



# Zero Overhead Monitoring for Cloud-native Infrastructure using RDMA

Zhe Wang, Teng Ma, Linghe Kong, Zhenzao Wen, Jingxuan Li, Zhuo Song,  
Yang Lu, Yong Yang, Tao Ma, Guihai Chen, Wei Cao



上海交通大学  
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY

饮水思源 · 爱国荣校

 Alibaba Cloud



# Contents

1

Background & Motivation

2

Core Design

3

Implementation & Evaluation

4

Conclusion



# Contents

1

**Background & Motivation**

2

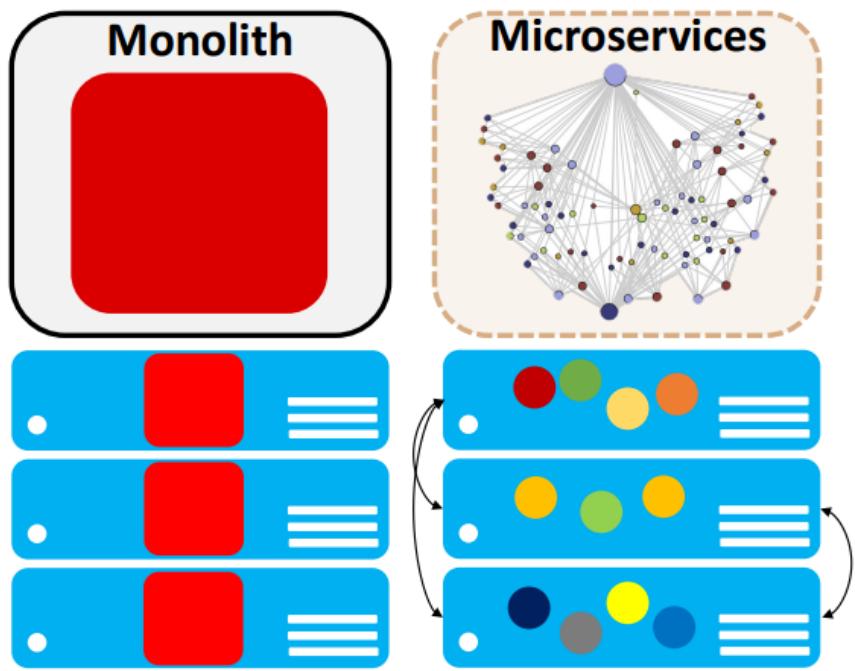
**Core Design**

3

**Implementation & Evaluation**

4

**Conclusion**

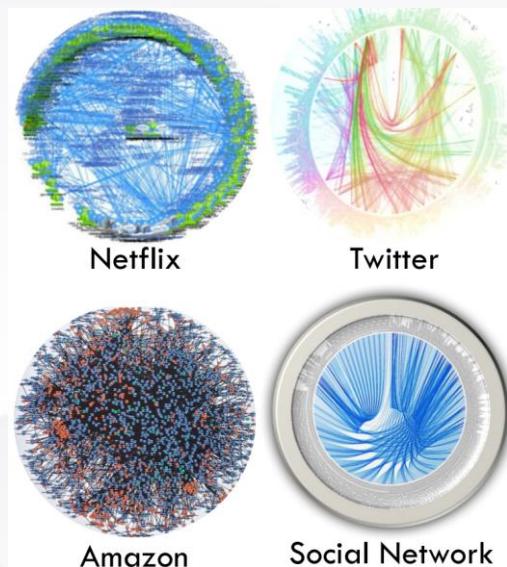


## Cloud-native infrastructure:

- ✓ Monolithic design ---> microservices
- ✓ Dense deployment
- ✓ Disposable and immutable system
- ✓ Various applications



