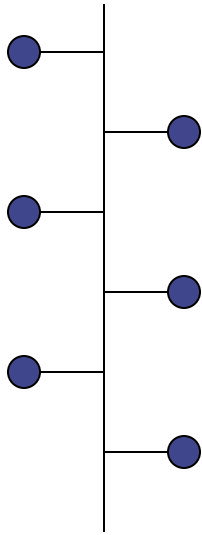
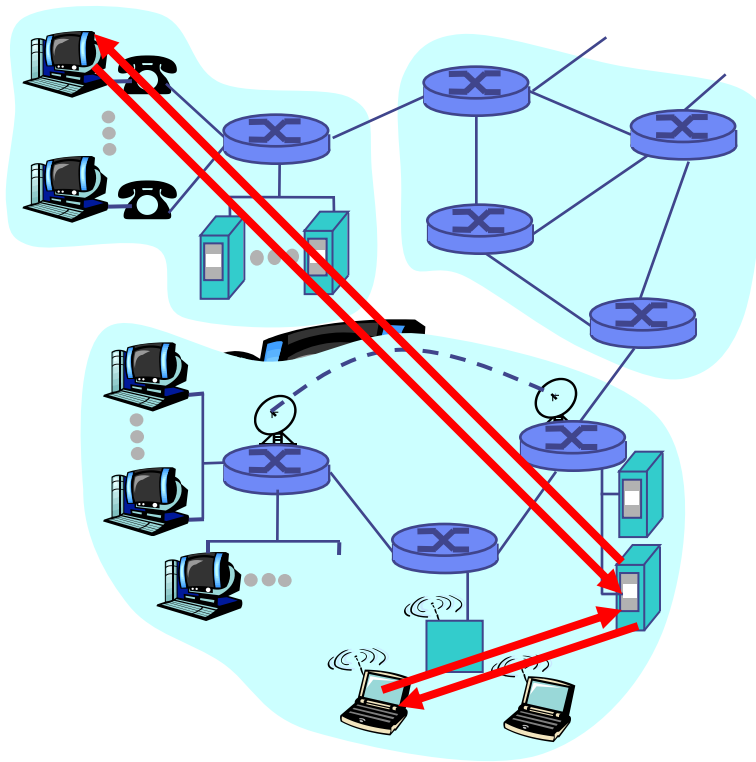


Introduction to Communication Networks and Distributed Systems



Unit 6: P-t-P



server:

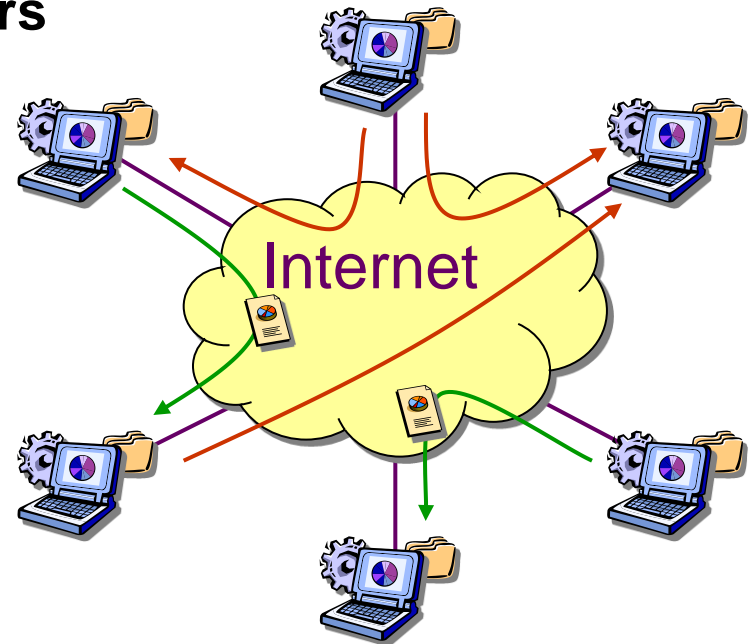
- always-on host
- permanent IP address
- server farms for scaling

clients:

- communicate with server
- may be intermittently connected
- may have dynamic IP addresses
- do not communicate directly with each other

What is P2P?

- A distributed **system architecture**
 - Typically many nodes, but unreliable and heterogeneous
 - Nodes are equivalent in function -**peers**
 - Take advantage of distributed, shared resources (bandwidth, CPU, storage) on peer-nodes
- DATA can be at ANY node !
- Fault-tolerant, self-organizing
 - Operate in dynamic environment, frequent join and leave is the norm



