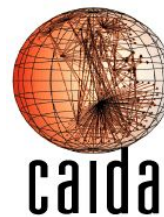




# Sibyl

## A Practical Internet Route Oracle

Ítalo Cunha<sup>1</sup>, Pietro Marchetta<sup>2</sup>, Matt Calder<sup>3</sup>, Yi-Ching Chiu<sup>3</sup>  
Brandon Schlinker<sup>3</sup>, Bruno Machado<sup>1</sup>, Antonio Pescapè<sup>2</sup>  
Vasileios Giotsas<sup>4</sup>, Harsha Madhyastha<sup>5</sup>, Ethan Katz-Bassett<sup>3</sup>



# The Art of Network Troubleshooting

1. Operator has routing problem
2. Runs traceroute to the destination
3. Needs to identify where the problem is

gtt

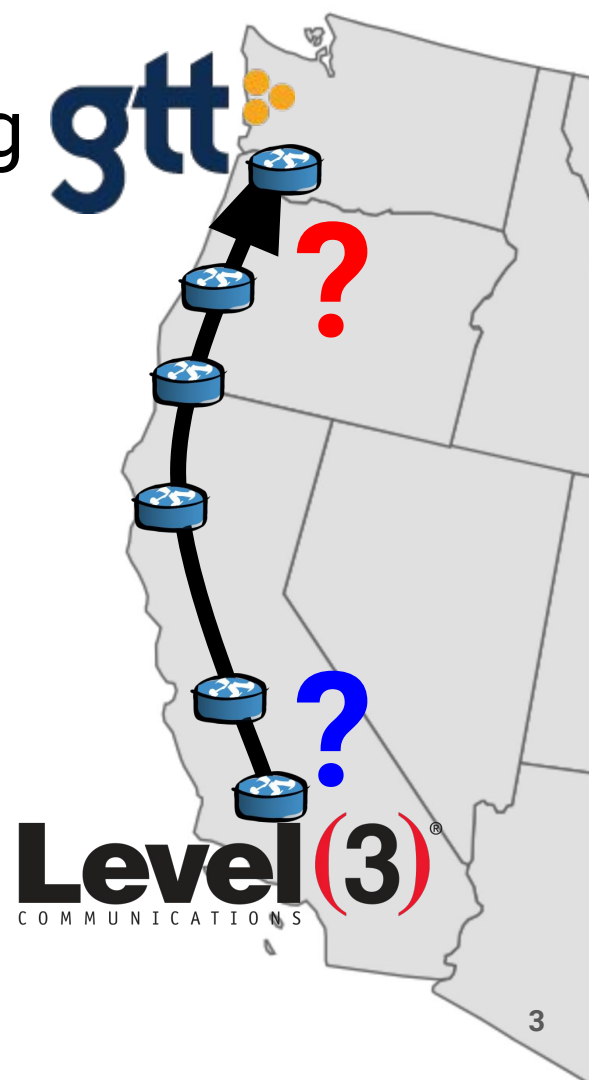
**Level(3)**  
COMMUNICATIONS

# The Art of Network Troubleshooting

1. Operator has routing problem
2. Runs traceroute to the destination
3. Needs to identify where the problem is

“Are routes through GTT in Seattle experiencing problems?”

“Are routes through Level3 in LA experiencing problems?”

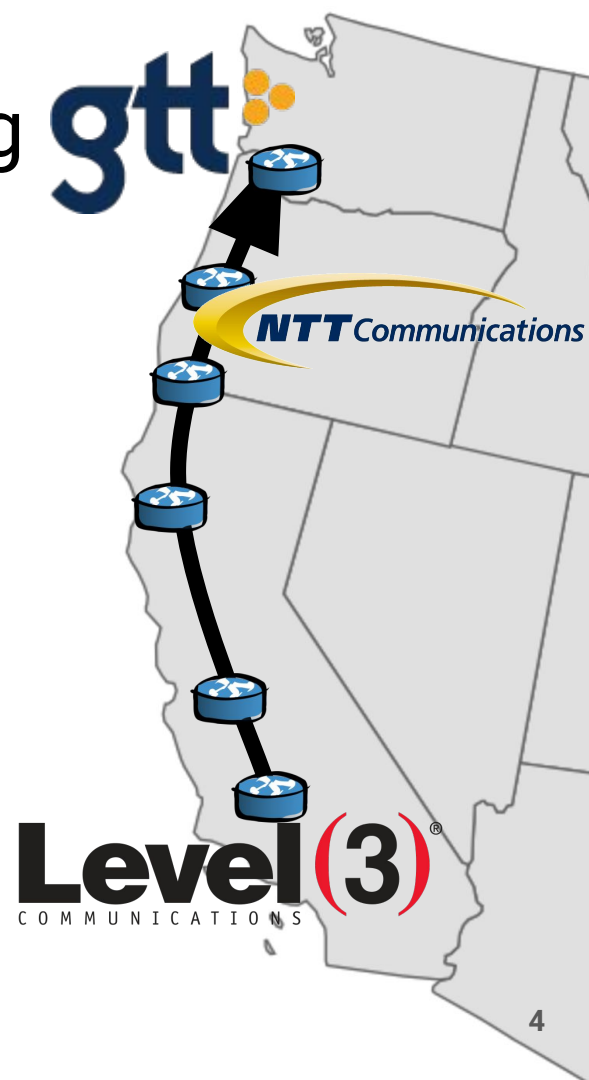


# The Art of Network Troubleshooting

1. Operator has routing problem
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# Operators Have Complex Questions

Someone suggests problem is on link between NTT and GTT in Seattle. Which routes use that link and could be impacted?

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If route to destination **D** is impacted, which of my providers have a route that avoids that link?

Providers in my region with routes that avoid that link?

- [outages] GTT Peering issues *Hugh Smallwood*
  - [outages] GTT Peering issues *Andree Toonk*
    - [outages] GTT Peering issues *Adam Davenport*
  - [outages] GTT Peering issues *Adam Davenport*

2. Runs

3. Need

Seeing similar issues between a few US, Asia and EU sites. What I'm seeing is what appears to be a congested peering connection between GTT and NTT in Seattle as that is what all traceroutes have in common.

Our graphs indicate this started Jan 1st, around ~ 15:00 utc.

“Are n

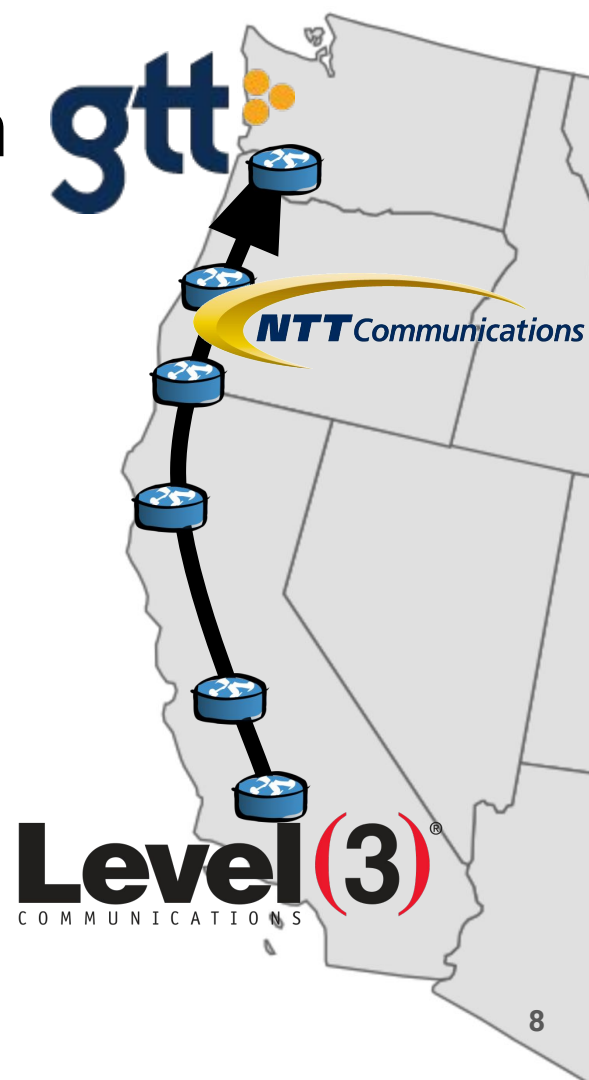
Example traceroute from Seattle (ntt) to Vancouver (gtt):

“Are n

HOST: rtr1-re0.sea	Loss%	Snt	Last	Avg	Best	Wrst	StDev
1. xe-0-0-0-34.r04.sttlwa01.us.	0.0%	60	4.1	8.3	0.8	23.9	6.5
2. ae3.sea22.ip4.gtt.net	20.0%	60	44.6	41.9	33.6	60.3	6.0
3. xe-1-2-0.van10.ip4.gtt.net	18.3%	60	48.9	51.6	38.0	129.1	17.3
4. opendns-gw.ip4.gtt.net	20.0%	60	46.6	46.6	38.3	65.1	6.9
5. rtr1.yvr.opendns.com	28.3%	60	44.8	47.5	38.6	74.2	8.9

# Problems with the Current Approach

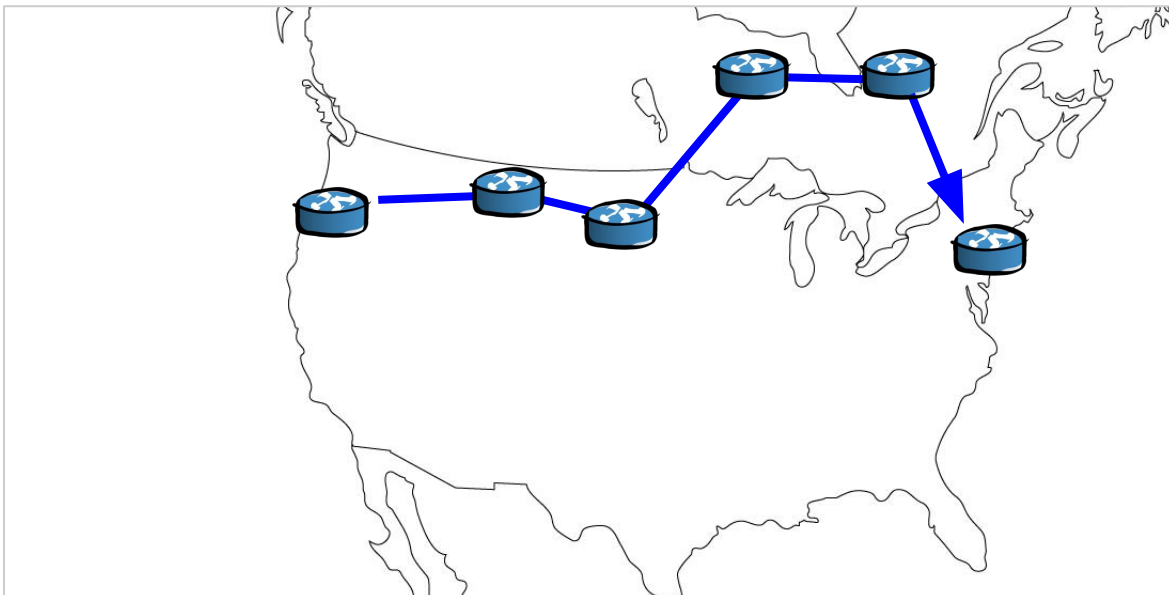
1. Takes time
2. Requires help from others
  - a. Needs operator with right VP to respond
  - b. Destination to measure may not be obvious
3. Limits analyses





# The Art of Internet Measurement

1. Researcher wants to study, for example, boomerang routes



# Researchers Have Complex Questions

What routes from the US to the US detour through Canada?

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What routes from the US to the US detour through Canada?

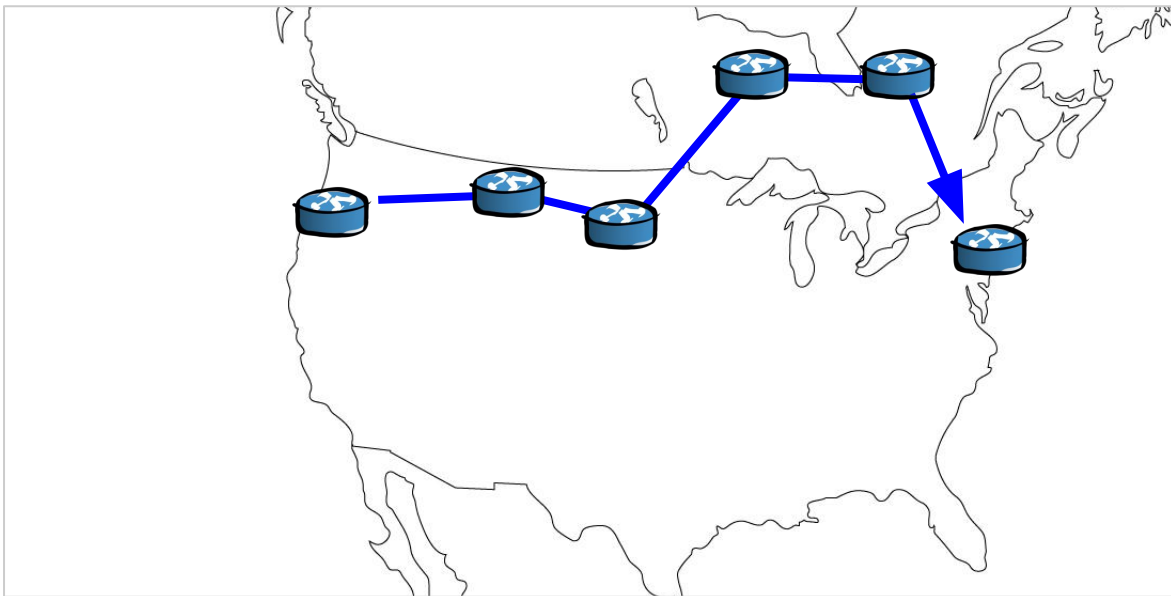
Eastward routes detouring through Canada?

Routes from Southern US through Canada? Mexico?

Routes from Africa to Africa through Europe?

# The Art of Internet Measurement

1. Researcher wants to study, for example, boomerang routes
2. Collect (a lot of) traceroute measurements



# The Art of Internet Measurement

1. Research
2. Collection

## Index of /datasets/iplane-traceroutes/2016

<u>Name</u>	<u>Last modified</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Description</u>
 <a href="#">Parent Directory</a>		-	
 <a href="#">traces_2016_01_01.tar.gz</a>	02-Jan-2016 19:02	1.6G	
 <a href="#">traces_2016_01_02.tar.gz</a>	03-Jan-2016 19:03	1.6G	
 <a href="#">traces_2016_01_03.tar.gz</a>	04-Jan-2016 19:03	1.6G	
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 <a href="#">traces_2016_01_06.tar.gz</a>	07-Jan-2016 19:03	1.6G	
 <a href="#">traces_2016_01_07.tar.gz</a>	08-Jan-2016 19:03	1.6G	

# The Art of Internet Measurement

1. Research

2. Collection







## Index of /datasets/iplane-traceroutes/2016

[Name](#)

[Last modified](#)

[Size](#) [Description](#)

**PlanetLab lacks diversity. Other platforms cannot make exhaustive measurements.**

	<a href="#">traces_2016_01_02.tar.gz</a>	03-Jan-2016 19:03	1.6G
	<a href="#">traces_2016_01_03.tar.gz</a>	04-Jan-2016 19:03	1.6G
	<a href="#">traces_2016_01_04.tar.gz</a>	05-Jan-2016 19:03	1.6G
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	<a href="#">traces_2016_01_06.tar.gz</a>	07-Jan-2016 19:03	1.6G
	<a href="#">traces_2016_01_07.tar.gz</a>	08-Jan-2016 19:03	1.6G

“The number one go-to tool is traceroute.”

NANOG Troubleshooting Tutorial, 2009.

NANOG Traceroute Tutorial, 2014.

