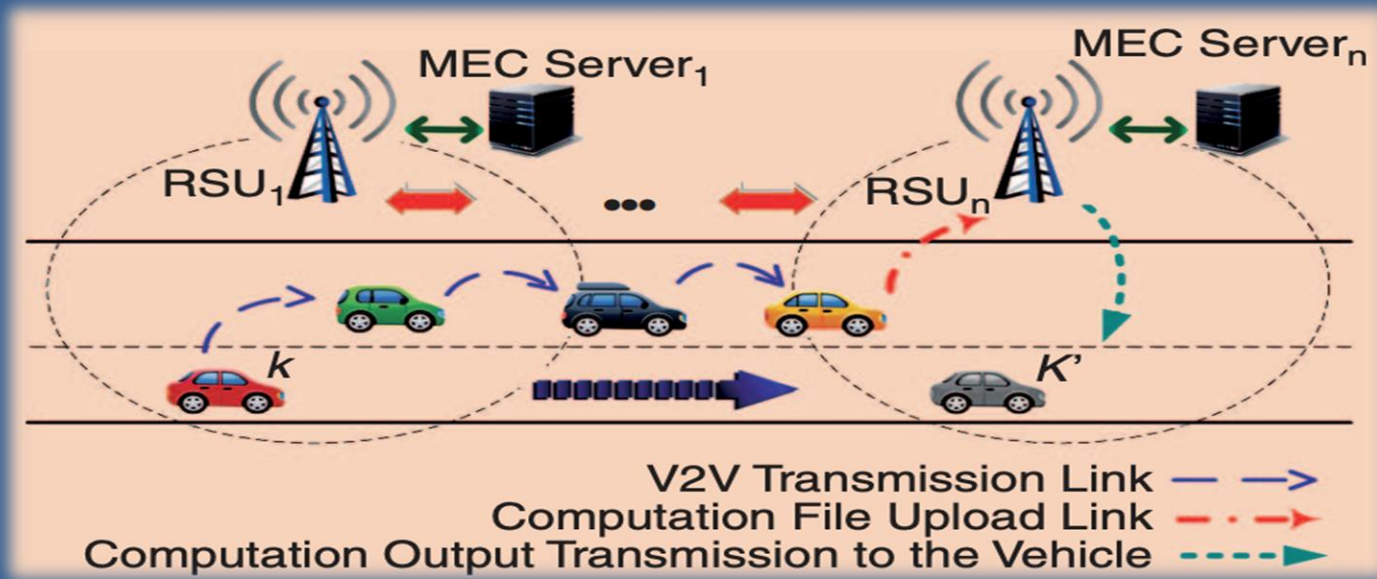


Figure 4: V2V offloading method. 4

<sup>4</sup> K. Zhang, Y. Mao, S. Leng, Y. He, and Y. Zhang, "Mobile-edge computing for vehicular networks: A promising network paradigm with predictive off-loading," IEEE Vehicular Technology Magazine, vol. 12, no. 2, pp. 36–44, 2017.

# Contributions

- Offloading decision.
  - Independent
- Considerations:
  - Mobility:
    - Higher chance of meeting better resources.<sup>7</sup>
  - Deadline:
    - We must offload before  $T$ .<sup>6</sup>
  - Sequential:
    - Optimality found in the optimal stopping theory



---

<sup>6</sup> W. Tang, X. Zhao, W. Rafique, L. Qi, W. Dou, and Q. Ni, “An offloading method using decentralized p2p-enabled mobile edge servers in edgecomputing,” *Journal of Systems Architecture*, vol. 94, pp. 1–13, 2019.

<sup>7</sup> K. Zhang, Y. Zhu, S. Leng, Y. He, S. Maharjan, and Y. Zhang, “Deep learning empowered task offloading for mobile edge computing in urban informatics,” *IEEE Internet of Things Journal*, vol. 6, no. 5, pp. 7635–7647, 2019



# Setting/system model <sup>4</sup>

- Multiple MEC servers.
- Mobile node
- Data to be offloaded to one of the MEC servers.
- The mobile node only knows about the current MEC (the one in the range of mobile node).
- Processing time  $X$ .



Figure 5: Context

<sup>4</sup> K. Zhang, Y. Mao, S. Leng, Y. He, and Y. Zhang, “Mobile-edge computing for vehicular networks: A promising network paradigm with predictive off-loading,” IEEE Vehicular Technology Magazine, vol. 12, no. 2, pp. 36–44, 2017.