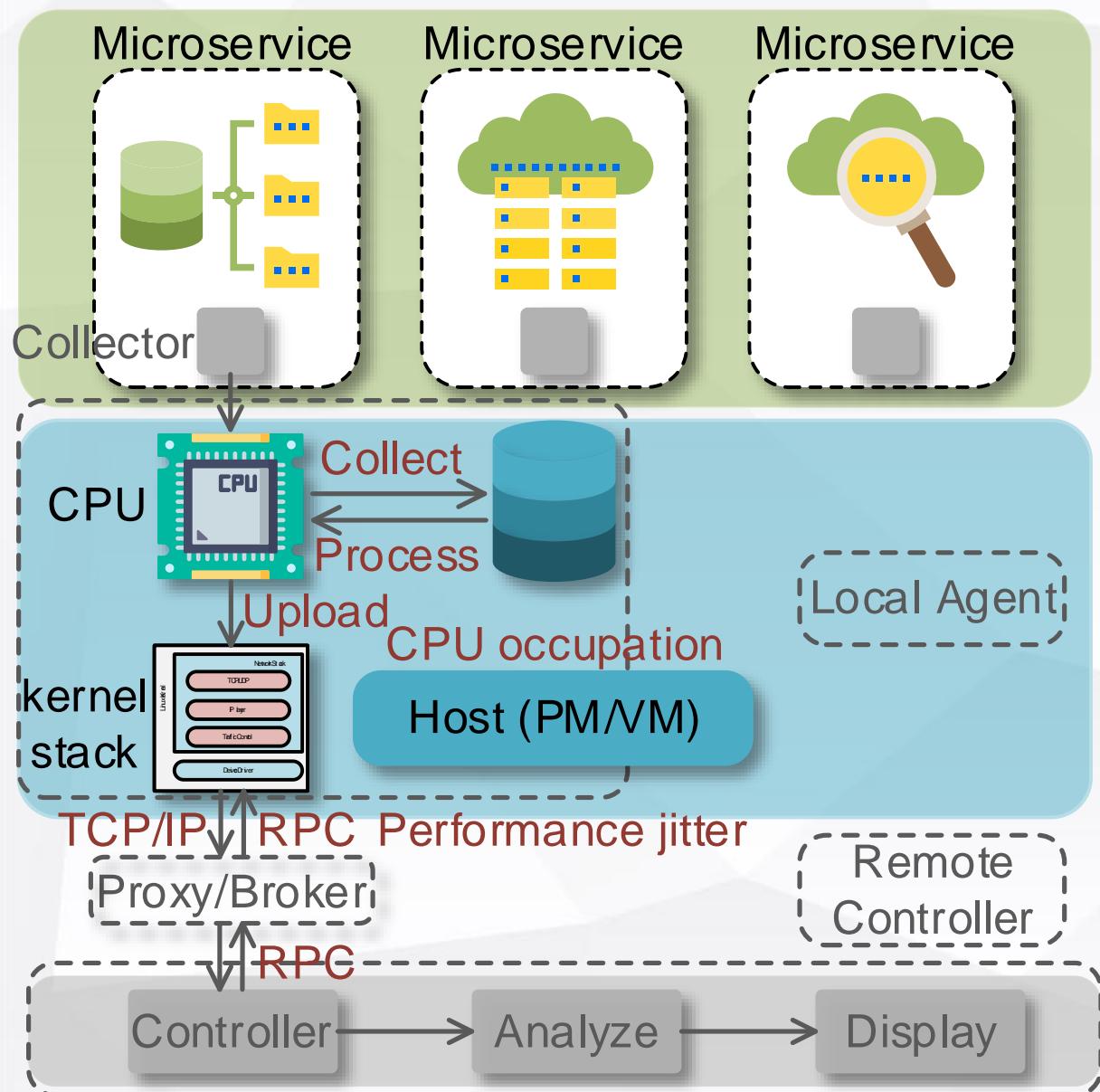
## Cloud-native computing



## Implications:

- ✓ Stricter QoS
- ✓ Highly resource constrained
- ✓ Massive metrics
- ✓ Rapid variations

# Cloud-native monitoring



## Monitor---service interference

- ✓ High CPU utilization
- ✓ CPU bonding vs. default scheduling

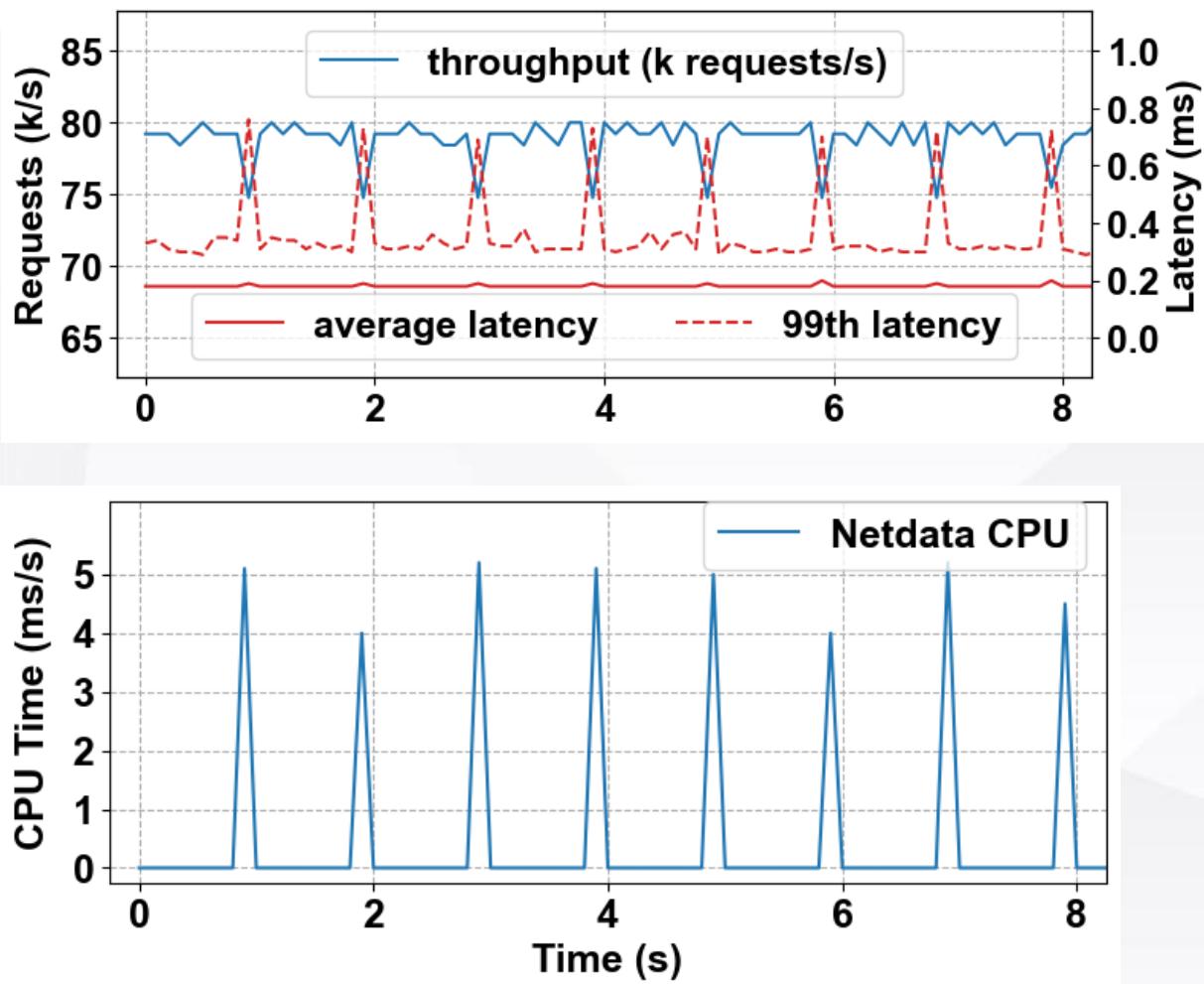
## Service & monitor resource contentions

