



WHAT'S YOUR
SUPERPOWER?TM

Distributed Hash Table edition

@gpestana

What's your superpower: DHT



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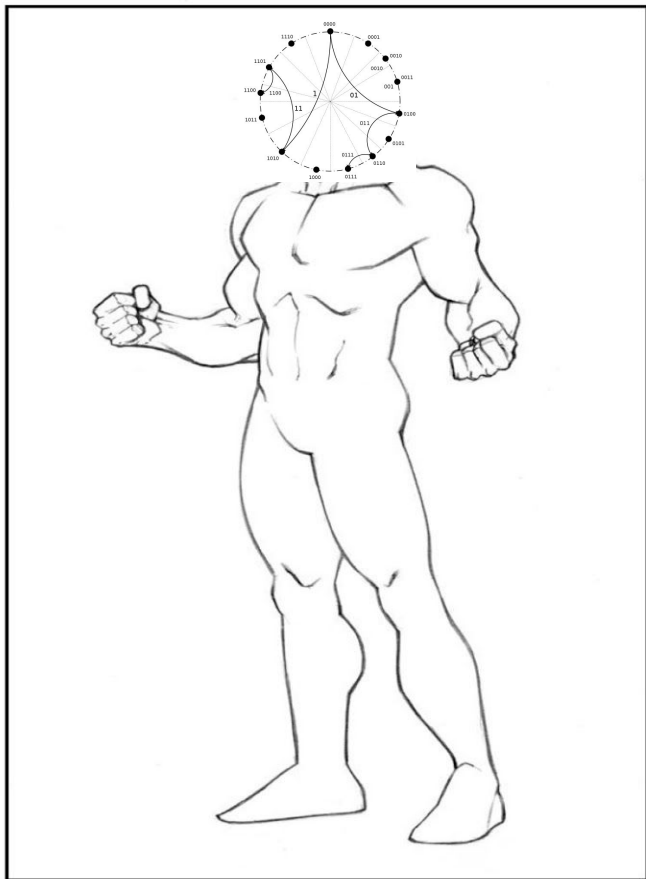
What's your superpower: DHT



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CREATOR(S) Dr X.

ROOM _____ DATE TOPSECRET



Hero Name: DHT

Real Name: Distributed Hash Table

Work: Logistics at IPFS, Freenet, and other projects

Place of birth: Interwebs

History

In the early 2000s started to be used and researched by many projects to decentralize the web. It's also used in distributed systems (e.g. riak).

Global Cause:

Fight against the centralization tyranny by making it easy for nodes to organize themselves, store and lookup state

Super powers

Efficient storage and lookup of data where all nodes are symmetric. No need for external coordinators.

Height: n Weight: $\log(n)$

Eyes: n/a Hair: n/a

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History

Early 2000s, lots of research and applications on decentralization and DHTs

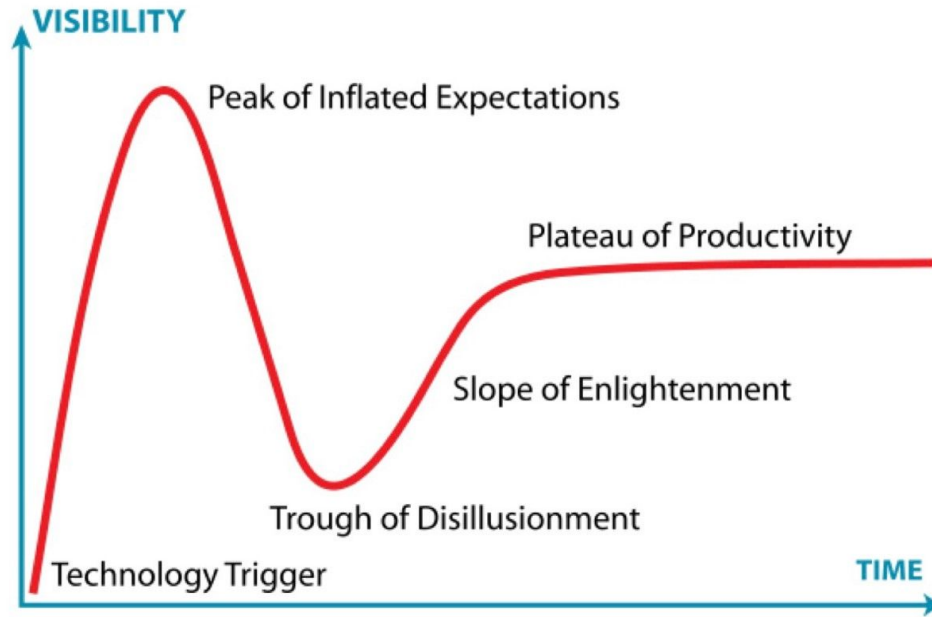
Napster, Freenet,
Seti@Home, Bittorrent,
Coral, IPFS, ...



