

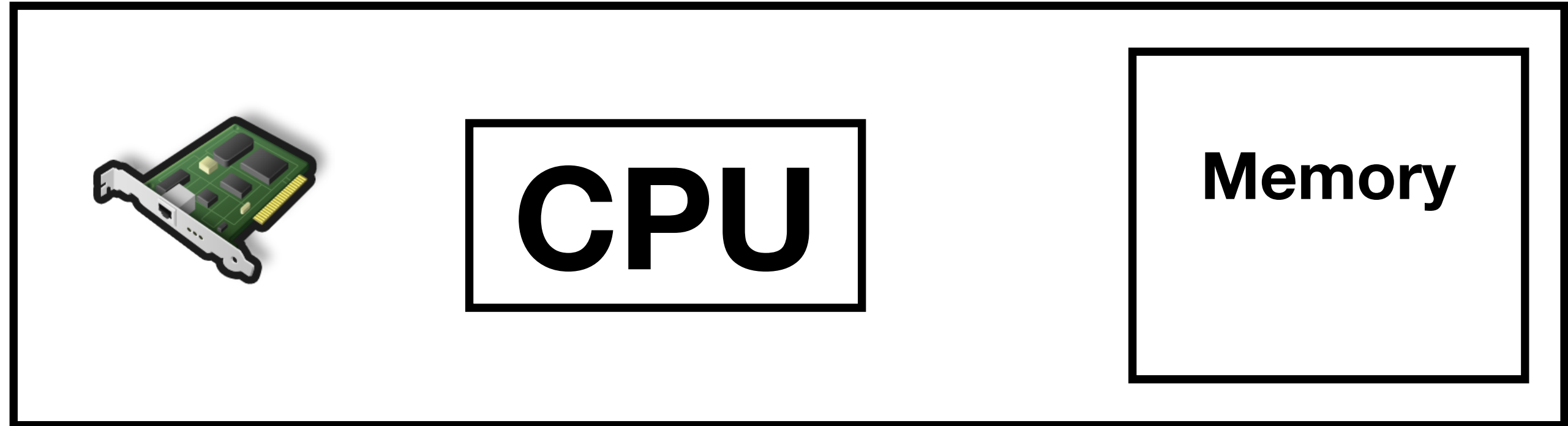
*A Double-Edged Sword:  
Security Threats and Opportunities  
in One-Sided Network Communication*

*Shin-Yeh Tsai*  
Yiying Zhang



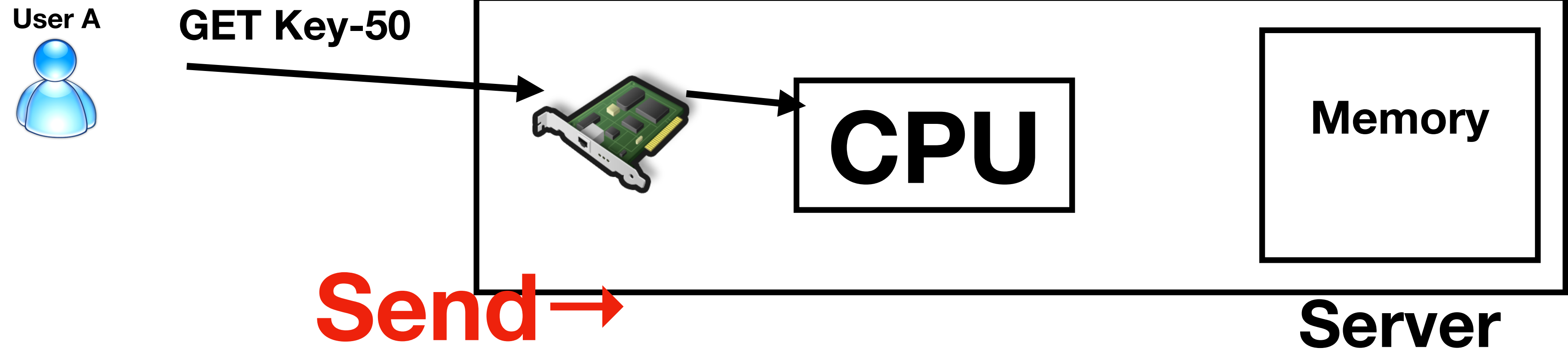
# Traditional (Two-sided communication)

User A

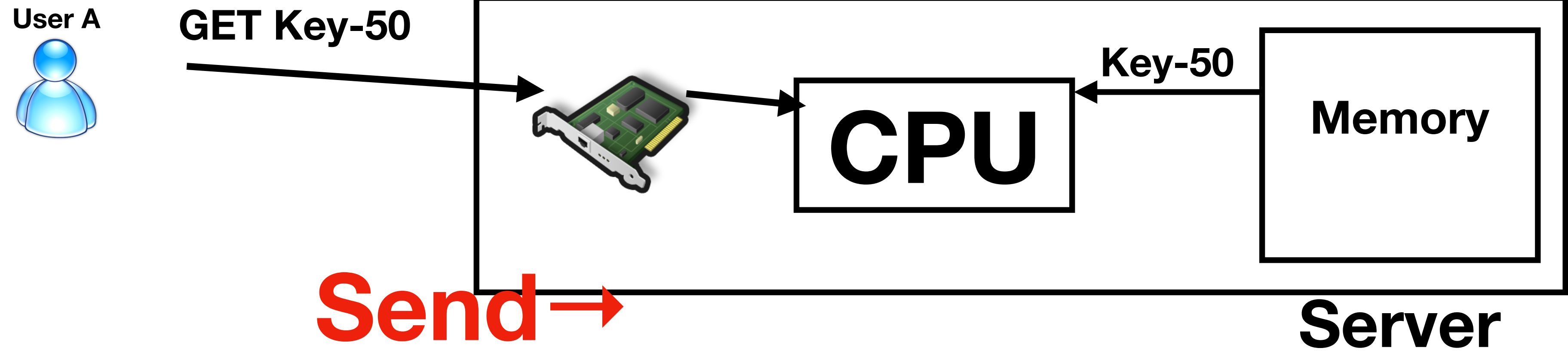


Server

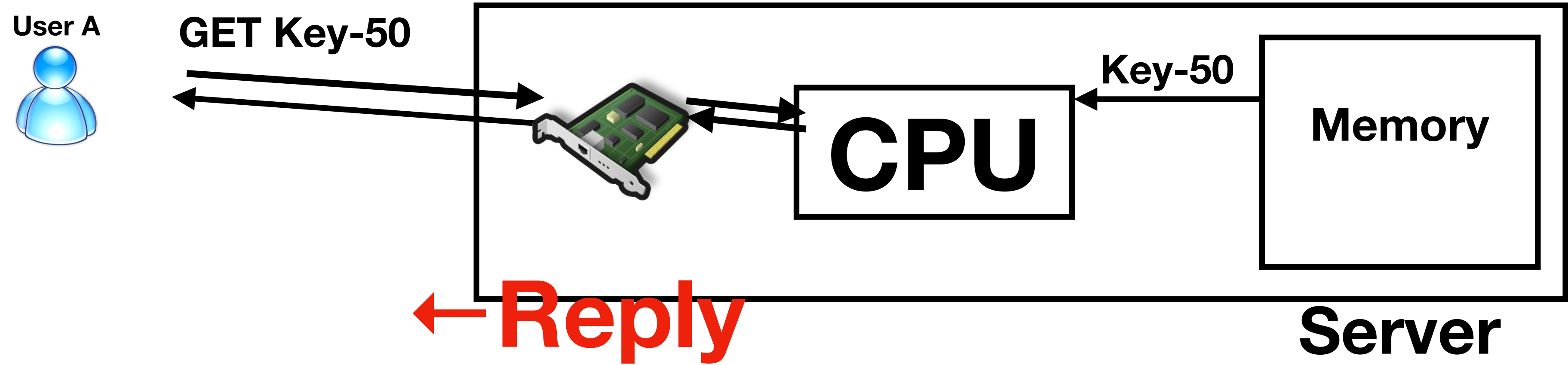
# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



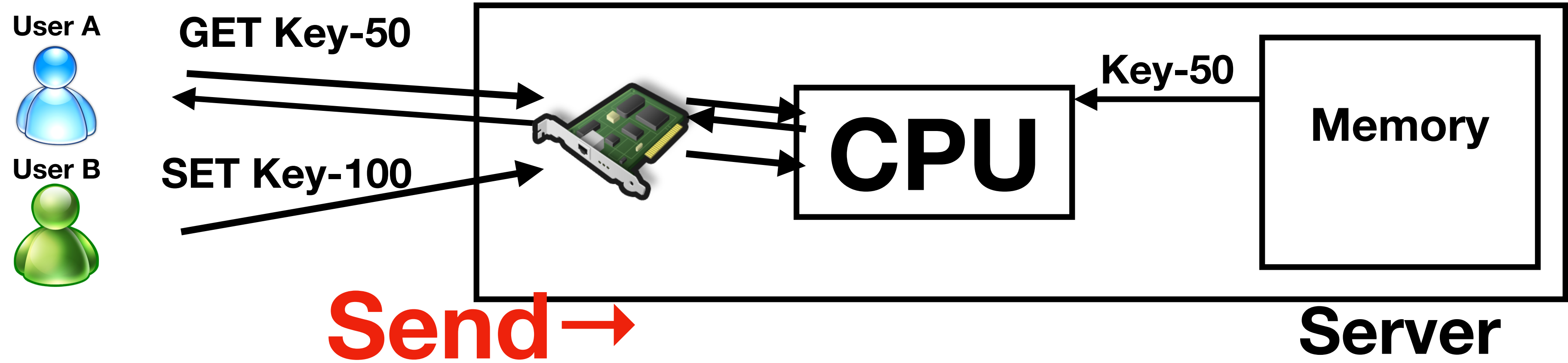
# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



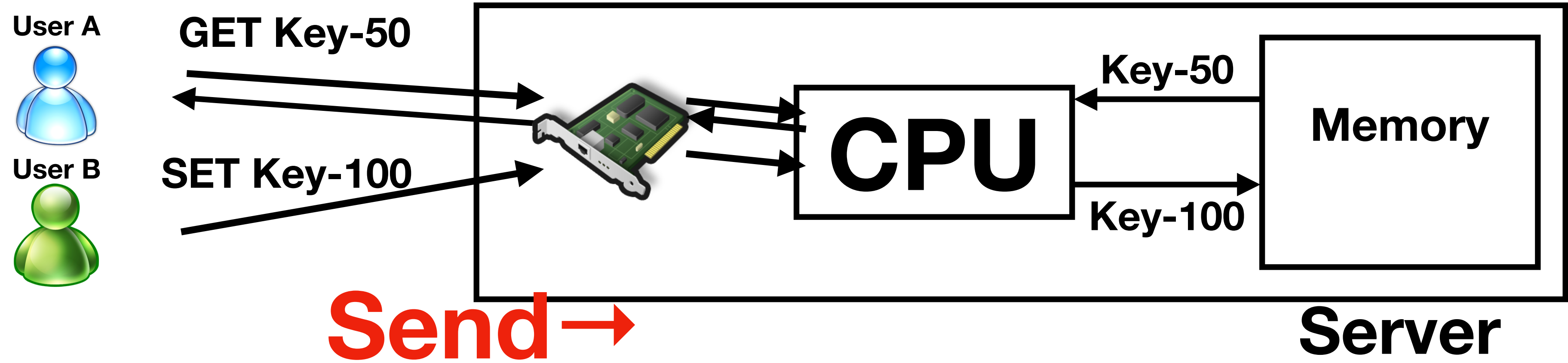
# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



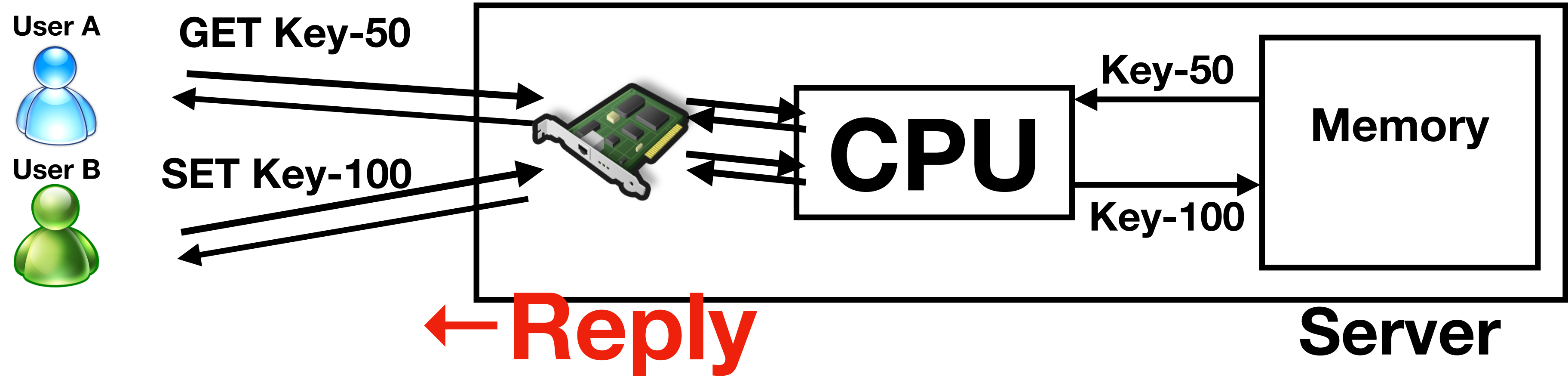
# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



# Traditional (Two-sided communication)

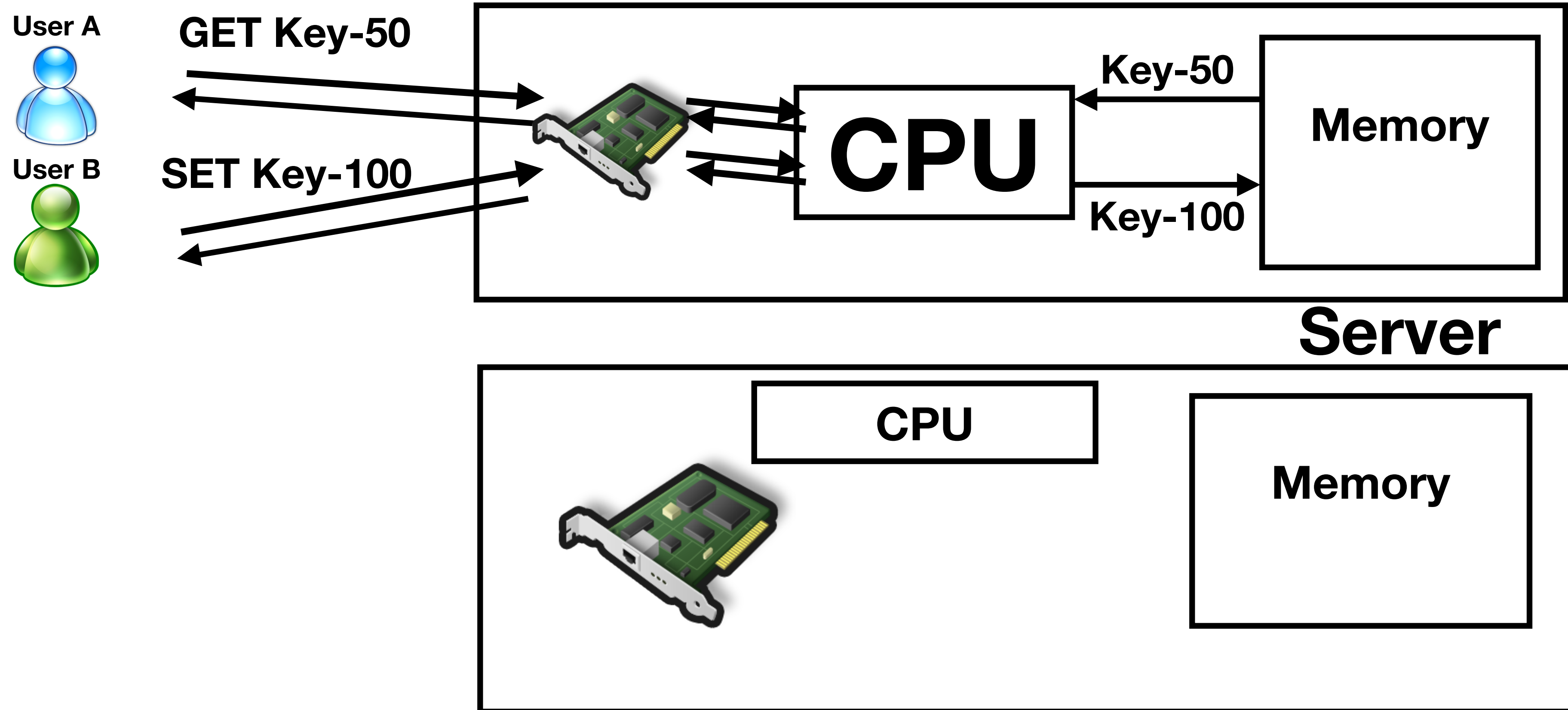


# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



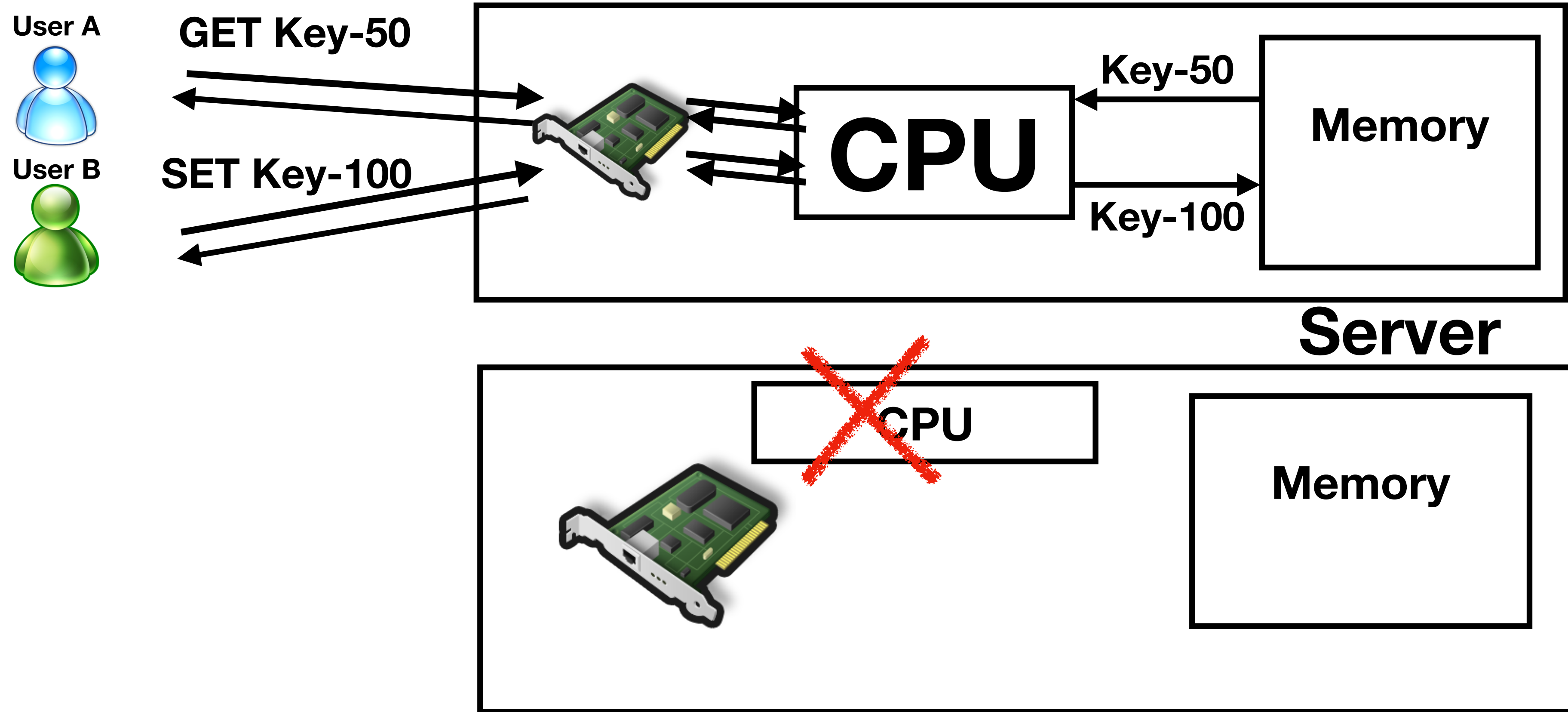


# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



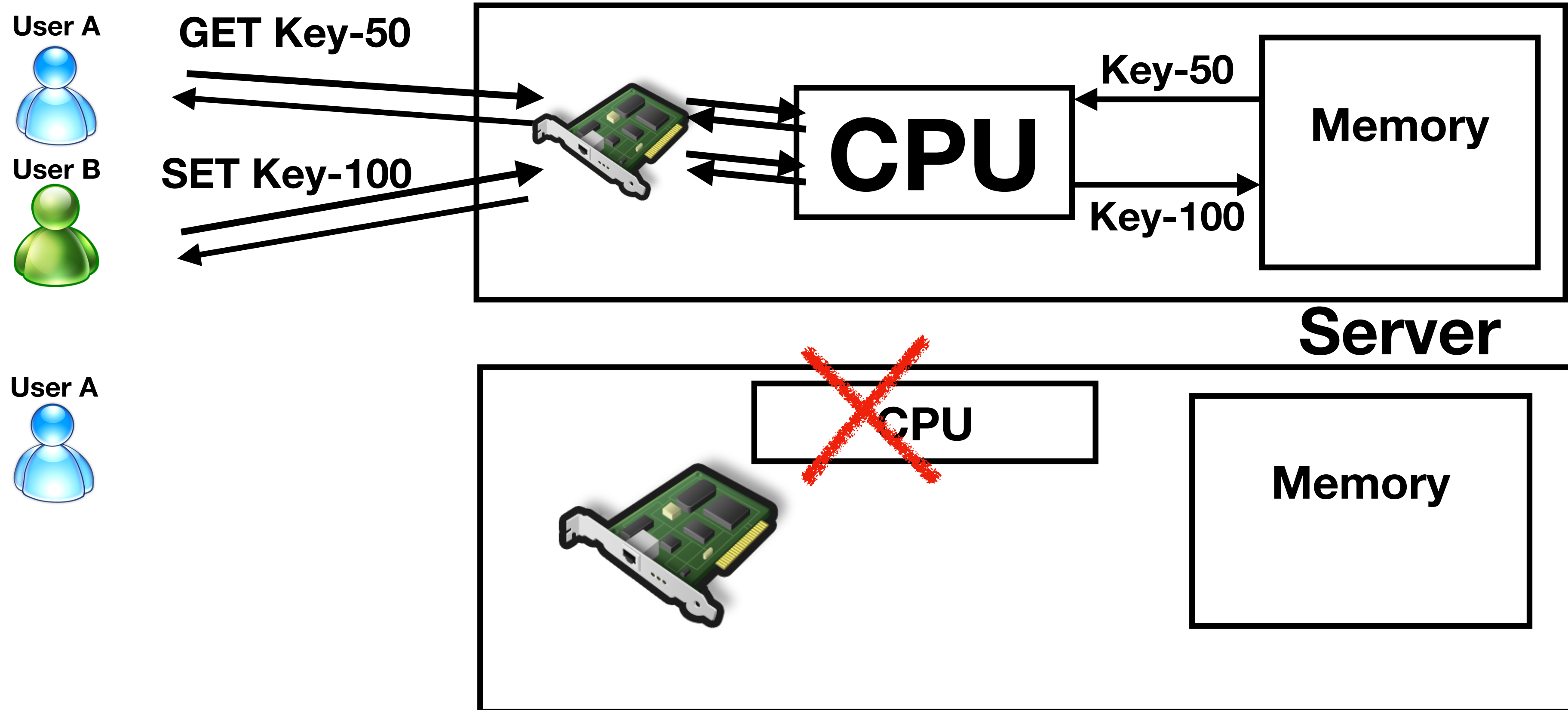
# One-sided communication

# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



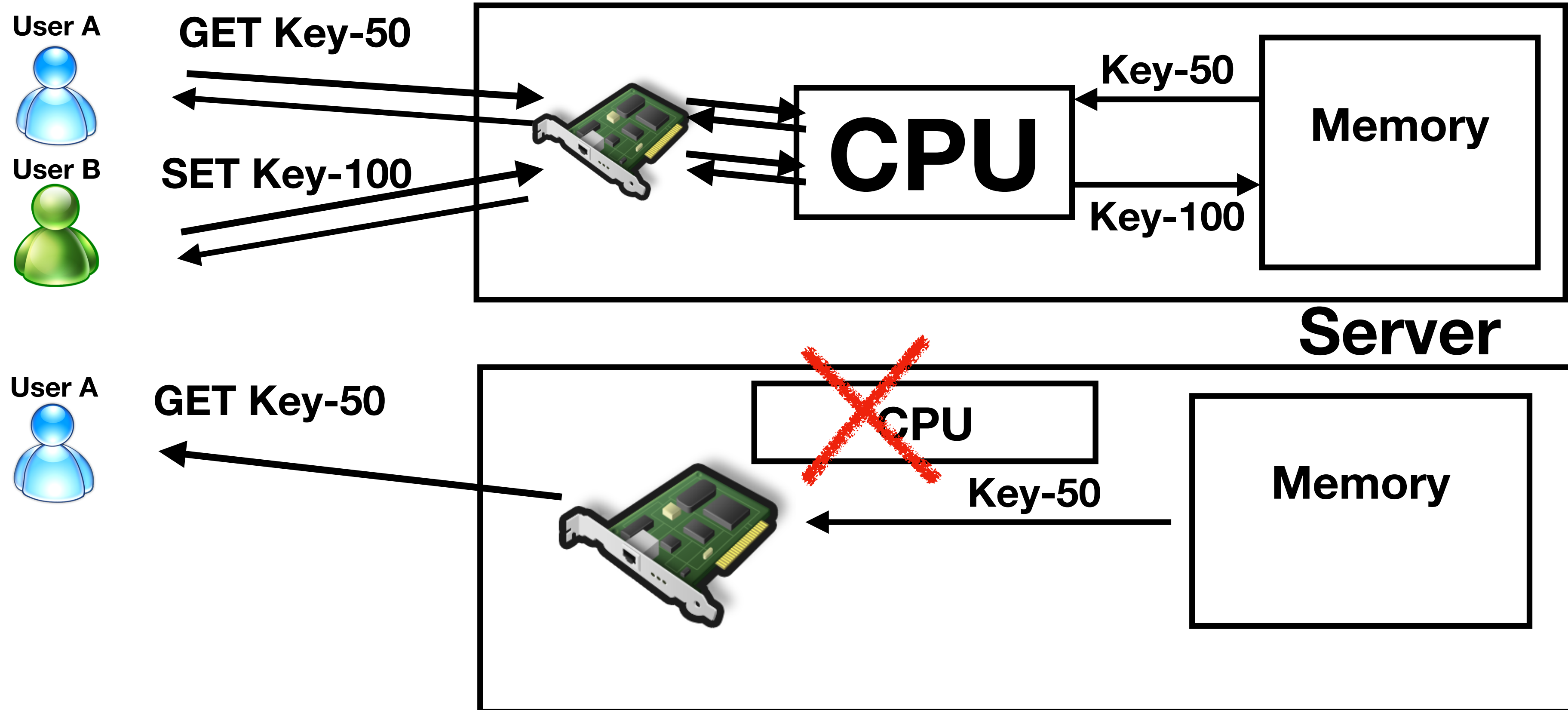
# One-sided communication

# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



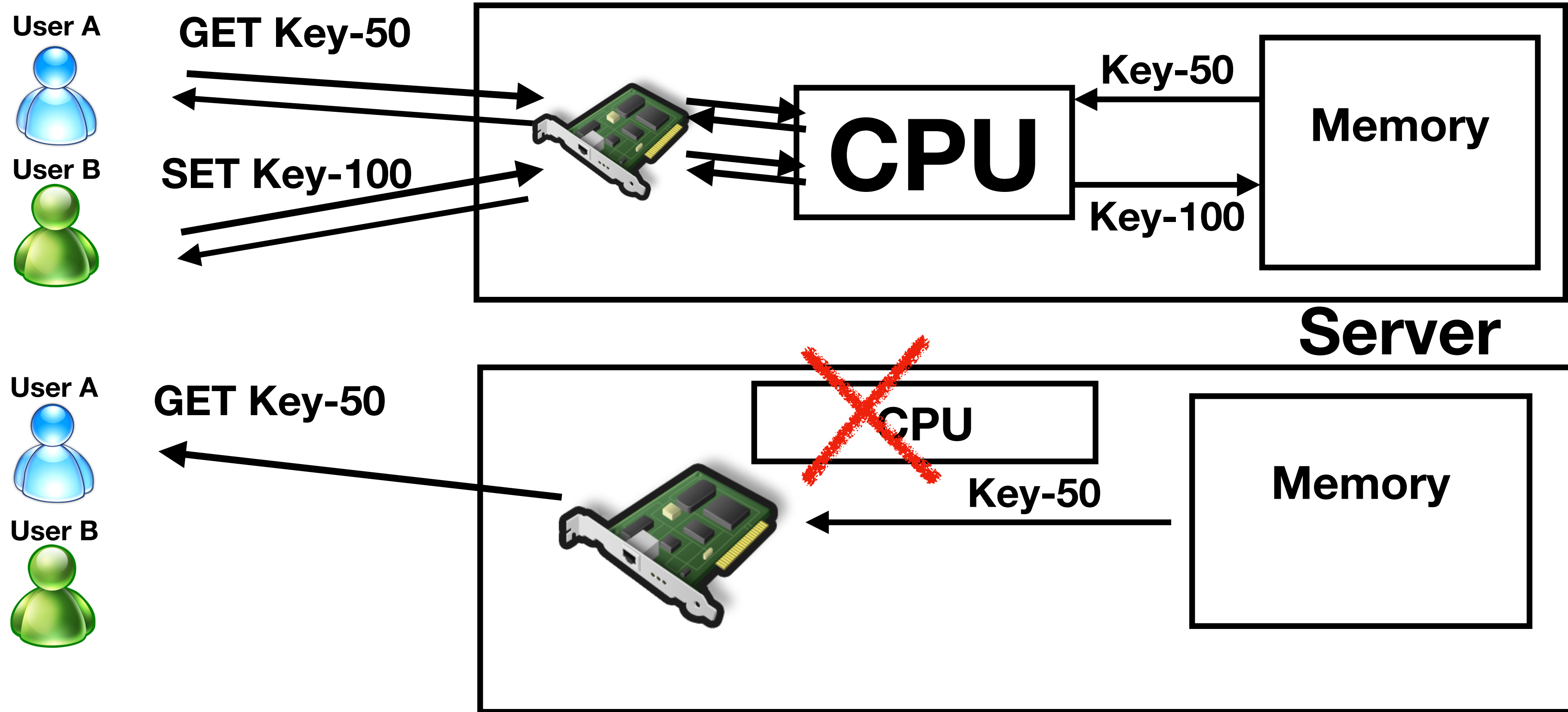
# One-sided communication

# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



# One-sided communication

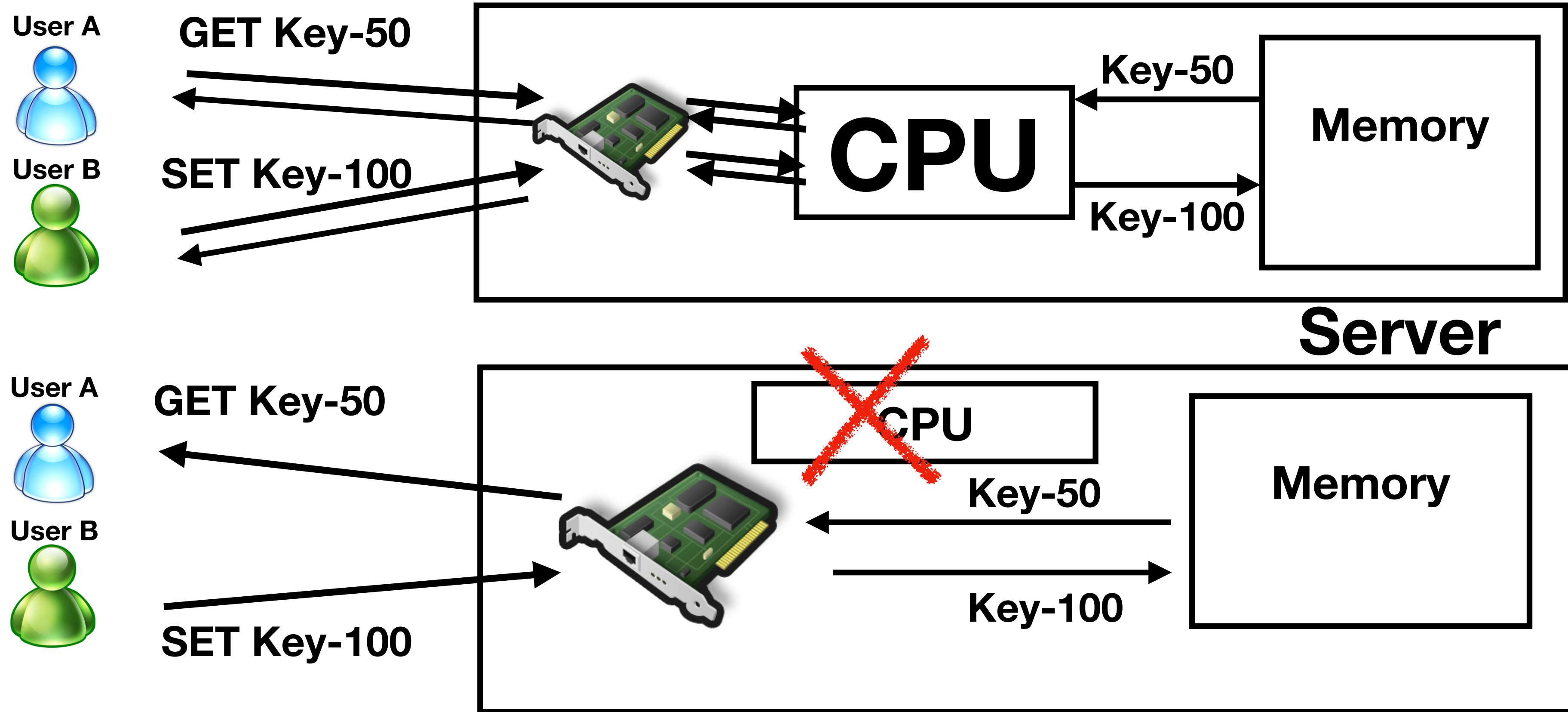
# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



