

# Erasure-Coded Key-Value Stores with Side Information

Ramy E. Ali

Algorithms, Analytics & Augmented Intelligence group, Math  
of Communications department, August 2018

# Outline

- Key-value Stores Overview
- Background: Replication & Erasure Coding
- Coding with Side Information: Problem Formulation
- Impossibility Results
- Code Constructions
- Case Study: Latency-Storage Trade-off in AWS
- Discussion

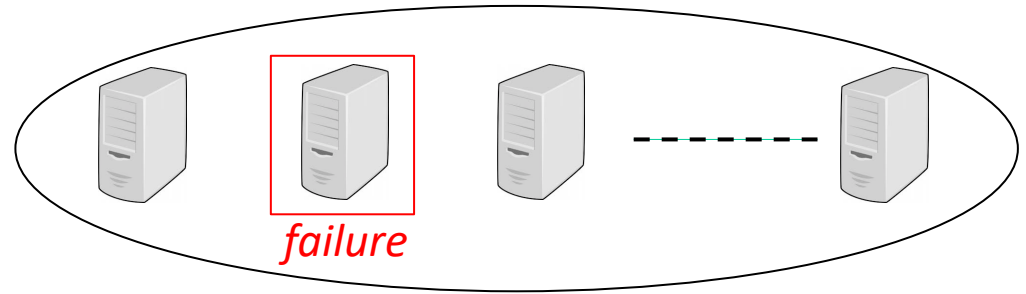
# Key-value Stores

- Applications: reservation systems, financial transactions, distributed computing, ...
- Numerous key-value stores: Amazon Dynamo, Apache Cassandra, and CouchDB



# Distributed Key-value Stores

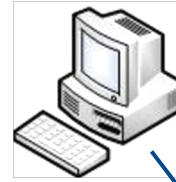
- Data is stored over multiple nodes.



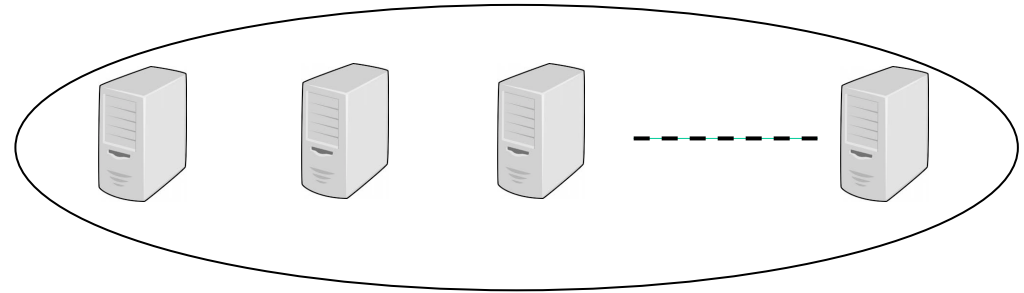
# Distributed Key-value Stores

- Data is stored over multiple nodes.
- Data is asynchronously updated.

Write client

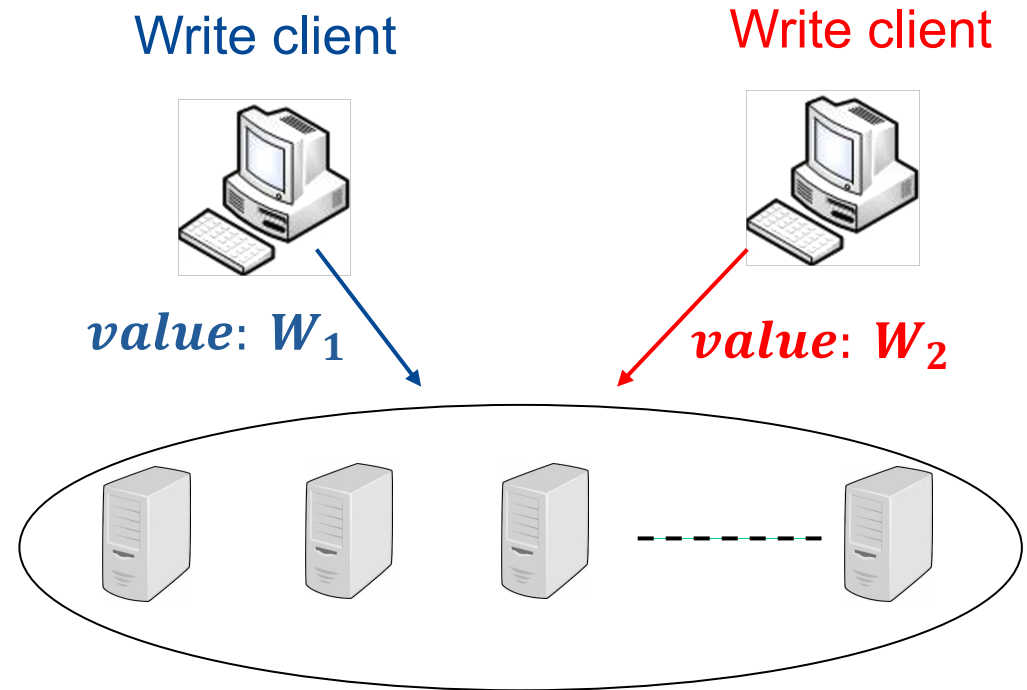


*value:  $W_1$*



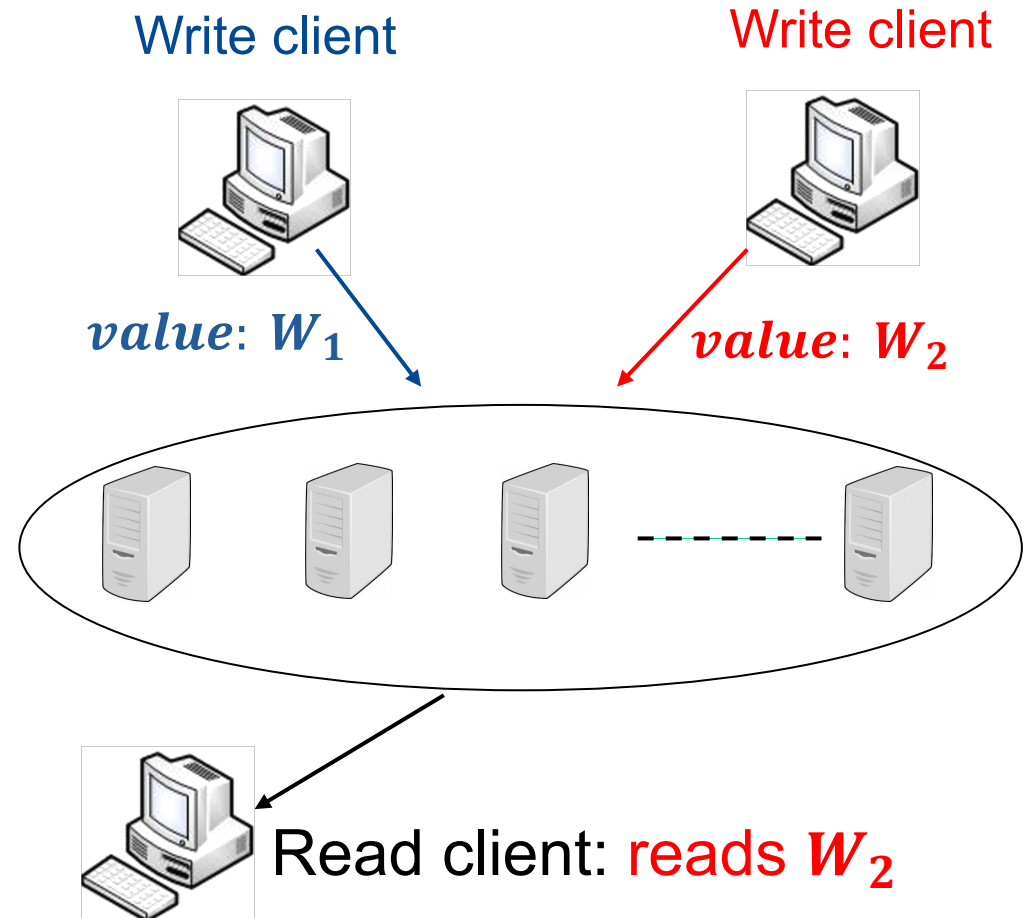
# Distributed Key-value Stores

- Data is stored over multiple nodes.
- Data is asynchronously updated.



# Distributed Key-value Stores

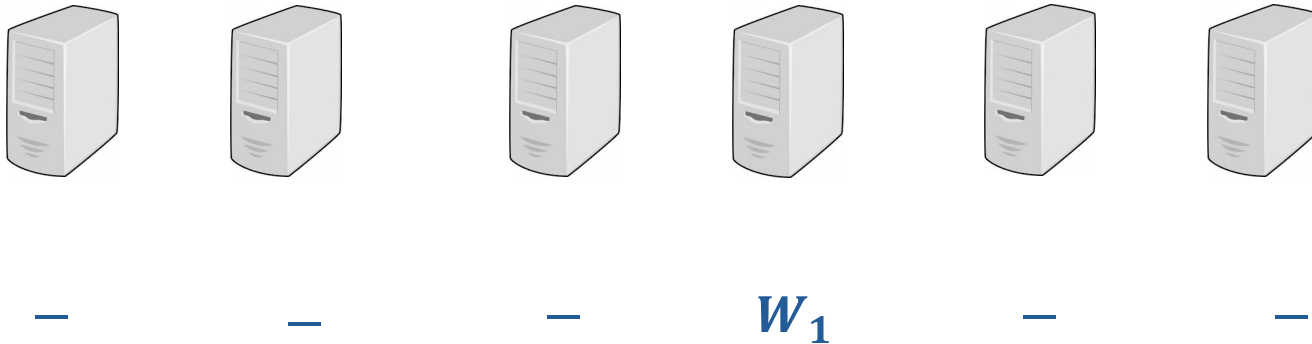
- Data is stored over multiple nodes.
- Data is asynchronously updated.
- Client must get the *latest possible version* of the data [Lamport 1979, ABD 1995].



# Distributed Key-value Stores

## 1. Asynchrony

*Data updates may not arrive at all servers simultaneously.*

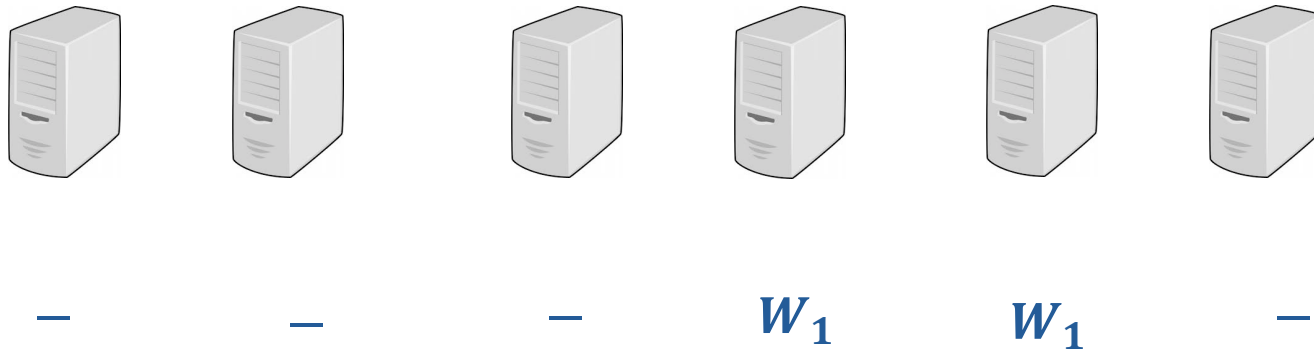




# Distributed Key-value Stores

## 1. Asynchrony

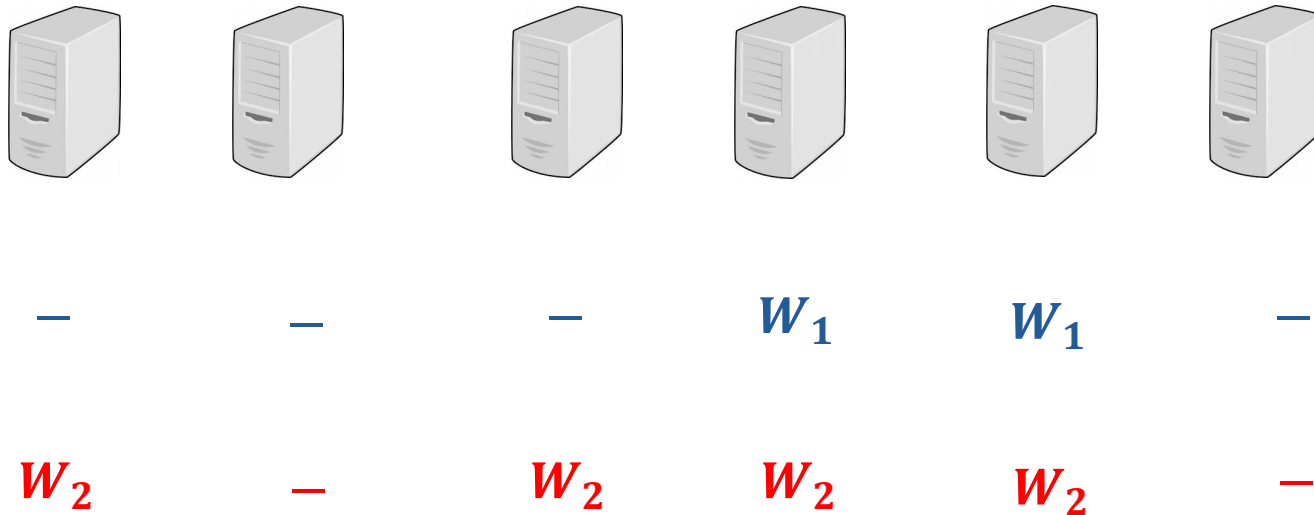
*Data updates may not arrive at all servers simultaneously.*