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History

Gartner Hype Cycle



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Decentralized P2P networks

Distributed systems in which all components are symmetric

No centralized control



Self organizing system



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Decentralized P2P networks

Resilience (nodes take roles of others organically)



Scalability/elasticity (new nodes use and **add** resources)



*(distribute the eggs in * baskets)*

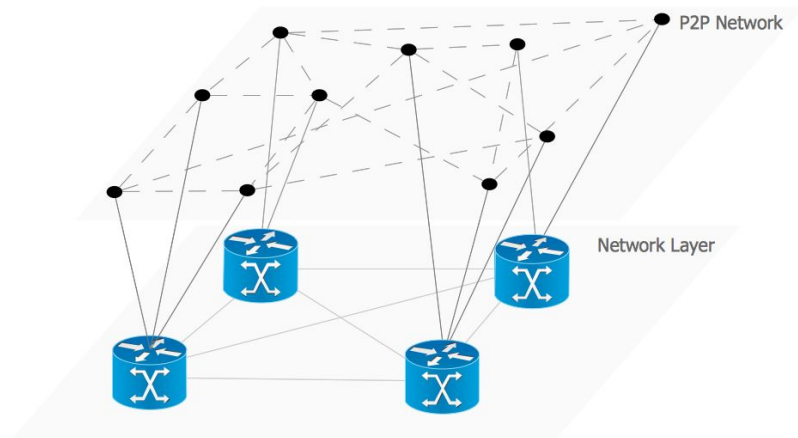
Organic growth (barrier for deployment is **low**)



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Network overlays

Hosts connected through a topology which does not necessarily map to their physical connections



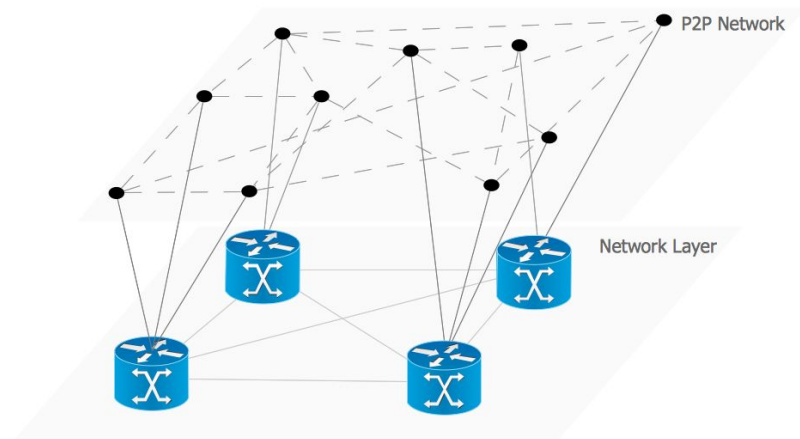
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Network overlays

Hosts maintain IPs of hosts they maintain connection

Structured topology

Unstructured topology



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MAINTAIN AND LOOKUP STATE OBJECTS IN P2P NETWORK

Store data in hosts which are part of the network

Replicate state is important: nodes come and go

Also important to consider load balancing

No **coordinator**

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How do I get state objects from the network?

Overlay network needs to keep some sort of **index** and **primitives** for:

- storing state objects
- performing lookups



Network symmetry: there are no special nodes (e.g. leader)

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Data model abstraction of distributed hash tables

- storing state objects: `put (key, data)`
- performing lookups: `get (key)`



How to make this happen in a decentralized, leaderless network?

