

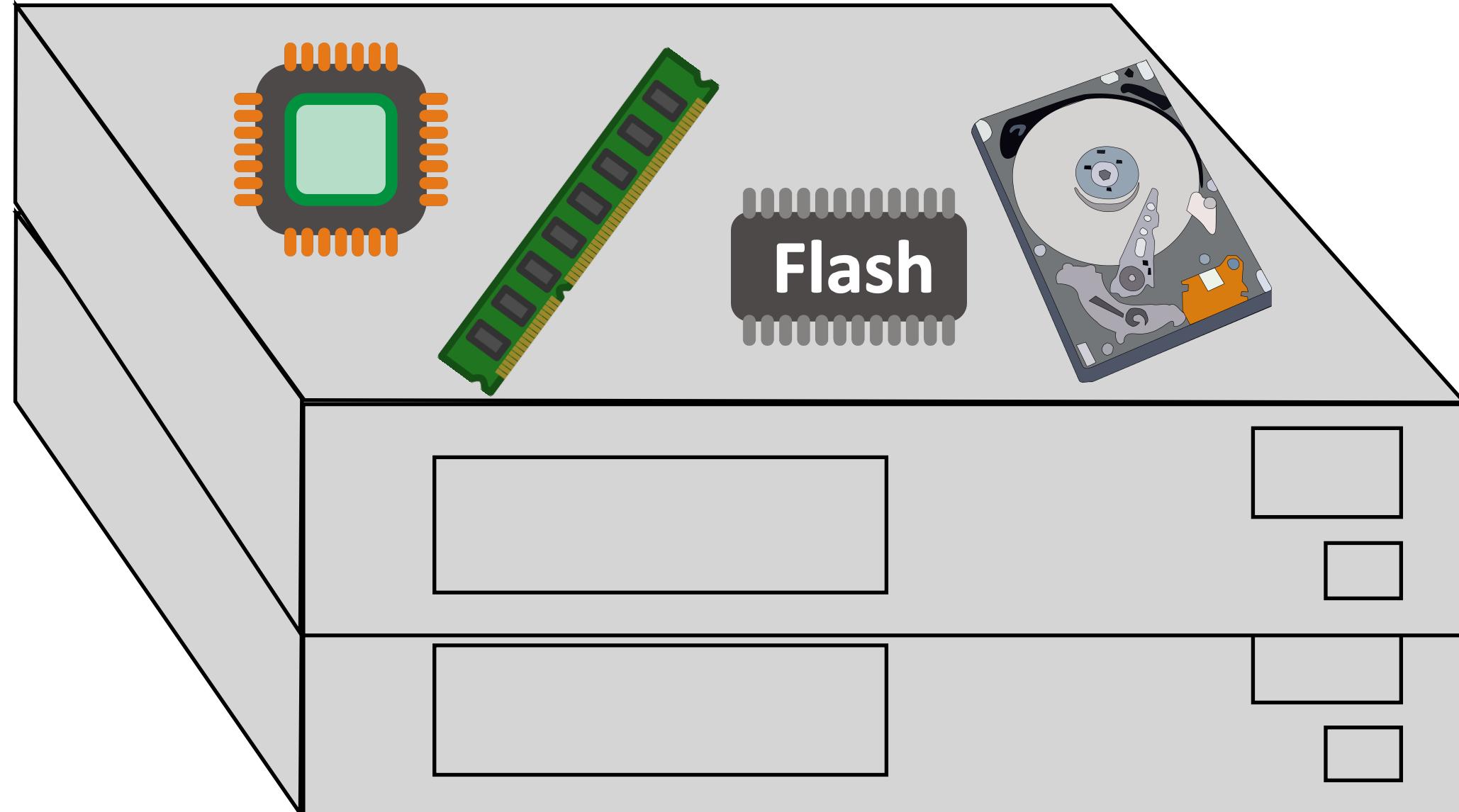
# Disaggregating Persistent Memory and Controlling Them Remotely: An Exploration of Passive Disaggregated Key-Value Stores

*Shin-Yeh Tsai, Yizhou Shan, Yiyang Zhang*



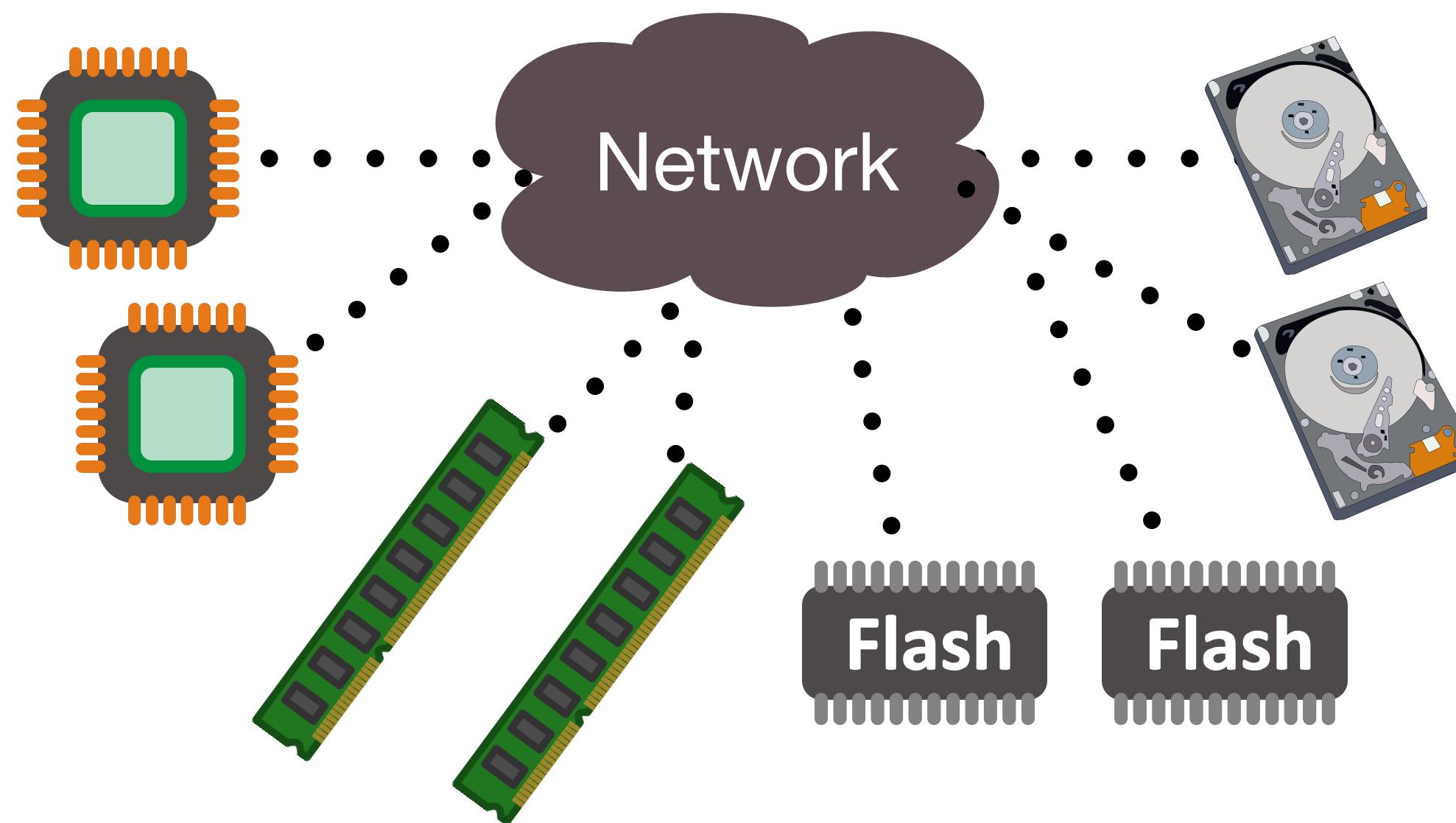
# Resource Disaggregation

Break monolithic servers into *network-attached* resource pools



# Resource Disaggregation

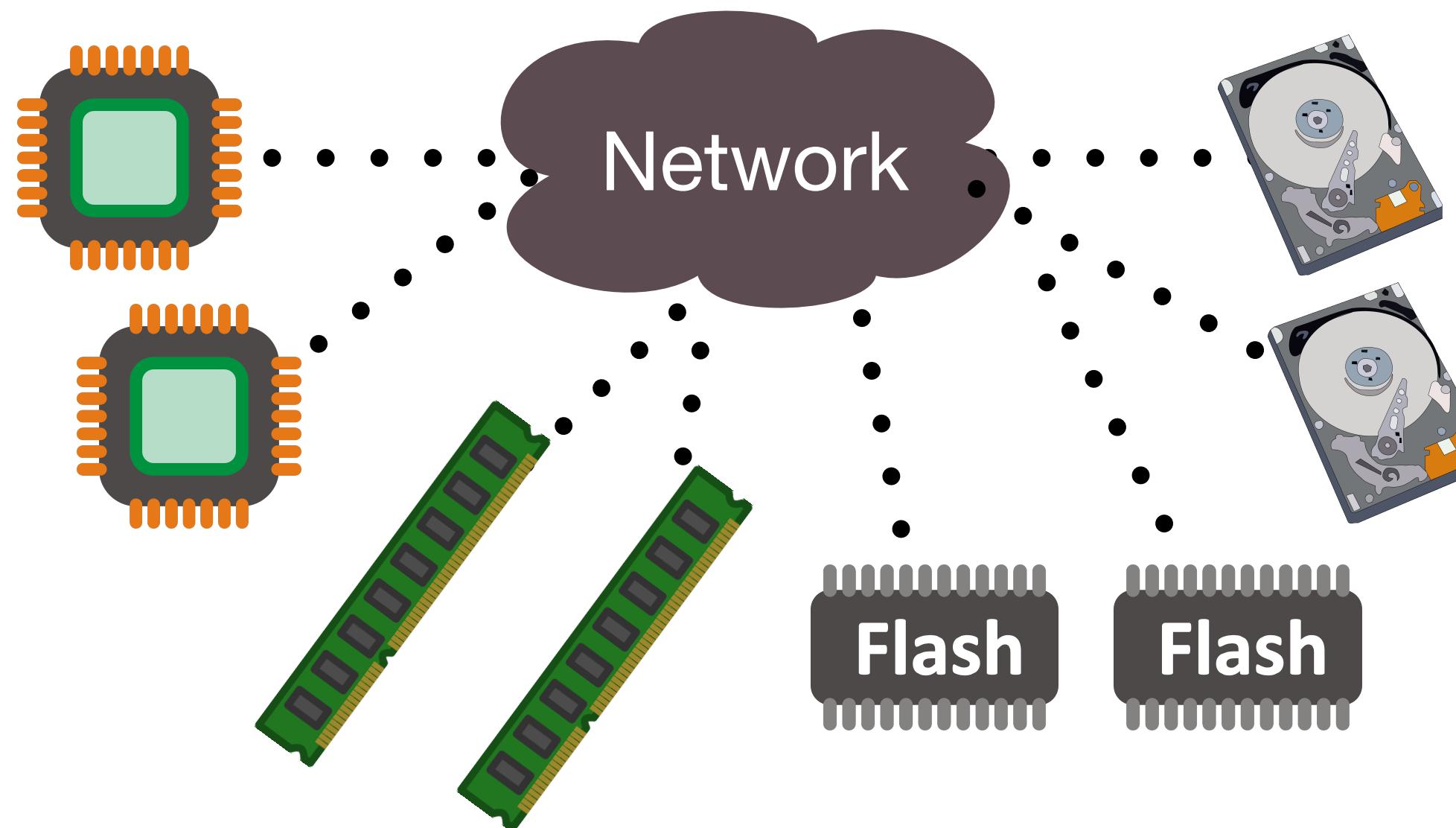
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# Resource Disaggregation

Break monolithic servers into *network-attached* resource pools

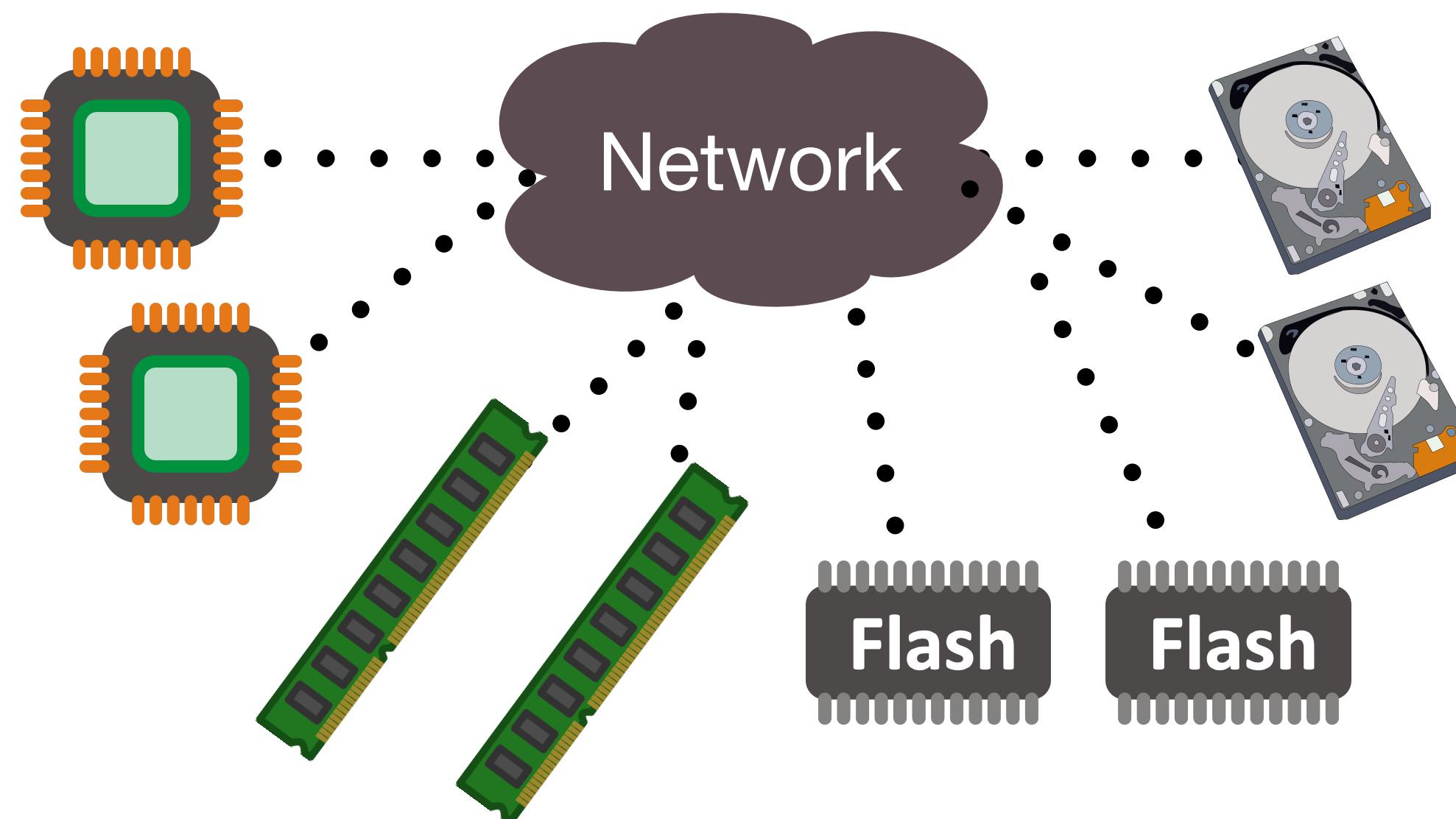
*Better manageability, independent scaling, tight resource packing*



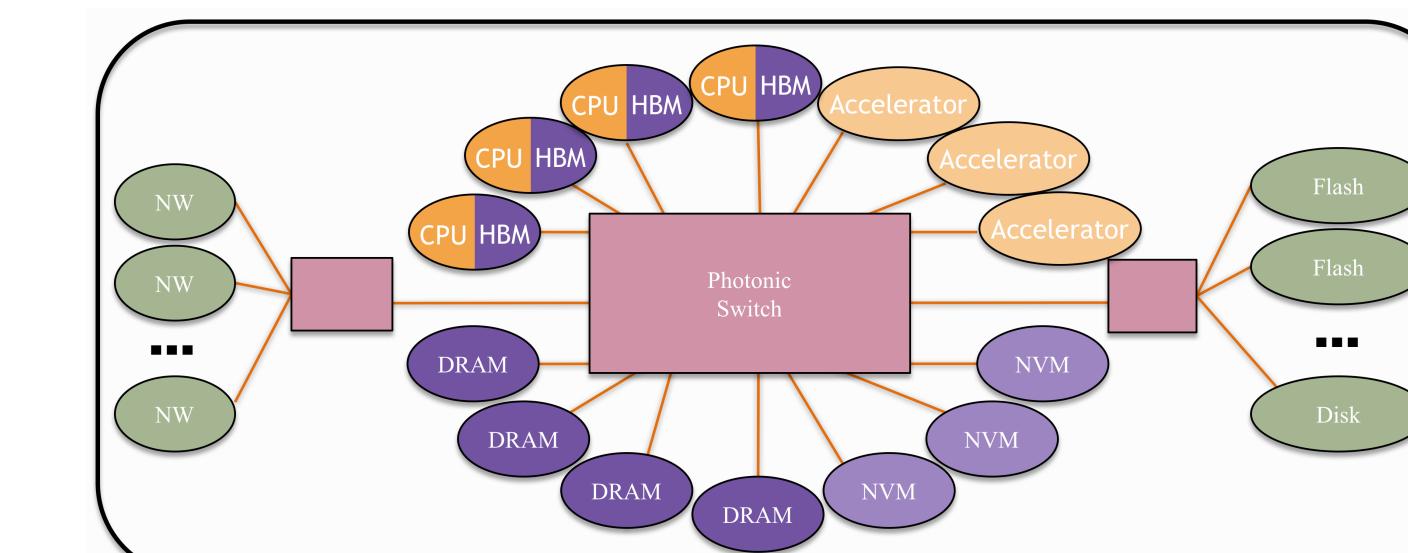
# Resource Disaggregation

Break monolithic servers into *network-attached* resource pools

*Better manageability, independent scaling, tight resource packing*



## LegoOS



Berkeley Firebox



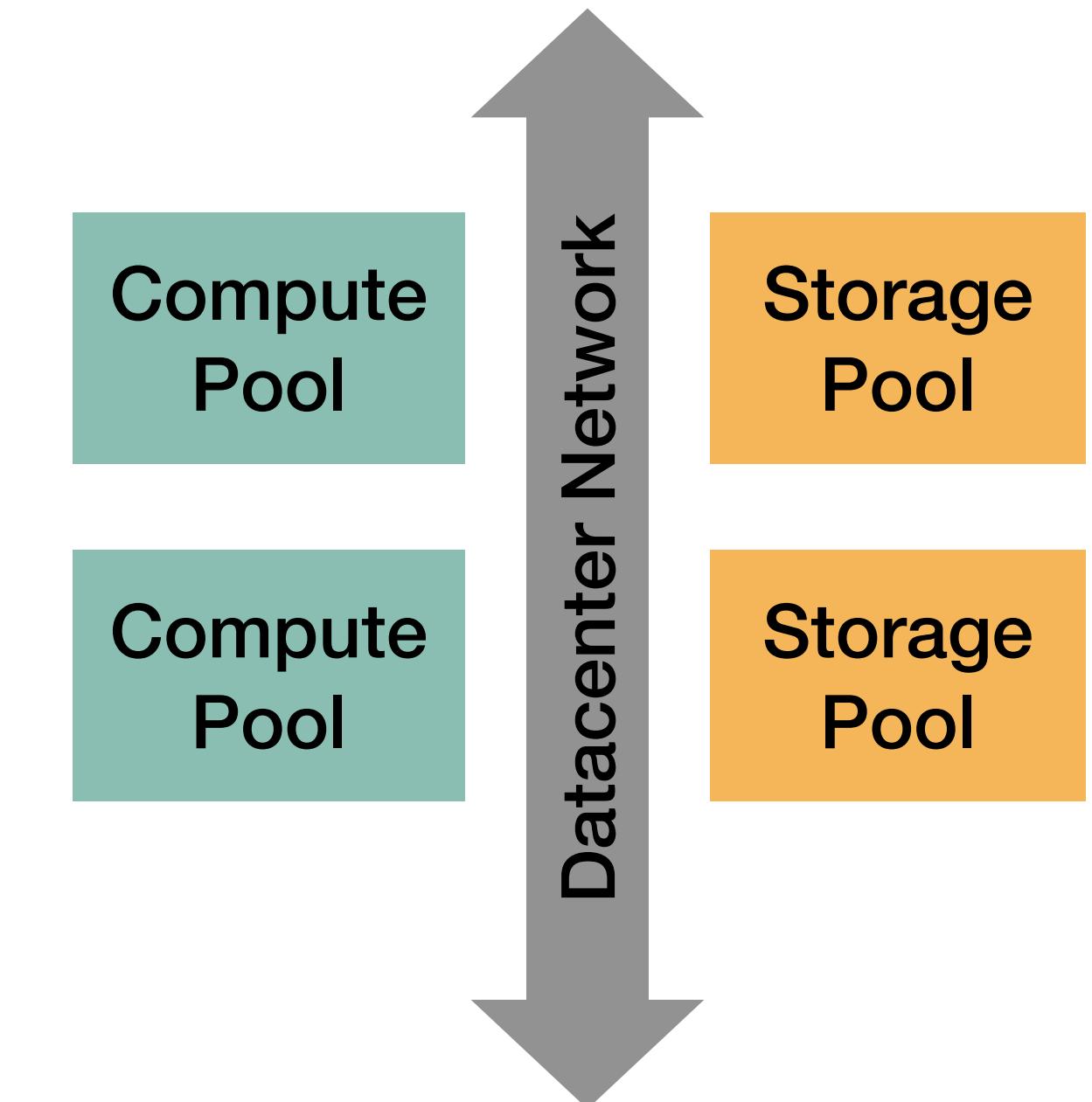
Hewlett Packard  
Enterprise

# Disaggregated Storage

Separate compute and storage pools

- Manage and scale independently

A common practice in datacenters and clouds



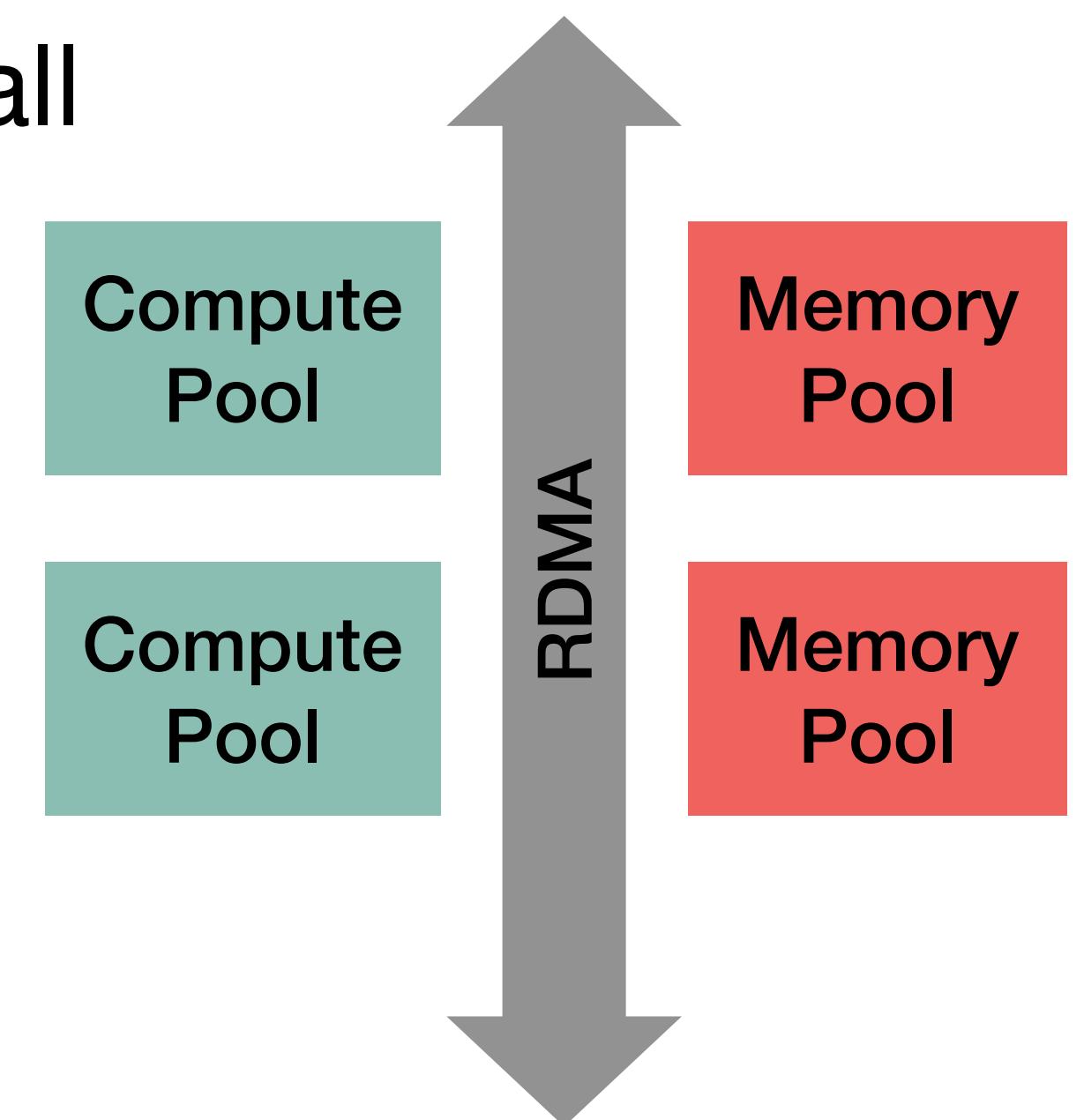
Alibaba Singles' Day  
2019 had a Record Peak  
Order Rate of 544,000  
per Second



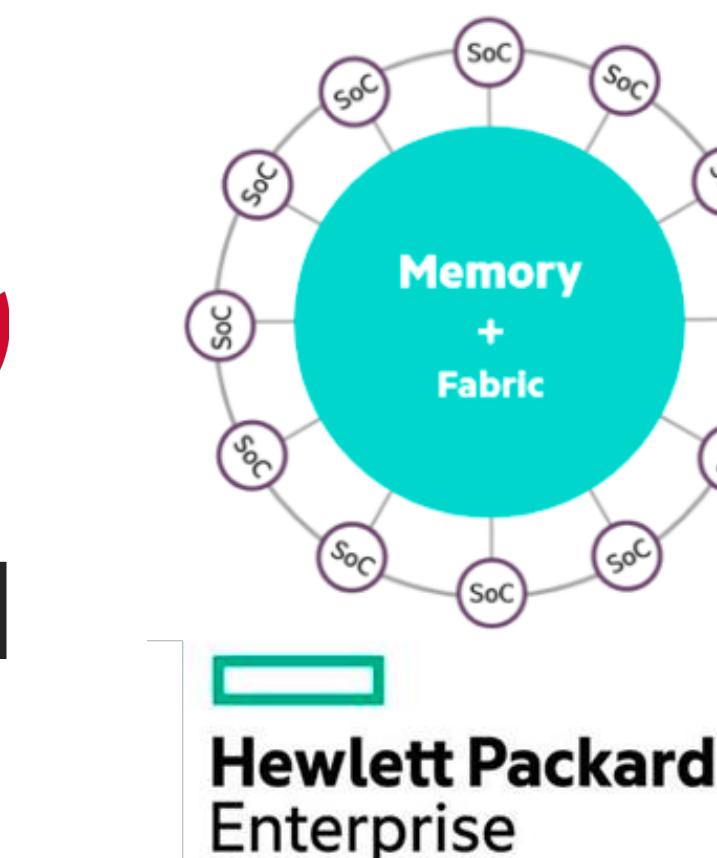
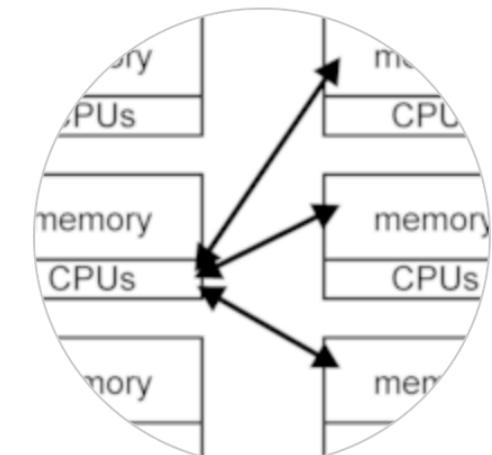
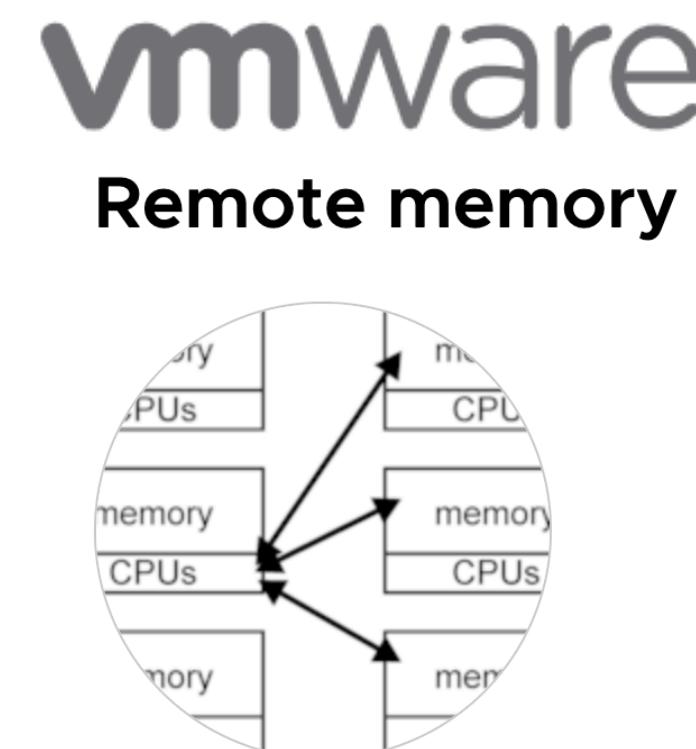
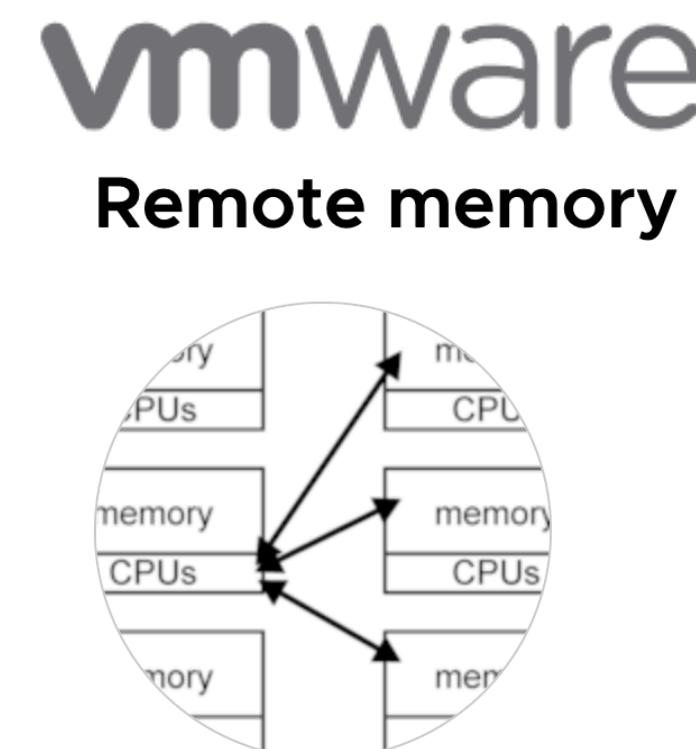
Yash Wate

# Disaggregated Memory

- Network is getting faster (e.g., 200 Gbps, sub-600 ns)
  - Application need for large memory + memory-capacity wall
- Remote/disaggregated memory
- Applications access (large) non-local memory



 Microsoft  
**FaRM**



Hewlett Packard  
Enterprise

*Memory Blades, ISCA'09  
NAM-DB, VLDB'17  
ZombieLand, EuroSys'18  
StRoM, EuroSys'20*

# Disaggregated Persistent Memory?

# Disaggregated Persistent Memory?

**PM:** byte-addressable, persistent, memory-like perf



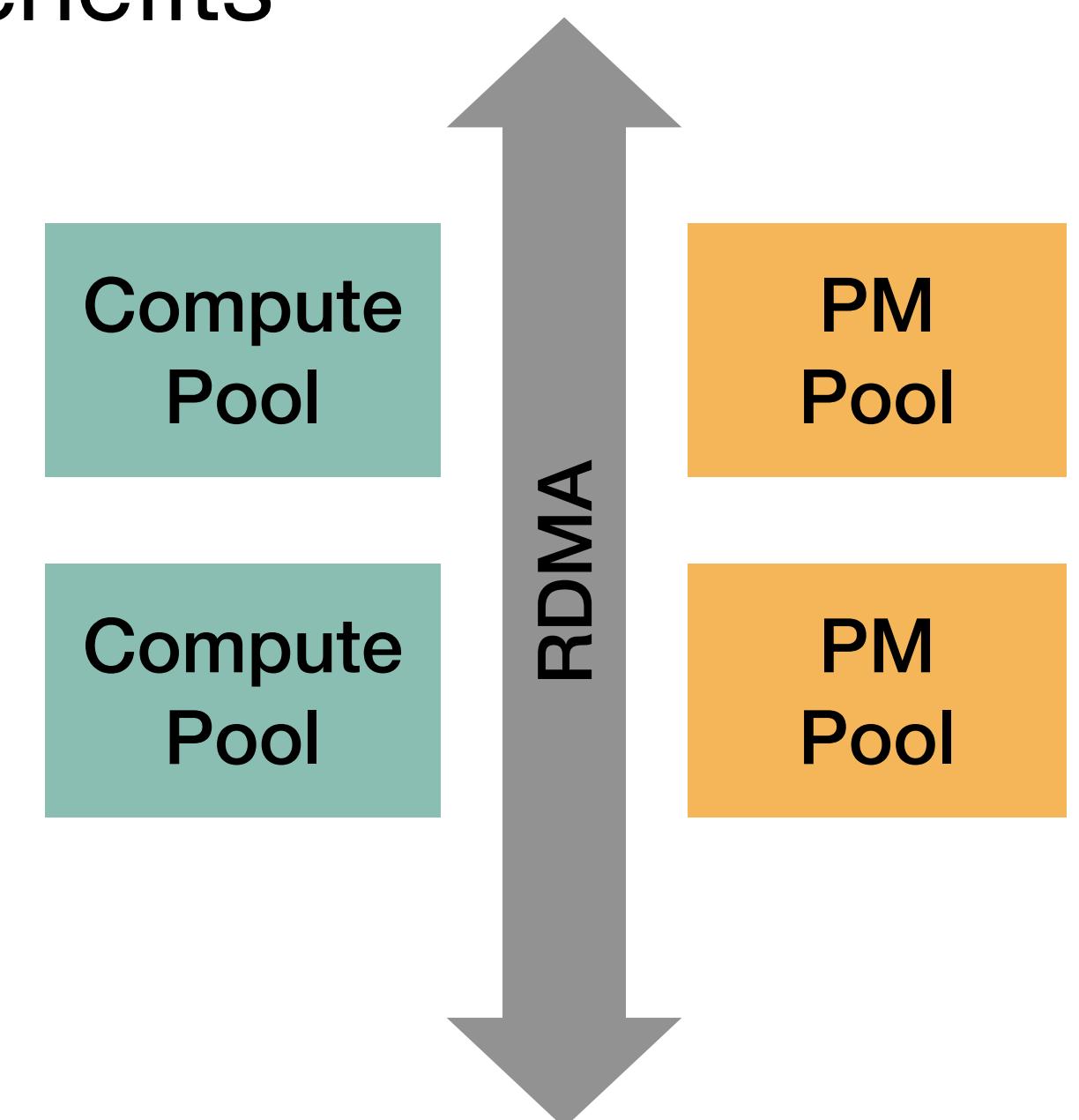
# Disaggregated Persistent Memory?

**PM:** byte-addressable, persistent, memory-like perf



## Disaggregating PM (DPM)

- Enjoy disaggregation's management, scalability, utilization benefits
- Easy way to integrate PM into current datacenters



# Disaggregated Persistent Memory?

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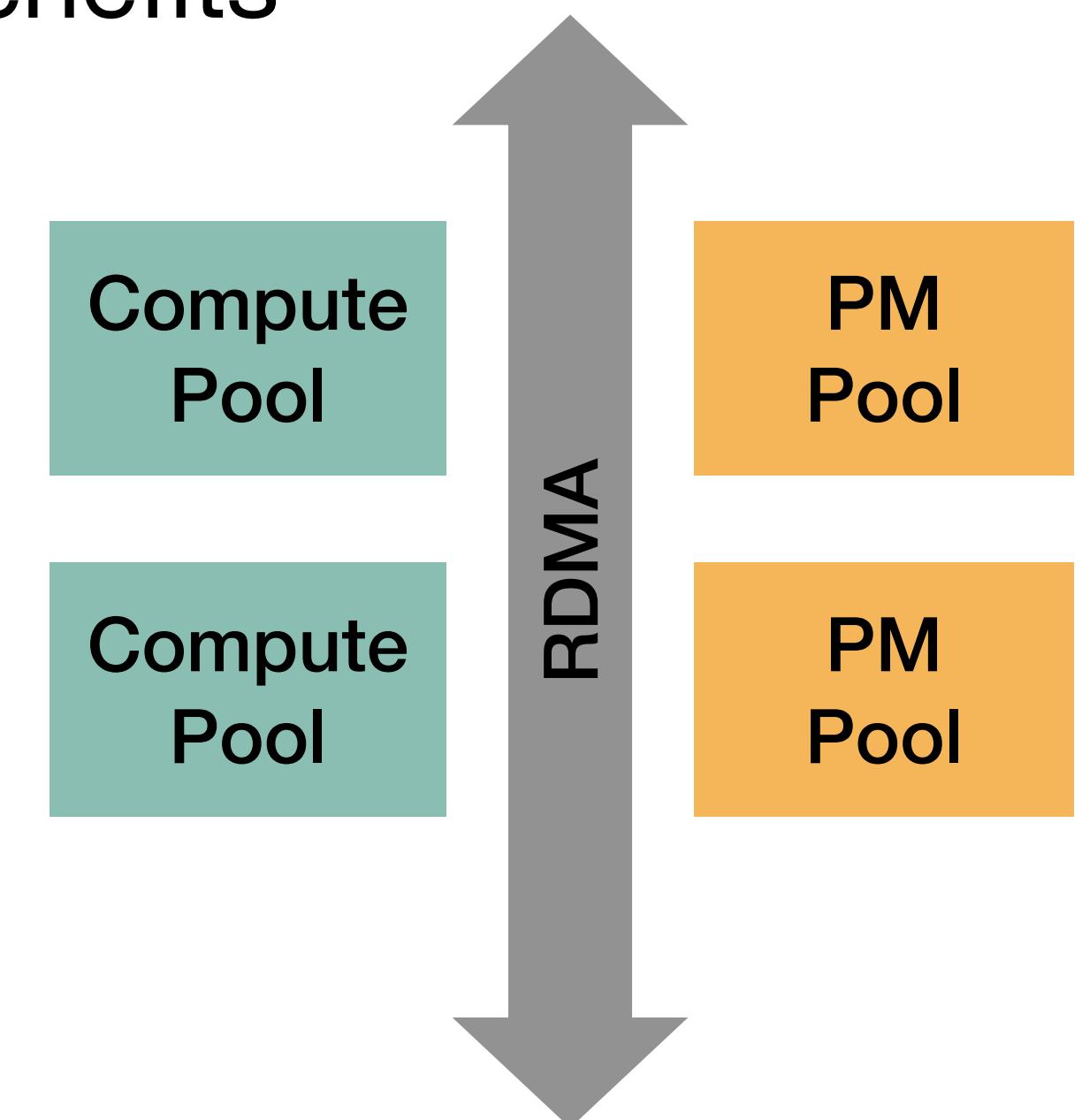


## Disaggregating PM (DPM)

- Enjoy disaggregation's management, scalability, utilization benefits
- Easy way to integrate PM into current datacenters

## Use existing disaggregated systems for DPM?

- Disaggregated storage: software stack too slow for fast PM
- Disaggregated memory: do not provide data reliability

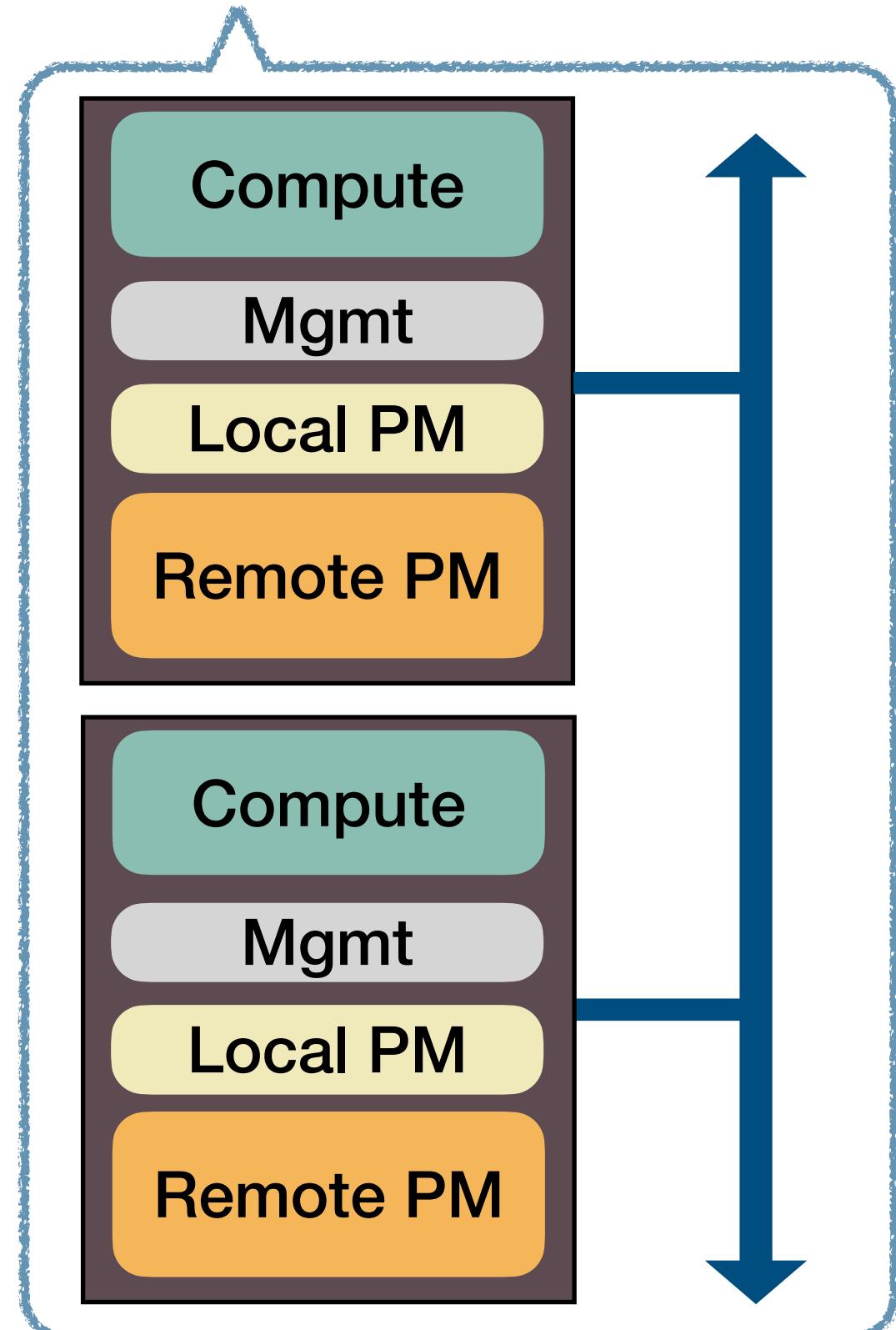




## Spectrum of Datacenter PM Deploy Models

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Non-Disaggregation



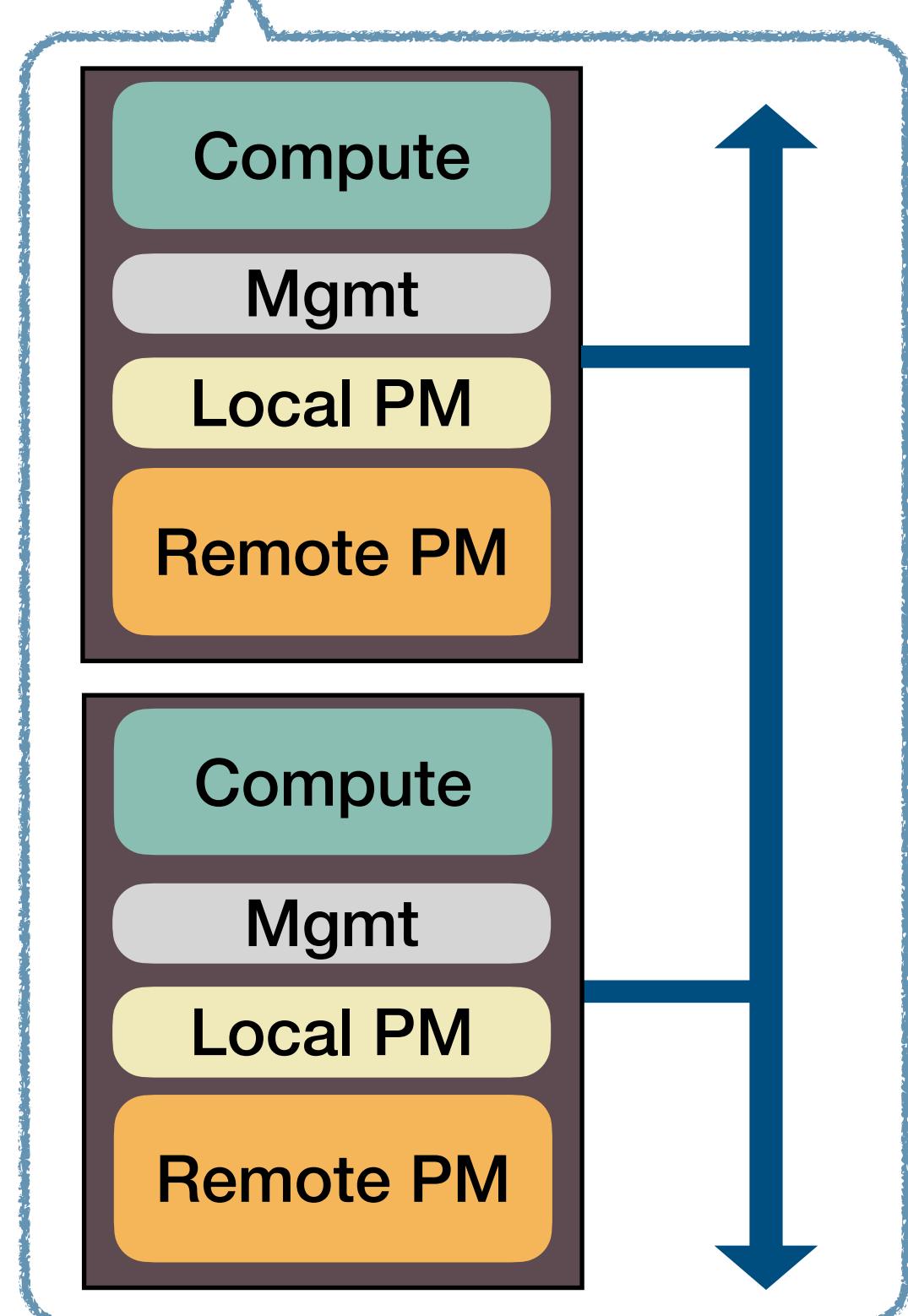
Hotpot, SoCC'17

Octopus, ATC'17

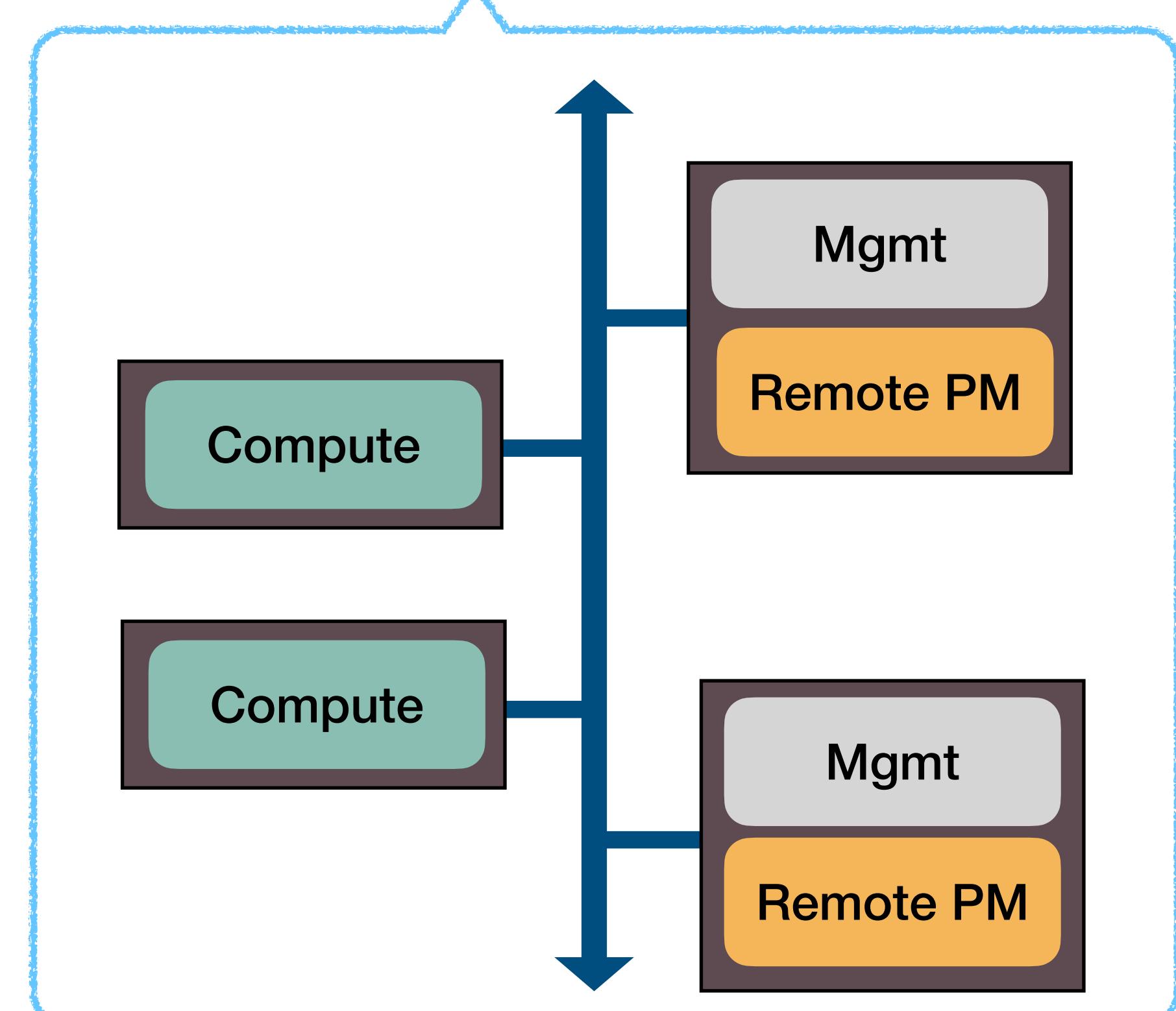
Remote Regions, ATC'18

# Spectrum of Datacenter PM Deploy Models

## Non-Disaggregation



## Active Disaggregation



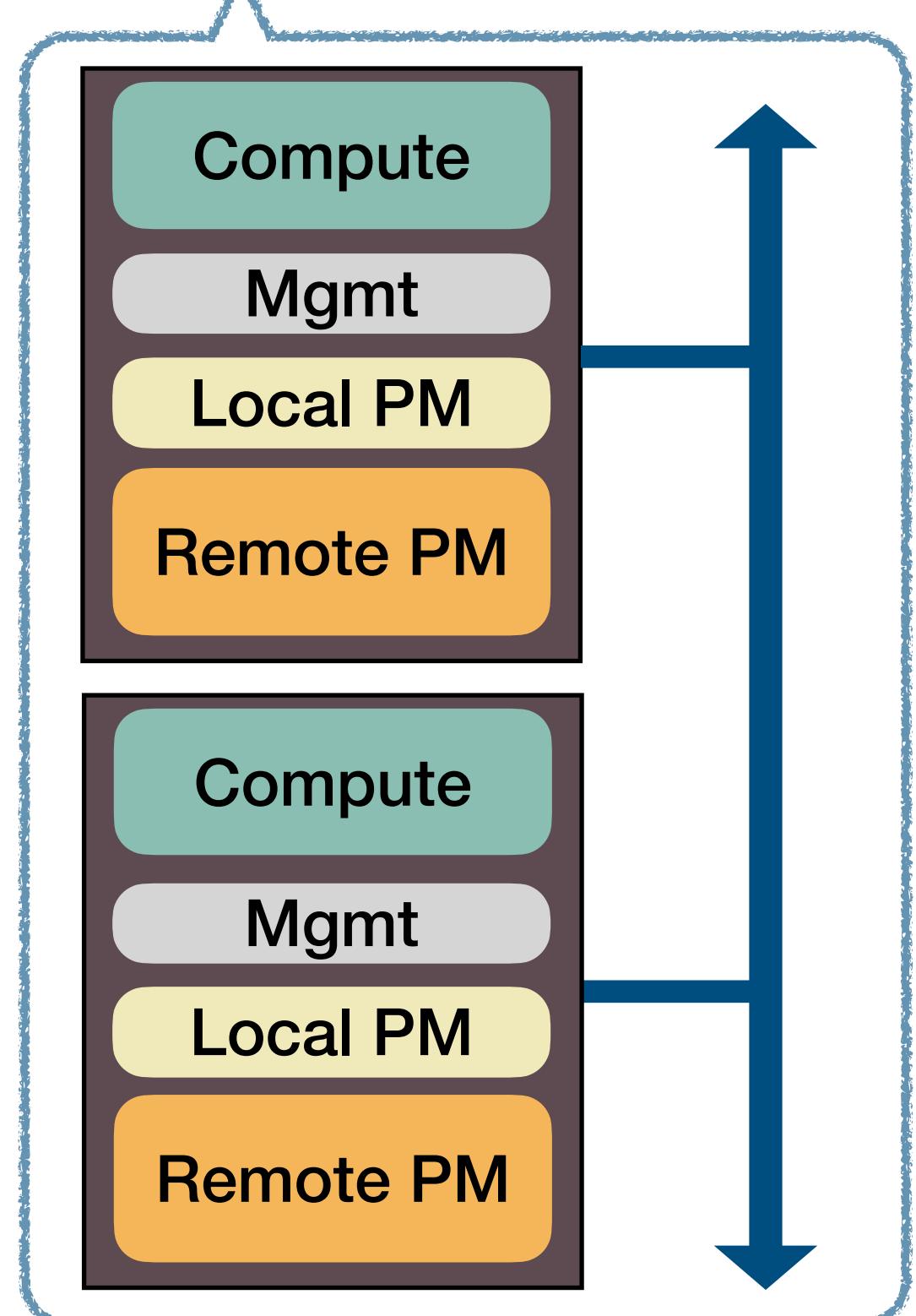
Hotpot, SoCC'17  
Octopus, ATC'17  
Remote Regions, ATC'18

HERD, SIGCOMM'14  
Decibel, NSDI'17  
HyperLoop, SIGCOMM'18  
Snowflake, NSDI'20

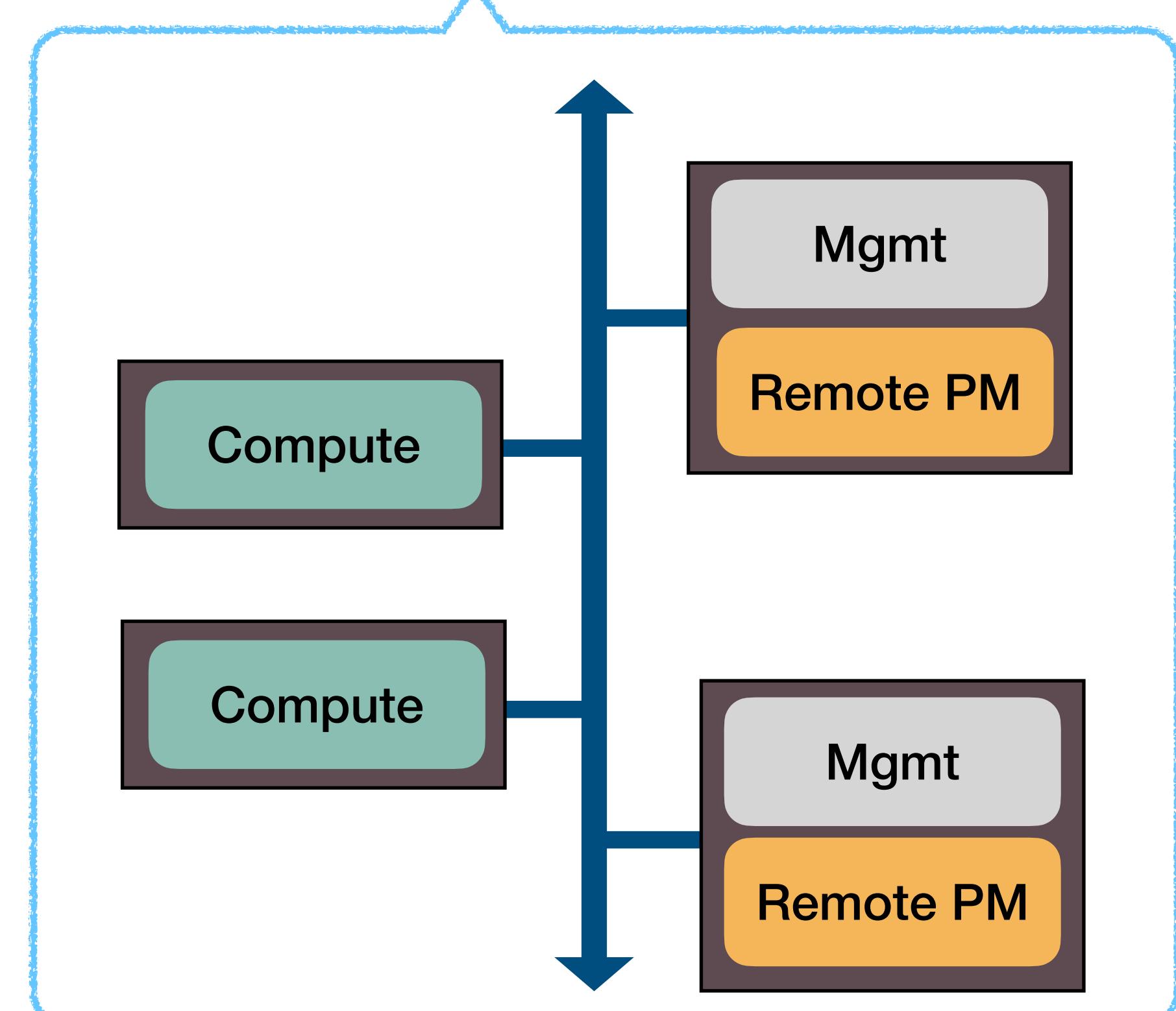
# Traditional Storage Systems

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Non-Disaggregation



Active Disaggregation



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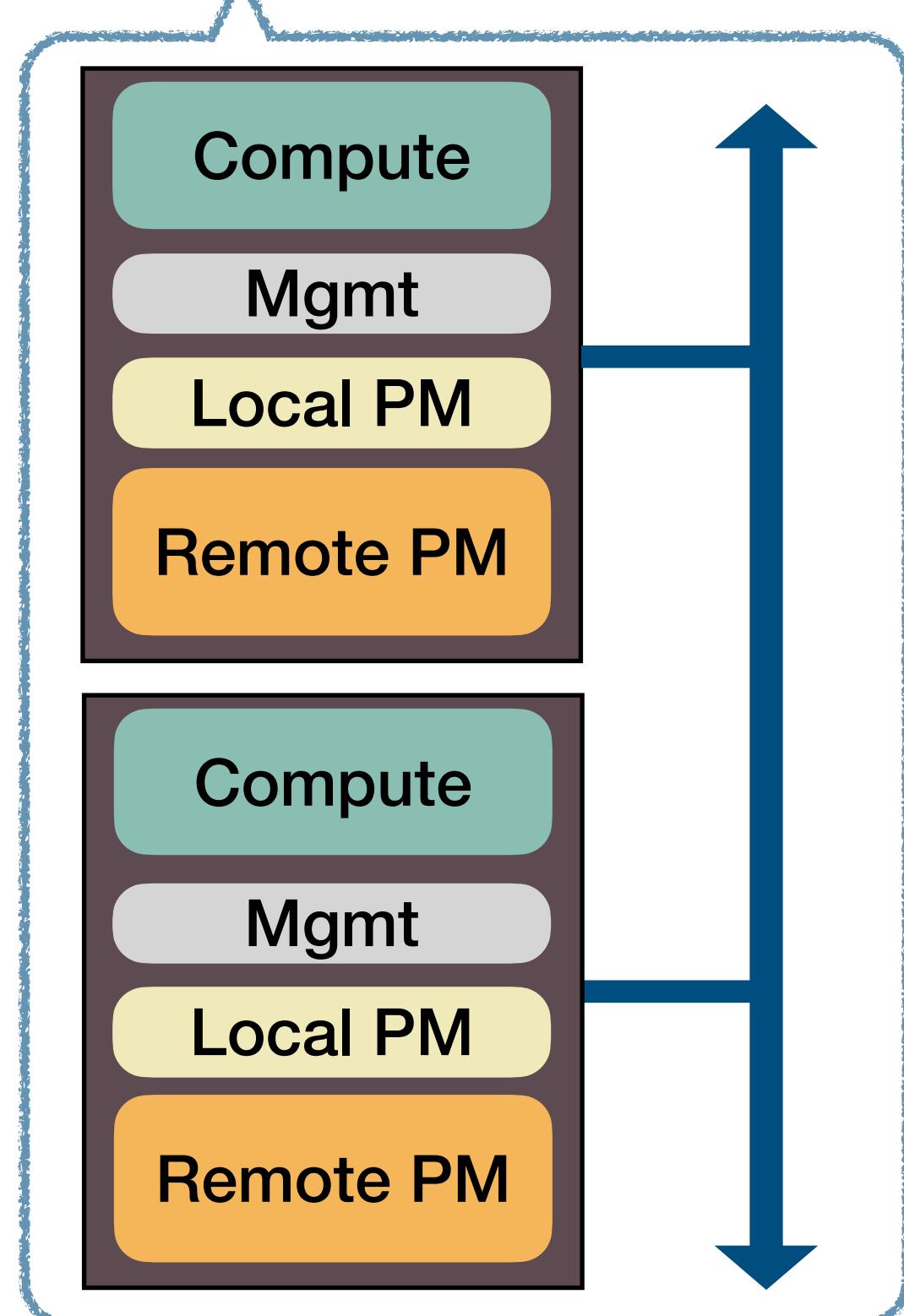
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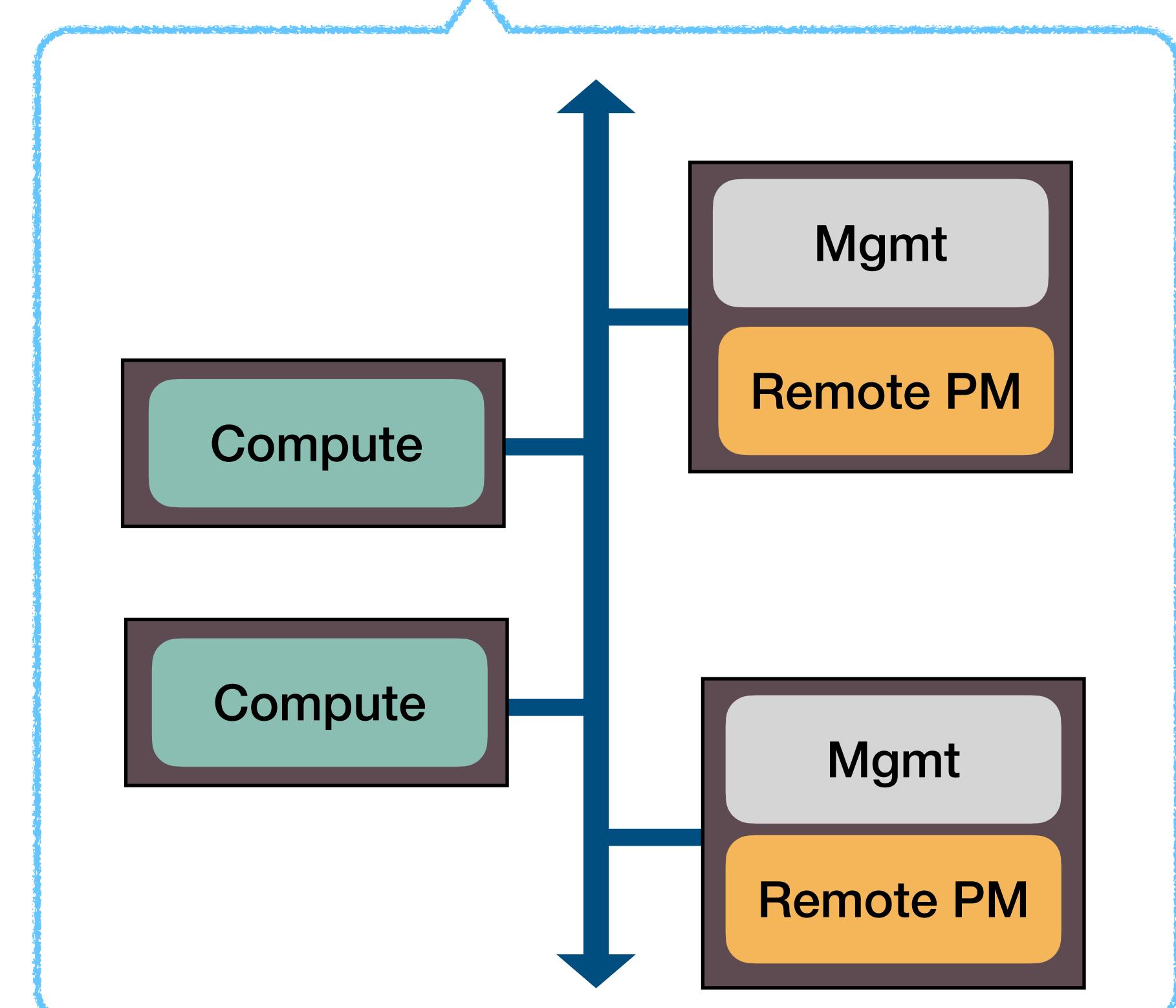
Unexplored Area!

