SCION: A Secure Multipath Interdomain Routing Architecture

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SCION

SCION: Next-generation Internet Architecture

- Path-aware networking: sender knows packet's path
  - Enables geo-fencing
- Multi-path communication
  - Caution: use is highly addictive!
- Highly available communication
- Secure by construction
- BGP-free Internet communication
- Improved network operation
  - Higher network utilization
  - Advanced traffic engineering

SCION Architecture Design Goals

- High availability, even for networks with malicious parties
  - Adversary: access to management plane of router
  - Communication should be available if adversary-free path exists
- Secure entity authentication
  that scales to global heterogeneous (dis)trusted environment
- Flexible trust: enable selection of trust roots
- Transparent operation: clear what is happening to packets and whom needs to be relied upon for operation
- Balanced control among ISPs, senders, and receivers
- Scalability, efficiency, flexibility

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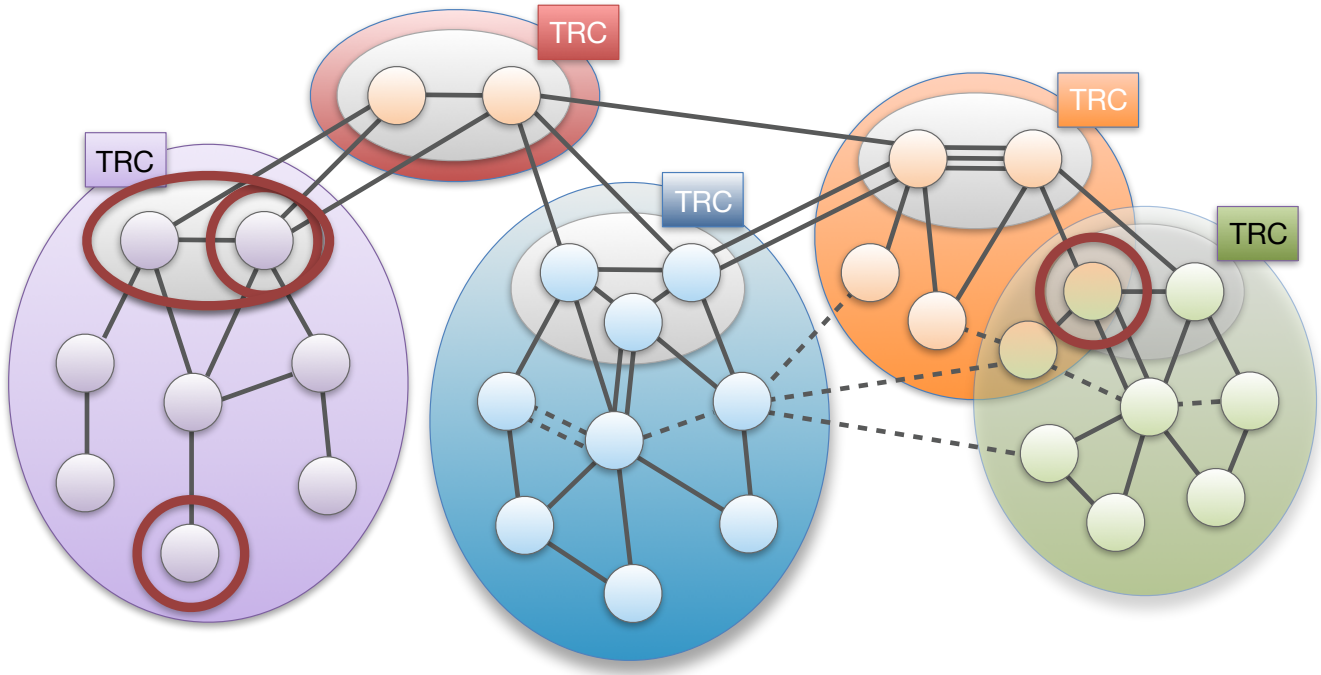
SCION Overview

- Control plane: How to find end-to-end paths?
  - Path exploration
  - Path registration
- Data plane: How to send packets
  - Path lookup
  - Path combination
- Deployment
- Demos

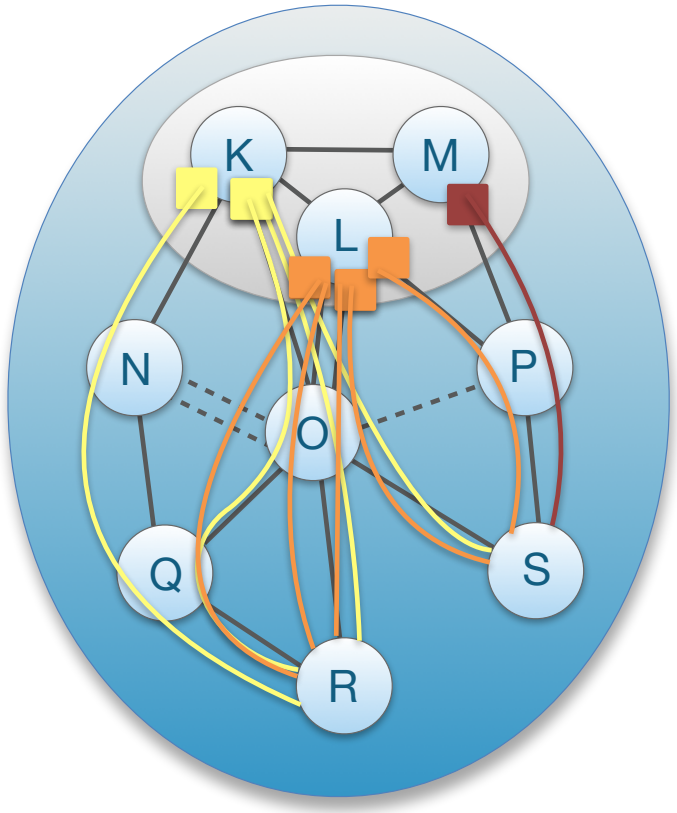
Approach for Scalability: Isolation Domain (ISD)

- Isolation Domain (ISD): grouping of ASes
- ISD core: ASes that manage the ISD
- Core AS: AS that is part of ISD core
- Control plane is organized hierarchically
  - Inter-ISD control plane
  - Intra-ISD control plane



