



**UCL**

# Multipartite entanglement distribution in quantum networks

**E. Sutcliffe and A. Beghelli**

Optical Networks Group

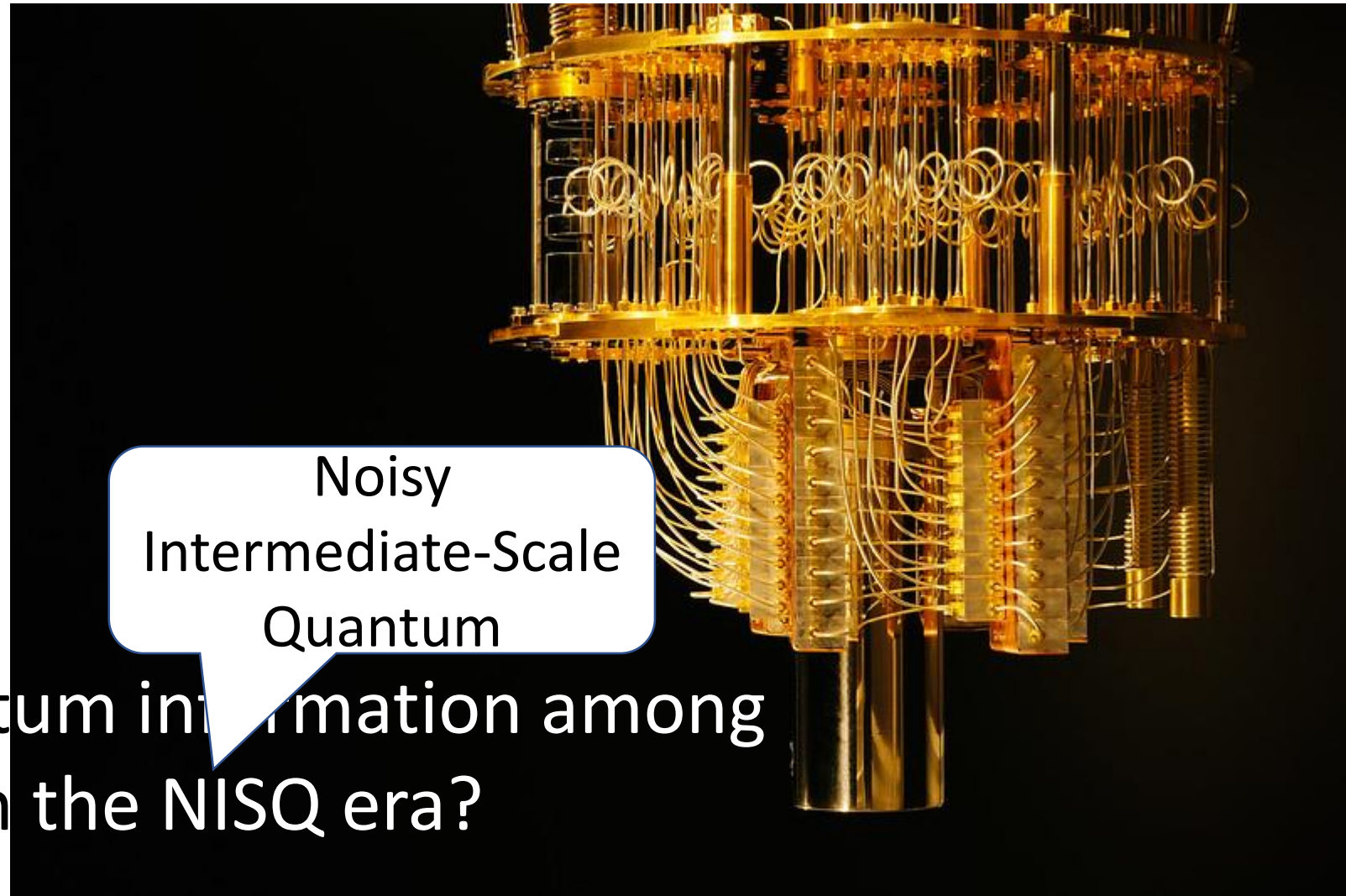
Thanks to UKRI Project “Quantum Data Centres of the Future” & Delivering Quantum Technologies UCL CDT

# The fundamental problem



How to distribute quantum information among several users in the NISQ era?

# The fundamental problem



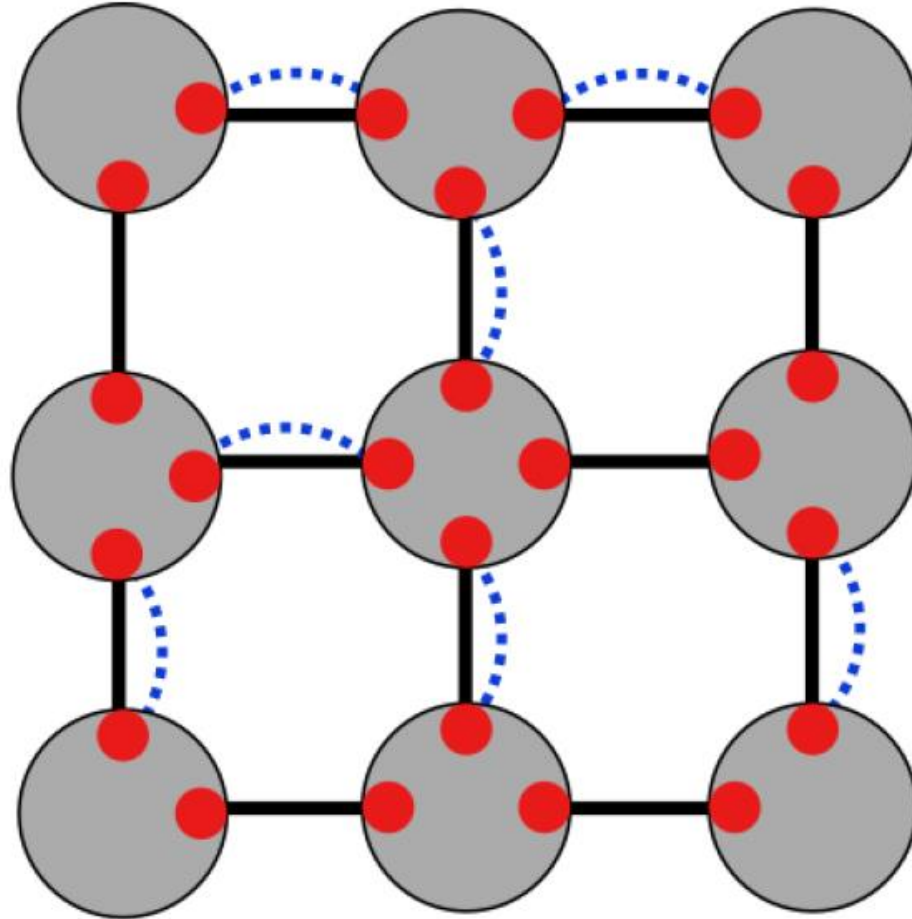
Noisy  
Intermediate-Scale  
Quantum

How to distribute quantum information among several users in the NISQ era?

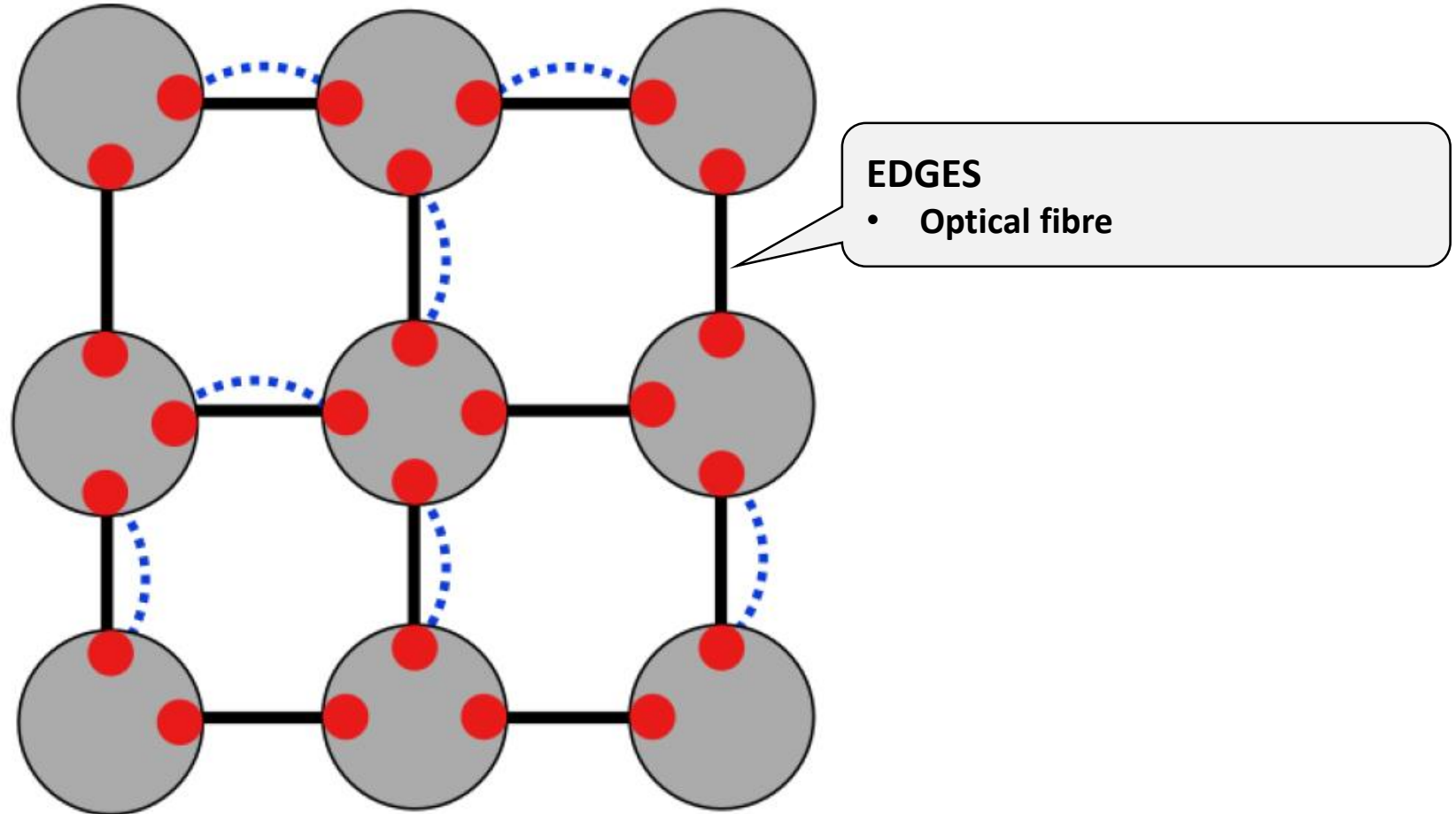
# The (potential) applications

- Distributed quantum computing
- Distributed quantum sensing
- Secret sharing

# The network model



# The network model

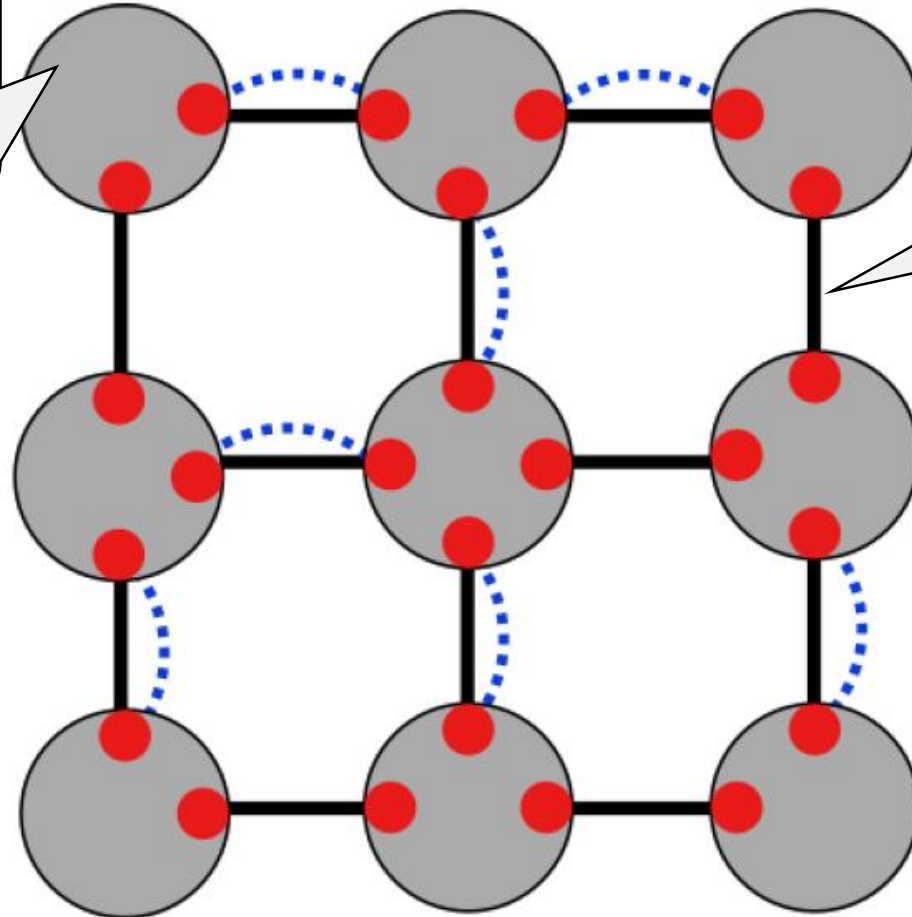




# The network model

## NODES

- 1 quantum memory per edge ( $T_c$ )
- Can act as quantum repeaters
- Can perform entanglement fusion