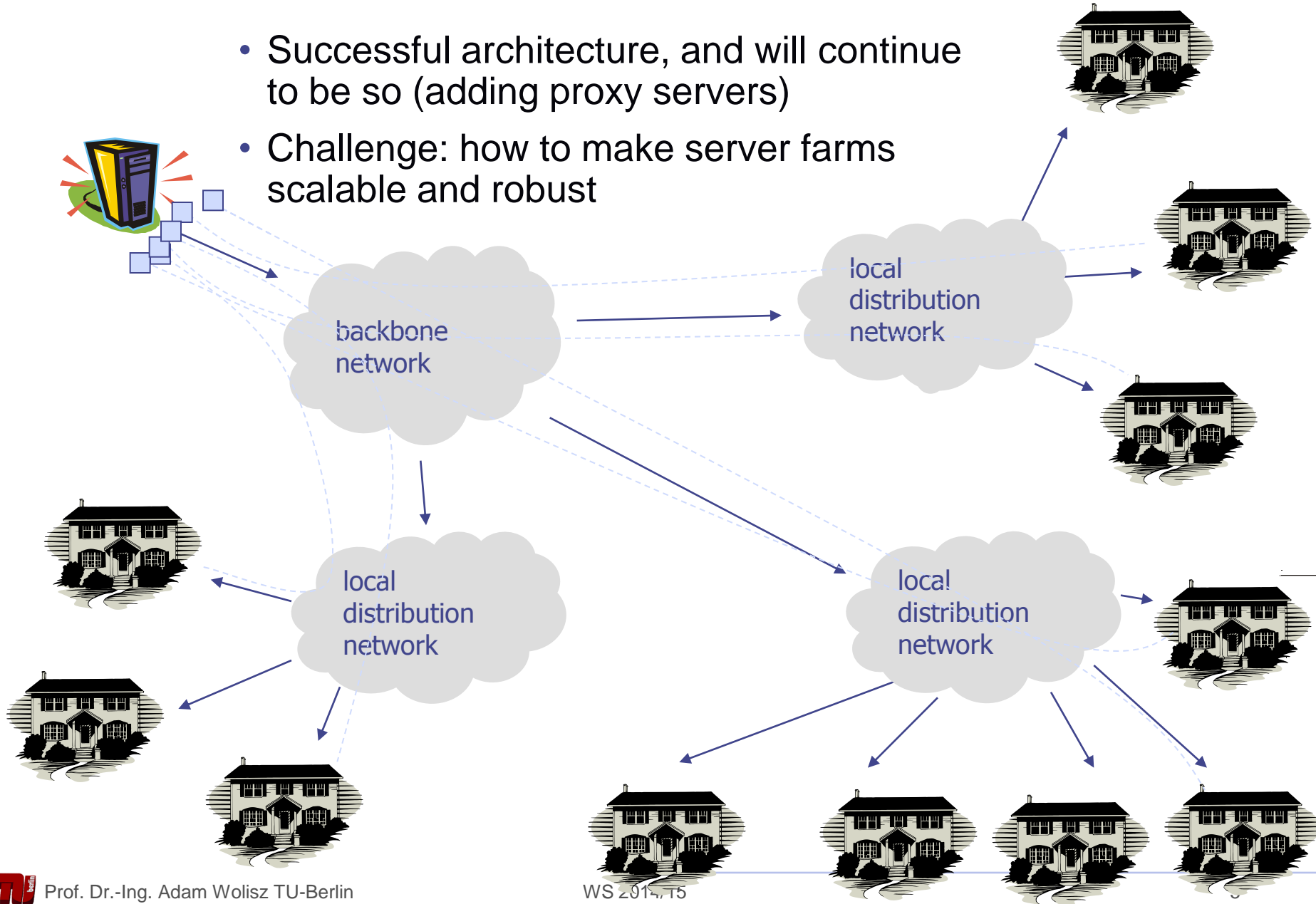
How Did it start?

- A killer application: Free music over the Internet
- Key idea: share the **content**, storage *and* bandwidth of individual (home) users
- Each user stores a subset of files
- Each user has access (can download) files from all users in the system

Client-Server Downloads

[Ana Preston; internet2]

