

CLAIMS:

1. A system, comprising:

- a memory;
- one or more processors in communication with the memory, the one or more processors configured to:
 - request periodically a list of available networks;
 - receive periodically the list of available networks, the available networks being geo-tagged;
 - select a first cellular network for communication through a first application, the first cellular network supported by a first evolved packet core (EPC), the first cellular network is a mobile network operator (MNO) operating with a first set of cell-selection policies set by a first owner;
 - attach to the selected first cellular network;
 - set up a first interface for directing traffic through the first cellular network, the first interface being dedicated to a first IP address resulting from the attachment to the first cellular network;
 - select a second cellular network for communication through a second application, the second cellular network being different from the first cellular network, the second cellular network supported by a second EPC different from the first EPC, the first cellular network and the second cellular network being disjoint networks, the second cellular network is a mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) operating with a second set of cell-selection policies set by a second owner;
 - attach to the selected second cellular network, without requiring detachment from the selected first cellular network;
 - set up a second interface for directing traffic through the second cellular network, the second interface being dedicated to a second IP address resulting from the attachment to the second cellular network;
 - sort traffic for the first application and the second application using a flow selector, the flow selector configured to sort traffic based on criteria for sorting traffic between disjoint networks, wherein the criteria are determined based on a plurality of rules for steering traffic to disjoint networks included in a policy engine;
 - steer, according to the sorting by the flow selector, a first traffic for the first application through the selected first cellular network using the first interface while remaining attached to the first cellular network and the second cellular network; and
 - steer, according to the sorting by the flow selector, a second traffic for the second application through the selected second cellular network using the second interface while remaining attached to the first cellular network and the second cellular network;
 - wherein the first traffic is different from the second traffic; and
 - wherein at least one of the selection of the first cellular network overrides the first set of cell-selection policies or the selection of the second cellular network overrides the second set of cell-selection policies.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein selecting the first cellular network is based on at least one of quality of the network connection or a cost of receiving data through the first cellular network.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein the first application is different from the second application.
4. The system of claim 3, wherein the first cellular network and the second cellular network have different associated costs.
5. The system of claim 1, wherein the first cellular network is a cellular mobile network operator (MNO) radio access network (RAN) and the first EPC is an MNO EPC, and wherein the second cellular network is a mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) for an independently operated small cell long-term evolution (LTE) network.
6. The system of claim 1, wherein the flow selector sorts traffic between the appropriate applications and networks based on user-side criteria, including one or more of: user input, network pricing, type of traffic, traffic volume, network signal strength, signal quality, statistical data, historical data, state of the user device, or conditions surrounding the user device.
7. The system of claim 6, wherein the first traffic has a first signal quality requirement and the second traffic has a second signal quality requirement lower than the first signal quality requirement.
8. The system of claim 6, wherein the state of the user device corresponds to a type of movement of the user device.
9. The user device of claim 1, wherein at least one of selecting the first cellular network or selecting the second cellular network is performed automatically in response to detecting the network and determining that the first application or the second application meet a predefined set of criteria.
10. The user device of claim 1, wherein the policy engine is configured to receive statistical data on performance of the plurality of networks from a remote database.
11. The system of claim 1, wherein the traffic steering rules are generated in response to a condition.
12. The system of claim 1, further comprising a user-space policy system configured to determine when to detach from at least one of the first cellular network or the second cellular network based on conditions associated with the user device.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the conditions associated with the user device include one or more of: user input, pricing, type of traffic, traffic volume, statistical data, historical data, or state of the user device.

14. The system of claim 1, wherein a first subscription profile for attaching to the first cellular network and a second subscription profile for attaching to the second cellular network are stored in the system, the first subscription profile and the second subscription profile each having a respective password.