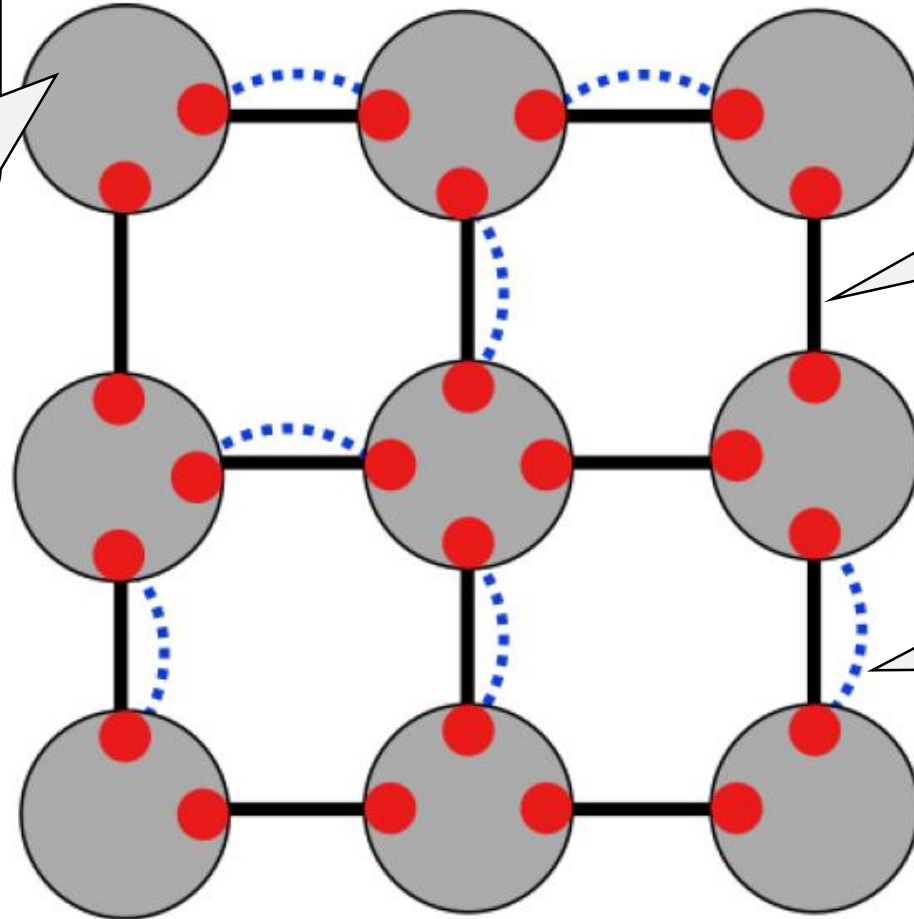
## EDGES

- Optical fibre

# The network model

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## EDGES

- Optical fibre

## Entanglement link

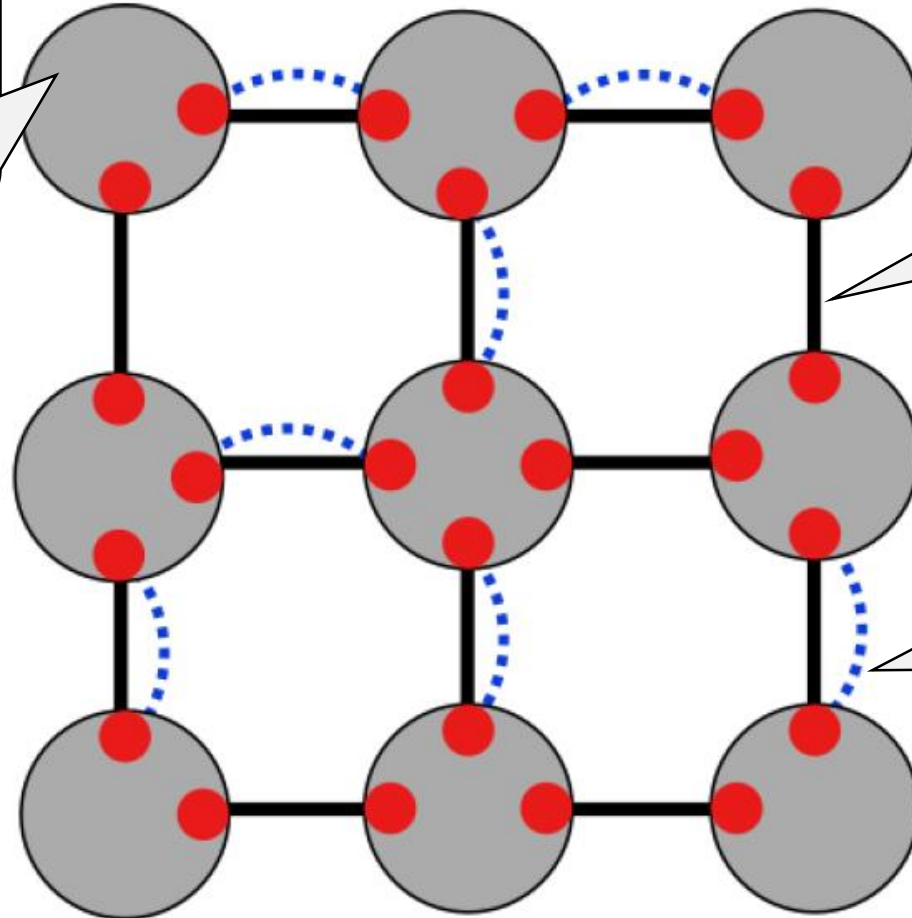
$$p = p_{op} * (1 - p_{loss})$$



# The network model

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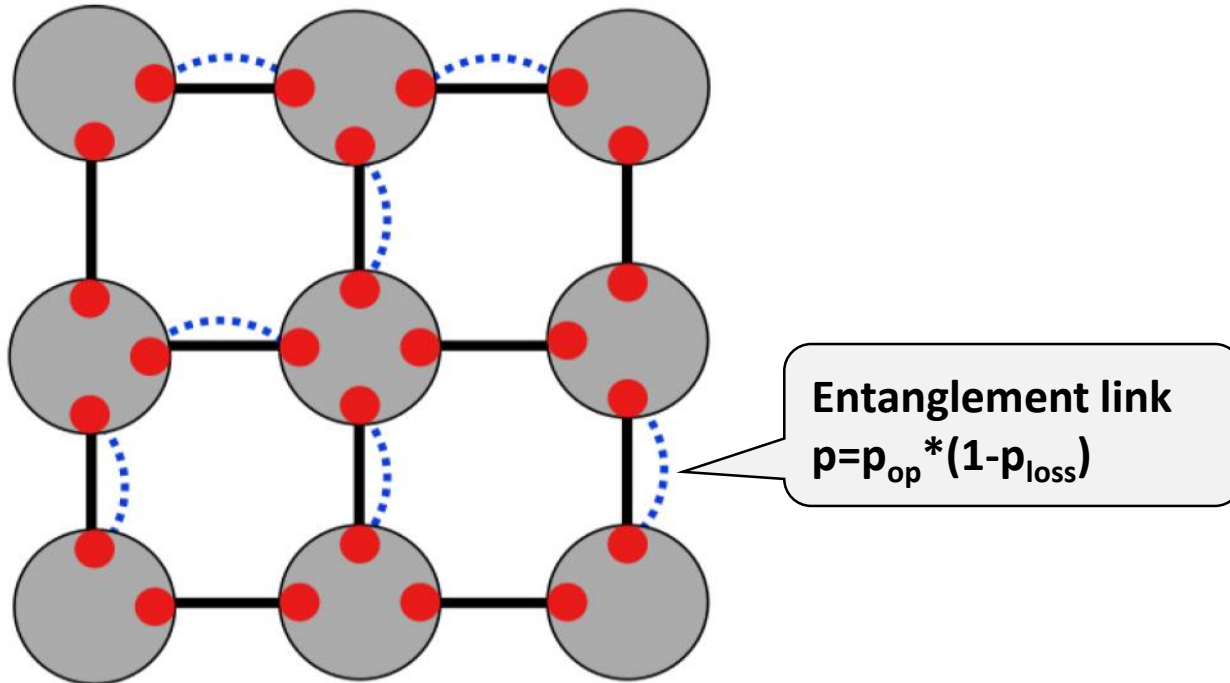
## EDGES

- Optical fibre

## Entanglement link

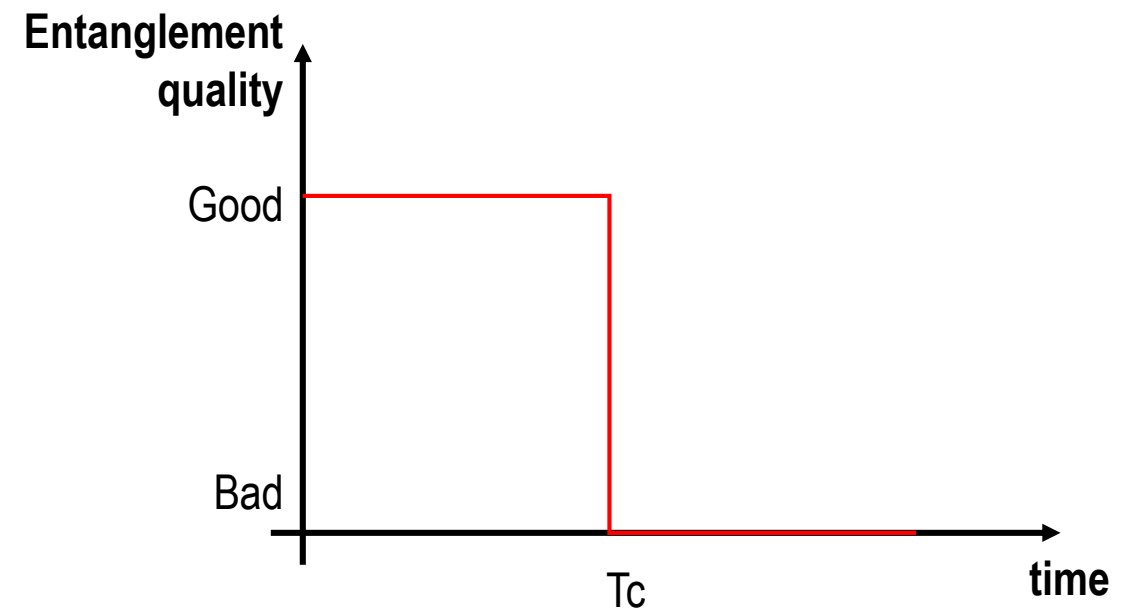
$$p = p_{\text{op}} * (1 - p_{\text{loss}})$$

# T<sub>c</sub>: Quantum memory decoherence time



T<sub>c</sub>: Time a qubit stored in a quantum memory can maintain entanglement <sup>(1)</sup>

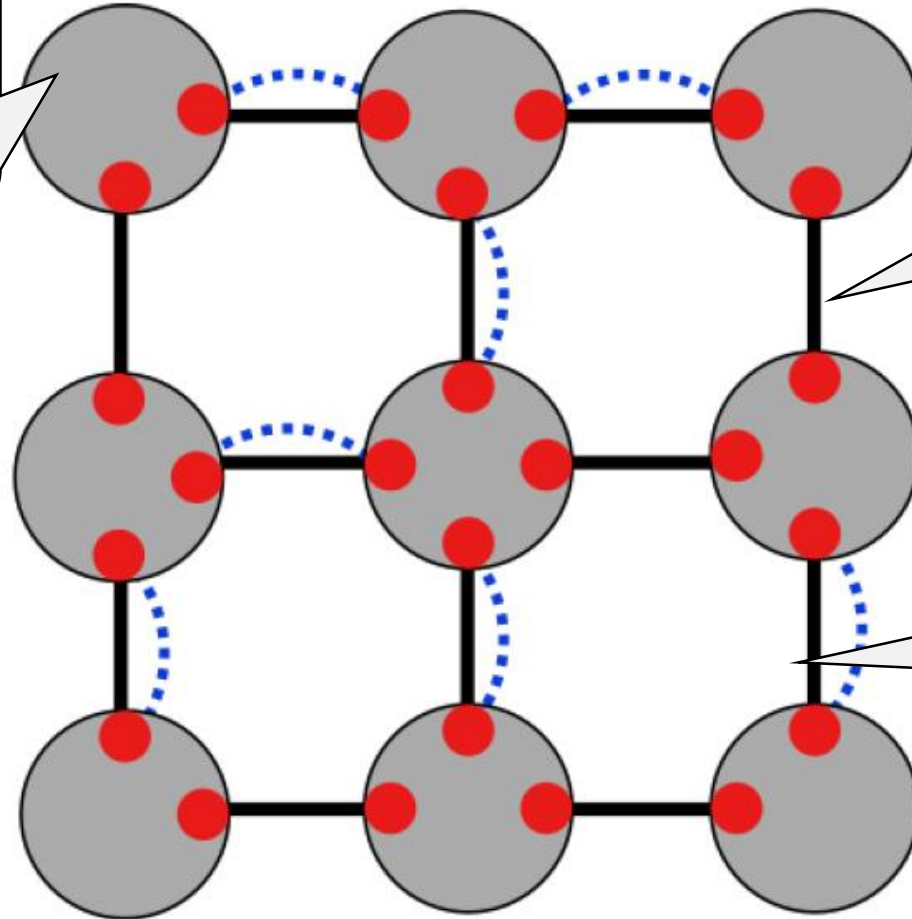
## Cut-off model for T<sub>c</sub>



# The network model

## NODES

- 1 quantum memory per edge ( $T_e$ )
- Can act as quantum repeaters
- Can perform fusion



## EDGES

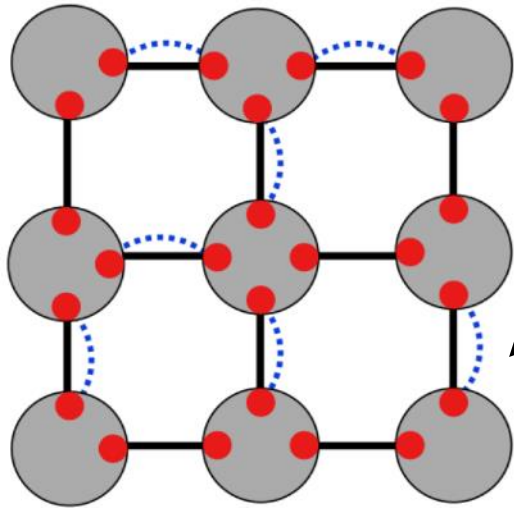
- Optical fibre

## Entanglement link

$$p = p_{\text{op}} * (1 - p_{\text{loss}})$$

# Quantum repeaters

Entanglement swapping: To achieve remote entanglement between two nodes



Entanglement link

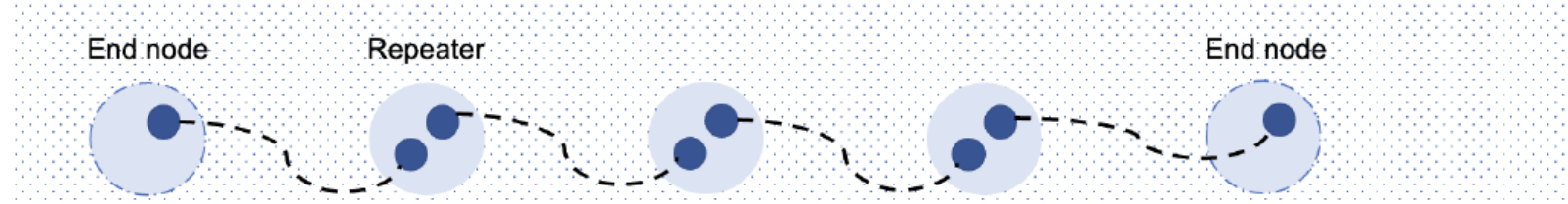
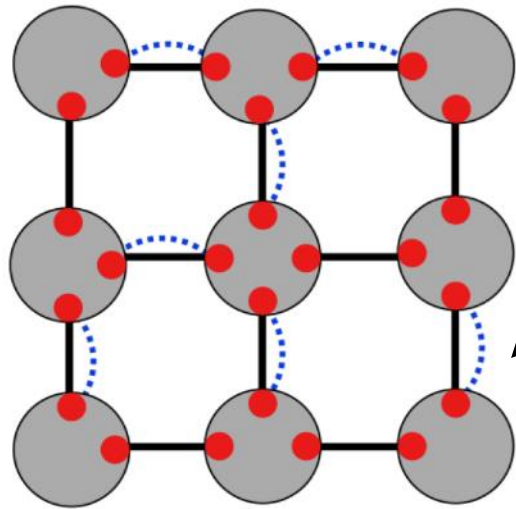


