SMA Computer Science Seminar

EpiChord: Parallelizing the Chord Lookup Algorithm with Reactive Routing State Management

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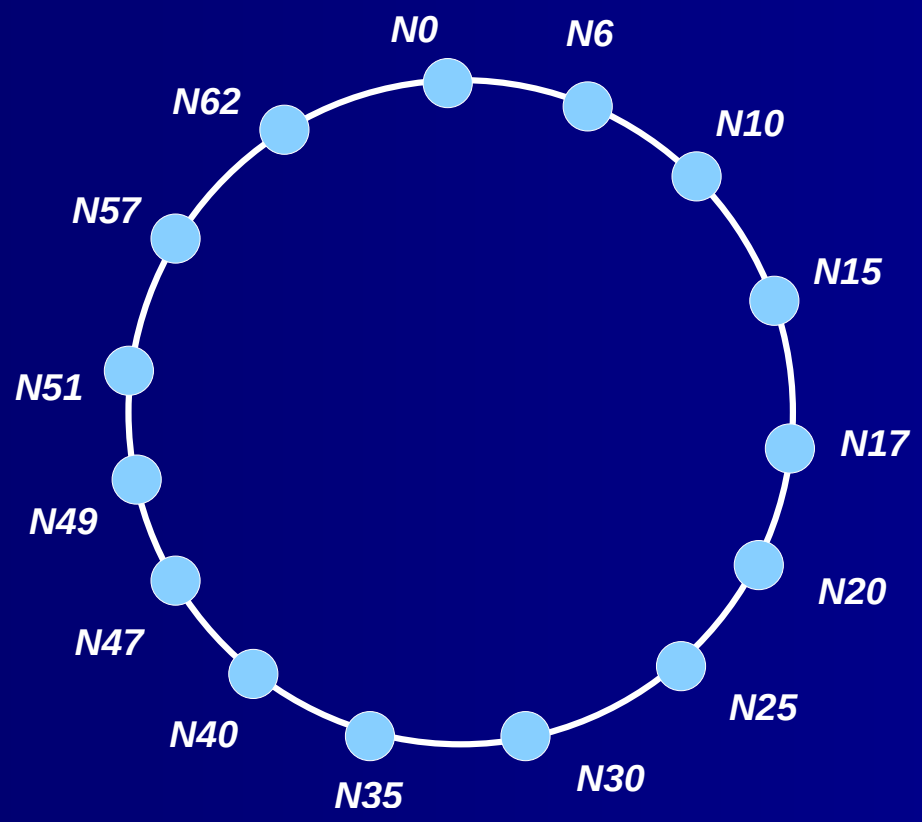
Structured Peer-to-Peer Systems

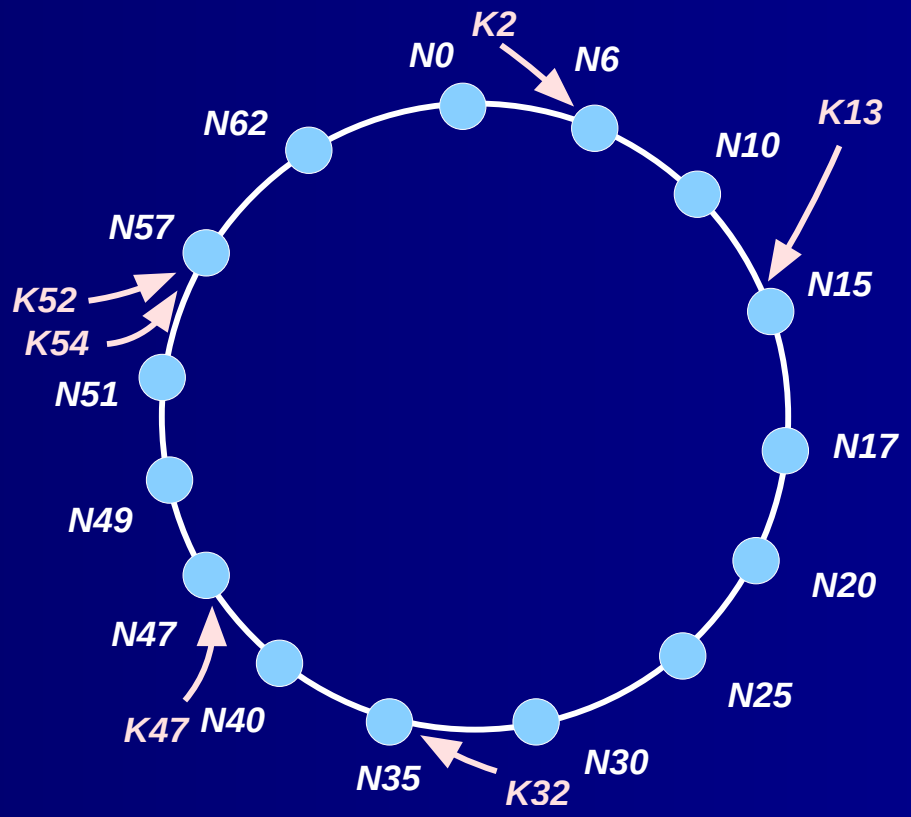
- Large scale dynamic network
- Overlay infrastructure :
  - Scalable
  - Self configuring
  - Fault tolerant
- Every node responsible for some objects
- Find node having desired object
- Challenge: Efficient Routing at Low Cost

Address Space



- Most common — one-dimensional circular address space

Mapping Keys to Nodes



- successor of key is its owner

Distributed Hash Tables (DHTs)

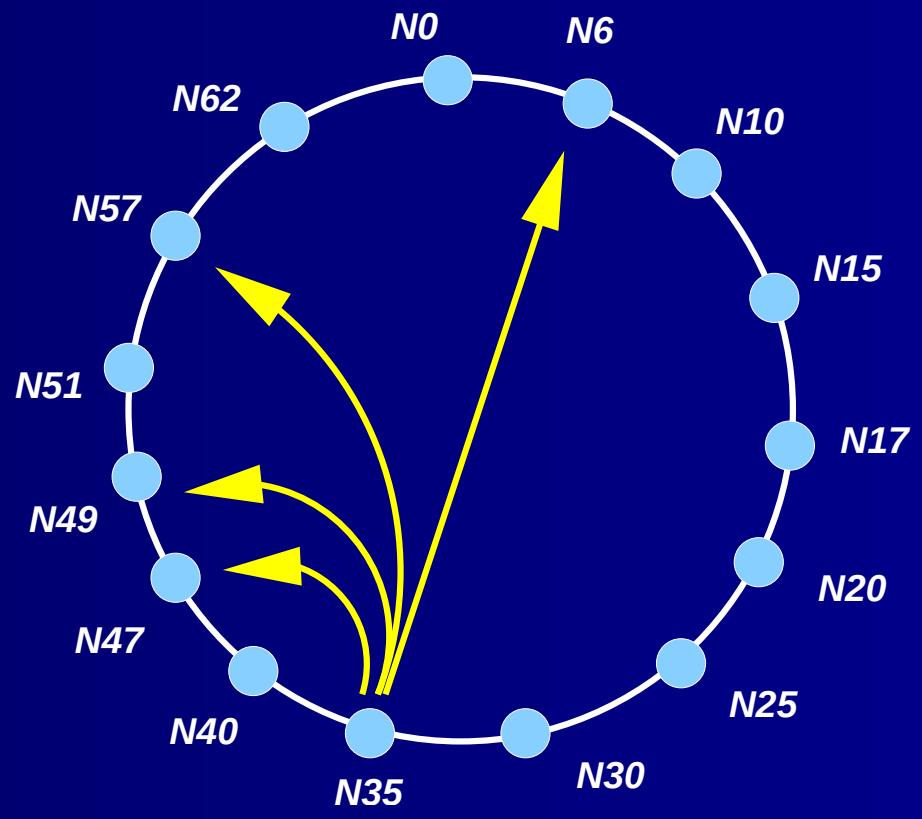
- A Distributed Hash Table (DHT) is a distributed data structure that supports a *put/get* interface.
- Store and retrieve {key, value} pairs efficiently over a network of (generally unreliable) nodes
- Keep state stored per node small because of network churn $\Rightarrow$ minimize book-keeping & maintenance traffic

Distributed Hash Tables (DHTs)

- DHTs trade off (i) *routing state* and/or (ii) *bandwidth* for *lookup performance*:
  - Routing Table size ranges from $O(\log n)$ to $O(n)$
  - Lookup Topology (Gummadi et al., 2003) – ring, tree, xor, hypercube, butterfly
  - Parallel lookup – Kademlia (xor) (Maymounkov and Mazieres, 2002)

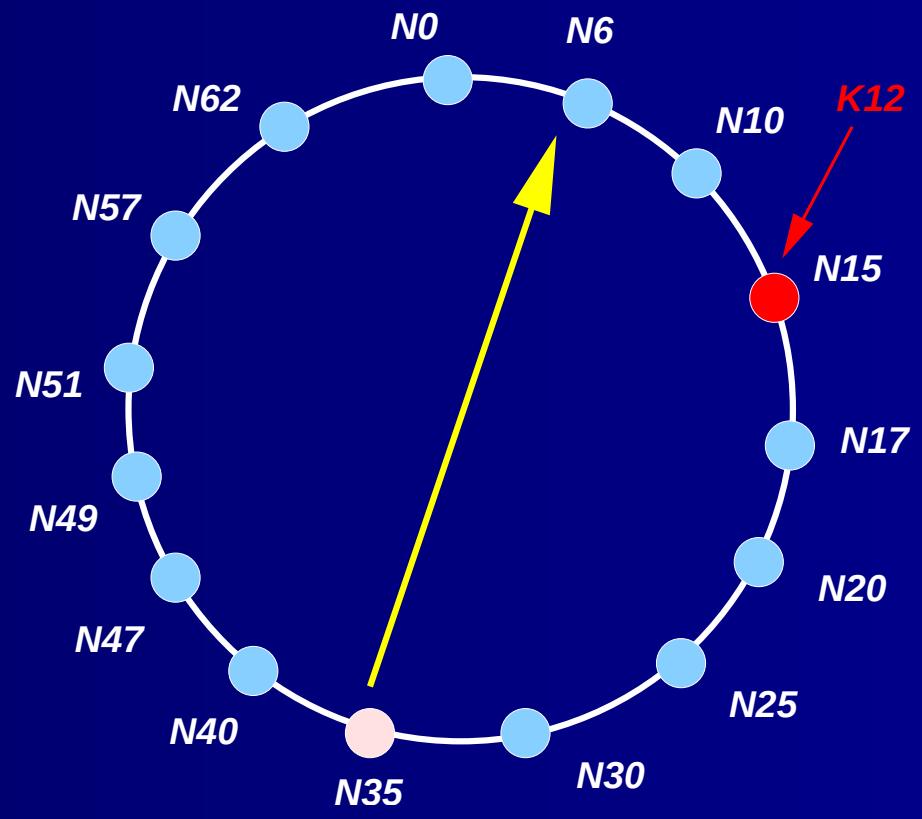
$\Rightarrow$ EpiChord explores the trade-offs in moving from sequential lookup to parallel lookup and from $O(\log n)$ to $O(\log n)++$ state

Chord

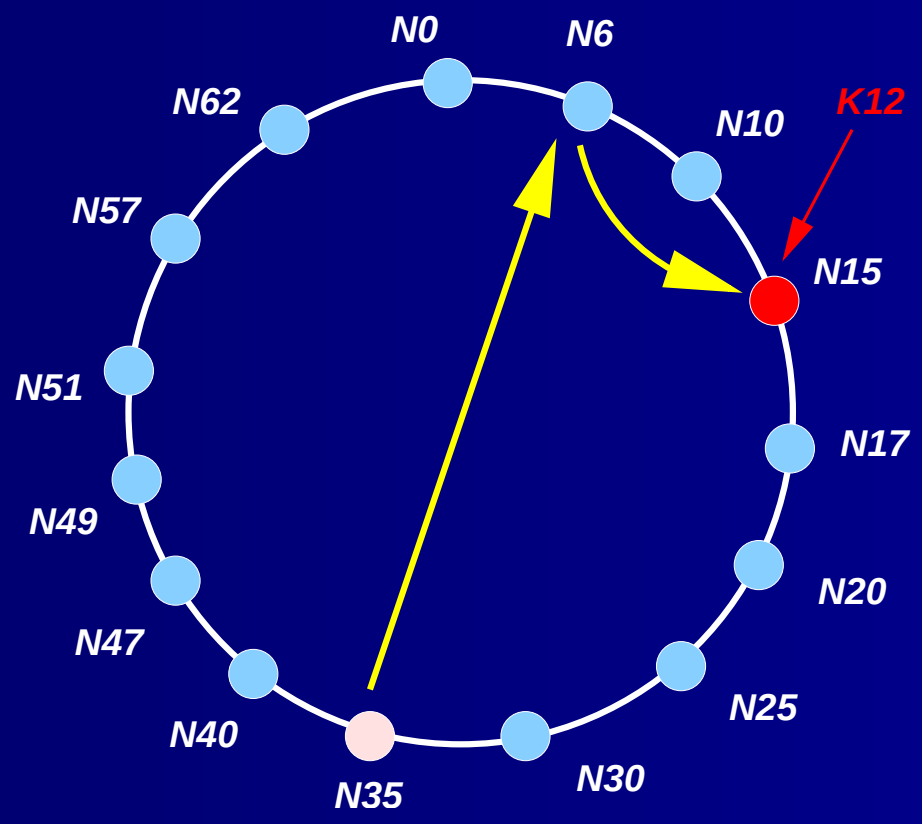


- Each node periodically probes $O(\log n)$ fingers
- Achieves $O(\log n)$-hop performance

