



# Verified Secure Routing

verifiedSCiON

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ICECCS

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**ETH**

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# VerifiedSCION

## Team Members

### Verification Team

#### Information Security

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Thilo Weghorn

#### Programming Methodology

Marco Eilers  
Peter Müller

#### Network Security

Samuel Hitz  
Adrian Perrig

### Scion Design & Development Team

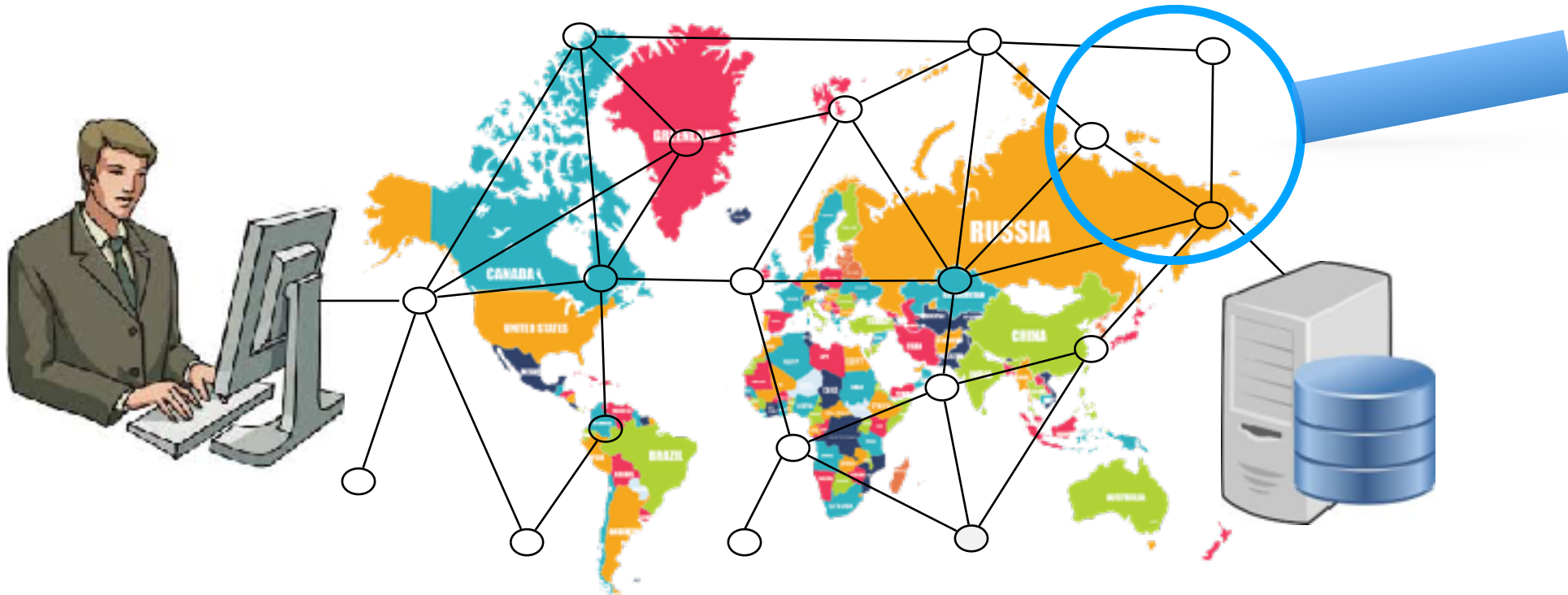


# Motivation and Context

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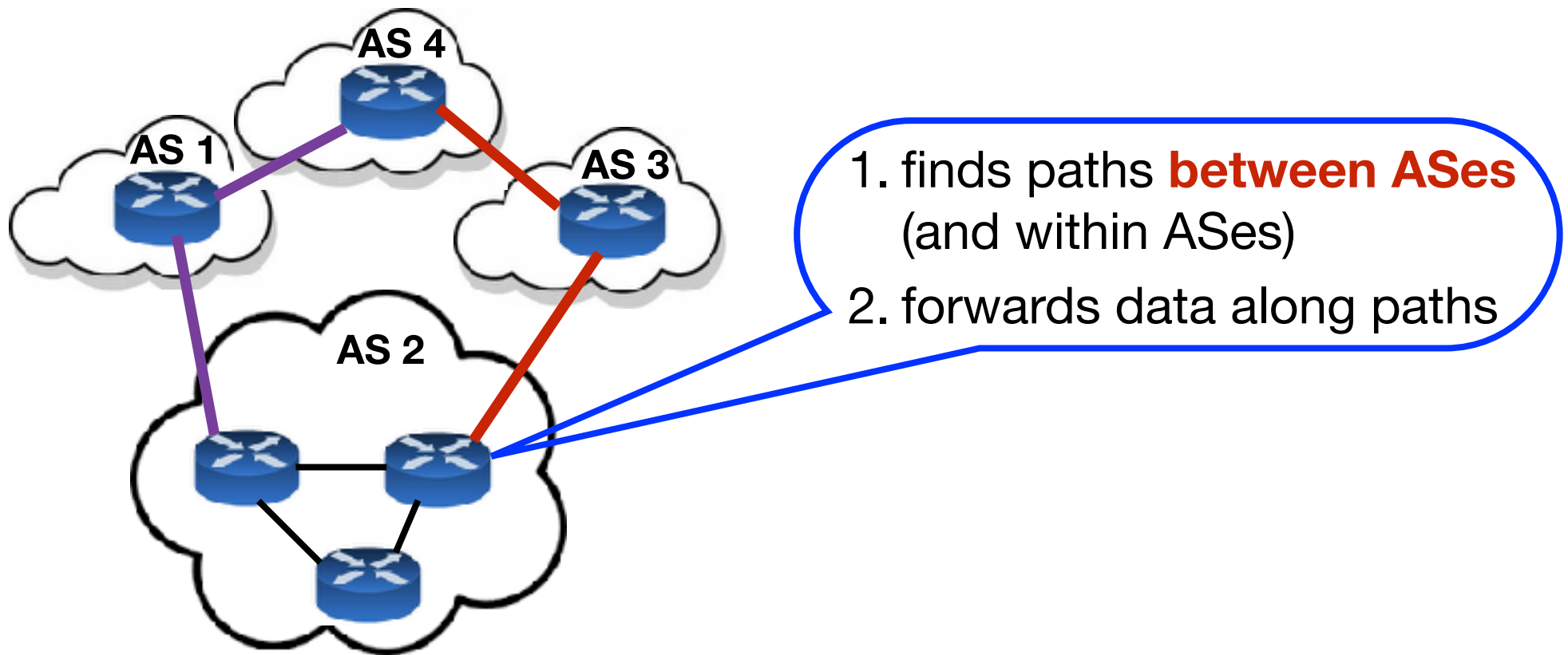
**Routing** problems with the status quo (inter-AS routing)

# Routing Between Autonomous Systems



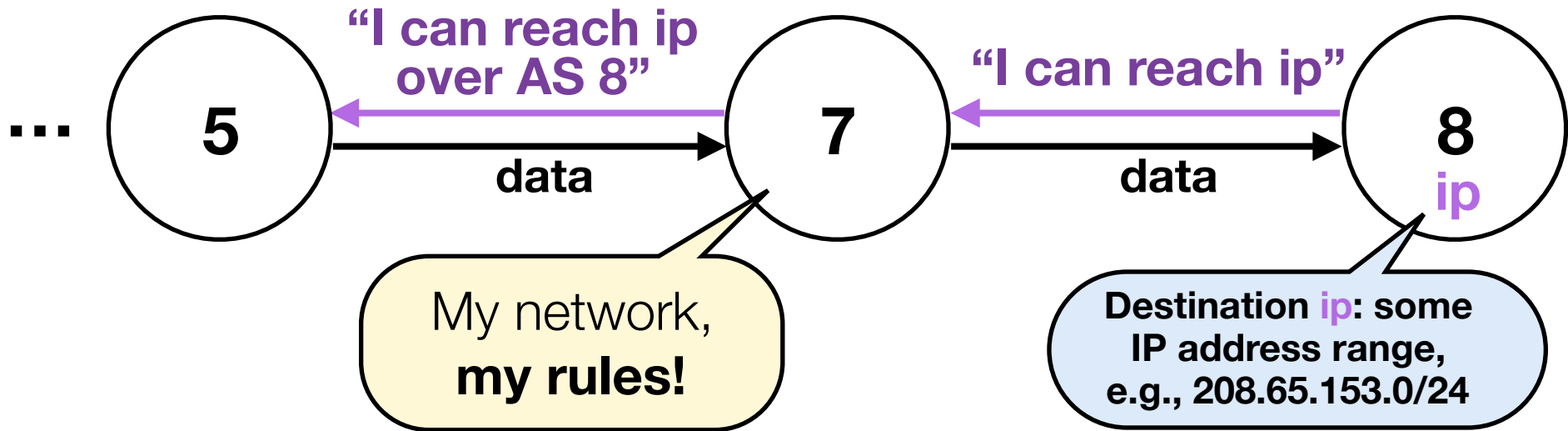
- The Internet is a network of **Autonomous Systems (ASes)**.
- Each AS is itself a network of **routers** run by an institution (e.g., Telco, ISP, company, or university).
- There are 50,000+ ASes in the world.

# Autonomous systems and routers



- Multiple paths between ASes: **2,1,4** and **2,3,4**
- Computed in background by **Border Gateway Protocol** (BGP) and just one will be selected and used to configure routers

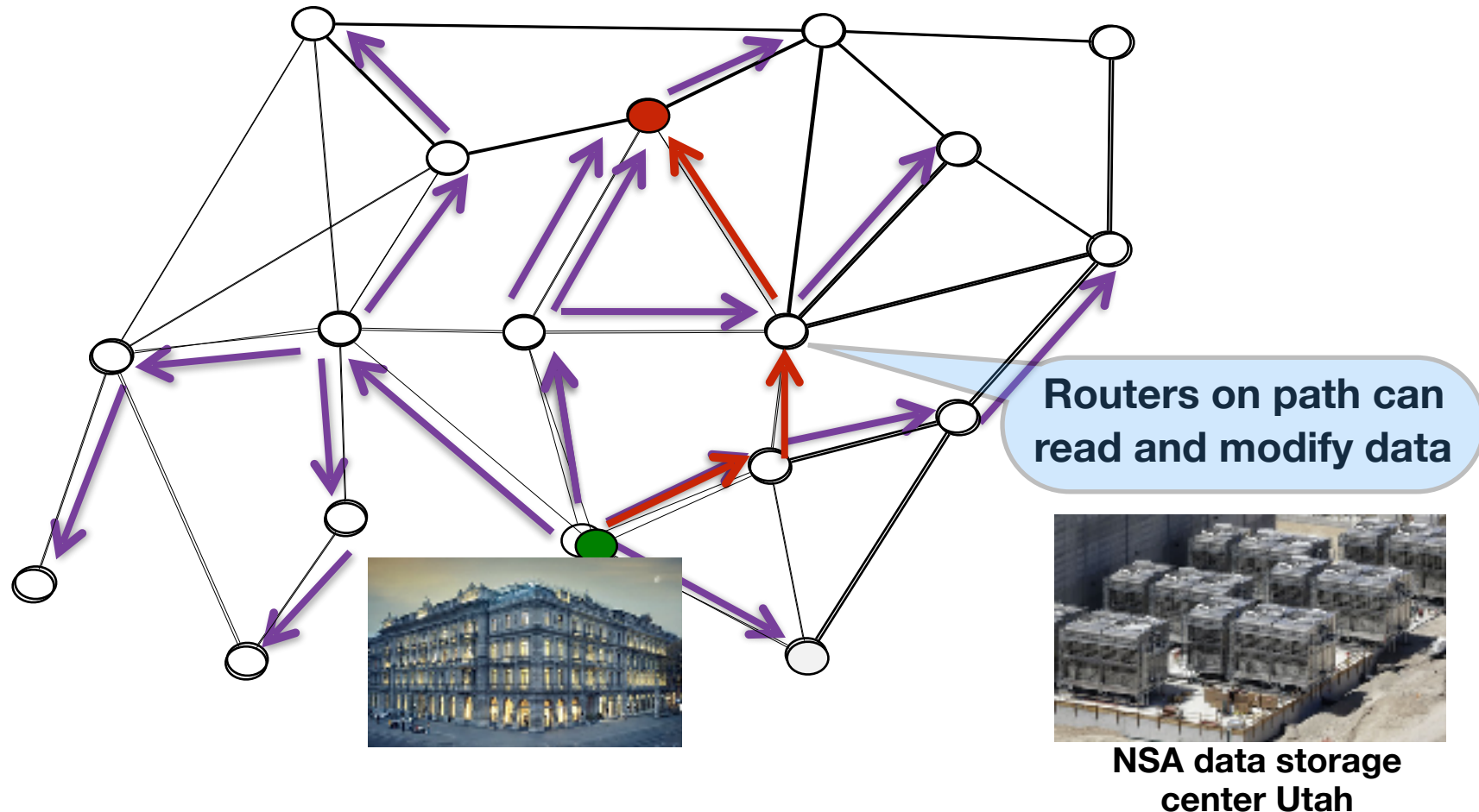
# Border Gateway Protocol



- ASes announce **paths to destination address ranges**.
  - One path per destination used to configure routers.
  - Data flows back in the **opposite** direction.
- **Policies**
  - Decide on what is accepted, rejected, or propagated.
  - Any AS can announce any address range it wants!

