CSCI-1680
P2P

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Based partly on lecture notes by Ion Stoica, Scott Shenker, Joe Hellerstein

Today

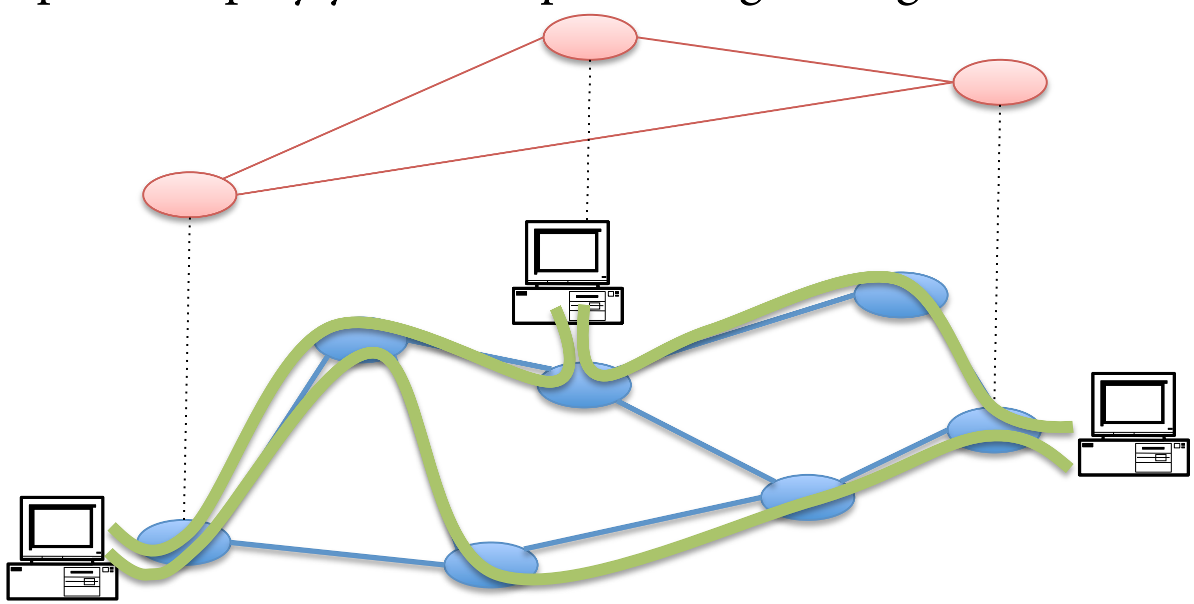
- Overlay networks and Peer-to-Peer

Motivation

- **Suppose you want to write a routing protocol to replace IP**
  - But your network administrator prevents you from writing arbitrary data on your network
- **What can you do?**
  - You have a network that can send packets between arbitrary hosts (IP)
- **You could…**
  - Pretend that the point-to-point paths in the network are *links* in an overlay network…

Overlay Networks

- **Users want innovation**
- **Change is *very* slow on the Internet (e.g. IPv6!)**
  - Require consensus (IETF)
  - Lots of money sunk in existing infrastructure
- **Solution: don't require change in the network!**
  - Use IP paths, deploy your own processing among nodes



Why would you want that anyway?

- **Doesn't the network provide you with what you want?**
  - What if you want to teach a class on how to implement IP? (IP on top of UDP… sounds familiar?)
  - What if Internet routing is not ideal?
  - What if you want to test out new multicast algorithms, or IPv6?
- **Remember…**
  - The Internet started as an overlay over ossified telephone networks!

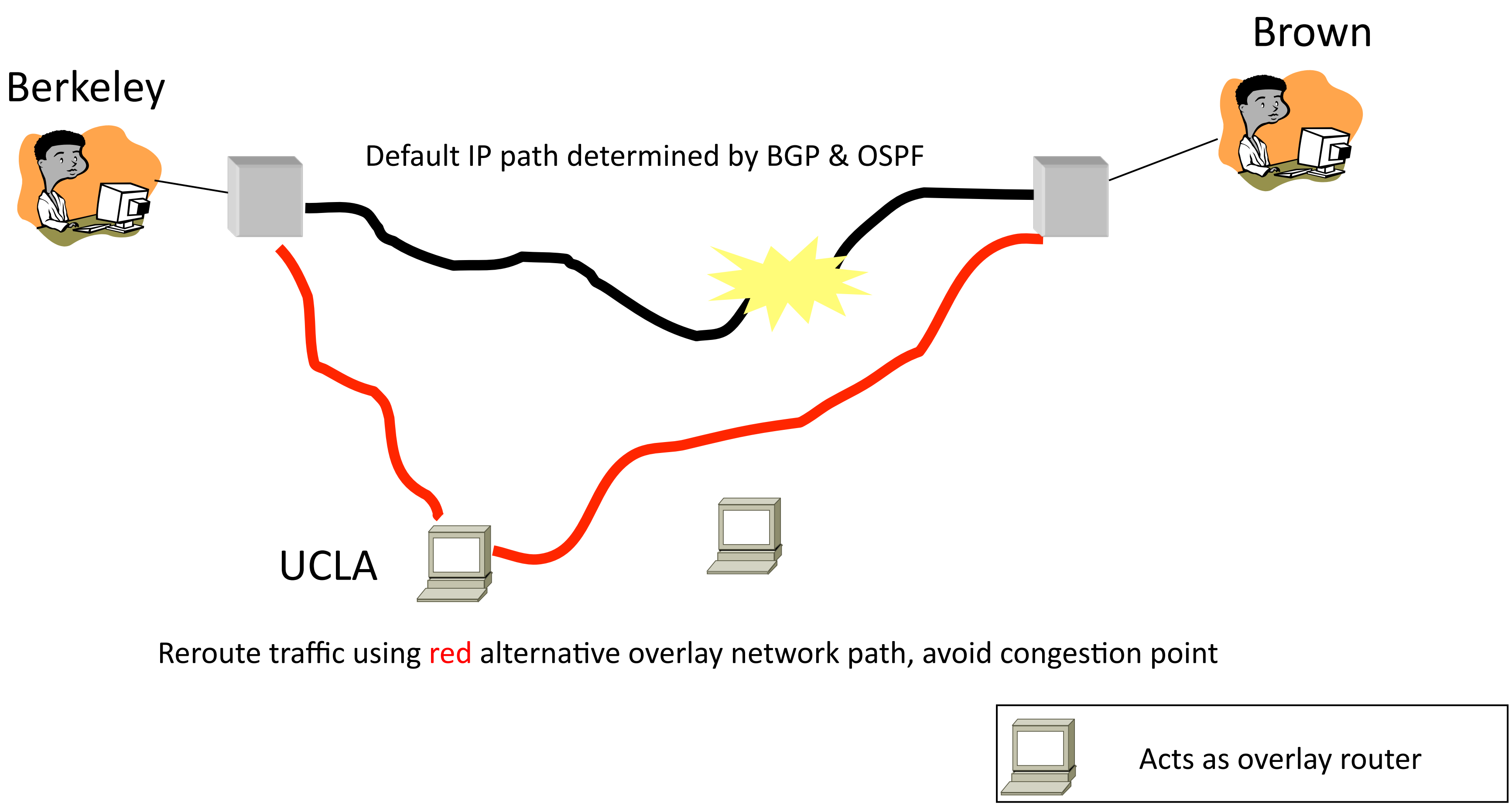
Case Studies

- **Resilient Overlay Network**
- **Peer-to-peer systems**
- **Others (won't cover today)**
  - Email
  - Web
  - End-system Multicast
  - Your IP programming assignment
  - VPNs
  - Some IPv6 deployment solutions
  - …

Resilient Overlay Network - RON

- **Goal: increase performance and reliability of routing**
- **How?**
  - Deploy N computers in different places
  - Each computer acts as a router between the N participants
- **Establish IP tunnels between all pairs**
- **Constantly monitor**
  - Available bandwidth, latency, loss rate, etc…
- **Route overlay traffic based on these measurements**

RON



Reroute traffic using red alternative overlay network path, avoid congestion point

Picture from Ion Stoica

RON

- **Does it scale?**
  - Not really, only to a few dozen nodes (NxN)
- **Why does it work?**
  - Route around congestion
  - In BGP, policy trumps optimality
- **Example**
  - 2001, one 64-hour period: 32 outages over 30 minutes
  - RON routed around failure in 20 seconds
- **Reference: http://nms.csail.mit.edu/ron/**

