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## Entanglements and why I think they are a good feature for Swarm (and other systems)

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# Entanglements

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and why I think they are a good feature for Swarm (and other systems)

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@galinanesvero  
Research scientist  
Resilient Systems Lab, UiS

SWARM ORANGE SUMMIT 2019  
May 23-25, Madrid



swarm

# BBCCHAIN (Brief recap)

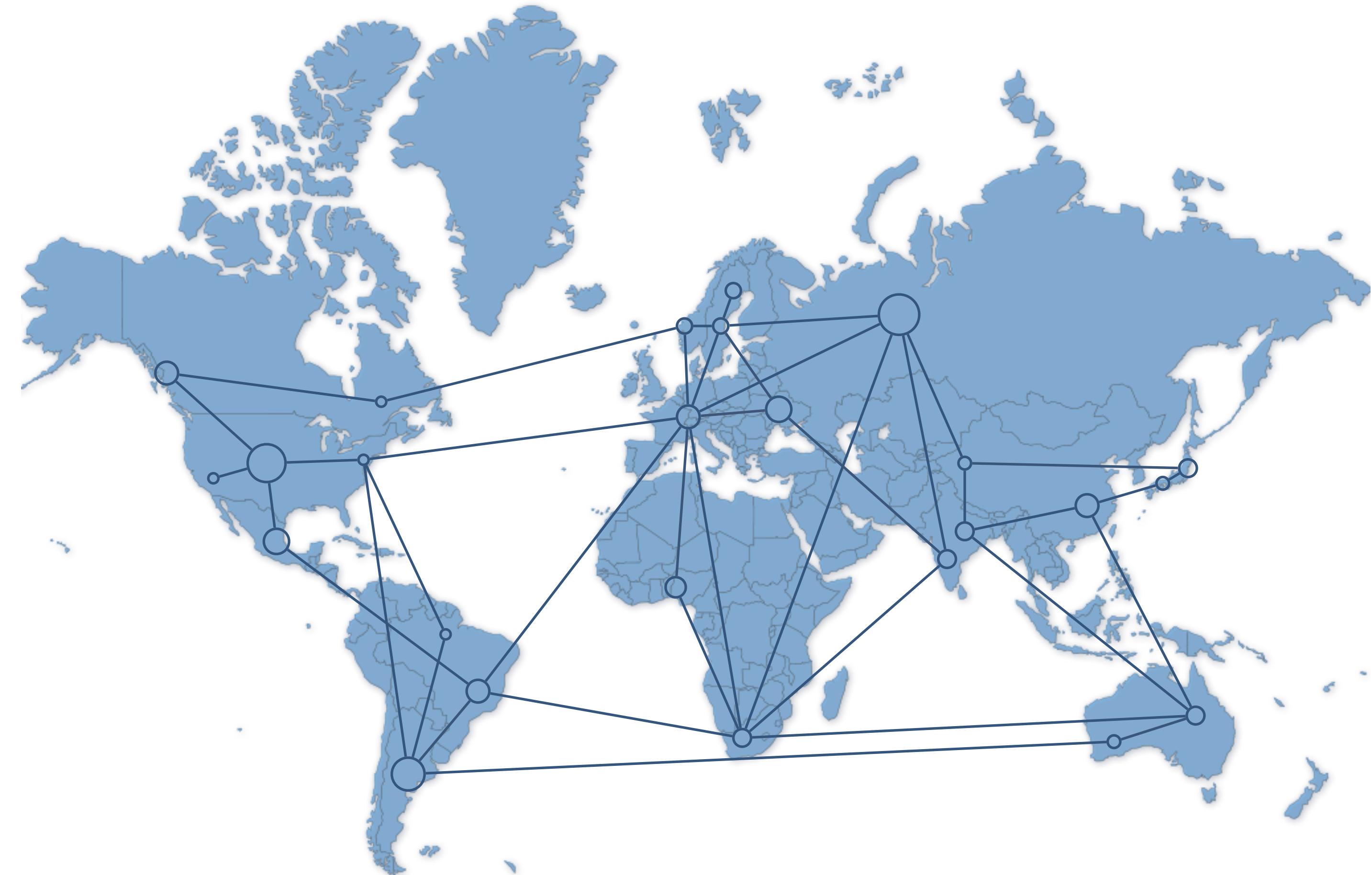
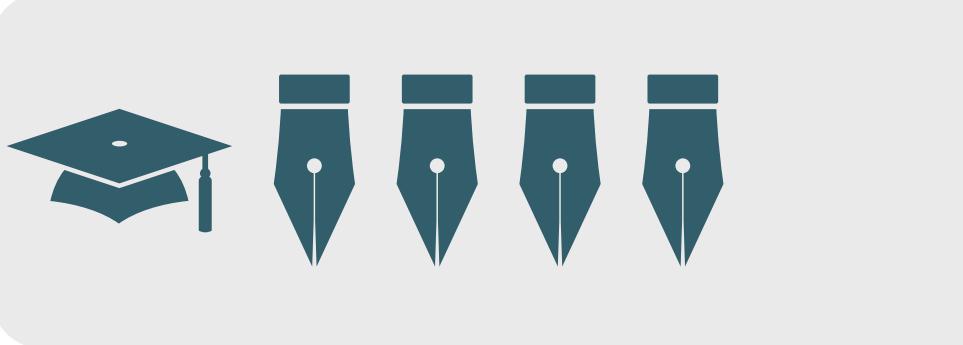
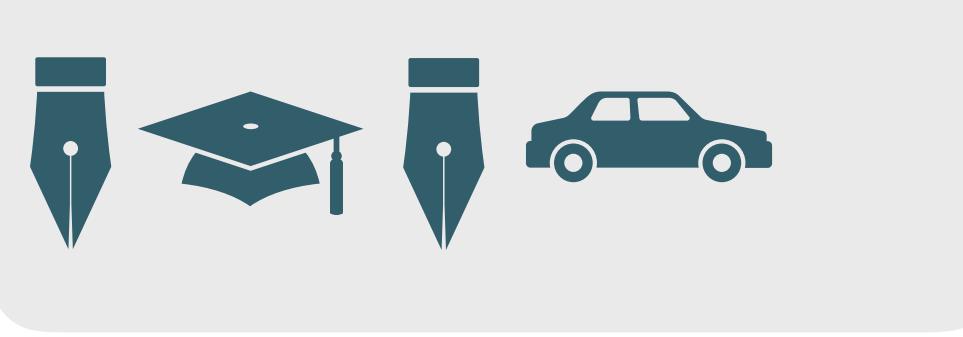
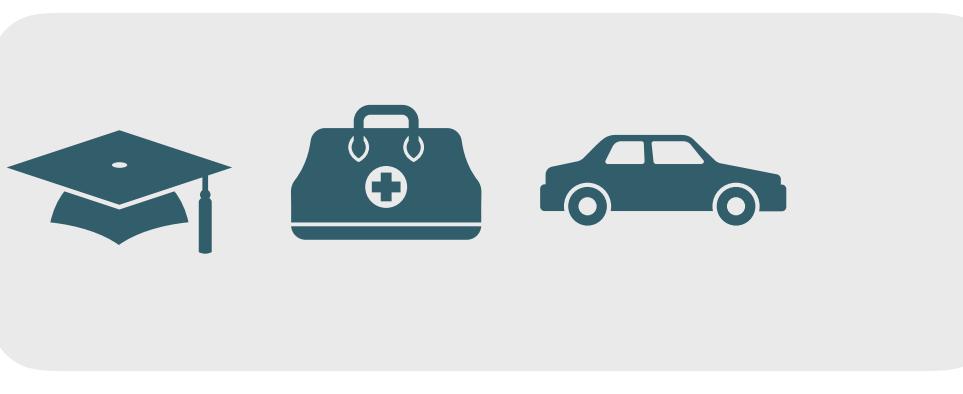
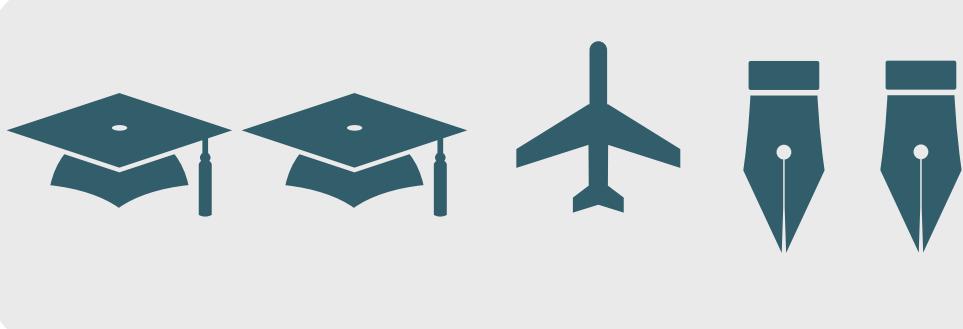
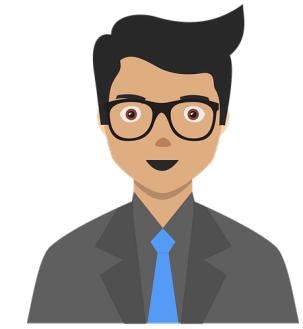
We expect to have a fault-tolerant and trusted authentication system, that can be used to build a **public/private database of digitally authenticated documents**, allowing for example, that academic degree certificates can be issued and verified from any place in the world with a high degree of trust.

Funded by



Efficient Trustworthy  
Computing with  
Blockchains and Biometrics

# Public/private database of digitally authenticated documents



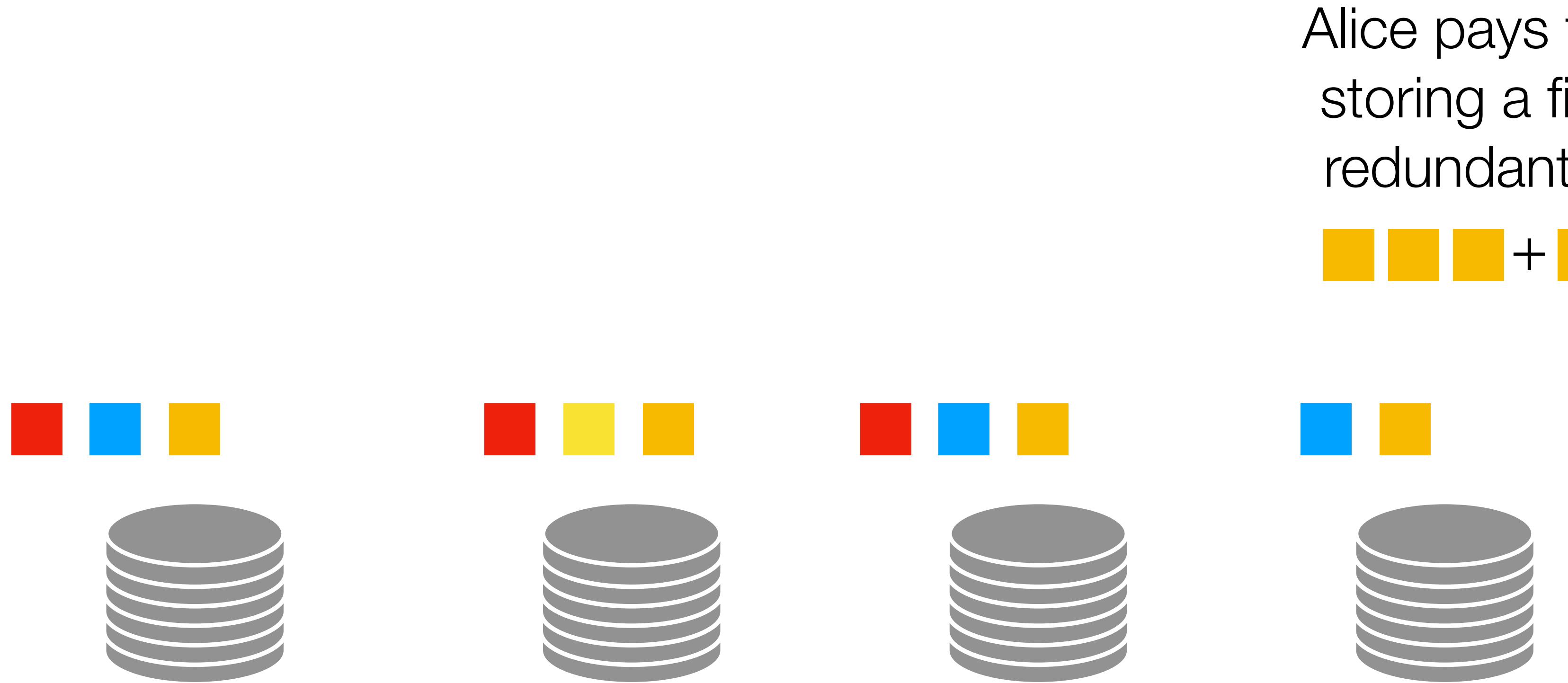
# Swarm features

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- Fault tolerant
- Censorship resistant
- DDoS resistant
- Zero downtime
- Self-sustaining