It's all based on  
T, R, U, S, T,

# Who controls the Internet?



- Control over paths is completely distributed
  - Border Gateway Protocol (BGP): all nodes flood path announcements
- No inbound traffic control



# Who controls Internet paths?

## Traceroute Path 4: from Chicago, IL to Tehran, Iran





# Three concrete examples

208.65.153.0/22



208.65.153.0/24

## Pakistan DoS against Youtube (2 hours, 2008)

### Strange snafu hijacks UK nuke maker's traffic, routes it through Ukraine

Lockheed, banks, and helicopter designer also affected by border gateway mishap.

by Dan Goodin • Mar 13, 2015 5:13pm GET

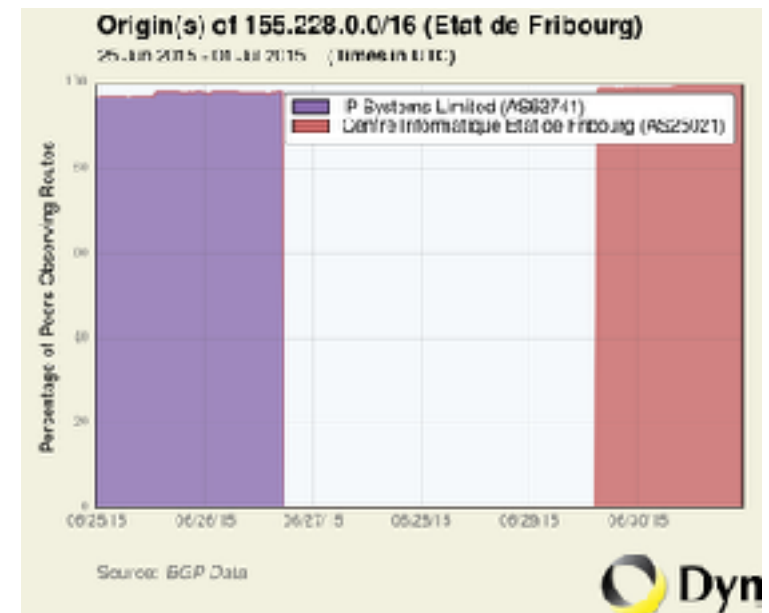


#### Redirected traffic to UK Atomic Weapons Establishment

Internet traffic for 167 important British Telecom customers—including a UK defense contractor that helps deliver the country's nuclear warhead program—were mysteriously diverted to servers in Ukraine before being passed along to their final destination.

The snafu may have allowed adversaries to eavesdrop on or tamper with communications sent and received by the UK's **Atomic Weapons Establishment**, one of the affected British Telecom customers. Other organizations with hijacked traffic include defense contractor Lockheed Martin, Toronto Dominion Bank, Anglo-Italian helicopter company **AgustaWestland**, and the UK

**Ukraine ISP hijacks UK routes including UK Atomic Weapons**



**Fribourg's government address space stolen for 3 days by SPAMers**

# Scion

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**Routing** as it should be

# SCION Project

## Secure Future Internet Architecture

- Design & Implementation, 75+ man years
- Design of routing / forwarding protocols, support ecosystem, and numerous extensions
- Clean slate, yet compatible with existing Internet
- Not just a research prototype, growing deployment: 26 ASes on 3 continents



- See [www.scion-architecture.net](http://www.scion-architecture.net) and related publications CACM 2017, IEEE S&P 2011, CCS 2015, NDSS 2016, S&P 2016

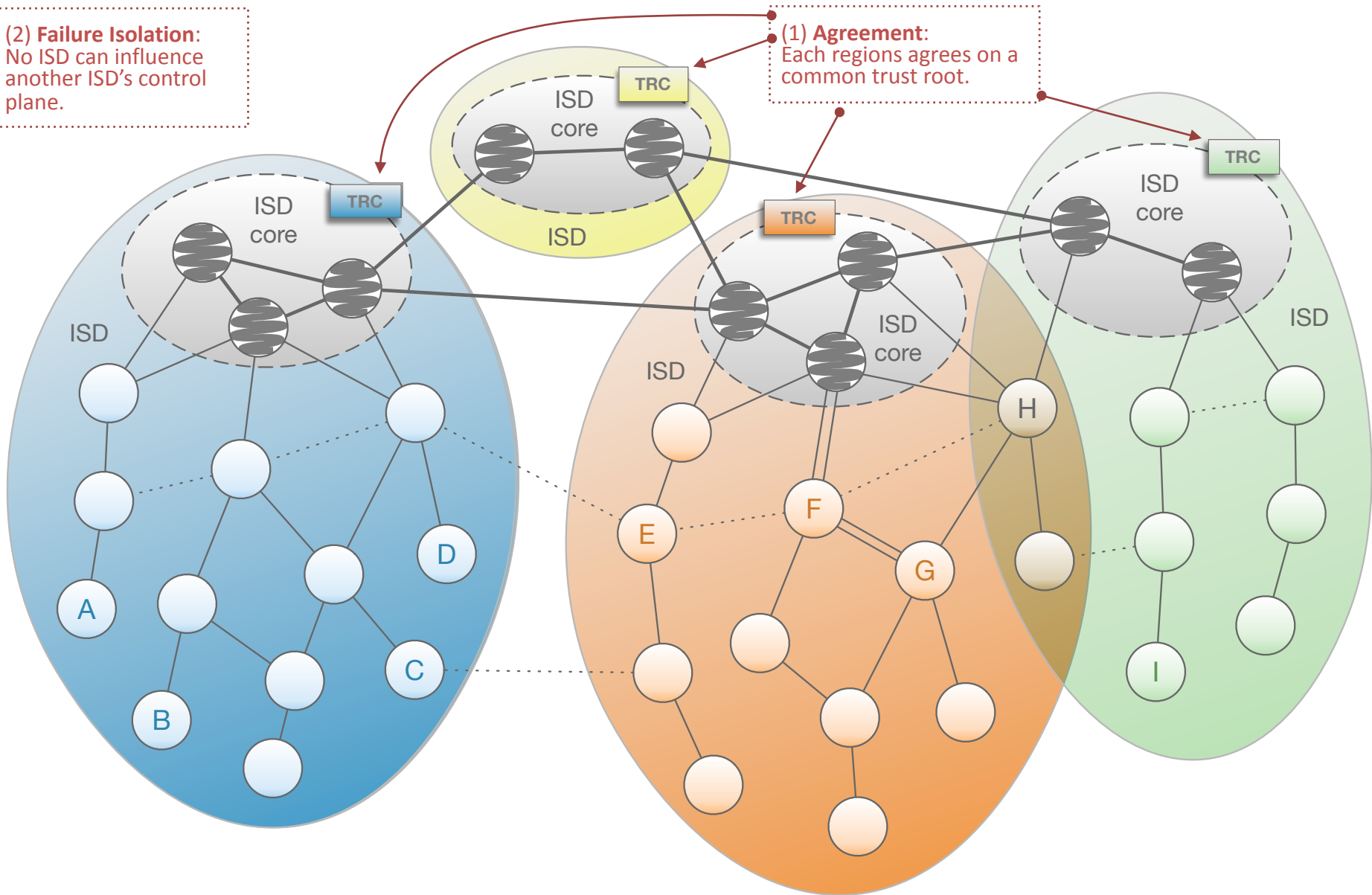
# SCION Overview

- **Isolation Domains** (ISD)
- **Control Plane**: routing
  - Path exploration
  - Path registration
  - Path resolution
- **Data Plane**: packet forwarding

# SCION Isolation Domain (ISD)

(2) **Failure Isolation:**  
No ISD can influence another ISD's control plane.

(1) **Agreement:**  
Each regions agrees on a common trust root.

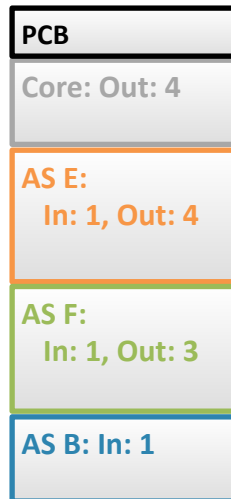


# SCION Routing (Control Plane)

## Routing Phases:

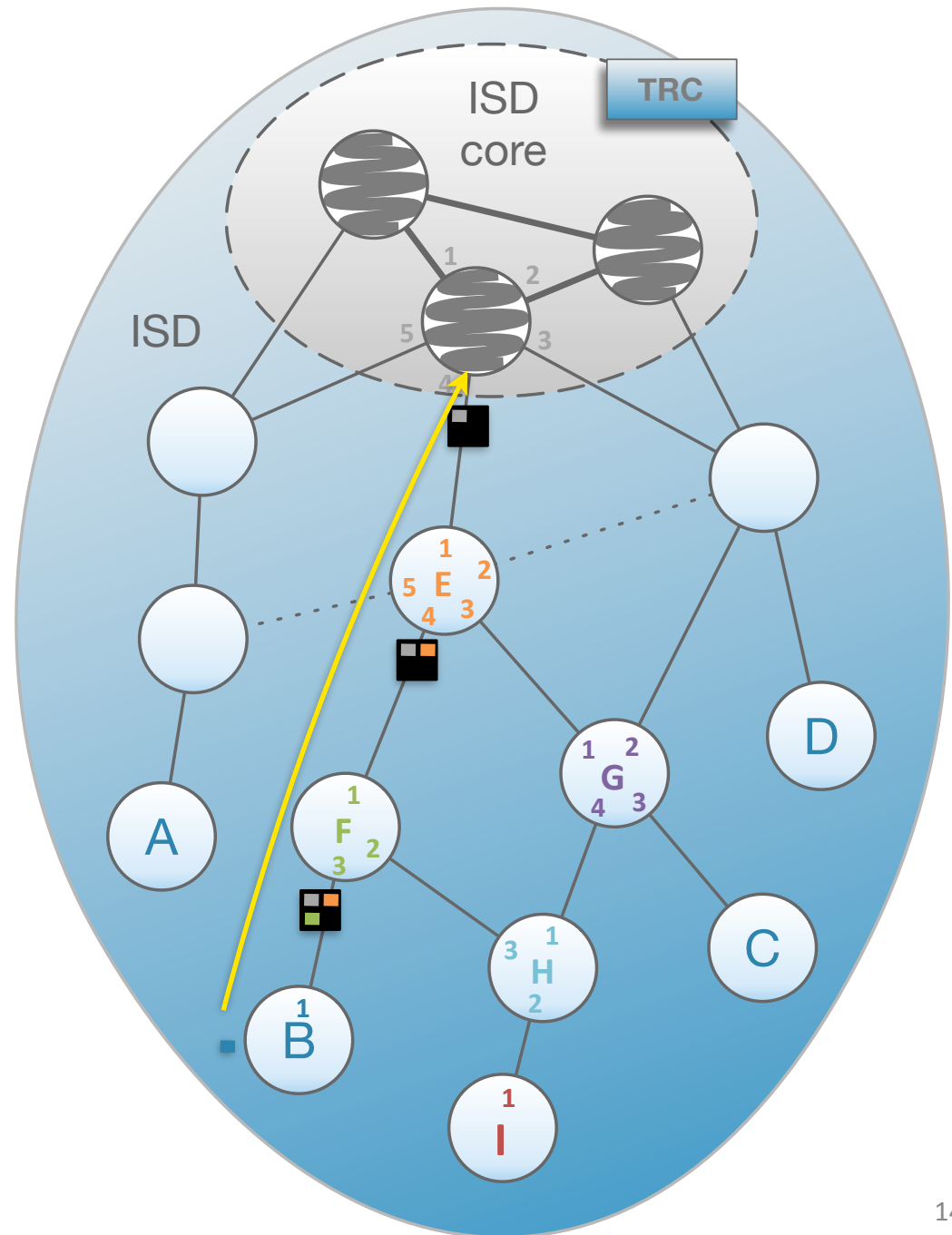
- (1) Path Exploration
- (2) Path Registration
- (3) Path Resolution

Beaconing



- Path Construction Beacons (PCB) are Sequence of signed Hop Fields
- Hop Fields (HF) carry the routing information for one AS

AS X: In: y, Out: z
------------------------



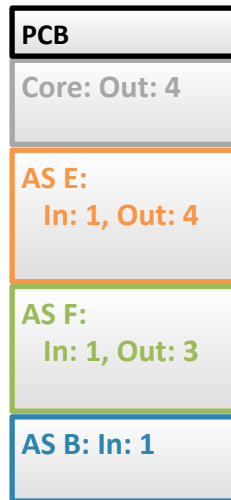


# SCION Routing (Control Plane)

## Routing Phases:

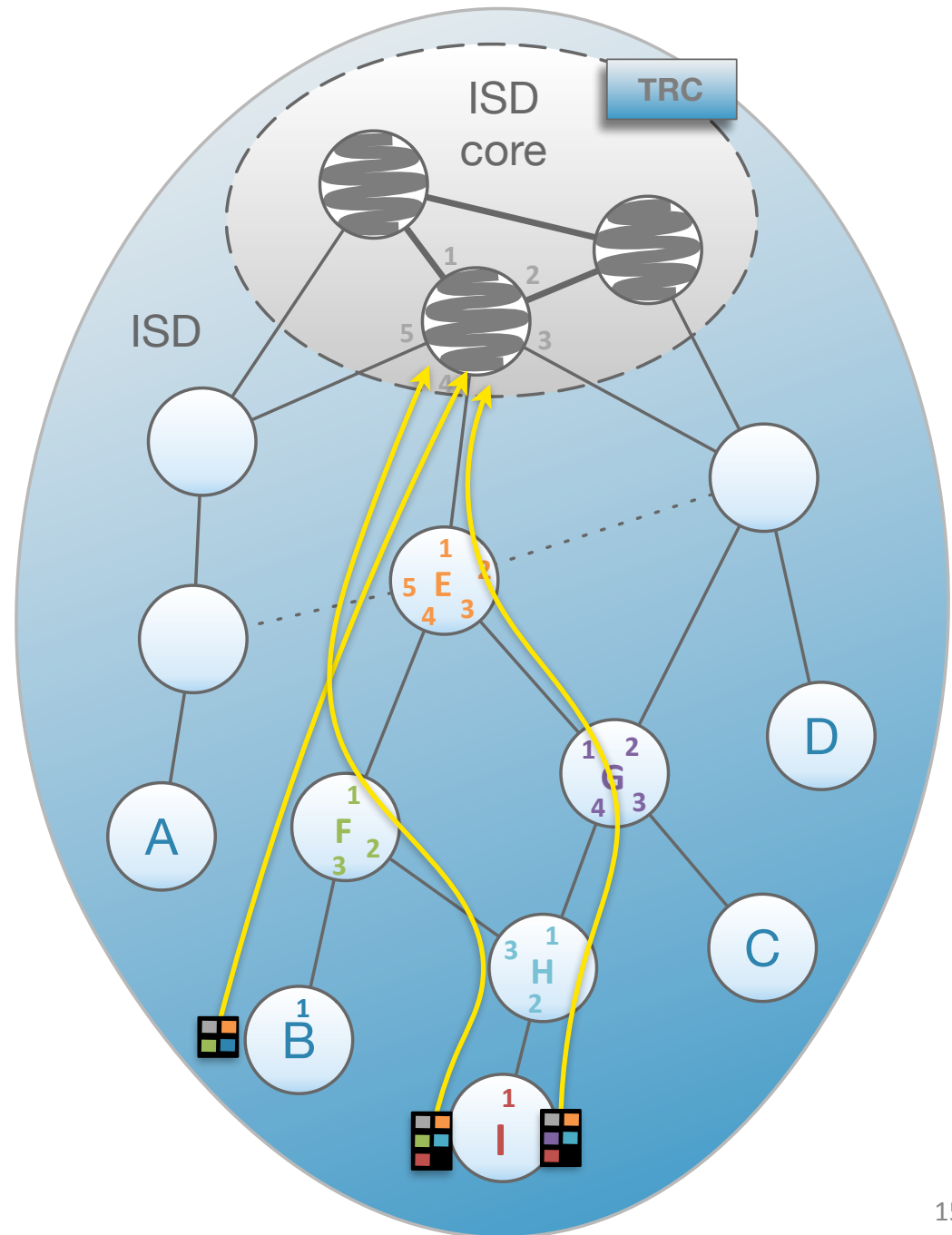
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Beaconing