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DHT needs to:

- 1) Decide which nodes store which data
- 2) Allow peers to lookup data in the network
- 3) `put(key, value)` and `get(value)` primitives

Availability, replication, load balancing, etc.



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DHT deciding which nodes store which data

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Consistent Hashing

Mapping keyspace to nodes and limit re-hashing when nodes join/leave network

Each **node** in the network is dynamically associated with an ID

Each **state object** has a key (K:V) which is part of a large subset (keyspace)

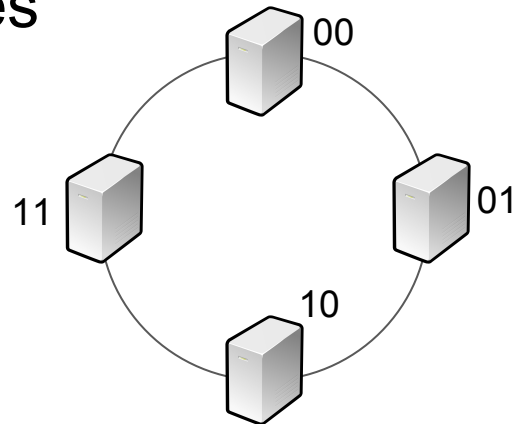
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Partitioning keyspace

Give addresses to nodes

2 bits key space: 4 positions for the nodes

`hash_function(MAC_addr) → {00, 01, 10, 11}`



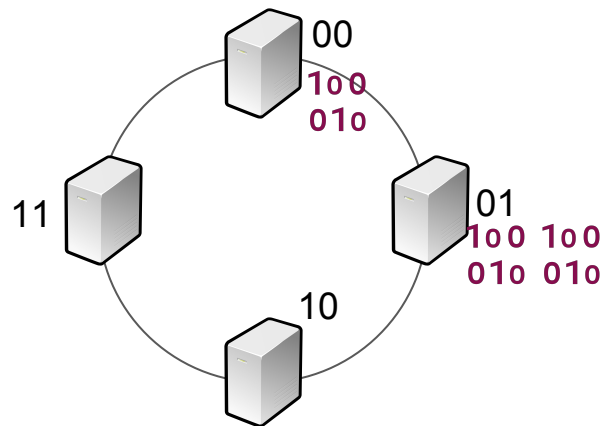
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Partitioning keyspace

`hash_function(MAC_addr) → {00, 01, 10, 11}`

`hash_function(data_binary) → {00, 01, 10, 11}`

Node and data addresses overlap!



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Partitioning keyspace

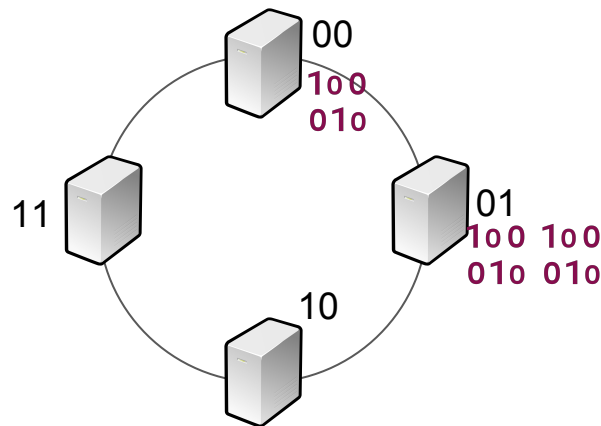
No need for coordination



Load balanced by design



Rehashing when churn is controlled and localized



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DHT looking for data stored in the network

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Key-based routing (KBR)

Every node implements a primitive that routes lookup requests closest to the node storing the key

SOLUTION 1 Every node keeps a complete view of the network in their **routing table**

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SOLUTION 1 Every node keeps a complete view of the network in their **routing table**



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Key-based routing (KBR)

Every node implements a primitive that routes lookup requests closest to the node storing the key

SOLUTION 2 Every node keeps a **reduced** view of the network in their **routing table** (finger table)