## Spectrum of Datacenter PM Deploy Models

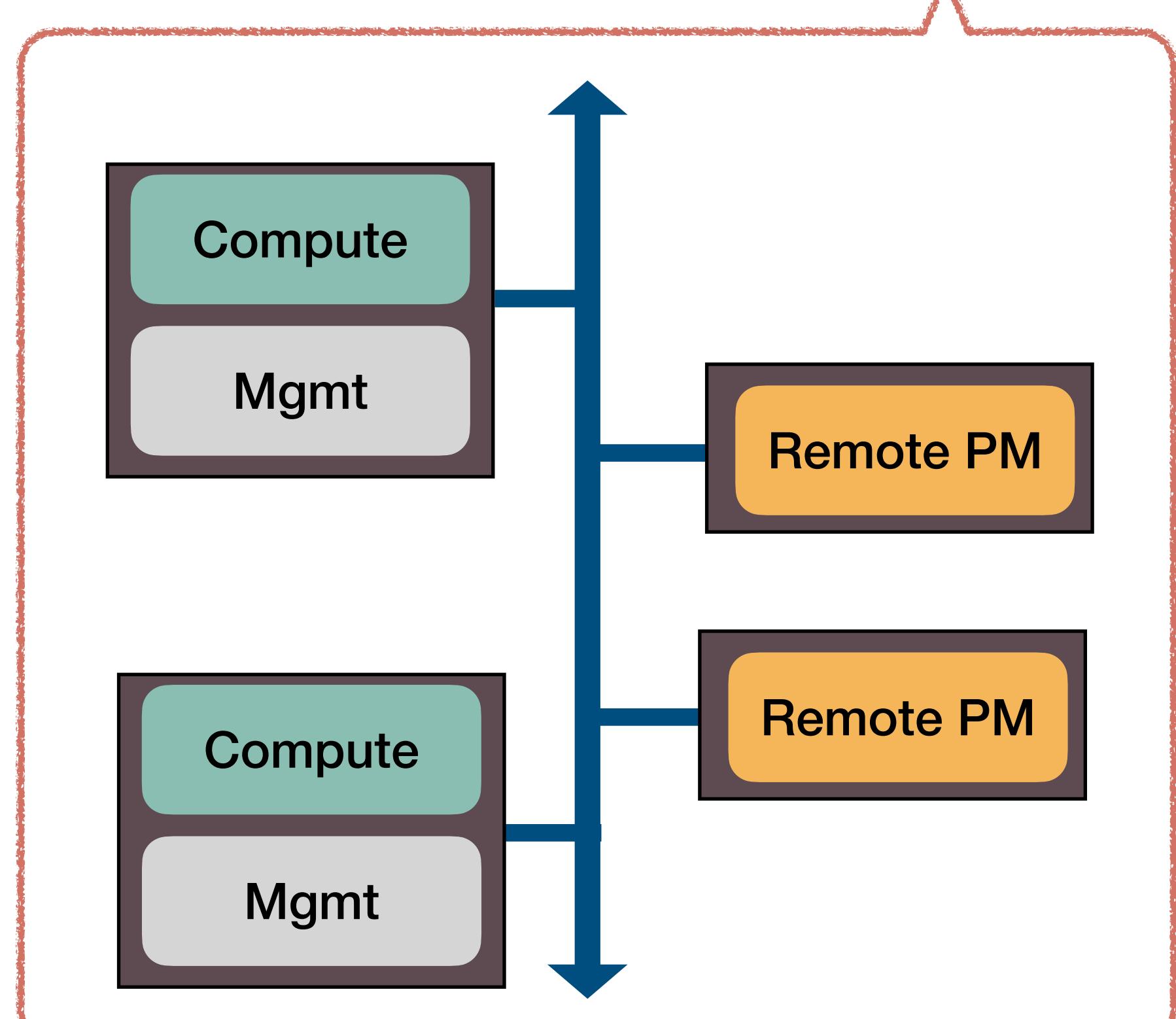
Non-Disaggregation



Active Disaggregation



Passive Disaggregation



Hotpot, SoCC'17

Octopus, ATC'17

Remote Regions, ATC'18

HERD, SIGCOMM'14

Decibel, NSDI'17

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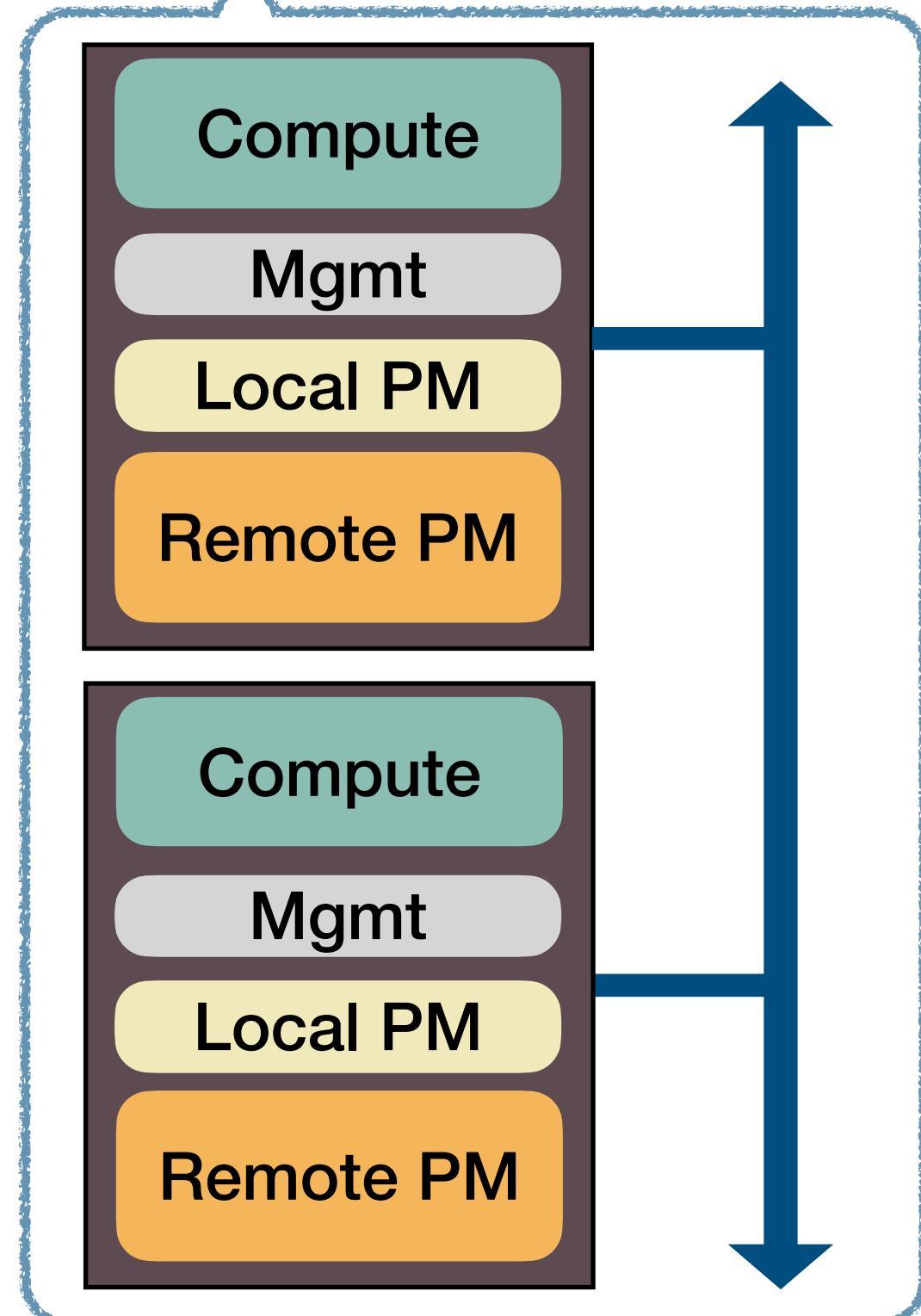
Snowflake, NSDI'20

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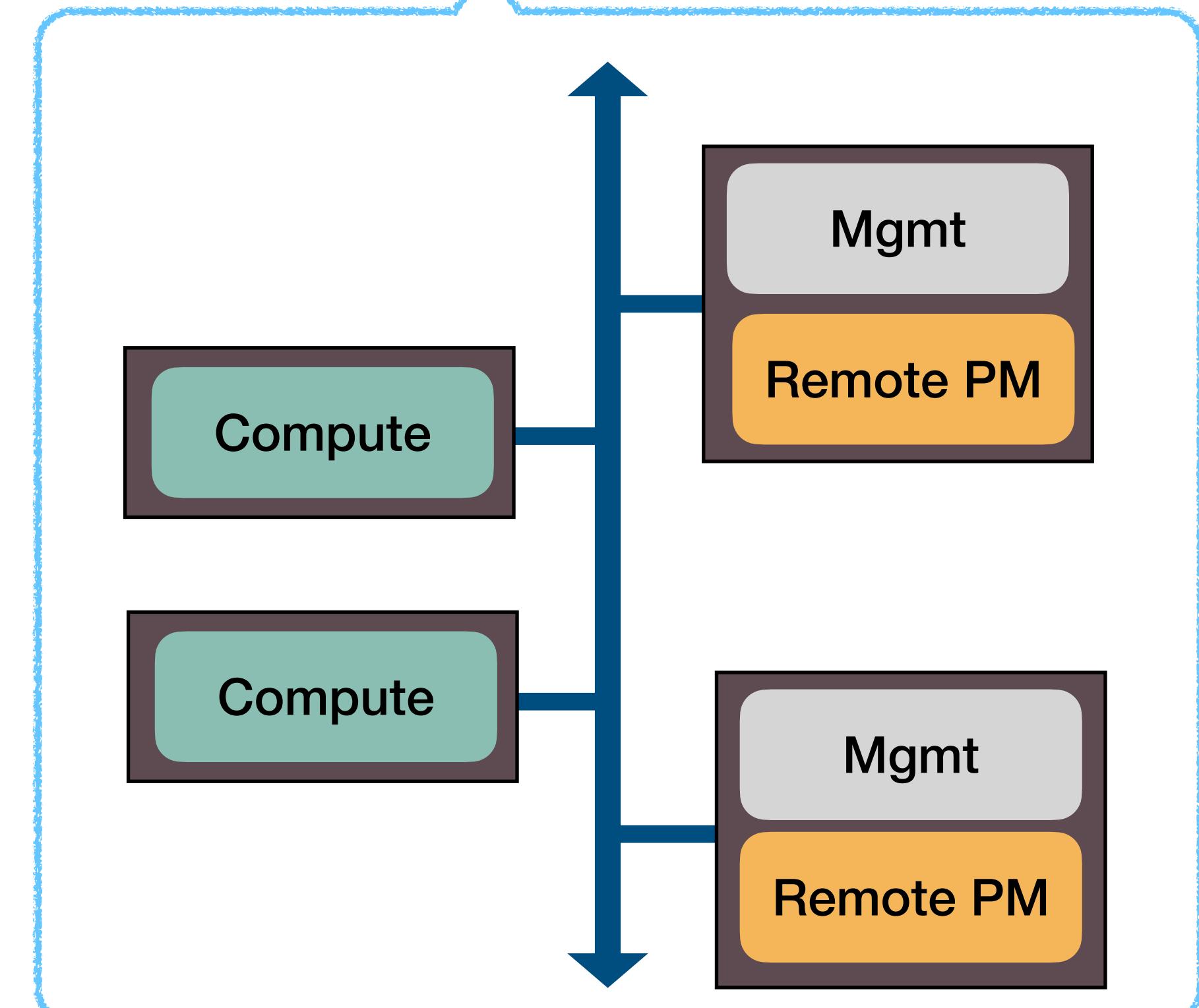
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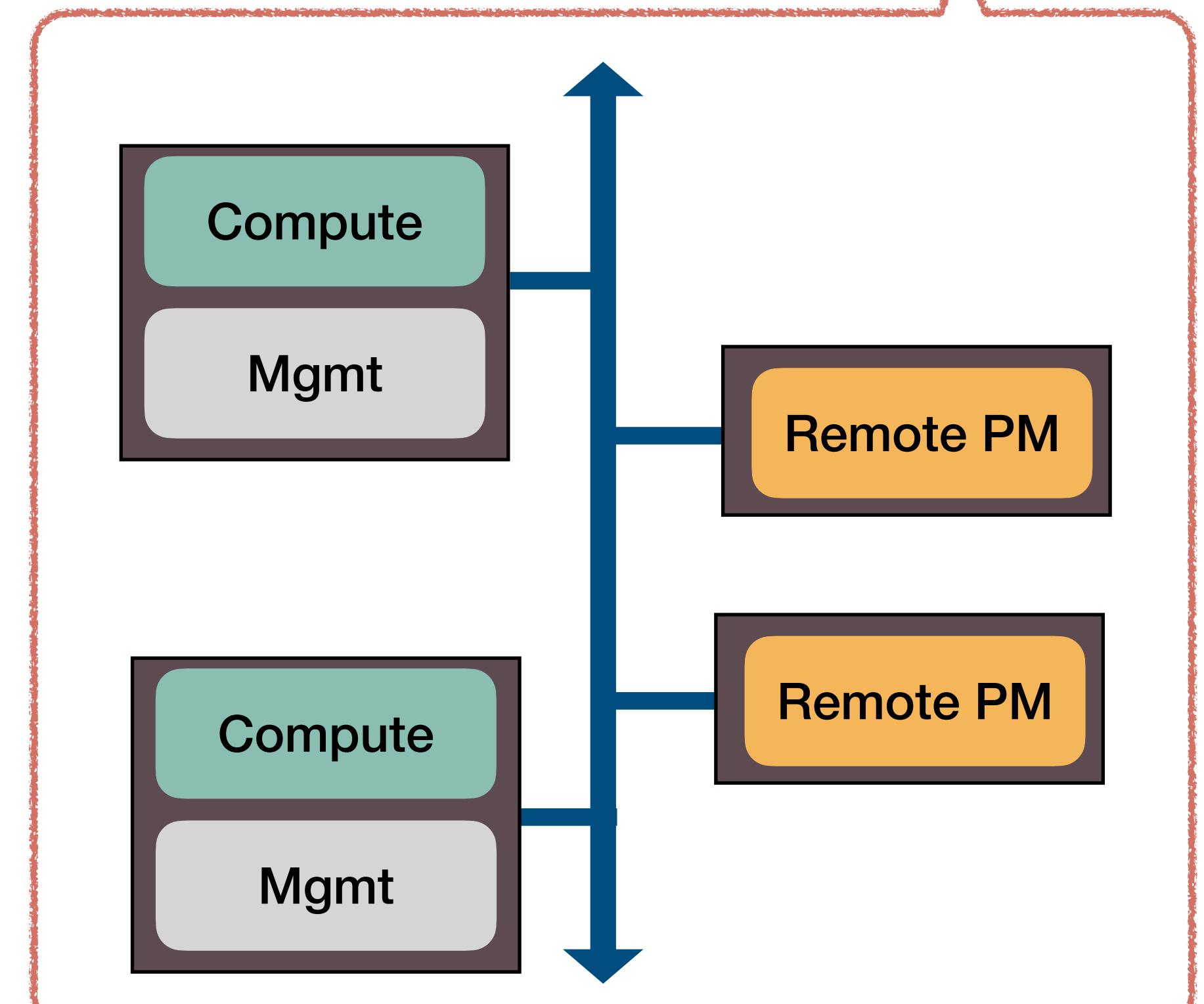
Non-Disaggregation



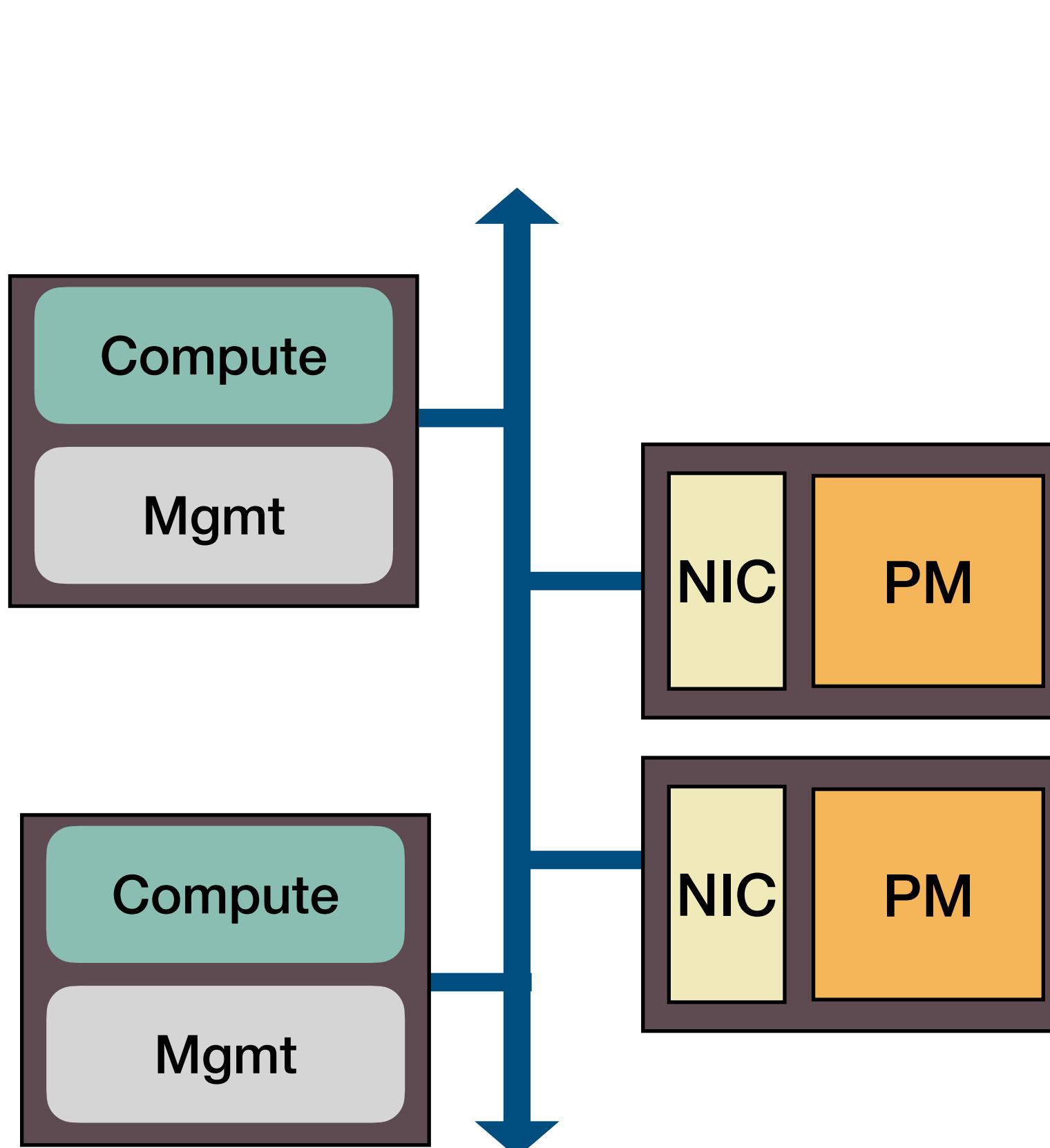
Active Disaggregation



Passive Disaggregation



# Passive Disaggregated PM (pDPM)



## pDPM

- Passive PM devices with NIC and PM
- Accessible only via network

## Why pDPM?

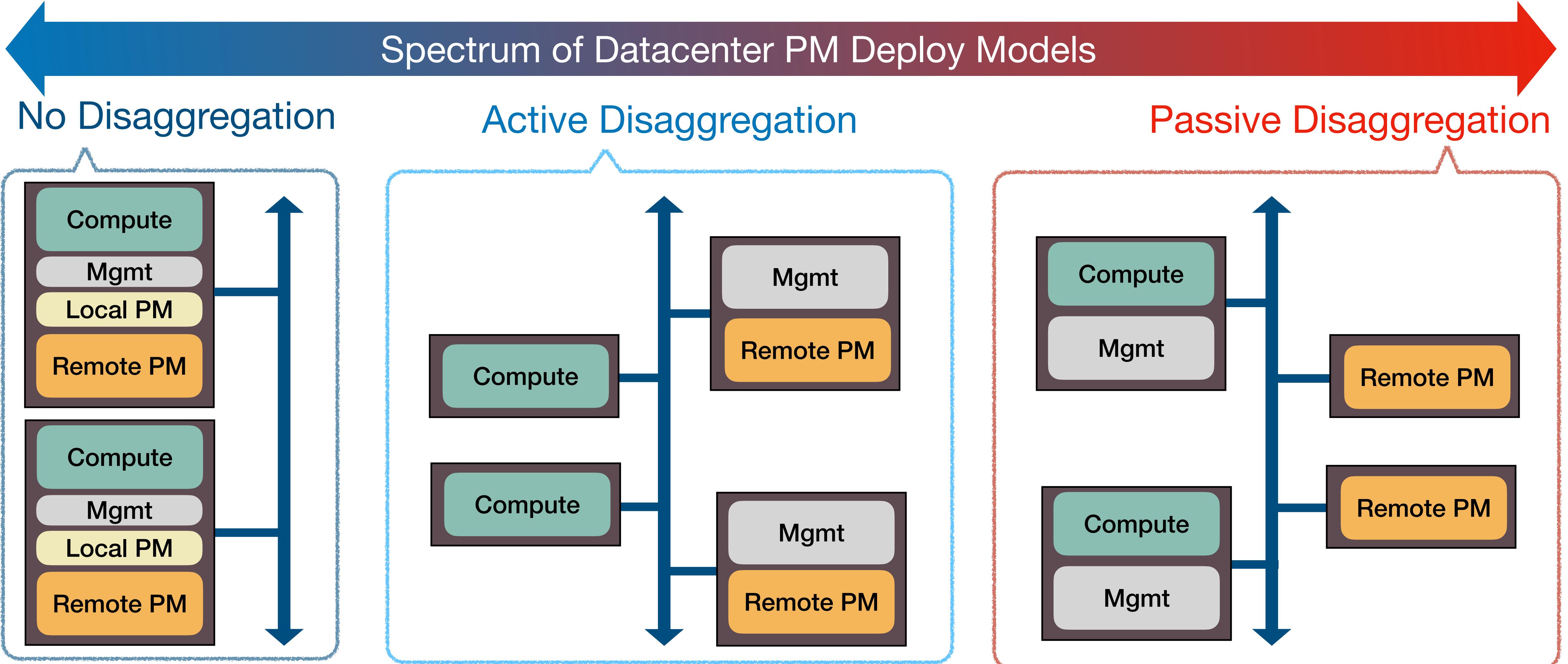
- Low CapEx and OpEx
- Easy to add, remove, and change
- No scalability bottleneck at storage nodes
- Research value in exploring new design area

**Why possible now?** Fast RDMA network + CPU bypassing

*Without processing power at PM,  
where to process and manage data?*

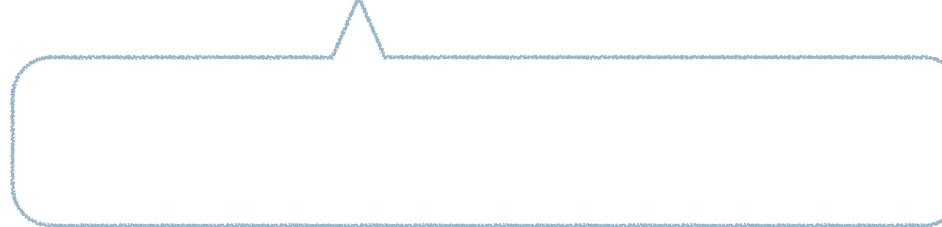
# Traditional Storage Systems

Unexplored Area!



# Spectrum of Datacenter PM Deploy Models

Non Disaggregation



Active Disaggregation



Passive Disaggregation



## Spectrum of Datacenter PM Deploy Models

Non Disaggregation

Active Disaggregation

Passive Disaggregation

*Where to process and manage data?*

# Spectrum of Datacenter PM Deploy Models

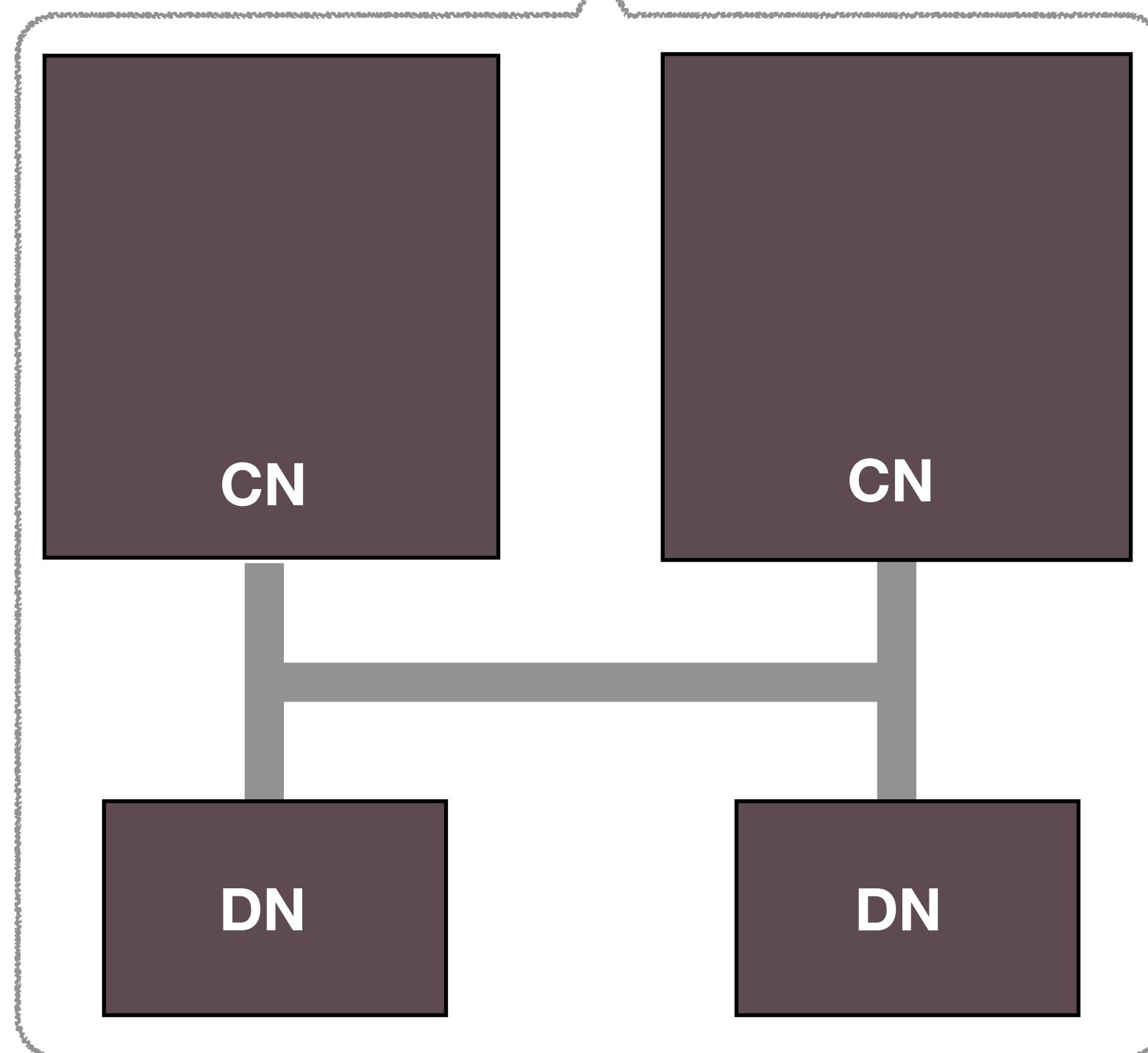
Non Disaggregation

Active Disaggregation

Passive Disaggregation

*Where to process and manage data?*

*At compute nodes*



**CN:** Compute Node, **DN:** Data Node with PM

# Spectrum of Datacenter PM Deploy Models

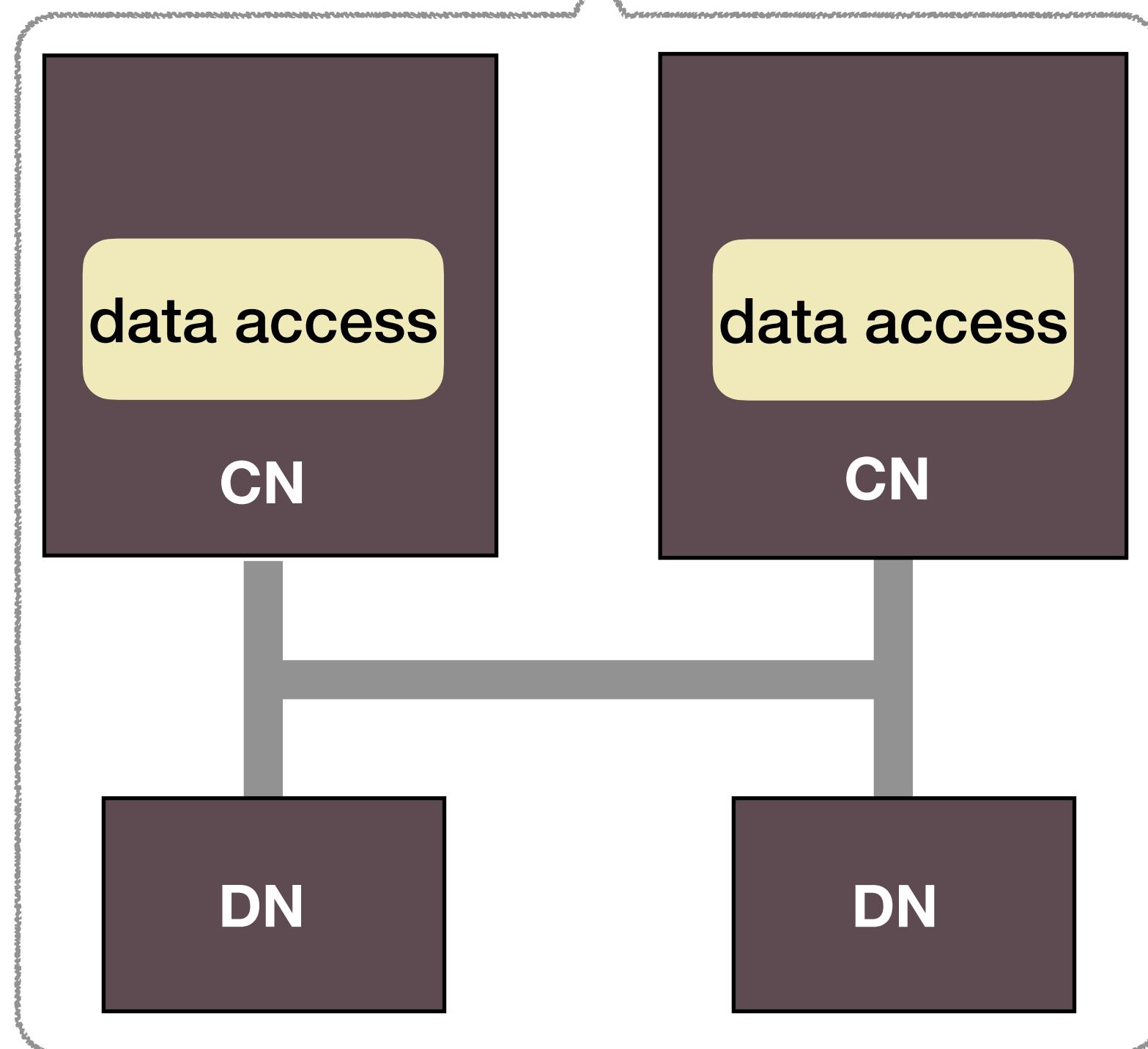
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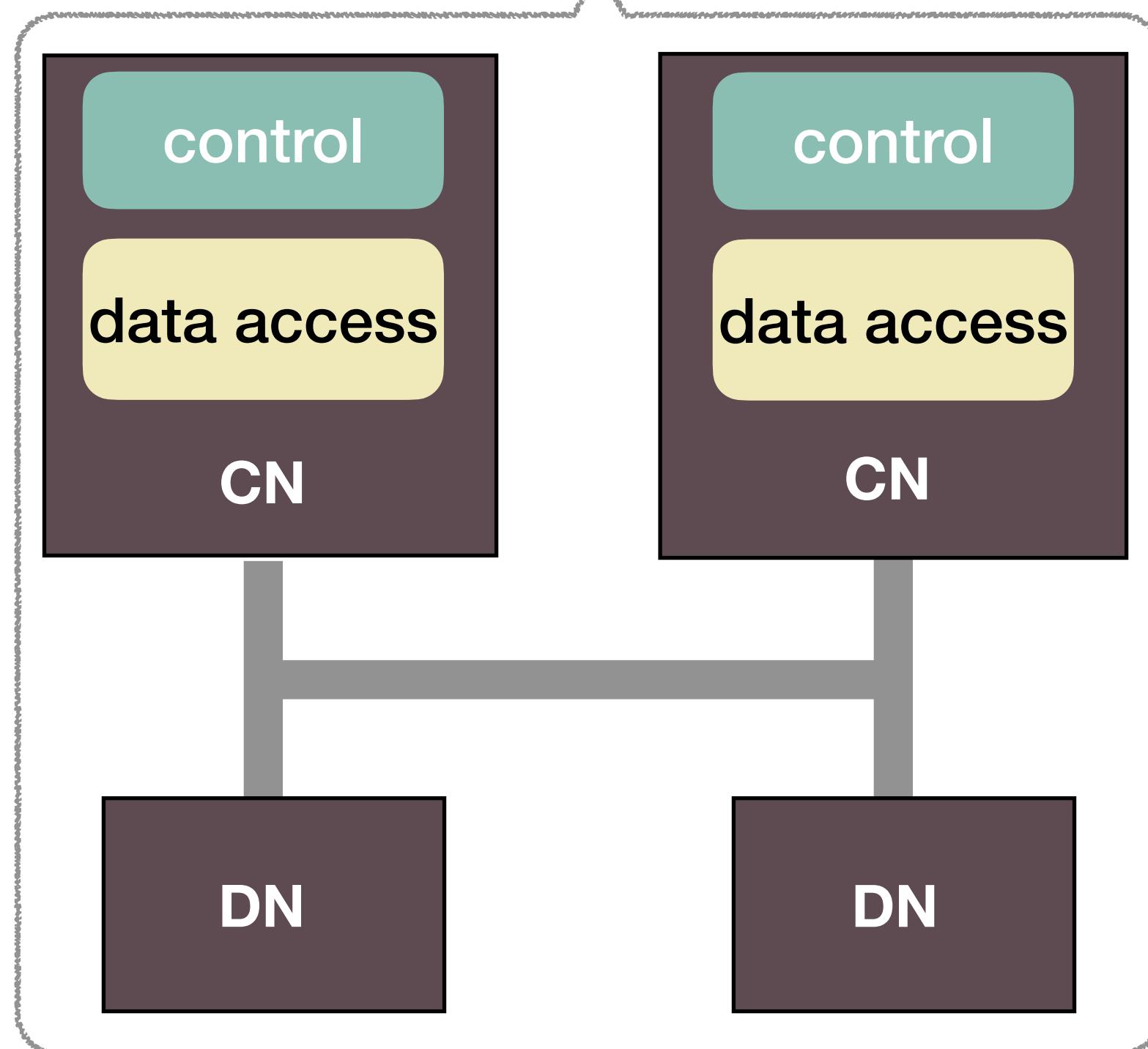
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Passive Disaggregation

*Where to process and manage data?*

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# Spectrum of Datacenter PM Deploy Models

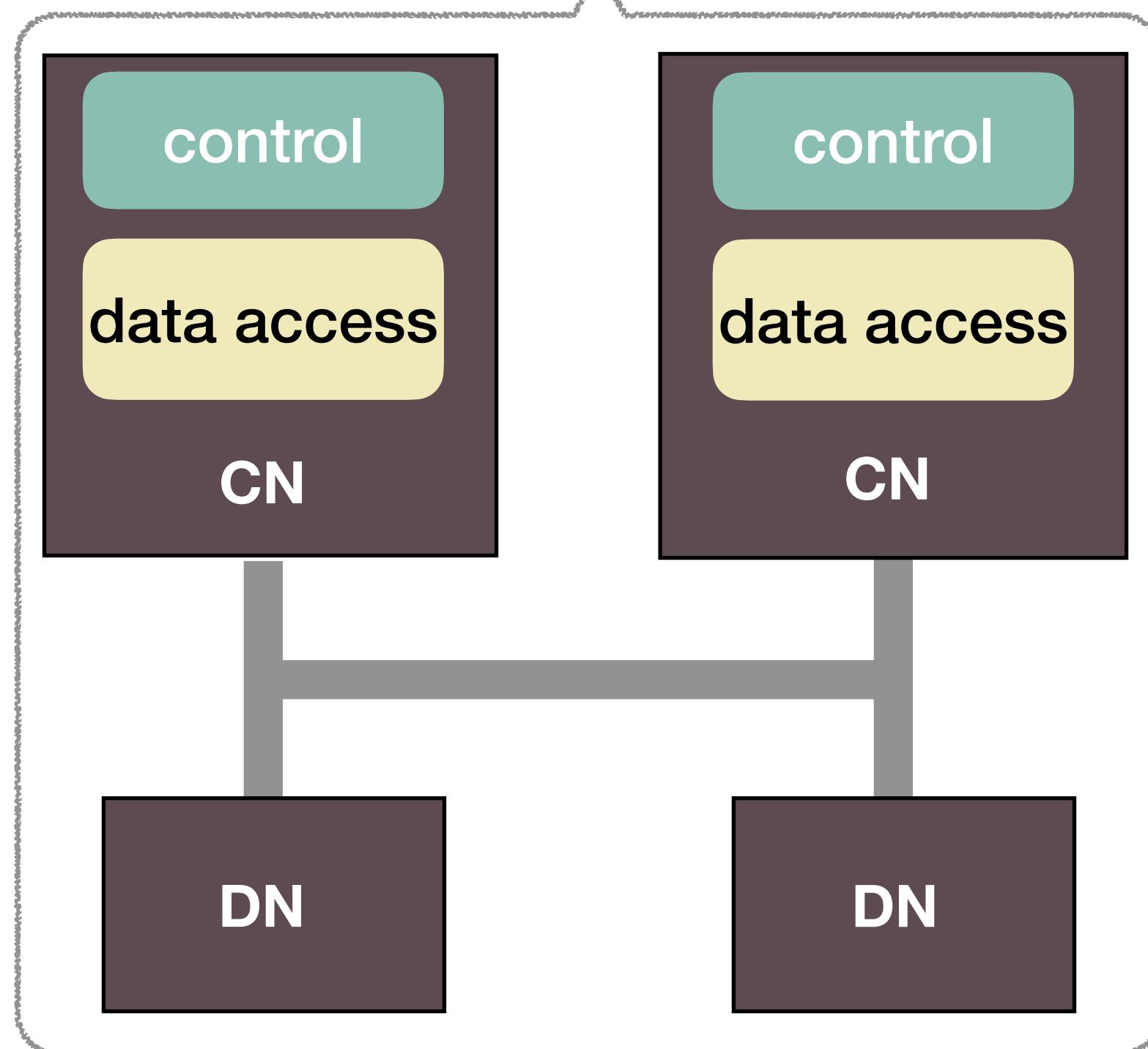
Non Disaggregation

Active Disaggregation

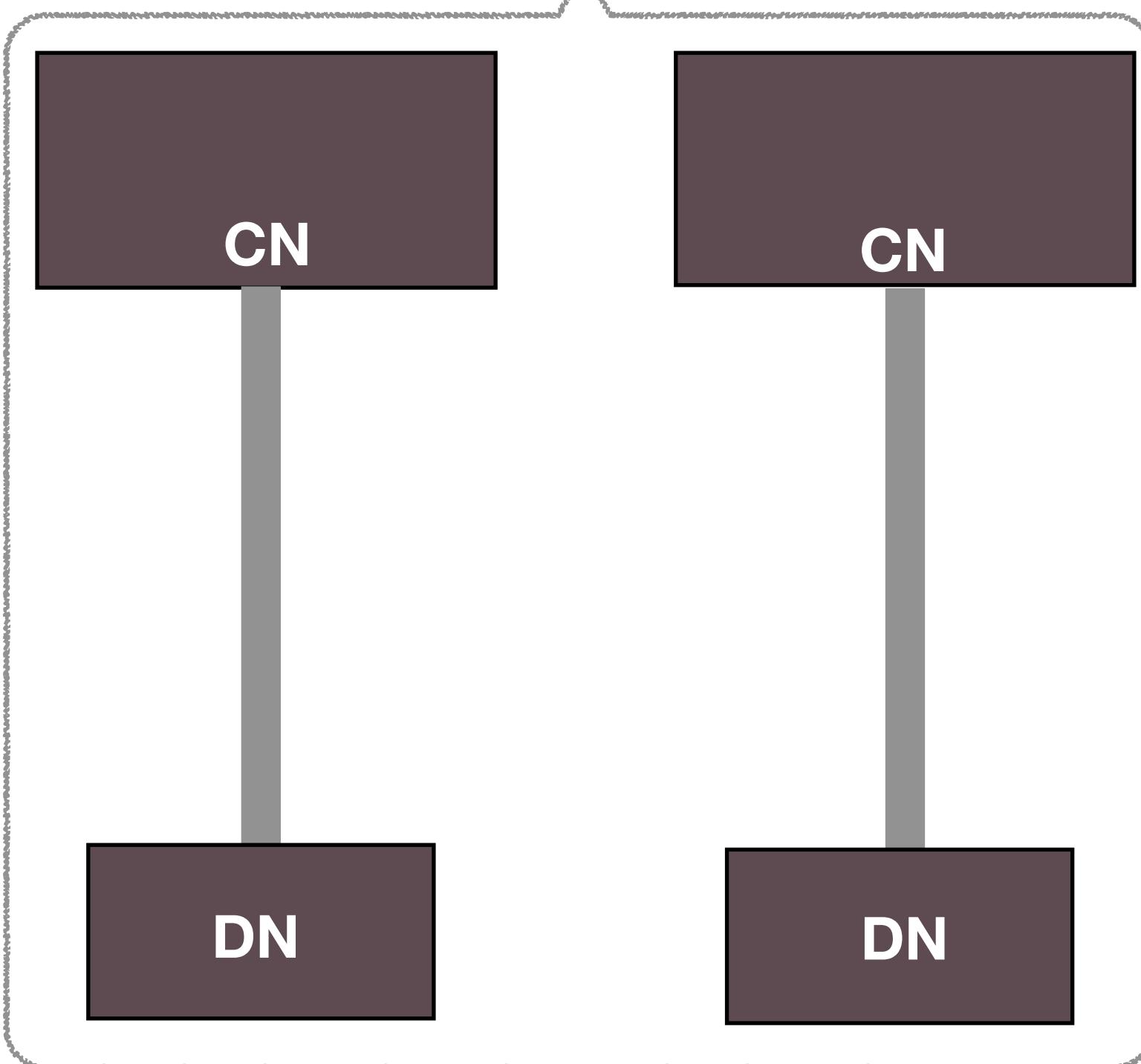
Passive Disaggregation

*Where to process and manage data?*

*At compute nodes*



*At a coordinator*



**CN:** Compute Node, **DN:** Data Node with PM

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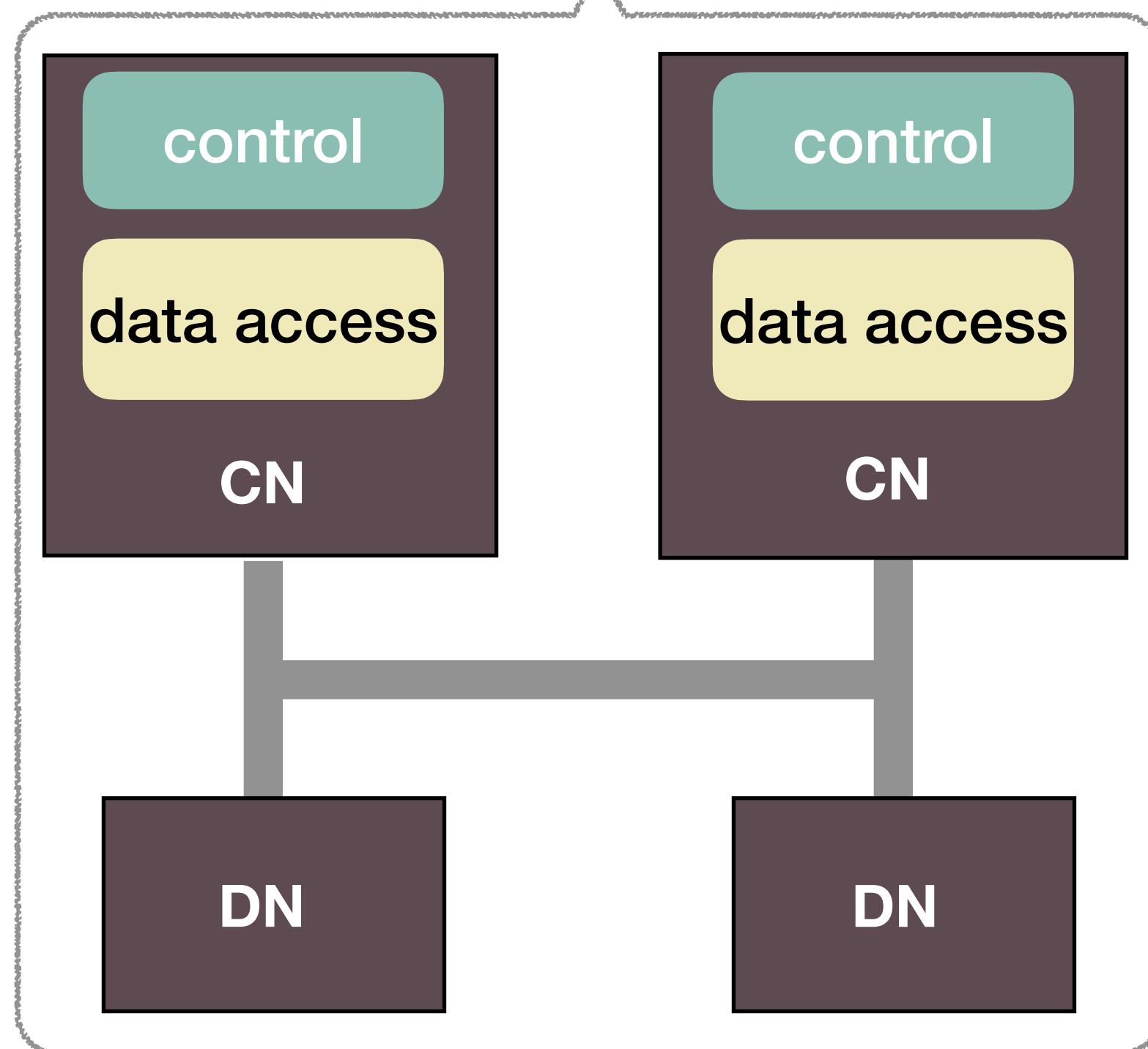
Non Disaggregation

Active Disaggregation

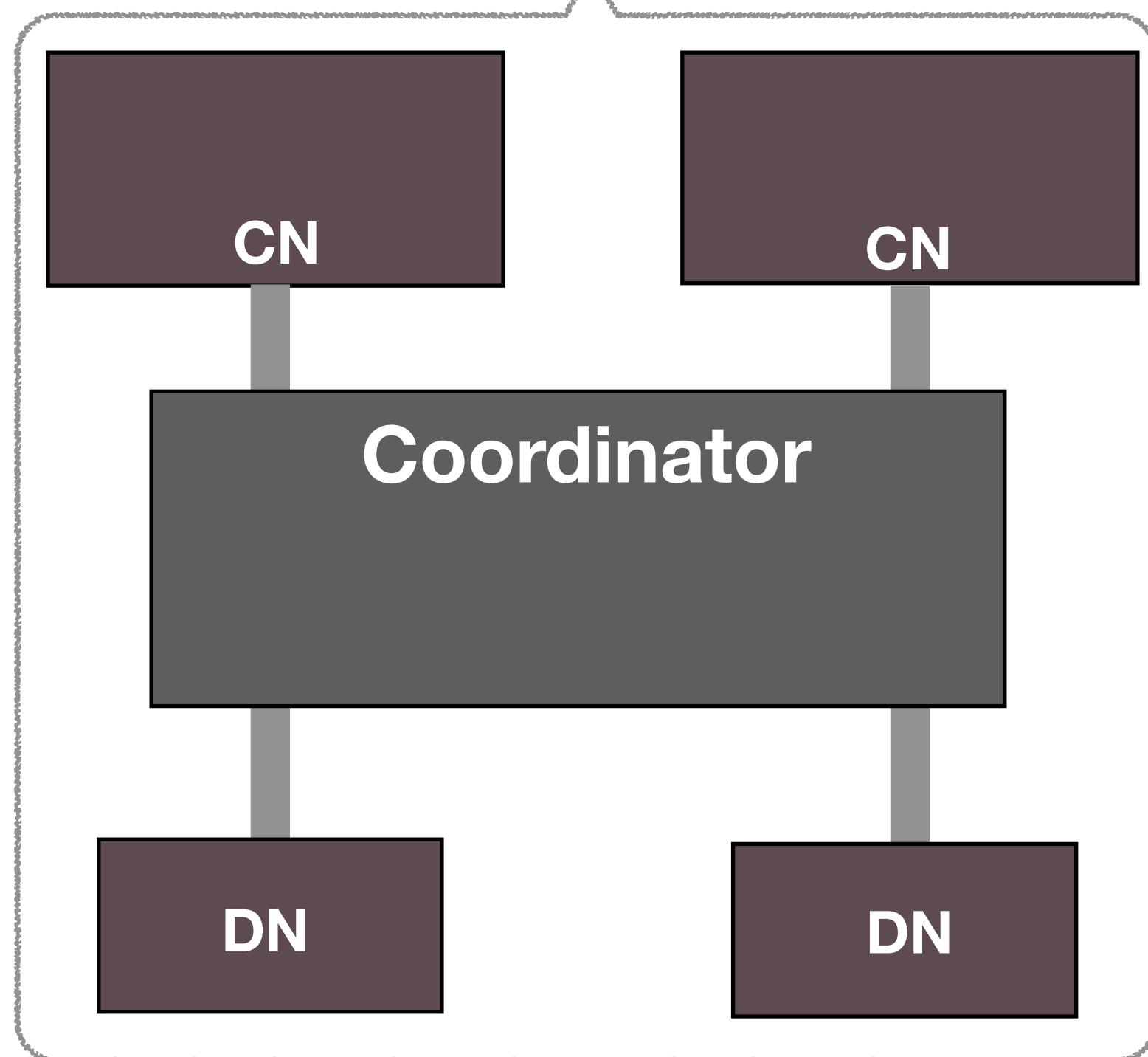
Passive Disaggregation

*Where to process and manage data?*

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*At a coordinator*



**CN:** Compute Node, **DN:** Data Node with PM

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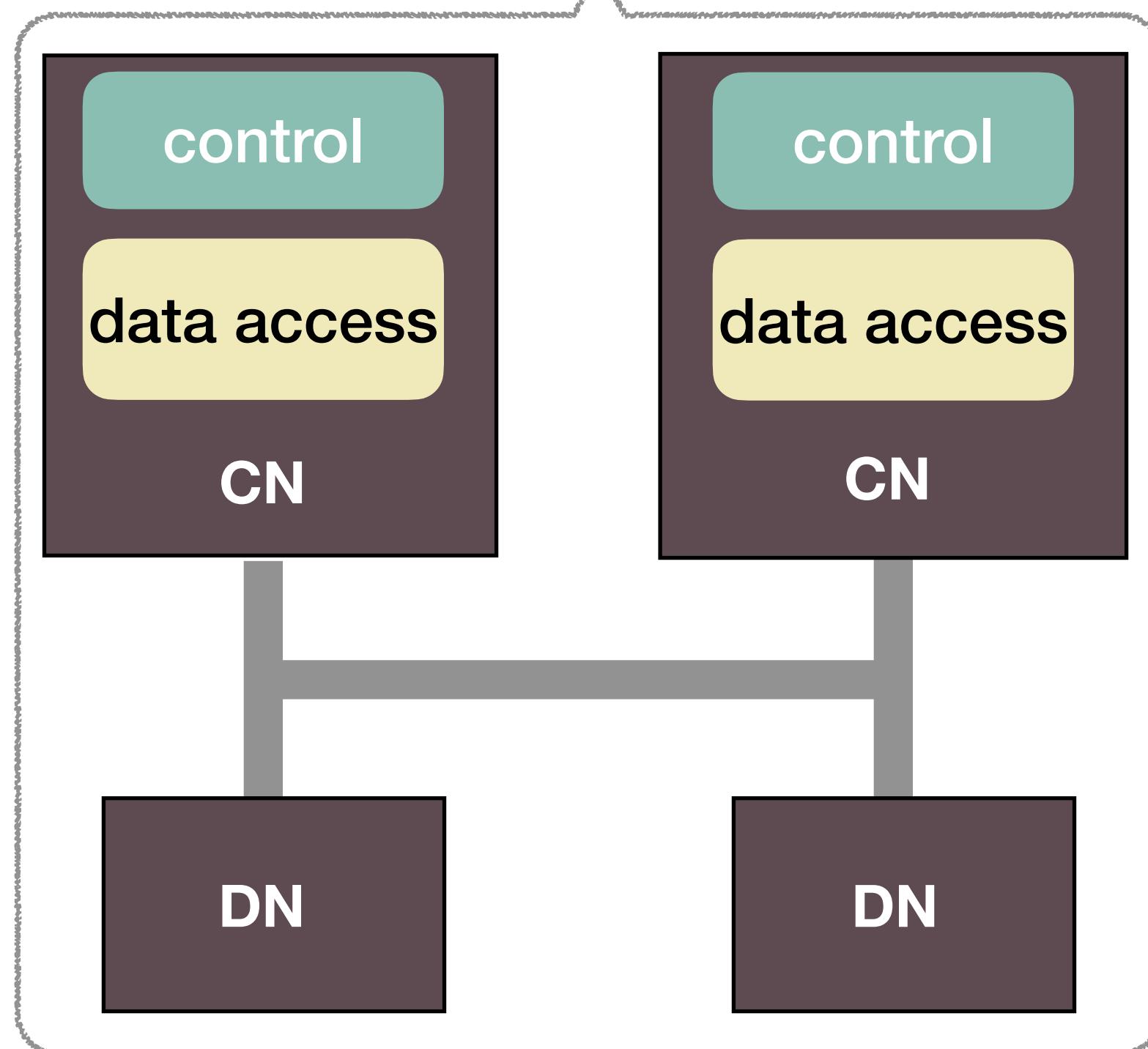
Non Disaggregation

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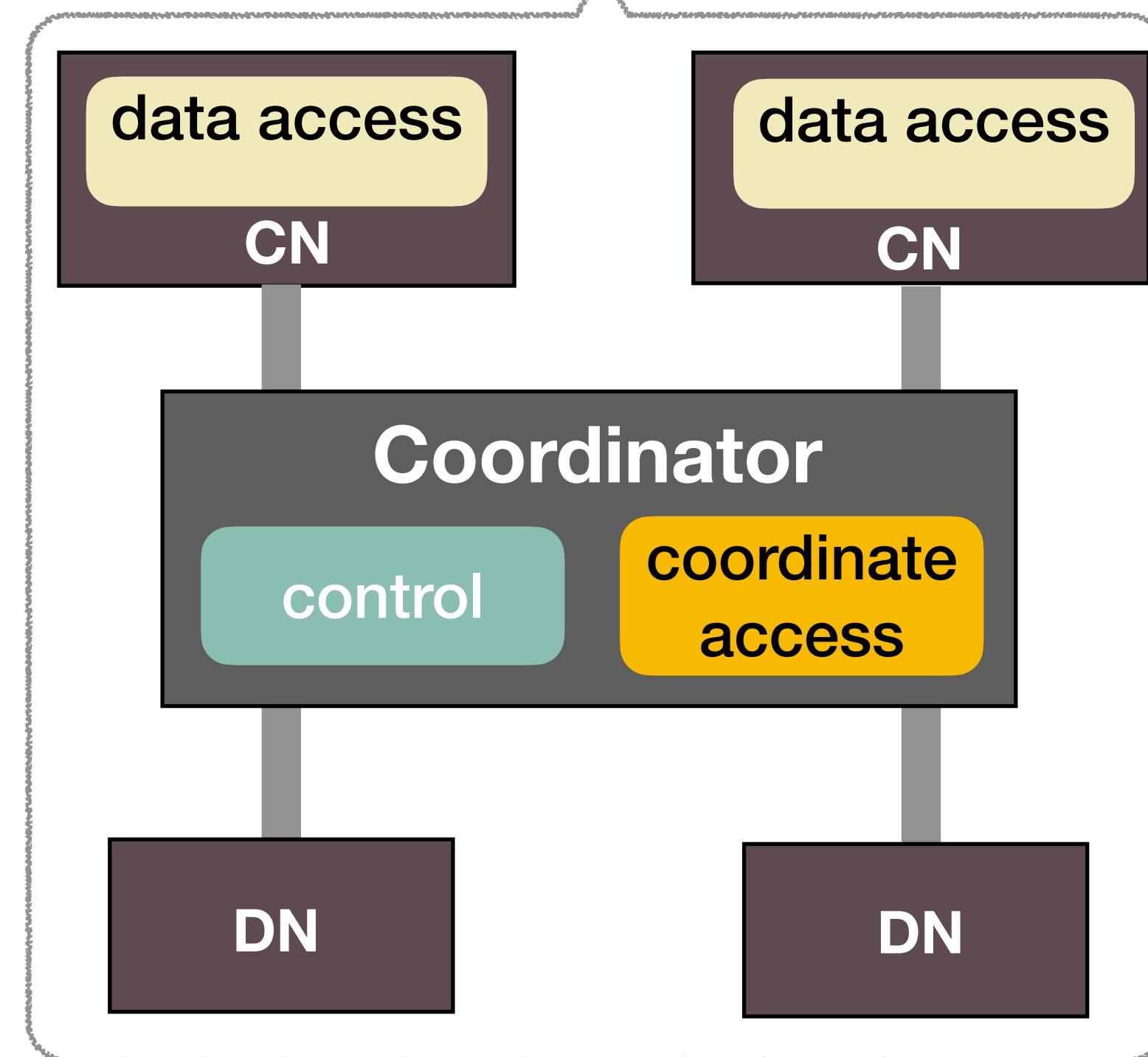
Passive Disaggregation

*Where to process and manage data?*

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*At a coordinator*



**CN:** Compute Node, **DN:** Data Node with PM

# Spectrum of Datacenter PM Deploy Models

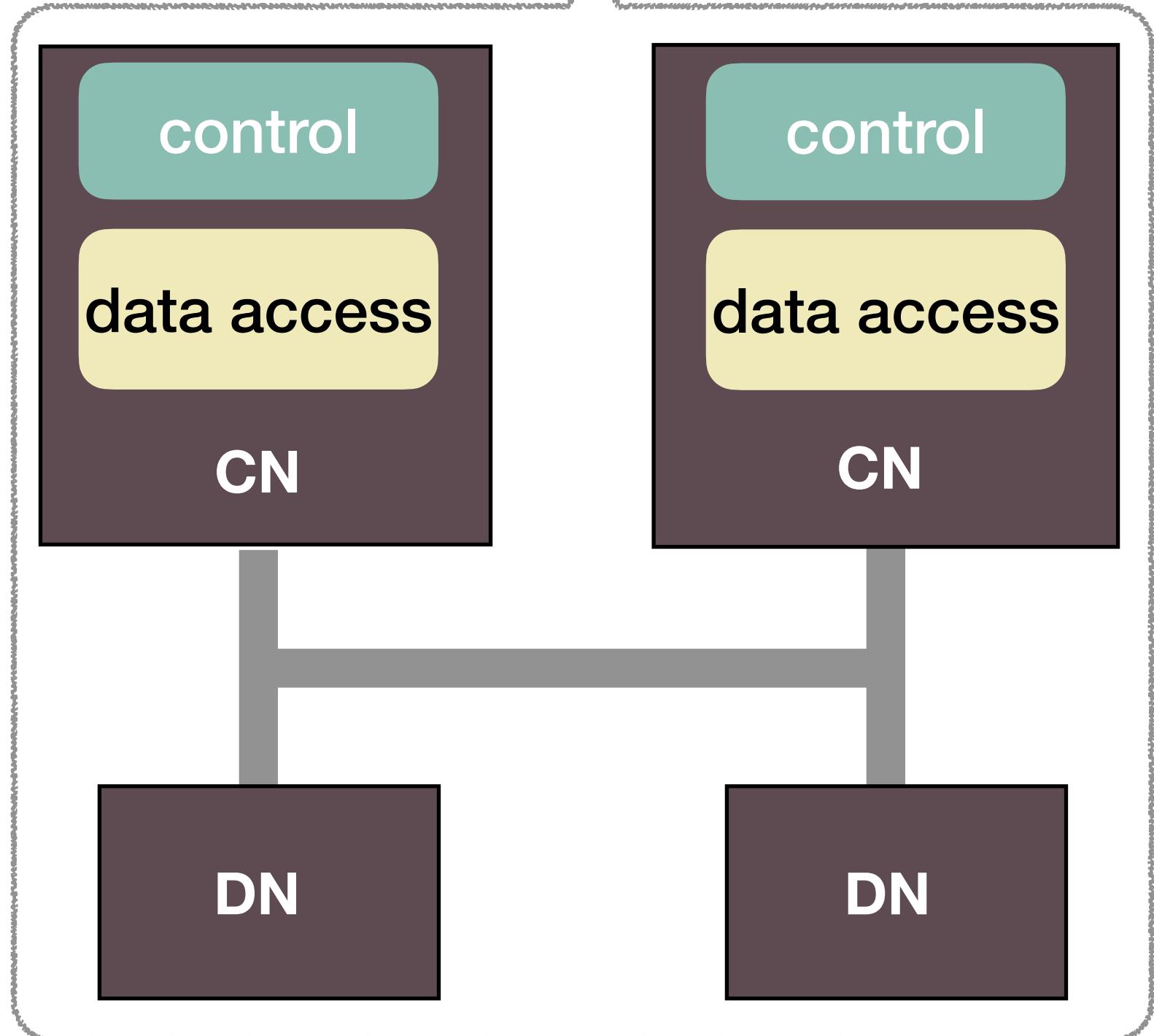
Non Disaggregation

Active Disaggregation

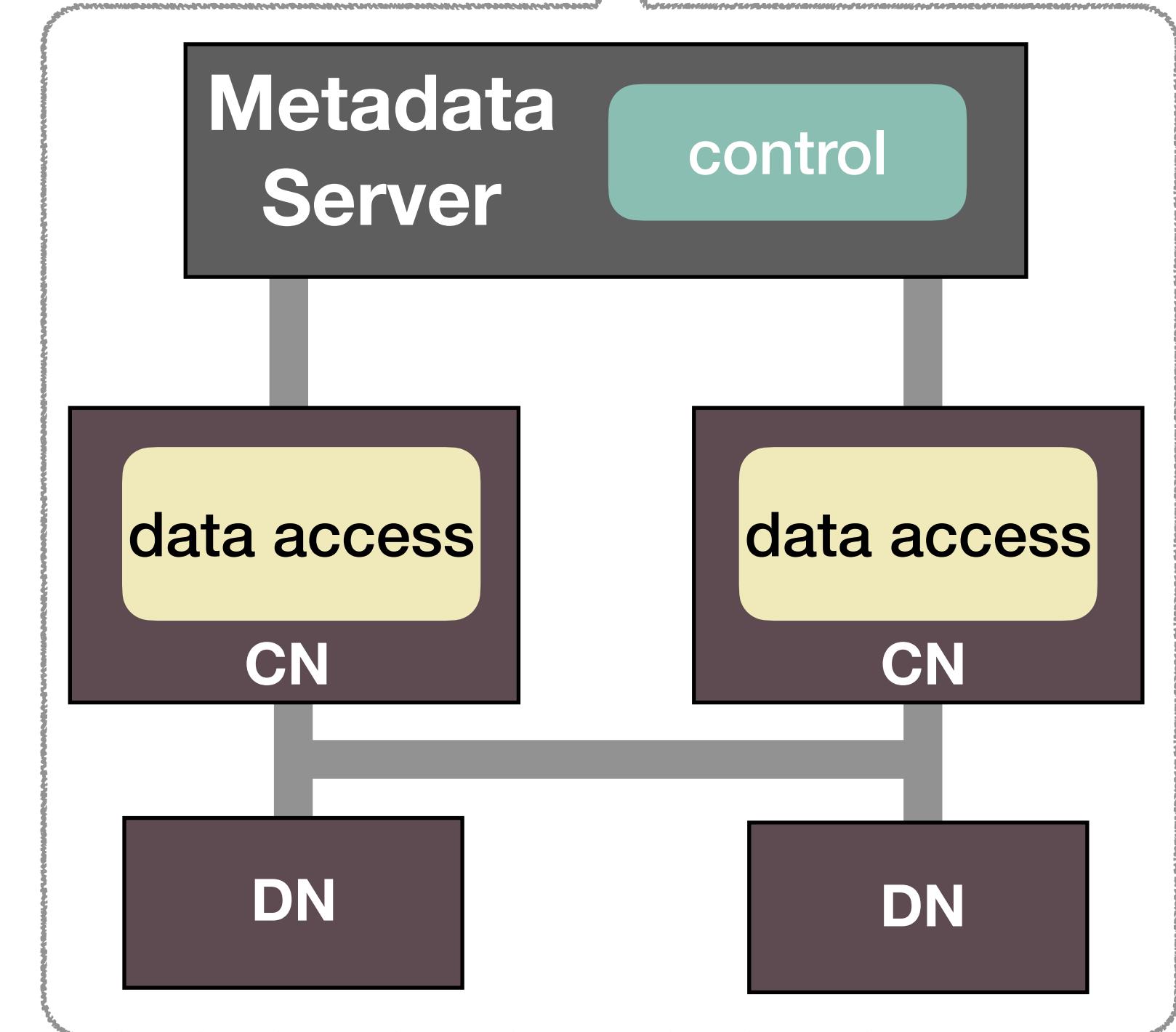
Passive Disaggregation

*Where to process and manage data?*

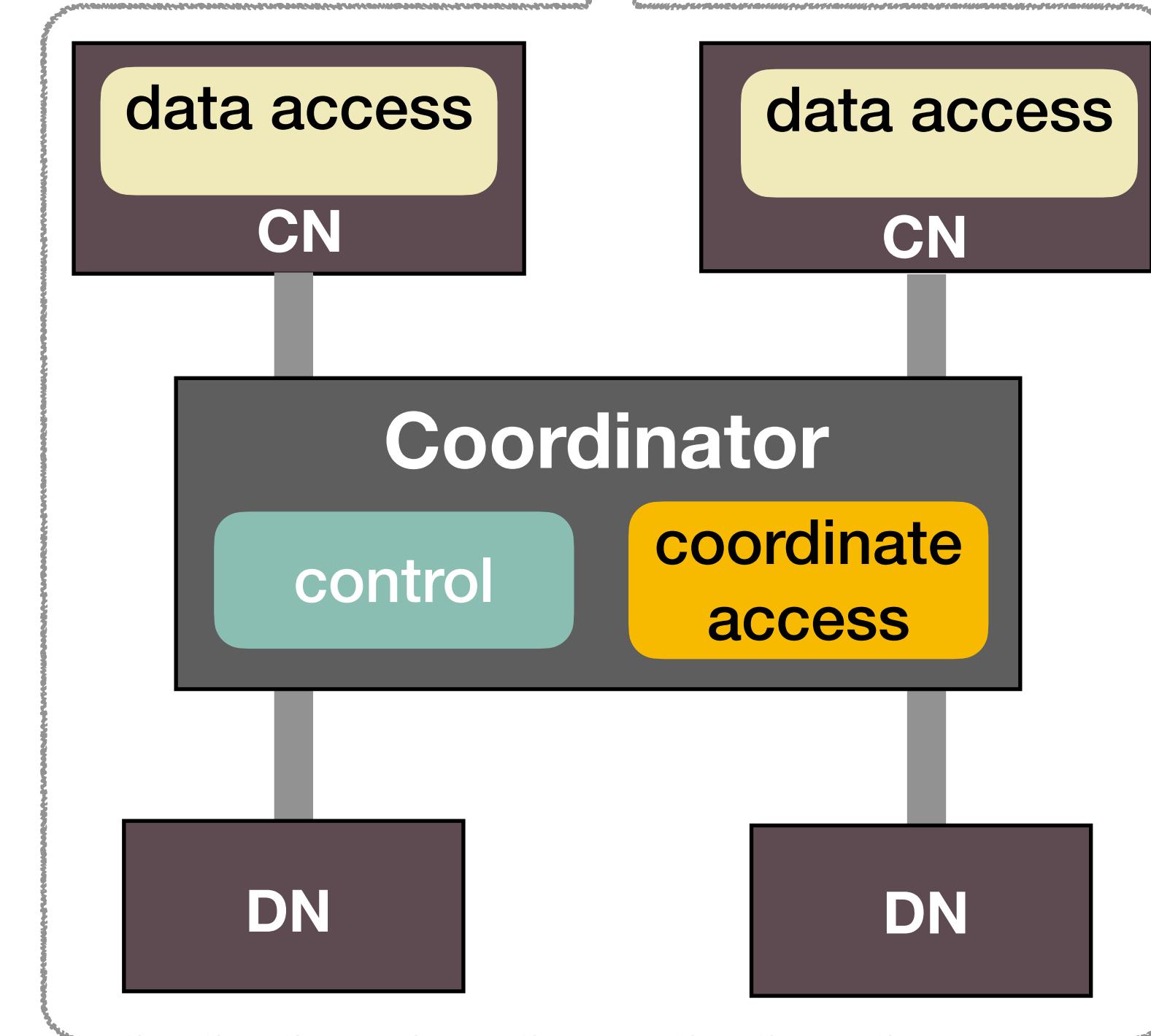
*At compute nodes*



*A hybrid approach*



*At a coordinator*



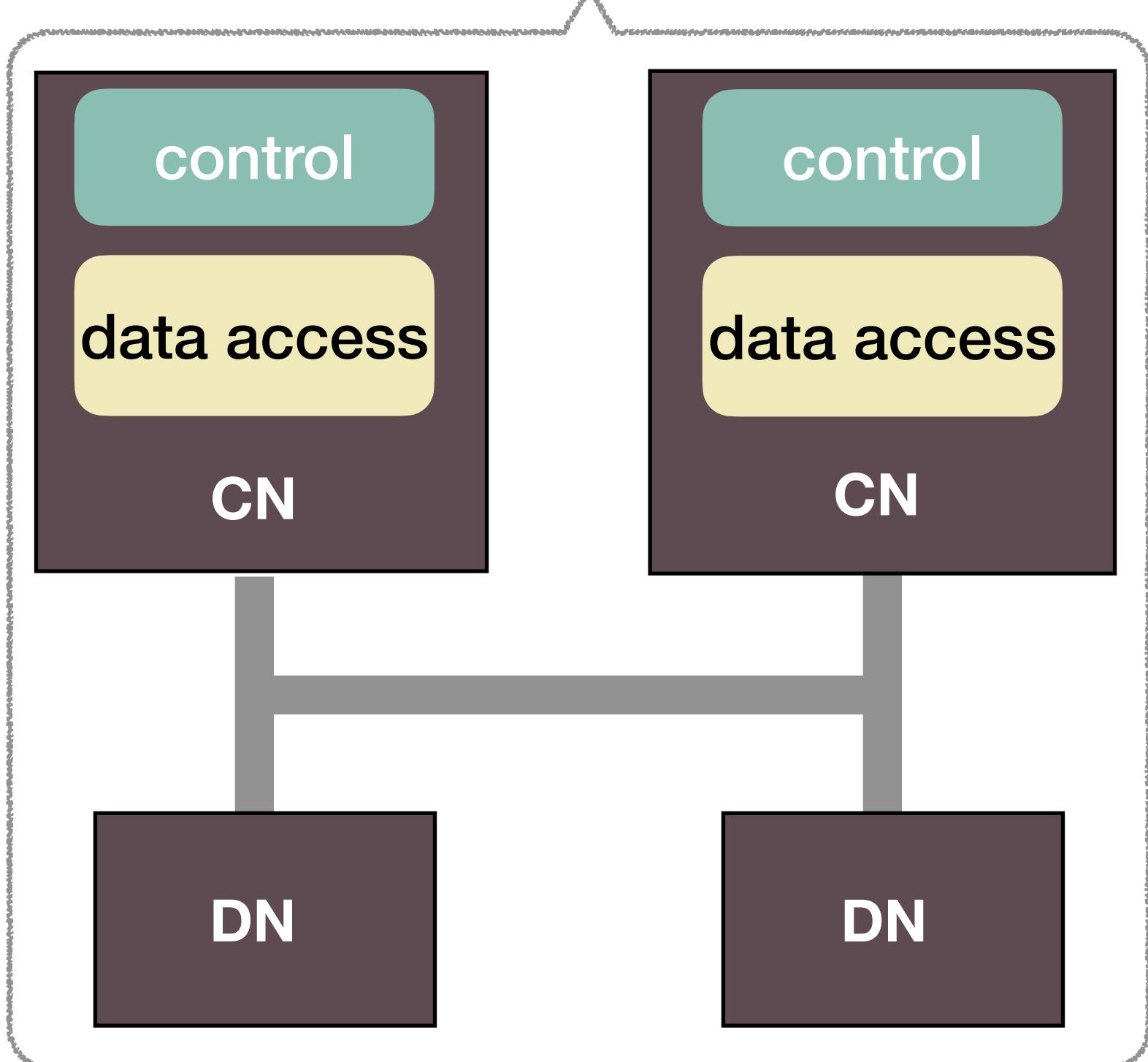
**CN:** Compute Node, **DN:** Data Node with PM

# Passive Disaggregated PM (pDPM) Systems

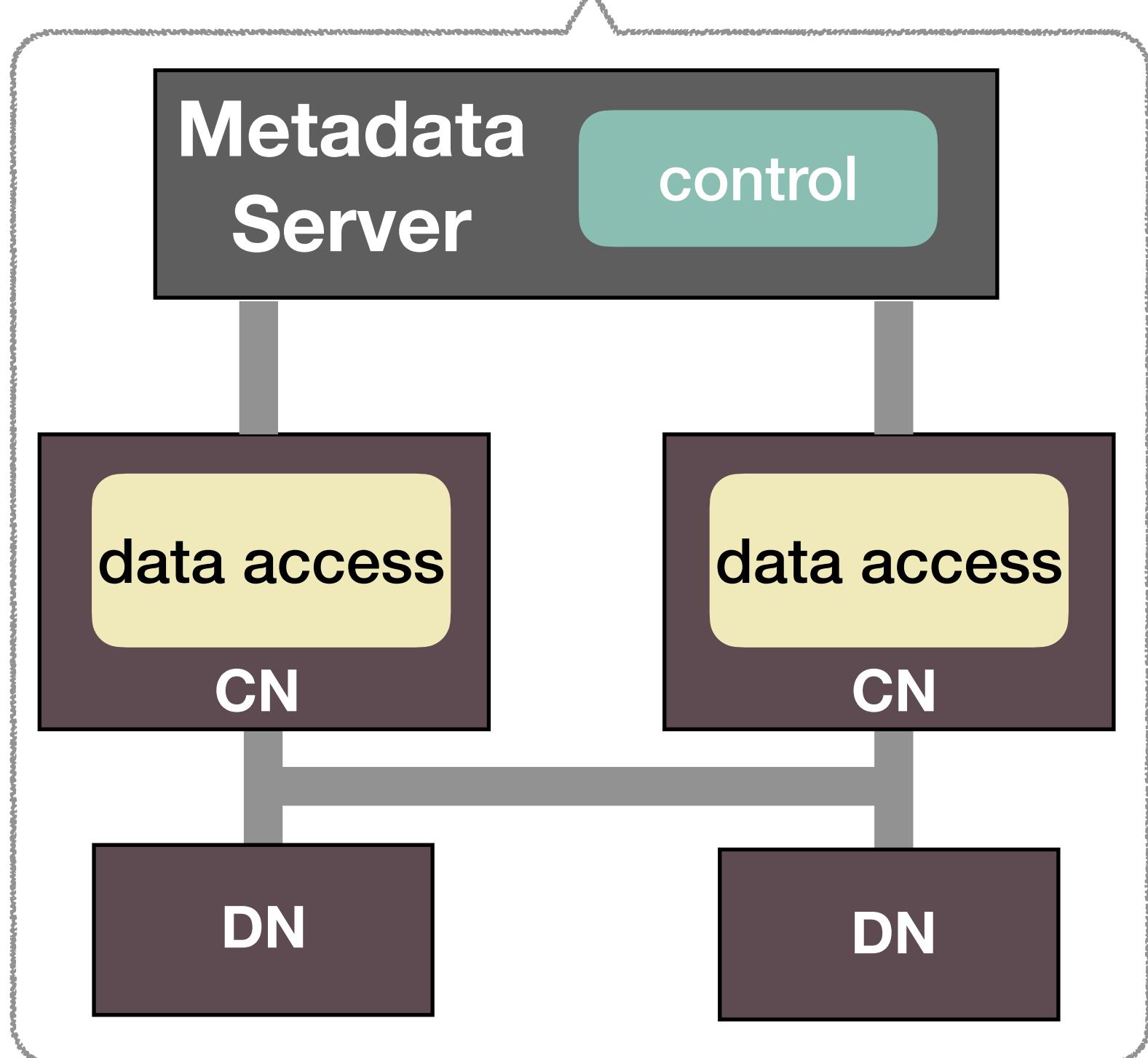
- We design and implement three pDPM key-value stores
  - At computer nodes → **pDPM-Direct**
  - At global coordinator → **pDPM-Central**
  - A hybrid approach → **Clover**
- Carry out extensive experiments: performance, scalability, costs
- Clover is the best pDPM model: perf similar to active DPM, but lower costs
- Discovered tradeoffs between passive and active DPMs