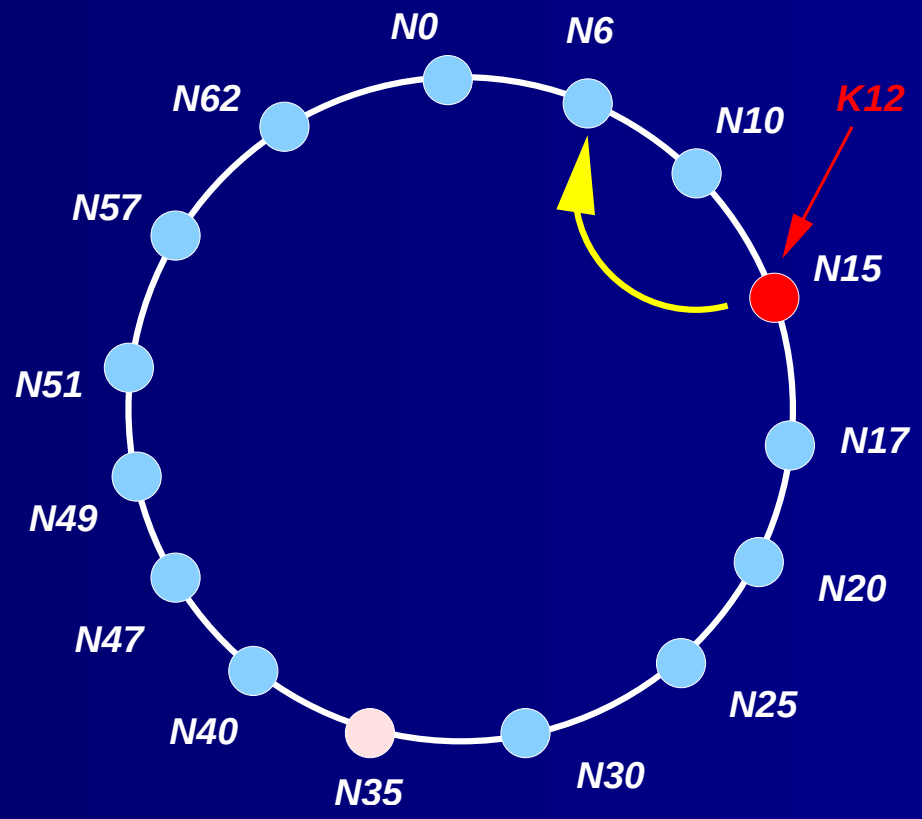
Recursive Lookup



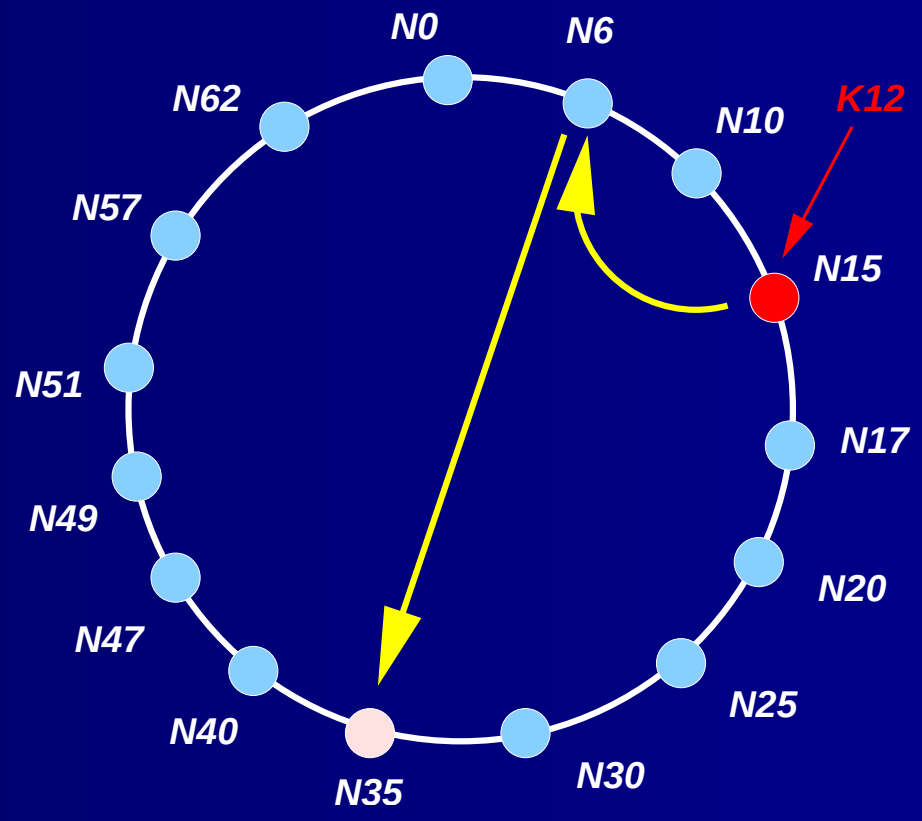
Recursive Lookup



Recursive Lookup

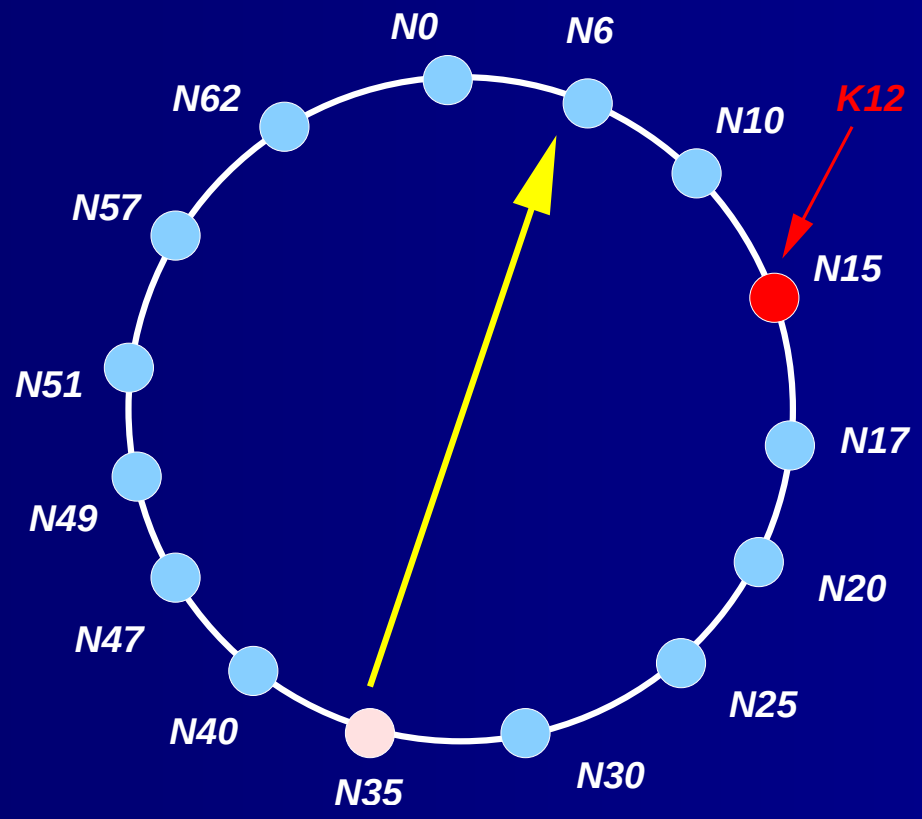


Recursive Lookup

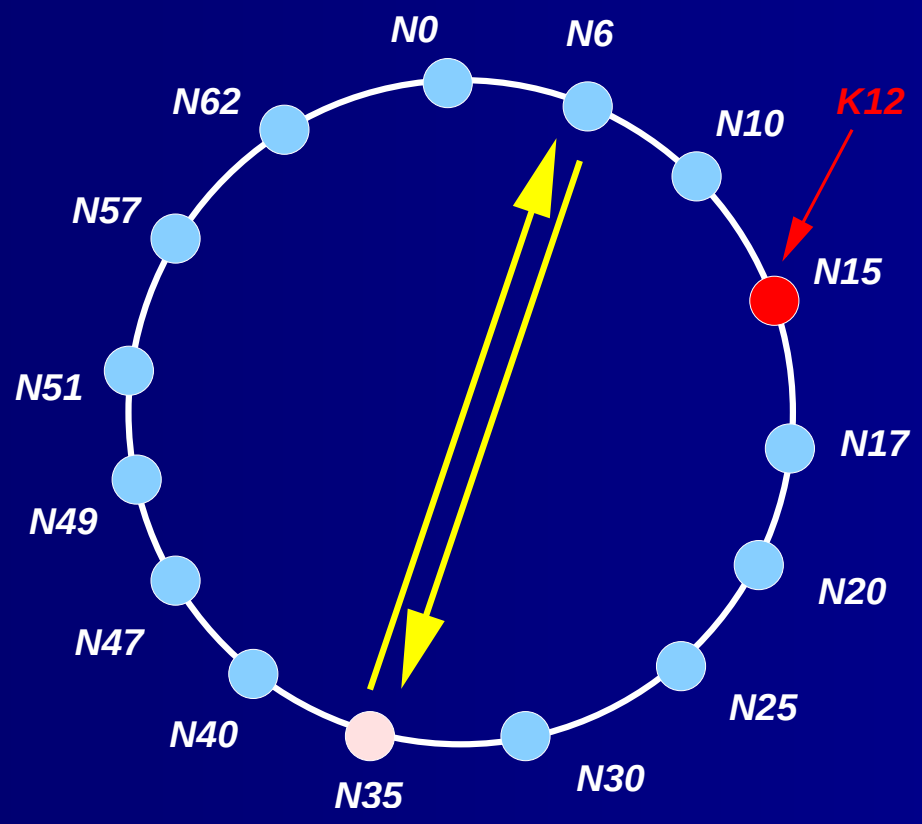


- Takes $O(\log n)$ hops to get to the destination node.

Iterative Lookup



Iterative Lookup



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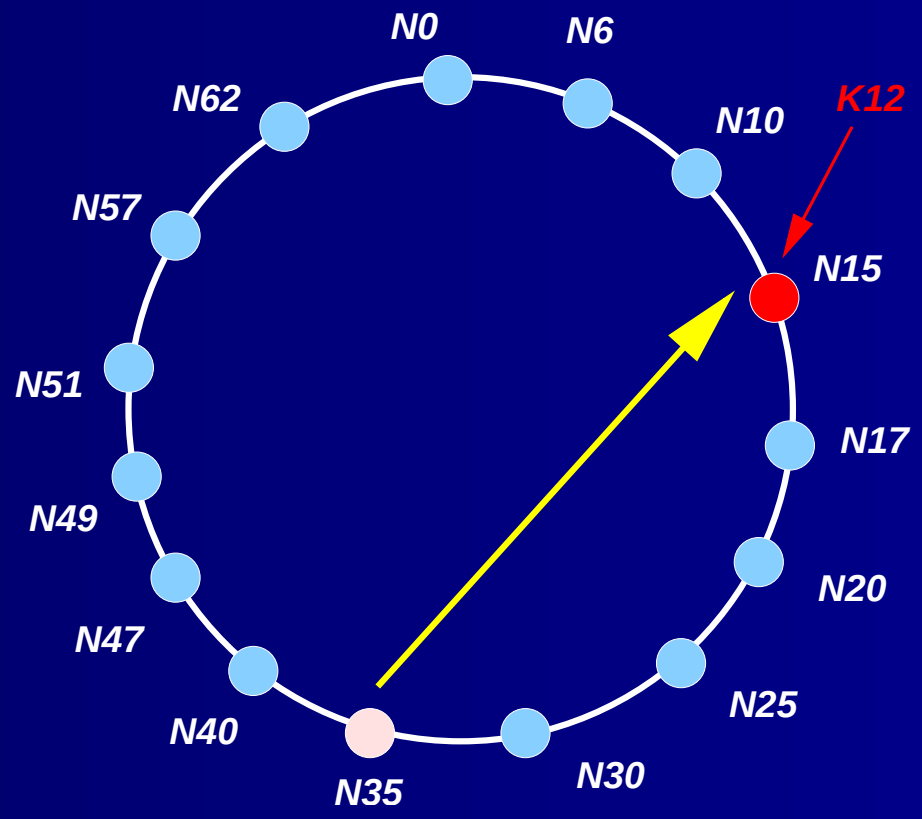
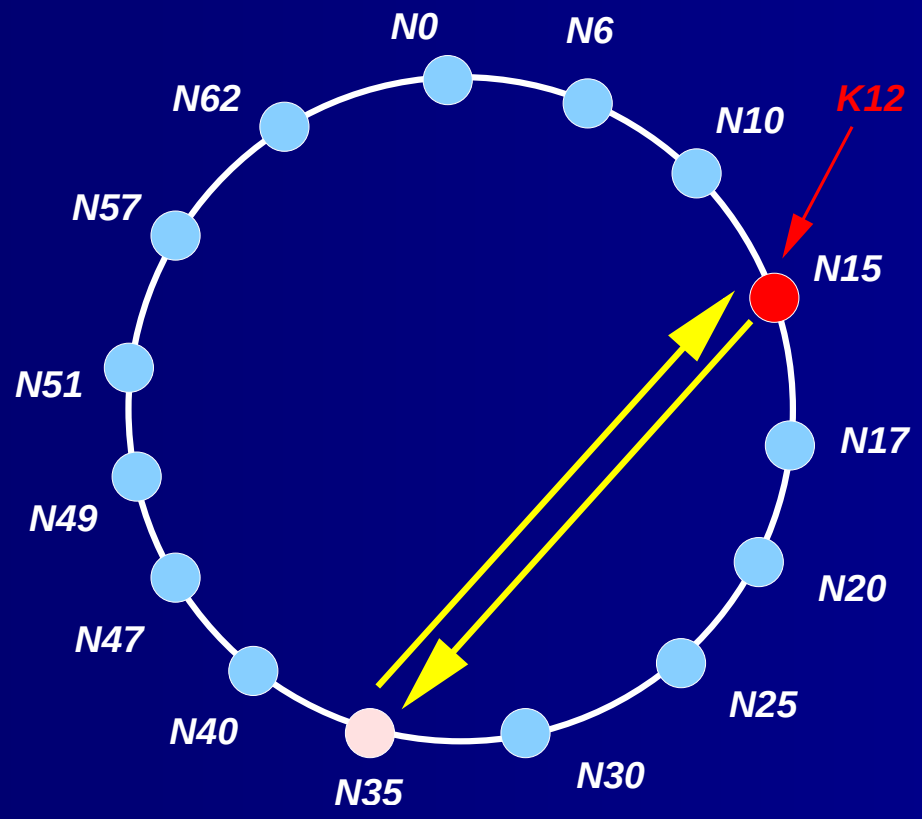


Iterative Lookup



Summary: Chord

- Stores $O(\log n)$ state (fingers) at every node $\Rightarrow$ storage is not the problem, probing traffic is limiting factor.
- Takes $O(\log n)$ hops per lookup $\Rightarrow$ Okay for some applications, too slow for others
- Non-zero probability that a node may fail in between probe $\Rightarrow$ Node failures detected by timeout

Our Goal

- We want to do better than $O(\log n)$-hop lookup without adding extra overhead.
- Use a combination of techiques:
  - Piggyback information on lookup messages
  - Allow cache to store more than $O(\log n)$ routing state
  - Issue parallel queries during lookup

