

Performance Trade-Offs of TCP Adaptation Method

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line of Presentation

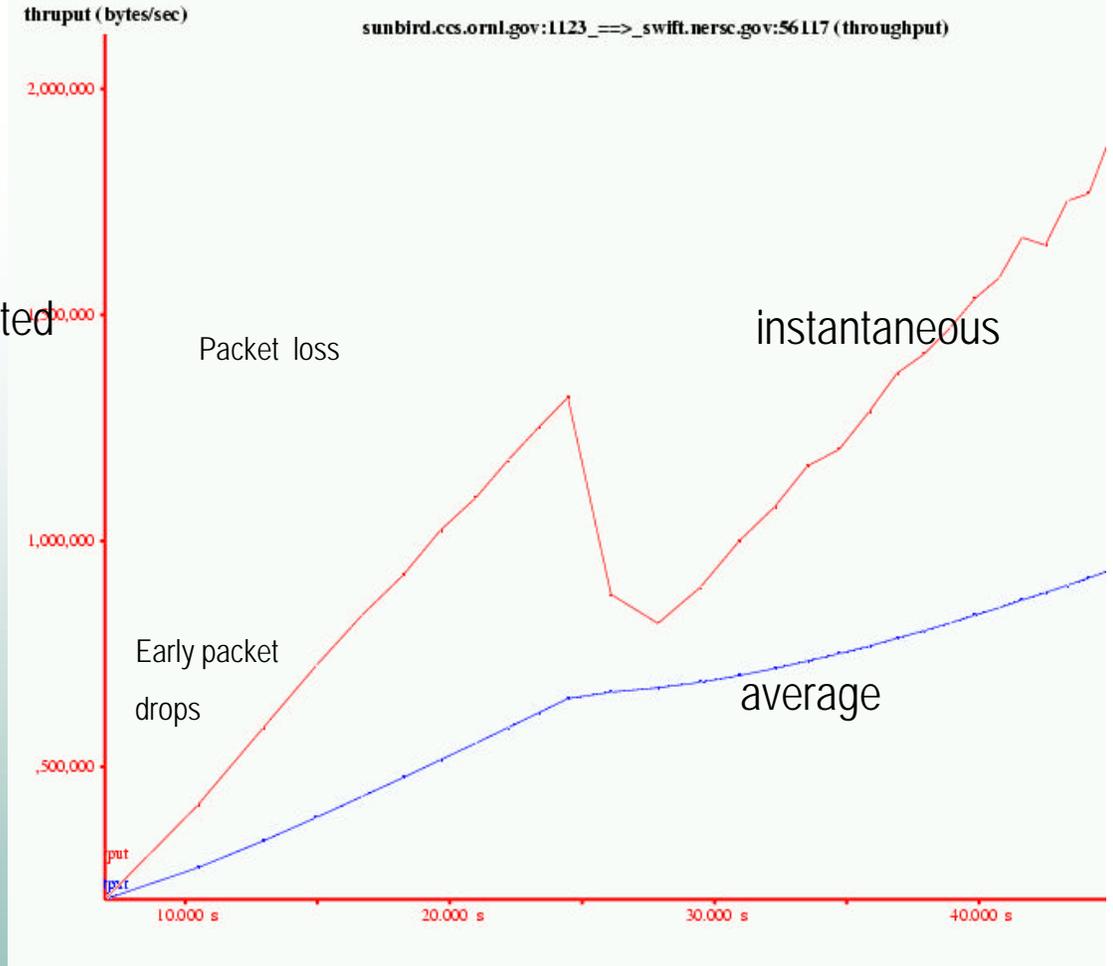
- TCP
 - Performance Issues
 - Simplified Model
- Parallel-TCP
 - Performance Equations
- Comparative Performance
- Dynamic Right-Sizing

Background

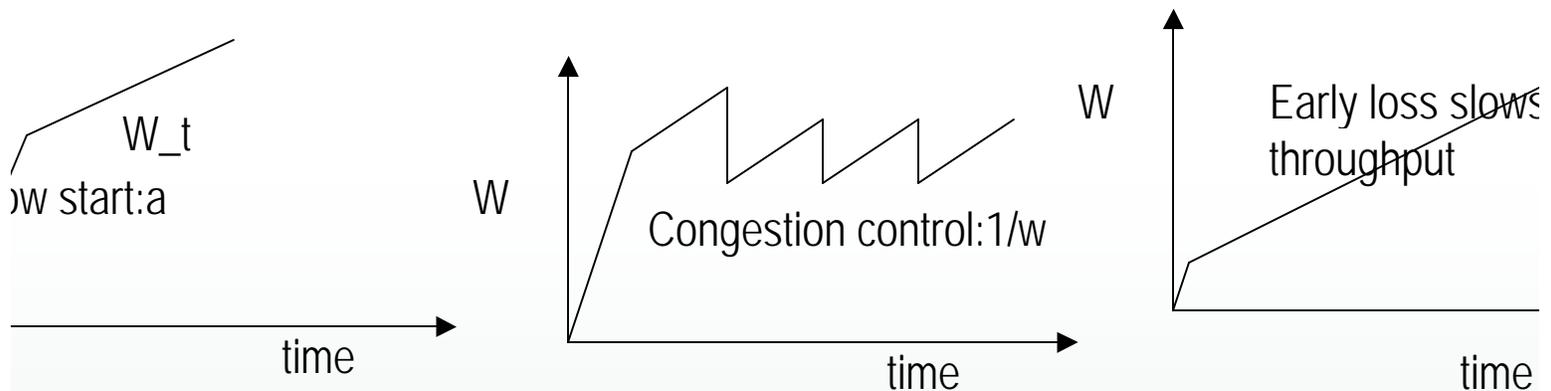
- High bandwidth links ~1Gbps
 - Default TCP stack typically achieves only a fraction of the available bandwidth
- Reasons
 - Inadequately Tuned buffers
 - Dynamic right-sizing (Feng et al)
 - Dynamics of TCP – AIMD (this paper)
 - Early losses prematurely terminate slow-start
- Motivation
 - Just simply using parallel streams improves throughput
 - Understand the mechanism for parallel-TCP
 - When and how to employ these methods
 - SLAC – U Wisconsin: Parallel TCP
 - SLAC – Rice U.: Buffer tuning
 - SLAC – LANL : Combination

