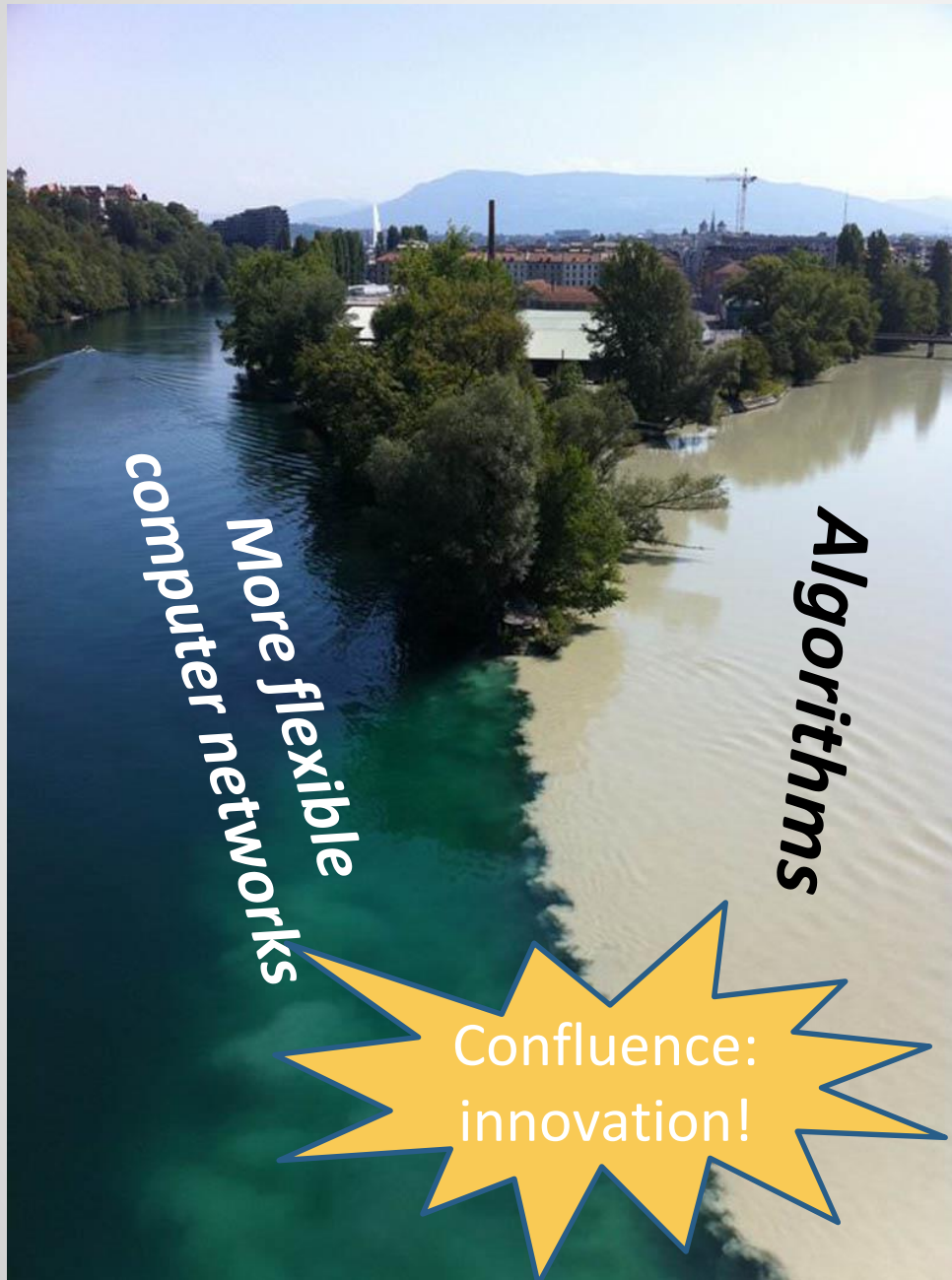


Tutorial: Algorithmic Issues in Network Resource Reservation Problems

Stefan Schmid

Aalborg University, Denmark & TU Berlin, Germany

A rehash: It's a great time to be a scientist!



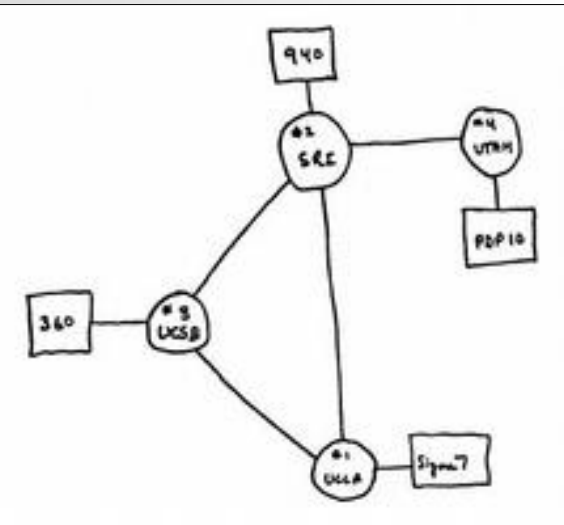
How to exploit these flexiblities?
How not to shoot in our feet?
Can be challenging!

"We are at an interesting inflection point!"
Keynote by George Varghese at SIGCOMM 2014



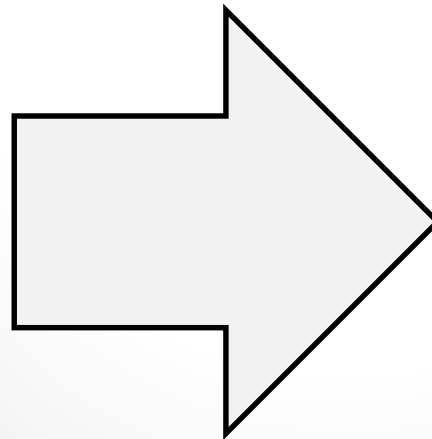
New Flexibilities: It's About Time!

- ❑ Datacenter networks, enterprise networks, Internet: a **critical infrastructure** of the information society
- ❑ We have seen a huge **shift in scale and applications...**
- ❑ ... but many Internet protocols **hardly changed!**



Applications: file transfer, email

Goal: **connectivity** between researchers

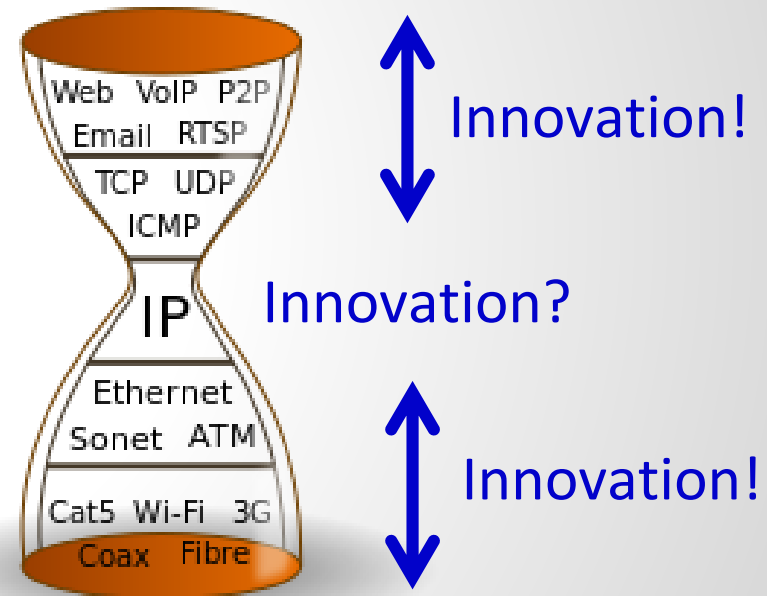


Applications: live streaming, IoT, etc.

Goal: **quality-of-service**, predictable performance, low latency, ...

Opportunity 1 of Network Virtualization: Overcoming Ossification

- ❑ Recent concern: Ossification in the network core
 - ❑ Are computer networks **future-proof**?
 - ❑ Meet the **new requirements** of new applications?
- ❑ Example Internet-of-Things:
 - ❑ IPv4: ~**4.3** billion addresses, Gartner study: **20+** billion “smart things” by 2020
 - ❑ New security threats: recent **DDoS attack** based on IoT (almost 1TB/s, coming from webcams, babyphones, etc.)



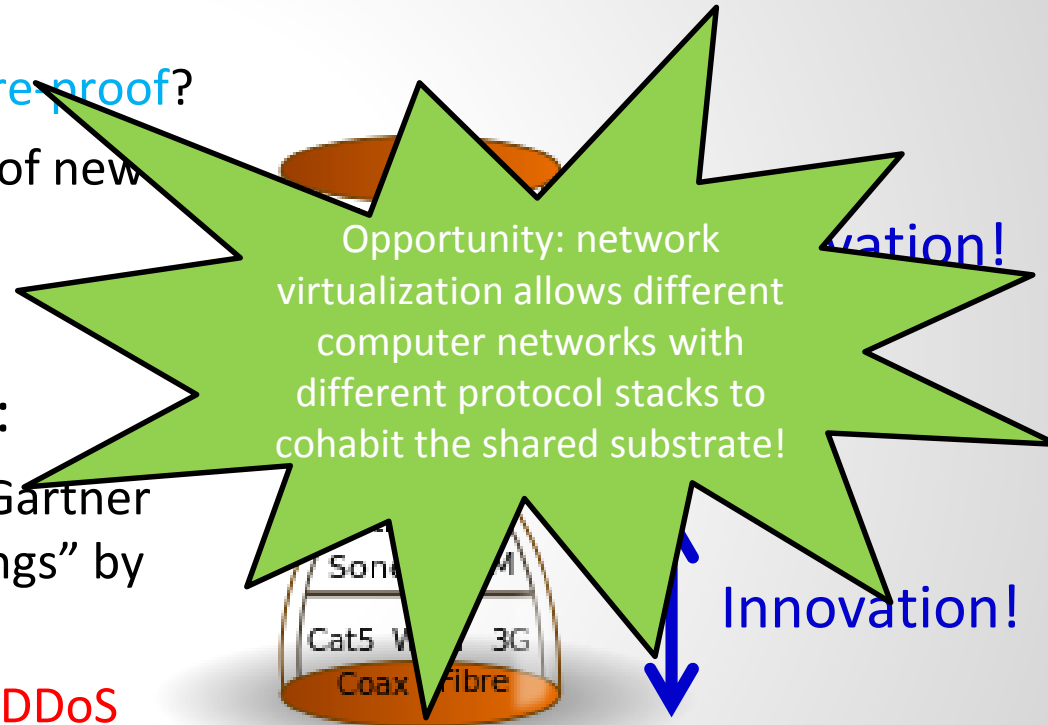
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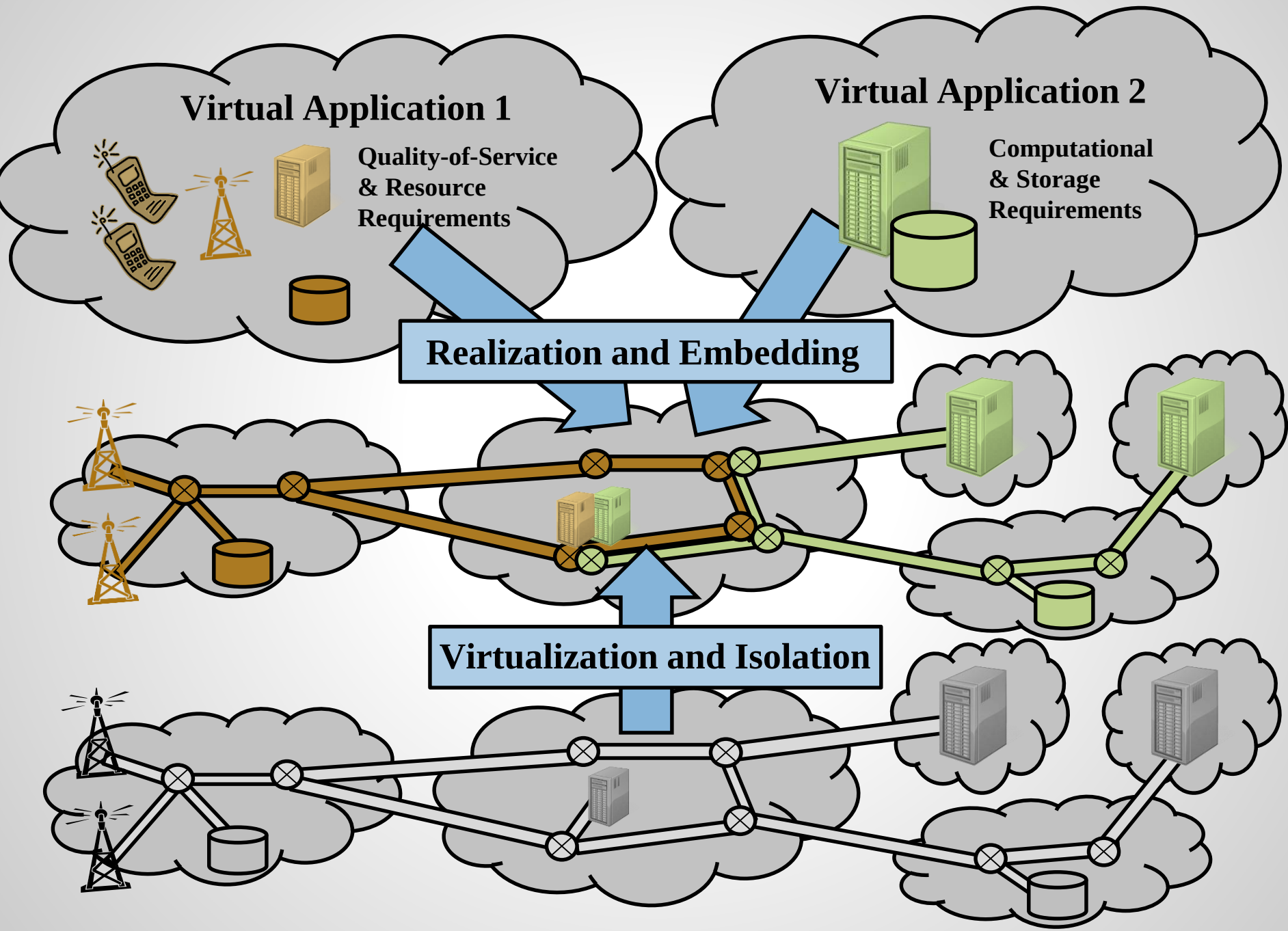
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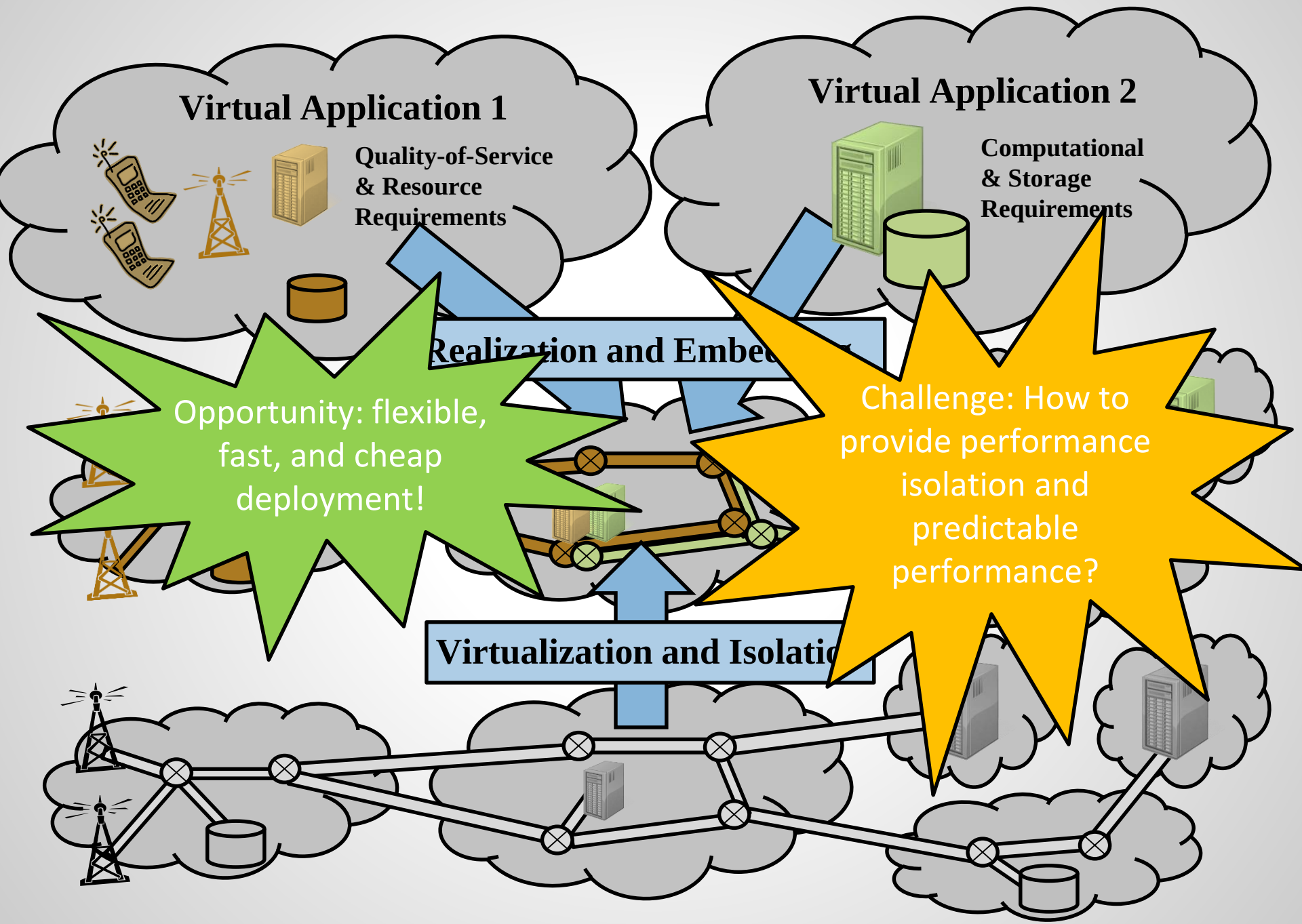
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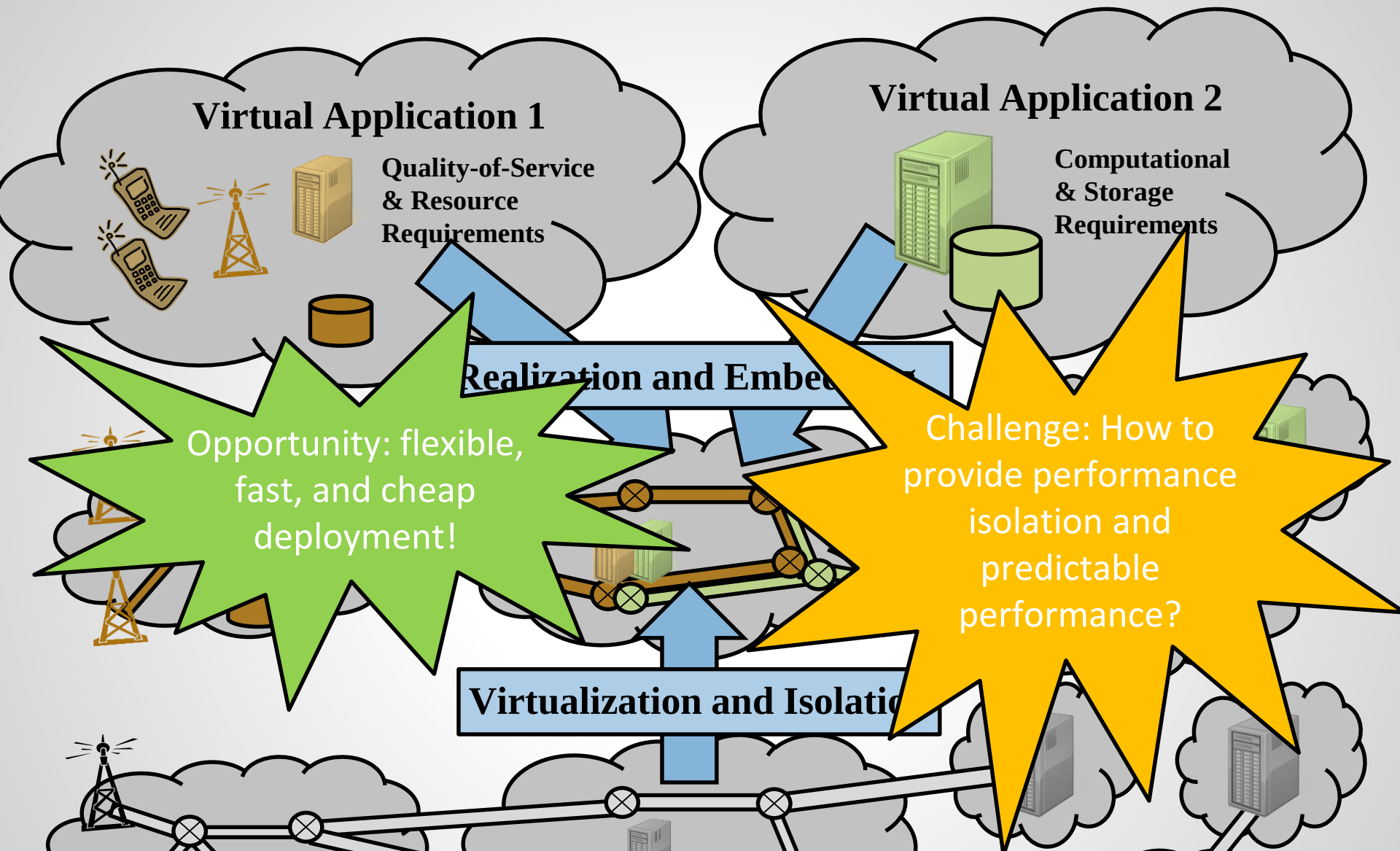
Opportunity 2: Enable Resource Sharing for Improved Utilization



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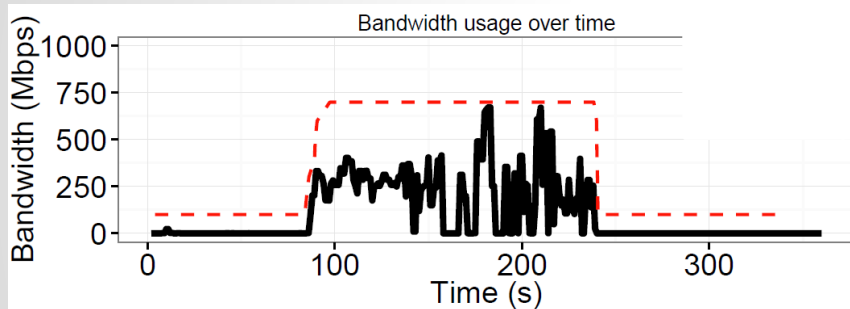
In general: For a predictable application performance, performance isolation needs to be provided along *all* involved resources.

Focus Today: *The Network*

The Network Matters

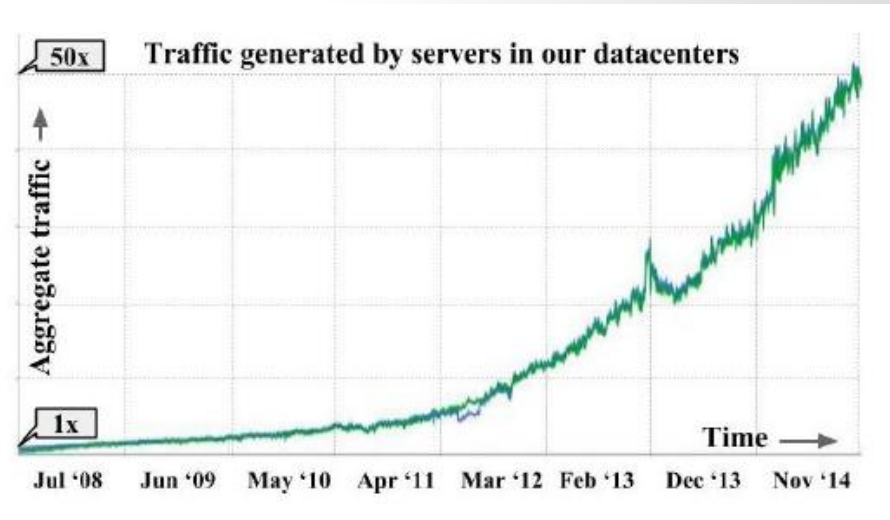
- ❑ Cloud-based applications generate significant network traffic
 - ❑ E.g., scale-out databases, streaming, batch processing applications

Example 1: Hadoop Terrasort job



shuffle phase

Example 2: Aggregate Server Traffic in Google datacenter



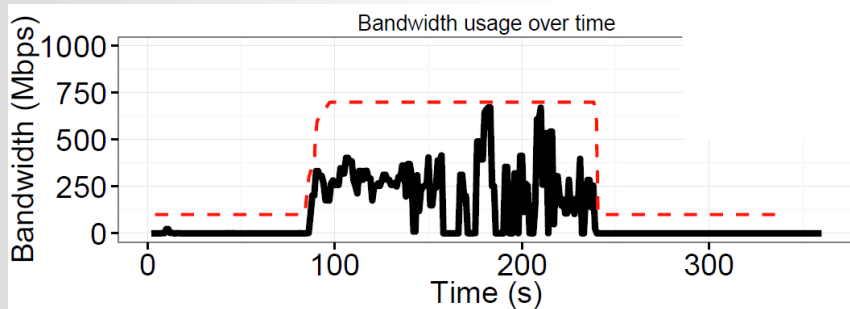
Example 3: More memory-based systems (network becoming bottleneck again)

Jupiter rising @ SIGCOMM 2015

The Network Matters

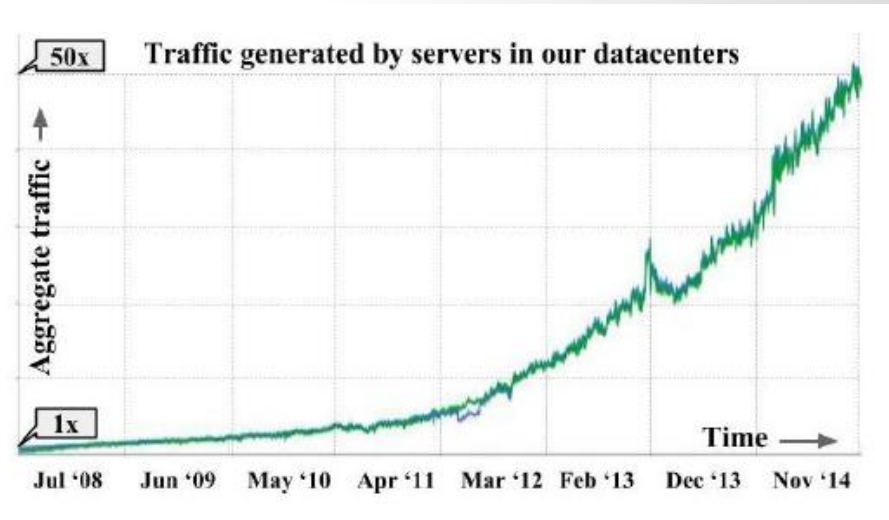
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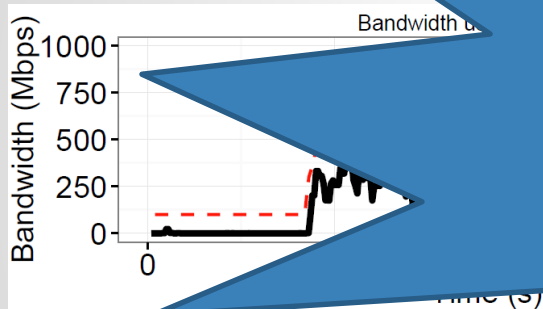
Jupiter rising @ SIGCOMM 2015

As much time is spent on communication: For a predictable application performance, bandwidth resources need to be reserved explicitly.

The Network Matters

- ❑ Cloud-based applications generate significant network traffic
 - ❑ E.g., scale-out databases, streaming, batch processing applications

Example 1: MapReduce on Terrasort



shuffle phase

Example 2: Aggregate Server Traffic



Example 3: More memory-based systems
(network becoming bottleneck again)

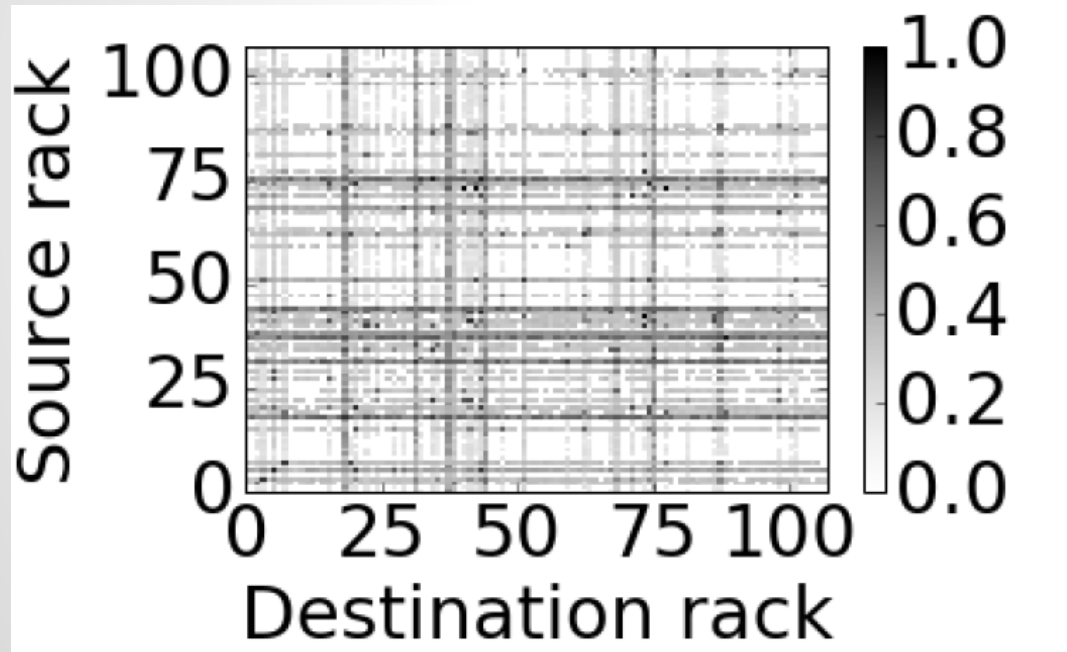
Jupiter rising @ SIGCOMM 2015

As much time is spent on communication: For a predictable application performance, bandwidth resources need to be reserved explicitly.

Structure in Traffic Matrix = Optimization Opportunities

- At the same time, traffic matrices are often **far from random** and uniform, but have a lot of **structure** and are **sparse**

Example 1: Often **little to no traffic** between many racks



Without **taking this structure into account**, some links may be **overprovisioned** and others **underprovisioned**.

Focus Today: *The Network*



We will be talking a lot about
bandwidth reservations.

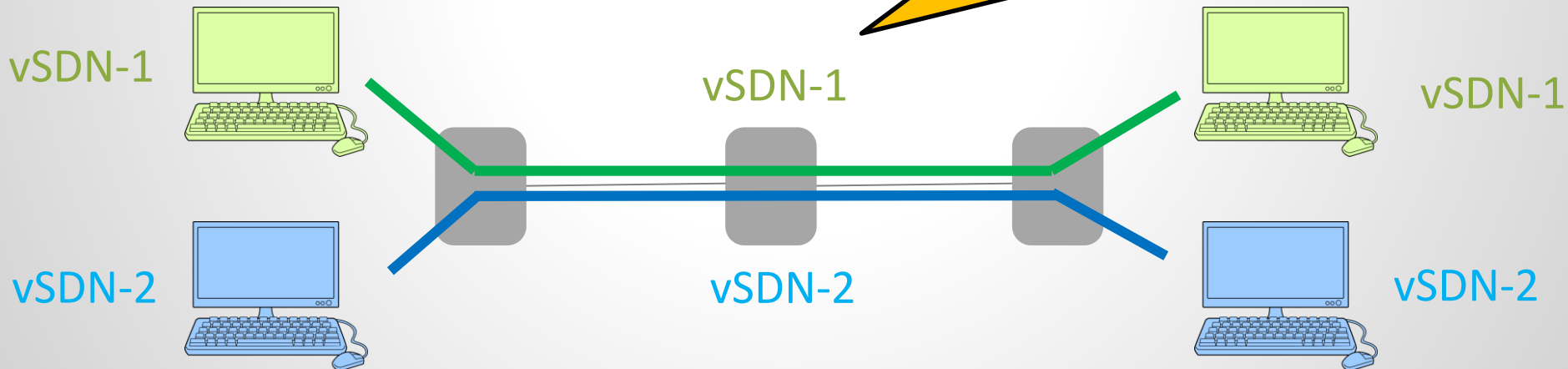
But: Predictable network
performance is about more,
and **interference can come in
many flavors!**

<remark>

The Many Faces of Performance Interference

Consider: 2 SDN-based
virtual networks (vSDNs)
sharing physical resources!

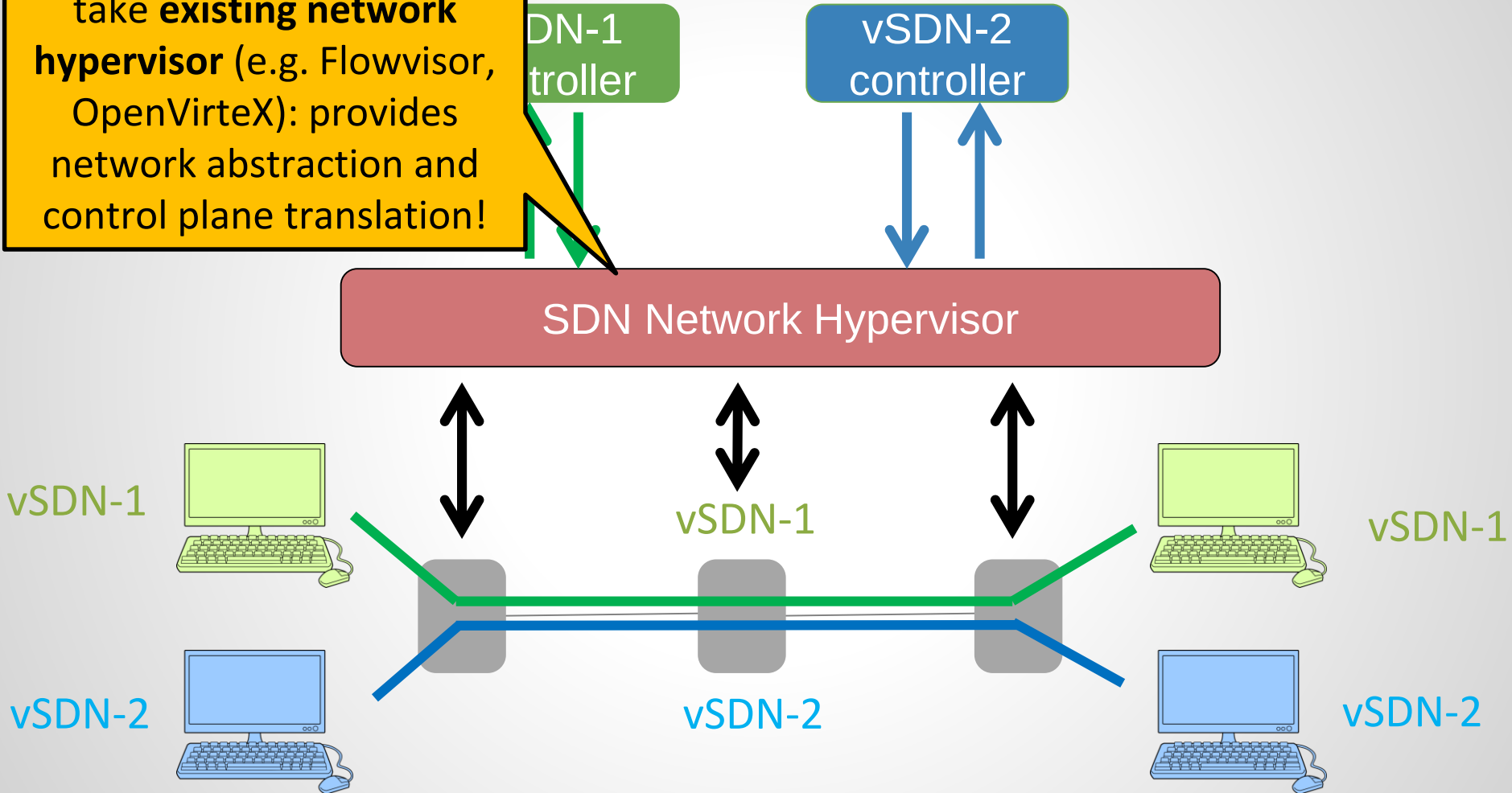
Assume: perfect
performance isolation on
the network!



An Experiment: 2 vSDNs with bw guarantee!

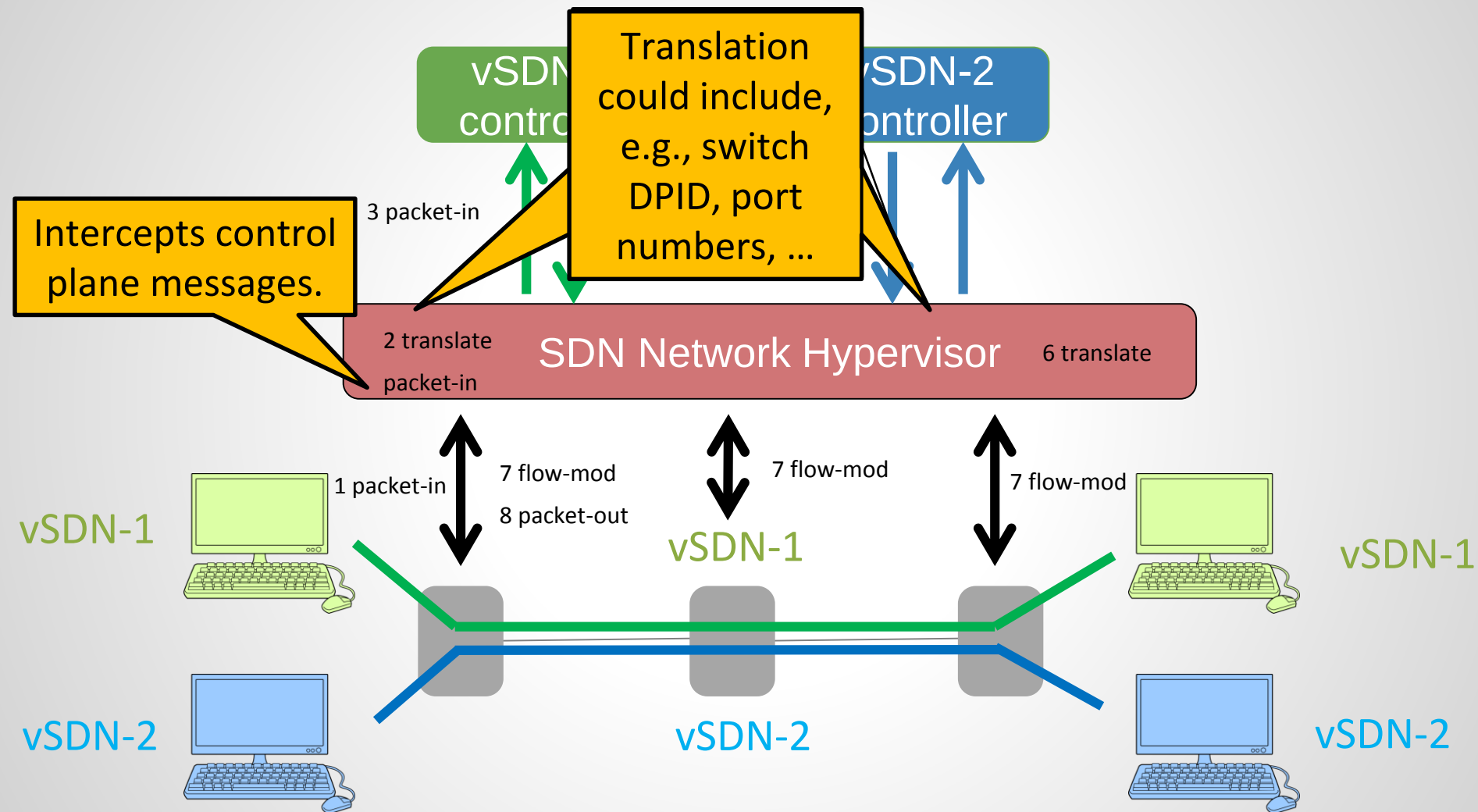
The Many Faces of Performance Interference

To enable **multi-tenancy**, take **existing network hypervisor** (e.g. Flowvisor, OpenVirteX): provides network abstraction and control plane translation!



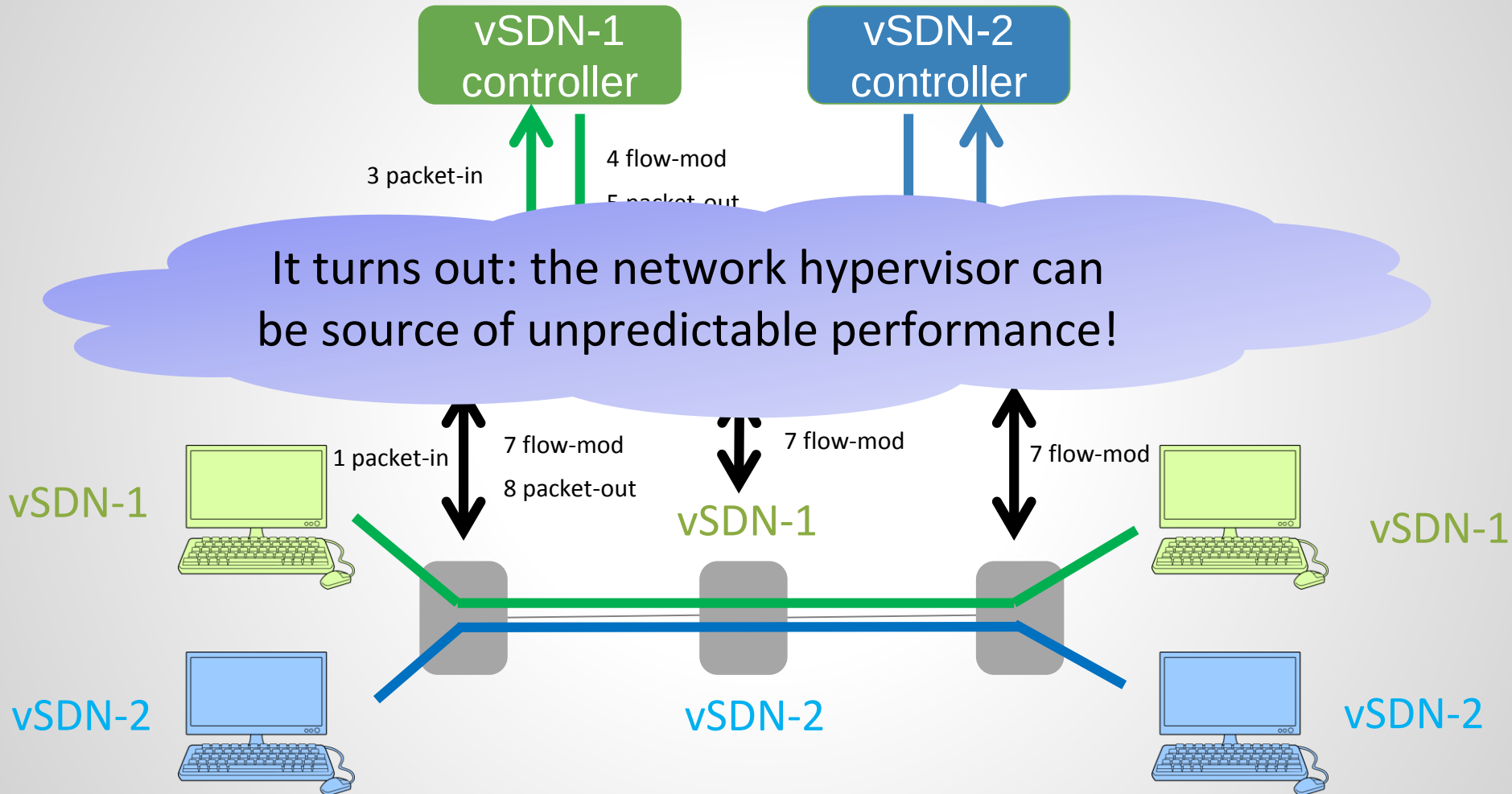
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The Many Faces of Performance Interference



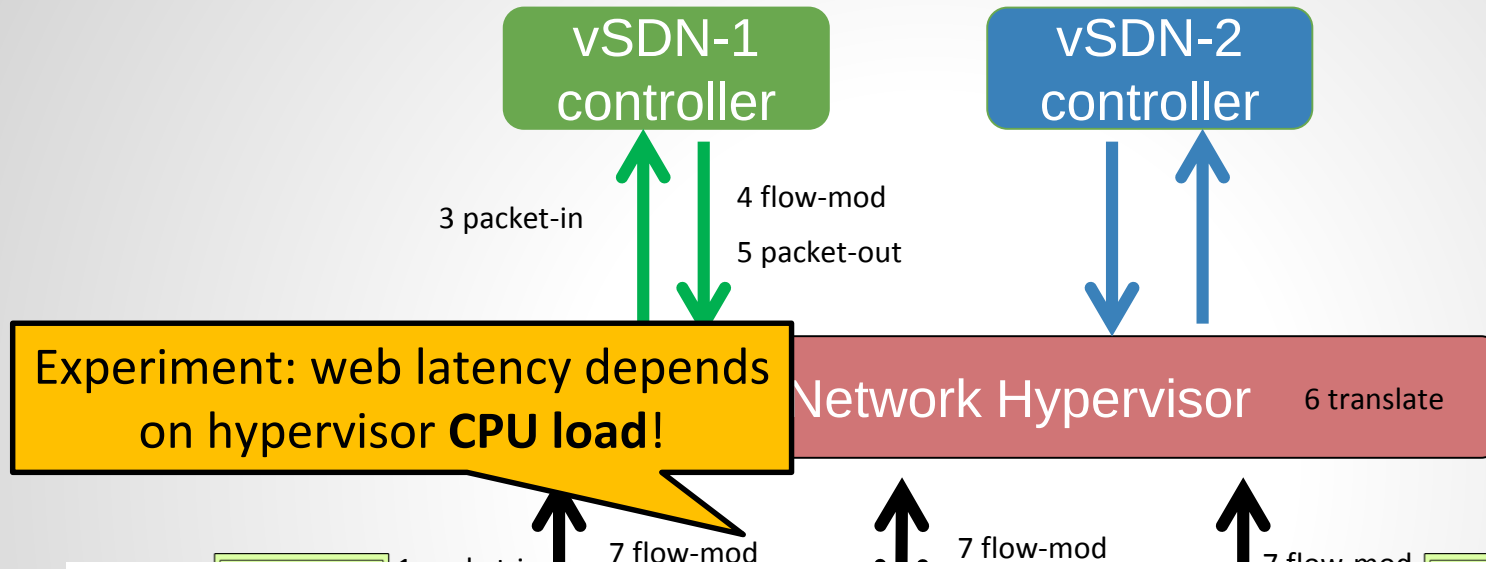
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The Many Faces of Performance Interference

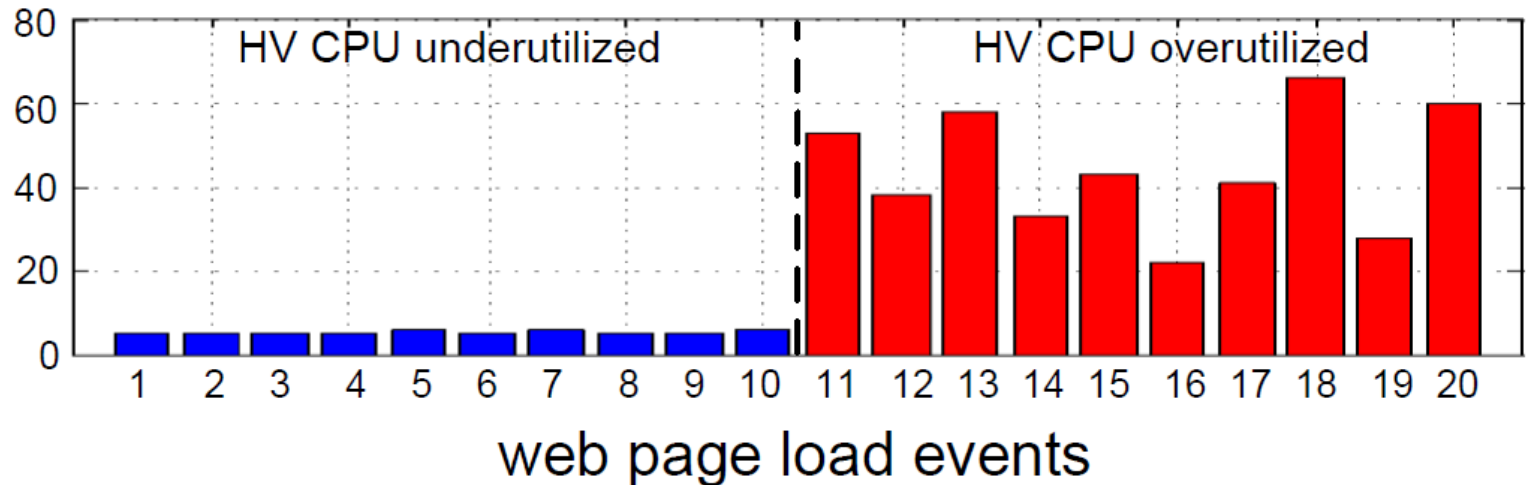


An Experiment: 2 vSDNs with bw guarantee!

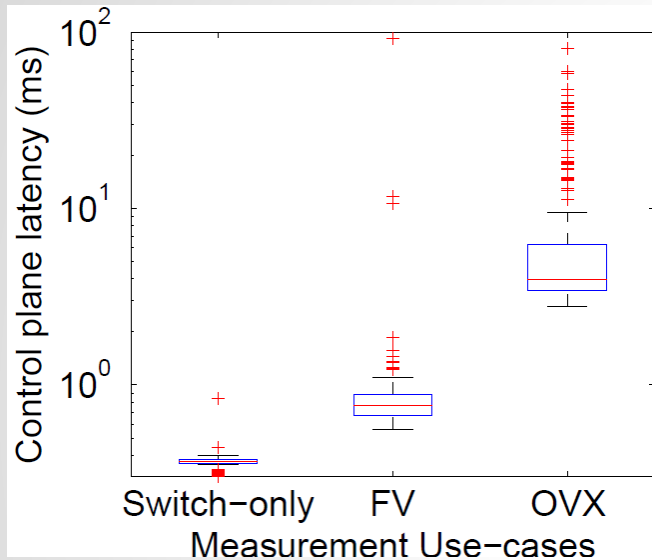
The Many Faces of Performance Interference



web page load
latency (ms)

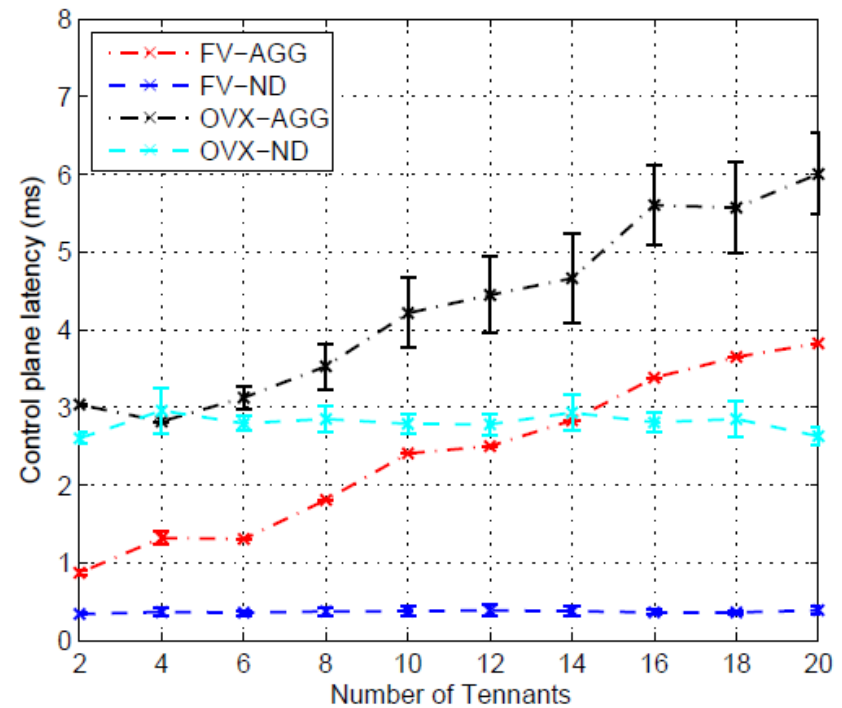


The Many Faces of Performance Interference

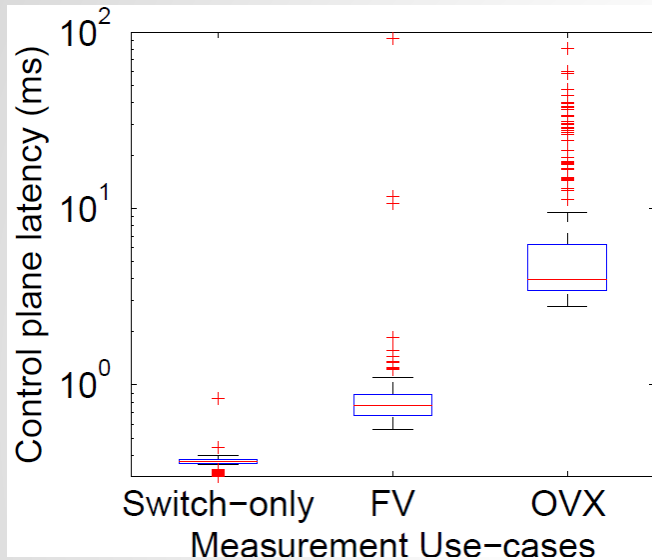


**Performance also depends
on hypervisor type...**
*(multithreaded or not, which version
of Nagle's algorithm, etc.)*

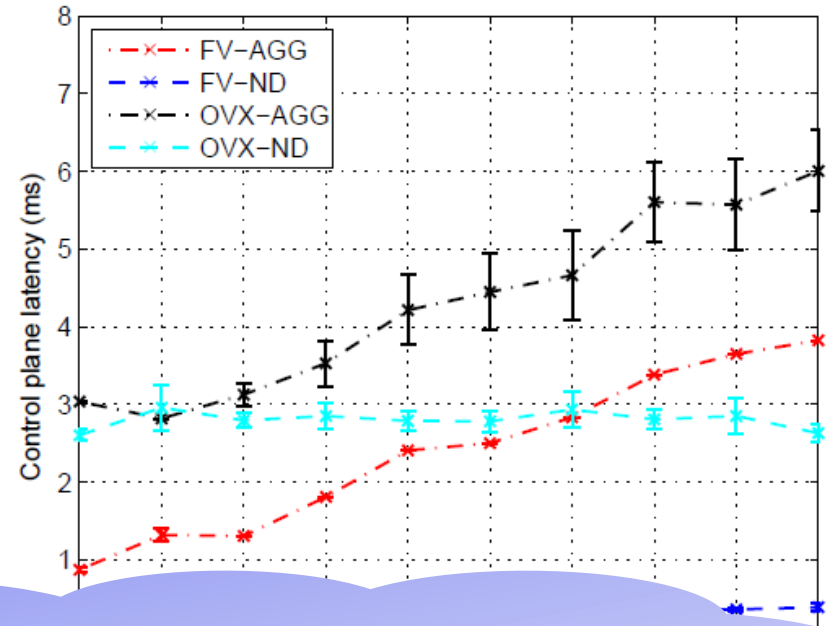
... number of tenants...



