

# P2P Media Streaming

Amir H. Payberah (amir@sics.se)

# Outline

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- Introduction
- P2P media streaming
- Classification of P2P streaming systems
- Security in P2P streaming systems
- Sepidar/GLive – two P2P streaming systems

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# Introduction

# Media Streaming

- **Media streaming** is multimedia that is sent over a network and played as it is being received by end users.
- Users do **not** need to **wait** to download all the media.
- They can play it while the media is being delivered by the provider.



# Media Streaming

- **Live** Media Streaming

- The streams are only available at a **particular instant in time**.

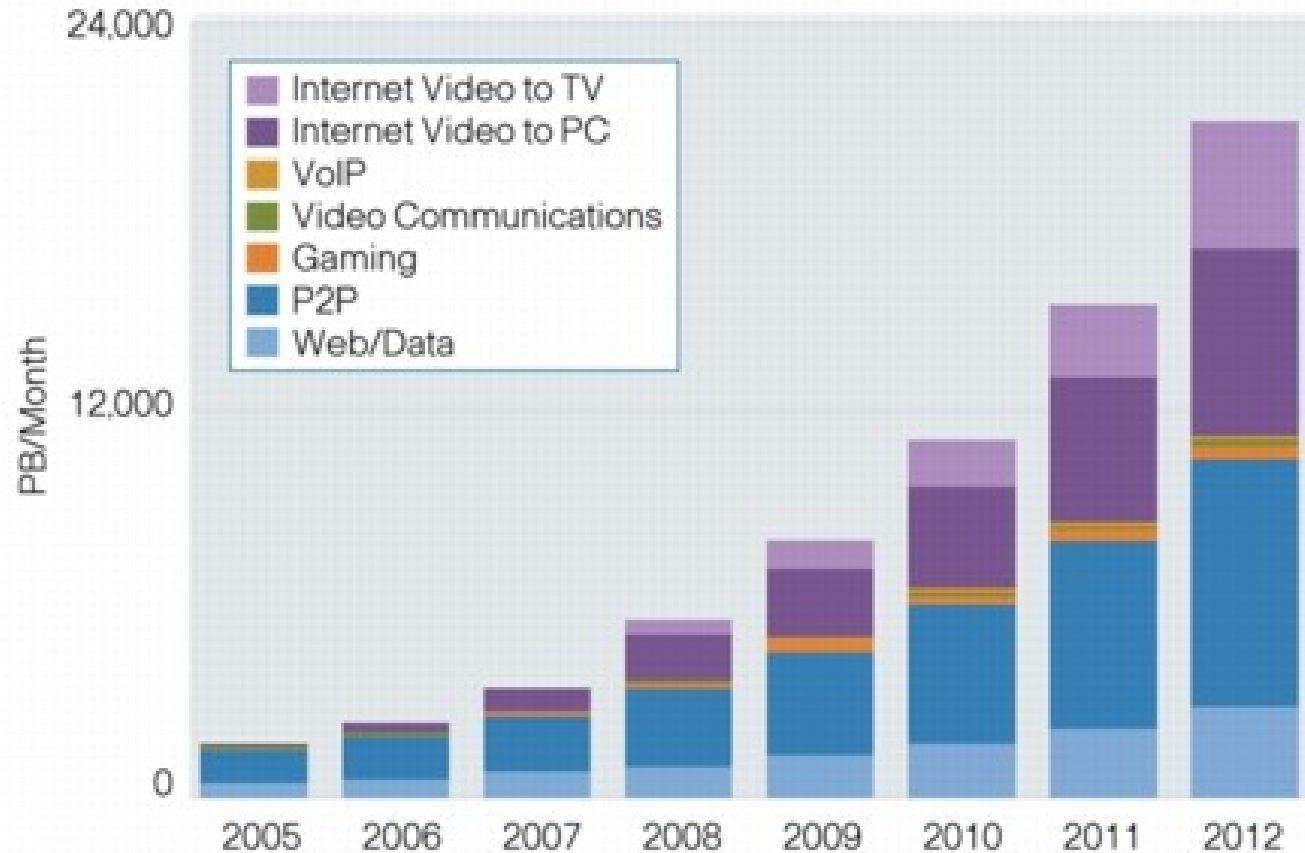


- **Video on Demand (VoD)**

- The streams are stored on a server and are available to be transmitted **at a user's request**.
- It provides a large subset of **VCR** functionality, e.g., **pause**, **fast forward**, **fast rewind** and ...



# Media Streaming Trend



Cisco's global consumer Internet traffic forecast

# Solutions for Media Streaming

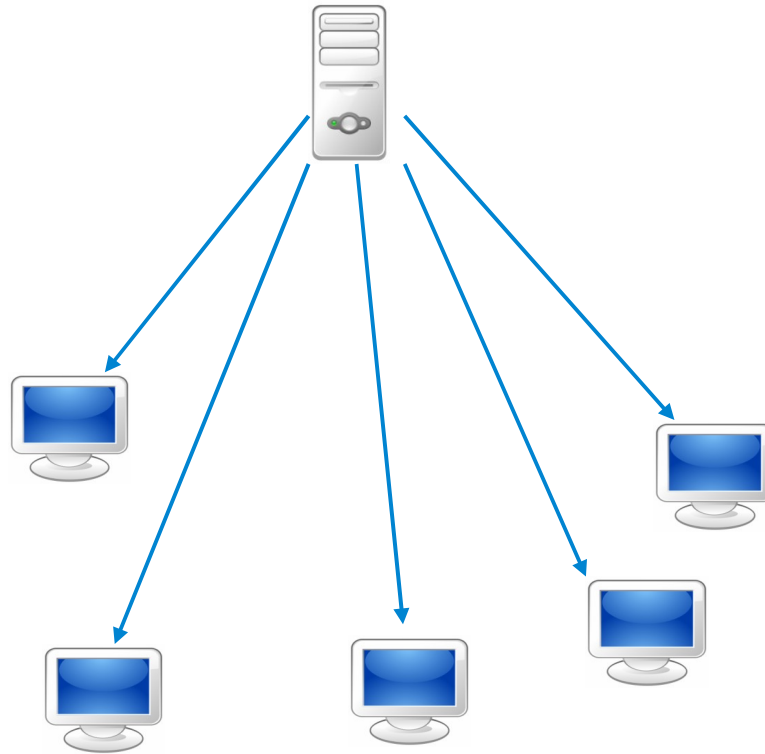
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- Client-Server solution



# Client – Server

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# Client – Server

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- What is the **problem** with the Client-Server model for media streaming? [d]

# Client – Server

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- What is the **problem** with the Client-Server model for media streaming?
- **Scalability**
- Single point of **failure**

# Client – Server

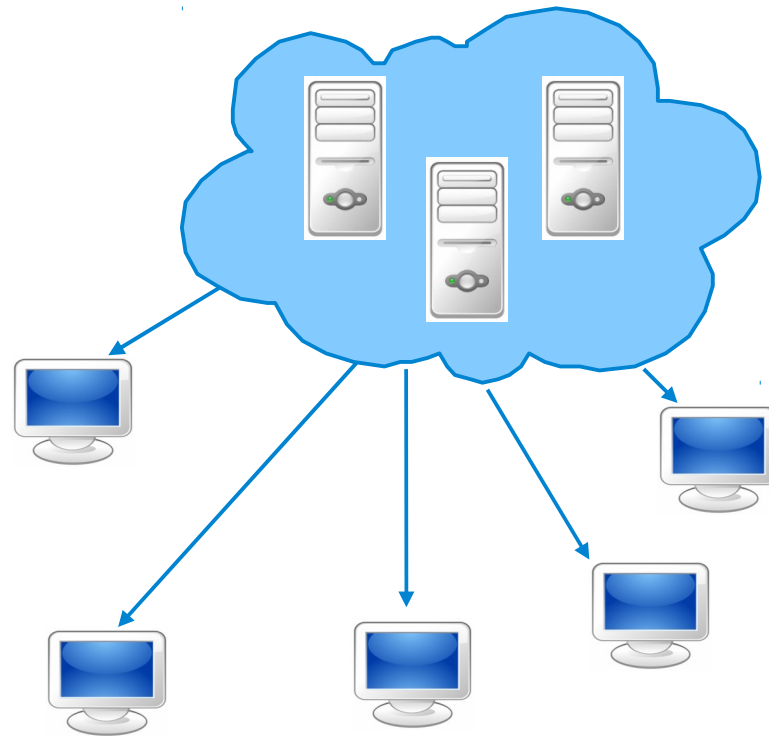
- What is the **problem** with the Client-Server model for media streaming?
- ~~● Scalability~~
- ~~● Single point of **failure**~~
- Providing a scalable service, which is resistant to failure is very **expensive**.



# Client – Server



Distributed servers  
Content Delivery Network (CDN)



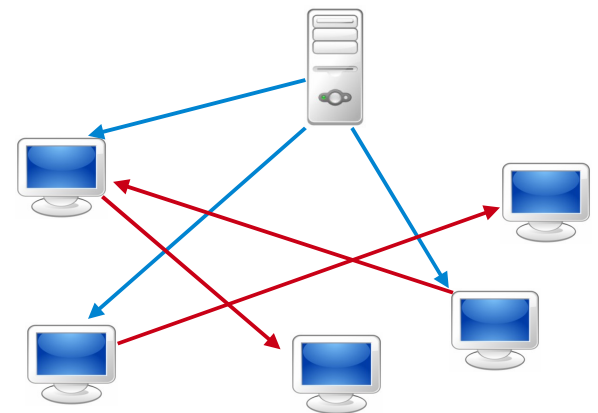
# Solutions for Media Streaming

- Client-Server solution
- Peer-to-Peer solution



# Peer-to-Peer

- The peers can help each other.
- The peers who have **parts of the data** can forward it to other requesting peers.
- The **capacity increases** with the **number of peers**.



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# P2P Media Streaming

# P2P Media Streaming Challenges

- Data should be received with respect to certain timing constraints.
  - A negligible **startup delay**
  - **Smooth** playback
  - A negligible **playback latency** (only for Live Streaming)



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  - Called **churn**



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- Nodes join, leave and fail continuously.
  - Called **churn**
- Network **capacity** changes.
- **Free-riding** problem.
- Connectivity Problem.
  - **NAT** problem.



# Main Questions

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- What type of **overlay topology** is useful for data dissemination?
- What **algorithm** is used for data dissemination?
- How do we **construct** and **maintain** this target overlay topology?



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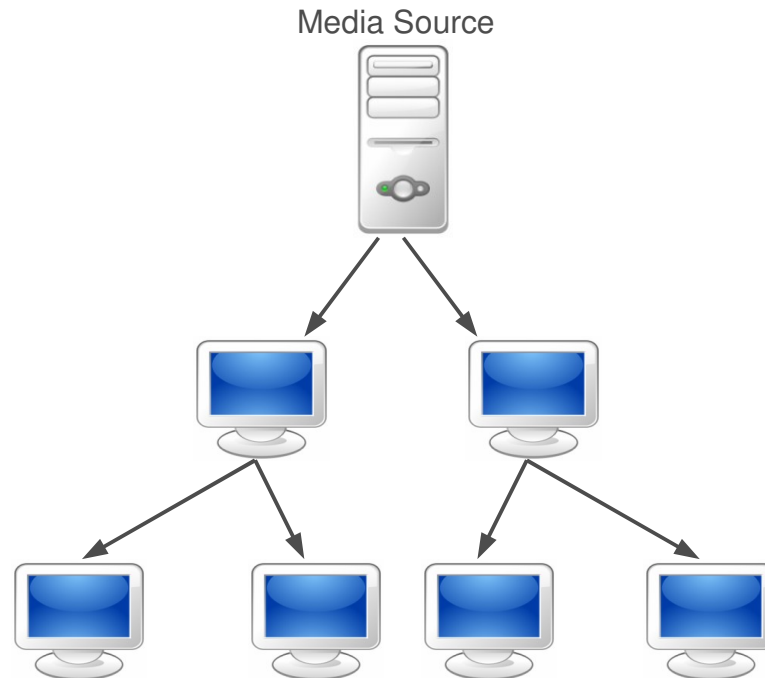
# Data Dissemination Overlay

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- What **overlay topology** do we build to distribute **data messages**?
- Some possibilities include:
  - Single tree
  - Multiple tree
  - Mesh

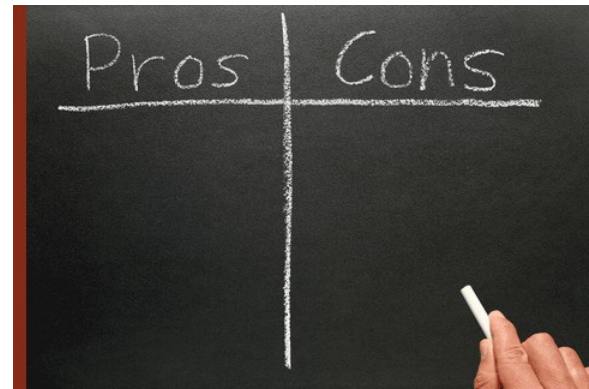
# Single Tree Structure

- Build a **single multicast tree**, in which the root is the media source and the interior nodes and leaves are peers.