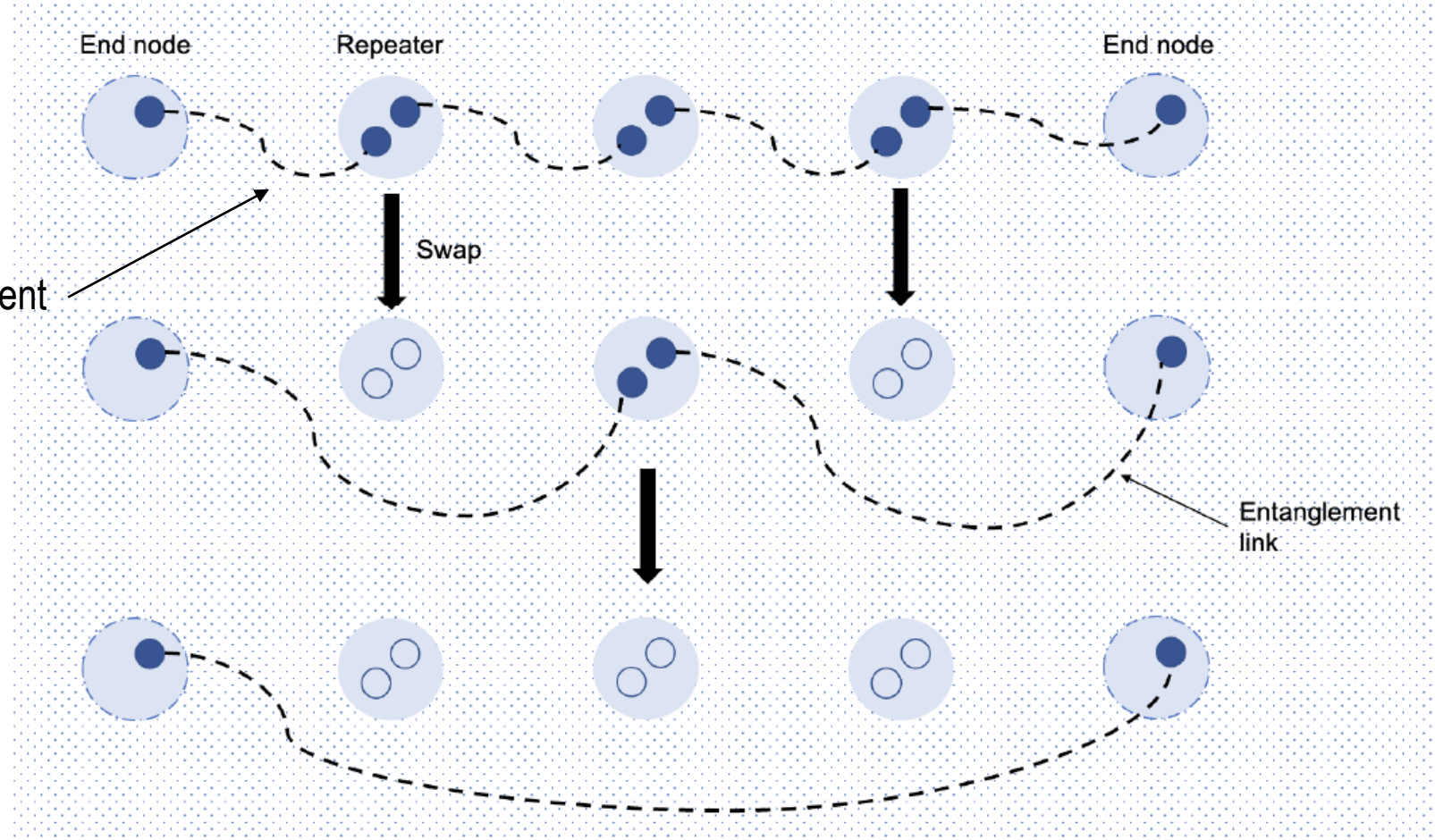
Image: Natasha Siow, MSc student from Quantum Technologies @UCL

# Quantum repeaters

Entanglement swapping: To achieve remote entanglement between two nodes



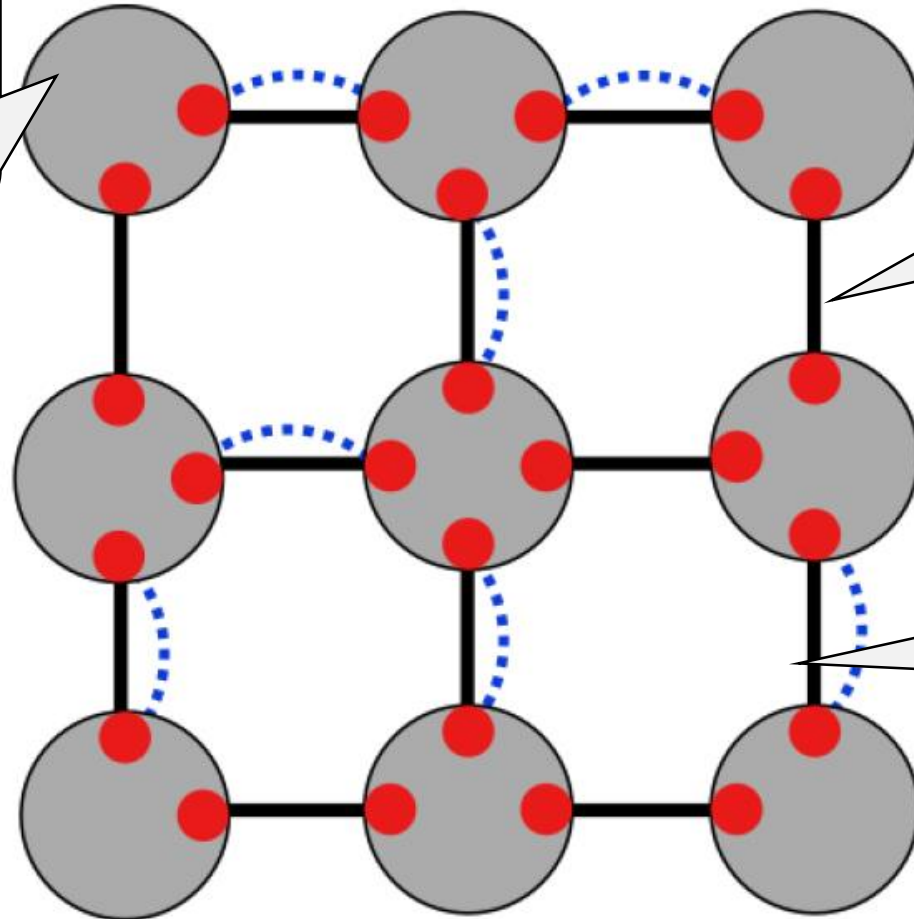
Entanglement link



# The network model

## NODES

- 1 quantum memory per edge ( $T_c$ )
- Can act as quantum repeaters
- Can perform entanglement fusion



## EDGES

- Optical fibre

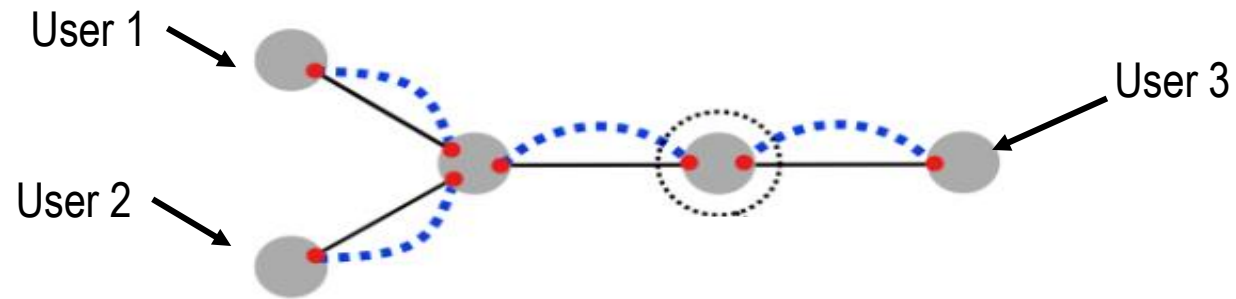
## Entanglement link

$$p = p_{\text{op}} * (1 - p_{\text{loss}})$$



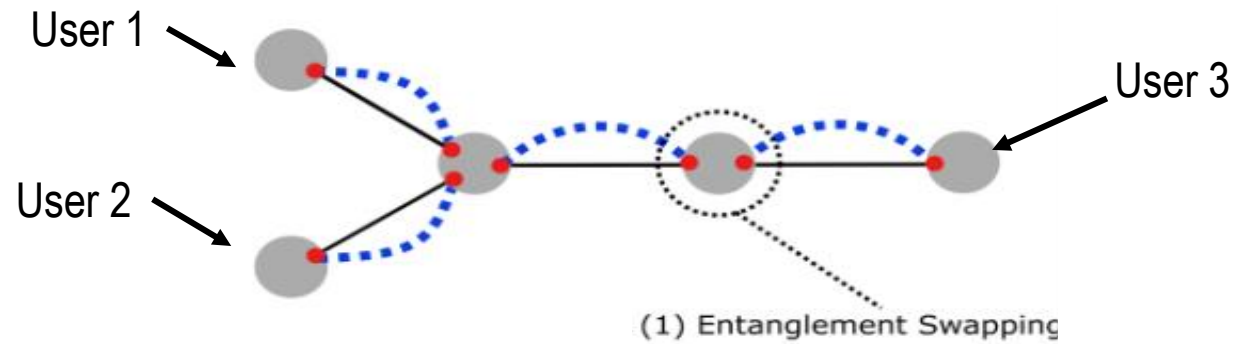
# Entanglement fusion

To generate a multipartite entanglement state



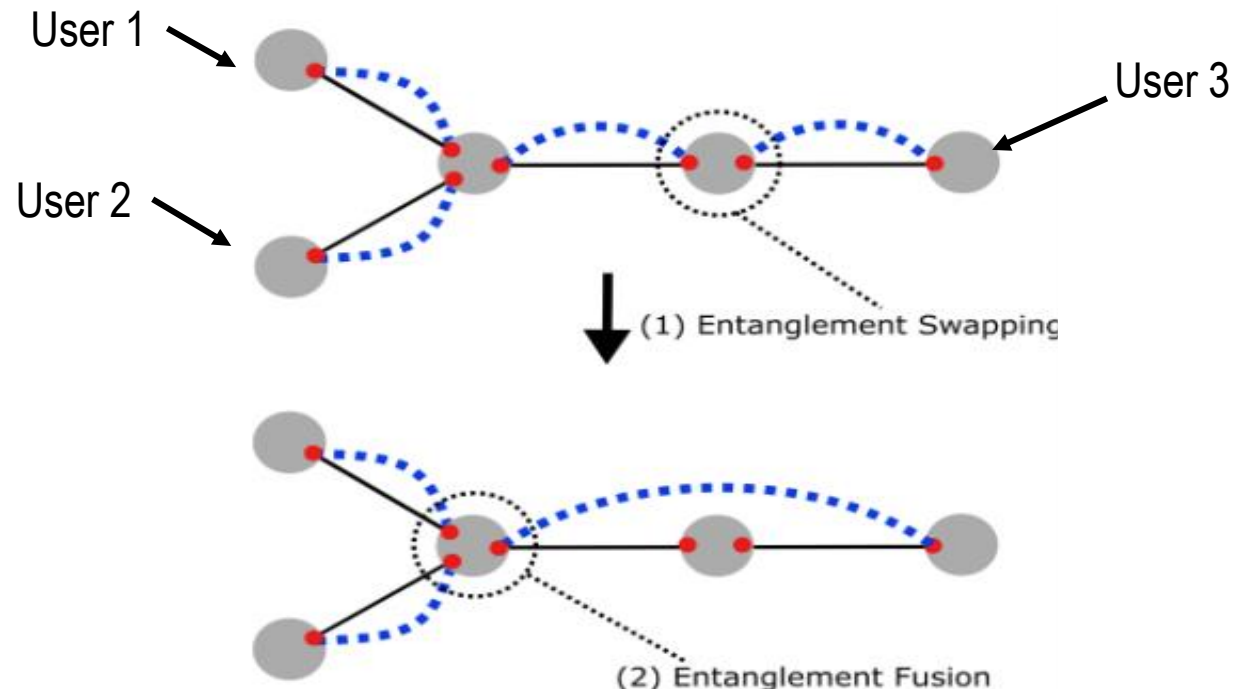
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To generate a multipartite entanglement state



