CS290F - Homework Assignment #2

Note: Choices for the Familiarity and Recommendation sections are marked in bold. Otherwise, responses are written below the appropriate heading.

Review for: Coupons: A Multilevel Incentive Scheme for Information Dissemination in Mobile Networks (Garyfalos, Almeroth)

Familiarity: Rate your familiarity with the topic of the paper.

Expert (I conduct(ed) active research work in this topic)
Familiar (I am well aware of research work in this topic)
Some knowledge (I am marginally aware of research work in this topic)
Novice (I am not familiar with research work in this area, and serve as an outsider reviewer)

*Recommendation: Your overall rating

Definite accept (top 5%, excellent paper)
Likely accept (top 15% but not top 5%, significant contribution)
Accept if room (top 30% but not top 15%, borderline)
Likely Reject (top 50% but not in top 30%, needs more work)
Definite Reject (bottom 50%)

Strengths: What are the major reasons to accept the paper? [Be brief.]

The paper is well thought out, clearly explains the proposed protocol and achieved results.

Weaknesses: What are the major reasons NOT to accept the paper? [Be brief.]

None.

Detailed Comments: Please provide detailed comments that will help the TPC assess the paper and help provide feedback to the authors.

1. Not being familiar with the research area or work in the area, it is difficult to give a recommendation for the paper, as I have nothing to compare it to.
2. If I were to accuse the paper of having any problems it would be that I was not convinced of the necessity or benefit of the algorithm. Again, this may be because of my lack of experience with the research area, which is why I don't list it above as a reason not to accept the paper.
Review for: A Scalable, Commodity Data Center Network Architecture (Al-Fares, Loukissas, Vahdat) [SIGCOMM 2008]

Note: This paper isn't really related to a class project, as I currently have no idea what my project will cover. I selected this paper as an interesting read into the state-of-the-art networking management for high-density clusters.

Familiarity: Rate your familiarity with the topic of the paper.

- Expert (I conduct(ed) active research work in this topic)
- Familiar (I am well aware of research work in this topic)
- Some knowledge (I am marginally aware of research work in this topic)
- Novice (I am not familiar with research work in this area, and serve as an outsider reviewer)

*Recommendation: Your overall rating

- Definite accept (top 5%, excellent paper)
- Likely accept (top 15% but not top 5%, significant contribution)
- Accept if room (top 30% but not top 15%, borderline)
- Likely Reject (top 50% but not in top 30%, needs more work)
- Definite Reject (bottom 50%)

Strengths: What are the major reasons to accept the paper? [Be brief.]

The paper is extremely well laid out, anticipating questions even for a novice in the field as they come up. The cost-benefits of the structure are obvious, leading one to wonder why this mechanism hasn’t already been widely adopted, since the Clos’ topology it is based on has been around for so long. The figures provided are of great benefit to understanding and visualizing the problems and solutions presented in the paper.

Weaknesses: What are the major reasons NOT to accept the paper? [Be brief.]

None.

Detailed Comments: Please provide detailed comments that will help the TPC assess the paper and help provide feedback to the authors.

There are a lot of facts presented in succession -- for a reader, attempting to keep the facts straight may be a challenge, but with this type of paper, that may be an expected cost.