# Single Tree Advantage/Disadvantage?

- Advantage/Disadvantage [d]



# Single Tree Advantage/Disadvantage?

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- **Advantage**

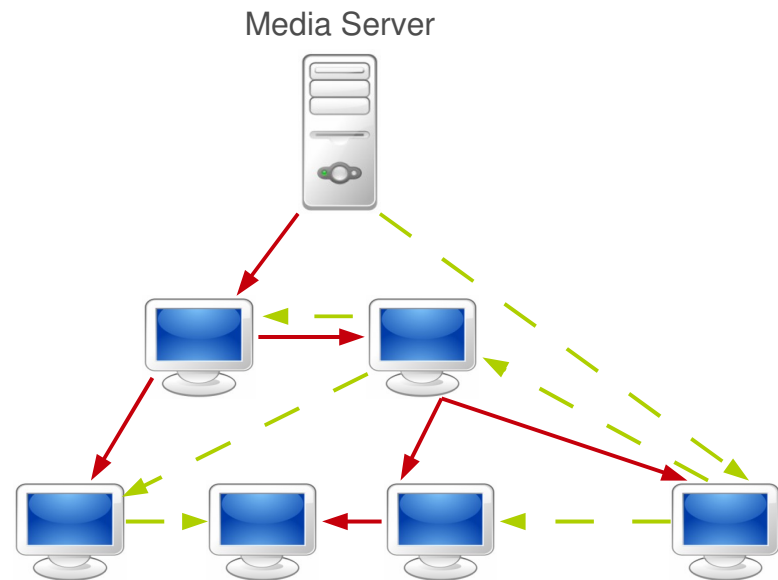
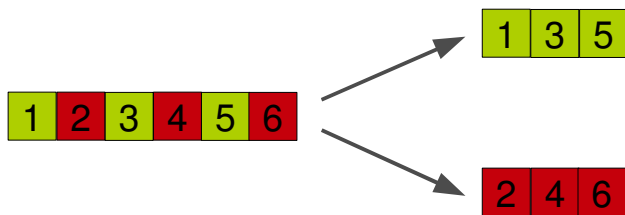
- The **short latency** of data delivery
- Easy to implement

- **Disadvantage**

- The **fragility** of the tree structure upon the failure of nodes close to the root
- All the **traffic** is only forwarded by the **interior nodes**

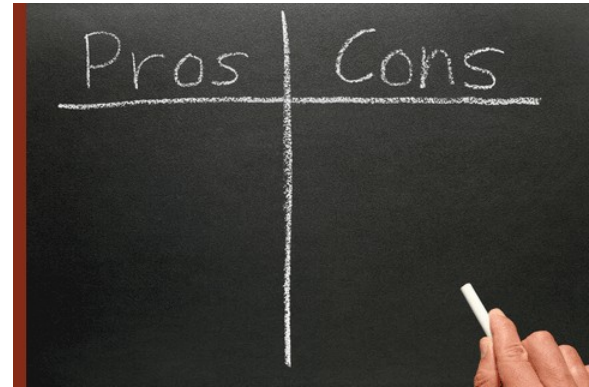
# Multiple-Tree Structure

- The media source **splits** the stream into a set of **sub-streams**.
- A single tree is created for each sub-stream.
- A peer to receive the whole media should join all trees.



# Multiple-Tree Advantage/Disadvantage?

- Advantage/Disadvantage [d]



# Multiple-Tree Advantage/Disadvantage?

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- **Advantage**

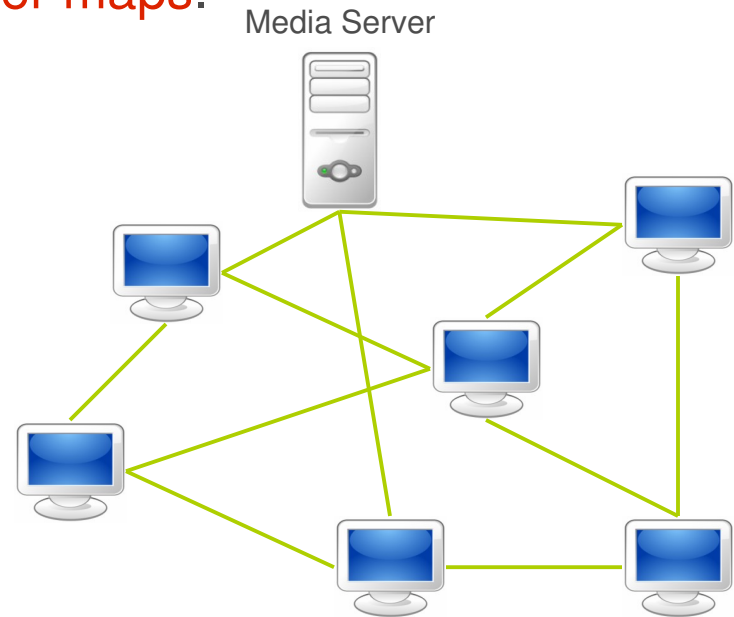
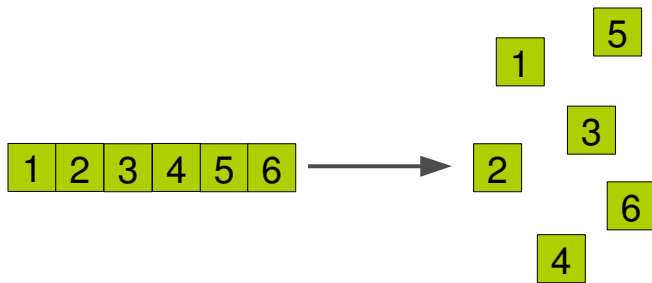
- Resilient to node failure
- Good load balancing

- **Disadvantage**

- Difficult to implement
- If a node fails, the sub-tree rooted at that node does not receive data, while they rejoin the system again

# Mesh-based Structure

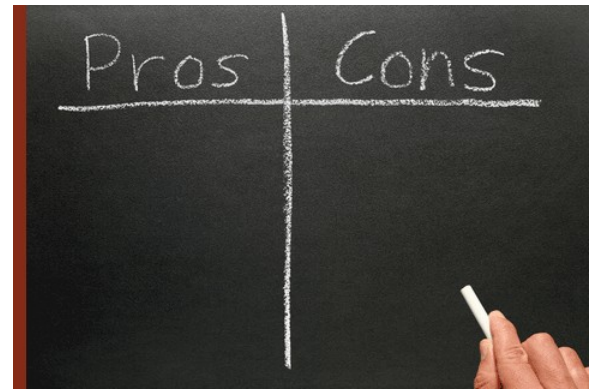
- The media source into small **blocks**.
- Nodes are connected in a mesh-network.
- Nodes periodically exchange their **buffer maps**.





# Mesh Advantage/Disadvantage?

- Advantage/Disadvantage [d]



# Mesh Advantage/Disadvantage?

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- **Advantage**

- Resilient to node failure
- Good load balancing
- Easy to implement

- **Disadvantage**

- Unpredictable latencies due to the frequent exchange of notifications and requests

# Main Questions

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- What type of overlay topology is useful for data dissemination?
- What **algorithm** is used for data dissemination?
- How do we construct and maintain this target overlay topology?



# Data Dissemination Algorithms

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- How to distribute **data messages**.
- It could be:
  - Push-based
  - Pull-base
  - Push-Pull-based

# Push-based Data Dissemination

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- A node **actively pushes** a received block to its neighbours.
- Mostly used in **tree-based** overlays.
- What about **mesh-based** overlays? [d]

# Push-based Data Dissemination

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- A node **actively pushes** a received block to its neighbours.
- Mostly used in **tree-based** overlays.
- What about **mesh-based** overlays?
  - **Redundant messages**: a node might blindly push a block to a node already has that block.

# Pull-based Data Dissemination

---

- Nodes **periodically** exchange data availability (**buffer maps**).
- After receiving a buffer map, a node can decide and **schedule** to pull which block from which node.
- Mostly used in **mesh-based** overlays.

# Pull-based Data Dissemination

- Nodes **periodically** exchange data availability (**buffer maps**).
- After receiving a buffer map, a node can decide and **schedule** to pull which block from which node.
- Mostly used in **mesh-based** overlays.

In order  
Rarest first  
Hybrid



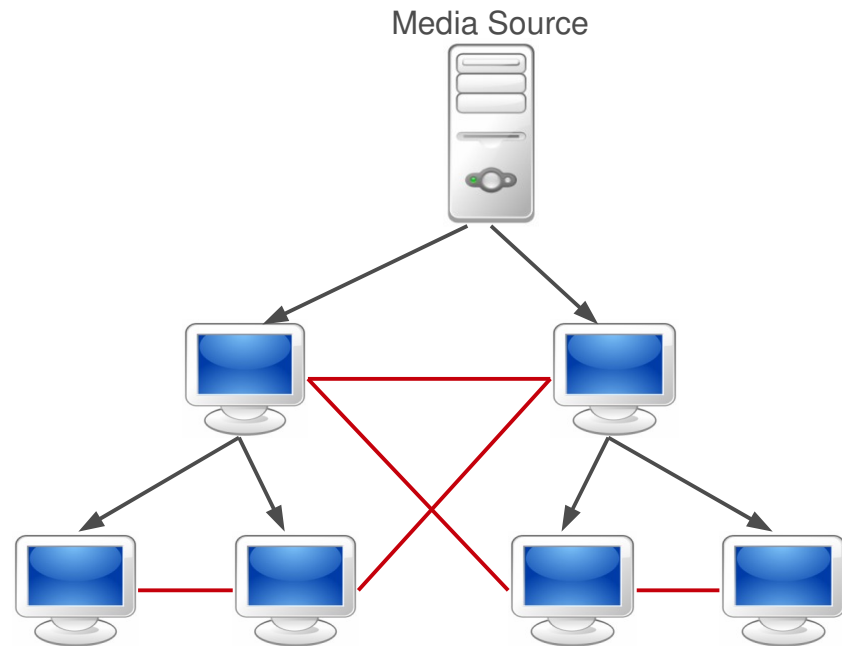
Will be back to this





# Push-Pull-based Data Dissemination

- Usually blocks are pushed through a tree and missed blocks are pulled from the mesh neighbours.



# Main Questions

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- What type of overlay topology is useful for data dissemination?
- What algorithm is used for data dissemination?
- How do we **construct** and **maintain** this target overlay topology?