$\log(n)$ for lookup hops

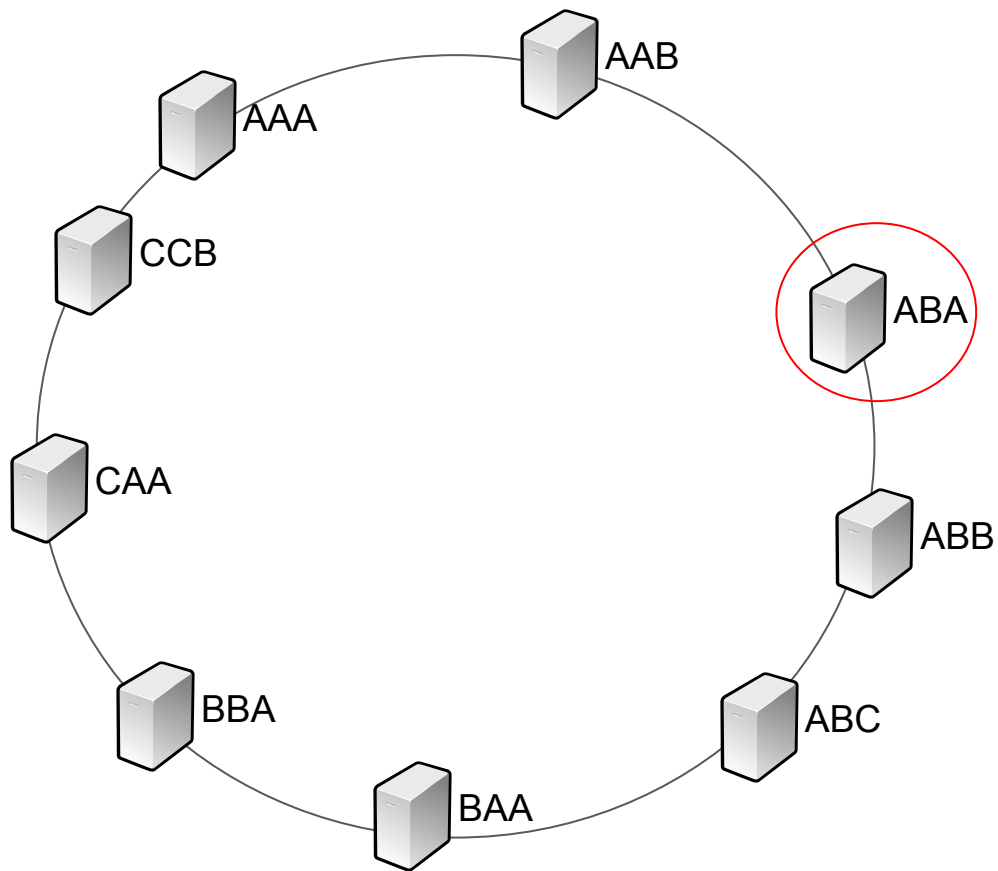
$\text{const}(n)$ for peers in local routing table

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DHT performing efficient routing

