



Rapidly improving Cybersecurity with a new global IdM/CKM design that does not rely on PKC

SLL's response to NIST's call

Presentation by
Benjamin Gittins (CTO)
Synaptic Laboratories Limited



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We propose a method to scale Whitfield Diffie, Martin Hellman and Leslie Lamport's 1976 symmetric IdM/CKM proposal:

- to provision a wide range of high-availability cryptographic services
- that meets needs and priorities identified in NIST's 2009 CKM Workshop

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Rapidly improving Cybersecurity with a new
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Synaptic's Global IdM/CKM Project

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In recognition that we live in a globally interdependent and interconnected information society

We are drawing together commercial and government collaborators for an international virtual Cluster of Excellence in Cybersecurity to complete design requirements, specifications and deployment of a global IdM/CKM

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- 2) the use of existing NIST/FIPS security standards that are already trusted to achieve security against both classical and quantum computer attacks
- 3) design decisions that ensure very low barriers to acceptance
e.g. use existing hardware platforms, trusted ciphers, etc



Synaptic's IdM/CKM Architecture Objectives



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To **empower** competitors and (semi-)autonomous authorities to work together,
overcoming limitations of 'us versus them' fortress security paradigms



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- c) rapidly improves cybersecurity - wraps around and protects current ICT and standards based security investments
- d) integrates with other cybersecurity initiatives such as network sensors



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9. Protect existing PKI based security standards (SSL/TLS, SSH, IPsec, KMS...)



NIST

National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

NIST Interagency Report 7609

Cryptographic Key Management Workshop Summary – June 8-9, 2009

Elaine Barker
Dennis Branstad
Santosh Chokhani
Miles Smid



2.4.6 Overall Summary of the CKM Workshop: Elaine Barker, NIST

(Note: Weather conditions caused the workshop to close early. This presentation was prepared but never presented. A summary of the presentation slides is included for completeness.)

- **Cryptographic Key Management:** There is a major need to undertake key management as part of the national cybersecurity initiative. The CKM workshop is a first step towards a comprehensive and interoperable CKM. A joint government-industry partnership is the best approach.
- **Considerations for future key management systems:** Design systems for high availability and survivability. Prepare for emergency access to keys; worry about unintended consequences – both good and bad. In light of quantum computing, look at means other than using public keys. Look at quantum-resistant algorithms and schemes.
- **Requirements for CKM:** Must be user-friendly; easy to use – plug and play; must be a user-driven capability; must be secure, cost-effective, fault-tolerant, and highly available; must provide protection against destructive attacks and be interoperable; must be designed to be used enterprise-wide, by multi-partners that use multi-vendor products, and be usable by multi-applications; must be scalable and enhance interoperability in time of emergency. Metadata must be defined, as well as defining the security to protect it. We also need key inventory control, accountability/auditing of the keys, policies for managing the keys and metadata, and safety requirements for certain applications.

Re-evaluating the original drivers for PKC (Diffie et al)



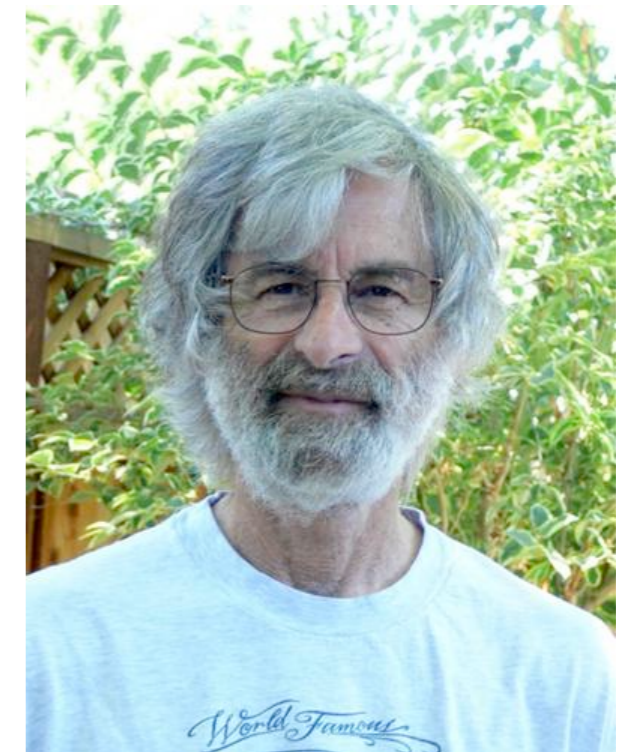
W. Diffie



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Image of Diffie, Merkle: <http://wikimedia>

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➡ The 4 Fathers of Public Key Cryptography

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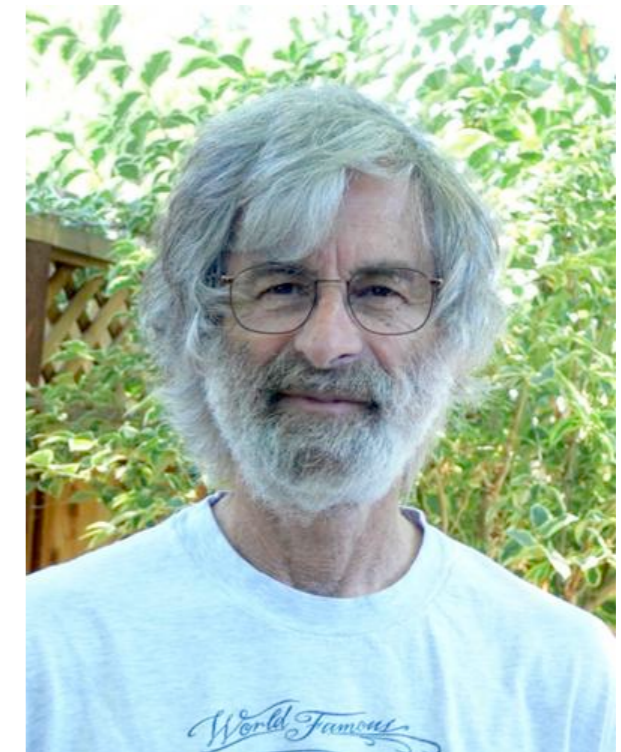
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➡ The 4 Fathers of Public Key Cryptography

➡ Re-evaluating the 4 drivers that motivated Diffie-Hellman-Merkle to recommend Public Key Distribution over Symmetric Key Distribution

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- TODAY:
CPU based smart cards can replace “trusted human couriers” for the private, tamper-evident, distribution of pre-shared symmetric keys





Re-evaluating the original drivers for PKC (Diffie et al)



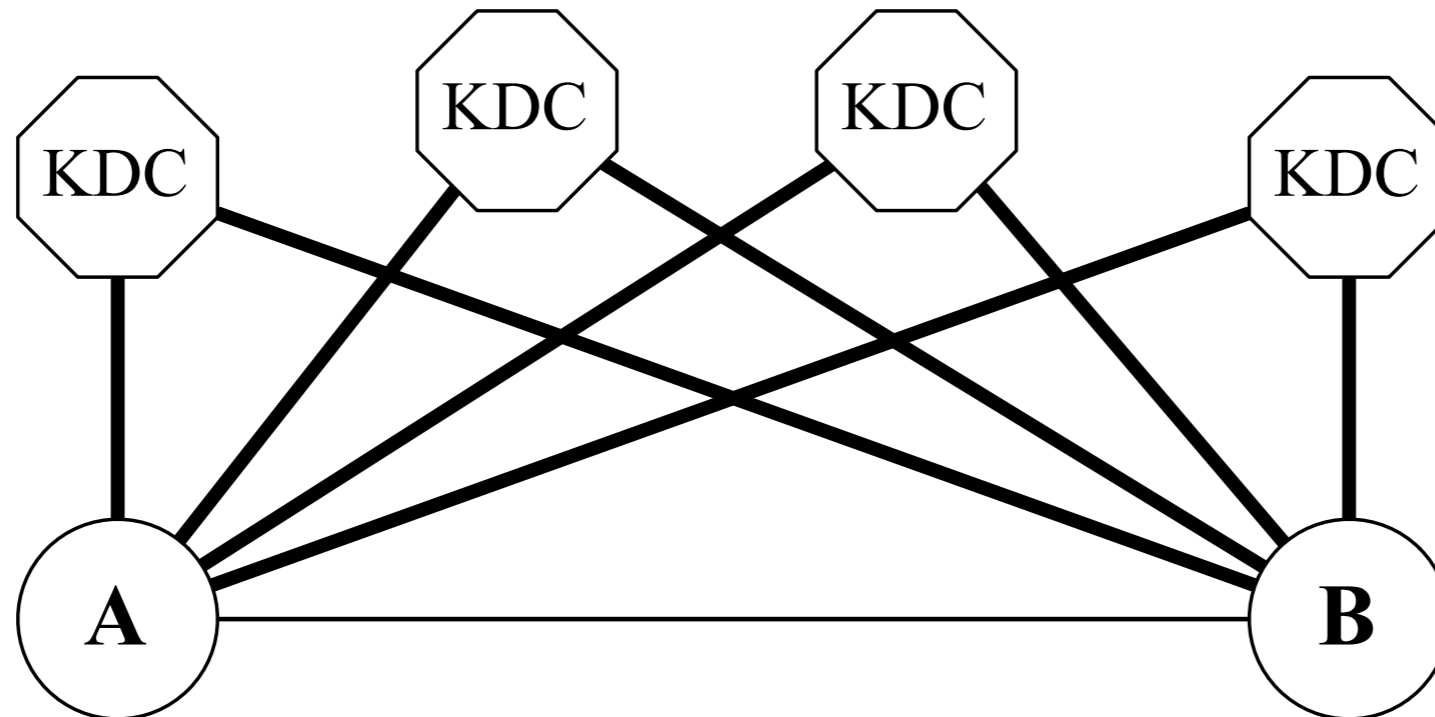
Re-evaluating the original drivers for PKC (Diffie et al)

- ➔ **Driver 2: Enable private conversations between any two parties even if they have not communicated before**



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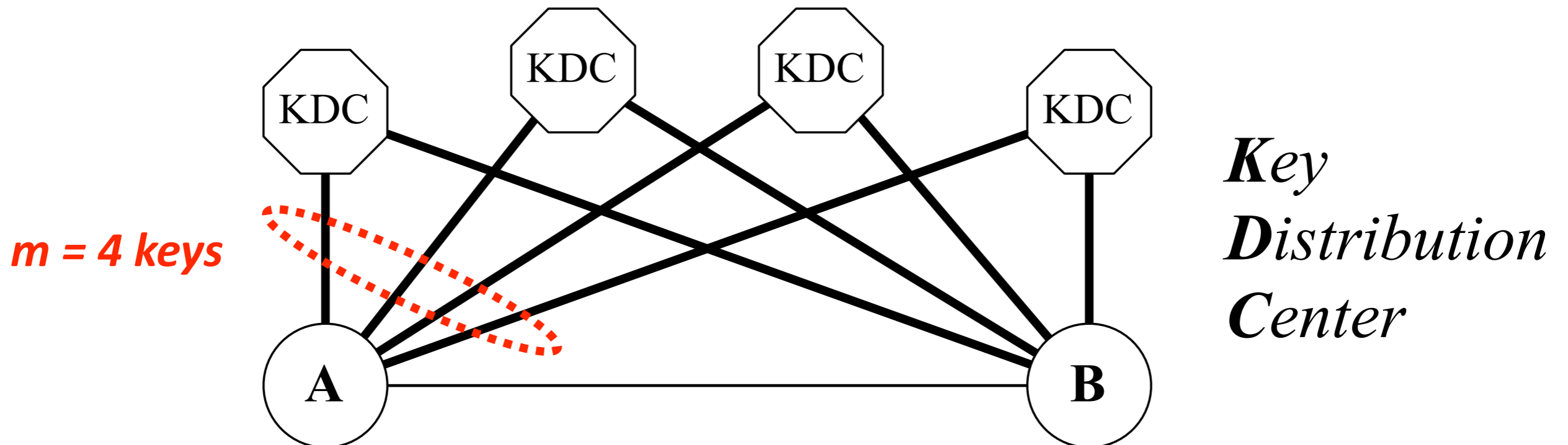


*Key
Distribution
Center*



Re-evaluating the original drivers for PKC (Diffie et al)

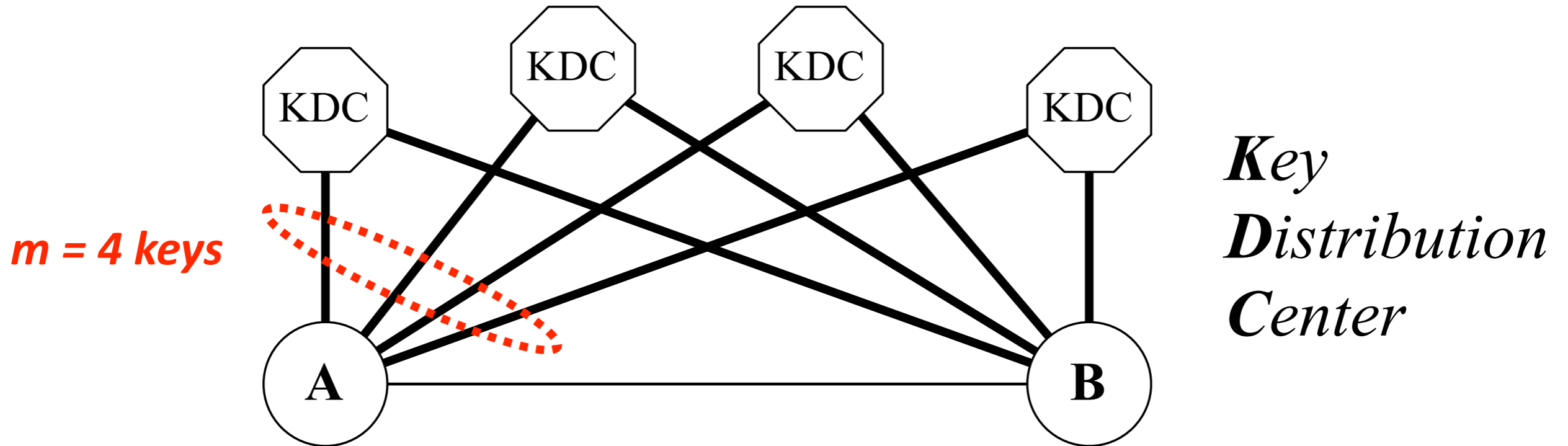
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Re-evaluating the original drivers for PKC (Diffie et al)

➔ **Driver 3: Enable (mutual) authentication of communicating parties**



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 - ▶▶▶▶ SKD methods have the benefits of:
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➤ Driver 3: Enable (mutual) authentication of communicating parties

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 - **Unfortunately, PKI transferred the burden of public key life-cycle management (the discovery and validation of certificates) away from the server ⇒ and towards ⇒ the end user**
 - **Many argue today that this key-management burden prevents the ubiquitous take up of encryption (NITRD, Voltage, ...)**



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➡ **Driver 4: Remove the need for online servers (Big Driver in 1976)**



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➤ TODAY this requirement is inverted:

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PKI is expensive to scale online due to the CPU overhead in signing for OCSP



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- ▶▶▶▶ Today, PKI is used in literally billions of devices
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- Today, PKI is used in literally billions of devices
 - Mainstream public key crypto is known to catastrophically fail after the arrival of large code-breaking quantum computers
 - Symmetric crypto techniques can accommodate quantum computers and remain secure in practice
 - NIST CKM Workshop identified that CKM designers should look towards new solutions that are post quantum secure and that do not rely on PKC (that is, use symmetric techniques)
 - Symmetric cryptosystems are complementary to public key cryptosystems and can be combined together.



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➡ Today:

- ➡ There have been Radical changes in the technology landscape since 1976



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- ➡ Online remotely managed services (hosted in the Cloud) are becoming increasingly attractive

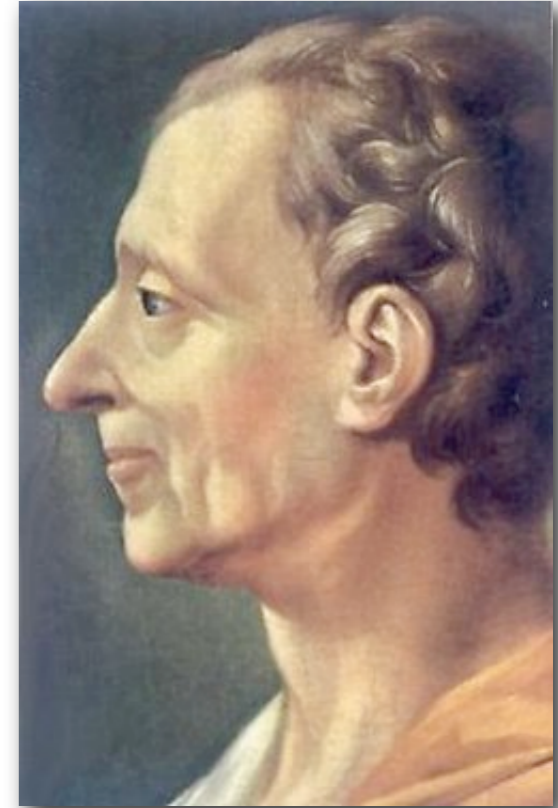


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➡ Today:

- ➡ There have been Radical changes in the technology landscape since 1976
- ➡ Online remotely managed services (hosted in the Cloud) are becoming increasingly attractive
- ➡ Online Symmetric IdM/CKM architectures make more sense then they did in 1970-1980's

Evolving the democratic principles of 'Spirit of Laws' into security systems

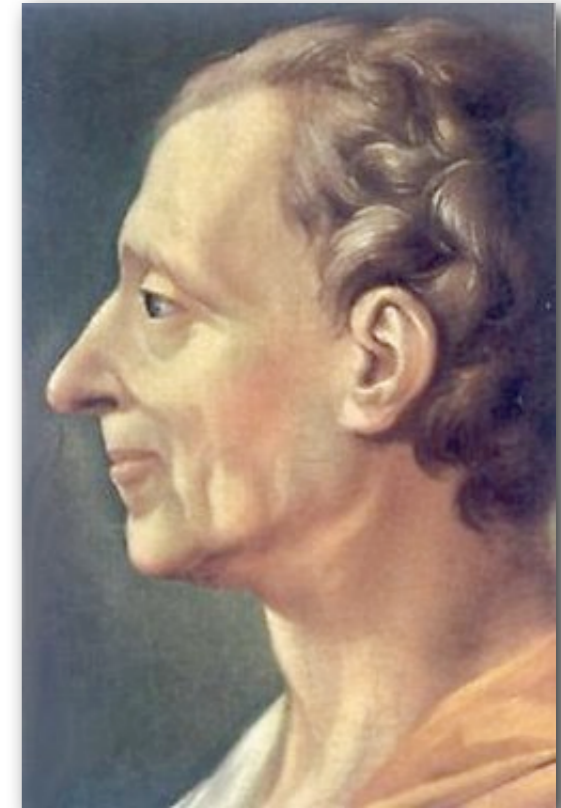


Charles de Secondat,
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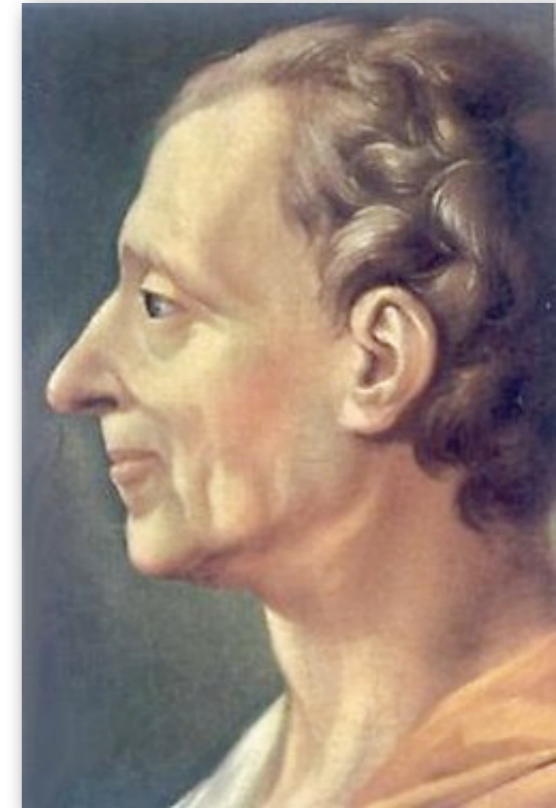
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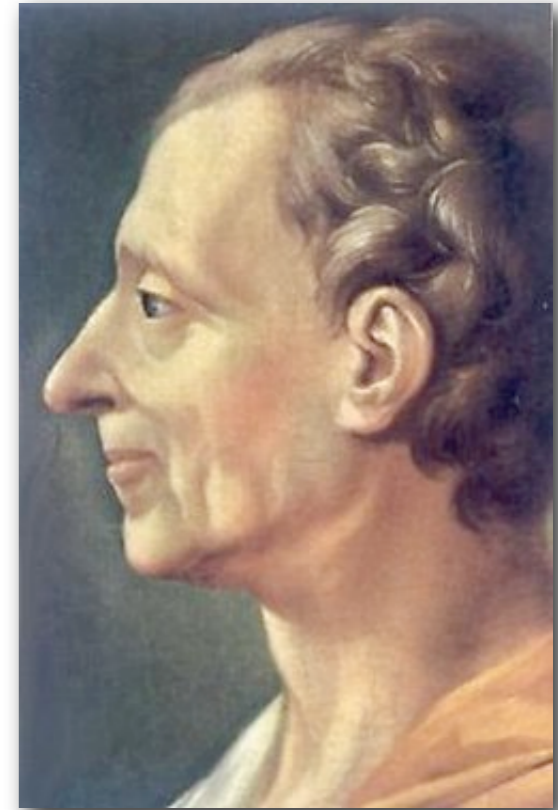
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- ▶▶▶▶▶ It advocated:
 - ▶▶▶▶▶ constitutionalism
 - ▶▶▶▶▶ separation of powers
 - ▶▶▶▶▶ a system of checks & balances
 - ▶▶▶▶▶ preservation of civil liberties



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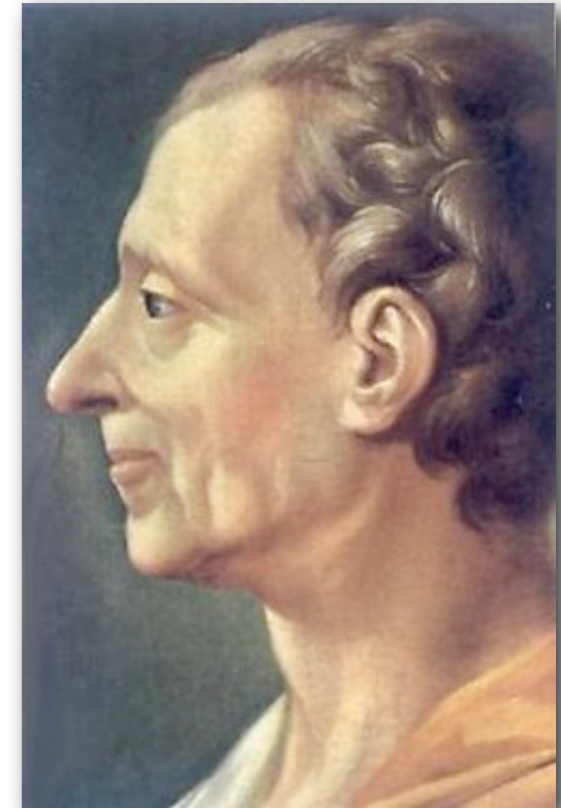