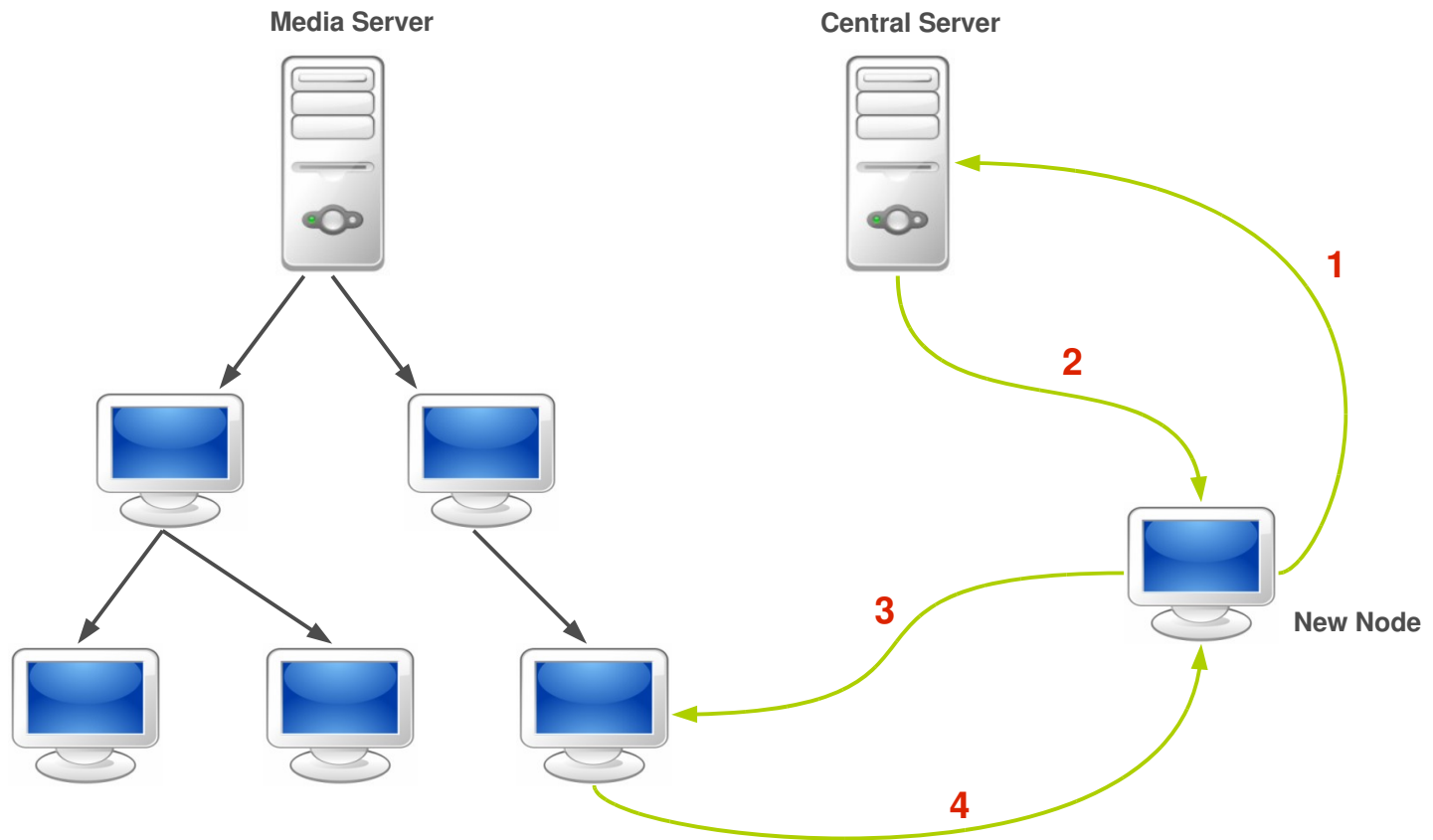


# The Overlay Construction and Maintenance

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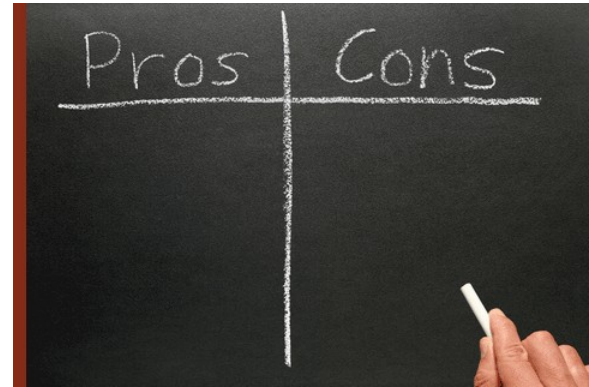
- How to **build** and **maintain** the data distribution overlay.
- Using the **control messages** for this purpose.
- It could be:
  - Centralized
  - Hierarchical
  - DHT-based
  - Control flooding
  - Gossip-based

# Centralized Method



# Centralized Advantage/Disadvantage?

- Advantage/Disadvantage [d]



# Centralized Advantage/Disadvantage?

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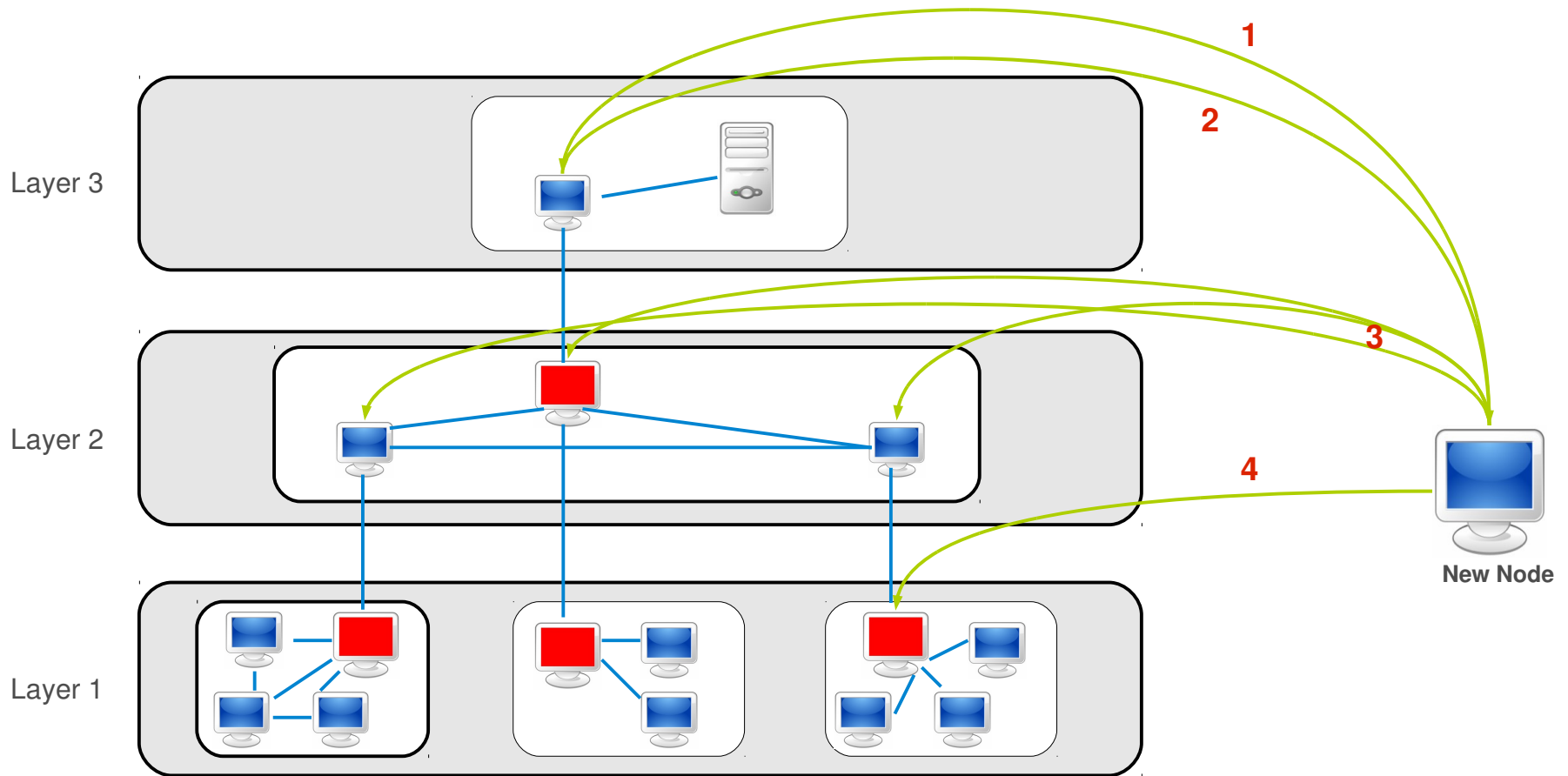
- Advantage

- Fast
- Easy to apply optimization methods
- Easy to implement

- Disadvantage

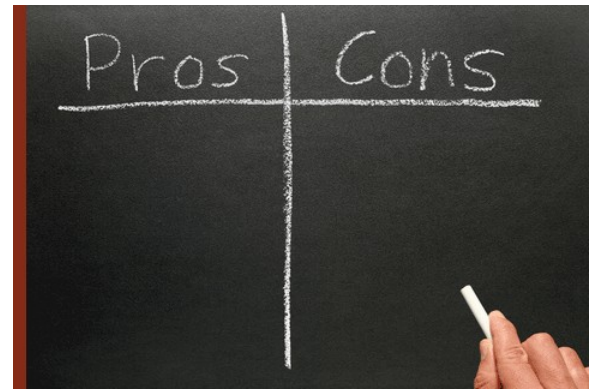
- Not scalable
- Single point of failure

# Hierarchical Method



# Hierarchical Advantage/Disadvantage?

- Advantage/Disadvantage [d]



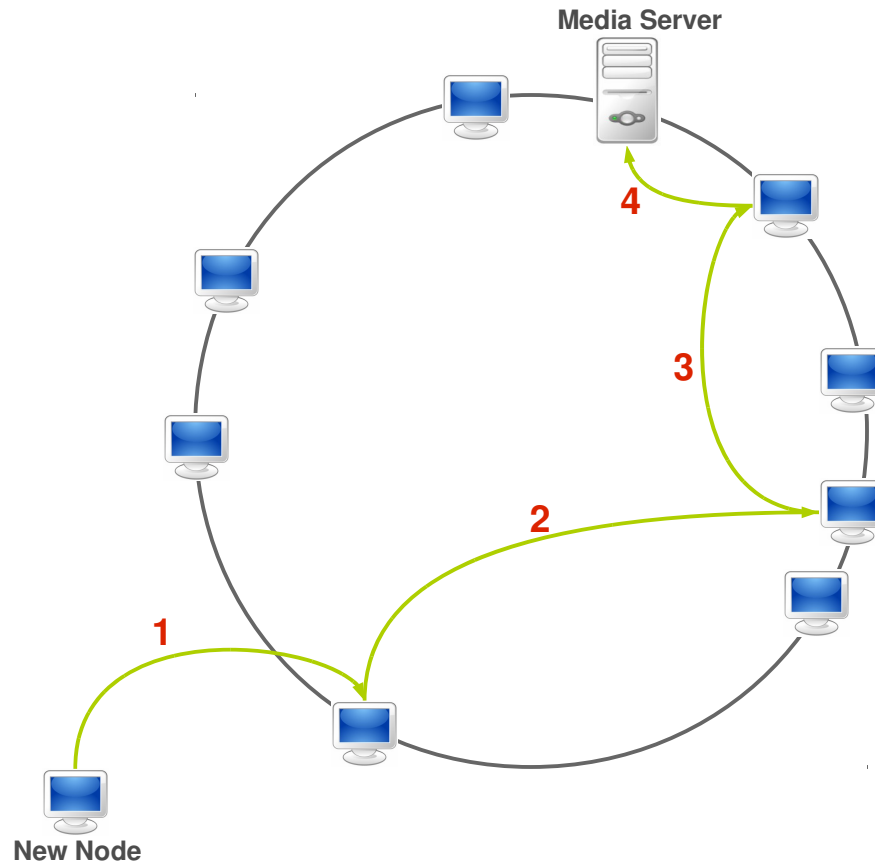


# Hierarchical Advantage/Disadvantage?

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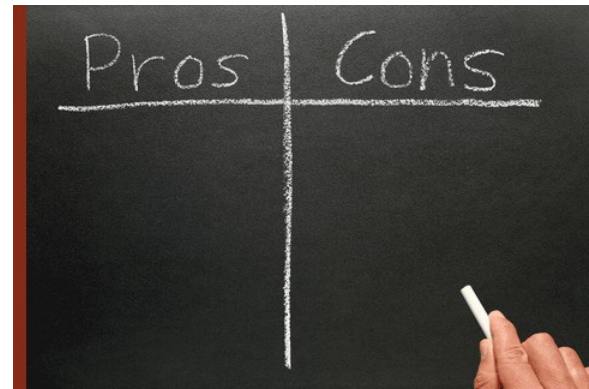
- **Advantage**
  - Scalable
  - No single point of failure
- **Disadvantage**
  - Slow convergence
  - Difficult to implement

# DHT-based Method



# DHT-based Advantage/Disadvantage?

- Advantage/Disadvantage [d]