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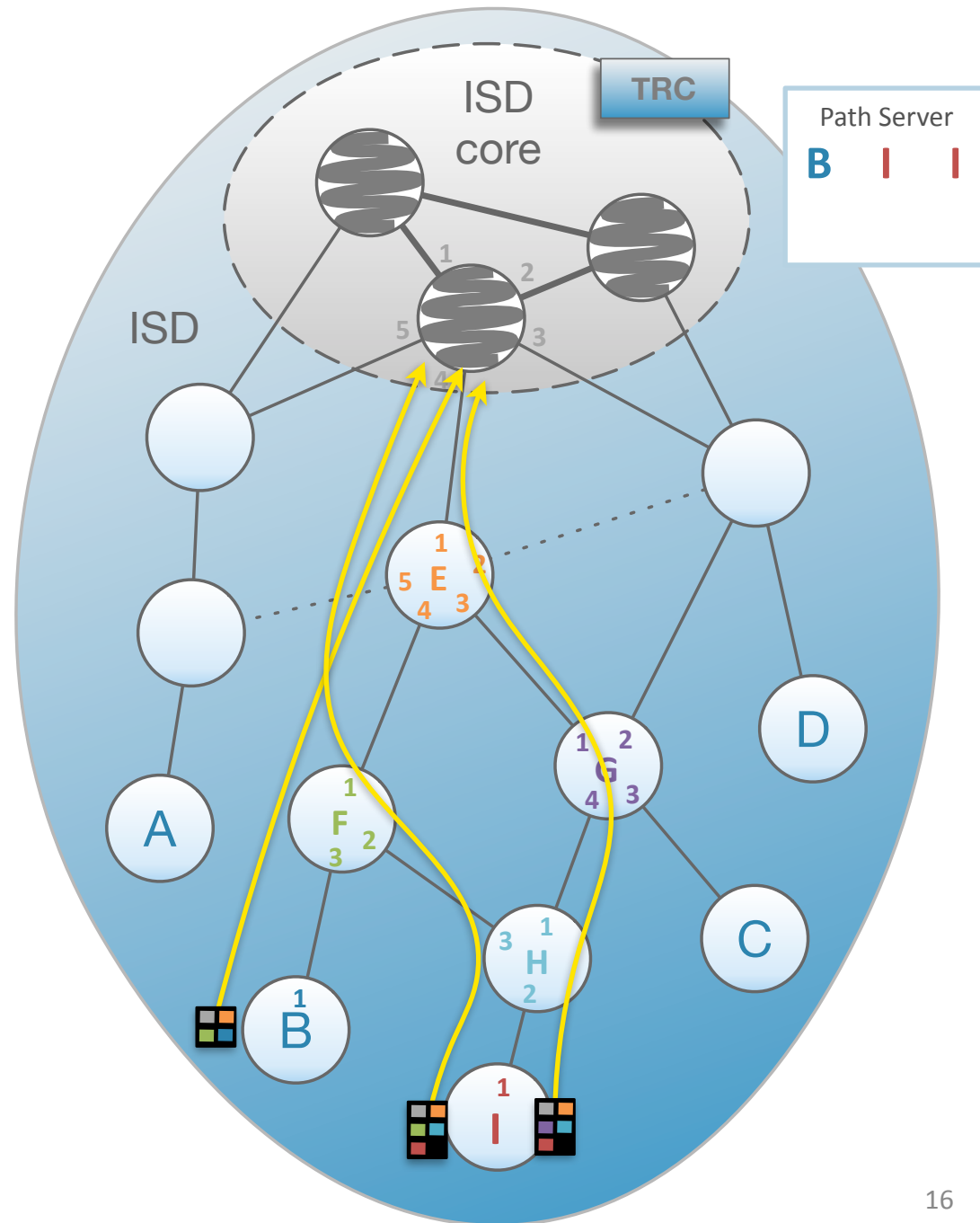
# SCION Routing (Control Plane)

## Routing Phases:

- (1) Path Exploration
- (2) Path Registration**
- (3) Path Resolution

Beaconing

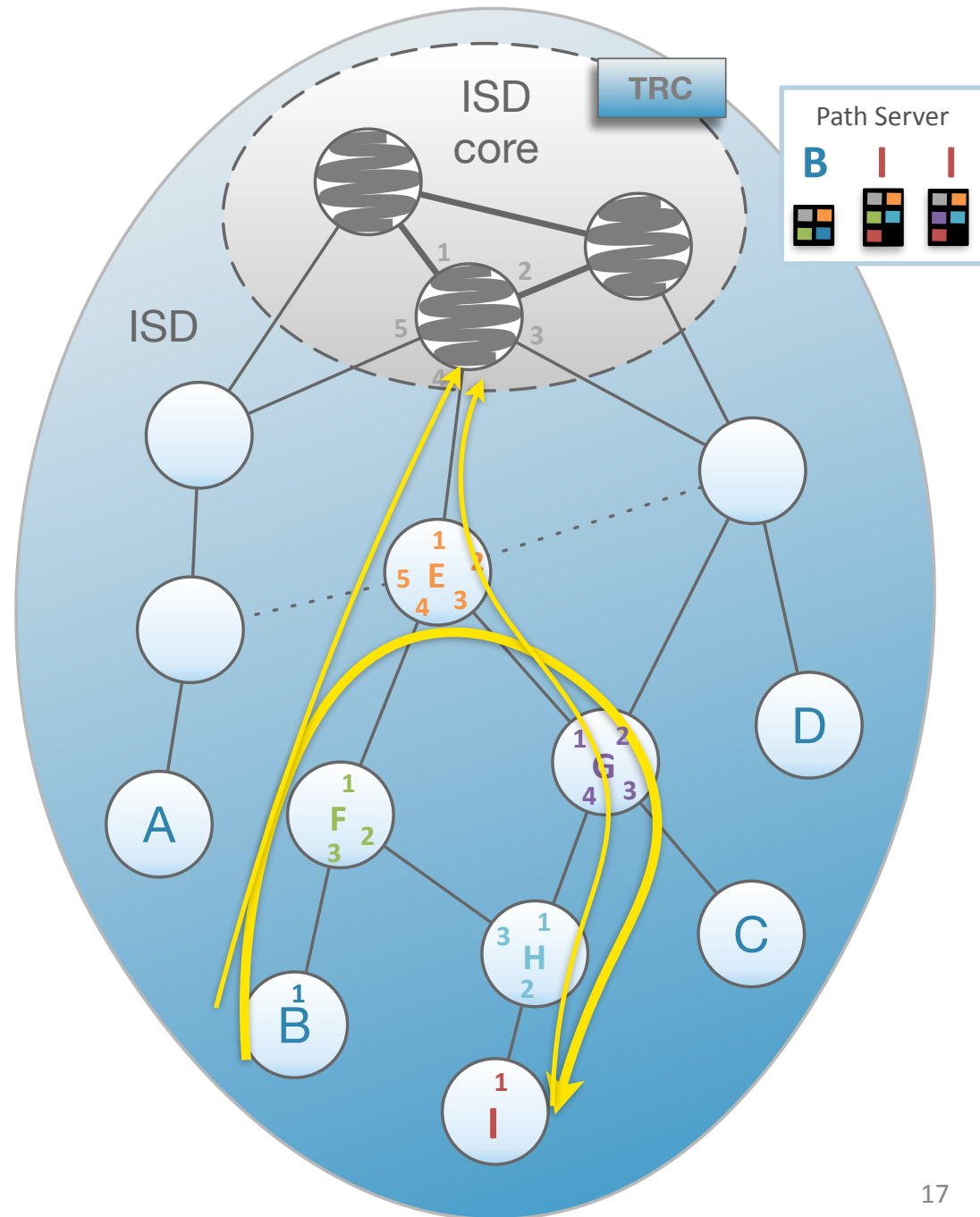
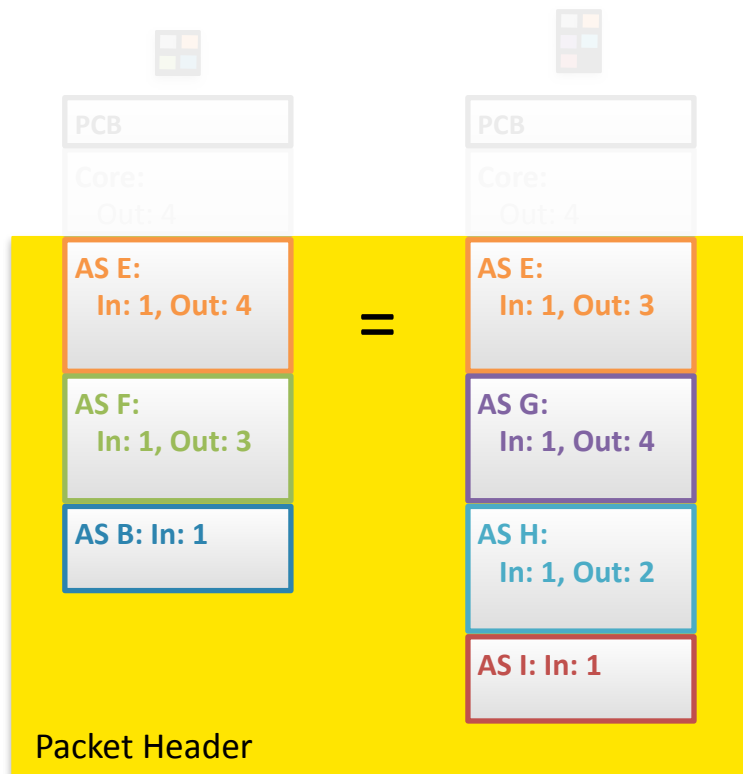
PCB
Core: Out: 4
AS E: In: 1, Out: 4
AS F: In: 1, Out: 3
AS B: In: 1



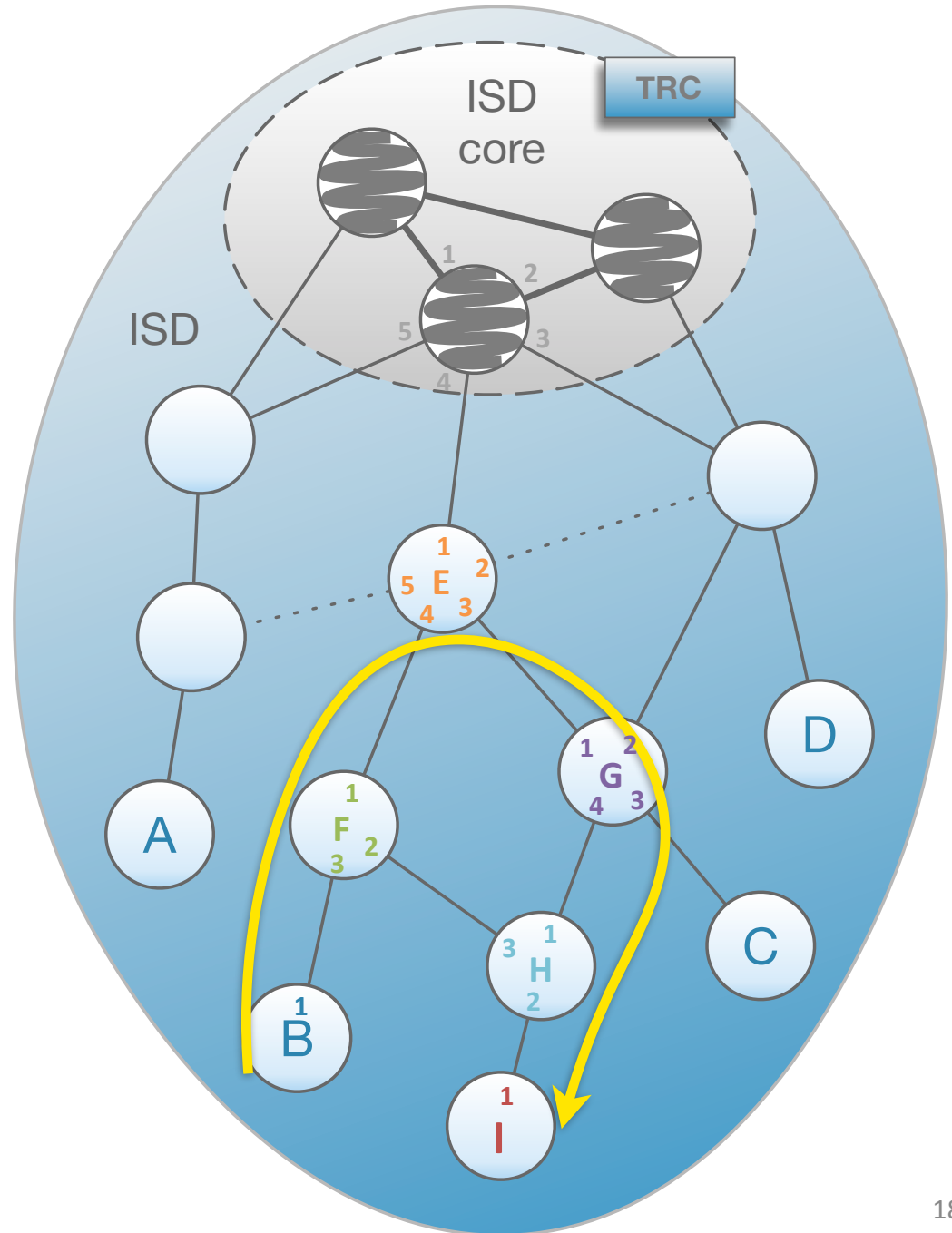
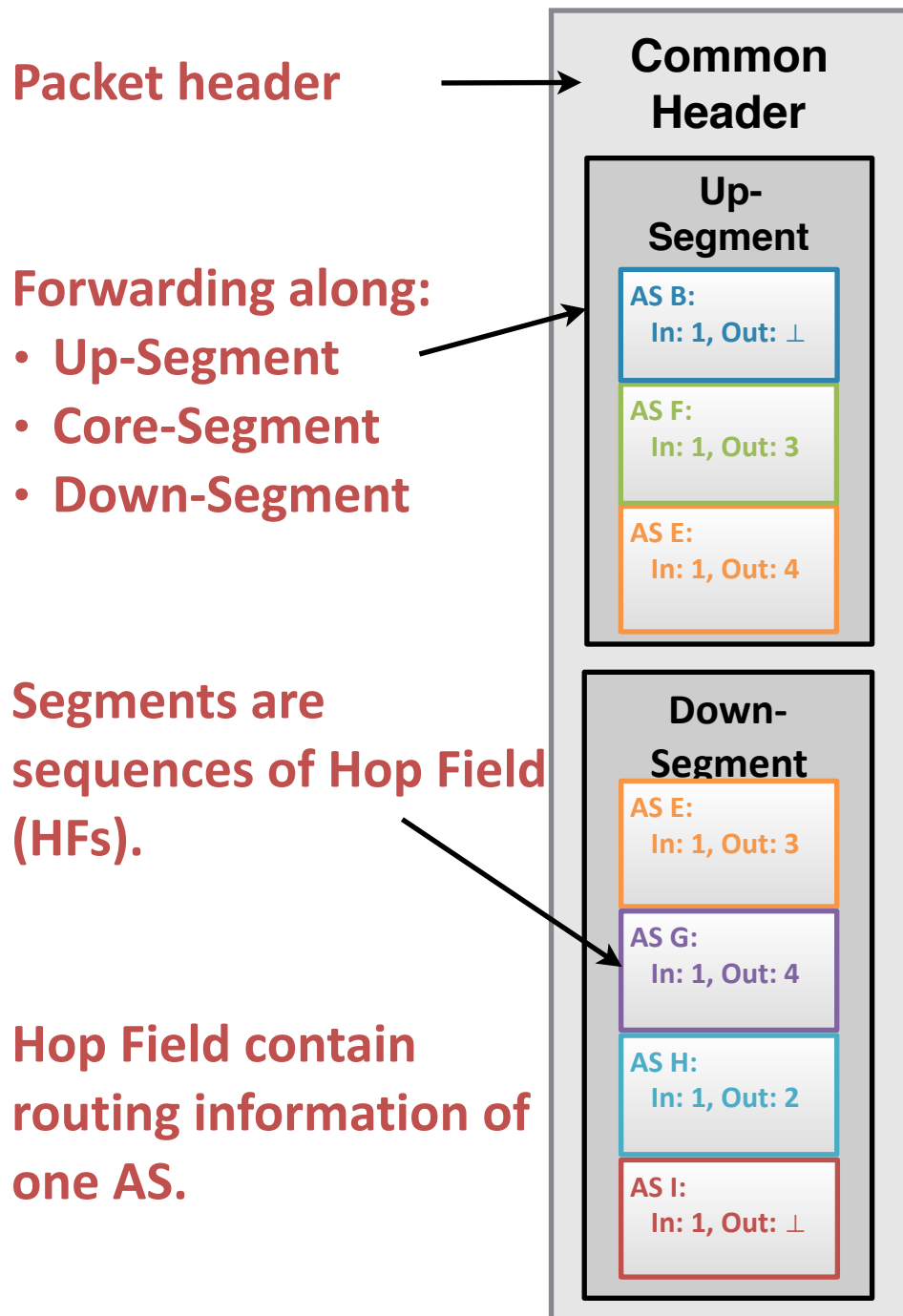
# SCION Routing (Control Plane)

