#### Real-time Performance Control of Elastic Virtualized Network Functions

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#### A new era of computing for ICT

• Wide availability of broadband connections

==> shift in computing paradigms towards distributed computing (cloud computing)

- More and more resources provided remotely
  - Not only remote storage and batch processing
  - But also *remote processing* for *interactive applications*
- Network operators are shifting provisioning of critical network services to virtualized network functions (through **private or hybrid cloud** provisioning models)

Examples

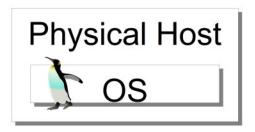
- Virtual Reality with heavyweight physics simulations
- Distributed editing of HD video (film post-production)

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Virtualization technologies are key

- For **laaS** providers (Cloud Computing)
- For server consolidation

**Different virtualization technologies** 





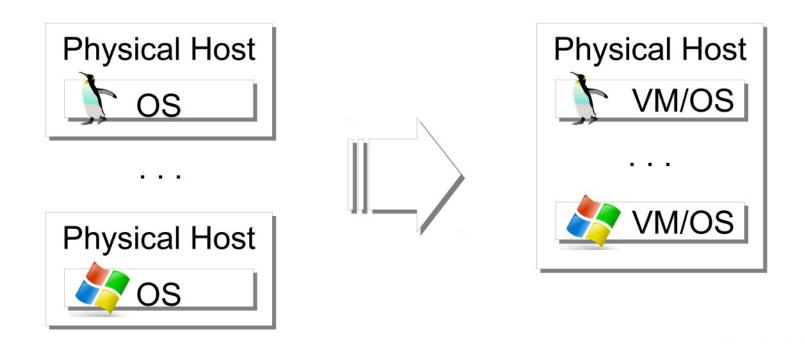
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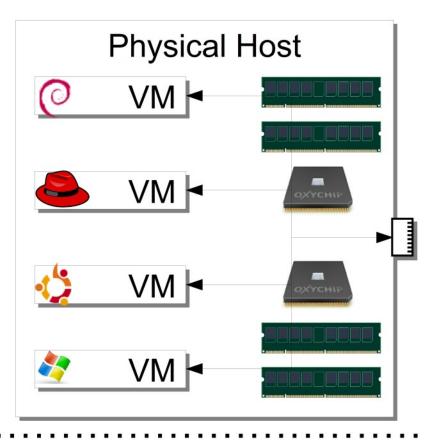


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### **Need for Performance Isolation**

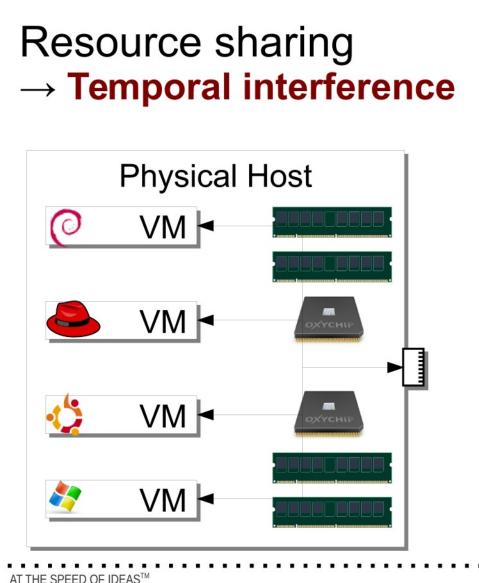
# Resource sharing → Temporal interference