# Distributed Key-value Stores

## 1. Asynchrony

*Data updates may not arrive at all servers simultaneously.*



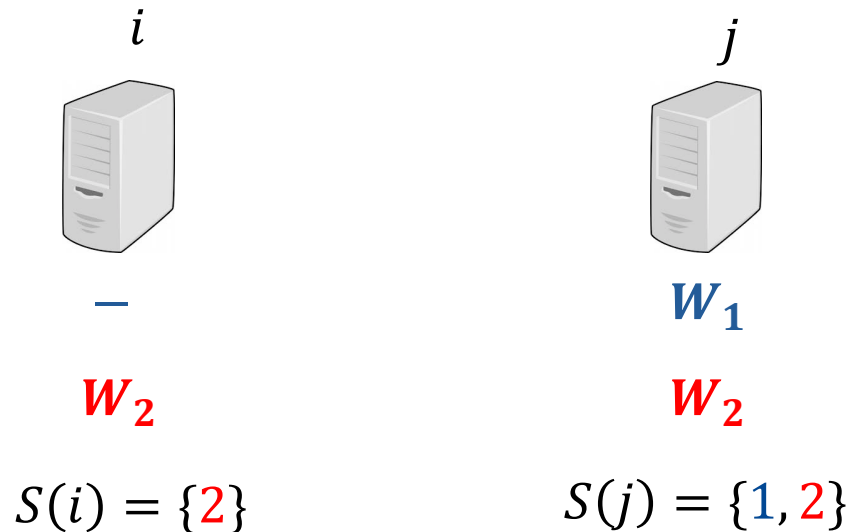
# Distributed Key-value Stores

## 1. Asynchrony

*Data updates may not arrive at all servers simultaneously.*

## 2. Decentralized Nature

*A server may not be aware of which updates received by others.*



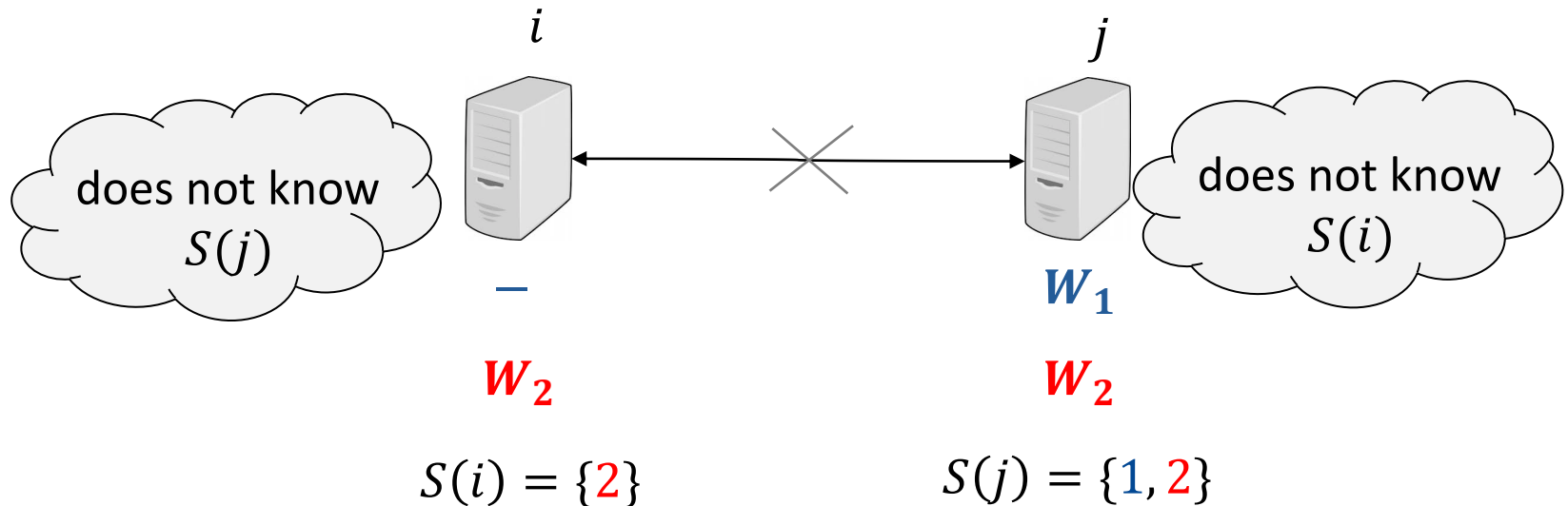
# Distributed Key-value Stores

## 1. Asynchrony

*Data updates may not arrive at all servers simultaneously.*

## 2. Decentralized Nature

*A server may not be aware of which updates received by others.*



# Distributed Key-value Stores

## 1. Asynchrony

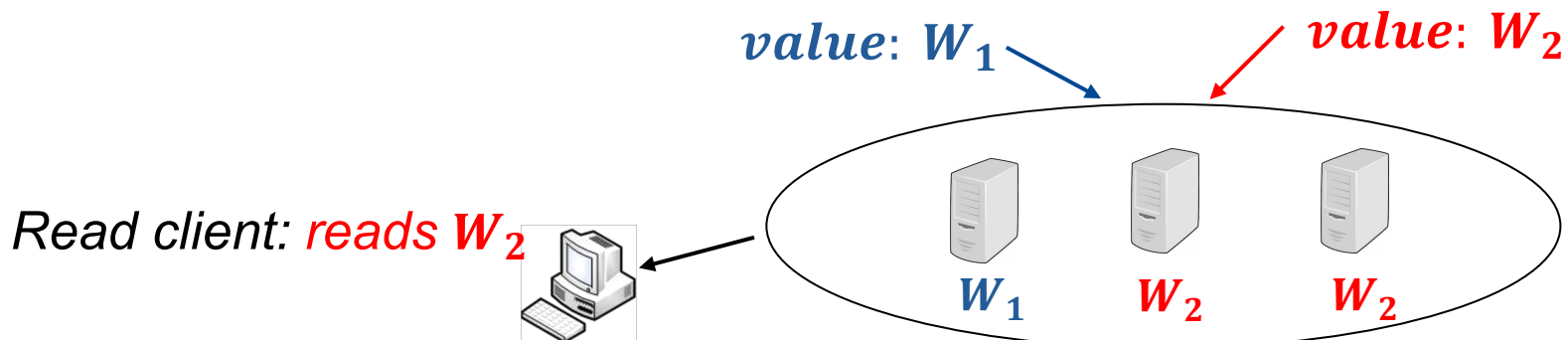
*Data updates may not arrive at all servers simultaneously.*

## 2. Decentralized Nature

*A server may not be aware of which updates received by others.*

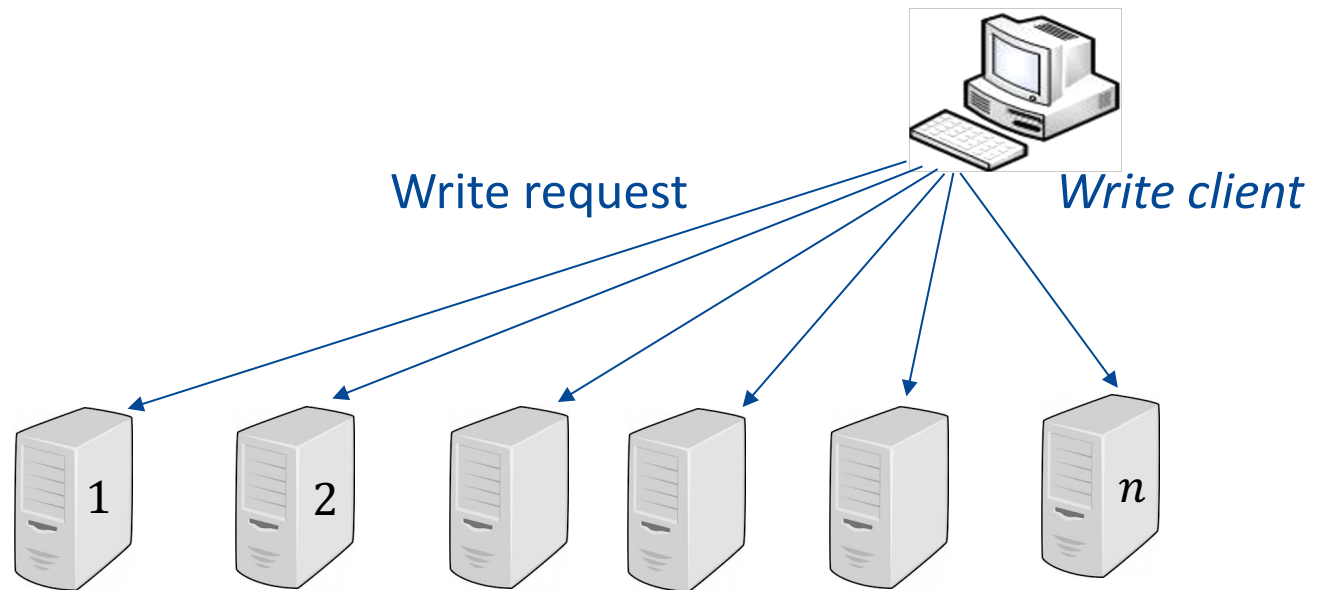
## 3. Consistency

*A client must retrieve the **latest possible update**.*



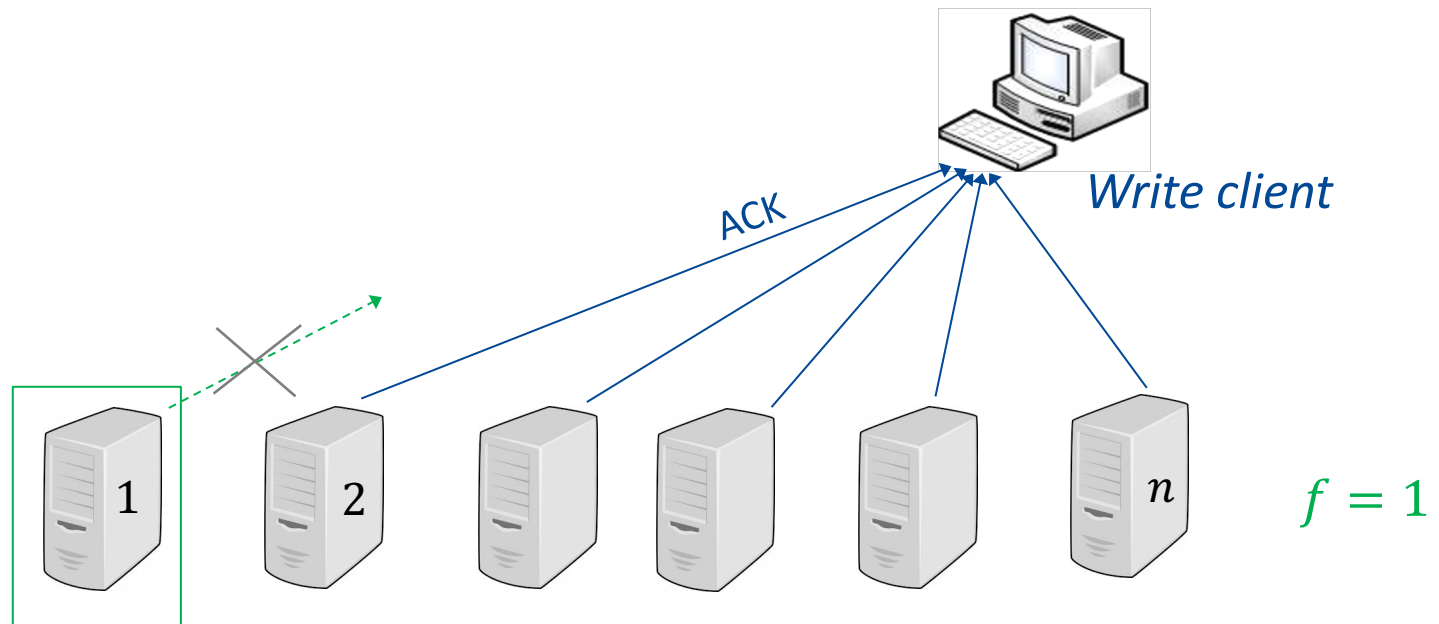
# How to handle asynchrony & failures?

- Fault tolerance:  $f$  failures
- A complete write: write to  $c_W \leq n - f$  servers



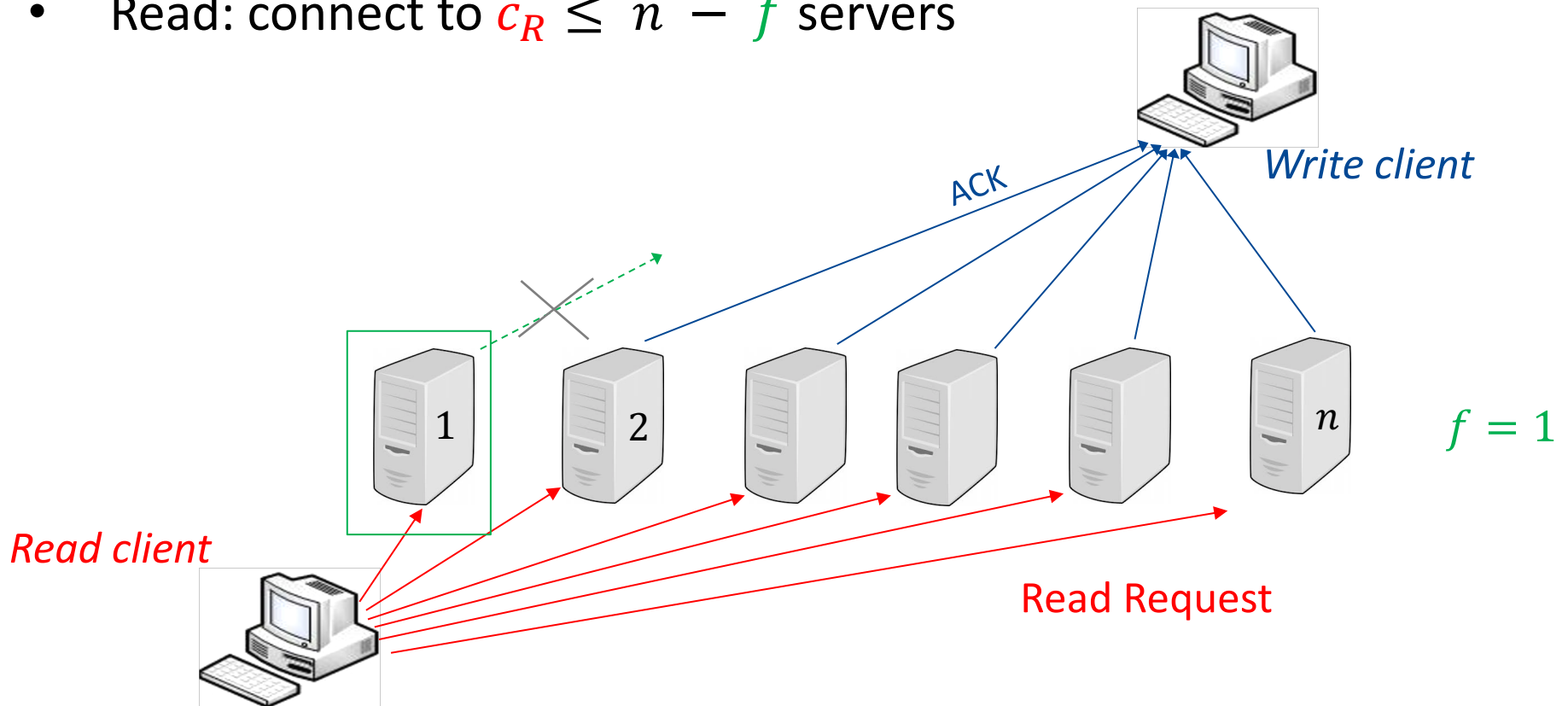
# How to handle asynchrony & failures?

- Fault tolerance:  $f$  failures
- A complete write: write to  $c_W \leq n - f$  servers



# How to handle asynchrony & failures?

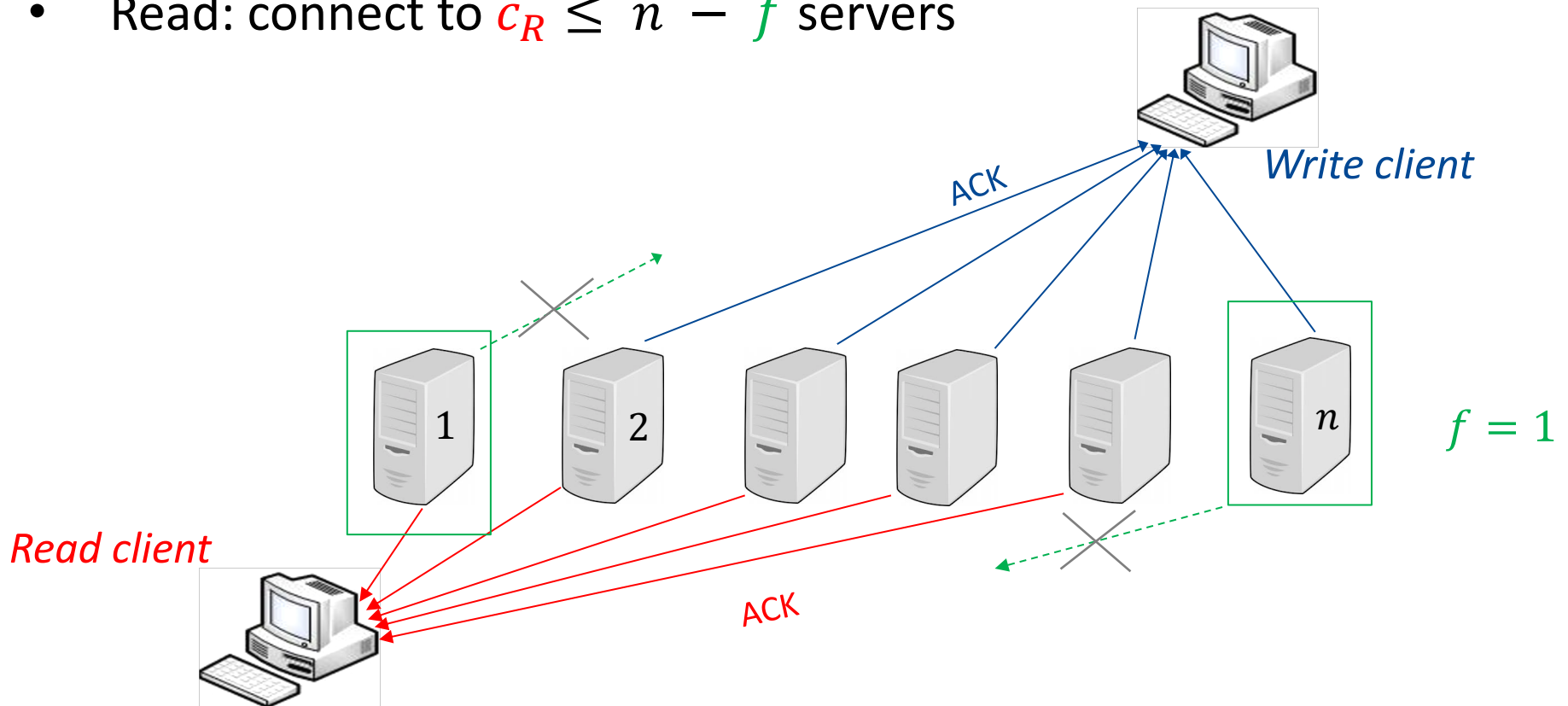
- Fault tolerance:  $f$  failures
- A complete write: write to  $c_W \leq n - f$  servers
- Read: connect to  $c_R \leq n - f$  servers





