Unconstrained Profiling of Internet Endpoints via Information on the Web

("Googling" the Internet)

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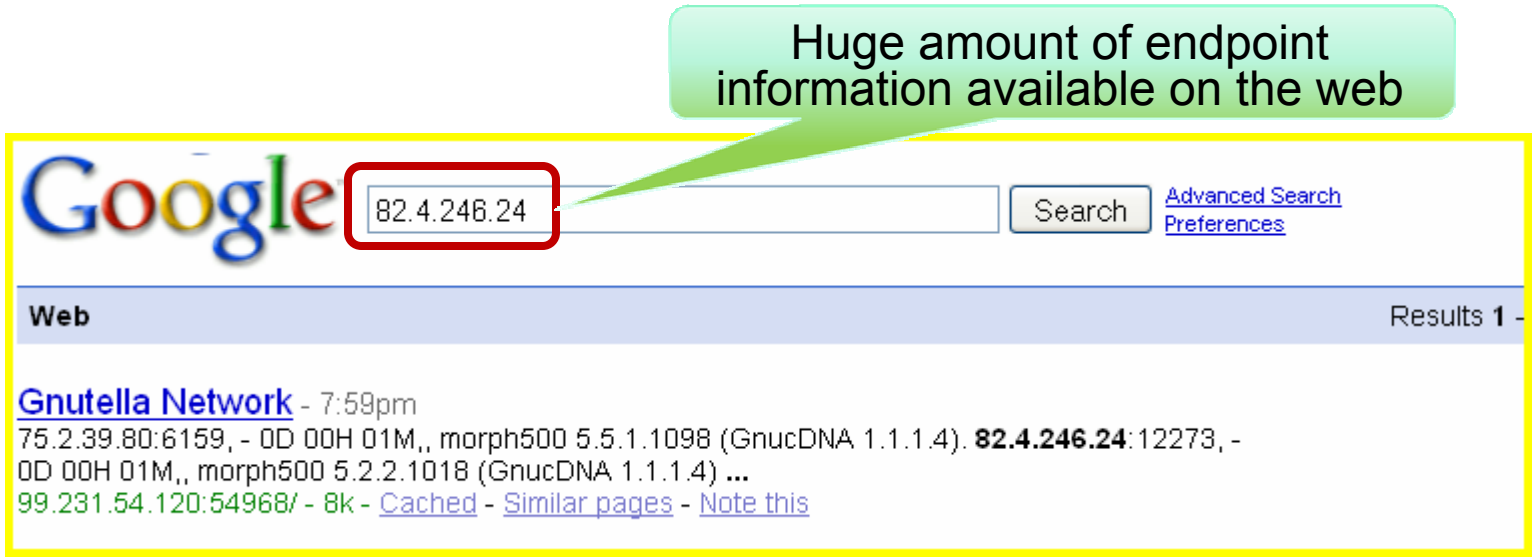
http://networks.cs.northwestern.edu **http://www.narus.com**

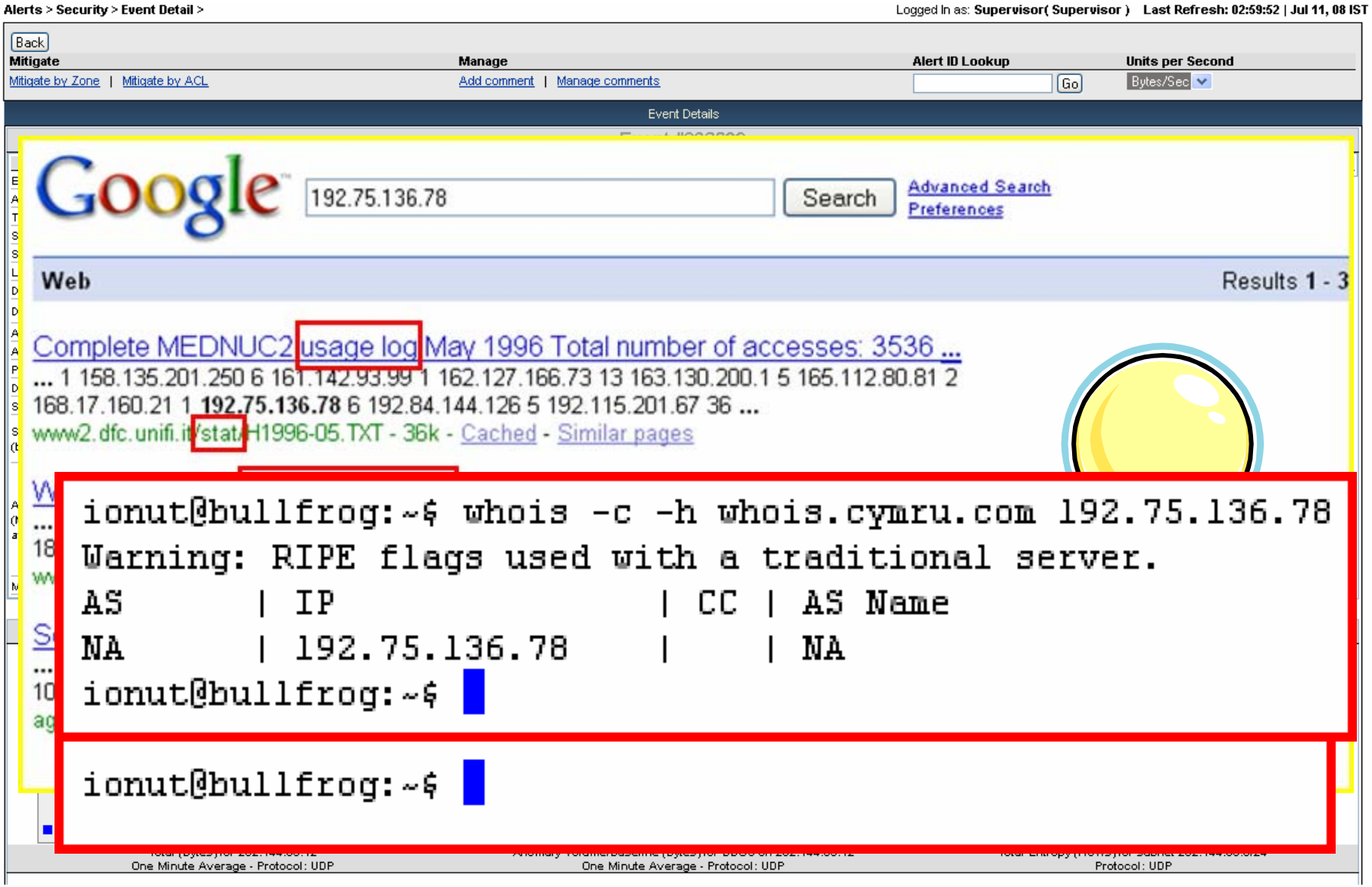
Introduction

- Can we use Google for networking research?