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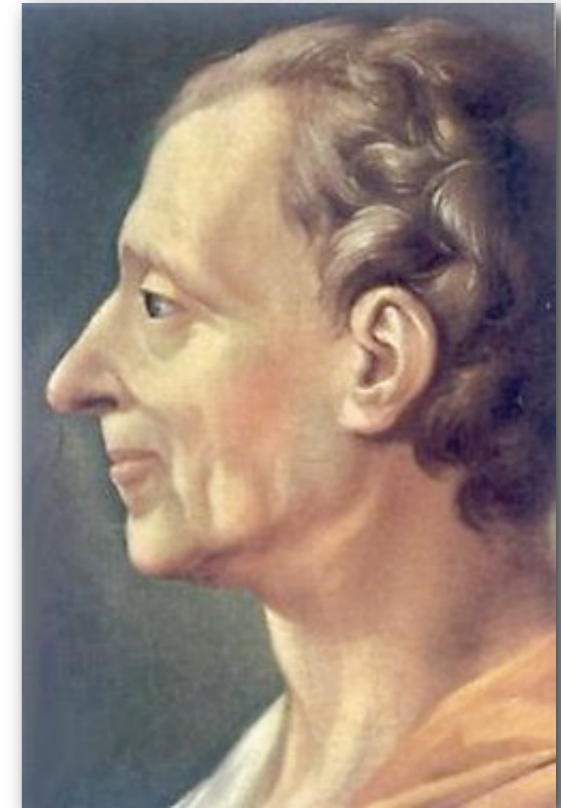
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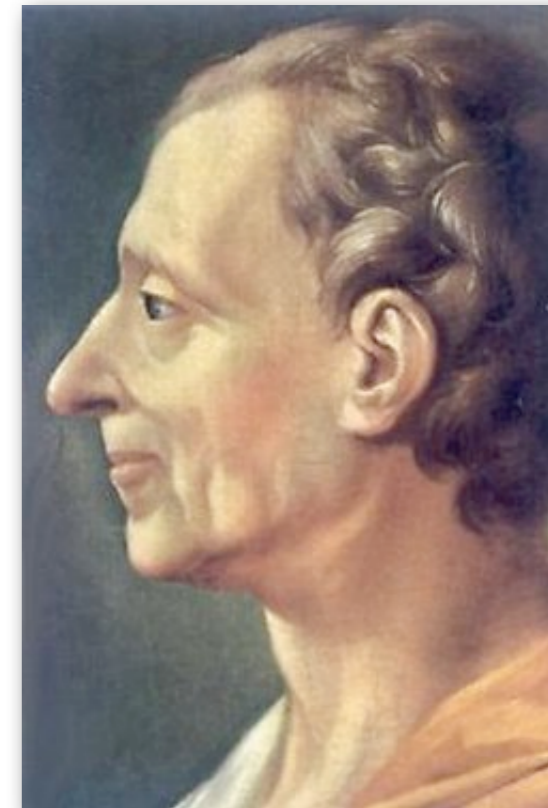
- These principles underpin democratic Governments
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- **TODAY:**
 - we can be embodied these principles into cybersecurity systems
 - to protect the legitimate and diversified interests of all stakeholders, even in a global context



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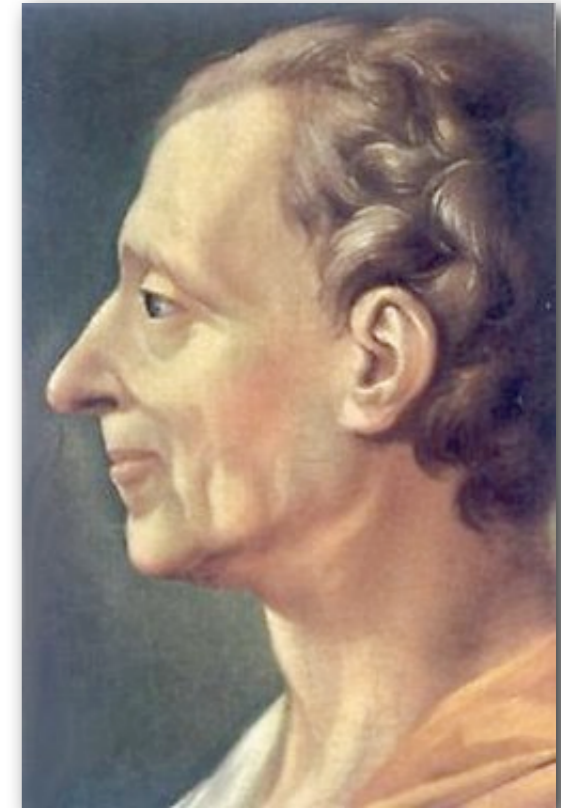


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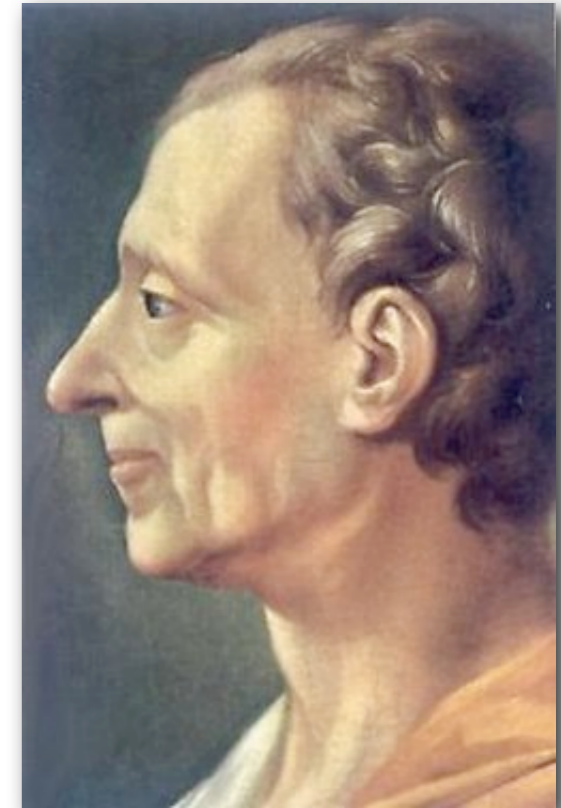


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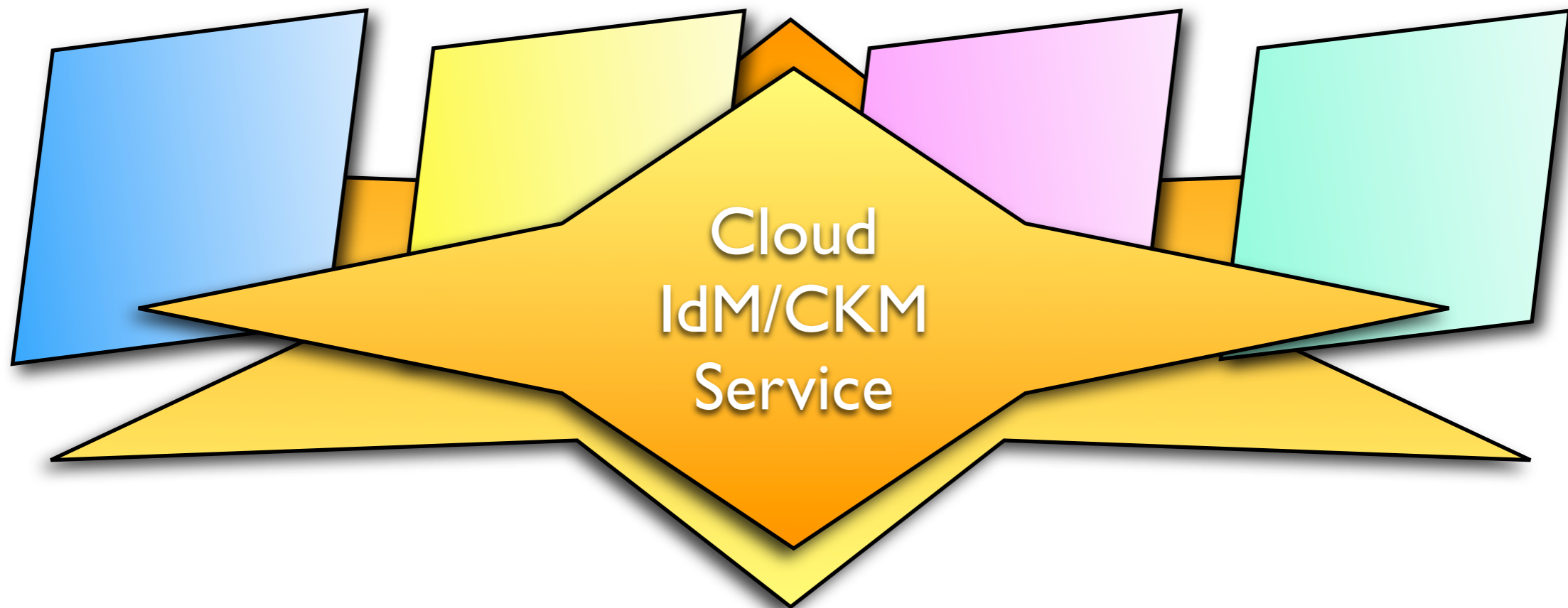
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- **TODAY:**
 - Cyber security can support democratic institutions
 - We can limit potential for unilateral global attacks by authoritarian regimes and individuals (*Unlike PKI where it is possible today for any one PKI Root Certificate Authority to subvert Identity Assertions against any user/organisation, located in any country, in any civilian namespace, on the civilian Internet*)



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High level overview of Synaptic's proposed IdM/CKM architecture from 10'000 ft





10,000 ft: Distribute trust over m providers



Beanies: © Geek Culture, used with permission.



10,000 ft: Distribute trust over m providers



- Provision each transaction across m independent service providers to distribute trust and remove single points of failure

Beanies: © Geek Culture, used with permission.



10,000 ft: (m-1) Collusion resistance



- ➡ Provision each transaction across m independent service providers to distribute trust and remove single points of failure

Beanies: © Geek Culture, used with permission.



10,000 ft: (m-1) Collusion resistance



- Provision each transaction across m independent service providers to distribute trust and remove single points of failure
- To resist a collusion/failure of $(m-1)$ out of m service providers

Beanies: © Geek Culture, used with permission.



10,000 ft: Protection against insider attacks



- **Mitigating insider attacks is a focus area for the U.S. Oak Ridge National Laboratory and various other US cyber security initiatives**

Beanies: © Geek Culture, used with permission.



10,000 ft: Protection against insider attacks

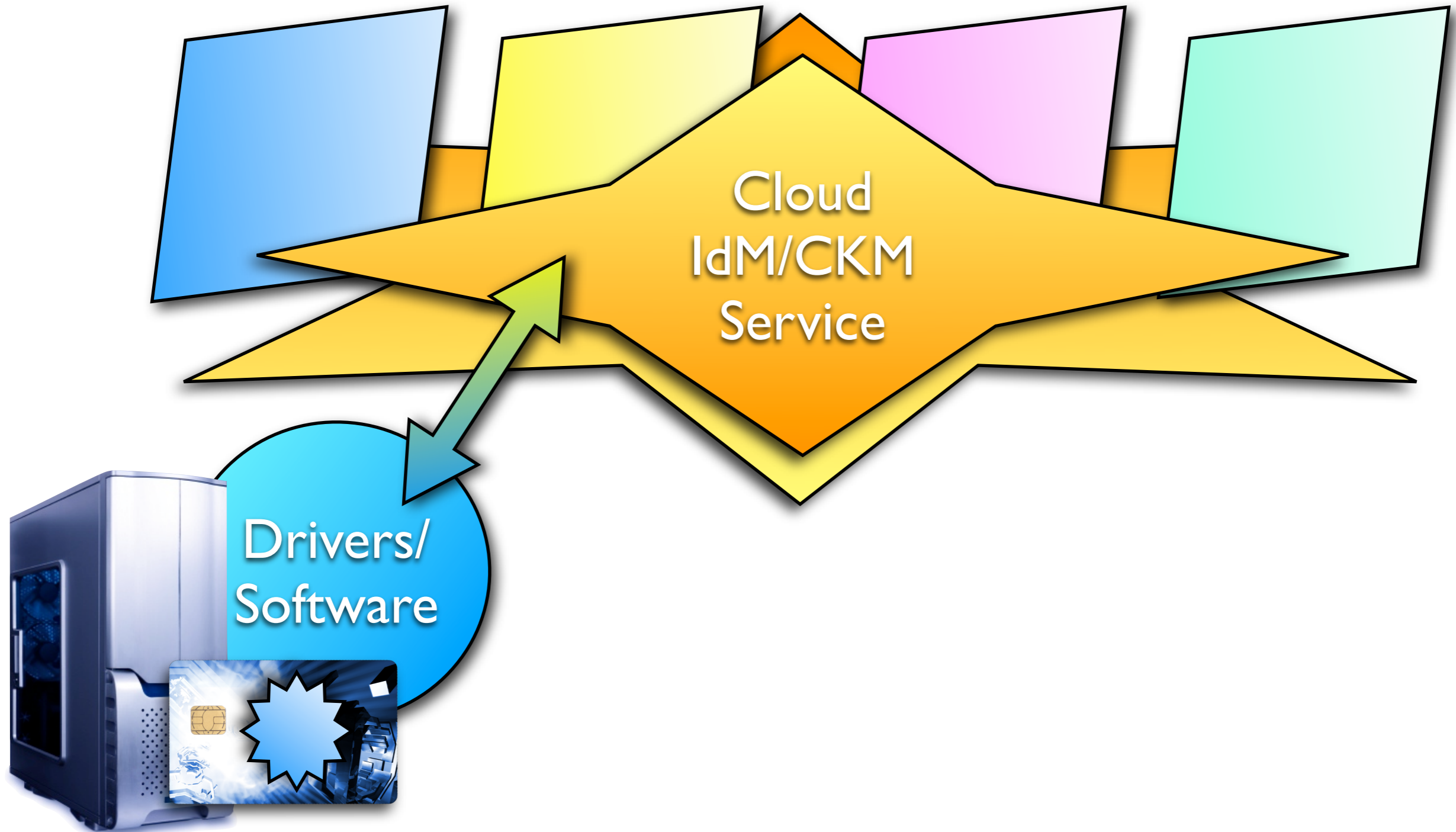


- **Mitigating insider attacks is a focus area for the U.S. Oak Ridge National Laboratory and various other US cyber security initiatives**
- **We can use untrusted outsiders to hedge against trusted insiders...**

Beanies: © Geek Culture, used with permission.



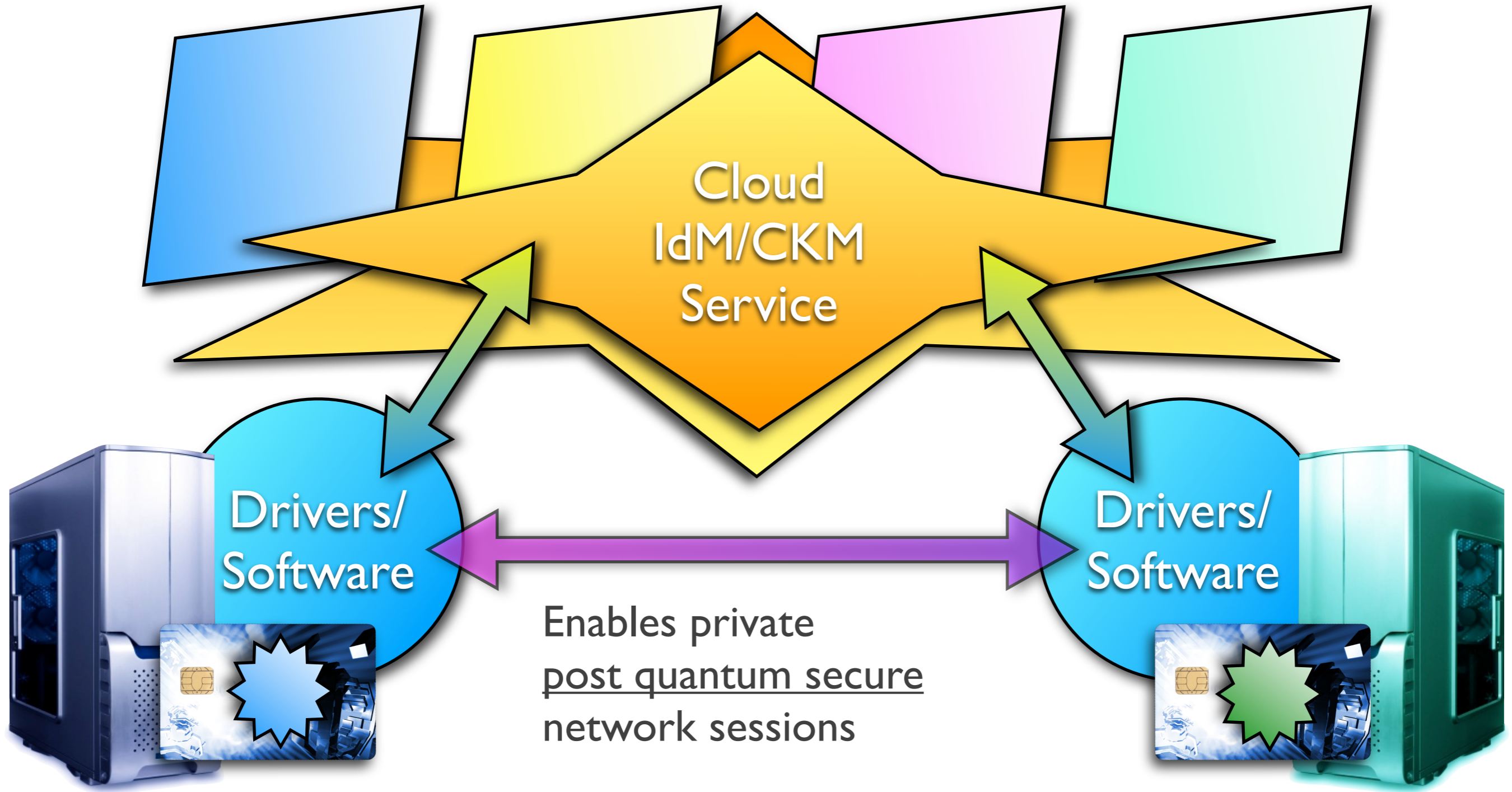
10,000 ft: Providers, Software, Tokens, Desktops...



Computers © iStockPhoto, Background on smart card © Imagine, Used with permission.



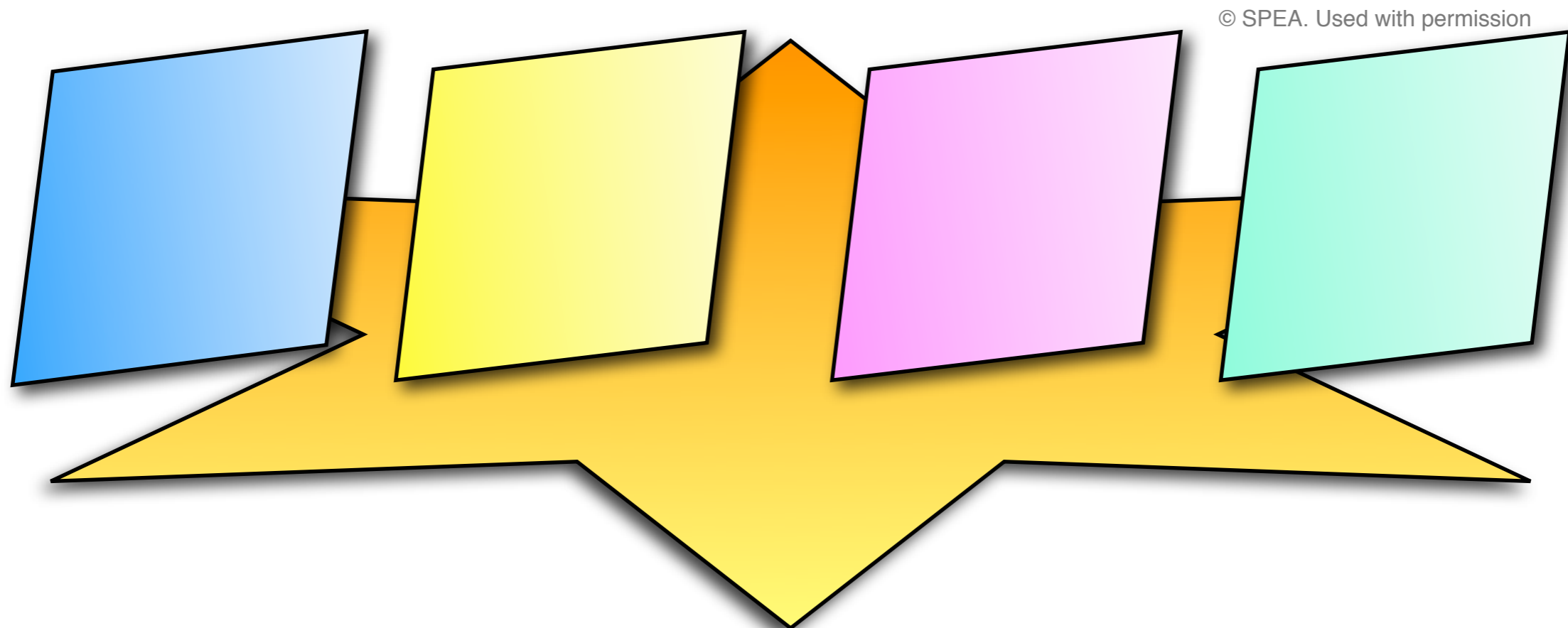
10,000 ft: Providers, Software, Tokens, Desktops...



Computers © iStockPhoto, Background on smart card © Imagine, Used with permission.