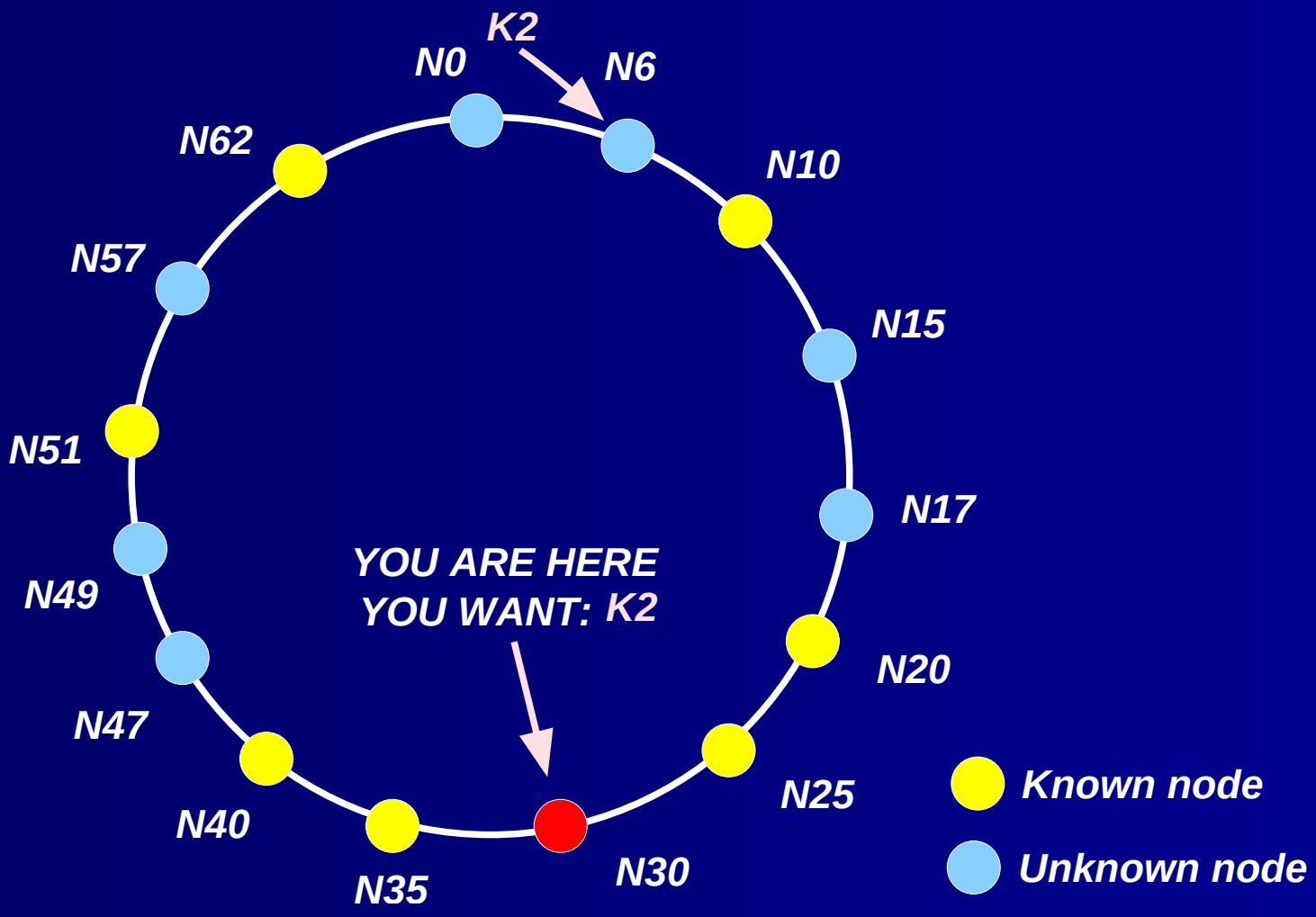
Outline

- Parallel Lookup Algorithm
- Reactive Cache Management
- Simulation Results
- Related Work
- Conclusion

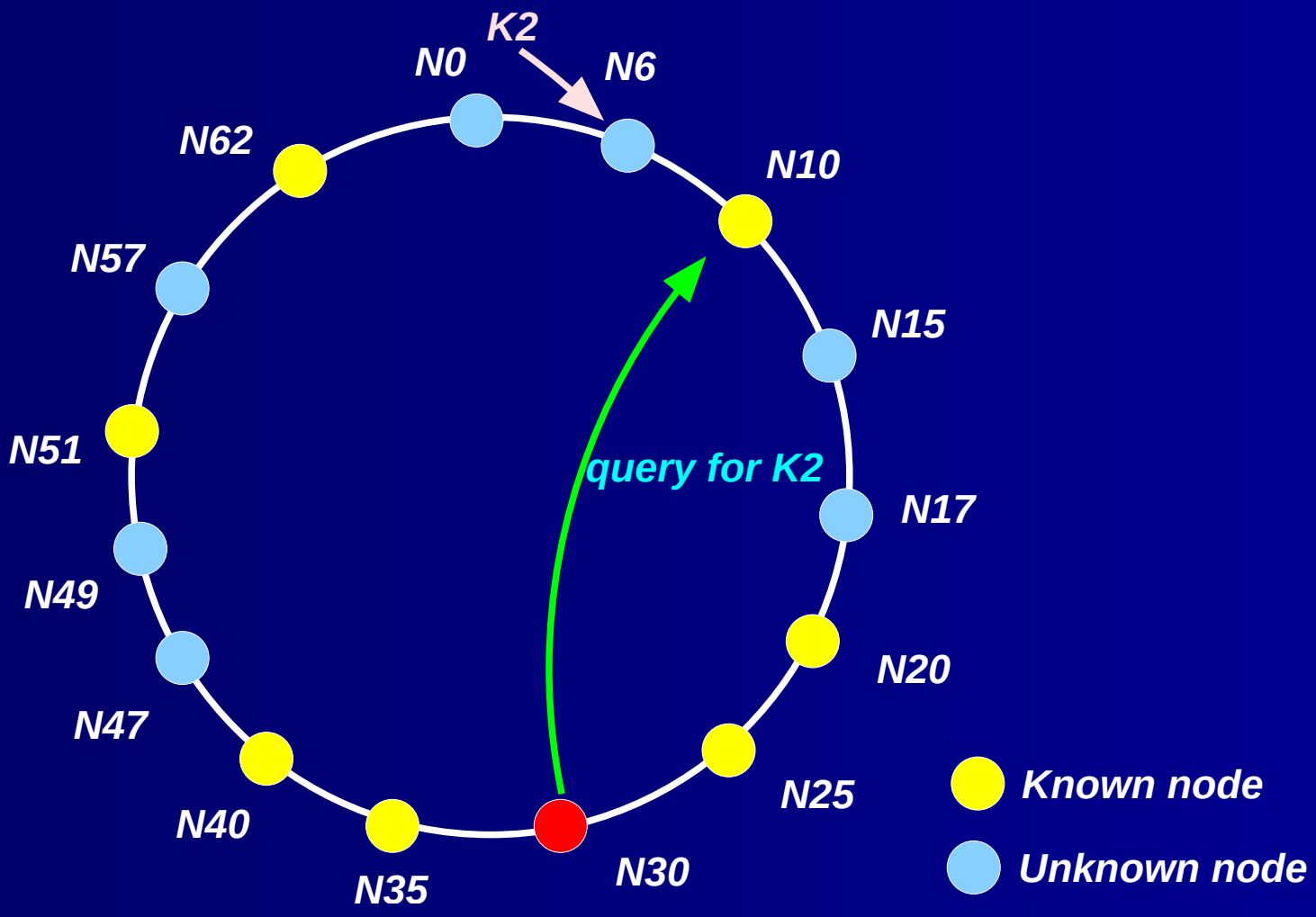
Preliminaries

- p: Degree of parallelism – "threads"
- l: Number of entries returned per query ($l = 3$)
- h: Number of hops
- We call an EpiChord network that sends out p queries in parallel for a lookup a *p-way EpiChord*.

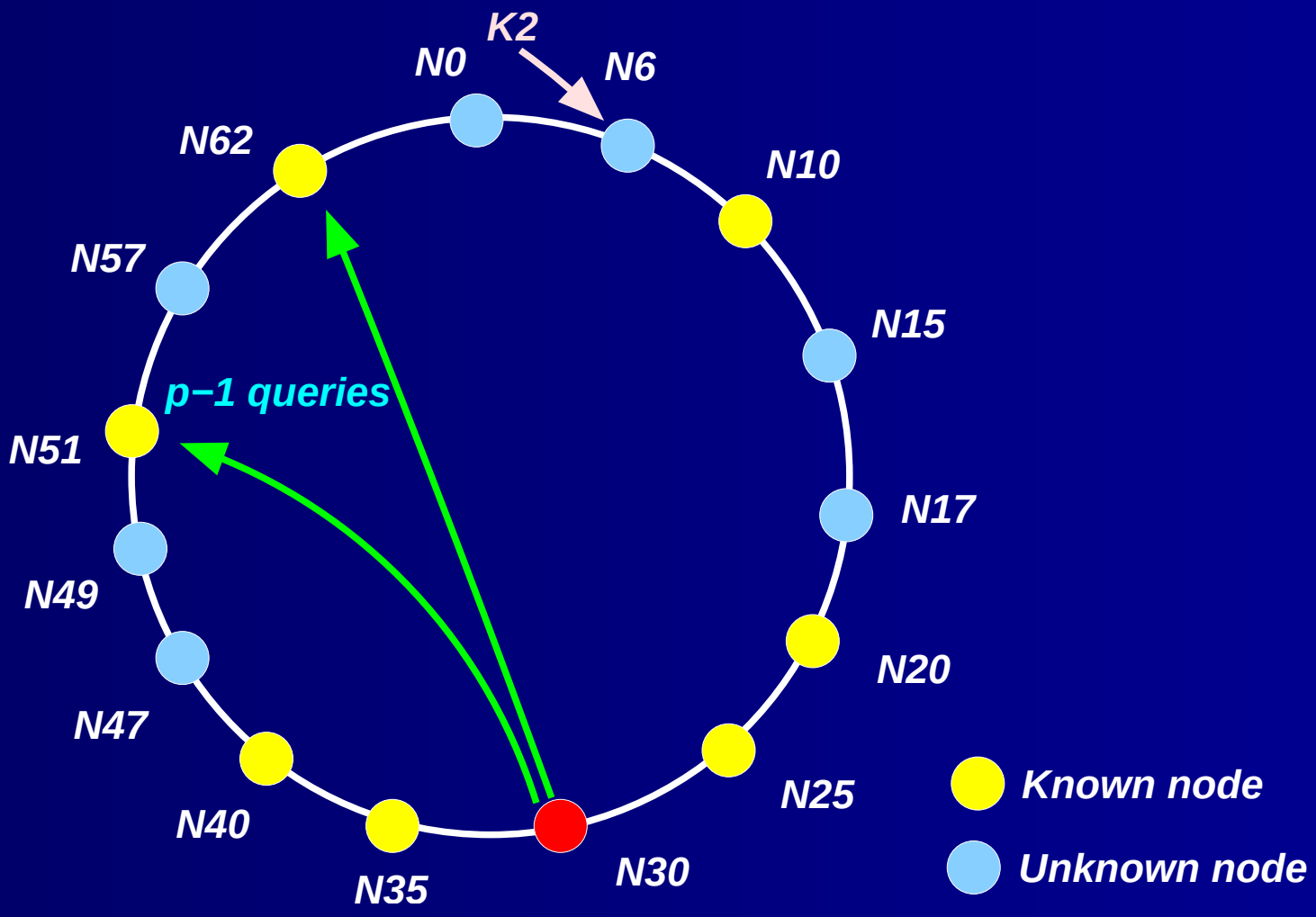
EpiChord Lookup Algorithm



EpiChord Lookup Algorithm



EpiChord Lookup Algorithm



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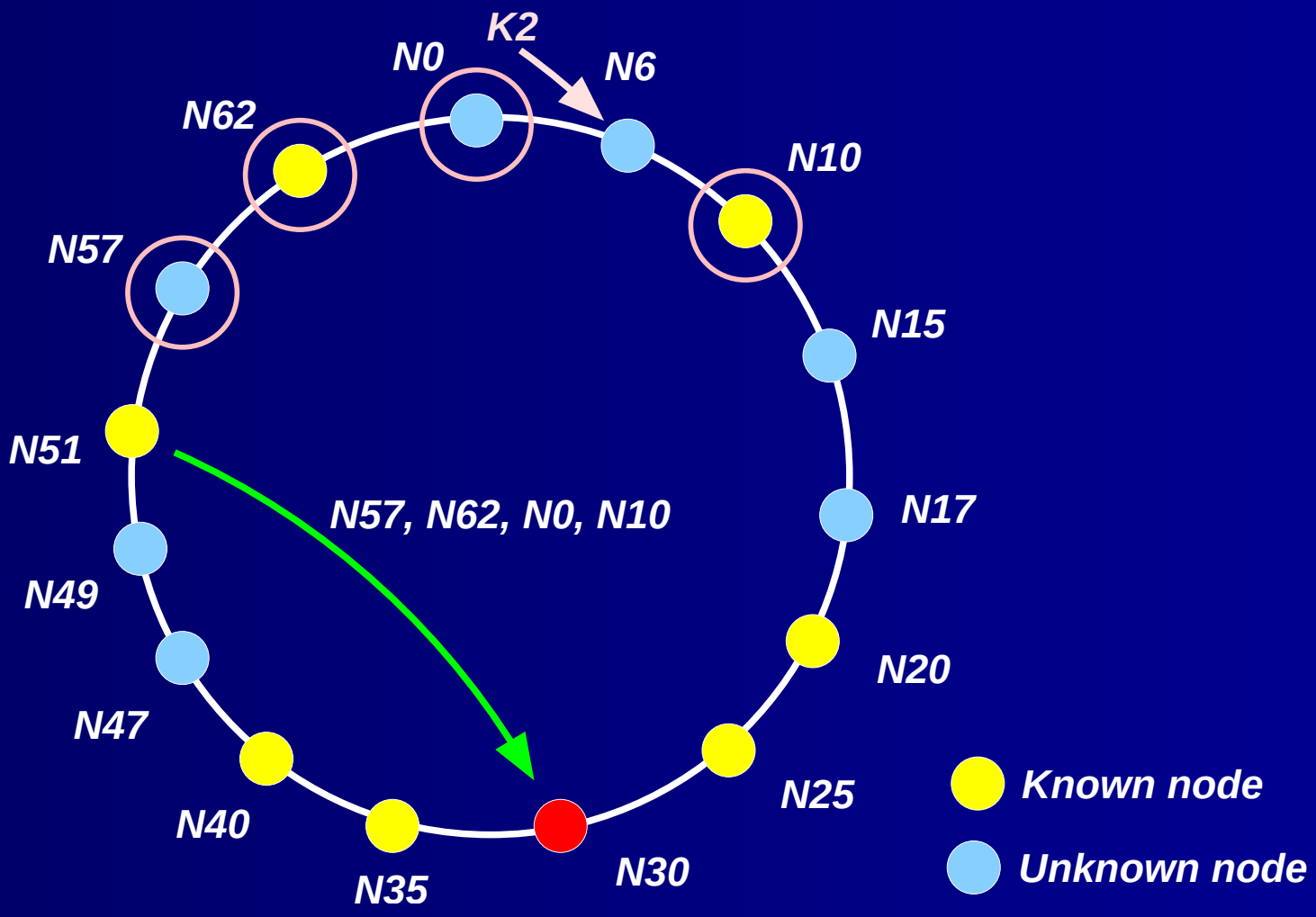

