

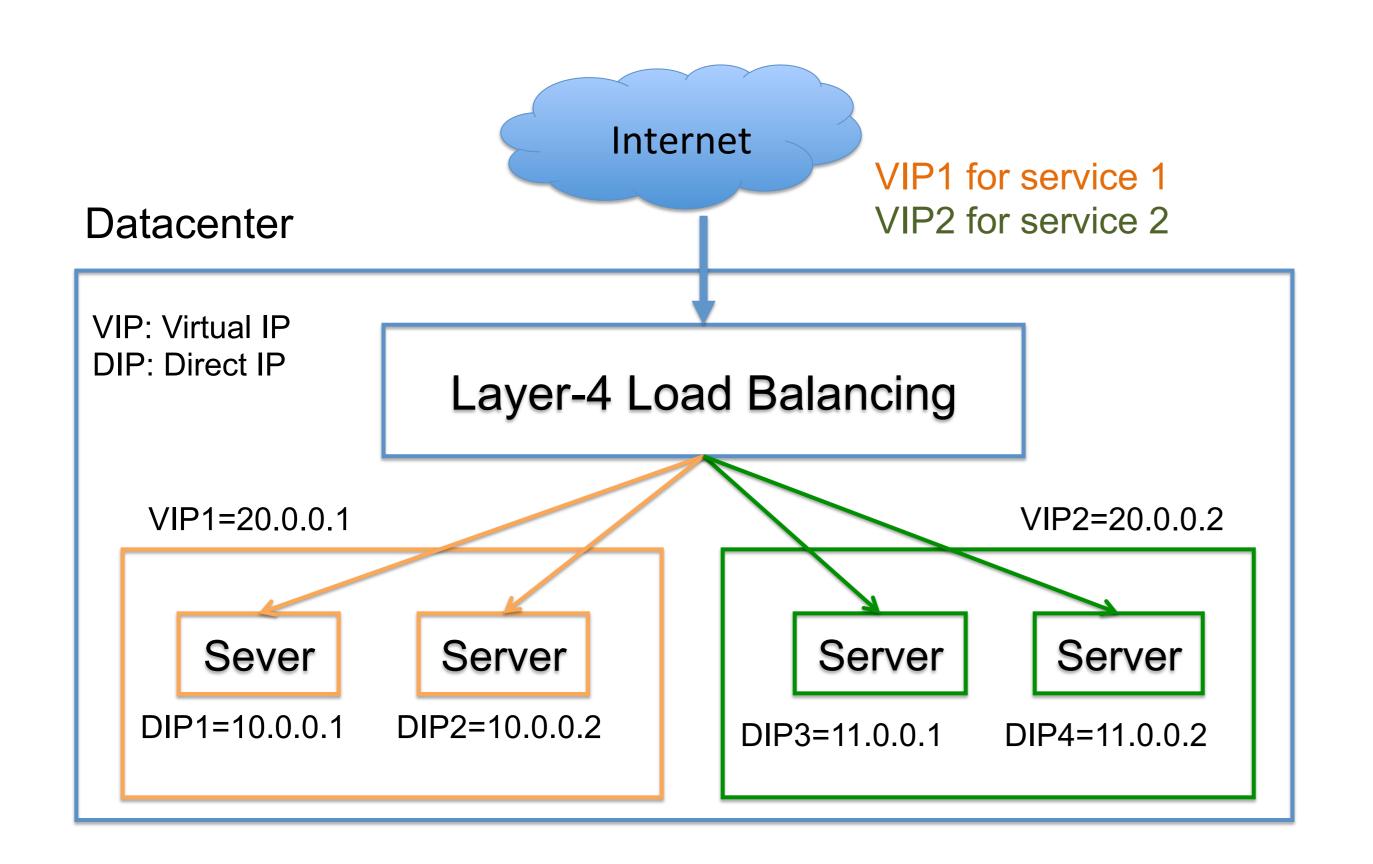
Adding L4 Load-balancing to every Switch



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1. Layer-4 Load Balancing

Layer-4 load-balancing is widely used for scale and fault-tolerance in cloud services.



Software load-balancing (on x86 servers) is very common, but incurs **high cost and latency**

Key Idea: Add layer-4 load-balancing to every switch using P4.

2. Problem

All packets of a connection must be forwarded to the same server, even when server pool changes (aka "per-connection consistency").

