

# **Trust and online reputation**

**Technologies for democratic society: Week 4**

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# Recap

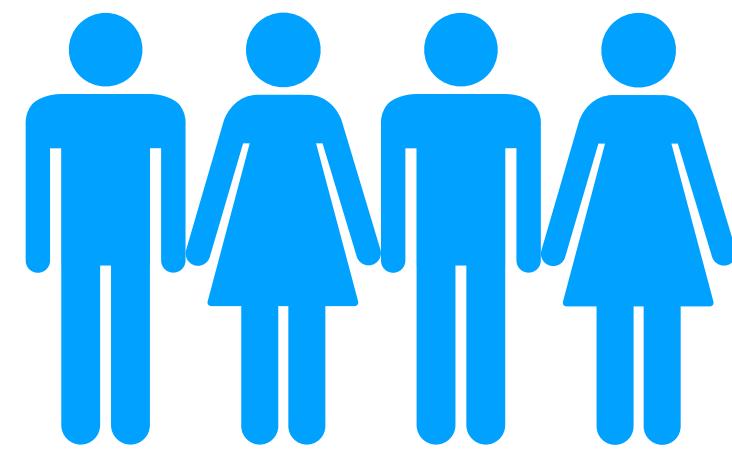
# In the previous lecture you saw ...

- What is influence in online media?
  - Specifically for Twitter (now X)
- Evaluation of influence on Web
  - Using PageRank

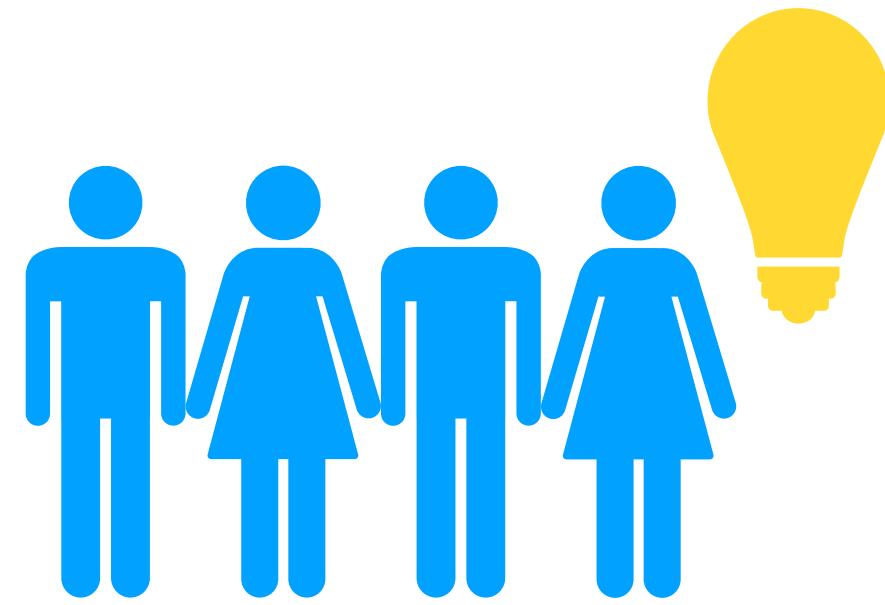
# **Scholarly peer-reviewed publications**

# **What are peer-reviewed publications?**

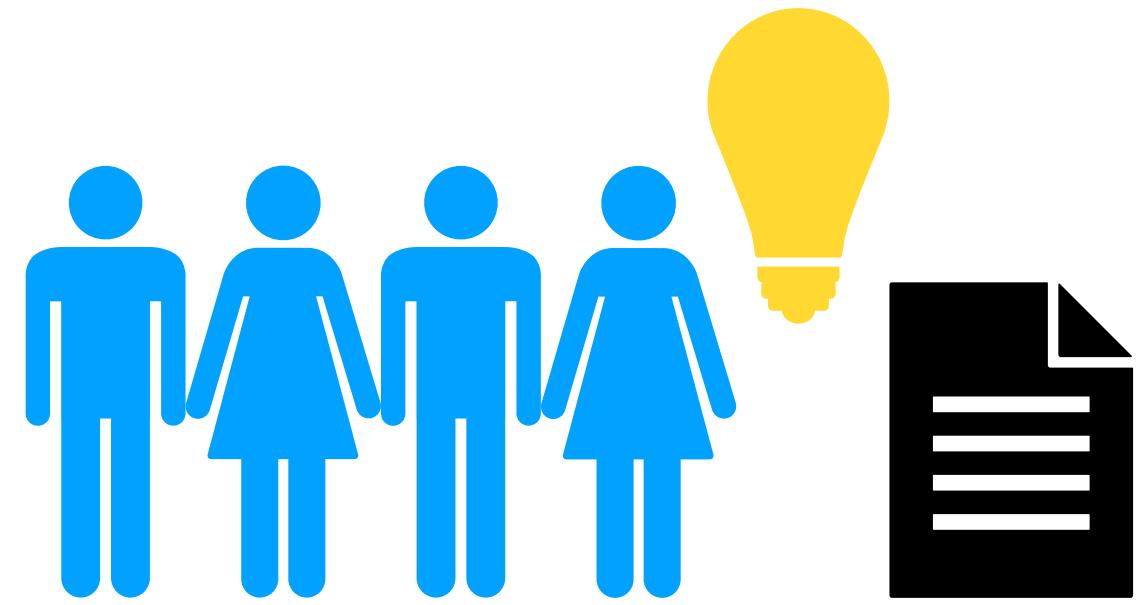
# What are peer-reviewed publications?



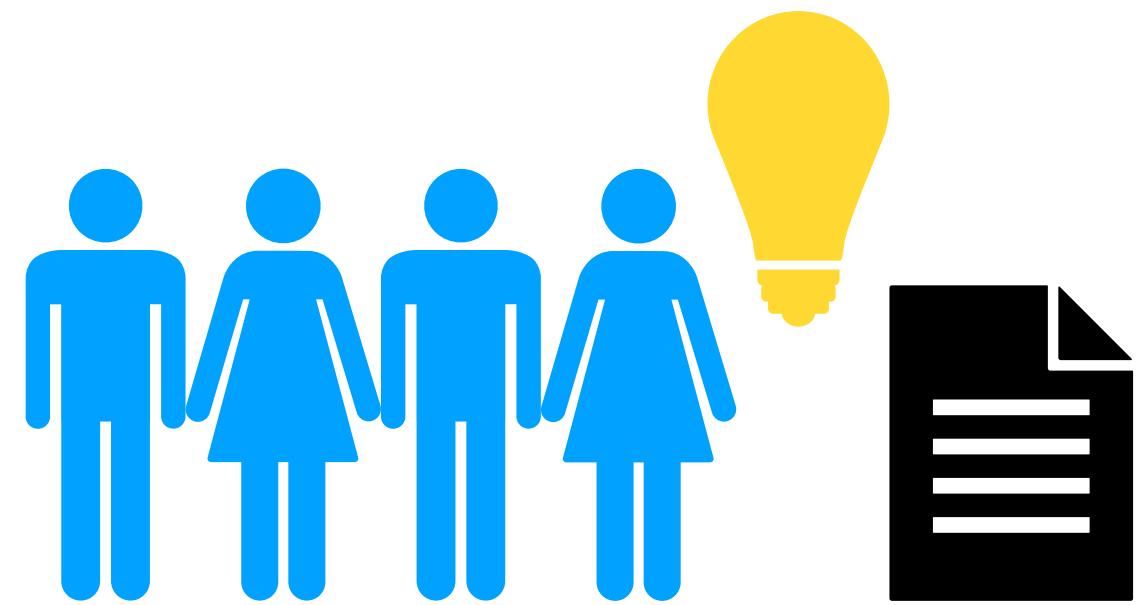
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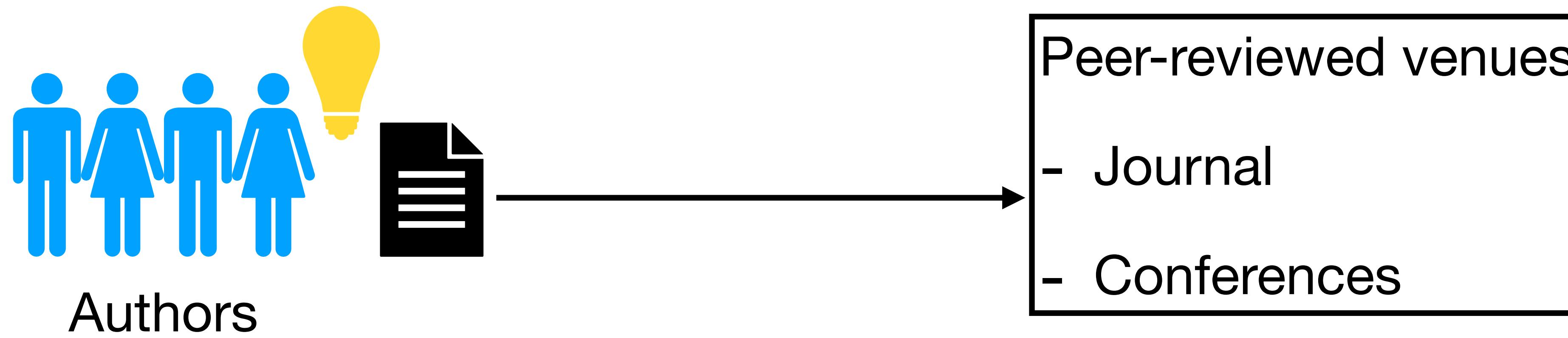


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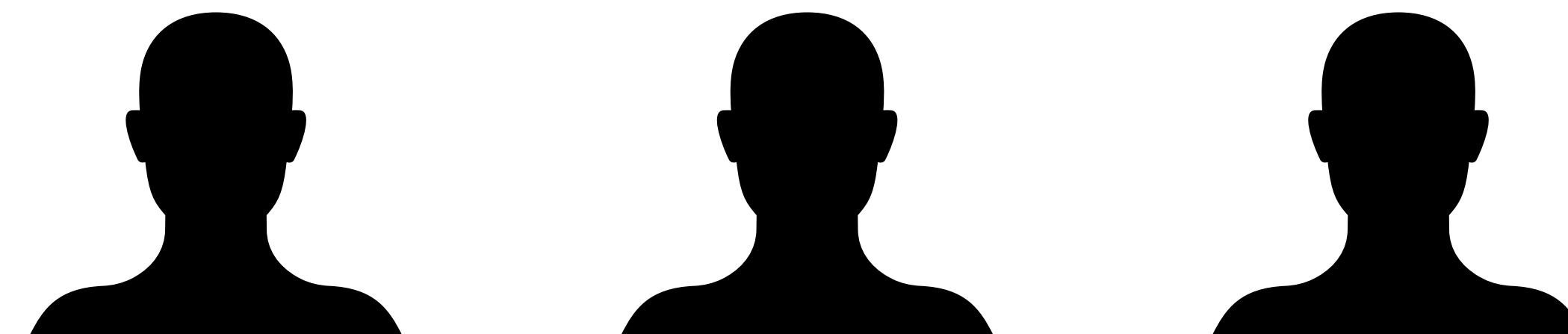
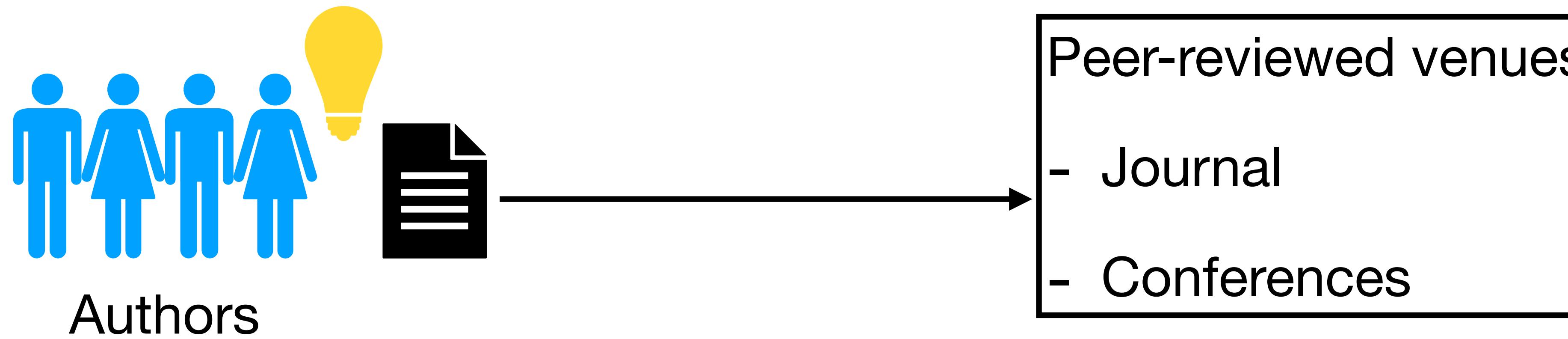