# Challenges in decentralised storage systems

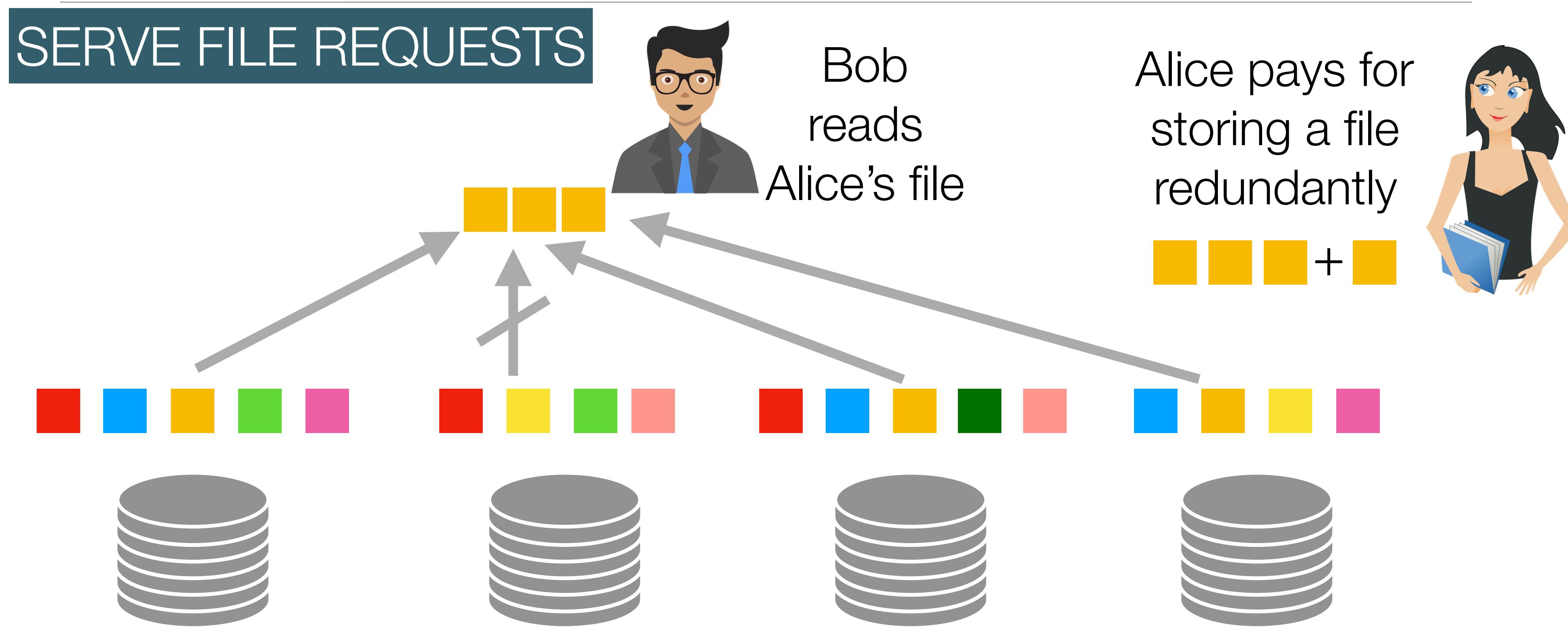
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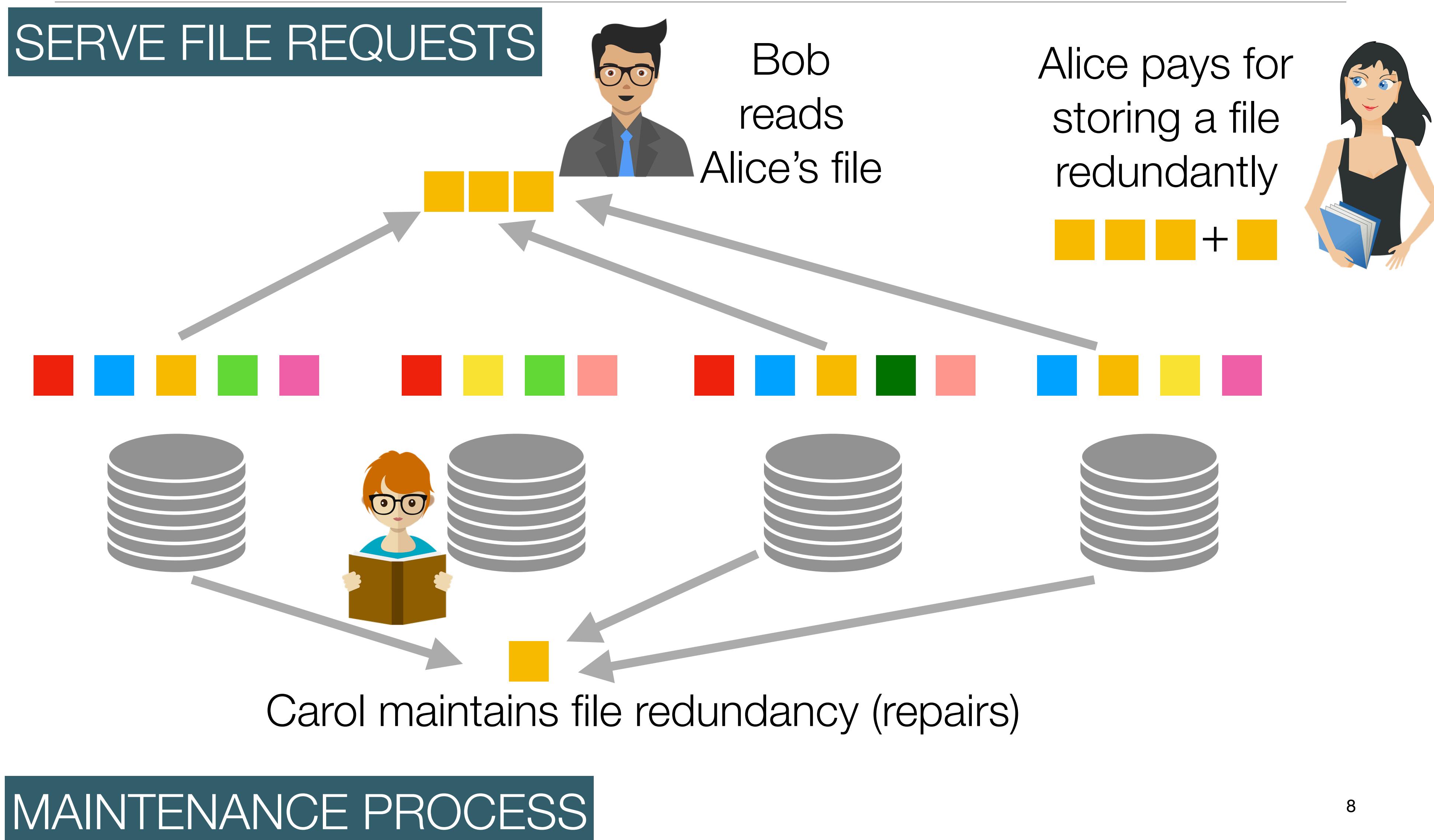
# Challenges in decentralised storage systems



# Challenges in decentralised storage systems

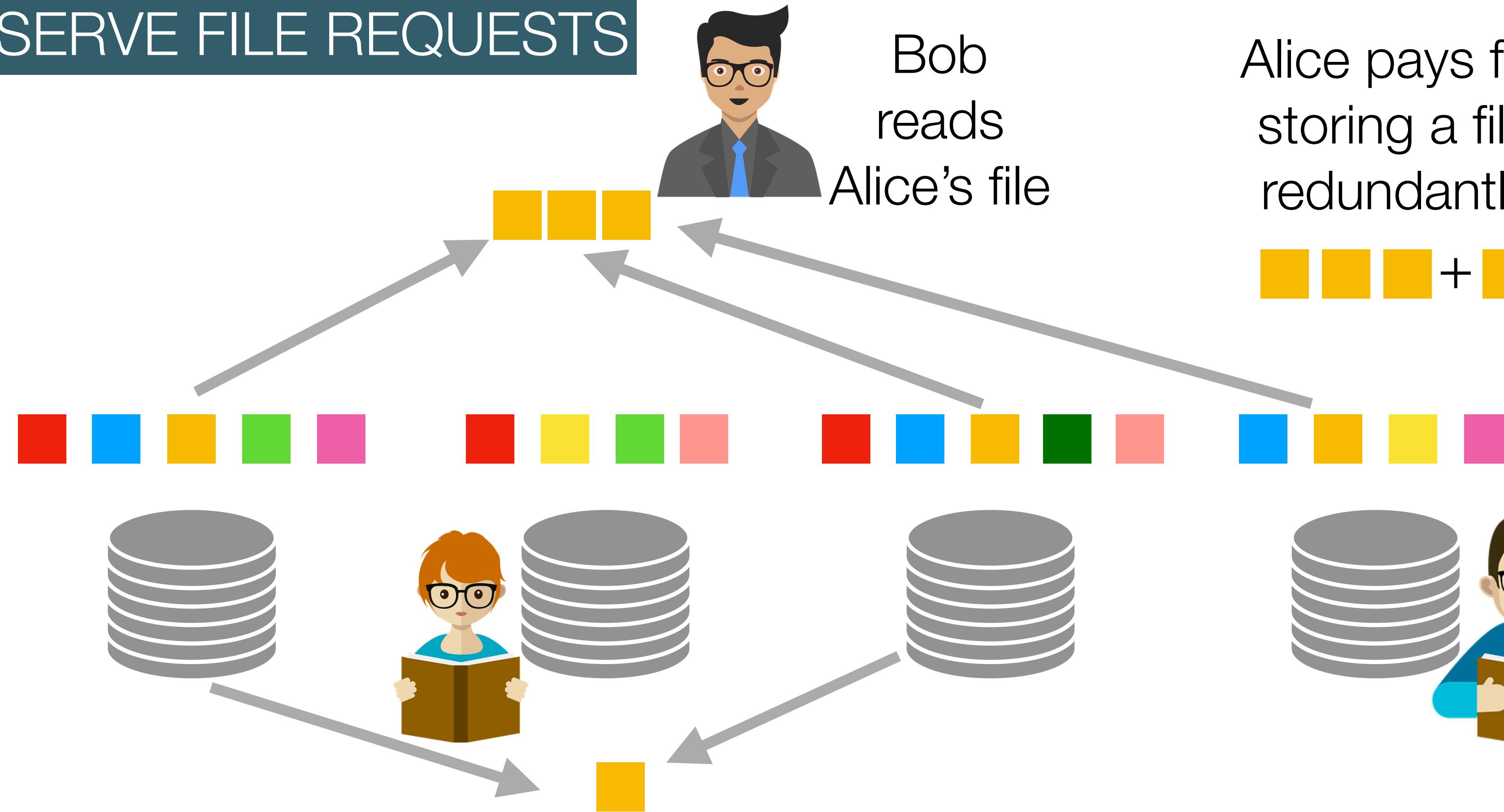


# Challenges in decentralised storage systems



# Challenges in decentralised storage systems

## SERVE FILE REQUESTS



Bob  
reads  
Alice's file

Alice pays for  
storing a file  
redundantly



Carol wishes to maintain file redundancy

Mallory  
saves bandwidth  
and not cooperates

## MAINTENANCE PROCESS

# Challenges in decentralised storage systems

## ~~SERVE FILE REQUESTS~~



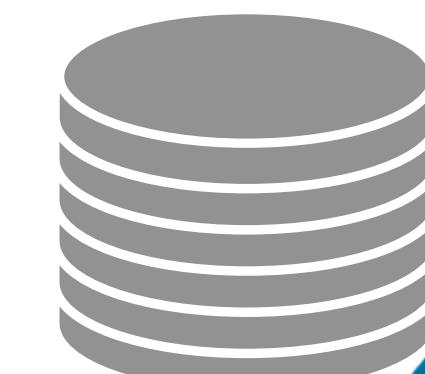
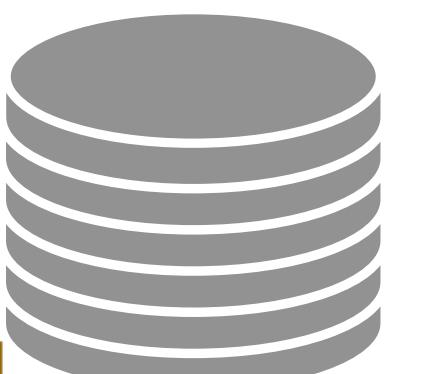
Oscar  
saves space  
by deleting  
blocks