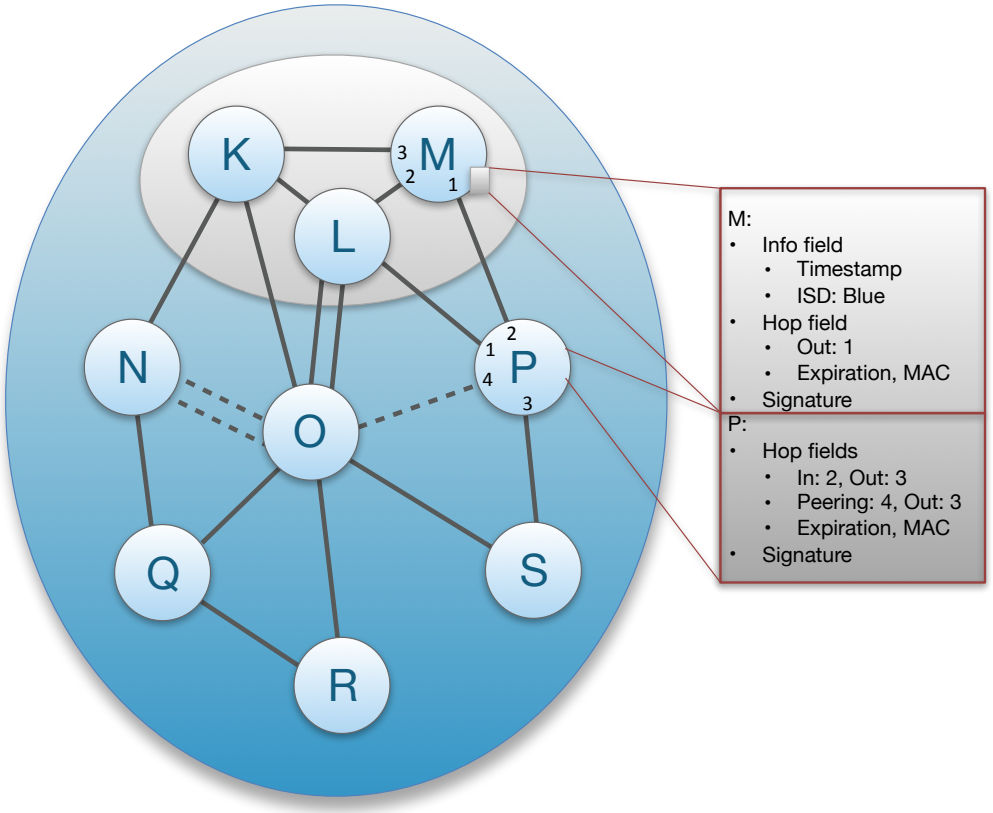
Intra-ISD Path Exploration: Beaconing

- Core ASes K, L, M initiate Path-segment Construction Beacons (PCBs), or "beacons"
- PCBs traverse ISD as a flood to reach downstream ASes
- Each AS receives multiple PCBs representing path segments to a core AS

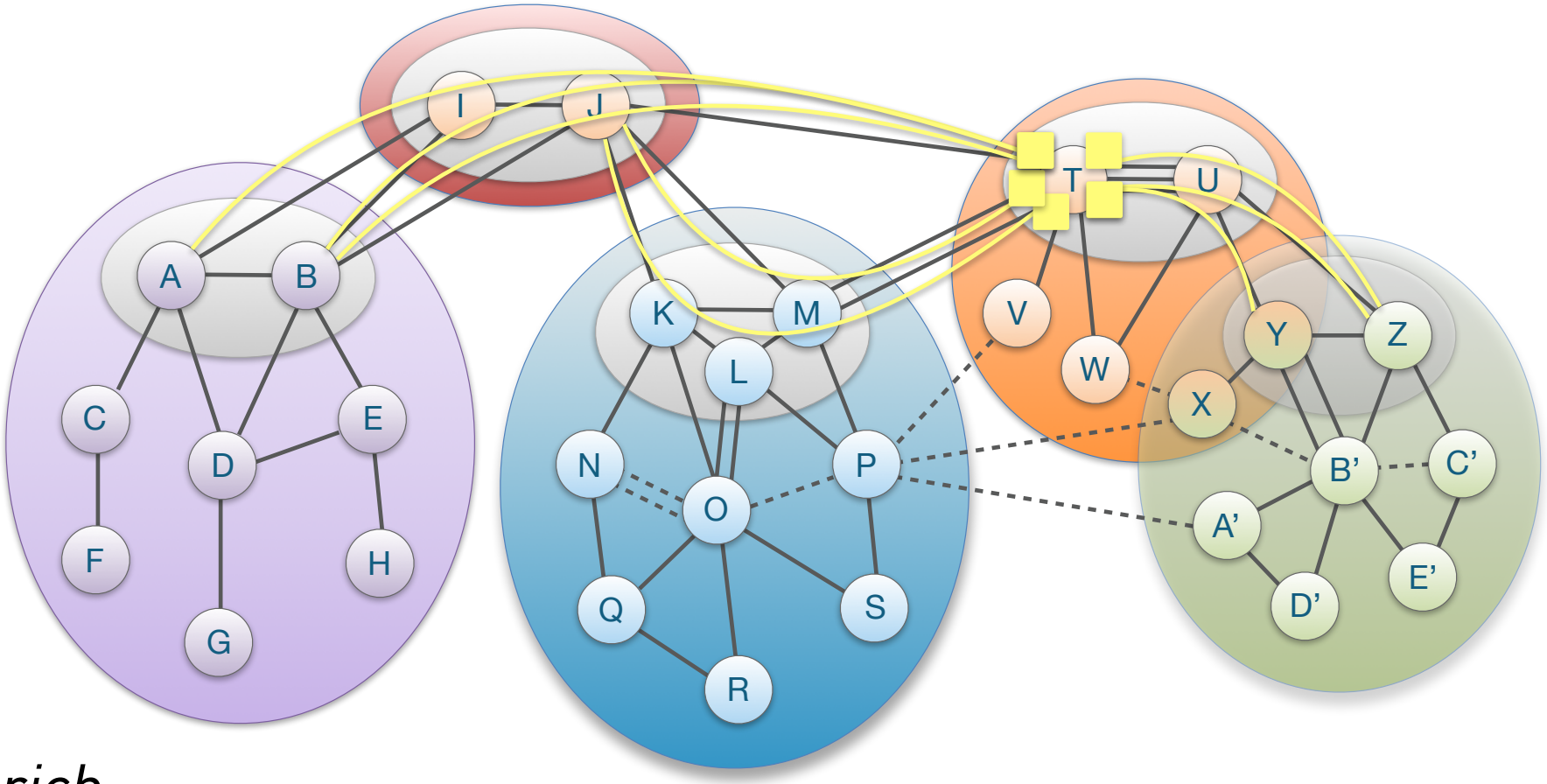


PCB Contents

- A PCB contains an info field with:
  - PCB creation time
- Each AS on path adds:
  - AS name
  - Hop field for data-plane forwarding
    - Link identifiers
    - Expiration time
    - Message Authentication Code (MAC)
  - AS signature