*Where to process and manage data?*

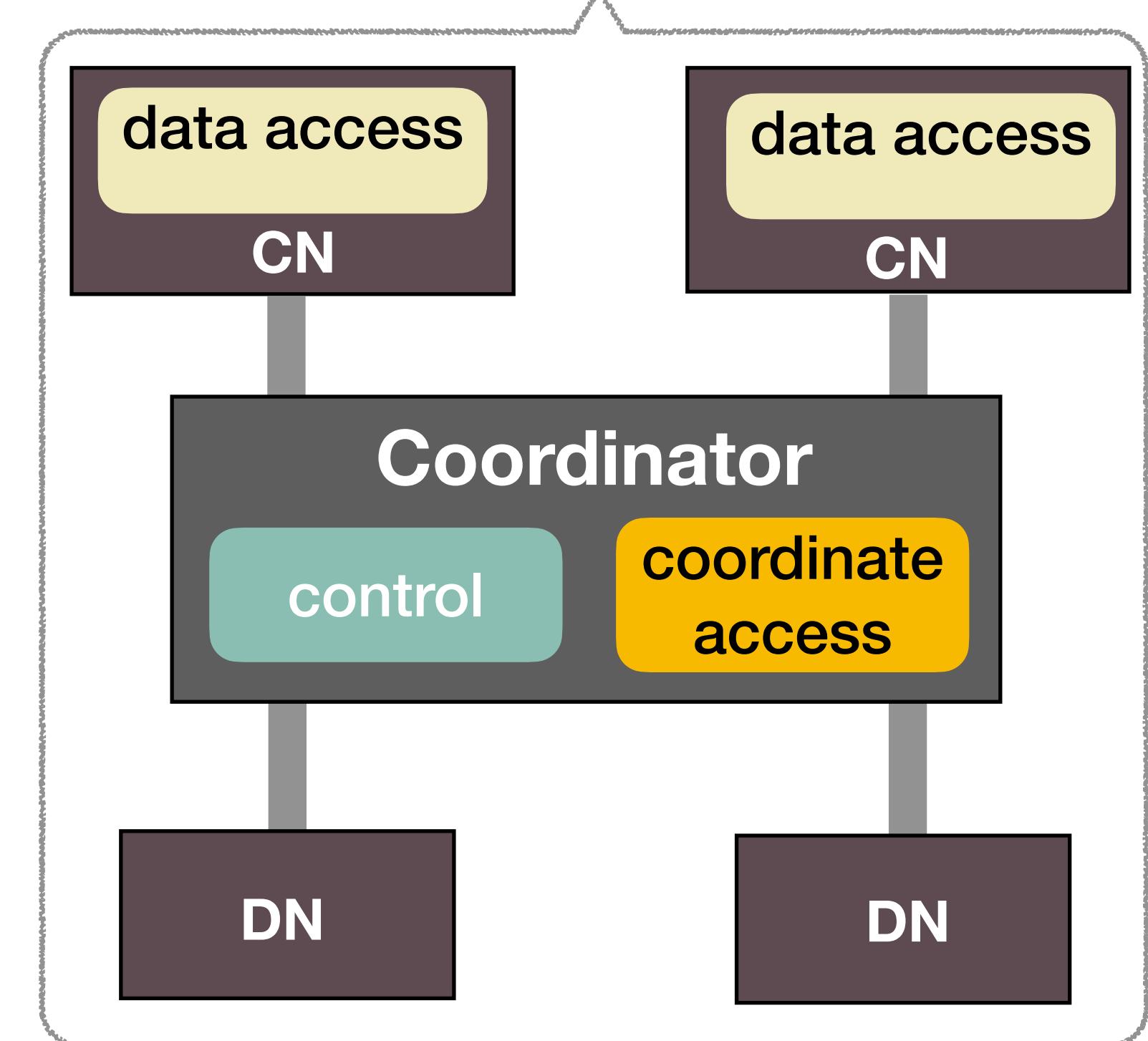
## pDPM-Direct



## Clover

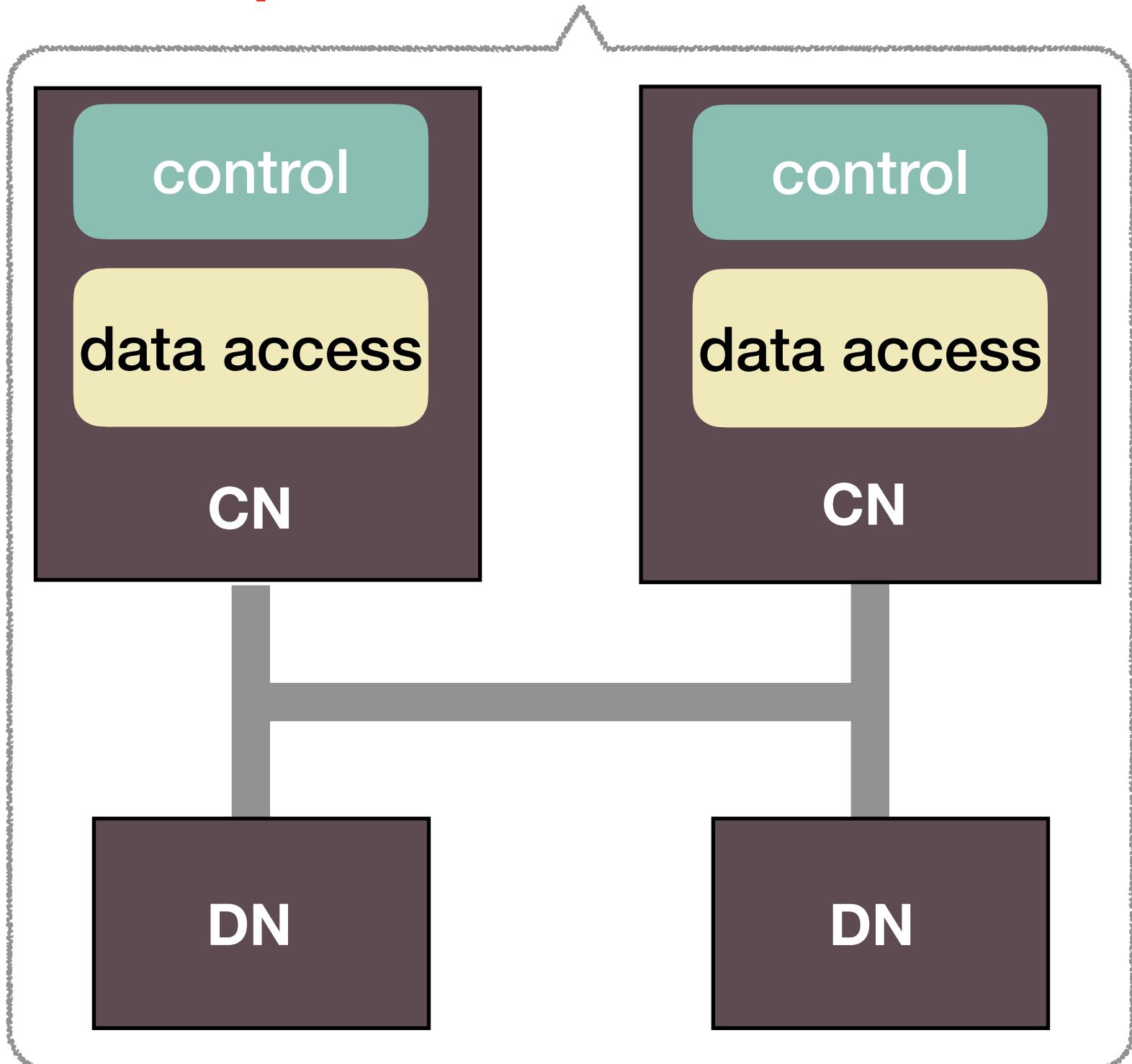


## pDPM-Central

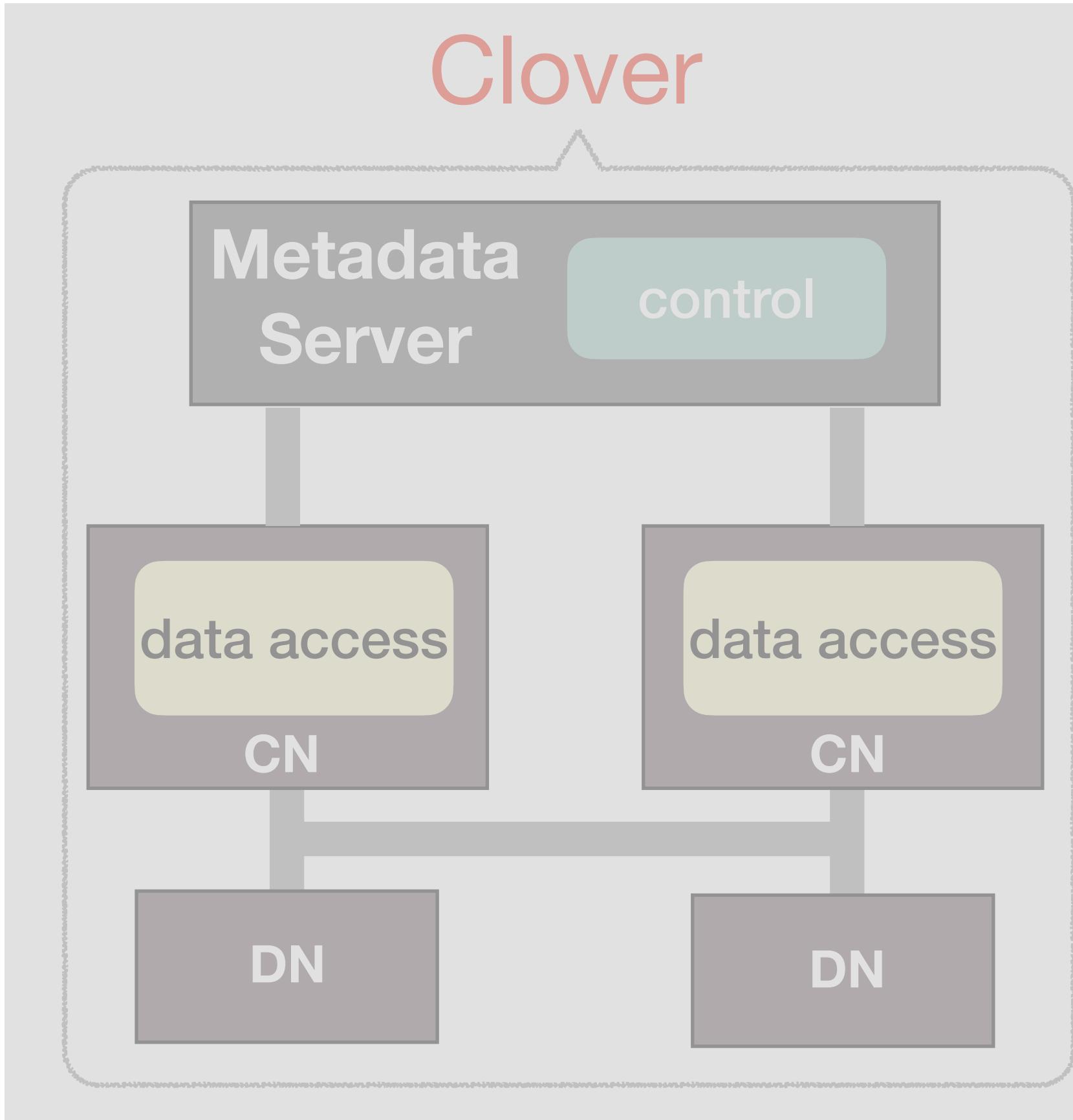


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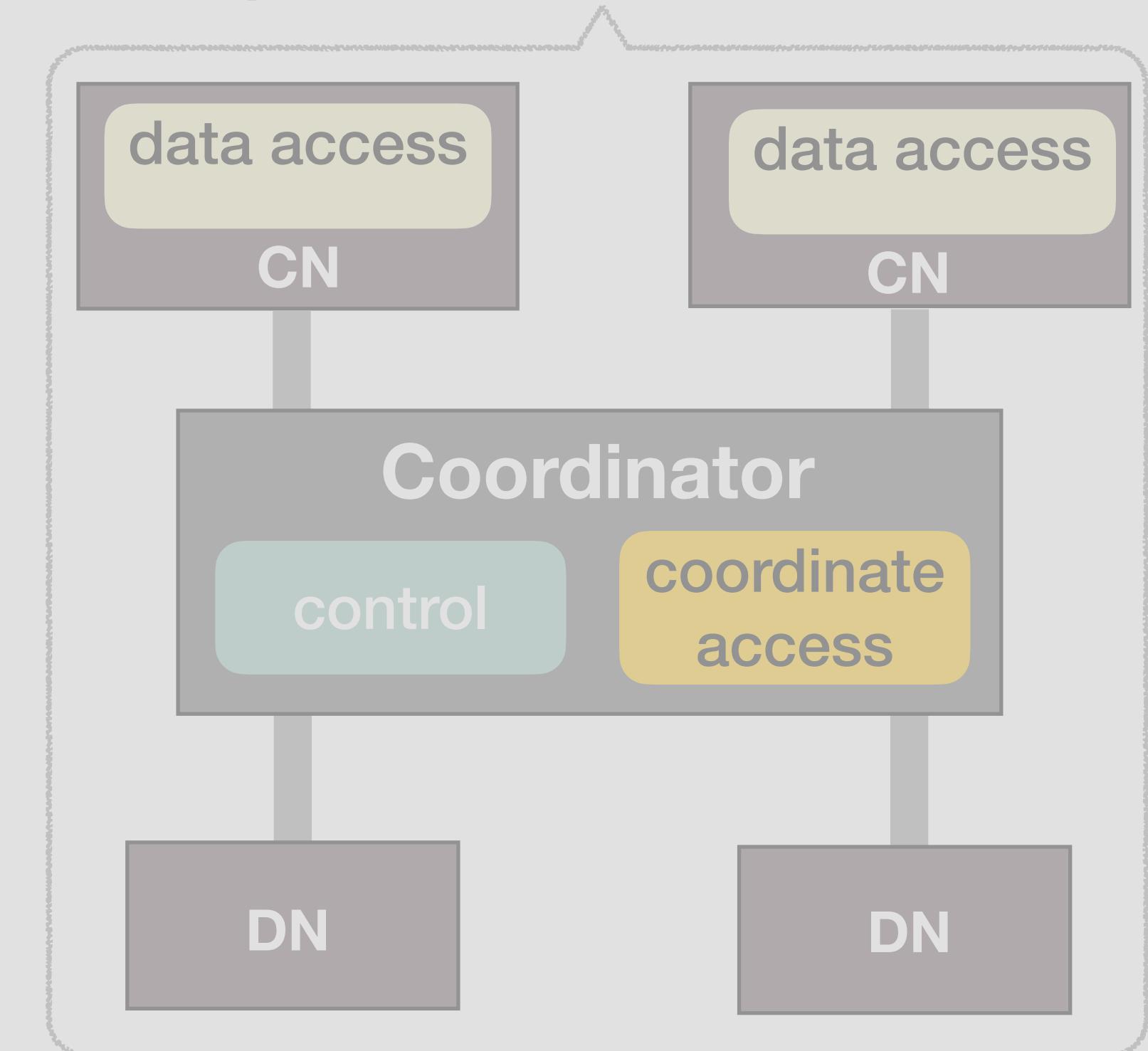
## pDPM-Direct



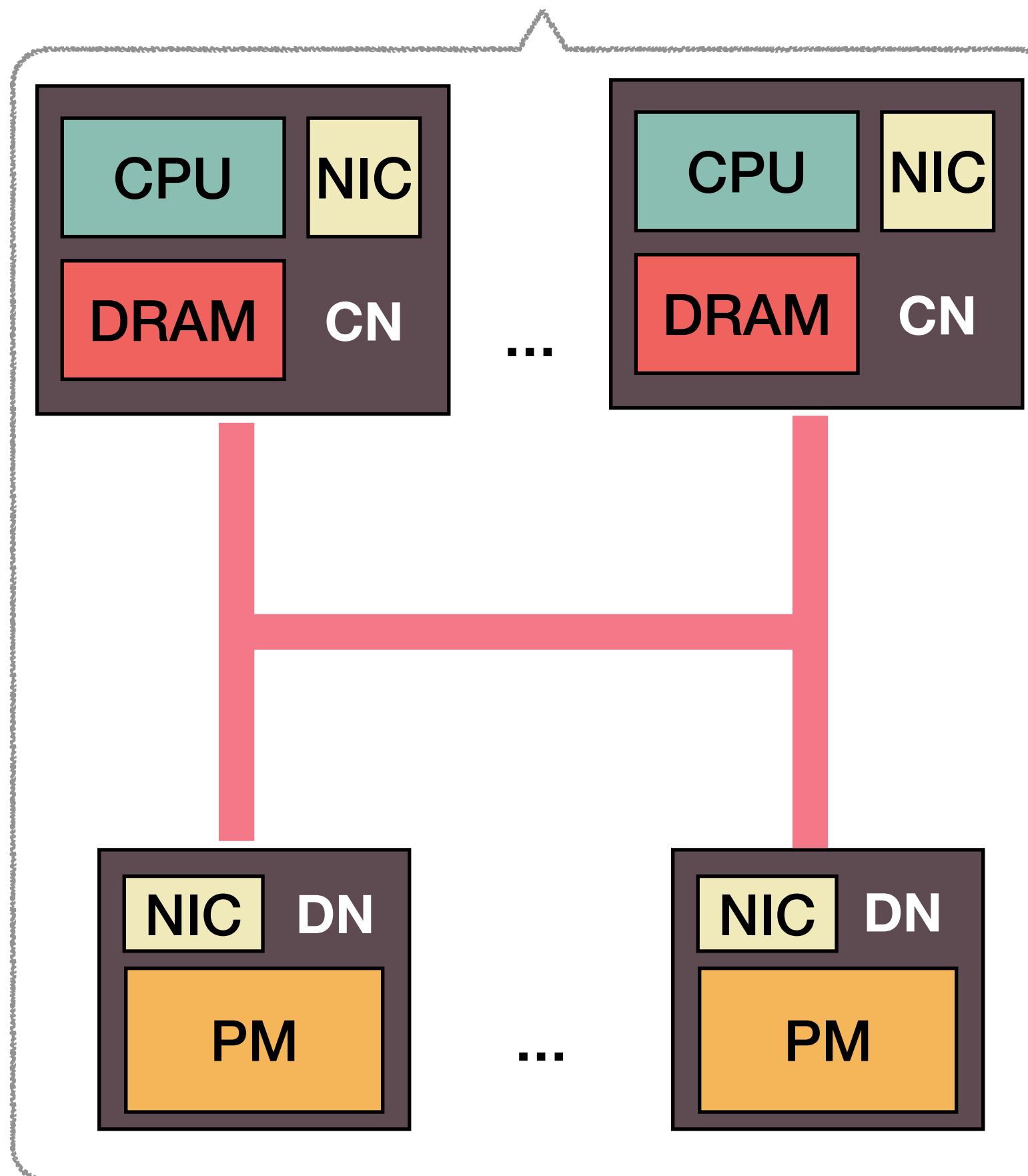
## Clover



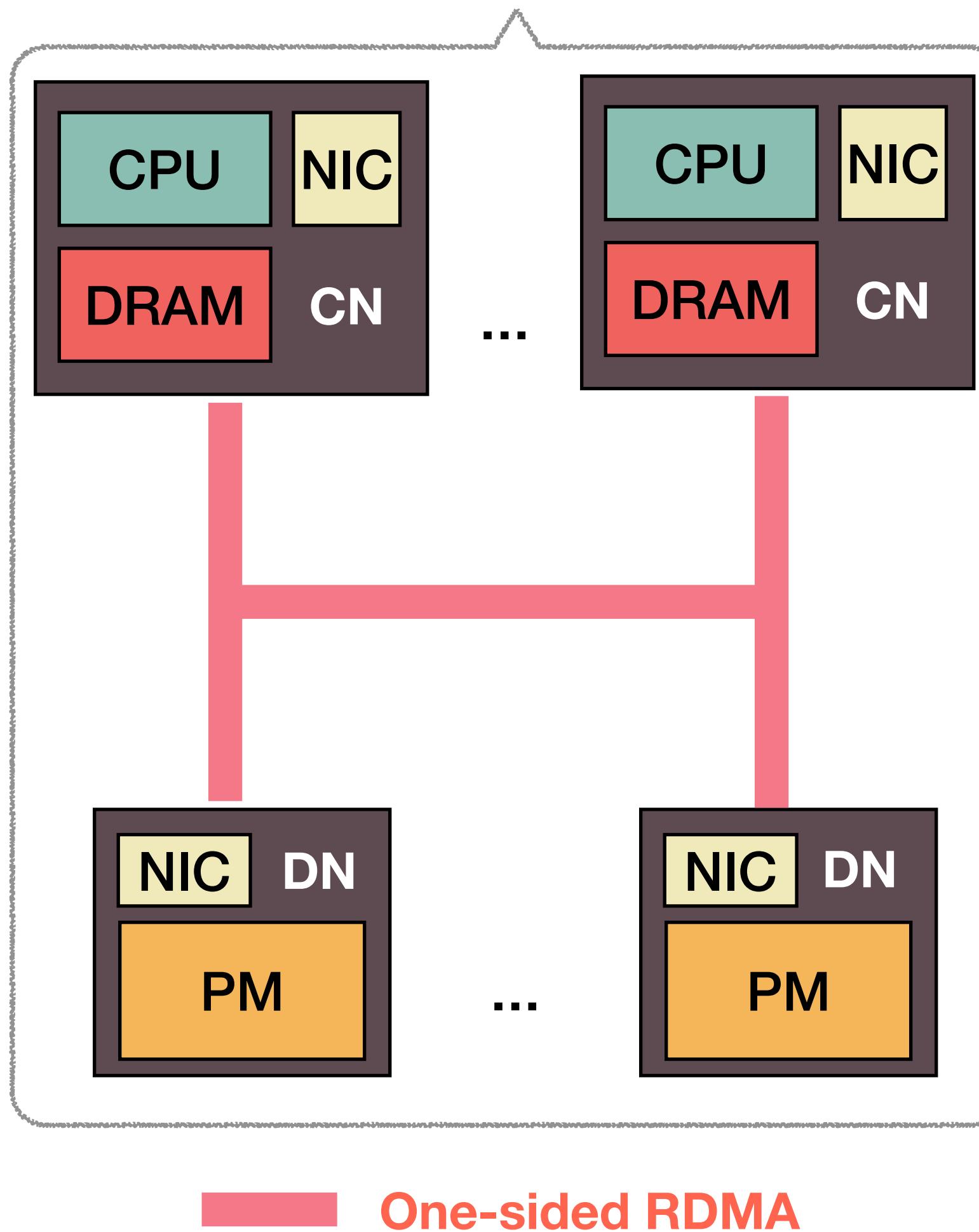
## pDPM-Central



# **pDPM-Direct**: Directly Access and Manage DNs from CNs



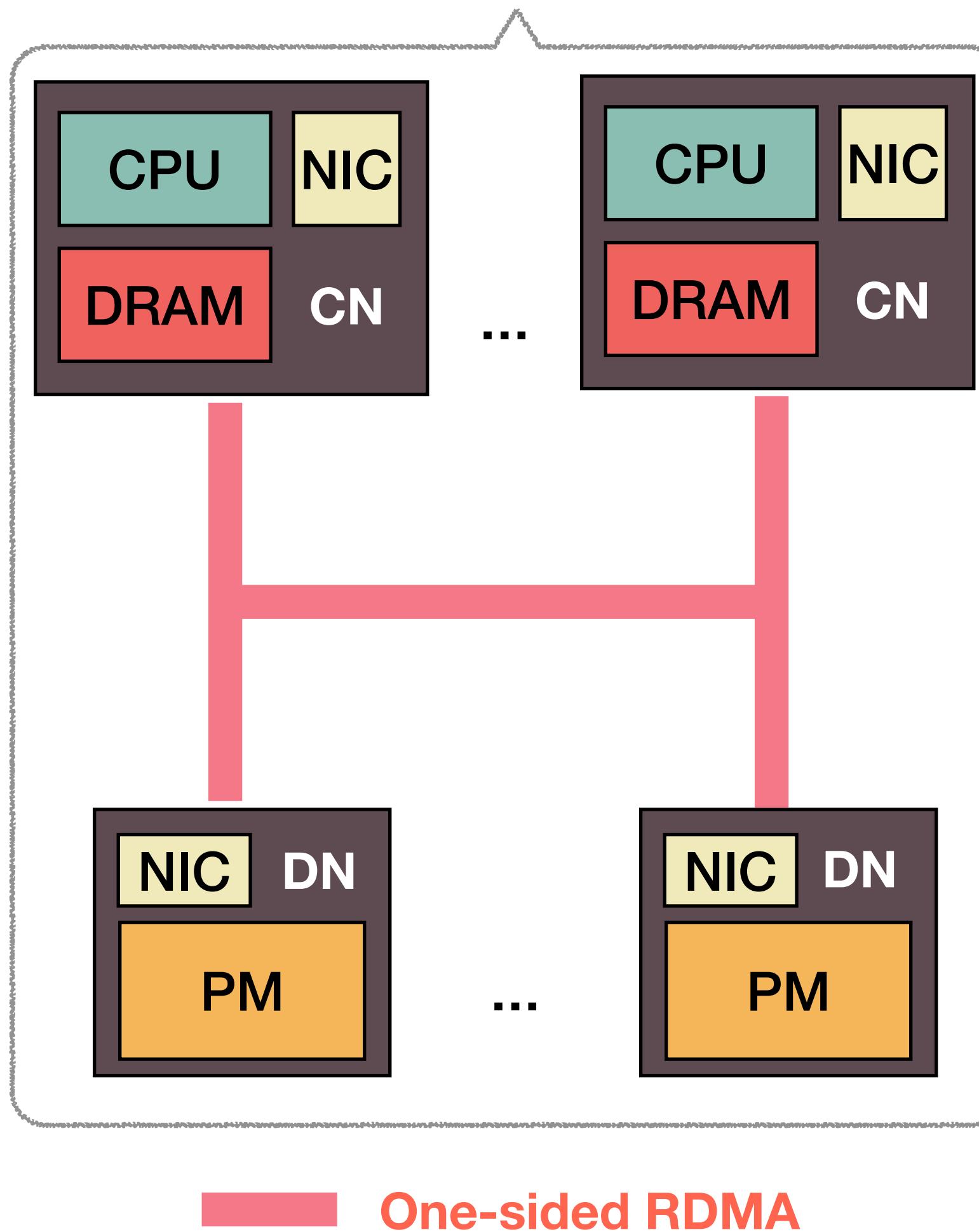
# **pDPM-Direct**: Directly Access and Manage DNs from CNs



## Overall Architecture

- CNs access and manage DNs directly via one-sided RDMA
- Both data and control planes run within CNs

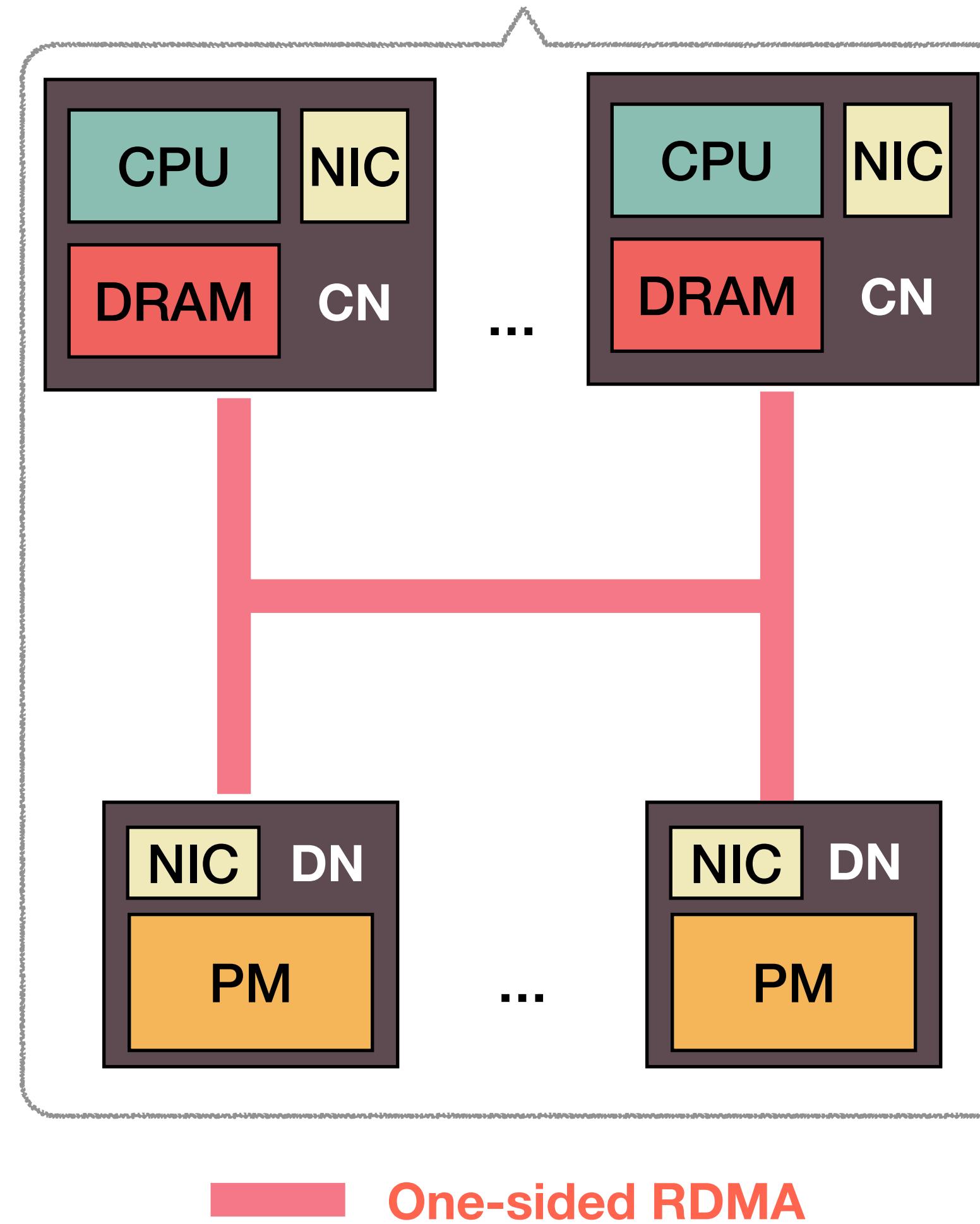
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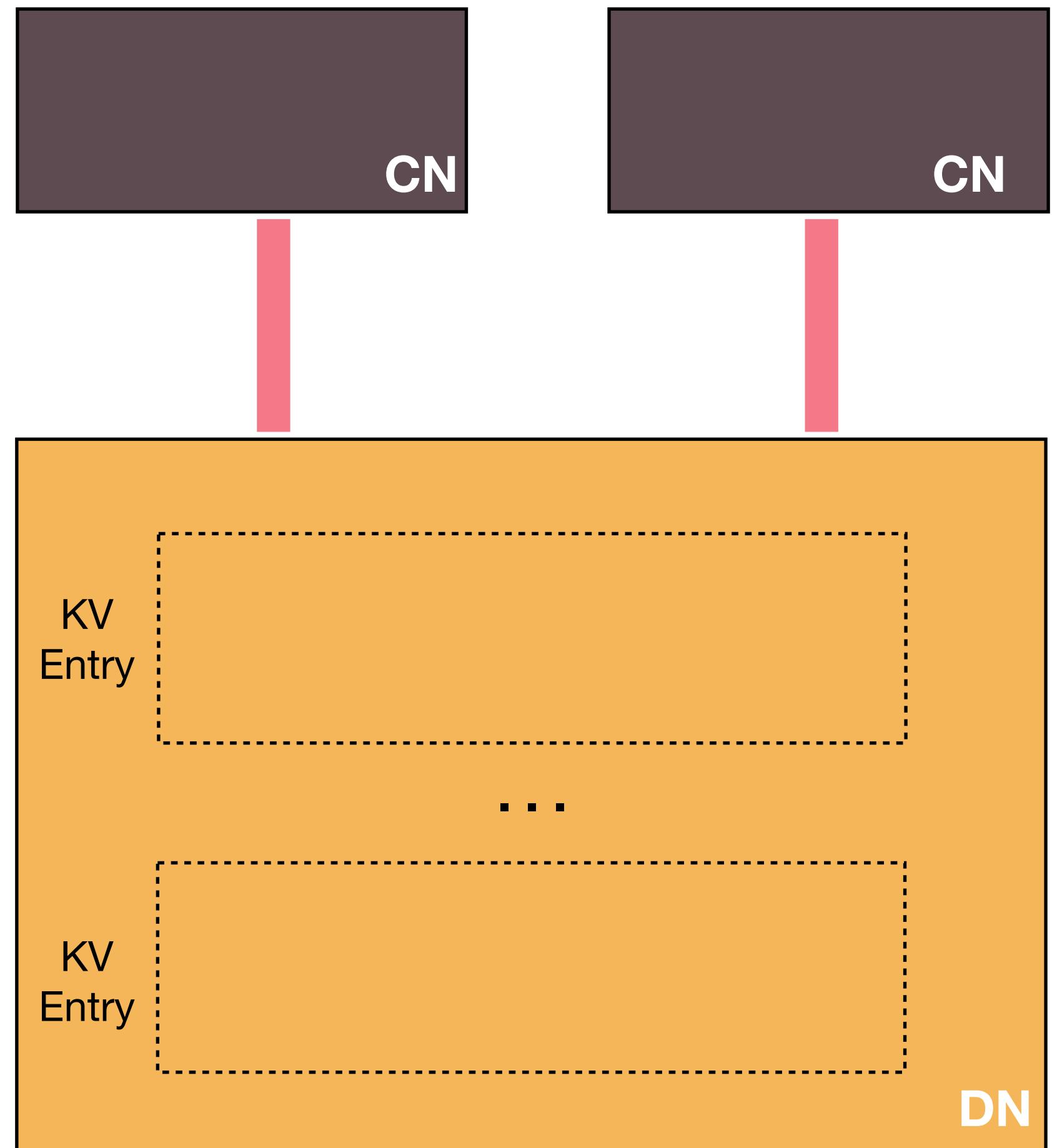
- CNs access and manage DNs directly via one-sided RDMA
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## Challenges

- How to manage DN space?
- How to coordinate concurrent reads/writes across CNs?

**Our solution**

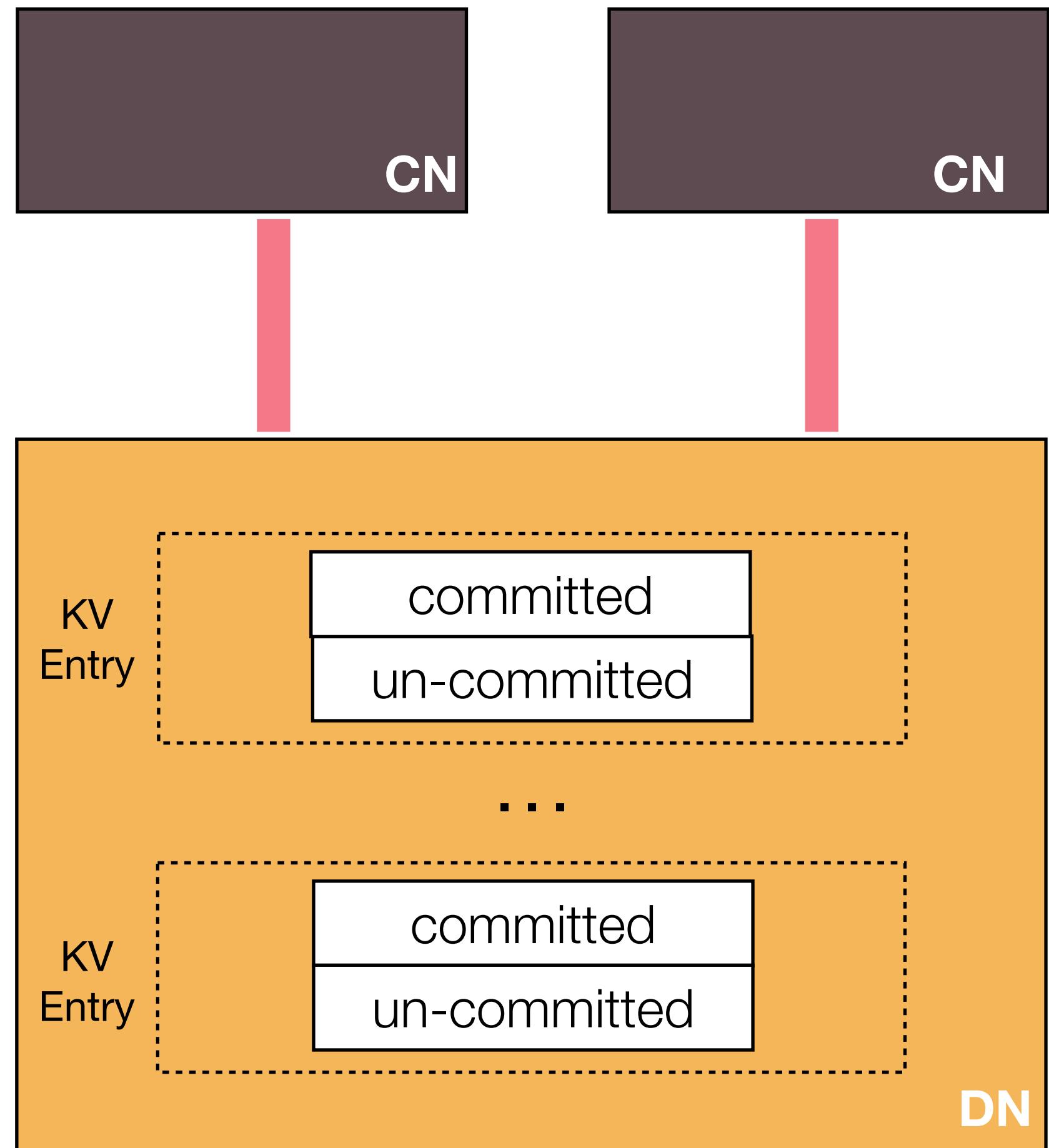
## pDPM-Direct



## Our solution

# pDPM-Direct

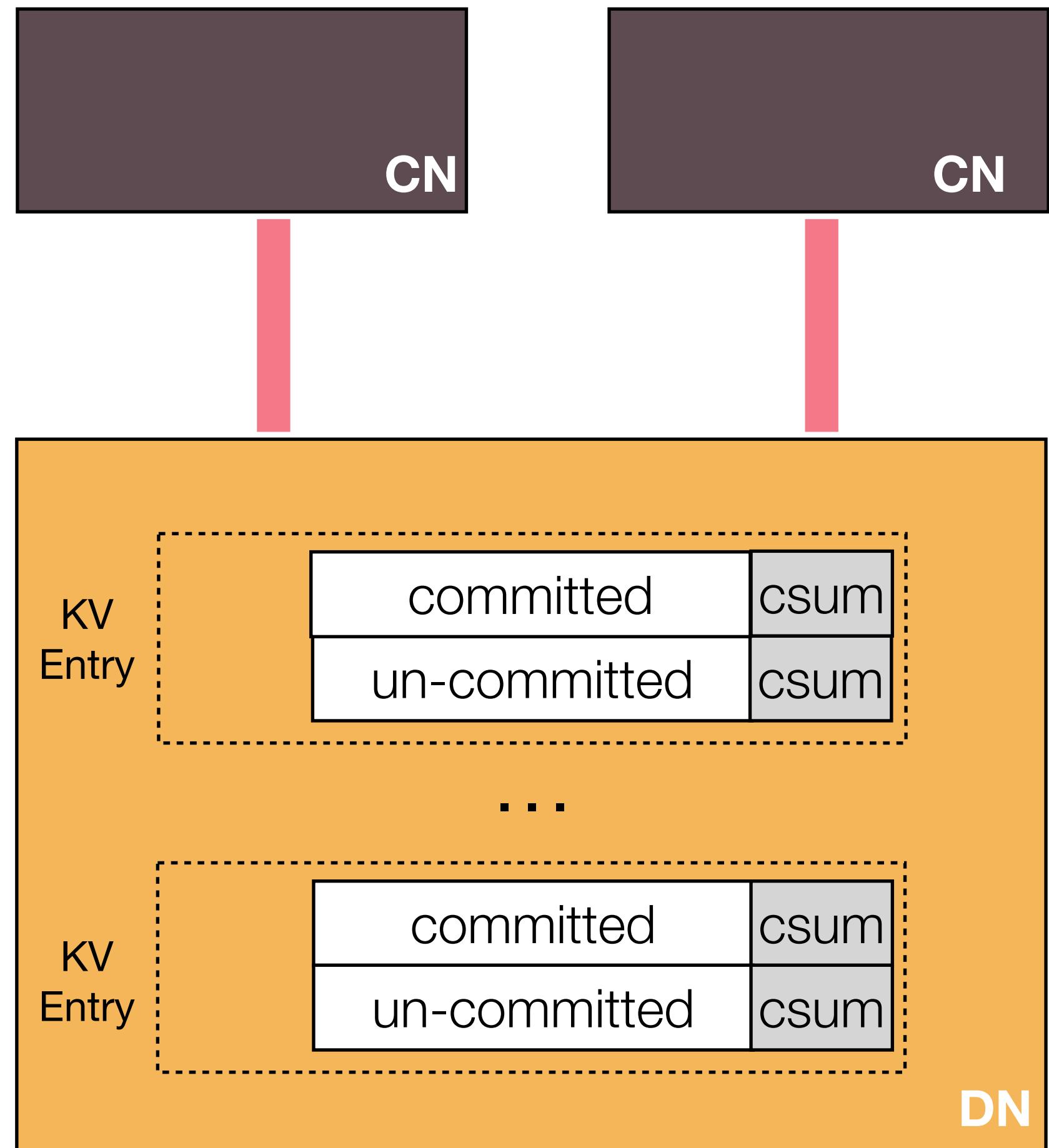
- Pre-assign two spaces for each KV entry (**committed+uncommitted**)



## Our solution

# pDPM-Direct

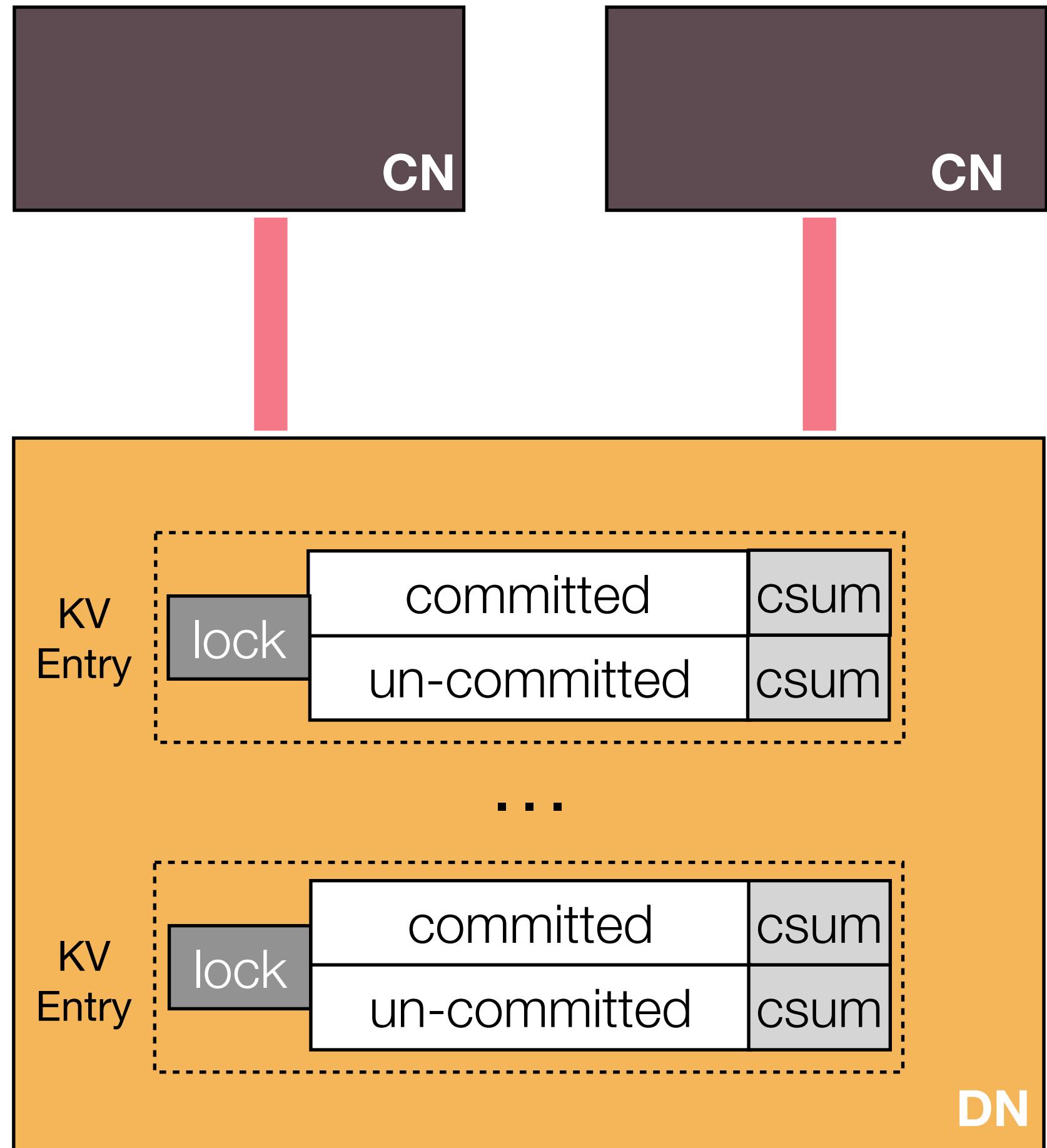
- Pre-assign two spaces for each KV entry (`committed+uncommitted`)
- Lock-free, checksum-based read (`csum`)



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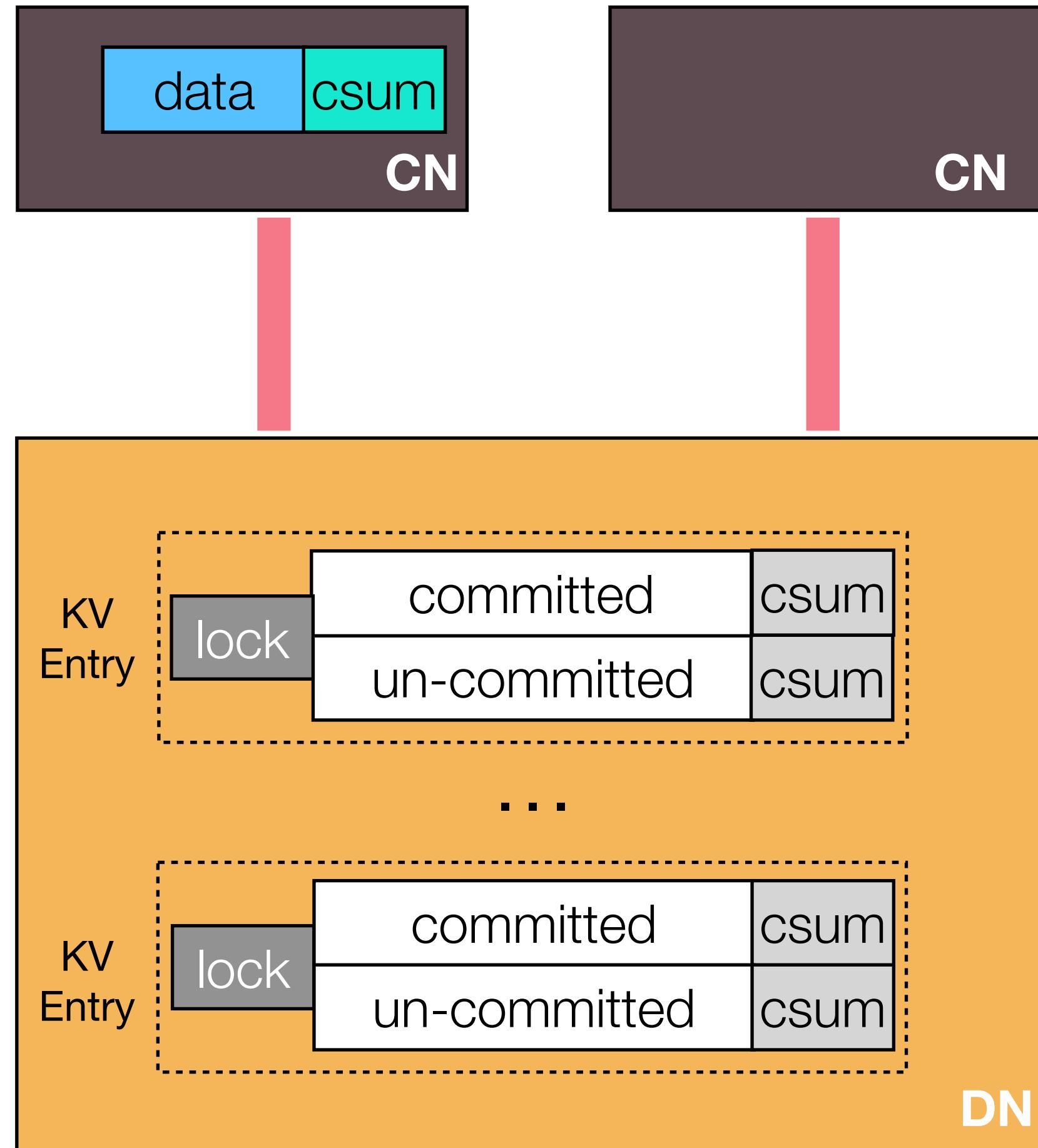
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- Pre-assign two spaces for each KV entry (`committed+uncommitted`)
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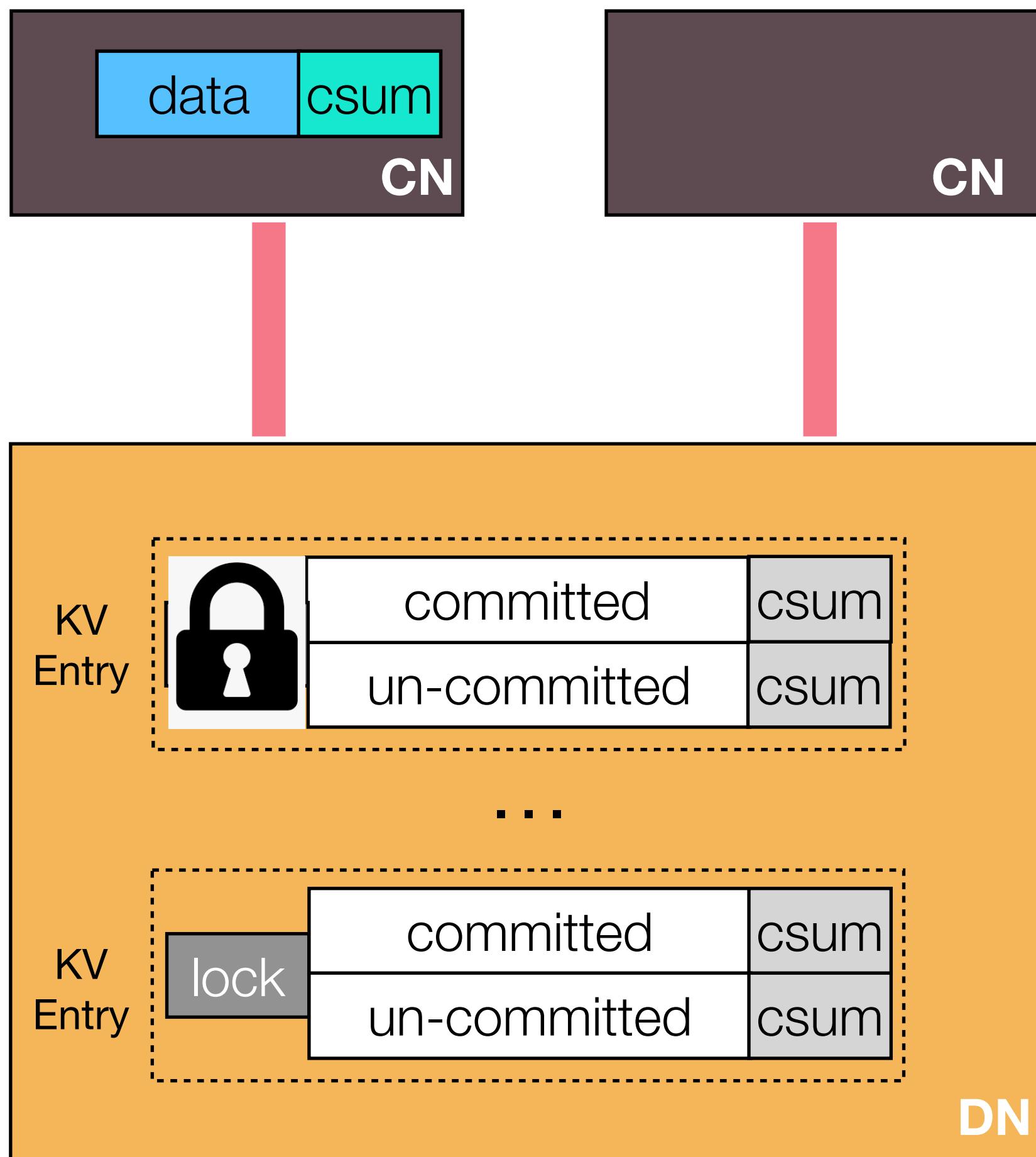
# pDPM-Direct



## Write Flow

- Acquire lock
- Write new data+CRC into uncommitted space (redo-copy)
- Write new data+CRC into committed space
- Release lock

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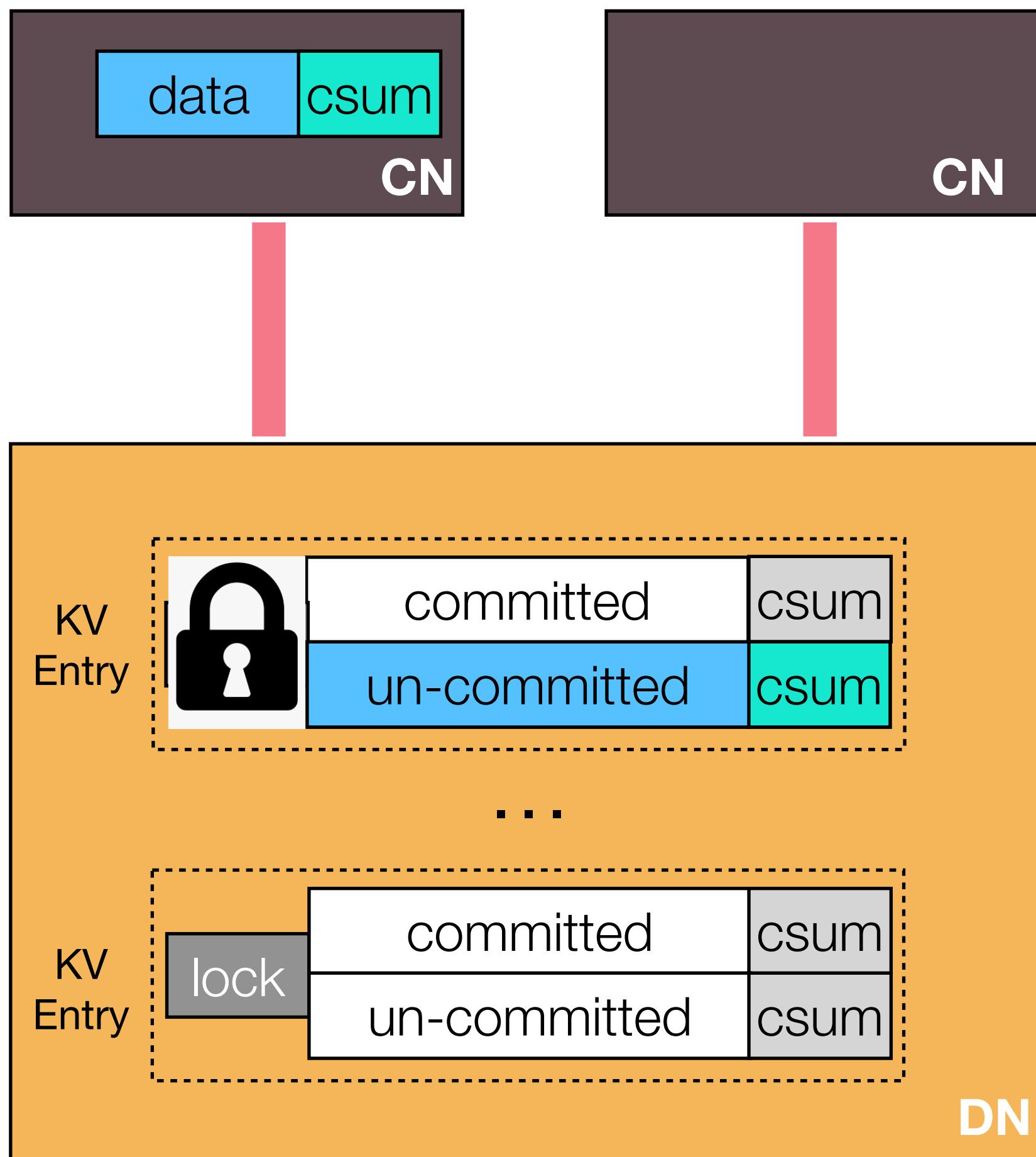
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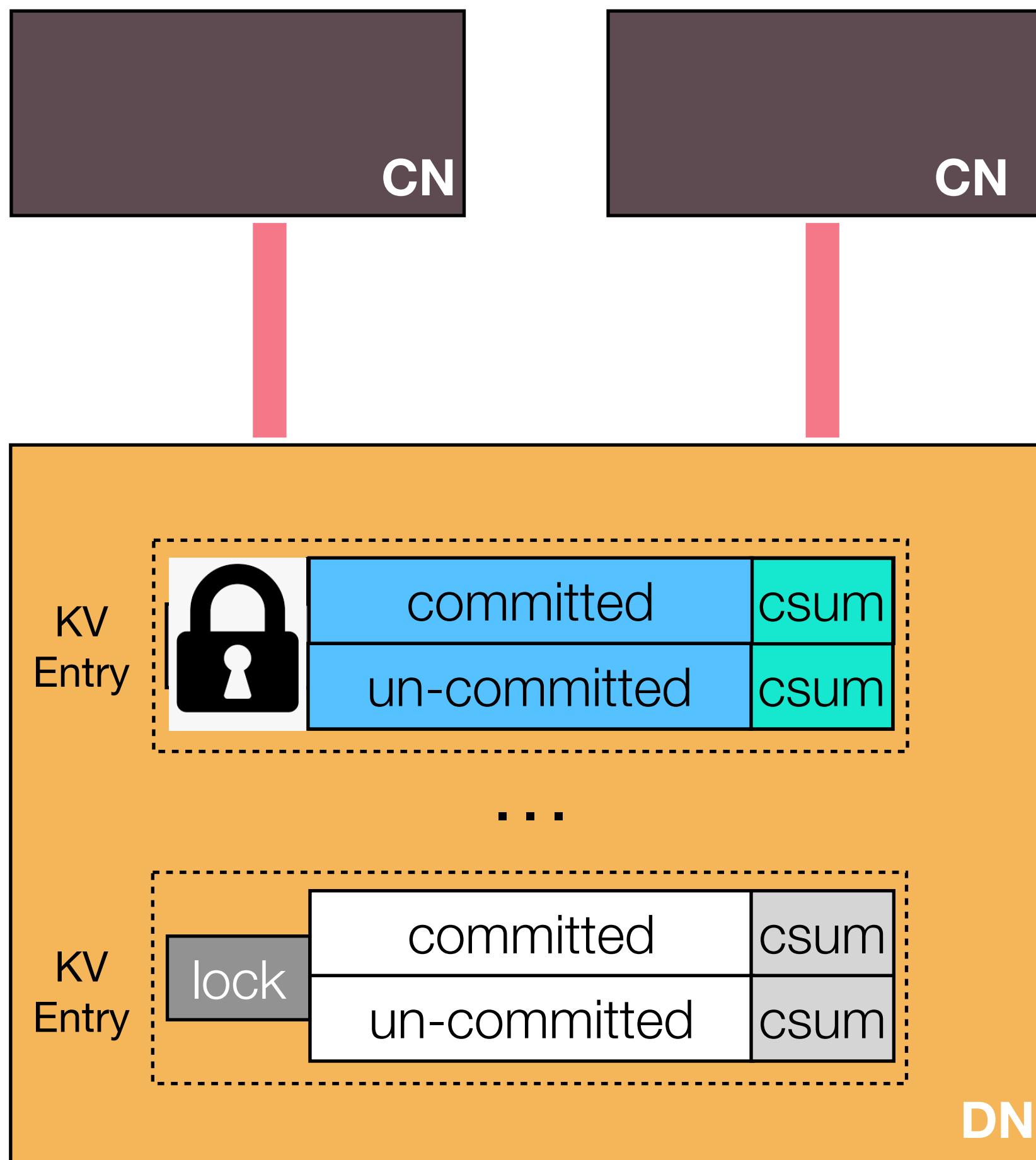
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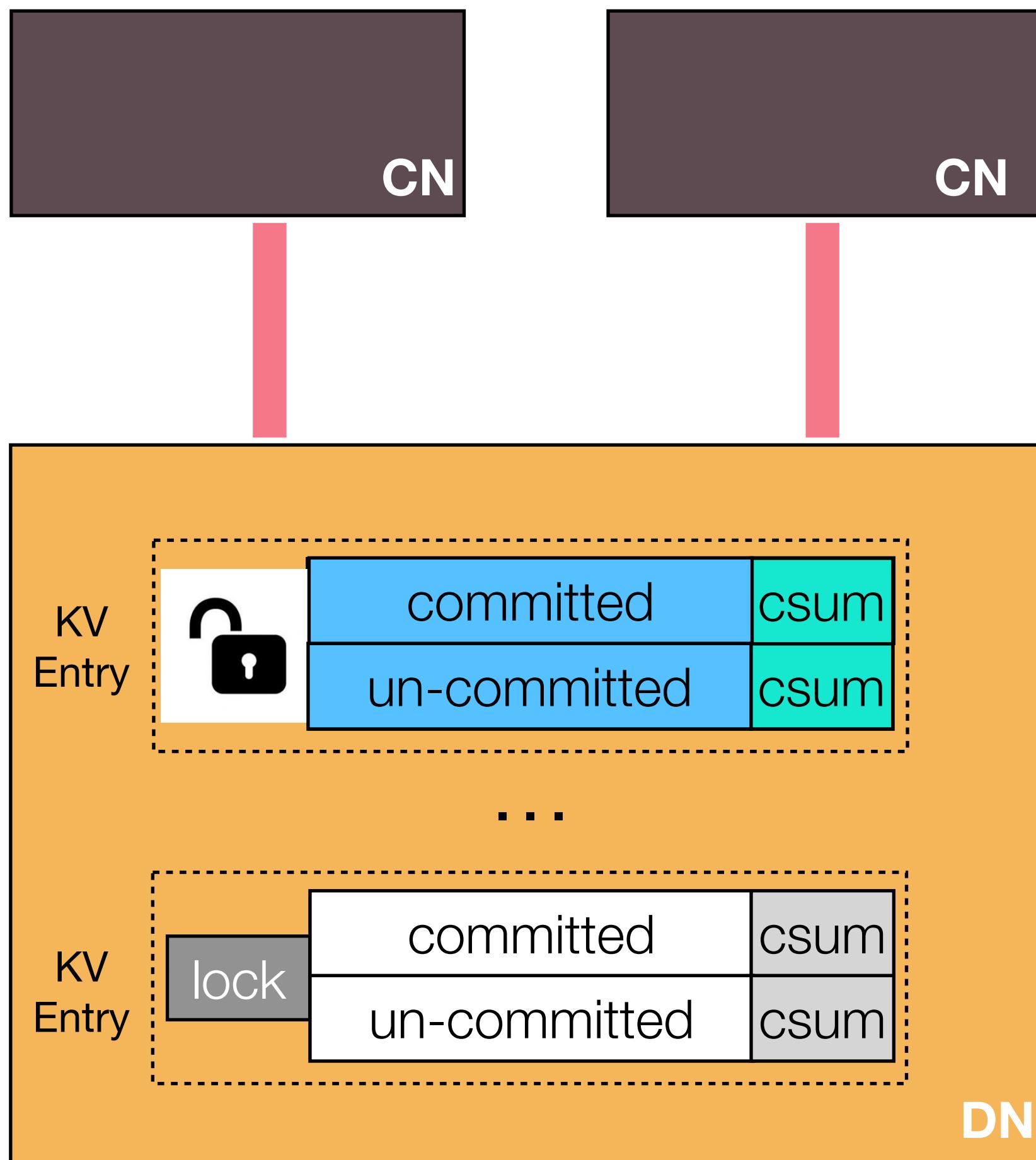
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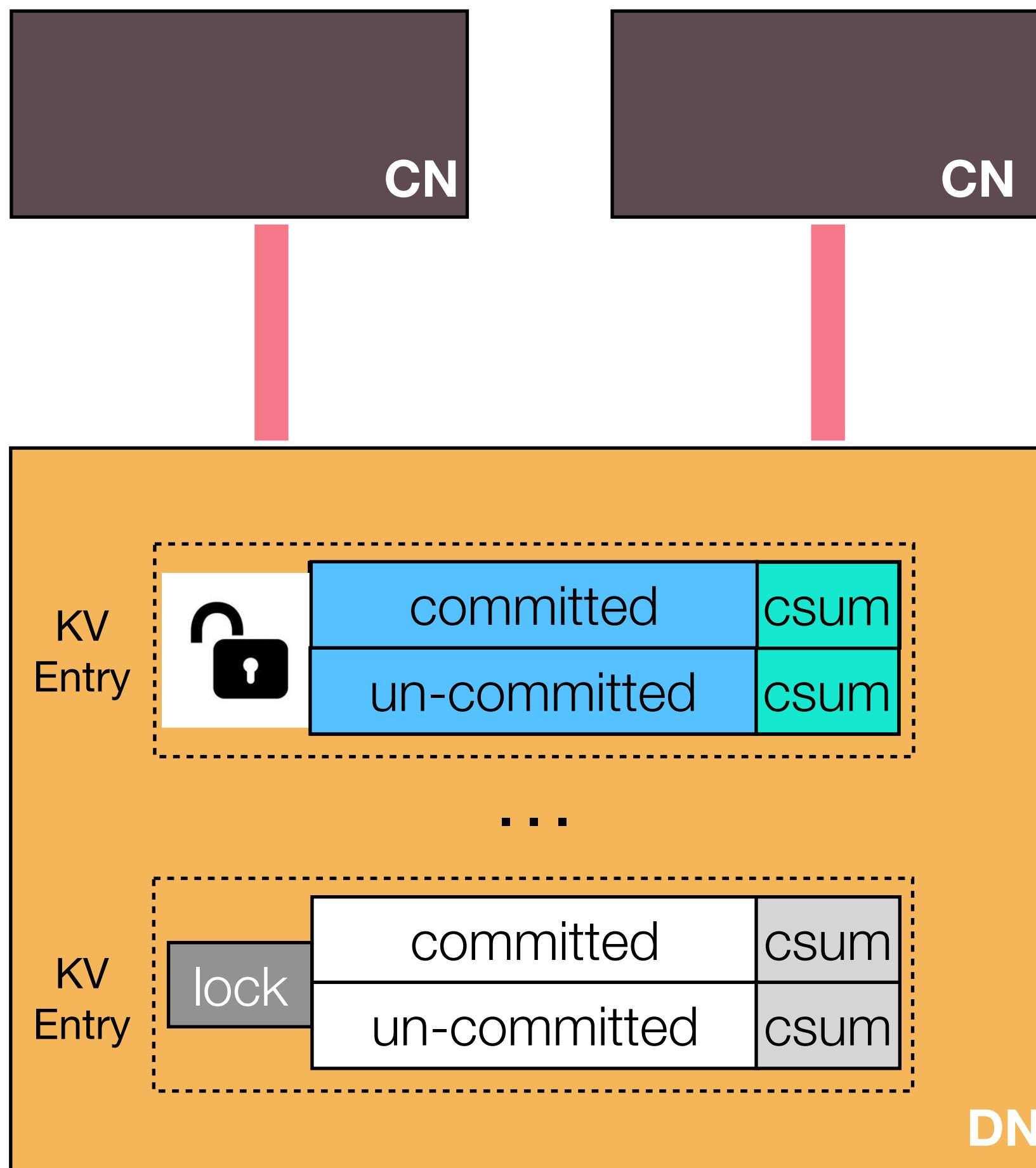
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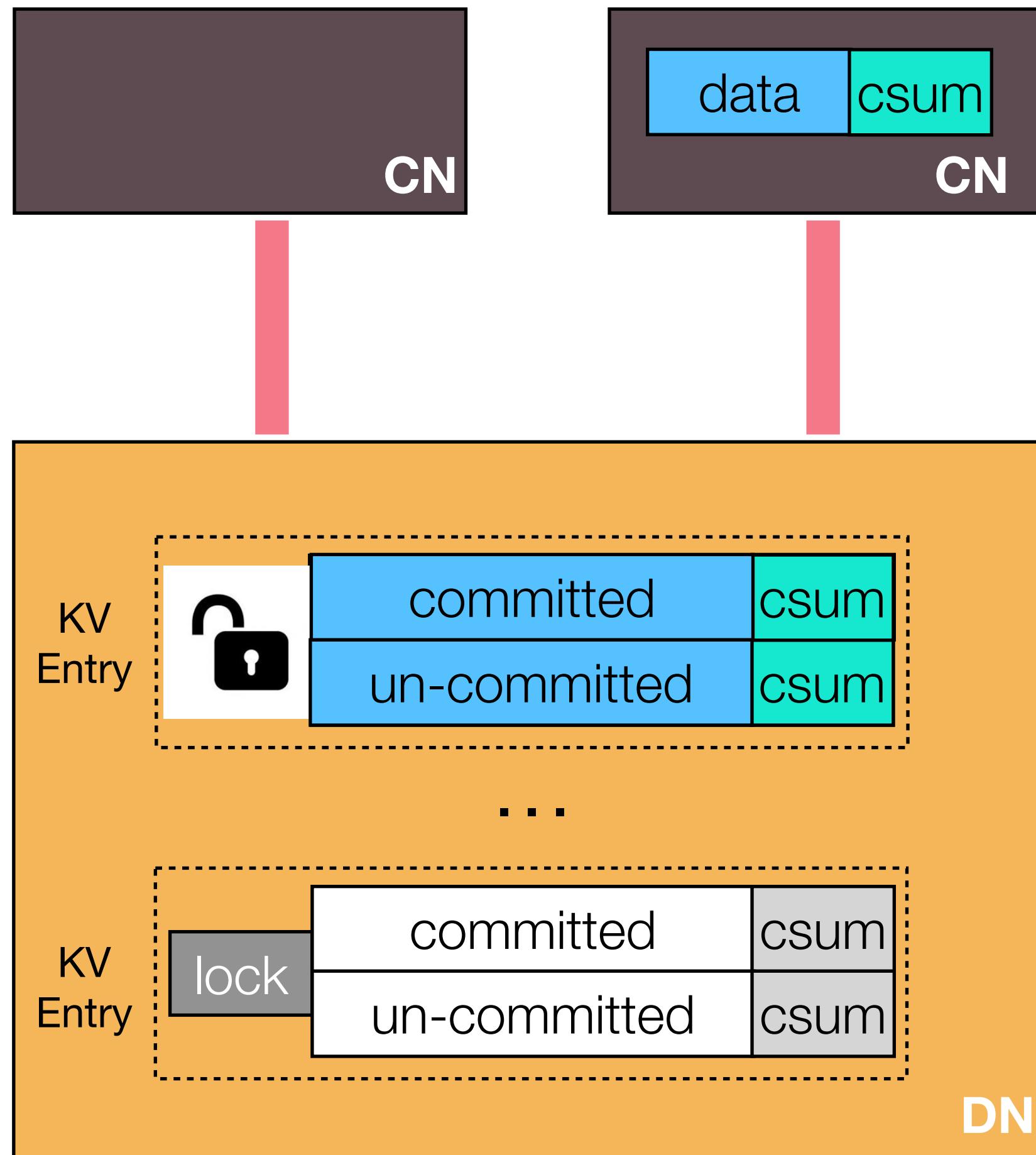
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- CN reads committed data and CRC
- CN checks if CRC match. If mismatch, retry

## Our solution

# pDPM-Direct



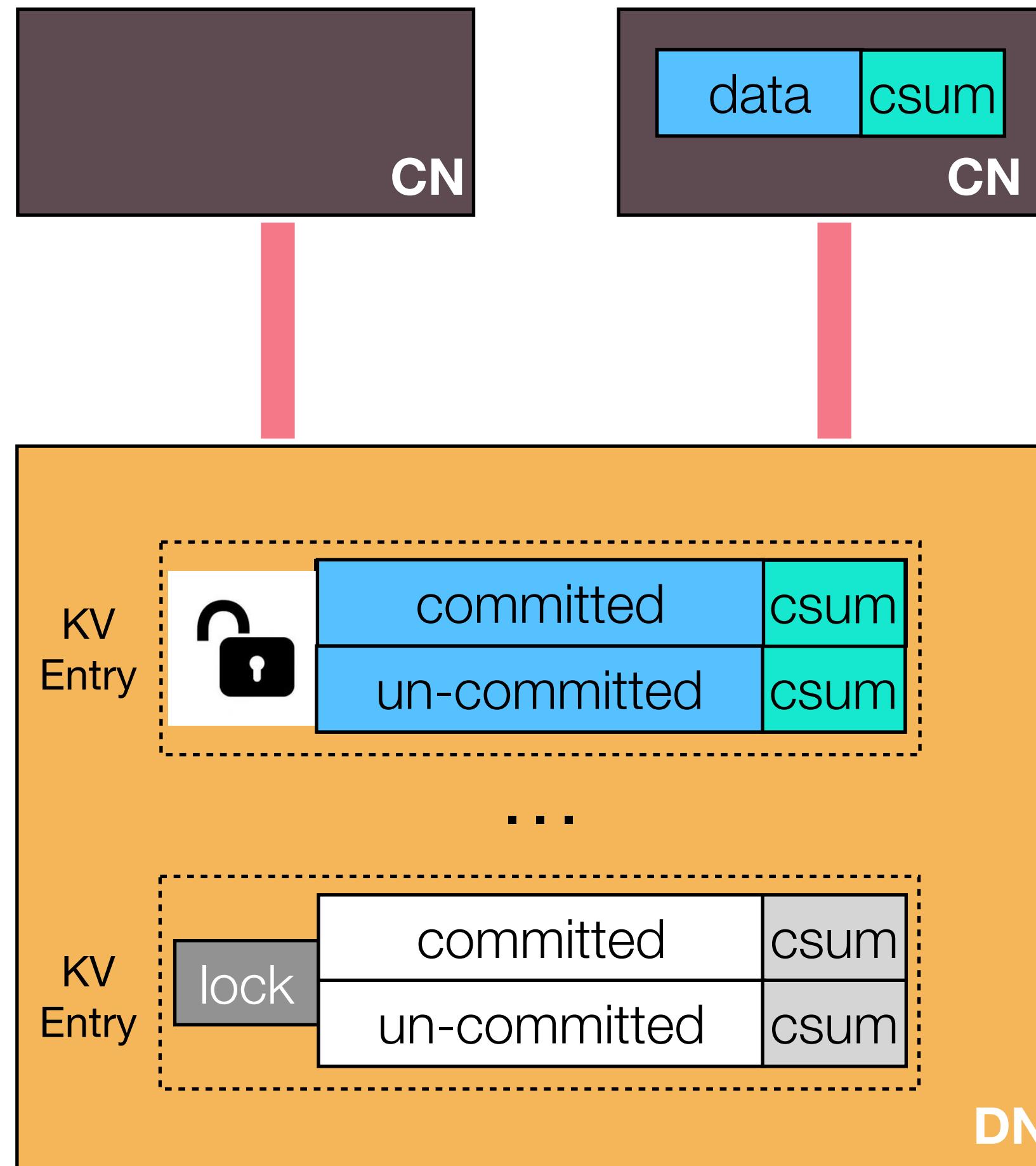
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- RDMA c&s-based write lock (lock)

## Write Flow

- Acquire lock
- Write new data+CRC into uncommitted space (redo-copy)
- Write new data+CRC into committed space
- Release lock

## Read Flow

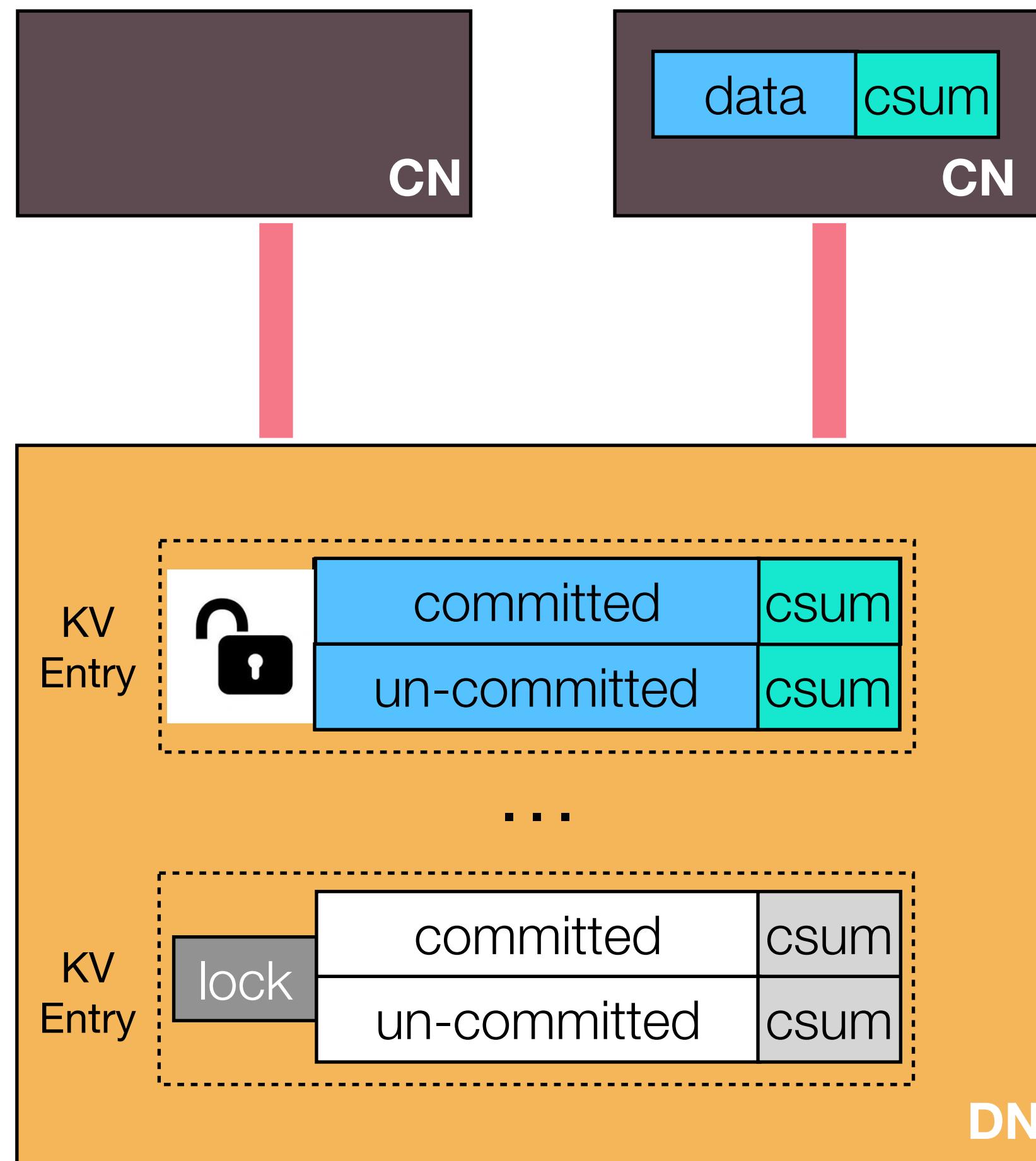
- CN reads committed data and CRC
- CN checks if CRC match. If mismatch, retry

## Best case

*Write: 4 RTT + csum calc*

*Read: 1 RTT + csum calc*

# pDPM-Direct



## Our solution

- Pre-assign two spaces for each KV entry (committed+uncommitted)
- Lock-free, checksum-based read (csum)
- RDMA c&s-based write lock (lock)

## Write Flow

- Acquire lock
- Write new data+CRC into uncommitted space (redo-copy)
- Write new data+CRC into committed space
- Release lock