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But traceroute only answers one simple question:

*“What is the path from vantage point **s** to destination **d**?”*



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But traceroute only answers one simple question:

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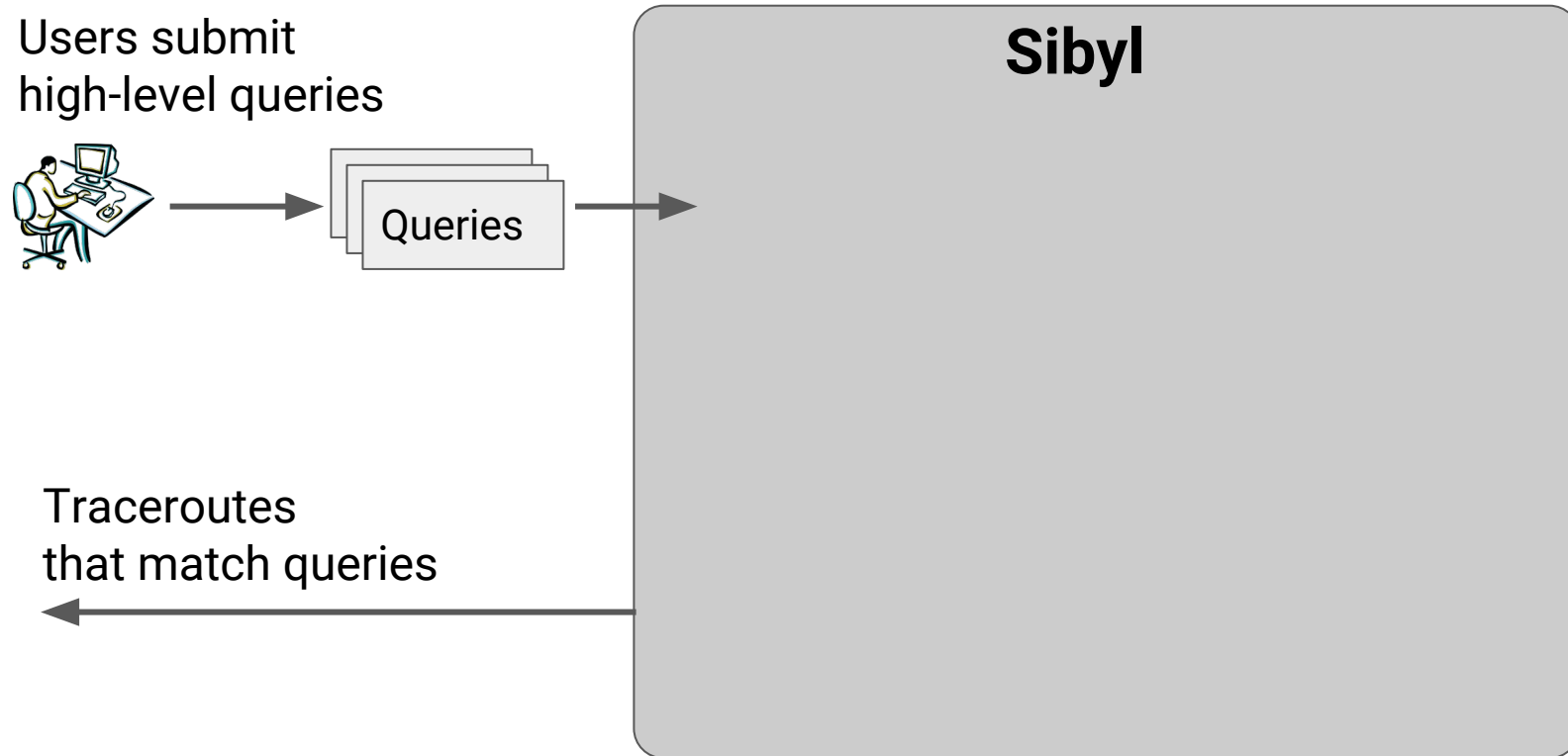
We need a new tool to answer our questions



# Sibyl

**Supports high-level queries over Internet routes**

# Goal: Serve High-Level Routing Queries



# Query Internet Routes Using Regular Expressions

Symbols representing boolean expressions  
that IP addresses must satisfy

Level3&LA

GTT&Seattle

# Query Internet Routes Using Regular Expressions

Symbols representing boolean expressions  
that IP addresses must satisfy

Level3&LA      GTT&Seattle

Routes traversing Level3 in LA and GTT in Seattle?

^ .\* Level3&LA .\* GTT&Seattle .\* \$

# Regular Expressions Capture Operational Questions

Someone suggests problem is on link between NTT and GTT in Seattle. Which routes use that link and could be impacted?

```
^ .* NTT&Seattle GTT&Seattle .* $
```

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```

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```
^ USC (?!NTT GTT&Seattle).* D $
```

Providers in my region with routes that avoid that link?