Bob  
wishes to read  
Alice's file



Alice pays for  
storing a file  
redundantly



Carol wishes to maintain file redundancy

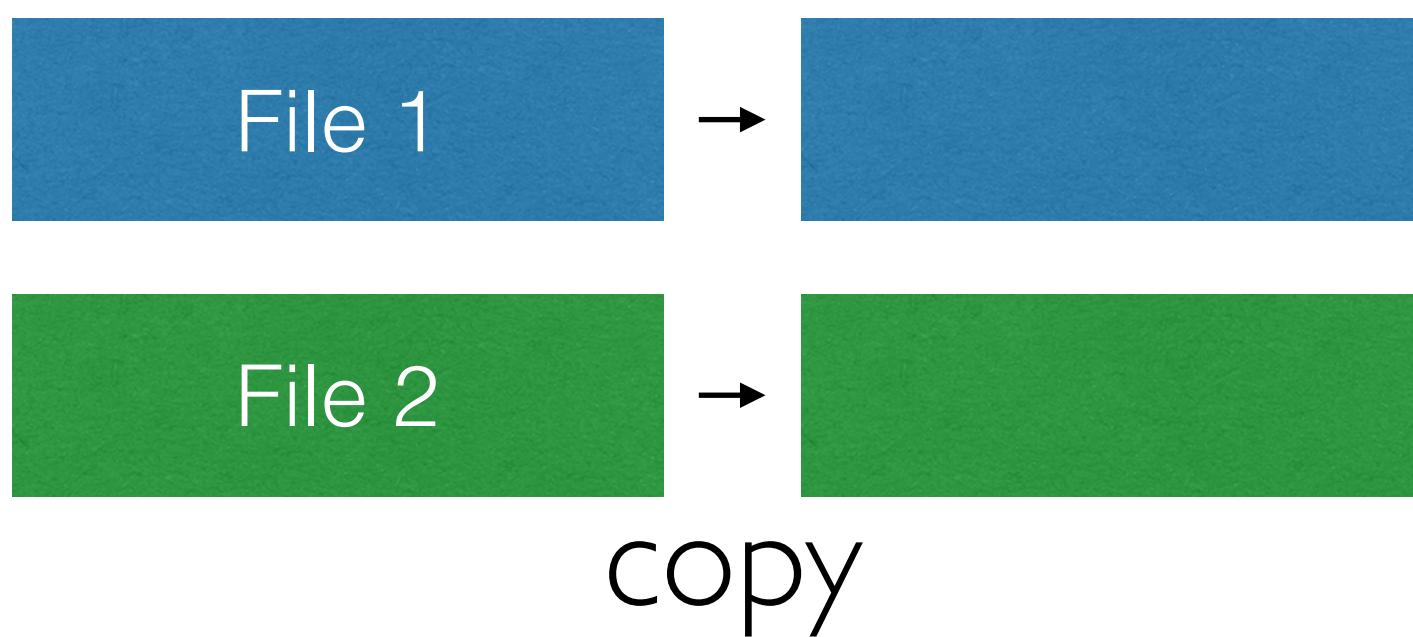


Mallory  
saves bandwidth  
and not cooperates

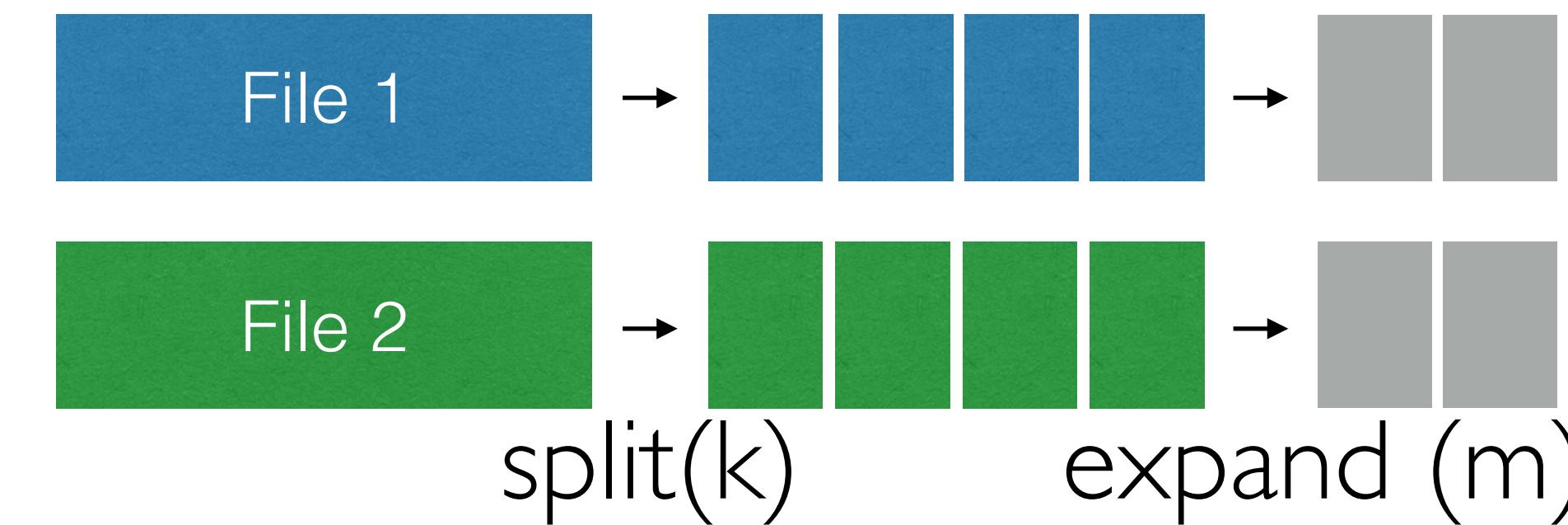
## ~~MAINTENANCE PROCESS~~

# Overheads of redundancy schemes

## REPLICATION



## RS( $k,m$ ) ERASURE CODE



**Tolerates “m” failures**

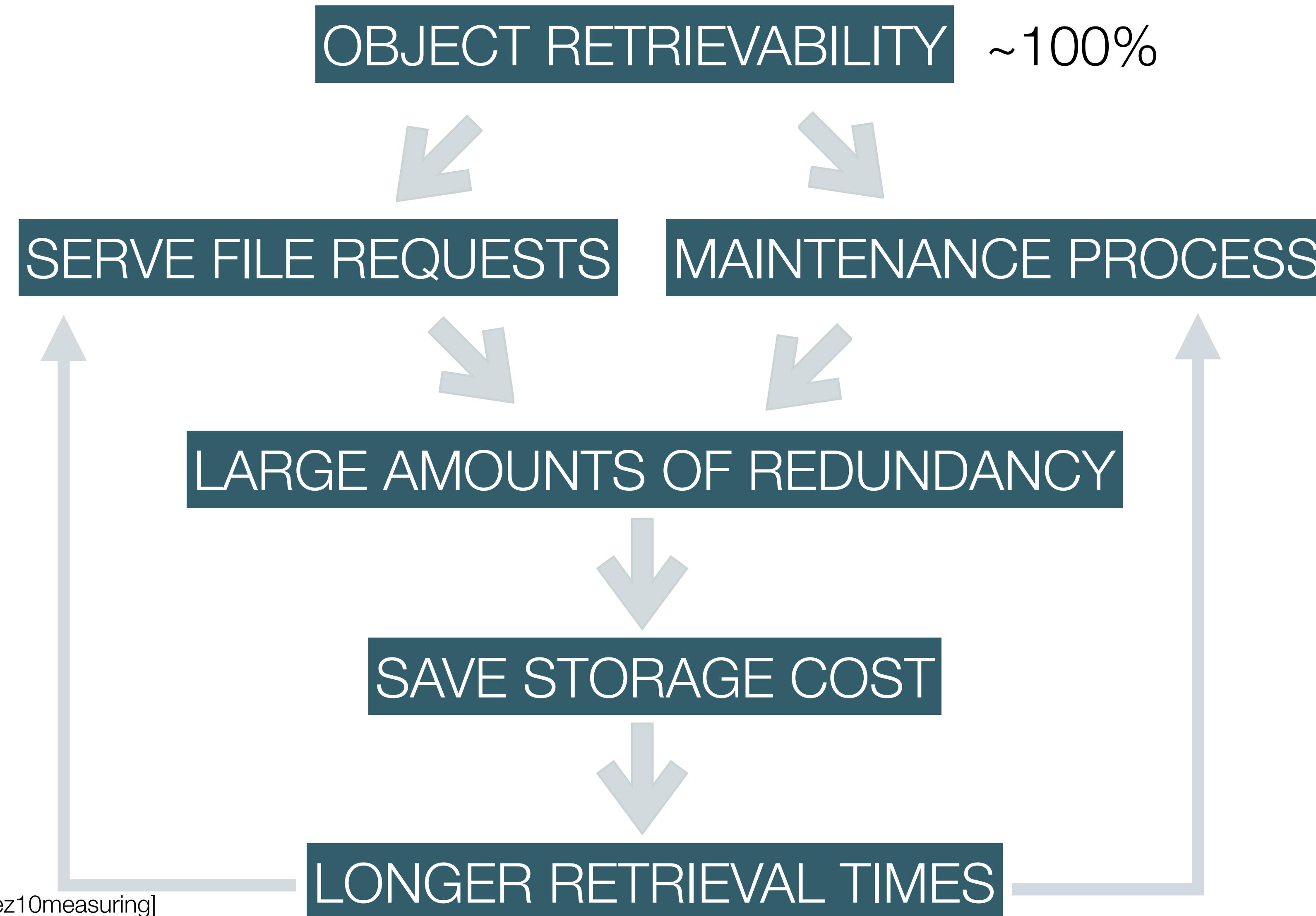
## REDUNDANCY



STORAGE  
CAPACITY

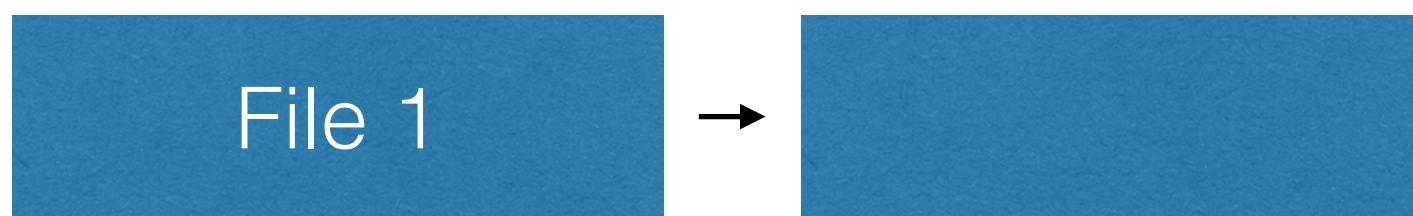
COMMUNICATION  
OVERHEAD

Dimensioning redundancy levels in a decentralised system is difficult

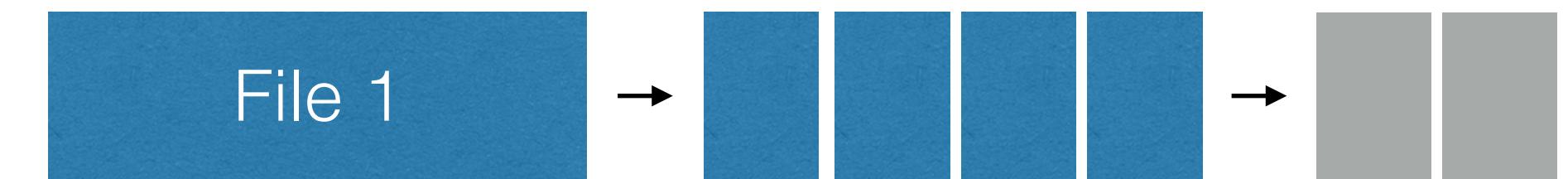


# Rethinking redundancy schemes

## REPLICATION



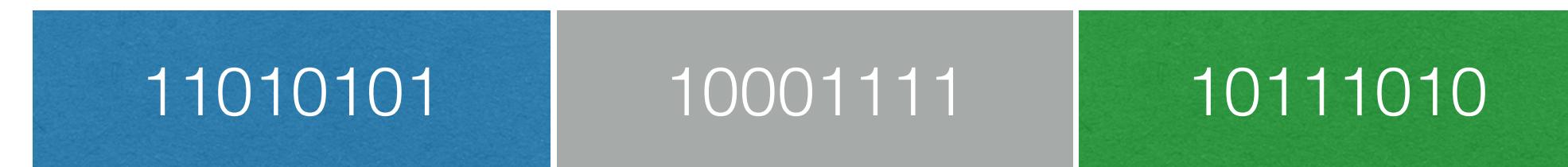
## RS(k,m) ERASURE CODE



split(k)      expand (m)

**Tolerates “m” failures**

## ENTANGLEMENTS



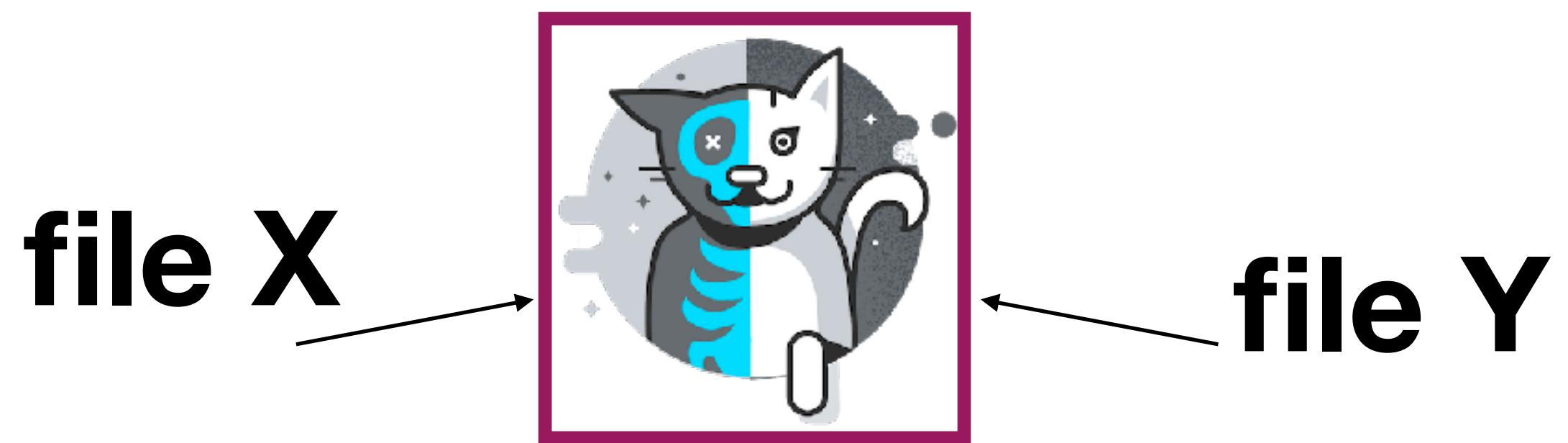
shared redundancy

# Entanglements: Design requirements

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- General-purpose practical code for storage systems
- High fault-tolerance
- Fair protection to all files
- Low encoding/decoding complexity
- Data integrity
- Some protection against censorship is desired too

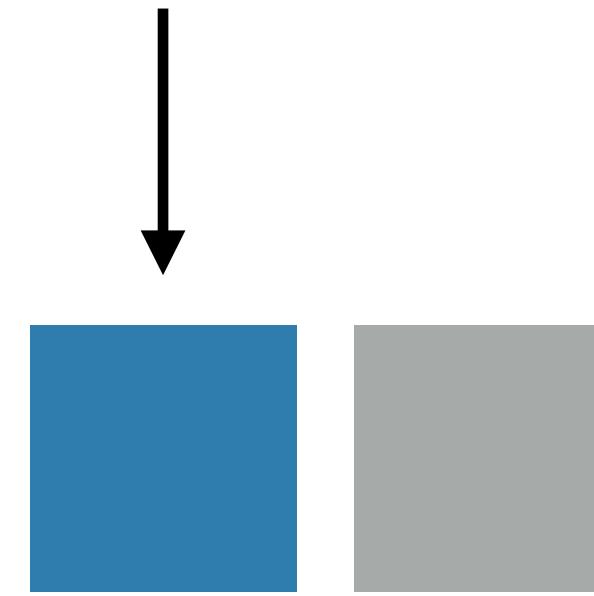
## TANGLE BLOCKS



# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

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data block (file)



**Storage: equivalent to 2 replicas  
(data block + redundant block)**

↑  
redundant block

# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

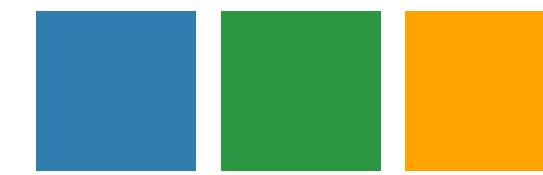
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# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