# Problem Statement and Formulation

- A mobile node:
  - collects contextual data from its surrounding environment
  - offload them to the best MEC server in terms of:
    - $X_k$ .
    - $n$ .
- $Y_k = X_k + c \cdot k$ , with cost rate  $c = 1/n$ ,  $n > 0$ .
- Find the optimal stopping time:
  - $k = \inf\{k: Y_k < \mathbb{E}[Y_{k+1}]\}$



# Optimal Offloading Policy/Rule

- At each observation take the minimum between:
  - current processing time
  - or the expected processing time in the next time  $\rightarrow a_k$
- $a_k$  is calculated through the backward indication

$$a_k = a_{k+1}(1 - F_X(a_{k+1})) + \int_0^{a_{k+1}} x dF_X(x) + c,$$

for  $k = 1, \dots, n - 1$ , with initial condition

$$a_n = \mathbb{E}[X] + c,$$

where  $F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$  is the cumulative distribution function of the delay  $X$ .

- If  $X_k \leq a_k$ , offload, otherwise continue.



## Cont'd

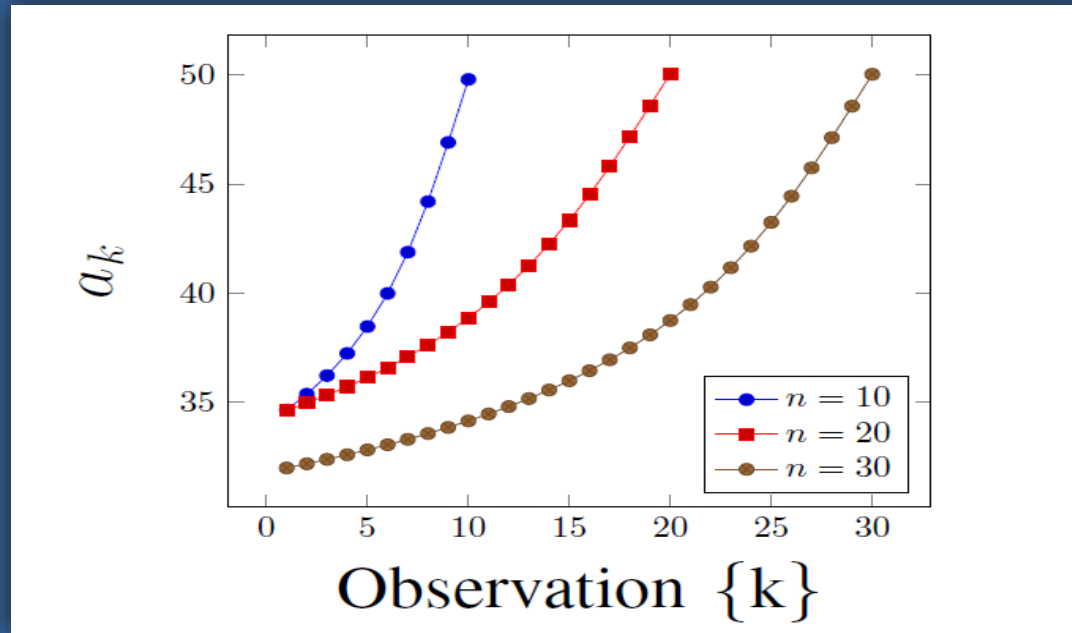


Figure 6: The optimal values  $\{a_k\}_{k=1}^n$  for data staleness horizon  $n \in \{10, 20, 30\}$  and  $X$  is normally distributed  $\mu = 50$   $\sigma = 10$ .



# Cont'd

- The decision values (black points).
- Simulated server processing time (blue points).
- The optimal data offloading time when  $k=27, 29, 46, 47, 48$  and  $50$  where  $X < a$ .
- We offload at  $k=27$

