



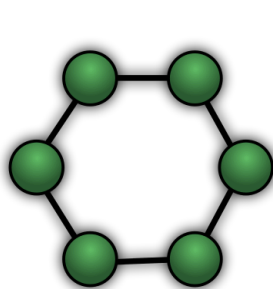
facebook

# Improve Operations of Data Center Networks with Physical-Layer Programmability

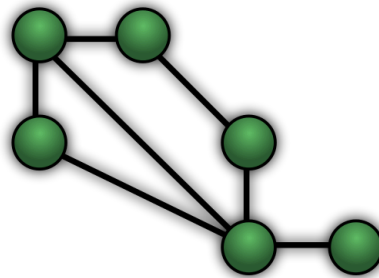
*Yiting Xia*

*Research Scientist, Facebook*

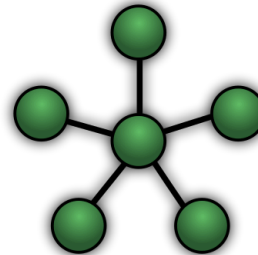
# Network is a static graph



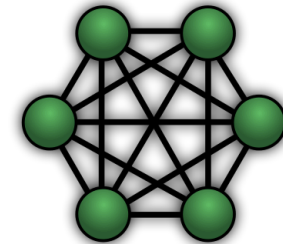
Ring



Mesh



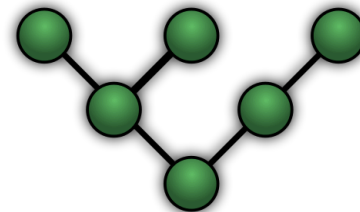
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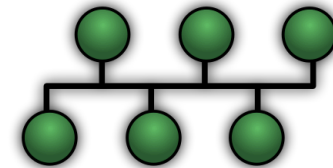
Fully Connected



Line



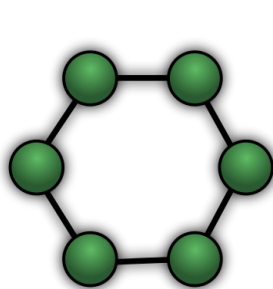
Tree



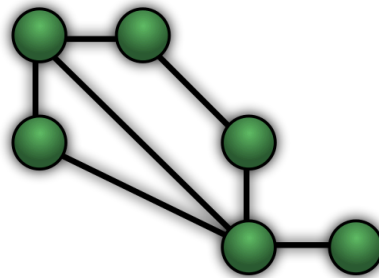
Bus

## Common Network Topologies

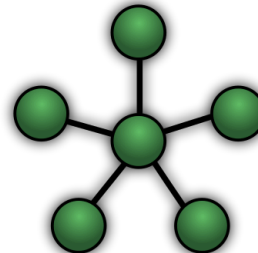
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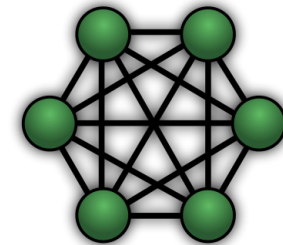
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Mesh



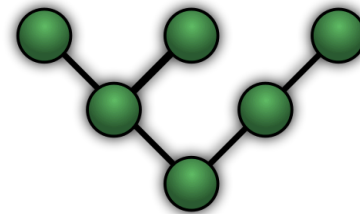
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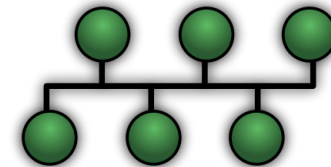
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## Common Network Topologies

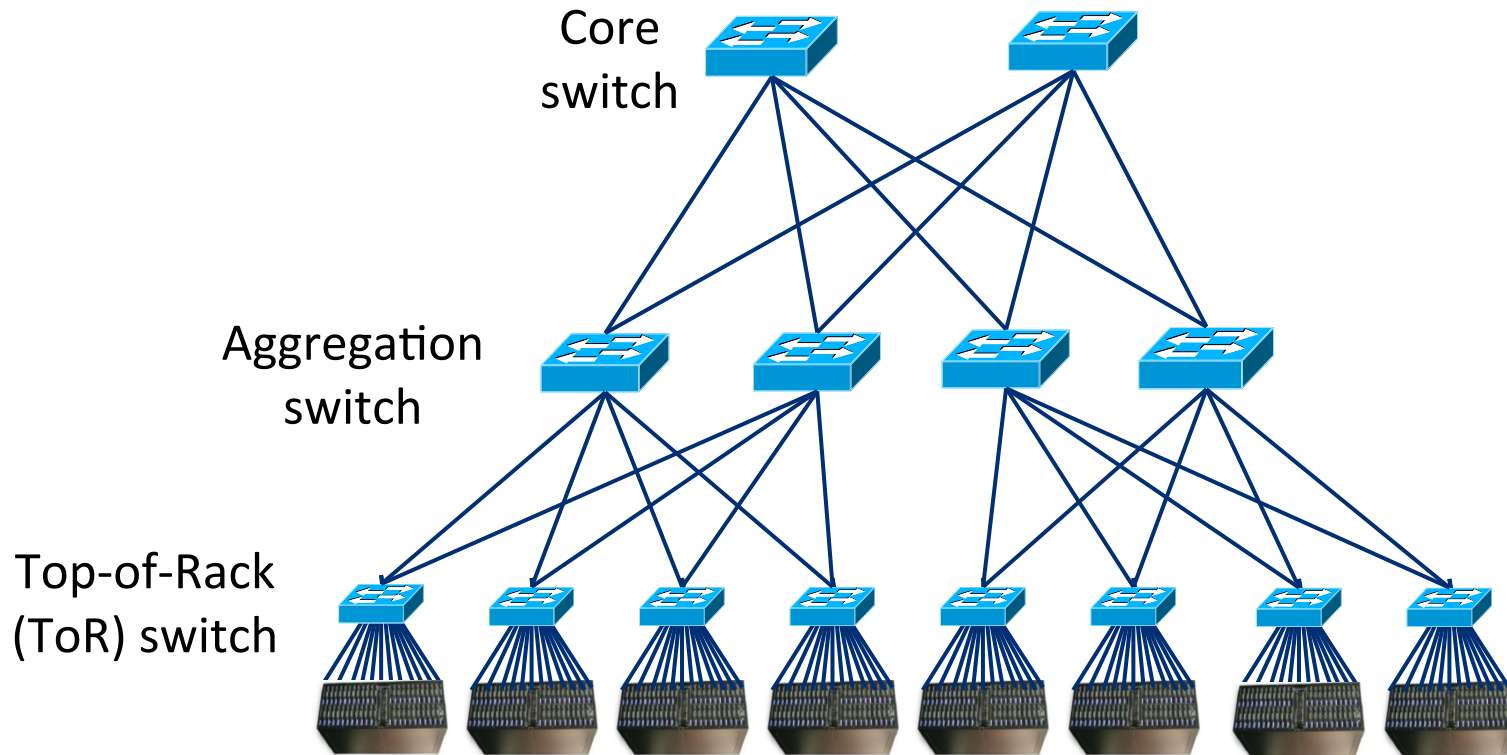
Basic assumption of the networking world

# Cloud Data Center Network



Google Data Center in London

# Topology of Data Center Network



**Clos (Multi-Rooted Tree) Topology**

Network operation is hard

# Network operation is hard

- Failures

# Network operation is hard

- Failures

## Google Cloud Outage Triggered By Networking Issue

*Google's Tuesday afternoon outage brought down popular services, including Spotify and Snapchat.*

---

By Gina Narcisi

July 17, 2018, 04:50 PM EDT

---

Google Cloud suffered an outage that slowed down or stopped several popular services on Tuesday afternoon, including Spotify and Snapchat.

Google confirmed via its cloud status dashboard that it became aware of a networking issue impacting its load balancers just after noon PT on Tuesday.

---

### RELATED STORIES

News Cloud

Google Partners Embrace Tech  
Giant's Enterprise Cloud Mission



# Network operation is hard

The New York Times

- Failures

## Google Cloud Outage Triggers

*Google's Tuesday afternoon outage brought*

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Google Cloud suffered an outage that slowed popular services on Tuesday afternoon, including

Google confirmed via its cloud status dashboard that a networking issue impacting its load balancer

## *A Failure Here, Damaged Fiber There and a Day of Internet Glitches*

Cloudflare and Google dealt with issues that affected countless sites and users on Tuesday.

---

By David Yaffe-Bellany

July 2, 2019



When a website won't load, many internet users turn to DownDetector, a site that keeps track of online disruptions, providing frequent updates on the status of the world's digital infrastructure.

But the site, which calls itself the "[weatherman of the digital world](#)," was no help on Tuesday when thousands of major websites showed the same so-called 502 error message for part of the morning. In a twist, DownDetector had also gone down.

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PM EDT

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# Network operation is hard

The New York Times

- Failures

## Google Cloud Outage Triggers

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*Google's Tuesday afternoon*

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Google confirmed via its cloud networking issue impacting it



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Facebook   
@Facebook



## Microsoft

Even Microsoft faced its share of cloud outages this year affecting Azure, Microsoft 365, Dynamics, and DevOps. In May, Microsoft had to face an outage that lasted for more than an hour showing network connectivity errors in Microsoft Azure that deeply affected its cloud services including Office 365, Microsoft Teams, Xbox Live, and several others which are widely used by Microsoft's commercial customers. Engineers identified the root cause to be an incorrect name server delegation issue that affected DNS resolution, network connectivity, and downstream impact. While the services were recovered, no customer DNS records were impacted during this incident.



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- Median case of failures: 10% less traffic delivered
- Worst 20% cases of failures: 40% less traffic delivered

Gill et al., *Understanding Network Failures in Data Centers: Measurement, Analysis, and Implications*, SIGCOMM 2011

# Network operation is hard

The New York Times

- Failures

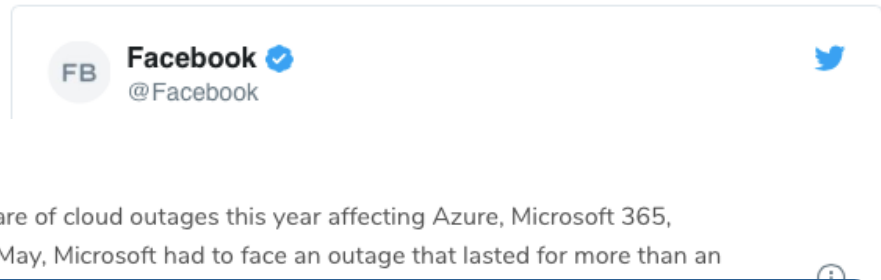
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- Failures are disruptive
- Fixed topology: have to live with a crippled network

- Median case of failures: 10% less traffic delivered
- Worst 20% cases of failures: 40% less traffic delivered

*Gill et al., Understanding Network Failures in Data Centers: Measurement, Analysis, and Implications, SIGCOMM 2011*

# Network operation is hard

- Service provisioning

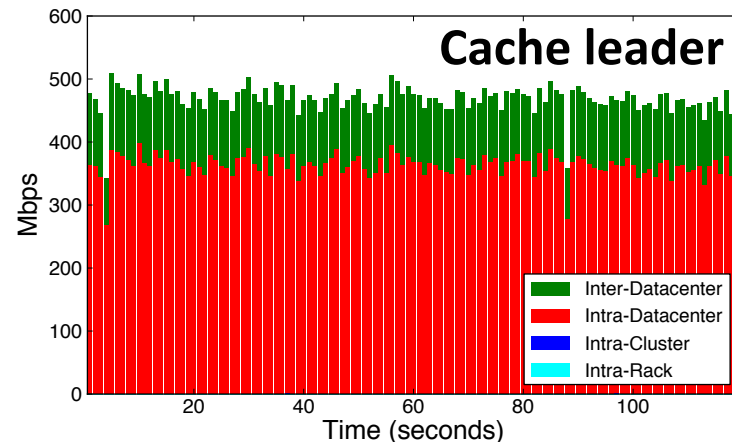
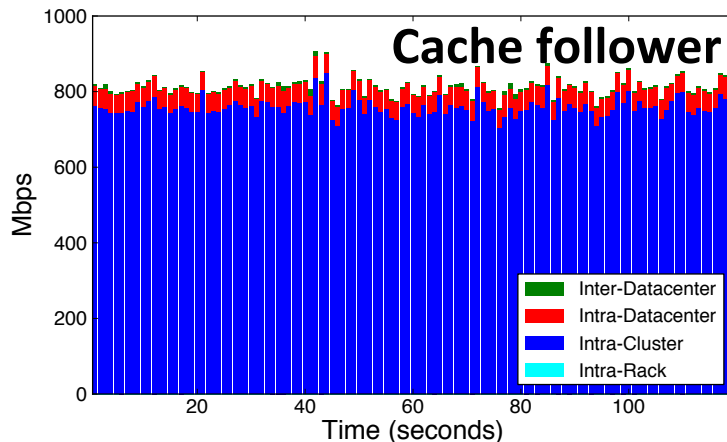
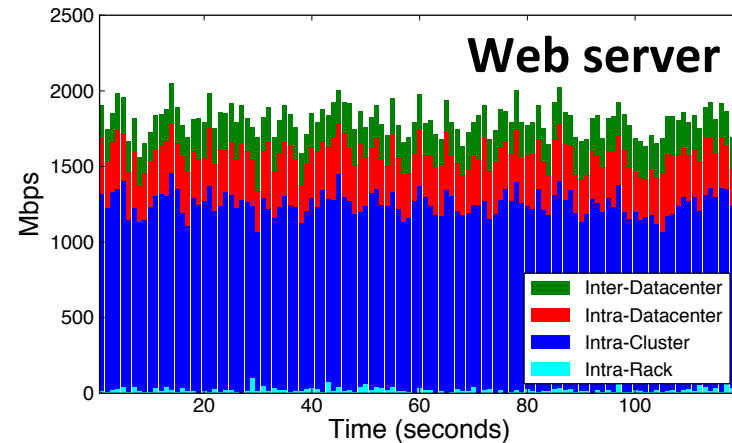
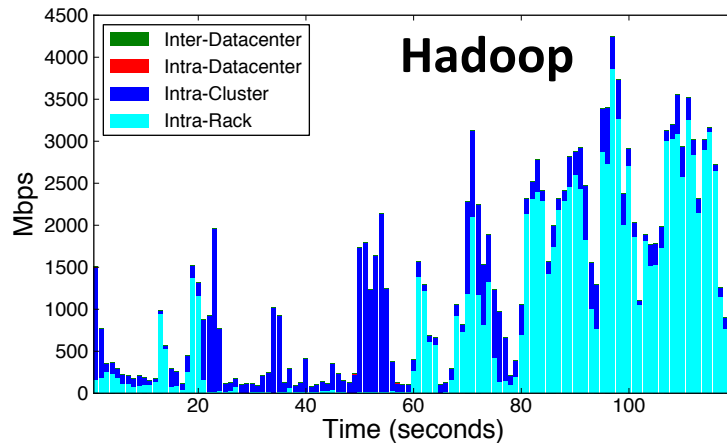
# Network operation is hard

- Service provisioning
  - *Public cloud: VM clusters*
  - *Private cloud: sub-systems supporting the service*



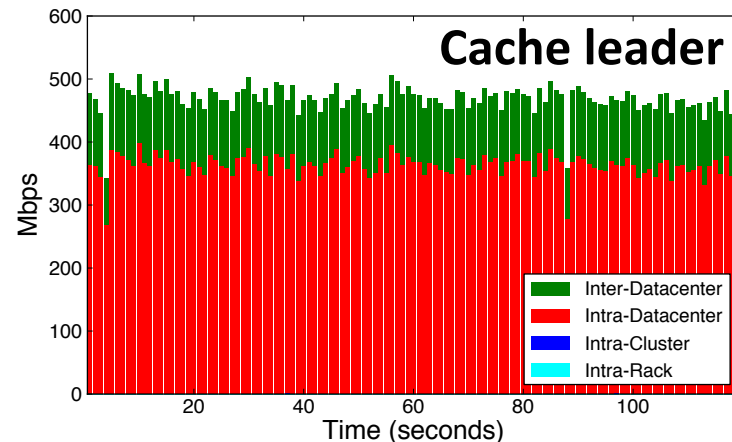
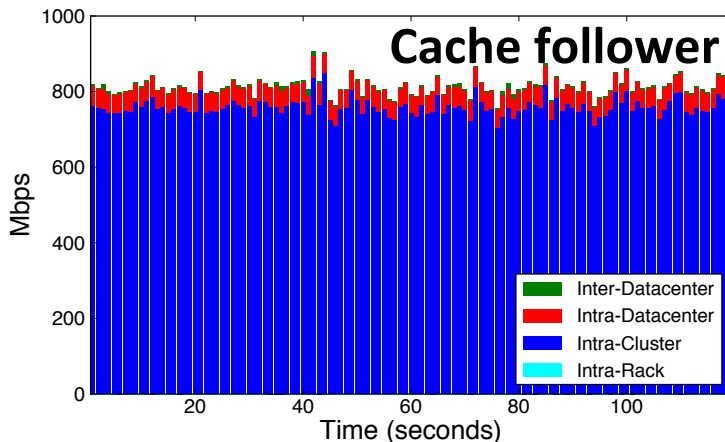
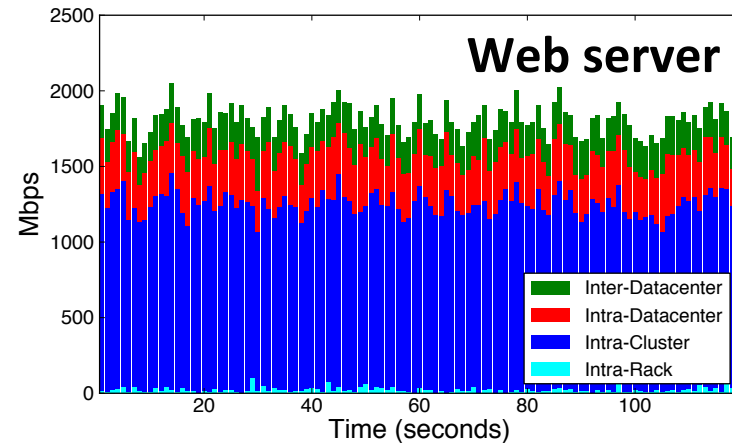
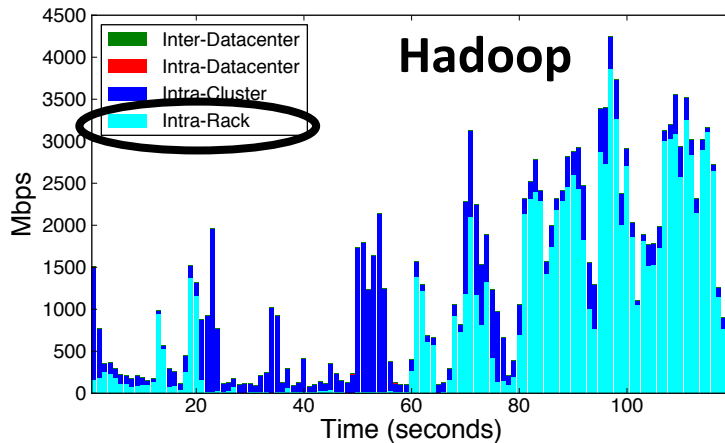
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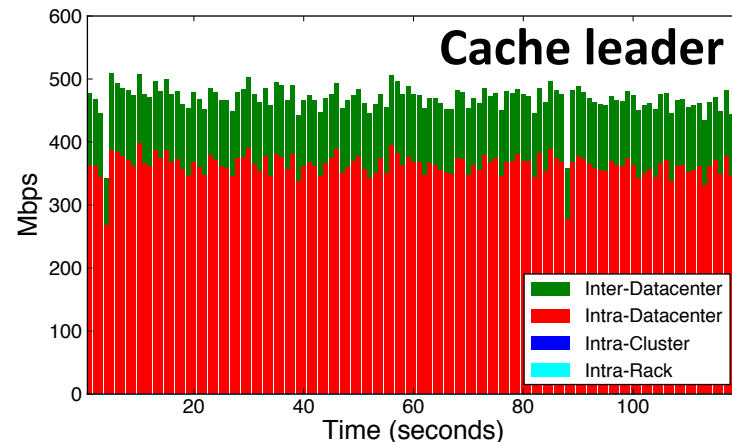
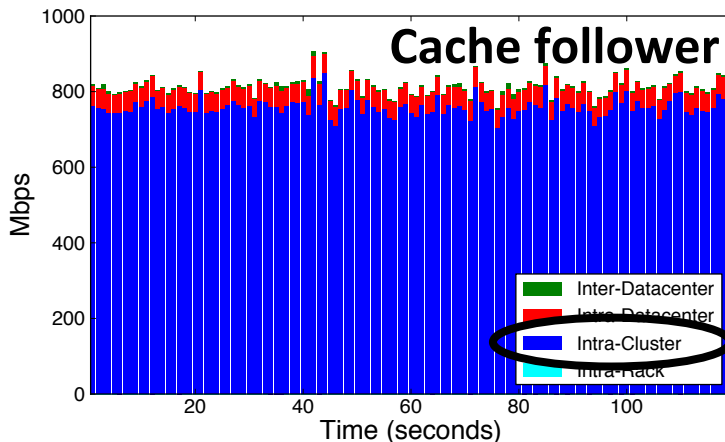
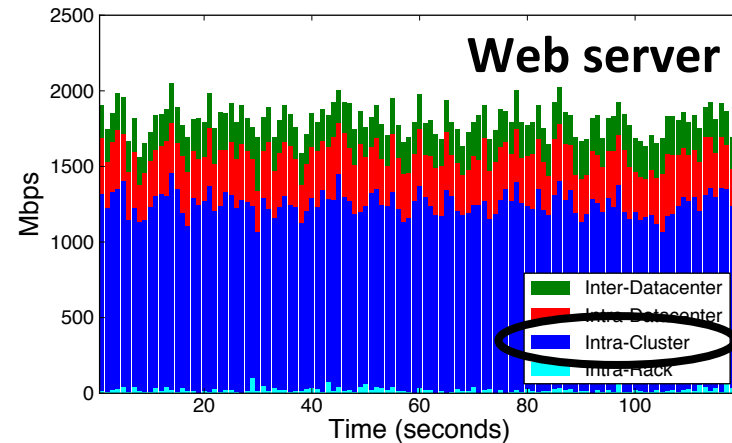
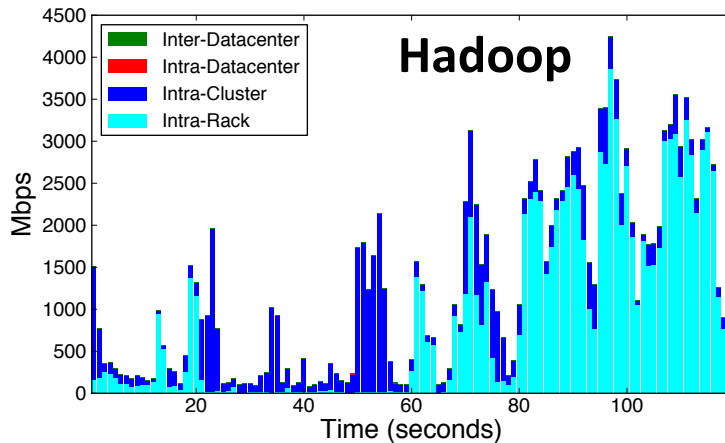
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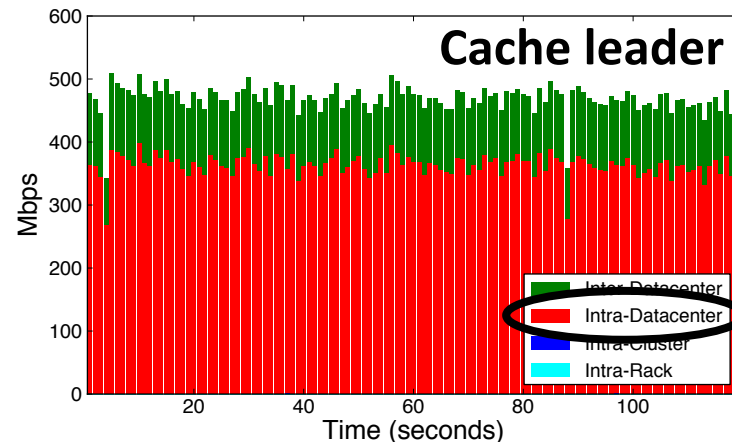
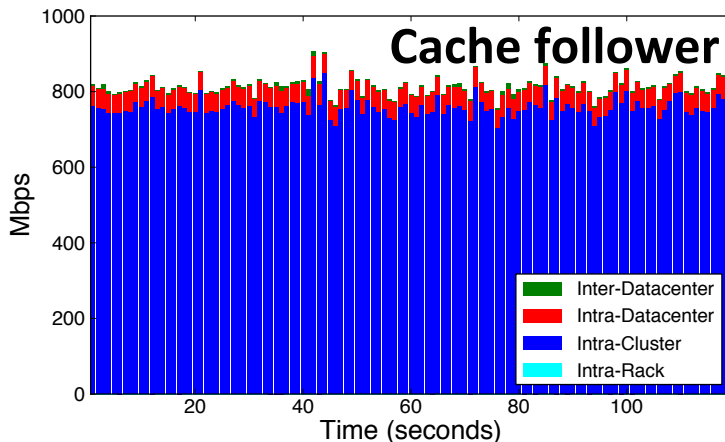
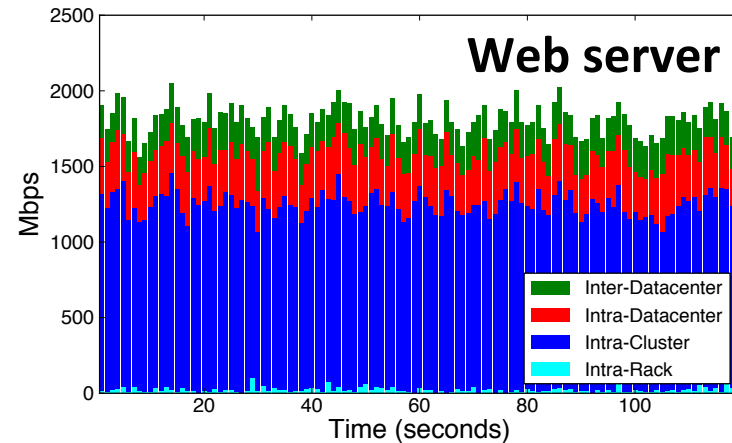
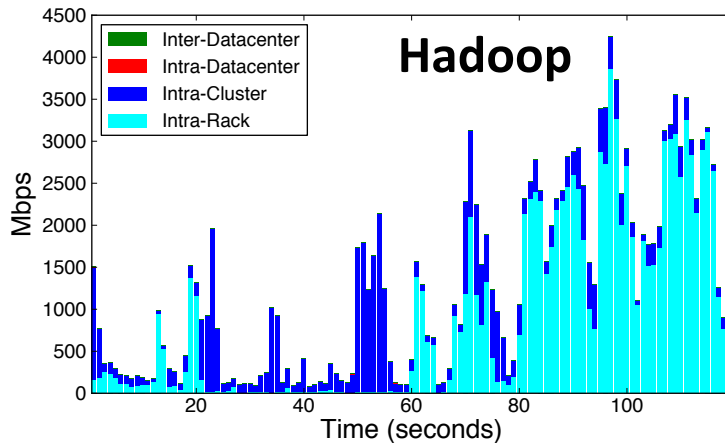
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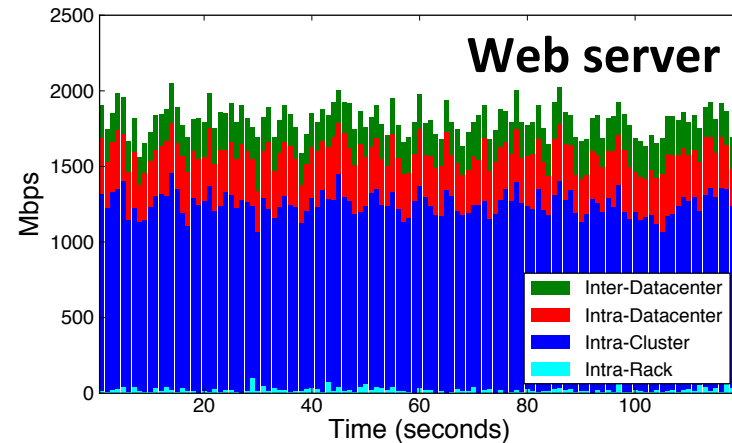
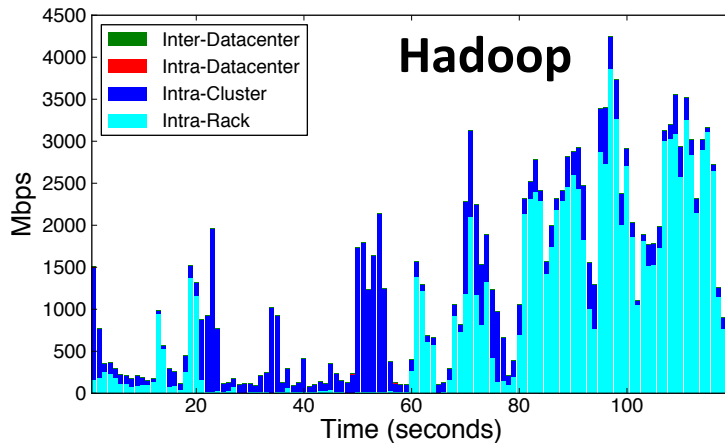
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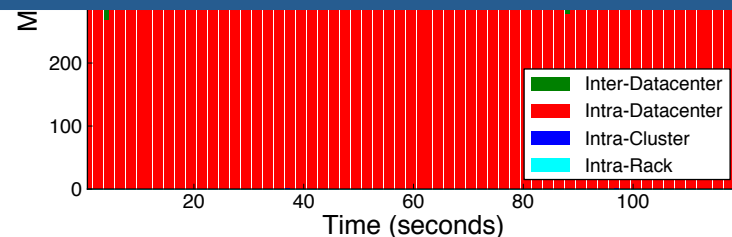
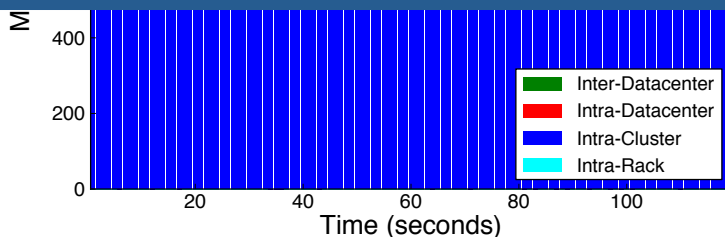


# Network operation is hard

- Service provisioning



- Different clusters have different traffic localities
- Hard to fit into the same network topology



# Network operation is hard

- Maintenance

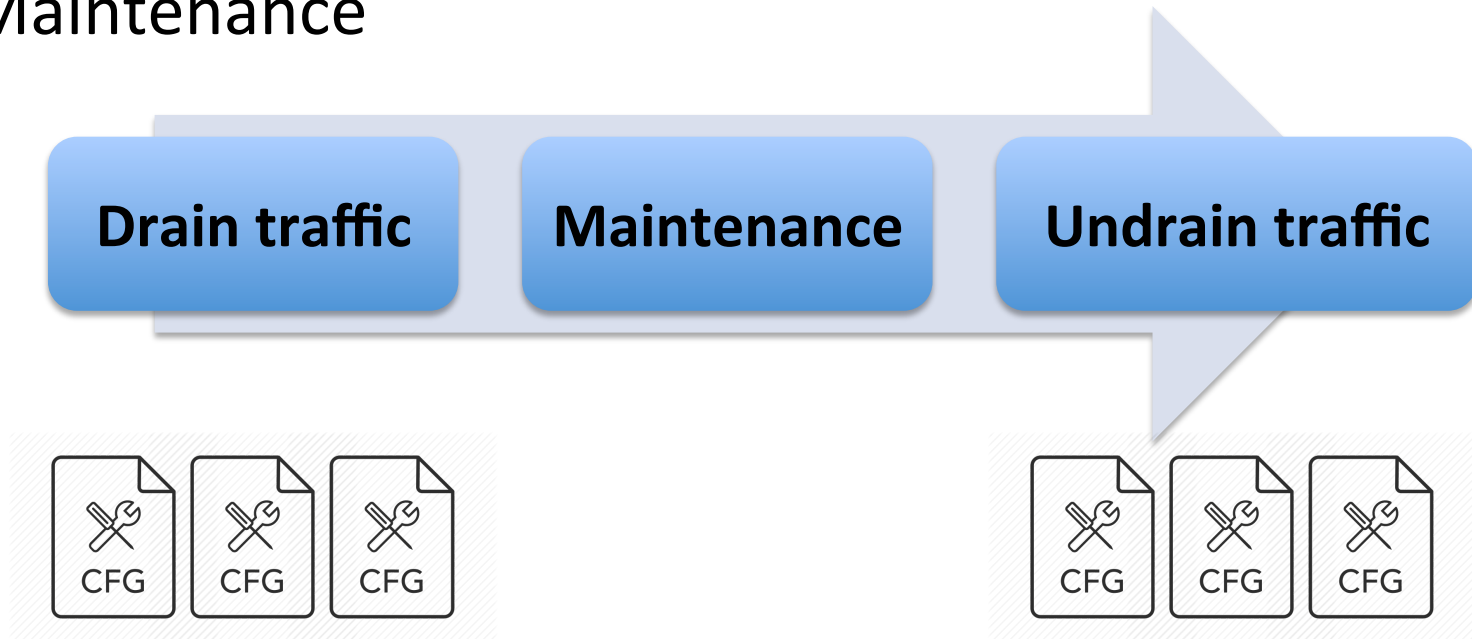
# Network operation is hard

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# Network operation is hard

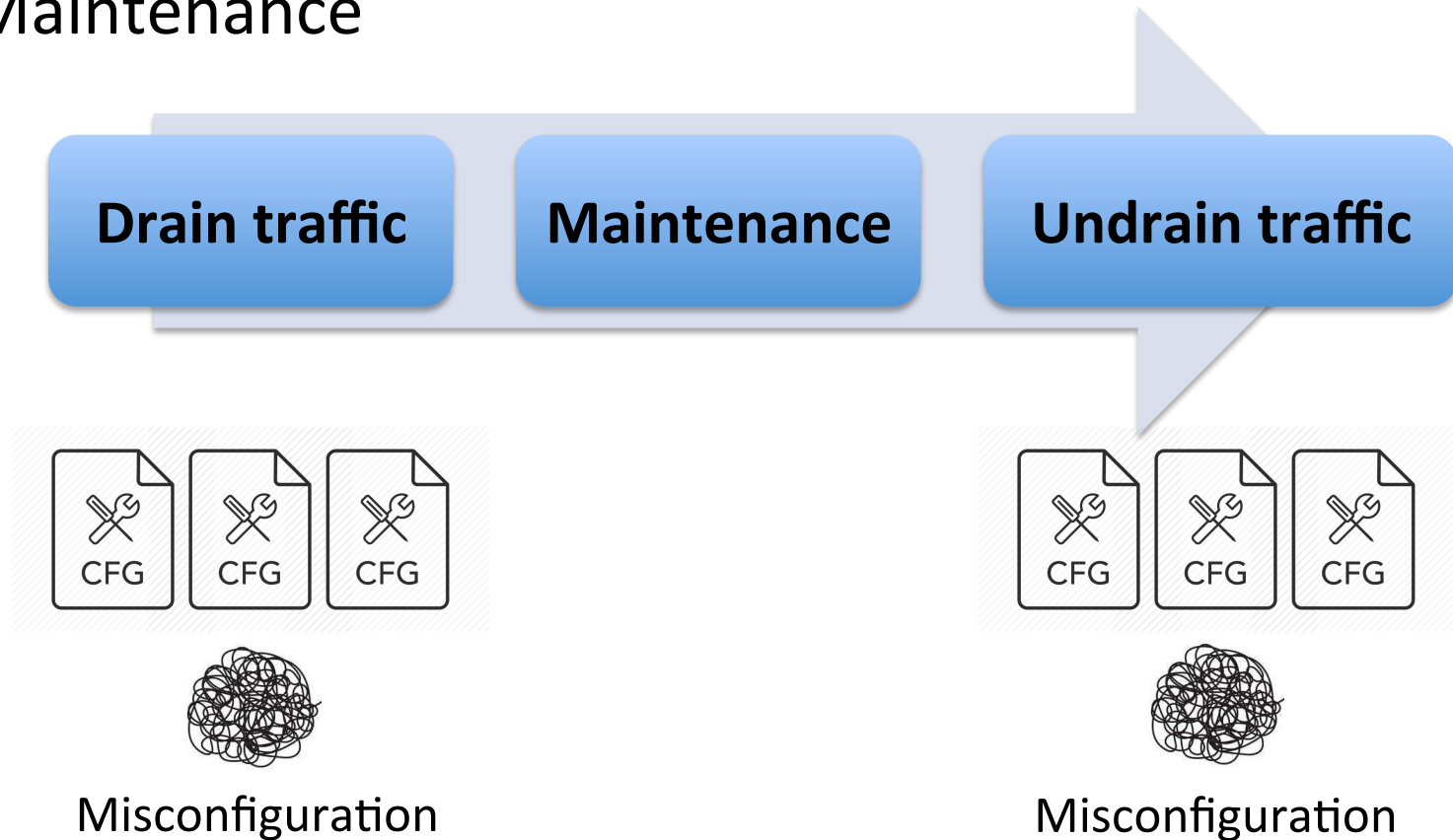
- Maintenance





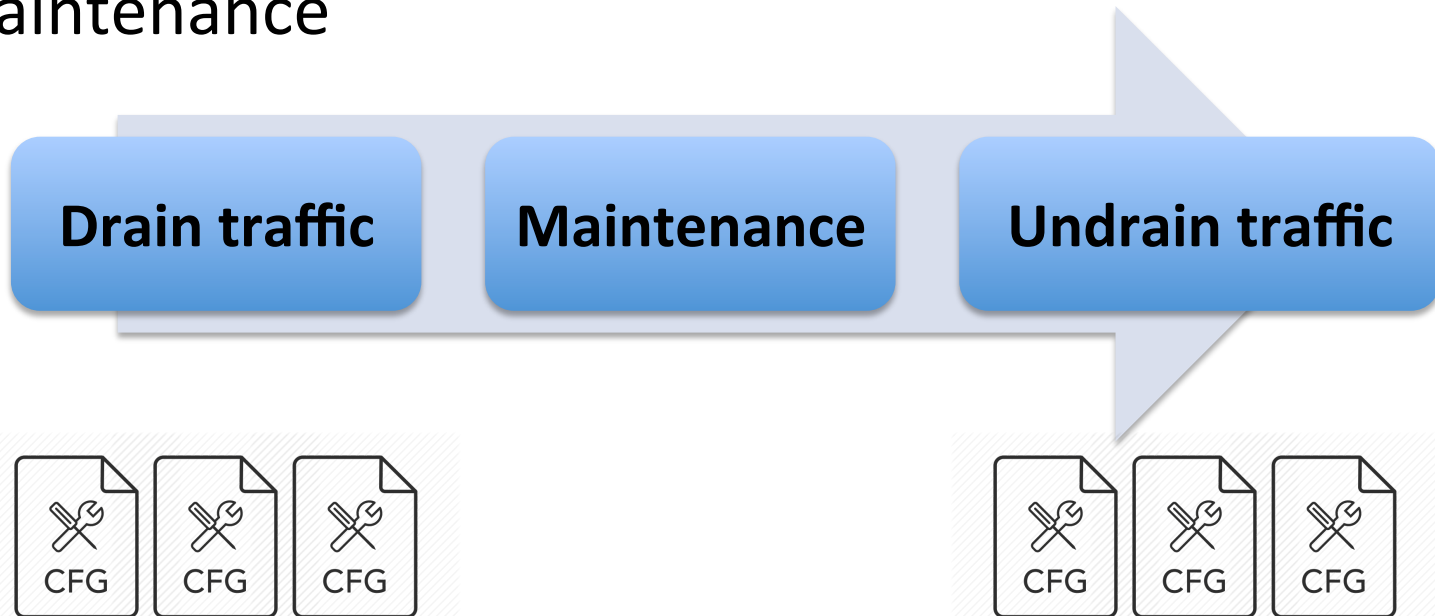
# Network operation is hard

- Maintenance



# Network operation is hard

- Maintenance



- Important source of oncall problems
- Change network states to “fake” loss of connectivity

# Network operation is hard

- Wiring

# Network operation is hard

- Wiring



Facebook FRC Data Center

# Network operation is hard

- Wiring



- Time-consuming and error-prone
- Rewiring inevitable: expansion, device upgrade



Facebook FRC Data Center

Network Operation



Topology Change

# Network Operation



# Topology Change

Operational Problems	Topology Change
Failure	Bypass or fix failures
Service Provisioning	Change into the right topology
Maintenance	Partition the graph
Wiring	Automatic wiring with software

# Network Operation Topology Change

- If fast enough, the change should be hidden from upper layers of the network stack

Operational Problems	Topology Change
Failure	Bypass or fix failures
Service Provisioning	Change into the right topology
Maintenance	Partition the graph
Wiring	Automatic wiring with software



