Sarastro: Virtual Internets in the Cloud

Marc X. Makkes, Rudolf Strijkers, Jan Sipke van der Veen, Yuri Demchenko, Cees de Laat and Robert Meijer

We present software, Sarastro, to create and operate IPv4 and IPv6 based overlay networks between cloud-based virtual machines. On the virtual machines, the Sarastro instantiates internet routers and connects them with tunnels via the Internet. The overlay network can be actively managed by Sarastro, for instance by changing its topology and connecting nodes. The overlay networks have in many properties a strong resemblance to the Internet, justifying to name them “virtual internets”. Sarastro is able to support control programs that continuously adapt virtual internets to maintain application specific properties. We present two virtual internets that we generated. The first one wrapped around the world and illustrates the use of our software and typical properties of virtual internets. The second virtual internet demonstrates the concept of a control programs by showing how every network element can maintain at least two connections. Major use cases of virtual internets:

- better than best effort routing over the Internet,
- private internets for closed user groups,
- run-time environments for distributed applications and operating systems.

Demo Scenario: Deployment and Operation

Sarastro virtual Internet nodes

Framework:

Use Cases:
- Closed-user groups: i.e. Children's internet, …
- Better than best effort routing over the Internet,
- Dynamic security and robust against cyber attacks,
- Canvas for distributed applications,
- Operating Systems for distributed applications,
- Operating System for cyber-physical systems.

Contributing projects:
- COMMIT P20 – e-Infrastructure virtualization for e-science applications