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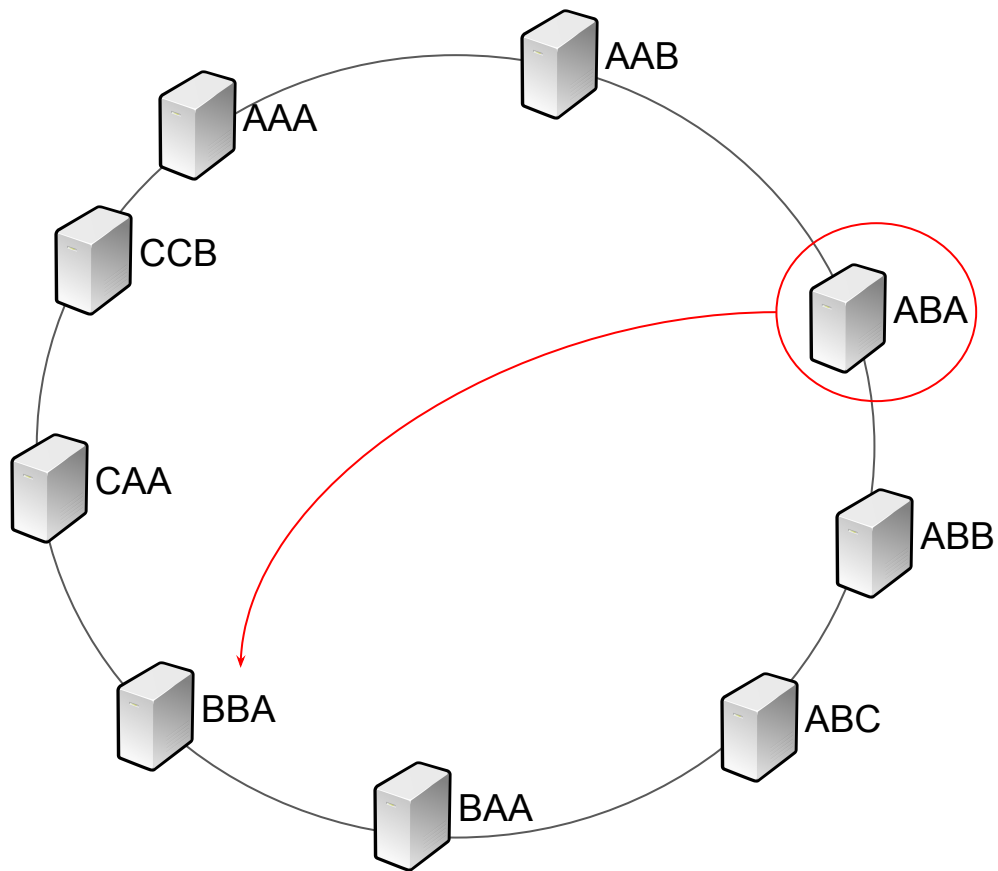


lookup(CCC)

RT:

ABB	<i>IP</i>
AAB	<i>IP</i>
BBA	<i>IP</i>

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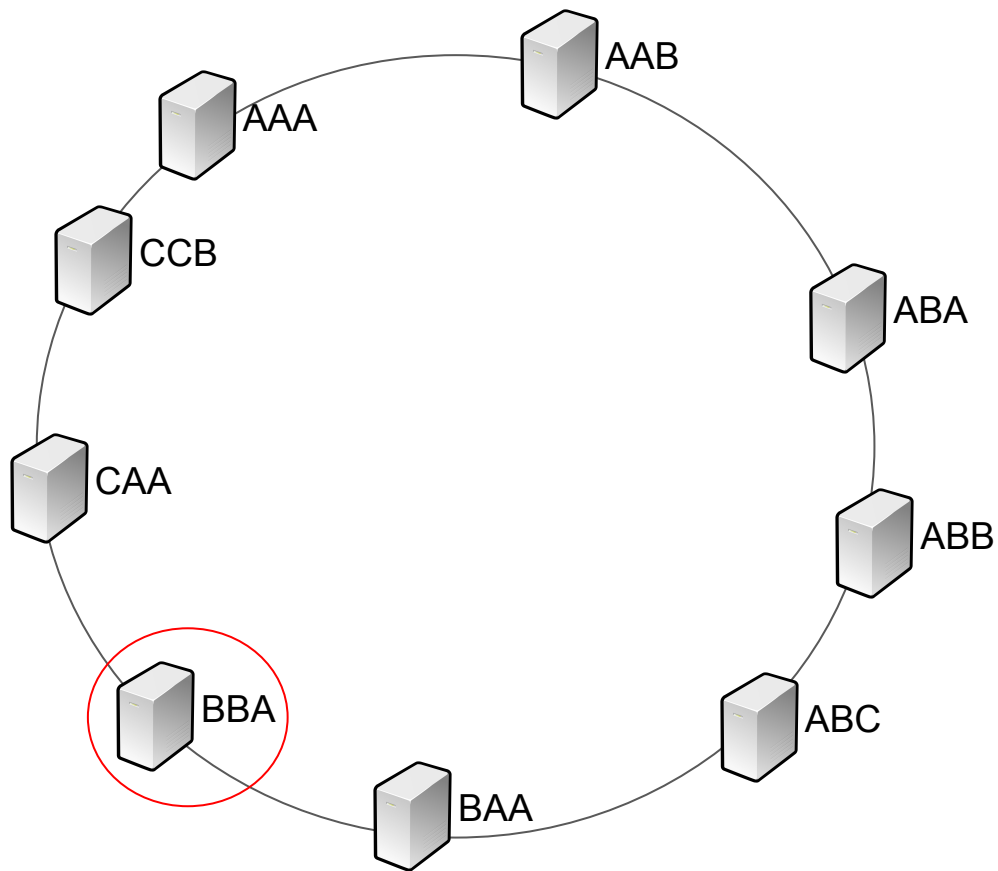