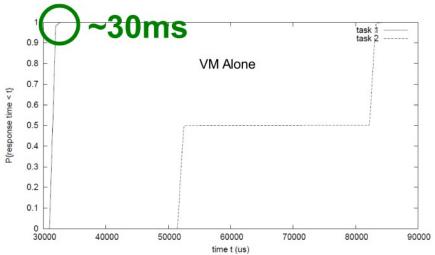


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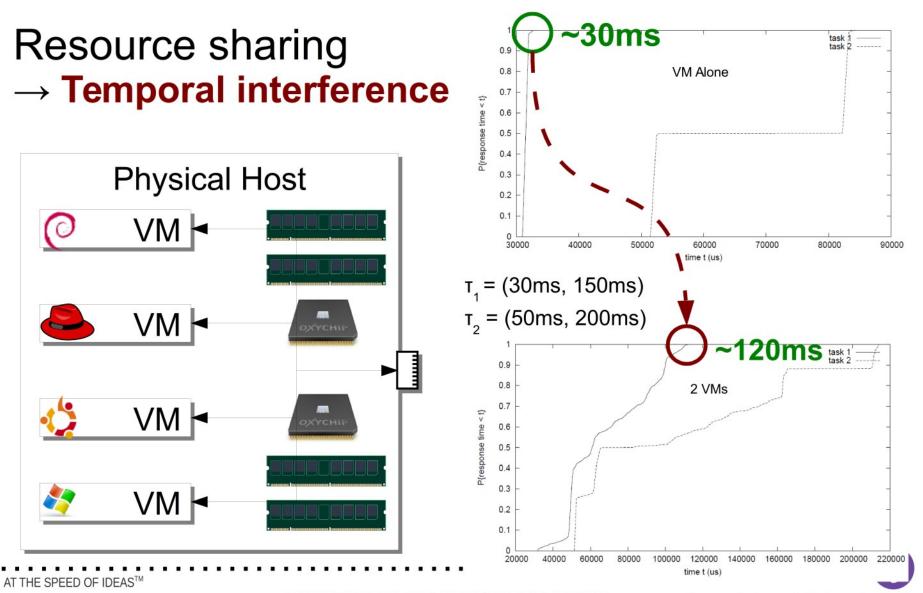
## **Need for Performance Isolation**







### **Need for Performance Isolation**



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# **Co-Scheduling Virtual Machines**

#### **Issues in deploying RT SW in VMs**

- Scheduling and timing
  - VM scheduling impacts on the vision of time by guest OSes
    - Time granularity (for measuring time and setting timers)
    - Non-uniform progress-rate of applications
  - SMP-enabled guests
    - Spin-lock primitives assume release of locks within very short time-frames
      - What happens if the lock-owner VM is descheduled ?

#### • Benchmarking

- A VM may be deployed on different HW (SOA scenario)
  - How to achieve predictable performance ?
- VMs may be deployed on **General-Purpose HW** (with cache)
  - How to account for **HW-level interferences** ?



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# **Co-Scheduling Virtual Machines**

#### **Issues in deploying RT SW Components in VMs**

- **Temporal isolation** across VMs
  - Compute-bound and I/O-bound VMs
  - Shared host resources (e.g., network interrupt drivers)
  - Intensive I/O on virtualised peripherals (big-data)
- Proper management of **shared resources**: what MP **resource-sharing protocol** is appropriate ?
  - Proper management of **priority inversion**
  - Reduced overheads (limited number of preemptions)
  - Run-time schedulability analysis and **admission control**



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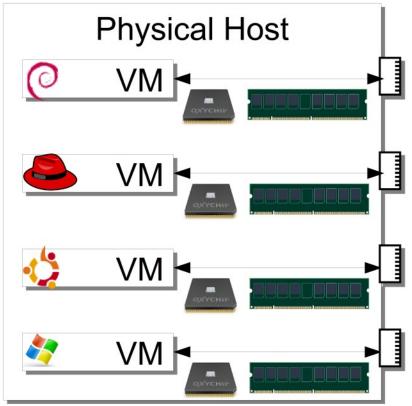
# **Possible Solutions**

Hardware replication and static partitioning

- Computing
  - Multi-core (1 core per VM)
- Networking
  - Multiple network adapters
    (1 network adapter per VM)
  - Multi-queue adapters

Drawbacks

- Limitation of flexibility
- Under-utilization of resources





### **Possible Solutions**

Another approach

- Let multiple VMs use the same resources
- Use proper **resource scheduling** strategies

For example

- Computing
  - Xen credit-based, SEDF schedulers, RT-Xen exts
- Networking
  - QoS-aware protocols (IntServ, MPLS)

Advantages

- Increased flexibility
- Increased resource saturation levels
- Reduced infrastructure costs