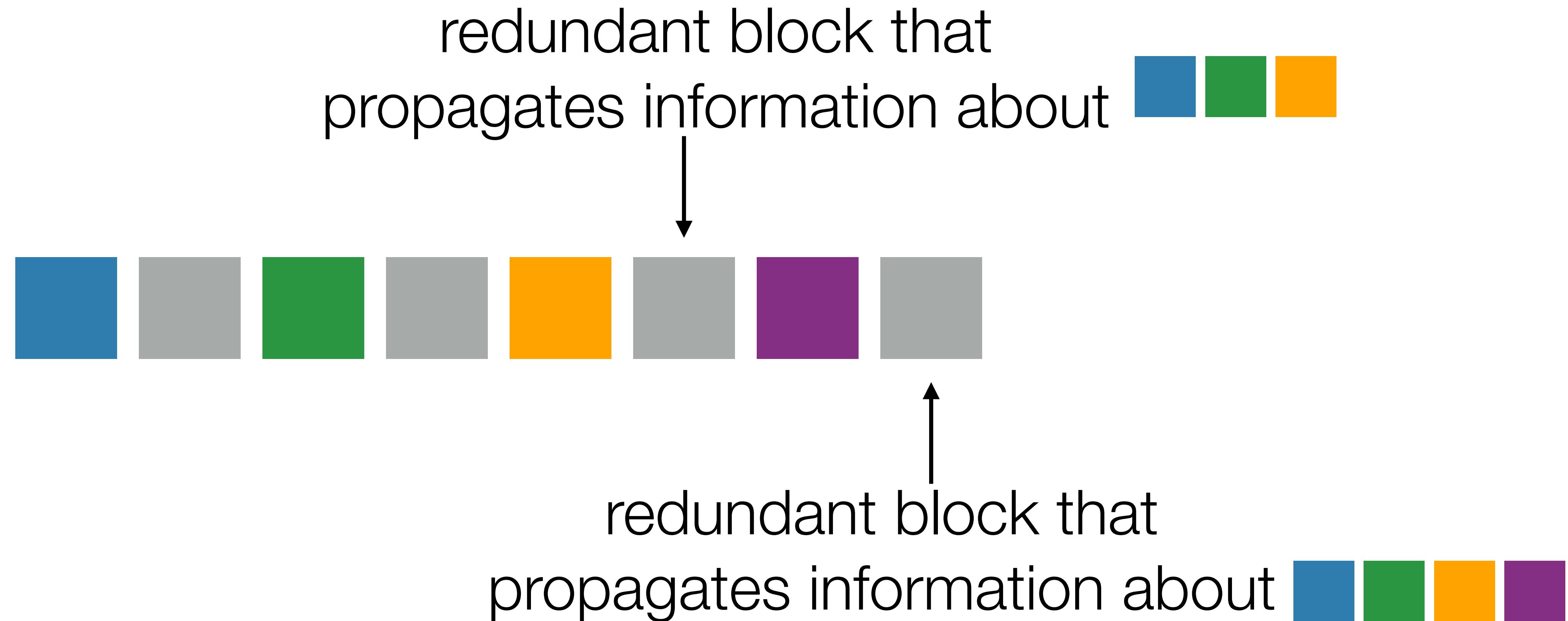
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redundant block that  
propagates information about



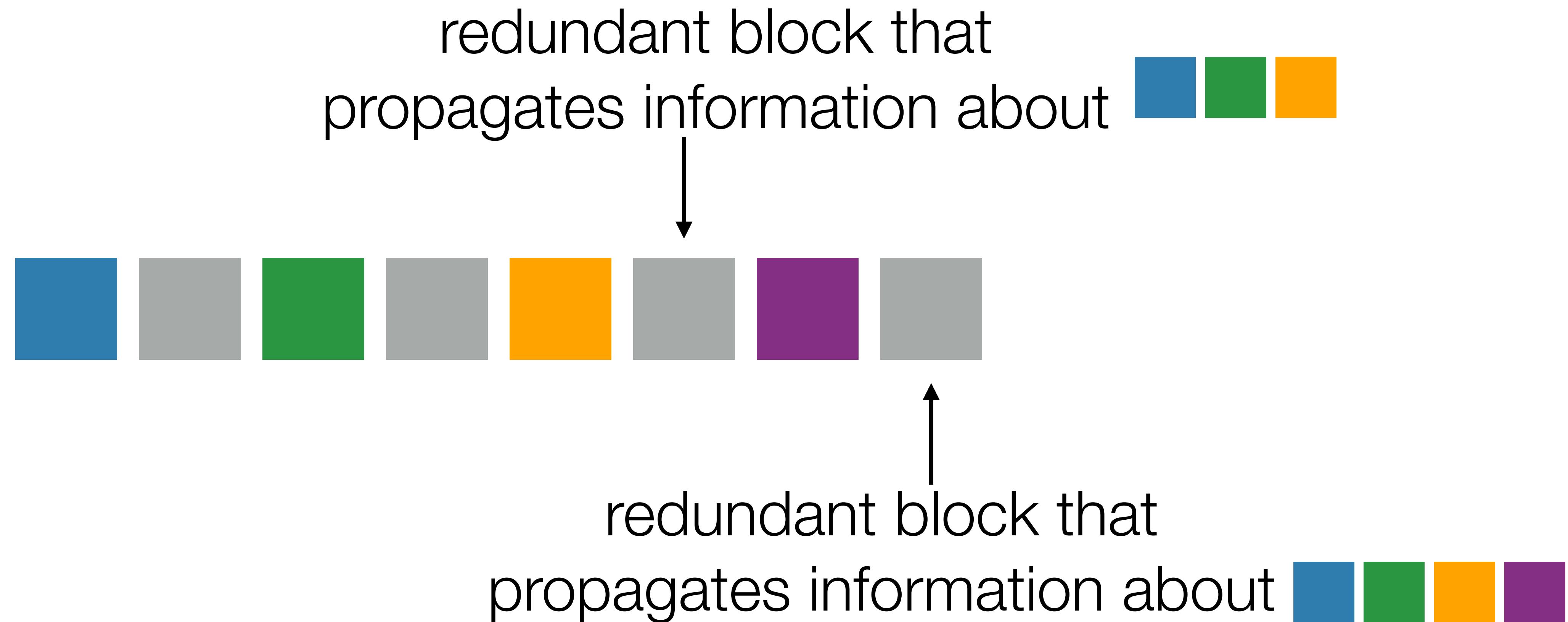
# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

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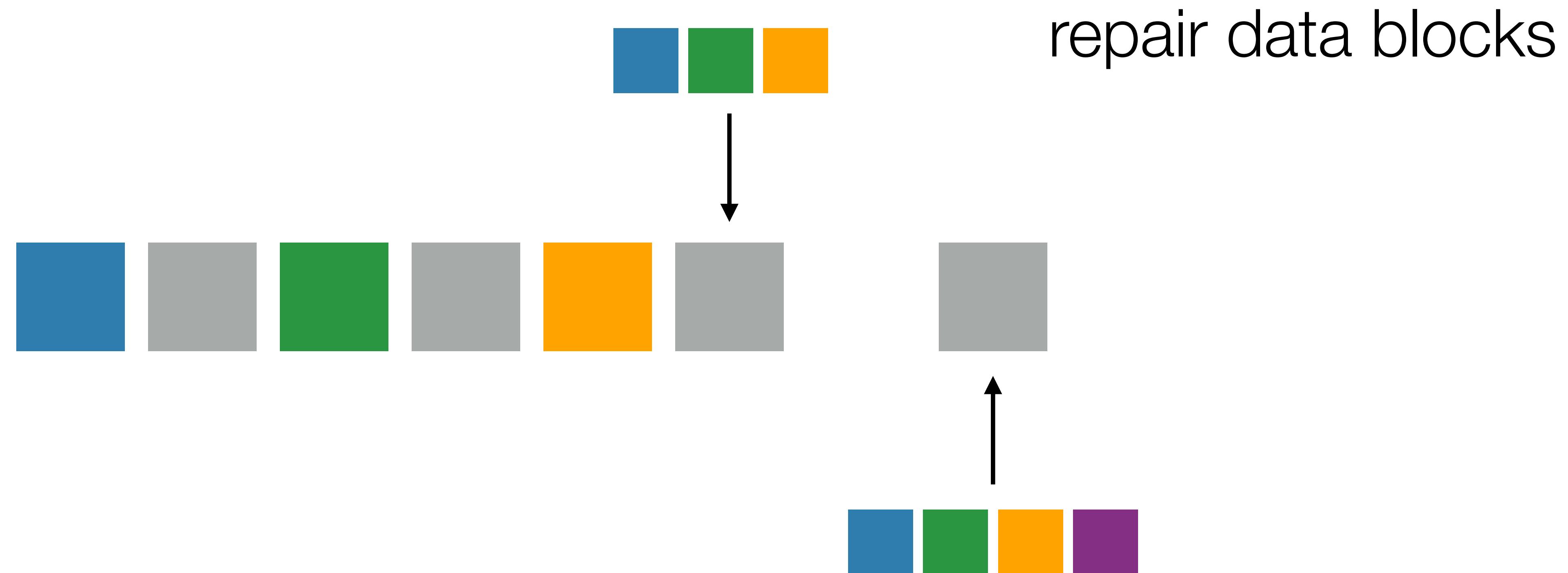
# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

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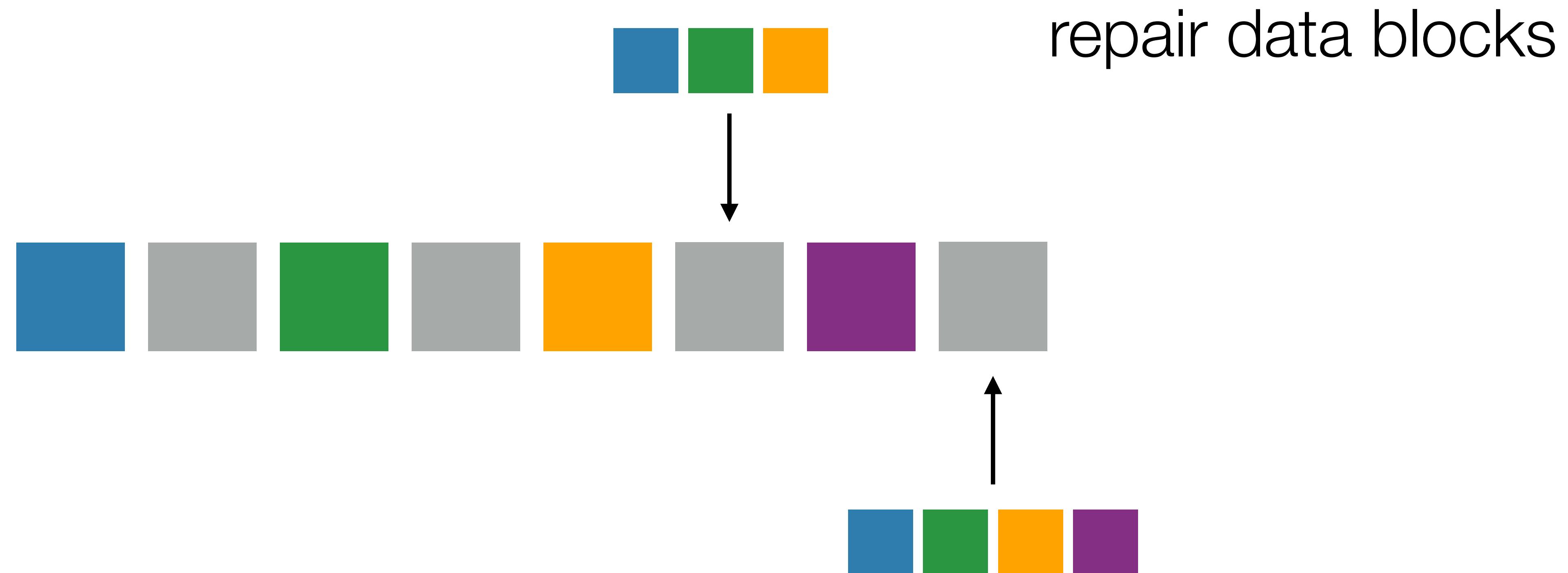
# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

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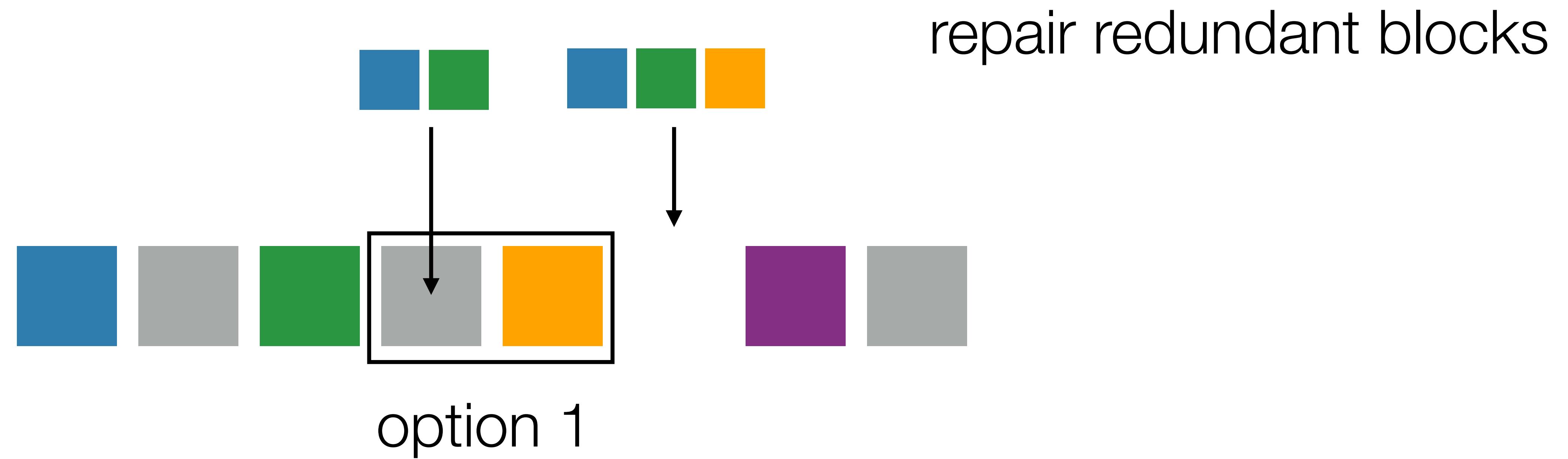
# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