```
^ .* LA (?!NTT GTT&Seattle).* D $
```

# Regular Expressions Capture Research Questions

What routes from the US to the US detour through Canada?

$\wedge$  `US* Canada* US* $`

Eastward routes detouring through Canada?

$\wedge$  `EastCoast .* Canada .* WestCoast $`

Routes from Southern US through Canada? Mexico?

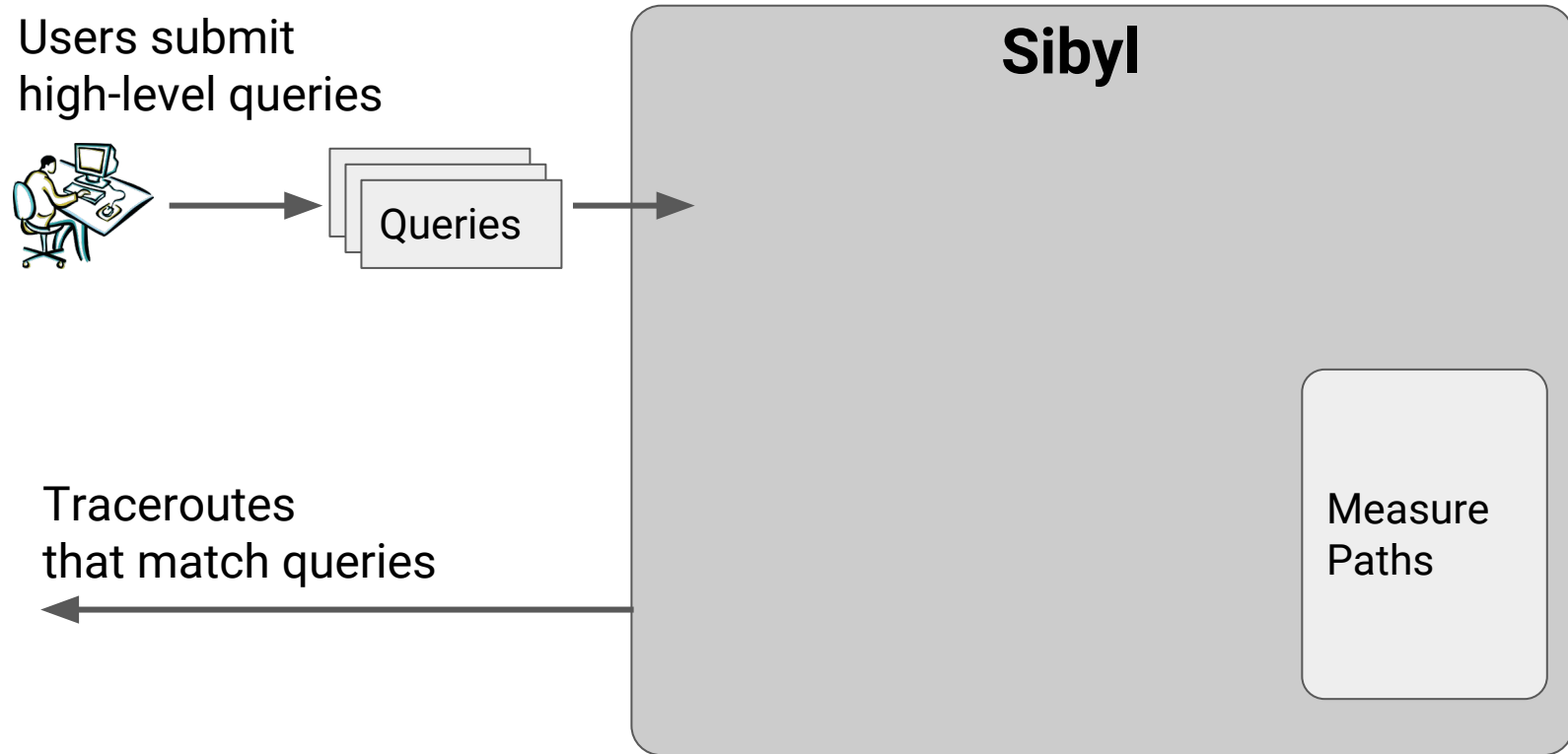
$\wedge$  `SouthernUS .* (Canada|Mexico) .* US $`

Routes from Africa to Africa through Europe?

$\wedge$  `Africa .* Europe .* Africa $`



# How do we achieve route coverage to satisfy complex and diverse queries?



# Combining Platforms Provides Great Coverage

Vantage points in 100% of very large networks  
and 50% of small and regional networks

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Vantage points in 100% of very large networks  
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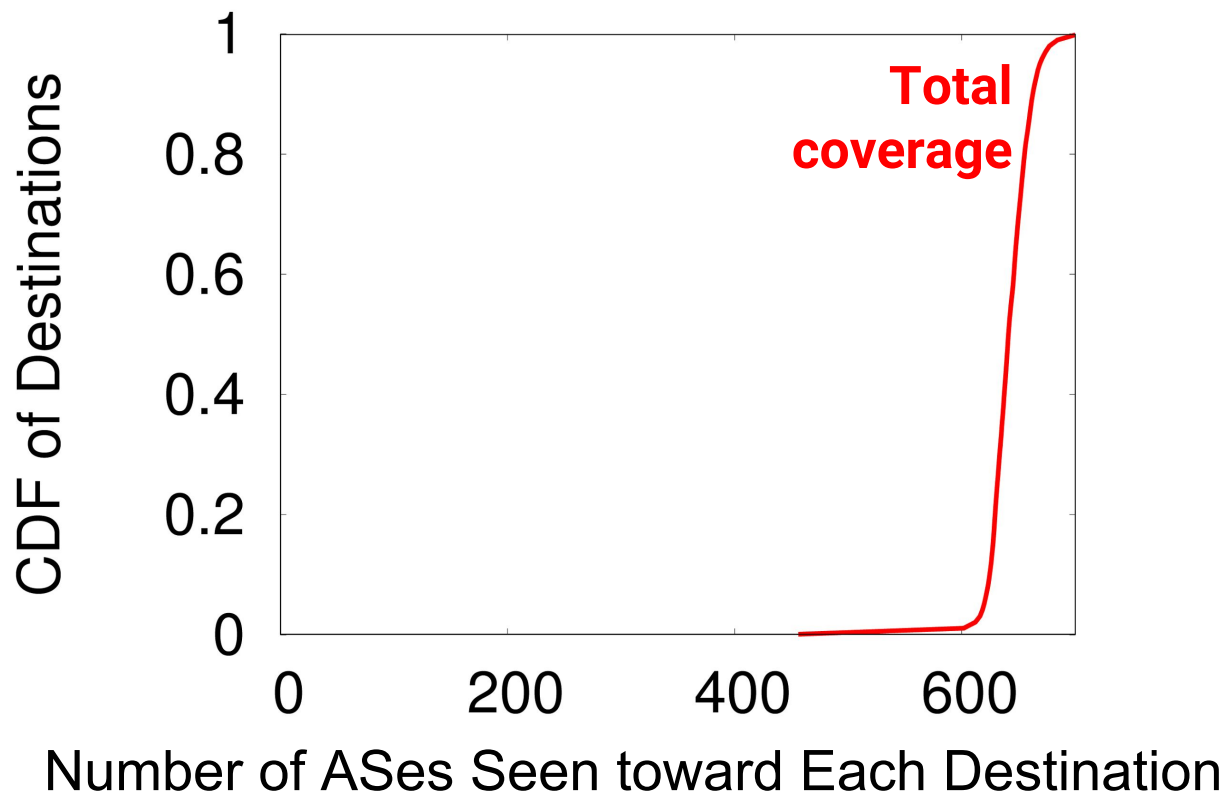
Measurement Platform	Vantage Points	Vantage Point ASes
PlanetLab	~400	~250
Traceroute servers	~500	~500
RIPE Atlas	~9000	~2700

# Vantage Points Are Resource Constrained

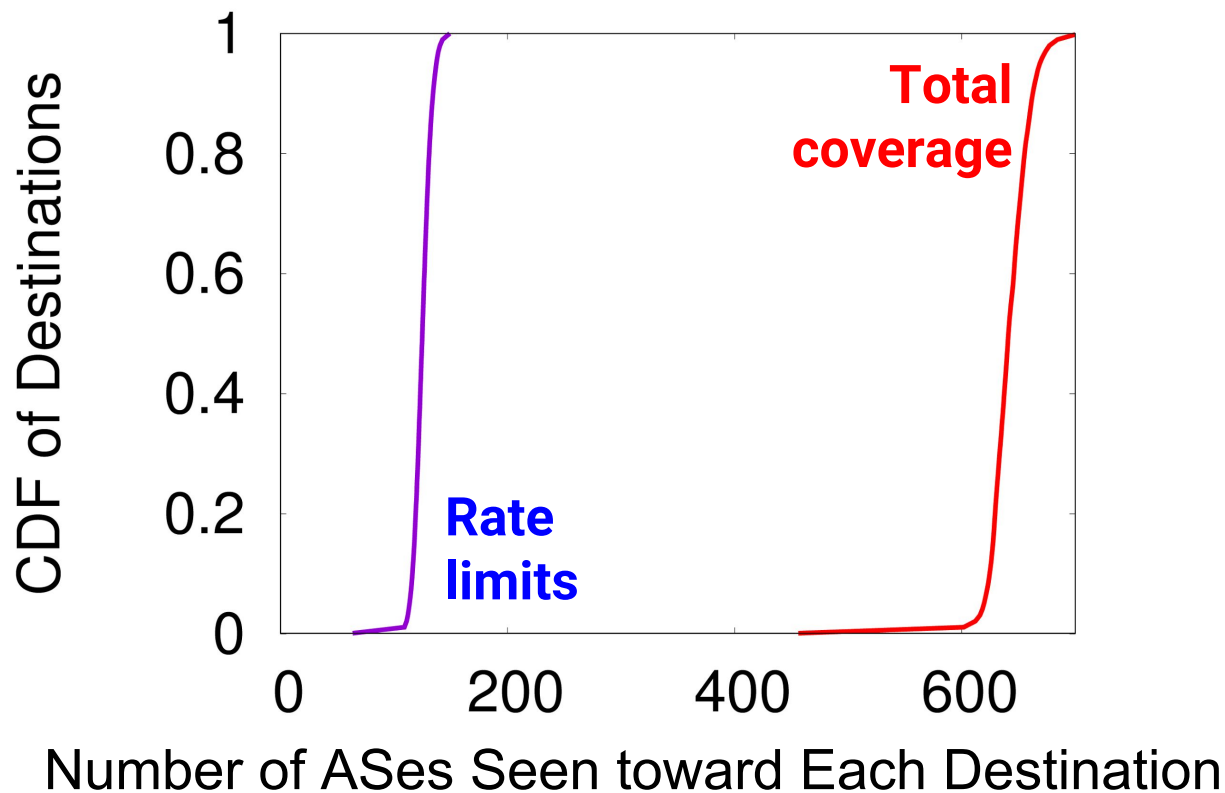
Want to use network coverage to answer queries,  
but cannot issue all measurements

Measurement Platform	Vantage Points	Vantage Point ASes	Traces per Day
PlanetLab	~400	~250	16,000K
Traceroute servers	~500	~500	145K
RIPE Atlas	~9000	~2700	35K

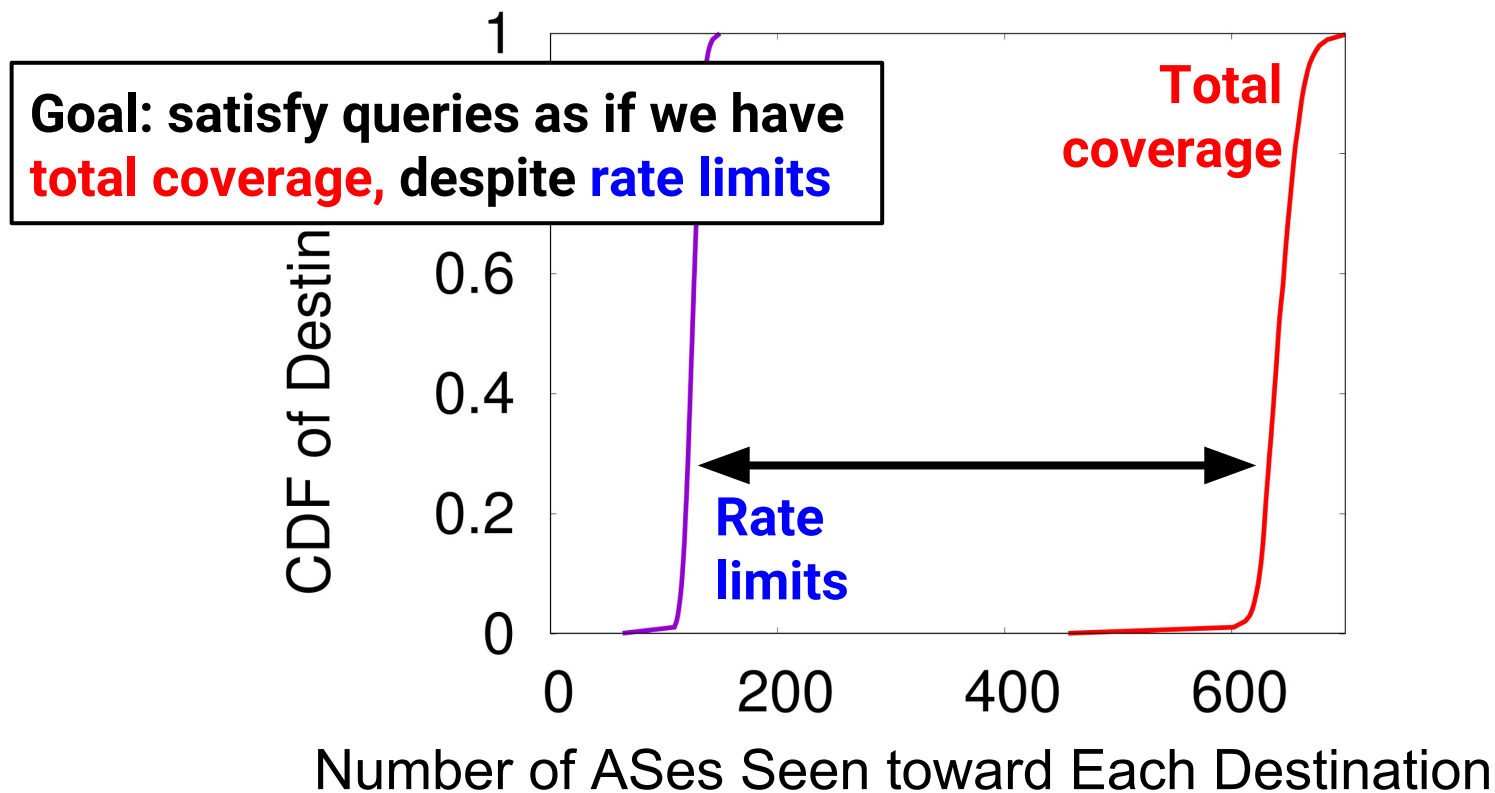
# Vantage Points Are Resource Constrained



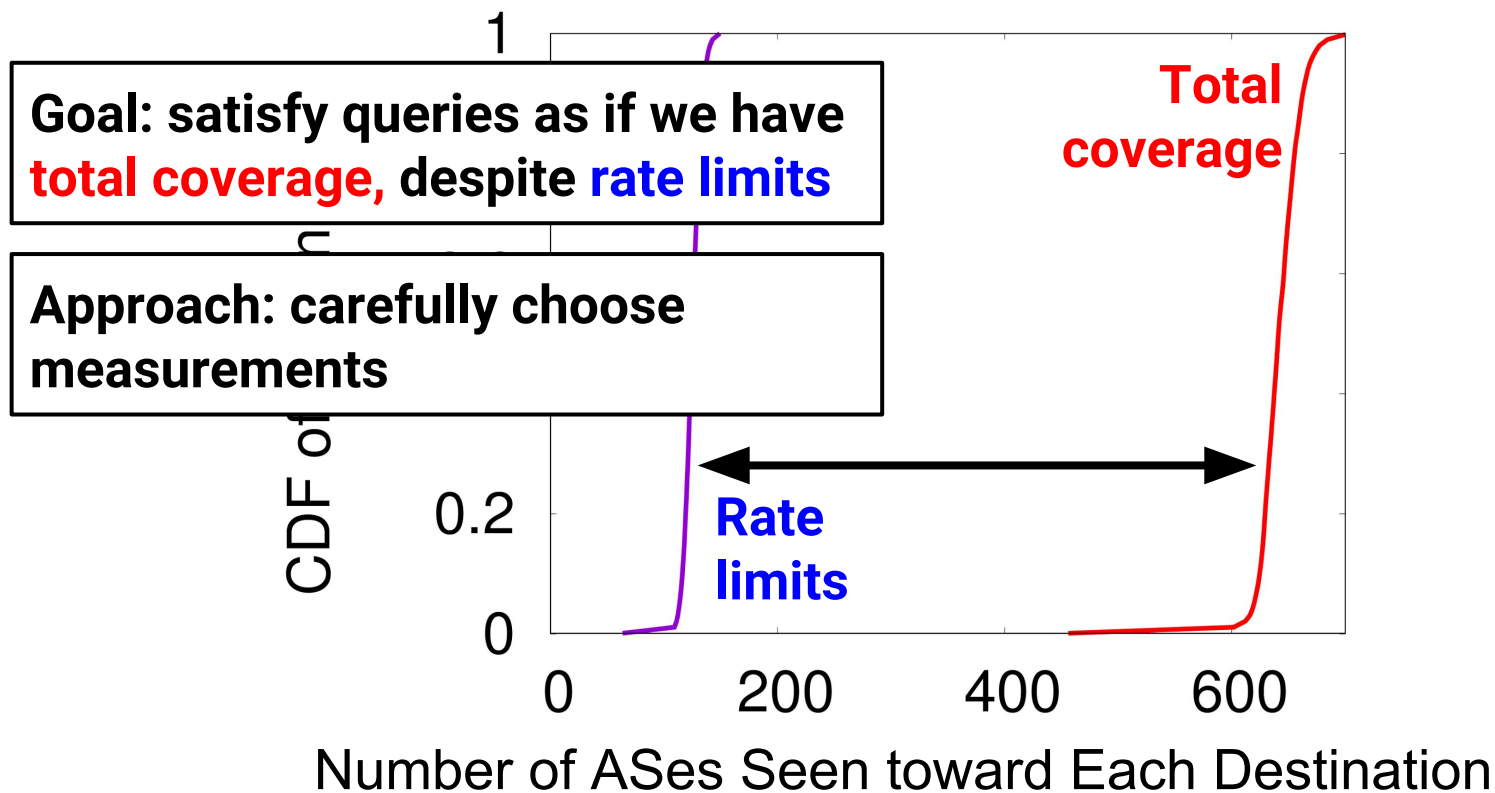
# Resource Constraints Limit Visibility



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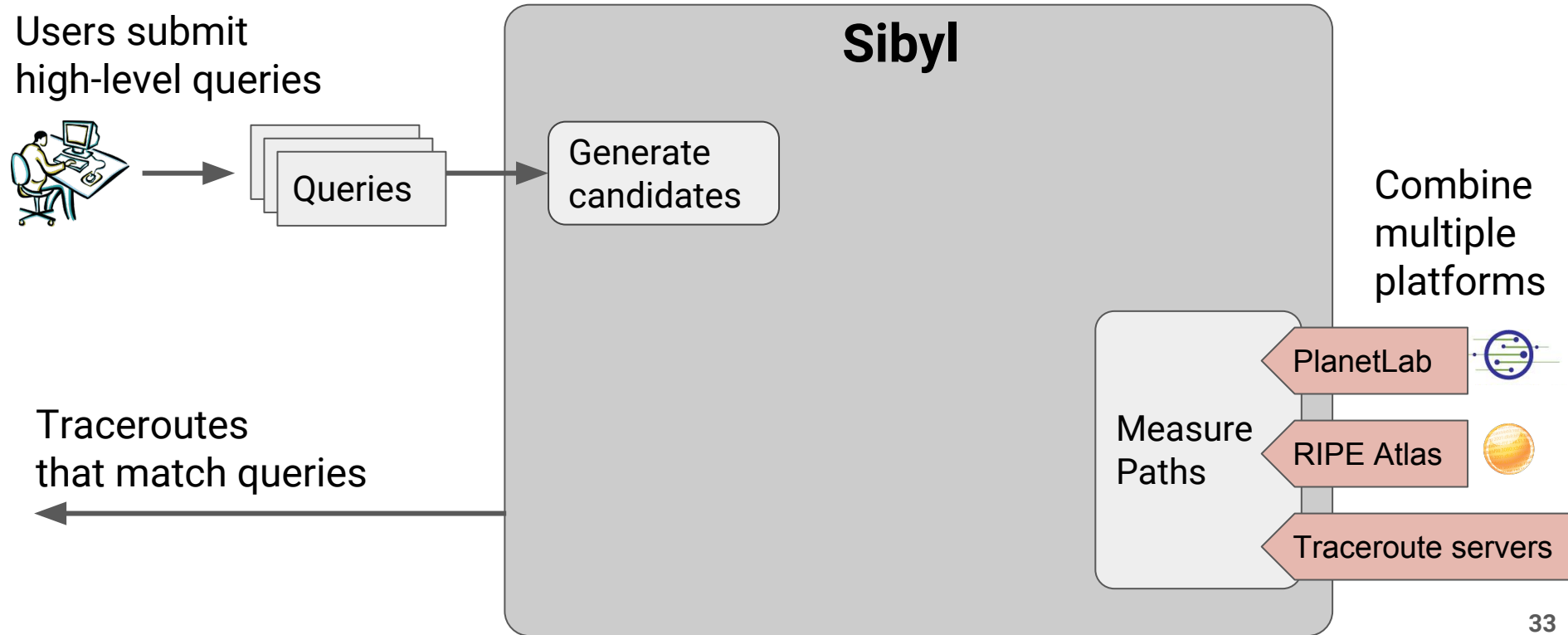


# Resource Constraints Limit Visibility





# Too many possible measurements. How do we prune the set of measurements to consider?



Vantage  