# One-sided communication



# Traditional (Two-sided communication)



# One-sided communication

**RDMA**

**Omni-Path**

**Gen-Z**

**NVMeOF**

**GPUDirect**

# RDMA

Pilaf  
[ATC '13]

APUS  
[SoCC '17]

Hotpot  
[SoCC '17]

# Omni-Path

FaRM  
[NSDI '14]

Octopus  
[ATC '17]

Orion  
[FAST '19]

Wukong  
[OSDI '16]

# Gen-Z

HERD  
[SIGCOMM '14]

NAM-DB  
[VLDB '17]

Storm  
[SYSTOR '19]

DRTM+H  
[OSDI '18]

Cell  
[ATC '16]

# NVMeOF

DrTM  
[SOSP '15]

FaRM + Xact  
[SOSP '15]

LITE  
[SOSP '17]

KV-Direct  
[SOSP '17]

FaSST  
[OSDI '16]

# GPUDirect

Mojim  
[ASPLOS '15]

RSI  
[VLDB '16]

DrTM+R  
[EuroSys '16]



# Performance

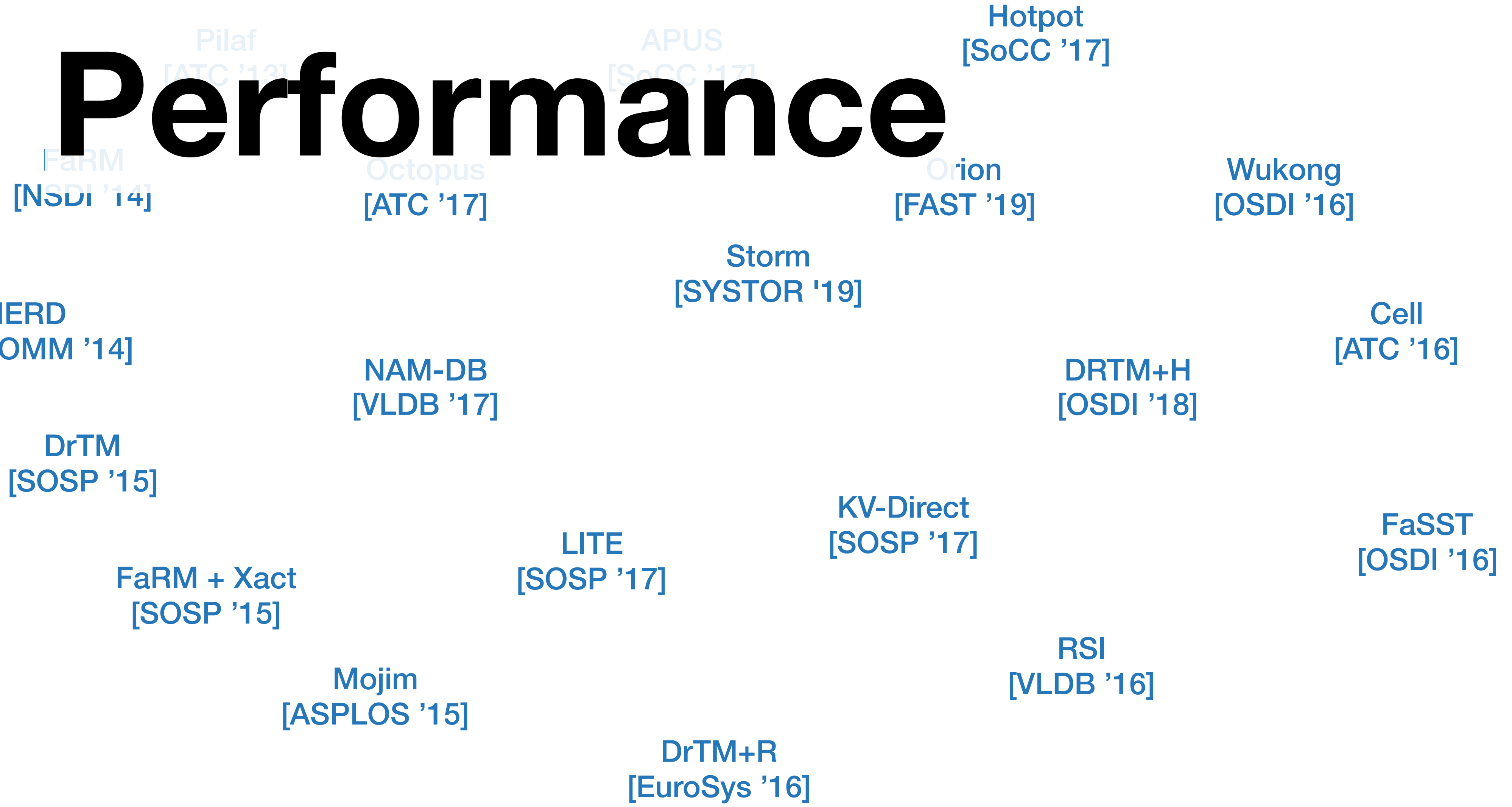
**RDMA**

**Omni-Path**

**Gen-Z**

**NVMeOF**

**GPUDirect**



# Performance

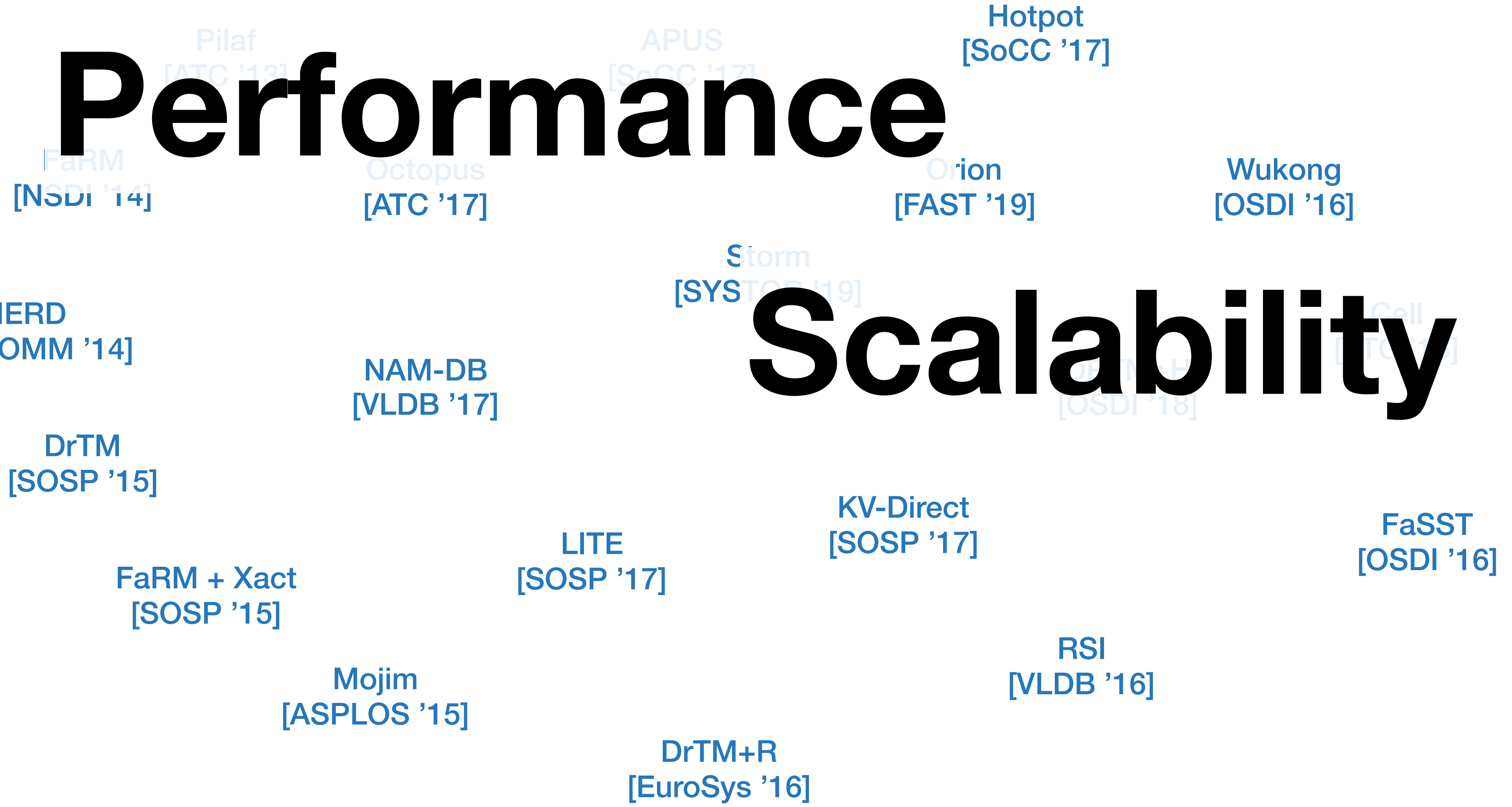
**RDMA**

**Omni-Path**

**Gen-Z**

**NVMeOF**

**GPUDirect**



# Performance

**RDMA**

**Omni-Path**

**Gen-Z**

**NVMeOF**

**GPUDirect**

Pilaf [ATC '18]  
APUS [SoCC '17]  
Hotpot [SoCC '17]  
FaRM [NSDI '14]  
Octopus [ATC '17]  
Orion [FAST '19]  
Wukong [OSDI '16]

# Scalability

HERD [SIGCOMM '14]

NAM-DB [VLDB '17]

DrTM [SOSP '15]

FaRM + Xact [SOSP '15]

# Usability

Mojim [ASPLOS '15]

DrTM+R [EuroSys '16]

KV-Direct [SOSP '17]

RSI [VLDB '16]

FaSST [OSDI '16]

**Performance**

**RDMA**

**Omni-Path**

**Gen-Z**

**NVMeOF**

**GPUDirect**

Hotpot  
[SoCC '17]

FaRM  
[NSDI '14]

Octopus  
[ATC '17]

Orion  
[FAST '19]

Wukong  
[OSDI '16]

Storm  
[SYSTEMS '19]

HERD  
[SIGCOMM '14]

NAM-DB  
[VLDB '17]

**Scalability**

DrTM  
[SOSP '15]

FaRM + Xact  
[SOSP '15]

**Usability**

KV-Direct  
[SOSP '17]

FaSST  
[OSDI '16]

RSI  
[VLDB '16]

**What about Security?**

Mojim  
[ACM SIGPLAN '15]

DrVR  
[OSDI '16]

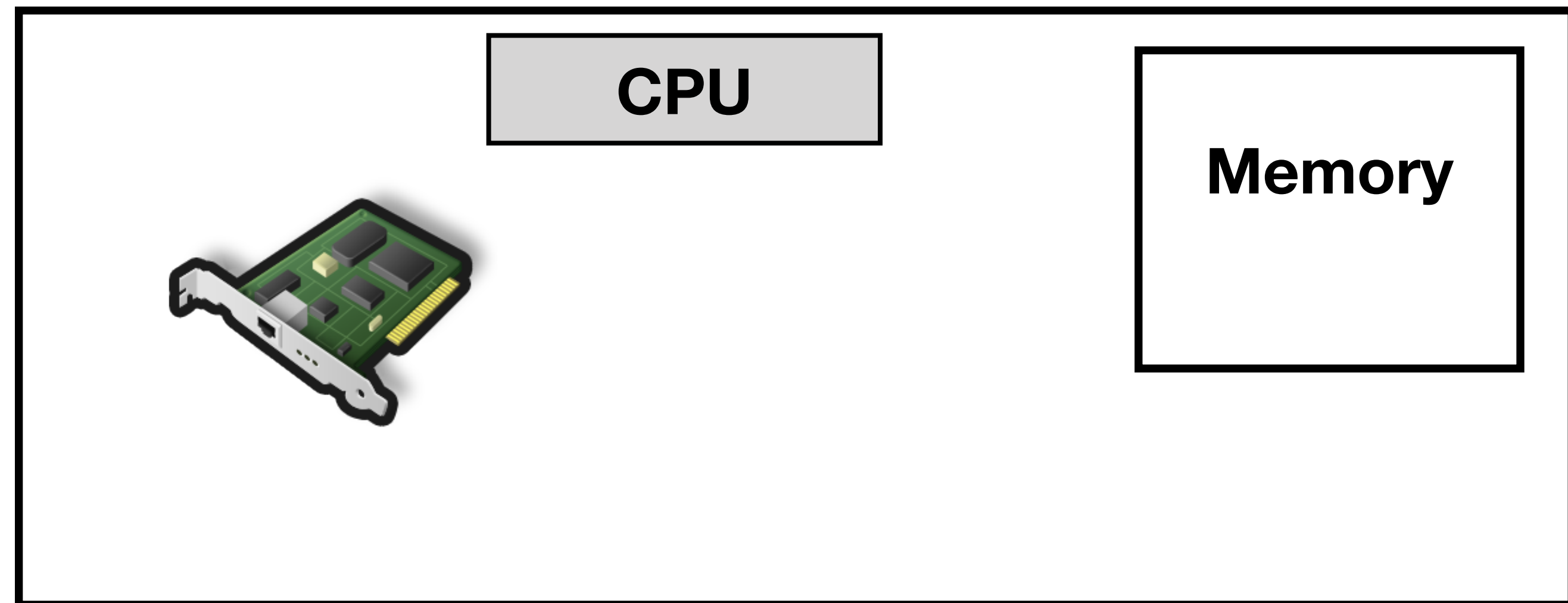
# Outline

- Introduction and Background
- Vulnerabilities in One-Sided Communication
- Vulnerabilities in One-Sided Hardware
- Opportunities in One-Sided Communication
- Conclusion

# Vulnerability 1: Lack of Accountability

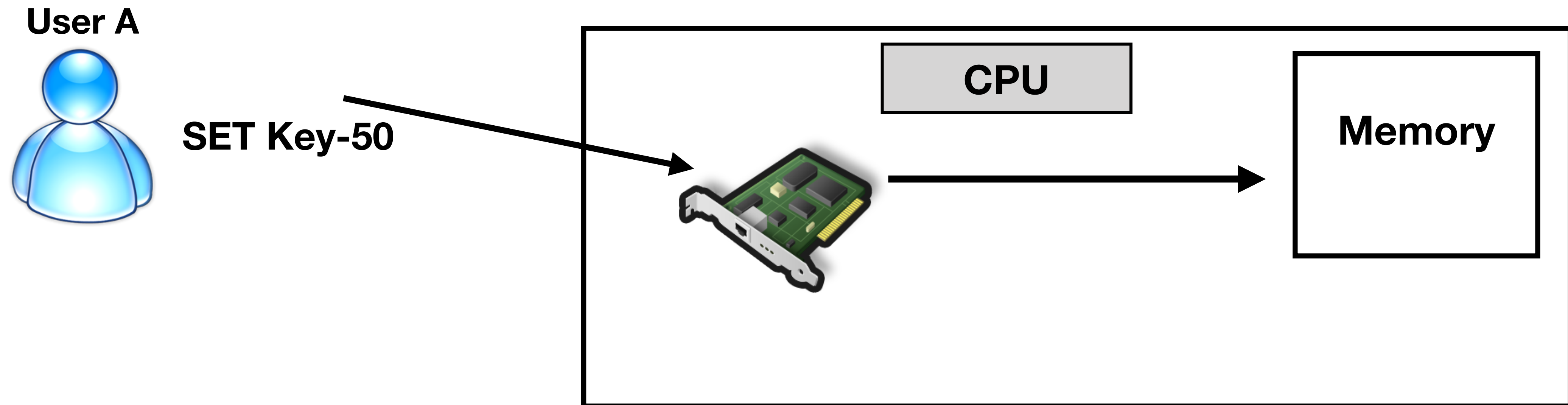
- **WRITE** accountability

User A



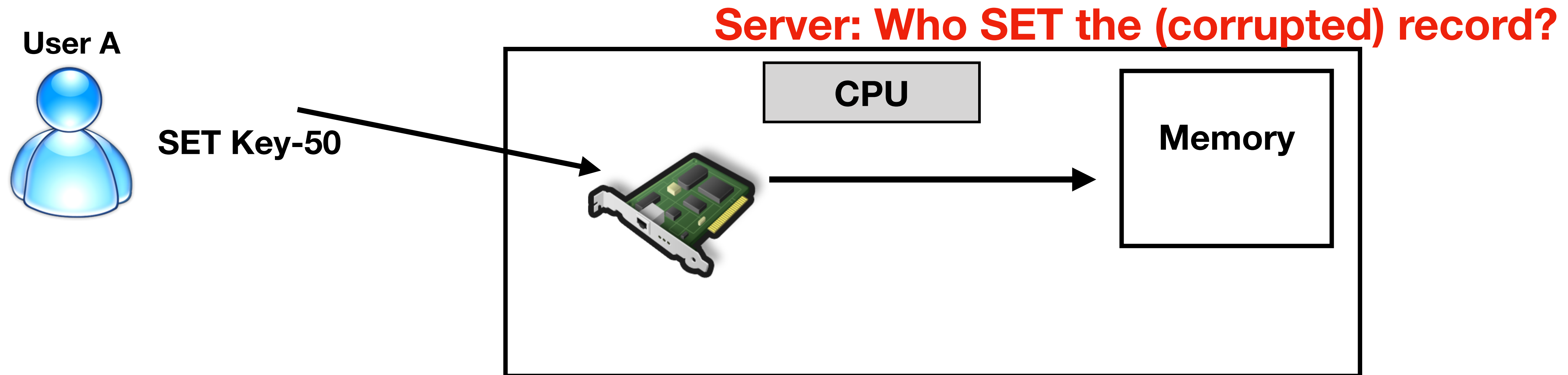
# Vulnerability 1: Lack of Accountability

- **WRITE** accountability



# Vulnerability 1: Lack of Accountability

- **WRITE** accountability



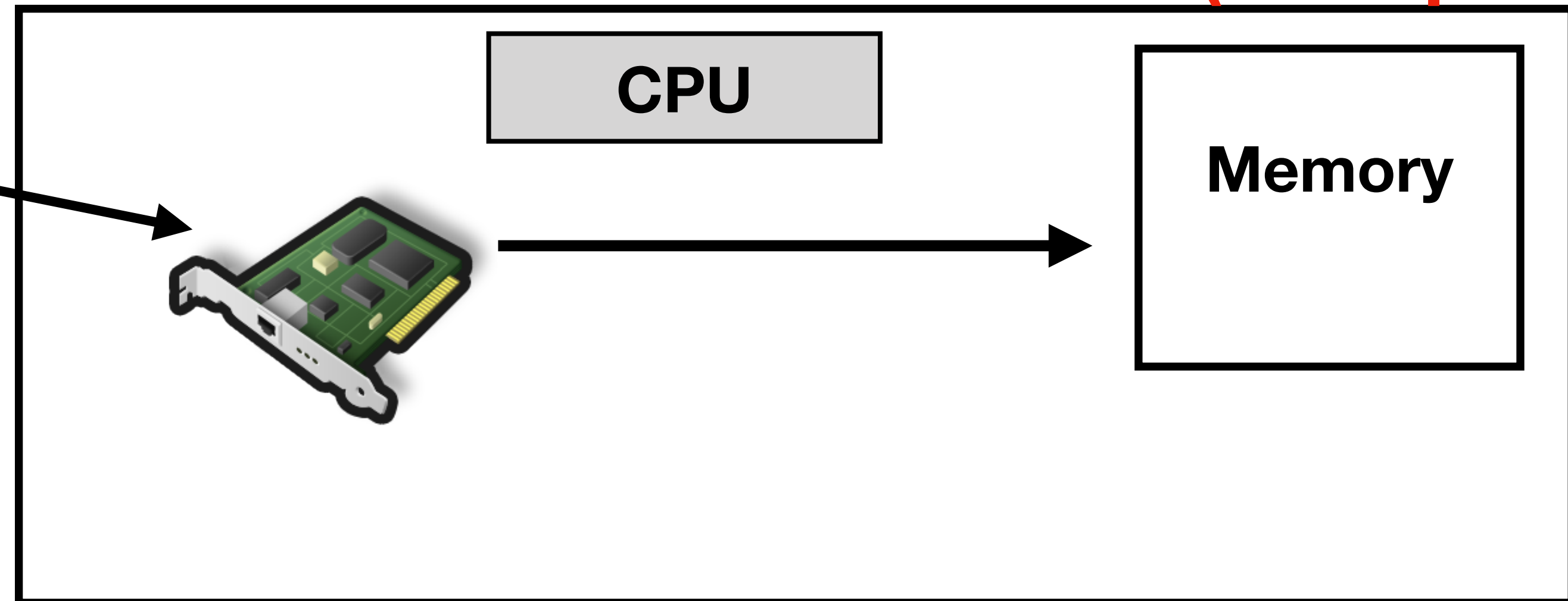


# Vulnerability 1: Lack of Accountability

- **WRITE** accountability
- **READ** accountability



SET Key-50

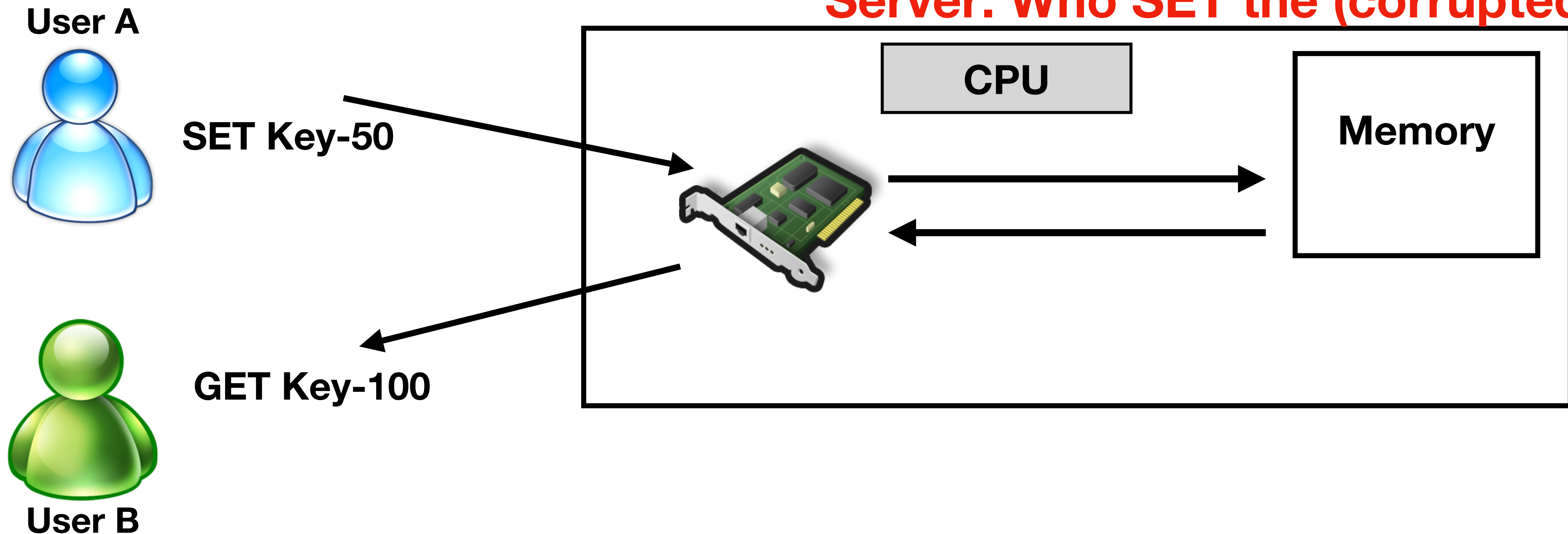


**Server: Who SET the (corrupted) record?**

# Vulnerability 1: Lack of Accountability

- **WRITE** accountability
- **READ** accountability

**Server: Who SET the (corrupted) record?**



# Vulnerability 1: Lack of Accountability

- **WRITE** accountability
- **READ** accountability

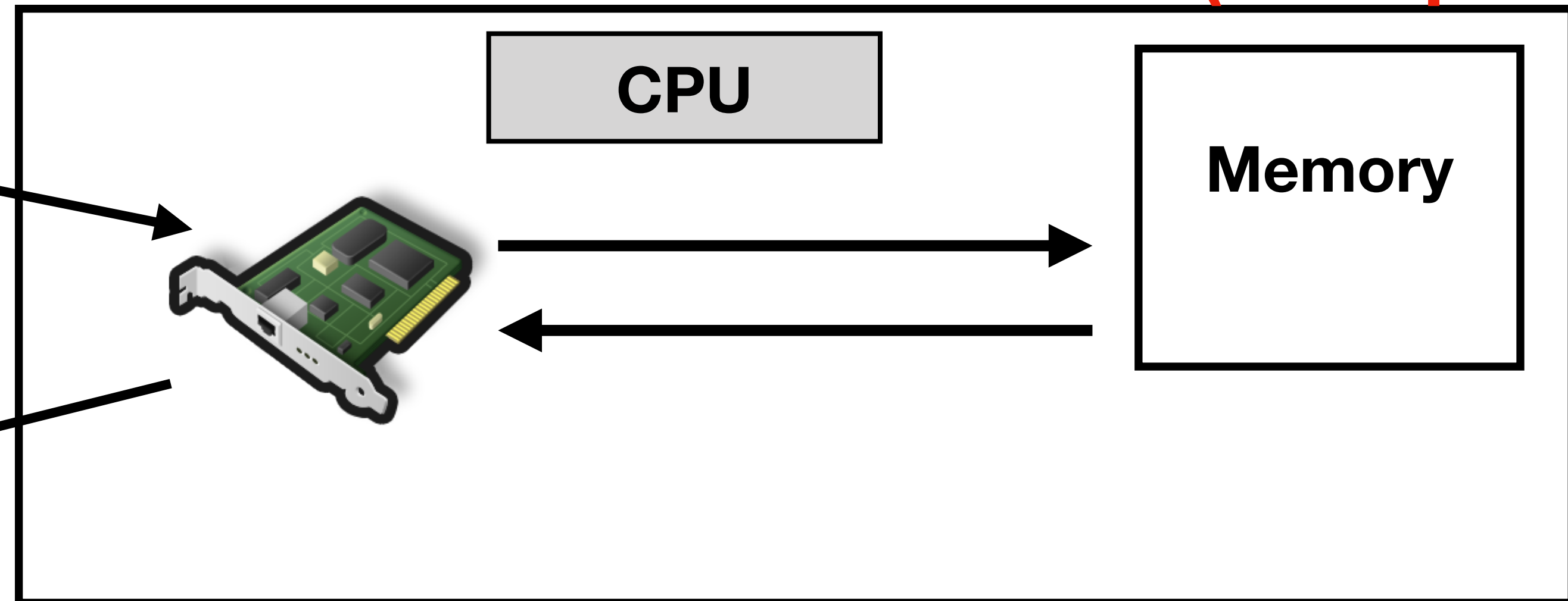


SET Key-50



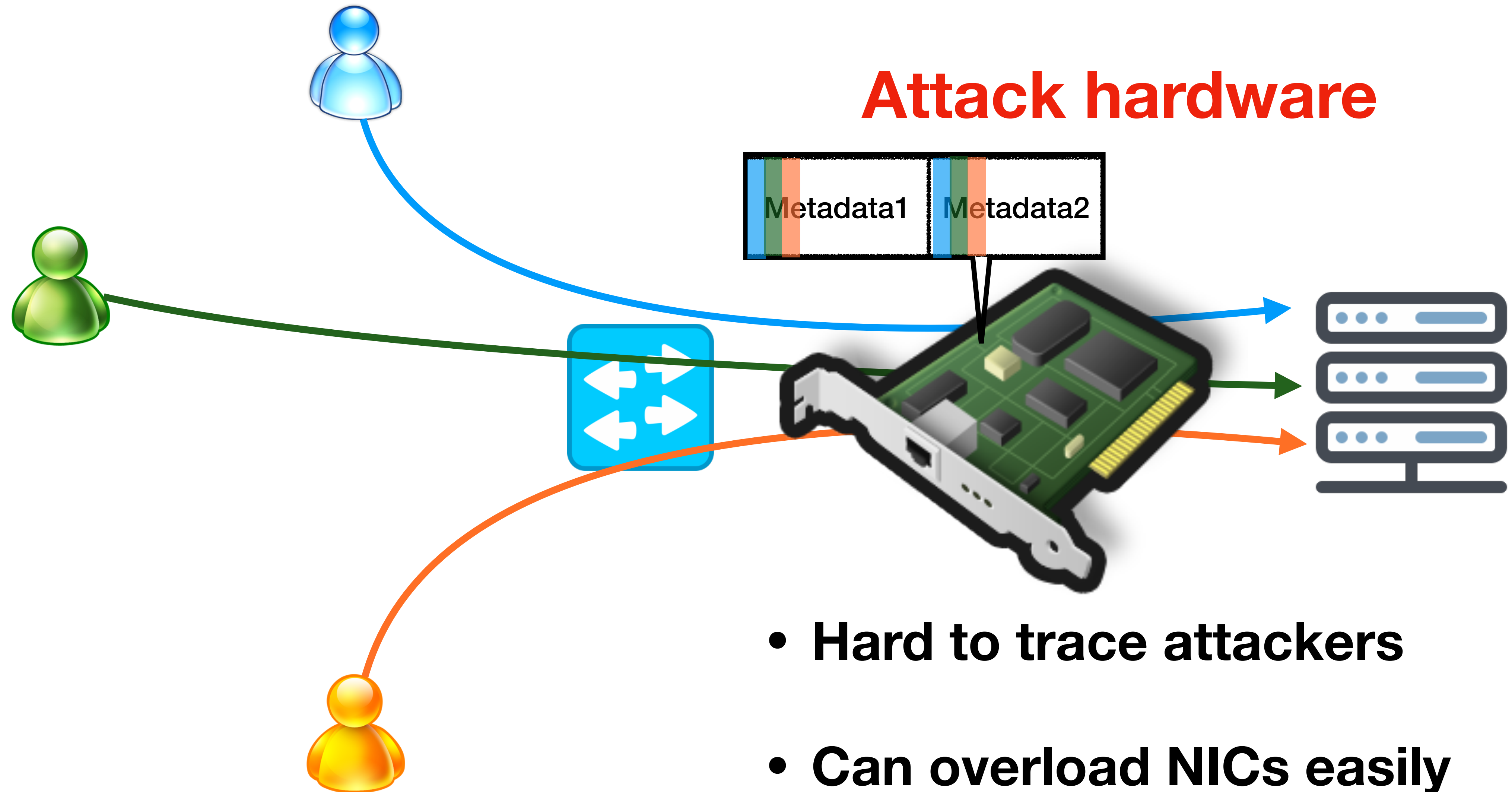
GET Key-100

Server: Who SET the (corrupted) record?