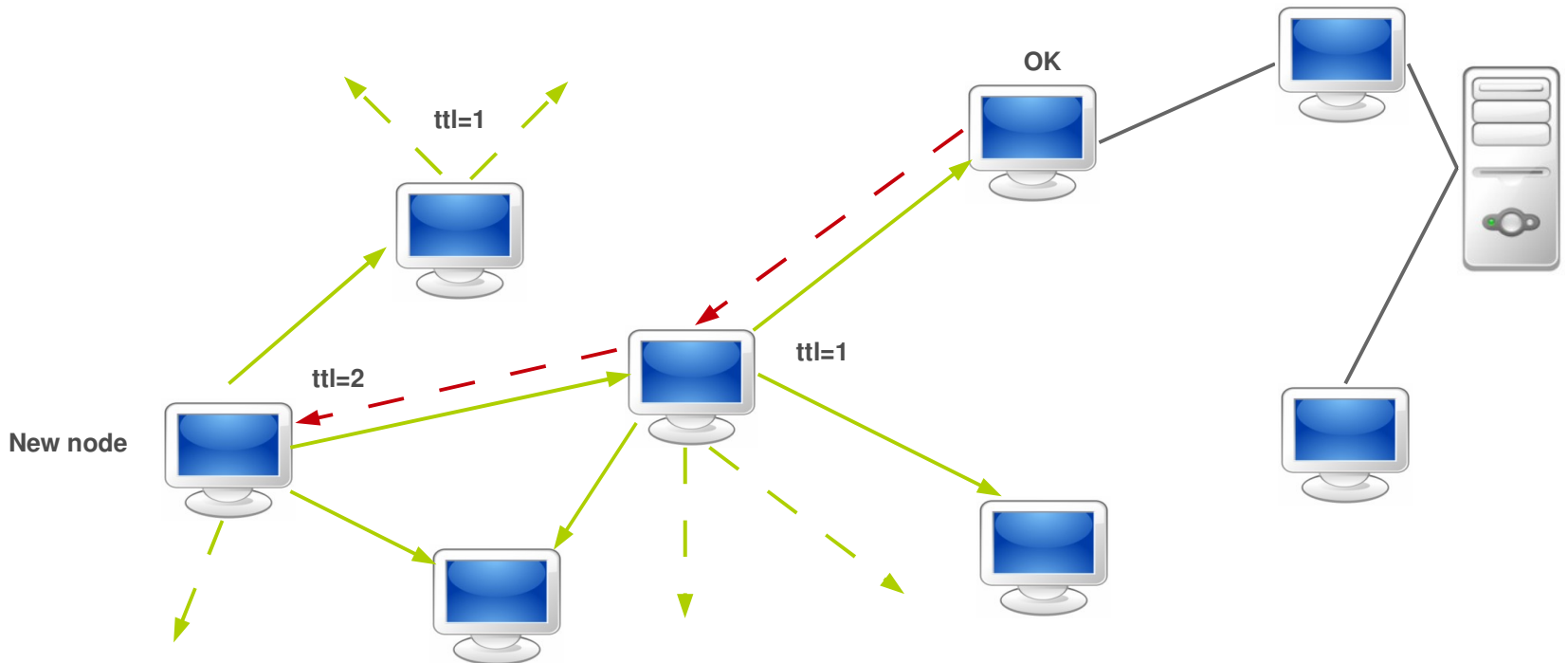


# DHT-based Advantage/Disadvantage?

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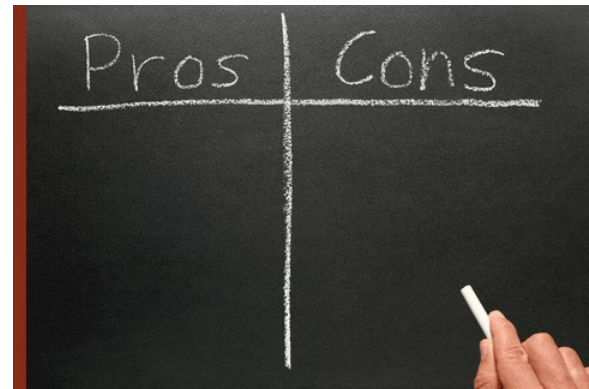
- **Advantage**
  - Scalable
  - No single point of failure
- **Disadvantage**
  - Difficult to implement

# Controlled Flooding Method



# Flooding Advantage/Disadvantage?

- Advantage/Disadvantage [d]



# Flooding Advantage/Disadvantage?

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- Advantage

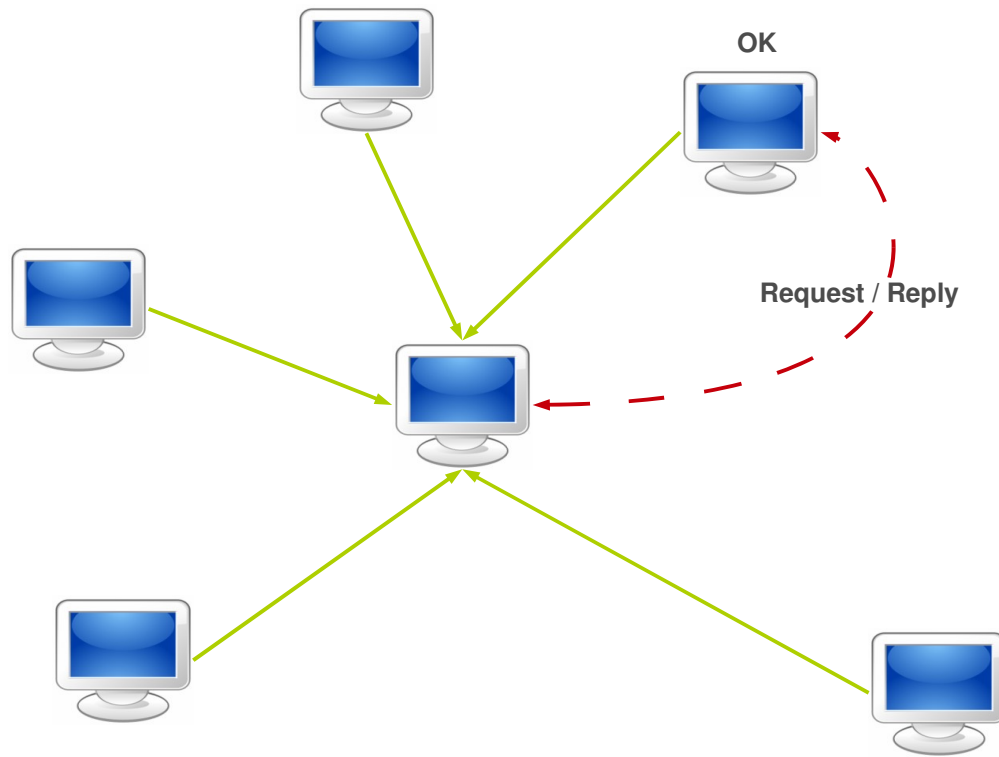
- Scalable
- No single point of failure

- Disadvantage

- No guarantee to find supplier node
- Slow convergence

# Gossip-based Method

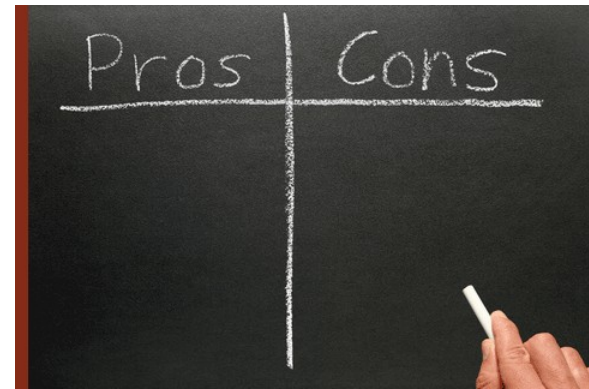
- Peers periodically send their data availability to their neighbours.





# Gossip-based Advantage/Disadvantage?

- Advantage/Disadvantage [d]



# Gossip-based Advantage/Disadvantage?

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- **Advantage**
  - Scalable
  - No single point of failure
  - Easy to implement
- **Disadvantage**
  - No guarantee to find supplier node in time

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# Classification of P2P Streaming Solutions

# Related Work



vcddler

- SplitStream
- DONet/Coolsteraming
- CoopNet
- Orchard
- Bullet
- Prime
- Pulsar
- NICE
- Zigzag
- DirectStream
- MeshCast



- mtreeBone
- PULSE
- GnuStream
- SAAR
- ChainSaw
- ChunkySpread
- BulkTree
- ForestCast
- AnySee
- DagStream
- Climber



- CollectCast
- HyMoNet
- GridMedia
- Promise
- Yoid
- Zebra
- Tribler
- CliqueStream
- GradienTv
- Sepidar
- GLive



# Data Dissemination Overlay

- Data dissemination:

- Push – Single-tree
- Push – Multiple-tree
- Pull – Mesh
- Push-Pull

- Overlay maintenance:

- Centralized
- Hierarchical
- DHT-based
- Control flooding
- Gossip-based

20 different combinations

# Data Dissemination Overlay

## Push (Single Tree)

DirectedStream  
HyMoNet  
Yoid  
Nice  
ZigZag  
Climber  
SAAR

## Push (Multiple-tree)

Coopnet  
ForestCast  
Zebra  
SpliStream  
SAAR  
Orchard  
ChunkySpread

## Pull (Mesh)

GLive  
BulkTree  
CollectCast  
Promise  
SAAR  
GnuStream  
CoolStreaming  
Pulse  
Chainsaw  
MeshCast  
Tribler  
Dagstream

## Push-Pull

Sepidar  
GradienTv  
Prime  
Pulsar  
CliqueStream  
Bullet  
NewCoolStreaming  
Mtreebone  
GridMedia

# Overlay Construction and Maintenance Methods

Centralized	DirectedStream, HyMoNet, Yoid, CoopNet ForestCast, Zebra, Prime
Hierarchical	NICE, ZigZag, Climber, BulkTree, Prime
DHT-based	SAAR, SplitStream, CollectCast, Promise, CliqueStream, Pulsar
Flooding	GnuStream
Gossip-based	GLive, Sepidar, GradienTv, Orchard, ChunkySpread, CoolStreaming, Pulse, Chainsaw MeshCast, Tribler, DagStream, Bullet, mTreebone, GridMedia



# All Together

	Push (Single tree)	Push (Multiple-tree)	Pull (Mesh)	Push-Pull
Centralized	DirectedStream HyMoNet Yoid	Coopnet ForestCast Zebra		Prime
Hierarchical	NICE ZigZag Climber		BulkTree	Prime
DHT-based	SAAR	SAAR SplitStream	SAAR CollectCast Promise	Pulsar CliqueStream
Flooding			GnuStream	
Gossip-based		Orchard ChunkySpread	Glive - CoolStreaming – Pulse - Chainsaw – MeshCast - Tribler - DagStream	Sepidar - GradienTv Bullet - mTreebone GridMedia

# Outline

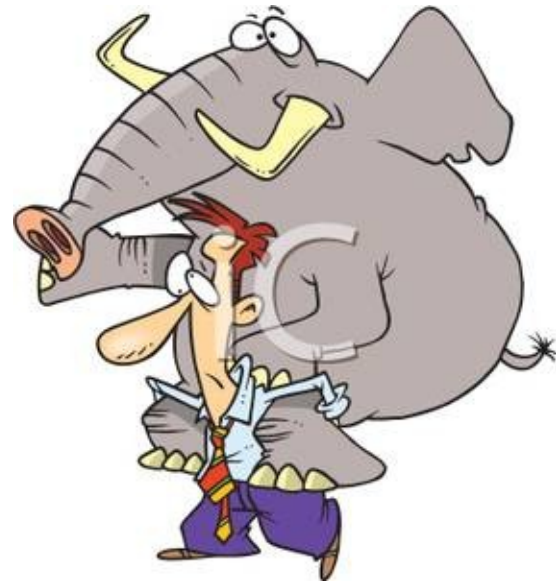
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# Security in P2P Streaming Systems

# Free-riding Problem

- **Free-riders** are the nodes that uses the resources in the system, without contributing in data distribution.
- **Incentivizing** mechanism
  - Tit-for-tat
  - Transitive **auditing**



# Collusion

- The attacks can exacerbate by **collusion**.
- A **collection** of nodes conduct correlated attack.



# Common Attacks in P2P Streaming Systems

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- **Forgery** and **Repudiation** attacks
  - Forgery: **fabricating** or tampering data stream.
  - Repudiation: **denying** the received data stream or to acknowledge with false information.

# Common Attacks in P2P Streaming Systems

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- **Pollution** attacks
  - Mixing or substituting **junk data** into the stream.

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  - Forgery: **fabricating** or tampering data stream.
  - Repudiation: **denying** the received data stream or to acknowledge with false information.
- **Pollution** attacks
  - Mixing or substituting **junk** data into the stream.
- **Membership** and **Eclipse** attacks
  - Compromising the underlying overlay or membership protocol, e.g., the **routing mechanism**.



# Common Attacks in P2P Streaming Systems

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- Neighbour selection attacks
  - Controlling the neighbour selection mechanism of some nodes.

# Common Attacks in P2P Streaming Systems

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- **Sybil** attacks
  - Used when the **reputation mechanism** established in a P2P system.
  - Creating a **large** number of entities, which bear the same disguised identifier.

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- **DoS** attacks
  - Sending **excessive** amount of requests and ...

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  - Creating a **large** number of entities, which bear the same disguised identifier
- **DoS** attacks
  - Sending **excessive** amount of requests and ...
- **Omission** attacks
  - **Not sending** the data according to the protocol.
  - Other extreme than DoS attack.

# Common Attacks in P2P Streaming Systems

Attack	Target
Forgery	Data
Pollution	Data
Eclipse	Overlay, Protocol
Neighbor	Protocol
Sybil	Protocol
DoS	Peers
Omission	Peers, Data

# Outline

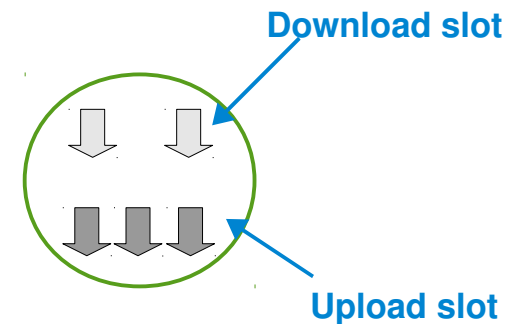
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# Sepidar

# Problem Description (1/5)

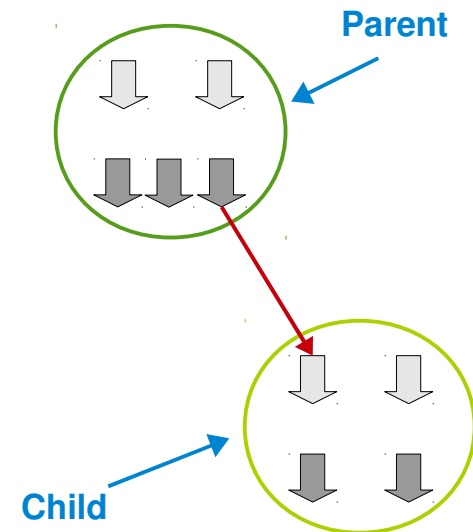
- Building and optimizing a **P2P overlay** for live media streaming
  - minimize playback latency
  - improve timely delivery of the stream
- The media stream is **split** into a number of sub-streams or **stripes**.
- A node can create a bounded number of **download connections**, and accept a bounded number of **upload connections**.





