

ViSNext'22

# Live Video Streaming through the ML Lens

Amr Rizk

# Hello from Germany



University of Duisburg-Essen (\*1972, ~41.000 students)



paluno - The Ruhr Institute for Software Technology  
~100 researchers  
collaborations with leading industry partners



Prof. Amr Rizk, Head of the Networks and Communication Systems Lab  
Research focus on

- performance evaluation
- programmable networks
- immersive multimedia



*less controversy with point cloud streaming?*



# **“Software is eating the World” – M. Andreessen (2011)**

**ML** 

## **Prediction**

**classification**

**Estimation**

**Online decision making**

**Filtering & smoothing**

**Inpainting**

**Fusion**

**Embedding**

**Coding**

**Compression**

**Object Tracking**

**Super-resolution**

**Caching**

**Segmentation**

**Recognition**

**Obfuscation**

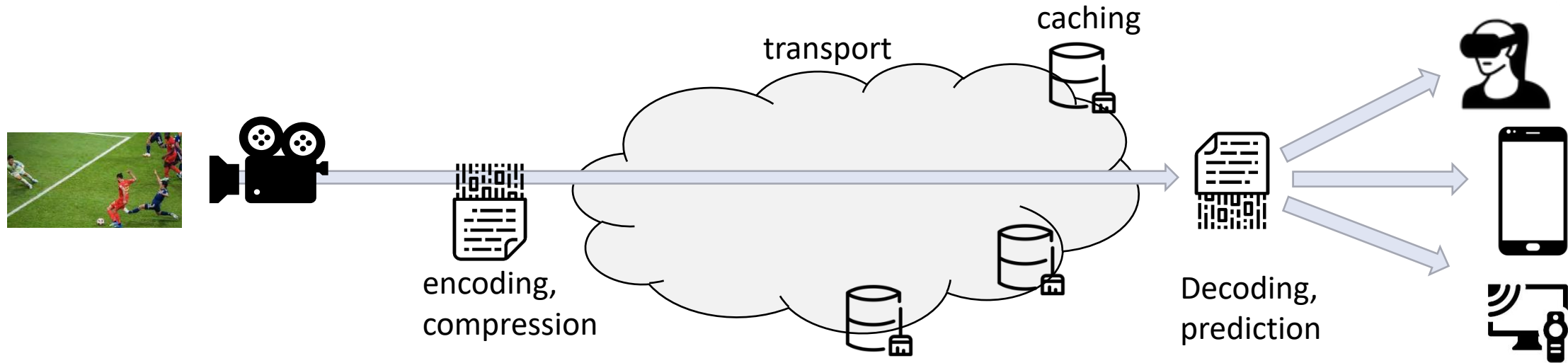
**Rate allocation**

**Scheduling**

**Transcoding**

**...**

# The Significance of ML in Video Streaming



decision making / reconfig

video quality selection, multipath scheduling, transcoding, ...

prediction

available bitrate, head/user movement, cache hits, ...

encoding

error concealment, Point cloud inpainting, ...

# Classical Problems of (Live) Video Streaming

## 1. Bandwidth Requirement



HD

[X] Mbps



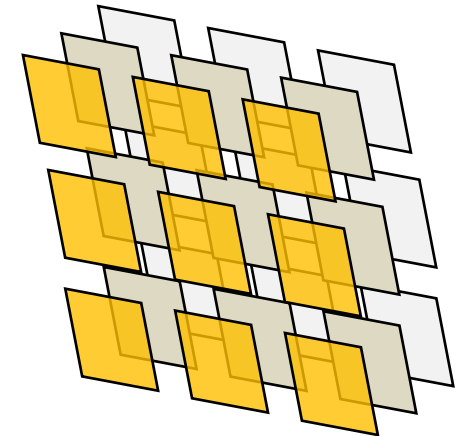
360°

[XY] Mbps



Point Cloud

[X] Gbps



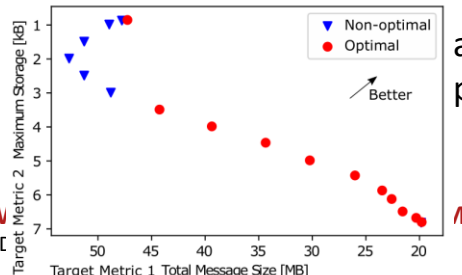
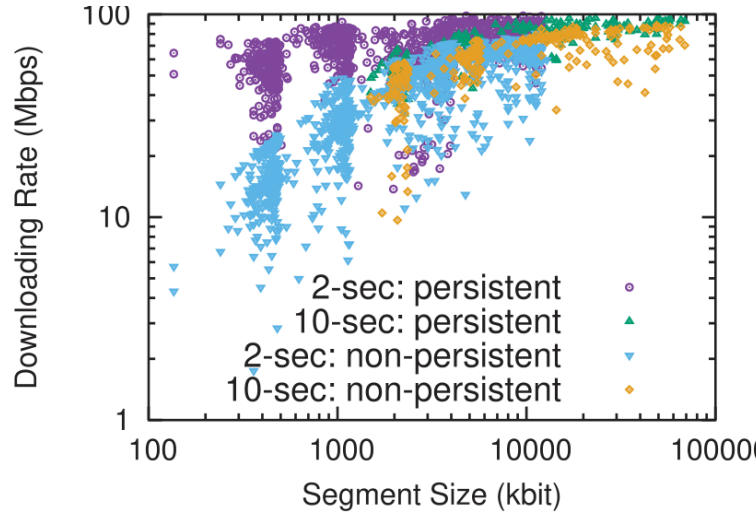
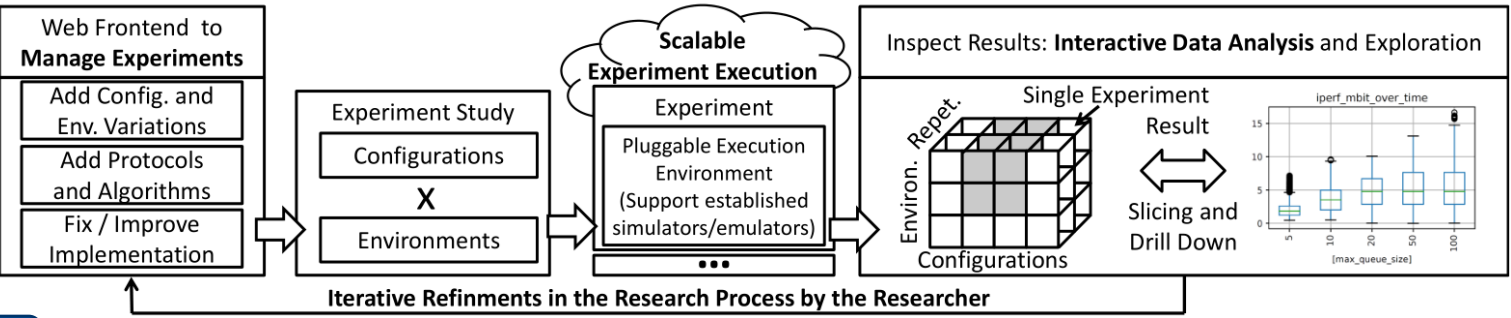
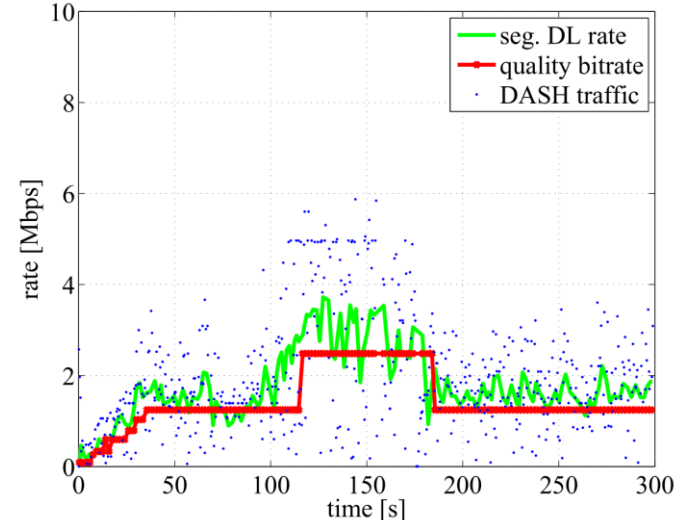
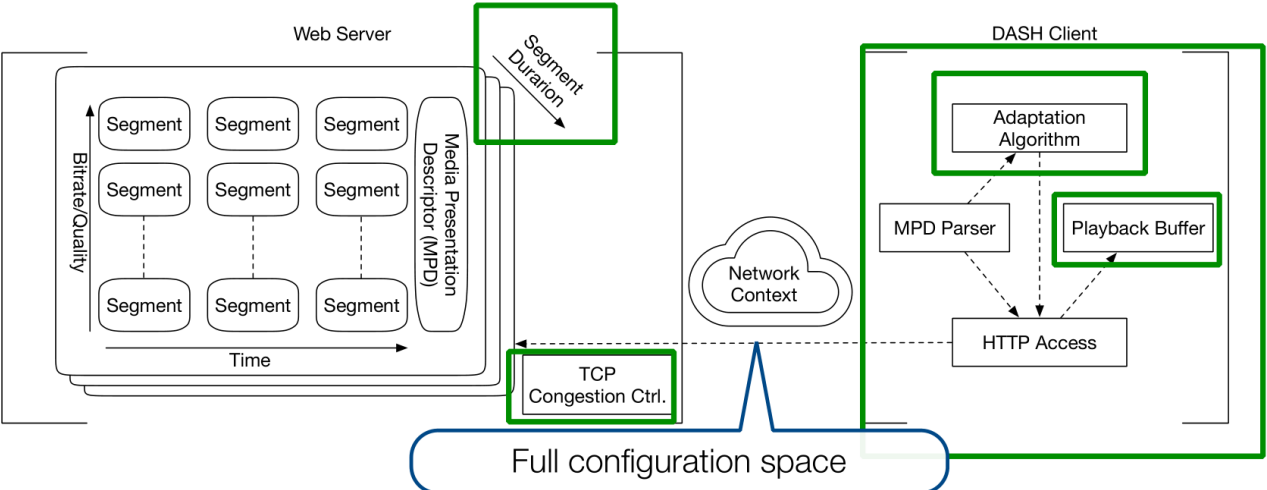
Light Field  
Multi-view Video

[XYZ] Gbps

Bandwidth  
requirement

# Classical Problems of (Live) Video Streaming

## 2. Bandwidth fluctuation



automatically generated pareto fronts

C. Wang, D. Bhat, A. Rizk, M. Zink: Design and Analysis of QoE-Aware Quality Adaptation for DASH: A Spectrum-Based Approach. ACM Trans. Multim. Comput. Commun. Appl. 13 (2017)  
 A. Frömmgen, D. Stohr, B. Koldehofe, A. Rizk: Don't repeat yourself: seamless execution and analysis of extensive network experiments. ACM CoNEXT 2018

