



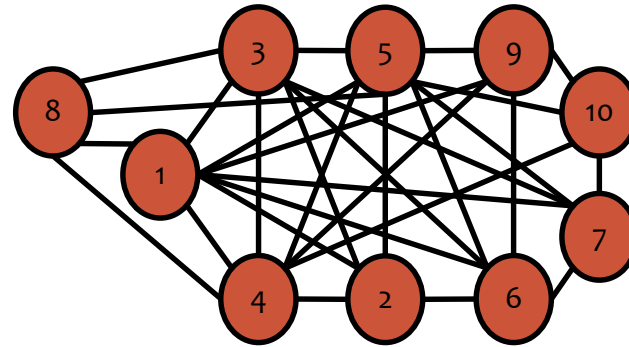
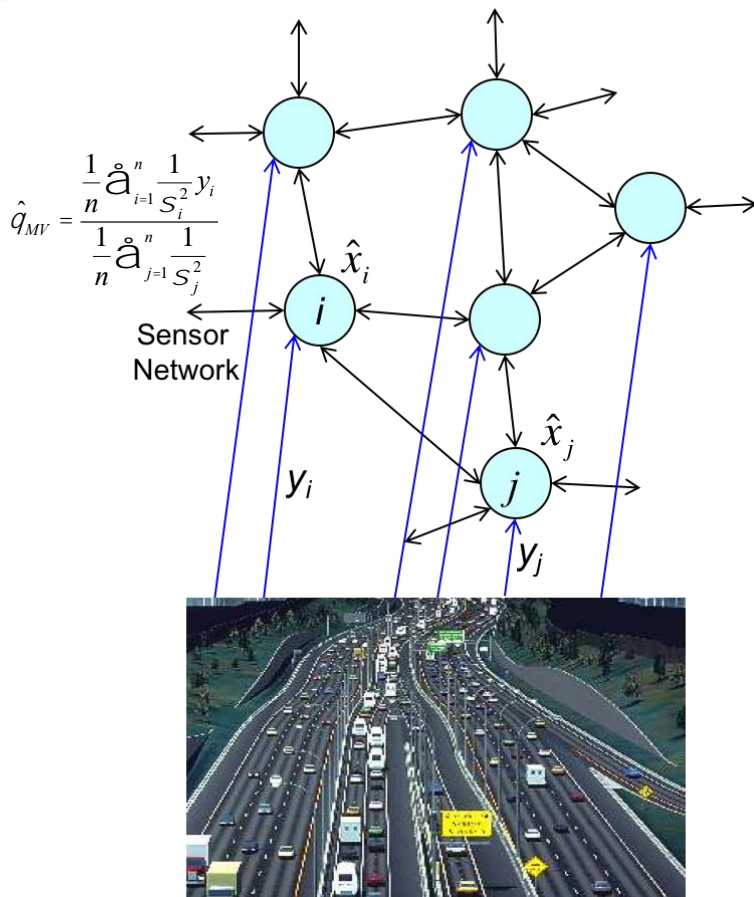
# Foundations of CPS Resilience

**Xenofon Koutsoukos**

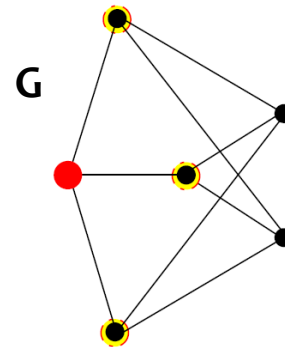
Joint work with Aron Laszka, Waseem Abbas,  
and  
Yevgeniy Vorobeychik