# How to handle asynchrony & failures?

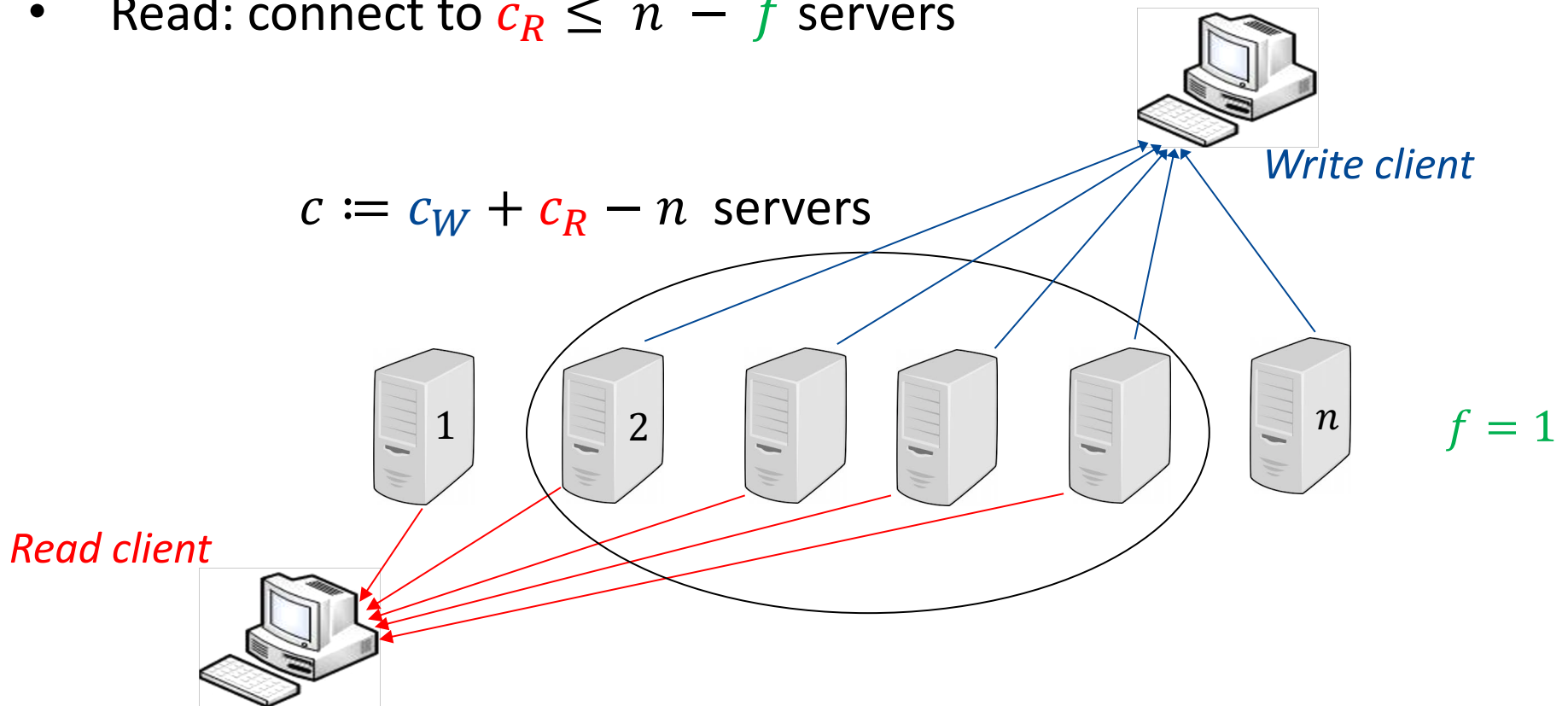
- Fault tolerance:  $f$  failures
- A complete write: write to  $c_W \leq n - f$  servers
- Read: connect to  $c_R \leq n - f$  servers



# How to handle asynchrony & failures?

- Fault tolerance:  $f$  failures
- A complete write: write to  $c_W \leq n - f$  servers
- Read: connect to  $c_R \leq n - f$  servers

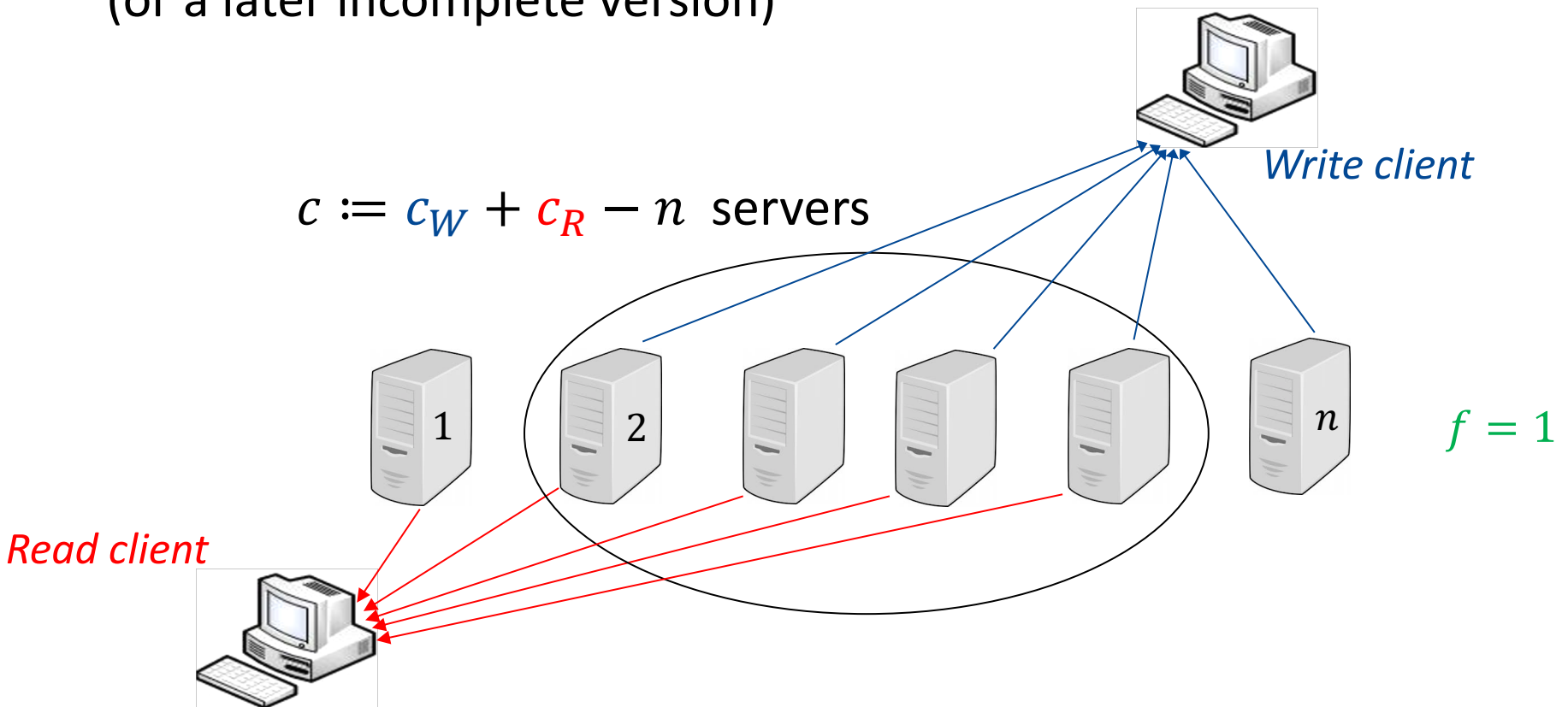
$$c := c_W + c_R - n \text{ servers}$$



# How to handle asynchrony & failures?

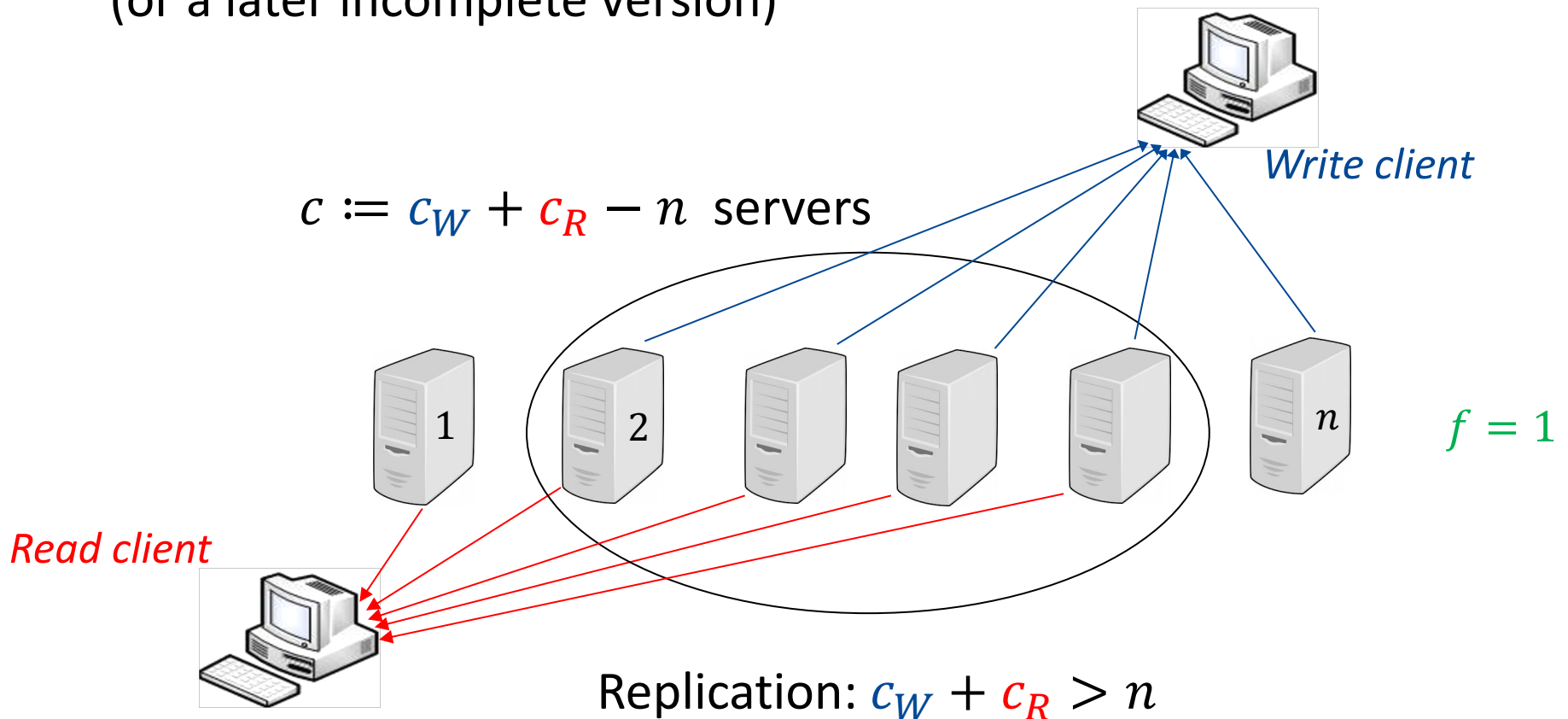
- **Strong Consistency:** decode the latest complete version (or a later incomplete version)

$$c := c_W + c_R - n \text{ servers}$$



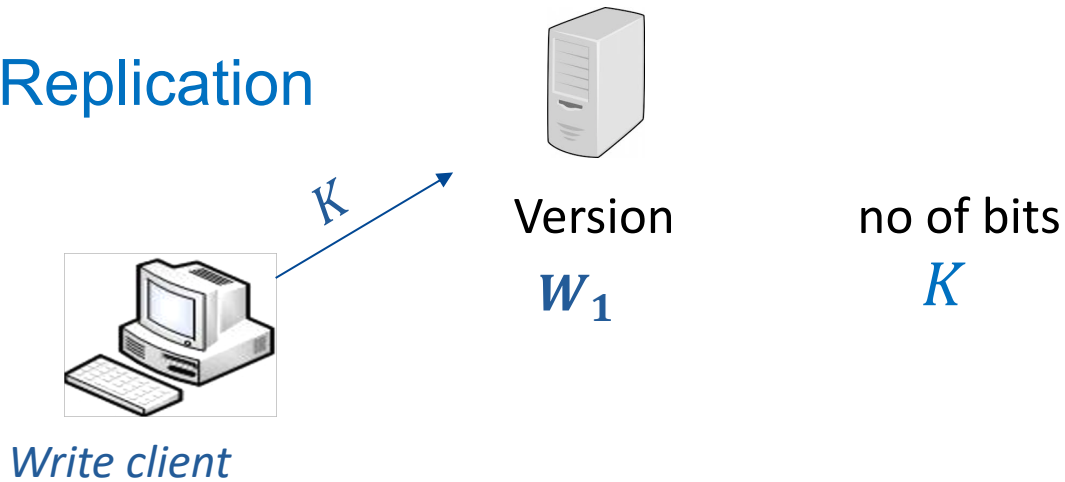
# How to handle asynchrony & failures?

- **Strong Consistency:** decode the latest complete version (or a later incomplete version)



# Background: Replication

## Replication



# Background: Replication

## Replication



Version

~~$W_1$~~

$W_2$

no of bits

~~$K$~~

$K$

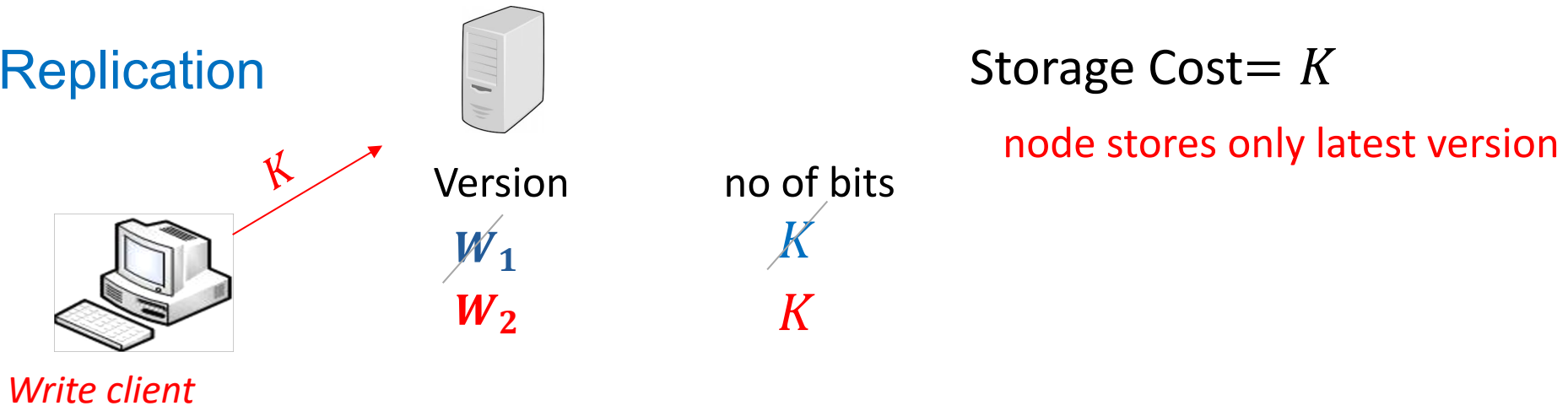
Storage Cost =  $K$

node stores only latest version

*Write client*

# Background: Replication

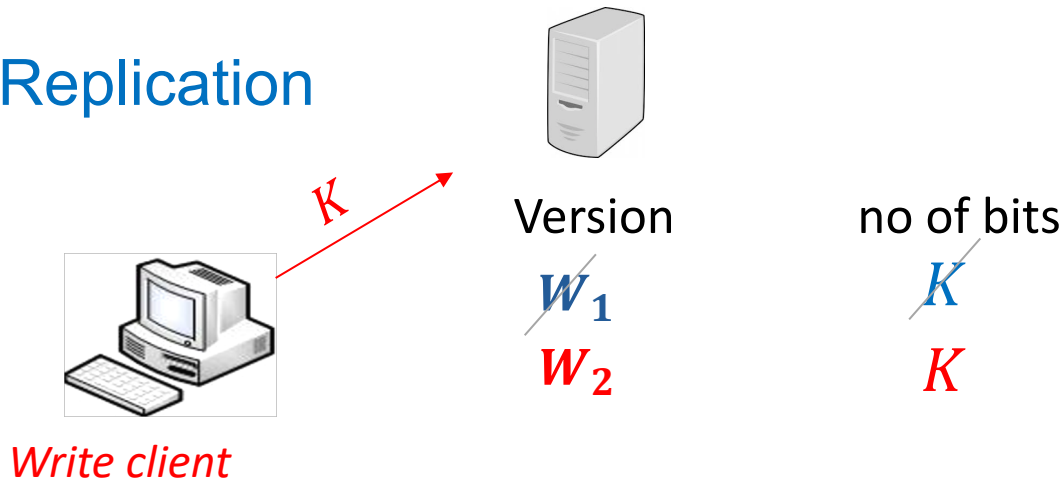
## Replication



Significant Communication and Storage Costs

# Background: Replication

## Replication

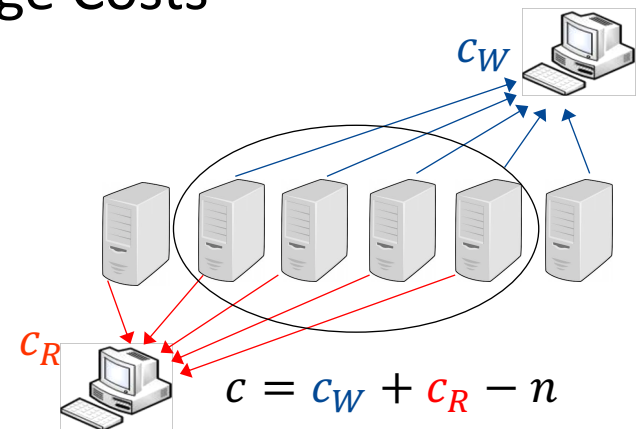


Storage Cost =  $K$

node stores only latest version

## Significant Communication and Storage Costs

→ Use  $(n, c)$  MDS code, where  
each node stores  $\frac{1}{c}$  of the data





# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

Write client



(6, 4) MDS code



$$W_1 = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$$

$x_1$

$x_2$

$x_3$

$x_4$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 x_i$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 a_i x_i$$

# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

Write client



(6, 4) MDS code



$$W_1 = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$$

~~$x_1$~~

~~$x_2$~~

~~$x_3$~~

$x_4$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 x_i$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 a_i x_i$$

Write client



(6, 4) MDS code

$y_1$

$y_2$

$y_3$

$x_4$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 x_i$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 a_i x_i$$

$$W_2 = (y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)$$

did not get the new version

# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

Write client



(6, 4) MDS code



$$W_1 = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$$

$x_1$

$x_2$

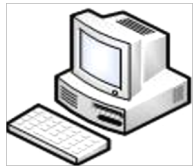
$x_3$

$x_4$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 x_i$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 a_i x_i$$

Write client



(6, 4) MDS code

$y_1$

$y_2$

$y_3$

$x_4$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 x_i$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 a_i x_i$$

$$W_2 = (y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)$$

cannot decode

$W_1$  nor  $W_2$



Read client needs 4 symbols of the same version

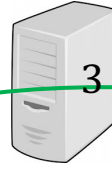
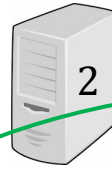
did not get the new version

# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

Write client



(6, 4) MDS code



$$W_1 = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$$

$x_1$

$x_2$

$x_3$

$x_4$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 x_i$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 a_i x_i$$

Write client



(6, 4) MDS code

$y_1$

$y_2$

$y_3$

$x_4$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 x_i$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 a_i x_i$$

$$W_2 = (y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)$$

can decode  $W_1$

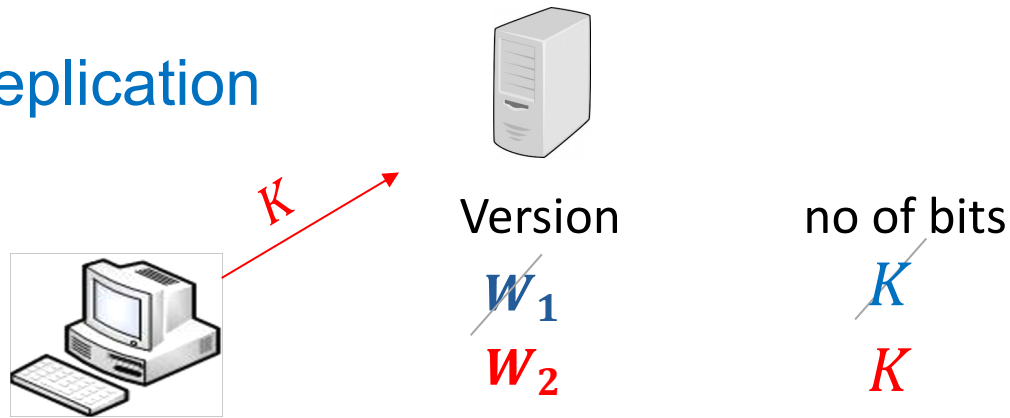


Read client

nodes have to store multiple versions

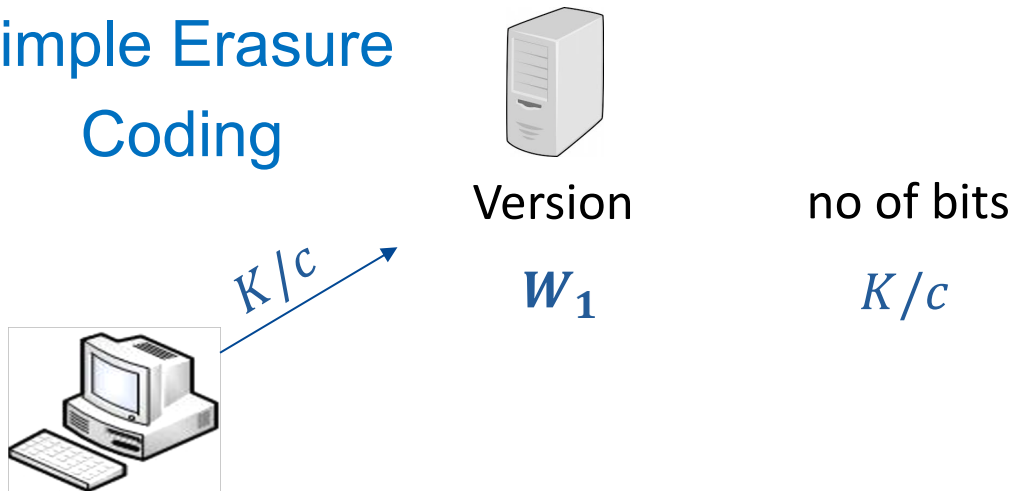
# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

## Replication



Storage Cost =  $K$

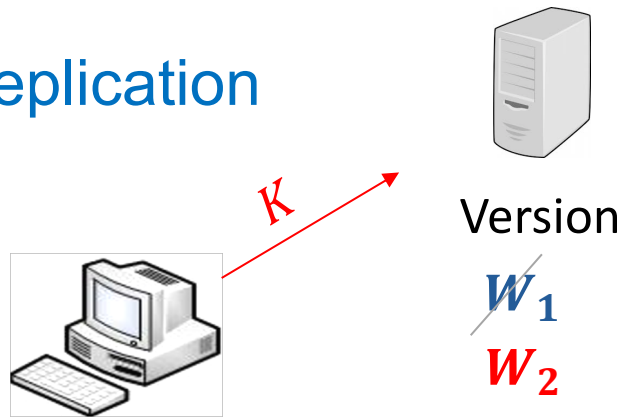
## Simple Erasure Coding



Write client

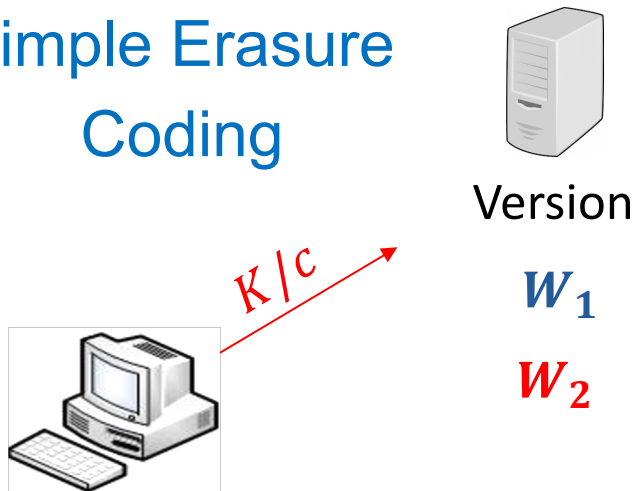
# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

## Replication



Storage Cost =  $K$

## Simple Erasure Coding



Storage Cost =  $v \frac{1}{c} K$

# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

## Replication



Version

~~$W_1$~~

$W_2$

no of bits

~~$K$~~

$K$

Storage Cost =  $K$

node stores only latest version

## Simple Erasure Coding



Version

$W_1$

$W_2$

no of bits

$K/c$

$K/c$

Storage Cost =  $v \frac{1}{c} K$

node stores multiple versions

# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

## Replication



Storage Cost =  $K$

Version

~~$W_1$~~

$W_2$

no of bits

~~$K$~~

$K$

Erasure coding gain



## Simple Erasure Coding



Storage Cost =  $v \frac{1}{c} K$

Version

$W_1$

$W_2$

no of bits

$K/c$

$K/c$



# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

## Replication



Storage Cost =  $K$

Version

~~$W_1$~~

$W_2$

no of bits

~~$K$~~

$K$

## Simple Erasure Coding



Version

$W_1$

$W_2$

no of bits

$K/c$

$K/c$

Erasure coding gain



Storage Cost =  $\boxed{v} \frac{1}{c} K$



Offsets the gain

# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

## Replication



Storage Cost =  $K$

Version

~~$W_1$~~

$W_2$

no of bits

~~$K$~~

$K$

Erasure coding gain



Storage Cost =  $\boxed{\nu} \frac{1}{c} K$



Offsets the gain

## Simple Erasure Coding



Version

$W_1$

$W_2$

no of bits

$K/c$

$K/c$

Can we do better?

# Background: Erasure Coding Challenges

## Replication



Storage Cost =  $K$

Version

~~$W_1$~~

$W_2$

no of bits

~~$K$~~

$K$

Erasure coding gain



## Simple Erasure Coding



Storage Cost =  $\boxed{v} \frac{1}{c} K$



Offsets the gain

Version

$W_1$

$W_2$

no of bits

$K/c$

$K/c$

Can we do better?

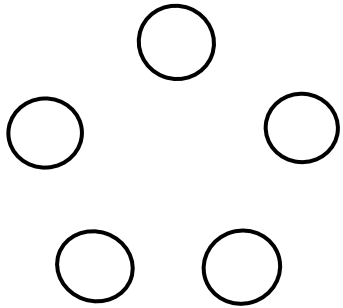
[Wang et al. 2014]

Storage Cost  $\geq \boxed{\frac{v}{2}} \frac{1}{c} K - \Theta(1), \quad v < c$

# Erasure-coded Key-value Stores with Side Information

Decentralized [Wang et al. 2014]

$$\text{Storage Cost} \geq \left( \frac{v}{c} - \frac{v(v-1)}{c^2} + o\left(\frac{1}{c^2}\right) \right) K$$

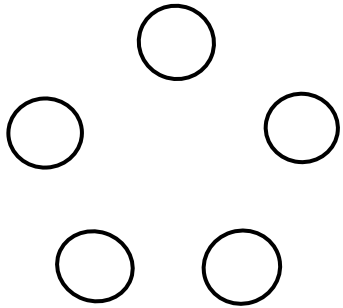


# Erasure-coded Key-value Stores with Side Information

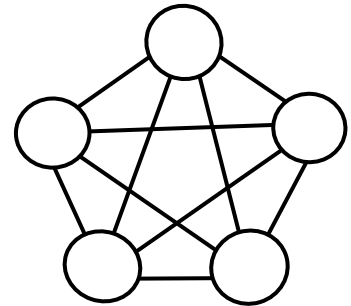
Decentralized [Wang et al. 2014]

Centralized

$$\text{Storage Cost} \geq \left( \frac{v}{c} - \frac{v(v-1)}{c^2} + o\left(\frac{1}{c^2}\right) \right) K$$



$$\text{Storage Cost} = \frac{1}{c} K$$

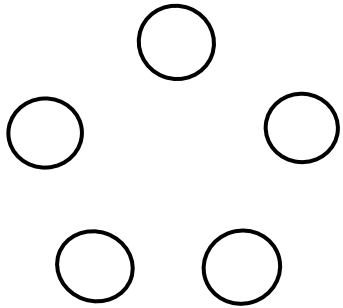


# Erasure-coded Key-value Stores with Side Information

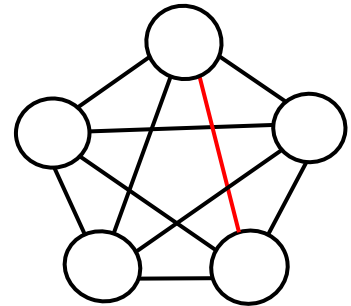
Decentralized [Wang et al. 2014]

Centralized

$$\text{Storage Cost} \geq \left( \frac{v}{c} - \frac{v(v-1)}{c^2} + o\left(\frac{1}{c^2}\right) \right) K$$



$$\text{Storage Cost} = \frac{1}{c} K$$



High Latency

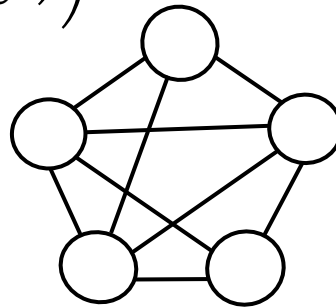
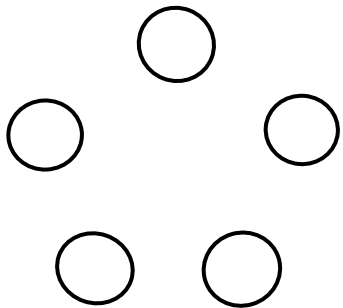
Geo-distributed  
key-value store

# Erasure-coded Key-value Stores with Side Information

Decentralized [Wang et al. 2014]

Centralized

$$\text{Storage Cost} \geq \left( \frac{v}{c} - \frac{v(v-1)}{c^2} + o\left(\frac{1}{c^2}\right) \right) K$$

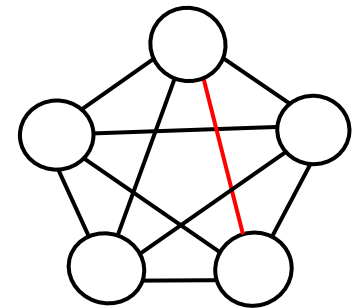


Storage Cost?