Authors

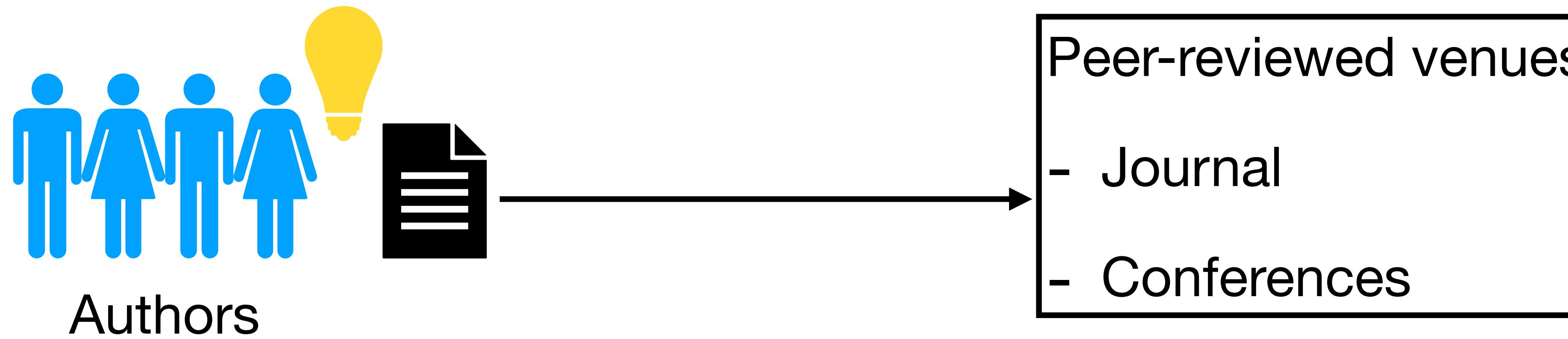
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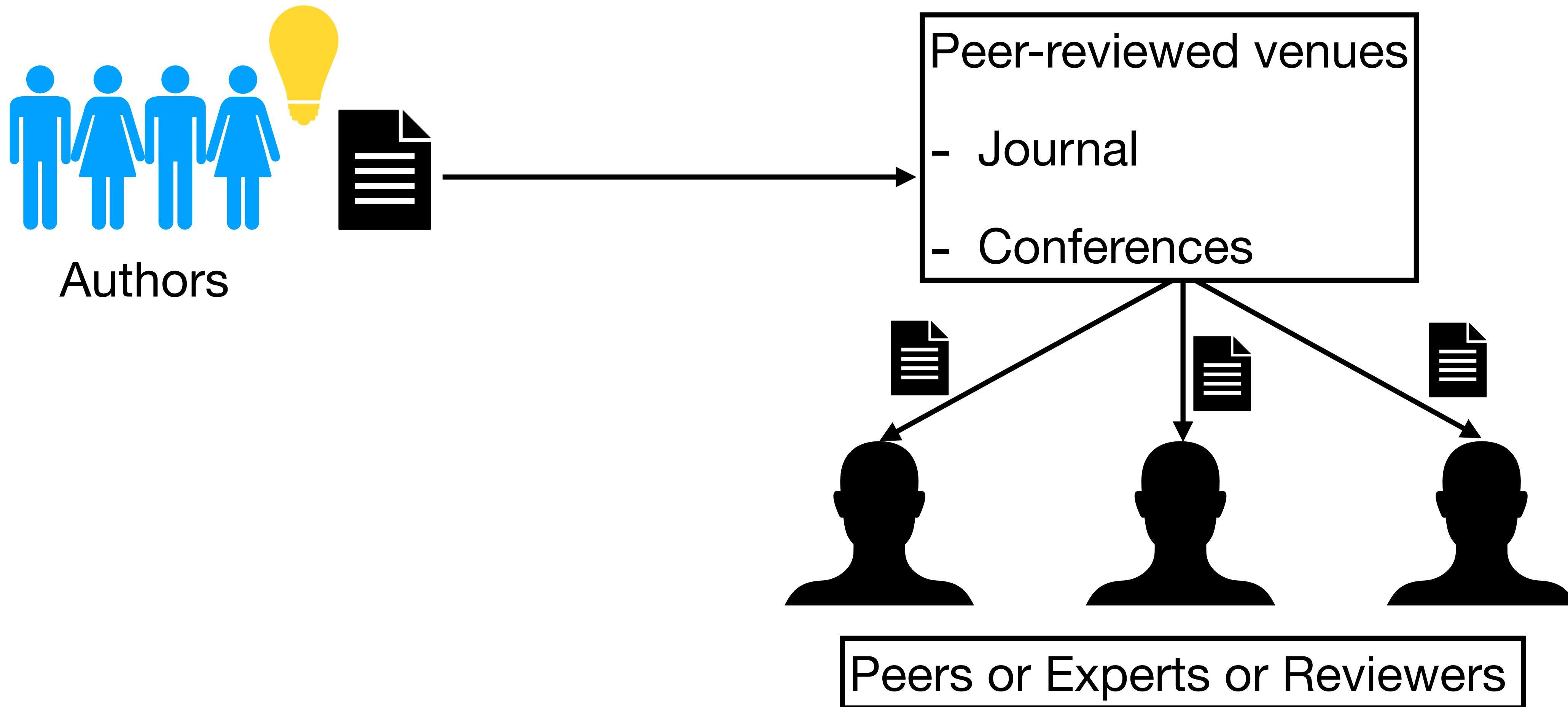


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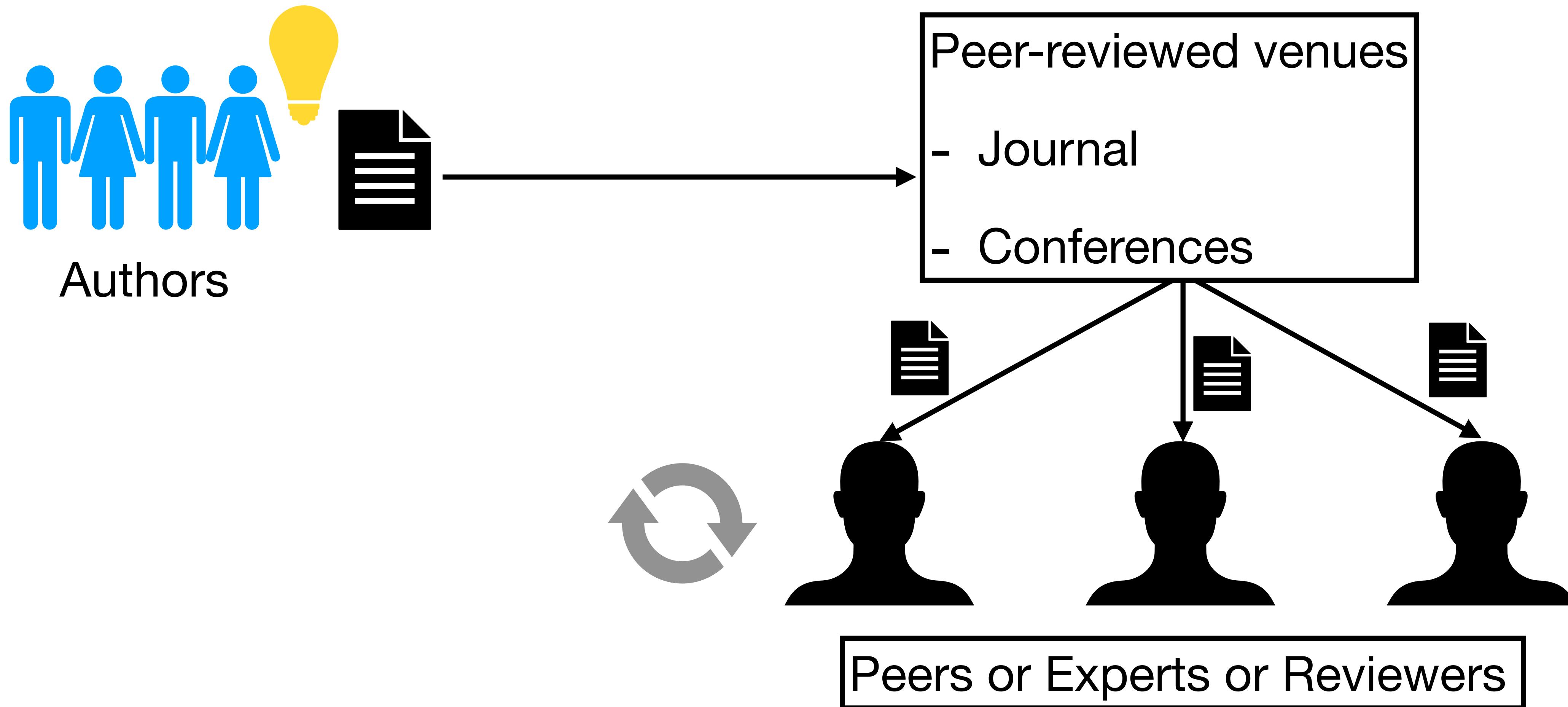


Peers or Experts or Reviewers

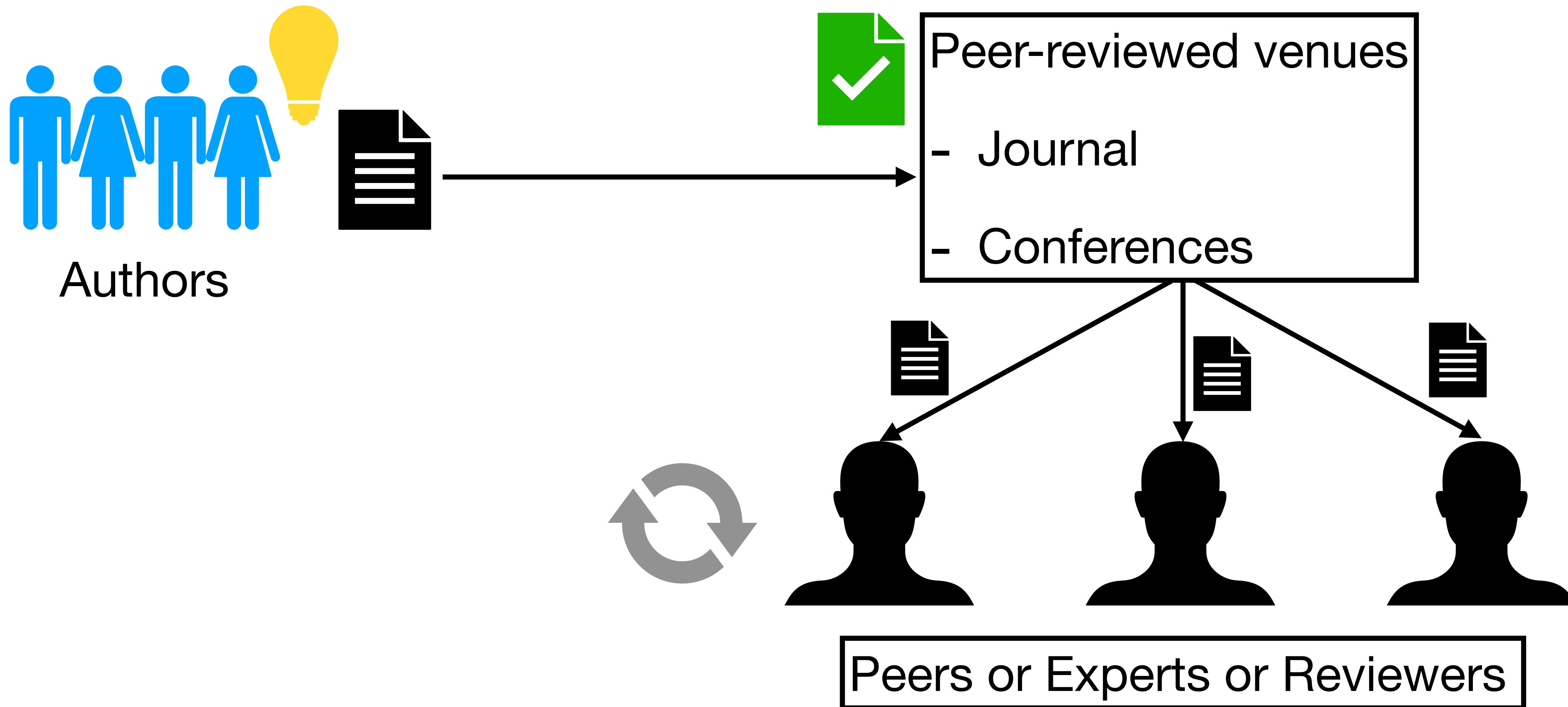
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# What are peer-reviewed publications?