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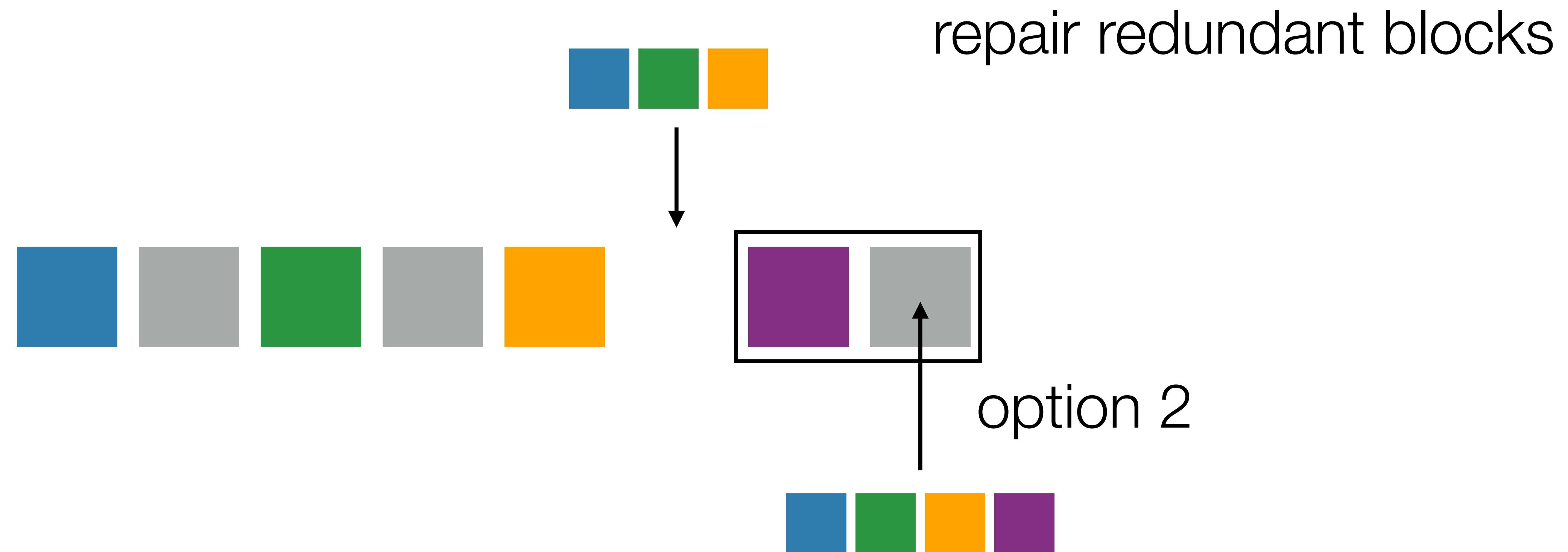
# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

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# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

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# A chain of entangled blocks ( $\alpha = 1$ )

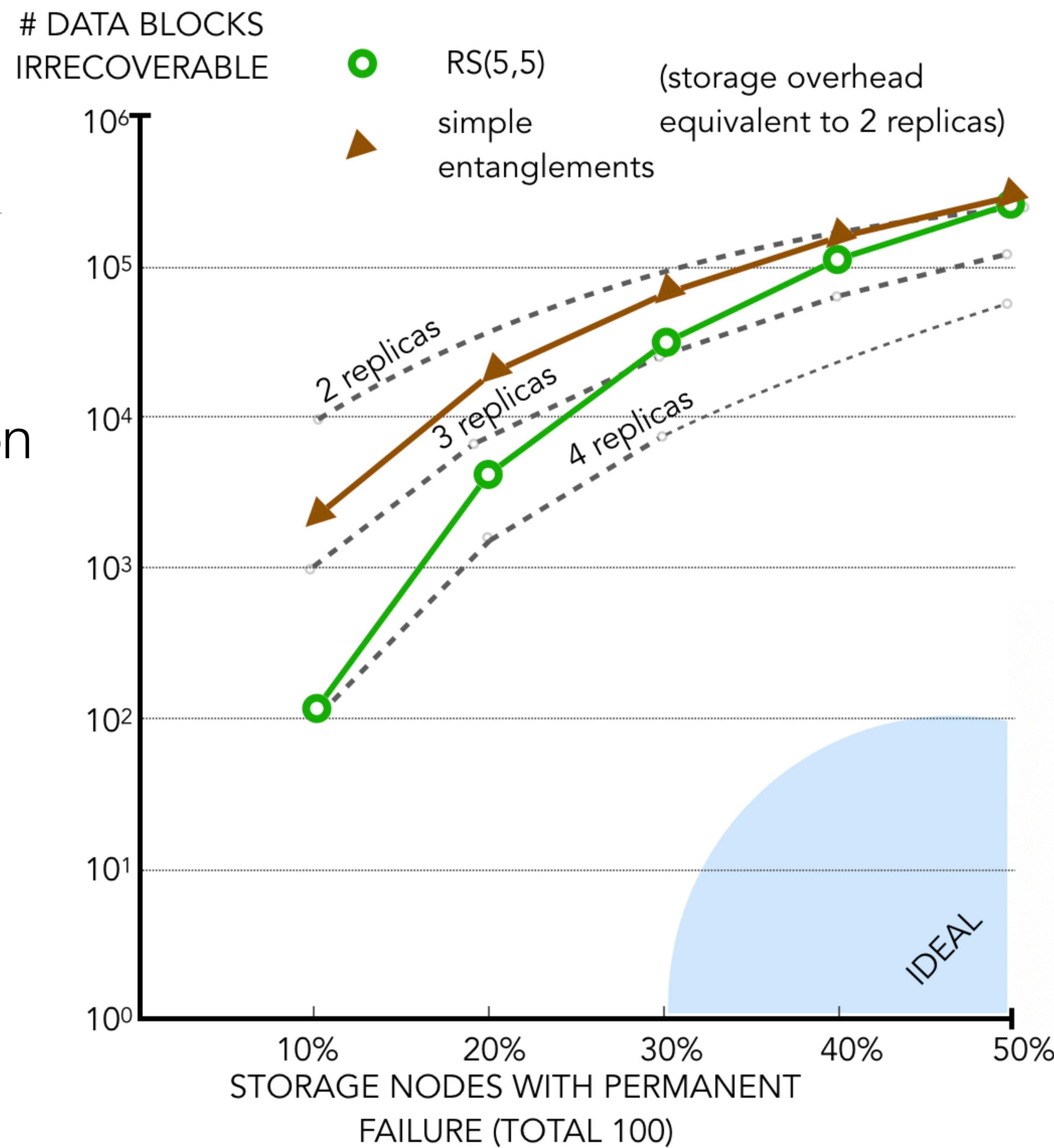
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# Simple entanglements

- Better fault-tolerance than duplication
- Fair protection to all files
- Low encoding/decoding complexity
- Data integrity

Vero Estrada-Galiñanes, Jehan-François Pâris, Pascal Felber  
**Simple data entanglement layouts with high reliability.** *Proceedings of the 35<sup>th</sup> International Performance of Computers and Communication Conference (IPCCC 2016)*, Las Vegas, Dec 2016



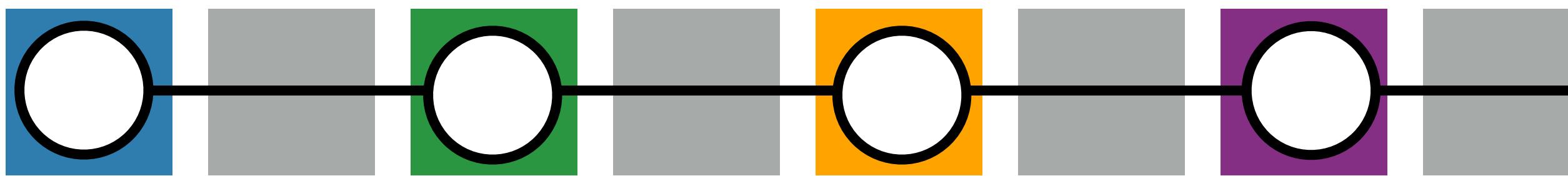
# How can we improve fault-tolerance?

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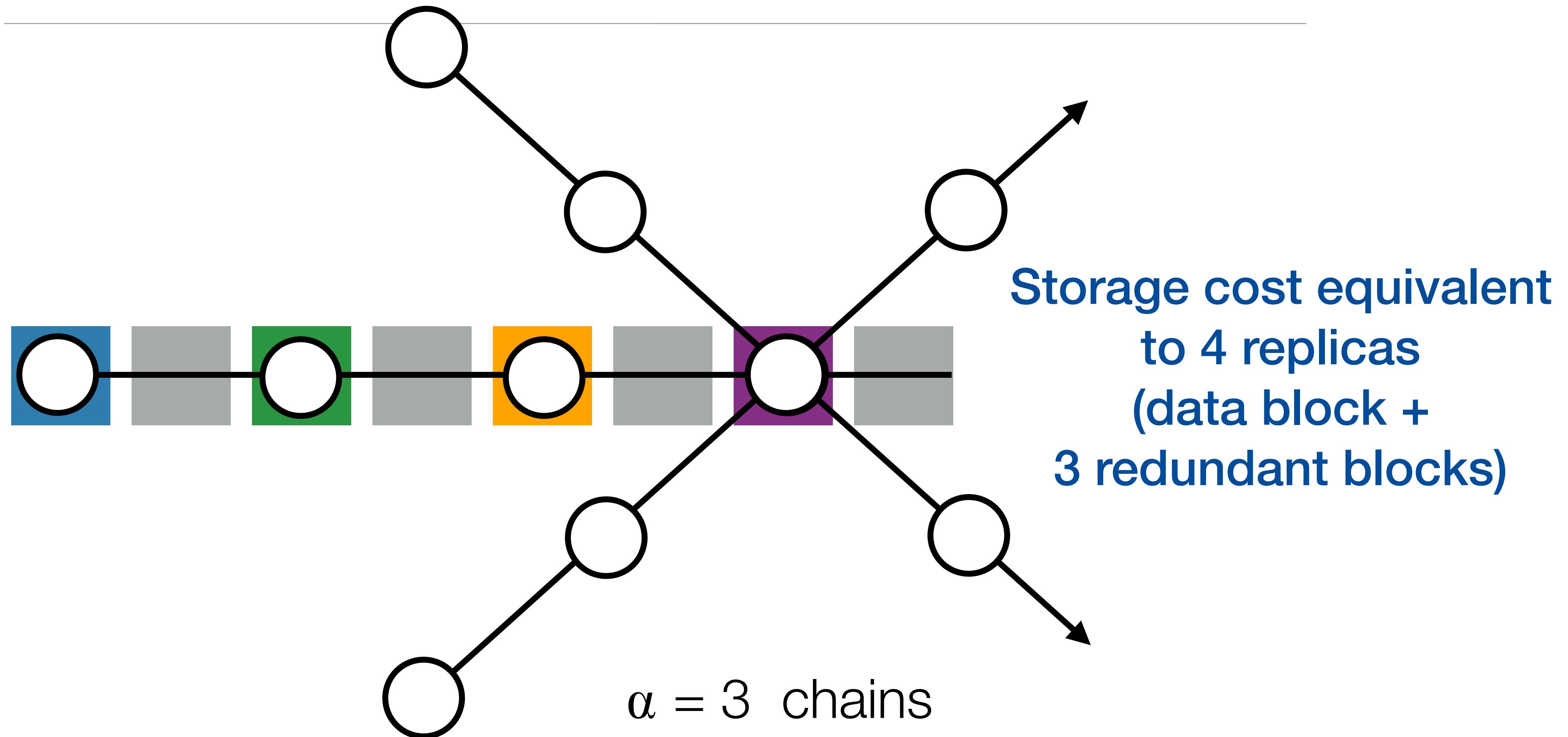


# How can we improve fault-tolerance?

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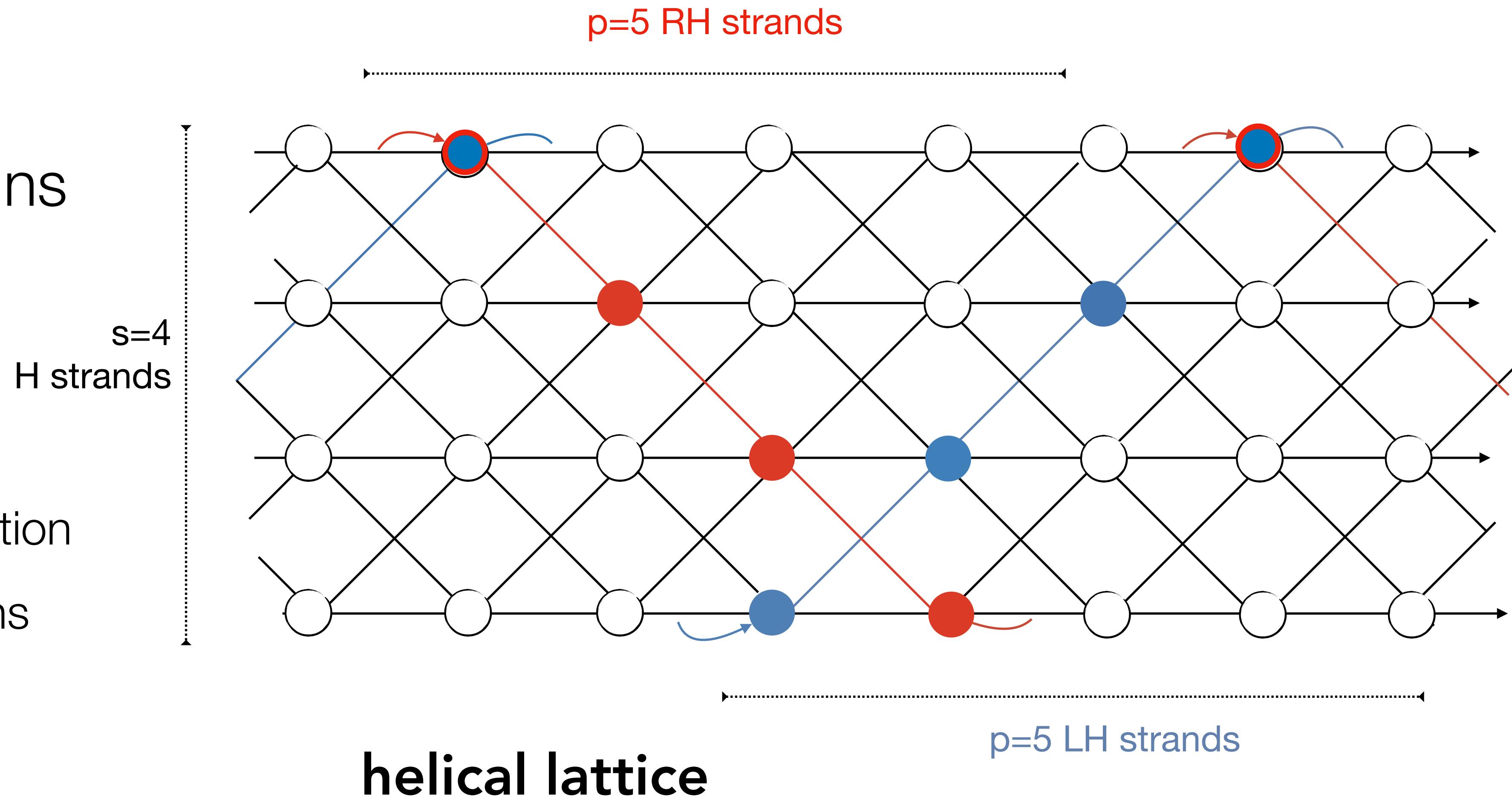
# How can we improve fault-tolerance?