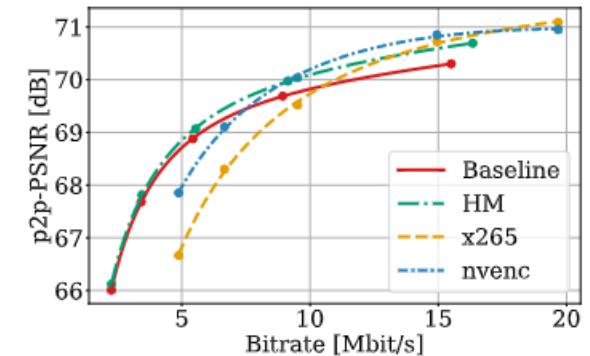
MACI

<https://maci-research.net>

# Classical Problems of (Live) Video Streaming

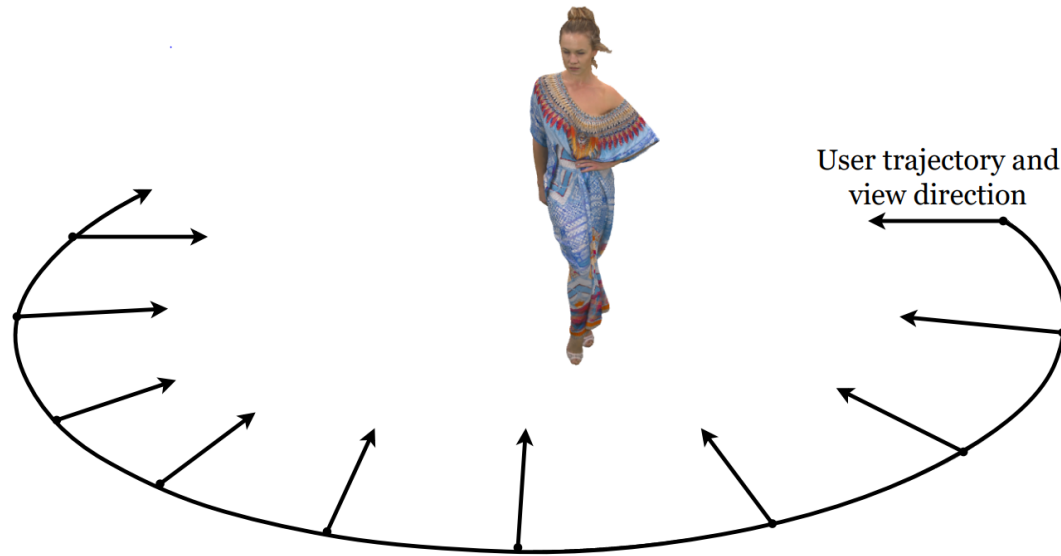
## 3. Utility

- Objective vs. Subjective Studies
  - QoS/QoE
  - MOS
  - (PSNR), VMAF
  - P2P PSNR, Y-PSNR, PCQM, logP2D-JGY
- Rate-Distortion comparison (e.g. Bjøntegaard Model)

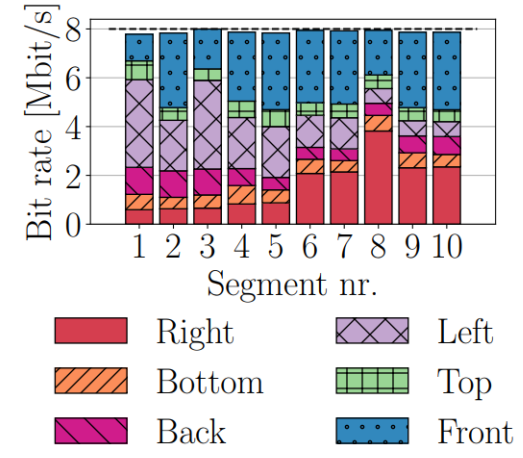
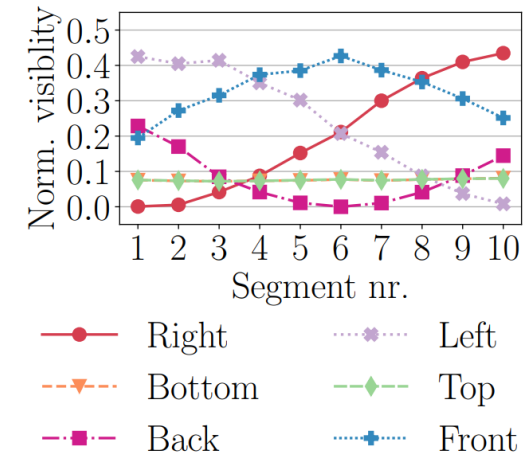


# More Problems of (Live) Video Streaming

## 4. User Interaction



Interaction with a Point Cloud object

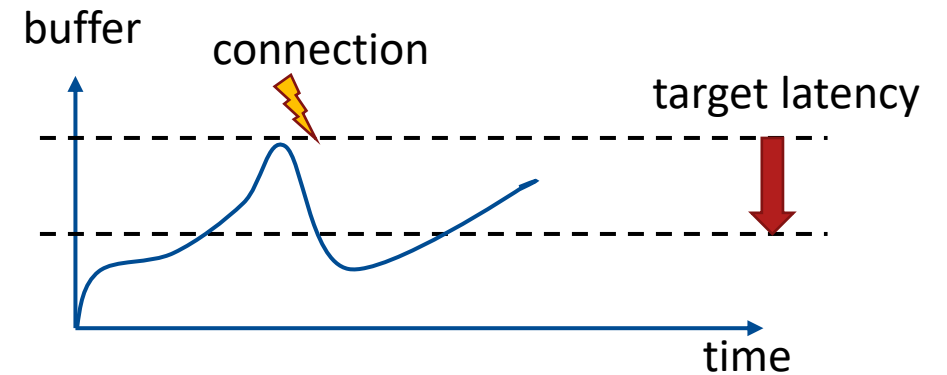
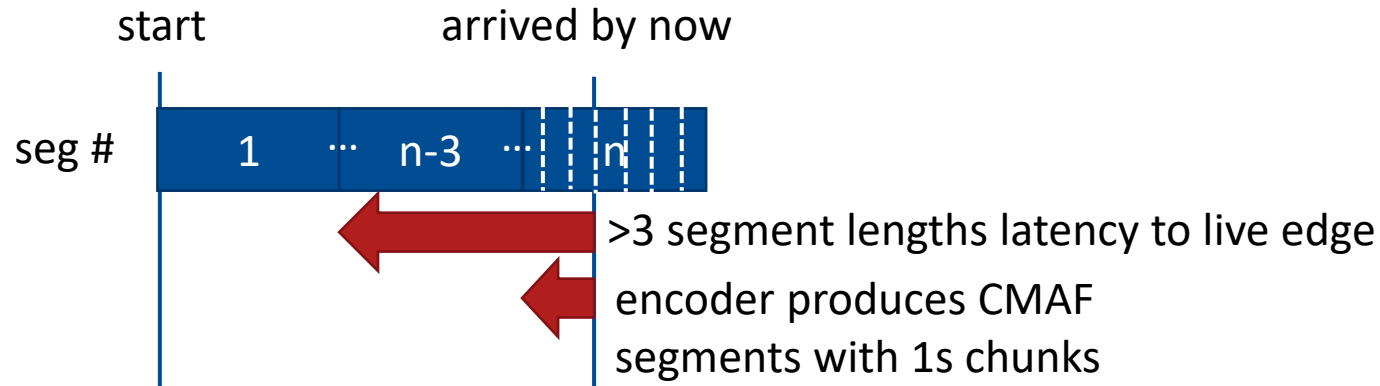




# More Problems of Live Video Streaming

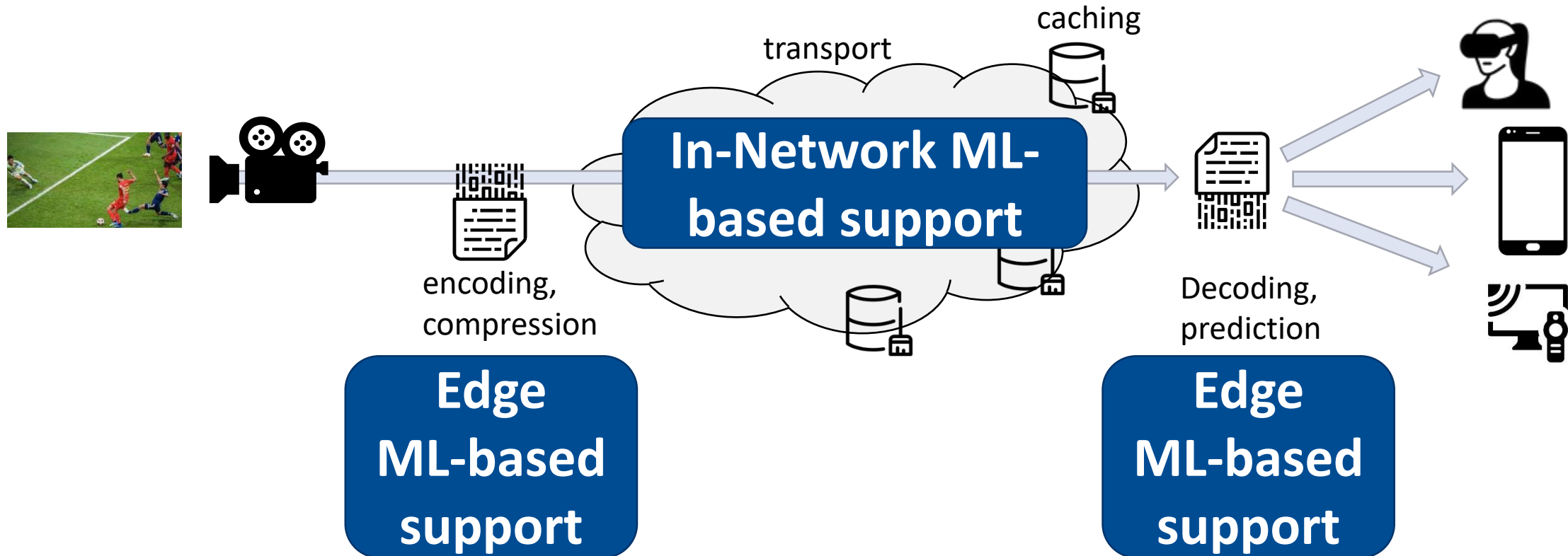
## 5. The latency-buffering dilemma

### CMAF Chunks



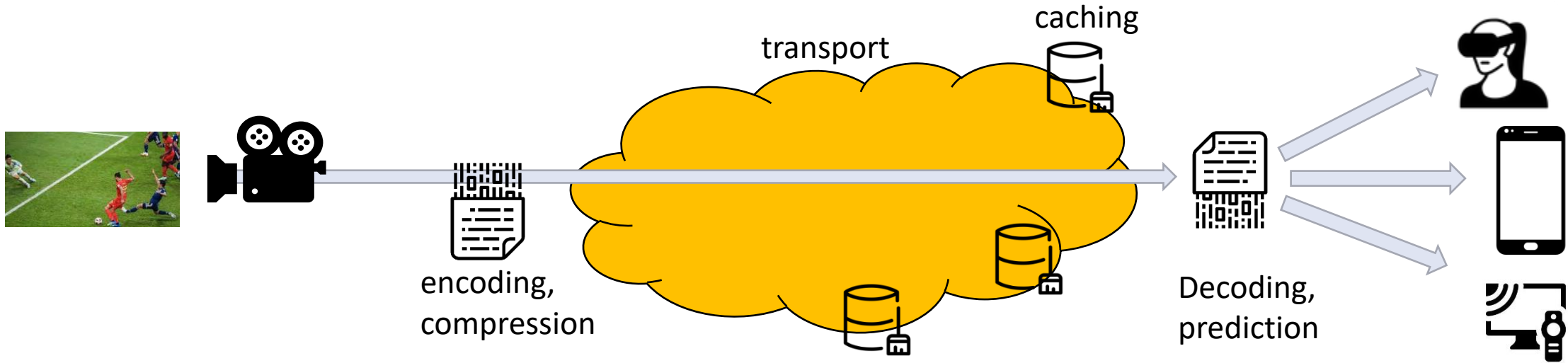
needs fast + accurate prediction

# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens Where? And What?