# A brief history of peer reviewing

- Started in 1665
- Heavily developed in the 18th and 19th Century

# Purpose of peer-reviewed publications

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**Analyze content of research before publication**

# Purpose of peer-reviewed publications

Analyze content of research before publication

1) Identify potential errors

# Purpose of peer-reviewed publications

Analyze content of research before publication



# Purpose of peer-reviewed publications

Analyze content of research before publication

1) Identify potential errors → Filtering bad / wrong results

2) Apply scientific method

# Purpose of peer-reviewed publications

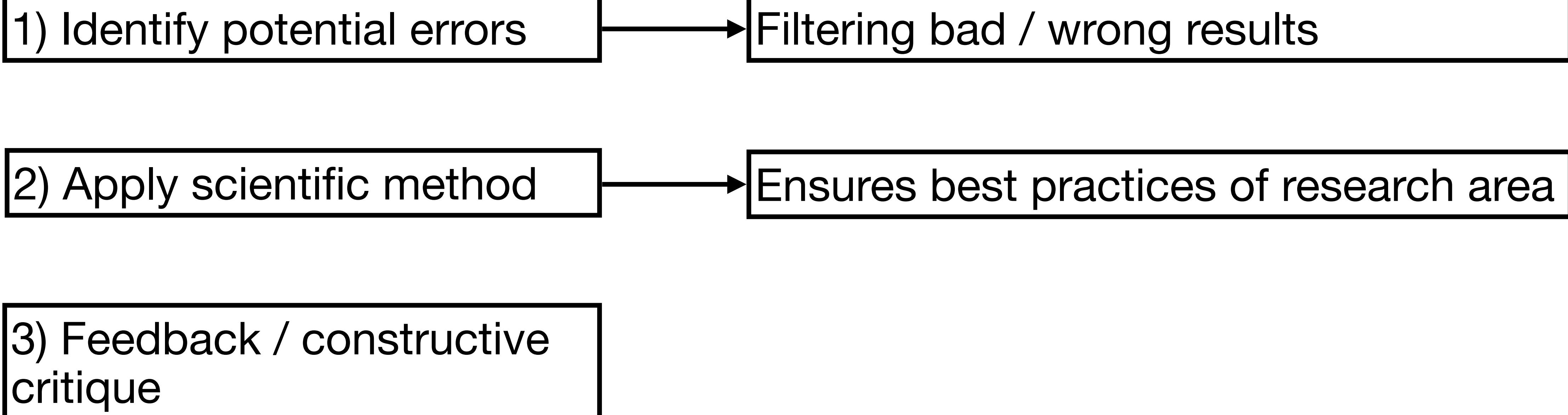
Analyze content of research before publication

1) Identify potential errors → Filtering bad / wrong results

2) Apply scientific method → Ensures best practices of research area

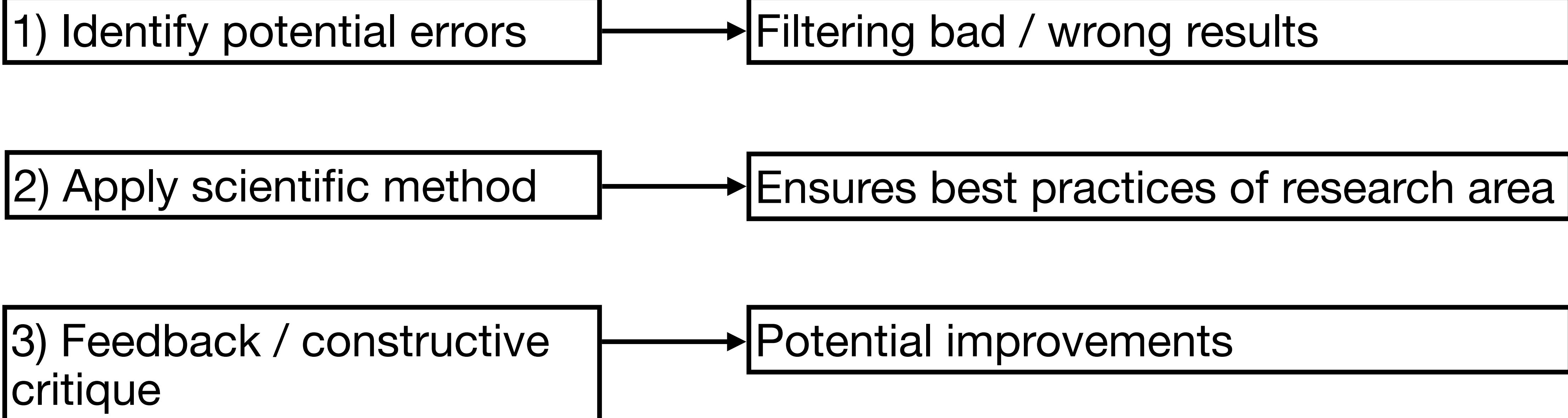
# Purpose of peer-reviewed publications

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# Purpose of peer-reviewed publications

Analyze content of research before publication



# Peer reviewing tools

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**Journals**

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**Long review cycles**

# Peer reviewing tools

Journals

Long review cycles

Most disciplines

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Conferences

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**Workshops**

# Peer reviewing tools

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Most disciplines

**Conferences**

Short review cycles

Computer science

**Workshops**

Faster turnaround

# Peer reviewing tools

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Computer science

**Workshops**

Faster turnaround

Preliminary results

# Peer reviewing tools (contd...)

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**Pre-prints**

# Peer reviewing tools (contd...)

## Pre-prints

E.g. - arXiv.org,  
eprint.iacr.org

# Peer reviewing tools (contd...)

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Non-peer reviewed

# Peer reviewing tools (contd...)

**Pre-prints**

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Non-peer reviewed

Lightweight

# Peer reviewing tools (contd...)

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Non-peer reviewed

Lightweight

Timestamped

# Peer reviewing tools (contd...)

**Pre-prints**

E.g. - arXiv.org,  
eprint.iacr.org

Any field; particularly useful for  
fast-moving fields like AI

Non-peer reviewed

Lightweight

Timestamped

# Blinding

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Reviewers see  
authors' identities

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# Influence metrics in research

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What are the metrics for influence in research?

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- No. of citations

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- No. of citations
- No. of publications
- No. of accepted grant proposals

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What are the metrics for influence in research?

- No. of citations
- No. of publications
- No. of accepted grant proposals
- h-index

# Manipulation of metrics

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**Honorary authorship**

# Manipulation of metrics

**Honorary authorship**

**Coercive citations**

# Manipulation of metrics

**Honorary authorship**

**Coercive citations**

**Citation rings**

# Blinding

Reviewers see  
authors' identities

Authors see  
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Non-blind



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# **Search engine manipulation**

# Aim of search engine manipulation

- The access of web pages is primarily governed by the web pages' position
  - 91.5% of clicks are on the first page of the results
    - 32.5% are on the first result
    - 17.6% are on the second result
  - The goal of the search engine manipulation is to put the search results as high as possible

# **Manipulation techniques**

# Manipulation techniques

- Unethical techniques to improve the rank of a page: black-hat techniques

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- Unethical techniques to improve the rank of a page: black-hat techniques
  - Indexing

# Manipulation techniques

- Unethical techniques to improve the rank of a page: black-hat techniques
  - Indexing
  - On-page techniques

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- Unethical techniques to improve the rank of a page: black-hat techniques
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  - On-page techniques
  - Off-page techniques

# Manipulation techniques

- Unethical techniques to improve the rank of a page: black-hat techniques
  - Indexing
  - On-page techniques
  - Off-page techniques
  - Bowling