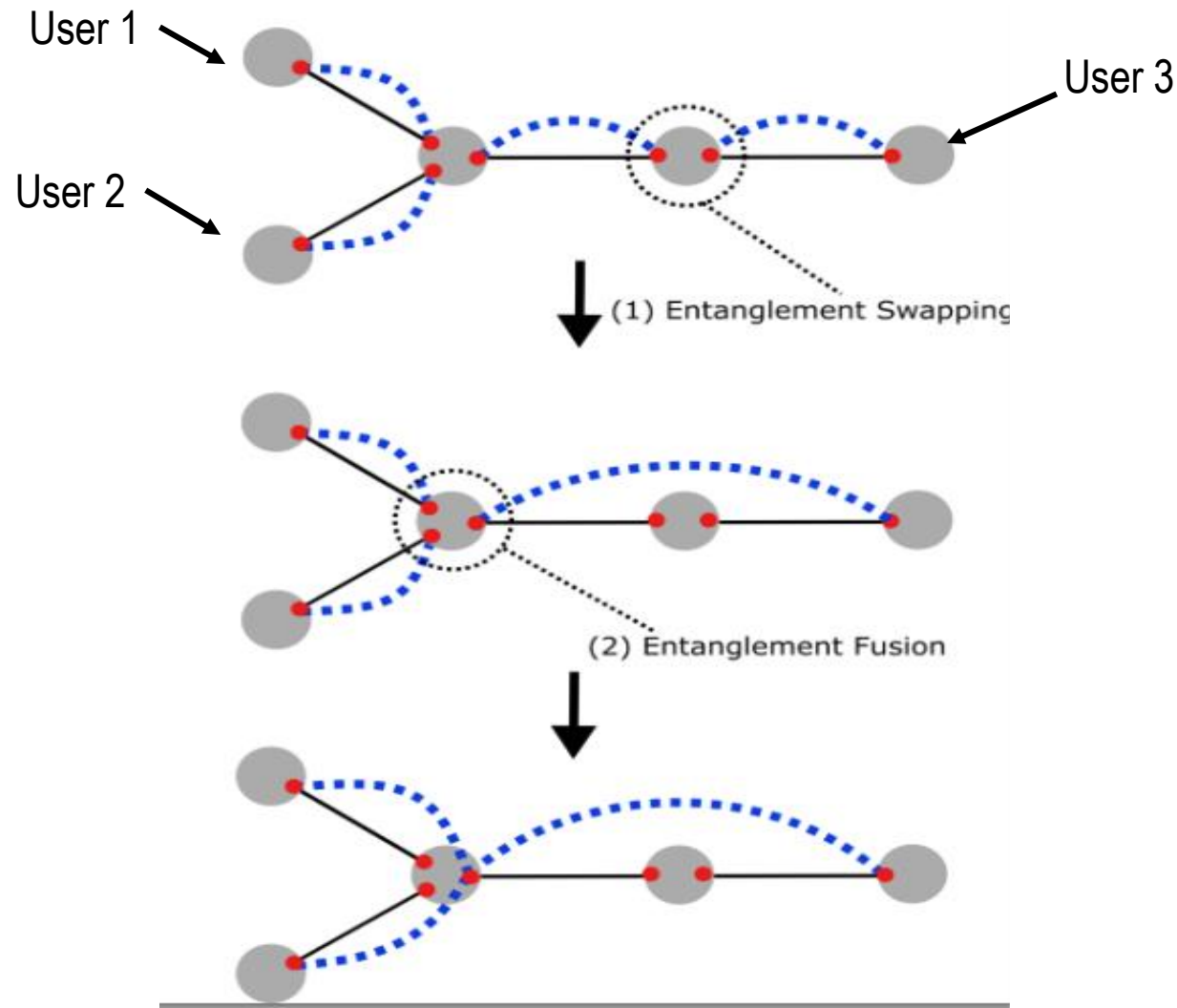
# Entanglement fusion

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# Entanglement fusion

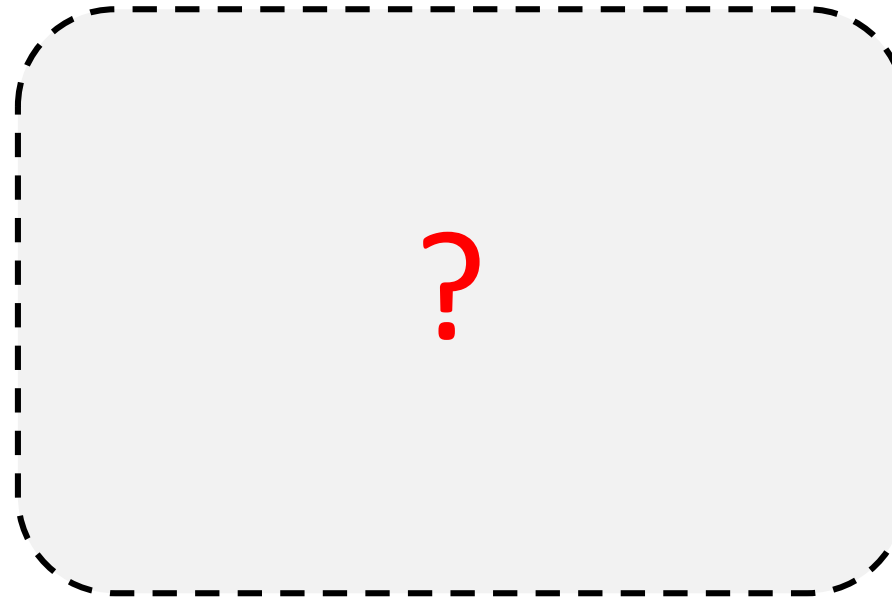
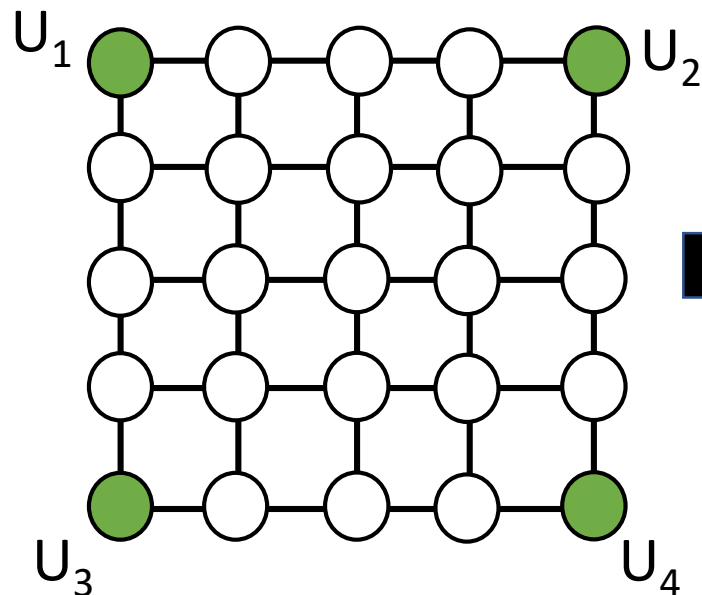
To generate a multipartite entanglement state



# The problem

## INPUT:

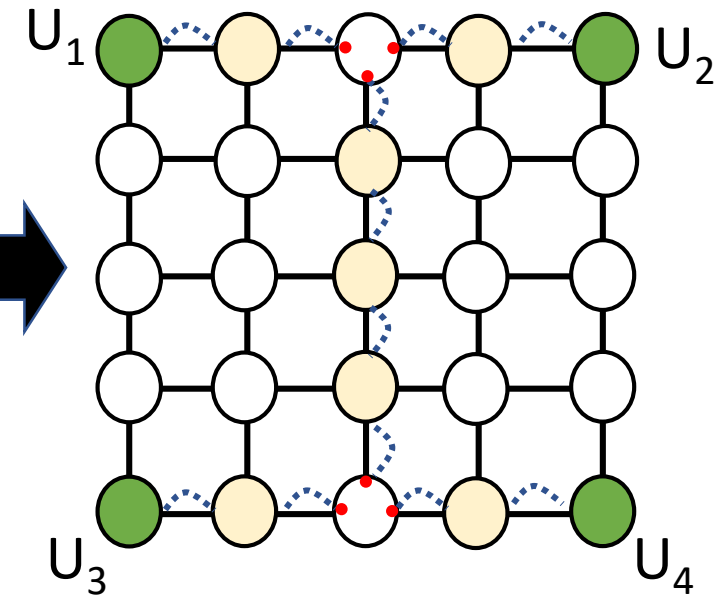
1. Network topology
2. Set of users  $U$  



**ENTANGLEMENT DISTRIBUTION  
PROTOCOL**


## OUTPUT:

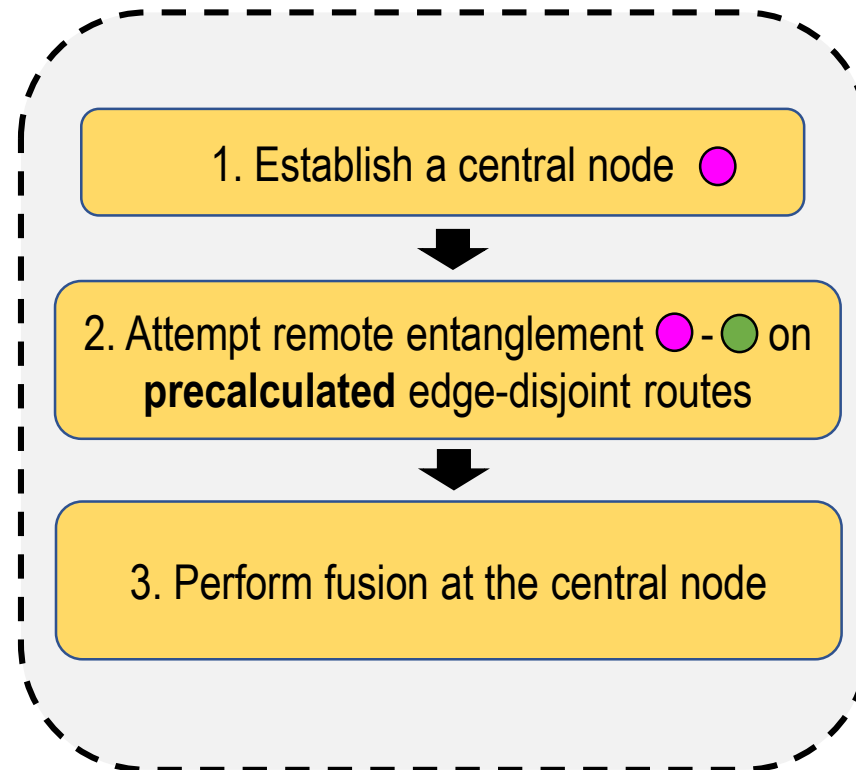
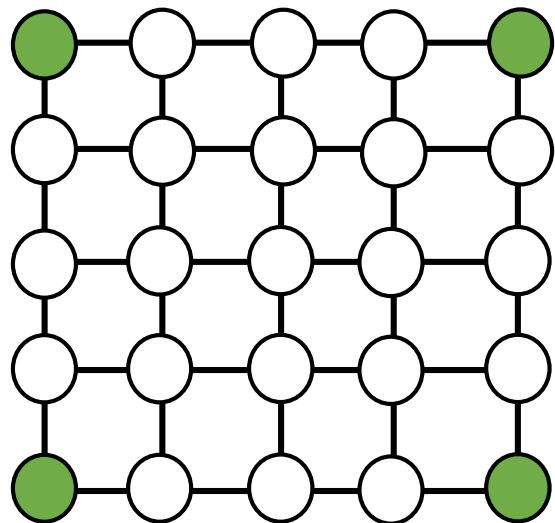
- Routing solution
- Swap & fusion points



# Previous work (SP)

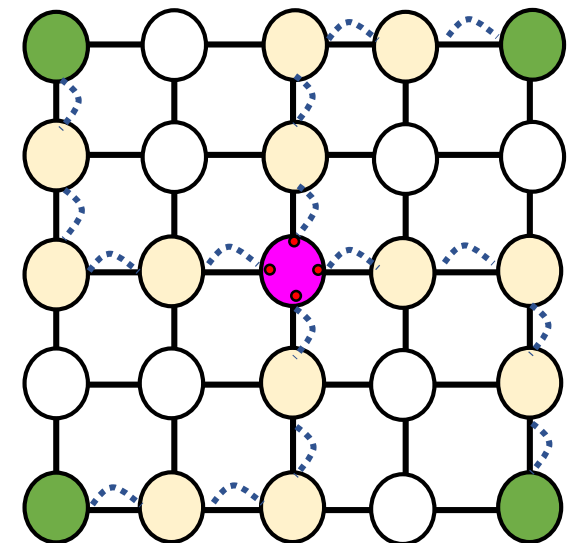
## INPUT:

1. Network topology
2. Set of users  $U$  



## OUTPUT:


- Routing solution
- Swap & fusion points

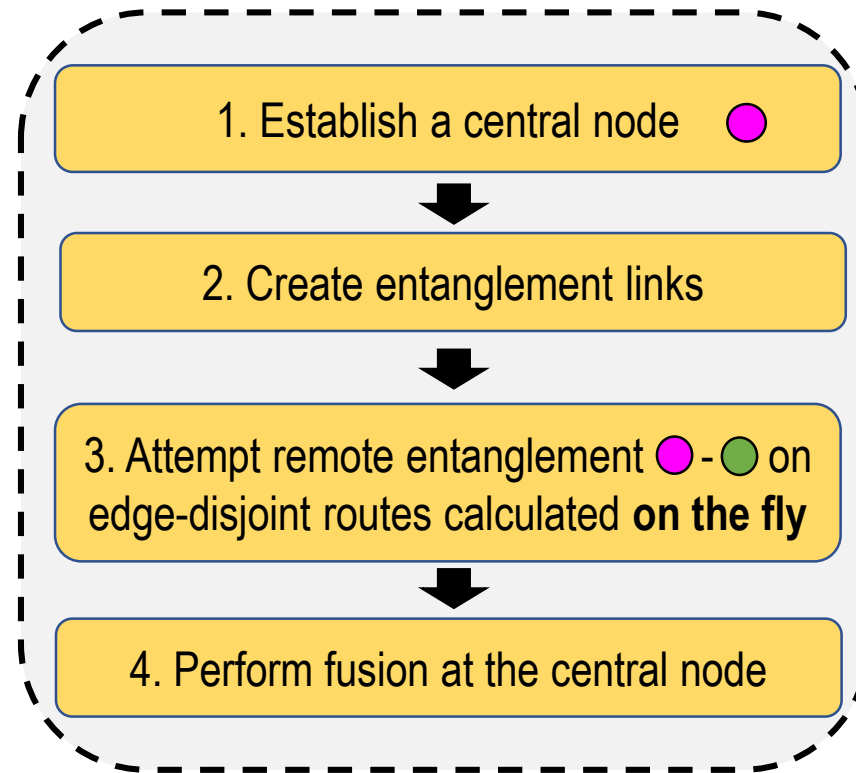
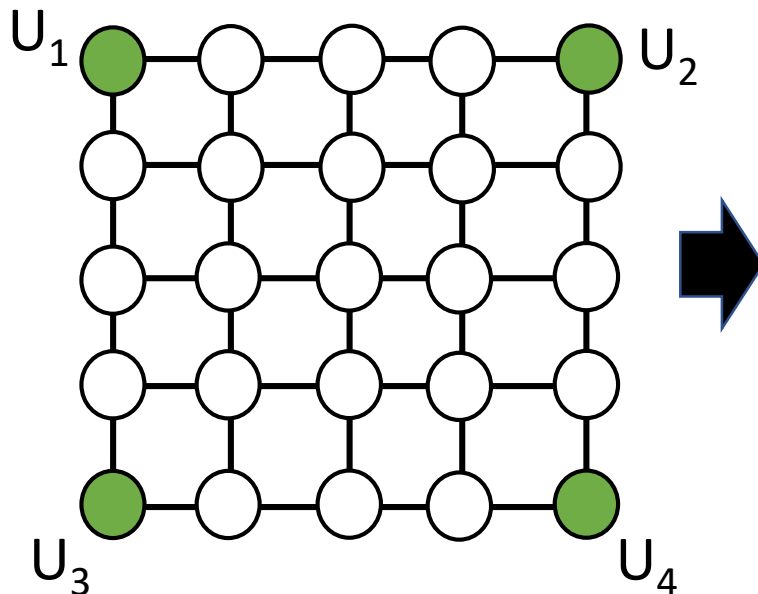




# Proposal 1: MP-G

## INPUT:

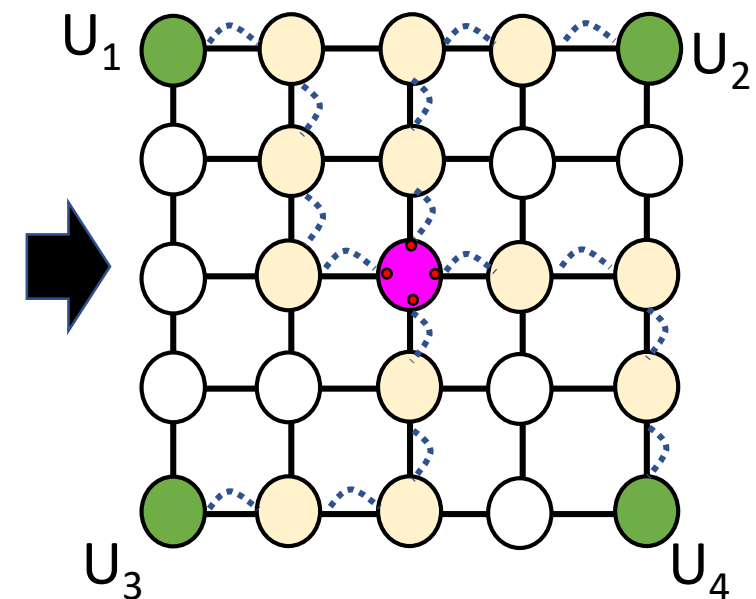
1. Network topology
2. Set of users  $U$  