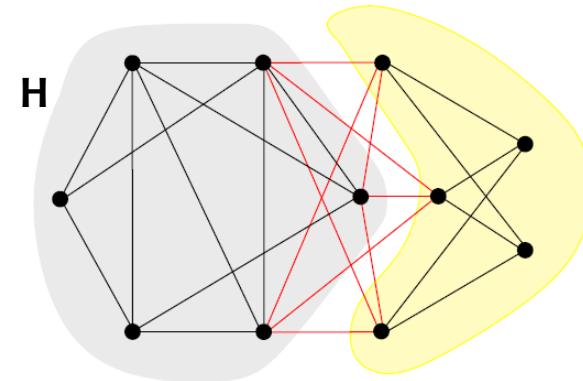
# Motivation: Resilient Monitoring and Control of Distributed CPS



- \* Resilience requires high degree of redundancy (high connectivity)
- \* We can improve resilience by adding trusted nodes



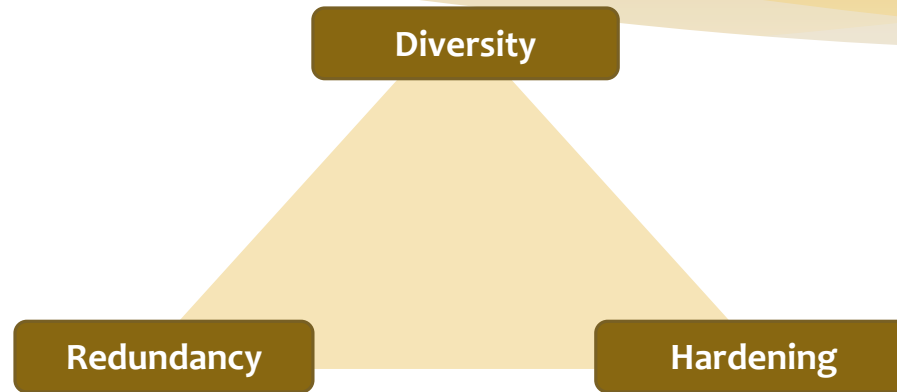
- G is 3-robust with red trusted node.



- H is also is 3-robust.

Can we improve resilience by combining redundancy, diversity, and hardening (trust)?

# Outline



- Combining hardening and diversity to improve structural robustness of CPS networks
- Integrating redundancy, diversity, and hardening for detection of cyber-physical attacks in water distribution systems
- Integrating diversity and hardening for resilient traffic control systems
- Conclusions and future directions

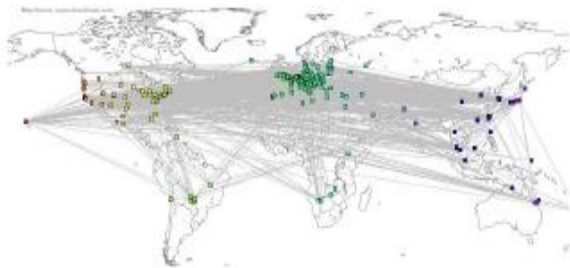
# Structural Robustness in Networks

## Structural Robustness:

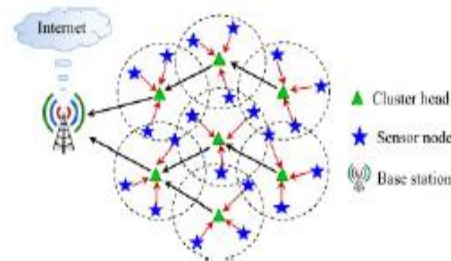
Network's ability to retain and preserve its *structure* as a result of node and edge removals.

## Why Structural Robustness?

- Network reliability against faults
- Vulnerability against malicious attacks
- Survivability and resilience



internet topology



sensor network



infrastructure



social network

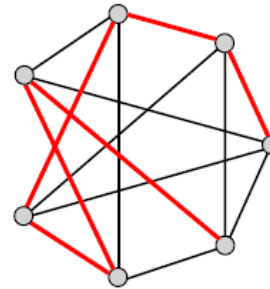
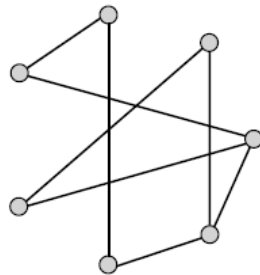
# Improving Structural Robustness Using Redundancy

We desire networks to be structurally robust.