# Indexing: Blog-Ping

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New  
Website

# Indexing: Blog-Ping

New  
Website

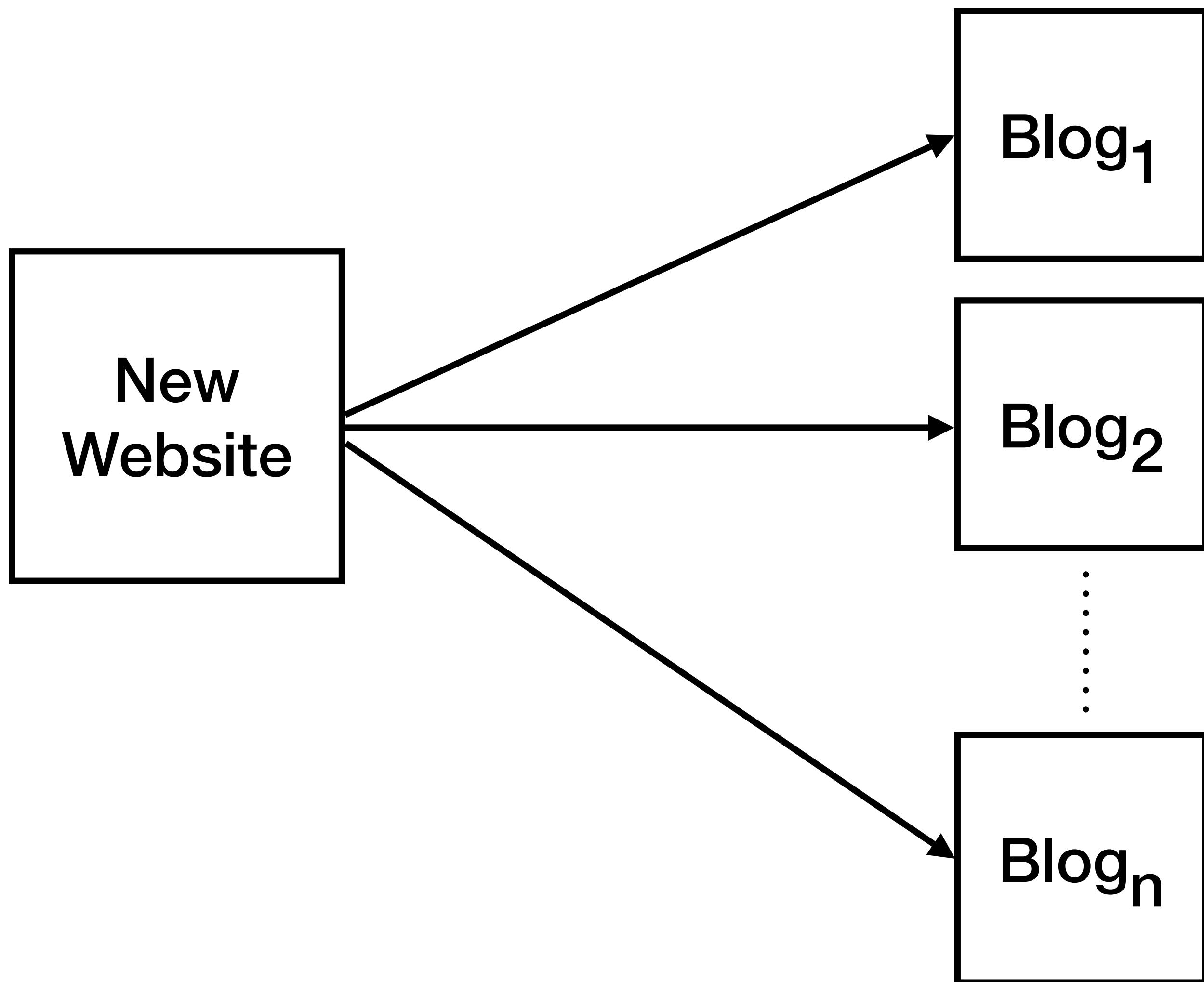
Blog<sub>1</sub>

Blog<sub>2</sub>

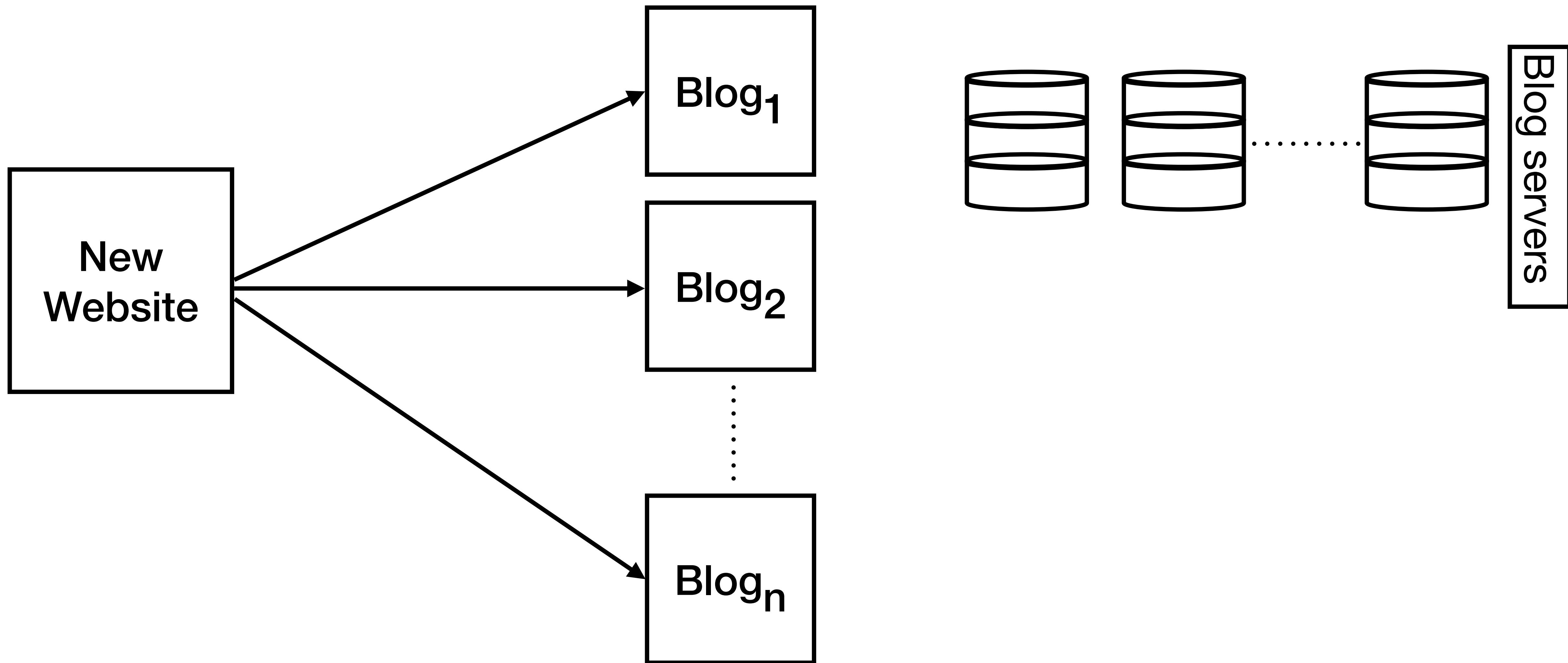
⋮

Blog<sub>n</sub>

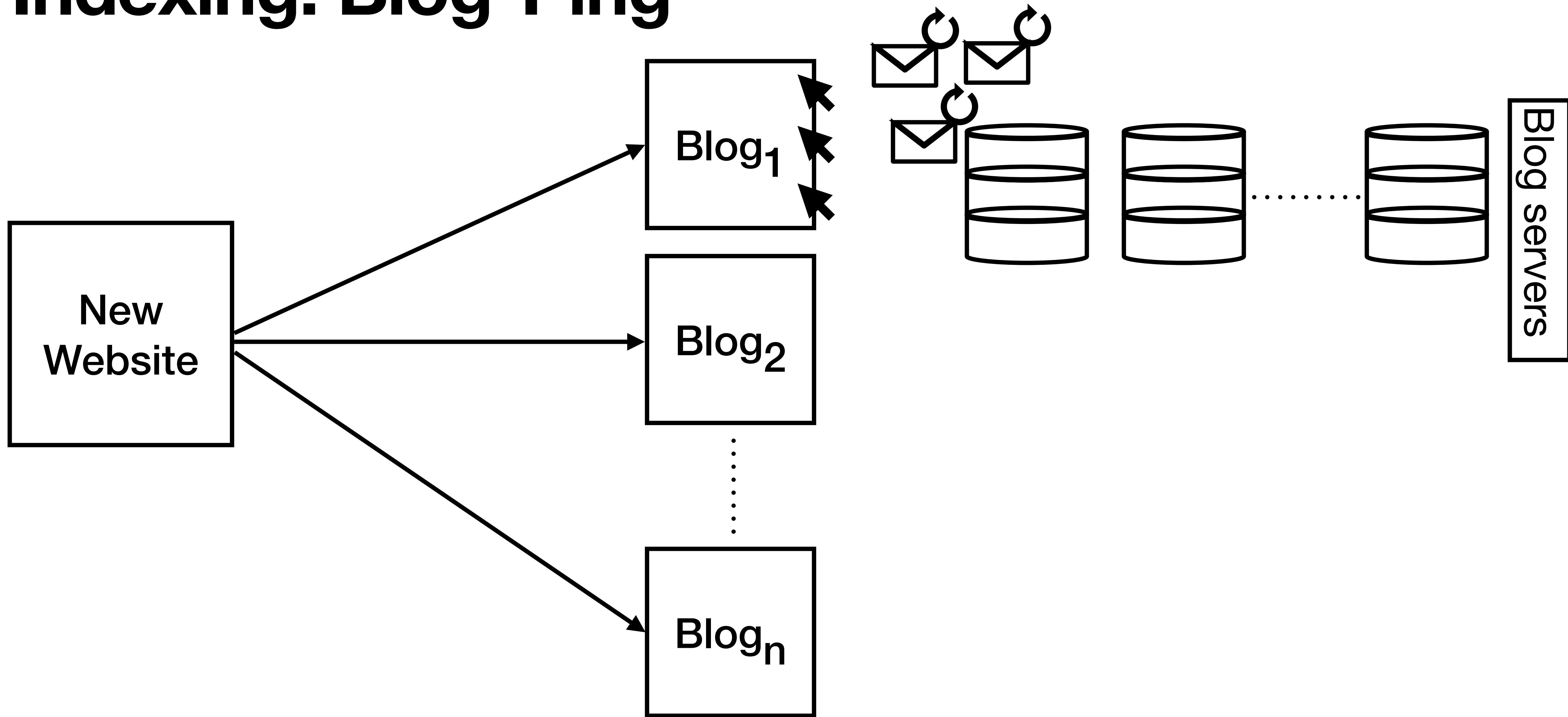
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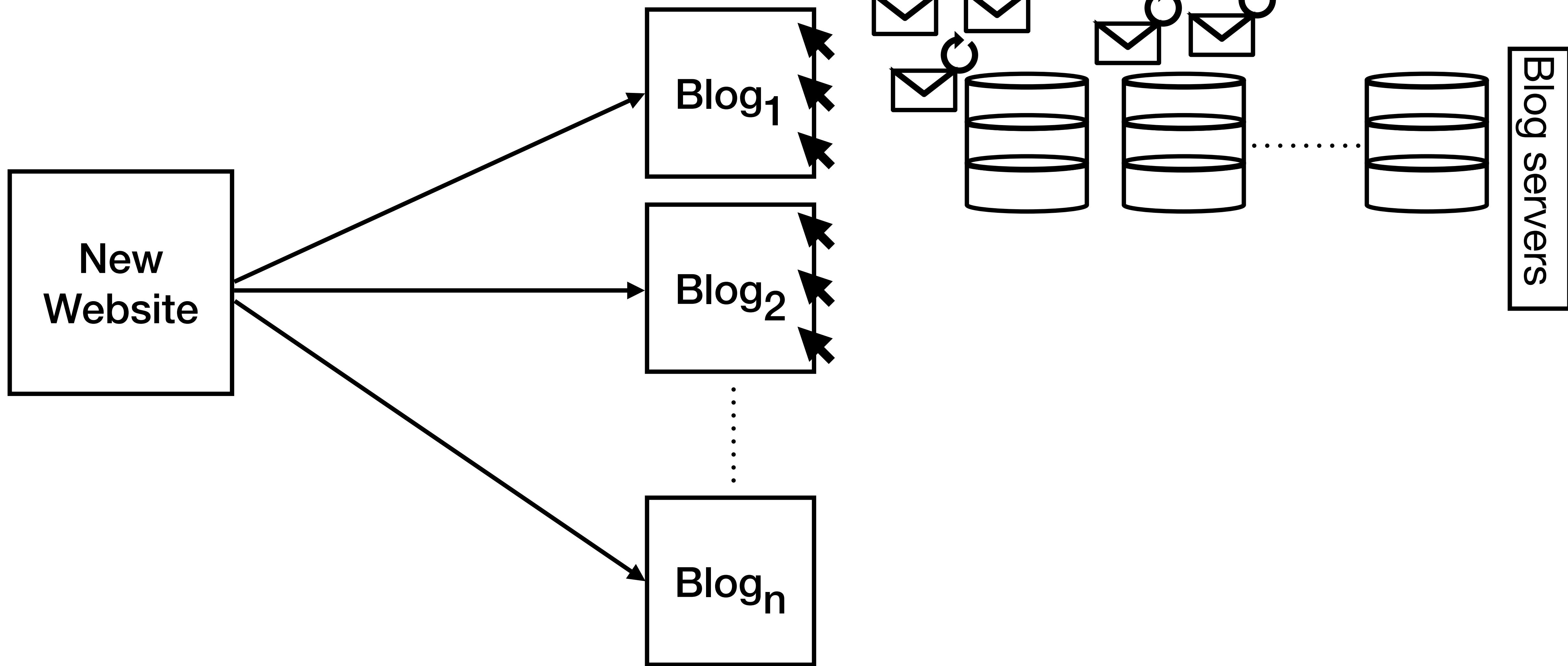
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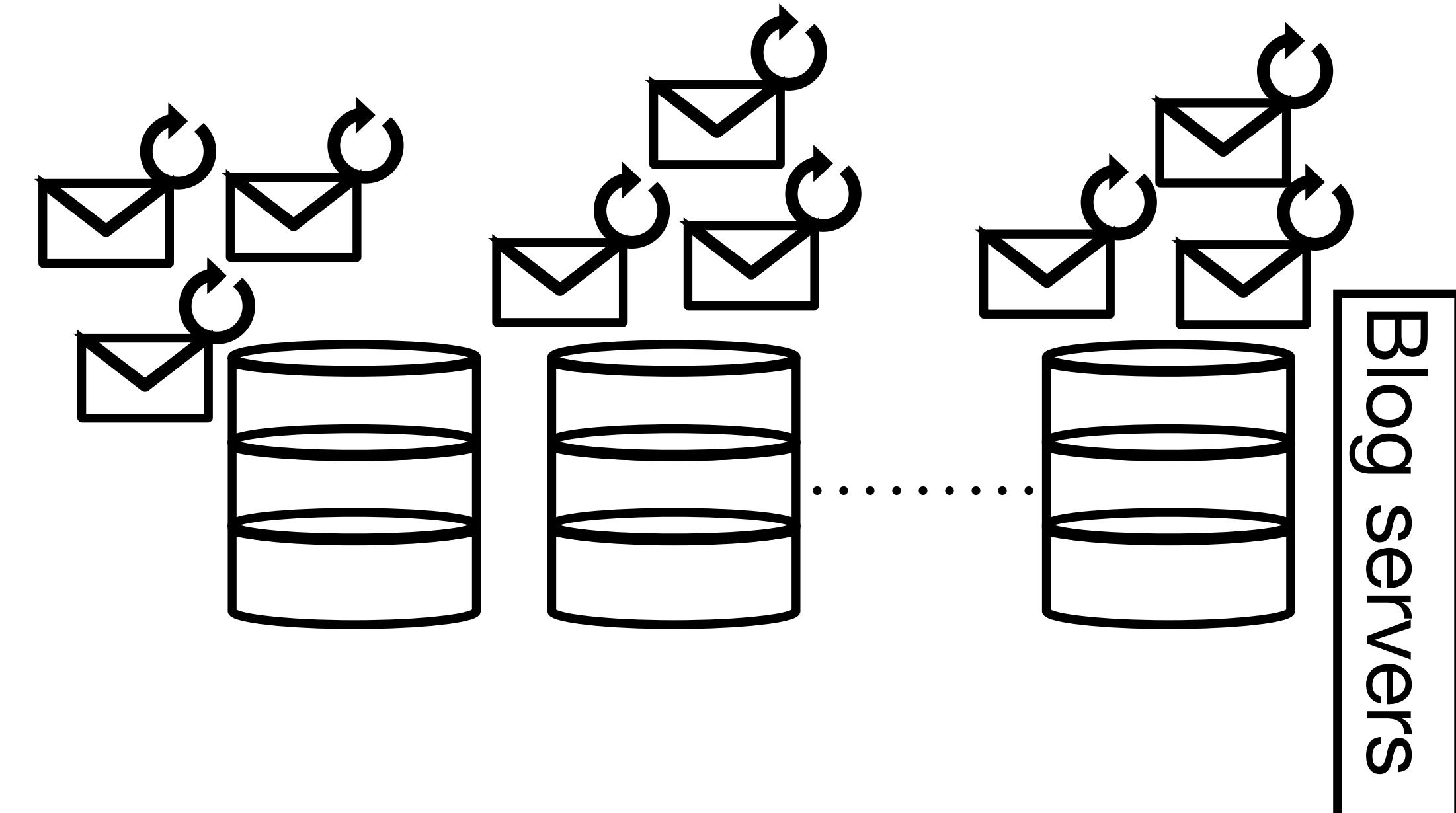