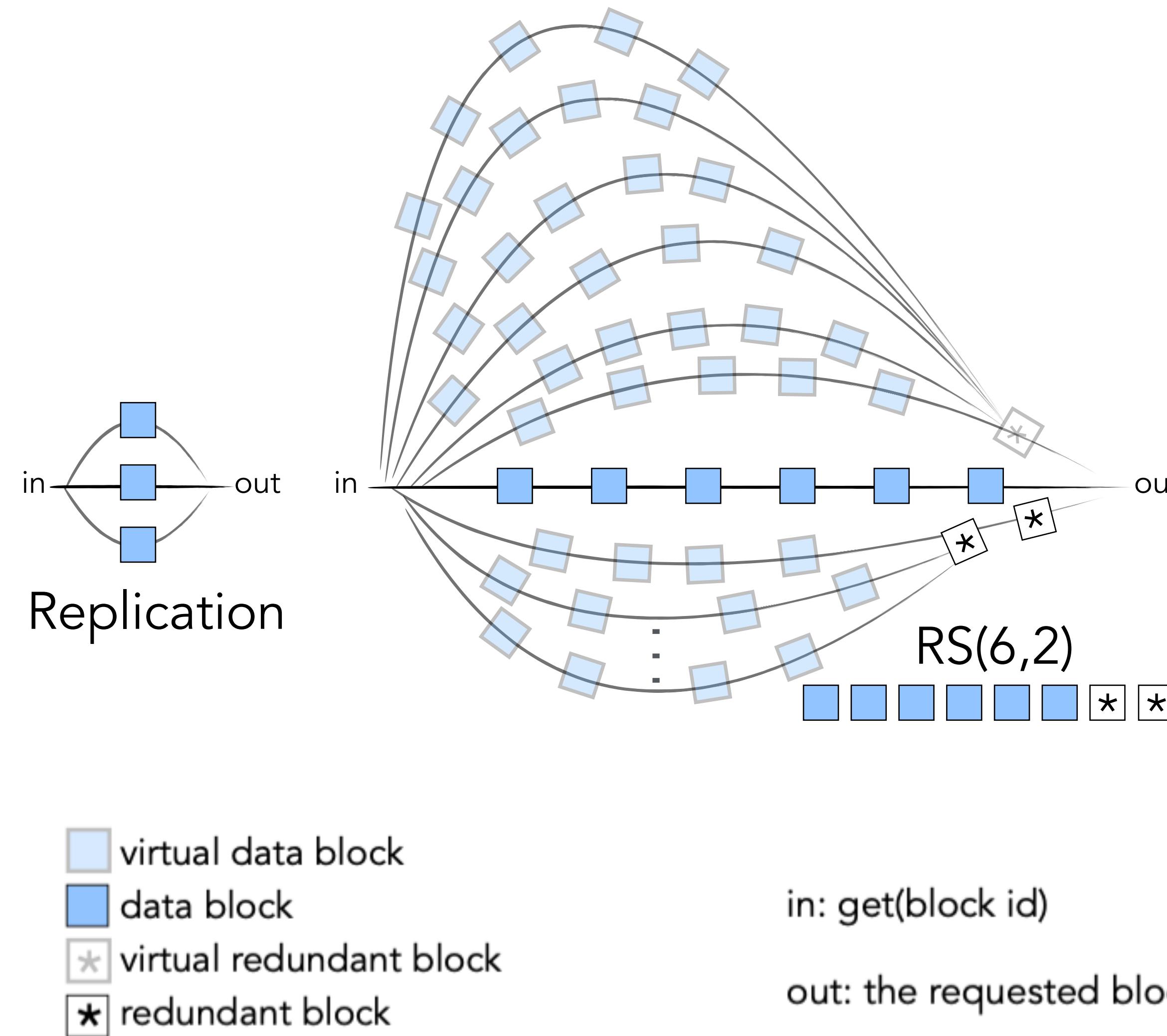
# Alpha entanglements (AE) codes

Every data block  
belongs to  $\alpha$  chains

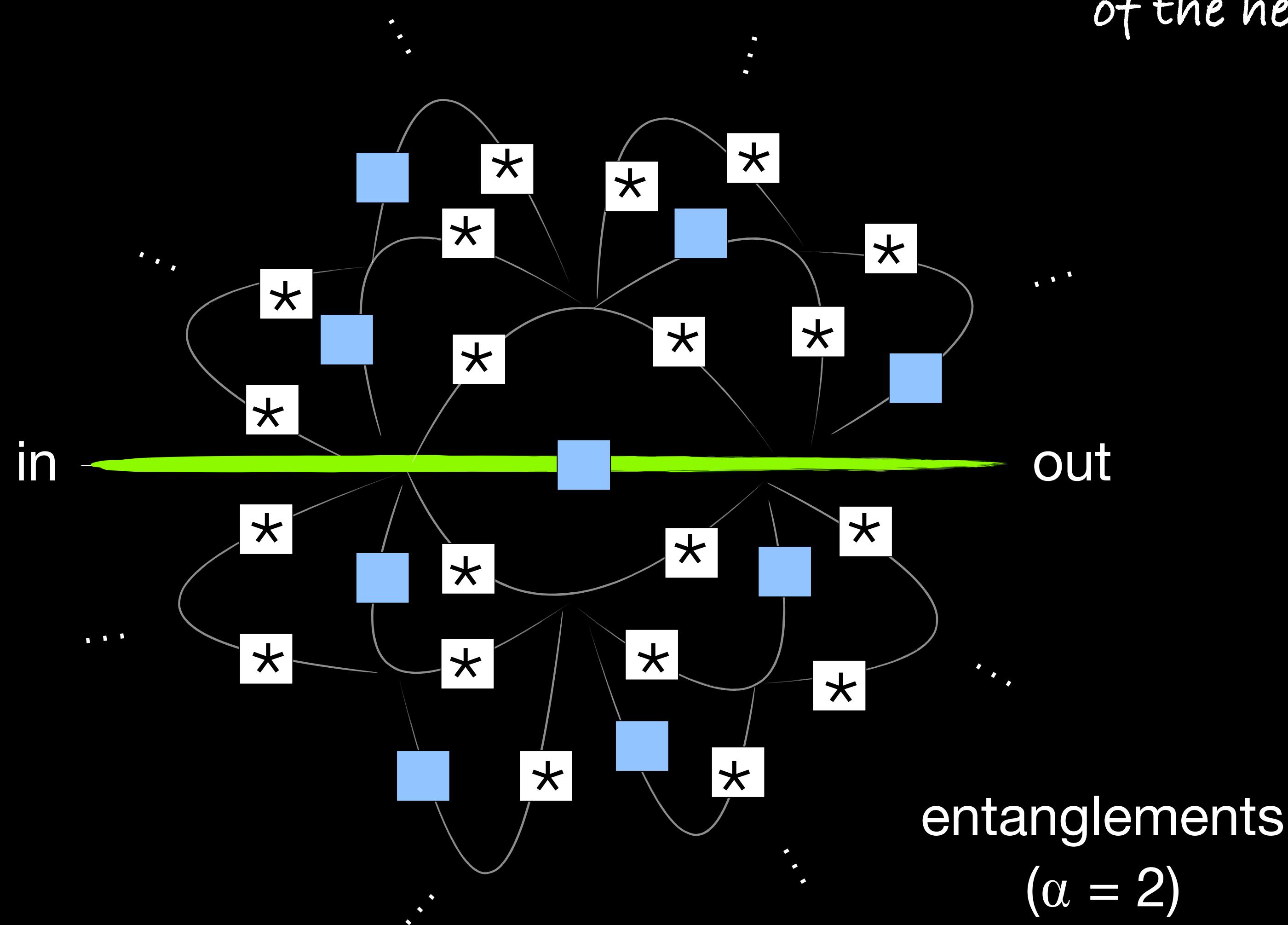
This lattice configuration  
is built with 14 chains  
(strands)