## Service---monitor interference

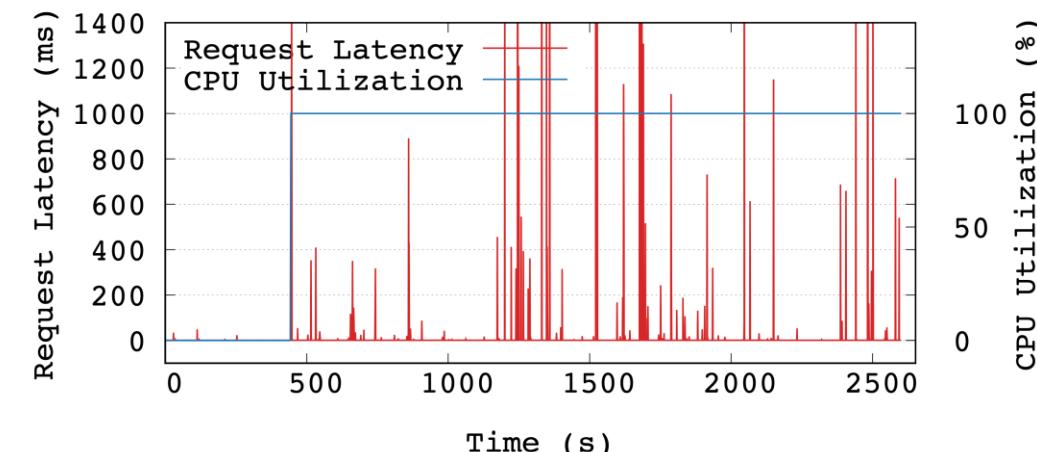
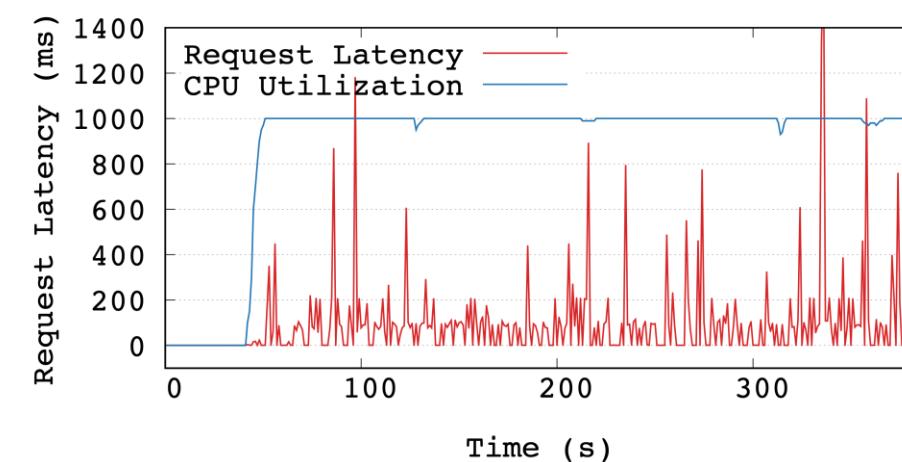
- ✓ CPU quota
- ✓ Interface reusing



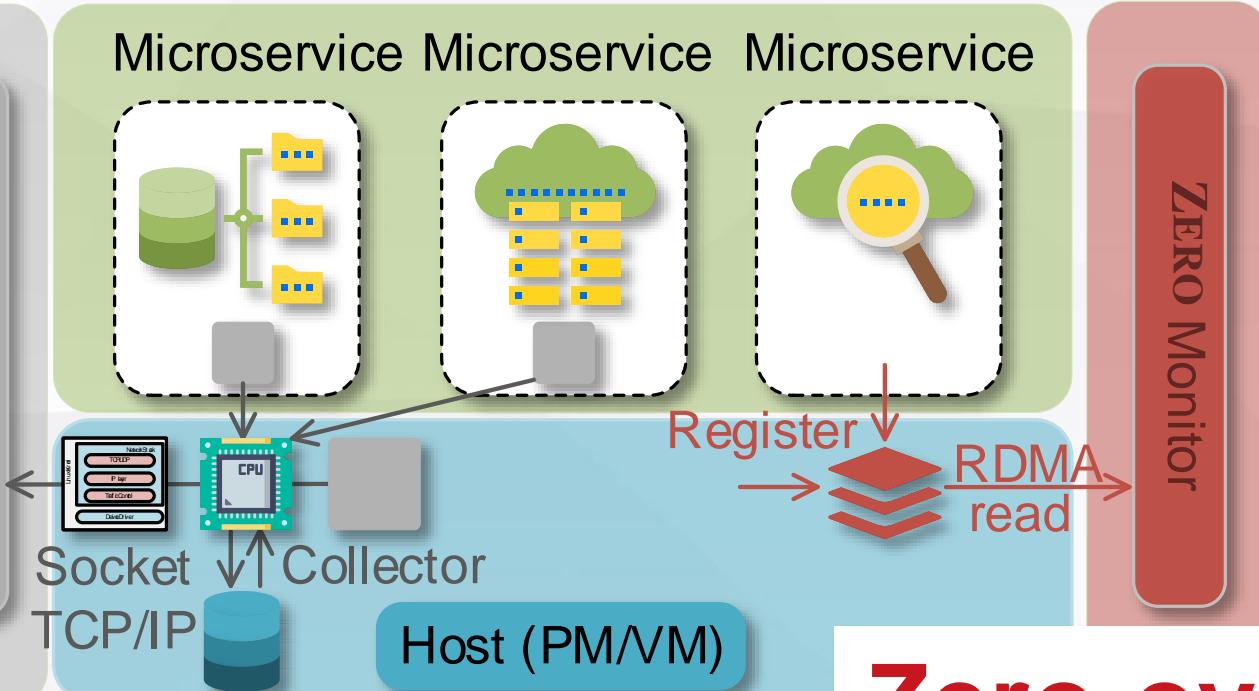
# Service jitters



# Monitor jitters



## Traditional Monitor



# Decoupling monitor from infrastructure!

## Zero-overhead monitoring

### Metric features

- ✓ Counters & reproducible calculation

### RDMA support

- ✓ One-sided RDMA (CPU & kernel bypass)