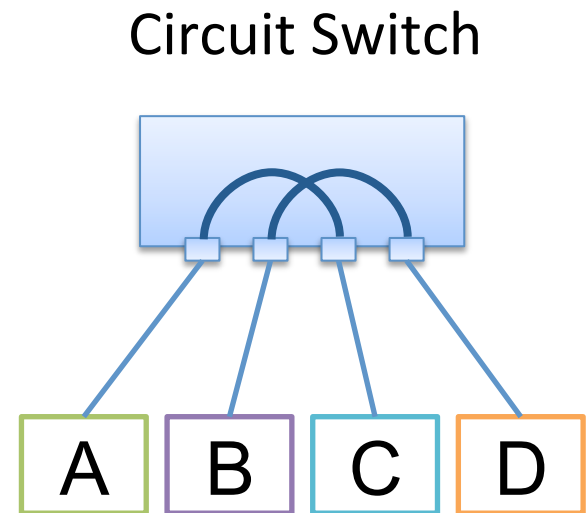
# Physical-Layer Programmability

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- The network topology is configurable

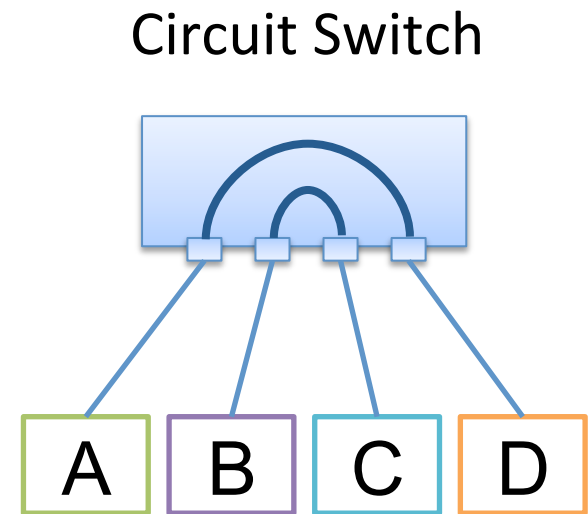
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- The network topology is configurable
- Circuit switching
  - *optical or wireless*
  - *reconfigure internal connections*



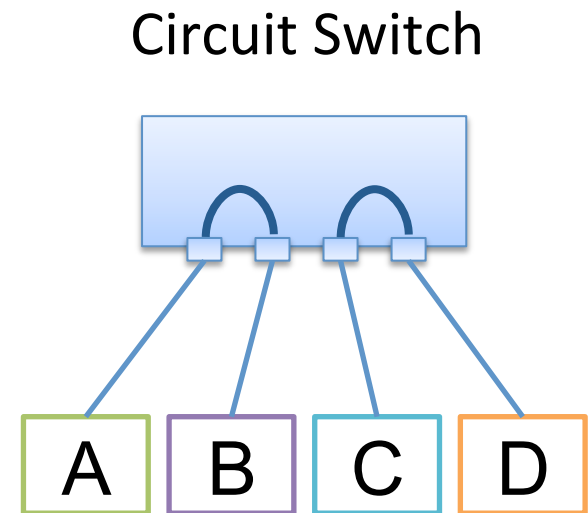
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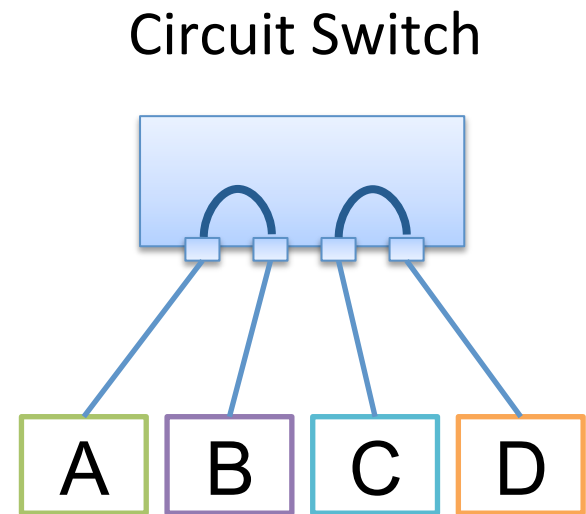
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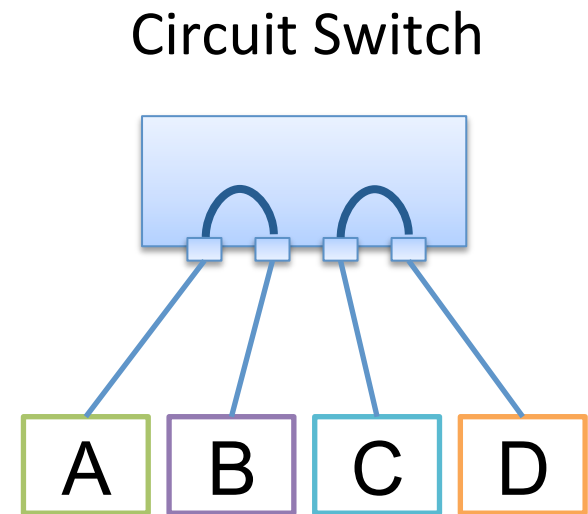
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- Fast topology change
  - *ms or us*



# Physical-Layer Programmability

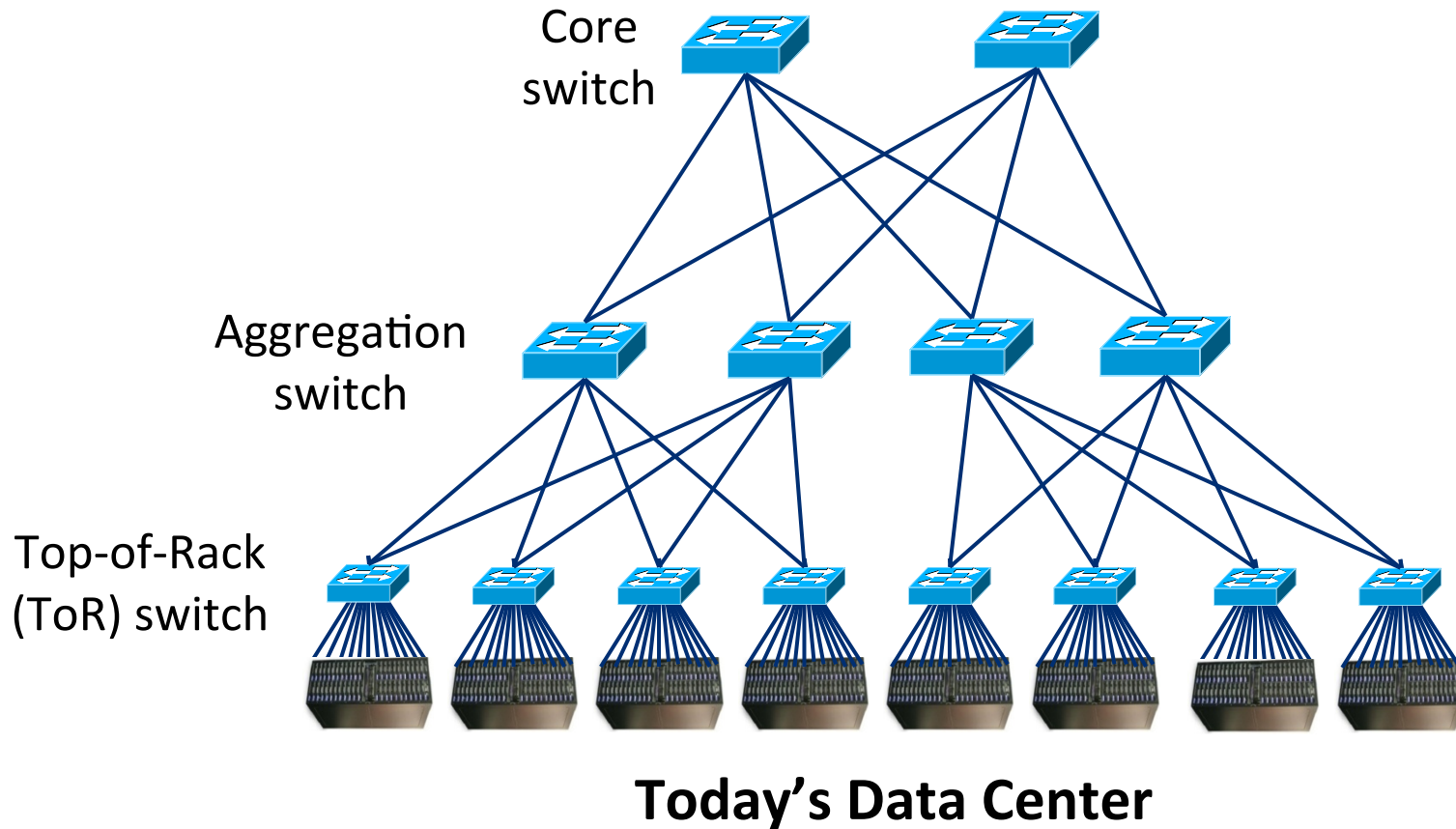
- The network topology is configurable
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- Fast topology change
  - *ms or us*
- Controlled by software



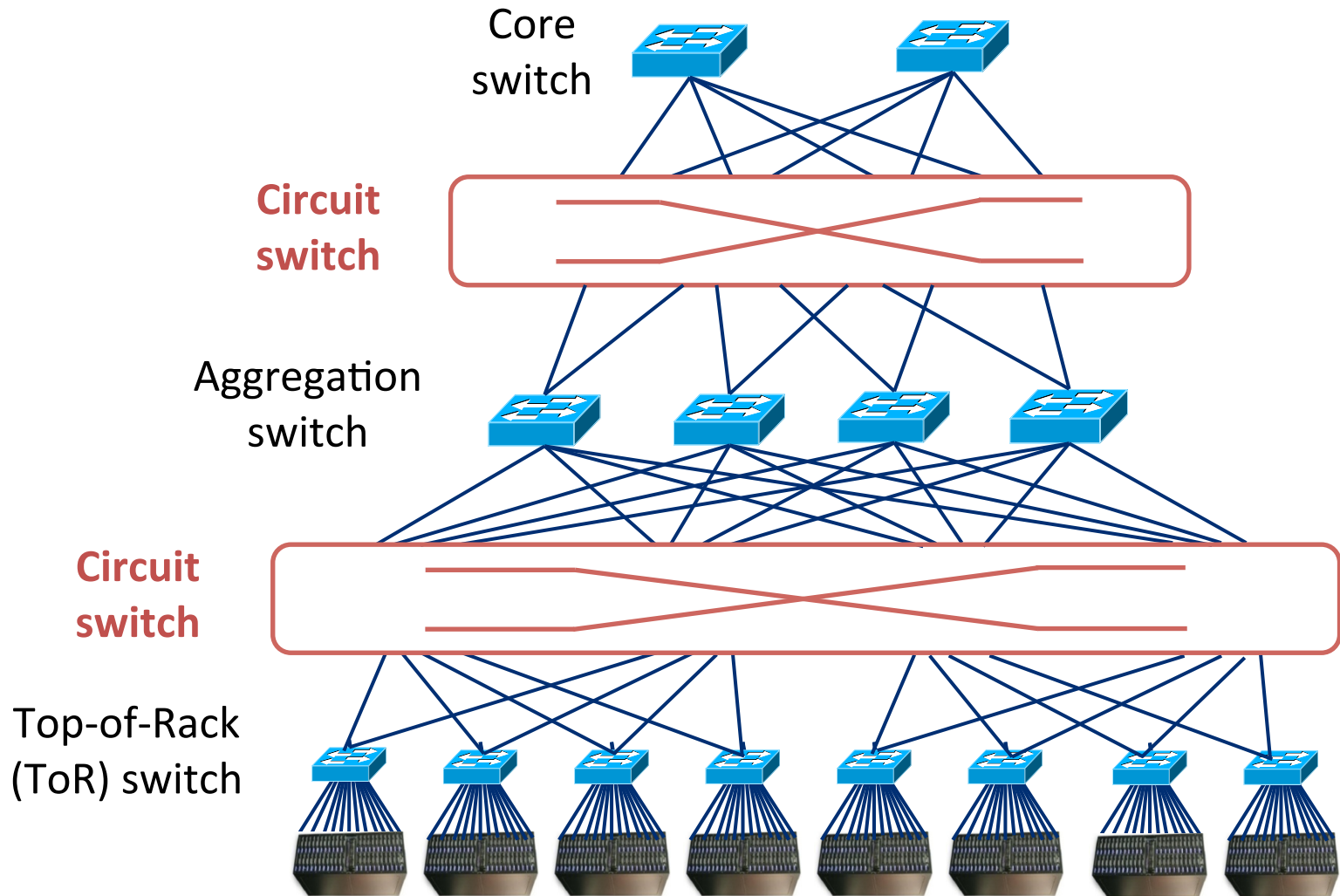
# High-Level Idea: New Network Model



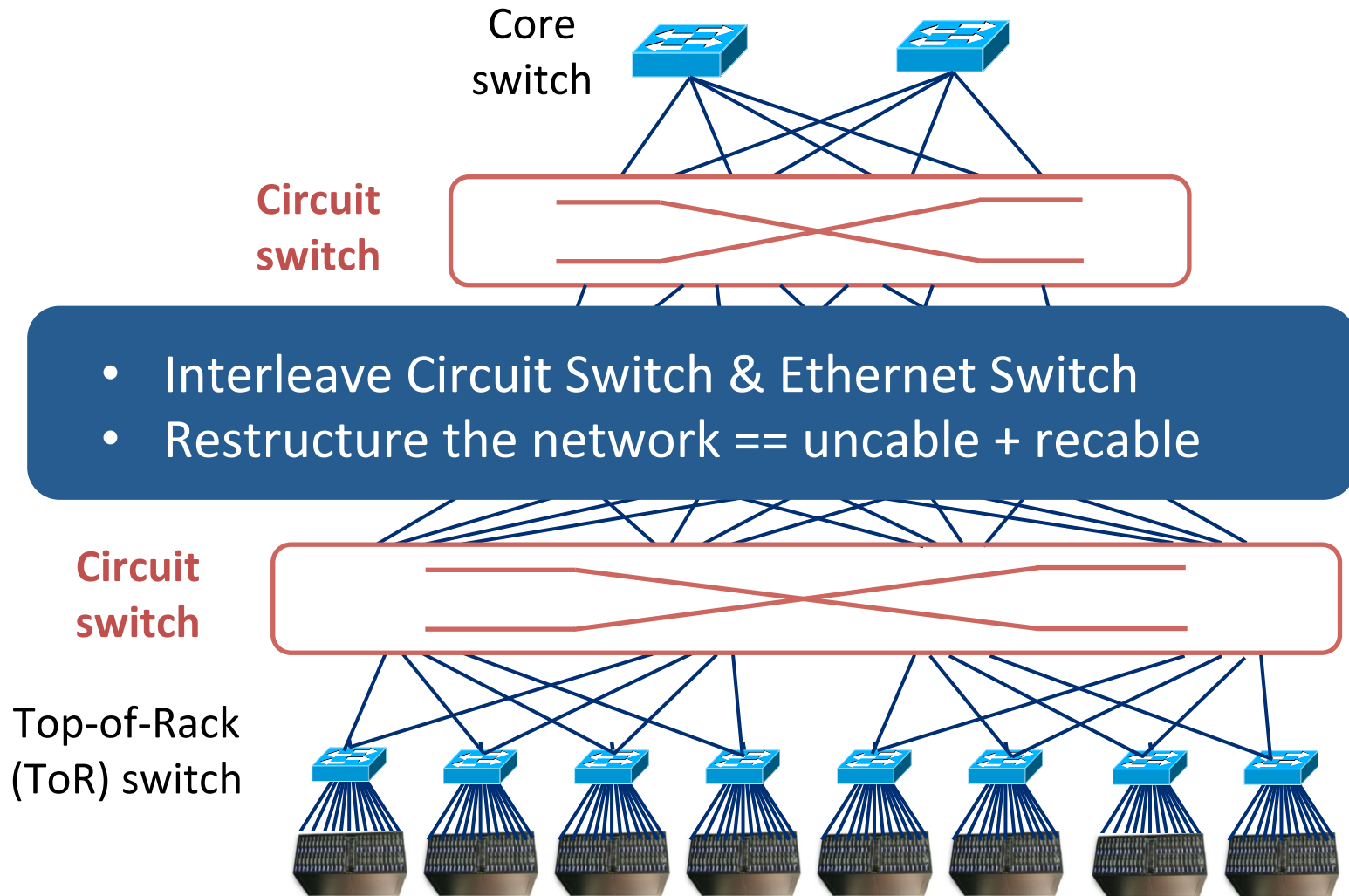
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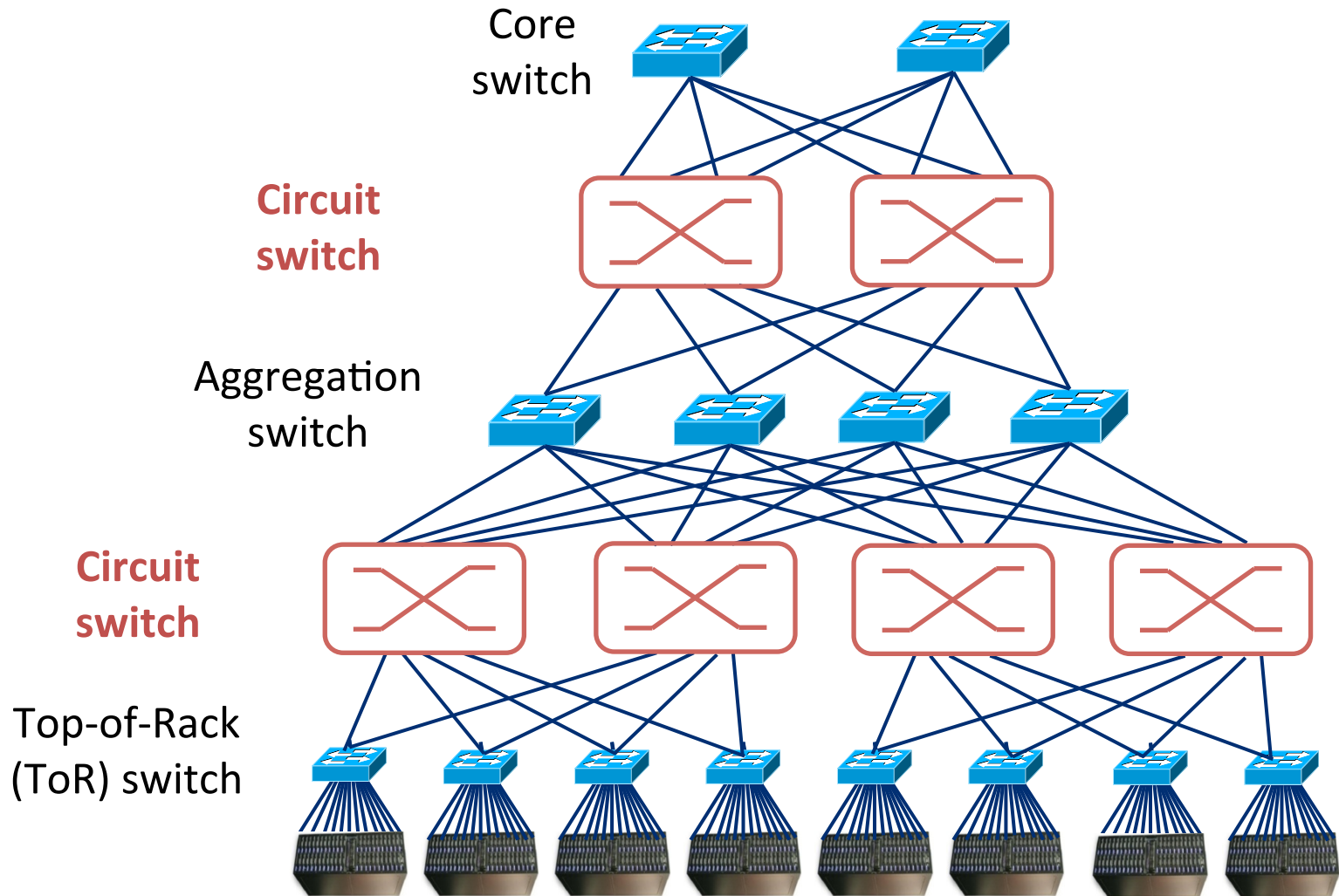
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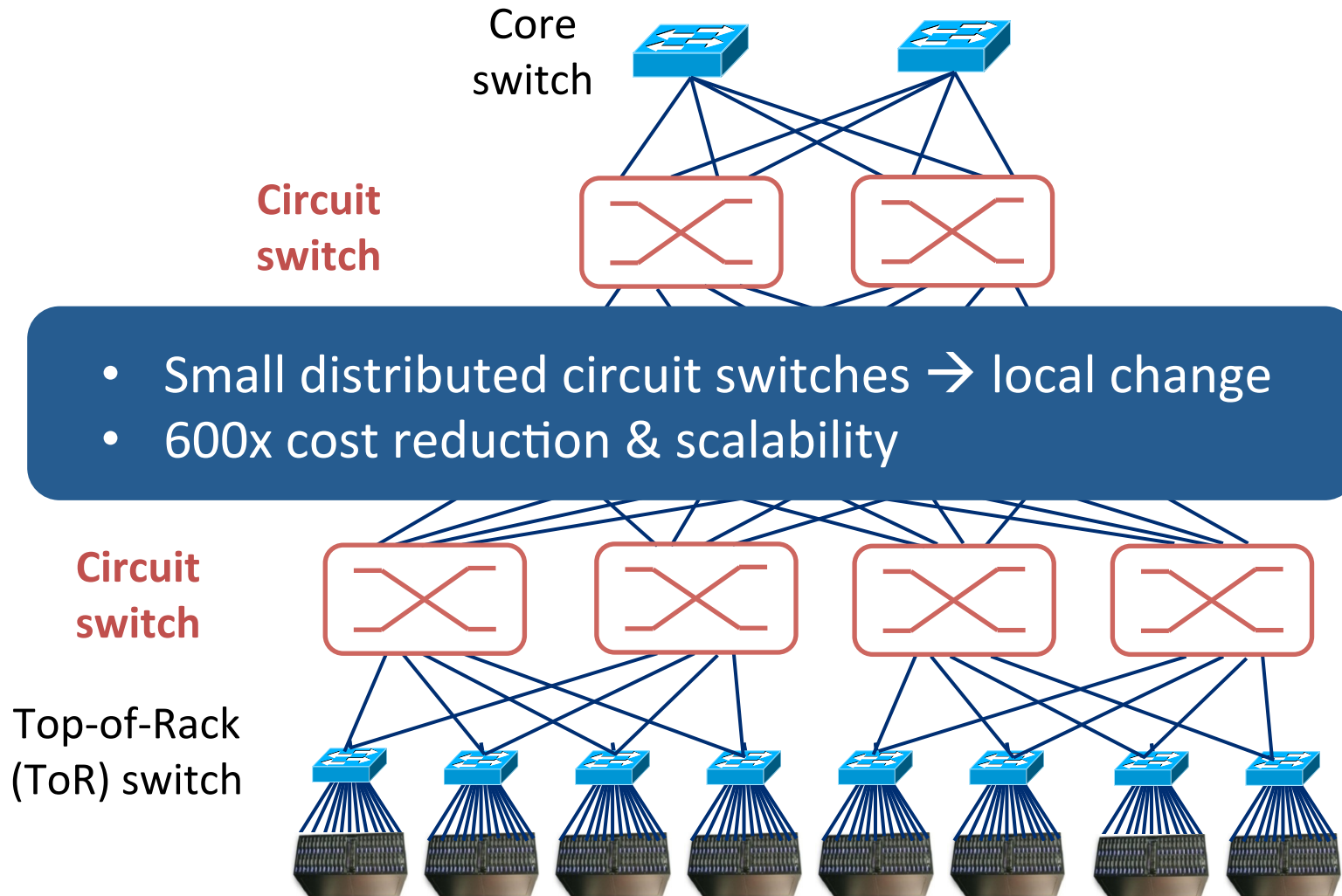
# High-Level Idea: New Network Model



# High-Level Idea: New Network Model



# High-Level Idea: New Network Model



# Outline

## ShareBackup

*[HotNets'17,  
SIGCOMM'18]*

Failure  
Recovery

## Flat-tree

*[HotNets'16,  
SIGCOMM'17]*

Service  
Provisioning

## OmniSwitch

*[HotCloud'15]*

Wiring &  
Maintenance

## Lighthouse

*(In submission)*

Physical-Layer Programmability in WAN

# Outline

## ShareBackup

*[HotNets'17,  
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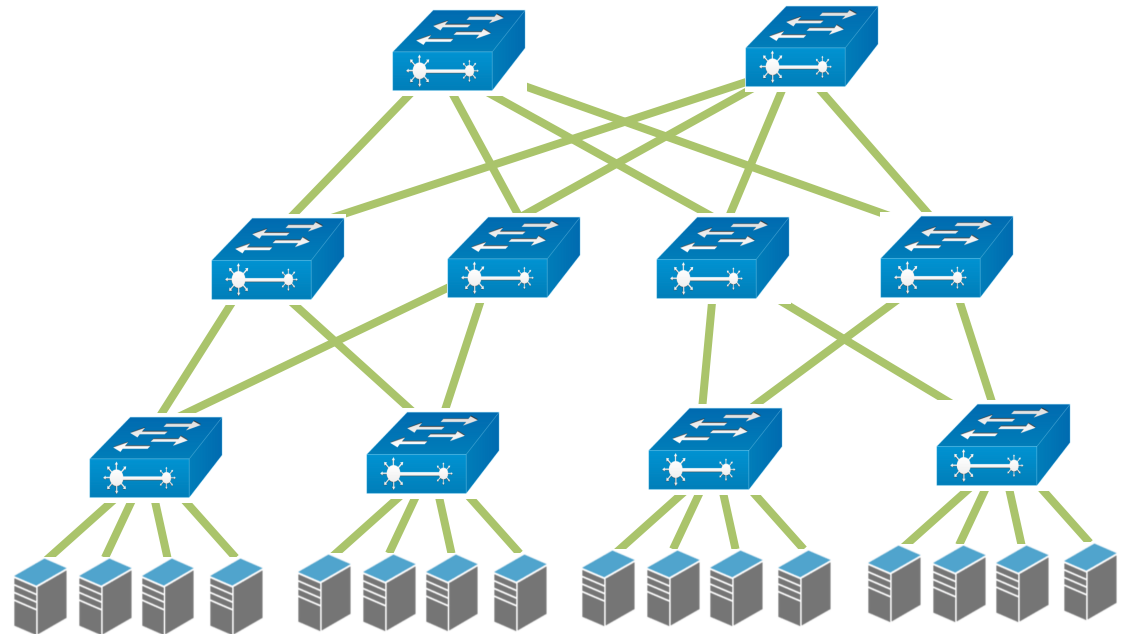
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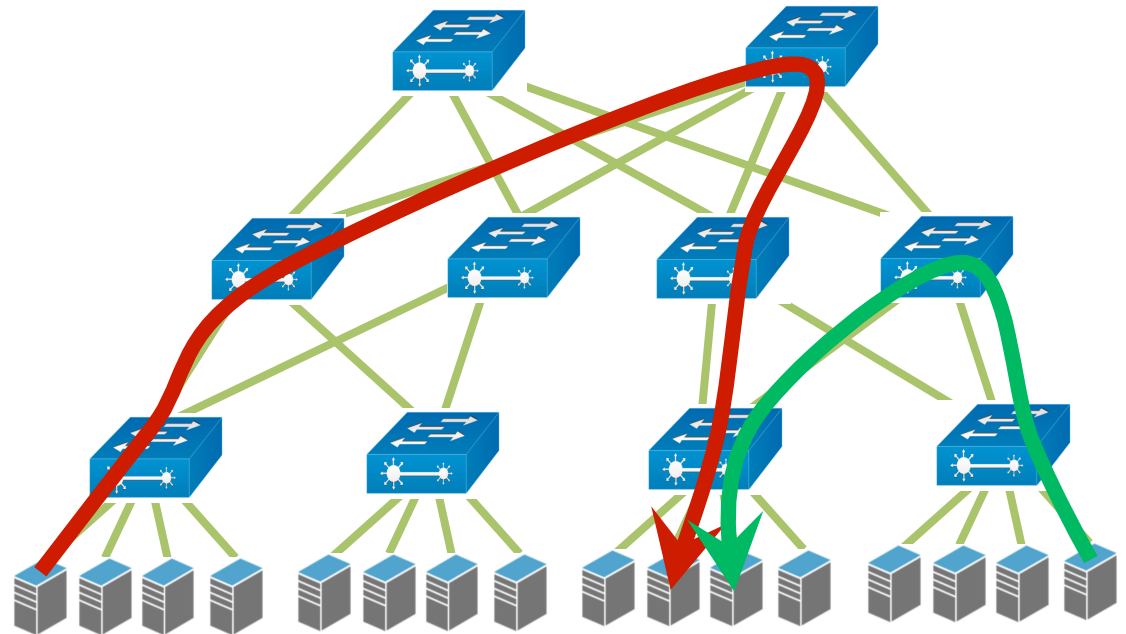
Physical-Layer Programmability in WAN

# Default Failure Recovery: Rerouting

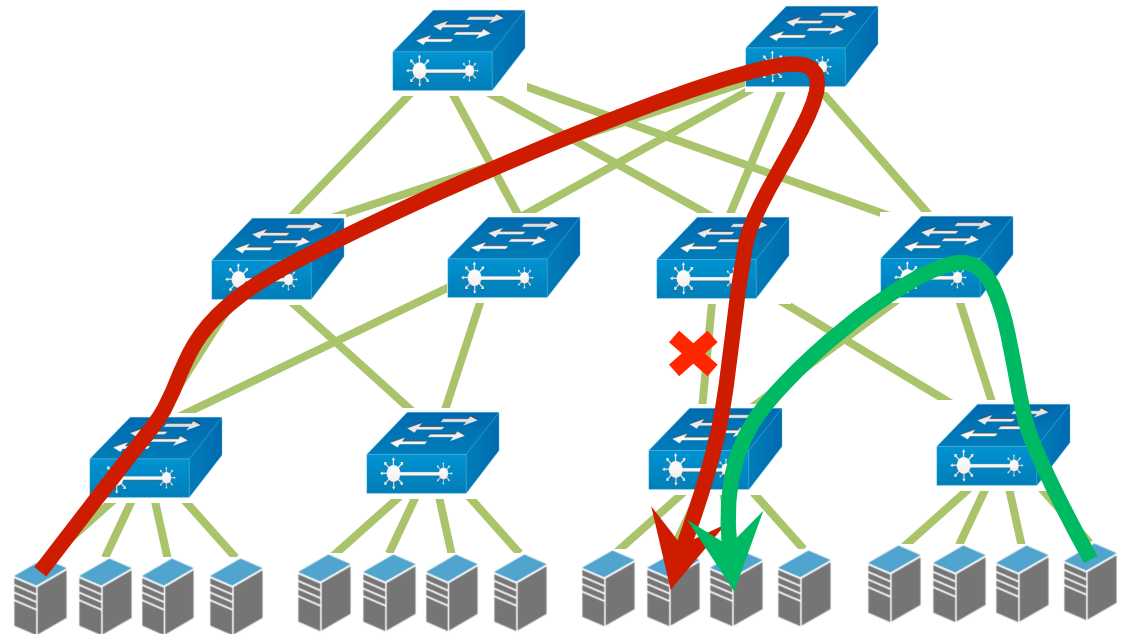




# Default Failure Recovery: Rerouting

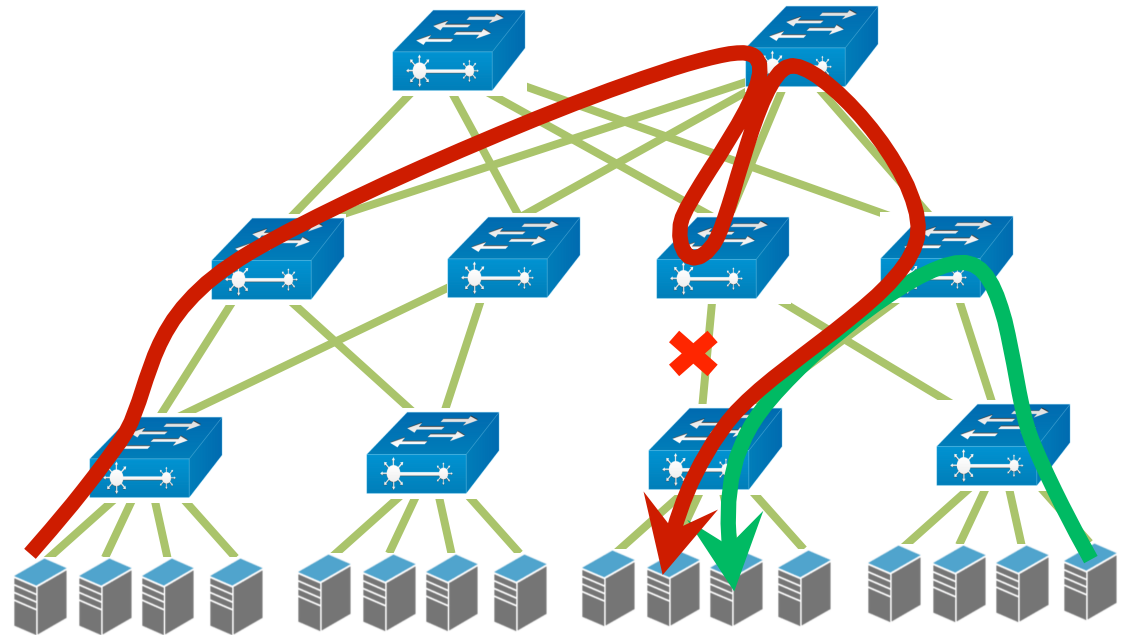


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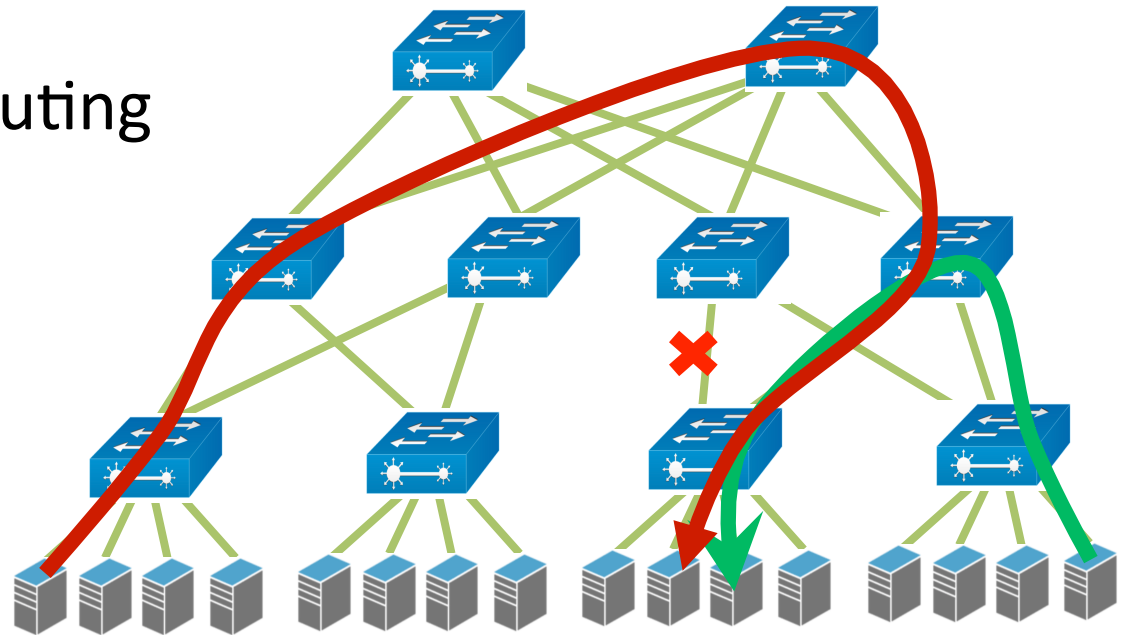
# Default Failure Recovery: Rerouting

- Fast local rerouting
  - *Inflated path length*



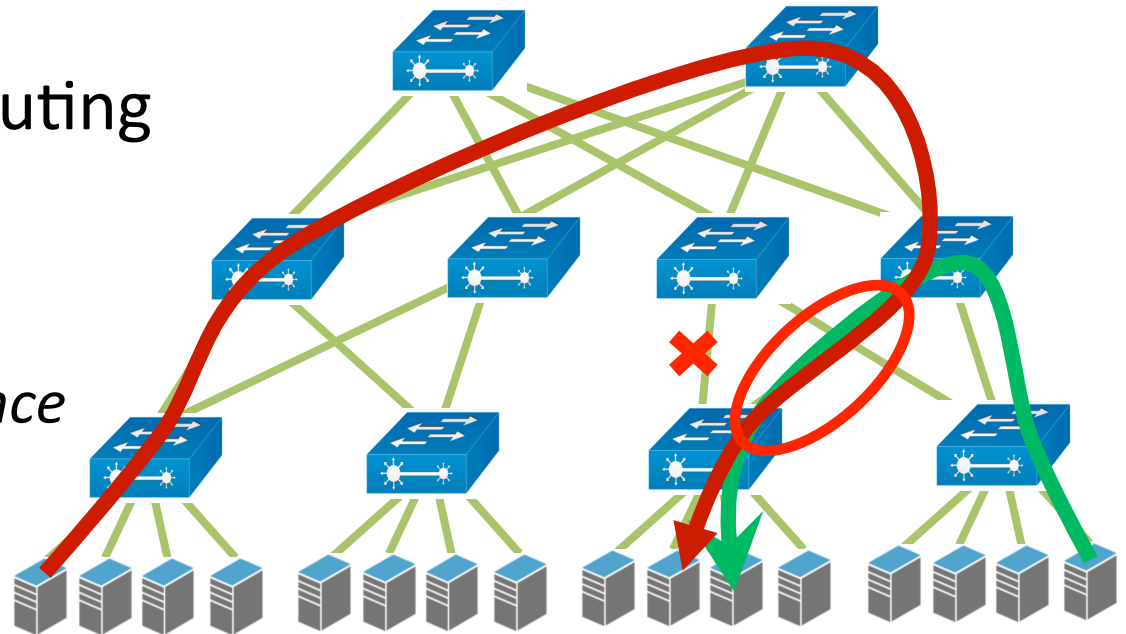
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- Fast local rerouting
  - *Inflated path length*
- Global optimal rerouting
  - *High latency*



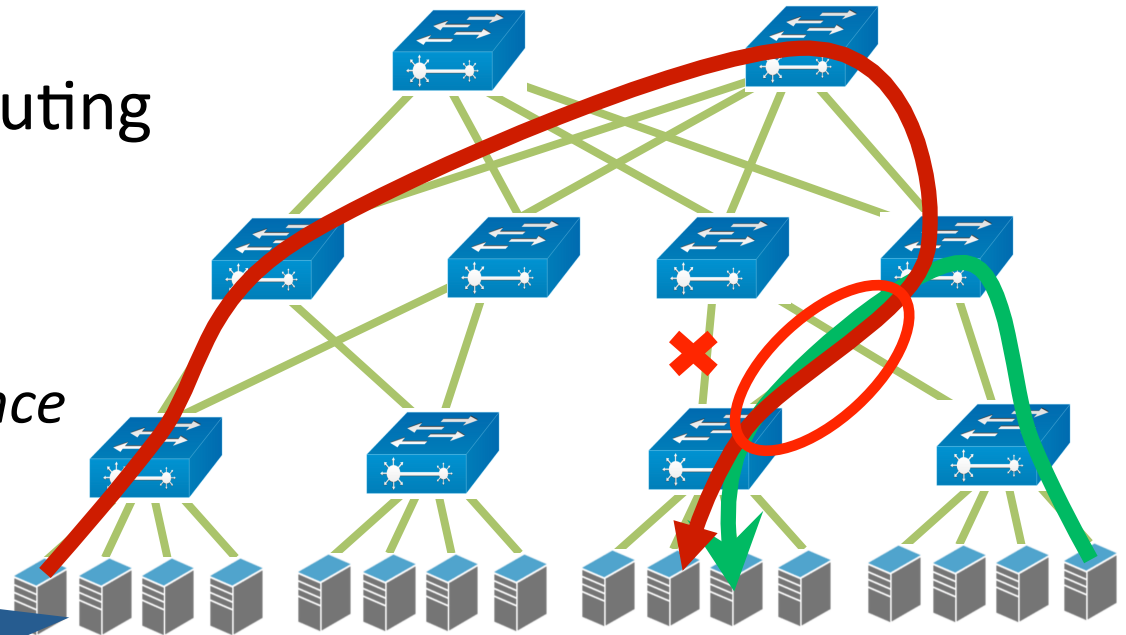
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- Impact other flows
  - *Degraded performance*



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- Fast local rerouting
  - *Inflated path length*
- Global optimal rerouting
  - *High latency*
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  - *Degraded performance*