## Read Flow

- CN reads committed data and CRC
- CN checks if CRC match. If mismatch, retry

*Best case*

*Write: 4 RTT + csum calc*

*Read: 1 RTT + csum calc*

*Slow write*

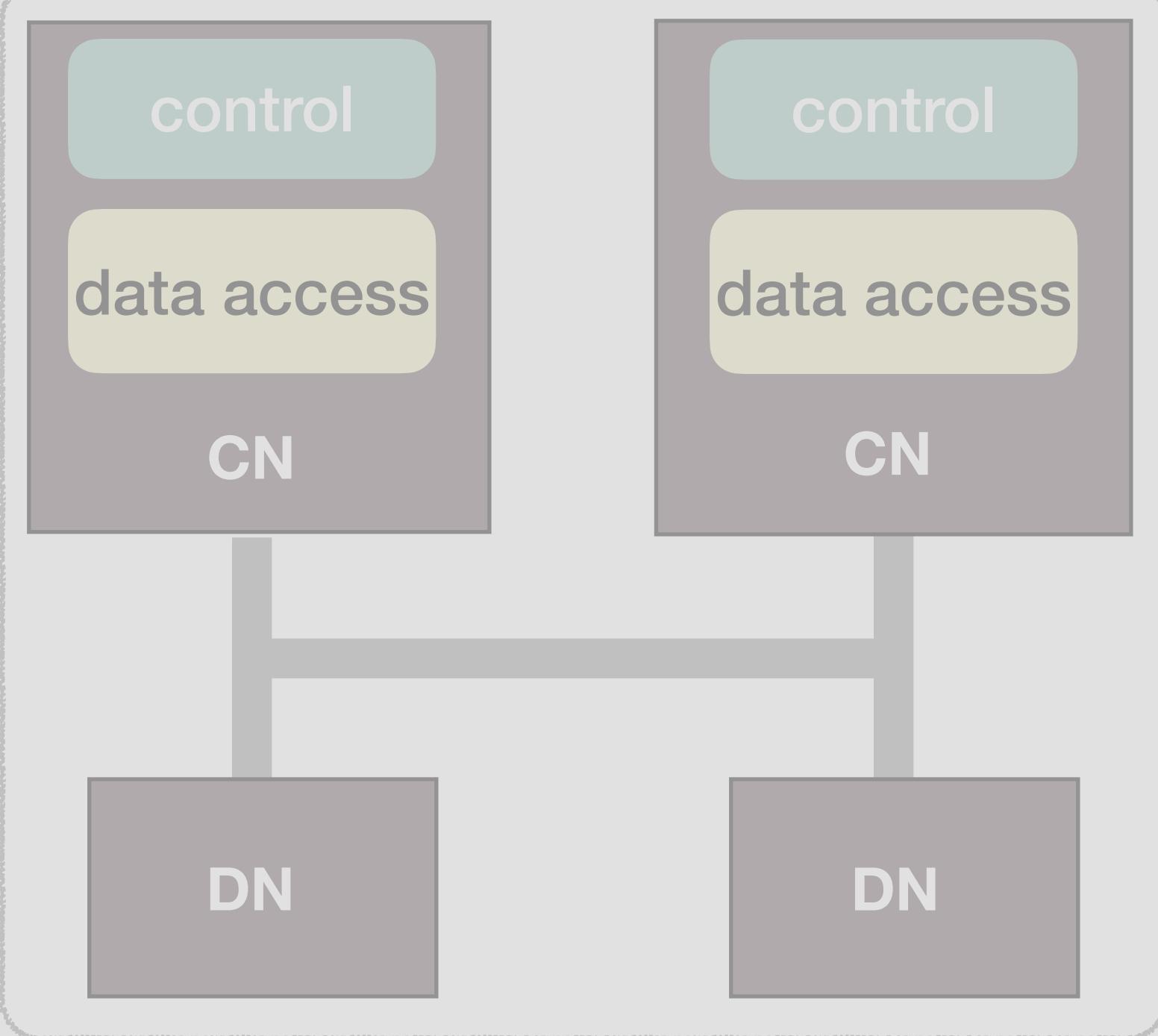
*Slow with large data*

*Poor scalability under concurrent accesses*

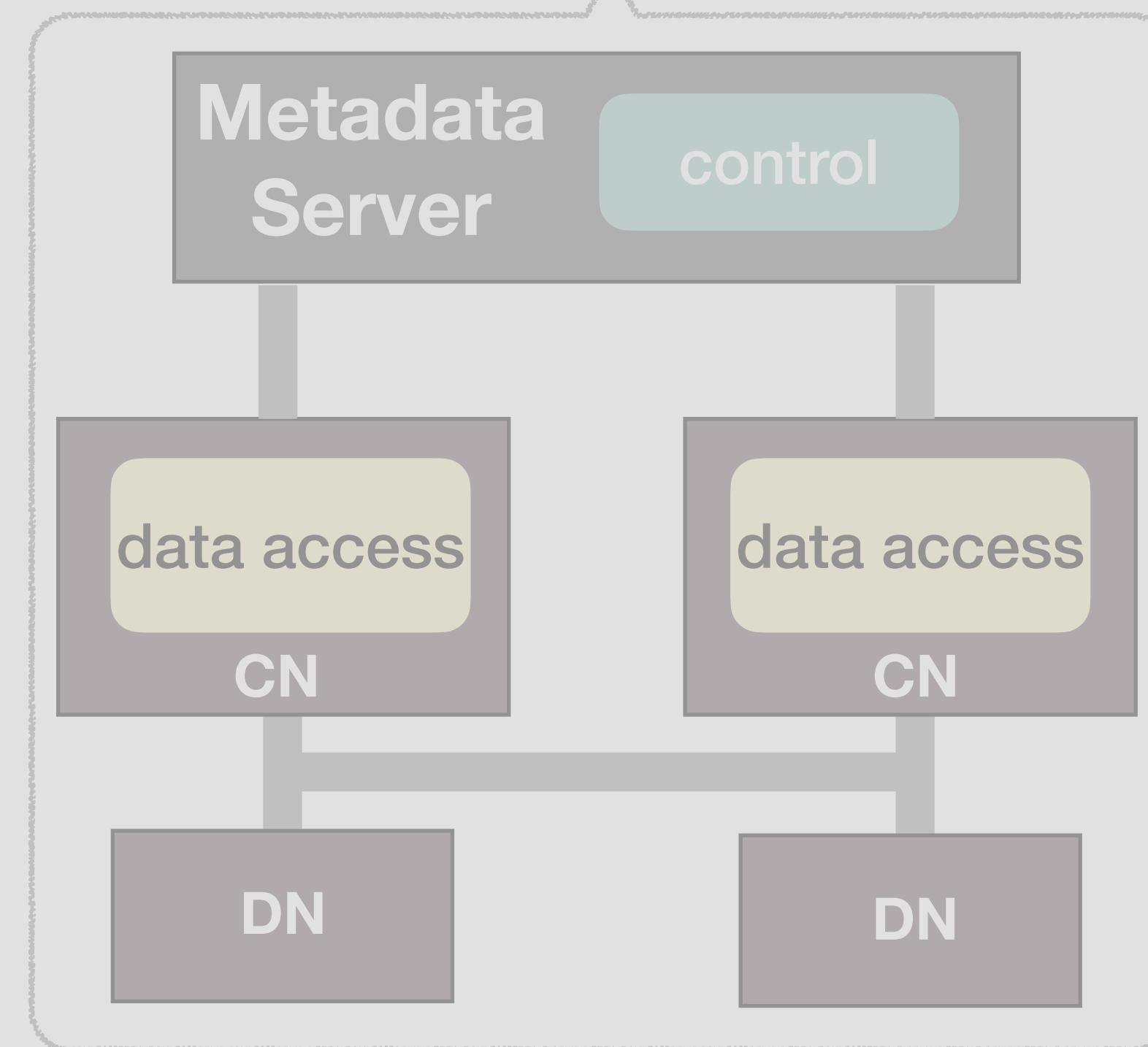


*Where to process and manage data?*

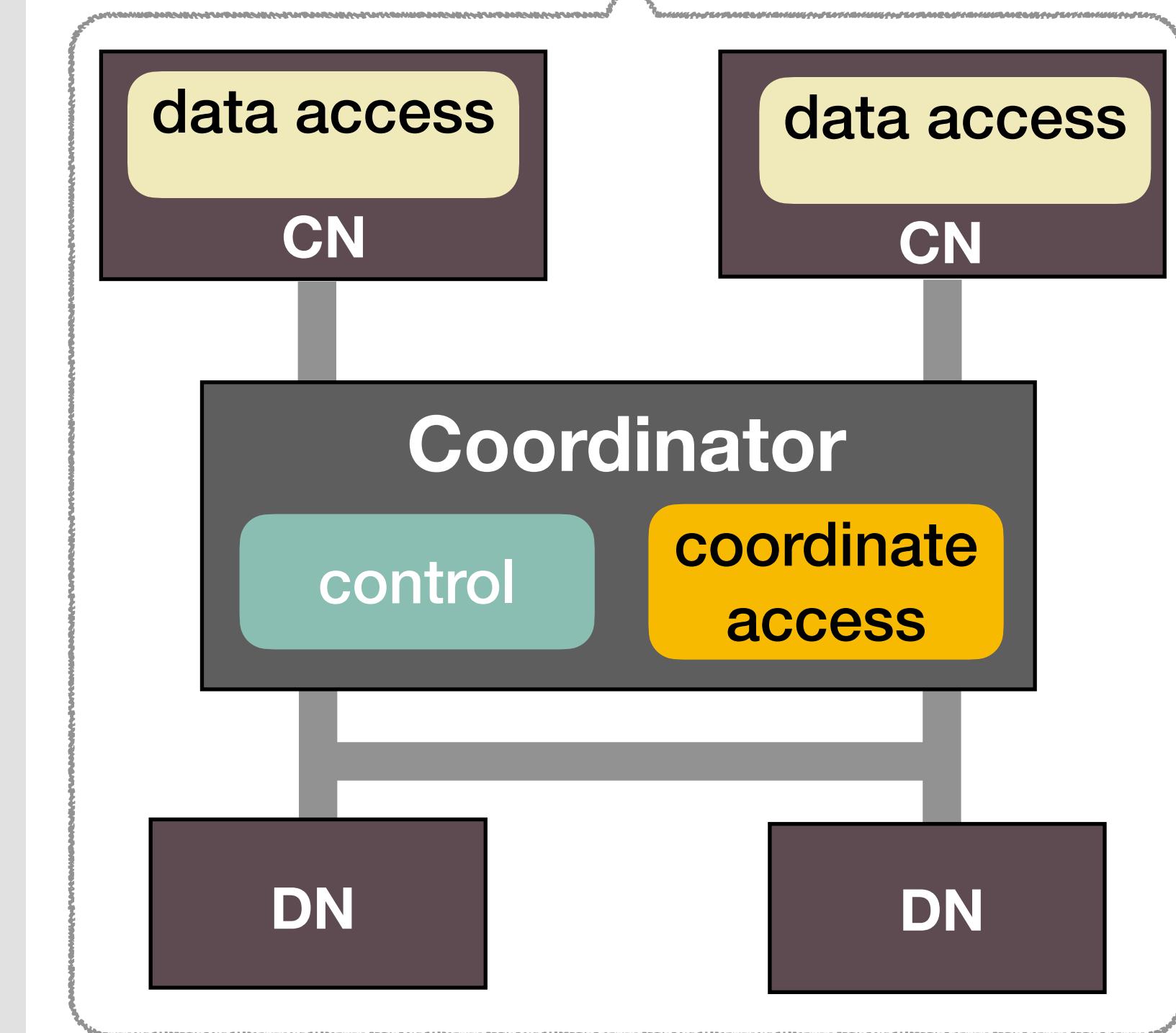
### pDPM-Direct



### Clover

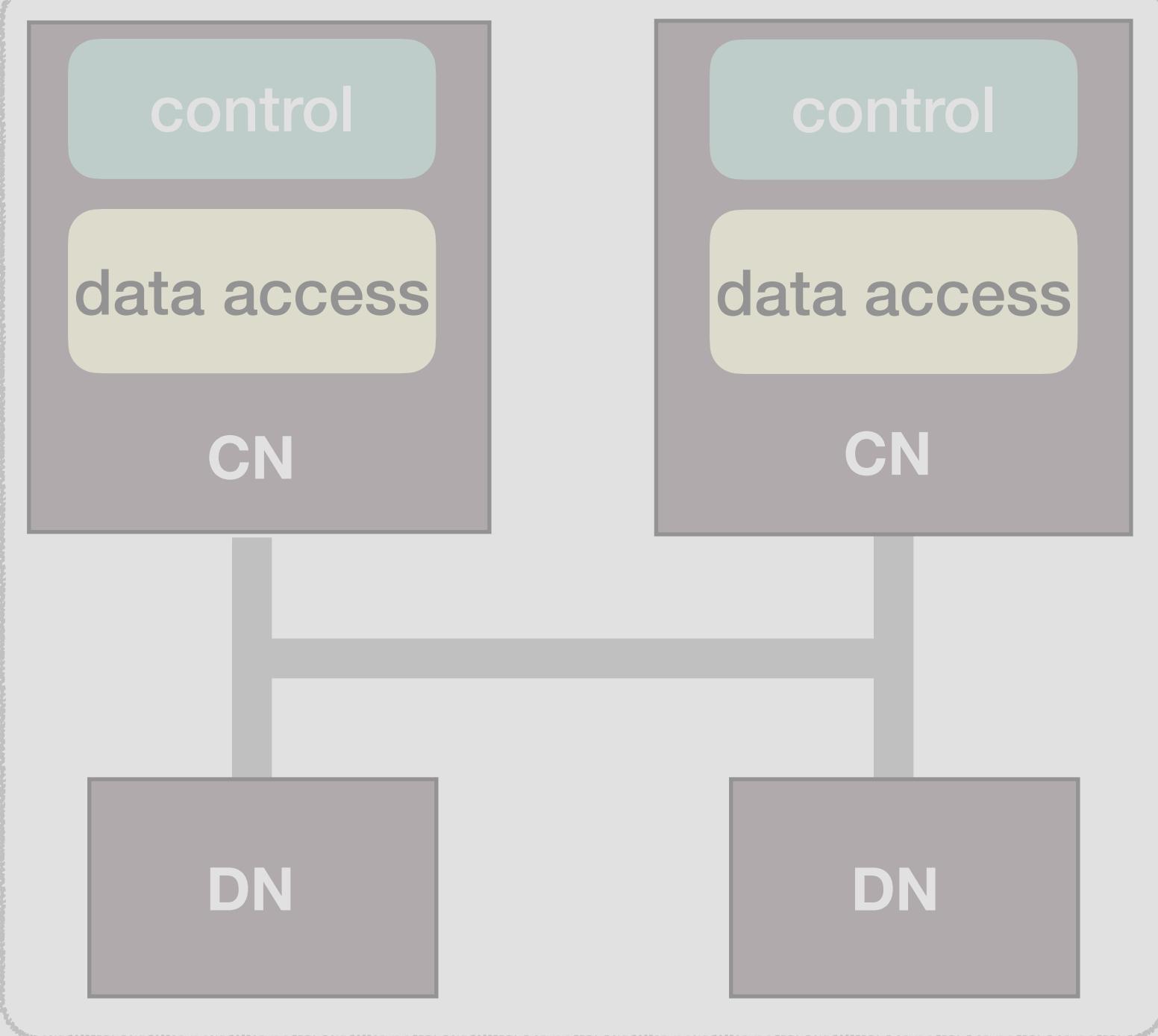


### pDPM-Central

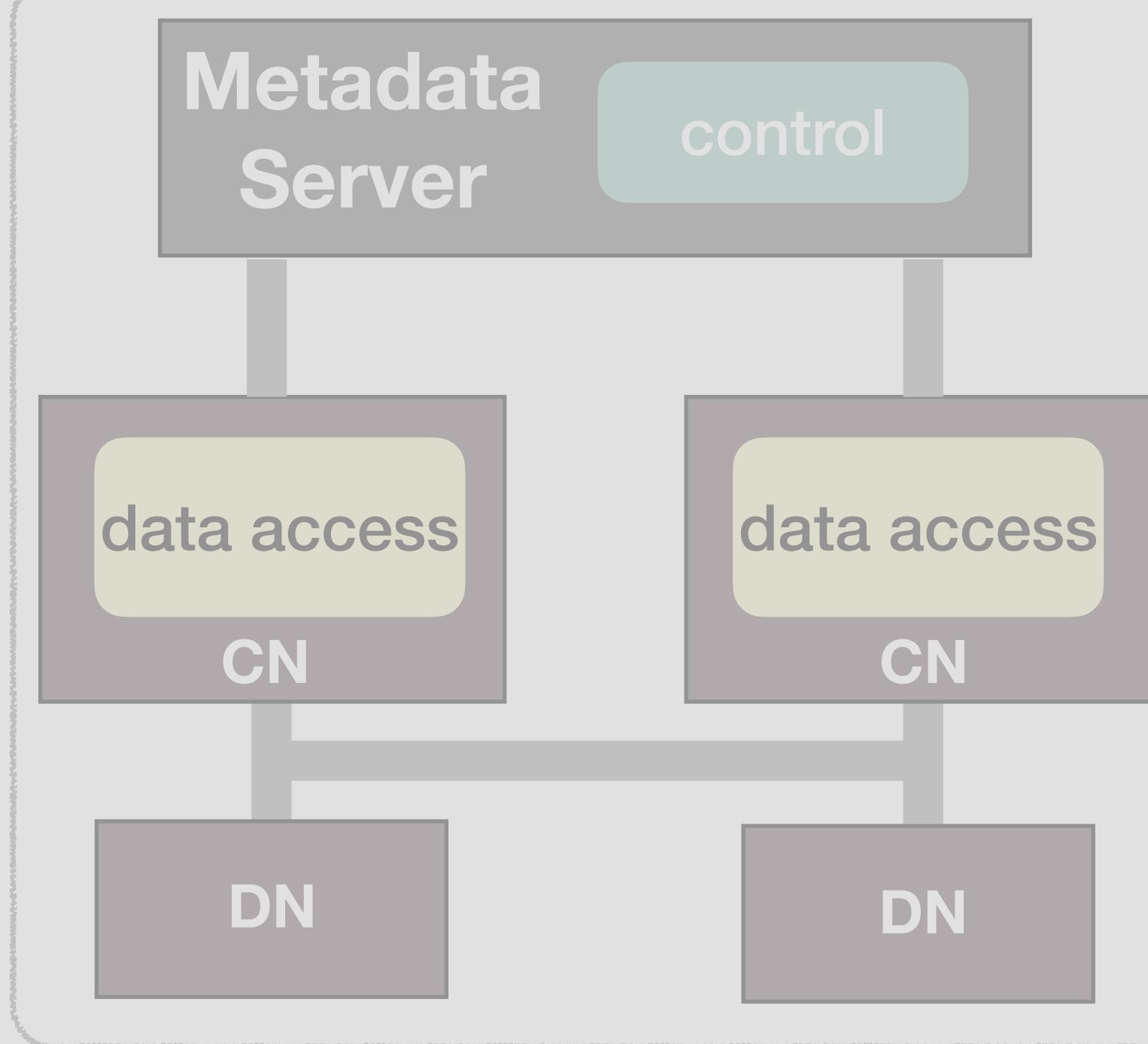


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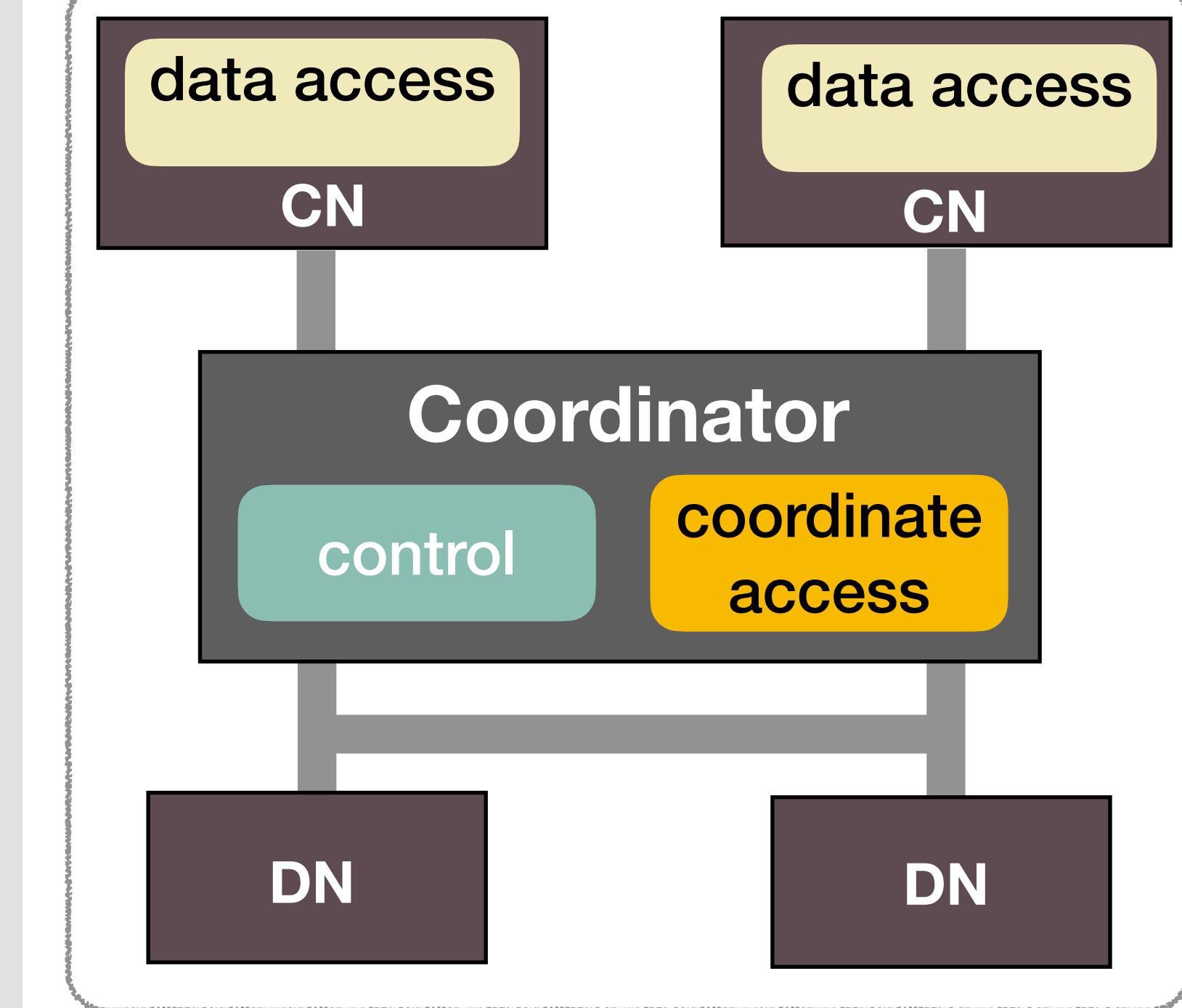
### pDPM-Direct



### Clover



### pDPM-Central

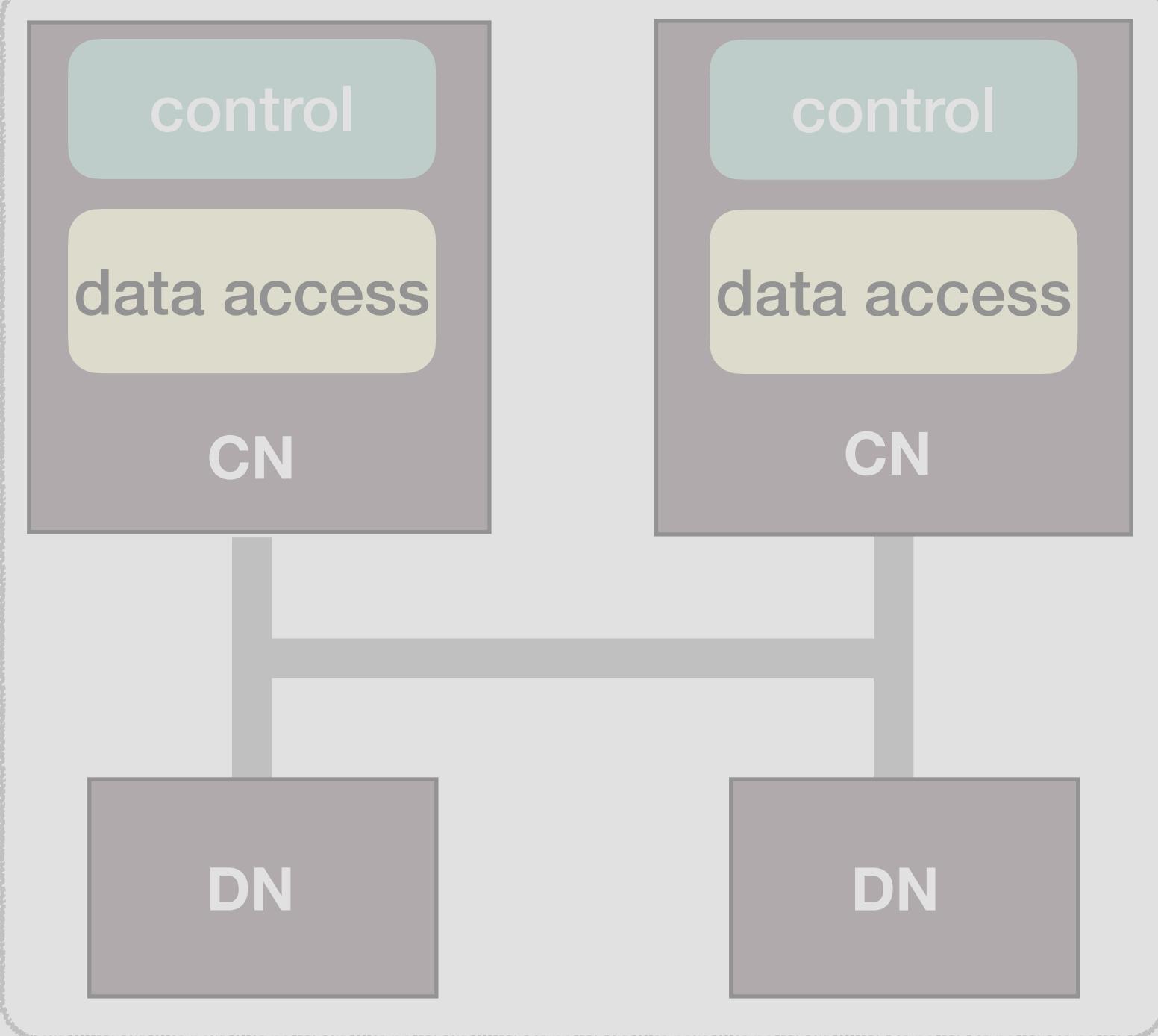


- Slow write
- Slow for large data

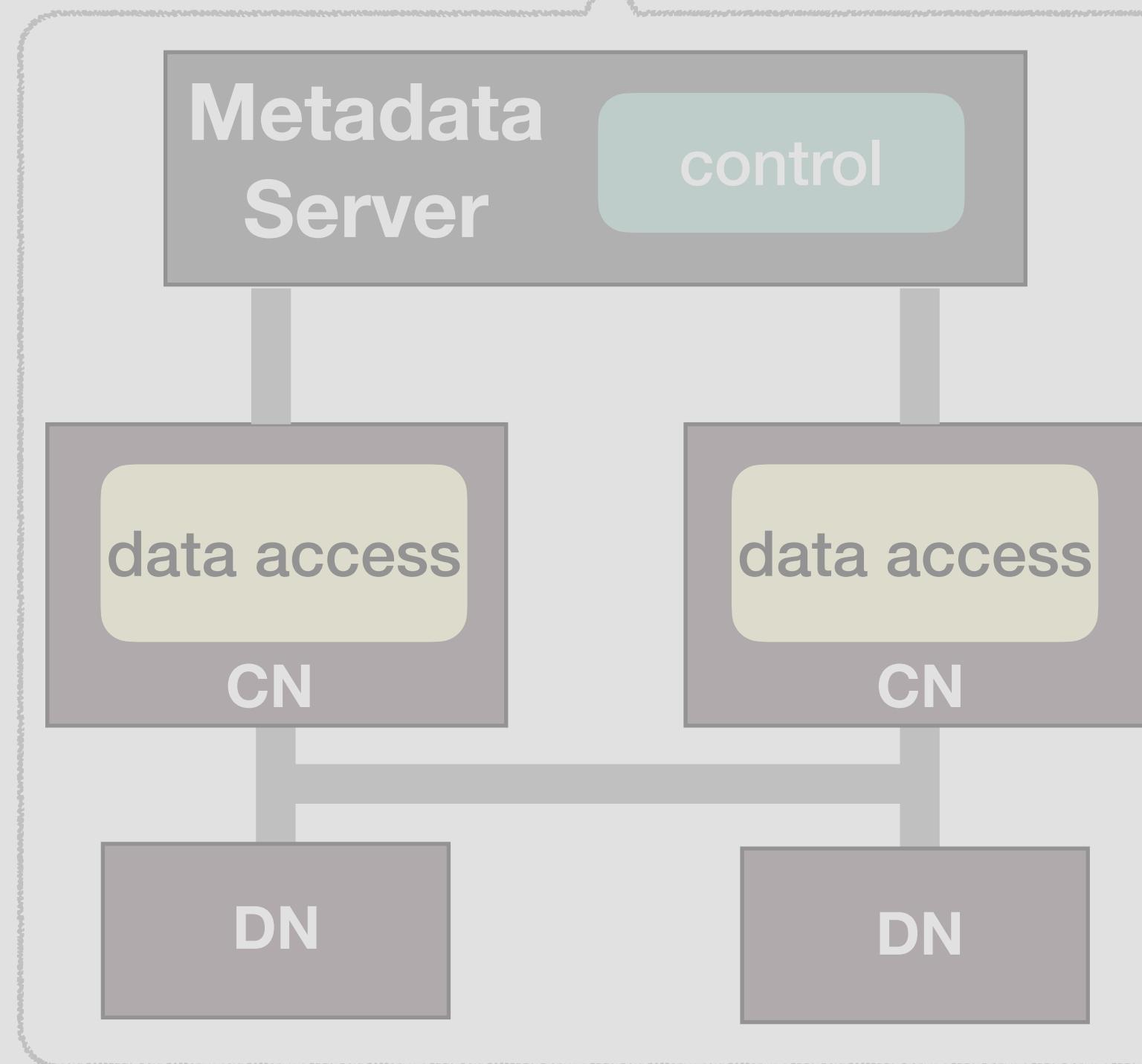
*Distributed data & metadata planes*

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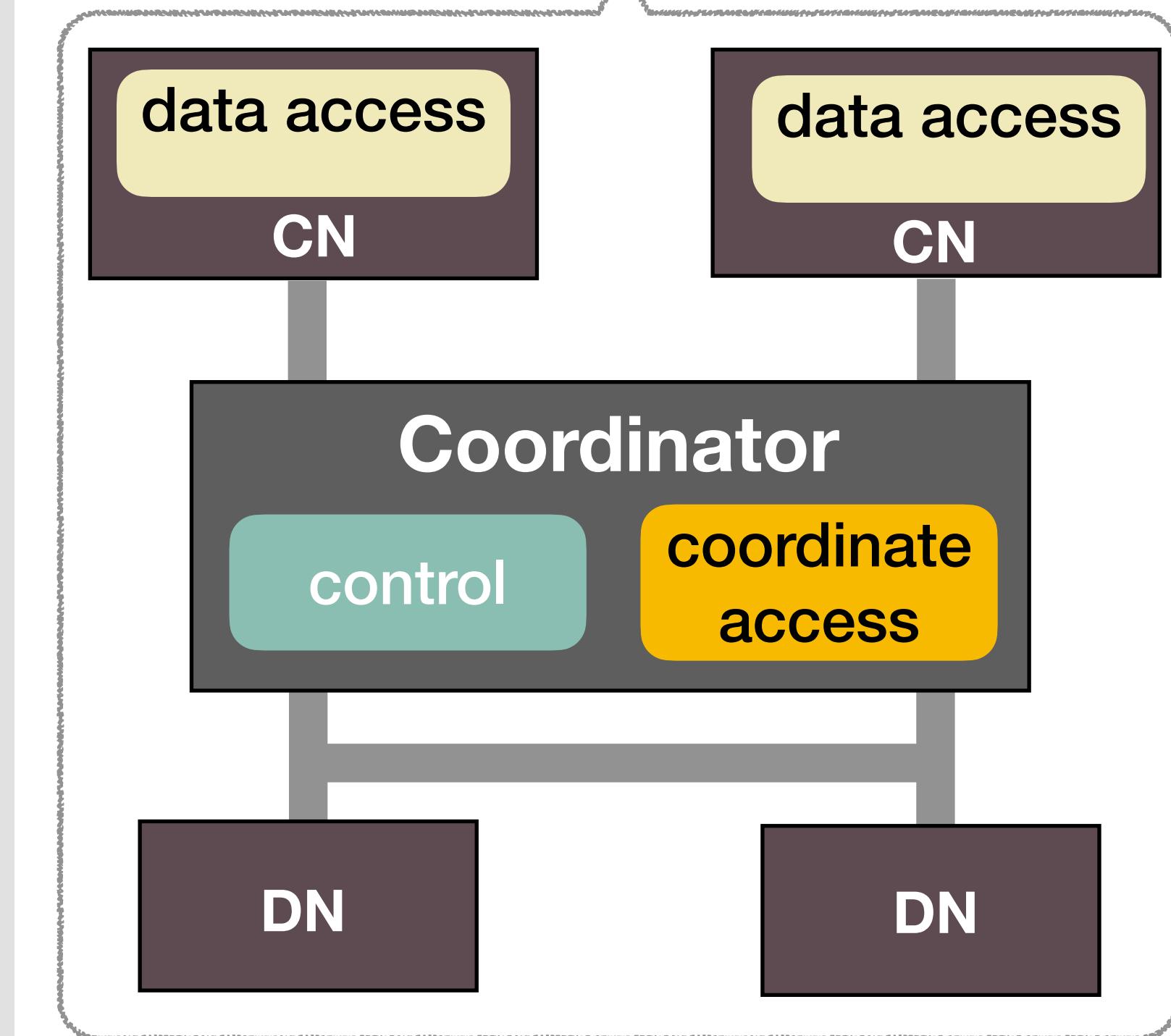
### pDPM-Direct



### Clover



### pDPM-Central



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- Slow for large data

*Distributed data & metadata planes*

*Centralized data & metadata planes*

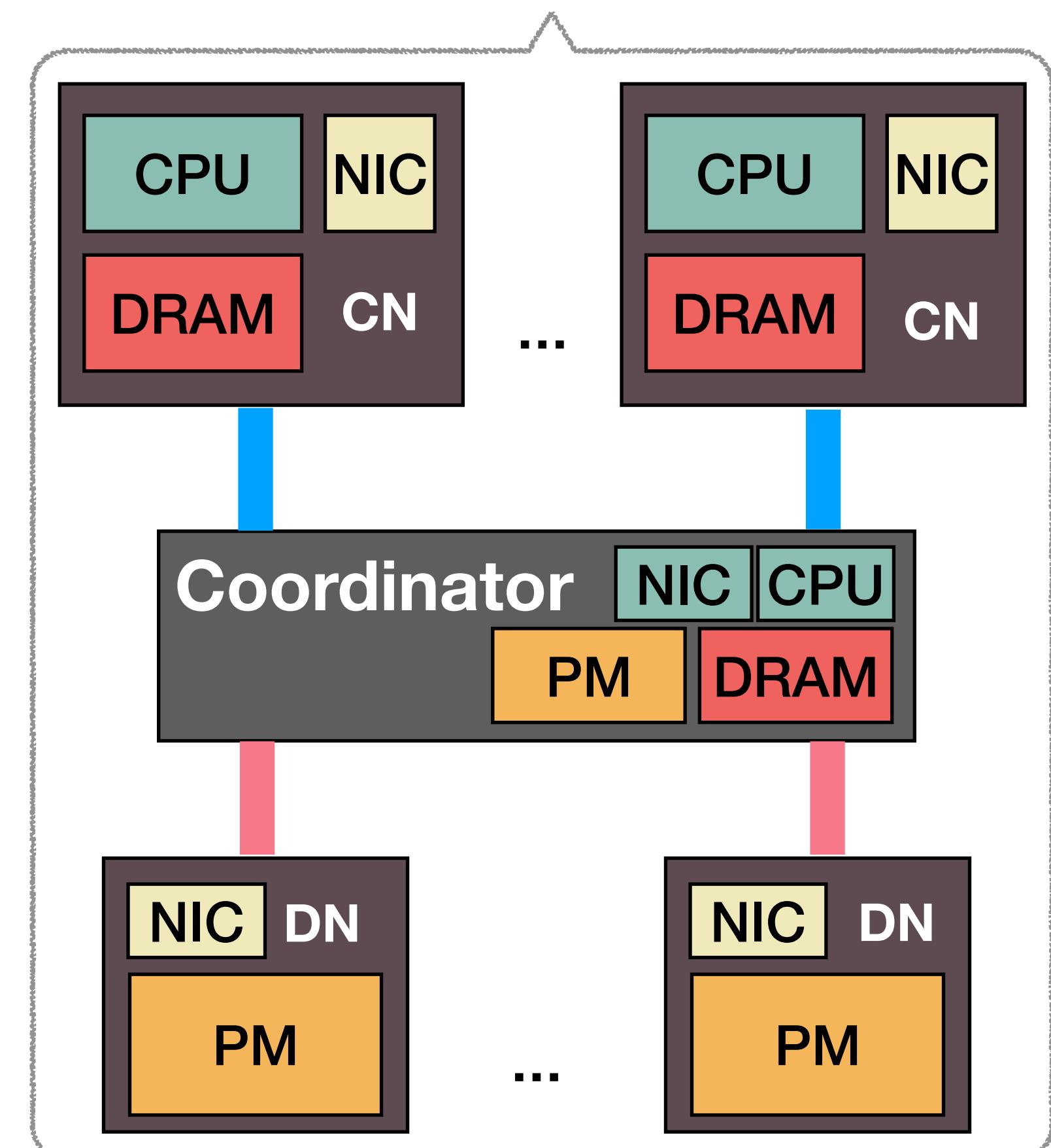
# **pDPM-Central**: A Central Coordinator between CNs and DNs

The central coordinator

- Manages DN space
- Serializes CNs accesses with local locking

CNs communicate with the coordinator through two-sided RDMA

Coordinator accesses DNs through one-sided RDMA



Two-sided RDMA

One-sided RDMA

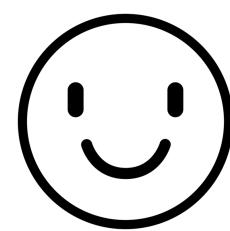
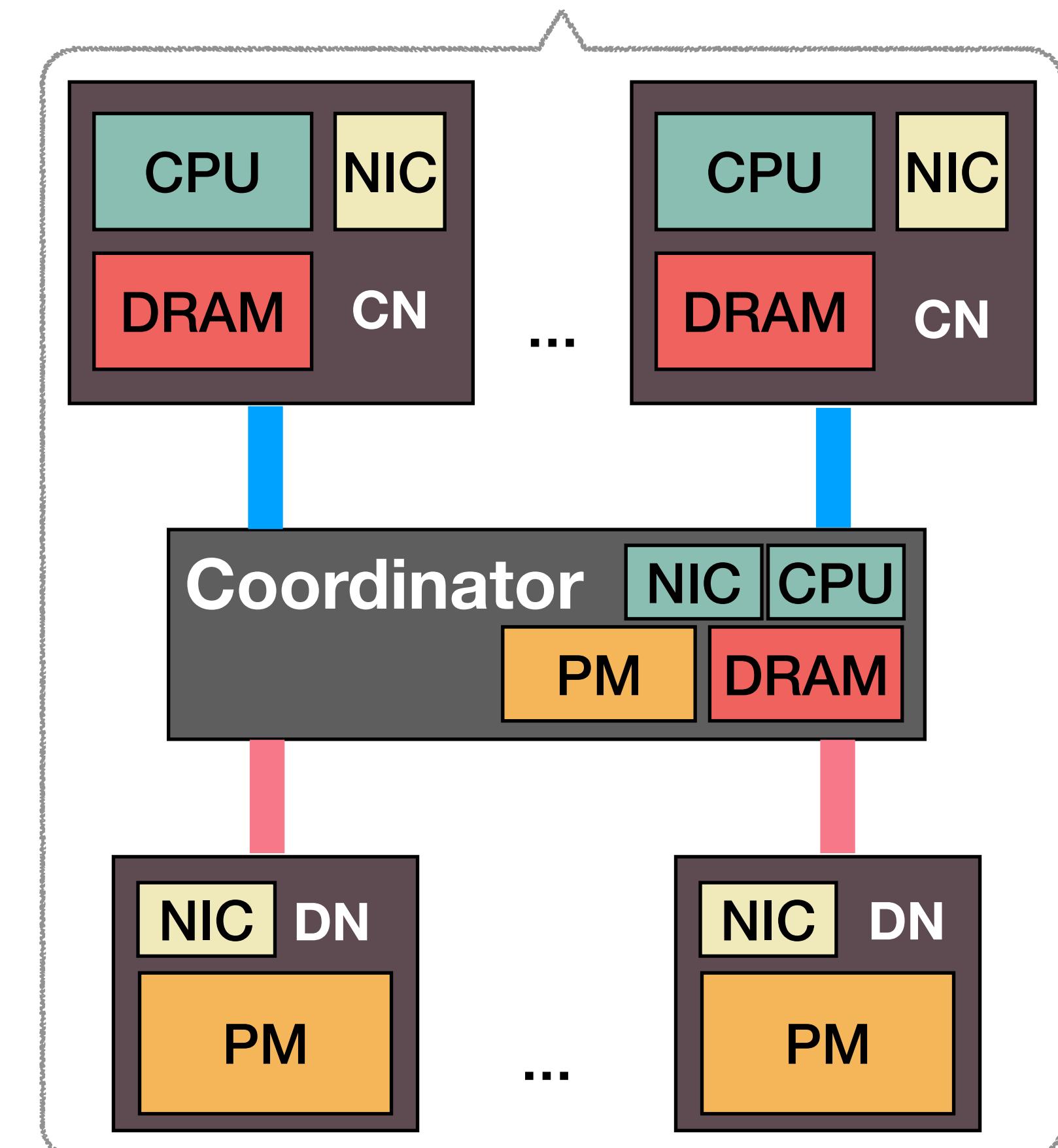
# **pDPM-Central: A Central Coordinator between CNs and DNs**

The central coordinator

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CNs communicate with the coordinator through two-sided RDMA

Coordinator accesses DNs through one-sided RDMA

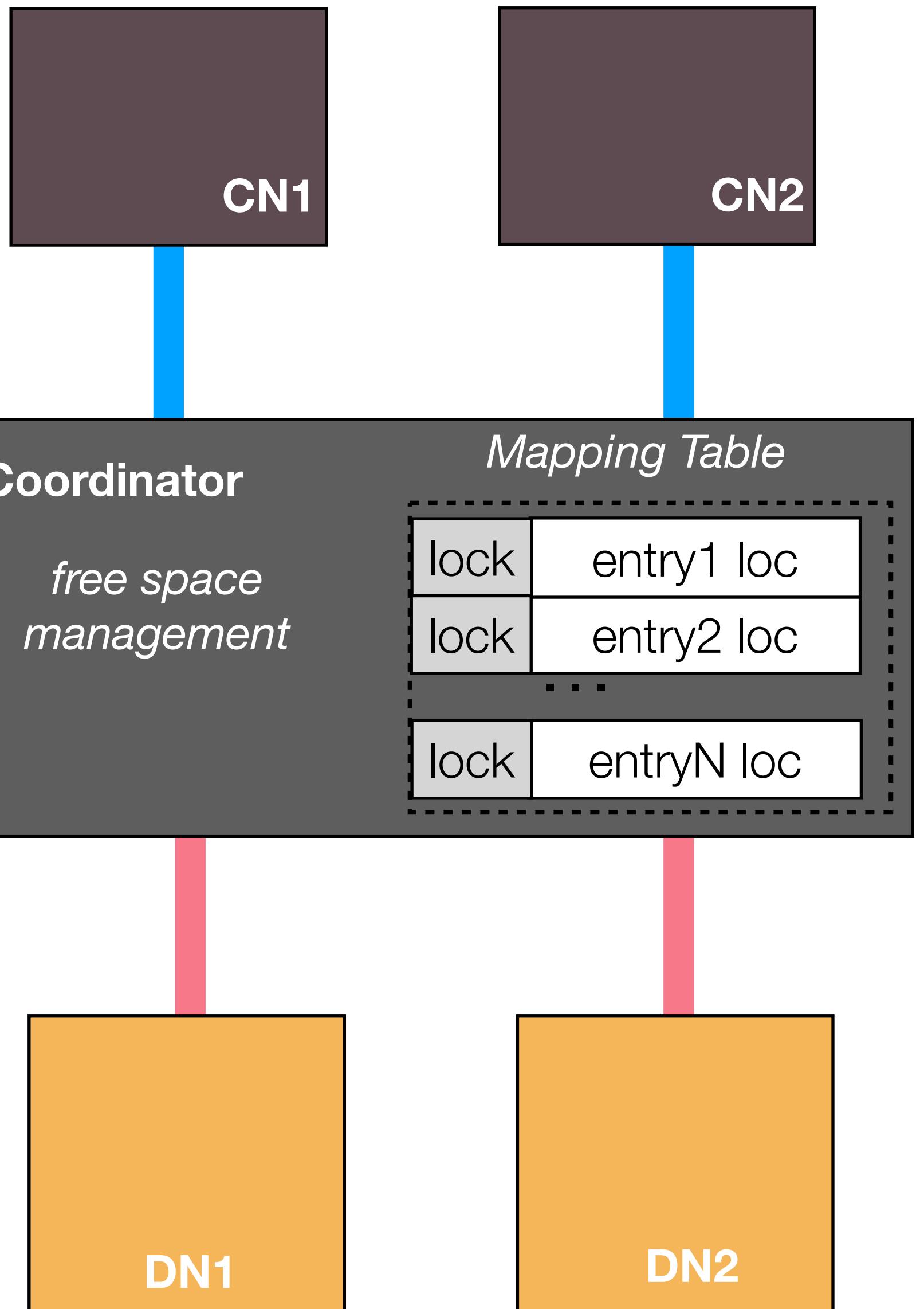


**Easier to manage DNs and coordinate concurrent accesses**

Two-sided RDMA

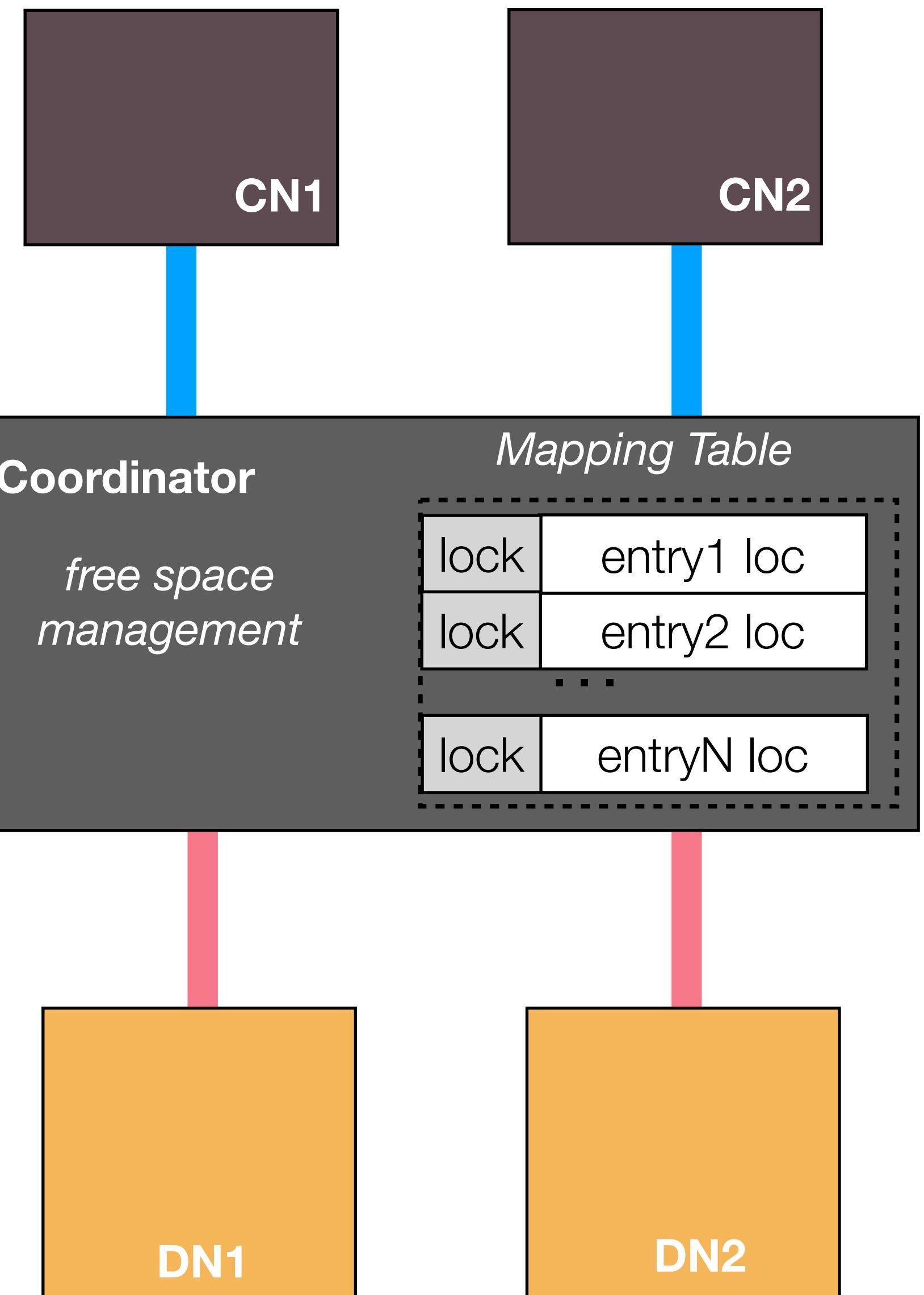
One-sided RDMA

# pDPM-Central



# pDPM-Central

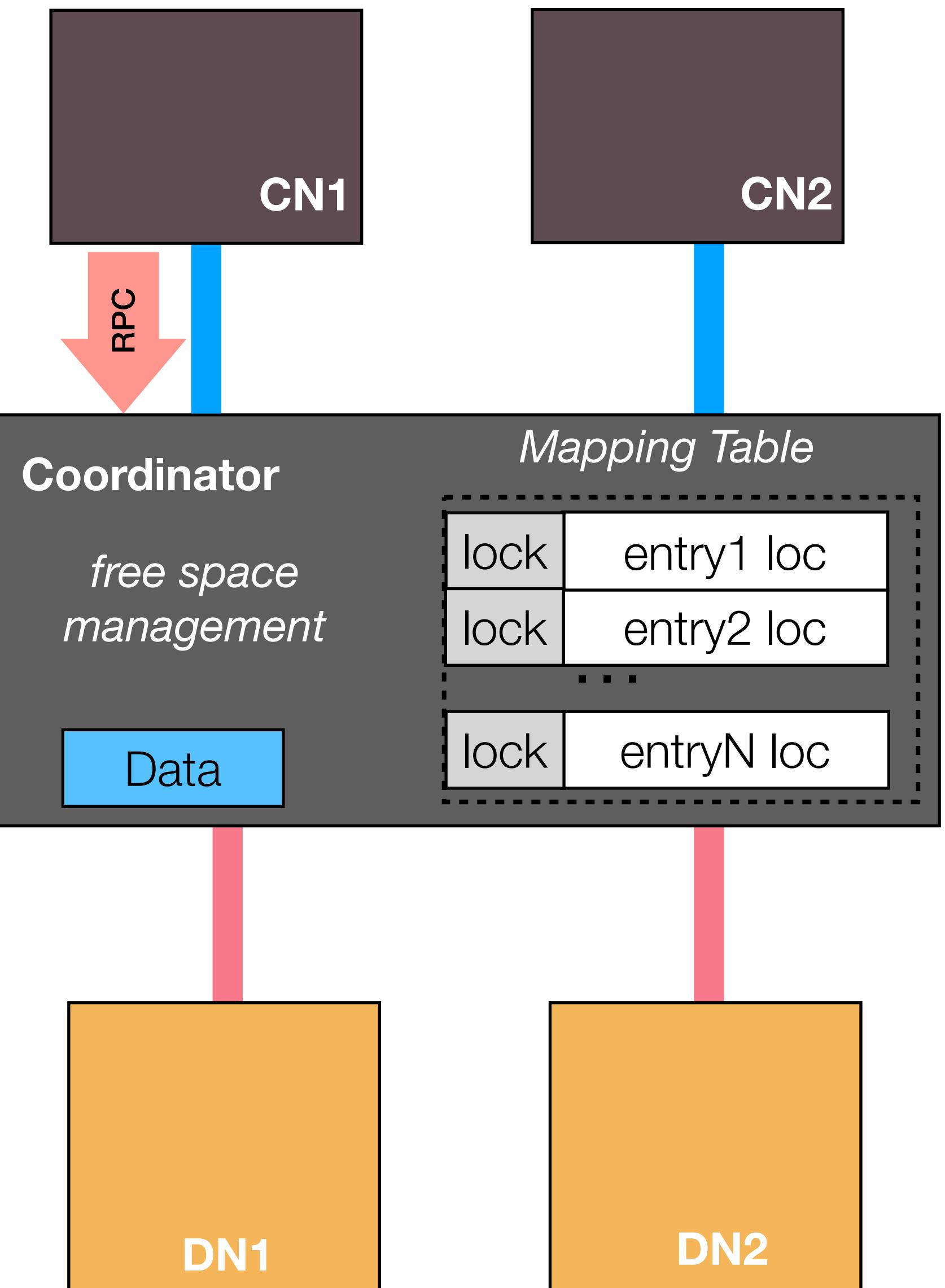
## Write Flow



# pDPM-Central

## Write Flow

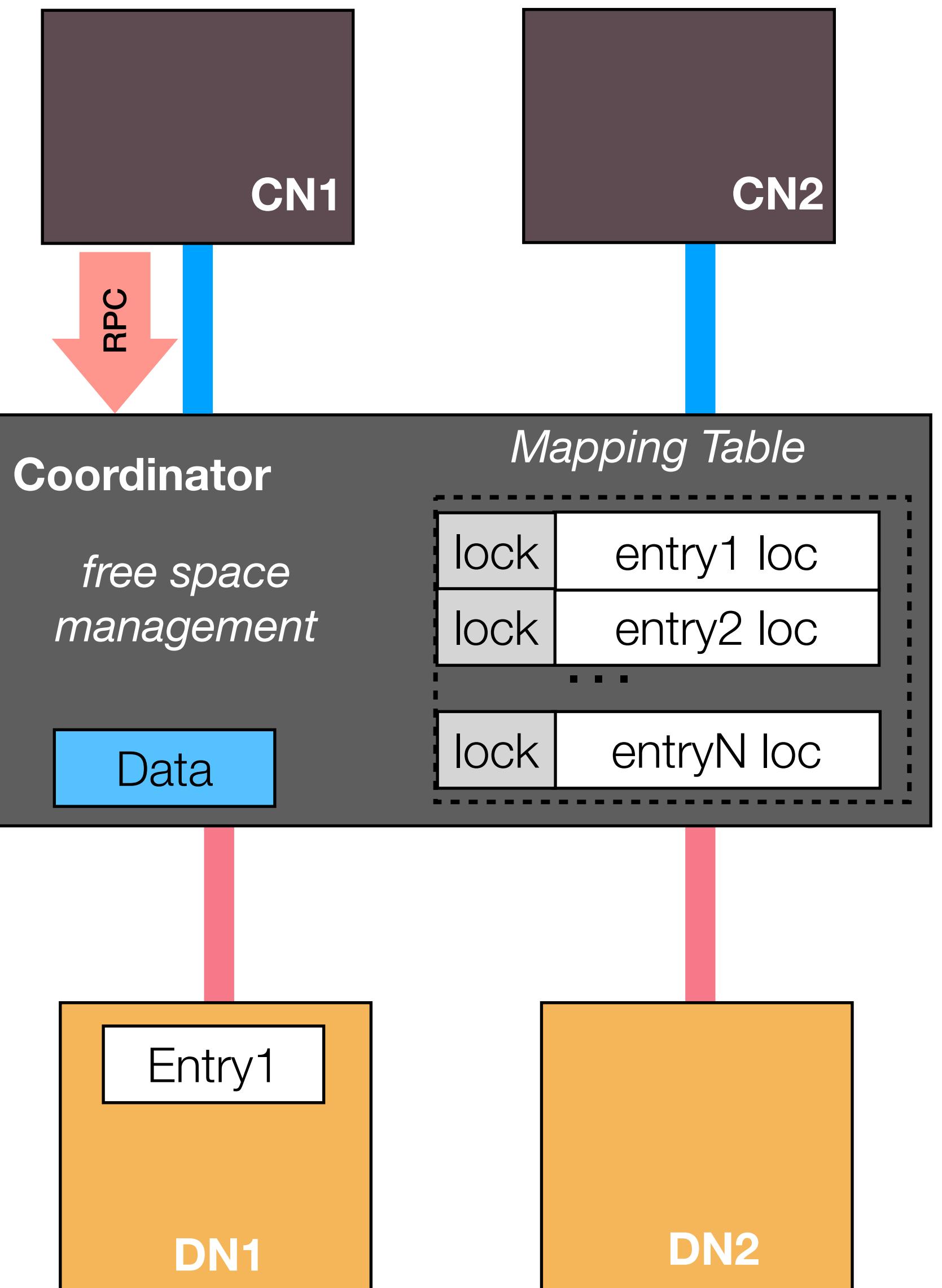
- CN sends RPC (with data) to Coordinator



# pDPM-Central

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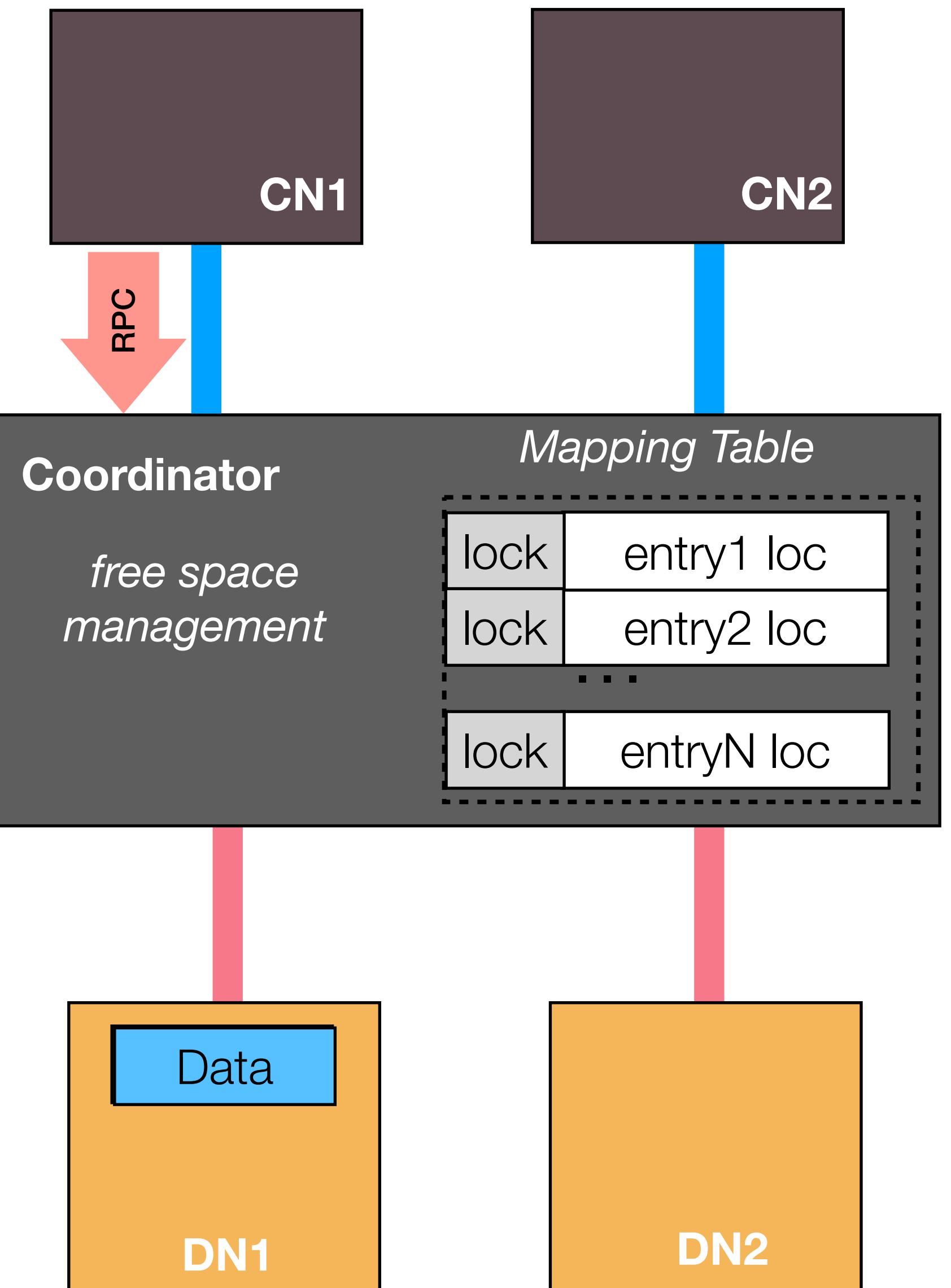
- CN sends RPC (with data) to Coordinator
- Coordinator allocates a new space for the write



# pDPM-Central

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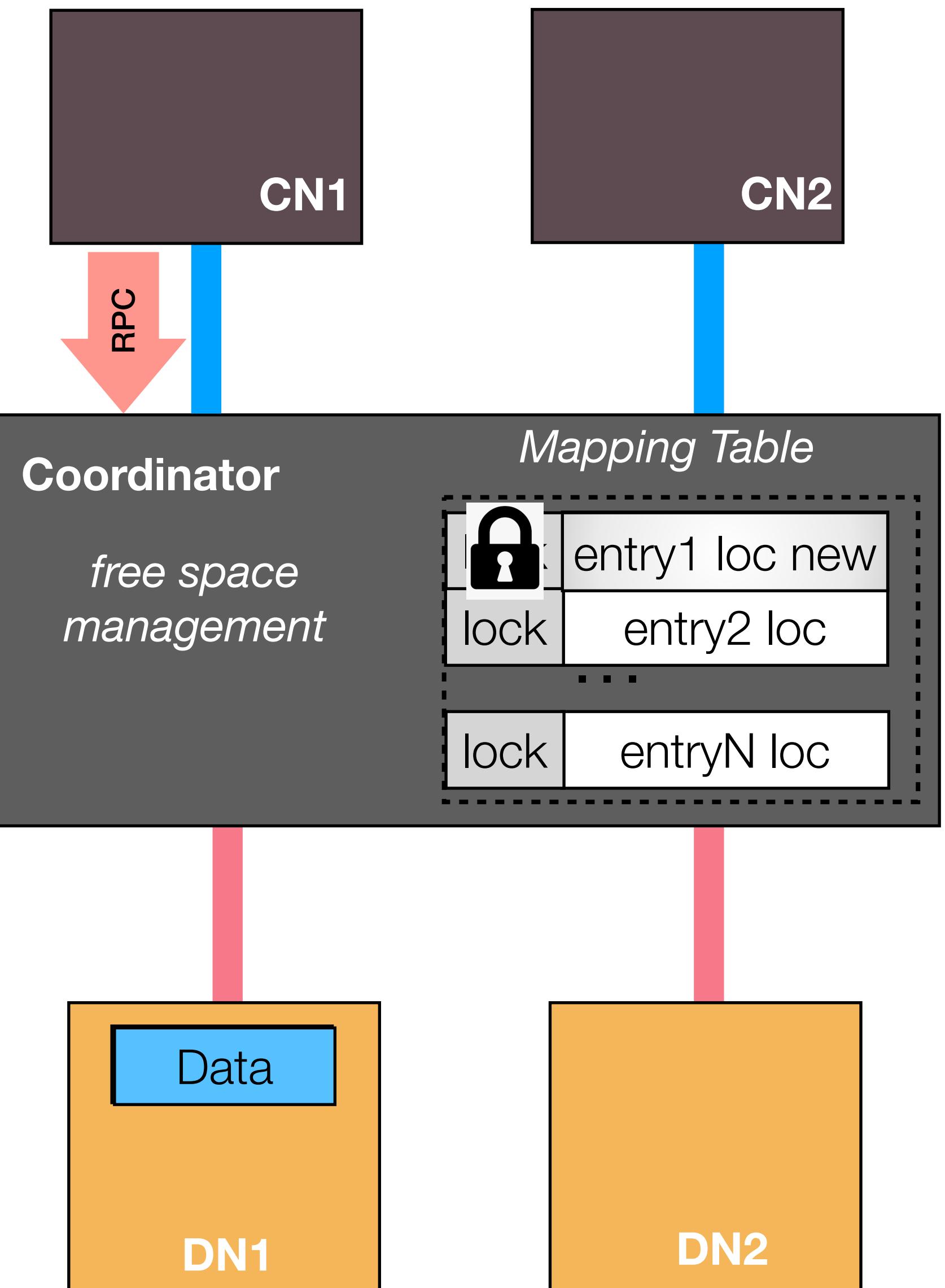
- CN sends RPC (with data) to Coordinator
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# pDPM-Central

## Write Flow

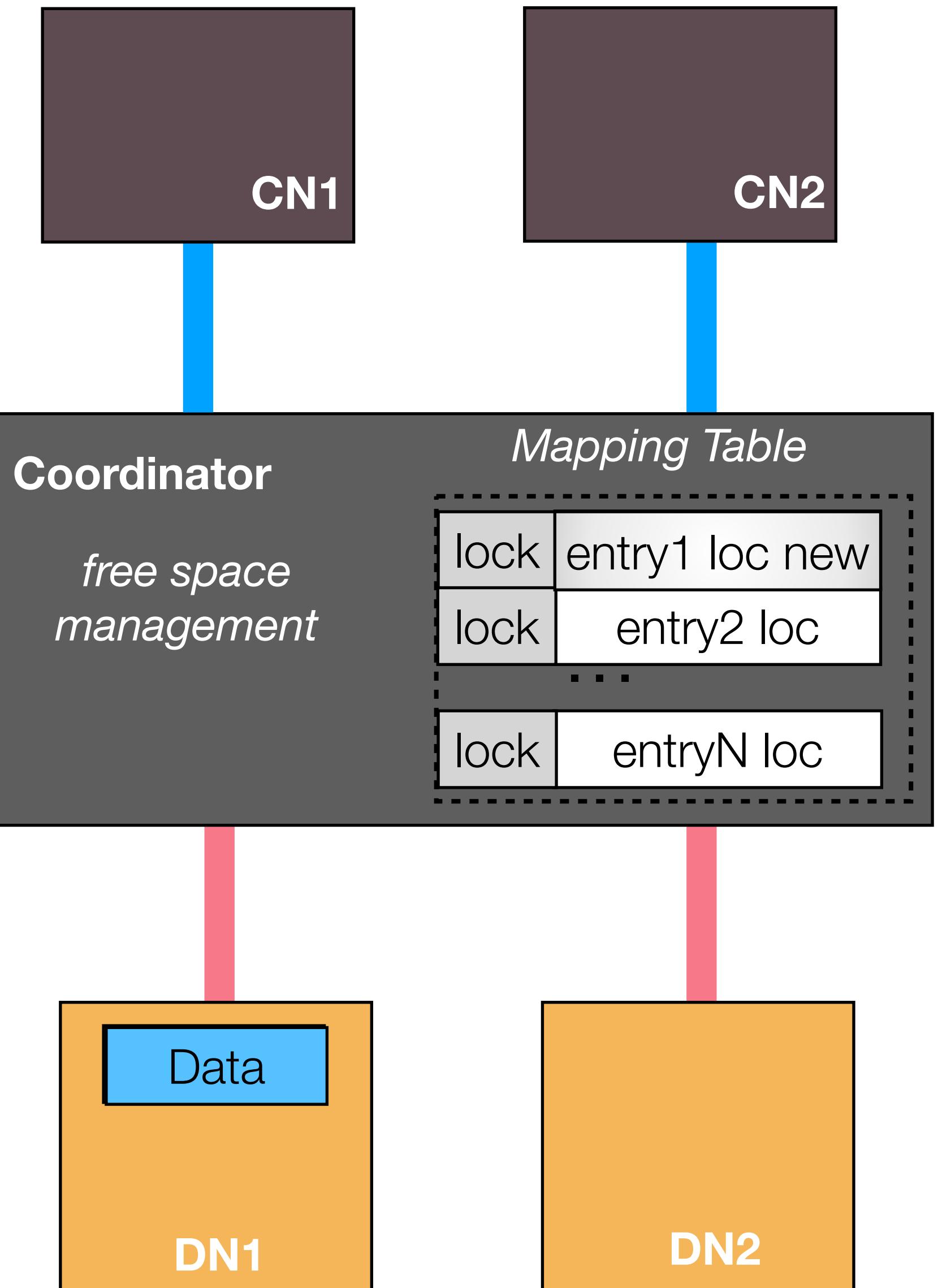
- CN sends RPC (with data) to Coordinator
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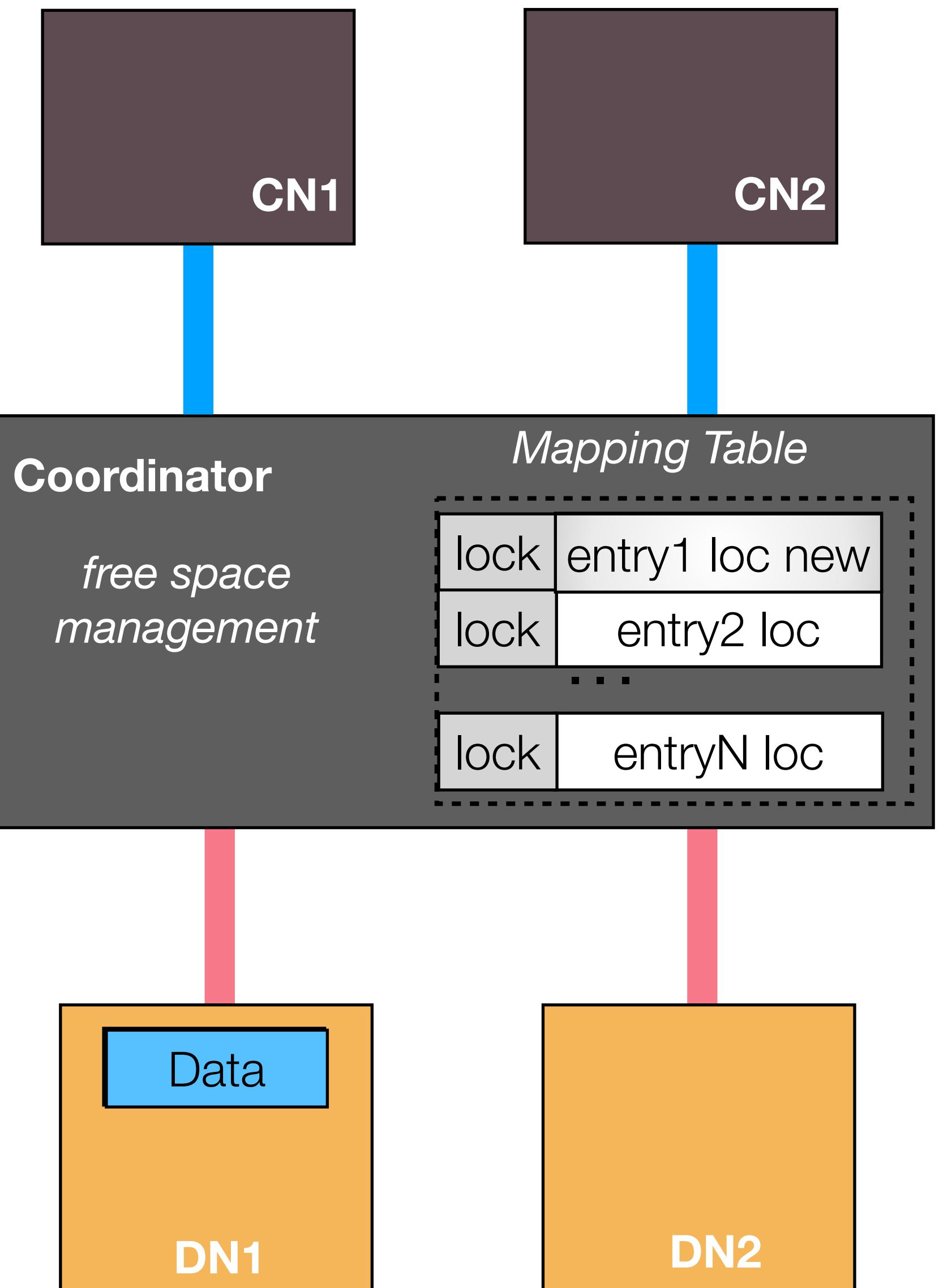