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ABB	<i>IP</i>
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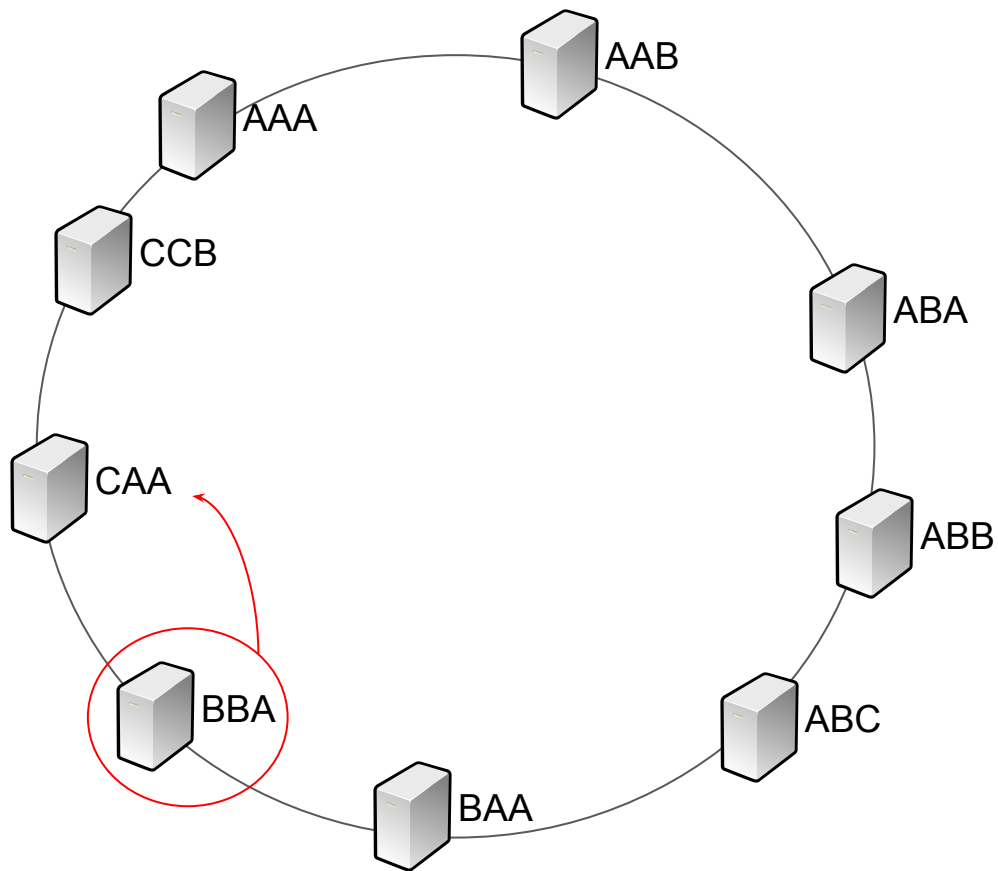


lookup(CCC)