10,000 ft: Enrolling tokens and their first use

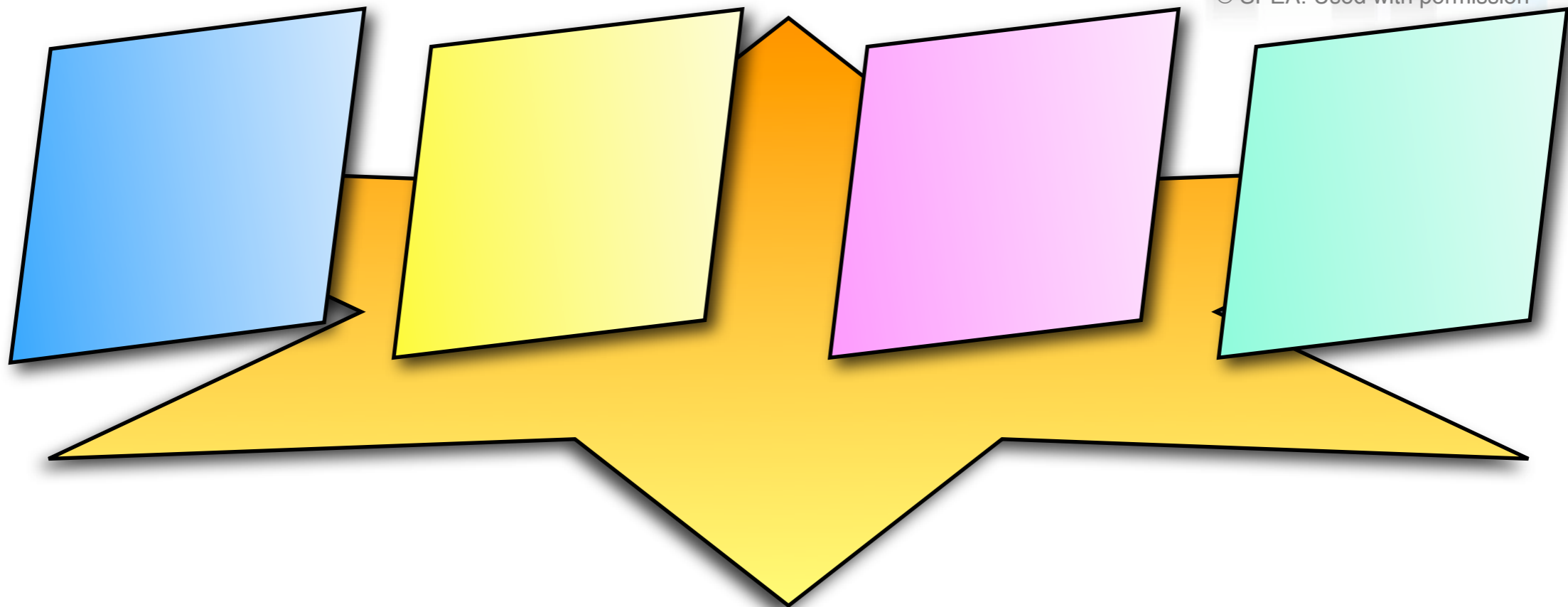




10,000 ft: Enrolling tokens and their first use



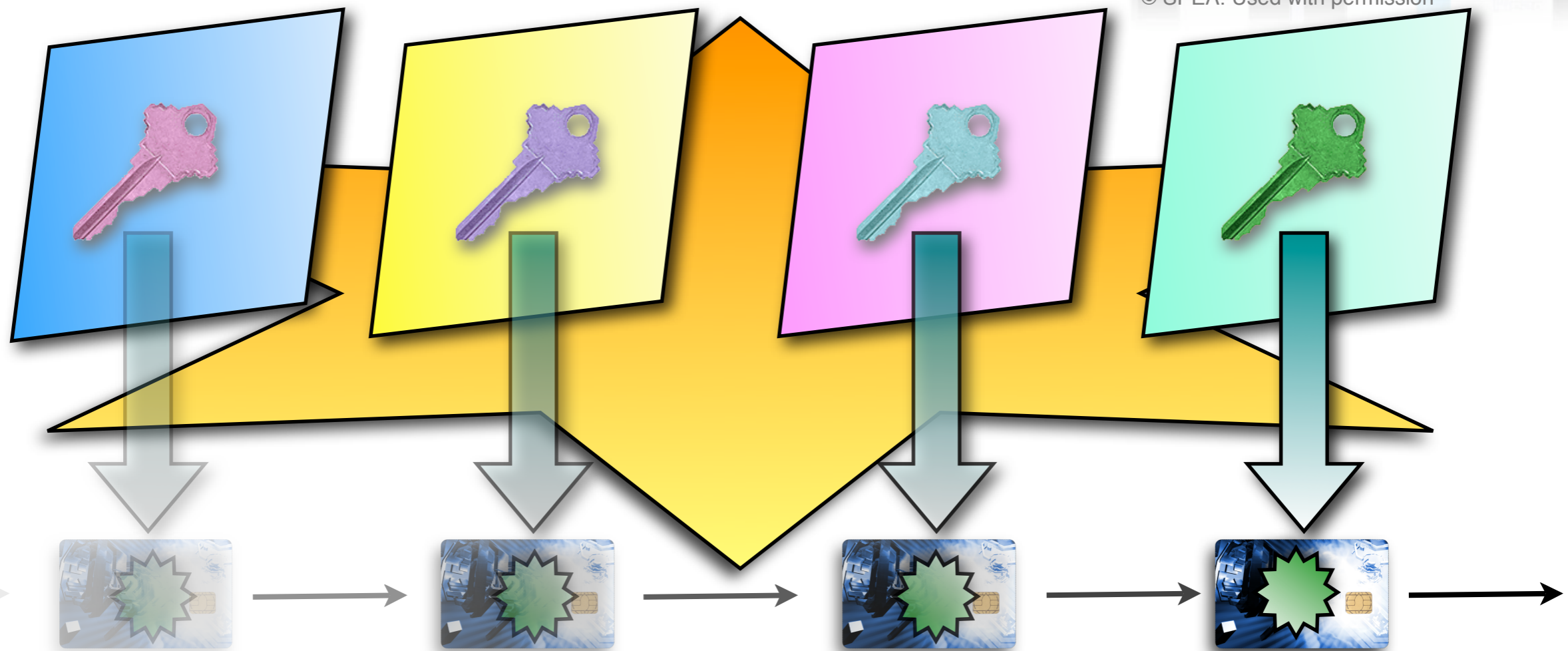
Enrol each token by injecting m keys



10,000 ft: Enrolling tokens and their first use



- Enrol each token by injecting m keys
- One key per service provider



10,000 ft: Enrolling tokens and their first use



- Enrol each token by injecting m keys
 - One key per service provider



- Distribute tokens to users



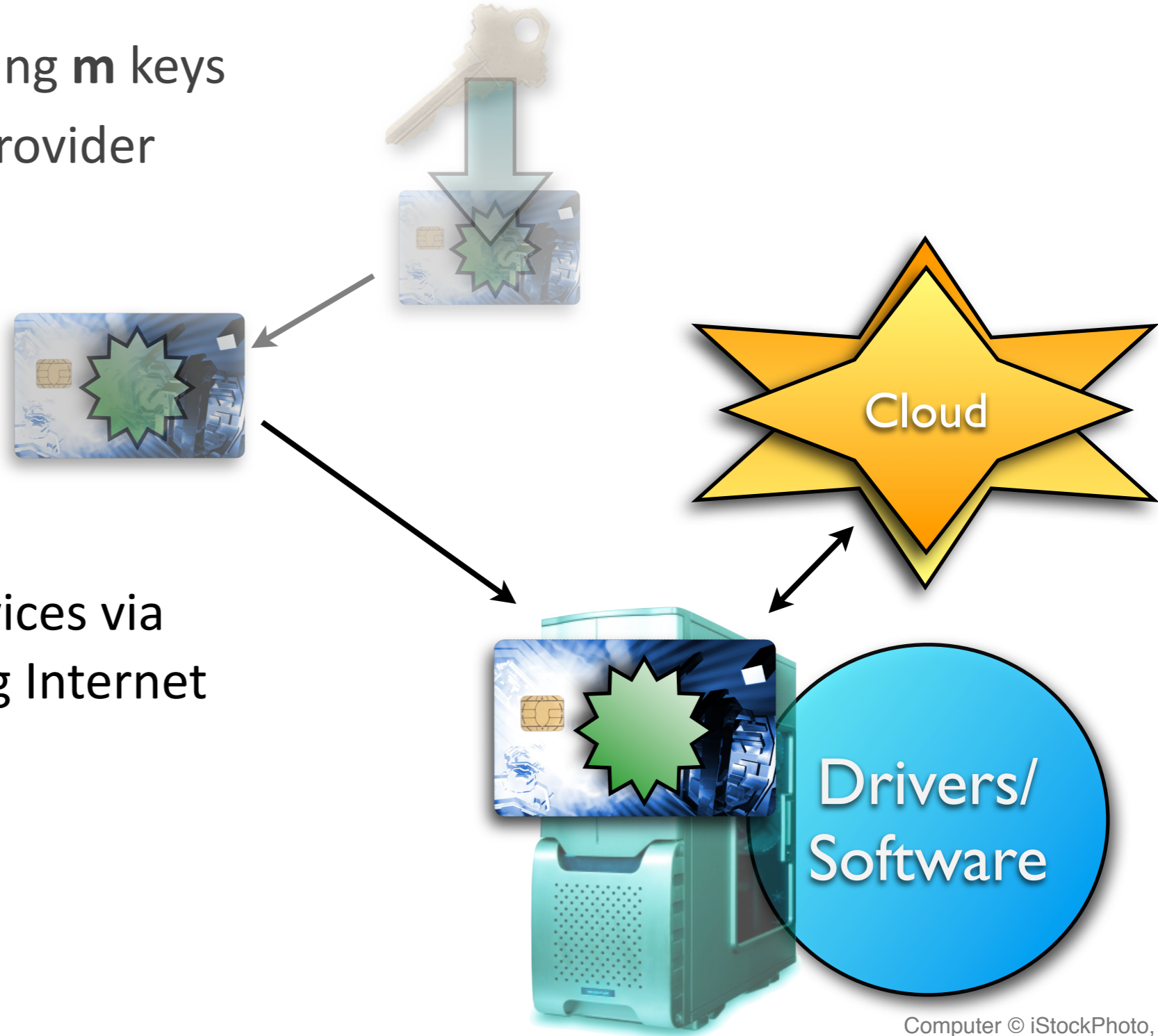


10,000 ft: Enrolling tokens and their first use

- Enrol each token by injecting m keys
 - One key per service provider

- Distribute tokens to users

- Tokens log in to cloud services via software/drivers and using Internet



Computer © iStockPhoto,

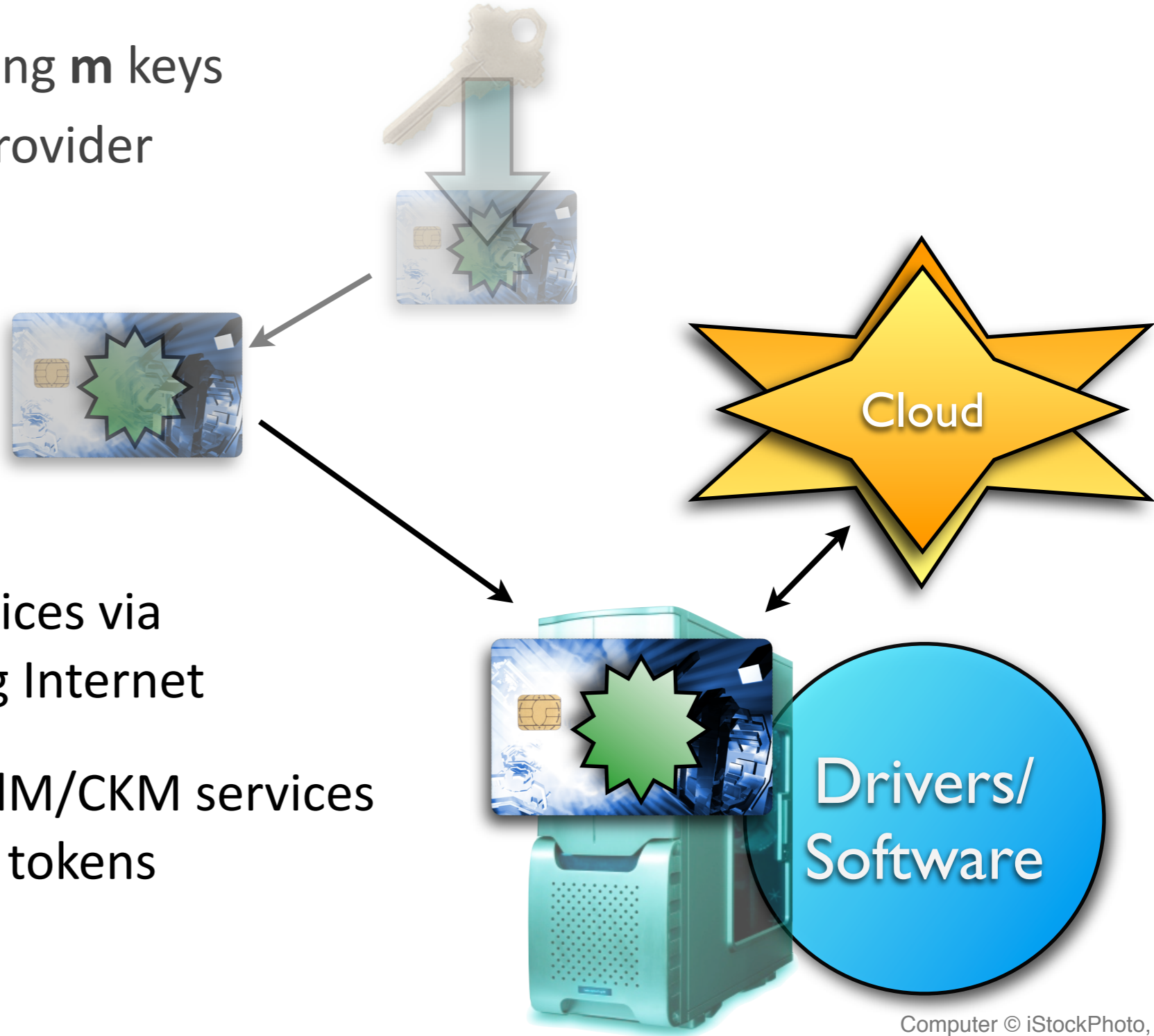


10,000 ft: Enrolling tokens and their first use

- Enrol each token by injecting m keys
 - One key per service provider

- Distribute tokens to users

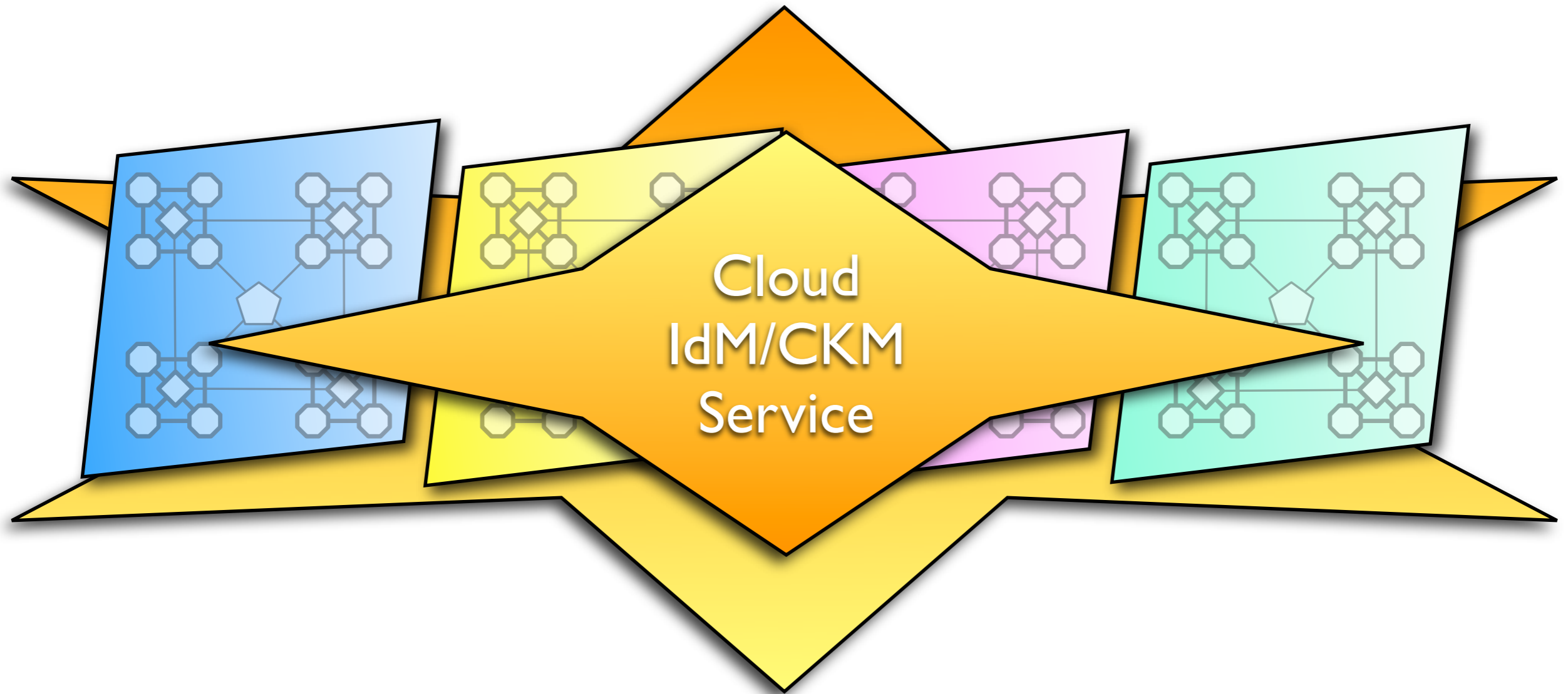
- Tokens log in to cloud services via software/drivers and using Internet
- Cloud performs first IdM/CKM services on behalf of/between tokens



Computer © iStockPhoto,

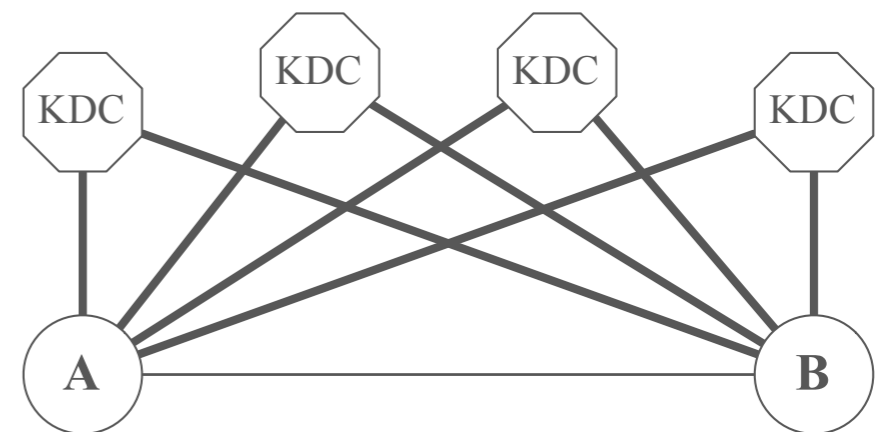


A short survey of architectural techniques, cryptographic components and applications...



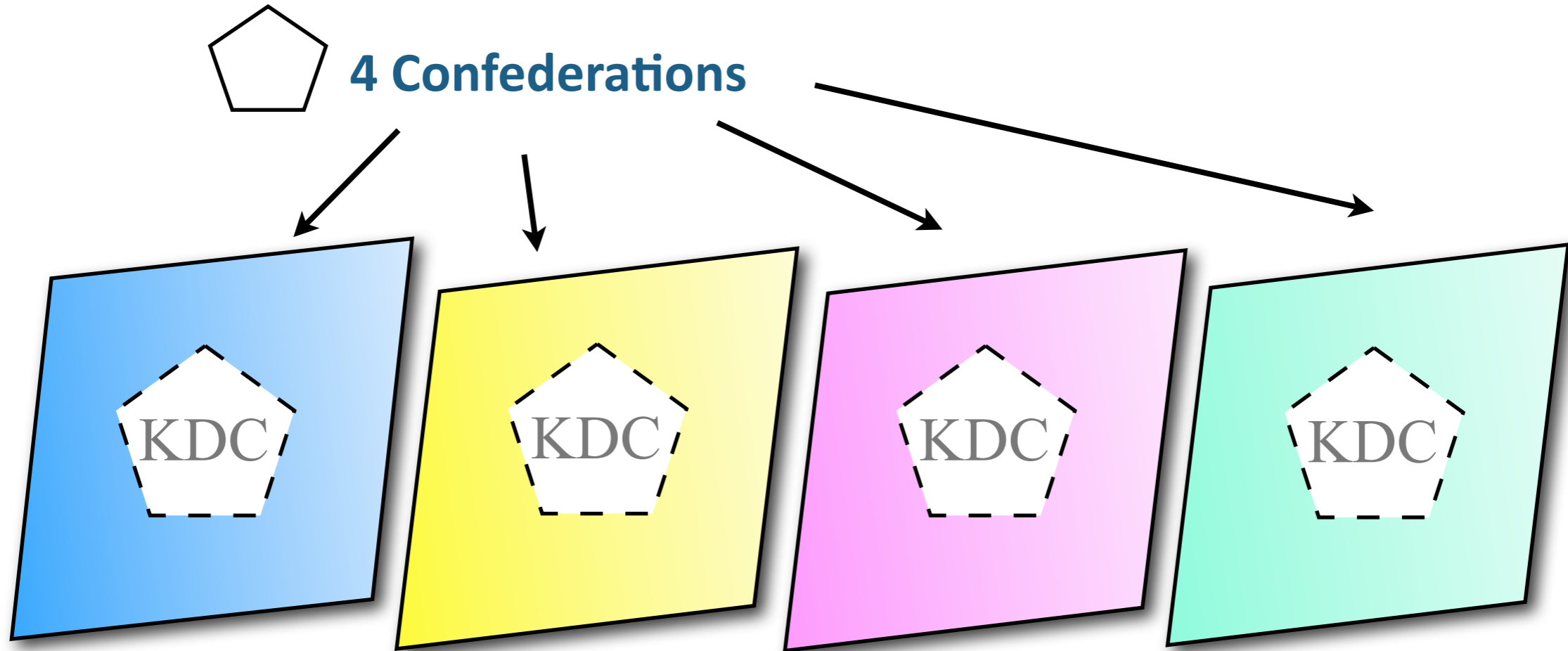
SLL proposal: Topology

SLL proposal: Topology

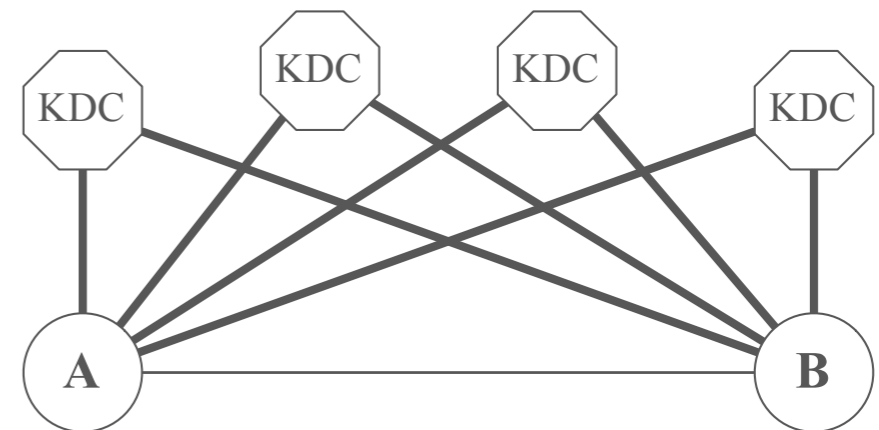




SLL proposal: Topology

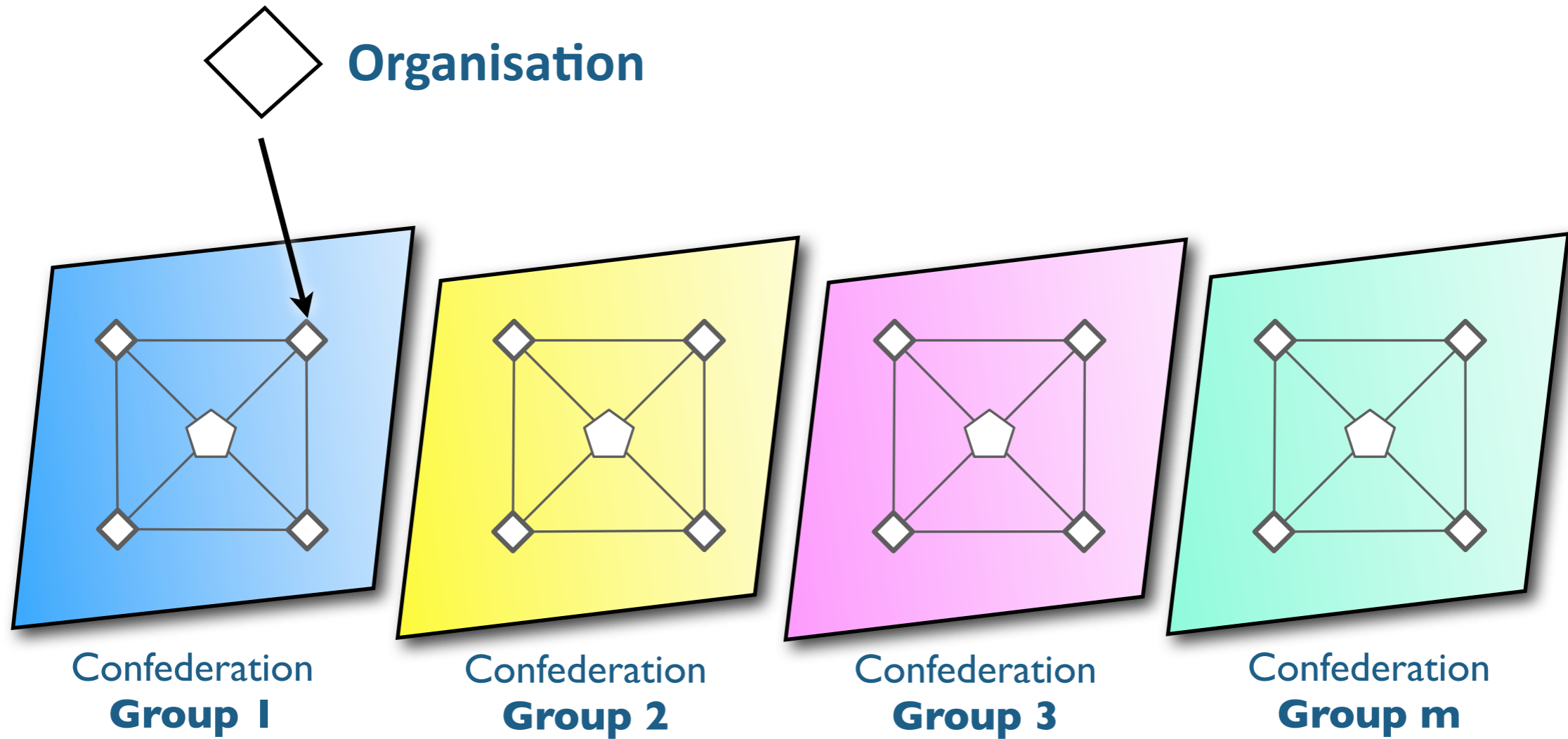


➡ We substitute the m KDC in the **Diffie-Hellman-Lampport 1976** proposal with m confederations