***How can we improve structural robustness of networks?***

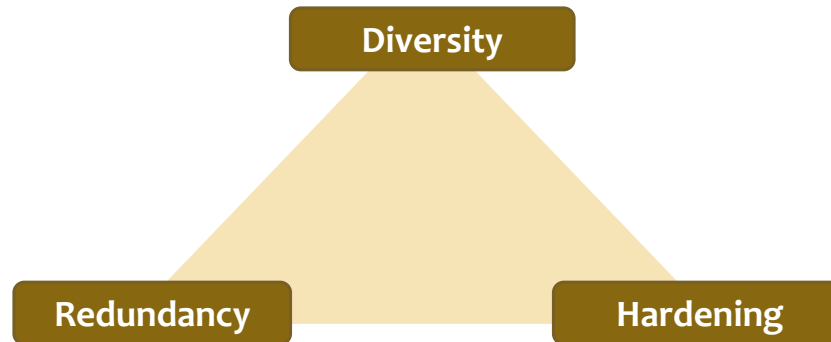
*(that is, how can we improve network connectivity, r-robustness etc.?)*

- A typical way is to add more links and edges (i.e., redundancy).



- Cost effectiveness, feasibility issues
- What can be some other ways to improve structural robustness?

# Improving Structural Robustness



Can we utilize the notions of ***diversity*** and ***hardening*** to improve structural robustness in networks?

## **Hardening:**

- Hardening of nodes (edges) against failures and attacks.
- Hardened nodes remain operational at all times.

## **Diversity:**

- Network components with similar functionalities but different implementations.
- Disjoint set of vulnerabilities

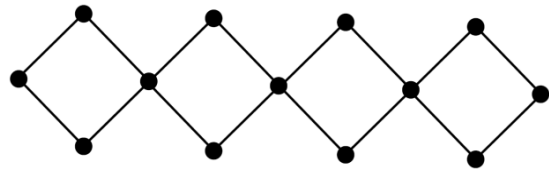
# Pairwise Network Connectivity

Pairwise connectivity measures the fraction of **node-pairs** that are connected with each other through a path.

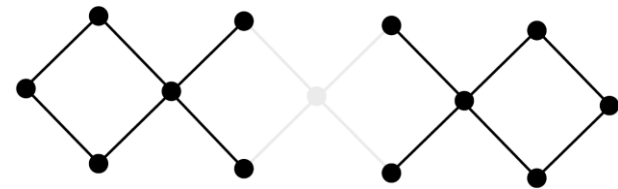
Like connectivity, pairwise connectivity also measures structural robustness of networks.

## Applications:

- Determining robustness of communication networks
- Identifying key players in anti-terrorism networks
- Targeted vaccination for pandemic prevention



Pair-wise connectivity = 1

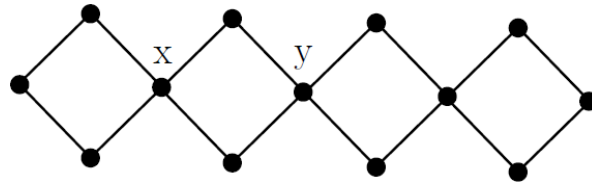


After removing middle node,  
Pair-wise connectivity = 0.4545

# Pairwise Network Connectivity

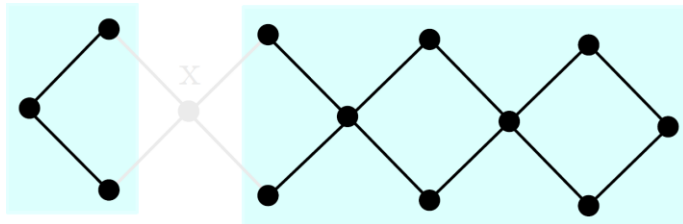
Pairwise connectivity gives more information about the structural robustness of network as compared to vertex-connectivity.