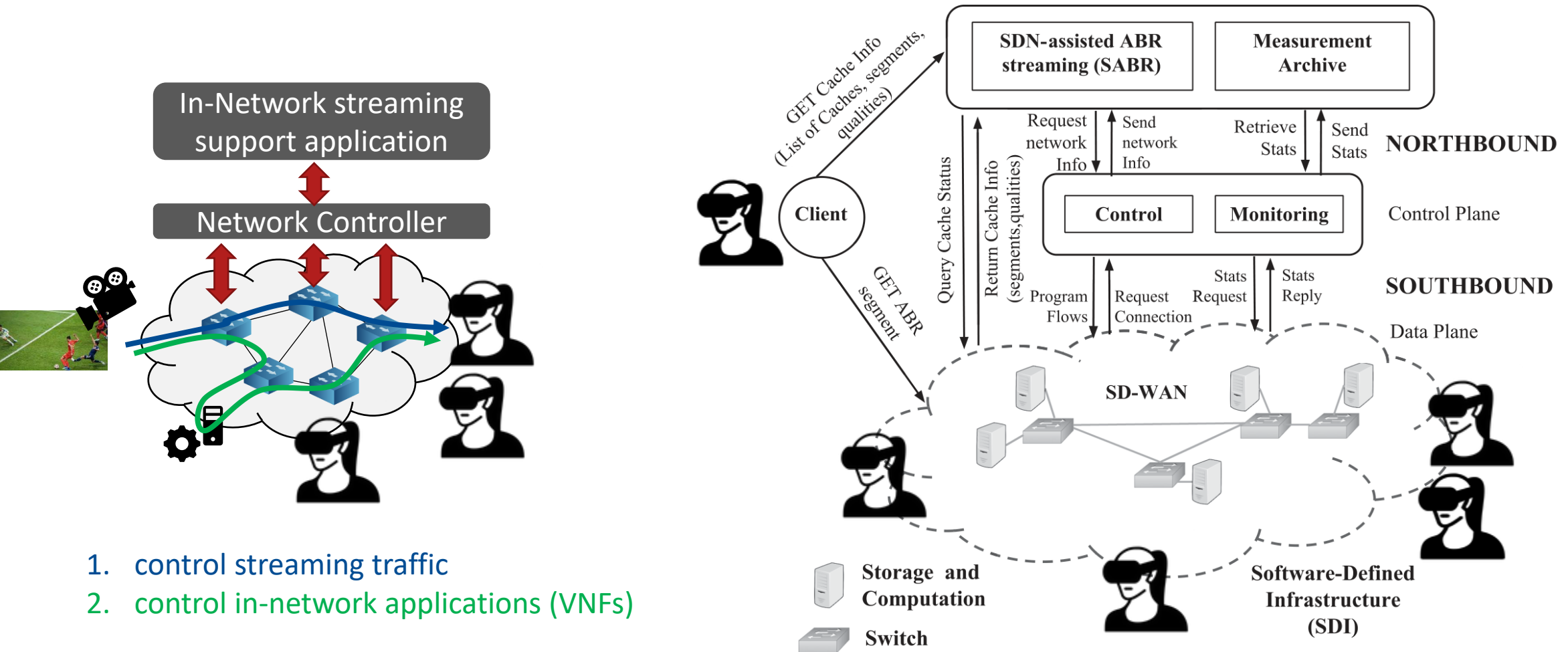
# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens

## In-Network streaming support



# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens

## In-Network streaming support

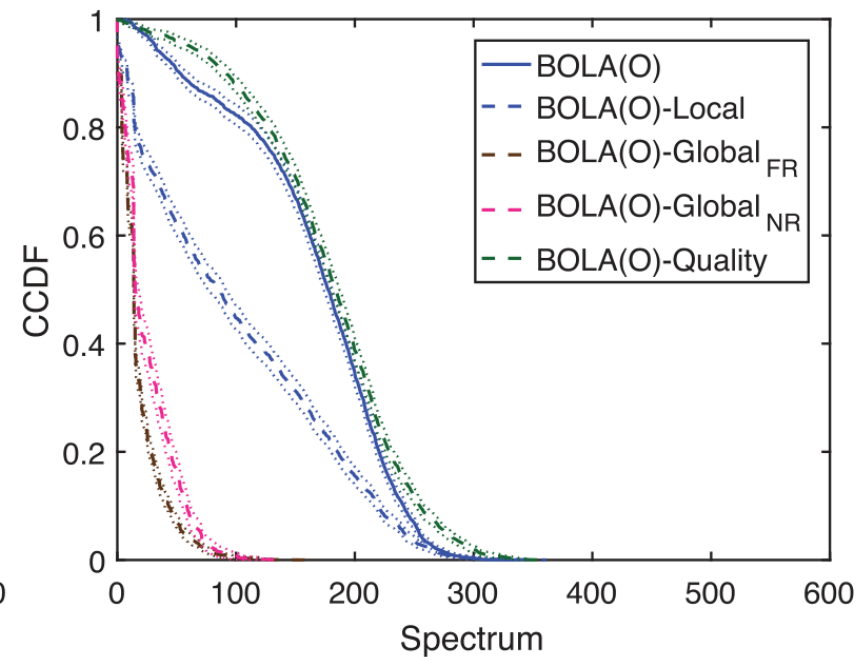
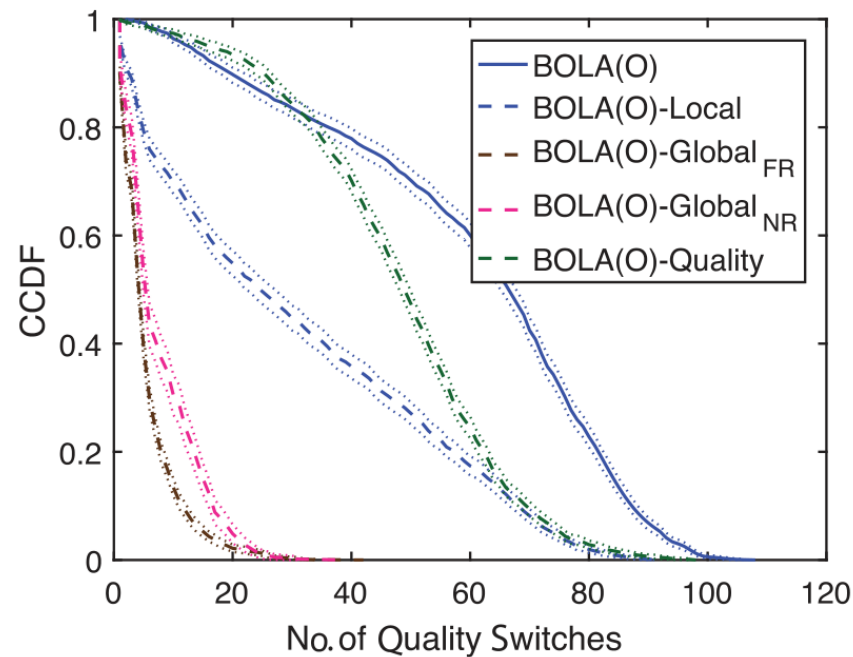
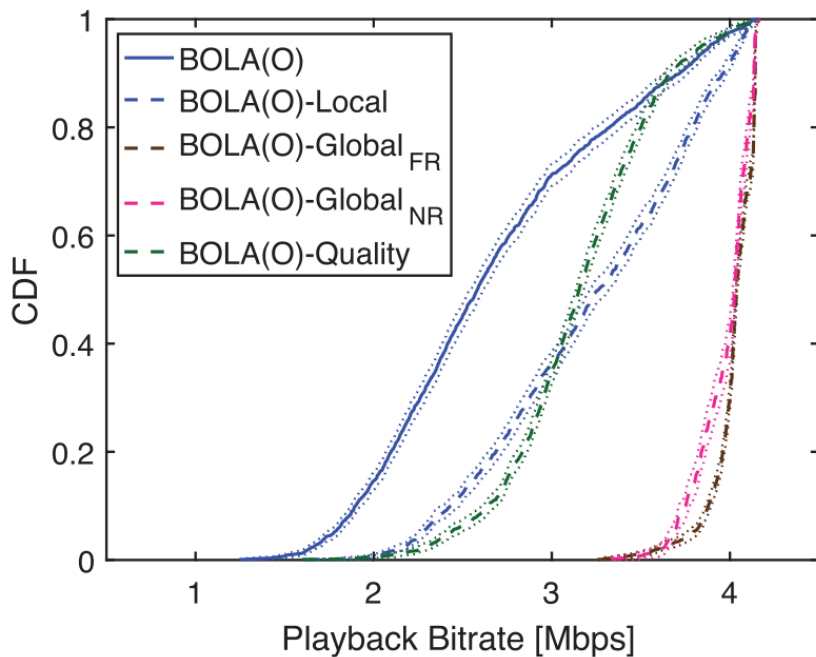
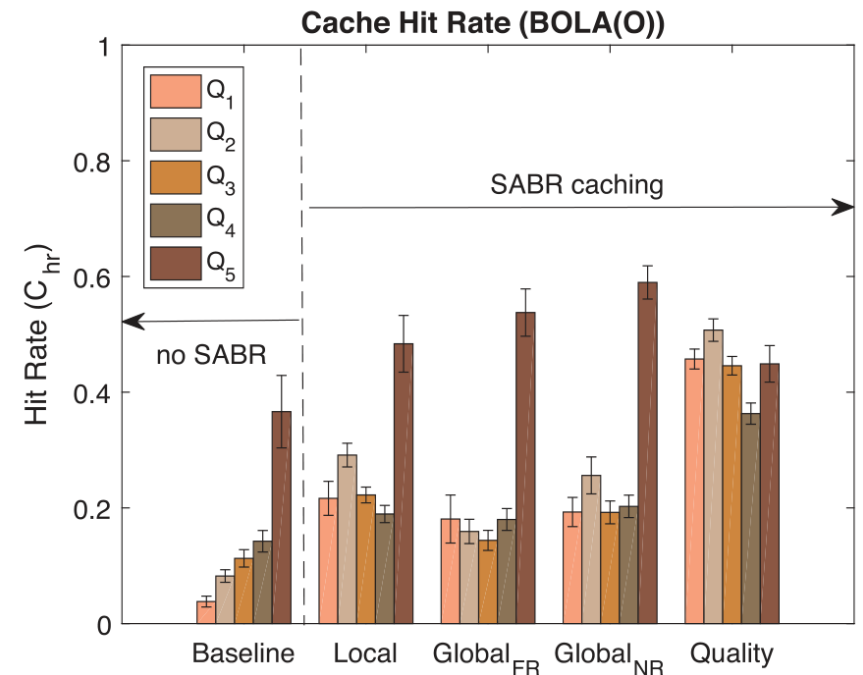
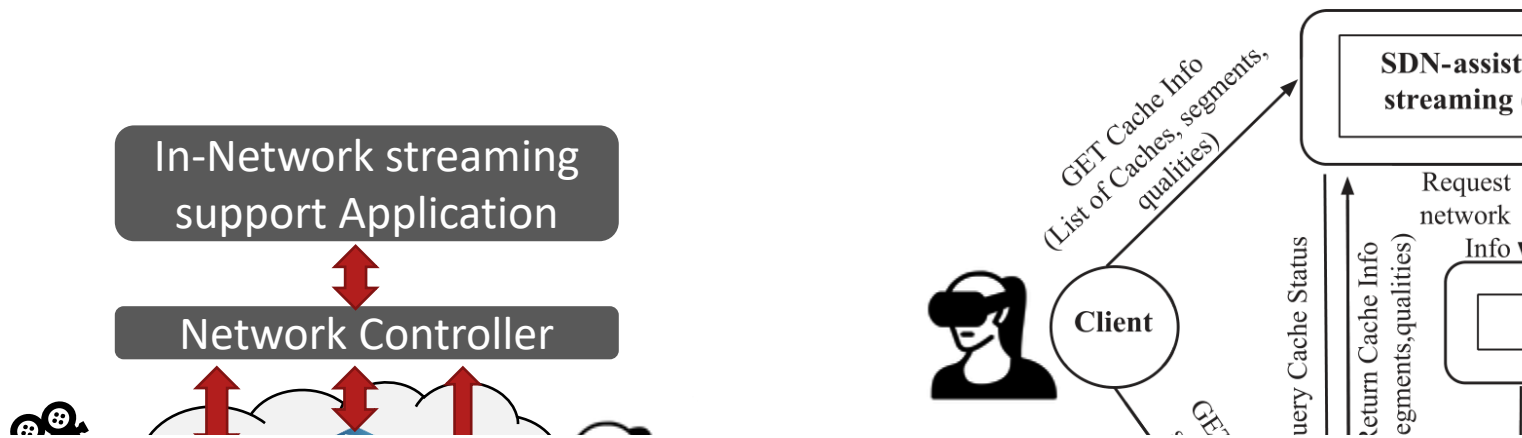