**Restore bandwidth  
immediately!**

# Shareable Backup

No backup

1:1 backup





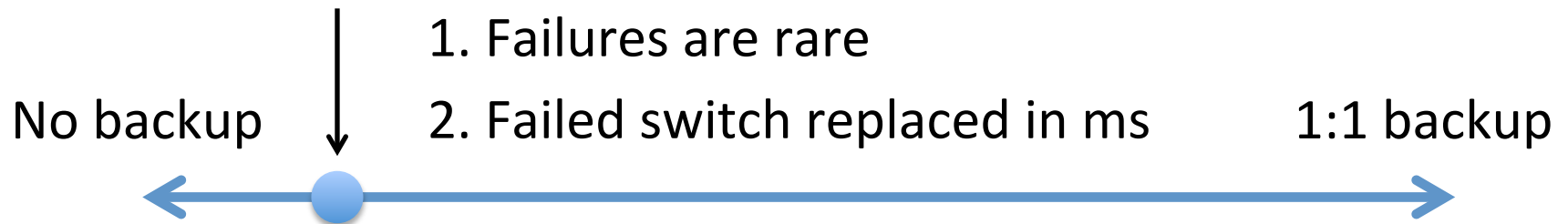


# Shareable Backup



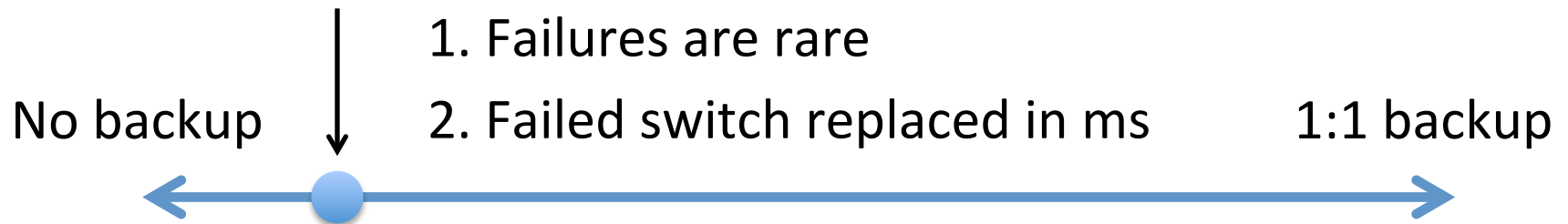
Circuit Switches → a pool of backup switches

# Shareable Backup



Circuit Switches → a pool of backup switches

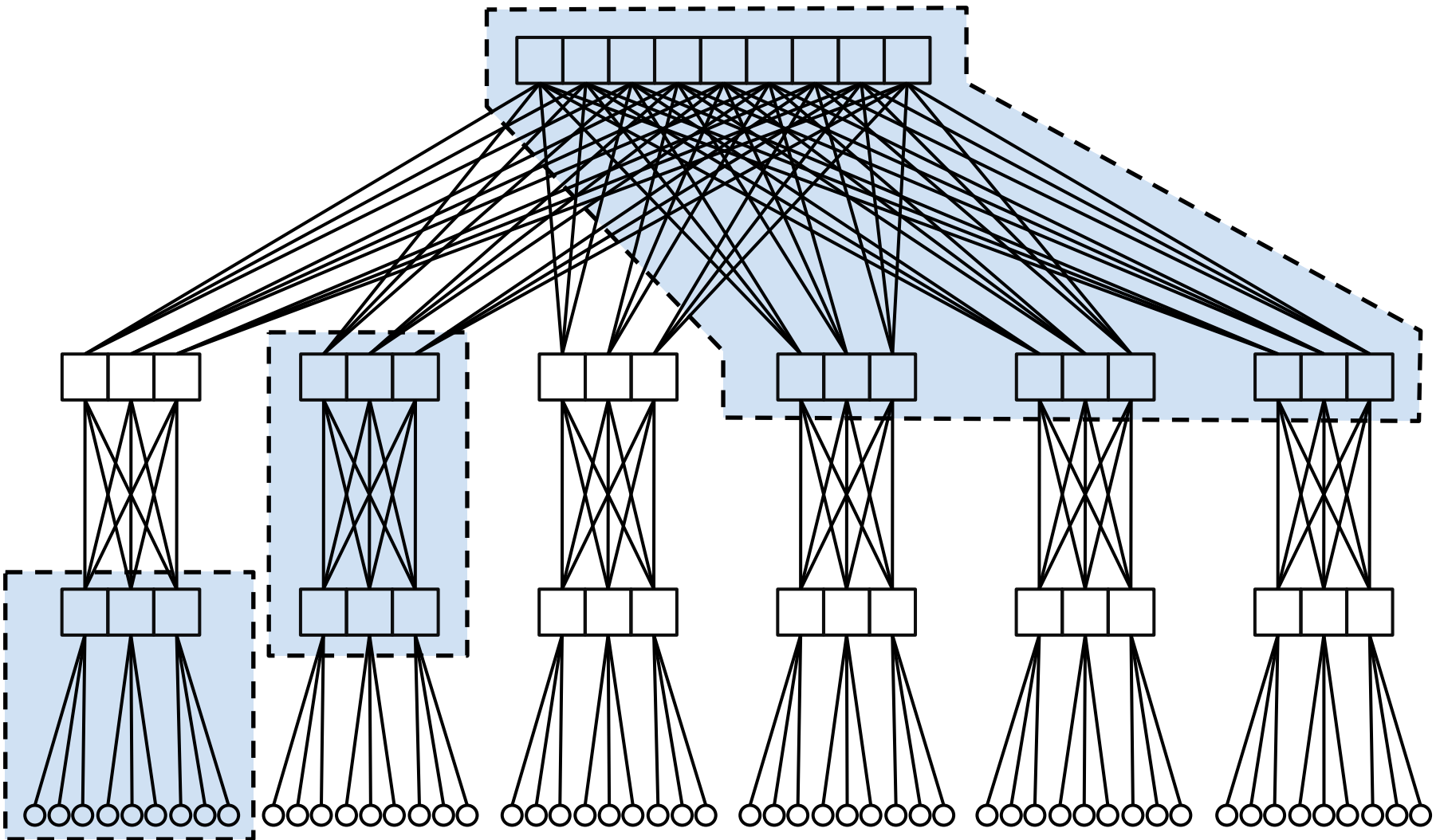
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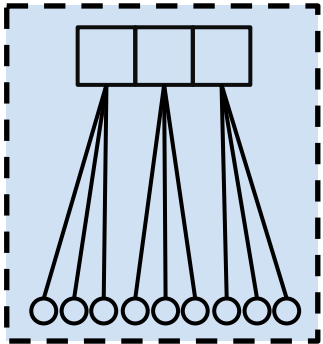
Circuit Switches → a pool of backup switches

**ShareBackup: Data Center with Shareable Backup**

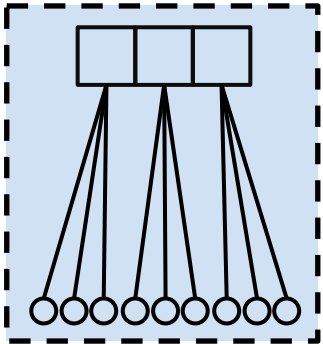
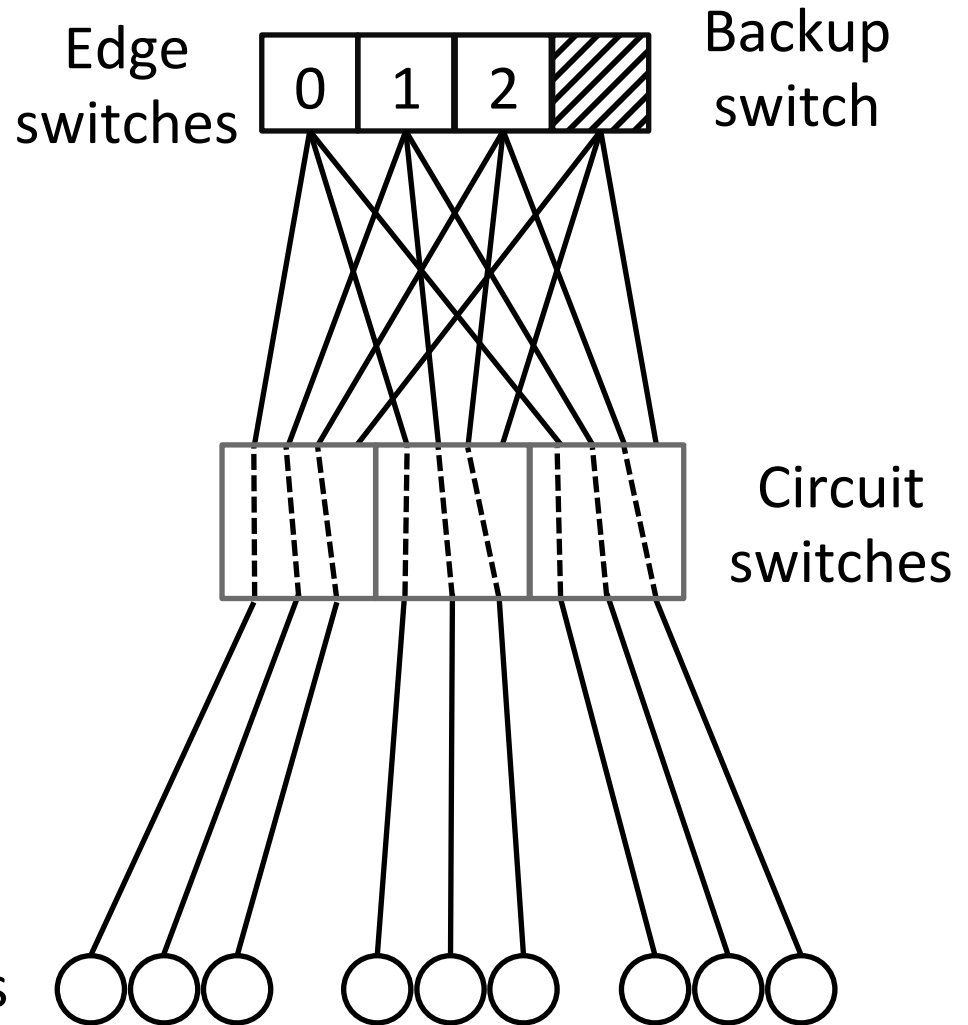
# Architecture Design



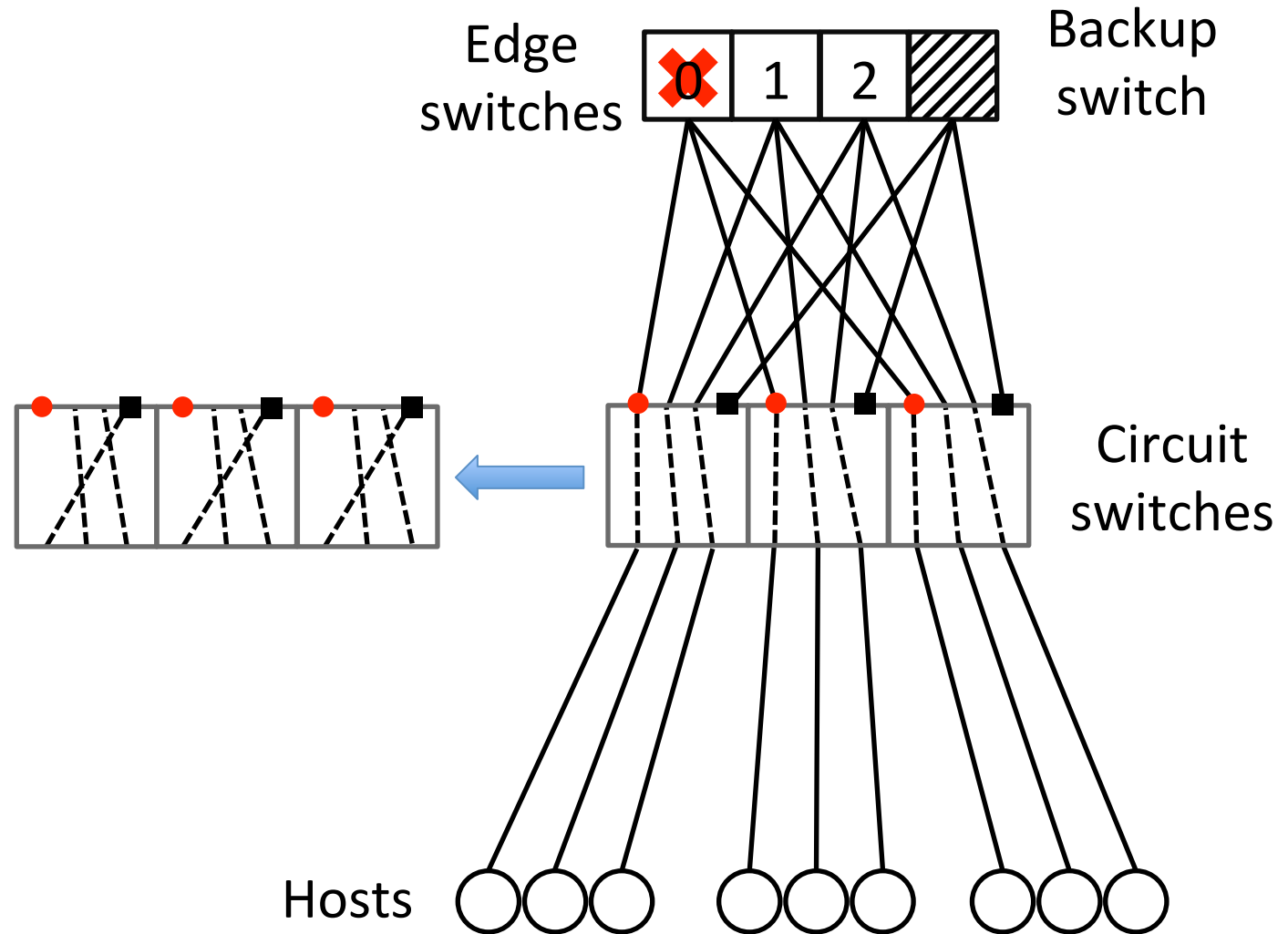
# Architecture Design



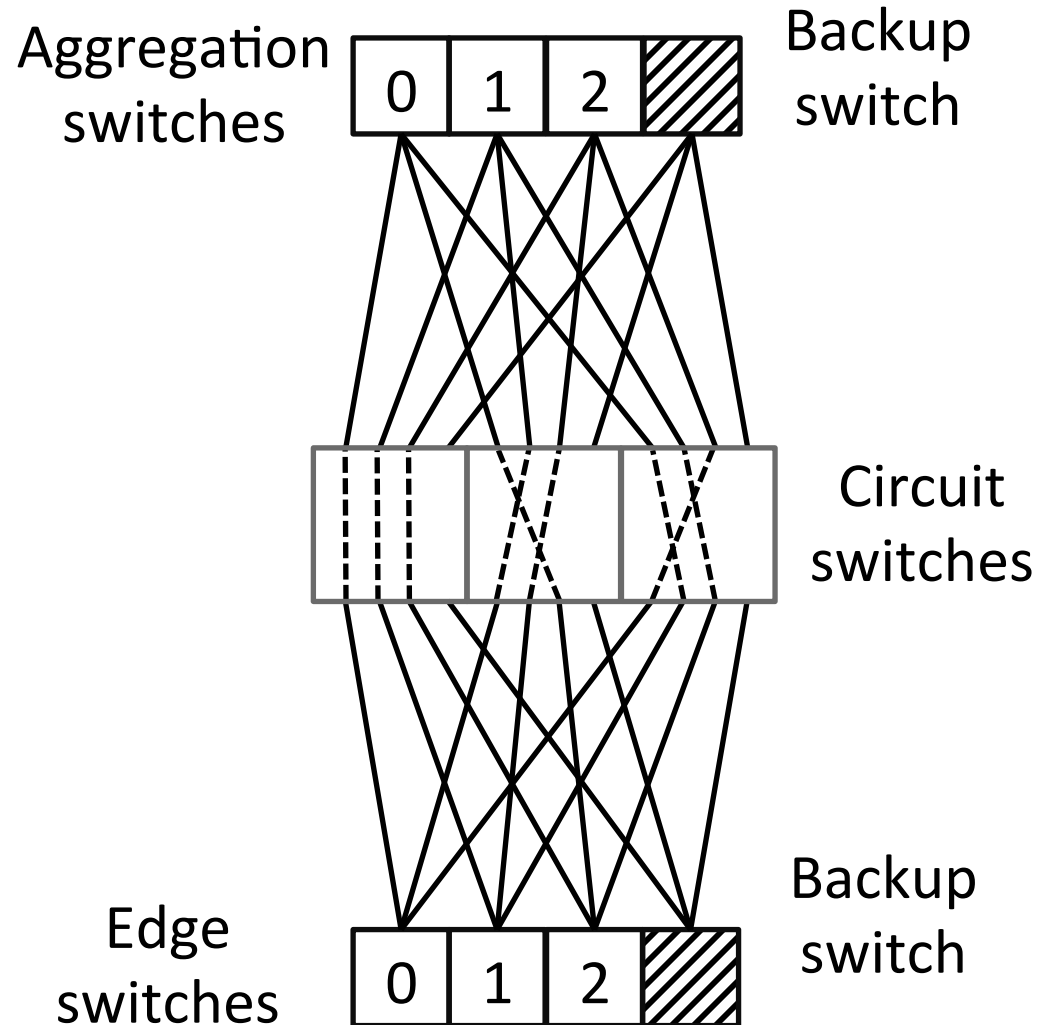
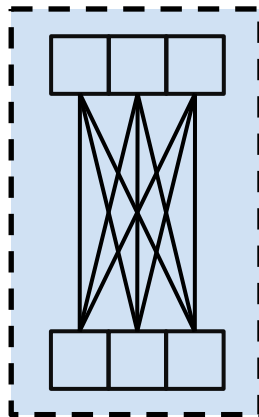
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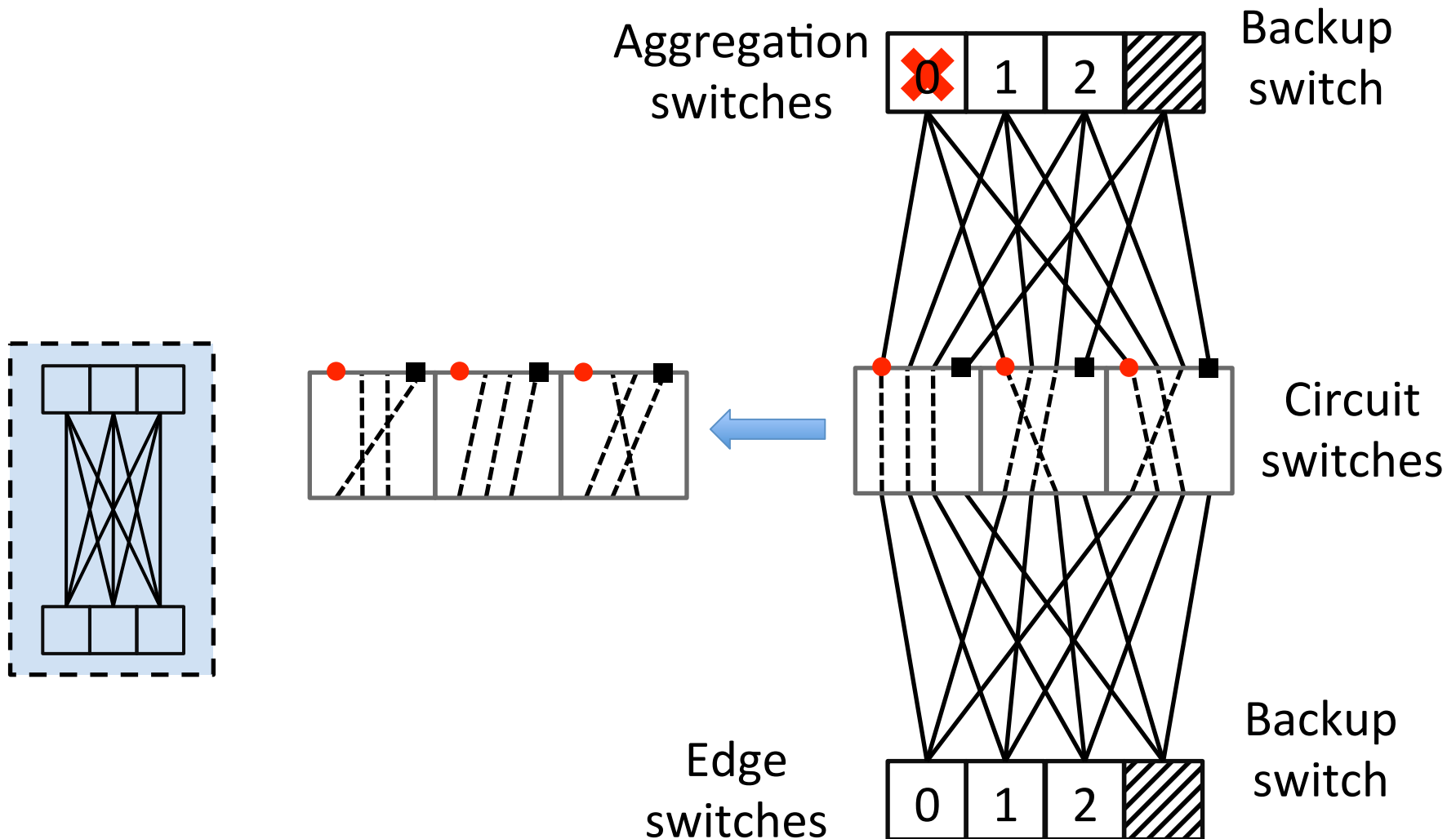


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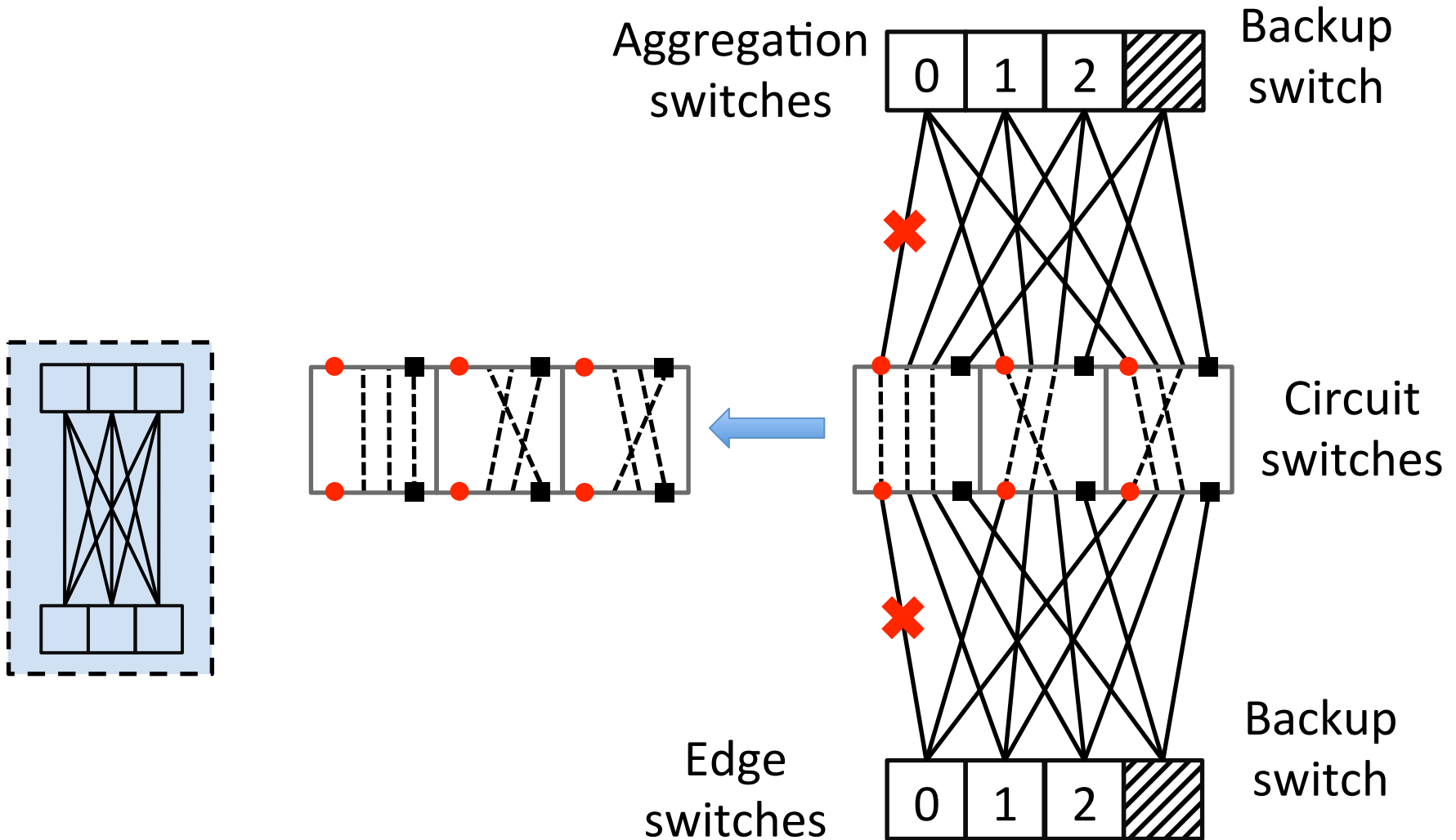




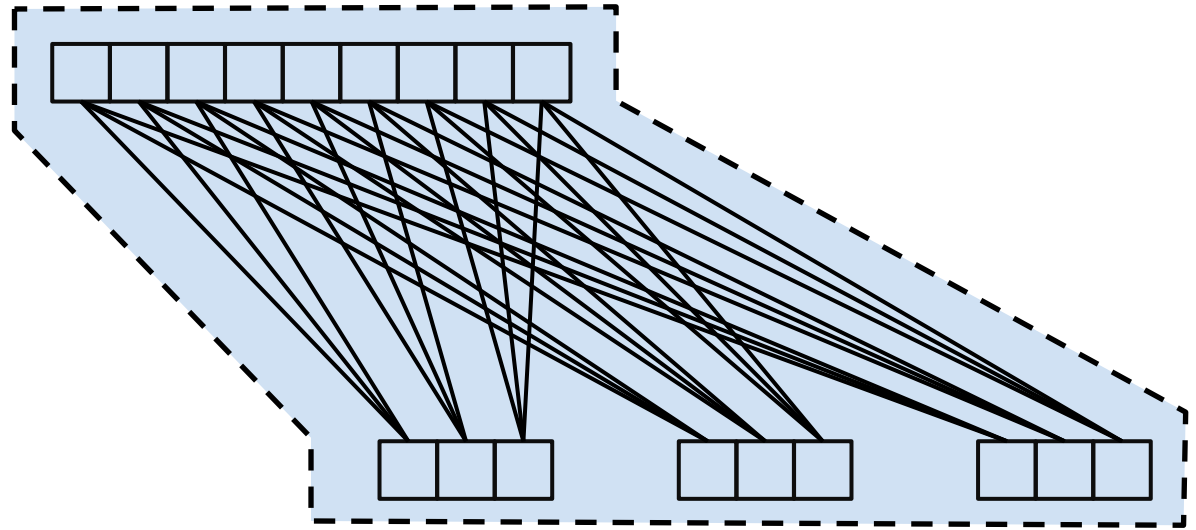
# Architecture Design



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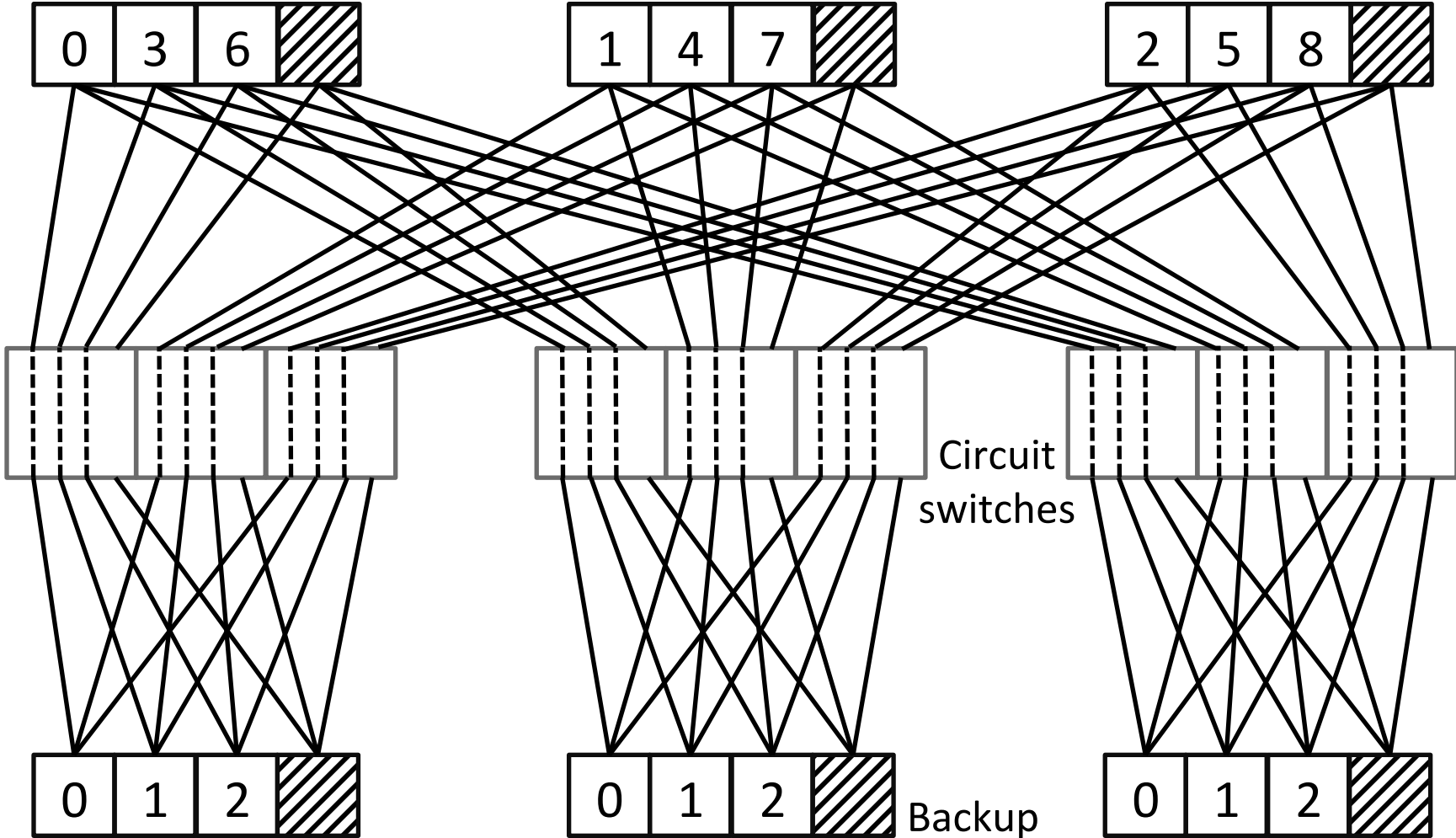


# Architecture Design



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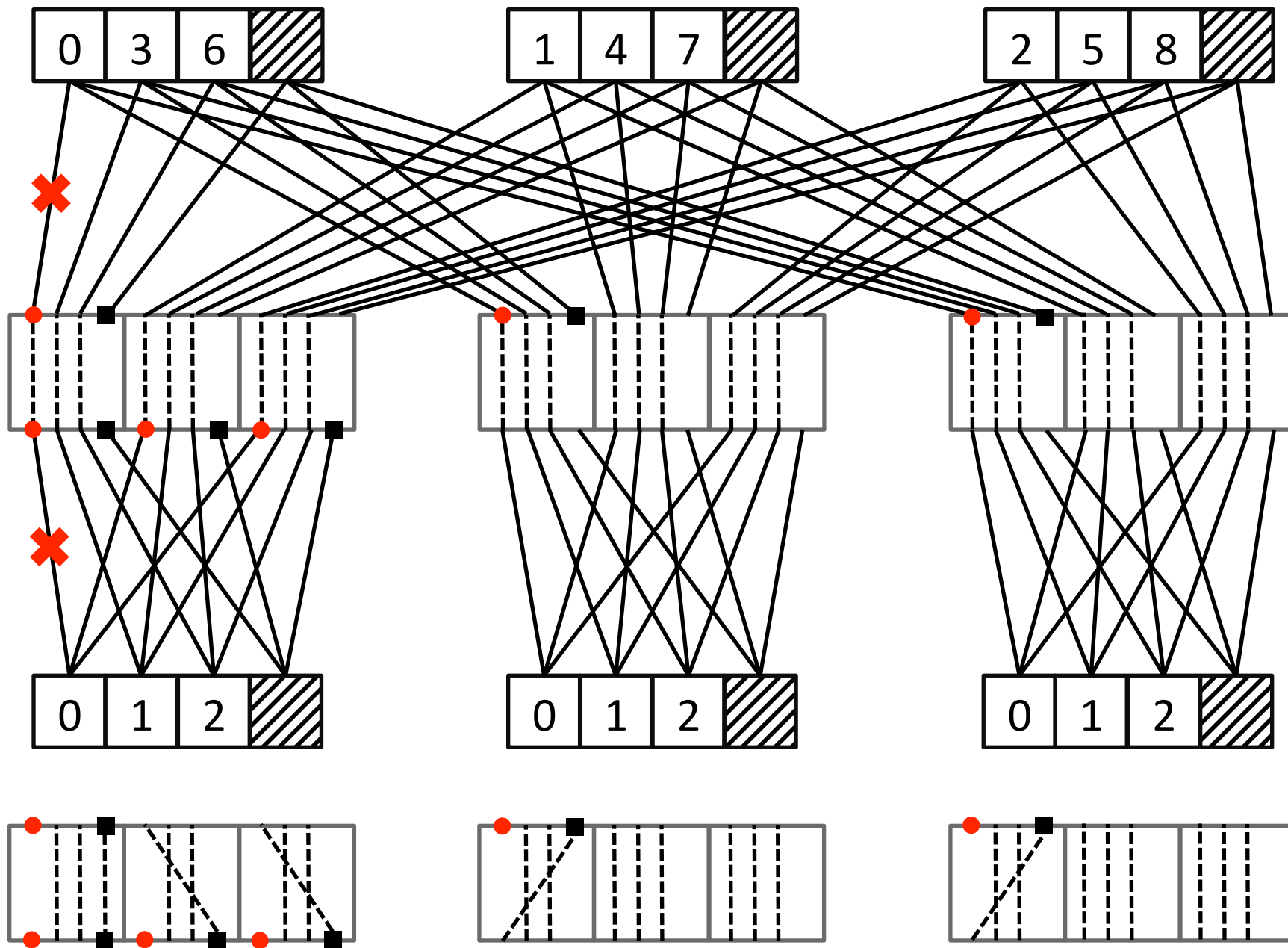
Core switches



Circuit switches

Backup switch

Aggregation switches



# Challenge: Fast Failure Recovery

# Challenge: Fast Failure Recovery

- Distributed controllers
  - *Configure circuit switches quickly*

# Challenge: Fast Failure Recovery

- Distributed controllers
  - *Configure circuit switches quickly*
- Live impersonation
  - *Backup switch as hot standby*



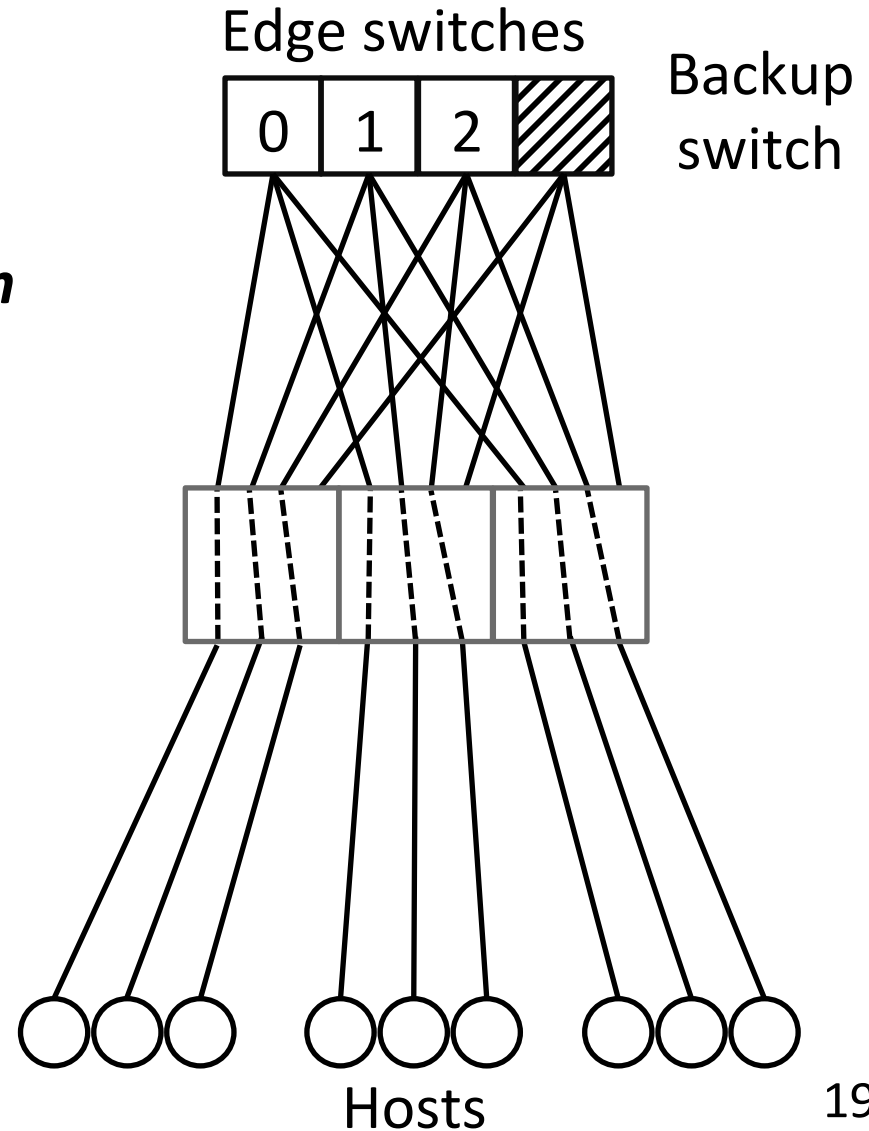
# Challenge: Fast Failure Recovery

- Distributed controllers
  - *Configure circuit switches quickly*
- Live impersonation
  - *Backup switch as hot standby*
- Routing table in place
  - *Save the time of setting forwarding rules*