This Work: Coding with Partial Side Information  
Latency-Storage Trade-off

$$\text{Storage Cost} = \frac{1}{c} K$$



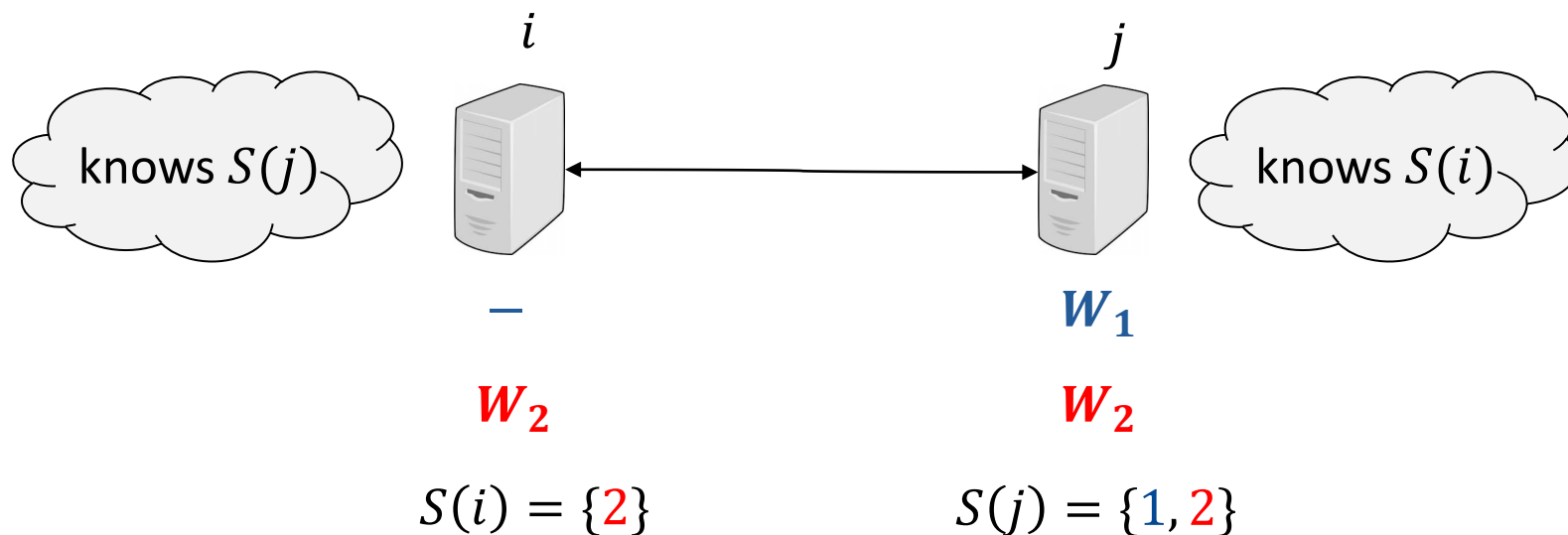
High Latency

Geo-distributed  
key-value store

# Coding with Side Information

- Topology is given by a directed graph with degree  $H$

$$\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E})$$

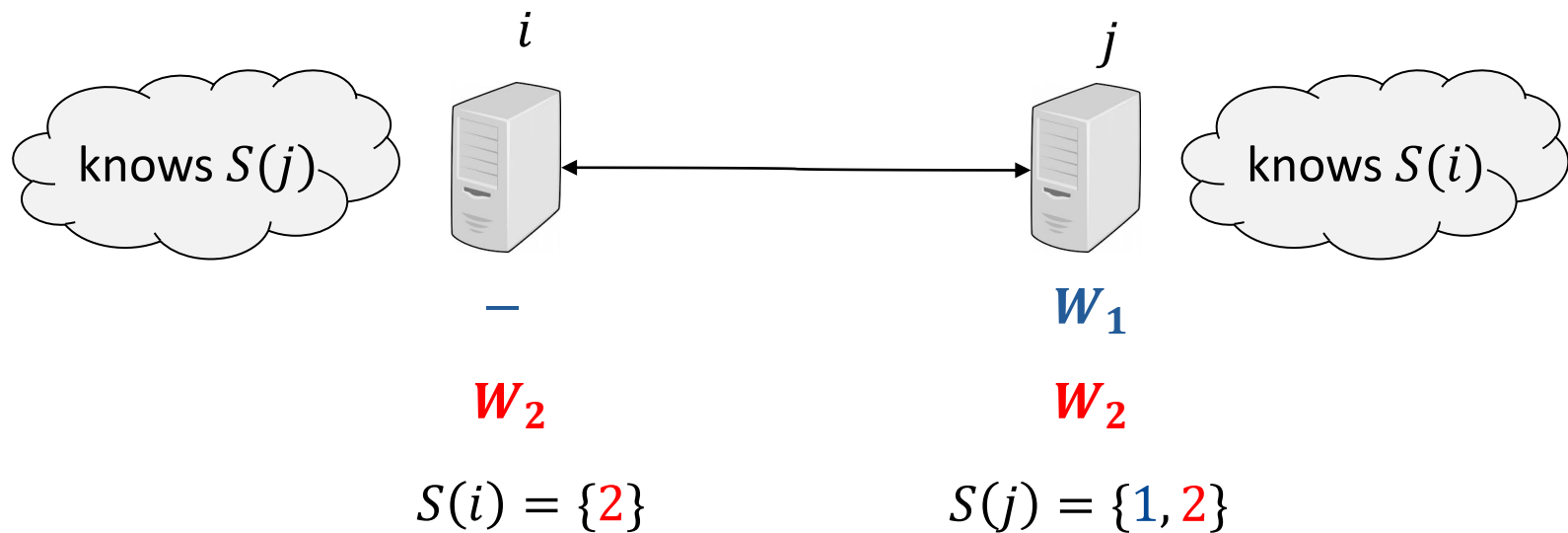




# Coding with Side Information

- Topology is given by a directed graph with degree  $H$

$$\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E})$$

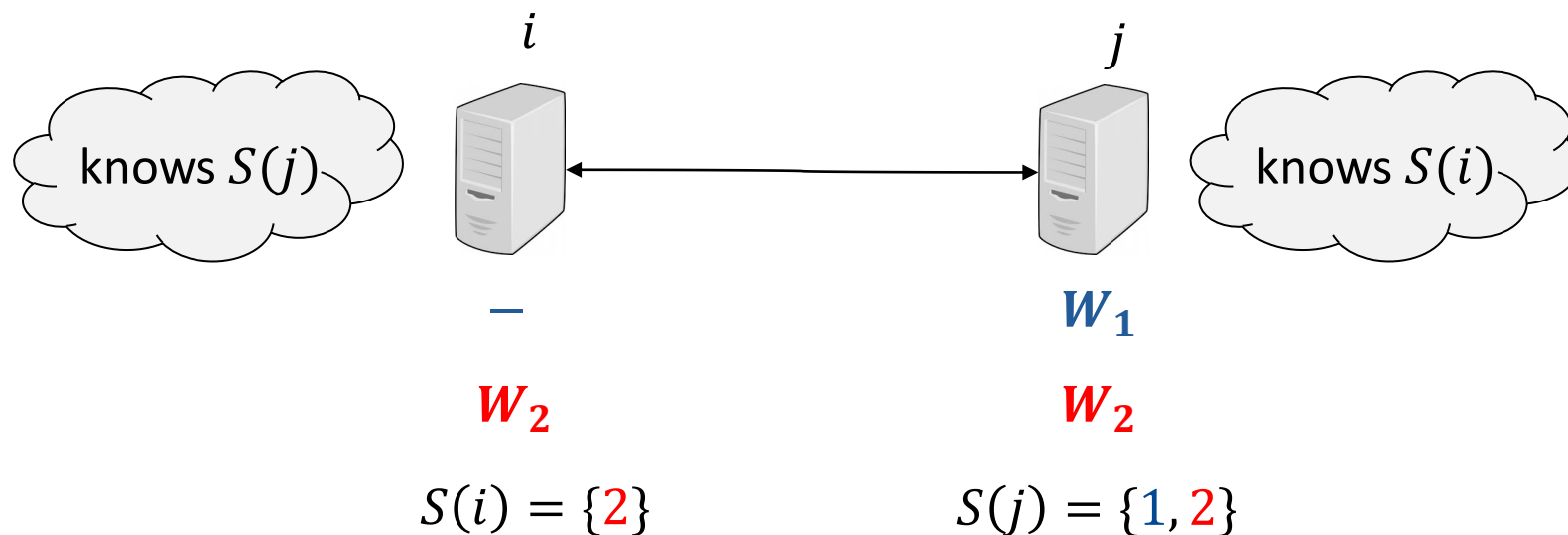


Decoding Requirement: latest complete version (or a later version)

# Coding with Side Information

- Topology is given by a directed graph with degree  $H$

$$\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{E})$$

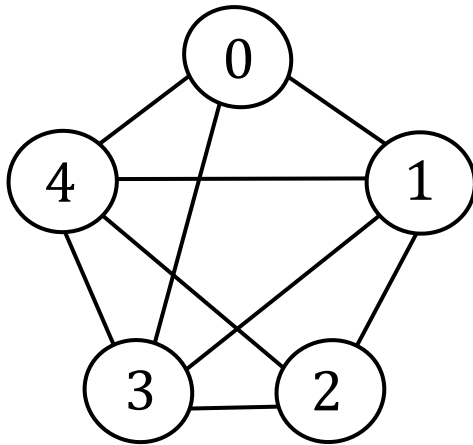


Decoding Requirement: latest complete version (or a later version)

Idea: Can the servers guess which version is the latest complete?

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges

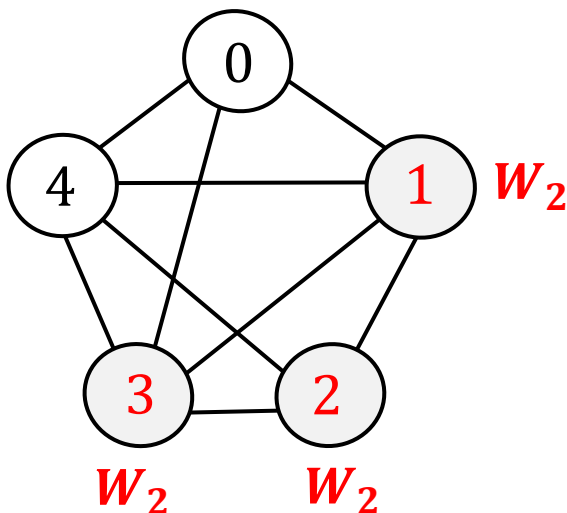
Can the servers guess which version is the latest complete?



$$c_W = 4$$

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges

Can the servers guess which version is the latest complete?

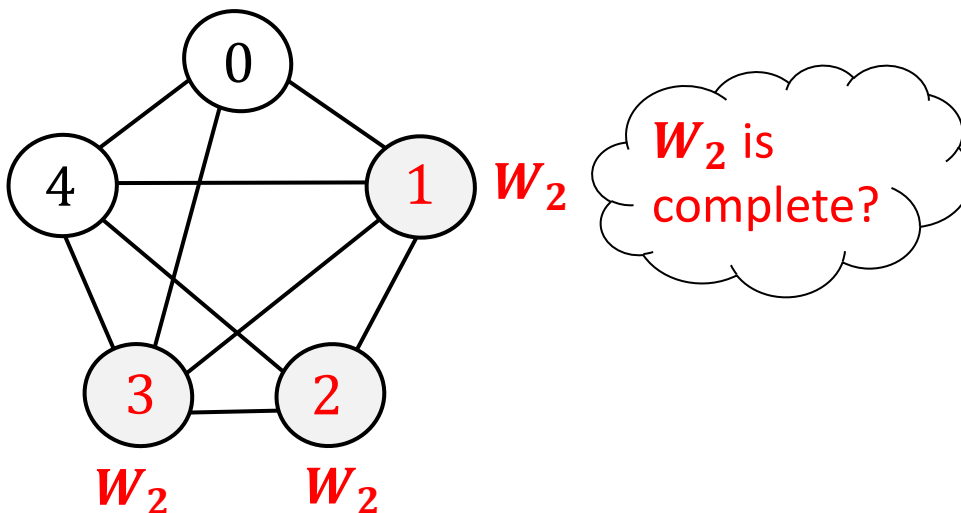


$$c_W = 4$$

$W_2$  is incomplete

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges

Can the servers guess which version is the latest complete?

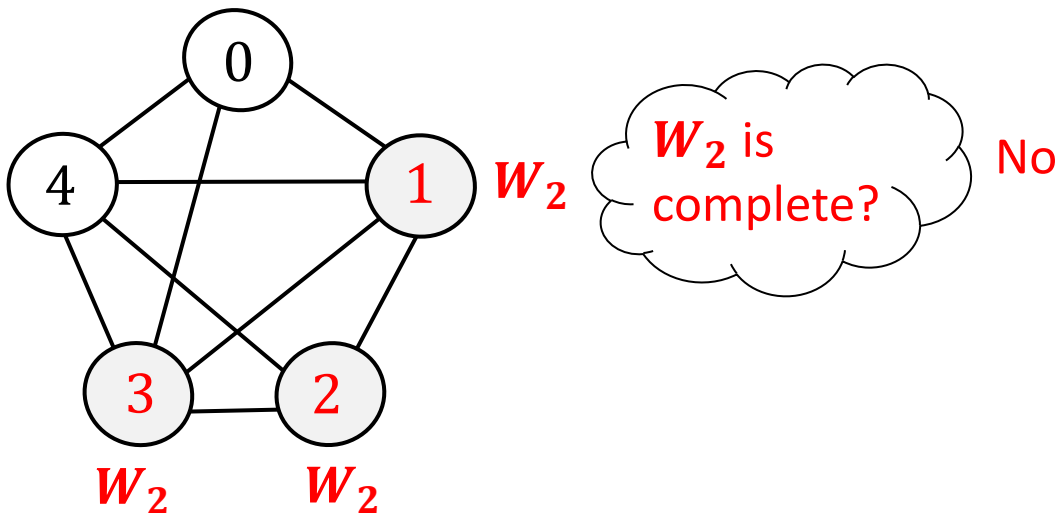


$$c_W = 4$$

$W_2$  is incomplete

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges

Can the servers guess which version is the latest complete?

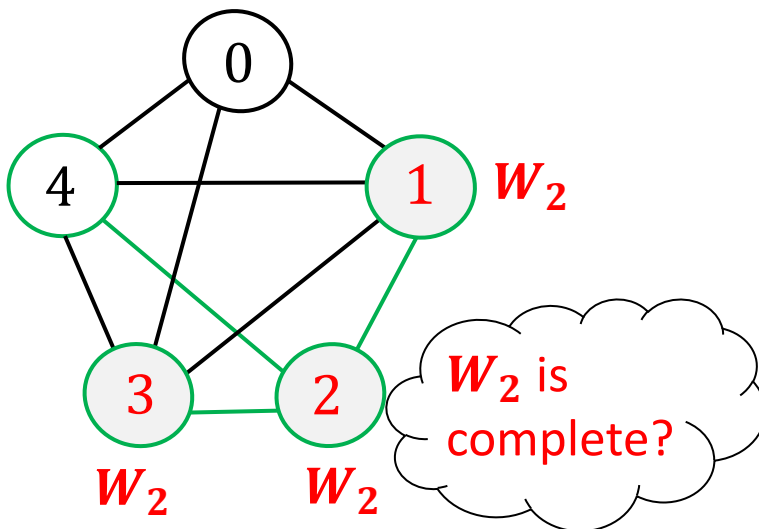


$$c_W = 4$$

$W_2$  is incomplete

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges

Can the servers guess which version is the latest complete?

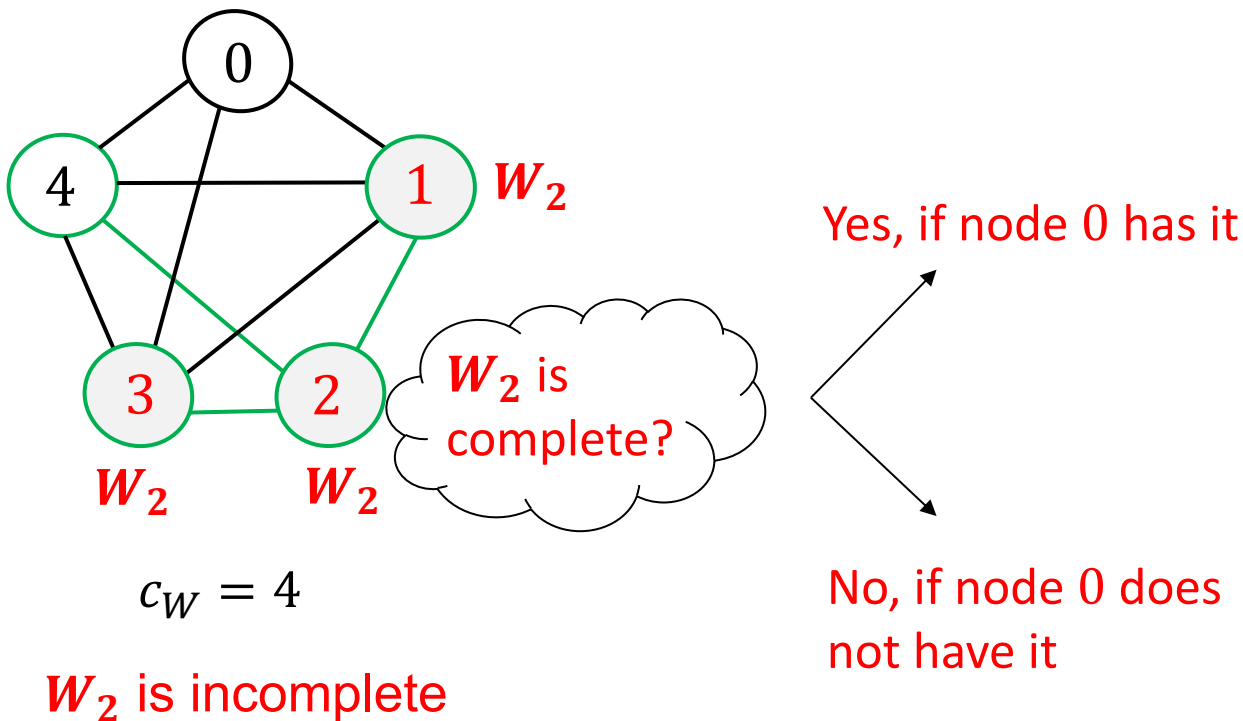


$$c_W = 4$$

$W_2$  is incomplete

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges

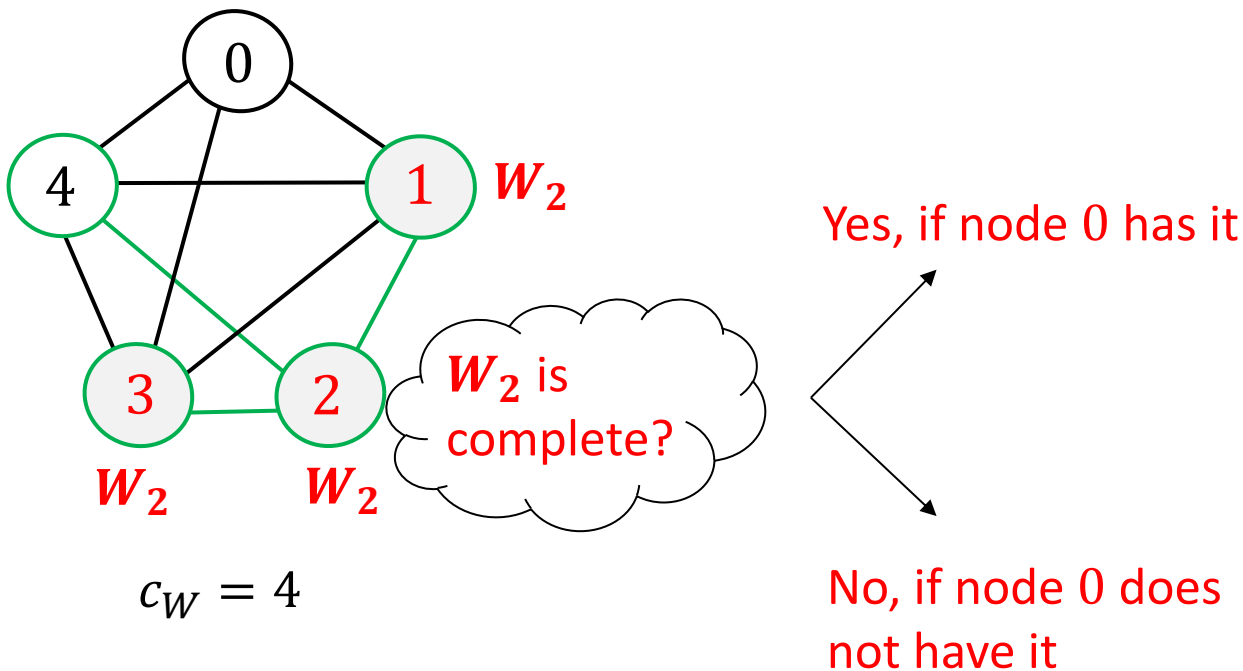
Can the servers guess which version is the latest complete?