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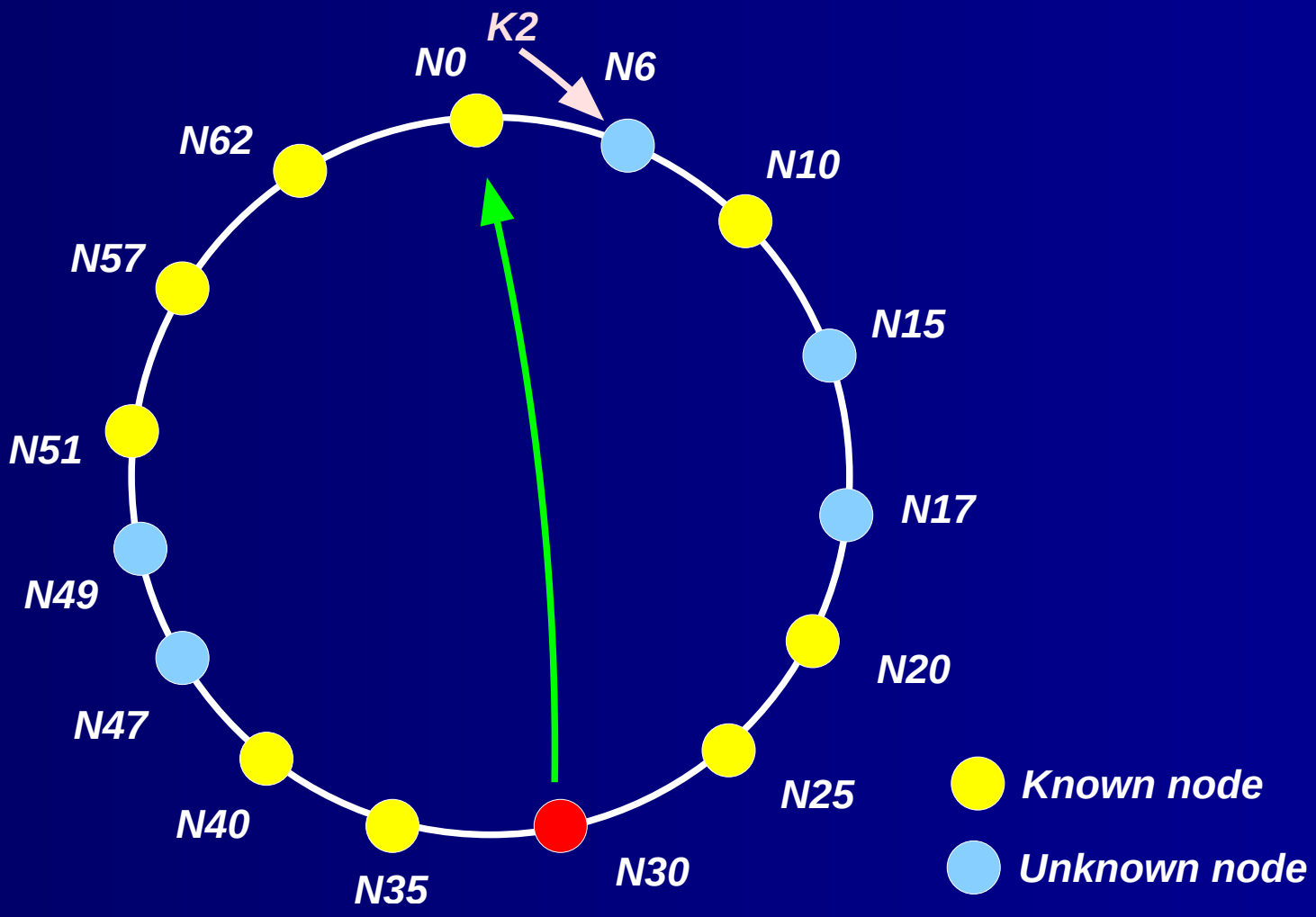

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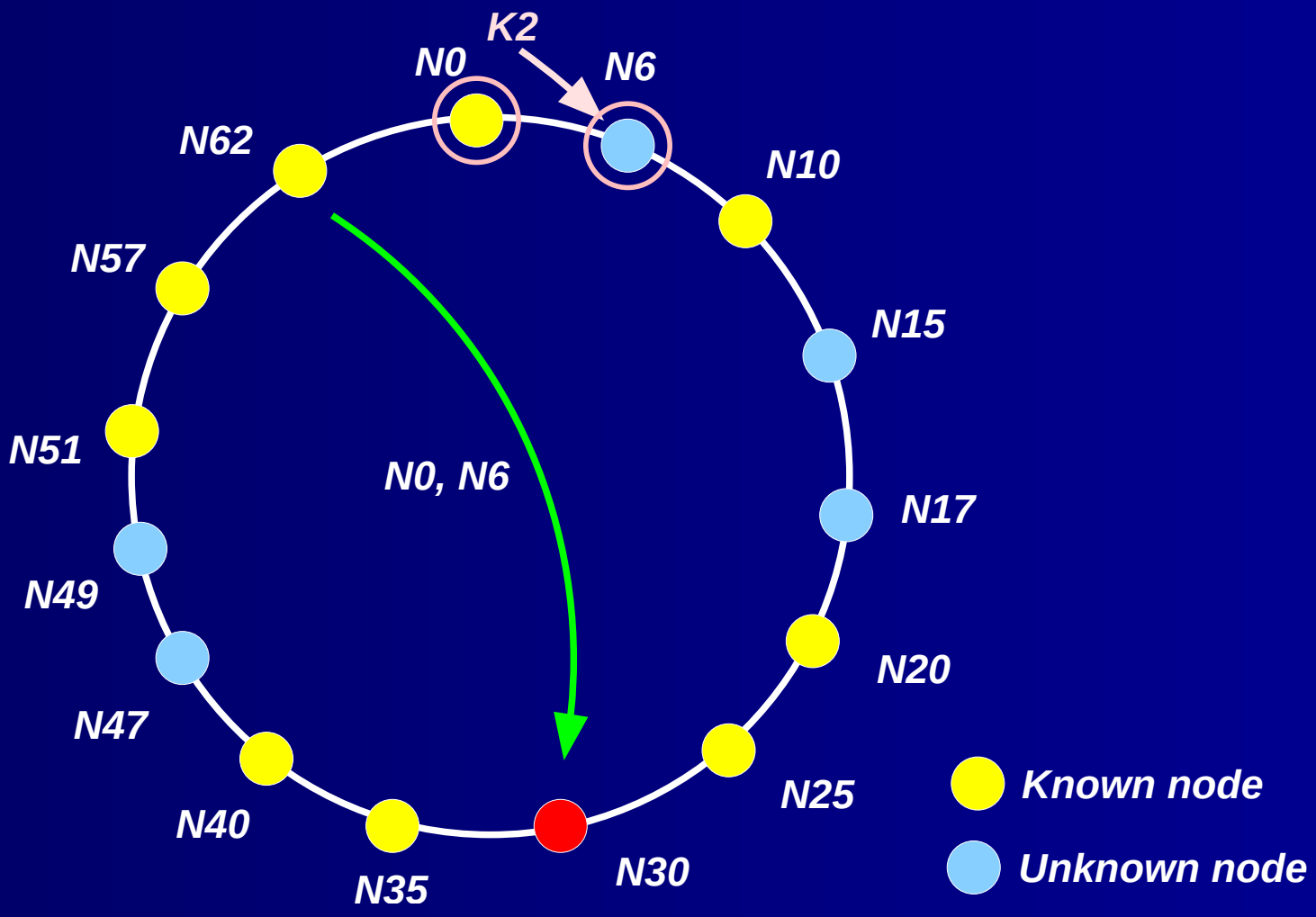

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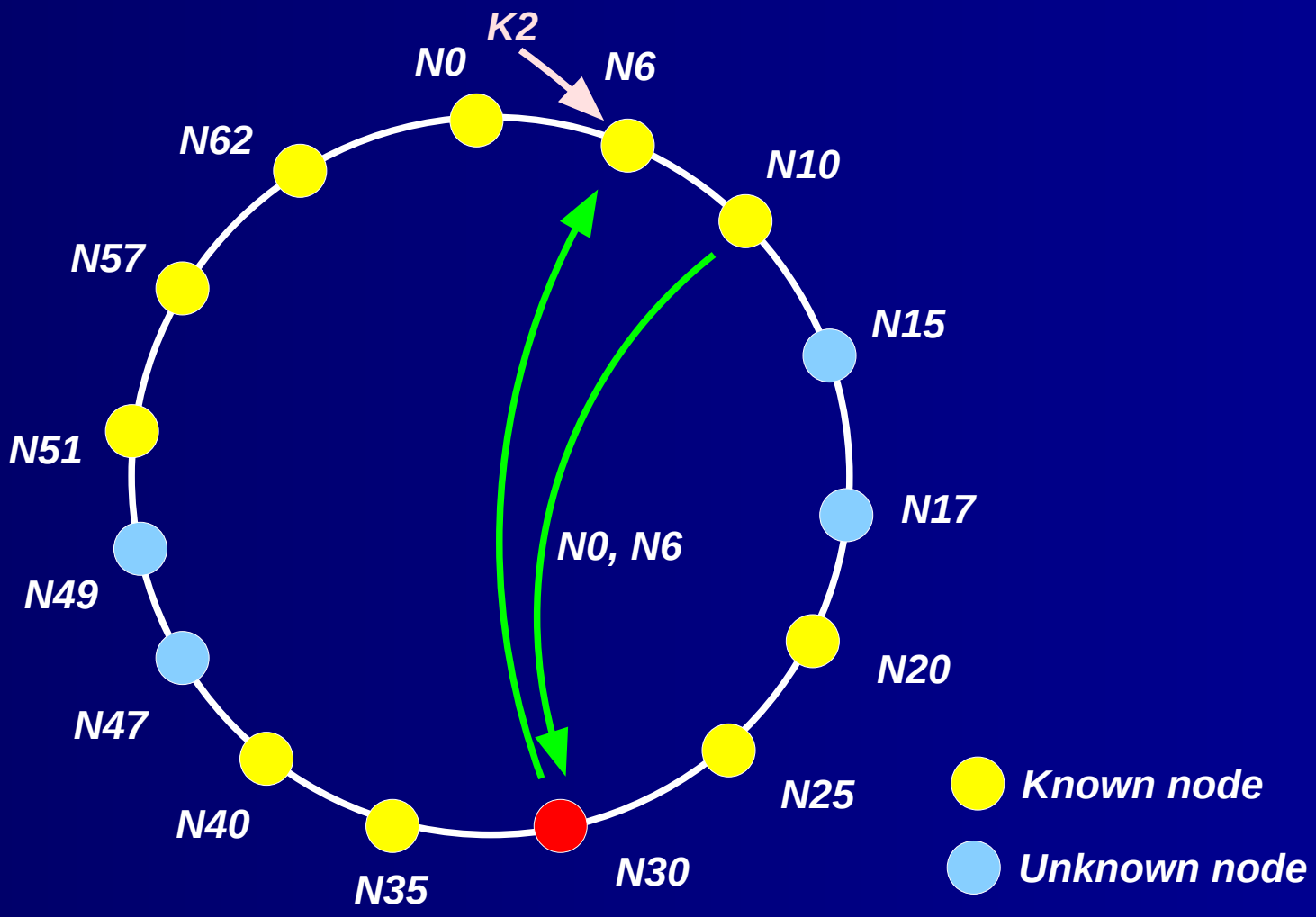

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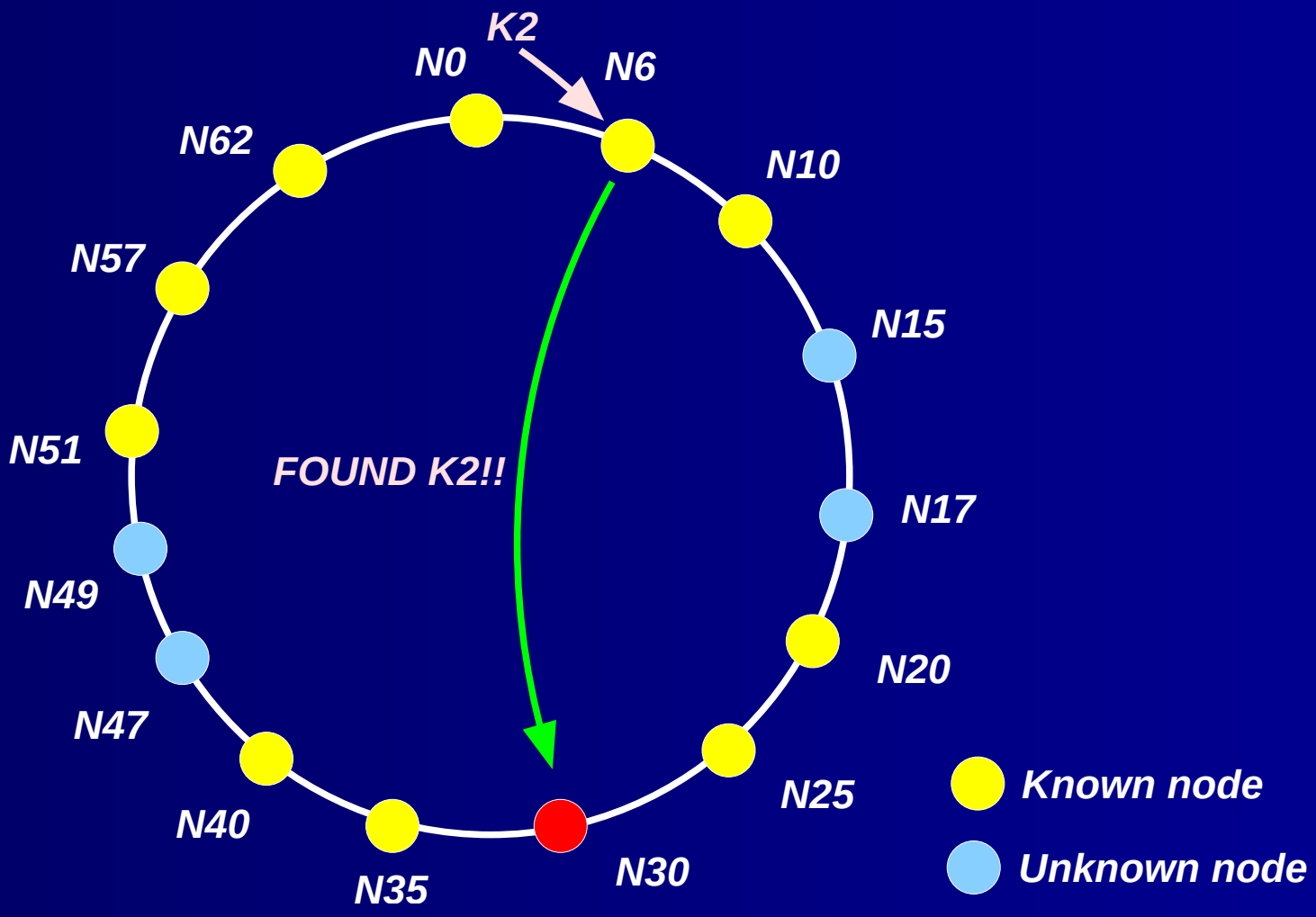


EpiChord Lookup Algorithm

- Intrinsically iterative
  - Learn about more nodes
  - Avoid redundant queries – typically $2(p+h)$ messages
- Additional policies to learn new routing entries:
  - When a node first joins network, obtains a cache transfer from successor
  - Nodes gather information by observing lookup traffic

Key Insights

- No compelling reason to decouple lookups from network maintenance
- Can employ parallel lookup if:
  - Lookup pathlengths are short
  - Adopt an iterative approach to avoid redundant queries

Key Insights

- Parallel Lookup and Large State have a somewhat *symbiotic* relationship
  - Lookup pathlengths are short if we store a lot of state
    $\Rightarrow$ with short pathlengths, parallel lookup is feasible
  - Storing a lot of state increases outdated state
    $\Rightarrow$ increases maintenance bandwidth or increases timeouts
    $\Rightarrow$ parallel queries can mitigate timeouts