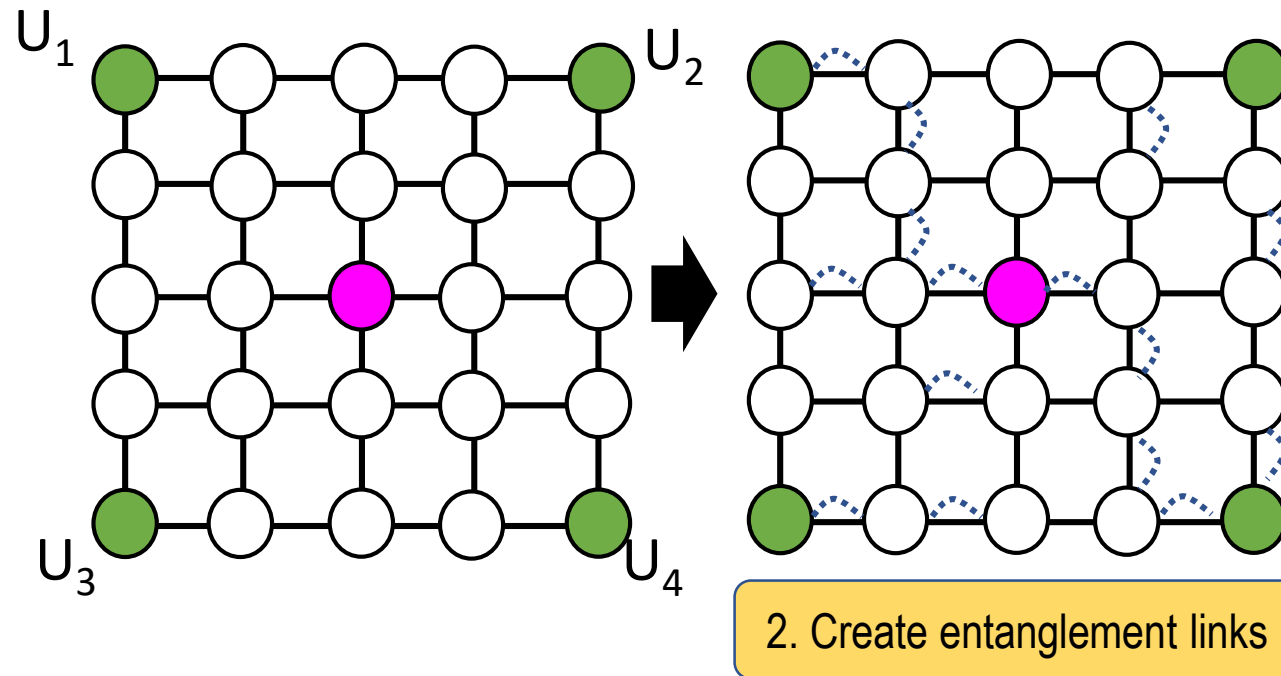
## ENTANGLEMENT DISTRIBUTION PROTOCOL

## OUTPUT:

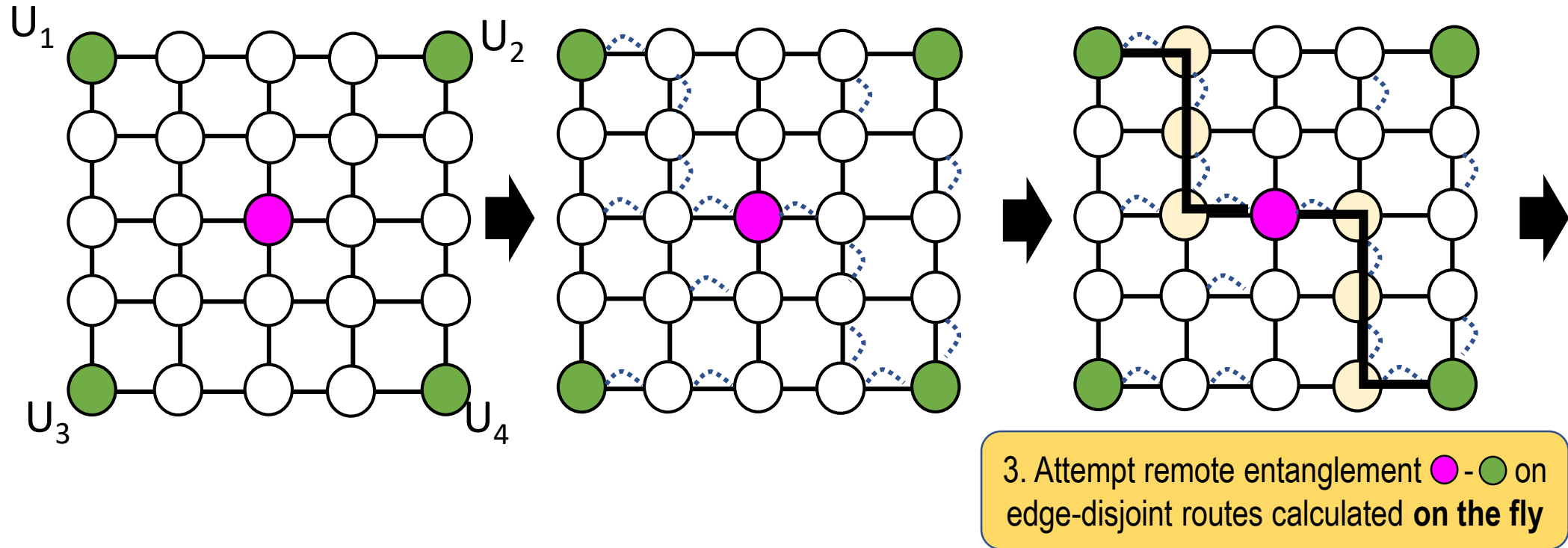
- Routing solution
- Swap & fusion points



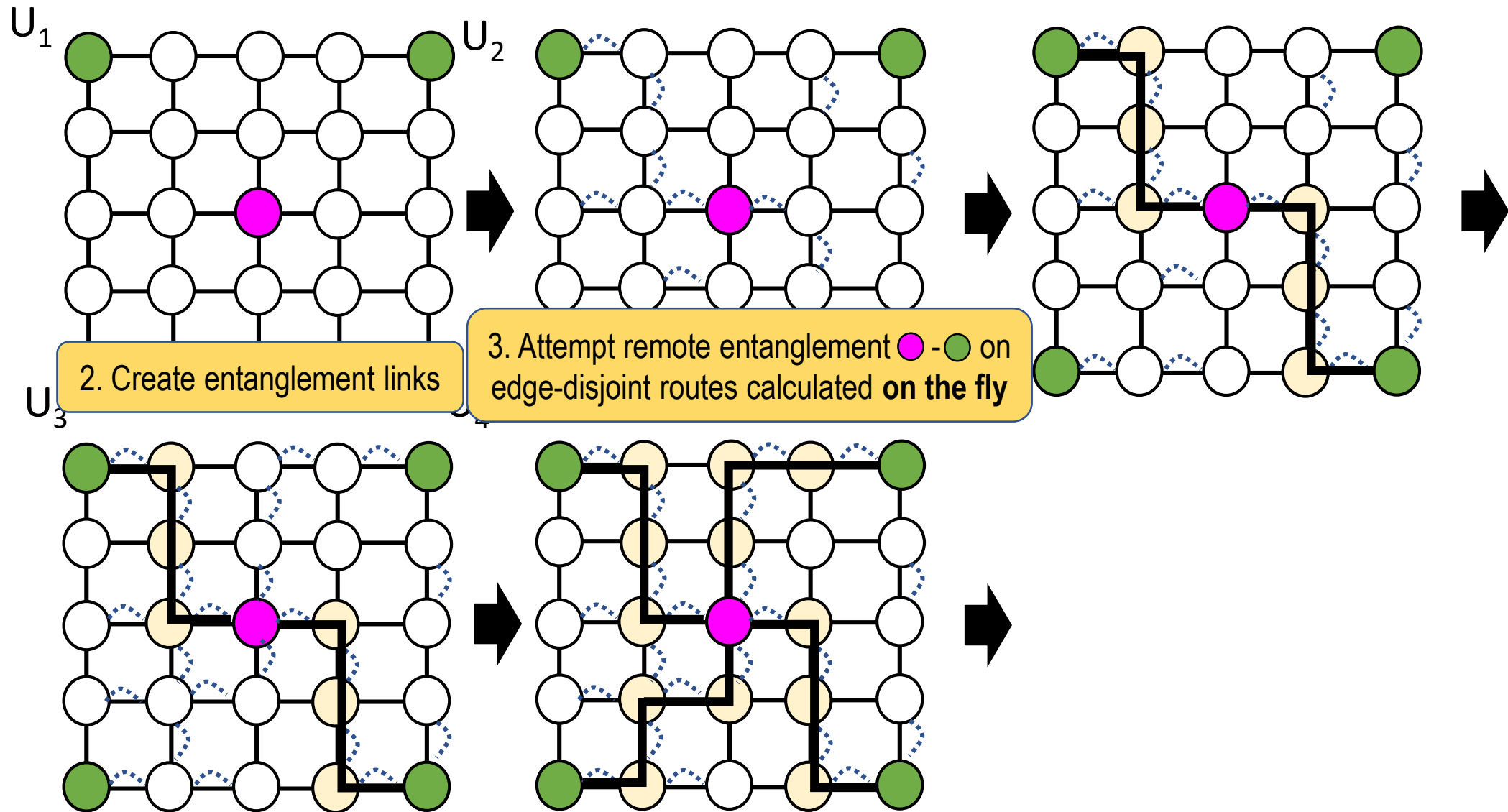
# Execution example ( $T_c=2$ time slots)



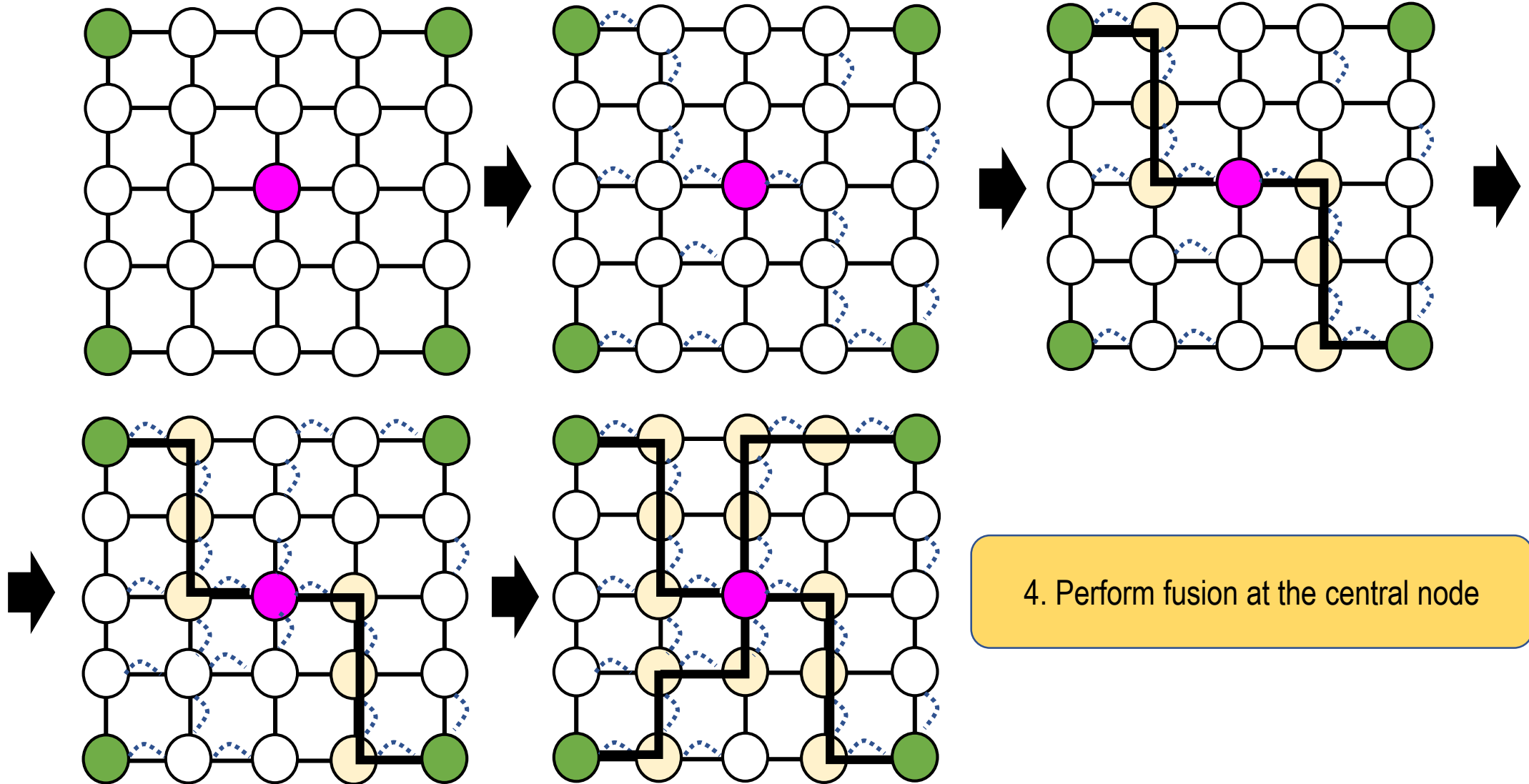
# Execution example ( $T_c=2$ time slots)



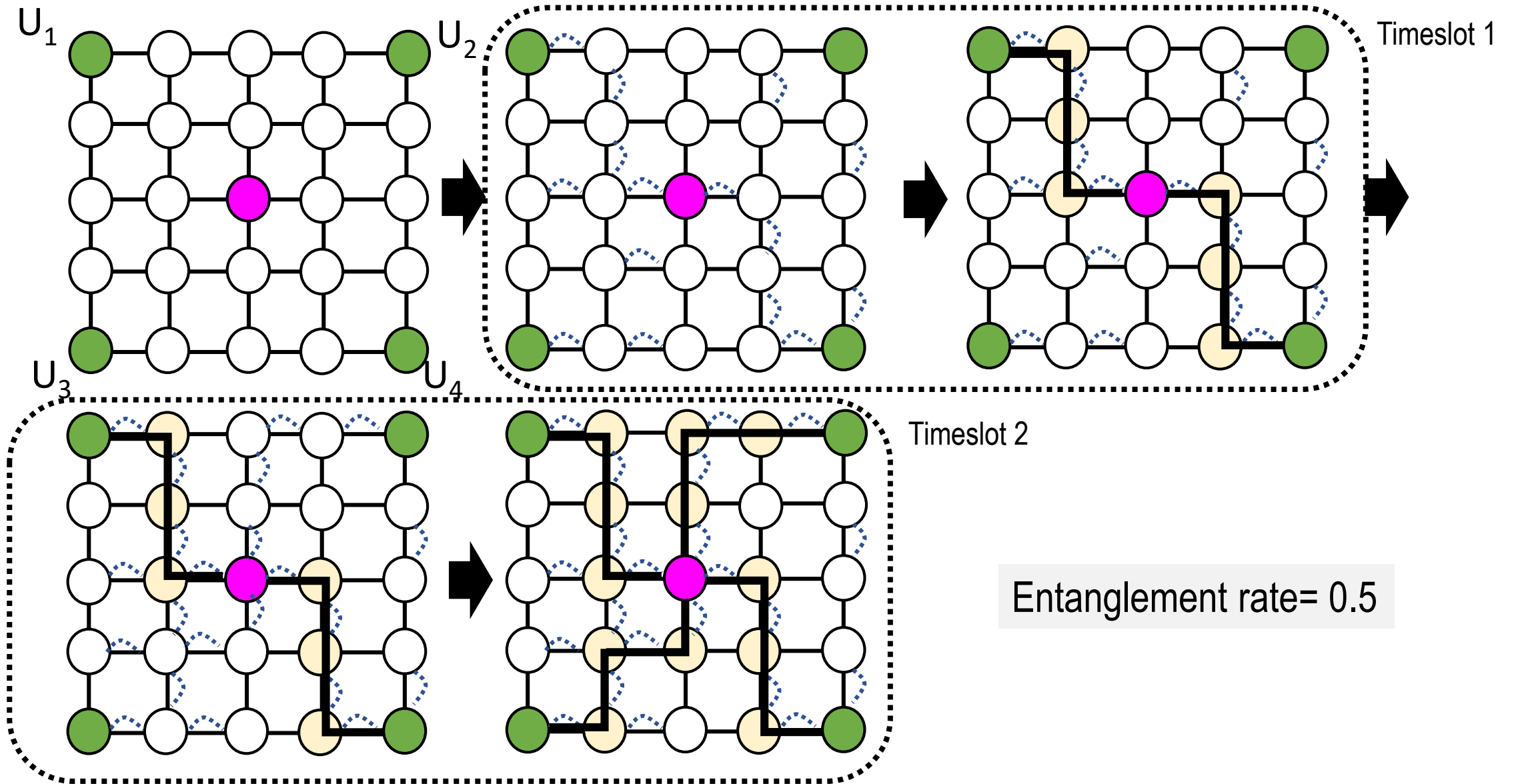
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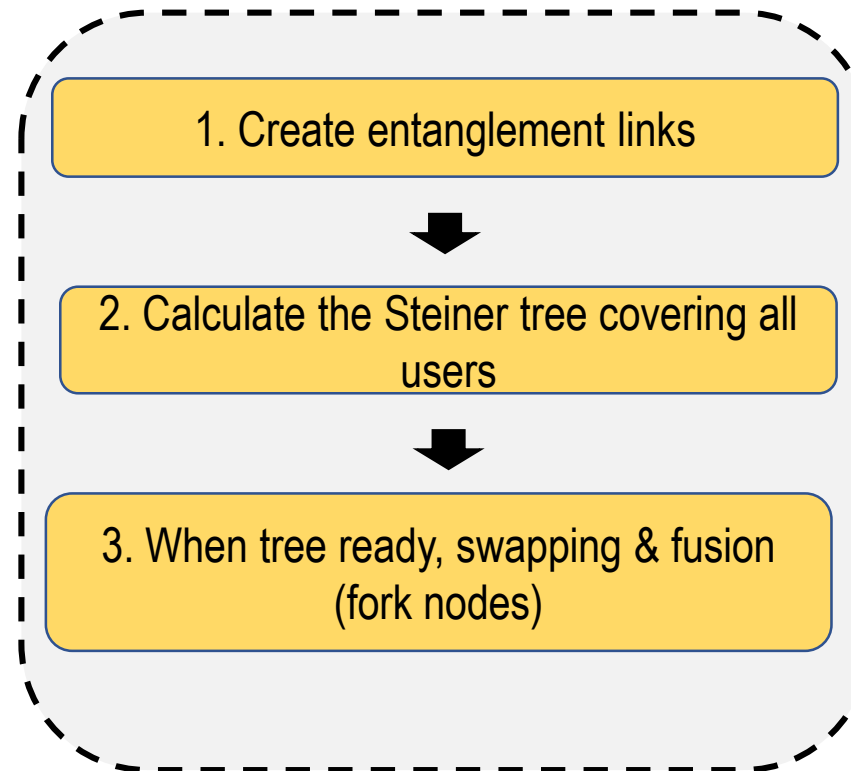
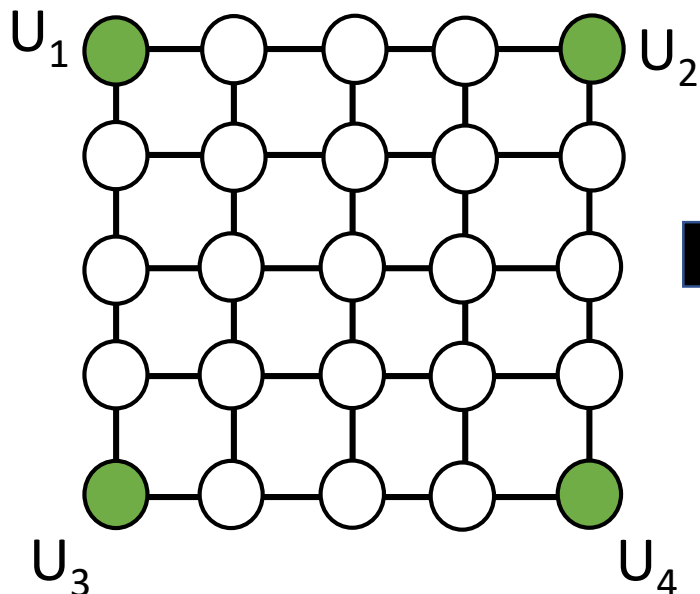