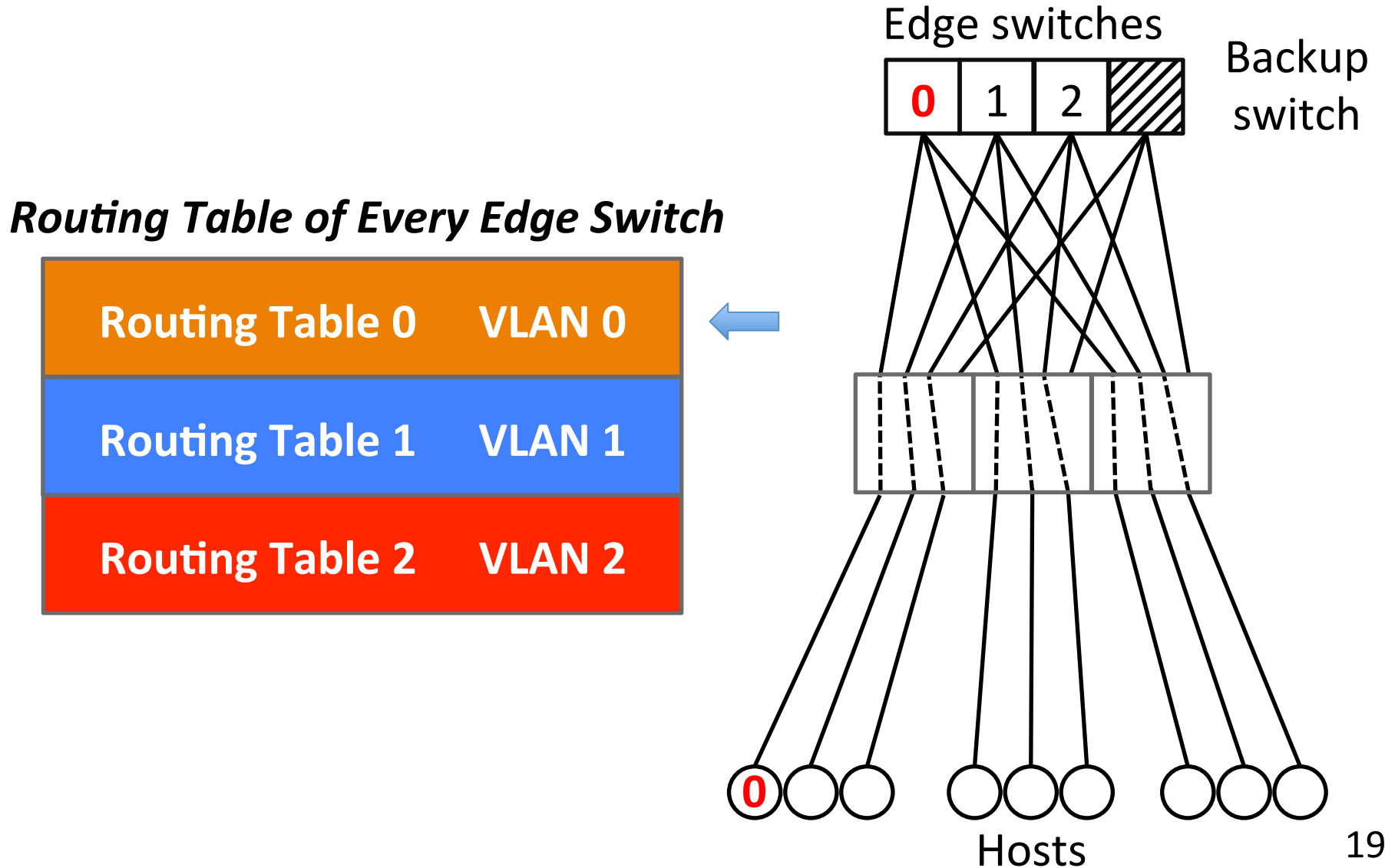
# Live Impersonation

*Routing Table of Every Edge Switch*

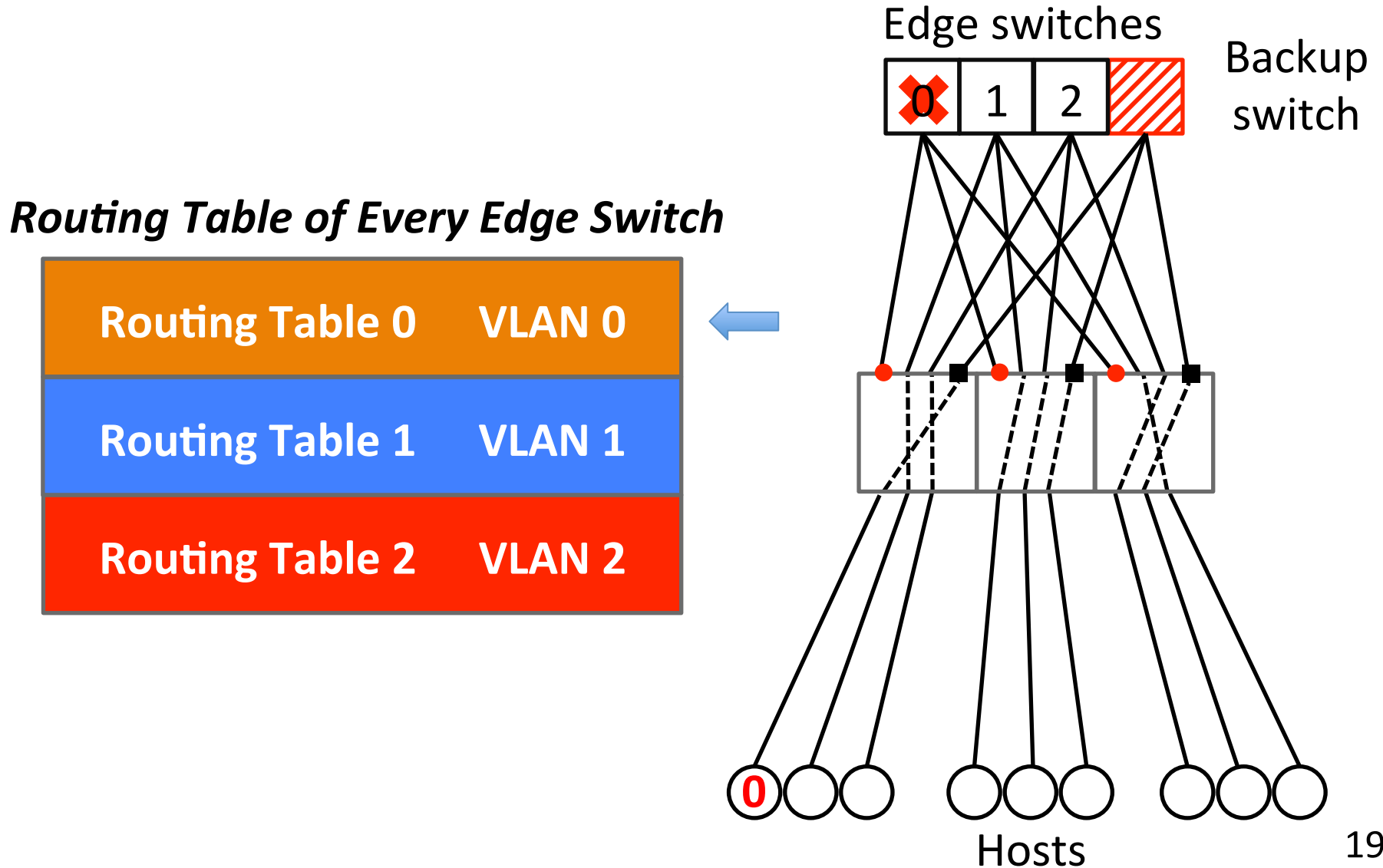
Routing Table 0	VLAN 0
Routing Table 1	VLAN 1
Routing Table 2	VLAN 2



# Live Impersonation

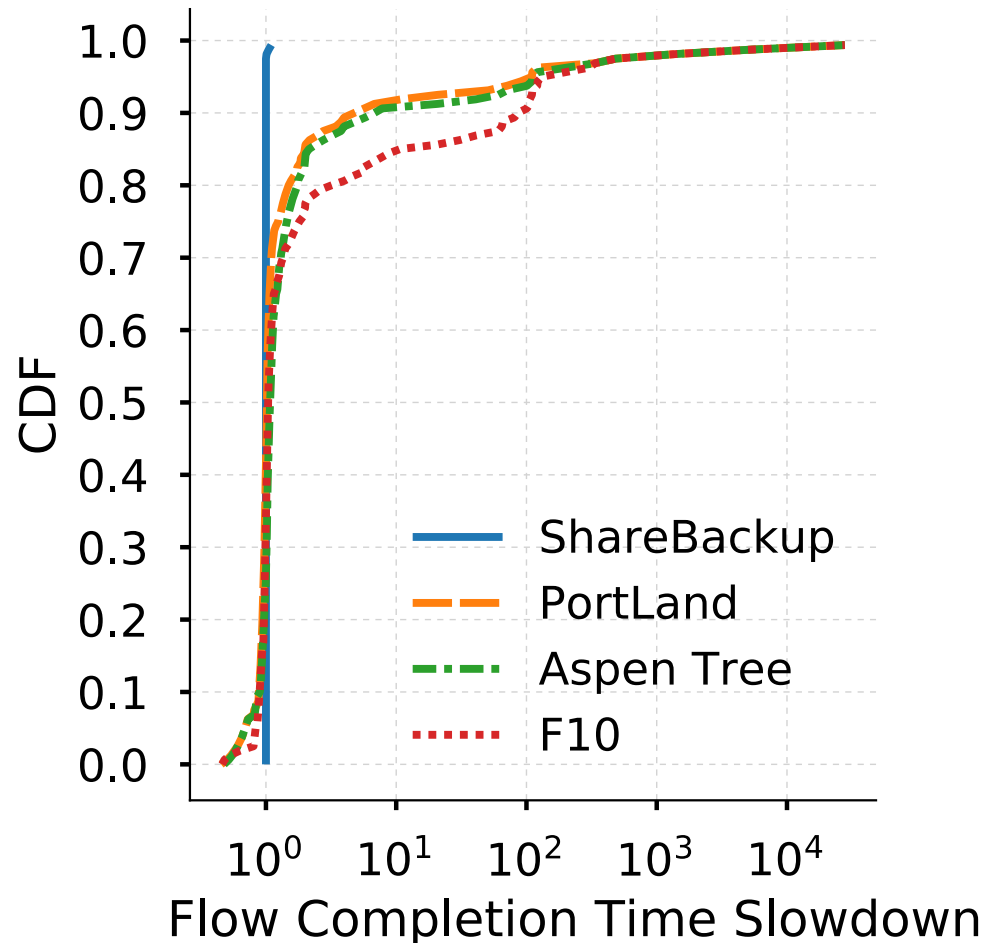


# Live Impersonation



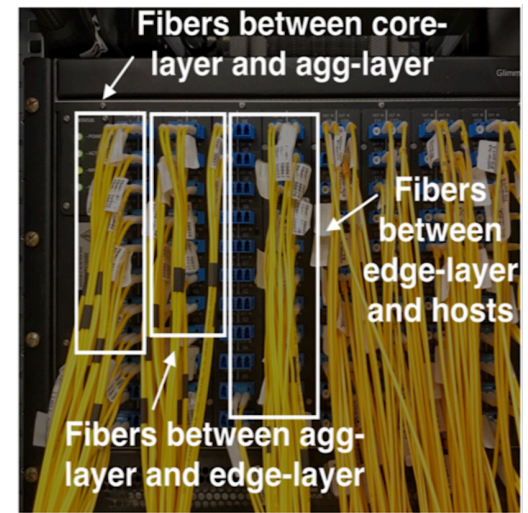
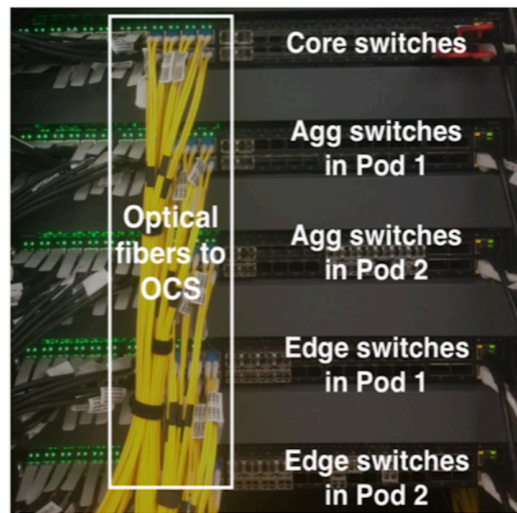
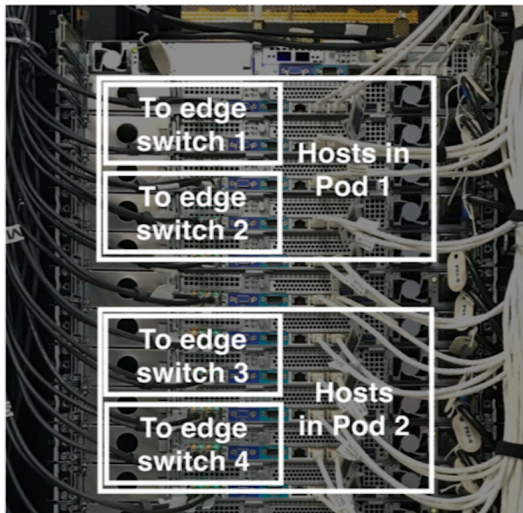
# Simulation

- Facebook prod traffic trace
- Microsoft prod failure distribution
- Near-zero slow down during failures



# Testbed

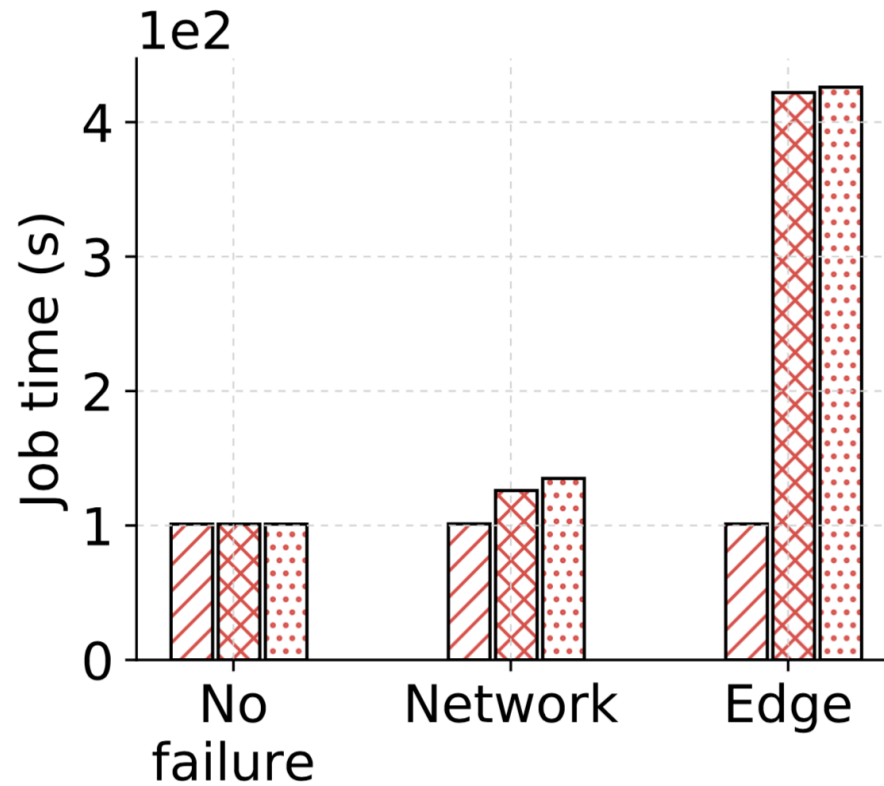
- 24 hosts, 12 regular switches, 6 backup switches
- Hadoop & Spark applications



# Testbed

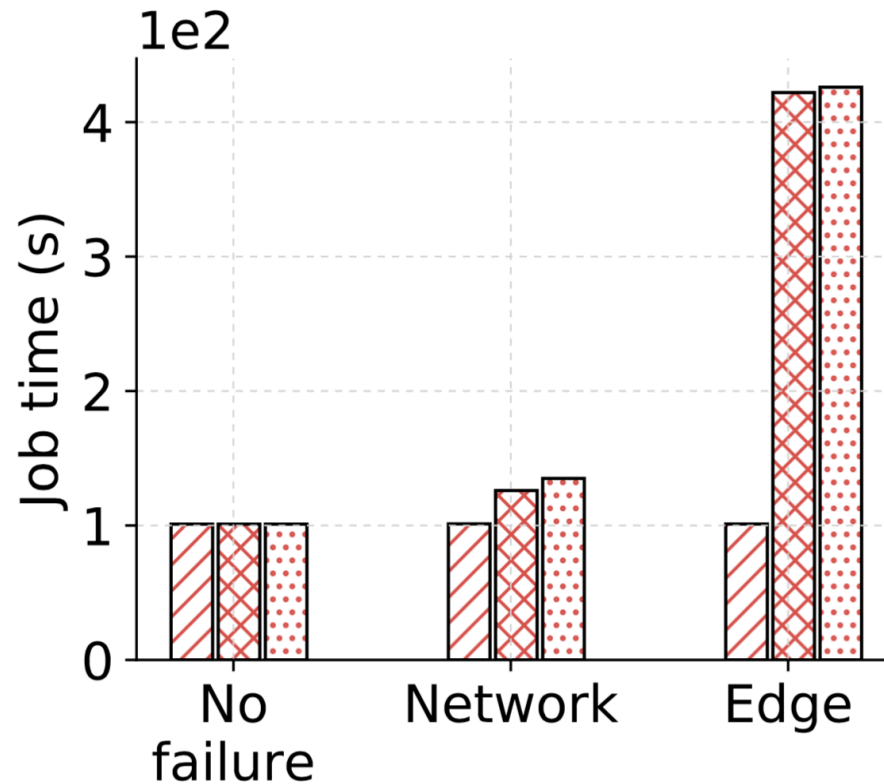
ShareBackup    PortLand    F10

- MapReduce Sort w/ 100GB data



# Testbed

ShareBackup    PortLand    F10



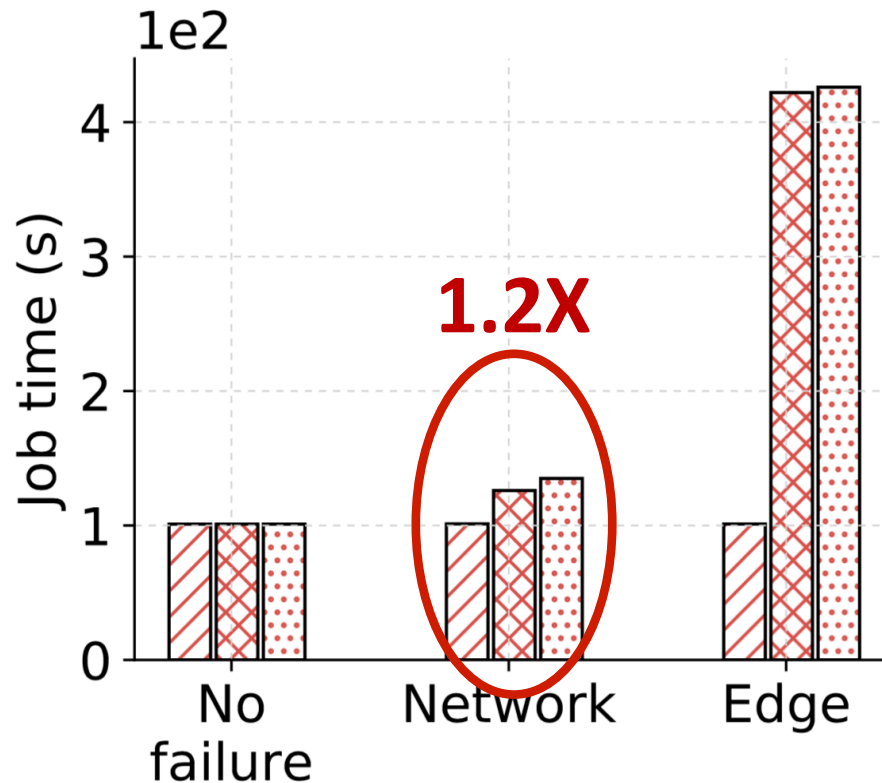
- MapReduce Sort w/ 100GB data
- Same as the no-failure case



# Testbed

ShareBackup    PortLand    F10

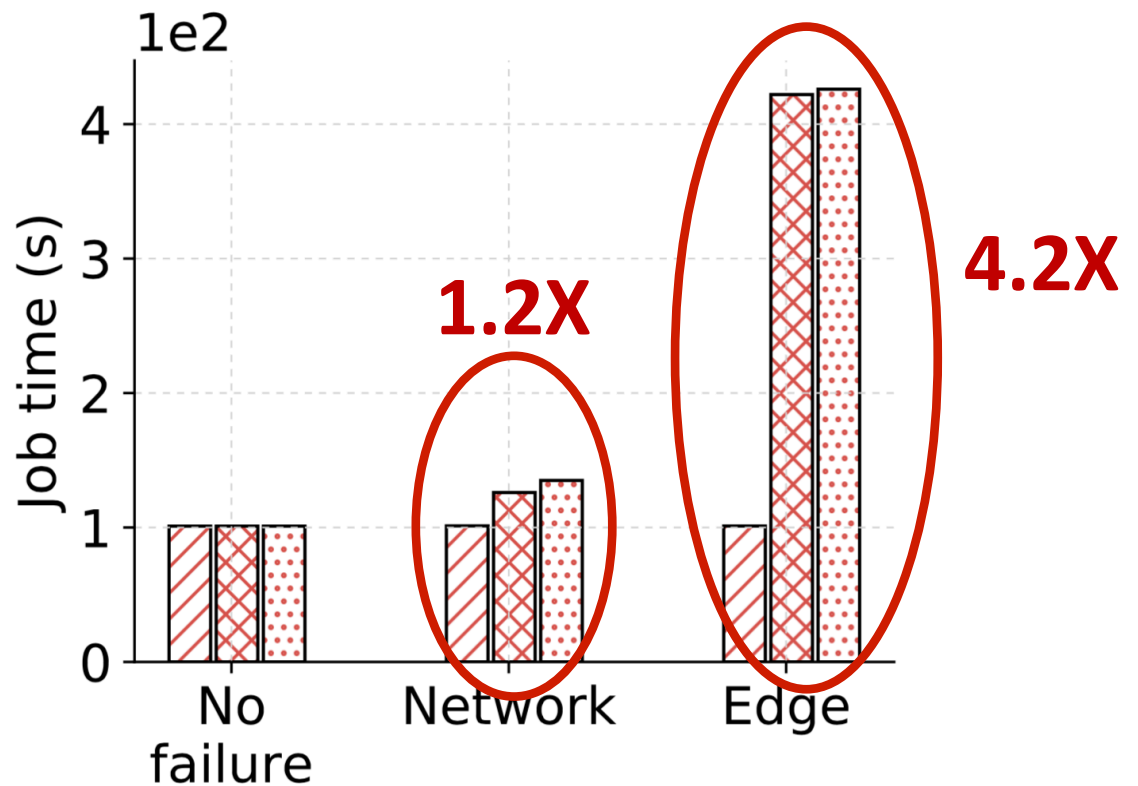
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# Testbed

ShareBackup    PortLand    F10

- MapReduce Sort w/ 100GB data
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# Outline

## ShareBackup

*[HotNets'17,  
SIGCOMM'18]*

Failure  
Recovery

## Flat-tree

*[HotNets'16,  
SIGCOMM'17]*

Service  
Provisioning

## OmniSwitch

*[HotCloud'15]*

Wiring &  
Maintenance

## Lighthouse

*(In submission)*

Physical-Layer Programmability in WAN

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# Different Topologies Needed

- Public cloud
  - *VM clusters have different traffic characteristics*
  - *Cloud providers should meet SLA*

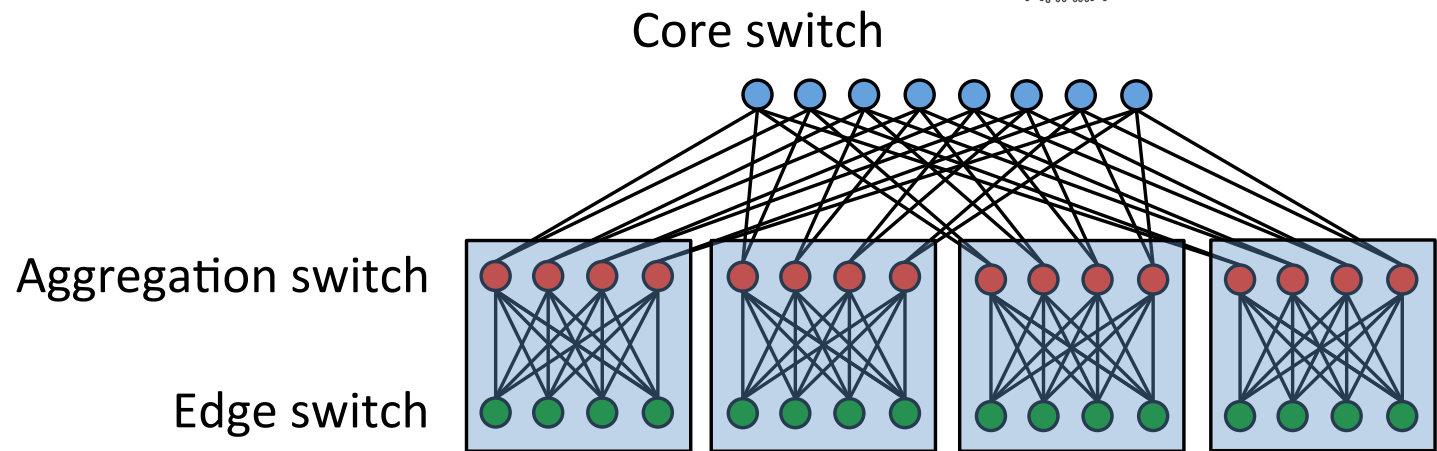
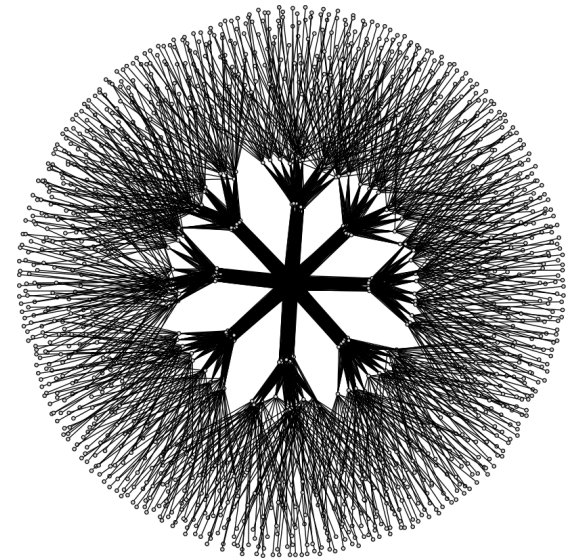
# Different Topologies Needed

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  - *Sub-systems of the service create different clustering features*
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- Public cloud
  - *VM clusters have different traffic characteristics*
  - *Cloud providers should meet SLA*
- Private cloud
  - *Sub-systems of the service create different clustering features*
  - *Content providers should ensure service availability*
- Network vulnerable during service provisioning
  - *Utilization increases*

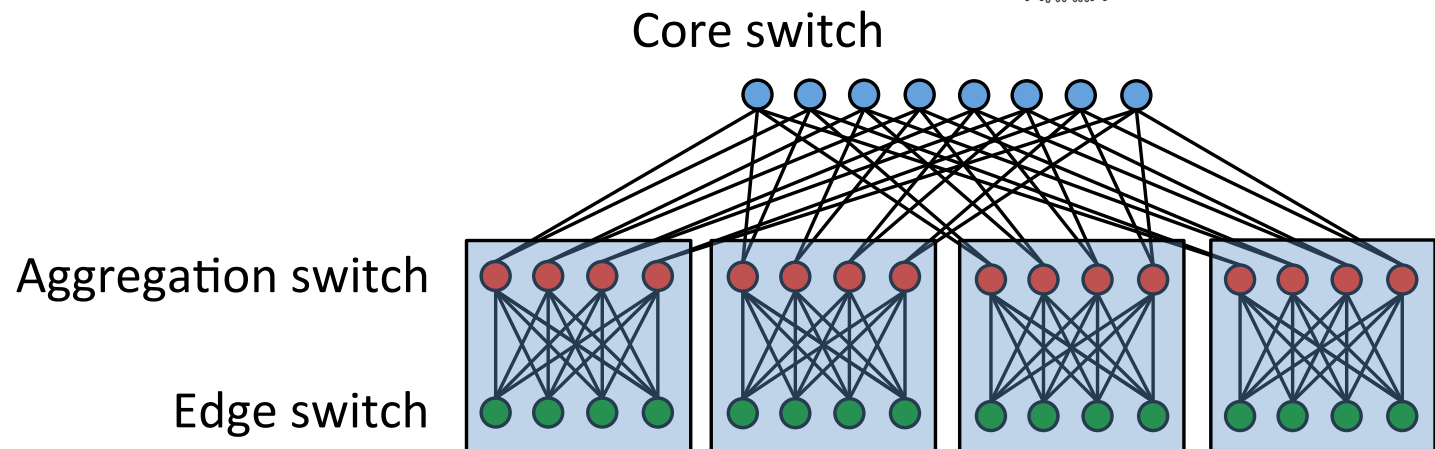
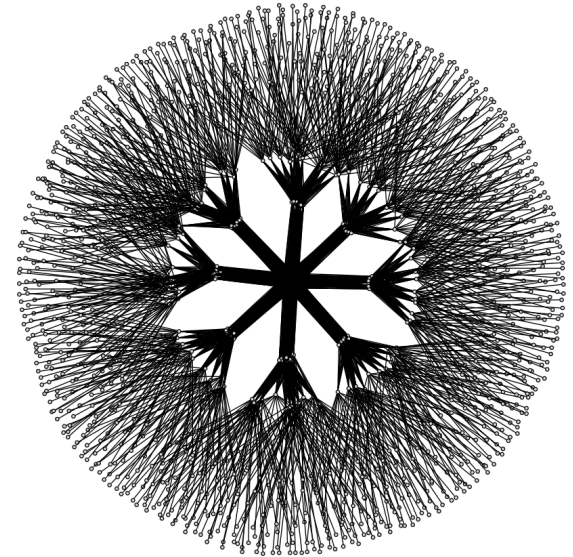
# Clos Topology





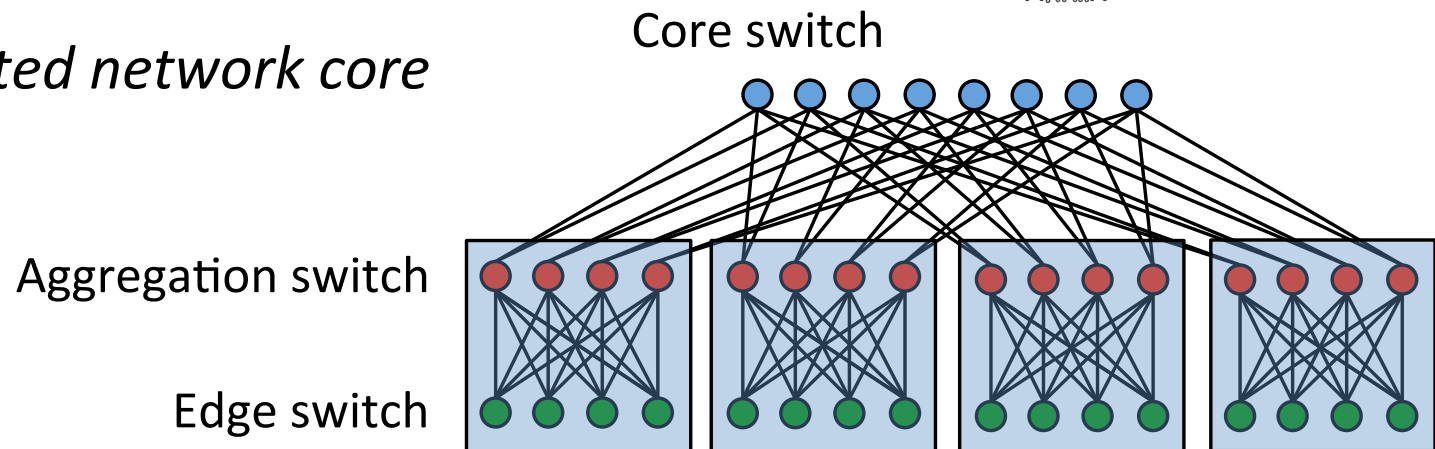
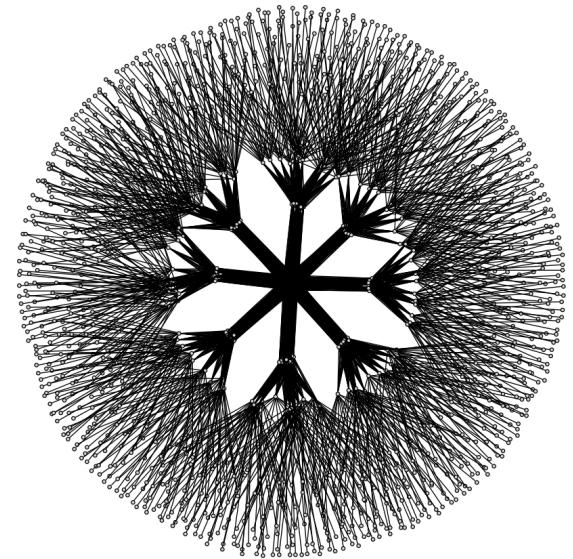
# Clos Topology

- Implementation friendly
  - *Central wiring*
  - *Flexible scale and oversubscription*
  - *Pod modular design*

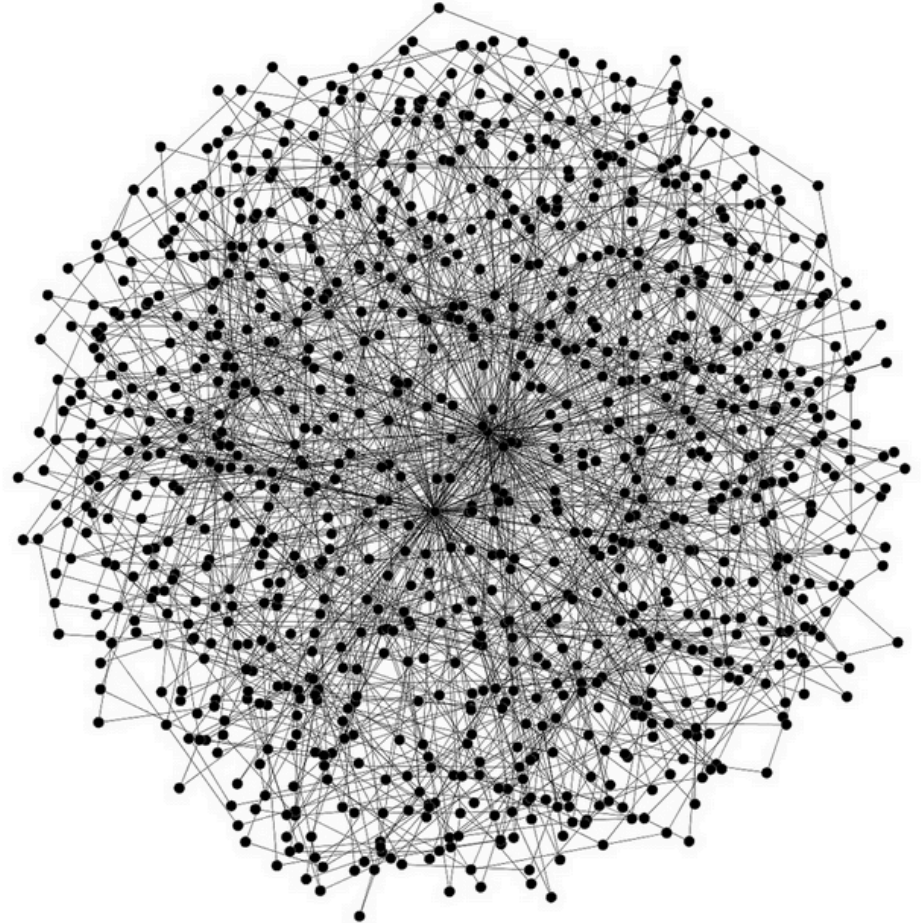


# Clos Topology

- Implementation friendly
  - *Central wiring*
  - *Flexible scale and oversubscription*
  - *Pod modular design*
- Good rack-level performance
  - *Affluent intra-rack bandwidth*
  - *Congested network core*



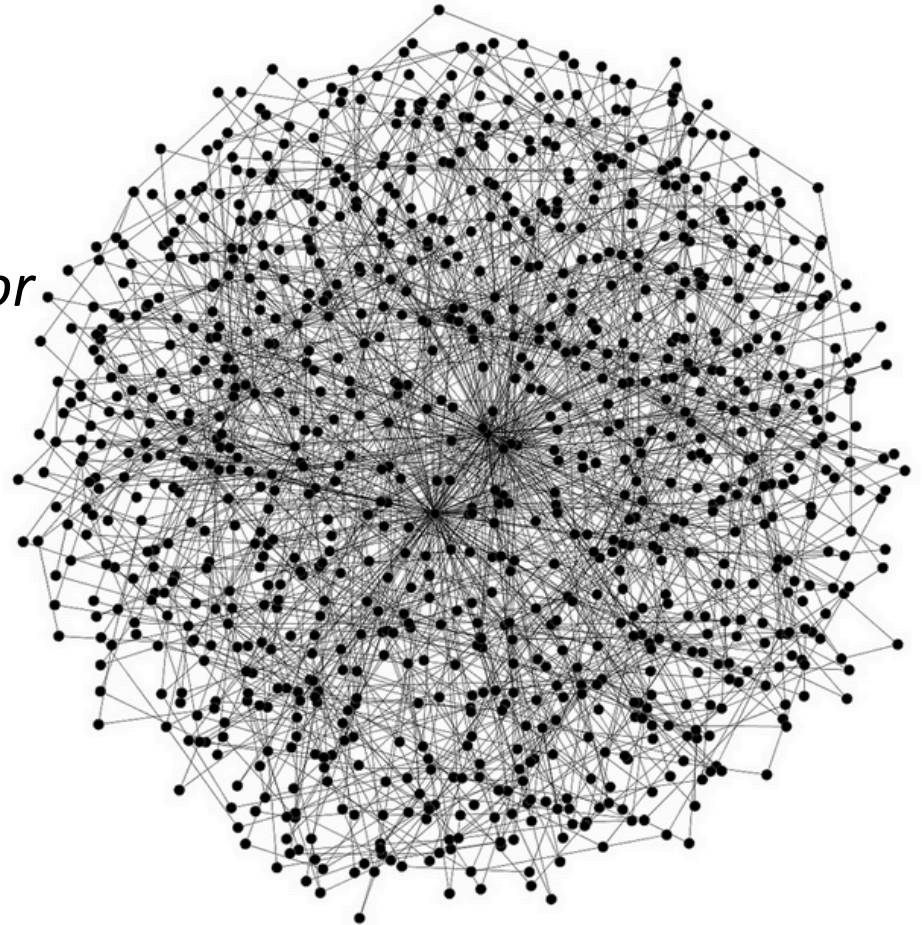
# Random Graph



[Jellyfish NSDI'12]

# Random Graph

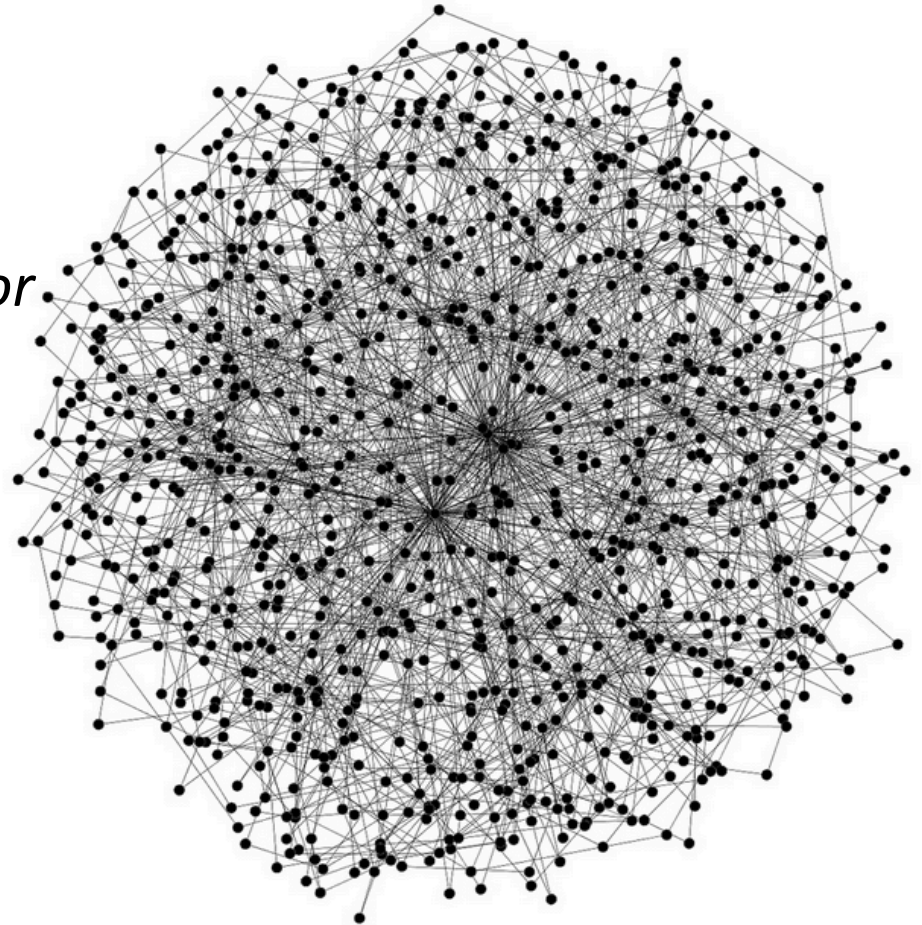
- Good connectivity
  - *Low average path length*
  - *Rich bandwidth*
  - *Near optimal throughput for uniform traffic*



[Jellyfish NSDI'12]

# Random Graph

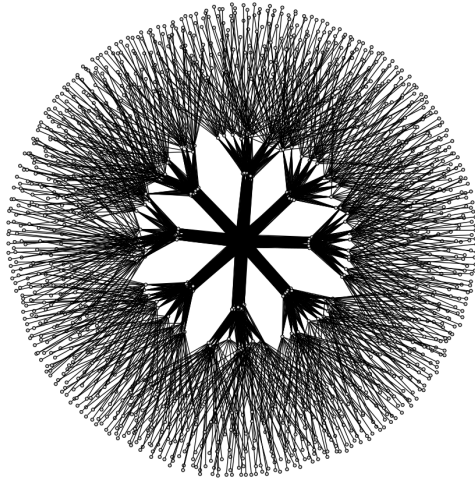
- Good connectivity
  - *Low average path length*
  - *Rich bandwidth*
  - *Near optimal throughput for uniform traffic*
- Hard to implement
  - *Neighbor-to-neighbor wiring complicated*