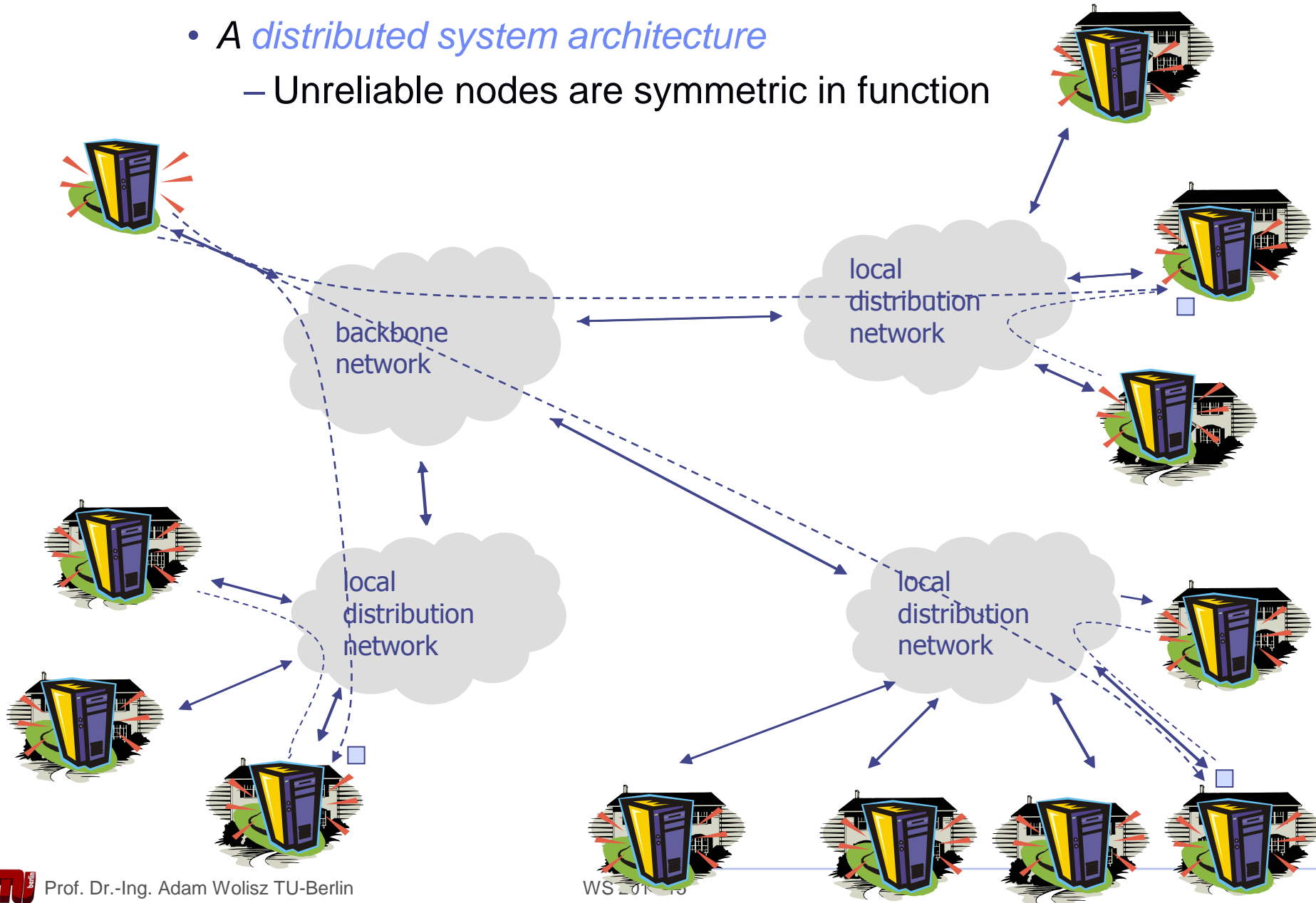
- Successful architecture, and will continue to be so (adding proxy servers)
- Challenge: how to make server farms scalable and robust



Peer-to-Peer (P2P) support

[Ana Preston; internet2]

- A *distributed system architecture*
 - Unreliable nodes are symmetric in function

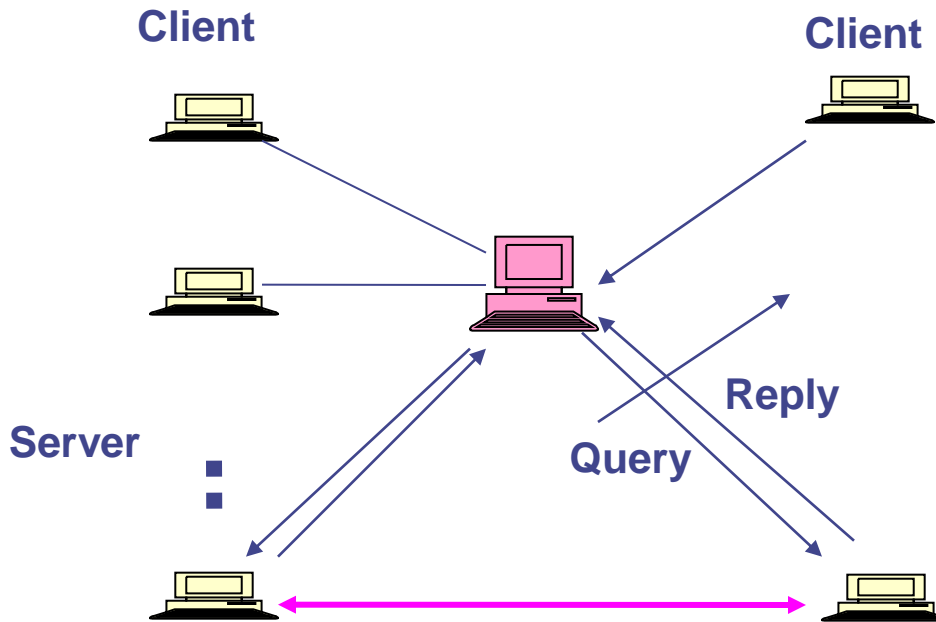


Challenges

- Main Challenge: Find where a particular file is stored
- Scale: up to hundred of thousands or millions of machines
- Dynamicity: machines can come and go any time
- “Quality” of Searches:
 - Recall (% of all relevant items retrieved)
 - Distinct Recall (% of all relevant distinct items retrieved)
 - Response Time (Latency) to 1st result

- Assume a centralized index system that maps files (songs) to machines that are alive
- Nodes Register their contents with this index
- How to find a file (song)
 - Query the index system → return a machine that stores the file
! Ideally this is the closest/least-loaded machine !
 - ftp the file (directly from the holder!)
- Advantages:
 - Simplicity, easy to implement sophisticated search engines on top of the index system
 - Access Control possibilities
- Disadvantages:
 - Robustness, scalability (?)
- ***napster.com responsible for users' copyright violation***
 - ***“Indirect infringement”***

Napster model



Server might return a LIST of candidates:

- Client Checks them in turn – might check the availability and connectivity (bit rates)
- Client decides where to download from...