# Proposal 1: MP-C

## INPUT:

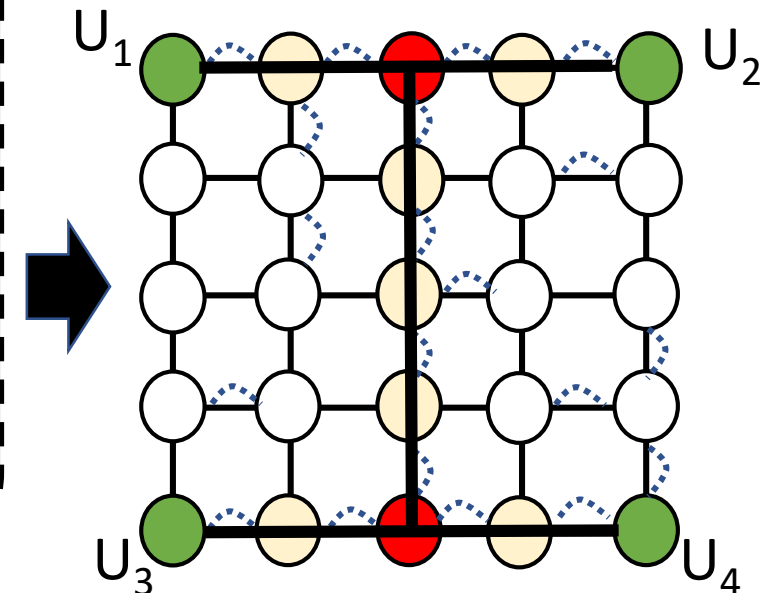
1. Network topology
2. Set of users  $U$  



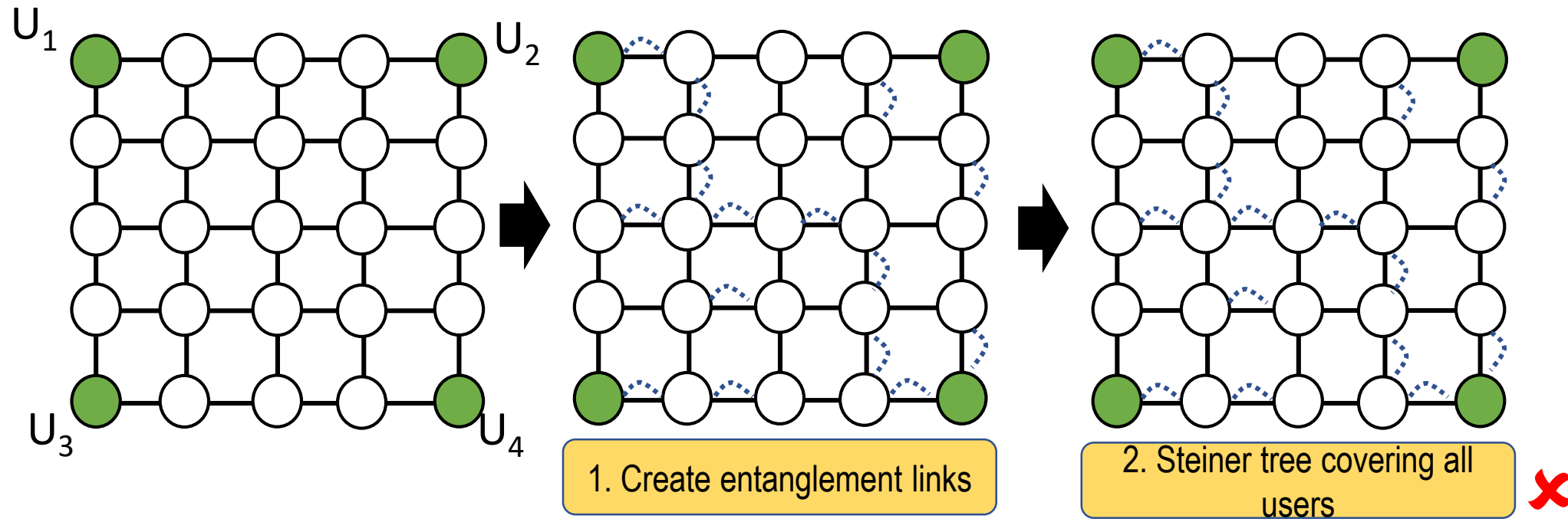
## ENTANGLEMENT DISTRIBUTION PROTOCOL

## OUTPUT:

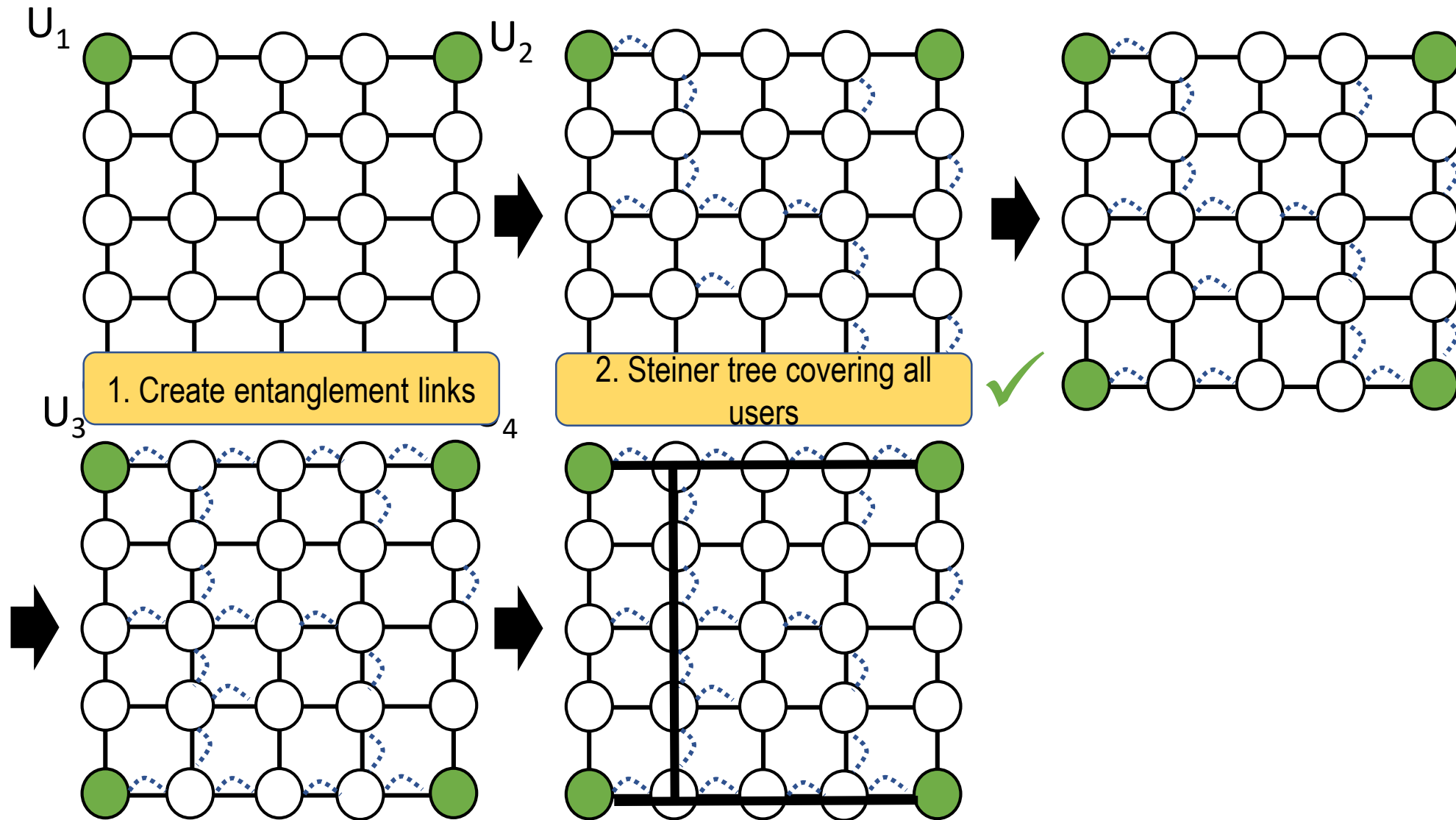
- Routing solution
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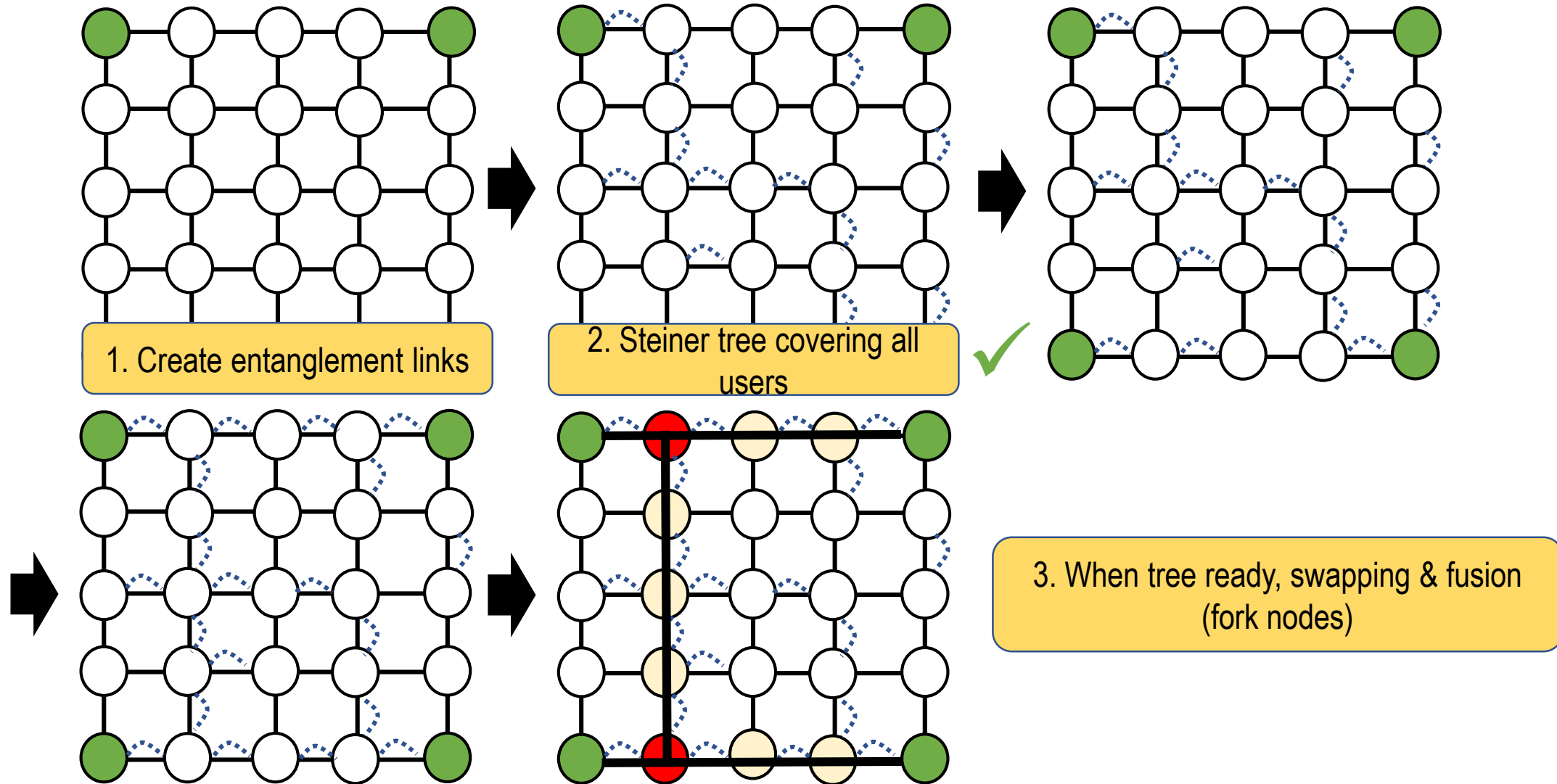
# Execution example ( $T_c=2$ time slots)