# Coding with Side Information: Challenges

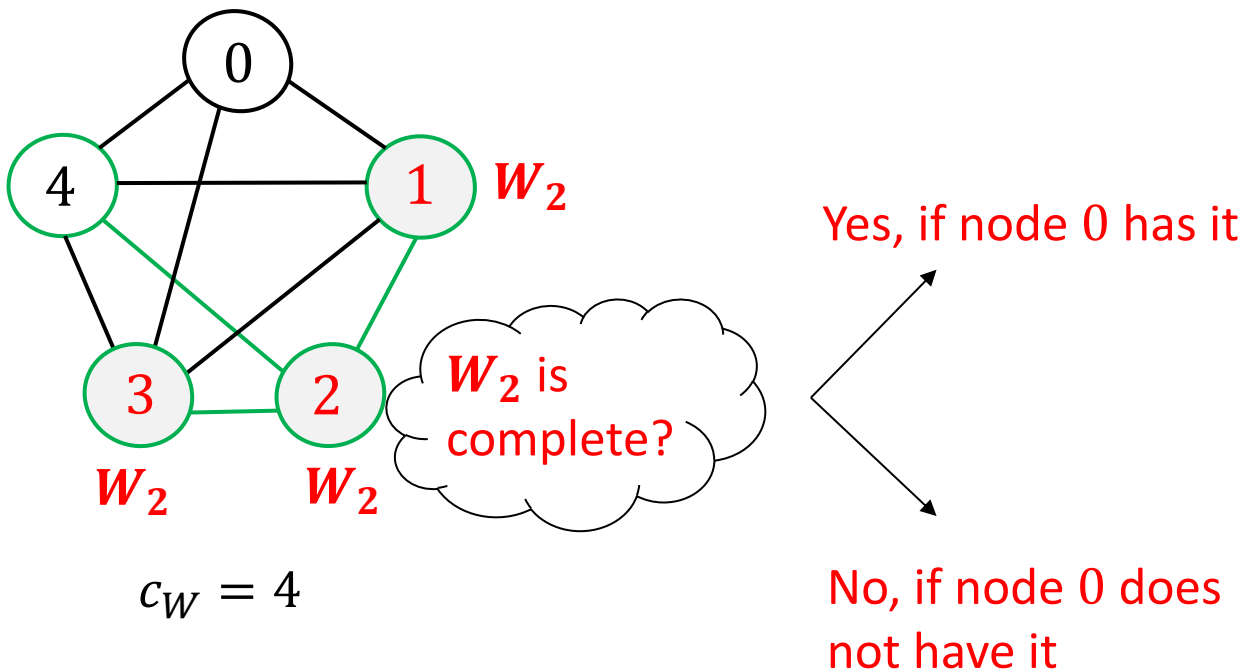
Can the servers guess which version is the latest complete?



node 2 does not know that  $W_2$  is incomplete!

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges

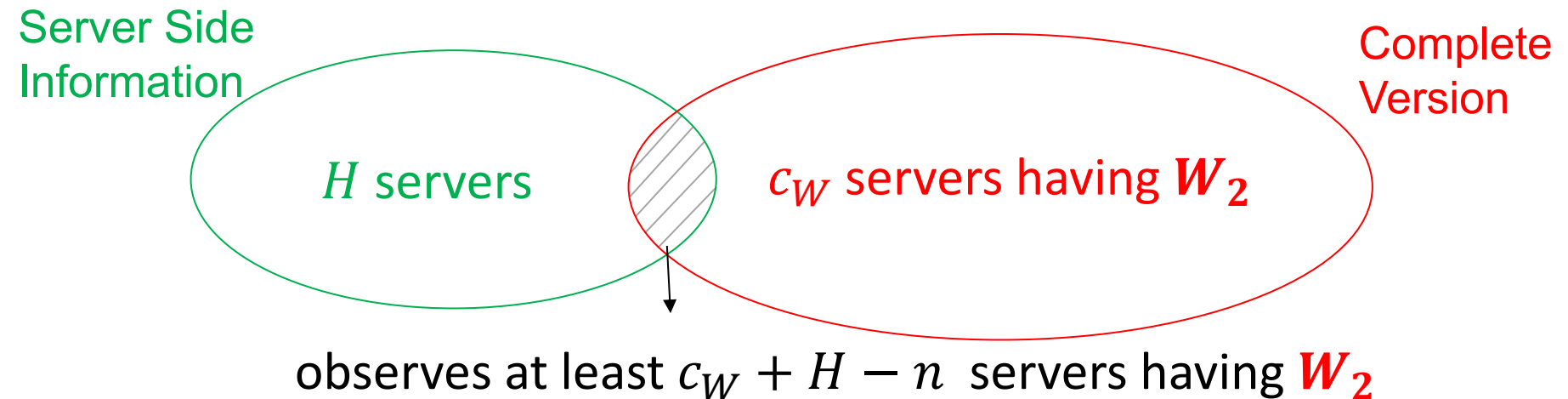
Can the servers guess which version is the latest complete?



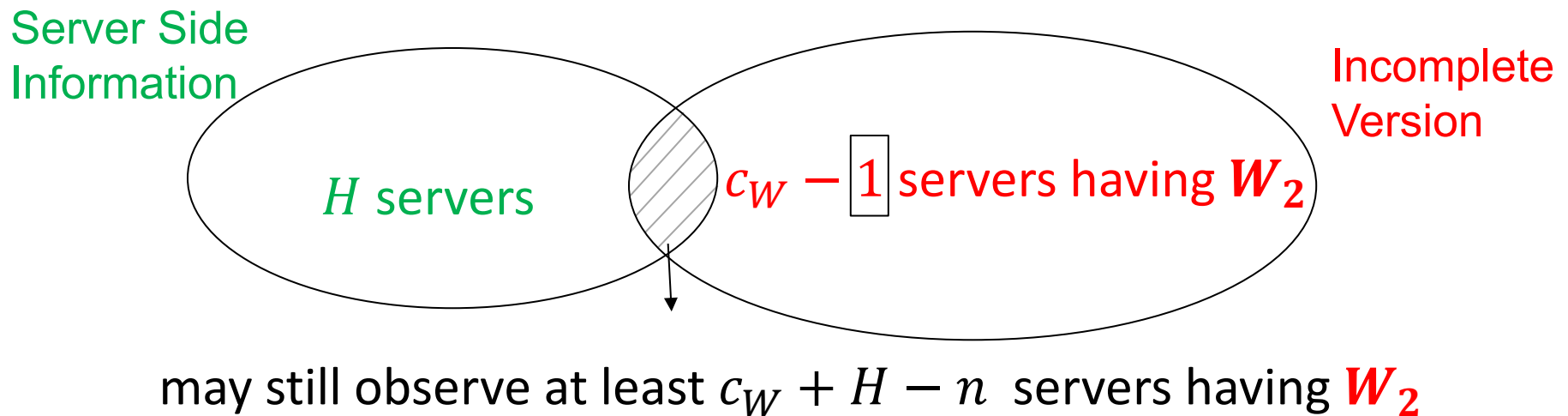
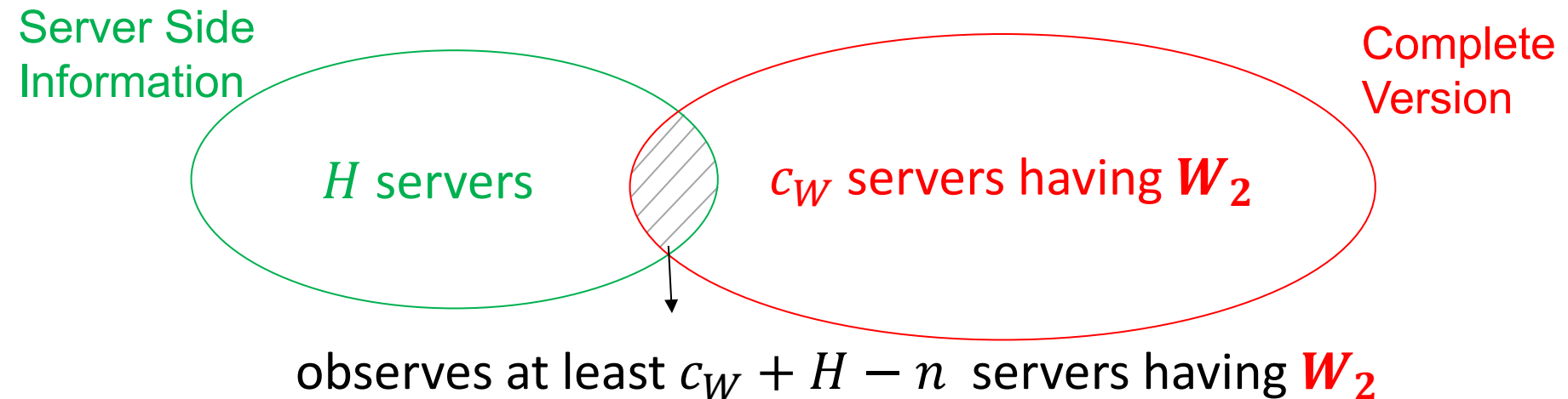
node 2 does not know that  $W_2$  is incomplete!

Given  $\mathcal{G}$ , how many servers cannot guess correctly?

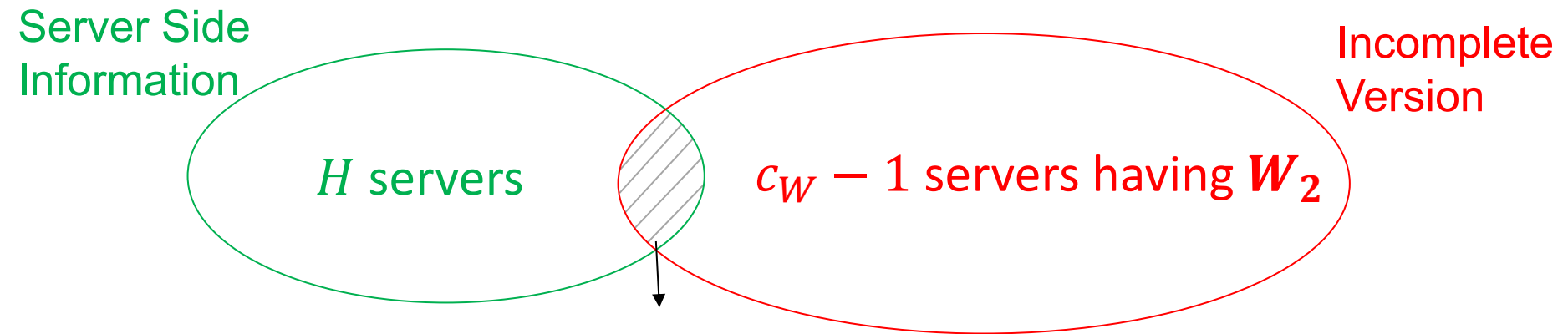
# Coding with Side Information: Challenges



# Coding with Side Information: Challenges



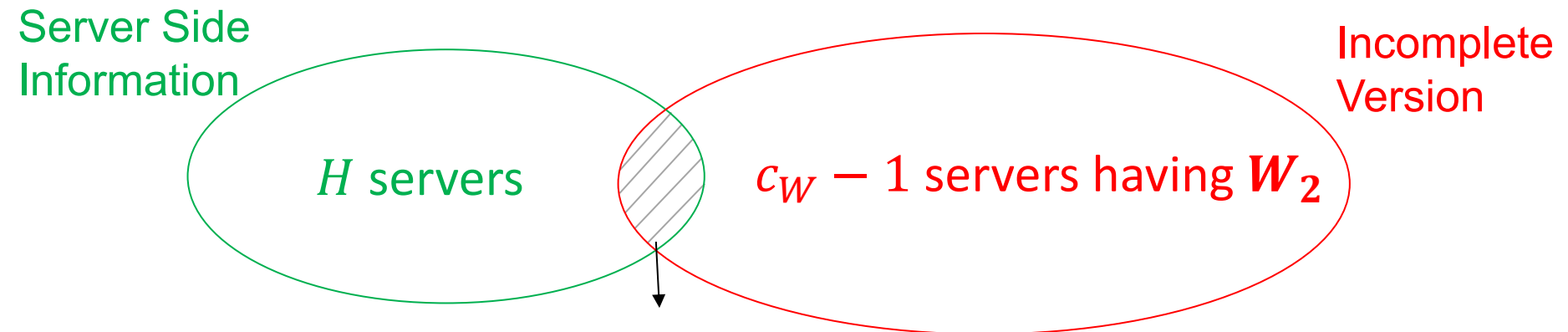
# Coding with Side Information: Challenges



may still at least  $c_W + H - n$  servers having  $W_2$

Given an incomplete version, how many servers may assume it is complete?

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges

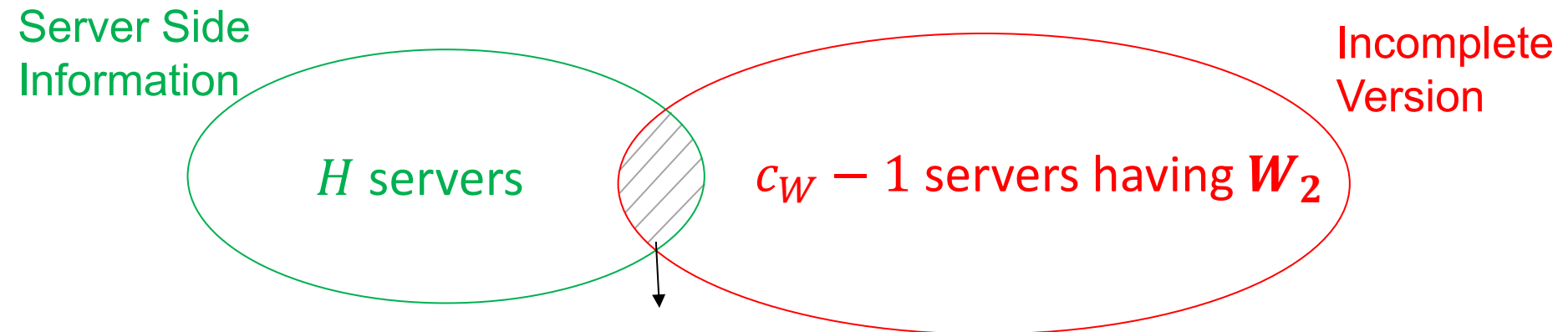


may still at least  $c_W + H - n$  servers having  $W_2$

Given **an incomplete version**, how many servers may assume it is complete?

$$\bar{m}(\mathcal{G}) = \max_{\mathcal{G}' = (\mathcal{N}', \mathcal{E}') \subset \mathcal{G}: |\mathcal{N}'| = c_W - 1} \left| \{i' \in \mathcal{N}' : \deg_{\mathcal{G}'}^+(i') \geq c_W + H - n\} \right|$$

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges



may still at least  $c_W + H - n$  servers having  $W_2$

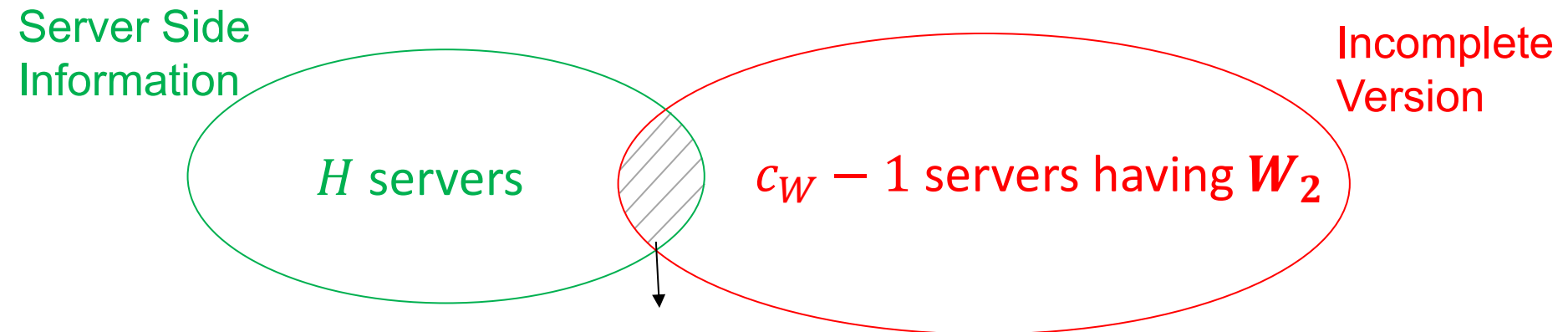
Given an incomplete version, how many servers may assume it is complete?

$$\bar{m}(\mathcal{G}) = \max_{\mathcal{G}' = (\mathcal{N}', \mathcal{E}') \subset \mathcal{G}: |\mathcal{N}'| = c_W - 1} \left| \{i' \in \mathcal{N}' : \deg_{\mathcal{G}'}^+(i') \geq c_W + H - n\} \right|$$

We need to consider  $\binom{n}{c_W - 1}$  graphs

Computationally challenging for large graphs

# Coding with Side Information: Challenges



may still at least  $c_W + H - n$  servers having  $W_2$

Given **an incomplete version**, how many servers may assume it is complete?

$$\bar{m}(\mathcal{G}) = \max_{\mathcal{G}' = (\mathcal{N}', \mathcal{E}') \subset \mathcal{G}: |\mathcal{N}'| = c_W - 1} \left| \{i' \in \mathcal{N}': \deg_{\mathcal{G}'}^+(i') \geq c_W + H - n\} \right|$$