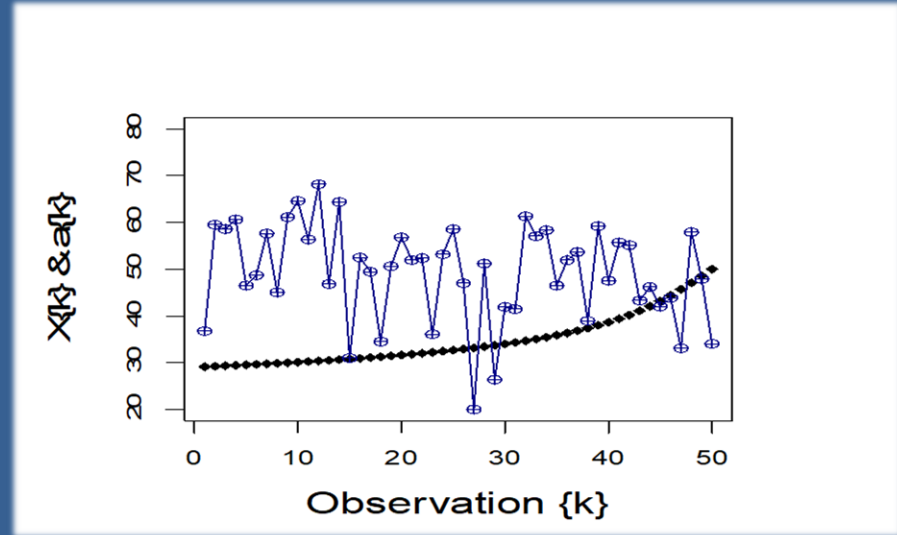


Figure 7: The decision values  $a$  and  $X$  vs observation  $k$



# Performance Evaluation: Data set

- We used the real dataset of taxi cabs' movements in Rome <sup>8</sup>.
- Real Server utilisation <sup>9</sup>

Cap id	Movement time	Location	Machine name	CPU utilization
156	2014-02-05 00:11:01	(41.8911, 12.49073)	m_1939	(51)
156	2014-02-05 00:11:11	(41.89905,12.4899)	m_1936	(47)
156	2014-02-05 00:11:22	(41.8994,12.48940)	m_1941	(20)
156	2014-02-05 00:11:31	(41.8994,12.489401)	m_1941	(37)

Table 5.2: A sample of the data set used in the experiment.

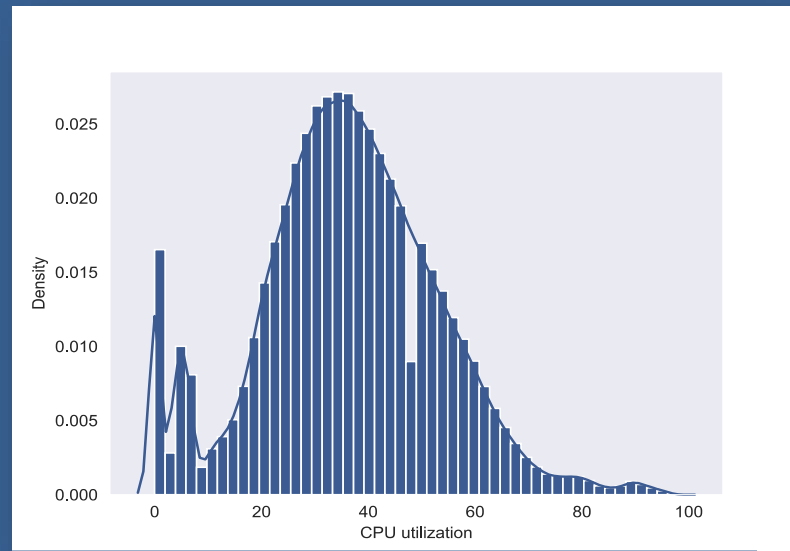


Figure 8: Density of Server utilisation.

<sup>8</sup> L.Bracciale,M.Bonola,P.Loreti,G.Bianchi,R.Amici,andA.Rabuffi, “CRAWDAD dataset roma/taxi (v. 2014-07-17),” Downloaded from <https://crawdad.org/roma/taxi/20140717>, Jul. 2018.

<sup>9</sup> [https://github.com/alibaba/clusterdata/blob/master/cluster-trace-v2018/trace\\_2018.md](https://github.com/alibaba/clusterdata/blob/master/cluster-trace-v2018/trace_2018.md)

# Performance Evaluation: Baselines

- Comparison:
  - Best Choice Problem (BCP) <sup>10</sup>
  - Delay-Tolerant Sequential Decision-making (DTO) <sup>11</sup>
  - Cost-Based Task Offloading <sup>10</sup>
  - Random.
    - Select a server randomly.
  - $p$ -model with different probability  $p=0.8$ 
    - *Select the first server.*
  - *The optimal.*
    - *The server with the minimum CPU utilisation.*

---

<sup>10</sup> I. Alghamdi, C. Anagnostopoulos, and D. P. Pezaros, “On the optimality of task offloading in mobile edge computing environments,” in 2019 IEEE Global Communications Conference (GLOBECOM), 2019, pp. 1–6.