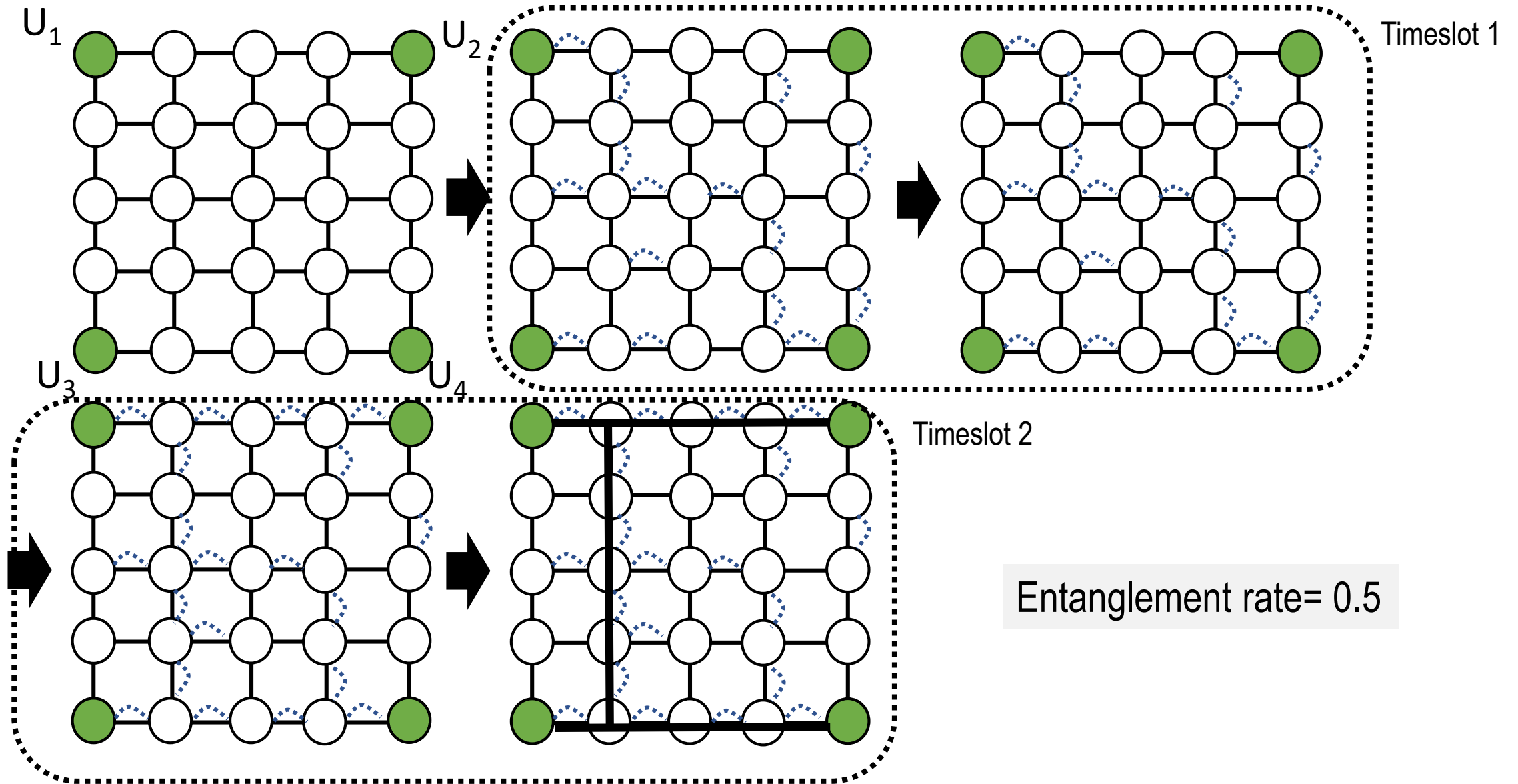


# Execution example ( $T_c=2$ time slots)



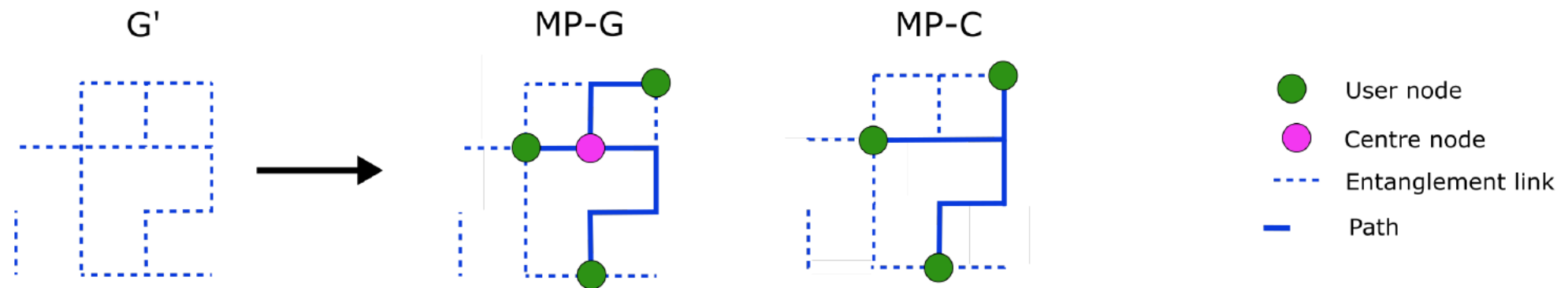
# Execution example ( $T_c=2$ time slots)



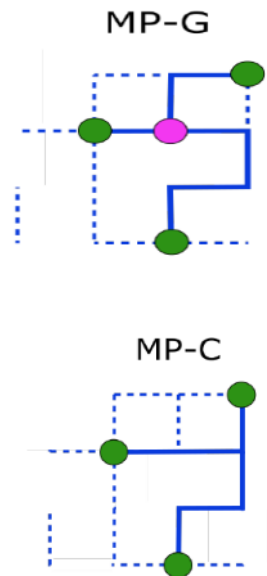
Execution example ( $T_c=2$  time slots)

# Your guess

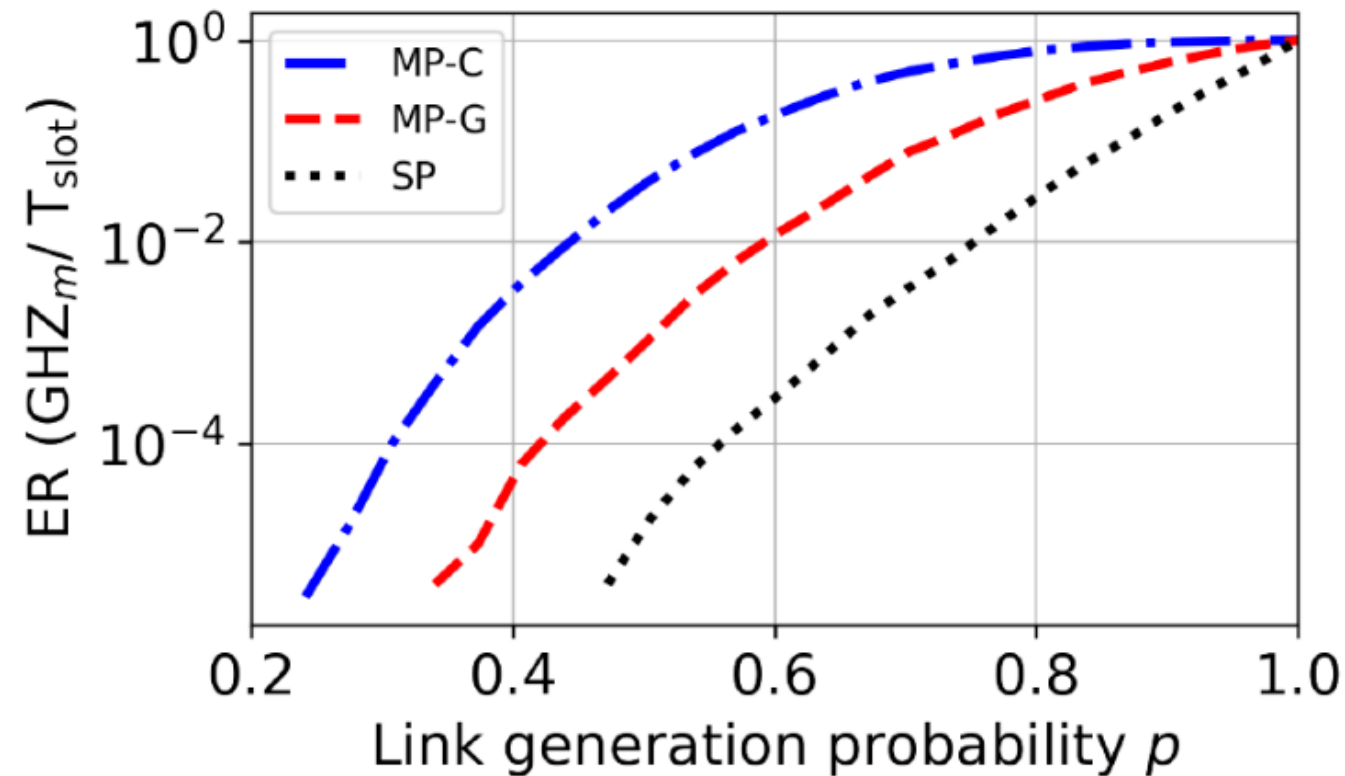
Which of the 2 proposed protocols achieve a higher entanglement rate?



# Simulation results: Grids I



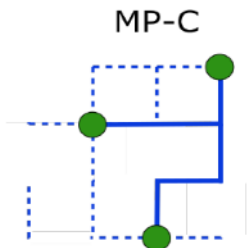
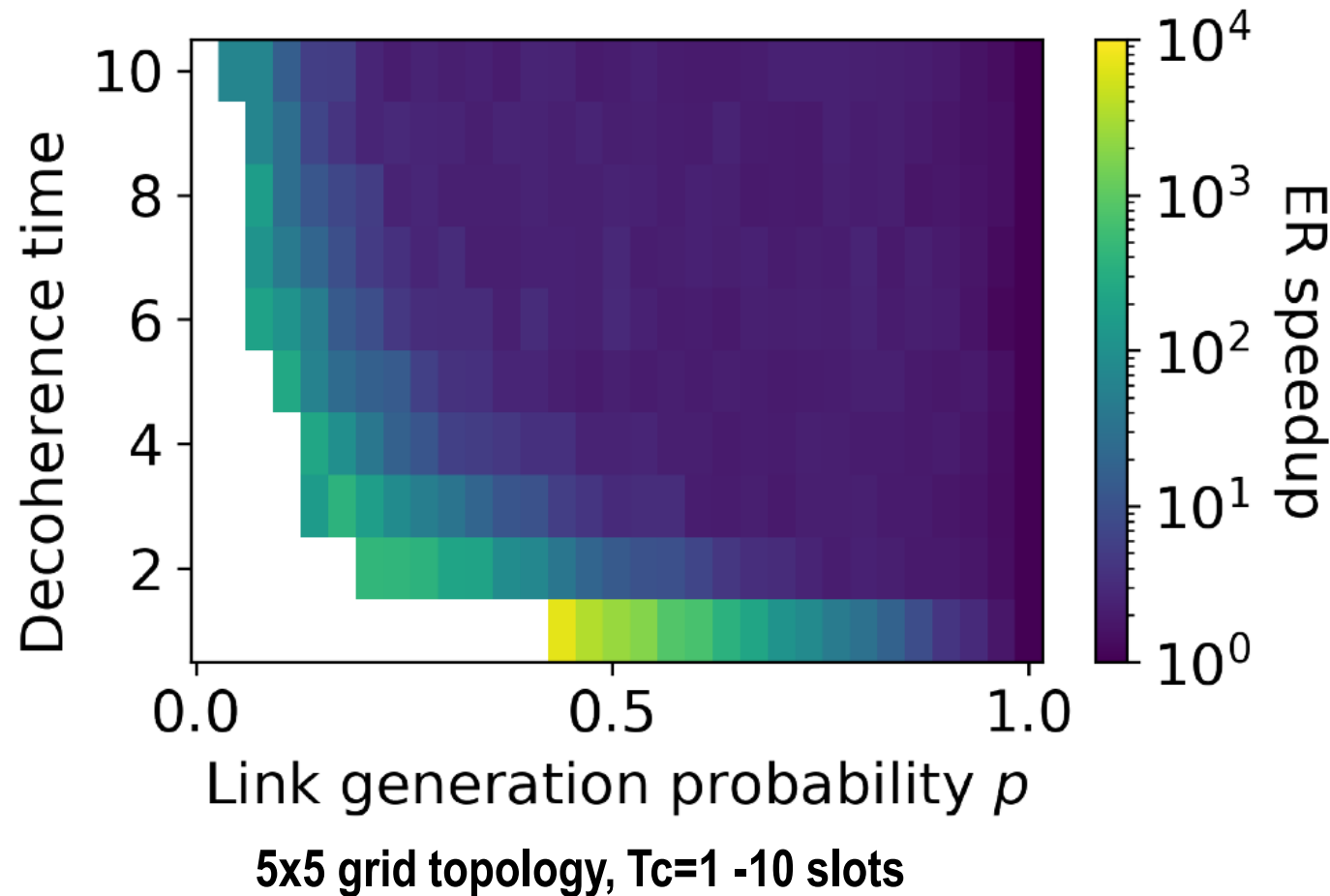
5x5 grid topology, 4 users,  $T_c=1$  slot



Significant entanglement rate improvement using multipath routing

# Simulation results: Grids II

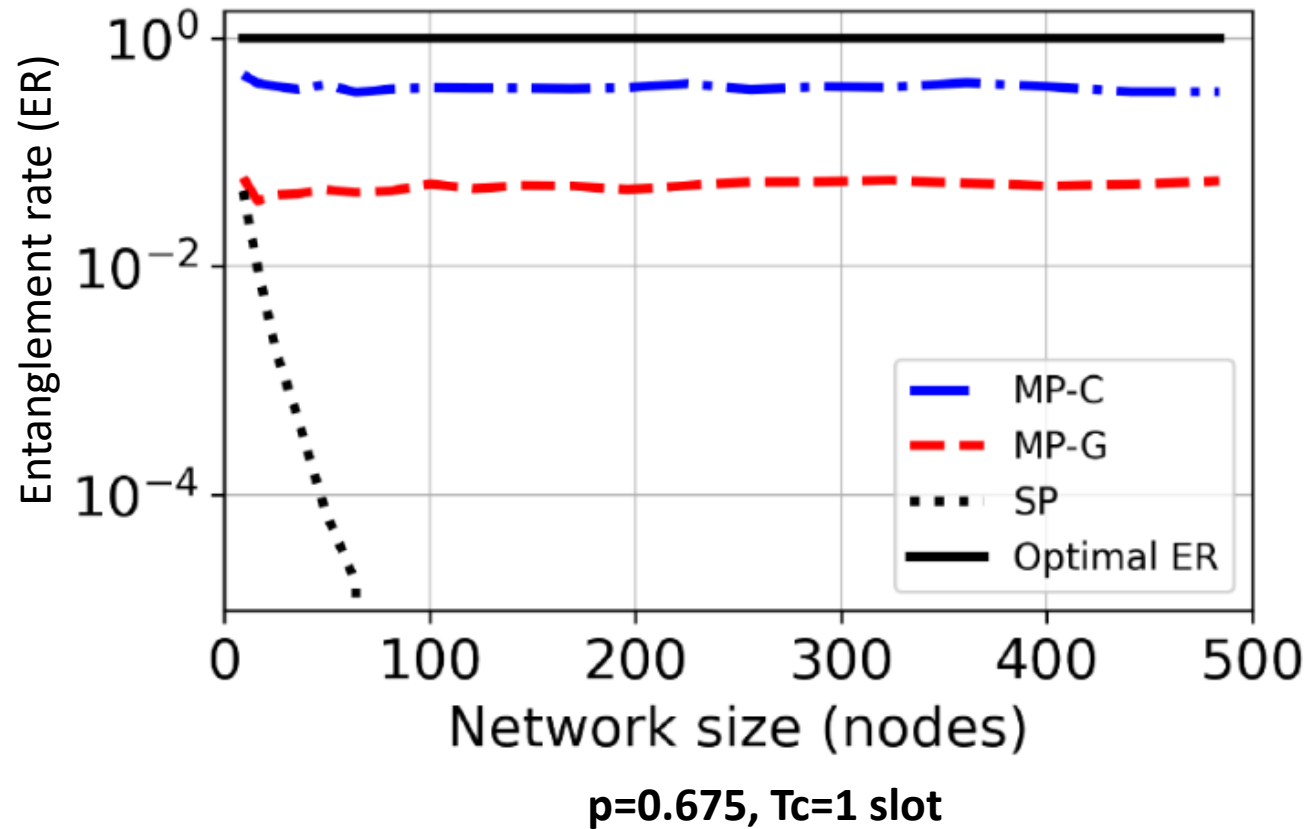
## Speed up of MP-C over SP



Higher gains where most needed



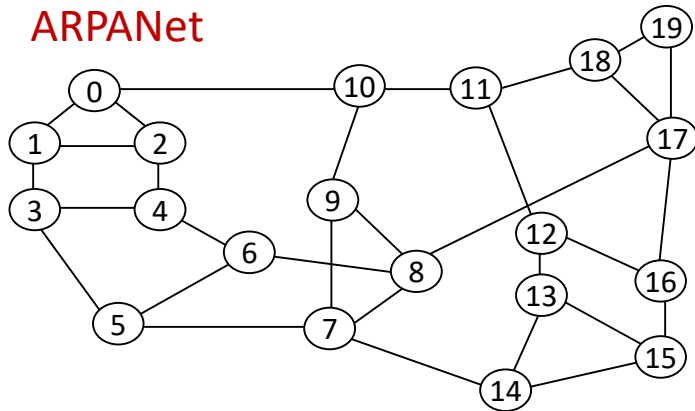
# Simulation results: Grids III



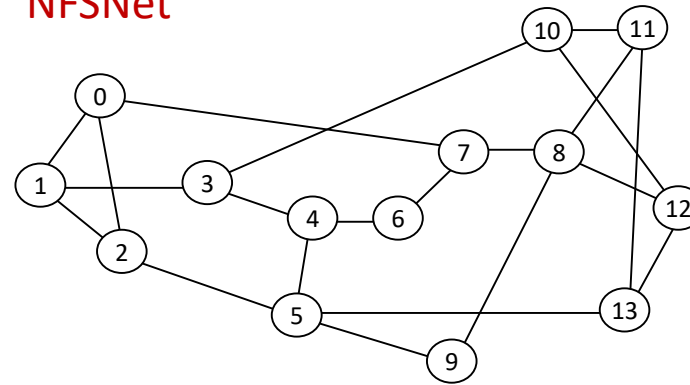
- Multipath routing entanglement rate **independent of network size**
- ER for shortest path routing decays exponentially

