# RESEARCH ABSTRACT ON TOPOLOGY AND ROUTING IN LARGE-SCALE INTERCONNECT NETWORKS

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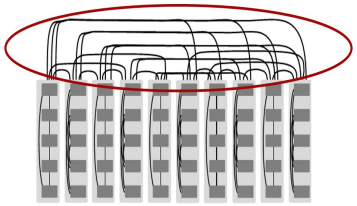
As a PhD student in the FSU CS EXPLORER (EXtreme-scale comPuting, modeLing, netwORking & systEms Research) lab under the supervision of Dr. Xin Yuan, my research activity revolves around the analysis, improvement and performance evaluation of a number of topology and routing schemes widely used in the field of high performance computing.

## Load-Balanced Slim Fly Networks

Slim Fly:
- A recently proposed diameter-two topology
- Reaches within 88% of the optimum degree-diameter graph

Our contributions:
- Analyzed link-usage probability
- Showed that inter-plane links are more likely to be used for common traffic patterns
- Proposed two strategies to ensure load-balance in Slim Fly networks

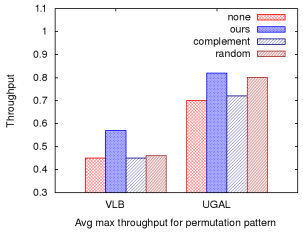
| SF(q) | $N_r$ | Probability ratio |
|---|---|---|
| SF(11) | 242 | 1.24 : 1 |
| SF(13) | 338 | 1.27 : 1 |
| SF(17) | 578 | 1.32 : 1 |
| SF(19) | 722 | 1.34 : 1 |
| SF(23) | 1058 | 1.36 : 1 |
| SF(29) | 1682 | 1.42 : 1 |



Solution 1: b/w provisioning:
- Increase the b/w of the inter-plane links proportionally

\+ Completely eliminates load-imbalance

\- Implementation issues.

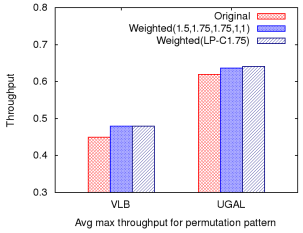


Avg max throughput for permutation pattern

Solution 2: Weighted-VLB routing:
- Divert some traffic from the over-used links to the under-used ones
- So essentially, assign "weights" to paths

\+ More feasible implementation

\- Reduces load-imbalances, but does not remove it completely.

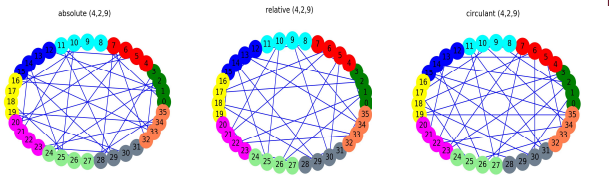


Avg max throughput for permutation pattern

## Dragonfly Design Space: Link Arrangement and Path Diversity

Dragonfly:
- Routers are grouped together in clusters
- Clusters are connected to form a diameter-three topology
- If each group has **a** routers, and each router has **h** global connections, then maximum number of groups in the system, $g_{max} = a*h + 1$

Different Dragonfly arrangements:



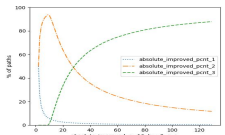
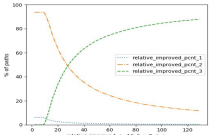

Open research questions:

What if $g < g_{max}$ ?
- What to do with the extra ports?
- Which group should be connected to which port?

Can randomly assigning ports help in topology creation?
- Fully random connections?
- Some greedy heuristic?
- Reinforcement learning?

What are some good performance metrics?

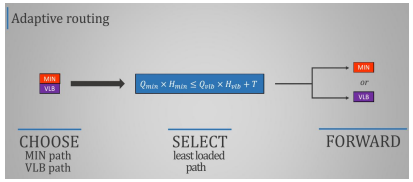
How do the minimum-path lengths change with increasing group number, g?
- Can they be exploited in routing?

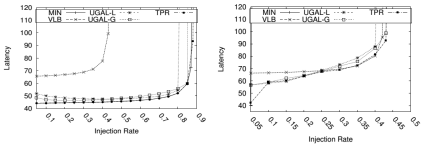



## Traffic-Pattern Based Adaptive Routing for Dragonfly

Investigated the performance of adaptive routing in the Dragonfly used in Cray Cascade

Our contributions:
- Inferred traffic pattern by observing the packet destinations within a certain window
- Tuned the **T** value accordingly to bias towards either minimal or non-minimal routing




## Performance Modeling Studies

Modeling UGAL on the Dragonfly Topology
- Modeled the UGAL routing over Dragonfly topology to get a better theoretical understanding on how the routing works

Throughput Models of Interconnection Networks: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
- Evaluated a number of commonly-used throughput models and identified similar and contradictory trends in their performance

A Comparative Study of Topology Design Approaches for HPC Interconnects
- Studied the performance characteristics of a number of topologies that provide either low diameter or high path diversity