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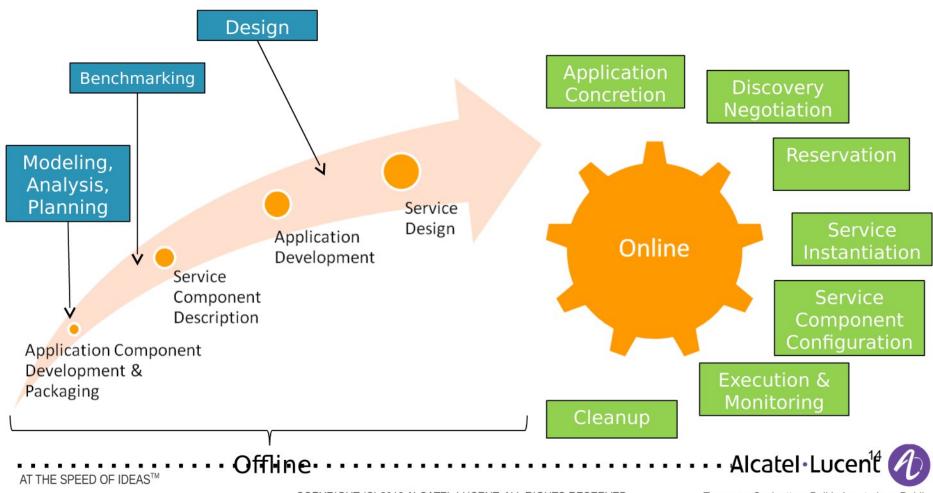
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#### **General IRMOS Approach**



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#### **IRMOS Two-Phase Approach**



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# Approach

# Traditional (hard) real-time techniques are not appropriate

- lead to poor resource utilization
- imply high/unsustainable development costs
- Soft real-time techniques are more appropriate
  - Stochastic models for system/QoS evolution
  - **Probabilistic guarantees** (as opposed to deterministic ones)

#### **Pragmatic approach**

- Theory is always applied
  - on real GPOS (Linux)
  - with a real Virtual Machine Monitor (KVM)
  - on real multimedia applications (mplayer, vlc, ...)



