

Lightweight computation for networks at the edge

Project General Presentation





Project Information

- Project Number: 732505
- Project Acronym: LightKone
- Project Coordinator: Université catholique de Louvain
- Execution Period: 01/01/2017 31/12/2019
- Budget: 3,6M €
- 10 Partners: 6 Countries (PT, ES, FR, BE, NL, DE)
- Programme Type: Research and Innovation Action
- Website: www.lightkone.eu





Partners







Motivation and Mission

- The cloud center is becoming a bottleneck due to the ever-increasing volumes of data coming from the rapidly growing edge of the Internet
- Edge computing is proposed as an extension to cloud computing aiming at delegating some of the data storage and processing to network edge devices
- This brings several advantages like reducing latency, increasing scalability, resilience, autonomy, and security





Motivation and Mission

- An edge network consists of a large set of heterogeneous, loosely coupled computing nodes situated at the logical extreme of a network
- This raises several data management challenges to ensure the consistency of the system without impeding availability, despite node and/or network failures
- LightKone aims to develop a scientifically sound and industrially validated data model for doing general-purpose computation on edge networks





Idea and Approach

- LightKone adopts a relaxed consistency model that allows edge devices to update and read data asynchronously. This is key to improve the responsiveness and autonomy of edge applications
- LightKone ensures data consistency on the edge through resolving potential data conflicts. In particular, it builds on the success of Conflict-free Replicated DataTypes (CRDTs) and extends them to support synchronization-free data management at the edge
- LightKone also develops underlying communication protocols, like efficient gossip protocols or reliable tagged causal broadcast, necessary for data delivery in CRDTs





Main Results

- LightKone Reference Architecture (LiRA) for edge computing that provides lateral data sharing along the entire continuum from cloud datacenter to far edge devices
- Software artefacts and components that work together in a coherent way to support a spectrum of edge applications
- A startup that develops synchronization-free mobile applications based on the above technology





Technology Targets

• LightKone technology targets a wide range of edge applications. It has been empirically validated on the following diverse set of applications:

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- Distributed monitoring for community networks
- Multi-cloud metadata search
- Multi-master geo-distributed storage SCALITY
- Manufacturing No Stop RFID system
- Precision agriculture









Structure