## Routing Phases:

- (1) Path Exploration
- (2) Path Registration
- (3) Path Resolution



# SCION Forwarding (Data Plane)



# Verification

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High-level, omitting formal details

# Can We Verify Scion?

- Control and data plane guarantees
- Functional **correctness** of actual code
  - Suitable for high-assurance business cases
  - Ensures that routers are backdoor-free
- **Scion routers are simple and stateless**
  - This is the key to their (feasible) verification
  - Not possible for current Internet with highly complex routers and giant code bases of millions of lines





# Correctness and Security

## SCION Approach



### Verification of **protocols models** at the **network level**

- **Assuming** that each SCION component **behaves as specified**
- **Technique:** stepwise refinement, preserves invariants, using Isabelle/HOL.



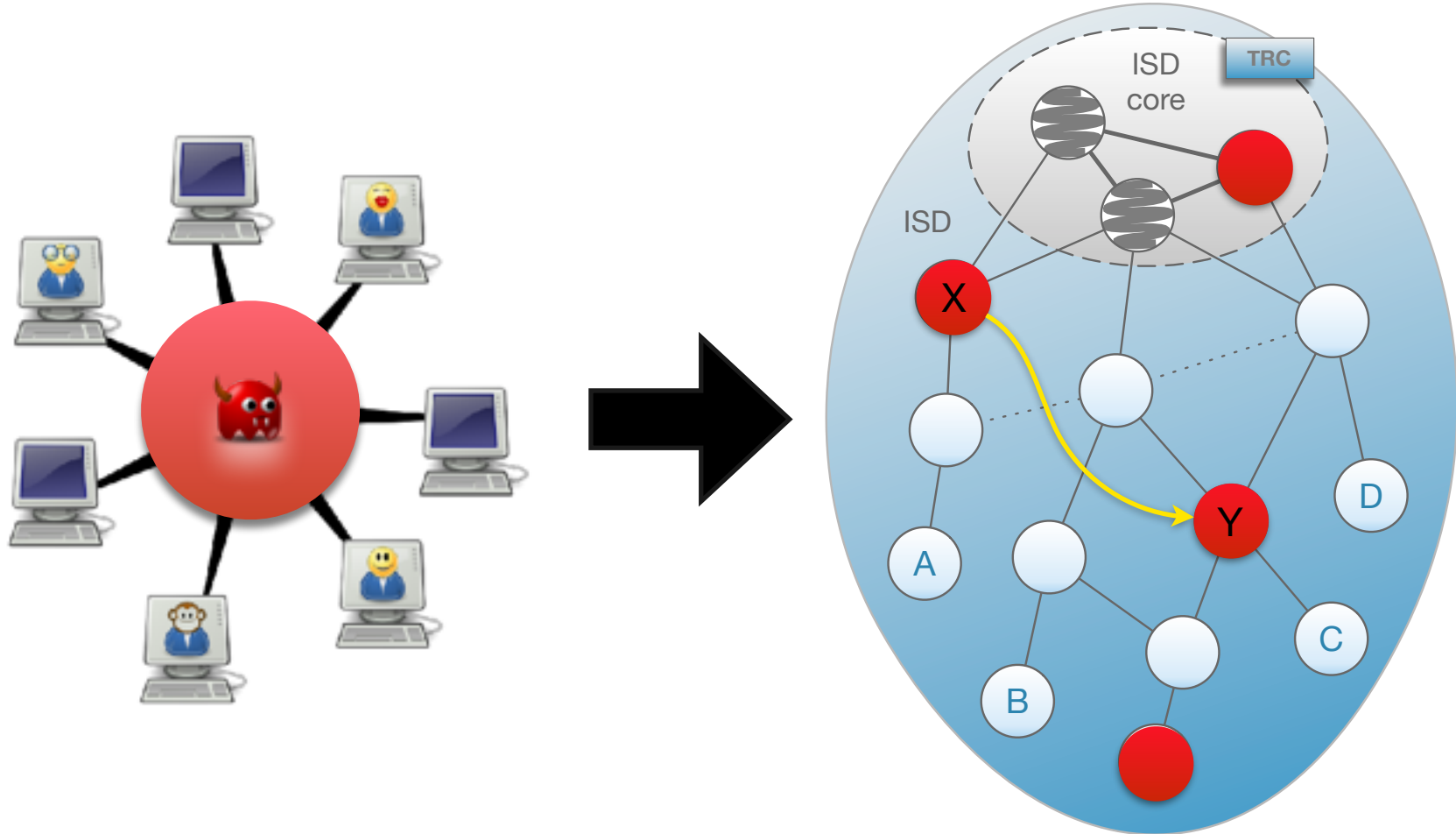
### Verification of the **components** at the **code level**

- **Guaranteeing** that each SCION component **behaves as specified.**
- **Technique:** Hoare-style pre-/post-condition reasoning, Viper with Python front-end.



# Concrete Attacker Model

We use a **localized, colluding Dolev-Yao** attacker model



Attacker controls the  
entire network

Attacker controls a  
subset of ASes

# SCION Protocol Security Properties

## Control plane properties

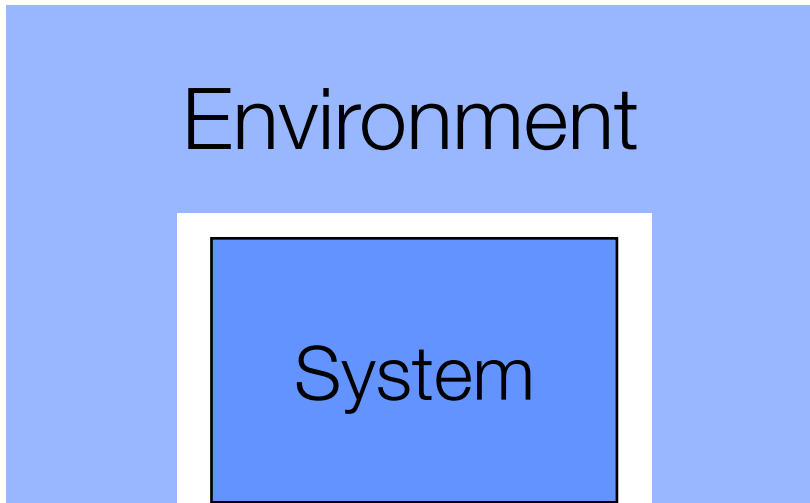
- **Beacon validity:** Sequence of ASes in a beacon corresponds to a path in the network (modulo wormholes).

## Data plane properties

- **Path authorization:** Packets only forwarded along previously authorized paths.
- **Weak detectability:** An active attacker cannot hide his presence on the path.