Performance – Thanks to Tom Dunigan, ORNL

Losses during startup:
Start is prematurely terminated
Peak BW= 500 Mbps
Sustained BW= 18M Mbps



Simplified View: Dynamics of TCP



CP Outline

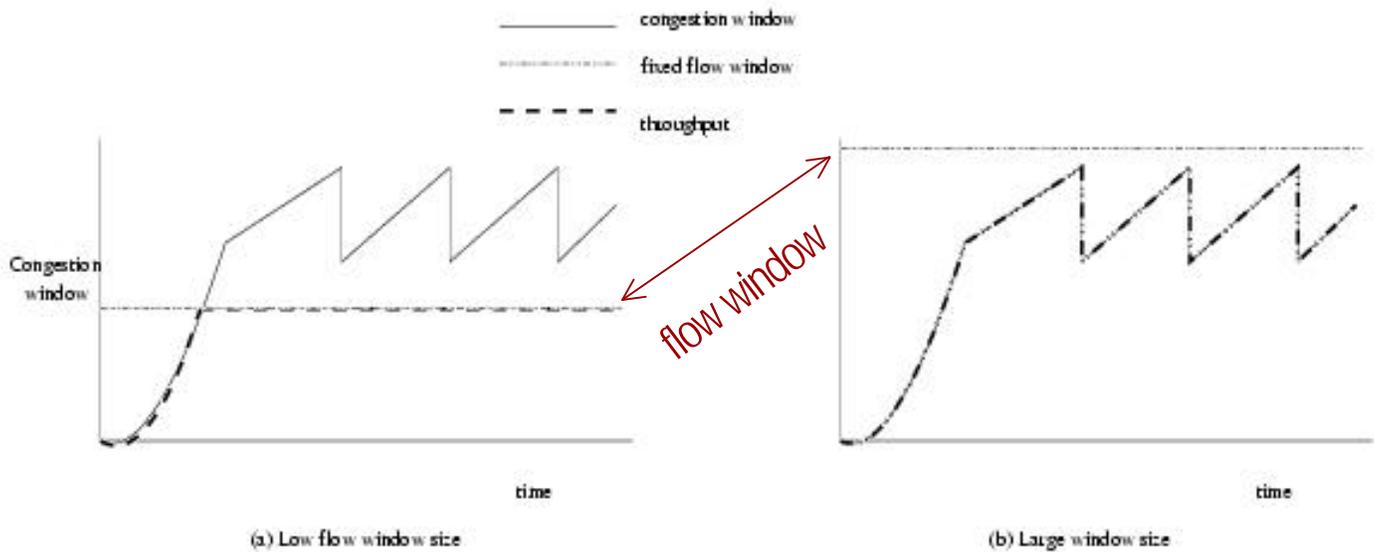
- Uses window mechanism to send W bytes/sec
- Dynamically adjusts W to network and receiver state
 - Keeps increasing if no losses
 - Keeps shrinking if losses are detected
- Slow start phase:
 - W increase exponentially until W_t or loss
- Congestion Control: AIMD
 - linear increase W with delivered packets
 - Multiplicative decrease with loss

Low- and high-FS Regions of TCP

Low-FS Region

Slow-start followed by constant flow

Small flow window – no losses

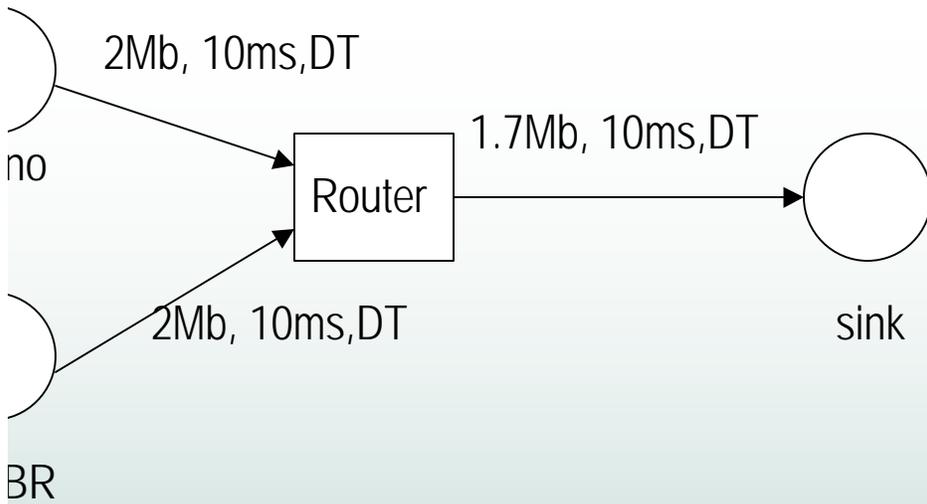


- High-FS Region
 - Slow-start followed by saw-tooth variation
 - Low bandwidth or high loss-rate

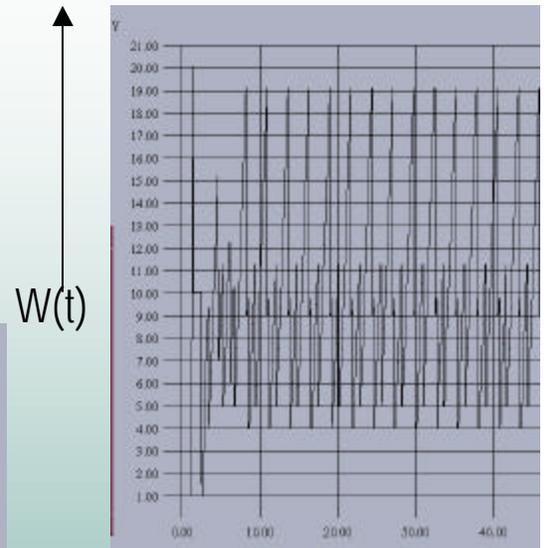
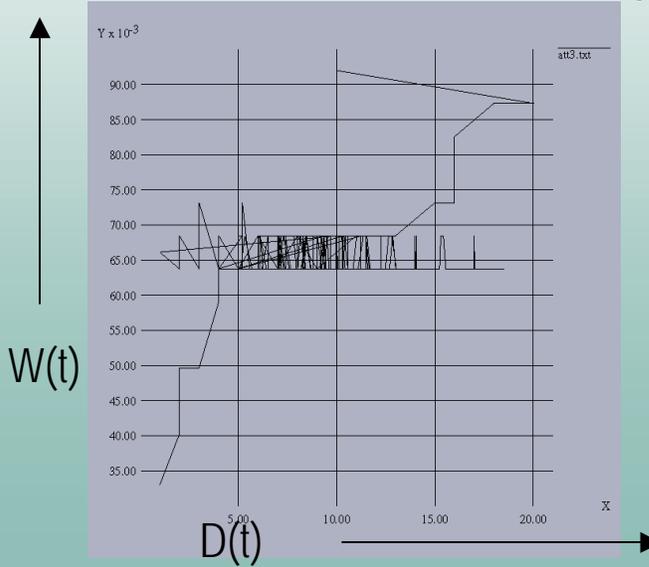
Simulation Setup: TCP Competing with UDP