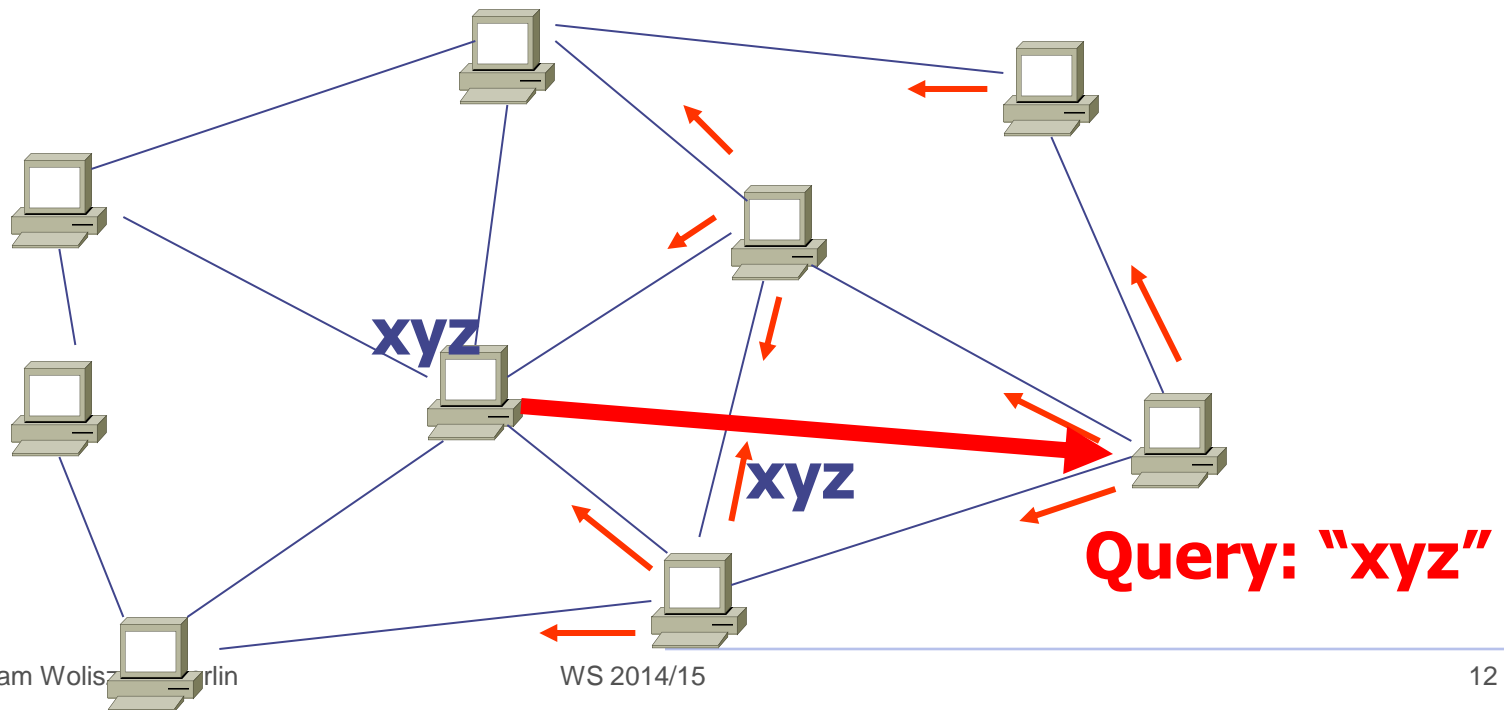
All Communication uses TCP!

Entirely Decentralized scheme GNUTELLA

- Every user acts as a client, a server or both (servent).
- User connects to a framework and becomes a member of the community, allowing others to connect through him/her
- Users speak directly to other users with no intermediate or central authority
- Not one entity controls the information that passes through the community

- How to find a file:
 - Send request to all neighbors
 - Neighbors recursively multicast the request
 - Eventually a machine that has the file receives the request, and it sends back the answer (reverse path – directly!)
- Advantages:
 - Totally decentralized, highly robust
- Disadvantages:
 - Not scalable; the entire network can be swamped with request
 - Bound the number of retransmissions of any query (TTL)

- Gnutella protocol has 5 main message types
 - Query
 - QueryHit (response to query)
 - Ping (to probe network for other peers)
 - Pong (reply to ping, contains address of another peer)
 - Push (used to initiate file transfer)