The Many Faces of Performance Interference



... number of tenants...



**Performance also depends
on hypervisor type**

(multitenant)

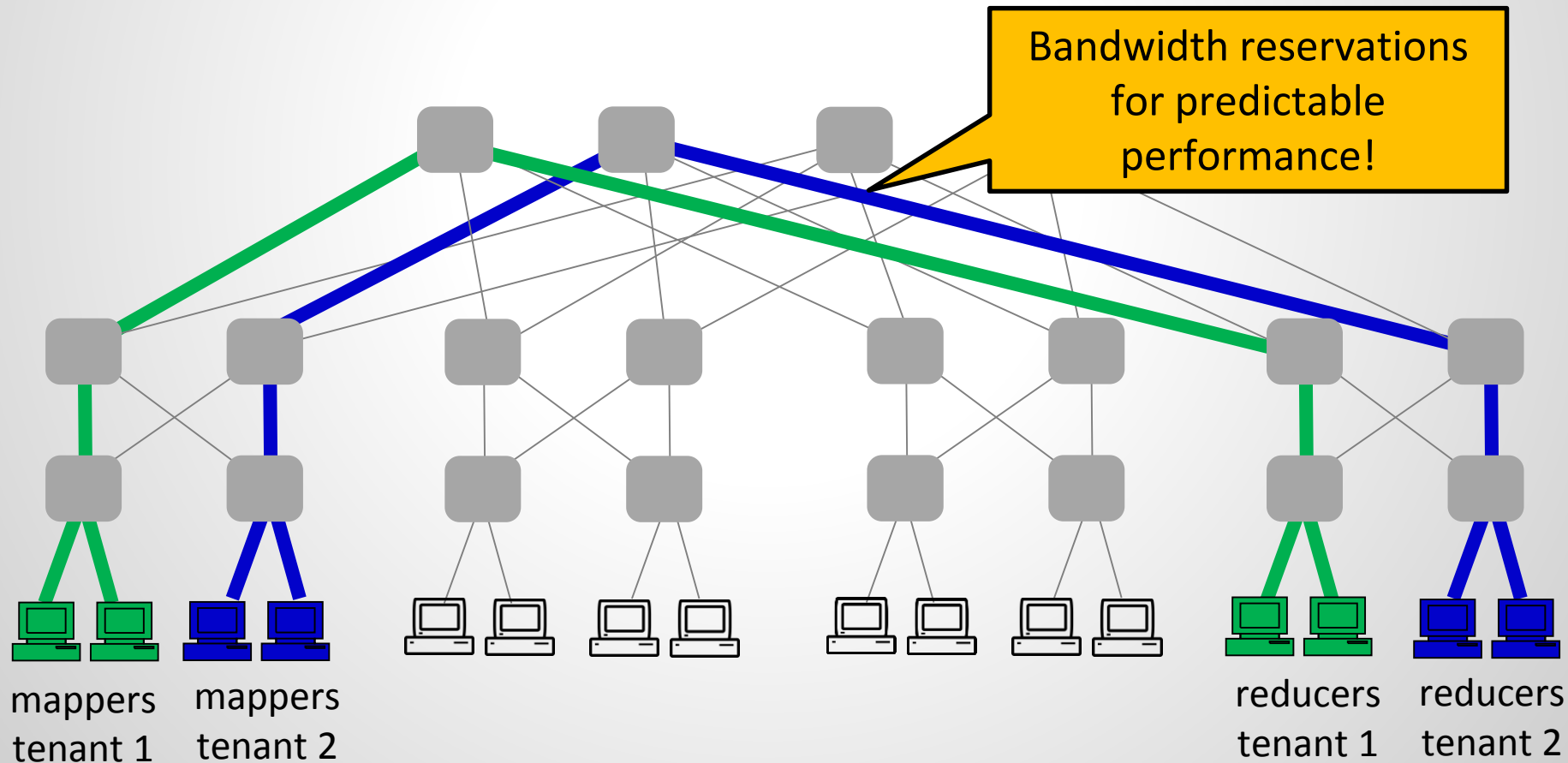
Conclusion: for predictable performance,
need to account for all resources!
But let us now focus on the network itself.

</remark>

First Algorithmic Challenge:

Keep the traffic local!

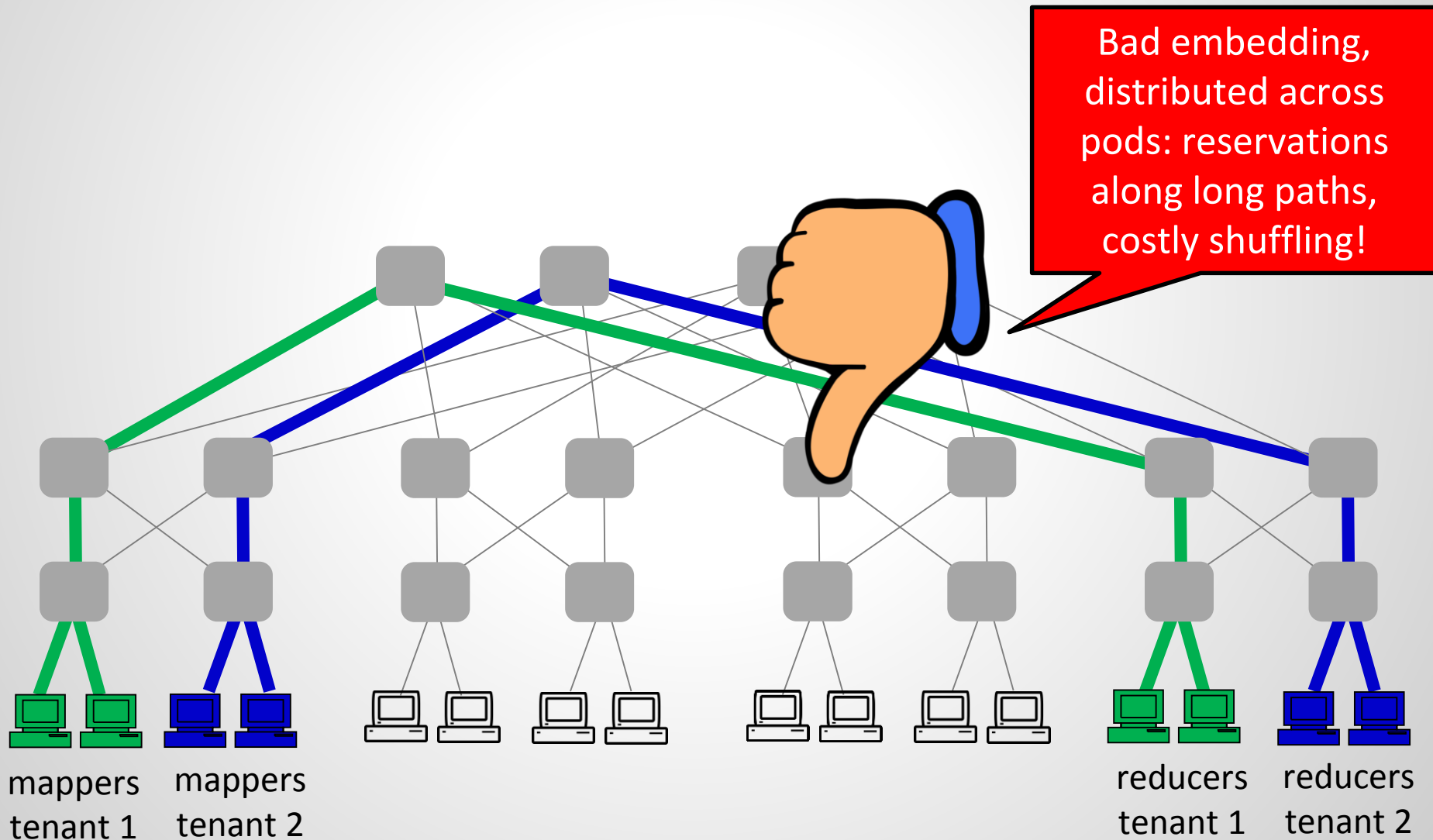
Consider a simple data center hosting two tenants: **green** and **blue**



First Algorithmic Challenge:

Keep the traffic local!

Consider a simple data center hosting two tenants: **green** and **blue**

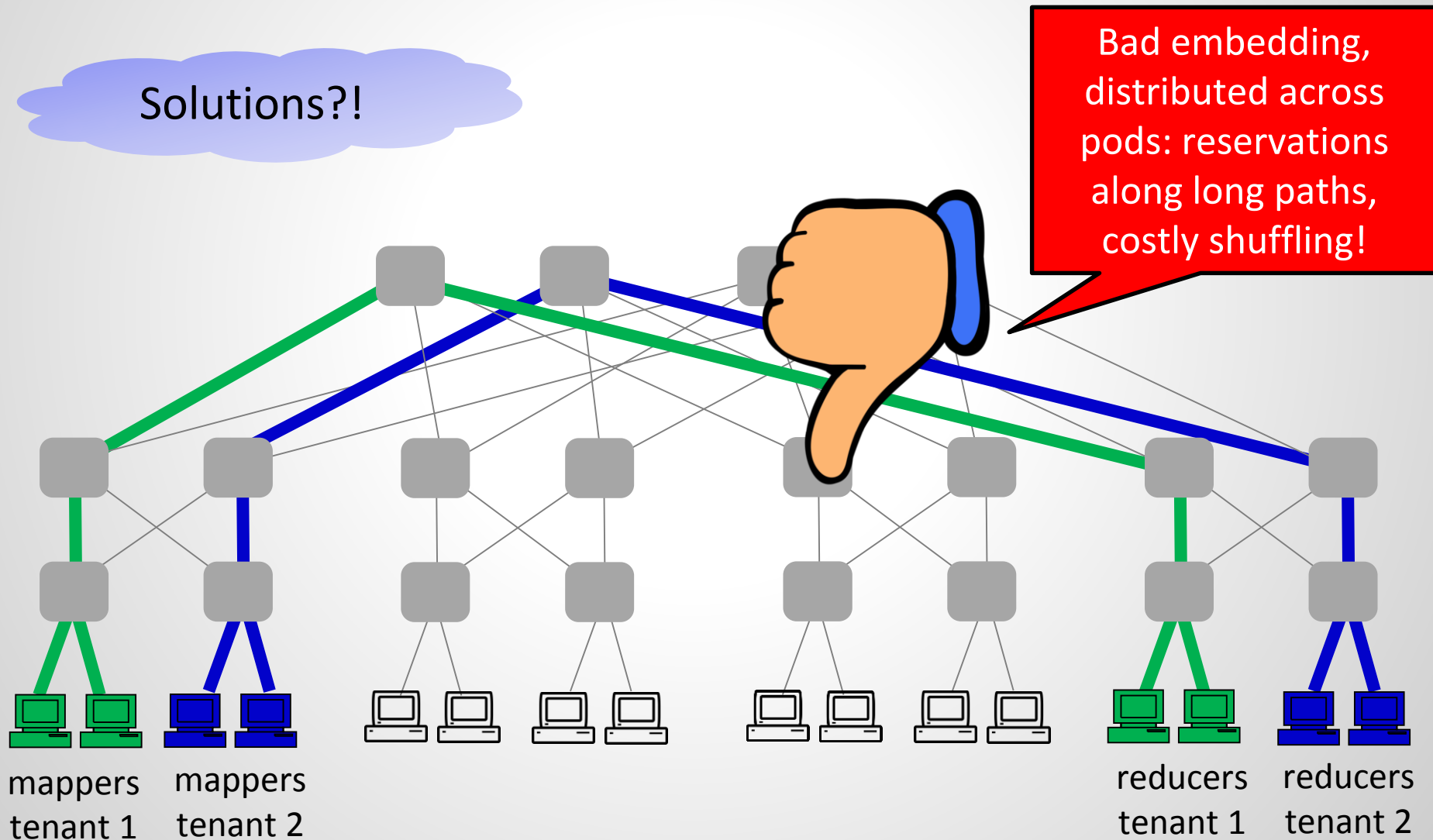


First Algorithmic Challenge:

Keep the traffic local!

Consider a simple data center hosting two tenants: **green** and **blue**

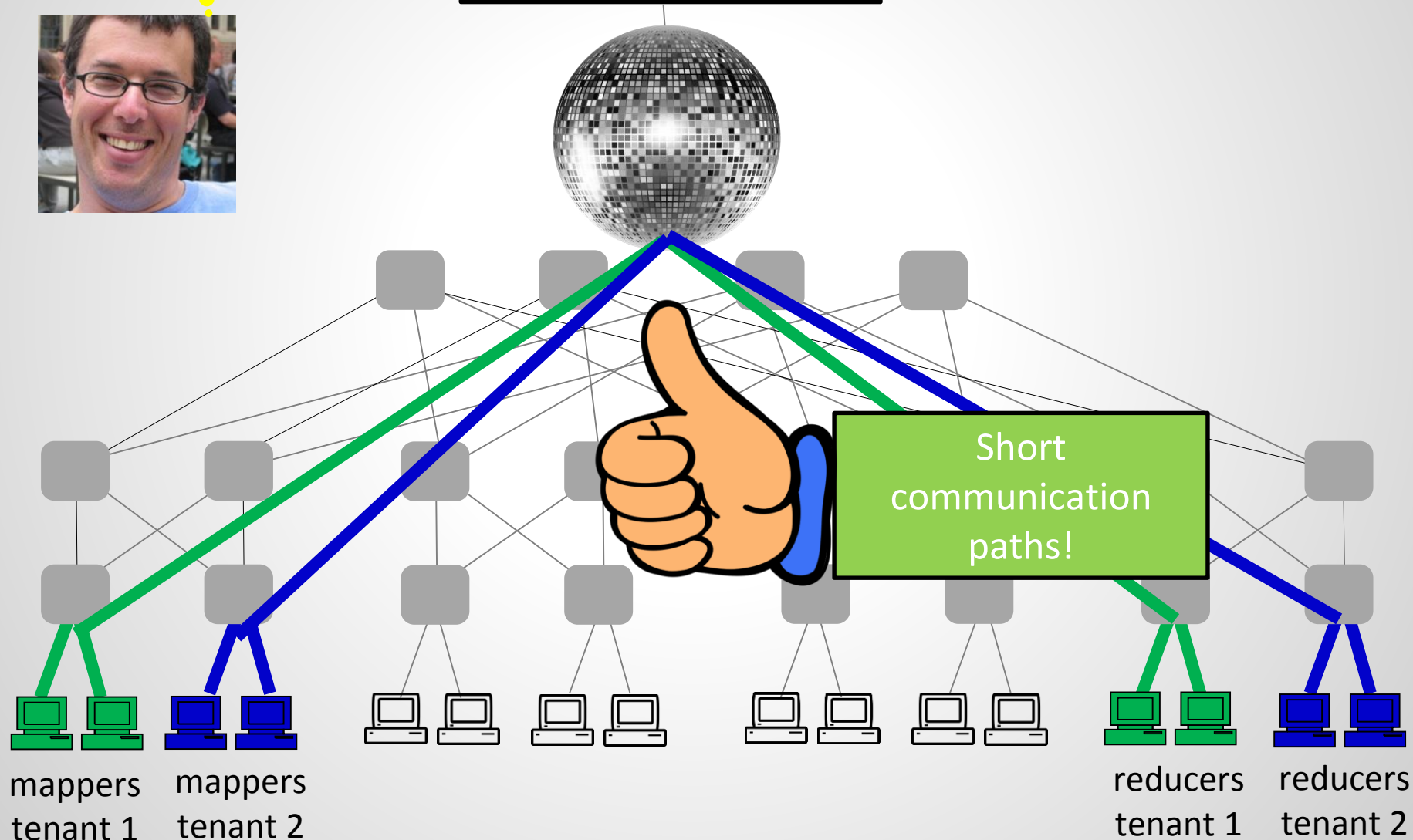
Solutions?!



Solution 1: Adjust the Network

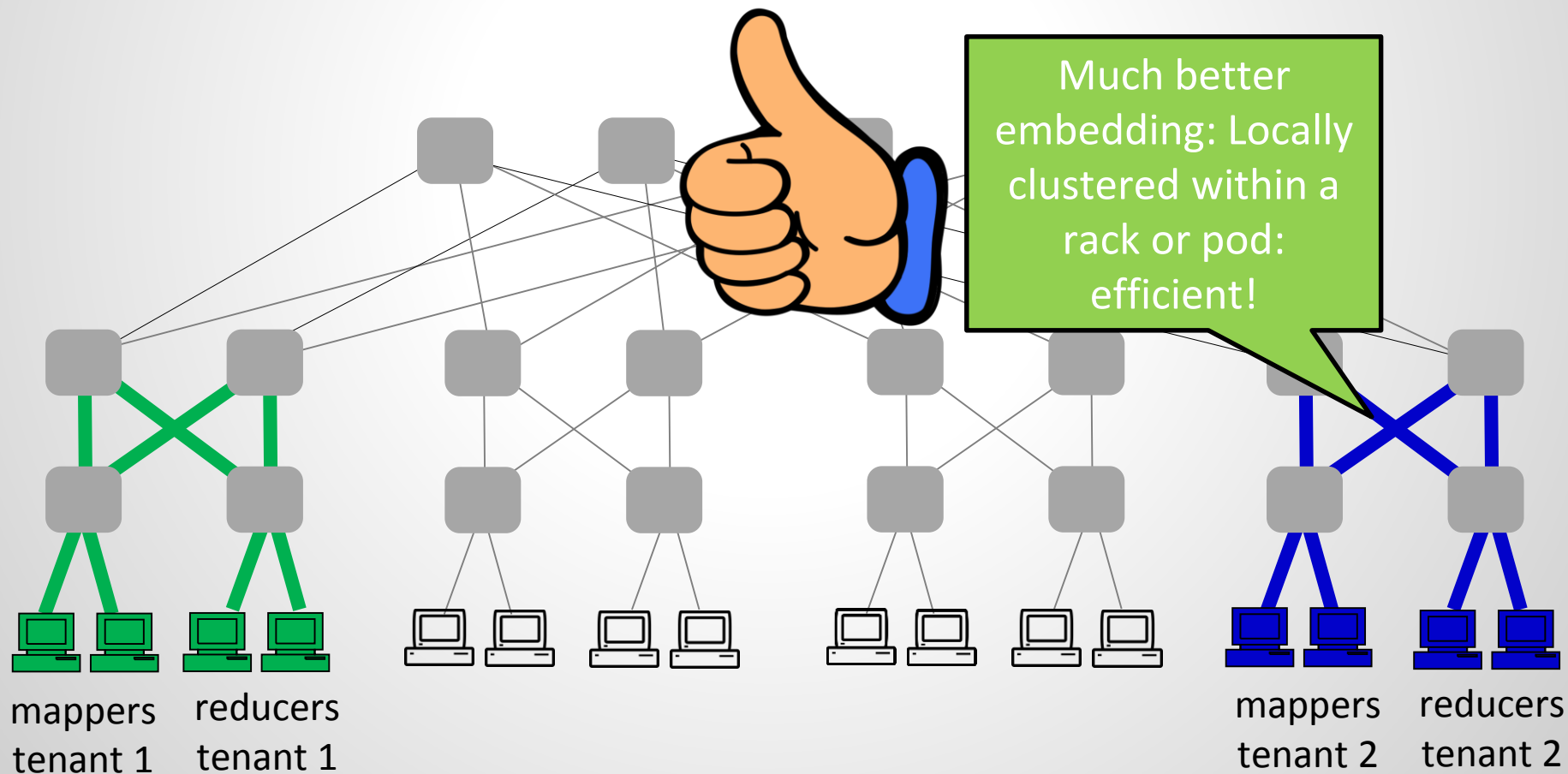
Adjust the
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Consider a simple data center hosting two tenants: **green** and **blue**



Solution 2: Adjust Embedding

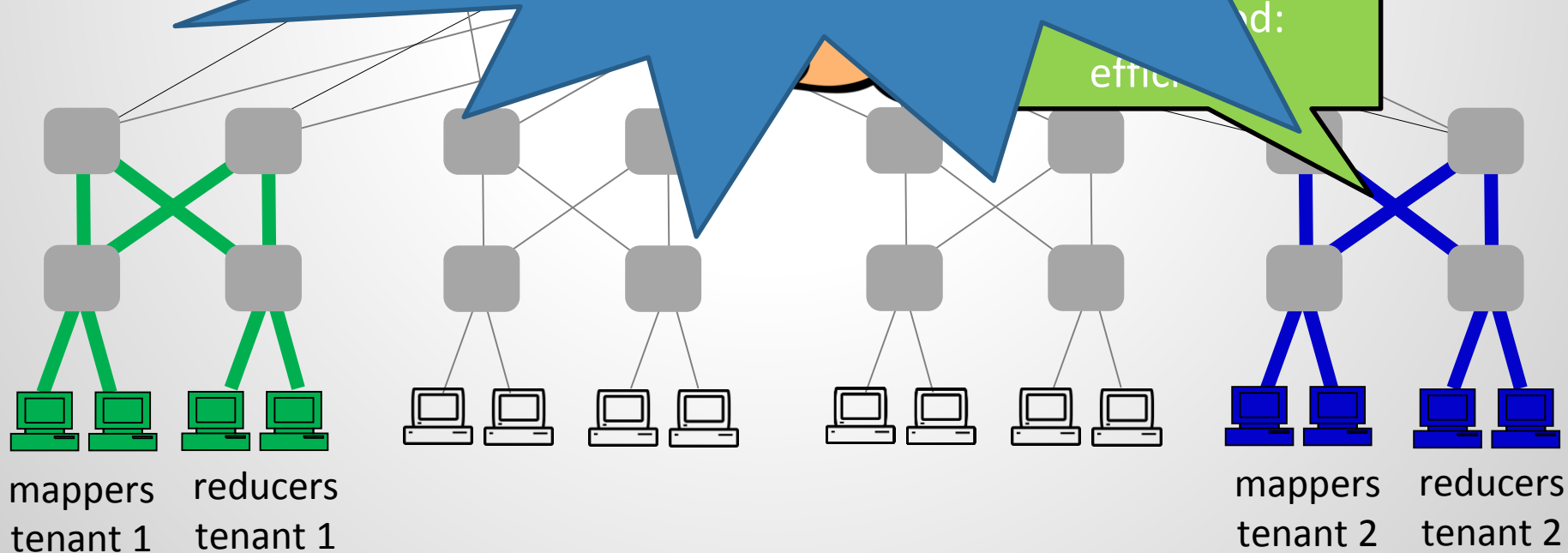
Consider a simple data center hosting two tenants: **green** and **blue**



Solution 2: Adjust Embedding

Consider a simple data center hosting two tenants: green and blue

How to compute a minimal embedding? Known as the Virtual Network Embedding Problem.



Overview

PART I: Static Embeddings

PART II: Reconfiguring Embeddings

PART III: A request comes seldom alone!

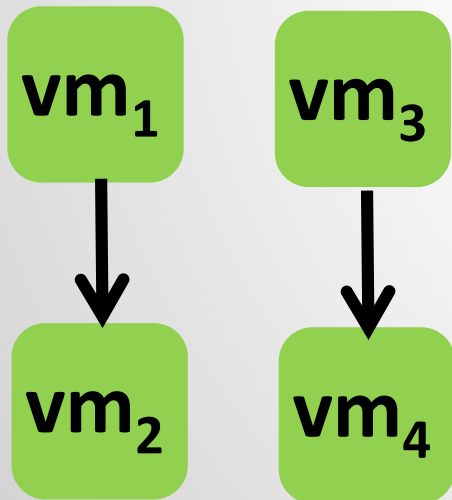
PART I:

Static Embeddings

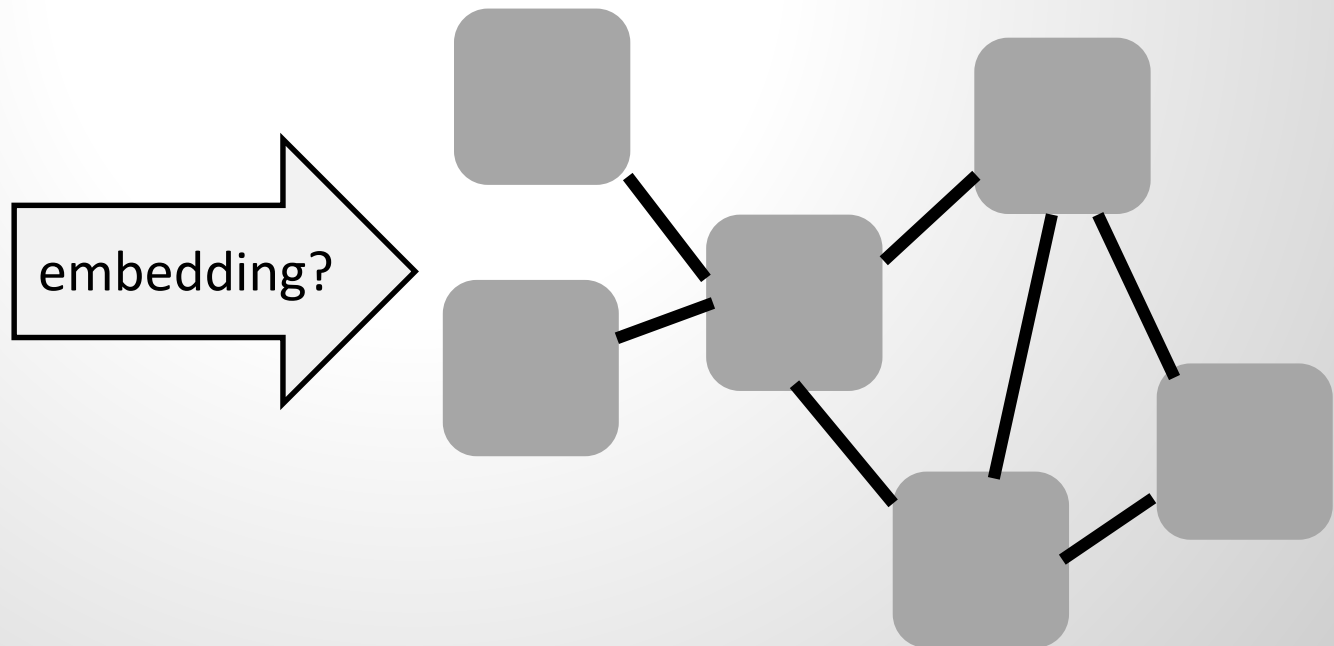
The Virtual Network Embedding Problem

- ❑ 2 dimensions of flexibility:
 - ❑ Mapping of virtual nodes (to physical nodes)
 - ❑ Mapping of virtual links (to paths)

VNet



Substrate



The Virtual Network Embedding Problem

❑ 2 dimensions of flexibility:

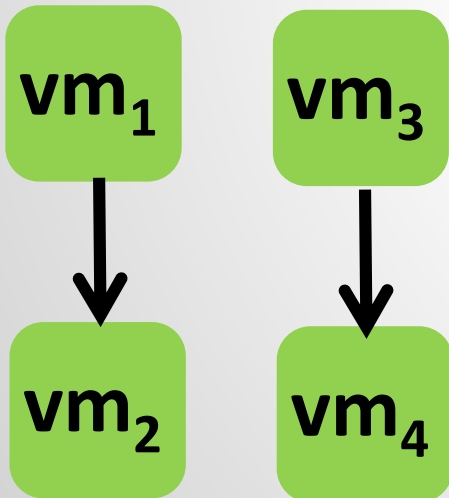
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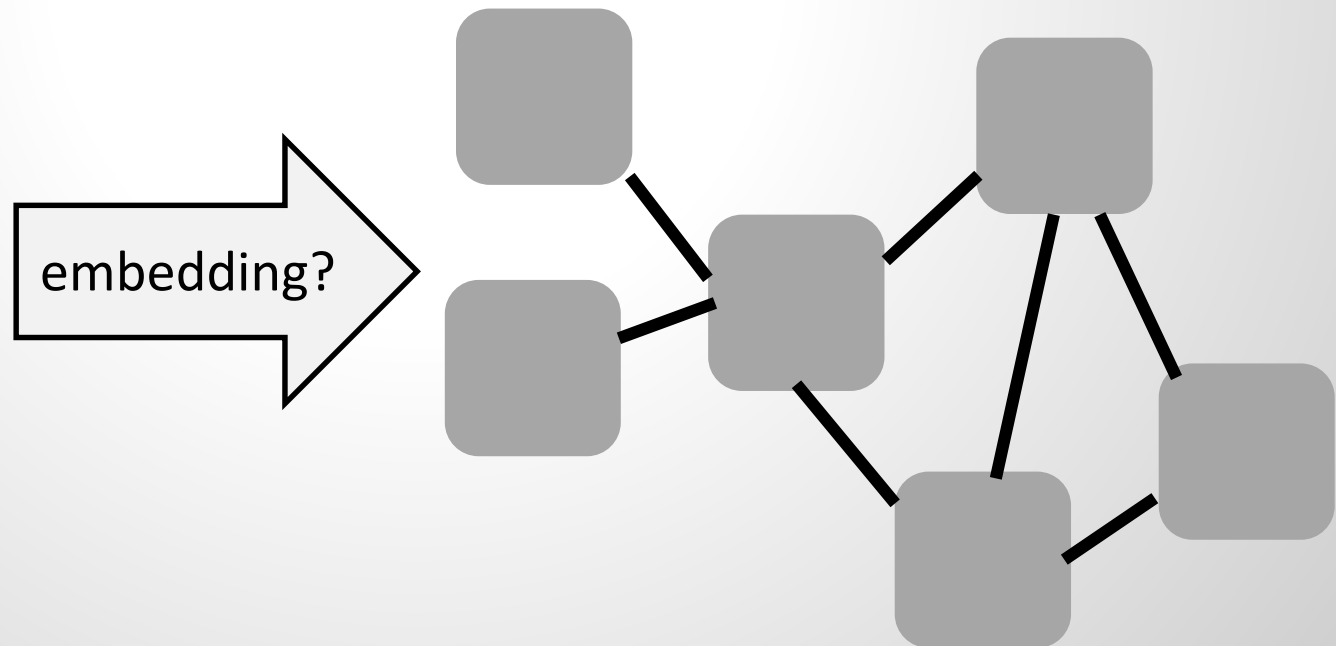
aka “guest graph”

aka “host graph”

VNet



Substrate



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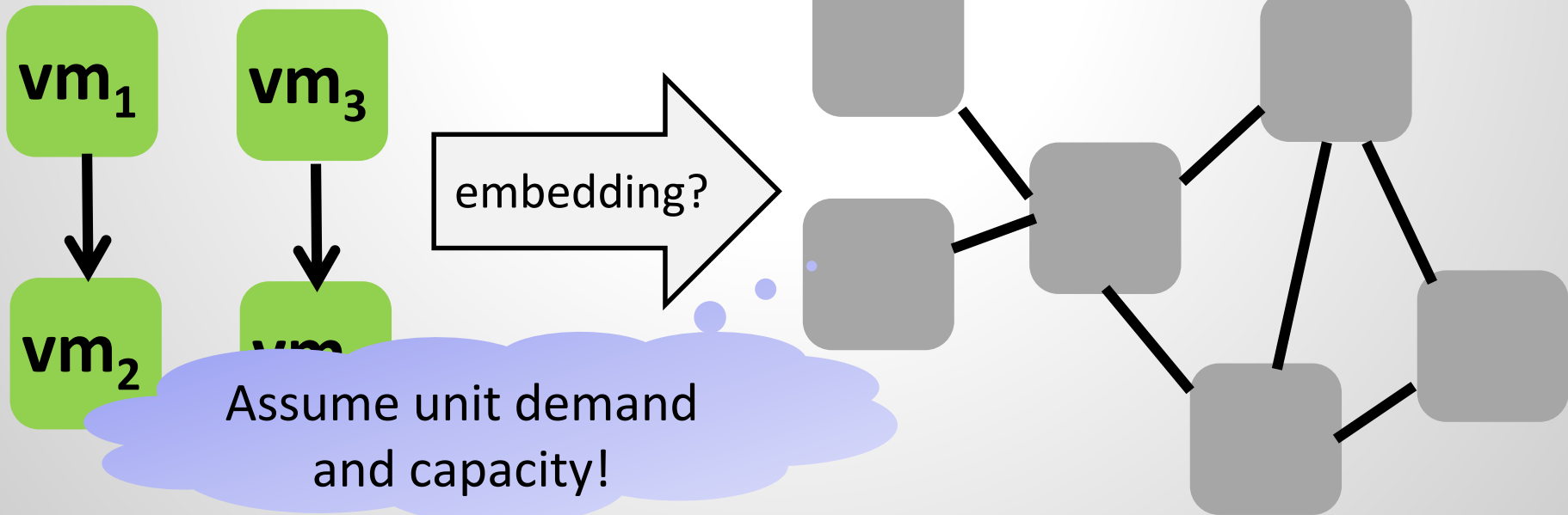
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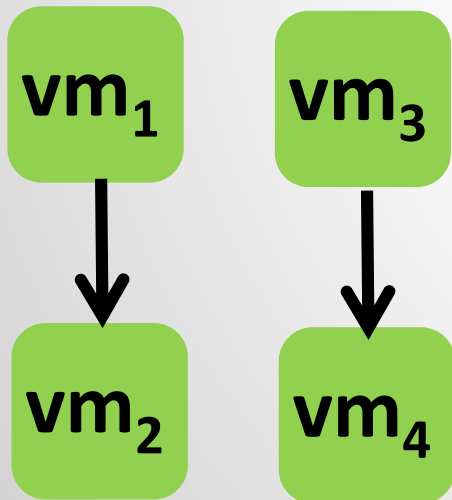
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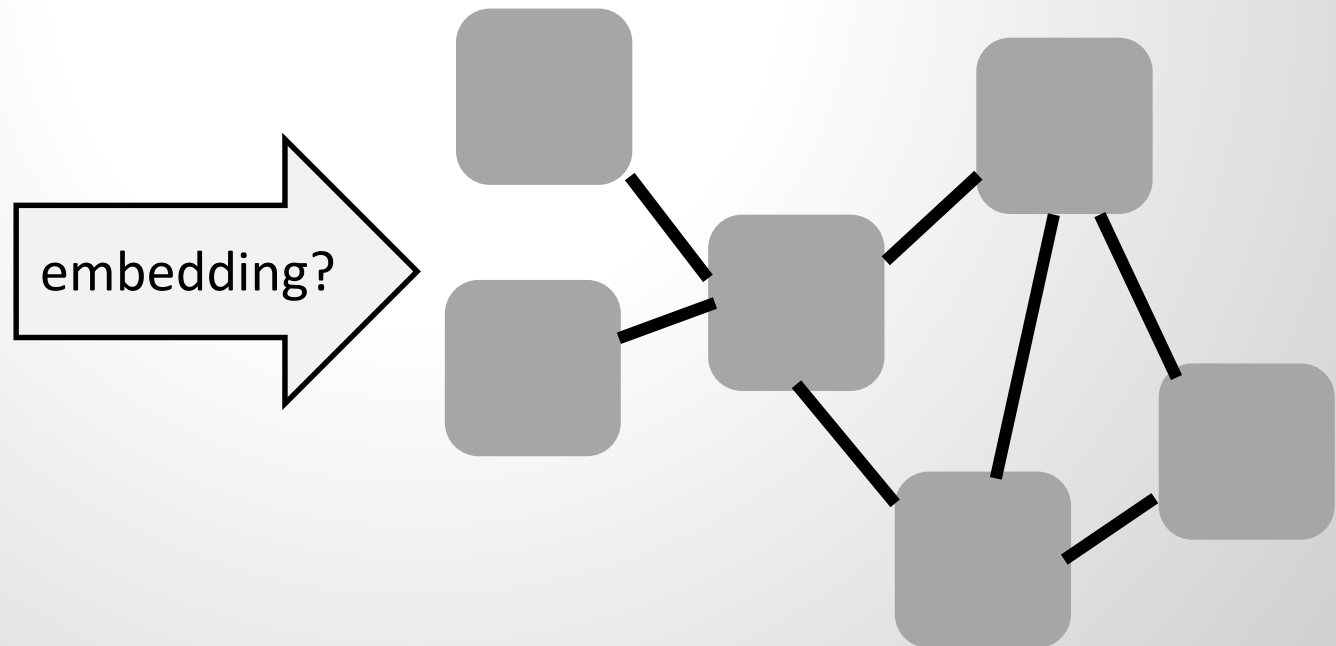
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VNet



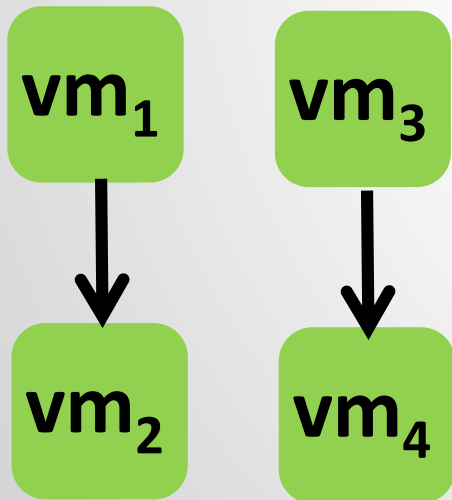
Substrate



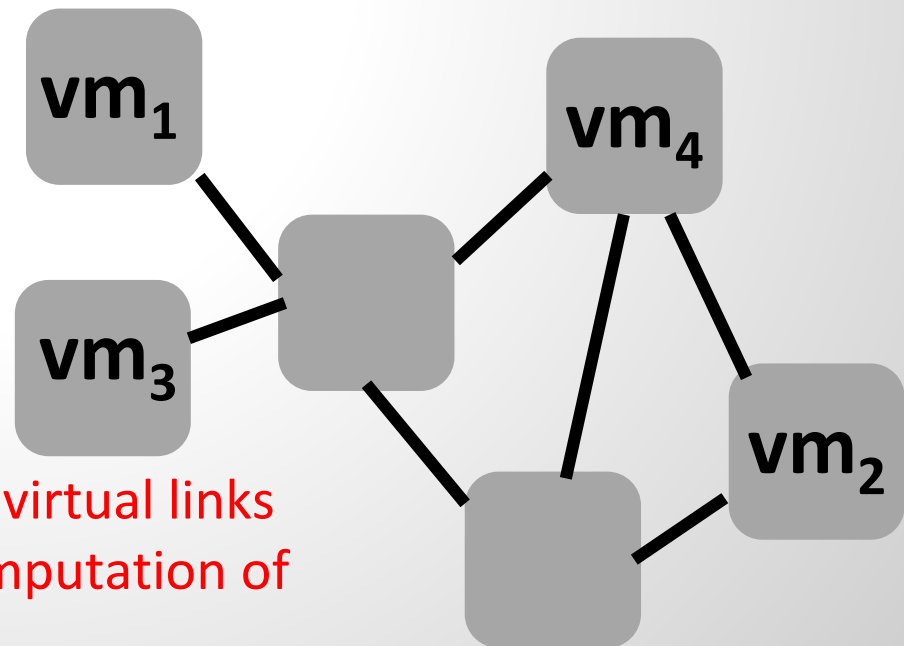
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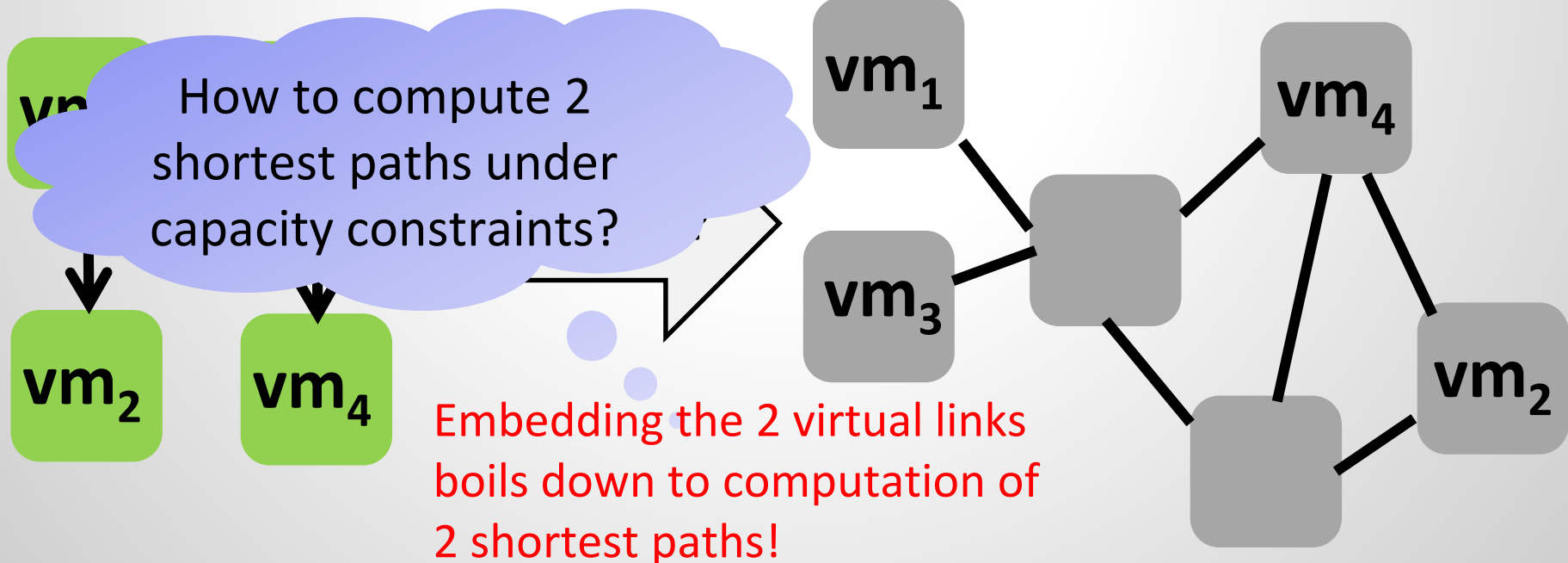
Embedding the 2 virtual links
boils down to computation of
2 shortest paths!

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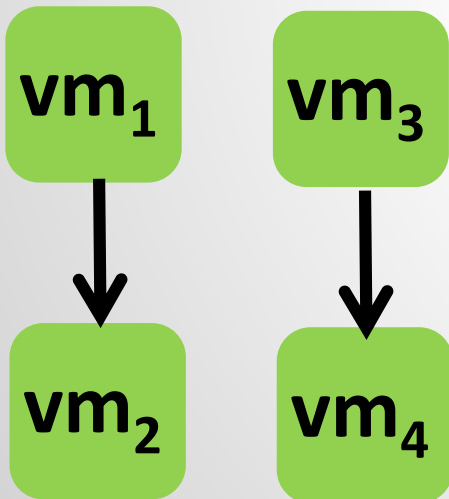
- ❑ Mapping of virtual links (to paths)

- ❑ Let's start

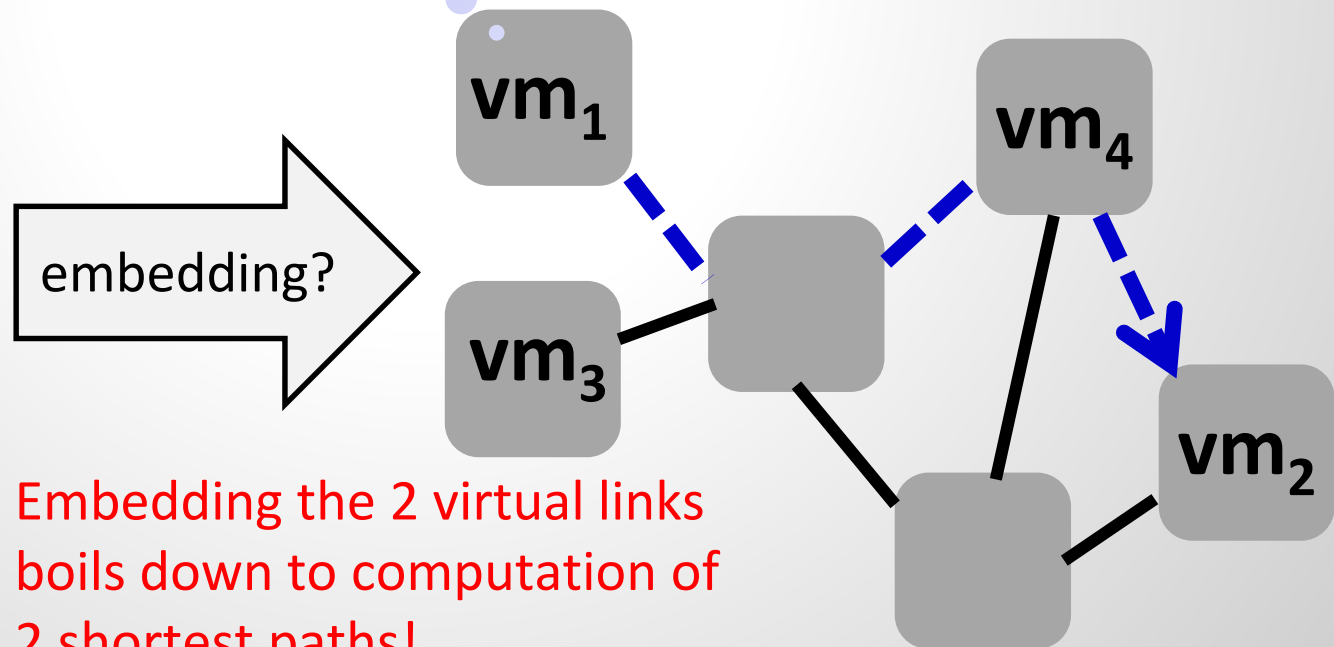
Let's try greedy!
First vm_1 - vm_2 .

links are given

VNet



Substrate



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The Virtual Network Embedding Problem

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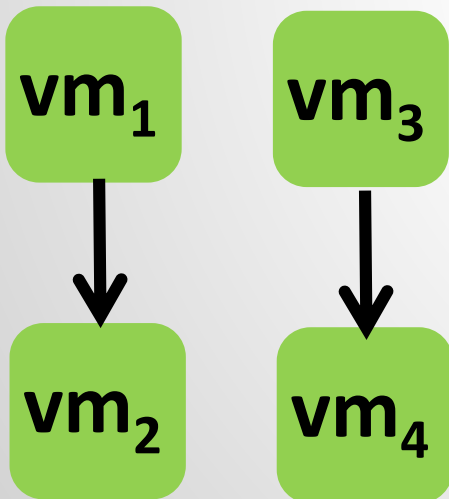
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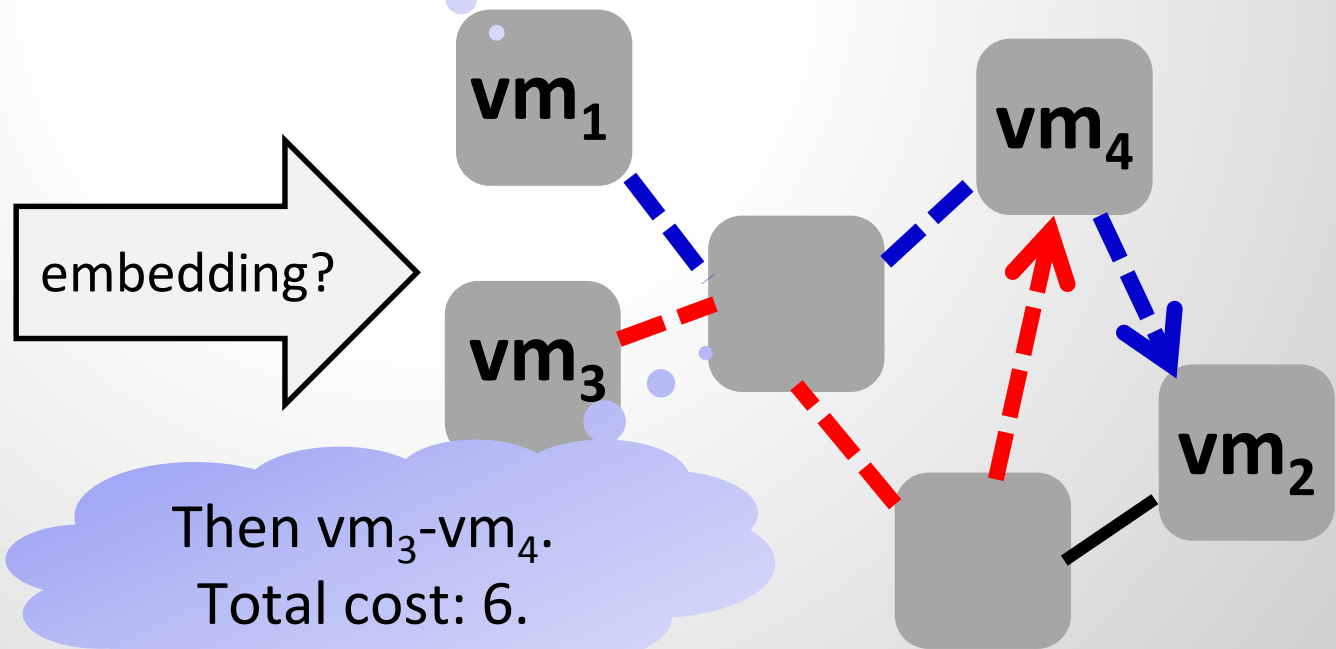
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Substrate



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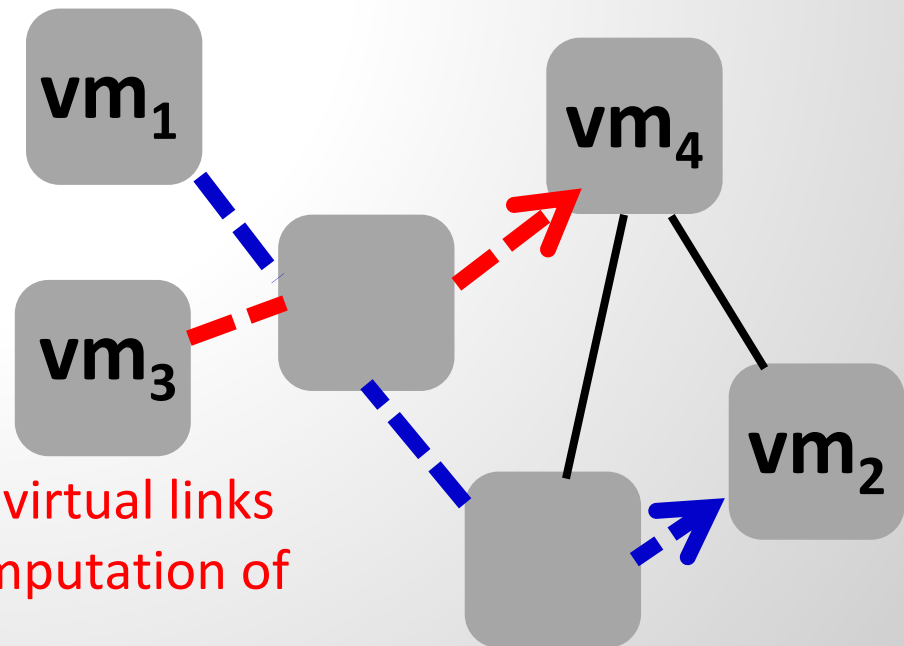
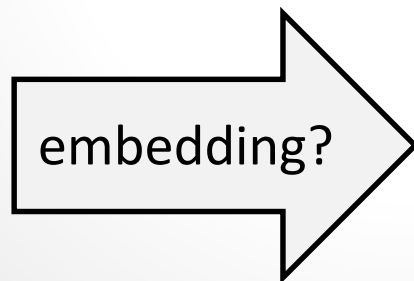
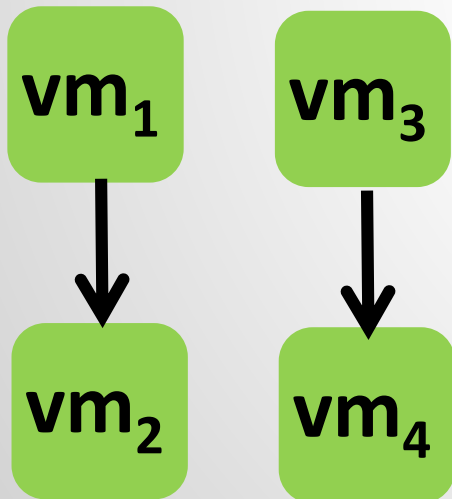
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- ❑ Let's start simple: **physical network and mappings are given**

A better solution:
cost 5!