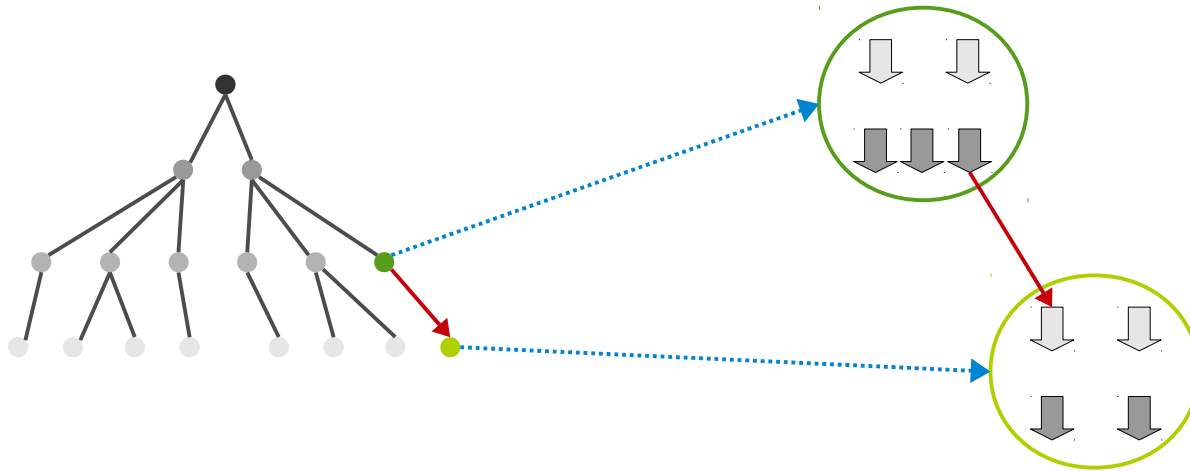
## Problem Description (2/5)

- In order to provide the full media to all the nodes
  - every **download-slot** needs to be **assigned** to an **upload-slot**.
  - download-slots at a node must download **different stripes**.
- This problem can be defined as an **assignment problem**.



## Problem Description (3/5)

- A **connection** between a **download-slot**  $i$  and an **upload-slot**  $j$  for a **stripe**  $k$  is associated with a **cost**  $c_{ijk}$ , which is the **number of hops** from the owner of the upload-slots  $j$ , to the media source for the stripe  $k$ .
- A **complete assignment**,  $A$ , is an assignment that each download-slot is assigned to an upload-slot.



# Problem Description (4/5)

- Formulating as an optimization problem:
- Objective function
  - We want to find a complete assignment over all the complete assignments that minimizes the total cost:

$$\sum_{(i,j,k) \in A} c_{ijk}$$

- Subject to
  - Every download-slot is assigned to exactly one upload-slot.
  - Each upload-slot is assigned to at most one download-slot.
  - The download-slots owned by the same node download distinct stripes.

# Problem Description (5/5)

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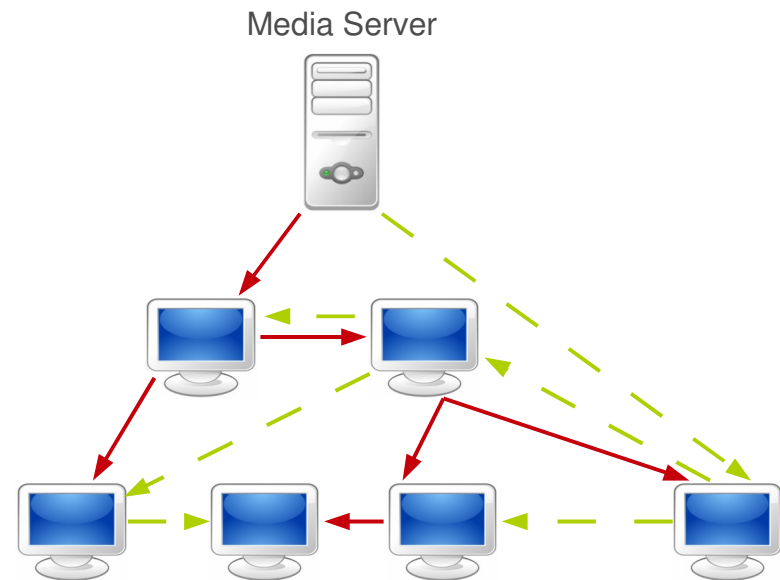
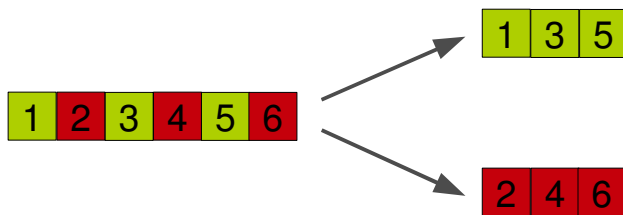
- Centralized solution:
  - Needs **global knowledge**.
  - Possible for **small** system sizes.
- Our **distributed market-based** approach:
  - Inspired by **auction algorithms**.
  - Each node knows only a **small number of nodes** in the system (**partial view**).

# Designing a P2P Media Streaming System

- What **overlay topology** is built for data dissemination?
  - Tree
  - **Multiple-tree**
  - Mesh
- What **algorithm** is used for data dissemination?
  - **Push**
  - Pull
  - Push-Pull
- How to **construct** and **maintain** this overlay?
  - Centralized
  - DHT
  - **Gossip-based**
  - ...

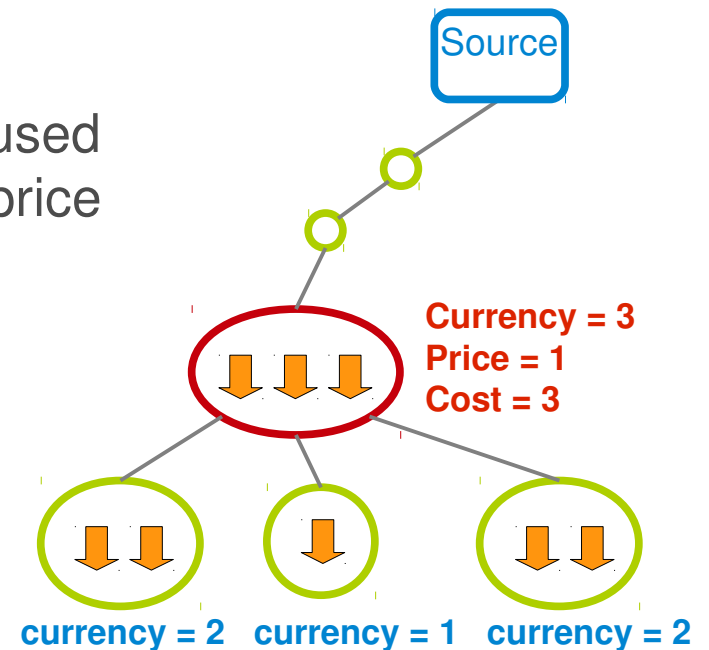
# Multiple-Tree Structure

- The media source **splits** the stream into a set of **sub-streams**.
- A single tree is created for each sub-stream.
- A peer to receive the whole media should join all trees.



# The Market Model - Node Properties

- **Currency**: The the number of upload slots at a node.
- **Price**: The price of a node that has an unused upload slot is zero, otherwise the node's price equals the lowest currency of its already connected children.
- **Cost**: The length of its path to the root.



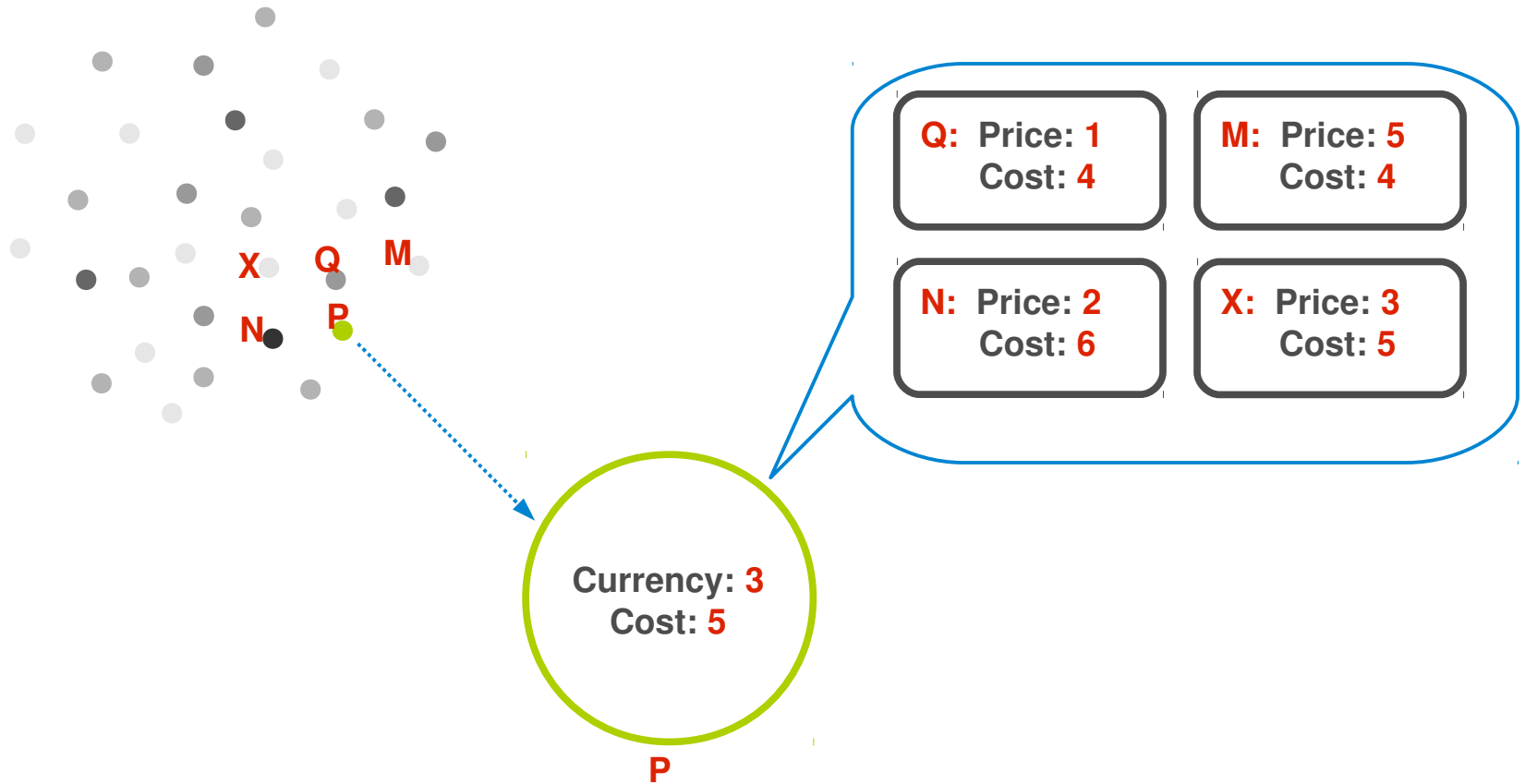
# The Market Model - Streaming Overlay Construction