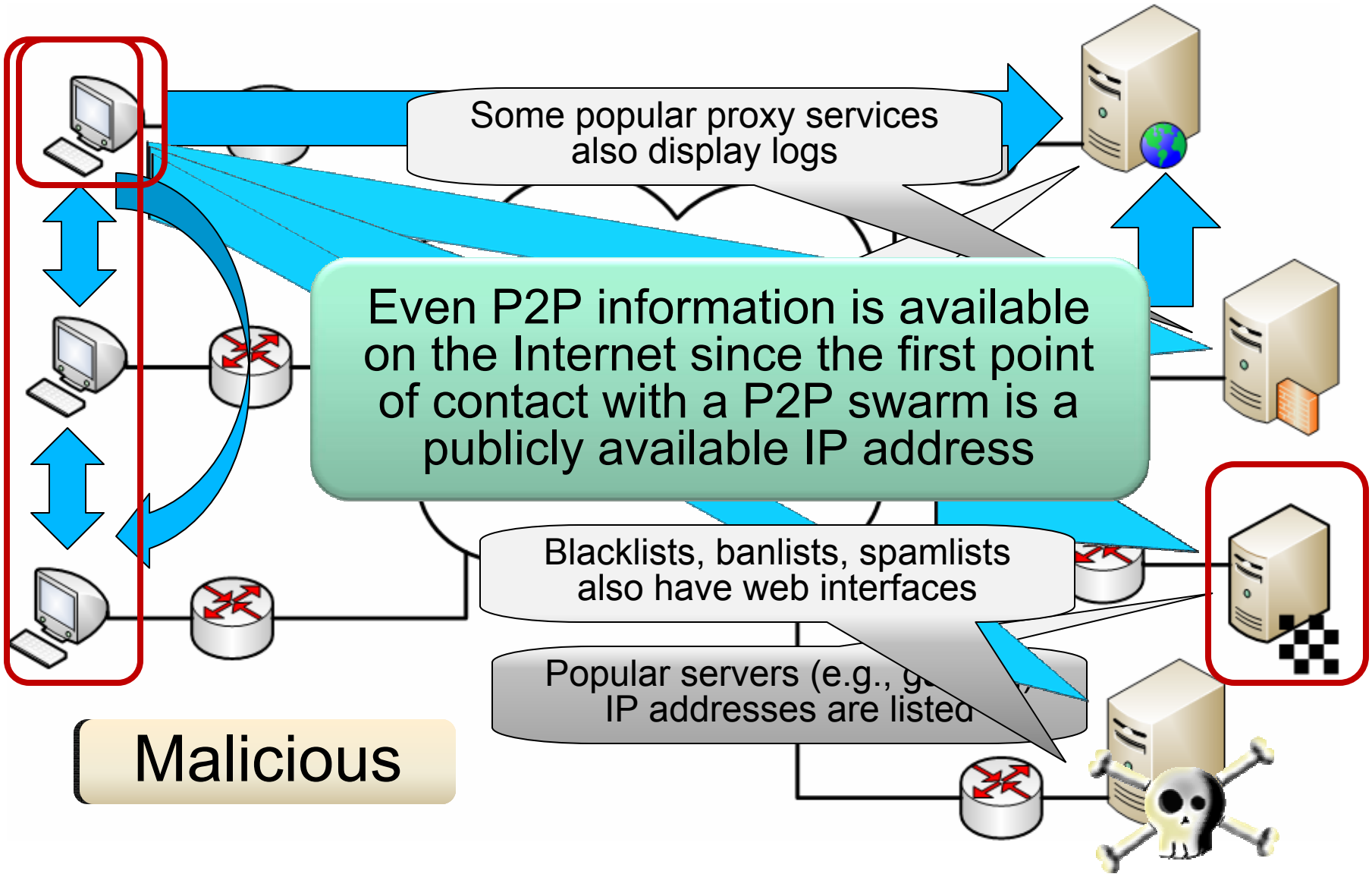


Can we systematically exploit search engines to harvest endpoint information available on the Internet?

Application: Googling IP-addresses for Network Forensics



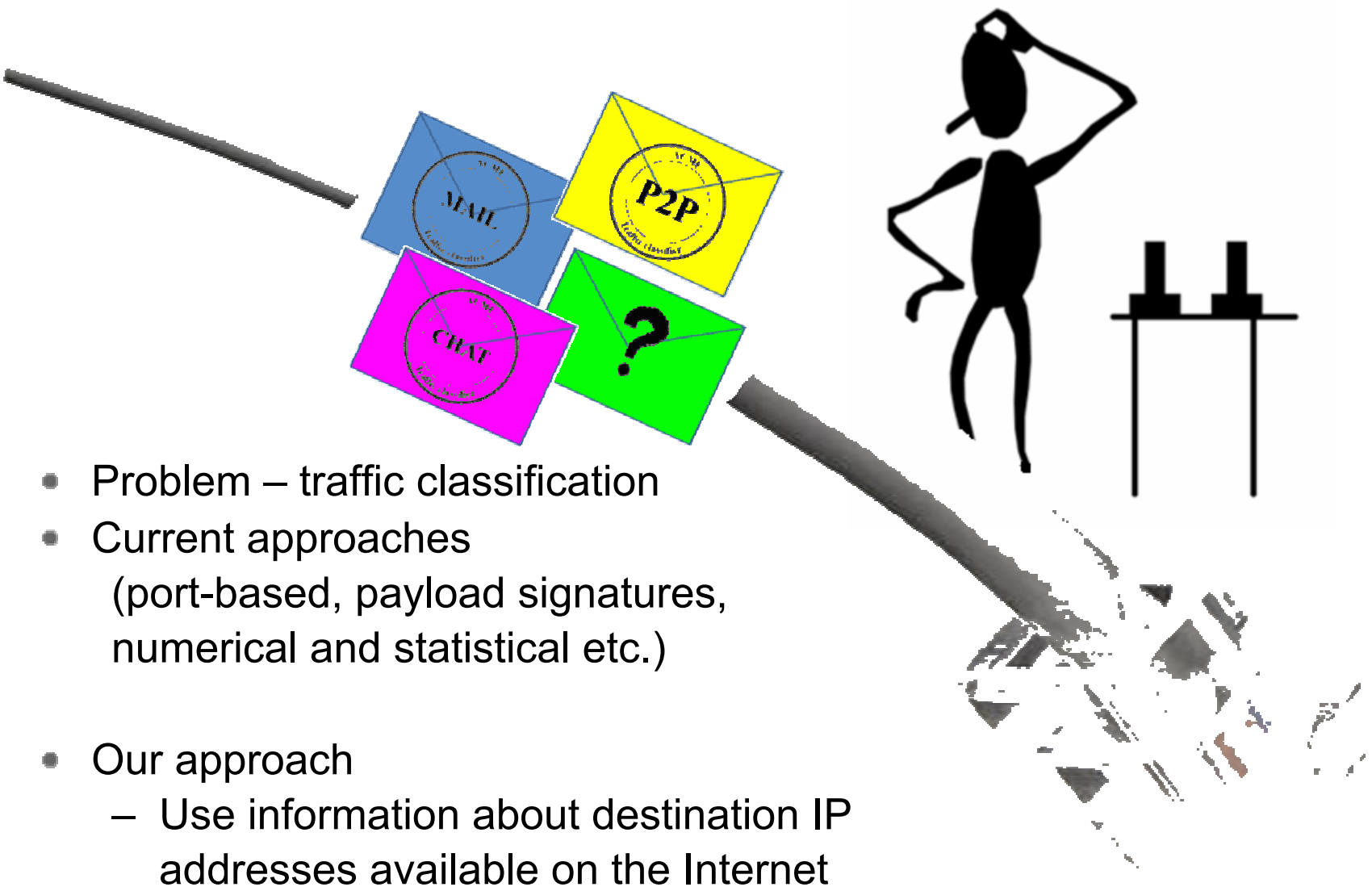
Where Does the Information Come From?



Detecting Application Usage Trends

Can we infer what applications people are using across the world without having access to network traces?