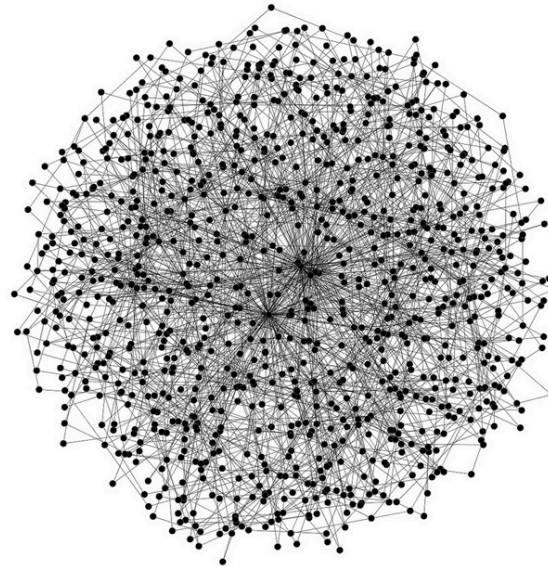
[Jellyfish NSDI'12]

# Flat-tree

Tree  
Network



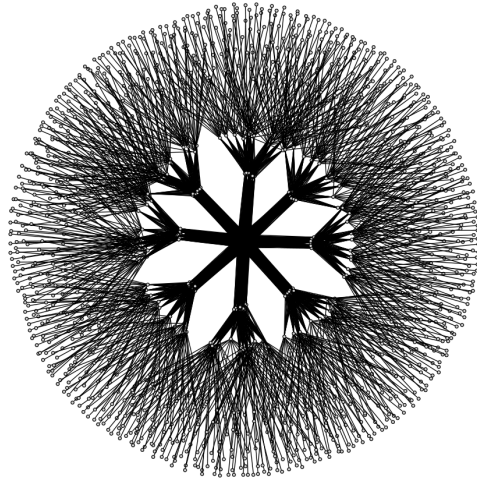
**vs.**



Flat  
Network

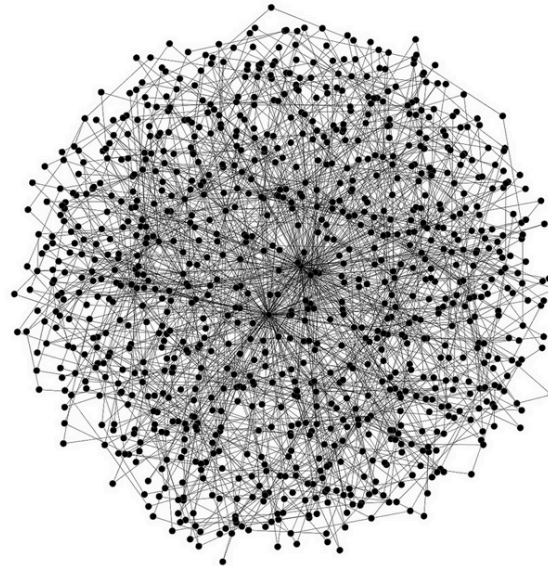
# Flat-tree

Tree  
Network



Easy implementation

**vs.**

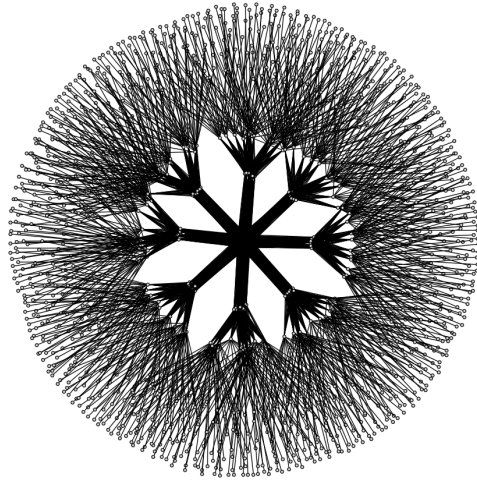


Flat  
Network

Good connectivity

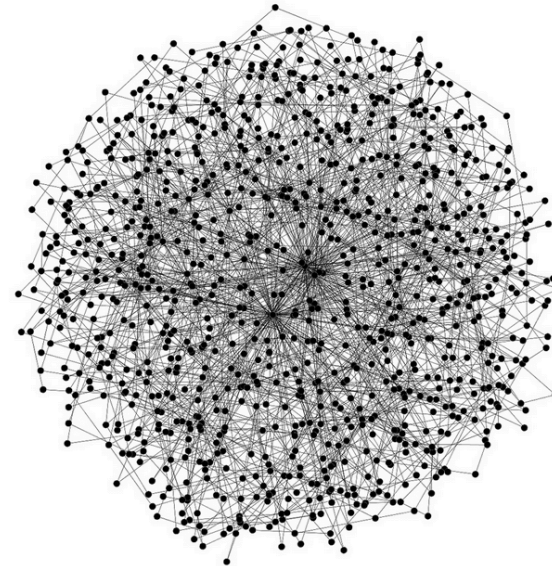
# Flat-tree

Tree  
Network



Easy implementation  
Clustered traffic

**vs.**



Flat  
Network

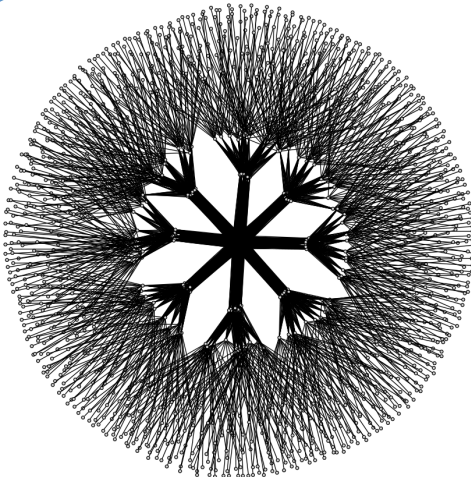
Good connectivity  
Uniform traffic



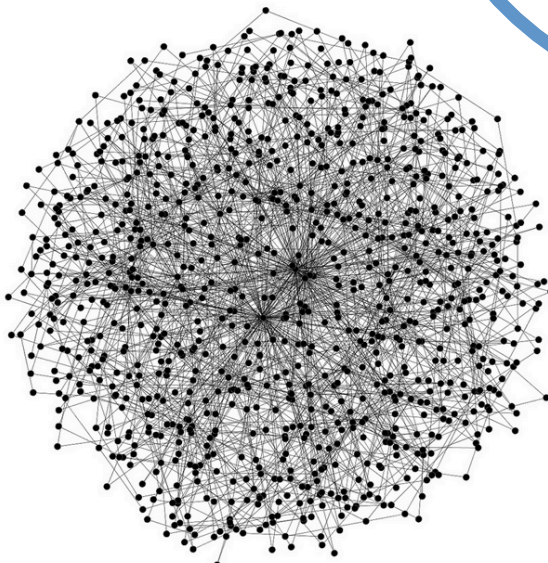
# Flat-tree

*Flat-tree*

Tree  
Network



Flat  
Network

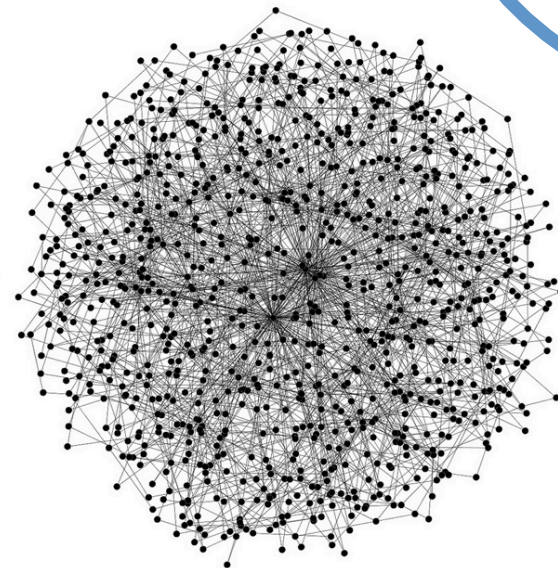
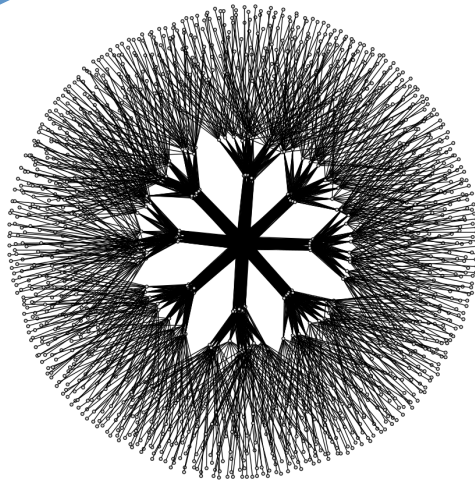


# Flat-tree

- Start from Clos
- Flatten tree structure
- Approximate random graphs

*Flat-tree*

Tree  
Network



Flat  
Network

# Flatten the Tree

- How to flatten the tree structure?

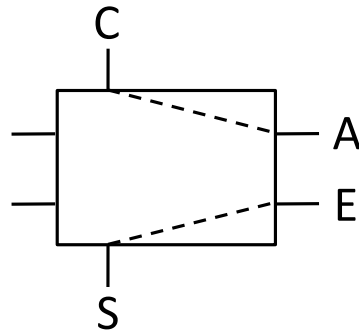
# Flatten the Tree

- How to flatten the tree structure?

Difference	Clos	Random graph	Solution
Server distribution	Edge switches	All switches	Relocate servers
Wiring	Central	Neighbor-to-neighbor	Diversify connections

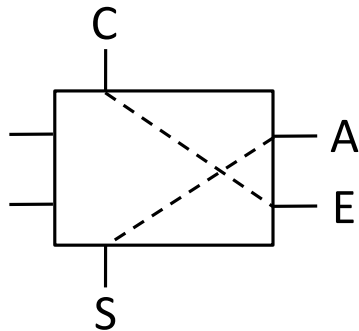
# Circuit Switch Configurations

C: core switch



A: aggregation  
switch

E: edge switch



S: server

6-port Circuit Switch

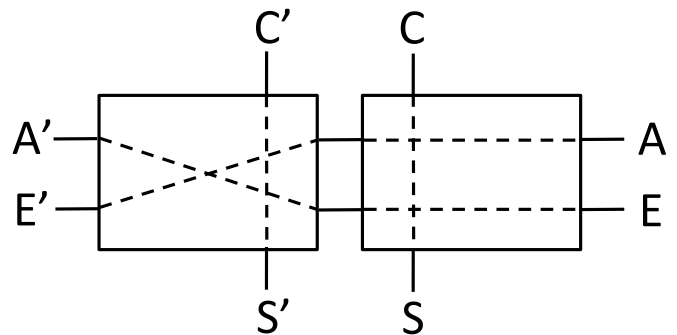
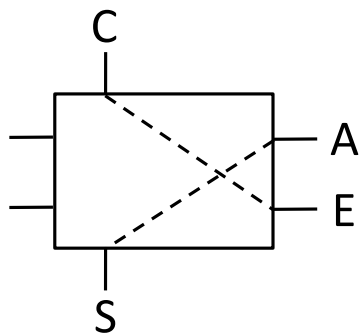
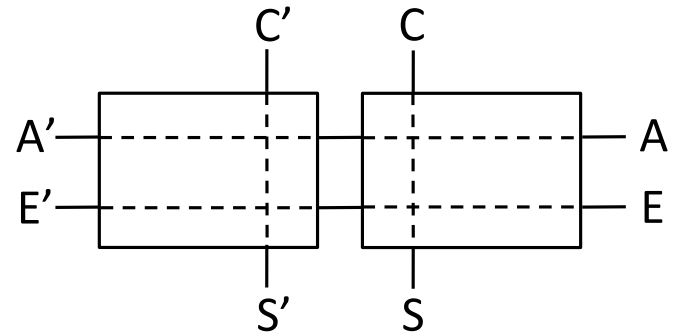
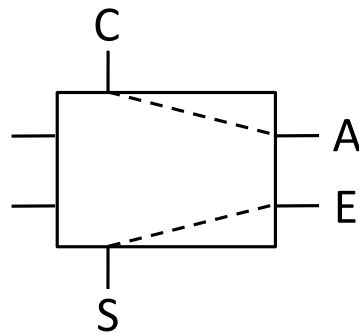
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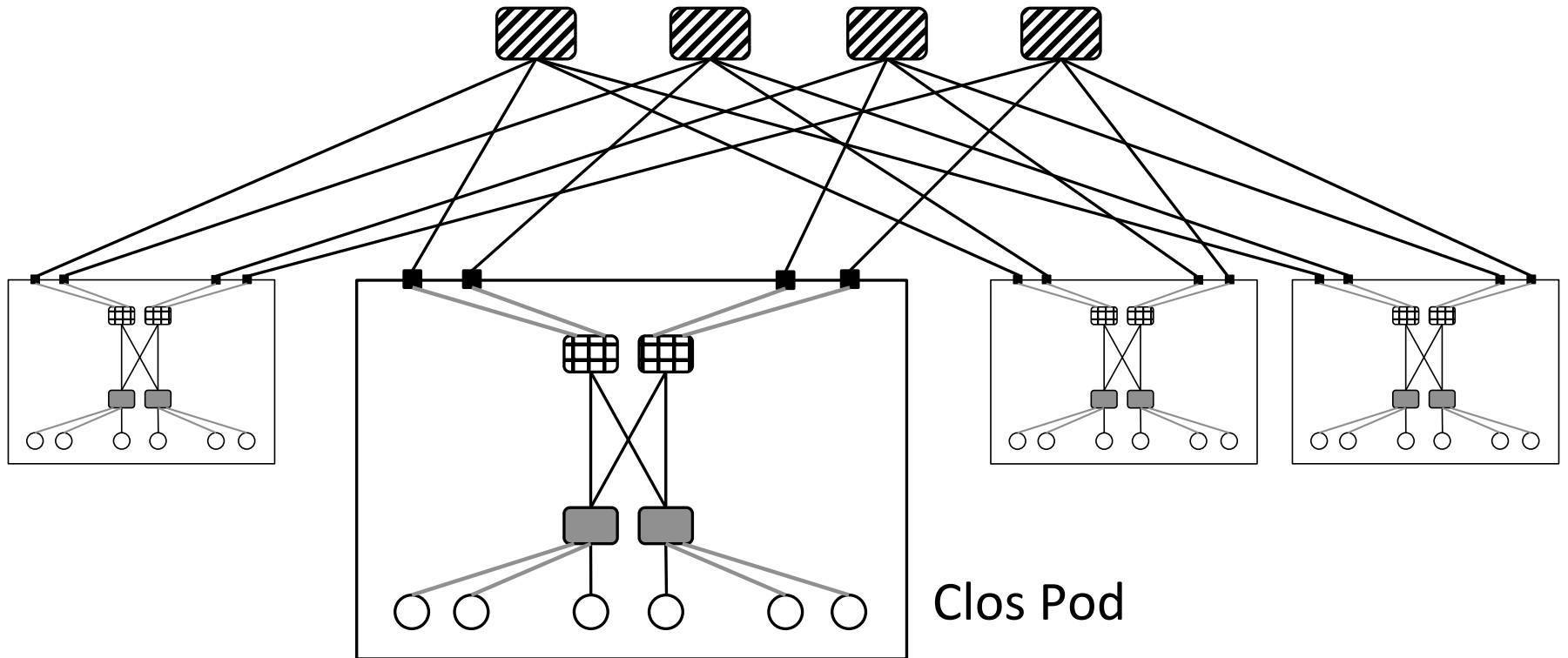
E: edge switch

S: server

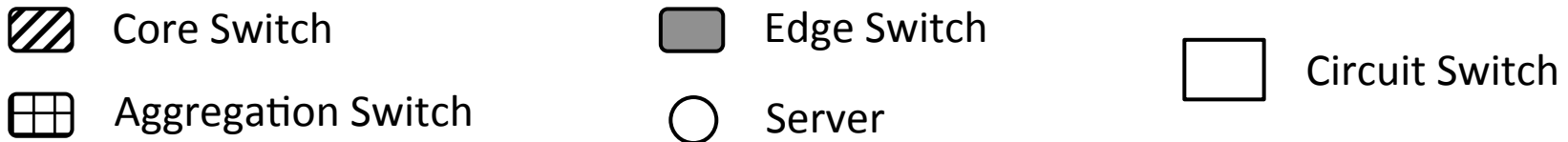
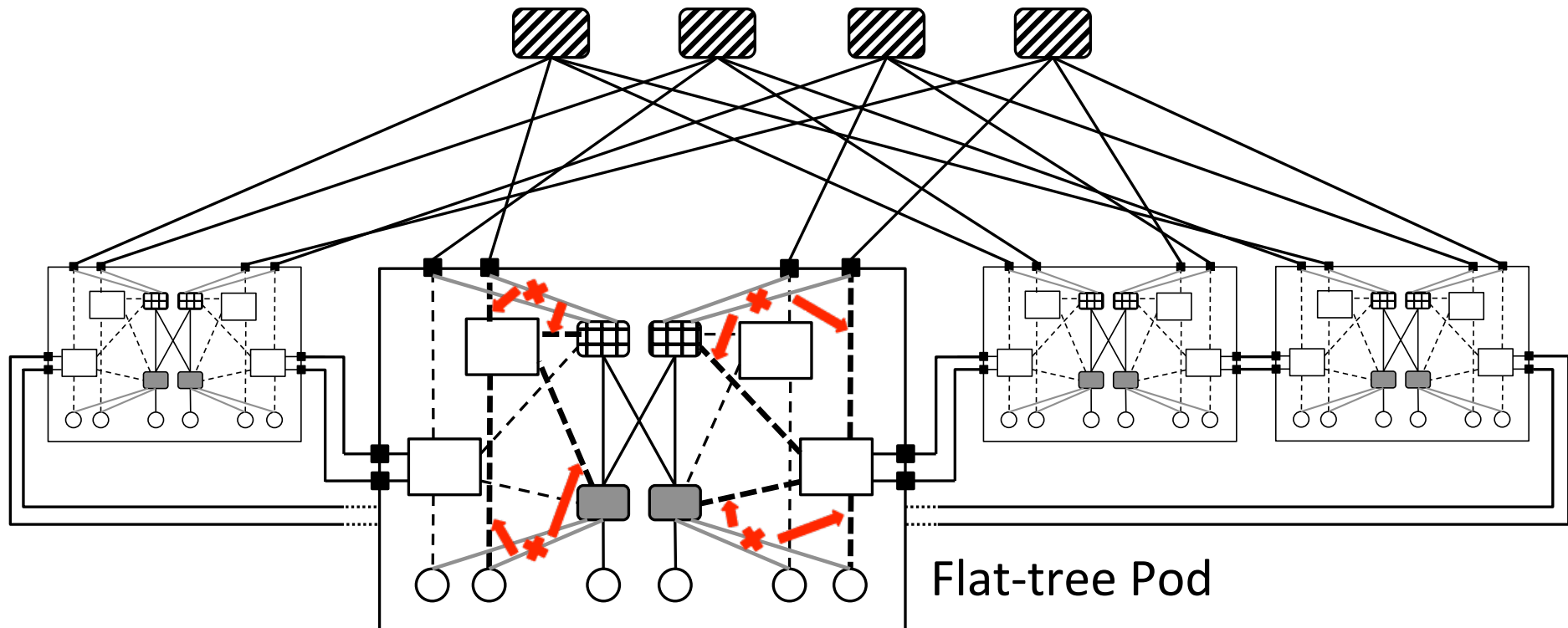


6-port Circuit Switch

# Flat-tree Example

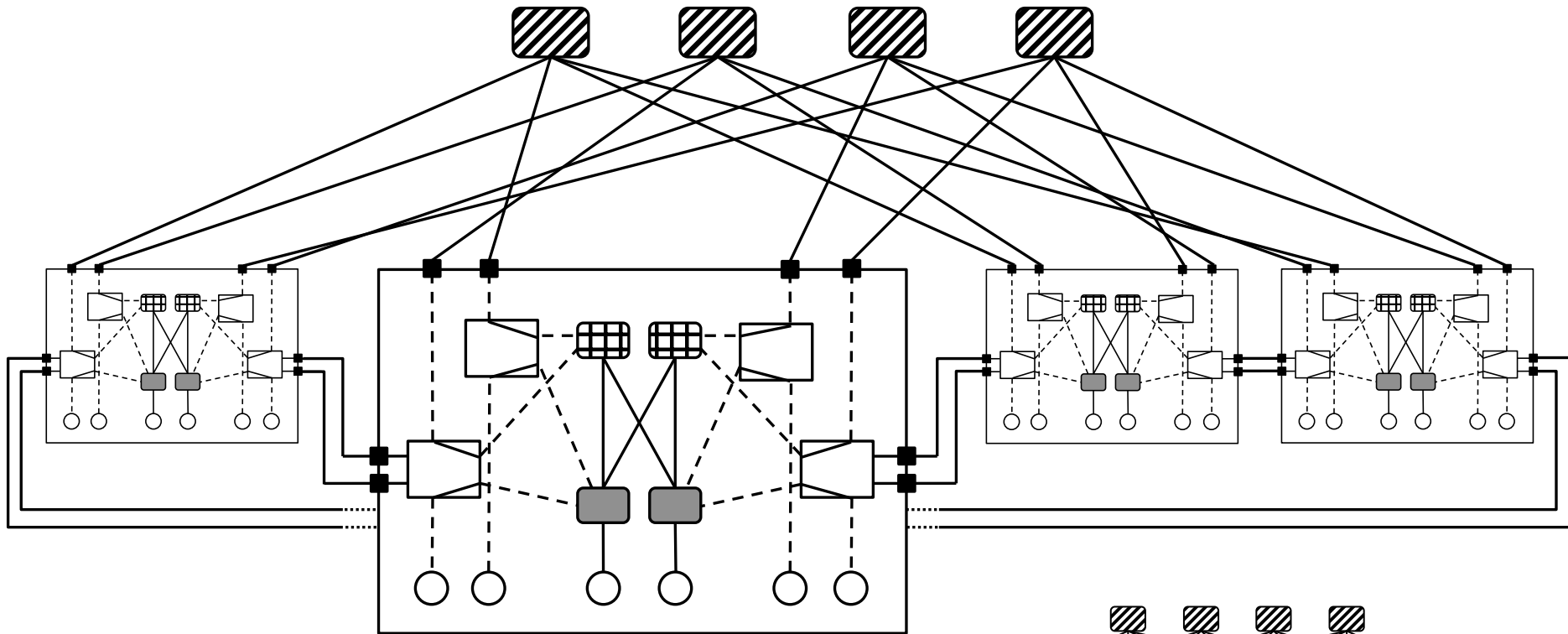







# Flat-tree Example

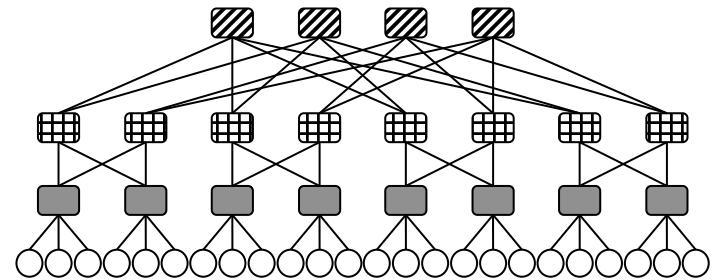




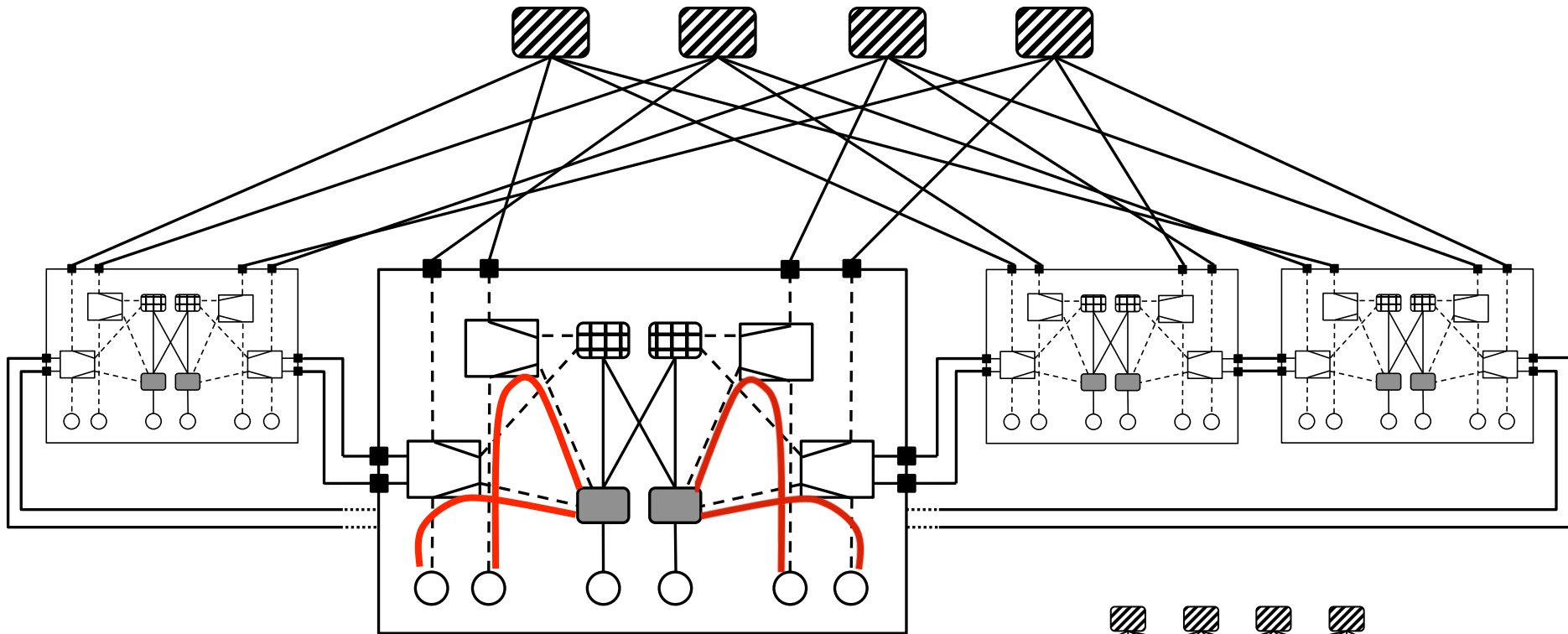
# Clos Network








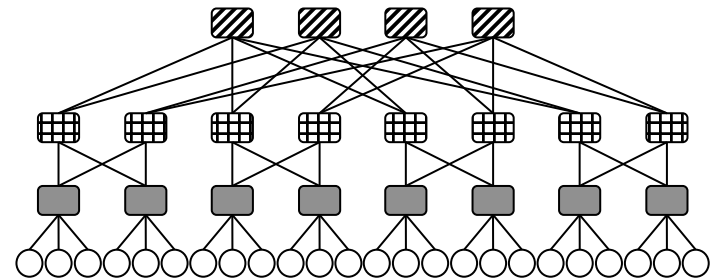
-  Core Switch
-  Aggregation Switch
-  Edge Switch
-  Circuit Switch
-  Server



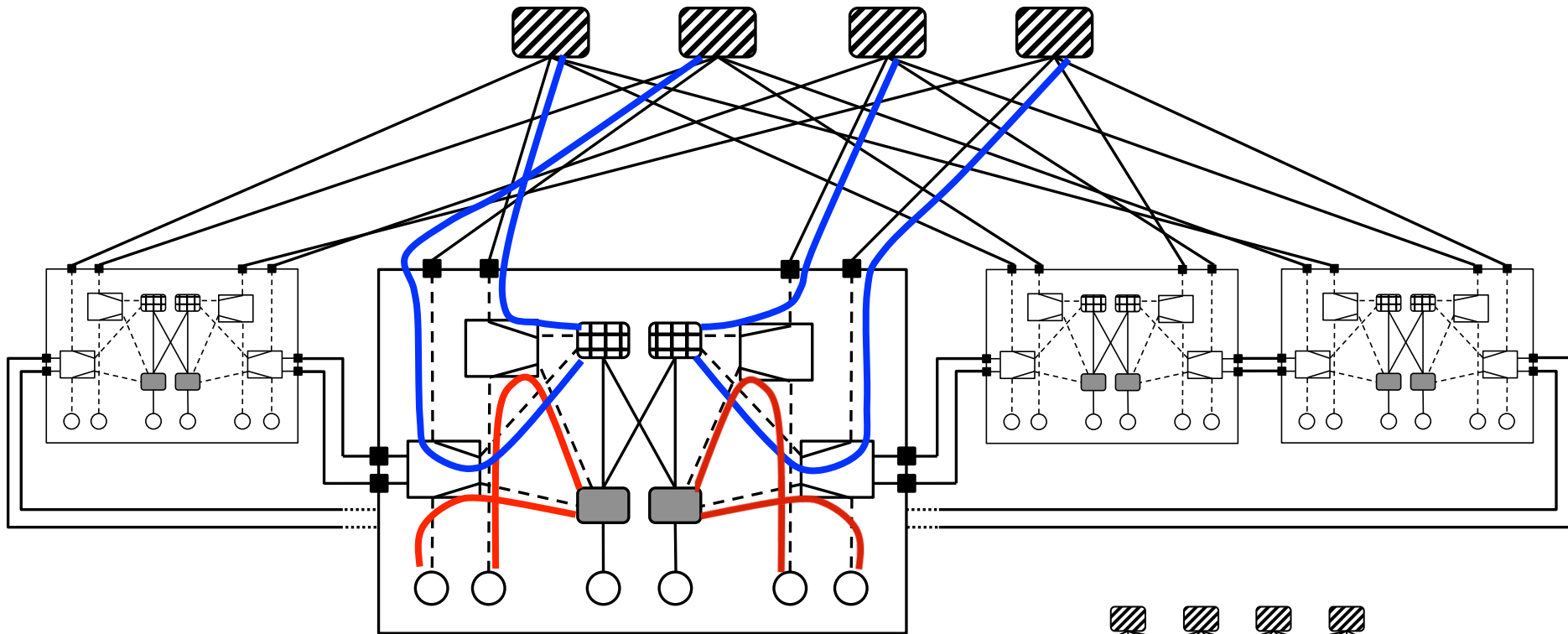
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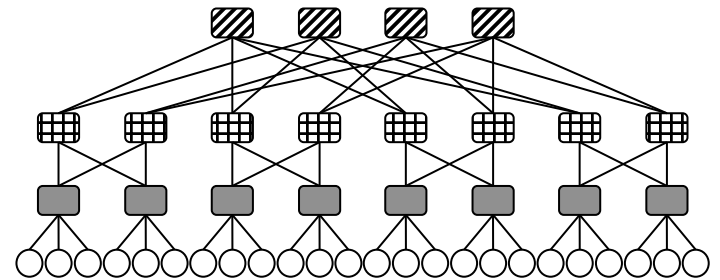
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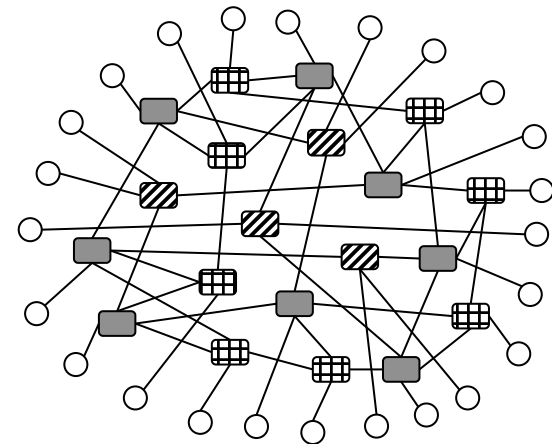
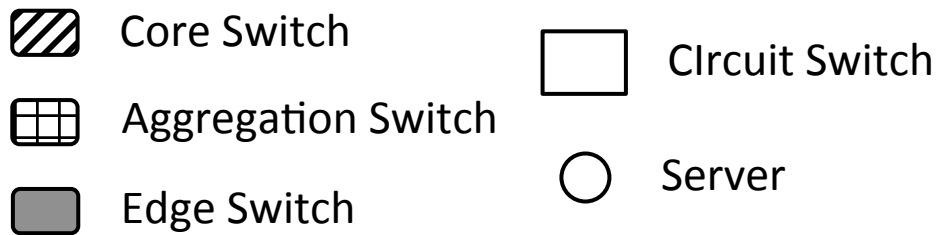
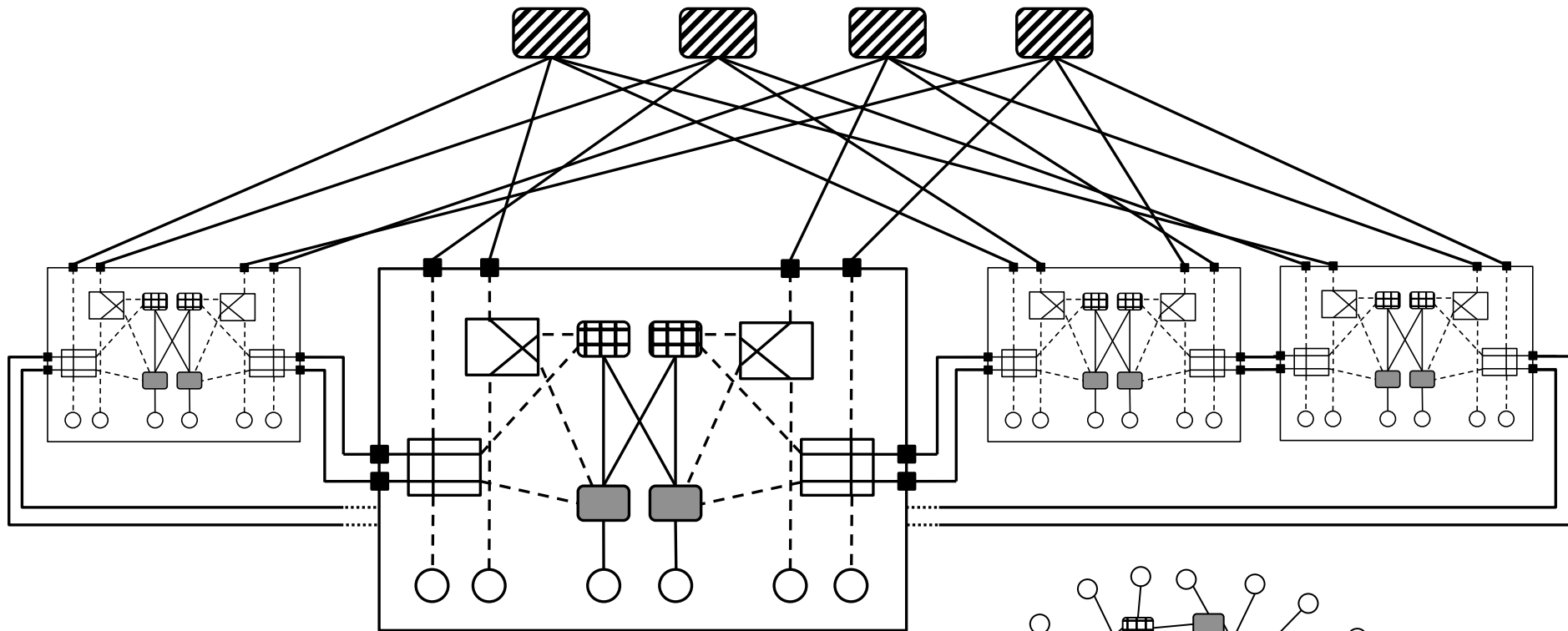
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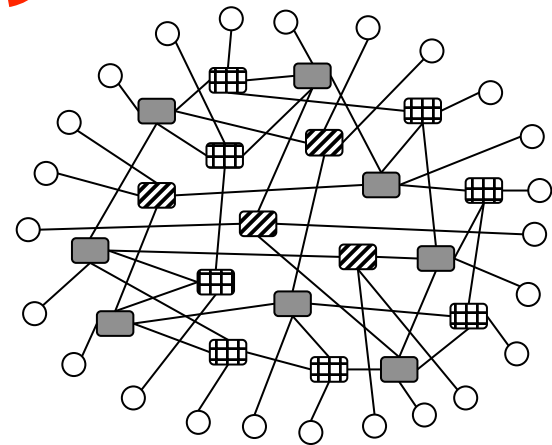
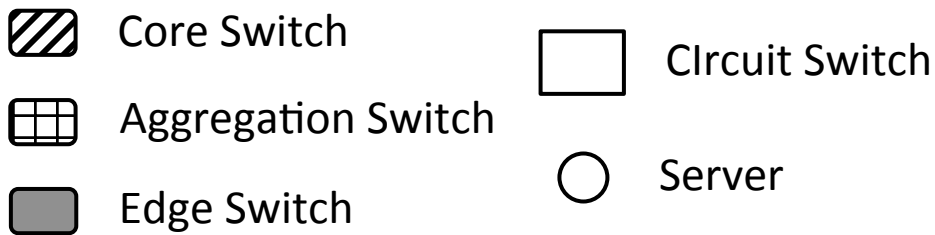
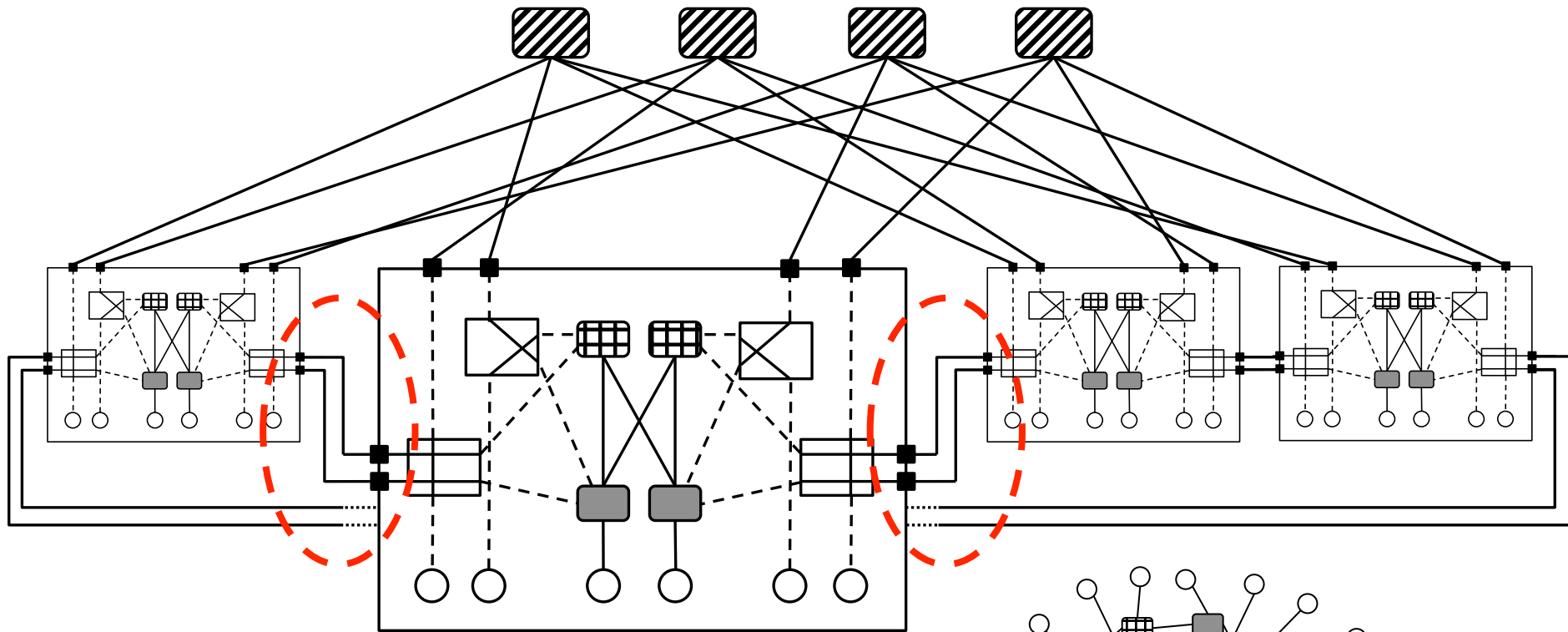
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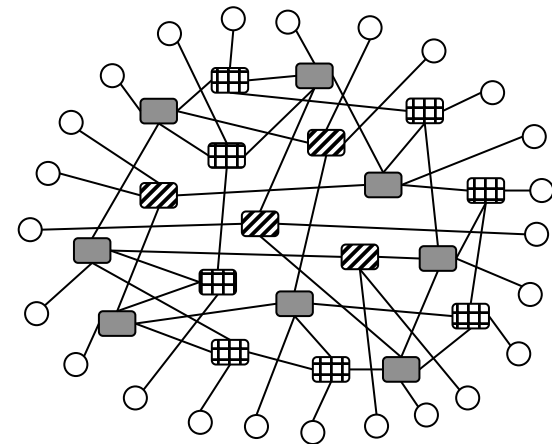
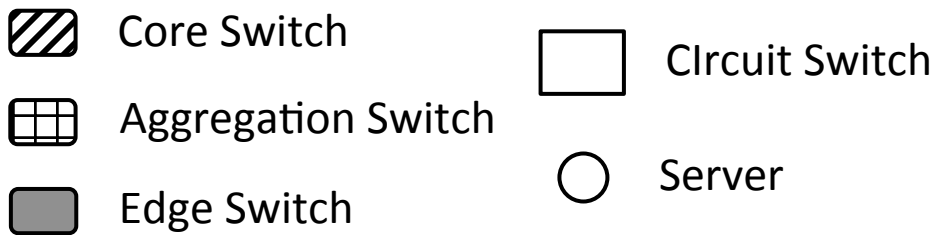
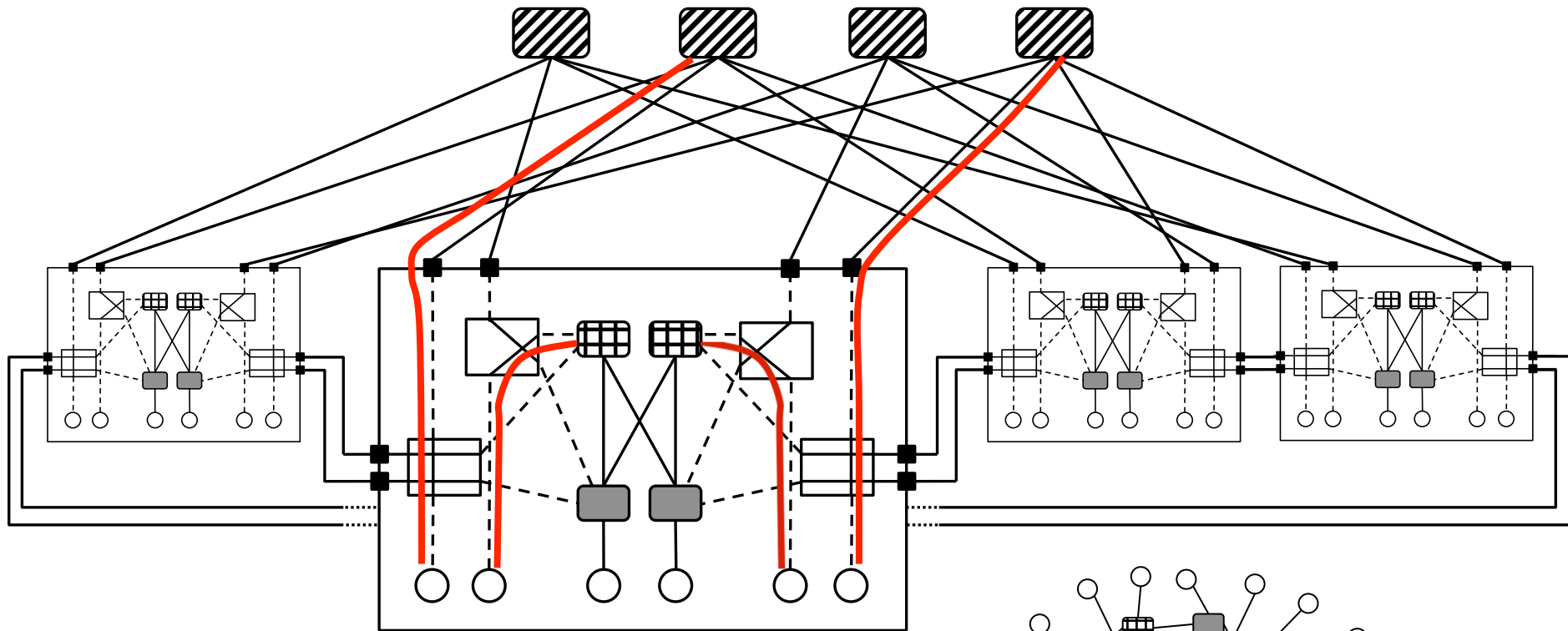
# Approximate Random Graph