**Our initial focus is on data plane / router code verification.**

# System & Environment



Attacker

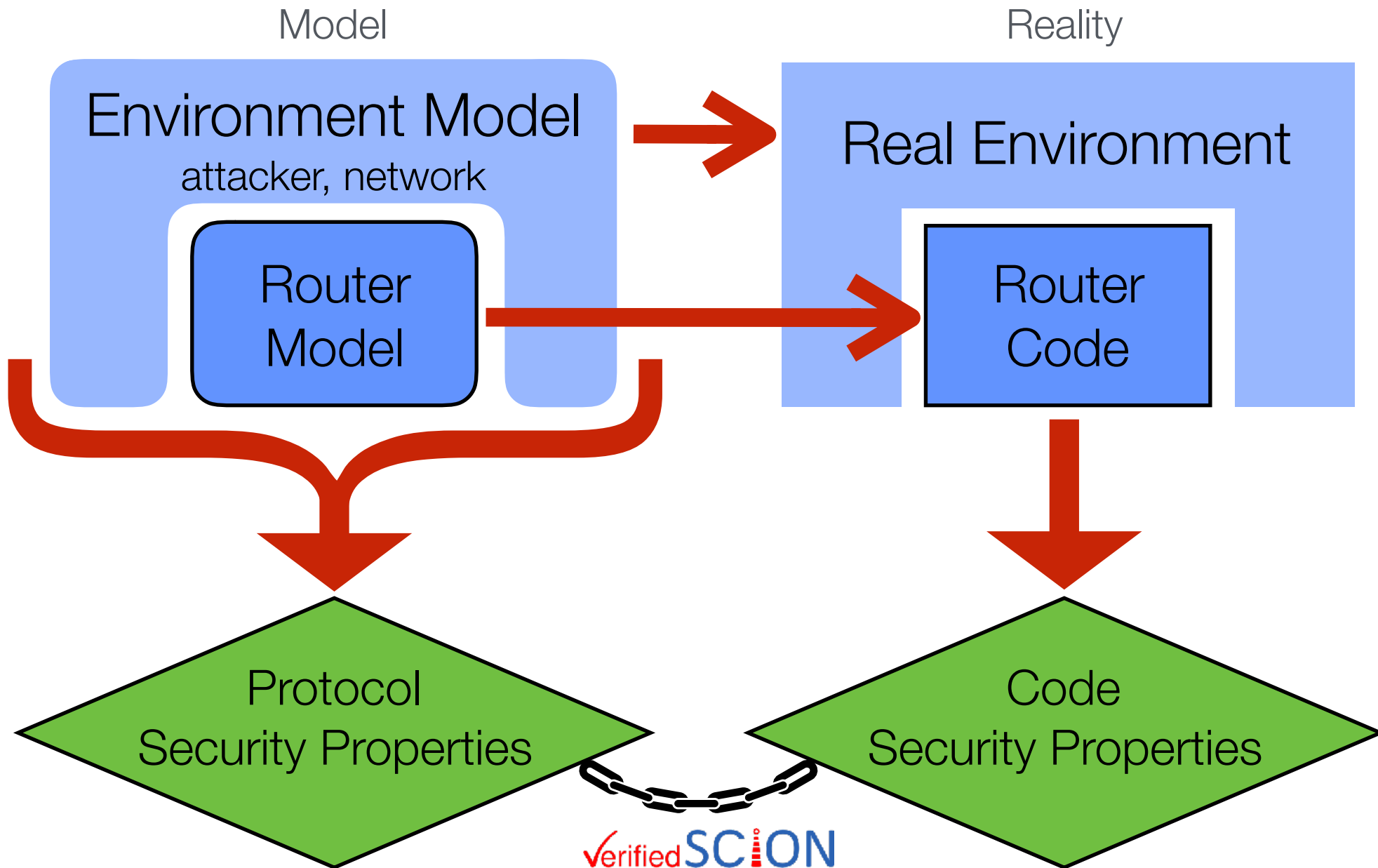
Network

End hosts

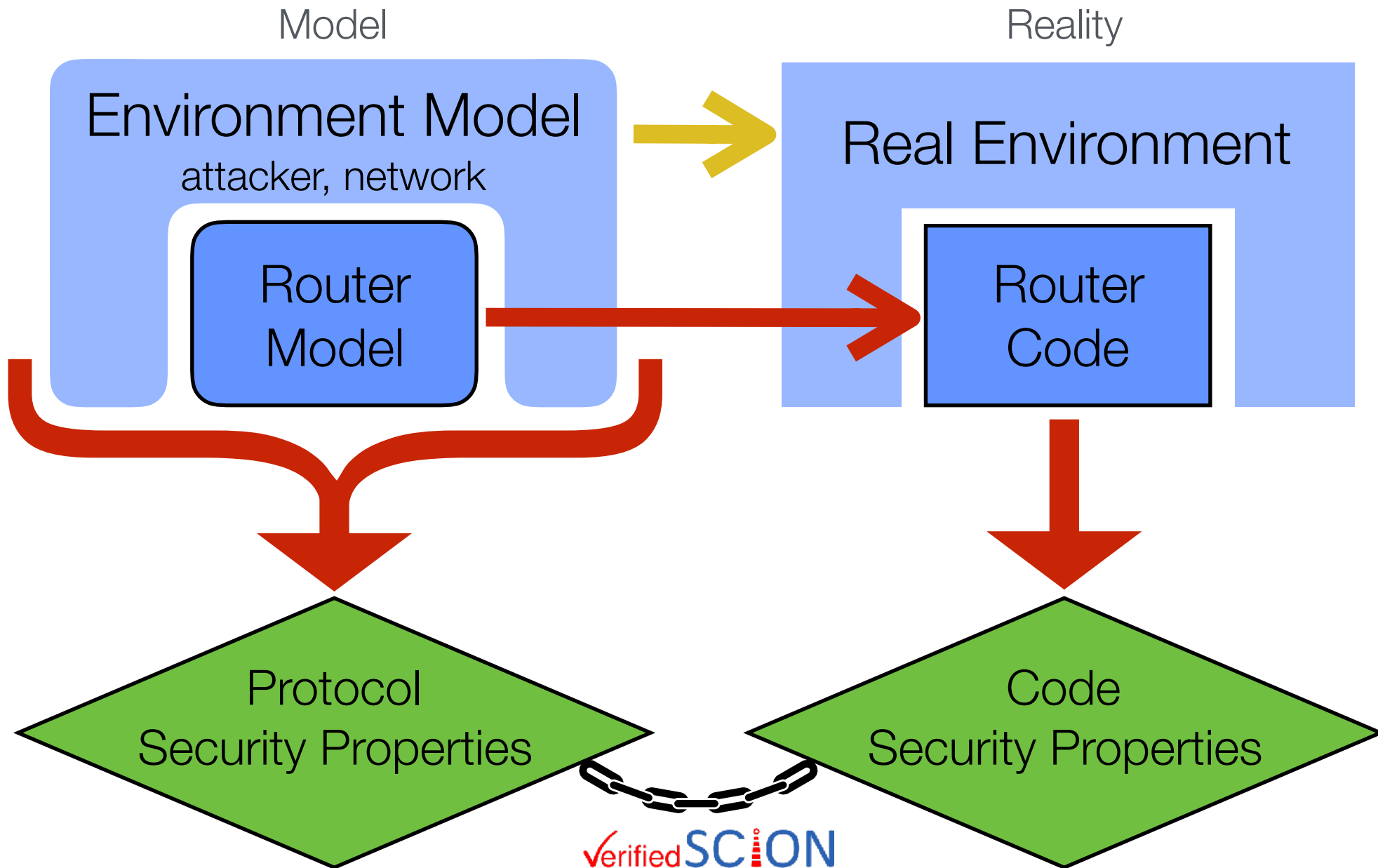
OS & Libraries

Border Router

# SCION Router Verification Overview



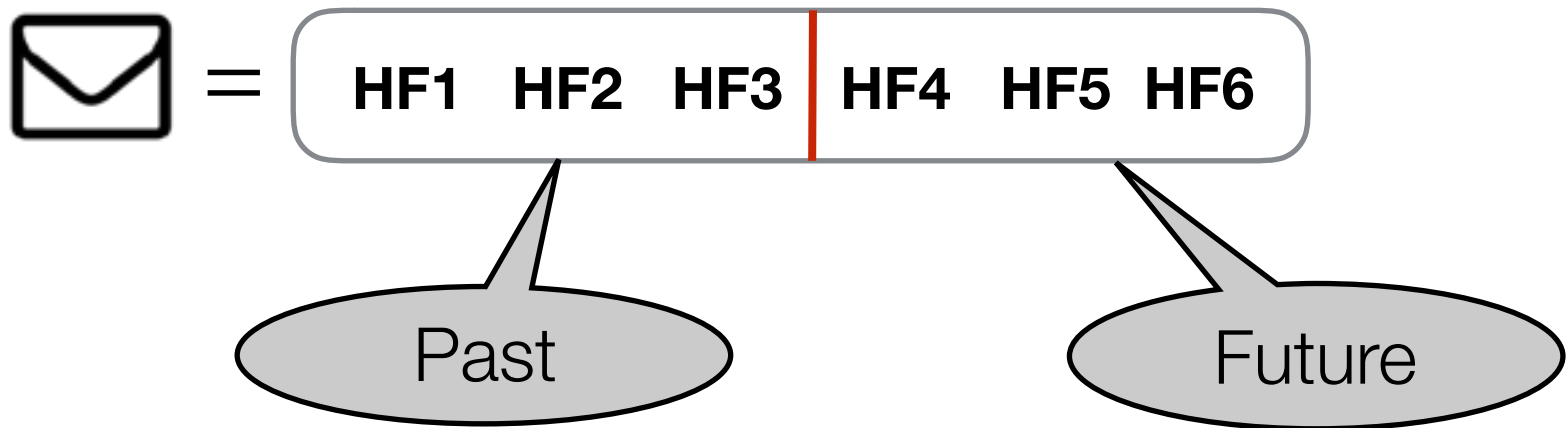
# SCION Router Verification Overview





# Abstract Packet Format

## The Path is the Packet



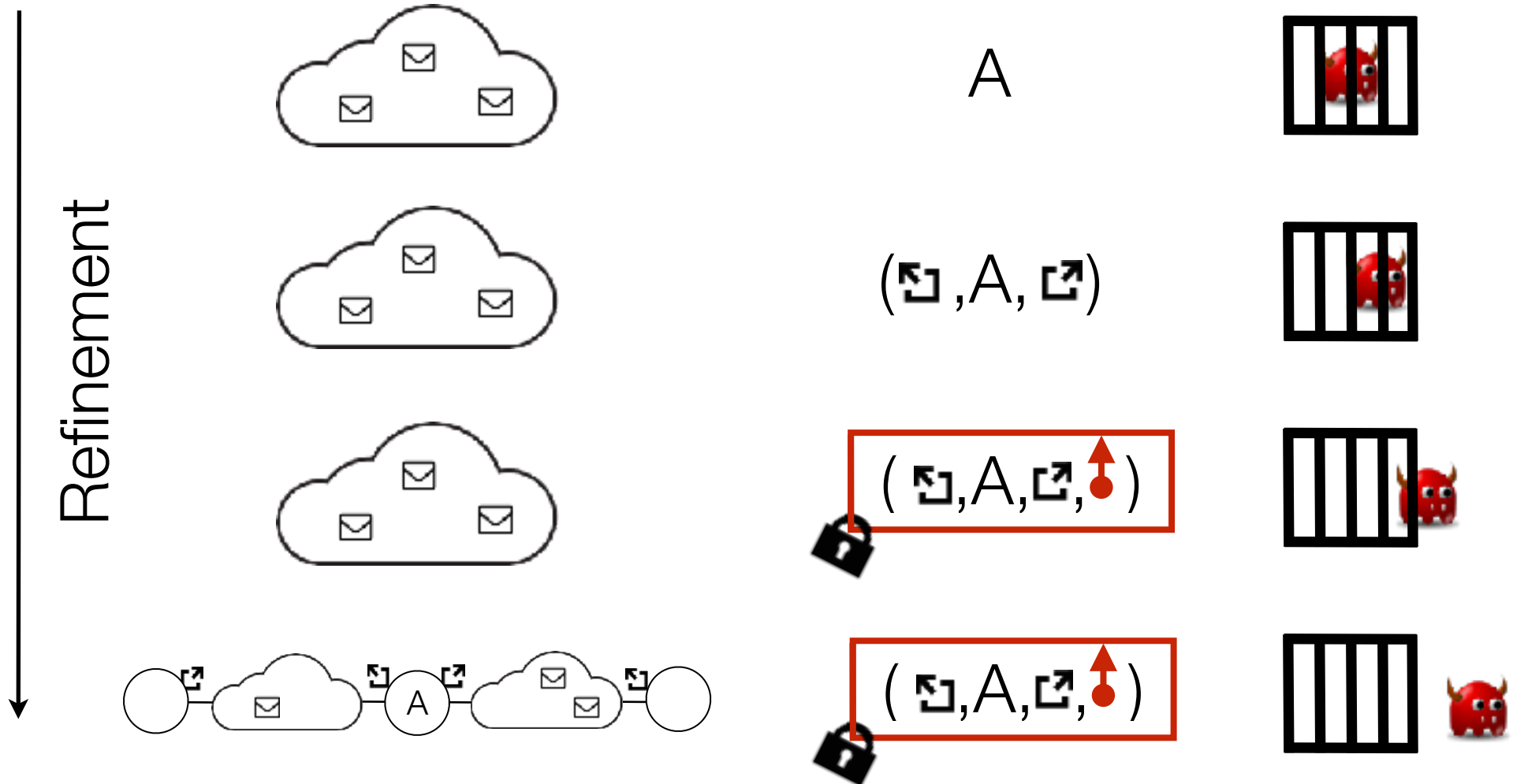
- A path is a sequence of **Hop Fields (HF)**.
- Each Hop Field contains routing information for one AS.
- Path is separated into Past and Future parts that indicate the packet's position in network.

# Refinement Overview

Communication channels

Hop Field format

Attacker



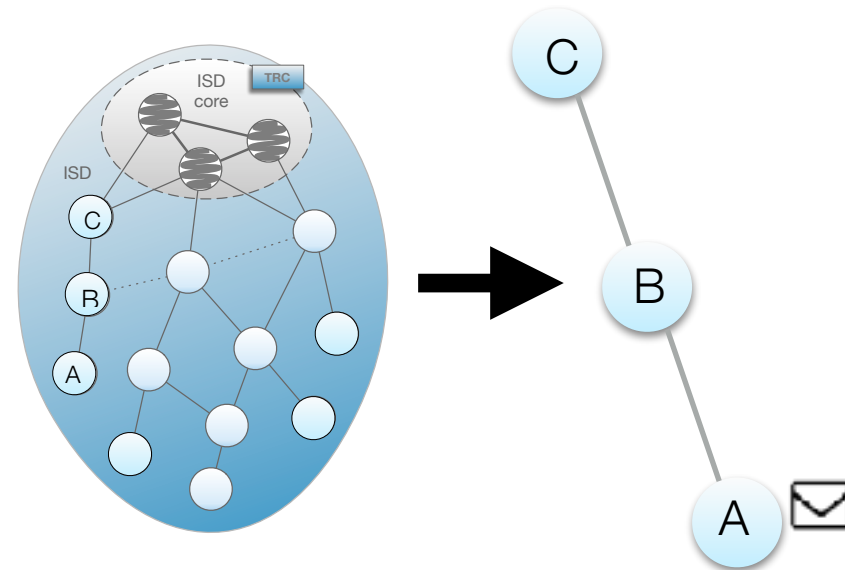
**Idea:** strengthen attacker while increasing protection of paths.

: Message set   
 : Neighbor ASes   
 : MAC   
 : Fields protected by MAC

# Simplified Scenario (Initially)

## Packet traversal along a single up-segment

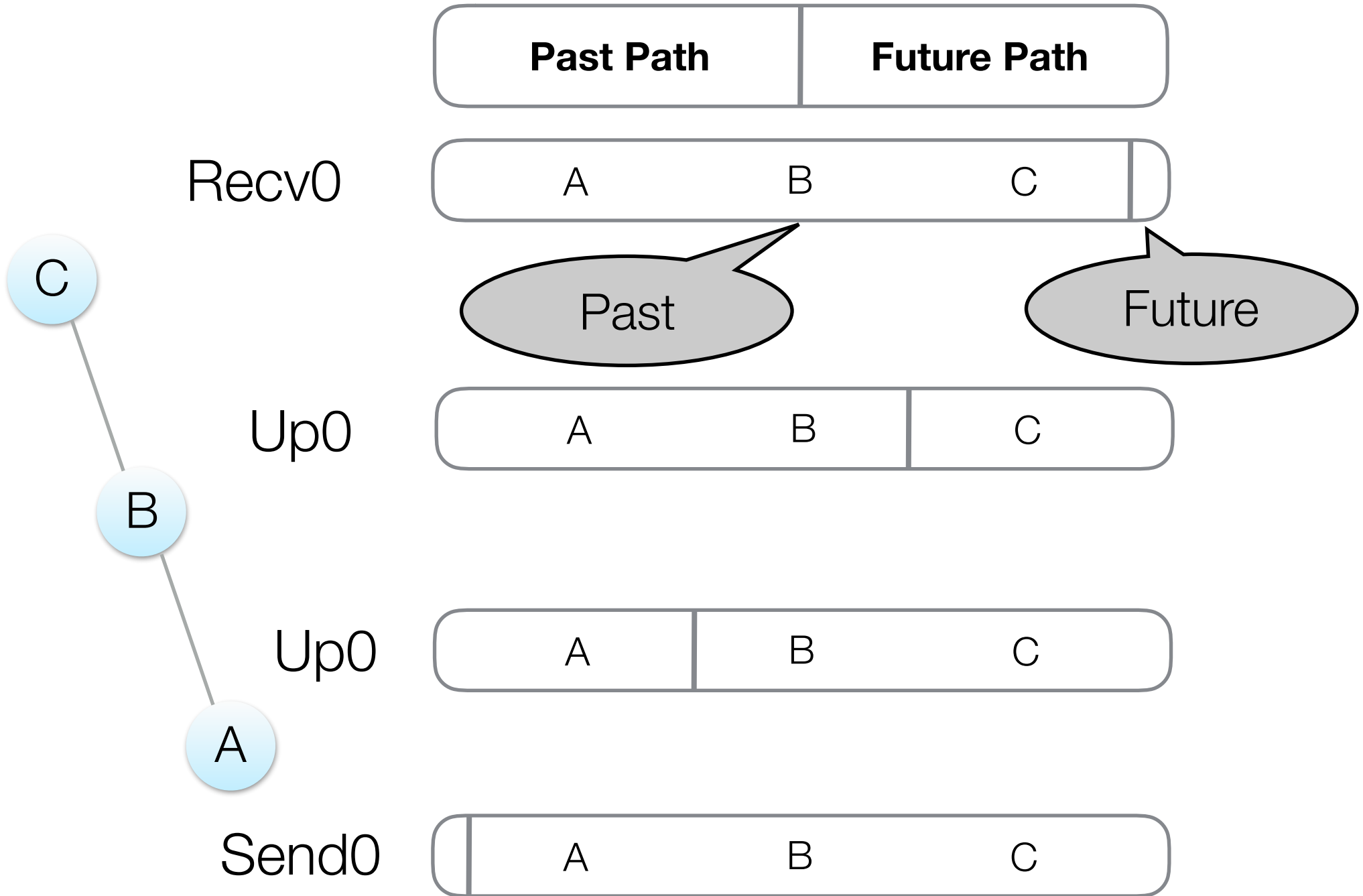
- A set of **authorized-paths** from path server is given as parameter
- Simplified setting
  - Ignore core- and down-segments
  - No peering or core links
  - Single ISD
  - No changes in link status (up/down)