Why it is hard:

- 1. Tracking 10M connections at line-rate
- 2. Consistent connection-to-DIP mapping

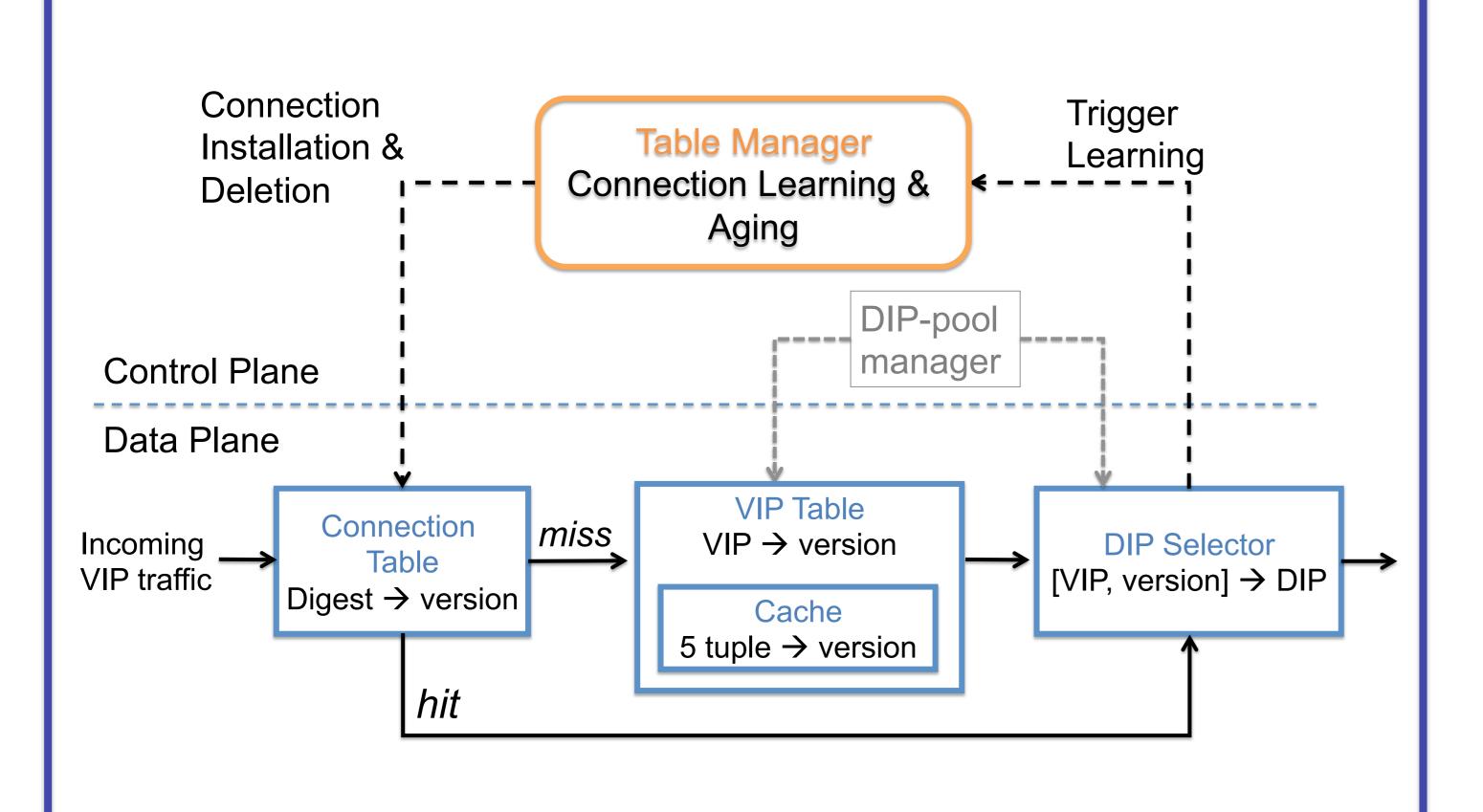
 DIP pool change shouldn't break on-going connections
- 3) Robustness under scanning attacks (DDoS)

 Maintain only "legitimate" 10M connections

3. Our Approach

- Scale: use hash-digest to save H/W memory
 104 bits (5-tuple) → 24 bits (16M digests)

 Multi-stage cuckoo hashing for high-utilization at low collision rate.
- **2. Consistency:** update DIP-pool by 2-phase commit Differentiate connections before/after the update. During update, cache per-connection mappings in hw.



3. Robustness: TCP SYN authentication