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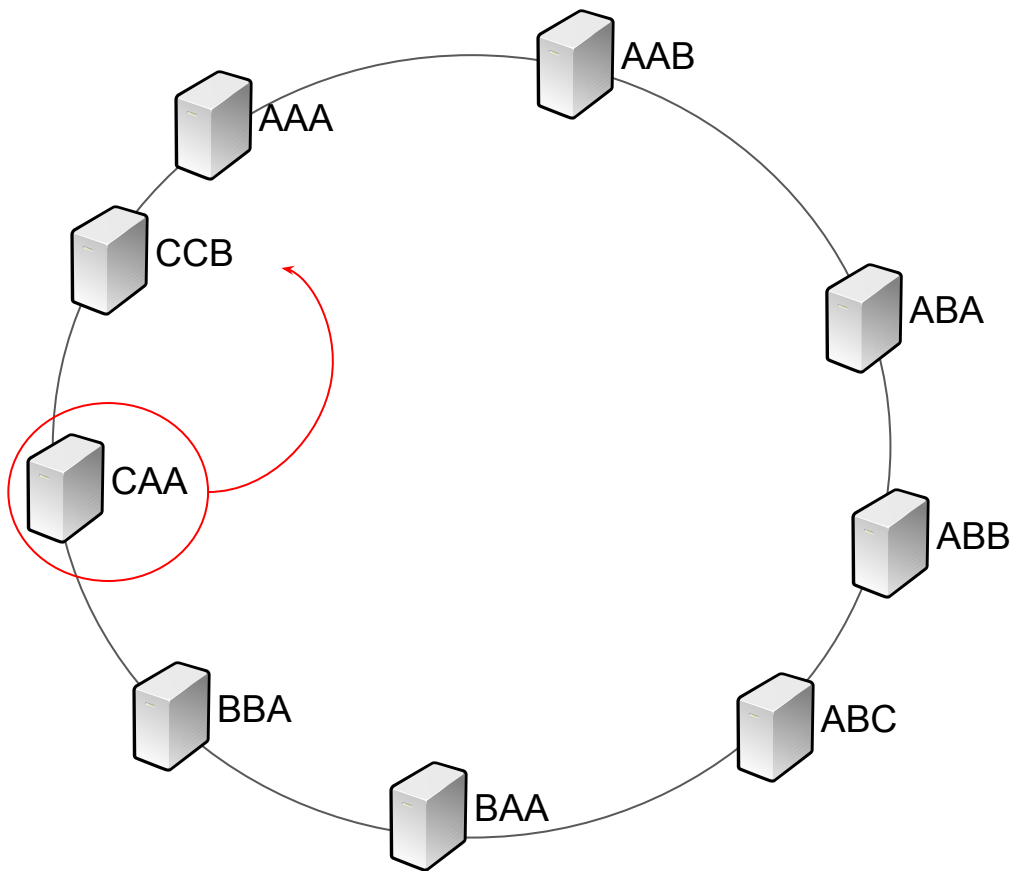


lookup(CCC)

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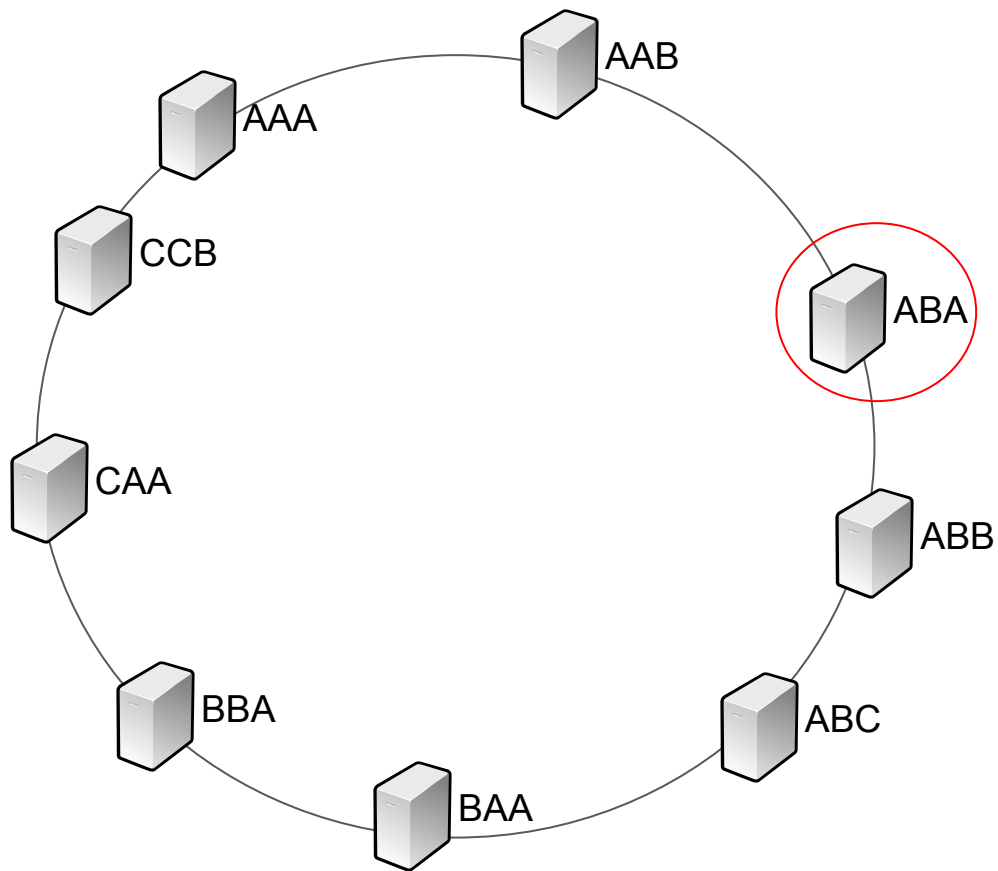
CCB	<i>IP</i>
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ABB	<i>IP</i>