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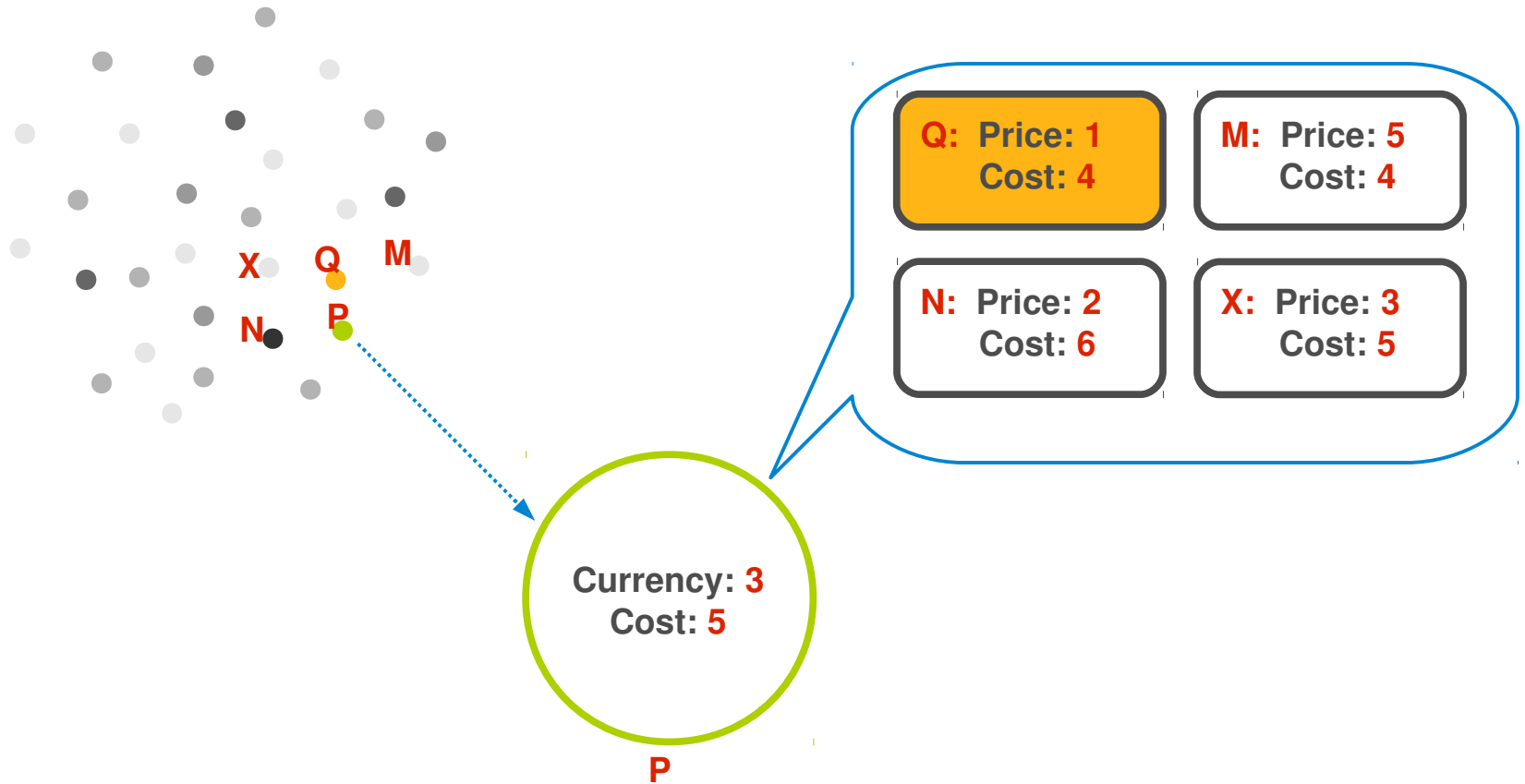
- Our market model is based on **minimizing costs** through nodes iteratively bidding for upload slots.
- The **depth** of a node in each tree is **inversely proportional** to its **currency**.