## How to decouple?





# Contents

1

Background & Motivation

2

Core Design

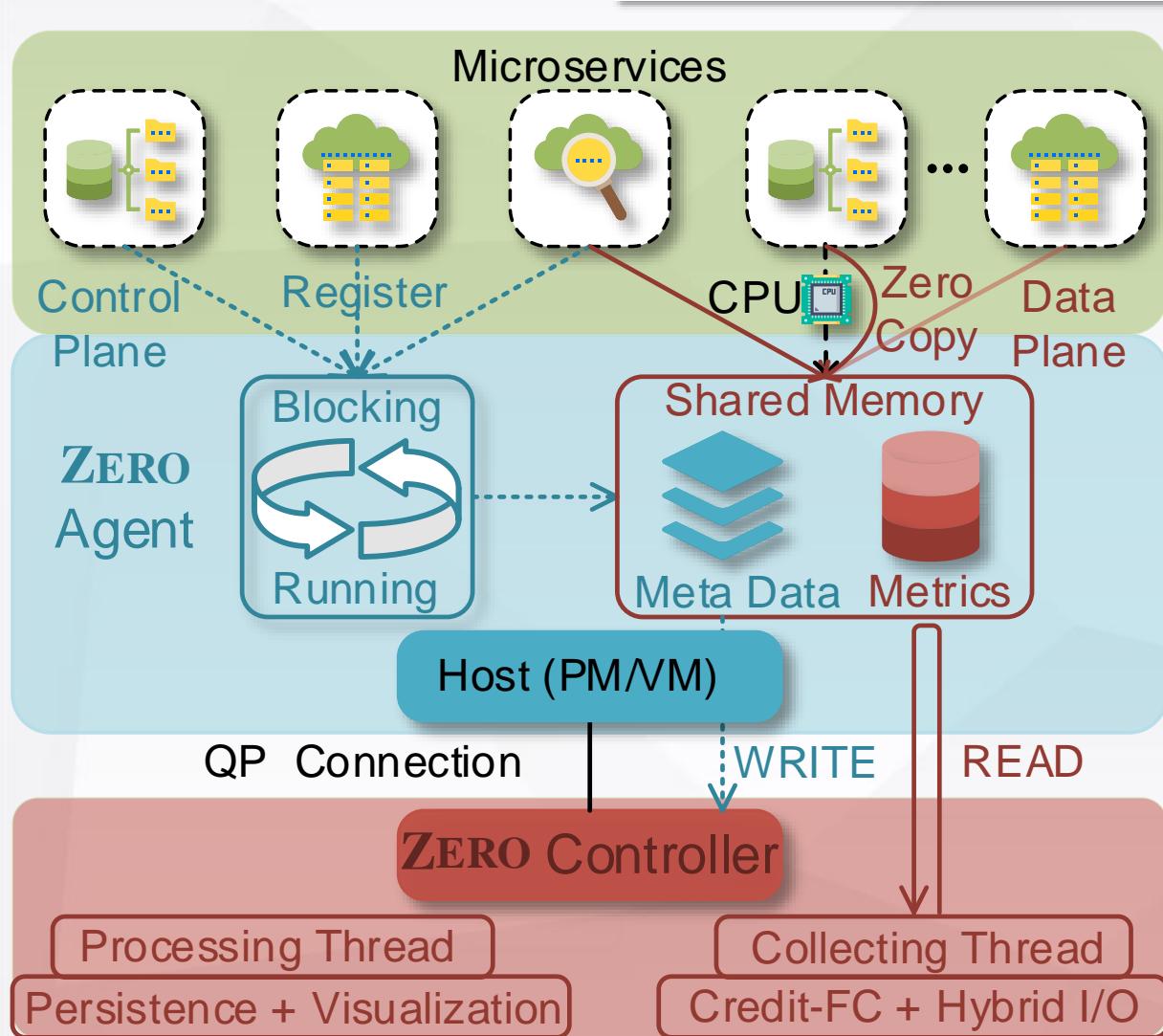
3

Implementation & Evaluation

4

Conclusion

# Zero Overview



## Challenge 1

- ✓ Offload collect overheads besides upload overheads

## Challenge 2

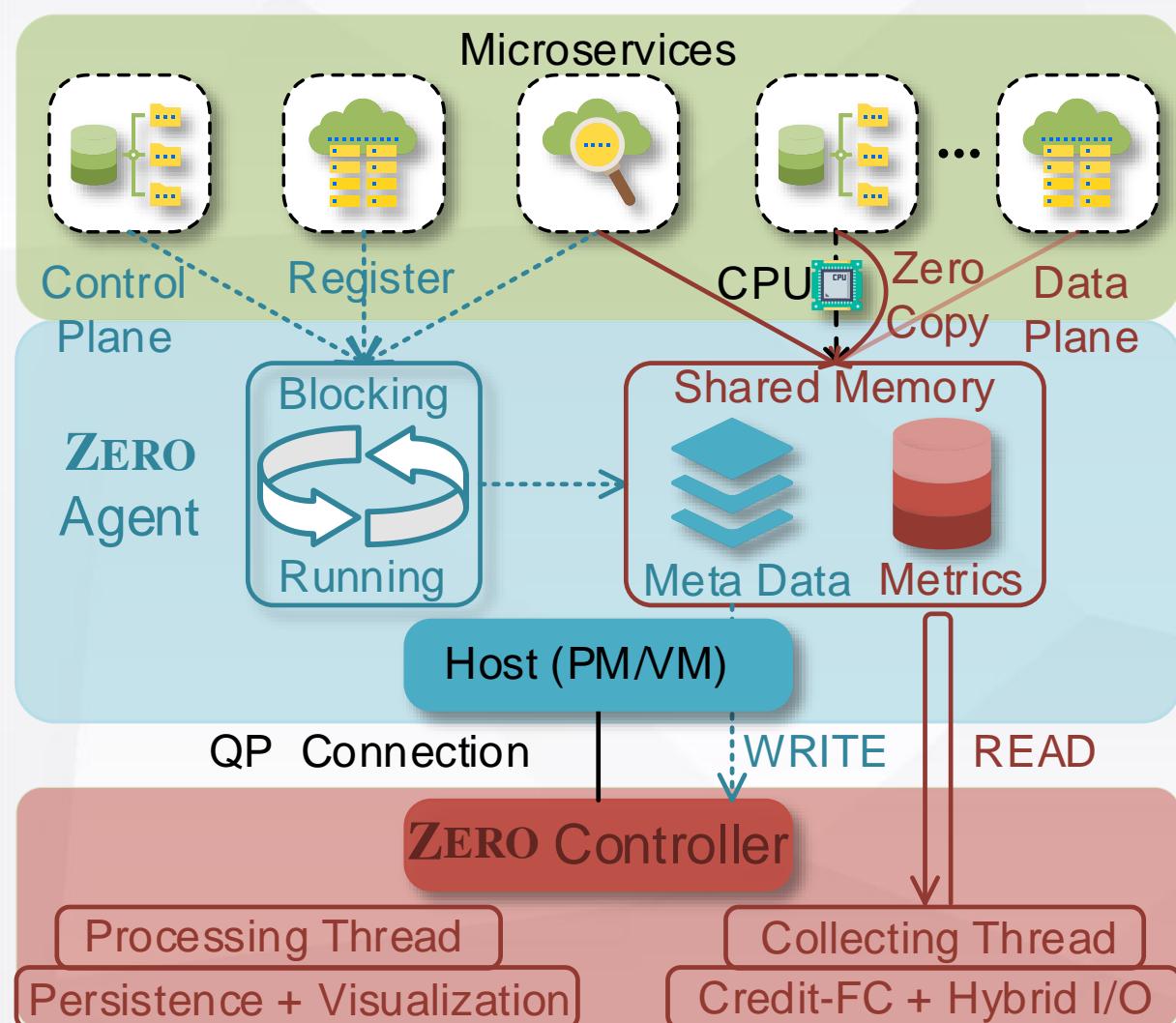
- ✓ Achieve high throughput while avoiding incast

## Challenge 3

- ✓ Collect & process metrics from multiple connections