1. control streaming traffic
2. control in-network applications (VNFs)



# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens

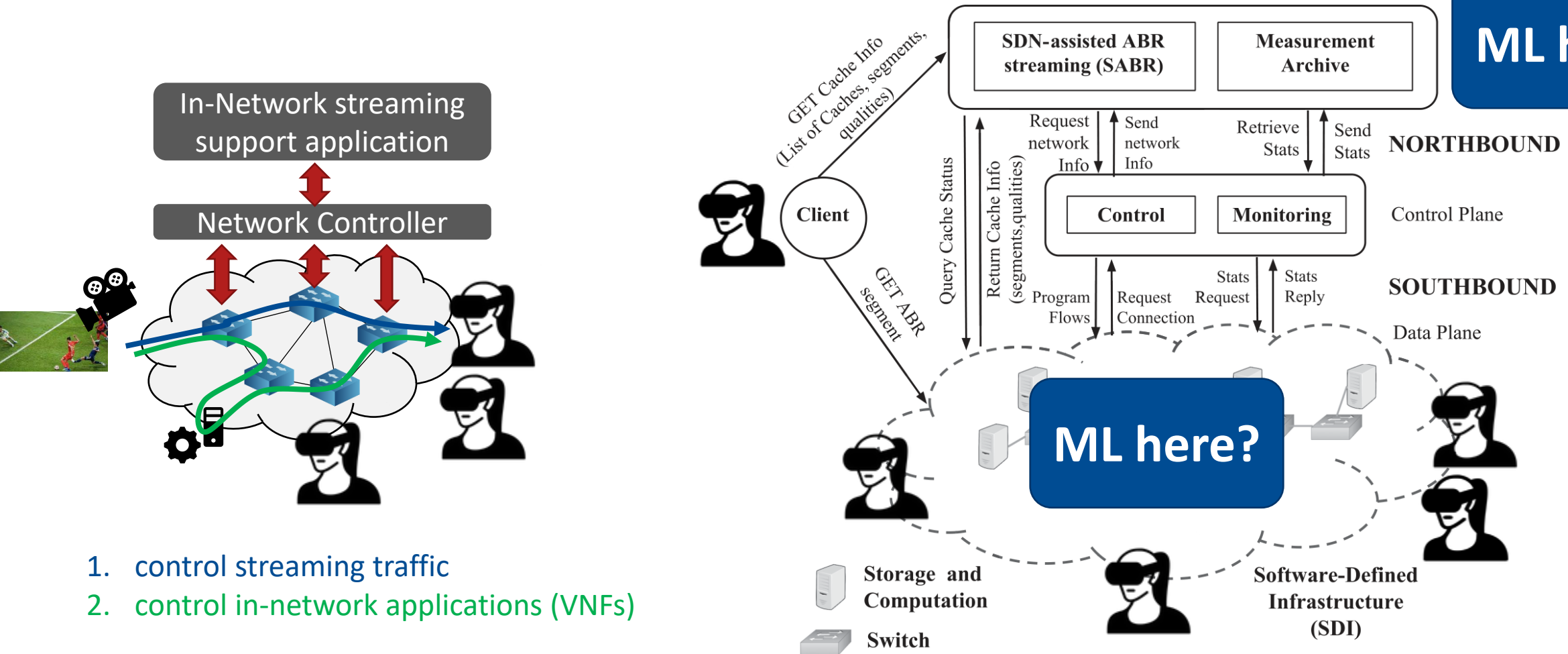
## In-Network streaming support



# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens

## ML-based In-Network streaming support

ML here?

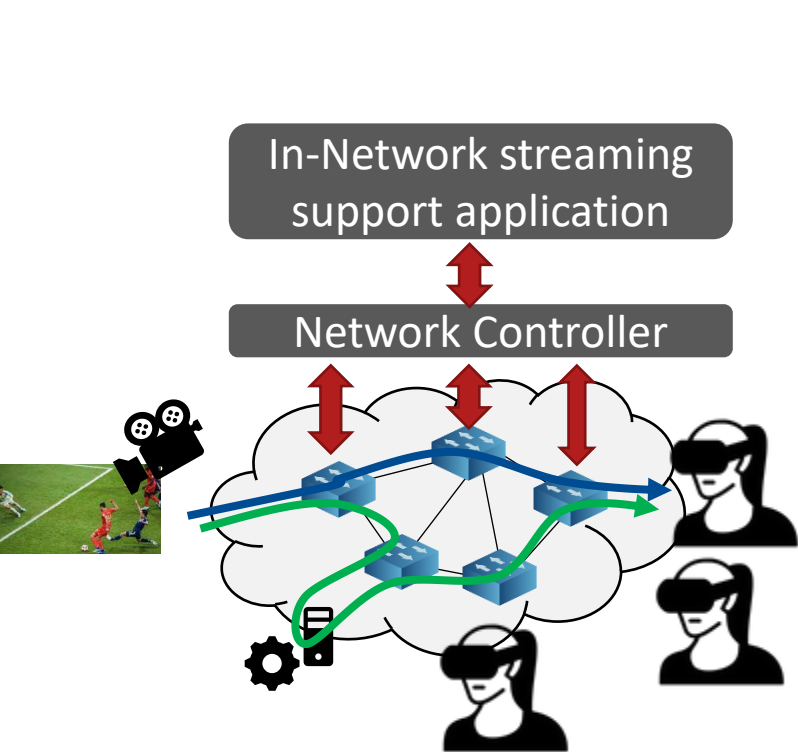


1. control streaming traffic
2. control in-network applications (VNFs)

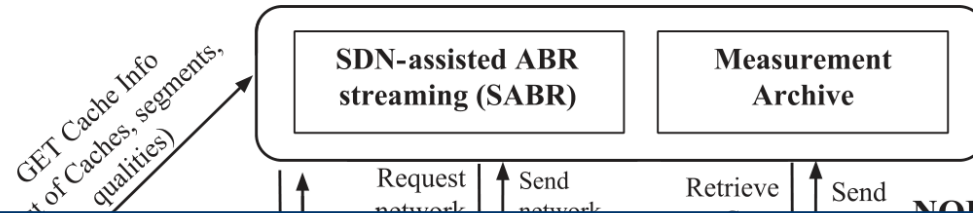
# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens

## ML-based In-Network streaming support

**ML here**

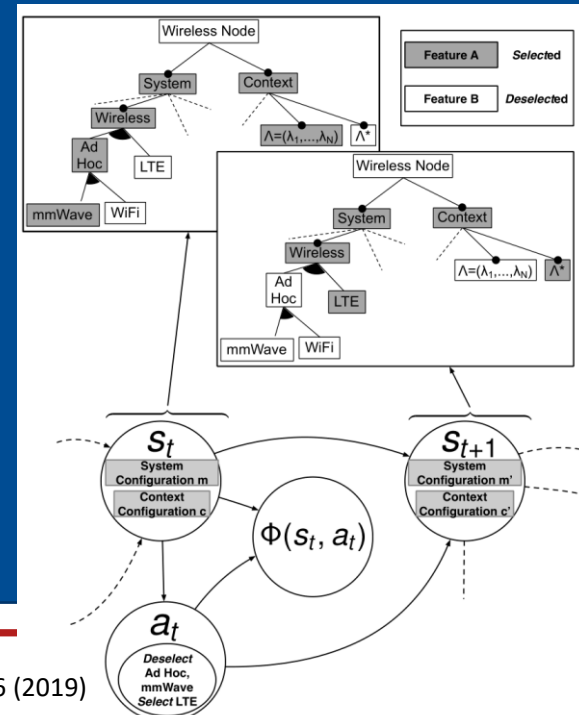


1. control streaming traffic
2. control in-network applications (VNFs)