Point

Destinations

$\wedge . * A . * B . * \$$

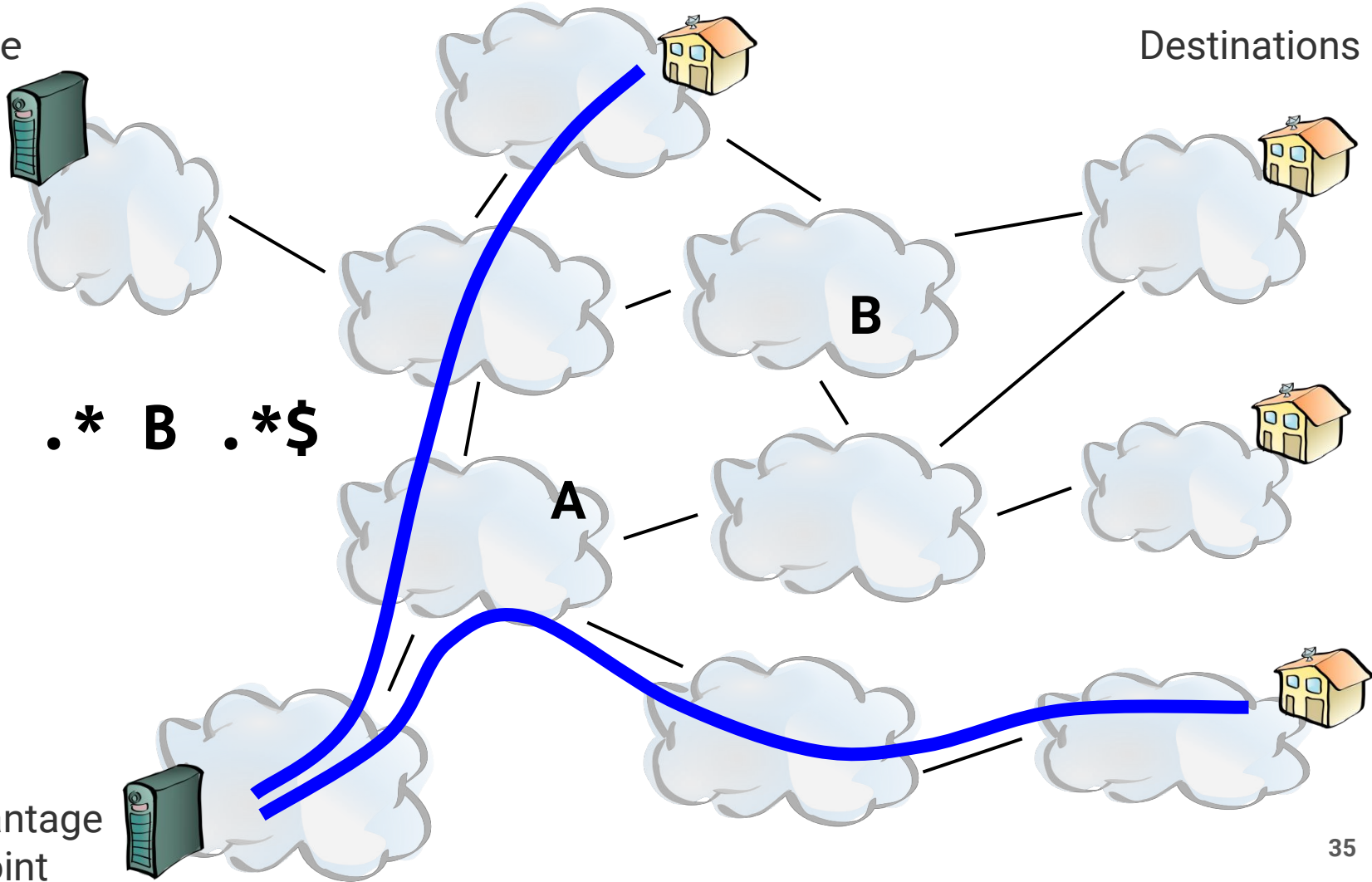
Vantage  
Point

Vantage  
Point

Destinations

$\wedge . * A . * B . * \$$

Vantage  
Point



Vantage  
Point

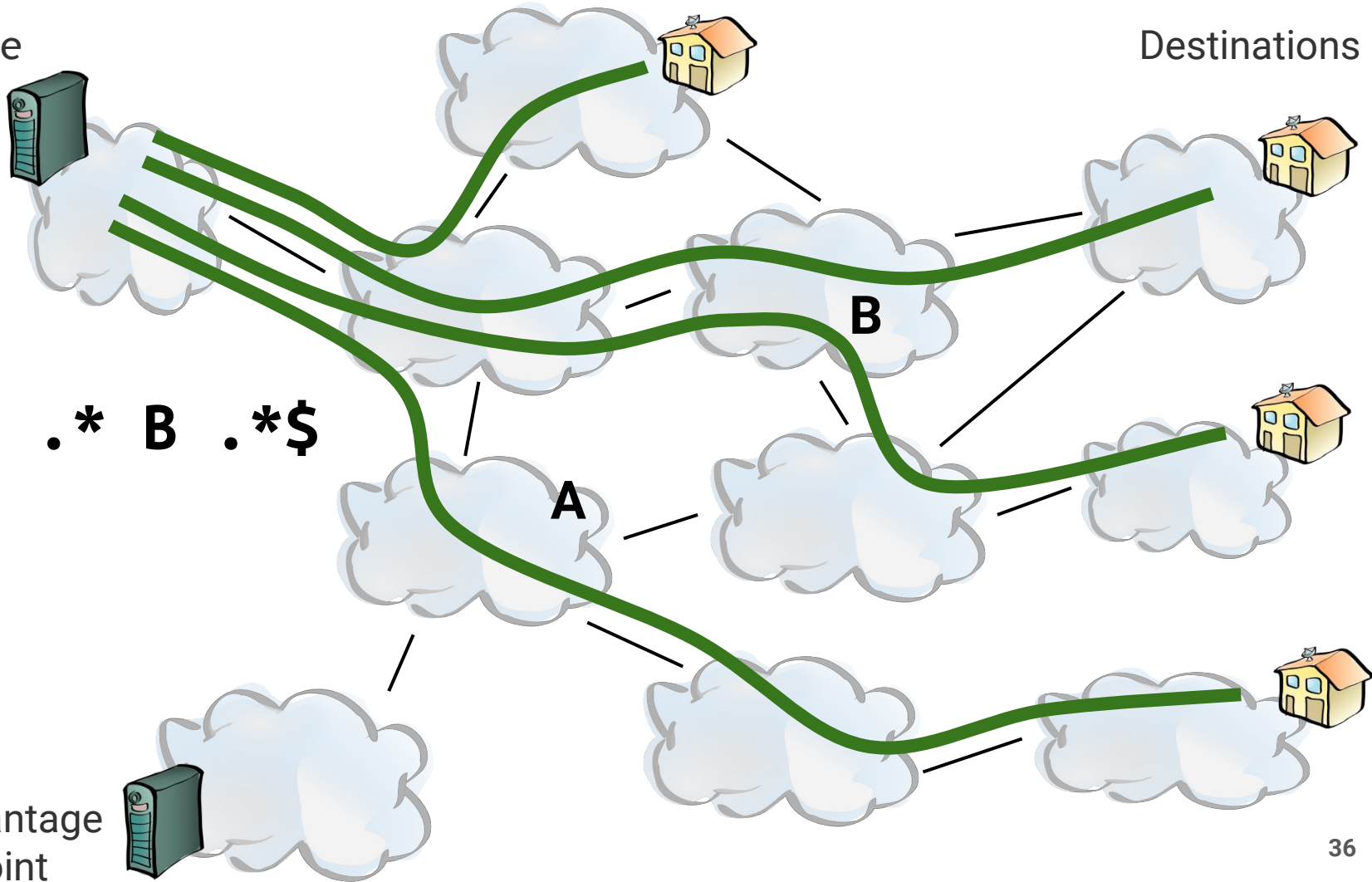
Destinations

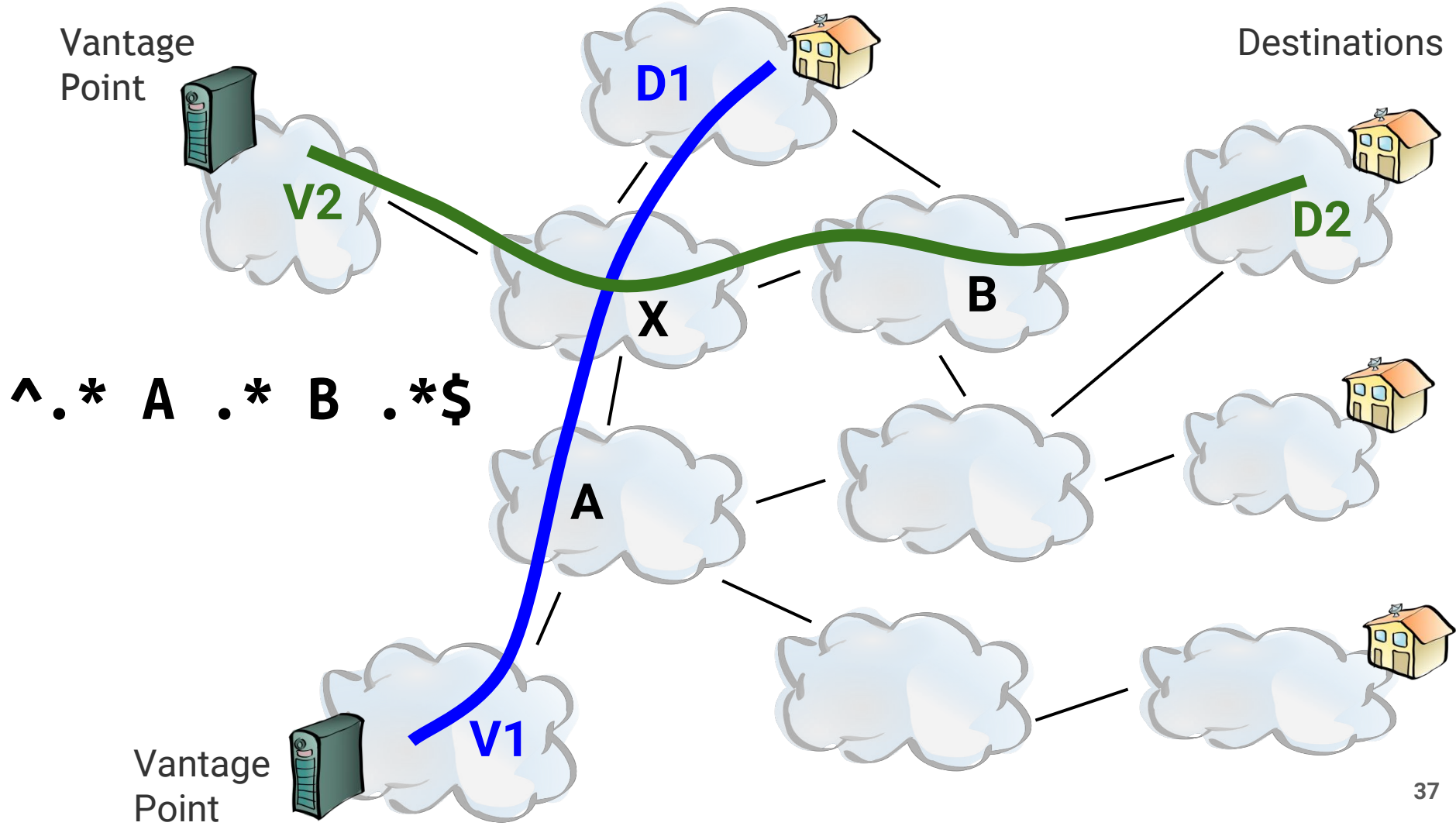
**^.\* A .\* B .\* \$**

**A**

**B**

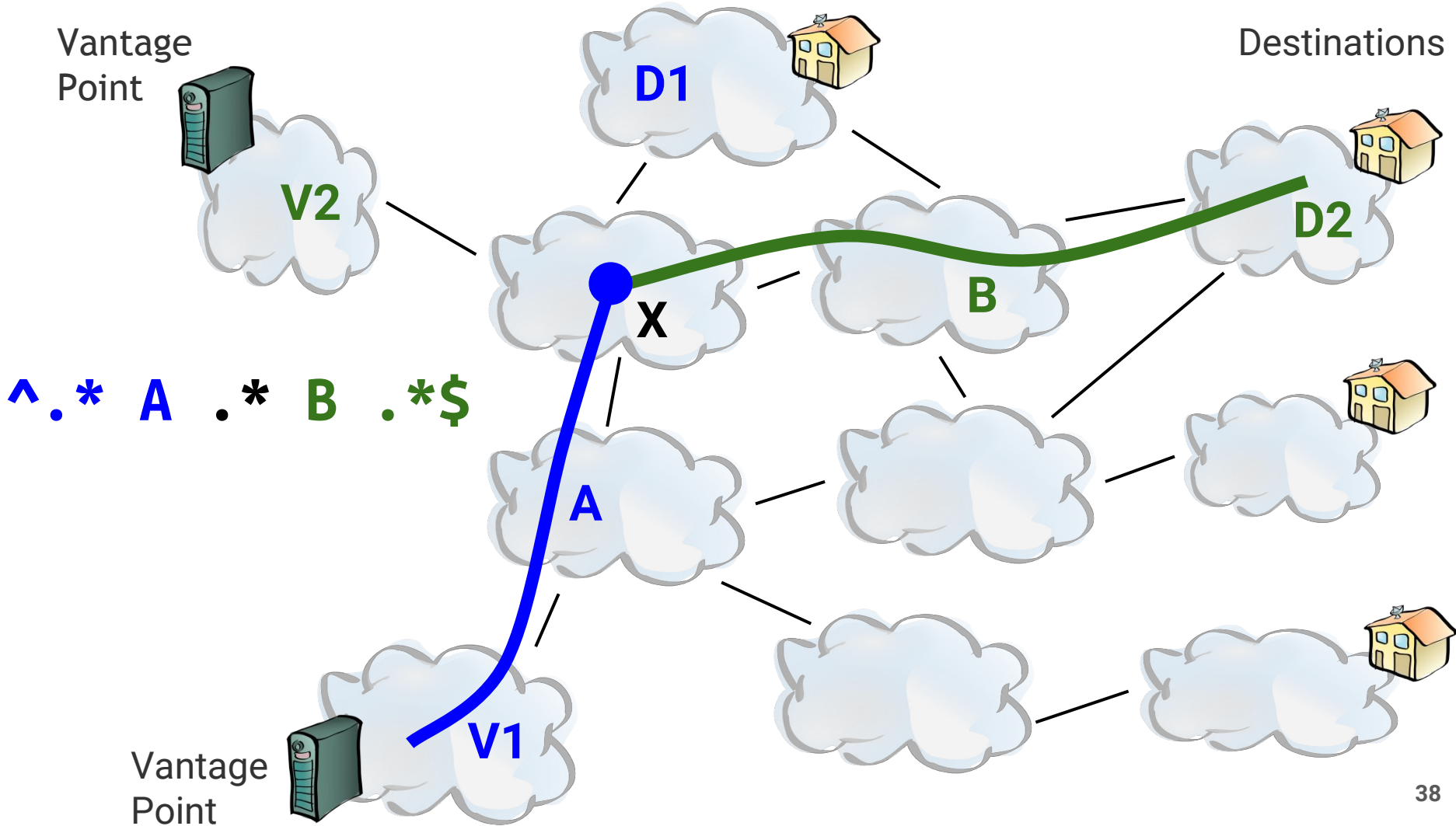
Vantage  
Point





Vantage  
Point

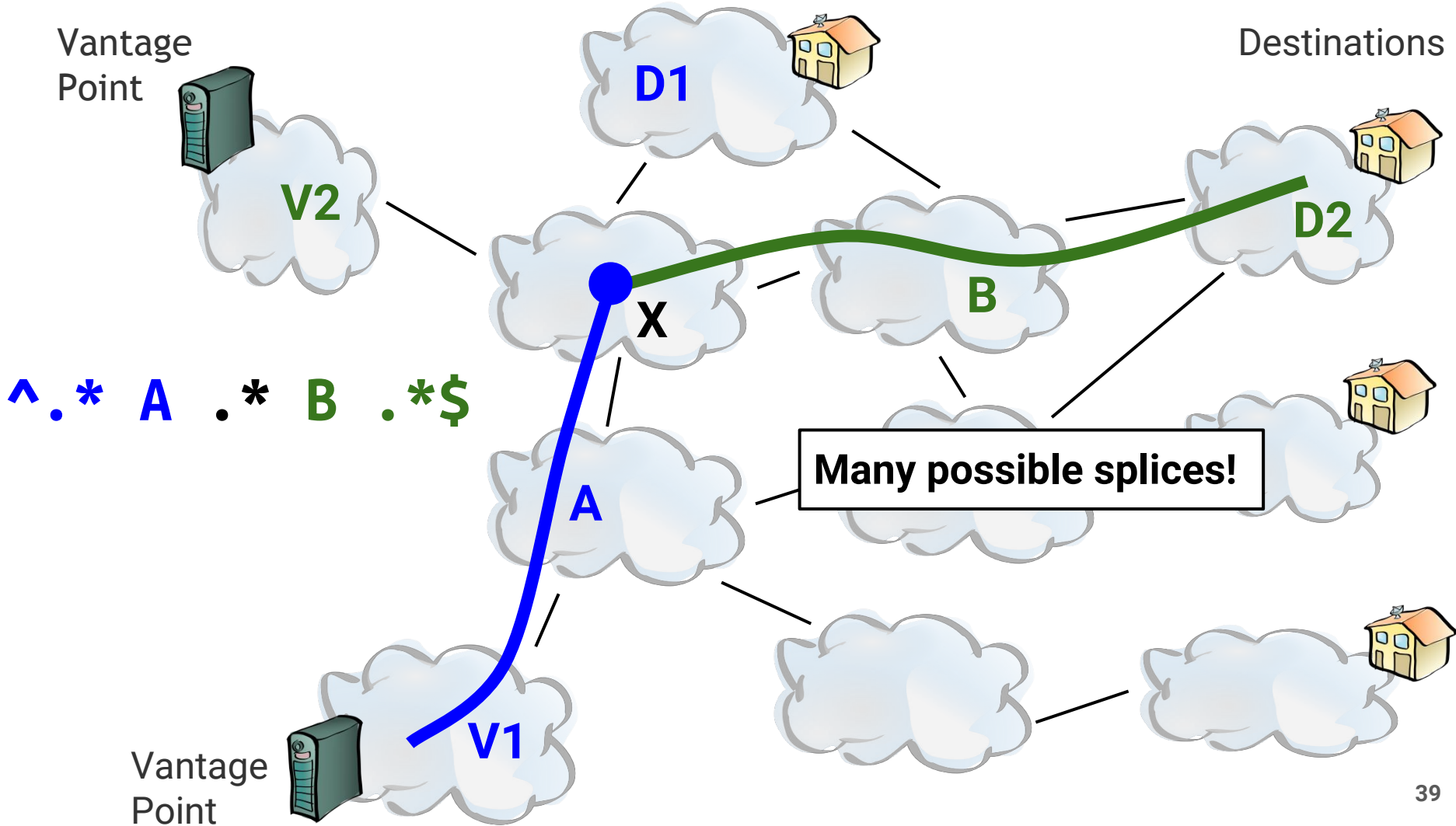
Destinations



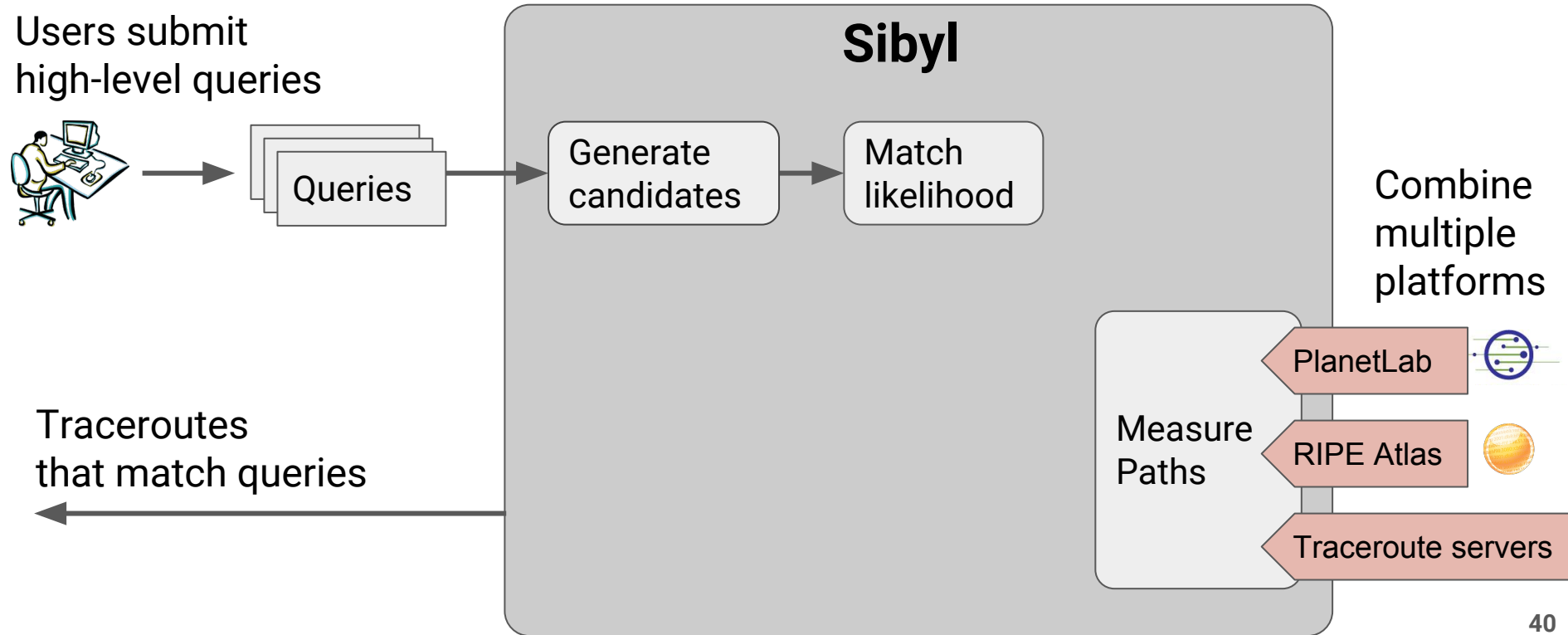


Vantage  
Point

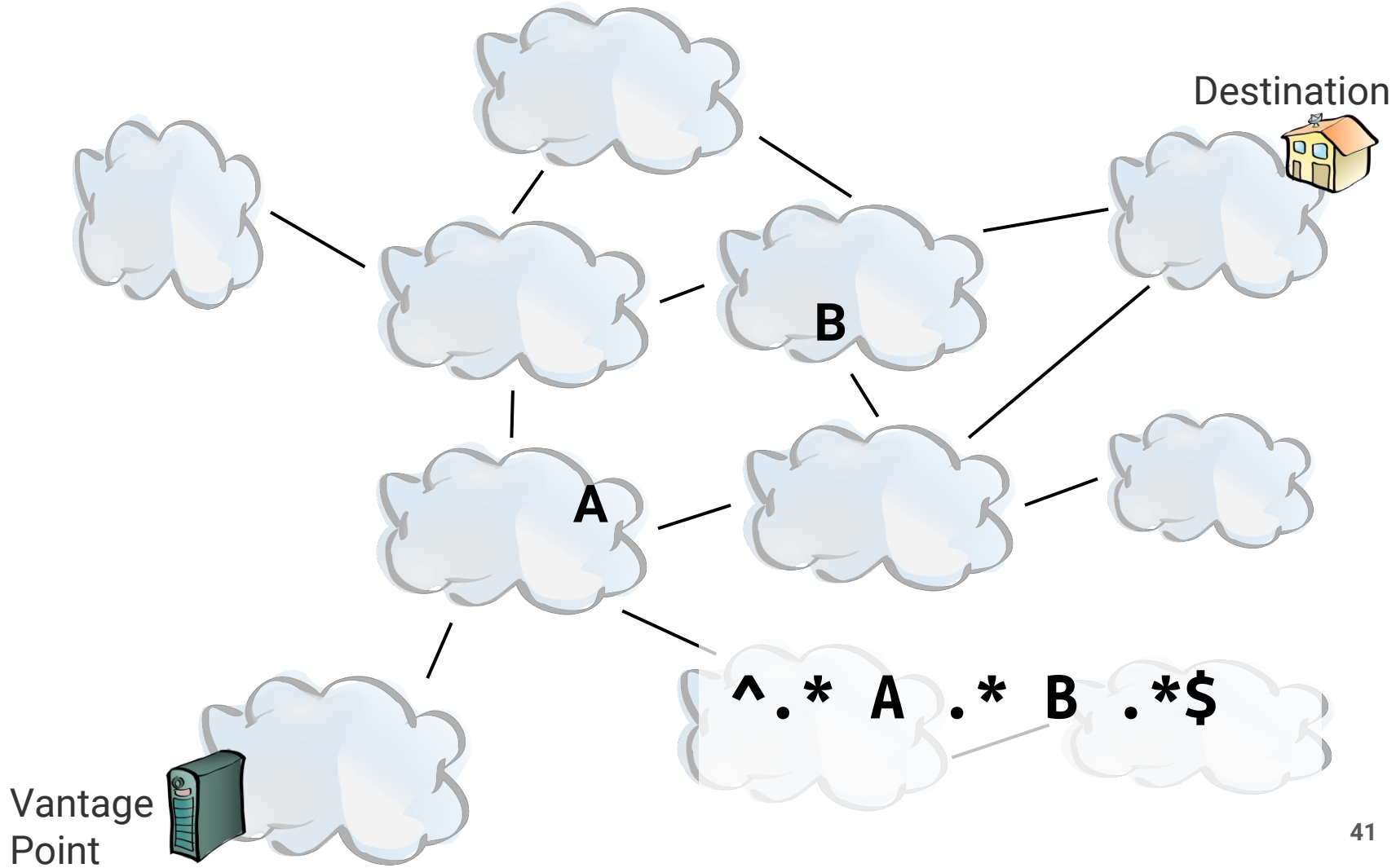
Destinations



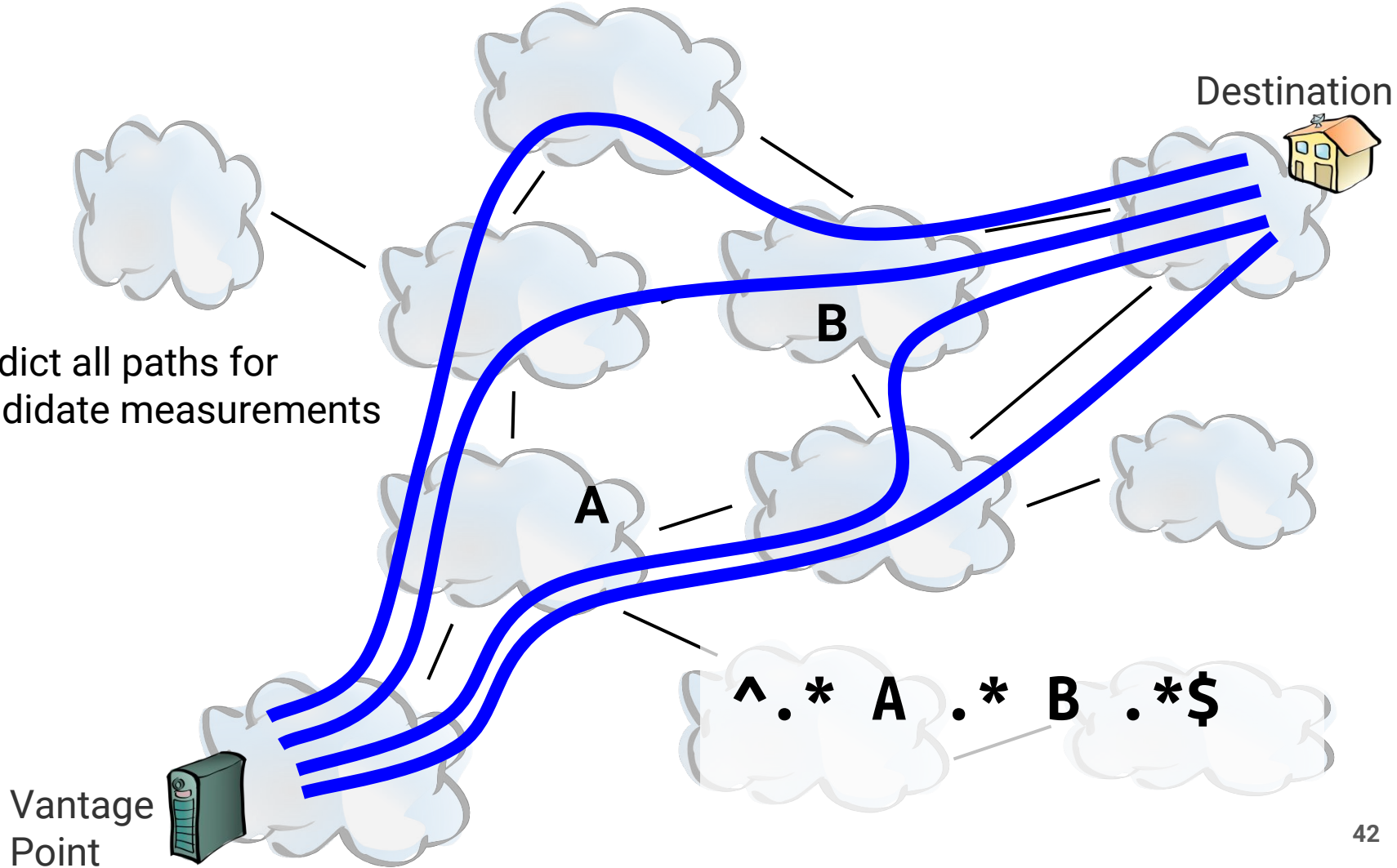
# How to estimate which candidate measurements will match queries?







1. Predict all paths for candidate measurements



Destination



5%

80%

B

5%

A

10%

^ . \* A . \* B . \* \$

1. Predict all paths for candidate measurements
2. Compute likelihood of prediction being correct

Vantage Point



# Computing Likelihood that Prediction is Correct

Input → set of predicted paths between source and destination

Output → likelihood of each prediction being correct

Approach → Compute route features and use machine learning

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Input → set of predicted paths between source and destination

Output → likelihood of each prediction being correct

Approach → Compute route features and use machine learning

- Most important features include
  - AS peering relationships
  - Route length

1. Predict all paths for candidate measurements
2. Compute likelihood of prediction being correct
3. Compute likelihood actual path matches