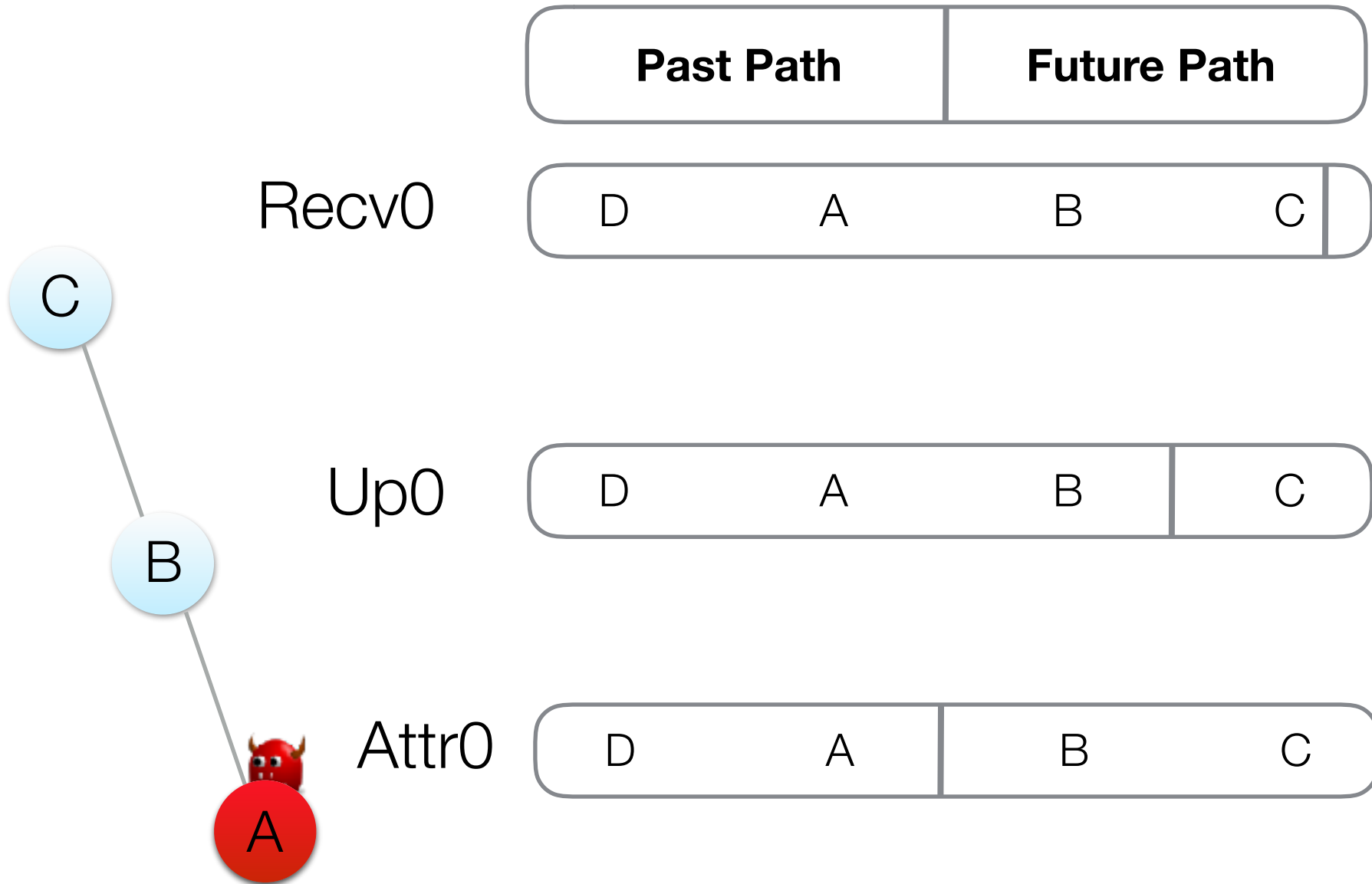
**Verification is still challenging enough!**

# Data Plane Model 0

Example of one Packet along a simple Path

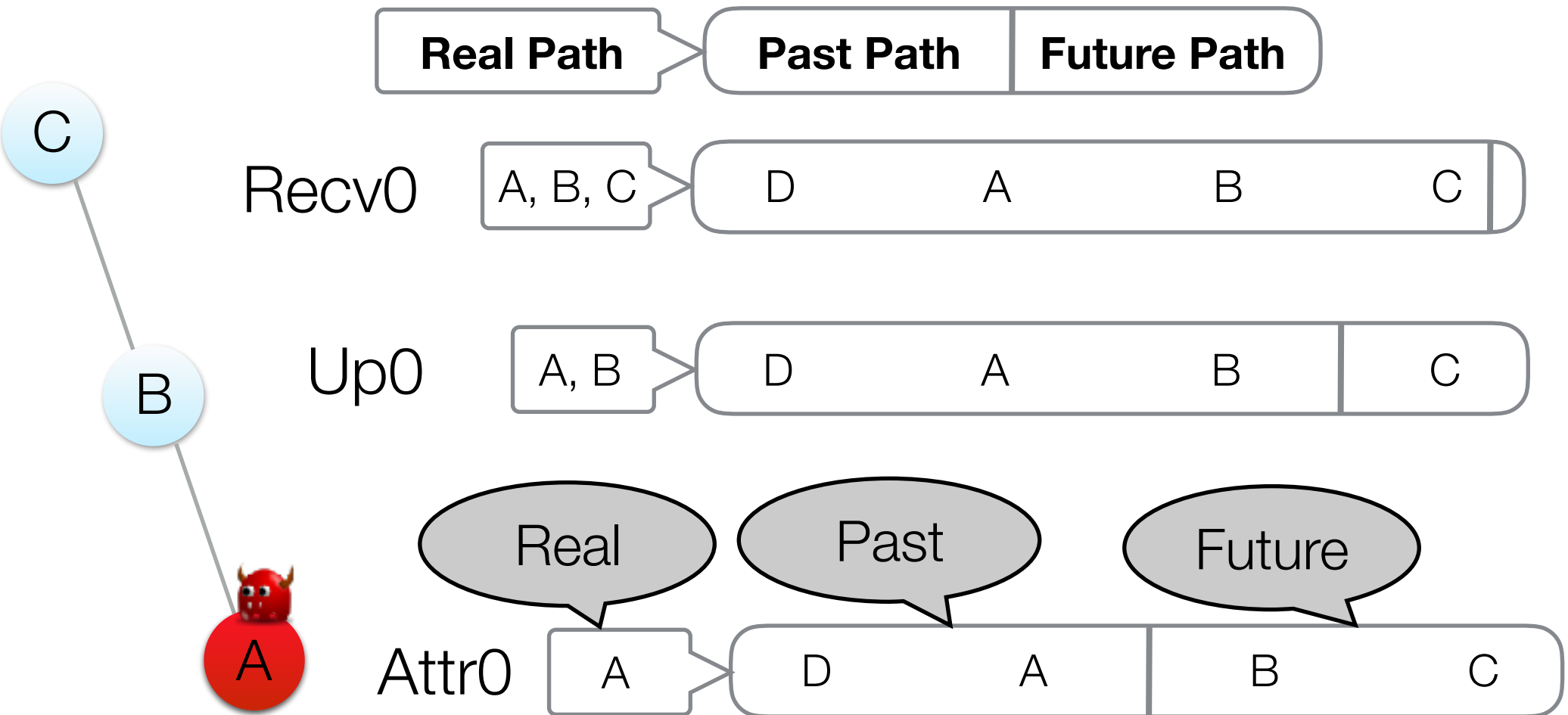


# Data Plane Model 0



**Problem: Past Path is unreliable**

# Data Plane Model 0



- Add new component, **real path**, to message
- History variable recording **actually path traversed** so far  
(Not part of actual implementation)



# Formalized Properties of Model 0

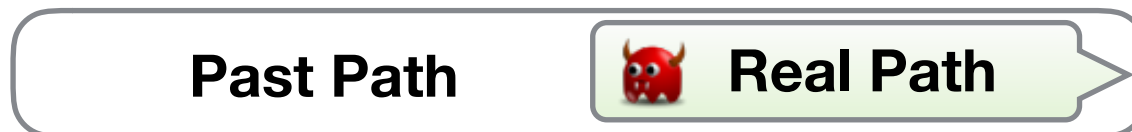
**Assumption (control plane)** Assume a set of **authorized-paths** resulting from beaconing process.



- **Path authorization:** Packets are forwarded only along previously authorized paths.



- **Weak detectability** An attacker 🐉 cannot hide his presence on the path; follows from the following suffix property:



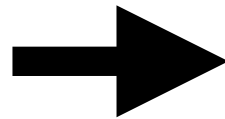
# Data Plane Model 1



Hop Field format is refined:

Model 0

A

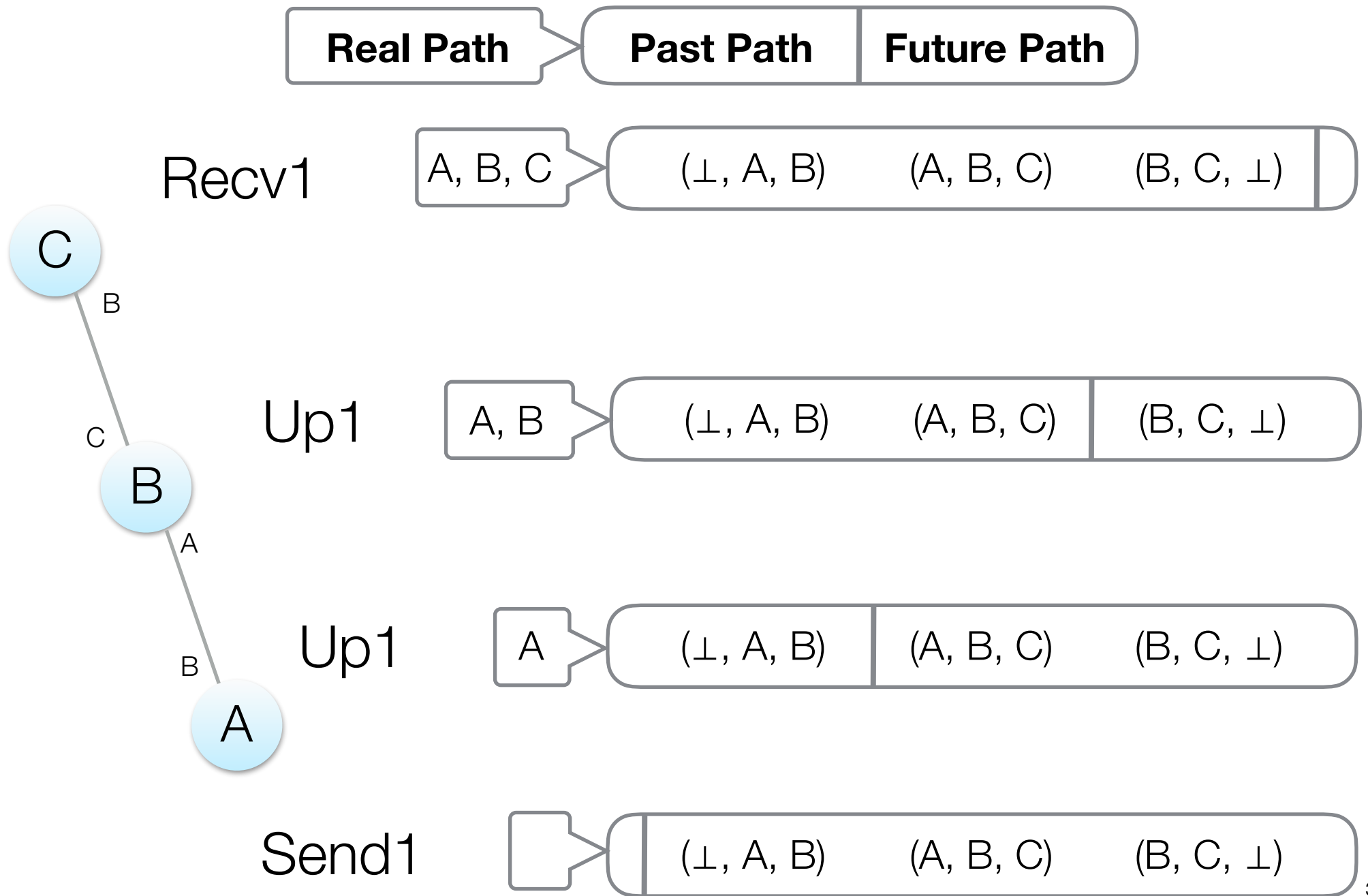


Model 1

( ↶, A, ↷ )