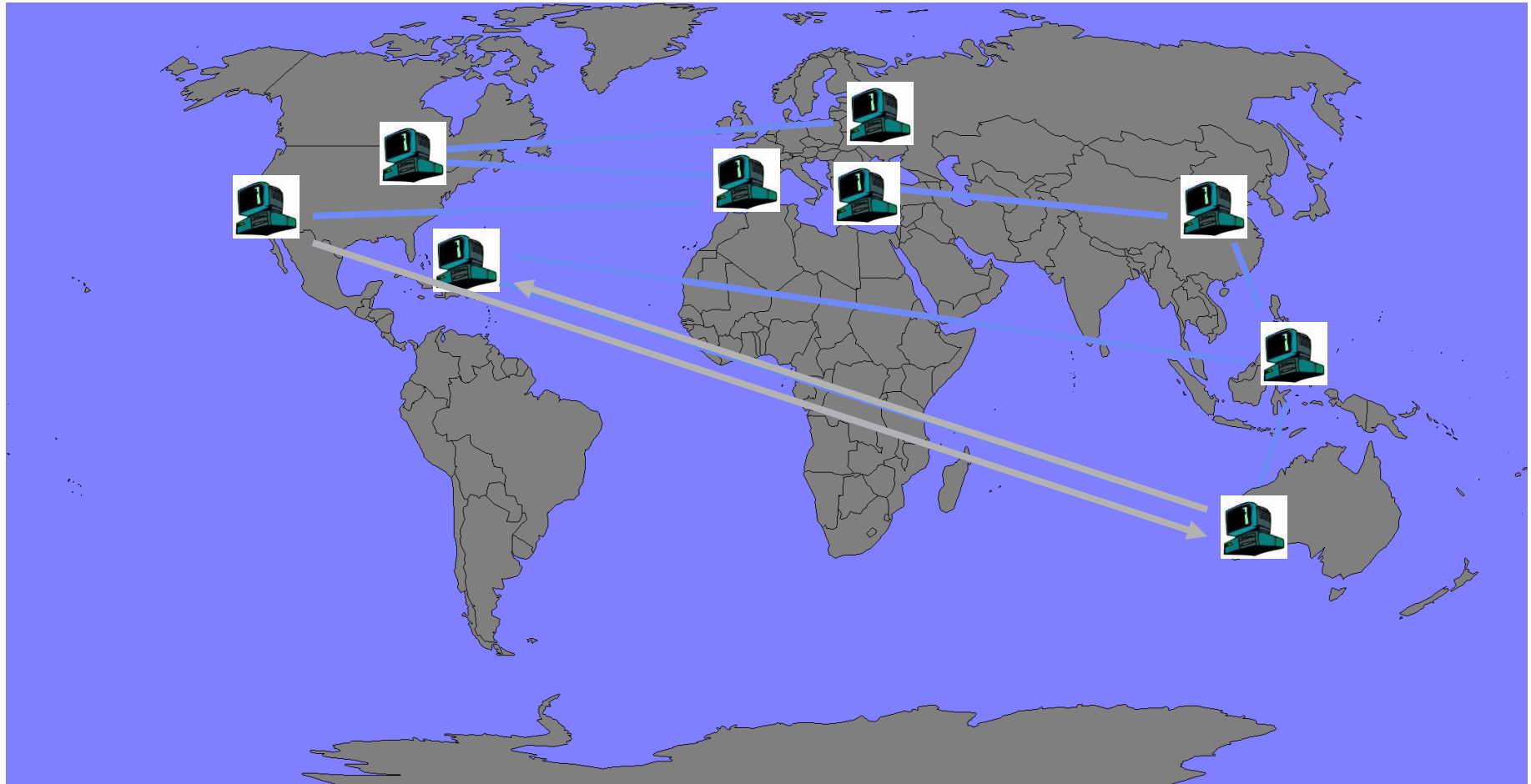
- Periodic Ping-pong to update neighbor lists in spite of peers joining/leaving
- Requestor chooses best QueryHit responder
 - Initiates HTTP request directly to responder's ip+port

```
GET /get/<File Index>/<File Name>/HTTP/1.0\r\n
Connection: Keep-Alive\r\n
Range: bytes=0-\filesize\r\n
User-Agent: Gnutella\r\n
\r\n
```
- Responder then replies with file packets following:

```
HTTP 200 OK\r\n
Server:Gnutella\r\n
Content-type:application/binary\r\n
Content-length: 1024 \r\n
\r\n
```

Avoiding excessive traffic

- To avoid duplicate transmissions, each peer maintains a list of recently received messages
 - Query forwarded to all neighbors except peer from which received
 - Each Query (identified by DescriptorID) forwarded only once
 - QueryHit routed back only to peer from which Query received with same DescriptorID
 - Duplicates with same DescriptorID and Payload descriptor (msg type) are dropped
 - QueryHit with DescriptorID for which Query not seen is dropped
- Multiple ideas for further performance improvements
 - Forwarding Queries only to some randomly chosen directions
 - Reduced number of messages, reduced



- Does really everybody contribute?
 - Some data – see fig. - More than 25% of Gnutella clients share no files; 75% share 100 files or less
 - Others claim up to 75% user with marginal contributions...
- **Gnutella has a high percentage of free riders**
- If only a few individuals contribute to the public good, these few peers effectively act as centralized servers.