Inter-ISD Path Exploration: Sample Core-Path Segments from AS T



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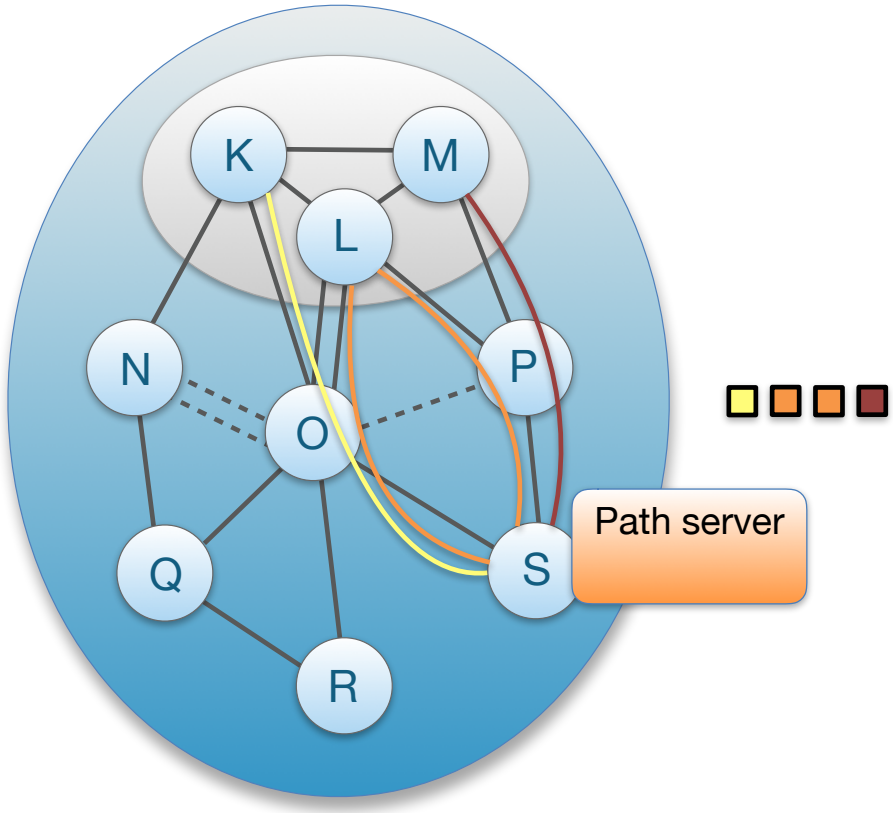
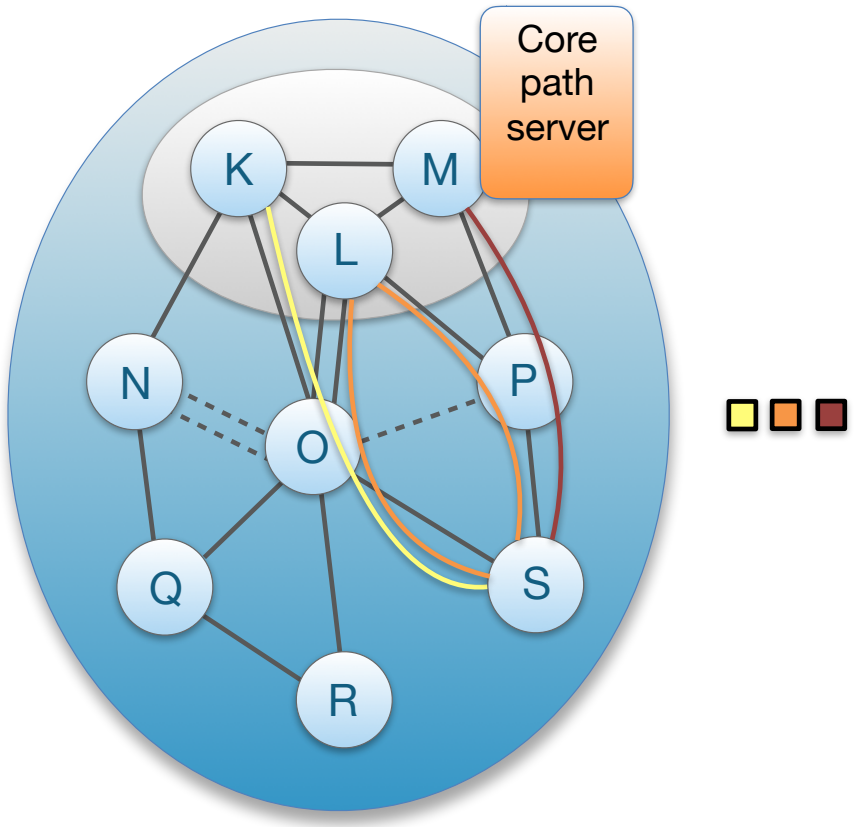
Up-Path Segment Registration

- AS selects path segments to announce as up-path segments for local hosts
- Up-path segments are registered at local path servers



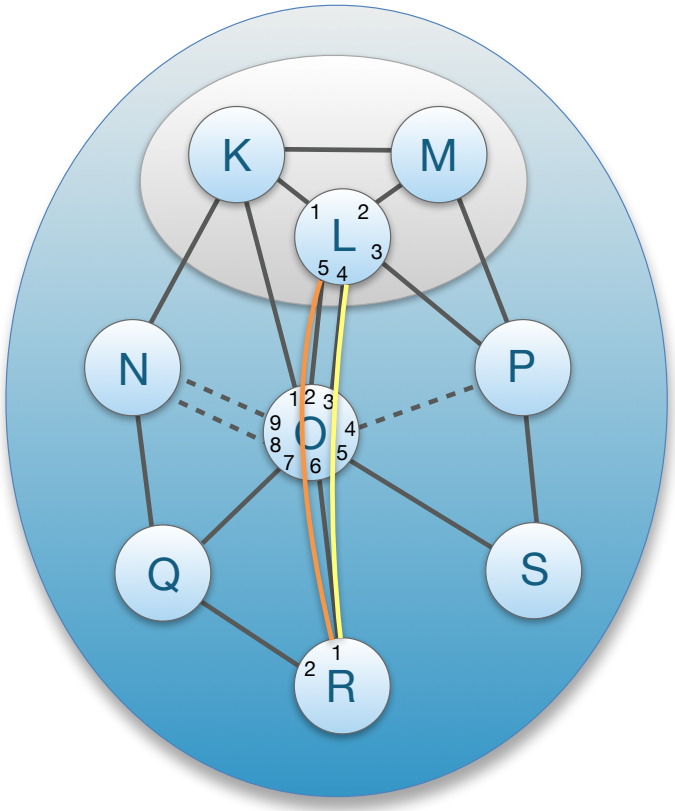
Down-Path Segment Registration

- AS selects path segments to announce as down-path segments for others to use to communicate with AS
- Down-path segments are uploaded to core path server in core AS



Ingress and Egress Interface Identifiers

- Each AS assigns a unique integer identifier to each interface that connects to a neighboring AS
- The interface identifiers identify ingress/egress links for traversing AS
- ASes use internal routing protocol to find route from ingress SCION border router to egress SCION border router
- Examples
  - Yellow path: L:4, O:3,6, R:1
  - Orange path: L:5, O:2,6, R:1



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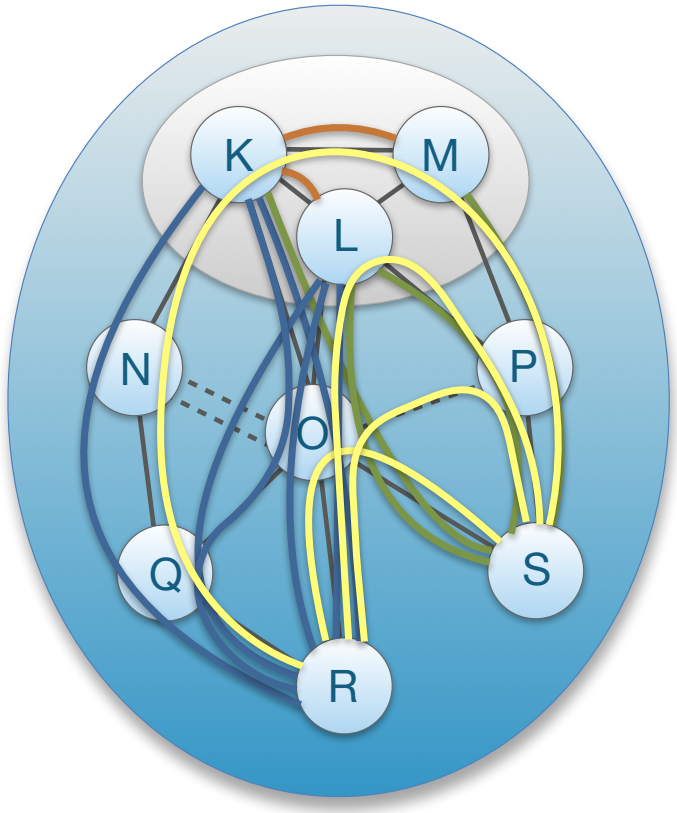
Path Lookup