**Example:** The graph is 1-connected, and becomes disconnected by removing either of the nodes  $x$  or  $y$ .



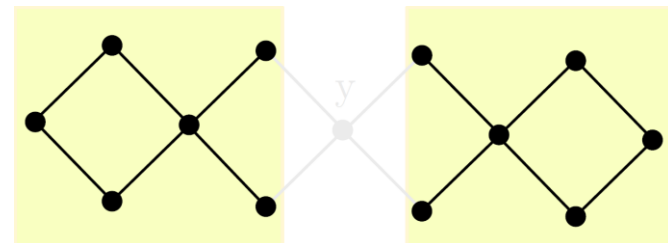
However, pairwise connectivity is different in both cases.

## 1) Removing $x$



Pairwise connectivity = 0.59

## 2) Removing $y$



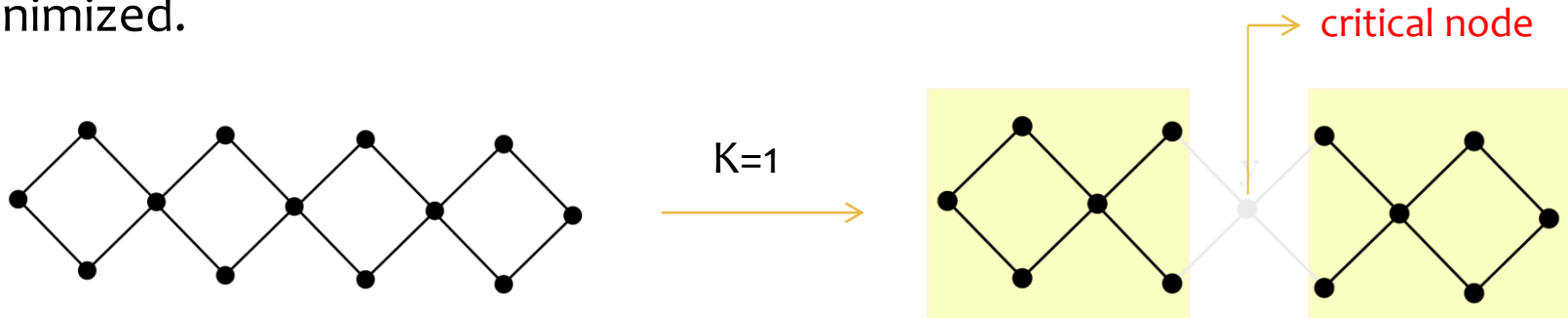
Pairwise connectivity = 0.454



# Attacker's Objective

## Critical node detection problem:

Given an undirected graph  $G$  and an integer  $K$ , delete a subset of at most  $K$  nodes such that the pairwise connectivity of the remaining graph is minimized.



**Problem Complexity:** Critical node detection problem is known to be NP-complete (Arulsevan et al. 2009)

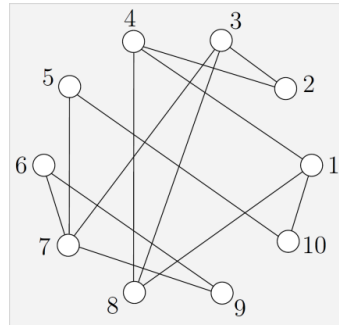
# Hardening to Improve Pairwise Network Connectivity

How can we minimize the impact of an attack, that is, maximize the pairwise connectivity of the network remaining after the attack?

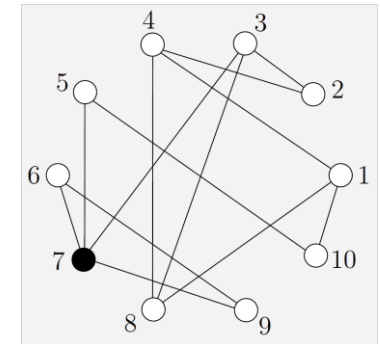
## Hardening of nodes:

- A small subset of nodes, say  $T$ , is hardened such that these nodes cannot be removed from the network.
- **Consequently, attack can be launched only at the nodes that are not hardened.**