<sup>11</sup> I. A. I. Alghamdi, C. Anagnostopoulos, and D. Pezaros, “Delay-tolerant sequential decision making for task offloading in mobile edge computing environments,” Information, 2019.





# Main Results

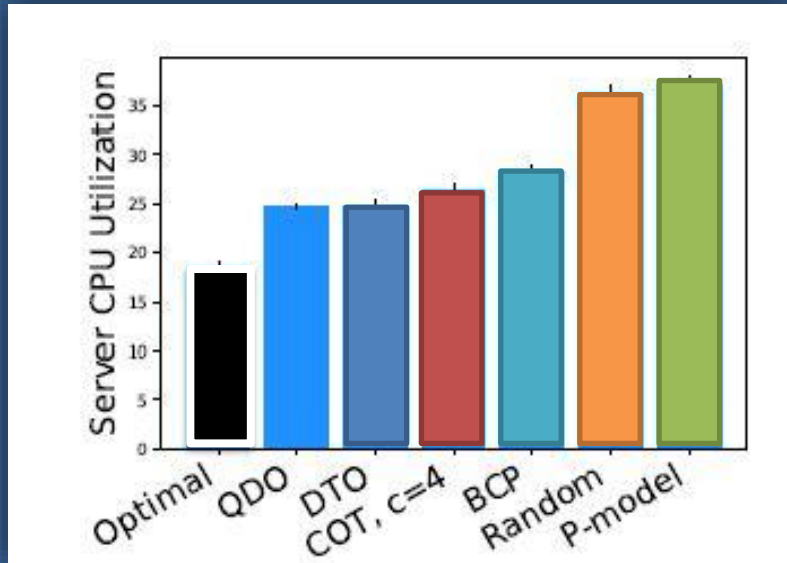


Figure 9: Expected CPU utilization.

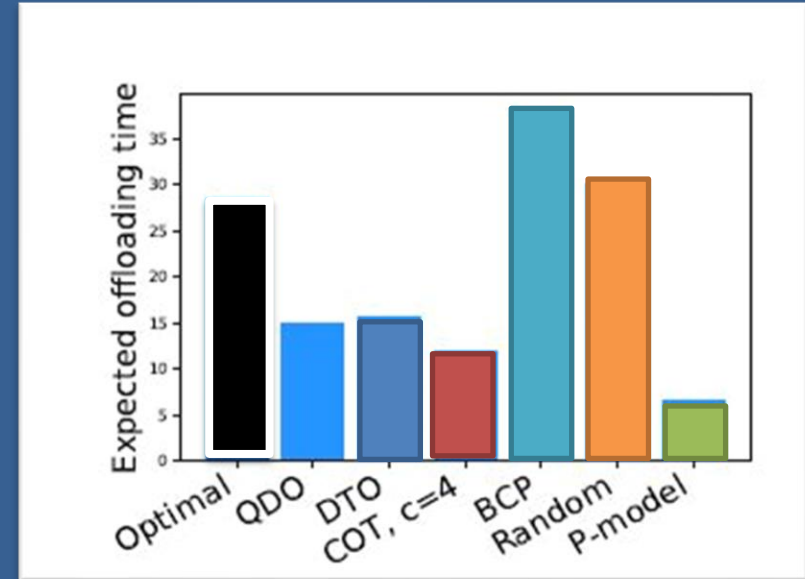


Figure 10: Expected offloading time for each model.



# Future Work

Implemented in a mobile node:

- Test different random variables
- Different probability distribution





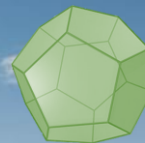
University  
of Glasgow

NETLAB

NETWORKED SYSTEMS RESEARCH LABORATORY



University of Glasgow | School of  
Computing Science



School of Computing Science  
Essence: Pervasive &  
Distributed Intelligence

**Thank you!**  
**Questions**

[i.alghamd.1@research.gla.ac.uk](mailto:i.alghamd.1@research.gla.ac.uk)

<http://www.dcs.gla.ac.uk/essence/>

<https://netlab.dcs.gla.ac.uk/>