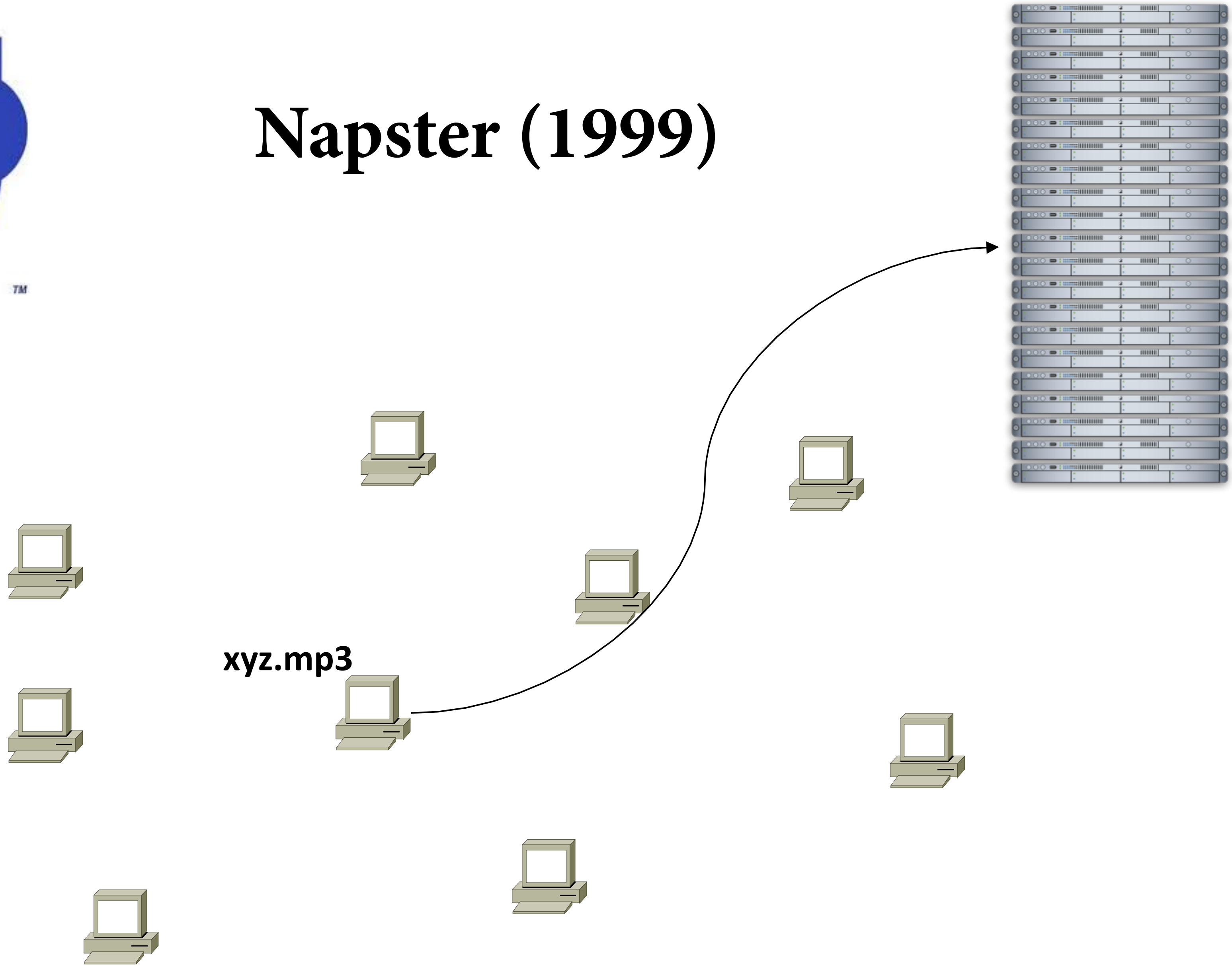
Peer-to-Peer Systems

- **How did it start?**
  - A killer application: file distribution
  - Free music over the Internet! (*not exactly legal…*)
- **Key idea: share storage, content, and bandwidth of individual users**
  - Lots of them
- **Big challenge: coordinate all of these users**
  - In a scalable way (not NxN!)
  - With changing population (aka *churn*)
  - With no central administration
  - With no trust
  - With large heterogeneity (content, storage, bandwidth,…)

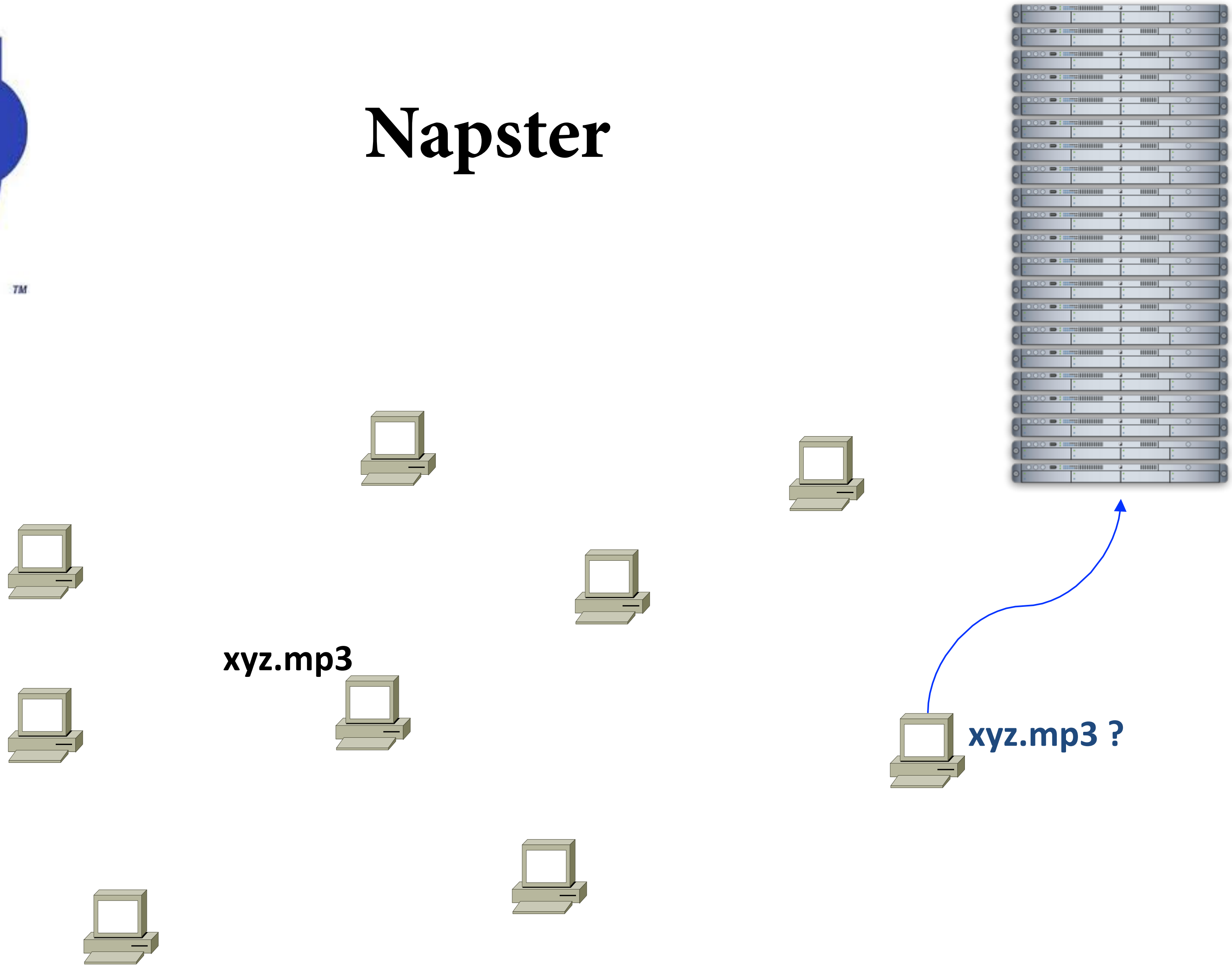
3 Key Requirements

- **P2P Systems do three things:**
- **Help users determine what they want**
  - Some form of search
  - P2P version of Google
- **Locate that content**
  - Which node(s) hold the content?
  - P2P version of DNS (map name to location)
- **Download the content**
  - Should be efficient
  - P2P form of Akamai

Napster (1999)



Napster



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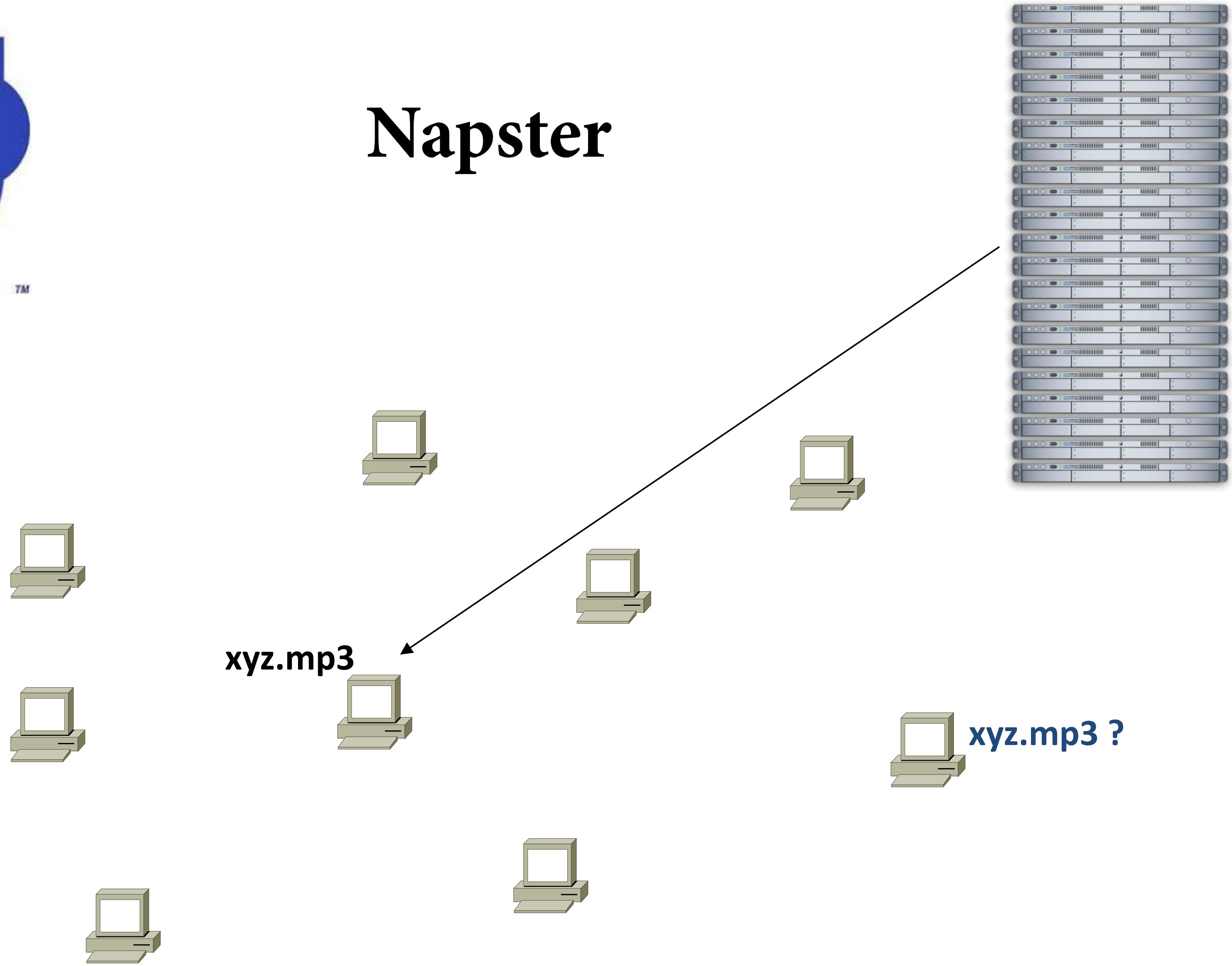