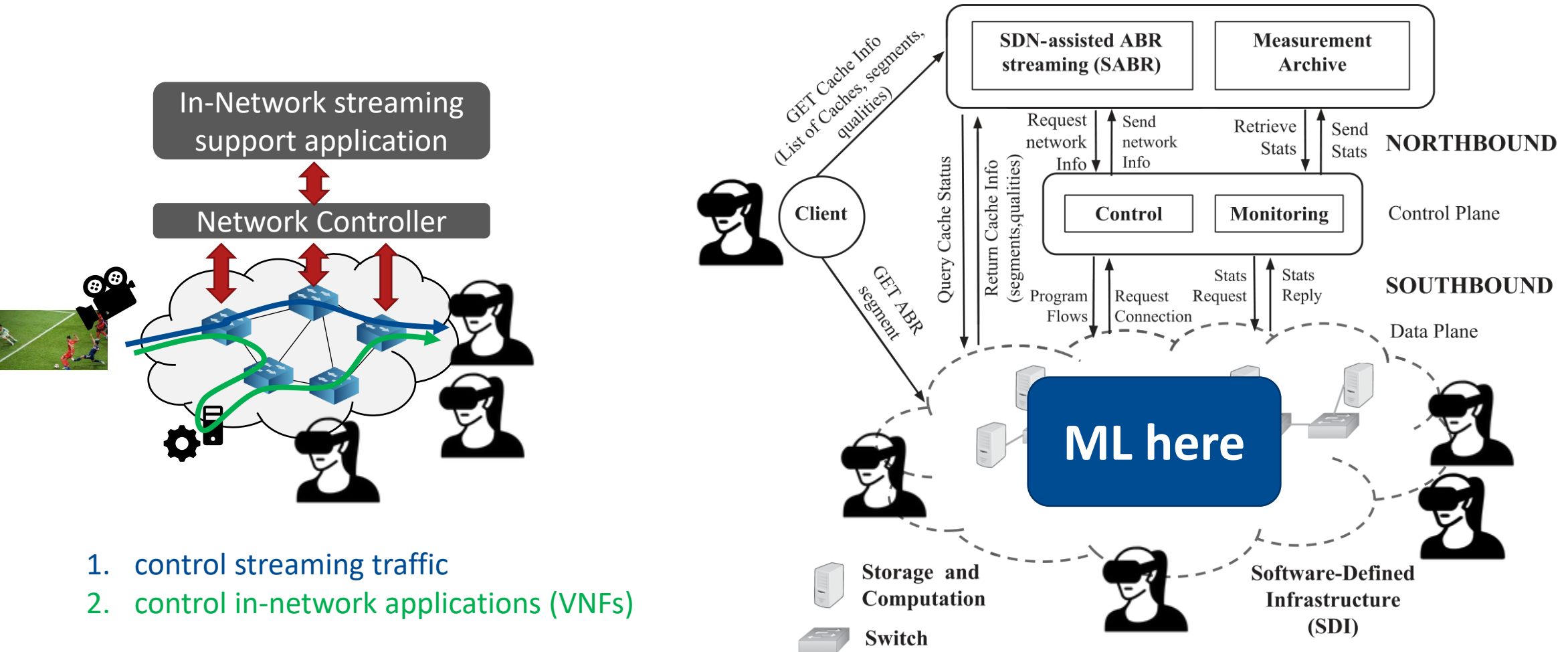
**Time scale (coarse):**

- predict available bandwidth (e2e) [Bhat'18]
- predict coding times [Amirpour'22]
- QoE regression
- network reconfiguration (Transitions as a RL problem) [Alt'19]
  - routing, multicast, multipath
  - AQM, scheduling



# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens

## ML-based In-Network streaming support



1. control streaming traffic
2. control in-network applications (VNFs)



# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens

## ML-based In-Network streaming support

Time scale (very fine):  
per packet on the network switch

- classification
- which inference tasks work well on NALU?
- for autoencoding -> limitation of hardware?

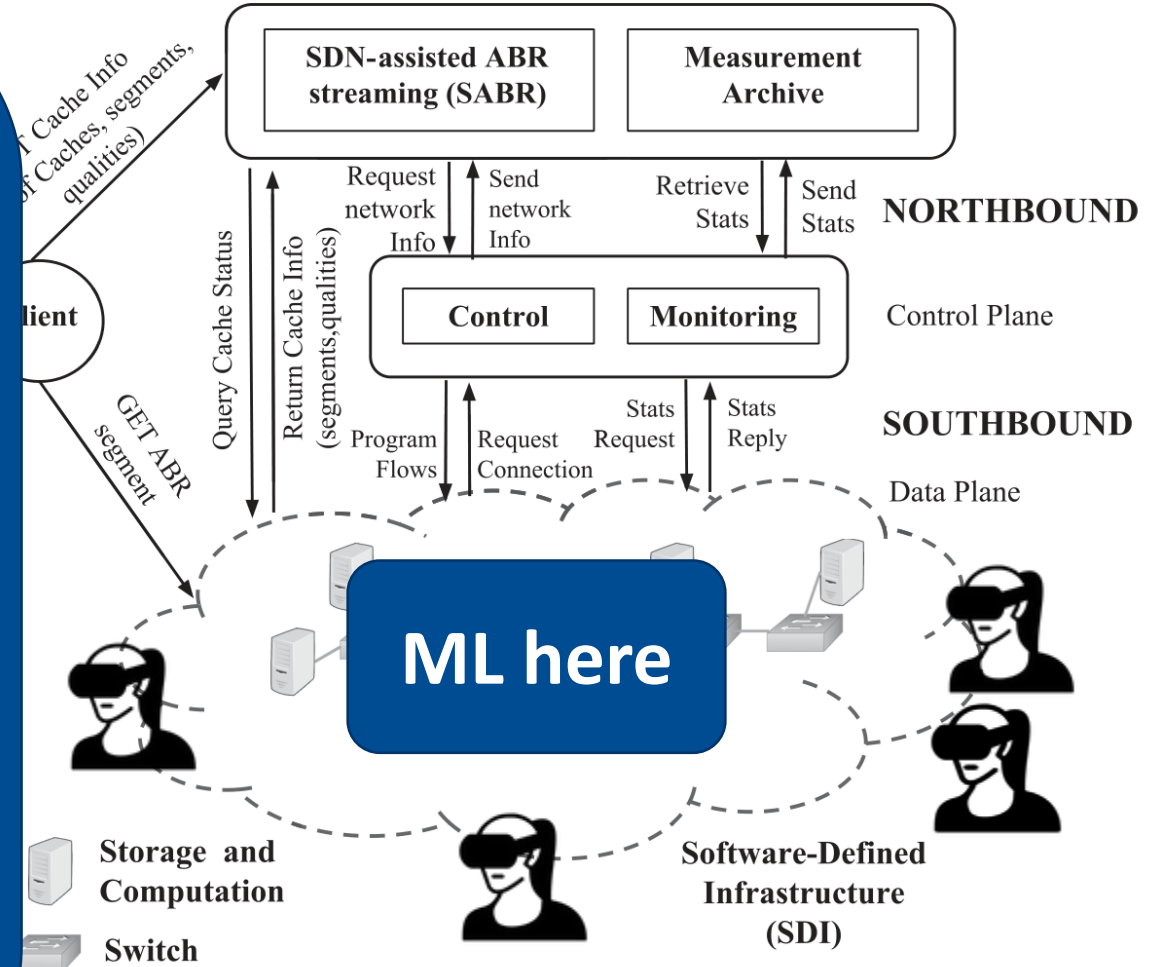
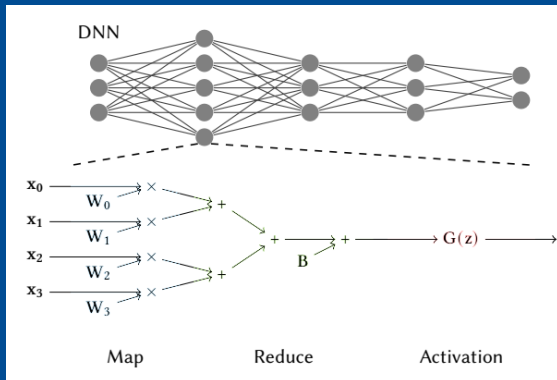
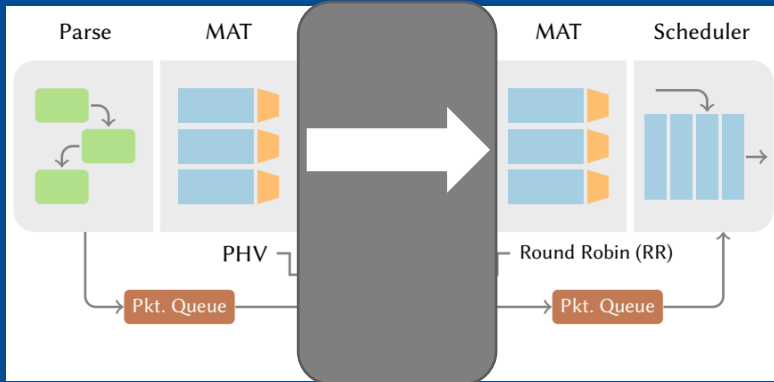
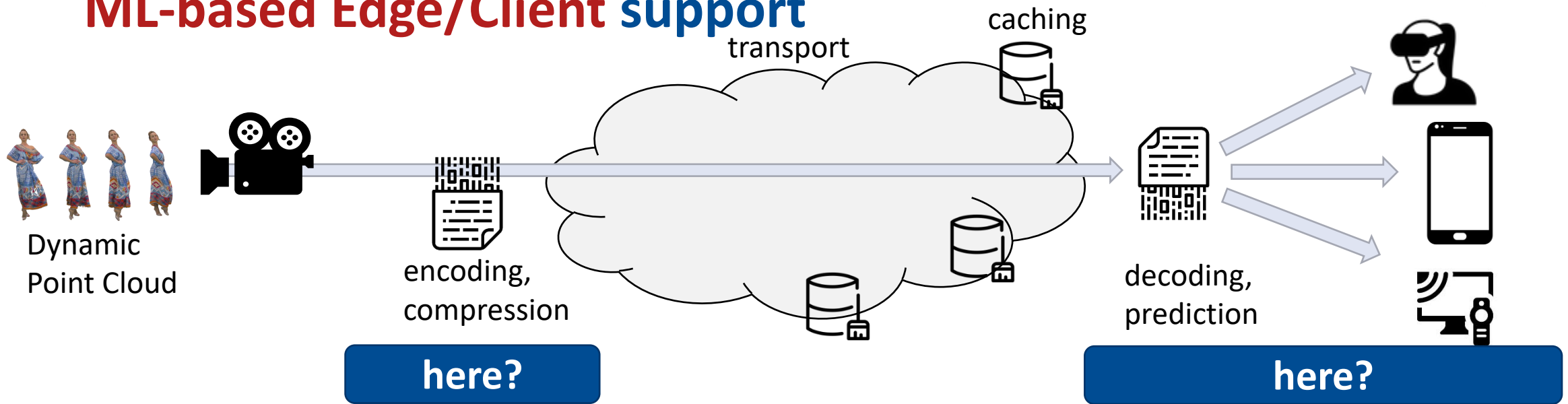


