

PhD Thesis

# EFFICIENCY AND SECURITY IN PEER-TO-PEER STREAMING PROTOCOLS



DOCTORADO EN INFORMÁTICA (RD99/11)

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS

UNIVERSITY OF ALMERÍA

SPAIN

Author

**CRISTÓBAL MEDINA LÓPEZ**

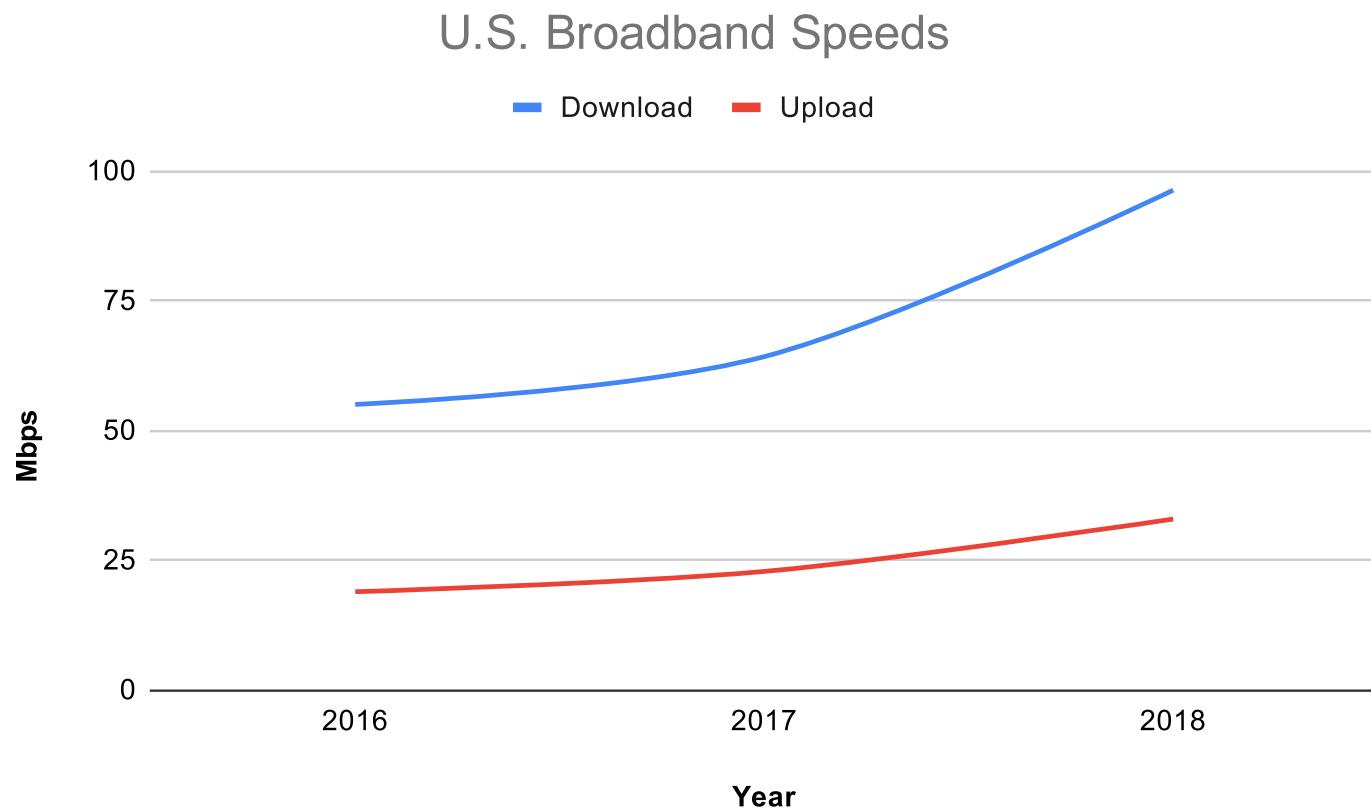
Supervisors

**DR. LEOCADIO GONZÁLEZ CASADO**

**DR. VICENTE GONZÁLEZ RUIZ**

November 11, 2019

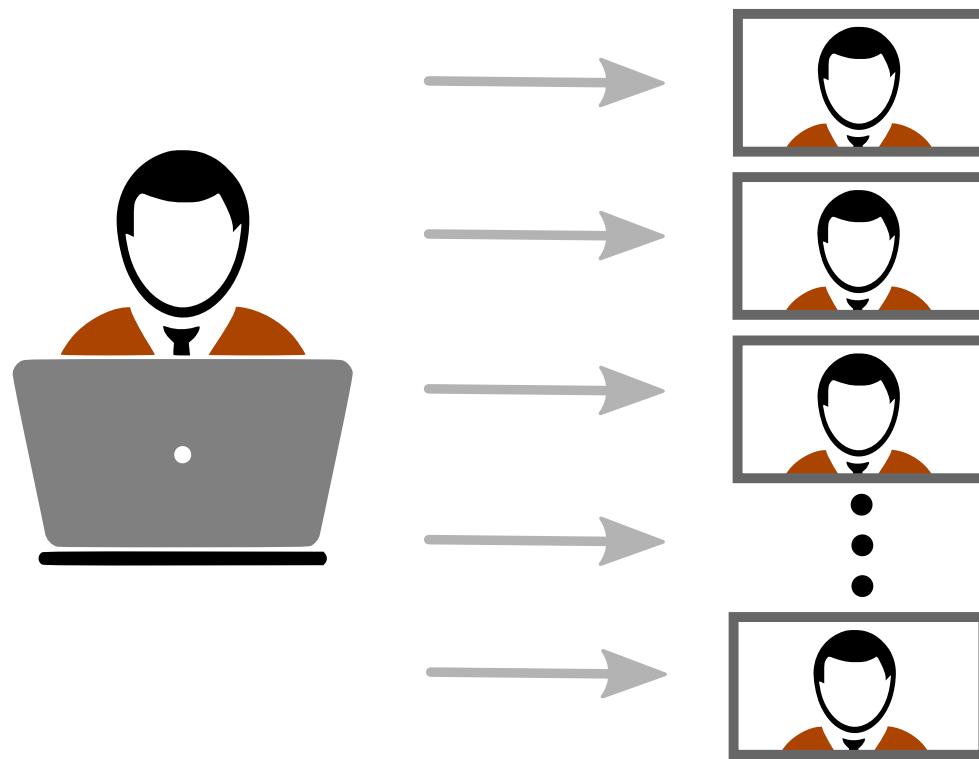
# INTERNET HAS CHANGED THE WAY WE COMMUNICATE



Source: <https://www.speedtest.net/reports/>

# HIGH QUALITY STREAMING TO THE LARGEST NUMBER OF USERS

with lowest cost in the shortest possible time



# OUTLINE

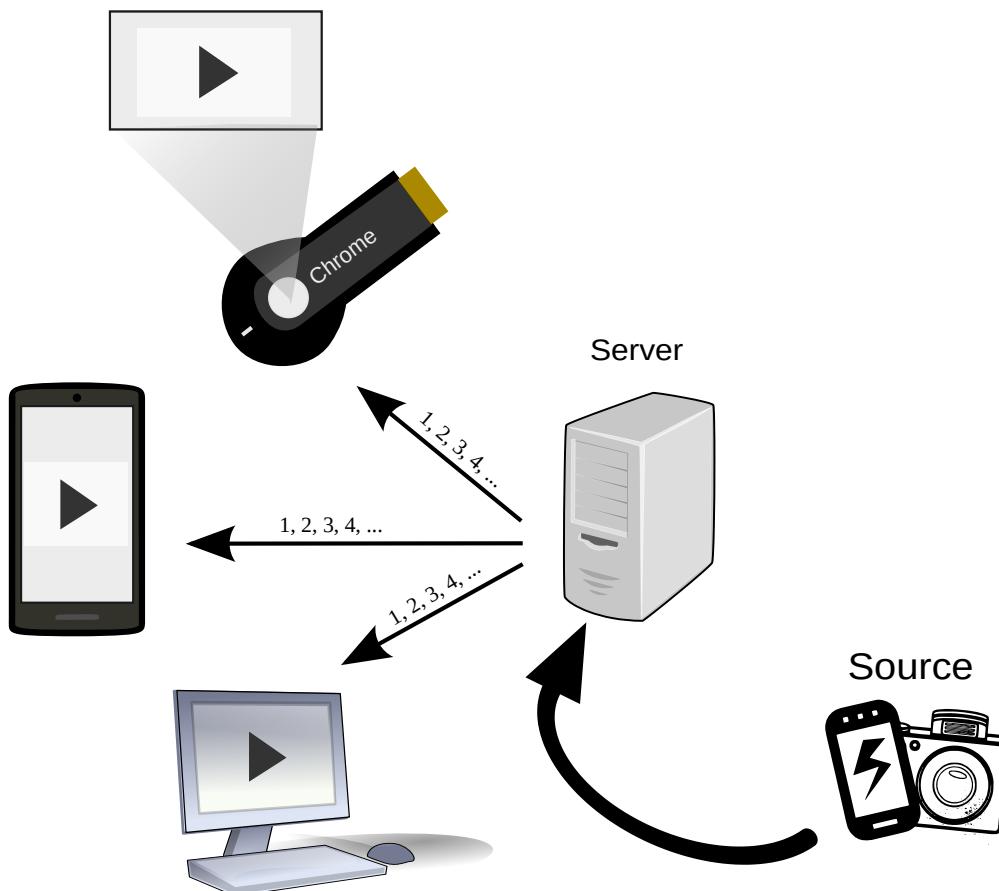
- **INTRODUCTION**
  - Background
  - Research Questions
- **PEER TO PEER STRAIGHFORWARD PROTOCOL**
  - An application-layer protocol that provides real-time broadcasting on the Internet
- **SECURITY**
  - Pollution Attacks
  - Strategies applied to Traditional Networks
  - Strategies applied to Software Defined Networks
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  - NAT Traversal using Collaborative Port Prediction
  - Runing P2PSP on Embedded Devices
- **CONCLUSIONS**
  - Key Results and Future Work

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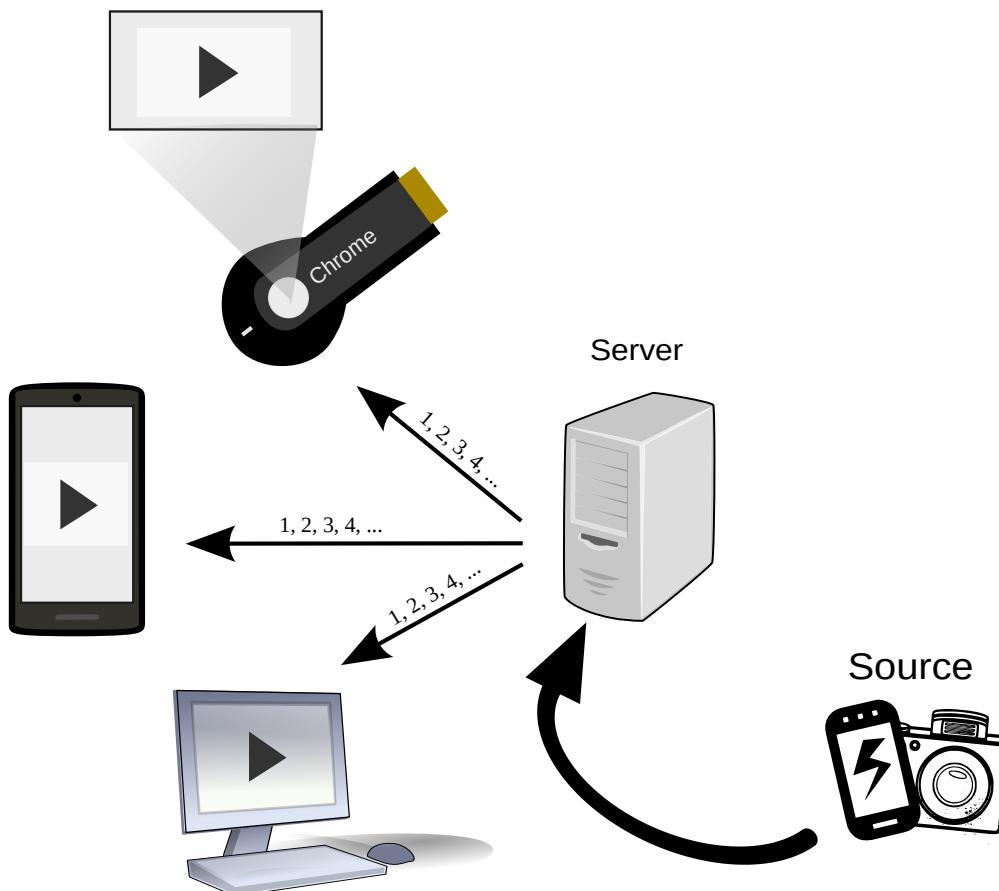
# MOST POPULAR SOLUTIONS

## CLIENT-SERVER MODEL



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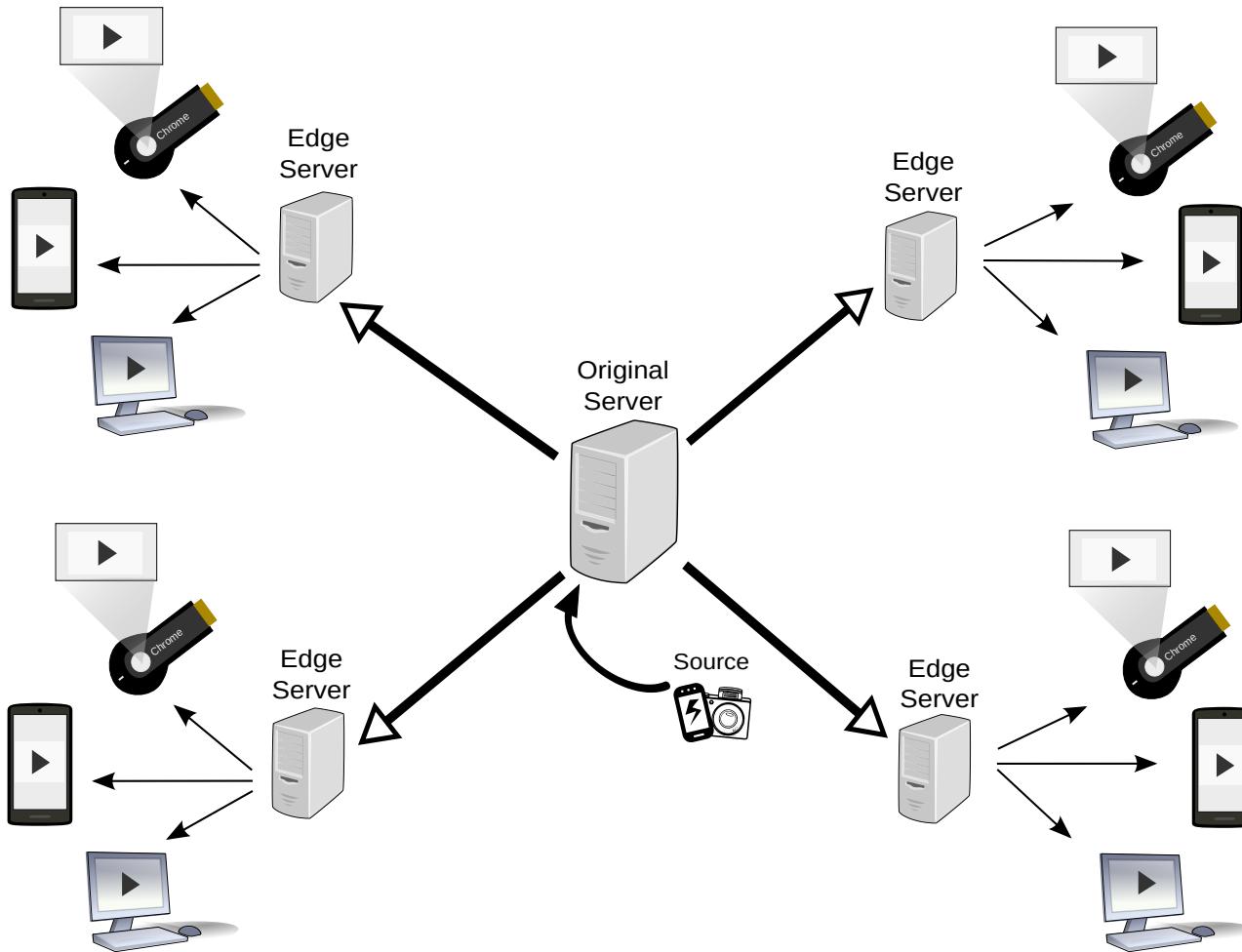
## CLIENT-SERVER MODEL



It is not scalable without replication

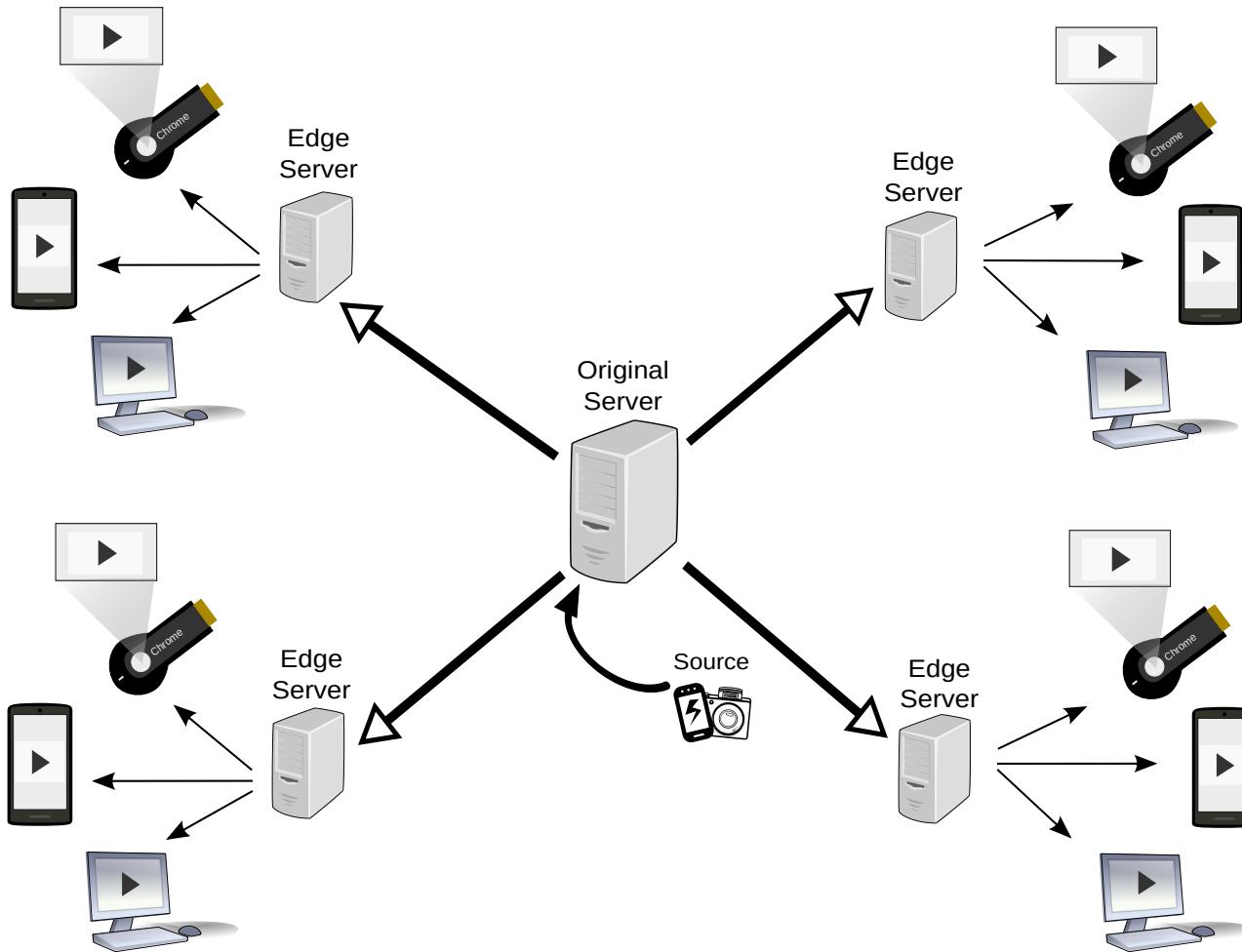
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## CONTENT DELIVERY NETWORKS



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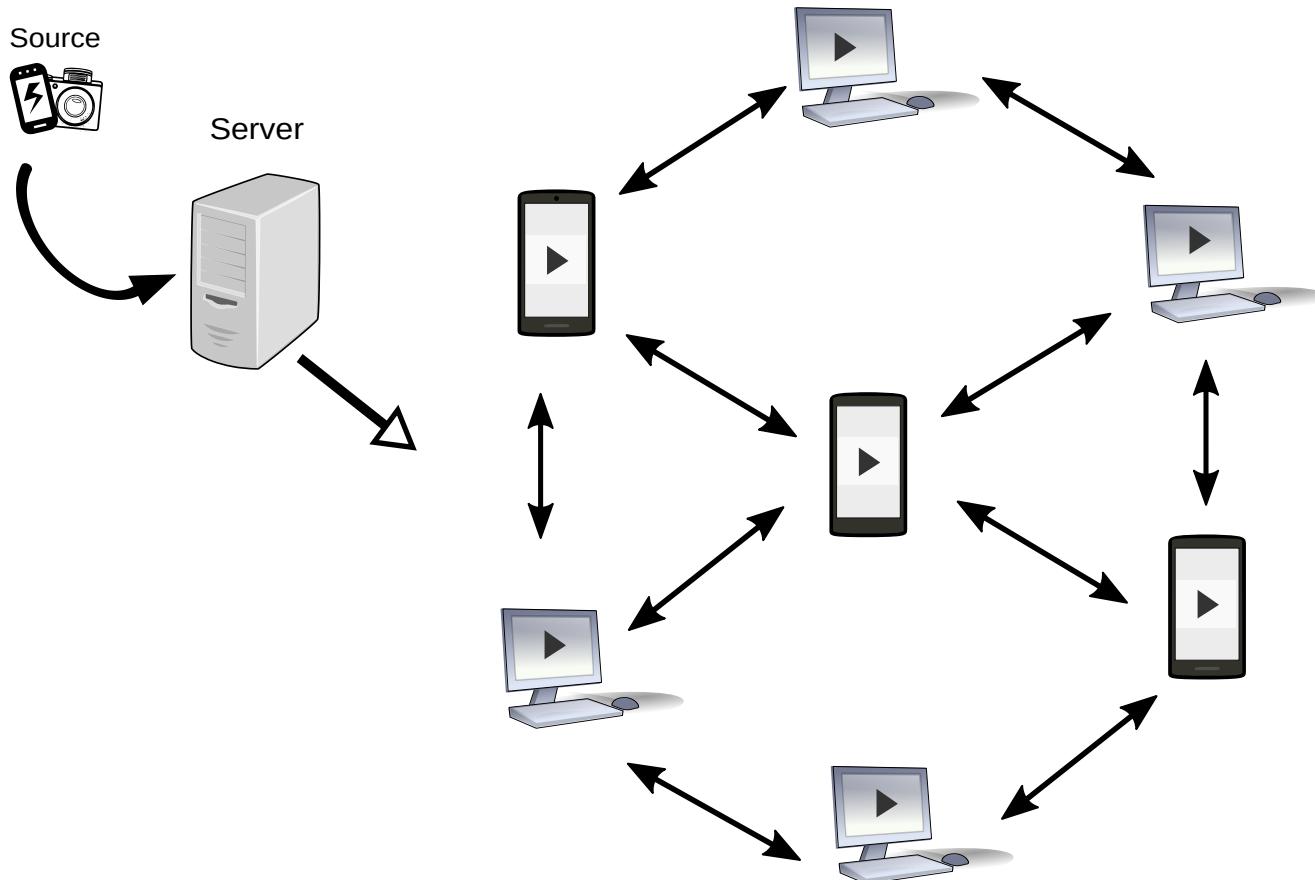
## CONTENT DELIVERY NETWORKS



Significant increase in the cost of the infrastructure

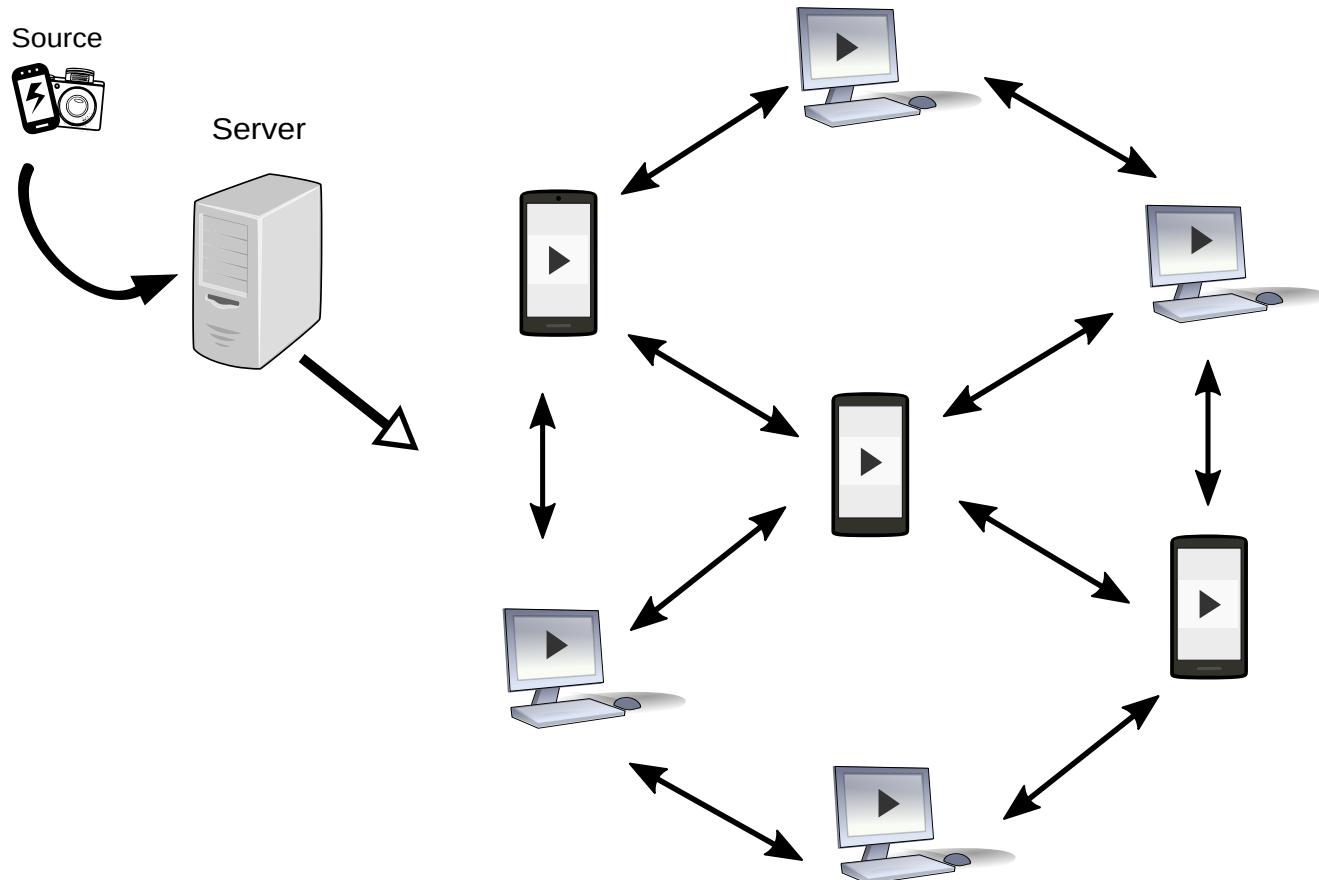
# ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION

## PEER-TO-PEER NETWORKS



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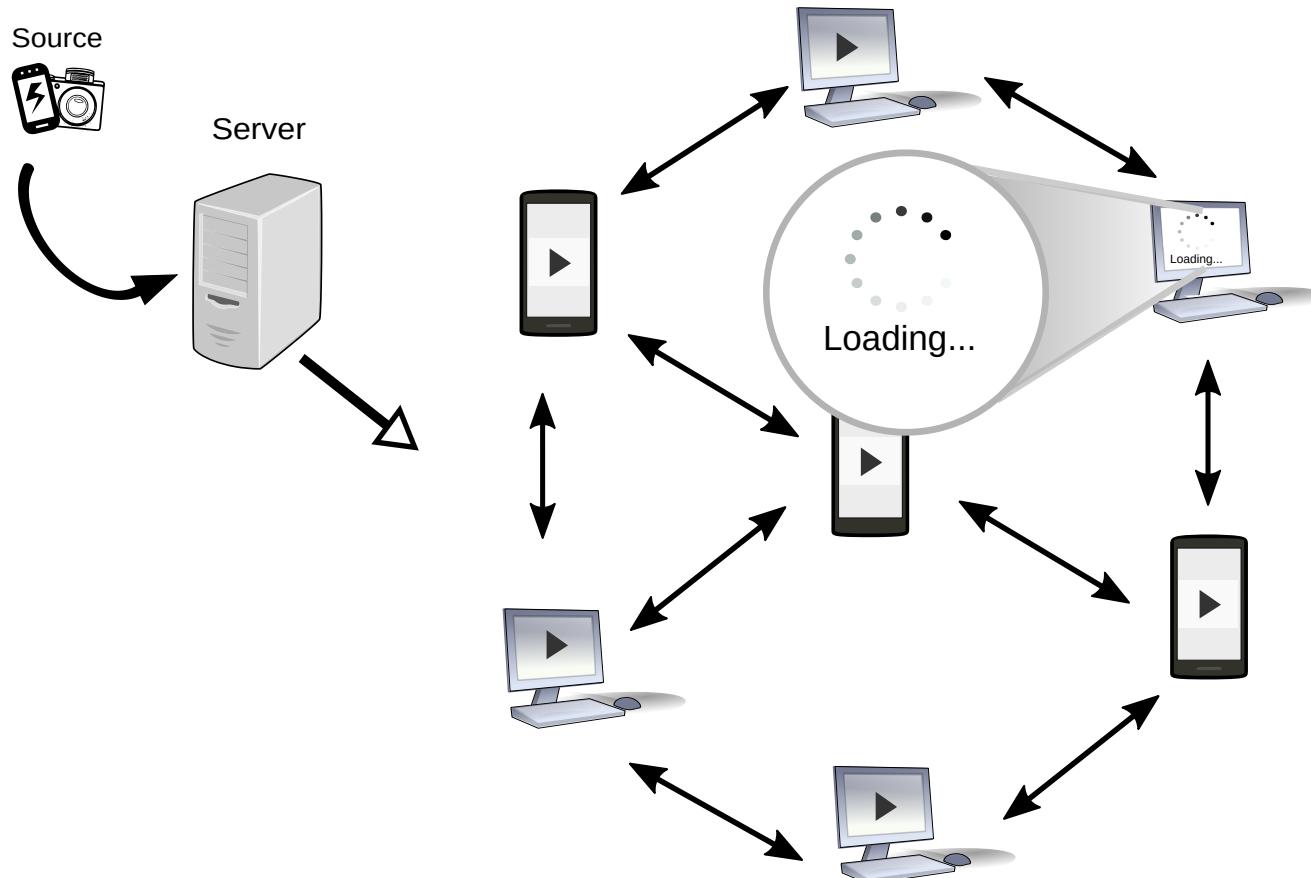
## PEER-TO-PEER NETWORKS



Latency, Security, Network Limitations, Client Resources

# PEER-TO-PEER NETWORKS

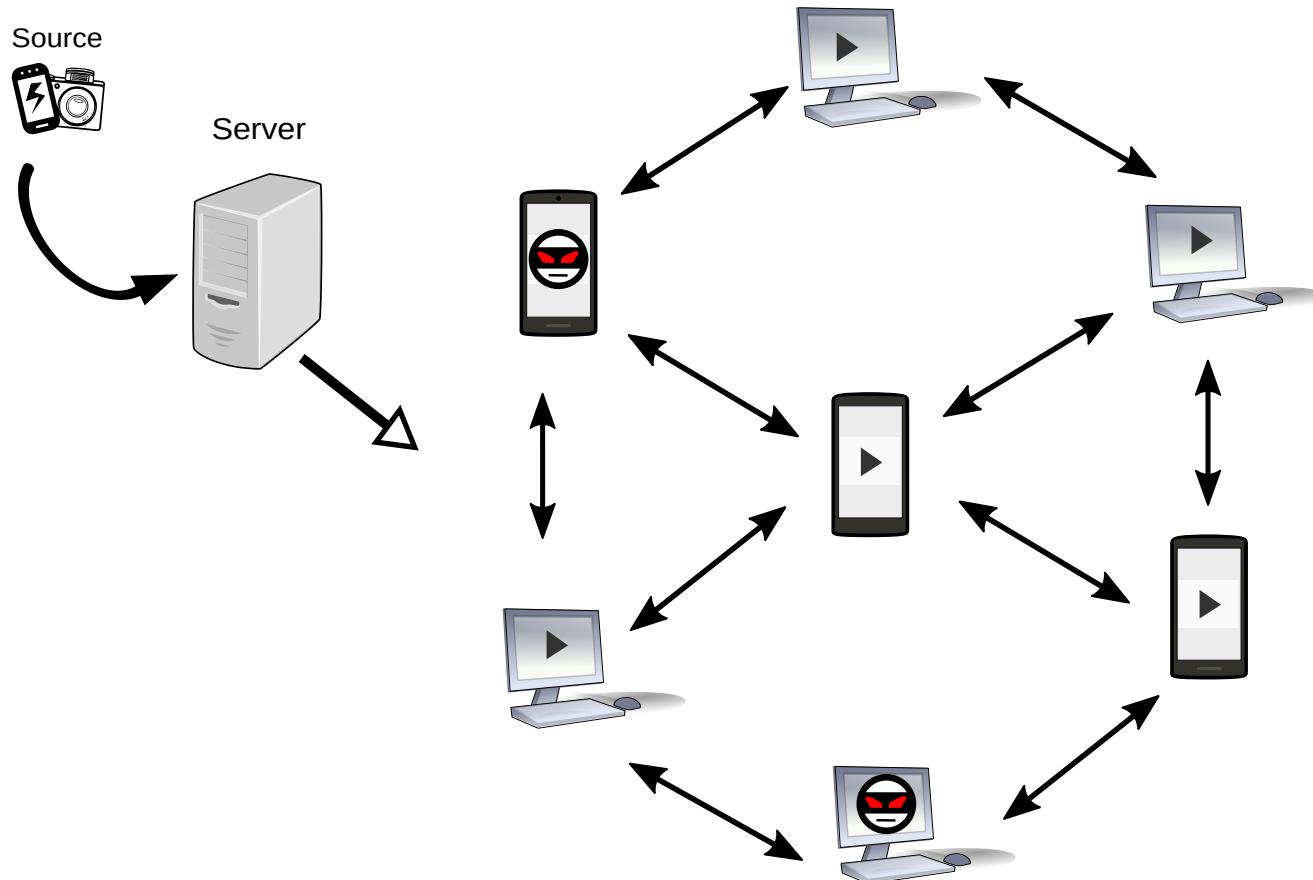
## PROBLEMS: LATENCY



Because of its distributed approach, sometimes there is a considerable delay from when the content is generated until users play it.