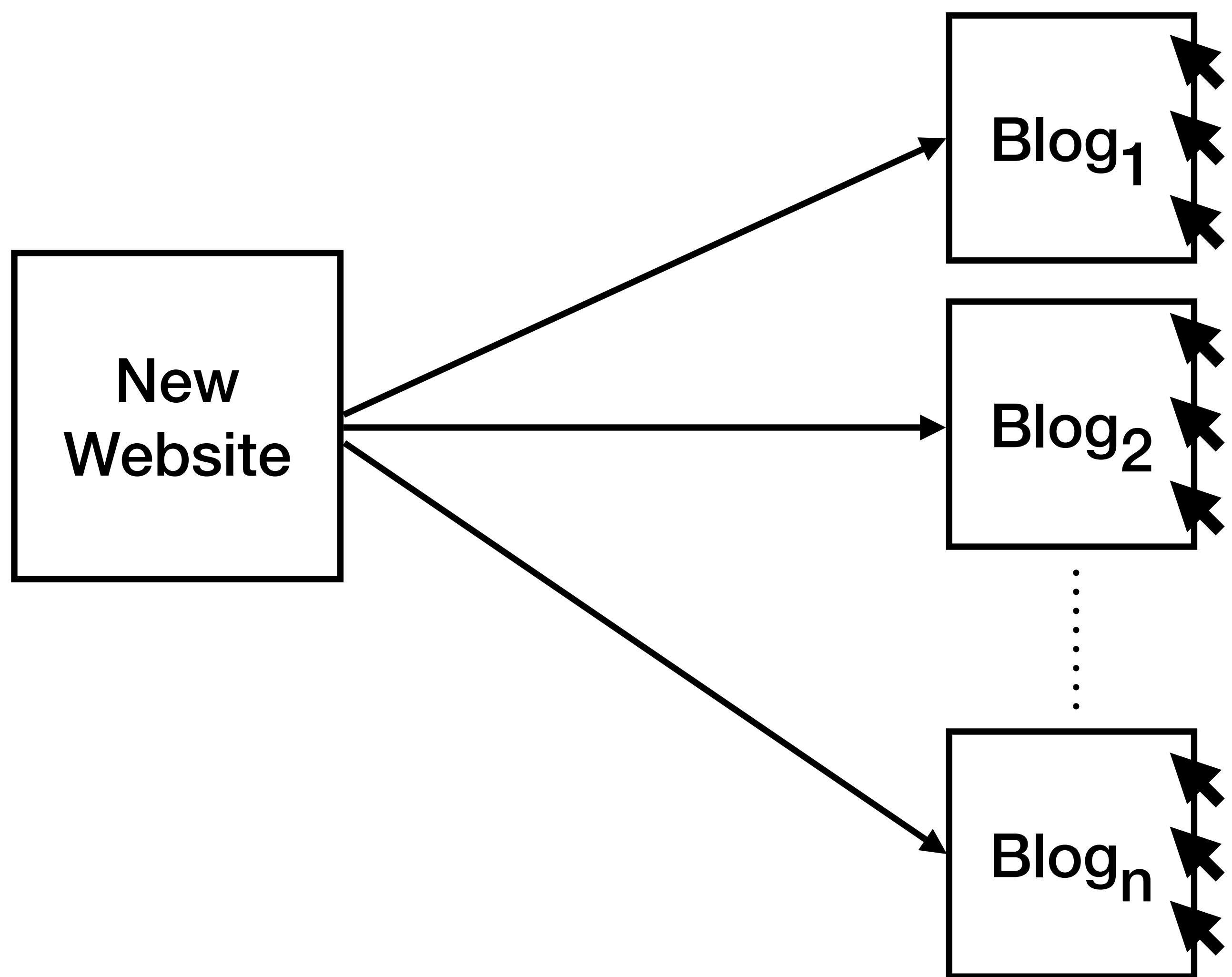
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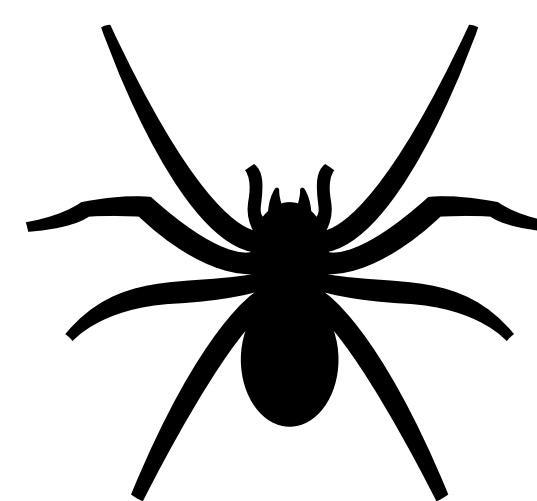
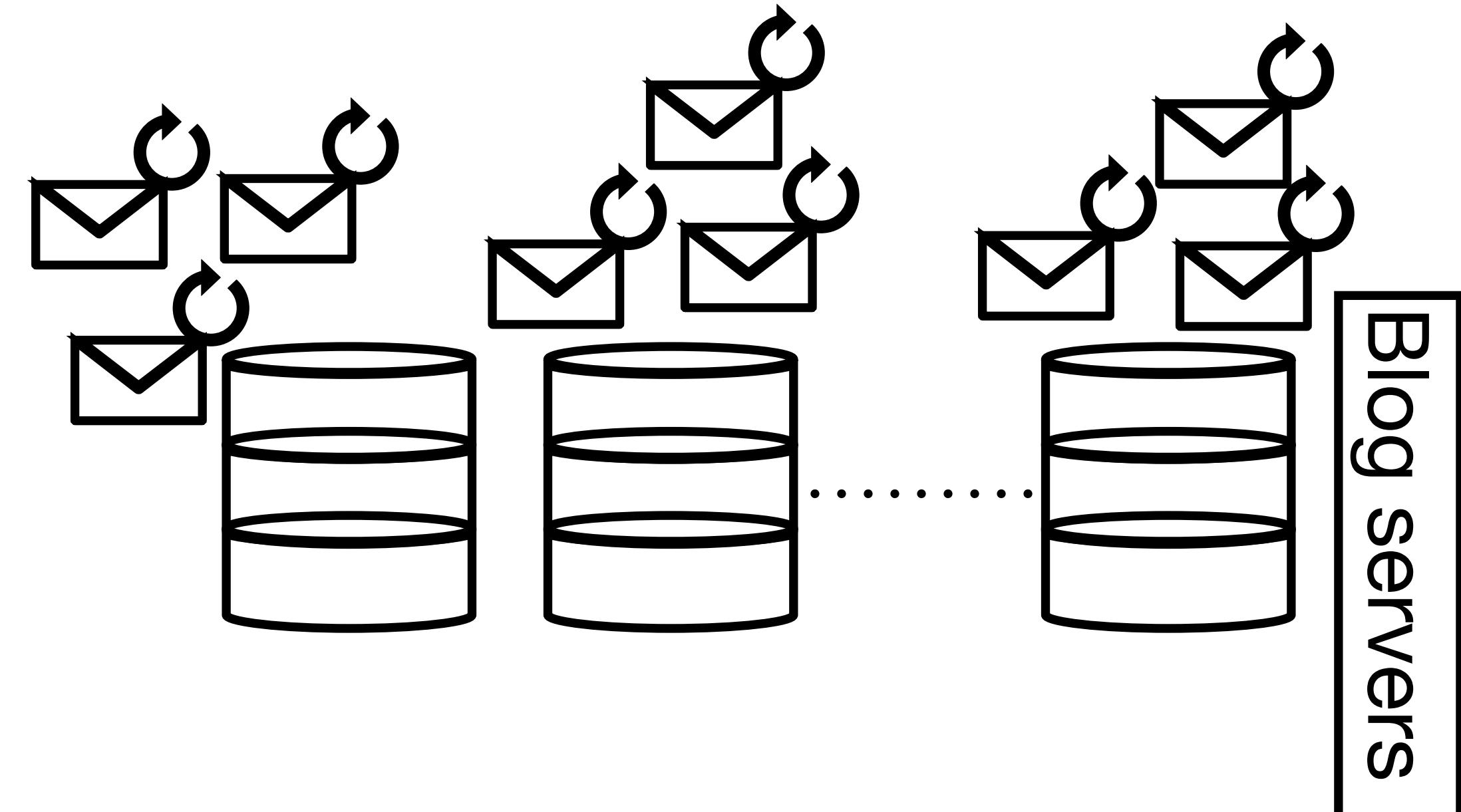
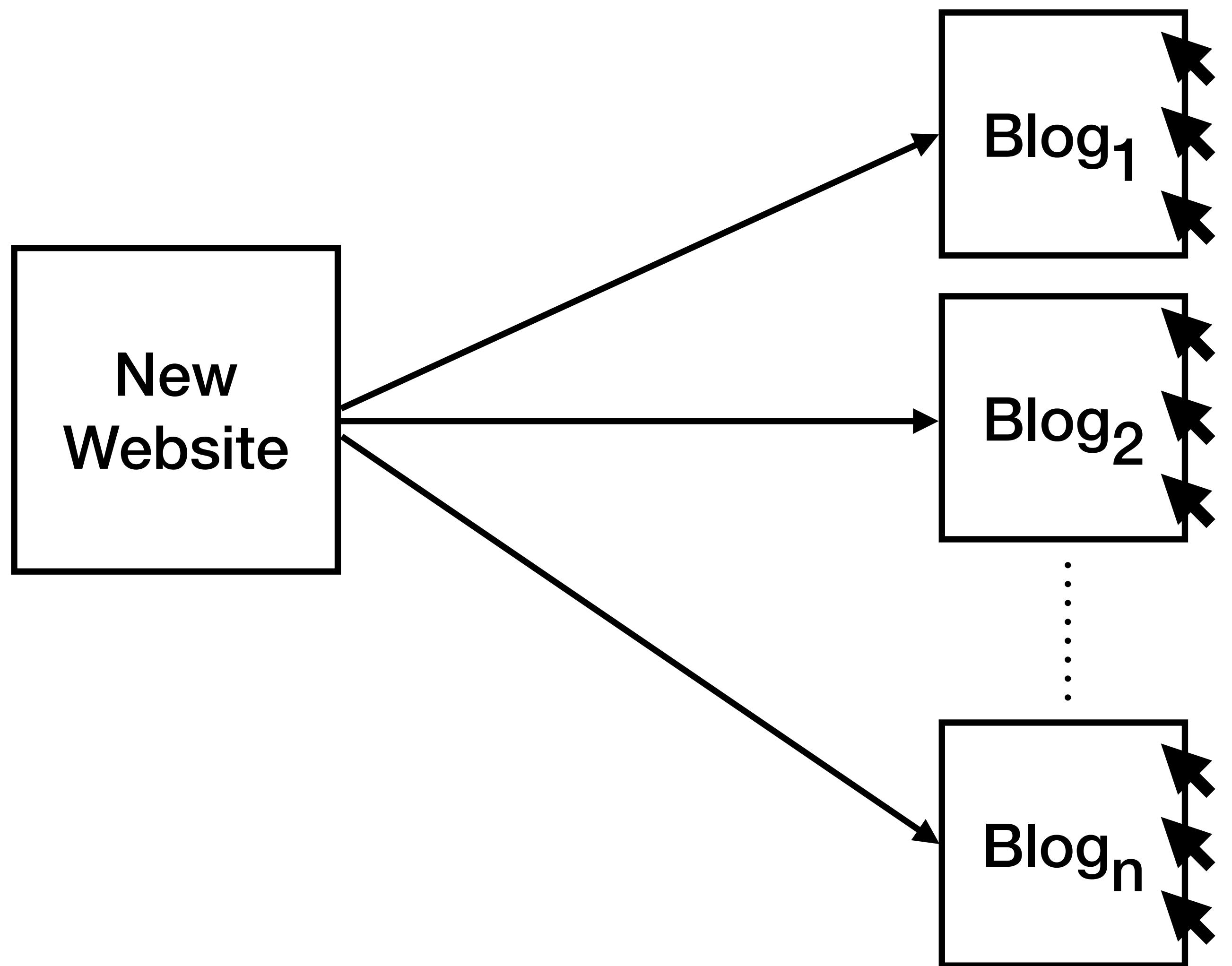
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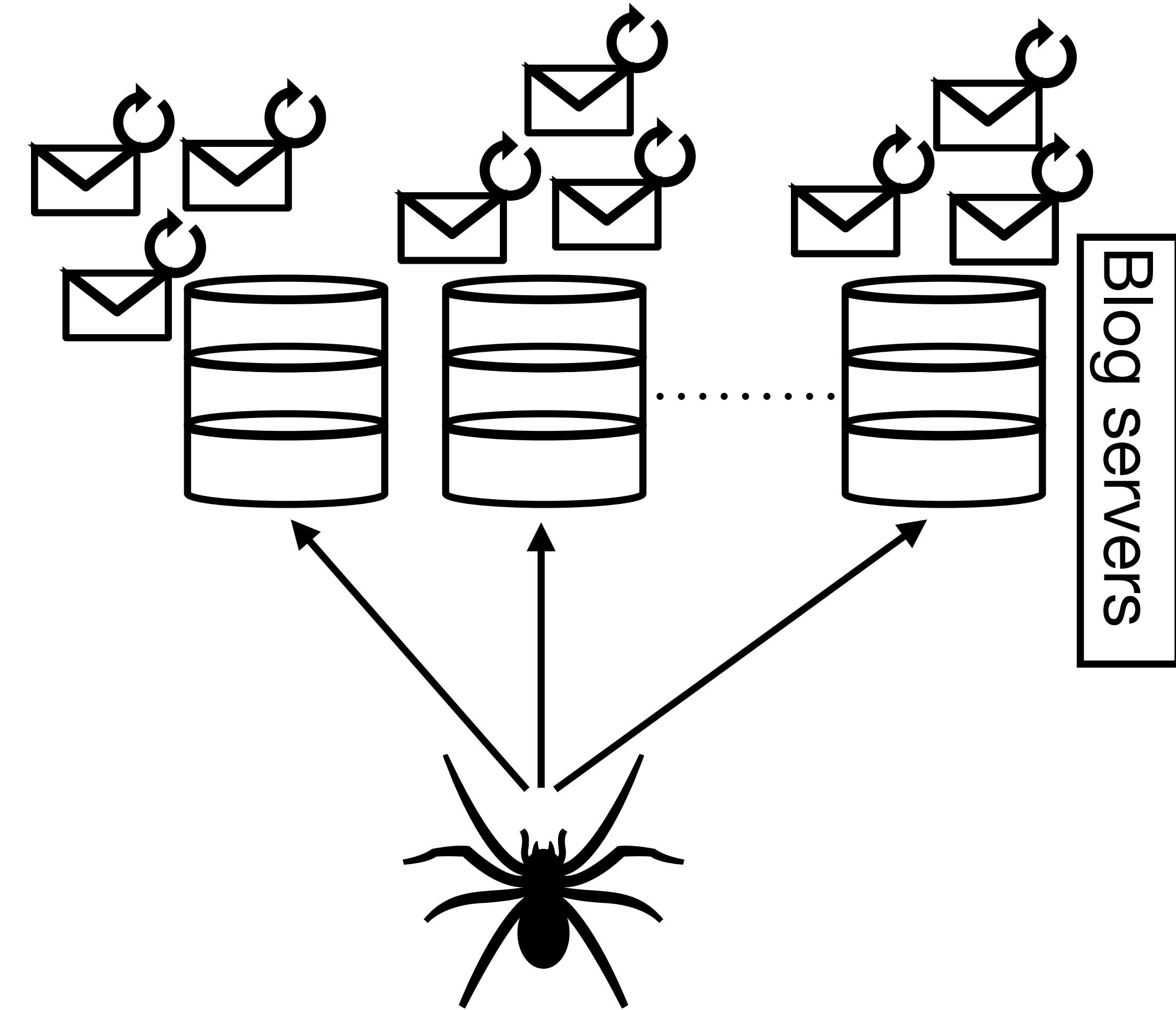
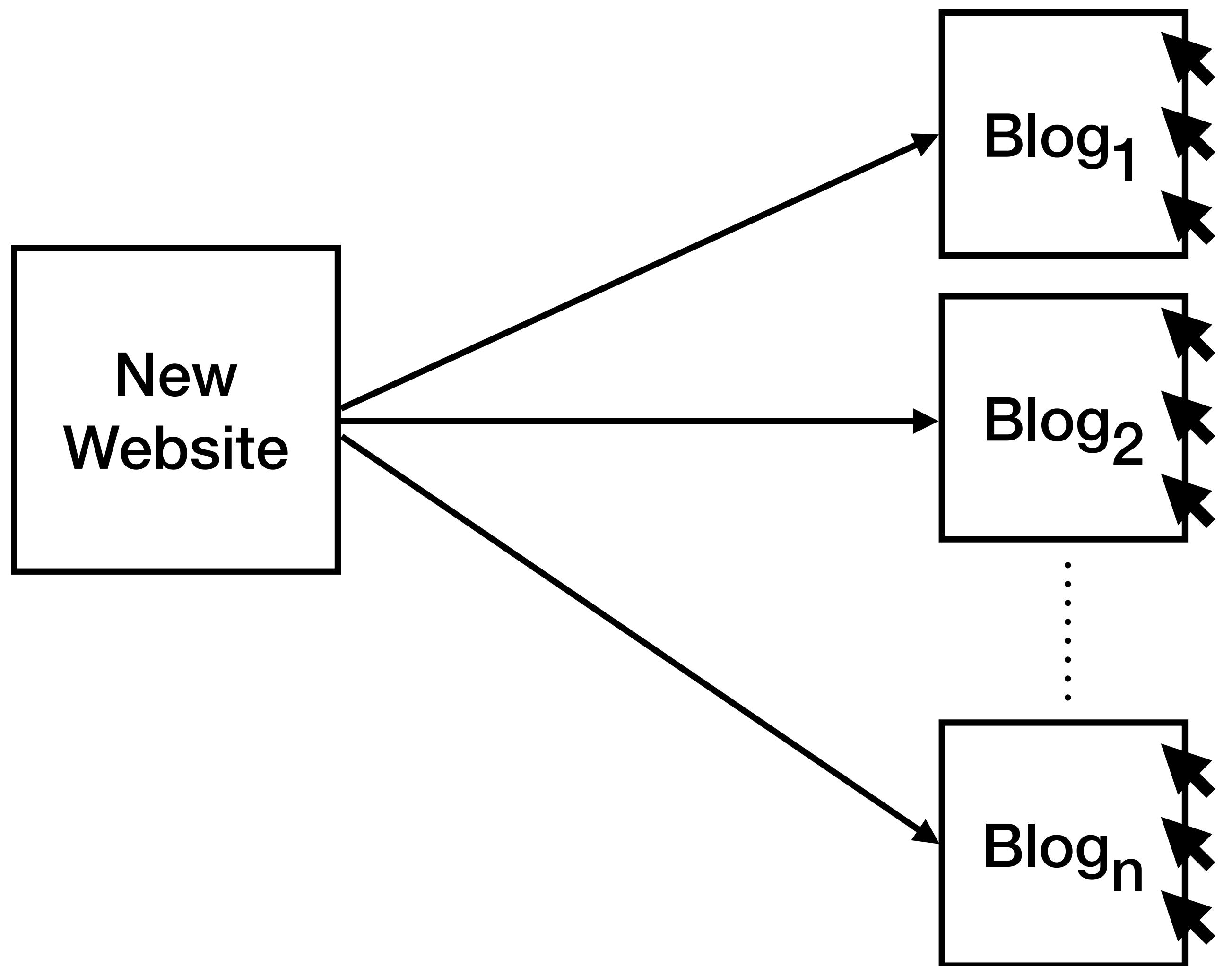
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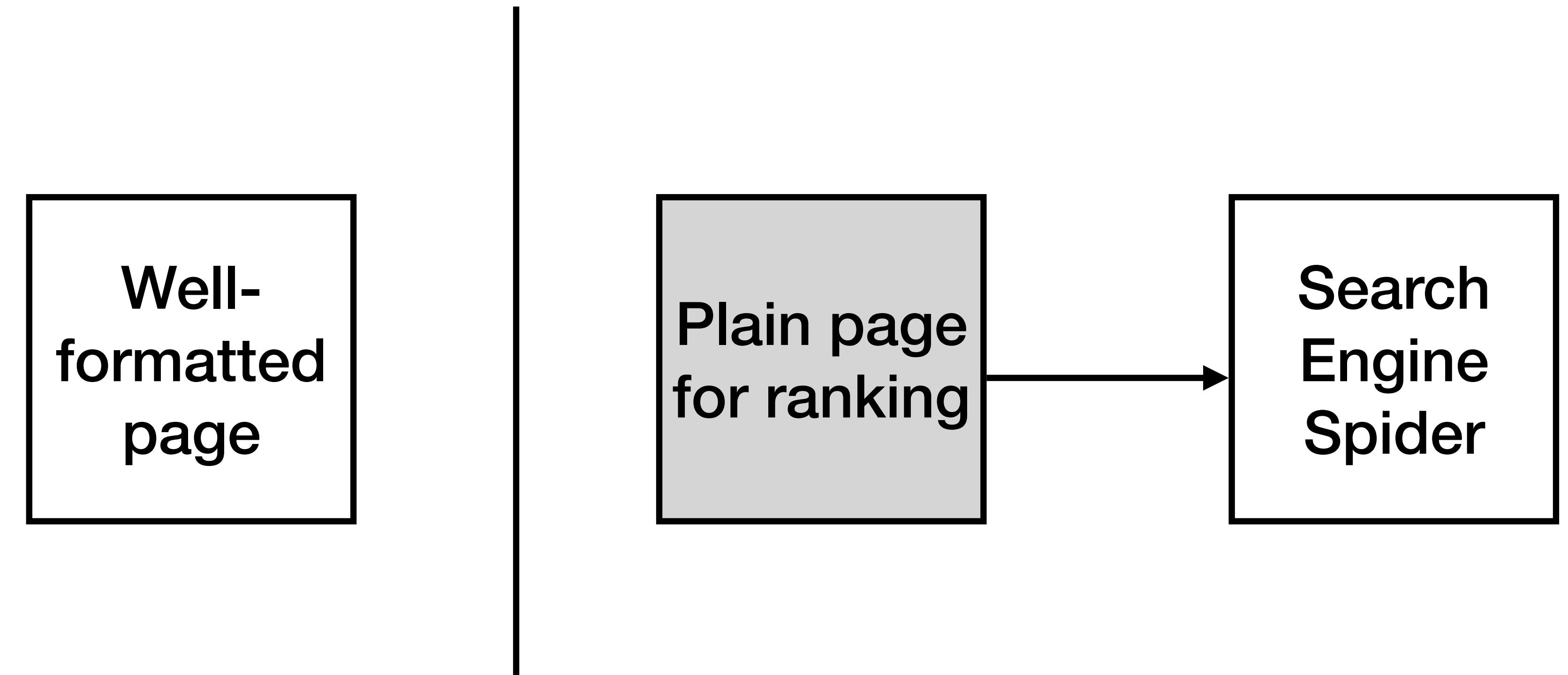
# On-Page: Cloaking