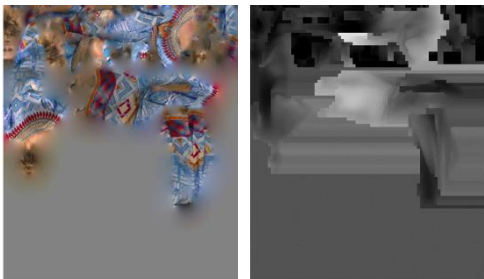
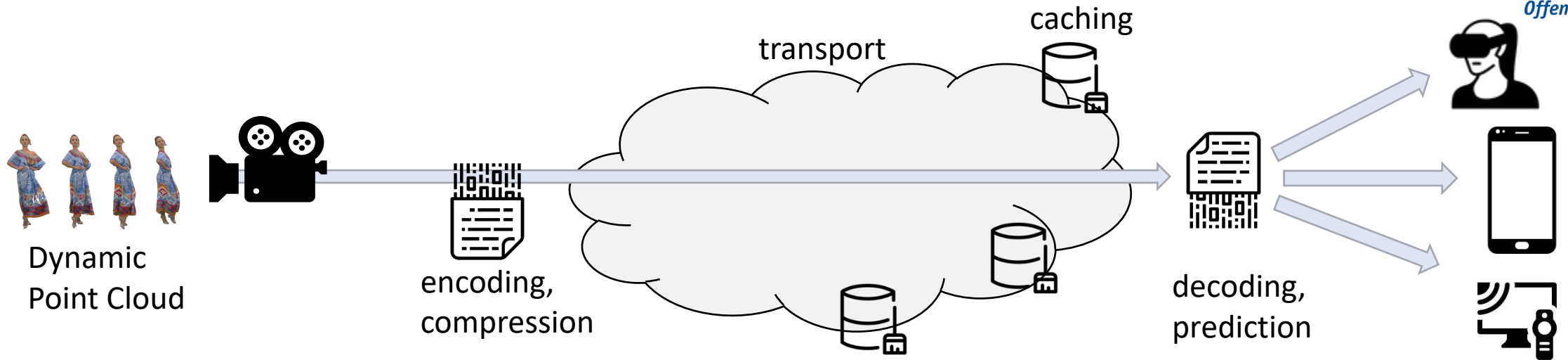
Fig. source: T. Swamy et al., Taurus: A Data Plane Architecture for Per-Packet ML, *ML4Net'20 / SIGCOMM'22*

# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens

## ML-based Edge/Client support



# Point Cloud Streaming (VPCC)

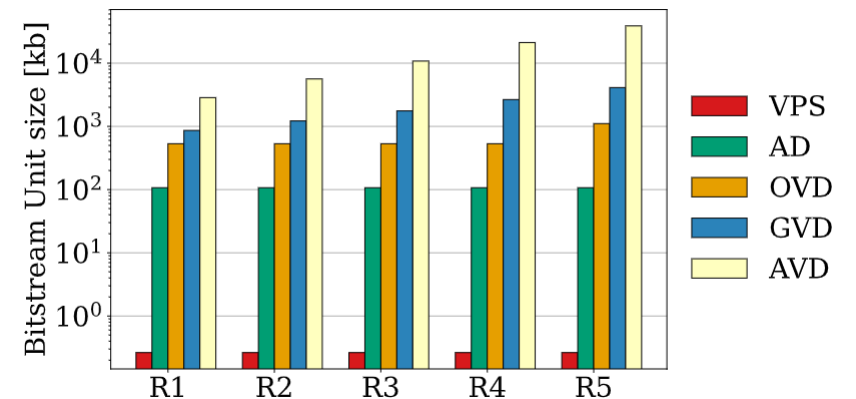


Bitstreams:  
Attribute (left) and  
Geometry (right)

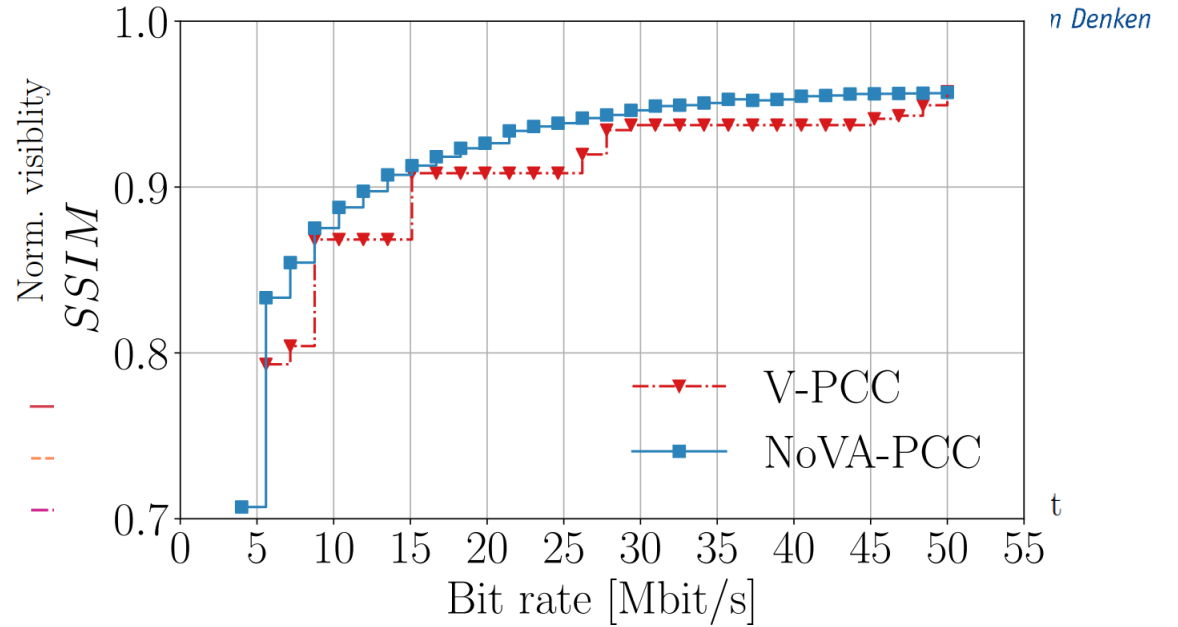
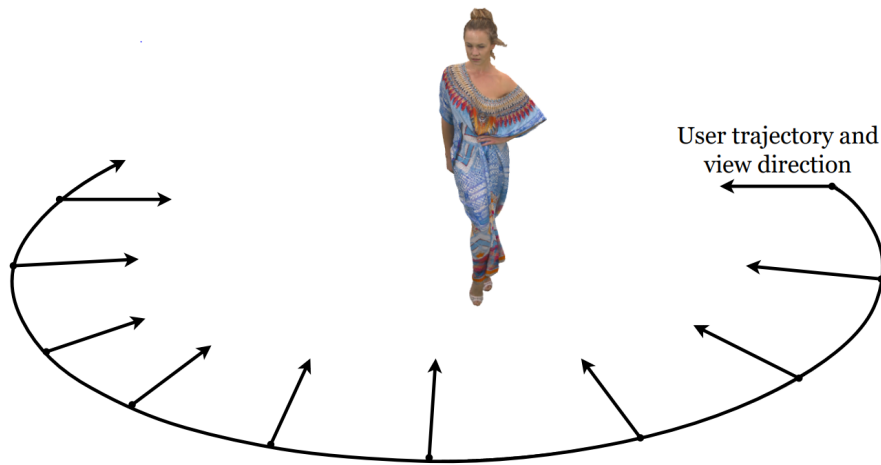
2D projections are **packed into image frames** and **compressed with legacy video codecs**.

The bitstream of V-PCC consists of:

- Geometry bitstream
- Attribute bitstream
- Occupancy map
- Auxiliary information

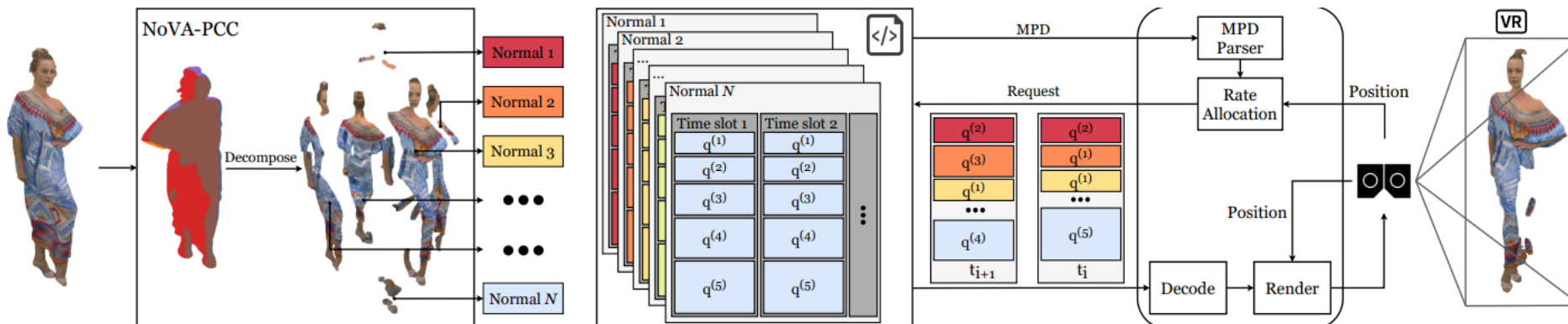


# Challenge 1: User interaction with PC objects



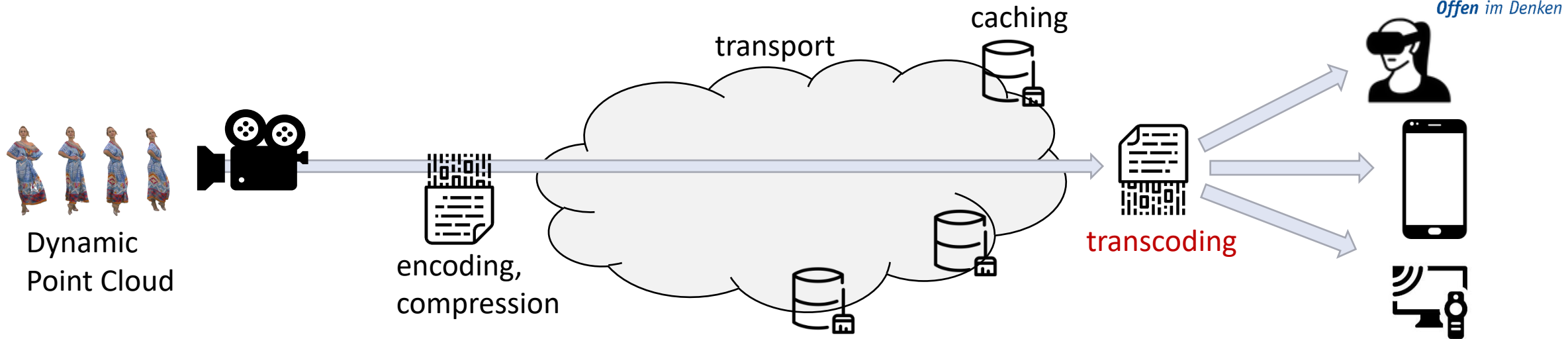
## Approach: Point Cloud decomposition

- Cube-based approach [Li et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2020]
- View-based approach [Subramanyam et al., '20, Zhu et al., '20, M. Rudolph '22]