# PEER-TO-PEER NETWORKS

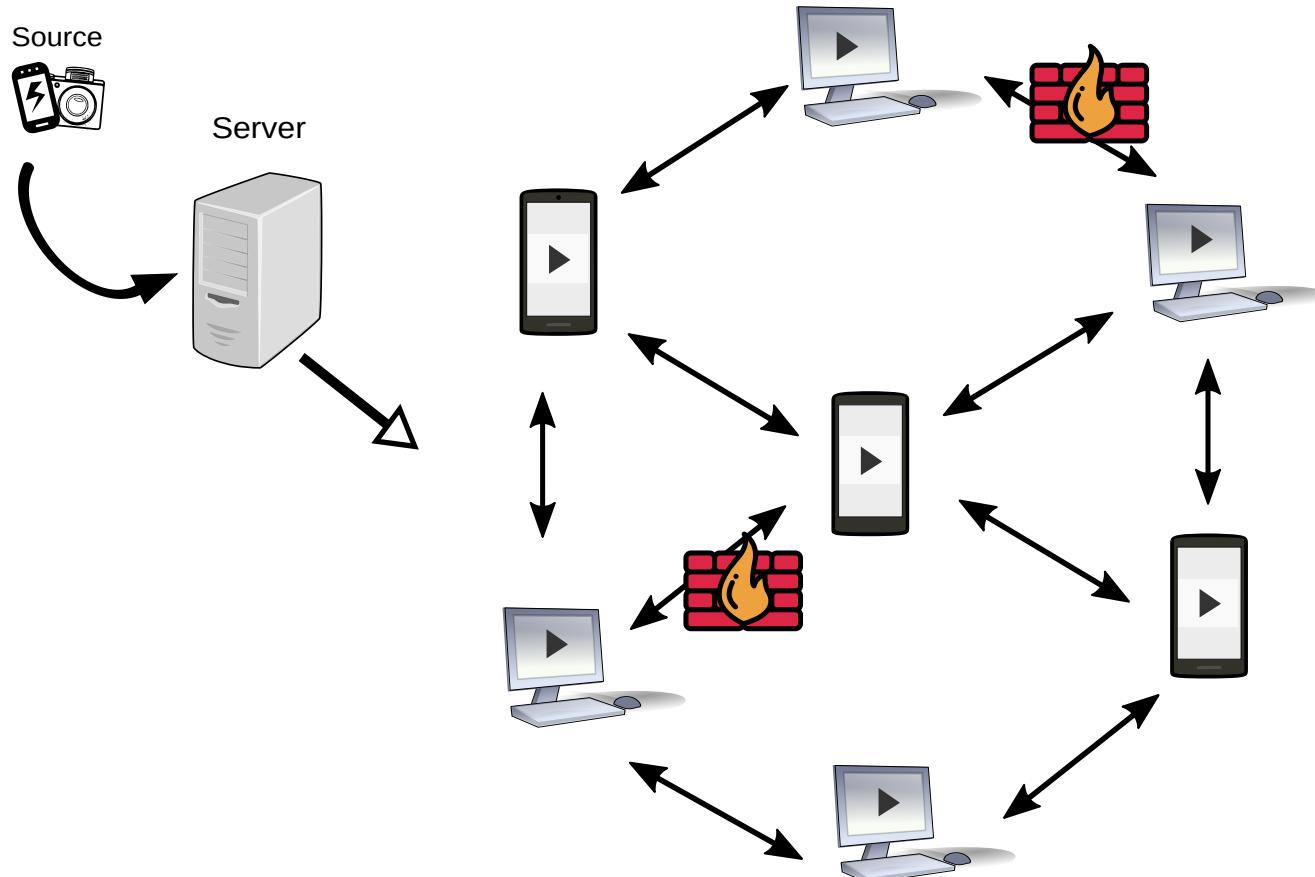
## PROBLEMS: SECURITY



The anonymity provided by most P2P networks leads to malicious peers attacking in different ways: denial of service attacks, poisoning of content, avoiding sharing their resources, etc.

# PEER-TO-PEER NETWORKS

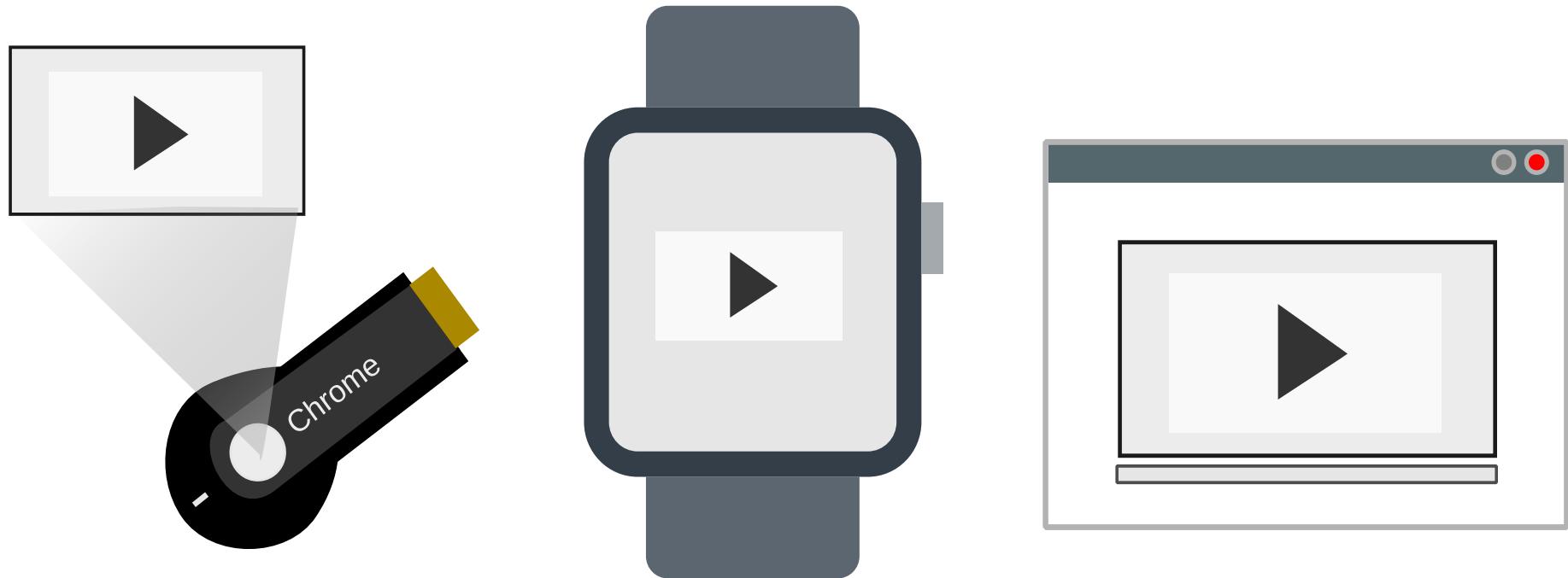
## PROBLEMS: NETWORK LIMITATIONS



Limitations in networks caused by peers behind NATs and firewalls.

# PEER-TO-PEER NETWORKS

## PROBLEMS: CLIENT RESOURCES



The complexity of most of the P2P applications, result in they can not be executed on some types of devices. Especially in those with low resources.

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*Would our protocol be straightforward enough to be run on low-resource devices?*

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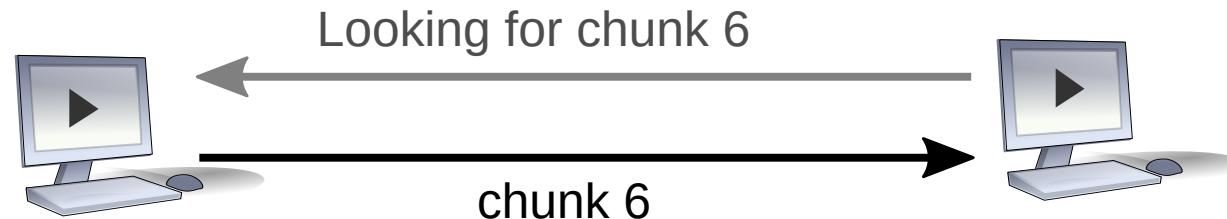
# PULL-MODEL VS PUSH-MODEL

GOAL: REDUCE LATENCY BY KEEPING IT AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE

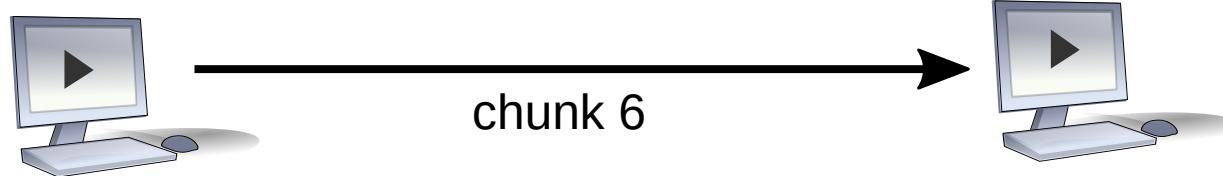
Peer A

Peer B

PULL



PUSH







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- **AN OPEN-SOURCE ([GNU GPL V3](#)) IMPLEMENTATION IS AVAILABLE ON [GITHUB](#).**



Google Summer of Code

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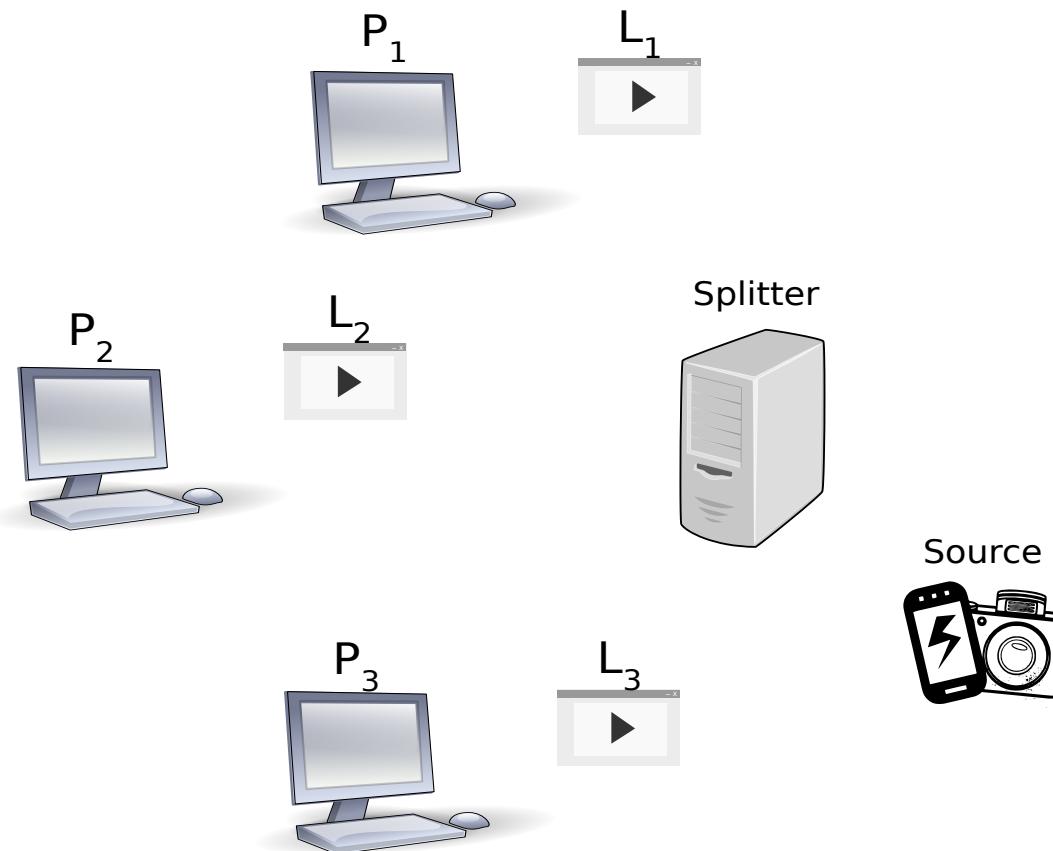
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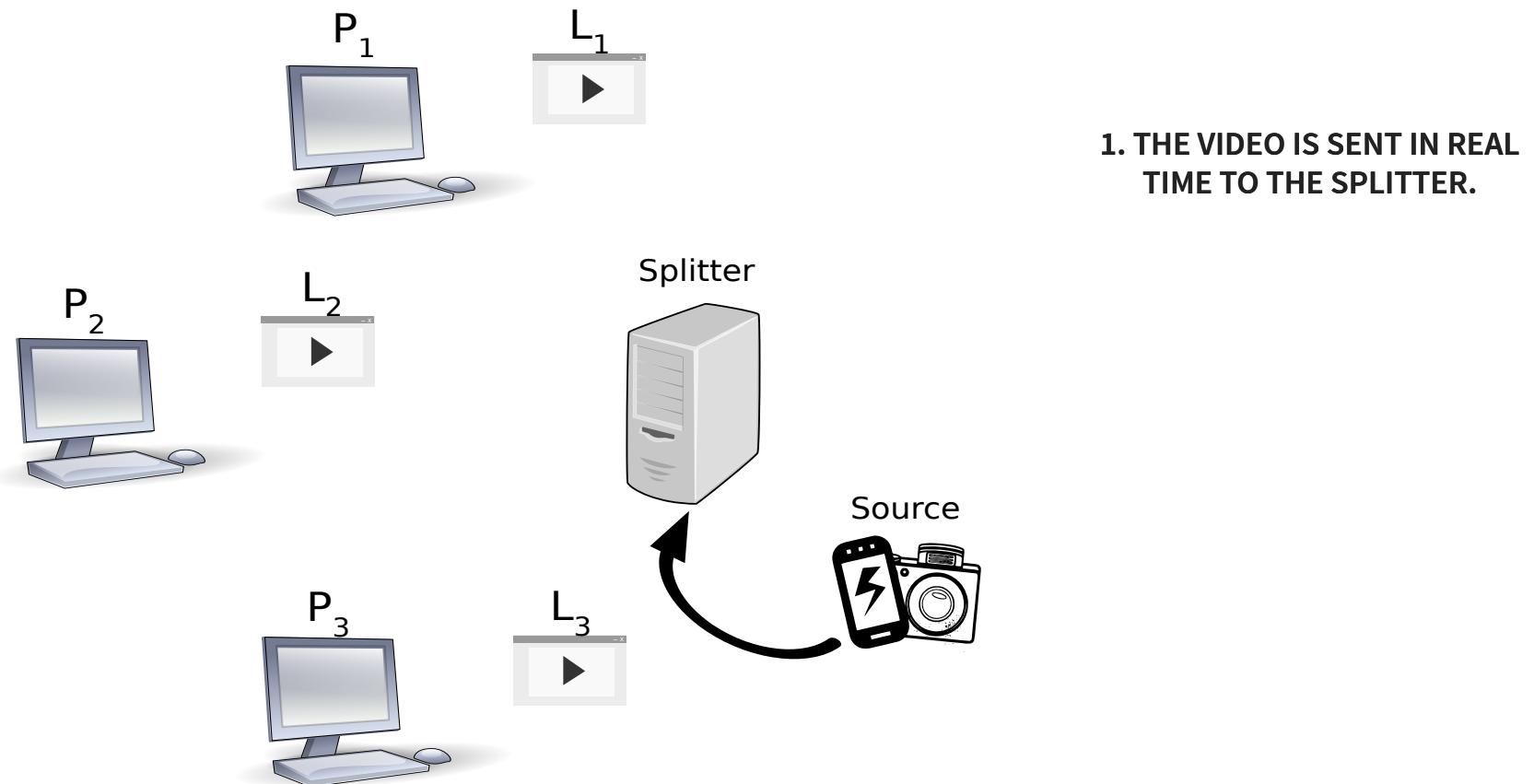
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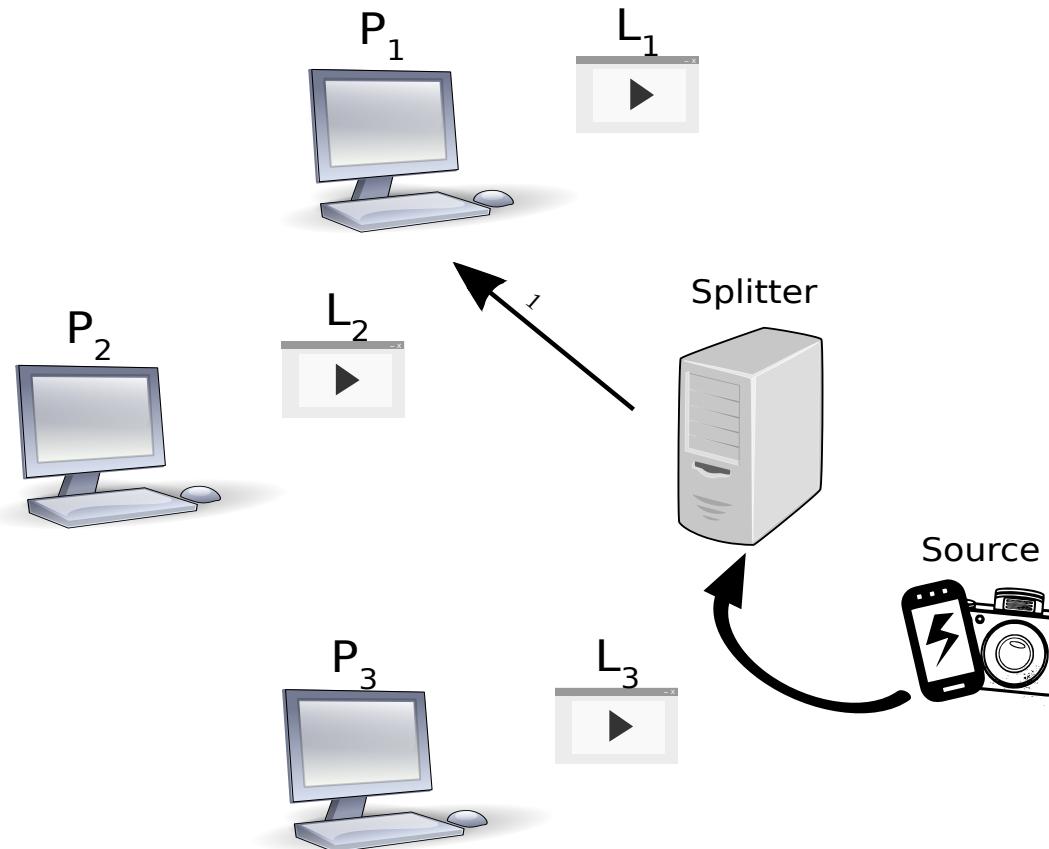
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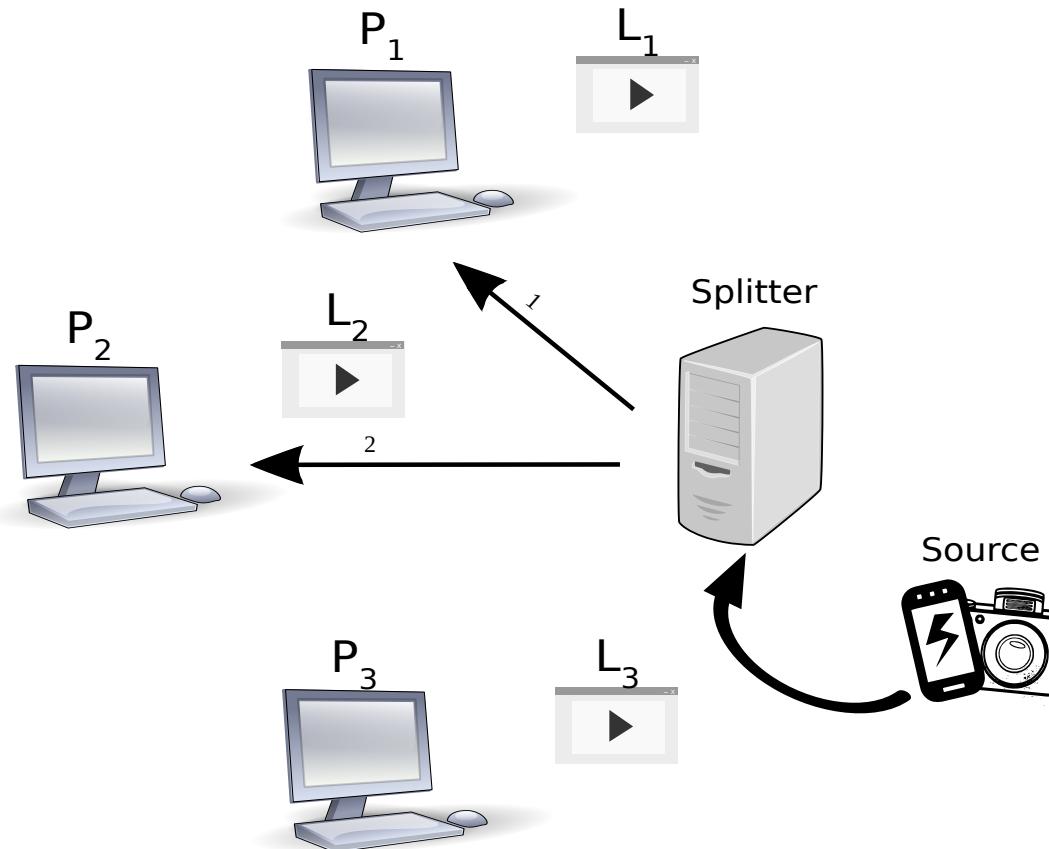


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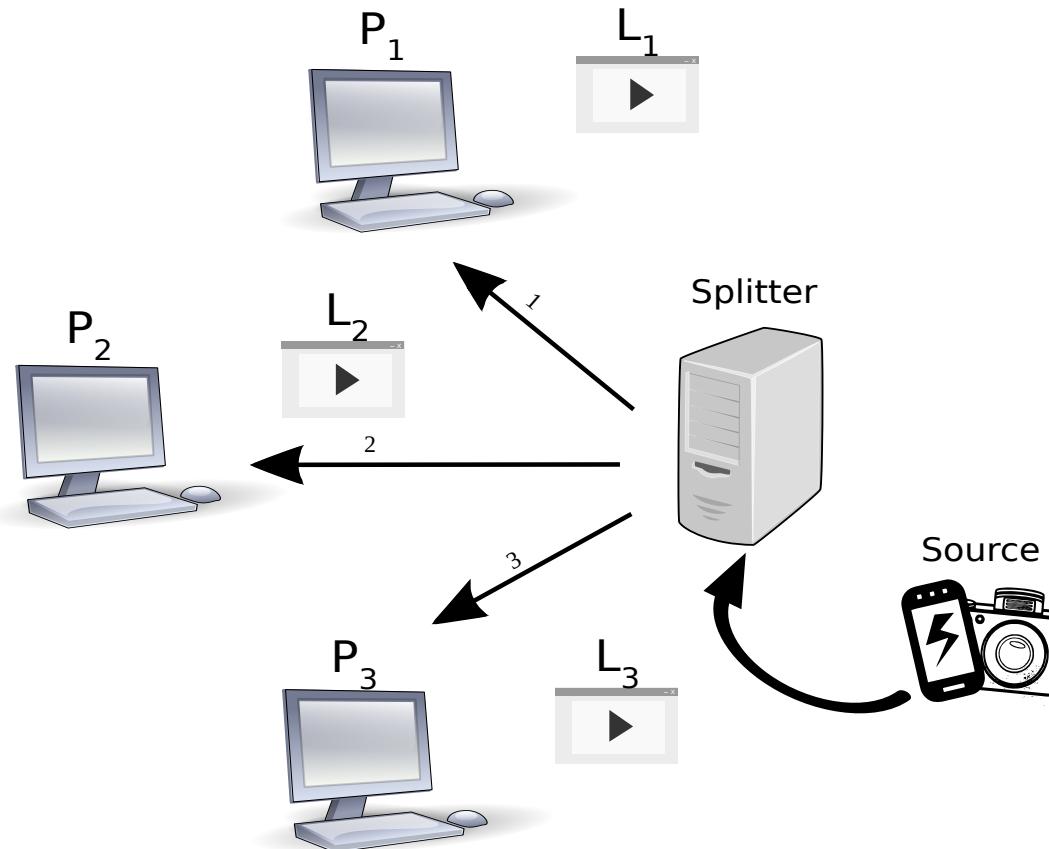


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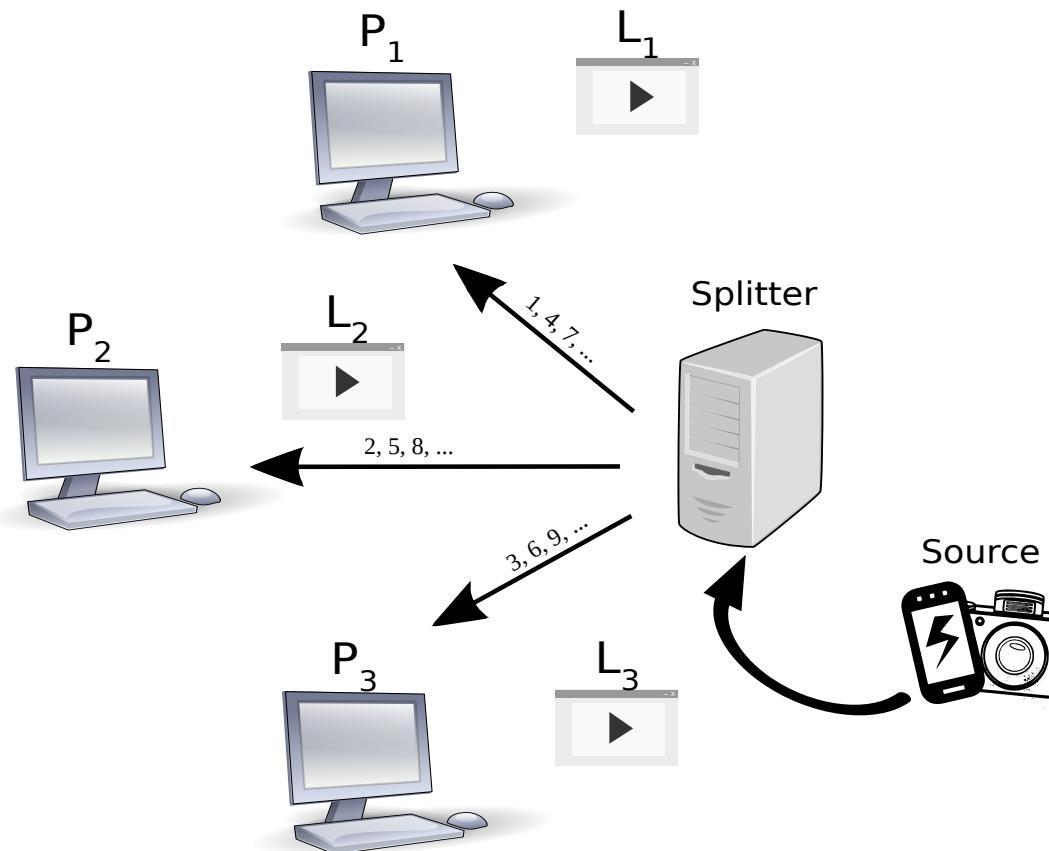


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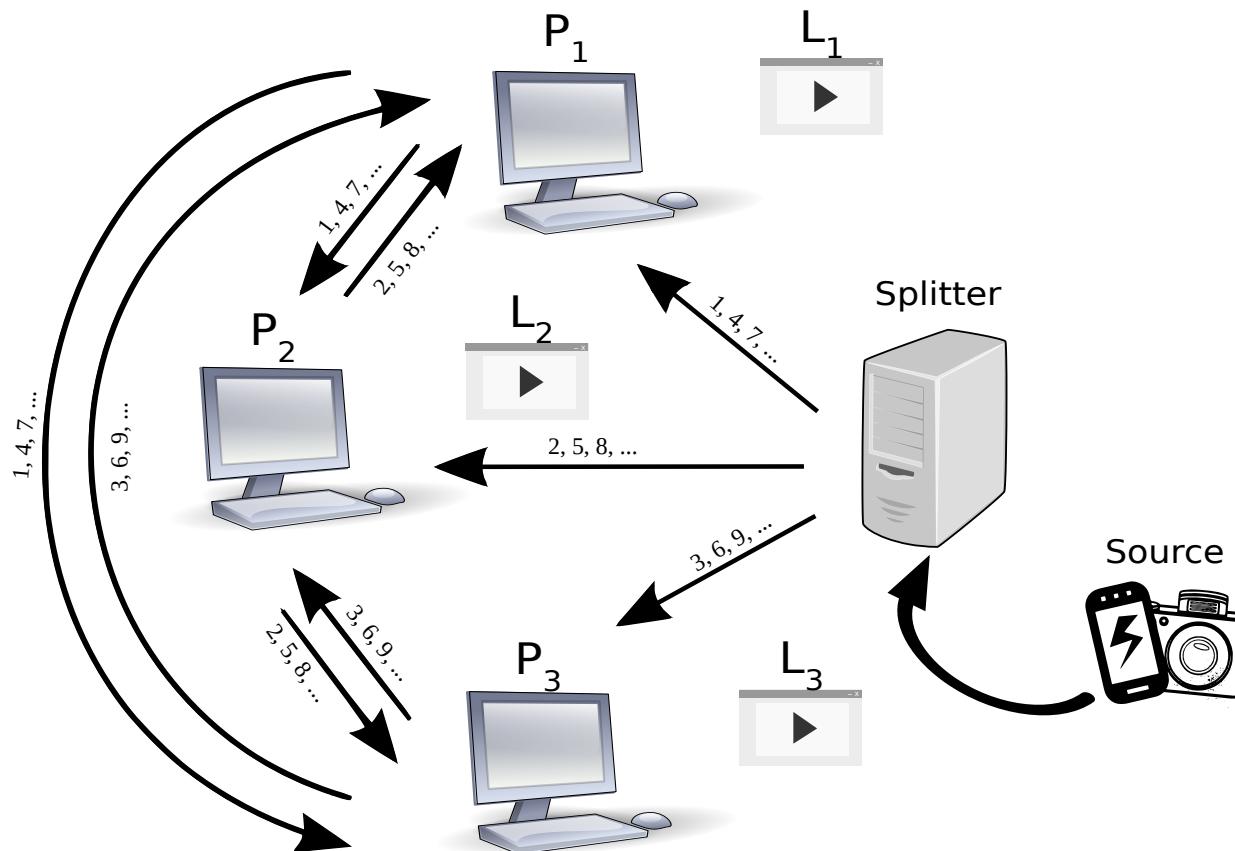


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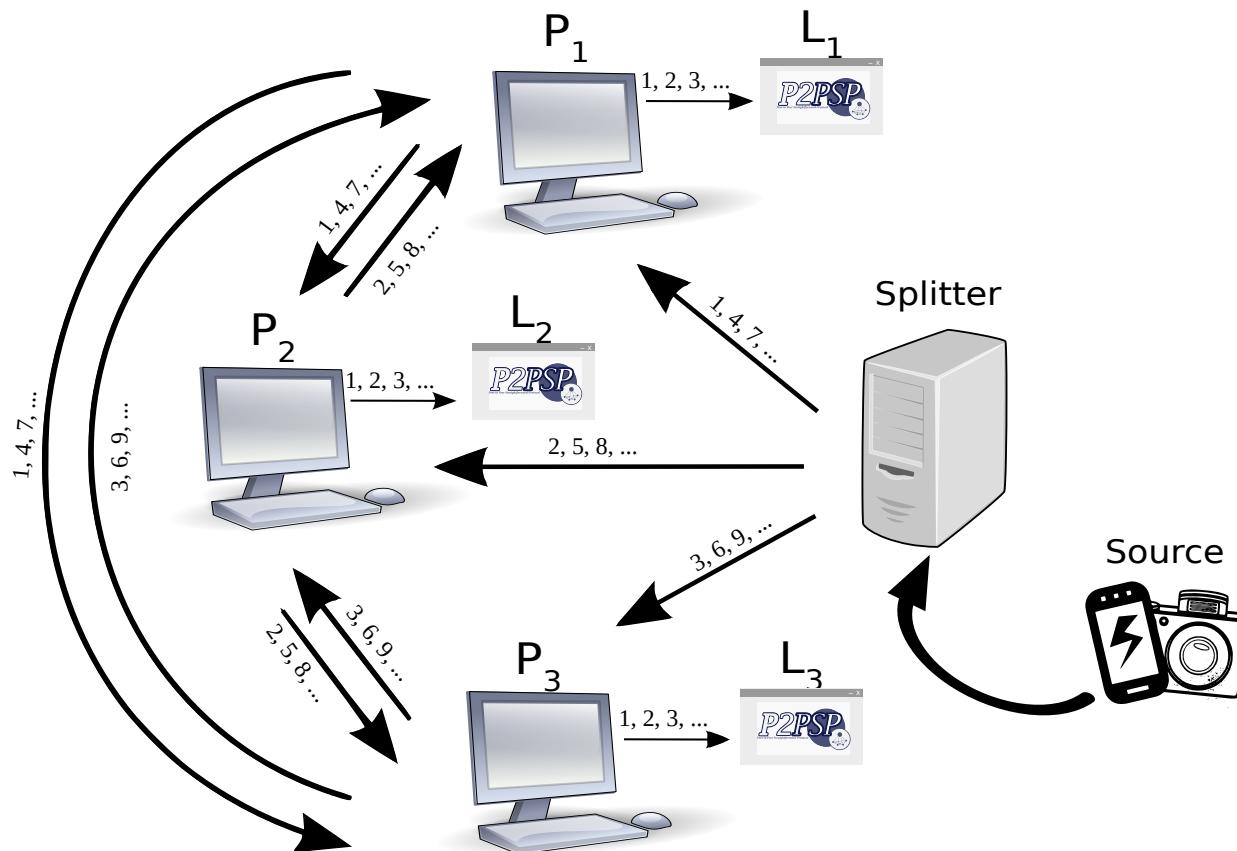


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4. PEERS SEND THE STREAM TO THE PLAYER.