**90%** Vantage Point



**5%**

**80%**

**5%**

**10%**

**^ . \* A . \* B . \* \$**

Path matches query

Path doesn't match query

Destination



Vantage  
Point  
**10%**



Destination



**45%**

**45%**

**B**

**10%**

**A**

1. Predict all paths for candidate measurements
2. Compute likelihood of prediction being correct
3. Compute likelihood actual path matches

**90%**

Vantage  
Point

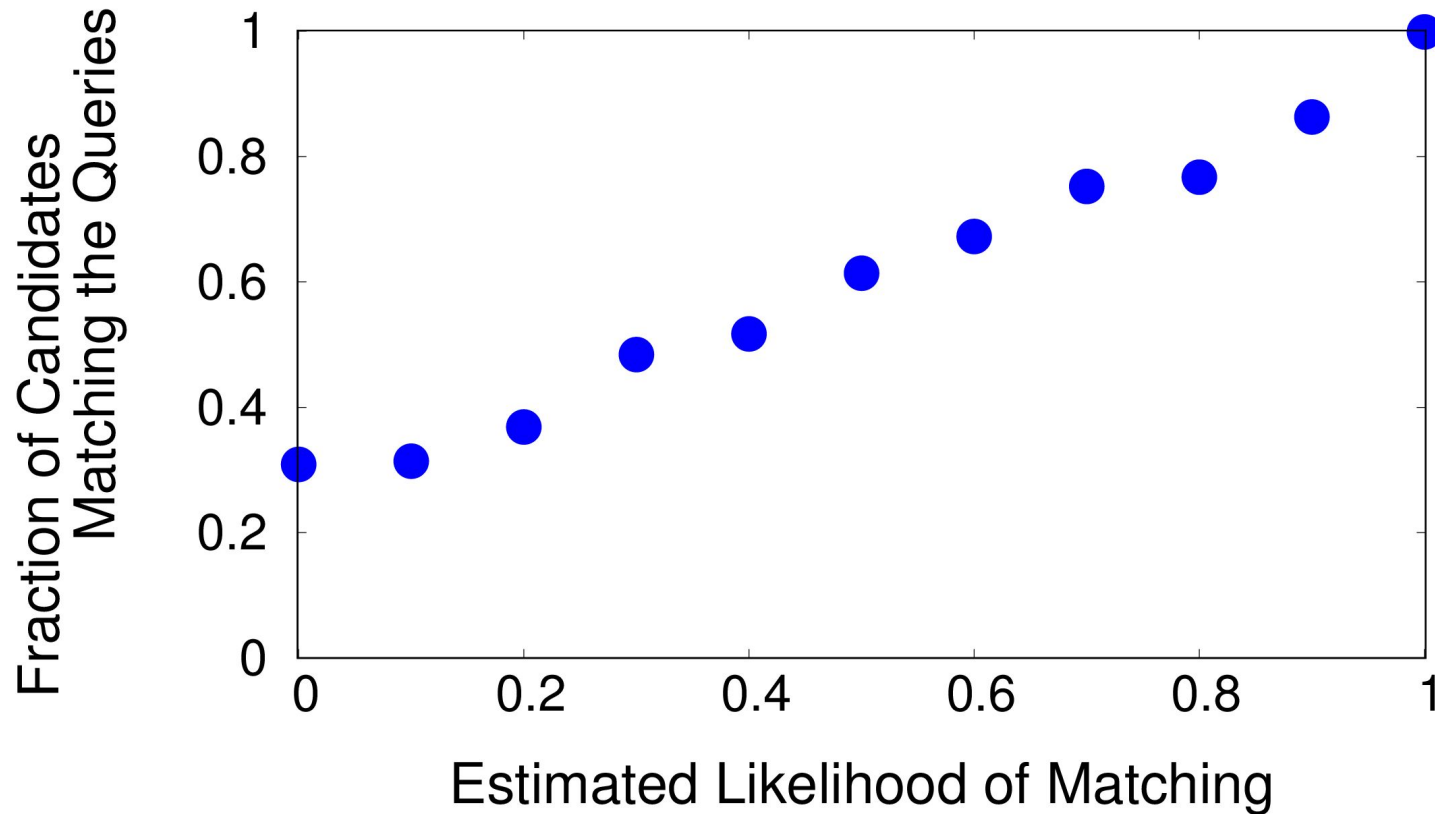


**^.\* A .\* B .\* \$**

Path matches query

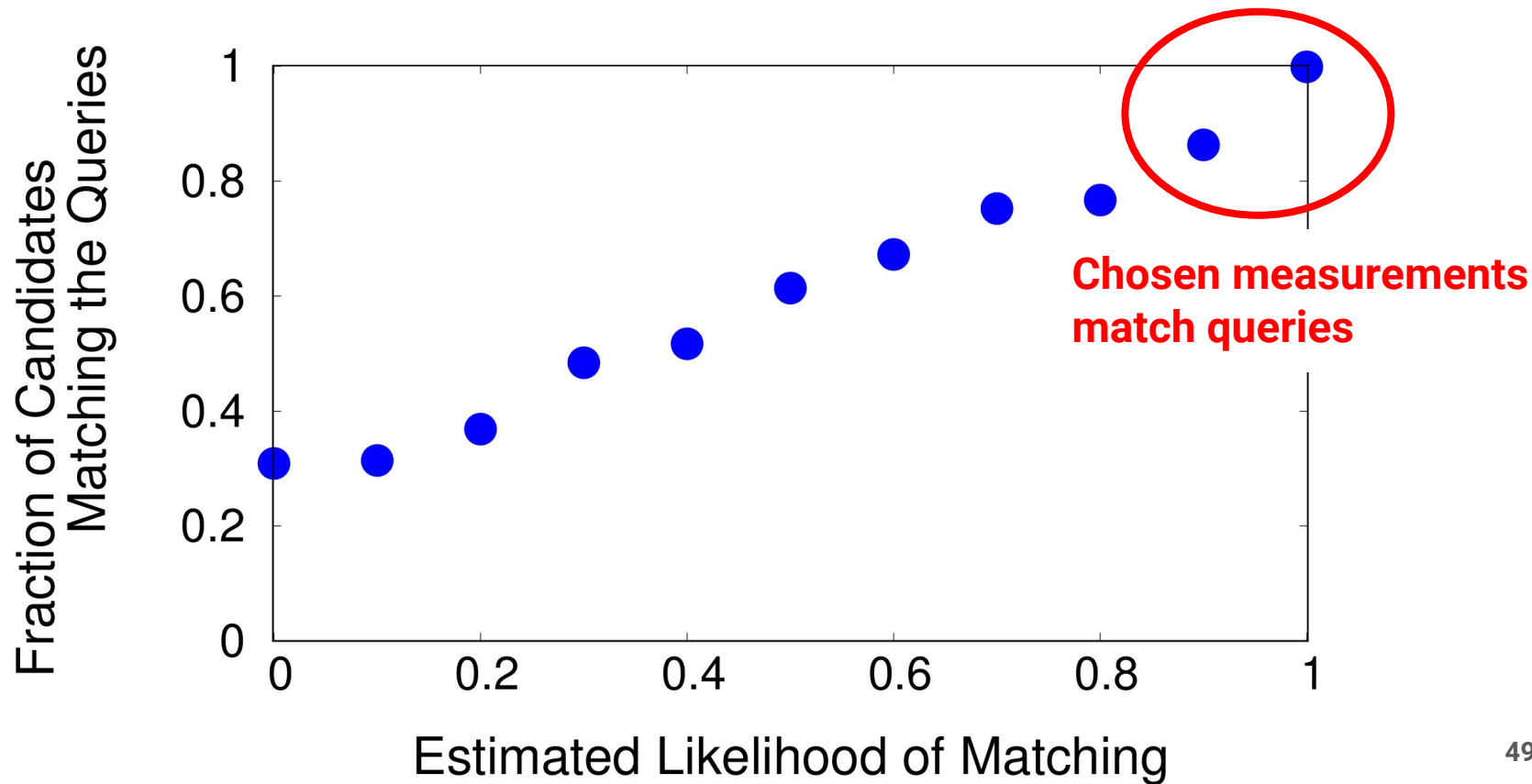
Path doesn't match query

# Match Likelihood Estimation Is Accurate





# Match Likelihood Estimation Is Accurate



Optimize budget use to maximize expected utility over all queries

Users submit high-level queries



Queries

## Sibyl

Generate candidates

Match likelihood

Optimize budget

Update topology

Measure Paths

Combine multiple platforms

PlanetLab



RIPE Atlas



Traceroute servers

Traceroutes that match queries

Optimize budget use to maximize expected utility over all queries

Users submit high-level queries



Queries

## Sibyl

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Traceroute servers

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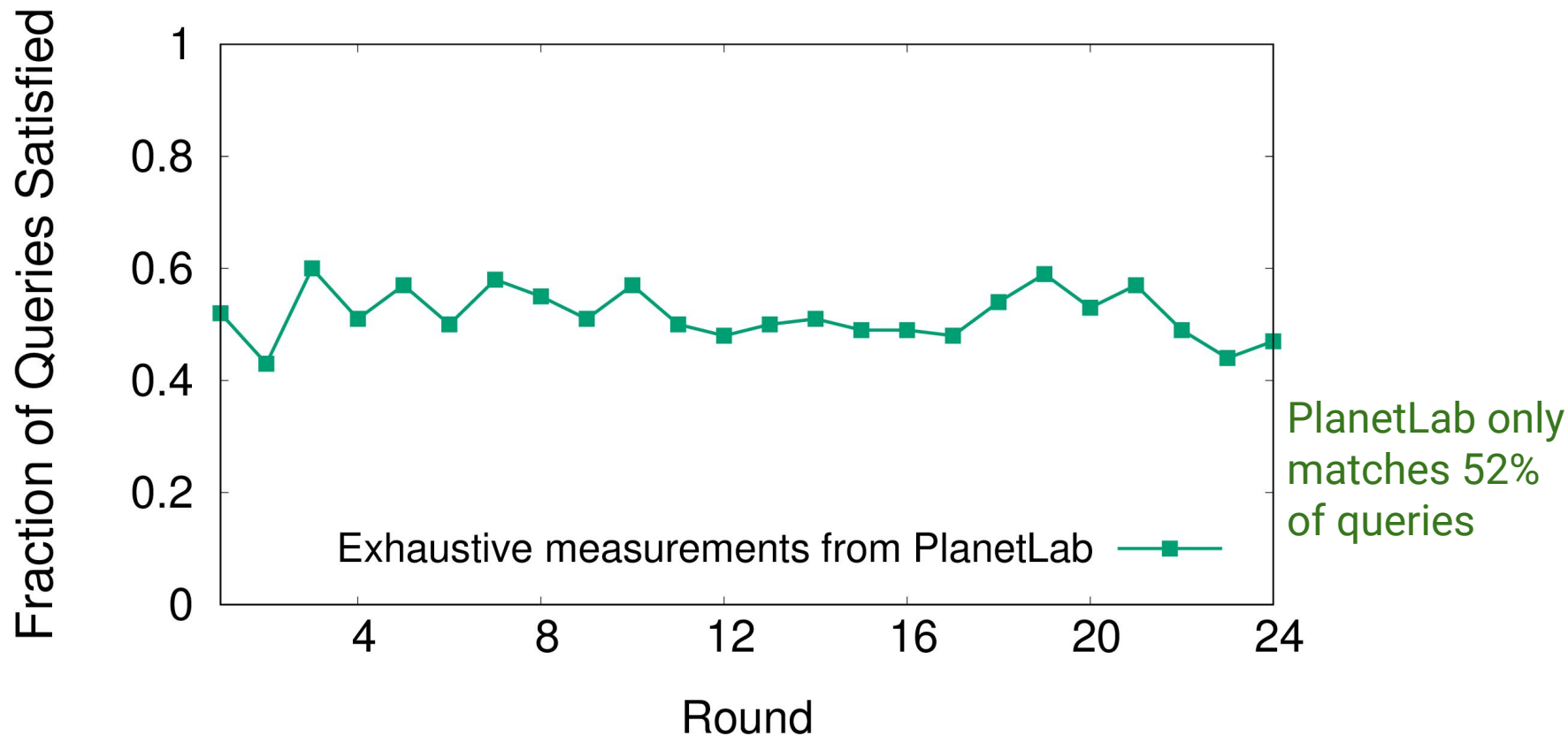
Opportunistically update knowledge base

# Evaluation

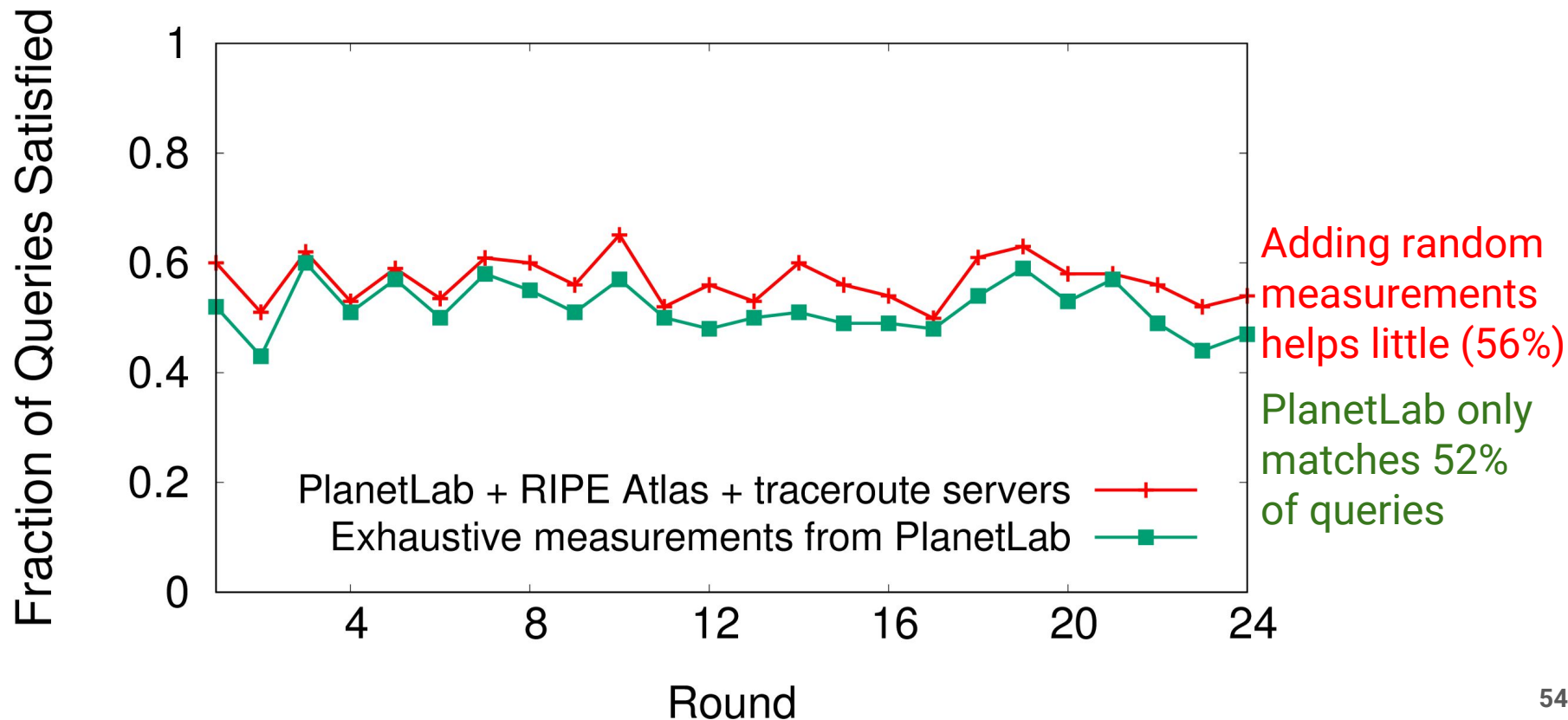
Evaluated Sibyl over multiple rounds. Each round:

- System has fixed, limited probing budget to allocate
- Generate random (but satisfiable) queries
- Evaluate the fraction of queries Sibyl can satisfy

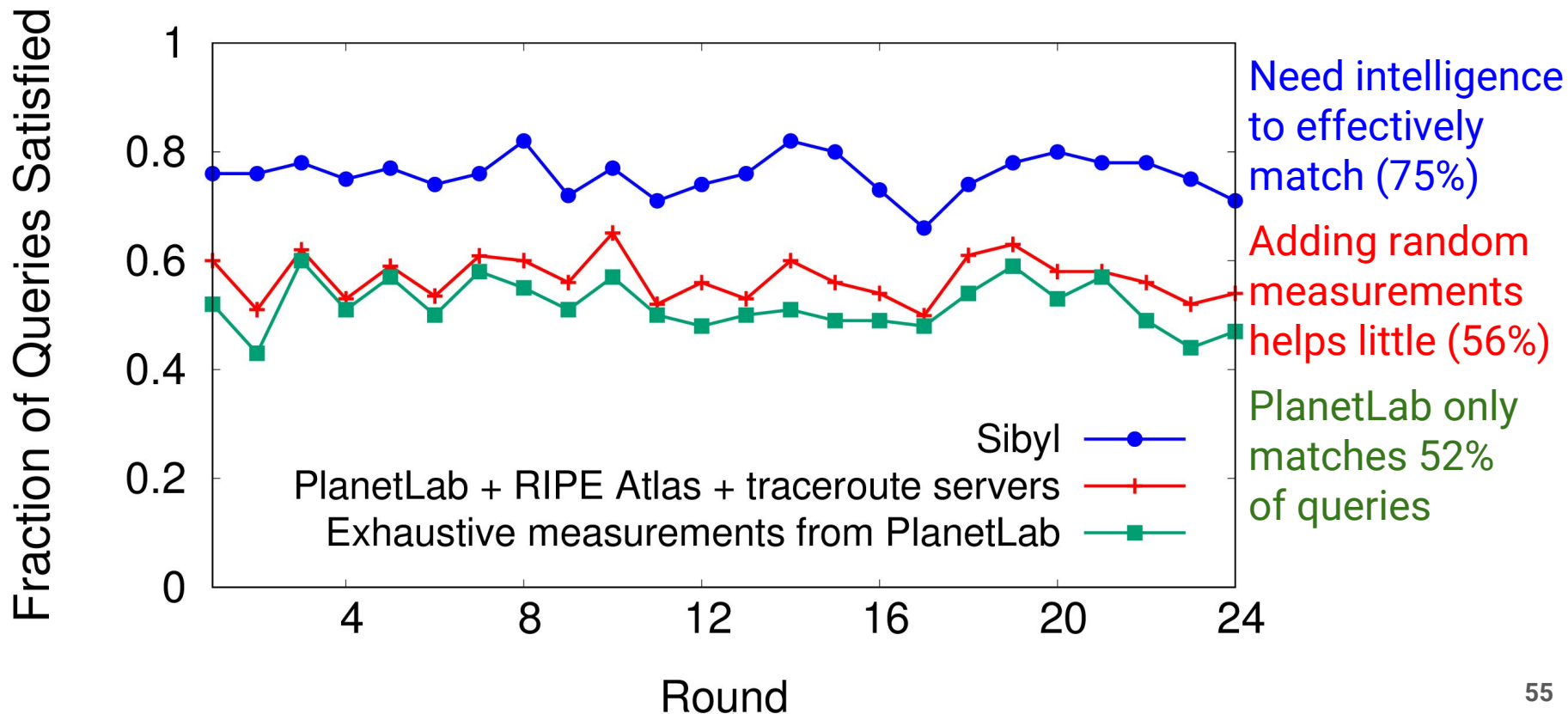
# How Accurate Is Sibyl?



# How Accurate Is Sibyl?



# How Accurate Is Sibyl?



# Conclusions

- Supports high-level queries over Internet routes
- Combines platforms to improve coverage and budget