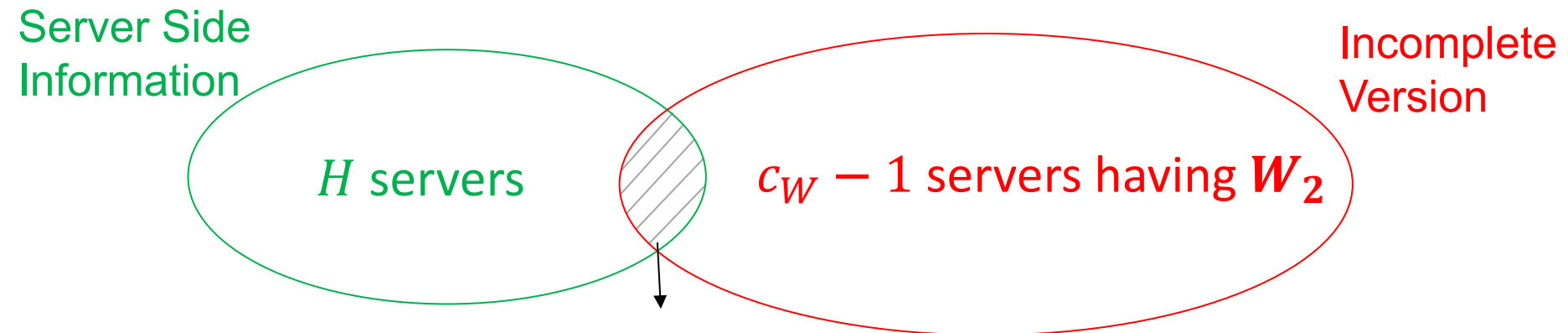
We need to consider  $\binom{n}{c_W - 1}$  graphs

Computationally challenging  
for large graphs

$$\bar{m}(\mathcal{G}) \leq (n - c_W + 1) (n - H)$$



# Coding with Side Information: Construction

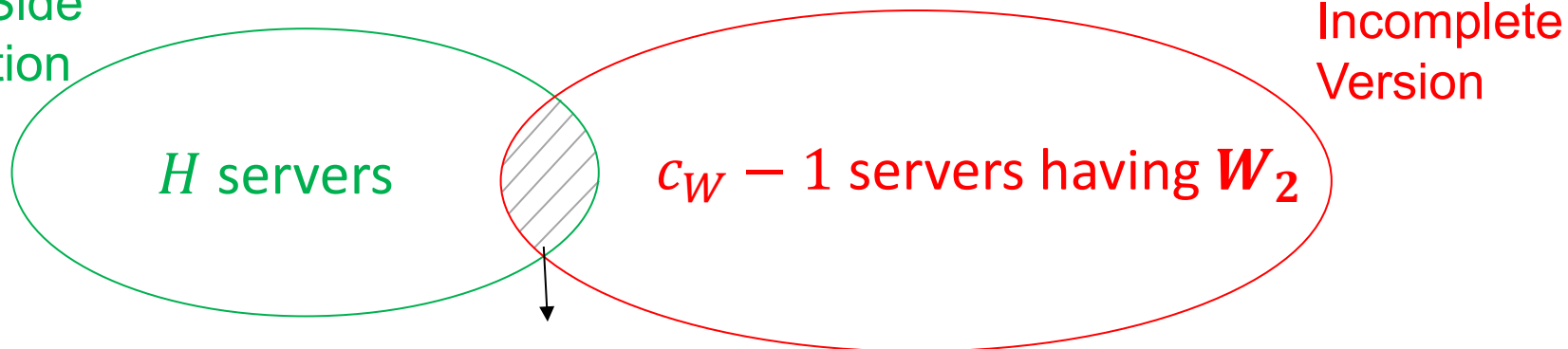


may still at least  $c_W + H - n$  servers having  $W_2$

Coding Strategy: a server stores part of  $W_2$  if it observes at least  $c_W + H - n$  servers having it.

# Coding with Side Information: Construction

Server Side  
Information



may still at least  $c_W + H - n$  servers having  $W_2$

Coding Strategy: a server stores part of  $W_2$  if it observes at least  $c_W + H - n$  servers having it.

At most  $\bar{m}(\mathcal{G})$  servers store  $W_2$  when it is incomplete.

$$\text{Storage Cost} = \left( \frac{1}{c} + \frac{(\nu - 1) \bar{m}(\mathcal{G})}{c^2} + o\left(\frac{\bar{m}(\mathcal{G})}{c^2}\right) \right) K$$



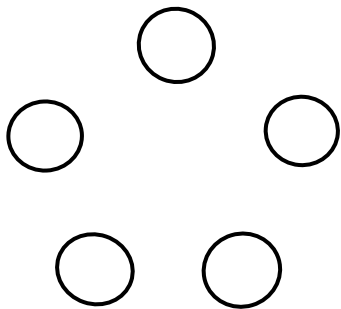
# Coding with Side Information

Decentralized

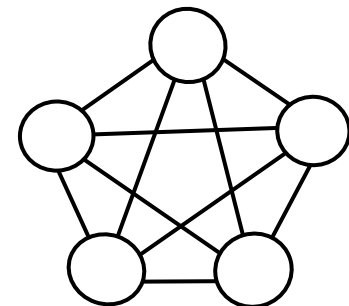
Partial Information

Centralized

$$\text{Storage Cost} \geq \left( \frac{\nu}{c} - \frac{\nu(\nu-1)}{c^2} + o\left(\frac{1}{c^2}\right) \right) K$$



$$\text{Storage Cost} = \frac{1}{c} K$$



$$\text{Storage Cost} = \left( \frac{1}{c} + \frac{(\nu-1)\bar{m}(\mathcal{G})}{c^2} + o\left(\frac{\bar{m}(\mathcal{G})}{c^2}\right) \right) K$$

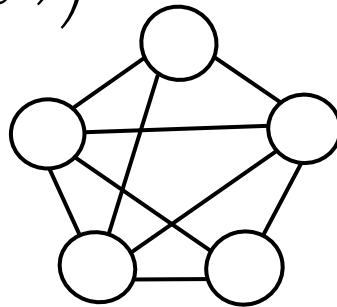
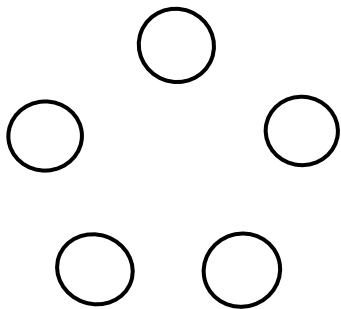
# Coding with Side Information

Decentralized

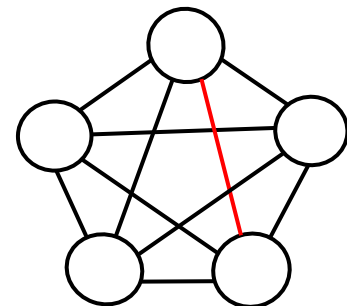
Partial Information

Centralized

$$\text{Storage Cost} \geq \left( \frac{\nu}{c} - \frac{\nu(\nu-1)}{c^2} + o\left(\frac{1}{c^2}\right) \right) K$$