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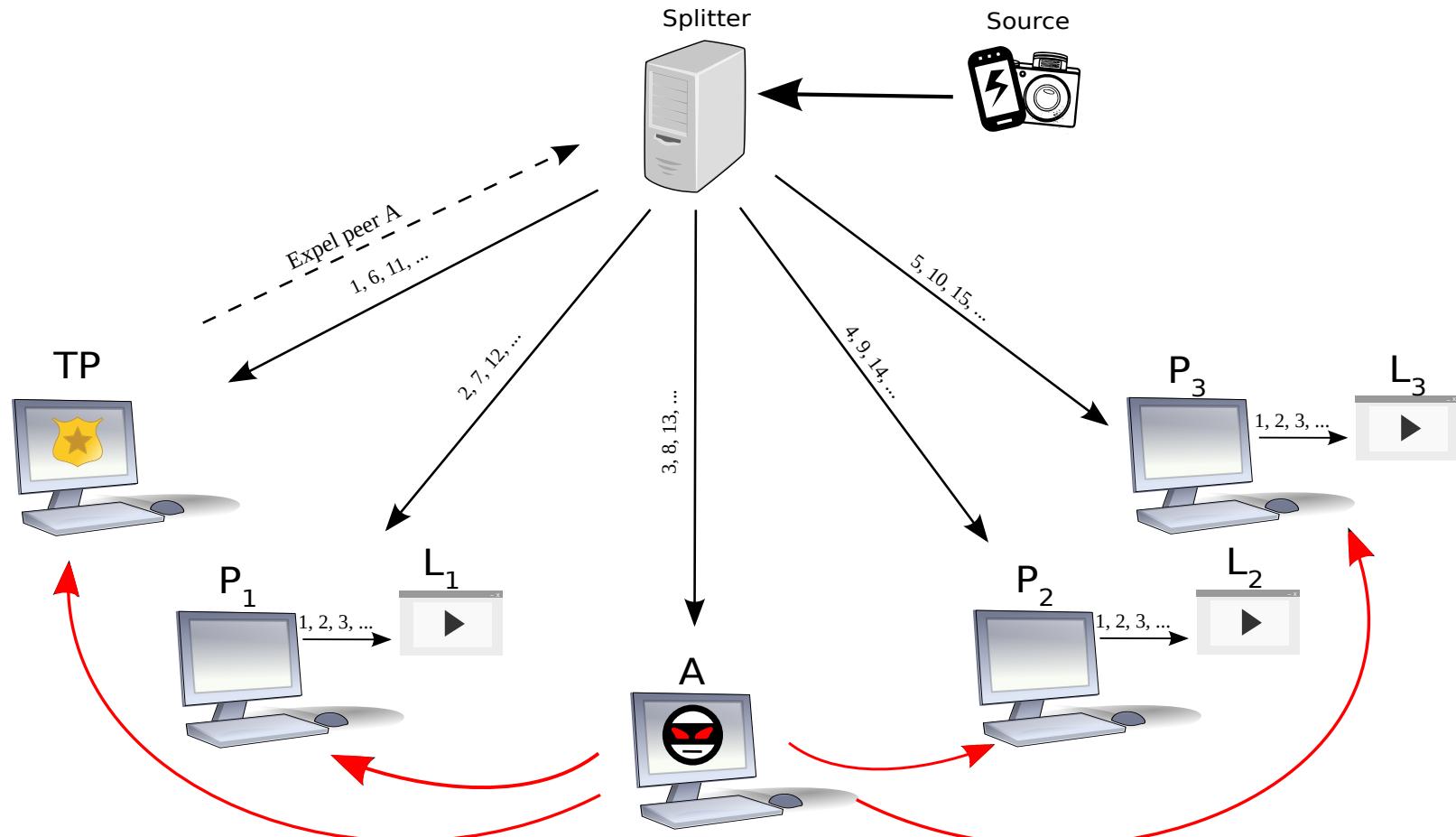
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## POLLUTION ATTACKS

Pollution attacks consist of a peer or a set of peers modifying the content of the stream.  
Can be done in different ways.

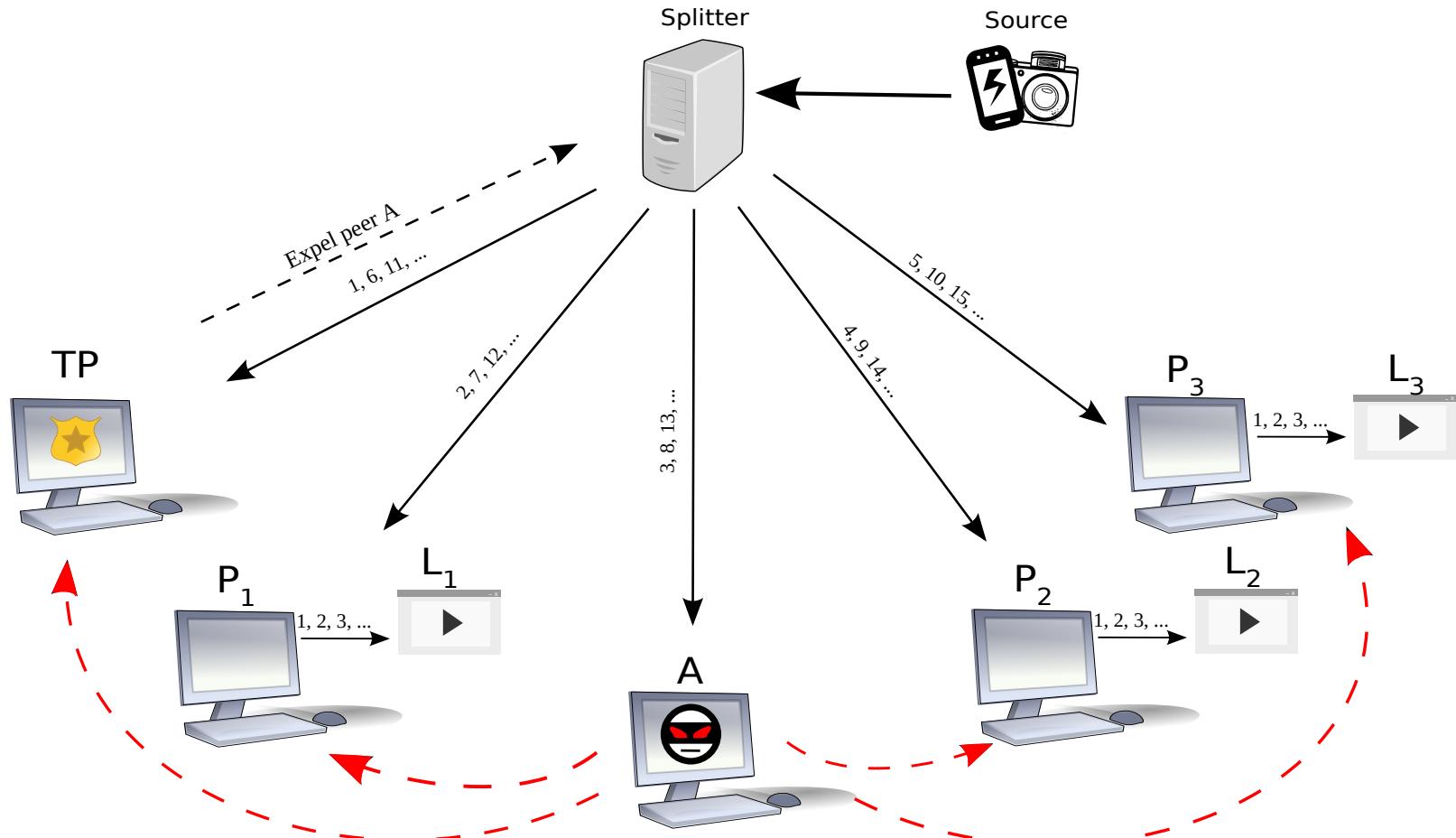
# POLLUTION ATTACKS

**Persistent attack:** an attacker poisons every chunk received from the splitter and sends them to the entire team.



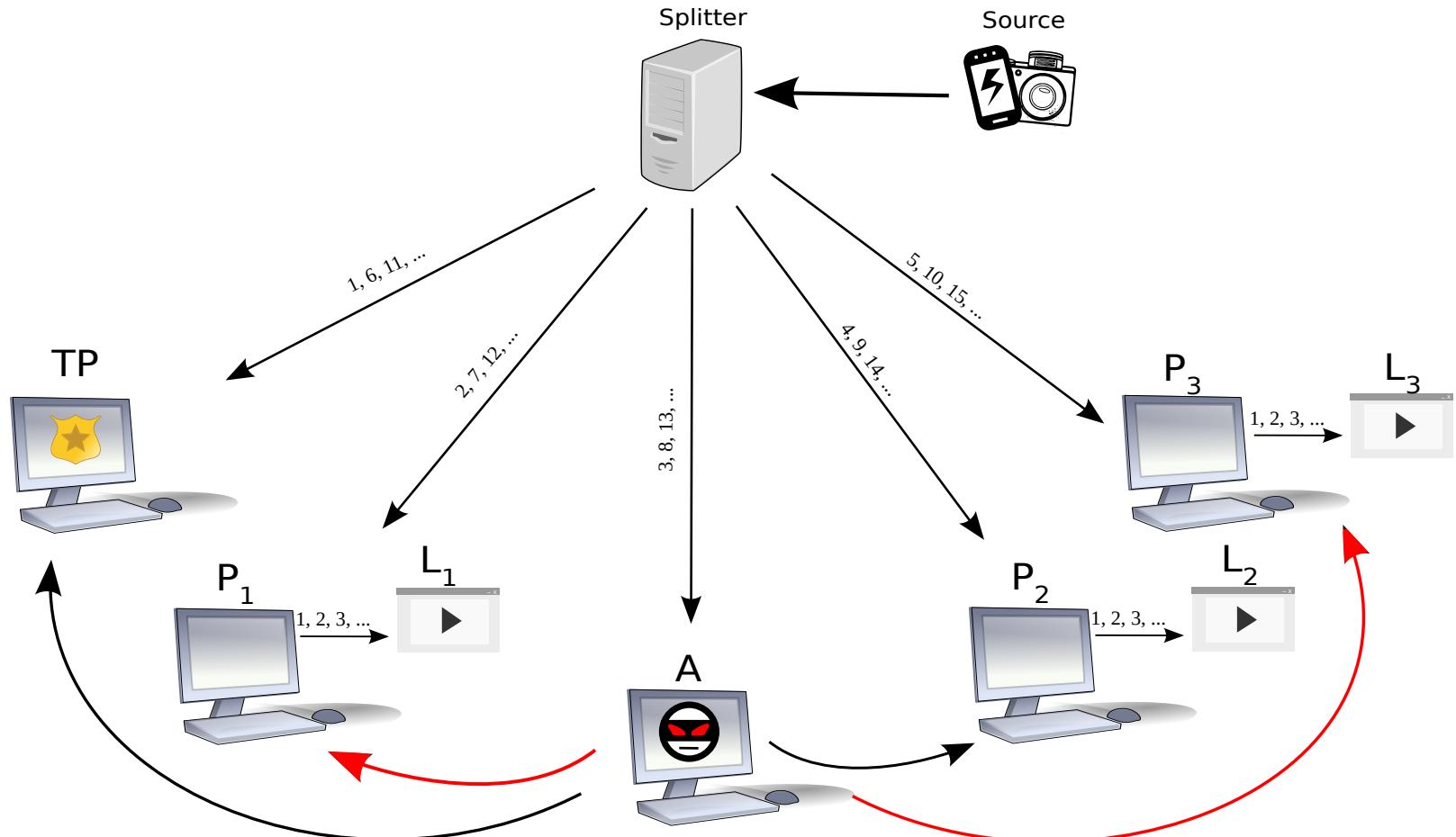
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**On-Off attack:** the attacker only poisons some chunks but not others.



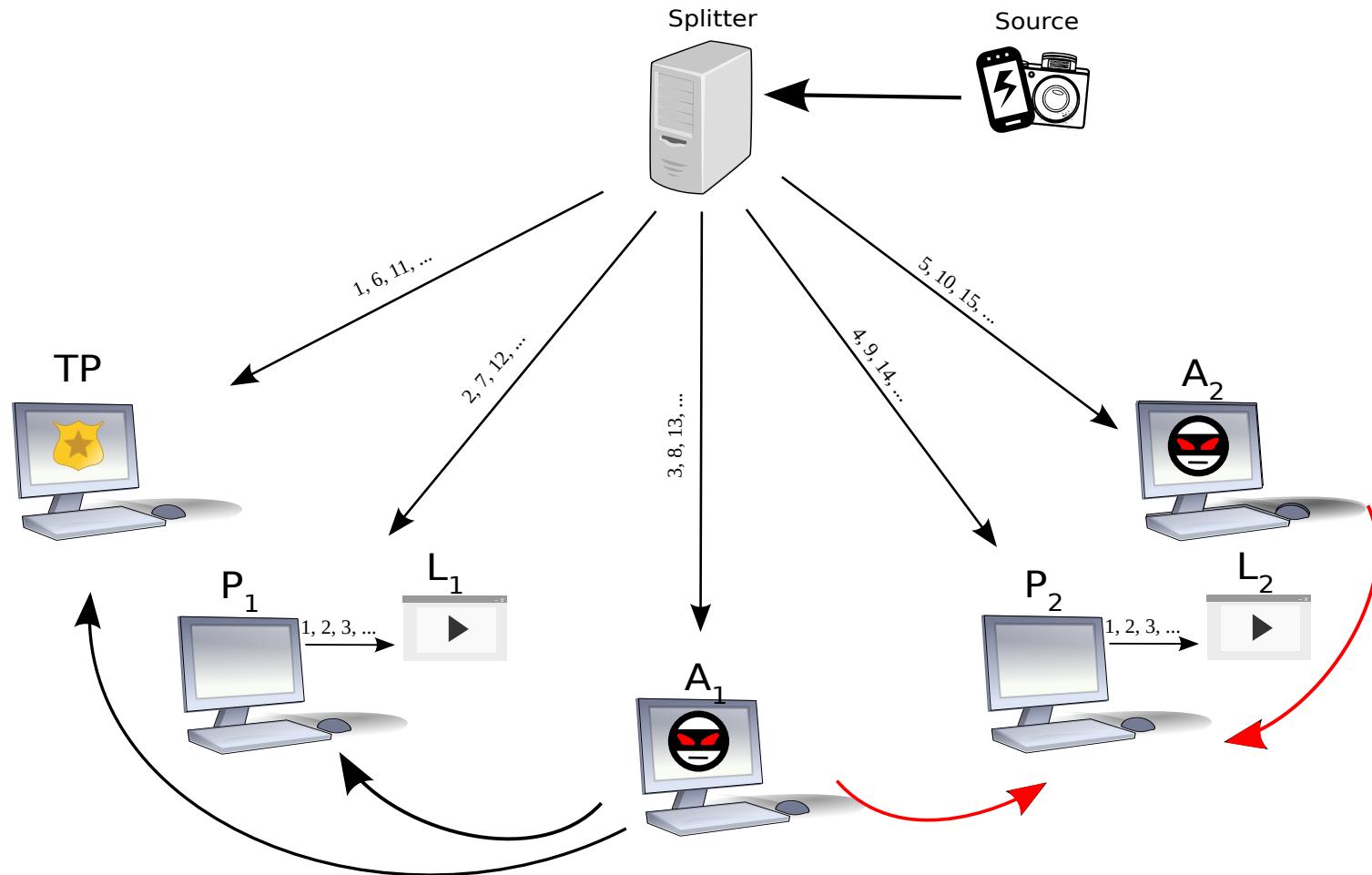
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Selective attack: poisoning chunks intended for only one peer or a small subset of peers.



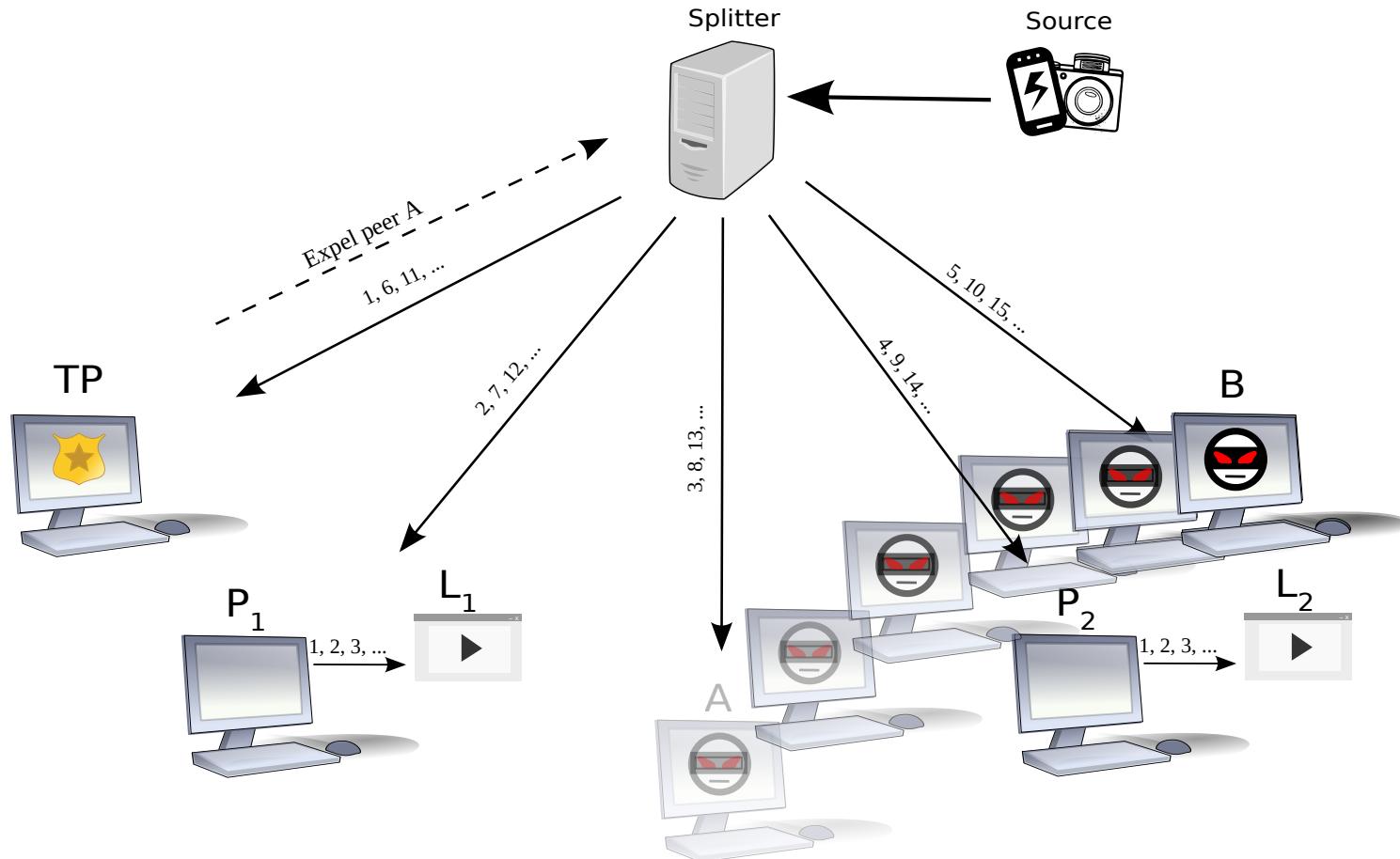
# POLLUTION ATTACKS

**Collaborative attack:** several attackers may collaborate to produce Selective and On-off attacks on a large set of peers.