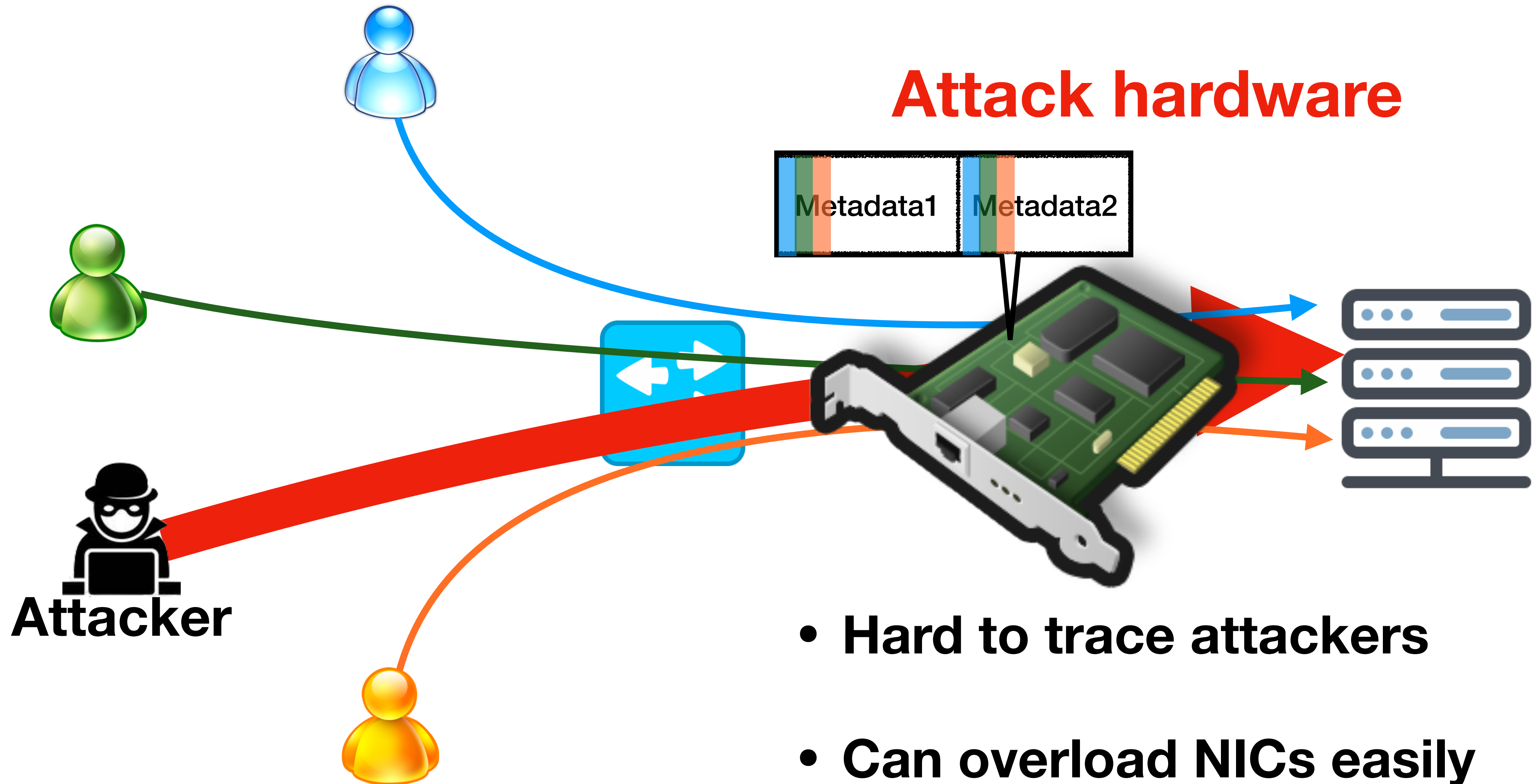


Server: Who GET the (corrupted) record?

# Vulnerability 2: Denial of Service

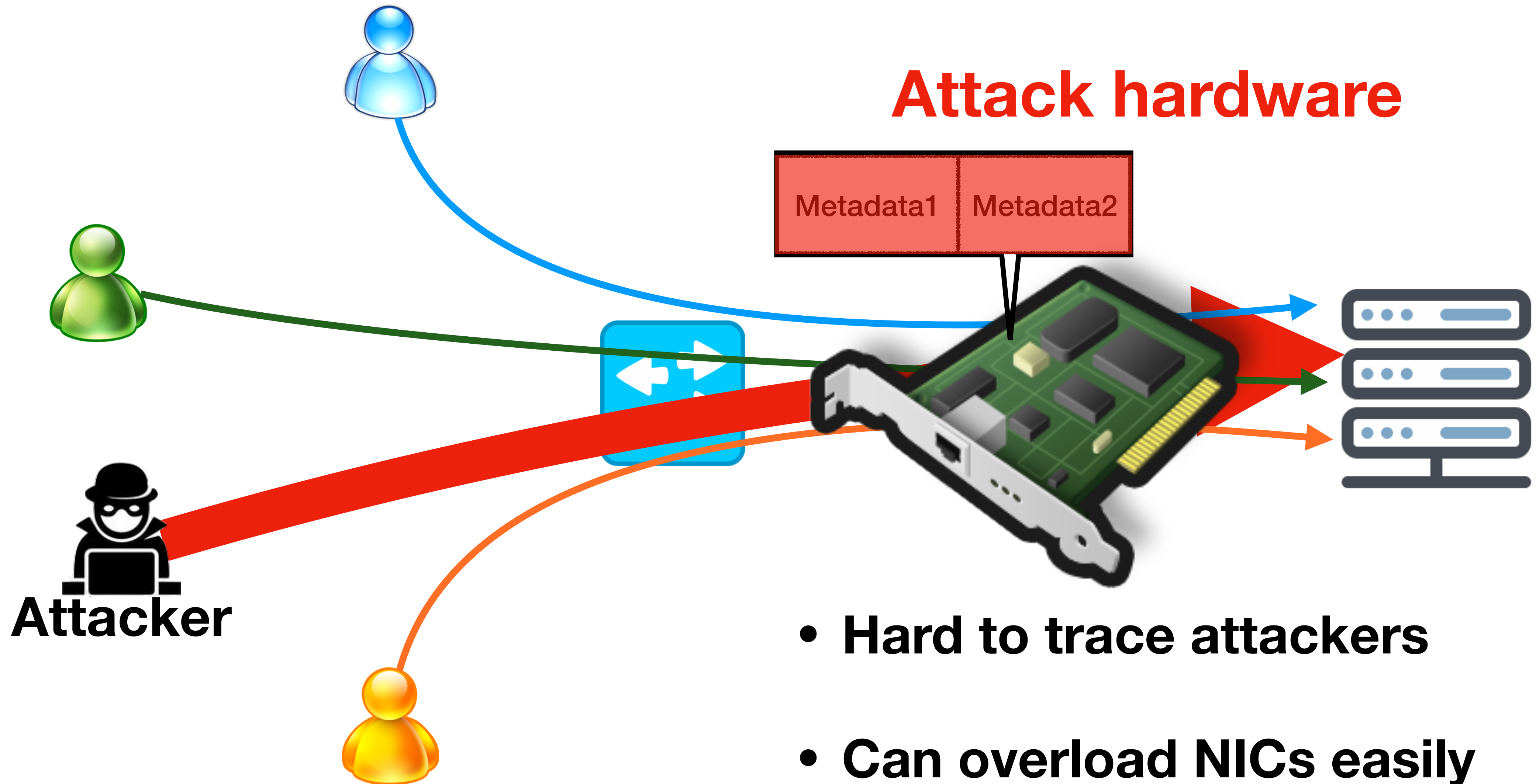


# Vulnerability 2: Denial of Service

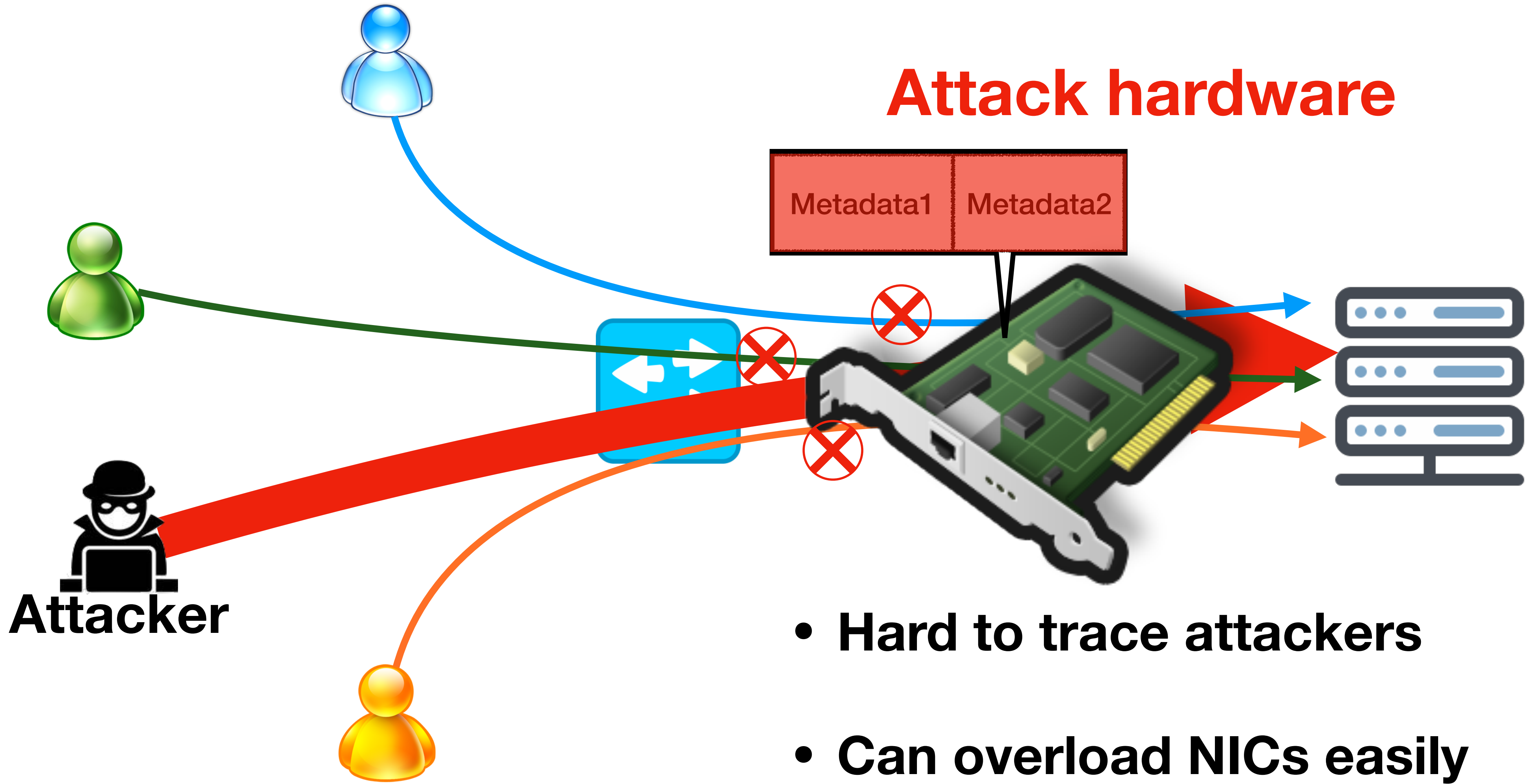




# Vulnerability 2: Denial of Service



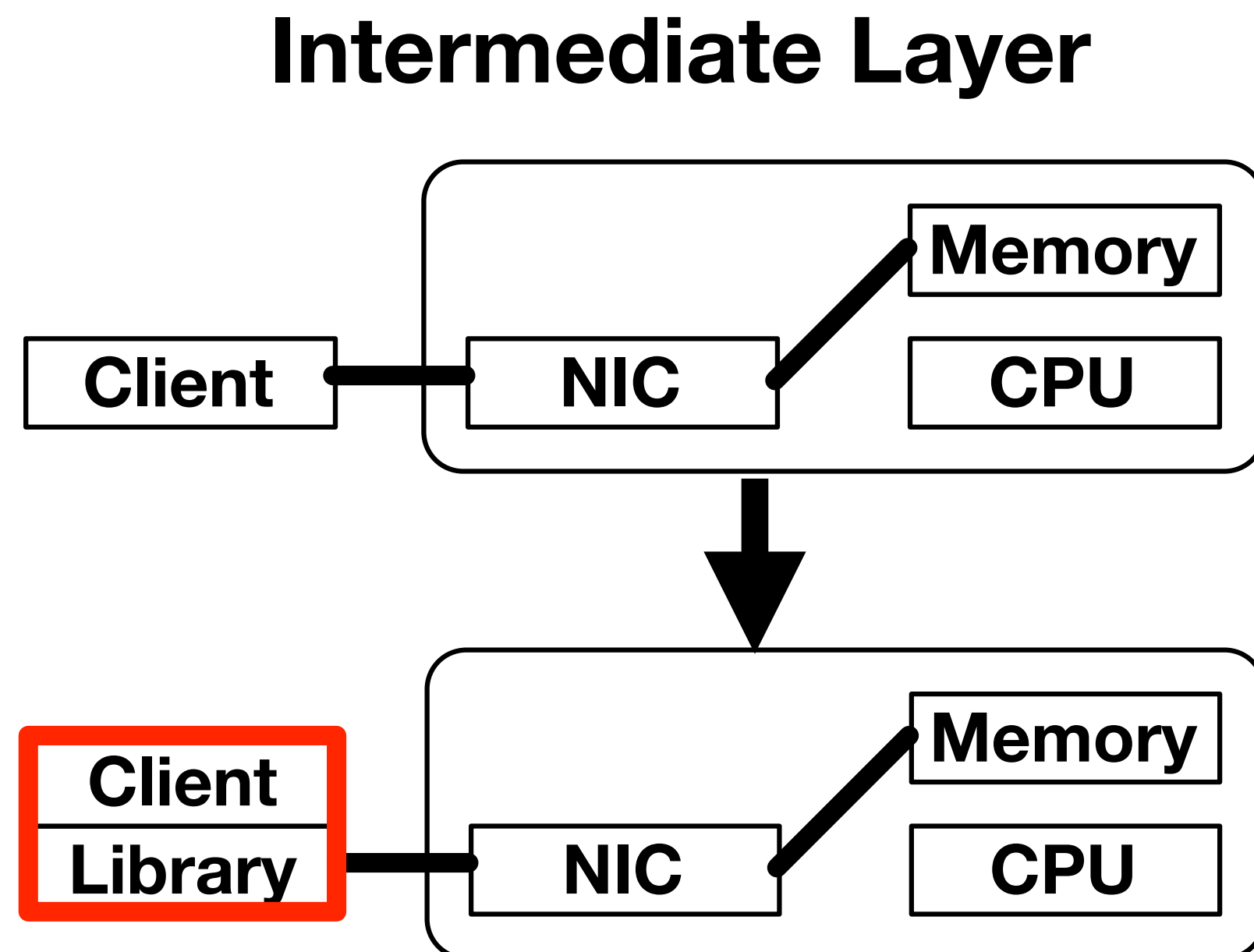
# Vulnerability 2: Denial of Service



- Hard to trace attackers
- Can overload NICs easily

# Discussion and Defense

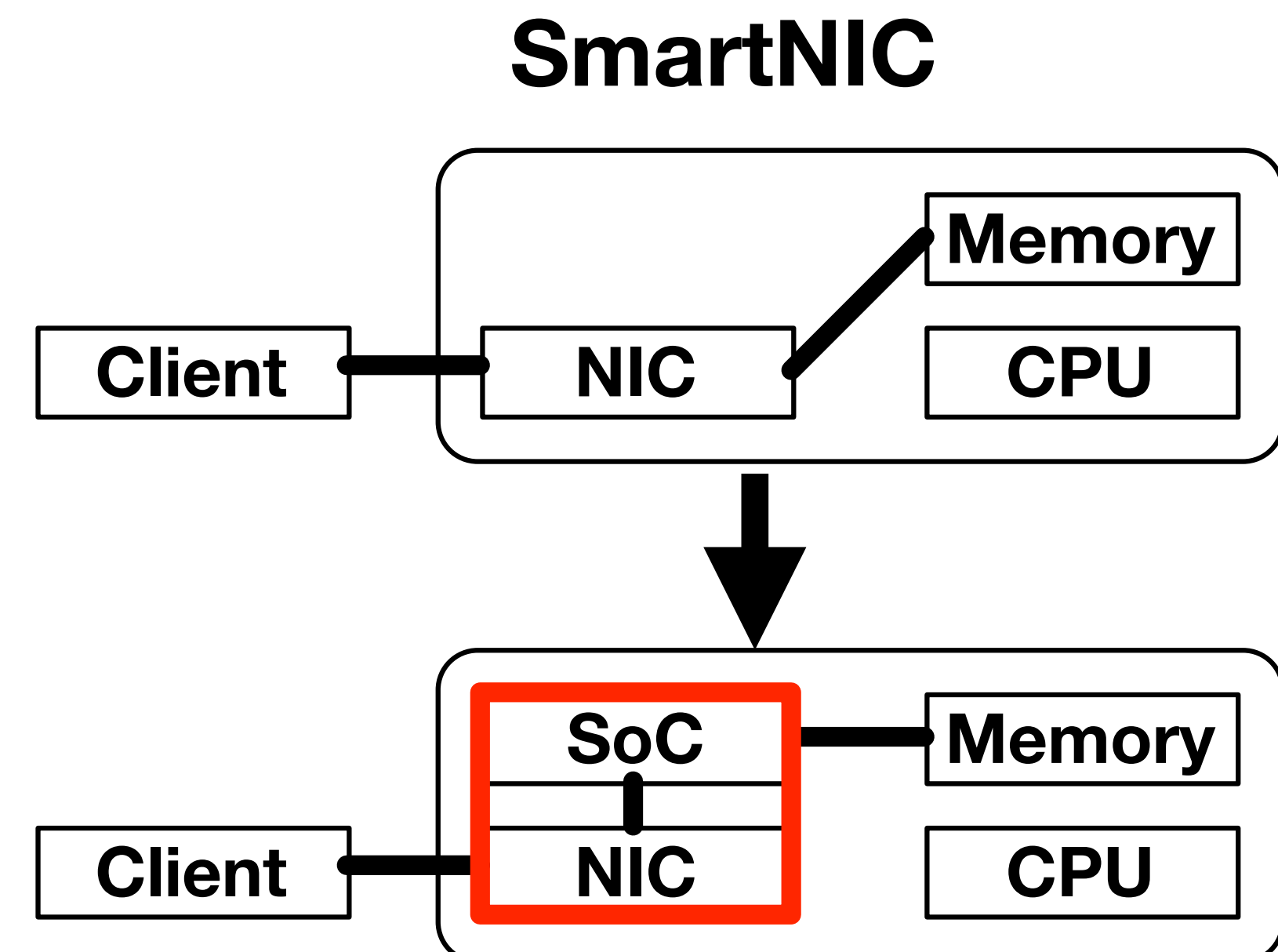
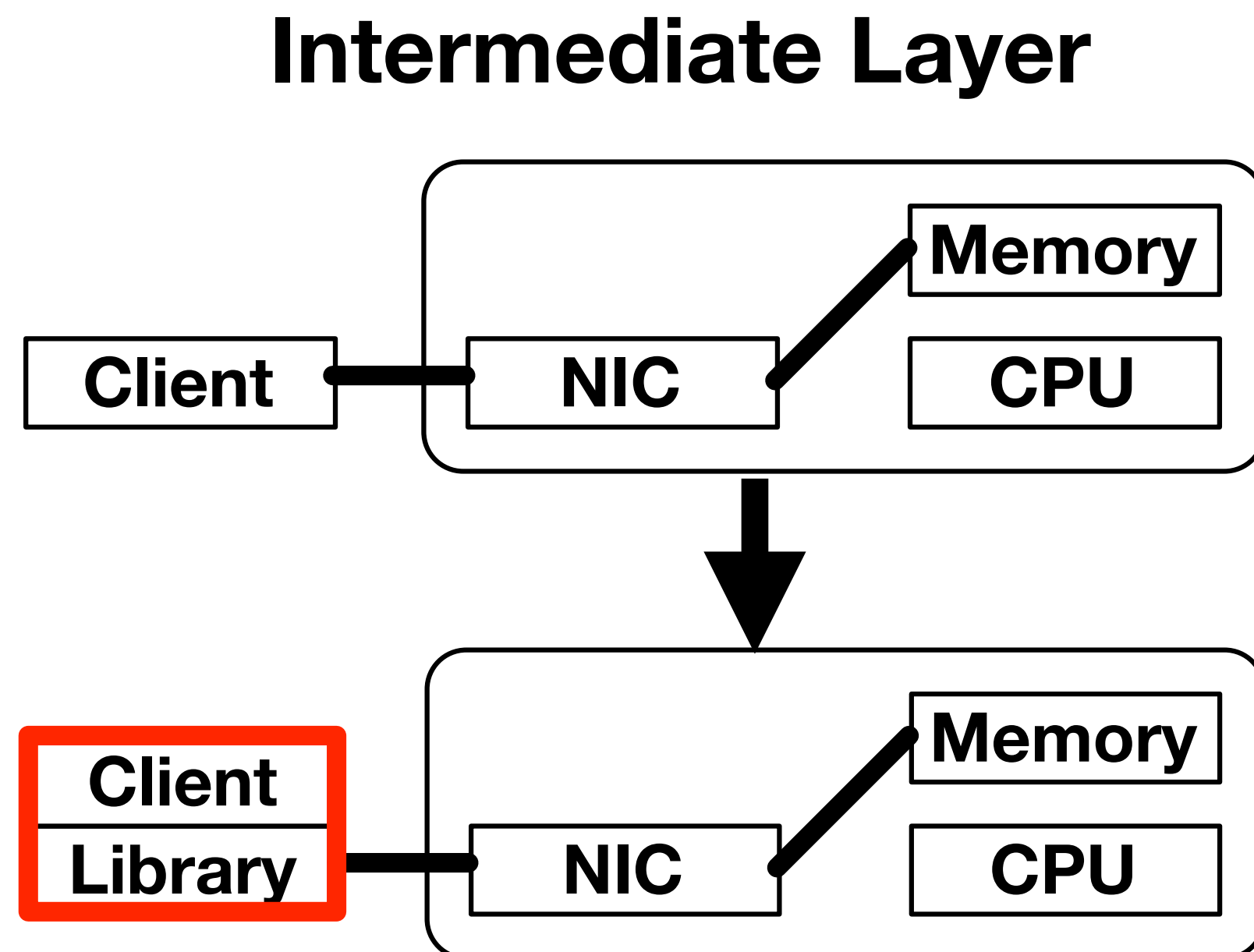
- Adding intermediate layer at the sender side





# Discussion and Defense

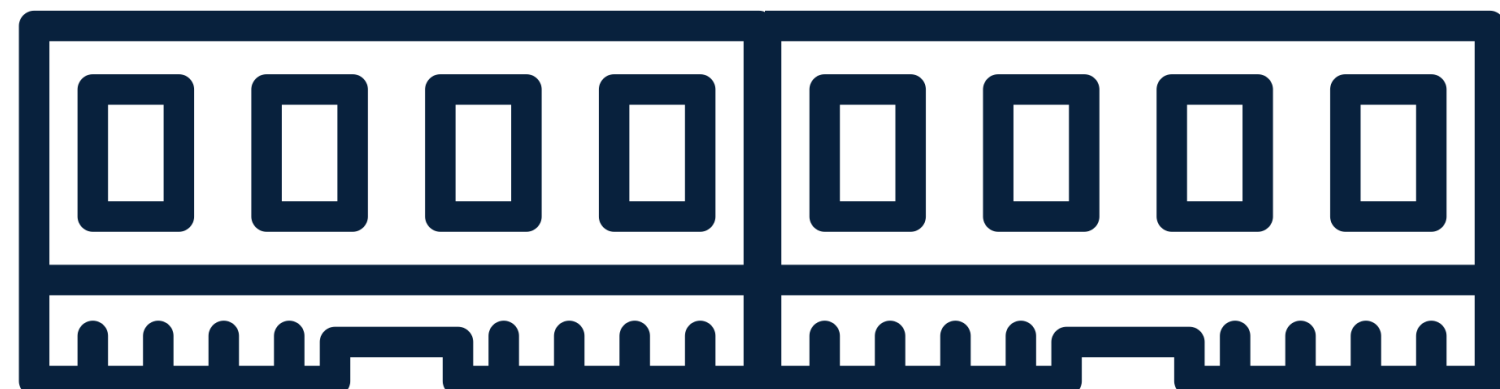
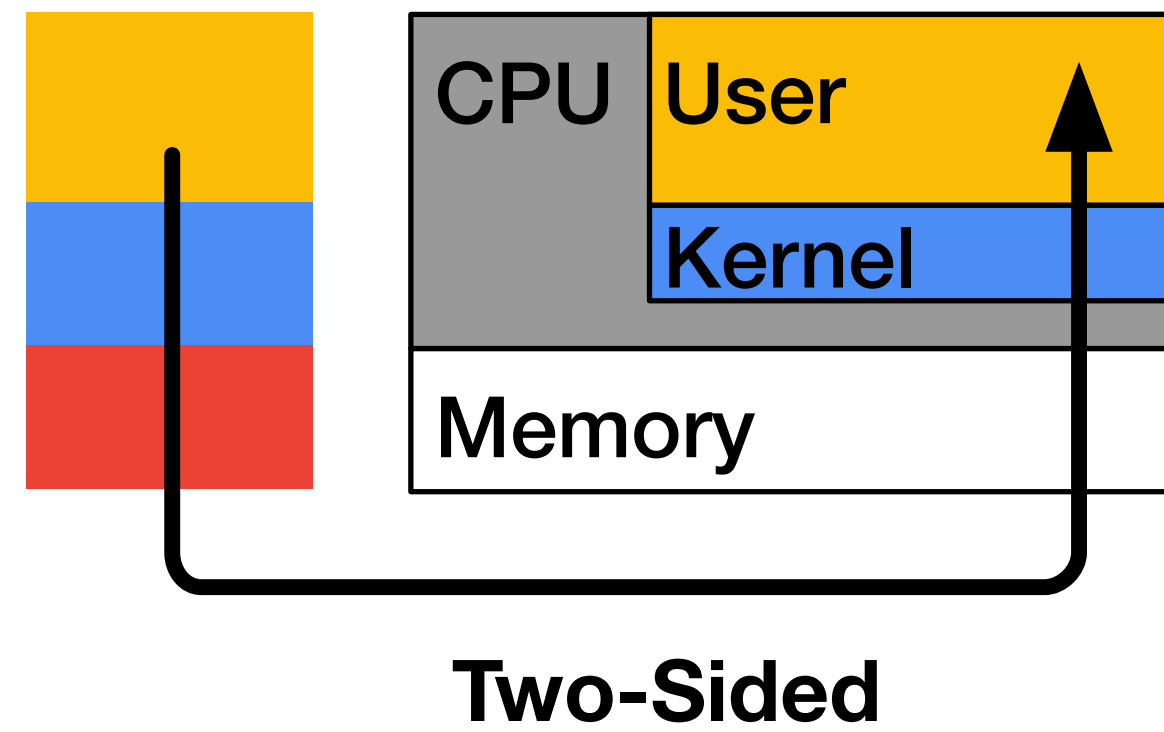
- Adding intermediate layer at the sender side
- Enhancing SmartNIC at the receiver side