# Control Plane



## Universal interface

- ✓ (De)register metrics
- ✓ Update metadata in control region

## Disposable overhead

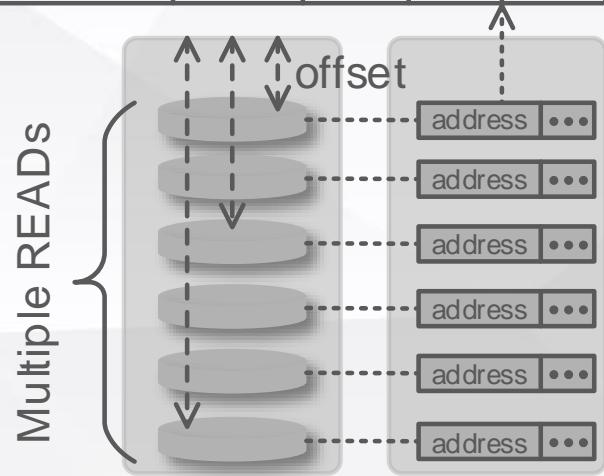
- ✓ System/persistent/tidal metrics
- ✓ Serverless functions

## QP connection share

- ✓ Manage & share QP connection



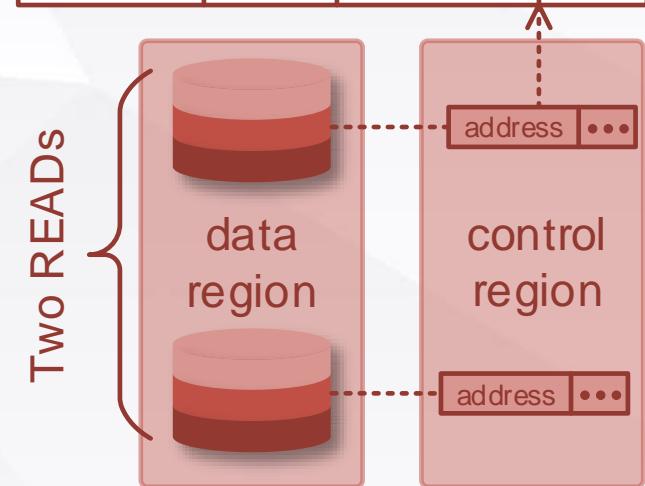
address	offset	type	size	rkey
---------	--------	------	------	------