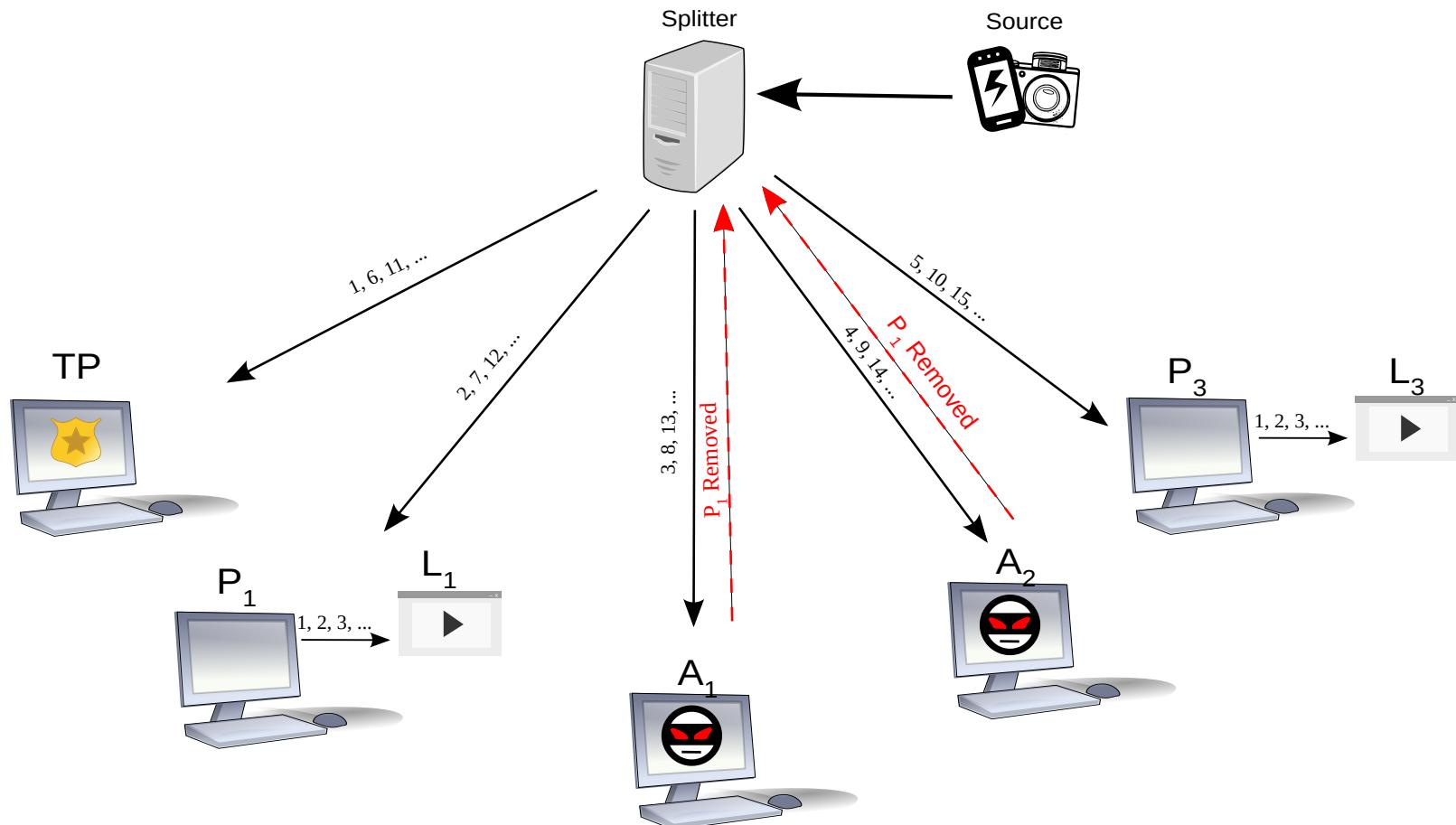
# POLLUTION ATTACKS

**Hand-wash attack:** leaving the team and returning to continue the attack with another alias.



# POLLUTION ATTACKS

**Bad-mouth attack:** blaming other regular peers of sending poisoned chunks or not sending chunks.

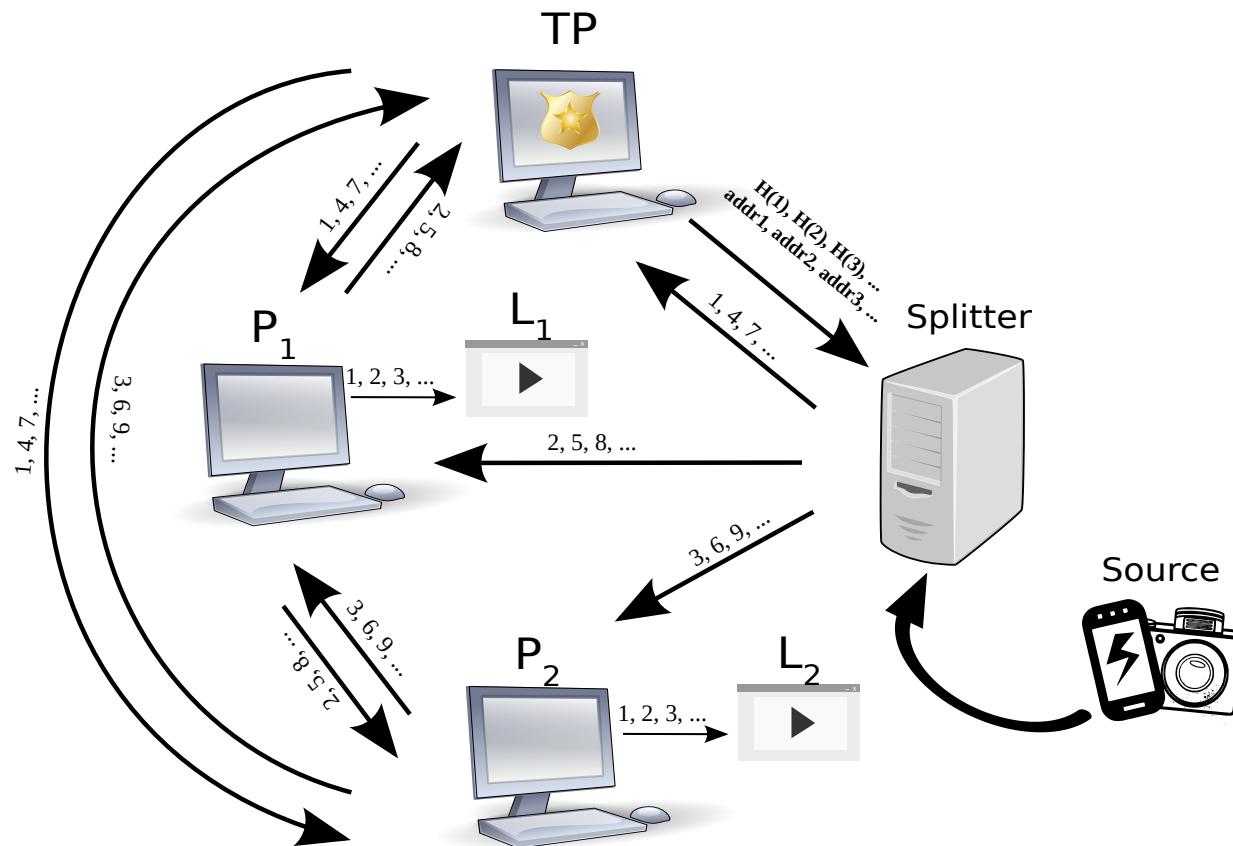


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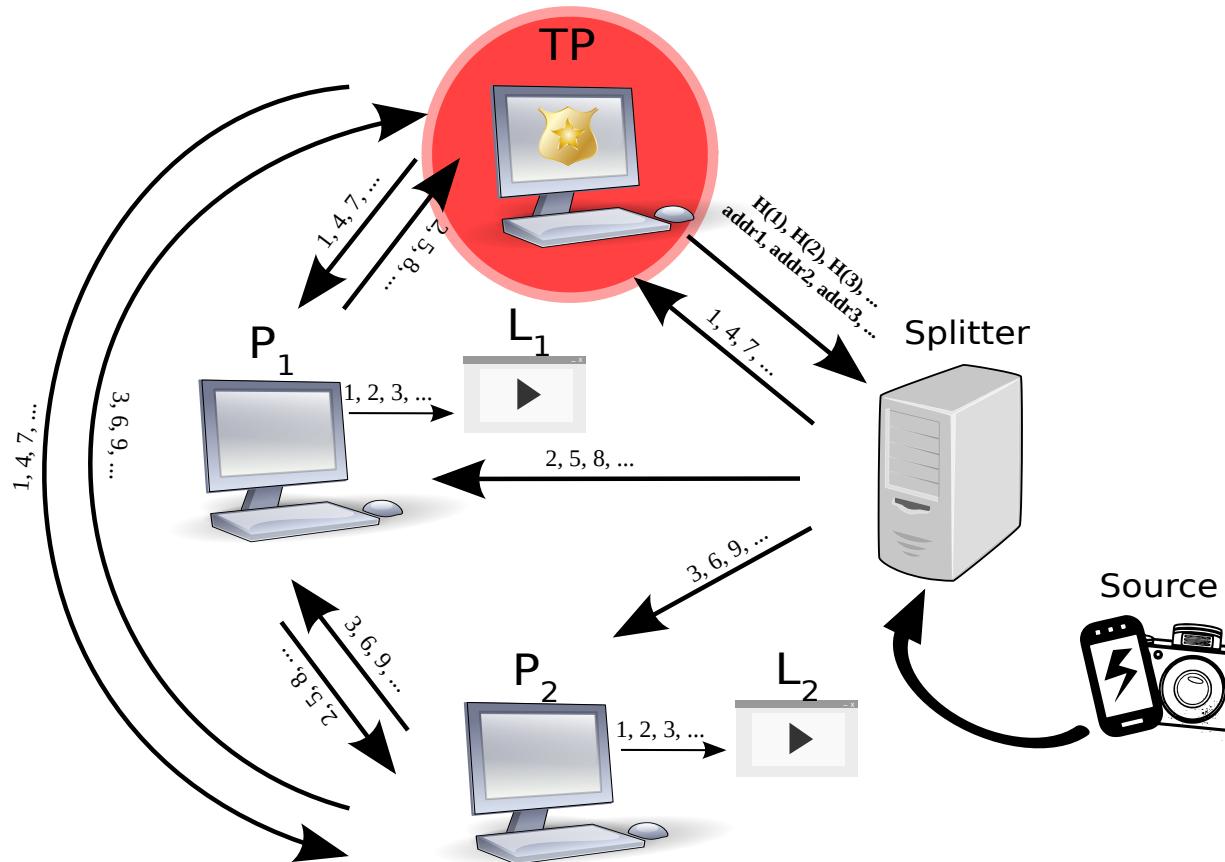
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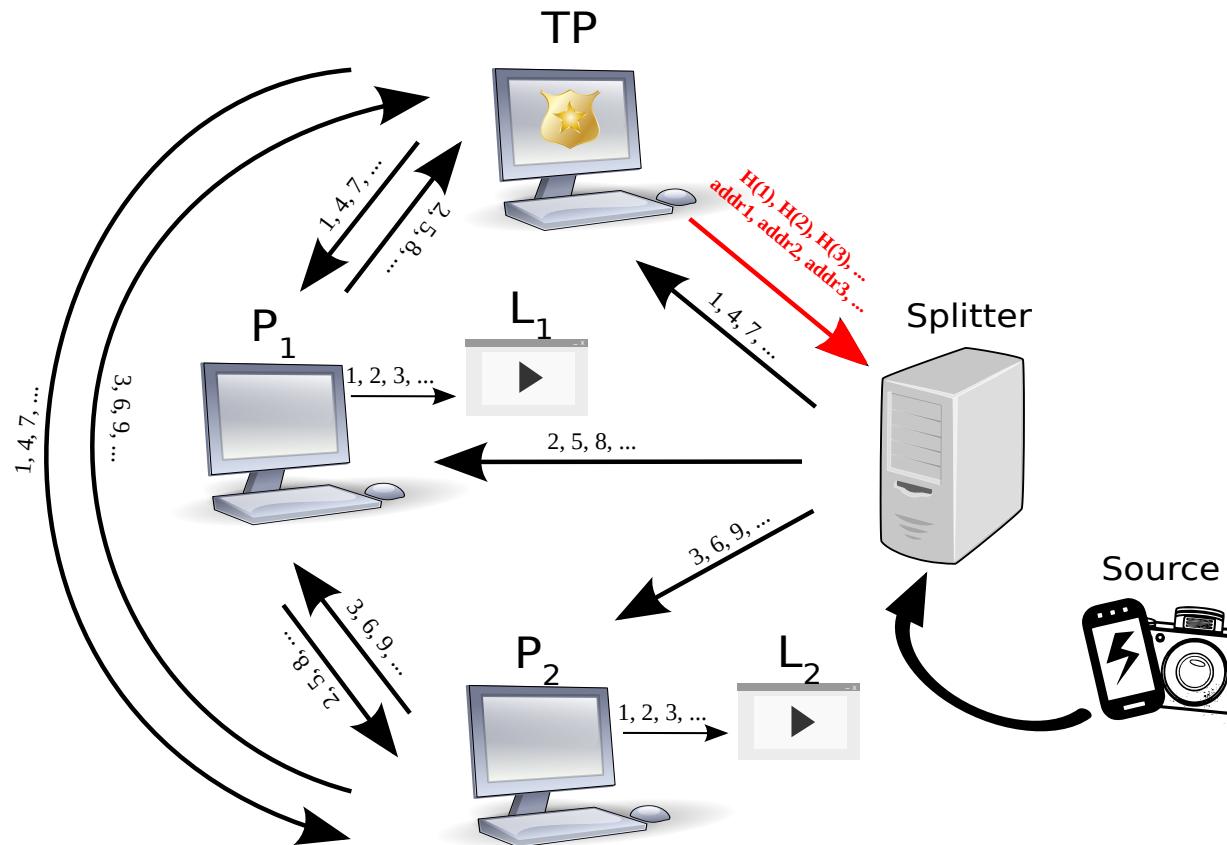
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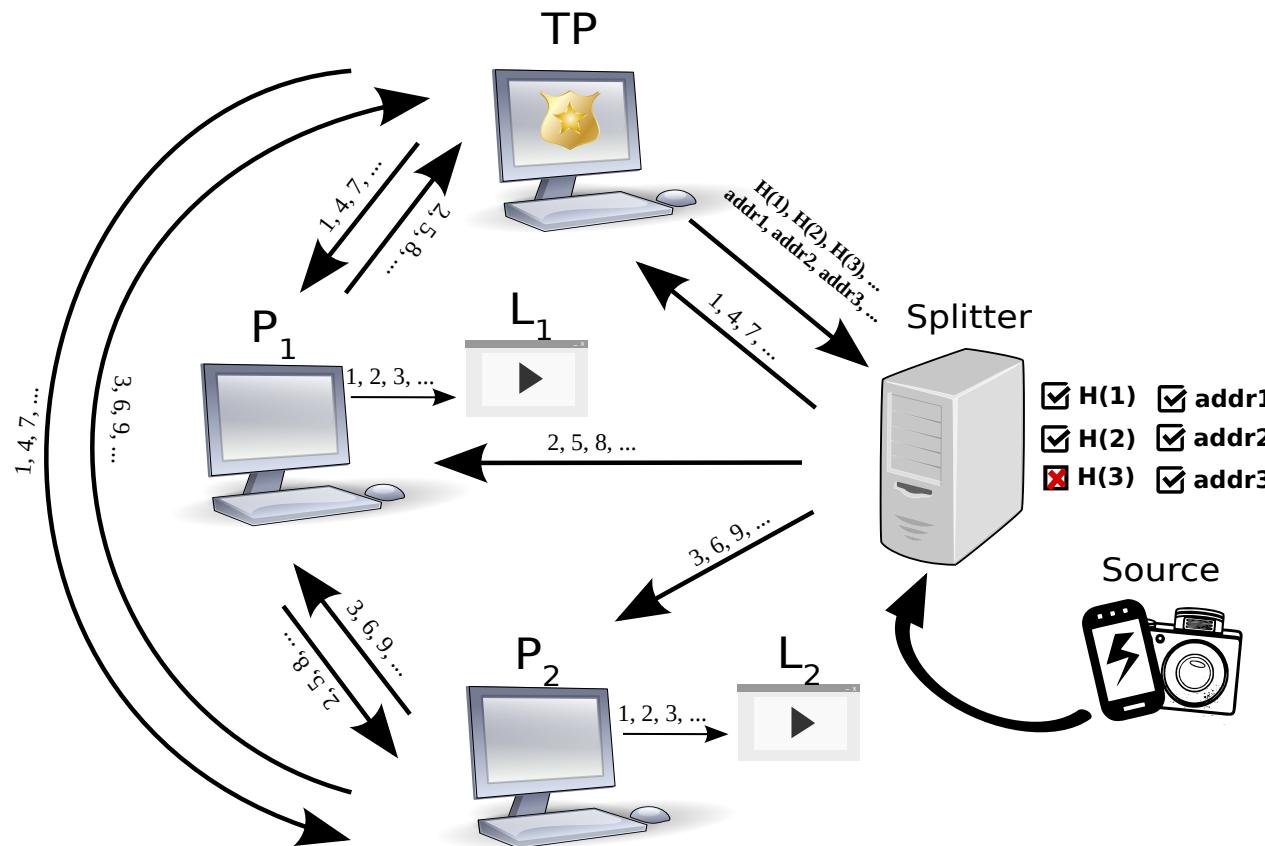
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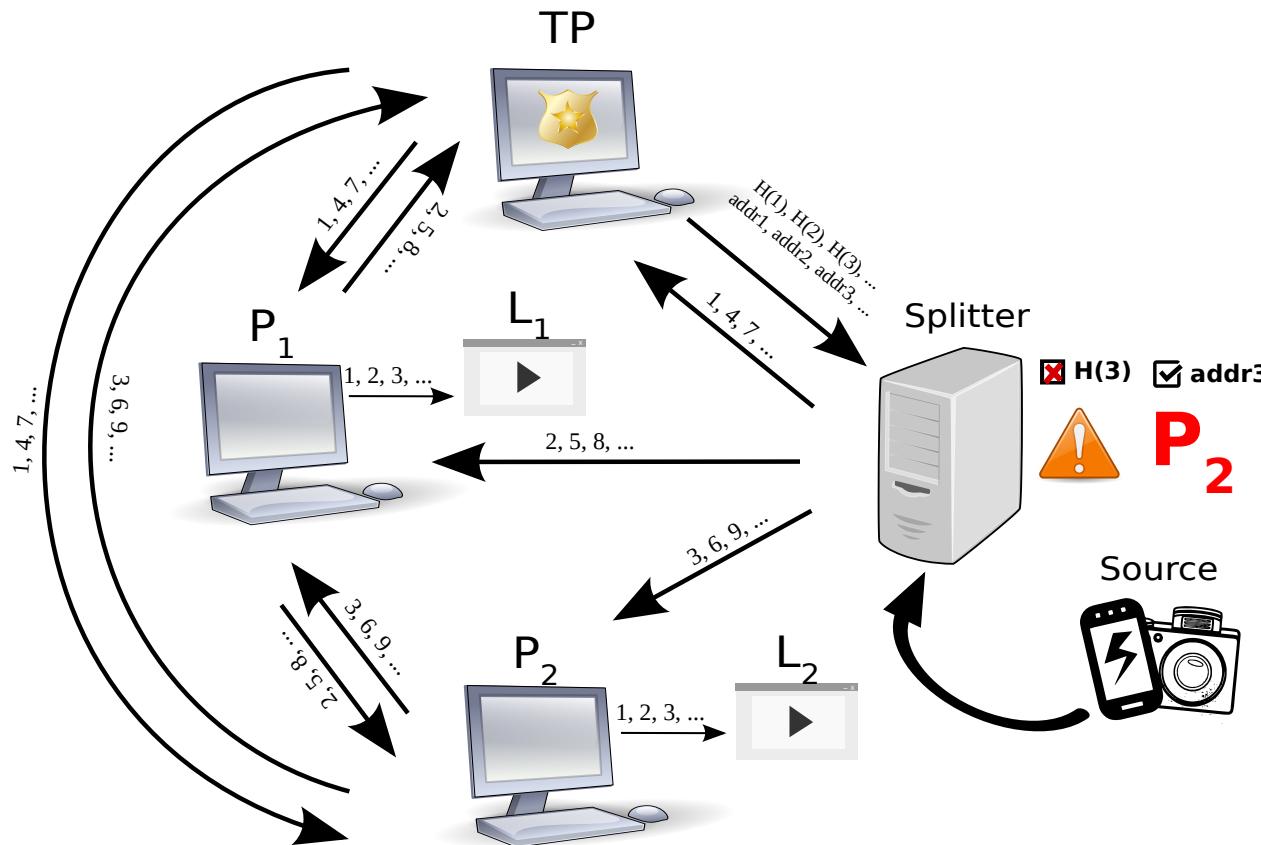
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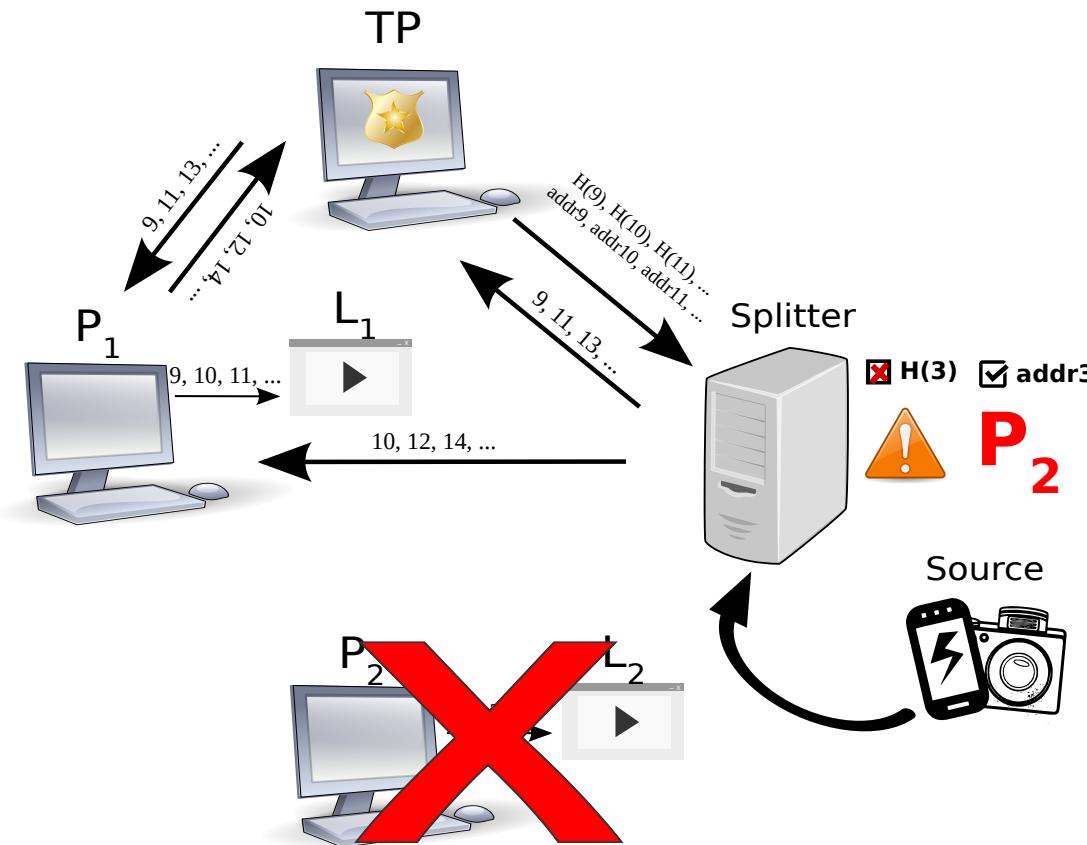
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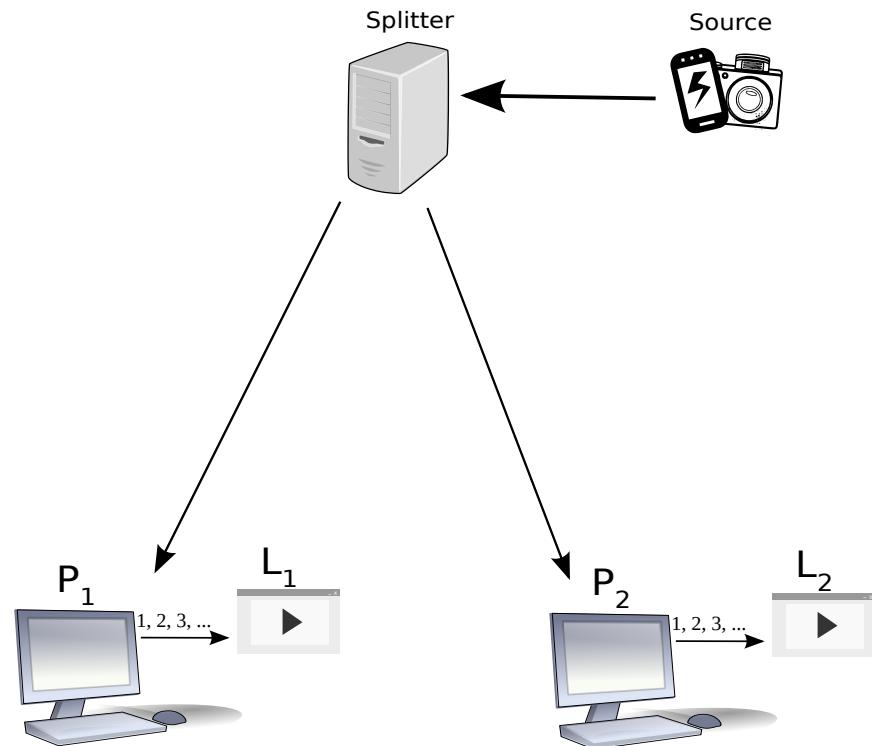
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## PROBLEMS:

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- If an attacker knows who the trusted peers are the system is completely vulnerable to **Selective Attacks**.

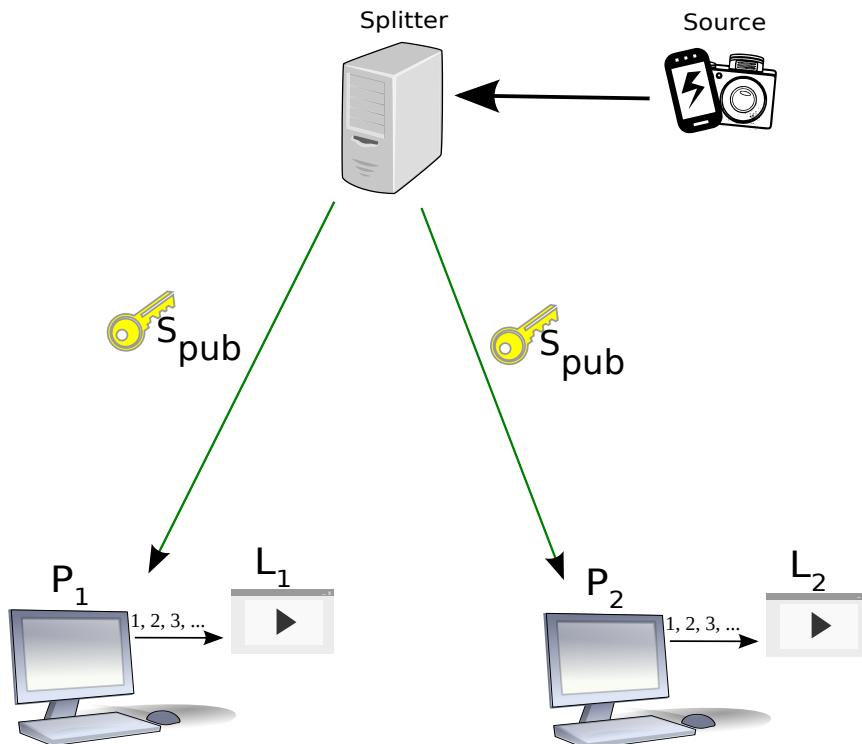
# STRATEGY BASED ON TRUSTED PEERS AND DIGITAL SIGNATURES

IT HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO MITIGATE THE SELECTIVE ATTACK AND TO IDENTIFY POISONED CHUNKS BY USING DIGITAL SIGNATURES. THE BEHAVIOR RULES ARE:



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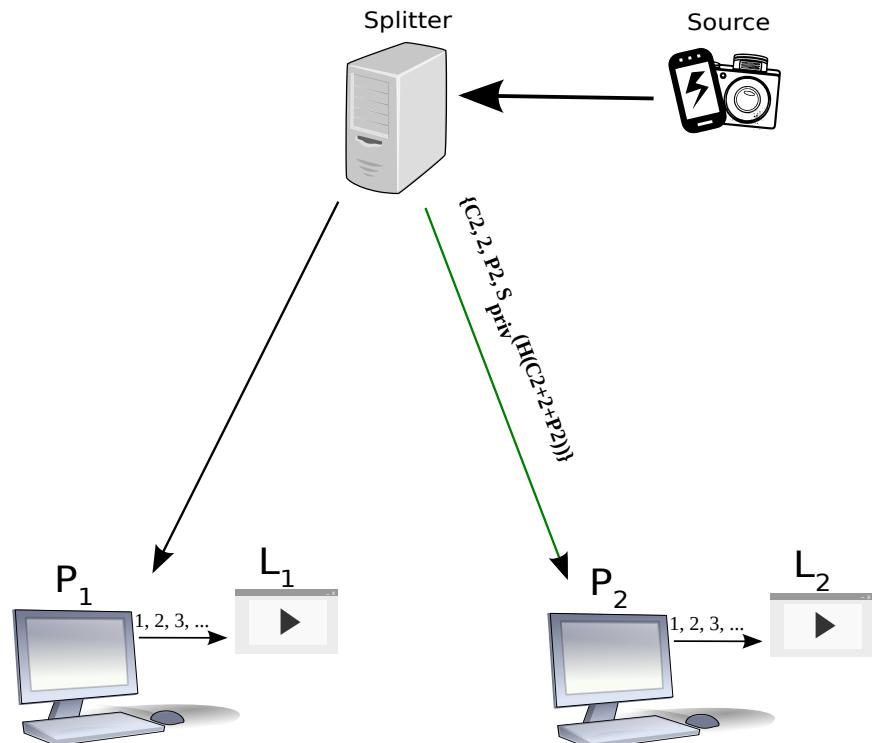
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1. WHEN PEERS JOIN THE TEAM THEY RECEIVE THE PUBLIC KEY OF THE SPLITTER.

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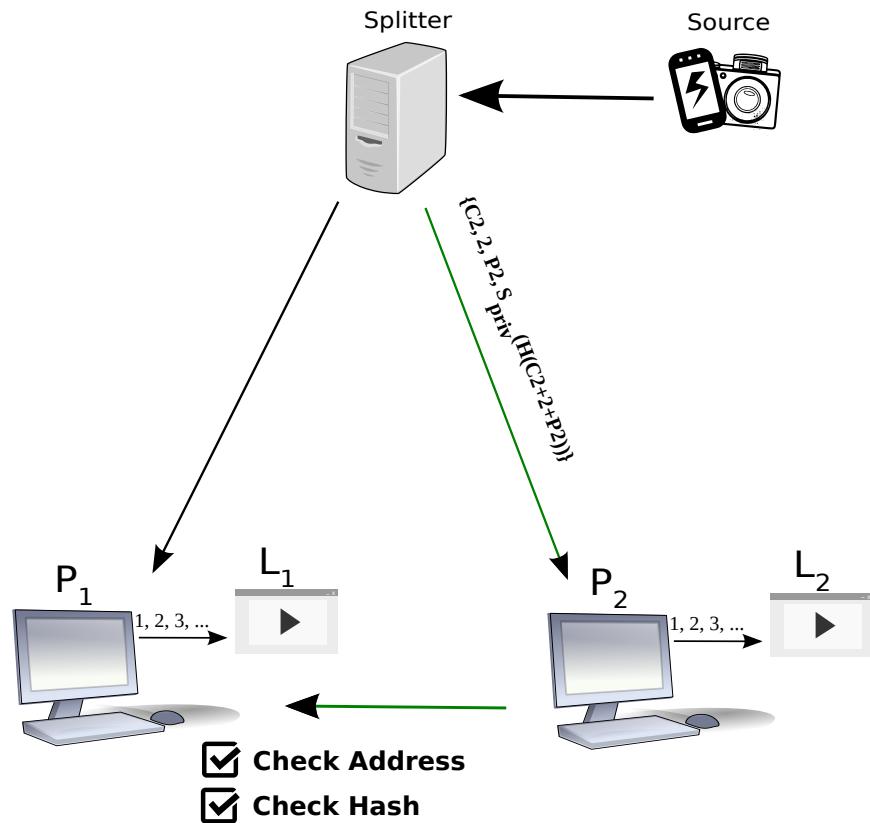
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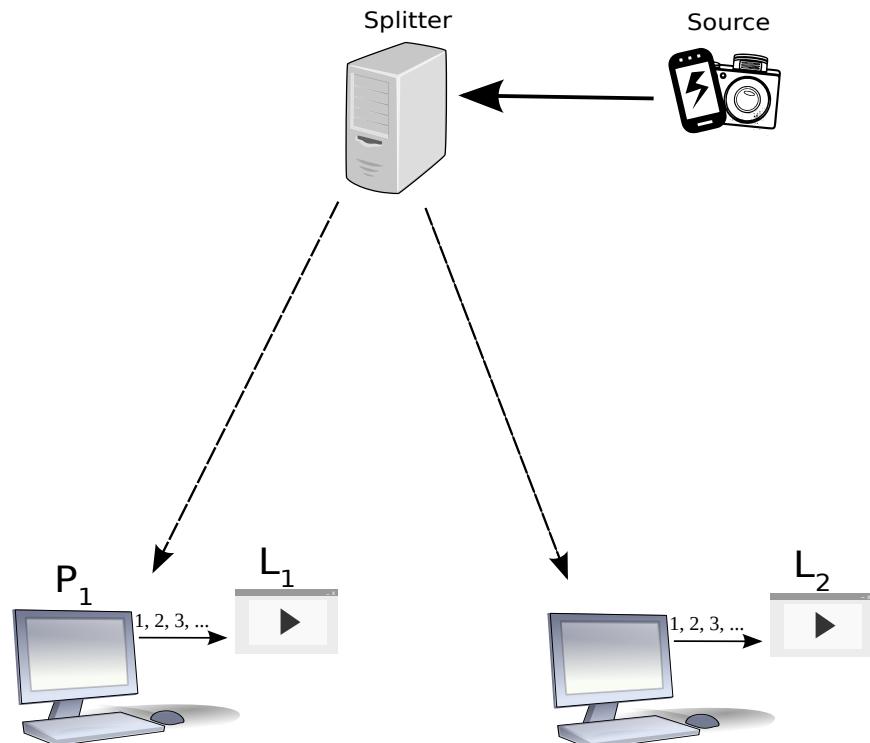
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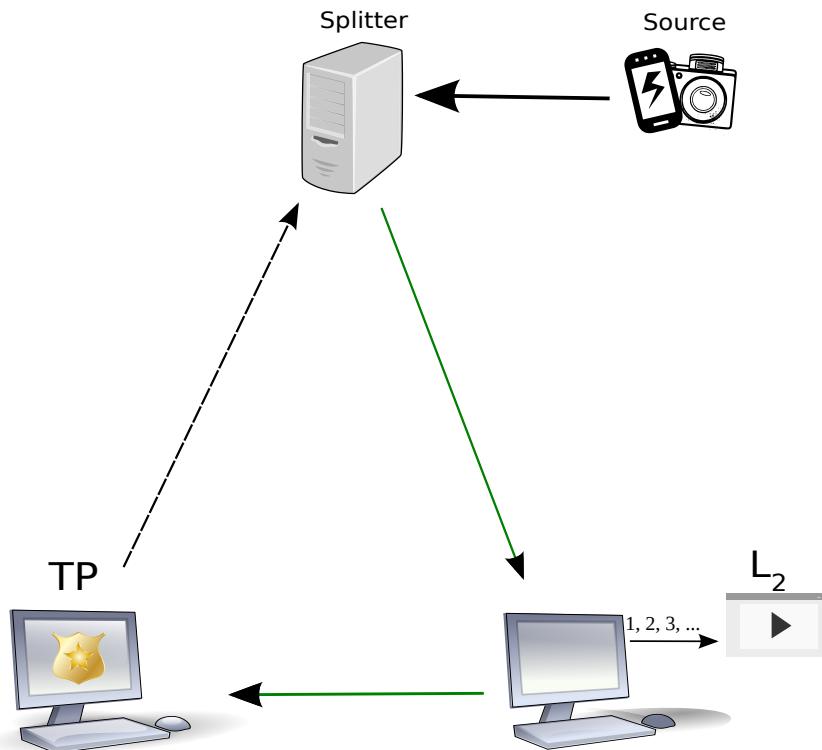
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4. THE SPLITTER PERIODICALLY REQUESTS THE LIST OF REMOVED PEERS TO THE TP.
5. PEERS REMOVED BY ANY TP ARE DIRECTLY EXPELLED BY THE SPLITTER AFTER A RANDOM TIME.

# **STRATEGY BASED ON TRUSTED PEERS AND DIGITAL SIGNATURES**

# STRATEGY BASED ON TRUSTED PEERS AND DIGITAL SIGNATURES

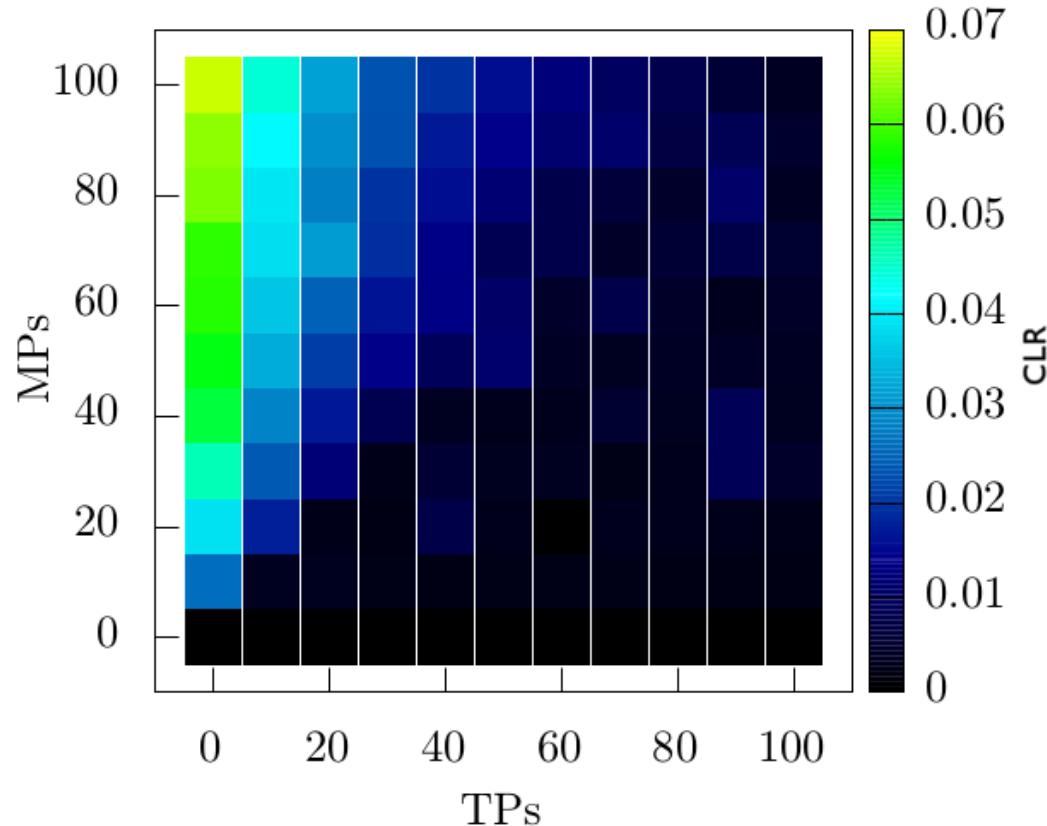
- CAN TRUSTED PEERS EXPEL THE BAD GUYS BY FOLLOWING THESE BASIC RULES?