VNet



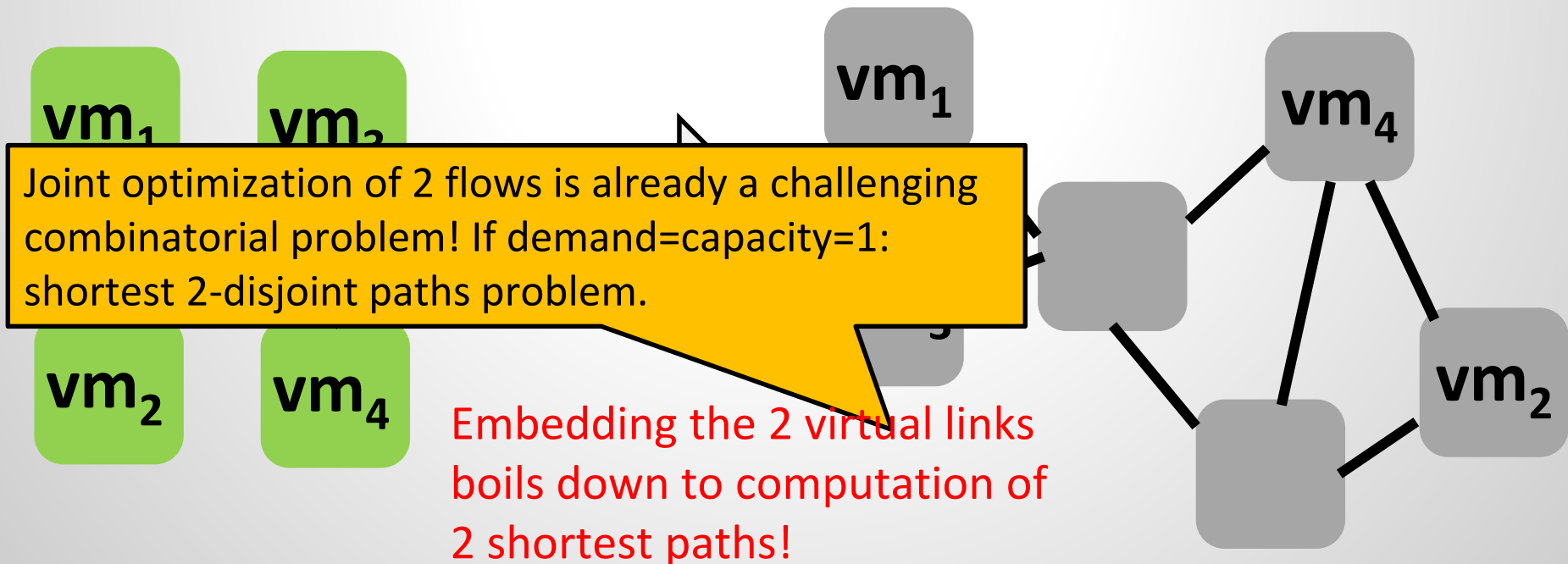
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VNet

Substrate



The Virtual Network Embedding Problem

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 - ❑ Mapping of virtual links (to paths)
- ❑ Let's start simple: assume node mappings are given

VNet

Hasn't this problem been solved a generation ago?!

vm₁

vm₃

vm₁

Joint optimization of 2 flows is already a challenging combinatorial problem! If demand=capacity=1: shortest 2-disjoint paths problem.

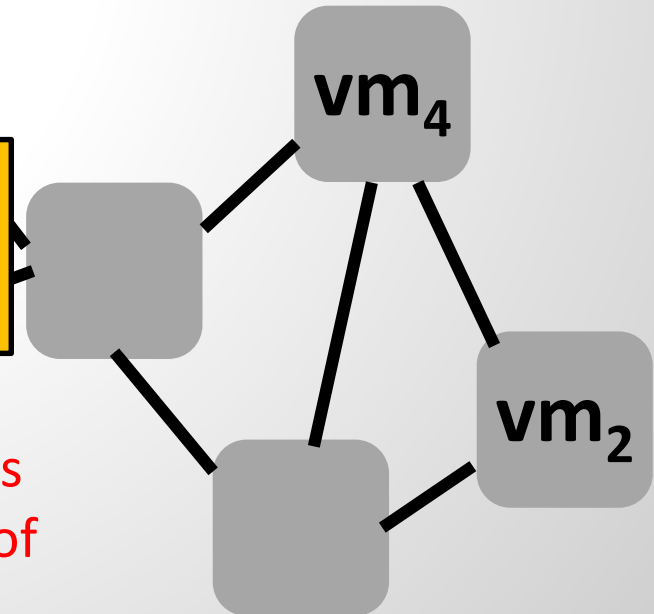
vm₂

vm₄

Embedding the 2 virtual links boils down to computation of 2 shortest paths!

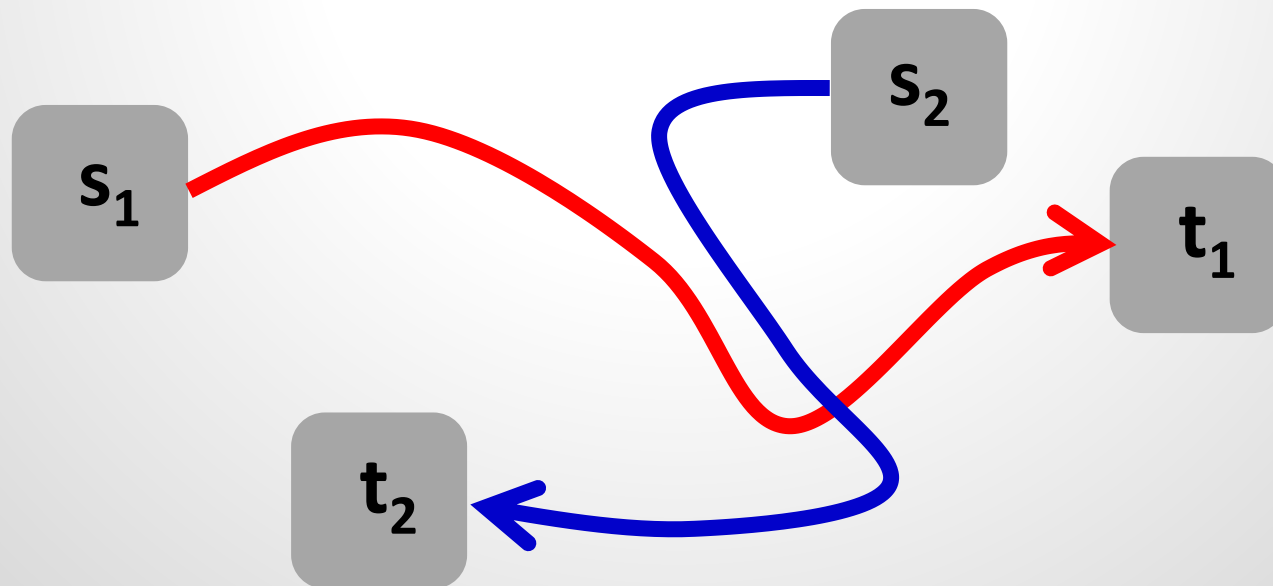
vm₄

vm₂



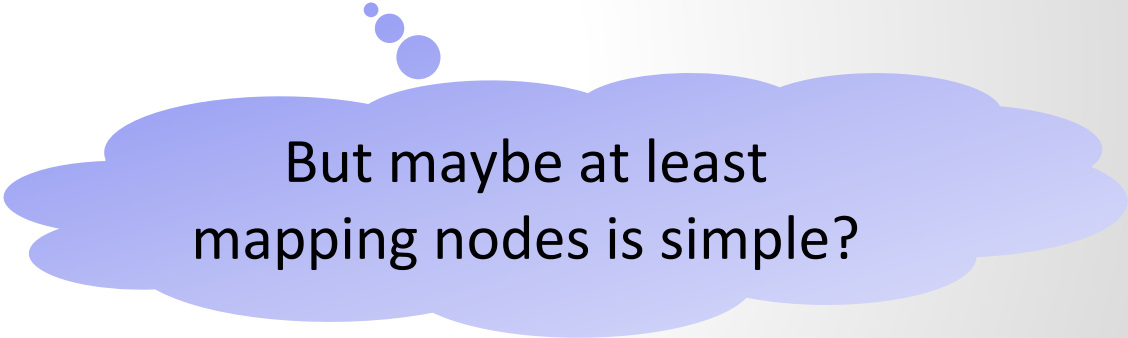
Mapping virtual links: Already hard!

- ❑ Essentially a 2-disjoint shortest paths problem: a deep combinatorial problem
 - ❑ NP-hard on **directed** graphs
 - ❑ For **undirected** graphs:
 - ❑ **Feasibility** more or less understood: **Robertson&Seymour**
 - ❑ **Shortest** paths: recent **breakthrough**, first polytime **randomized** algorithm (still slow: a theoretical result)
 - ❑ We are still looking for polytime deterministic algorithms!



Therefore: Mapping Virtual Links is Challenging

Bad news: The Virtual Network Embedding Problem is hard
even if endpoints are already mapped and given.

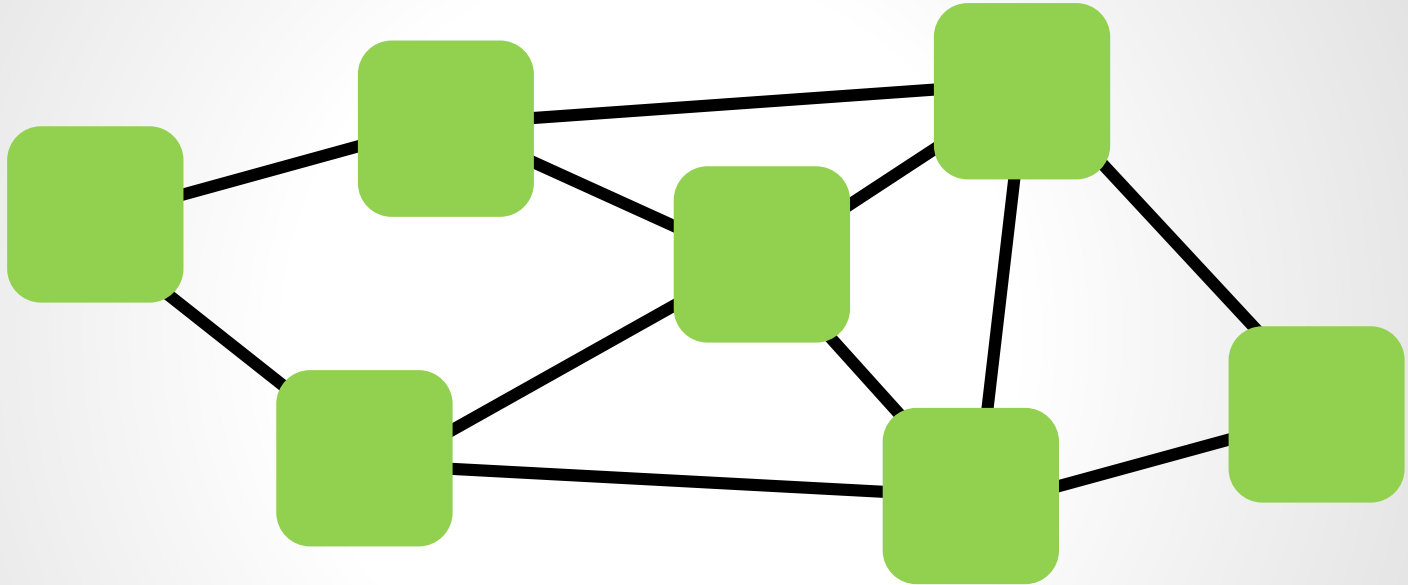


But maybe at least
mapping nodes is simple?

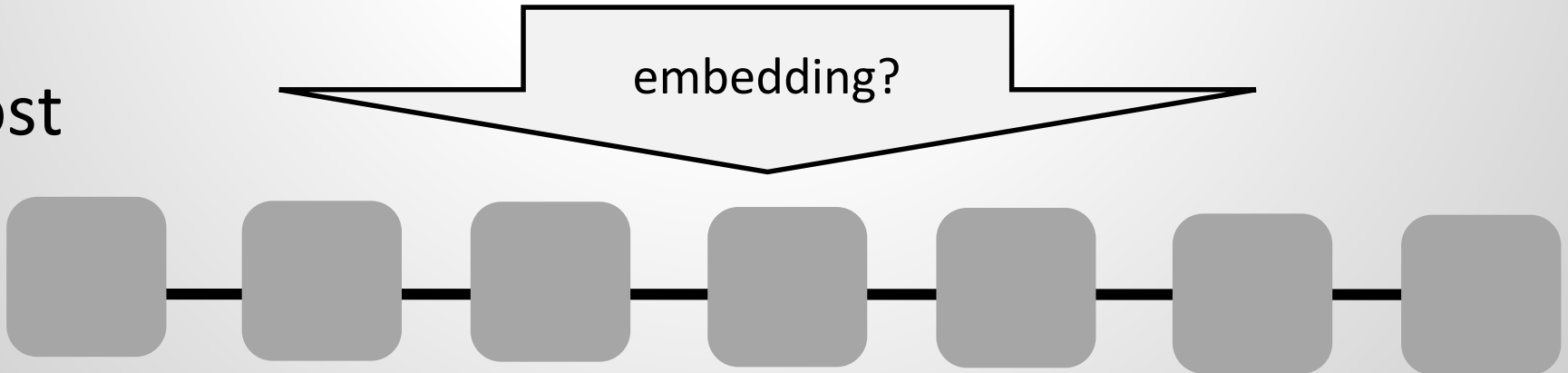
Mapping Virtual Nodes

- Let's start simple again: assume paths are trivial, e.g., the physical network (host graph) **is a line**

Guest



Host

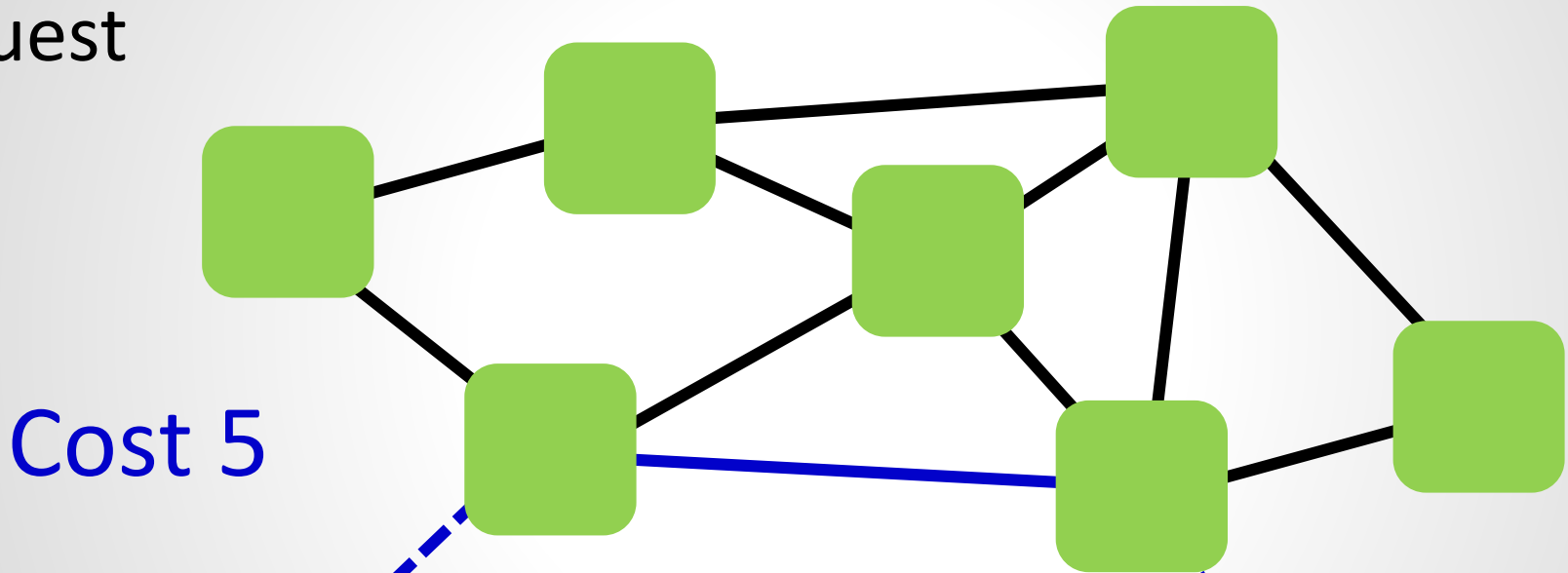


embedding?

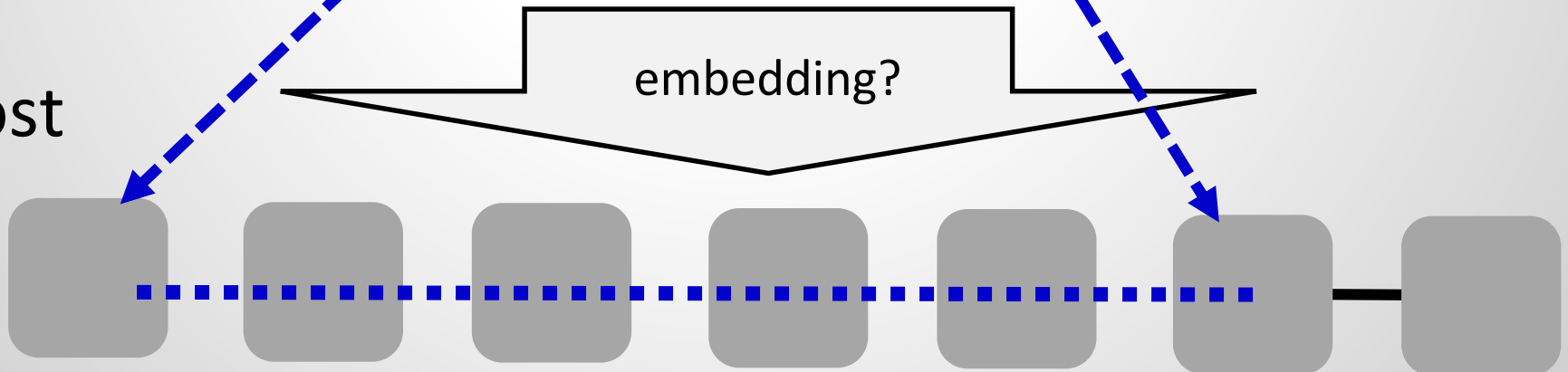
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Guest



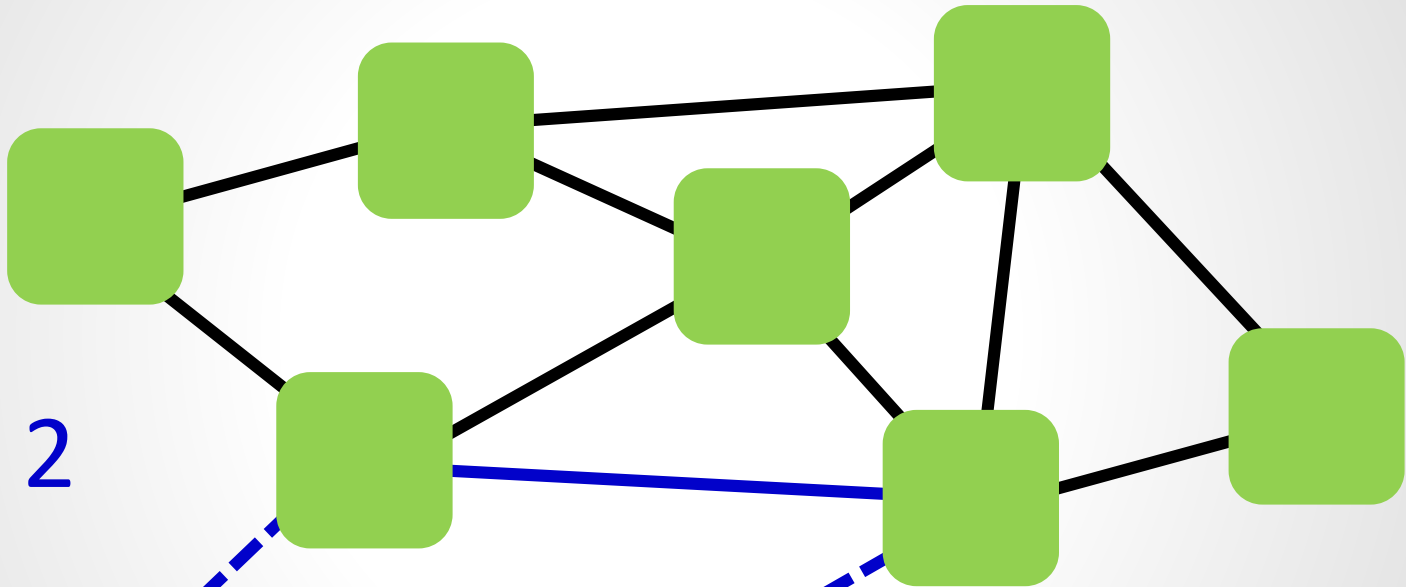
Host



Mapping Virtual Nodes

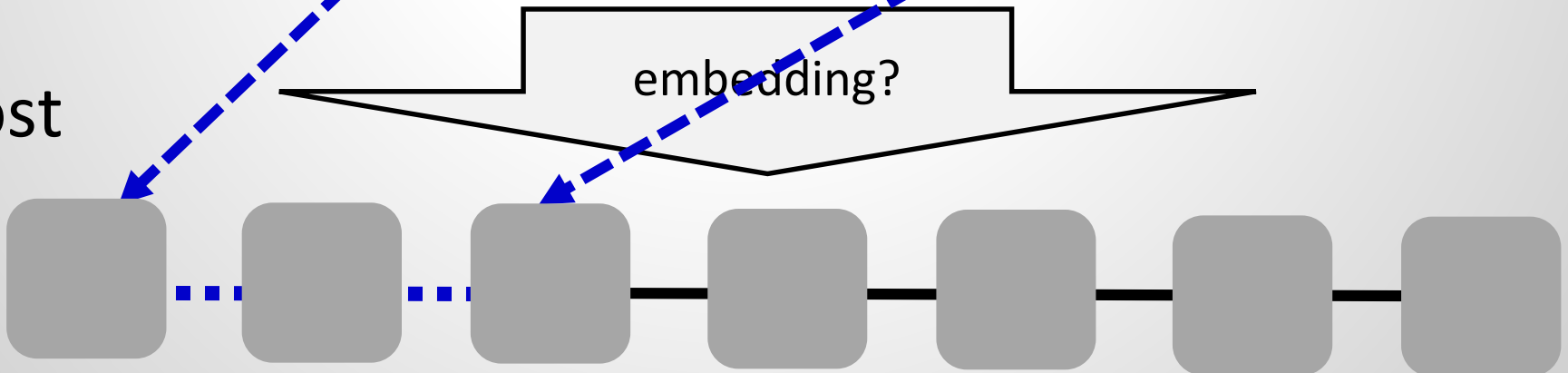
- Let's start simple again: assume **paths are trivial**, e.g., the physical network (host graph) is a line

Guest



Cost 2

Host



embedding?

Mapping Virtual Nodes

- Let's start simple again: assume paths are trivial, e.g., the physical network (host graph) is a line

Minimizing the sum of virtual link lengths is a Minimum Linear Arrangement Problem (MinLA)!
NP-hard.

Embedding?



Therefore: VNEP is Hard “in Both Dimensions”!

- ❑ We have seen examples that:

- ❑ mapping virtual links is hard (even if nodes are given)
- ❑ mapping virtual nodes is hard (even if links are trivial)

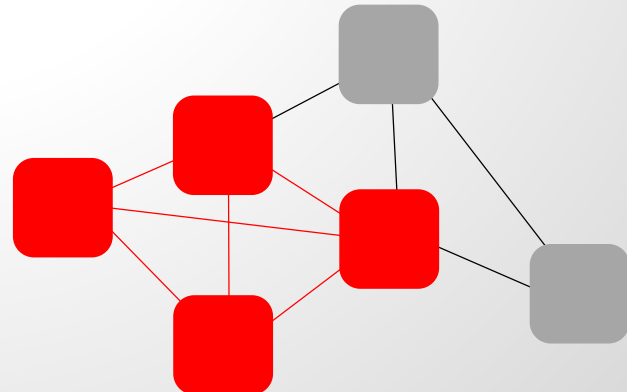
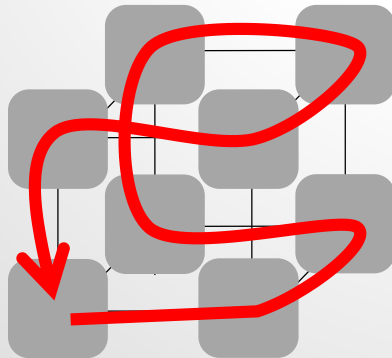
- ❑ Remark: the VNEP can also be seen as a generalization of the **Subgraph Isomorphism Problem (SIP)**



Known? Why is SIP NP-hard?

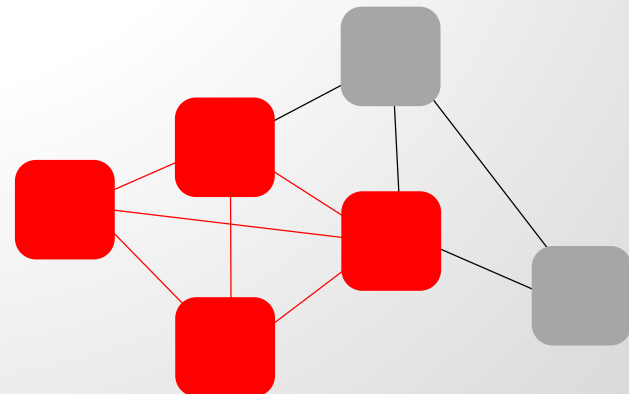
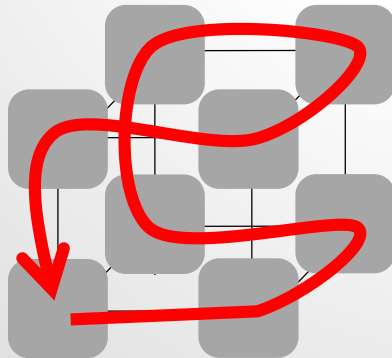
Therefore: VNEP is Hard “in Both Dimensions”!

- ❑ We have seen examples that:
 - ❑ mapping virtual links is hard (even if nodes are given)
 - ❑ mapping virtual nodes is hard (even if links are trivial)
- ❑ Remark: the VNEP can also be seen as a generalization of the **Subgraph Isomorphism Problem (SIP)**
 - ❑ The SIP problem: Given two graphs G, H , determine whether G contains a subgraph that is isomorphic to H ?
 - ❑ NP-hard: “does G contain an n -node cycle?” is a **Hamilton cycle** problem (each node visited exactly once), a solution to “does G contain a k -clique?” solves **maximum clique** problem, etc.



Therefore: VNEP is Hard “in Both Dimensions”!

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 - ❑ Many other NP-complete problems can be reduced to SIP. For example, the **Hamilton cycle** problem (each node visited exactly once) solves **maximum clique** problem, etc.
- So if SIP is hard, why is VNEP hard?



NP-Hardness: From SIP to VNEP

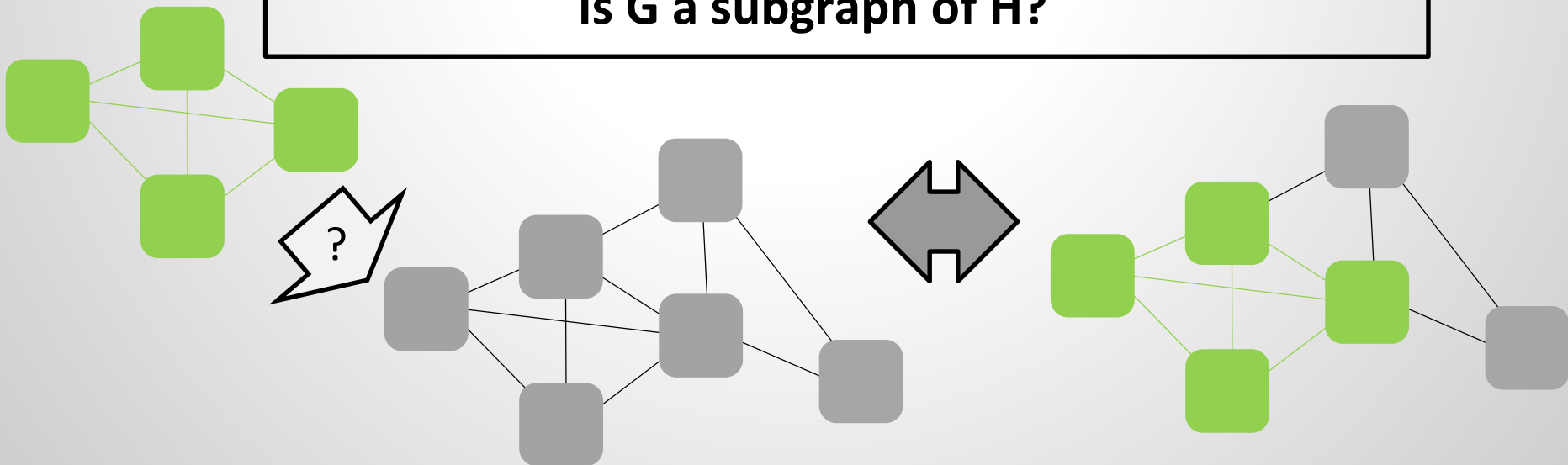
❑ Observe: VNEP is a **generalization of SIP**

❑ For example:

Can VNet $G=(V,E)$ be embedded in H **at cost $|E|$** ?
(I.e., each virtual edge has **length 1**.)

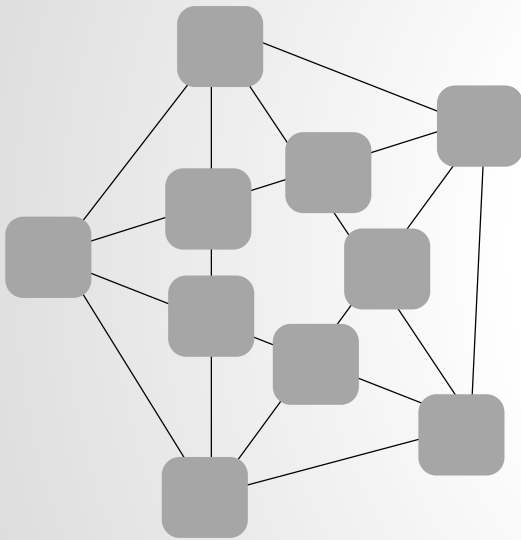


Is G a subgraph of H ?



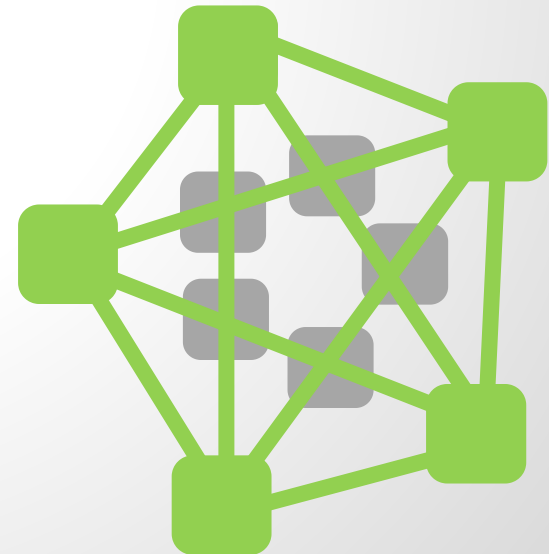
Remark: Graph Minors

Note: **It is possible** to embed a guest graph G on a host graph H , even though **G is not a minor of H** :



Assume planar **host graph H** :
 K_5 and $K_{3,3}$ minor-free...

... but it is possible to embed
non-planar guest graph **$G=K_5$** !



Can we at least formulate a “fast” MIP?



?

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- ❑ Recall: Mixed Integer Program (MIP)
 - ❑ Linear objective function (e.g., minimize embedding footprint)
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- ❑ Solved, e.g., with branch-and-bound search tree

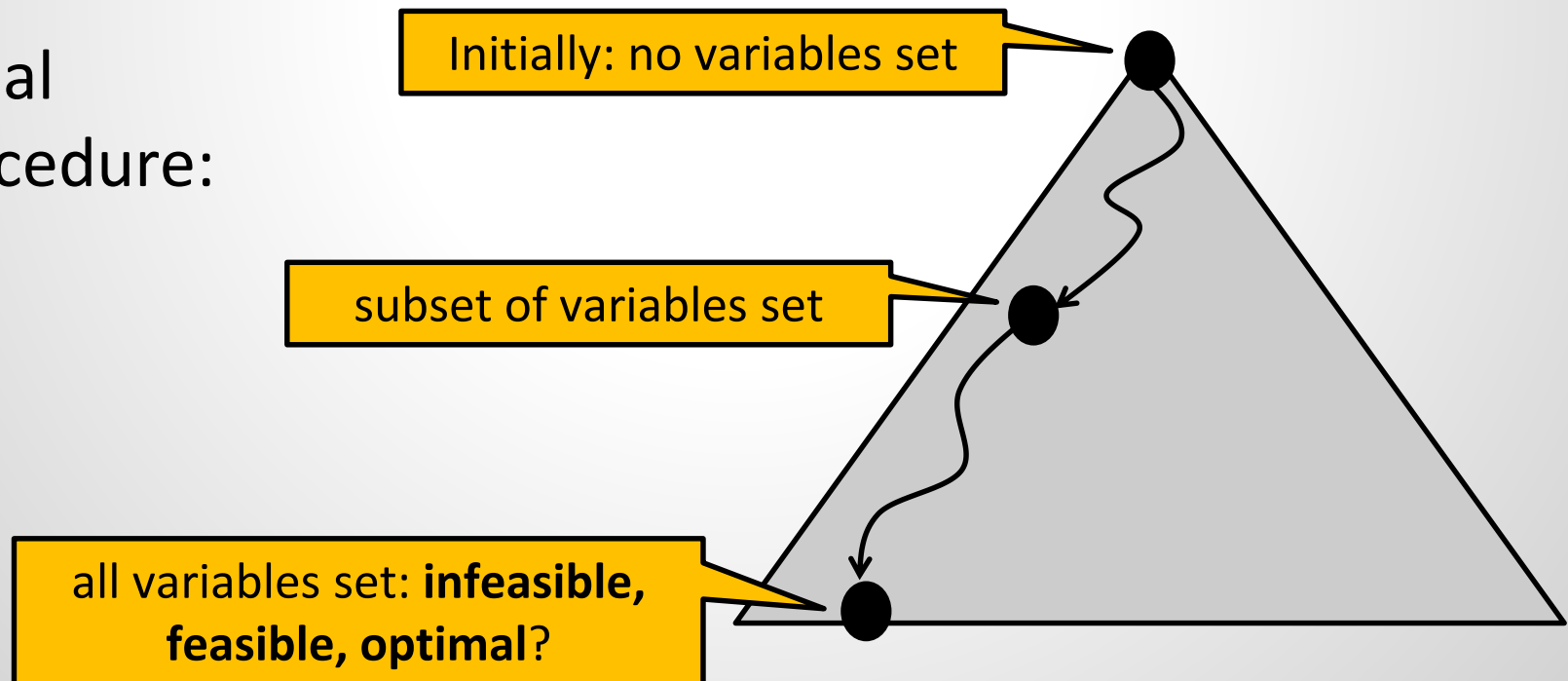
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- One that provides good relaxations!

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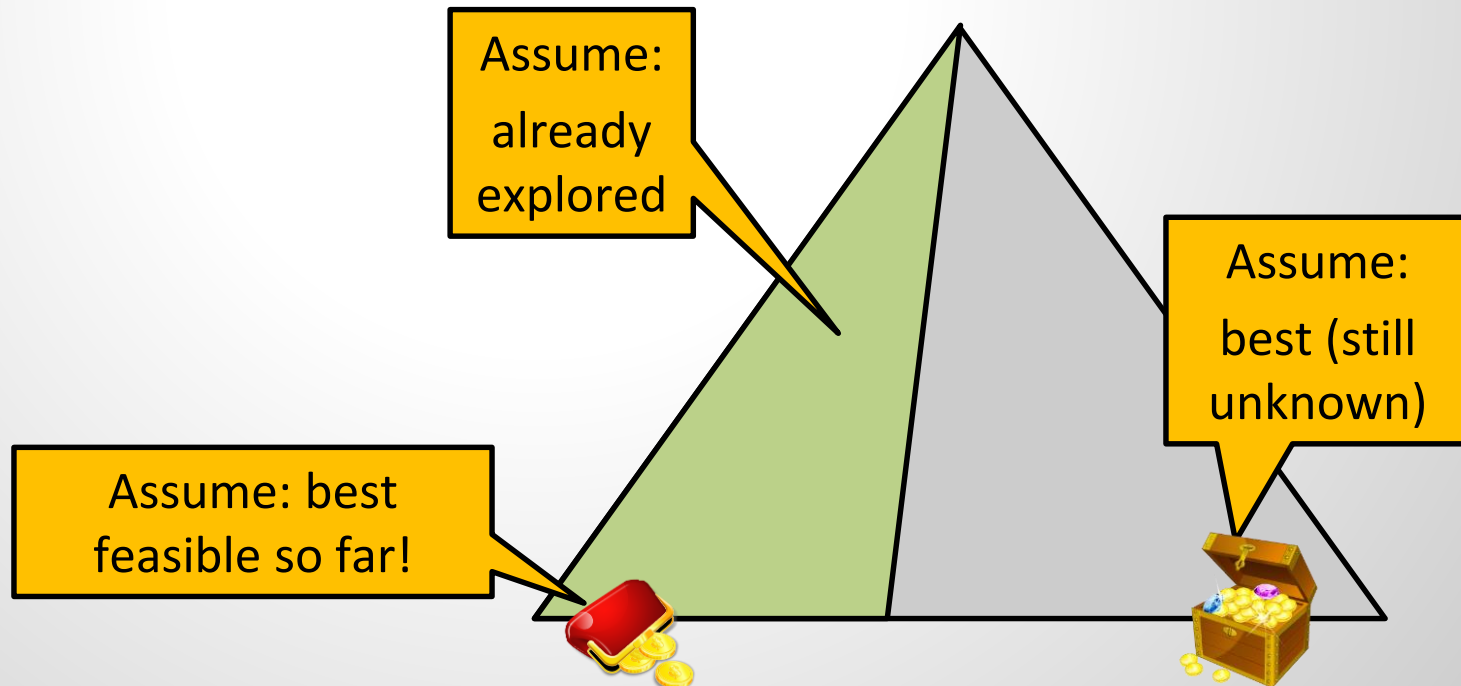
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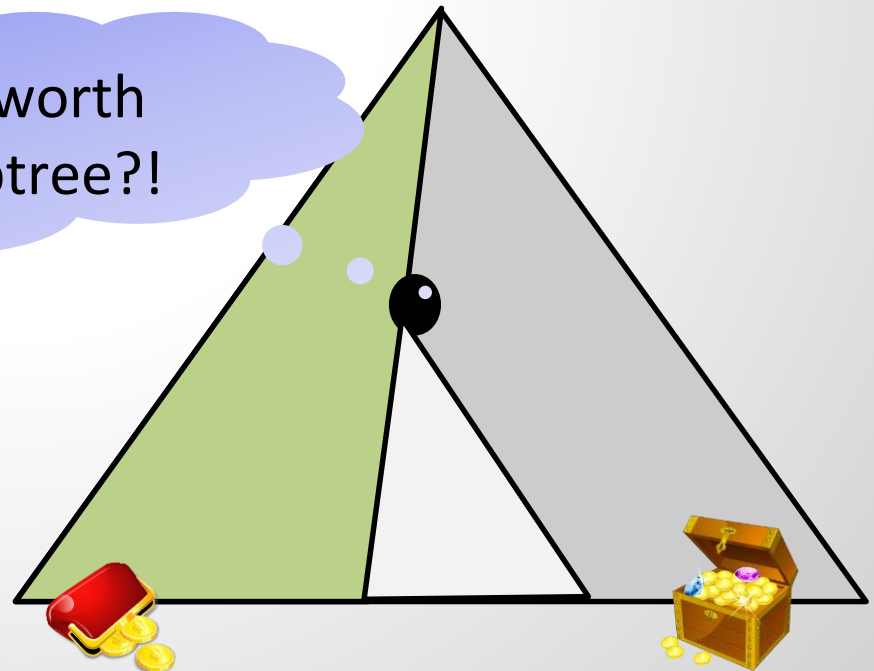


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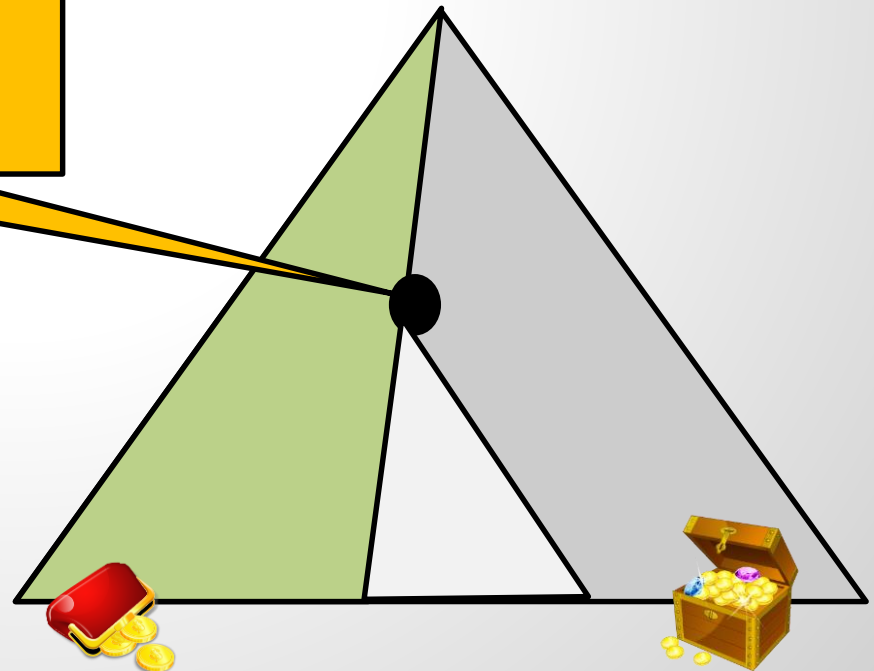
Decide: Is it worth
exploring subtree?!



Can we at least formulate a “fast” MIP?

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Usual trick: Relax! Solve LP (fast!),
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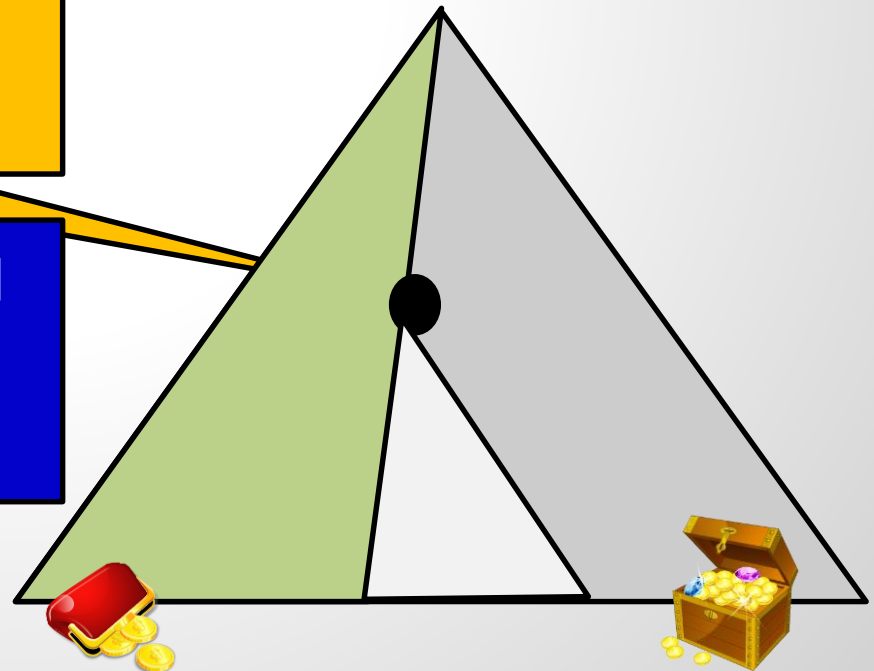


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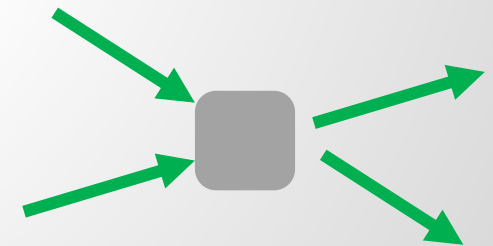
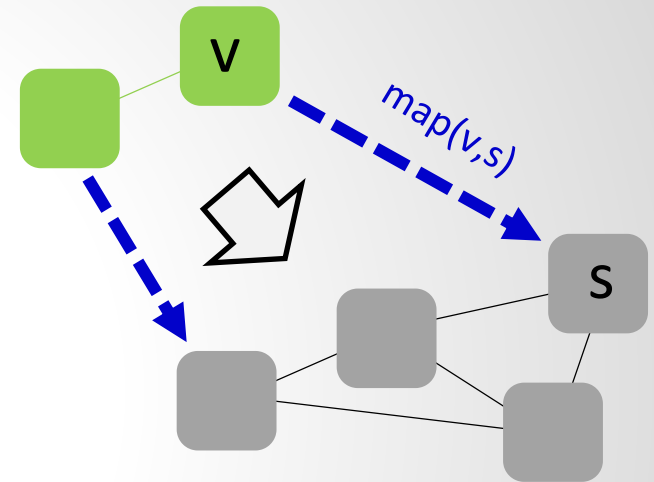
Bottomline: If MIP provides «good
relaxations», large parts of the
search space can be pruned.



Can we at least formulate a “fast” MIP?

A typical MIP formulation:

- ❑ Introduce **binary variables** $map(v,s)$ to map virtual nodes v to substrate node s
- ❑ Introduce **flow variables for paths** (say **splittable** for now)
- ❑ Ensure **flow conservation**: all flow entering a node must leave the node, unless it is the source or the destination



$$\sum_{u \rightarrow v} f_{uv} = \sum_{v \rightarrow w} f_{vw}$$

In Out

Can we at least formulate a “fast” MIP?

We get constraints like:

Assume bandwidth b
requested from node s
to node t .

In Out

$$\forall v: \sum_u f_{uv} - f_{vu} \geq \text{map}(s,v) * b - \text{map}(t,v) * \infty$$

What does this
formula do and why is
it correct?

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If $\text{map}(s,v)=1$, i.e., s mapped to v :
so **flow starts at v** , and hence
outgoing flow must be larger than
incoming flow (plus b).

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If $\text{map}(s,v)=0$ and $\text{map}(t,v)=0$, i.e., **v is along the path** from s to t : then we have **flow conservation**: outgoing flow must equal incoming flow (here $\geq$, objective function will remove unnecessary flow).

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If $\text{map}(t,v)=1$, i.e., t mapped to v : so flow **terminates at node v** : so **no constraint**: minus infinity (but objective function will remove unnecessary flow).

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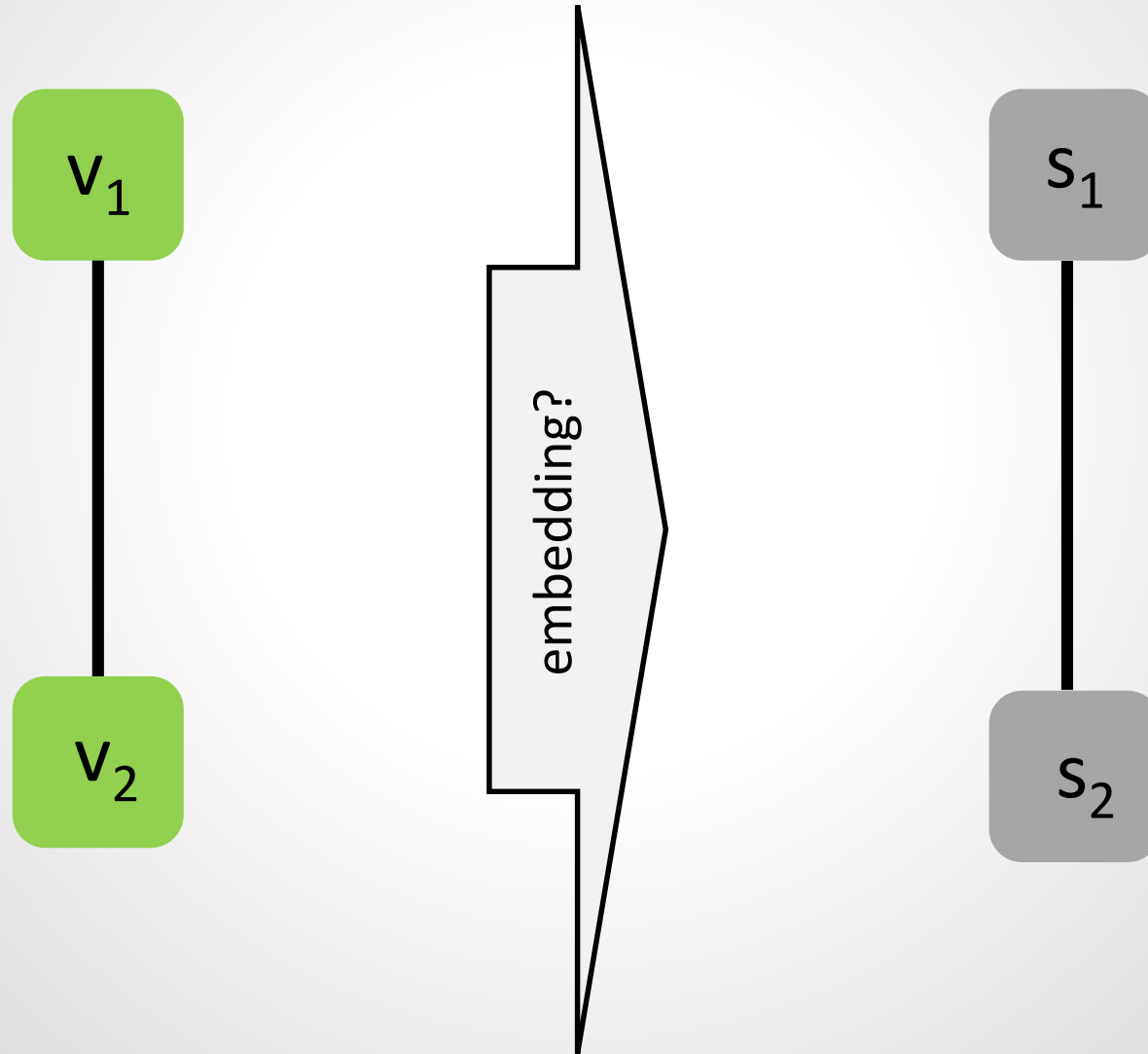
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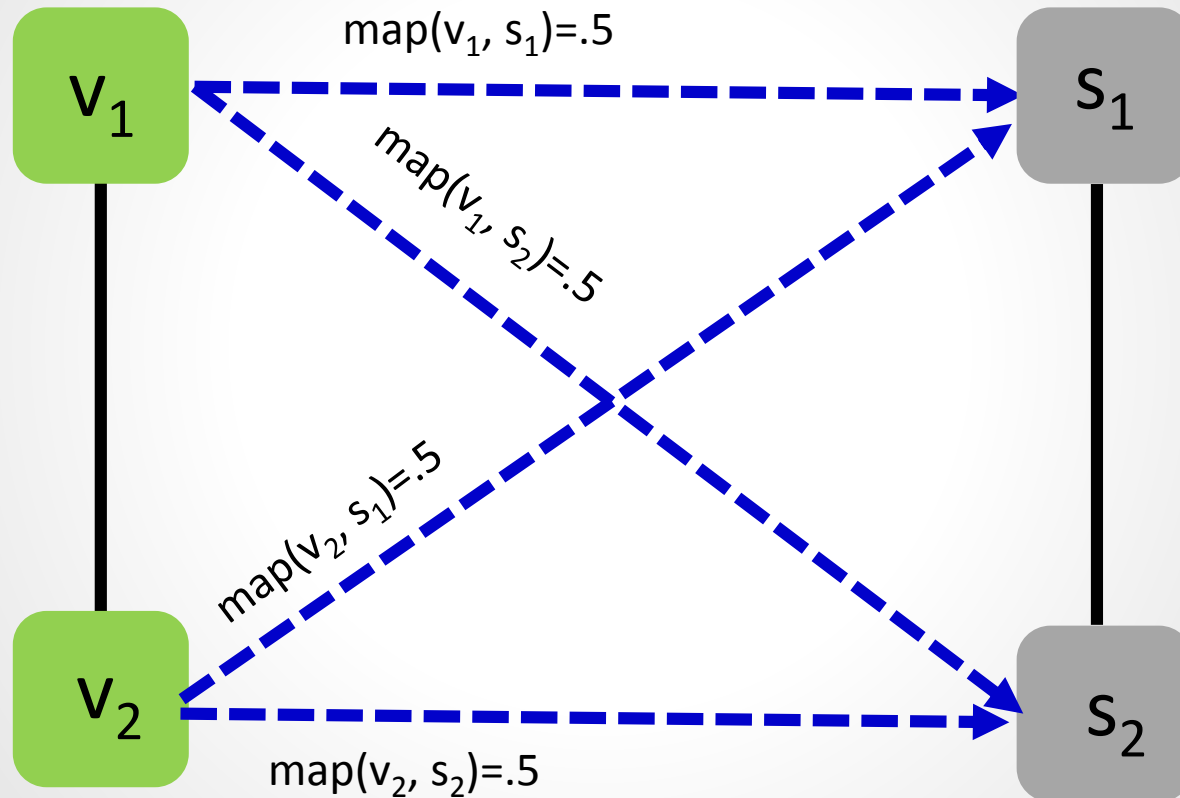
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Will such a MIP
provide effective
pruning?