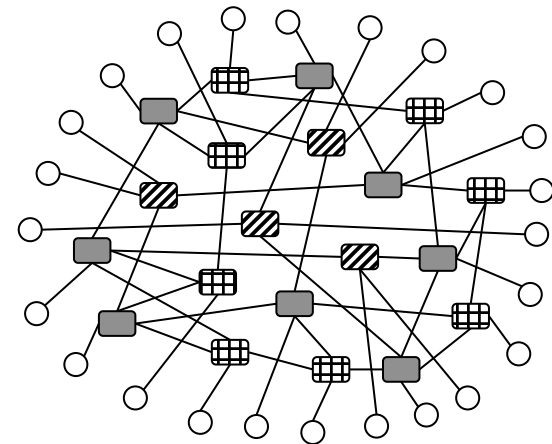
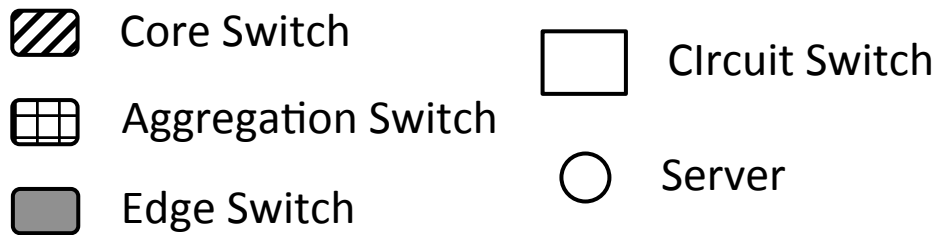
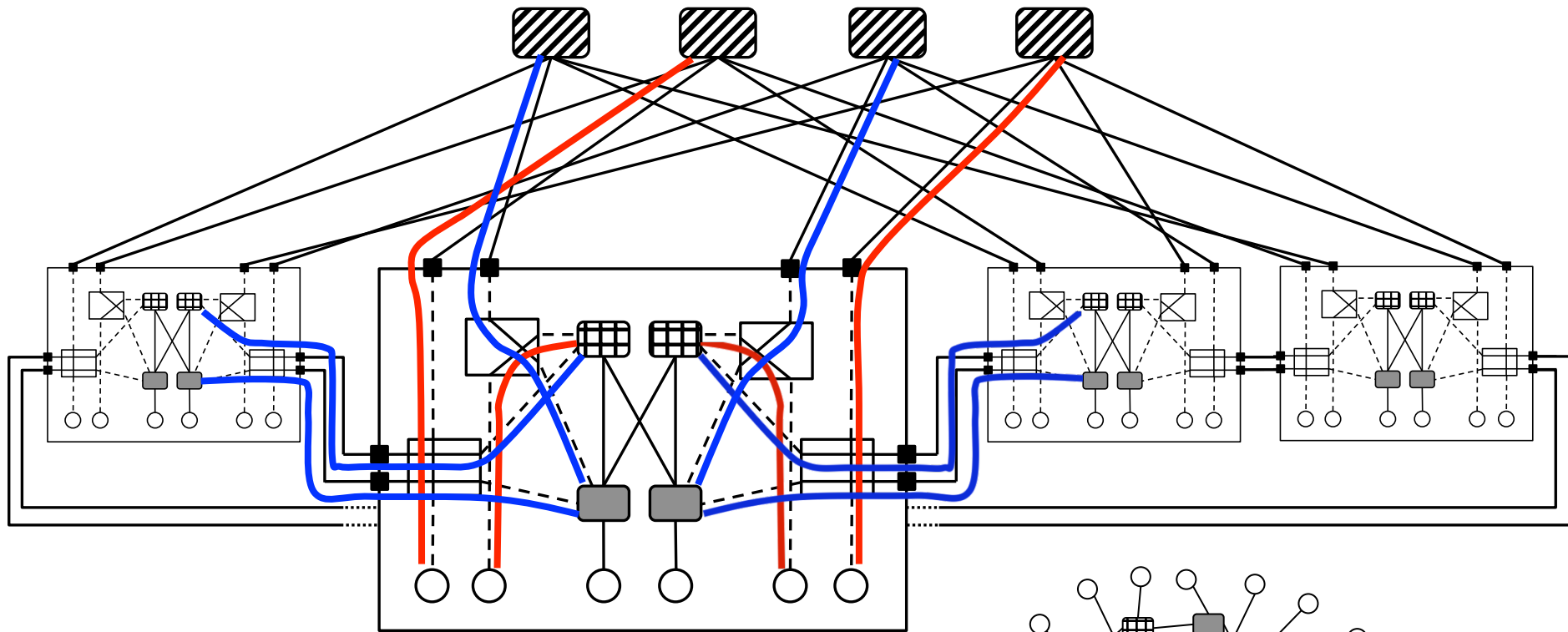
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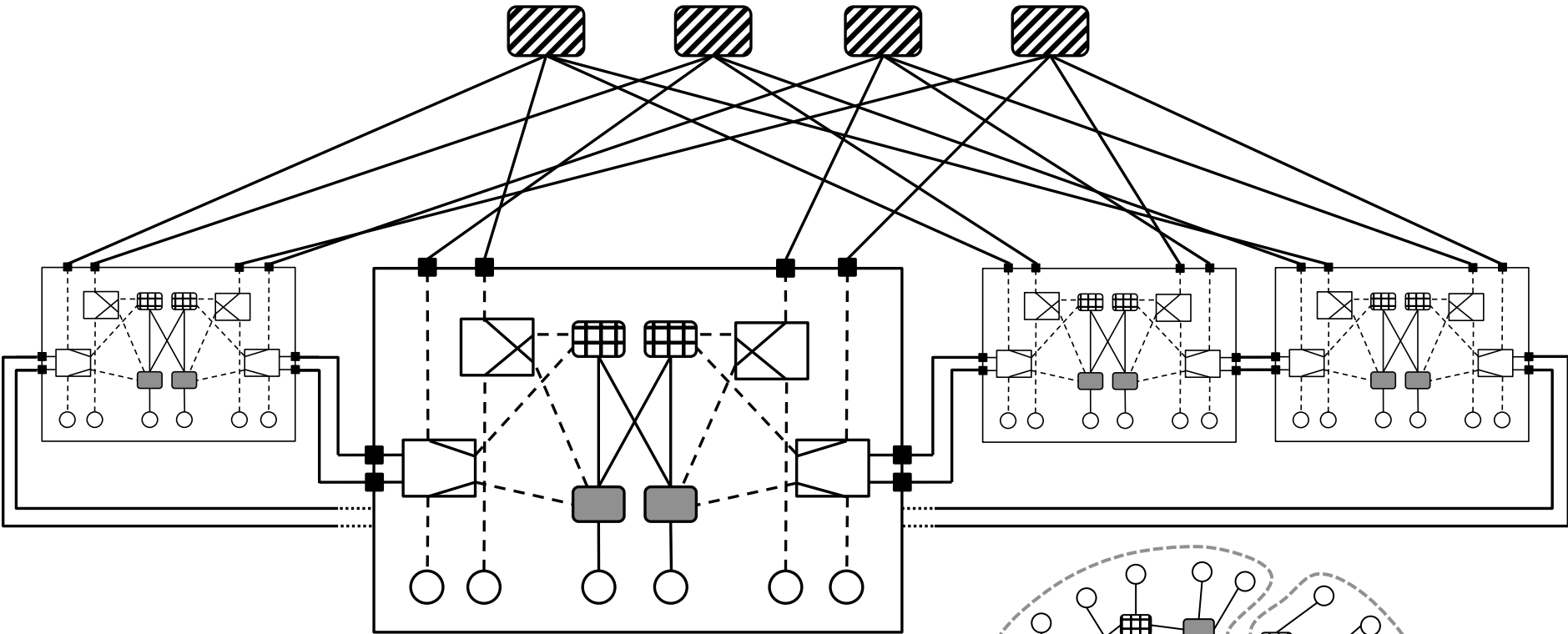
# Approximate Random Graph








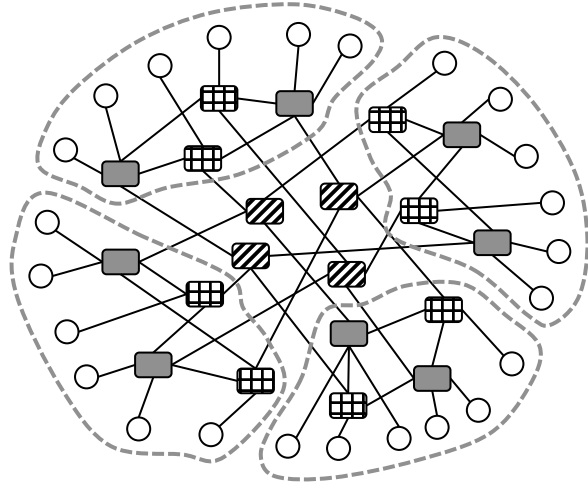
# Approximate Random Graph



# Approximate Local Random Graph

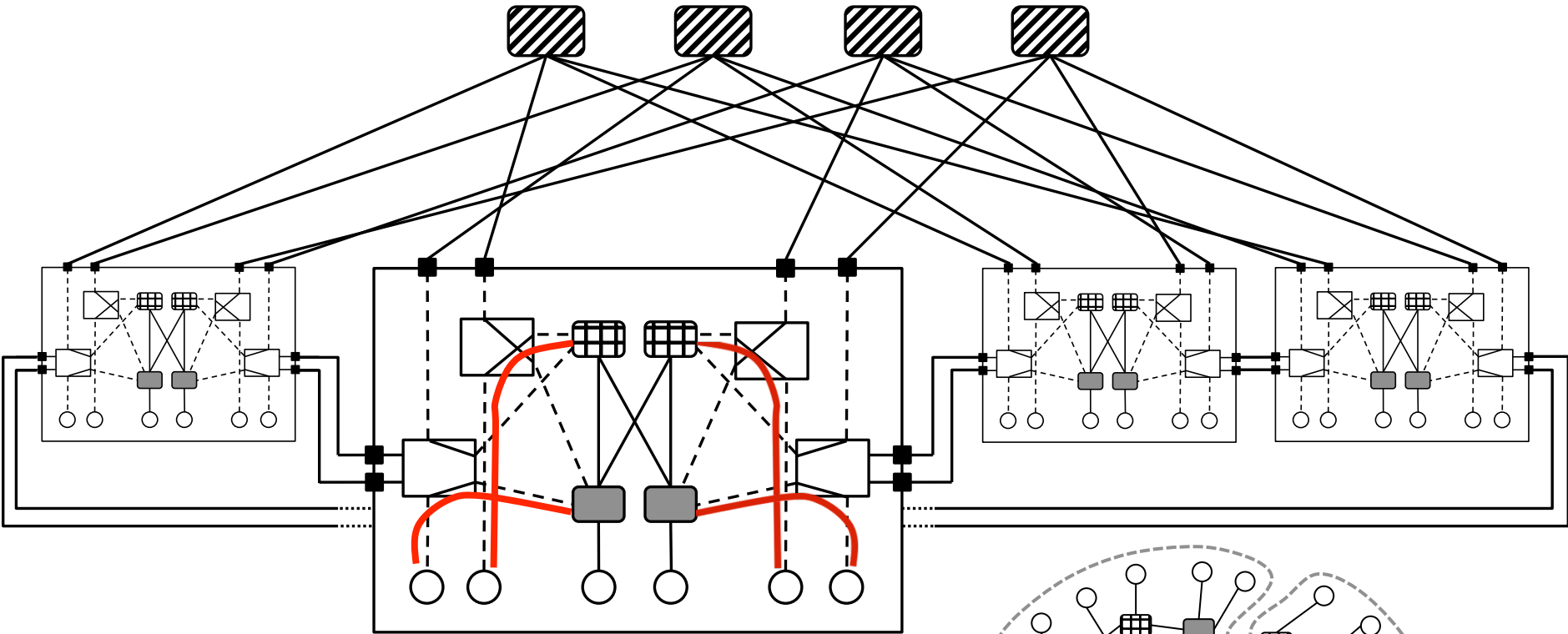







-  Core Switch
-  Aggregation Switch
-  Edge Switch
-  Circuit Switch
-  Server

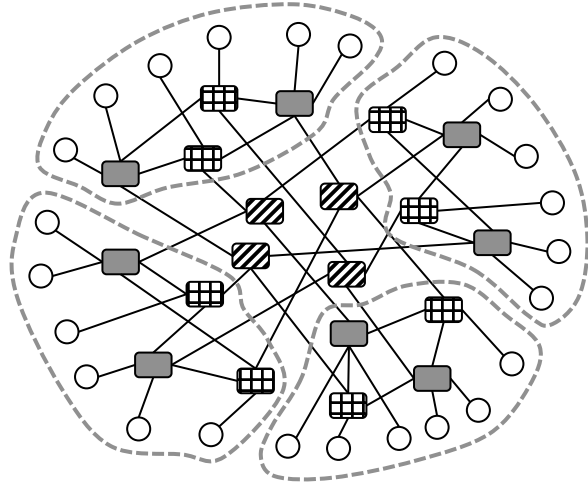




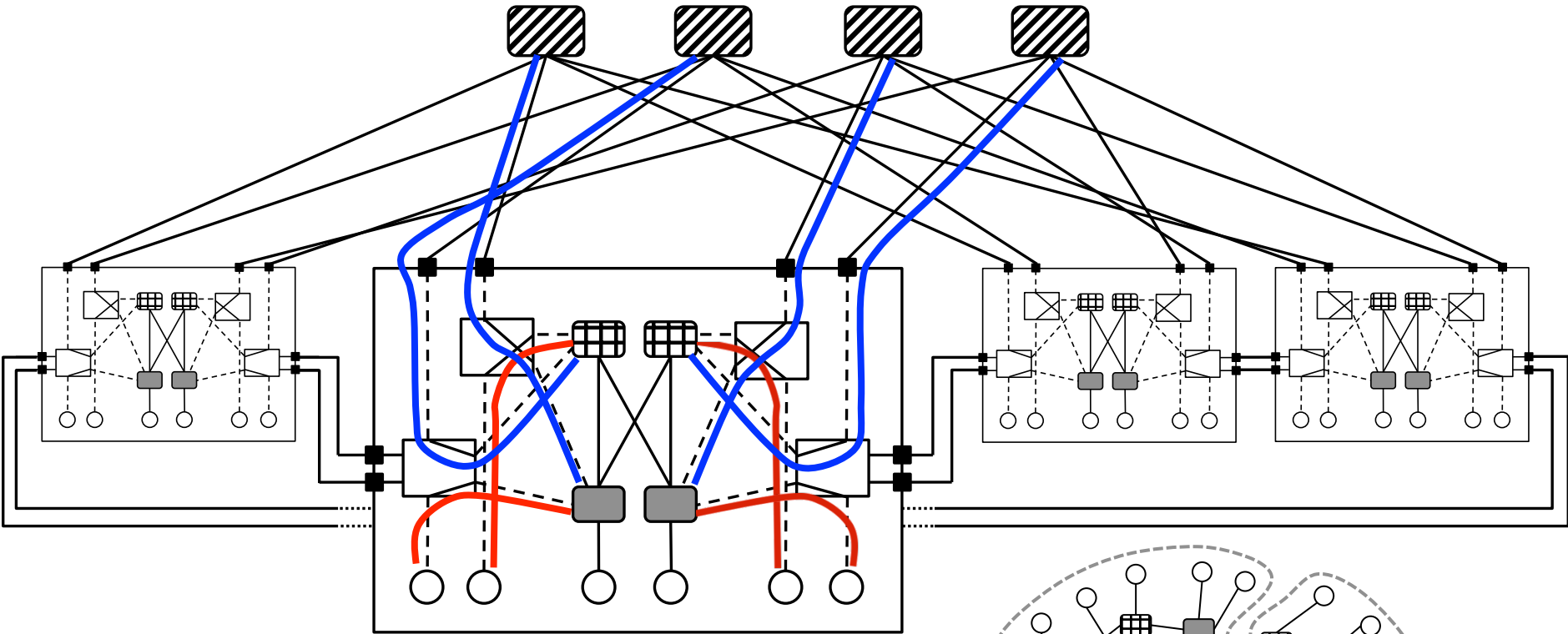
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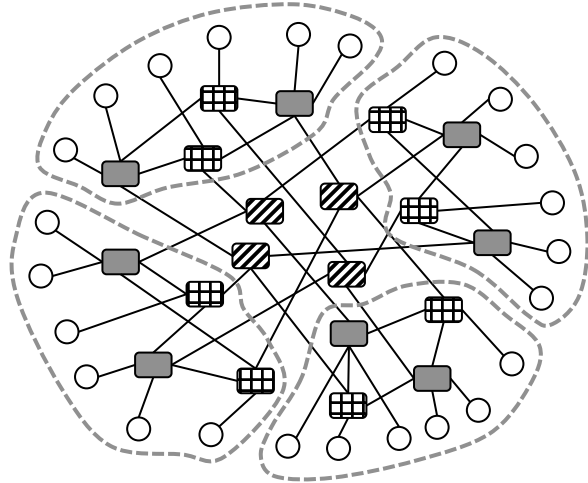
-  Core Switch
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-  Circuit Switch
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# Approximate Local Random Graph



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-  Aggregation Switch
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-  Circuit Switch
-  Server



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  - *Server relocated to different switches*
  - *Assign IP addresses to support prefix matching*

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  - Different sets of IP addresses per topology
- Different routing schemes per topology
  - k-shortest-path routing for all topologies
  - ECMP/two-level routing/SDN encoded as k paths
- k-shortest-path routing
  - *k paths for every server pairs*
  - *Enormous number of states → exceed switch capacity*
  - *No solution from random graph networks*

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  - Different sets of IP addresses per topology
- Different routing schemes per topology
  - k-shortest-path routing for all topologies
  - ECMP/two-level routing/SDN encoded as k paths
- k-shortest-path routing
  - Addressing: server-level → switch-level k paths
  - Source routing: further reduce network states

- *No solution from random graph networks*



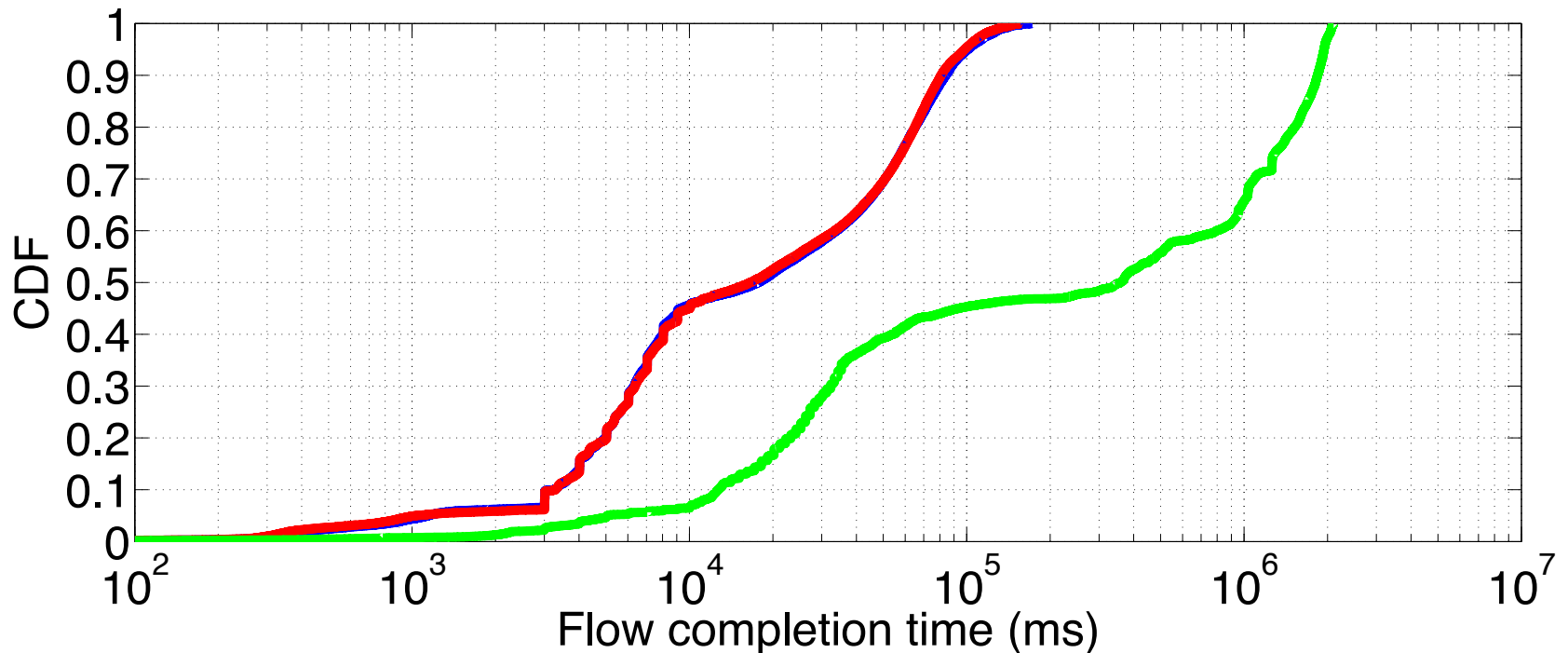
# Transmission Performance

- Packet-level simulation
- Traffic traces from 4 Facebook data centers
  - *Hadoop-1: no locality*
  - *Hadoop-2: rack-level locality*
  - *Web: Pod-level locality*
  - *Cache: Pod-level locality*

# Network-wide Traffic

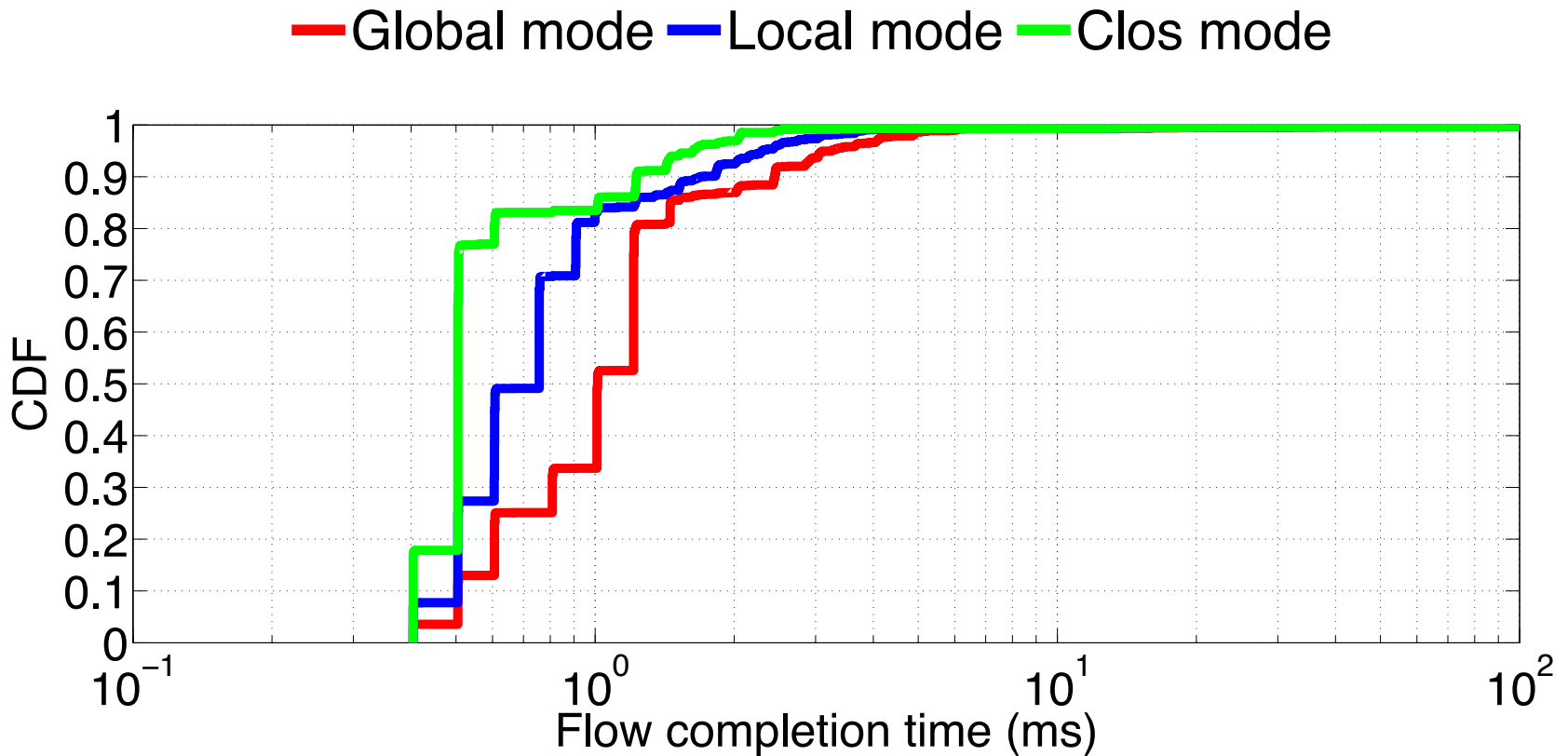
- Hadoop-1: no locality

— Global mode — Local mode — Clos mode



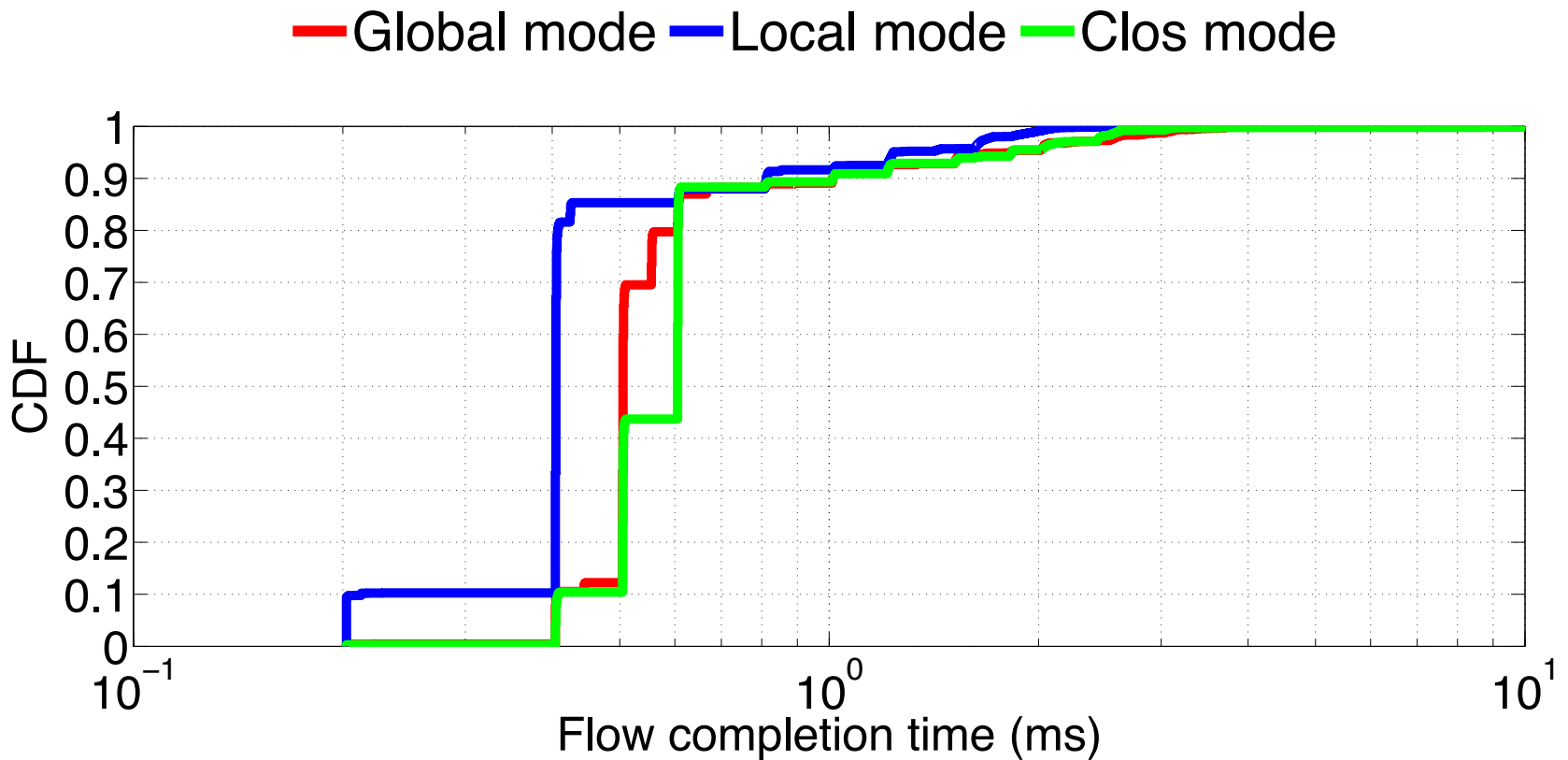
# Rack-level Locality

- Hadoop-2: rack-level locality



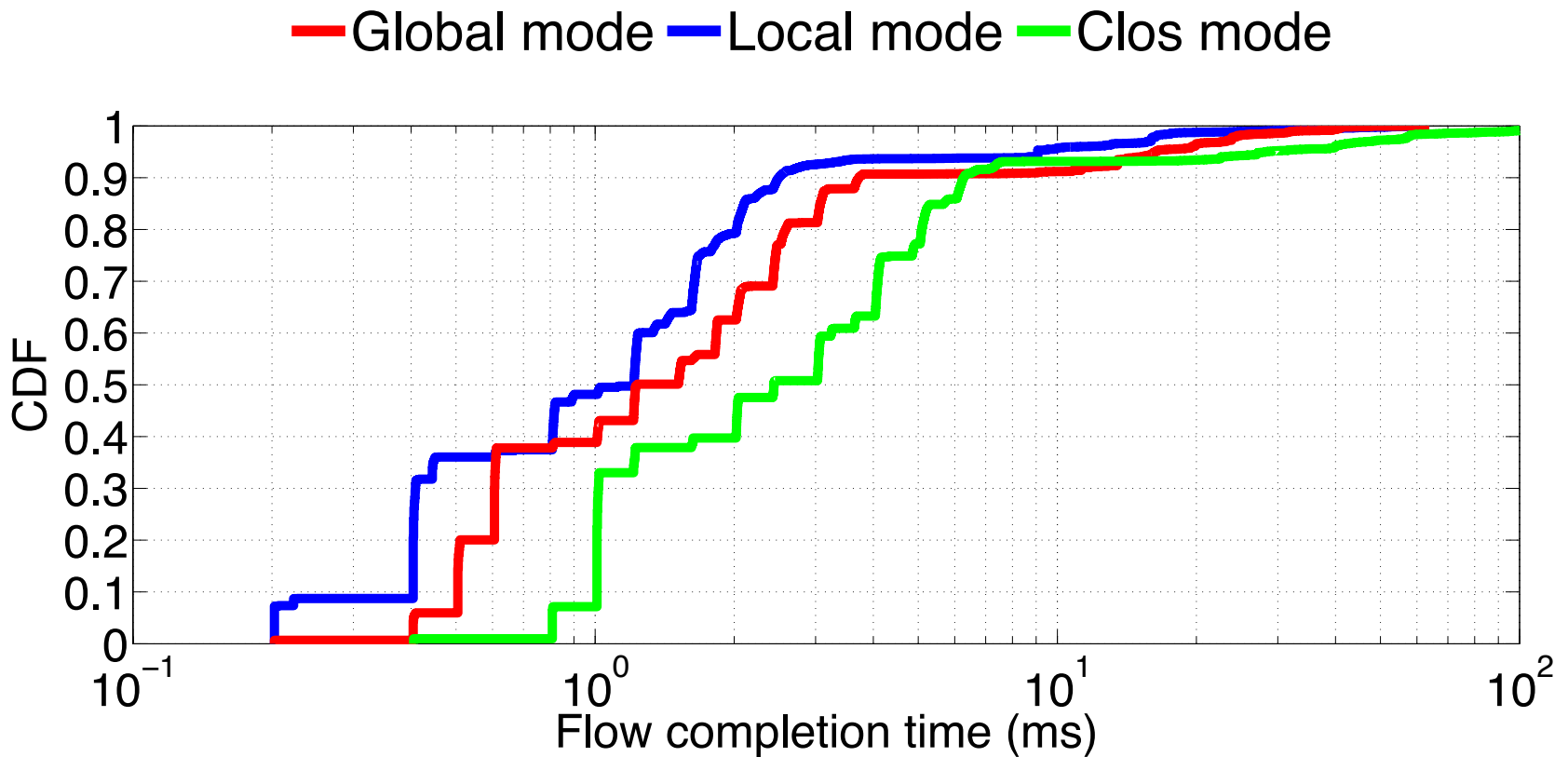
# Pod-level Locality

- Web: Pod-level locality



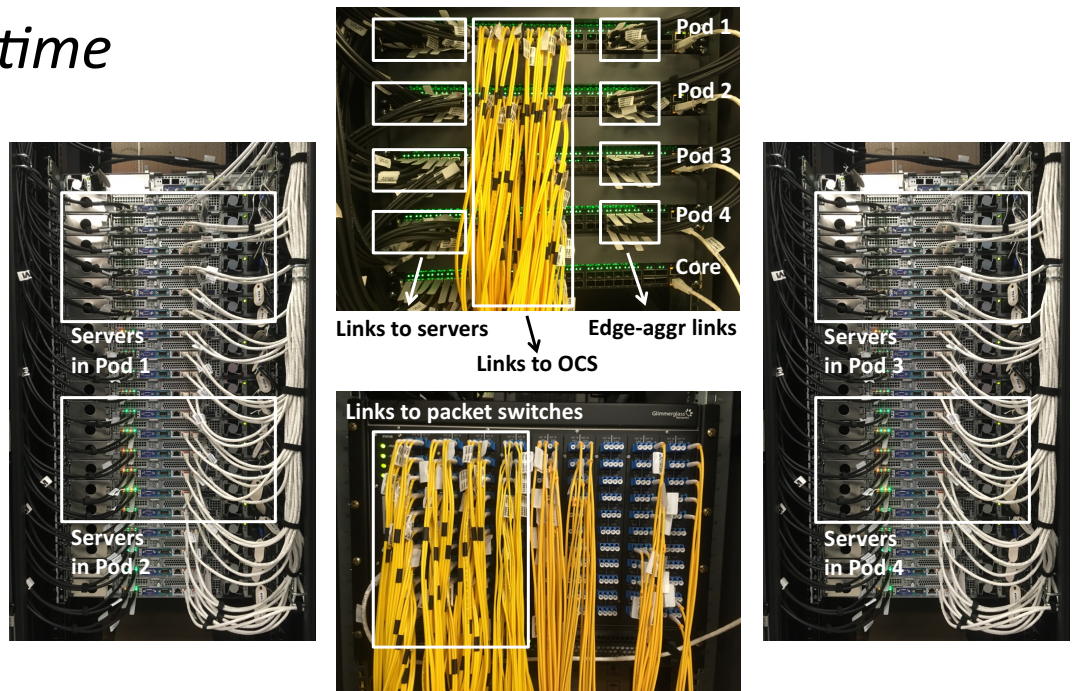
# Pod-level Locality

- Cache: Pod-level locality



# Testbed

- Implementation of motivating example
  - *Hadoop & Spark*
  - *27.6% more bandwidth*
  - *10% less data read time*



# Outline

## ShareBackup

*[HotNets'17,  
SIGCOMM'18]*

Failure  
Recovery

## Flat-tree

*[HotNets'16,  
SIGCOMM'17]*

Service  
Provisioning

## OmniSwitch

*[HotCloud'15]*

Wiring &  
Maintenance

## Lighthouse

*(In submission)*

Physical-Layer Programmability in WAN

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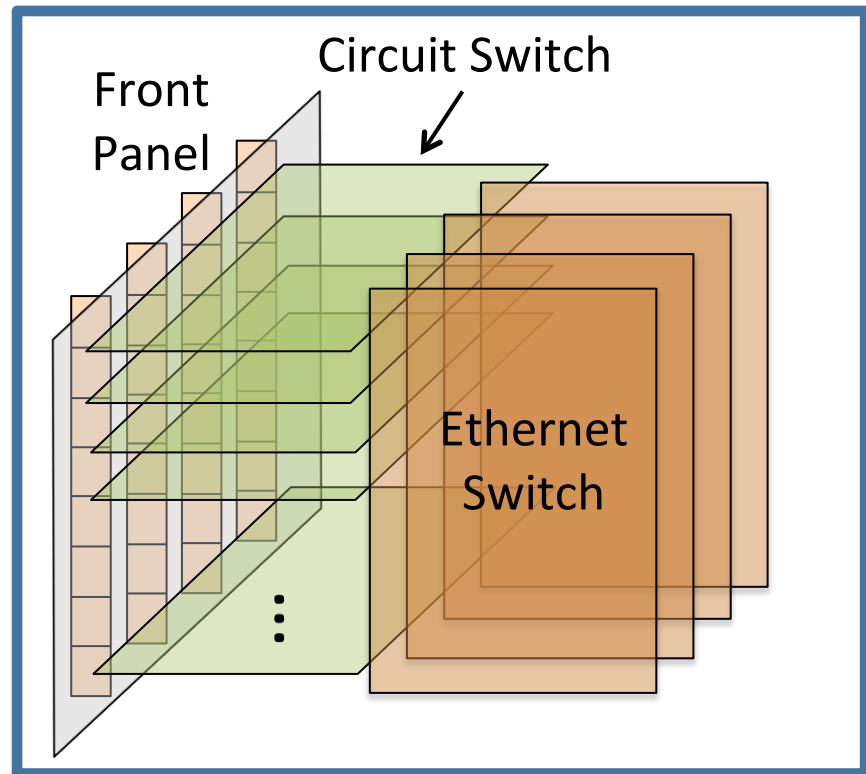
*(In submission)*