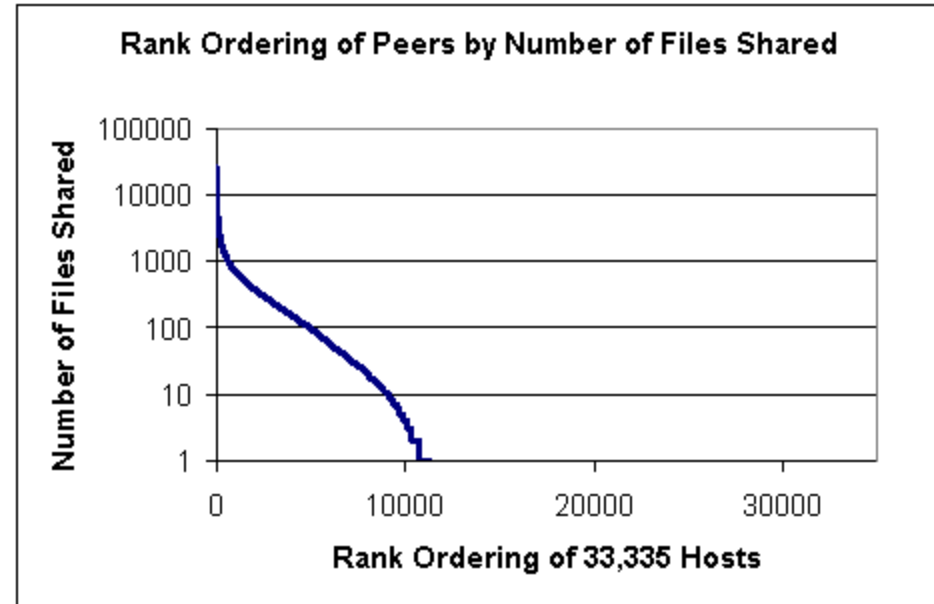
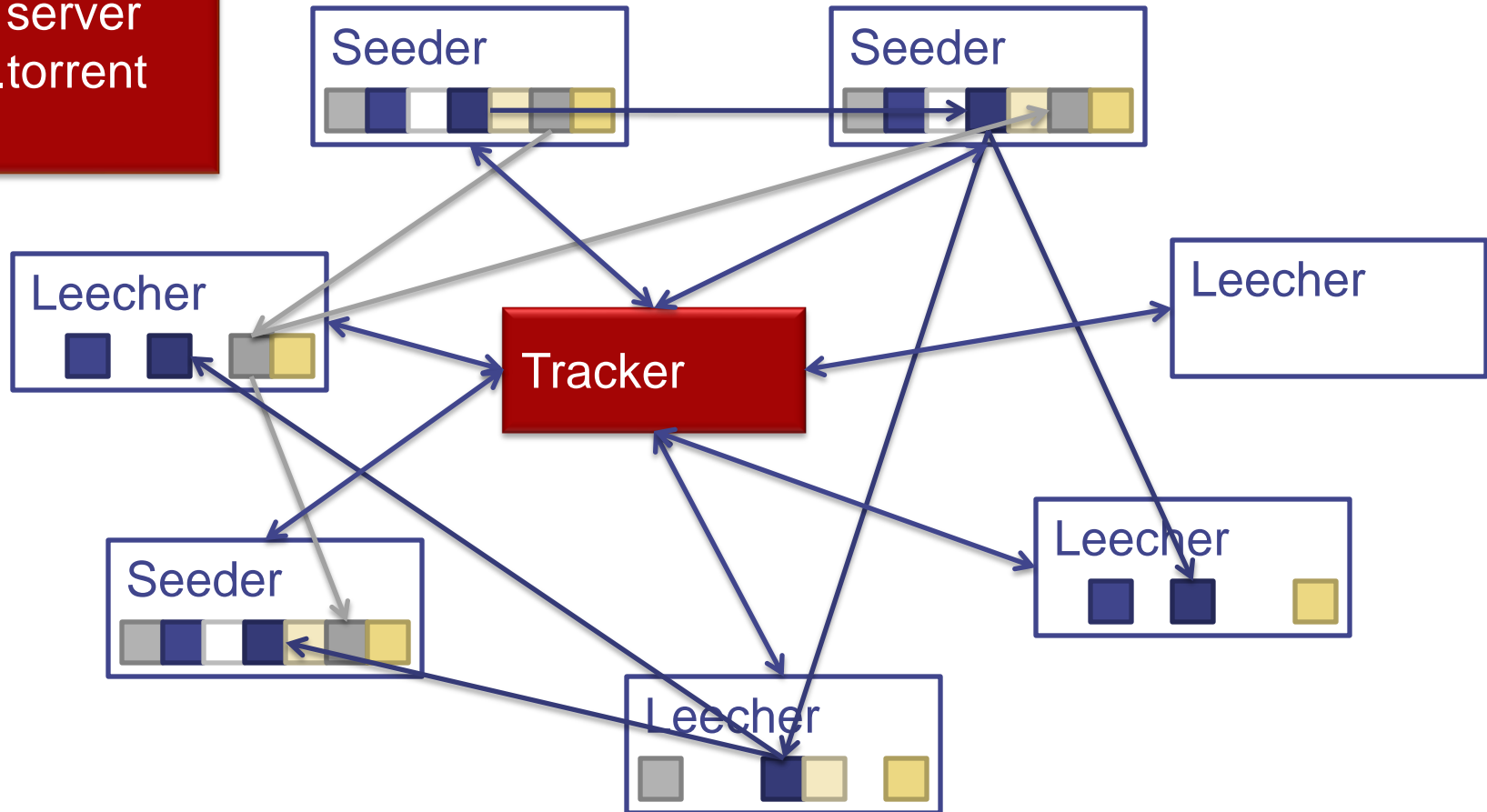