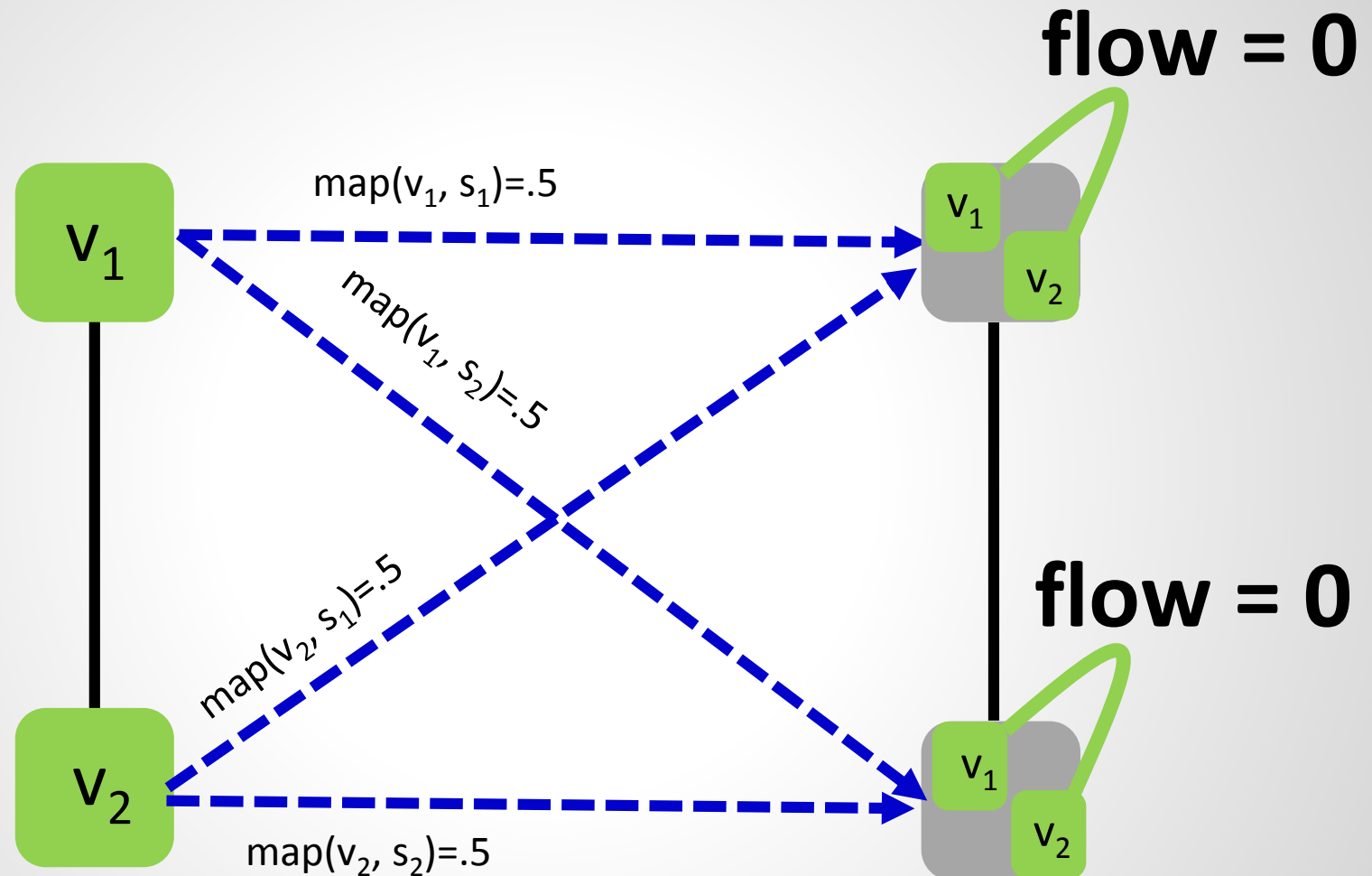
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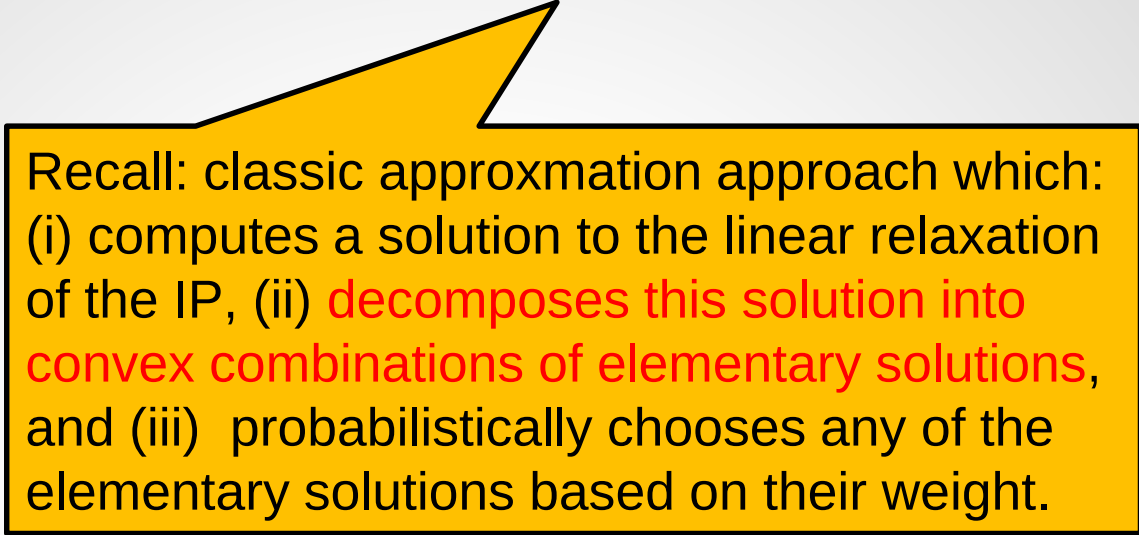


What will happen in this example?



Minimal flow = 0: fulfills flow conservation! Relaxation useless: does not provide any lower bound or indication of good mapping!

What about using randomized rounding?



Recall: classic approximation approach which:
(i) computes a solution to the linear relaxation of the IP, (ii) **decomposes this solution into convex combinations of elementary solutions**, and (iii) probabilistically chooses any of the elementary solutions based on their weight.

What about using randomized rounding?

- ❑ Problem 1: relaxed solutions may not be very meaningful
 - ❑ see example for **splittable** flows before
- ❑ Problem 2: also for **unsplittable** flows, if using a standard **Multi-Commodity Flow (MCF)** formulation of VNEP, the **integrality gap** can be huge
 - ❑ Tree-like VNets are still ok
 - ❑ VNets with cycles: randomized rounding not applicable, since problem **not decomposable**

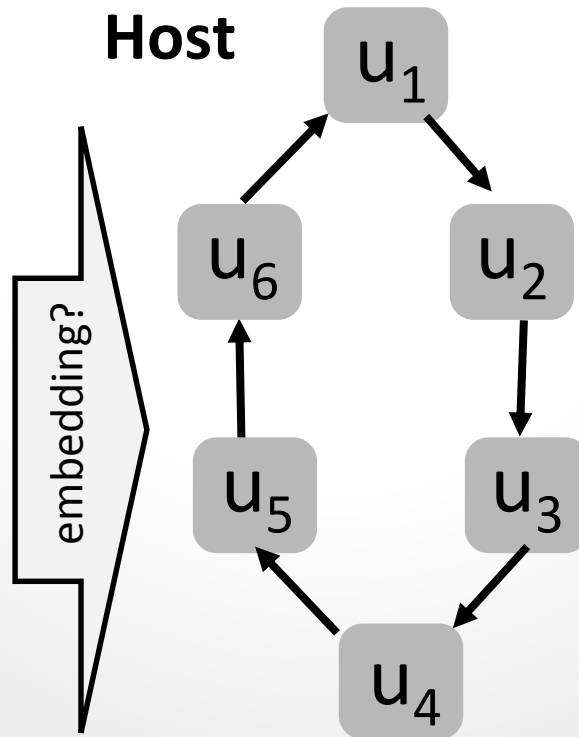
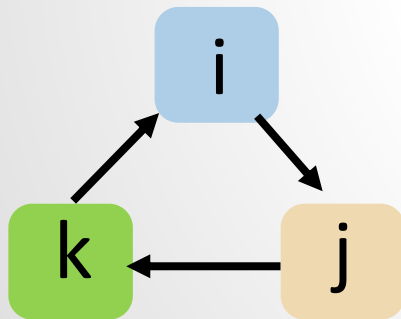
The linear solutions can be decomposed into convex combinations of valid mappings.

Non-Decomposability

- ❑ Relaxations of classic MCF formulation **cannot be decomposed** into **convex combinations of valid mappings** (so we need different formulations!)

- ❑ Example:

VNet

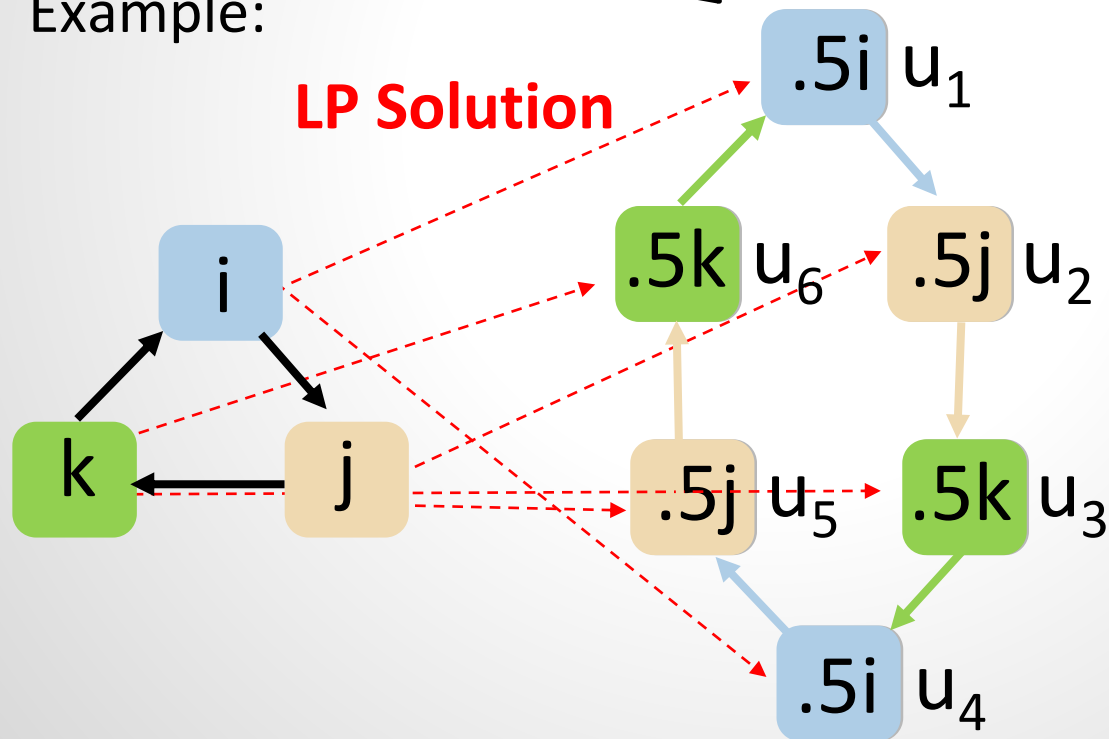


embedding?

Non-Decomposability

Valid LP solution: virtual node mappings sum to 1 and each virtual node connects to its neighboring node **with half a unit of flow...** formulation **cannot be decomposed** **valid mappings** (so we need

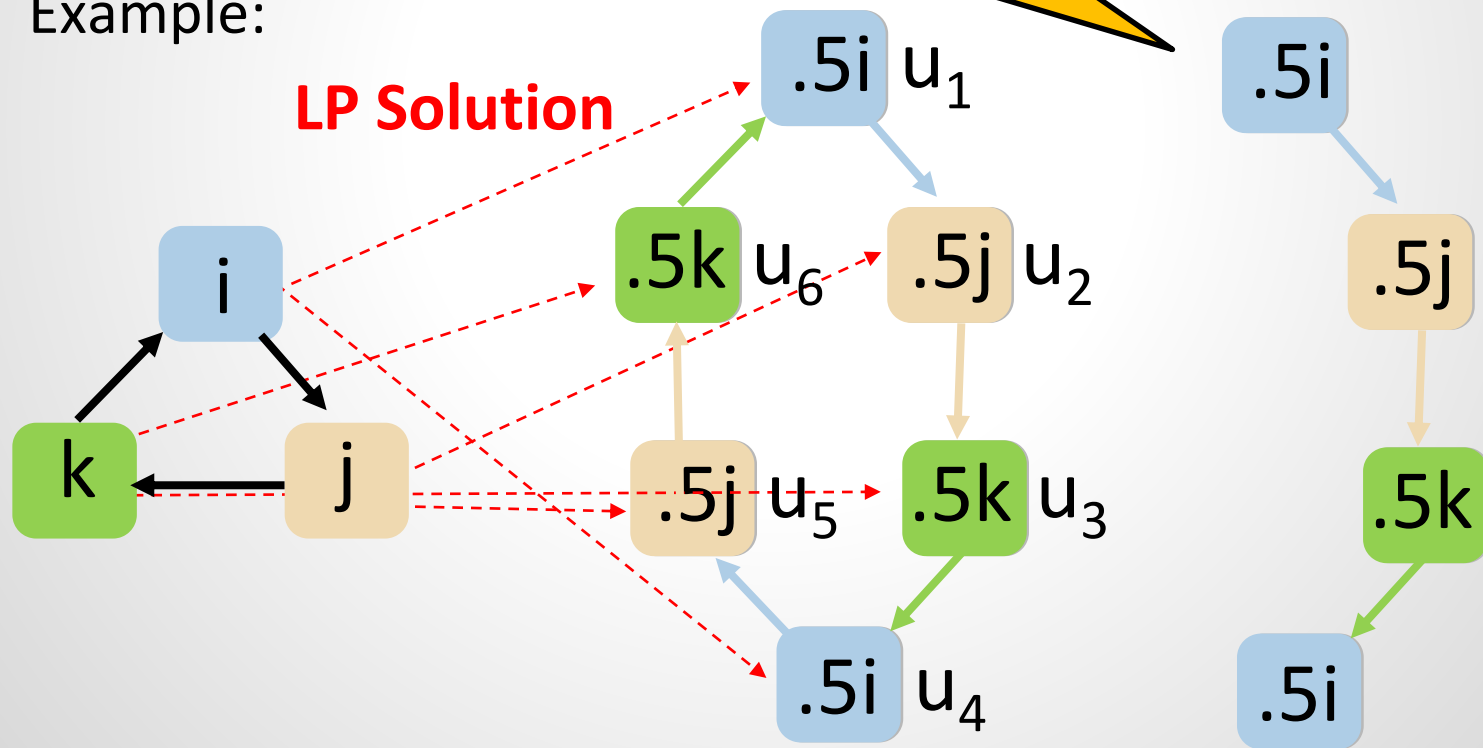
Example:



Impossible to decompose and extract **any single valid mapping**. **Intuition:** Node i is mapped to u_1 and the only neighboring node that hosts j is u_2 , so i must be fully mapped on u_1 and j on u_2 . Similarly, k must be mapped on u_3 . But flow of virtual edge (k,i) leaving u_3 only leads to u_4 , so i must be mapped on both u_1 and u_4 . This is **impossible**, even if capacities are infinite.

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**Partial
Decomposition**

□ Example:

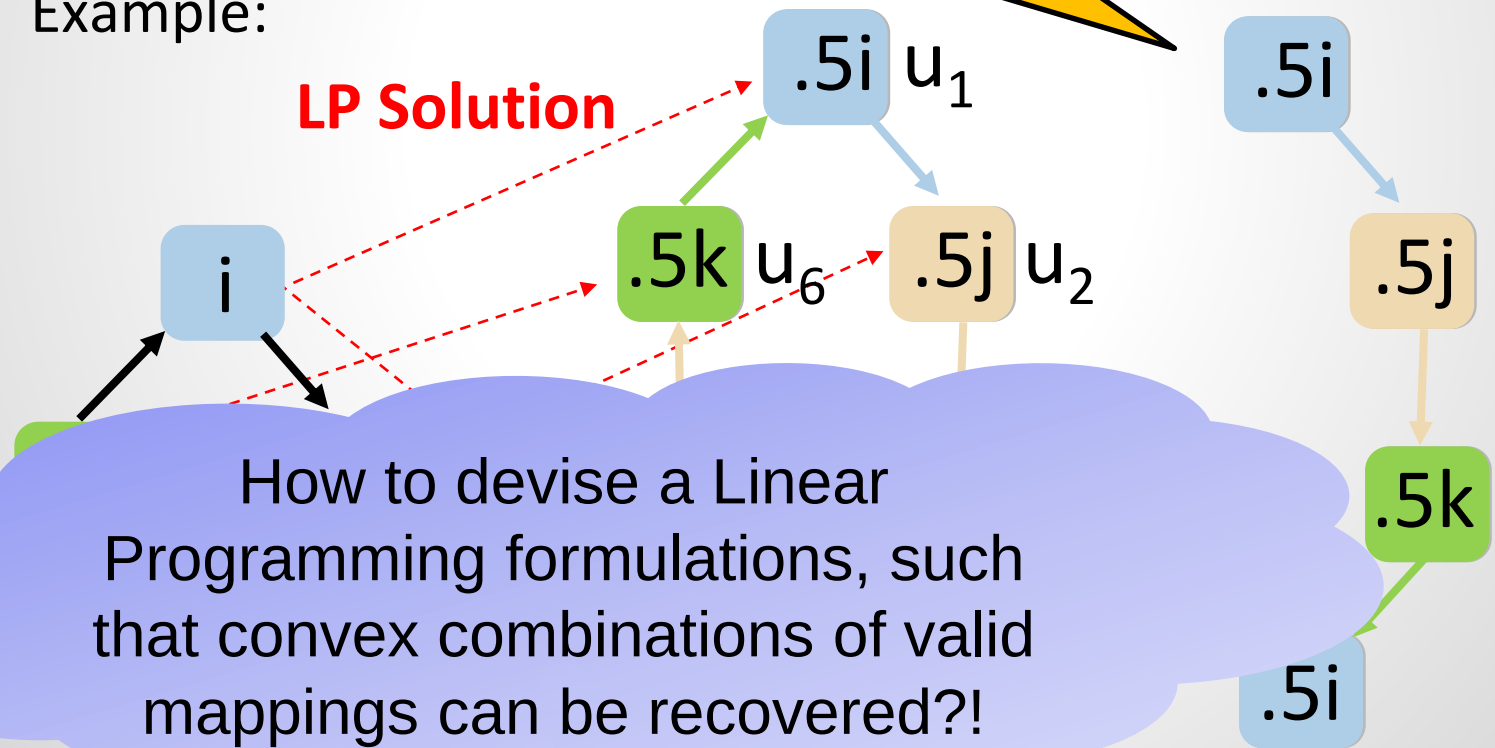


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□ Example:

LP Solution





That's all Folks!



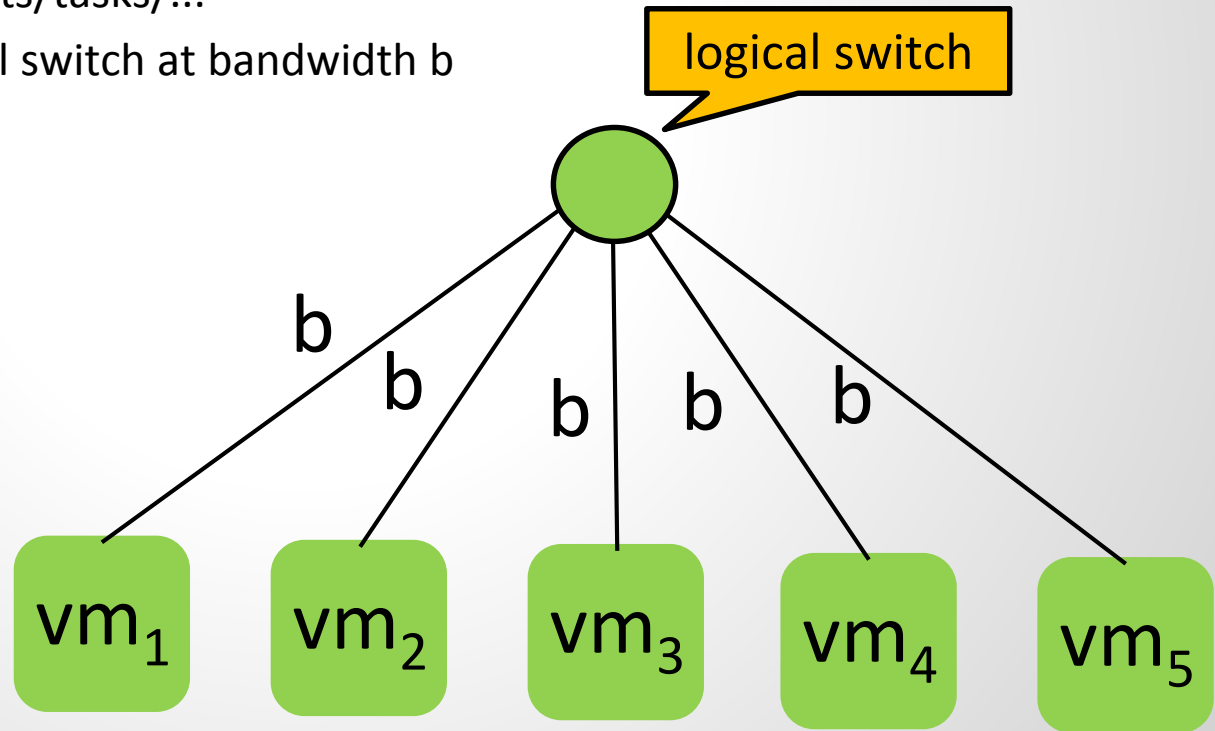
That's all Folks!

Wait a minute!
These problems need to be solved!
And they often can, even with guarantees.

Theory vs Practice:

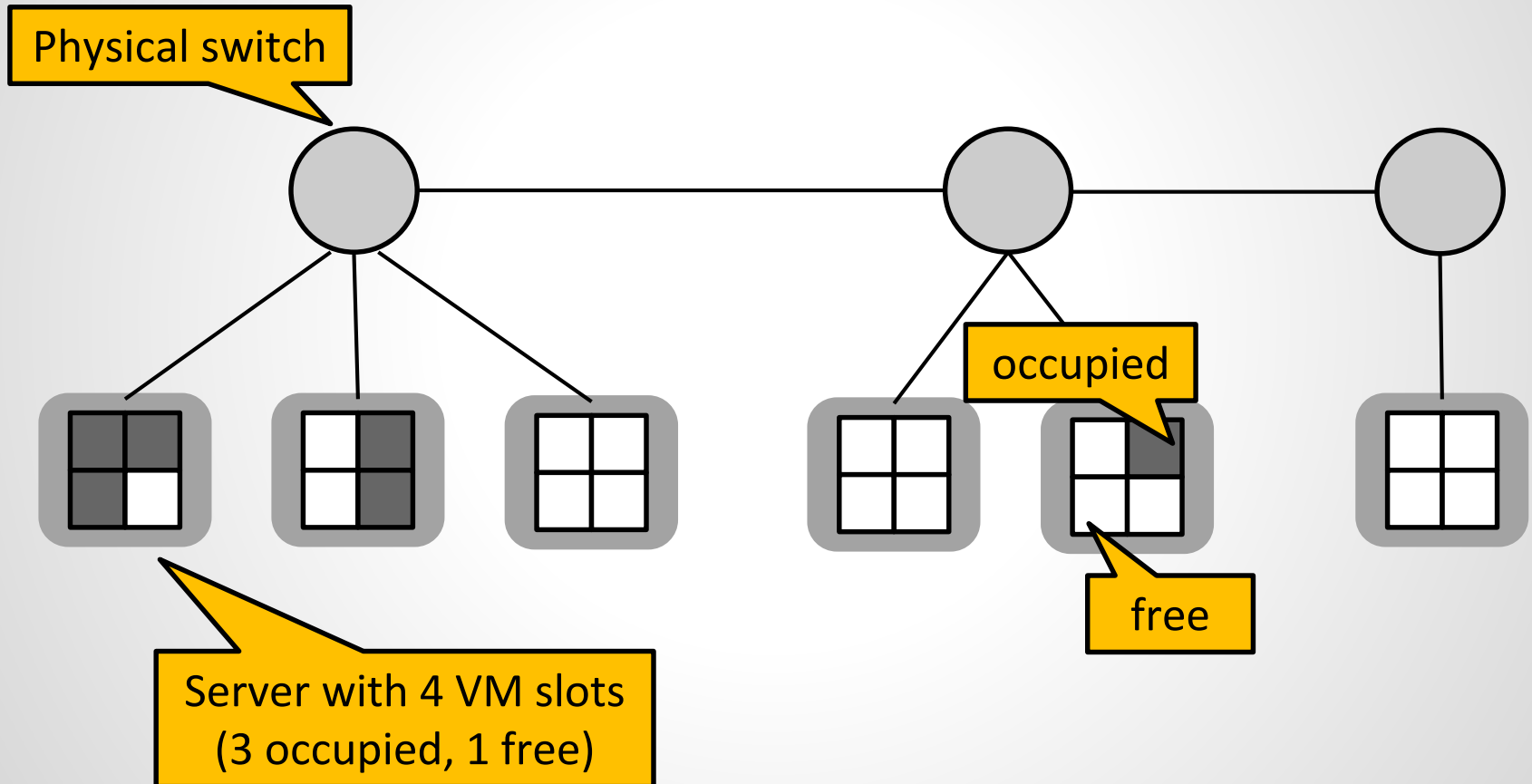
In Practice There is Hope!

- ❑ **Guest graphs** may not be general graphs, but e.g., **virtual clusters**: very simple and symmetric, used in context of batch processing
 - ❑ k VMs/compute-units/tasks/...
 - ❑ Connected to virtual switch at bandwidth b



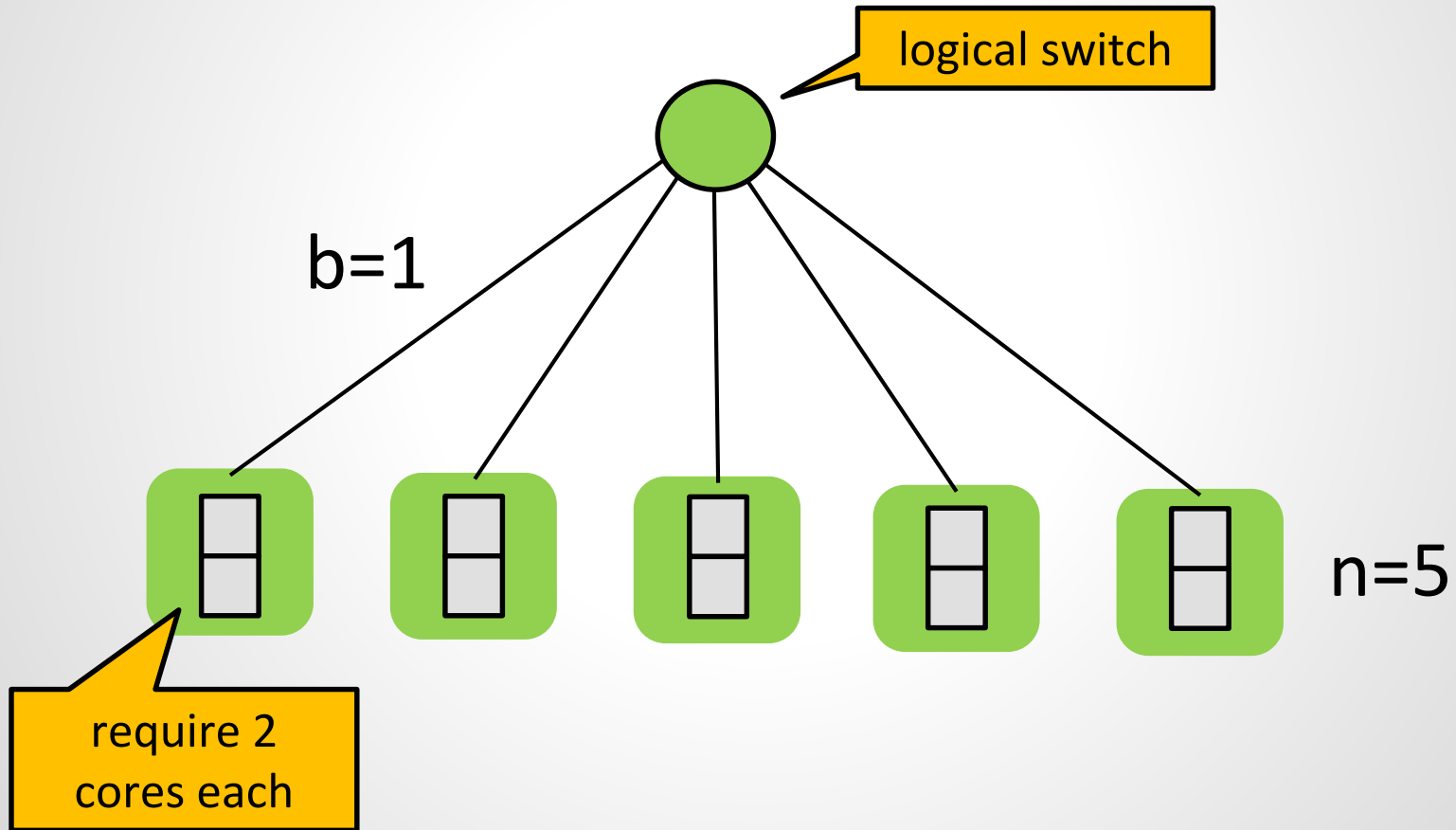
How to Embed a Virtual Cluster?

Consider host graph:

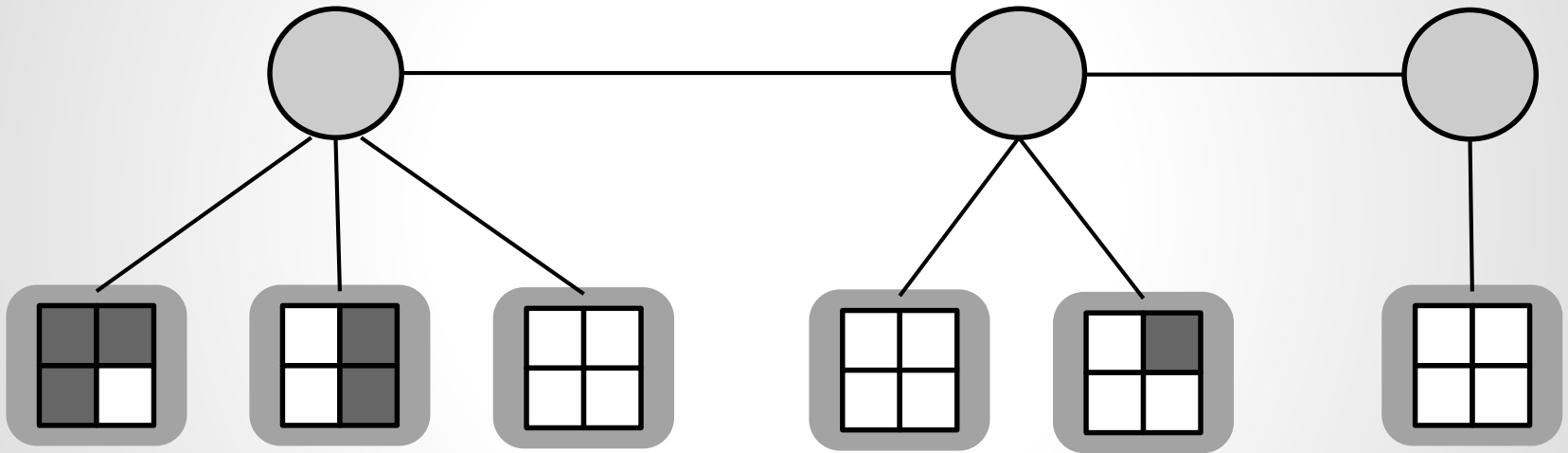


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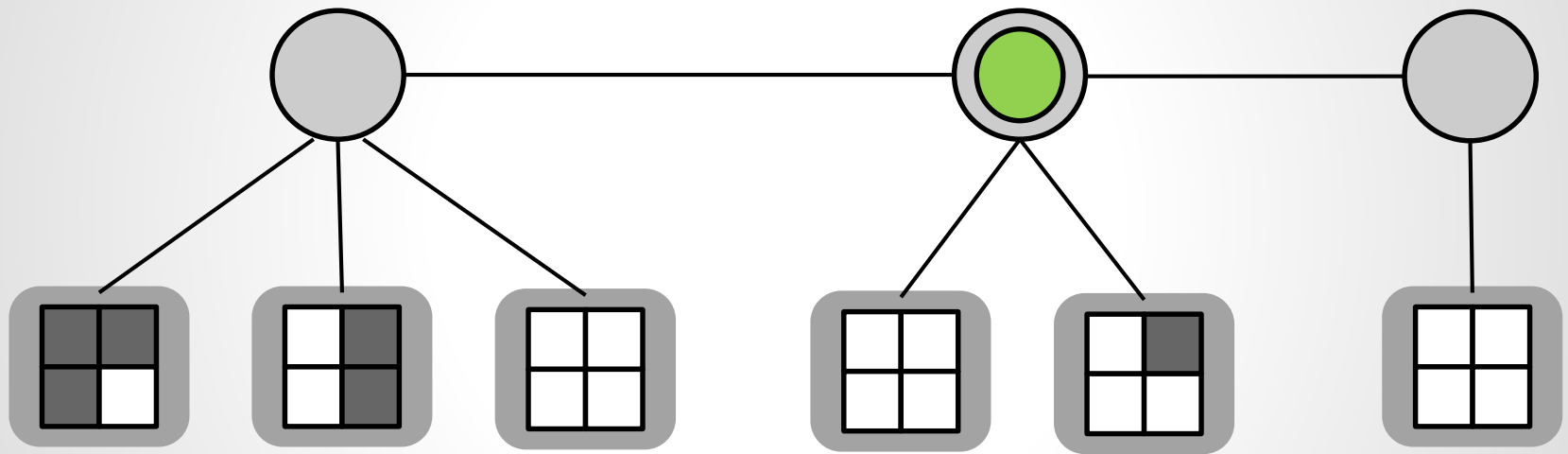
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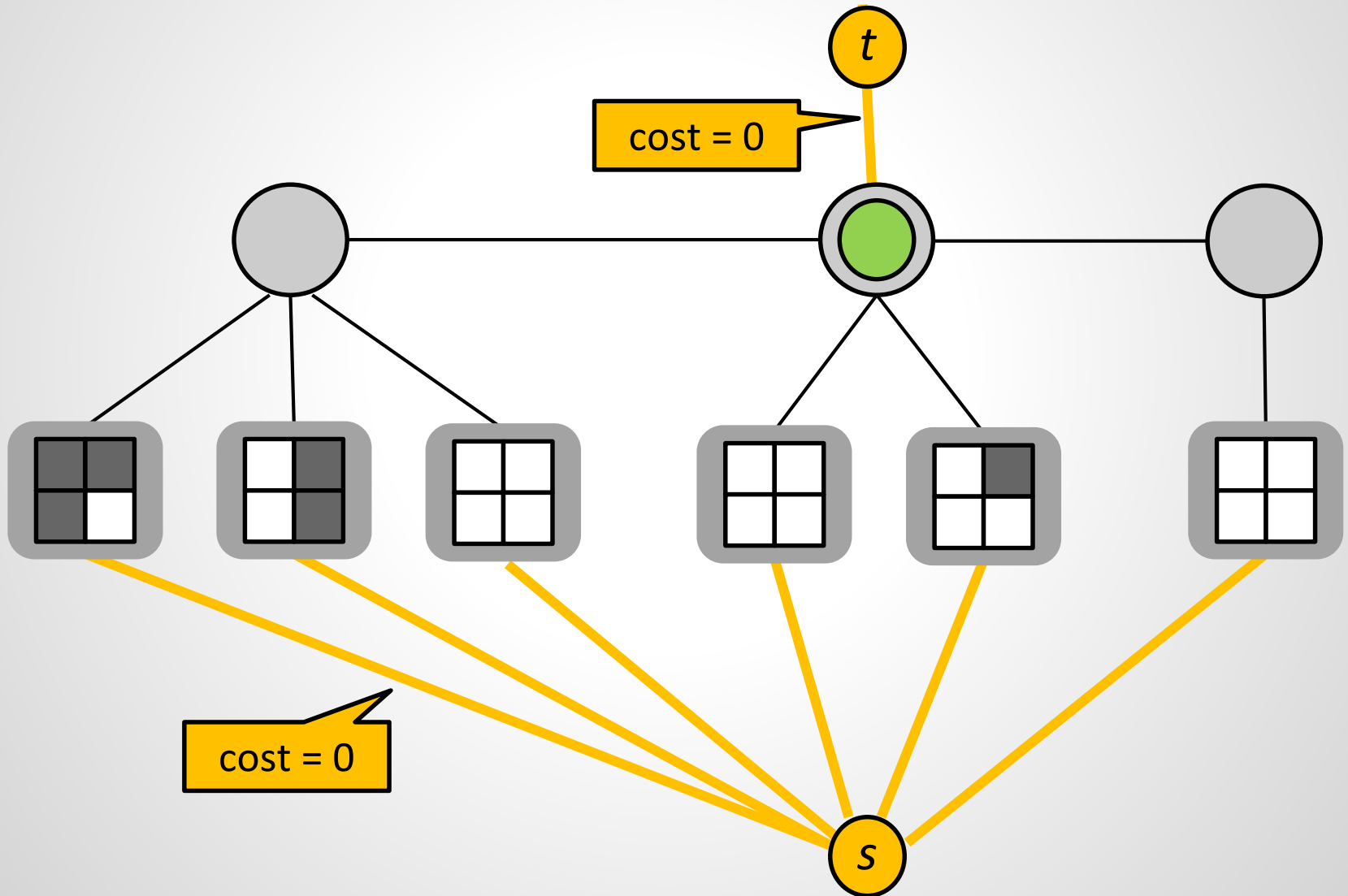
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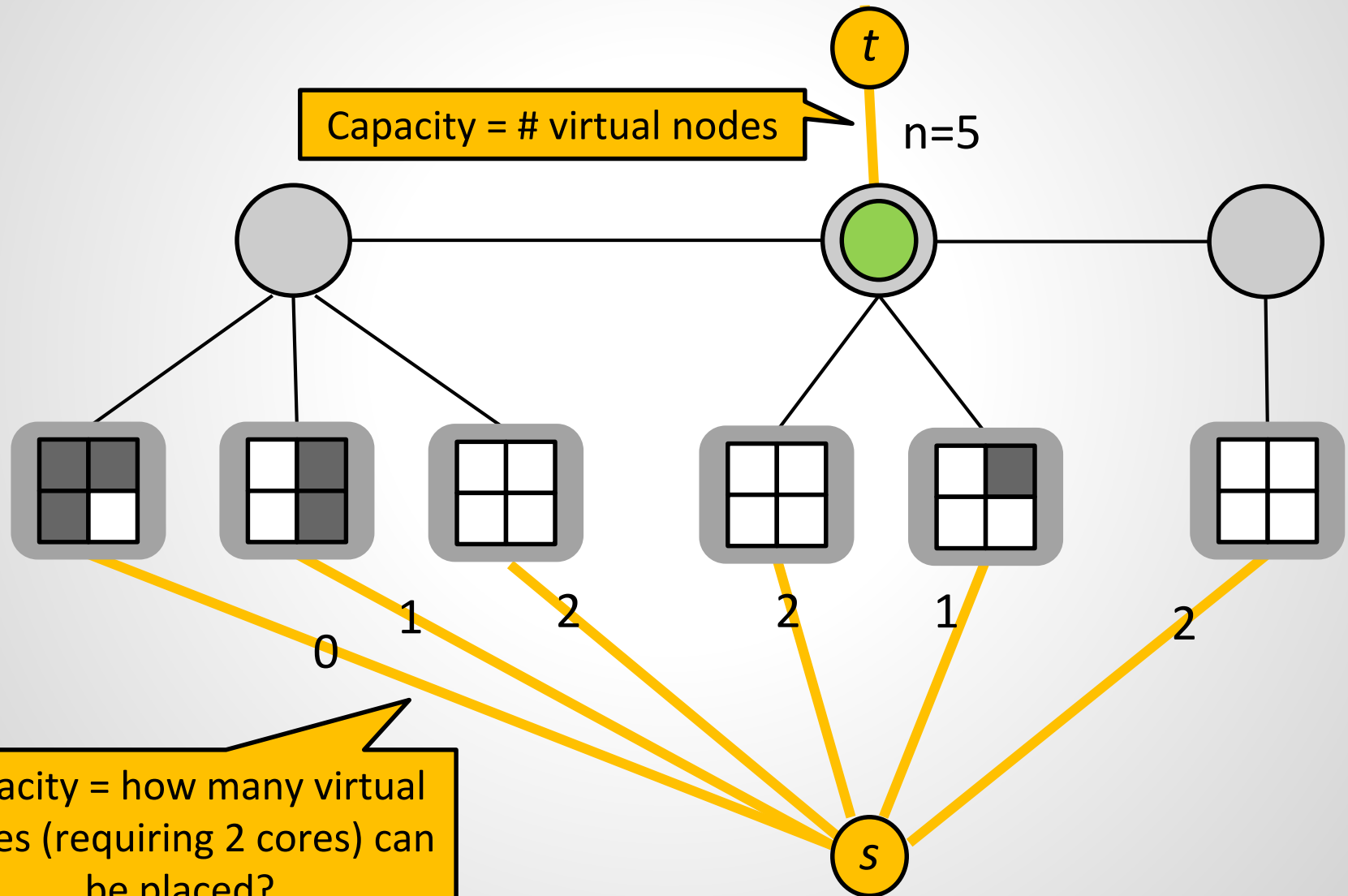
1. Place logical switch (try all options)



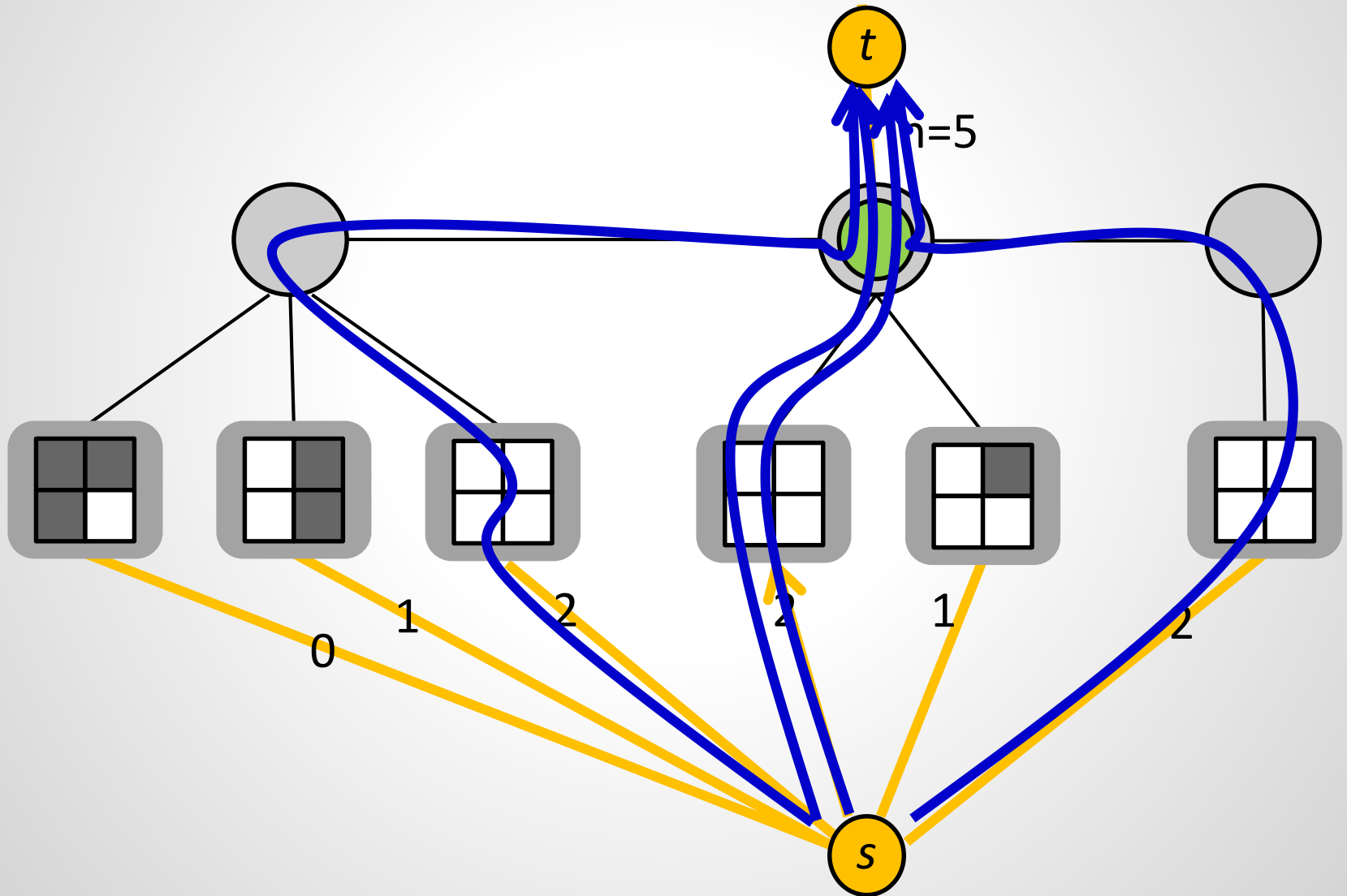
1. Place logical switch (try all options)
2. **Extend network** with artificial source s and sink t



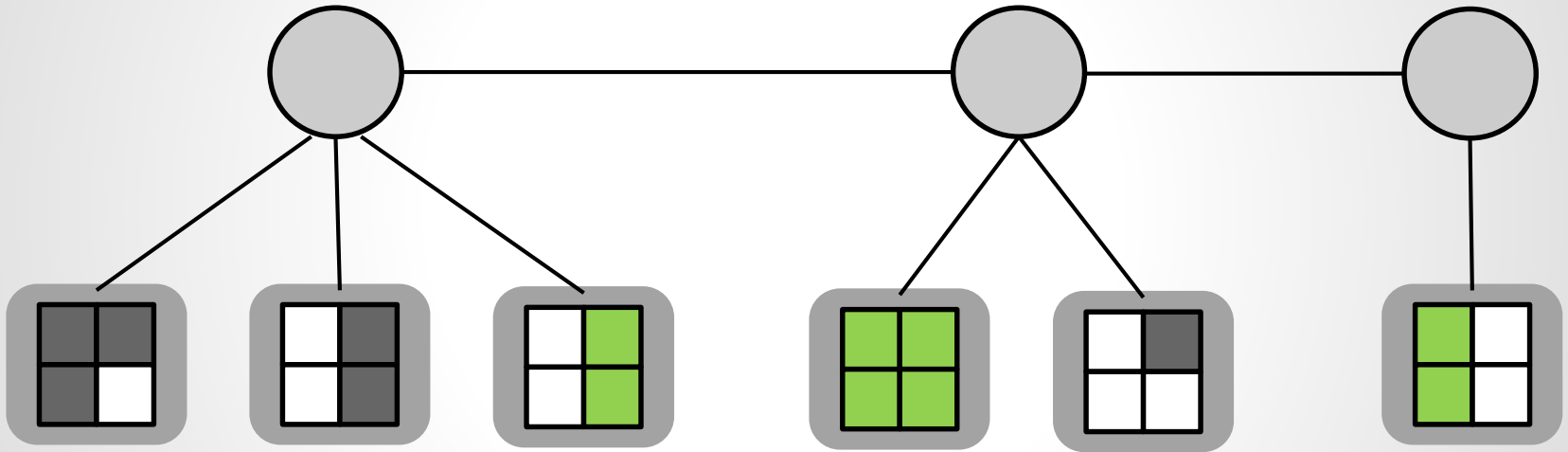
1. Place logical switch (try all options)
 2. Extend network with artificial source s and sink t
 3. **Add capacities** (recall that $b=1$, so each virtual node needs one unit of capacity)
- needs one unit of capacity)



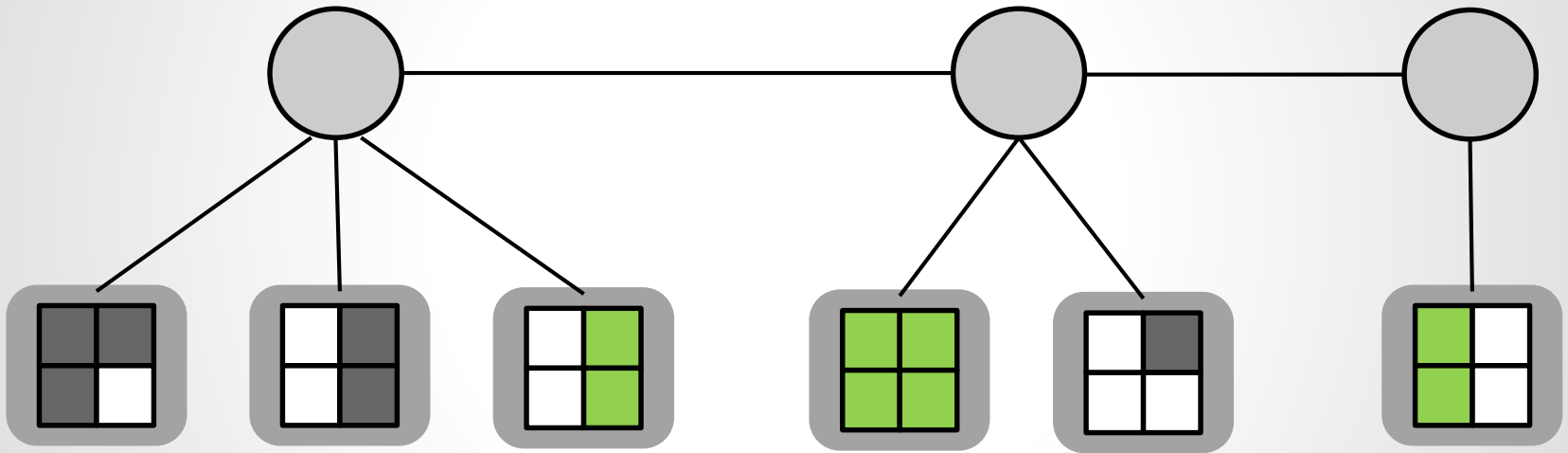
Then: Compute **min-cost max flow** of size n from s to t
(e.g., **successive shortest paths**): due to capacity
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... and **assign virtual nodes (and edges)** accordingly!



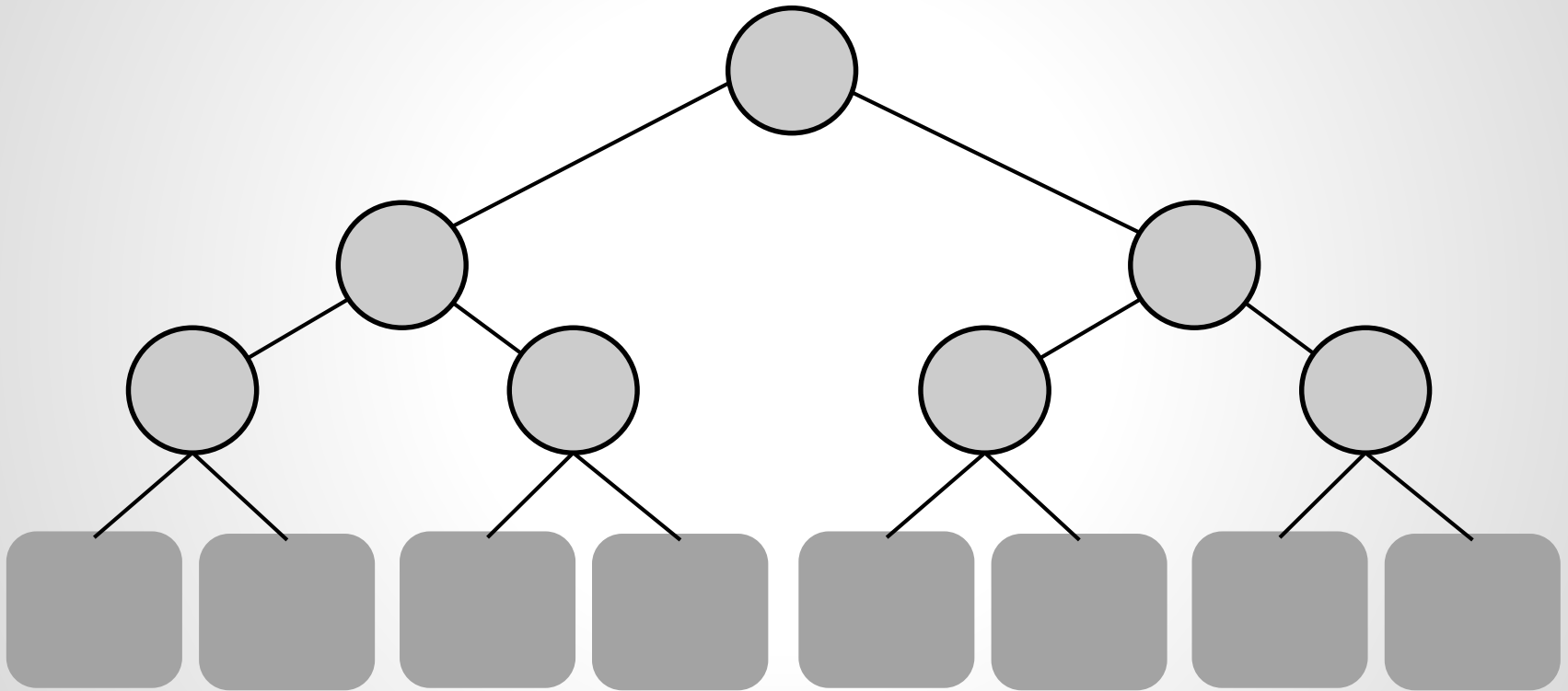
How to Embed a Virtual Cluster?



In fact: this physical network is even ***a tree***!

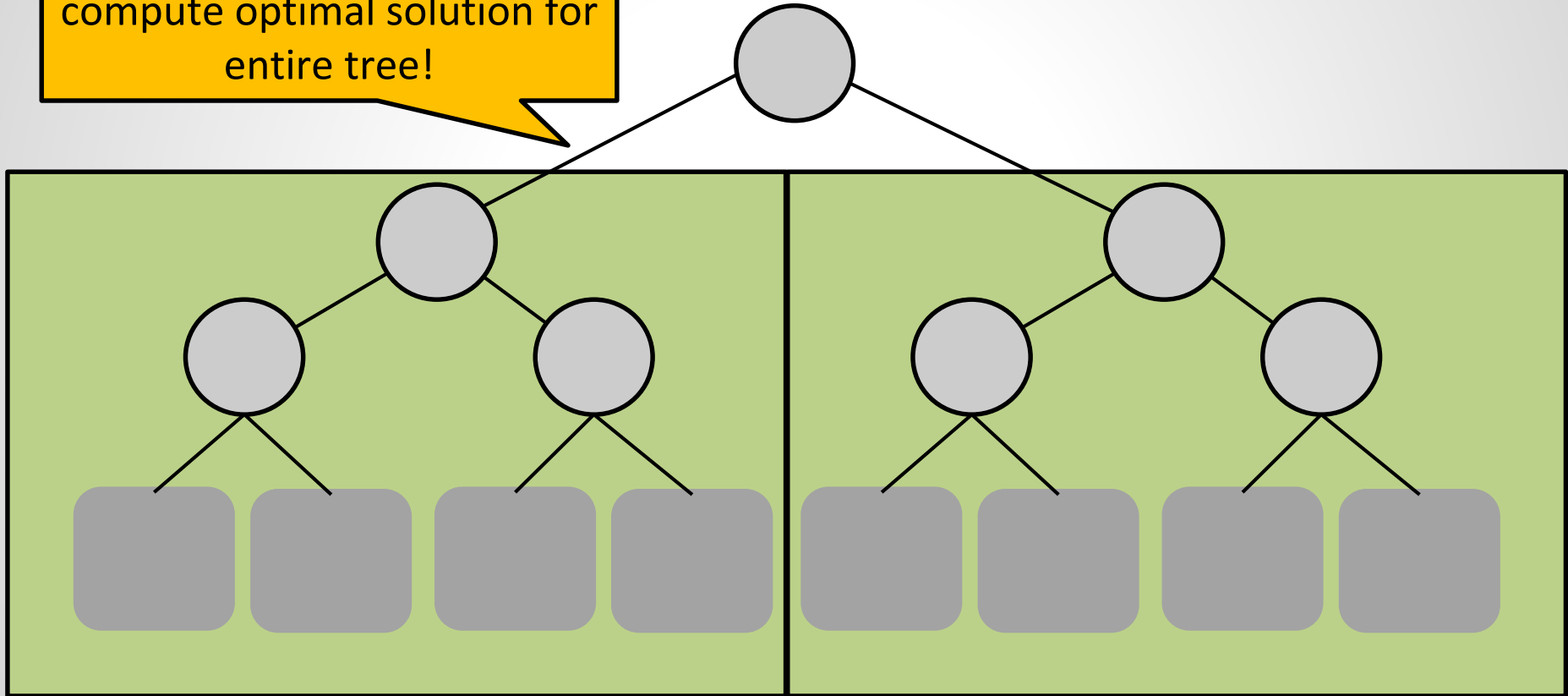
For **trees with servers at leaves**, even simpler algorithms are possible. Ideas?