Physical-Layer Programmability in WAN



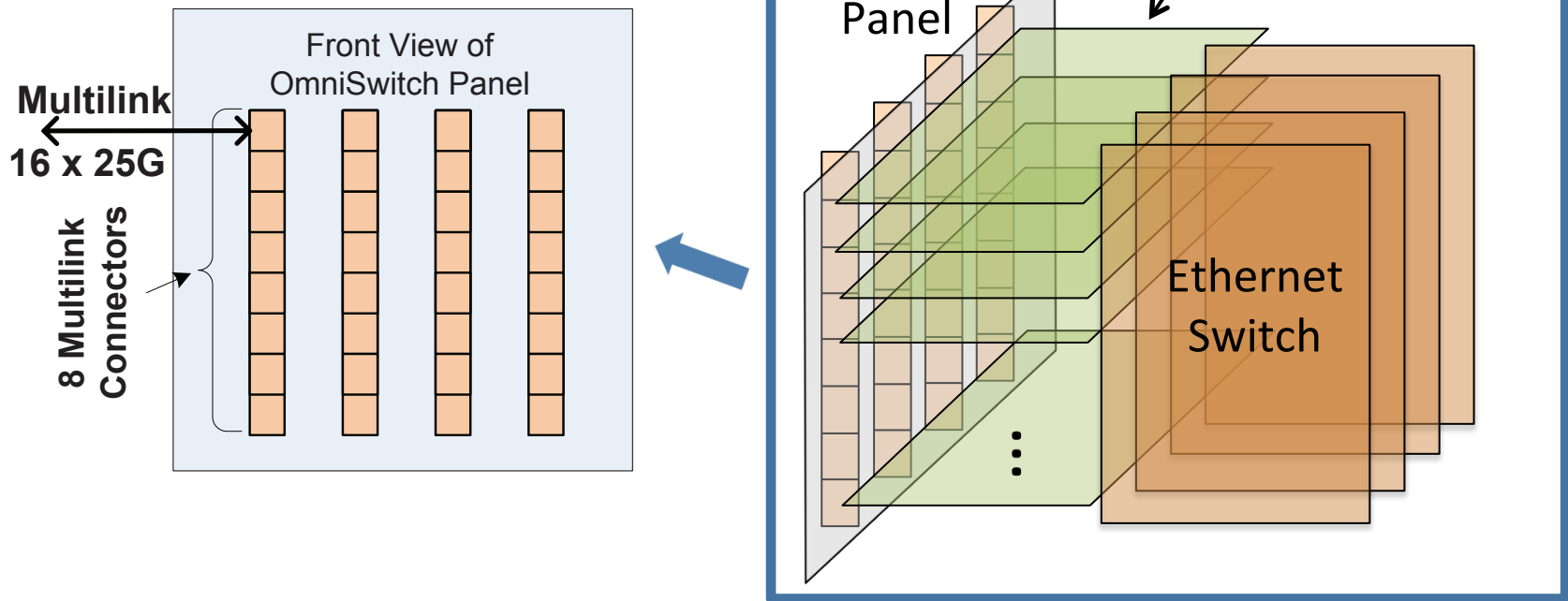
# OmniSwitch

- Universal Building Block



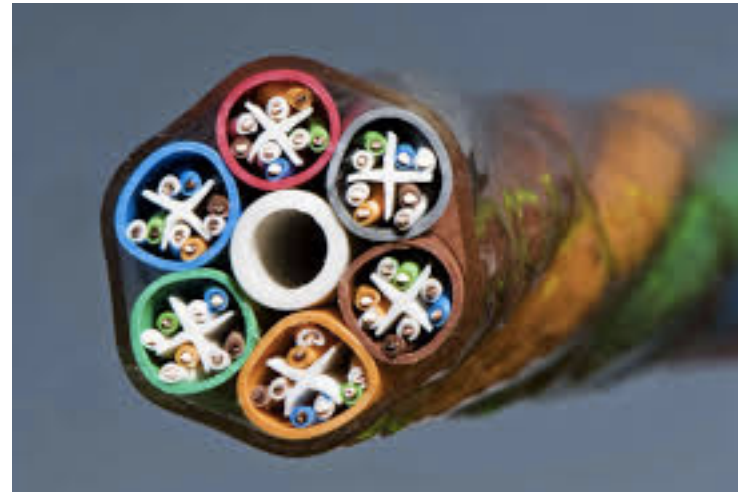
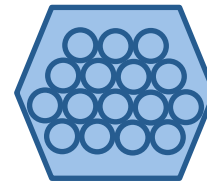
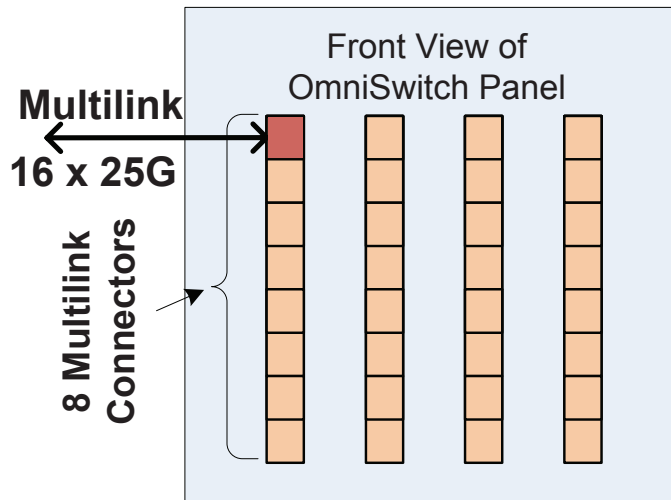
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- Universal Building Block

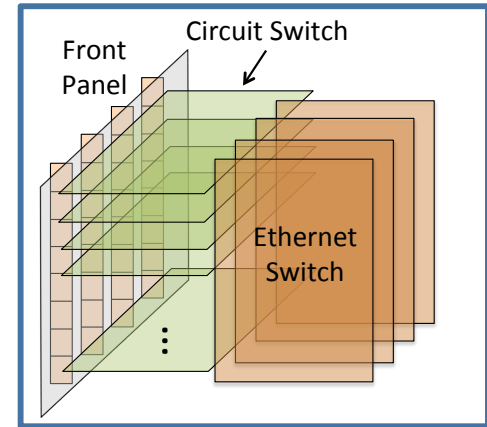


# OmniSwitch

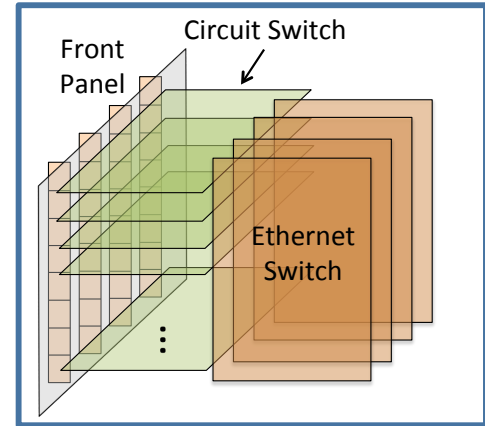
- Universal Building Block



# Automatic Wiring



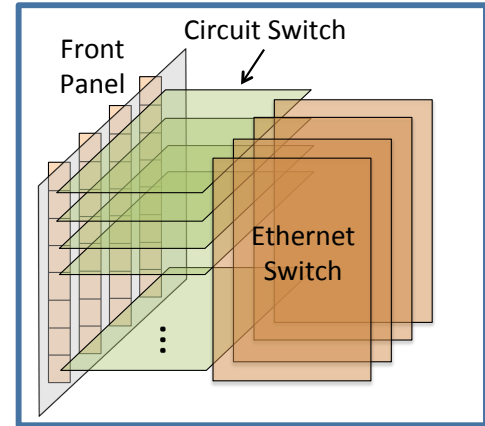
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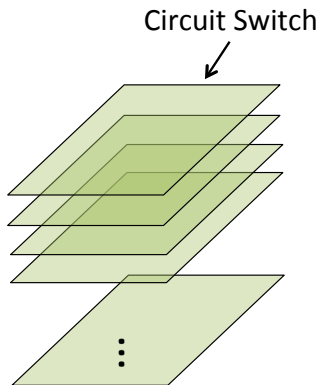
4 Ethernet Switches (128 ports each)



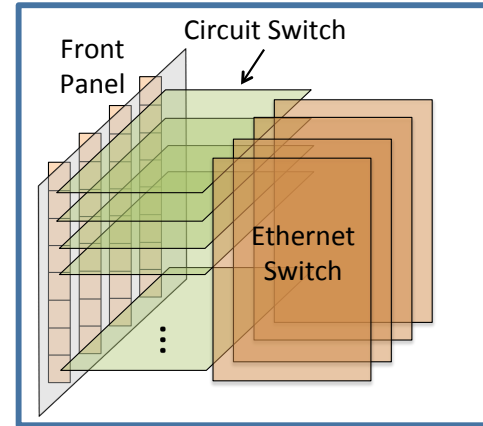
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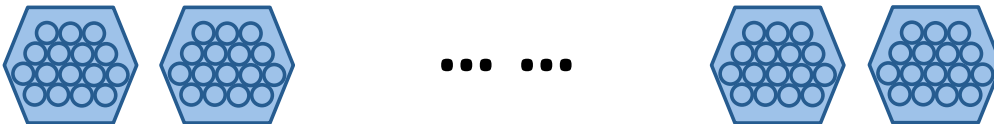
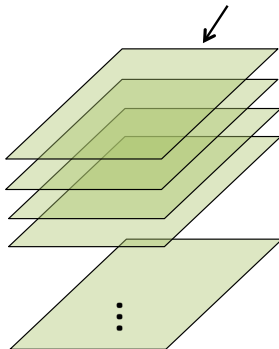
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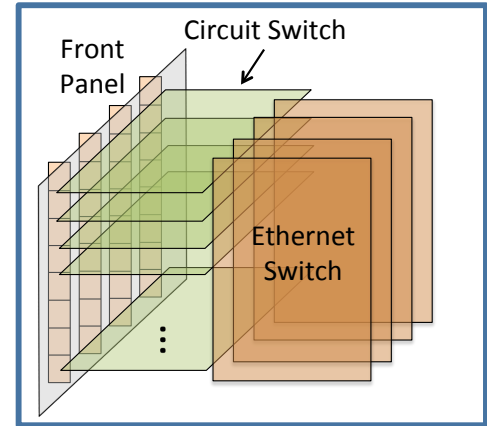


Circuit Switch

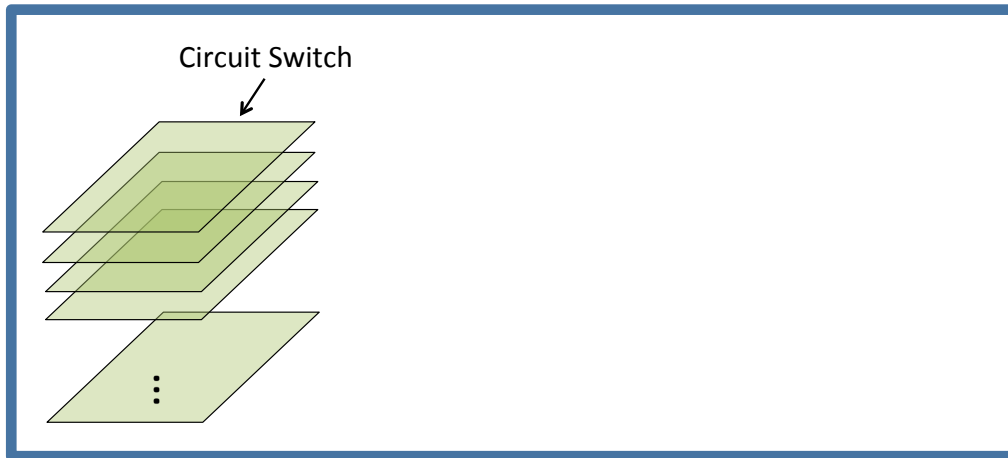


32 Multilink Connectors  
(16 individual links each)

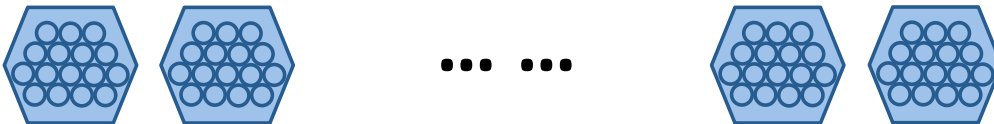
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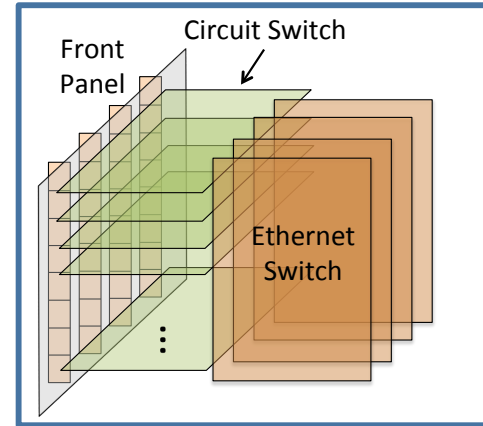
## Wiring Software



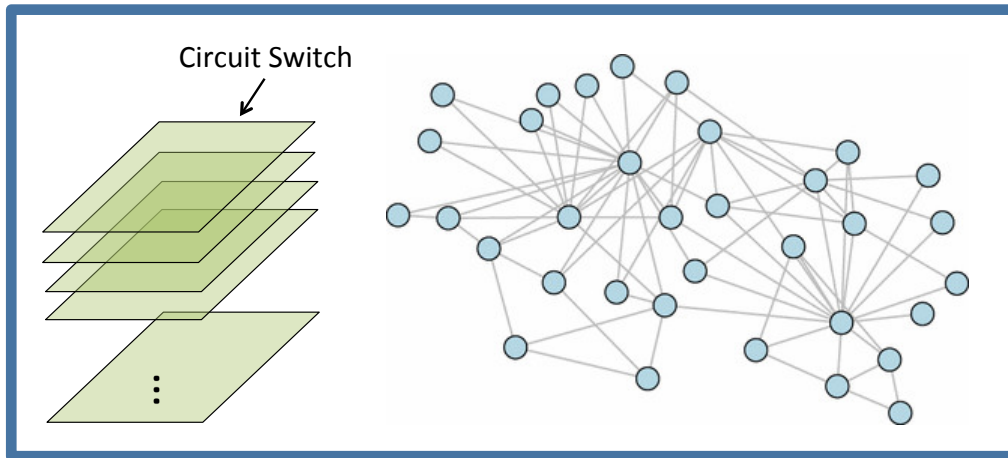
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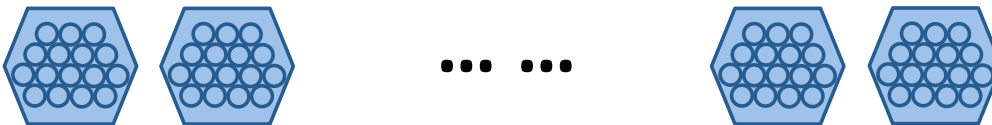
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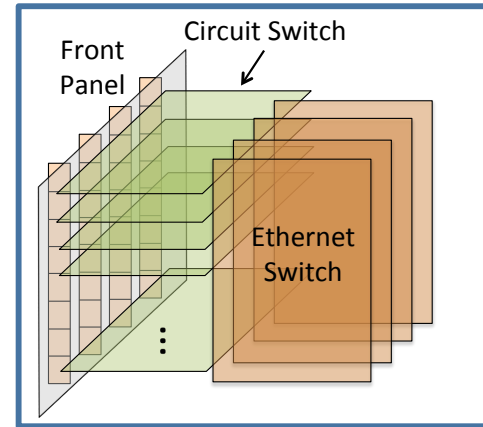


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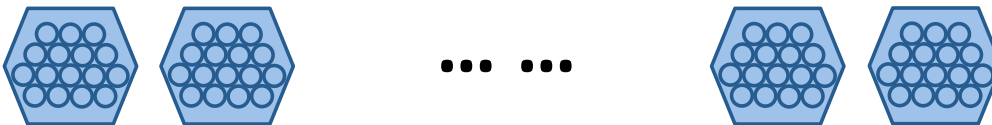
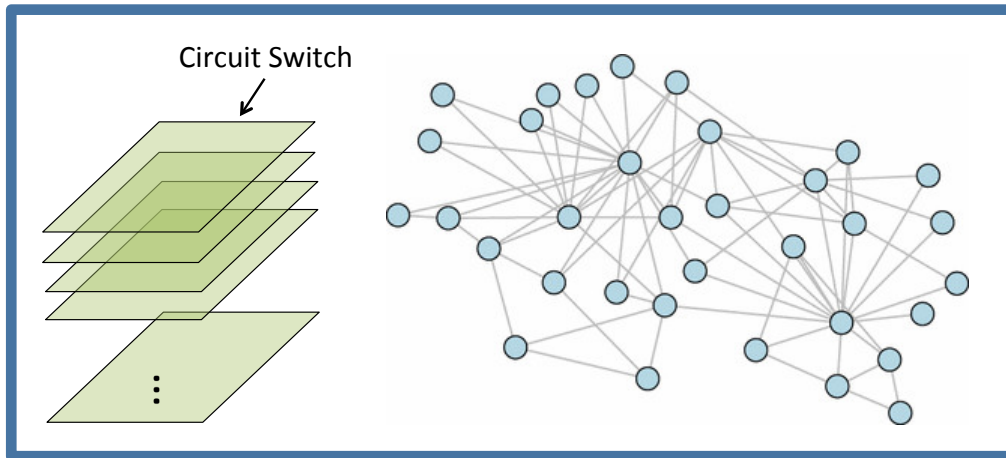


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# Easy Maintenance



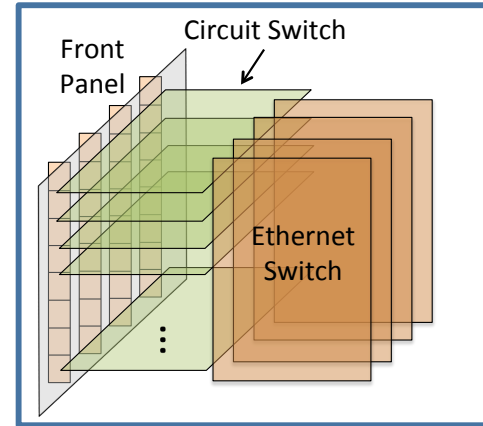
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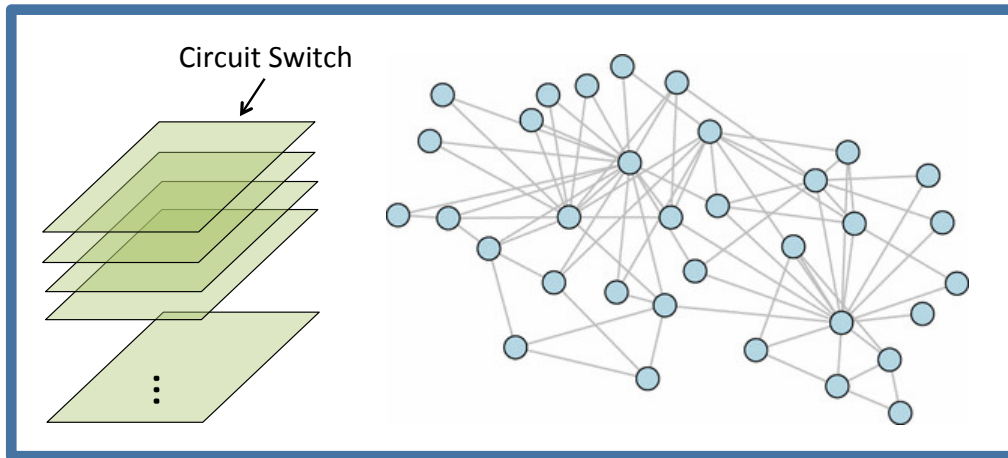
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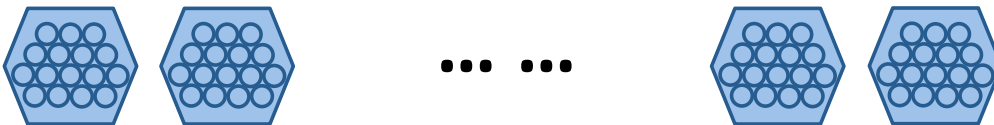
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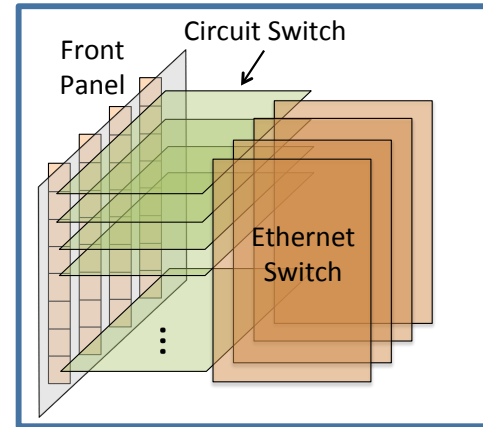


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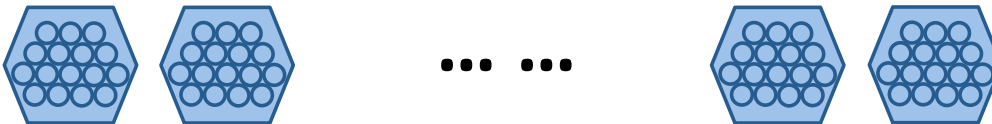
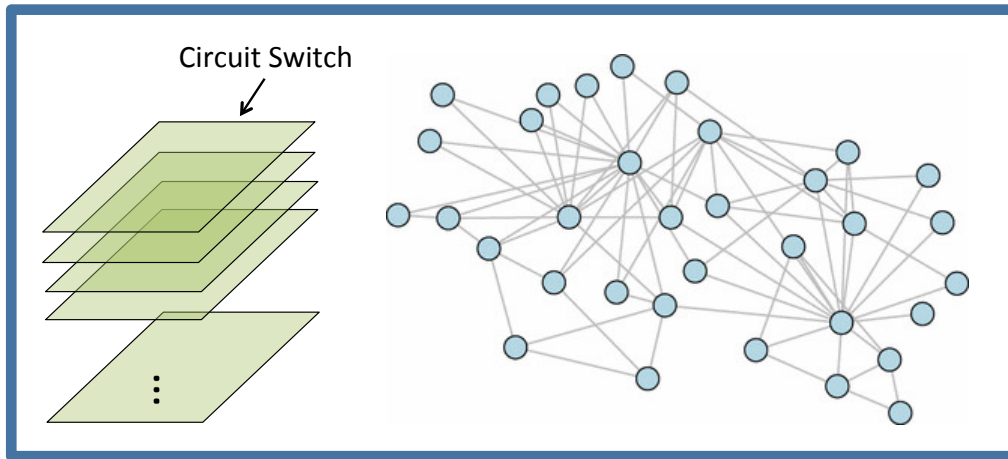


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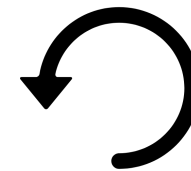
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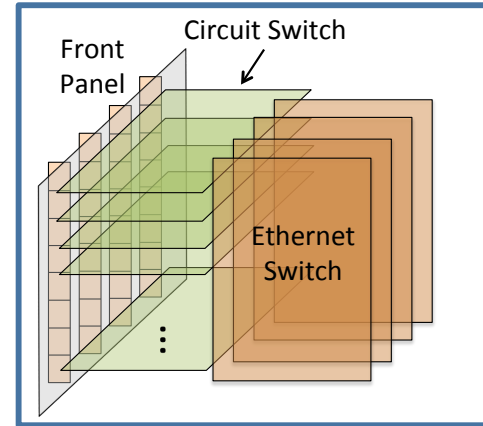


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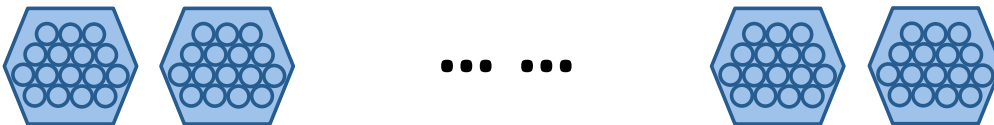
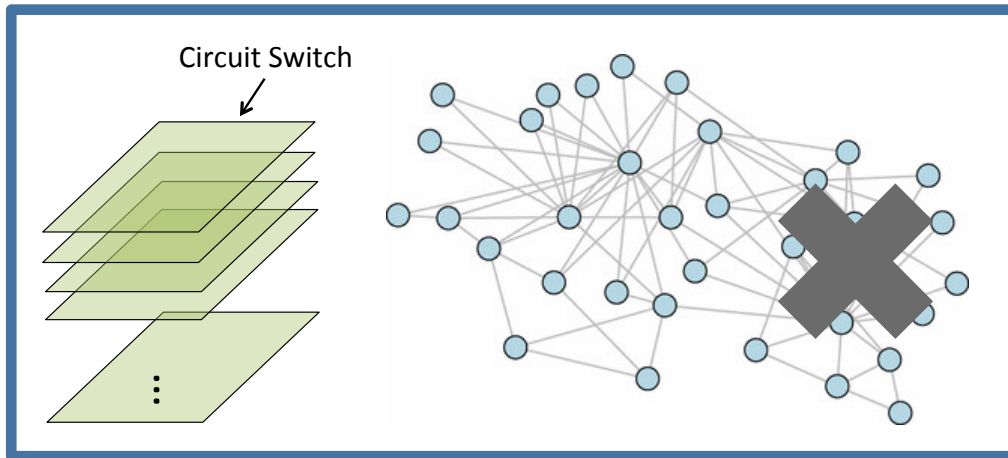
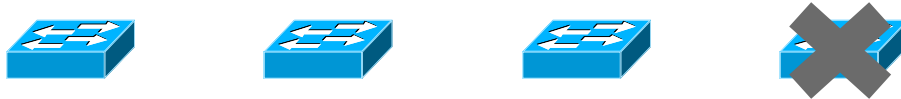


**Wiring Software**

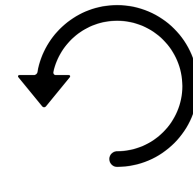
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**Wiring Software**

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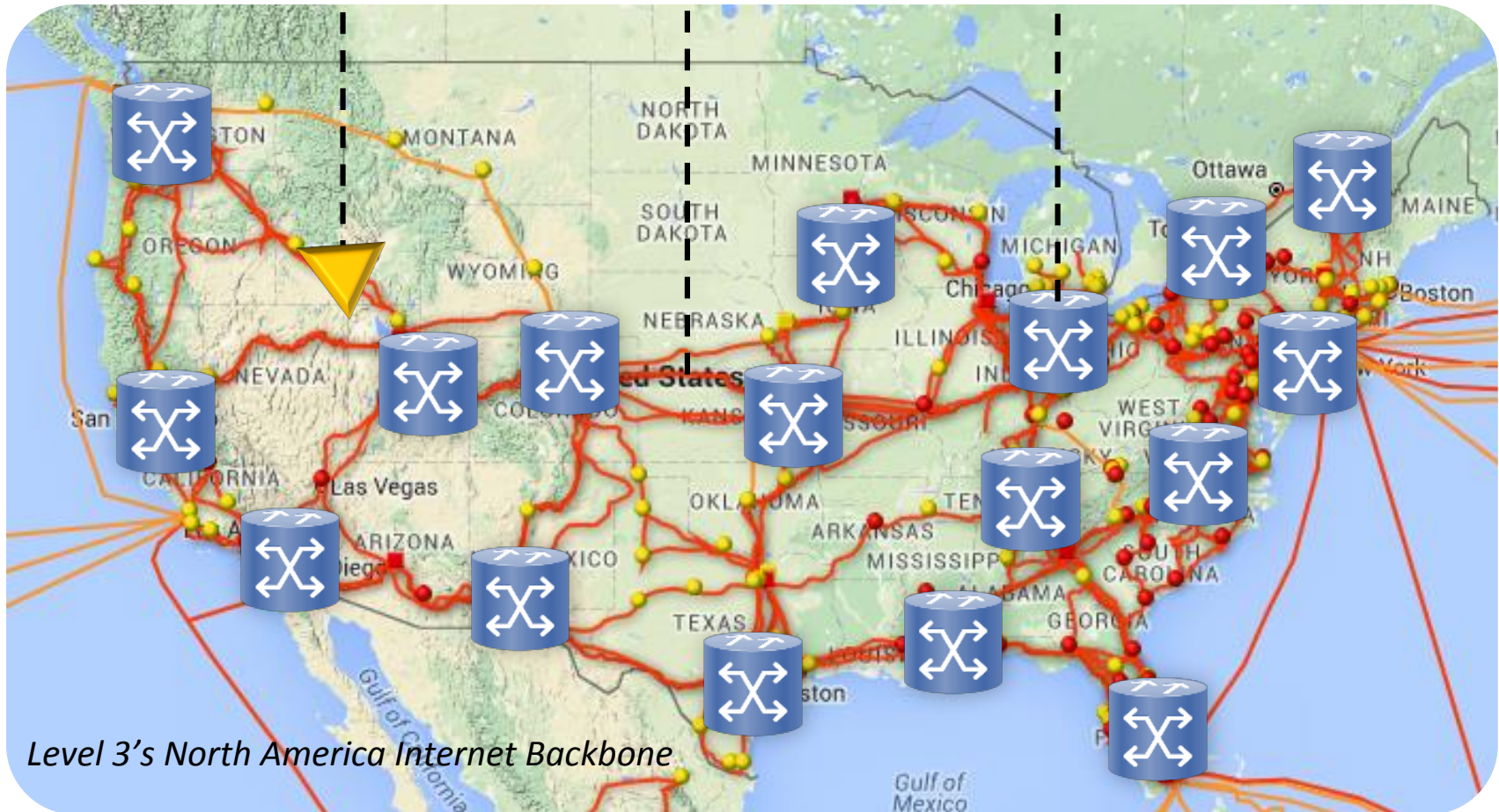
Physical-Layer Programmability in WAN

# Wide Area Network (WAN)

Amplifier

Fiber

Optical Cross Connect (ROADM)

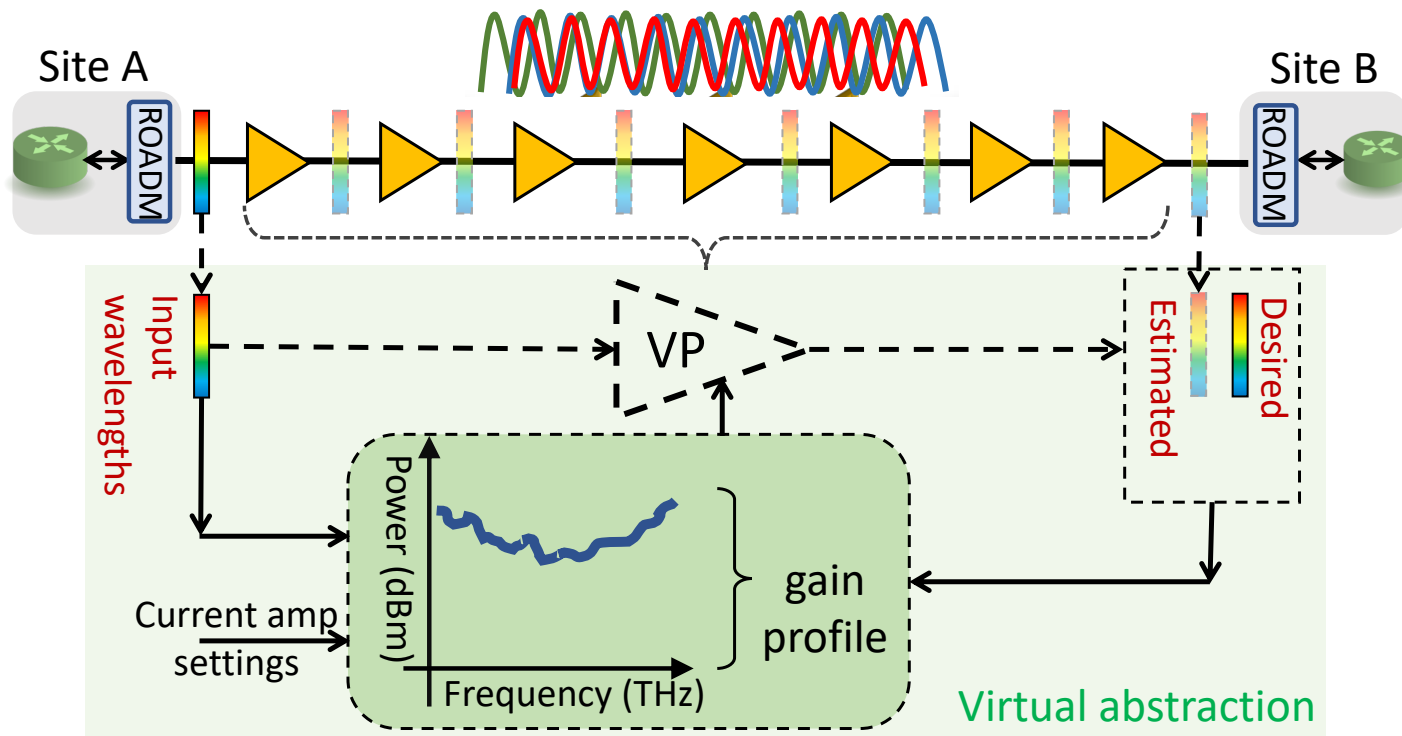


Level 3's North America Internet Backbone



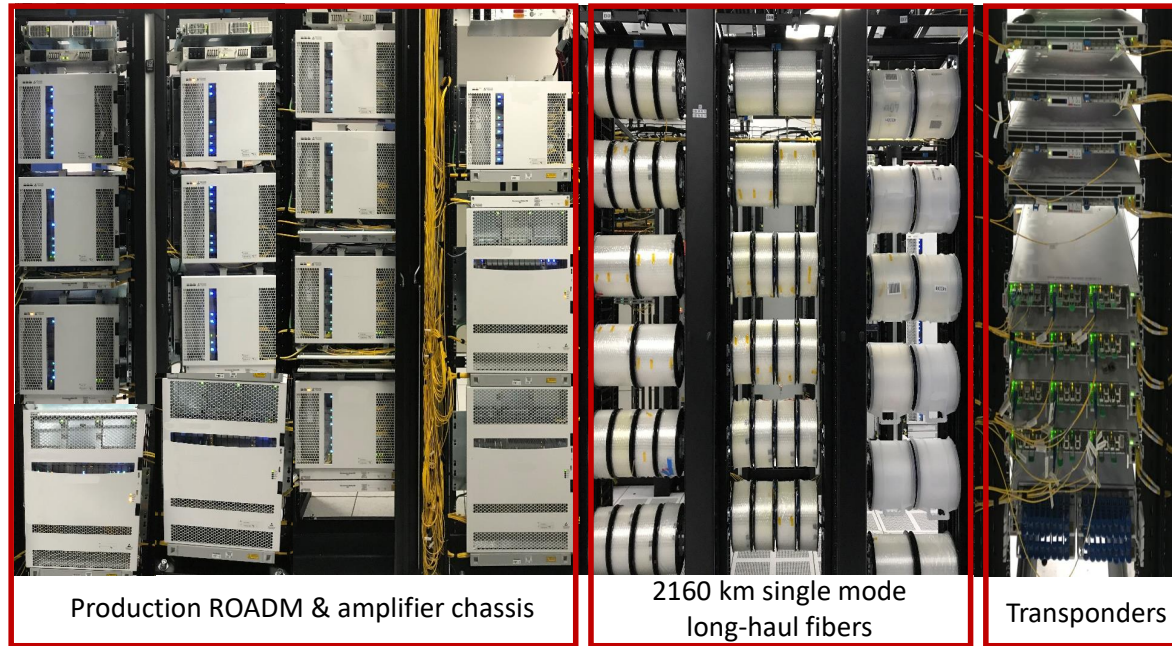
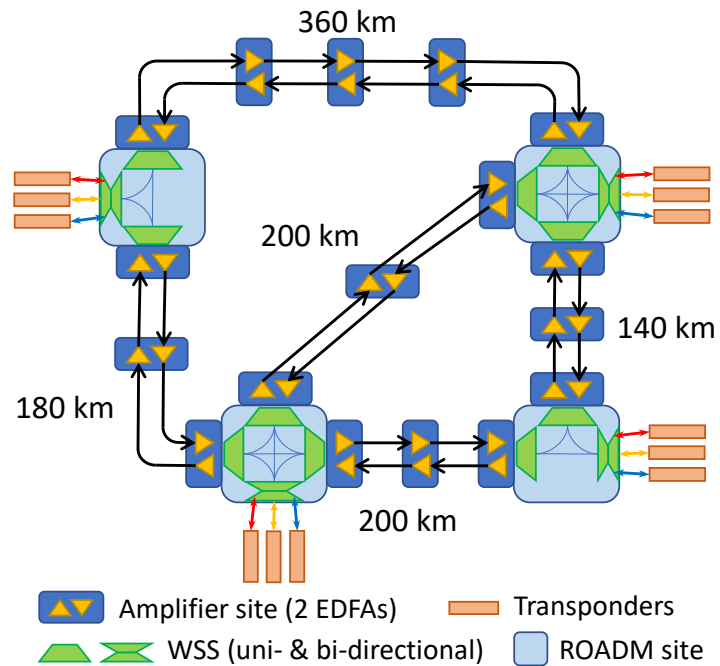
# Fast Wavelength Shifting

- Wavelength shifting is slow: ~10min
- Model power profile with Virtual Amplifier



# Testbed Demo

- Wavelength shifting in 8 seconds



20+ engineers, 1 month time

# Summary

- Physical-layer programmability for network operation
- Four example architectures

	ShareBackup	Flat-tree	OmniSwitch	Lighthouse
Design purpose	Failure recovery	Service provisioning	Wiring & maintenance	Programmability in WAN
Intuition	Shareable backup	Topology conversion	Universal building block	Wavelength shifting
Key ideas	Failure group	1. Server mobility 2. Link diversification	Wiring software	Model power profile

# Social Impact

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- Connect the world
  - *1<sup>st</sup> week of social distancing: 15% increase of FB utilization*
  - *Reliability and availability at highest priority*
  - *More oncall efforts to guard our infrastructures*

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- Provide high-quality service
  - *Netflix and Amazon ceased HD content streaming*
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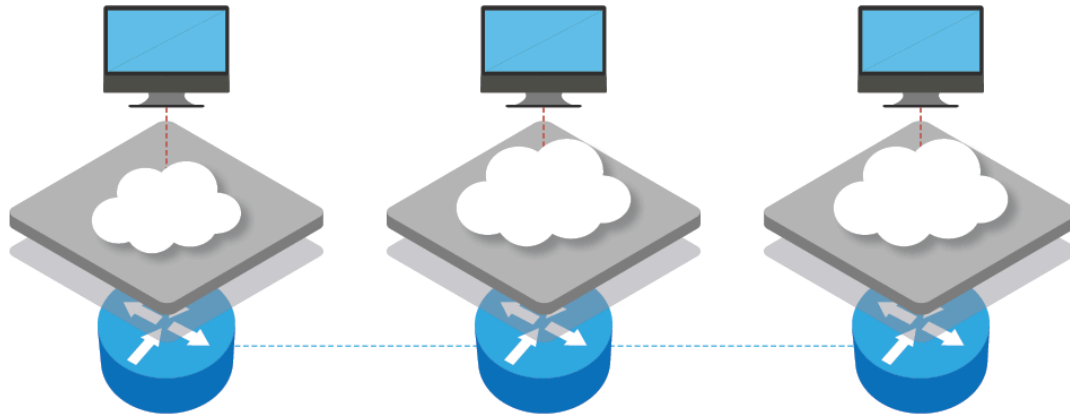
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  - Make elastic capacity of hardware possible