- Smartly chooses which measurements to issue
  - Overcome probing budget constraints



# Future Work

- Improve path prediction and likelihood estimation
- Long-term budget allocation
  - Balance satisfying current queries vs benefit to serve future queries
  - Adapt probing rate as a function of query load
- Unify queries over historical and live data
  - “Give me paths that looked like X but now look like Y”

# Query Language

# We Have Complex Monitoring Systems

iSpy: diverse routes to a given prefix?

Reverse traceroute: routes through Level3 to monitoring node?

RocketFuel: routes through Verizon between Chicago and LA?

# Regular Expressions Support Existing Systems

iSpy: diverse routes to a given prefix?

`^ {.*} 184.164.224.0/19 $ by AS`

Reverse traceroute: routes through Level3 to monitoring node?

`^ .* Level3 .* USC $`

RocketFuel: route through Verizon between Chicago and LA?

`^ .* Verizon&Chicago .* Verizon&LA .* $`

# Internal Representation of Regular Expressions

Paths that go through Sprint's Chicago PoP on the way to Brazil:

$^.*S.*U\$$  where  $S := \text{Sprint\&Chicago}$

$U := \text{USC}$

From NANOG: Problem between Level3 in LA and GTT in Seattle:

$^.*L.*G.*\$$  where  $L := \text{Level3\&LA}$

$G := \text{GTT\&Seattle}$

# Utility Optimization

# Maximize Global Utility

let  $T = \bigcup_{p \in P} T_p$     The union of the set of traceroutes  
chosen from each platform

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$\max_T \quad U(T)$     Choose the set of traceroutes that  
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let  $T = \bigcup_{p \in P} T_p$     The union of the set of traceroutes chosen from each platform