- Optimal attack of removing two nodes =  $\{1,7\}$
- Pair-wise connectivity after attack = **0.286**



- **Node 7 is hardened**
- Optimal attack =  $\{3,10\}$
- Pair-wise connectivity after attack = **0.429**

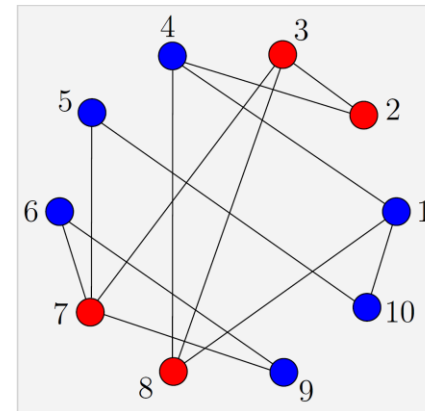
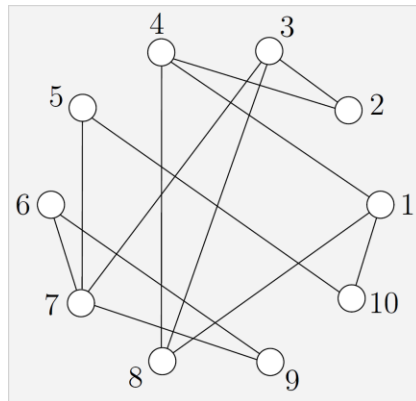


# Diversity to Improve Pairwise Network Connectivity

## Diversifying nodes:

- Consider that nodes are heterogeneous and are of multiple types.
- Set of node types:  $D = \{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_d\}$ .
- Each node belongs to one of the types in  $D$ .
- An attacker can only attack nodes that belong to the same type.

- Optimal attack of removing two nodes =  $\{1,7\}$
- Pairwise connectivity after attack = **0.286**

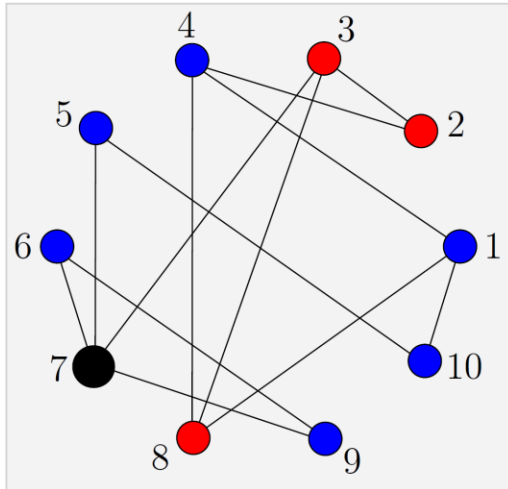


Two types of nodes, **red** and **blue**.