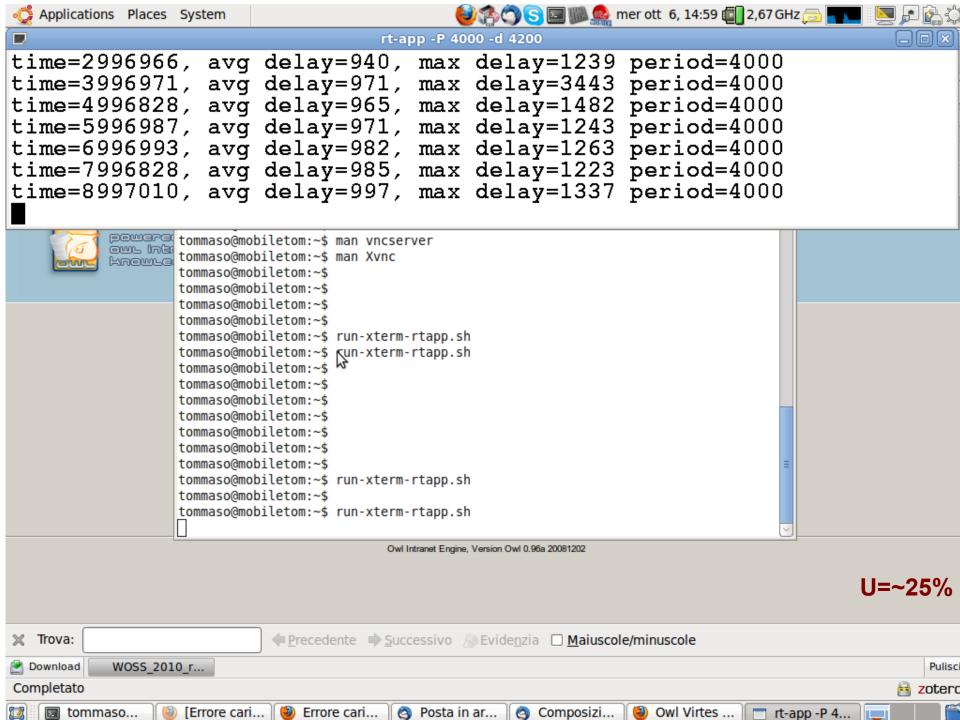
# Approach

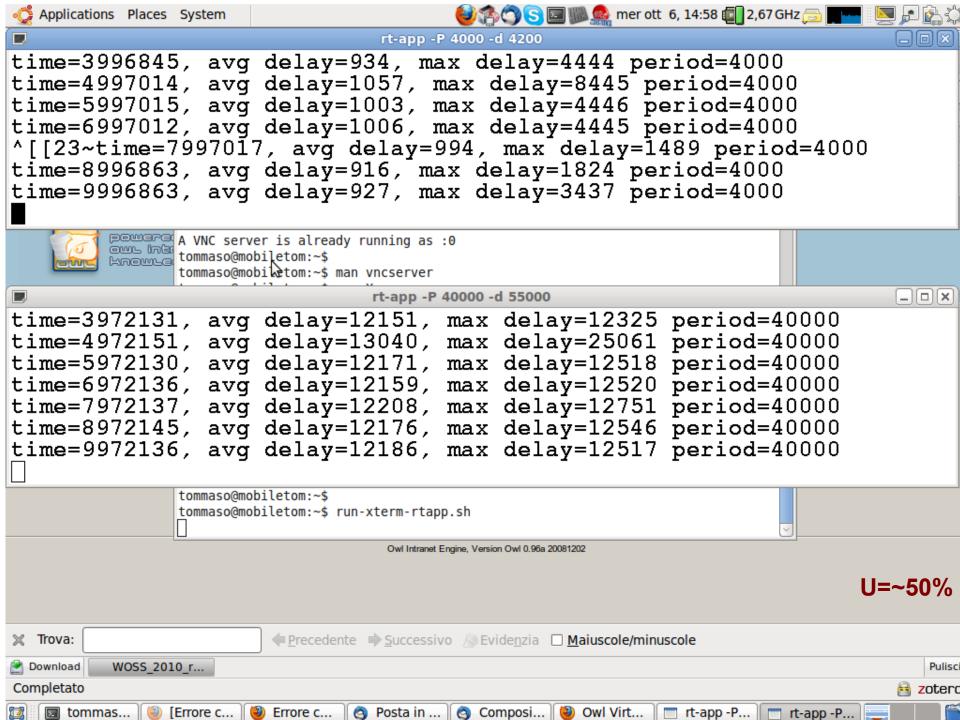
#### **Basic Building blocks**

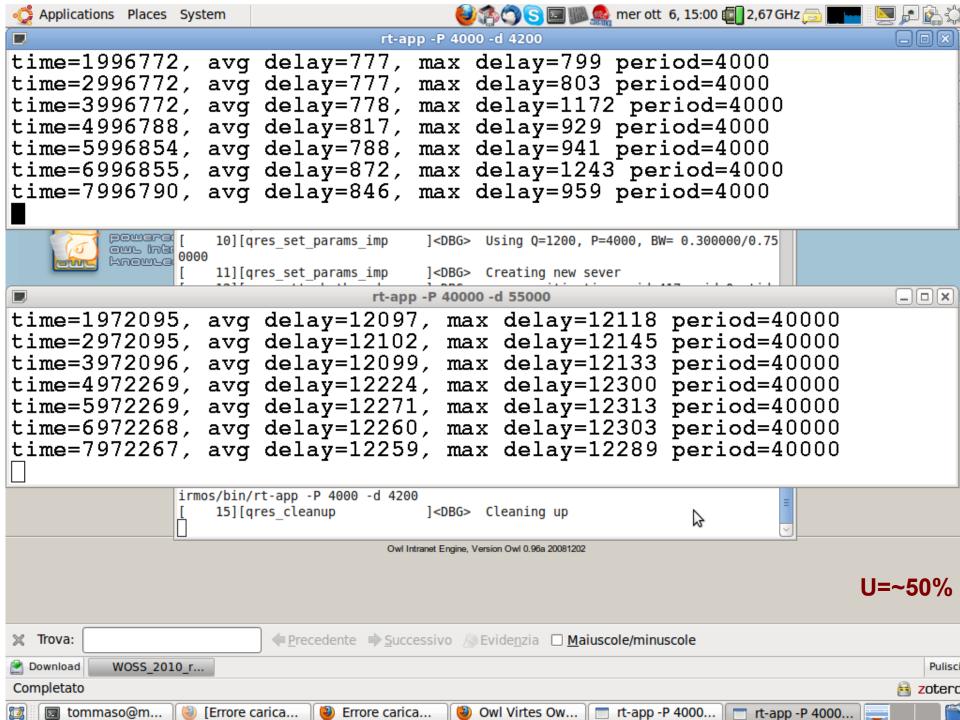
- Linux / KVM enriched with our RT Scheduler(s)
- Each VMU is attached RT scheduling parameters (defining its temporal capsule)
- Improvements on the real-time virtualization performance
  - Modifications at the hypervisor level
  - Modifications at the kernel level
- Analysis of Virtualized RT applications by Hierarchical Real-Time Schedulability Analysis