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IT'S A RING!



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lookup(CCC)

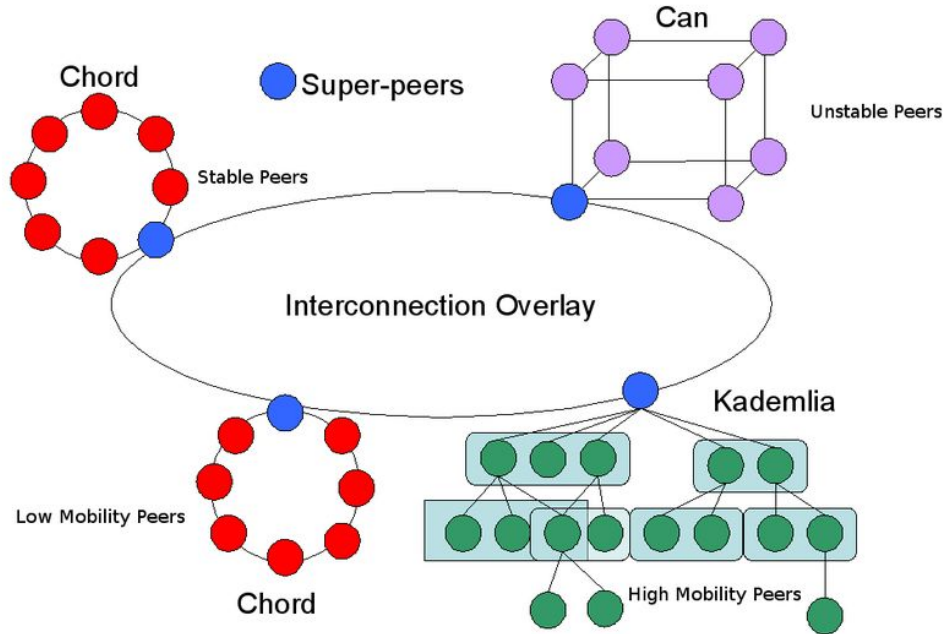
RT:

ABB	<i>IP</i>
AAB	<i>IP</i>
BBA	<i>IP</i>

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Routing tables define the **network overlay**

Different routing protocols have different superpowers!



What's your superpower: DHT

Key-based routing (KBR)

No need for coordination



Performant for large networks



Lookup is loop free



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Key-based routing (KBR)



Consistent Hashing



Performance



Latency with high churning




Sybil attacks



Anonymity/privacy



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DHT maintain and lookup
state in a P2P network 

Metadata Resistant DHT

<https://github.com/gpestana/notes/issues/8>

<https://pdht.hashmatter.com>