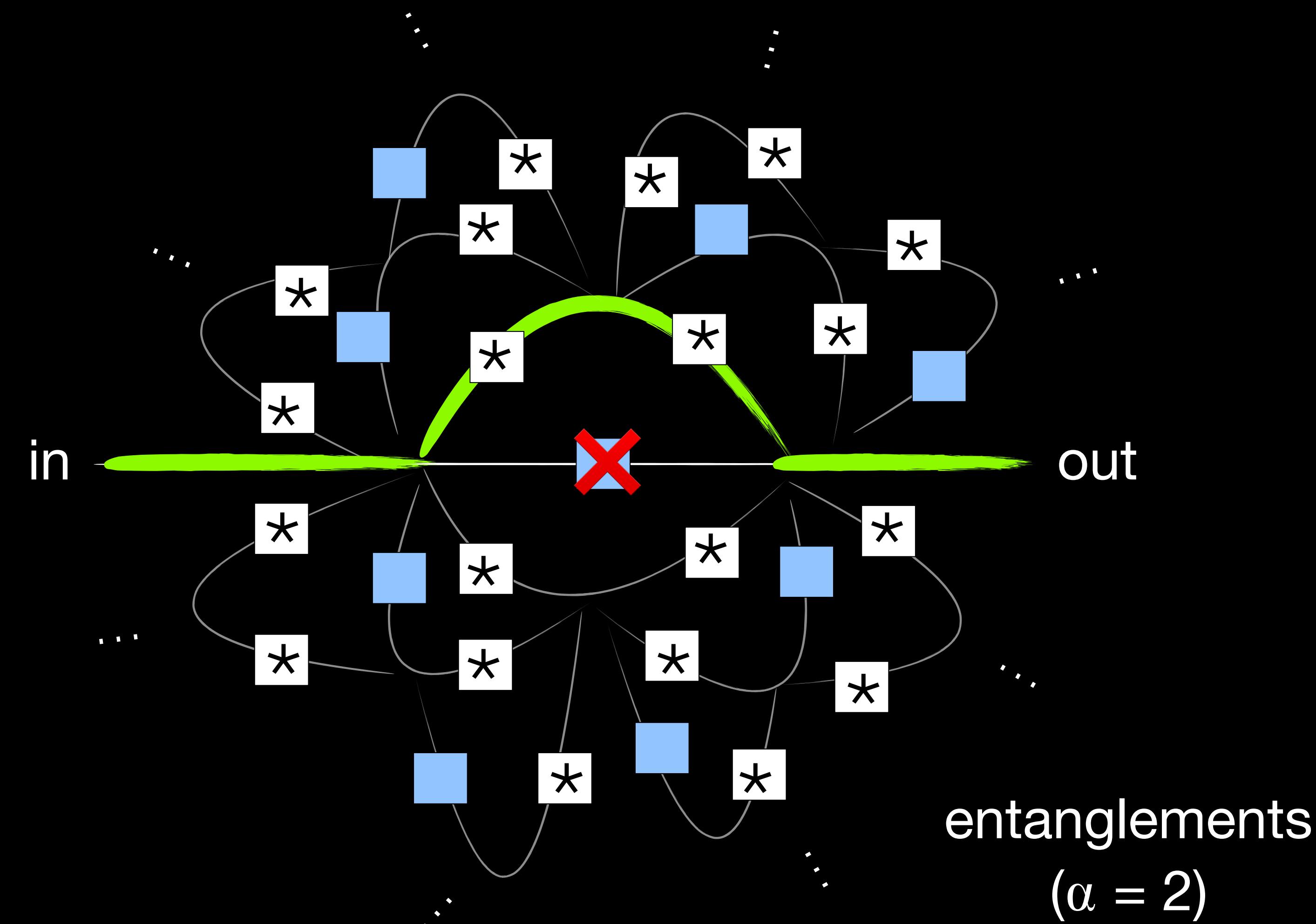


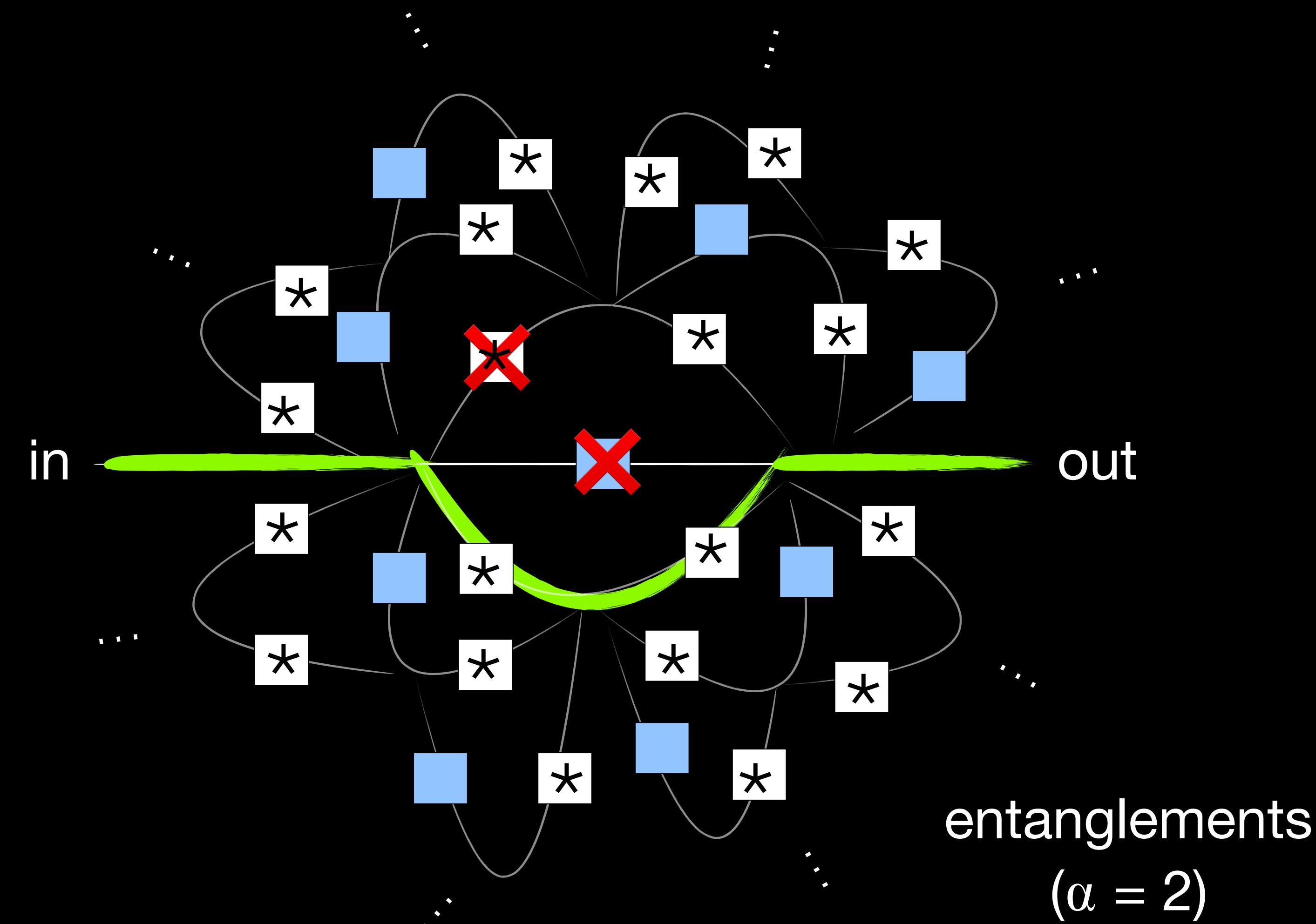
# In context with traditional methods

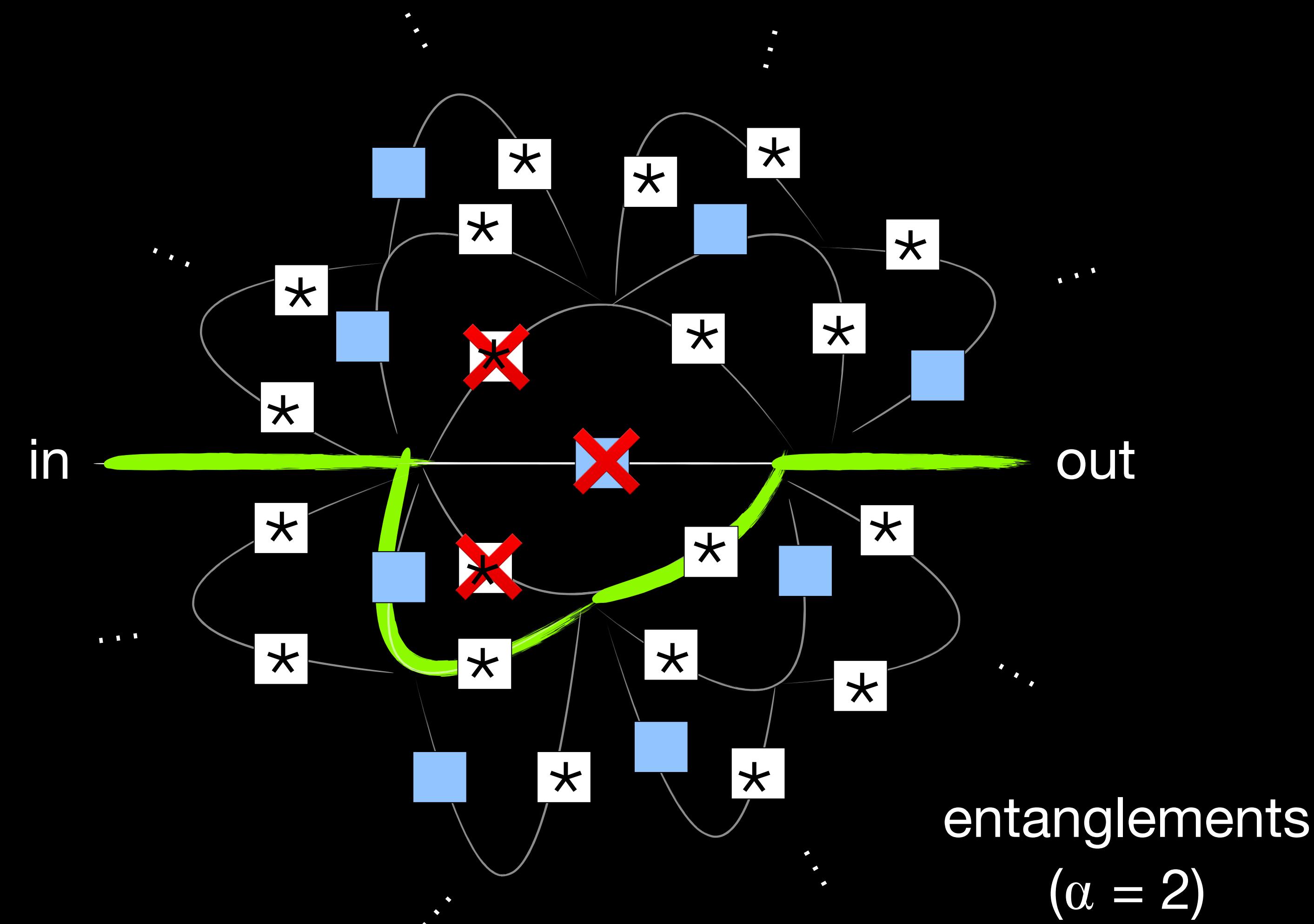


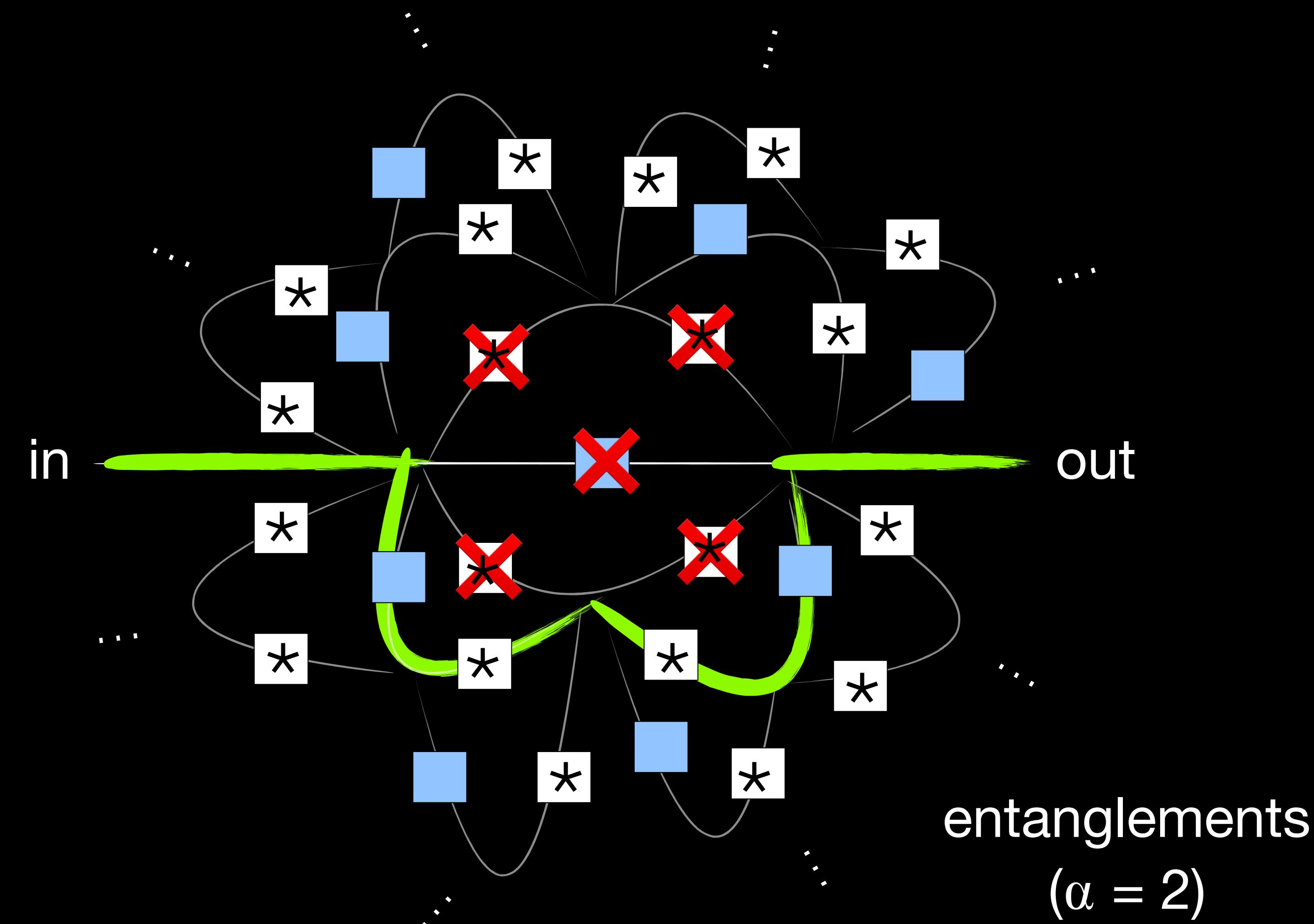
(a different view  
of the helical lattice)







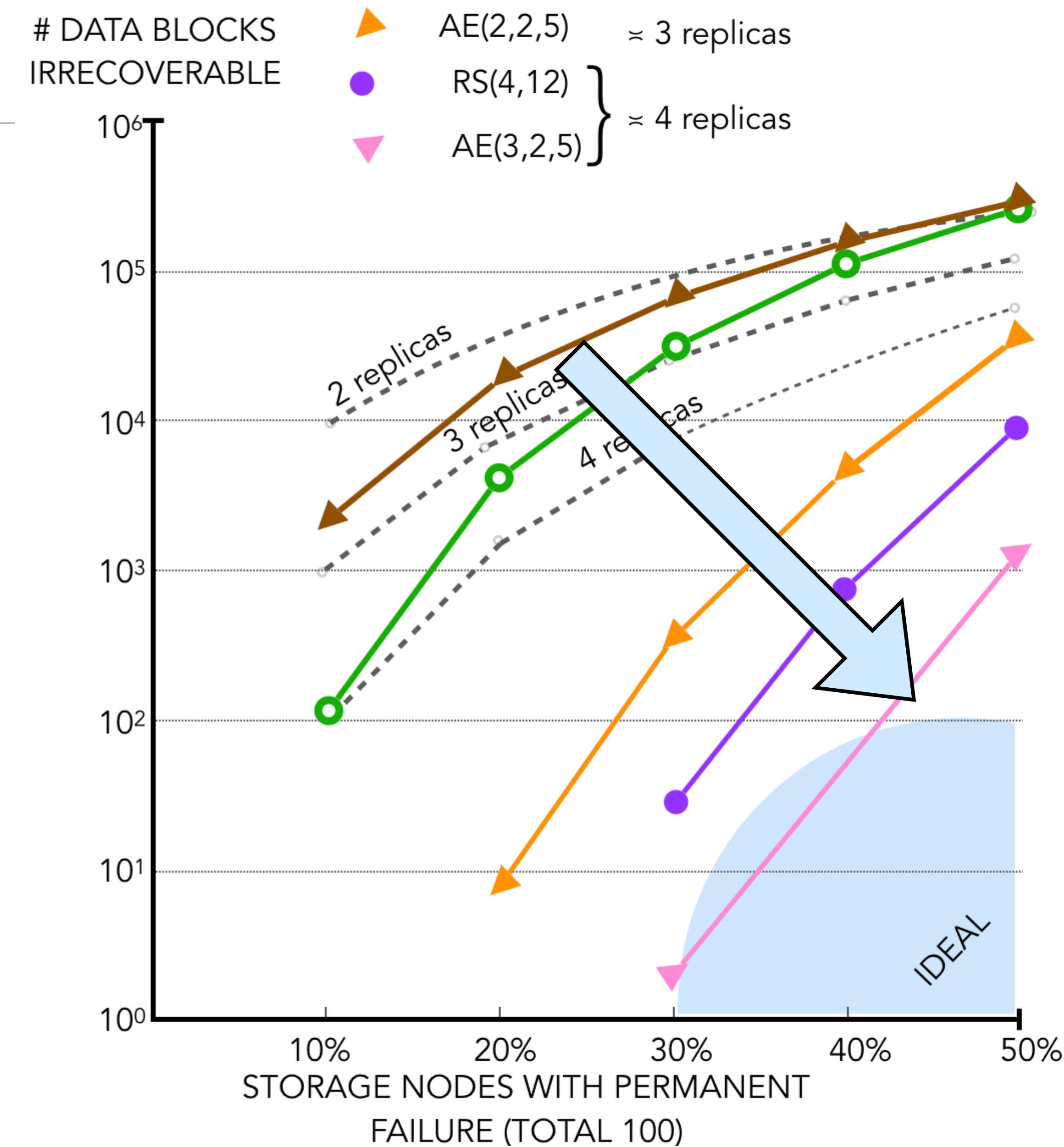




# AE codes

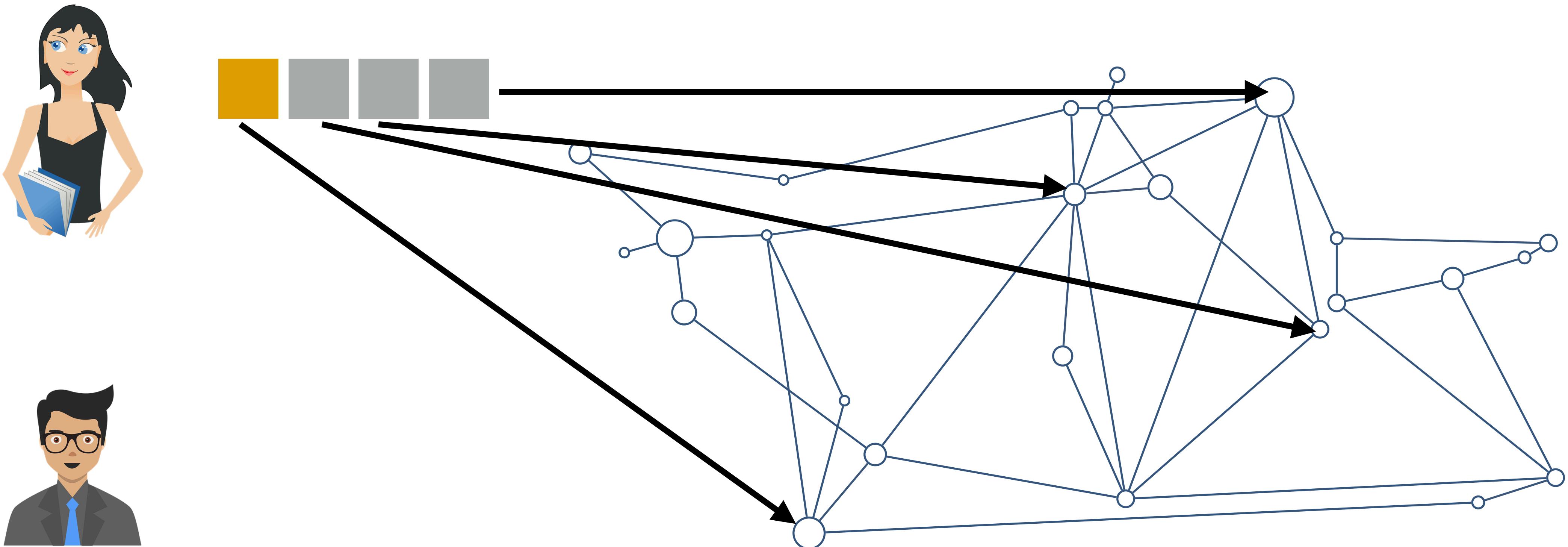
- High fault-tolerance
- Fair protection to all files
- Low encoding/decoding complexity
- Data integrity
- Some protection against censorship