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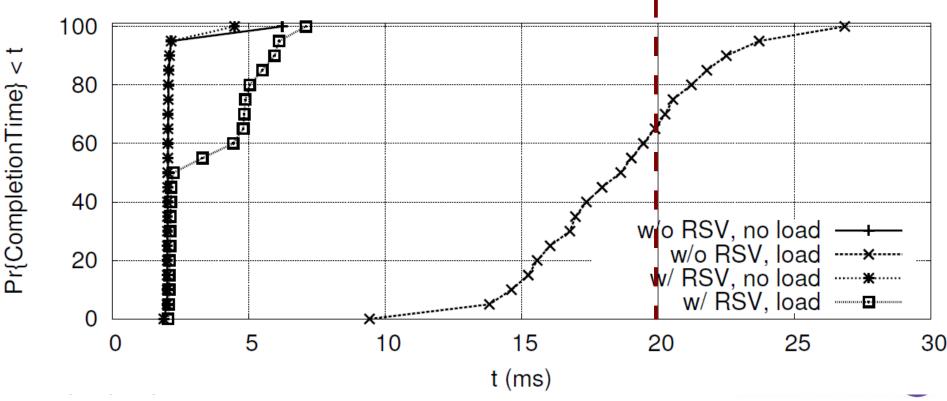




#### Experimental Results (application-level benchmark)

Download time for a 100 KB file from Apache

- Periodic download requests every 20ms
- Response-times may be kept much more stable by real-time scheduling



#### **Controlling Elastic Virtualized Applications**

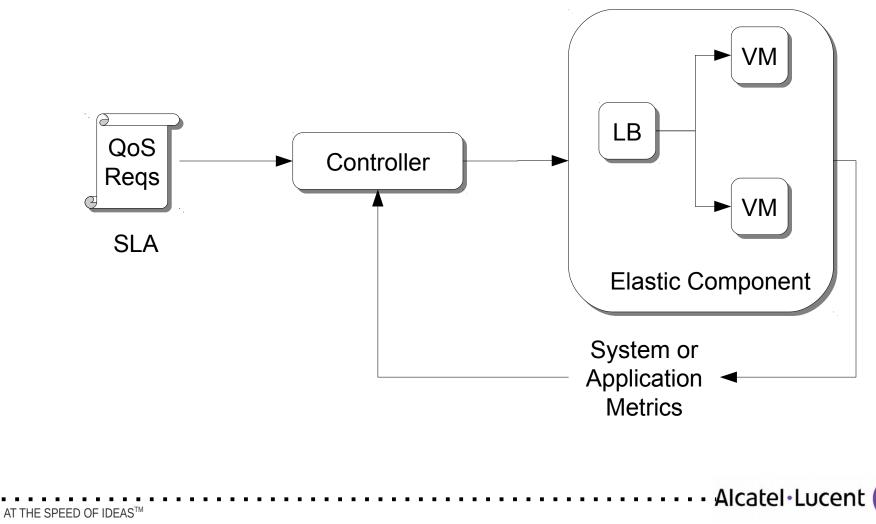


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#### Plethora of Cloud Providers, Tools and Frameworks

- Cloud laaS
  - Amazon, Rackspace, Google Compute, ...
  - OpenNebula, OpenStack, CloudStack
  - CloudBand, ...
- Configuration Management (skip)
- Monitoring and Orchestration
  - Amazon AutoScaling, Heat+Ceilometer, Cloudify, CloudFoundry, Chef Recipes, ...

#### **Elasticity Loop**



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# Adaptation logic built on unstable terrain!





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# Adaptation logic built on unstable terrain!





# Can we make anything better?







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### **Related Publications**

- "Elastic Admission Control for Federated Cloud Services," (to appear on) IEEE Transactions on Cloud Computing
- "Data Centre Optimisation Enhanced by Software Defined Networking," (to appear) in IEEE CLOUD 2014
- "Brokering SLAs for end-to-end QoS in Cloud Computing," CLOSER 2014, Barcelona
- "End-to-End Service Quality for Cloud Applications," GECON 2013, Zaragoza
- "Run-time Support for Real-Time Multimedia in the Cloud," REACTION 2013, Vancouver
- "Admission Control for Elastic Cloud Services," IEEE CLOUD 2012, Hawaii
- "Virtualised e-Learning with Real-Time Guarantees on the IRMOS Platform," IEEE SOCA, December 2010 [best paper award]
- "Hierarchical Multiprocessor CPU Reservations for the Linux Kernel," OSPERT 2009, Dublin

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#### **Thanks for your attention**

#### Questions ?



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