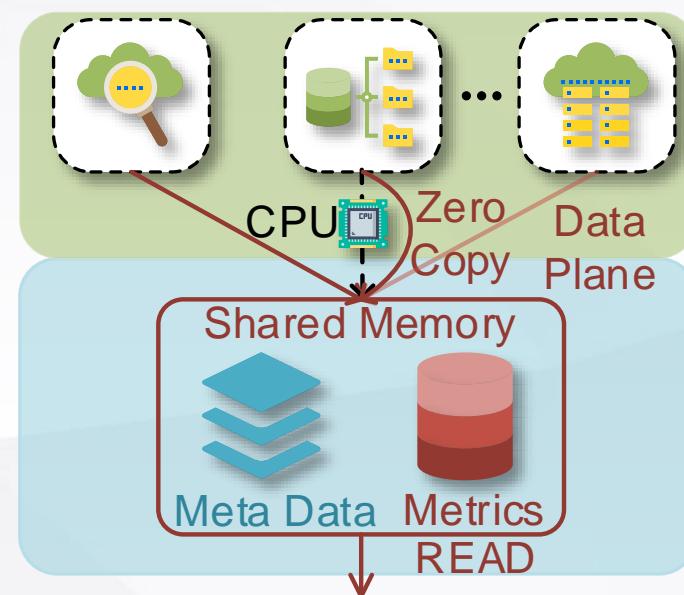
## Shared memory

## Memory management

address	offset	structure	rkey
---------	--------	-----------	------



## Data Plane



- ✓ Zero copy
- ✓ Zero CPU involvement
- ✓ Reduce MR entries and READs



QP connections



ZERO Controller

Collecting Thread

Credit-FC + Hybrid I/O

Processing Thread

Persistence + Visualization

Receiver-driven  
cc

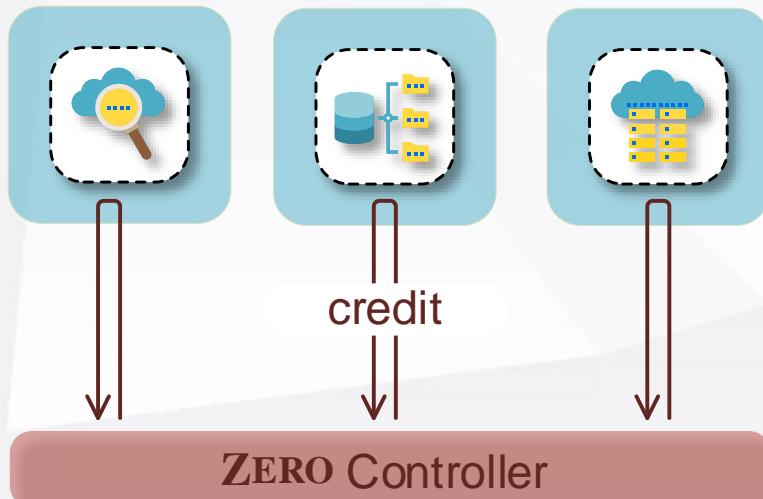
Thread dispatch



## Scale-out monitoring

...

- ✓ Efficient threading and I/O model
- ✓ Avoid incast with many connections
- ✓ Guaranteed QoS level via receiver-driven model





# Contents

1

Background & Motivation

2

Core Design

3

Implementation & Evaluation

4

Conclusion



# Implementation & Evaluation



## Implementation

- ✓ Zero framework
- ✓ Case studies



redis

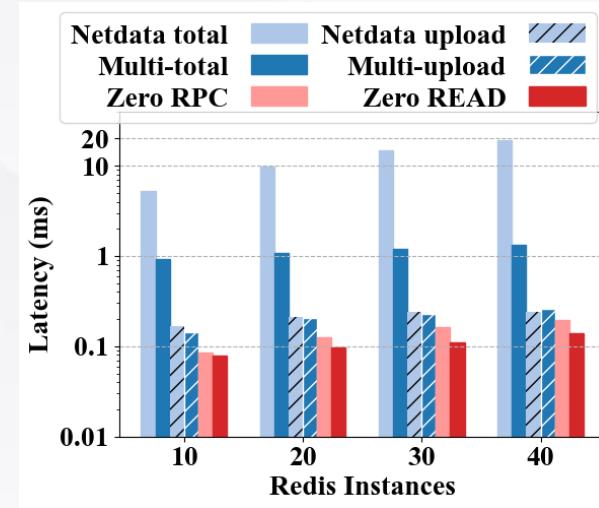
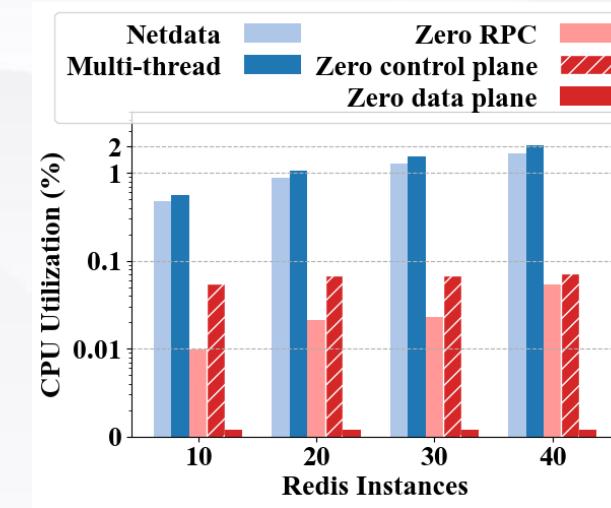
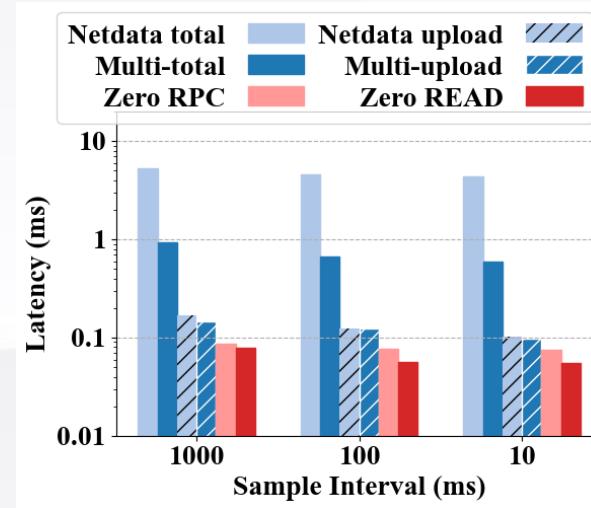
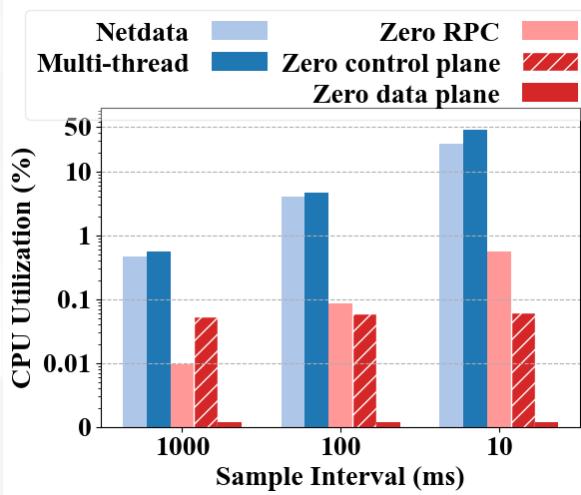


```
// type one, specifying attributes of variables
struct disk my_disk{
    .disk          = "sda",
    .hash         = 0x000f3456, ...
} __attribute__((section(".zero_init")));
//type two, using allocator
struct disk *my_disk = zero_malloc(sizeof(struct disk));
```