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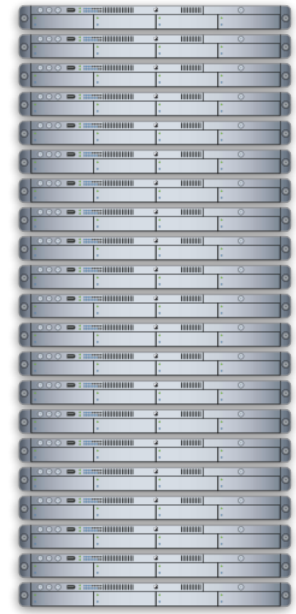
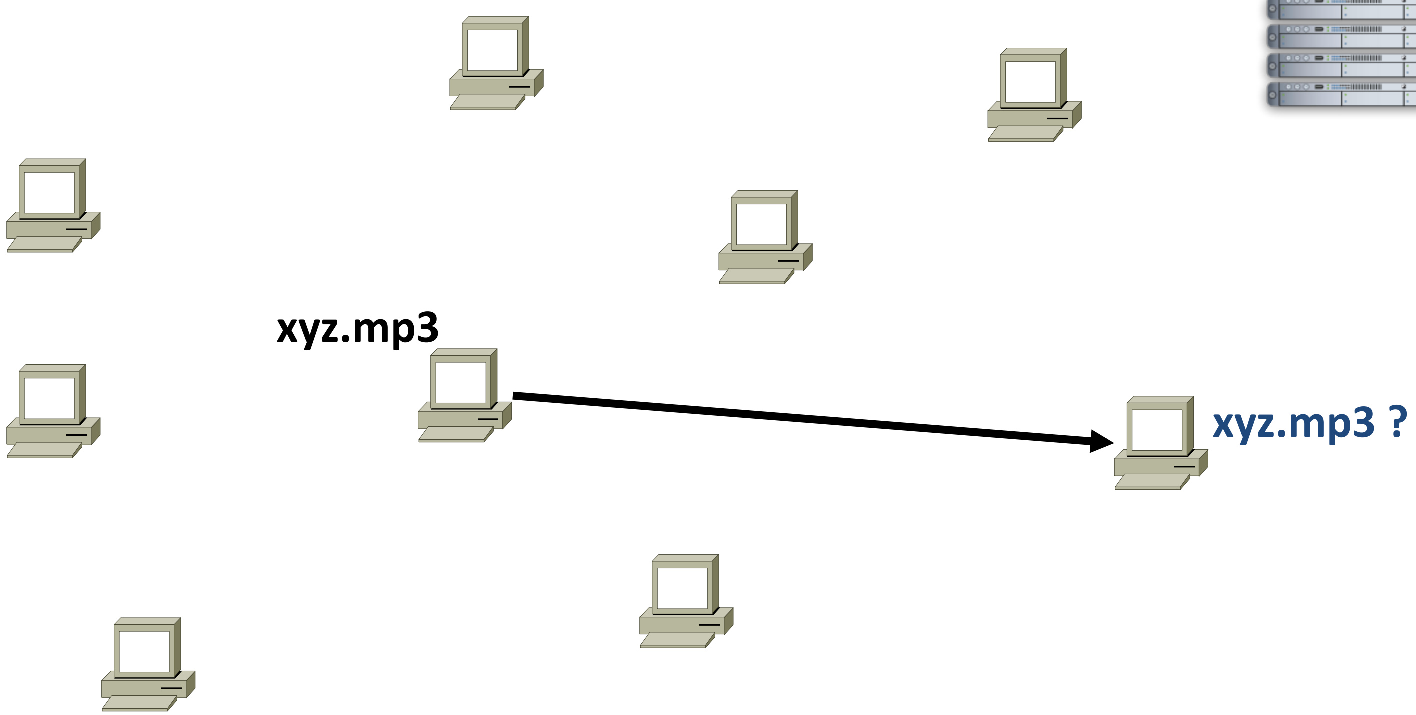


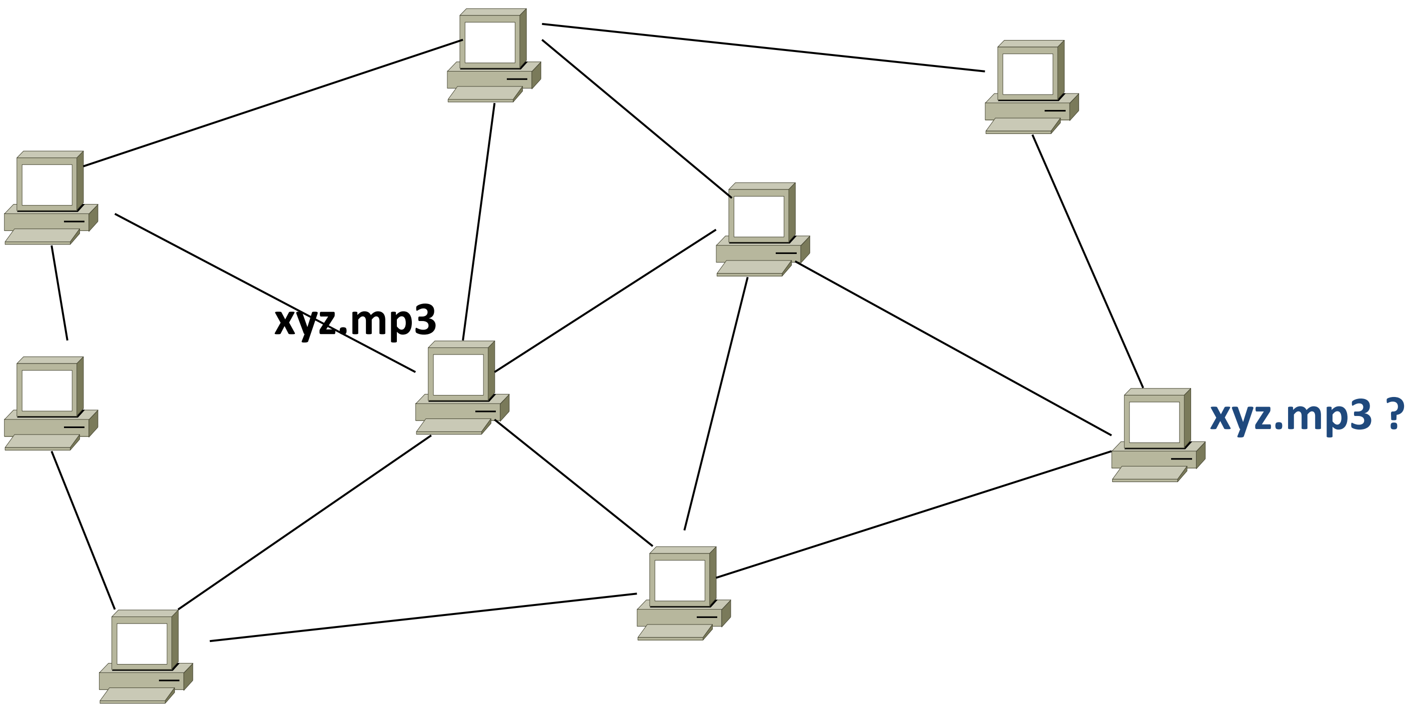


Napster

- **Search & Location: central server**
- **Download: contact a peer, transfer directly**
- **Advantages:**
  - Simple, advanced search possible
- **Disadvantages:**
  - Single point of failure (technical and … legal!)
  - The latter is what got Napster killed

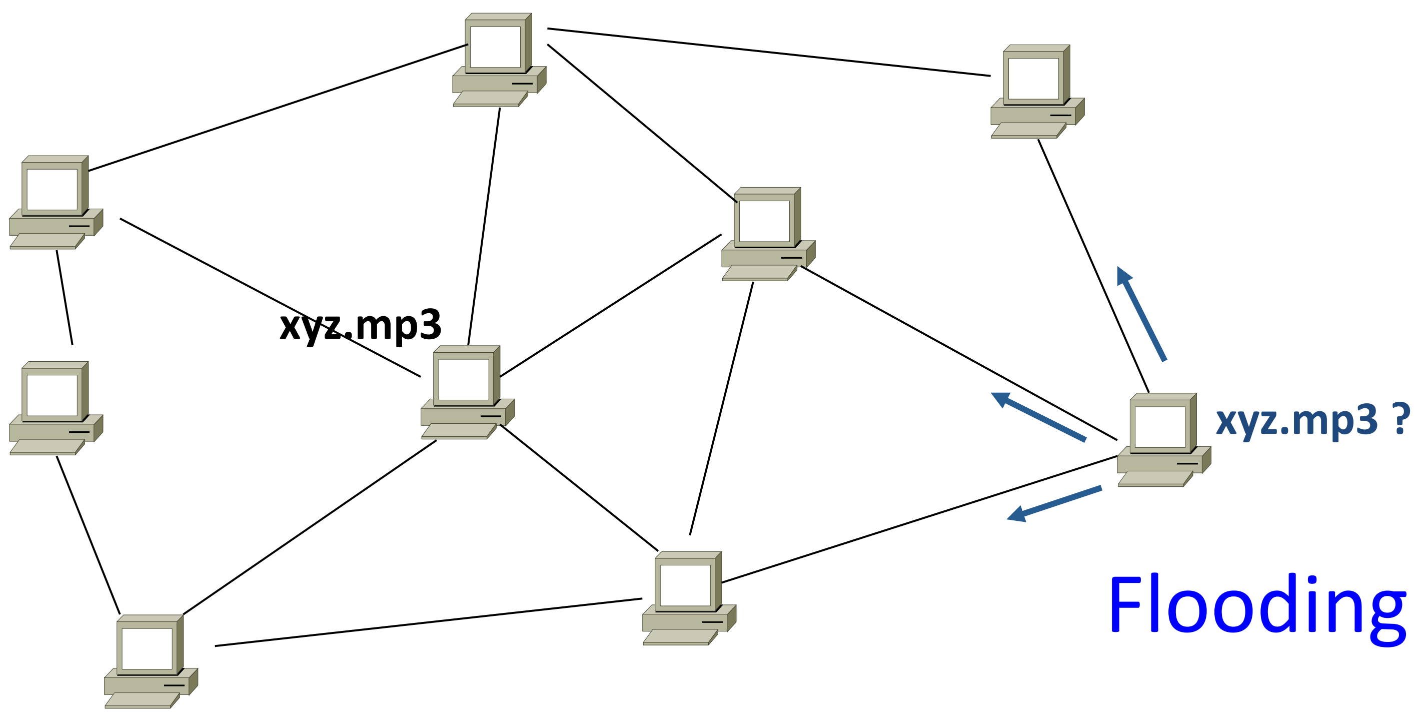
Gnutella: Flooding on Overlays (2000)