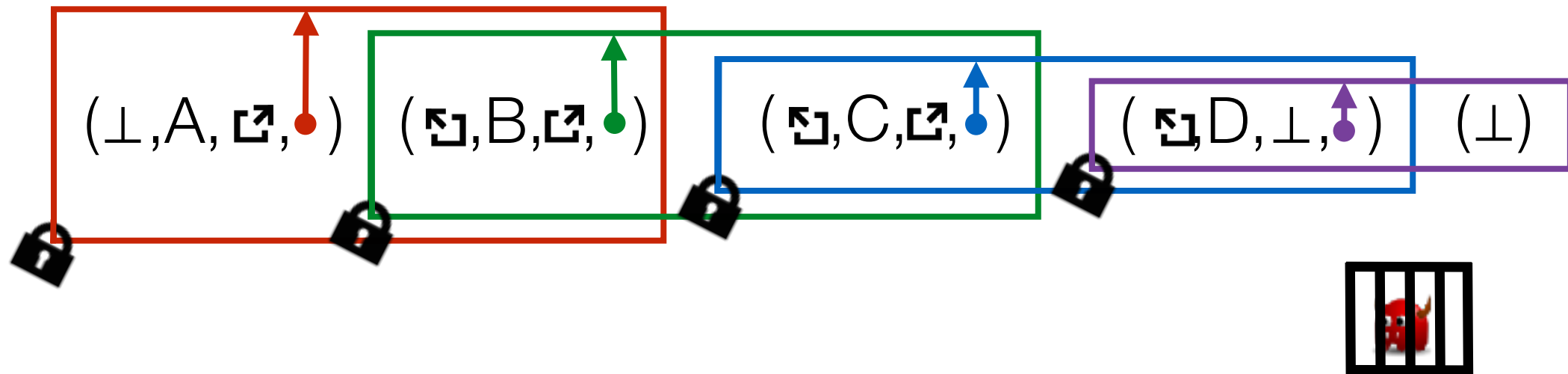
**Added:** references to previous and next AS

# Data Plane Model 1



# Data Plane Model 2: "Chaining" of MACs

Hop Field format is further refined by adding a MAC

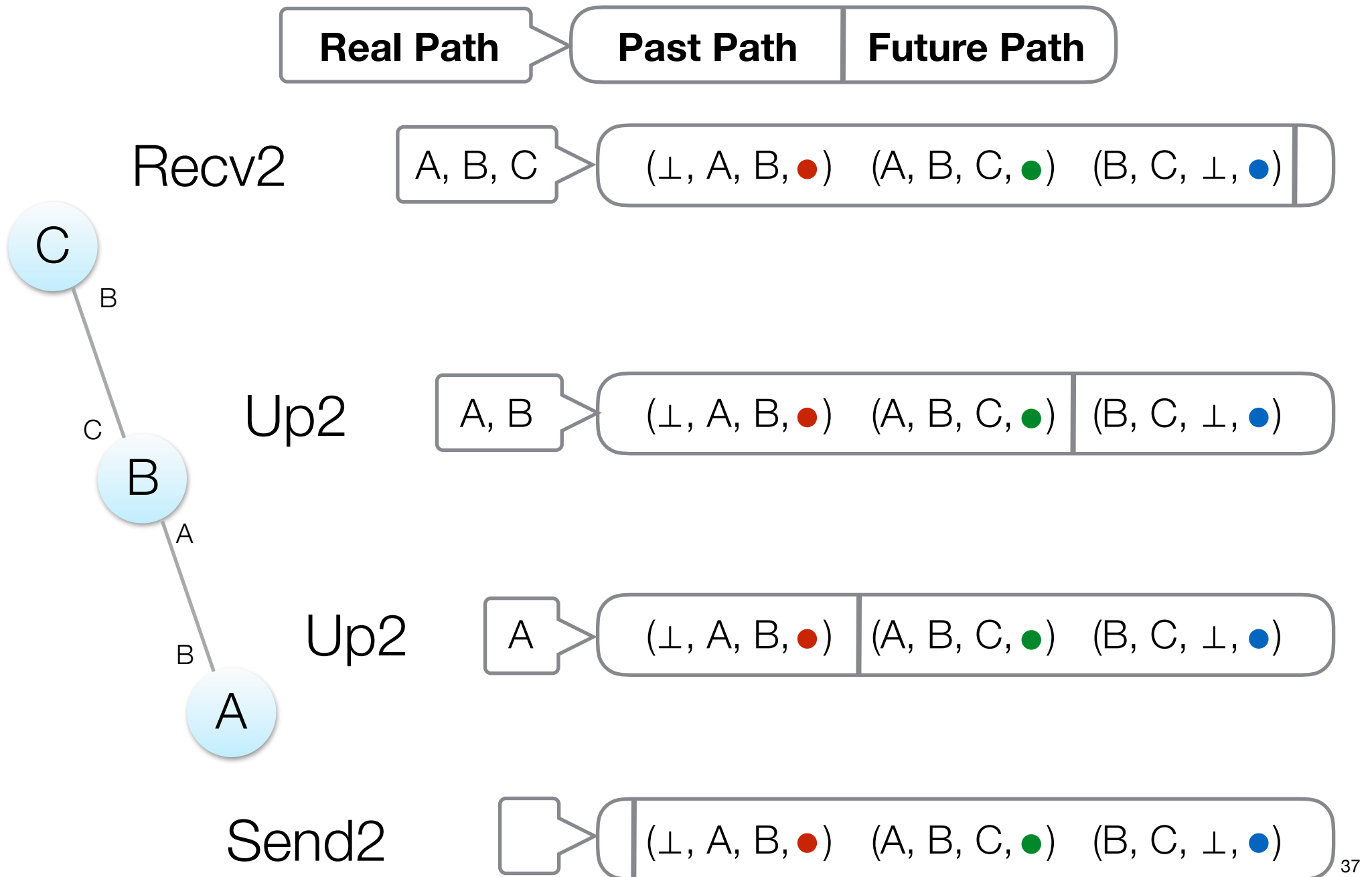


- MAC at  $A$  is produced with a  $key(A)$  known only to  $A$
- MAC includes data and MAC of subsequent Hop Field (needed for verification)

Simplified representation:

$(\text{MAC}, A, \text{MAC}, \text{color}) (\text{MAC}, B, \text{MAC}, \text{color}) (\text{MAC}, C, \text{MAC}, \text{color}) (\text{MAC}, D, \text{MAC}, \text{color})$

# Data Plane Model 2



# Up-Event in Model 2

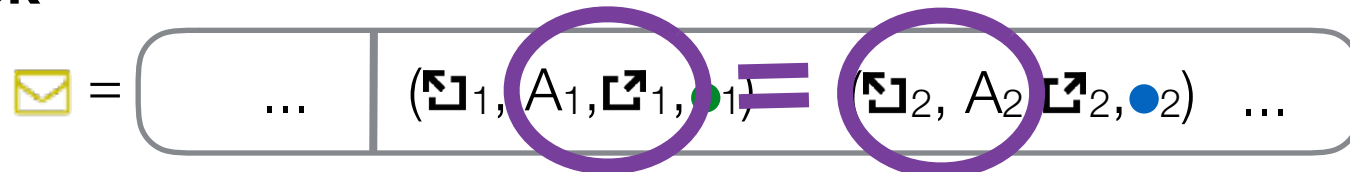
Guard

In select

in



Check



$\wedge \bullet_1 = \text{valid MAC using key}(A_1)$

$\wedge \bullet_2 = \text{valid MAC using key}(A_2)$

$\wedge \underline{A_1 = A_2 \wedge A_2 = A_1}$

Action

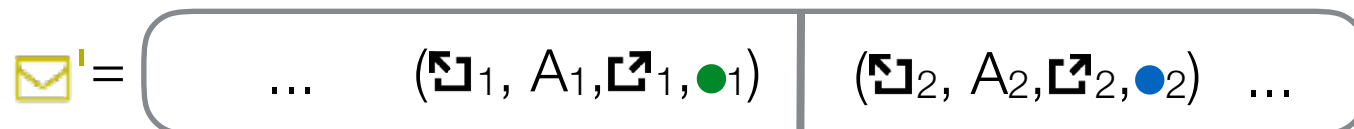
Out put



in



where



## Refining Model 2

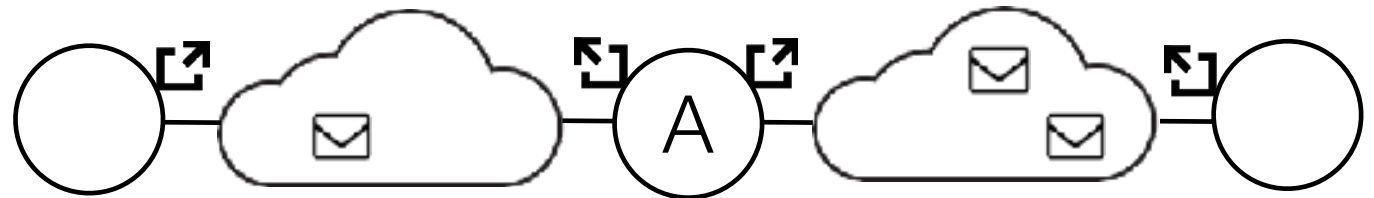
Model 2



Global Message Set

Refinement  
↓

Model 3



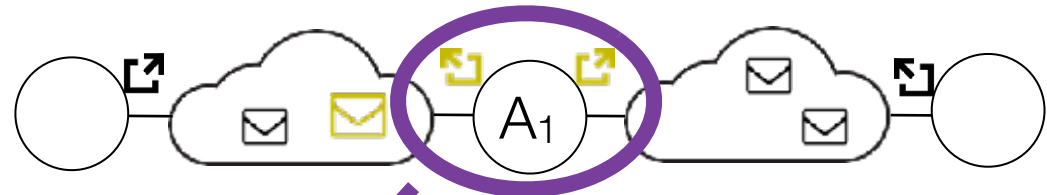
Inter-AS Message Sets

# Up-Event in Model 3

Guard

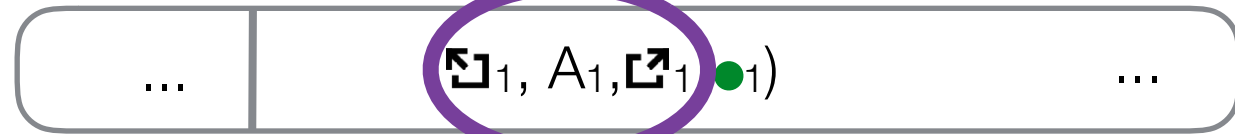
In select

from



Check

=

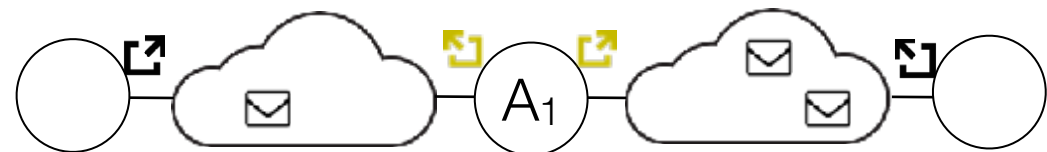


$\wedge \bullet_1 = \text{valid MAC using } \text{key}(A_1)$

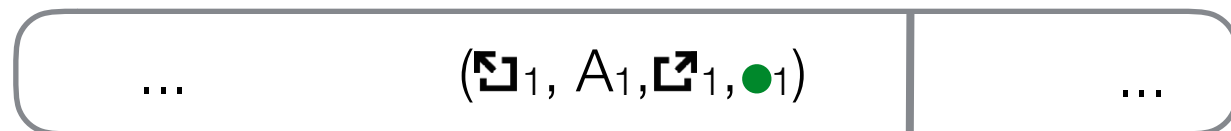
$\wedge \text{⬅}_1 = \text{⬅} \wedge \text{➡}_1 = \text{➡}$

Action

Out put ' in

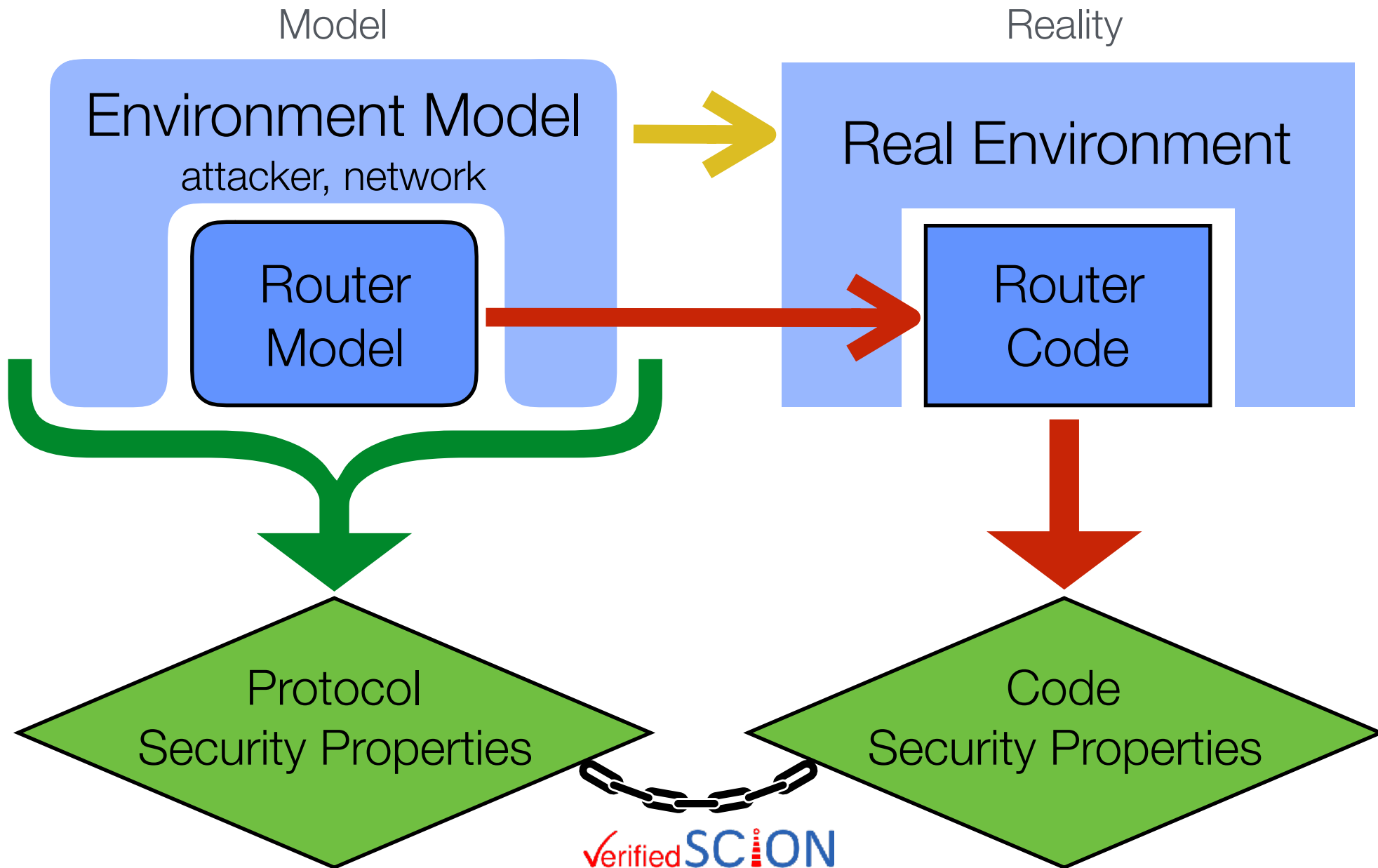


' =





# SCION Router Verification Overview



# Router Model vs. Code

Model

Reality

Environment Model  
attacker, network

Real Environment

Router  
Model

Router  
Code

Guard

In

Check

Action

Out

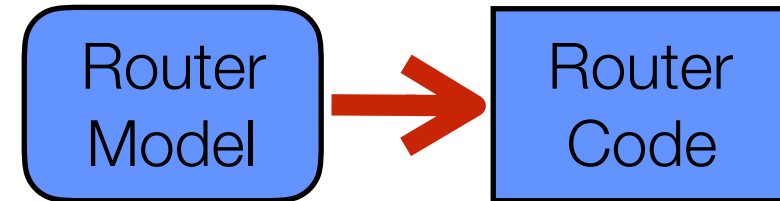
(,,,) (,,,) (,,,) (,,,)

```
def router():  
    while (pkt.next()):  
        pkt.process()  
    ...
```

# Code-Level Verification

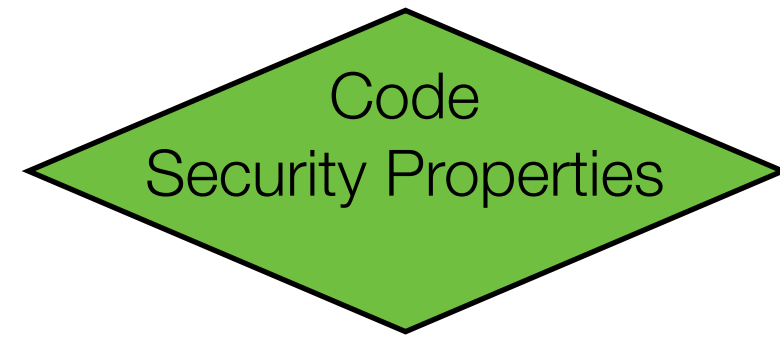
- Main goal: prove **functional correctness**.