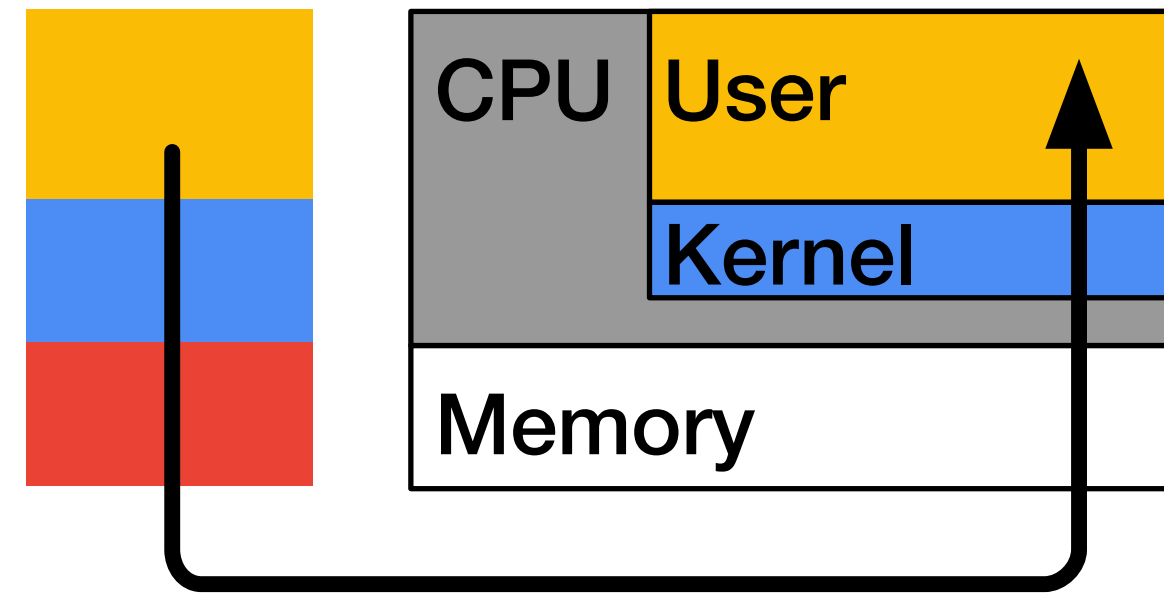
# Outline

- Introduction and Background
- Vulnerabilities in One-Sided Communication
- **Vulnerabilities in One-Sided Hardware**
- Opportunities in One-Sided Communication
- Conclusion

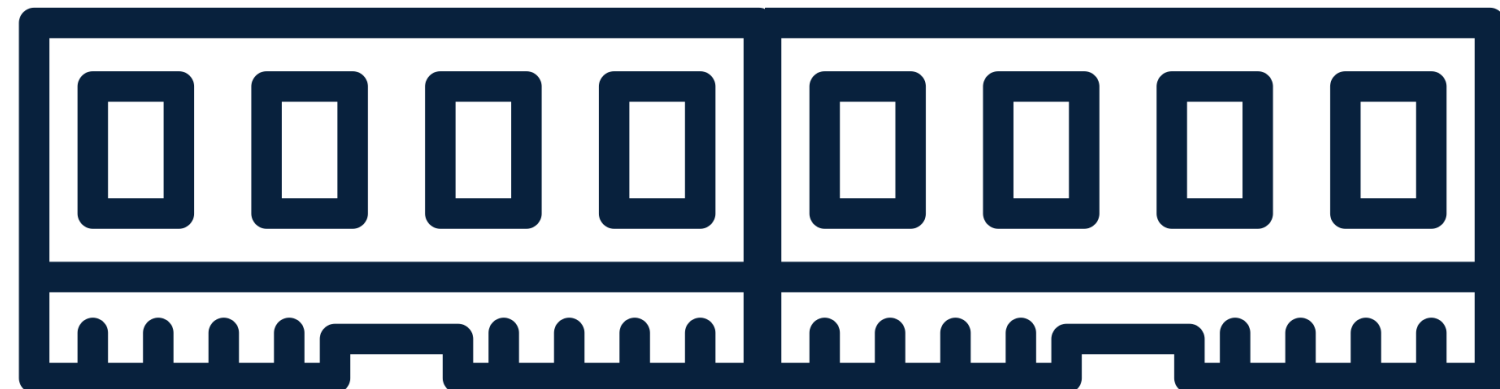
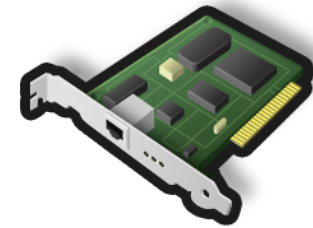
# One- and Two-Sided Hardware



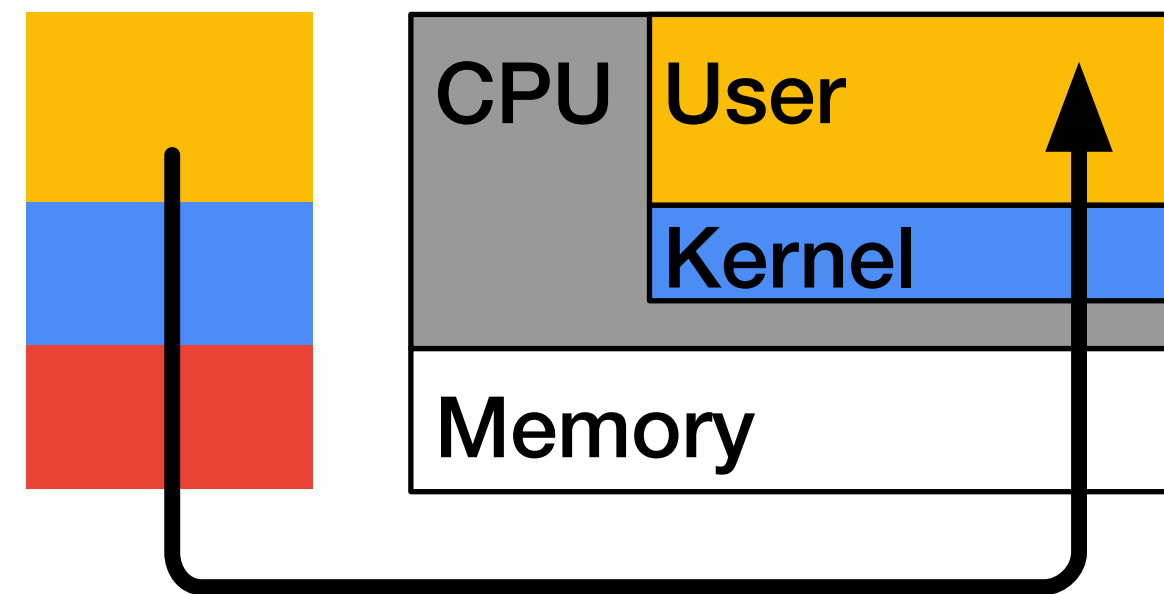
# One- and Two-Sided Hardware



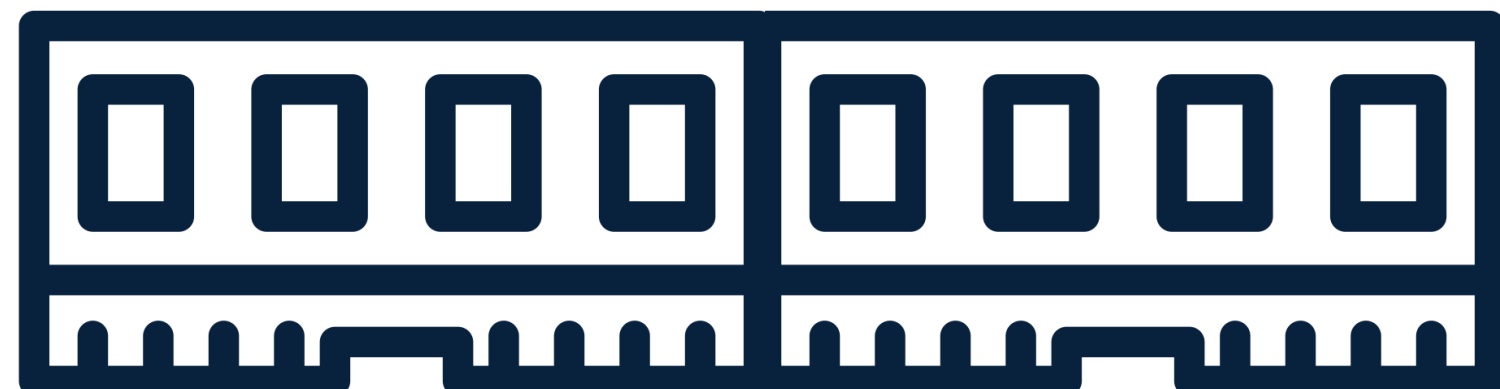
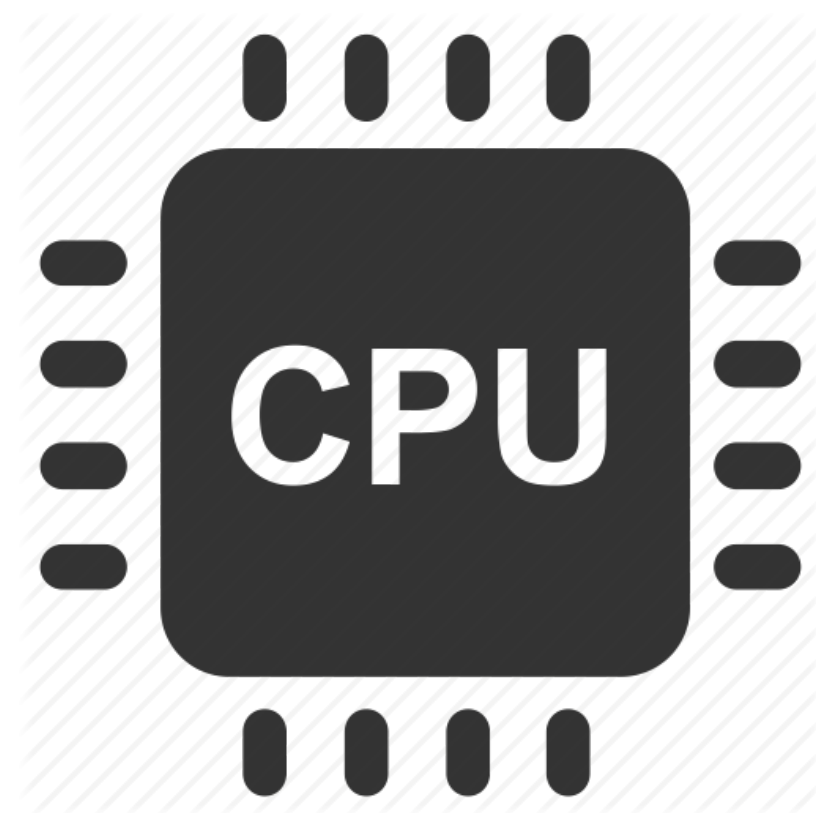
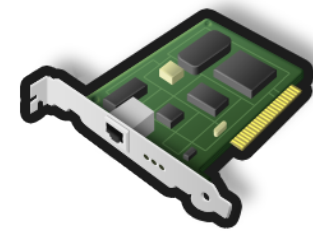
Two-Sided



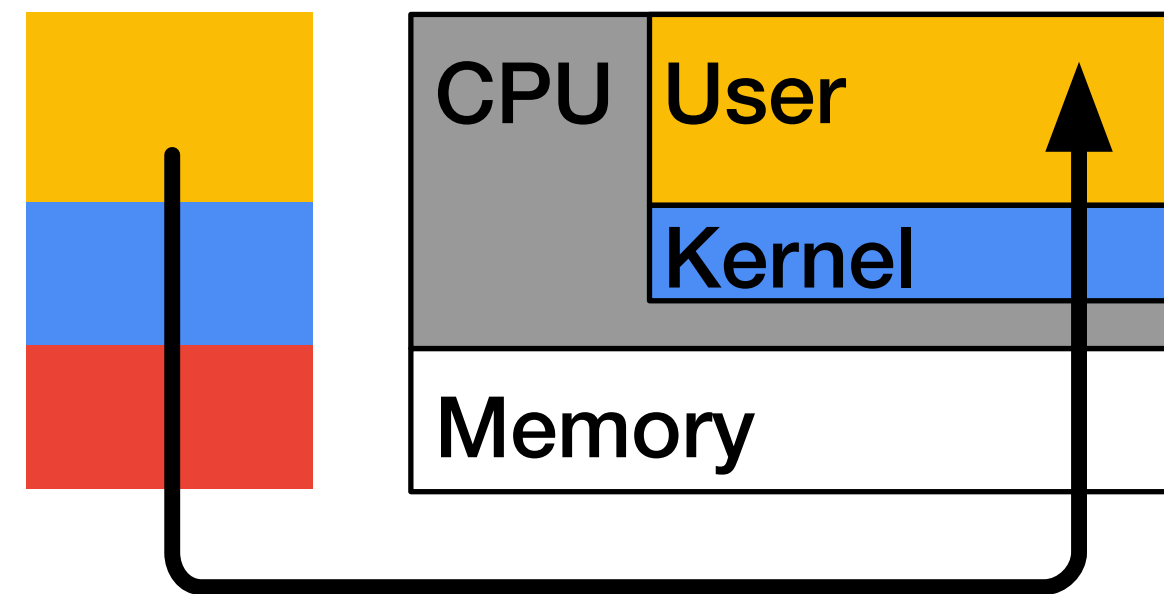
# One- and Two-Sided Hardware



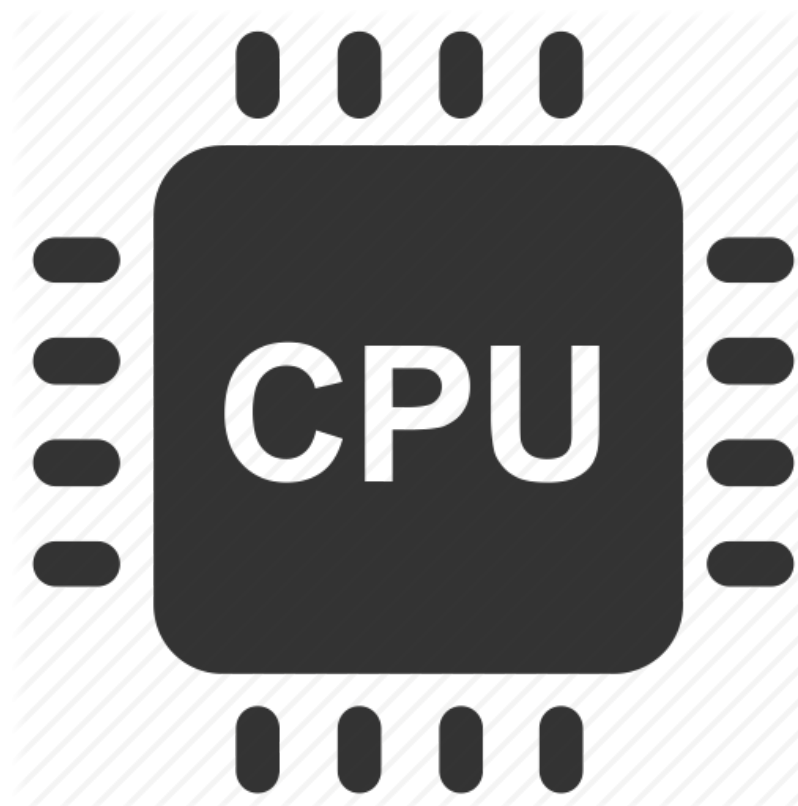
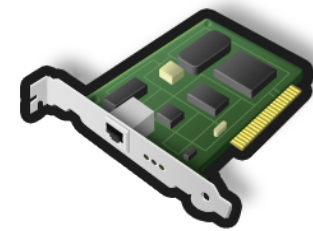
Two-Sided



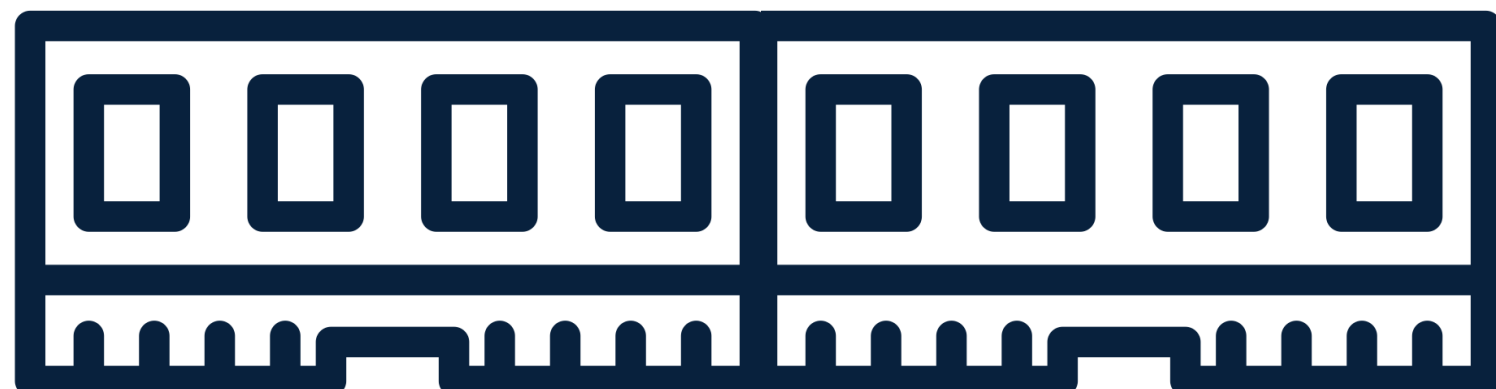
# One- and Two-Sided Hardware



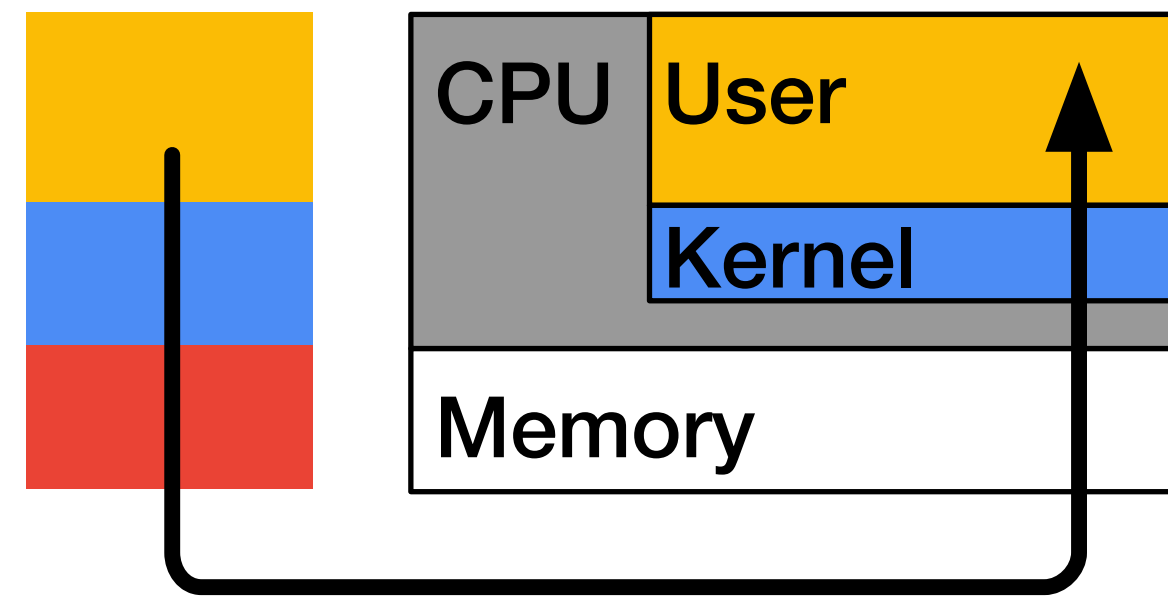
Two-Sided



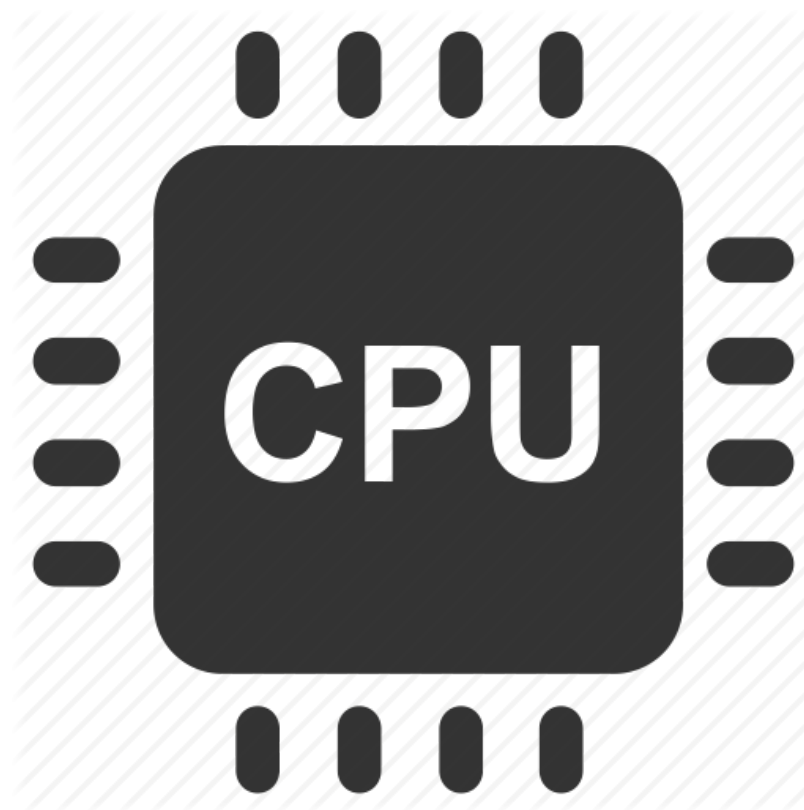
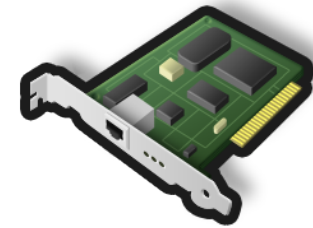
1. Address mapping
2. Permission checking
3. Resource isolation



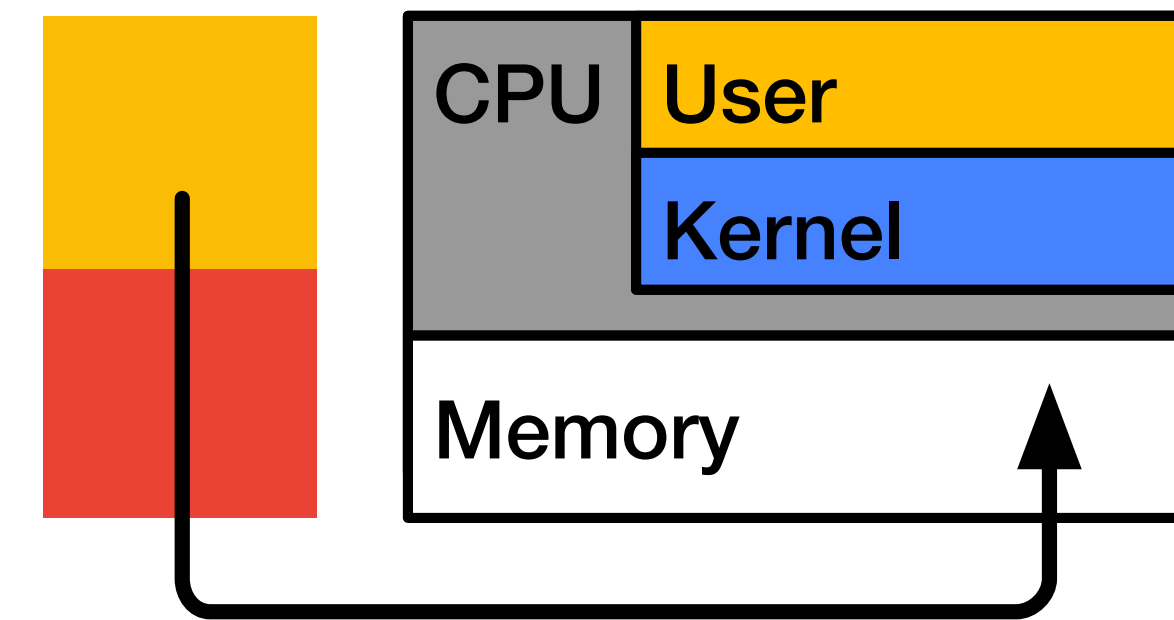
# One- and Two-Sided Hardware



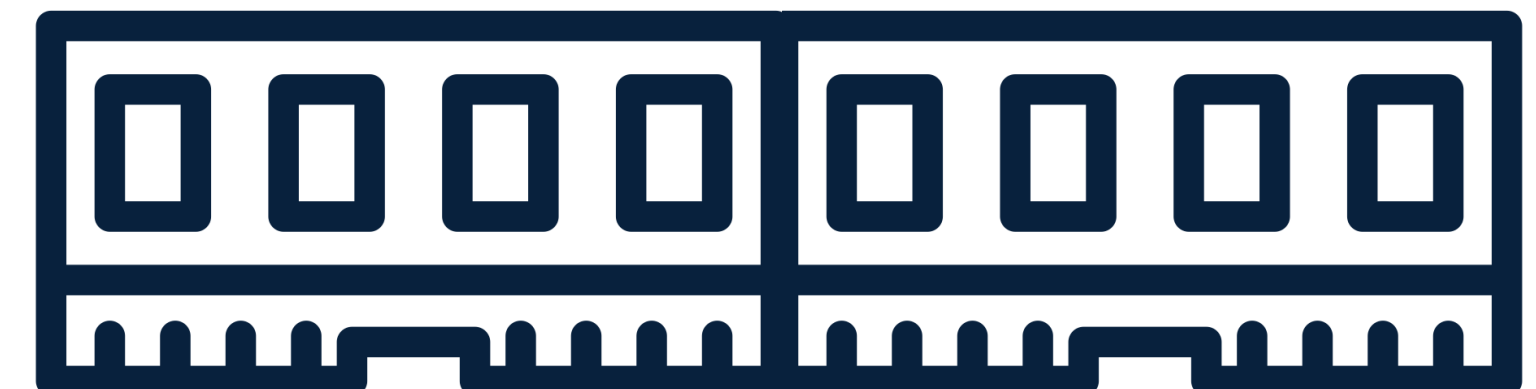
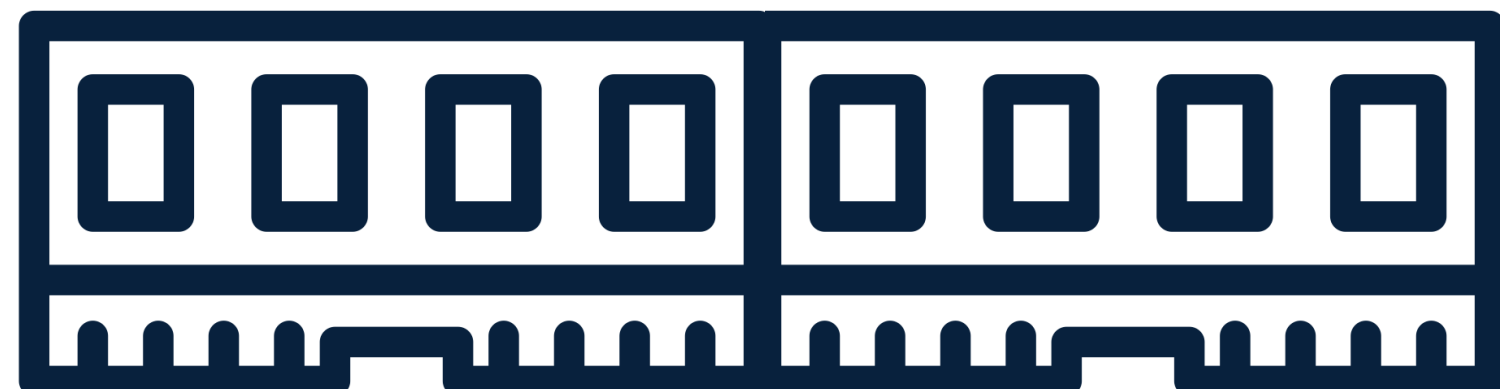
Two-Sided



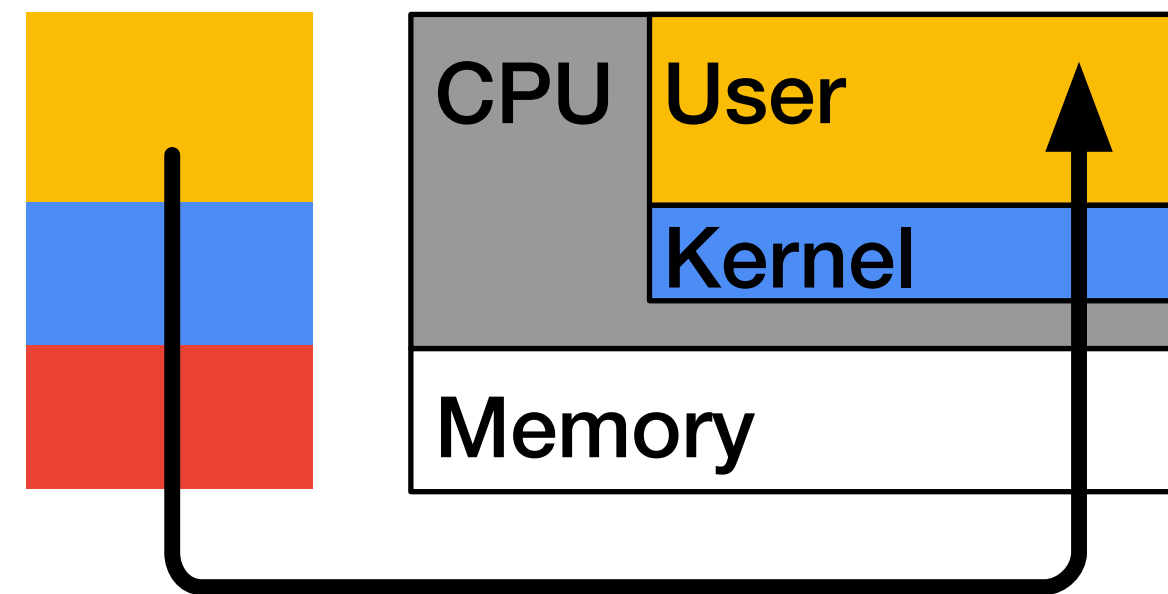
1. Address mapping
2. Permission checking
3. Resource isolation