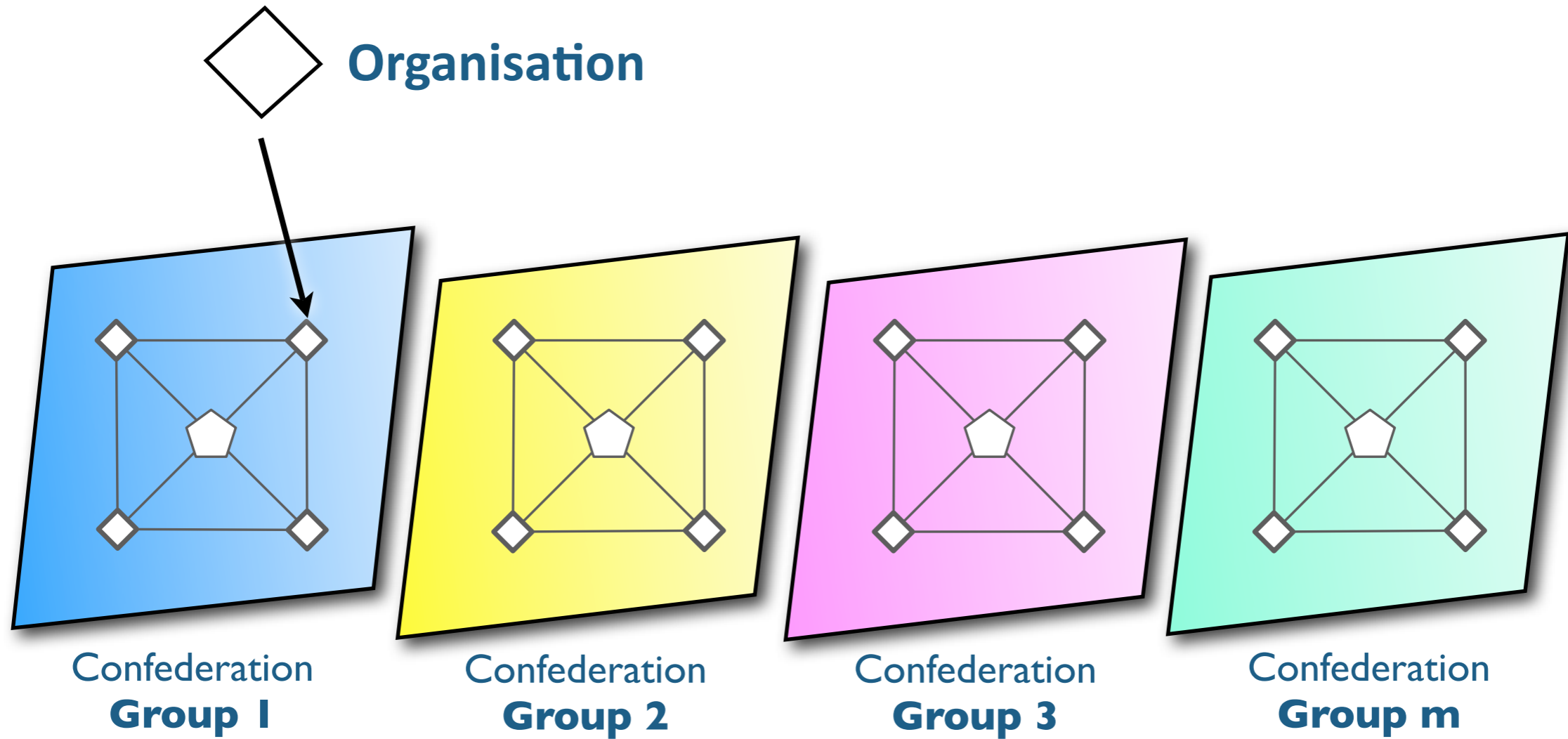


SLL: Abstract confederation topology





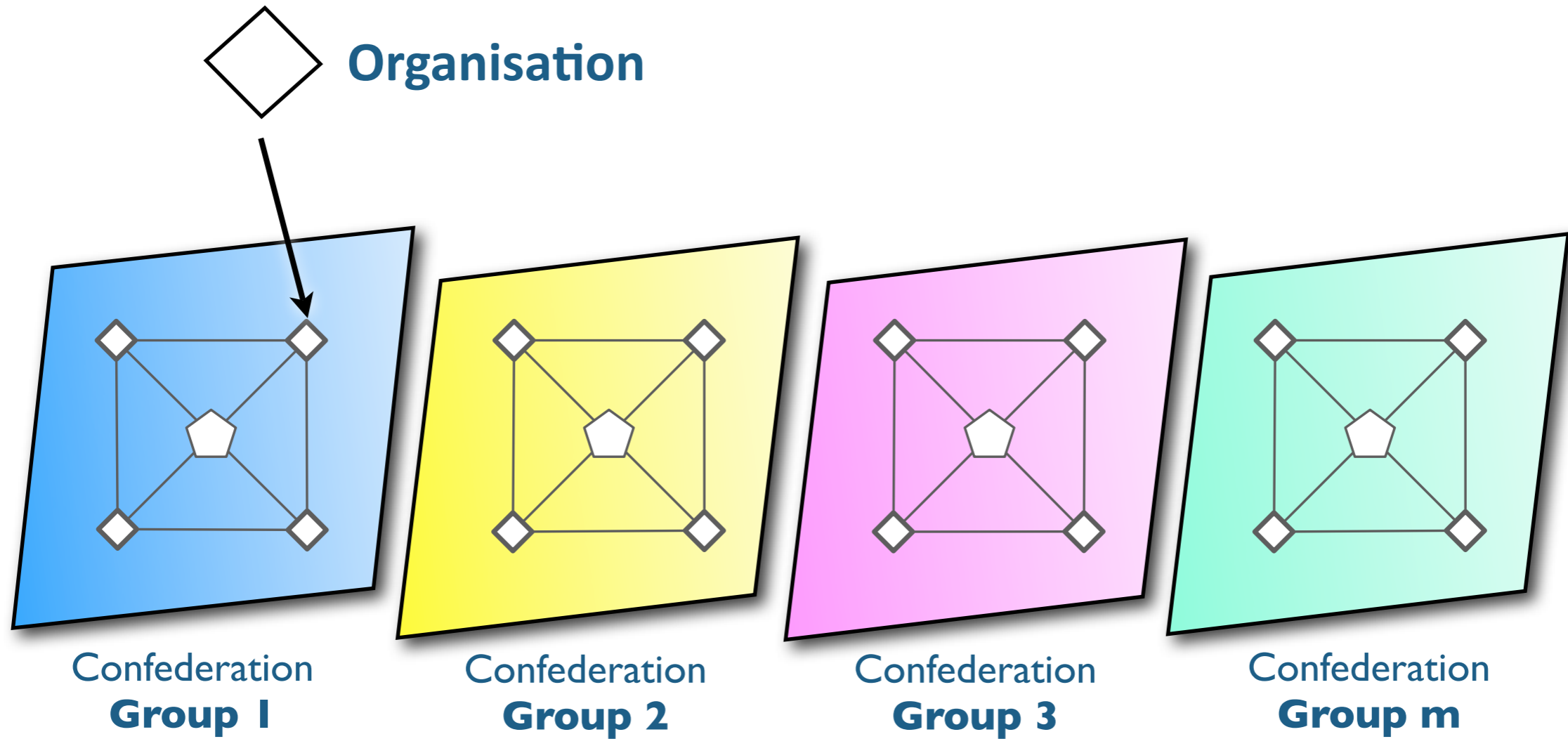
SLL: Abstract confederation topology



➡ The number of confederations is typically 3 to 7



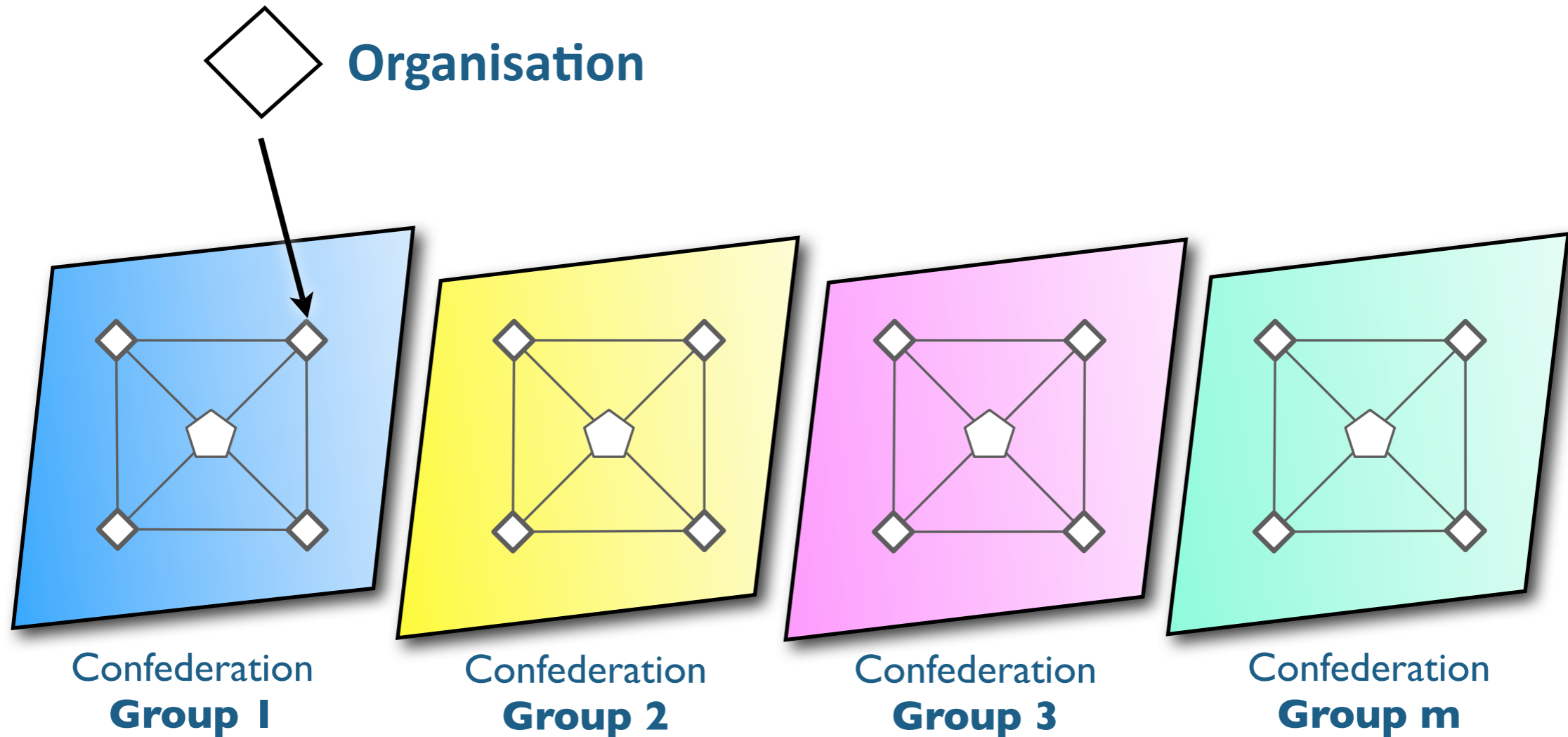
SLL: Abstract confederation topology



- The number of confederations is typically 3 to 7
- There is typically more than one organisation in each confederation



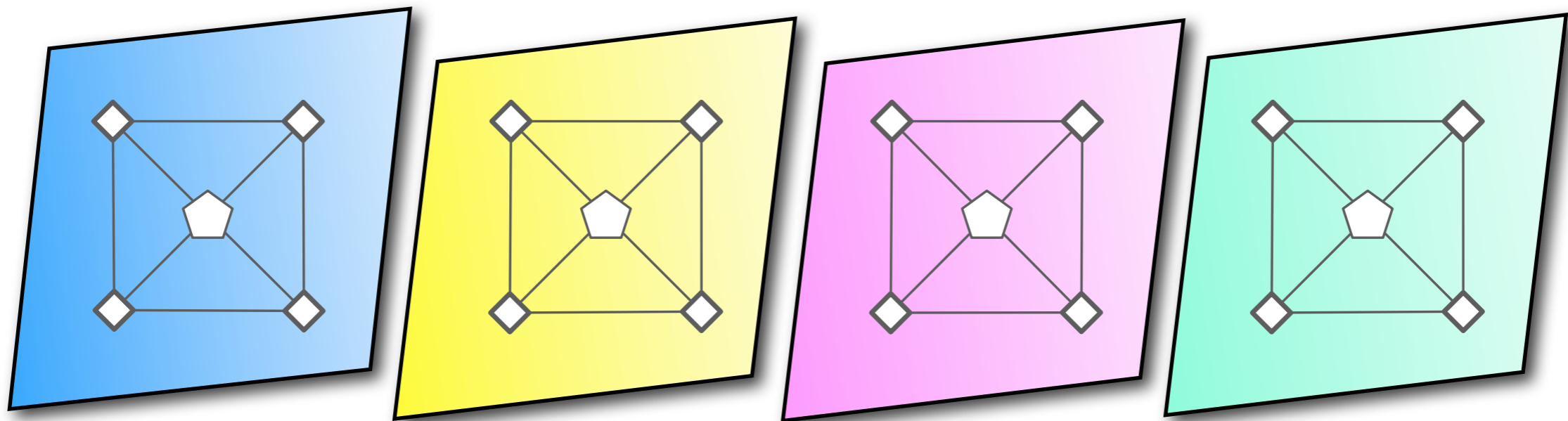
SLL: Abstract confederation topology



- The number of confederations is typically 3 to 7
- There is typically more than one organisation in each confederation
- Confederations group similar organisations by affiliation or region

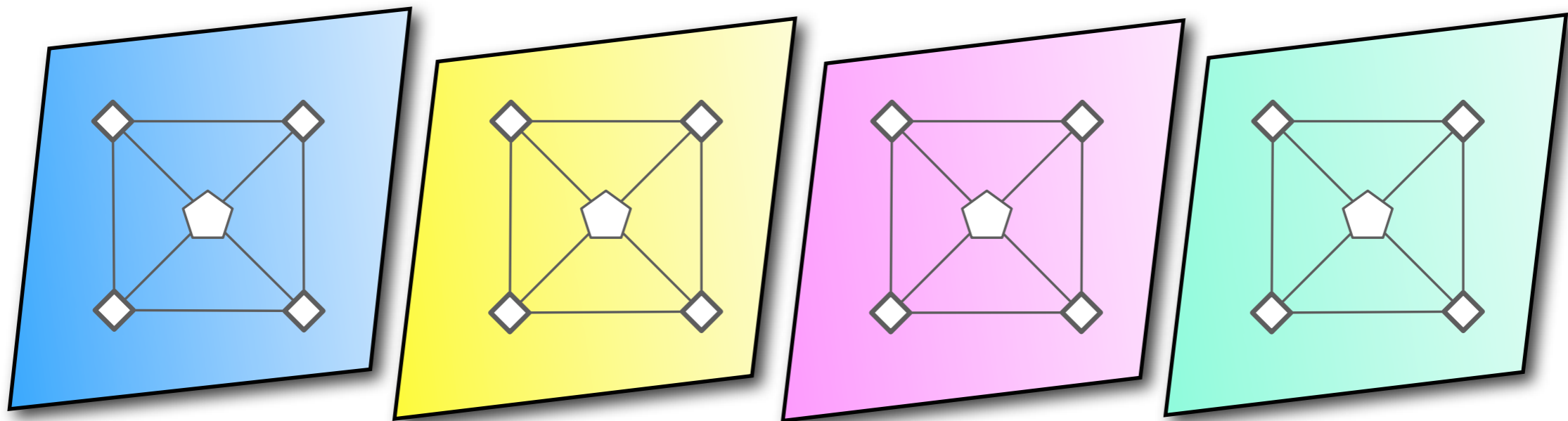


SLL: Example Topology - Banks





SLL: Example Topology - Banks



➡ It is **desirable** if confederations are traditionally strong competitors

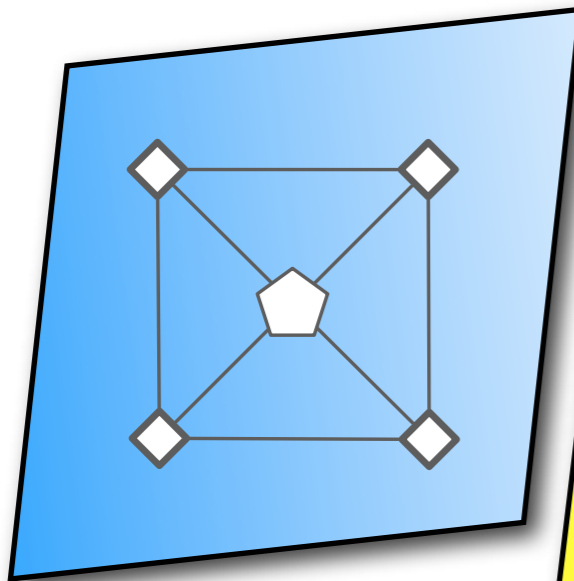
SLL: Example Topology - Banks



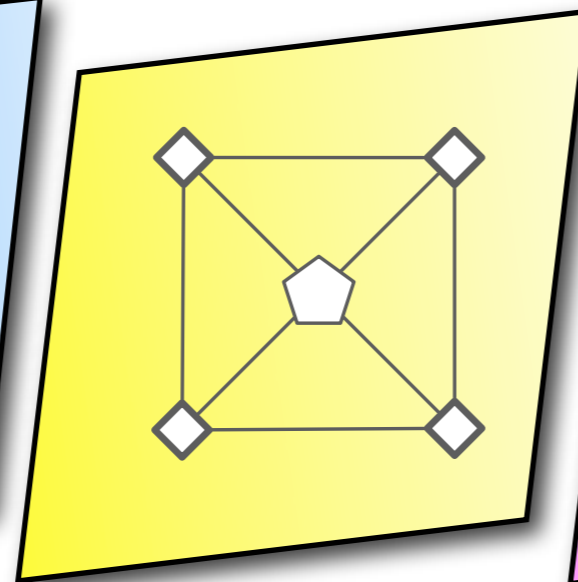
Bank of America®



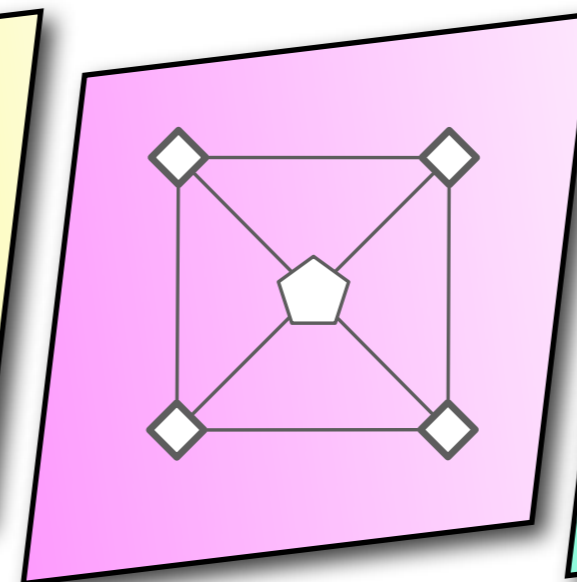
citibank



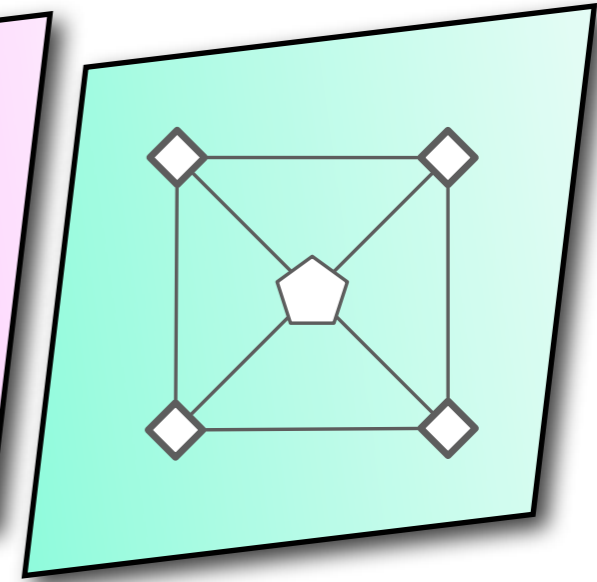
Confederation
Wells Fargo



Confederation
Bank of America



Confederation
JPMorgan Chase



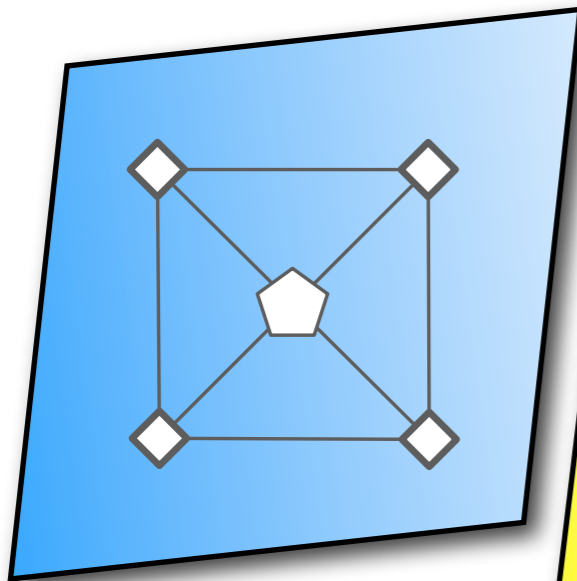
Confederation
Citibank

- ➡ It is **desirable** if confederations are traditionally strong competitors
- ➡ eg. Each large bank could be represented by a confederation, with each of the offices as a member organisation