(simulation)

CBR rate is varied to control available bandwidth on the second link

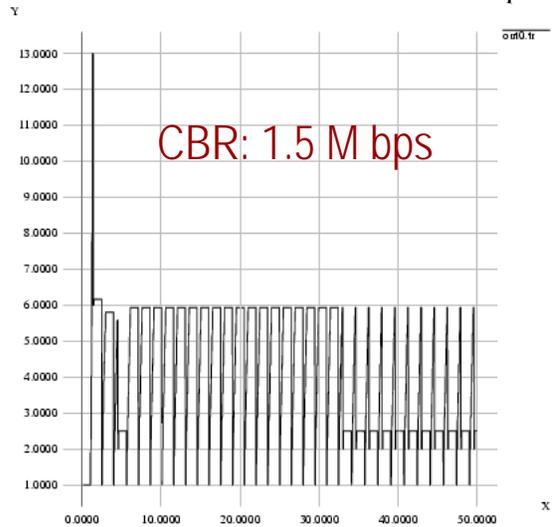
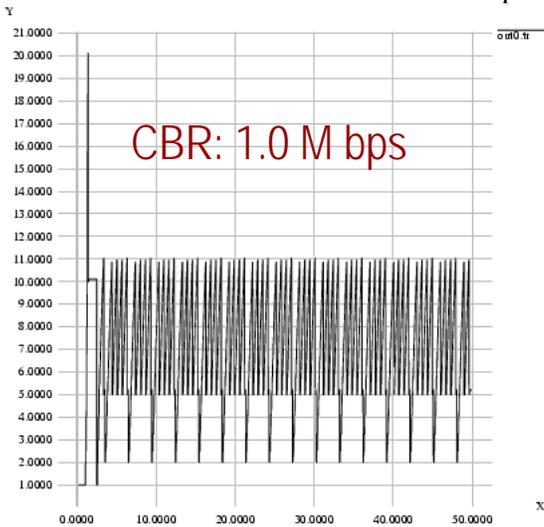
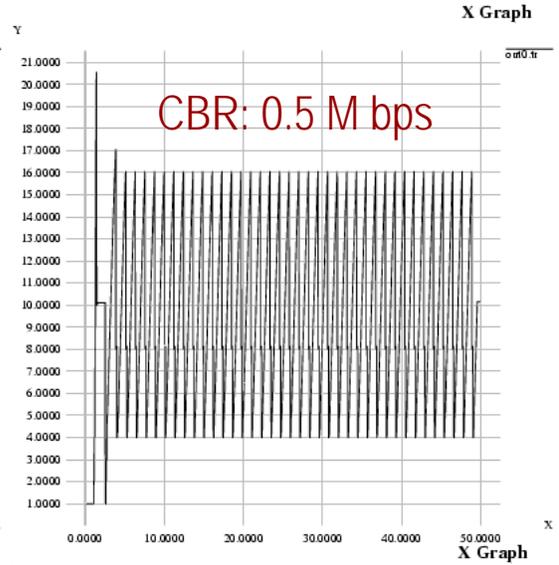
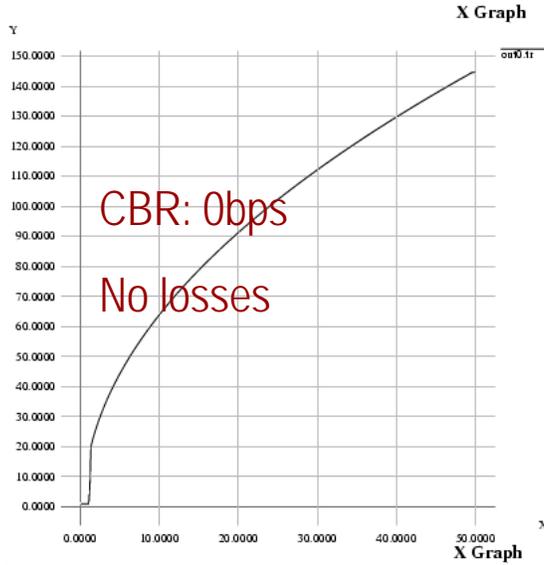