- Search & Location: flooding (with TTL)
- Download: direct

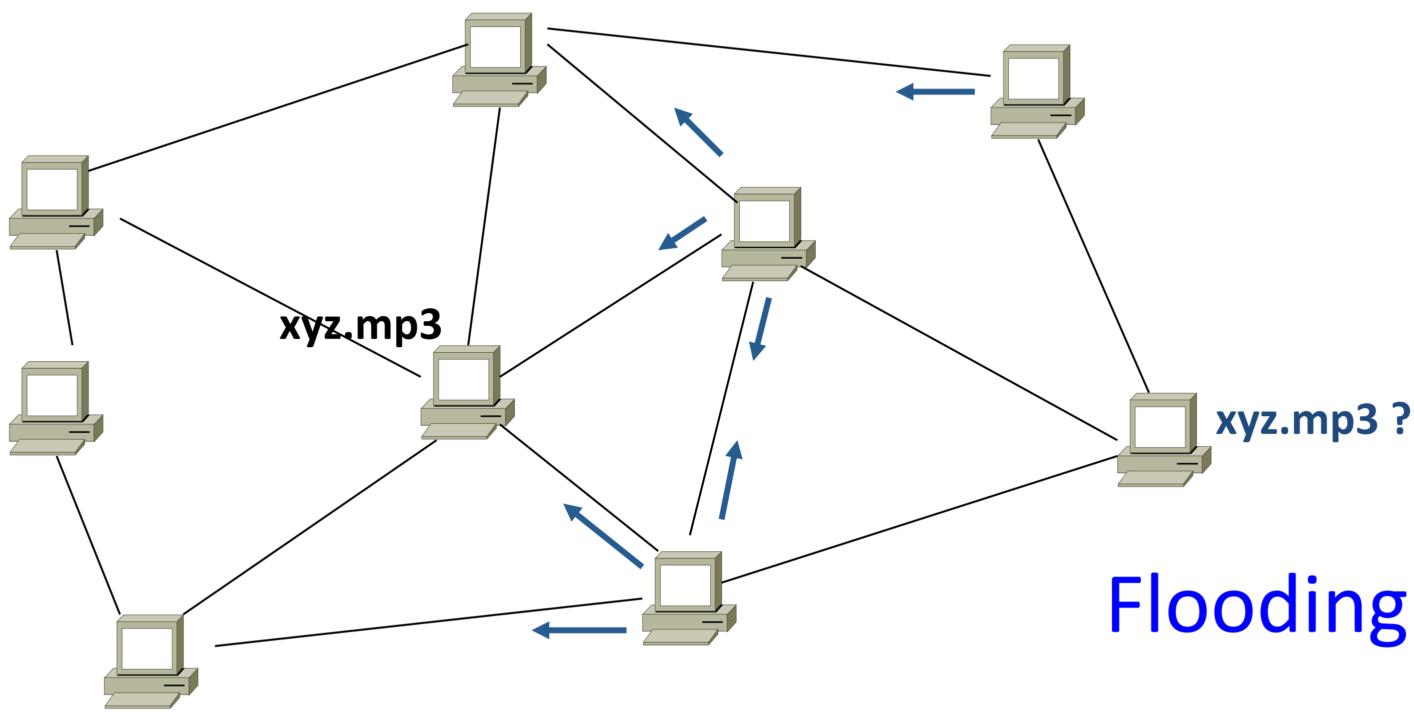


An "unstructured" *overlay network*

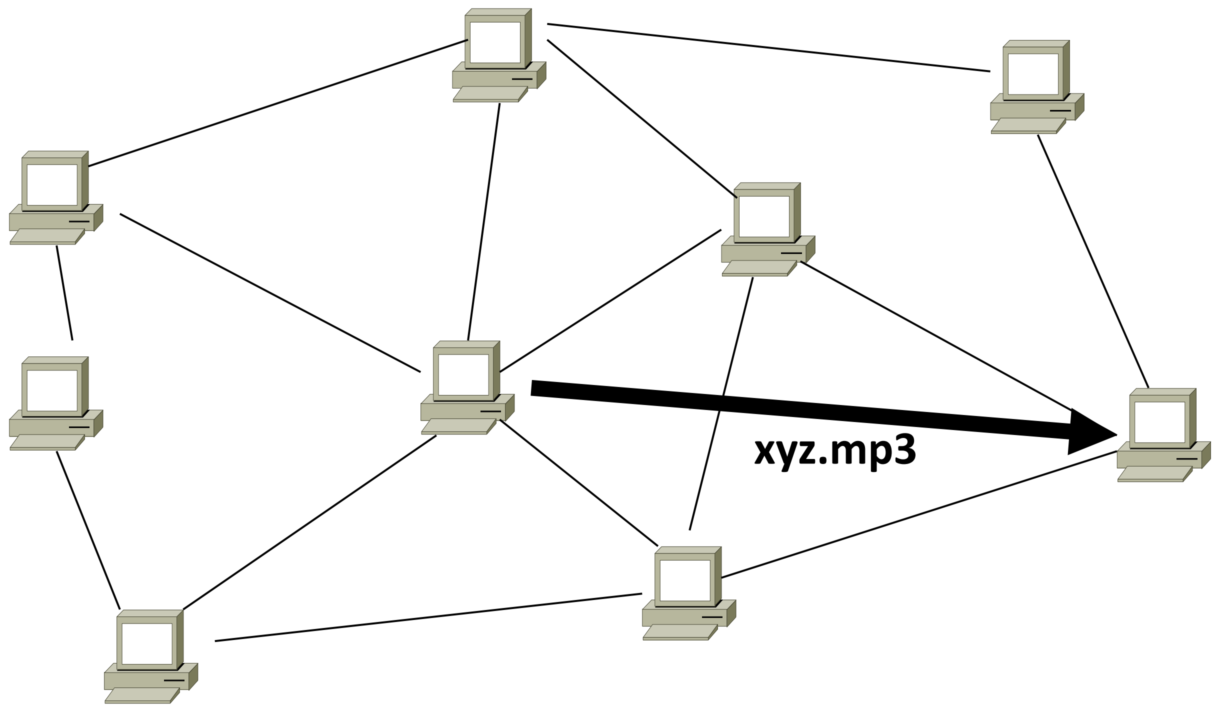
Gnutella: Flooding on Overlays



Gnutella: Flooding on Overlays

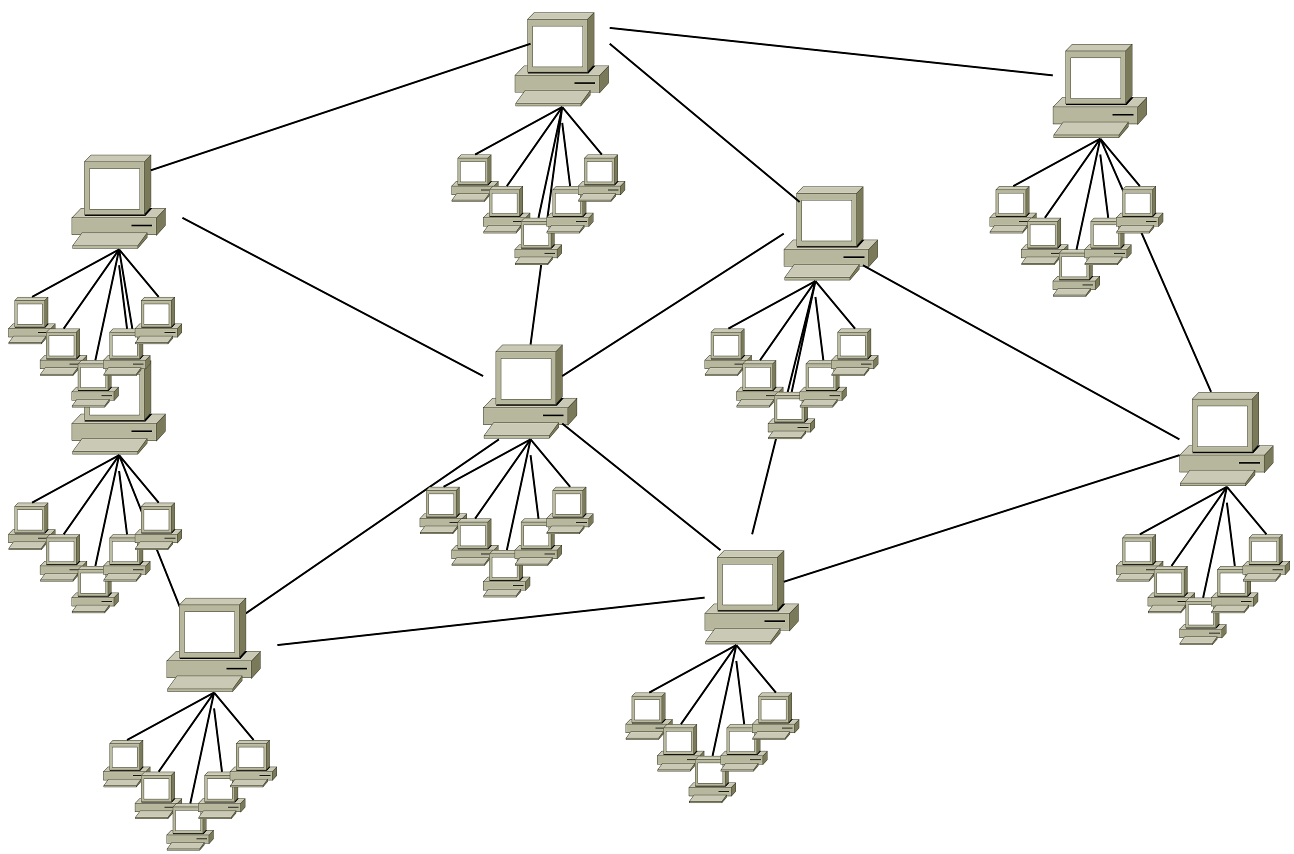


Gnutella: Flooding on Overlays



KaZaA: Flooding w/ Super Peers (2001)

- **Well connected nodes can be installed (KaZaA) or self-promoted (Gnutella)**



Say you want to make calls among peers

- **You need to find who to call**
  - Centralized server for authentication, billing
- **You need to find where they are**
  - Can use central server, or a decentralized search, such as in KaZaA
- **You need to call them**
  - What if both of you are behind NATs? (only allow outgoing connections)
  - You could use another peer as a relay…

Skype

- **Built by the founders of KaZaA!**
- **Uses Superpeers for registering presence, searching for where you are**
- **Uses regular nodes, outside of NATs, as decentralized relays**
  - This is their killer feature
- **This morning, from my computer:**
  - 25,456,766 people online

Lessons and Limitations

- **Client-server performs well**
  - But not always feasible
- **Things that flood-based systems do well**
  - Organic scaling
  - Decentralization of visibility and liability
  - Finding popular stuff
  - Fancy *local* queries
- **Things that flood-based systems do poorly**
  - Finding unpopular stuff
  - Fancy *distributed* queries
  - Vulnerabilities: data poisoning, tracking, etc.
  - Guarantees about anything (answer quality, privacy, etc.)