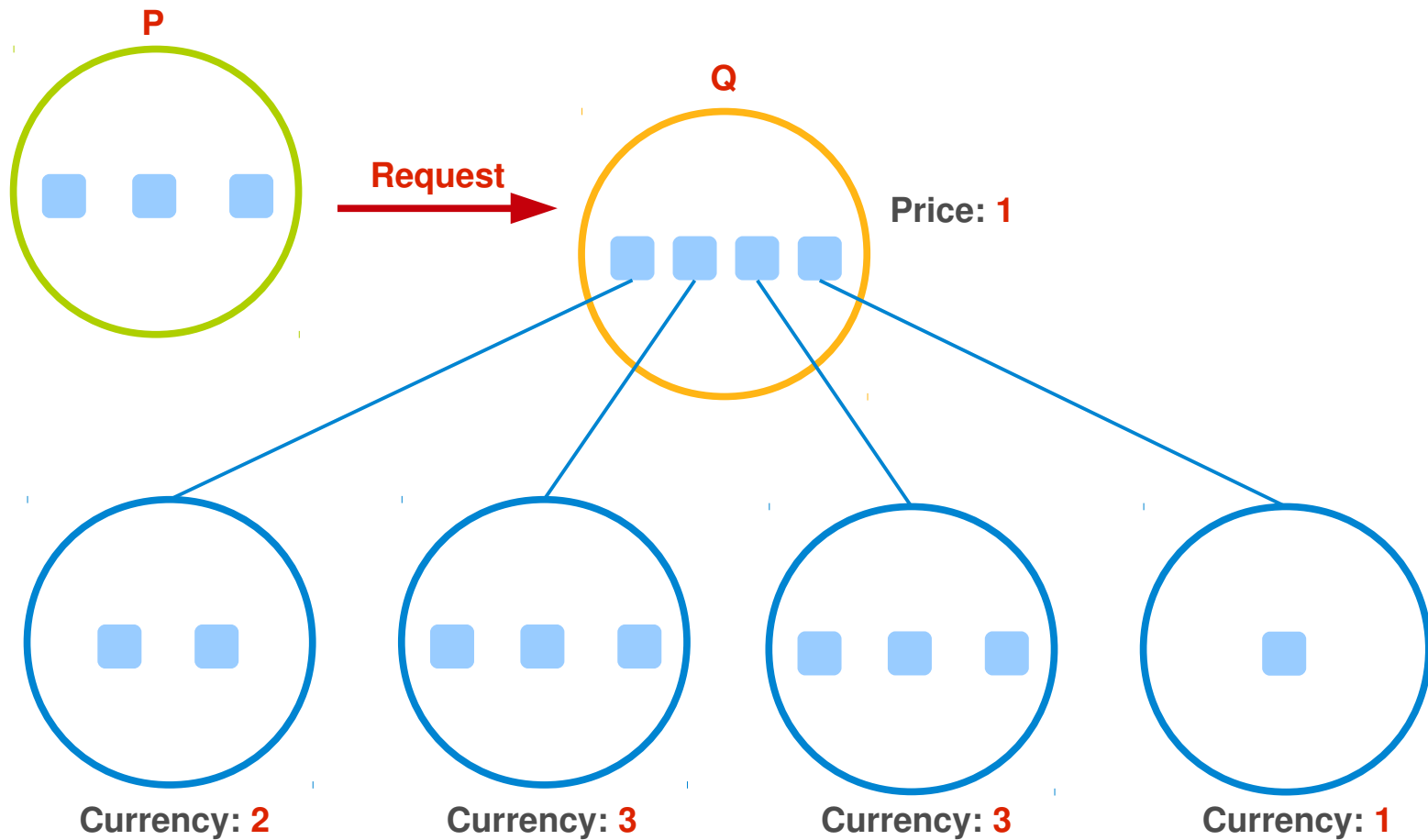
# The Market Model – Child Side



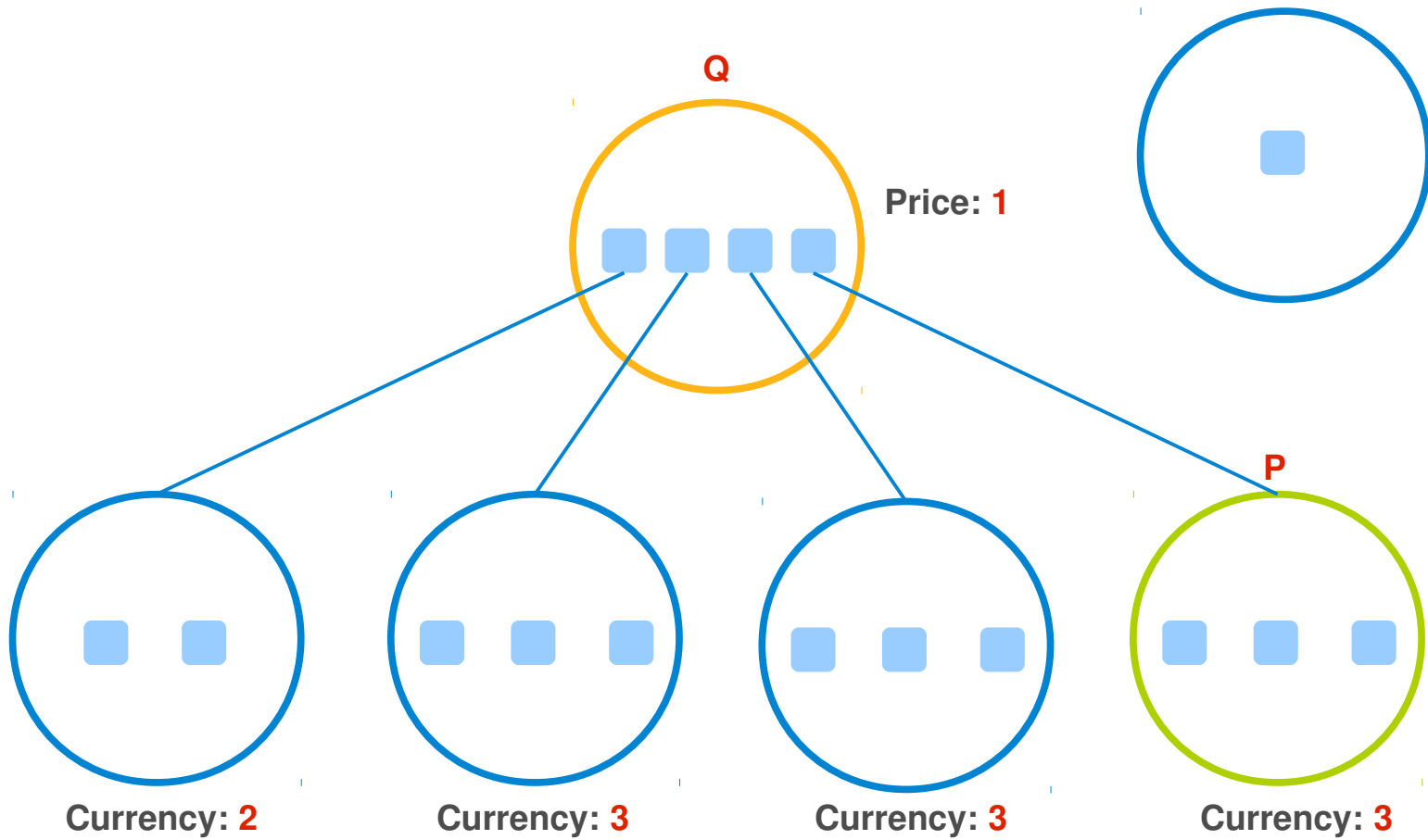
# The Market Model – Child Side



# The Market Model – Parent Side

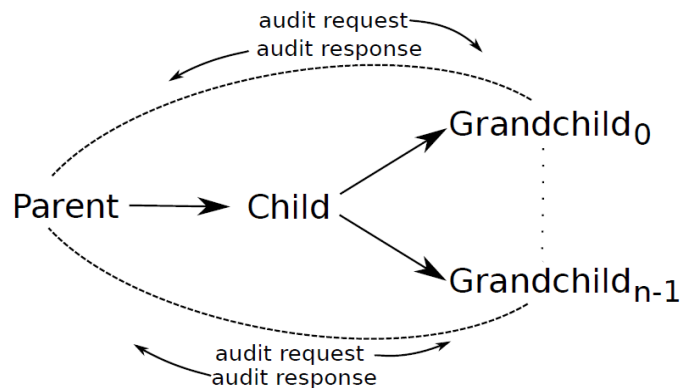


# The Market Model – Parent Side



# Freerider Detector

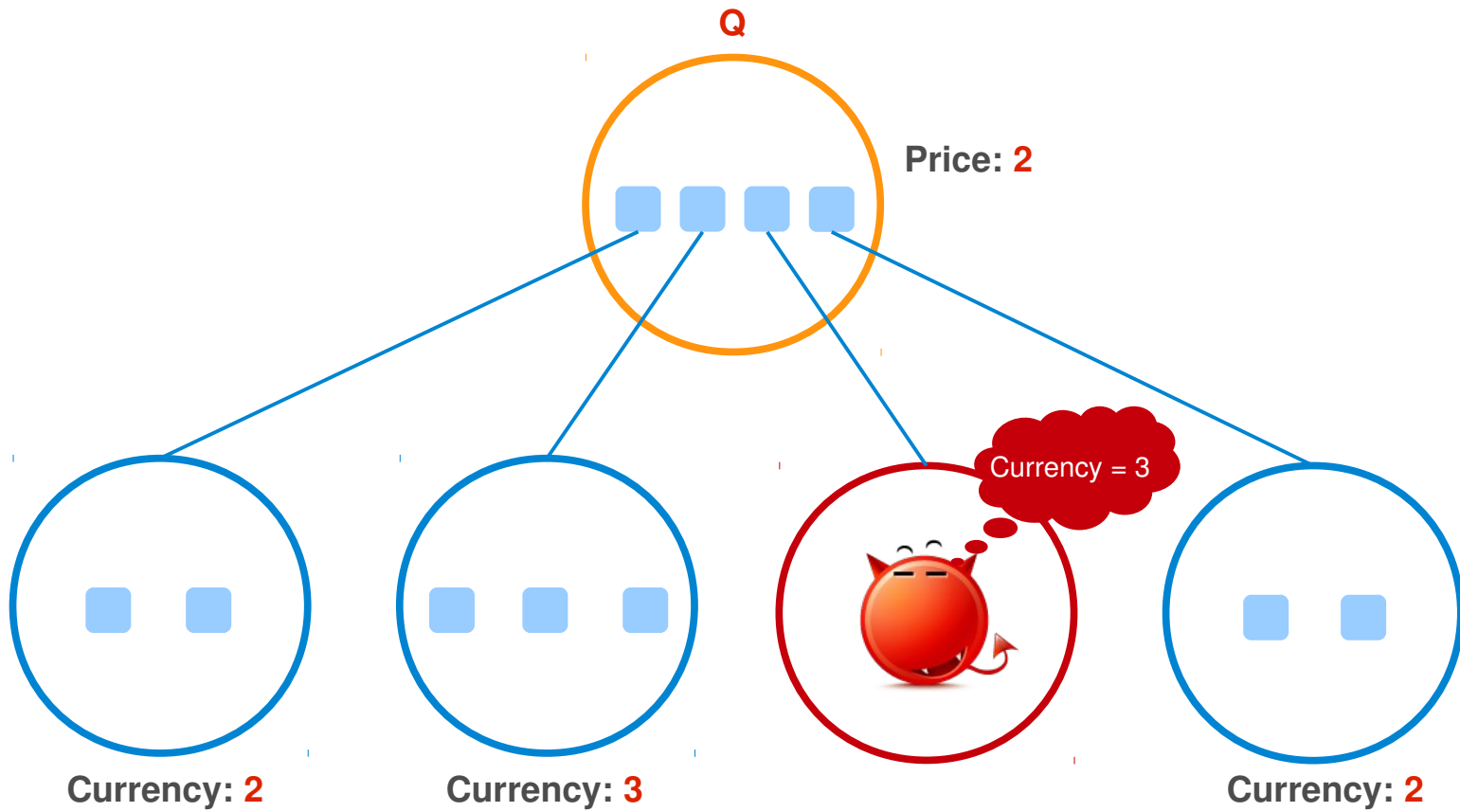
- **Freeriders** are nodes that supply less upload bandwidth than claimed.
- The freerider detector component.
- Nodes identify freeriders through **transitive auditing** using their children's children.



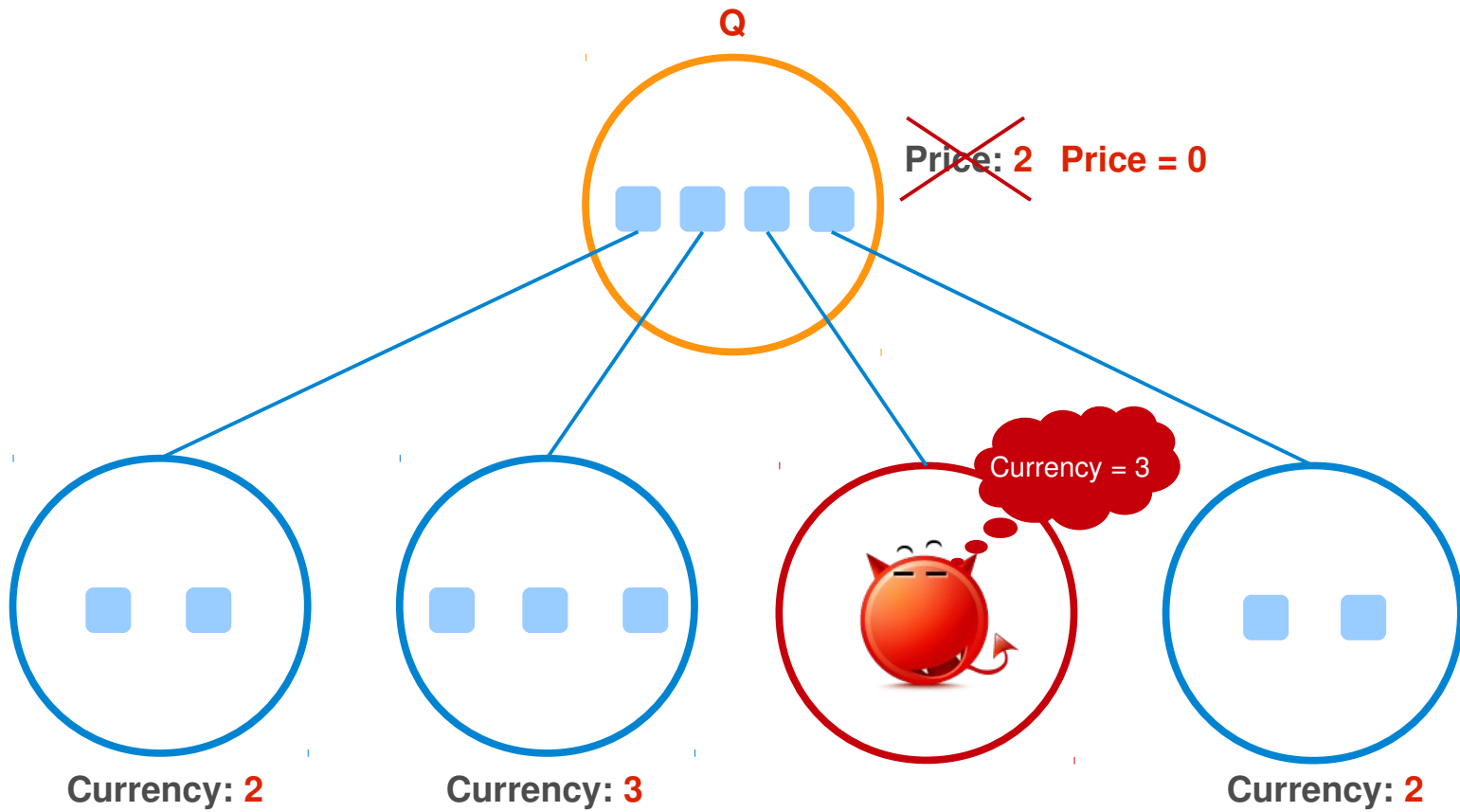
# Detecting Freeriders

- **F** is the sum of
  - the number of audit responses not received before a timeout.
  - the number of negative audit responses.
  - the free upload slots.
- If **F** is more than **M%** of claimed upload slots, **Q** is suspected as a freerider.
- If **Q** becomes suspected in **N** consecutive iterations, it is detected as a freerider.
- The higher the value of **N**, the more accurate but slower the detection is.