are phase plot:
w-size $W(t)$ vs.
d-to-end delay $D(t)$

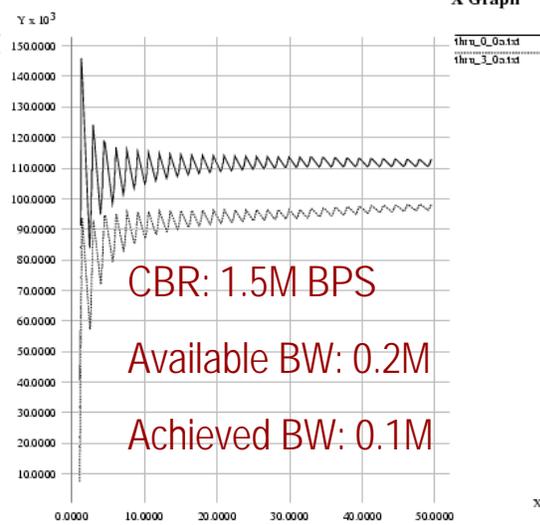
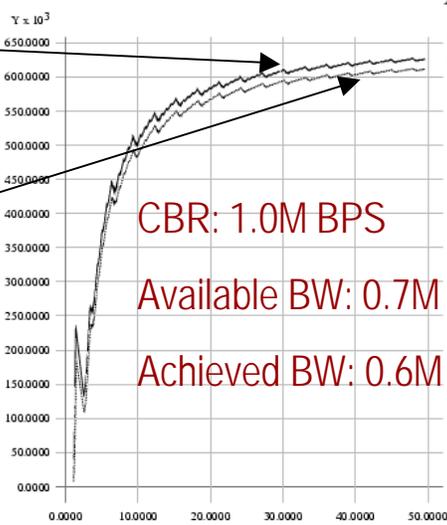
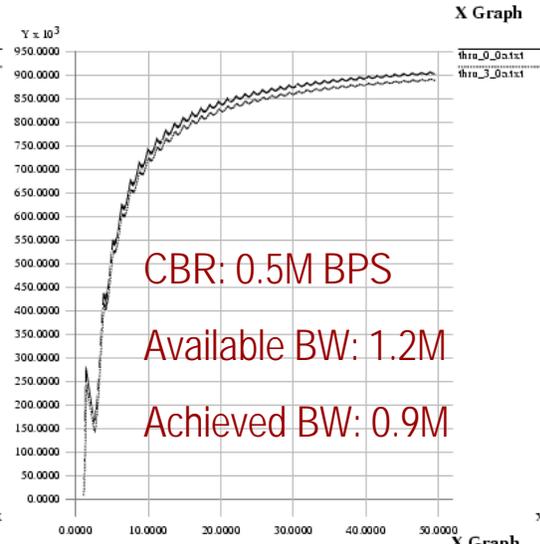
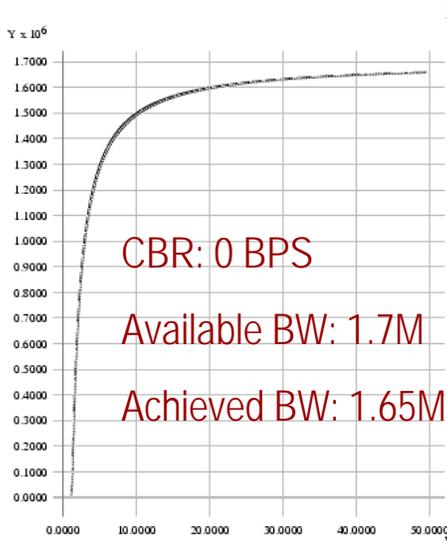


UDP/CBR=1Mbs

Simulation Results: W(t)-t



Throughput:



Throughput

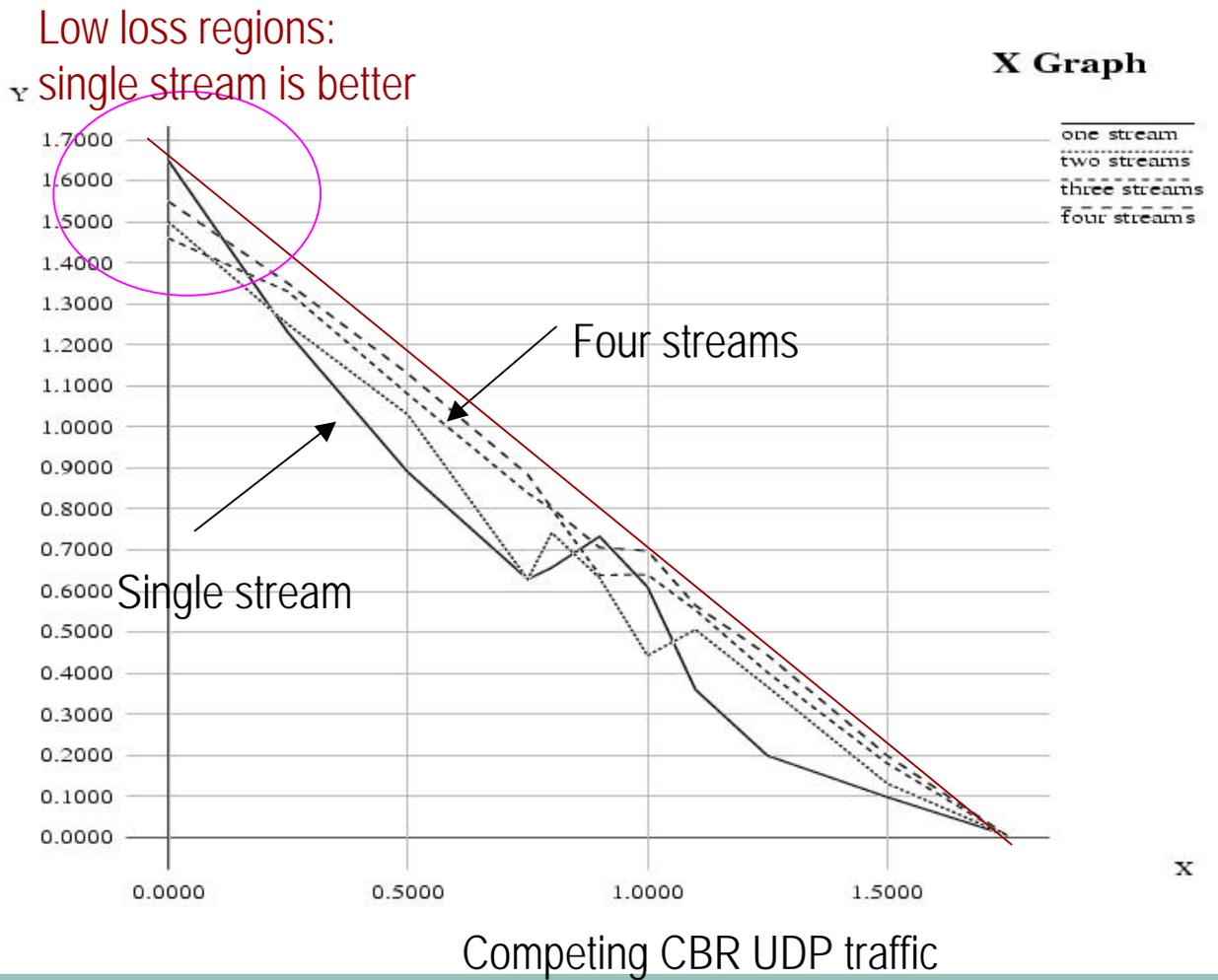
Throughput

allel-TCP

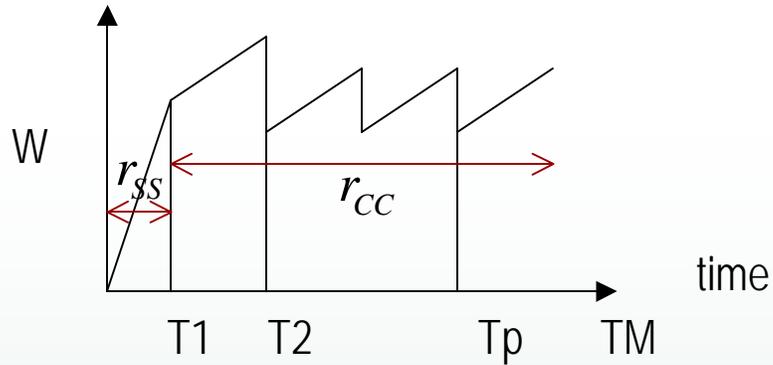
- Method:
 - Divide the message into equal parts
 - Send them as individual streams
- Adhoc Method
 - Developed by application users on >100Mbps networks
 - Easy to use and performs very well in practice – part of GridFTP
 - Typically improves throughput by a
 - multiplicative factor in >100Mbps networks
 - Smaller factor over Internet
- Analysis
 - Mostly in congestion-control phase
 - Hacker (2002), Kelly (1999), Crowcroft et al (1998)
 - Slow start phase has not been addressed earlier
 - But has significant effect on throughput
 - Complicated dynamics – due to interacting streams

Throughput of Parallel-TCP: Simulation Results:

Generally throughput is better if more streams are employed



Scenario: Sequence of p losses:



Simplifying Assumption:

- r_{SS} : "average" growth rate of $W(t)$ during slow start phase
- r_{CC} : "average" growth rate of $W(t)$ during congestion control phase
- $r_s(t)$: growth rate of single stream

$$r_s(t) \approx r_{SS} U_{[T_0, T_1]}(t) \approx r_{CC} U_{(T_1, T_M]}(t)$$

where $U_I(t) \approx 1$ if $t \in I$

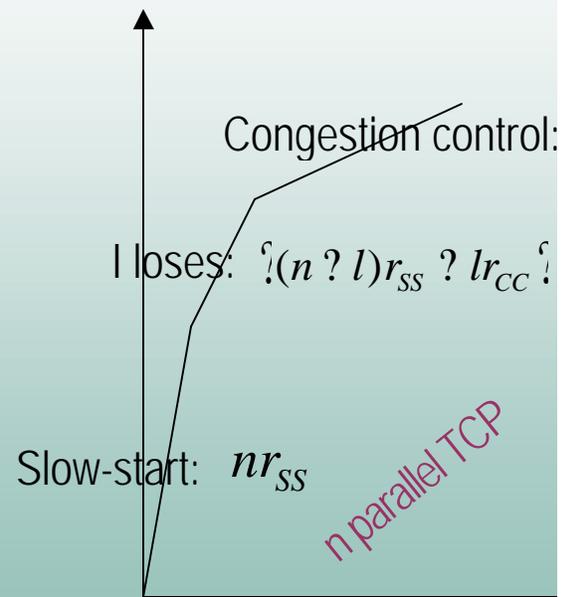
$U_I(t) \approx 0$ otherwise

parallel-TCP: Window Growth-Rate

Growth rate n-parallel TCP is

$$r_p(t) = nr_{SS} U_{[T_0, T_1)} + (n-1)r_{SS} + r_{CC} U_{[T_1, T_2)} + \dots + nr_{CC} U_{[T_n, T_M]}$$

Time interval	Single TCP	n-parallel TCP
$[T_0, T_1)$	r_{SS}	nr_{SS}
$[T_1, T_2)$	r_{CC}	$(n-1)r_{SS} + r_{CC}$
$[T_l, T_{l+1})$	r_{CC}	$(n-l)r_{SS} + lr_{CC}$
$[T_{n-1}, T_n)$	r_{CC}	$r_{SS} + (n-1)r_{CC}$
$[T_n, T_M]$	r_{CC}	nr_{CC}



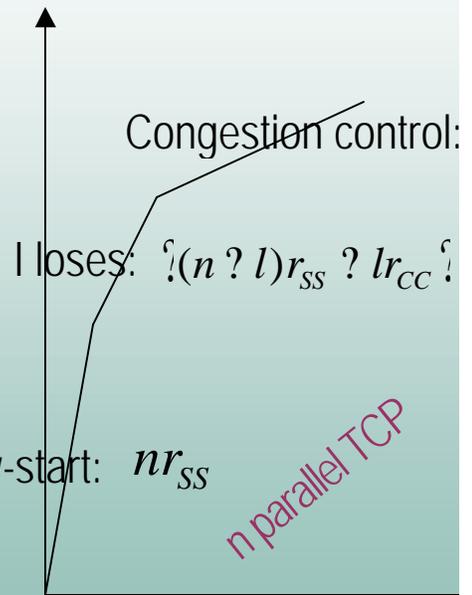
parallel-TCP: Slow Start Phase

Growth rate n-parallel TCP is

$$r_p(t) = nr_{SS} U_{[T0, T1]} + (n-1)r_{SS} + r_{CC} U_{[T1, T2]} + \dots + nr_{CC} U_{[Tn, TM]}$$

Single vs. n-parallel TCP

- Faster slow start: duration $\sim c \log(W_t)$
 - Single: r_{SS}
 - Parallel: $(n-1)r_{SS} + lr_{CC}$
- Sustained slow-start under transient initial losses — throughput grows faster longer
 - Single – small loss spike kills slow start $[T0, T1]$
 - Multiple – with l spikes, residual rate $[T0, Tn]$



Summary

Parallel-TCP starts with faster rate and gradually slows down in presence of losses

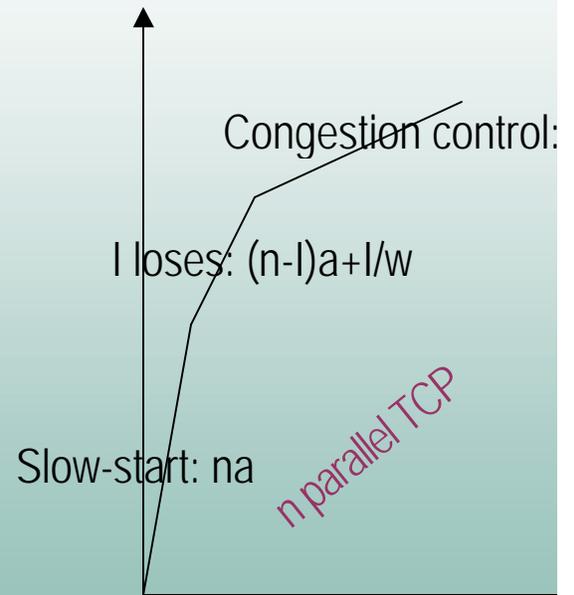
Parallel-TCP in Congestion Control Phase