BitTorrent (2001)

- **One big problem with the previous approaches**
  - Asymmetric bandwidth
- **BitTorrent (original design)**
  - Search: independent search engines (e.g. PirateBay, isoHunt)
    - Maps keywords -> .torrent file
  - Location: centralized *tracker* node per file
  - Download: chunked
    - File split into many pieces
    - Can download from many peers

BitTorrent

- **How does it work?**
  - Split files into large pieces (256KB ~ 1MB)
  - Split pieces into subpieces
  - Get peers from tracker, exchange info on pieces
- **Three-phases in download**
  - Start: get a piece as soon as possible (random)
  - Middle: spread pieces fast (rarest piece)
  - End: don't get stuck (parallel downloads of last pieces)

BitTorrent

- **Self-scaling: incentivize sharing**
  - If people upload as much as they download, system scales with number of users (no free-loading)
- **Uses *tit-for-tat*: only upload to who gives you data**
  - *Choke* most of your peers (don't upload to them)
  - Order peers by download rate, choke all but P best
  - Occasionally unchoke a random peer (might become a nice uploader)
- **Optional reading:**

  [*Do Incentives Build Robustness in BitTorrent?* **Piatek et al, NSDI'07]**

Structured Overlays: DHTs

- **Academia came (a little later)…**
- **Goal: Solve efficient decentralized location**
  - Remember the second key challenge?
  - Given ID, map to host
- **Remember the challenges?**
  - Scale to millions of nodes
  - Churn
  - Heterogeneity
  - Trust (or lack thereof)
    - Selfish and malicious users

DHTs

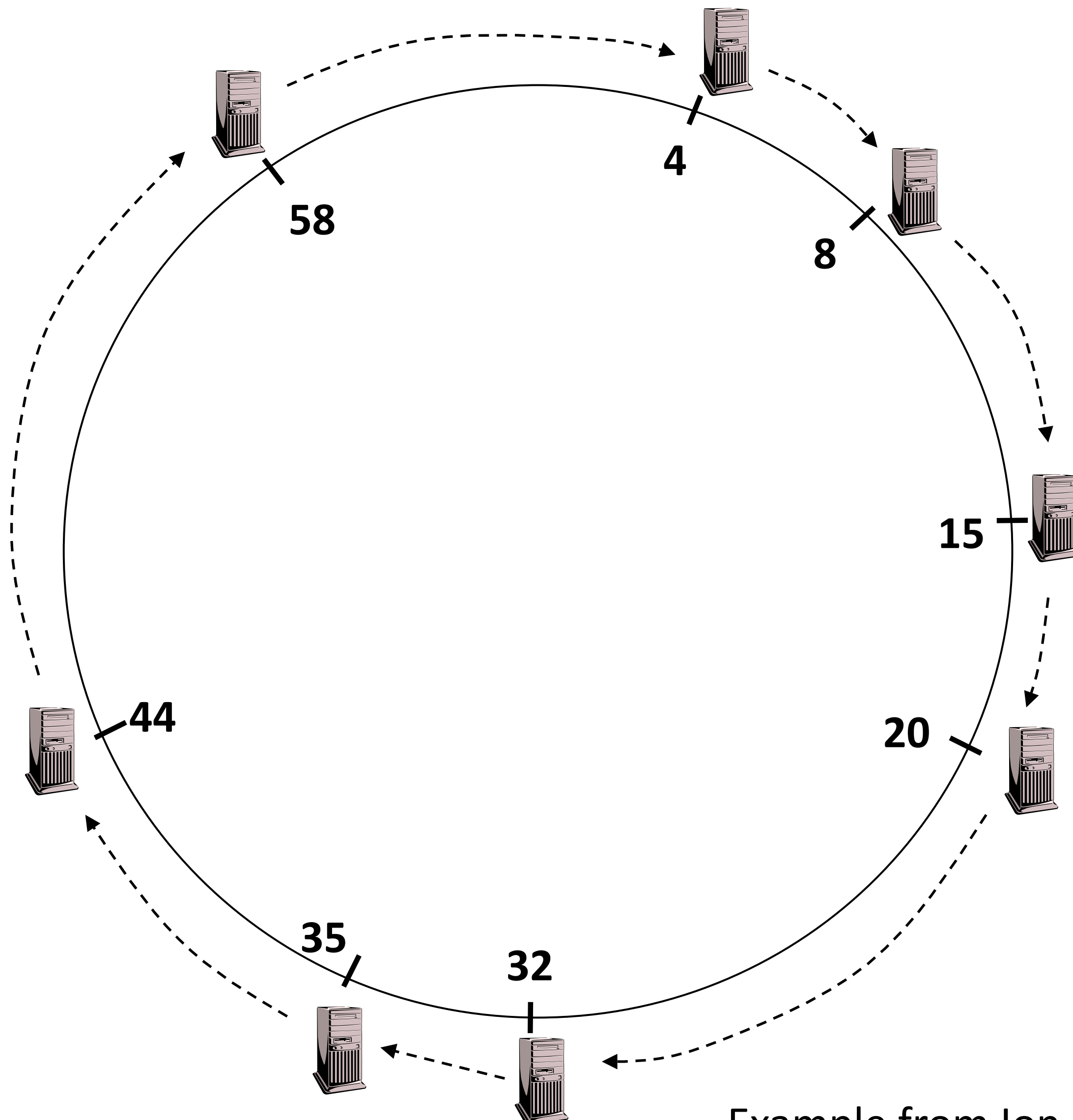
- **IDs from a *flat* namespace**
  - Contrast with hierarchical IP, DNS
- **Metaphor: hash table, but distributed**
- **Interface**
  - Get(key)
  - Put(key, value)
- **How?**
  - Every node supports a single operation:

    Given a *key*, route messages to node holding *key*

Identifier to Node Mapping Example

- **Node 8 maps [5,8]**
- **Node 15 maps [9,15]**
- **Node 20 maps [16, 20]**
- **…**
- **Node 4 maps [59, 4]**

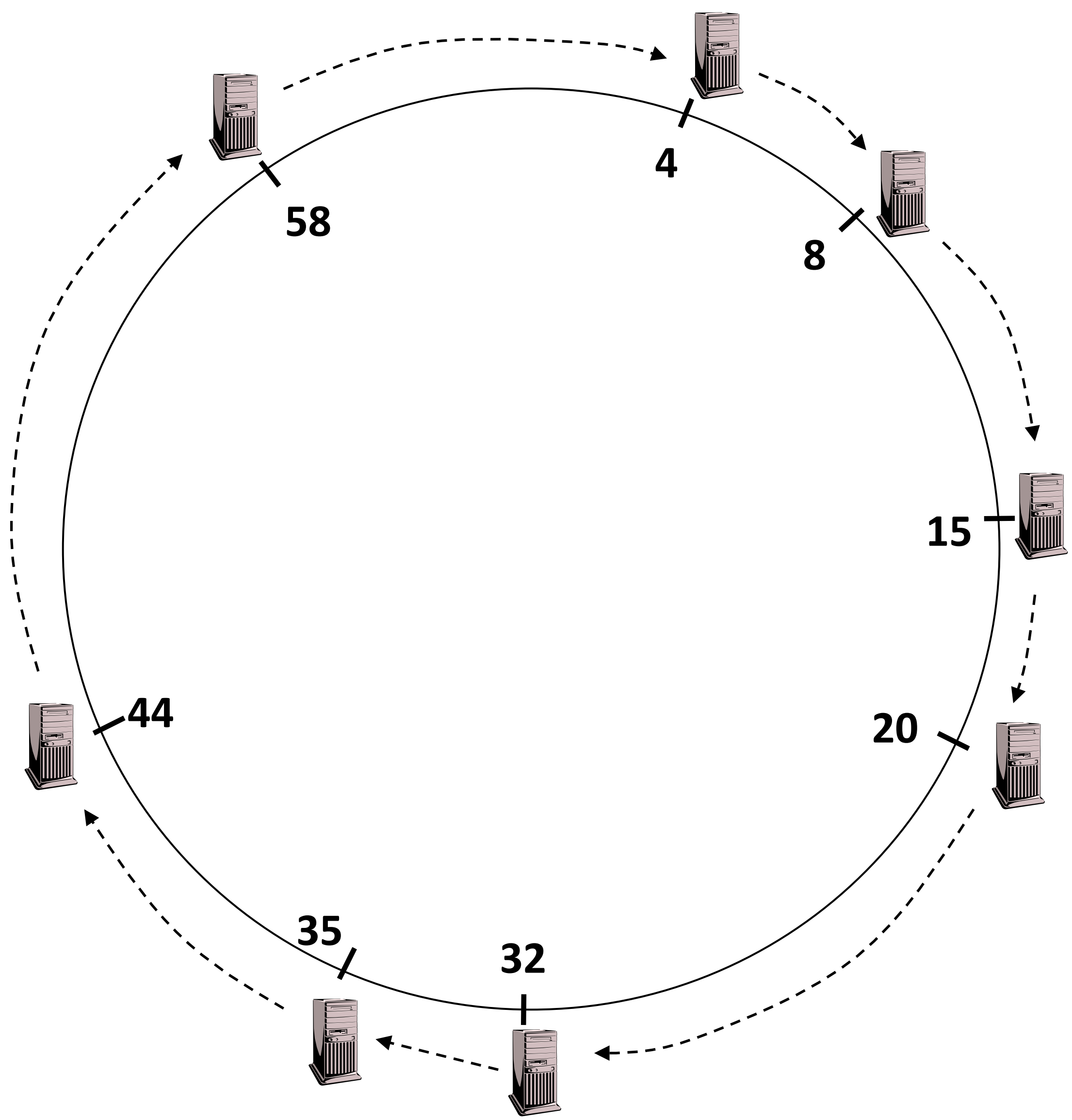
- **Each node maintains a pointer to its successor**