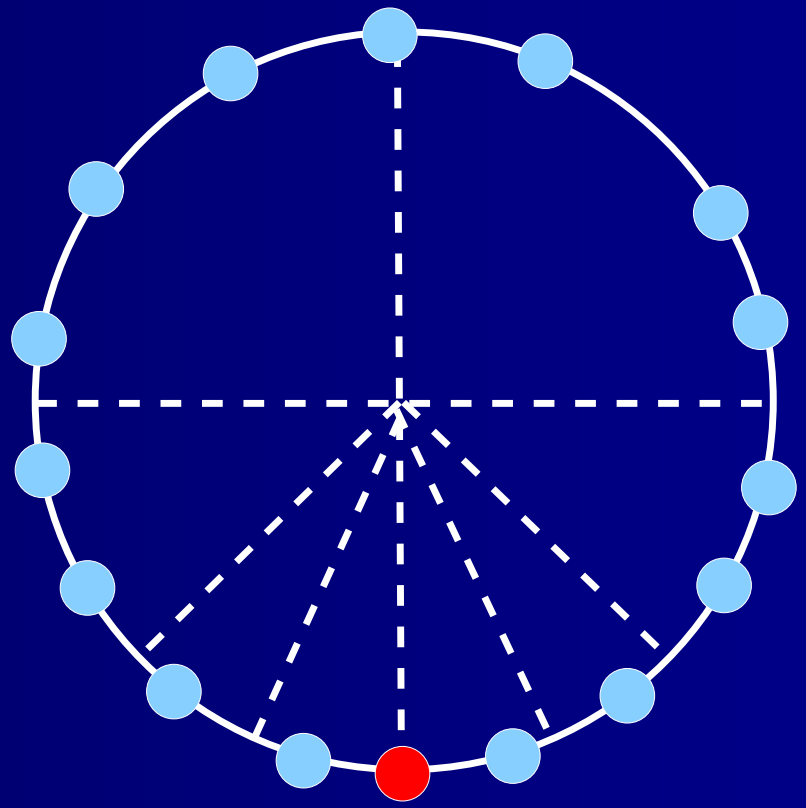
Proximity

- We do not track latency information or explicitly use proximity information
- But parallel asynchronous lookup exploits proximity indirectly
- Key observation — Final sequence of lookups that returns the correct answer first is approximately equivalent to a proximity-optimized lookup sequence

Reactive Cache Management

- Traditional (active) approach
  $\Rightarrow$ Ping fingers periodically
- Our approach:
  - Cache entries have a fixed expiration period
  - Divide address space into exponentially smaller slices
  - Periodically check if each slice has sufficient (j) un-expired entries
  - If not, make a lookup to the midpoint of the offending slice

Division of Address Space



- Estimate number of slices from k successors and k predecessors
- j and k are system parameters $\Rightarrow$ choose $k \geq 2j$

Cache Invariant

- Lookup correctness is guaranteed because in the worst case, can simply follow the successor pointers
- For $O(\log n)$-hop lookup performance guarantee:

  Cache Invariant: *Every slice contains at least* $\frac{j}{1-\hat{\gamma}}$ *cache entries at all times.*

  where $\hat{\gamma}$ is a local estimate of the probability that a cache entry is out-of-date

Summary

- Piggyback extra information on lookups
- Allow cache to contain more than $O(\log n)$ state
- Flush out old state with TTLs
- Use cache entries in parallel to avoid timeouts
- Check that cache entries are well-distributed. Fix if necessary.
- Now, let's evaluate performance : (i) latency and (ii) cost

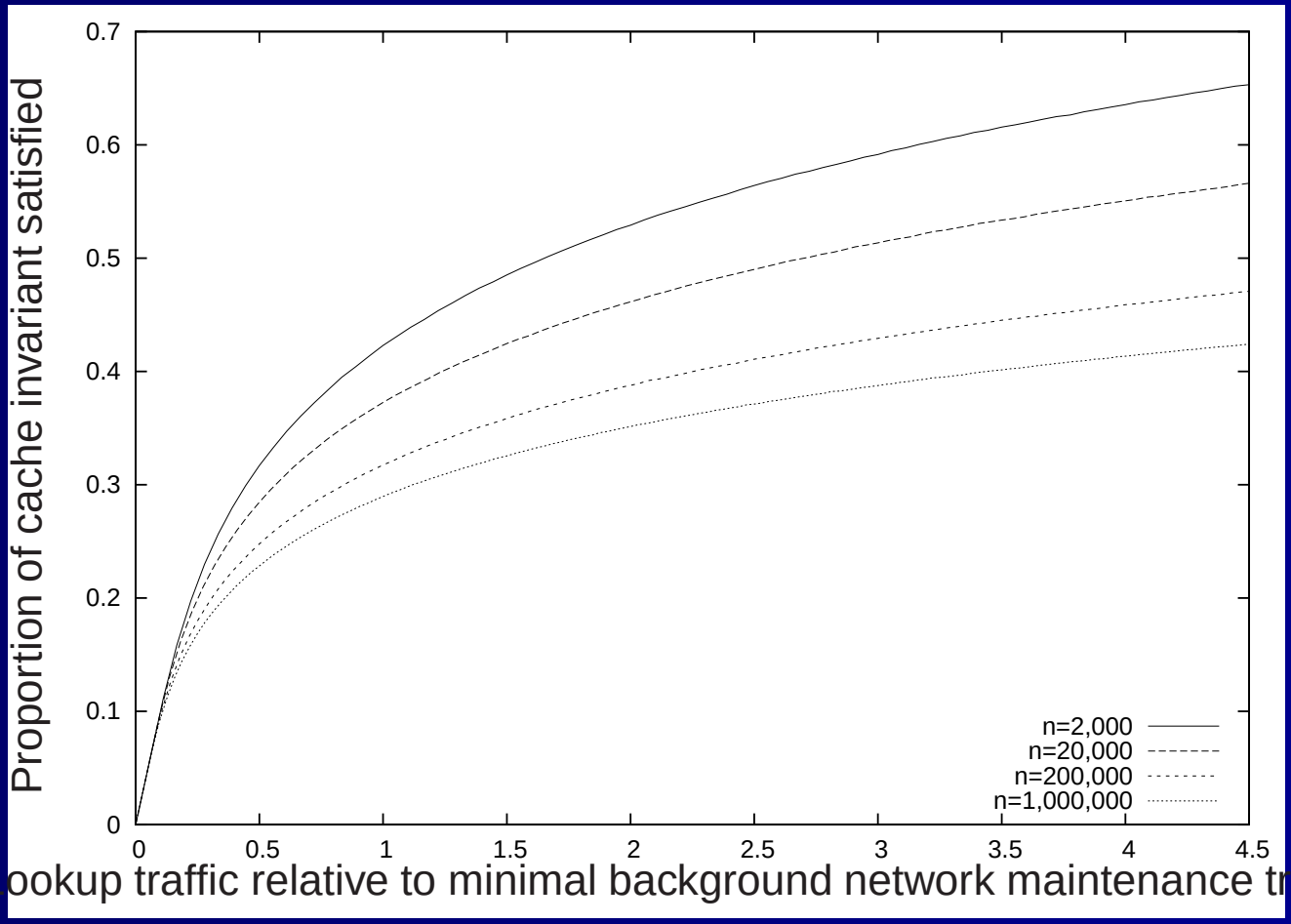
Worst-Case Performance

- If j (entries/slice) $= 1$, equivalent to Chord
- Assume a uniformly distributed workload, worst-case lookup pathlength is at most

$$\frac{1}{2}\log_\alpha n, \quad \alpha = 3j + \frac{6}{j+3}\ (j > 1)$$

- If $j = 2$, $\alpha = 7.2$ and expected worst-case lookup pathlengths are at most only $\frac{\frac{1}{2}\log_2 n}{\frac{1}{2}\log_\alpha n} = \log_\alpha 2 \approx \frac{1}{3}$ of that for Chord

Reduction in Background Probes

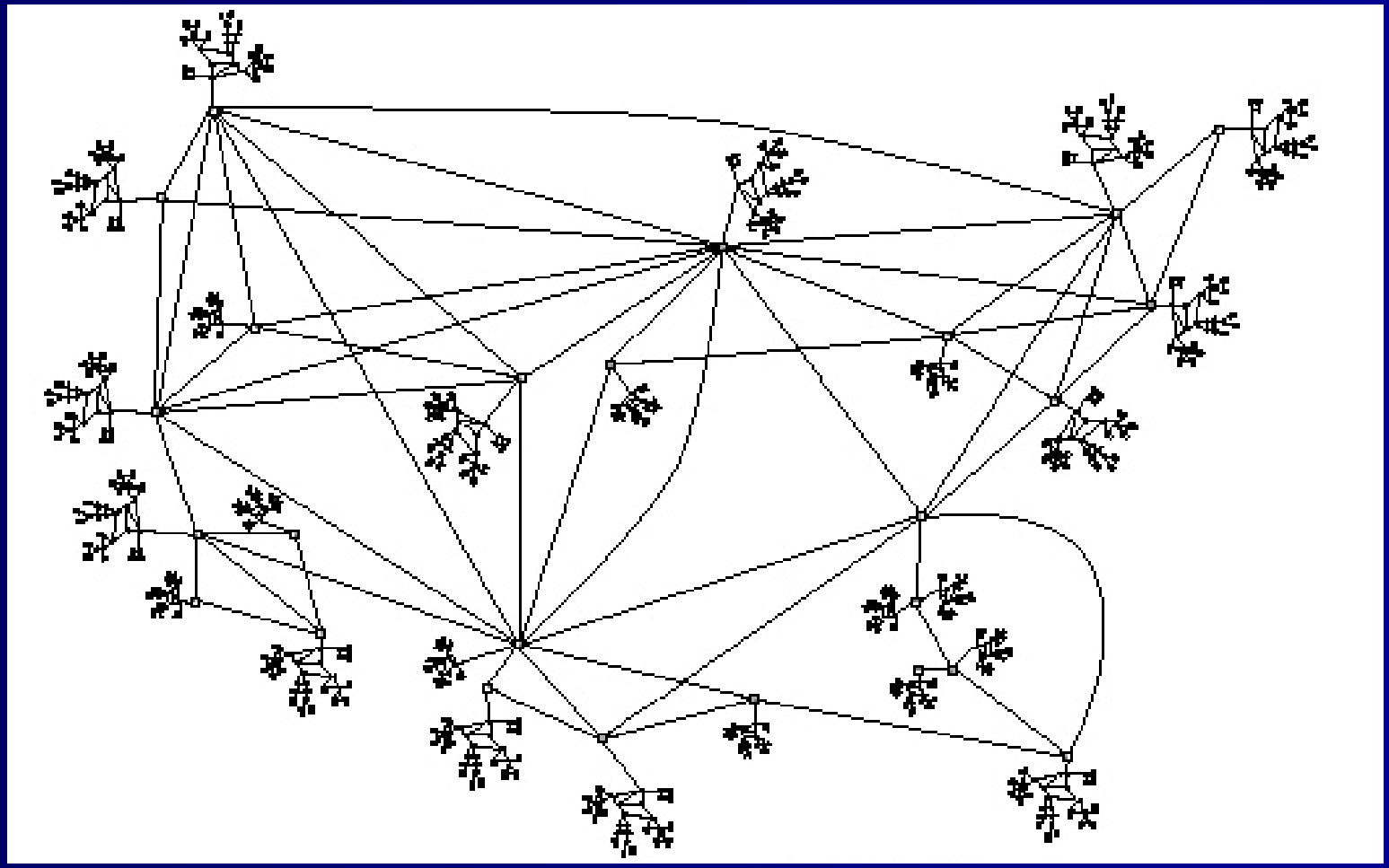


- Probably at least 20 to 25% savings

Simulation Setup

- Our simulation is built on the *ssfnet* simulation framework
- 10,450-node network topology organized as 25 autonomous systems, each with 13 routers and 405 end-hosts
- Average roundtrip time (RTT) between nodes in the topology is approximately 0.16 s $\Rightarrow$ timeouts set at 0.5 s

Simulation Topology



Simulation Setup

- Compare EpiChord to the *optimal* sequential Chord lookup algorithm (base 2)
- What's optimal? We ignore Chord maintenance costs and assume that the finger tables are perfectly accurate regardless of node failures
- The competing sequential lookup algorithm is thus a reasonably strong adversary and not just a straw man

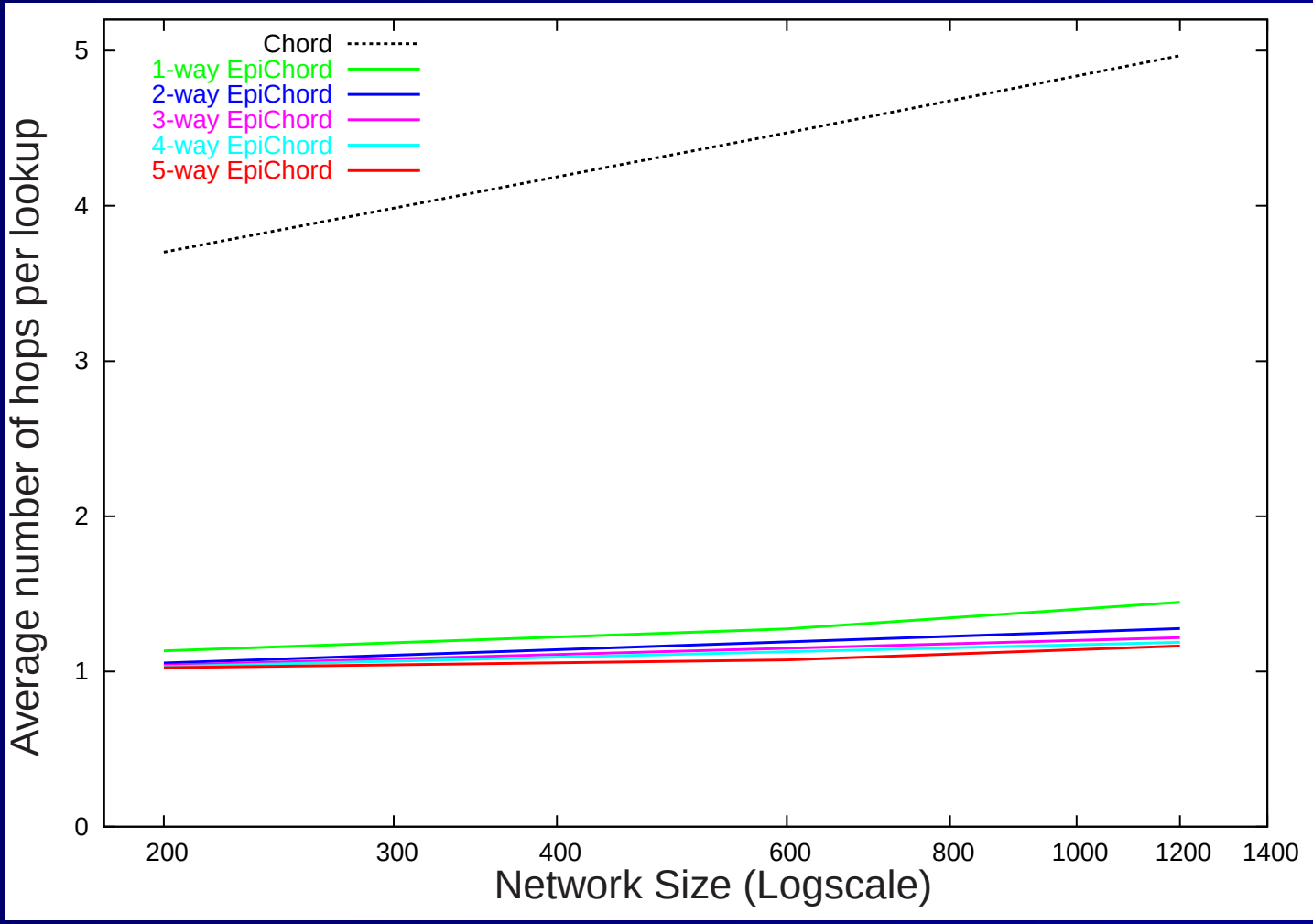
System Parameters

- Timeout = 0.5 s
- Retransmits = 3 times
- Node lifespan – exponentially distributed with mean 600 s (10 mins)
- Cache Expiration Interval = 120 s (2 mins)