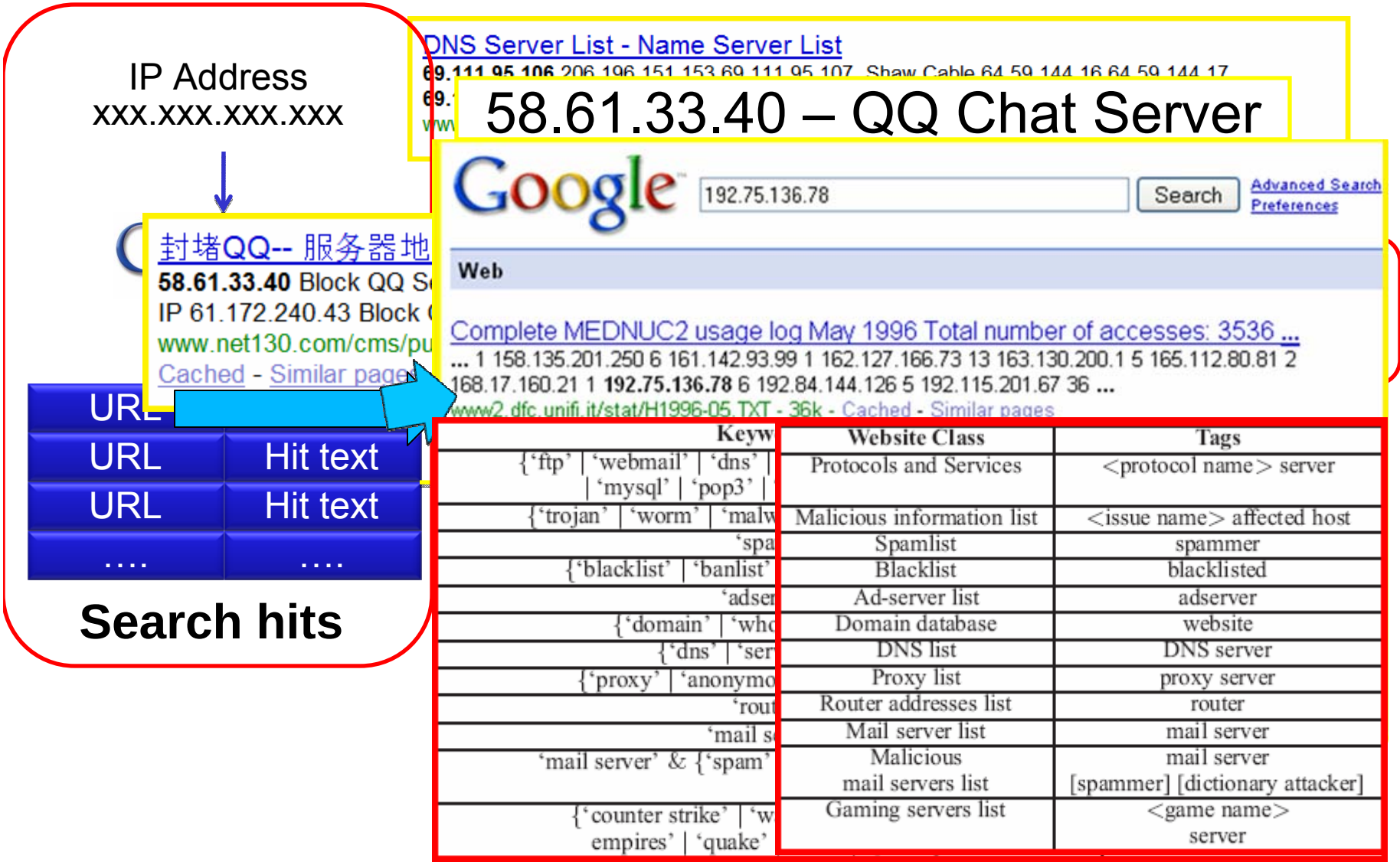
Traffic Classification



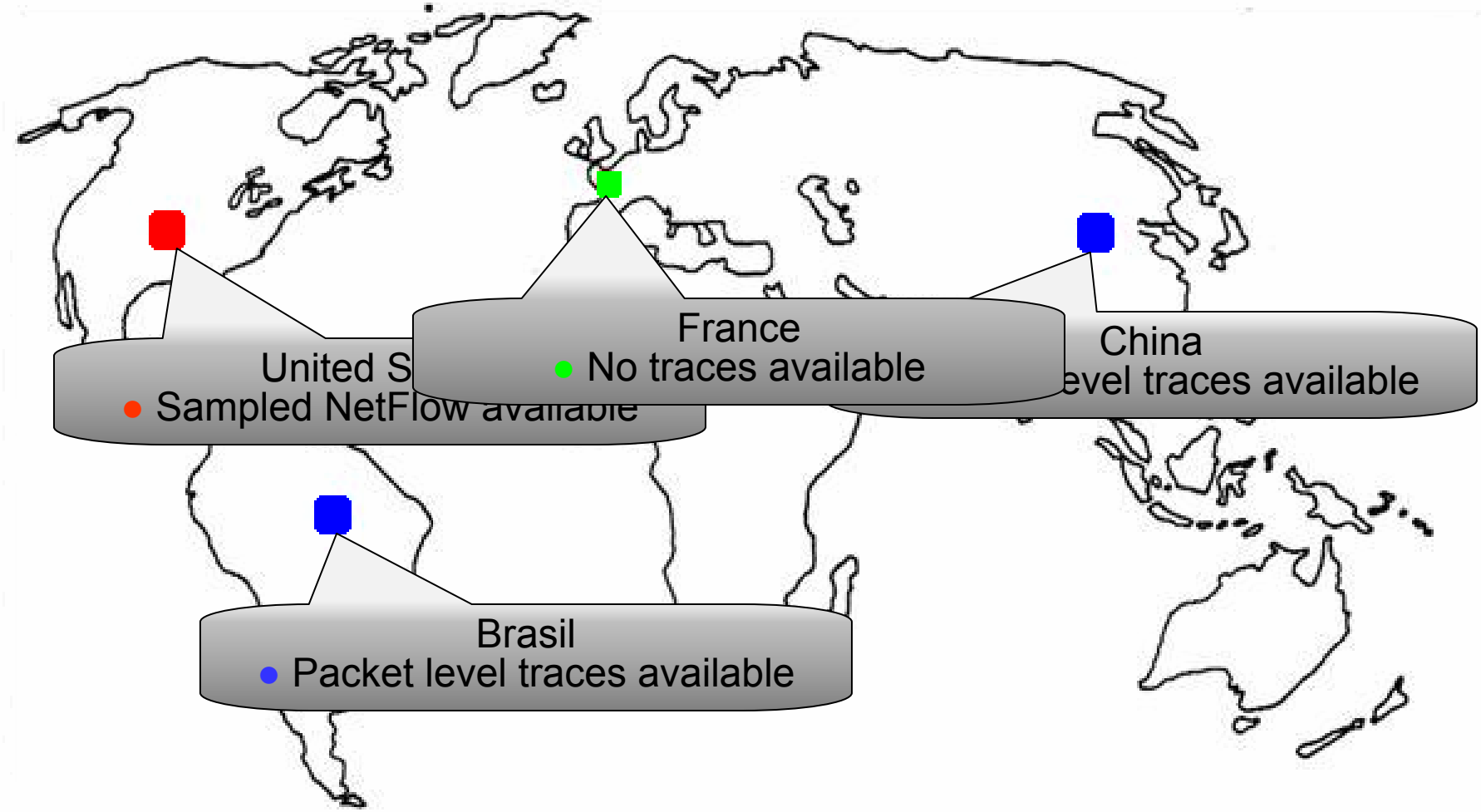
- Problem – traffic classification
- Current approaches
  (port-based, payload signatures, numerical and statistical etc.)

- Our approach
  - Use information about destination IP addresses available on the Internet

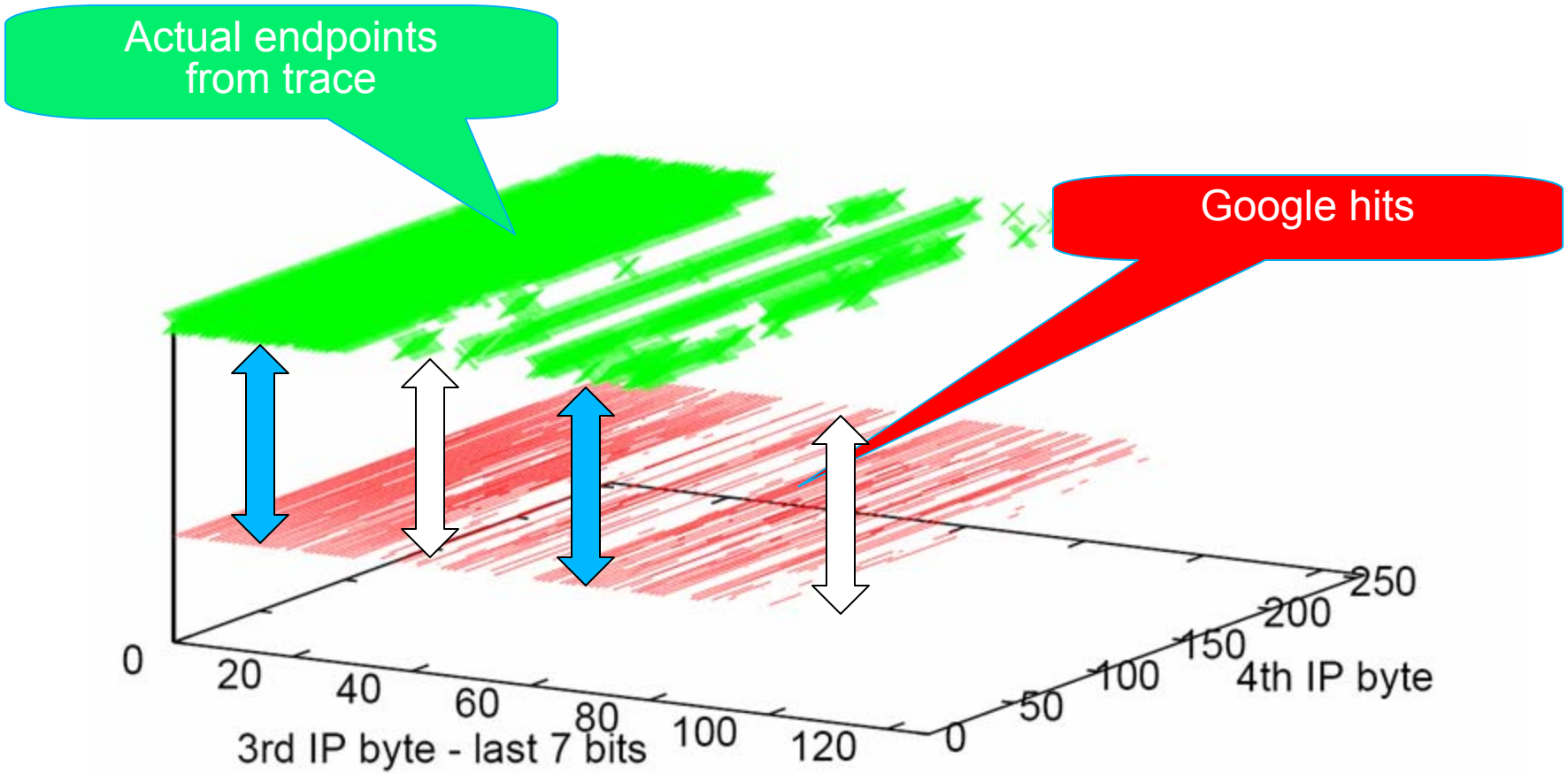
Methodology – Web Classifier and IP Tagging