Example from Ion Stoica

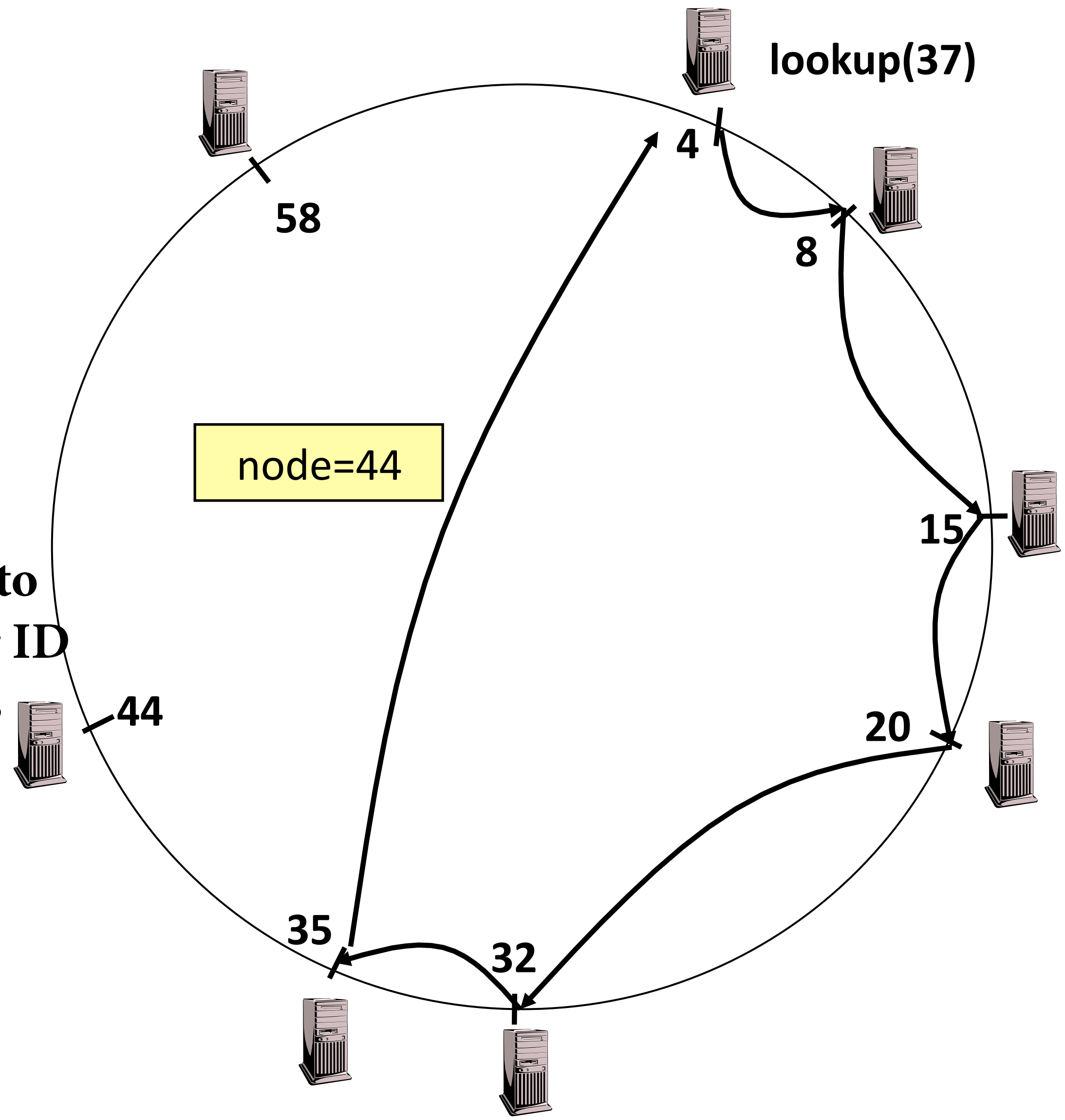
Remember Consistent Hashing?

- **But each node only knows about a small number of other nodes (so far only their successors)**



Lookup

- Each node maintains its successor
- Route packet (ID, data) to the node responsible for ID using successor pointers



Stabilization Procedure

- **Periodic operation performed by each node N to handle joins**

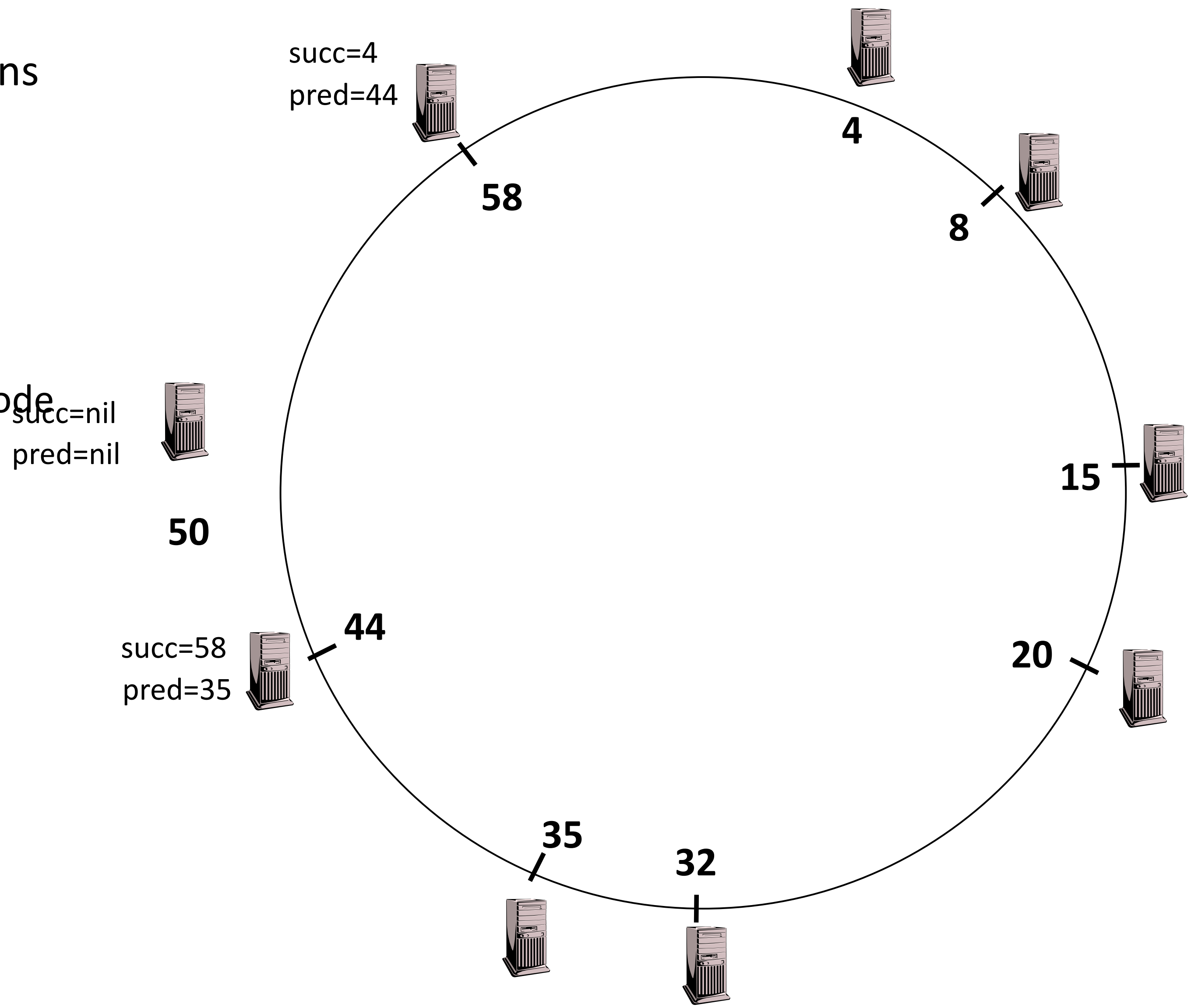
```
N: periodically:
    STABILIZE → N.successor;

M: upon receiving STABILIZE from N:
    NOTIFY(M.predecessor) → N;

N: upon receiving NOTIFY(M') from M:
    if (M' between (N, N.successor))
        N.successor = M';
```

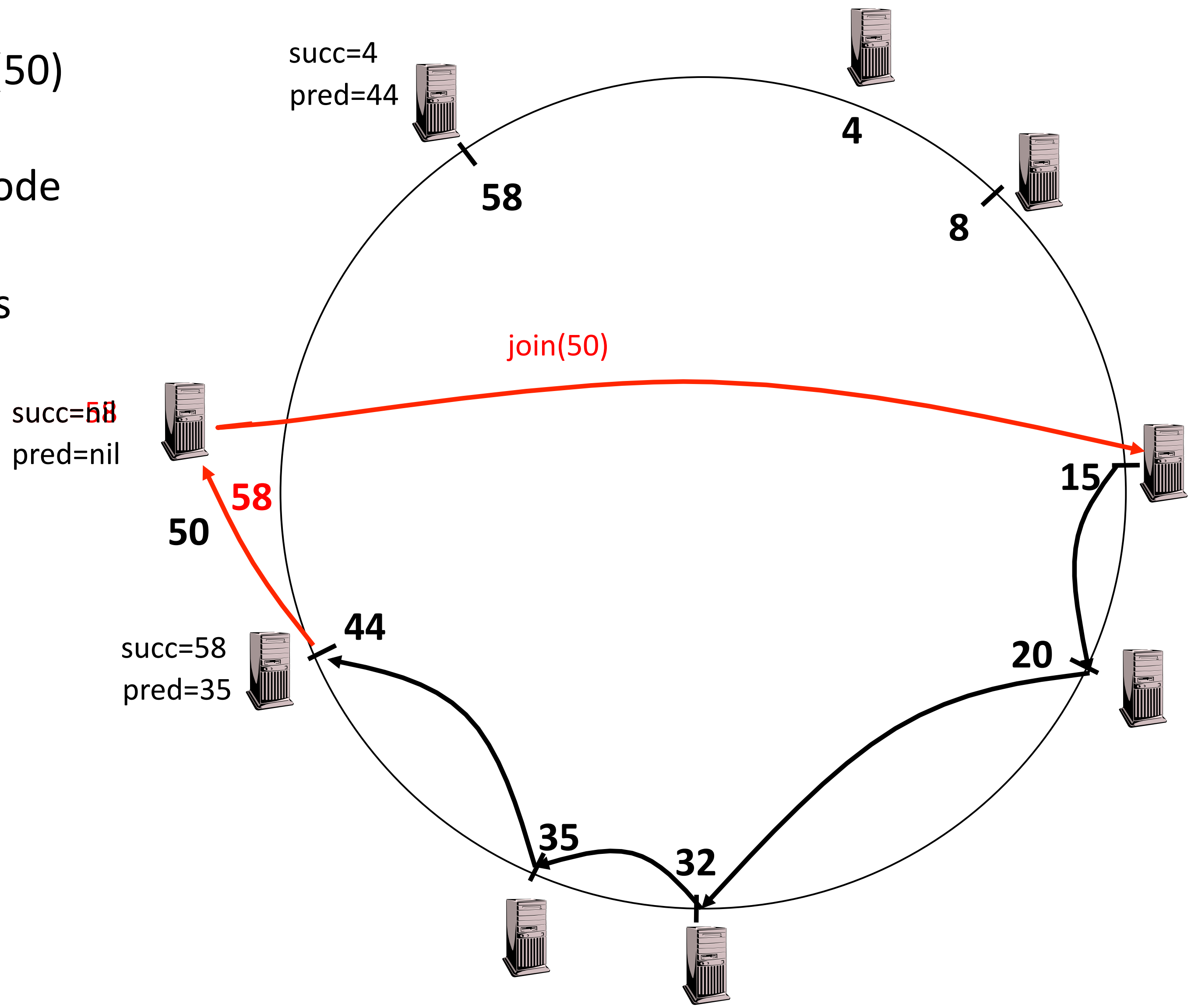
Joining Operation

- Node with id=50 joins the ring
- Node 50 needs to know at least one node already in the system
  - Assume known node is 15