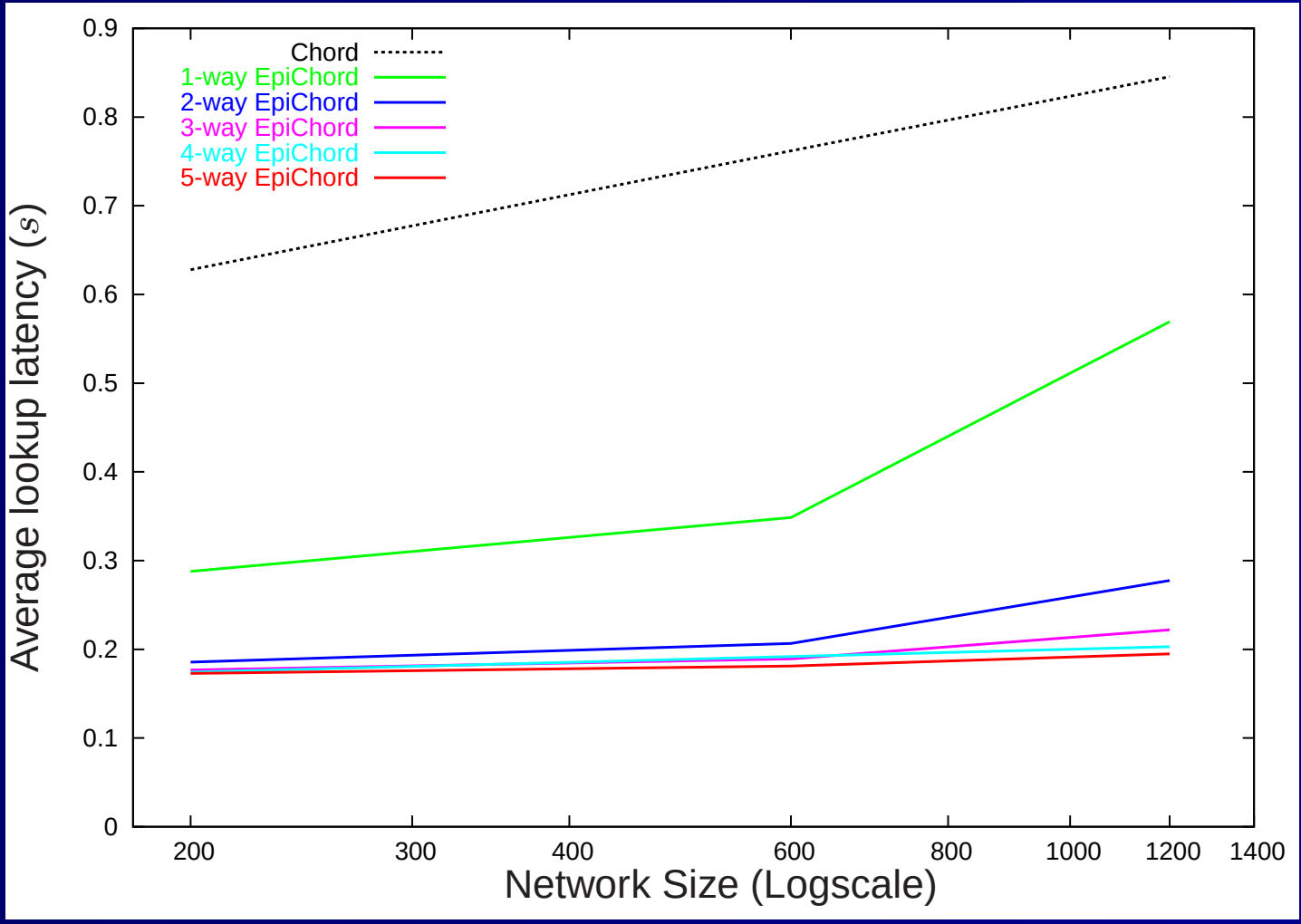
Simulation Setup

- The assumed workloads will affect comparisons (Li et al., 2004)
- Consider 2 types of workloads:
  - Lookup-Intensive
    200 to 1,200 nodes, $r \approx \frac{1}{600} \Rightarrow rn \approx 0.3$ to 2
    query rate, $Q \approx 2$ per sec
  - Churn-Intensive
    600 to 9,000 nodes, $r \approx \frac{1}{600} \Rightarrow rn \approx 1.0$ to 15
    query rate, $Q \approx 0.05$ to 0.07 per sec