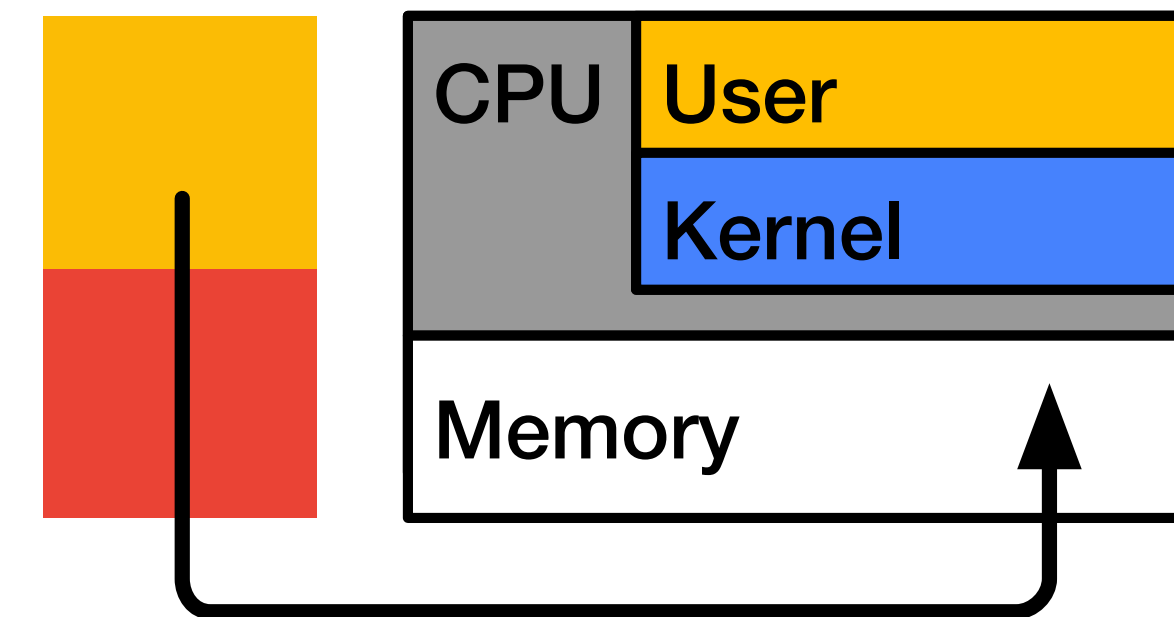
One-Sided



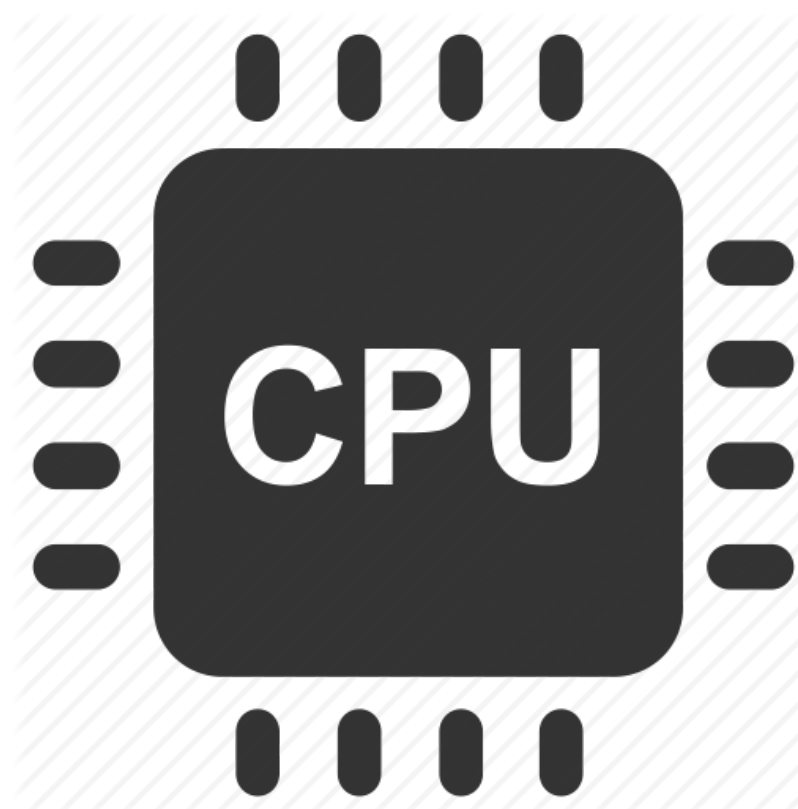
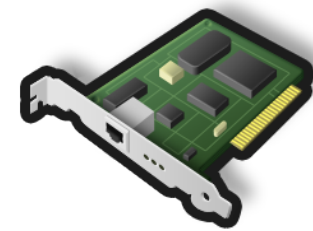
# One- and Two-Sided Hardware



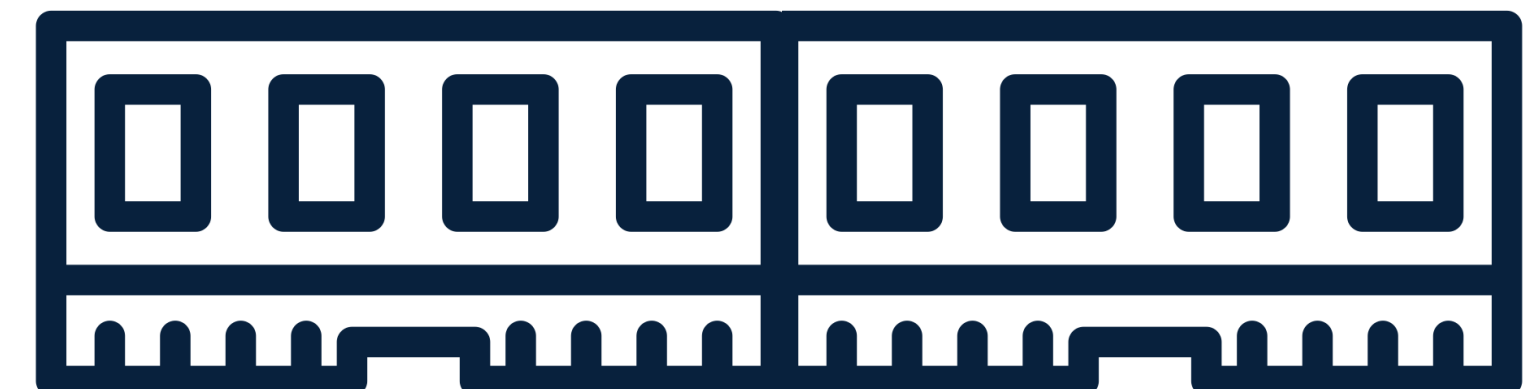
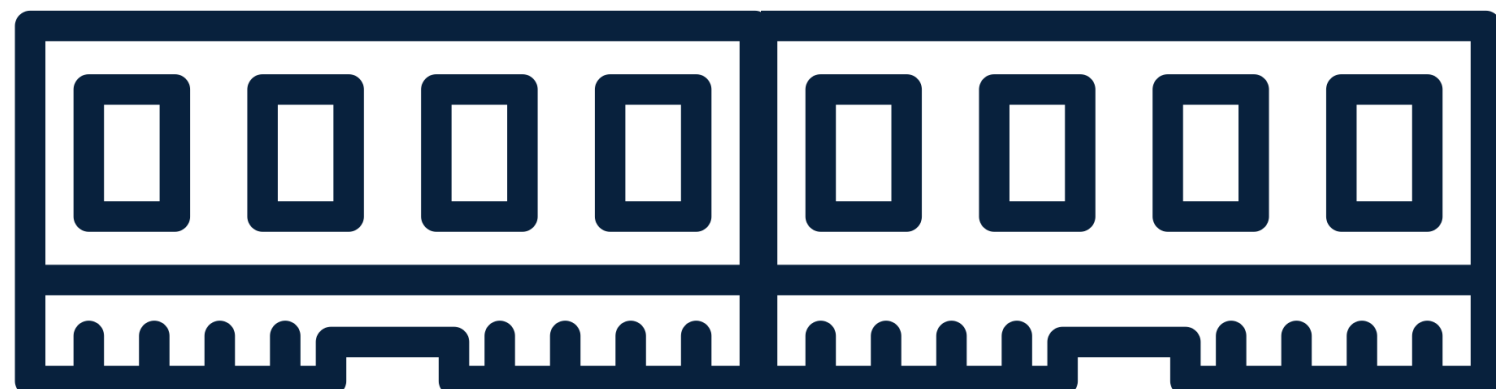
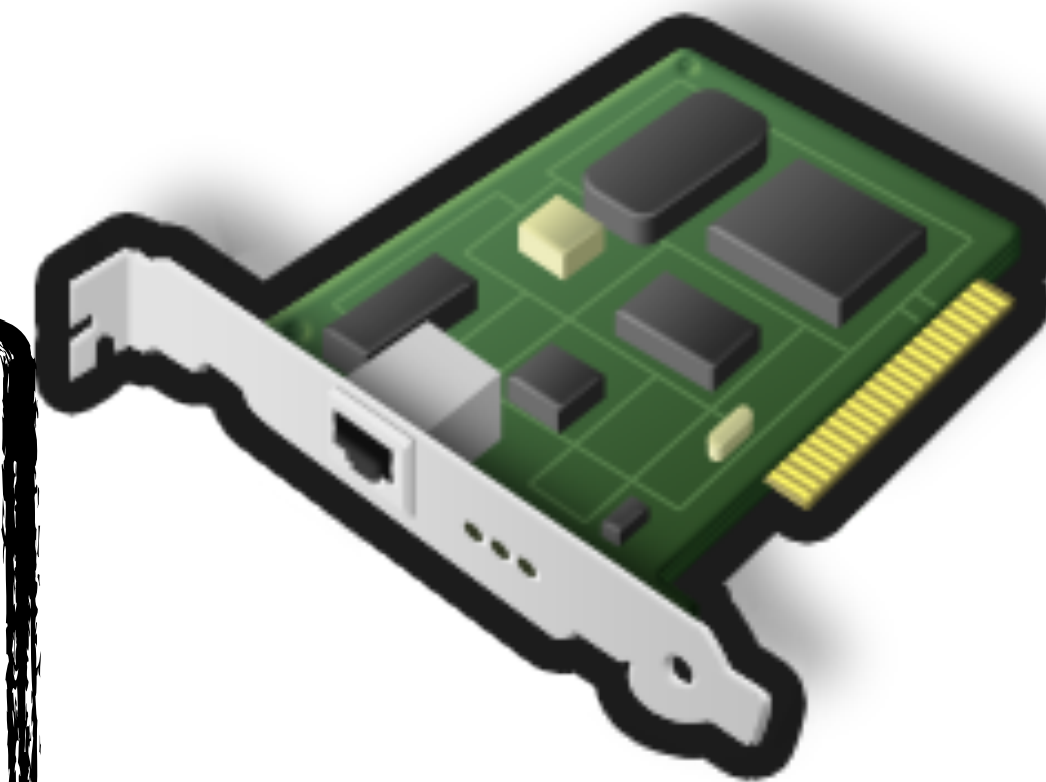
Two-Sided



One-Sided

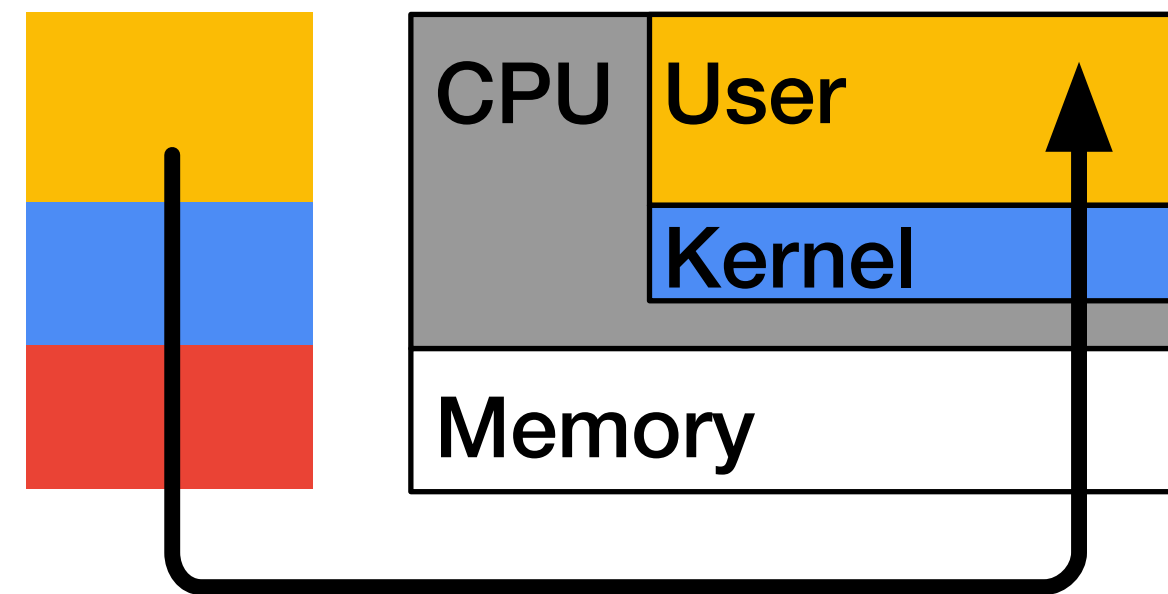


1. Address mapping
2. Permission checking
3. Resource isolation

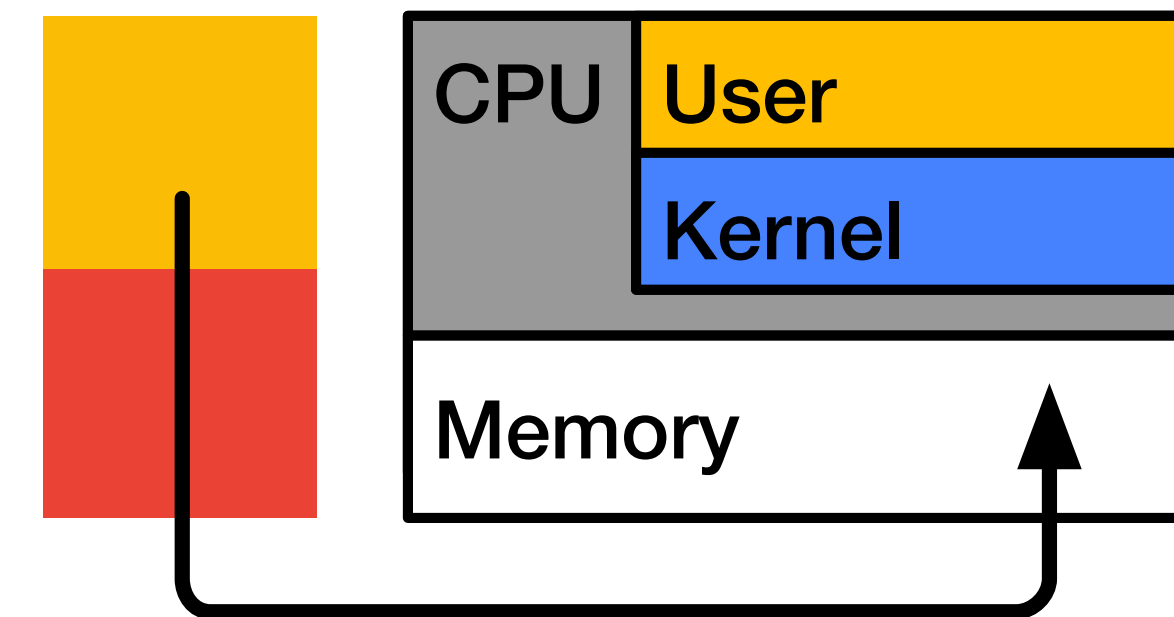




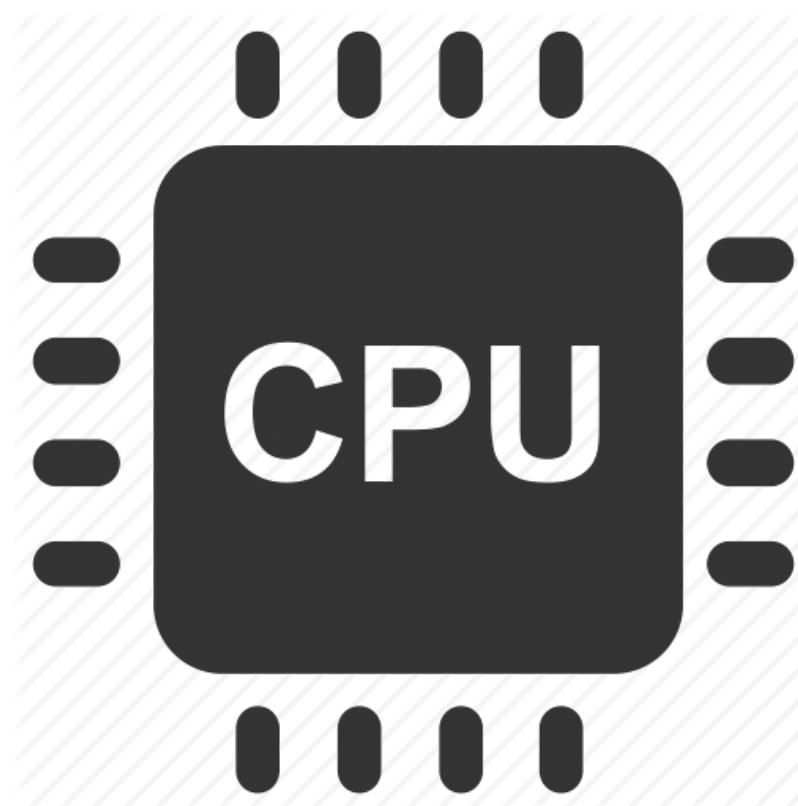
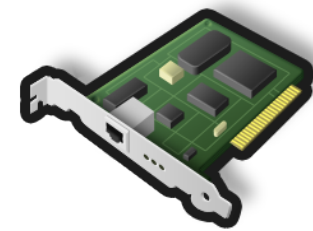
# One- and Two-Sided Hardware



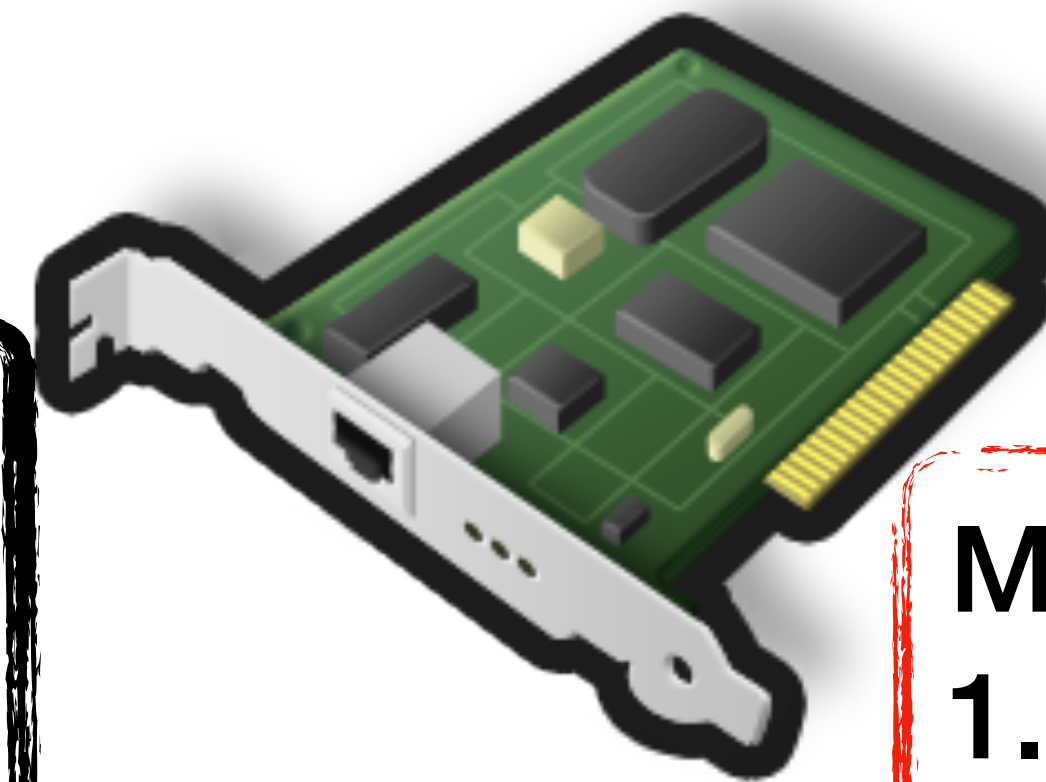
Two-Sided



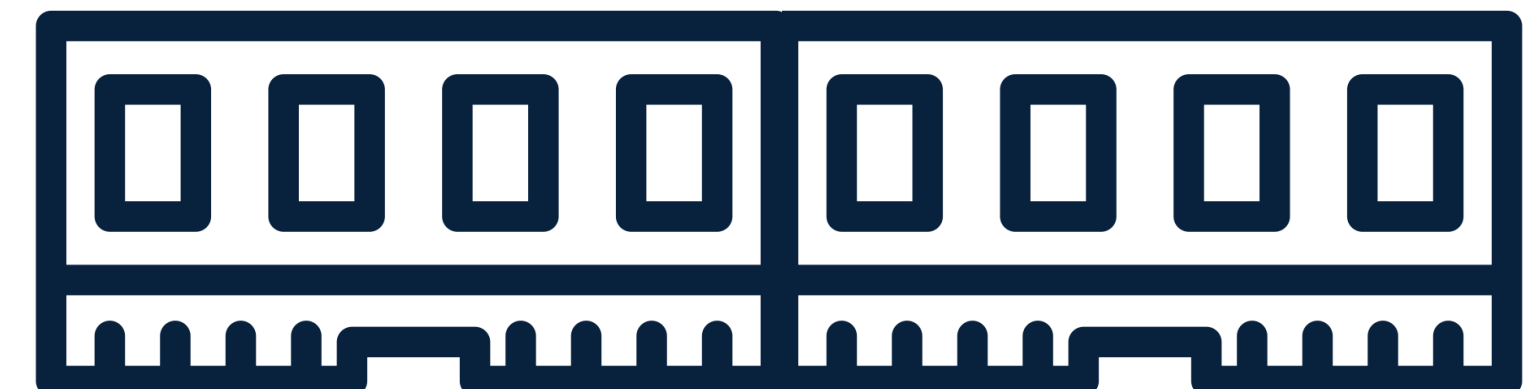
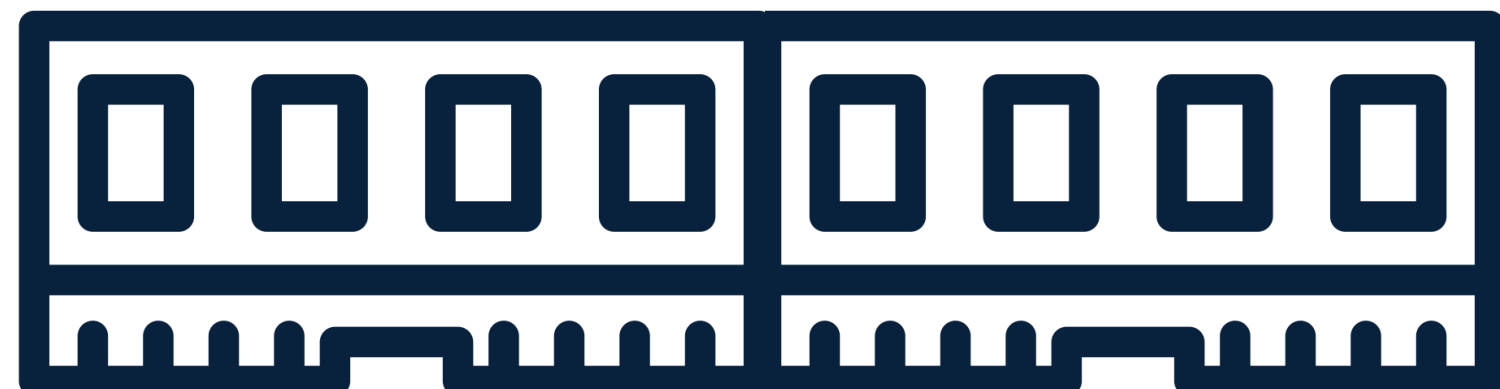
One-Sided



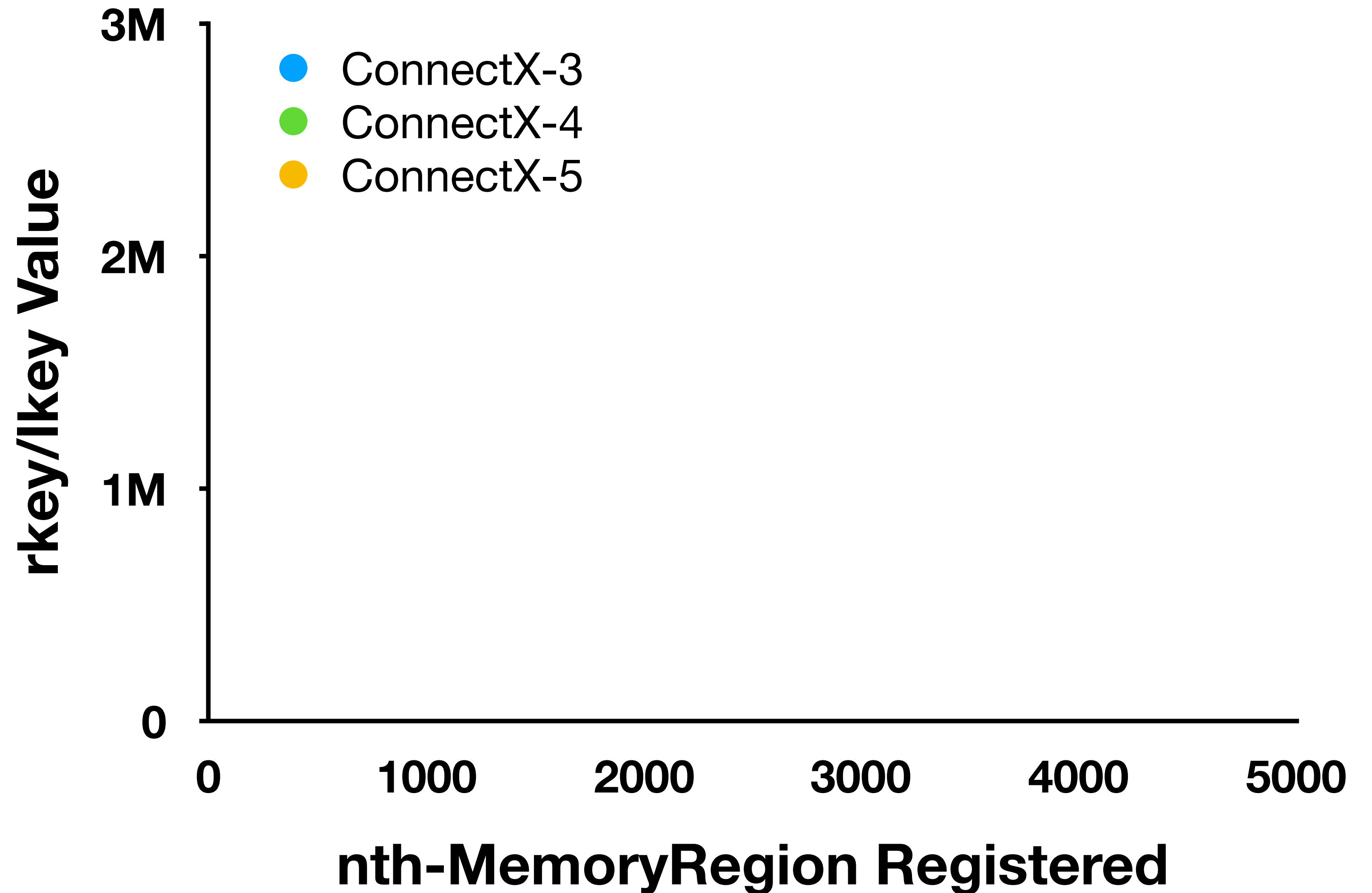
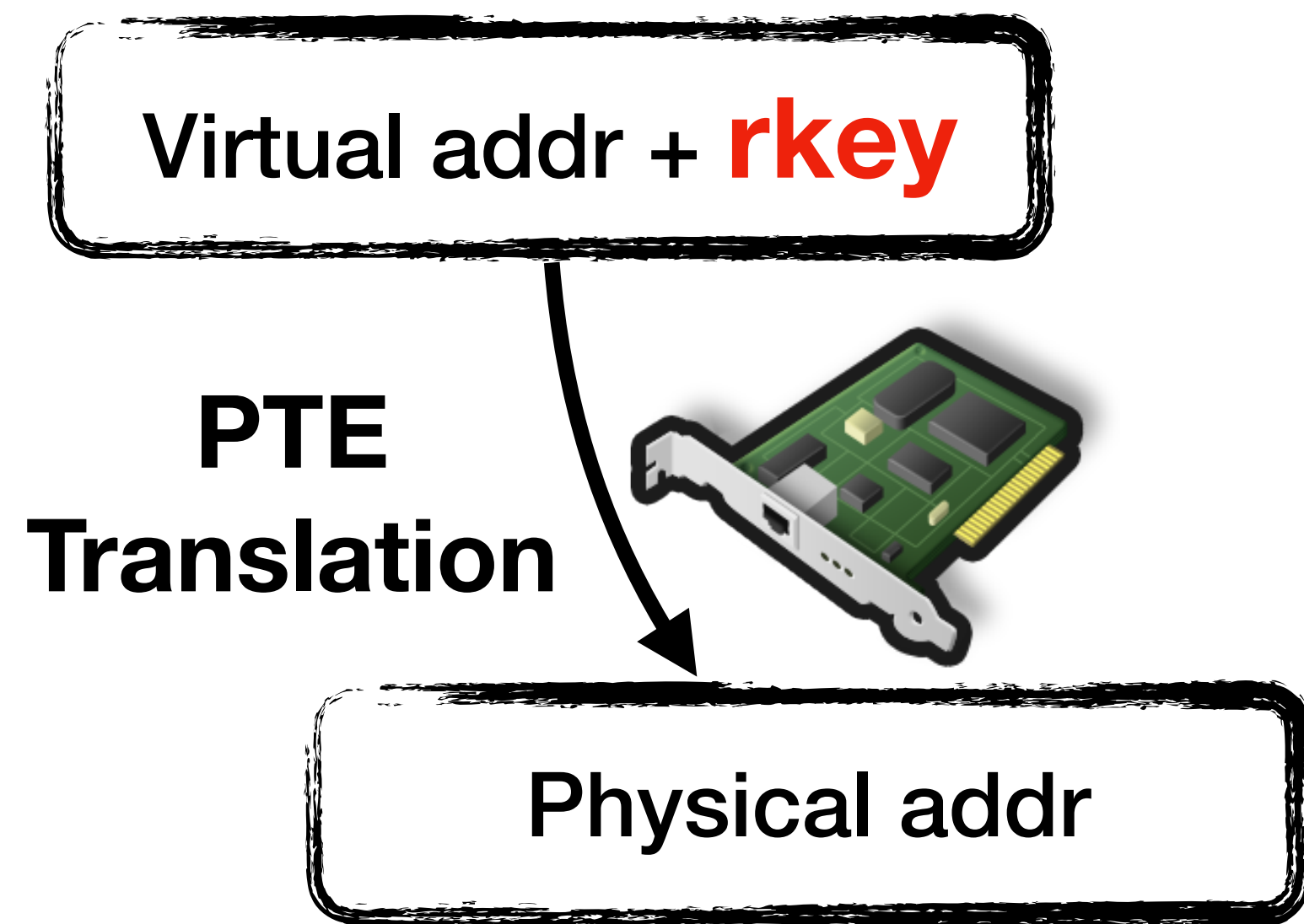
1. Address mapping
2. Permission checking
3. Resource isolation