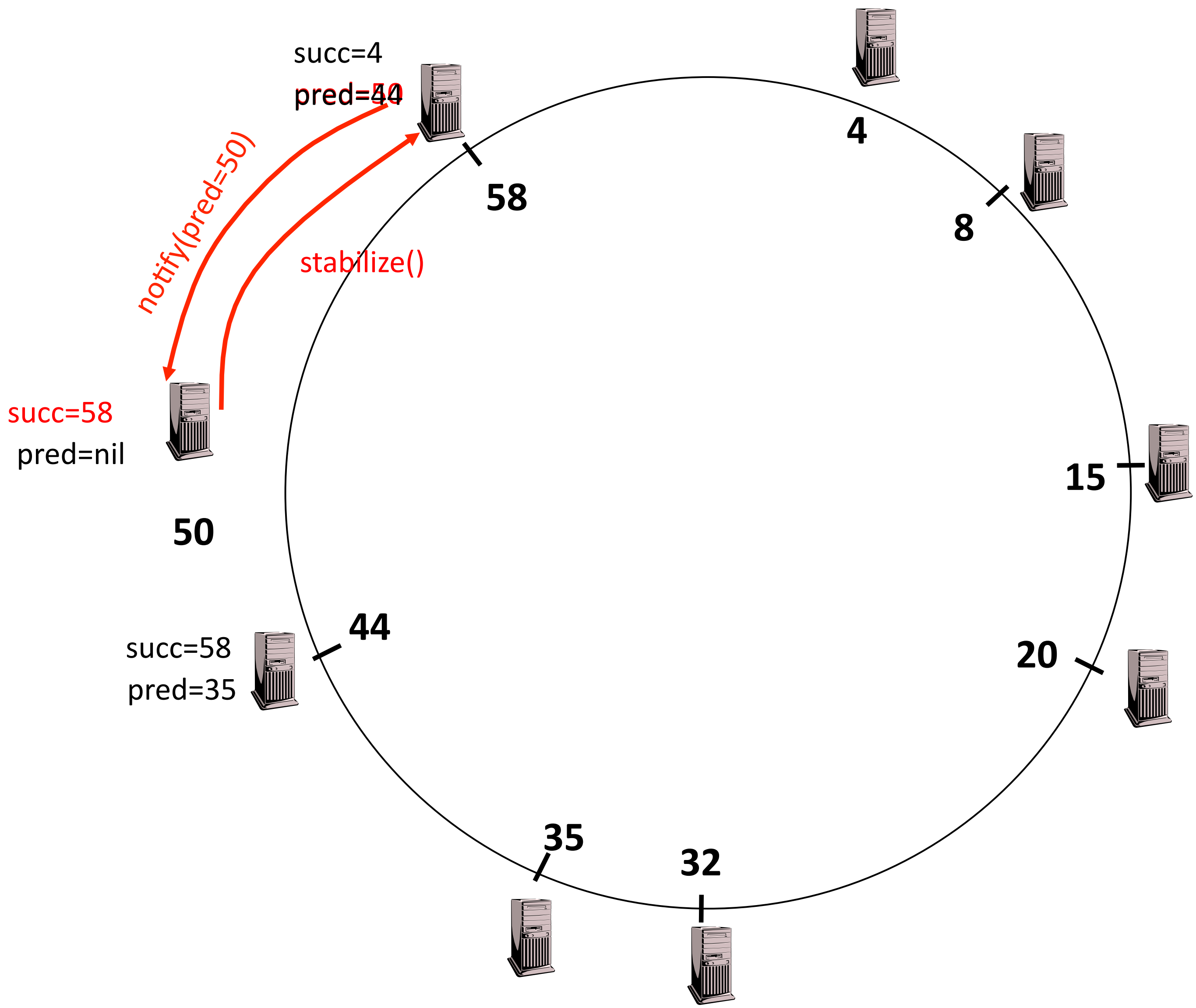
Joining Operation

- Node 50: send join(50) to node 15
- Node 44: returns node 58
- Node 50 updates its successor to 58



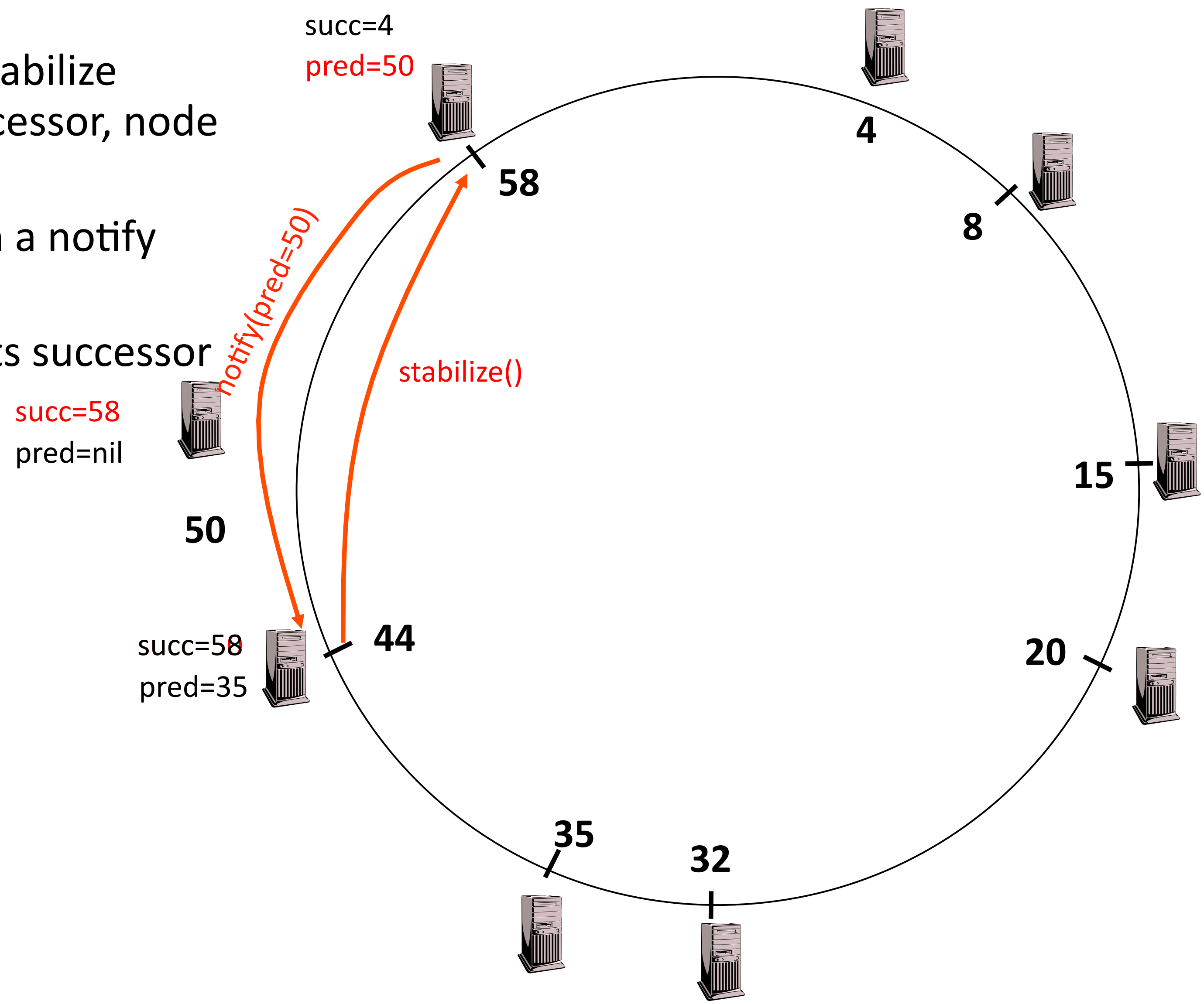
Joining Operation

- Node 50: send stabilize() to node 58
- Node 58:
  - update predecessor to 50
  - send notify() back



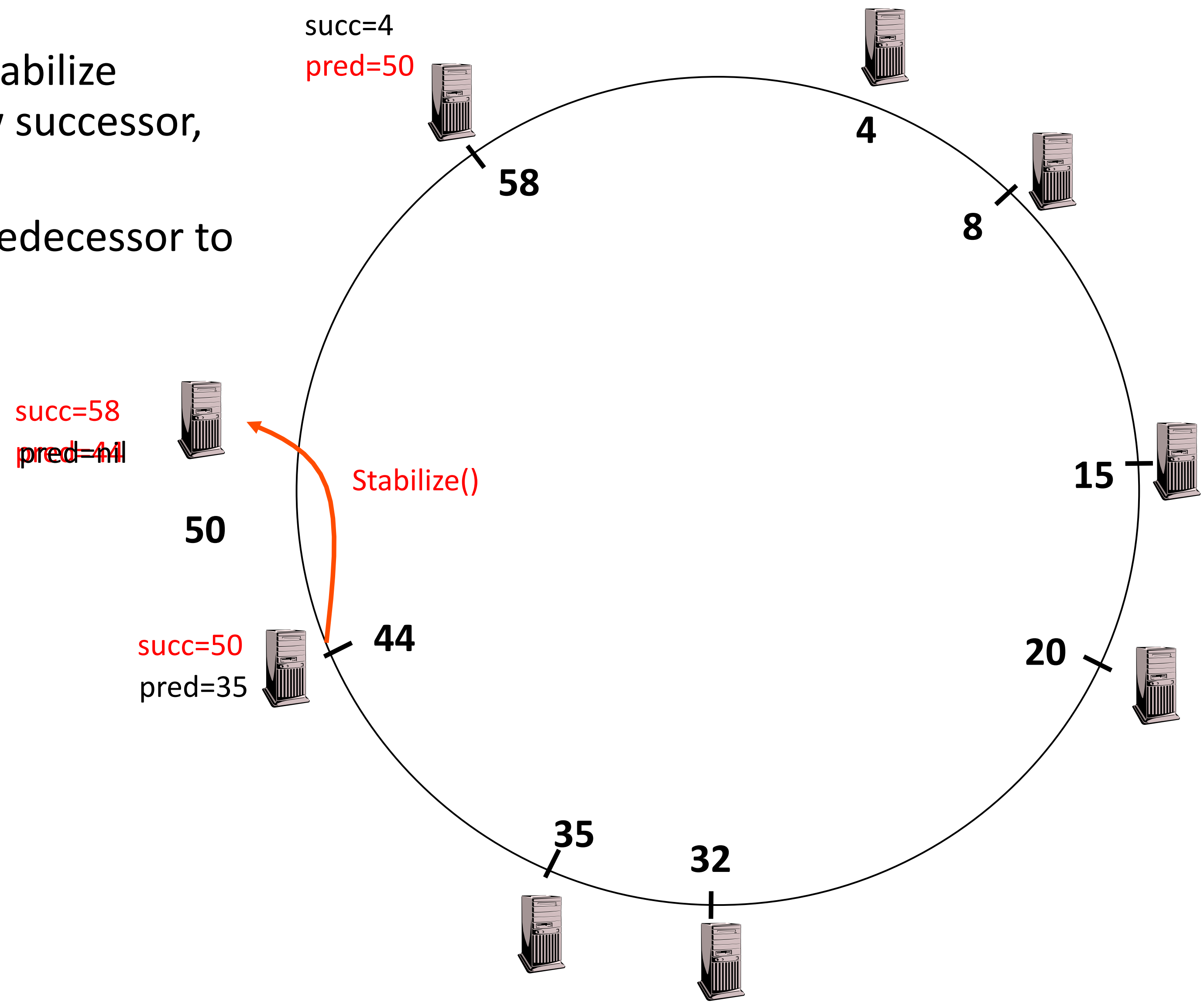
Joining Operation (cont'd)