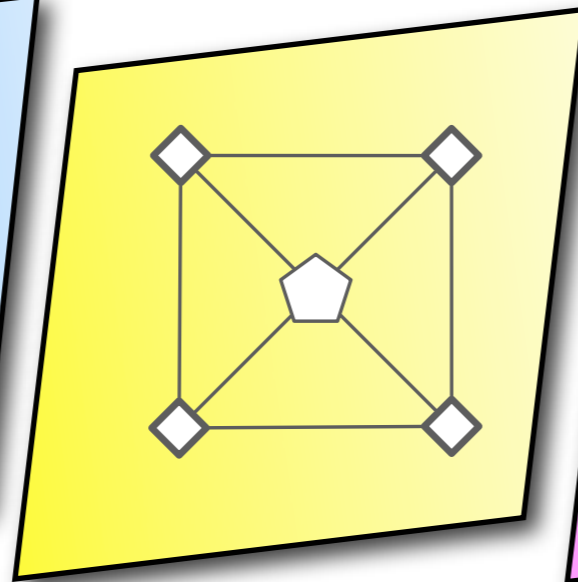


SLL: Example Topology - USA National

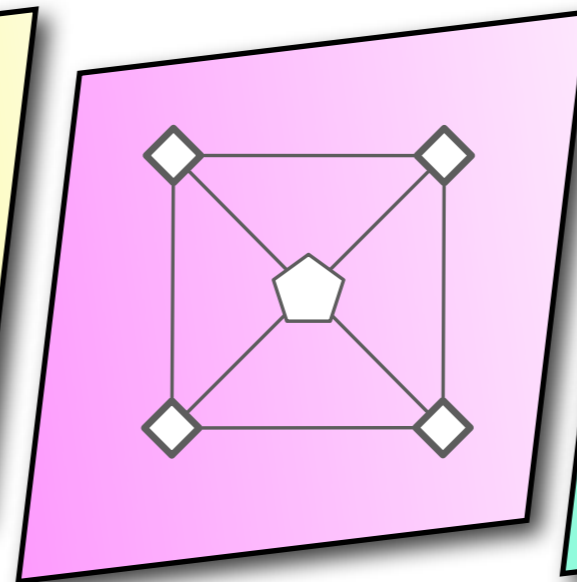
Confederation
Finance



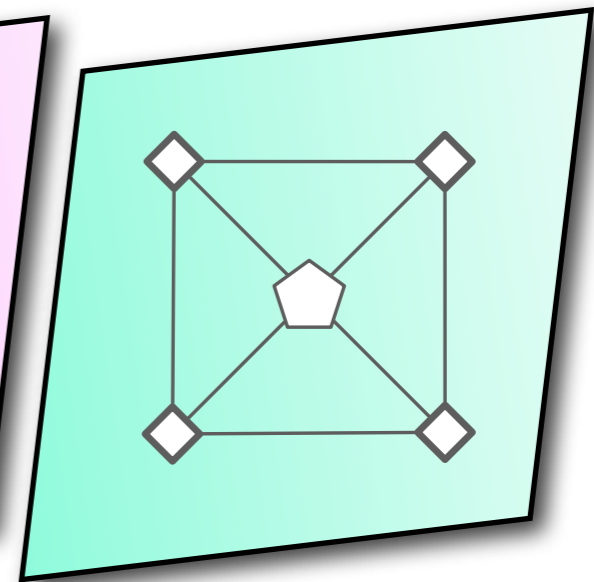
Confederation
Industrial



Confederation
Retail



Confederation
Government





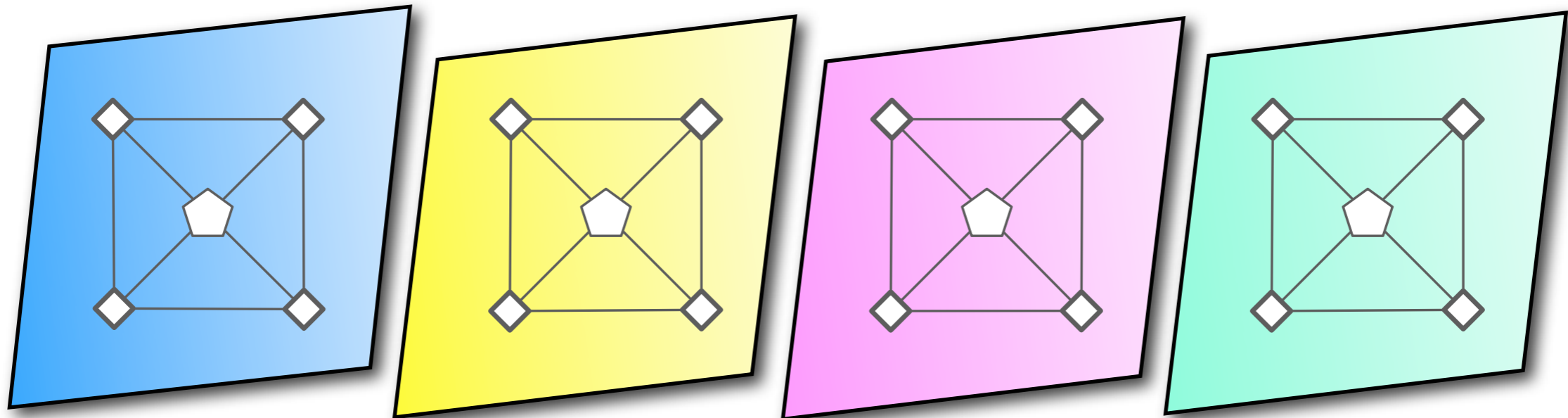
SLL: Example Topology - USA National

Confederation
Finance

Confederation
Industrial

Confederation
Retail

Confederation
Government



- ➡ Only one confederation needs to 'do its job right' to guarantee security for ALL users of the system, not just users in its own community



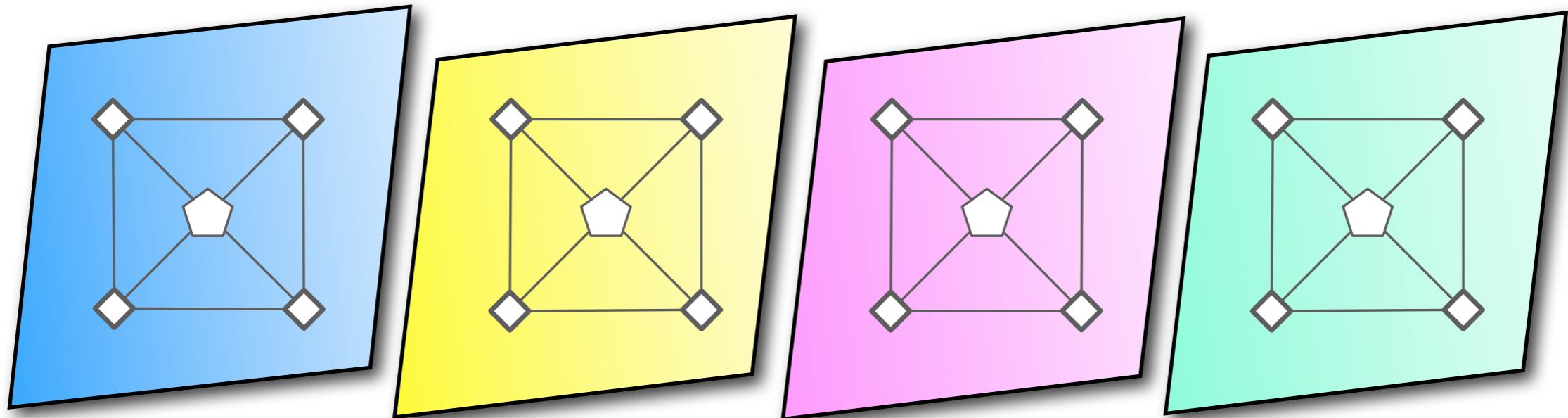
SLL: Example Topology - USA National

Confederation
Finance

Confederation
Industrial

Confederation
Retail

Confederation
Government



- ➡ Only one confederation needs to 'do its job right' to guarantee security for ALL users of the system, not just users in its own community
- ➡ **Distributing trust across un-aligned** groups mitigates insider attacks



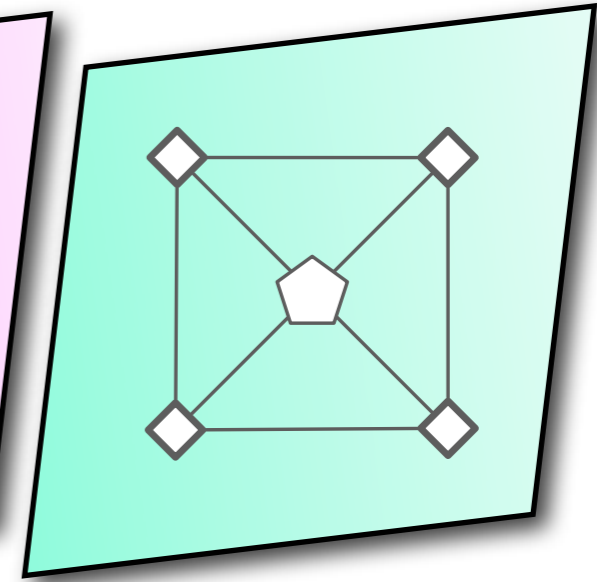
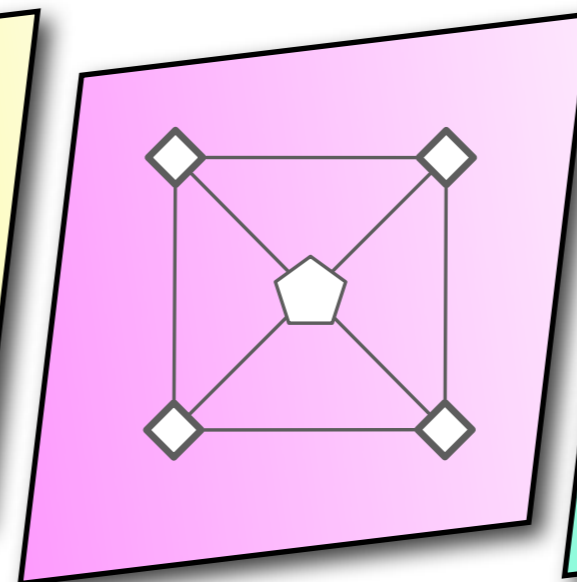
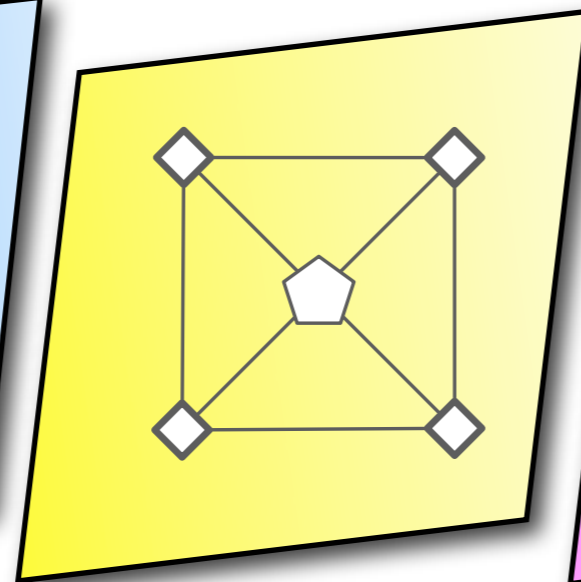
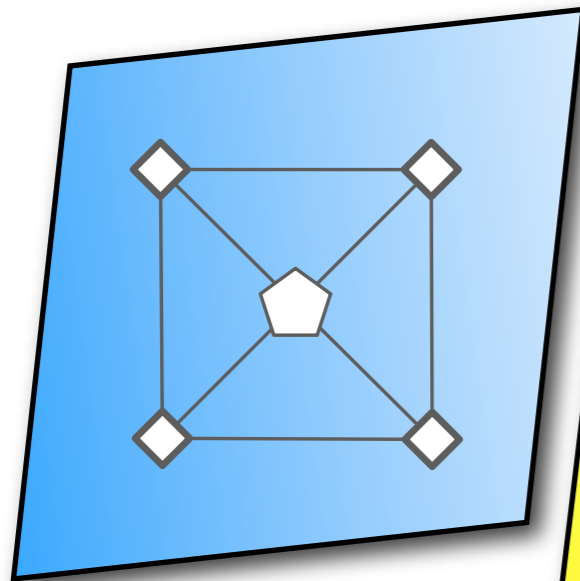
SLL: Example Topology - 5 eyes (aligned countries)

Confederation
USA

Confederation
UK

Confederation
Australia/NZ

Confederation
Canada





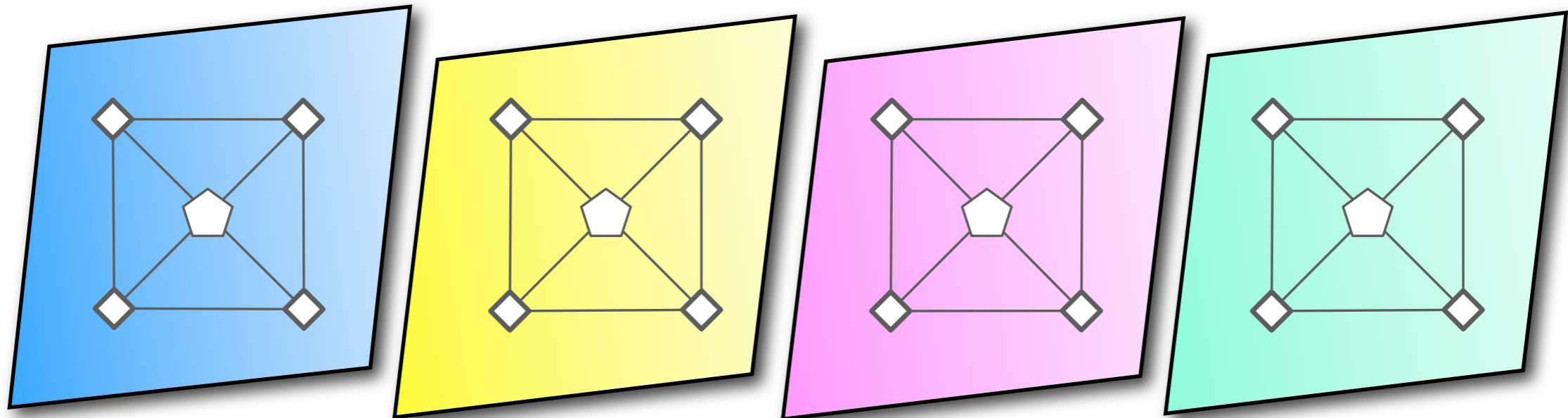
SLL: Example Topology - 5 eyes (aligned countries)

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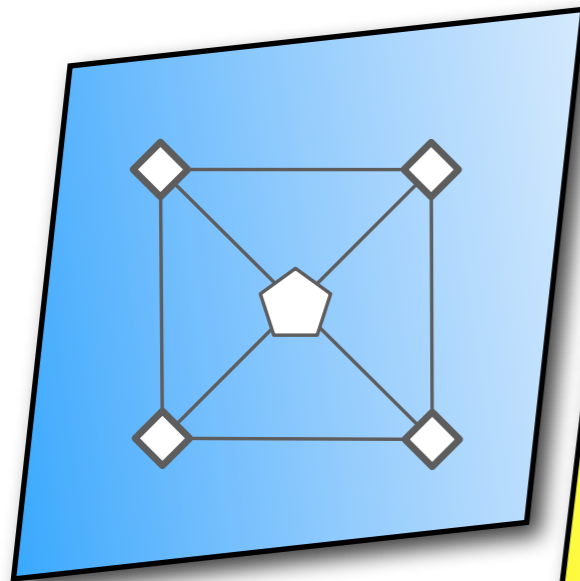


- ➡ A system of checks-and-balances can be implemented to ensure correctness of transactions for the stake-holder, and to protect the common interest/good