# Simulation results: Mesh topologies

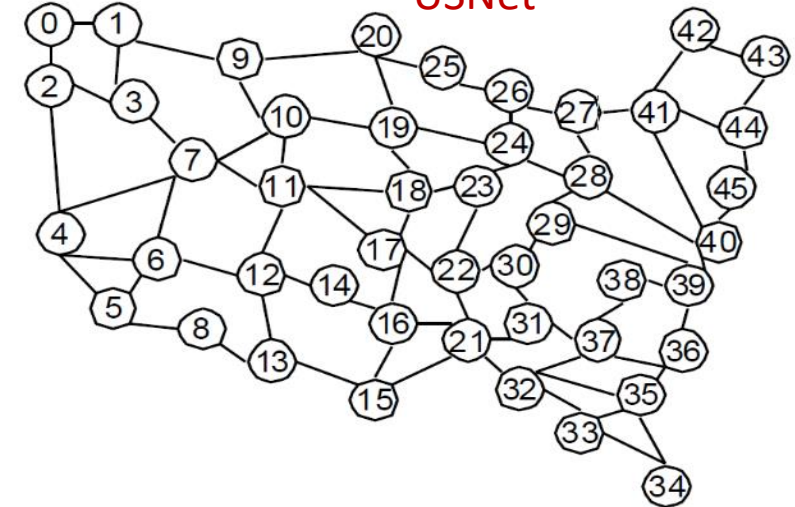
ARPANet



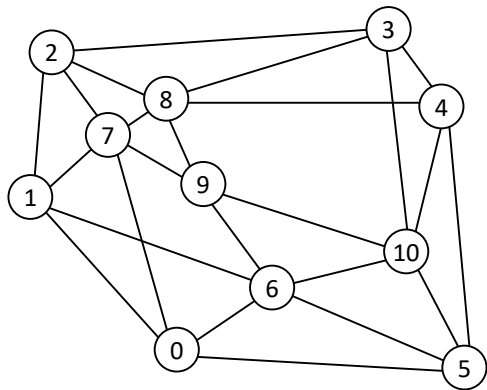
NFSNet



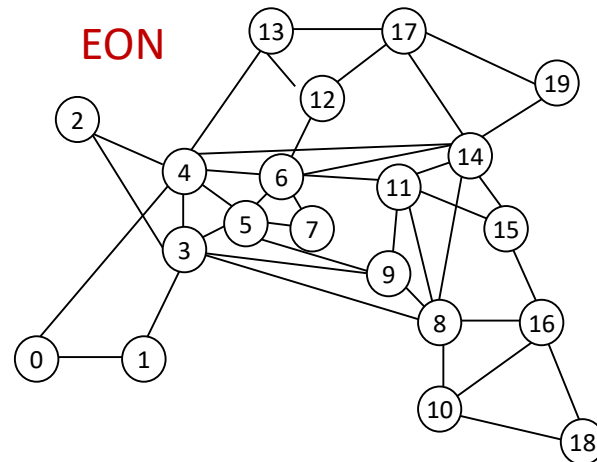
USNet



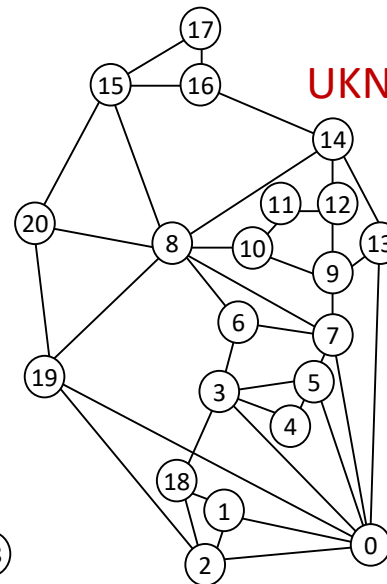
Eurocore



EON



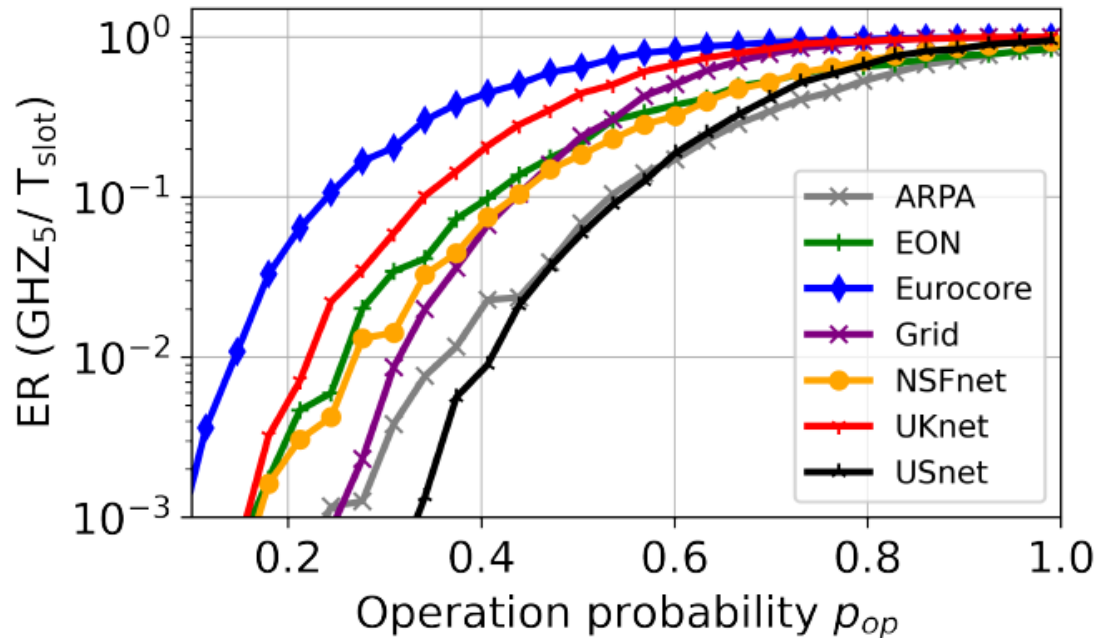
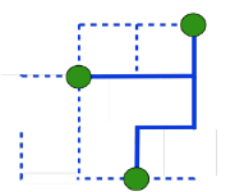
UKNet



Network Name	Nodes	Edges	Average edge length (km)	Average nodal degree
ARPA	20	31	6.09	3.1
EON	20	39	7.24	3.9
Eurocore	11	25	4.26	4.55
NSFnet	14	21	5.09	3.0
UKnet	21	39	1.38	3.71
USnet	46	76	4.34	3.3
Grid (Fig. 2)	36	60	1.0	3.33

# Simulation results: Mesh I

MP-C



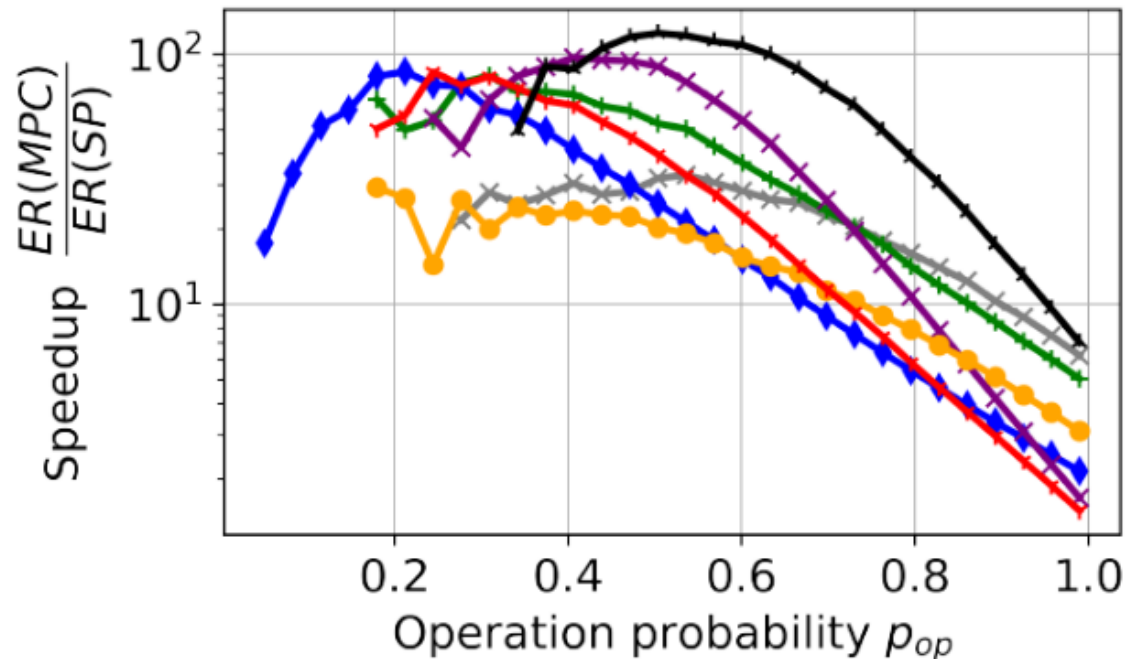
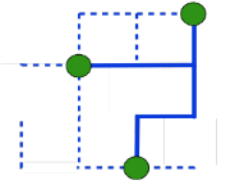
$10^4$  different 5-user combinations, each attempted for up to 5000 timeslots,  $T_c=1$  slot

- High average node degrees (Eurocore, EON and UKNet) networks achieved higher ERs.

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# Simulation results: Mesh II

MP-C

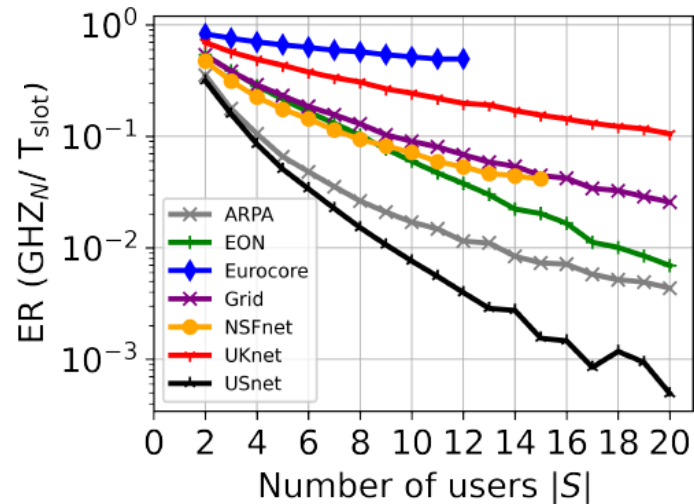
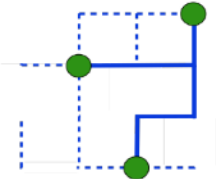
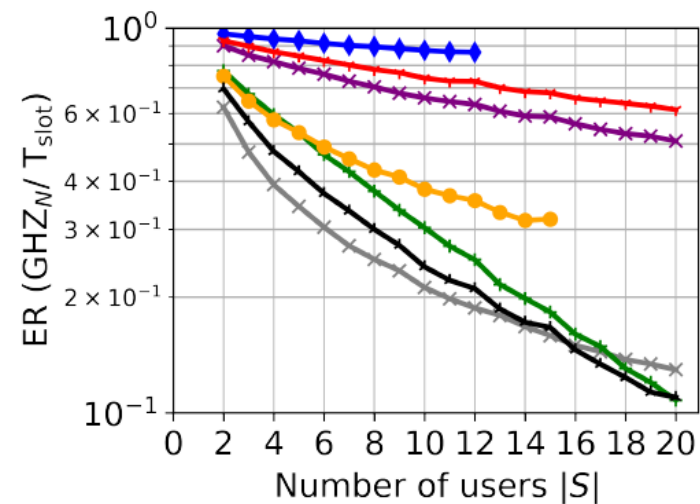
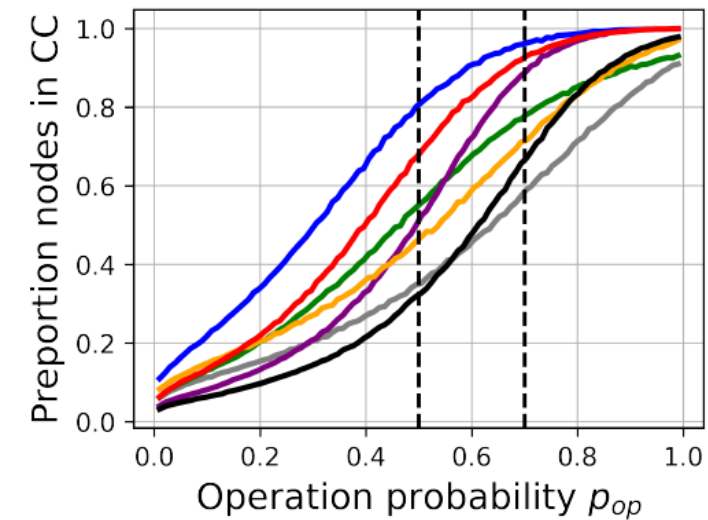


$10^4$  different 5-user combinations, each attempted for up to 5000 timeslots,  $T_c=1$  slot

Maximum speedup at intermediate values of  $p_{op}$  (varied for different topologies)

# Simulation results: Mesh III

MP-C

(a)  $p_{op}=0.5$ (b)  $p_{op}=0.7$ 

(c)

- There is a **critical value of  $p$**  at which a high percentage of nodes are in a single connected component.
- This value is **topology-dependant**

# Summary

- Multipath **increases ER** several orders of magnitude (NISQ  $p$  &  $T_c$ )
- Multipath makes **ER size-independent** (for threshold  $p$ )
- Multipath **ER is topology-dependant** (nodal degree)