Figure 1

Adar and Huberman (Aug '00)

BitTorrent

Web server
with .torrent
file



BitTorrent: Approach

- Peer downloads the torrent file from a web server with following information
 - File data: name, length, etc.
 - Tracker URL
 - SHA1 value of the file blocks
- Assumed
 - At least one seeder exists
 - Peer registers with the tracker
- Approach
 - Tracker sends a randomly chosen selection of peers (approx. 40)
 - Peer creates direct connections to the submitted participants
 - Peer downloads file block-wise from the neighboring peers
 - If list of neighbors contains less than 20 neighbors, than new list is requested from the tracker

BitTorrent: Details

- Block transmission via TCP connections
- Each block is divided into sub blocks of 16 KB
- Transmission in pipelining mode
- Before a new block is requested, the missing sub-blocks from old blocks are completed
- Which packet should be requested next?
 - "Rarest First": Packet with the least number of replications among the known peers
 - Coupon Collector Problem
 - "Random First Piece": First packet is randomly chosen
 - ⇒ Gain significant number of packets so the peer is able to distribute packets too
 - "Endgame Mode": Request all packets from all connected peers

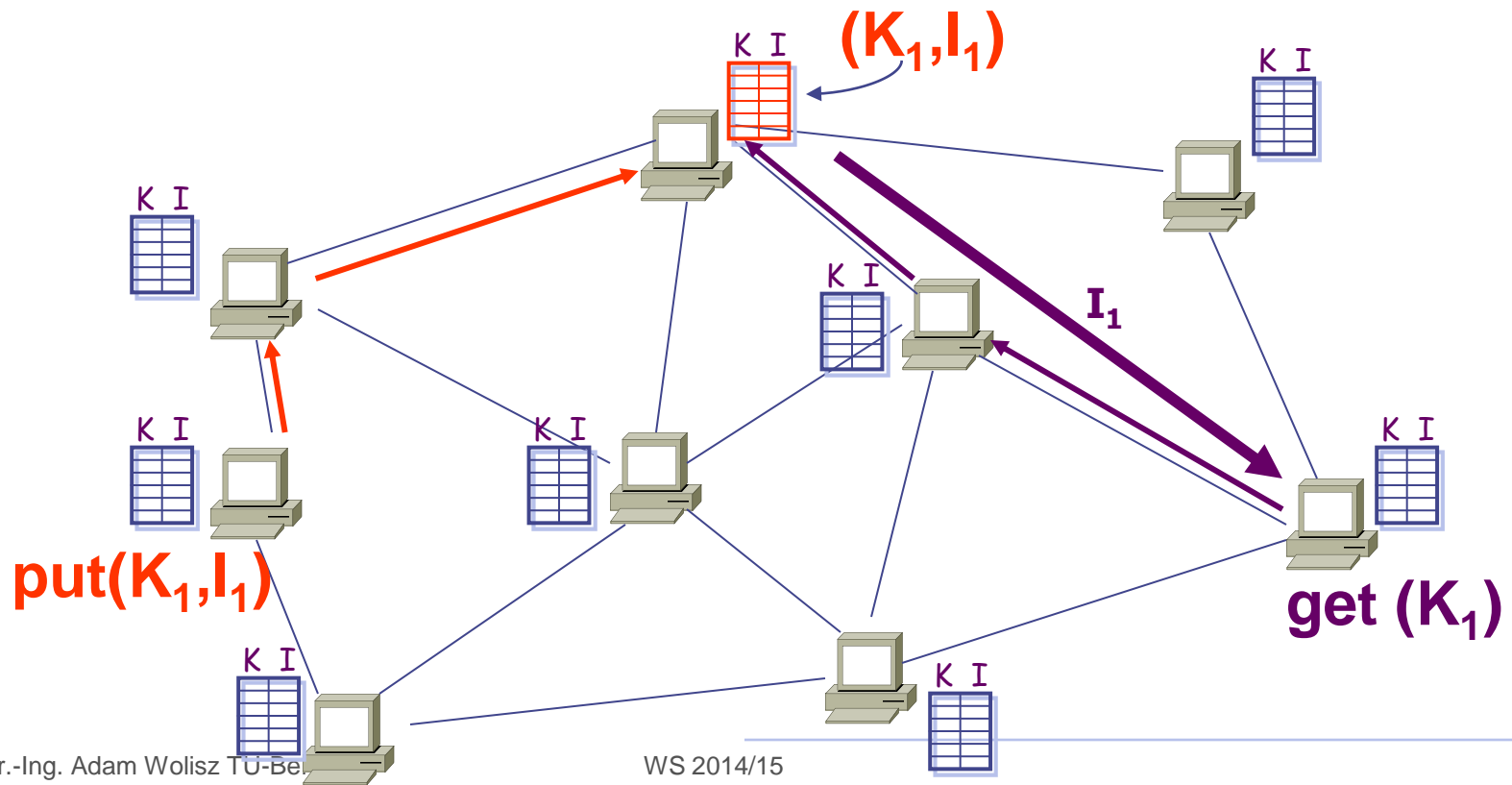
BitTorrent: Tit for Tat

- How can we prevent that users consume but do not distribute content?
- Basic idea
 - Send content only to participants that also distribute content (Tit for Tat)
- Problems
 - Some peers do not have enough content to distribute
 - Some peers have poor network connectivity so no one selects those for download
 - How can we detect peers that do not distribute (enough)?

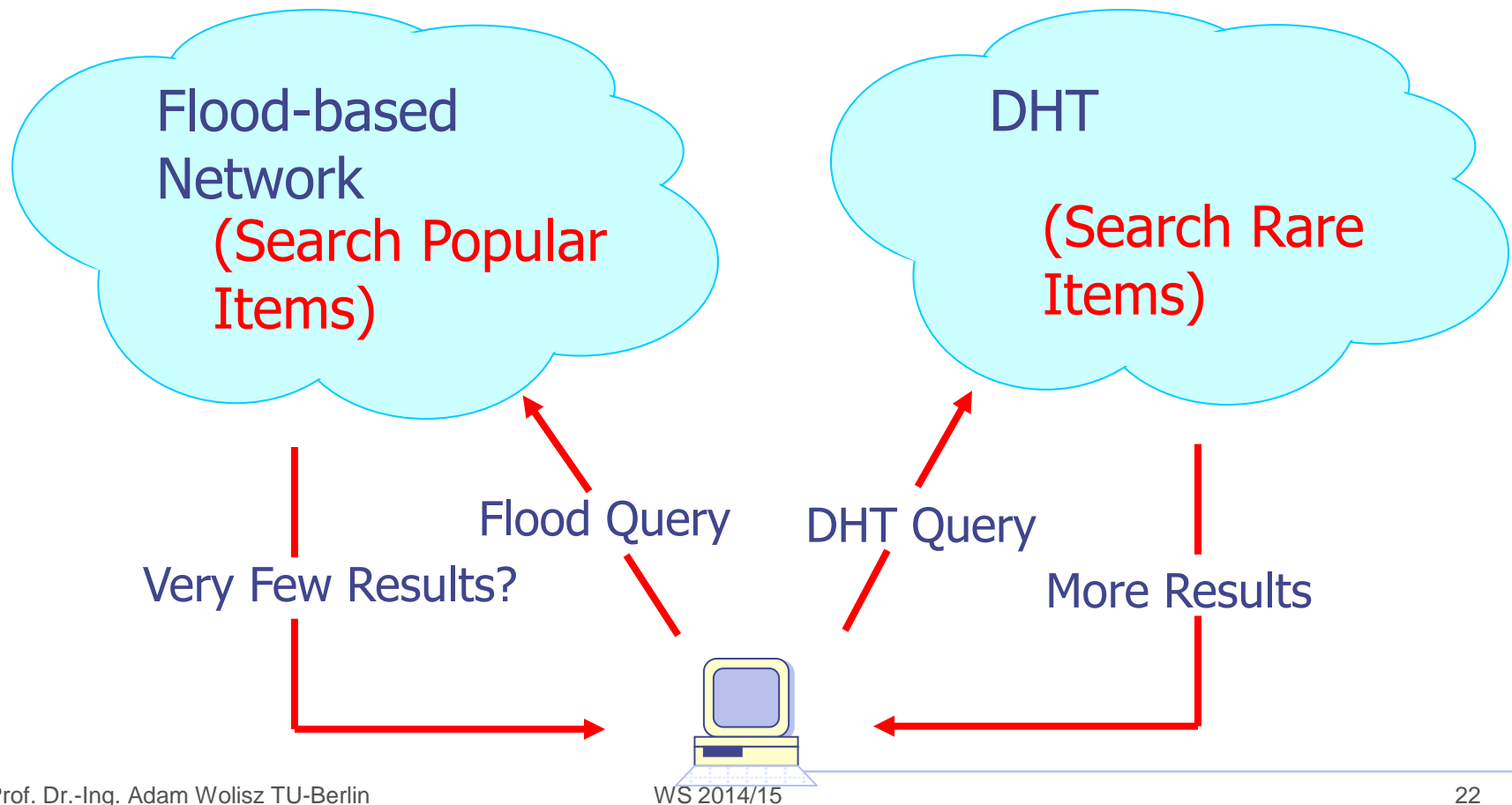
- Is there some way of maintaining meta-information about peers that leads to more intelligent search?
- ➔ Distributed Hash Tables (DHTs)

interface: **put(key,item)**, **get(key)**, **delete(key)**

- Guarantees on recall – critical if few copies...



Hybrid = “Best of both worlds”



Peer-to-Peer Applications...

- NUMEROUS!!!
- Well known example: SKYPE....