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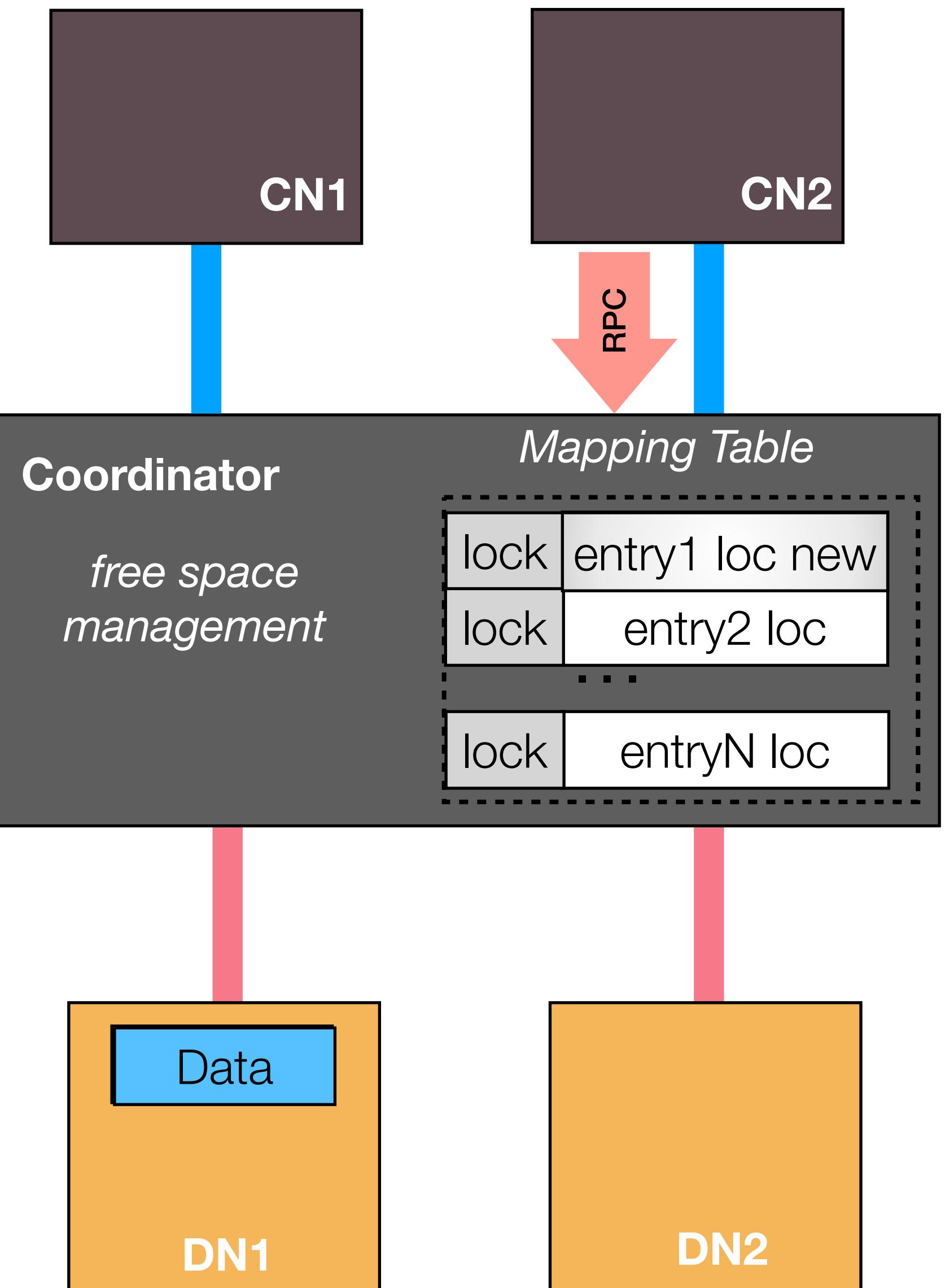
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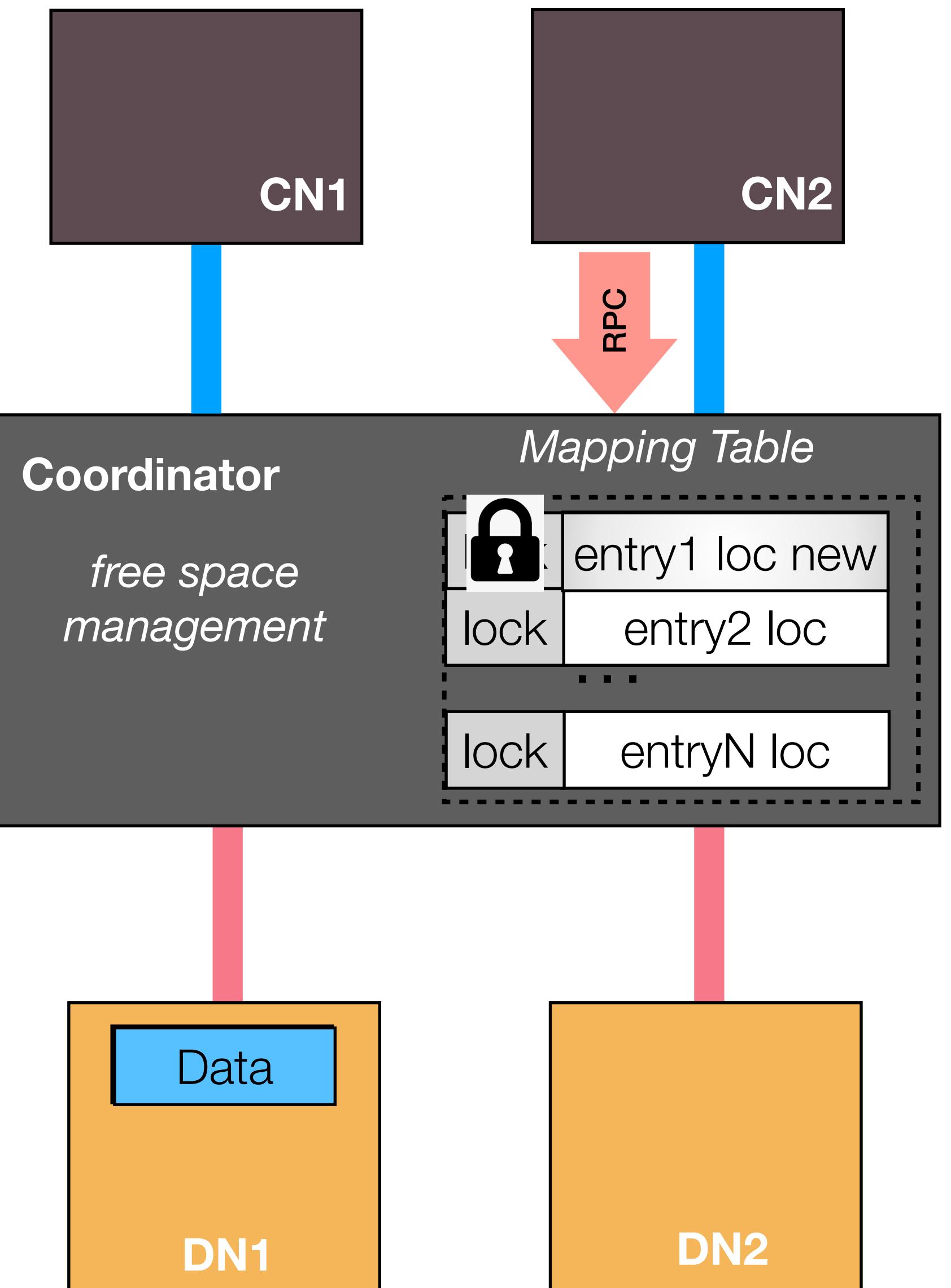
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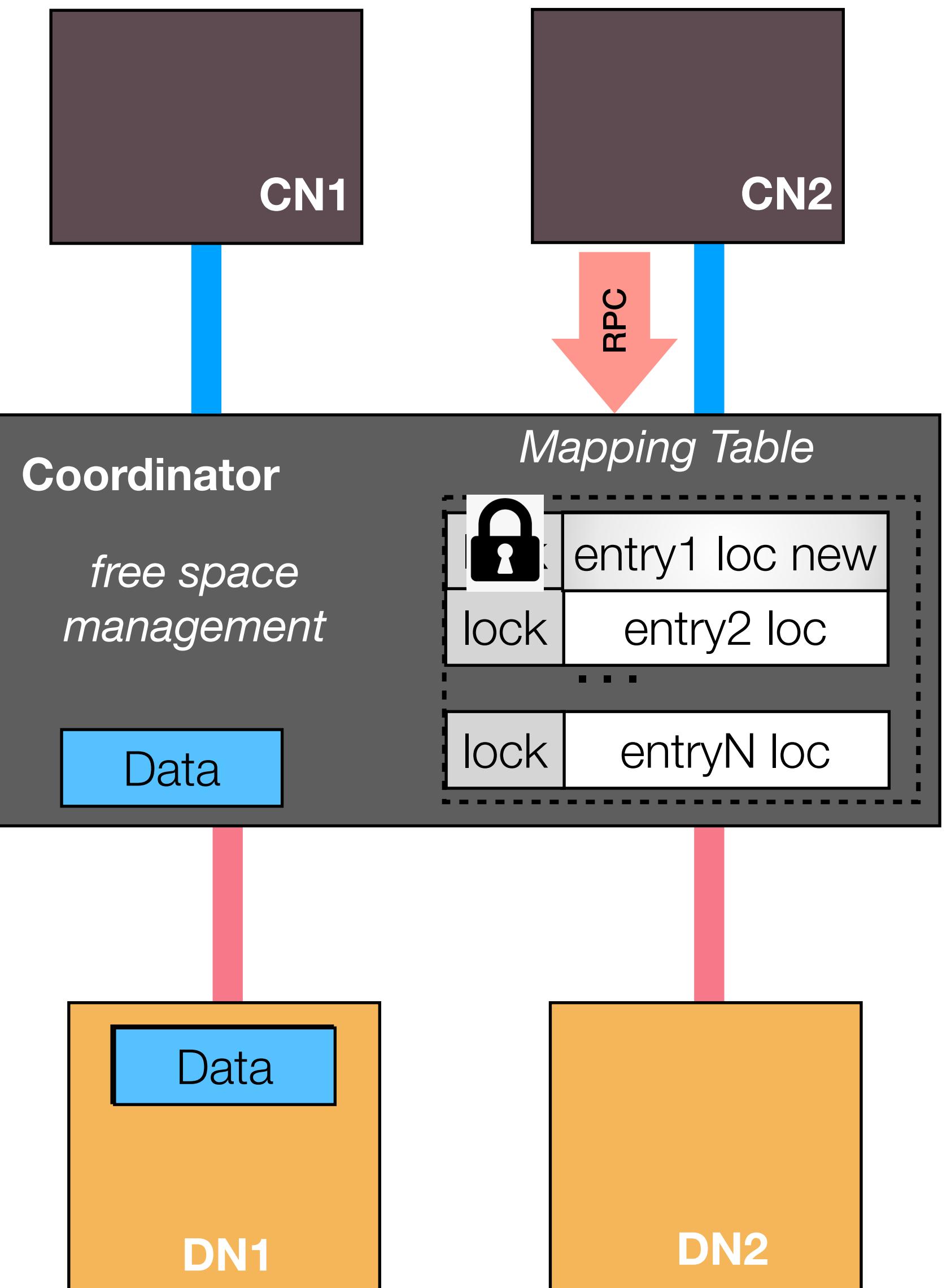
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- CN sends RPC to Coordinator
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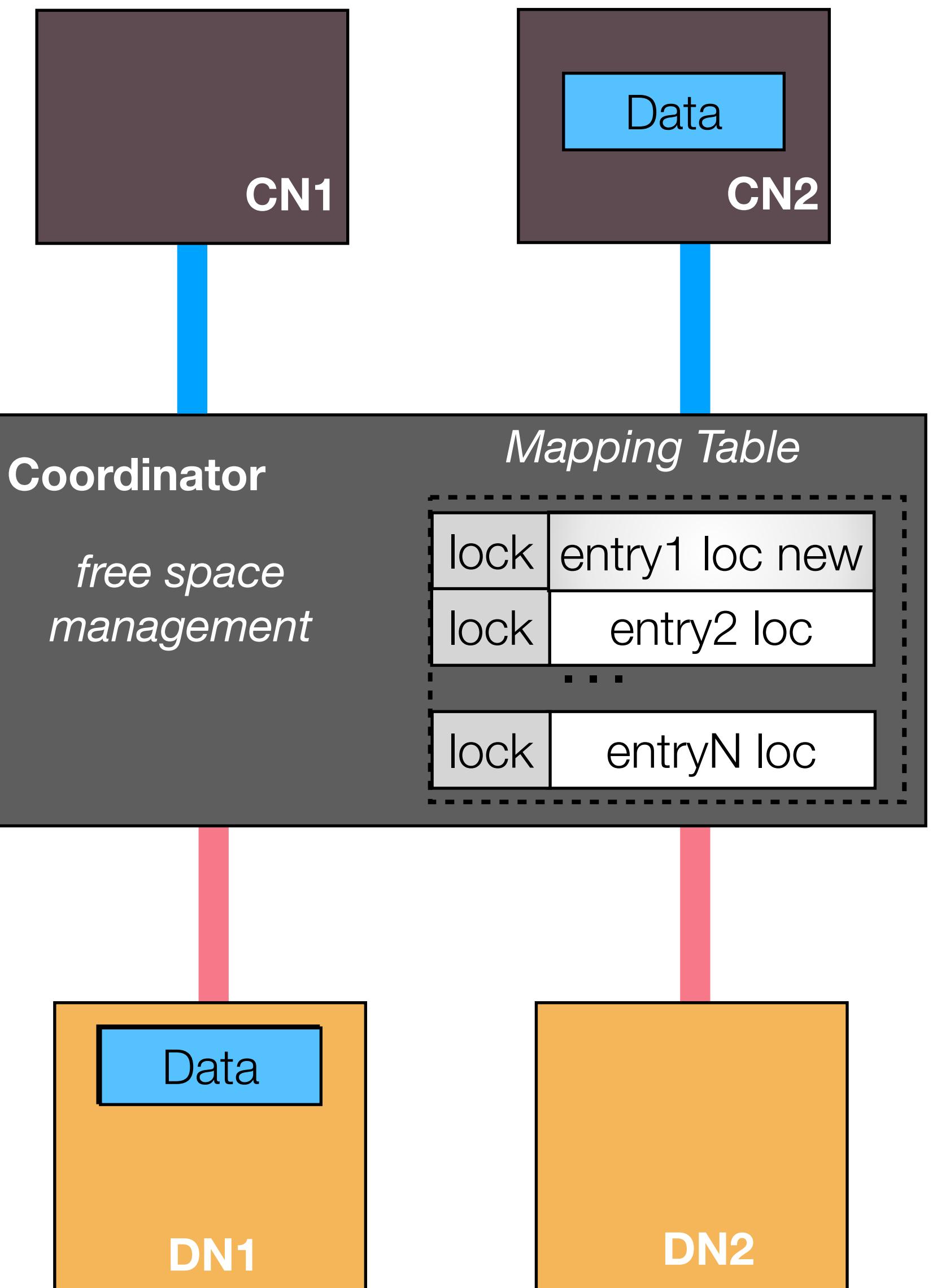
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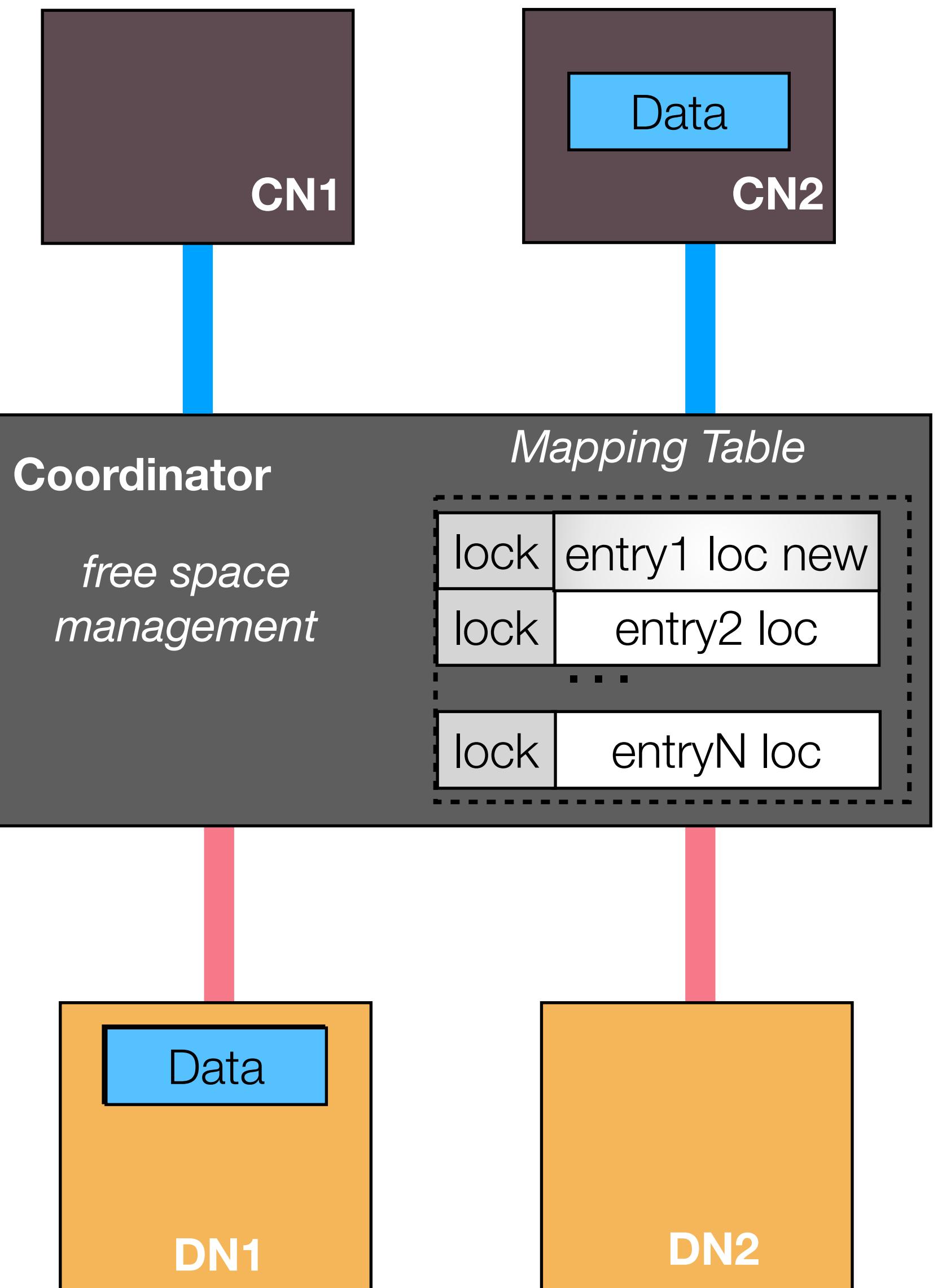
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All cases

Read: 2 RTTs

Write: 2 RTTs



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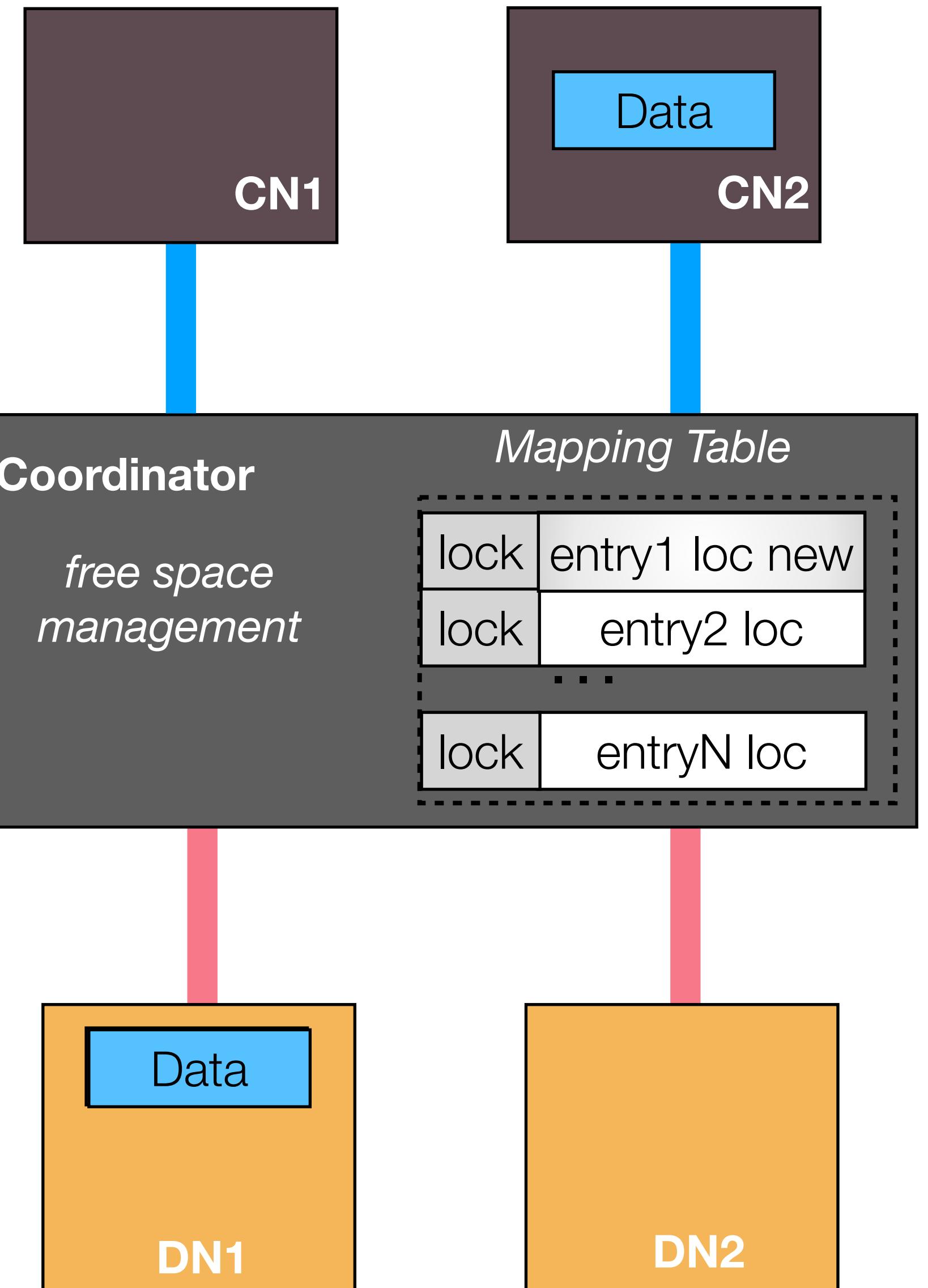
Read: 2 RTTs

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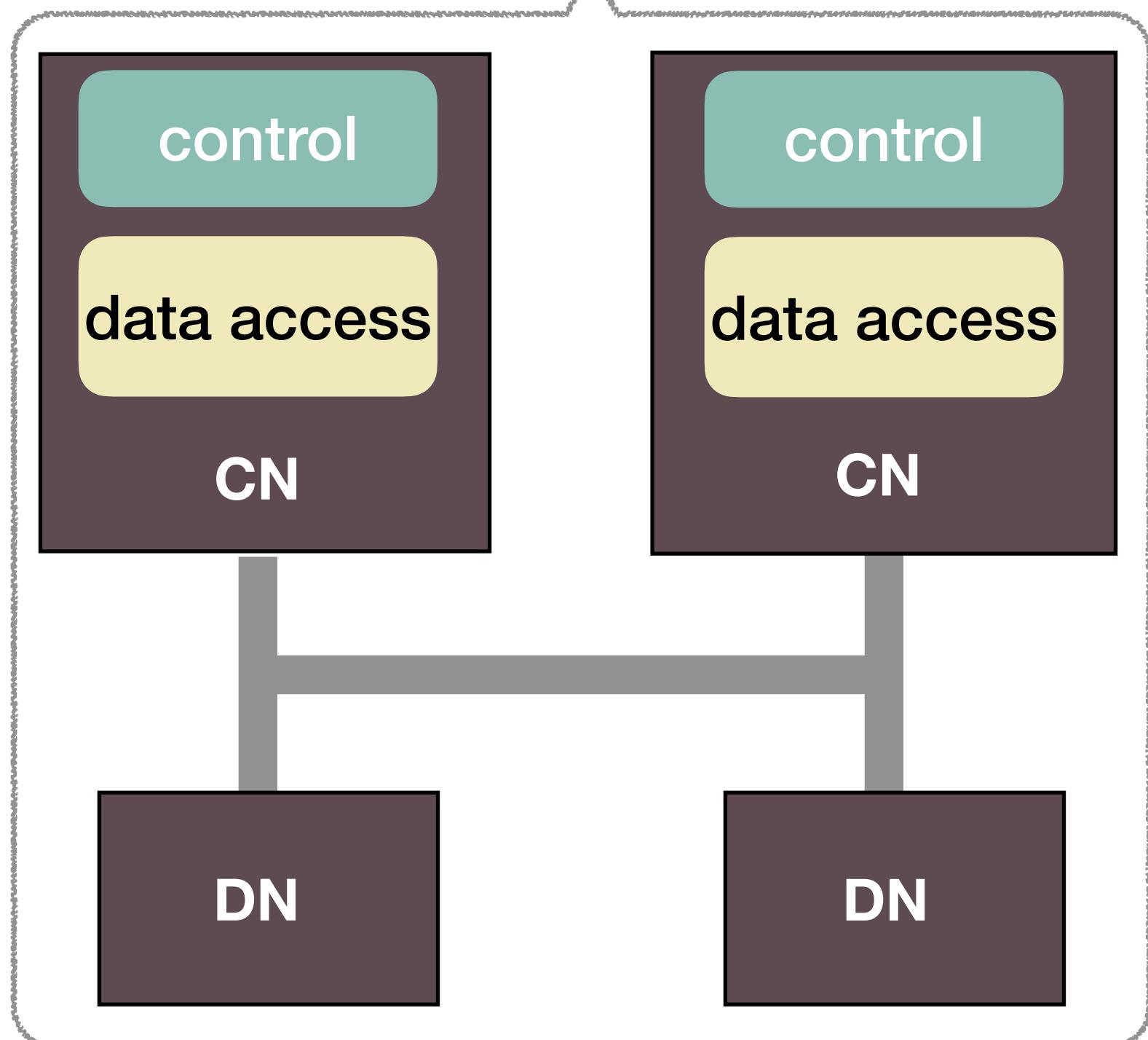
Slower read

Poor scalability: coordinator is the bottleneck

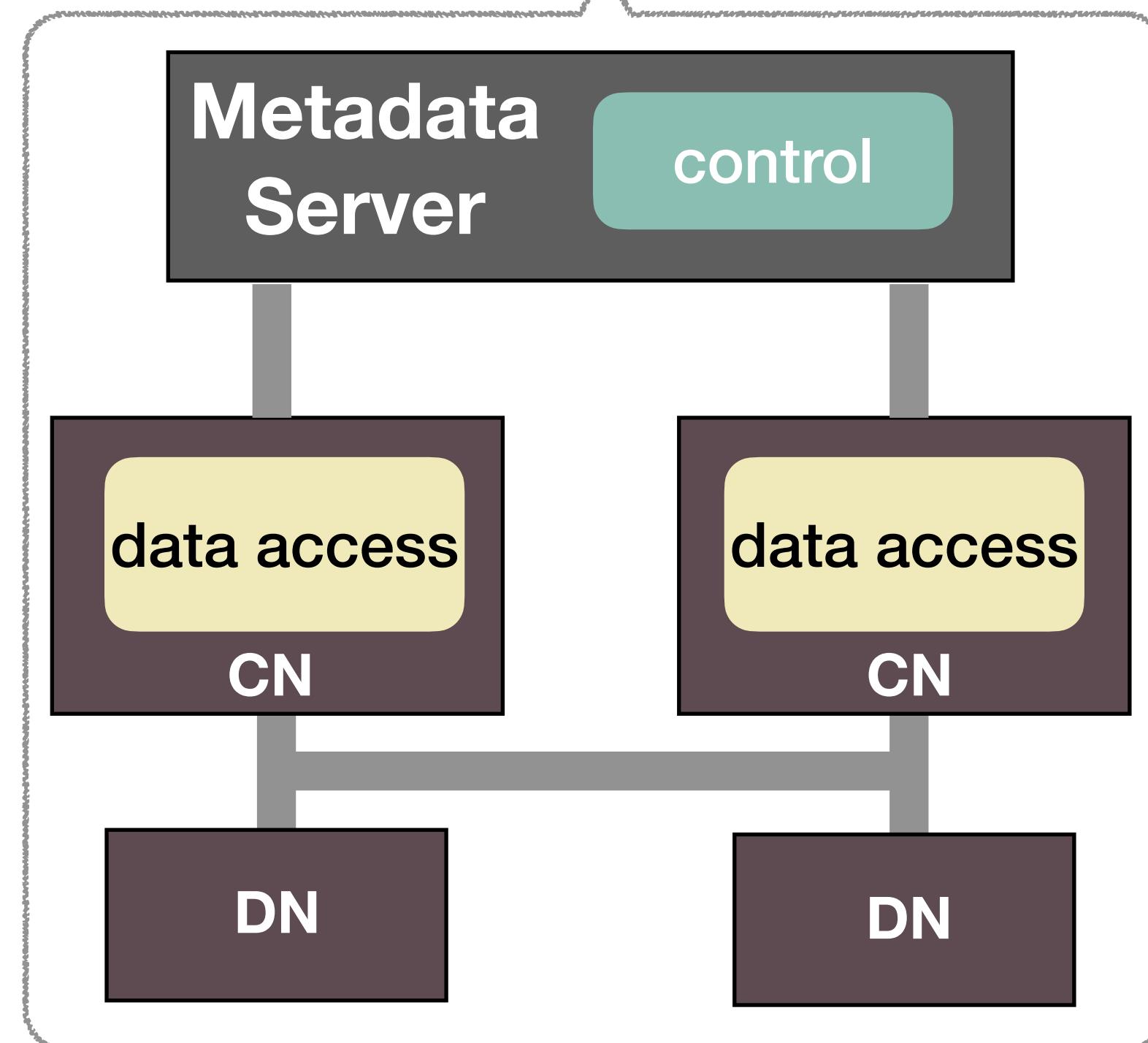


*Where to process and manage data?*

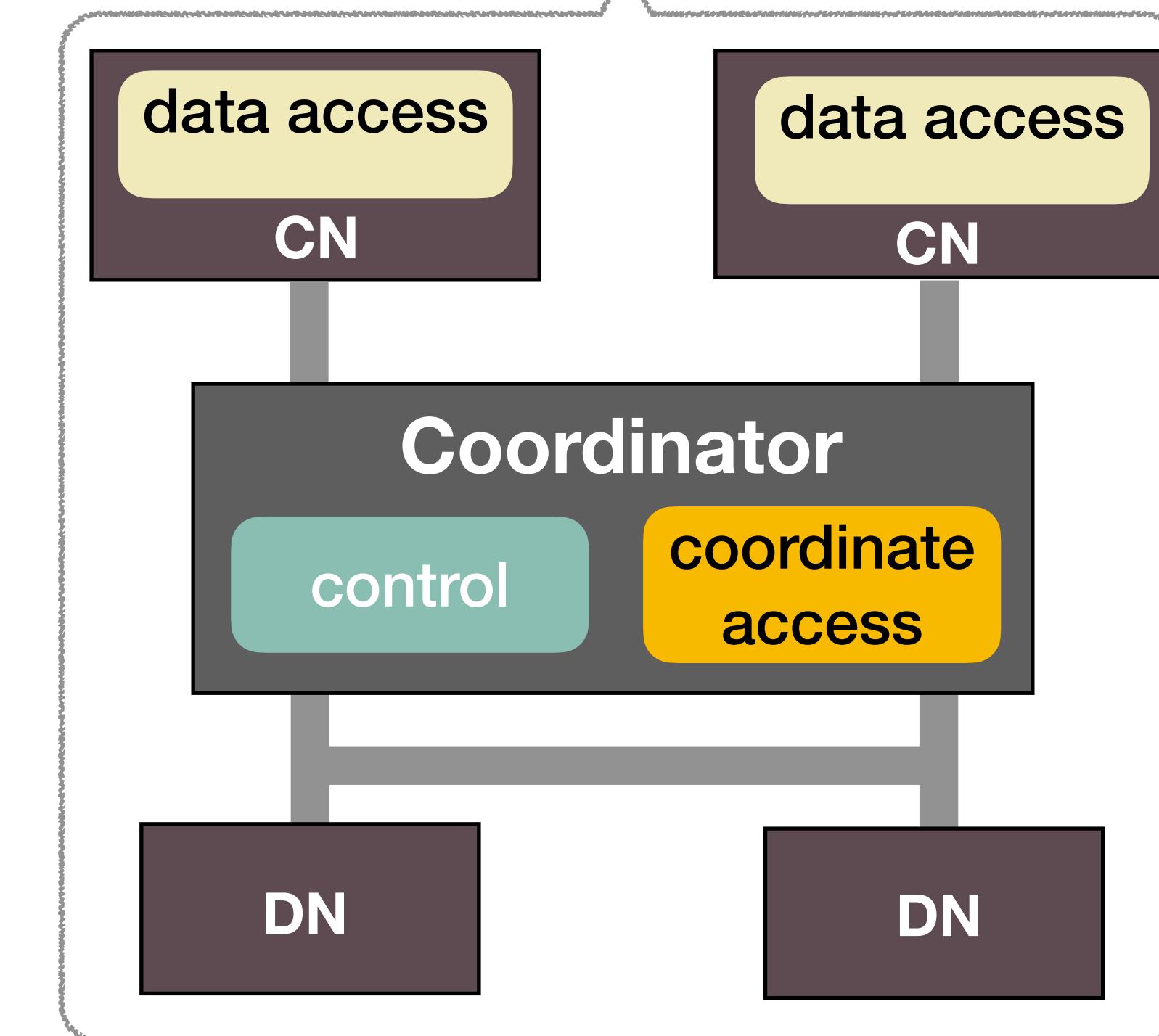
## pDPM-Direct



## Clover

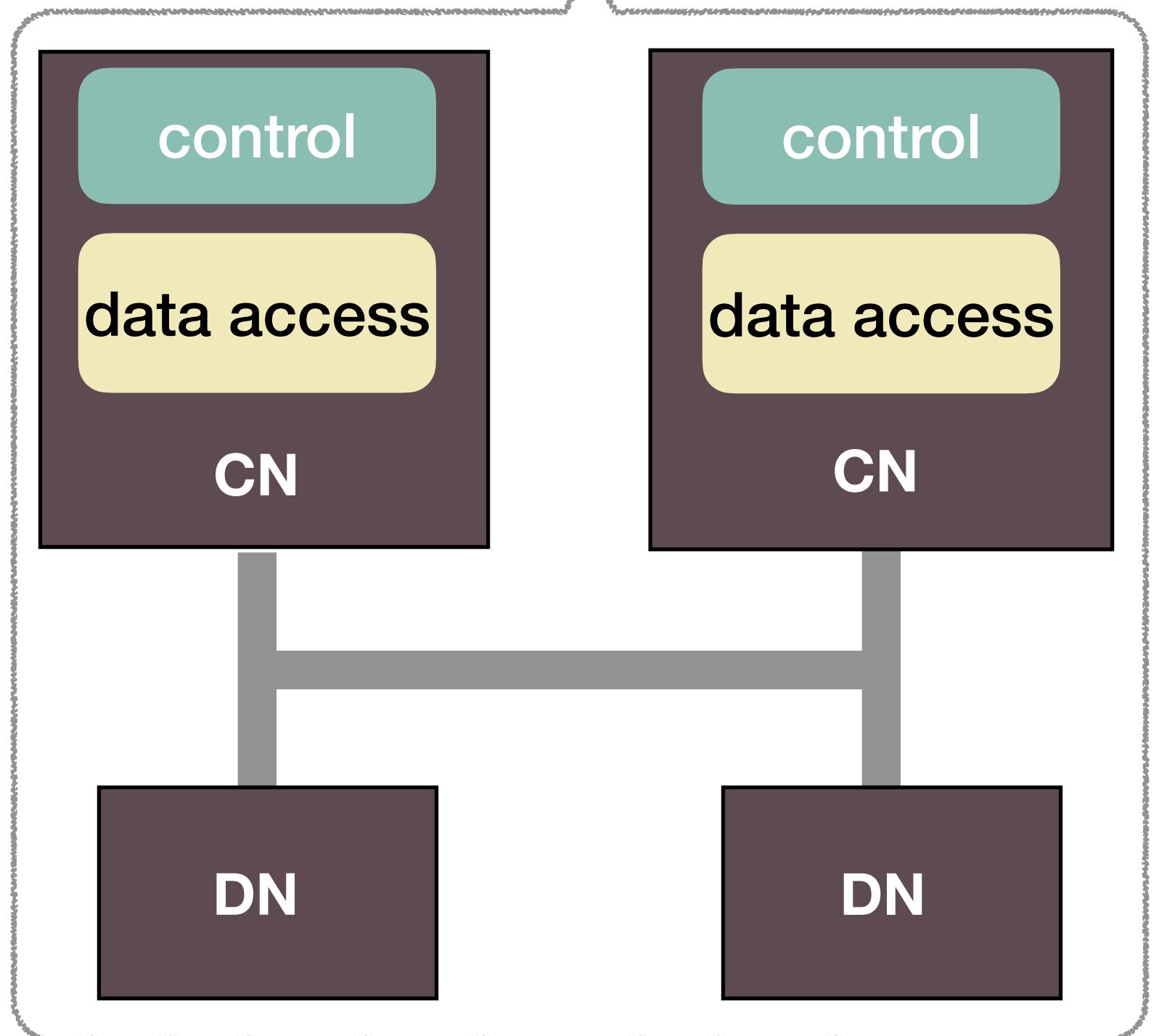


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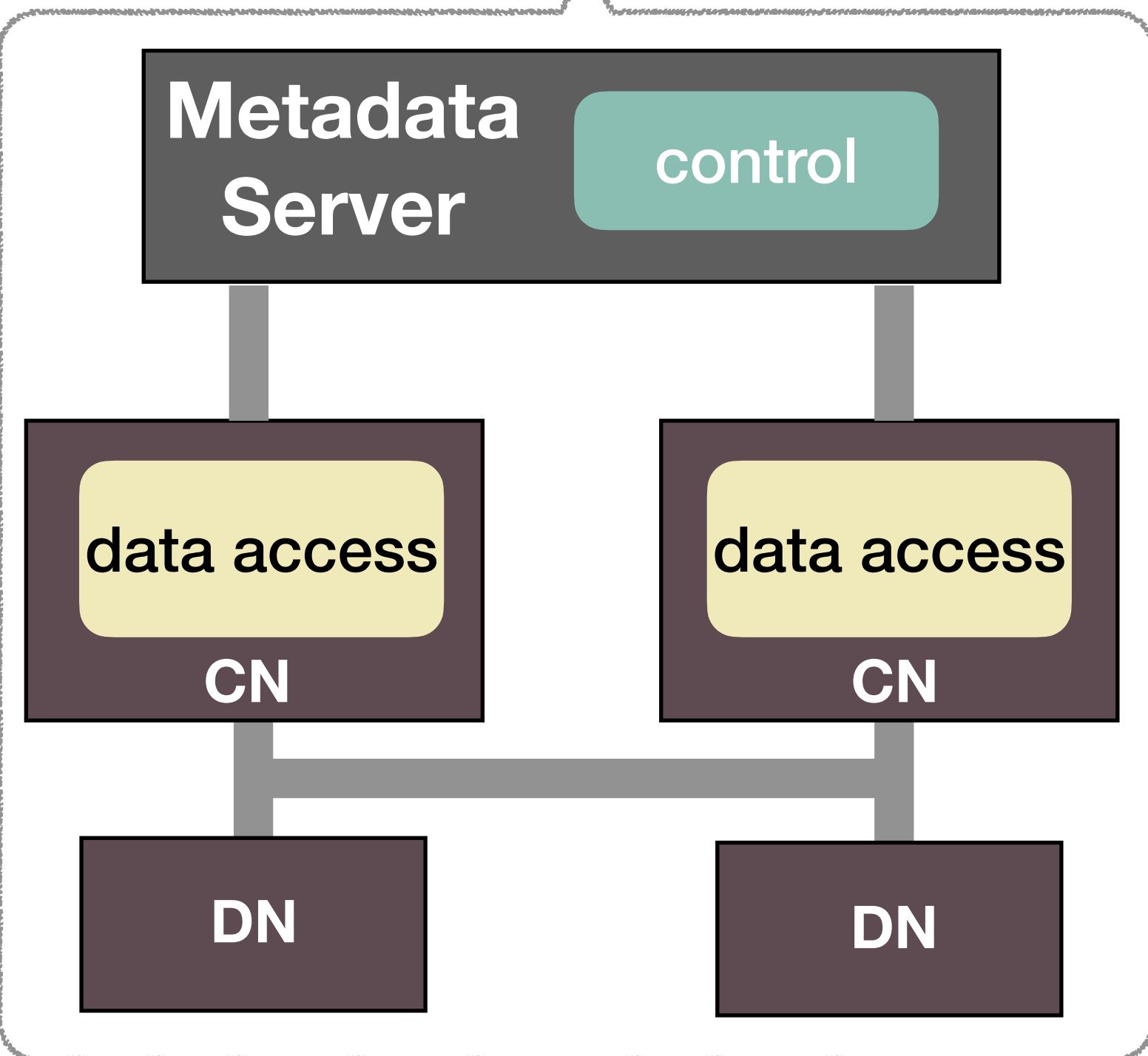


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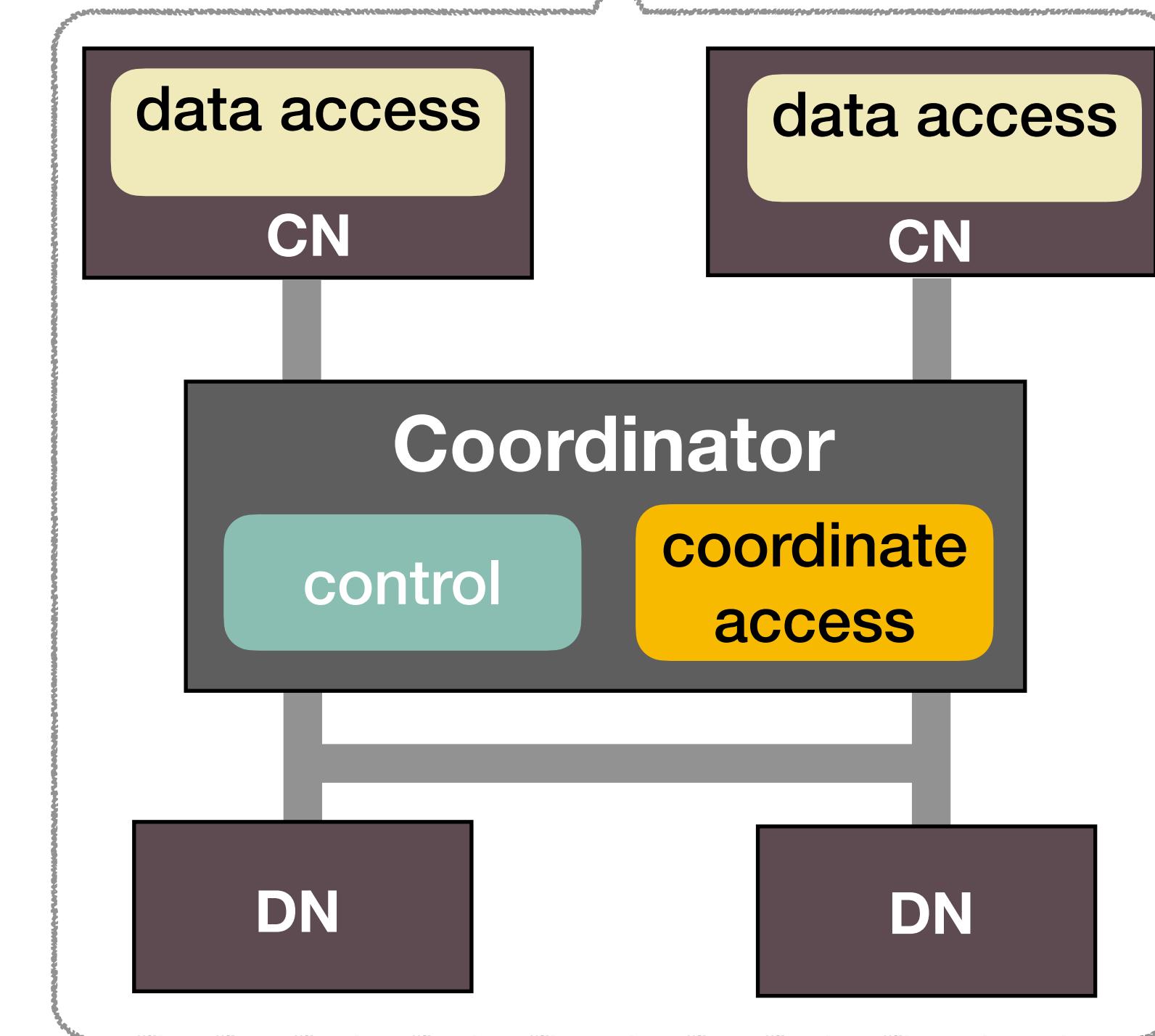
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## Clover



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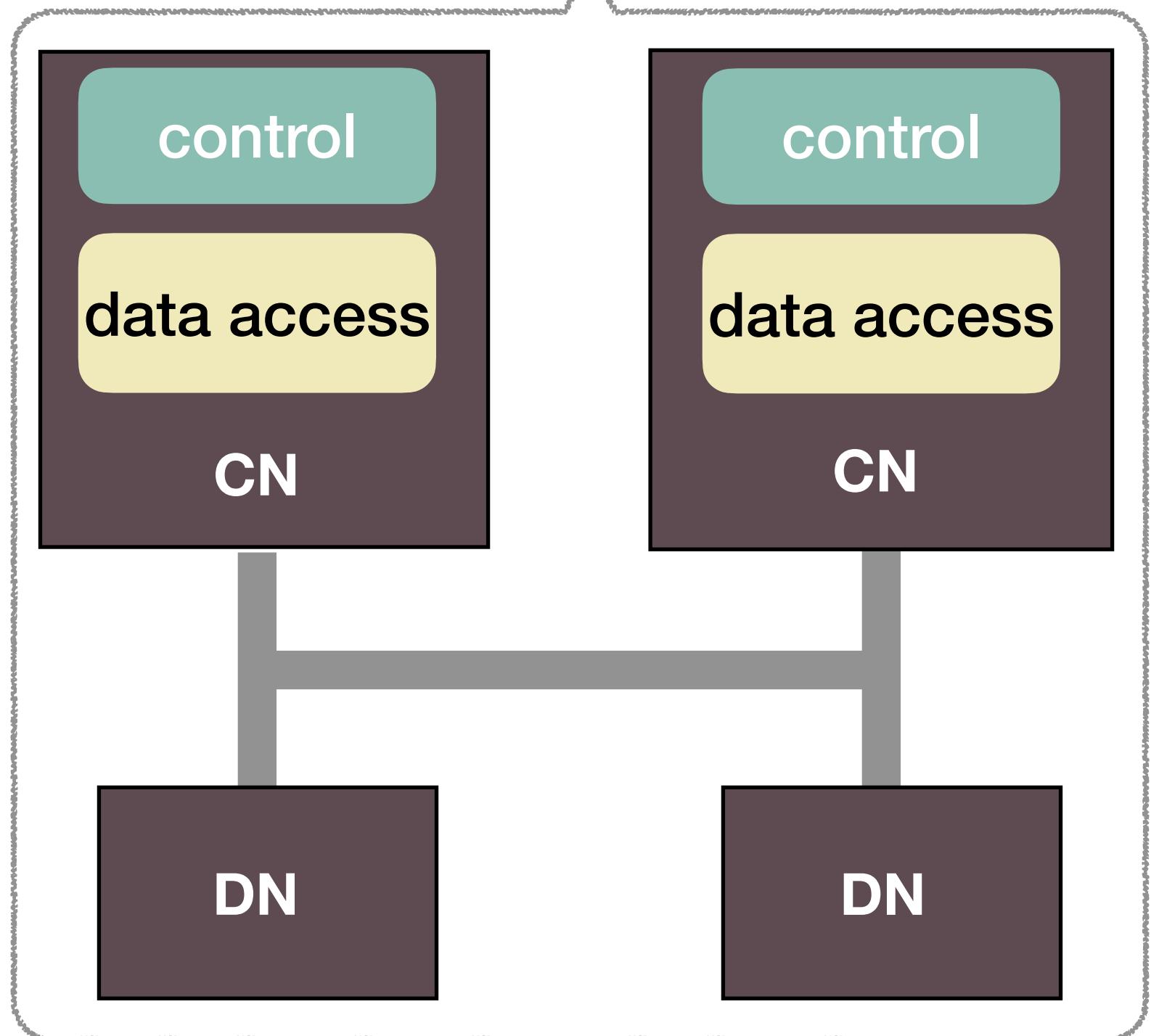


- Slow write
- Slow for large data

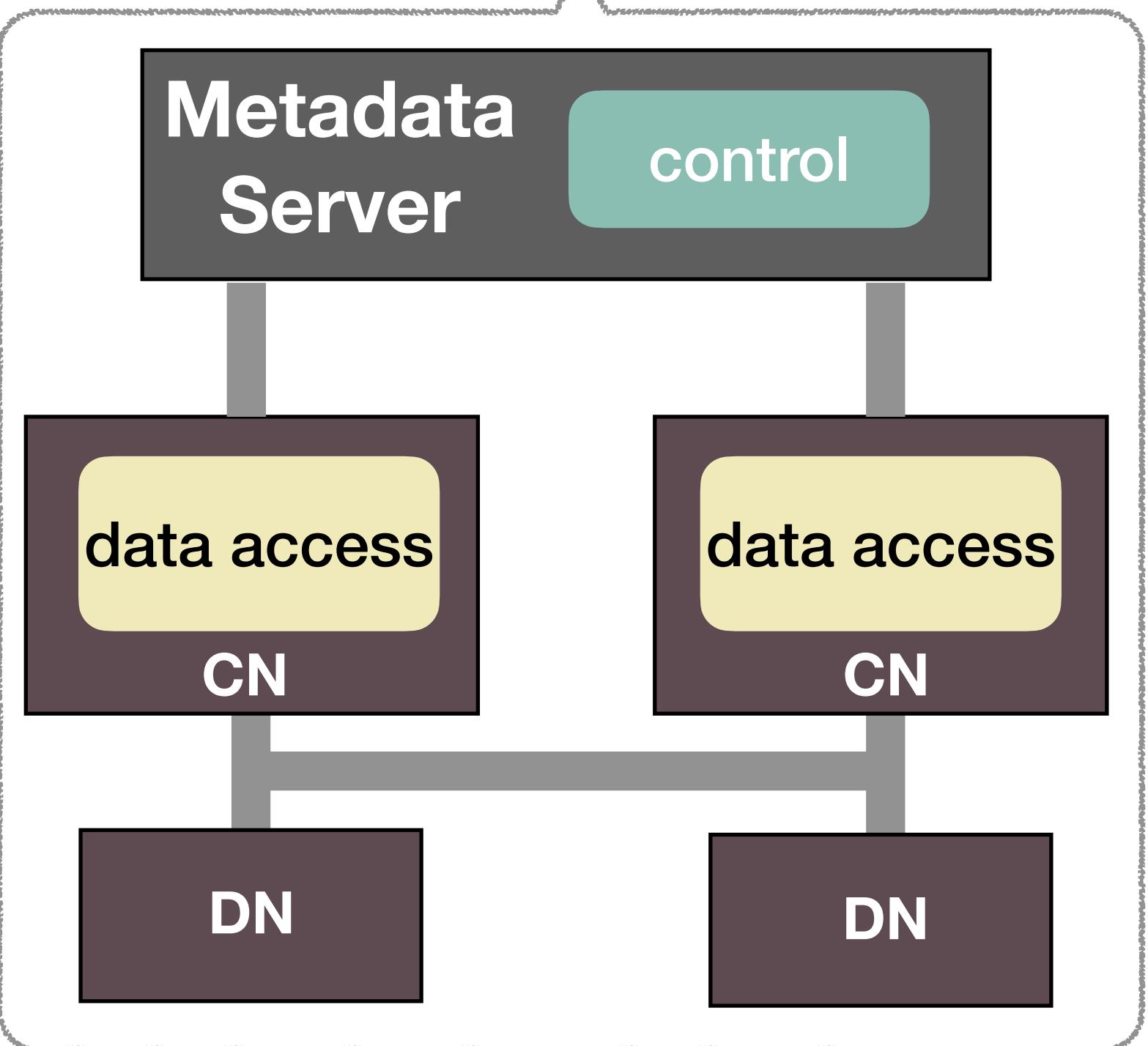
- Extra read RTTs
- Coordinator cannot scale

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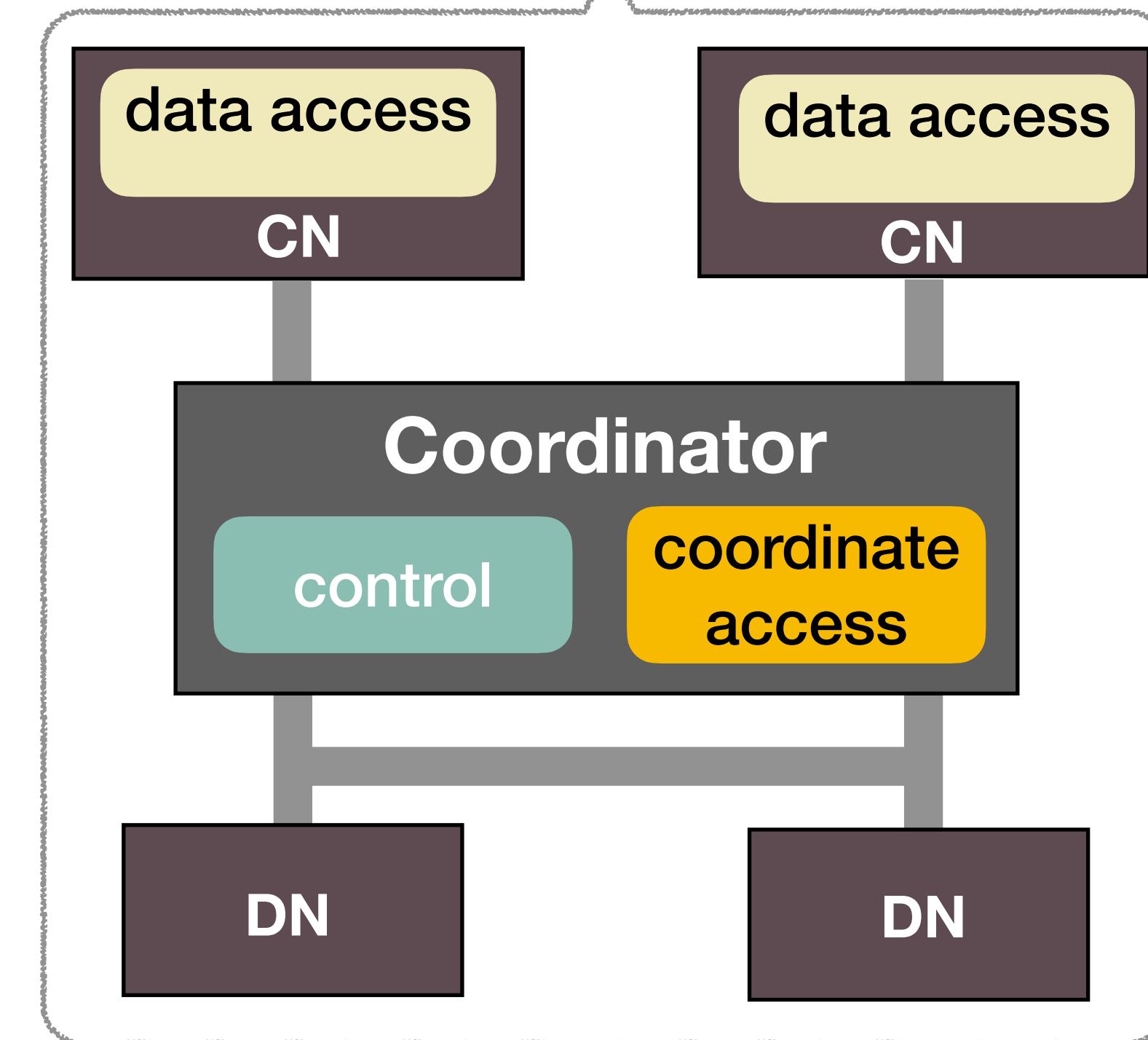
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## Clover



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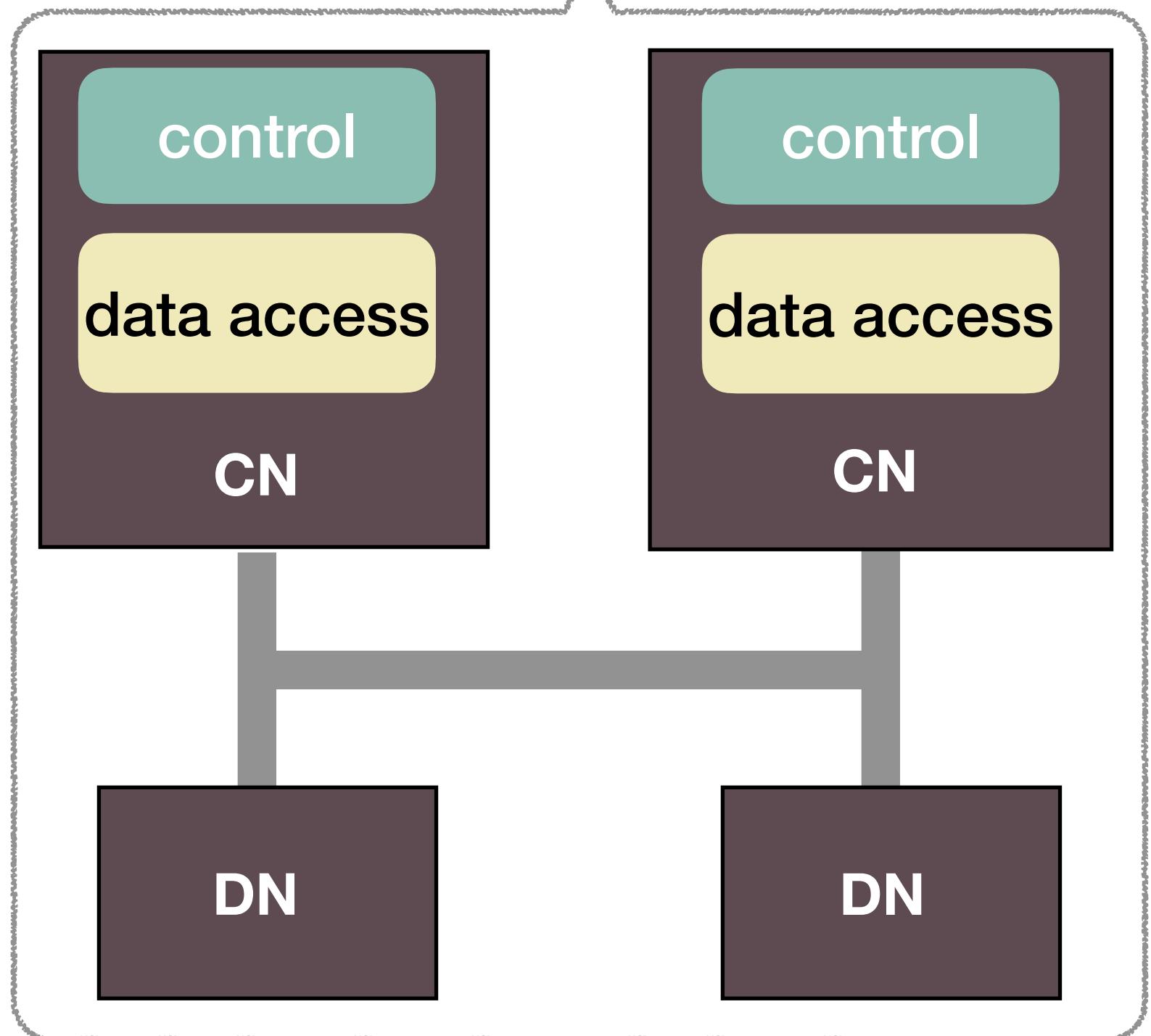
*Distributed data & metadata planes*

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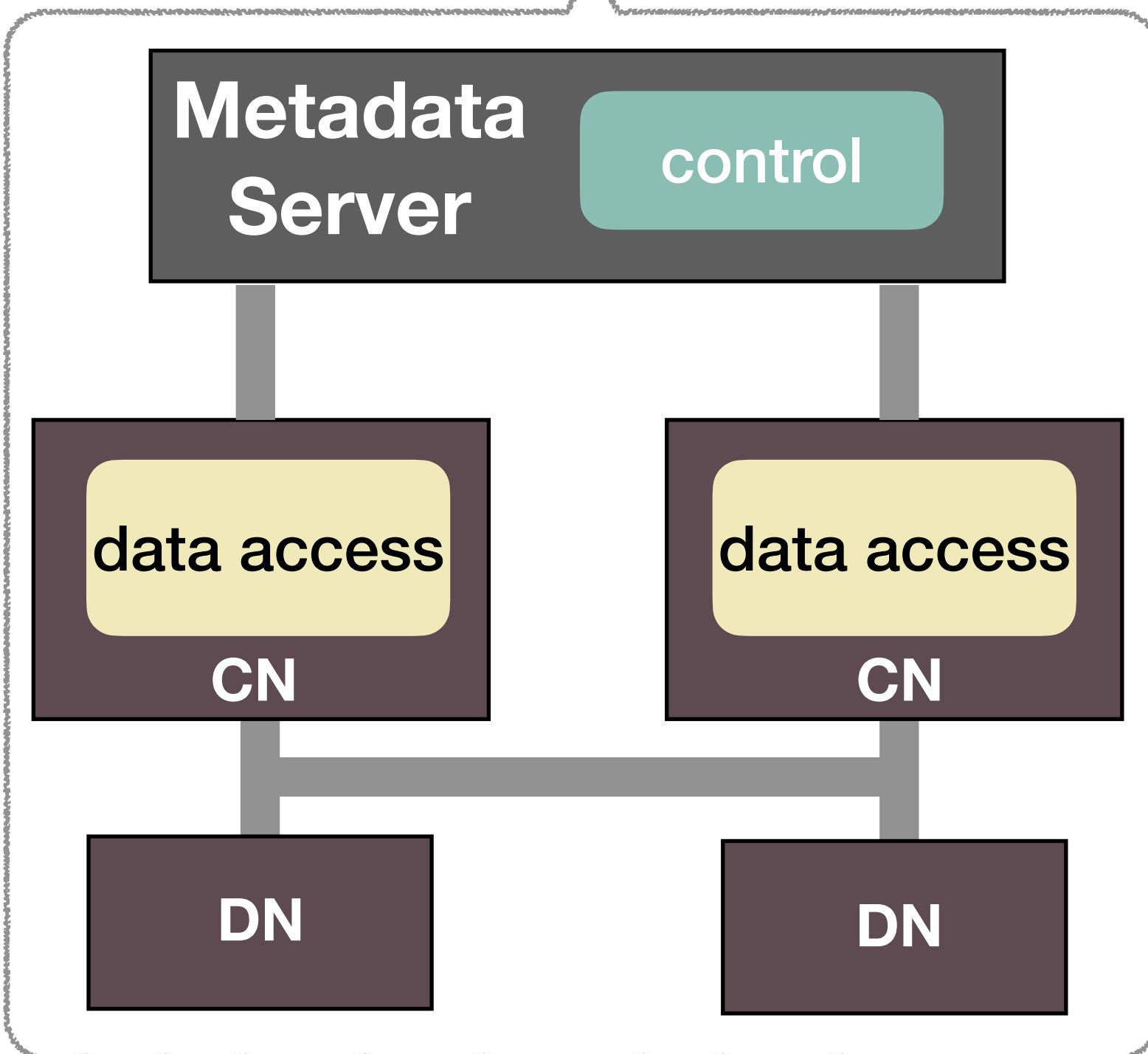
*Centralized data & metadata planes*

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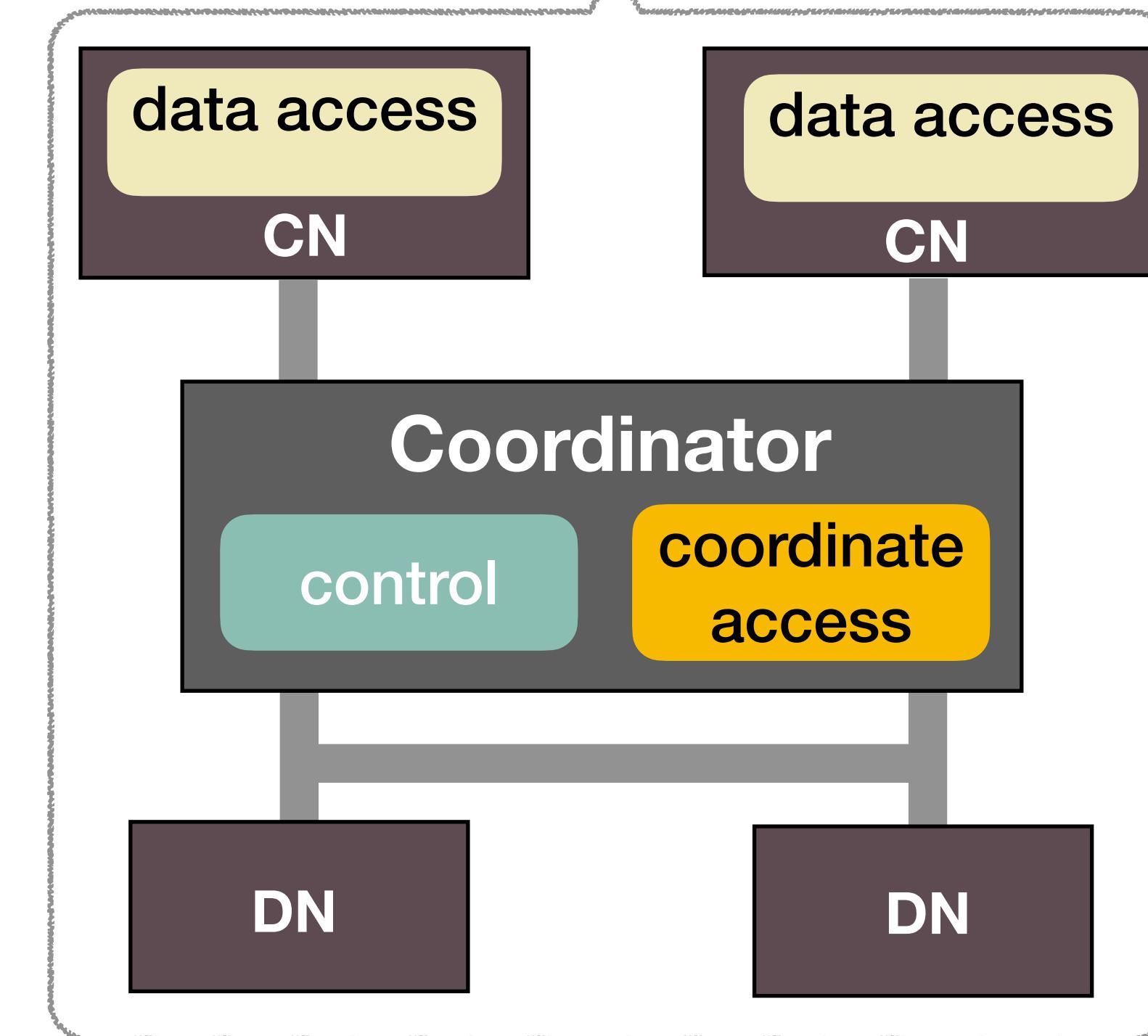
## pDPM-Direct



## Clover



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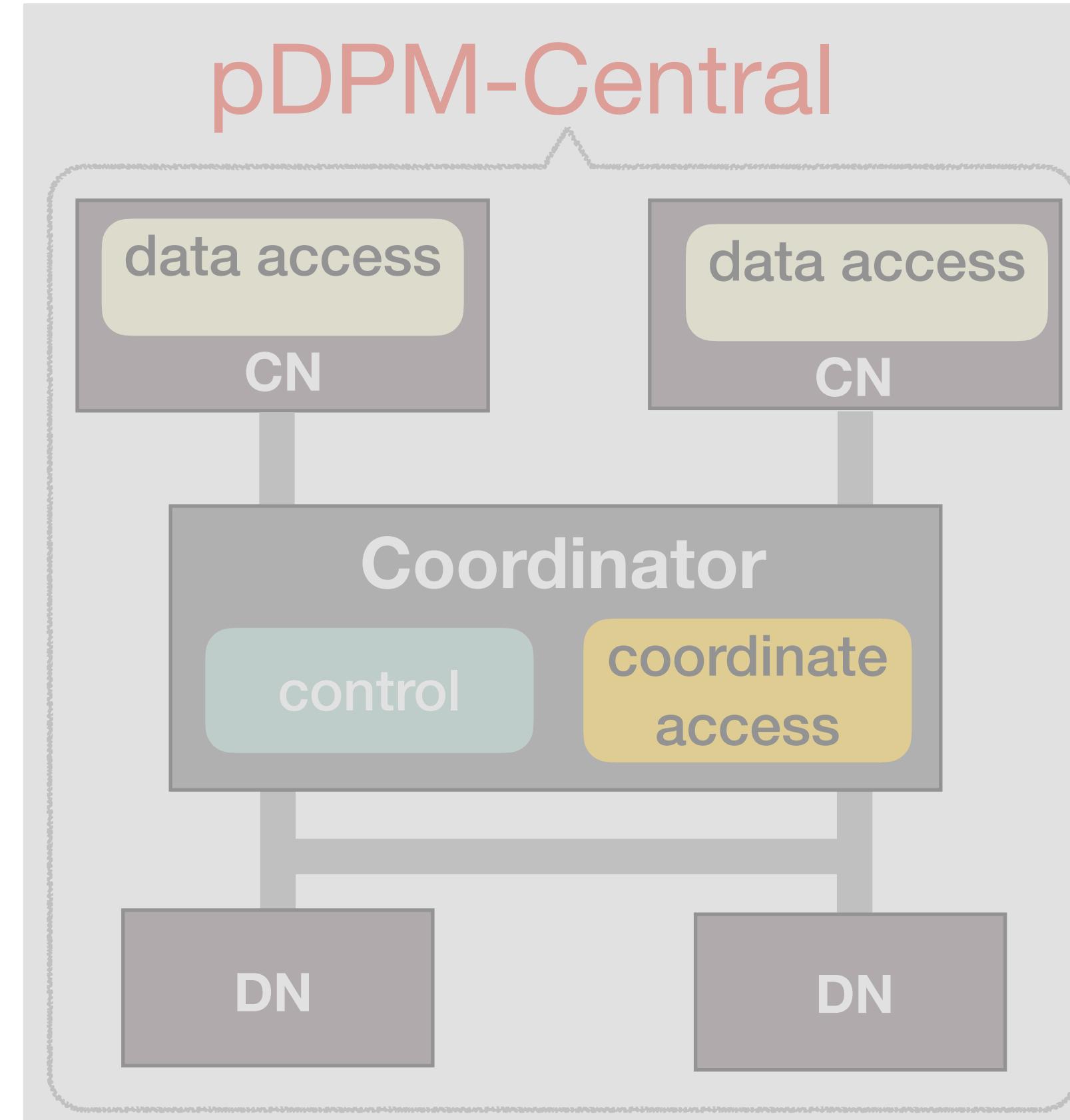
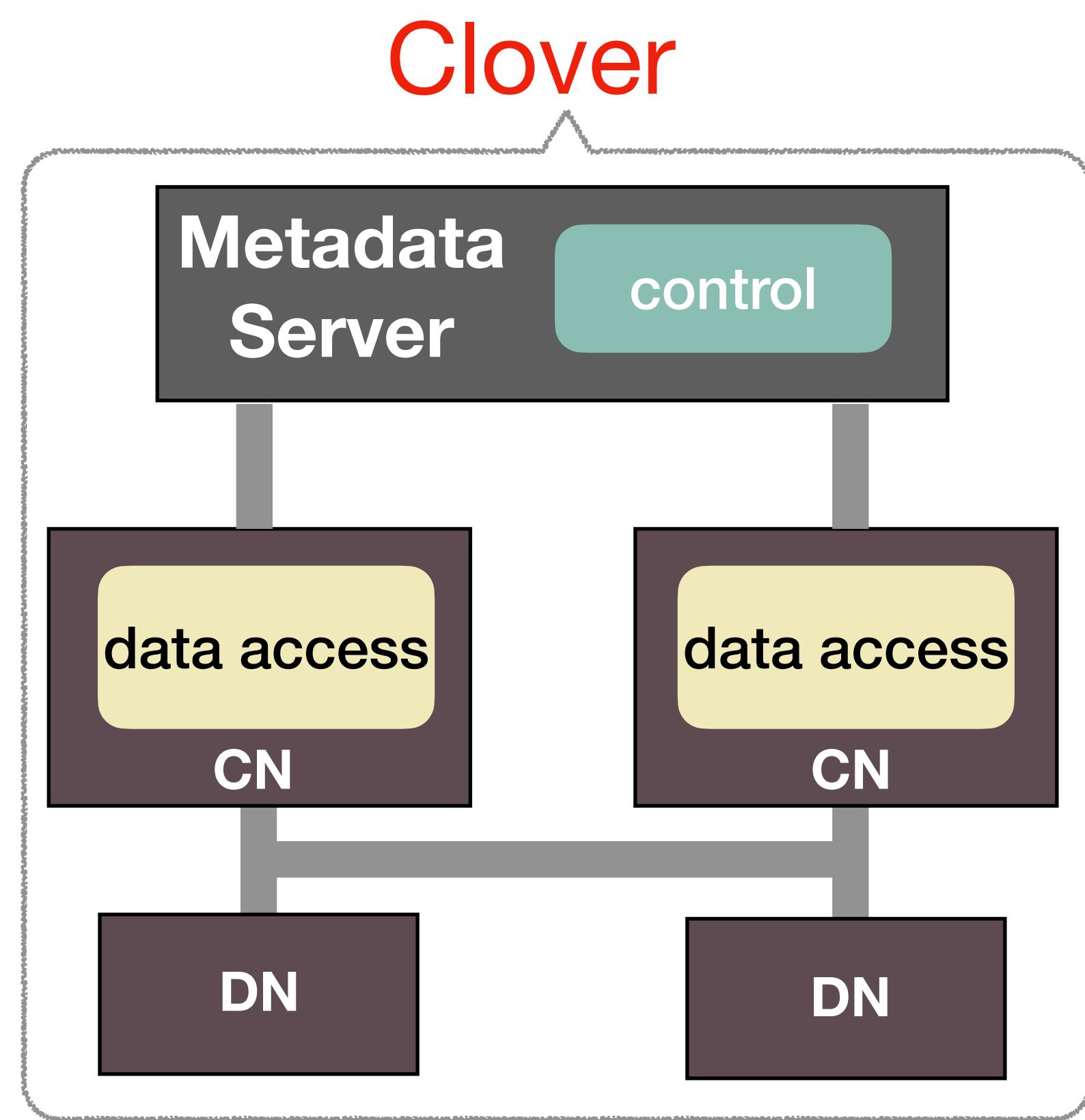
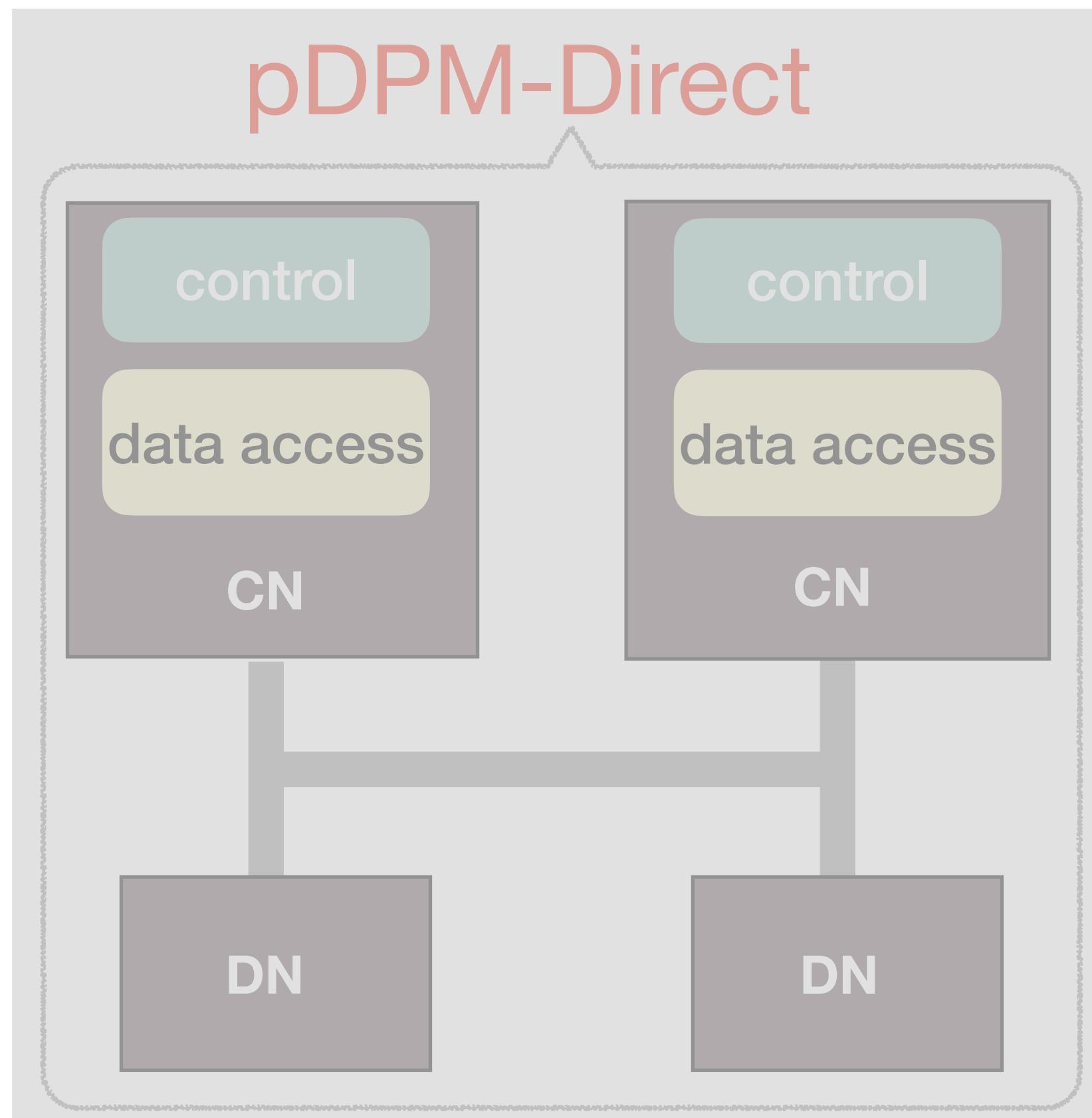
*Separate data & metadata planes*

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*Distributed data & metadata planes*