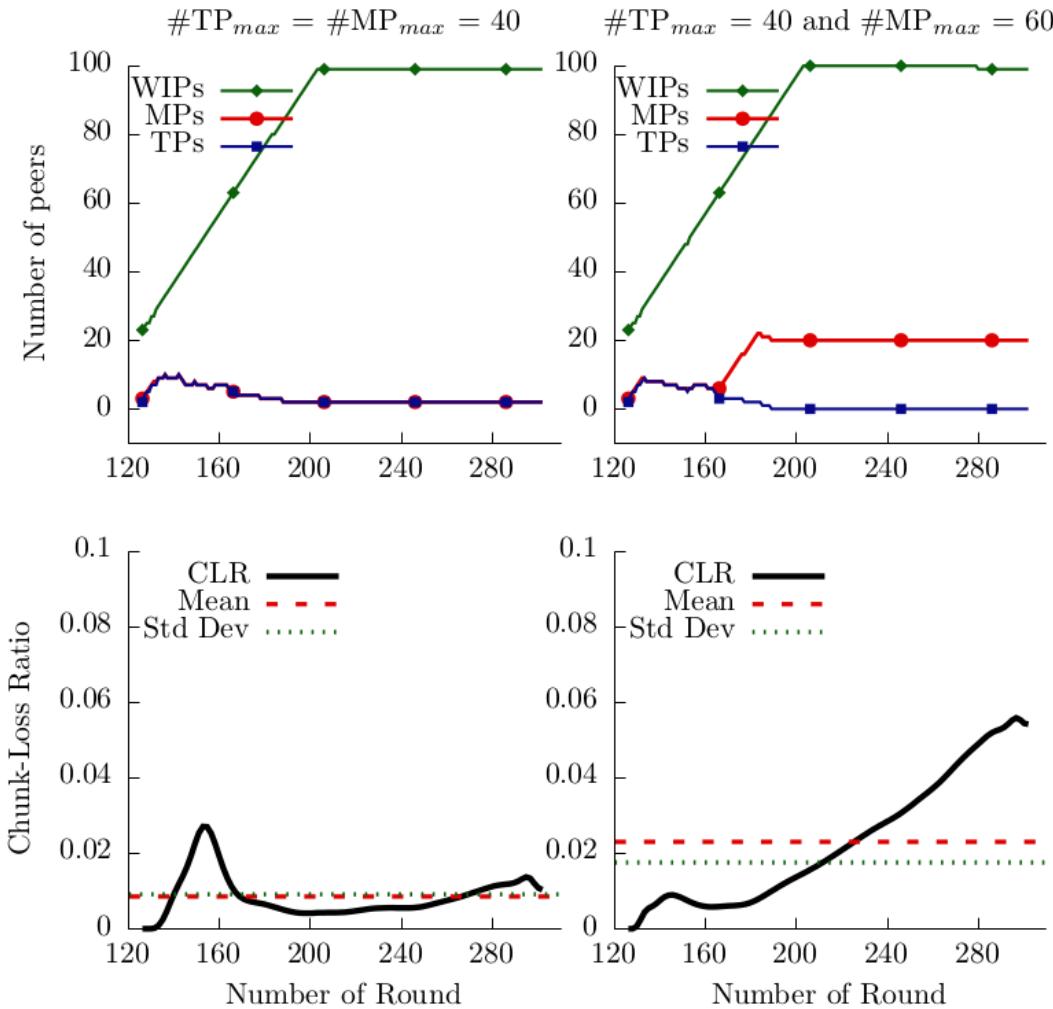
# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

## RESULTS OBTAINED BY SIMULATION [WAR-GAMES]

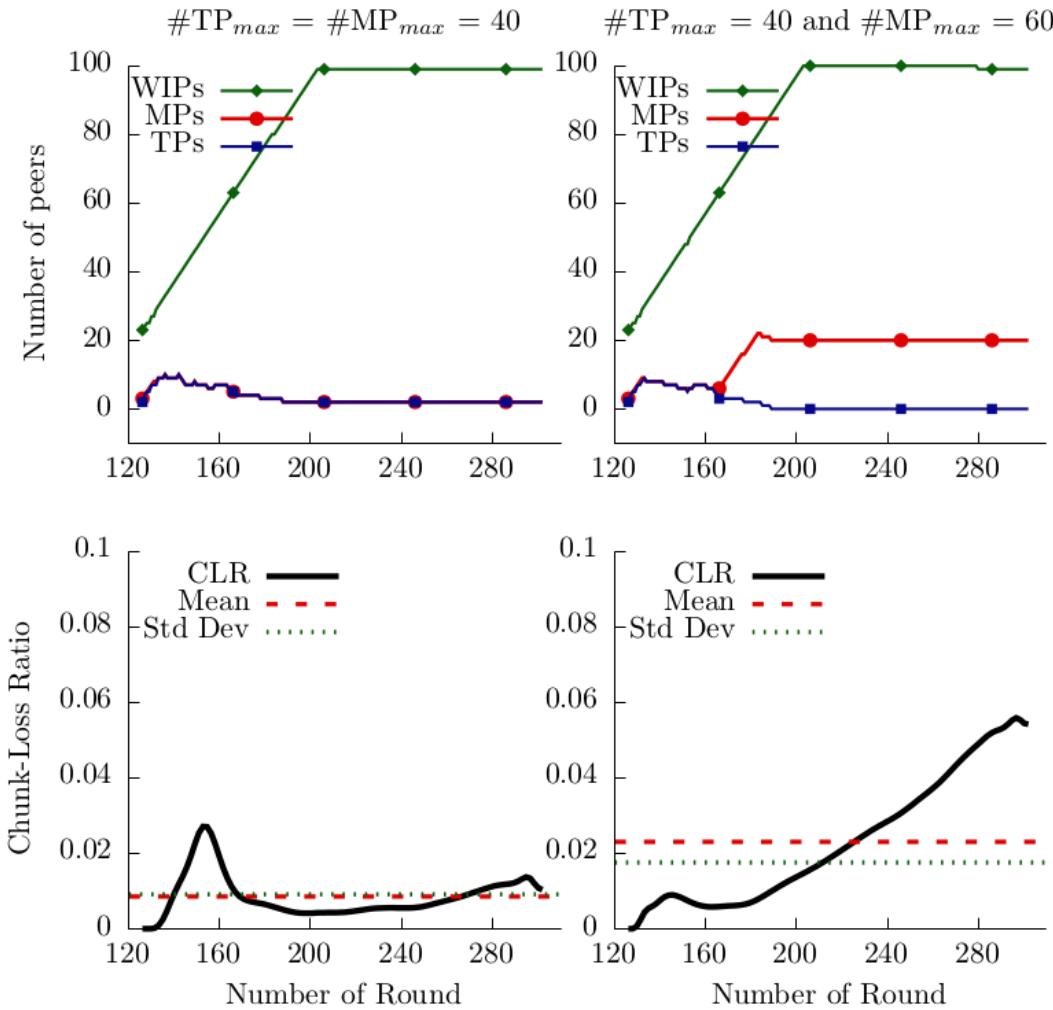
Persistent, Selective and Collaborative Attack



# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS



# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS



Trusted peers as unique defense strategy is not appealing when the number of MPs is large

# A HARD MULTI-OBJECTIVE OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM

Attackers and defenders have to solve a multi-objective optimization problem and each decision made by one part may have a countermeasure by the other part

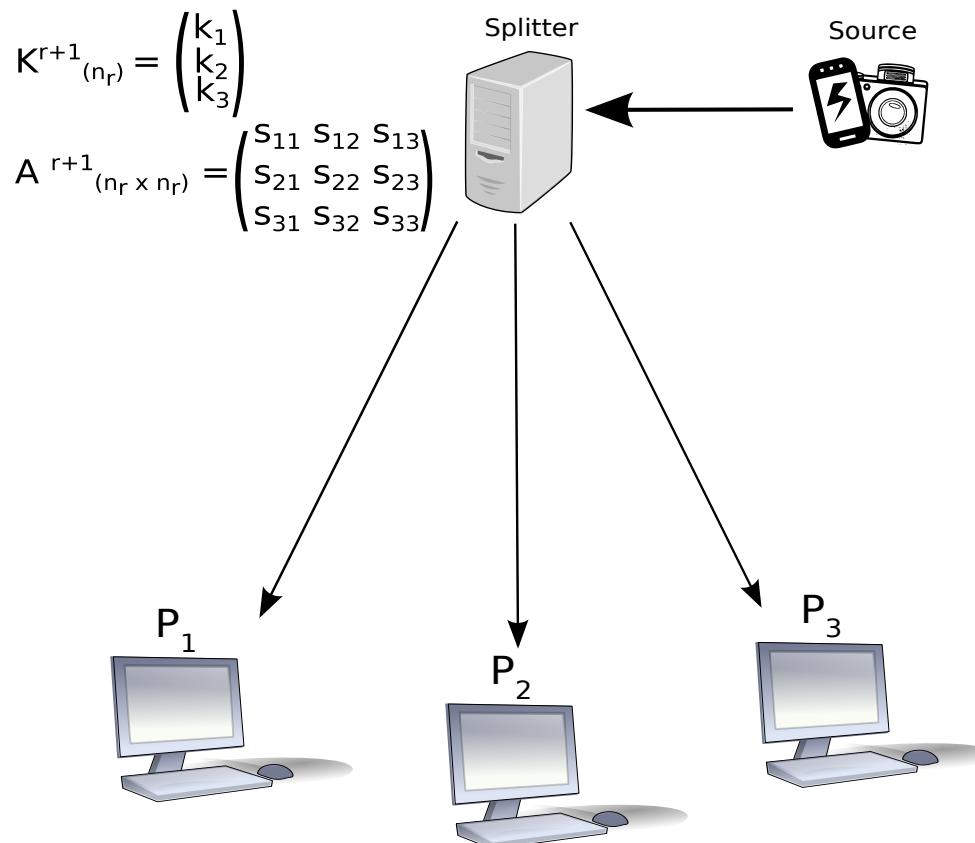
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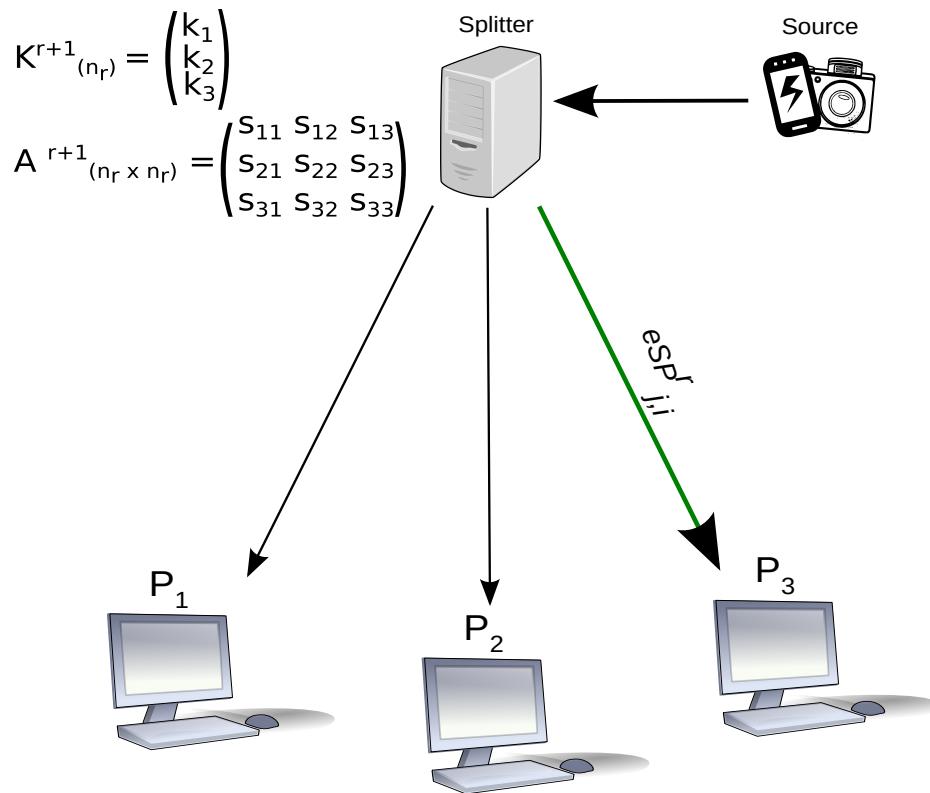
**WHO ARE THE GOOD/BAD GUYS?**

# STRATEGY BASED ON TRUSTED PEERS AND SHAMIR'S SECRET SHARING

THE MAIN IDEA IS VERY SIMPLE: "IF YOU WANT TO REMAIN IN THE TEAM YOU MUST HAVE A GOOD BEHAVIOR WITH AT LEAST T PEERS". THE BEHAVIOR RULES ARE:



# STRATEGY BASED ON TRUSTED PEERS AND SHAMIR'S SECRET SHARING



**1. THE SPLITTER SENDS A MESSAGE  $eSP_{j,i}^r$ .**

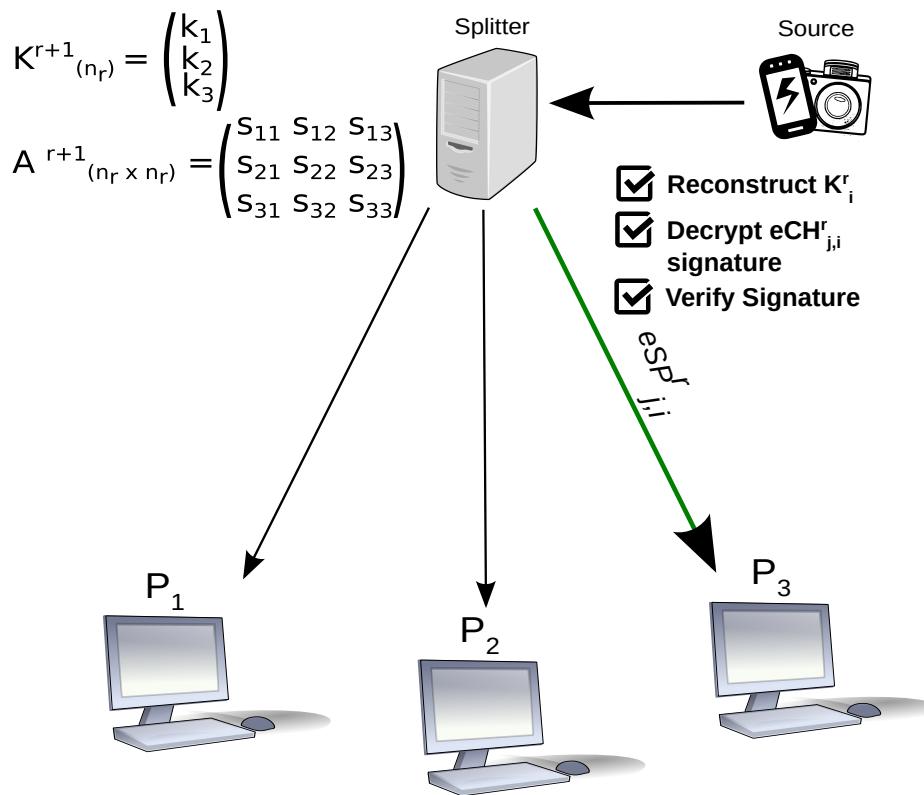
$$eSP_{j,i}^r = \{eCH_{j,i}^r, SH_i^{r+1}\}$$

$$eCH_{j,i}^r = \{C_j, j, P_i, r, E_{K_i^r}[S_{pr}(H(C_j||j||P_i||r))]\}$$

$$SH_i^{r+1} = \{\{SH_i^{r+1}\}_q, q = 1, \dots, n_r\}$$

$$\{SH_i^{r+1}\}_q = \{P_i, P_q, r + 1, A_{q,i}^{r+1}, S_{pr}(H(P_i||P_q||r + 1||A_{q,i}^{r+1}))\}$$

# STRATEGY BASED ON TRUSTED PEERS AND SHAMIR'S SECRET SHARING



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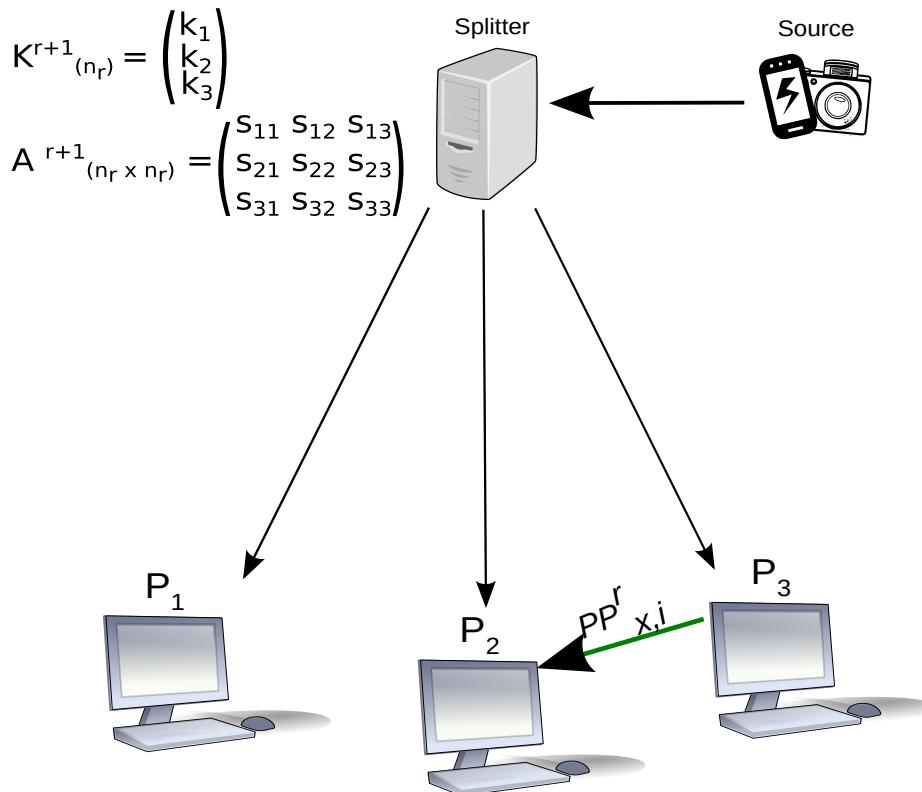
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2. THE PEER RECONSTRUCTS  $K_i^r$ , DECRYPTS THE MESSAGE AND VERIFIES THE SIGNATURE.

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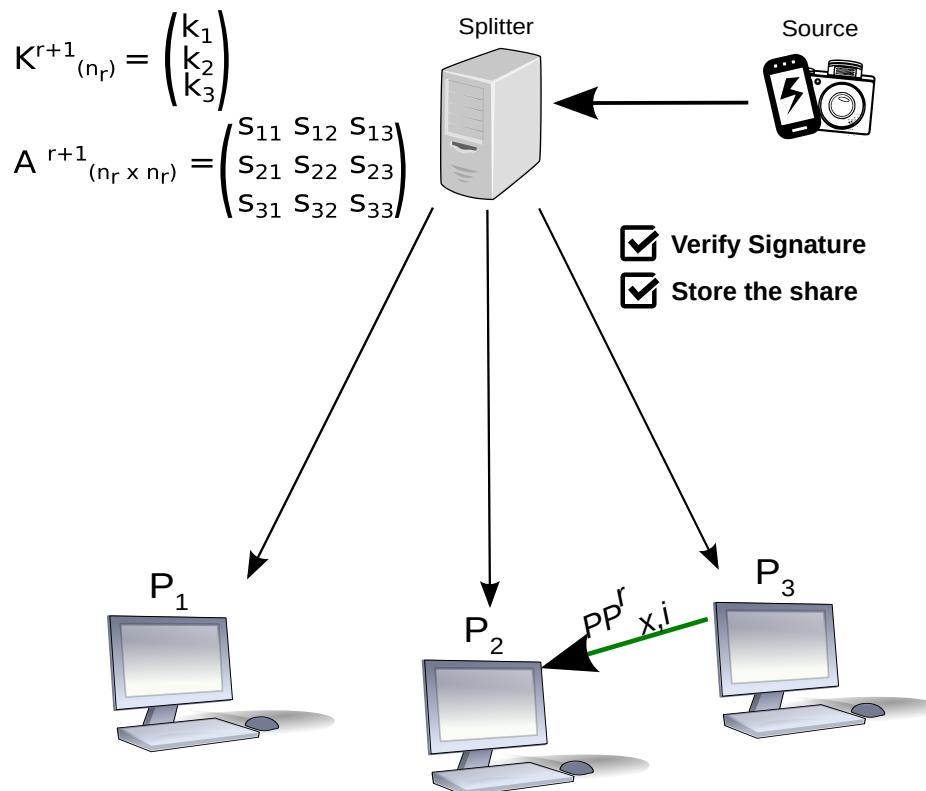
**2. THE PEER RECONSTRUCTS  $K_i^r$ , DECRYPTS THE MESSAGE AND VERIFIES THE SIGNATURE.**

**3. THE PEER SENDS THE MESSAGE DECRYPTED.**

$$PP_{i,q}^r = \left\{ CH_{j,i}^r, \{SH_i^{r+1}\}_q \right\}$$

$$CH_{j,i}^r = \{C_j, j, P_i, r, S_{pr}(H(C_j||j||P_i||r))\}$$

# STRATEGY BASED ON TRUSTED PEERS AND SHAMIR'S SECRET SHARING



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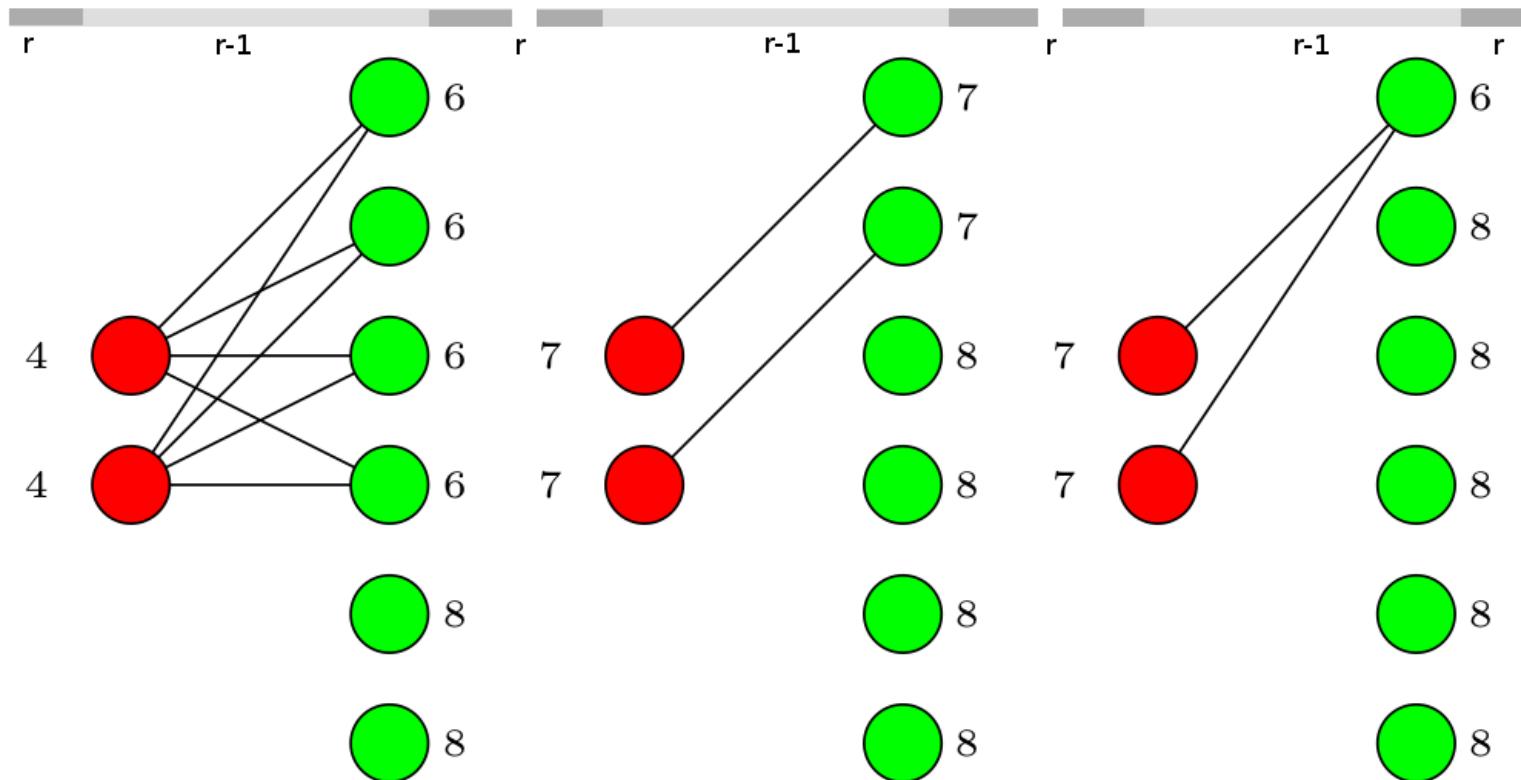
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**4. THE PEER VERIFIES THE MESSAGE AND SAVES THE SHARE.**

# THEORETICAL RESULTS

RESULTS OBTAINED AFTER A THEORETICAL ANALYSIS:  $\text{MPs} \leq N/2$



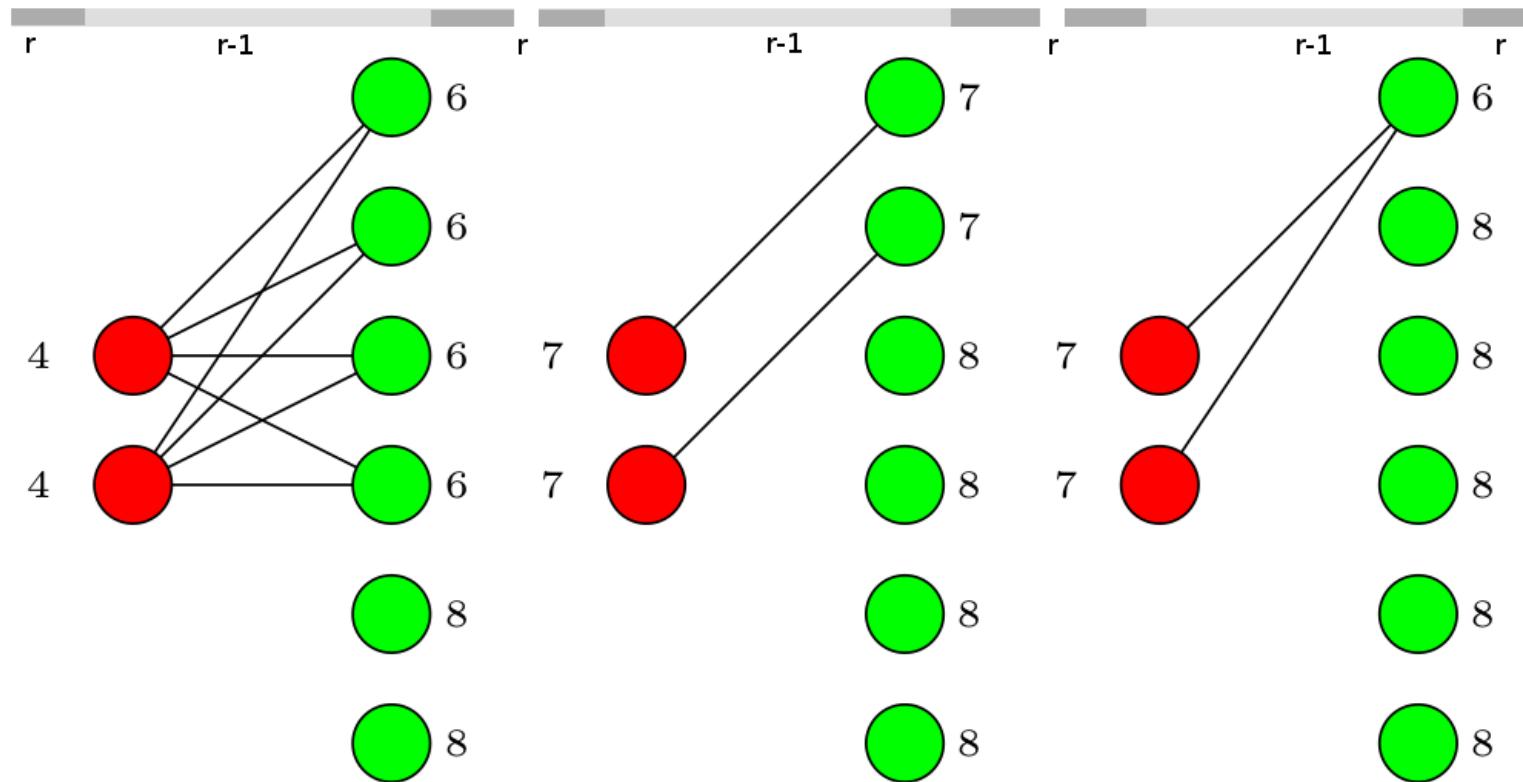
(a) One MP to many

(b) One MP to one

(c) Many MPs to one

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(a) One MP to many

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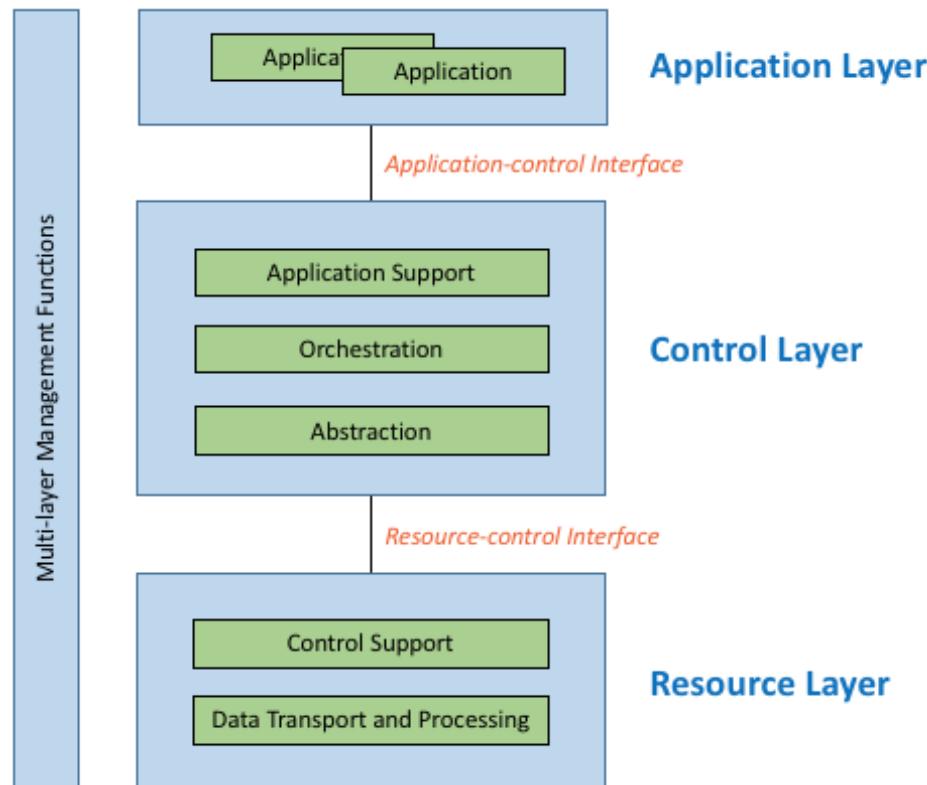
Most severe attack is fully mitigated with only one Trusted Peer

# OUTLINE

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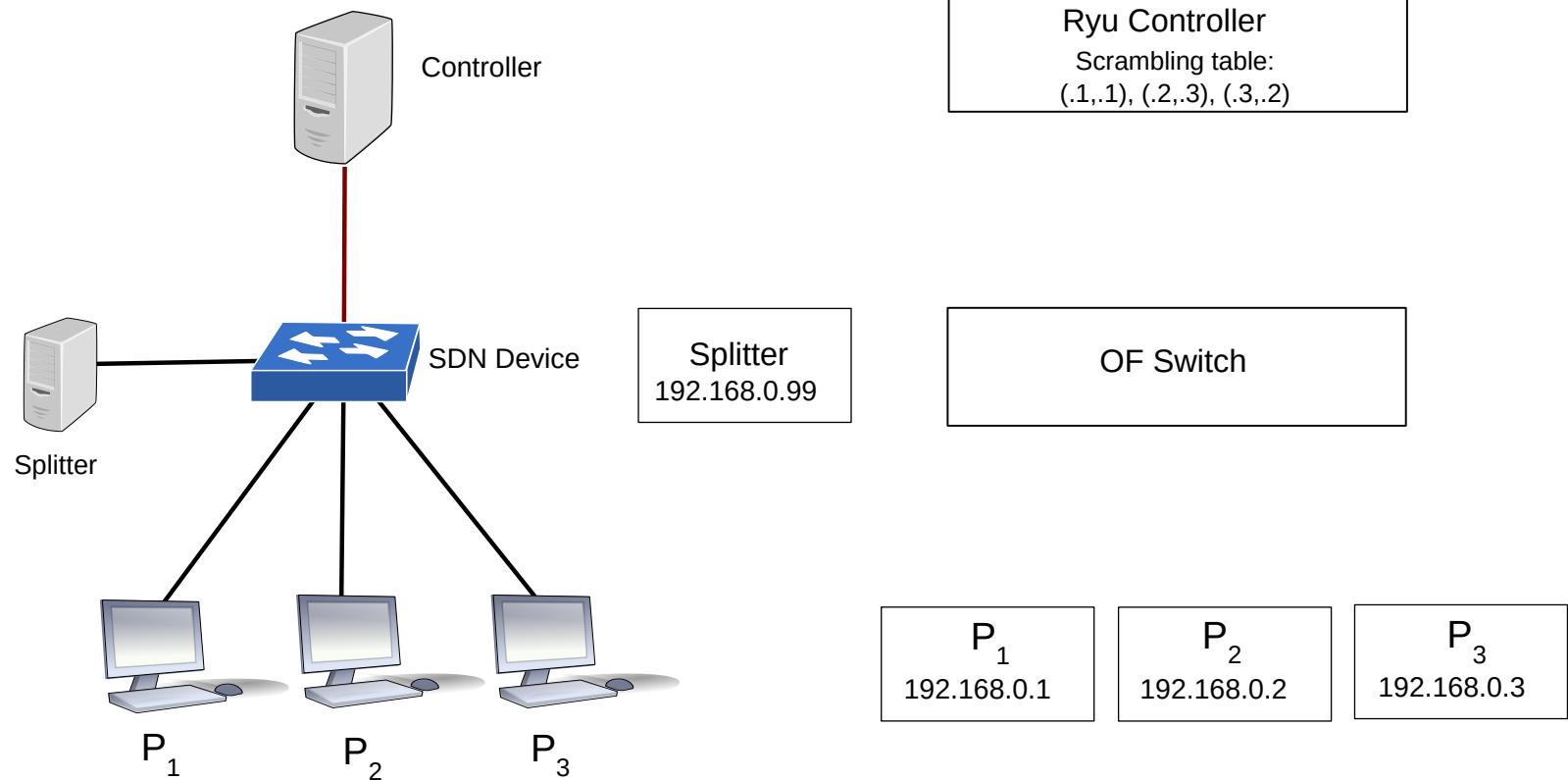
# SOFTWARE DEFINED NETWORKS