- Code refines the protocol.



- Other desirable properties **only on code level**:

- **Safety**: Code does not raise runtime exceptions or have data races.
- **Secure information flow**: Code does not leak any information about crypto keys.
- **Liveness and deadlock freedom**



- Focus on the SCION code base.

- Used libraries are given specifications, **assumed** to be correct.
- Runtime, OS, ..., are **assumed** to be correct.

Real Environment



# Program Verification

- Formal **specification** for each method
  - Pre- and postcondition, loop invariants
- Formal **proof** that implementation satisfies specification.
  - Assuming **precondition** holds at the beginning, prove that **postcondition** holds after return (partial correctness).
  - For all possible inputs, schedules, callers, ...
  - Additional proof obligations for special properties, like progress

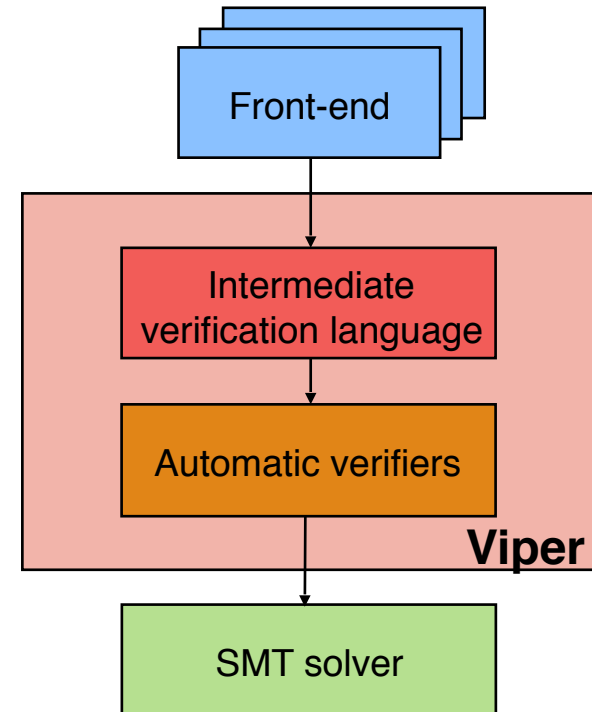
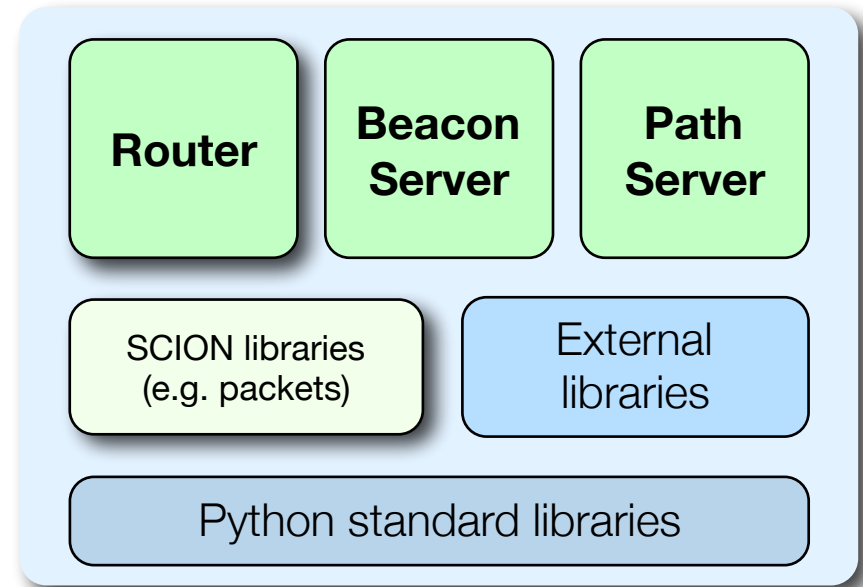
{n >

```
def sqrt(n):  
    ...  
    return result
```

{n =

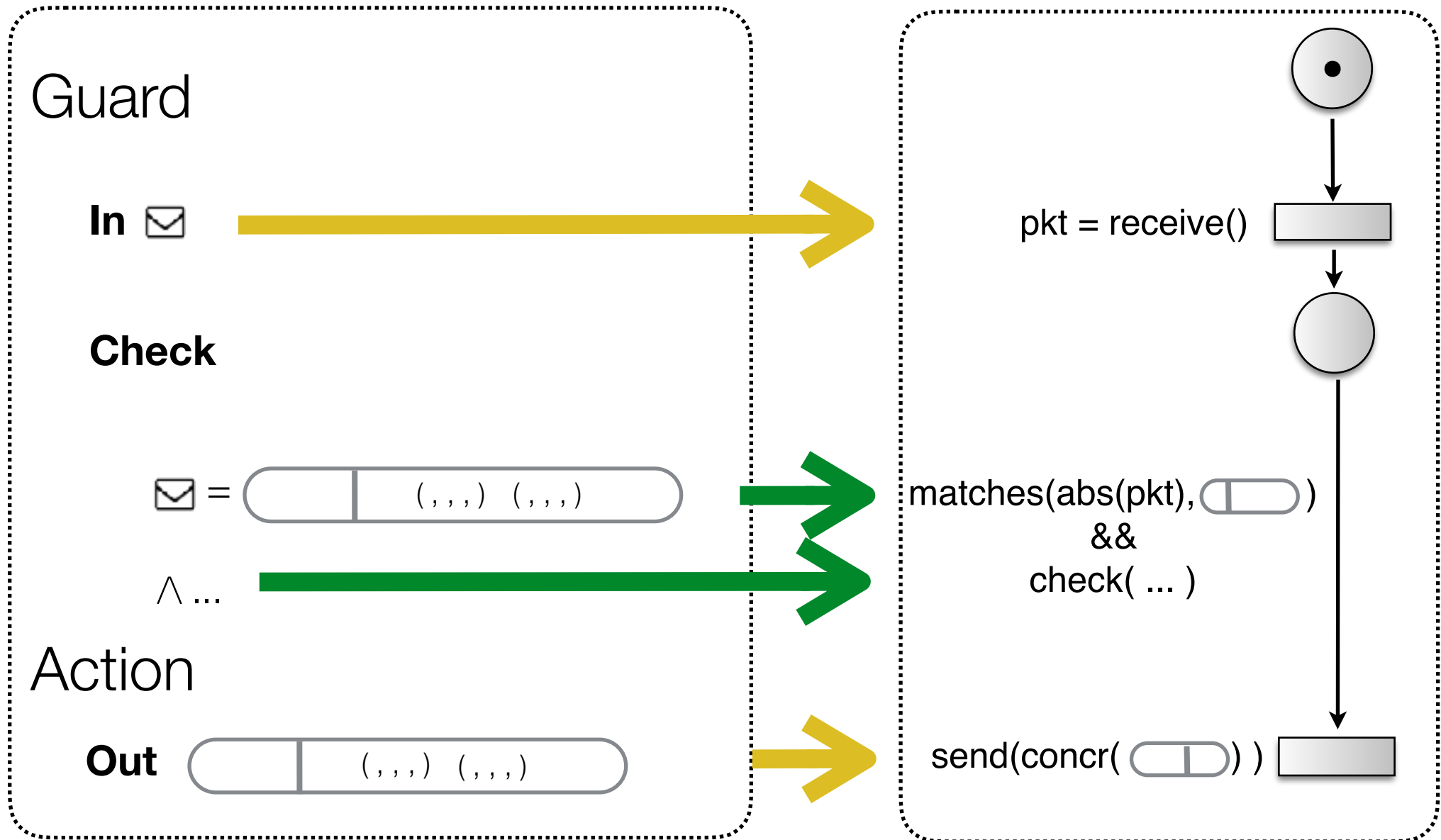
# Code-based Verification

- Scion in Python 3
  - ~11k LOC
- Substantial subset of Python
  - Most standard OOP features
  - e.g. inheritance, exceptions, concurrency
- Focus on router first
- Use Viper Toolchain with Python front end

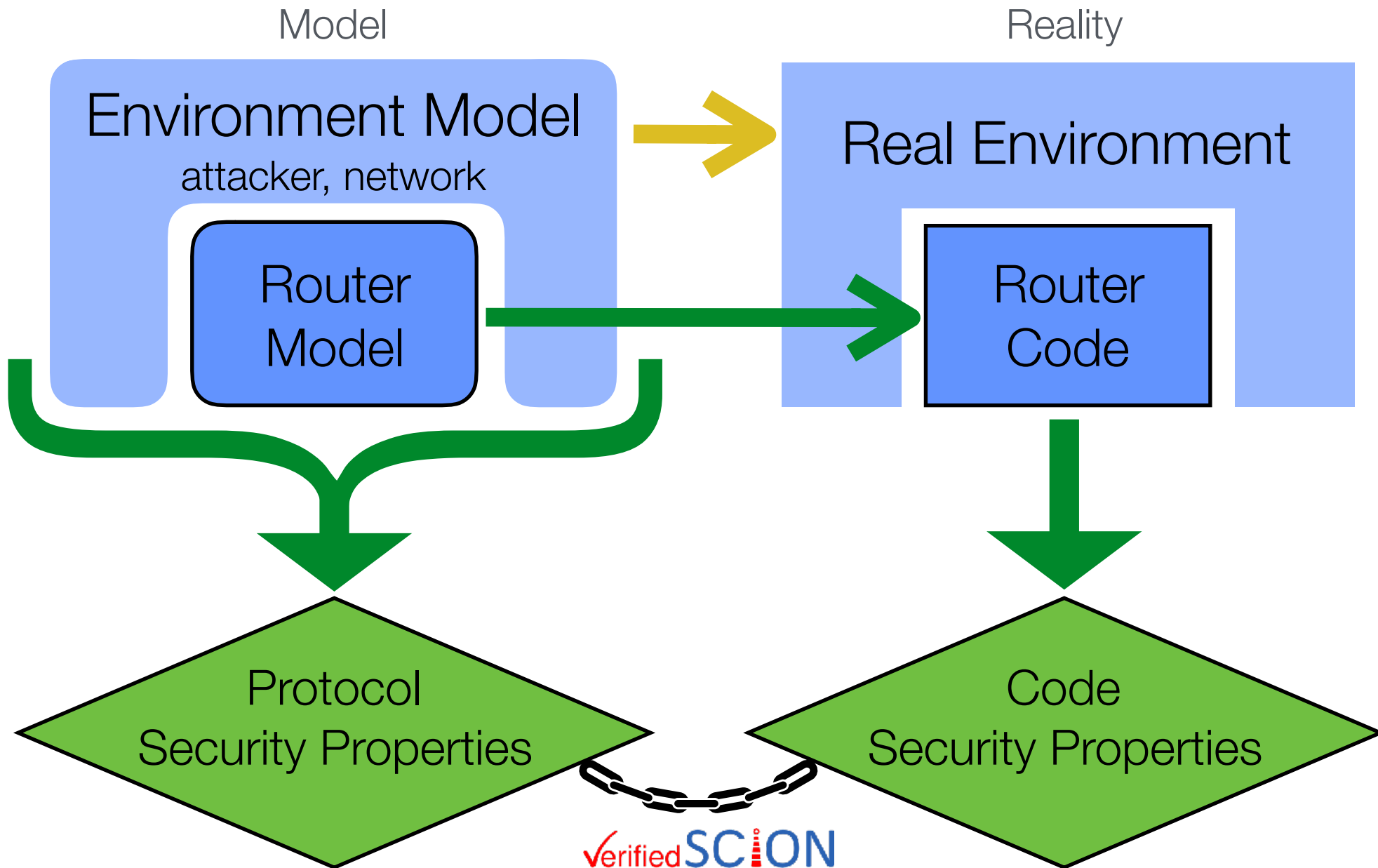


# Linking it all up via Input-Output Specifications

(Code can be viewed as a transition system)



# SCION Router Verification Overview



# Status



- Code verification tools built and prototyped
- First three levels of refinement completed
  - Improved understanding of protocols and properties
  - Uncovered numerous bugs and omissions
    - Revealed during modeling & formalization
    - Verified against implementation
- Next step: formally connect the two parts



# Conclusions

- Internet, as designed, is insecure
- Scion architecture offers much stronger guarantees
- These can be put on a formal footing via  
**refinement + code-level verification**
- **Long term objective:** guaranteed back-door-free routers,  
made in Switzerland



# ANAPAYA SYSTEMS

**Securing and Optimizing Internet Communication**

**We are hiring: [www.anapaya.net](http://www.anapaya.net)**