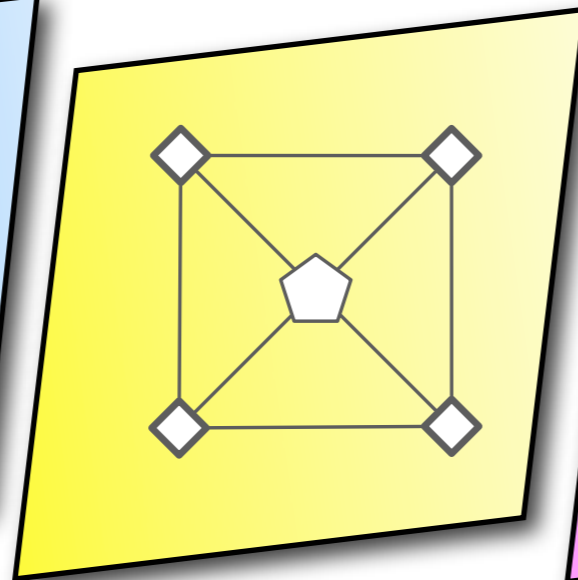


SLL: Example Topology - International

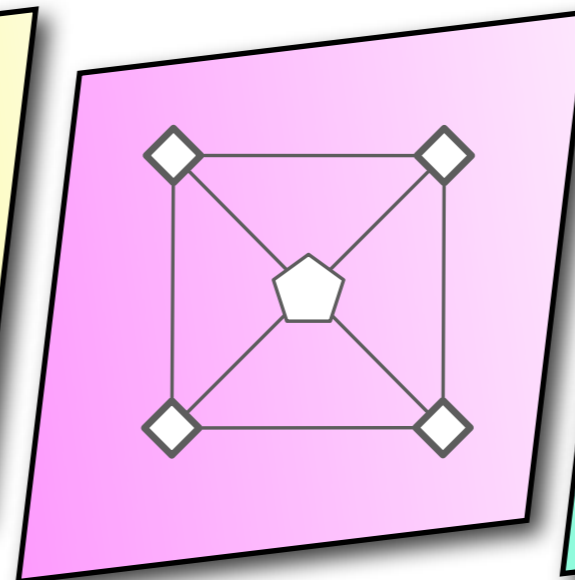
Confederation
Americas



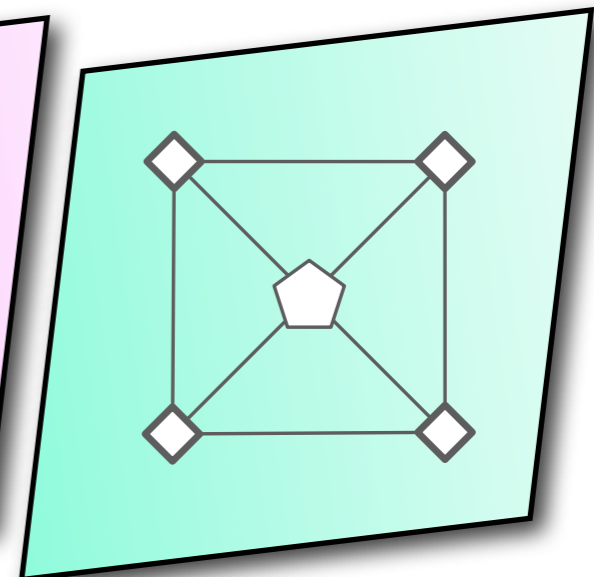
Confederation
European Union



Confederation
Asia



Confederation
Various





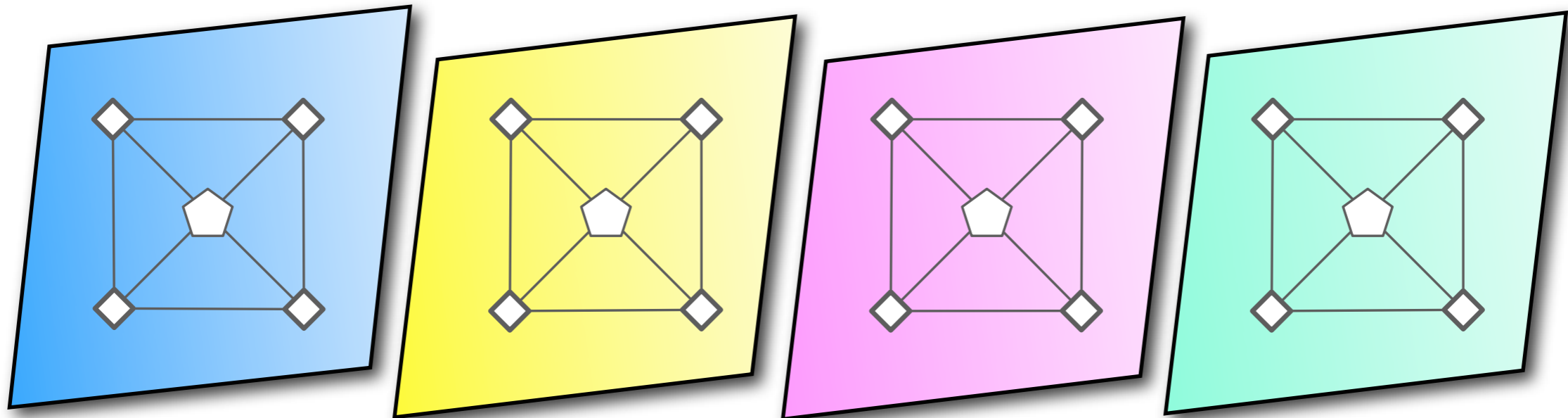
SLL: Example Topology - International

Confederation
Americas

Confederation
European Union

Confederation
Asia

Confederation
Various

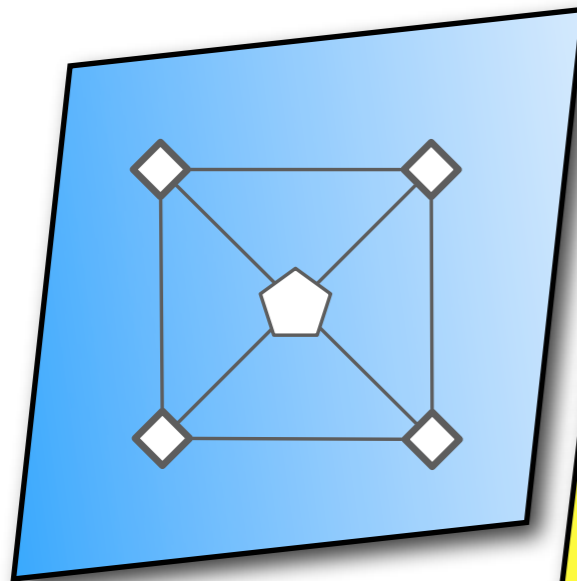


➡ In an international context, we can group by region

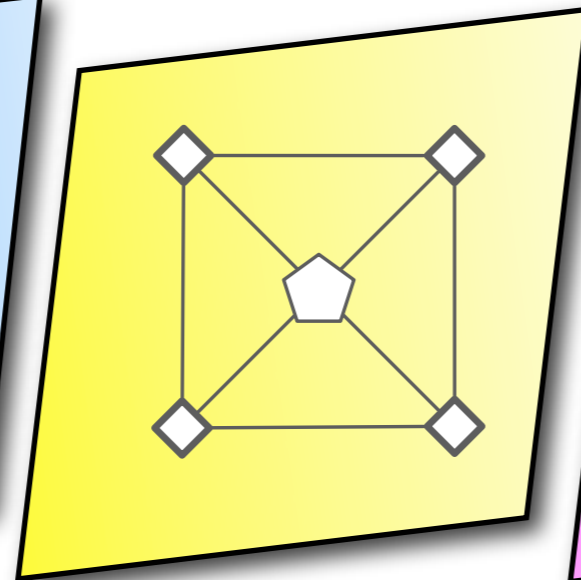


SLL: Example Topology - International

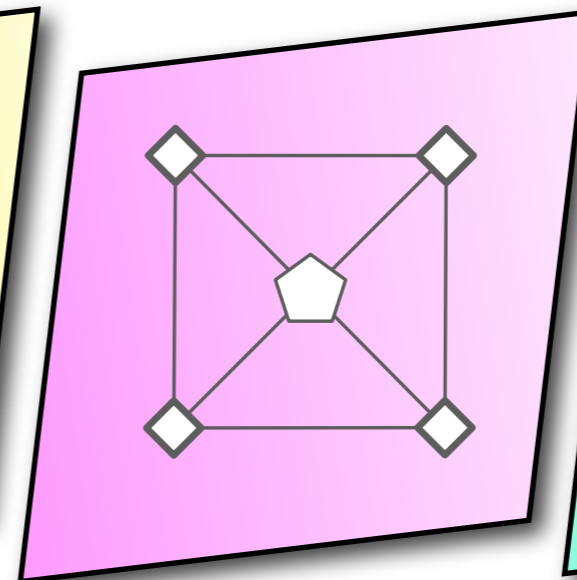
Confederation
Americas



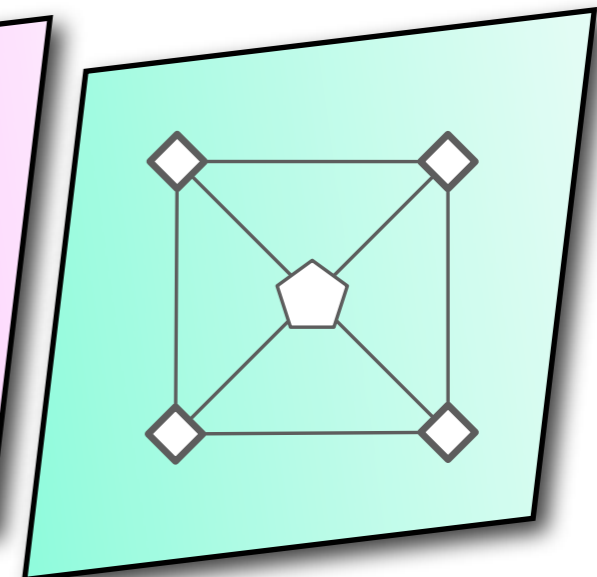
Confederation
European Union



Confederation
Asia



Confederation
Various



- ➡ In an international context, we can group by region
- ➡ An international system ensures global inter-connectivity between every token (interoperability)



SLL: A card enrolled in logically different systems

SLL: A card enrolled in logically different systems

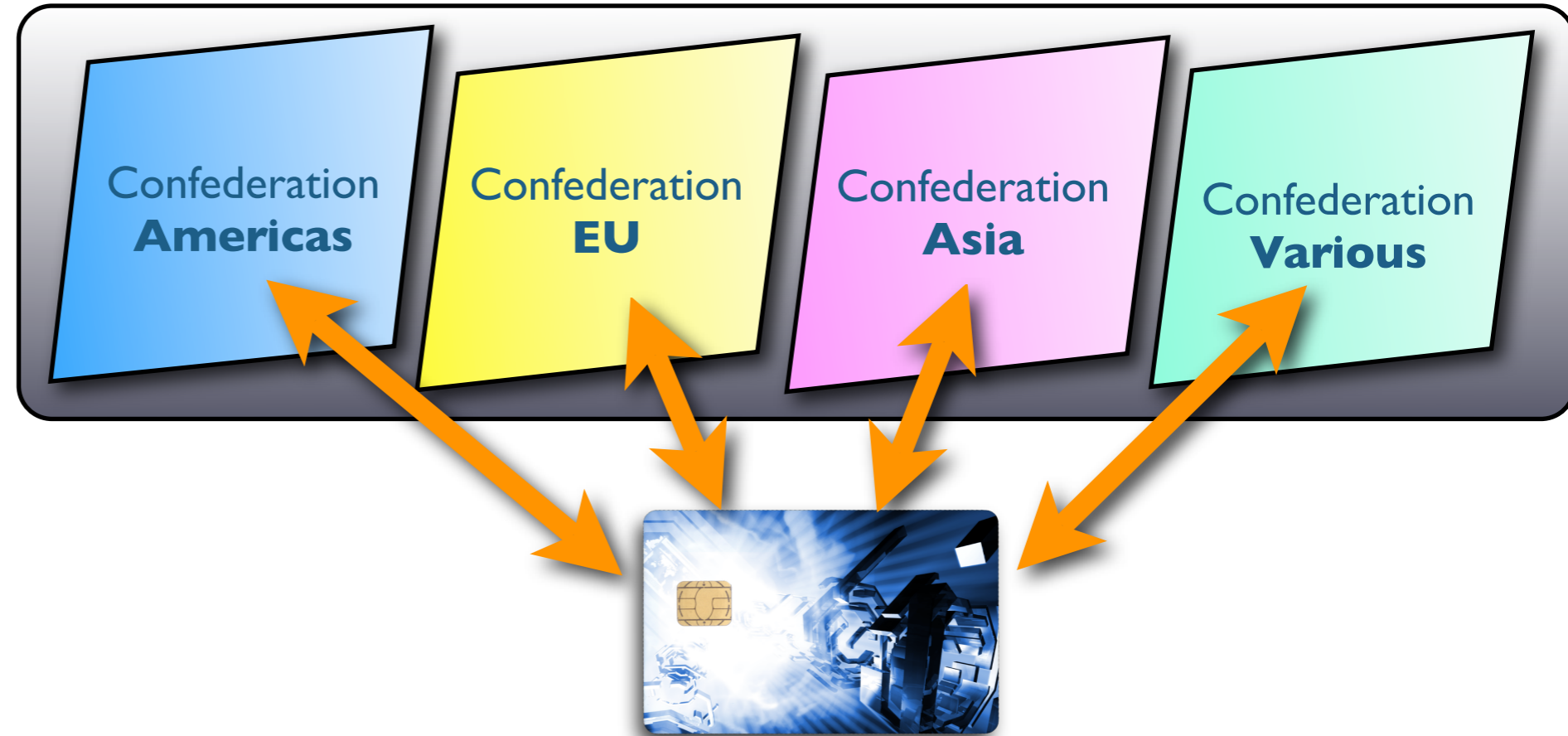
A smart card can be simultaneously enrolled into several logically different systems





SLL: A card enrolled in logically different systems

A smart card can be simultaneously enrolled into several logically different systems

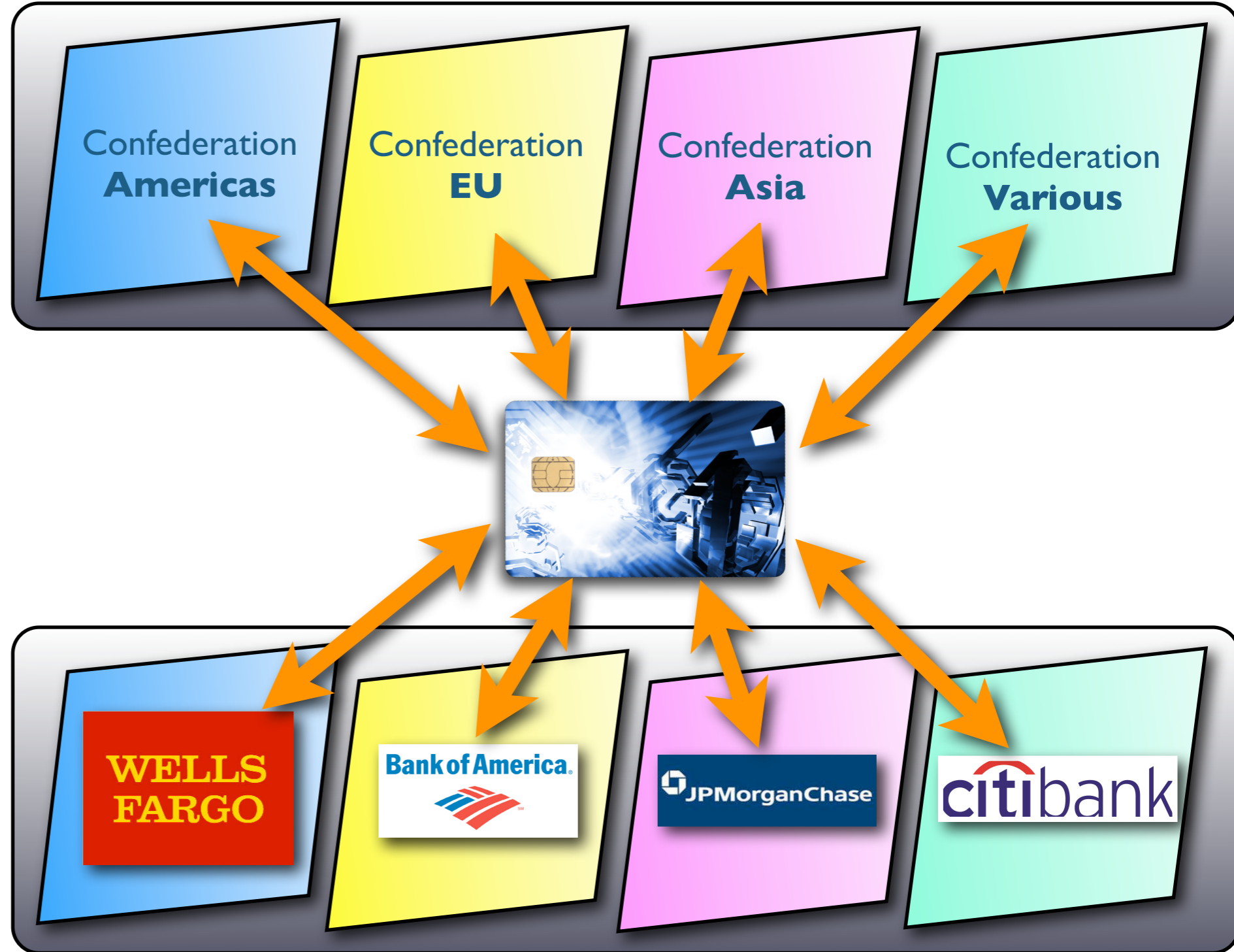


- 1) International
- 2) Regional/National



SLL: A card enrolled in logically different systems

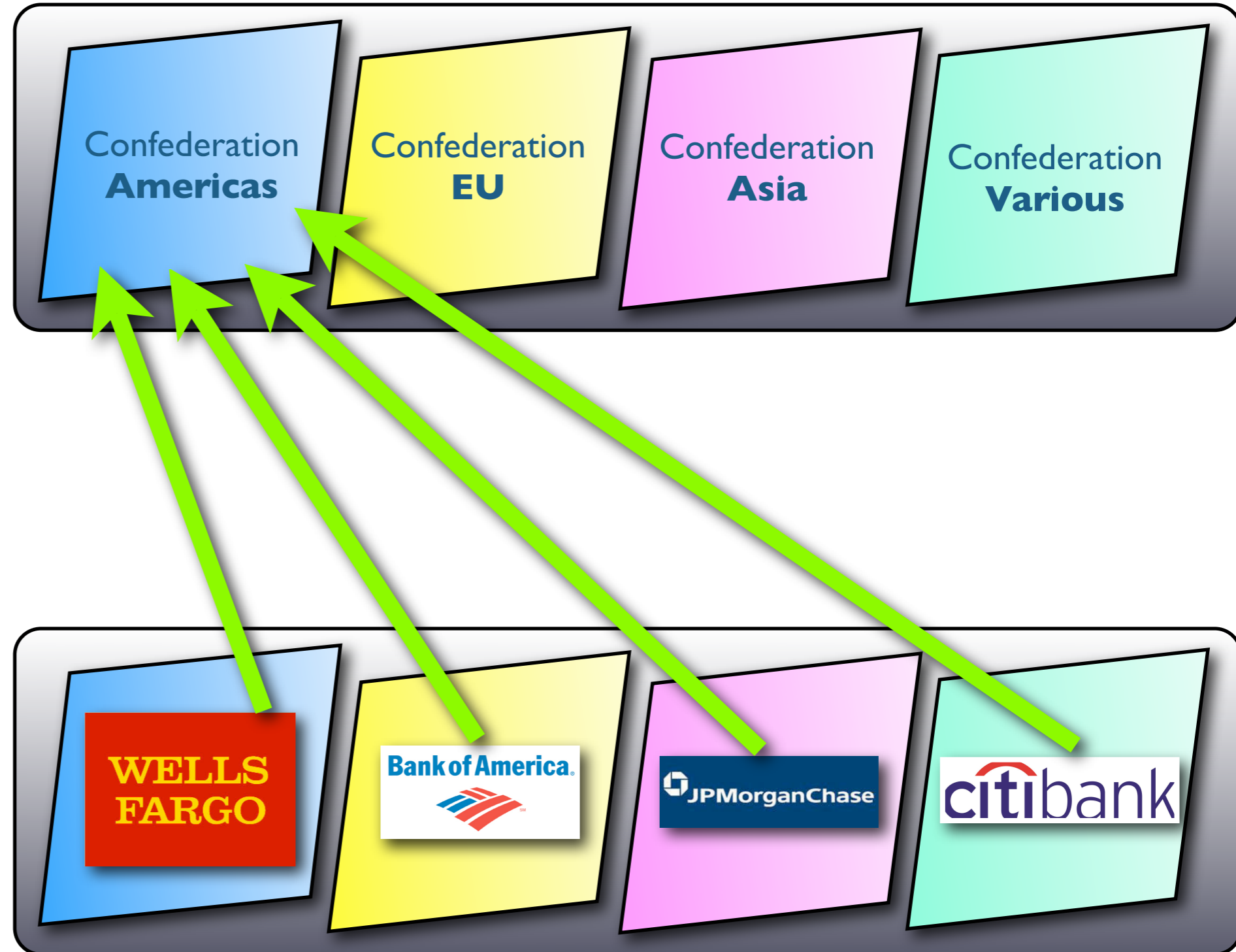
A smart card can be simultaneously enrolled into several logically different systems



- 1) International
- 2) Regional/National
- 3) Sector Specific



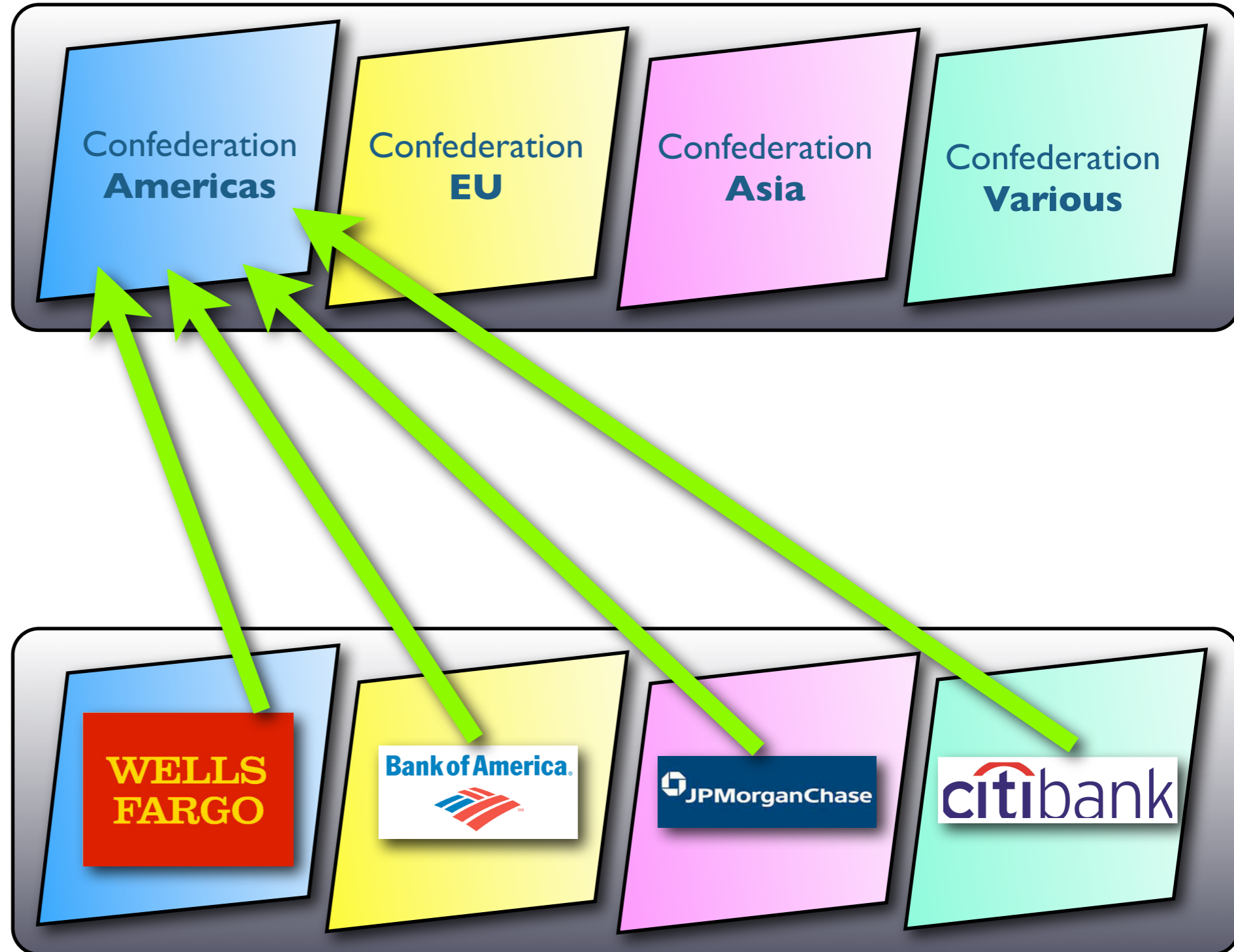
SLL: Service-providers participate in multiple systems





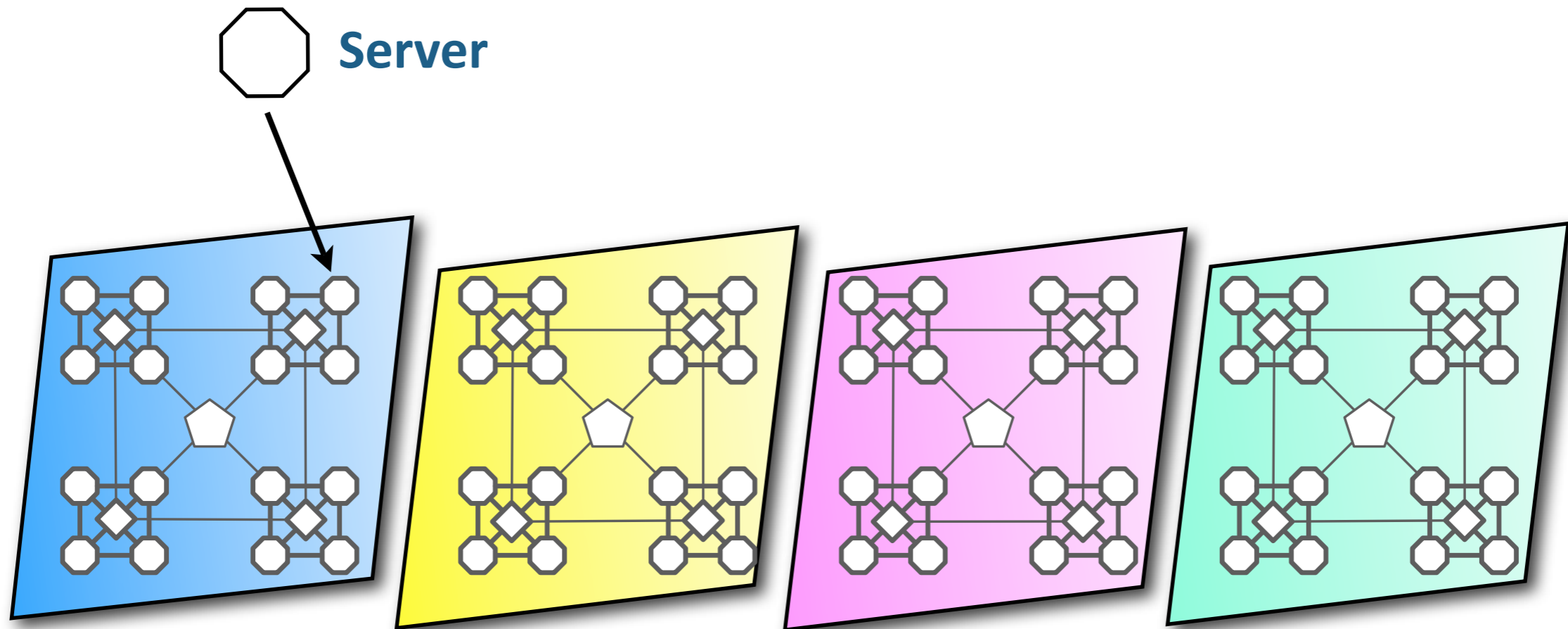
SLL: Service-providers participate in multiple systems

Service providers participating in a Regional, Aligned, or Sector specific system can reuse their existing infrastructure investments to participate in other systems, such as in the large international system



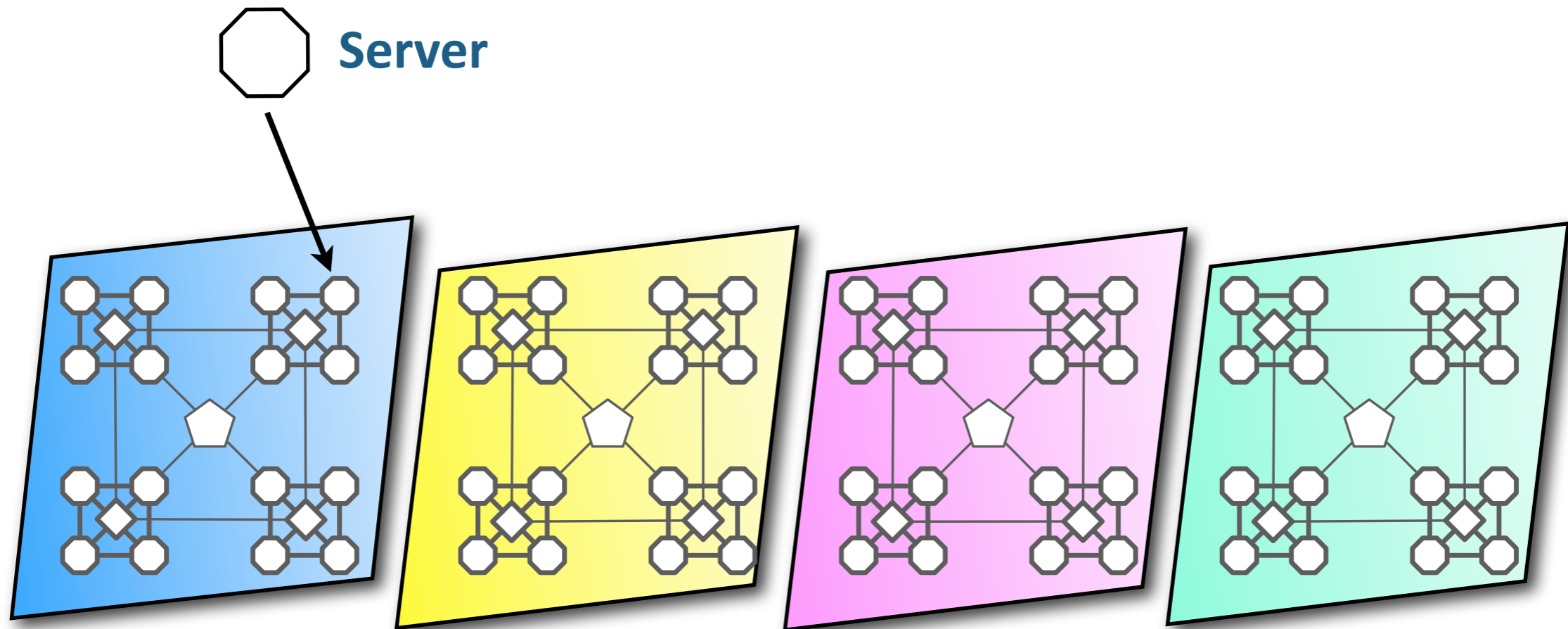


SLL proposal: Service providers run many servers..