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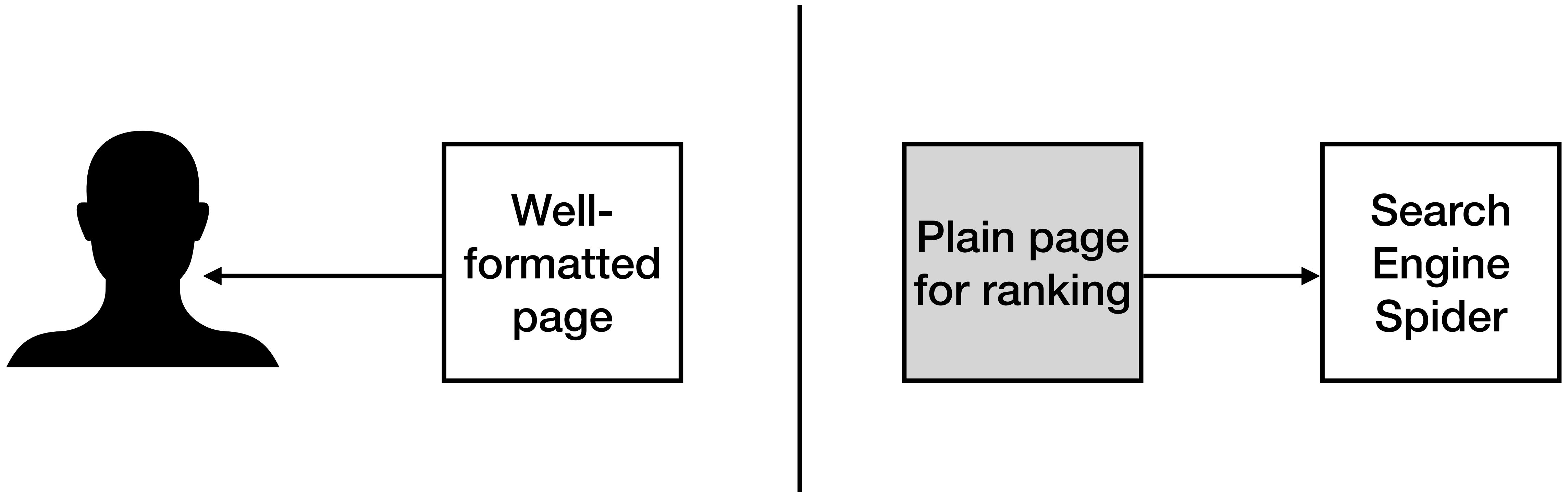
Well-formatted page