## Evaluation Setup

- ✓ Test Clusters
- ✓ Benchmarks: *CPU utilization (both sides), latency, throughput*
- ✓ Parameters: *Sampling interval (QoS), Instances (Metrics), Hosts (Connections)*
- ✓ Baselines: *Legacy tools, Netdata, Zero RPC (SEND/RECV)*



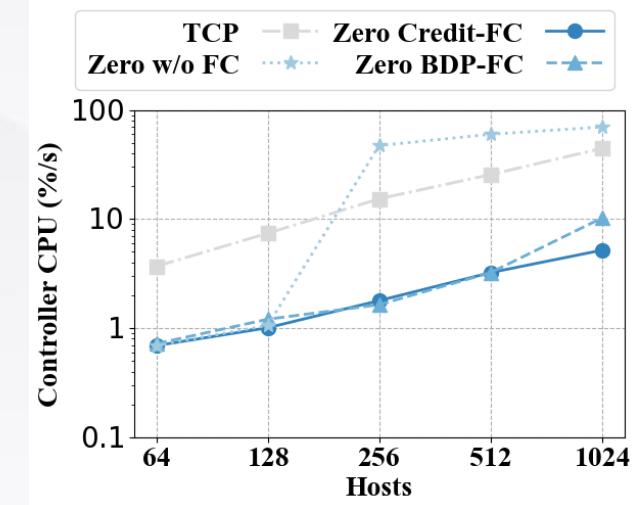
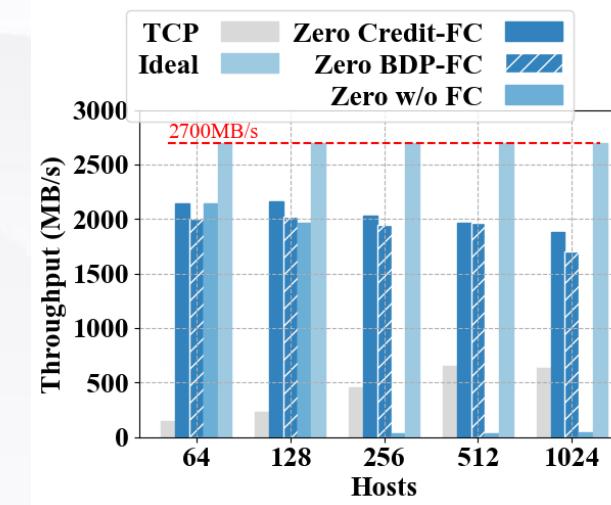
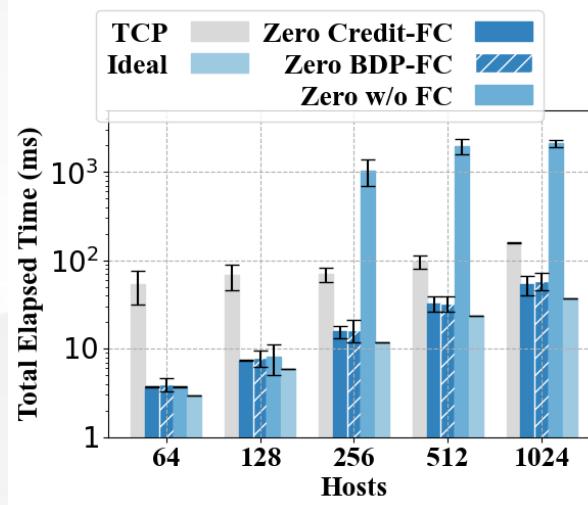
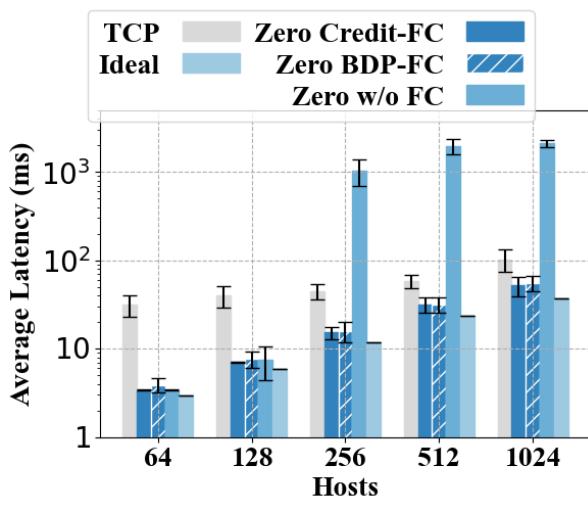


# Zero Overhead

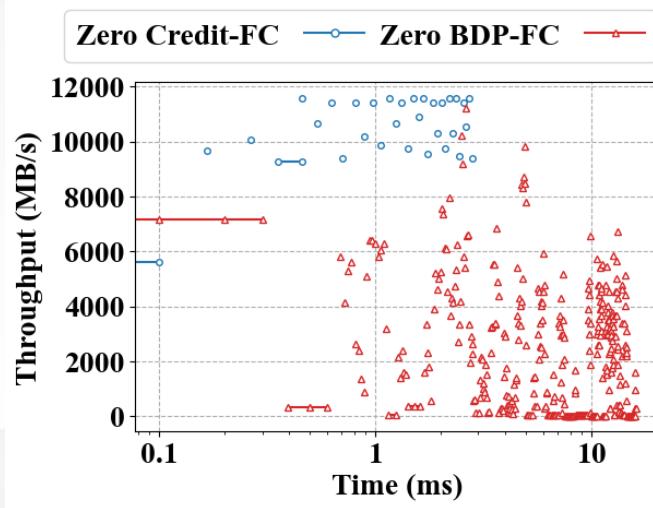
- ✓ Disposable overhead at control plane
- ✓ Zero overhead at data plane
- ✓ Reduce latency by 1~2 order of magnitudes