- Steps of a host to obtain path segments
  - Host contacts RAINS server with a name
    H → RAINS: www.scion-architecture.net
    RAINS → H: ISD X, AS Y, local address Z
  - Host contacts local path server to query path segments
    H → PS: ISD X, AS Y
    PS → H: up-path, core-path, down-path segments
  - Host combines path segments to obtain end-to-end paths, which are added to packets

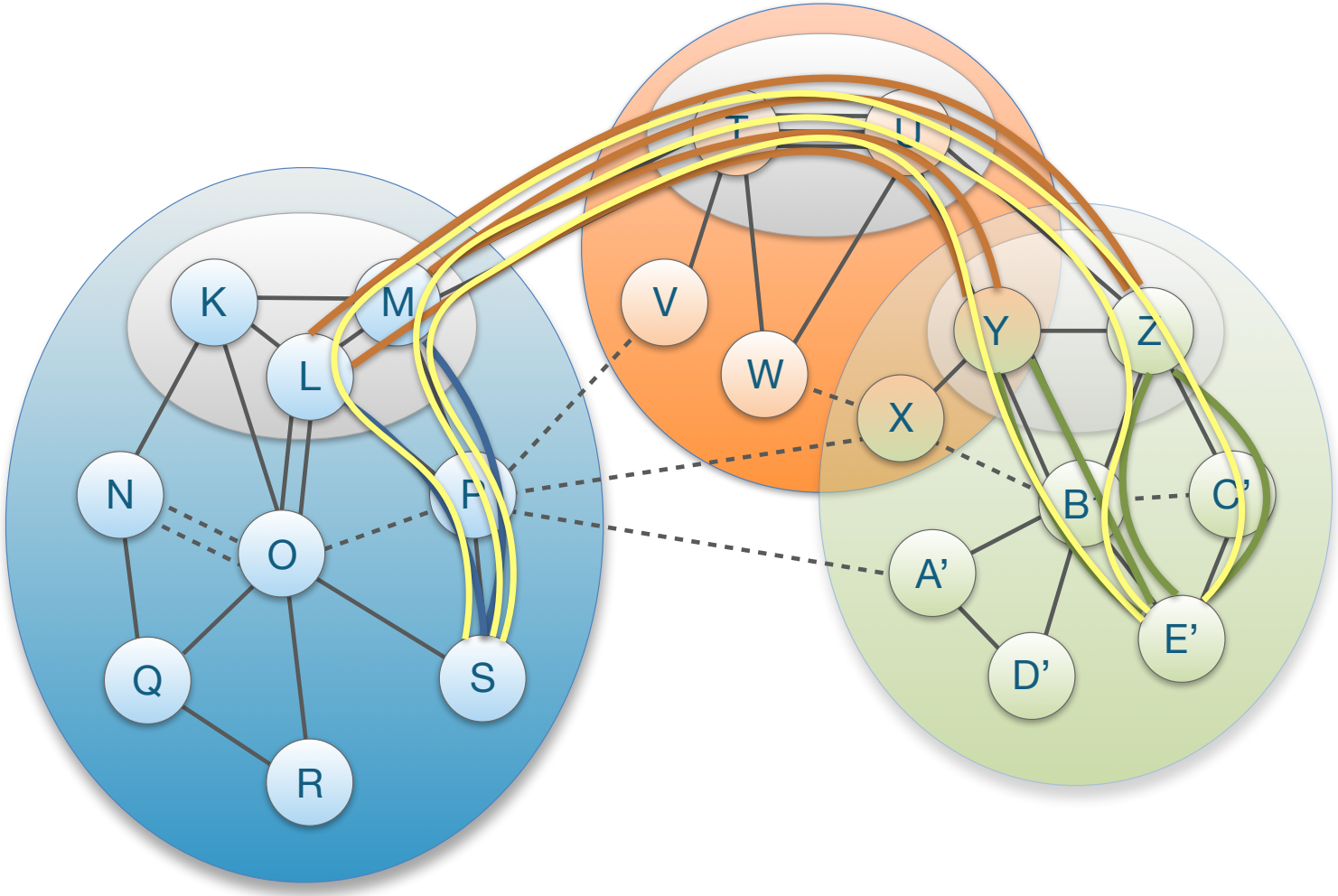
Path Lookup: Local ISD

- Client requests path segments to <ISD, AS> from local path server
- If down-path segments are not locally cached, local path server send request to core path server
- Local path server replies
  - Up-path segments to local ISD core ASes
  - Down-path segments to <ISD, AS>
  - Core-path segments as needed to connect up-path and down-path segments



Path Lookup: Remote ISD

- Host contacts local path server requesting <ISD, AS>
- If path segments are not cached, local path server will contact core path server
- If core path server does not have path segments cached, it will contact remote core path server
- Finally, host receives up-, core-, and down-segments



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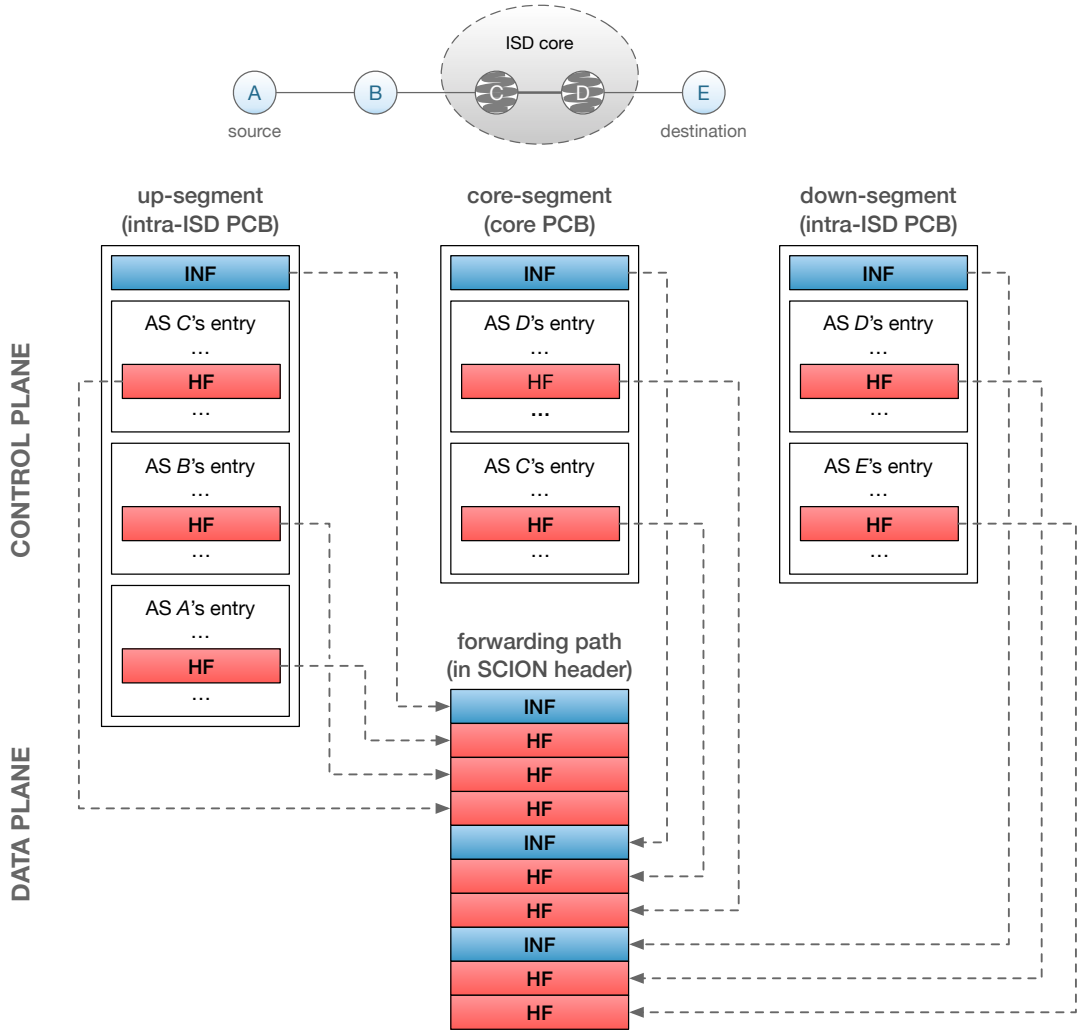
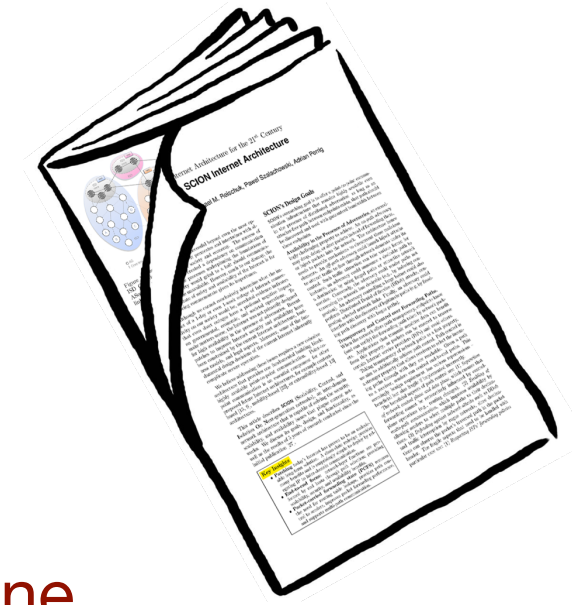
Path Construction