Evaluation – Ground Truth from Traces

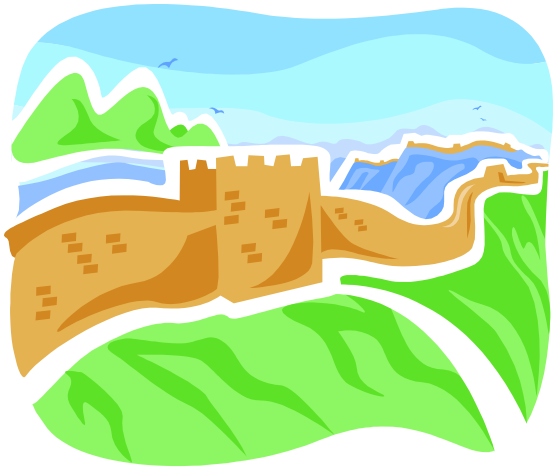


Inferring Active IP Ranges in Target Networks

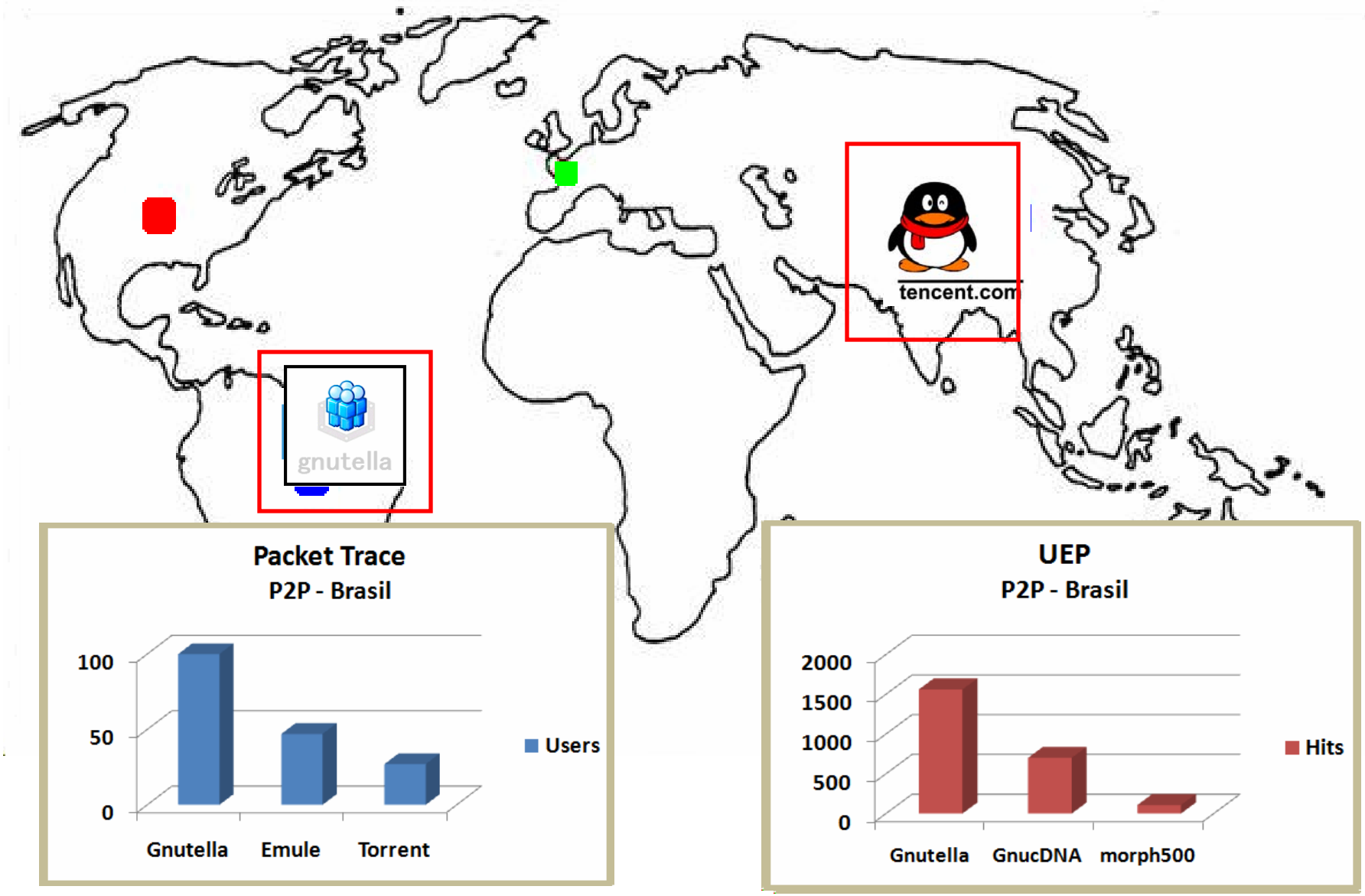


XXX.163.0.0/17 network range