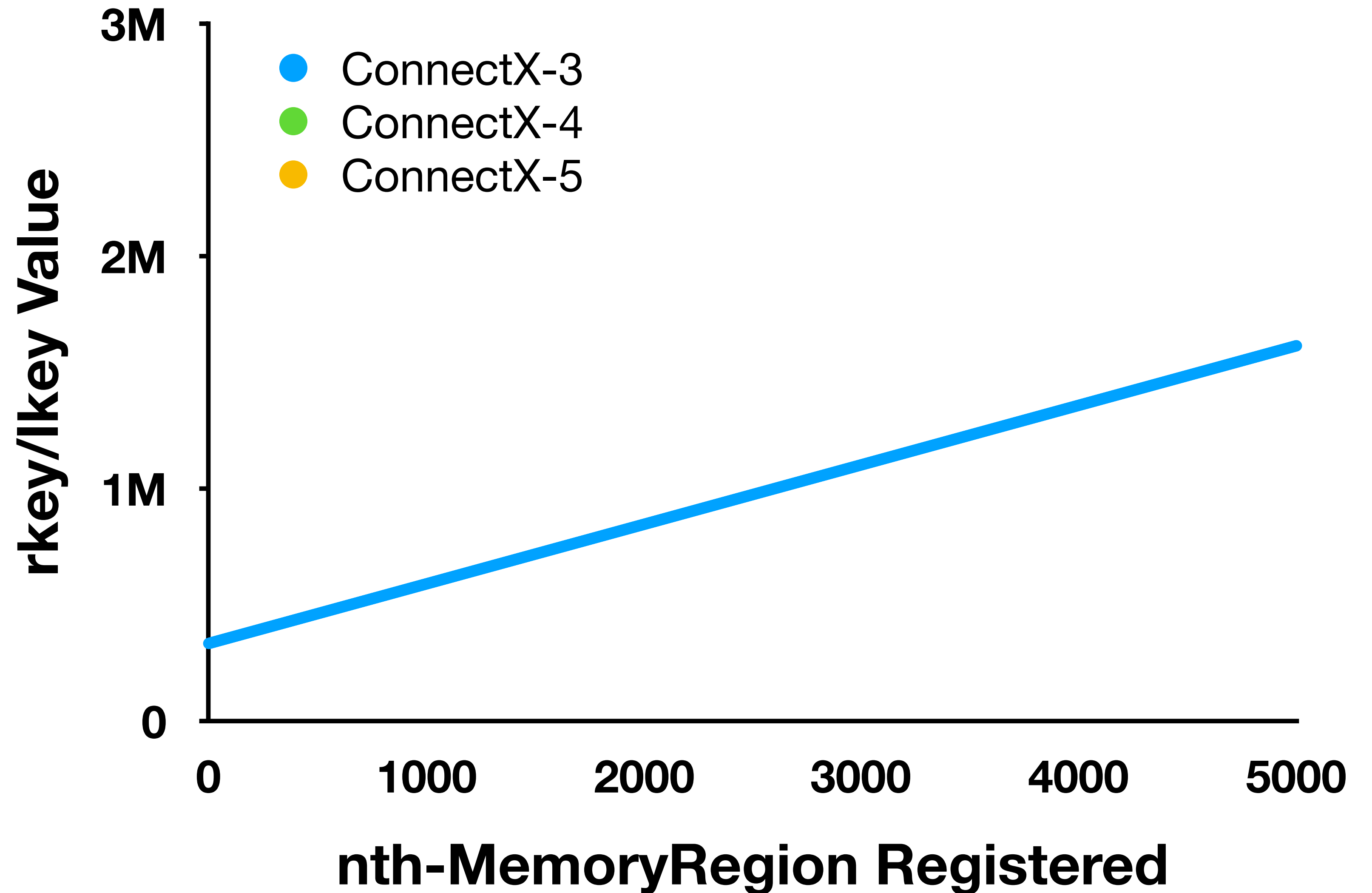
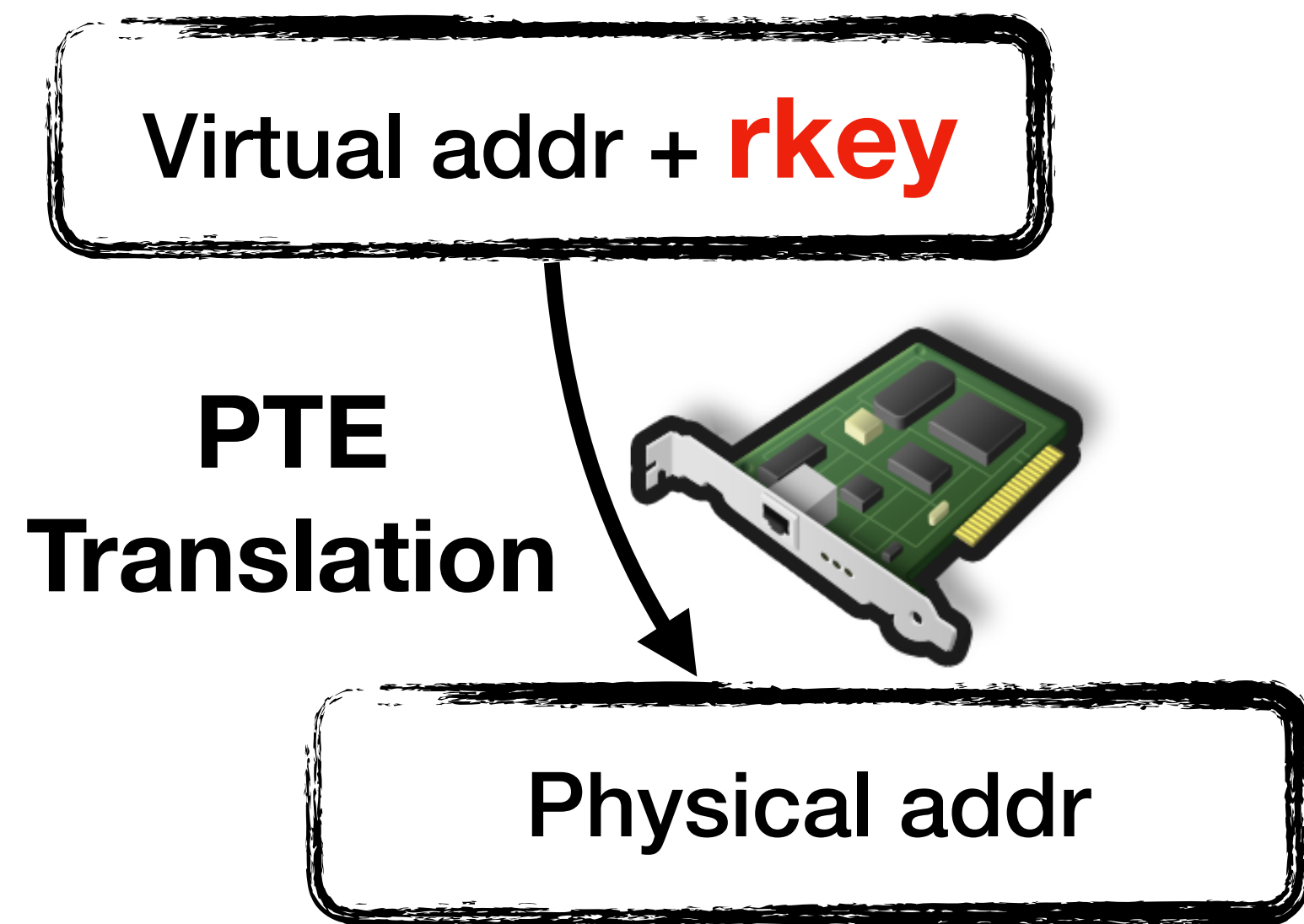
- Memory Region
1. rkey/lkey
  2. Address



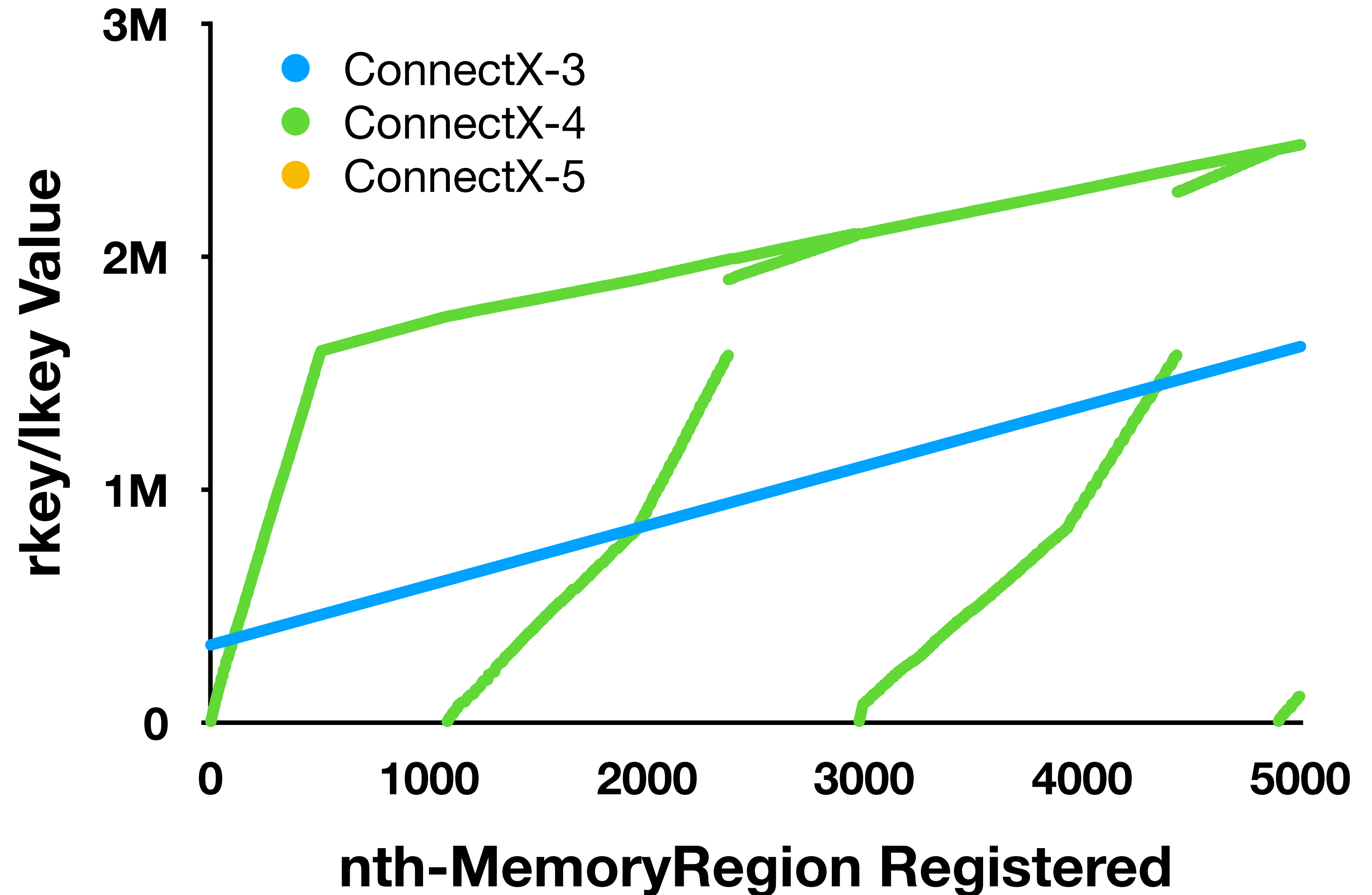
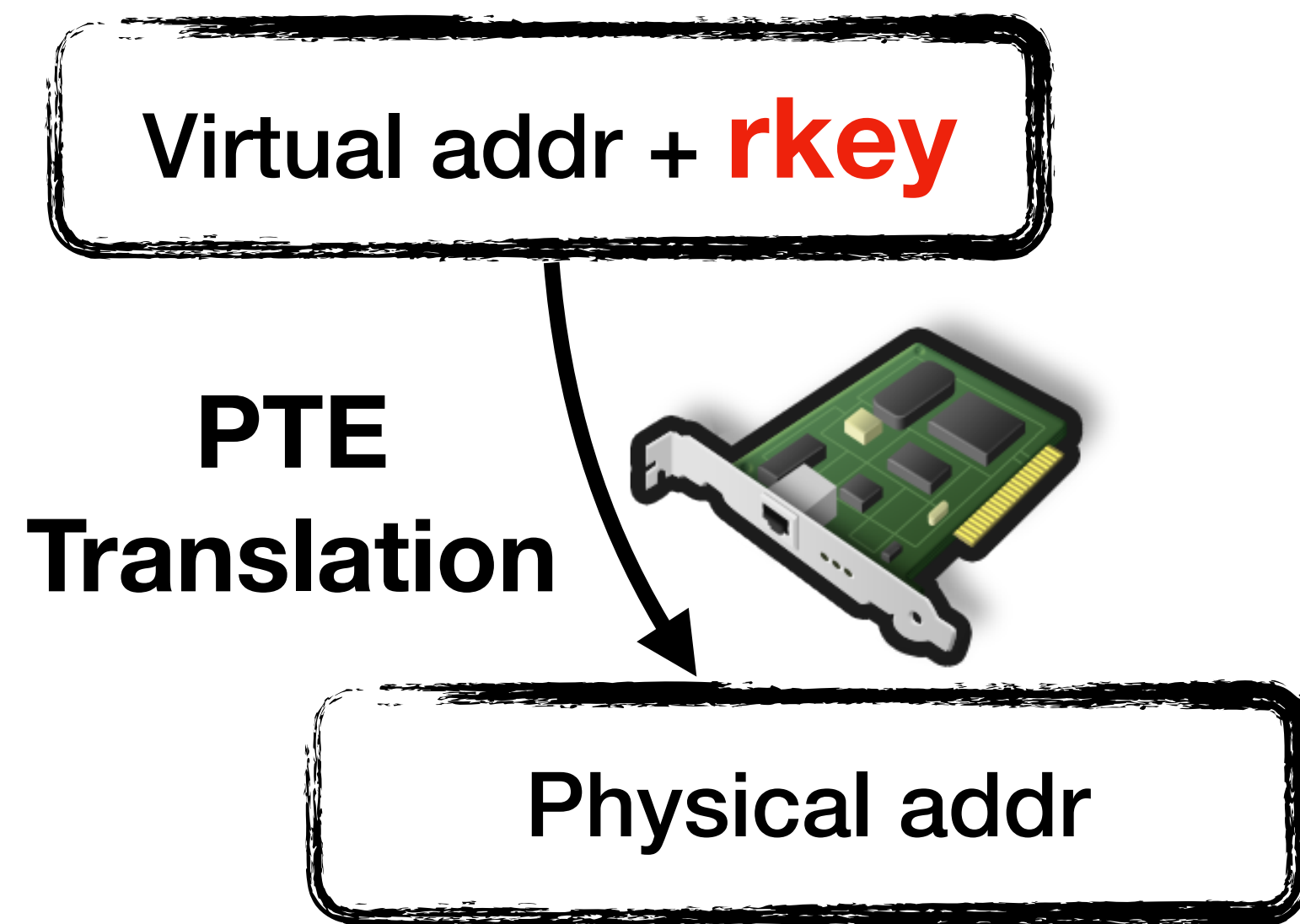
# Vulnerability 3 - Predictable Hardware Managed Keys



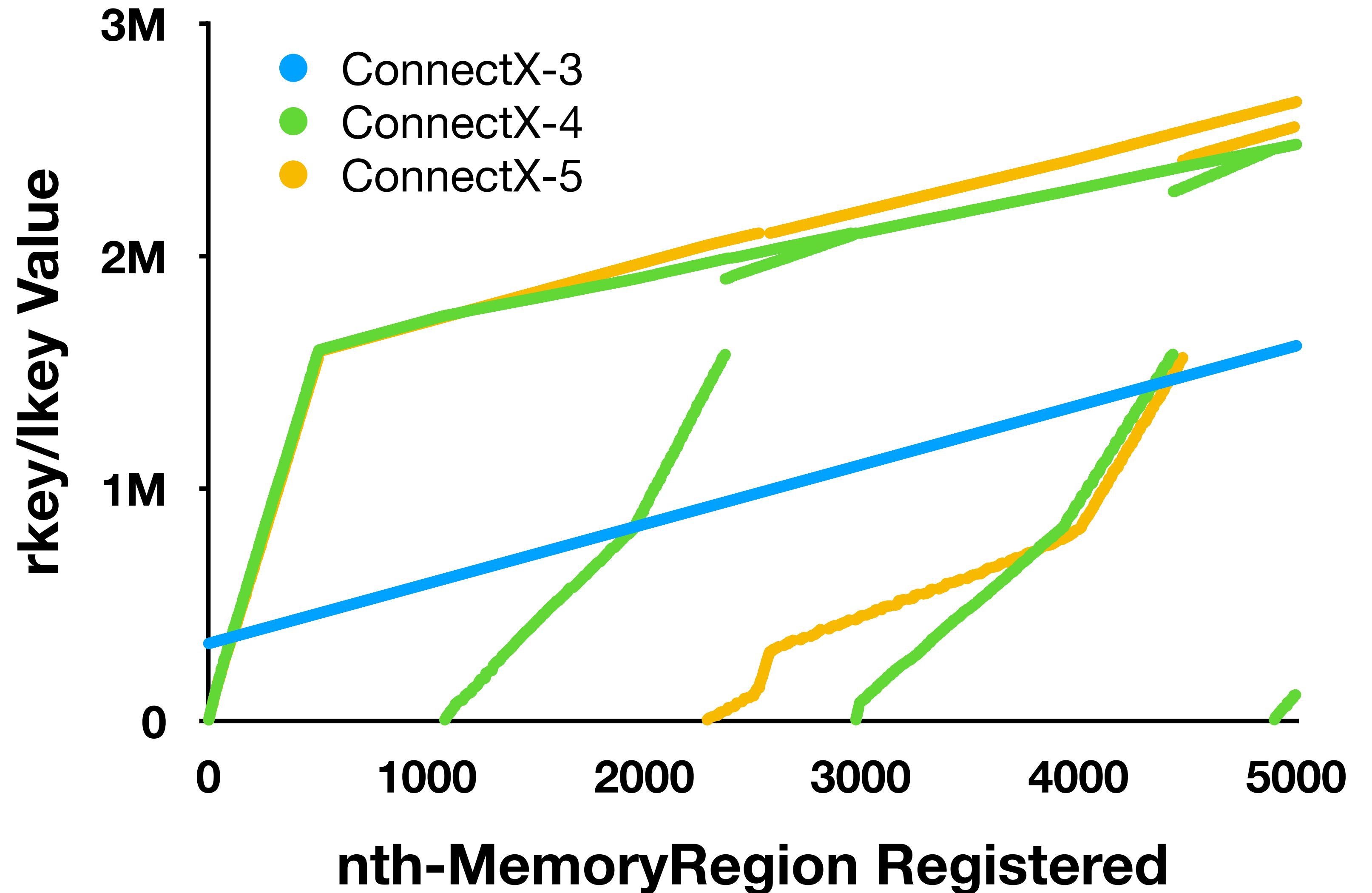
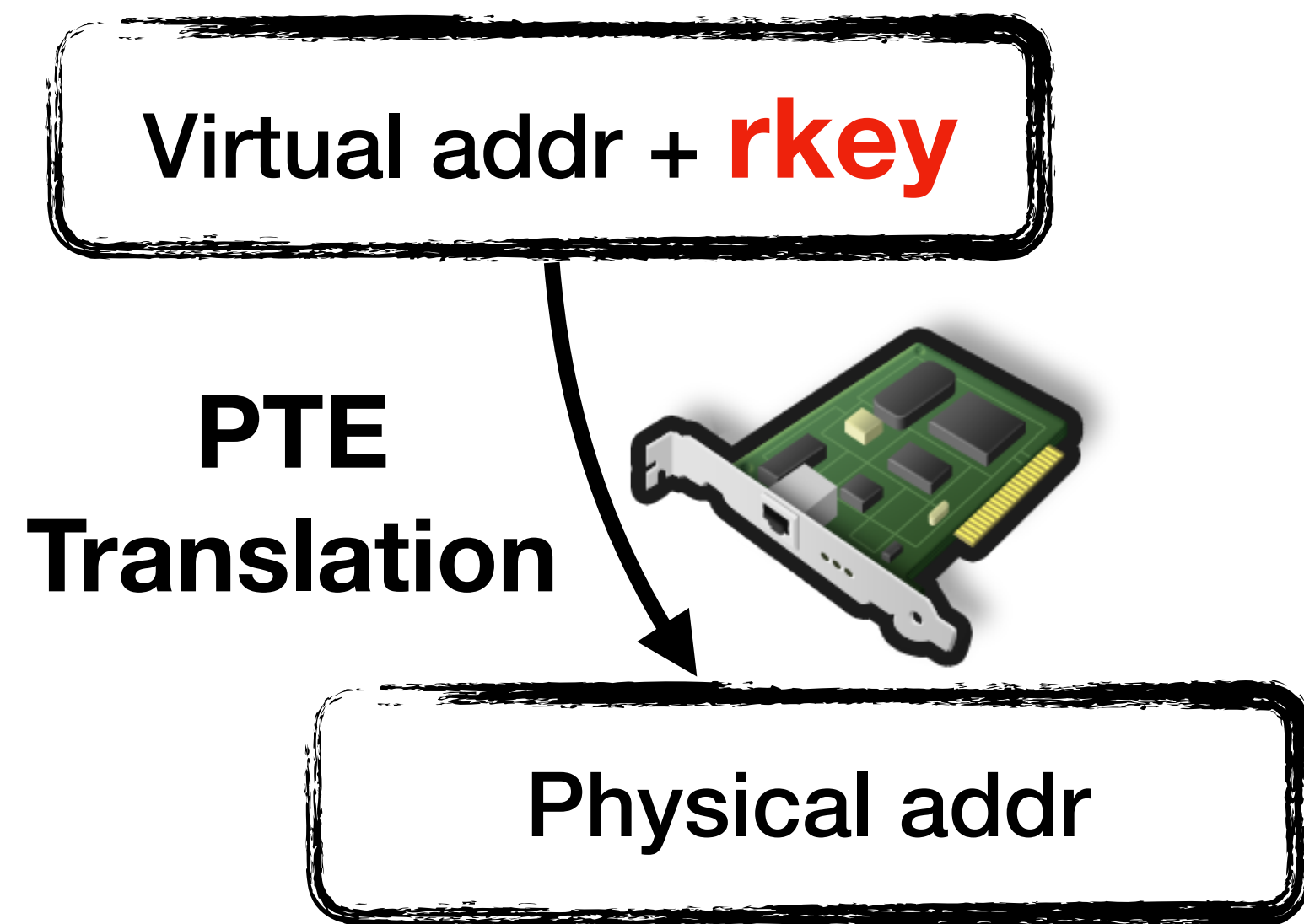
# Vulnerability 3 - Predictable Hardware Managed Keys



# Vulnerability 3 - Predictable Hardware Managed Keys



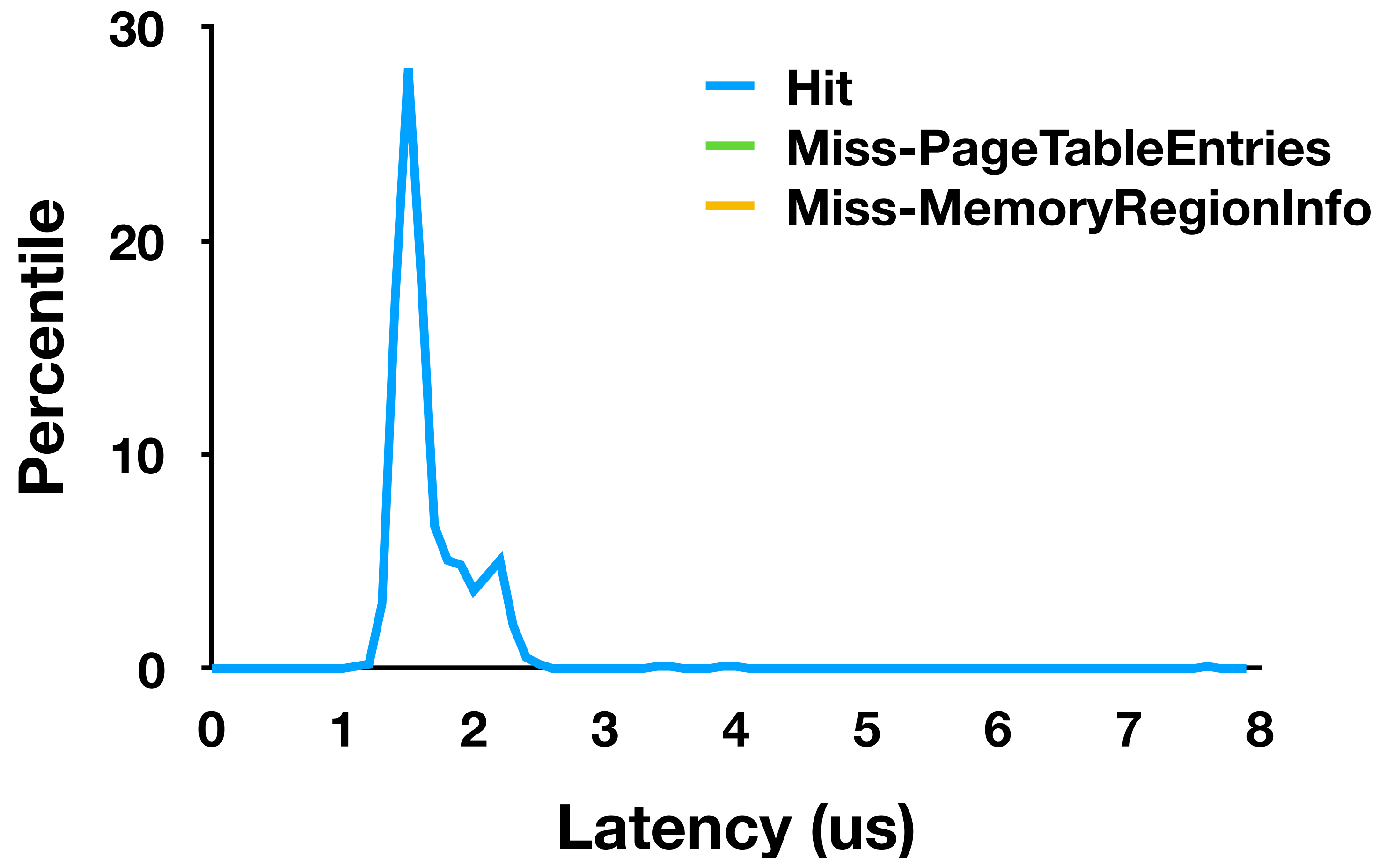
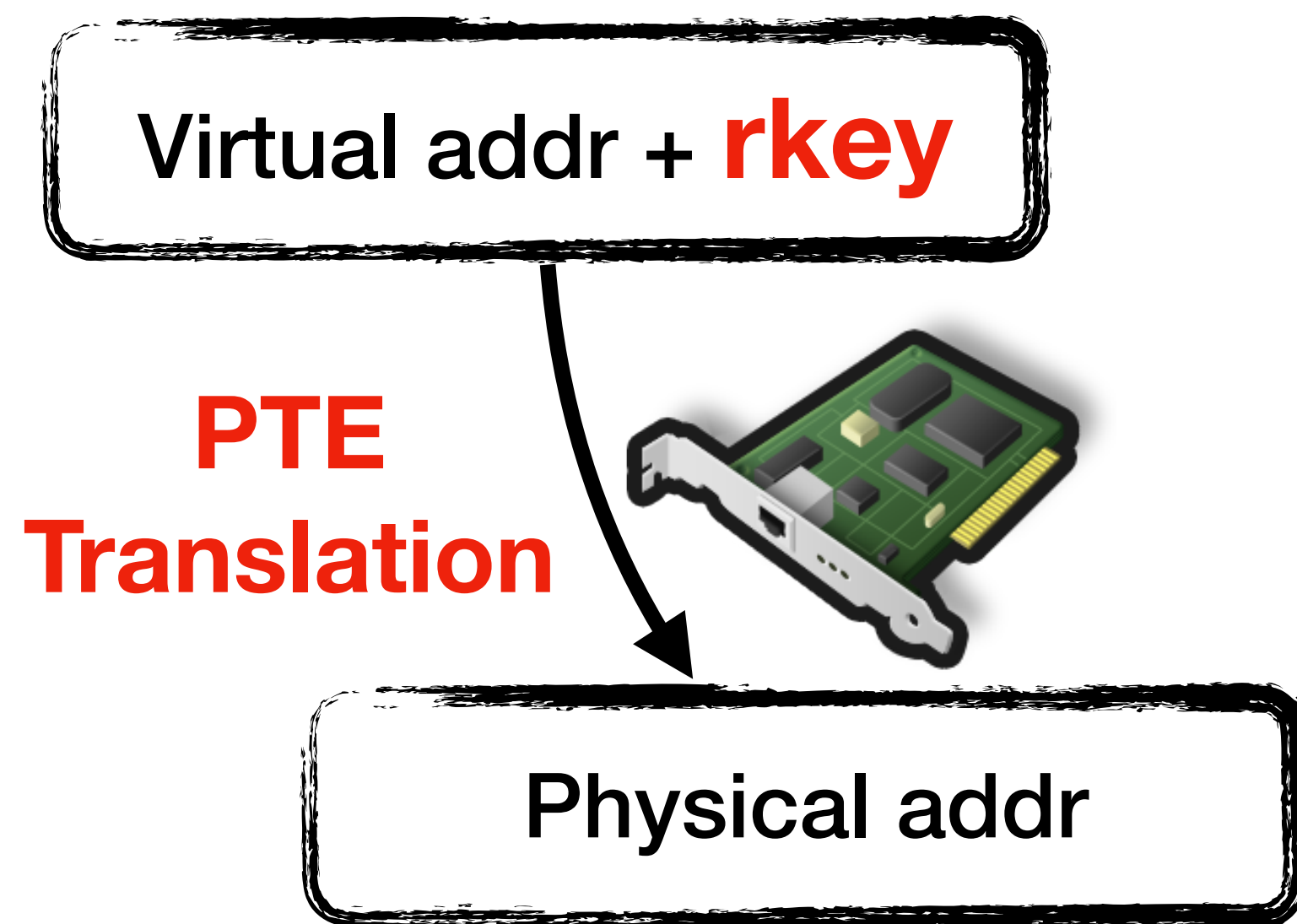
# Vulnerability 3 - Predictable Hardware Managed Keys