Dynamic Programming

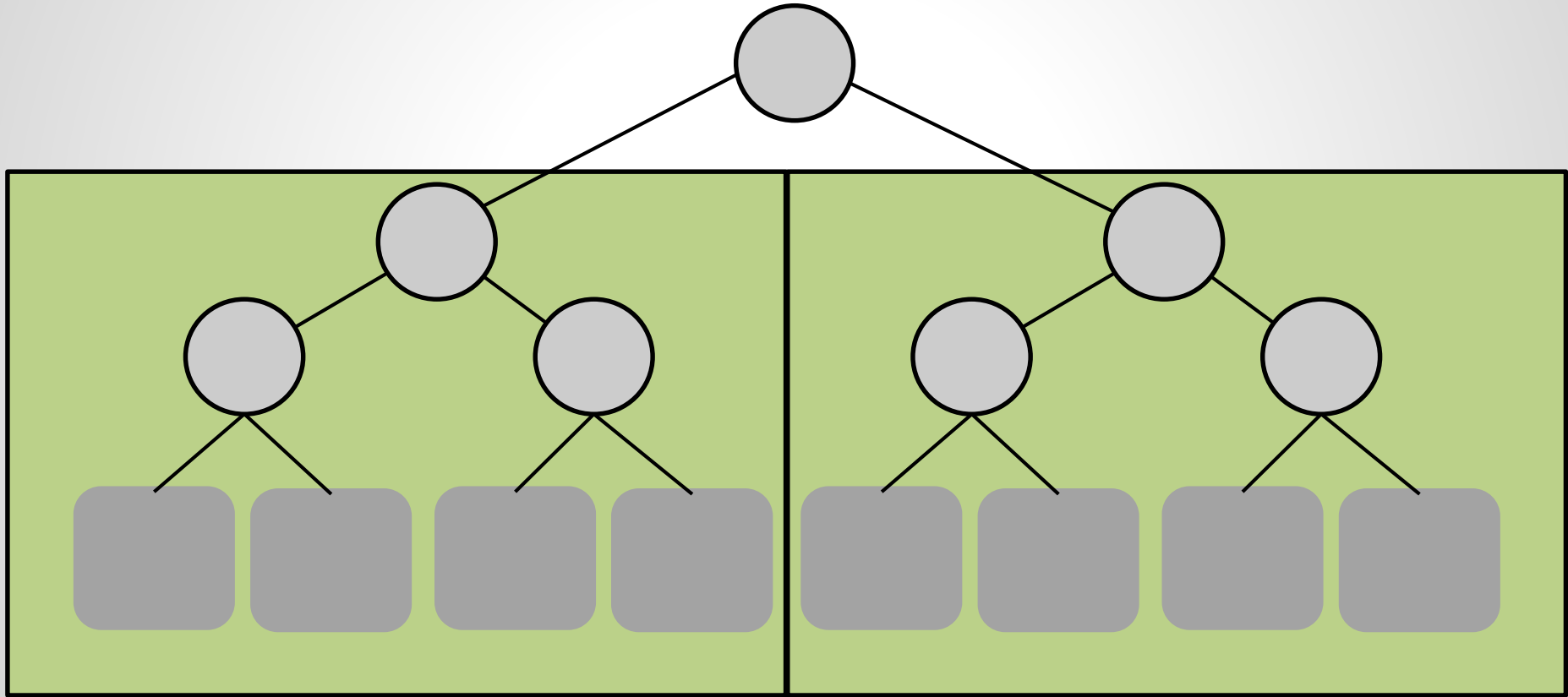


Dynamic Programming

Bottom-up programming:
given optimal solution for
subtrees, can quickly
compute optimal solution for
entire tree!



Dynamic Programming

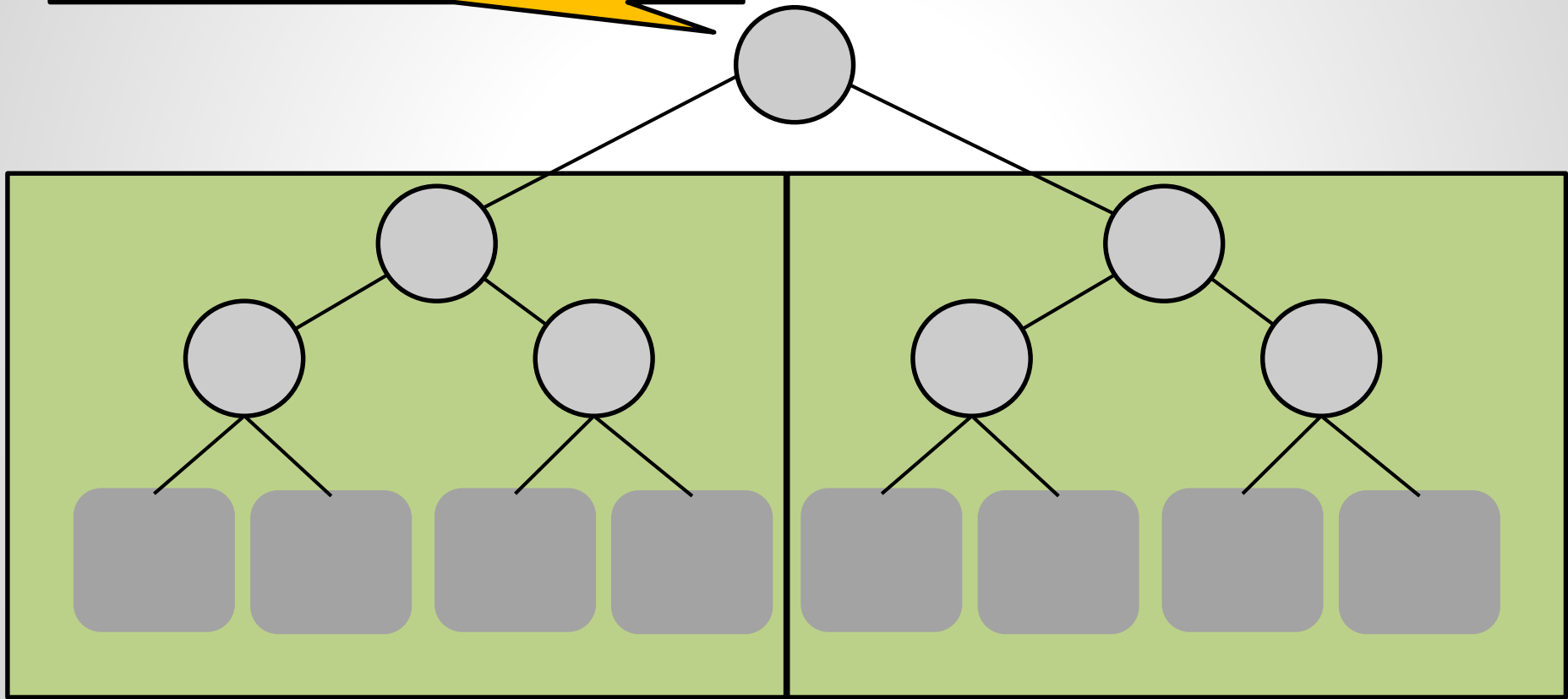


Given **optimal embedding** for $x \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ virtual nodes in left subtree...

Given **optimal embedding** for $x \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ virtual nodes in right subtree...

Dynamic Programming

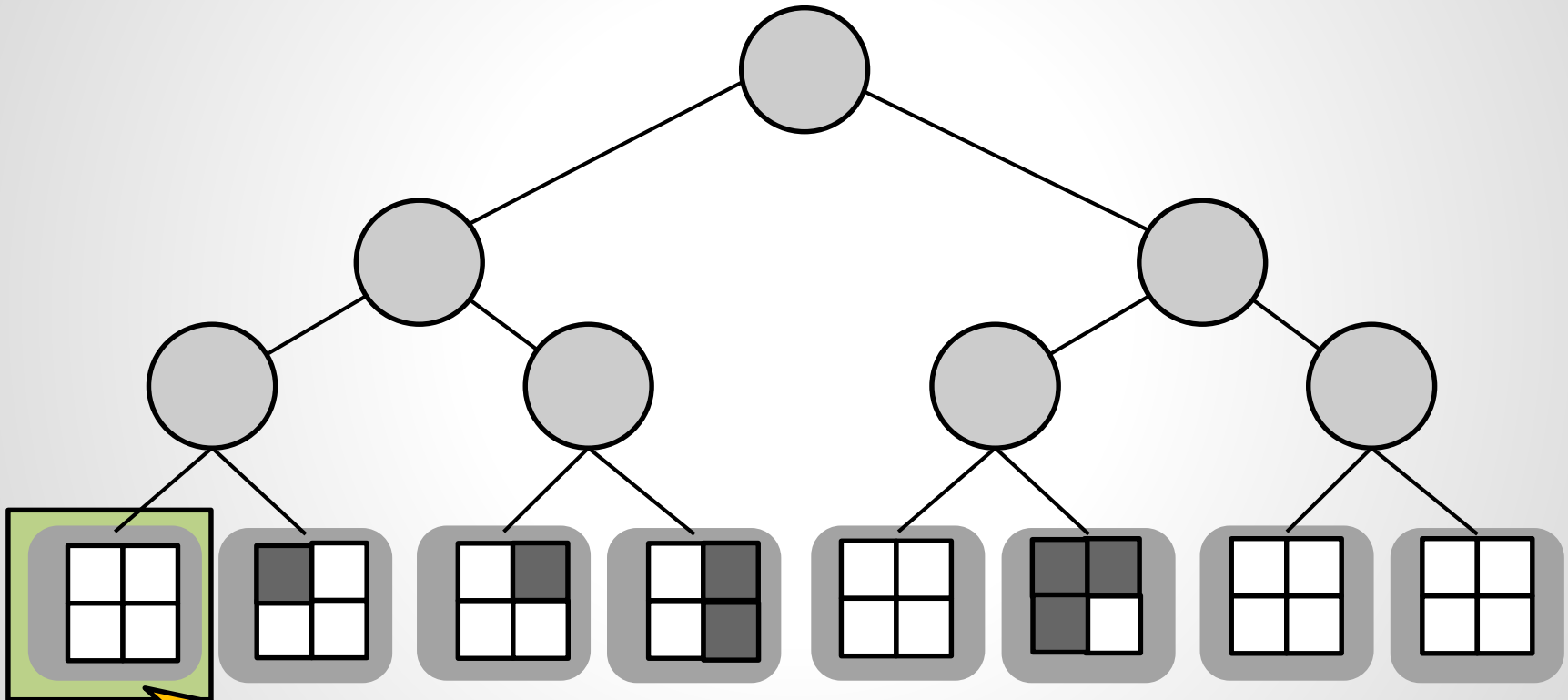
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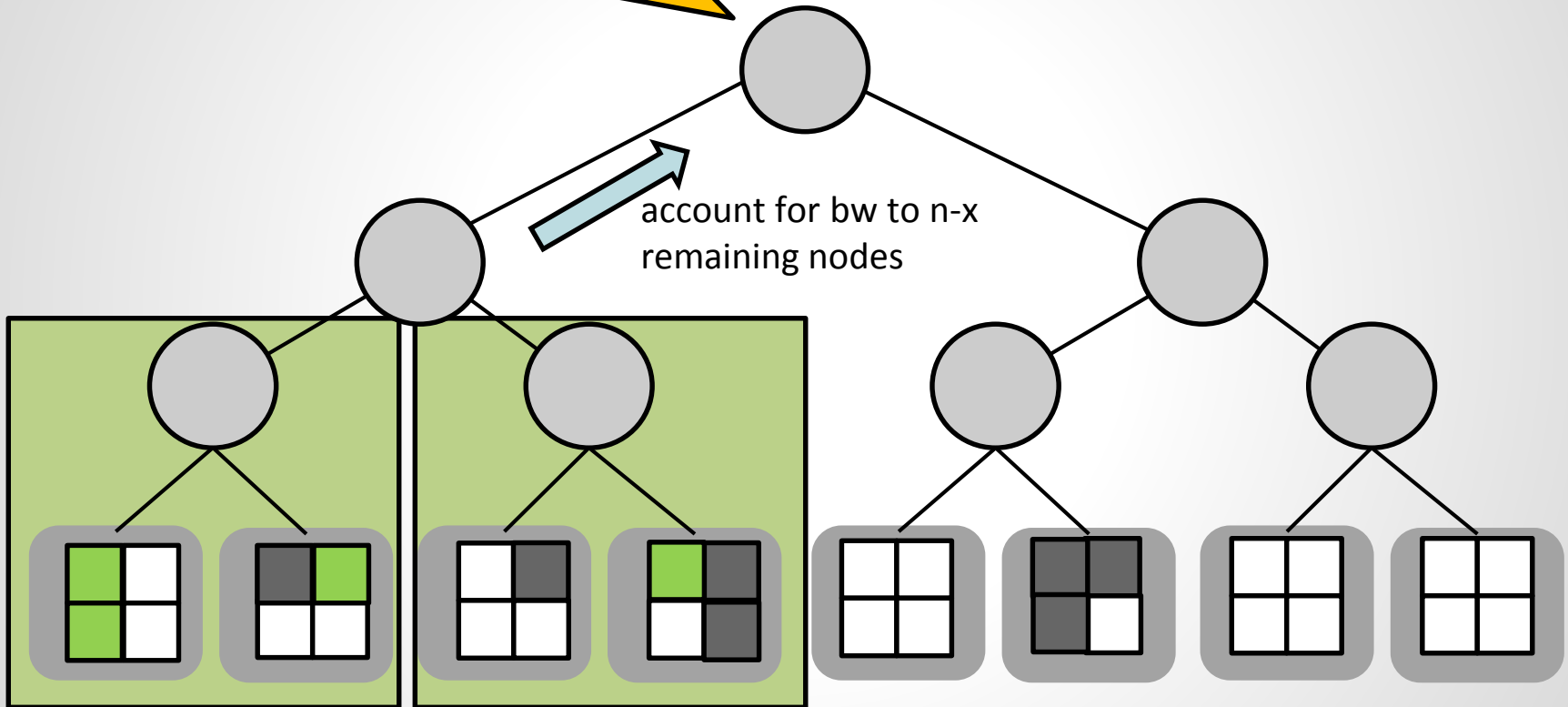
Dynamic Programming



Bottom-up «induction». Leaves easy: either x nodes fit server (cost 0) or not (cost ∞): $\text{opt}[\leq 4] = 0$, $\text{opt}[>4] = \infty$

Dynamic Programming

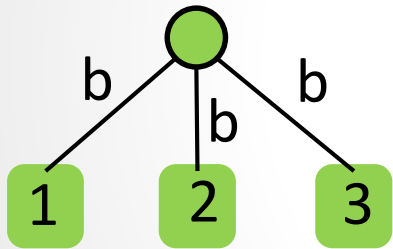
$$\text{opt}(T,x)=\min_{0\leq y\leq x} \{\text{opt}(\text{left},y)+\text{opt}(\text{right},x-y)+\text{bw}(T,x)\}$$



To compute cost of embedding **x nodes** in T, place **y nodes on the left**, **x-y on the right** subtree, and compute cost due to links across root.

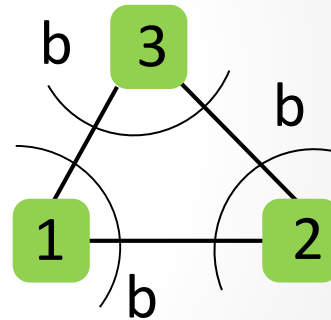
Remark on Virtual Cluster Abstraction

- ❑ Two interpretations:
 - ❑ Logical switch at **unique location**
 - ❑ Logical switch can be distributed («**Hose model**»)



Logical Switch Variant

VS

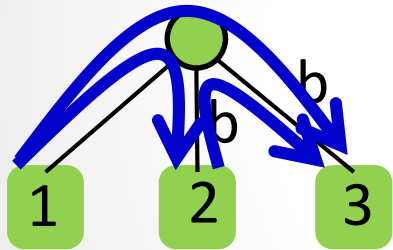


Hose Variant

Aggregated bw in/out
node at most b .

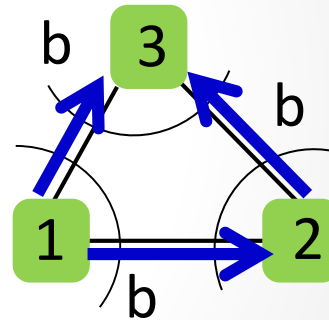
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Logical Switch Variant

VS



Hose Variant

Can serve the same communication patterns! (A **polytope of possible traffic matrices.**)

Example:

(1,2): $b/2$

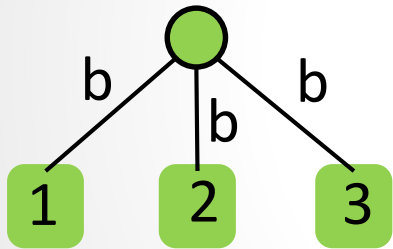
(1,3): $b/2$

(2,3): $b/2$

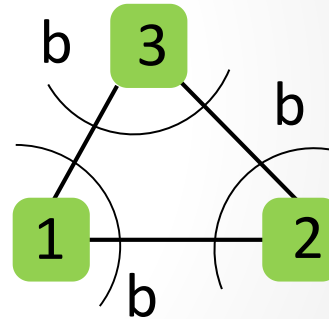
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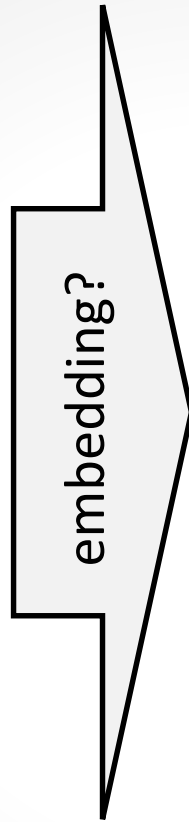
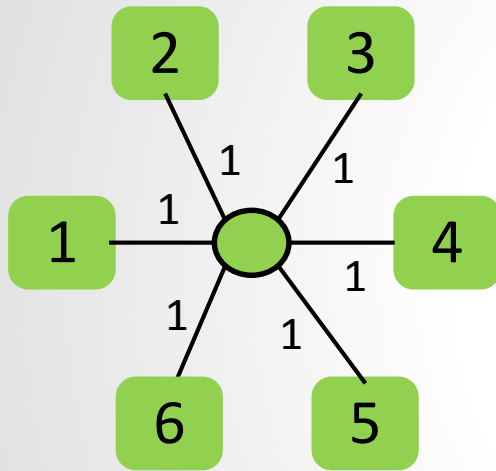
Hose Variant

But **embedding costs** can be different if we do not insist on placing the logical switch explicitly! **Not on trees** though, and **not in uncapacitated networks**: without routing restrictions, optimal routing paths form a tree (**SymG=SymT** a.k.a. **VPN Conjecture**).

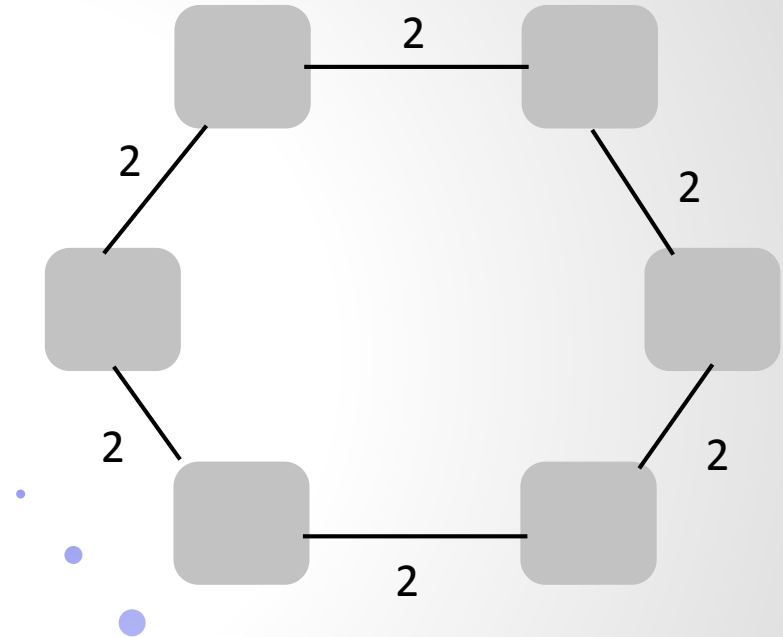
The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

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VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$



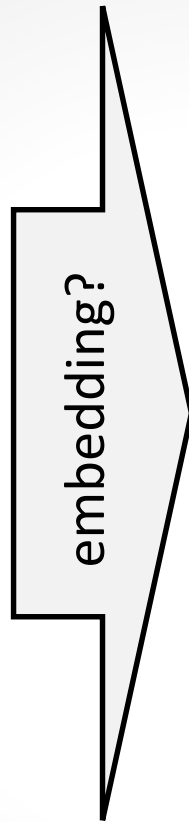
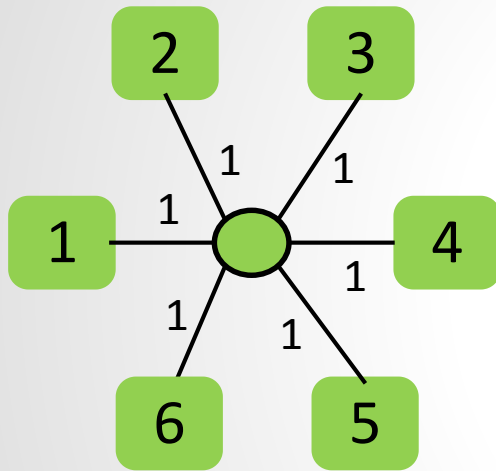
Host Graph: A Ring



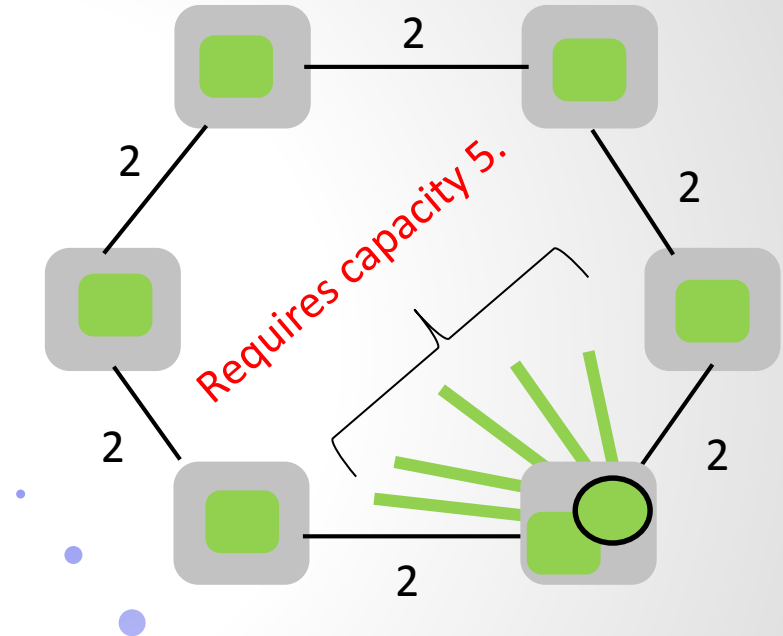
How to embed as a star?

The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$



Host Graph: A Ring

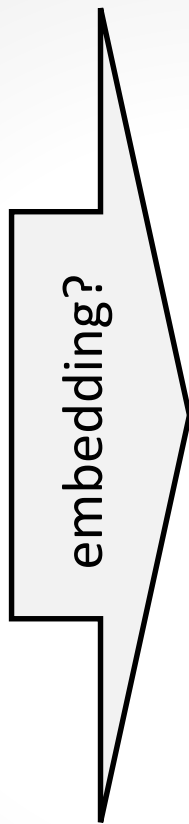
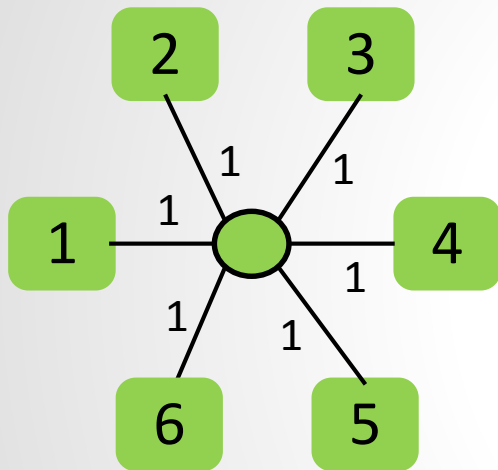


How to embed as a star?

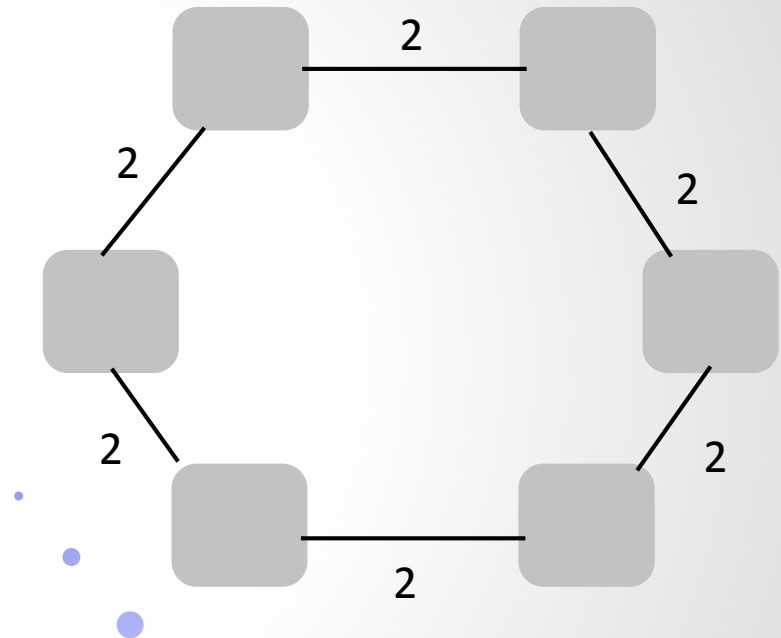
Impossible: need at least 5 units of flow from/to node where *star center is mapped*. However, capacity of incident links is only 4.

The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$



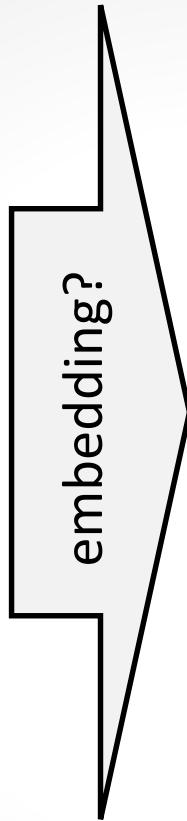
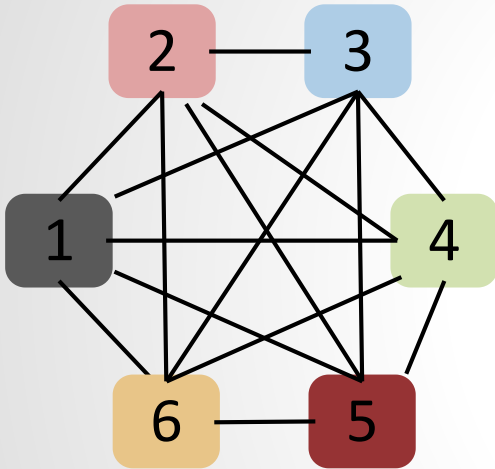
Host Graph: A Ring



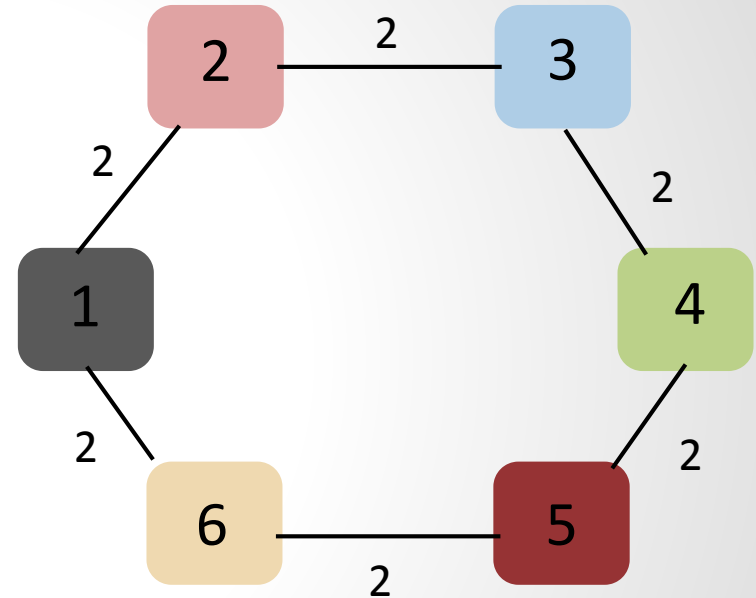
How about hose?

The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$



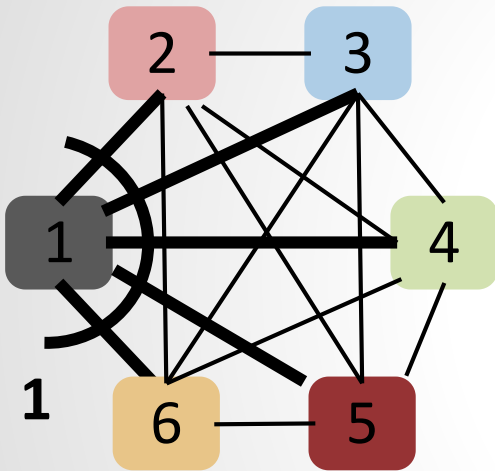
Host Graph: A Ring



Node mapping! Now: How to embed these virtual links?

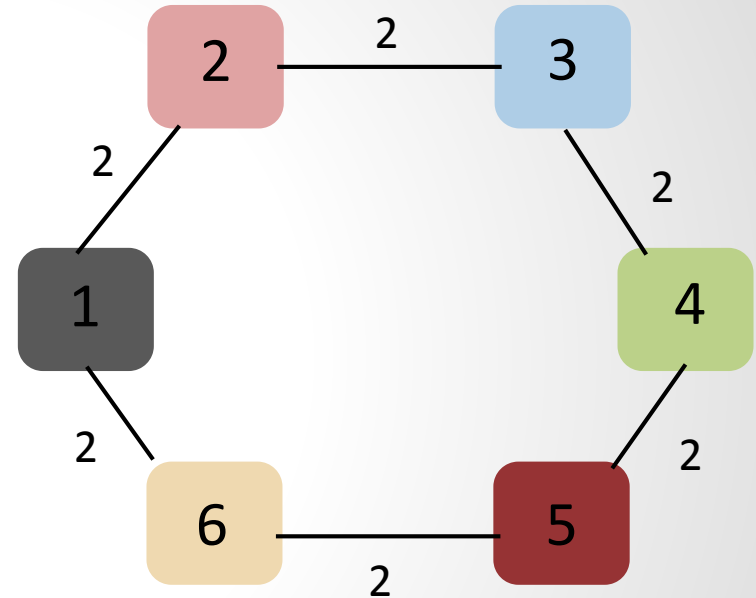
The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$



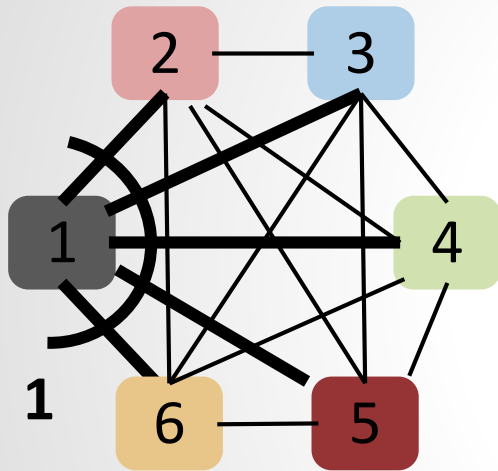
Recall: hose has total demand at most 1.

Host Graph: A Ring

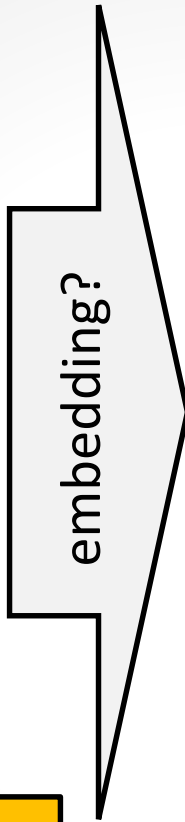


The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

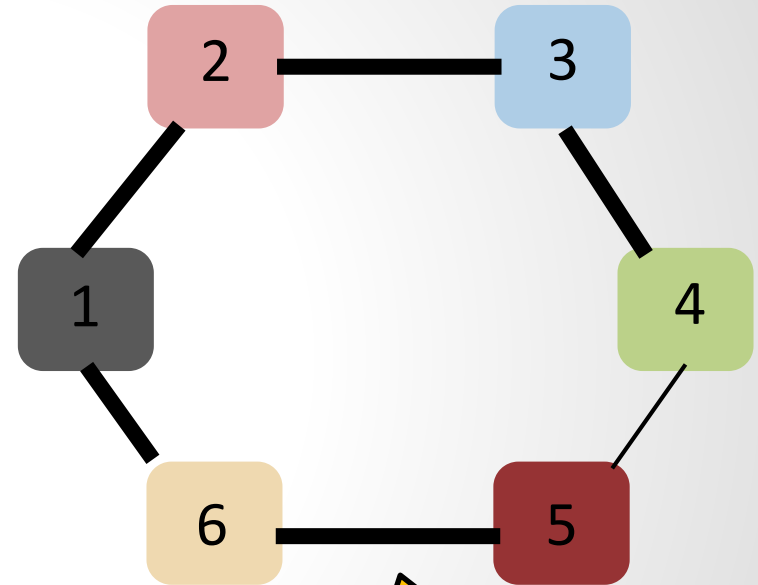
VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$



Recall: hose has total demand at most 1.



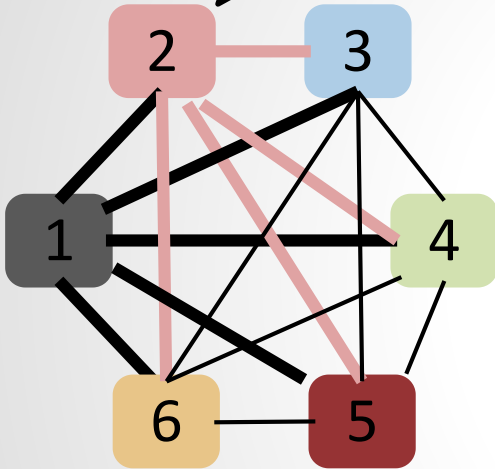
Host Graph: A Ring



Virtual links from node 1 to $\{2,3,4,5,6\}$ can be implemented along this route: fulfills capacity constraints under any traffic matrix fulfilling hose specification!

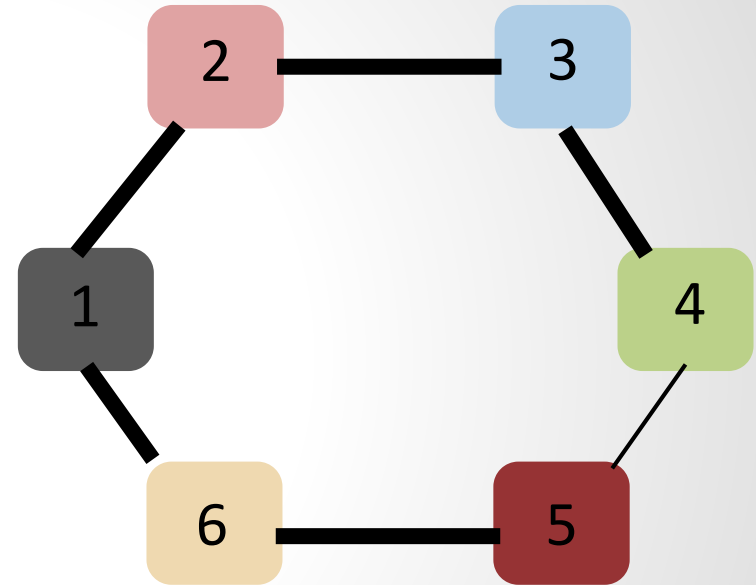
The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

Remaining virtual links to embed for virtual node 2.



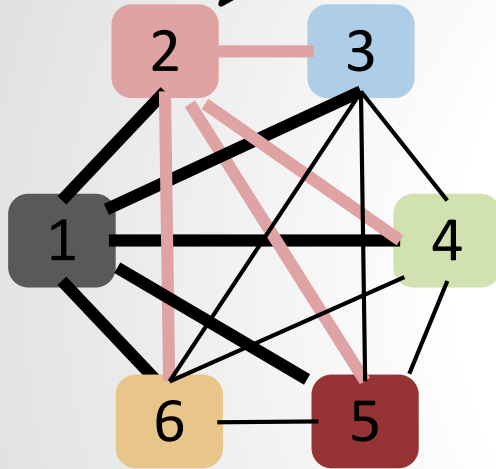
embedding?

Host Graph: A Ring



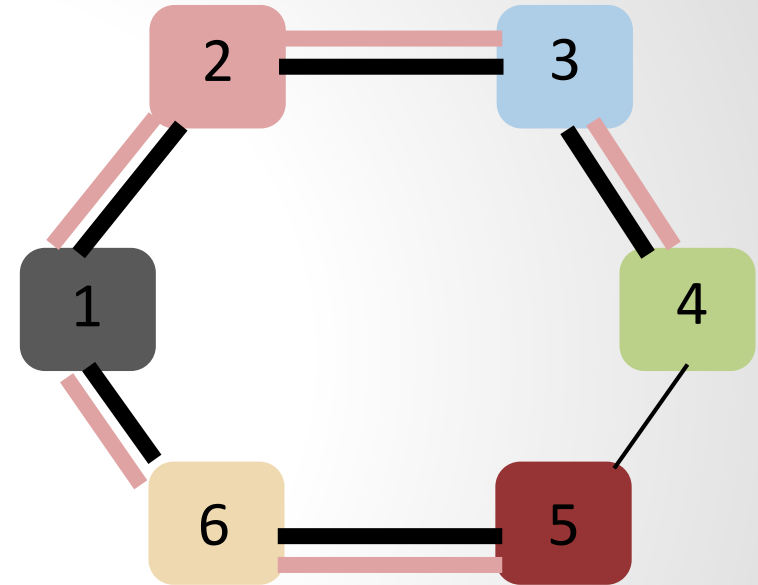
The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

Remaining virtual links to embed for virtual node 2.



embedding?

Host Graph: A Ring



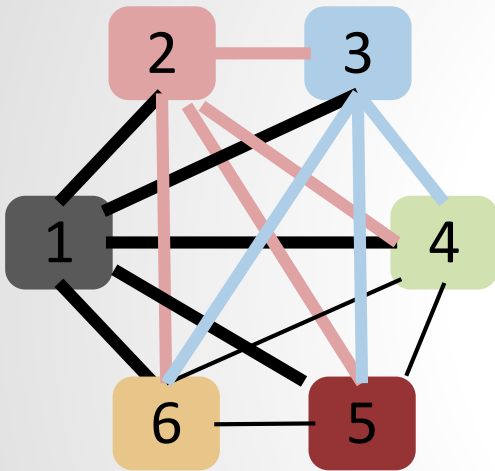
Can be implemented along this route: from node 2, reach nodes {3,4,5,6}.

The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

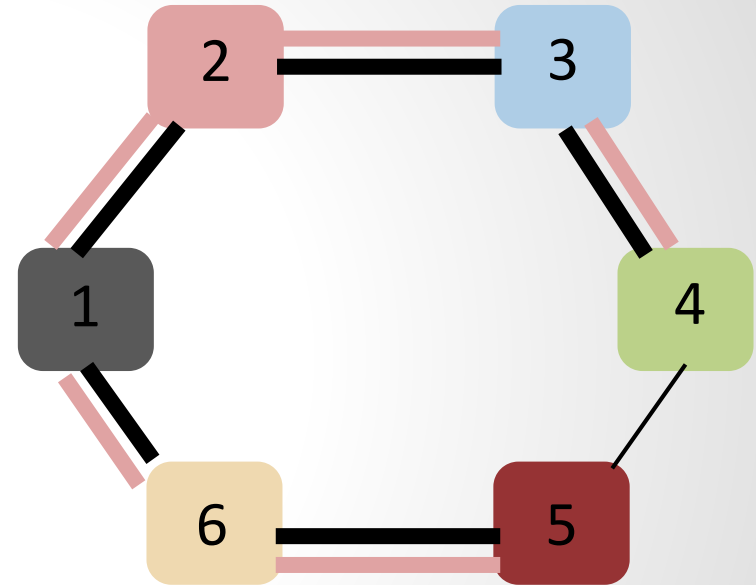
Remaining virtual links to embed for virtual node 3.

VNet: VC($n=6, b=1$)

Host Graph: A Ring



embedding?

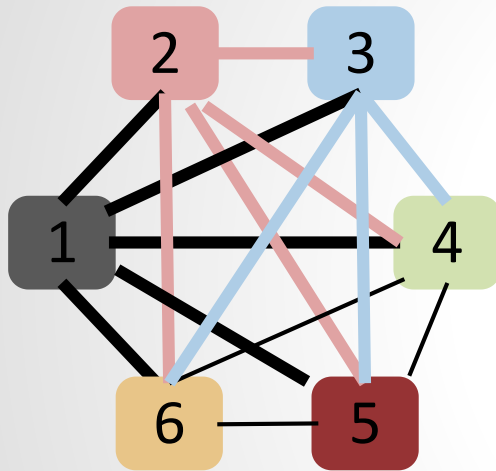


The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

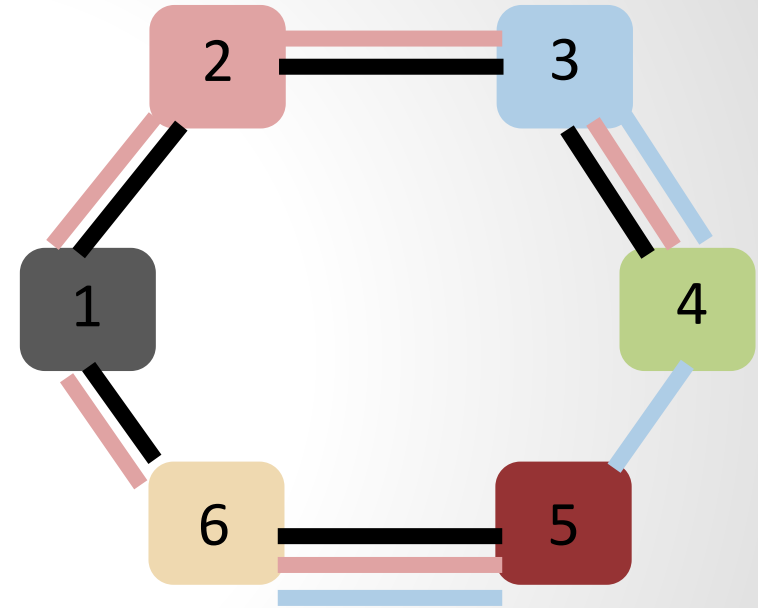
Remaining virtual links to embed for virtual node 3.

VNet: VC($n=6, b=1$)

Host Graph: A Ring



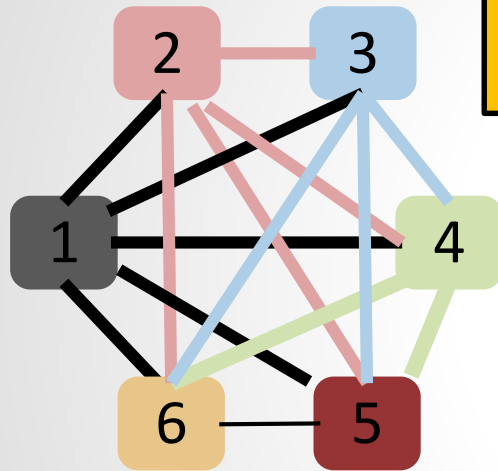
embedding?



From 3, path reaches {4,5,6}.

The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

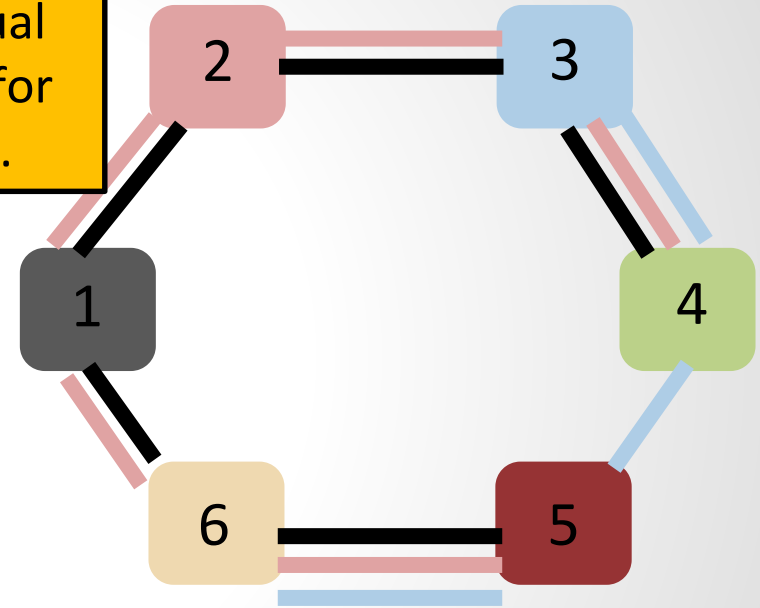
VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$



Remaining virtual links to embed for virtual node 4.

embedding

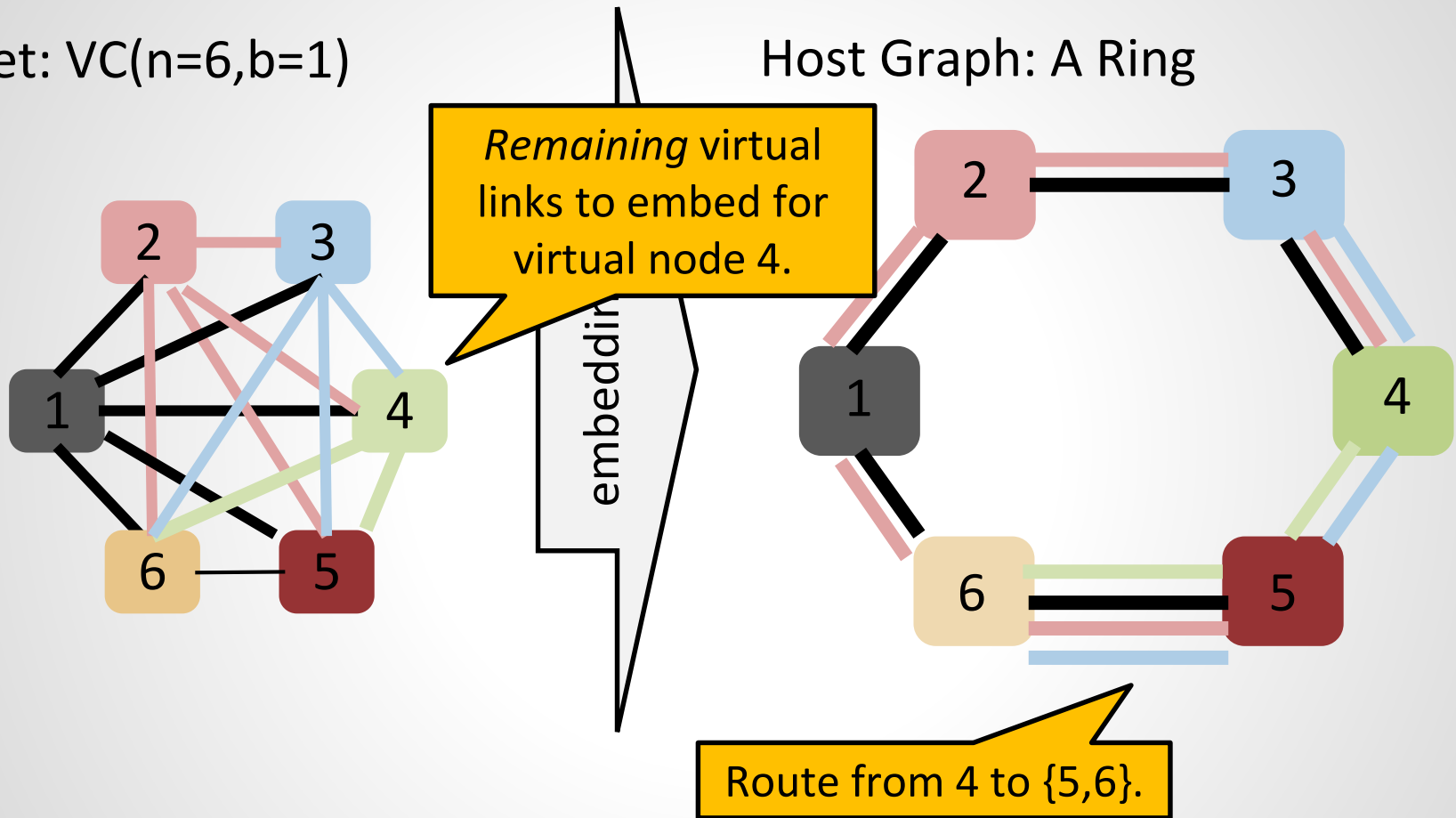
Host Graph: A Ring



The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

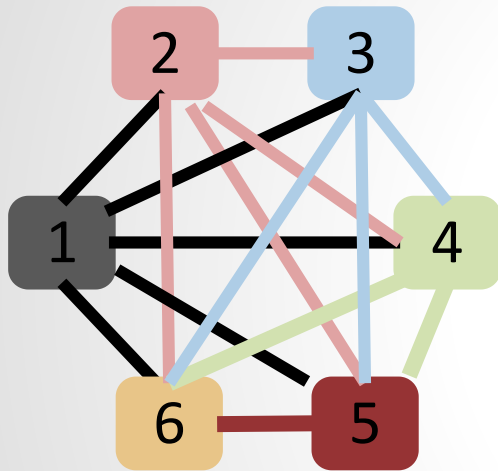
VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$

Host Graph: A Ring

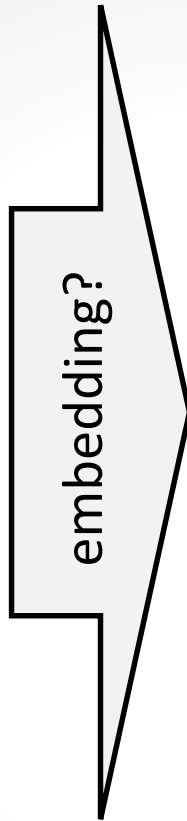


The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

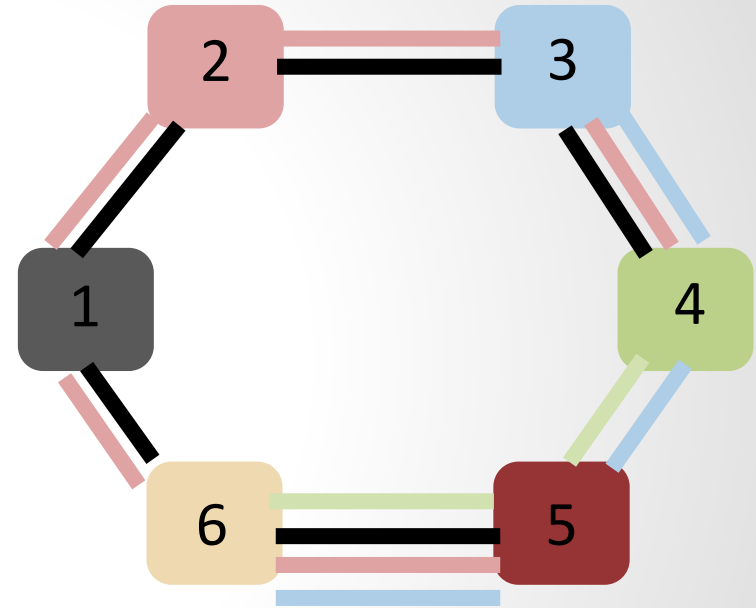
VNet: VC(n=6,b=1)



*Remaining
virtual link.*

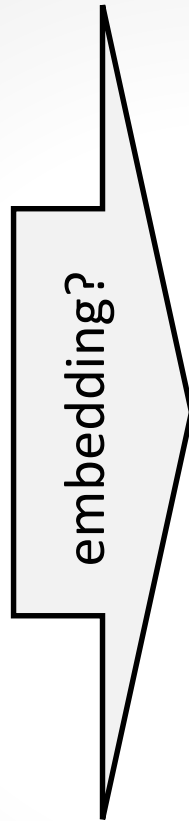
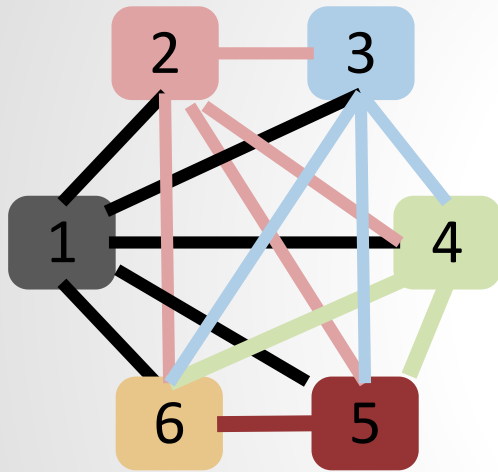


Host Graph: A Ring

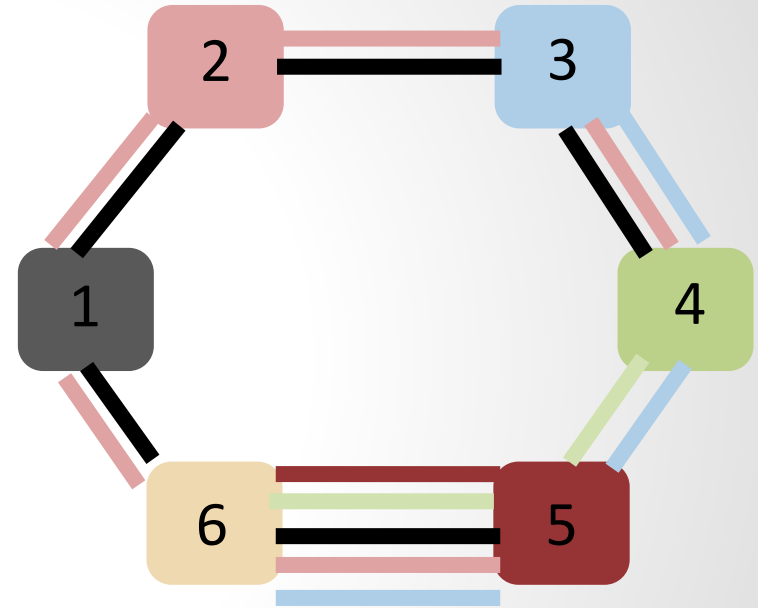


The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$



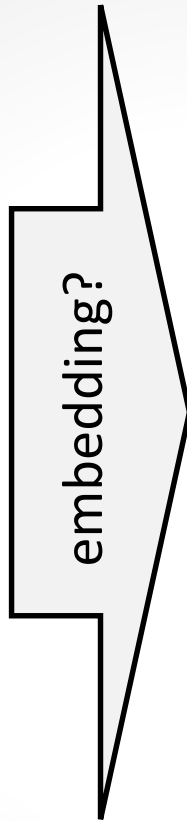
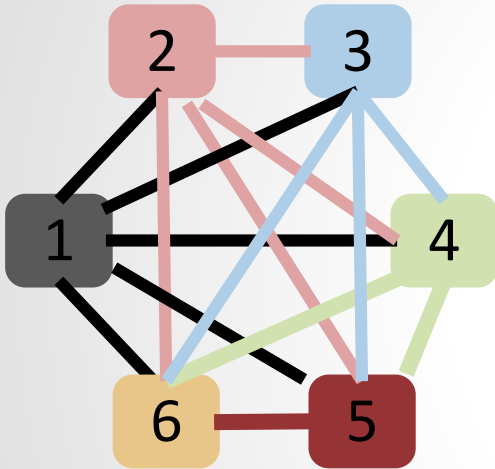
Host Graph: A Ring



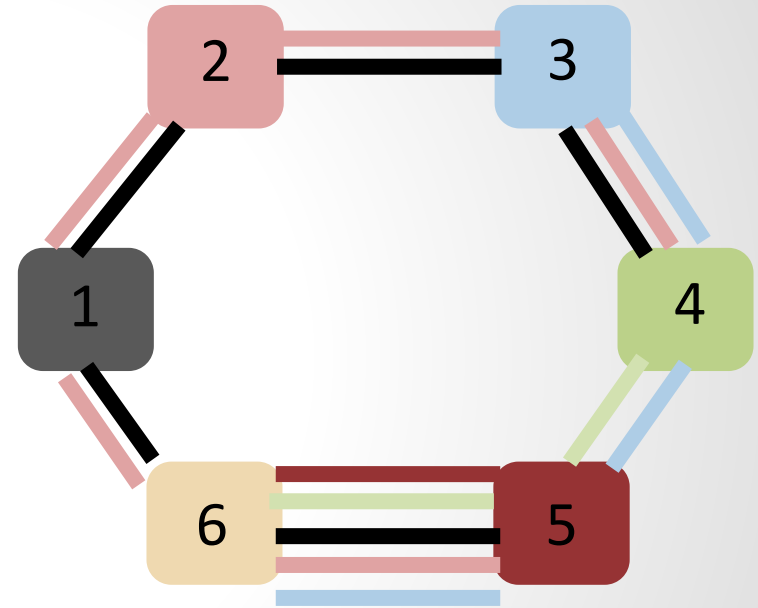
All virtual links mapped to routes!