Overlap is around 77%

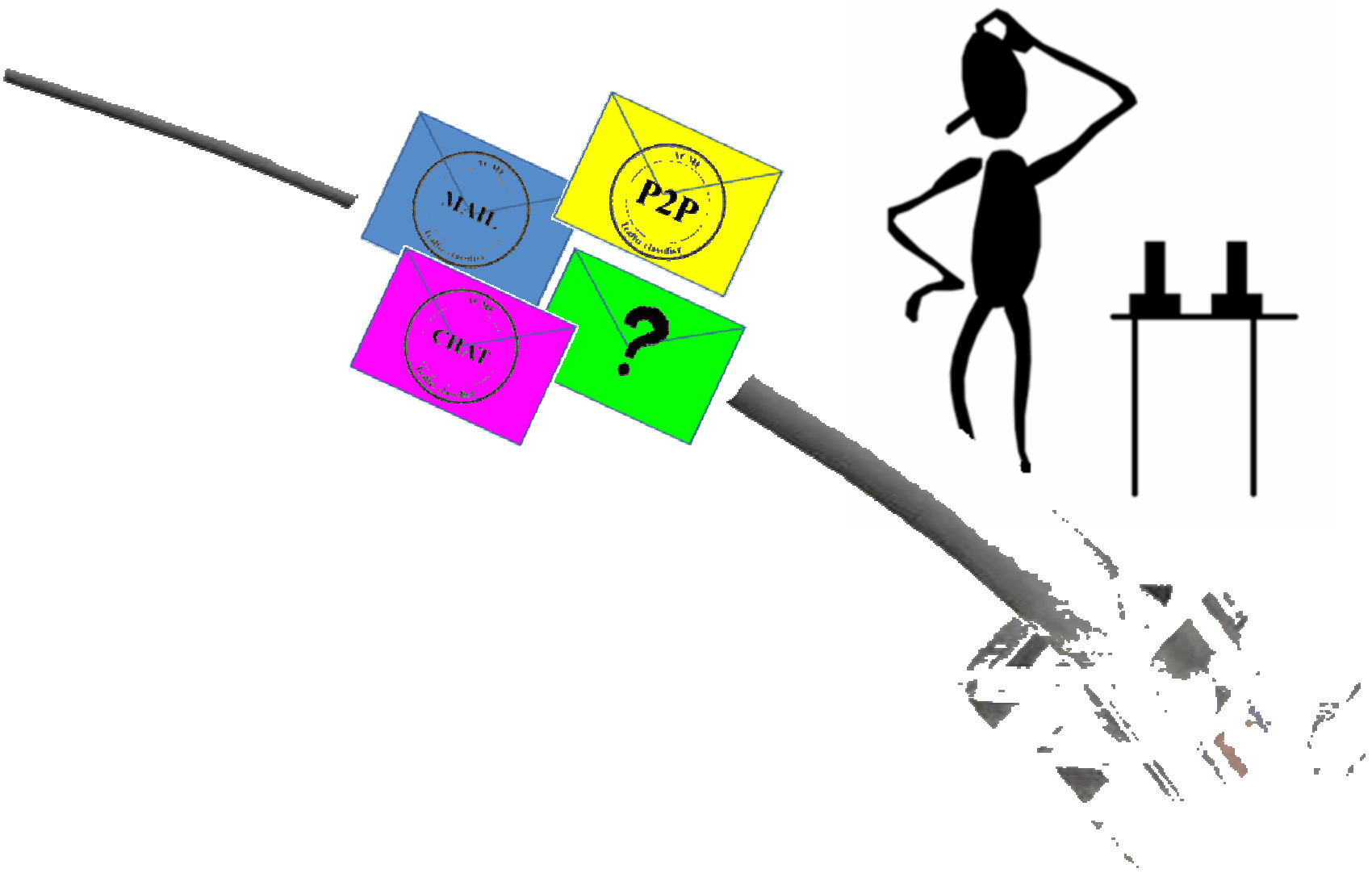
Application Usage Trends



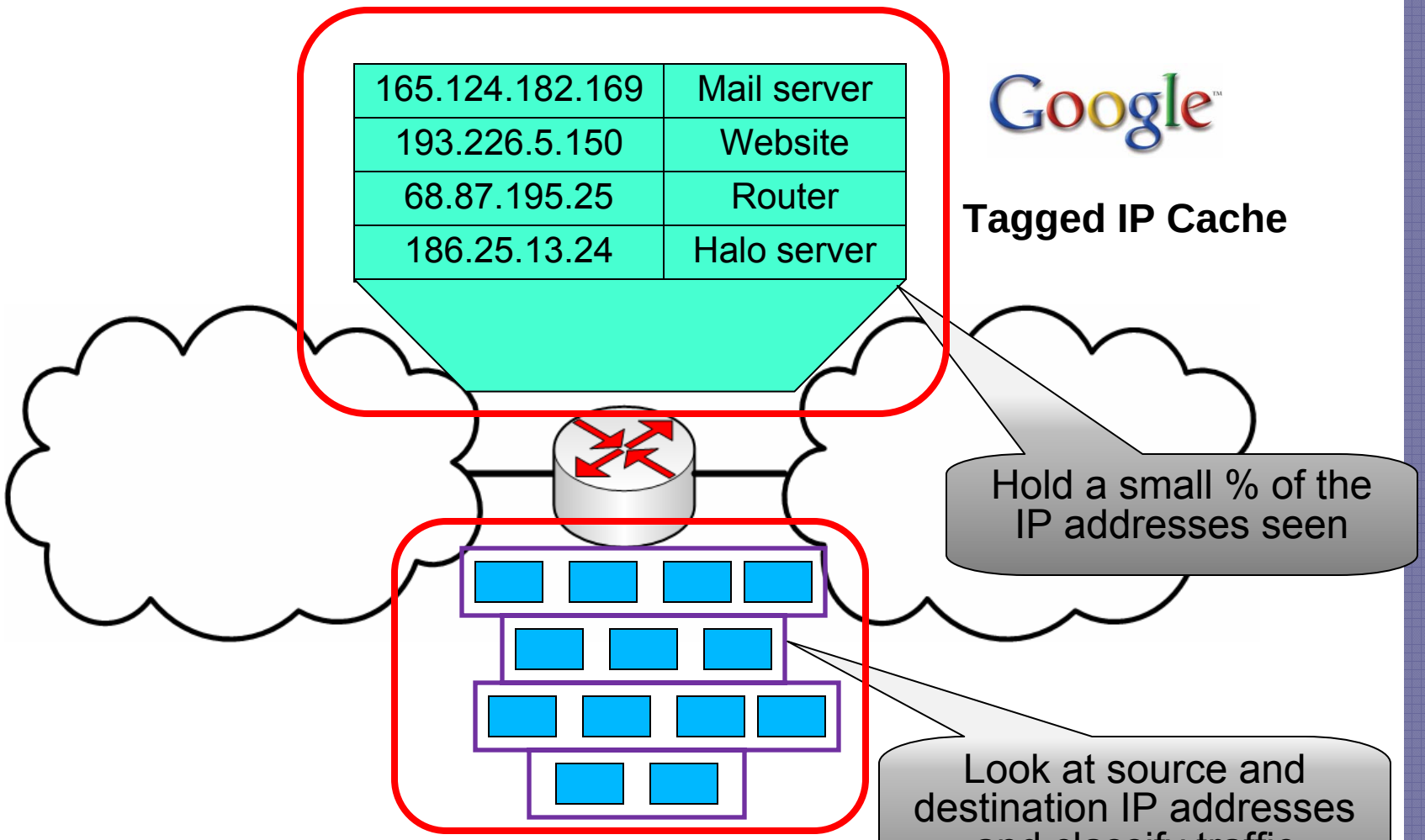
Correlation Between Network Traces and UEP