SCION Overview Summary

- Complete re-design of network architecture resolves numerous fundamental problems
  - BGP protocol convergence issues
  - Separation of control and data planes
  - Isolation of mutually untrusted control planes
  - Path control by senders and receivers
  - Simpler routers (no forwarding tables)
  - Root of trust selectable by each ISD



- An isolation architecture for the control plane, but a transparency architecture for the data plane.

Outline

- Control plane: How to find end-to-end paths?
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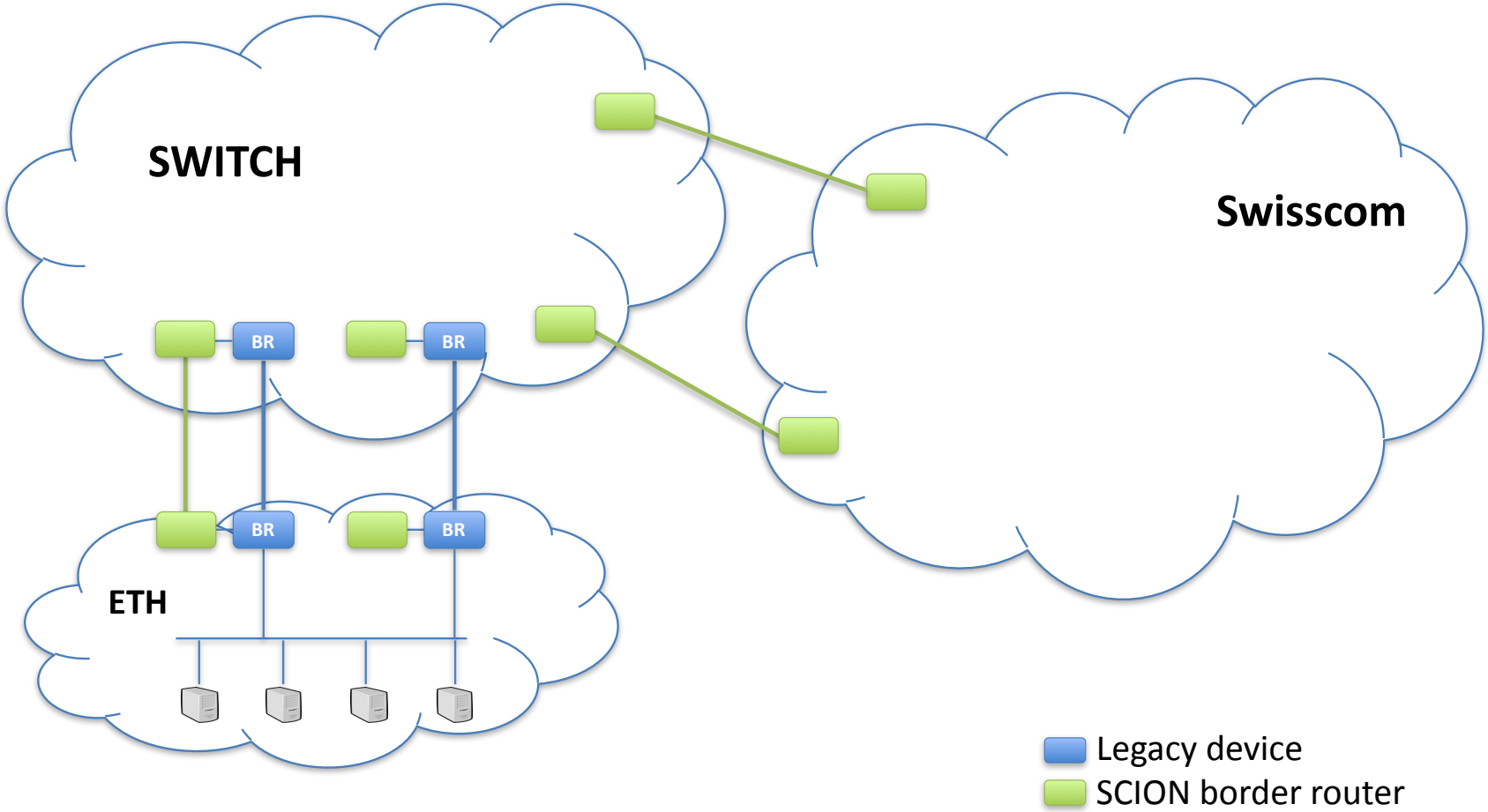
- Deployment
- Demos