The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

VNet: $VC(n=6, b=1)$



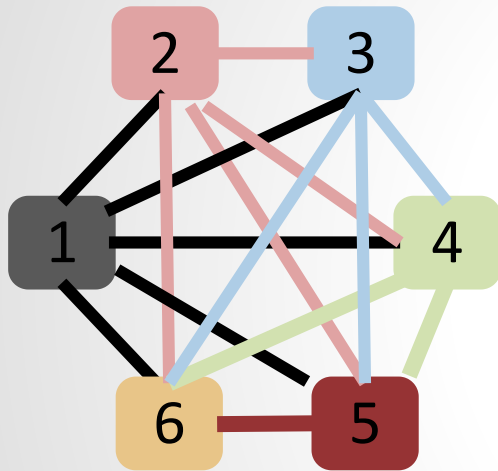
Host Graph: A Ring



But wait: 5 paths on link {5,6}!
Can demand really be satisfied
given link capacity of 2?!

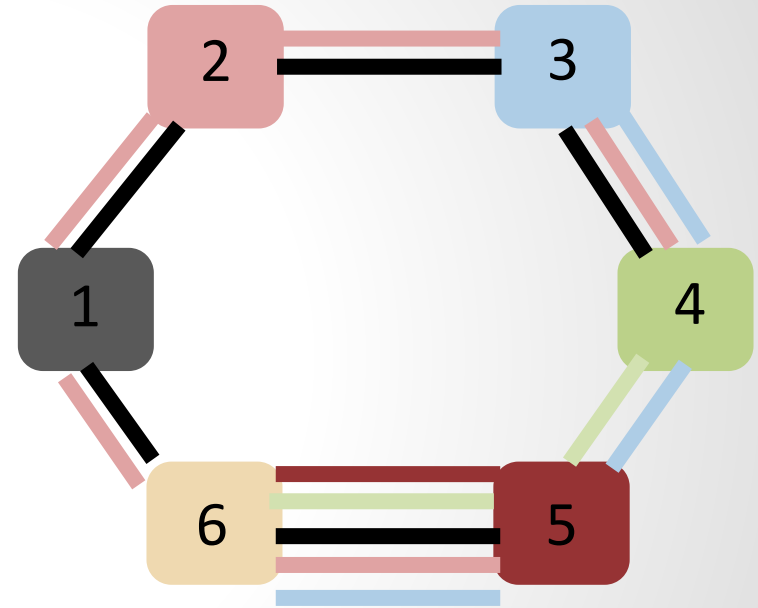
The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

VNet: VC(n=6,b=1)



embedding?

Host Graph: A Ring



Link {5,6} is used by routes: (1,5),(2,5),(3,6),(4,6),(5,6).

But by definition of the hose model, any traffic matrix M will respect:

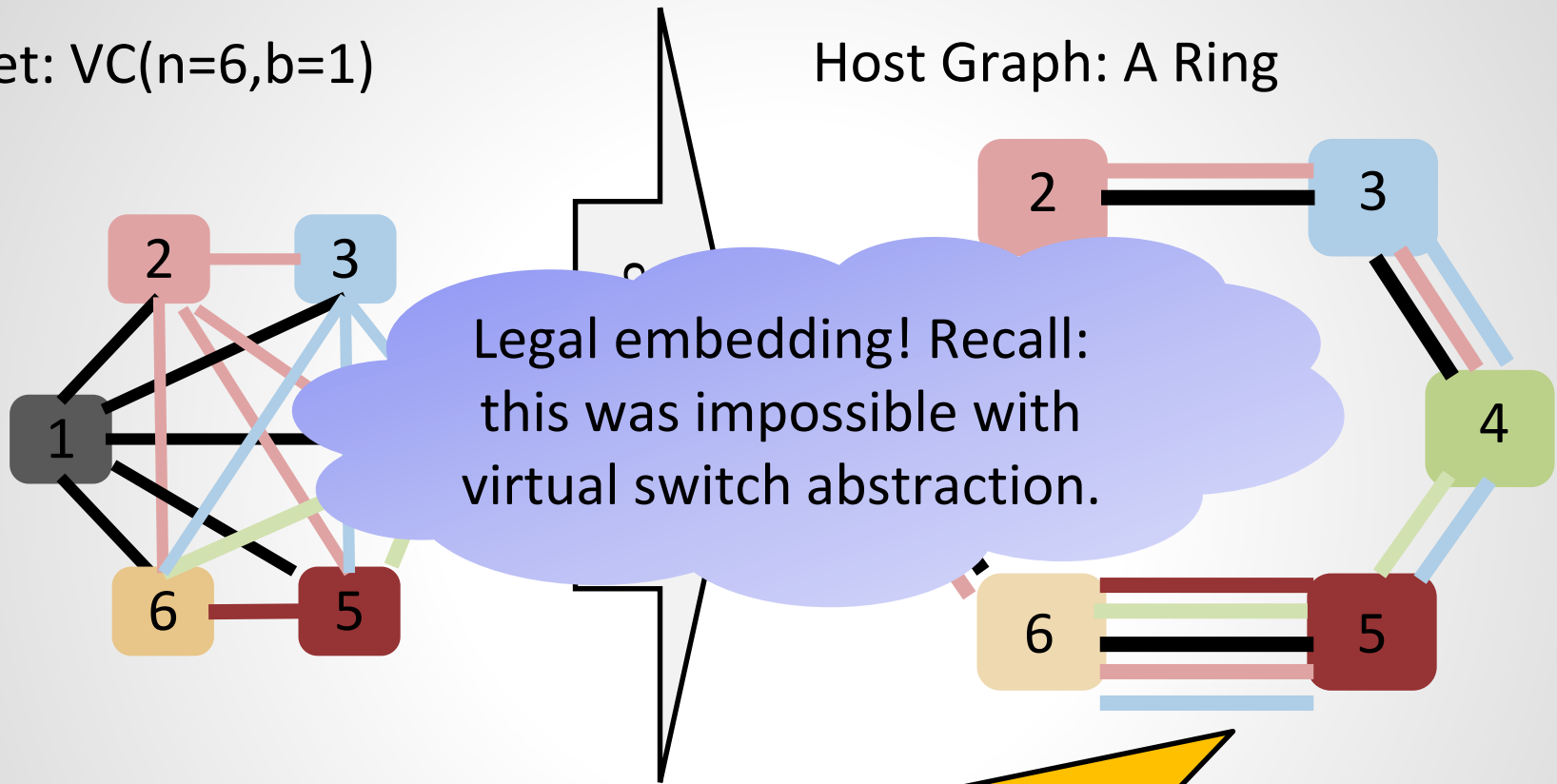
$$M_{1,5} + M_{2,5} \leq 1 \text{ and } M_{3,6} + M_{4,6} + M_{5,6} \leq 1.$$

Hence $\sum M_{i,j} \leq 2$ holds!

The Benefit of Hose Interpretation

VNet: VC(n=6,b=1)

Host Graph: A Ring



Link {5,6} is used by routes: (1,5),(2,5),(3,6),(4,6),(5,6).

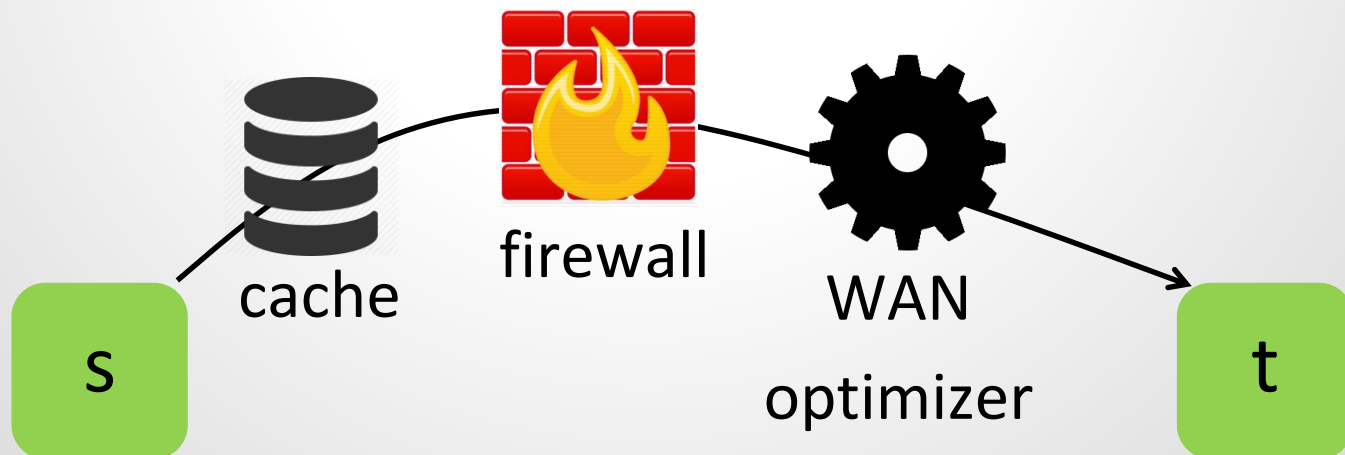
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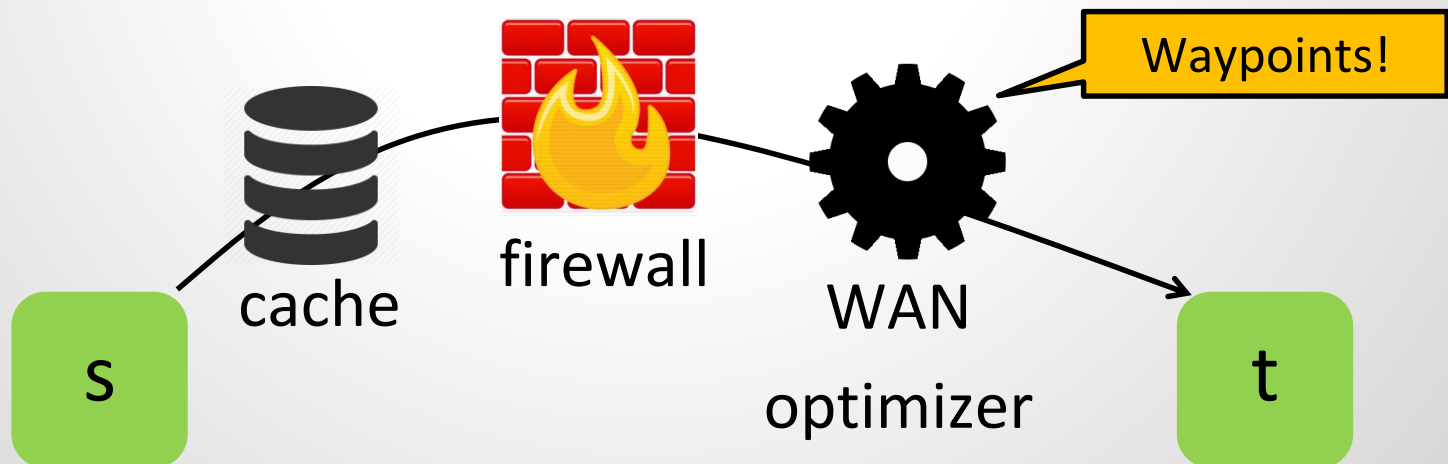
The Many Faces of the VNEP: E.g., Service Chain Embedding

- ❑ Similar problems arise in many contexts
- ❑ For example, **service chain** embeddings: in a service chain, traffic is steered (e.g., using SDN) through a **sequence of (virtualized) middleboxes** to compose a more complex network service



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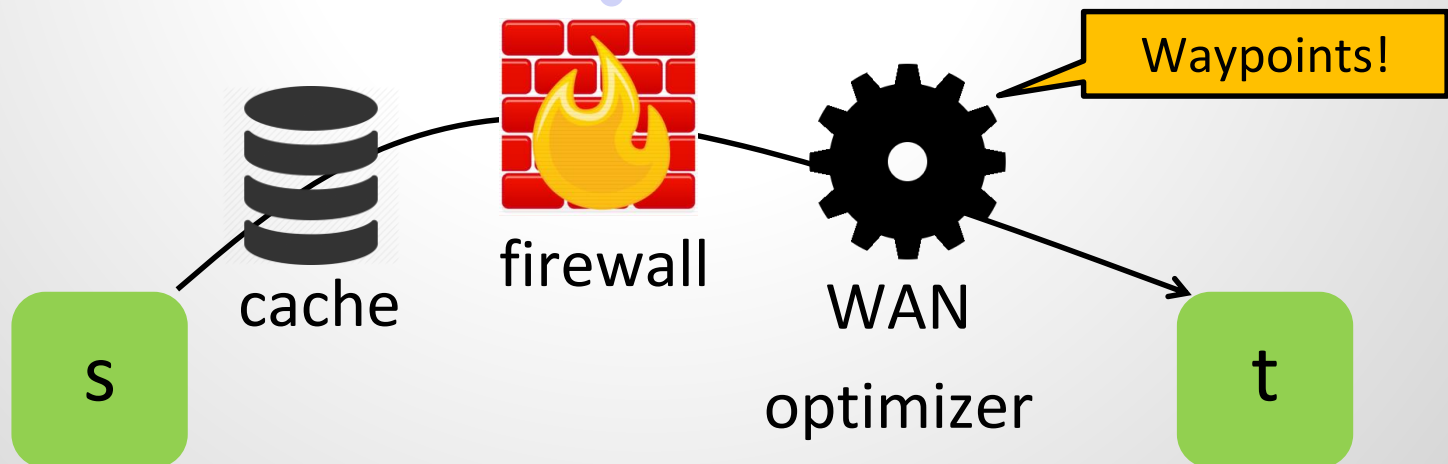


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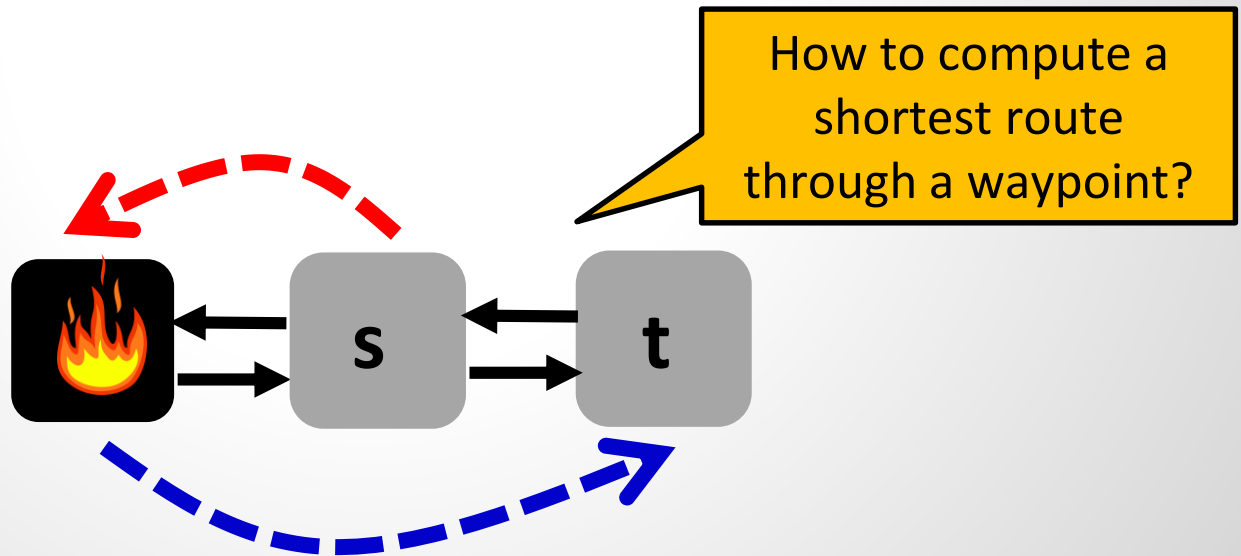
Interesting implication: routes from s to t become *walks* (rather than *simple paths*)! How to find shortest walks?

more complex... service



Routing Through Waypoints

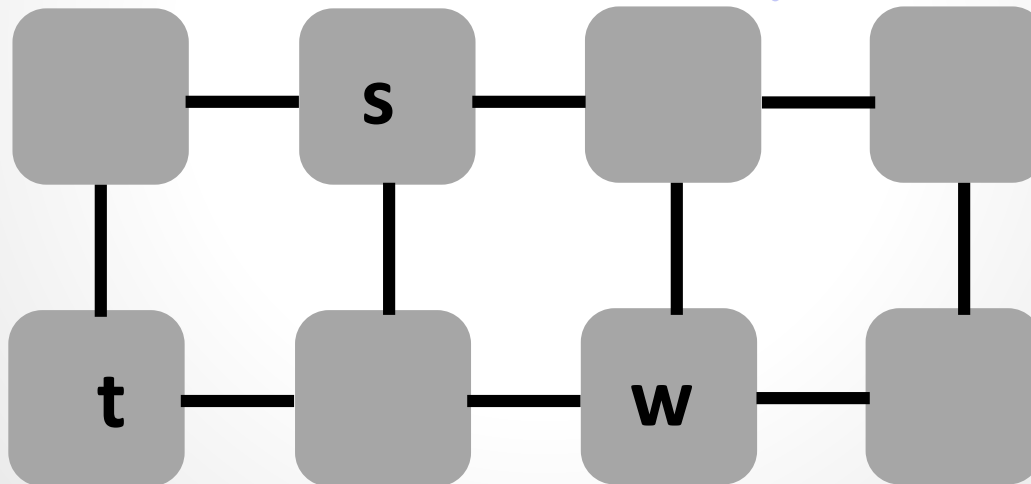
- ❑ Traditionally: routes form **simple paths** (e.g., shortest paths)
- ❑ Novel aspect: routing through **middleboxes** may require more general paths, with loops: **a walk**



Walking Through Waypoints

- Computing shortest routes through waypoints is **non-trivial**!

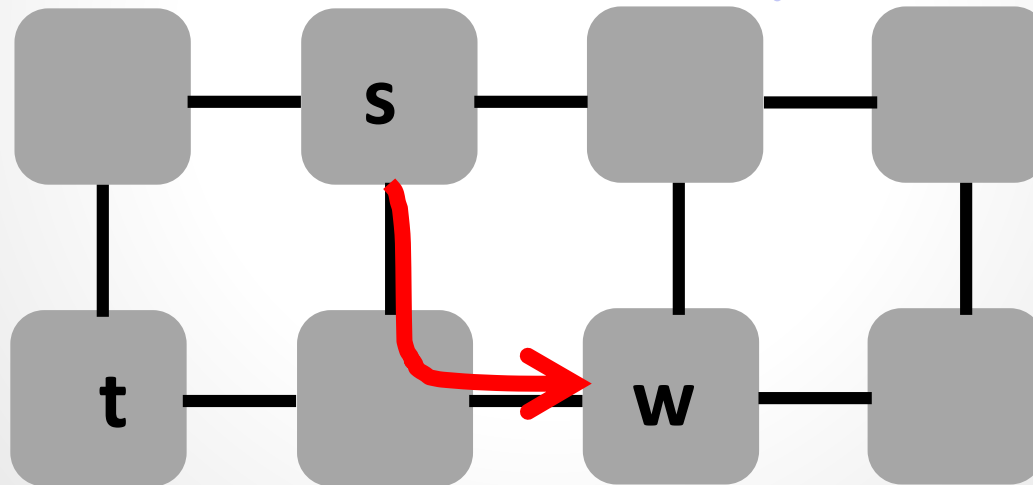
Assume unit capacity and demand for simplicity!



Walking Through Waypoints

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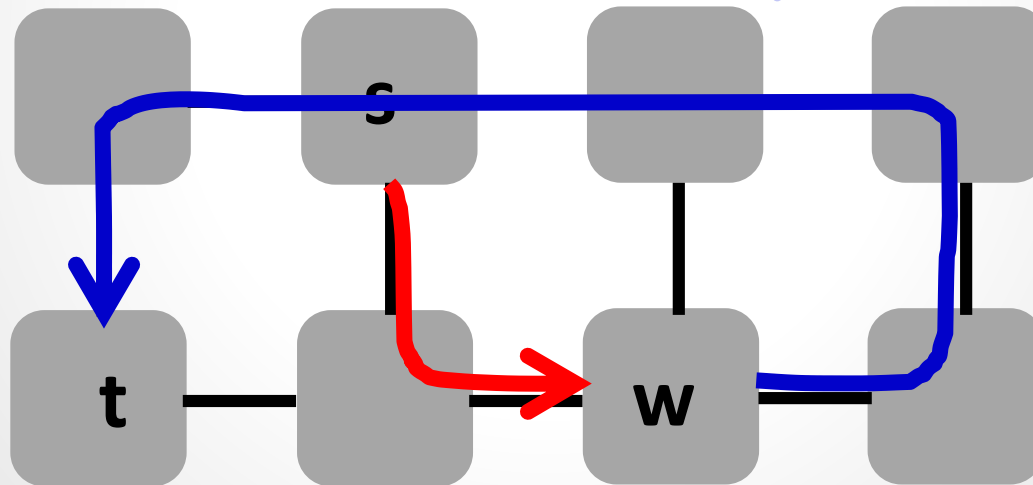


Greedy fails: choose shortest path from s to w...

Walking Through Waypoints

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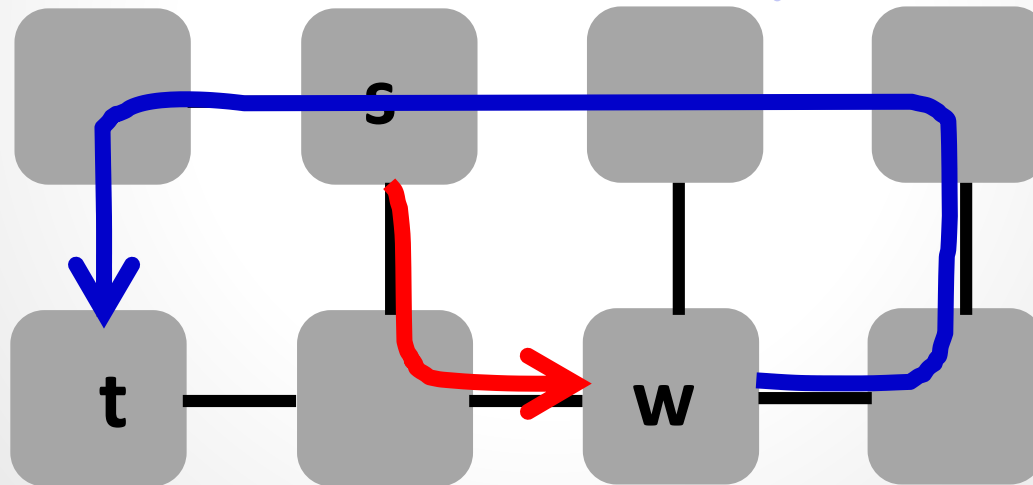


Greedy fails: ... now need long path from w to t

Walking Through Waypoints

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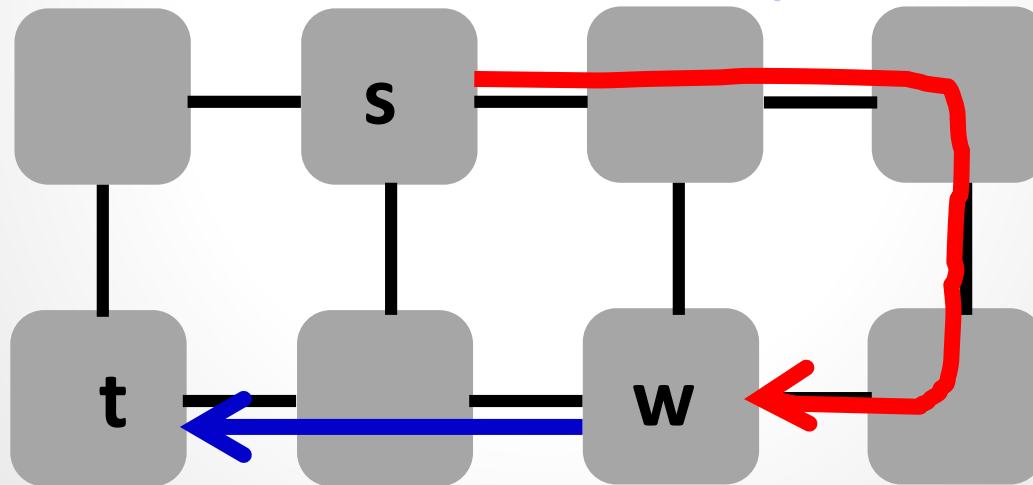
Total length:
 $2+6=8$

Greedy fails: ... now need long path from w to t

Walking Through Waypoints

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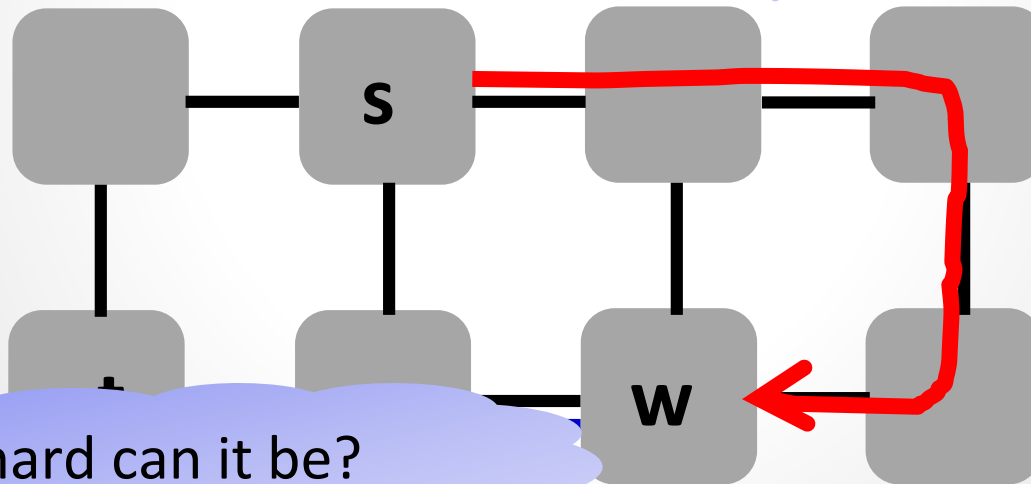
Total length:
 $4+2=6$

A **better solution**: *jointly* optimize the two segments!

Walking Through Waypoints

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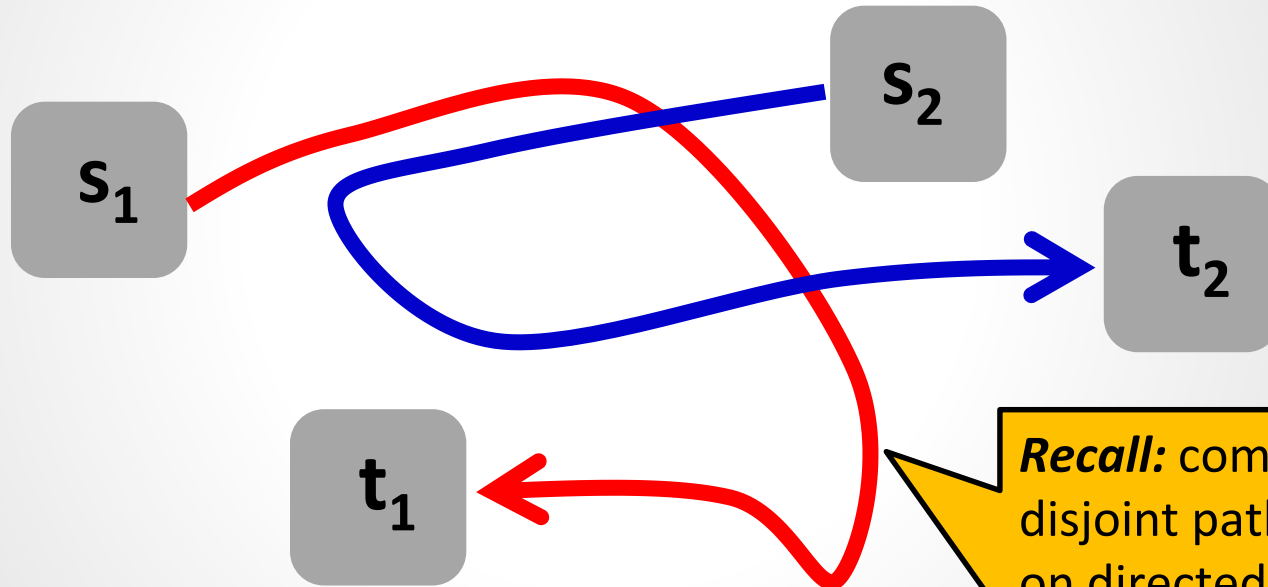
How hard can it be?

Total length:
 $4+2=6$

A **better solution**: *jointly* optimize the two segments!

NP-hard on Directed Networks: Reduction from Disjoint Paths Problem

Reduction: *From* joint shortest paths $(s_1, t_1), (s_2, t_2)$
to shortest walk (s, w, t) problem



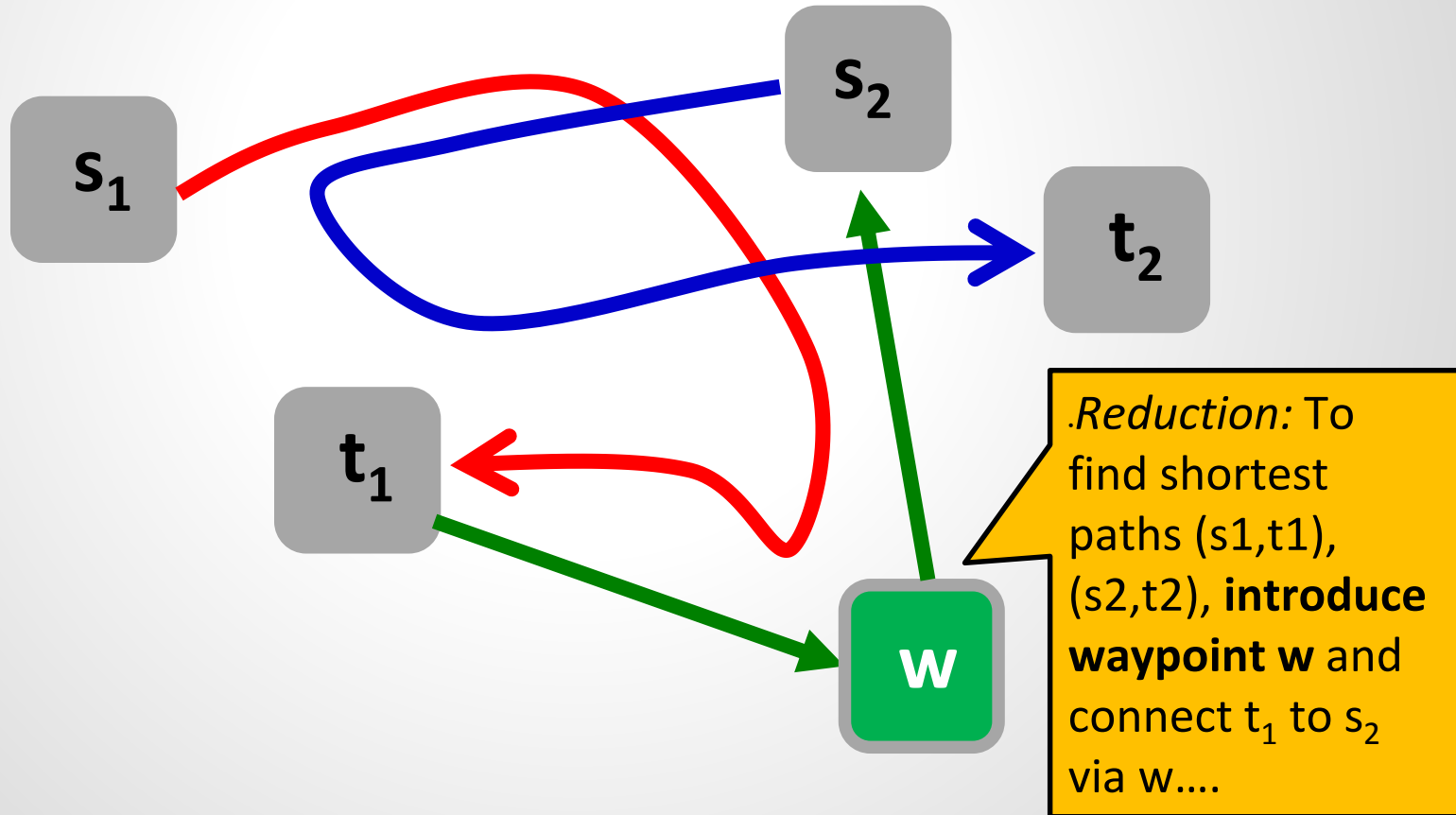
Recall: computing 2-disjoint paths NP-hard on directed graphs.

We show: If waypoint routing was in P, we could solve it fast.

Contradiction!

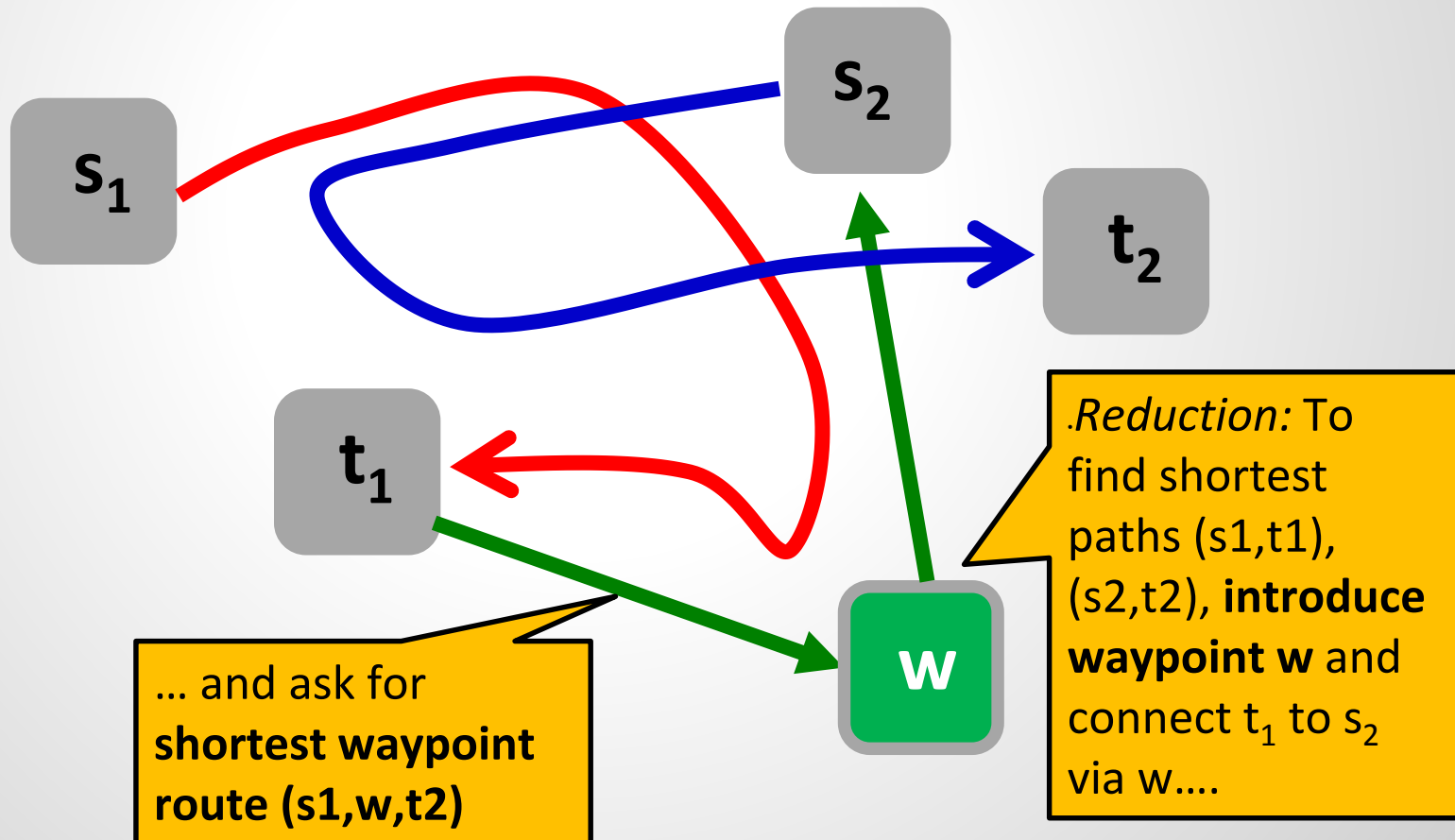
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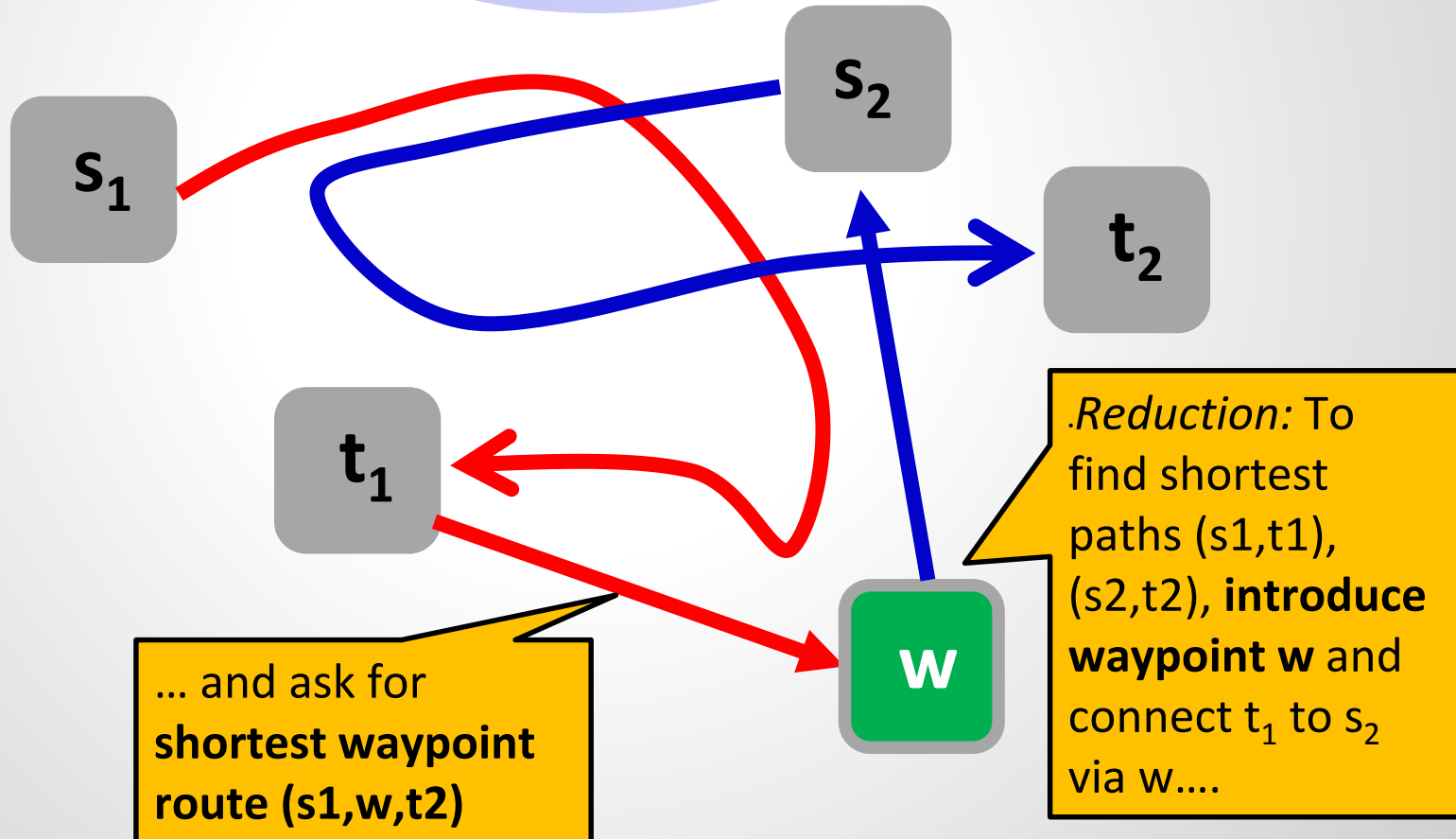
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NP-hard on Directed Graphs

The walk (s_1, w, t_2) defines a (s_1, t_1) and a (s_2, t_2) path pair before/after the waypoint! Solves original problem: Contradiction!

Reduction
to shortest w



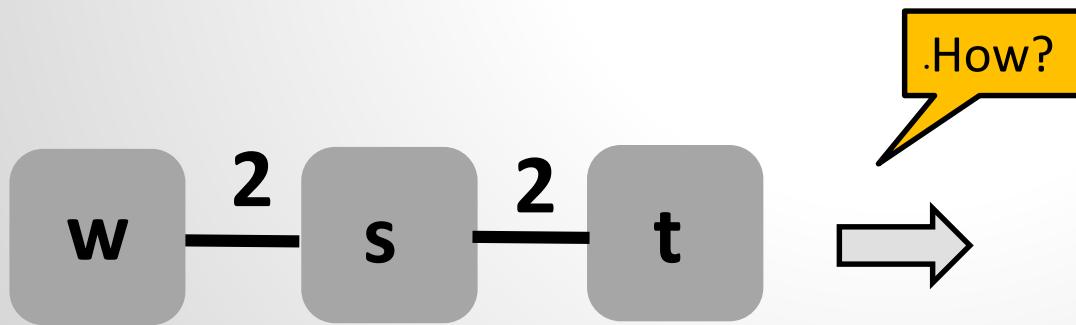
**What about waypoint routes on
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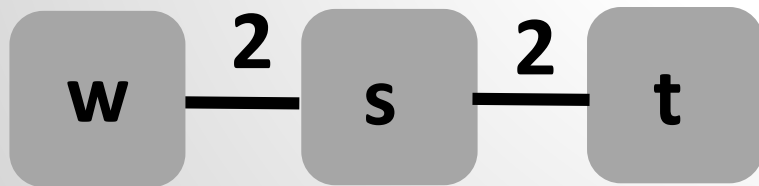
Walks

Edge-Disjoint Paths

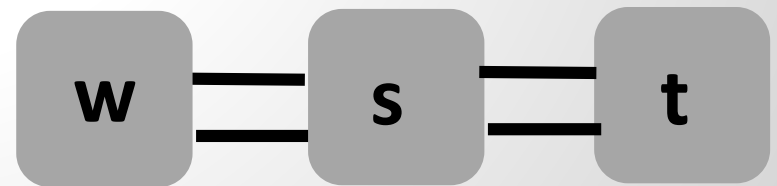
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Walks



Edge-Disjoint Paths

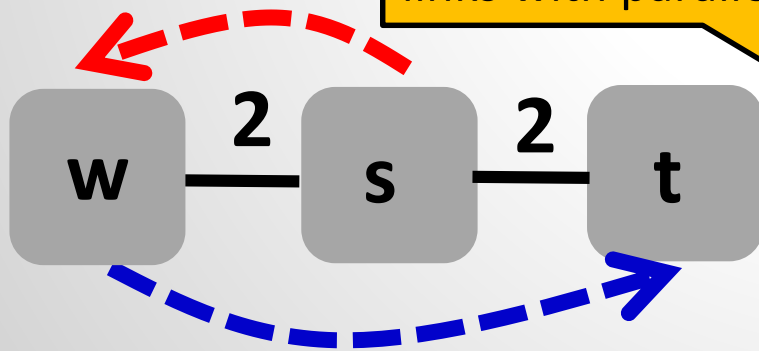
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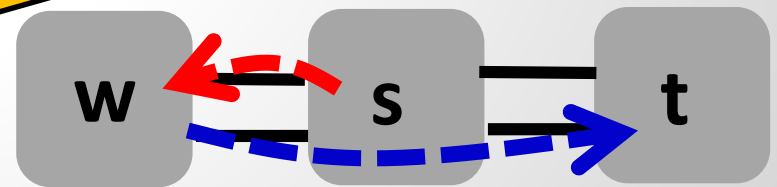
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.Shortest paths (s,w) , (w,t) will give shortest (s,w,t) path!



Walks

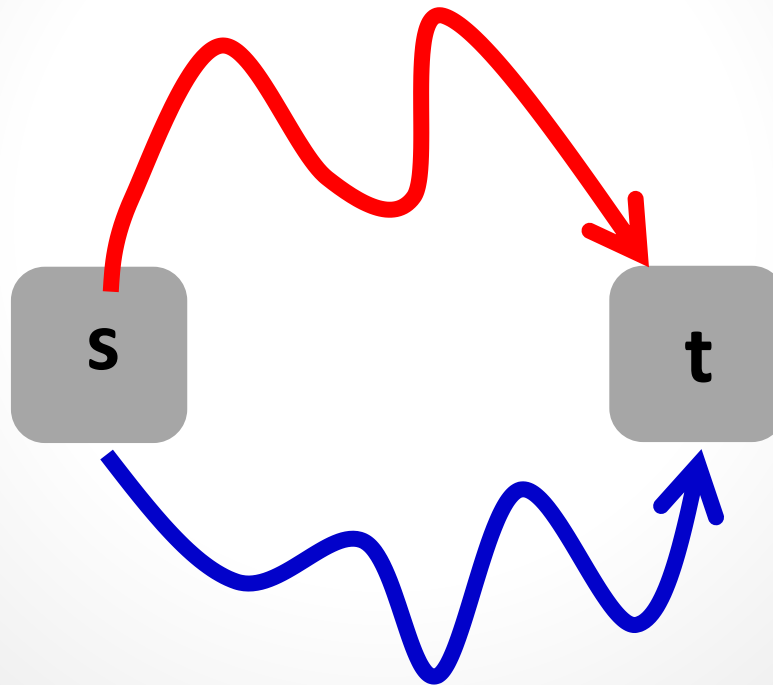


Edge-Disjoint Paths

***Fast and Shortest* Waypoint Routing on Undirected Networks: Suurballe's Algorithm**

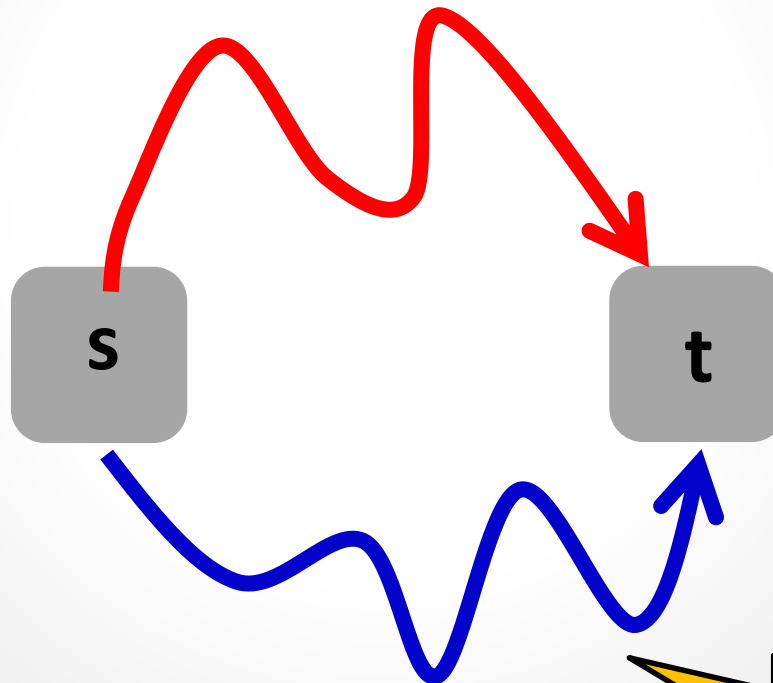
Fast and Shortest Waypoint Routing on Undirected Networks: Suurballe's Algorithm

- ❑ Suurballe's algorithm: finds two (edge-)disjoint shortest paths **between same endpoints**:



Fast and Shortest Waypoint Routing on Undirected Networks: Suurballe's Algorithm

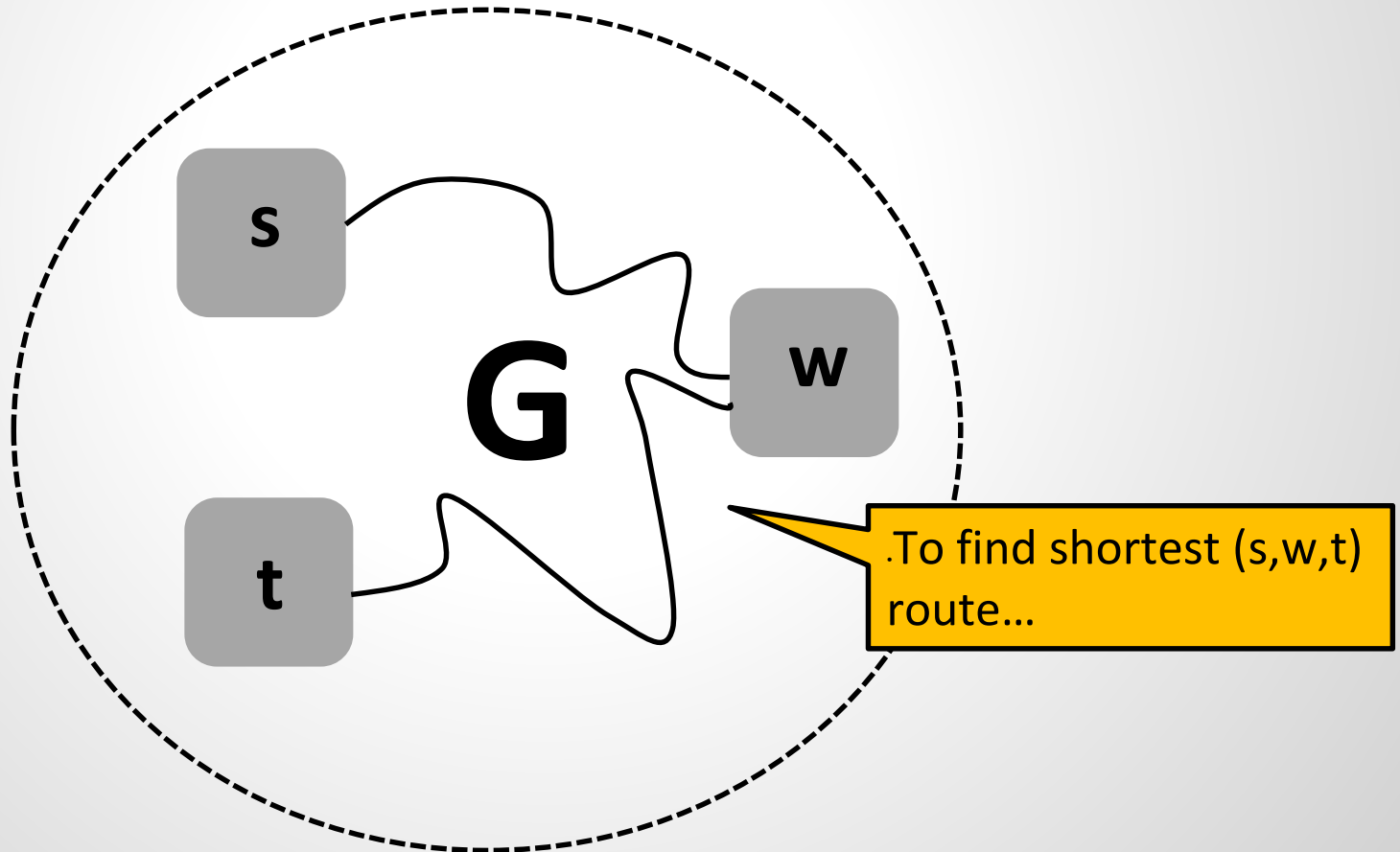
- ❑ Suurballe's algorithm: finds two (edge-)disjoint shortest paths **between same endpoints**:



.How to compute a shortest (s,w,t) route with this algorithm??

