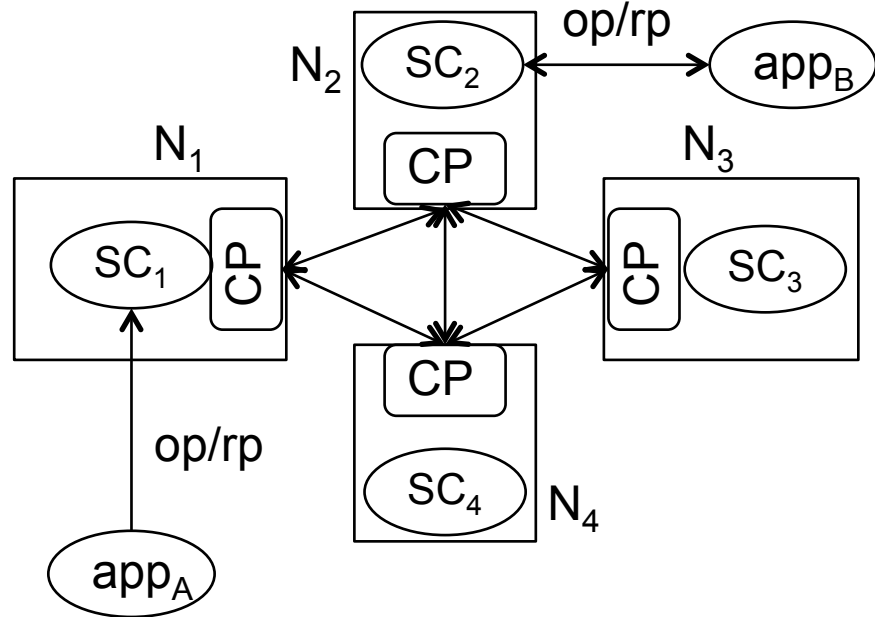


a) centralised deployment.



b) decentralised deployment.

legend:

TTP: Trusted Third Party.

app_A and app_B : Alice's and Bob's application, respectively.

SC: smart contract (a digital contract in blockchain terminology).

op: operation executed by Bob or Alice, ex, send-pay, send-receipt.

rp: response to operation, ex., execution OK, execution pending, etc.

N: node (computer connected to the Internet, ex, Peter's PC).

CP: consensus protocol to synchronise the state of the N replicas of the SC.

N: a number larger than 1, ex, 2,3,4, 5, 20, 500.