Deployment @ ETH



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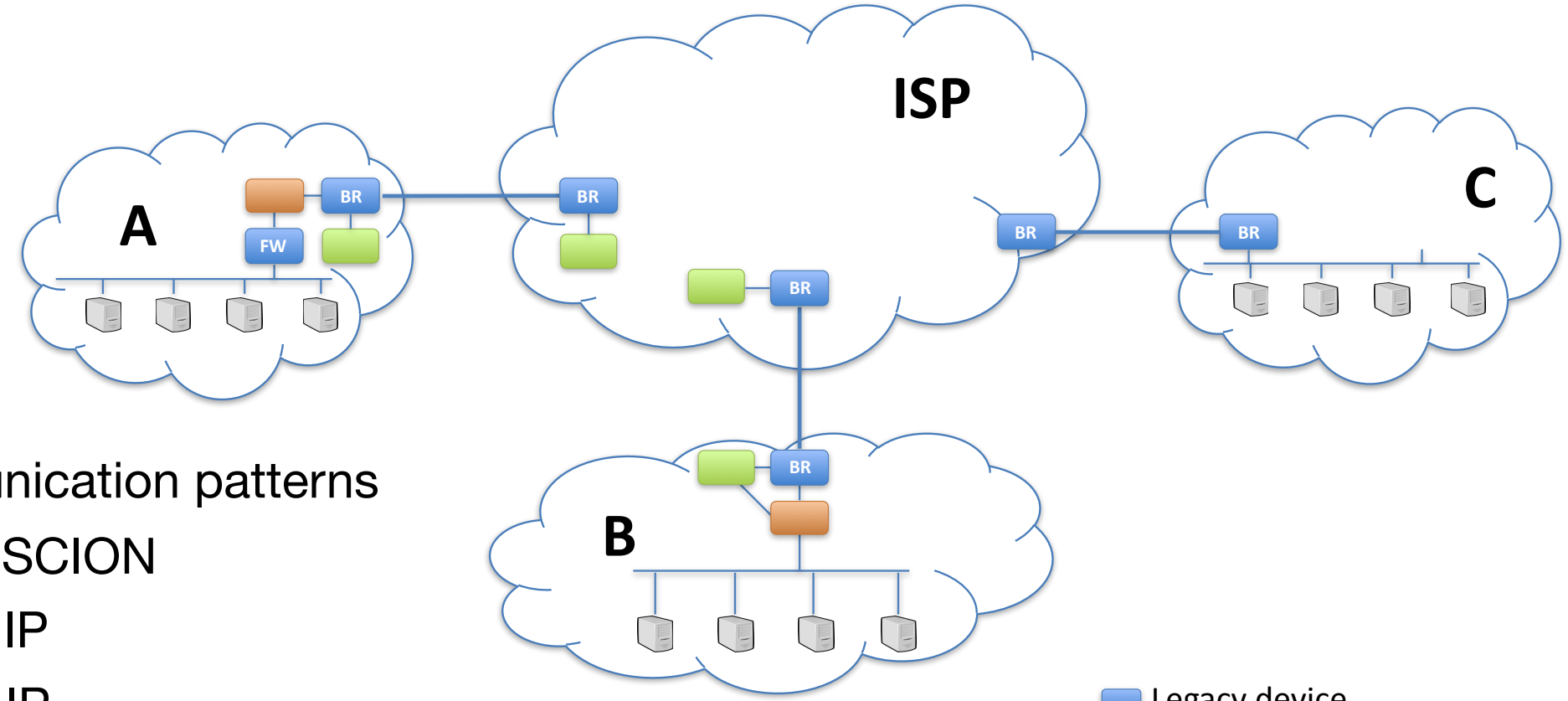
SCION-IP Gateway (SIG) Deployment



- Communication patterns
  - A - B: SCION
  - A - C: IP
  - B - C: IP

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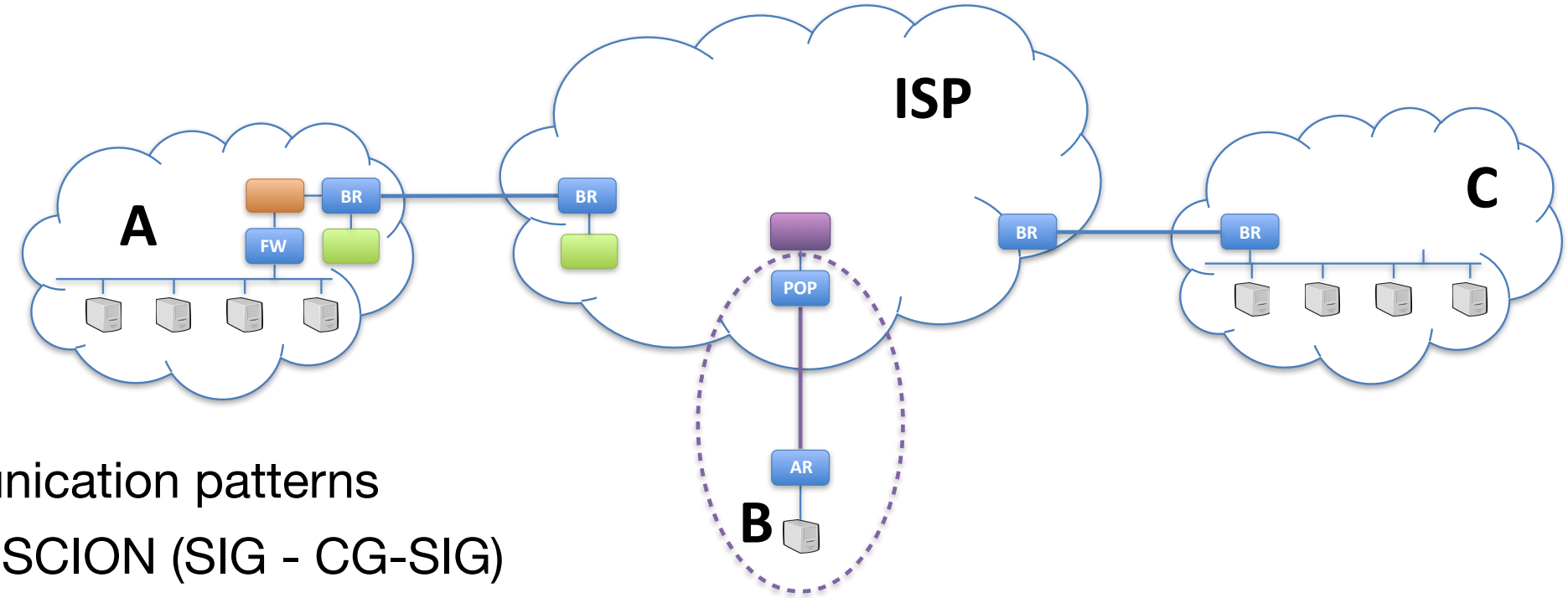
Carrier-grade SIG Supports SCION Devices



- Communication patterns
  - A - B: SCION (SIG - CG-SIG)
  - A - C: IP (SIG)
  - B - C: IP (CG-SIG)