- Node 44 sends a stabilize message to its successor, node 58
- Node 58 reply with a notify message
- Node 44 updates its successor to 50



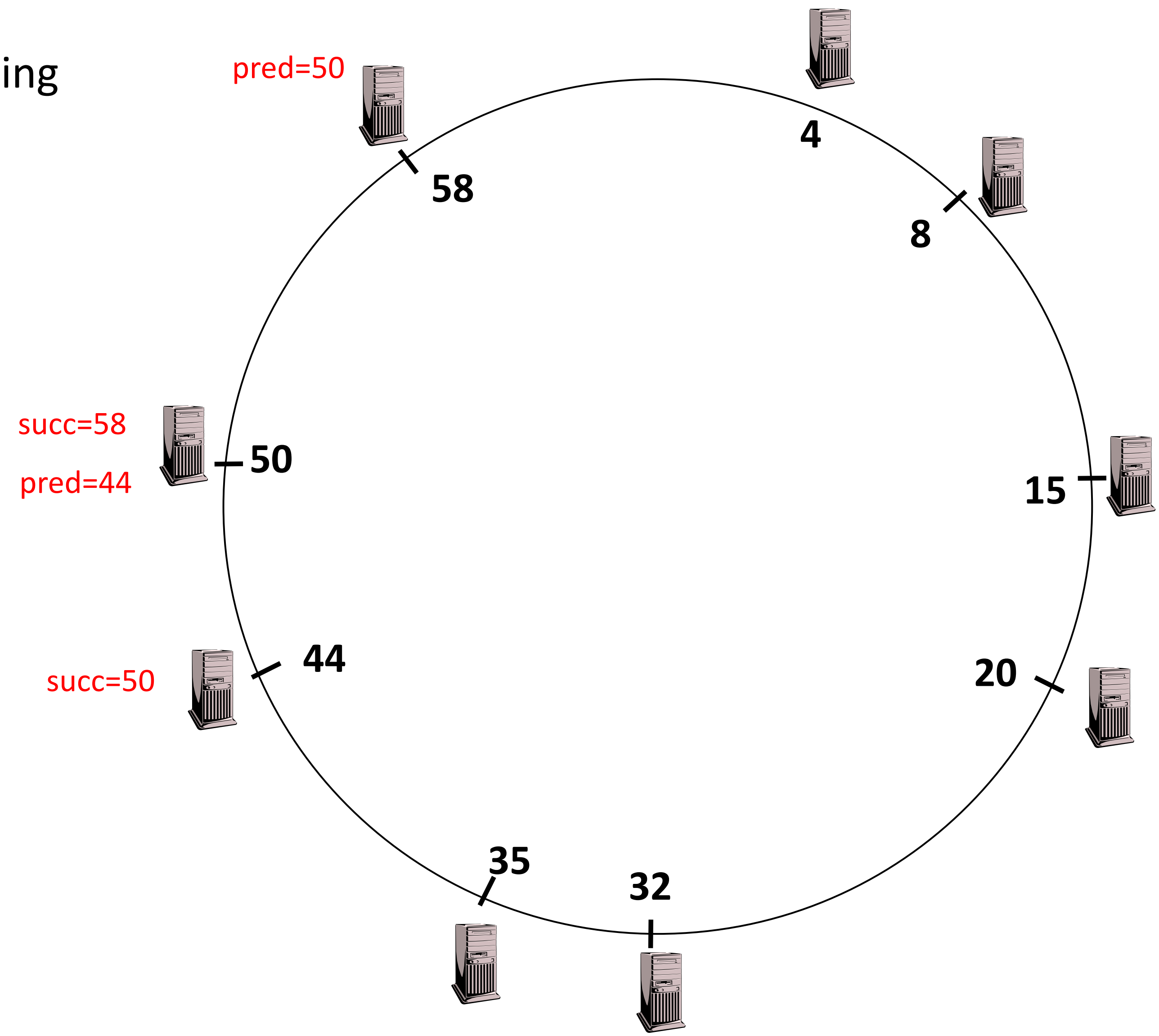
Joining Operation (cont'd)

- Node 44 sends a stabilize message to its new successor, node 50
- Node 50 sets its predecessor to node 44



Joining Operation (cont’d)

- This completes the joining operation!

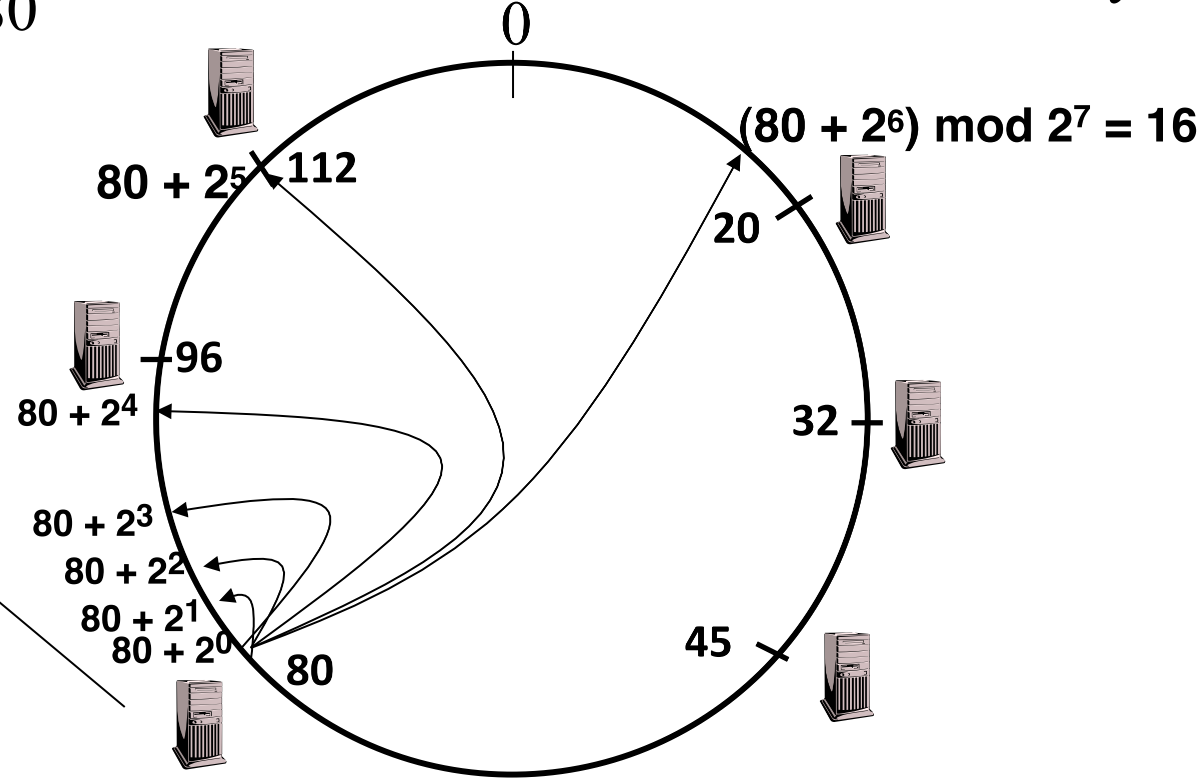


Achieving Efficiency: *finger tables*

Say *m*=7

Finger Table at 80

i	*ft[i]*
0	96
1	96
2	96
3	96
4	96
5	112
6	20



*i*th entry at peer with id *n* is first peer with id >= $n + 2^i \pmod{2^m}$

Chord

- There is a tradeoff between routing table size and diameter of the network
- Chord achieves diameter O(log n) with O(log n)-entry routing tables

Many other DHTs

- **CAN**
  - Routing in n-dimensional space
- **Pastry/Tapestry/Bamboo**
  - (Book describes Pastry)
  - Names are fixed bit strings
  - Topology: hypercube (plus a ring for fallback)
- **Kademlia**
  - Similar to Pastry/Tapestry
  - But the ring is ordered by the XOR metric
  - Used by BitTorrent for distributed tracker
- **Viceroy**
  - Emulated butterfly network
- **Koorde**
  - DeBruijn Graph
  - Each node connects to 2n, 2n+1
  - Degree 2, diameter log(n)
- …

Discussion

- **Query can be implemented**
  - Iteratively: easier to debug
  - Recursively: easier to maintain timeout values
- **Robustness**
  - Nodes can maintain (k>1) successors
  - Change notify() messages to take that into account
- **Performance**
  - Routing in overlay can be worse than in the underlay
  - Solution: flexibility in neighbor selection
    - Tapestry handles this implicitly (multiple possible next hops)
    - Chord can select any peer between $[2^n,2^{n+1})$ for finger, choose the closest in latency to route through

Where are they now?

- **Many P2P networks shut down**
  - Not for technical reasons!
  - Centralized systems work well (or better) sometimes
- **But…**
  - Vuze network: Kademlia DHT, millions of users
  - Skype uses a P2P network similar to KaZaA

Where are they now?

- **DHTs allow coordination of MANY nodes**
  - Efficient *flat* namespace for routing and lookup
  - Robust, scalable, fault-tolerant
- **If you can do that**
  - You can also coordinate co-located peers
  - Now dominant design style in datacenters
    - E.g., Amazon's Dynamo storage system
  - DHT-style systems everywhere
- **Similar to Google's philosophy**
  - Design with failure as the common case
  - Recover from failure only at the highest layer
  - Use low cost components
  - Scale out, not up

Next time

- **It's about the data**
  - How to encode it, compress it, send it…