Traffic Classification

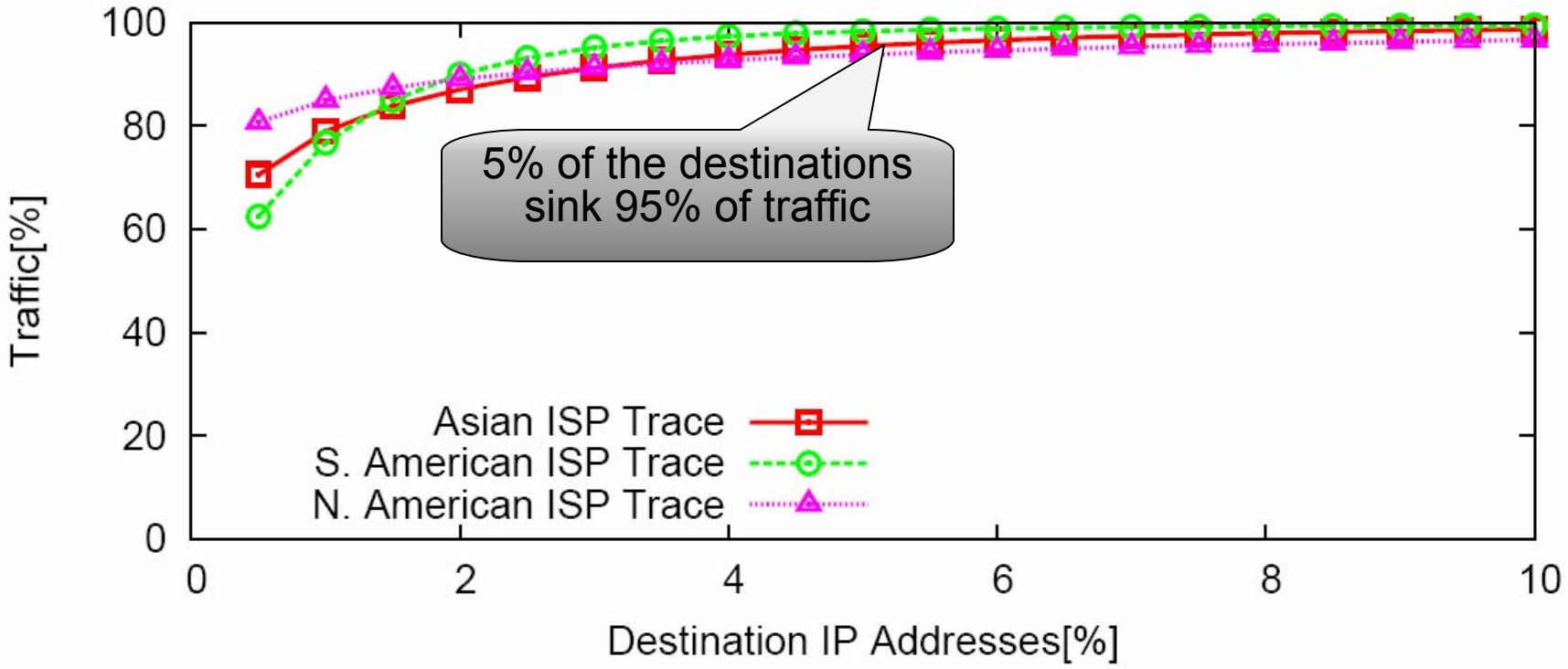


Traffic Classification

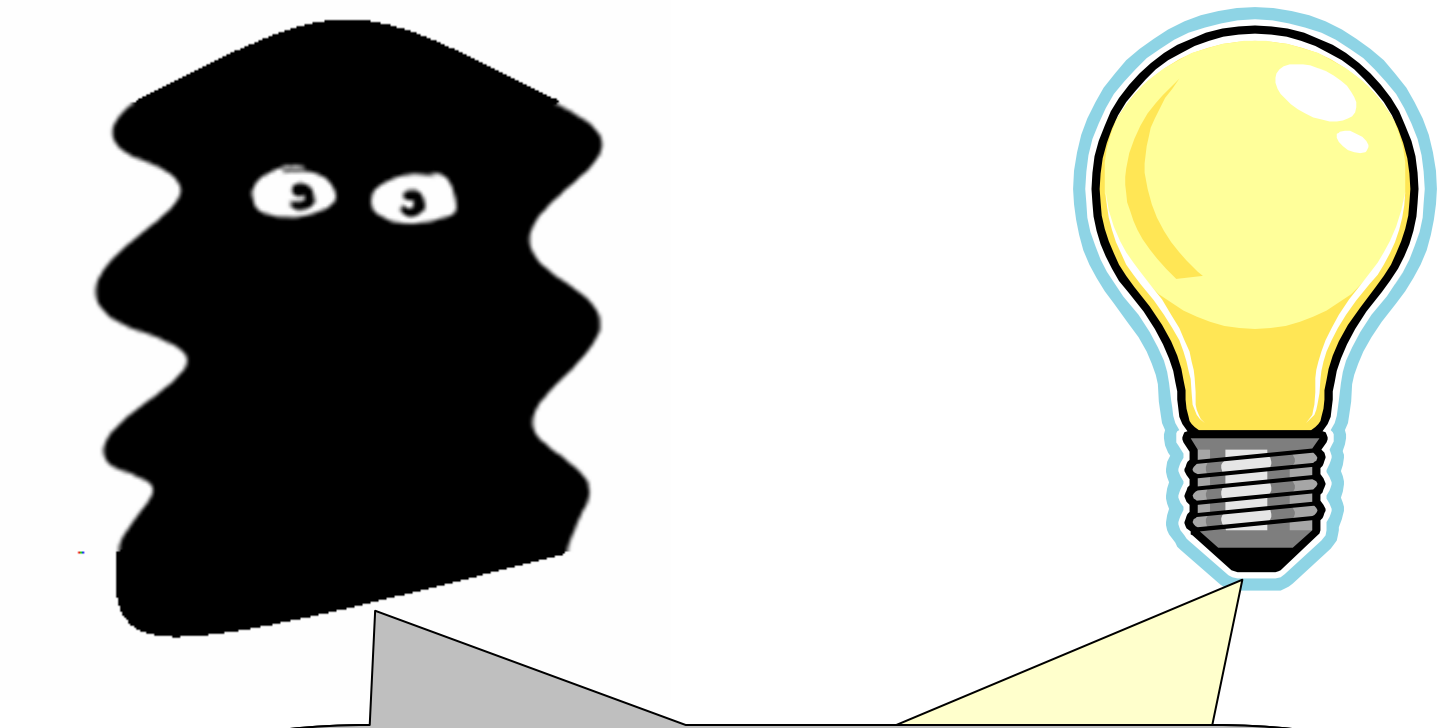


- Is this scalable?

Traffic Classification



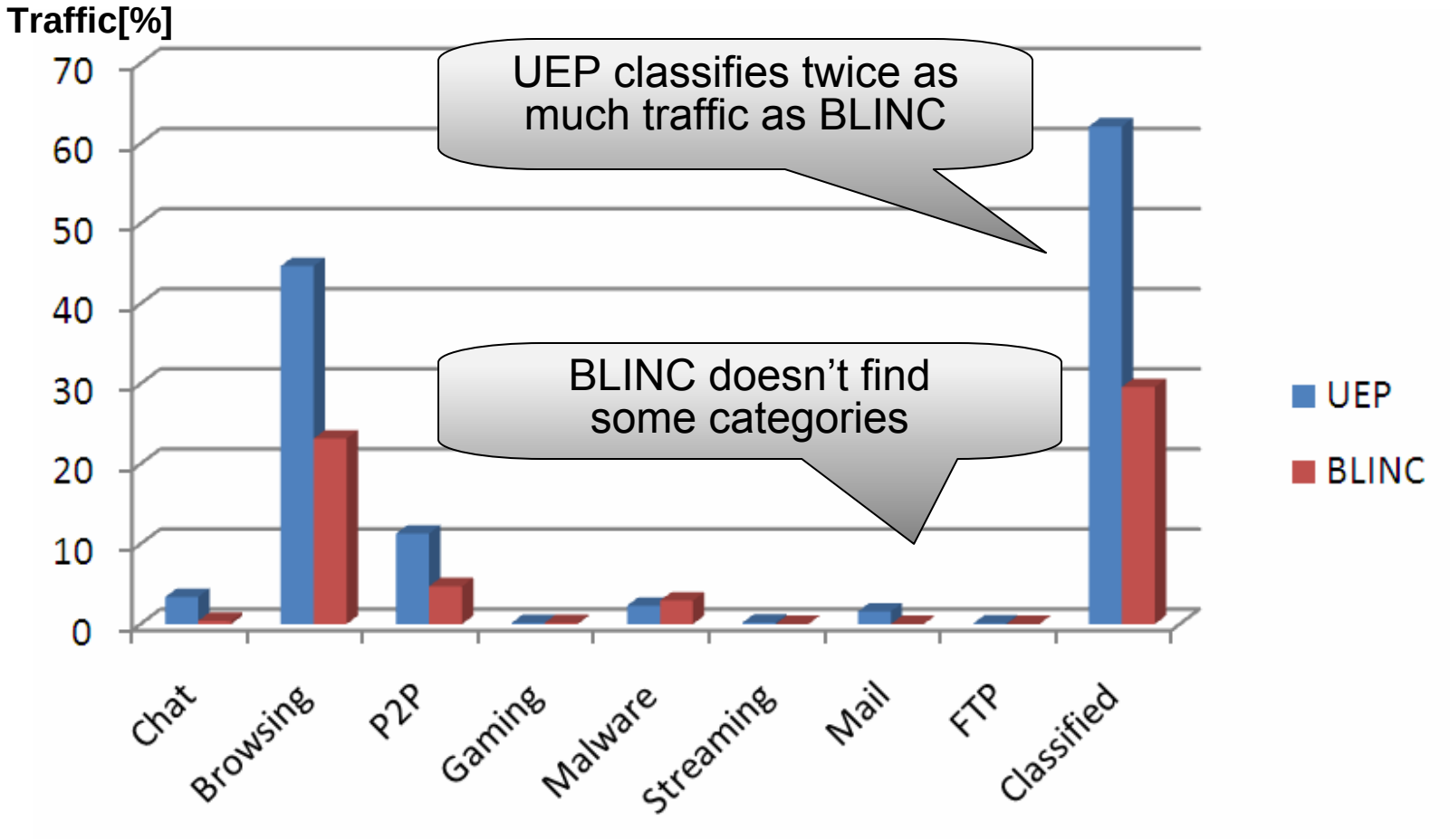
BLINC vs. UEP



BLINC (SIGCOMM 2005, NANOG 35)