## SDN ARCHITECTURE



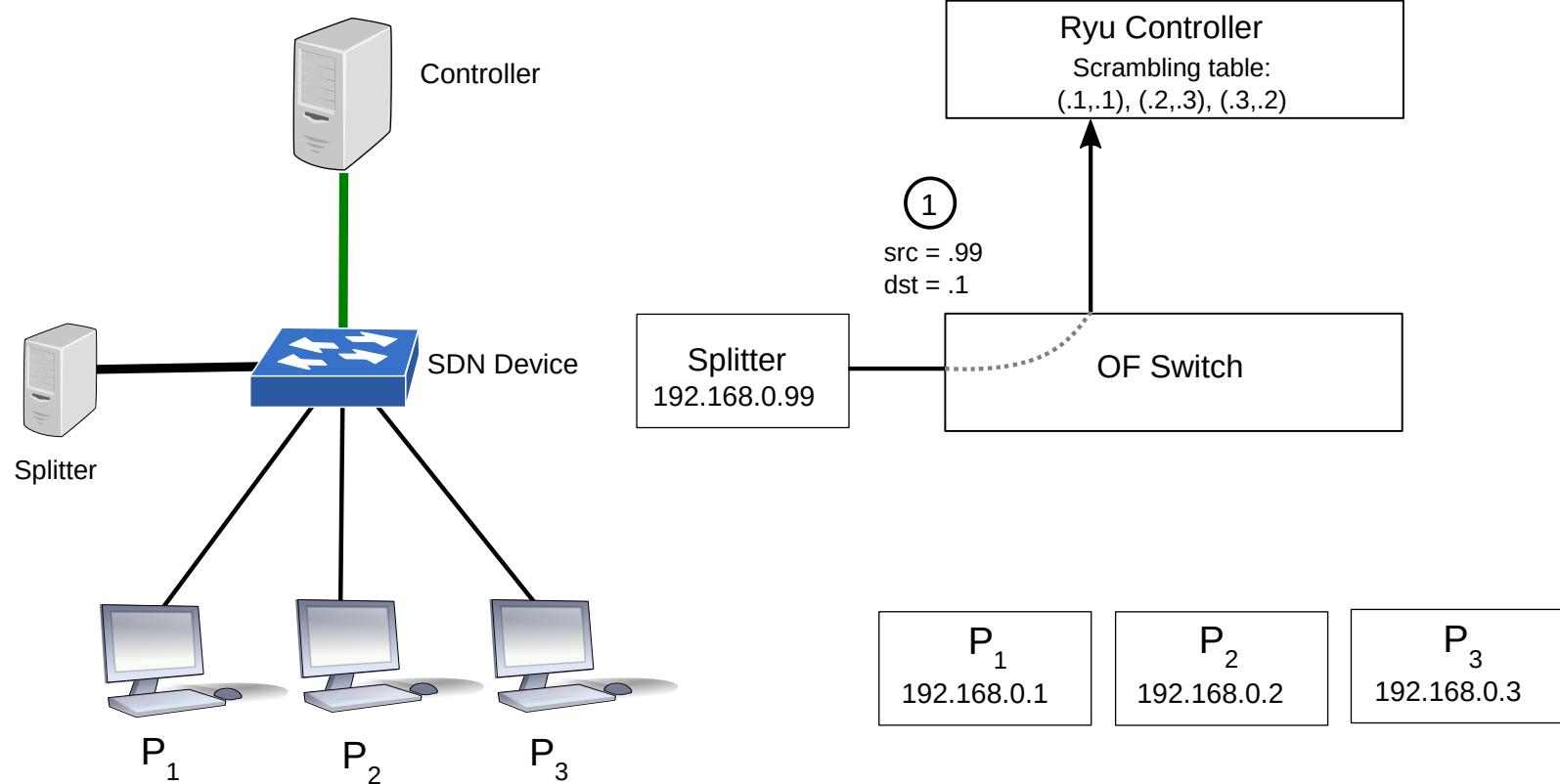
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## P2PSP PROPOSAL



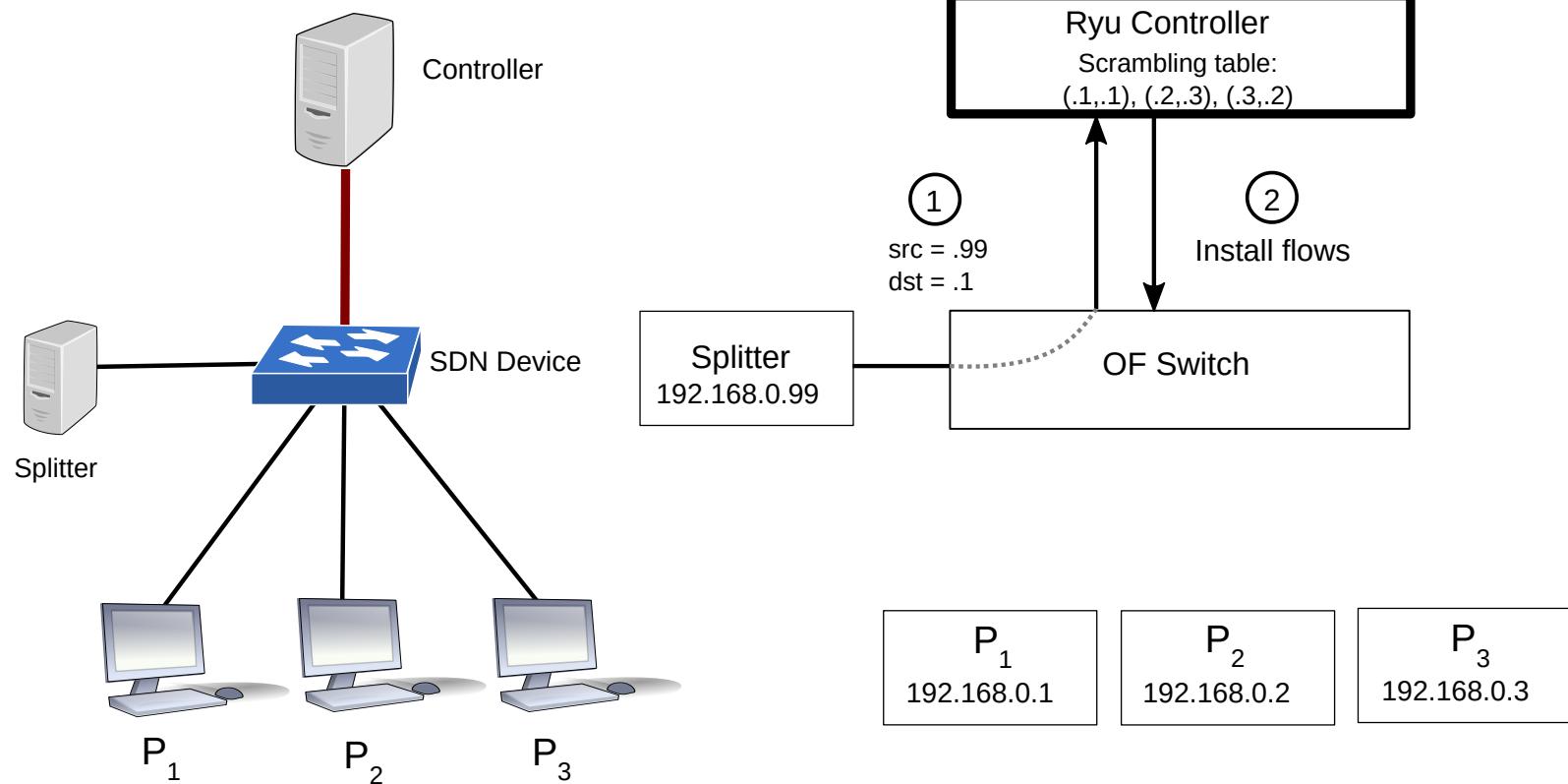
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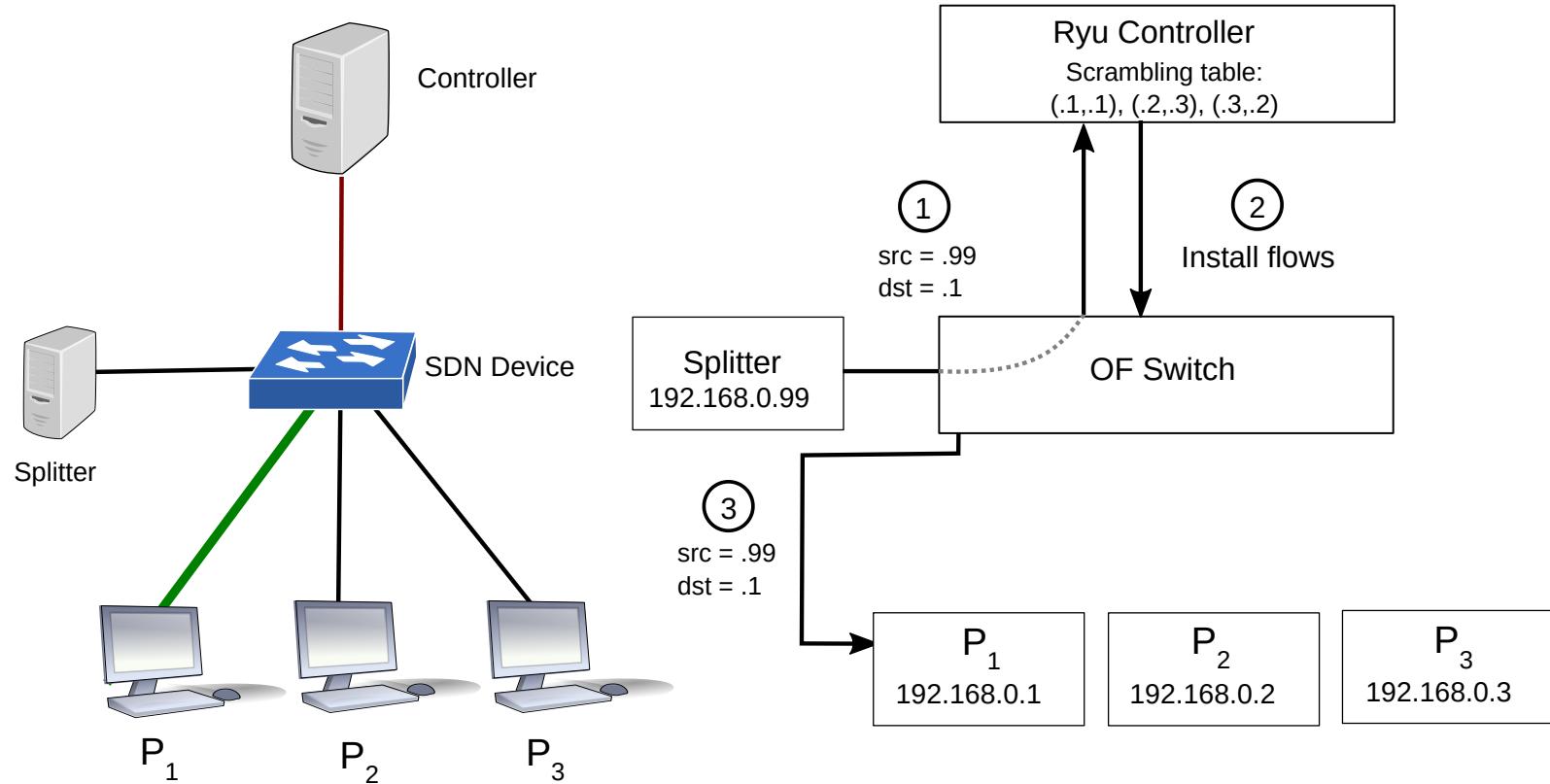
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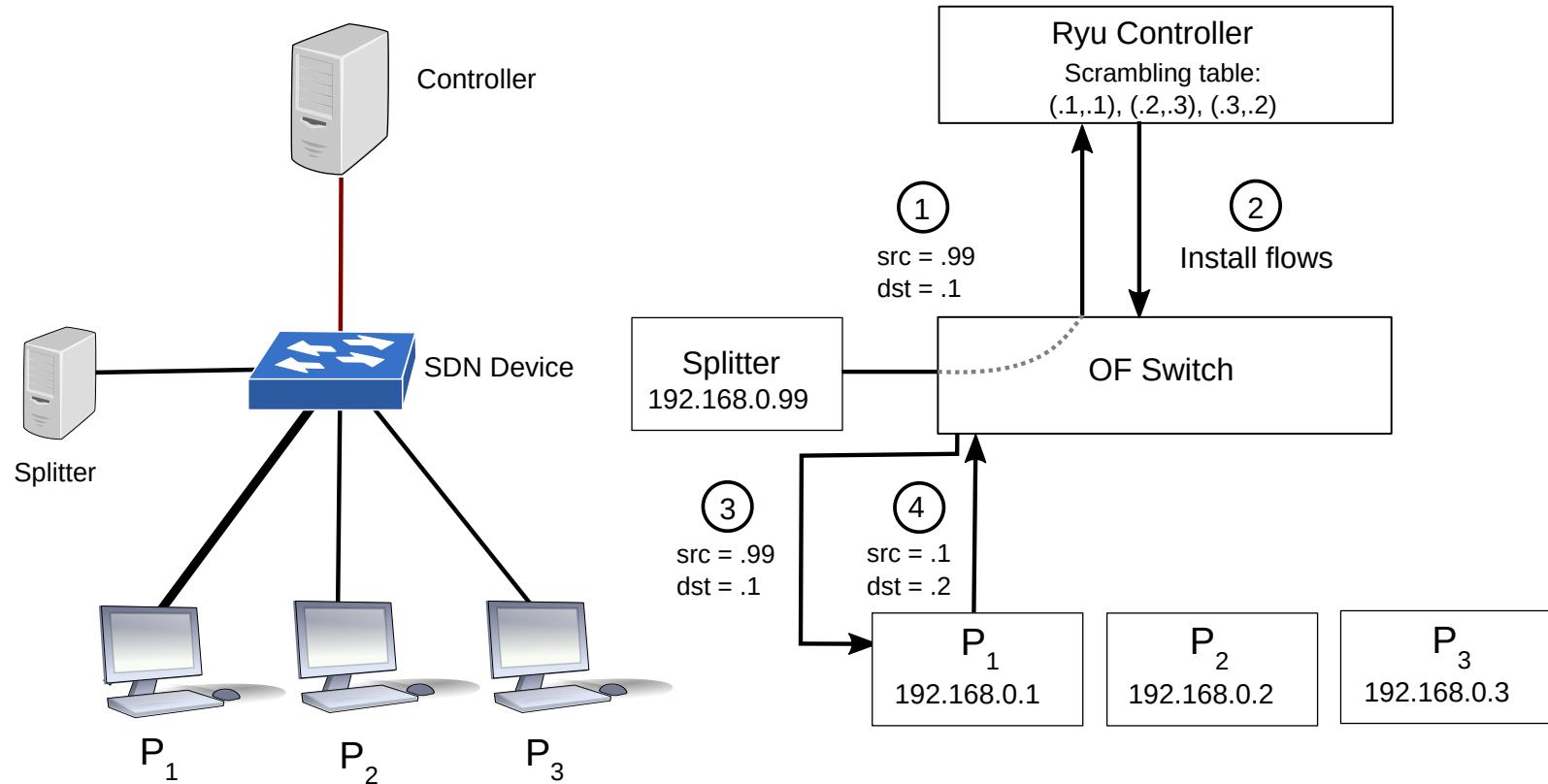
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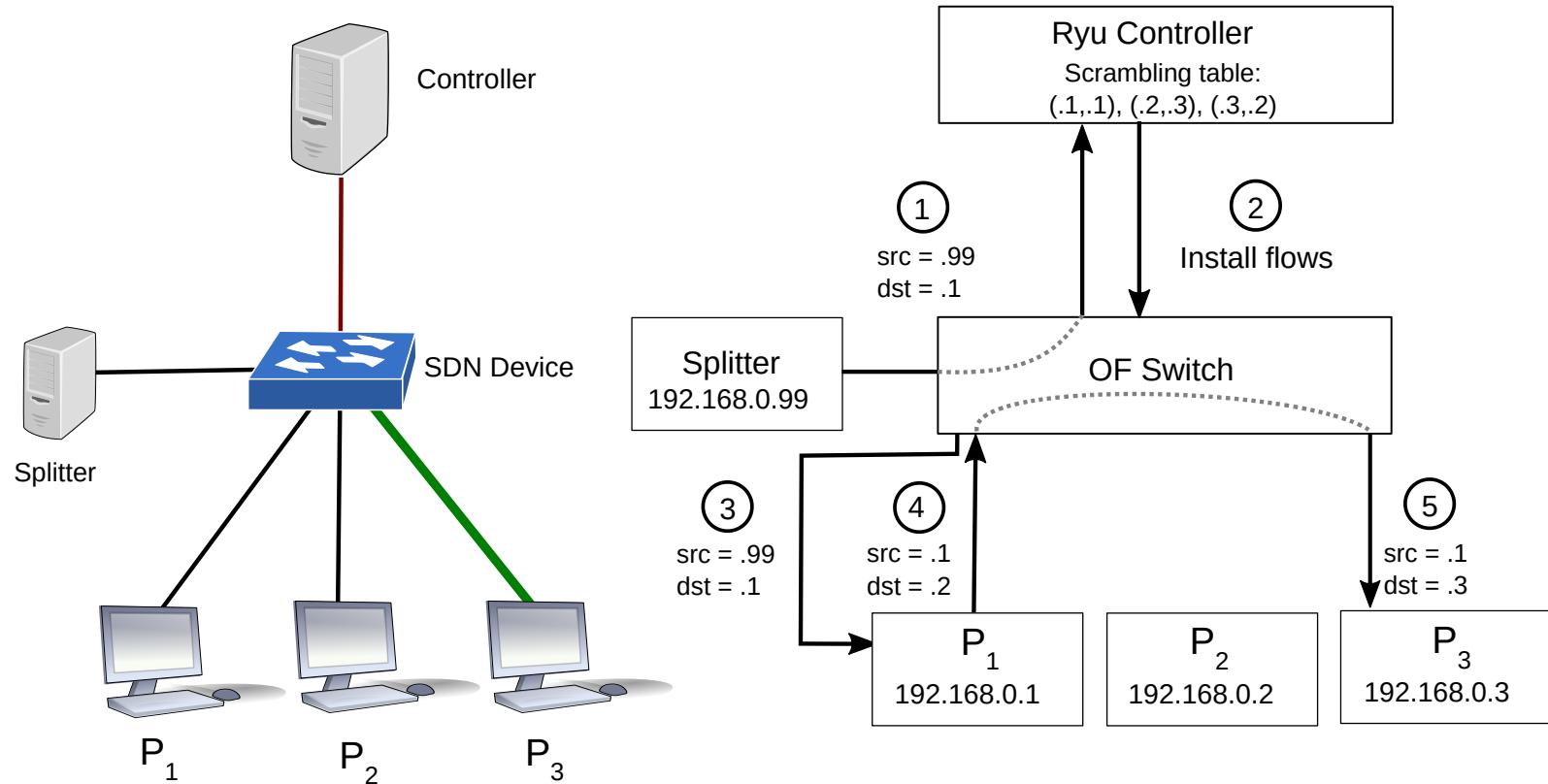
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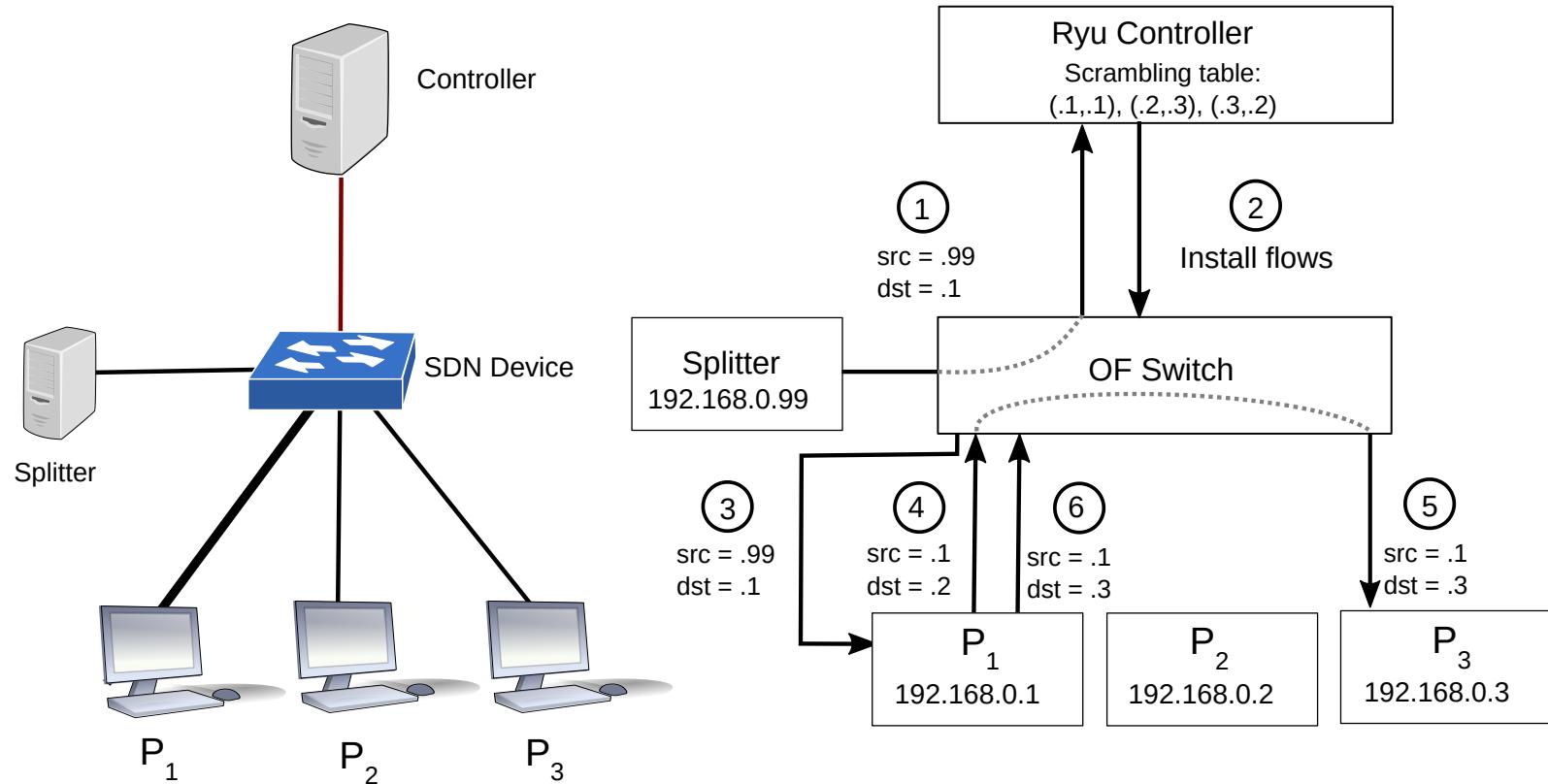
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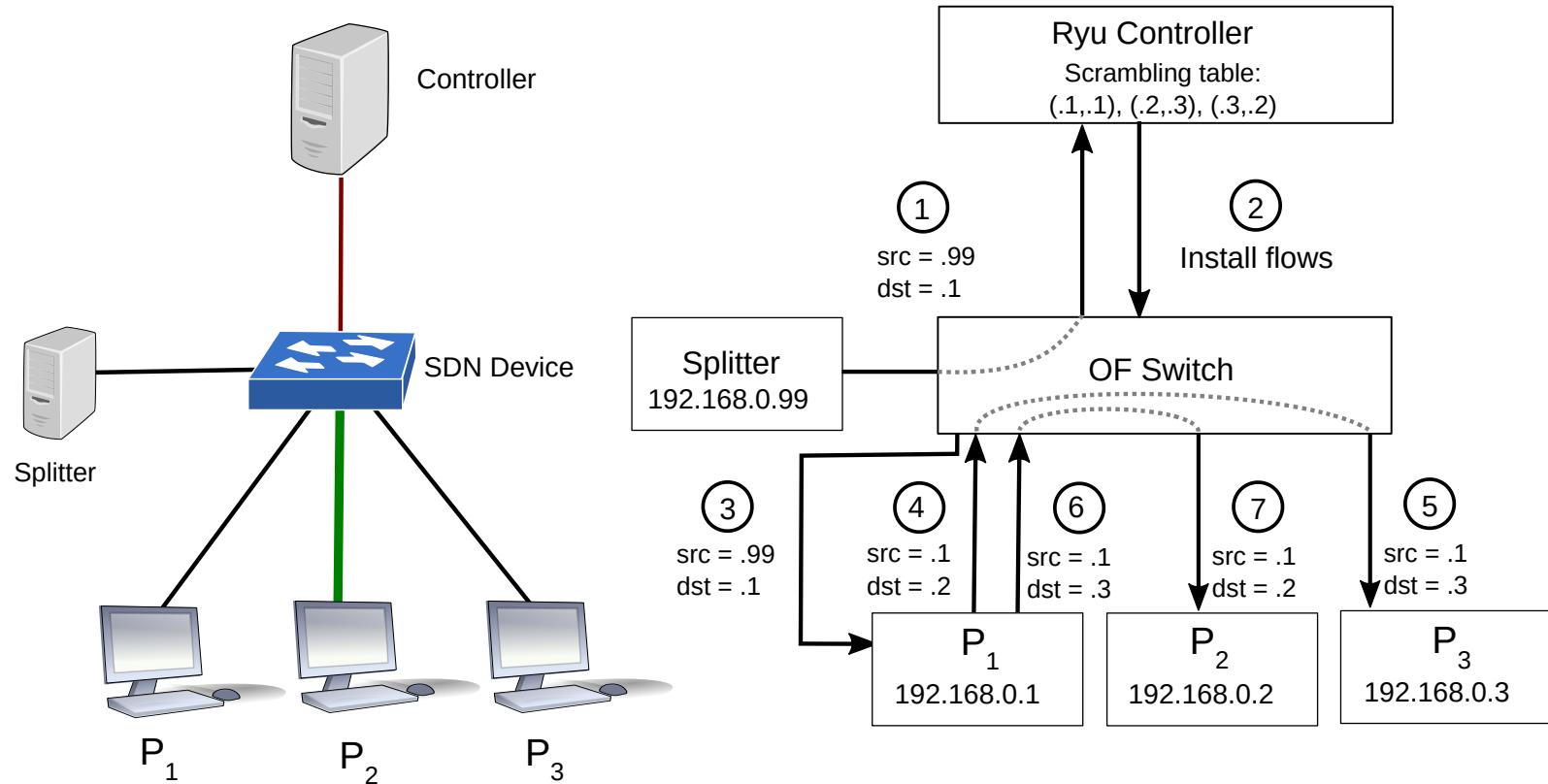
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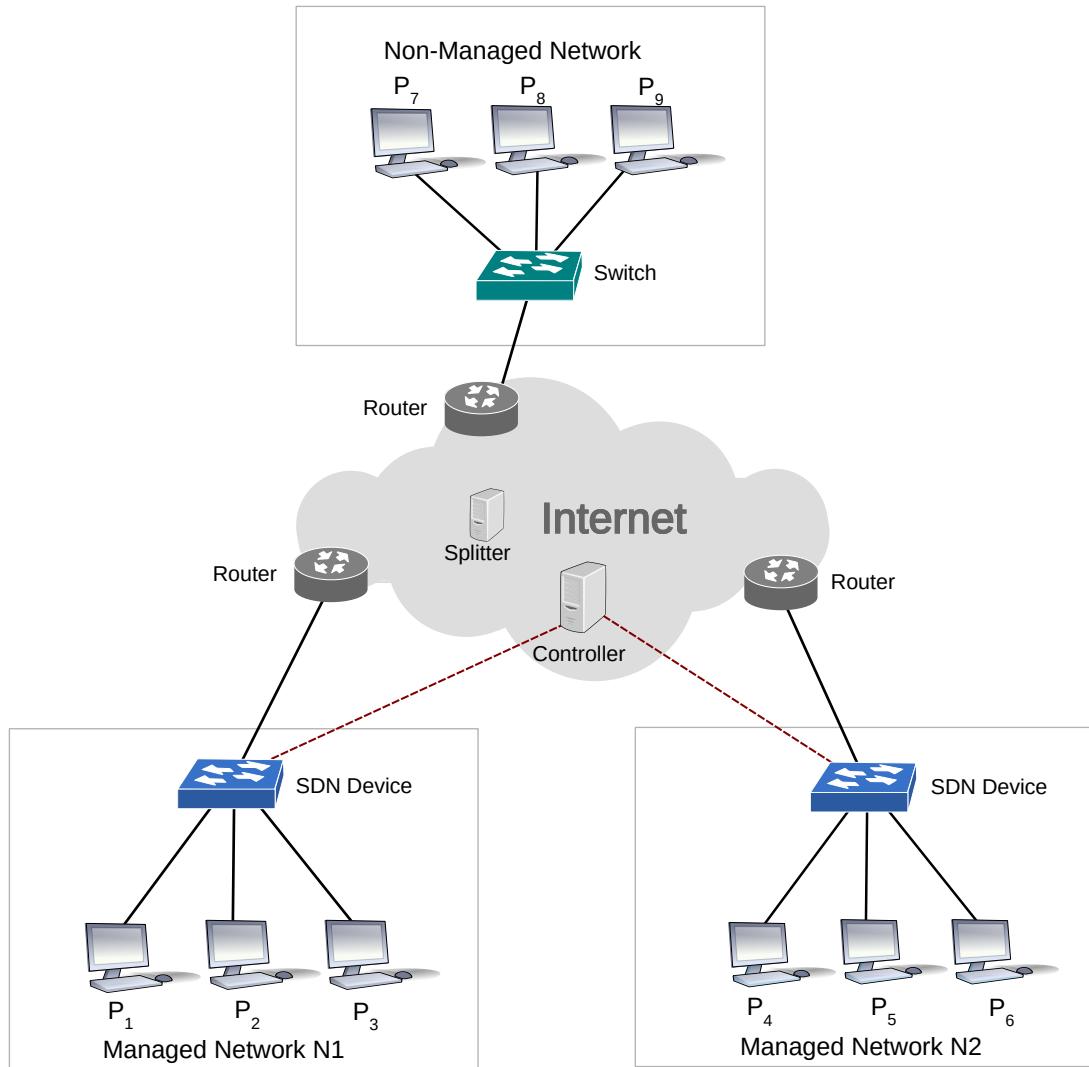
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## P2PSP PROPOSAL



# SOFTWARE DEFINED NETWORKS

It also works under hybrid environments

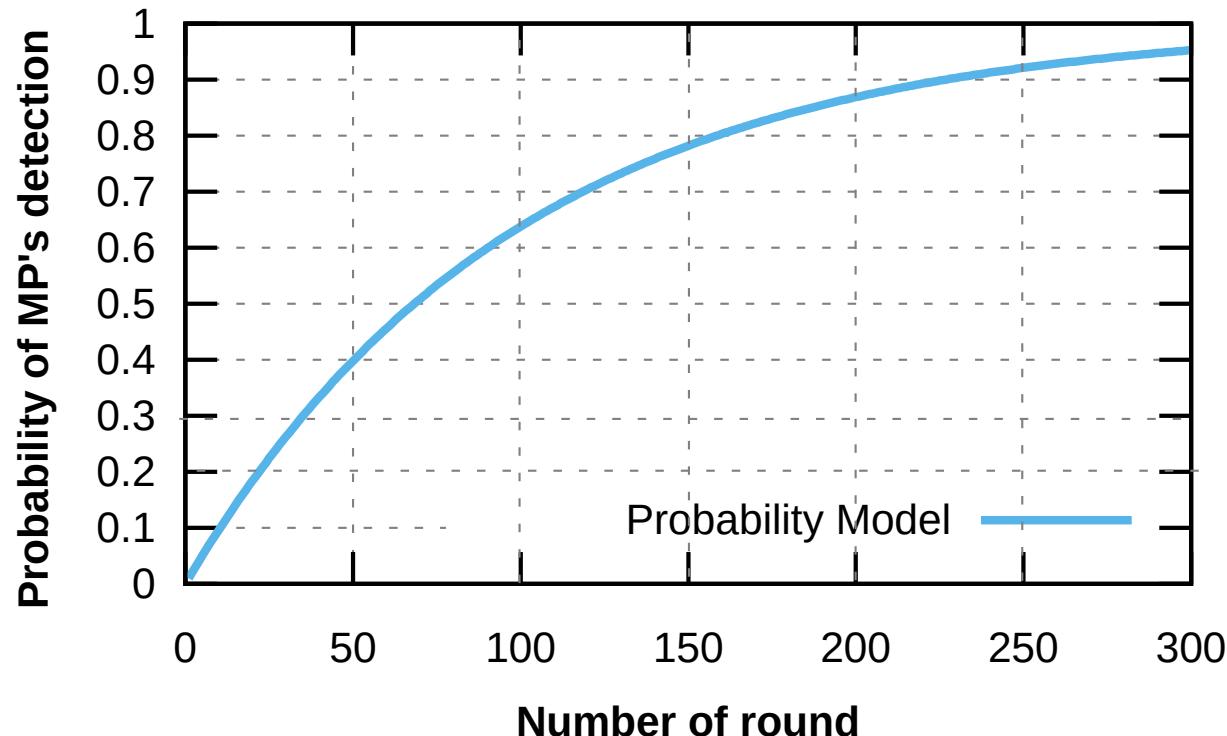


# DETECTION PROBABILITIES

MODEL

$$p = \sum_{r=1}^N \left( \left( \frac{Z-2}{Z-1} \right)^{(r-1)} \times \frac{1}{Z-1} \right)$$