*Centralized data & metadata planes*

*Where to process and manage data?*



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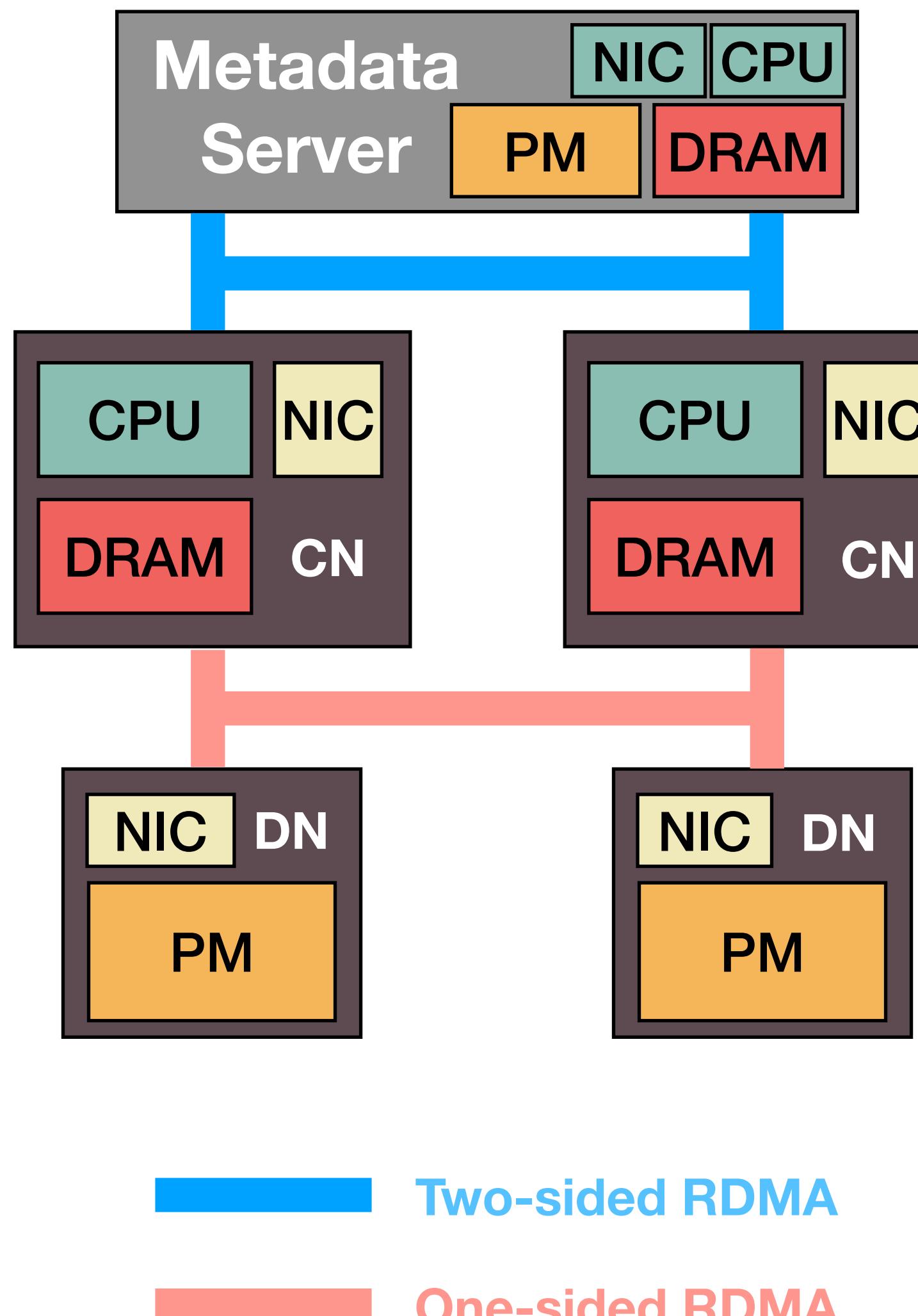
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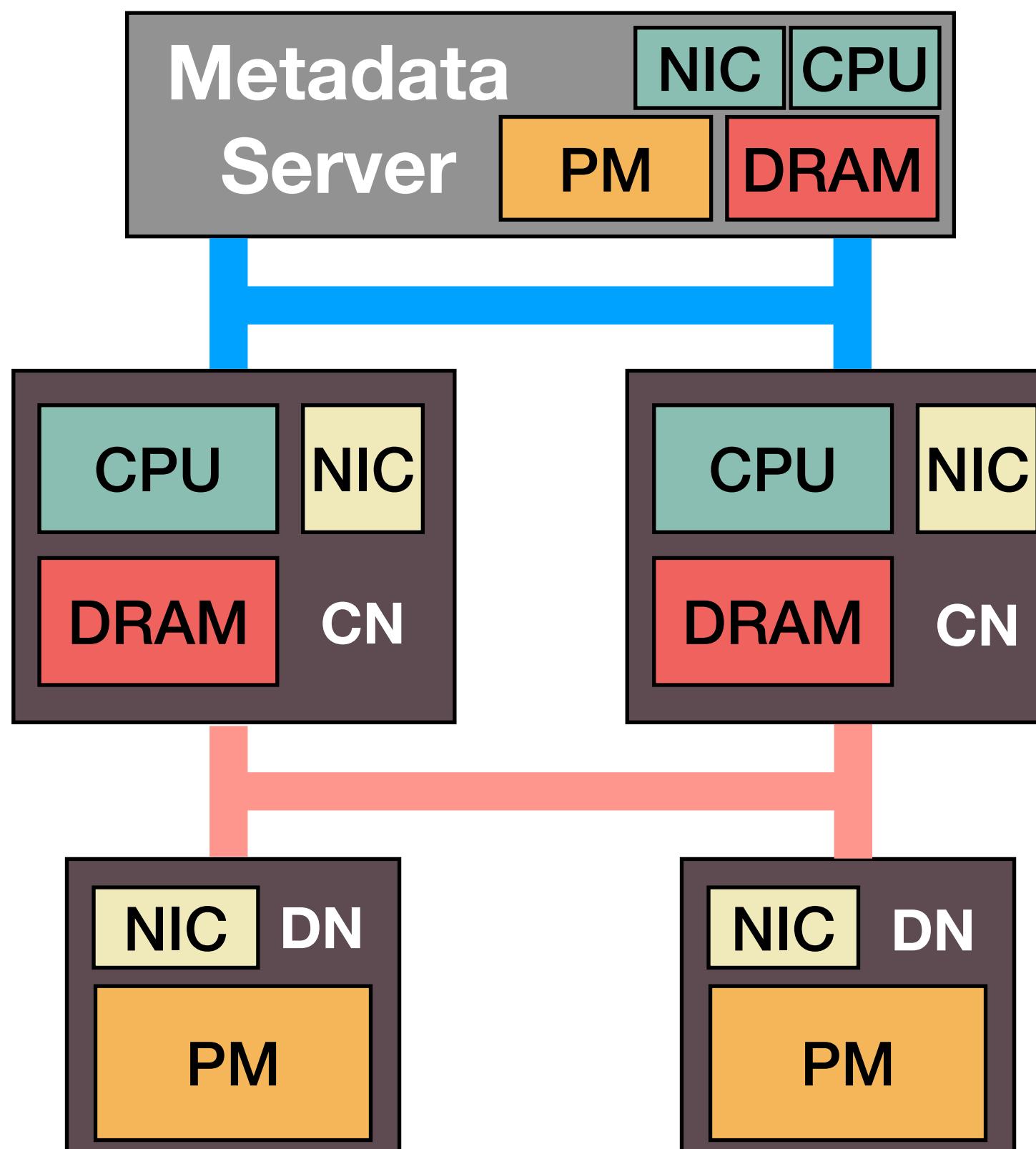
*Distributed data & metadata planes*

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# **Clover: Combining Distributed and Centralized Approaches**



# Clover: Combining Distributed and Centralized Approaches



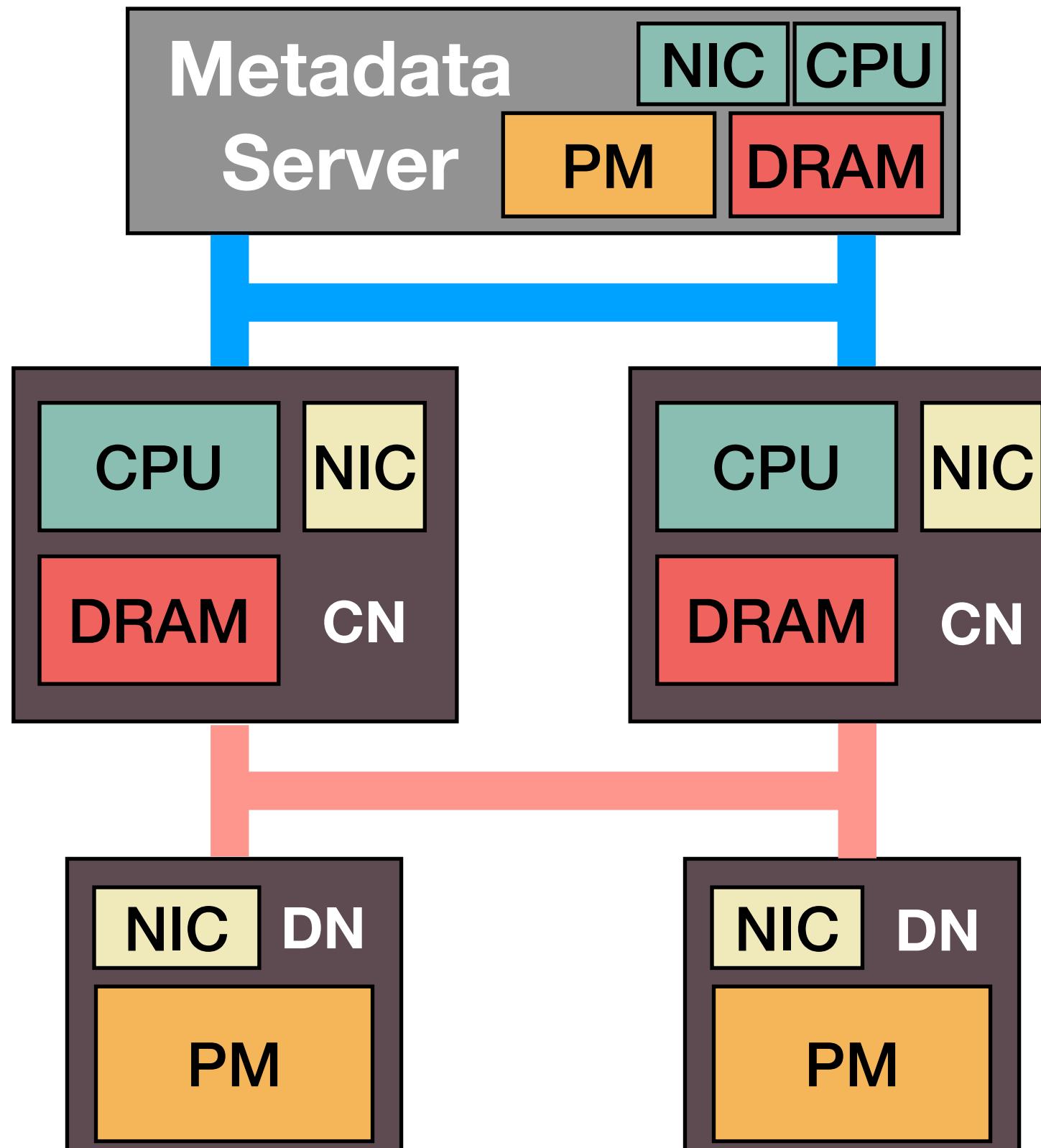
**High-level idea:** separate data and metadata plane

- Separate locations
- Different communication methods
- Different management strategy

Two-sided RDMA

One-sided RDMA

# Clover: Combining Distributed and Centralized Approaches



**High-level idea:** separate data and metadata plane

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- Different communication methods
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**Data Plane**

- **CNs** directly access **DNs** with one-sided RDMA

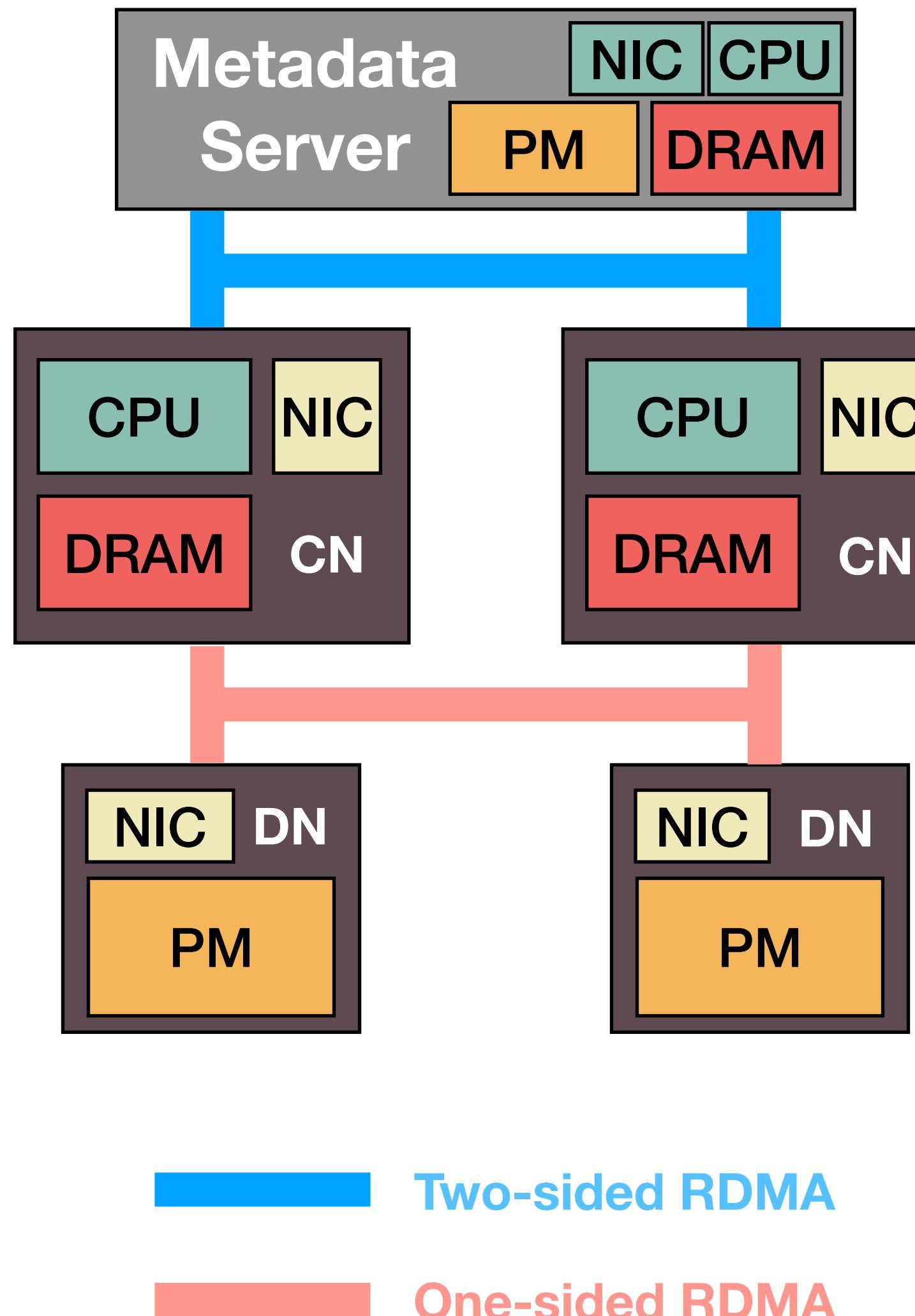


Two-sided RDMA



One-sided RDMA

# Clover: Combining Distributed and Centralized Approaches



**High-level idea:** separate data and metadata plane

- Separate locations
- Different communication methods
- Different management strategy

**Data Plane**

- **CNs** directly access **DNs** with one-sided RDMA

**Metadata Plane**

- **CNs** talk to metadata server (**MS**) with two-sided RDMA

Main Challenge in Data Plane:

*How to efficiently support concurrent data accesses from CNs to DNs?*

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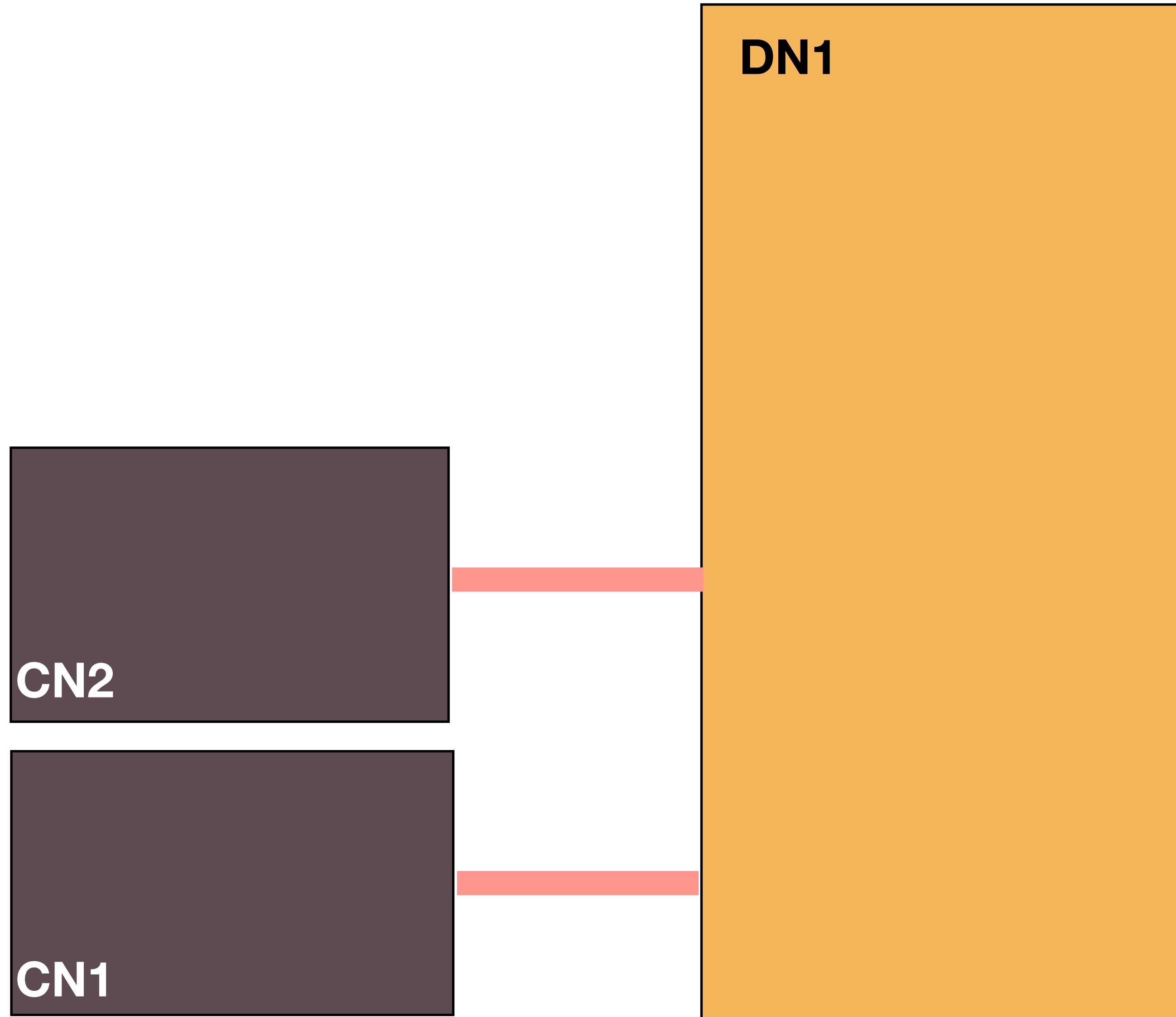
***How to efficiently support concurrent data accesses from CNs to DNs?***

Our Approaches:

- Lock-free data structures for un-orchestrated concurrent accesses
  - Optimizations to further reduce read/write RTTs
- ➡ Guarantees *read committed* and *atomic write*

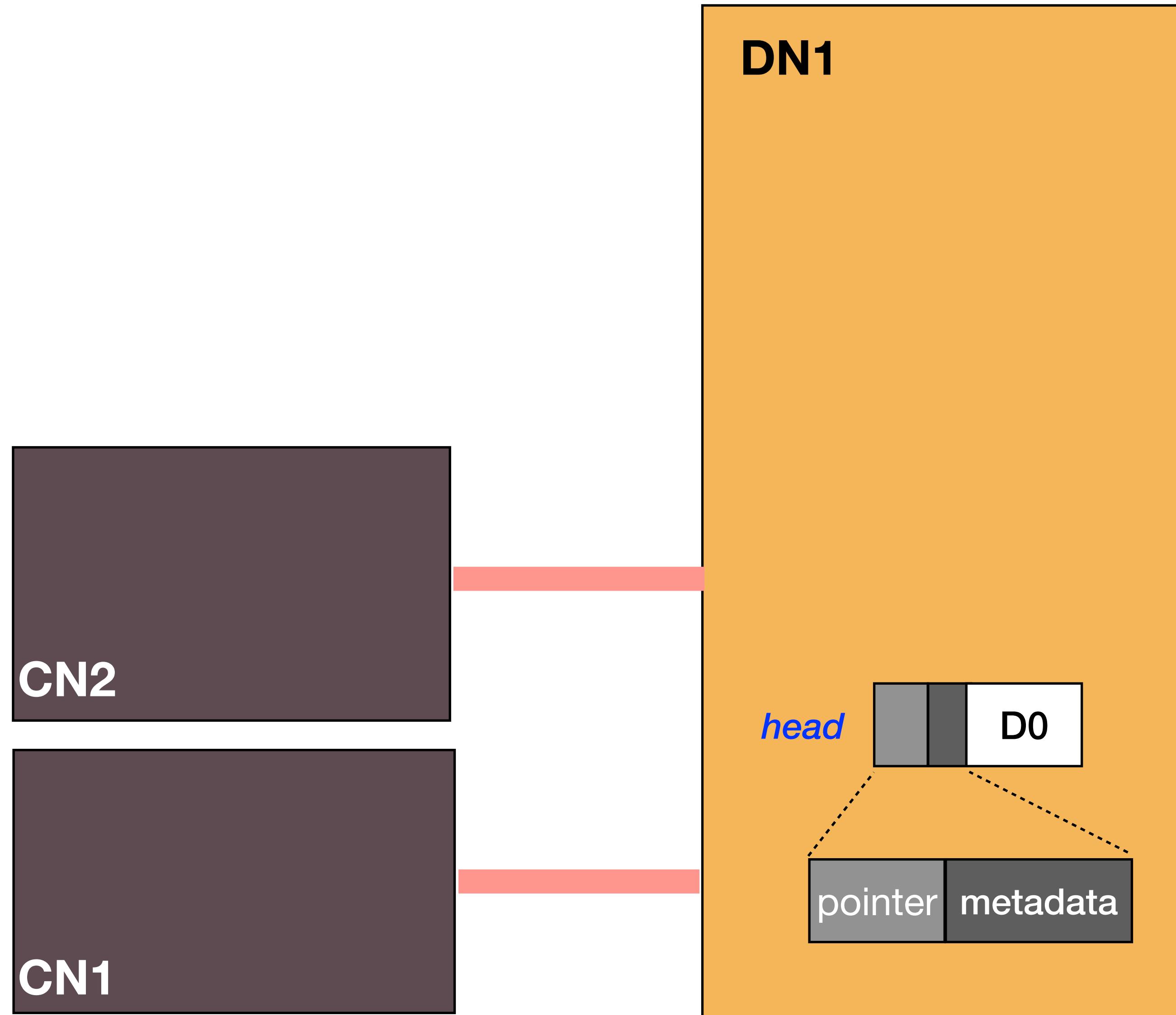
## Lock-free data structures

Chained redo copies (versions) at DNs  
CNs cache a *cursor* that points to a version



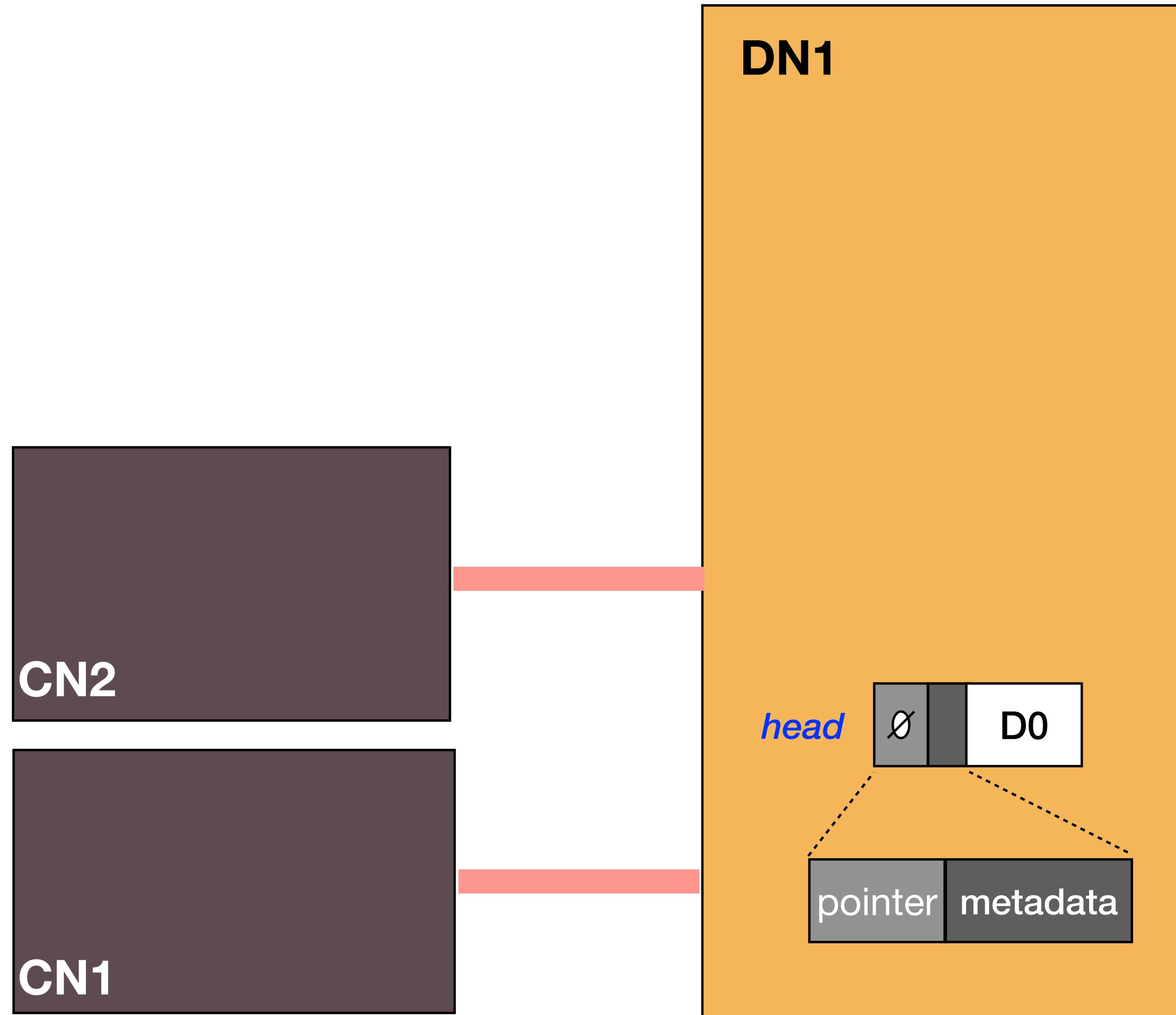
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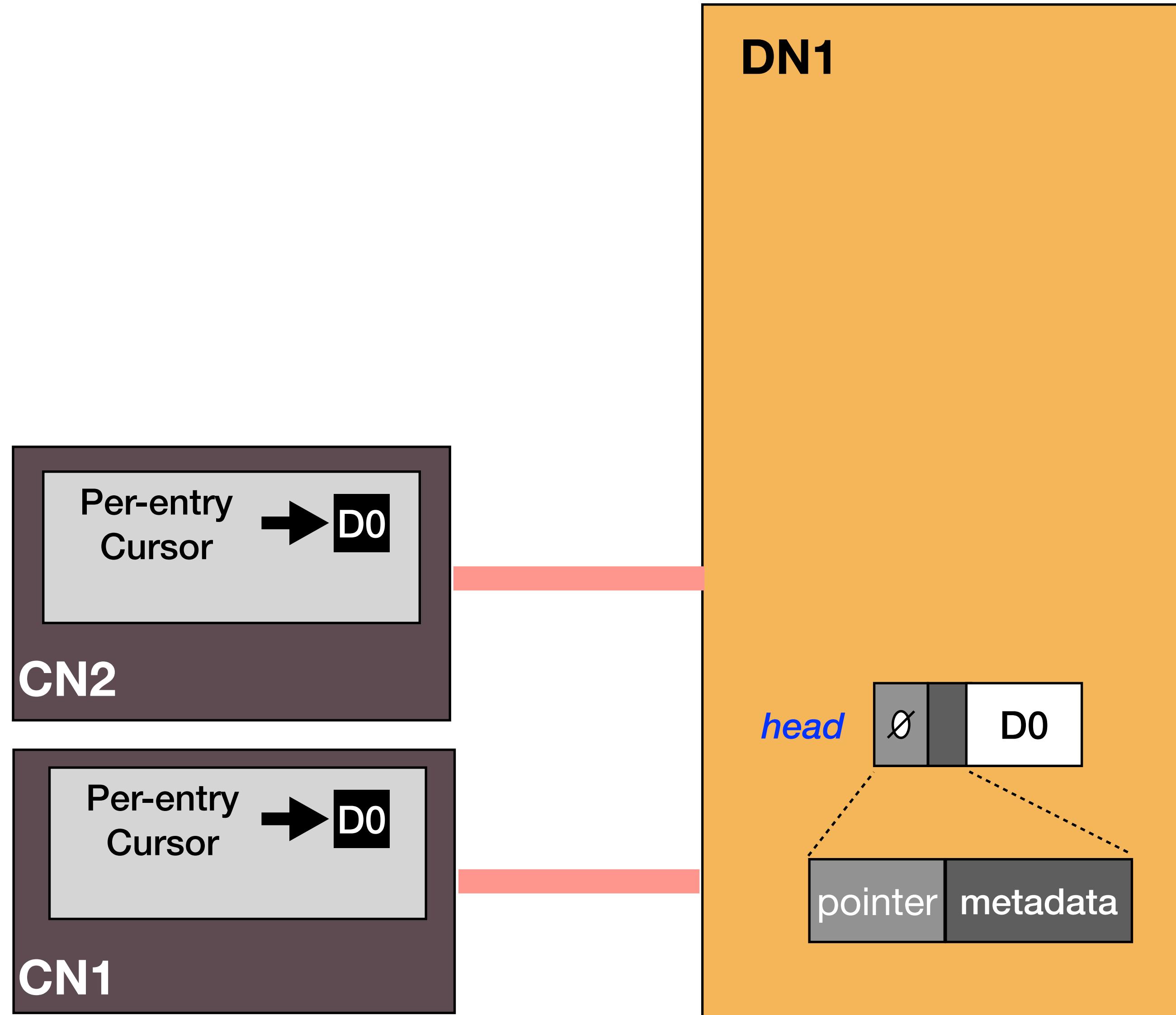
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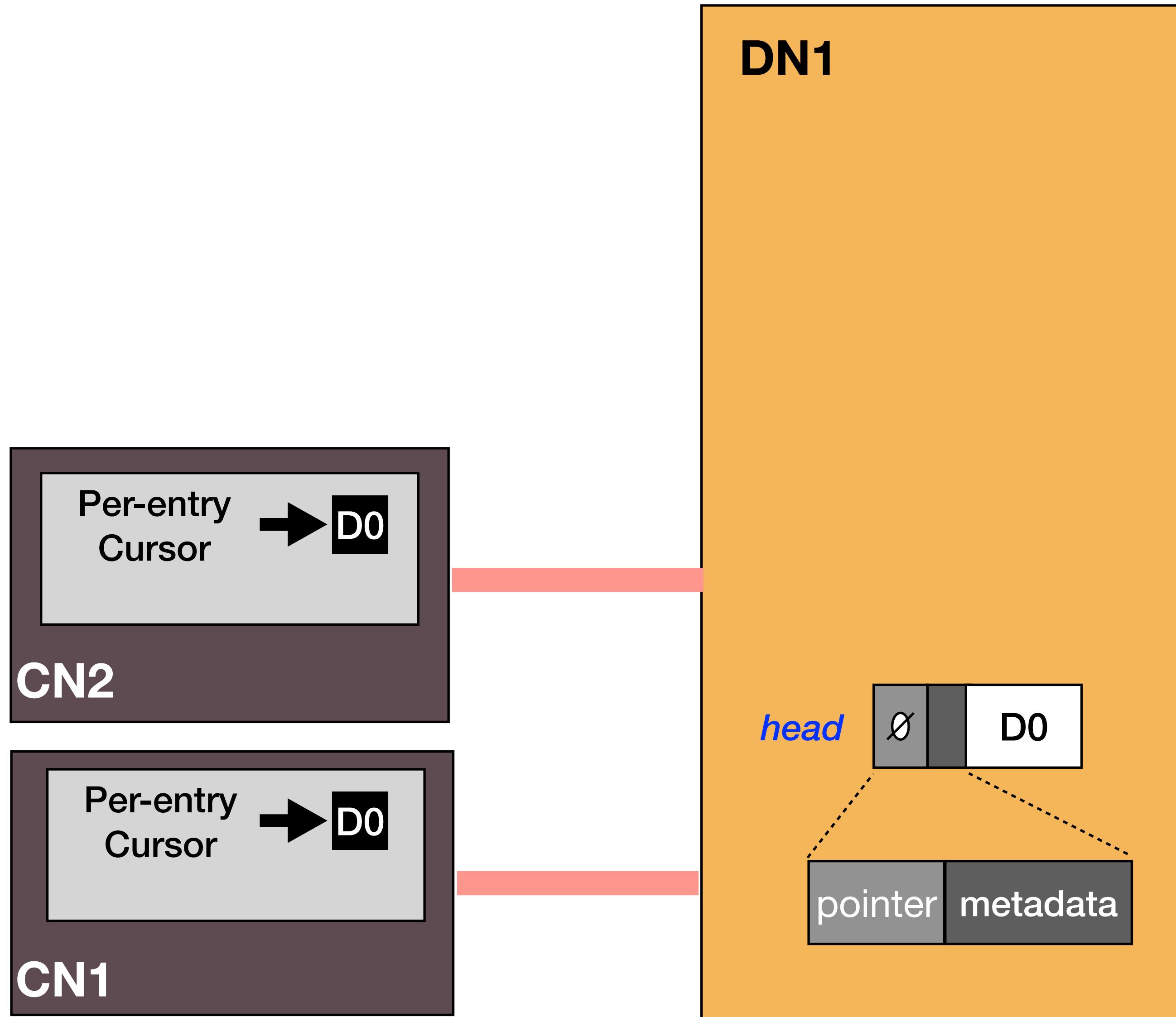


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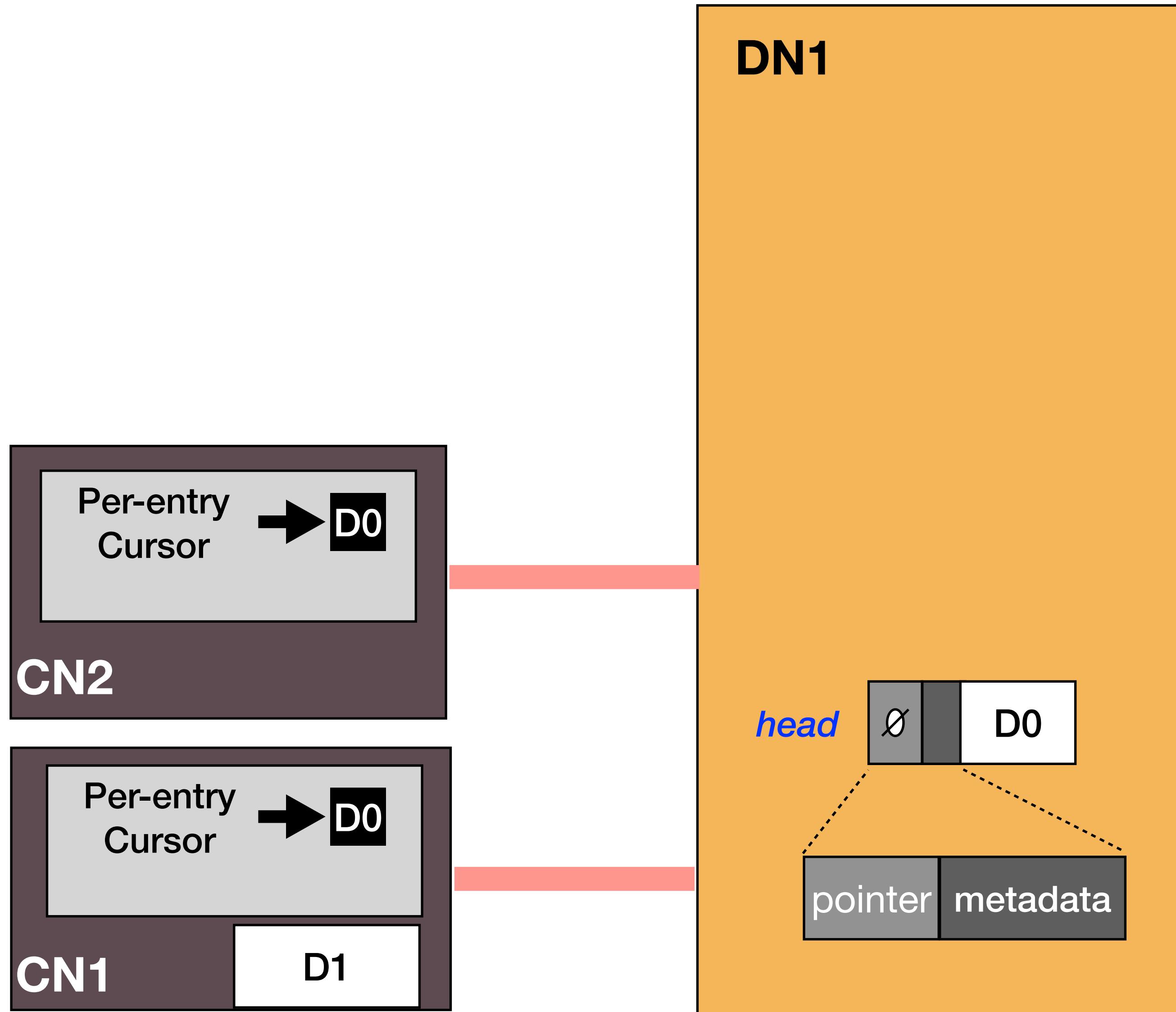


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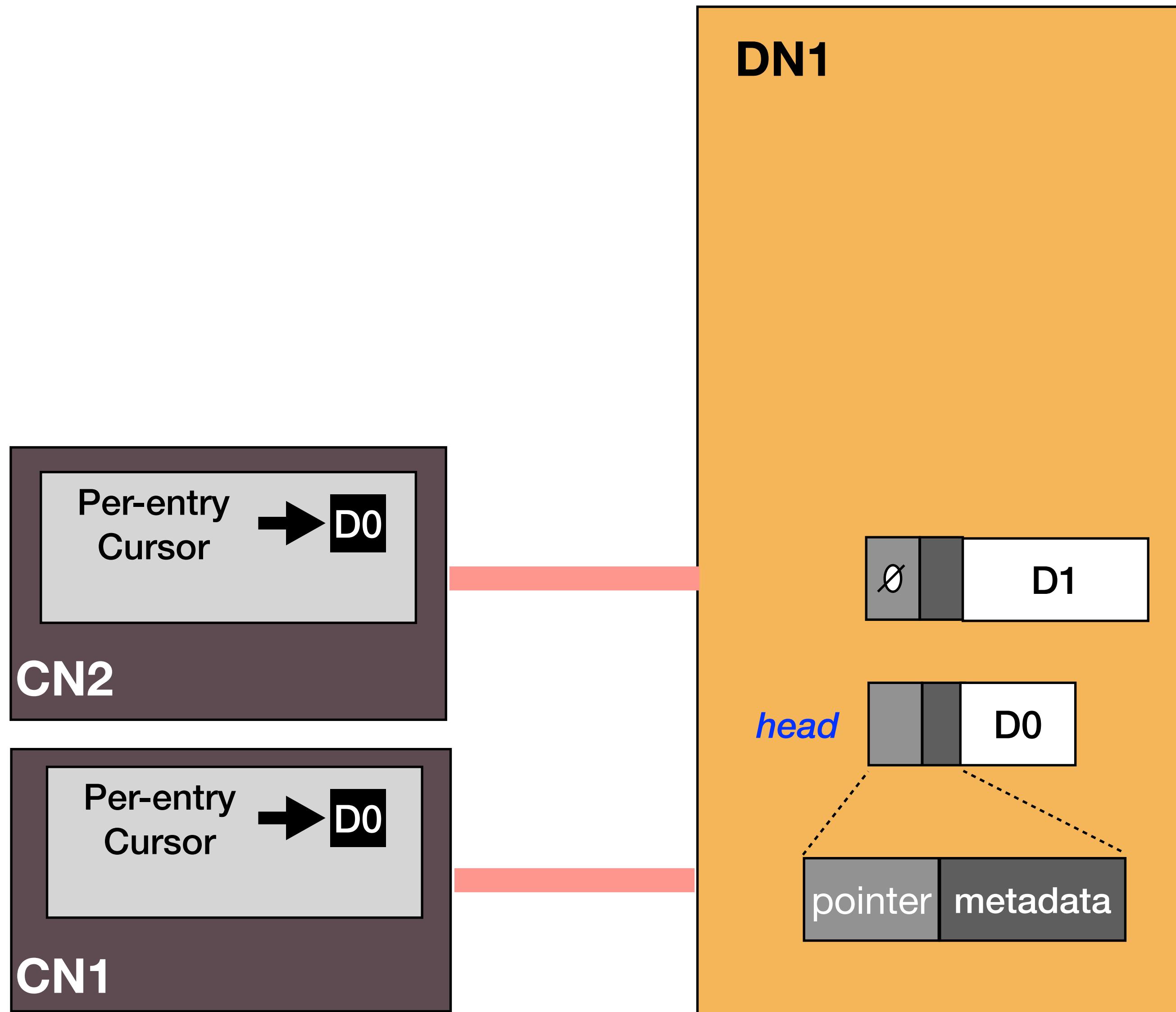


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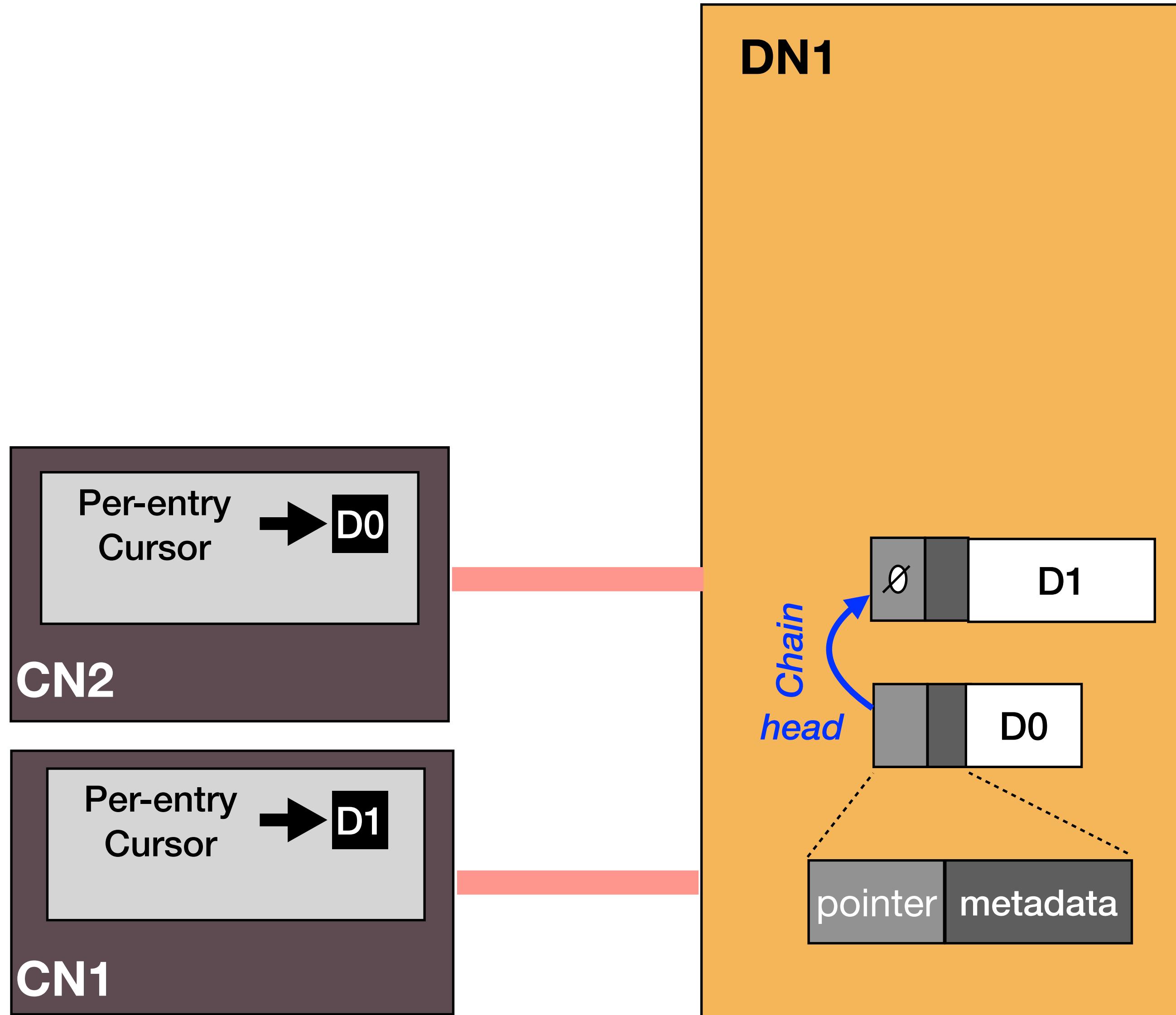


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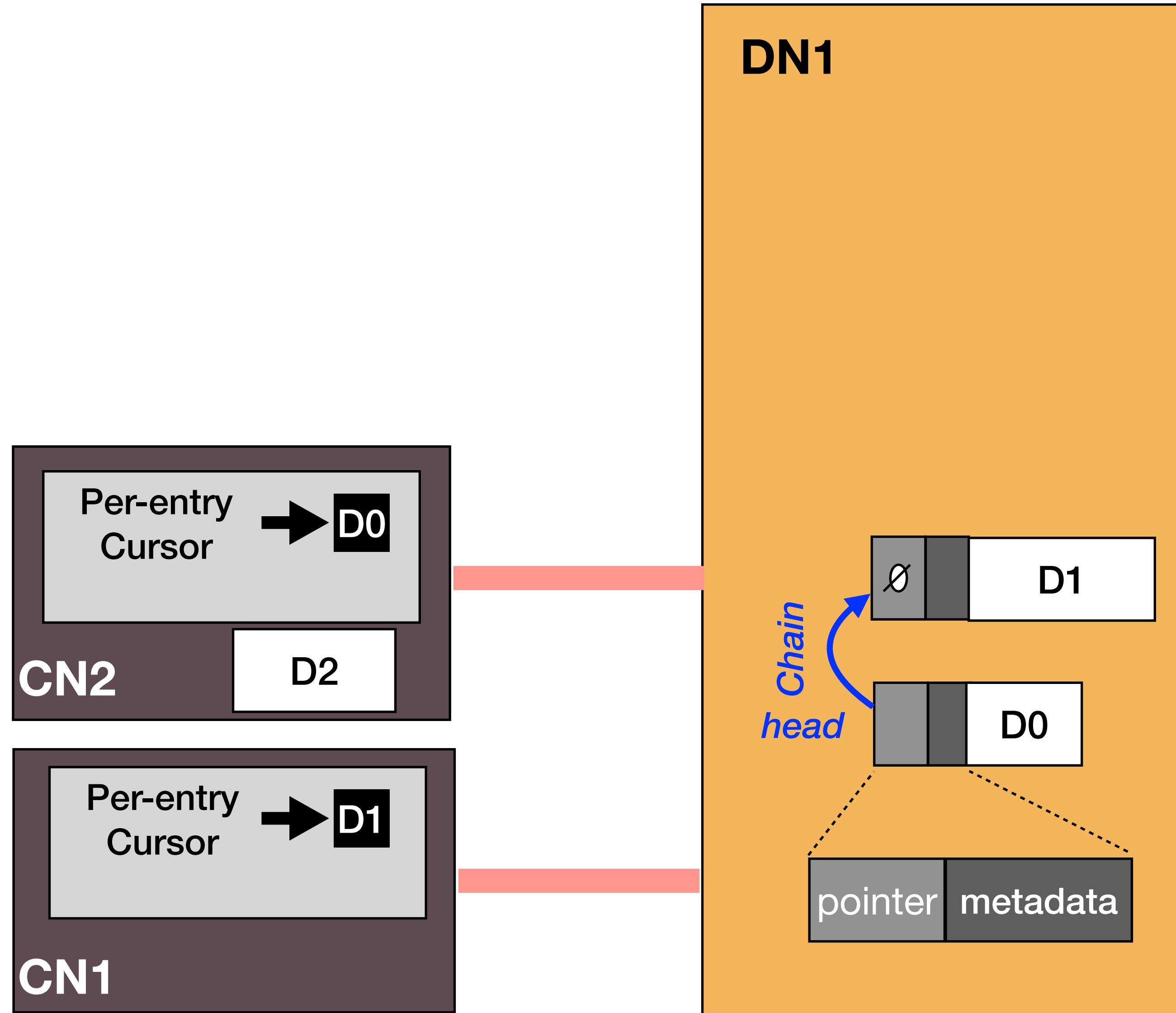


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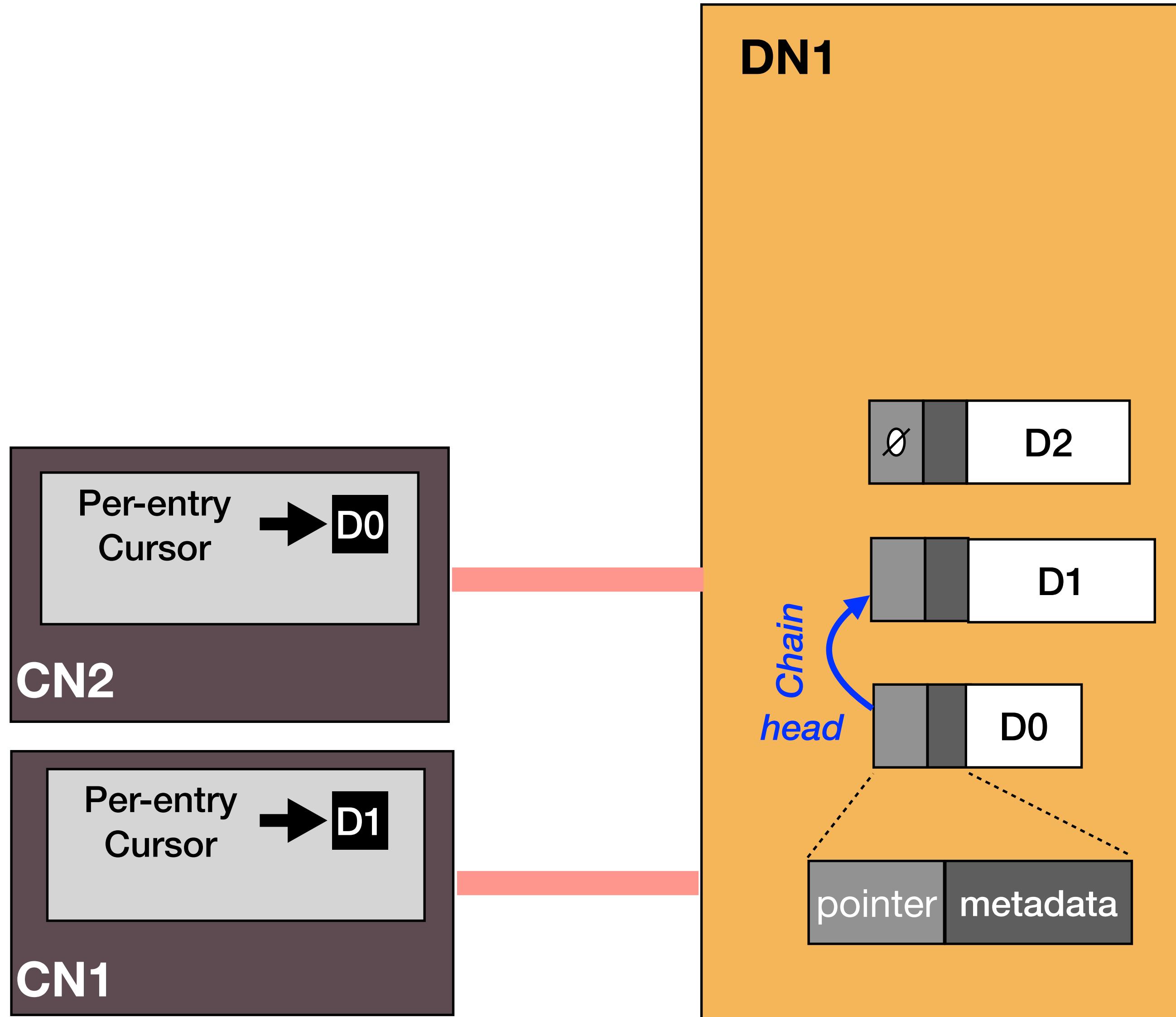


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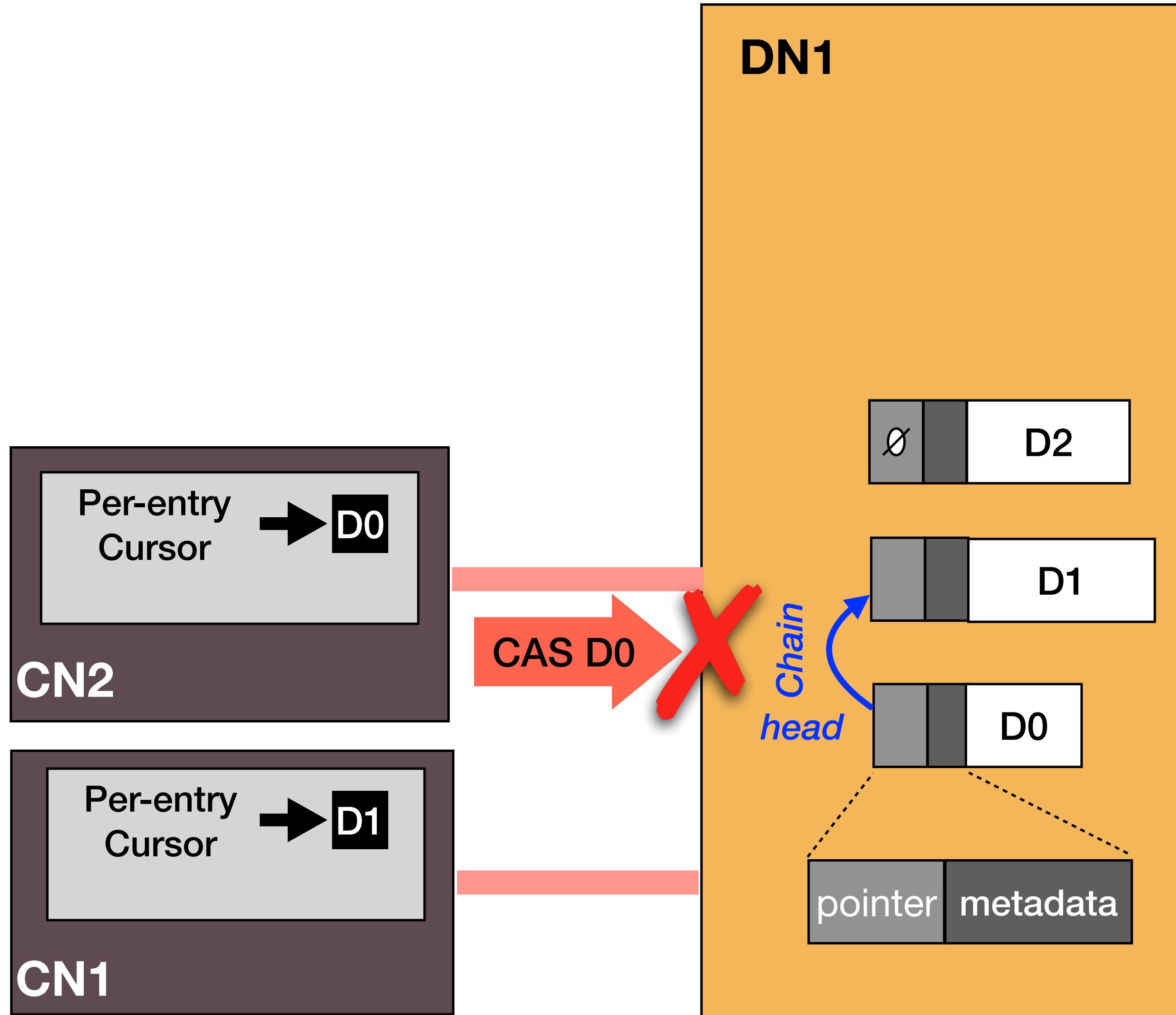


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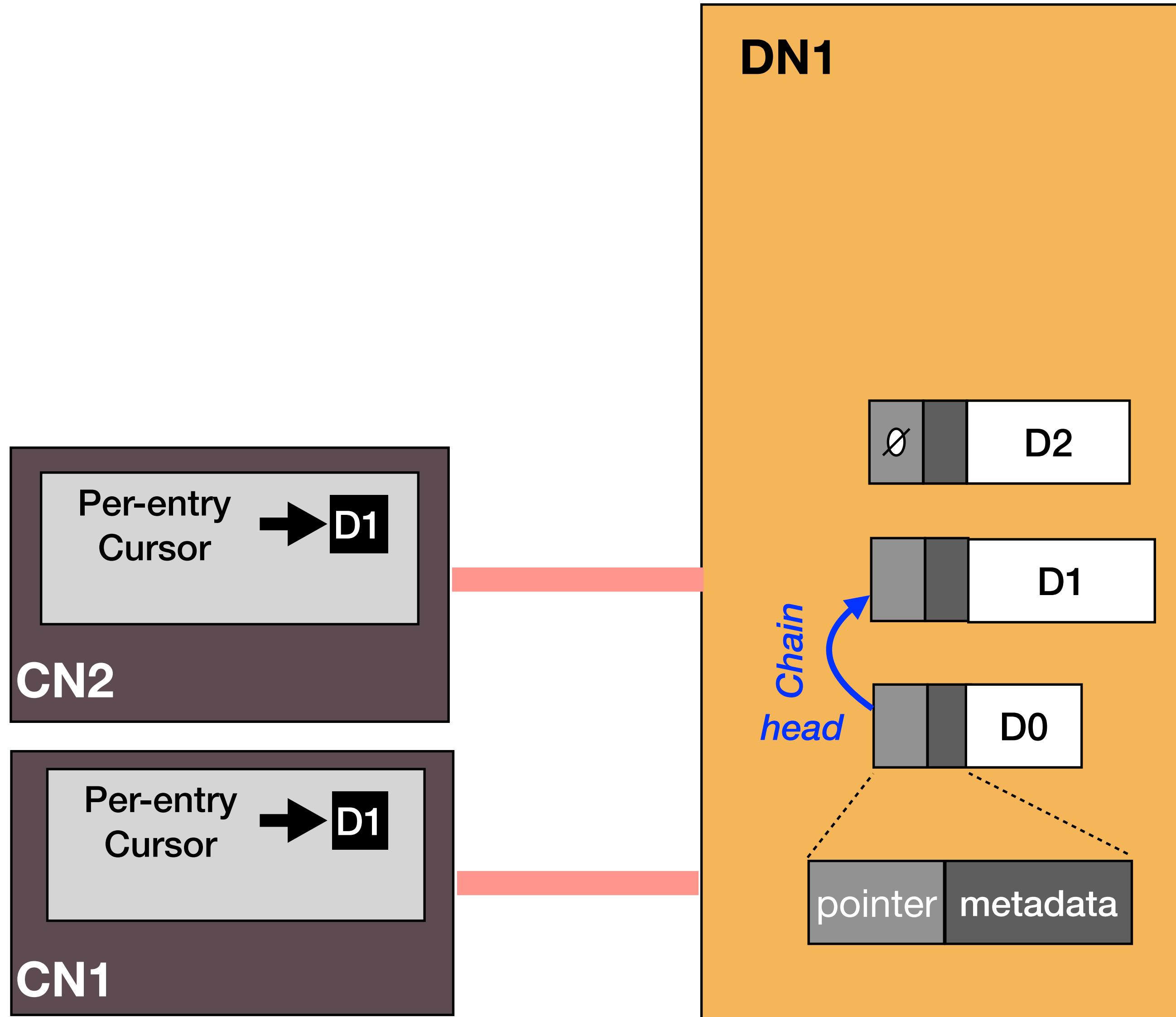


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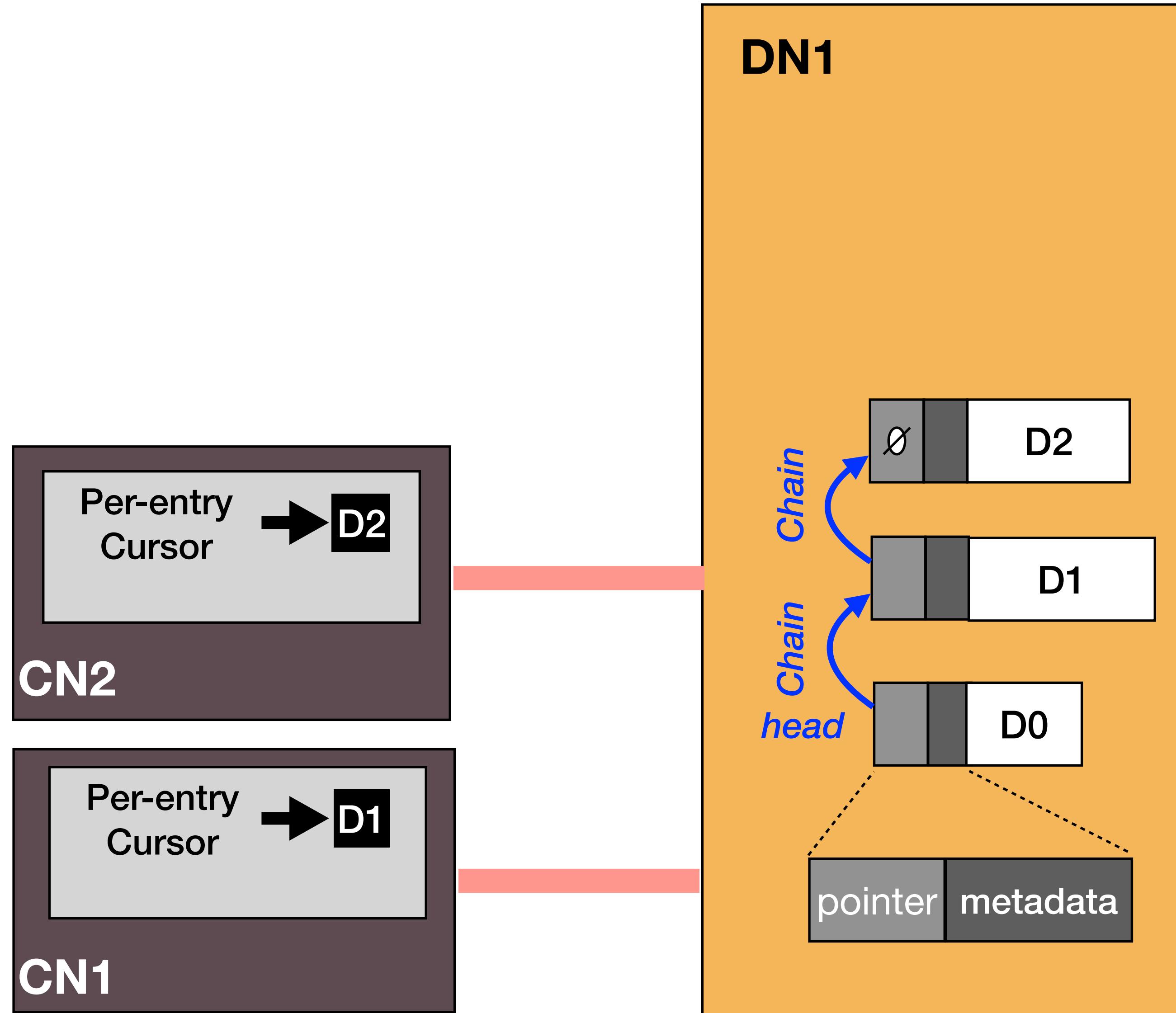


# Lock-free data structures

Chained redo copies (versions) at DNS  
CNs cache a *cursor* that points to a version

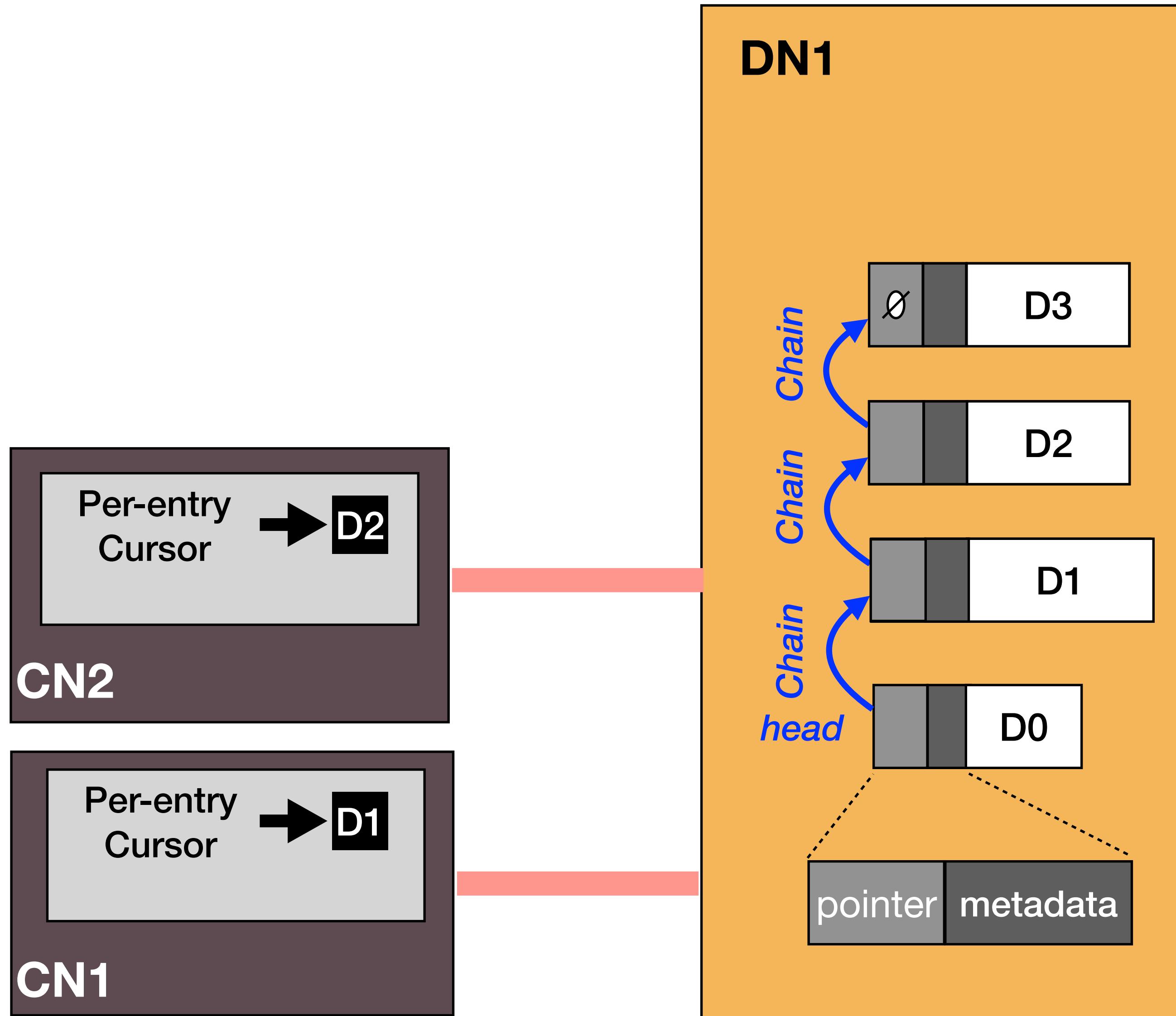
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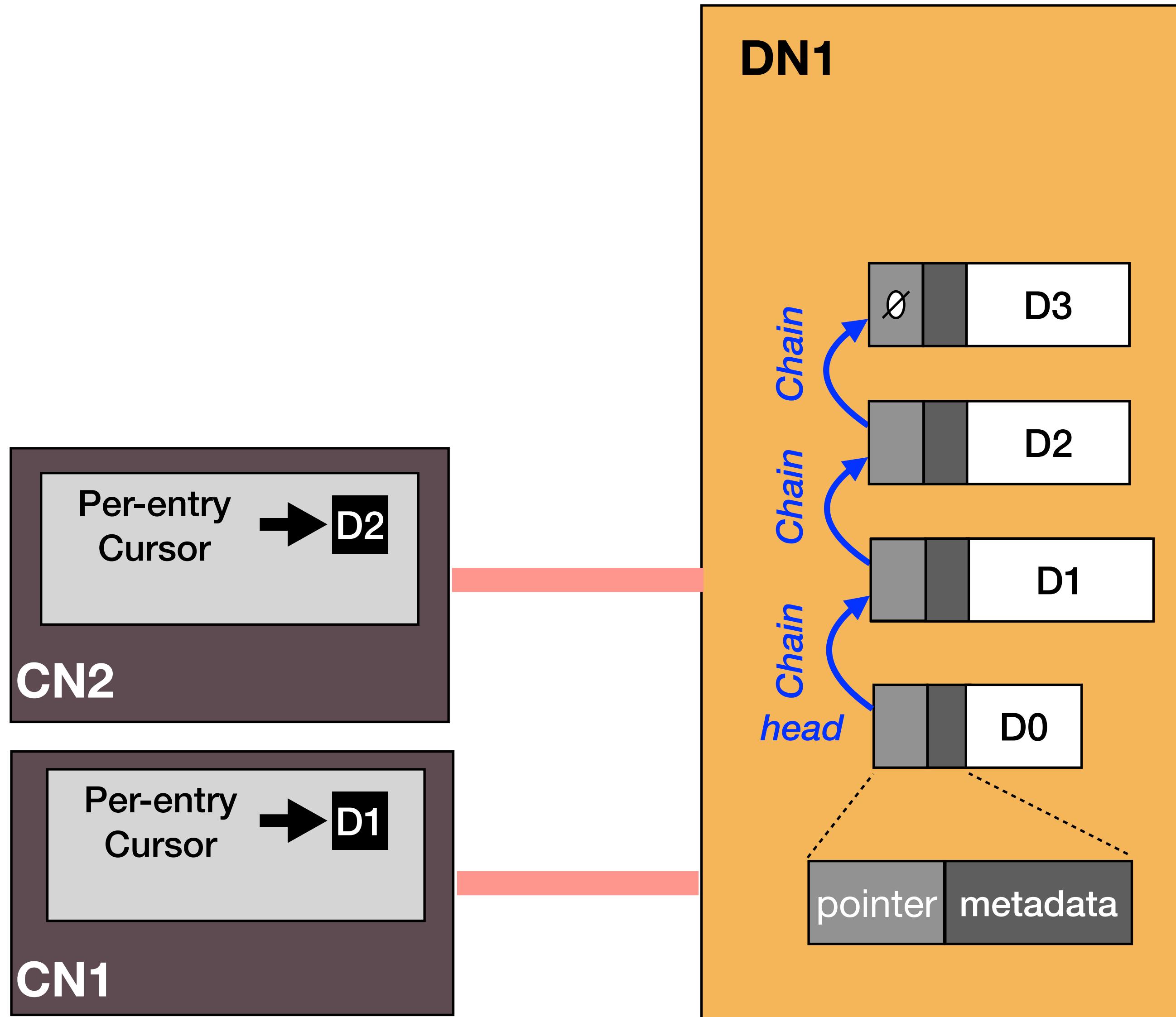


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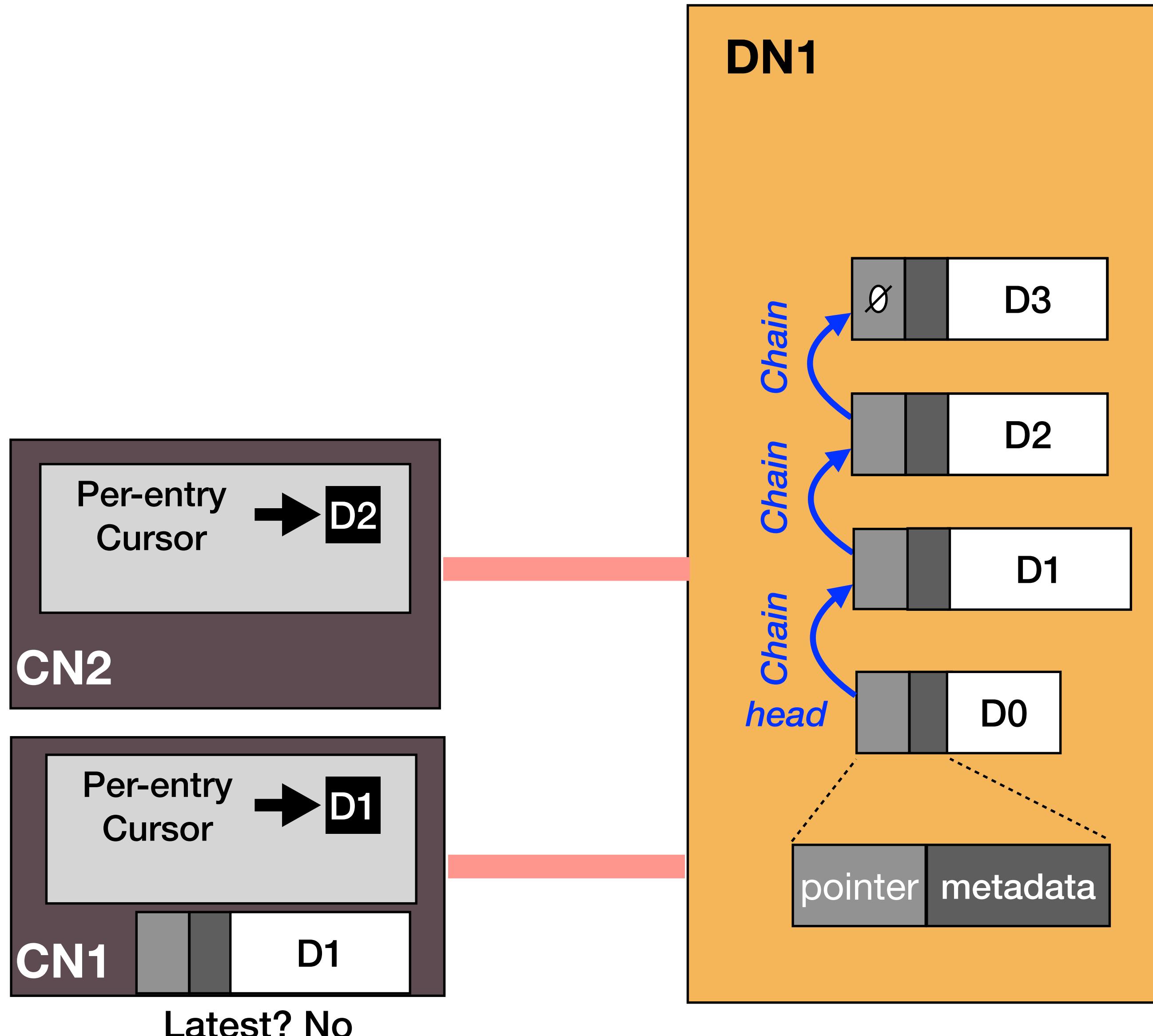
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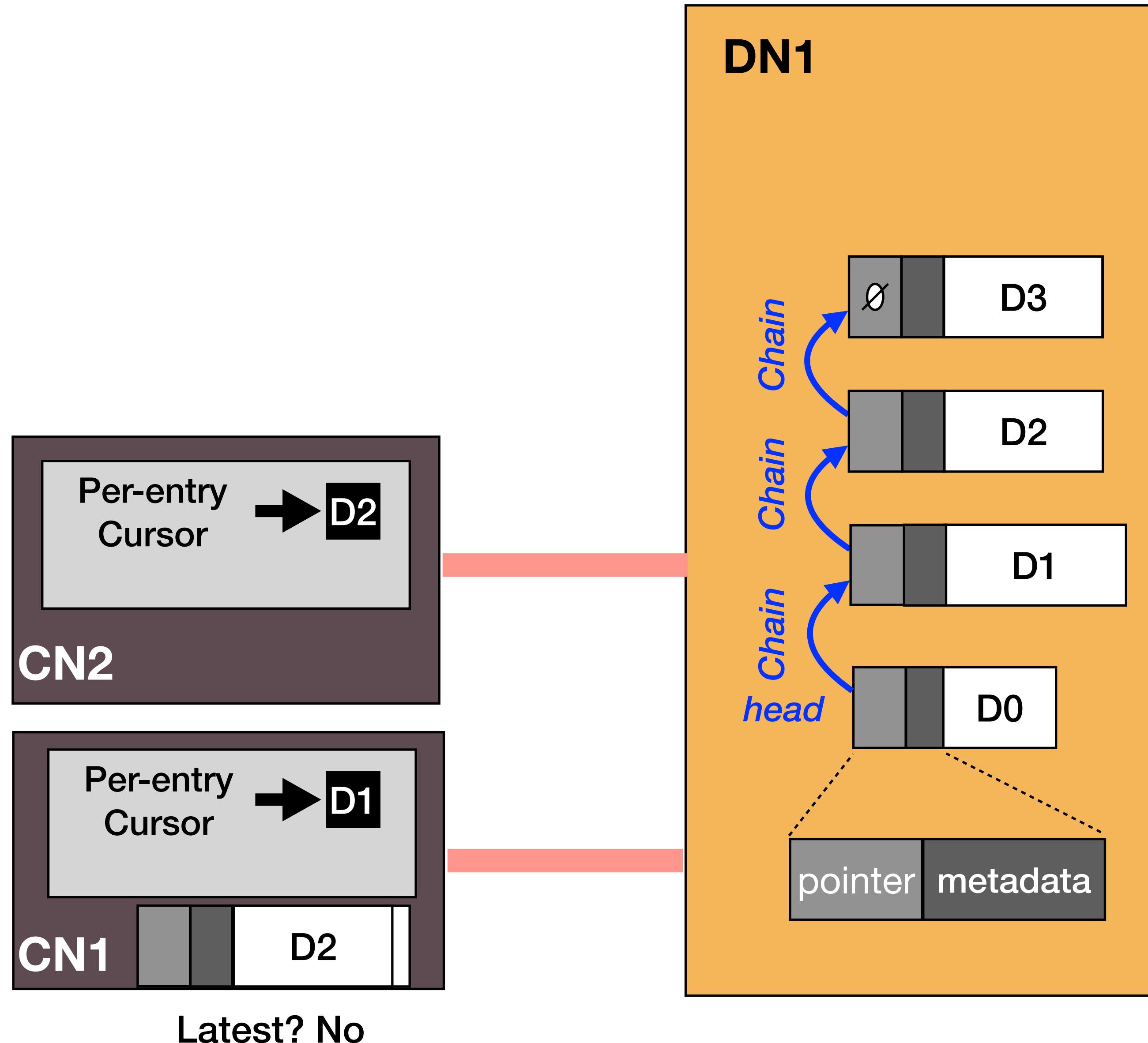
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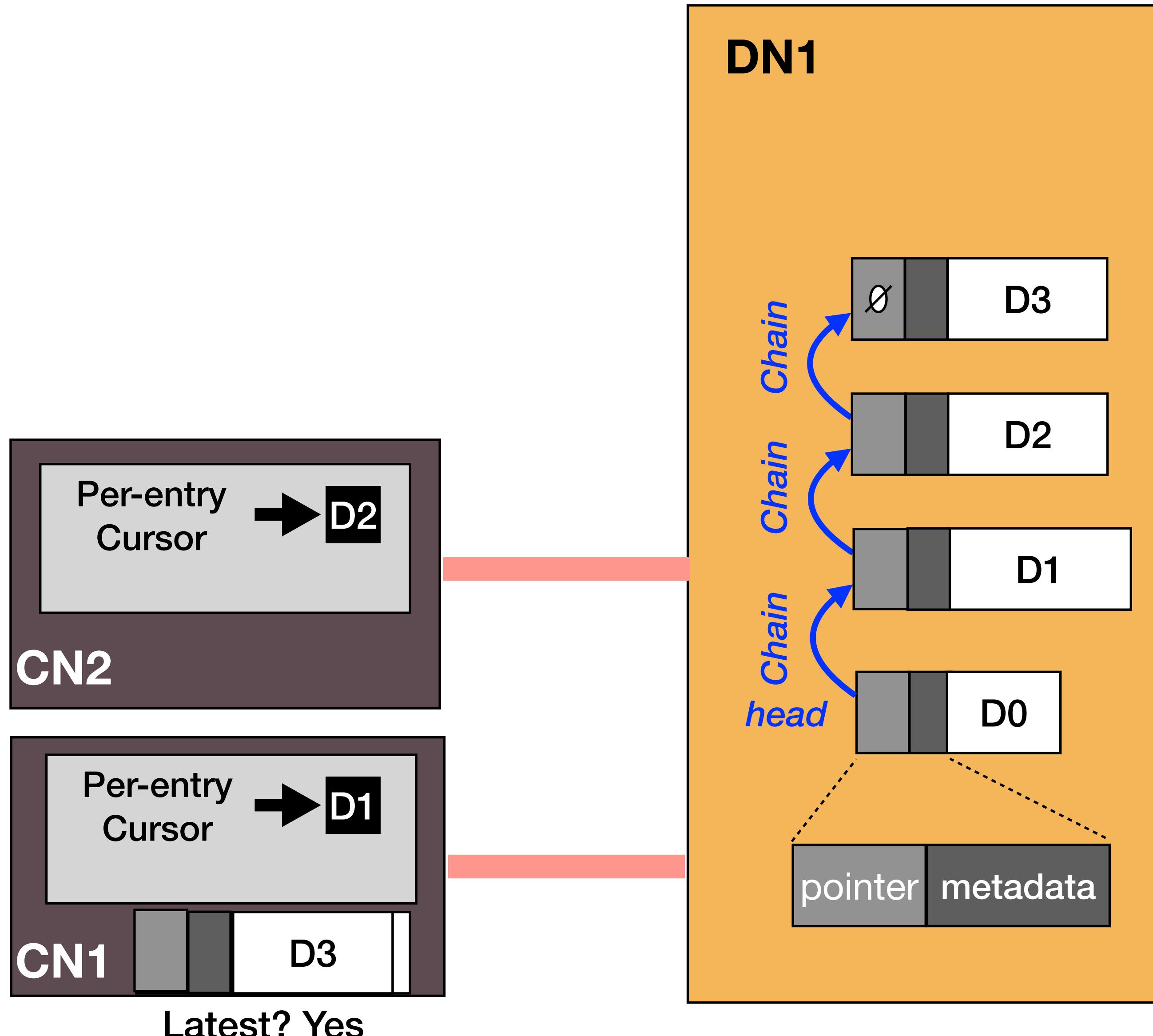
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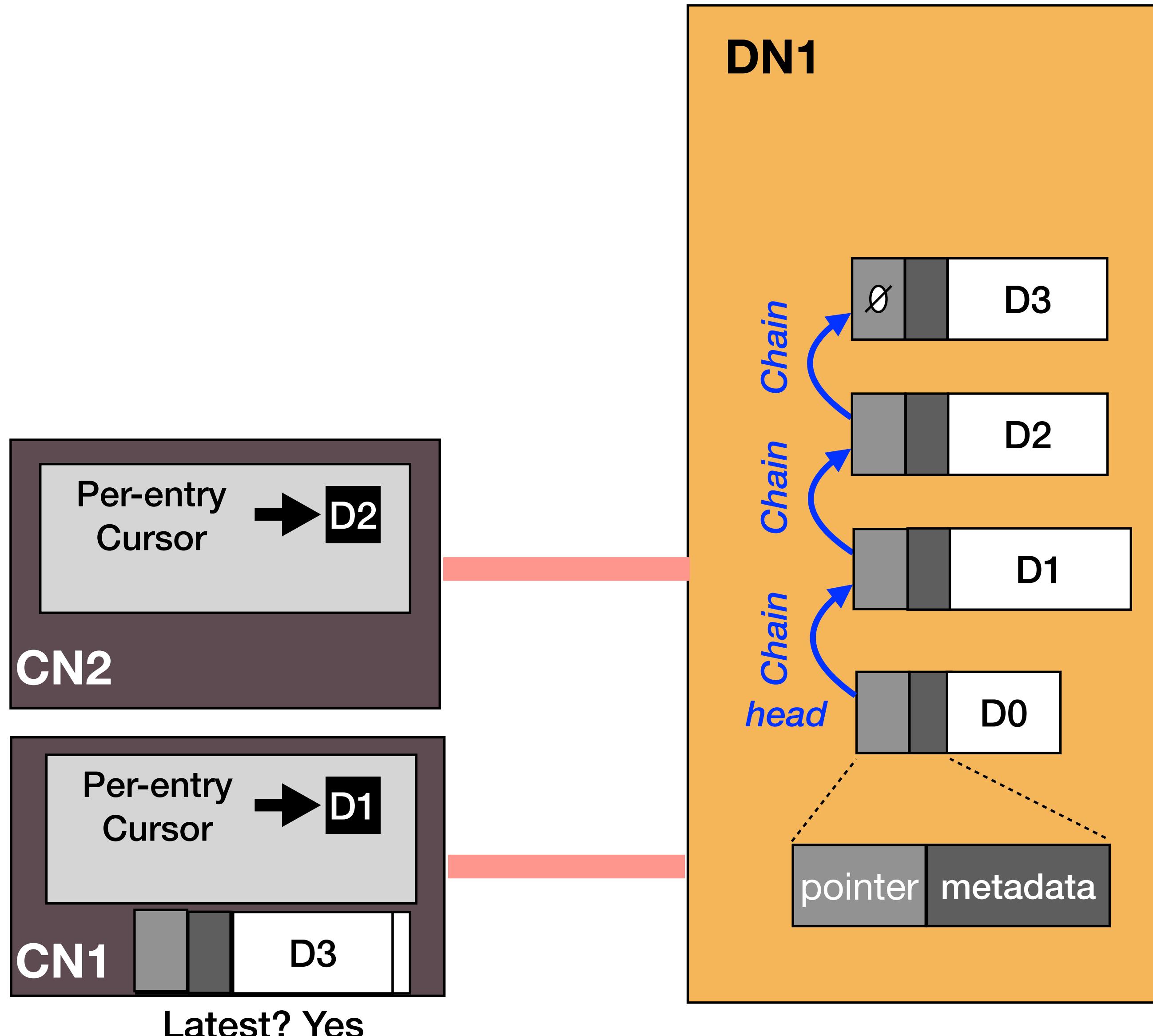
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3 RTTs to finish a KV READ!