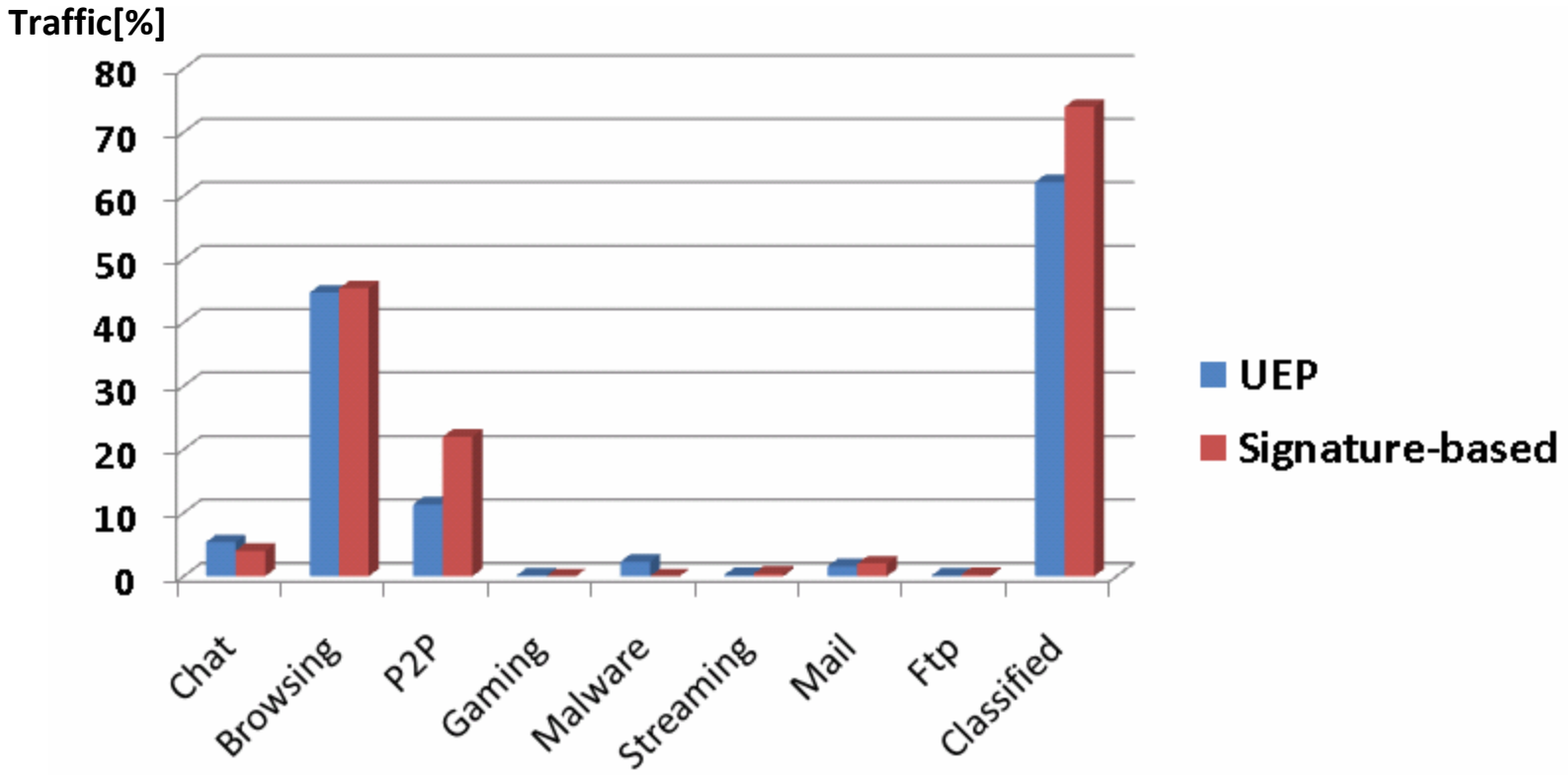
- Works “in the dark” (doesn’t examine payload)
- Uses “graphlets” to identify traffic patterns
- Uses thresholds to further classify traffic

BLINC vs. UEP (cont.)



UEP also provides better semantics
Classes can be further divided into different services