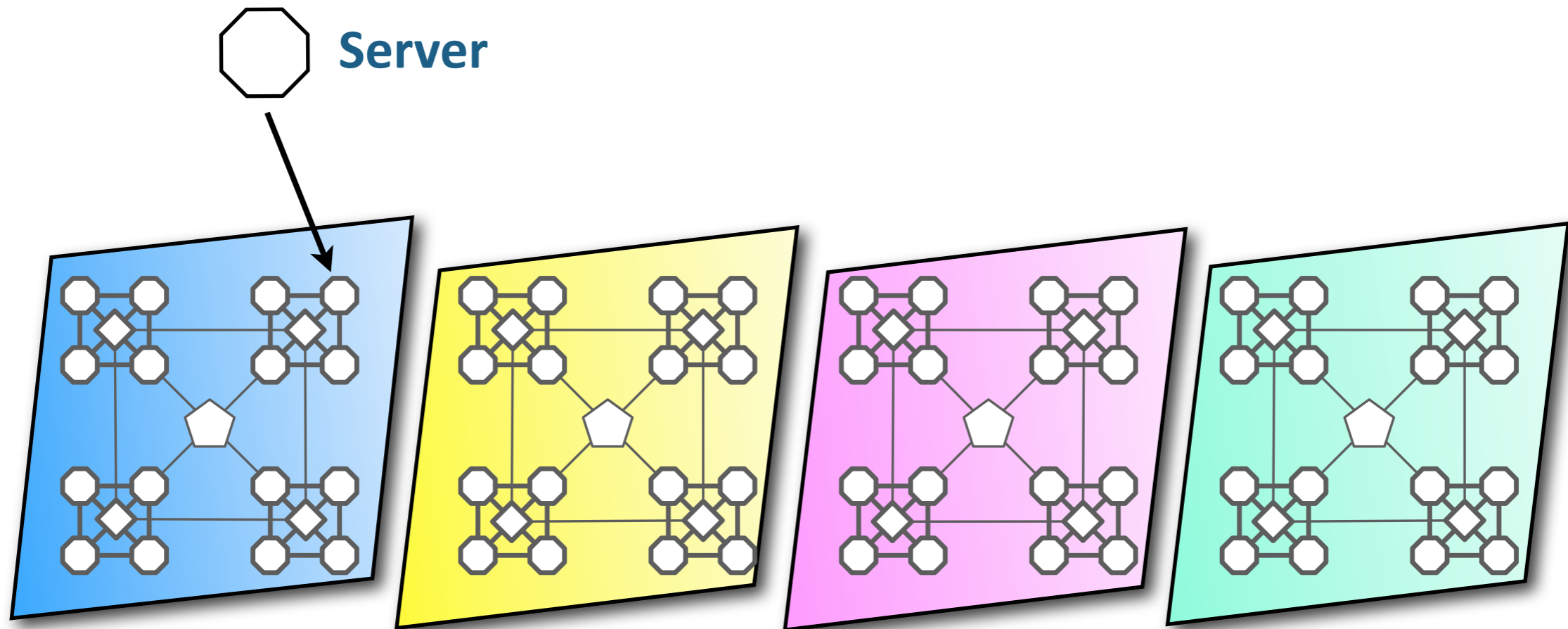
SLL proposal: Service providers run many servers..



➡ Each organisation has many servers (4 illustrated)



SLL proposal: Service providers run many servers..

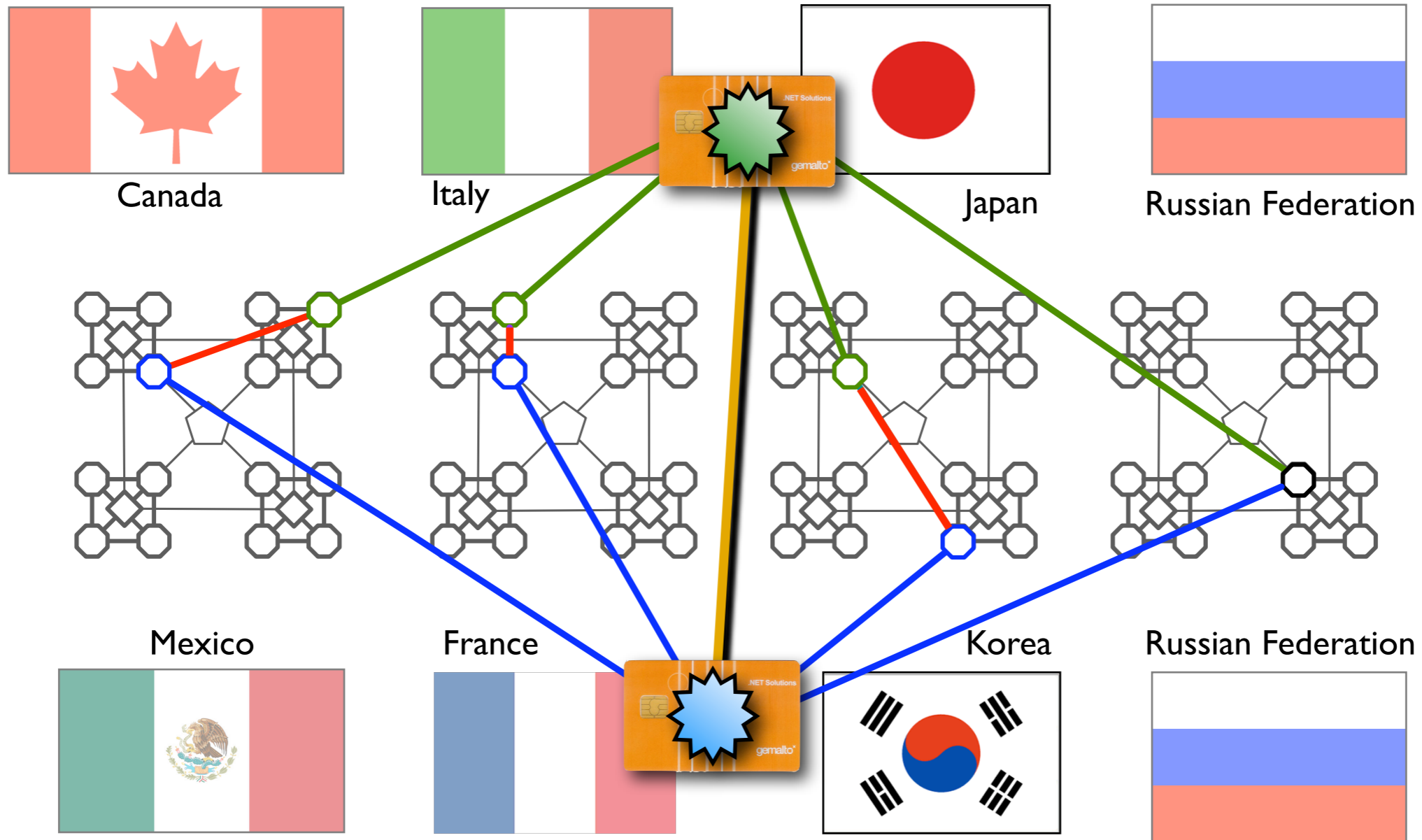


▣▣▣▣ ➔ Each organisation has many servers (4 illustrated)

▣▣▣▣ ➔ **Each server can securely communicate within it's confederation**



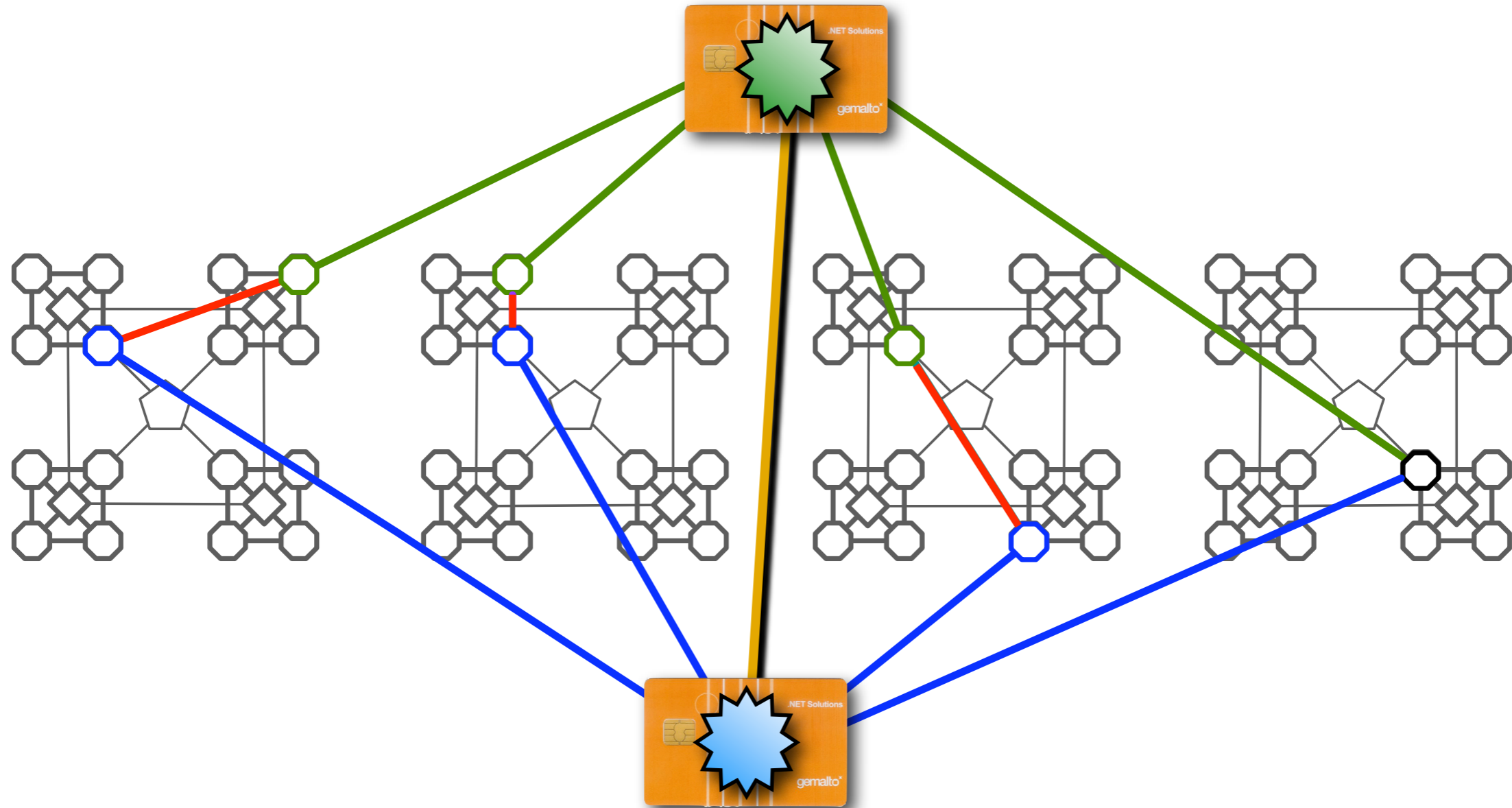
SLL: International enrolment and connectivity



- Smart card tokens are enrolled with m confederations
- any {organisation, server} pair in a confederation can be selected



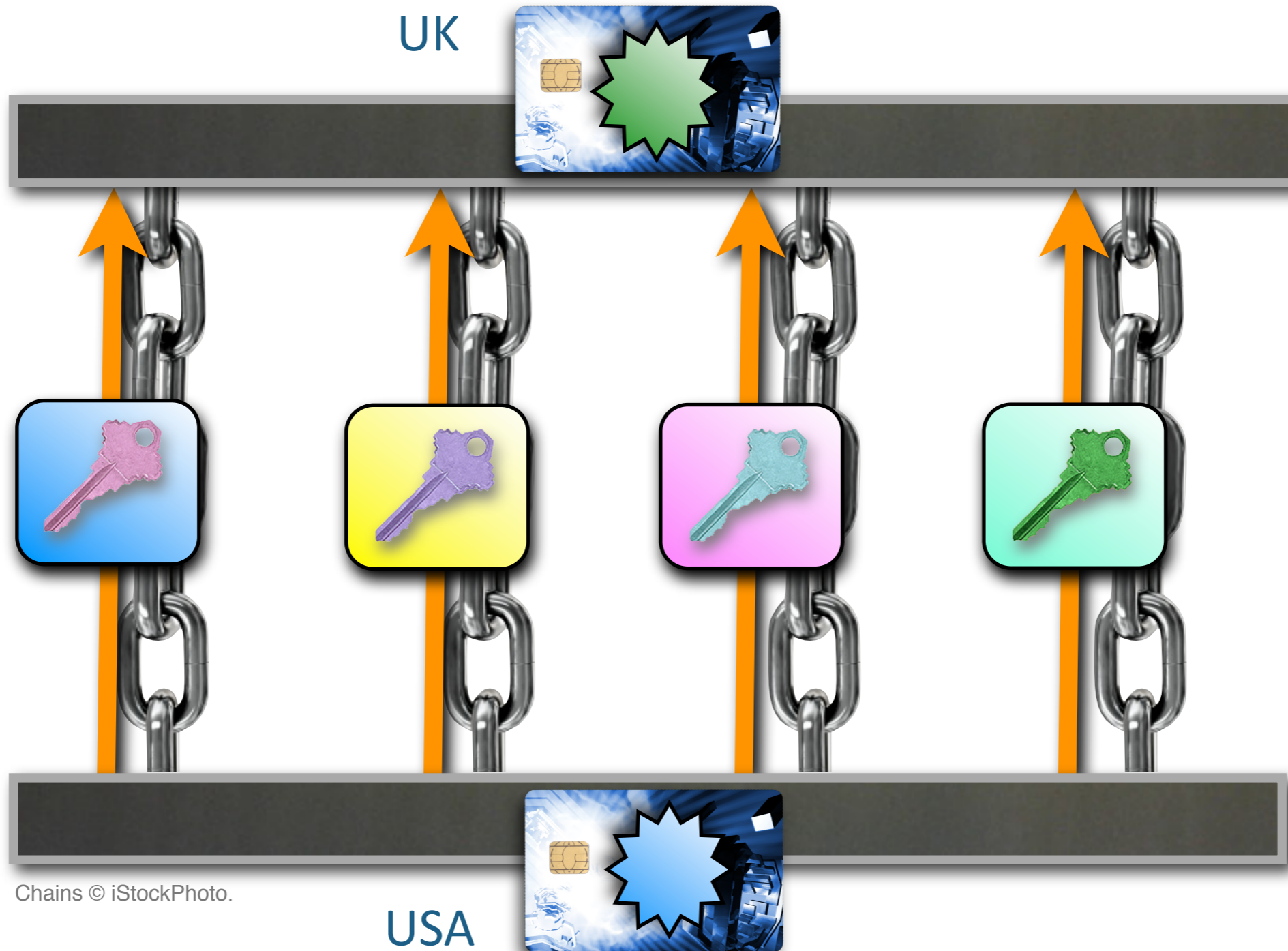
SLL: Byzantine Generals' problem



➡ In our scheme, we propose mapping all IdM/CKM transactions to exploit distributed, decentralised, high availability techniques



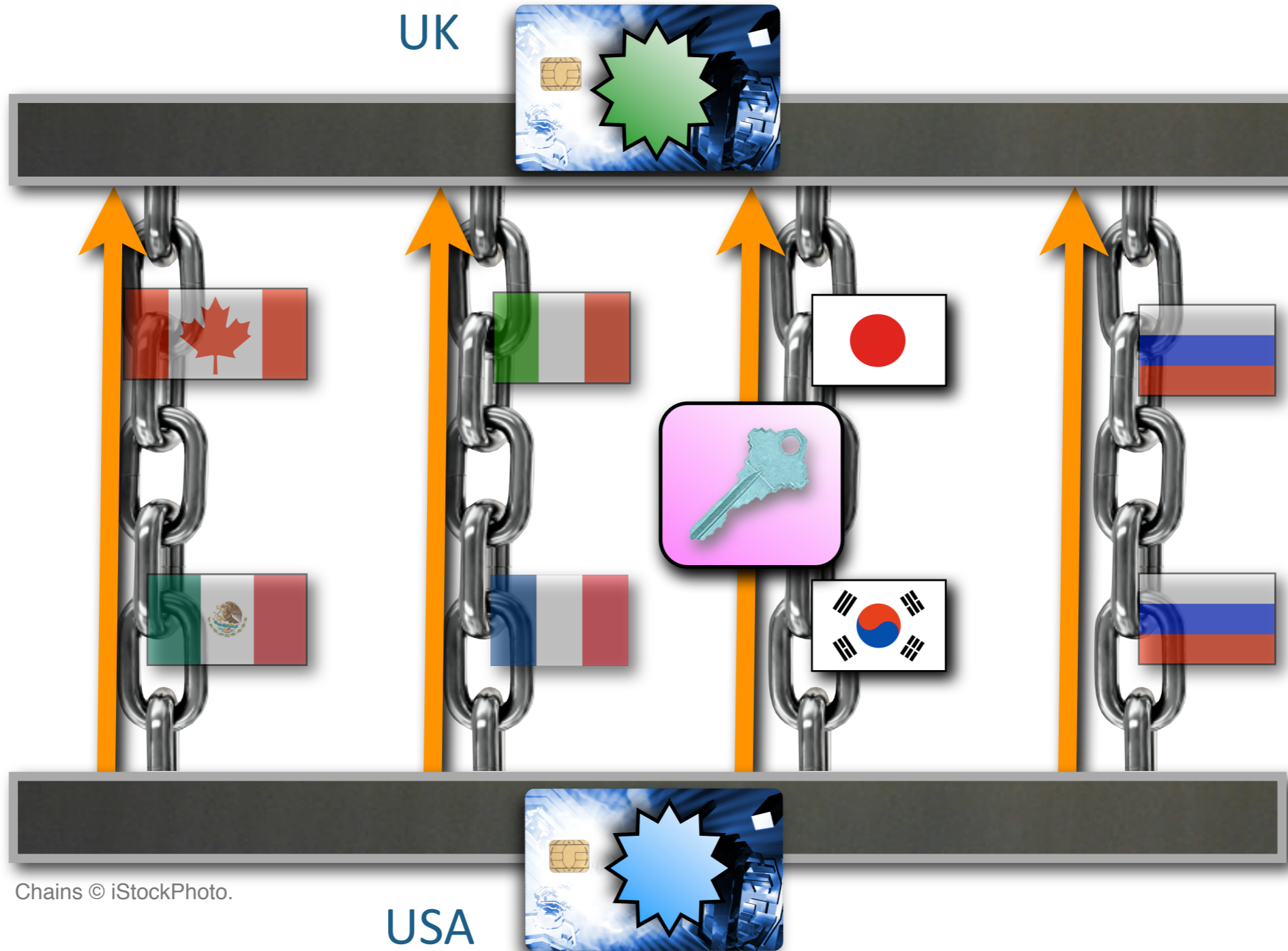
SLL: Secure key exchange between users



Chains © iStockPhoto.