Fast recovery in Congestion Control

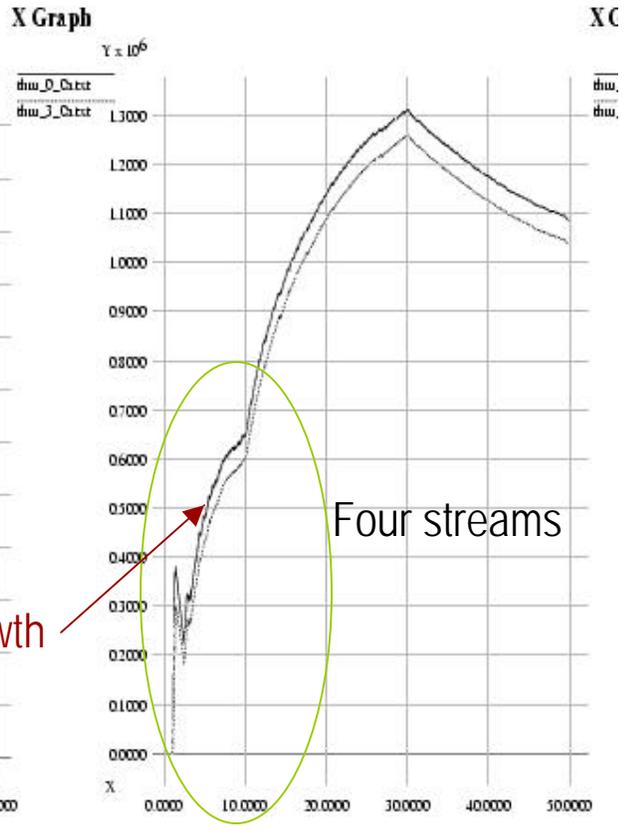
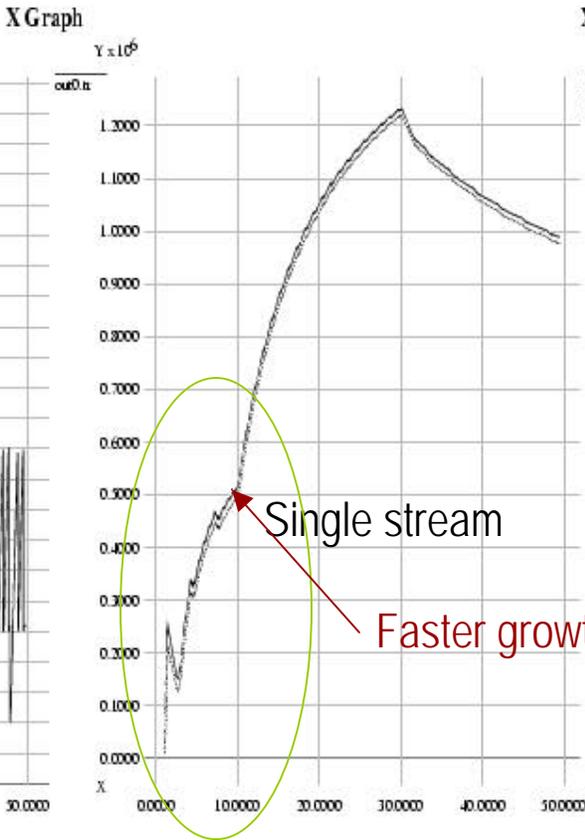
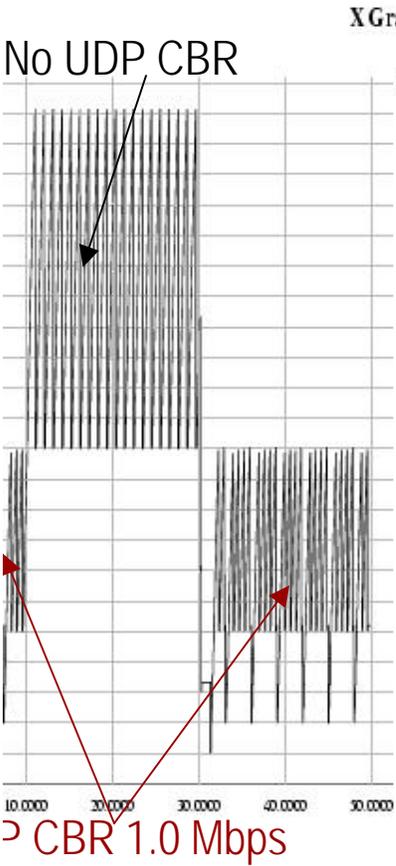
- Single: $1/w$
- Parallel: n/w

Dynamics are very complicated since paths are restricted to a small set – the streams compete with themselves