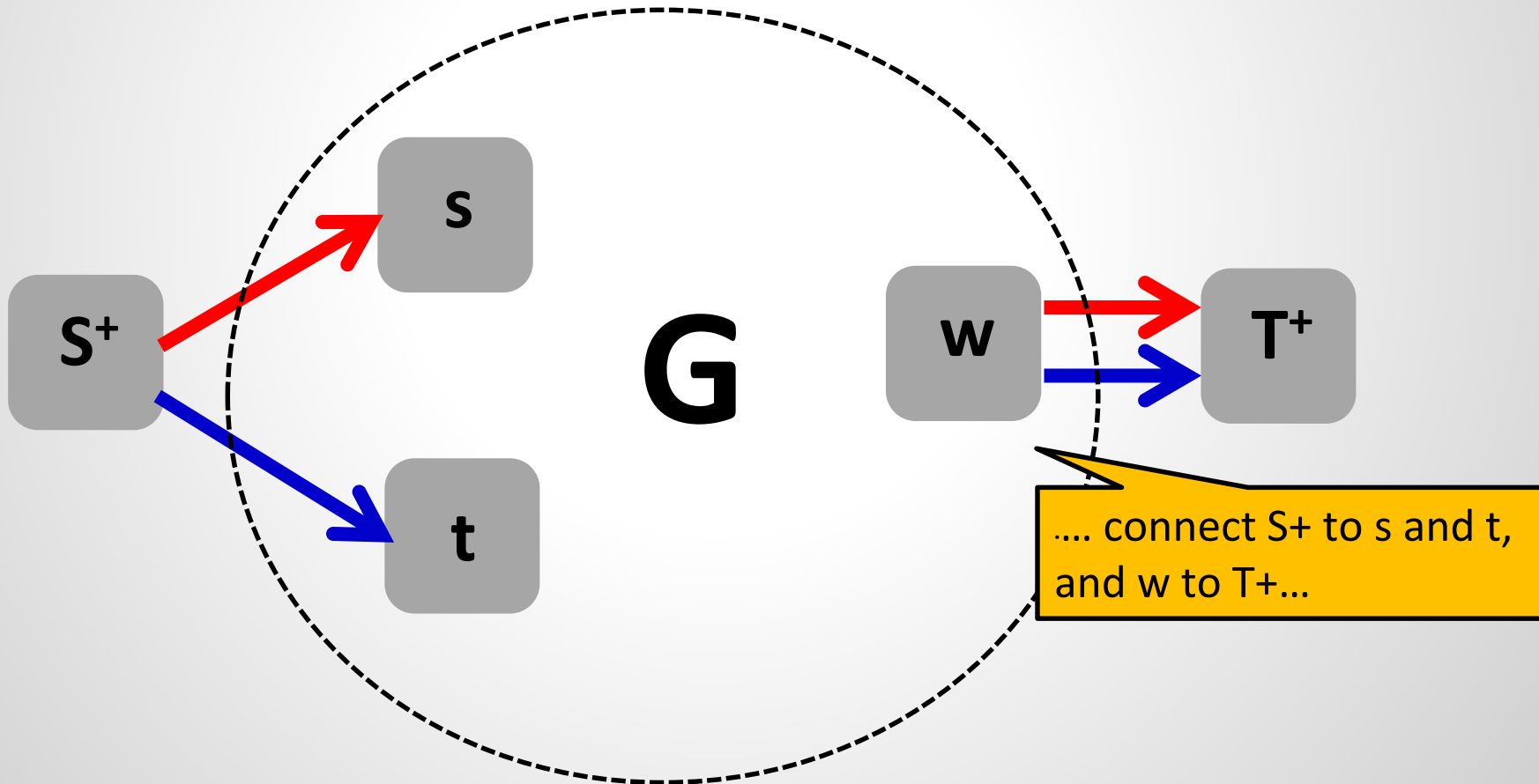
Waypoint Routing on Steroids

- ❑ Reduction to Suurballe's algorithm:



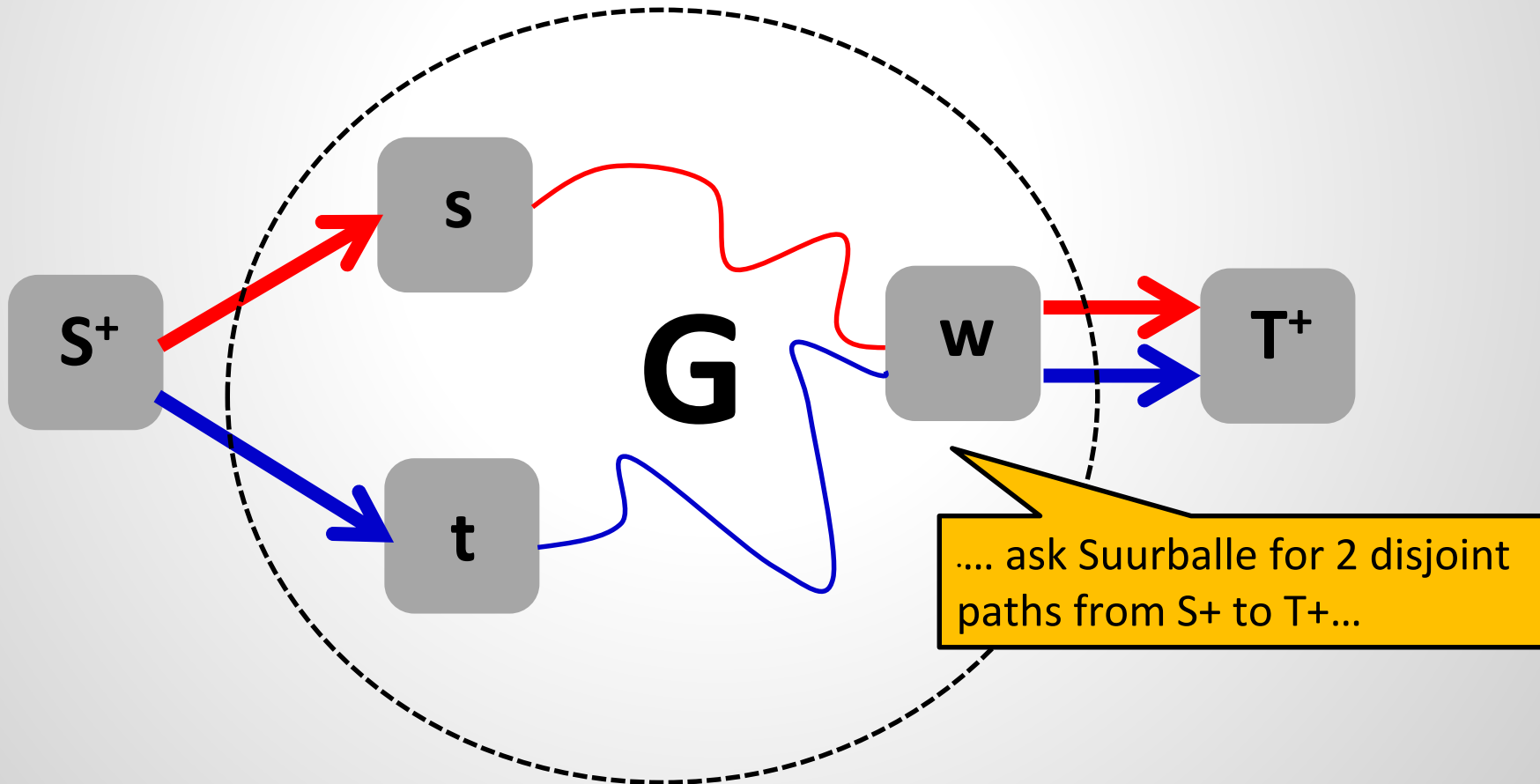
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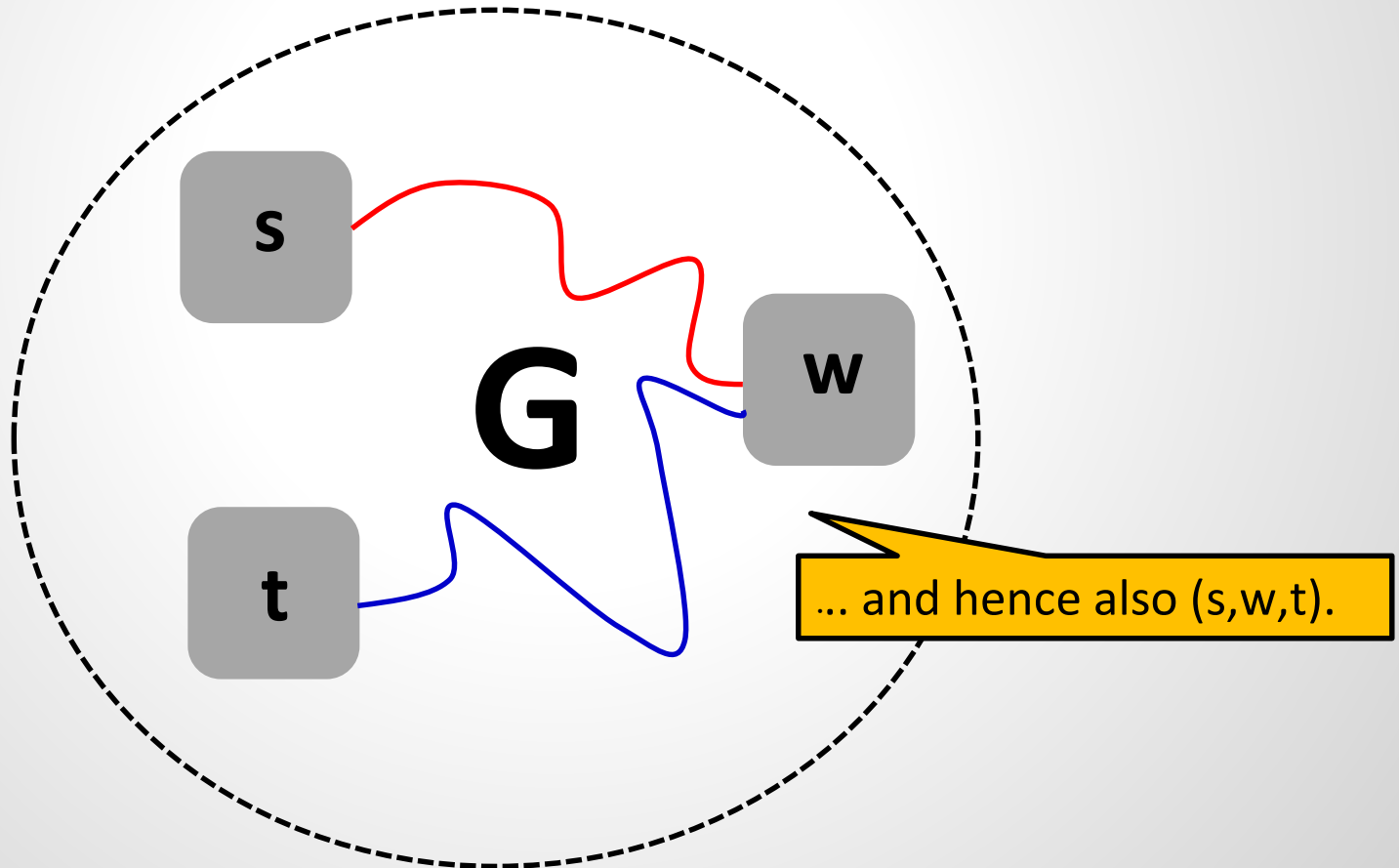
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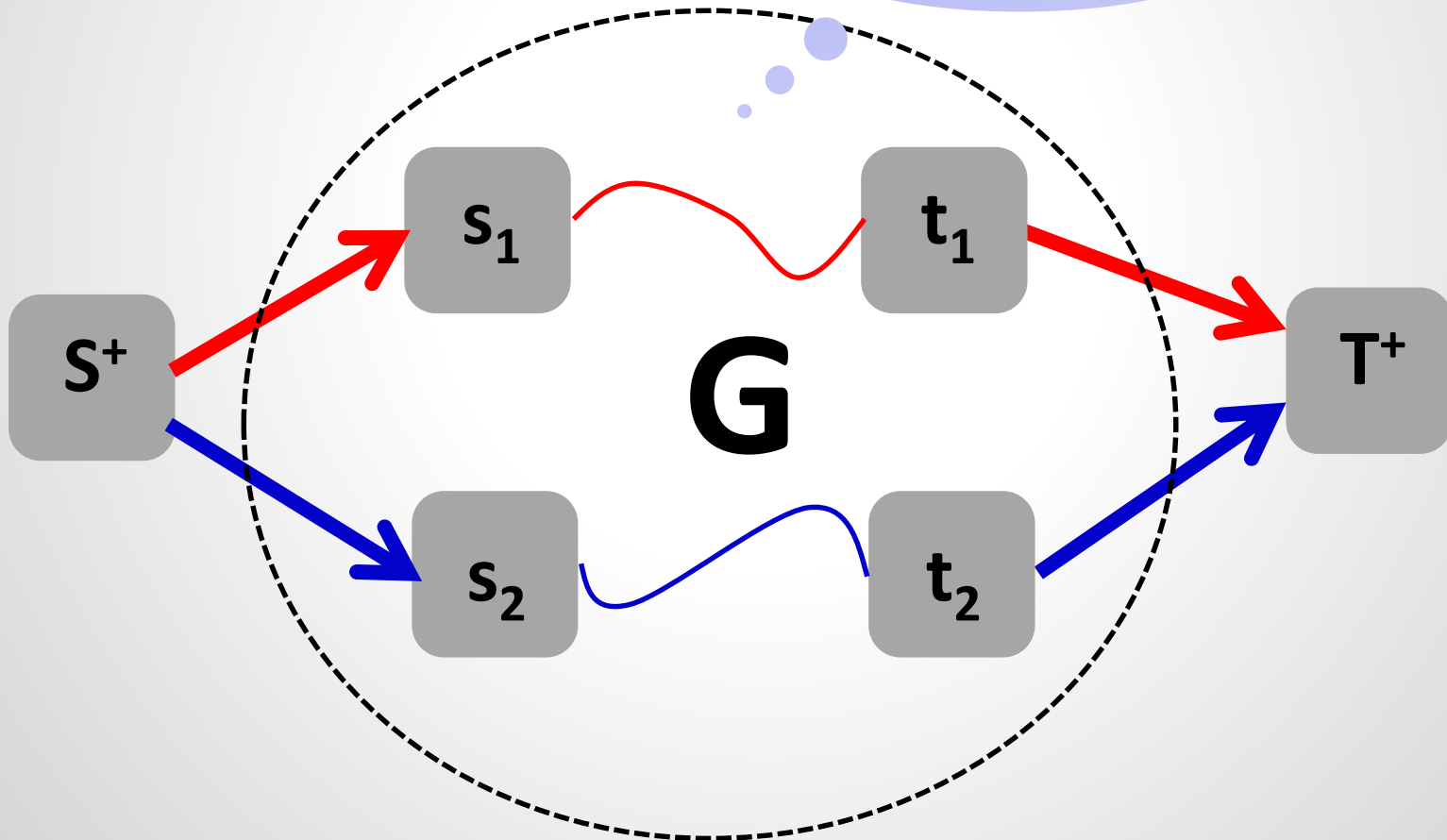
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Waypoint Routing on Steroids

- ❑ Reduction to Suurballe

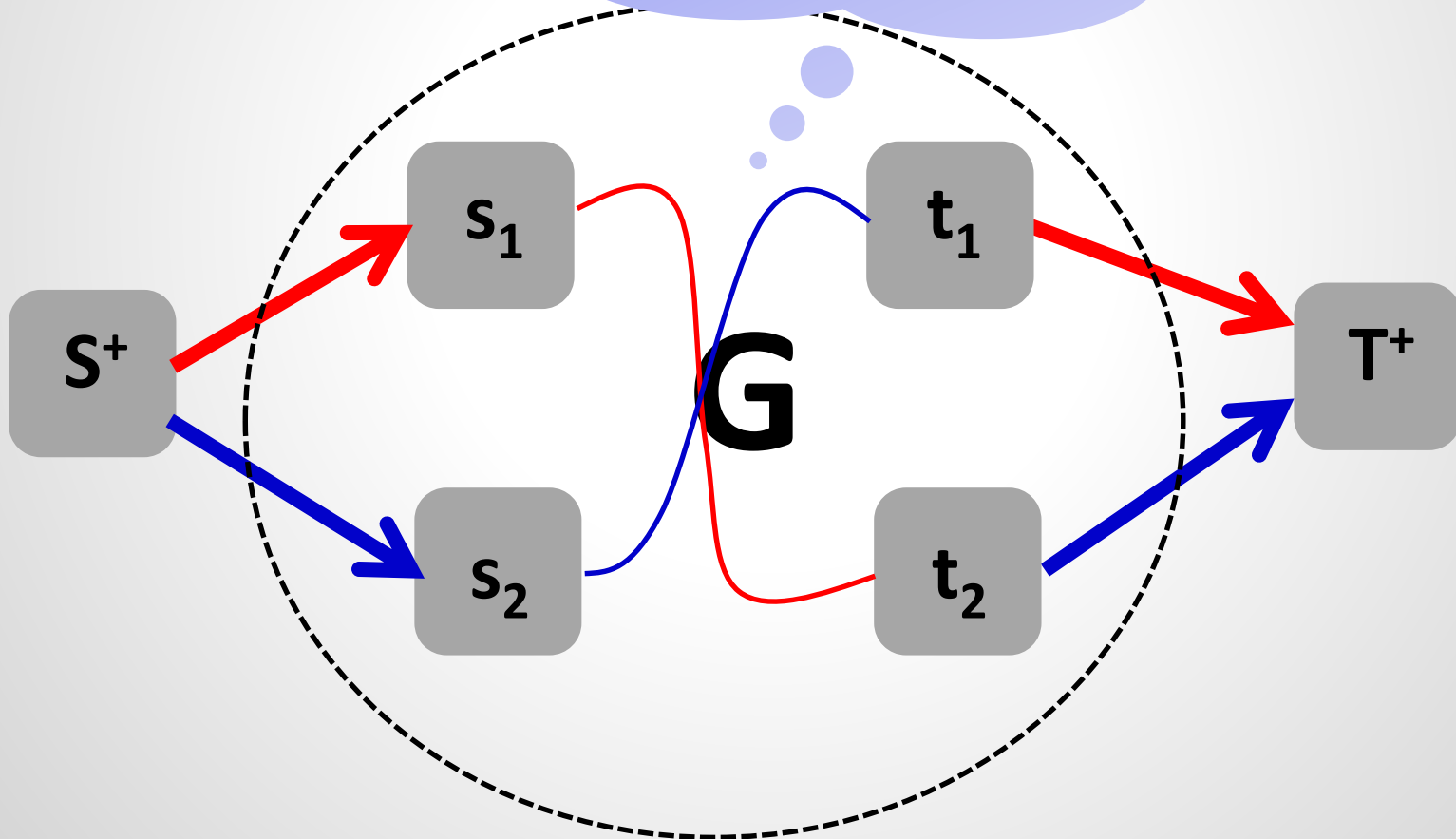
Can't I use Suurballe to efficiently compute disjoint paths as well?!



Waypoint Routing on Steroids

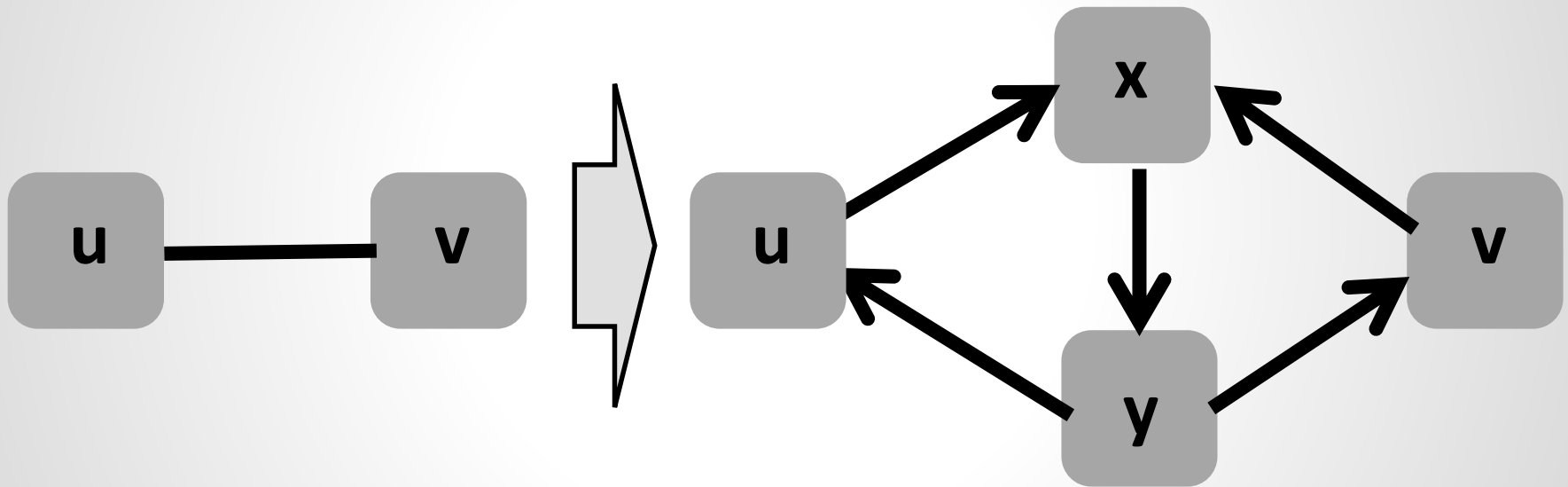
❑ Reduction to Suurb

No! Solves a much easier problem: 2 routes from $\{s_1, s_2\}$ to $\{t_1, t_2\}$.



Remarks: Under the rug...

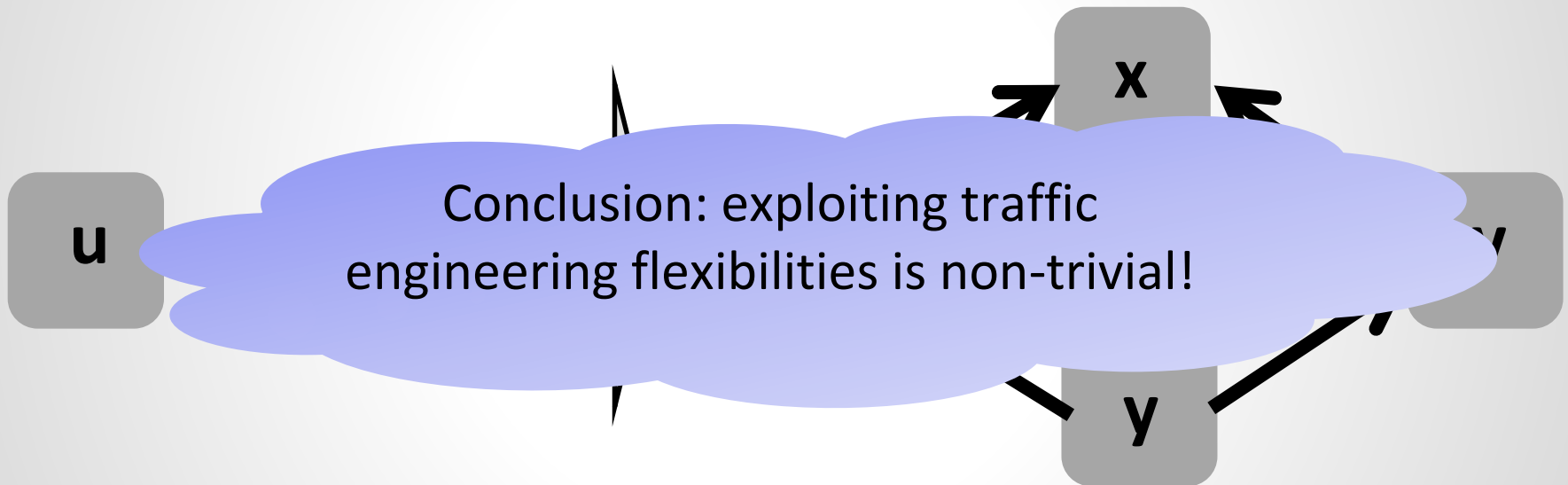
- ❑ **Remark 1:** Suurballe is actually for **directed substrate graphs**, so need gadget to transform problem in right form:



- ❑ **Remark 2:** Suurballe: actually vertex disjoint
 - ❑ Suurballe & Tarjan: edge disjoint

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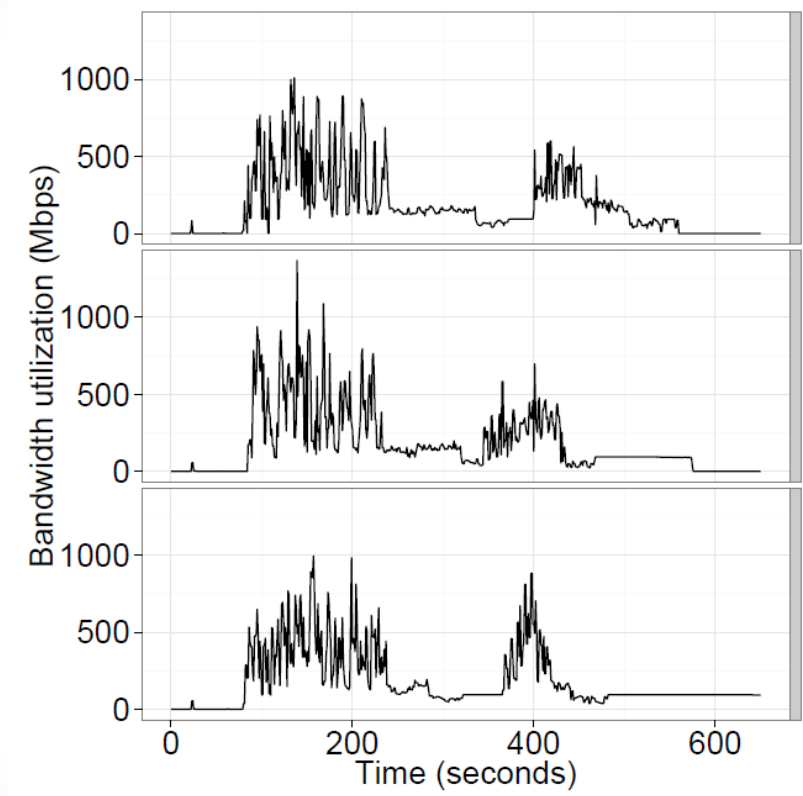
- ❑ **Remark 2:** Suurballe: actually vertex disjoint
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PART II:

Dynamic Embeddings

Real Communication Patterns Change over Time

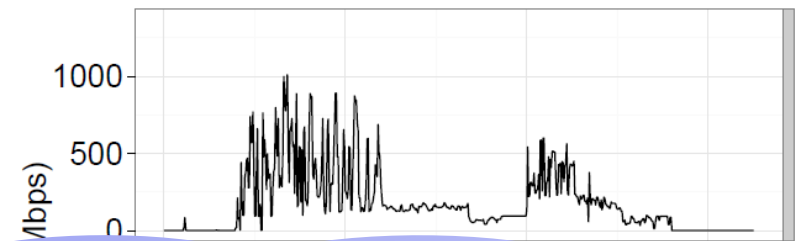
- ❑ E.g., **changing bandwidth demand**: map reduce application cycles through phases of high and low bandwidth requirements
- ❑ E.g., long-running applications (e.g., streaming) **change in popularity**
- ❑ E.g., **job churn**: jobs terminate, new ones arrive
- ❑ E.g., large **elephant flow degree**, changing over time (cf ProjectToR at SIGCOMM 2016)



Bandwidth utilization of 3 different runs of the same **TeraSort workload (without interference)**

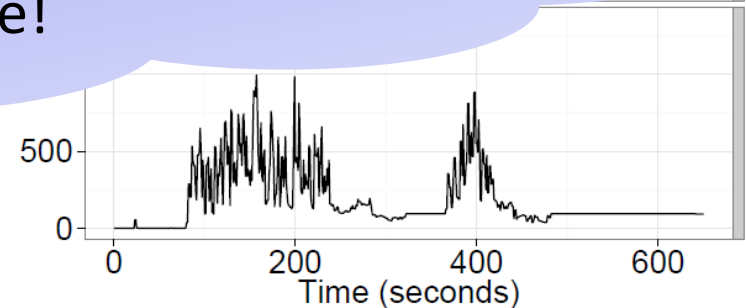
Real Communication Patterns Change over Time

- E.g., **changing bandwidth demand**: map reduce application cycles through phases of high and low bandwidth requirements



- E.g. **Ideally, we want to place frequently communicating nodes close: may require adaption over time!**

- E.g., **job ch** ones arrive

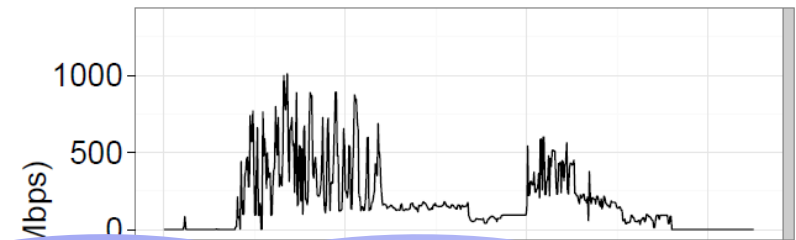


- E.g., large **elephant flow degree**, changing over time (cf ProjectToR at SIGCOMM 2016)

Bandwidth utilization of 3 different runs of the same **TeraSort workload (without interference)**

Real Communication Patterns Change over Time

- E.g., **changing bandwidth demand**: map reduce application cycles through phases of high and low bandwidth requirements



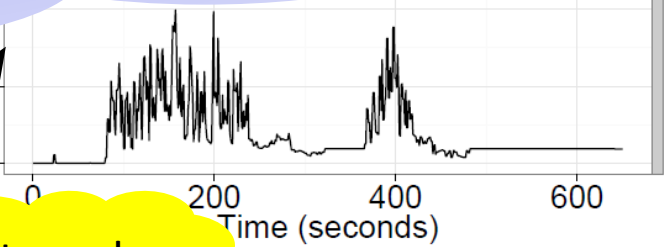
- E.g. **Ideally, we want to place frequently communicating nodes close: may require relocations over time!**

Adjust the network!

ones arrive

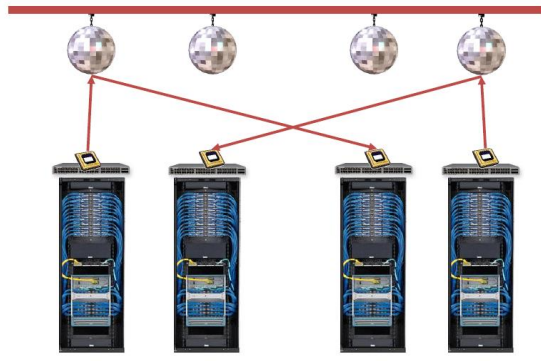
Approach 1

Approach 2



Migrate and collocate!

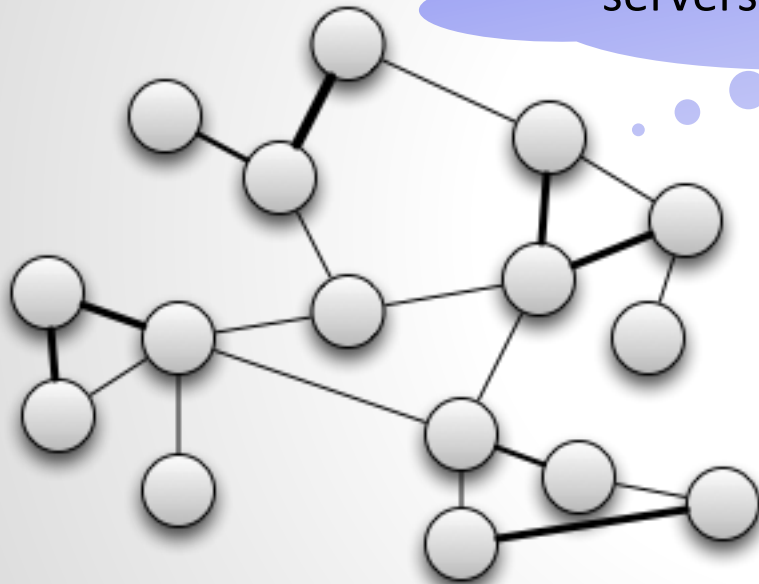
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Essentially An Online *Re*Partitioning Problem

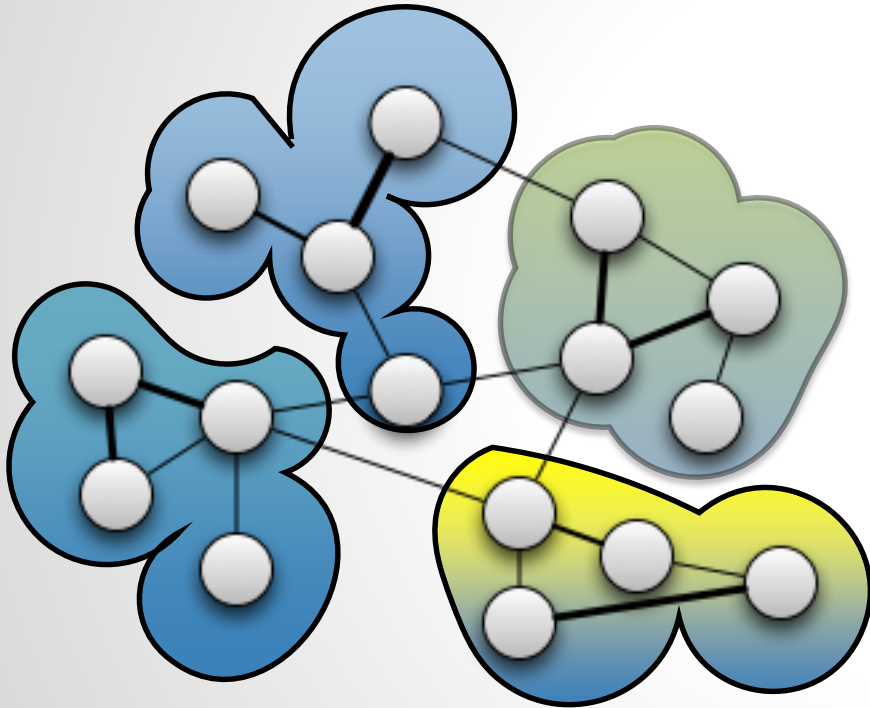
Communication @ time t :

How to embed pattern across $\ell=4$
servers (or racks, pods, etc.) of size $k=4$?



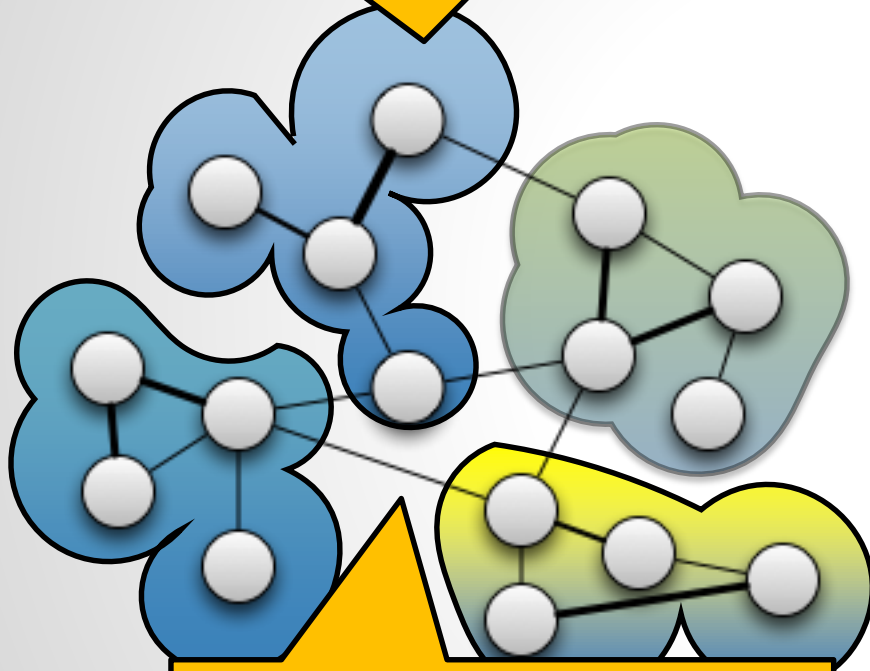
Essentially An Online *Re*Partitioning Problem

Communication @ time t :



Essentially An Online *Re*Partitioning Problem

Most communication within a cluster (intra-cluster)...

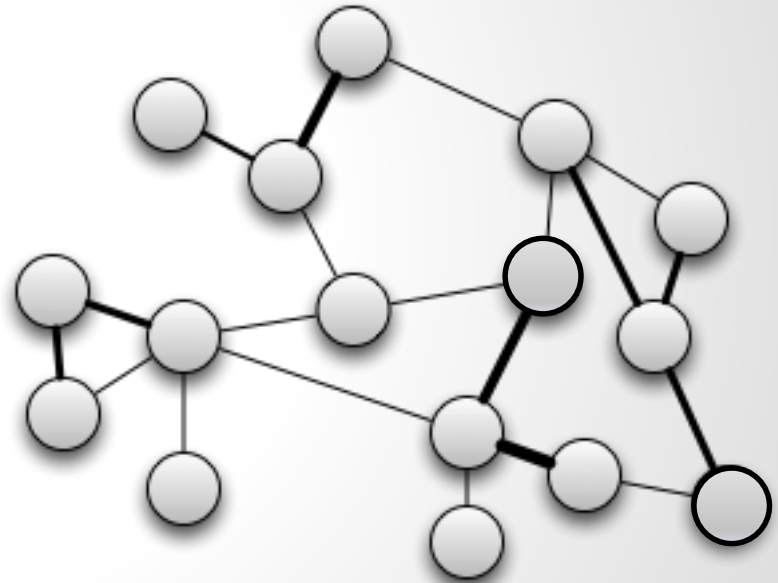
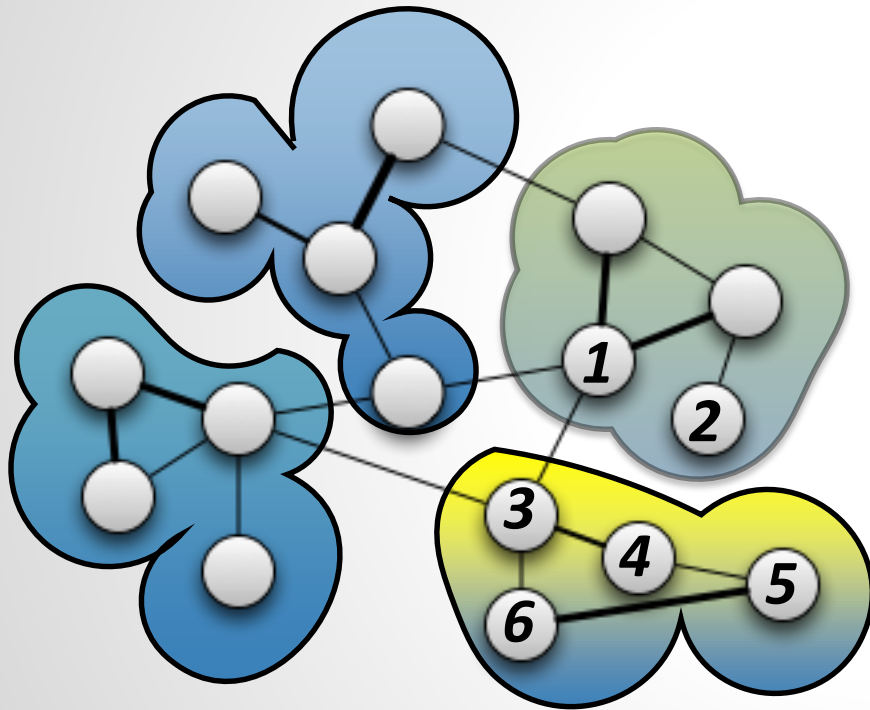


... little inter-cluster communication.

A classic (hard) combinatorial problem!

Essentially An Online *Re*Partitioning Problem

Communication @ time t : Communication @ time $t+1$:

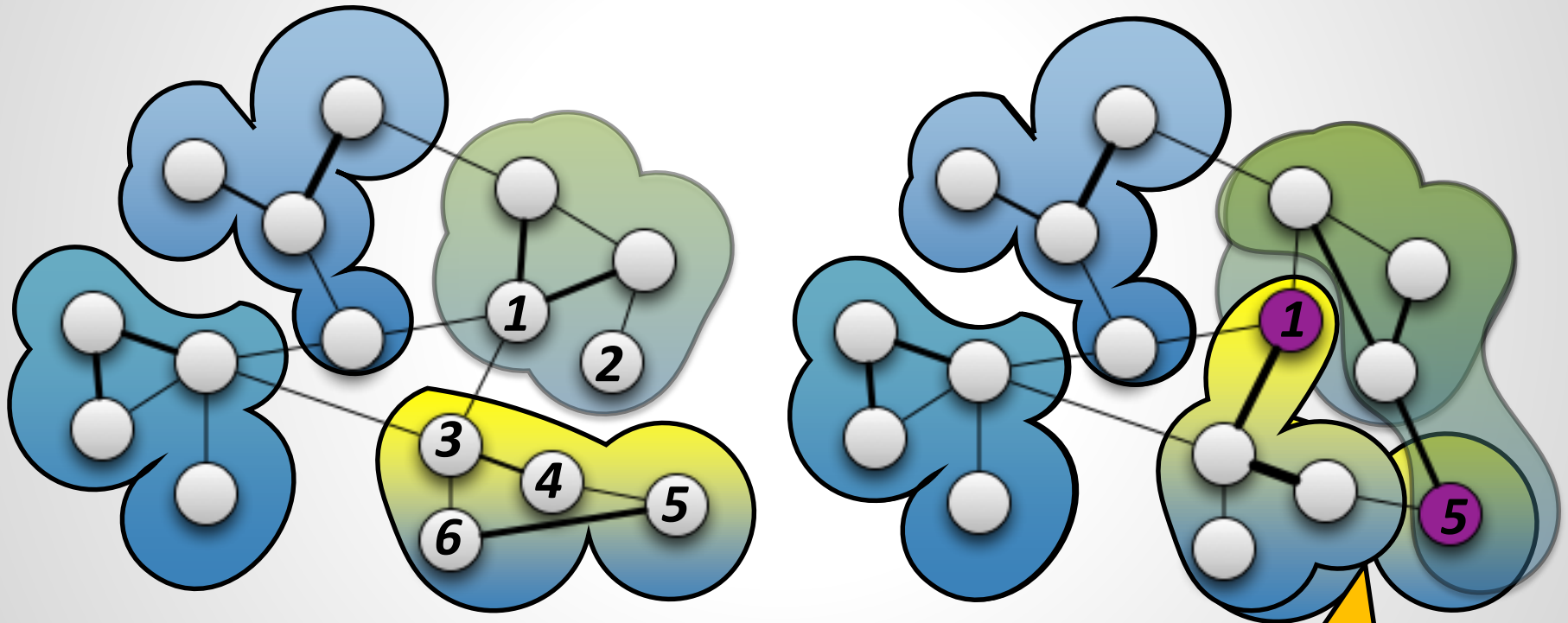


❑ Now assume: changes in communication pattern!

❑ E.g., **more** communication (1,3),(3,4),(2,5) but **less** (5,6)

Essentially An Online *Re*Partitioning Problem

Communication @ time t : Communication @ time $t+1$:



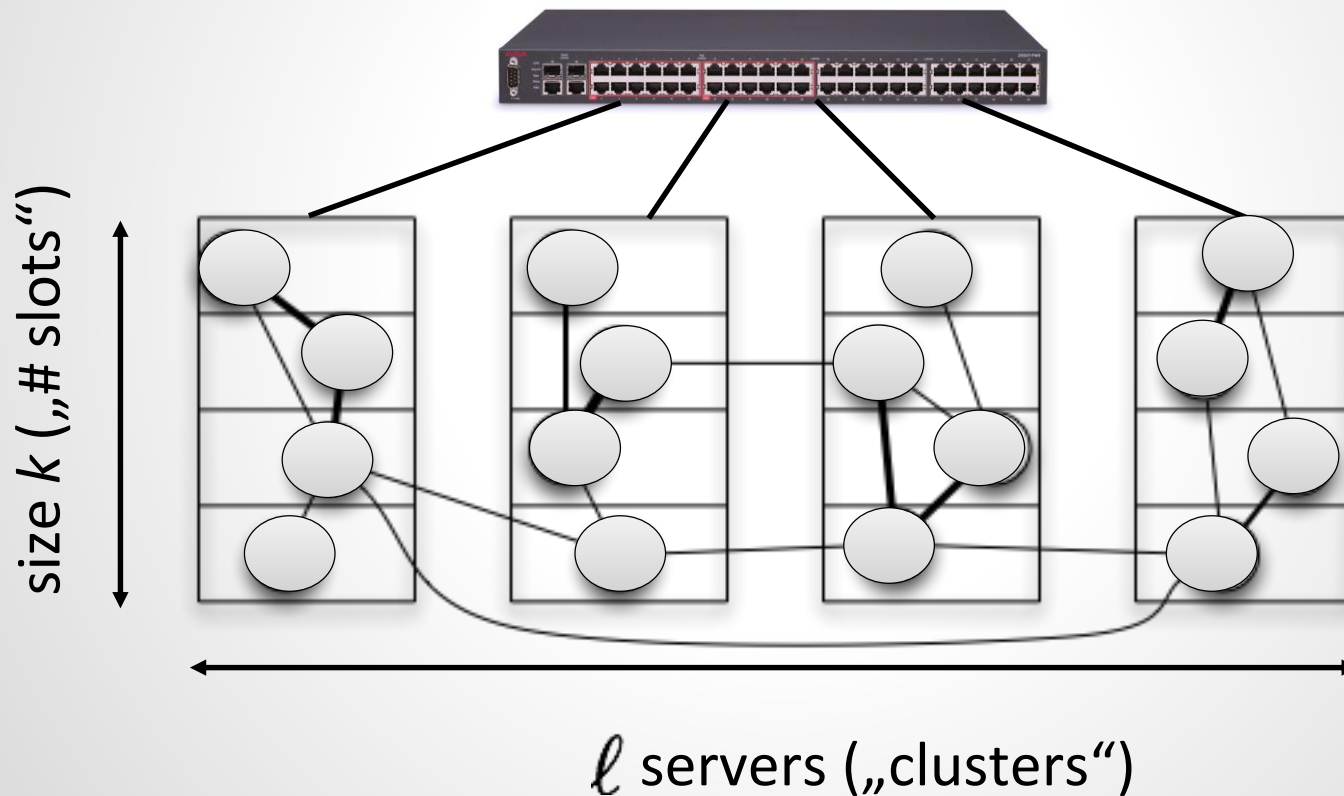
❑ Now assume: changes in communication pattern!

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Makes sense that
nodes 1 and 5
change clusters!

A Simple Model for the Tutorial

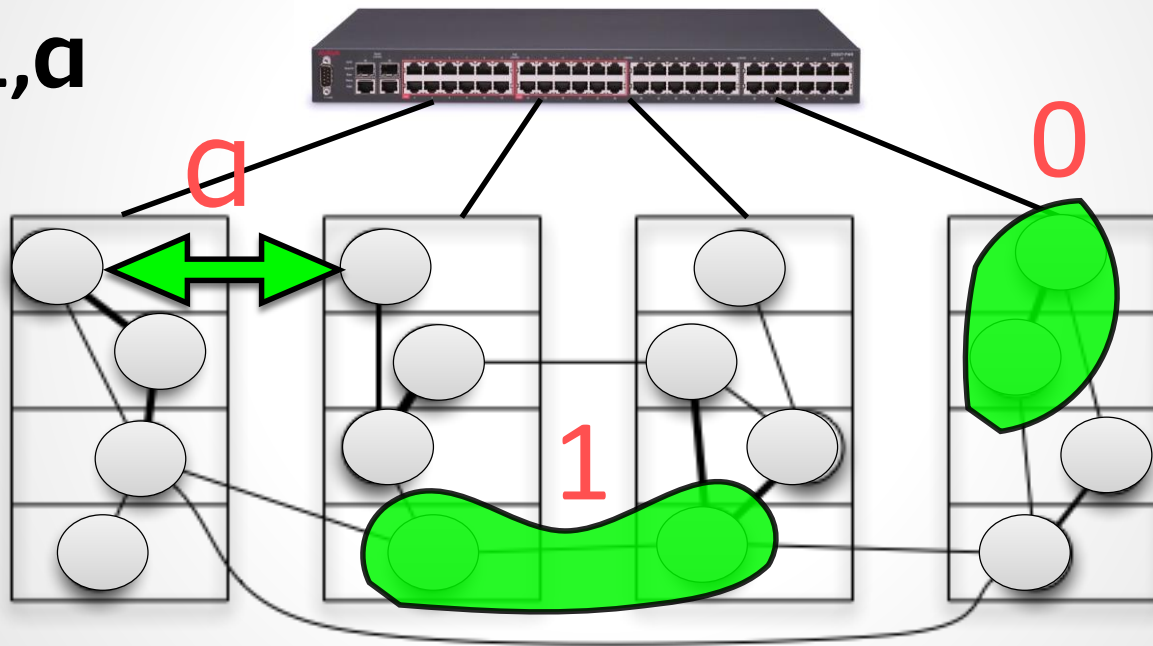
Consider a simple network, e.g., a single switch (e.g., a rack):



A Simple Model for the Tutorial

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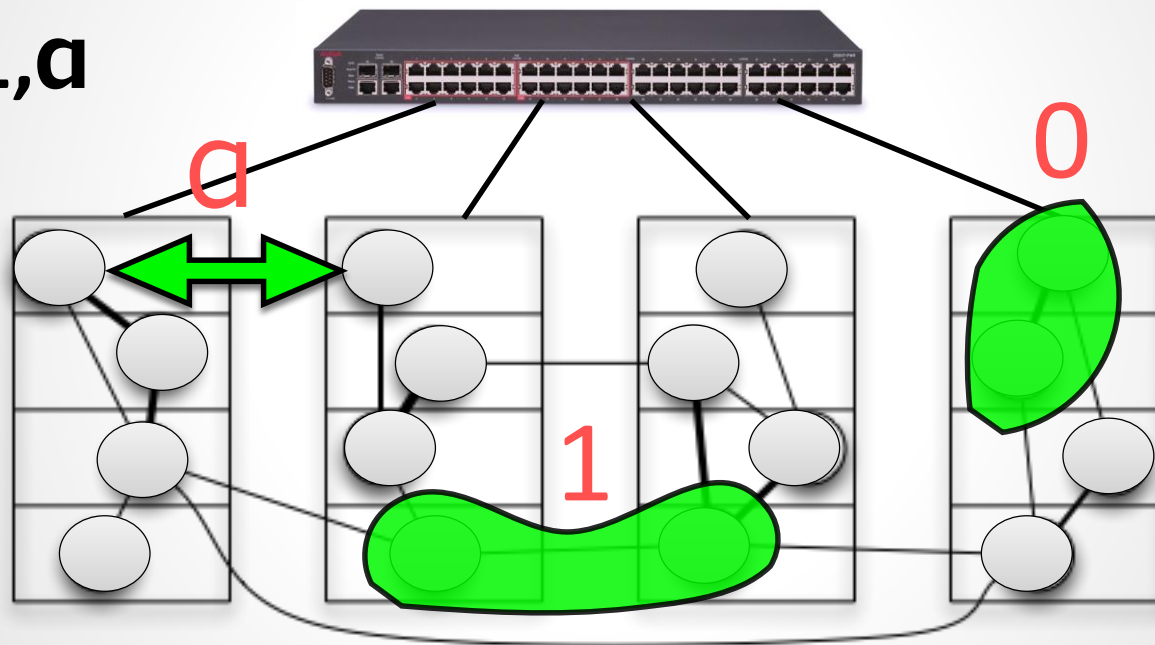
Costs: 0,1, α



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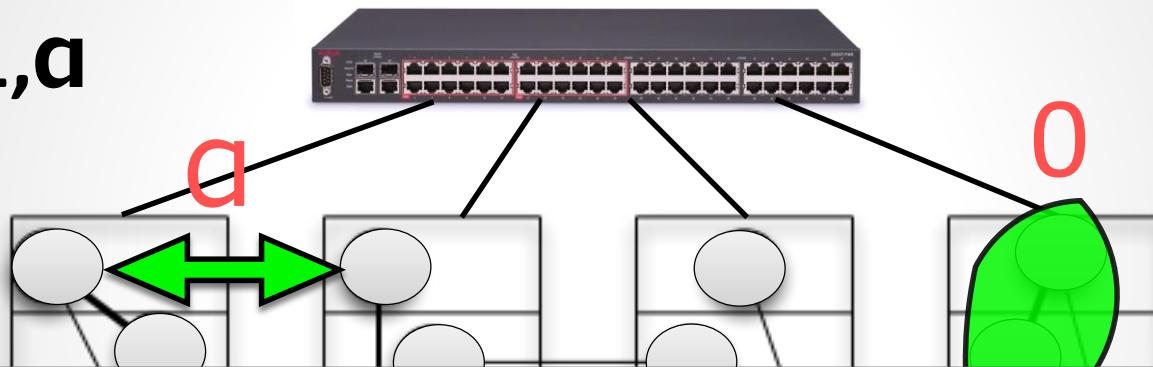
Objective: minimize total communication and migration cost!

More precisely: **competitive ratio** $\rho = \text{cost}(\text{ON})/\text{cost}(\text{OPT})$

A Simple Model for the Tutorial

Consider a simple network, e.g., a single switch (e.g., a rack):

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Nice: If competitive ratio is low, there is no need to develop any sophisticated prediction models (which may be wrong anyway)! The guarantee holds in the worst-case.

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“Prediction is difficult,
especially about the future.”