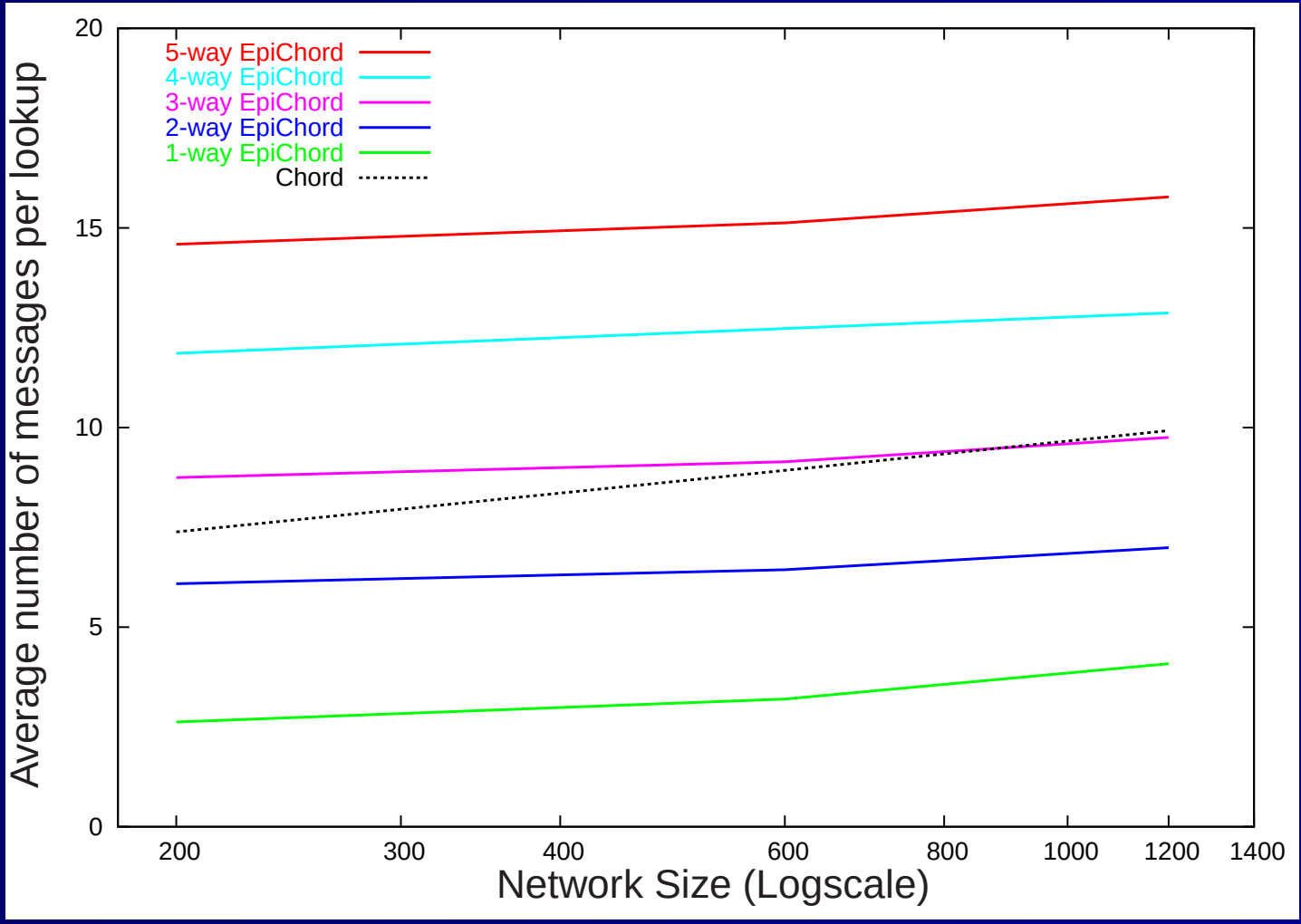
Hop Count – Lookup-Intensive



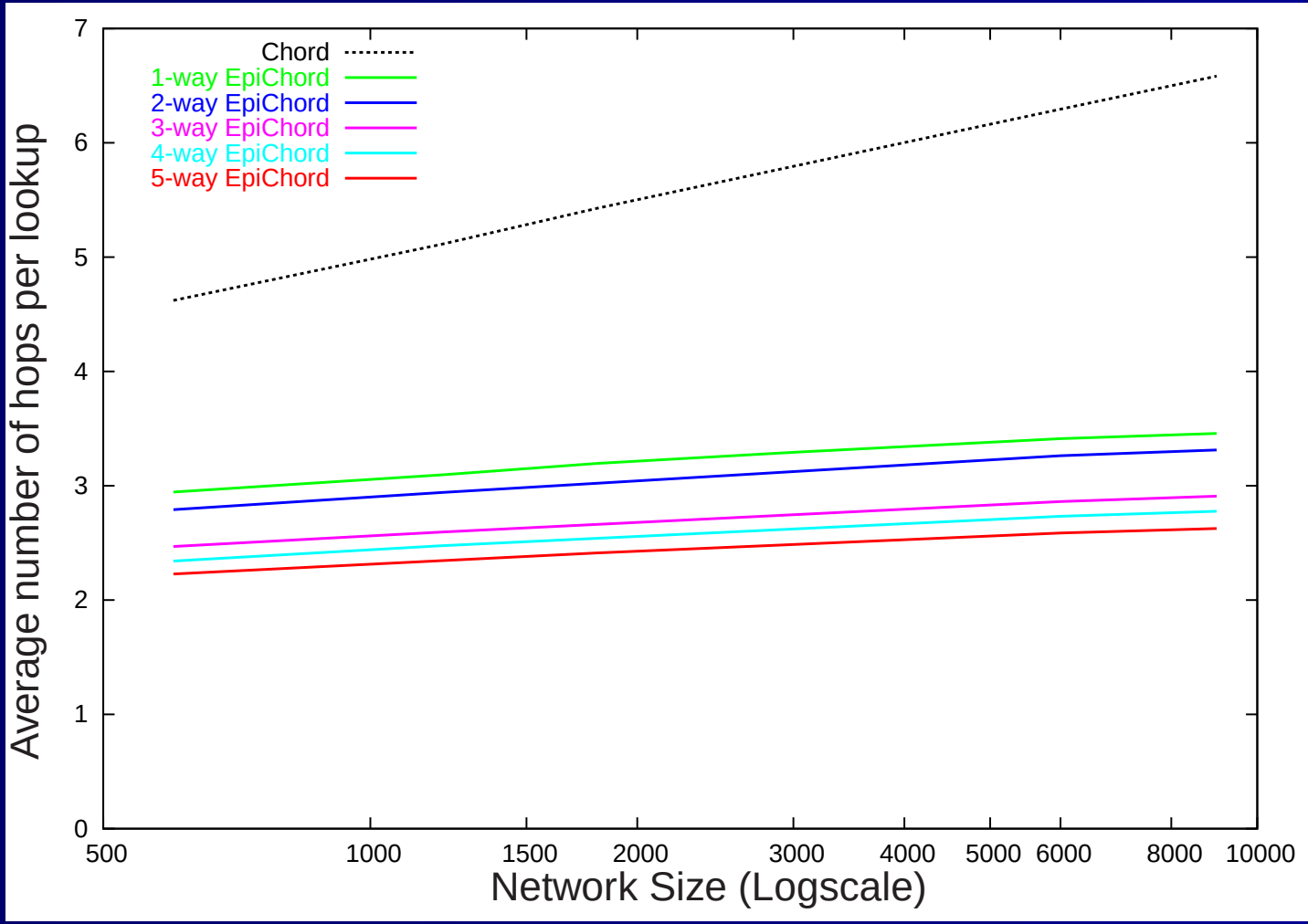
Latency – Lookup-Intensive



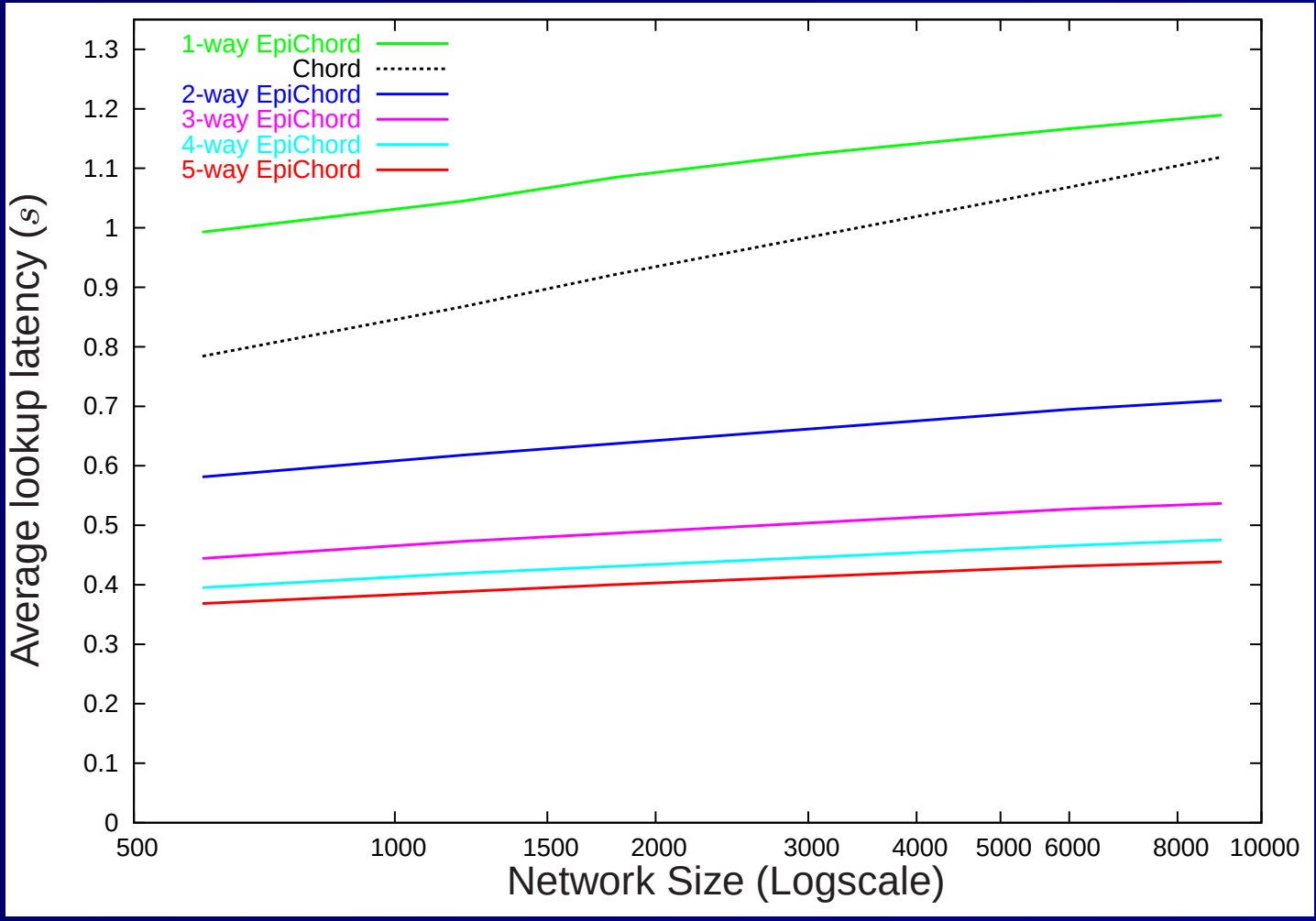
Messages Sent Per Lookup



Hop Count – Churn-Intensive



Latency – Churn-Intensive



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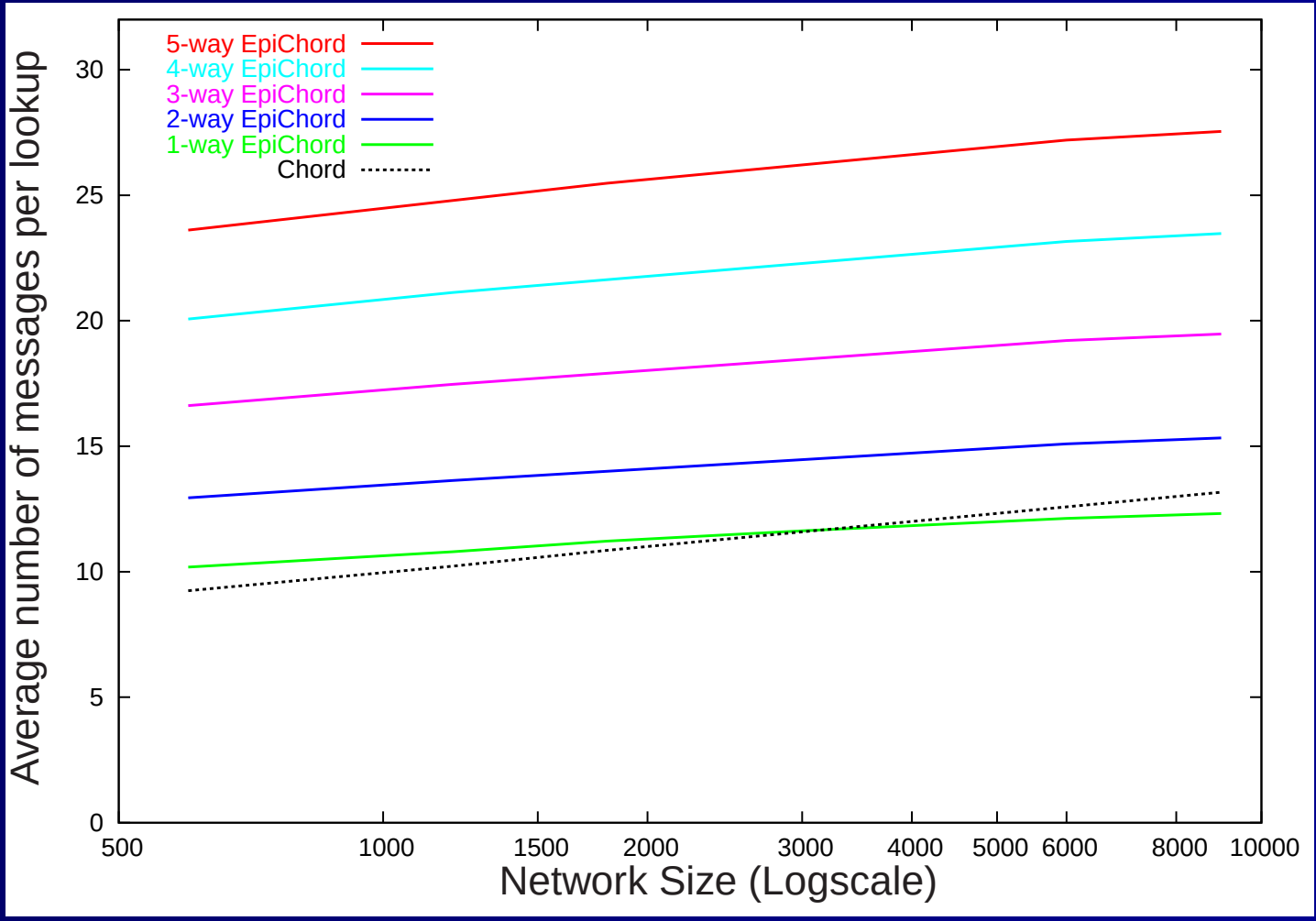

Summary

- Increasing p improves hop count and latency and reduces lookup failure rate
- Since our approach is iterative $\Rightarrow$ about $2(p+h)$ messages per lookup
- Higher lookup rates yield better overall performance due to caching
- Number of entries returned per query $l > 3$ does not affect performance much, so we set $l = 3$

Related Work

- Chord (Stoica et al., 2001)
- DHash++ (Dabek et al., 2004)
- Kademlia (Maymounkov and Mazieres, 2002)
- Kelips (Gupta et al., 2003)
- One-Hop (Gupta et al., 2004)

Conclusion

- Parallel lookup and reactive routing state maintenance algorithm trades off storage with better lookup performance w/o increasing bandwidth consumption
- Reduce both lookup latencies and pathlengths over Chord by a factor of 3 by issuing only 3 queries asynchronously in parallel per lookup w/o using more messages
- Novel token-passing stabilization scheme automatically detects and repairs global routing inconsistencies

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What good are DHTs?

- Finding a needle in a haystack
- Load balancing — partition by id
- Fault tolerance — replication
- Rendezvous
  - Multicast/Event notification
  - Dynamic name registration/resolution

NO known killer app! (except perhaps file sharing)

Limitations

- Distributed programs are hard(er) to write
- Mutable Data
- Latency – but we can find and cache or do one-hop (maybe)
- Security – need admission control
- Need for point-of-entry – susceptible to DoS attack

My Two Cents

- DHT is not always the right answer; a centralized solution may be better if you have control over the nodes
- Even if a DHT is the right answer, you have to pick the “right” DHT
- There is no “best” DHT – they all trade off between cost and performance

Background Maintenance Traffic

- Need to ping every 60 s for 90% validity
- $j = 2 \Rightarrow$ min routing set $4\times$ Chord
- Need only half probes because of symmetry
- Since 120 s $= 2 \times 60$ s $\Rightarrow$ background maintenance bandwidth $\leq$ Chord

What's Stabilization

- Correctness of routing is guaranteed by correctness of successor/predecessor pointers
- In worst case, simply follow a chain of successor pointers – slow but correct.
- Stabilization – process that maintains and repairs successor/predecessor pointers

Definitions

We say that the network is

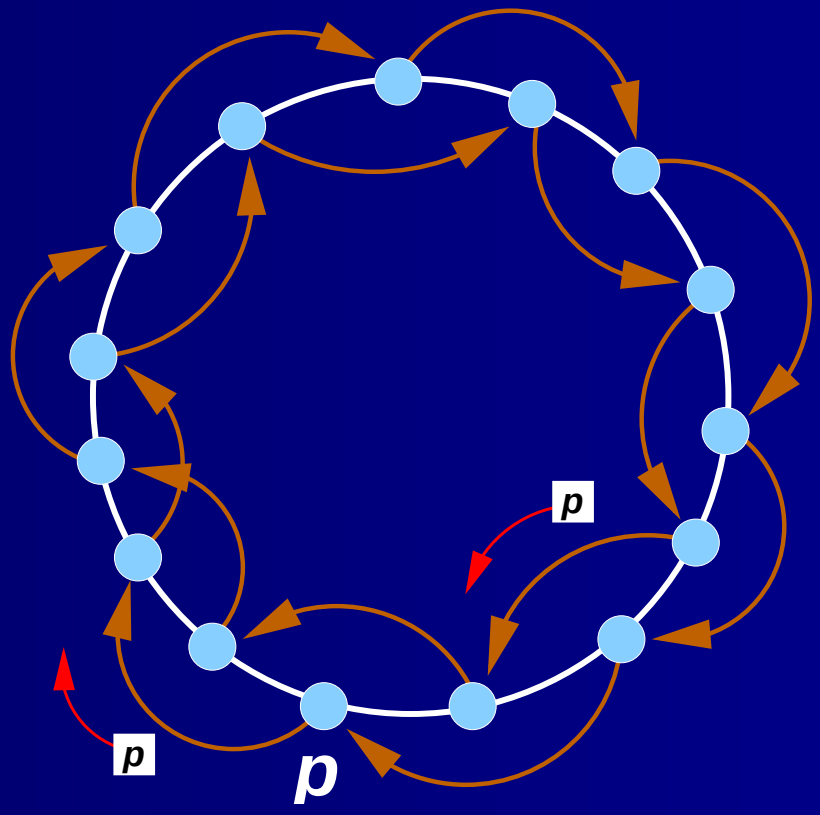
- *weakly stable* if, for all nodes u, we have $predecessor(successor(u)) = u$;
- *strongly stable* if, in addition, for each node u, there is no node v such that $u < v < successor(u)$; and
- *loopy* if it is weakly but not strongly stable (see (Stoica et al., 2002)).

Weak Stabilization

- Nodes periodically probe their immediate neighbors and exchange successor/predecessor lists
- All messages contain IP address, port number and node id
- Unlike Chord, no need for node to explicitly notify its successor after node join

Theorem 1 *The weak stabilization protocol will eventually cause an EpiChord network to converge to a* weakly stable *state.*

Strong Stabilization



- Key idea: to detect loops, all we need to do is to traverse the entire ring and make sure that we come back to where we started

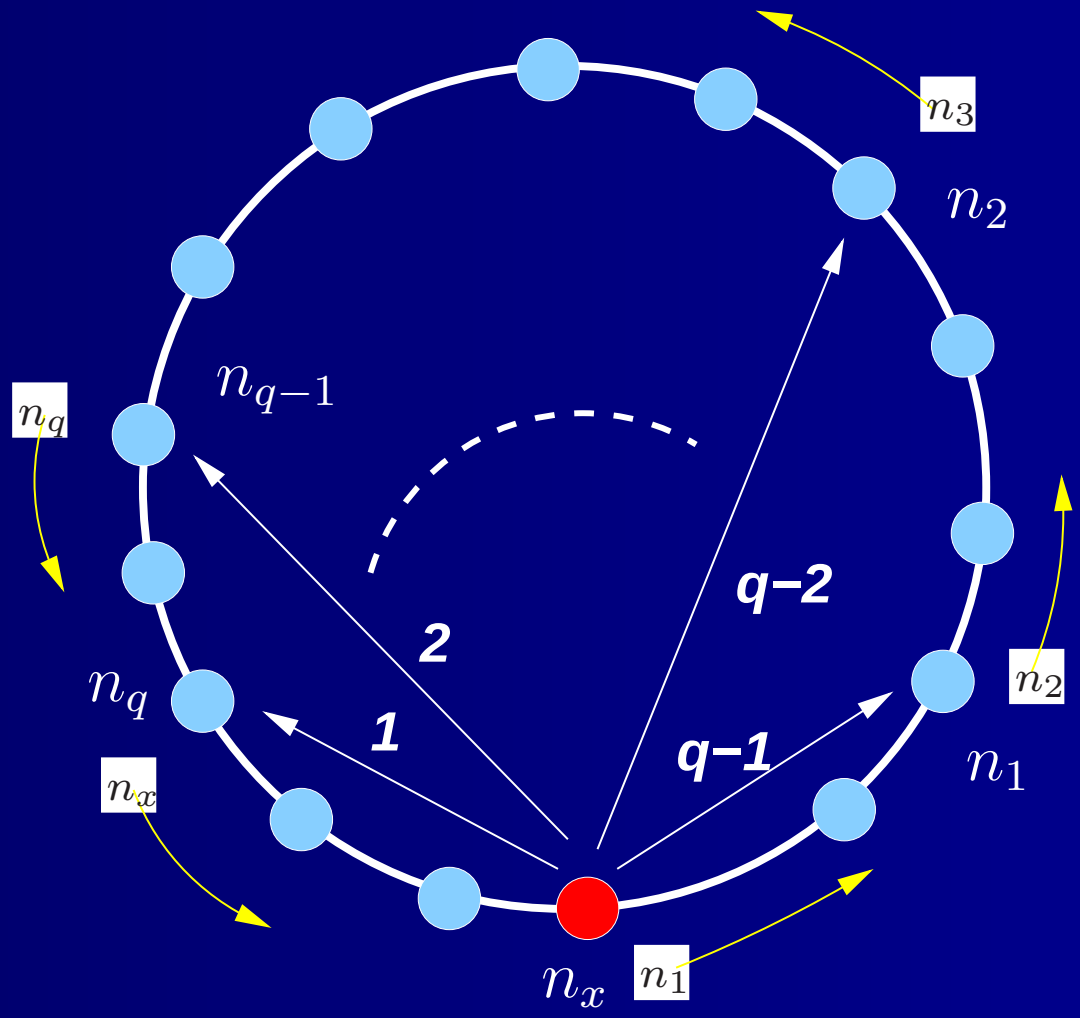
Strong Stabilization

- A naive scheme to pass a single token along the ring will take a long time and is relatively inefficient $\Rightarrow$ implement parallelize token-passing
- a node when sees a stabilization token (or immediately after it joins the network), it will pick a random waiting period from the interval (t_{min}, t_{max}) after which it will initiate strong stabilization

Strong Stabilization

- If a node sees a token before its timer runs out:
  - it will reset its timer and choose again
  - choose q nodes from its cache and generate secondary tokens
- Do this recursively to propagate a token to all nodes in $O(\log n)$ hops

Token Generation Example



Strong Stabilization

Theorem 2 *The strong stabilization protocol will eventually cause an EpiChord network to converge to a* strongly stable *state.*

- Key Intuition:
  - Take any set of r nodes and have them send a message to the consecutive node.
  - If a loop exists, at least one pair will detect it.
- Our insight is that this property does not change if you choose the r nodes recursively.