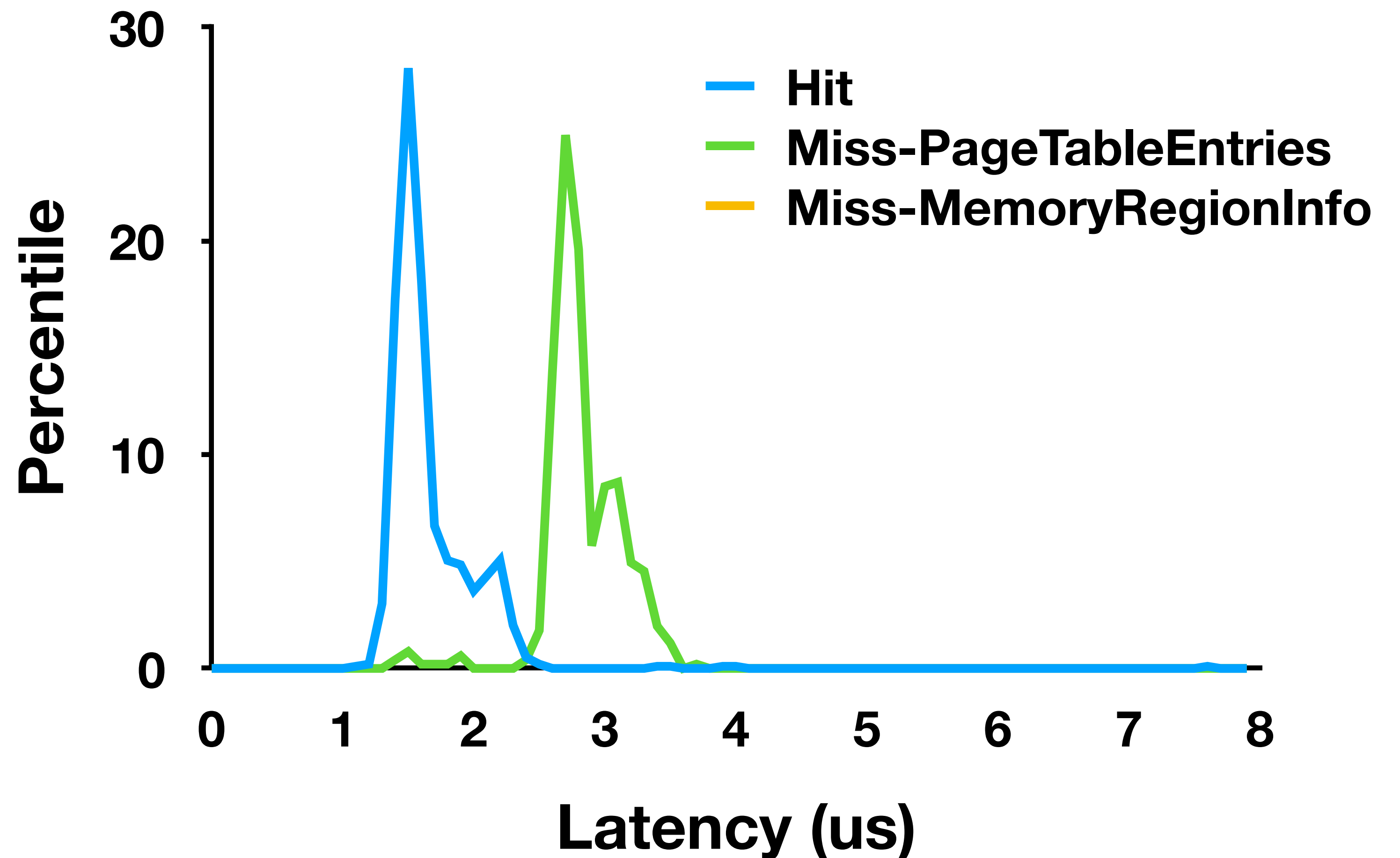
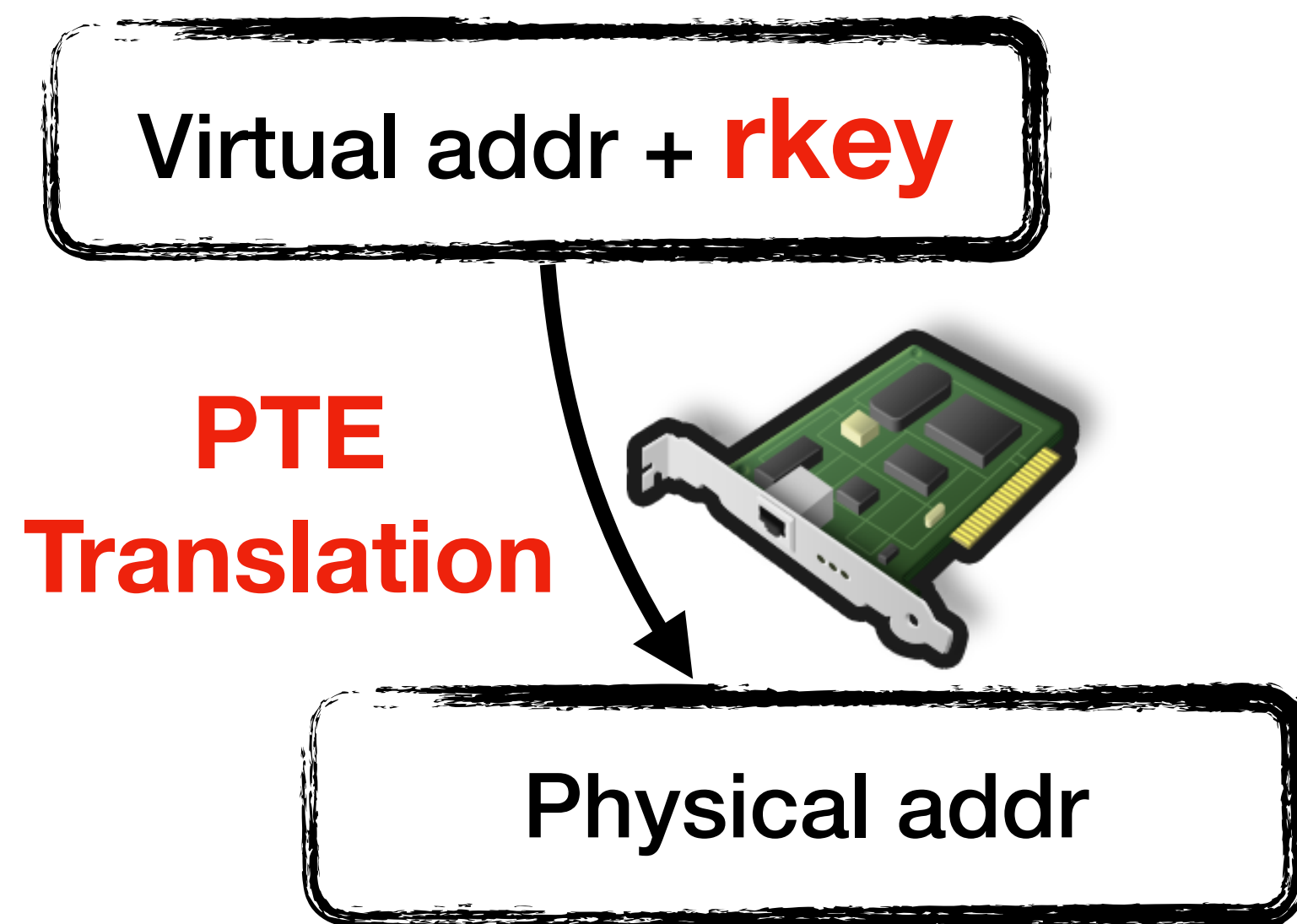
# Vulnerability 4 - Side Channel in NICs

ConnectX-5, 1KB READ request latency



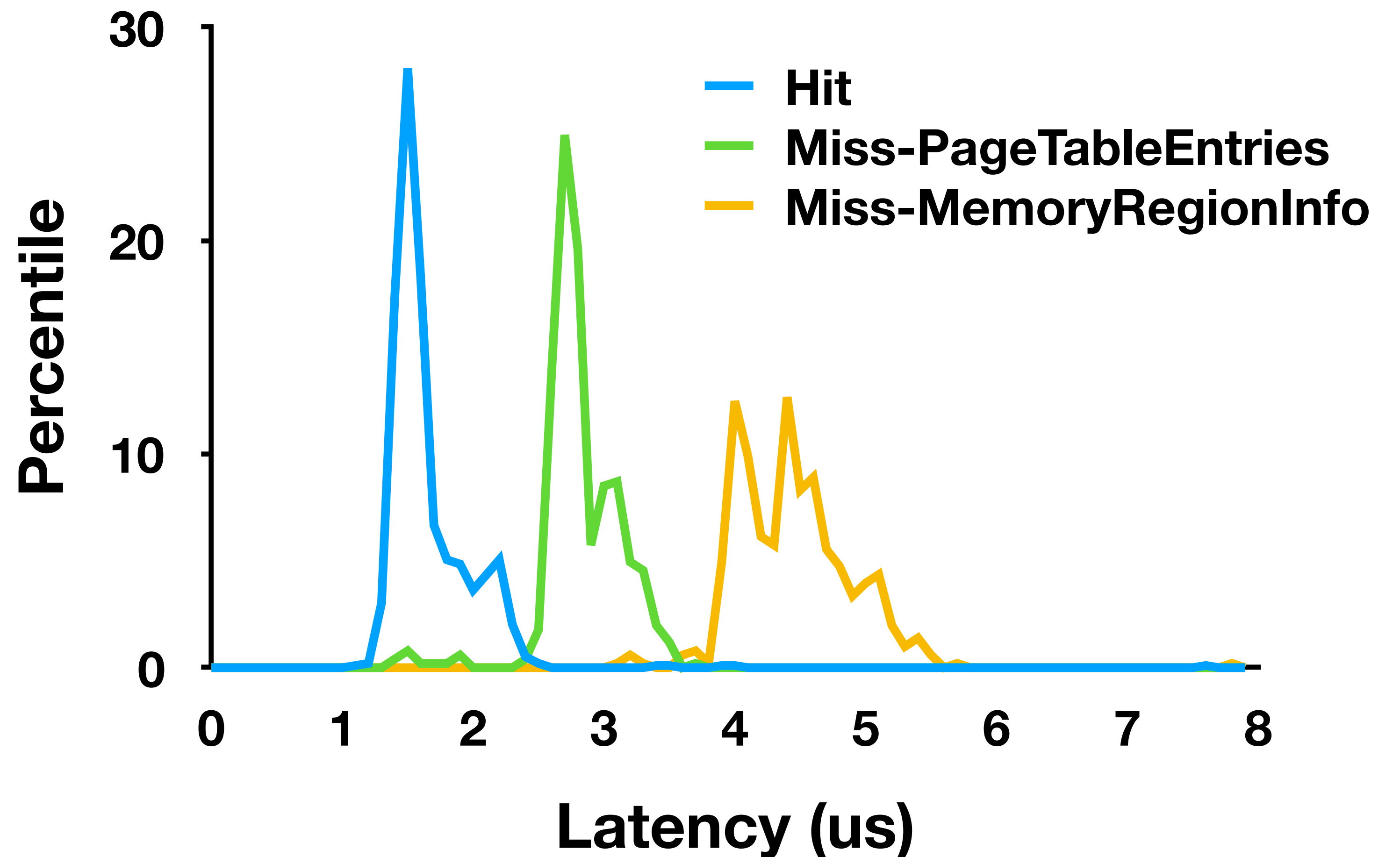
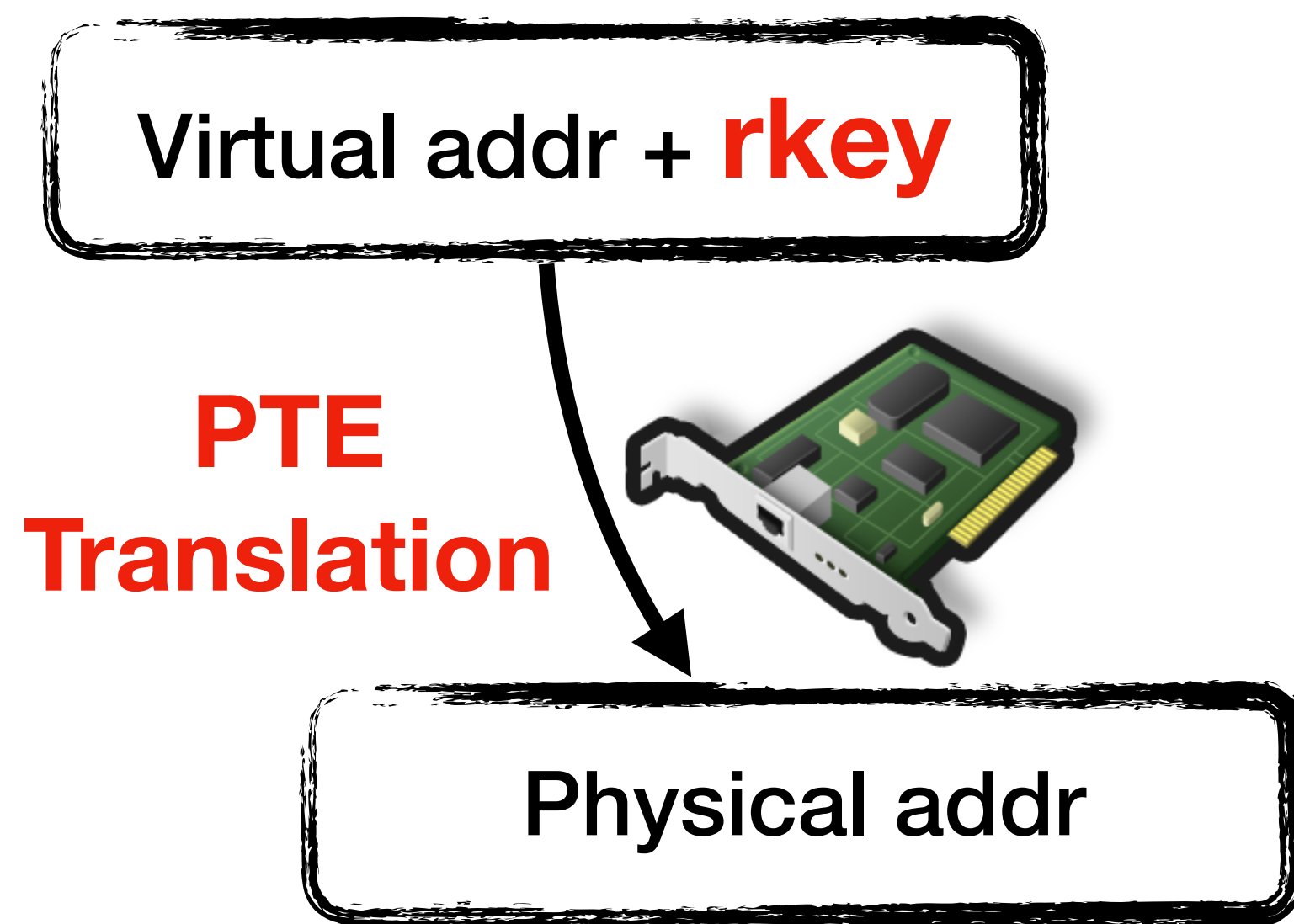
# Vulnerability 4 - Side Channel in NICs

ConnectX-5, 1KB READ request latency



# Vulnerability 4 - Side Channel in NICs

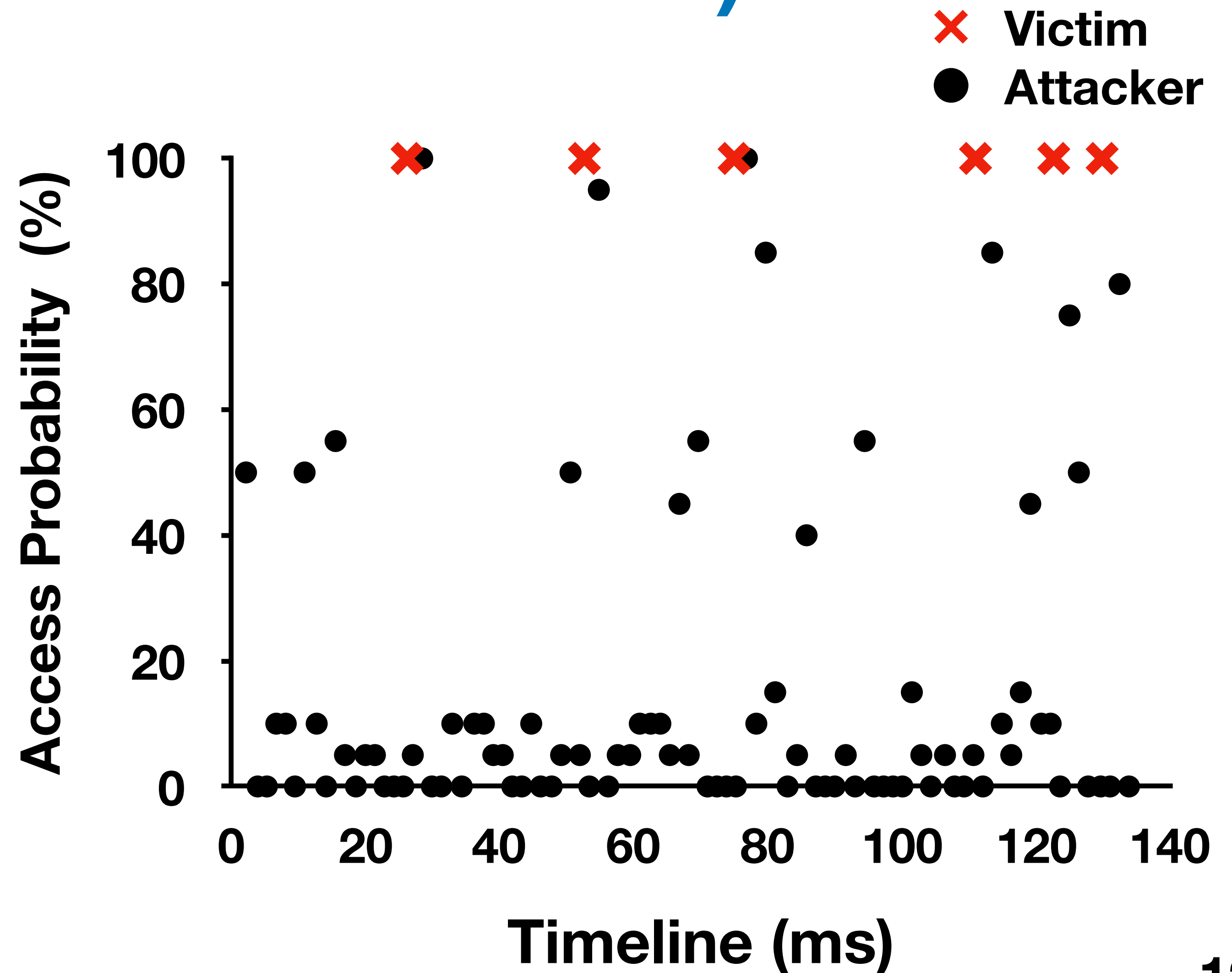
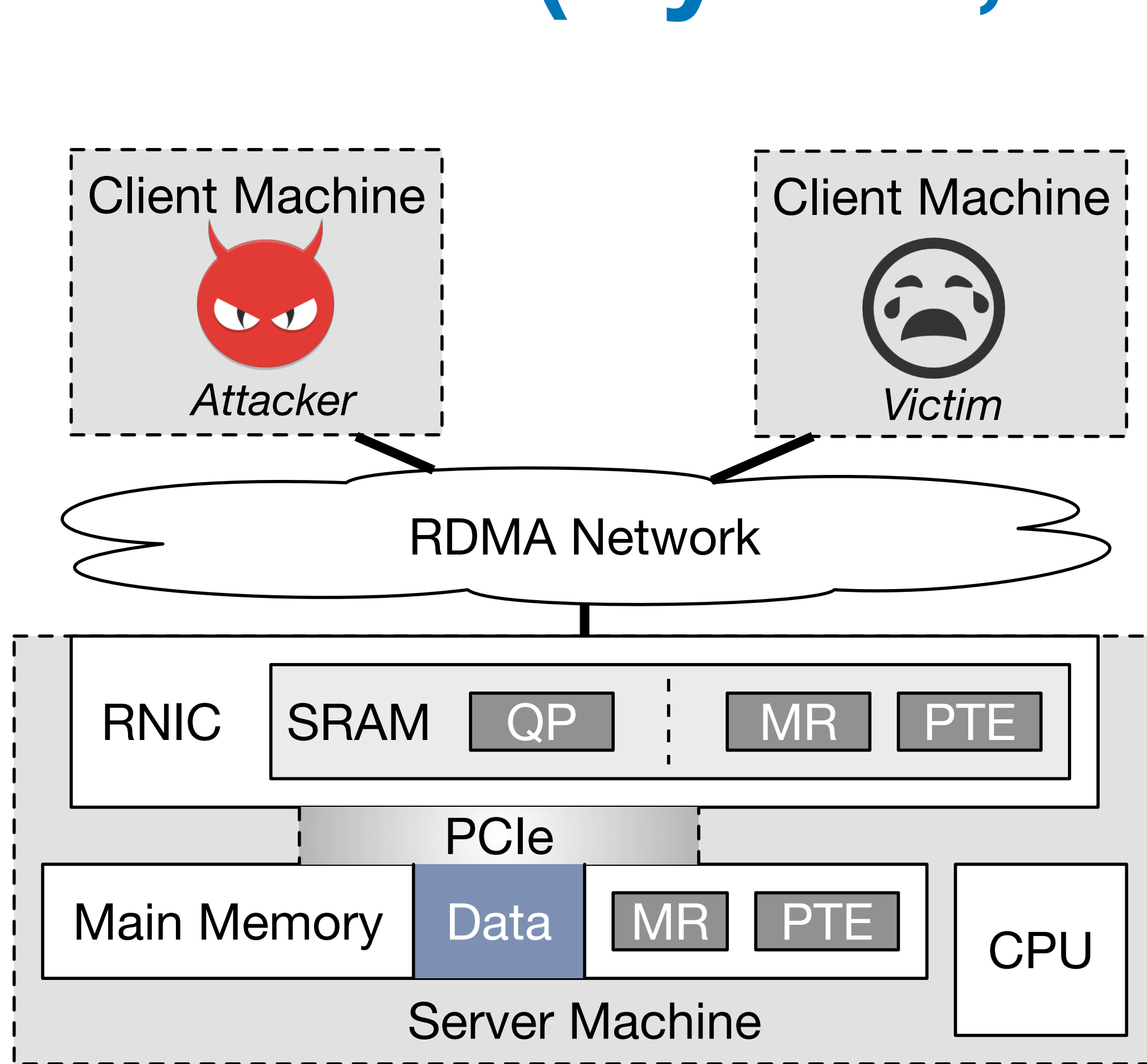
ConnectX-5, 1KB READ request latency





# Side-Channel Attacks in RDMA

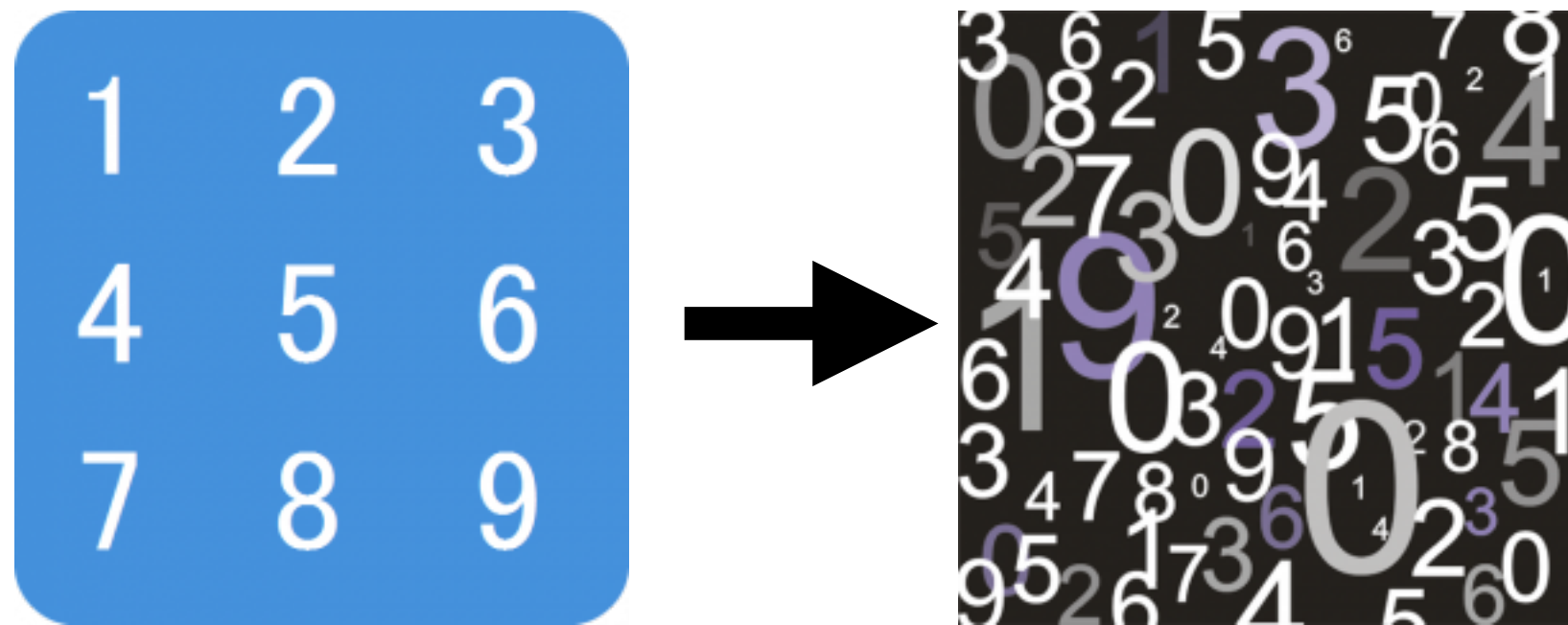
## (Pythia, USENIX Sec '19)



# Discussion and Defense

- Generate memory registration keys cryptographically

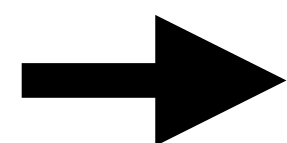
**Sequential to Random**



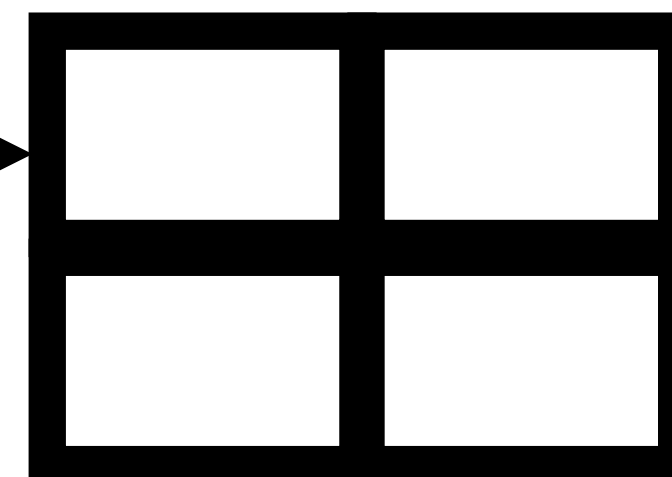
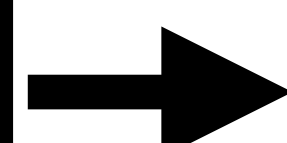
# Discussion and Defense

- Generate memory registration keys cryptographically
- Isolate on-board resources for different clients

**Sequential to Random**



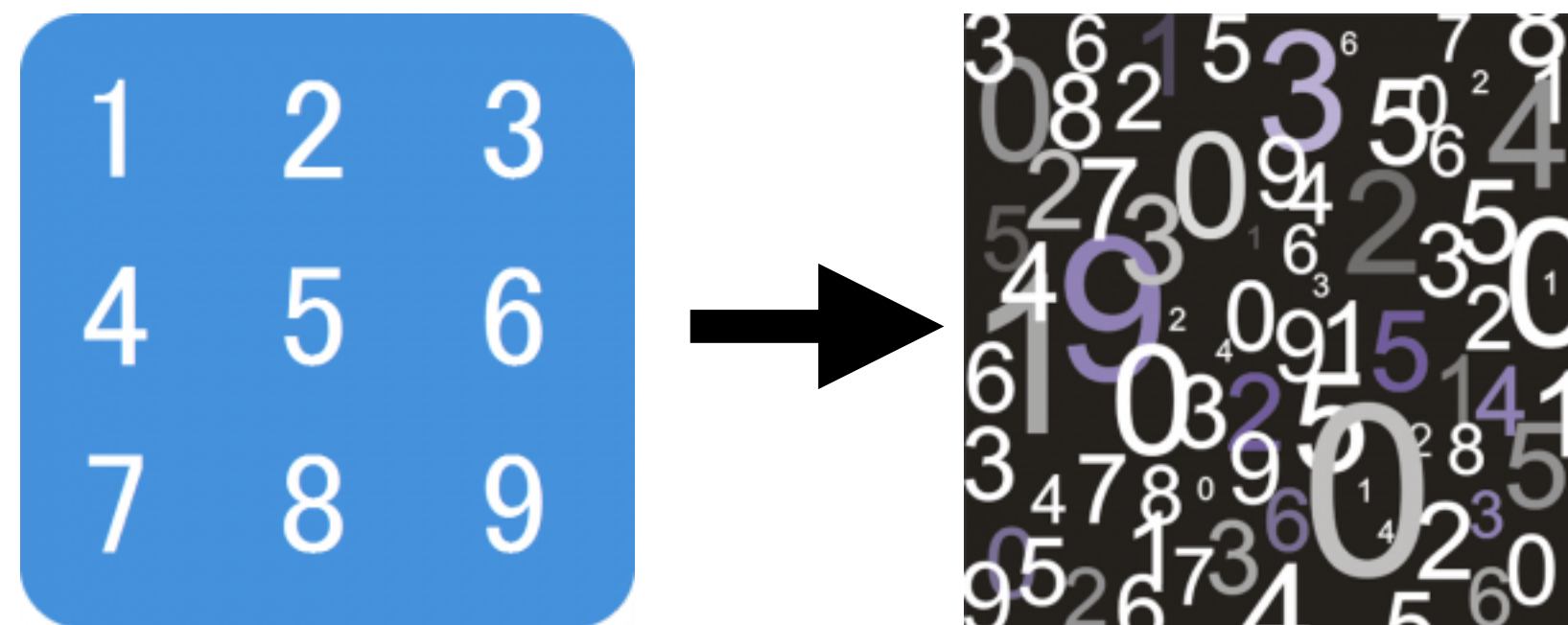
**On-board  
Resource**



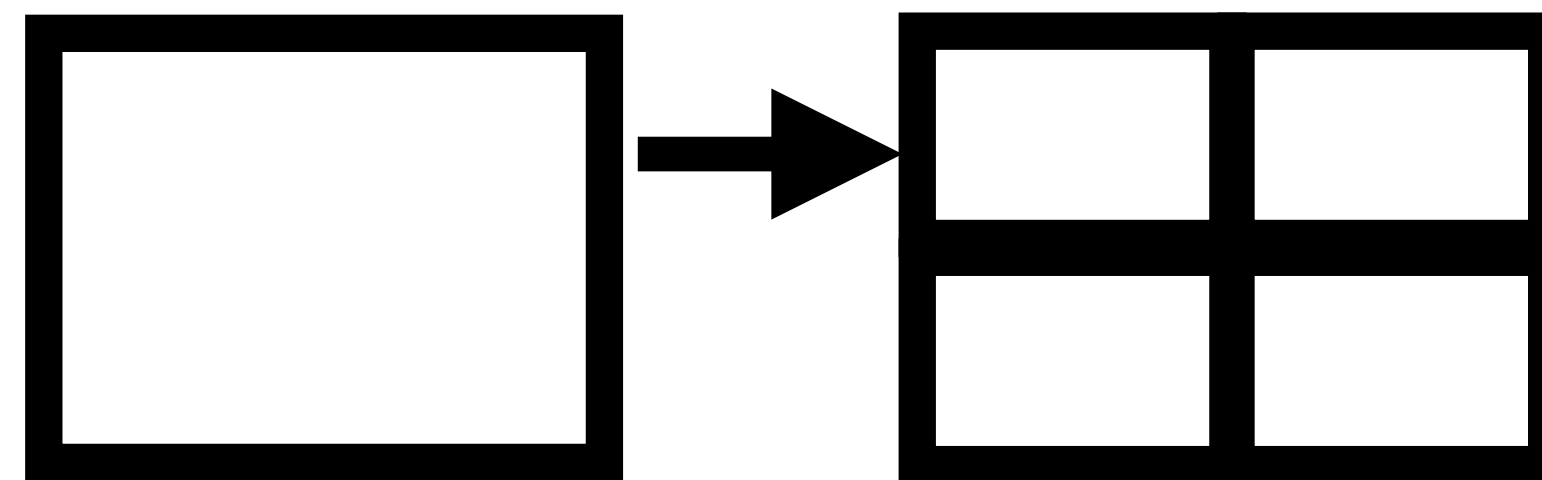
# Discussion and Defense

- Generate memory registration keys cryptographically
- Isolate on-board resources for different clients
- Enhancing SmartNIC at the receiver side