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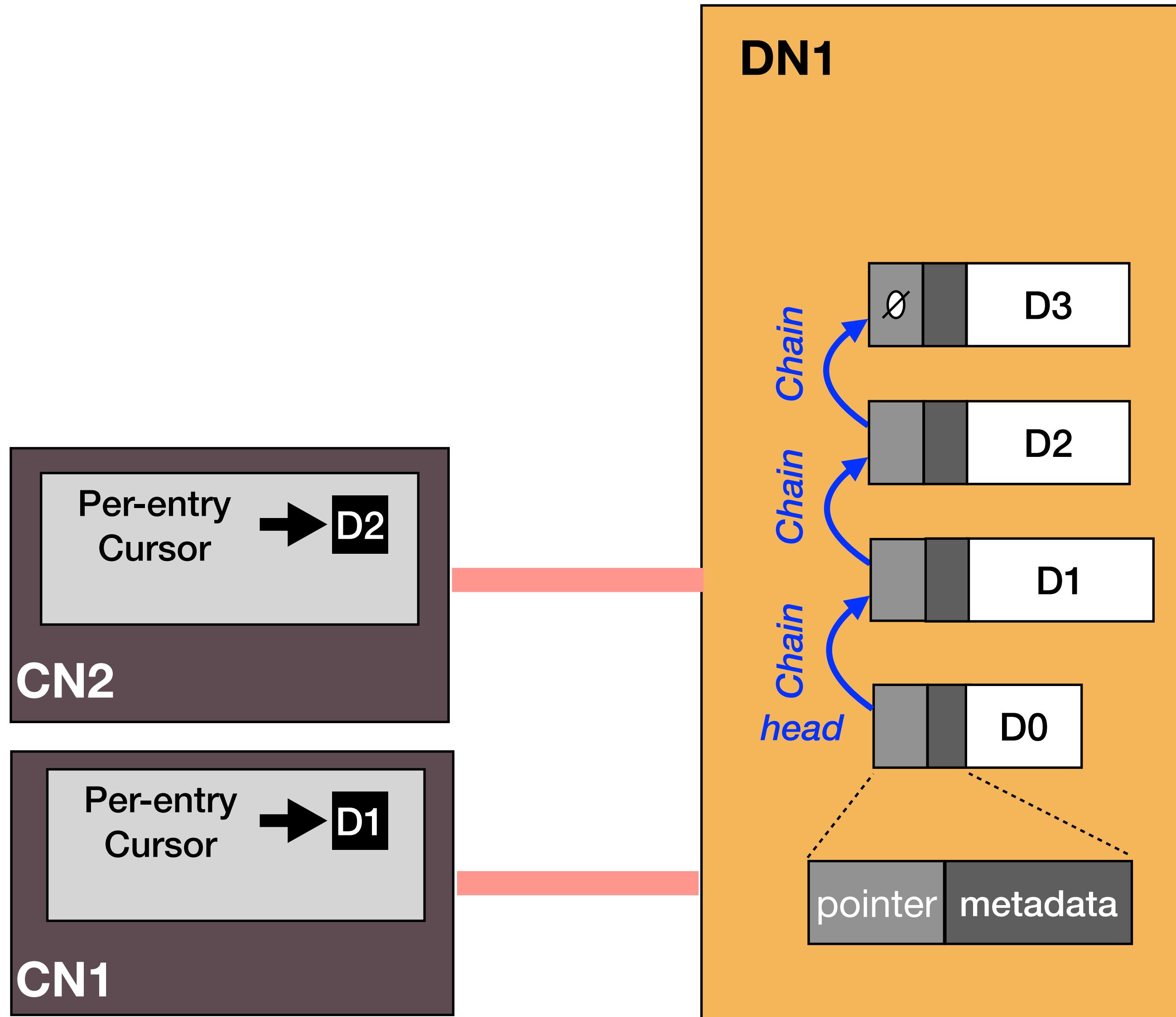
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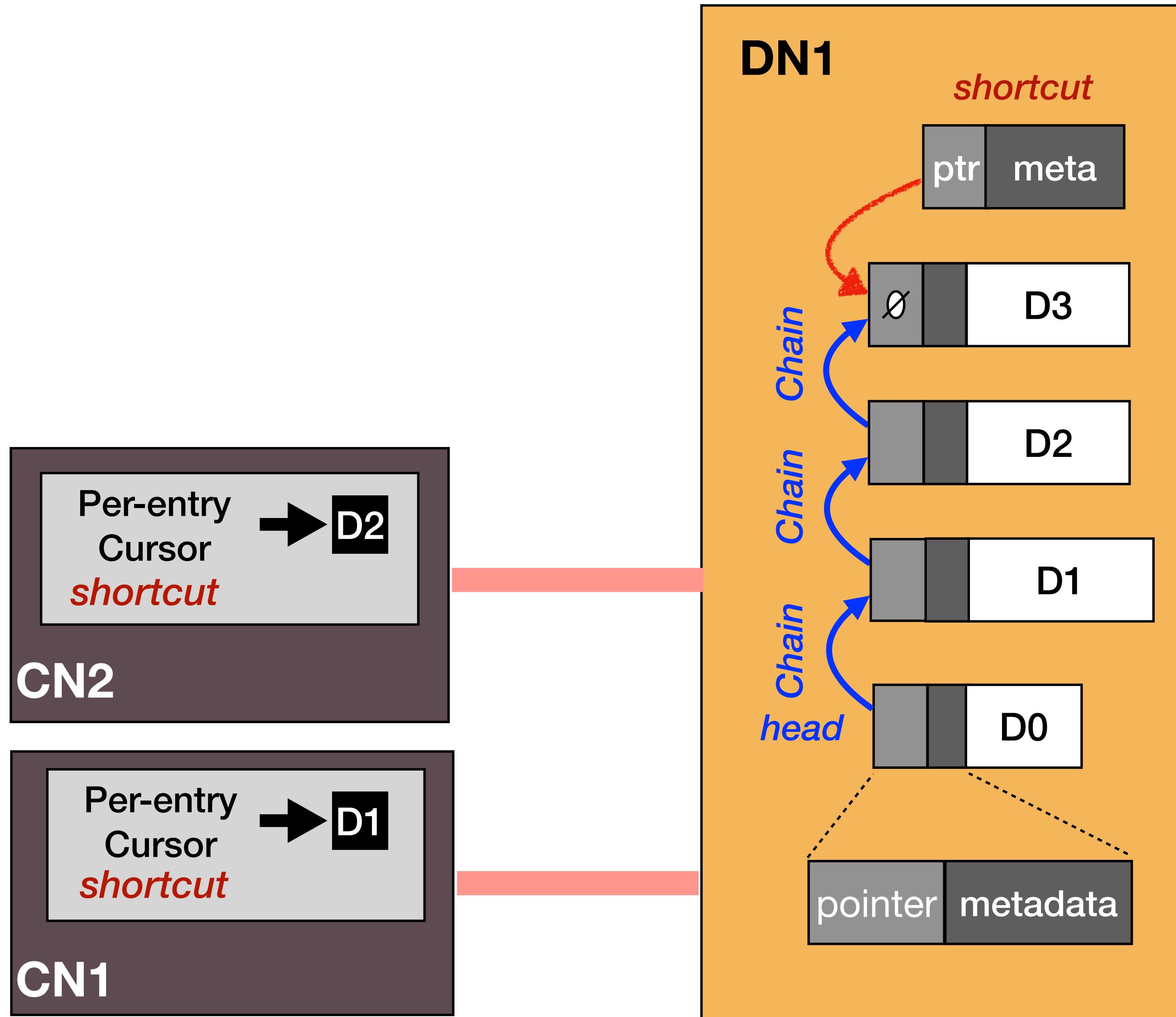
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- Uses a shortcut to avoid long chain walk
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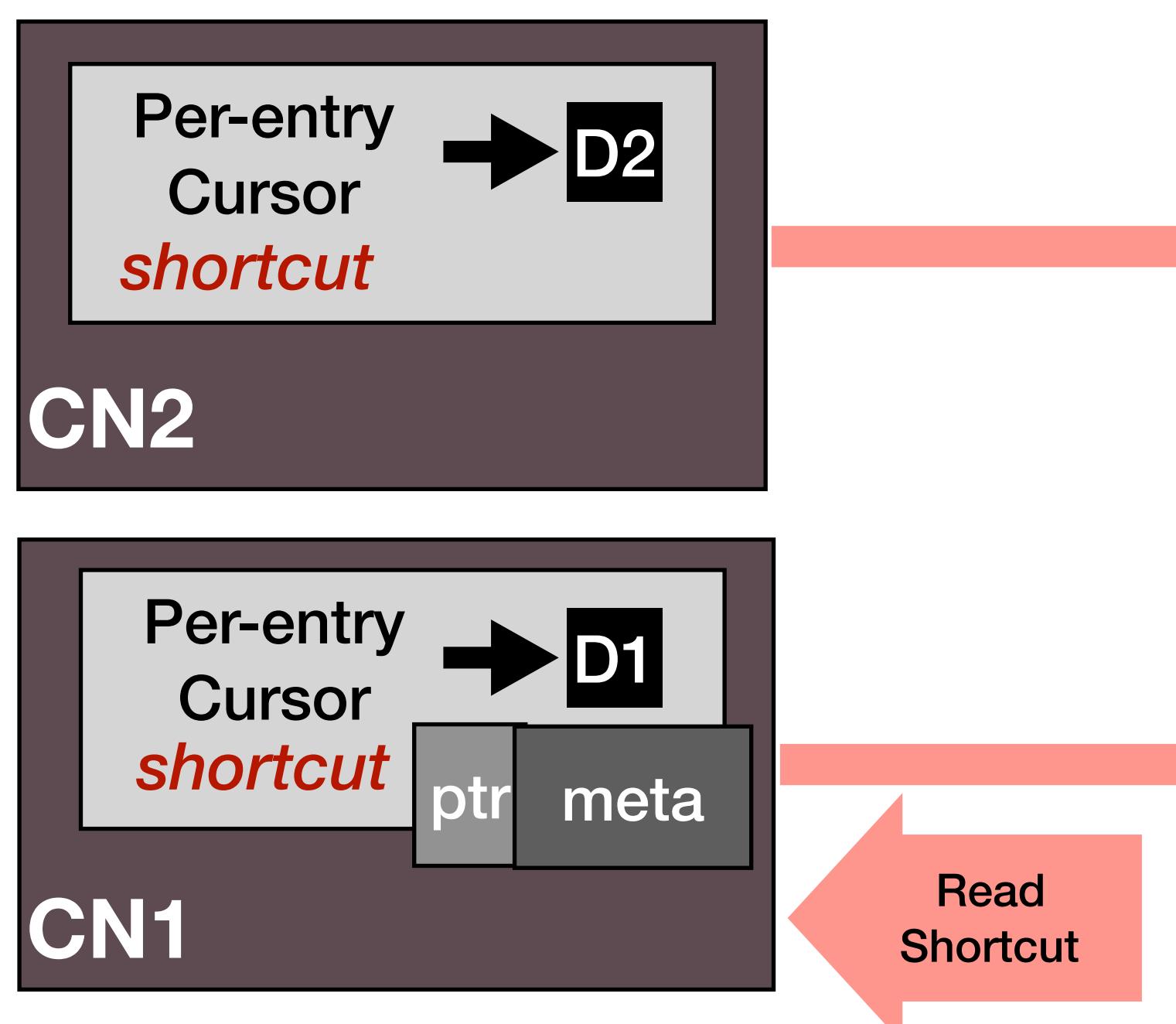
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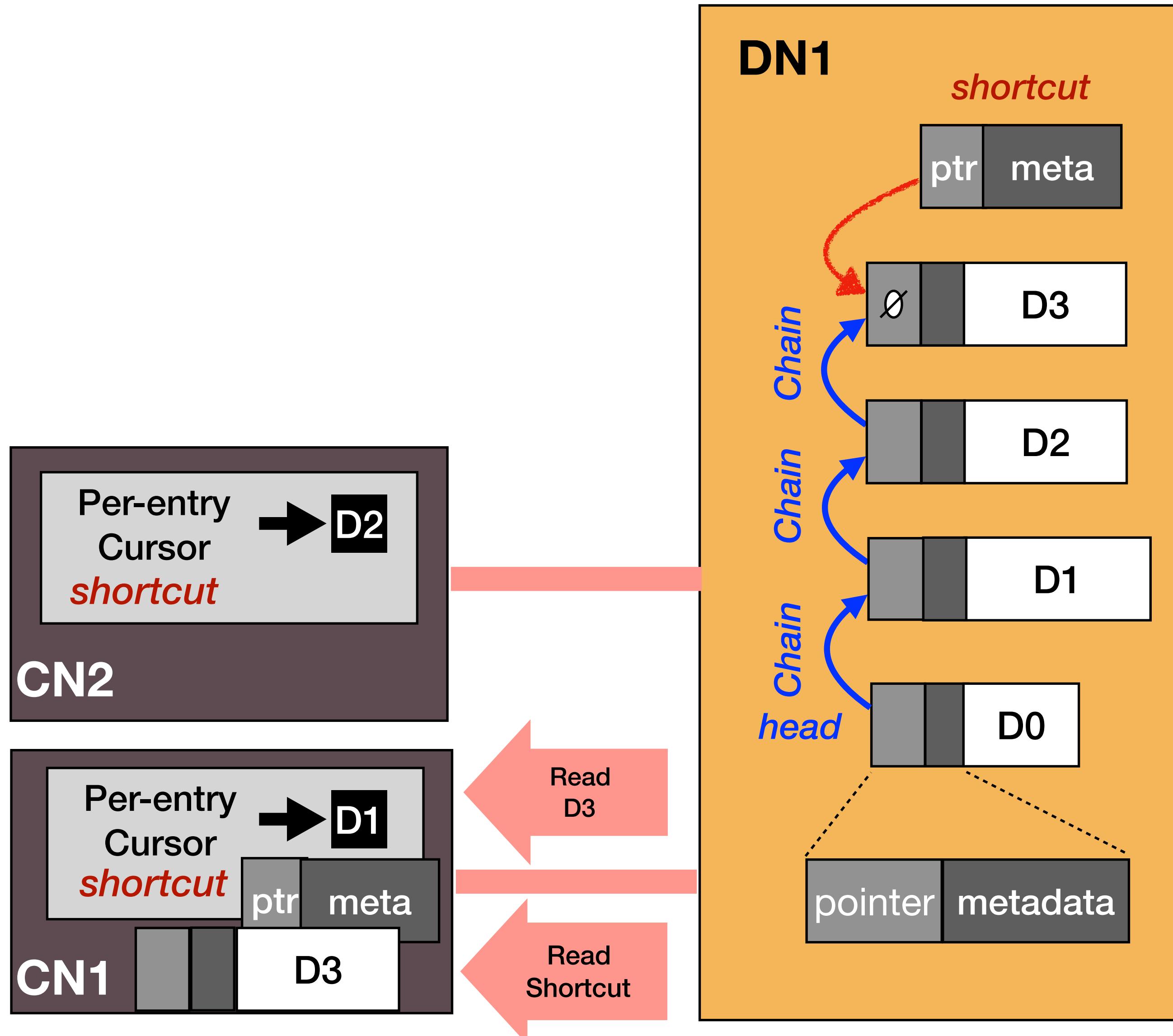
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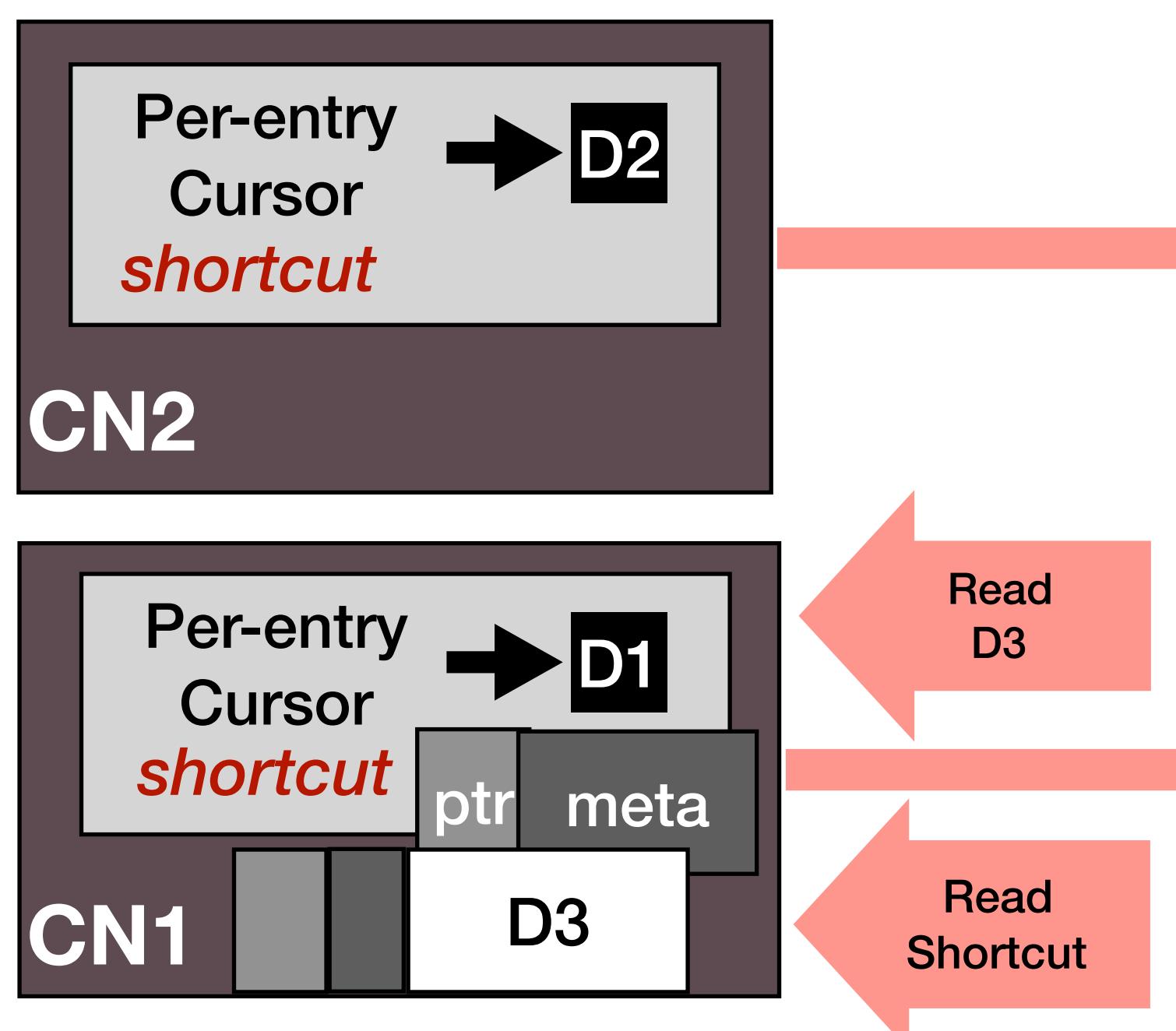
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# Lock-free data structures

Perf when low contention

Write: 2 RTT

Read: 1 RTT



3 RTTs to finish a KV READ!

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Main Challenges in Metadata Plane:

*How to provide low-overhead, scalable metadata service?*

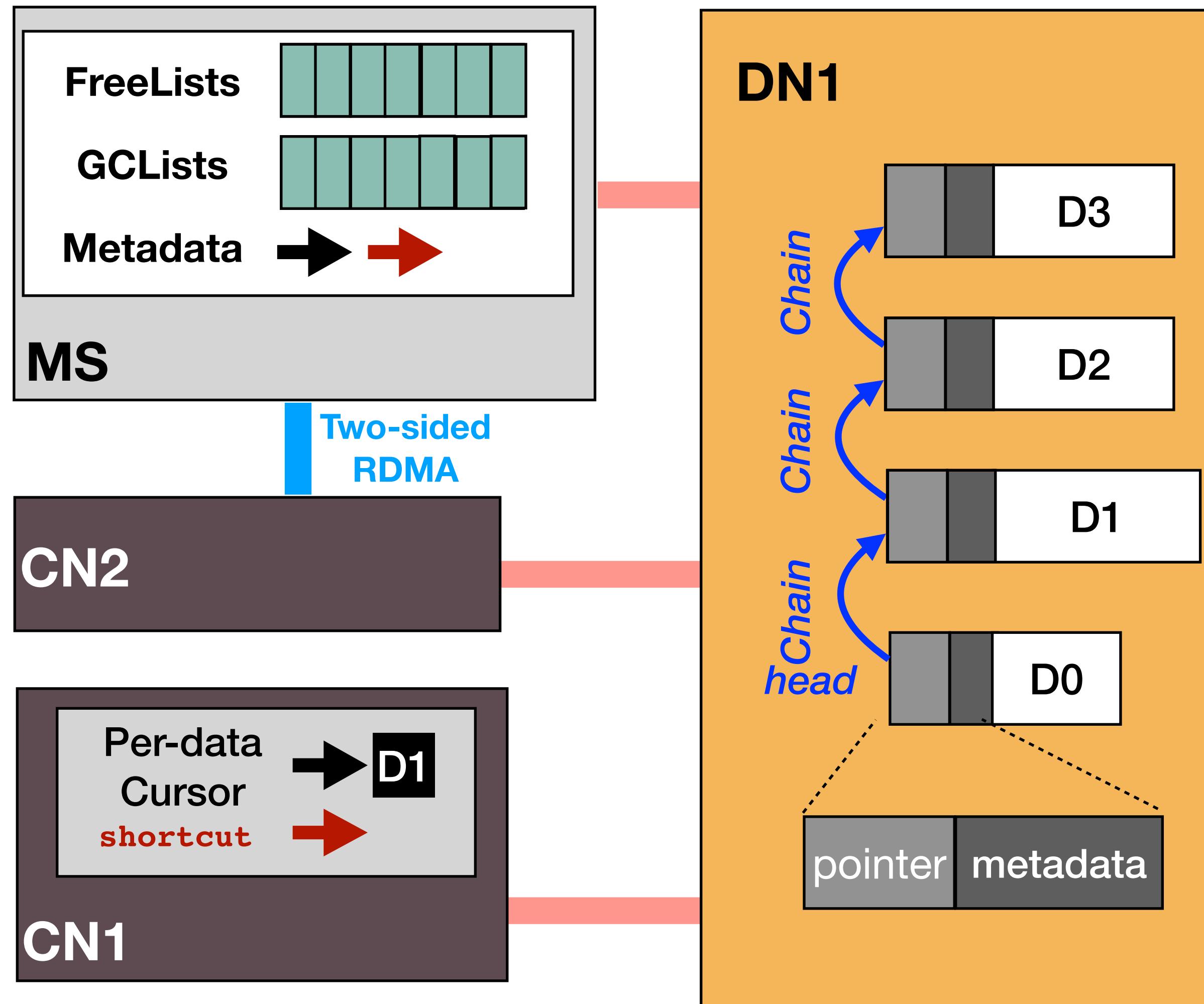
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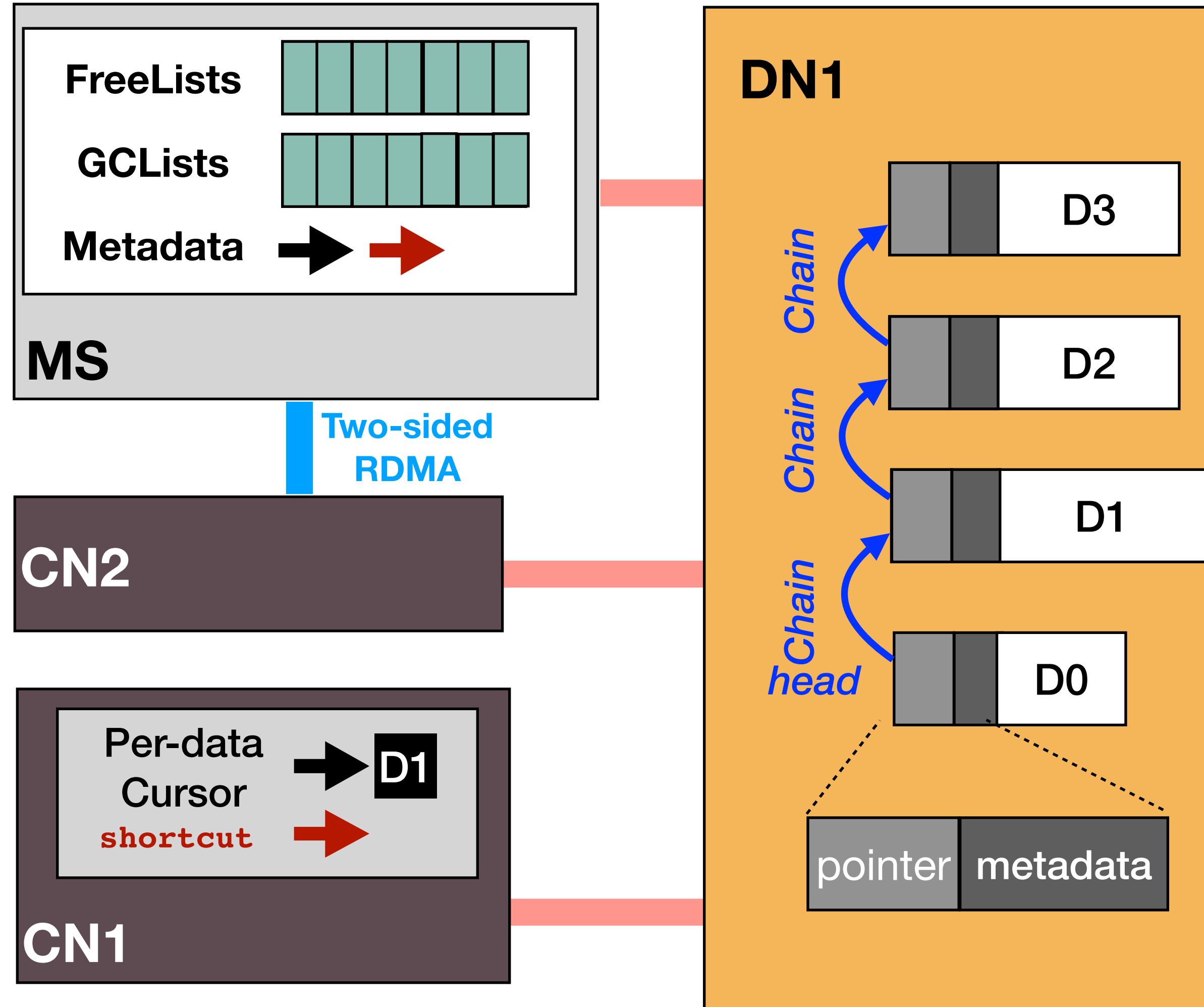
*How to provide low-overhead, scalable metadata service?*

### Our Approaches

- Move **all** metadata operations off performance critical paths
  - Batch metadata operations
  - **No** cache invalidation
- ➡ No performance overhead caused by metadata ops (common case)

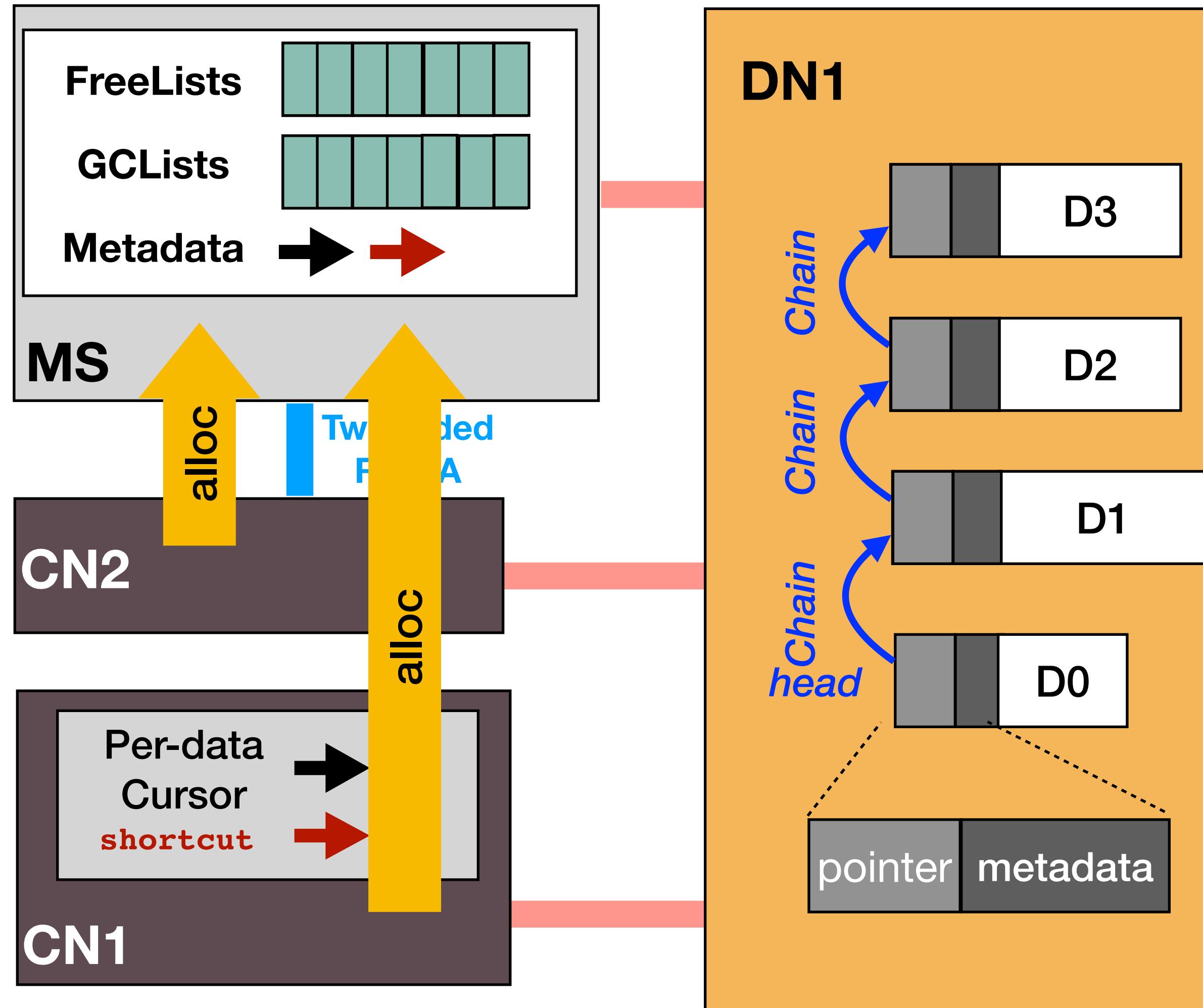
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- Space management
- Garbage collection
- Global load balancing

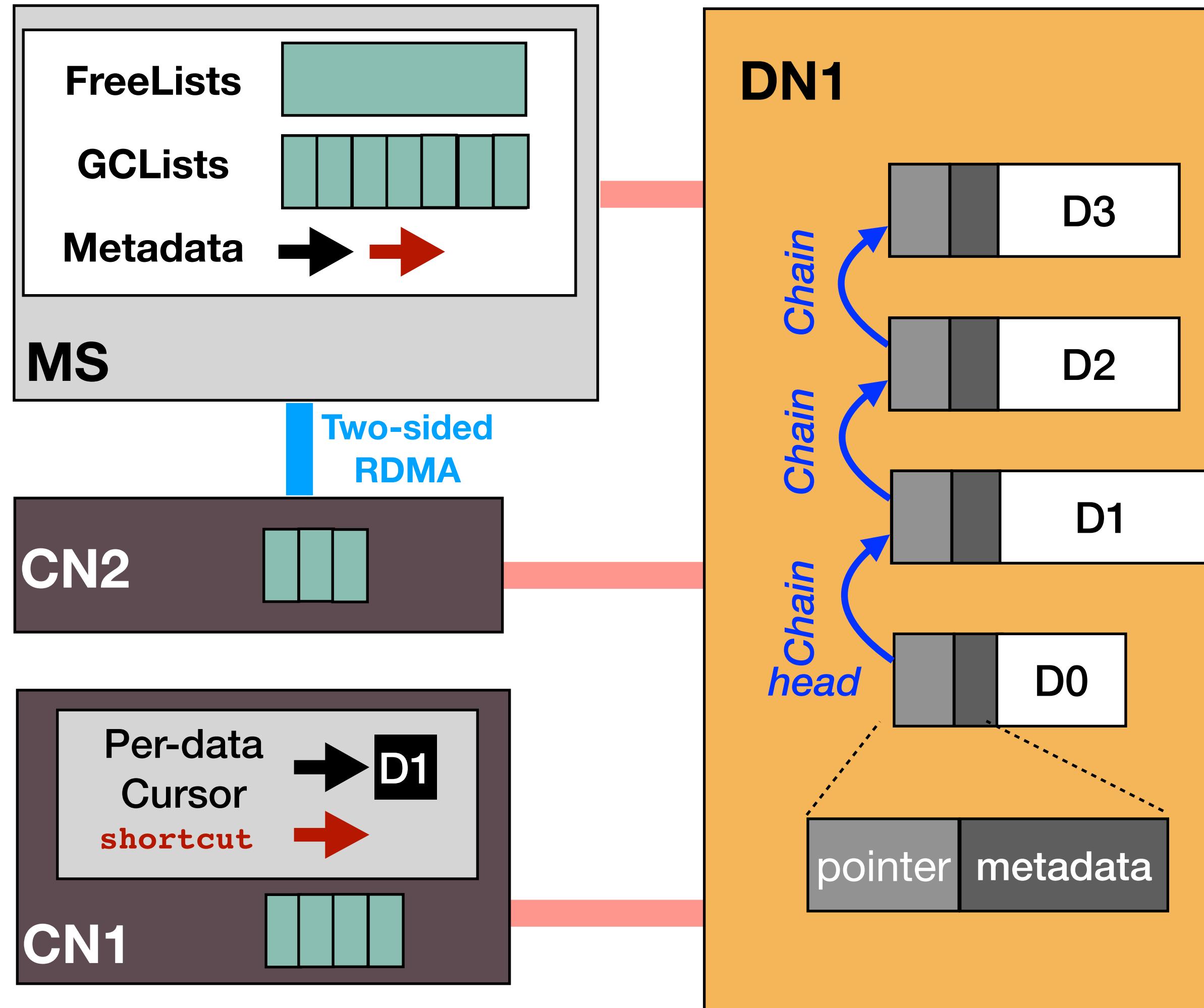


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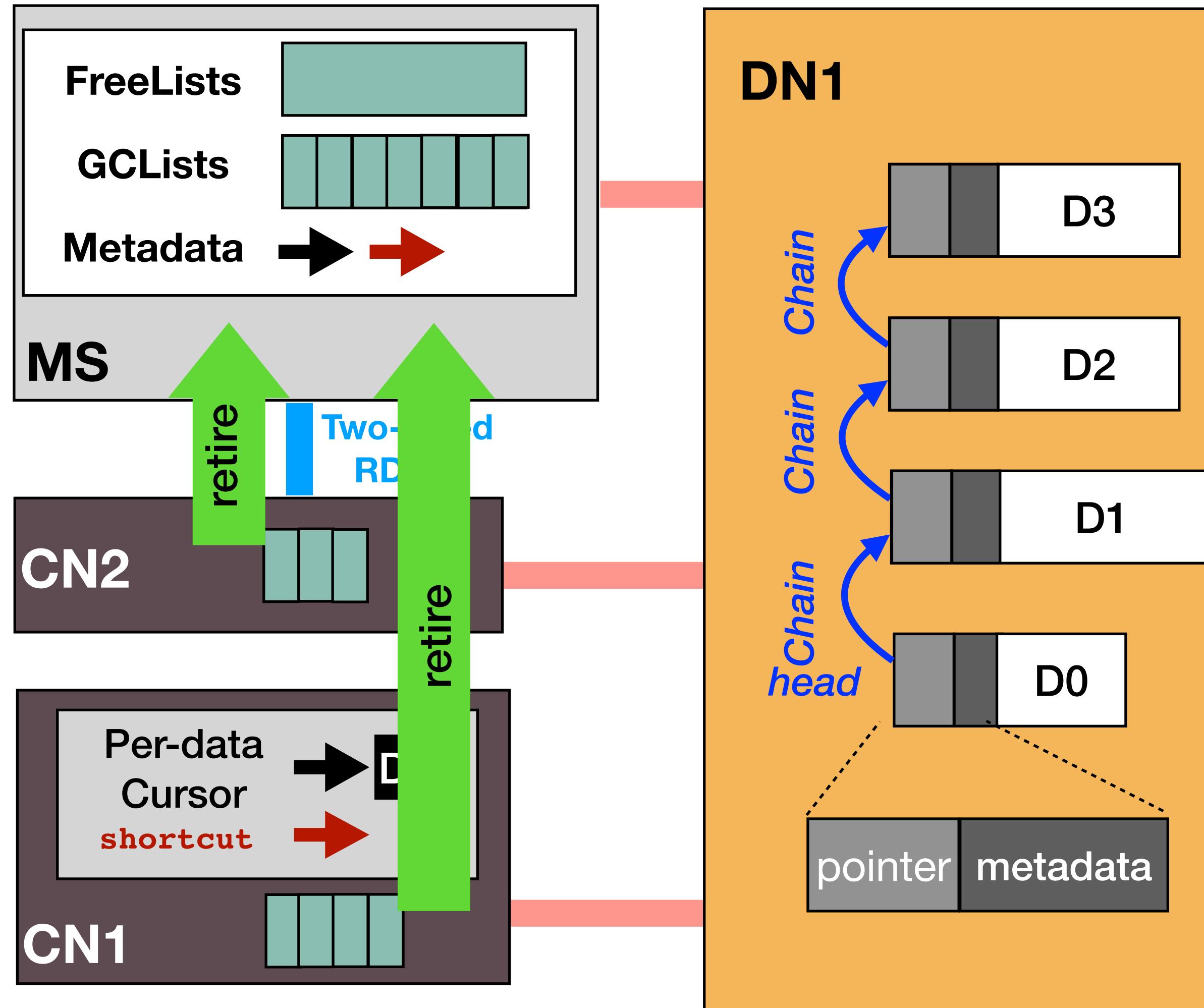


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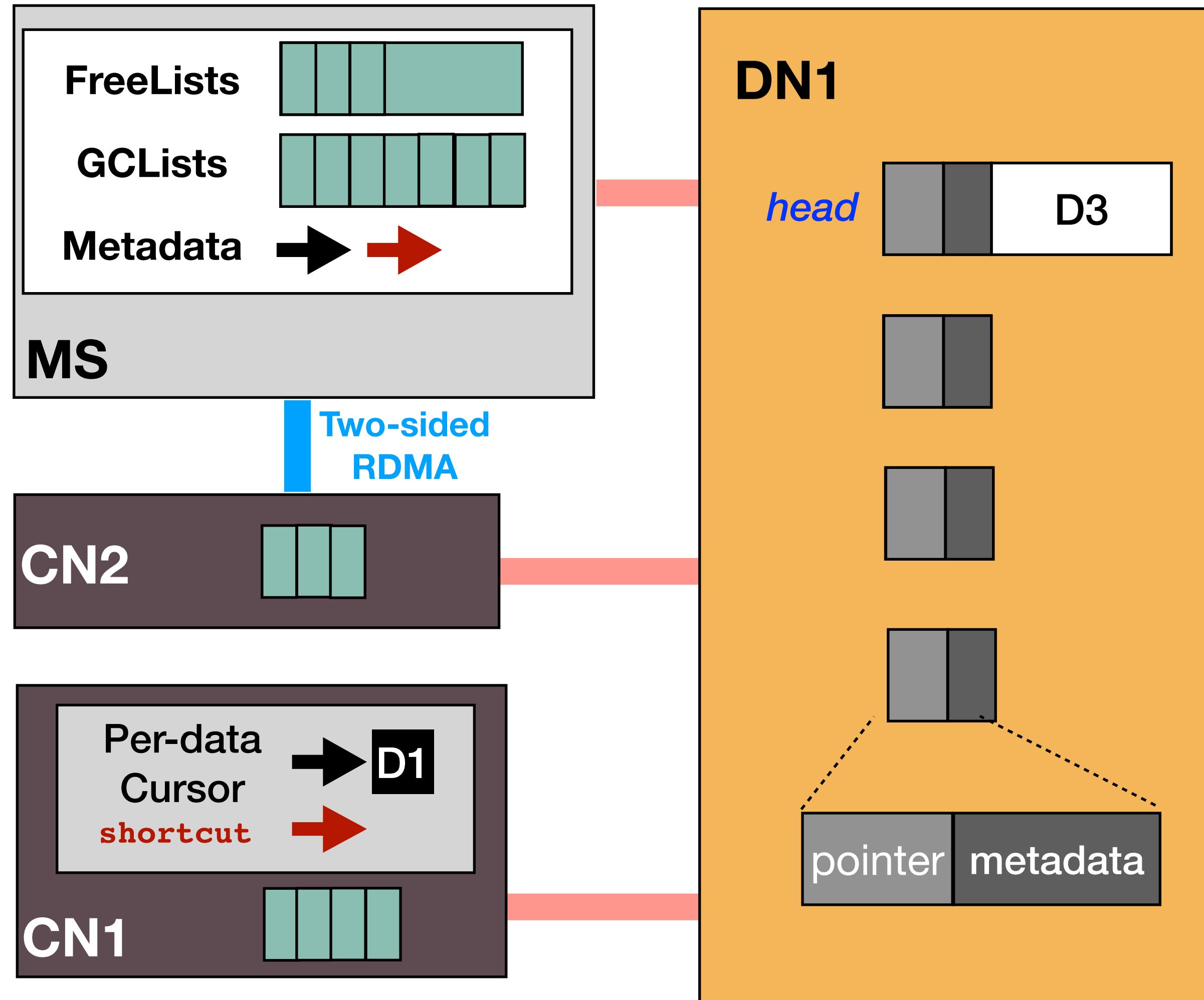
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- After write, CN asynchronously **retires** a batch of old versions
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# Reliability and Load Balancing

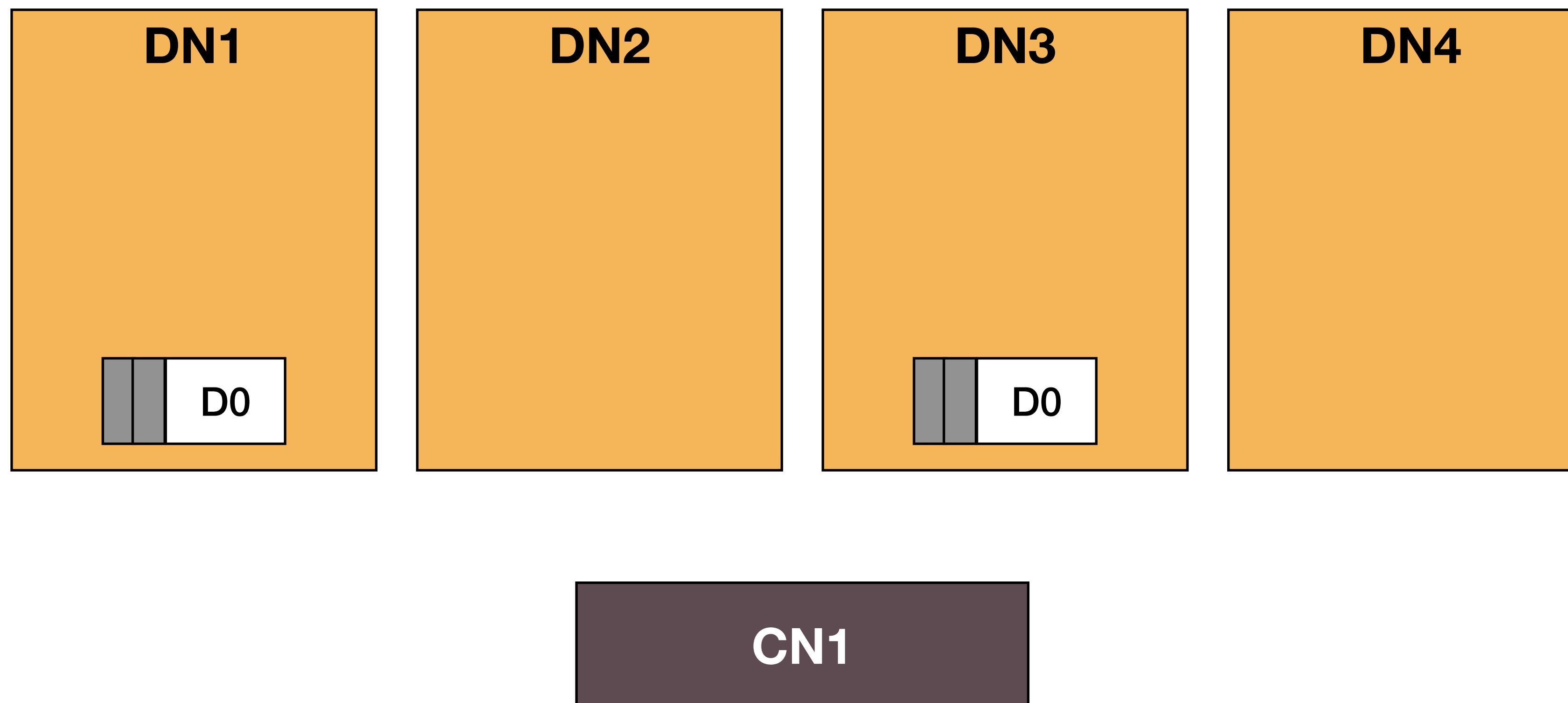
**Data reliability** through a novel chaining replication

- Link a version to all the replicas of next version

**Metadata reliability** through shadow MS servers

**Load balancing** via a two-level approach

- MS and CNs both control location
- Versions in a chain can be on different DNs



# Reliability and Load Balancing

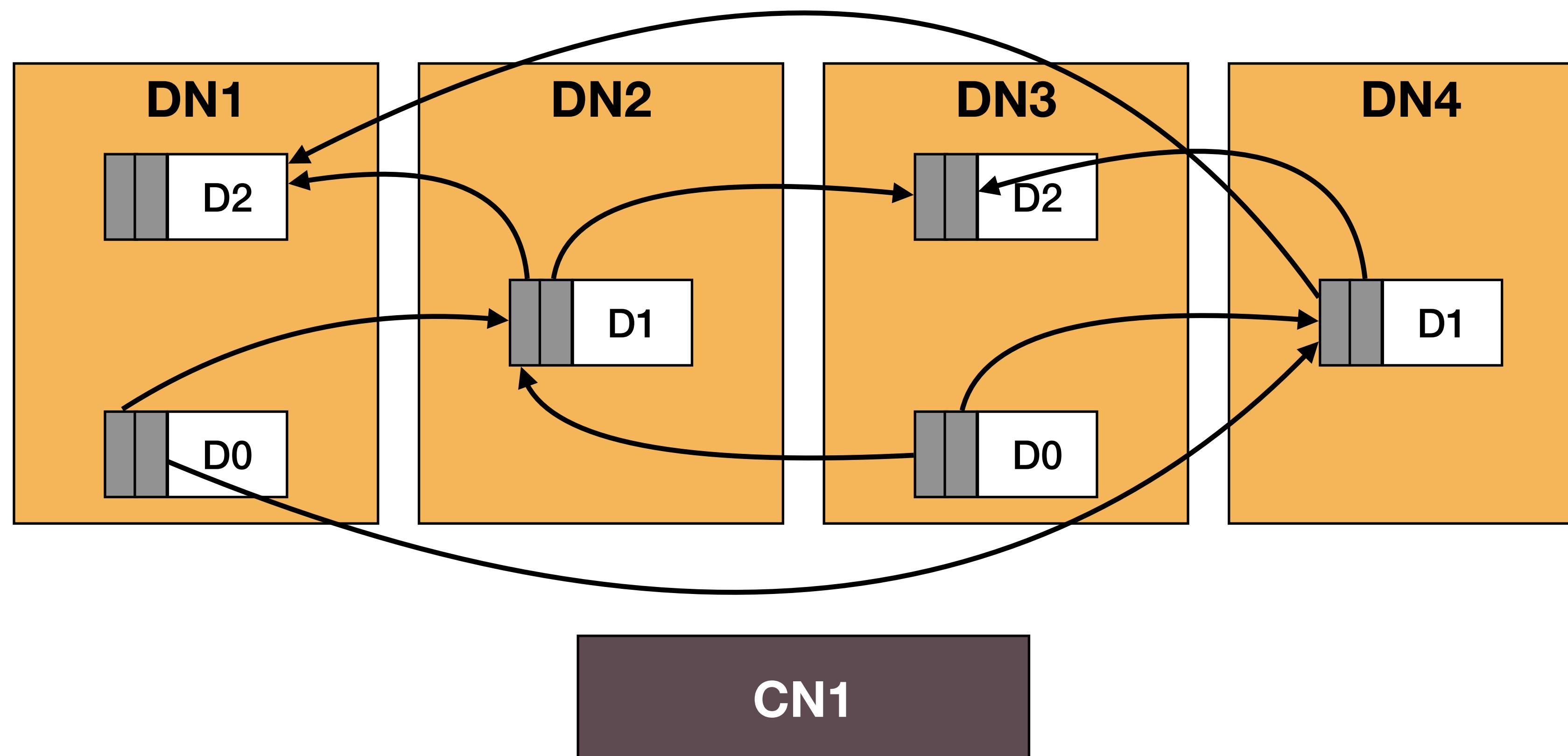
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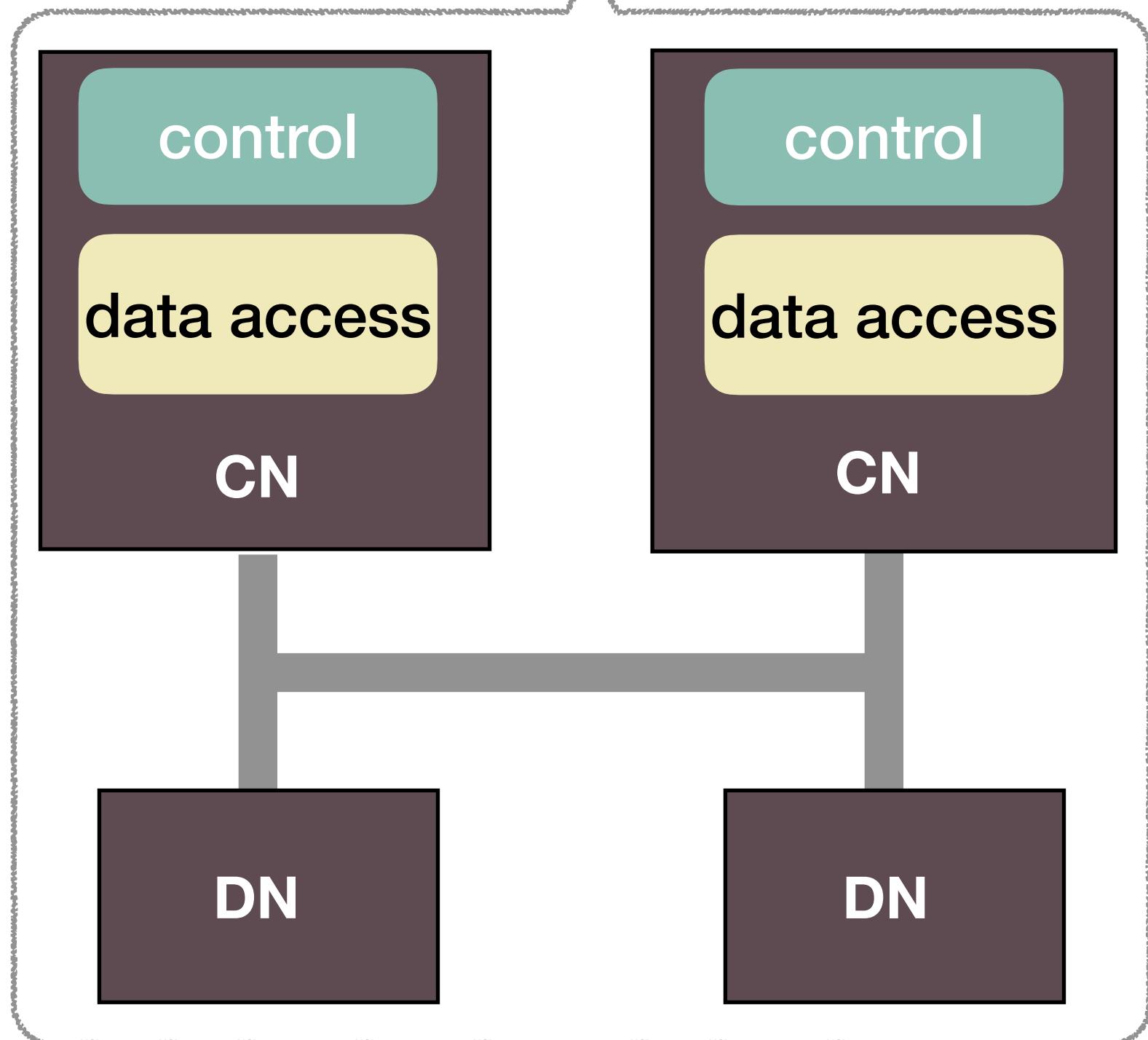
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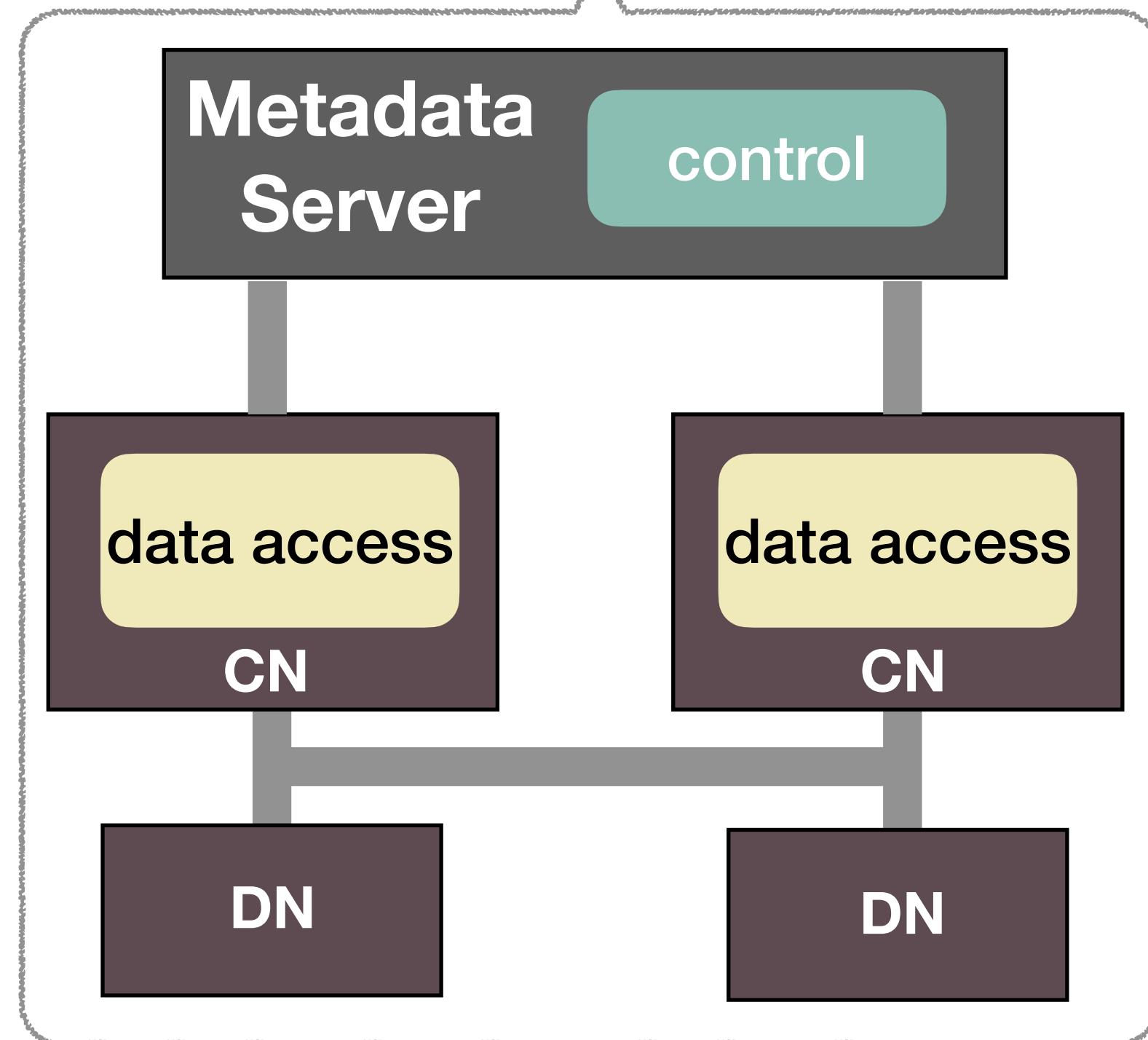


*Where to process and manage data?*

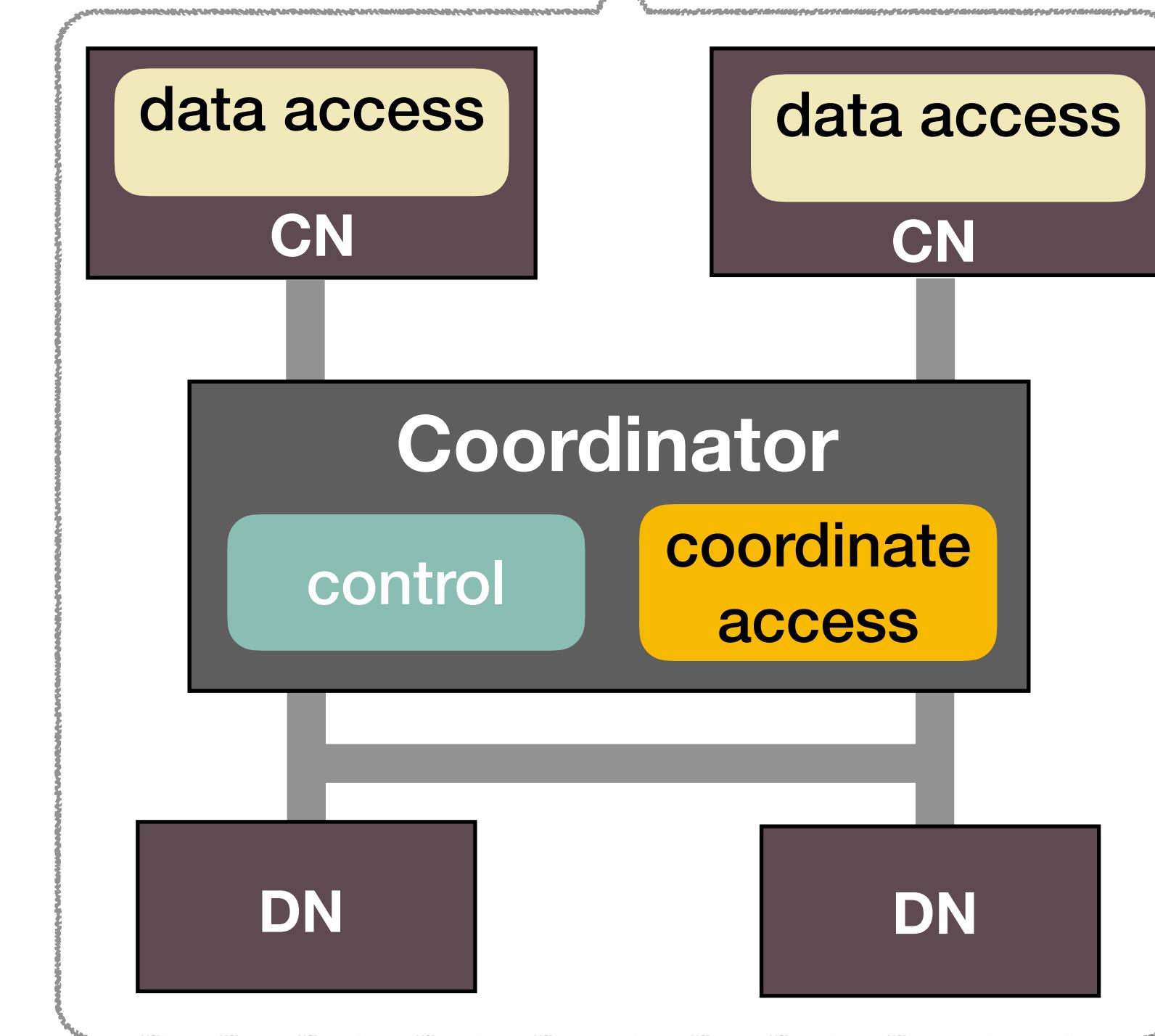
## pDPM-Direct



## Clover



## pDPM-Central



- Write cannot scale
- Large metadata consumption

*Distributed data & metadata*

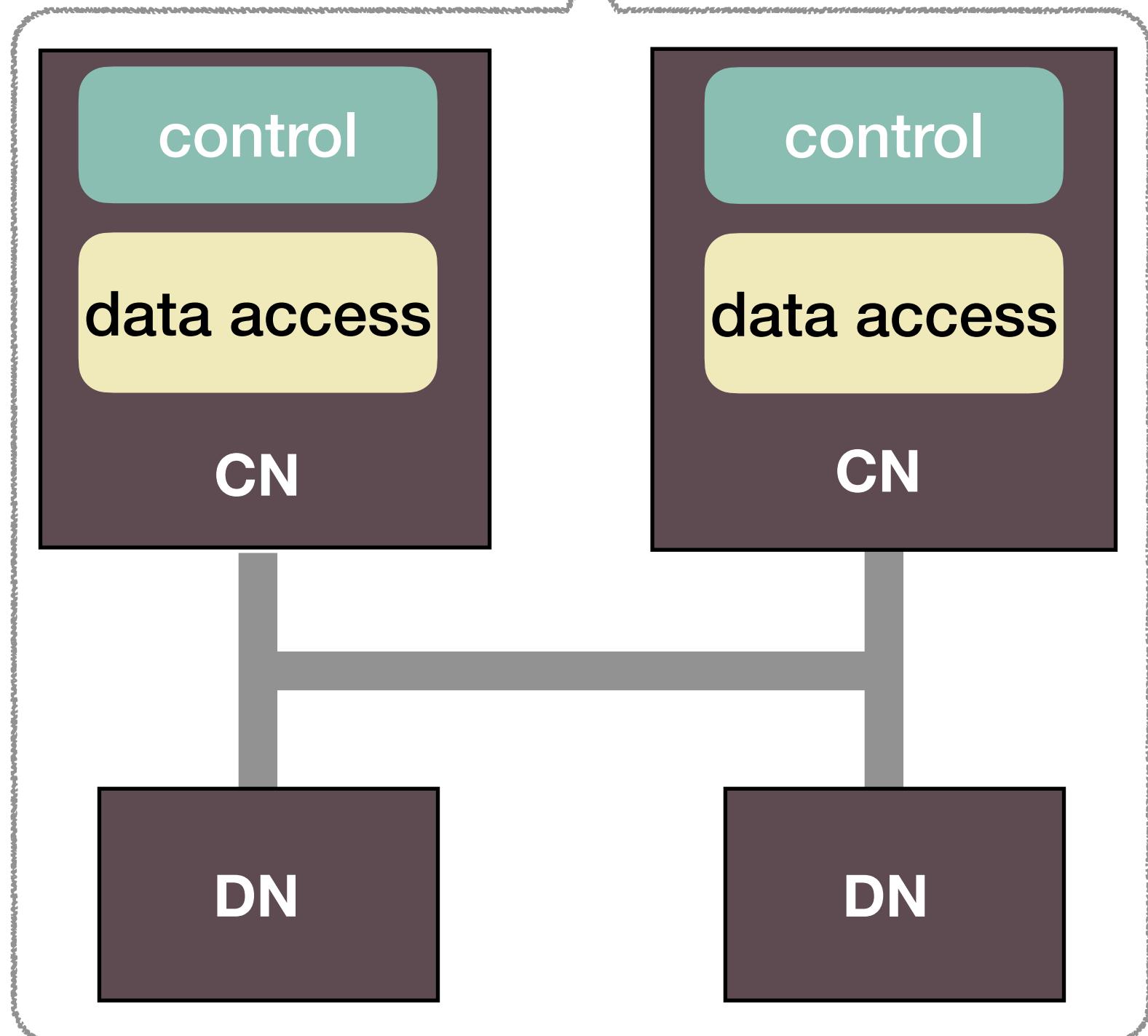
- Extra read RTTs
- Coordinator cannot scale