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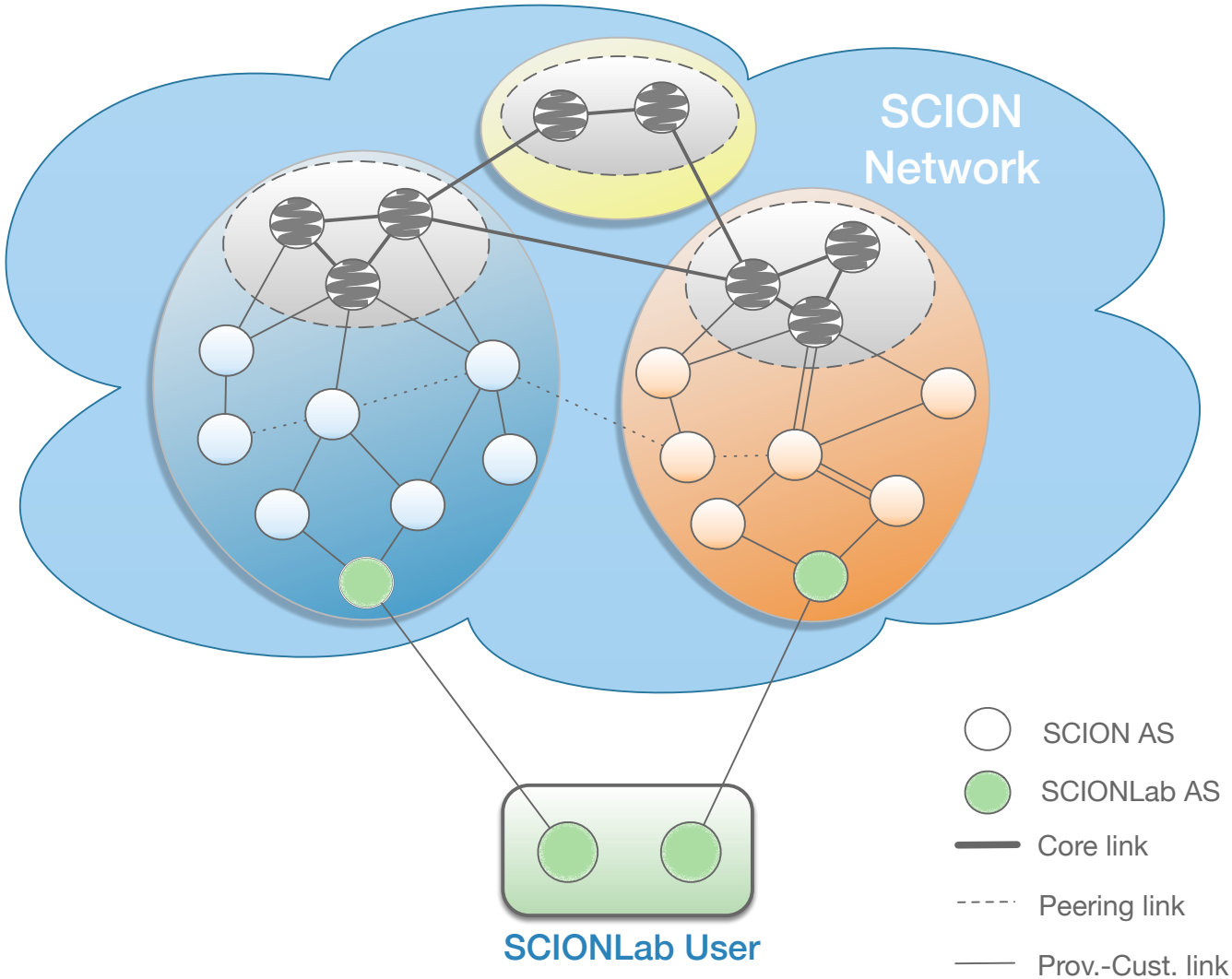
How to make this work?

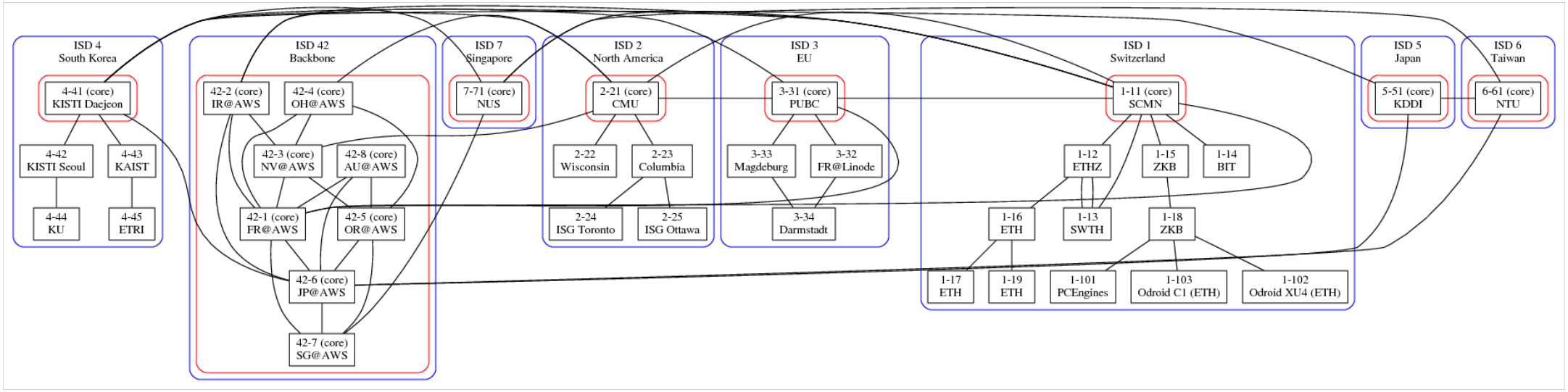
- SIG handles legacy IP traffic
  - If destination is reachable through SCION, encapsulate IP packet and send it to remote SIG over SCION network
  - Otherwise, send packet through IP
- Carrier-Grade SIG (CG-SIG) handles all traffic to destination
  - NAT for destination network
  - Destination is not publicly reachable — DDoS defense
  - Destination does not need to establish an AS

SCIONLab

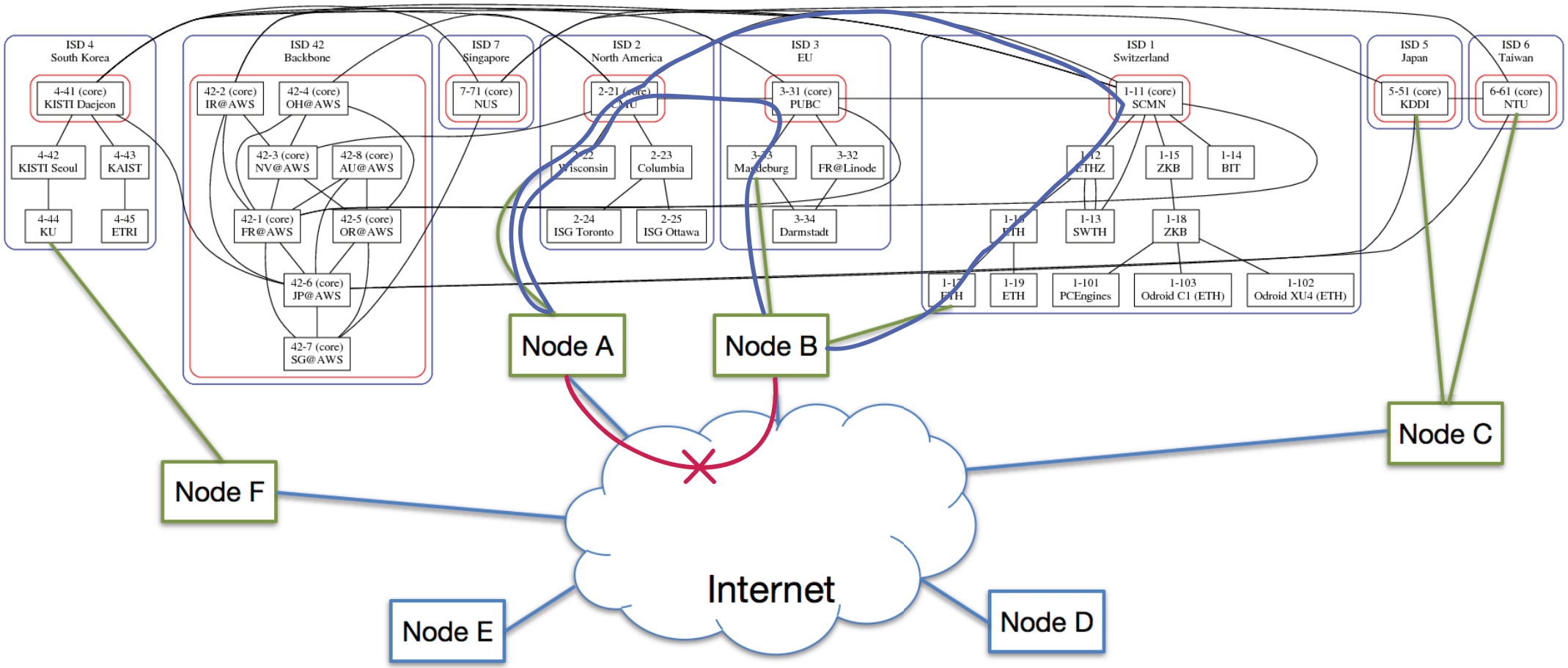

SCION
Network
SCIONLab User
SCION AS
SCIONLab AS
Core link
Peering link
Prov.-Cust. link

Global SCIONLab Network

- https://www.scionlab.org
- Collaboration with David Hausheer @ Uni Magdeburg



Use Case: Internet Backup through SCIONLab



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Commercial SCION Network

- Deutsche Telekom, Swisscom, SWITCH, Init7 offer SCION connections (as test) on a commercial SCION network
- Several banks and Swiss government are running trial deployments
  - One large bank has been running production traffic over SCION since August 2017

How to obtain a SCION Connection?