Modelling Cache Composition

- Consider a network of steady state size n, where per unit time
  - a fraction r of the nodes leave
  - a fraction f of the cache entries are flushed
  - Each node makes Q lookups uniformly over the address space
  - p queries are sent in parallel for each lookup

Modelling Cache Composition

- Where x is the number of live nodes that is known to a node at time t, we obtain the following relation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}x(t) = \overbrace{pQ(1-\frac{x}{n})}^{\text{incoming queries}} - \overbrace{fx}^{\text{entries flushed}} - \overbrace{(1-f)rx}^{\text{nodes departed but not flushed}}$$

- This assumes that new knowledge comes only from incoming queries

Modelling Cache Composition

- Where y is the number of outdated cache entries at time t, we have the following relation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}y(t) = \overbrace{(1-f)rx}^{\text{dead nodes not flushed}} - \overbrace{fy}^{\text{dead nodes flushed}} - \overbrace{pQ(\frac{y}{x+y})}^{\text{outdated nodes discovered by timeouts of outgoing queries}}$$

- If churn is low relative to lookup rate, cache maintenance protocol is unimportant

Modelling Cache Composition

- If churn is high, the proportion of outdated entries in the cache, γ, is

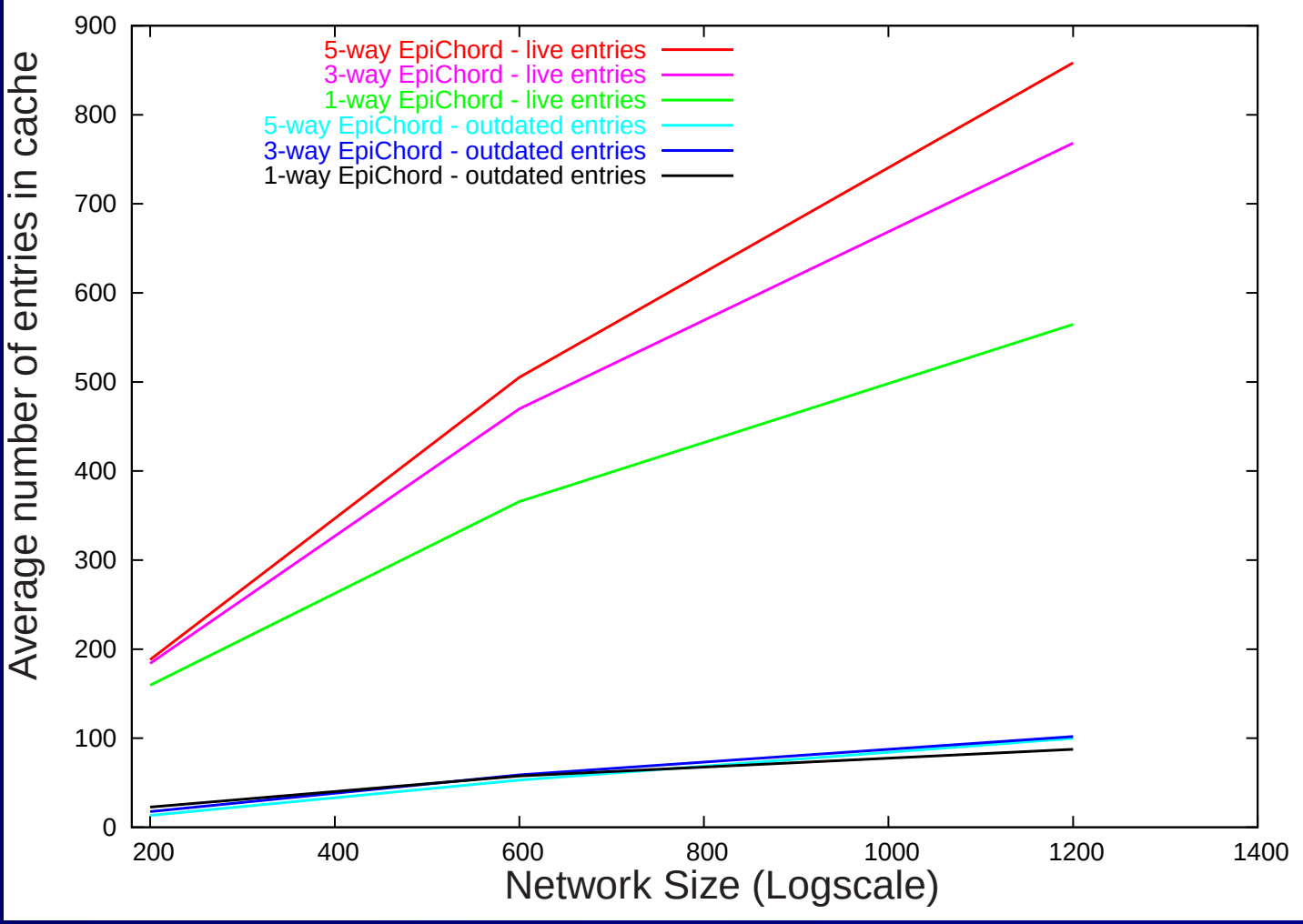
$$\gamma = \lim_{t\to\infty} \frac{y}{x+y} \approx \frac{\sqrt{1+\frac{(1-f)r}{f}}-1}{\sqrt{1+\frac{(1-f)r}{f}}}$$

- If cache entries are flushed at node failure rate (i.e., $f \approx r$),

$$\gamma \approx \frac{\sqrt{2-f}-1}{\sqrt{2-f}} \leq 1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 0.292$$

$\Rightarrow$ most 30% of cache entries will be outdated

Cache – Lookup-Intensive



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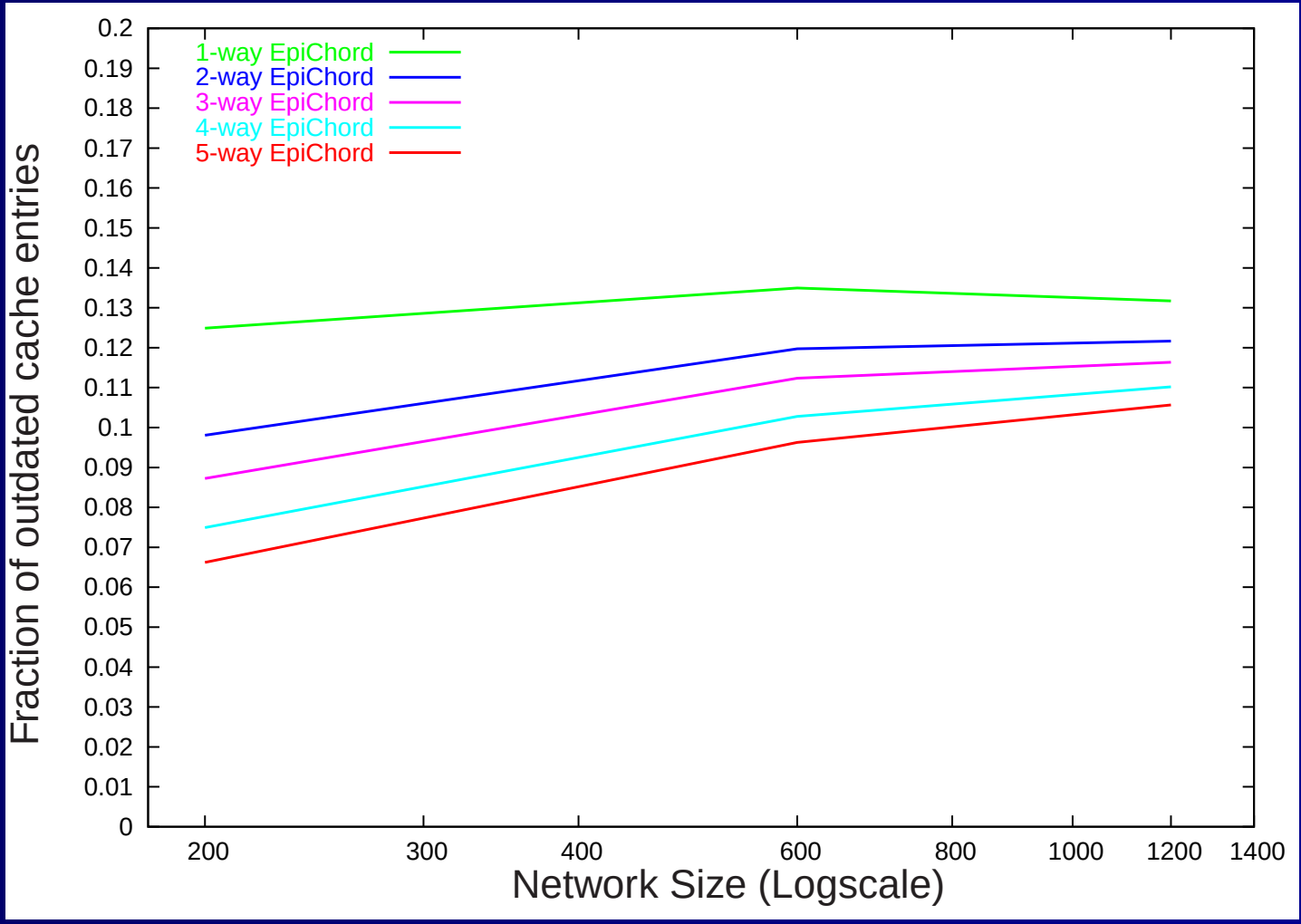
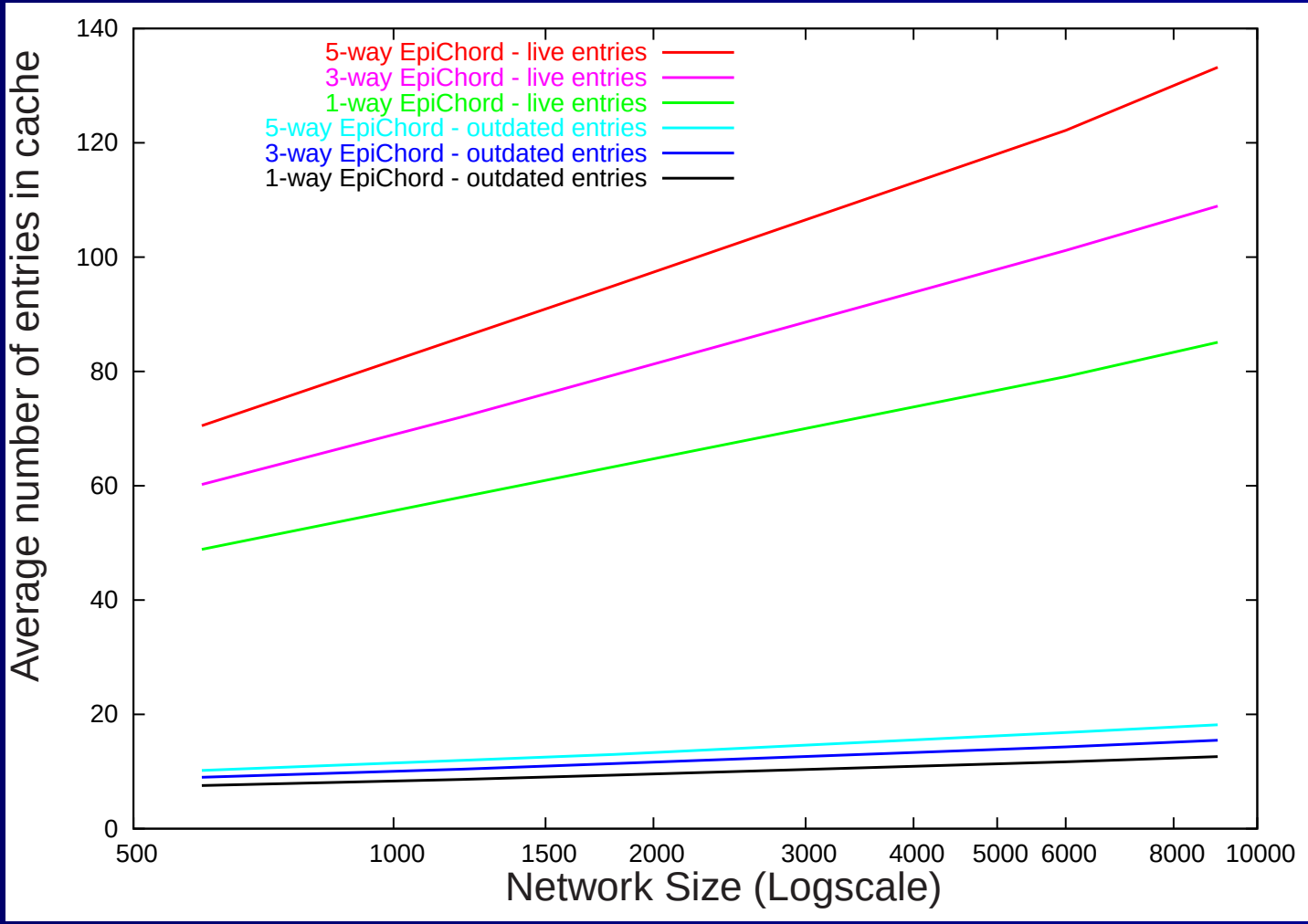


Cache – Churn-Intensive



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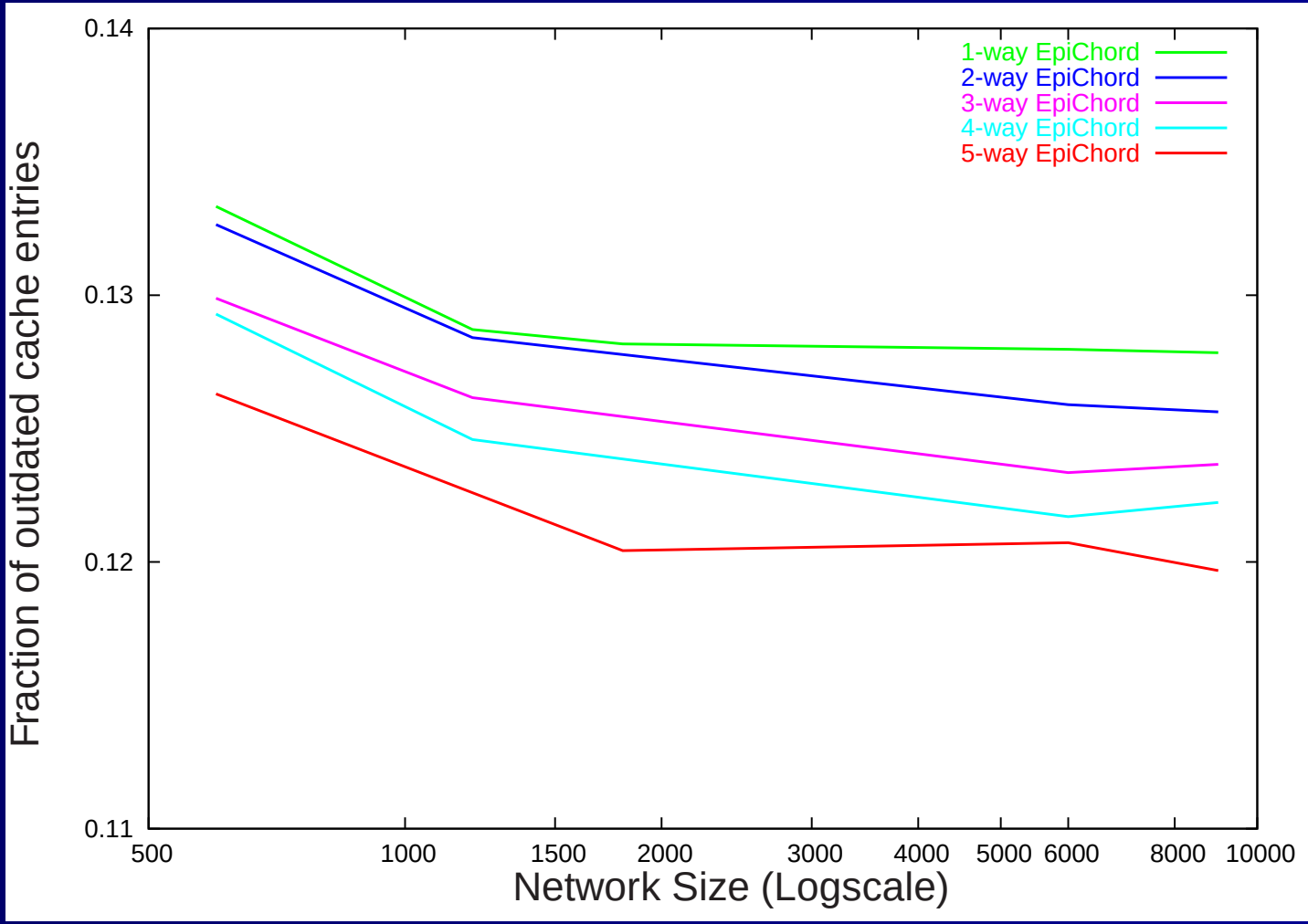

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