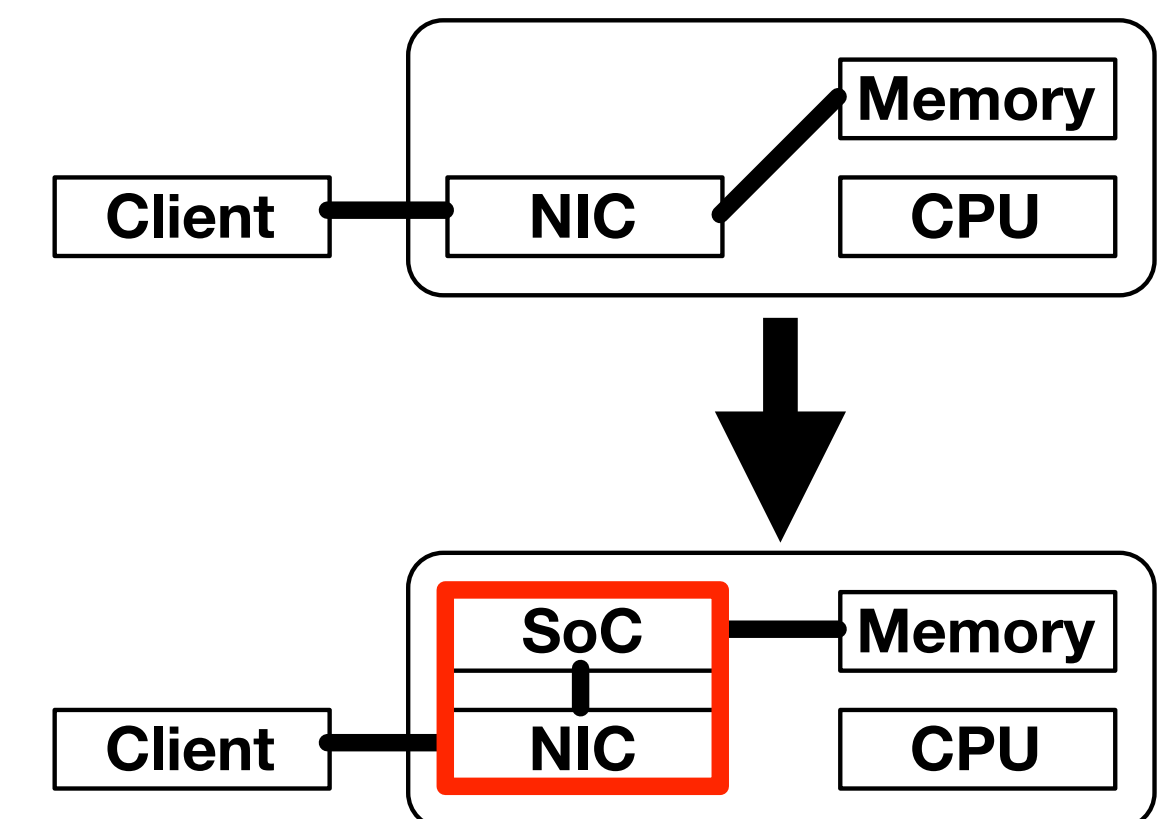
## Sequential to Random



## On-board Resource



## SmartNIC



# Outline

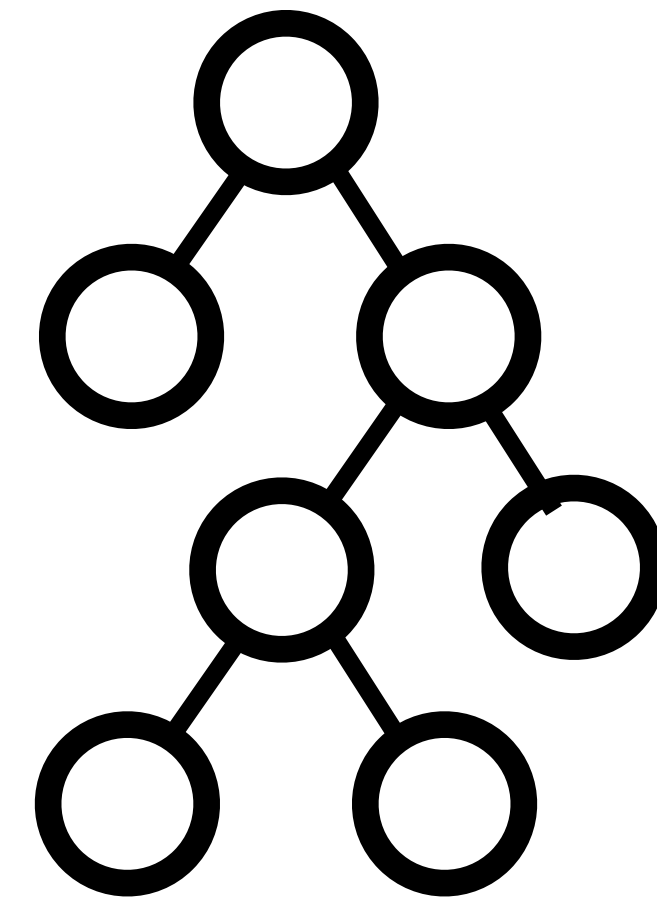
- Introduction and Background
- Vulnerabilities in One-Sided Communication
- Vulnerabilities in One-Sided Hardware
- Opportunities in One-Sided Communication
- Conclusion

# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

**ORAM Access**



**Server**



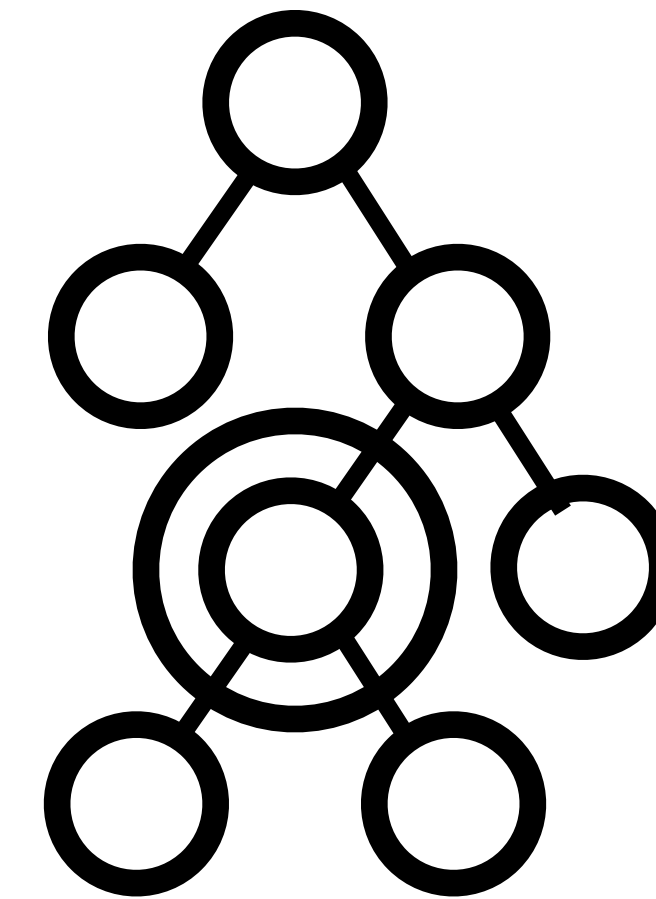


# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

**ORAM Access**

**Server**

**ORAM READ/WRITE**

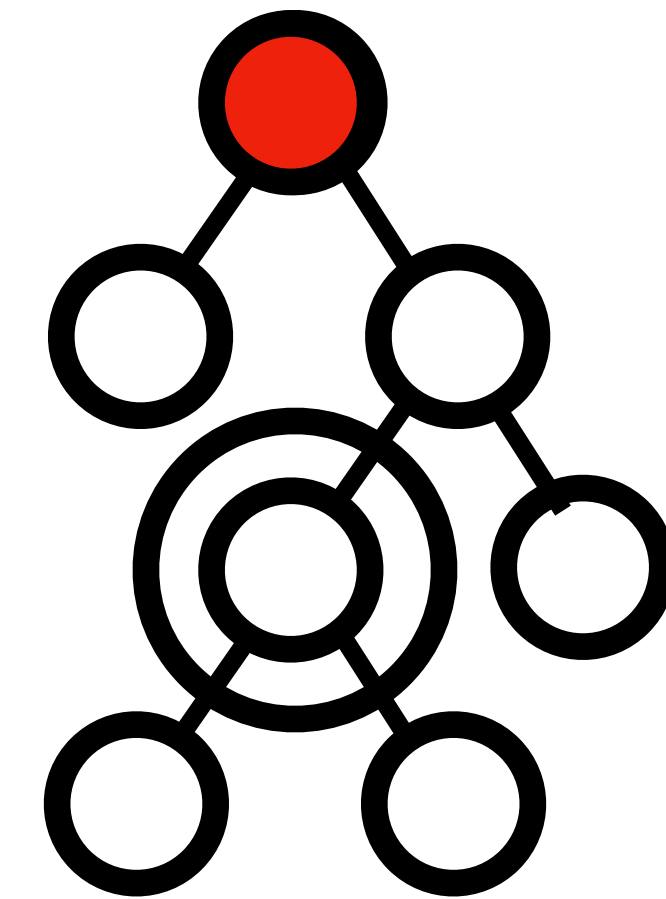


# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

**ORAM Access**

**Server**

**ORAM READ/WRITE**



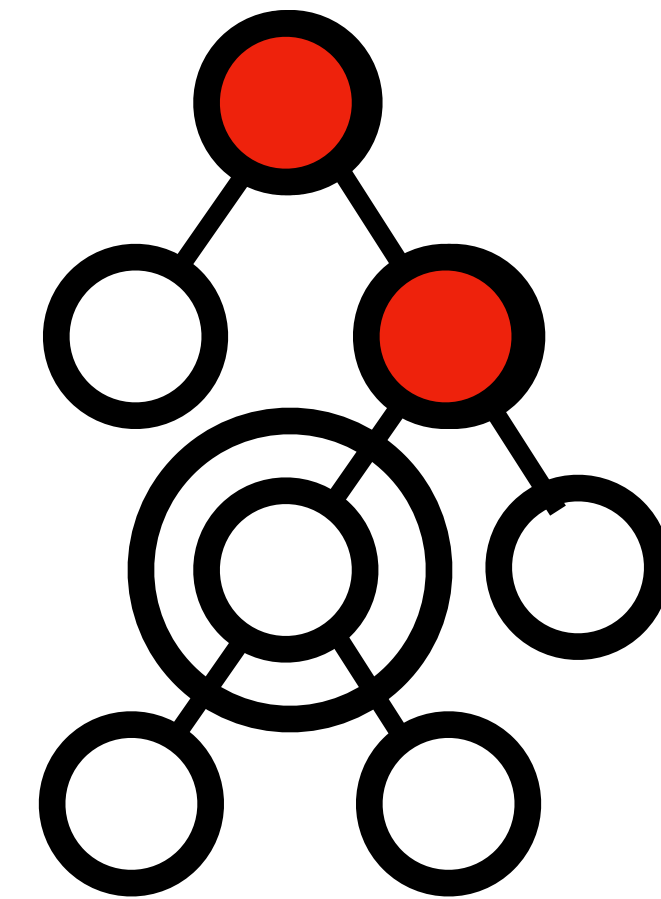


# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

**ORAM Access**

**Server**

**ORAM READ/WRITE**

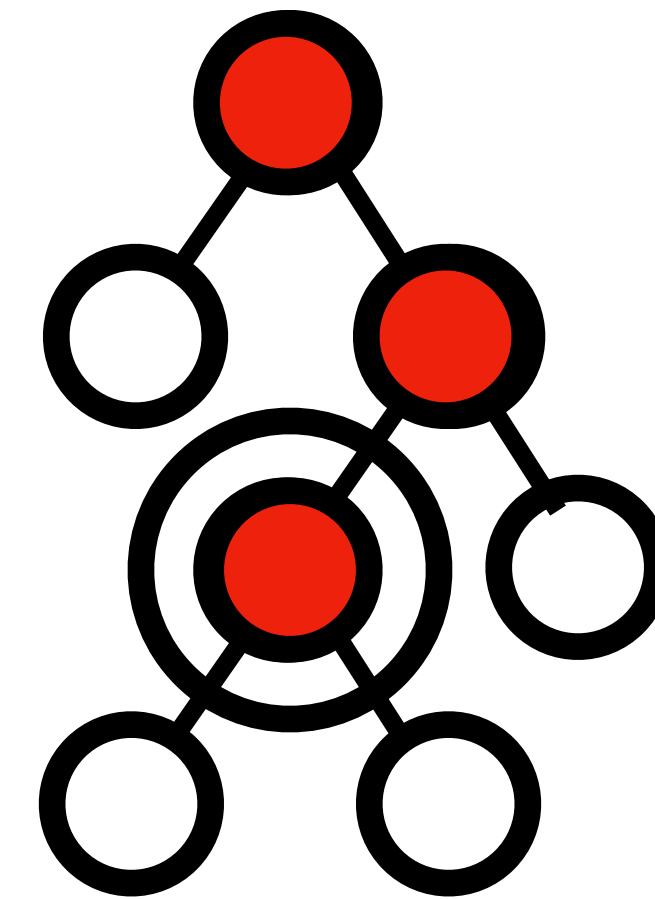


# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

**ORAM Access**

**Server**

**ORAM READ/WRITE**

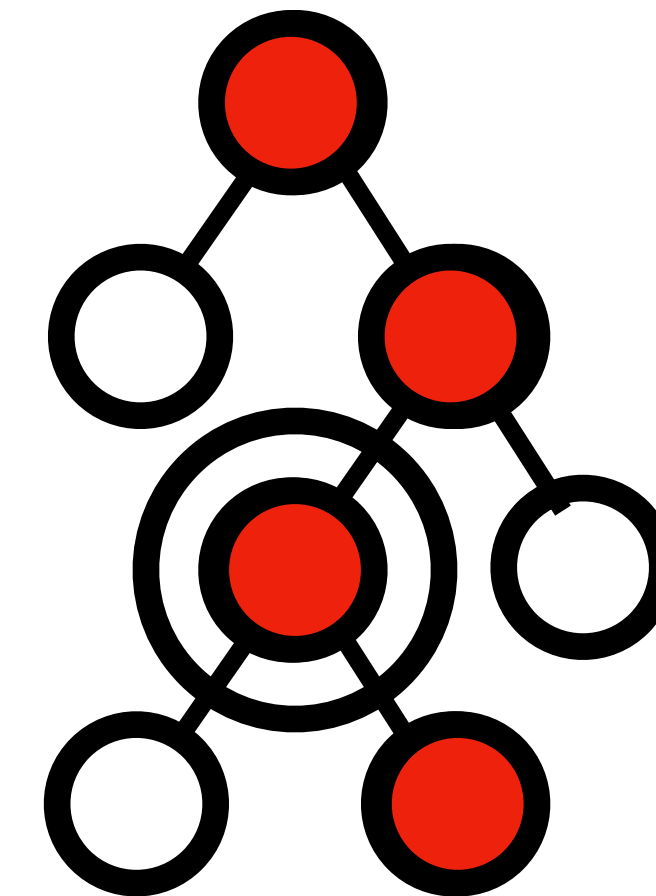


# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

**ORAM Access**

**Server**

**ORAM READ/WRITE**



# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

**ORAM Access**

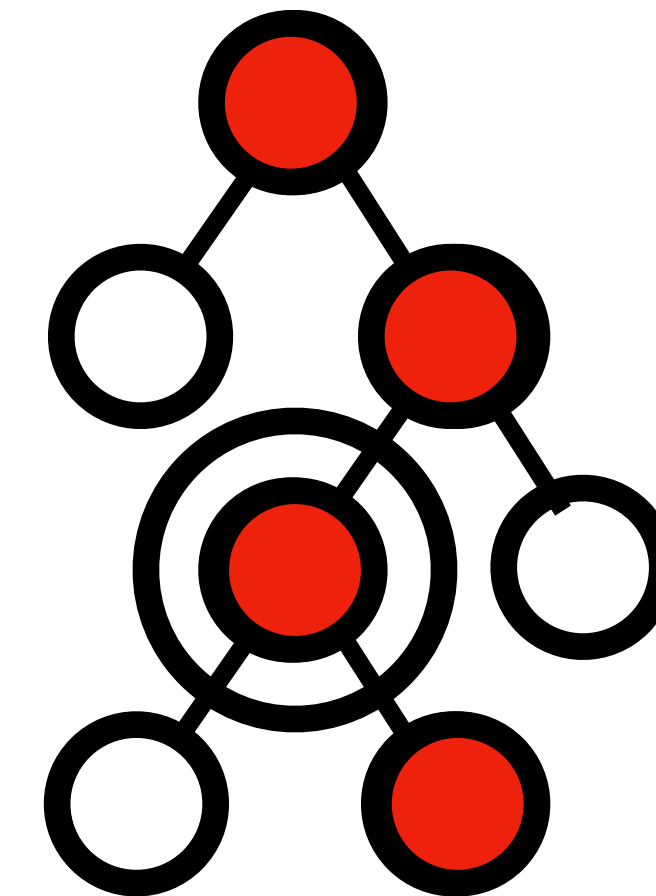
**Server**



**ORAM READ/WRITE**



**One-sided READ**



# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

**ORAM Access**

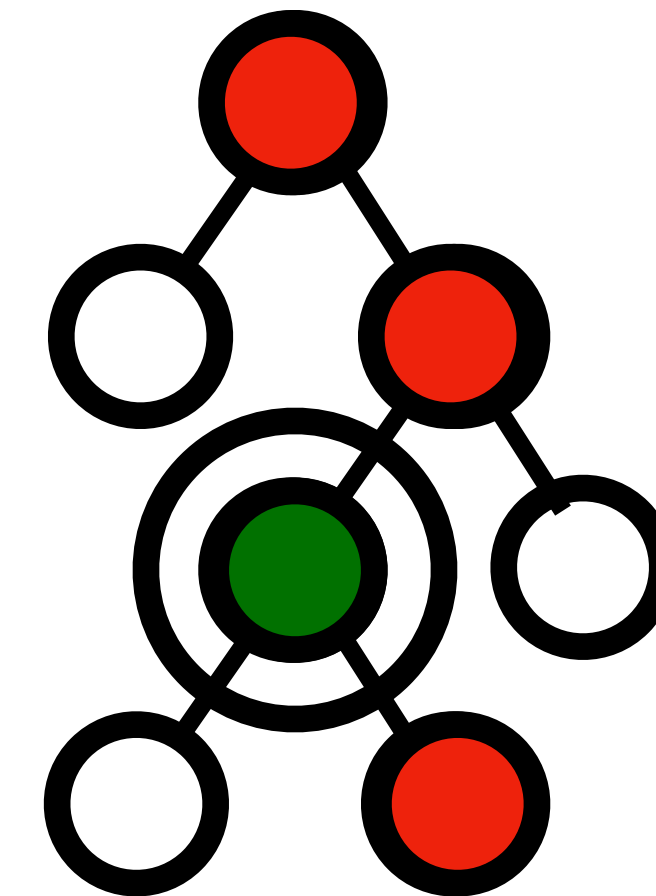
**Server**



**ORAM READ/WRITE**



**One-sided READ**





# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

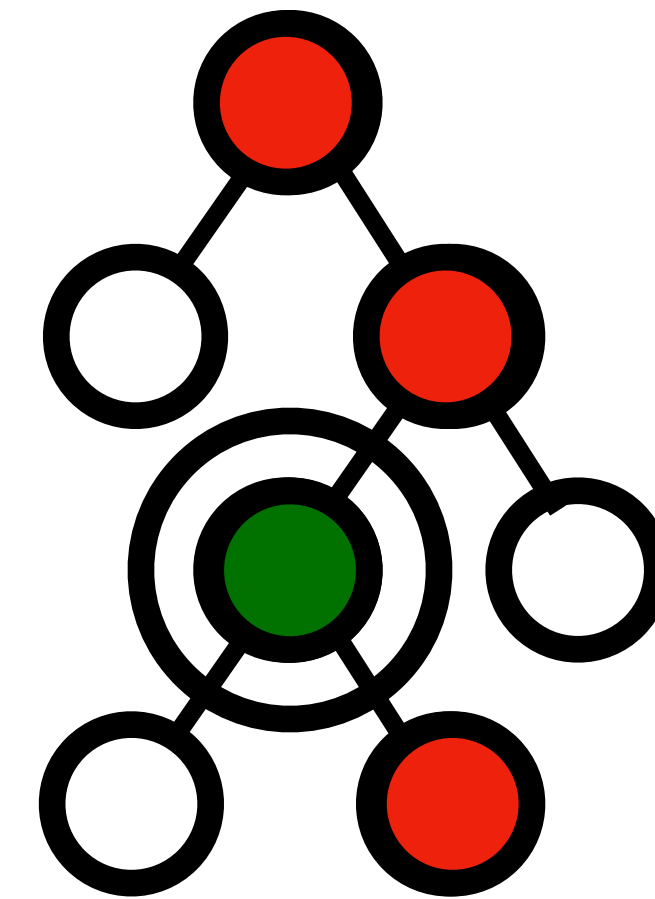
**ORAM Access**

**(1-K)% ORAM READ  
100% ORAM WRITE**



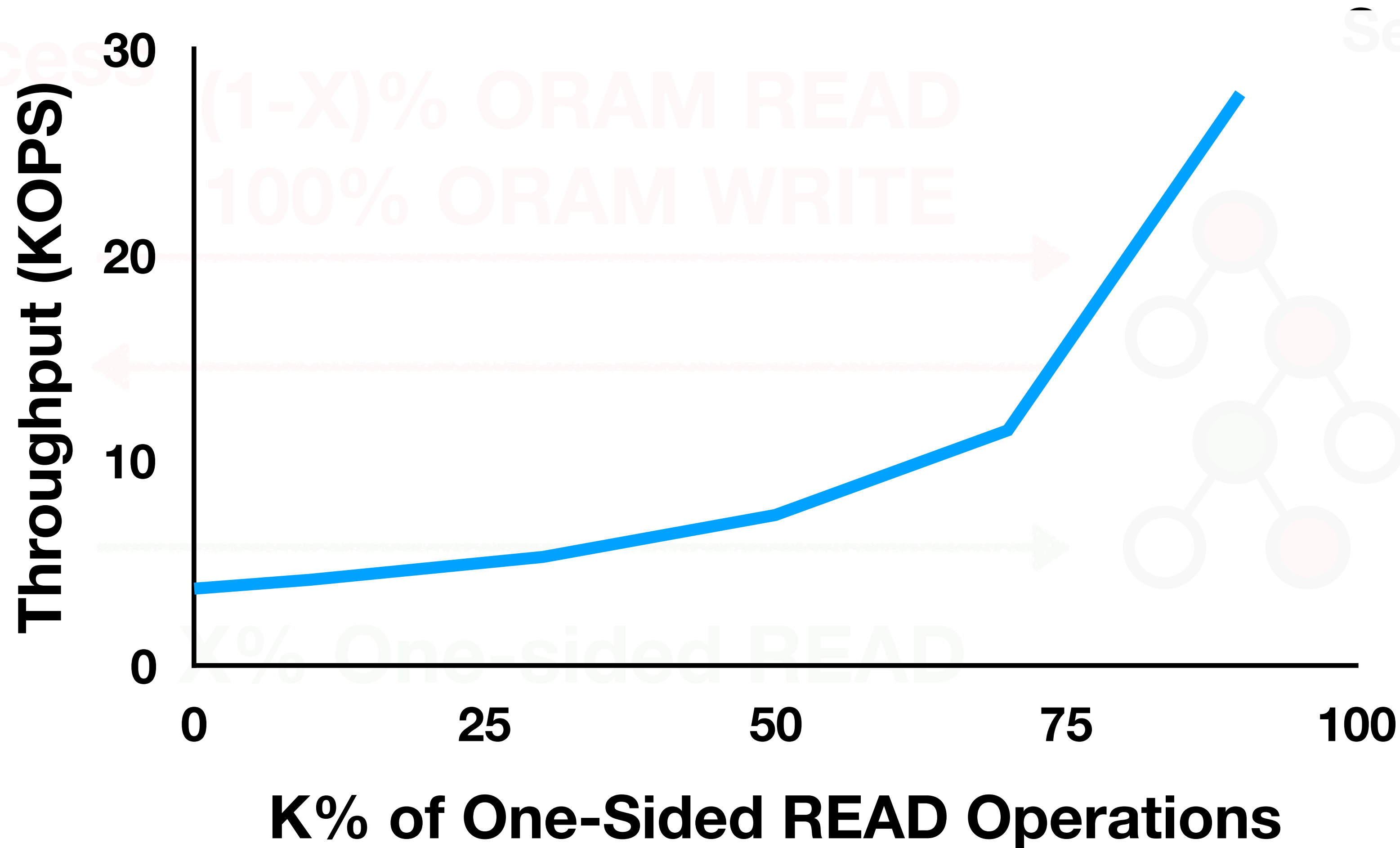
**K% One-sided READ**

**Server**



# Opportunity of One-sided Communication

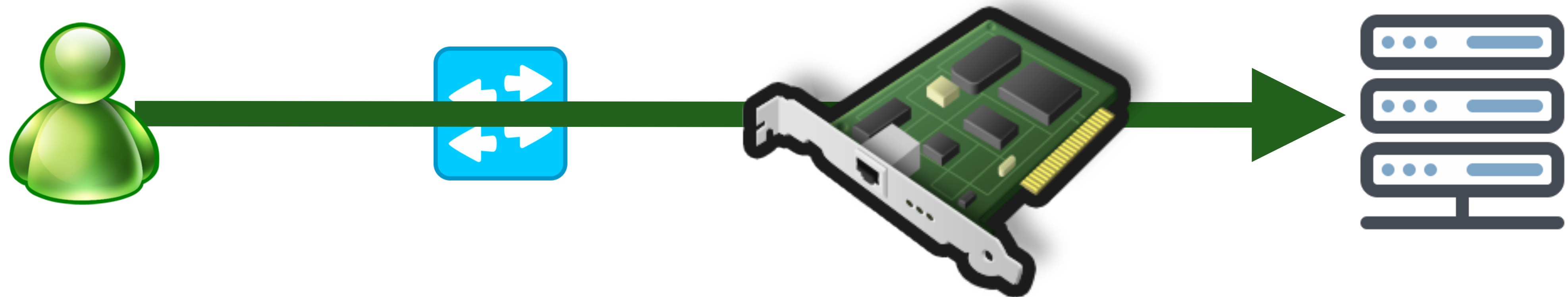
**OR**





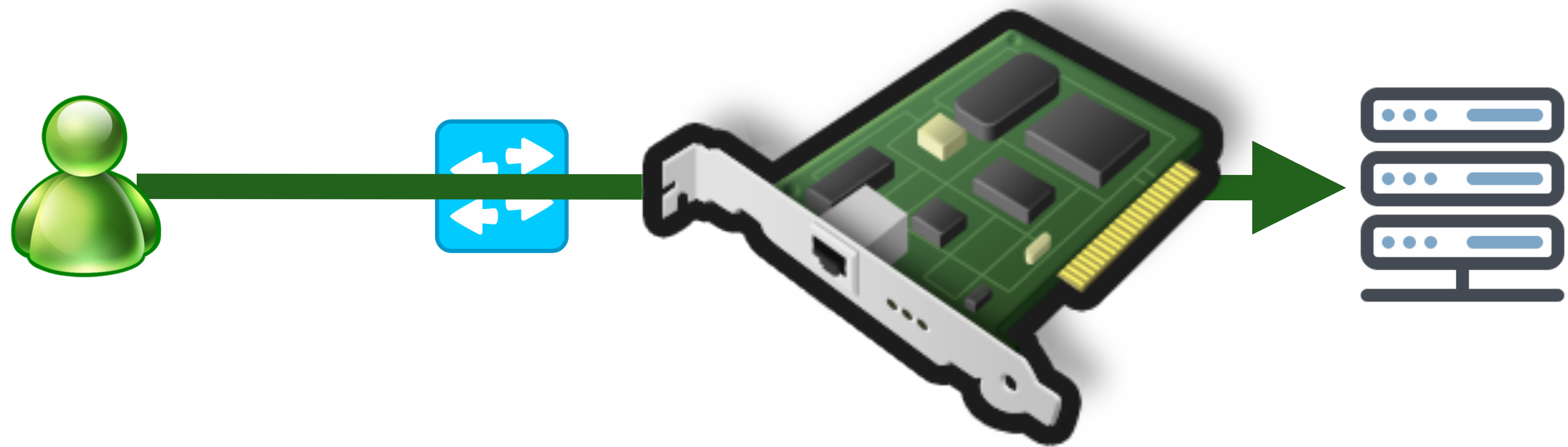
# Conclusion

- **Security concerns** of one-sided communication
- Tradeoffs between **Performance** and **Security**
- **Hardware Vendor, Software Developers, and Datacenter**



# Conclusion

- **Security concerns** of one-sided communication
- Tradeoffs between **Performance** and **Security**
- **Hardware Vendor, Software Developers, and Datacenter**





# Thank you Questions?

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