- Individual: SCIONLab https://www.scionlab.org
  - SCION AS running on VM within 10 minutes
- University, research lab
  - SWITCH, DFN can (soon) provide SCION connections
  - David Hausheer @ Uni Magdeburg has set up SCION VMs at GEANT <hausheer@ovgu.de>
- Corporation, Government entity
  - Swisscom
  - Deutsche Telecom <markus.seipel@telekom.de>

Conclusions

- It is possible to evolve Layer 3: SCION is a secure Internet architecture that we can use today
- Strong properties for high-availability communication
  - Multipath routing architecture offers multitude of path choices for meaningful diverse path selection
  - For some cases, lower latency than in today's Internet
  - Fast failover providing business continuity
  - Prevention of routing attacks
  - Built-in DDoS defense mechanisms

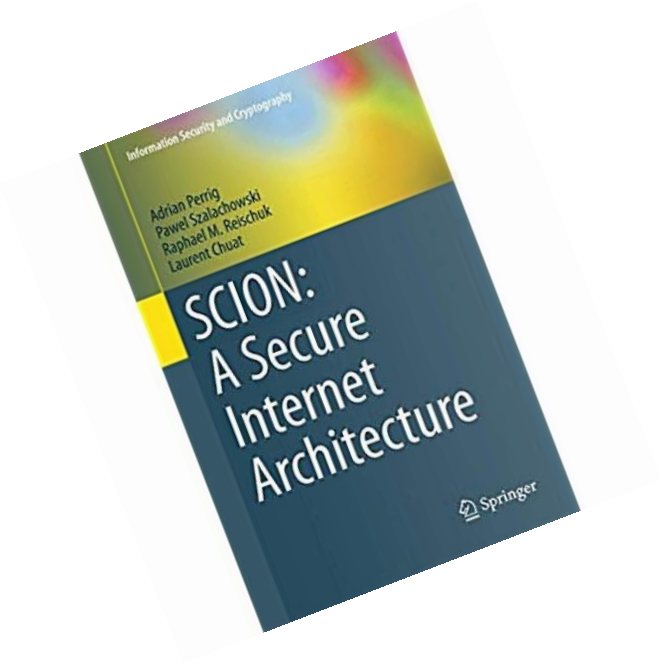
SCION Commercialization

- Founded Anapaya Systems in June 2017
- 4 founders: David Basin, Sam Hitz (CEO), Peter Müller, Adrian Perrig
- Several banks and ISPs are customers
- https://www.anapaya.net

anapaya systems

Online Resources

- https://www.scion-architecture.net
  - Book
  - Papers
  - Videos
  - Tutorials
  - Newsletter signup
- https://www.scionlab.org
  - SCIONLab testbed infrastructure
- https://www.anapaya.net
  - SCION commercialization
- https://github.com/scionproto/scion
  - Source code



SCION Core Project Team

- Netsec: Daniele Asoni, Laurent Chuat, Sergiu Costea, Piet De Vaere, Sam Hitz, Mike Farb, Tobias Klausmann, Cyrill Krähenbühl, Jonghoon Kwon, Tae-Ho Lee, Sergio Monroy, Chris Pappas, Juan Pardo, Adrian Perrig, Benjamin Rothenberger, Stephen Shirley, Jean-Pierre Smith, Brian Trammell
- Infsec: David Basin, Tobias Klenze, Ralf Sasse, Christoph Sprenger, Thilo Weghorn
- Programming Methodology: Marco Eilers, Peter Müller
- Uni Magdeburg: David Hausheer

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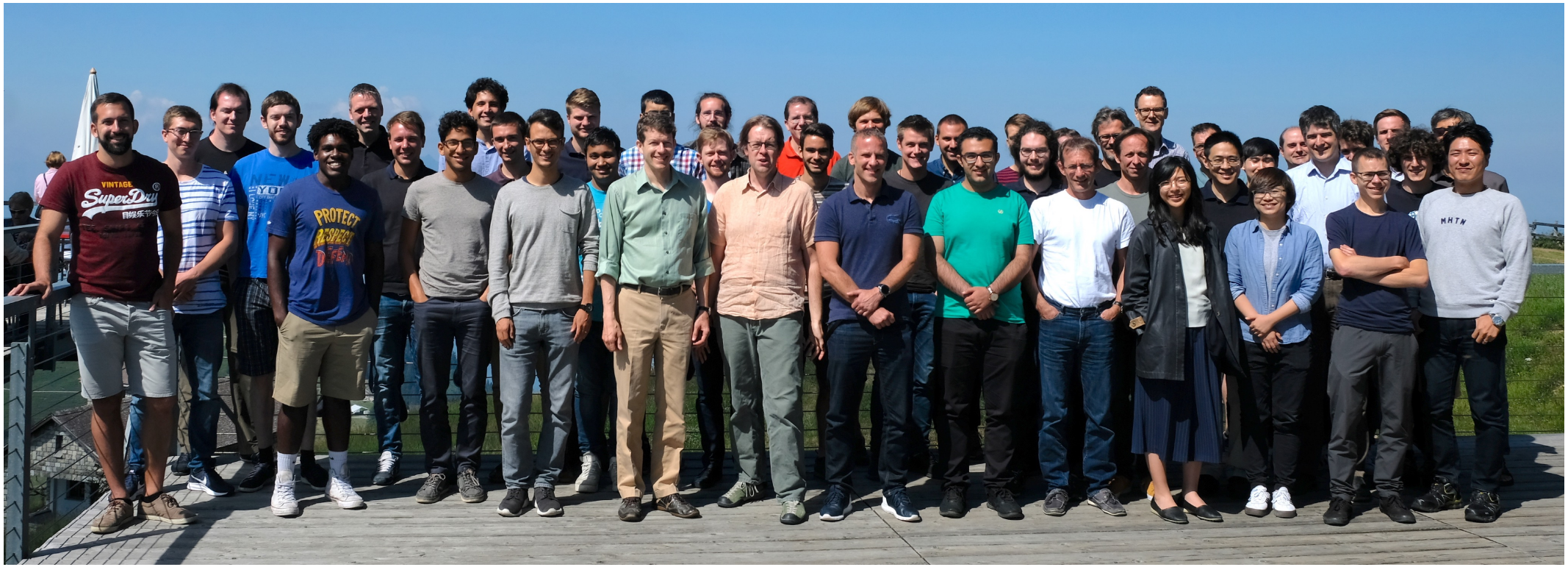
Thanks to all our Collaborators!



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