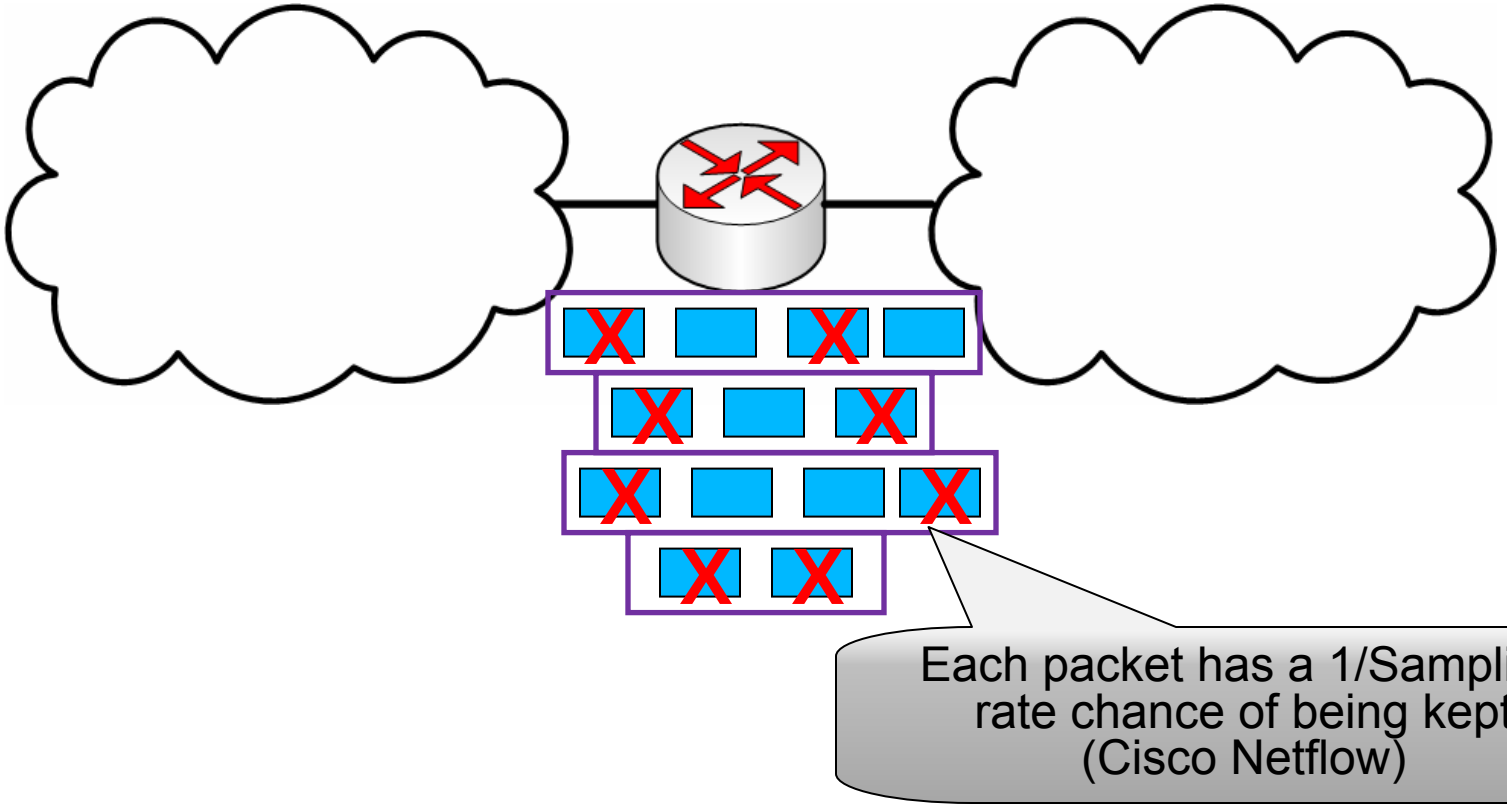
UEP vs. Signature-based



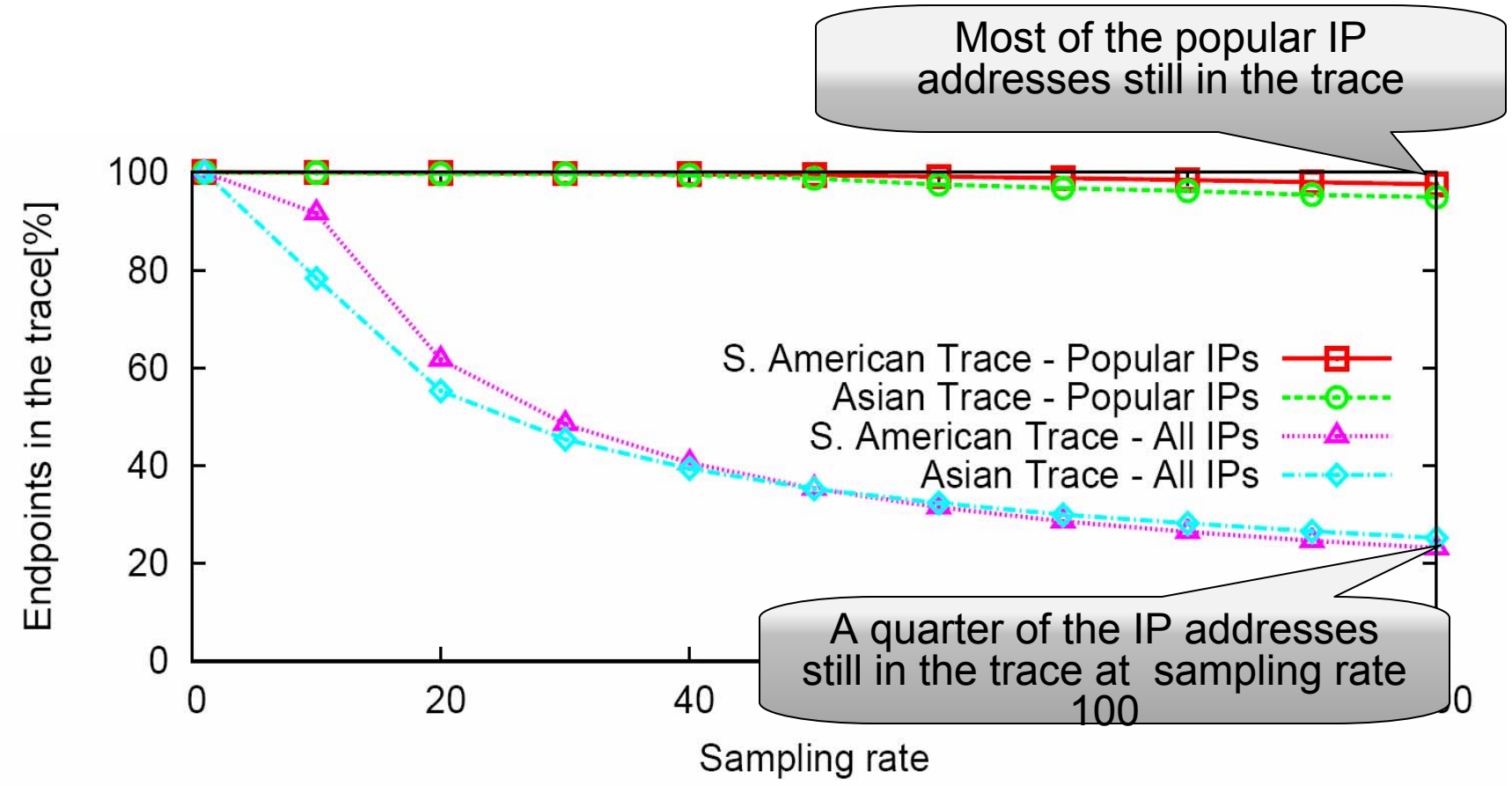
- Unconstrained Endpoint Profiling based Traffic Classification
  - Based on ip-addresses
- L7 signature based
- UEP has comparable performance

Working with Sampled Traffic

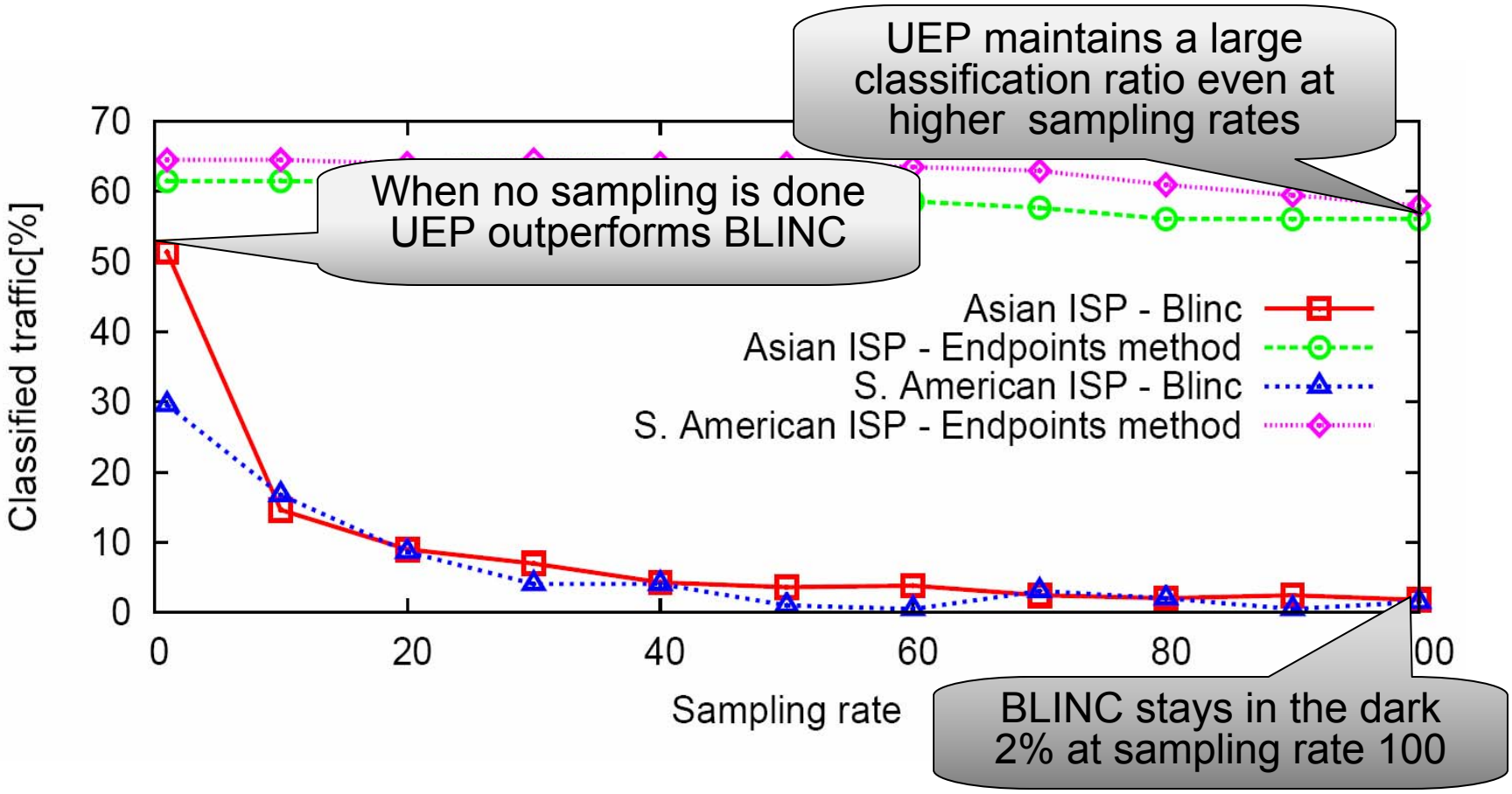
- Sampled data is considered to be poorer in information
- However ISPs consider scalable to gather only sampled data



Working with Sampled Traffic



Working with Sampled Traffic



UEP retains high classification capabilities with sampled traffic

Endpoint Clustering

- Performed clustering of endpoints in order to cluster out common behavior

- Please see the paper for detailed results

Real strength:

We managed to achieve similar results both by using the trace and only by using UEP

Conclusions

- Key contribution:
  - Shift research focus from mining operational network traces to harnessing information that is already available on the web
- Our approach can:
  - Predict application and protocol usage trends in arbitrary networks
  - Dramatically outperform classification tools
  - Retain high classification capabilities when dealing with sampled data

Thanks

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