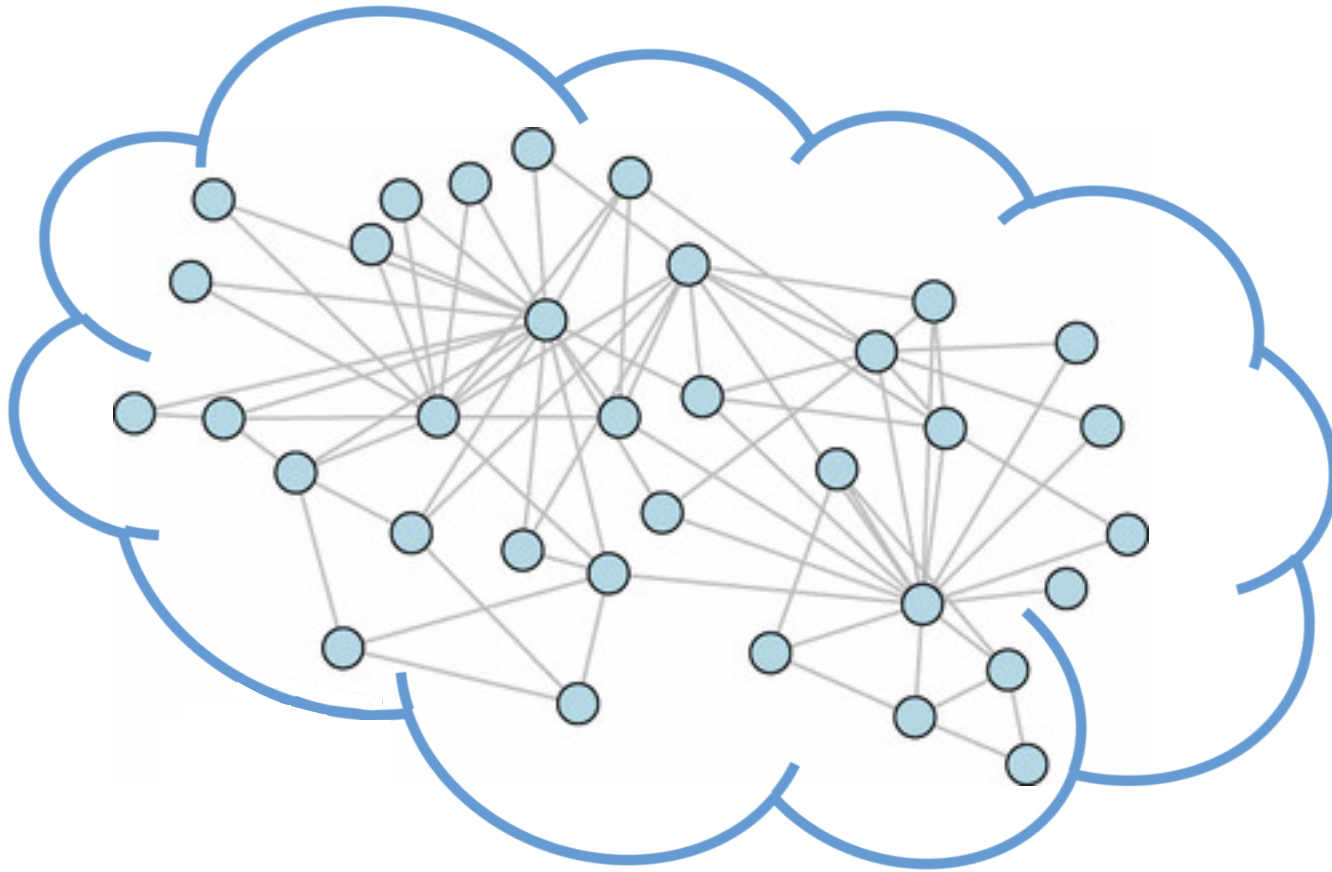


# Bright Future: Truly Flexible Cloud

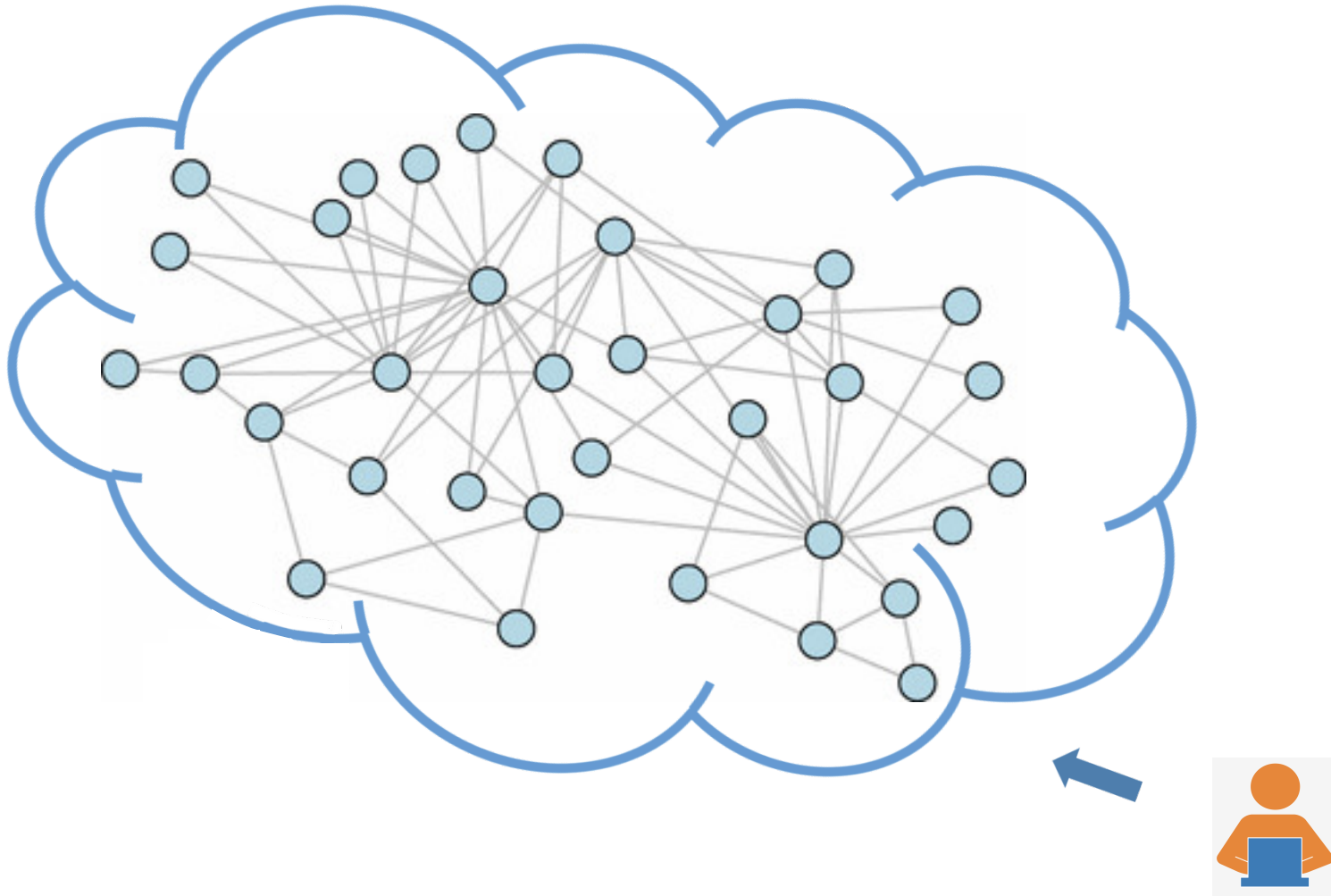
Virtualization



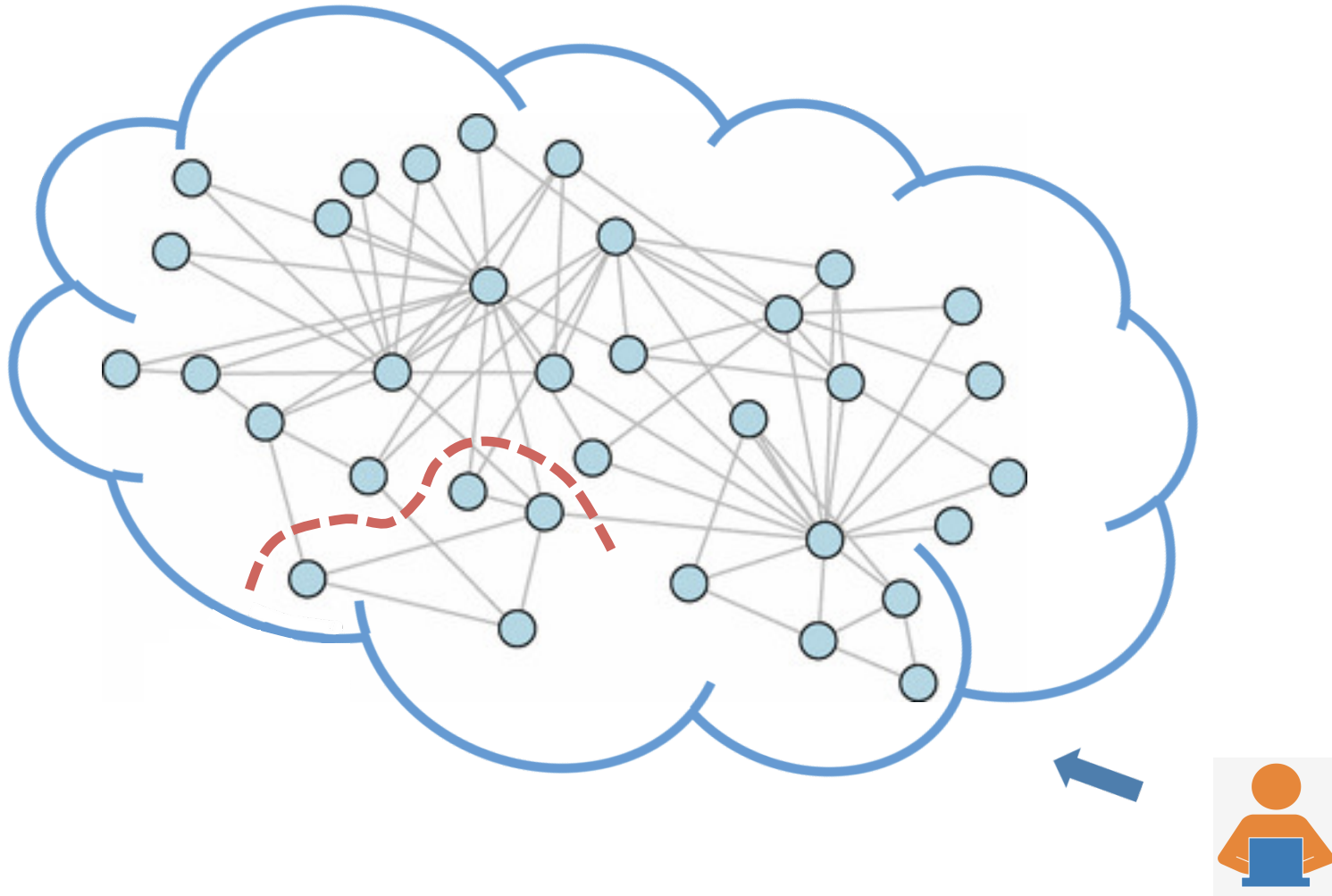
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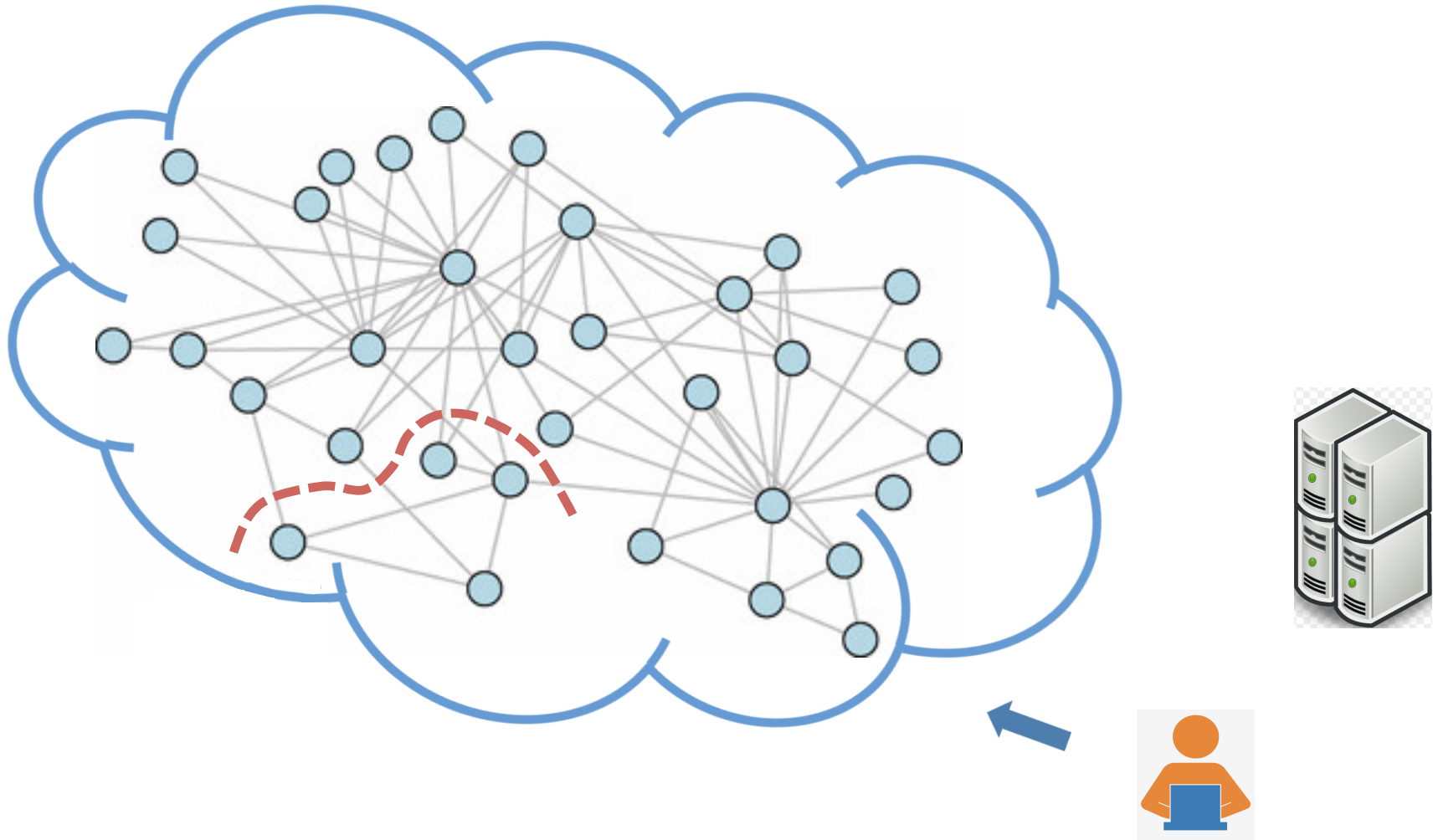
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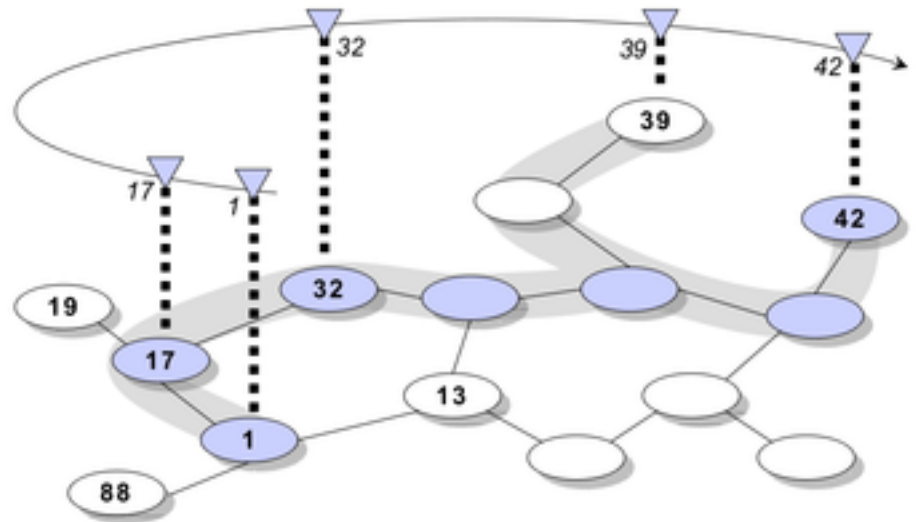
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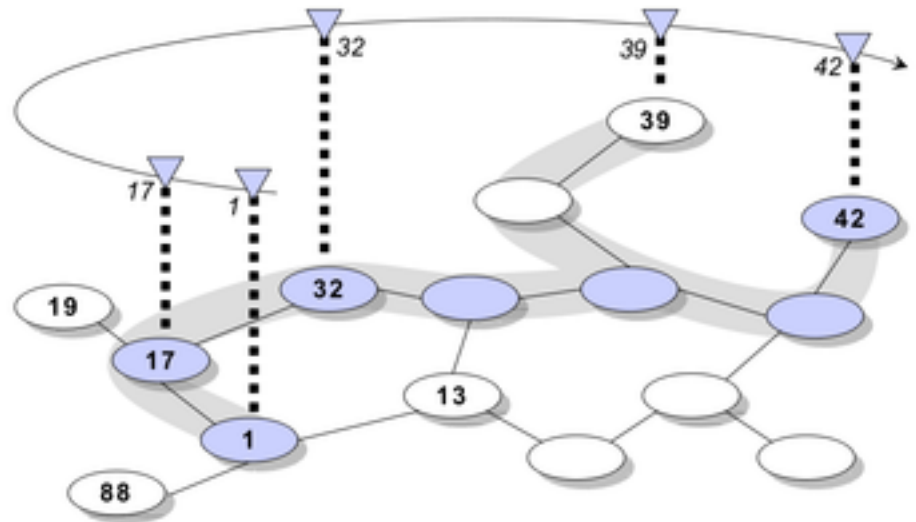


# Direction 1: Network Verification



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Validate  
connectivity

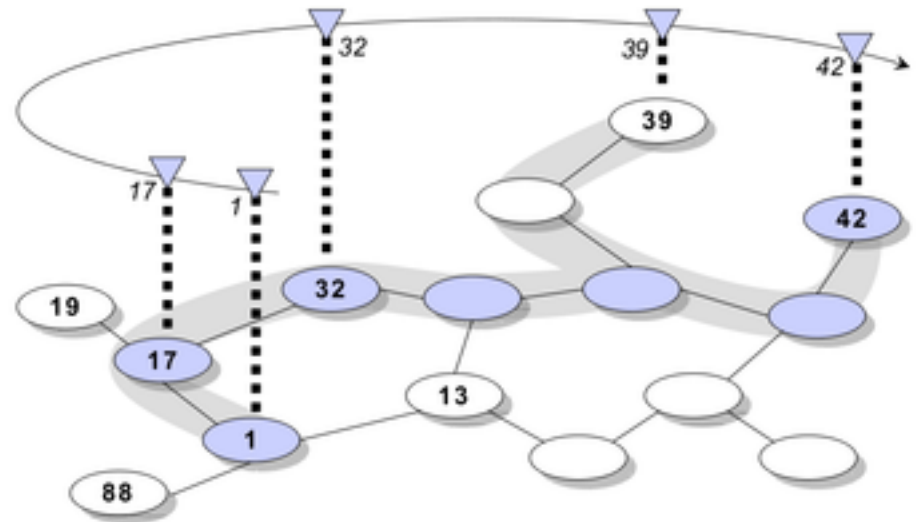


# Direction 1: Network Verification

Validate routing



Validate connectivity





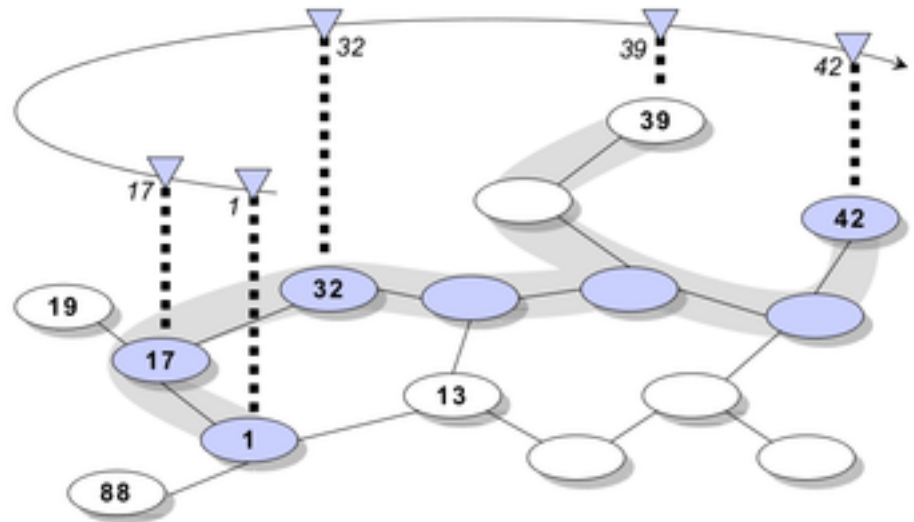
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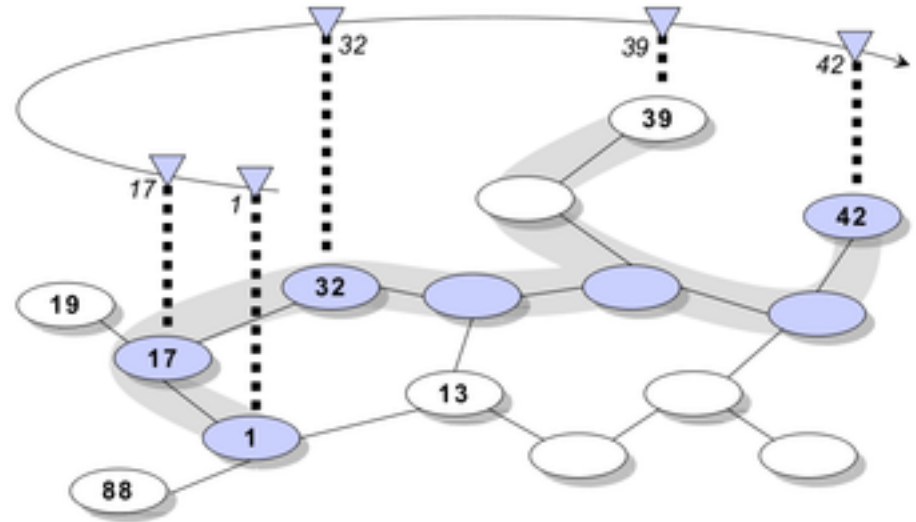
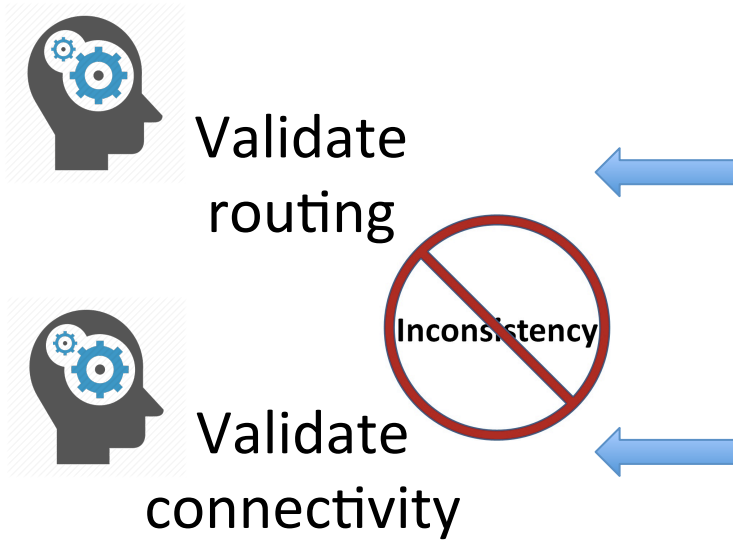
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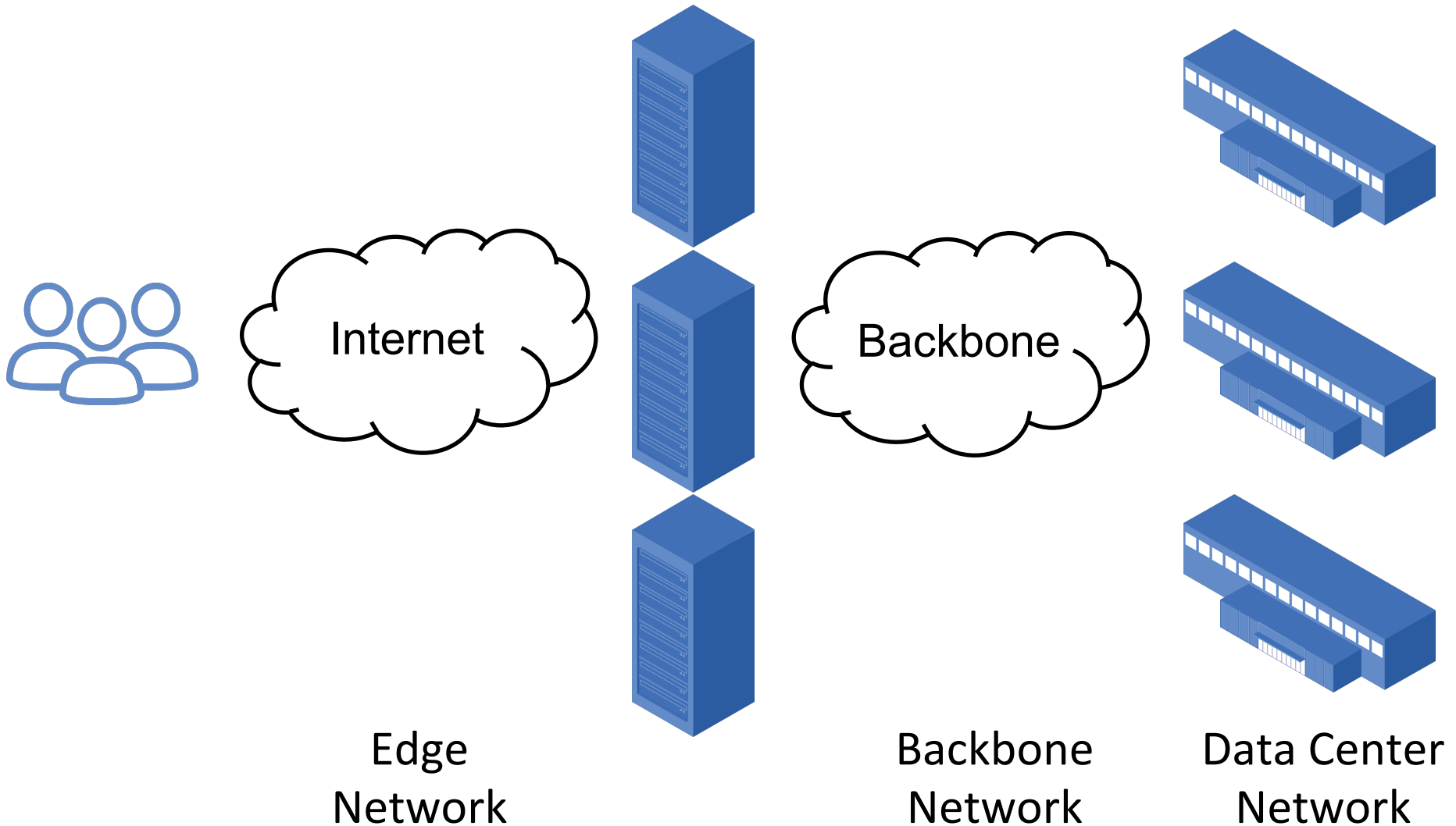
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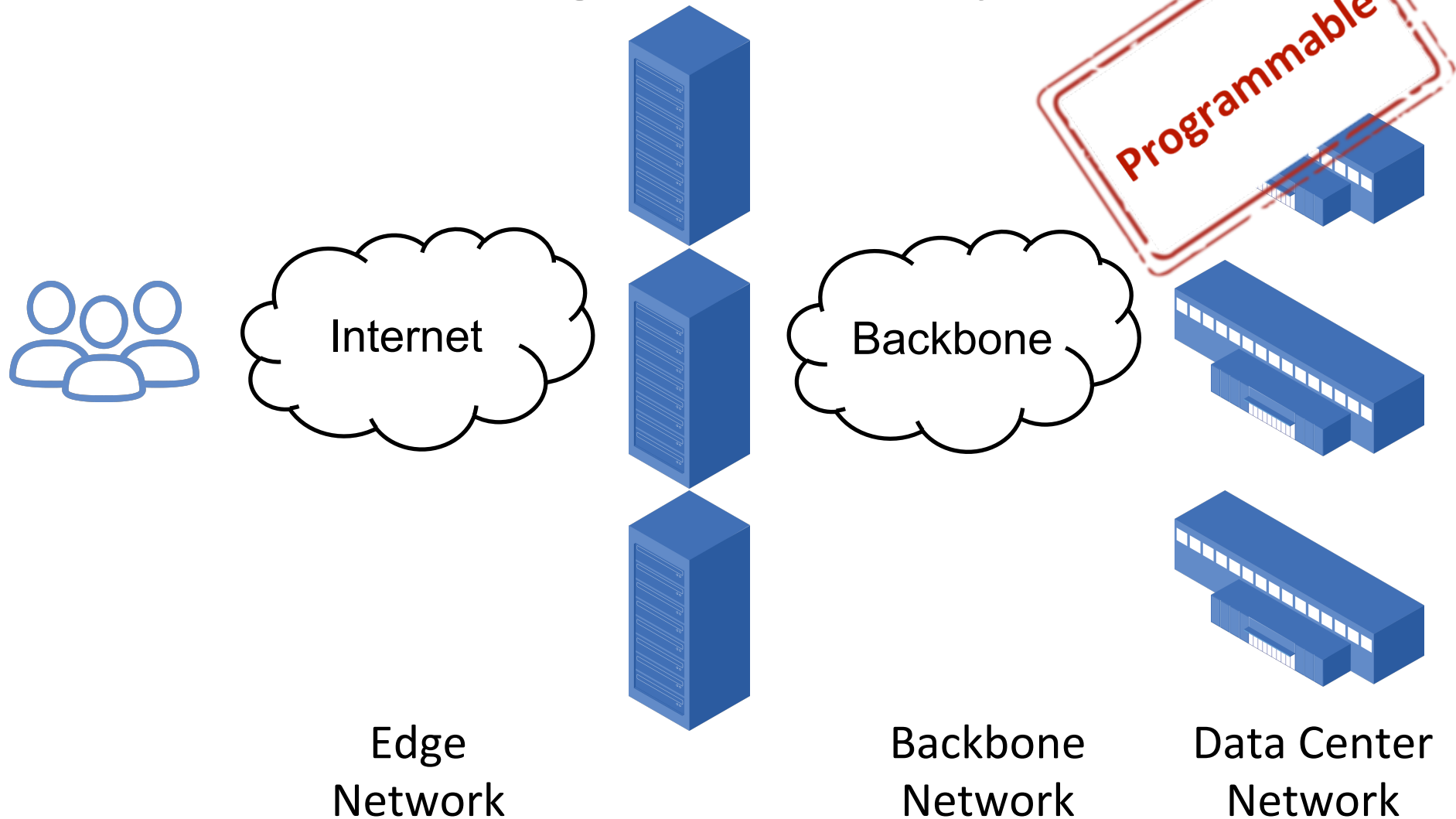
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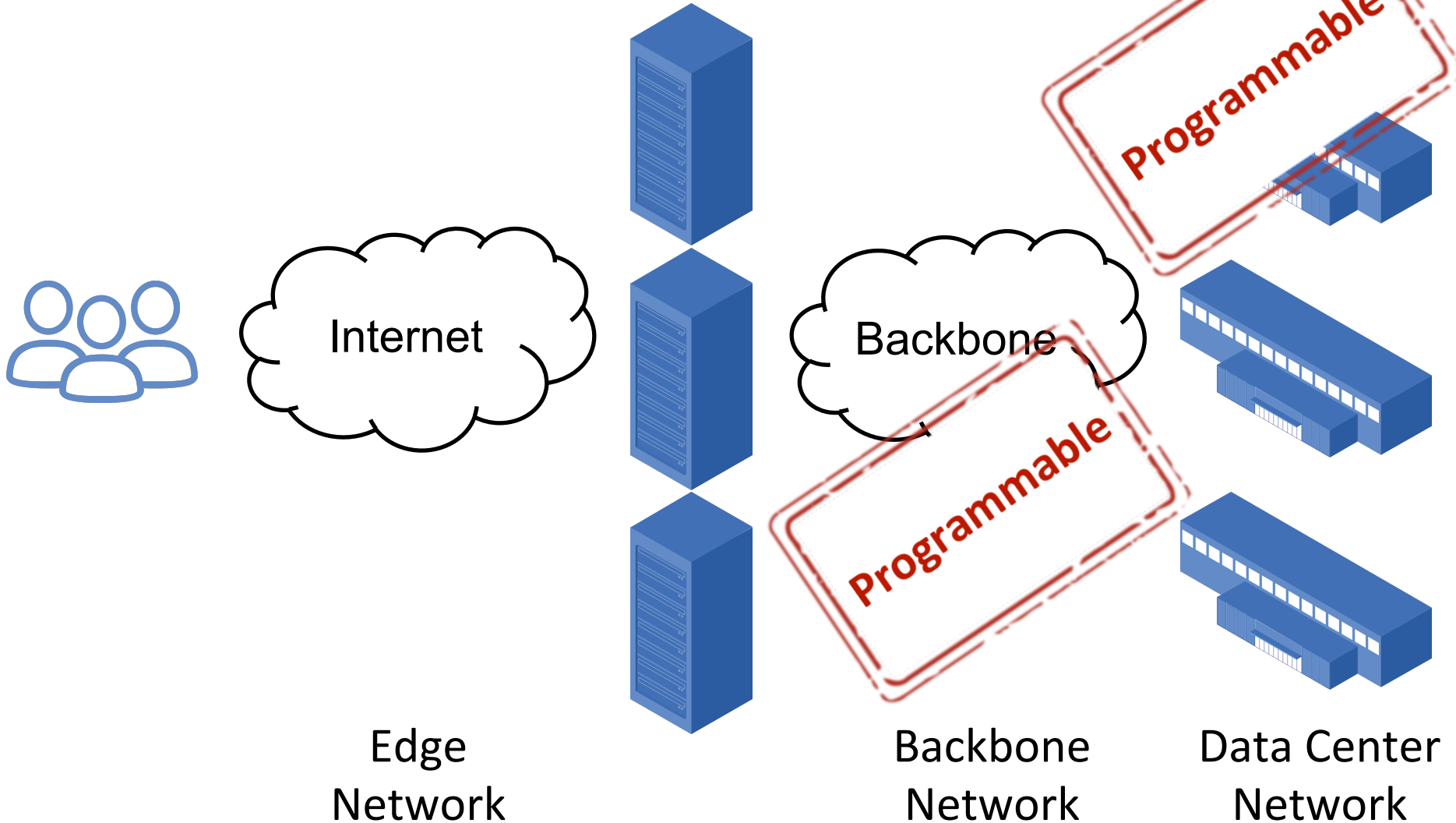
# Direction 2: End-to-End / Cross-Layer Programmability



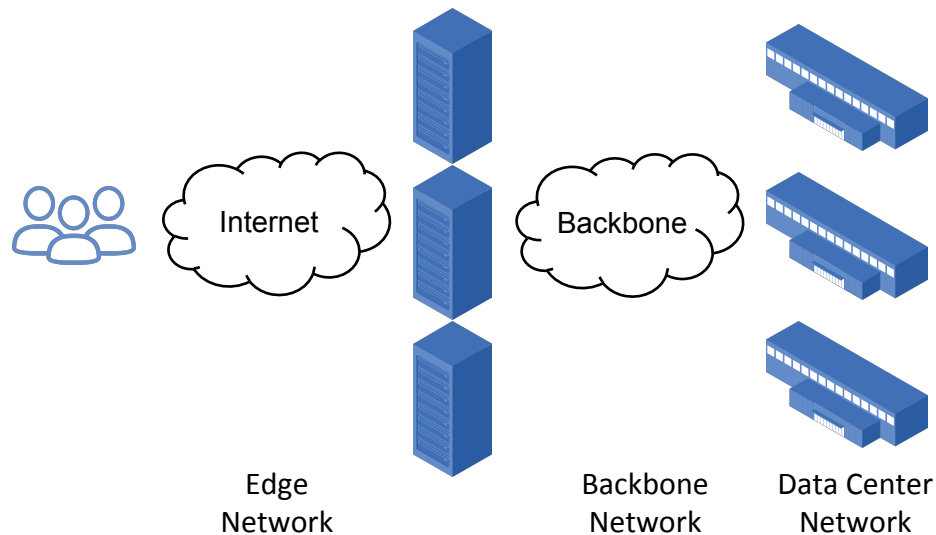
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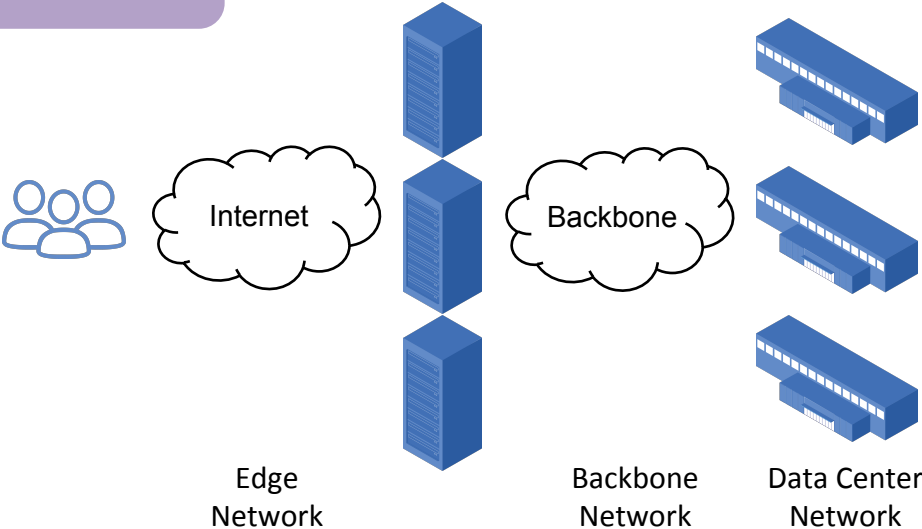


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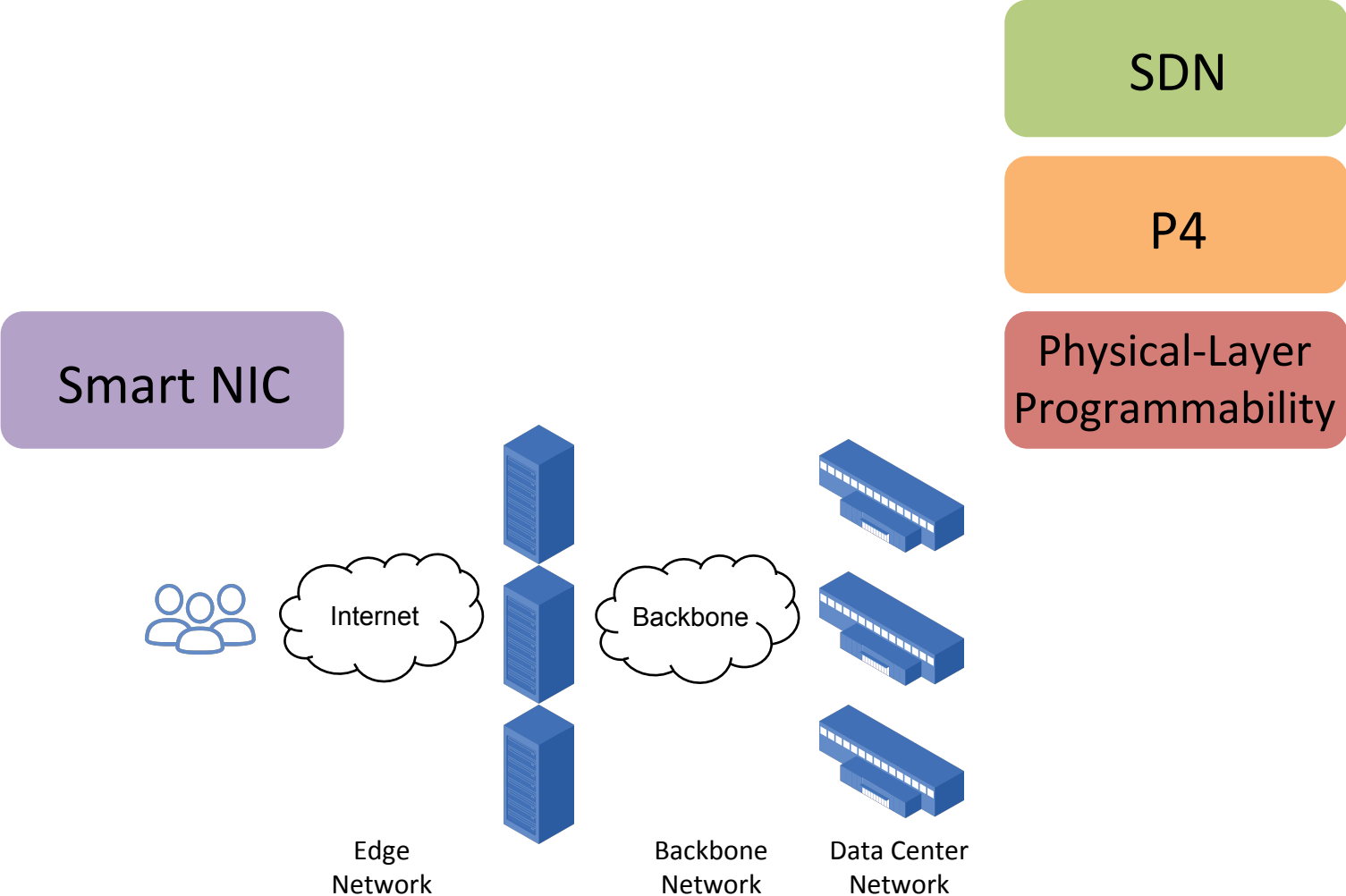


# Direction 2: End-to-End / Cross-Layer Programmability

Smart NIC



# Direction 2: End-to-End / Cross-Layer Programmability





# Direction 3: Joint Optimization of Traffic and Network Topology

Fit traffic to  
network topology



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Fit traffic to  
network topology

Fit network  
topology to traffic



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Formulation

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Fit traffic to network topology

Fit network topology to traffic



Formulation



Optimization