# Freerider – Punishment (1/4)

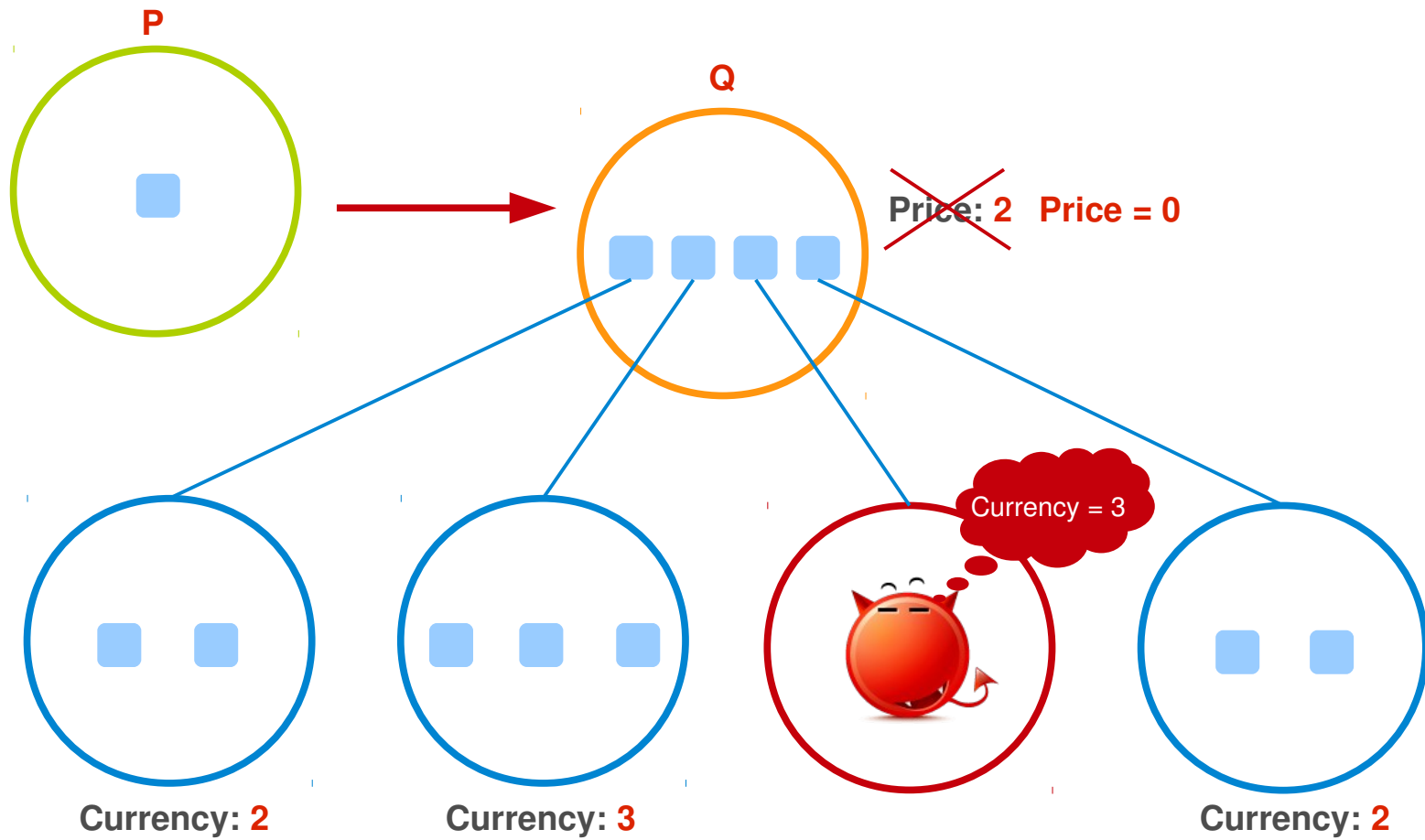


# Freerider – Punishment (2/4)

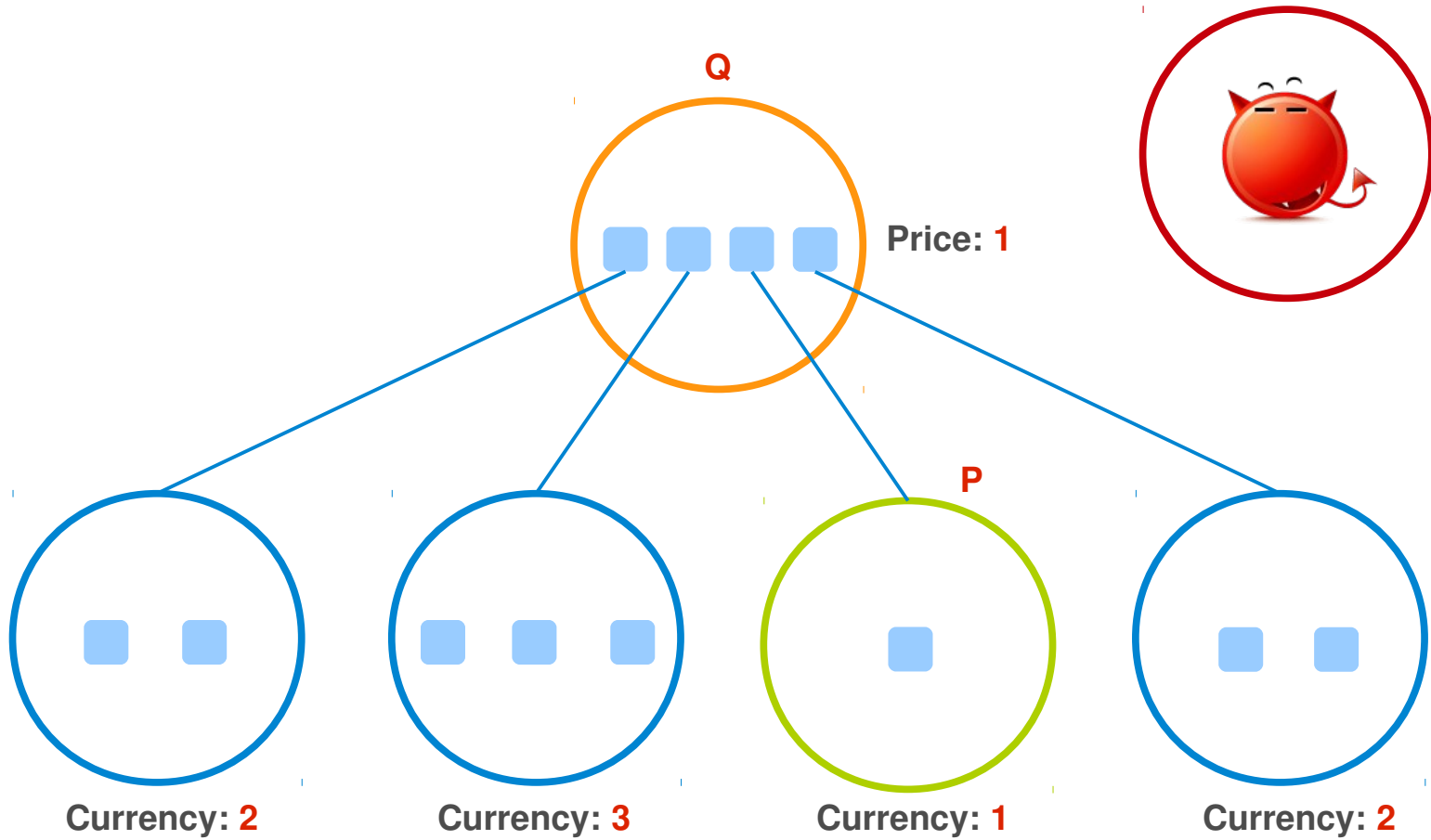




# Freerider – Punishment (3/4)



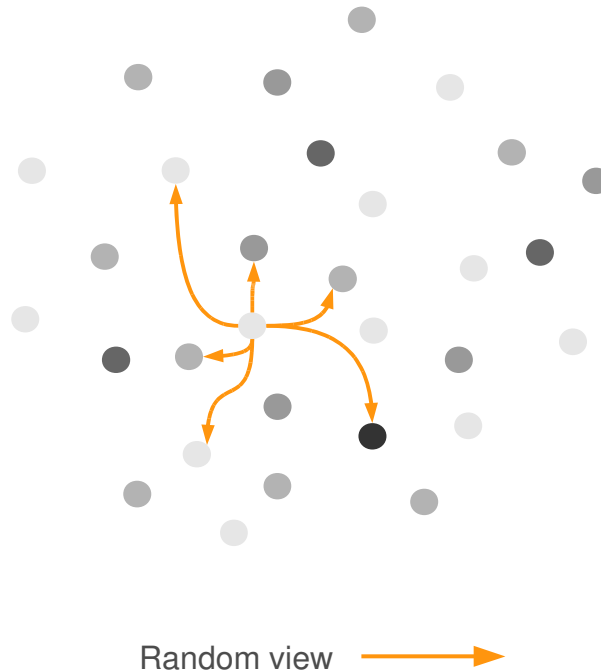
# Freerider – Punishment (4/4)



# Optimization

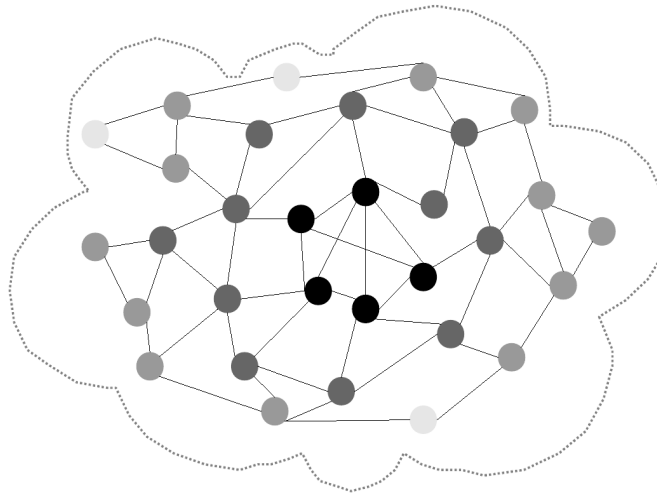
# Node Discovery

- **Naïve solution**: nodes in partial views are selected **randomly** from all the nodes.
- **Optimization**: nodes use the **Gradient overlay** to construct and maintain their partial view of the system.



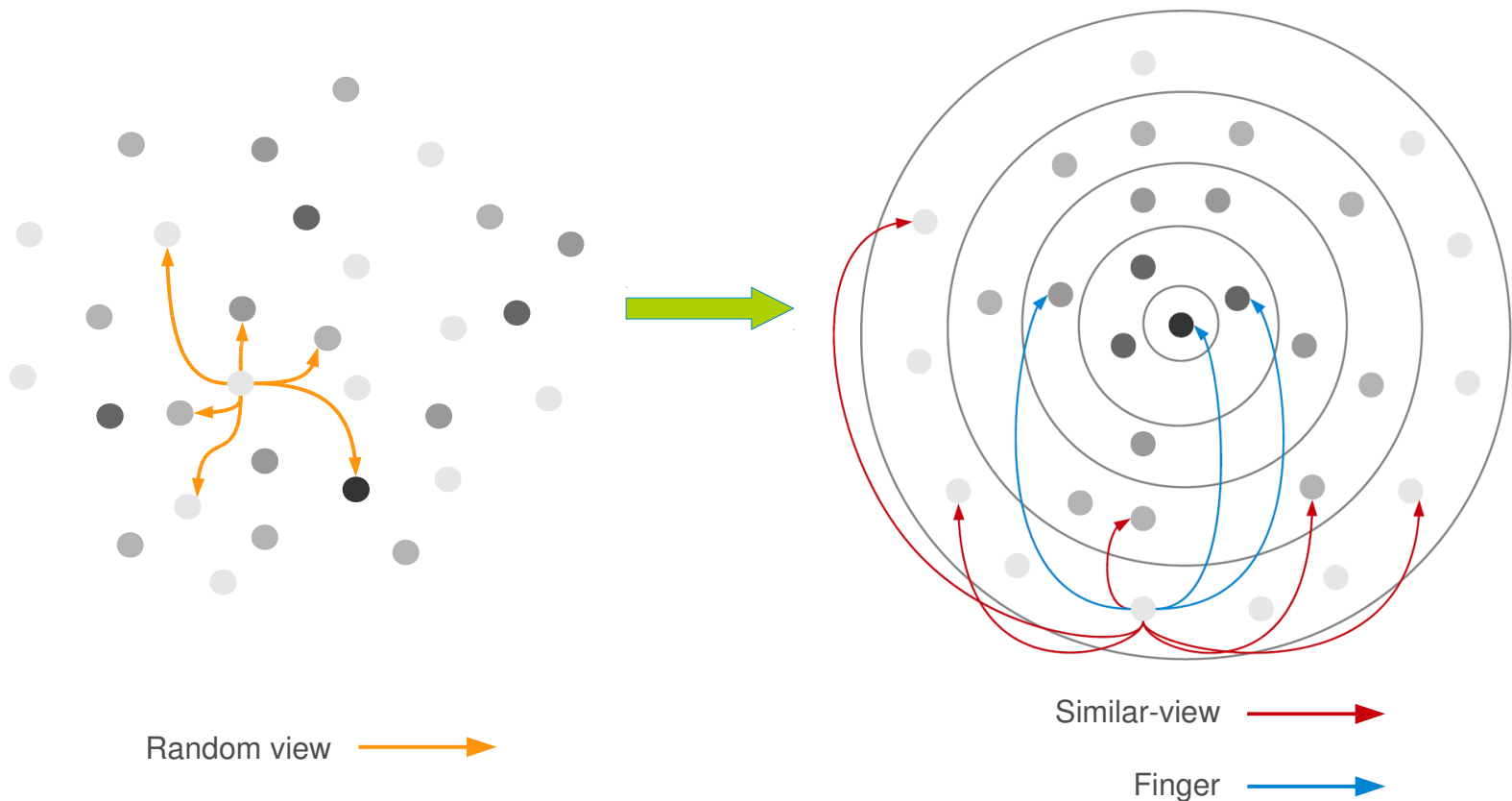
# The Gradient Overlay

- The **Gradient overlay** is a class of P2P overlays that arranges nodes using a **local utility function** at each node, such that nodes are ordered in descending utility values away from a **core** of the **highest utility** nodes.



# A Peer Partners

- Rather than have nodes explore the whole system for better parents, the Gradient enables nodes to limit exploration to the set of nodes with a similar number of upload slots.



# GLive

# Shortcoming of Sepidar

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- Tree structure
- Fragile in massive failures

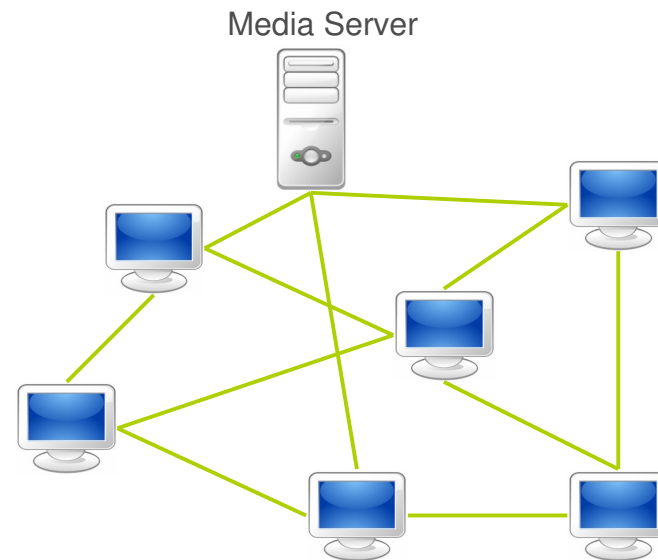
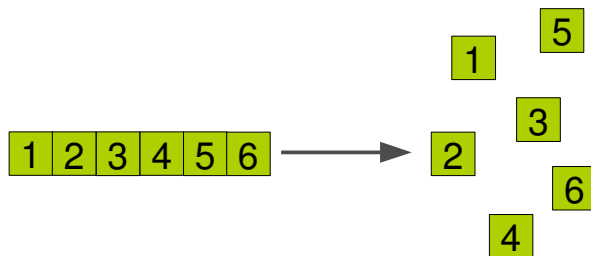


# Designing a P2P Media Streaming System

- What **overlay topology** is built for data dissemination?
  - Tree
  - Multiple-tree
  - **Mesh**
- What **algorithm** is used for data dissemination?
  - Push
  - **Pull**
  - Push-Pull
- How to **construct** and **maintain** this overlay?
  - Centralized
  - DHT
  - **Gossip-based**
  - ...

# Mesh Overlay

- Divide the main stream into small blocks.
- Nodes are connected in a mesh-network.



# The Market Model - Node Properties

- **Currency**: The total **number of blocks uploaded** to children during the last 10 seconds.
- **Price**: The price of a node that has an unused upload slot is **zero**, otherwise the node's price equals the **lowest currency** of its already connected children.
- **Cost**: The **length** of its path to the root via its **shortest path**.

# The Market Model – Parent/Child Selection

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- The same as Sepidar.

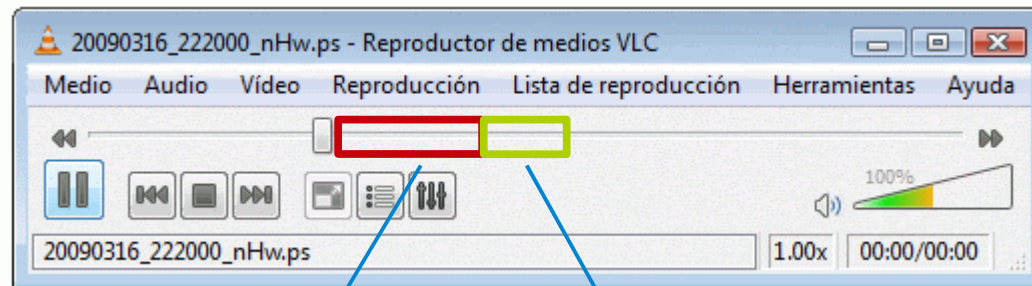
# Data Dissemination (1/2)

- Each parent node periodically sends its **buffer map** and its **load** to all its assigned children.
- A child node, pull the required blocks using the received information.



# Data Dissemination (2/2)

- Sliding window



In-order set

Rare set

# Freerider Detection (1/2)

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- Each child assigns a score to each of its parents, for a time window covering the last 10 seconds.
- When a child requests and receives a non-duplicate block from a parent within the last 10 seconds, it increments the score of that parent.
- A node periodically sends a score request to its grandchildren.

## Freerider Detection (2/2)

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- Threshold  $s$  to detect freeriders.
- When a node with no free upload connection receives a connection request, it sorts its children based on their latest scores.
  - If there exist children with score less than  $s$ , the lowest score child is abandoned.
  - Otherwise, accepts if the new node offers more money than the lowest money of its existing children.



**DONE!**

# Summary

- Media Streaming

- Live
- VoD

- Client-Server model

- Expensive



- P2P model

- The peers can help each other and the capacity increases with the number of peers.



- Challenges

- Time constraint
- Churn
- Connectivity
- Security

- Main questions

- What overlay topology?
- What algorithm for data dissemination?
- How to construct the topology



**Any  
Questions?**