Vero Estrada-Galiñanes, Ethan L. Miller, Pascal Felber, Jehan-François Pâris  
**Alpha Entanglement Codes: Practical Erasure Codes to Archive Data in Unreliable Environments.** 48th IEEE/IFIP International Conference on Dependable Systems and Networks (DSN 2018), Luxembourg, Jun 2018



# Alice, Bob and adversary peers

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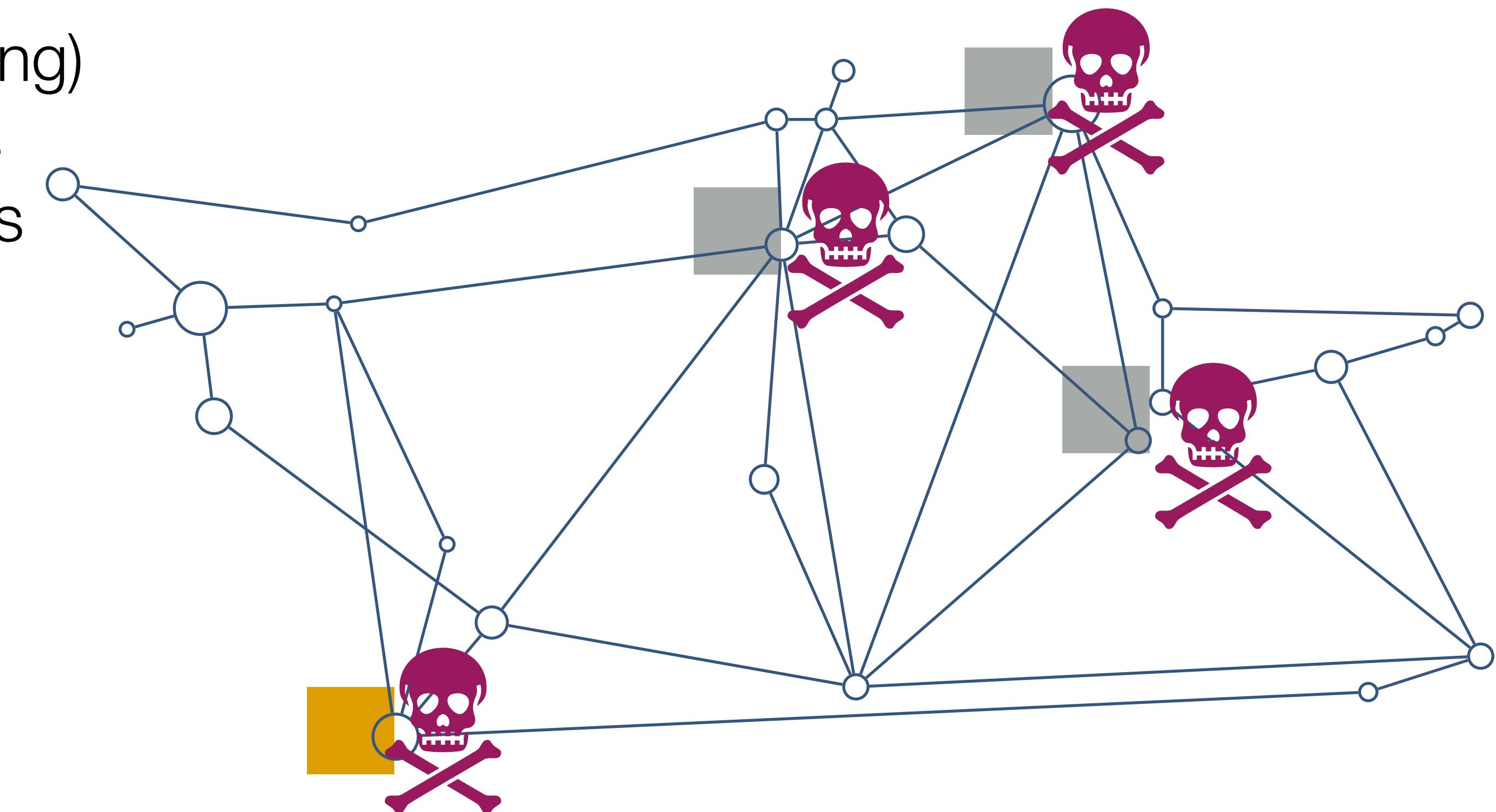
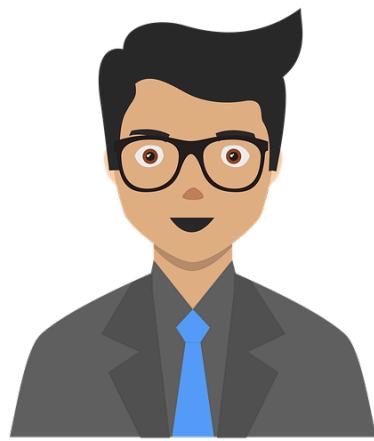


# Alice, Bob and adversary peers

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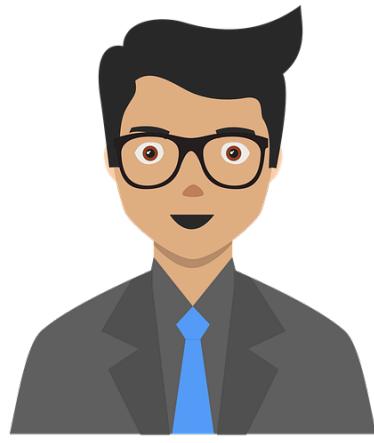


Alice (without knowing)  
stores the blocks  
in untrusted nodes

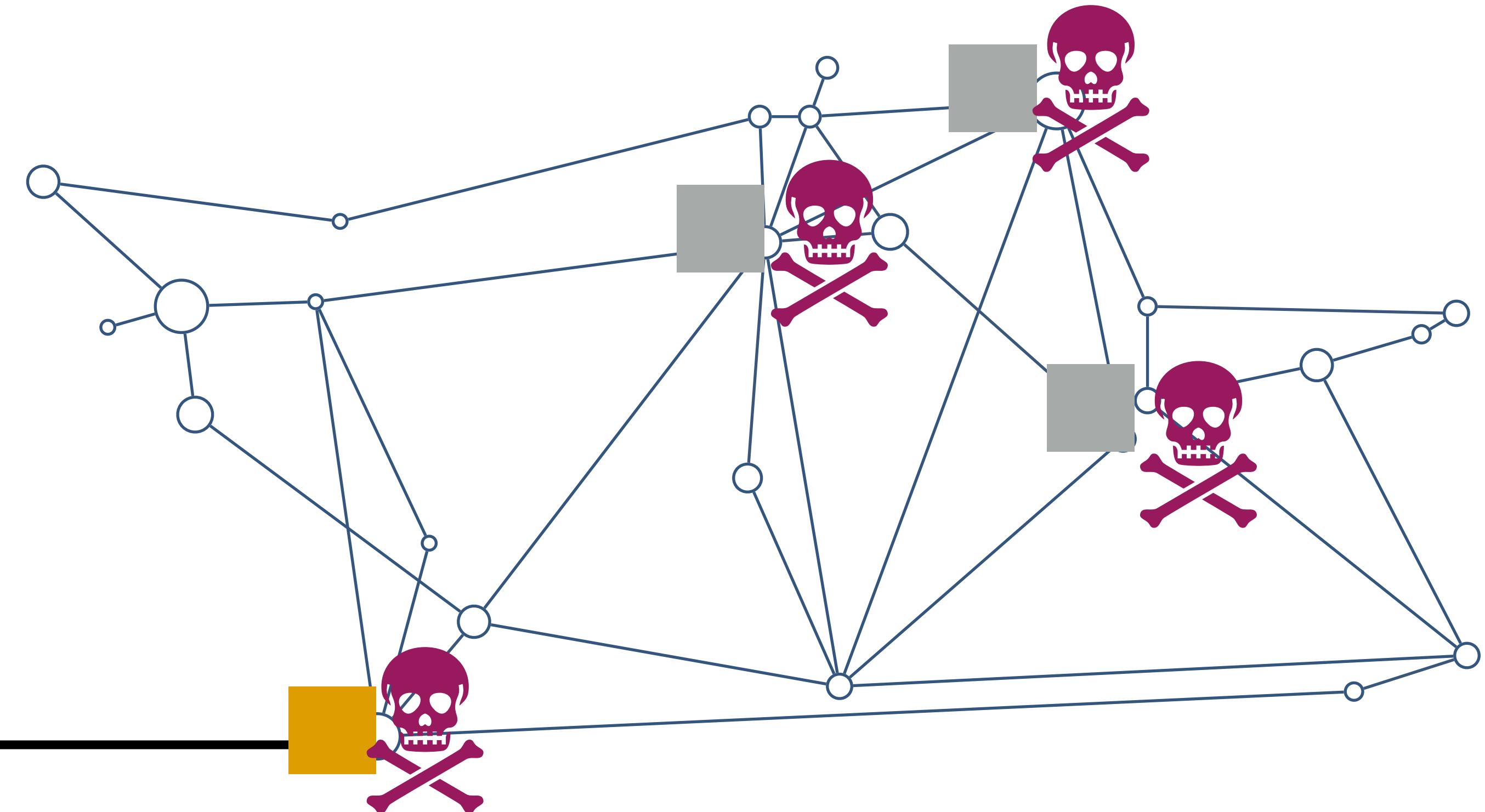


# Alice, Bob and adversary peers

---



Bob  
can try other paths to  
read Alice's file



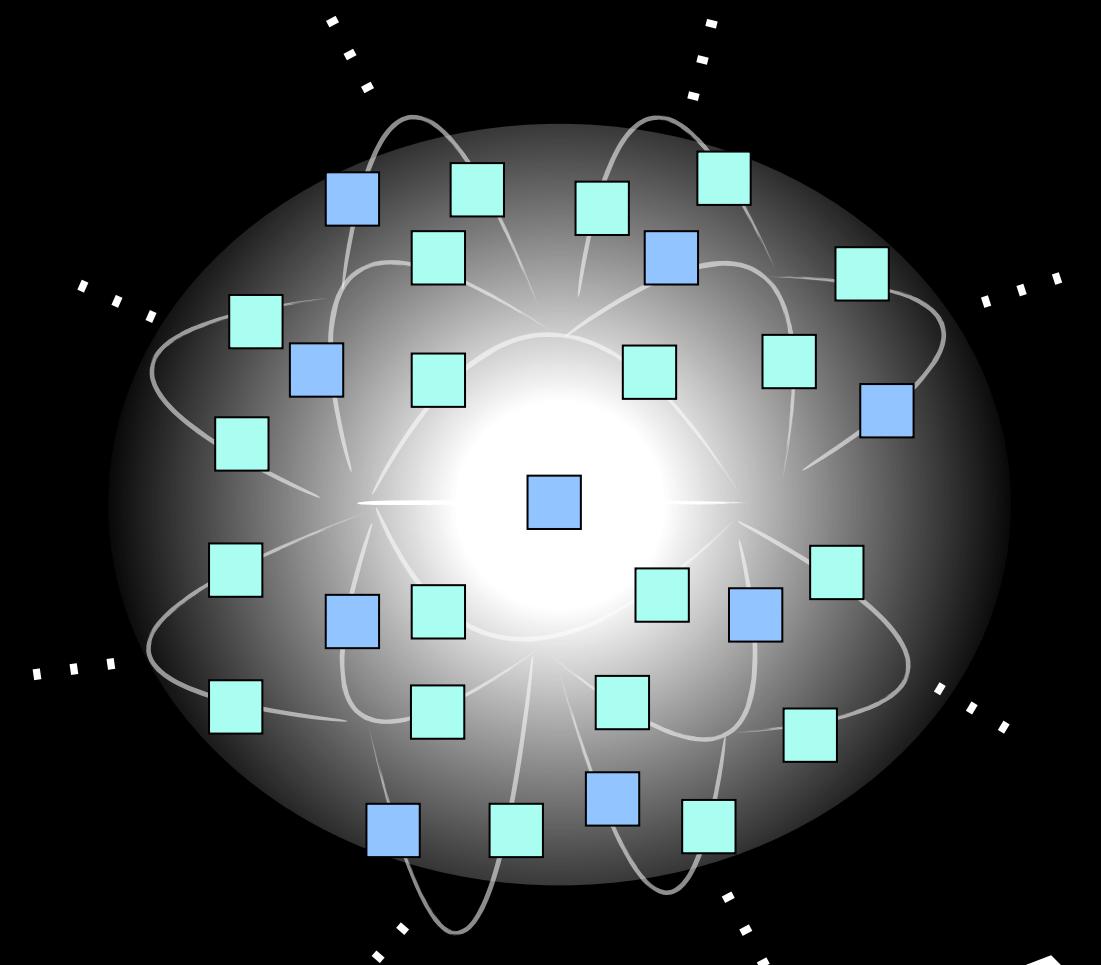
# Future Work and Conclusion

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- Redundancy is a key part of any fault-tolerance system
- Entanglement codes can provide high fault-tolerance and data integrity guarantees, using a flexible, simple, and efficient algorithm to mix files in a system
- A way to keep off chain data in a chain
- [FUTURE WORK] Build an entangled storage layer in Swarm
- [FUTURE WORK] Framework to compare codes

She ~~He~~ explained that an Aleph is  
one of the points in space that contains all other points.

Jorge Luis Borges (1899-1986), Argentinean writer.



THANK YOU!

veg@ieee.org

@GalinanesVero