*Separate data & metadata*

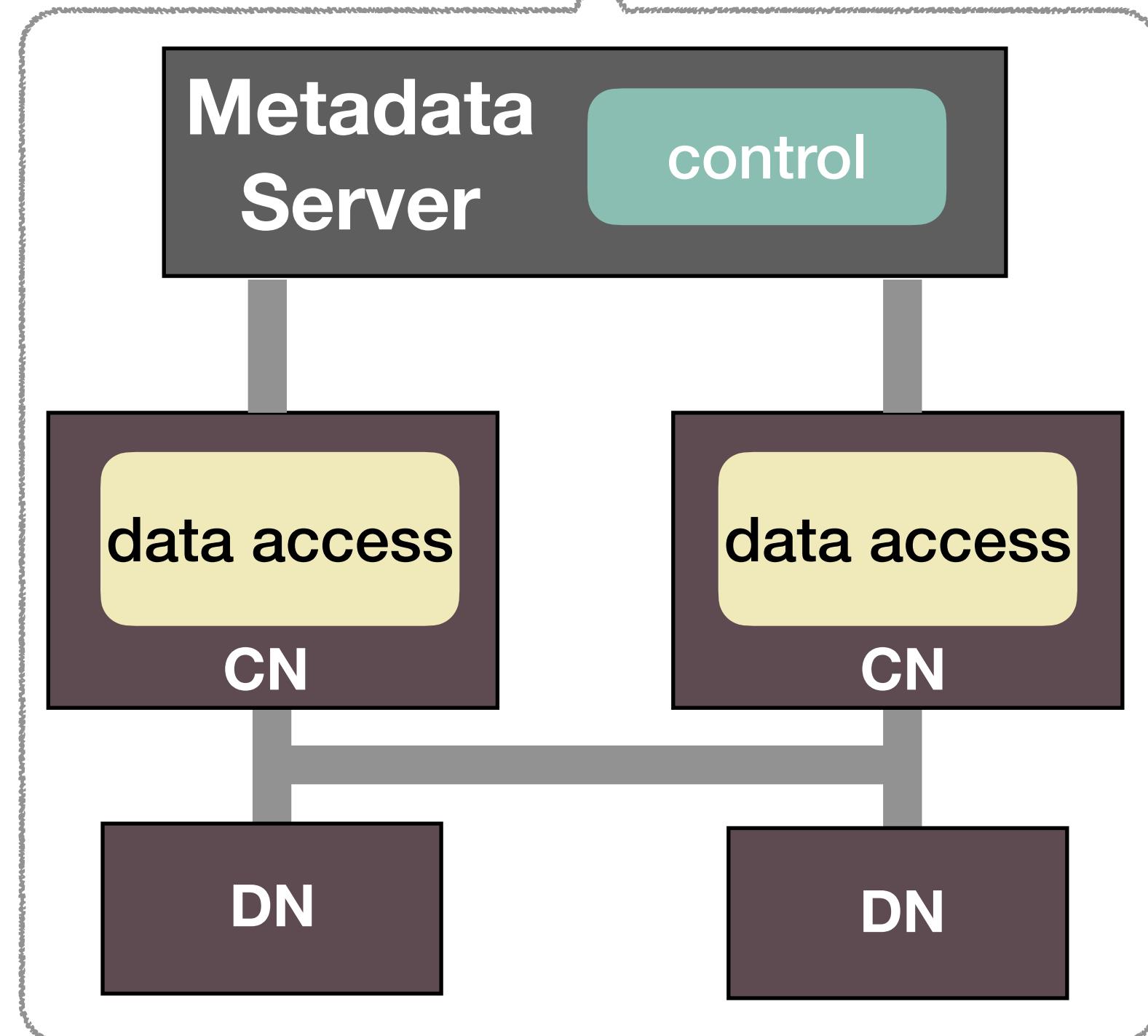
*Centralized data & metadata*

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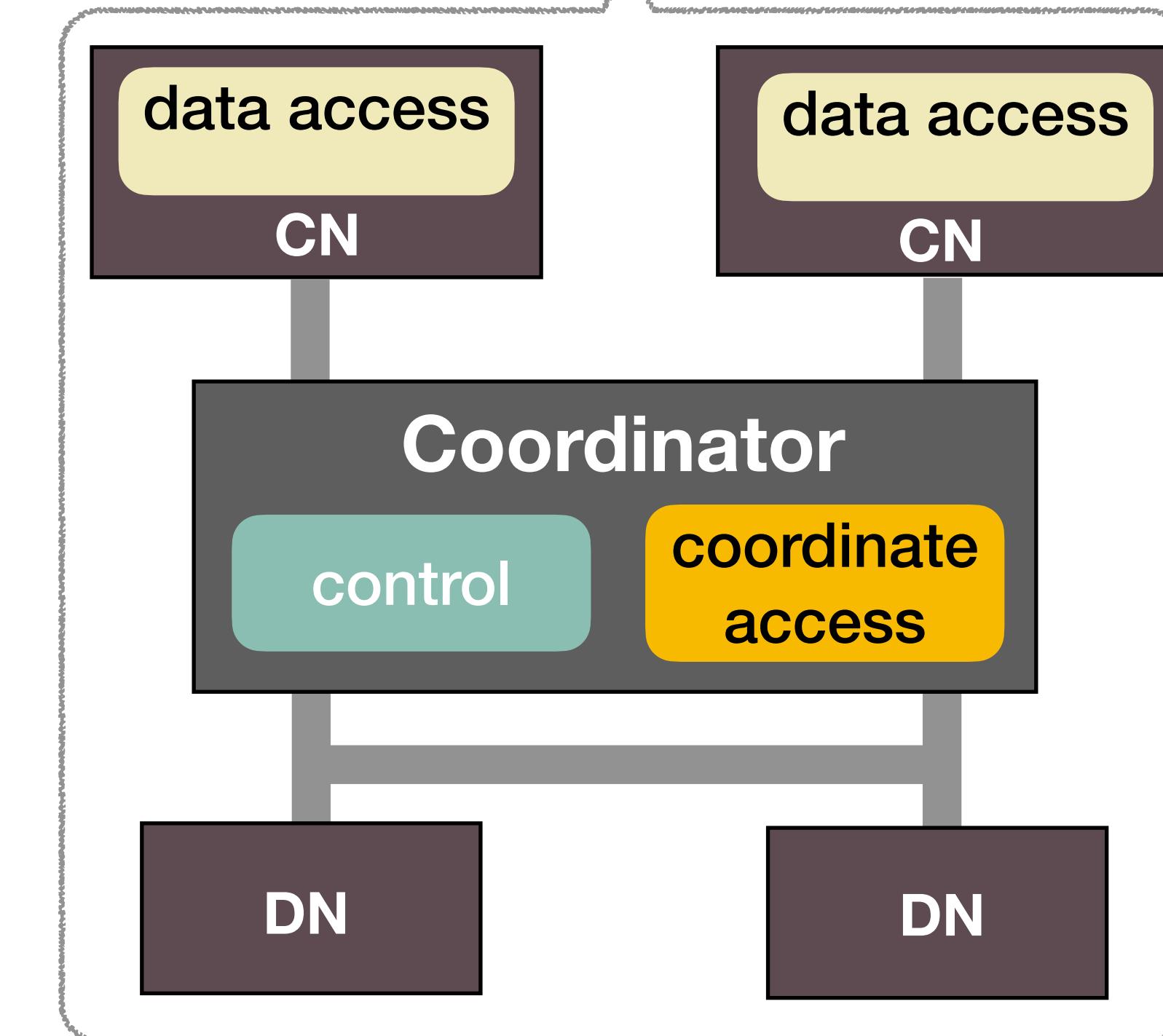
## pDPM-Direct



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## pDPM-Central



- Write cannot scale
- Large metadata consumption

*Distributed data & metadata*

- + Good read/write performance
- + Scale with both CNs and DNs

*Separate data & metadata*

- Extra read RTTs
- Coordinator cannot scale

*Centralized data & metadata*

# Evaluation Setup

Systems evaluated

- *pDPM systems*: pDPM-Direct, pDPM-Central, Clover
- *Non-disaggregated PM systems*: Octopus [ATC'17] and Hotpot [SoCC'17]
- *Two-sided KVS*: HERD [SIGCOMM'14] (also ported to BlueField SmartNIC, HERD-BF)

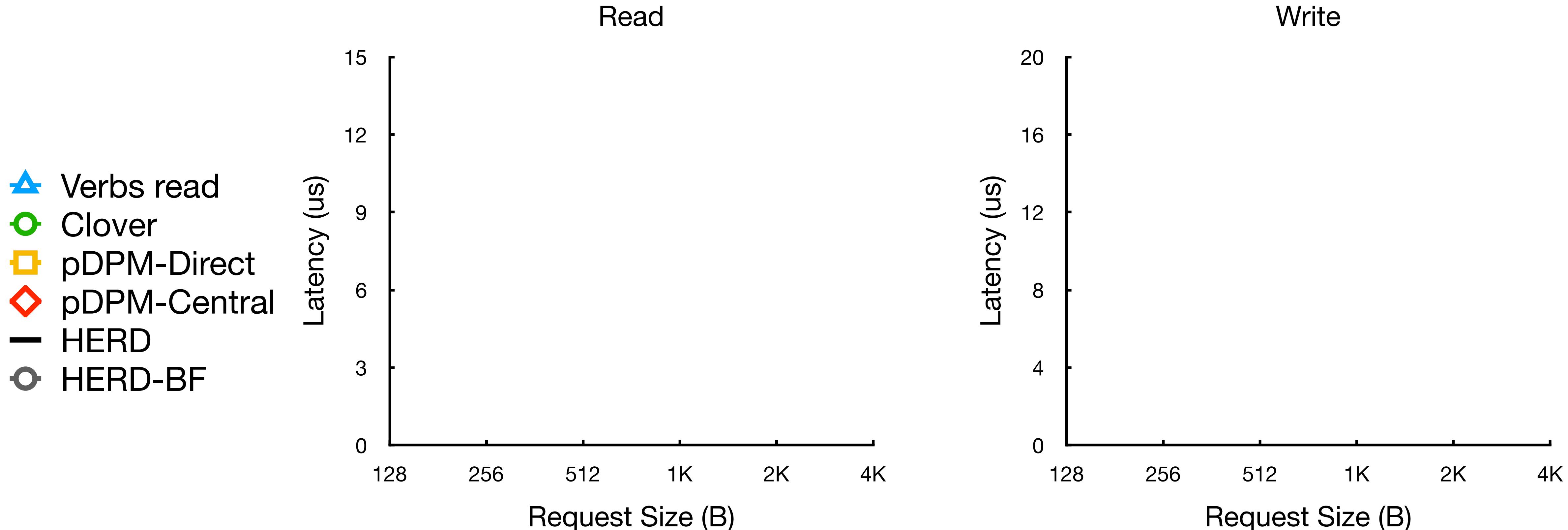
Testbed

- 14 servers, each with a 100Gbps RDMA NIC, connected via a 100Gbps IB switch
- DRAM as emulated PM

# Microbenchmark - Latency

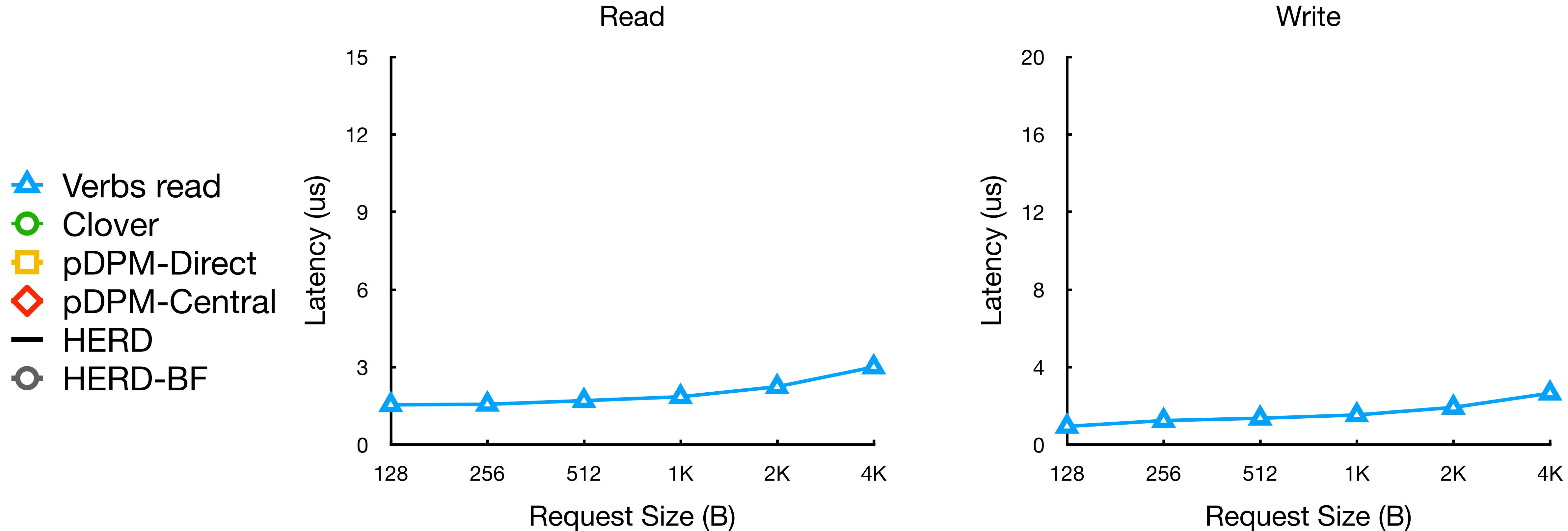
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- HERD and HERD-BF use 12 polling threads

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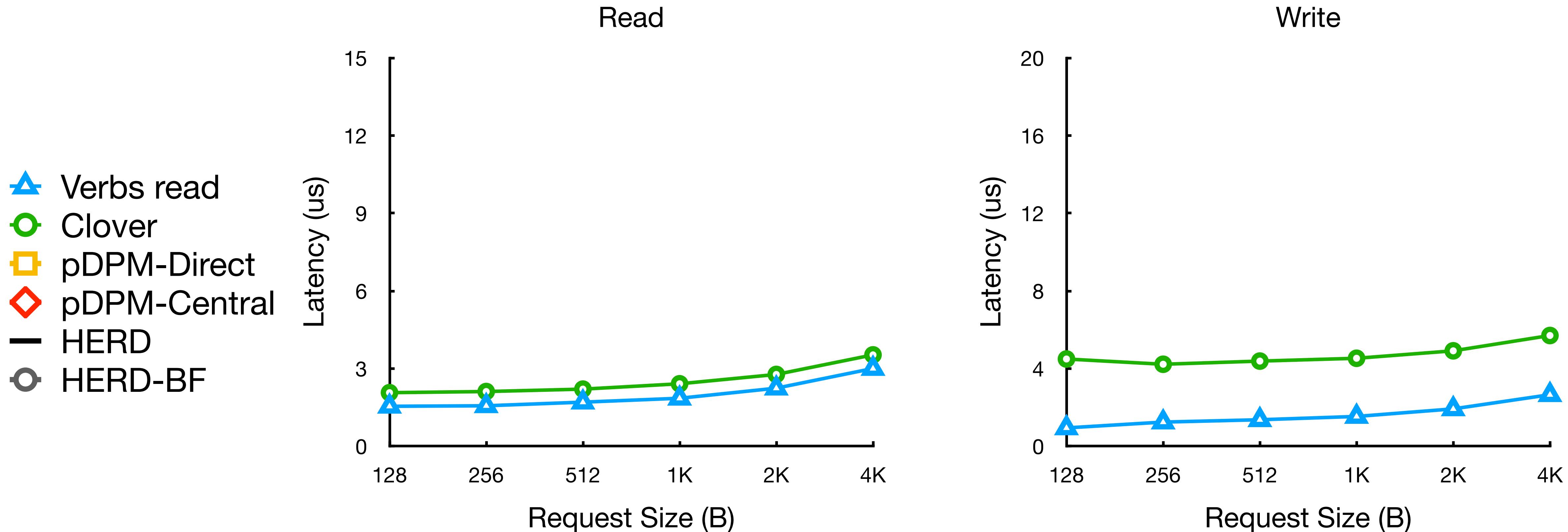
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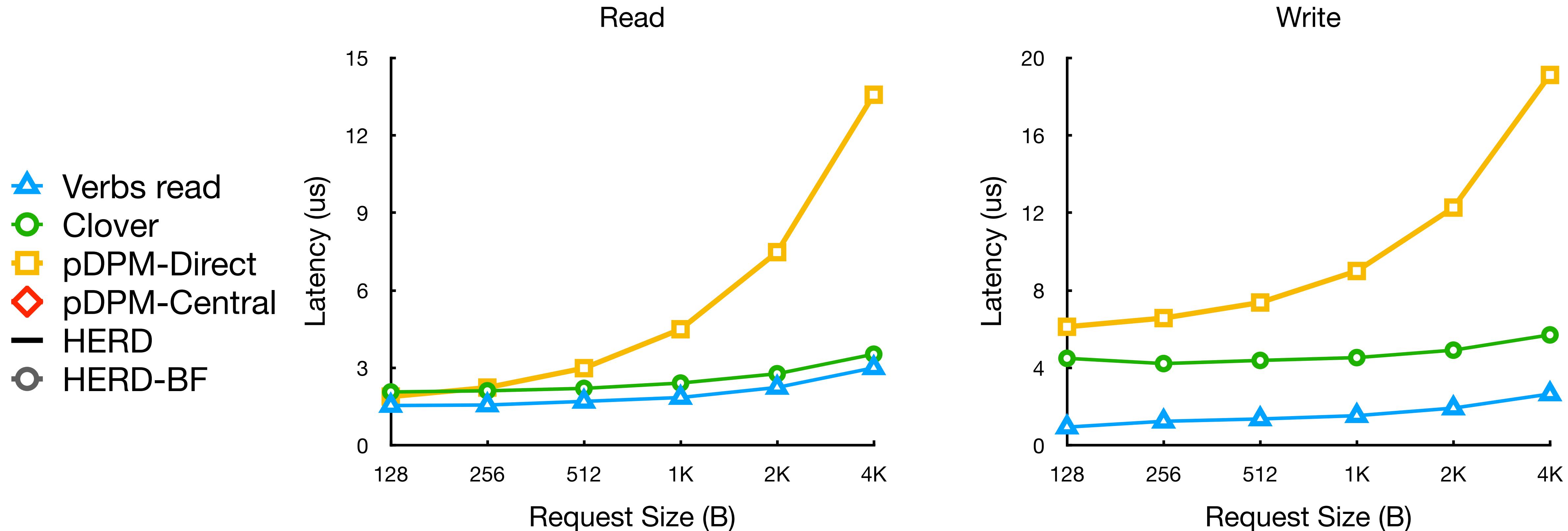
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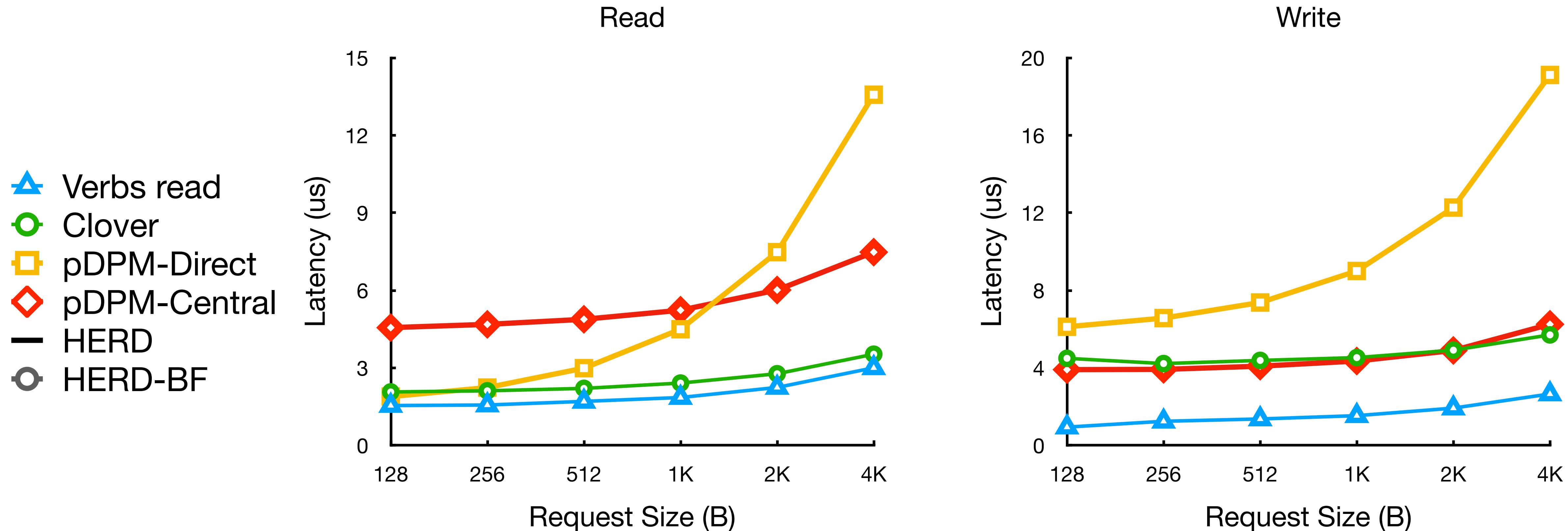
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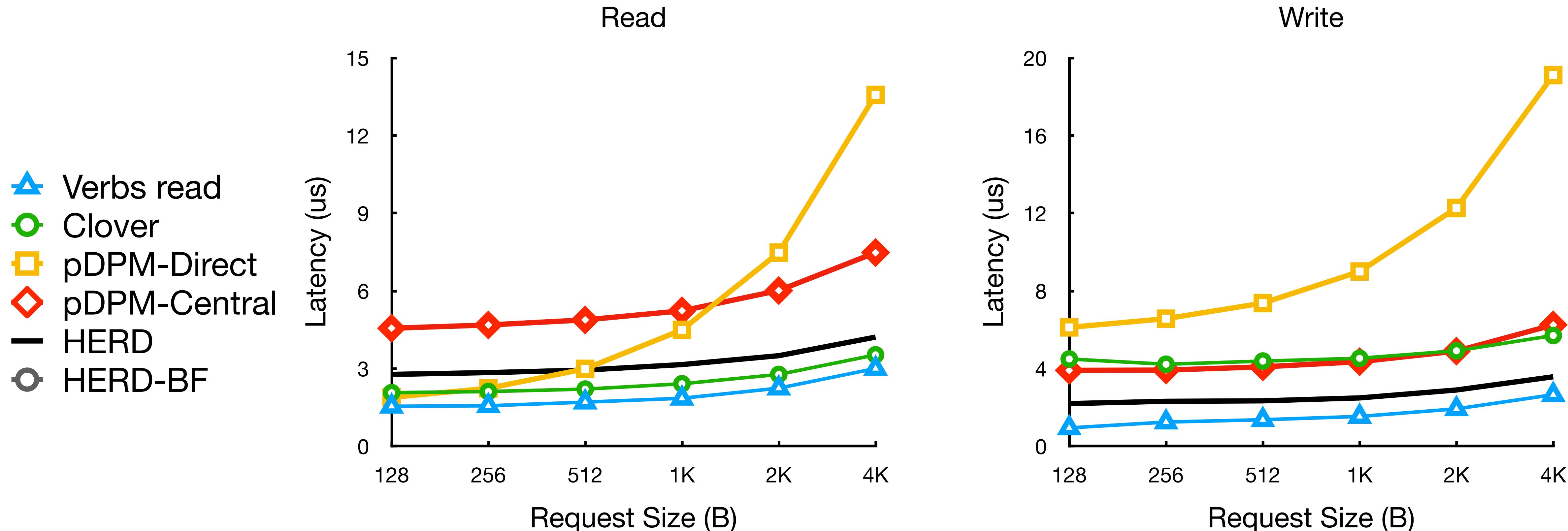
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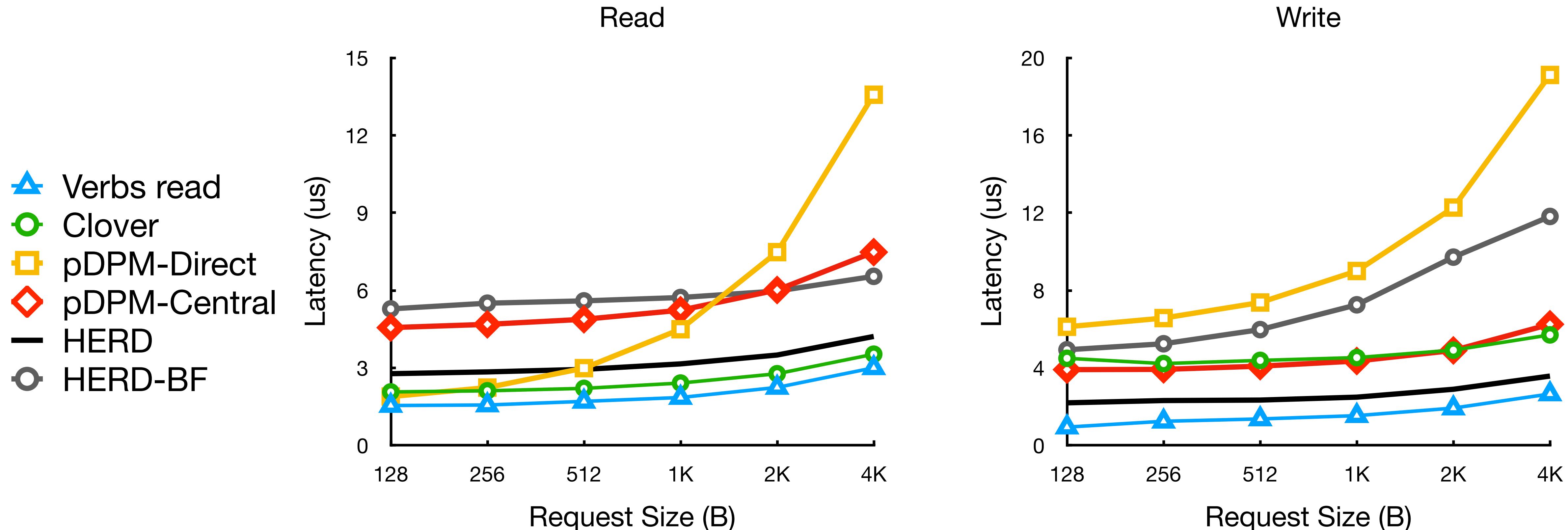
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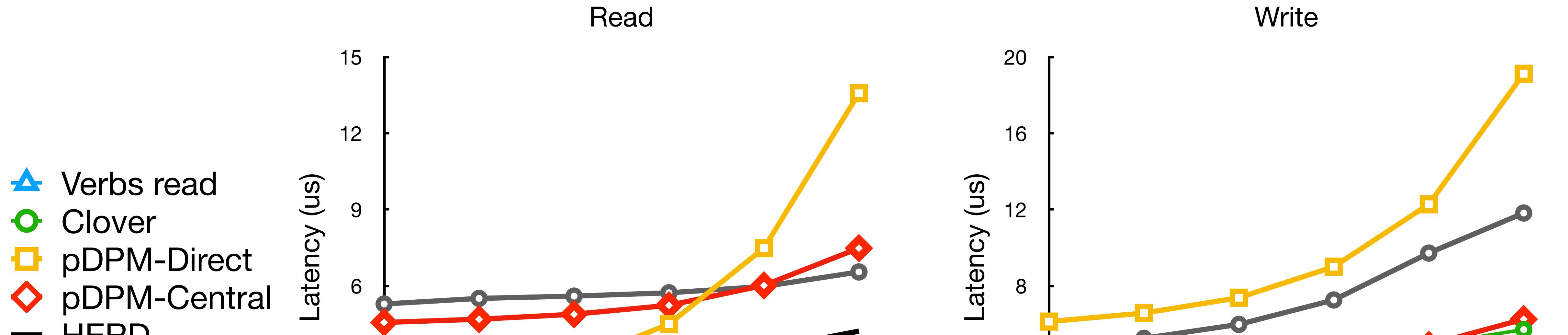
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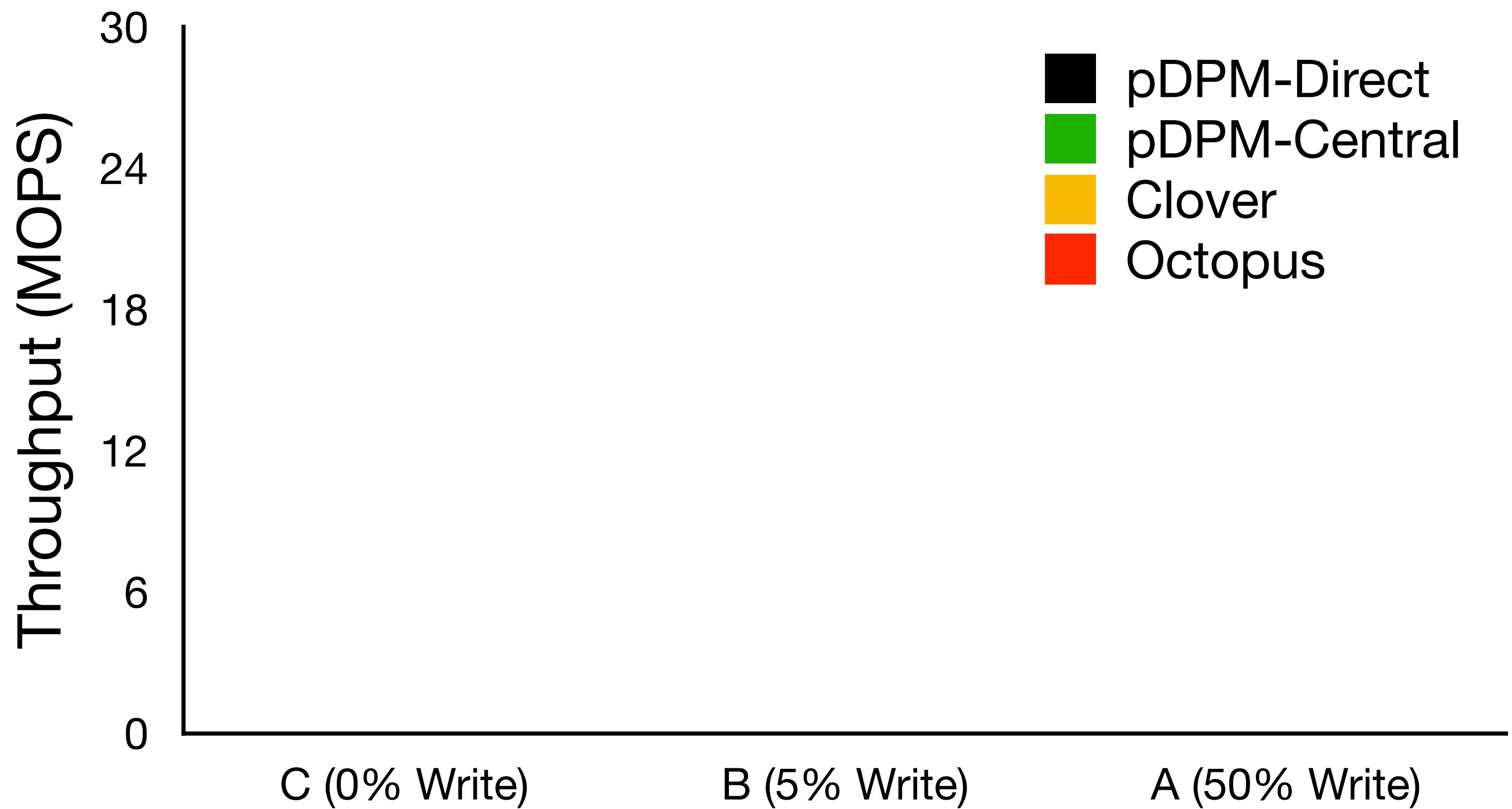
Clover read latency similar to raw RDMA  
write latency around 2x of raw RDMA

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# YCSB Results

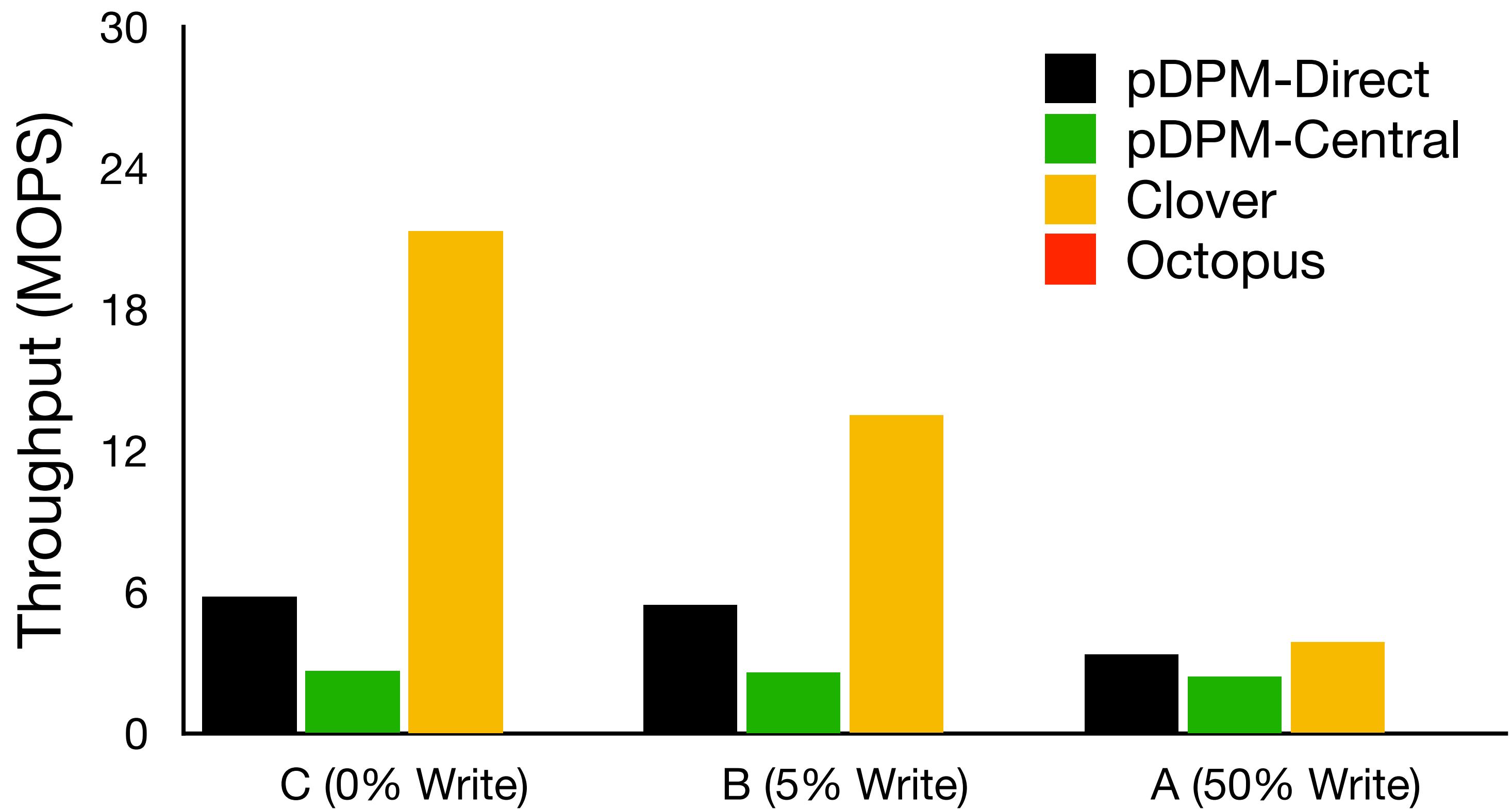
- 100K KV entries, 1 million operations, Zipf access distribution
- 4 CNs (8 threads per CN), 4 DNs

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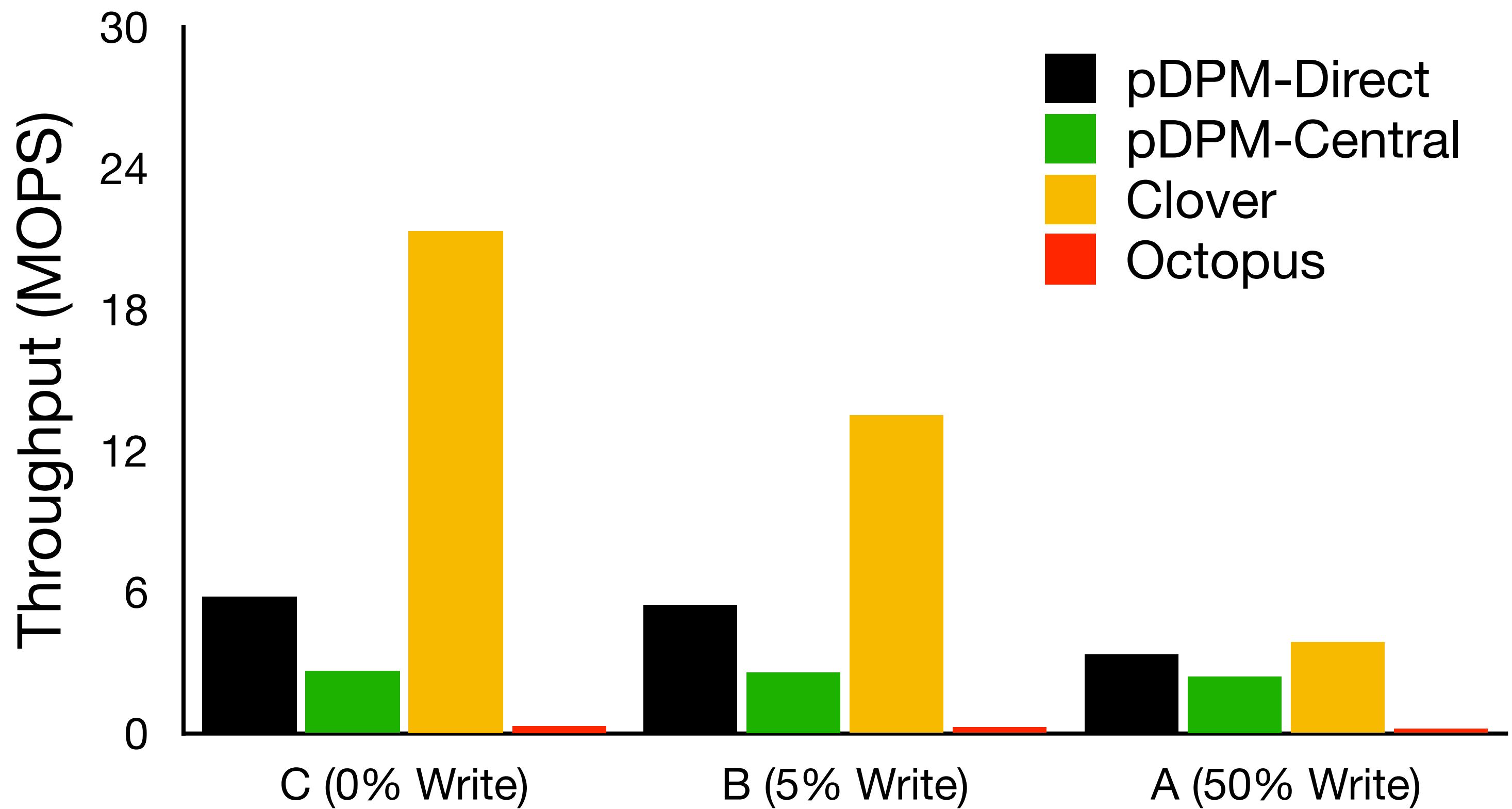
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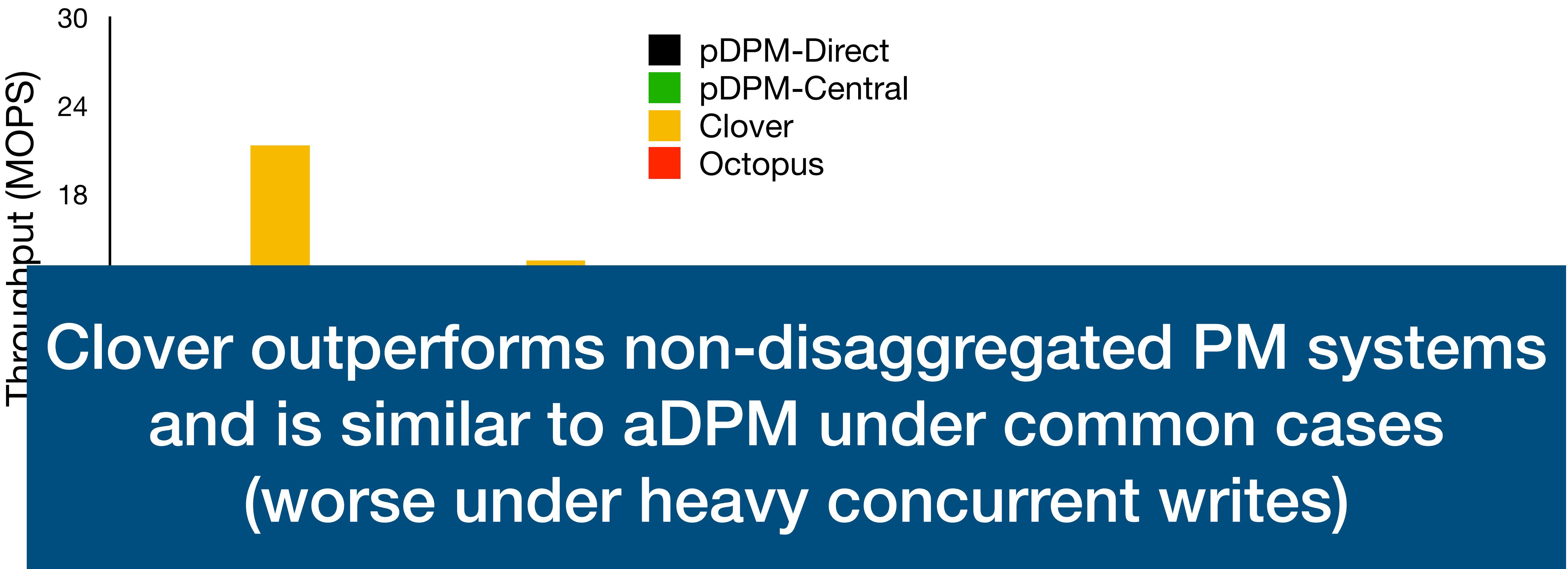
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# YCSB Results



Clover is cheap to build and run  
and is similar to aDPM under common cases  
(worse under heavy concurrent writes)

- 100K KV entries, 1 million operations, Zipf access distribution
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# Conclusion

- pDPM offers deployment, cost, and performance benefits
- Cleanly separating data and metadata is crucial but not easy
- Our pDPM findings could also apply to disaggregated DRAM
- pDPM performs worse under high write contention or complex ops
- Future system could benefit from a hybrid disaggregation model

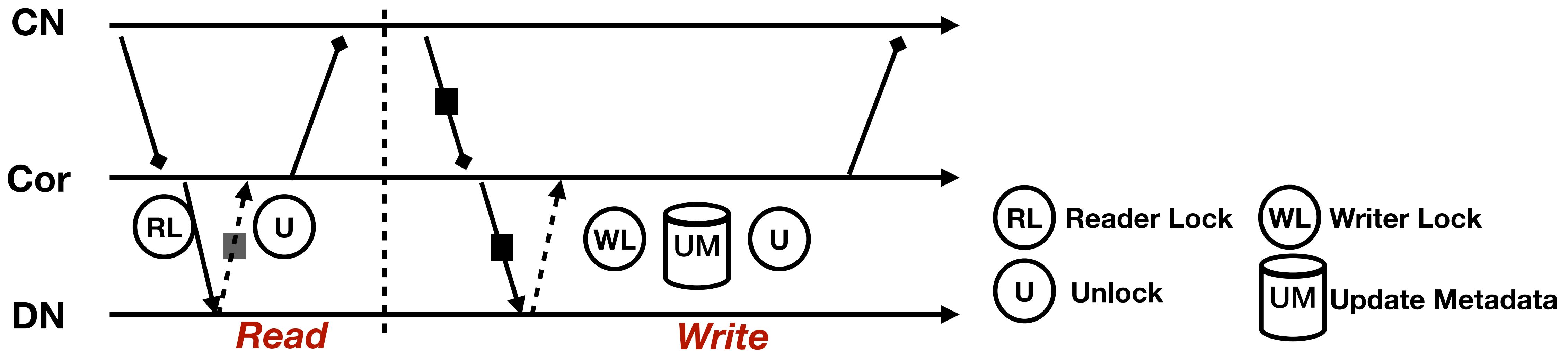
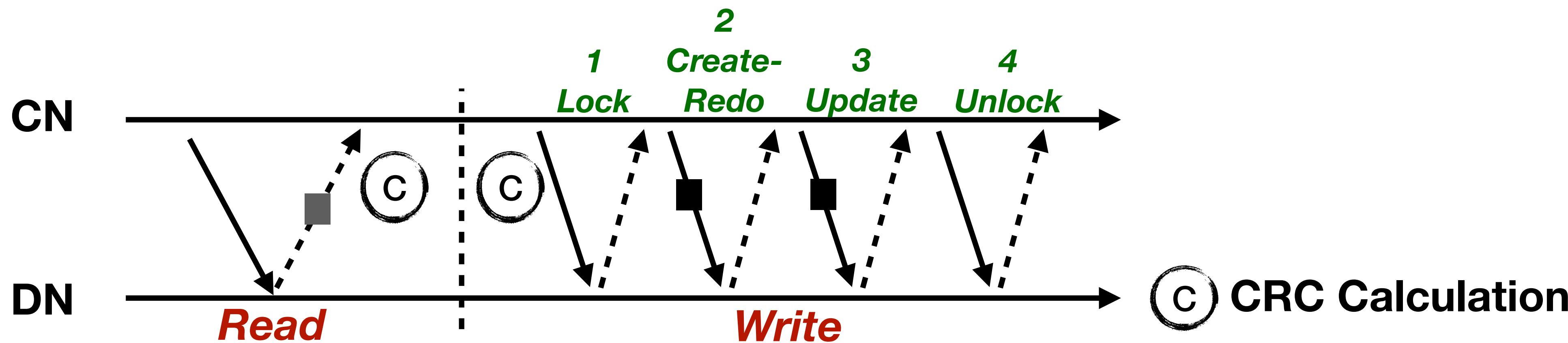
# Thank you!

open source @ [github.com/WukLab/pDPM](https://github.com/WukLab/pDPM)

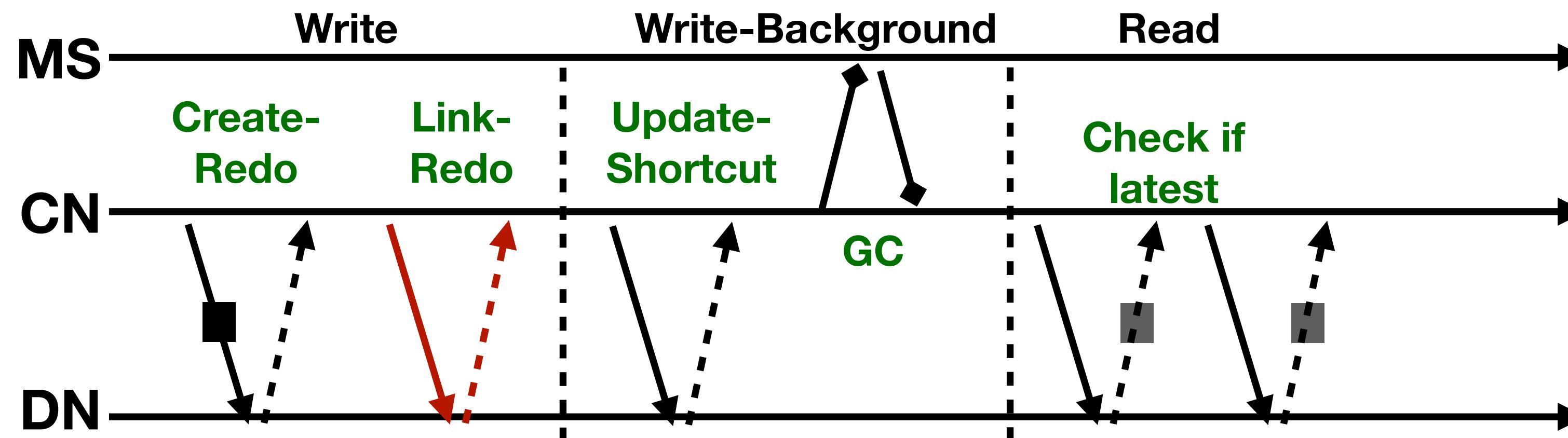


# Backup Slides

# pDPM-Direct/Central RW Protocols

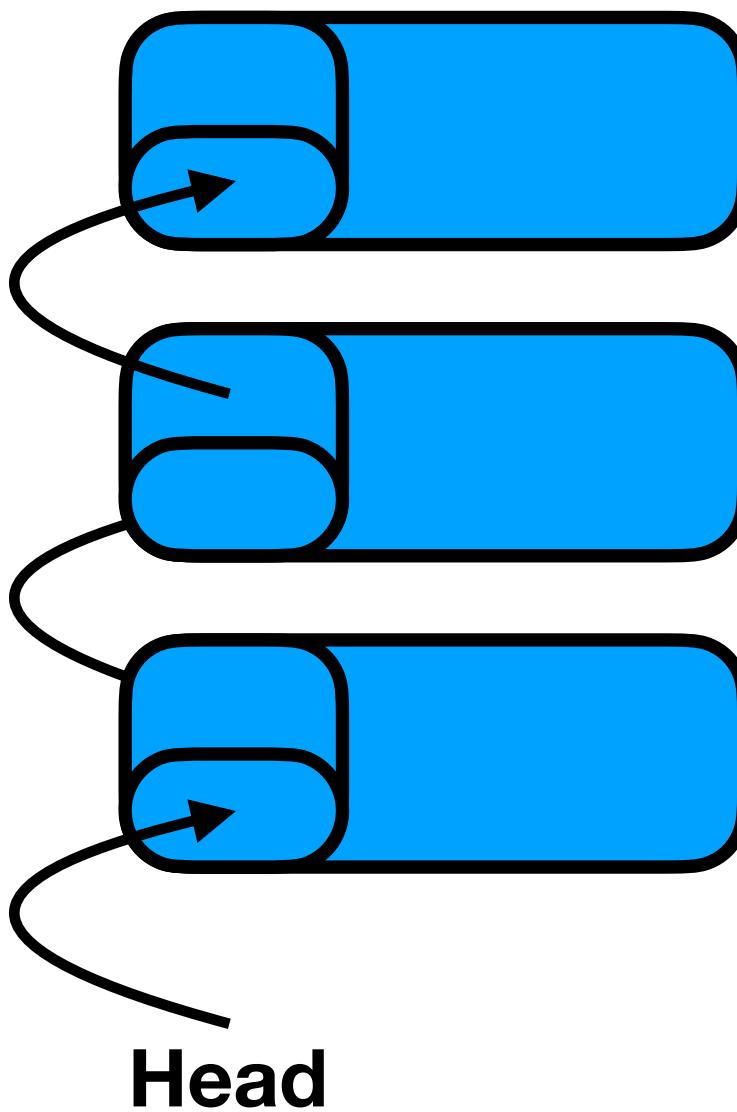


# Clover RW Protocols



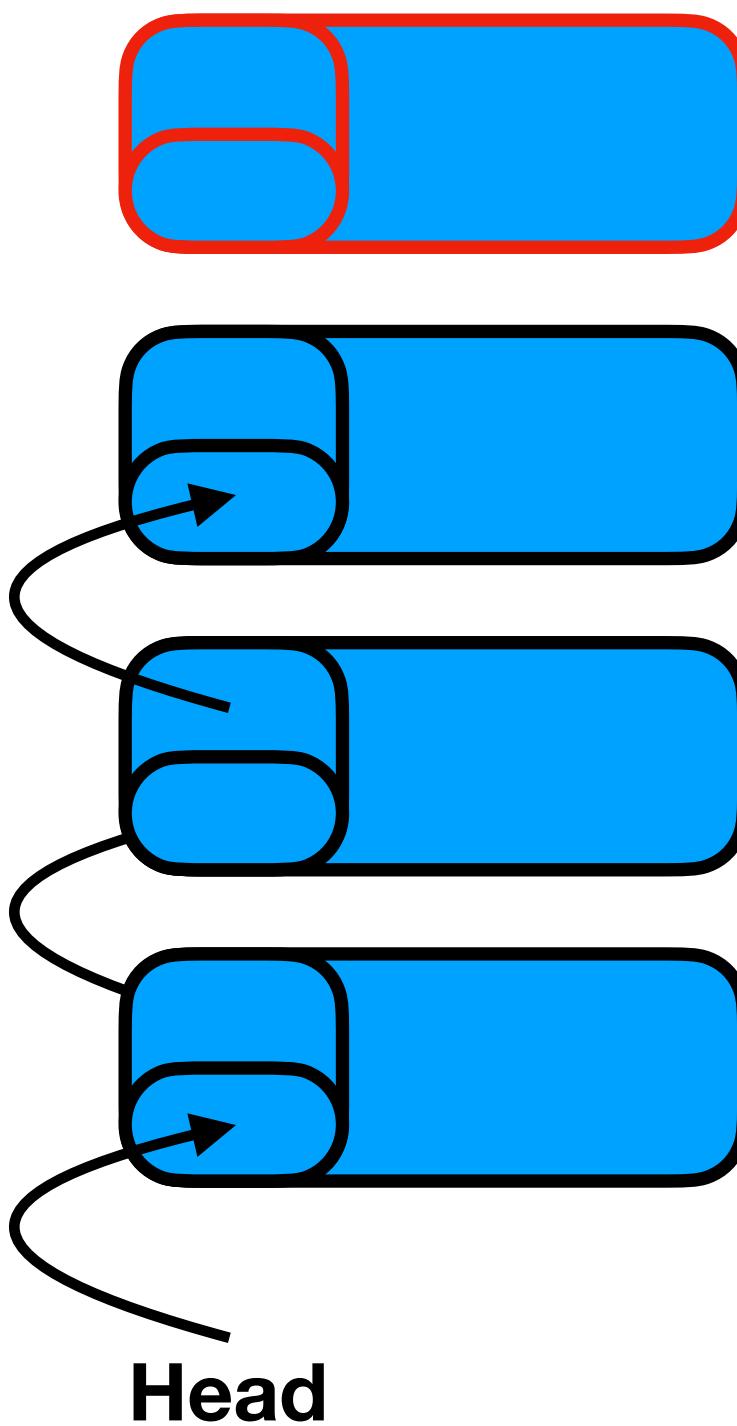
# Clover Data Structure

**Write**



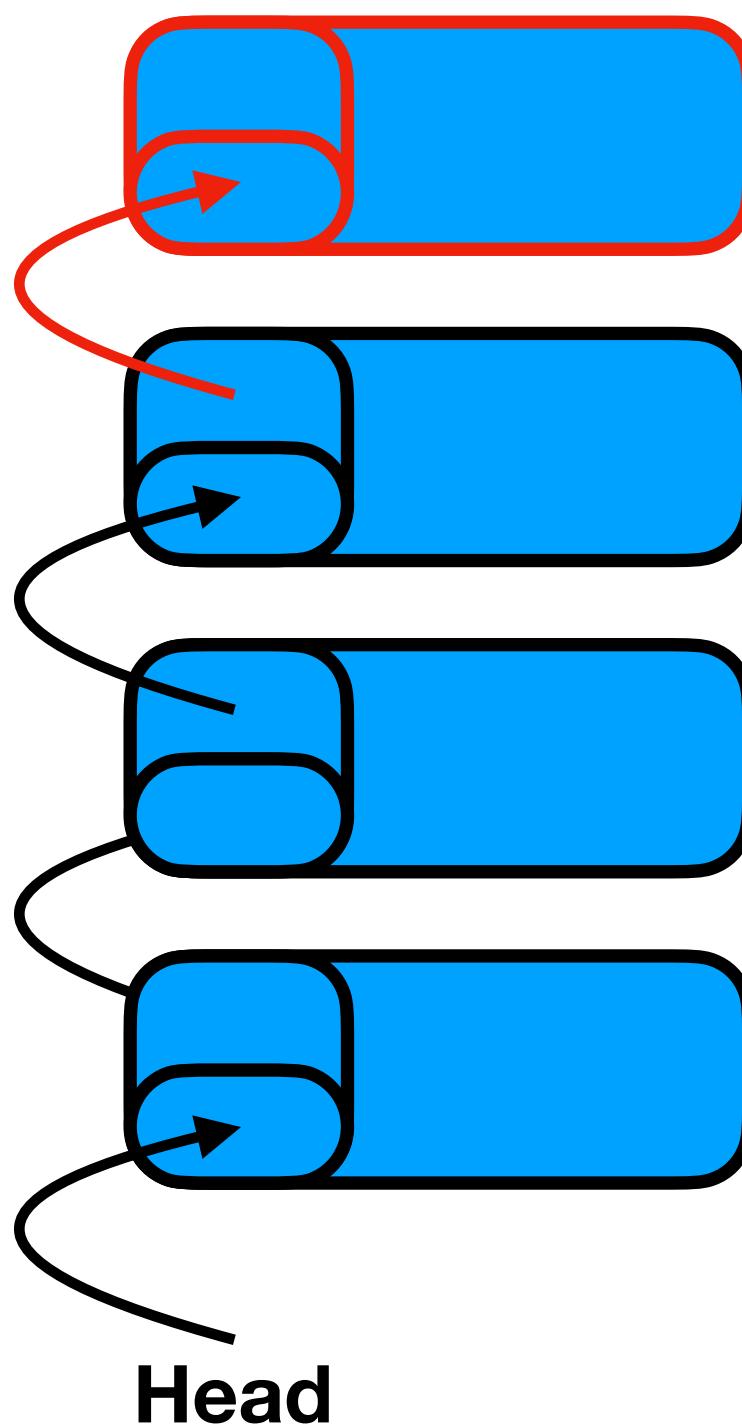
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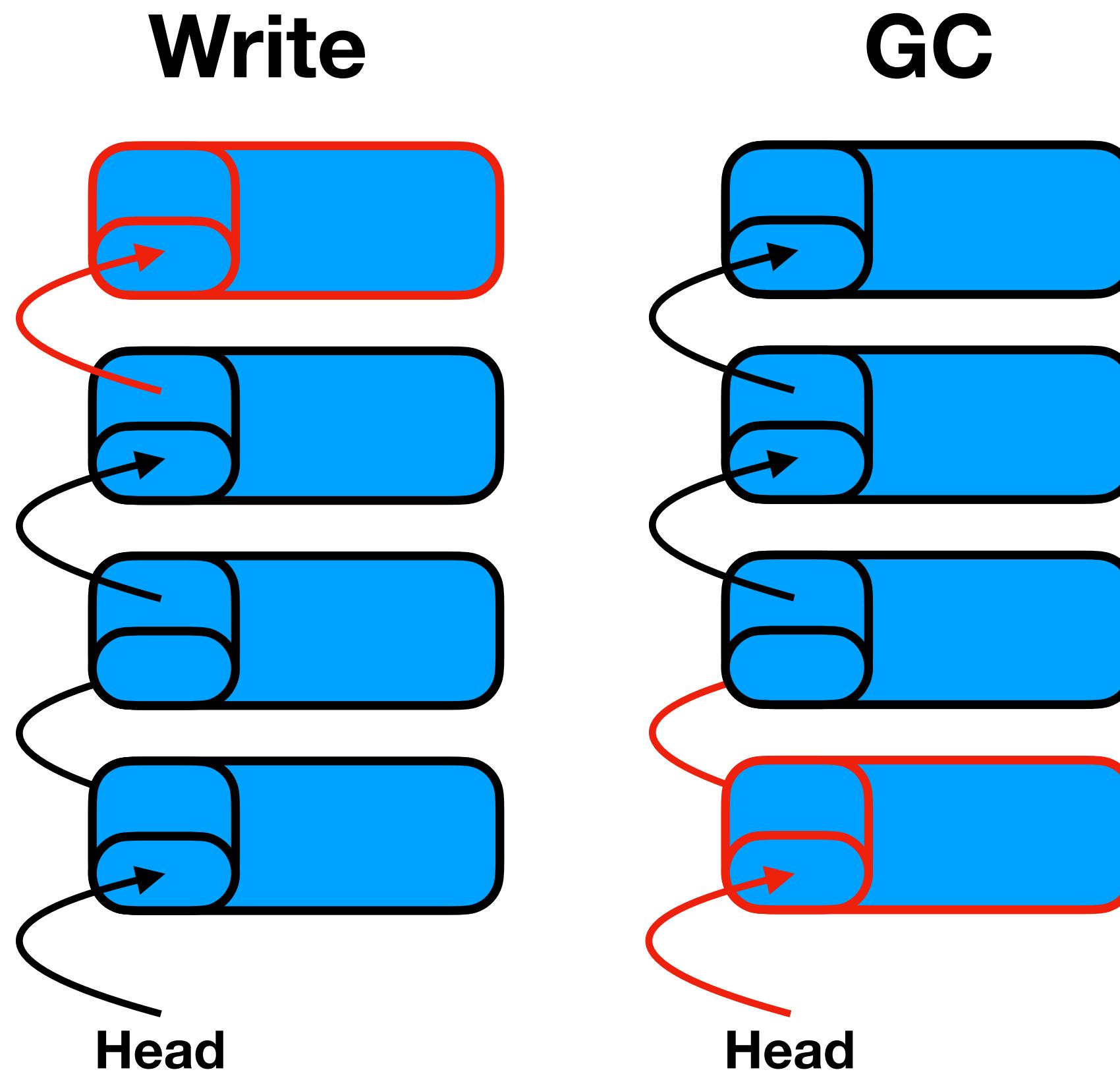


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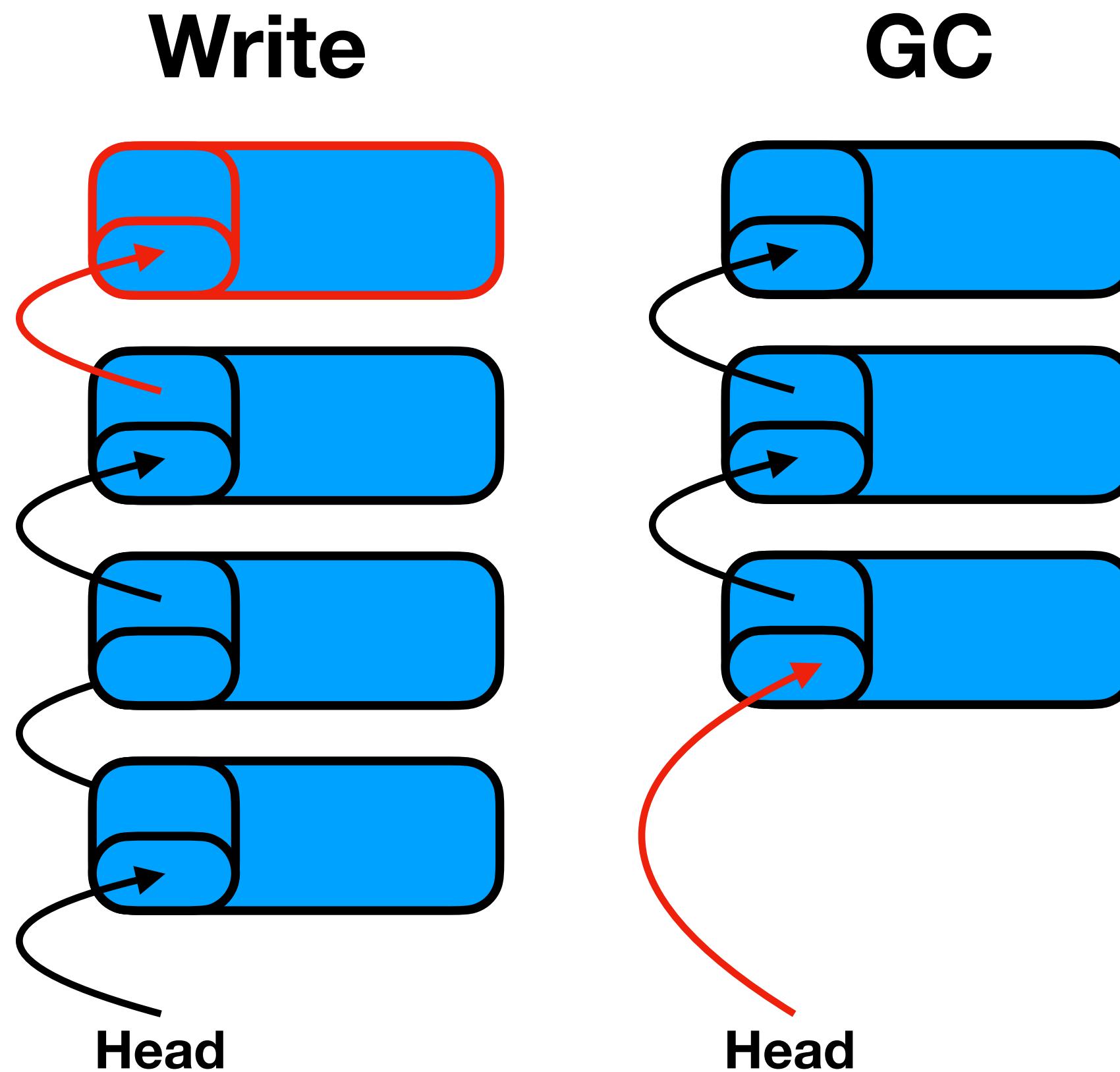
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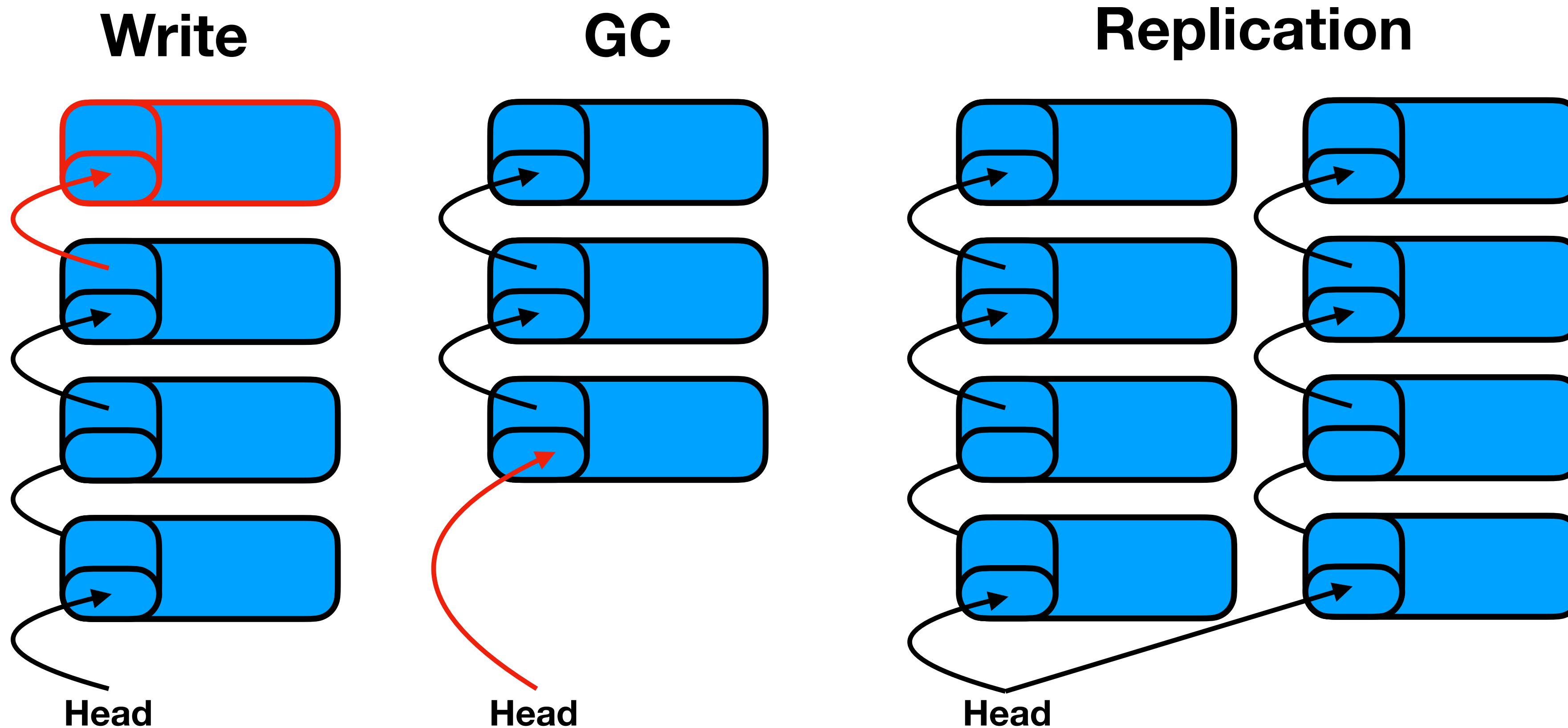
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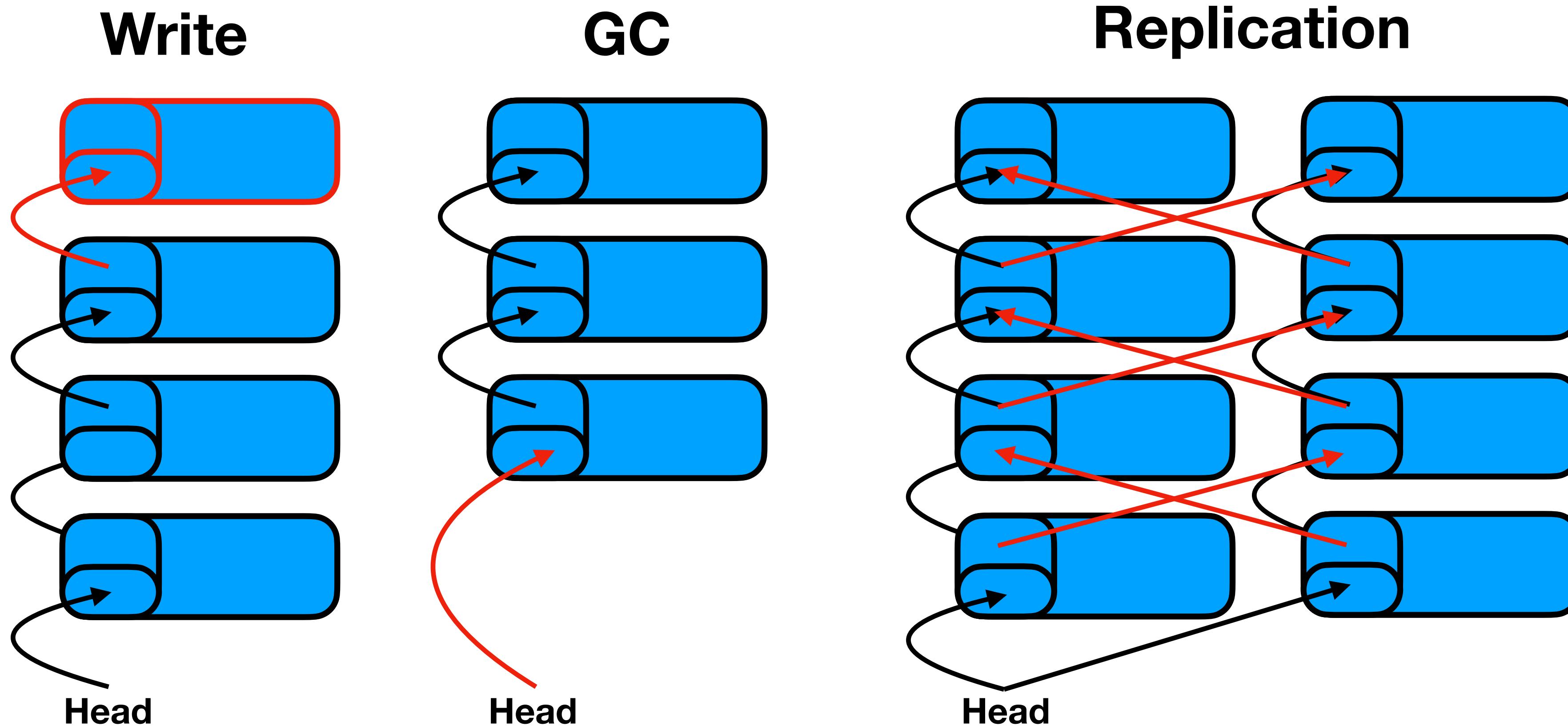
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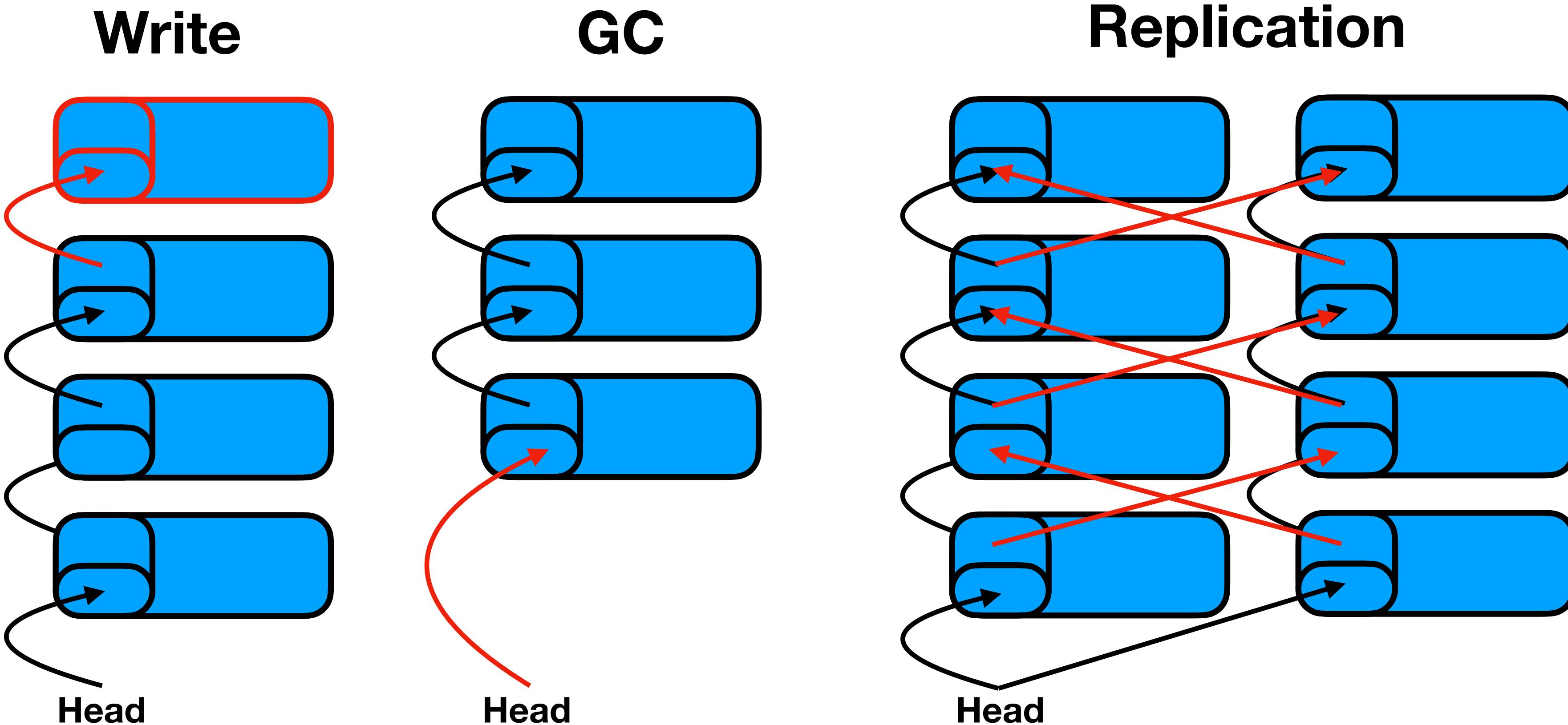
# Clover Data Structure



# Clover Data Structure



# Clover Data Structure



## Load Balancing

# Where is the key-value hashtable?

- pDPM-Direct: each CN has an identical mapping table
- pDPM-Central: each CN performs CN->coordinator mapping. Each coordinator has a full identical mapping table
- Clover: MSs have full mapping table, each CN caches a portion of it

# Possible Questions

- If DPM-Central has multiple coordinates, cannot it scale?
- Why not use read-after-write to ensure remote persistency?
- Where is the key-> entry hashtable?
  - The whole table is at MS, each CN caches a portion of it?