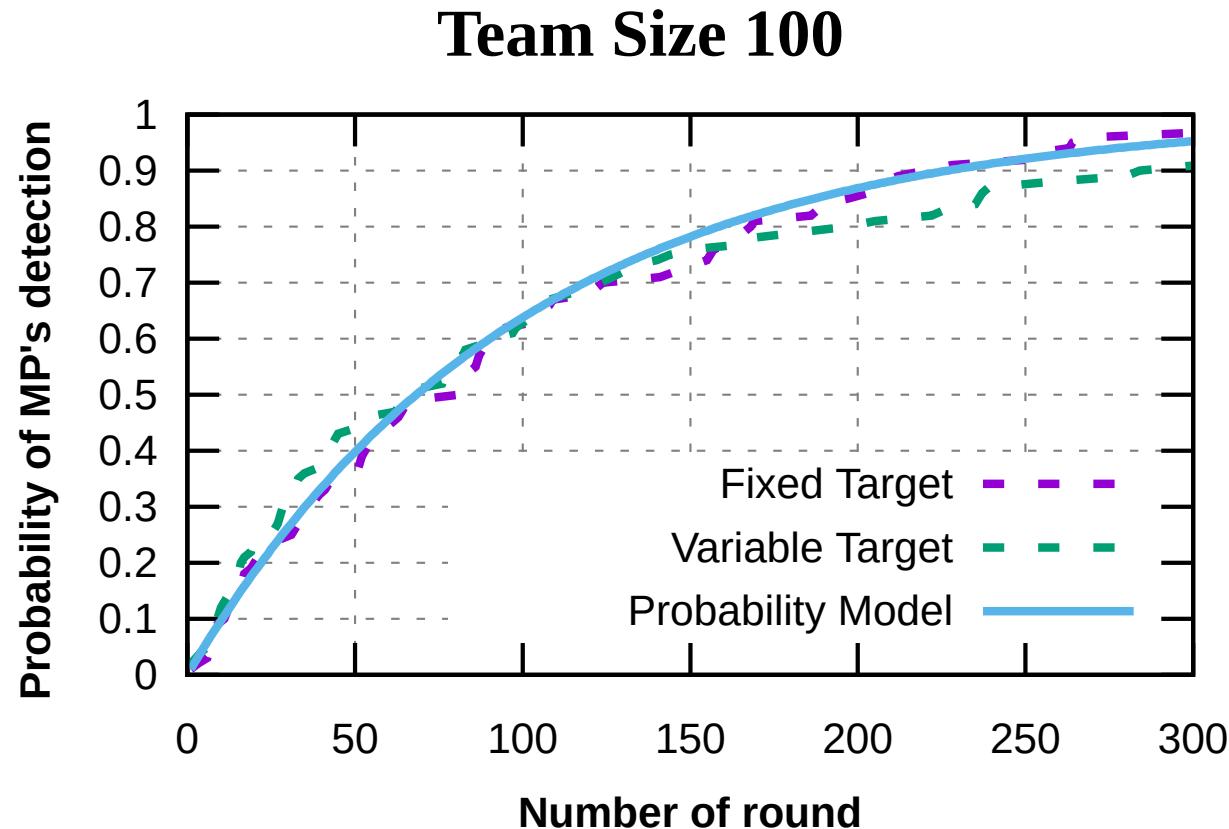
Team Size 100



# EXPERIMENTS

**Team size:** 10 to 100 | **Samples:** 100 | **Period:** 1 | **Cases:** Fixed and Variable attacks.

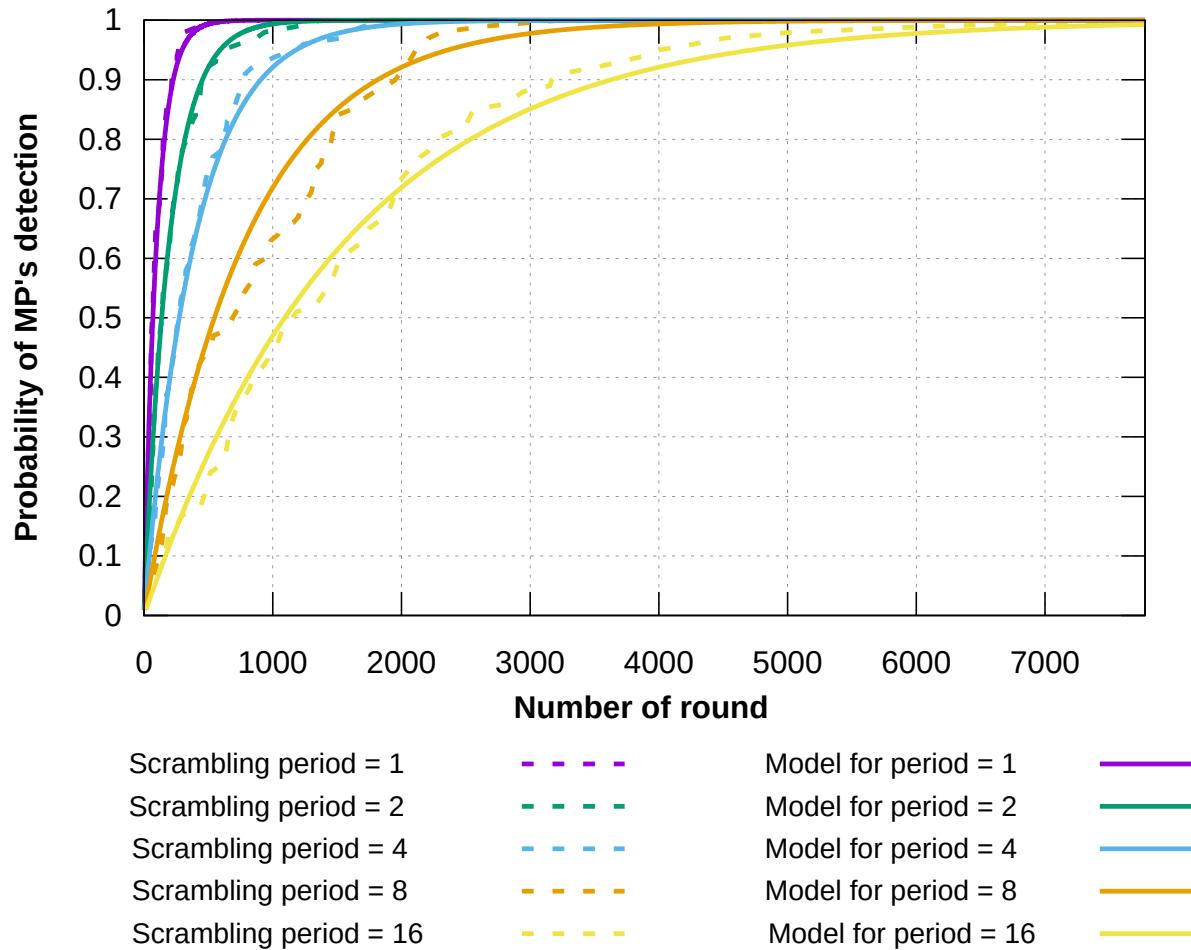
An open-source implementation is available on [GitHub](#)



# EXPERIMENTS

Modifying the scrambling period

**Team Size 100**



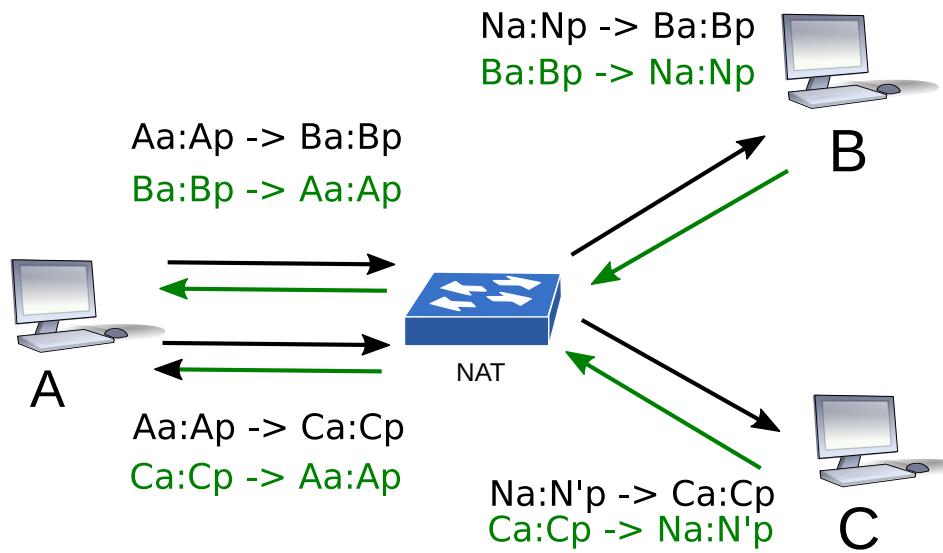
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# NAT TRAVERSAL

## NAT

It is a method of remapping one IP address space into another by modifying network address information



## SYMMETRIC NAT

Each request from the same internal endpoint to a destination endpoint is mapped to a unique external endpoint; if the destination change, a different mapping is used.

# NAT TRAVERSAL

## PEERS COMMUNICATION ISSUES

Peer  $P_1$

NAT  $A$

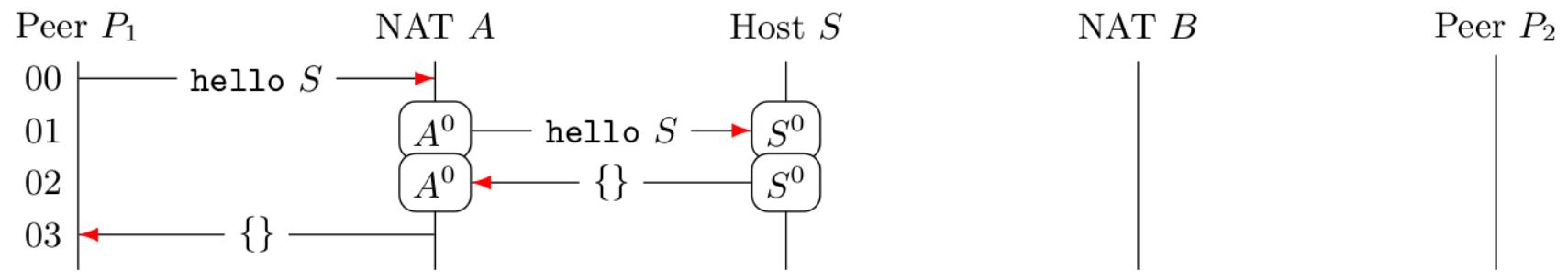
Host  $S$

NAT  $B$

Peer  $P_2$

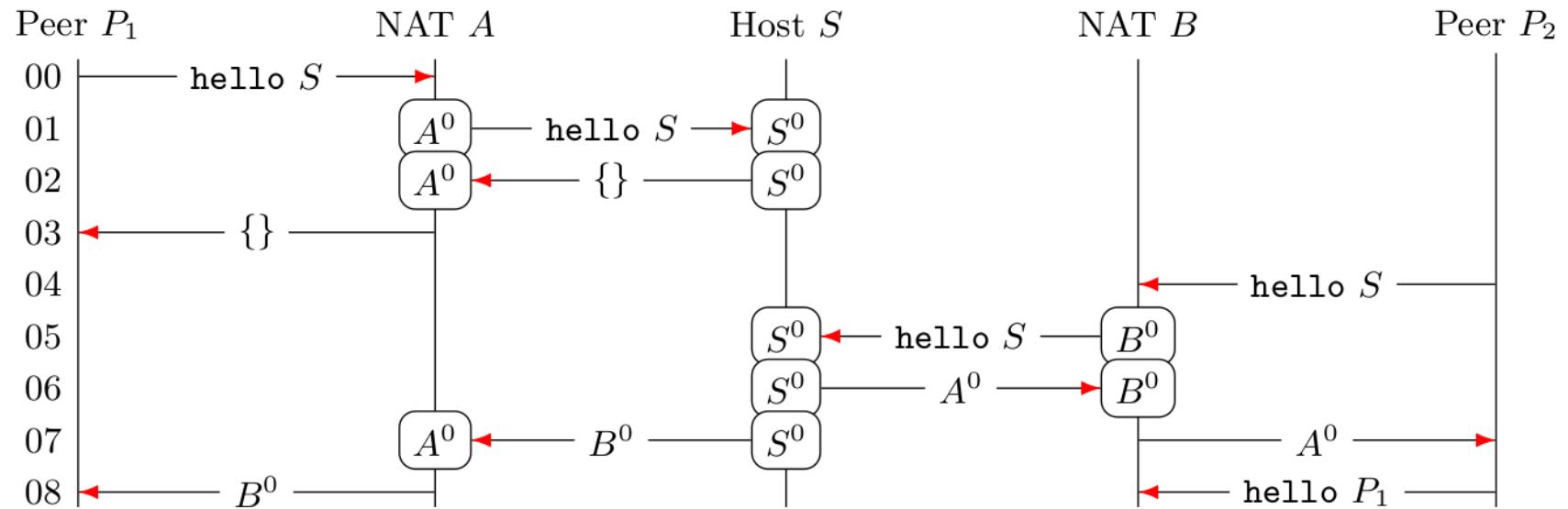
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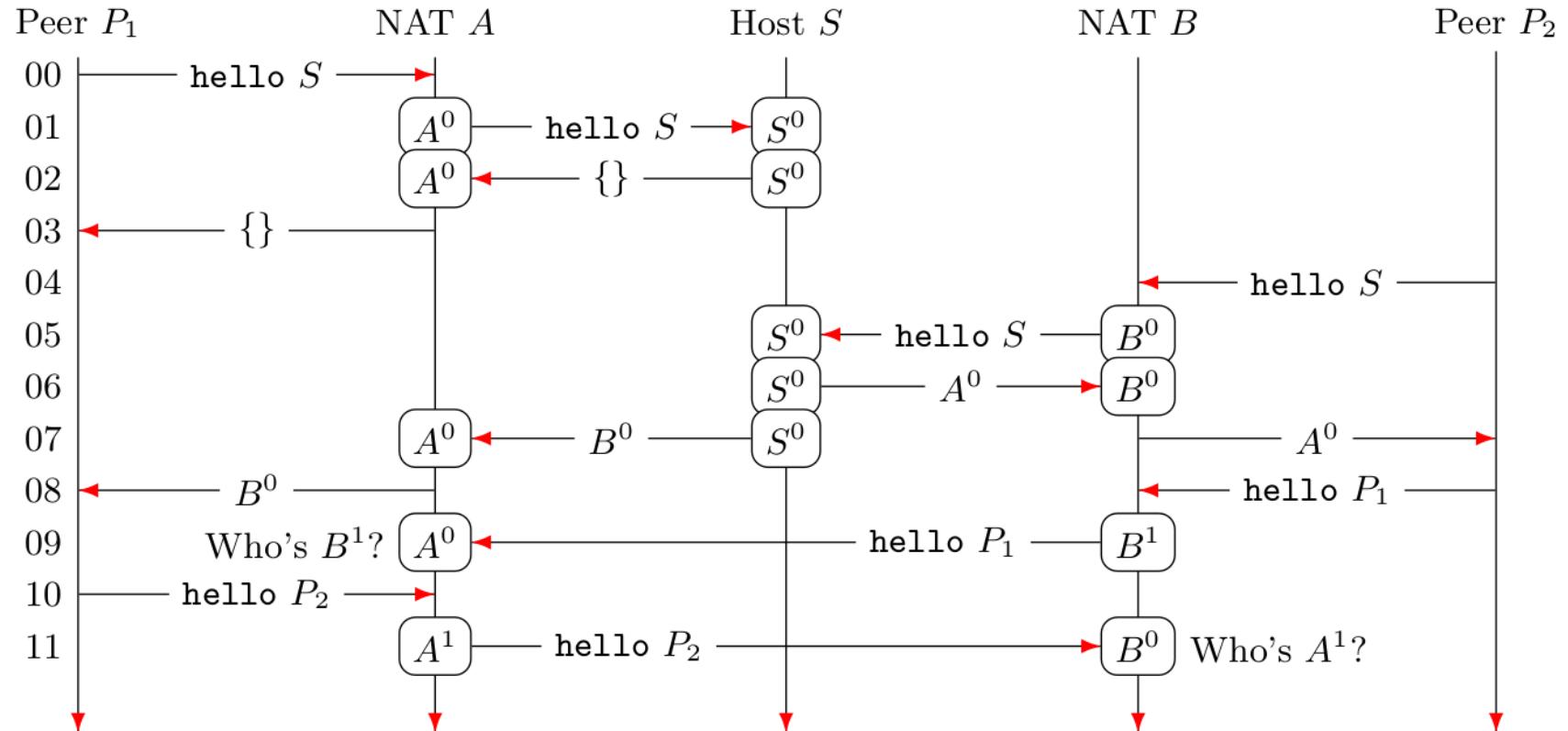
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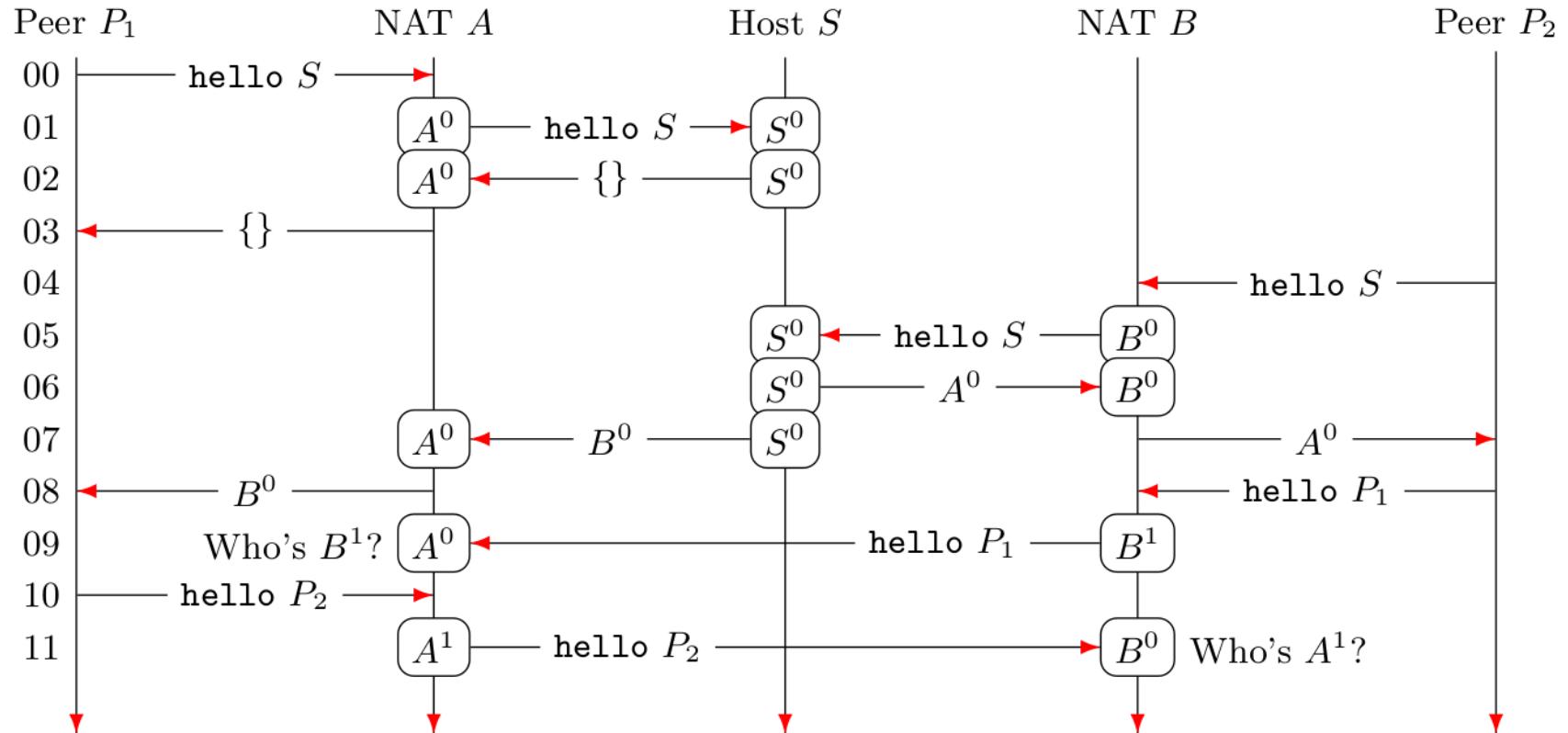
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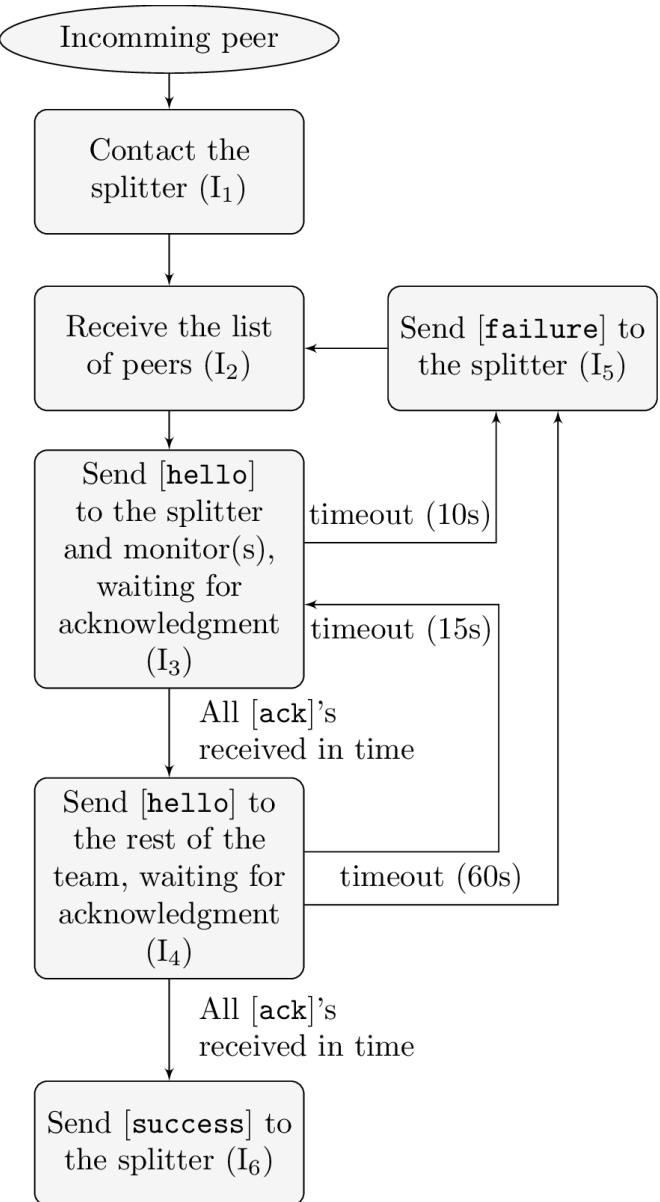
## PEERS COMMUNICATION ISSUES



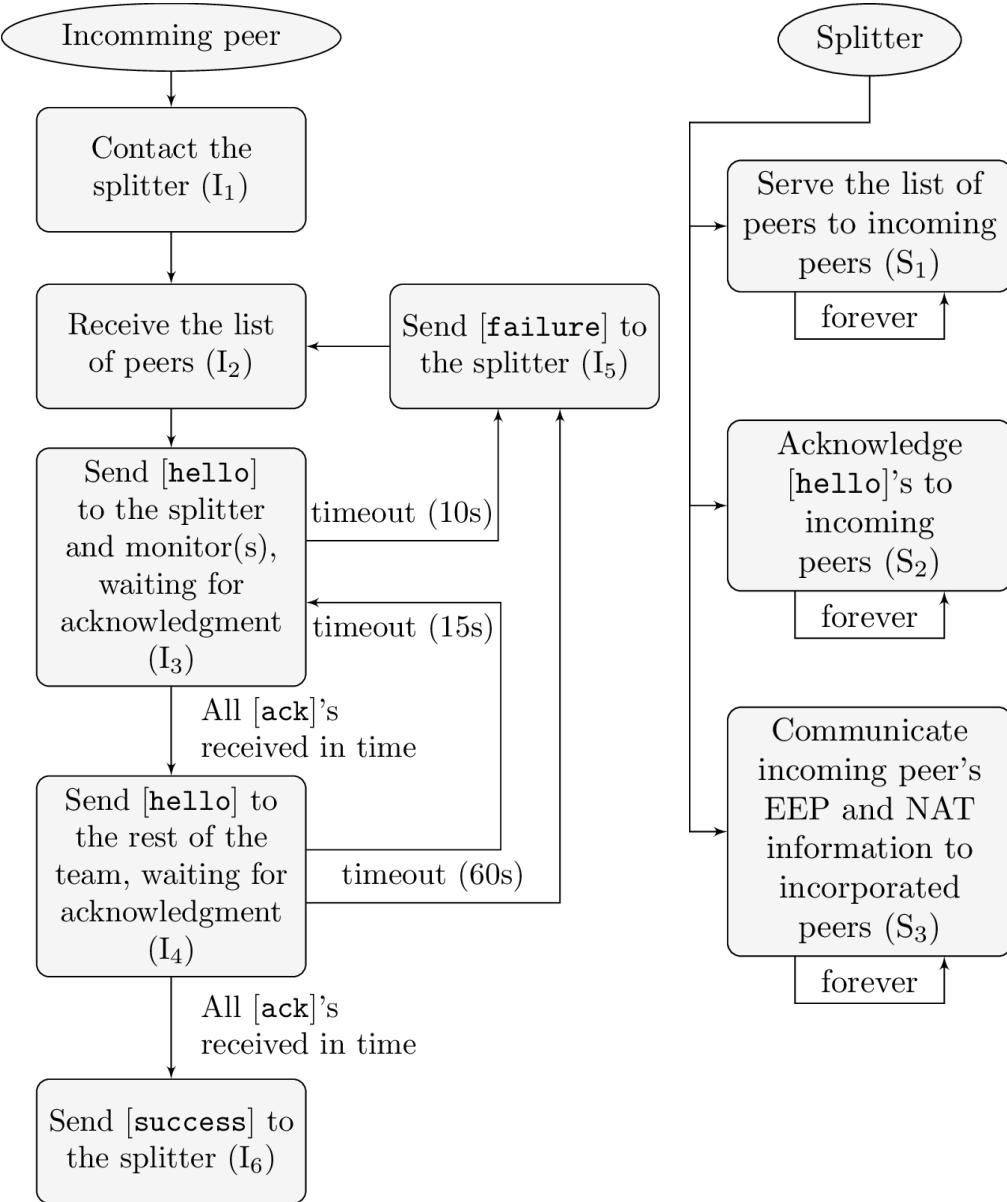
NAT device  $A$  does not have a translation entry for endpoint  $B_1$ , and NAT device  $B$  does not have a translation entry for endpoint  $A_1$

# COLLABORATIVE PORT PREDICTION

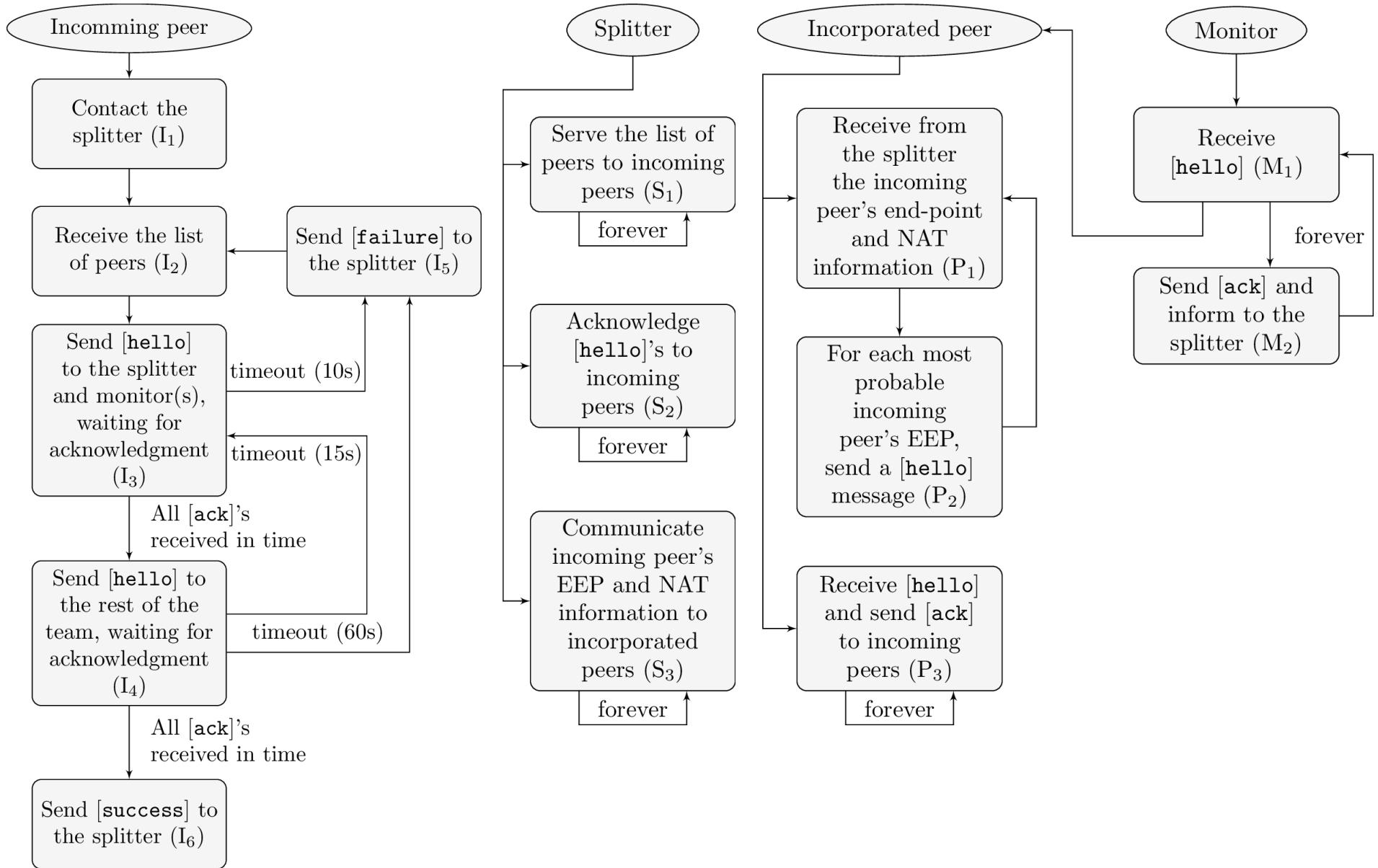
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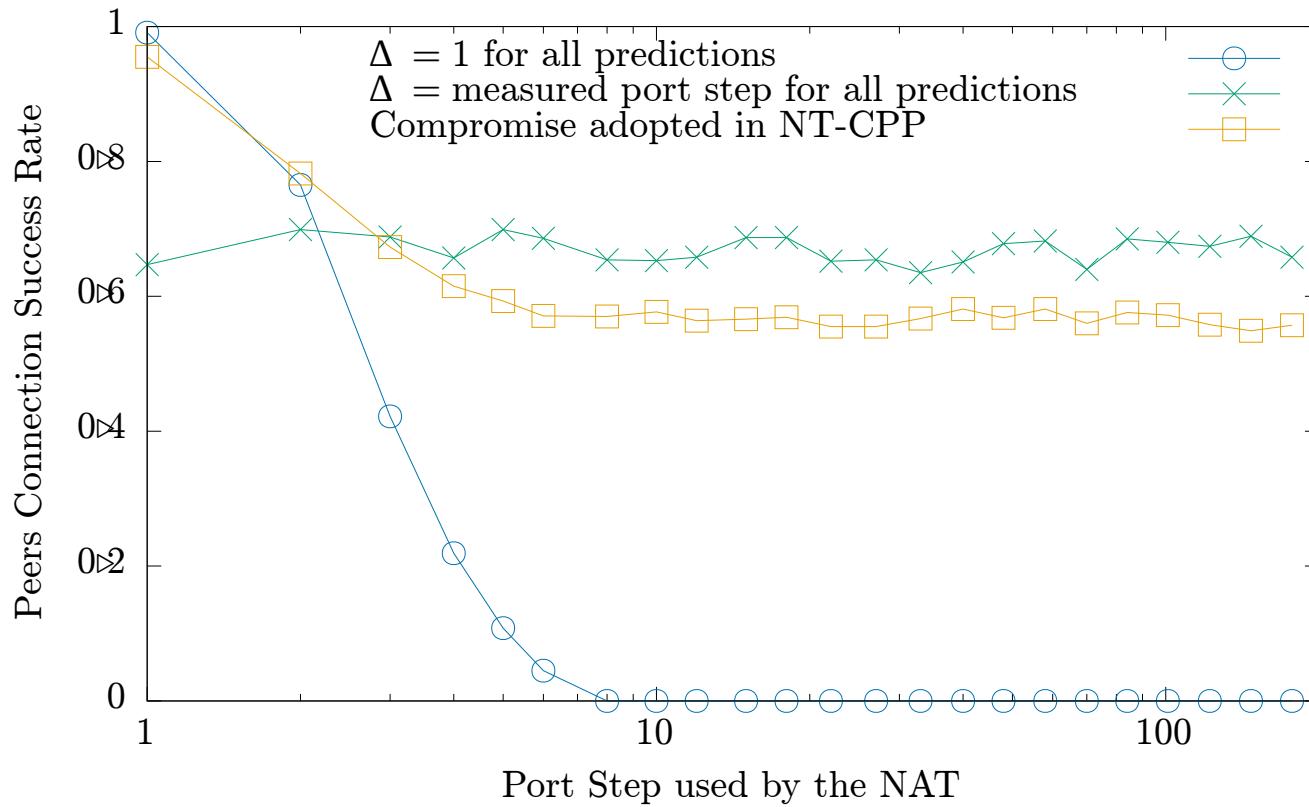