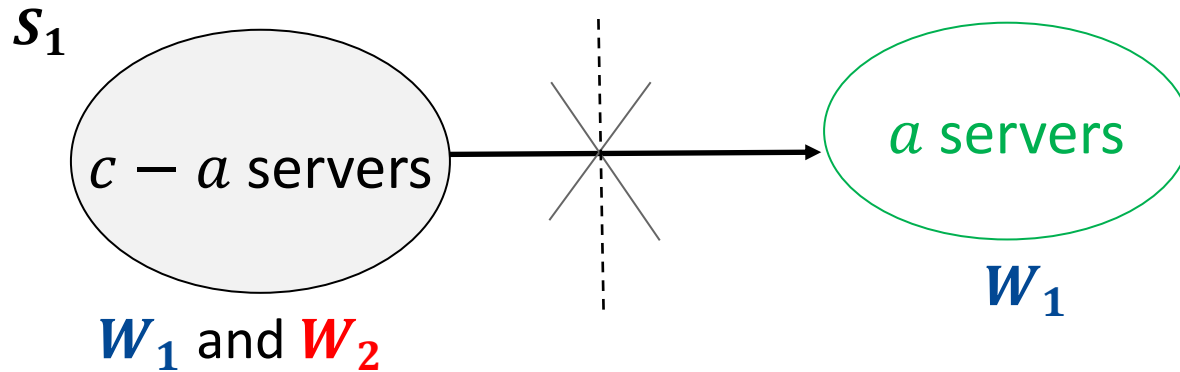
$$\text{Storage Cost} = \frac{1}{c} K$$



Storage Reduction = 11%

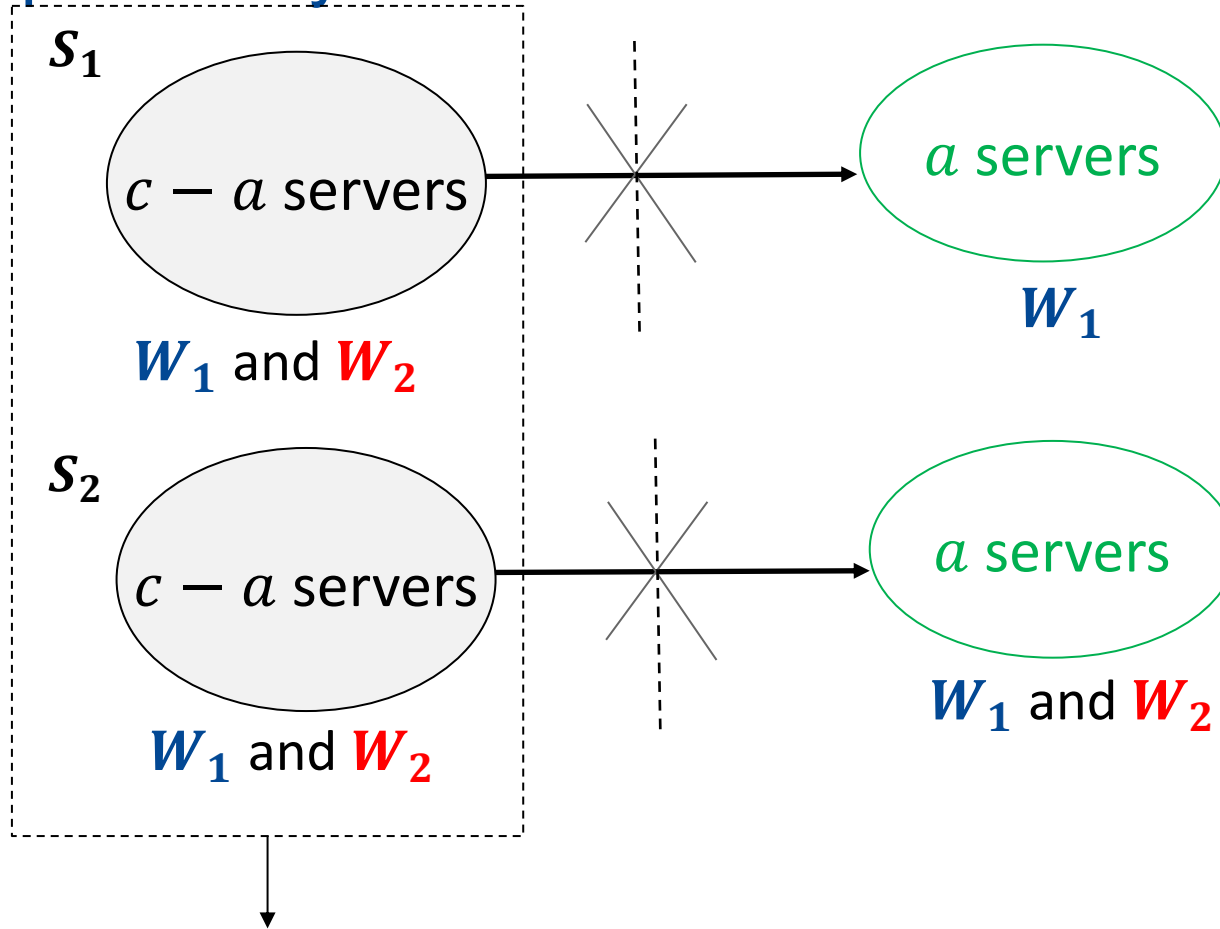
$$(n = 5, c_W = c_R = 4, \nu = 2)$$

# Impossibility Results



$W_1$  is the latest complete version

# Impossibility Results

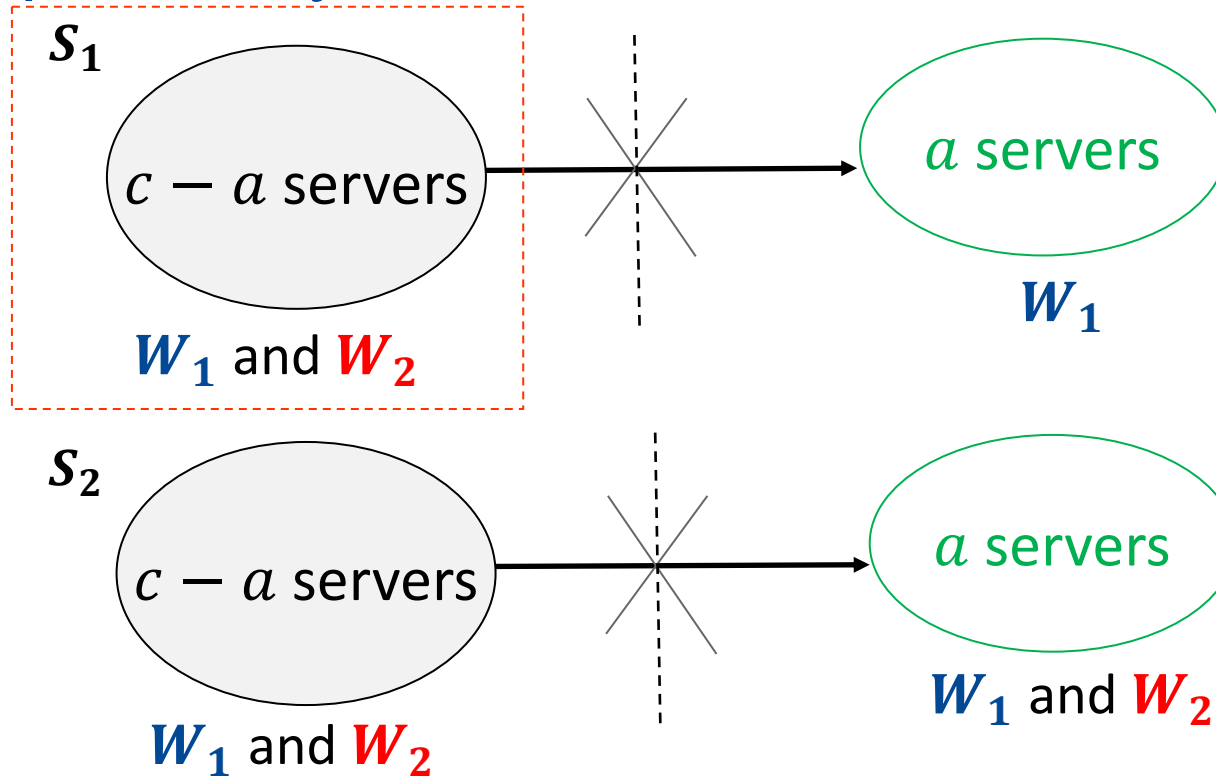


$W_1$  is the latest complete version

$W_2$  is the latest complete version

cannot differentiate between  $S_1$  and  $S_2$

# Impossibility Results

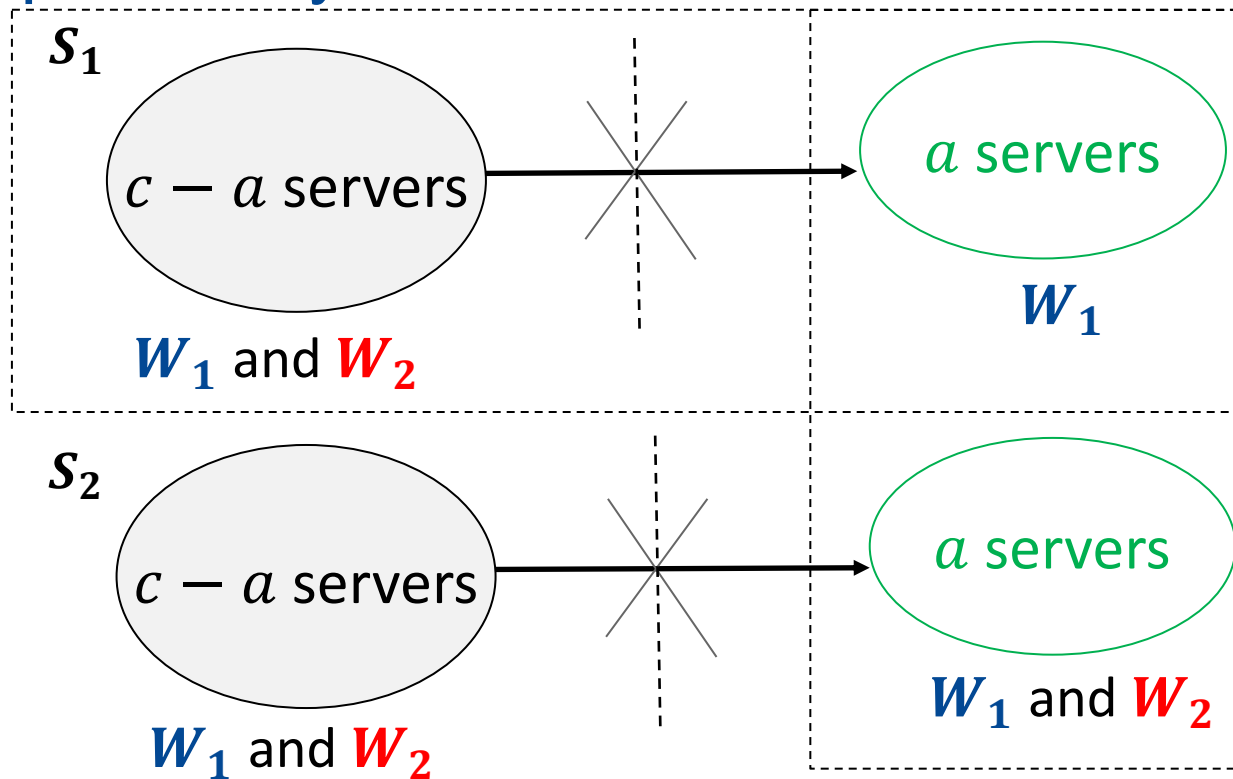


$W_1$  is the latest complete version

$W_2$  is the latest complete version

Decoding  $W_2$  in  $S_1 \implies \text{Storage Cost} \geq \frac{1}{c-a} K$

# Impossibility Results



$W_1$  is the latest complete version

$W_2$  is the latest complete version

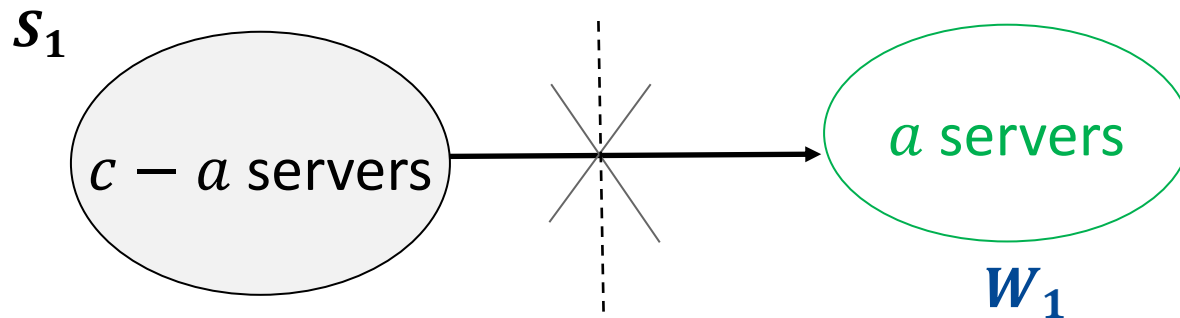
Decoding  $W_1$  in  $S_1$   $\Rightarrow$  Storage Cost  $\geq \frac{2}{c+a} K$

$c$  servers of  $S_1$  and the  $a$  servers of  $S_2$

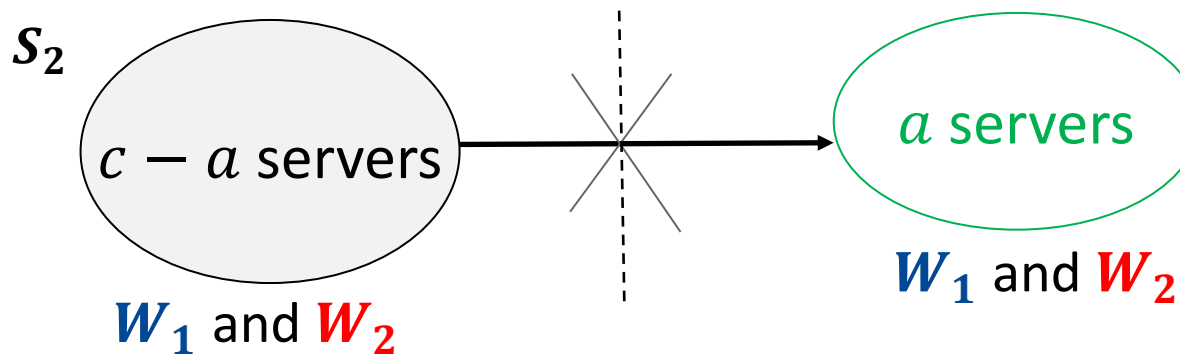
Annotations: Arrows point from the '2' in the denominator to " $W_1$  in  $S_1$ " and " $W_2$  in  $S_2$ ". An arrow points from the " $c+a$ " in the denominator to the text " $c$  servers of  $S_1$  and the  $a$  servers of  $S_2$ ".



# Impossibility Results



$W_1$  is the latest complete version



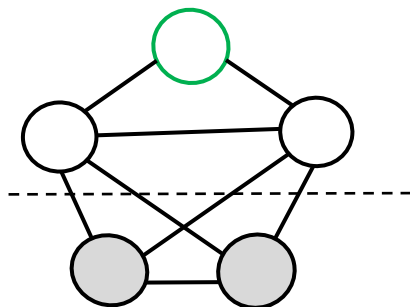
$W_2$  is the latest complete version

$$\text{Storage Cost} \geq \min \left\{ \frac{1}{c-a}, \frac{2}{c+a} \right\} K$$

# Impossibility Results

$$\text{Storage Cost} \geq \min \left\{ \frac{1}{c-a}, \frac{2}{c+a} \right\} K$$

Implication:



Side Information is not useful

$$(n = 5, c_W = c_R = 4, \nu = 2) \\ (c = 3, a = 1)$$

$$\text{Storage Cost} \geq K/2 \longrightarrow$$

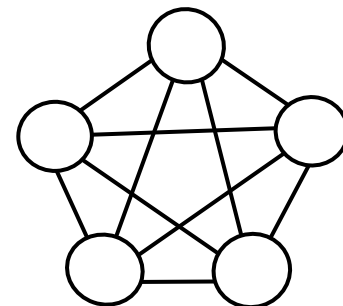
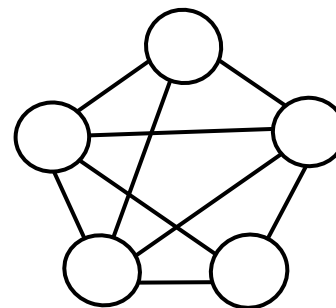
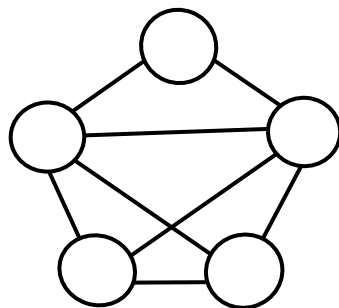
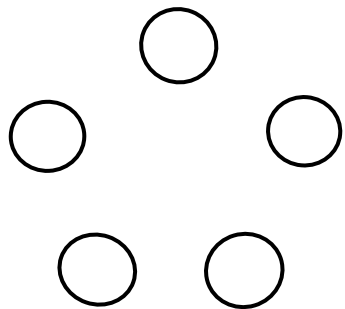
Can be achieved without side information [Wang et al. 2014]

# Coding with Side Information

Decentralized

Partial Information

Centralized



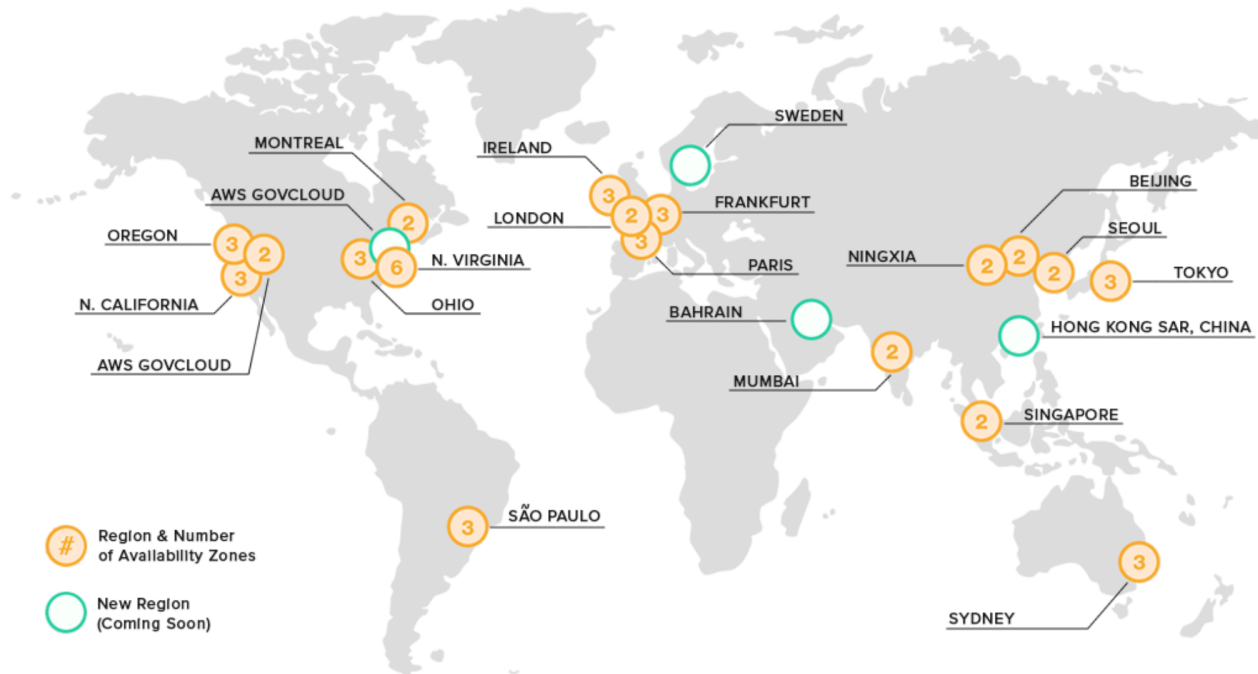
Side Information  
is not useful

Side Information  
is useful

$$(n = 5, c_W = c_R = 4, \nu = 2)$$

A careful study of the network topology is necessary

# Case Study: Amazon Web Services (AWS)



Data center	Location	Data center	Location	Data center	Location
1	Tokyo	6	Frankfurt	11	Ohio
2	Seoul	7	Ireland	12	N. California
3	Mumbai	8	London	13	Oregon
4	Singapore	9	Paris		
5	Canada	10	N. Virginia		

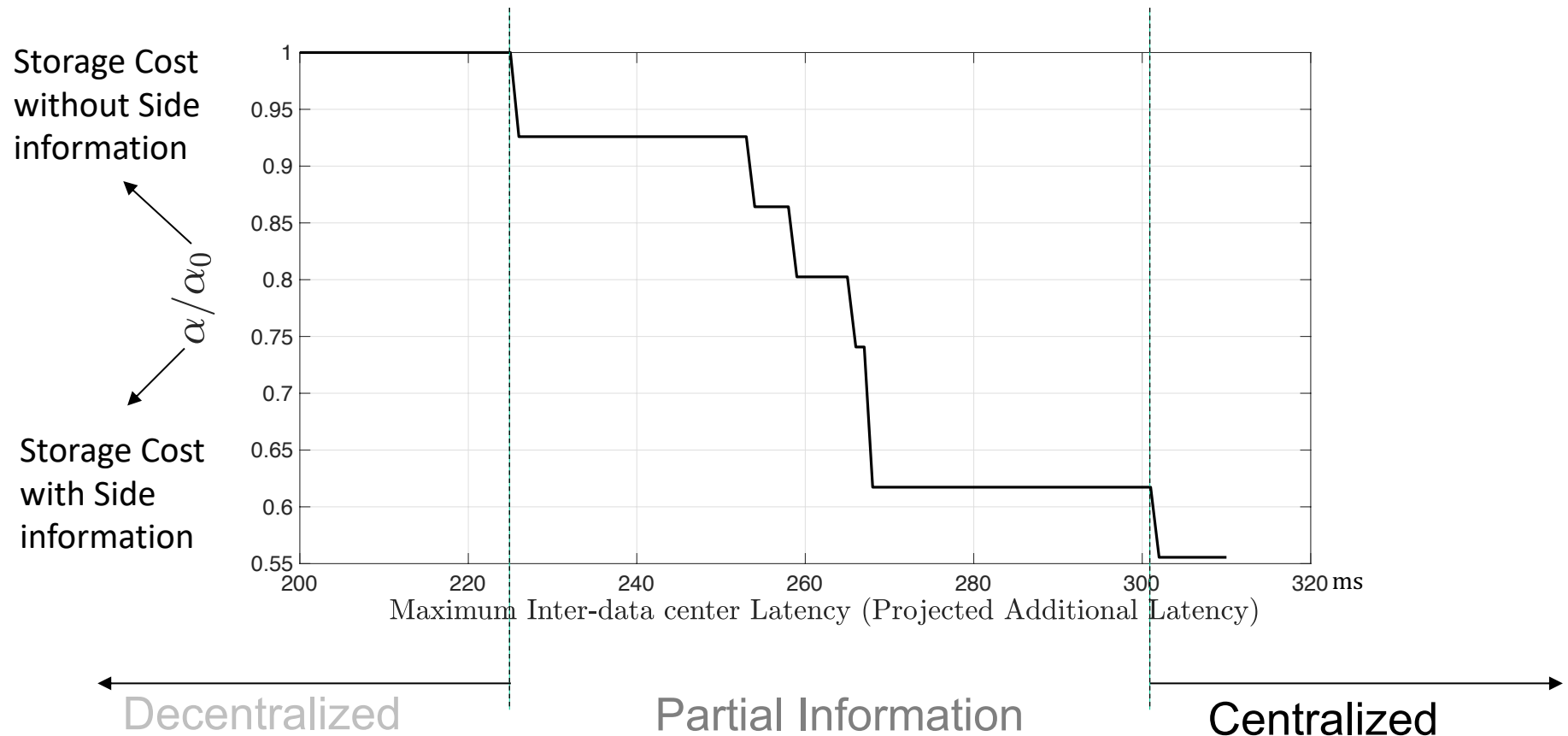
# Case Study: AWS Inter-Region Latency

Data center	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	0	37.8	157.2	90.8	177.2	249.7	234.4	259.4	259.4	167.5	166.2	119.6	106.5
2	37.9	0	160.1	105.7	199.7	269.9	255.7	269.3	268.2	190.7	189.3	153	128.2
3	136.9	181.5	0	68.8	212.8	129.9	134.4	128	118.3	187.7	202.2	240.8	225
4	90	112.4	82.3	0	240.9	189.7	186.4	181.3	178.5	267.8	232.6	184.7	194.7
5	159.2	189.5	202	222.3	0	103.1	81.7	92	95.4	17.8	27.2	82	81.7
6	241.3	267.3	115.3	174.8	107	0	24.2	19.1	12.8	90.4	98.9	147.8	165.4
7	230	258.4	128.4	180	85.2	23.8	0	14.6	21.6	72.7	84.6	152.8	137.4
8	236.9	265.3	116.9	168	93.9	15.7	13.2	0	10.7	78	88.7	141.7	148.5
9	233.5	301.6	111.6	173	97.6	14.4	20.4	11	0	81.7	99.4	140.7	157.8
10	164.3	188.8	195.8	239.9	18.8	92	73.1	79.8	110.5	0	13.66	67.2	79.3
11	162.4	189.9	199.7	226	27.6	121.5	87.7	91.3	94.6	16.4	0	55.9	74.53
12	111.4	157.9	253.4	178.3	81.7	148.7	150.7	140	146.7	67.8	53.9	0	23.4
13	109.8	139.7	226	166.5	73.4	167.8	137.8	150.8	160.4	84	73	25.8	0

Source: <https://www.cloudping.co/>

An edge exists between node  $i$  and node  $j$  if the latency between them  $\leq$  maximum allowable latency

# Case Study: Latency-Storage Trade-off in AWS

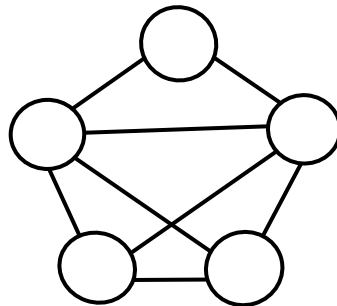
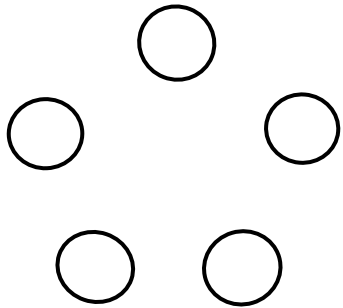


# Discussion

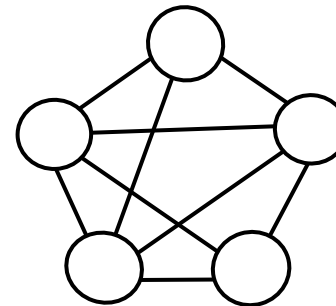
Decentralized

Partial Information

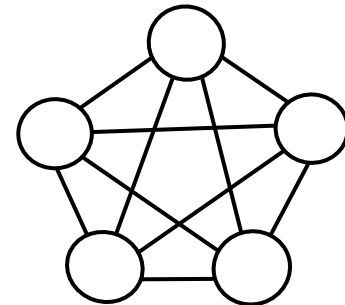
Centralized



Side Information  
is not useful



Side Information  
is useful



$$(n = 5, c_W = c_R = 4, v = 2)$$

*Questions?*  
*Thank You*