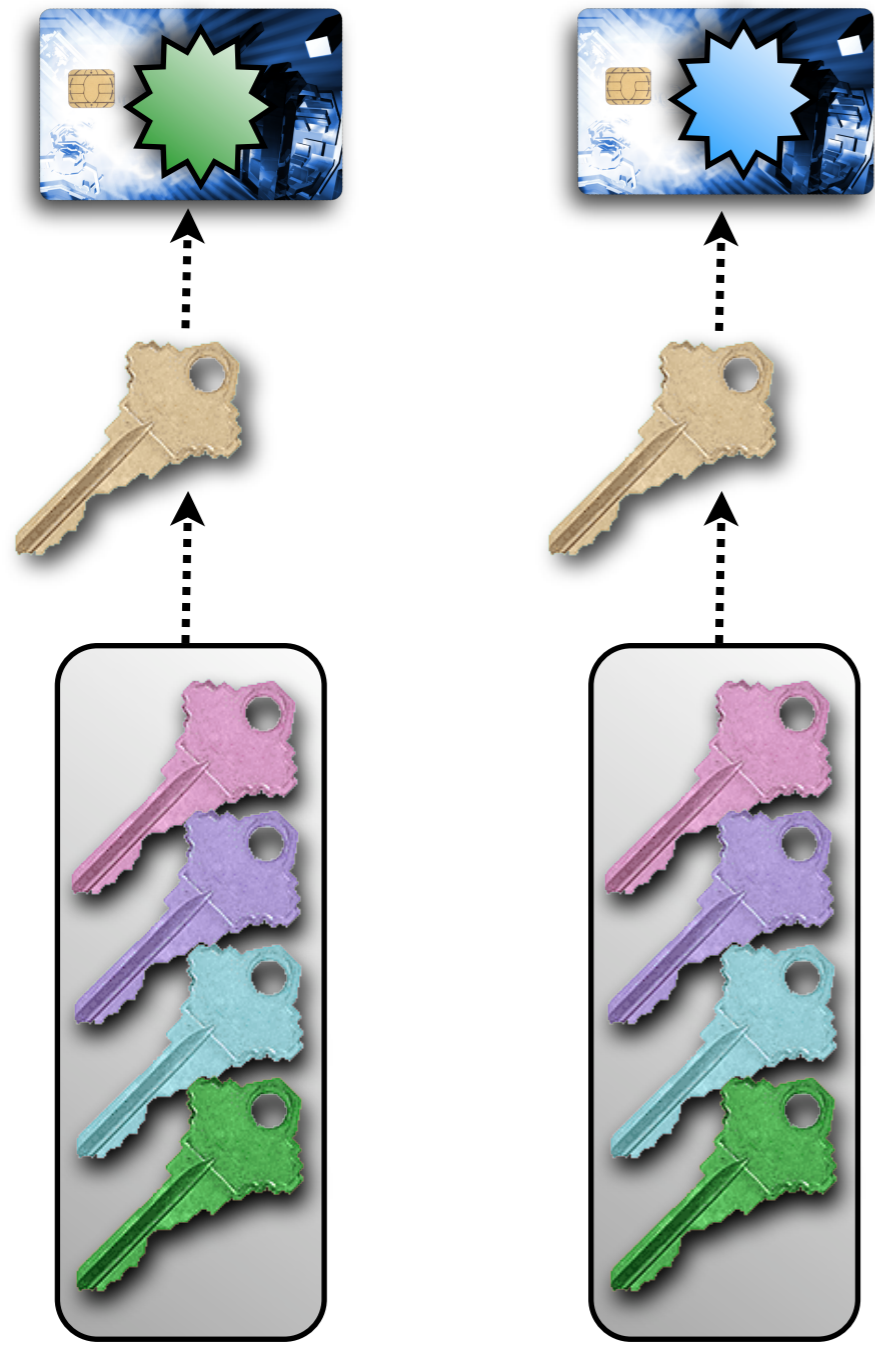


SLL: Secure key exchange between international users



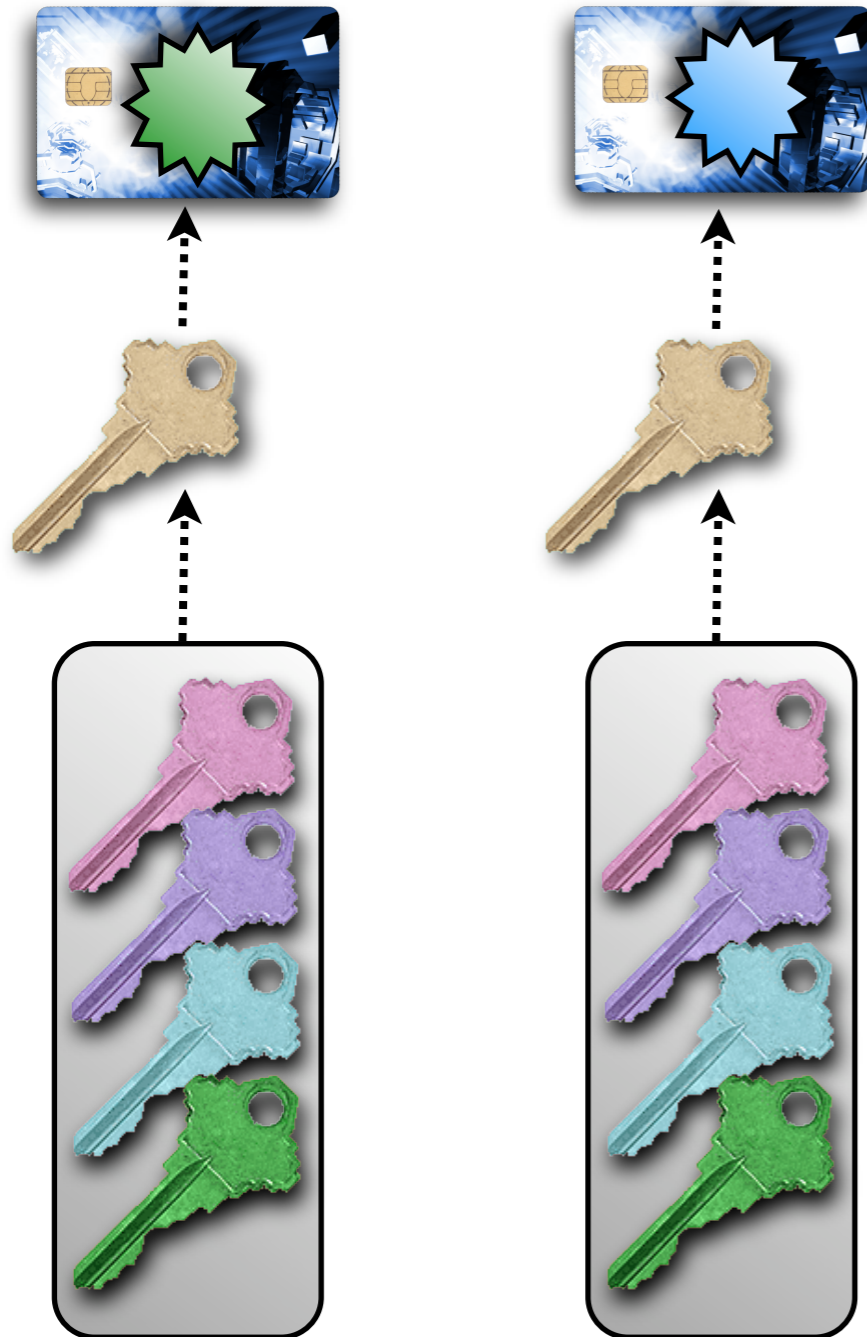
Chains © iStockPhoto.

SLL: Secure key exchange, mixing step



1. Send 4 keys over 4 distinct link-level secure relay paths

SLL: Secure key exchange, mixing step



1. Send 4 keys over 4 distinct link-level secure relay paths
2. Mix/Hash 4 keys to generate master symmetric key



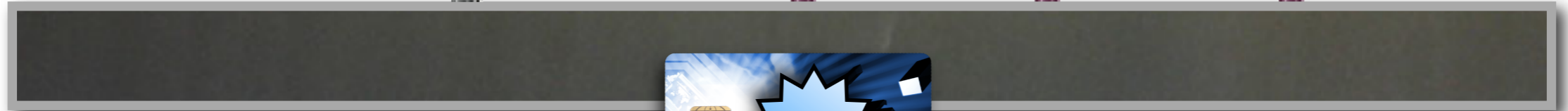
Fully redundant and secure against collusion (International)



Canada
Mexico



Italy
Japan
Russia





Fully redundant and secure against collusion (Aligned)



AU



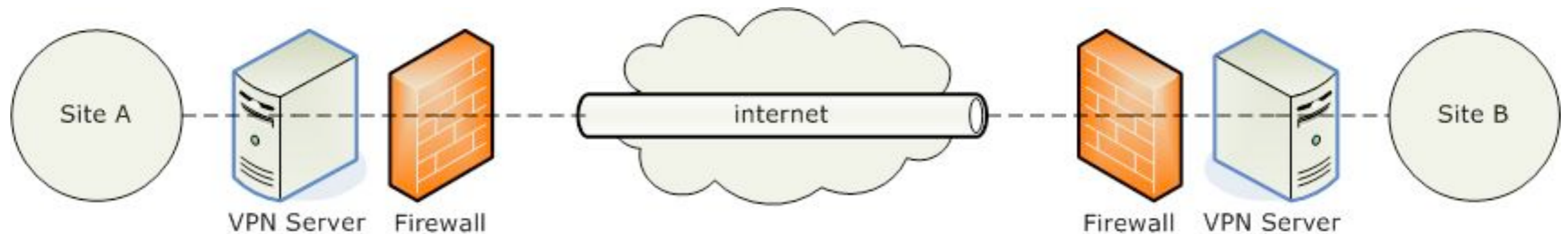
Canada
NZ
UK





SLL proposal: VPN, tunnels, ...

- Secure tunnels and virtual private networks (such as those offered by CISCO, Oracle, IBM, ...) are designed to **easily** wrap around and protect (confidentiality, integrity, authentication) the 'at risk' output of insecure programs without changing the programs ...

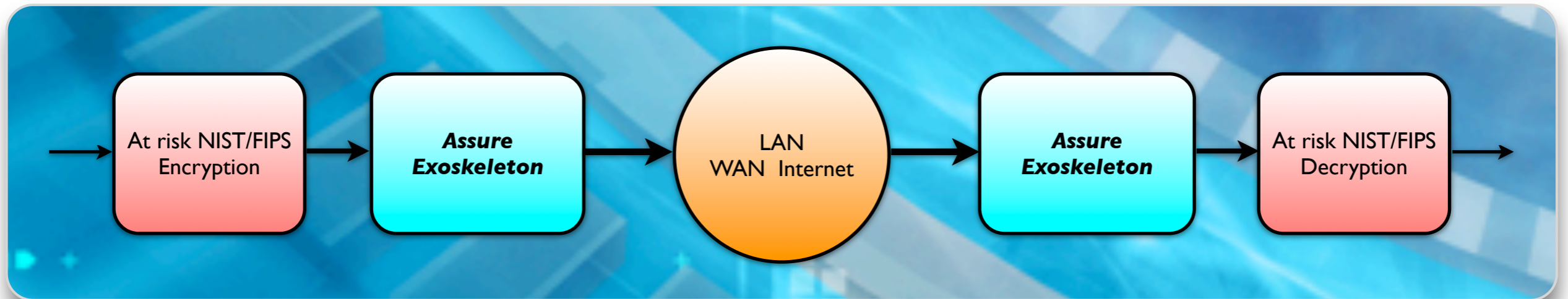


VPN image public domain from wikimedia.



SLL proposal: VPN, tunnels and Exoskeletons

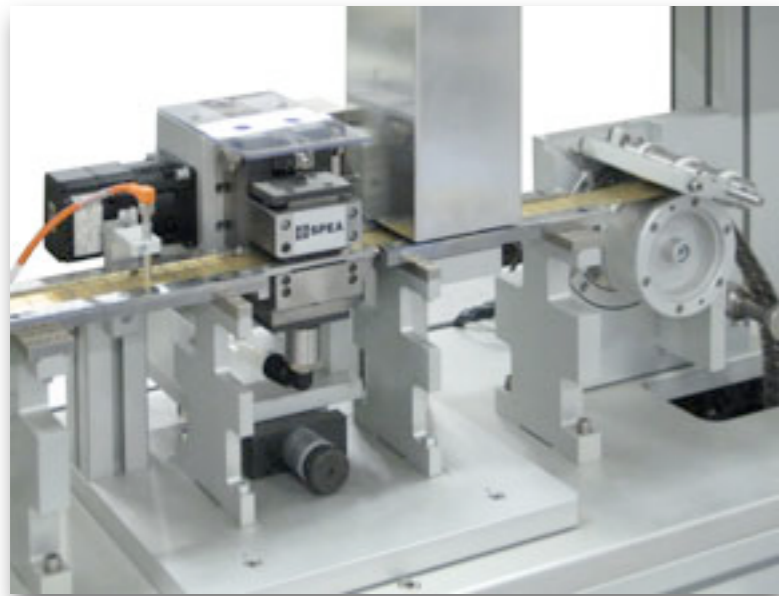
- Protocol aware secure tunnels (Exoskeletons) can **easily** protect the output of *individual network sessions* generated by at-risk security standards
 - No need to change protocols, or software/hardware implementations
 - Easily protect HTTP, SSL/TLS, SSL VPN, IPsec, RADIUS, SSH, ...



Background graphics © Inmage. Used with permission.



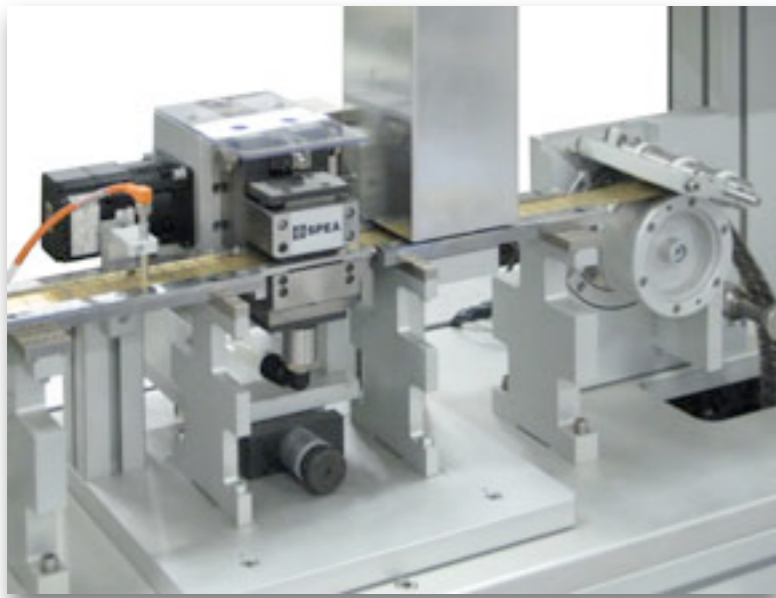
SLL proposal: High Volume Enrolment



© SPEA. Used with permission



SLL proposal: High Volume Enrolment



➡ Smart card processors on reels can be programmed at rates of 1000's of units per hour.

© SPEA. Used with permission



SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards

- ▶▶▶ Smart cards are suitable for use as trusted couriers for symmetric keys
- ▶▶▶ Tokens enrolled with m independent service providers should incrementally inject keys at m different locations



SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards

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SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards

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SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards

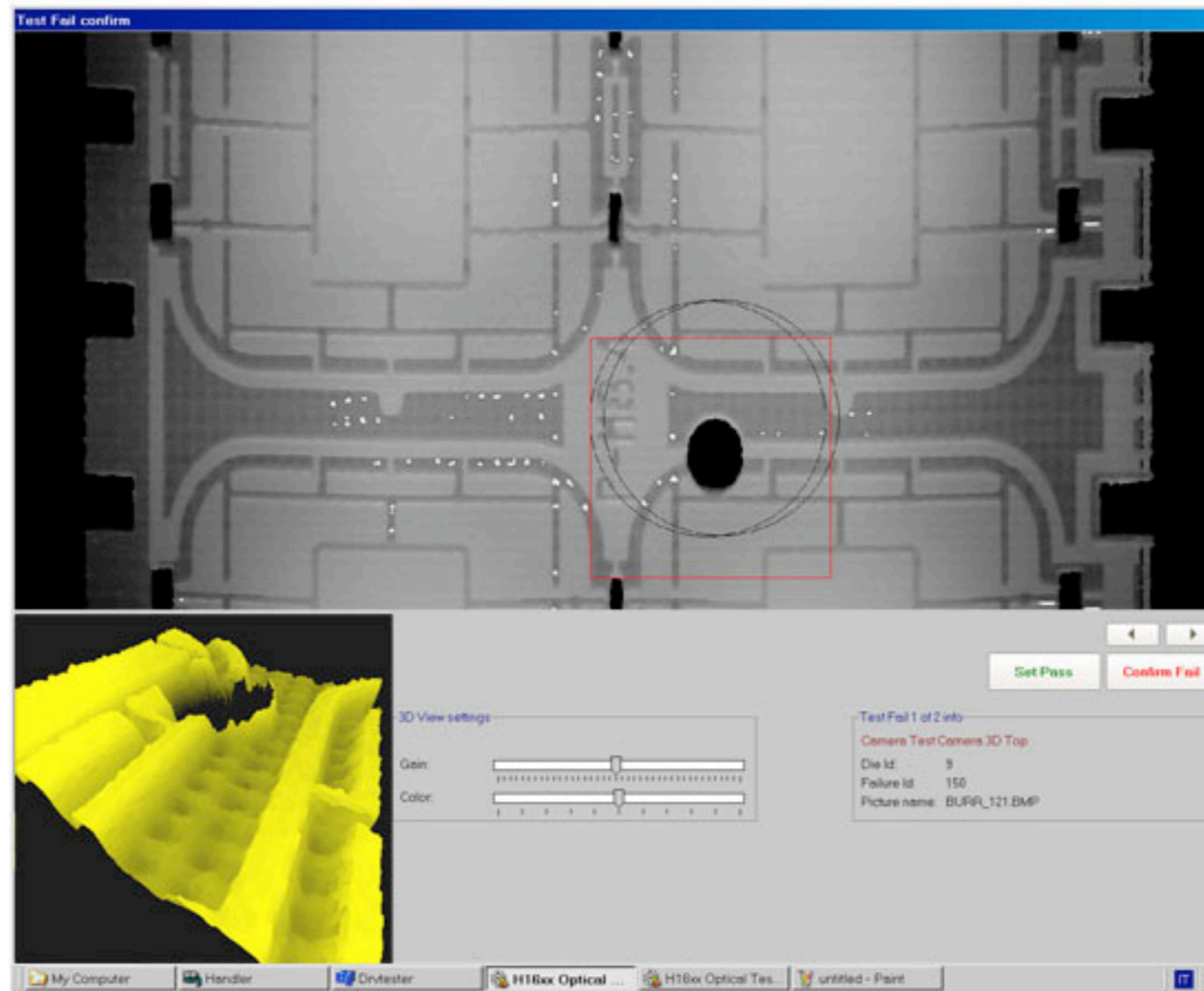
- Smart cards are suitable for use as trusted couriers for symmetric keys
- Tokens enrolled with m independent service providers should incrementally inject keys at m different locations
- Previously injected keys should **not** be read during enrolment phase (mitigate side channel)
- Enrolling parties may be able to *detect* suspicious behaviour before issuing cards to customers
 - Audit the # of transaction request
 - **Inspect for tampering**
 - etc



SYNAPTIC
LABORATORIES LTD.

Rapidly improving Cybersecurity with a new
global IdM/CKM design that does not rely
on PKC; SLL's response to NIST's call





- ➔ In this way the system encourages openness because, while each organisation is responsible to ensure correct key injection during the phase under their control, all other participating service providers can (if they choose) observe the process and check for correctness



SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards



SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards

- ▶▶▶▶ **Smart cards are ideal for managing symmetric key material**
 - ▶▶▶▶ Symmetric operations are fast
 - ▶▶▶▶ Cache negotiated keys in smart card FLASH memory



SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards

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SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards

- ▣▣▣▣➔ **Smart cards are ideal for managing symmetric key material**
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- ▣▣▣▣➔ **If a desktop computer is compromised,
the token's long lived secrets are not compromised**



SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards

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SLL proposal: CPU based smart cards

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 - ▶▶▶ Cache negotiated keys in smart card FLASH memory

- ▶▶▶ If a desktop computer is compromised,
the token's long lived secrets are not compromised

- ▶▶▶ **Smart cards can perform forward and backwards secure key derivation**
 - ▶▶▶ Exposure of long-lived master key material from the smart-card (invasive attacks) does **not** compromise prior transactions
 - ▶▶▶ The protocol negotiates ongoing 'fresh secrets' which can protect against adversaries that discover the master key but have limited network visibility



SLL proposal: Long term confidentiality & integrity

- The SLL proposal achieves classical and post quantum security using known and trusted NIST/FIPS symmetric crypto standards. These standards have many years of study and are deployed globally, whereas today, there are no trusted post quantum secure public key algorithms.



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 - 2AES/3AES supports >512-bit keys - may satisfy EU Call for 50-to-100 year security



SLL proposal: TEMPEST

- Electromagnetic shielding enclosures (ESE) technologies are mature and available commercially
- ESE can be used to protect the injection of symmetric keys into smart cards, in a way that is resistant to insider attacks
- Optionally use ESE to protect high-security service providers



SLL proposal: Platform for behavioural trust

- Online IdM/CKM systems can maintain situational awareness
- **Sonalysts Inc.** is designing a Distributed Sensor System for the Internet (Occulex) that aggregates and correlates very high-level network access behaviour **to remotely detect the presence of certain malware:**
- Global IdM system can act as global notification system for such systems

Detection -> Notification -> Correction -> Restoration



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- Joint presentation by Sonalysts and Synaptic at ORNL CSIIRW-6, 2010

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 - e-mail accounts
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- Of course, a single token can be assigned multiple identifiers.
- **Global key management through public identifiers**
 - Single online clearing house
- **Name spaces can be protected as national/organisational assets**
 - m redundant lookup operations from m confederations



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- ▣▣▣▣➤ **Increased control/assurance through certificate-authority mechanisms**
 - ▣▣▣▣➤ “human in the loop”
 - ▣▣▣▣➤ millions of enrolled identifiers



SLL proposal: Online validation

- ▣▣▣▣➔ Real-time online validation of identifiers and tokens
costs less money (CPU time) when symmetric techniques are used
 - ▣▣▣▣➔ Exploit existing pre-shared secrets for message integrity (MAC)
 - ▣▣▣▣➔ NO \$\$\$ DIGITAL SIGNATURES

- ▣▣▣▣➔ Online IdM/CKM can optionally maintain relationship histories
between **tokens** to facilitate “push based” revocation notification
 - ▣▣▣▣➔ Precision notification based on existing relationship
 - ▣▣▣▣➔ Reduce need for “POLL” driven architectures



SLL proposal: ($m-1$) secure interoperable CKM



Gateway software runs on host/desktop to translate KMIP/P1619.3 key management store/retrieval requests to a global CKM service hosted in the cloud over m confederations

Desktop -> AONT -> Split data -> Store m parts

Computers: © iStockPhoto, used with permission.

Conclusions

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- ▶▶▶ **In 2009 NIST has called for symmetric CKM solutions**
 - ▶▶▶ robustness, availability, and accountability
 - ▶▶▶ scalability to billions of users
 - ▶▶▶ interoperability



We have proposed a new IdM/CKM design that:

- ▣▣▣▣ **relies only on symmetric techniques to achieve post quantum security**
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- ▣ **does not have “system-wide” single point of trust failure**
 - ▣ protects name spaces as assets of respective owners
 - ▣ support accountability and transparency



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- ▣▣▣▣➔ **Supports “tailored trustworthy spaces” (NITRD)**
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 - ▣▣▣▣➤ NATO approved SST (UK) for TEMPEST
 - ▣▣▣▣➤ NCP-e (German) for Virtual Private Networks
 - ▣▣▣▣➤ Secure Shell Limited (Finland) for SSH
 - ▣▣▣▣➤ Quintessence Labs (Australia) for QKD
 - ▣▣▣▣➤ Sonalysts (USA) for network behavioral security
 - ▣▣▣▣➤ Tesacom (Latin America) for satellite communications.

- ▣▣▣▣➤ Calling for additional US and international collaborators
 - ▣▣▣▣➤ Marketing strategy and partner for a major region now advancing, targeting large corporations (including within world's top 10)



Architecture and collaborator enquiries:



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