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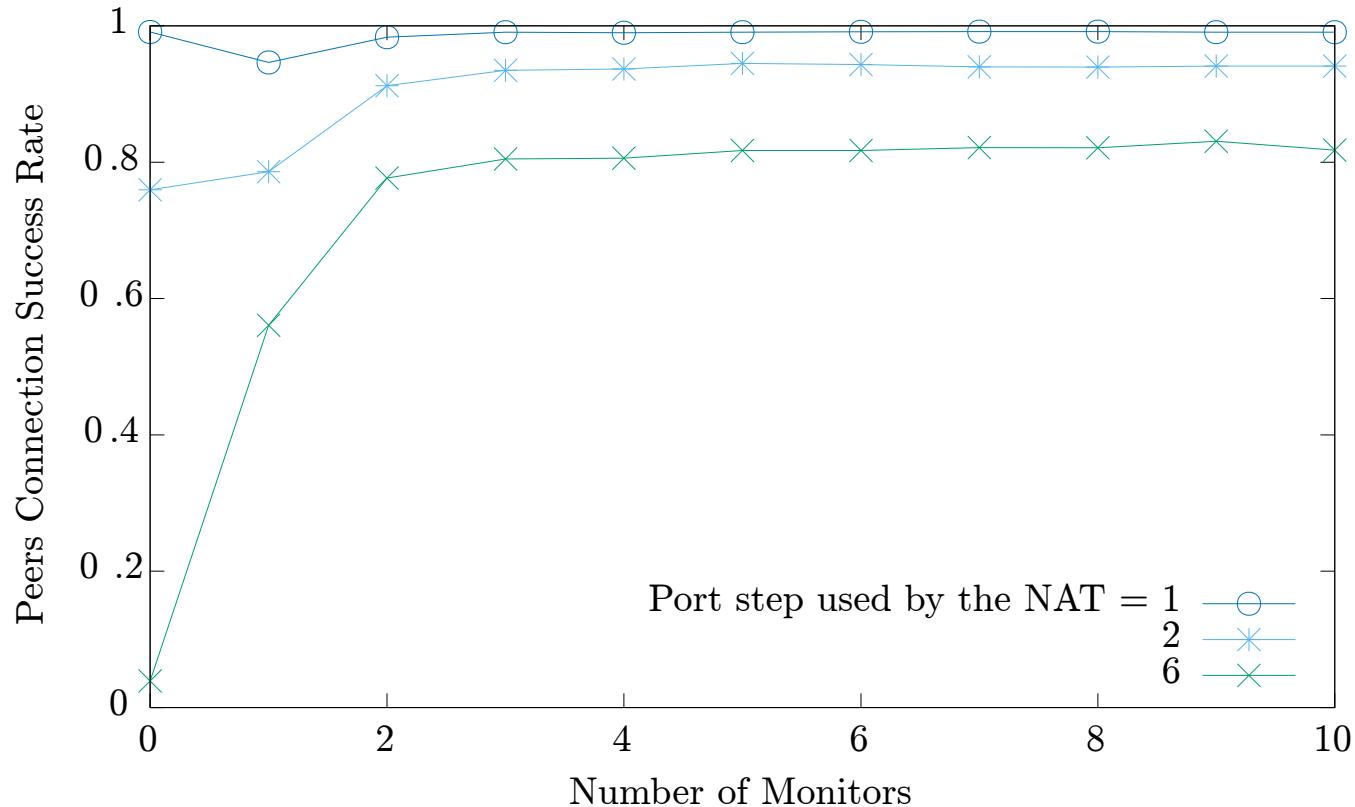
# EXPERIMENTS

Port step: [1 to 200] | Monitors: 1 | Port predictions  $n = 20$

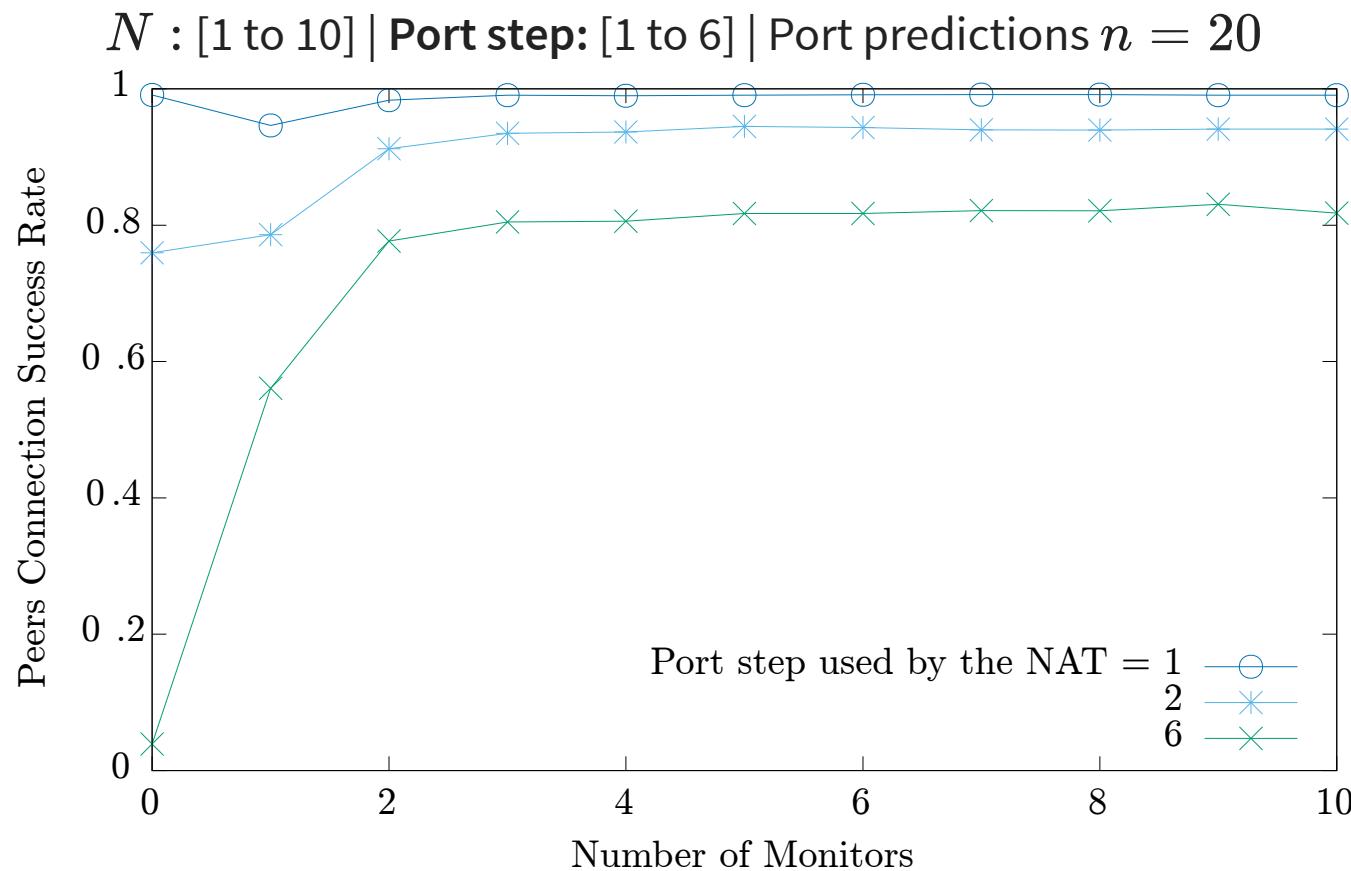


# EXPERIMENTS

$N : [1 \text{ to } 10]$  | Port step: [1 to 6] | Port predictions  $n = 20$



# EXPERIMENTS



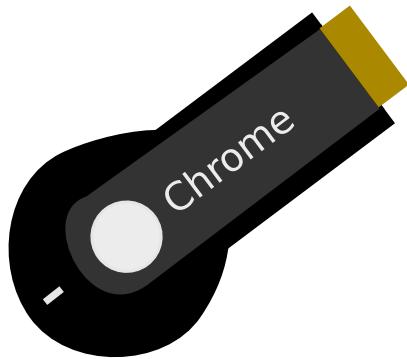
Only two monitor peers collaborating leads to higher traversal success rates

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# GOOGLE CHROMECAST

**Google Chromecast (GC)** is a device designed as small dongle, which enable users with a mobile device or personal computer to play Internet-streamed audio-visual content on a high-definition television through mobile and web apps that support the Google Cast technology.



# HOW DOES IT WORK?



# BUILT-IN TECHNOLOGIES

# BUILT-IN TECHNOLOGIES



## BUILT-IN TECHNOLOGIES



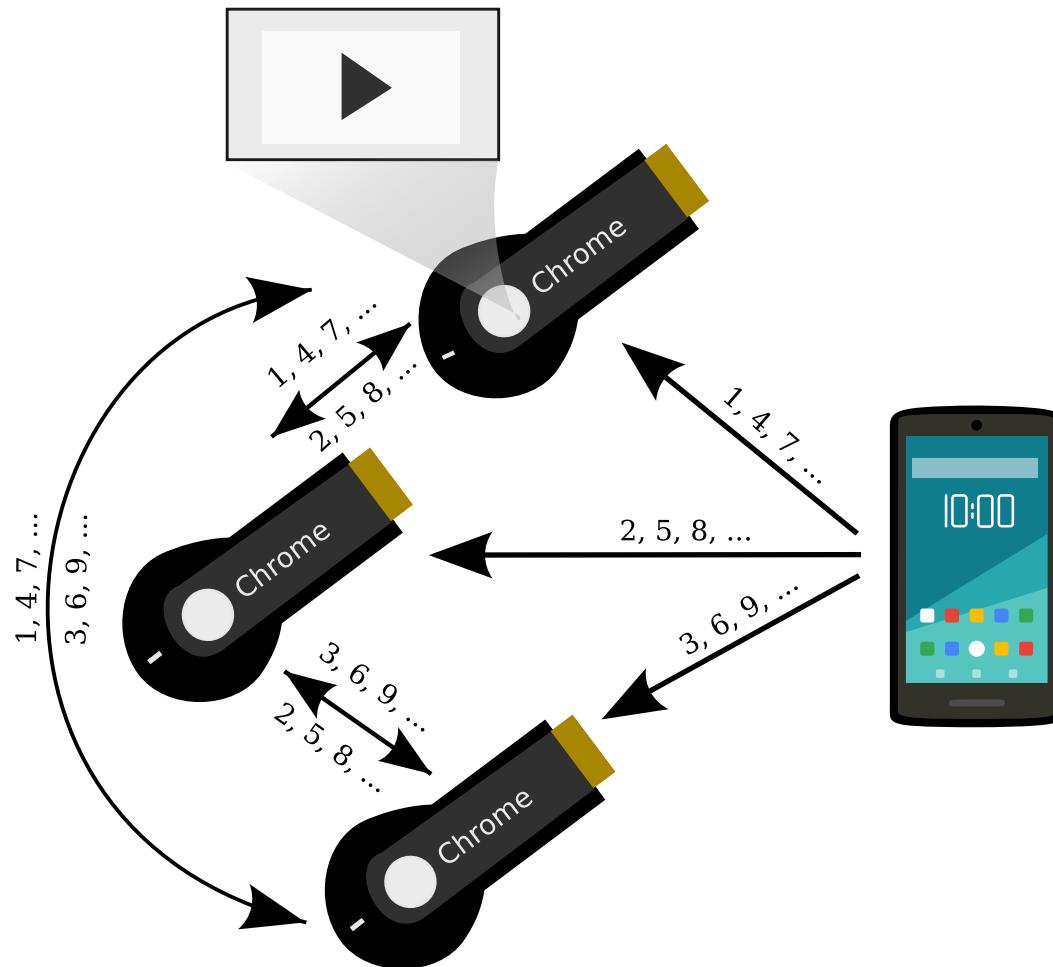
## BUILT-IN TECHNOLOGIES



MSE

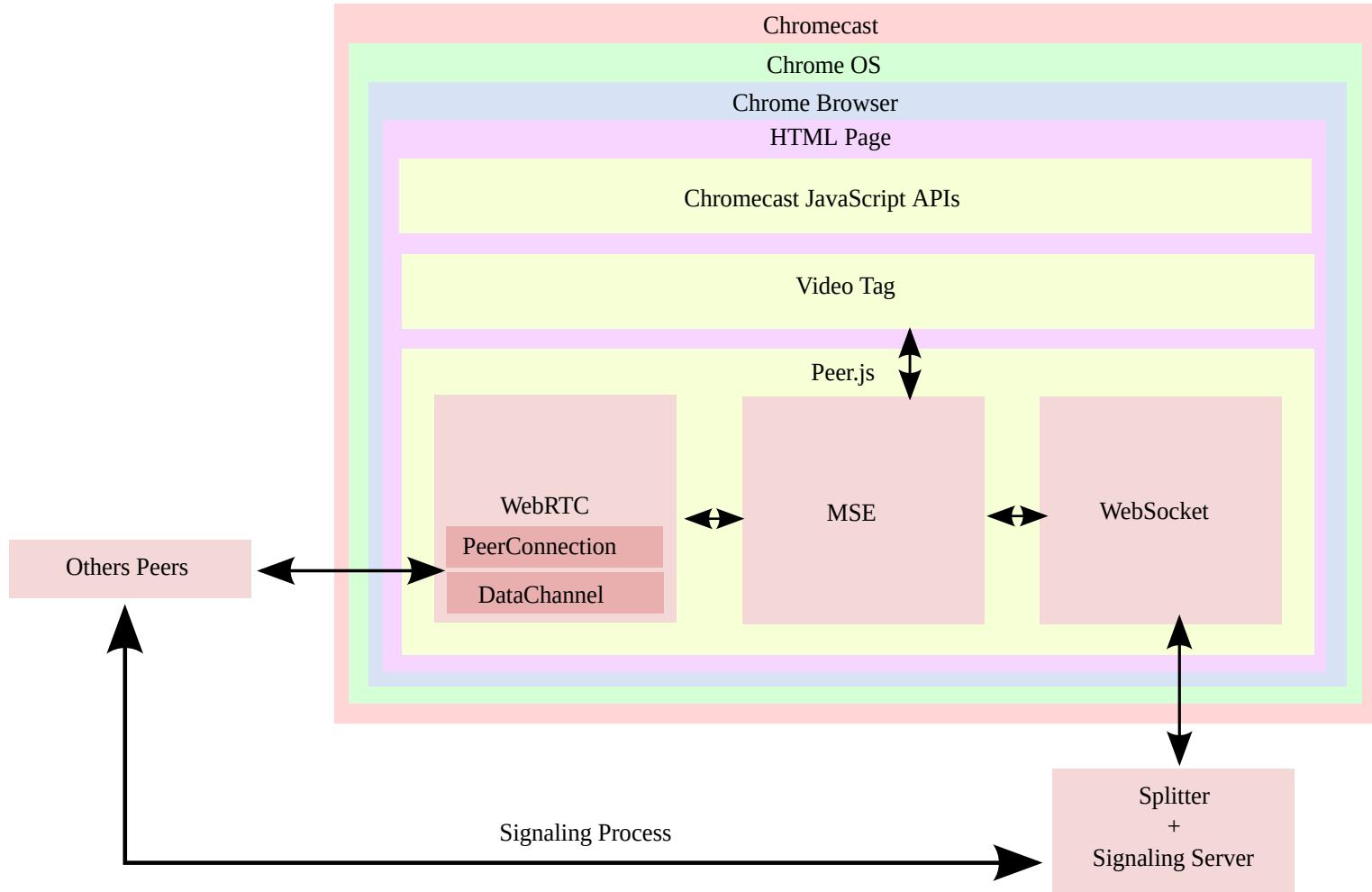
# DEVELOPMENT

A P2PSP CHROMECAST TEAM



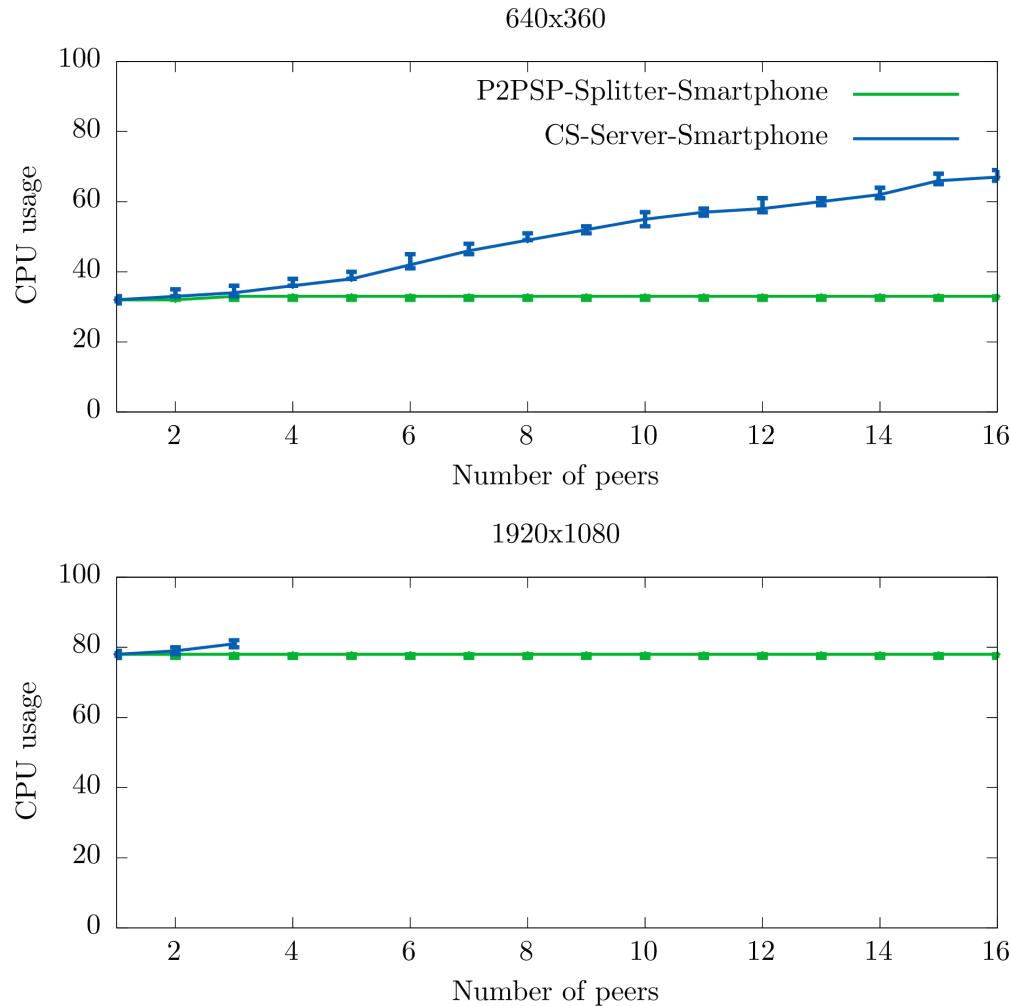
# DEVELOPMENT

## P2PSP CHROMECAST PEER ARCHITECTURE



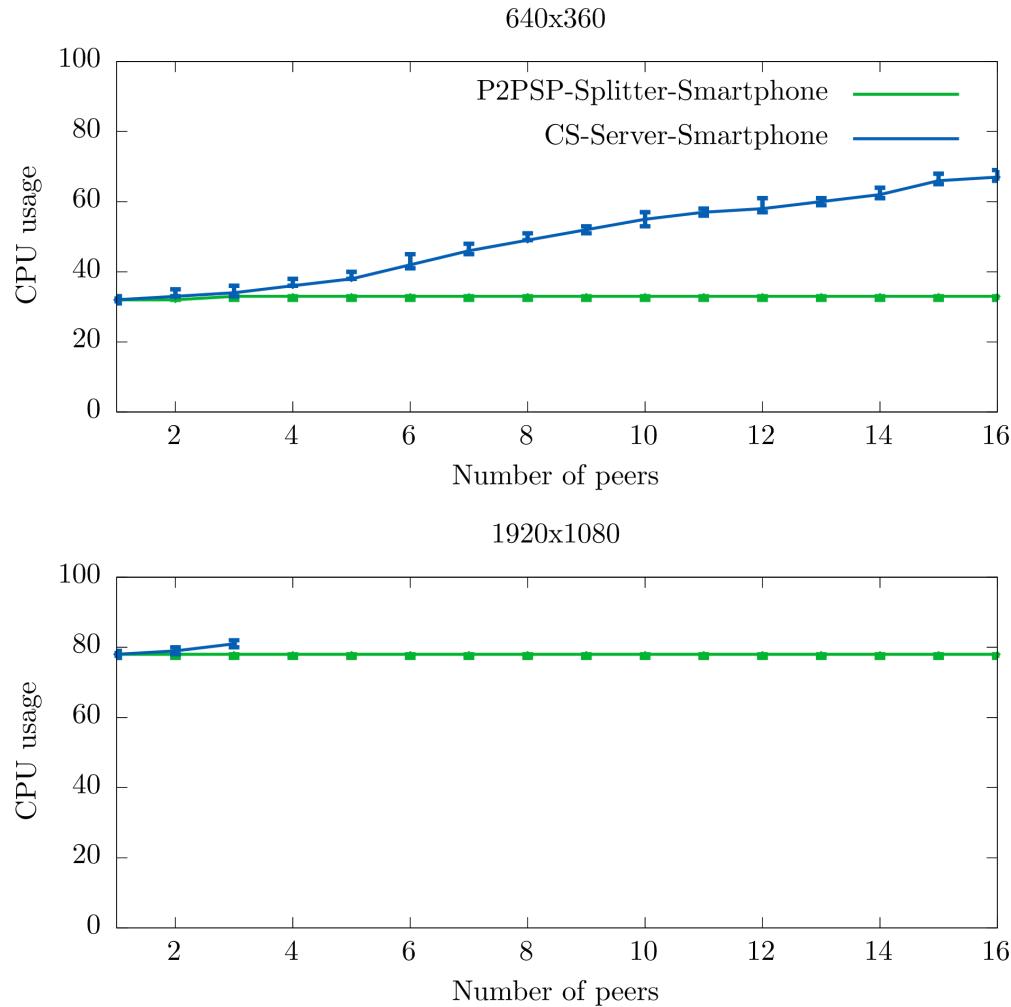
# EXPERIMENTS

Streaming a MP4 (H.264 + AAC) video at 24 FPS. Resolutions: 640x360 and 1920x1080



# EXPERIMENTS

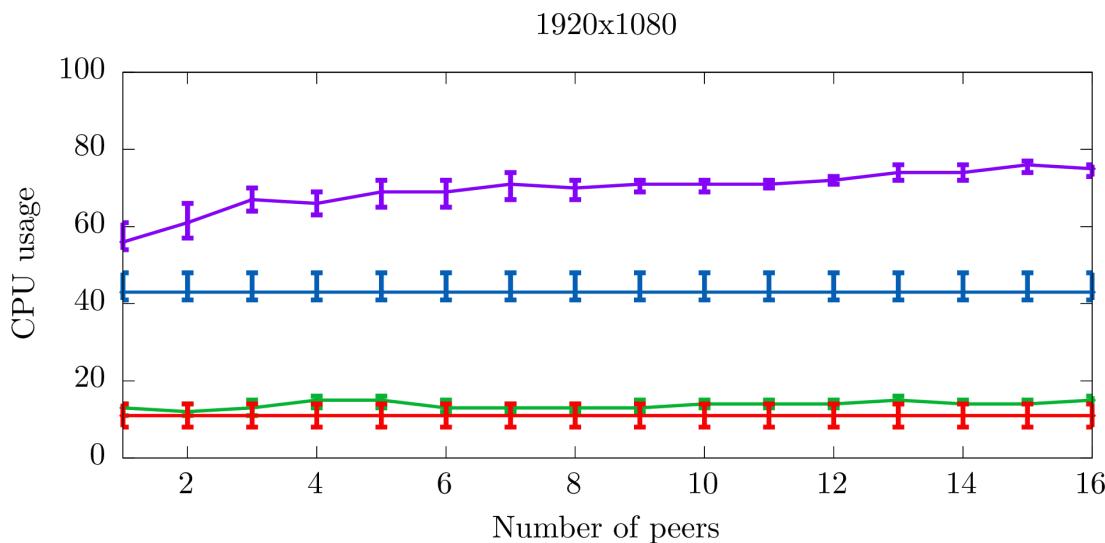
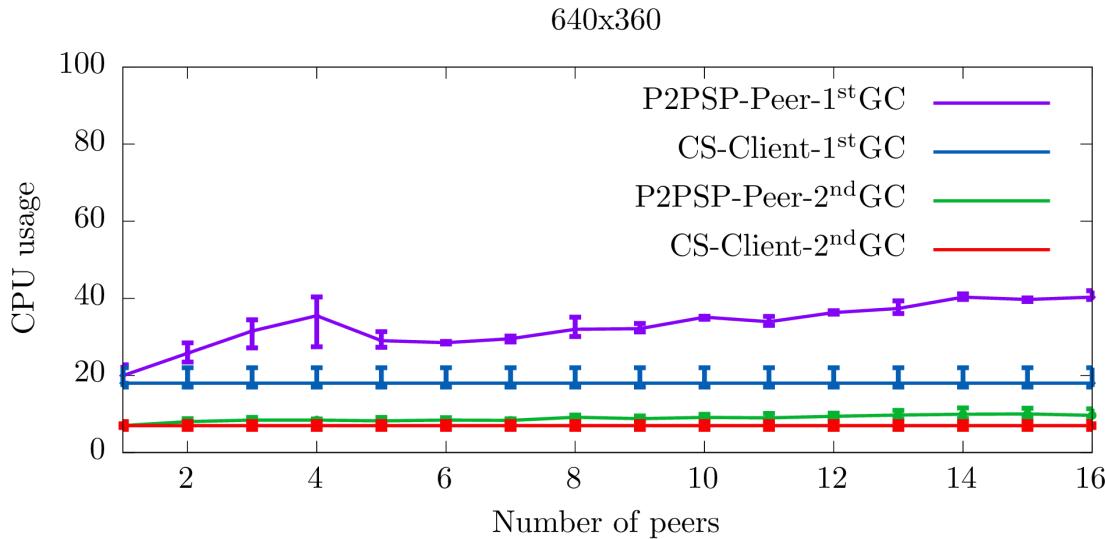
Streaming a MP4 (H.264 + AAC) video at 24 FPS. Resolutions: 640x360 and 1920x1080



Number of peers receiving the media increases significantly in comparison with a CS model

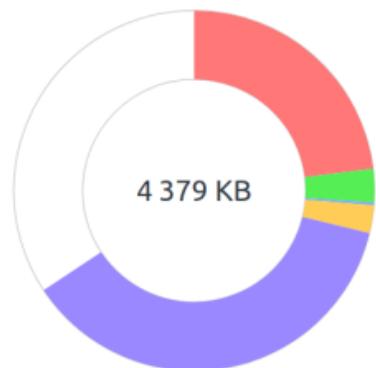
# EXPERIMENTS

Streaming a MP4 (H.264 + AAC) video at 24 FPS. Resolutions: 640x360 and 1920x1080

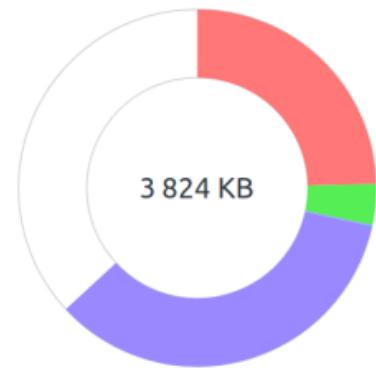


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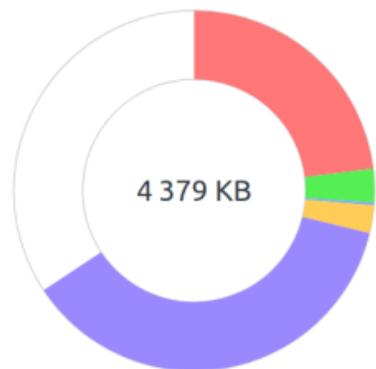
(a) P2PSP model.



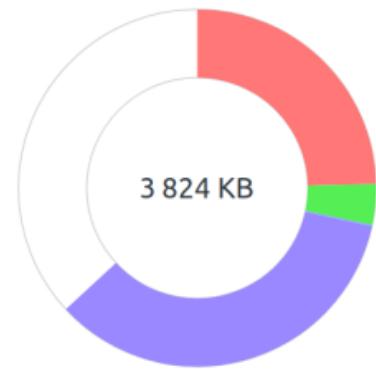
(b) CS model.

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(a) P2PSP model.



(b) CS model.

A peer can run on a GC improving the QoE of the user when connected to an HDMI TV

# OUTLINE

- **INTRODUCTION**
  - Background
  - Research Questions
- **PEER TO PEER STRAIGHFORWARD PROTOCOL**
  - An application-layer protocol that provides real-time broadcasting on the Internet
- **SECURITY**
  - Pollution Attacks
  - Strategies applied to Traditional Networks
  - Strategies applied to Software Defined Networks
- **EFFICIENCY**
  - NAT Traversal using Collaborative Port Prediction
  - Runing P2PSP on Embedded Devices
- **CONCLUSIONS**
  - Key Results and Future Work

# **CONCLUSIONS**

## **EFFICIENCY**

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1. We propose a **straightforward P2P Protocol** to ensure an easy implementation, even in resource-constrained devices. Moreover, we identified the main issues and proposed a modular design.

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2. We proposed a new and simple **NAT Traversal algorithm that uses Collaborative Port Prediction** in which a low number of source ports is needed for traversal success.
3. We got a implementation of the **P2PSP running on embedded devices** aiming of avoiding third-party media servers, in order to decrease the cost of the streaming and increase the degree of privacy.

# **CONCLUSIONS**

## **SECURITY**

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# CONCLUSIONS

## SECURITY

1. Our experimental results show that **using only trusted peers** as a defense strategy is not appealing when the number of malicious peers can be large.
2. The most severe possible **attack is fully mitigated**. For the remaining attacks, we can improve effectiveness to face them increasing the number of TPs.
3. **Deterministic quick MP detection**, not only in pure SDN environments but also in mixed environments where some peers are on the Internet and others are under managed networks.

# PUBLICATIONS

## INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS (JCR)

1. Medina-Lopez, C., Mertens, M.B., Gonzalez-Ruiz, V. & Casado, L.G. (2019). Reducing streaming cost while increasing privacy: A case study on a smartphone and chromecast using peer-to-peer technology to skip third-party servers. *IEEE Consumer Electronics Magazine*, DOI: 10.1109/MCE.2018.2880810. 8, 50–55 Impact factor JCR 2018: 3.273. **Journal ranking: 10/52 (Q1) in Computer science, Hardware & Architecture.** 76/265 (Q2) in Engineering, Electrical & Electronic. 29/88 (Q2) in Telecommunications.
2. (Under Review) Medina-Lopez, C., Casado, L.G, Yuansong Qiao & Gonzalez-Ruiz, V. An SDN Approach to Detect Targeted Attacks in P2P Fully Connected Overlays. *International Journal of Information Security*. **Impact Factor JCR 2018: 1.822. 44/107 (Q2) in Computer science, Software Engineering.** 42/104 (Q2) in Computer science, Theory and Methods. 92/155 (Q3) Computer science, Information systems.
3. (Under Review) Medina-Lopez, C., García-Ortiz J.P, Martínez, J.A, Casado, L.G, Gonzalez-Ruiz, V. NAT Traversal in P2P Networks using Collaborative Port Prediction. *Peer-to-Peer Networking and Applications*. **Impact Factor JCR 2018: 2.397. 70/155 (Q2) Computer science, Information systems.** 41/88 (Q2) Telecommunications.

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1. Medina-López, C., González-Ruiz, V. & Casado, L. (2017). On mitigating pollution and free-riding attacks by Shamir's Secret Sharing in fully connected P2P systems. In Wireless Communications and Mobile Computing Conference (IWCMC), 2017 13th International, 711–716, DOI: 10.1109/IWCMC.2017.7986372. IEEE. **GGS Rating: B, GGS Class: 3.**
2. Medina-López, C., Shakirov, I., Casado, L. & González-Ruiz, V. (2017). On pollution attacks in fully connected P2P networks using trusted peers. In Intelligent Systems Design and Applications, 144–153, DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-53480-0. Springer, Cham, Porto. **CORE 2016: rank C.**
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## OTHER INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

1. Medina-López, C. (2015). Participation as a speaker. In GSoC 2015 Lightning Talks, Google Inc., SunnyVale, CA. USA
2. Medina-López, C., García Ortiz, J.P., Naranjo, J., Casado, L. & González-Ruiz, V. (2014). IPTV using P2PSP and HTML5+WebRTC. In 4th W3C Web and TV Workshop, 5, IRT, W3C, Munchen, Germany

# **PUBLICATIONS**

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1. Medina-López, C., González-Ruiz, V., Casado, L.G., Naranjo, J. & García-Ortiz, J.P. (2015). Ejecutando peers p2psp en google chromecast. In Actas VI Jornadas de Computación Empotrada, 123–129, Cordoba
2. Medina-López, C., Naranjo, J., García-Ortiz, J.P., Casado, L.G. & González-Ruiz, V. (2013). Execution of the P2PSP protocol in parallel environments. In G.B. y Alberto A. Del Barrio Garcia, ed., Actas XXIV Jornadas de Paralelismo, 216–221, Madrid

# PUBLICATIONS

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS PRODUCED DURING THE ELABORATION OF THIS THESIS

1. Andujar, A. & Medina-López, C. (2019). Exploring New Ways of eTandem and Telecollaboration Through the WebRTC Protocol: Students' Engagement and Perceptions. *International Journal of Emerging Technologies in Learning (iJET)*, 14, 200–217
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# THANKS!



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