- This is the most analyzed phase in past works

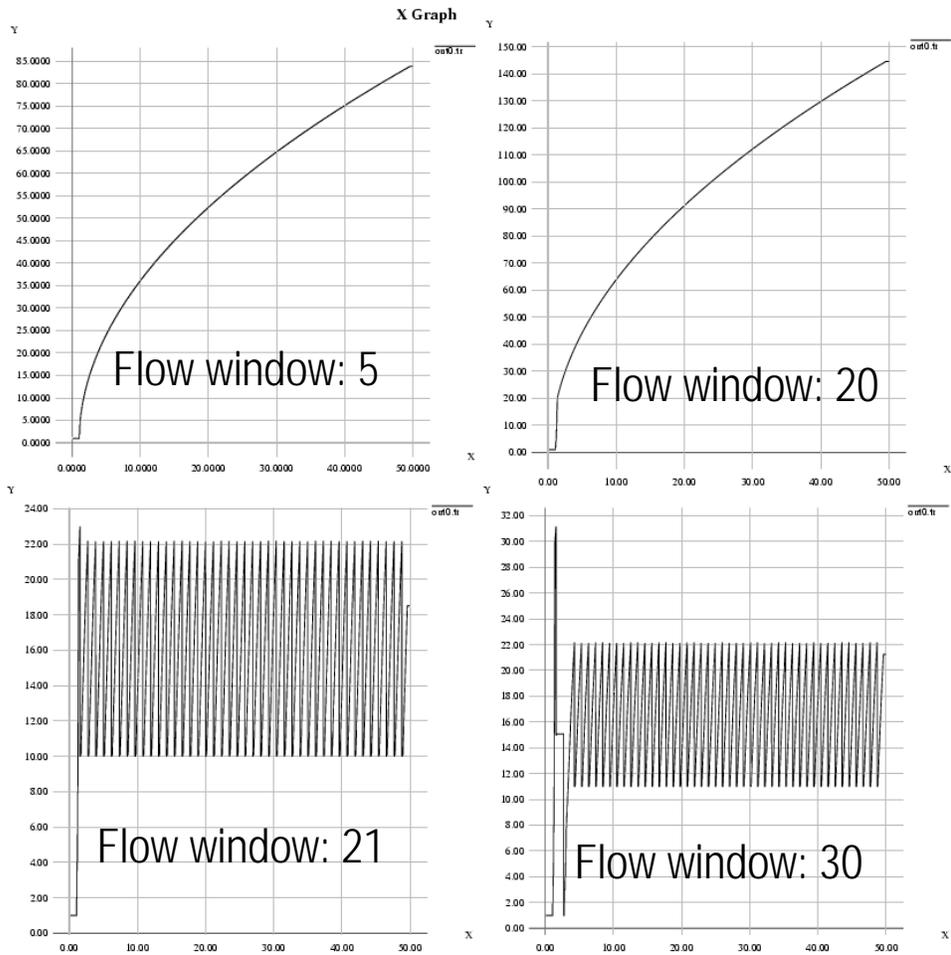


Performance of Parallel-TCP Faster response and higher throughput



Effects of Flow Window size Simulation Results

Higher flow
does not mean
throughput:
has no losses
incurs losses



Effects of Flow Window Size

Smaller flow window:

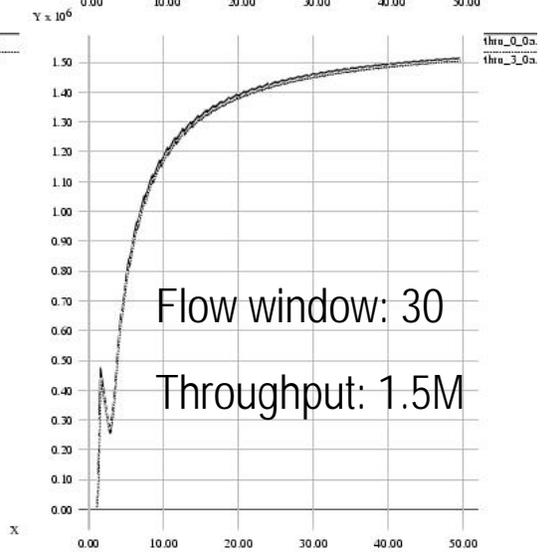
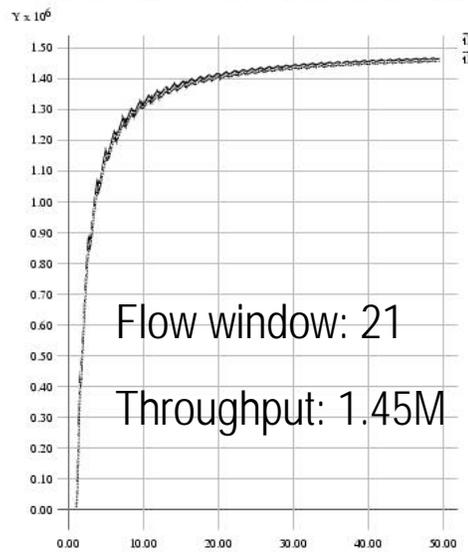
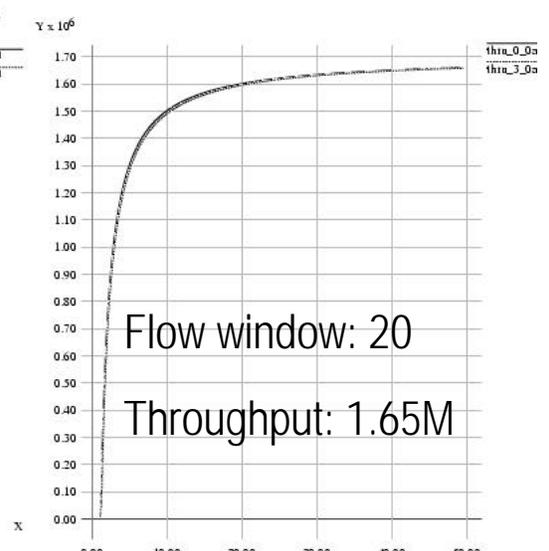
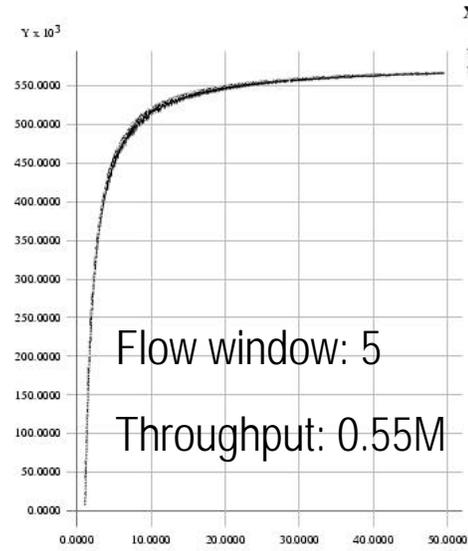
Slowed AIMD process
which reduces throughput

Large flow window:

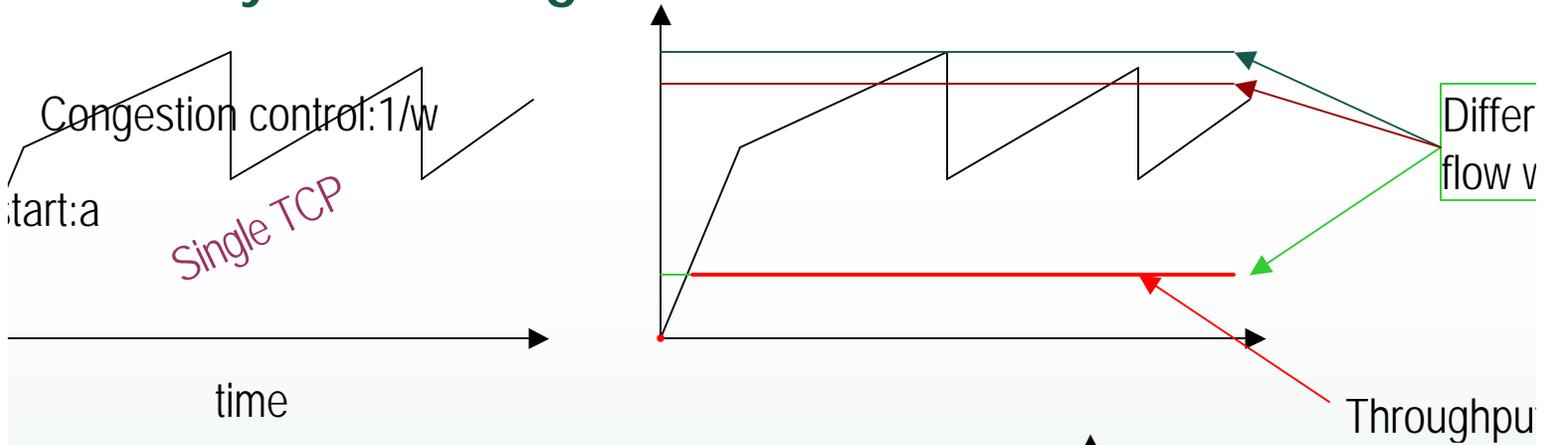
Flow window below
link bottleneck bw

Small flow window:

Flow window may be
set to zero if there is a
competing TCP stream



Performance Analysis of Congestion and flow window controls



Flow window has significant effect on throughput

- Non-monotonic relationship between flow-window size and throughput

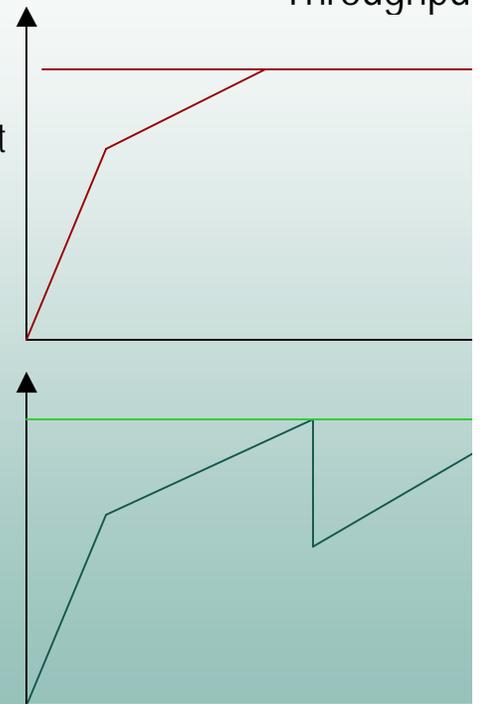
- Dynamic flow-windows vs. n-parallel TCP: Performance depends on losses

- Low loss – dynamic right sizing is better

- Choose flow window slightly lower than bottleneck bandwidth
- Parallel TCP creates additional losses which reduces throughput

- High loss – parallel-TCP is better

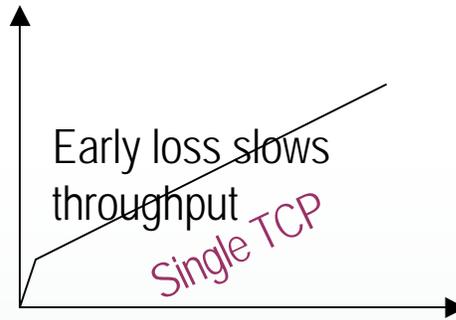
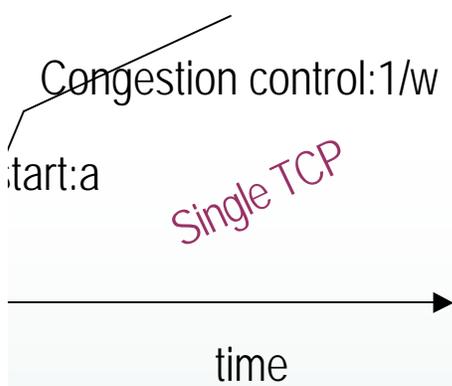
- Effect of flow window is nullified – essentially single TCP
- Advantages are same as the single vs parallel TCP



Conclusions

- TCP is sub-optimal in high bandwidth links
 - Buffer tuning and parallel streams provide some solution
 - We provide fairly coarse analysis of both methods
 - Parallel-TCP provides better throughput under high loss
 - But fairness issues are unclear
 - Flow-window tuning improves throughput under low loss
 - Degenerates to single stream under high loss
- Several Open Issues
 - Detailed analysis – employ actual rates $r(t)$
 - Dynamics of window sizes and packet delays
 - General Fairness Issues

Course Analysis of Initial Dynamics of Parallel-TCP



Kelly (2001) result deal congestion control pha

Single vs. n-parallel TCP

- Faster slow start: duration $\sim c \log(W_t)$

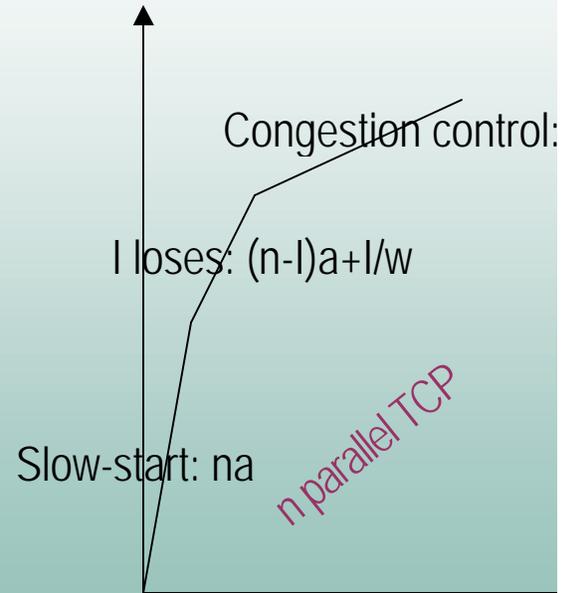
- Single: a
- Parallel: na

- Sustained slow-start under transient initial losses — throughput grows faster longer

- Single – small loss spike kills slow start
- Multiple – with l spikes, residual rate $(n-l)a+l/w$

- Faster recovery in Congestion Control

- Single: $1/w$
- Parallel: n/w



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