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let  $T = \bigcup_{p \in P} T_p$     The union of the set of traceroutes chosen from each platform

$\max_T \sum_{q \in Q} U_q(T)$     Choose the set of traceroutes that maximizes utility over all queries

subject to  $|T_p| \leq B_p \ \forall p \in P$     Subject to budget constraints of each platform

# Utility functions

Existence queries  $\rightarrow$  find one path that matches a query

$$\mathbb{E} [f_q(T)] = 1 - \prod_{t \in T} [1 - \mathbb{P}(t \in q)]$$

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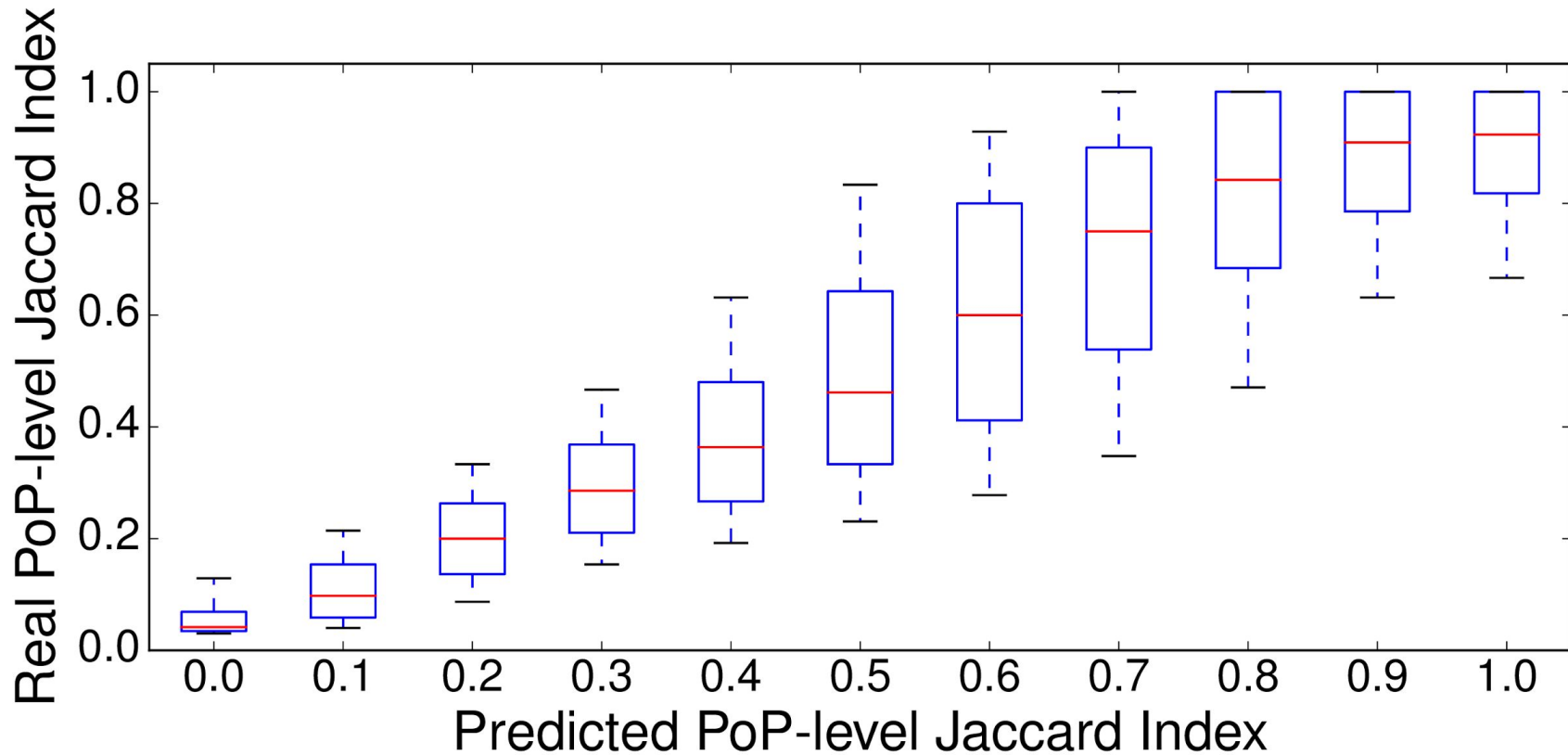
$$\mathbb{E} [f_q(T)] = \sum_h \left\{ 1 - \prod_{t \in T} [1 - \mathbb{P}(t \in q \wedge h \in t)] \right\}$$

# RuleFit and Likelihood Estimation

# Most Important Features

SPLICED PATH FEATURE	IMPORTANCE
1. PoP-level similarity with the other paths	1
2. PoP-level path length inflation vs iPlane's top-ranked path	.90
3. Total number of PoP splice points	.60
4. Total number of AS splice points	.55
5. AS splice point type	.52
6. AS splice point relationship with neighbors	.49
7. Number of PoPs in iPlane's top-ranked path	.44
Other features	$\leq .34$

# RuleFit Jaccard Index Predictions Correlate

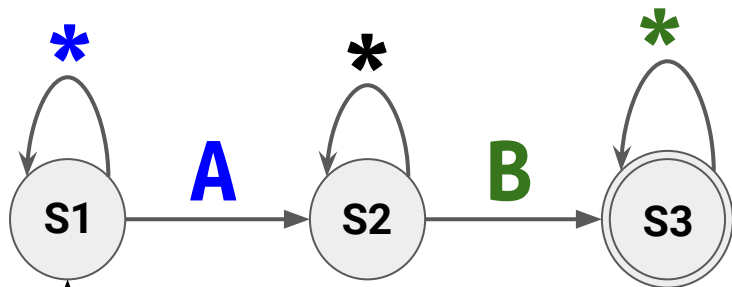




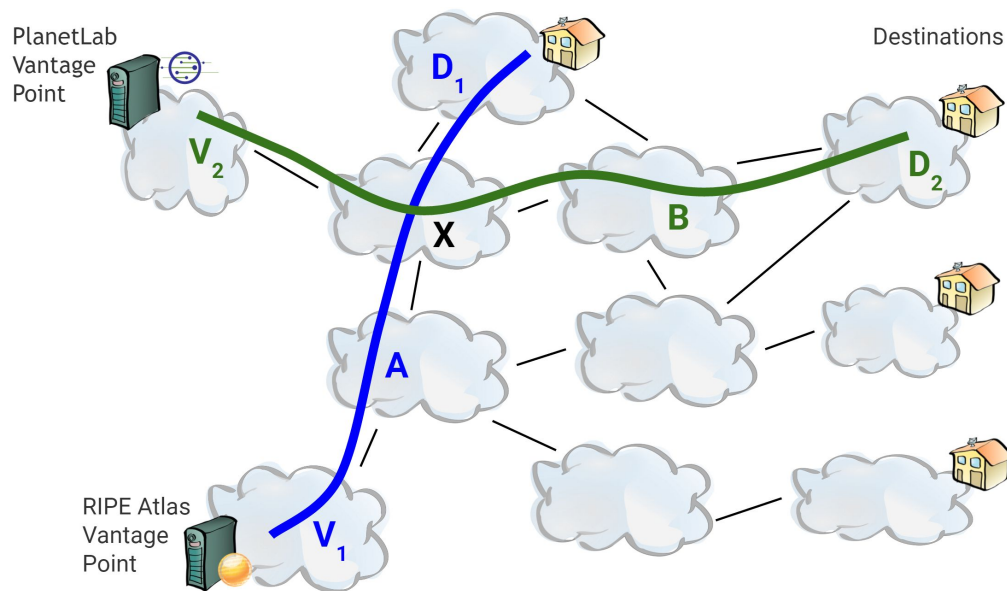
# SFSA Splicing

# Query FSA Splicing to Generate Candidates

$\wedge$   $\cdot$   $*$     $A$     $\cdot$   $*$     $B$     $\cdot$   $*$   $\$$

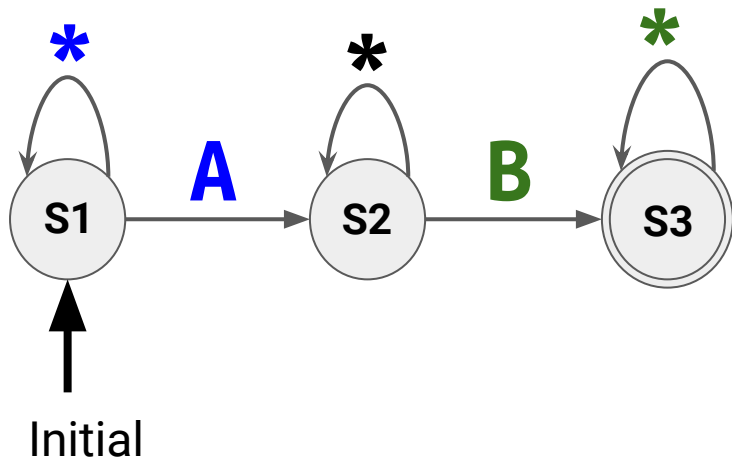


Initial



# Query FSA Splicing to Generate Candidates

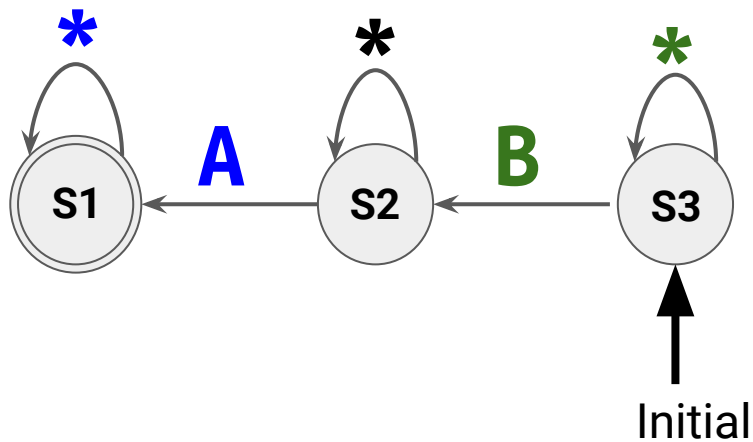
^.\* A .\* B .\*\$



Hop	Transition	Hop	Transition
<b>V1</b>		<b>V2</b>	
<b>A</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>X</b>		<b>B</b>	