Plain page for ranking

# On-Page: Cloaking



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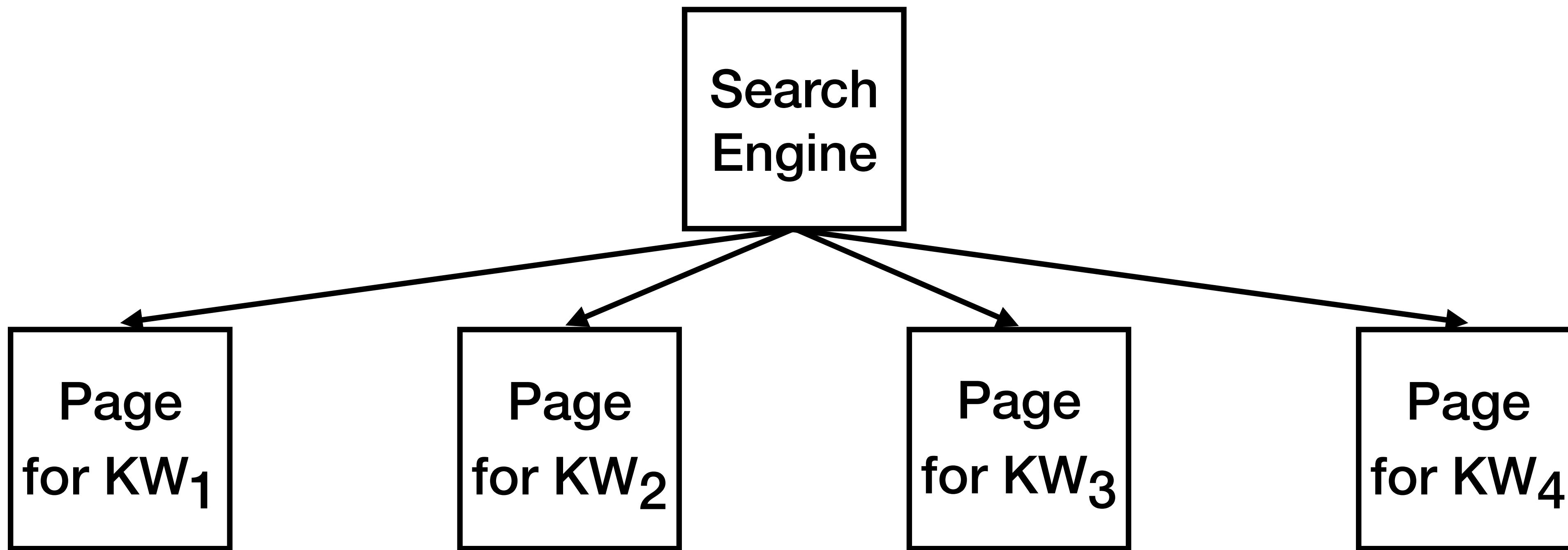