Metric	Monitor	Redis	Kernel	eBPF
Total Latency (ms)	Baseline	0.7 ~ 19.3	0.5 ~ 1.6	0.8 ~ 12.5
	ZERO RPC	0.08 ~ 0.18	0.14 ~ 0.36	0.10 ~ 1.02
	<b>ZERO</b>	0.05 ~ 0.14	0.07 ~ 0.23	0.08 ~ 0.87
Agent CPU Utilization (%)	Baseline	0.5 ~ 45	0.01 ~ 4	0.08 ~ 6
	ZERO RPC	0.01 ~ 0.55	0.08 ~ 0.9	0.05 ~ 0.68
	<b>Control plane</b>	0.05 ~ 0.07	0.8 ~ 1.5	0.04 ~ 0.05
	<b>Data plane</b>	0	0	0





## Zero Scalability



- ✓ High throughput & low CPU utilization
- ✓ Avoid incast & PFC/ECN triggering
- ✓ Stable QoS





# Contents

1

Background & Motivation

2

Core Design

3

Implementation & Evaluation

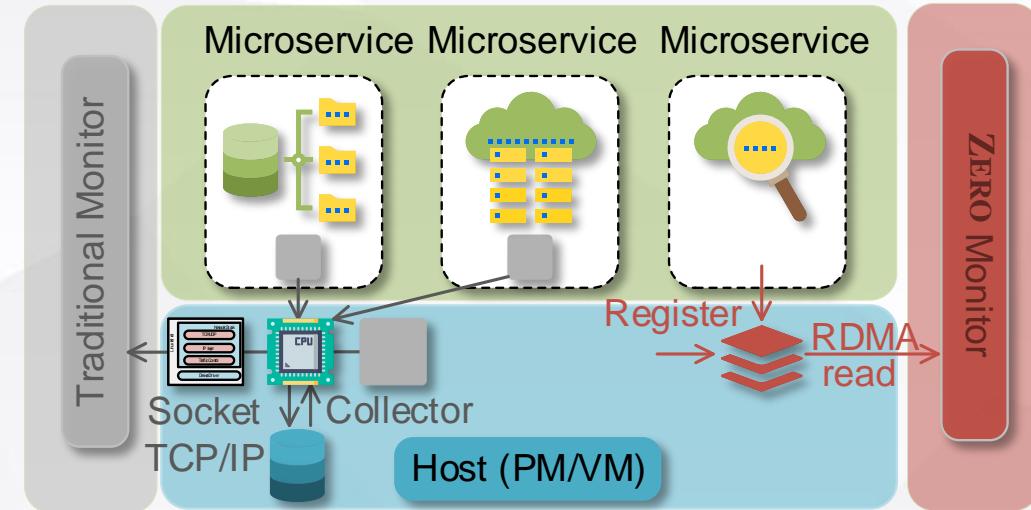
4

Conclusion

# Conclusion

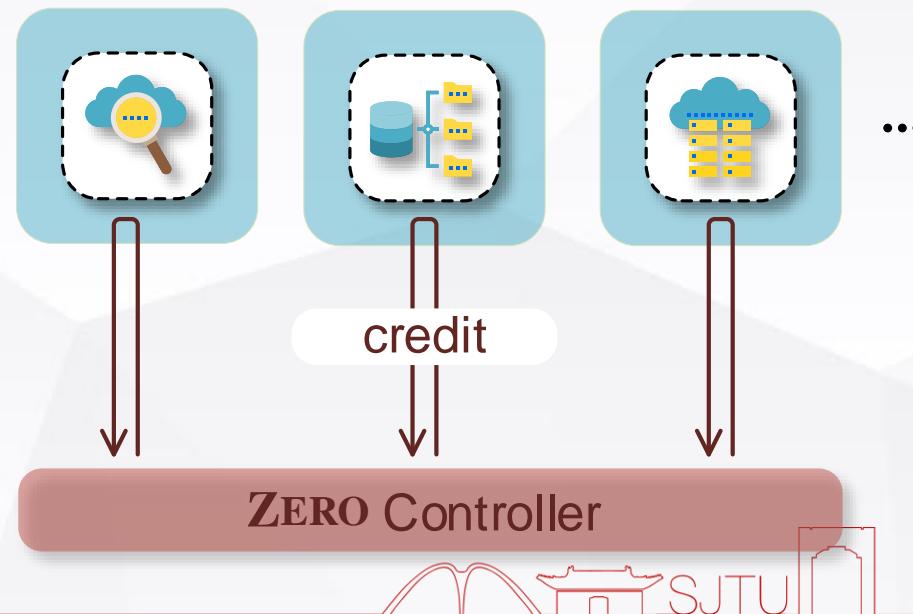
## Zero-overhead monitoring

- ✓ One-sided RDMA (RDMA read)
- ✓ Novel control & data plane design



## Large-scale distributed monitoring

- ✓ Receiver-driven CC
- ✓ Highly-efficient thread and I/O model





# Thanks! Q&A

Contacts:

[linghe.kong@sjtu.edu.cn](mailto:linghe.kong@sjtu.edu.cn)

[songzhuo.sz@alibaba-inc.com](mailto:songzhuo.sz@alibaba-inc.com)

[sima.mt@alibaba-inc.com](mailto:sima.mt@alibaba-inc.com)

[wang-zhe@sjtu.edu.cn](mailto:wang-zhe@sjtu.edu.cn)

饮水思源 发国荣校



## Achieving high scalability and availability

- ✓ QP sharing & group switching, standby controller

## Avoiding network interference

- ✗ Physical isolation (high cost), low priority (timeout)
- ✓ Control build-up queue (receiver-driven)

## Receiver-driven CC

- ✗ Equal bandwidth sharing, rely on ECN or INT
- ✓ Credit only (<BDP), pacing is required, general case?