15. A method, comprising:

- requesting periodically, with one or more processors, a list of available networks;

- receiving periodically, with the one or more processors, the list of available networks, the available networks being geo-tagged;

- selecting, with the one or more processors, a first cellular network for communication through a first application, the first cellular network supported by a first evolved packet core (EPC), the first cellular network is a mobile network operator (MNO) operating with a first set of cell-selection policies set by a first owner;

- attaching to the selected first cellular network;

- setting up, with the one or more processors, a first interface for directing traffic through the first cellular network, the first interface being dedicated to a first IP address resulting from the attachment to the first cellular network;

- selecting, with the one or more processors, a second cellular network for communication through a second application, the second cellular network being different from the first cellular network, the second cellular network supported by a second EPC different from the first EPC, the first cellular network and the second cellular network being disjoint networks, the second cellular network is a mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) operating with a second set of cell-selection policies set by a second owner;

- attaching to the selected second cellular network, without requiring detachment from the selected first cellular network;

- setting up, with the one or more processors, a second interface for directing traffic through the second cellular network, the second interface being dedicated to a second IP address resulting from the attachment to the second cellular network;

- sorting traffic for the first application and the second application using a flow selector, the flow selector configured to sort traffic based on criteria for sorting traffic between disjoint networks, wherein the criteria are determined based on a plurality of rules for steering traffic to disjoint networks included in a policy engine;

- steering, with the one or more processors according to the sorting by the flow selector, a first traffic for the first application through the selected first cellular network using the first interface while remaining attached to the first cellular network and the second cellular network; and

steering, with the one or more processors according to the sorting by the flow selector, a second traffic for the second application through the selected second cellular network using the second interface while remaining attached to the first cellular network and the second cellular network;

wherein the first traffic is different from the second traffic; and

wherein at least one of the selection of the first cellular network overrides the first set of cell-selection policies or the selection of the second cellular network overrides the second set of cell-selection policies.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein selecting the first cellular network is based on at least one of quality of the network connection or a cost of receiving data through the first cellular network.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the first application is different from the second application.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the first cellular network and the second cellular network have different associated costs.

19. The method of claim 15, wherein at least one of selecting the first cellular network or selecting the second cellular network is performed automatically in response to detecting the network and determining that the first application or the second application meet a predefined set of criteria.

20. The method of claim 15, wherein the policy engine is configured to receive statistical data on performance of the plurality of networks from a remote database.

21. The method of claim 15, wherein the traffic steering rules are generated in response to a condition.

22. A non-transitory computer-readable medium storing instructions executable by a processor to perform a method, comprising:

requesting periodically a list of available networks;

receiving periodically the list of available networks, the available networks being geo-tagged;

selecting a first cellular network for communication through a first application, the first cellular network supported by a first evolved packet core (EPC), the first cellular network is a mobile network operator (MNO) operating with a first set of cell-selection policies set by a first owner;

attaching to the selected first cellular network;

setting up a first interface for directing traffic through the first cellular network, the first interface being dedicated to a first IP address resulting from the attachment to the first cellular network;

selecting a second cellular network for communication through a second application, the second cellular network being different from the first cellular network, the cellular second network supported by a

second EPC different from the first EPC, the first cellular network and the second cellular network being disjoint networks, the second cellular network is a mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) operating with a second set of cell-selection policies set by a second owner;

attaching to the selected second cellular network, without requiring detachment from the selected first cellular network;

setting up a second interface for directing traffic through the second cellular network, the second interface being dedicated to a second IP address resulting from the attachment to the second cellular network;

sorting traffic for the first application and the second application using a flow selector, the flow selector configured to sort traffic based on criteria for sorting traffic between disjoint networks, wherein the criteria are determined based on a plurality of rules for steering traffic to disjoint networks included in a policy engine;

steering, according to the sorting by the flow selector, a first traffic for the first application through the selected first cellular network using the first interface while remaining attached to the first cellular network and the second cellular network; and

steering, according to the sorting by the flow selector, a second traffic for the second application through the selected second cellular network using the second interface while remaining attached to the first cellular network and the second cellular network;

wherein the first traffic is different from the second traffic; and

wherein at least one of the selection of the first cellular network overrides the first set of cell-selection policies or the selection of the second cellular network overrides the second set of cell-selection policies.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein selecting the first cellular network is based on at least one of quality of the network connection or a cost of receiving data through the first cellular network.

24. The method of claim 22, wherein at least one of selecting the first cellular network or selecting the second cellular network is performed automatically in response to detecting the network and determining that the first application or the second application meet a predefined set of criteria.