# On-Page: Doorway Pages

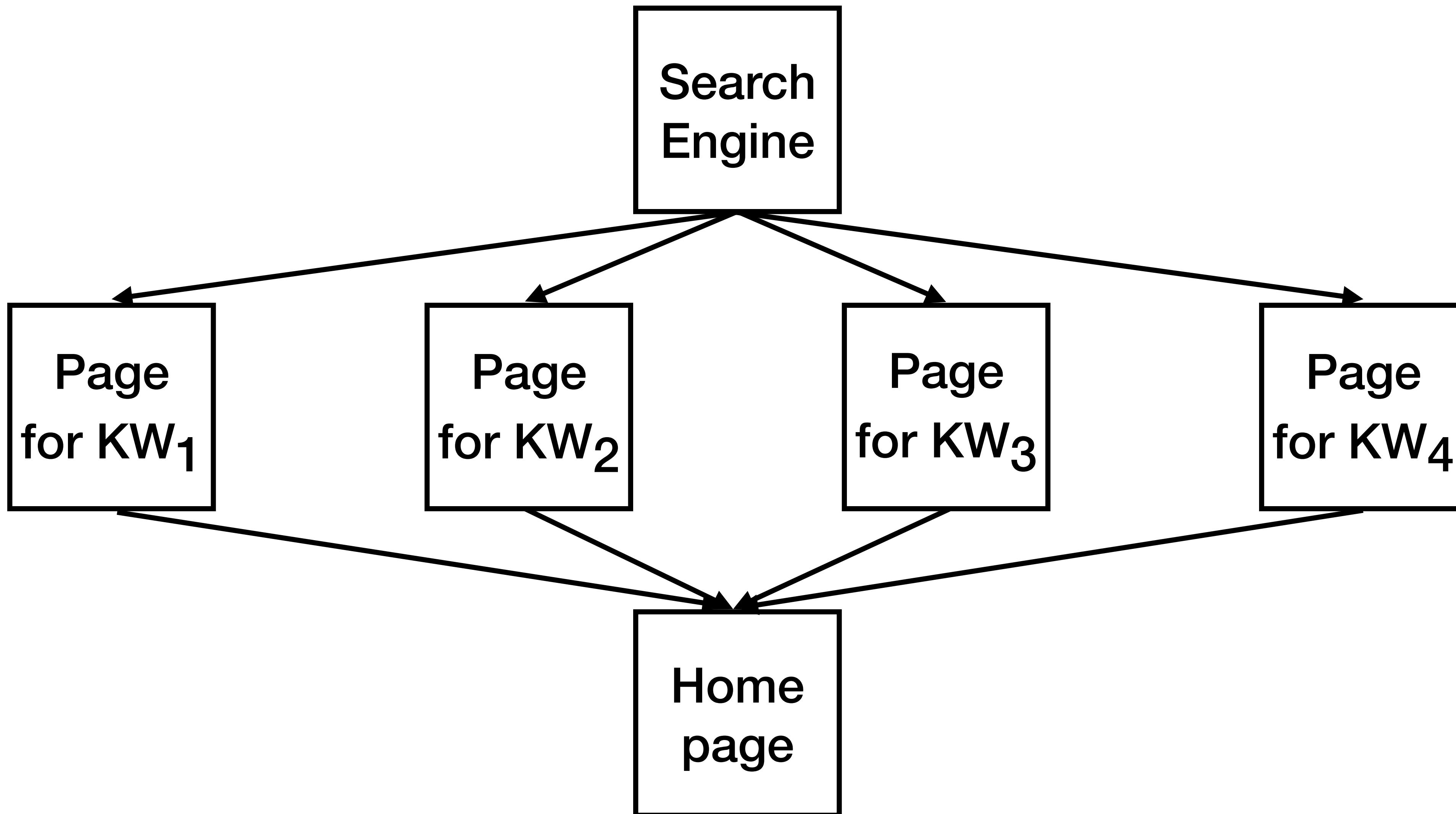
# On-Page: Doorway Pages

Search  
Engine

# On-Page: Doorway Pages

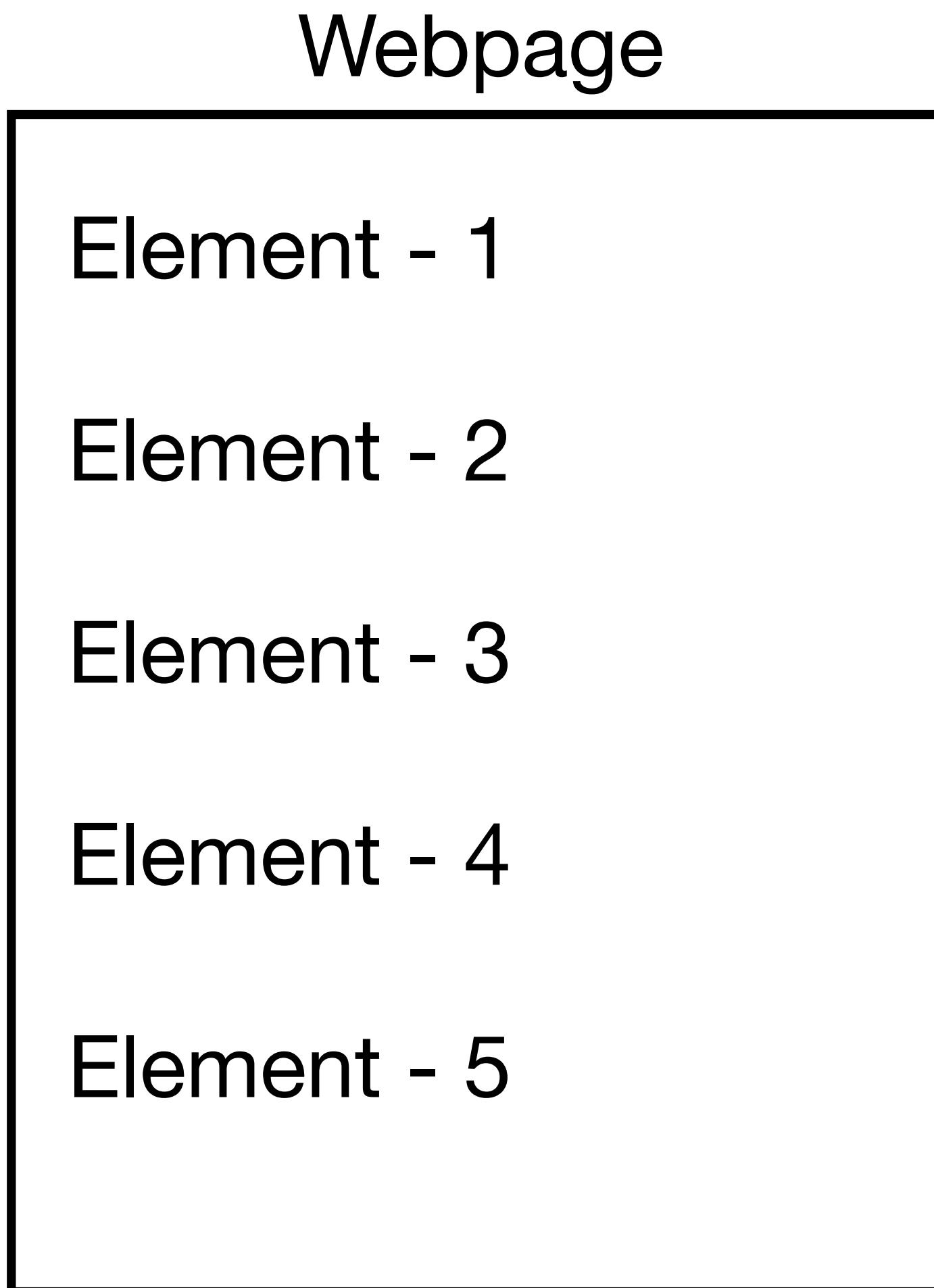


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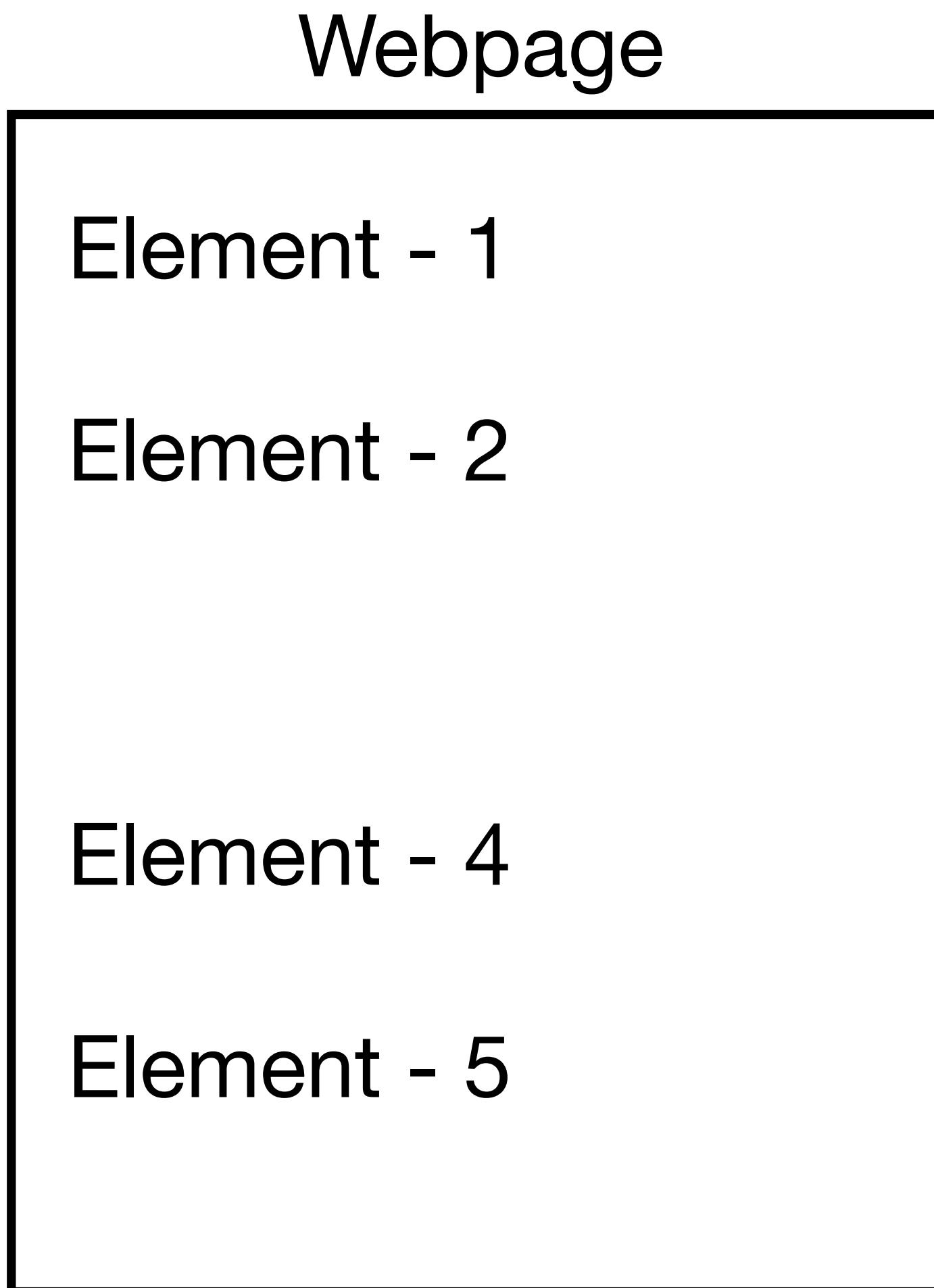


# On-Page: Invisible Elements

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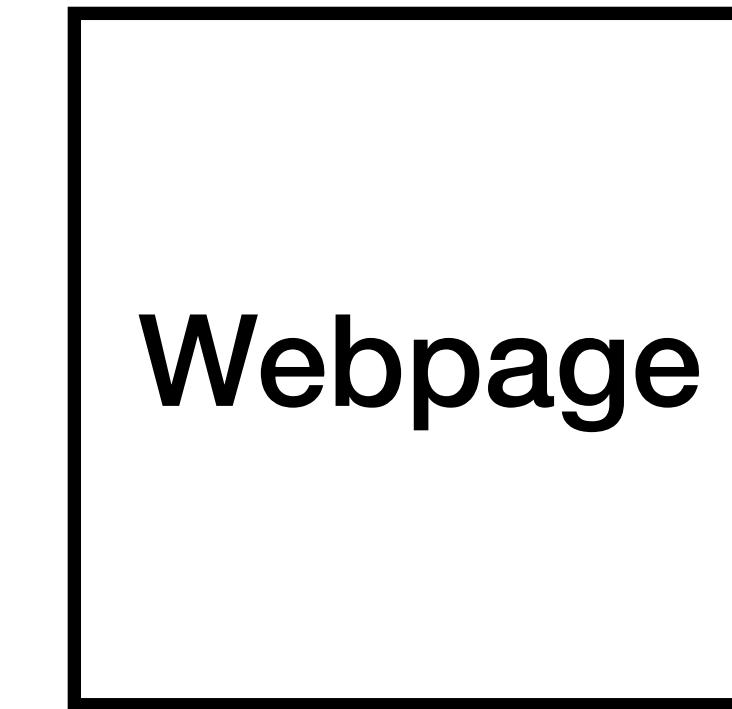


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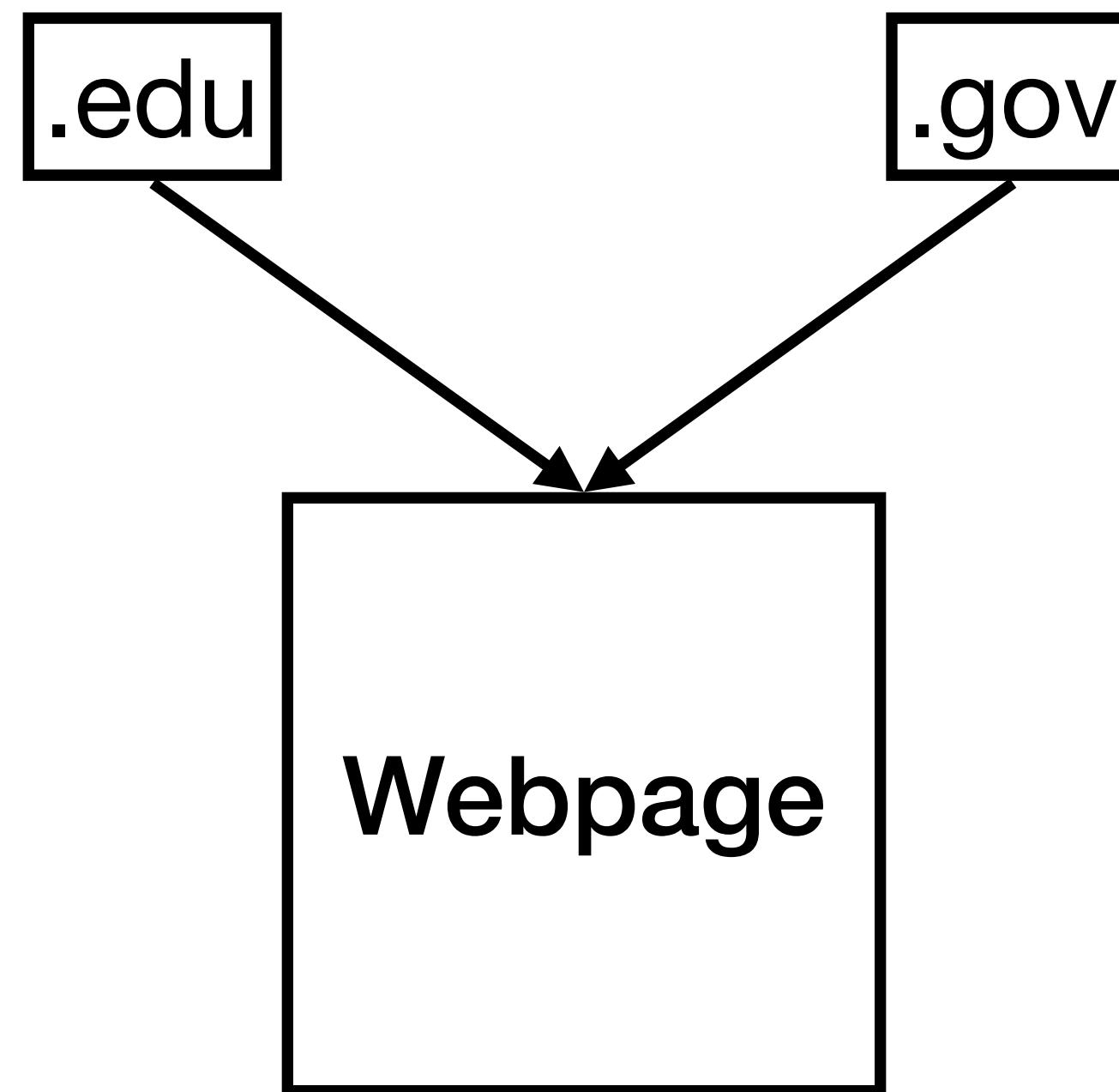


# **Off-page: Guest book spamming**

# Off-page: Guest book spamming



# Off-page: Guest book spamming



# Off-page: Link Farms

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