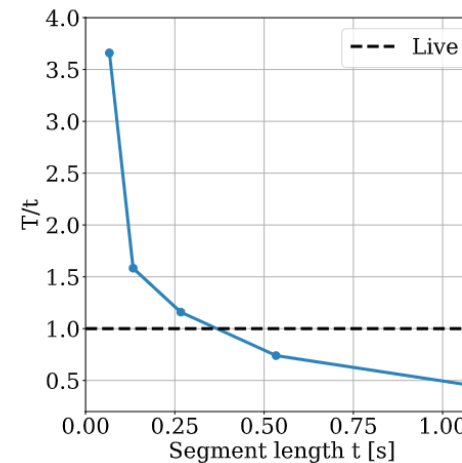
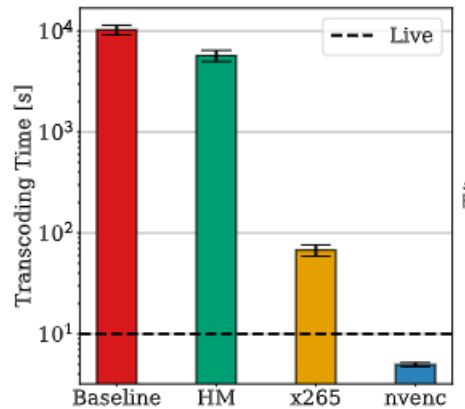




# Challenge 2: Transcoding PC objects



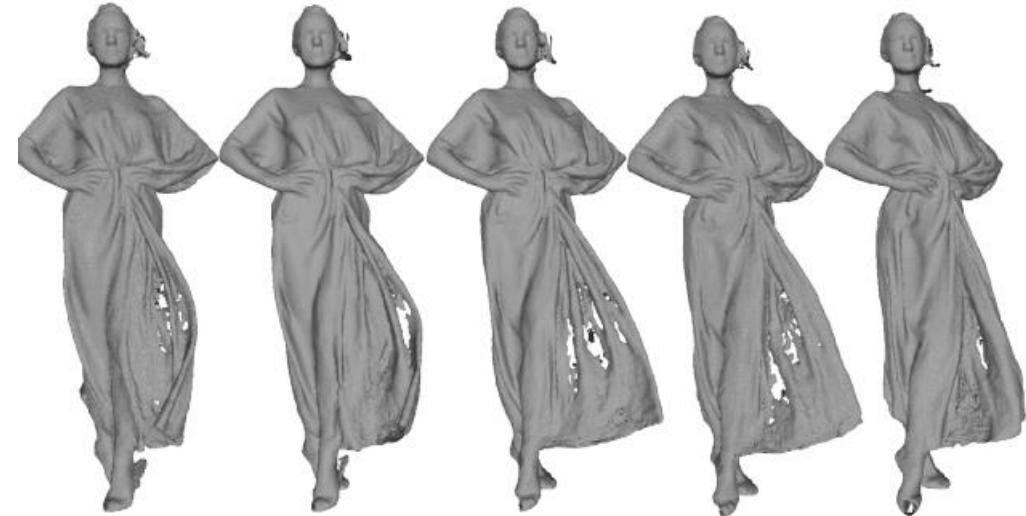
## Live Transcoding and Point Cloud reconstruction based on encoded video streams



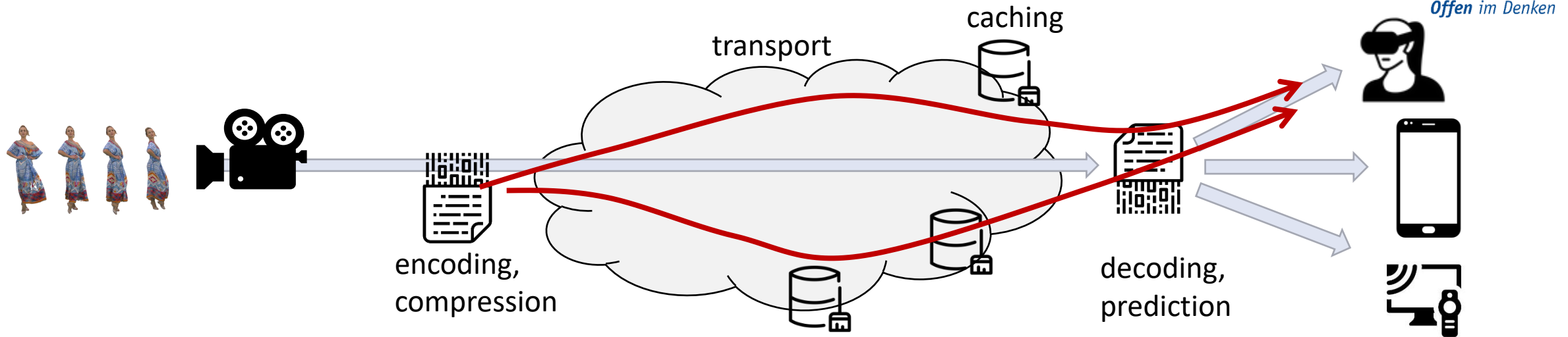
# Challenge 3: Error concealment

## ML for error concealment at encoding time (Inpainting)

- split PC into cubes
- interpolate using intra and inter-source cube
- rationale:
  - similarity within vicinity in frame
  - consistency across frames

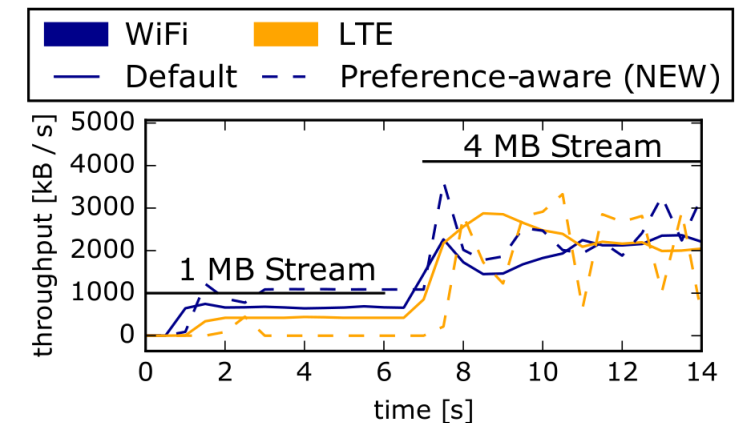
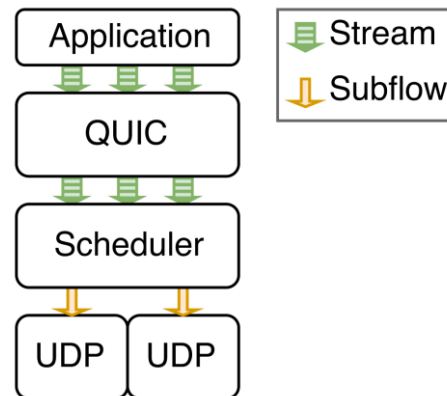


# Challenge 4a: Edge-side Multipathing (server push)



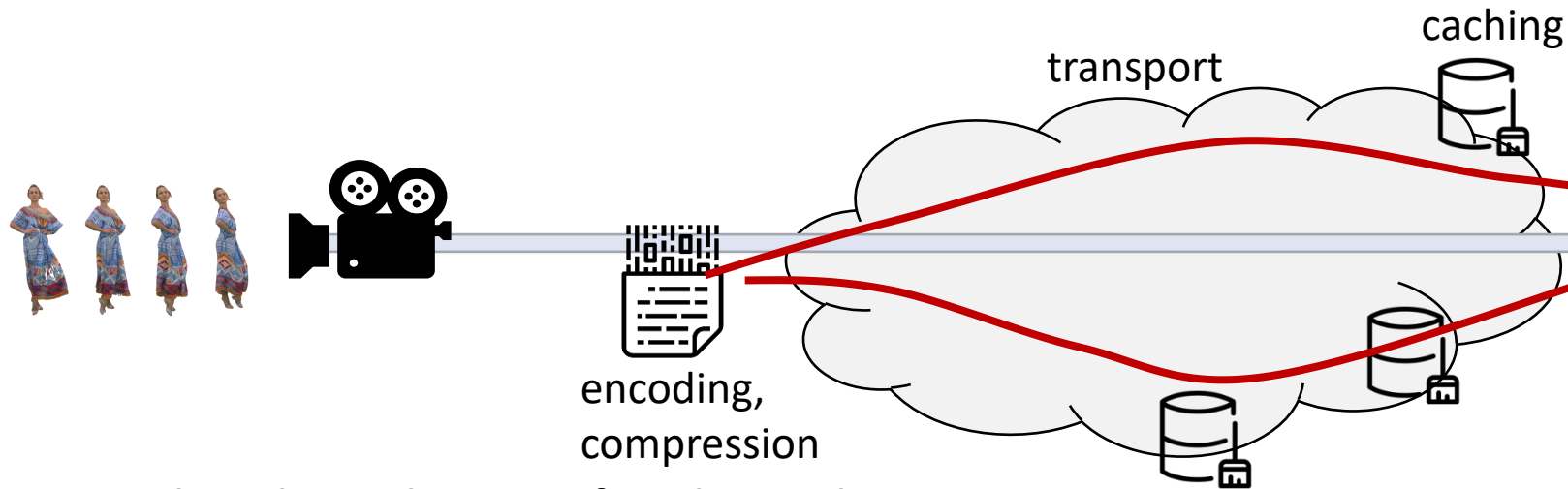
## Application-aware Multipath scheduling, i.e., treat different subflows *differently*

- mapping of application data to subflows
- mapping of subflows to paths
- set subflow config ...