- Optimal attack =  $\{2,7\}$
- Pairwise connectivity after attack = **0.571**

# Combining Hardening and Diversity

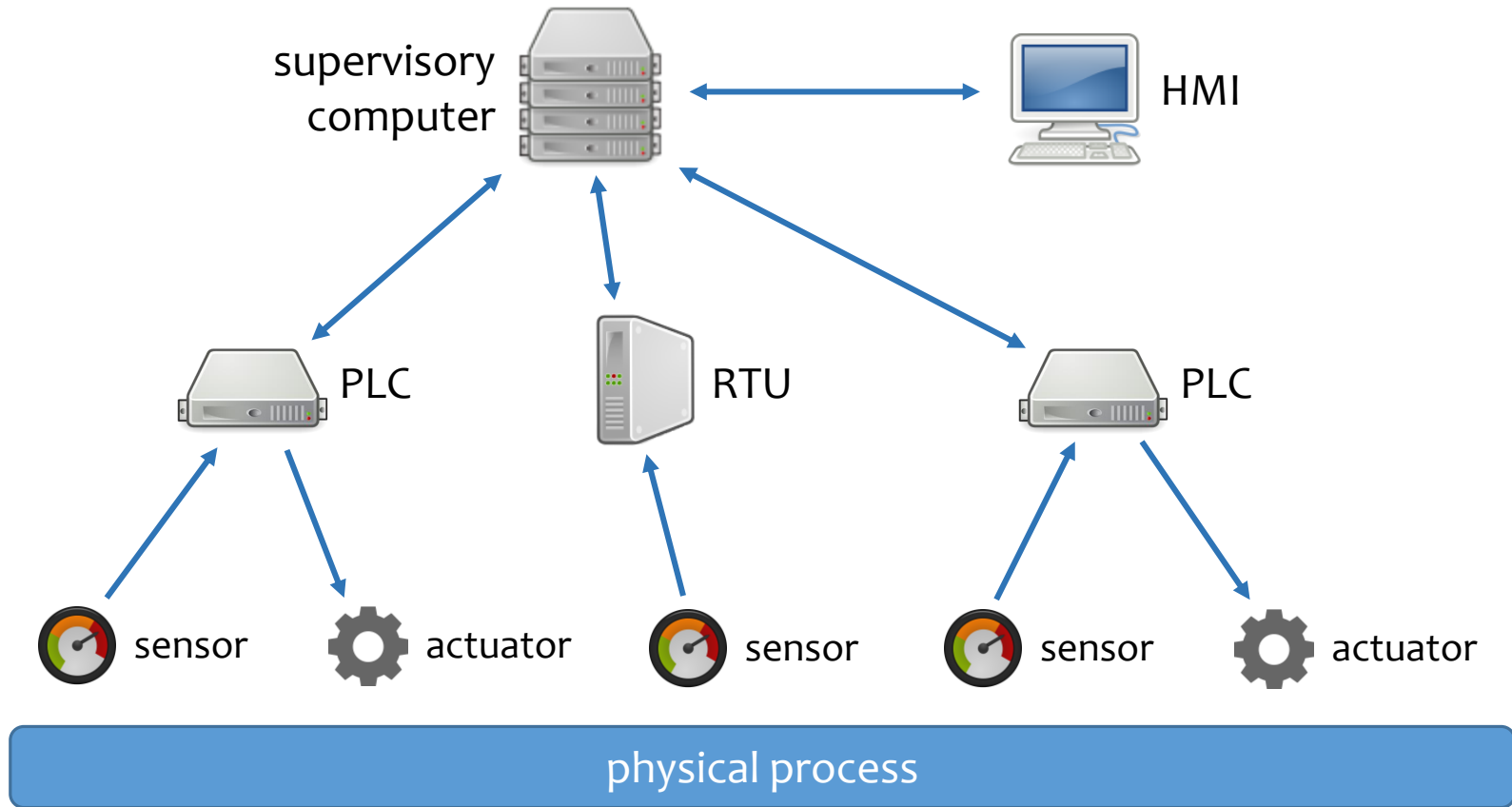
- By combining hardening and diversity, pairwise connectivity resulting after an optimal attack can be further improved.
- Consider **two node types, one hardened node**, and an attack consisting of removing two nodes.



- Two types of nodes, **red** and **blue**.
- Node 7 is **hardened**.
- Optimal attack consists of removing nodes  $\{1,5\}$
- Resulting pair-wise connectivity is **0.75**
- Without hardening and diversity, pair-wise connectivity would be **0.286**.