<b>D1</b>		<b>D2</b>	

# Query FSA Splicing to Generate Candidates

^ . \* A . \* B . \* \$



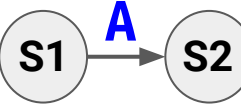


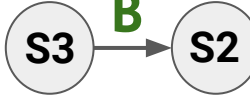




Hop	Transition	Hop	Transition
V1		V2	
A		X	
X		B	
D1		D2	

# Query FSA Splicing to Generate Candidates

^ . \* A . \* B . \* \$

V1 A **X** B D2

Hop	Transition	Hop	Transition
V1		V2	
A		X	
X		B	
D1		D2	

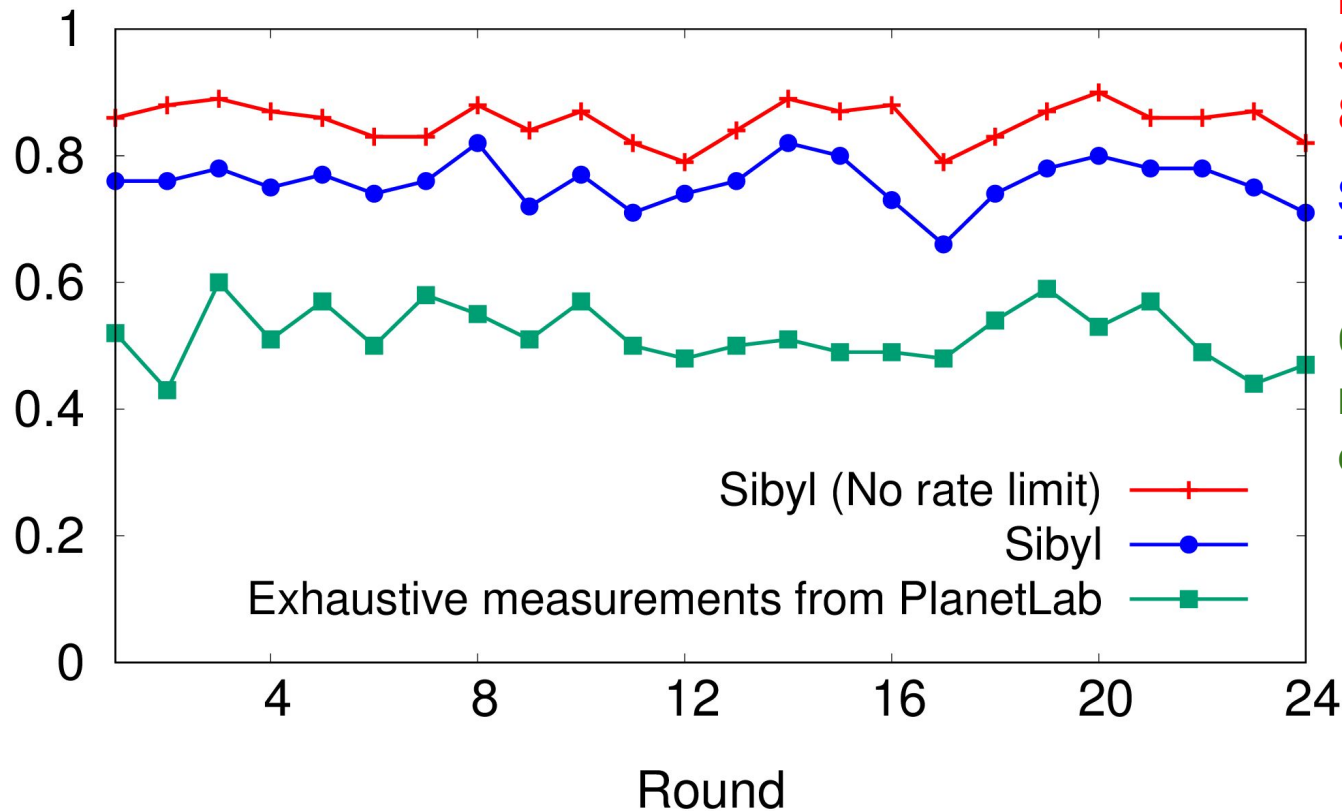
# Evaluation

# Queries Types Used in Evaluation

- Traverse AS toward destination
  - $\wedge .^* A .^* B \$$
  - $\wedge [^*A]^+ A^+ .^* B \$$
- Traverse link toward destination
  - $\wedge .^* A B .^* D \$$
- Traverse three different locations in sequence
  - $\wedge .^* A .^* B .^* C .^* \$$

# How Much Better Can We Do?

Fraction of Queries Satisfied



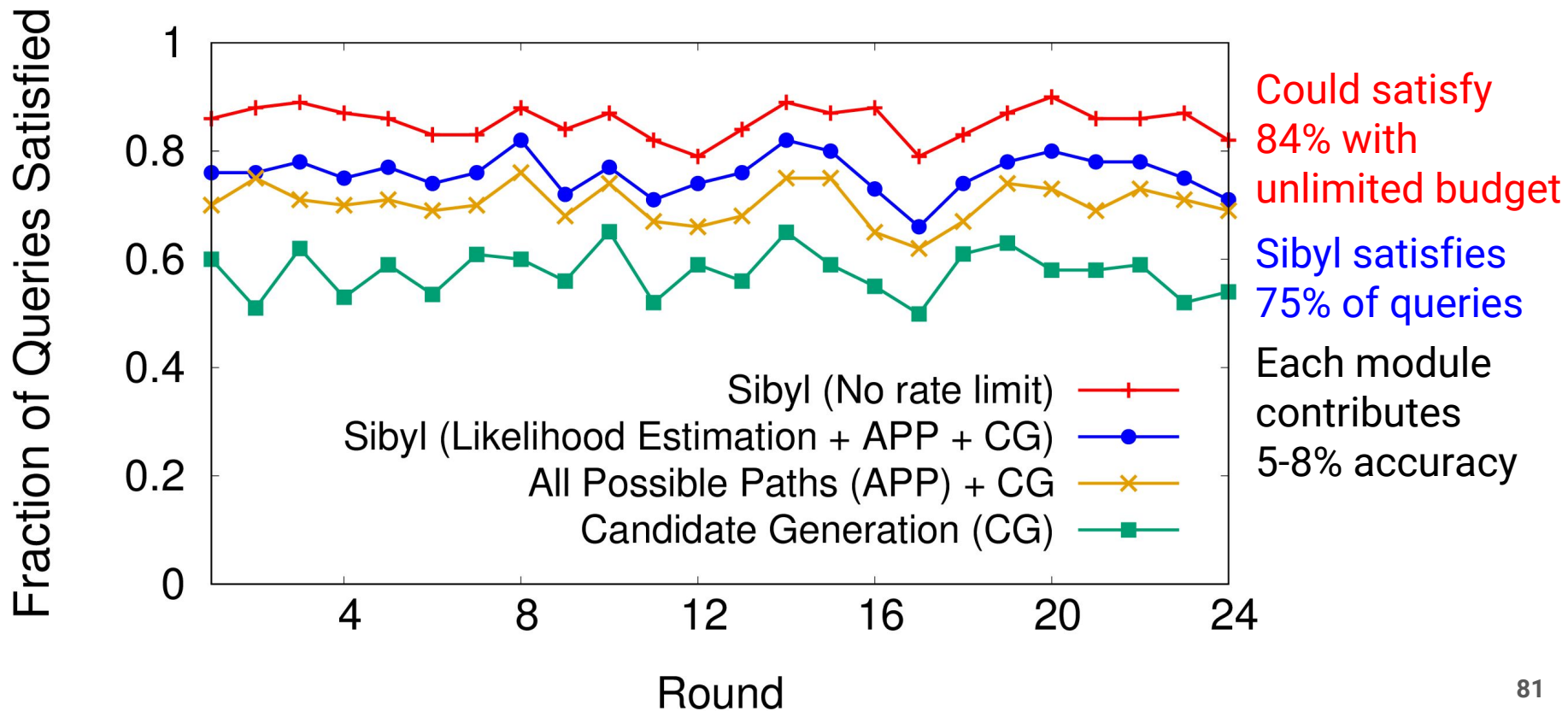
Unlimited  
budget would  
Sibyl to match  
88% of queries

Sibyl matches  
75% of queries

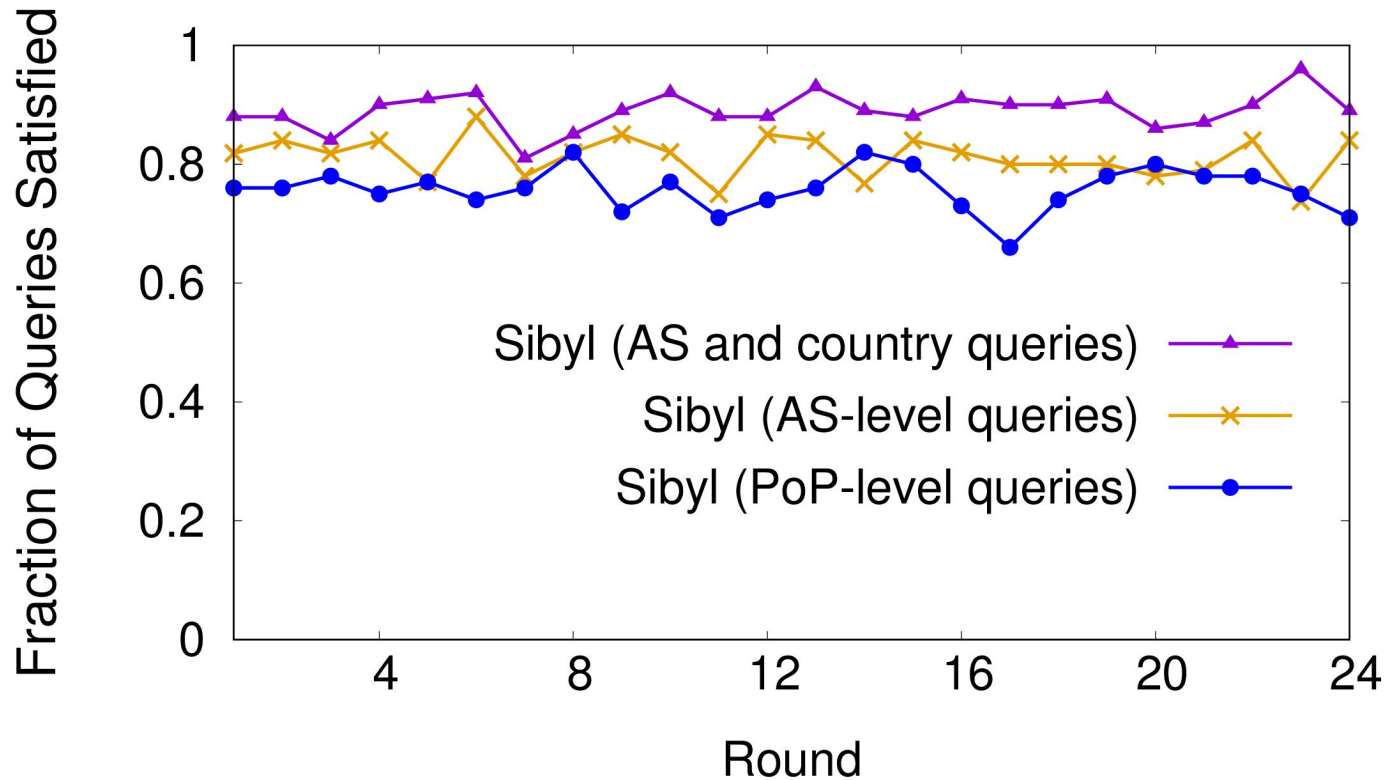
Current approach  
matches 52%  
of queries



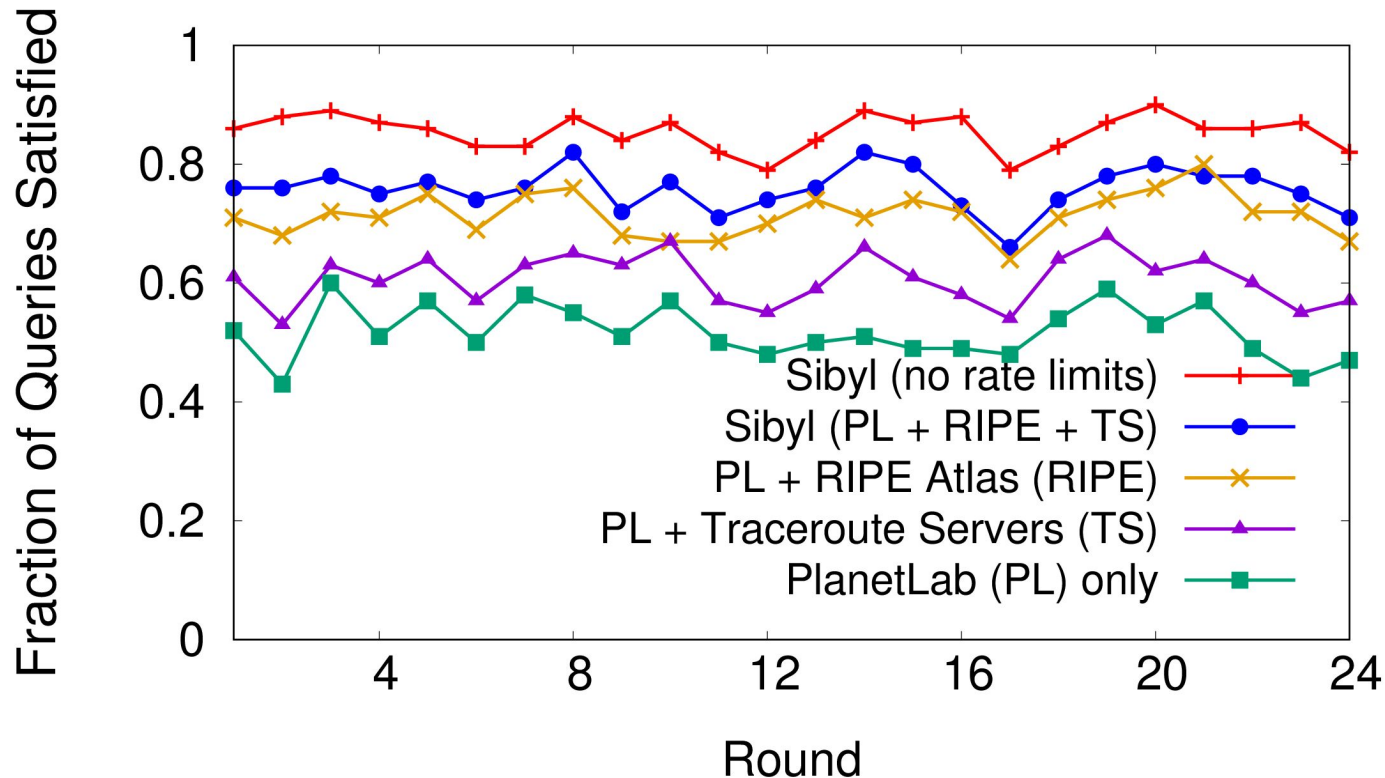
# How Much Does Each Module Contribute



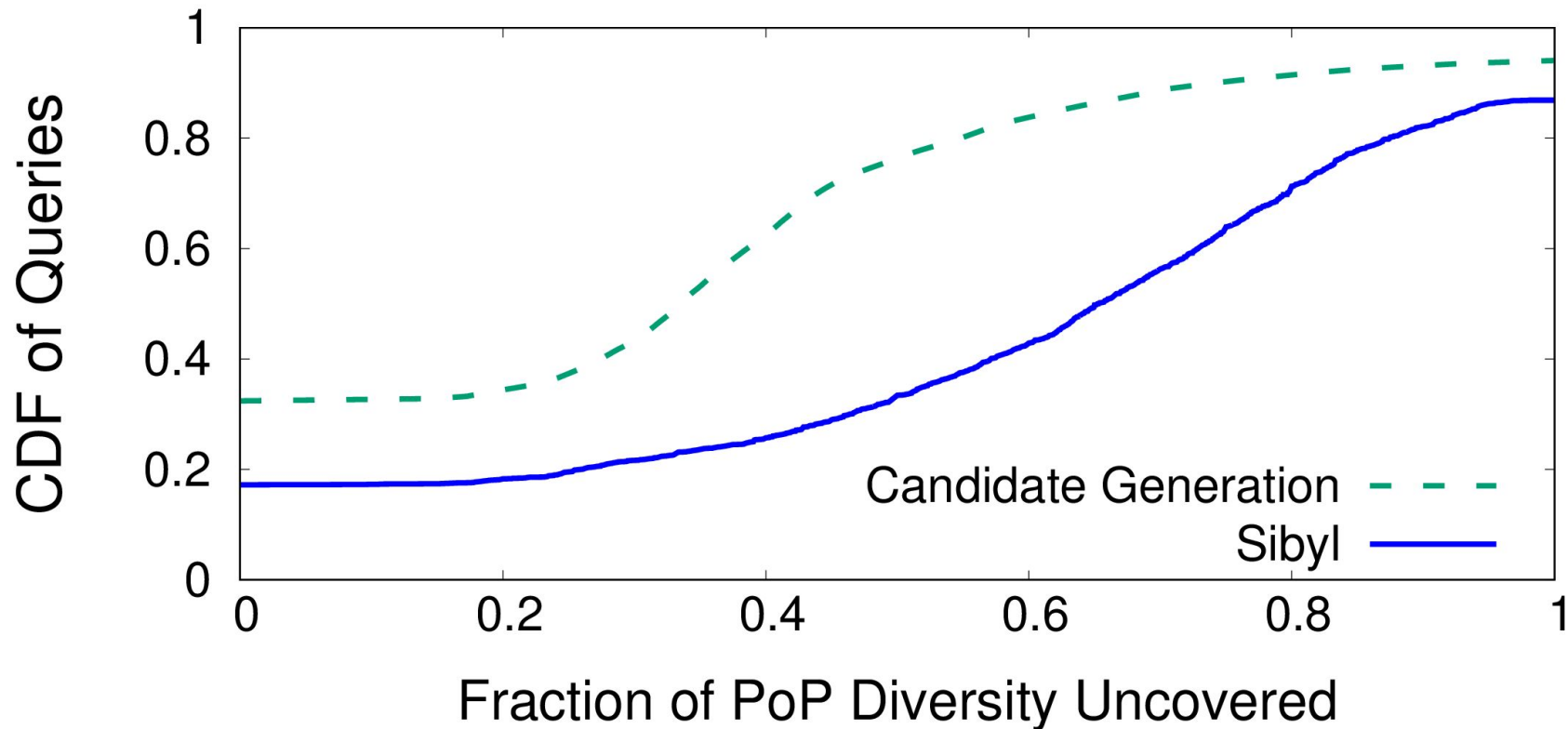
# Sibyl Is Effective at Different Granularities



# Combining Platforms Helps Satisfy More Queries



# Sibyl Uncovers More Path Diversity



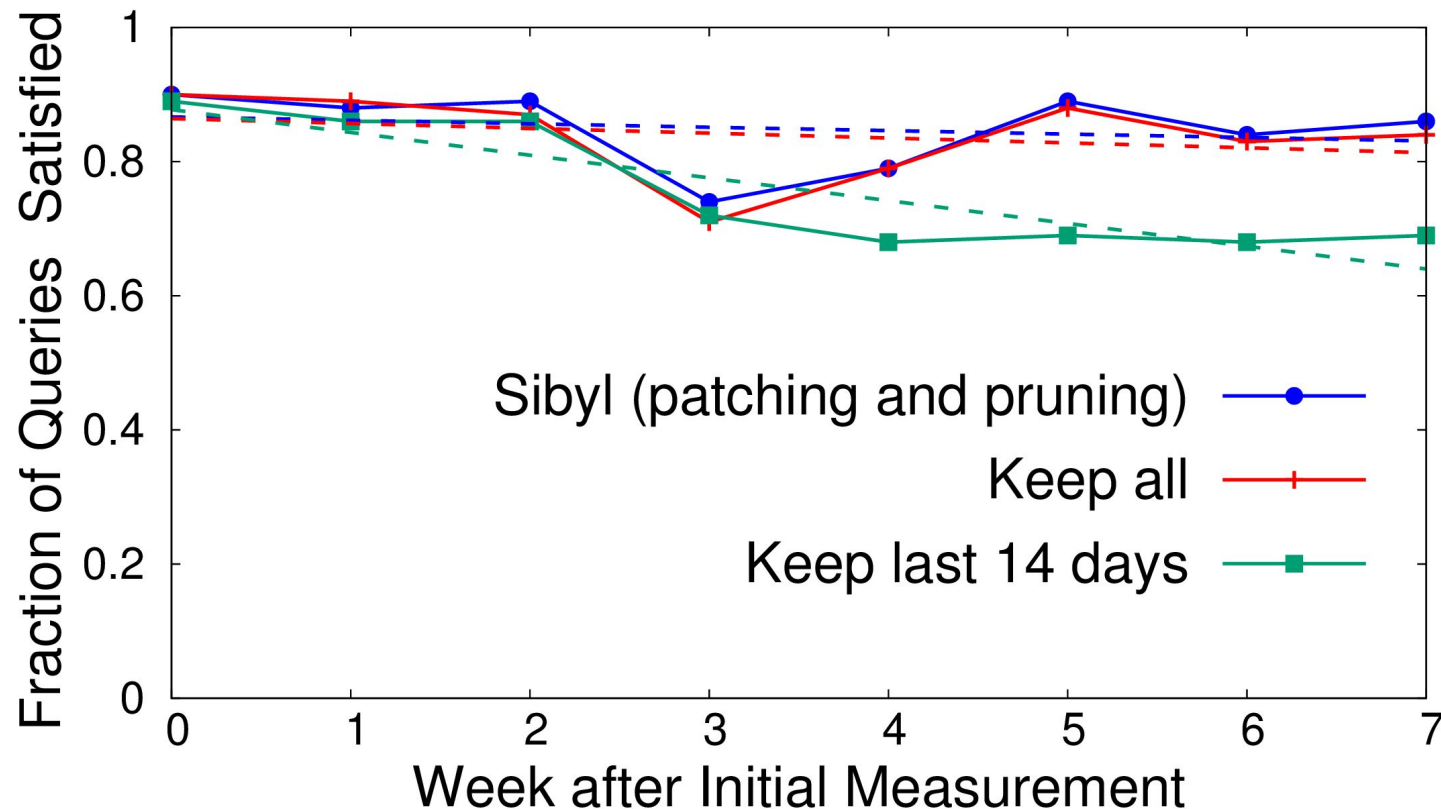
# Staleness

# Patching and Pruning Stale Measurements

New measurements may detect path changes

- Whenever we detect a change toward a destination, update all paths to that destination that overlap
- Whenever we detect a path change from a source, update all paths from that source that overlap

# Staleness Has Small Impact



# Path Change Properties



# Uphill Path Changes Are Less Likely