only *switch-on* additional path when the stream quality rises

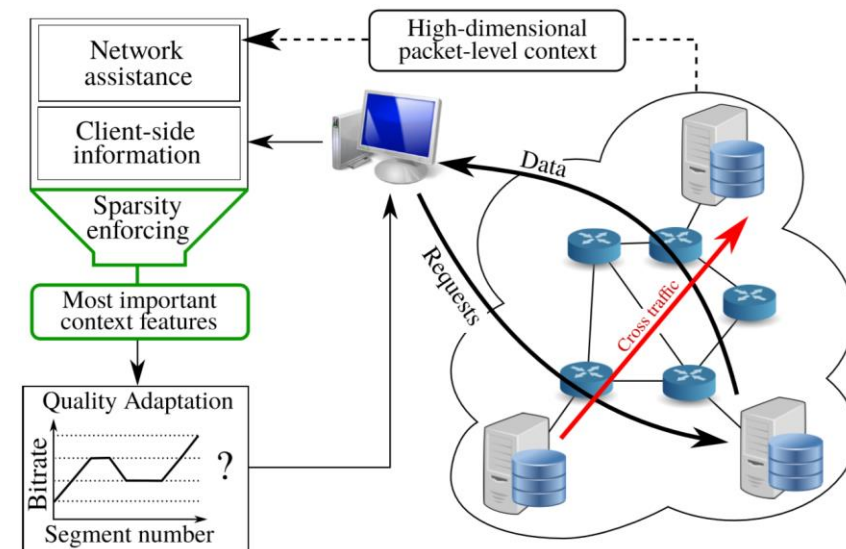
# Challenge 4b: Edge-side Multipathing (client pull)



| Algorithm  | Bitrate [Mbps] | Quality switches [#] | Switch magnitude [Mbps] | Average parameter update time [ms] |
|------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CBA-OS-SVI | <b>3.10</b>    | <b>6</b>             | <b>0.57</b>             | 15                                 |
| CBA-VB     | 2.58           | 6                    | 0.65                    | 325                                |
| LinUCB     | 2.24           | 14                   | 1.07                    | <b>6</b>                           |
| BOLA       | 2.63           | 36                   | 1.19                    |                                    |
| PANDA      | 2.51           | 16                   | 1.00                    |                                    |

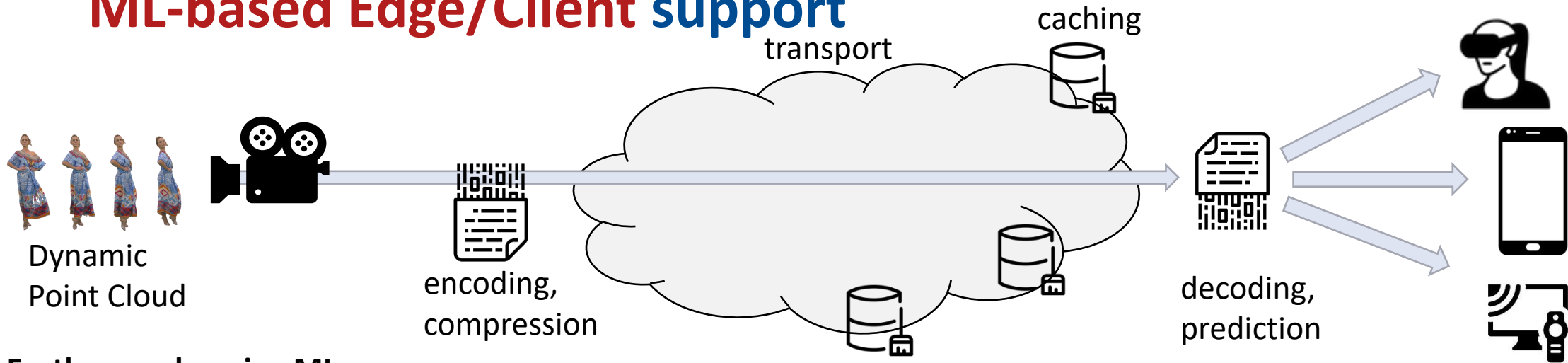
## Context-based ML adaptation for adaptive bitrate streaming

- (If additional (however noisy) meta-data are available then better decisions)
- Contextual Multi-armed bandits: each action, at each time step, has some multi-dimensional context information (latency per chunk,...) available
- Higher-dimensional, noisier context means longer learning times
- Approach: Enforce sparsity to shrink the context keeping most important information
- only 1 segment length (2s) between decisions -> speed up inference time by using less samples to update the model



# (Live) Streaming through the ML lens

## ML-based Edge/Client support



### Further works using ML:

- to predict the user view-port movement
- to reconfigure the ABR streaming algorithm
- to learn application specific congestion control
- to optimize content caching at the edge

and many more...

# my personal take on ... Open Challenges

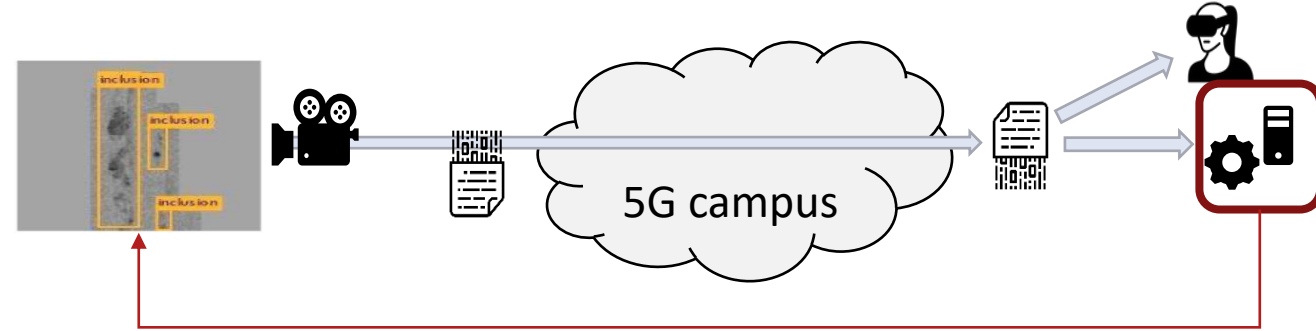
$$QoR = \frac{A}{A^*}$$

e.g. accuracy

e.g. highest accuracy possible

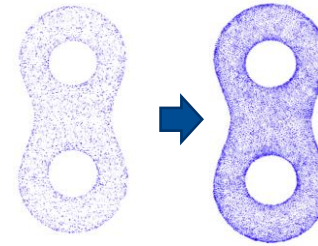
## From QoE to Quality-of-Result (QoR)

- complete the feedback loop



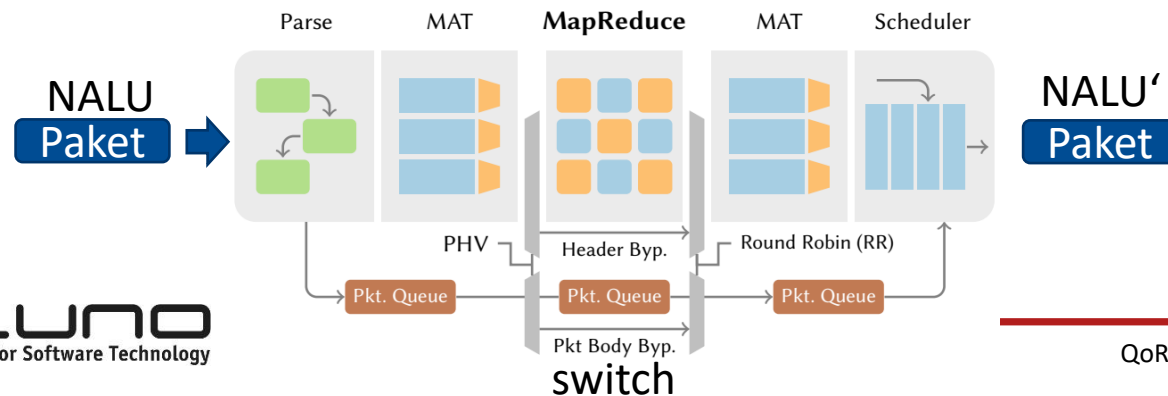
## Live Dynamic Point Cloud Encoding with VPCC

- Dynamic** Point Cloud Super-resolution?



live process feedback

## Data-plane video streaming applications





# Thanks to wonderful collaborations/students

- Michael Rudolph
- Denny Stohr
- Alexander Frömmgen
- Cong Wang
- Divya Bhat
- Trevor Ballard
- Ralf Steinmetz
- Michael Zink

# Shameless Plug



## Computer Communications

Supports open access

7.8

CiteScore

5.047

Impact Factor

### Aims & Scope

- Emerging technologies for next generation network
- LAN/WAN/MAN
- Future Internet architecture, protocols and services
- Content- and service-centric architecture
- Mobile and ubiquitous networks
- Self organizing/autonomic networking
- Green networking
- Internet content search
- QoS and multimedia networking
- Opportunistic networking
- On-line social networks
- Internet of things
- Public safety communication networks
- Network applications (web, multimedia streaming, VoIP, gaming, etc)
- Trust, security and privacy in computer and communication networks
- Modeling, measurement and simulation
- Complex network models
- Internet socio-economic models
- Experimental test-beds and research platforms
- Algorithmic aspects of communication networks
- Network scaling and limits

Latest issue

Volume 198

In progress

15 January 2023

### About the journal

The International Journal for the Computer and Telecommunications Industry

**Computer and Communications networks** are key infrastructures of the information society with high socio-economic value as they contribute to the correct operations of many critical services (from healthcare to finance and transportation). **Internet** is the core of today's **computer-communication ...**

[View full aims & scope](#)

# my personal take on ... Open Challenges

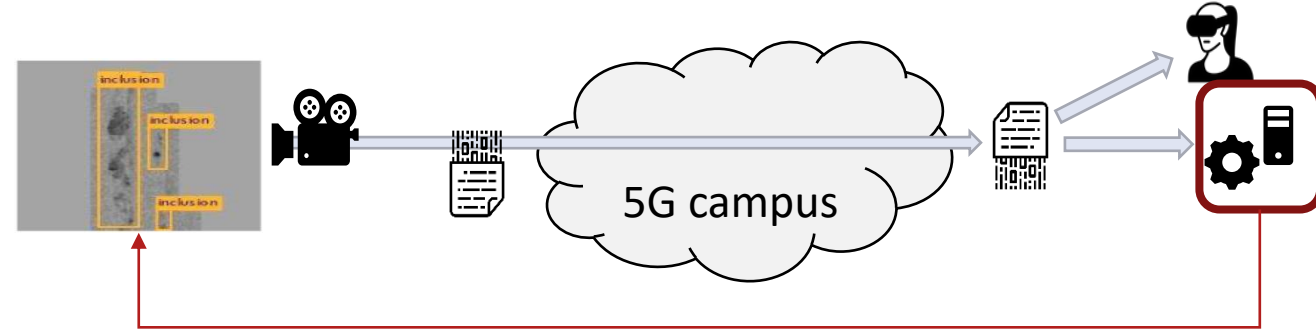
$$QoR = \frac{A}{A^*}$$

e.g. accuracy

e.g. highest accuracy possible

## From QoE to Quality-of-Result (QoR)

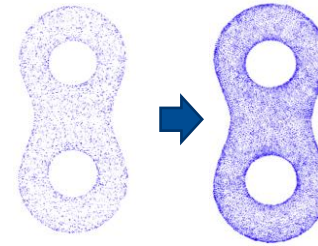
- complete the feedback loop



live process feedback

## Live Dynamic Point Cloud Encoding with VPCC

- Dynamic Point Cloud Super-resolution?**



## Data-plane video streaming applications