Nils Bohr

torial

e.g., a rack):

0

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Adversarial Models

Weak adversary



- ❑ Chooses **request distribution D**
- ❑ Requests **sampled i.i.d.** from D
- ❑ Cannot react to online algo

Strong adversary



- ❑ Can generate **arbitrary request sequence σ**
- ❑ Knows and can react to online algo

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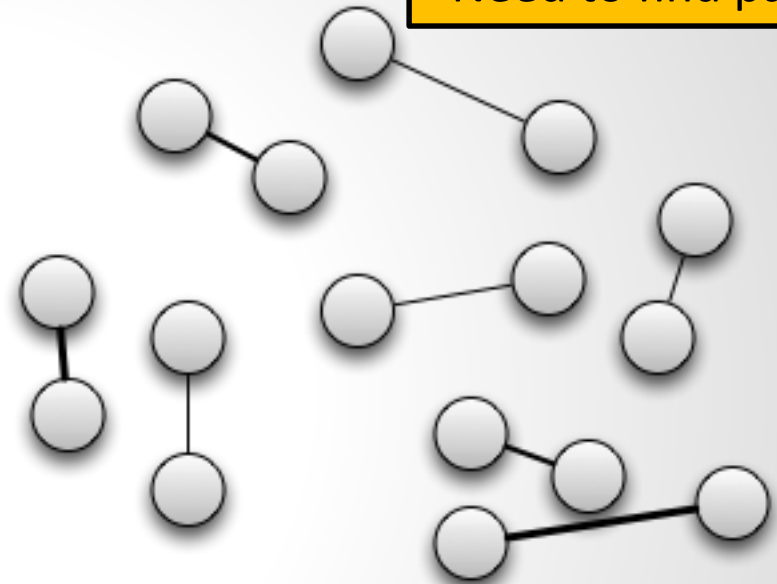
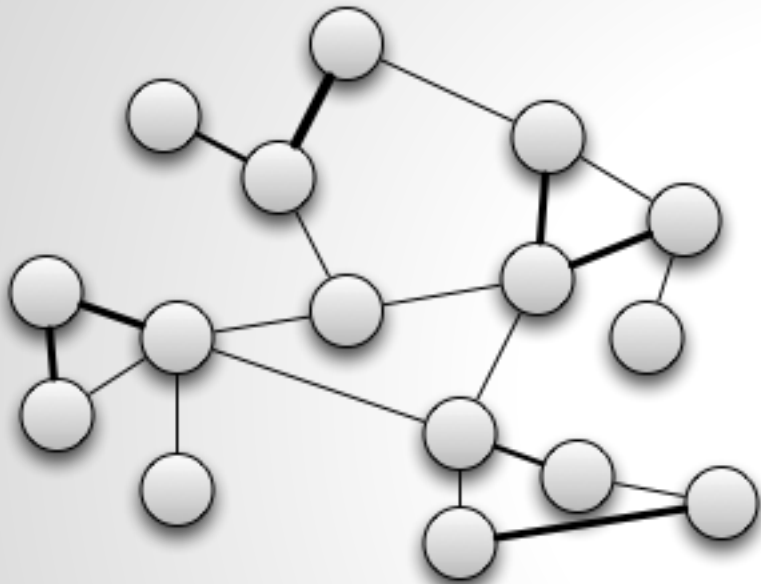


- ❑ Can generate **arbitrary request sequence σ**
- ❑ Knows and can react to online algo

The Crux: Algorithmic Challenges

- ❑ Do **not know** D resp. σ ahead of time
- ❑ Upon each communication request (u, v) :
 - ❑ Migrate u and v together? «**Rent-or-buy**»: migration cost should be amortized
 - ❑ **Migrate where?** u to v , v to u , both to a third cluster?
 - ❑ If cluster is full already: what to **evict**?

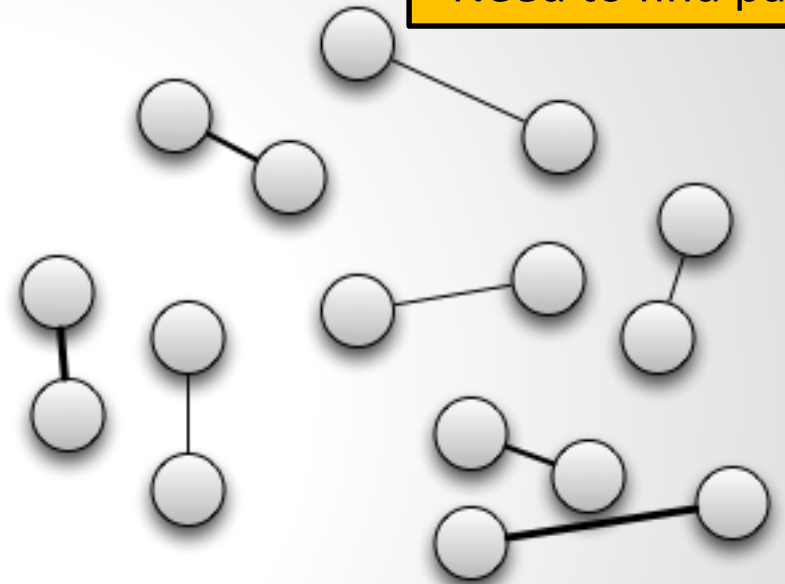
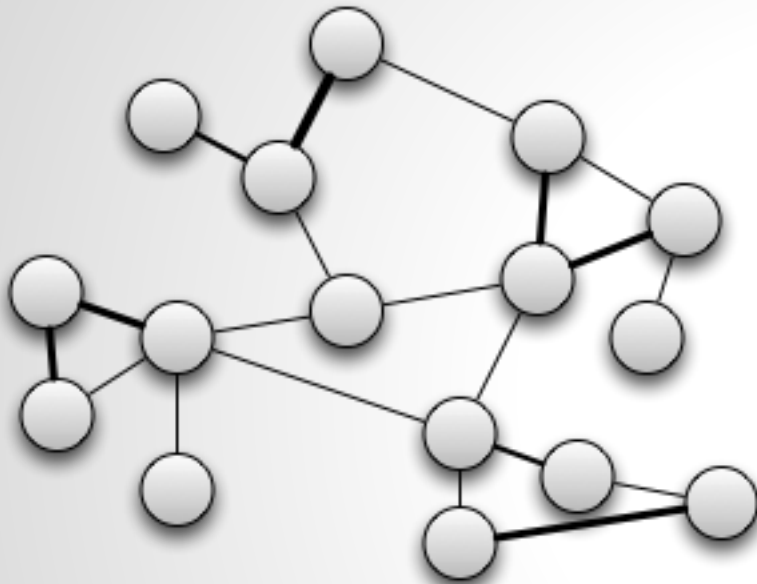
Example: Special Case $k=2$



Clusters of size 2:
Need to find pairs!

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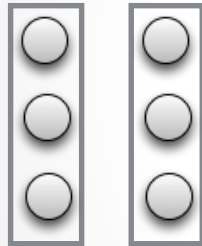
Clusters of size 2: A new
type of online
*re*matching problem!

It is hard to compete under !



- ❑ Assume **two clusters**: for offline algorithm they are of size k ...

OFF:

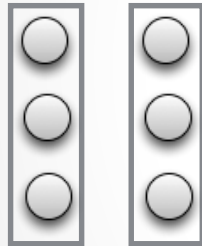


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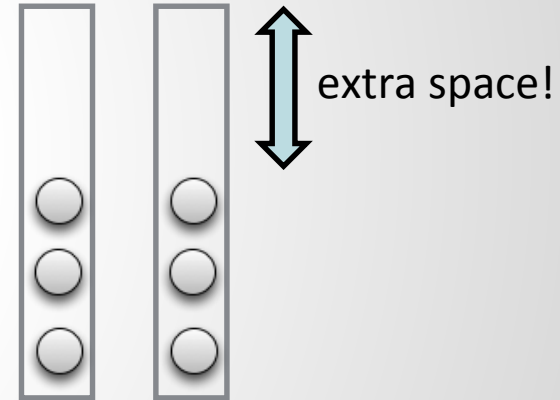
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- ... whereas online algorithm can use clusters of size $2k-1$ even (**augmentation**)!

ON:

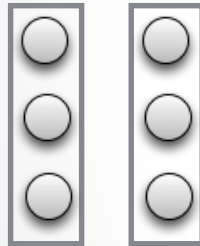


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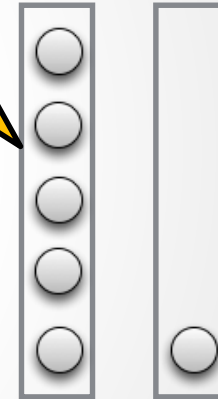
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E.g., ON can even collocate all except for one!

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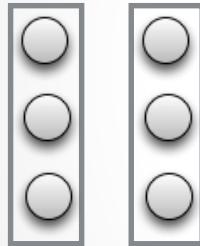


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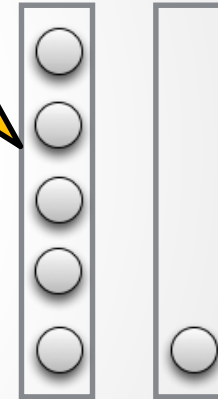
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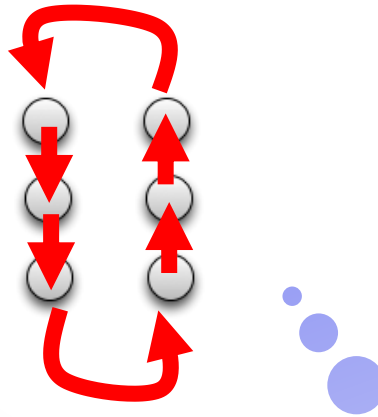


What is the achievable competitive ratio?

It is hard to compete under !



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For the sake of lower bound, let us restrict the adversary more: can only ask for node pairs taken from a cyclic order: k pairs (resp. links) in total!

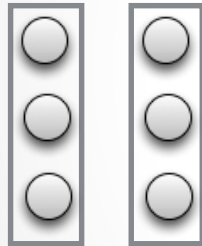
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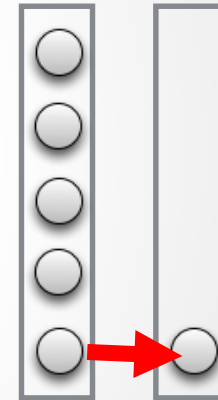
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OFF:



ON:



Adversary can always request an inter-cluster link: always exists!



Ouch! Cost 1 for each request.

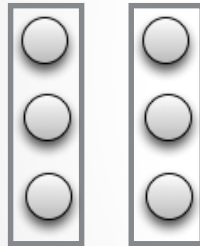
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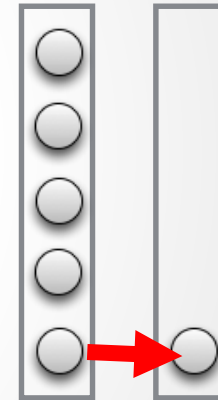
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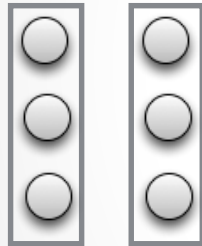
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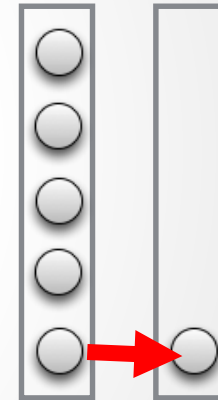
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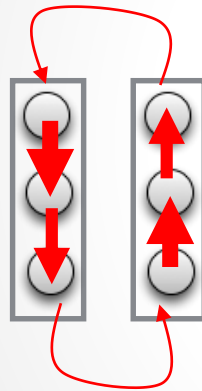
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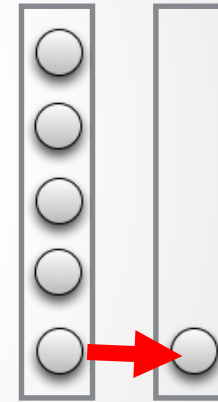
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Move to configuration $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ which is **asked the least**.

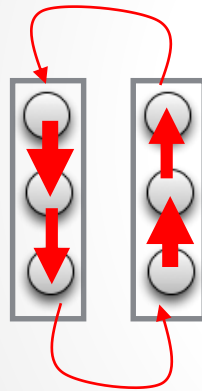
Averaging argument: At least k times less communication cost!

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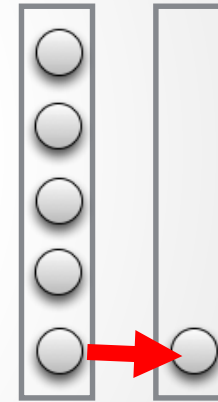


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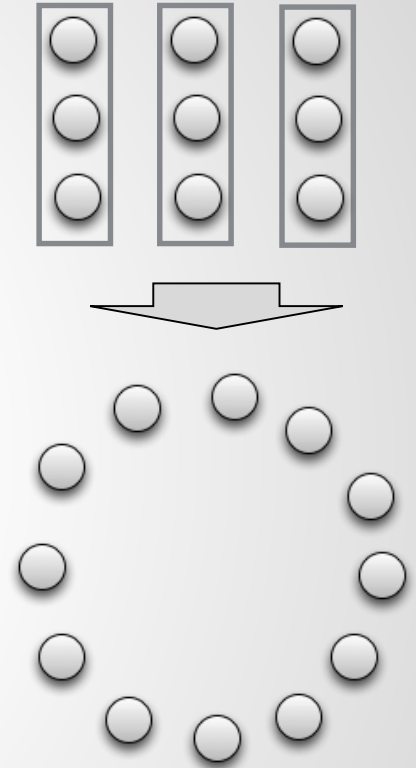
Lower bound of $\Omega(k)$ for competitive ratio, despite big augmentation!

A Simple $O(n^2)$ Upper Bound

At least it does not
depend on time! 😊

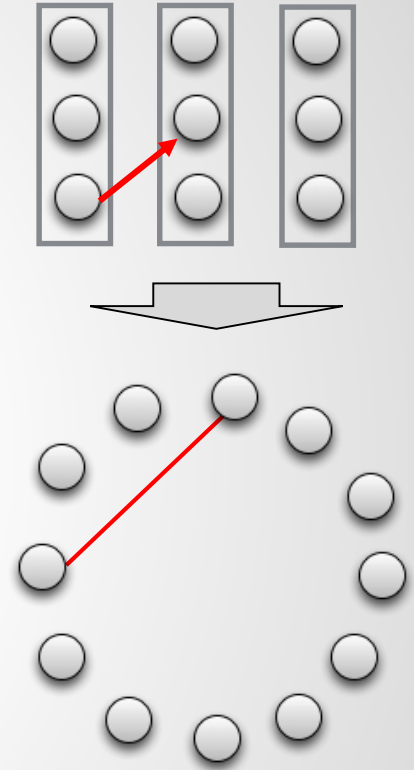
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- ❑ Algorithm DET:
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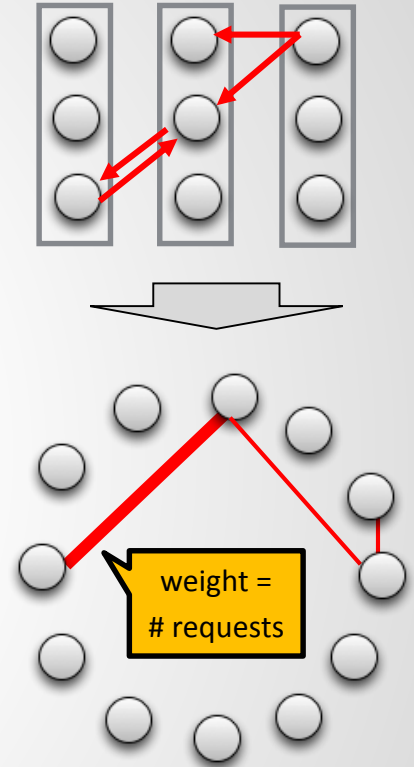
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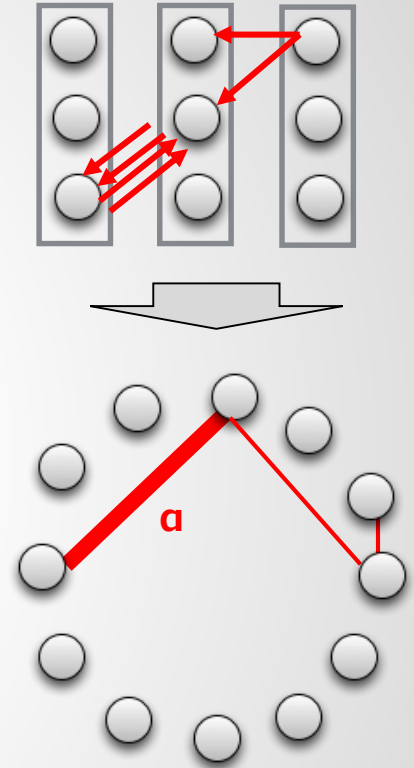
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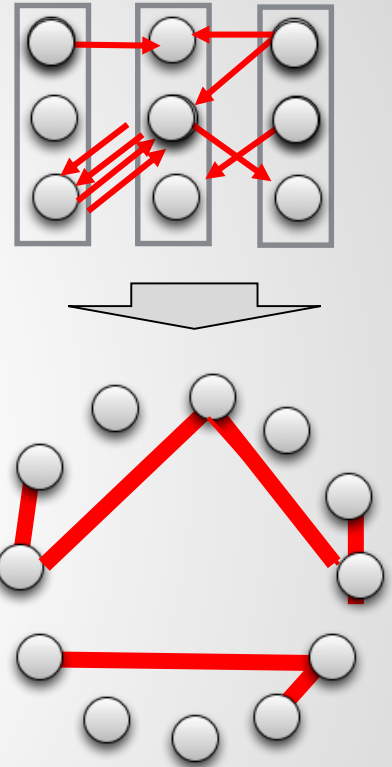
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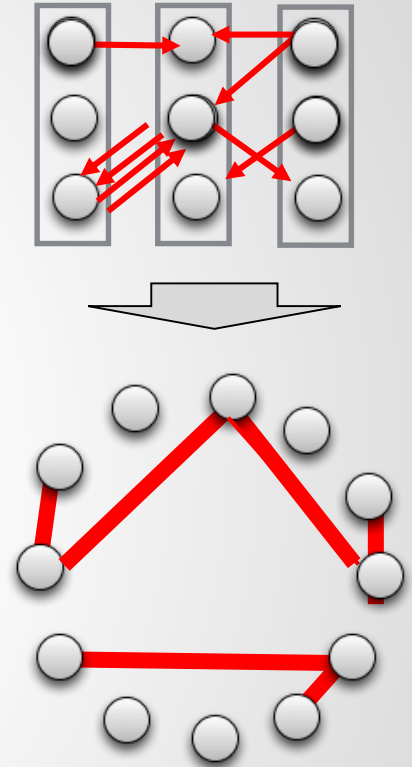
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Components cannot be partitioned perfectly (first component alone too large)!

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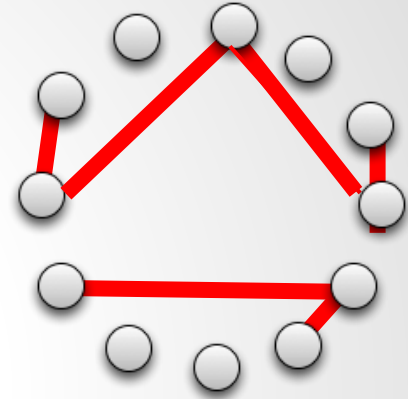
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Competitive
ratio?

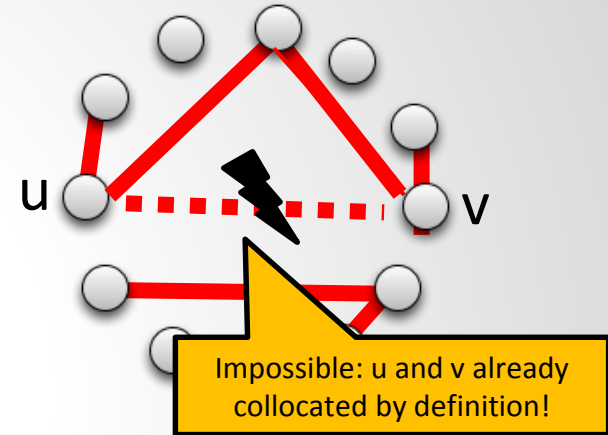
A Simple $O(n^2)$ Upper Bound

- Analysis (costs per phase):
 - Observe: edge weights always $\leq \alpha$: once reach α , their endpoints will always be collocated (by algorithm definition)



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 - α -edges form a **forest** (so at most n many!): once two nodes (u,v) are connected by a **path of α -edges**, they are in a single cluster and will no longer communicate across clusters



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□ Analysis (costs per phase):

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- Thus: ON cost per phase:
 - At most 1 reorganization per α -edge (at most n α -edges), so **n times reconfig cost $n \cdot \alpha$** , so $n^2 \alpha$
 - Communication cost: at most **α per edge** (at most n^2 many), so also **at most $n^2 \alpha$**



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□ Analysis (costs per phase):

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- Costs of OFF per phase:
 - If OFF migrates any node, it pays **at least α**
 - If not, it pays communication cost **at least α** : the grown components do not fit clusters (intra-cluster edges only): **definition of «end-of-phase»!**



Upper bound of $O(n^2 \alpha / \alpha) = O(n^2)$ for competitive ratio!

Known Results So Far

- ❑ Case $k=2$ („online rematching“): **constant** competitive ratio
- ❑ General case: with a little bit of augmentation: **$O(k \log k)$** possible
 - ❑ Recall $\Omega(k)$ lower bound
 - ❑ Nice: independent of number of clusters!
 - ❑ Practically relevant: # VM slots per server usually small

What about



?

What about



?

- ❑ Recall: weak adversary cannot choose request **sequence** but **only the distribution**
- ❑ Adversary needs to sample **i.i.d.** from this distribution
- ❑ Moreover: Adversary knows (deterministic or randomized) «learning» algorithm, i.e., chooses worst distribution

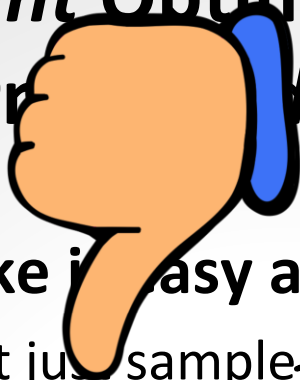
Any ideas?

The Crux: *Joint* Optimization of Efficient Learning *and* Searching

- ❑ **Naive idea 1: Take it easy and first learn distribution**
 - ❑ Do not move but just sample requests in the beginning: until exact distribution has been **learned whp**
 - ❑ Then move to the best location **for good**

The Crux: *Joint Optimization*

Learn vs



Waiting can be very costly: maybe start configuration is very bad and others similarly good: takes long to learn, not competitive! Need to move early on, away from bad locations!

❑ Naive idea 1: Take it easy and

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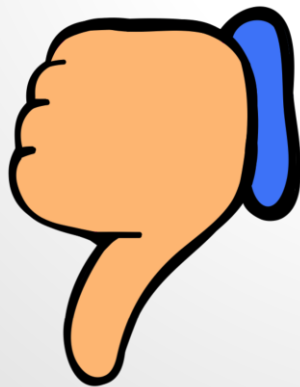
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❑ Naive idea 2: Pro-actively always move to the lowest cost configuration ~~seen so far~~



Bad: if requests are uniform at random, you should not move at all!
Migration costs cannot be amortized. Crucial difference to classic distribution learning problems: guessing costs!

The Crux: *Joint* Optimization of Efficient Learning *and* Searching

❑ Naive idea 1: Take it easy and first learn distribution

- ❑ Do not move but just sample requests in the beginning: until exact distribution has been learned

- ❑ Then move Only move when it pays off! But

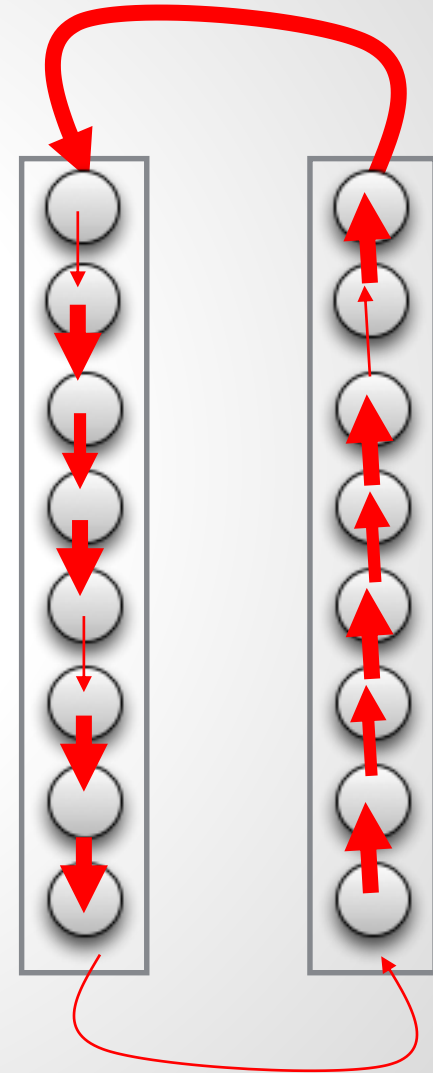
e.g., how to differentiate between uniform and „almost uniform“ distribution?

❑ Naive idea 2: Find the lowest cost configuration

- ❑ Bad, e.g., if requests are distributed uniformly at random: better not to move at all (moving costs cannot be amortized)

Example Learning Algorithm for Ring: Rotate Locally!

- ❑ Mantra of our algorithm: Rotate!
- ❑ Rotate early, but not too early!
- ❑ And: rotate **locally**

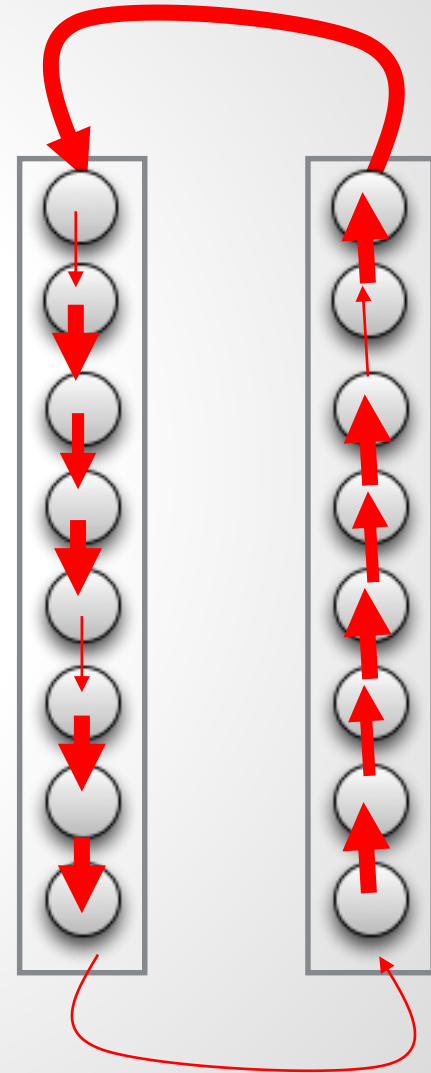


Example Learning Algorithm for Ring: Rotate Locally!

Define **conditions** for configurations: if met, **never go back** to it (we can afford it w.h.p.: seen enough samples)

Algorithm: Rotate!

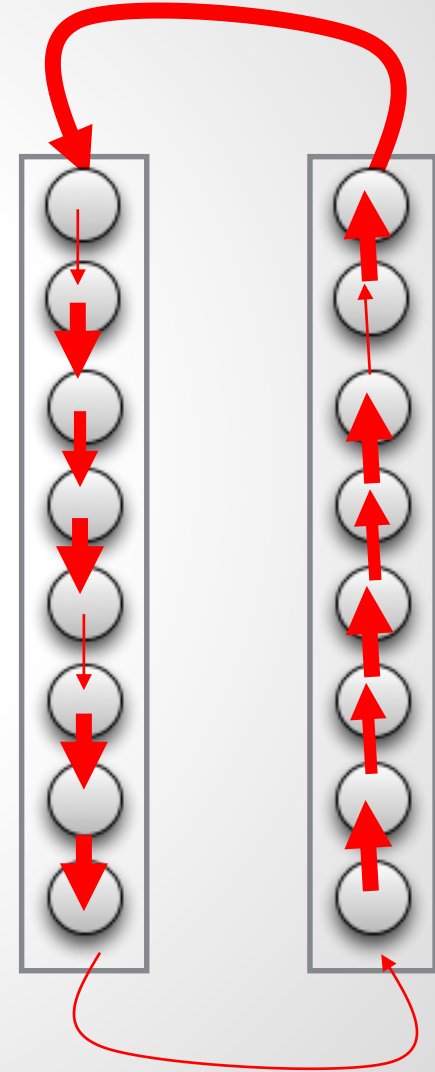
- ❑ Rotate early, but not too early!
- ❑ And: rotate **locally**



Example Learning Algorithm for Ring: Rotate Locally!

- ❑ Mantra of our algorithm: Rotate!
- ❑ Rotate early, but not too early!
- ❑ And: rotate **locally**

If current configuration is **eliminated**, go to **nearby configuration** (in directed manner: no frequent back and forth)!

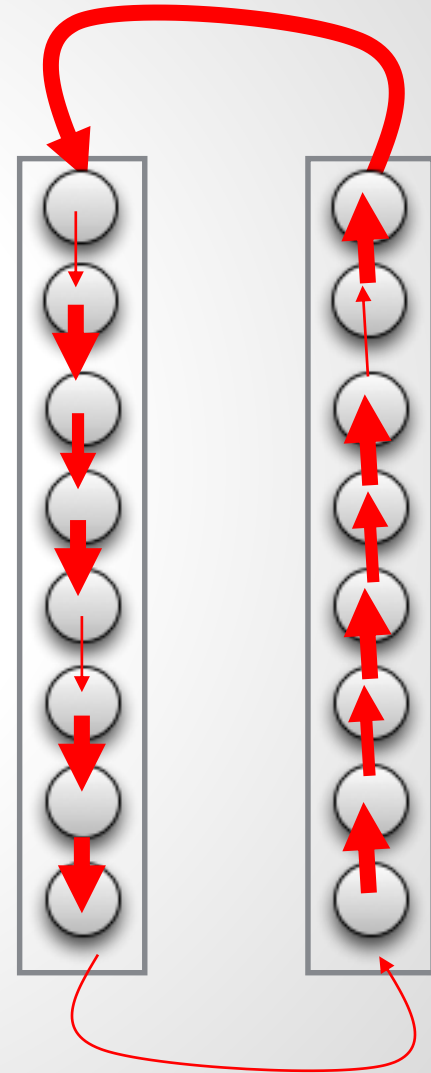


Example Learning Algorithm for Ring: Rotate Locally!

- ❑ Mantra of our algorithm: Rotate!
- ❑ Rotate early, but not too early!
- ❑ And: rotate **locally**

If current configuration is **eliminated**, go to **nearby configuration** (in directed manner: no frequent back and forth)!

Growing radius strategy: allow to move further only once amortized!



Example Learning Algorithm for Ring: Rotate Locally!

- Mantra of our algorithm: Rotate!

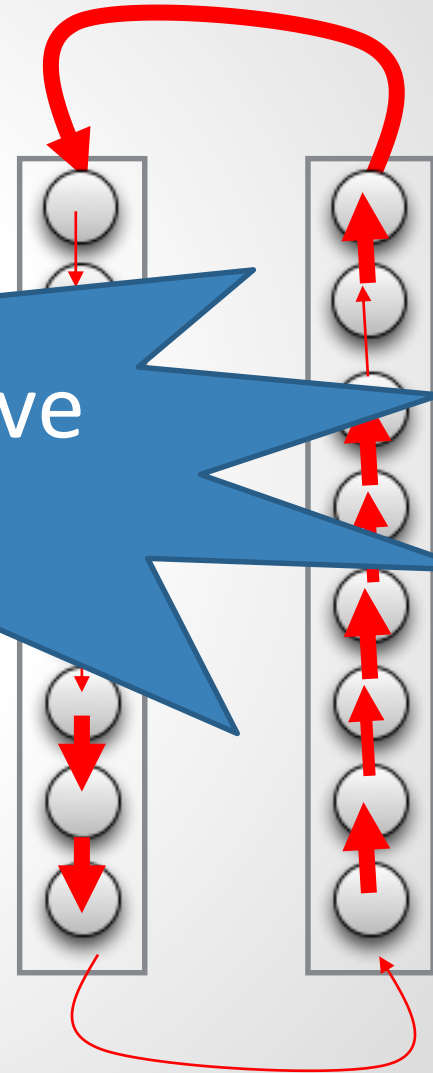
- Rotate locally, but not too often!

- And rotate...

$\log(n)$ -competitive
w.h.p.

If current configuration is eliminated, go to nearby configuration (in directed manner: no frequent back and forth)!

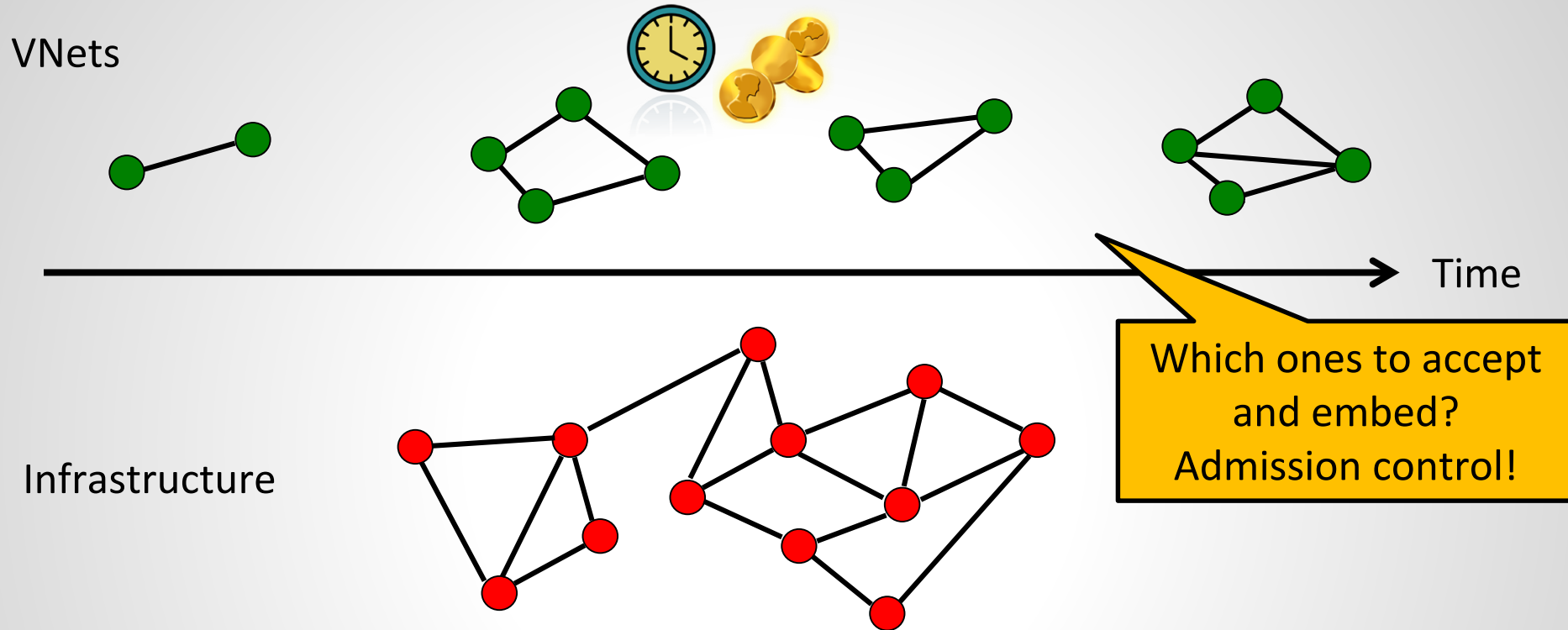
no more o
once mortized!



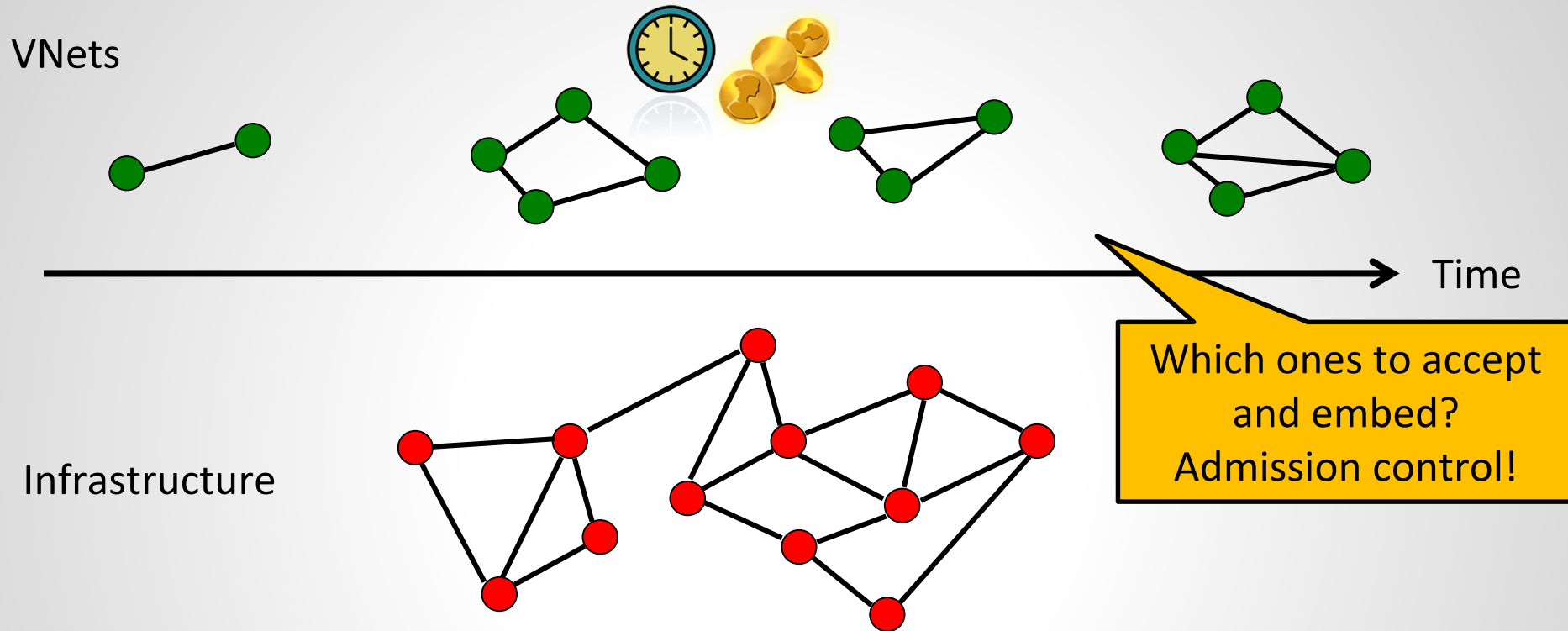
PART III:

Embeddings over Time

A VNet seldom comes alone!



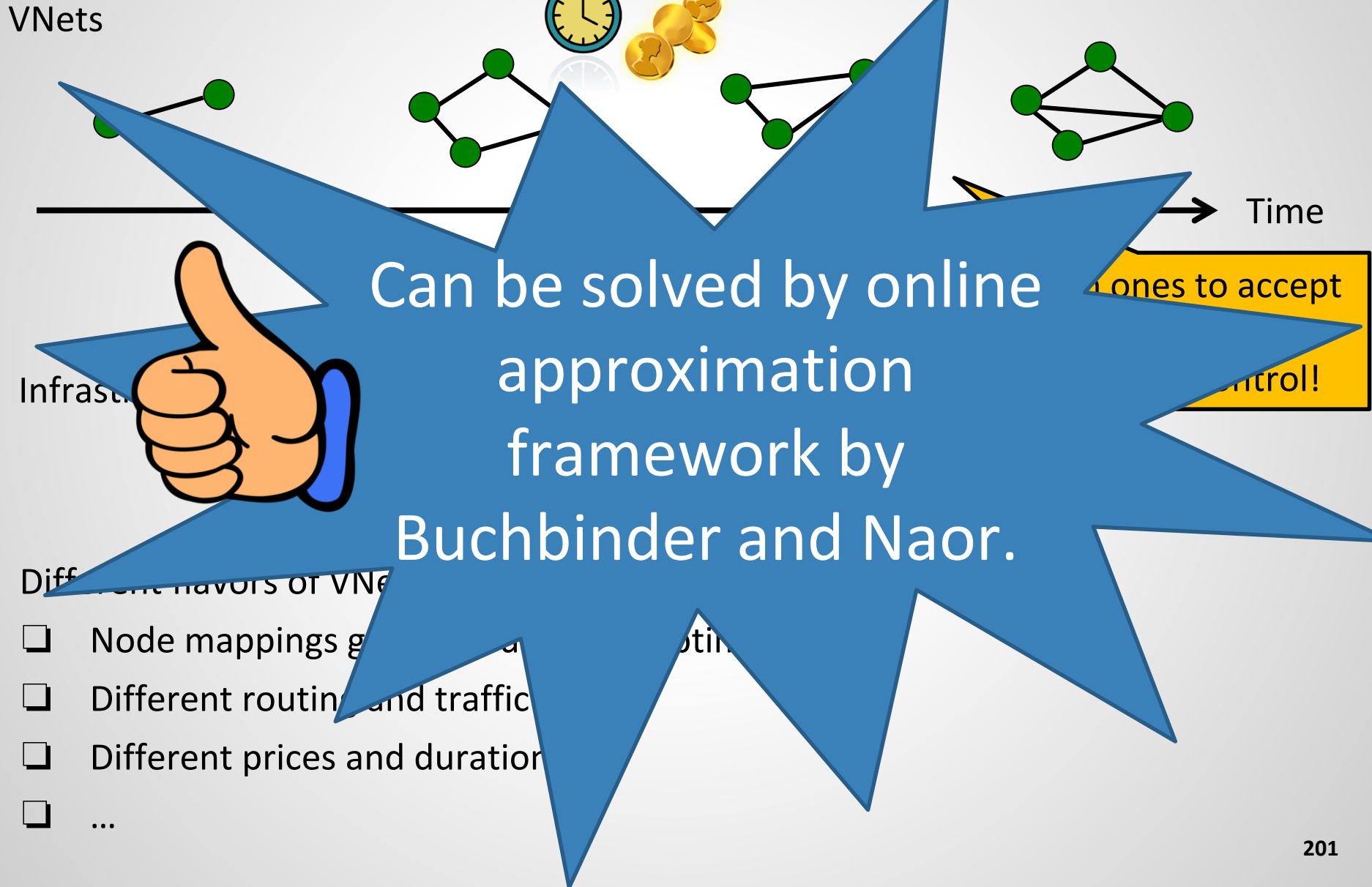
A VNet seldom comes alone!



Different flavors of VNets:

- ☐ Node mappings given or subject to optimization
- ☐ Different routing and traffic models
- ☐ Different prices and durations
- ☐ ...

A VNet seldom comes alone!

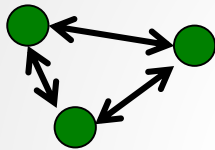


Different VNet Flavors

❑ Traffic models

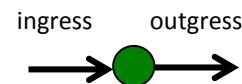
Customer Pipe

Traffic matrix:
Bandwidth per
VM pair (u,v)



Hose Model

Per VM
bandwidth:
polytope of traffic
matrices.



virtual switch

Aggregate Ingress

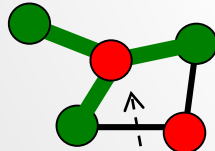
Only ingress
specified: e.g.,
support multicast
etc.



❑ Routing models

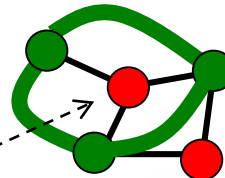
Tree

Steiner tree
embedding



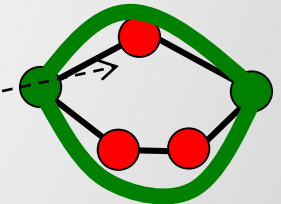
Single Path

Unsplittable
paths



Multi-Path

Splittable paths
(more capacity)



Relay costs: e.g., depending on packet rate

Applying Buchbinder&Naor

$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & Z_j^T \cdot \mathbf{1} + X^T \cdot C \quad s.t. \\ & Z_j^T \cdot D_j + X^T \cdot A_j \geq B_j^T \\ & X, Z_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (I)	$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & B_j^T \cdot Y_j \quad s.t. \\ & A_j \cdot Y_j \leq C \\ & D_j \cdot Y_j \leq \mathbf{1} \\ & Y_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (II)
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Fig. 1: (I) The primal covering LP. (II) The dual packing LP.



Algorithm

Algorithm 1 The General Integral (all-or-nothing) Packing Online Algorithm (GIPO).

Upon the j th round:

1. $f_{j,\ell} \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}\{\gamma(j, \ell) : f_{j,\ell} \in \Delta_j\}$ (oracle procedure)
2. If $\gamma(j, \ell) < b_j$ then, (accept)
 - (a) $y_{j,\ell} \leftarrow 1$.
 - (b) For each row e : If $A_{e,(j,\ell)} \neq 0$ do

$$x_e \leftarrow x_e \cdot 2^{A_{e,(j,\ell)}/c_e} + \frac{1}{w(j, \ell)} \cdot (2^{A_{e,(j,\ell)}/c_e} - 1).$$

- (c) $z_j \leftarrow b_j - \gamma(j, \ell)$.
3. Else, (reject)
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Applying Buchbinder&Naor

$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & Z_j^T \cdot \mathbf{1} + X^T \cdot C \quad s.t. \\ & Z_j^T \cdot D_j + X^T \cdot A_j \geq B_j^T \\ & X, Z_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (I)	$\max B_j^T \cdot Y_j \quad s.t.$ $\begin{aligned} & A_j \cdot Y_j \leq C \\ & D_j \cdot Y_j \leq \mathbf{1} \\ & Y_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (II)
---	---

Fig. 1: (I) The primal covering LP. (II) The dual packing LP.

Formulate the packing
(dual) LP: Maximize profit
(Note: dynamic LP!)

Algorithm

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Applying Buchbinder&Naor

$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & Z_j^T \cdot \mathbf{1} + X^T \cdot C \quad s.t. \\ & Z_j^T \cdot D_j + X^T \cdot A_j \geq B_j^T \\ & X, Z_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (I)	$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & B_j^T \cdot Y_j \quad s.t. \\ & A_j \cdot Y_j \leq C \\ & D_j \cdot Y_j \leq \mathbf{1} \\ & Y_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (II)
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s.t. constraints

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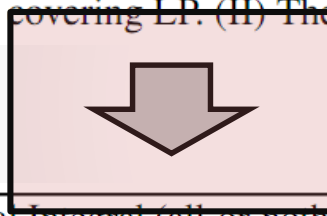
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Applying Buchbinder&Naor

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← Buchbinder&Naor

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← optimal embedding!

2. If $\gamma(j,\ell) < b_j$ then, (accept)

(a) $y_{j,\ell} \leftarrow 1$.

(b) For each row e : If $A_{e,(j,\ell)} \neq 0$ do

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Applying Buchbinder&Naor

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3. Else, (reject)

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← Embedding cost vs profit?

Applying Buchbinder&Naor

$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & Z_j^T \cdot \mathbf{1} + X^T \cdot C \quad s.t. \\ & Z_j^T \cdot D_j + X^T \cdot A_j \geq B_j^T \\ & X, Z_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (I)	$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & B_j^T \cdot Y_j \quad s.t. \\ & A_j \cdot Y_j \leq C \\ & D_j \cdot Y_j \leq \mathbf{1} \\ & Y_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (II)
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2. If $\gamma(j, \ell) \leq b_j$ then, (accept)

(a) $y_{j,\ell} \leftarrow 1$.

(b) For each row e : If $A_{e,(j,\ell)} \neq 0$ do

$$x_e \leftarrow x_e \cdot 2^{A_{e,(j,\ell)}/c_e} + \frac{1}{w(j,\ell)} \cdot (2^{A_{e,(j,\ell)}/c_e} - 1).$$

(c) $z_j \leftarrow b_j - \gamma(j, \ell)$.

3. Else, (reject)

(a) $z_j \leftarrow 0$.

If cheap: accept and
update primal variables
(always feasible solution)

Applying Buchbinder&Naor

$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & Z_j^T \cdot \mathbf{1} + X^T \cdot C \quad s.t. \\ & Z_j^T \cdot D_j + X^T \cdot A_j \geq B_j^T \\ & X, Z_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (I)	$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & B_j^T \cdot Y_j \quad s.t. \\ & A_j \cdot Y_j \leq C \\ & D_j \cdot Y_j \leq \mathbf{1} \\ & Y_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (II)
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3. Else, (reject)

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← Else reject

Applying Buchbinder&Naor

$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & Z_j^T \cdot \mathbf{1} + X^T \cdot C \quad s.t. \\ & Z_j^T \cdot D_j + X^T \cdot A_j \geq B_j^T \\ & X, Z_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (I)	$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & B_j^T \cdot Y_j \quad s.t. \\ & A_j \cdot Y_j \leq C \\ & D_j \cdot Y_j \leq \mathbf{1} \\ & Y_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (II)
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Upon the j th round:

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← Computationally hard!

2. If $\gamma(j,\ell) < b_j$ then, (accept)

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Applying Buchbinder&Naor

$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & Z_j^T \cdot \mathbf{1} + X^T \cdot C \quad s.t. \\ & Z_j^T \cdot D_j + X^T \cdot A_j \geq B_j^T \\ & X, Z_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (I)	$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & B_j^T \cdot Y_j \quad s.t. \\ & A_j \cdot Y_j \leq C \\ & D_j \cdot Y_j \leq \mathbf{1} \\ & Y_j \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$ (II)
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(c) $z_j \leftarrow b_j - \gamma(j,\ell)$.

3. Else, (reject)

(a) $z_j \leftarrow 0$.

← Computationally hard!

Use your favorite approximation algorithm! If competitive ratio ρ and approximation r , overall competitive ratio $\rho \cdot r$.

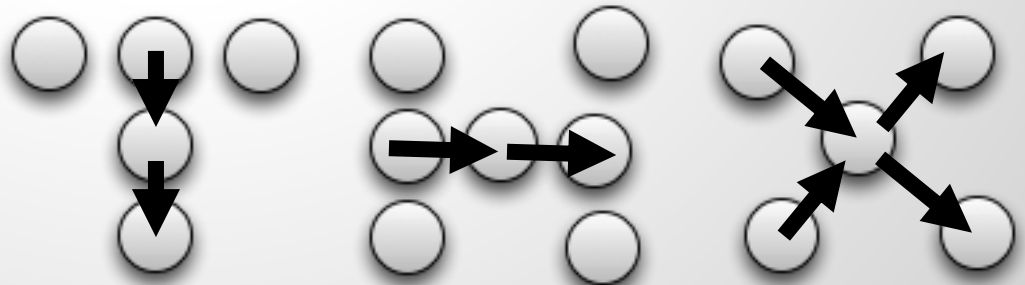
Online VNet Admission Control

Algorithm comes in 2 flavors:

- ❑ Bicriteria guarantees: Obtain **constant fraction** of the optimal benefit while **augmenting resources** by a logarithmic factor.
- ❑ Fractional guarantees resp. limited resource consumption:
The online algorithm achieves a logarithmic competitive ratio without resource augmentation, but either:
 - ❑ may **serve a fraction** of a request (associated benefit is assumed to be the same fraction of the benefit of the request)
 - ❑ the allowed traffic patterns of a request **consumes at most a logarithmic fraction** of every resource (in which case the algorithm rejects the request or fully embeds it)

Summary

- ❑ Predictable performance requires isolation of all resources
- ❑ Static embeddings
- ❑ Reconfiguring embeddings
- ❑ Embeddings over time



Further Reading

Network Hypervisor Performance:

- ❑ [Logically Isolated, Actually Unpredictable? Measuring Hypervisor Performance in Multi-Tenant SDNs](#) Arsany Basta, Andreas Blenk, Wolfgang Kellerer, and Stefan Schmid. ArXiv Technical Report, May 2017.

Virtual Network Embedding:

- ❑ [Beyond the Stars: Revisiting Virtual Cluster Embeddings](#) Matthias Rost, Carlo Fuerst, and Stefan Schmid. ACM SIGCOMM Computer Communication Review (**CCR**), July 2015.
- ❑ [Service Chain and Virtual Network Embeddings: Approximations using Randomized Rounding](#) Matthias Rost and Stefan Schmid. ArXiv Technical Report, April 2016.
- ❑ [Charting the Complexity Landscape of Waypoint Routing](#) Saeed Akhoondian Amiri, Klaus-Tycho Foerster, Riko Jacob, and Stefan Schmid. ArXiv Technical Report, May 2017
- ❑ [Competitive and Deterministic Embeddings of Virtual Networks](#) Guy Even, Moti Medina, Gregor Schaffrath, and Stefan Schmid. Journal Theoretical Computer Science (**TCS**), Elsevier, 2013.

Online Collocation:

- ❑ [Online Balanced Repartitioning](#) Chen Avin, Andreas Loukas, Maciej Pacut, and Stefan Schmid. 30th International Symposium on Distributed Computing (**DISC**), Paris, France, September 2016.
- ❑ [Competitive Clustering of Stochastic Communication Patterns on the Ring](#) Chen Avin, Louis Cohen, and Stefan Schmid. 5th International Conference on Networked Systems (**NETYS**), Marrakech, Morocco, May 2017

Network Design:

- ❑ [Demand-Aware Network Designs of Bounded Degree](#) Chen Avin, Kaushik Mondal, and Stefan Schmid. ArXiv Technical Report, May 2017.

Further Reading

Network Hypervisor

Hypervisor performance and interference analysis

- ❑ [Logically Isolated, Actually Unpredictable? Measuring Hypervisor Performance in Multi-Tenant SDNs](#) Arsany Basta, Andreas Blenk, Wolfgang Kellerer, and Stefan Schmid. ArXiv Technical Report, May 2017.

Virtual Network Embedding:

- ❑ [Beyond the Star vs Hose embedding](#) Matthias Rost, SIGCOMM Computer Communication Review (CCR), July 2015. Including decomposability (study of integrality gap)
- ❑ [Service Chain and Virtual Network Embeddings: Approximations using Randomized Rounding](#) Matthias Rost and Stefan Schmid. ArXiv Technical Report, April 2016.
- ❑ [Charting the Complexity Landscape of Waypoint Routing](#) Saeed Akhoondian Amiri, Klaus-Tycho Foerster, Riko Jacob, and Stefan Schmid. ArXiv Technical Report, May 2017. Relationship to disjoint paths
- ❑ [Competitive and Deterministic Embeddings of Virtual Networks](#) Guy Even, Moti Medina, Gregor Schaffrath, and Stefan Schmid. Journal Theoretical Computer Science (TCS), Elsevier, 2013. Online primal-dual

Online Collocation:

- ❑ [Online Balanced Repartitioning](#) Chen Avin, Andreas Loukas, Maciej Pacut, and Stefan Schmid. 30th International Symposium on Distributed Computing (DISC), Paris, France. Adaptive VM migration to minimize communication costs
- ❑ [Competitive Clustering of Stochastic Communication Patterns on the Ring](#) Chen Avin, Louis Cohen, and Stefan Schmid. 5th International Conference on Networked Systems (NETYS), Marrakech, Morocco, May 2017

Network Design:

- ❑ [Demand-Aware Network Designs of Bounded Degree](#) Chen Avin, Kaushik Mondal, and Stefan Schmid. ArXiv Technical Report, May 2017. A model and analysis motivated by ProjectToR