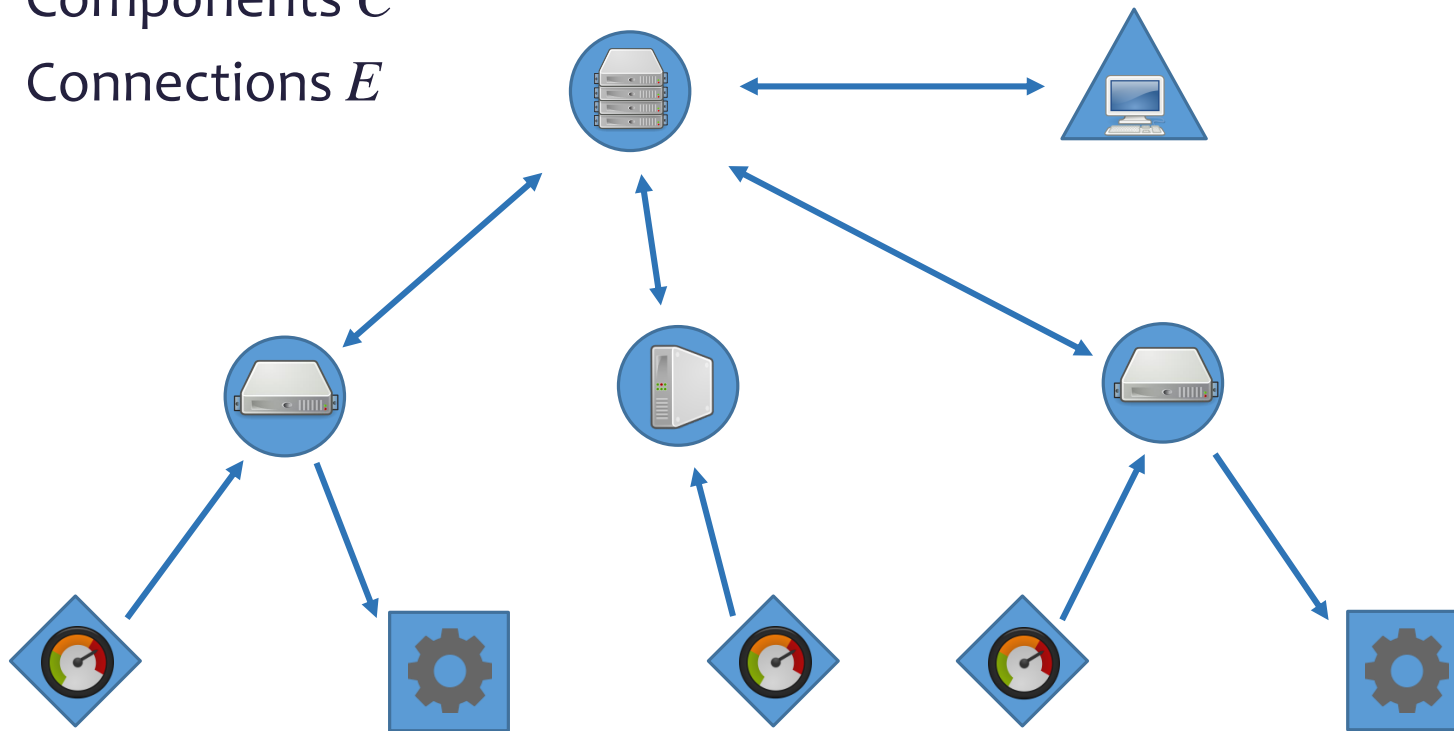
Our goal is to develop a model that allows the principled investment in redundancy, diversity, and hardening for improving resilience in CPS

# Example Cyber-Physical System



# Graph-Theoretic Model

- \* Graph  $G = (C, E)$
- \* Components  $C$
- \* Connections  $E$



physical process

# Components

- \* Properties of a component  $c \in \mathcal{C}$

- \* Type  $t_c$

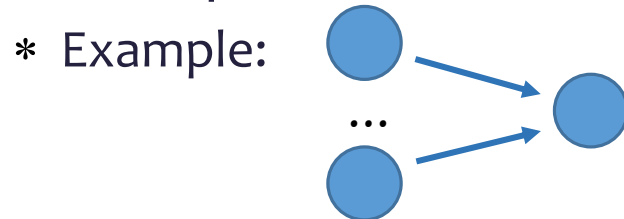
- computational

- ◆ sensor

- actuator

- ▲ Interface

- \* Set of input connections  $E_c$



- \* Deployed implementation  $r_c$

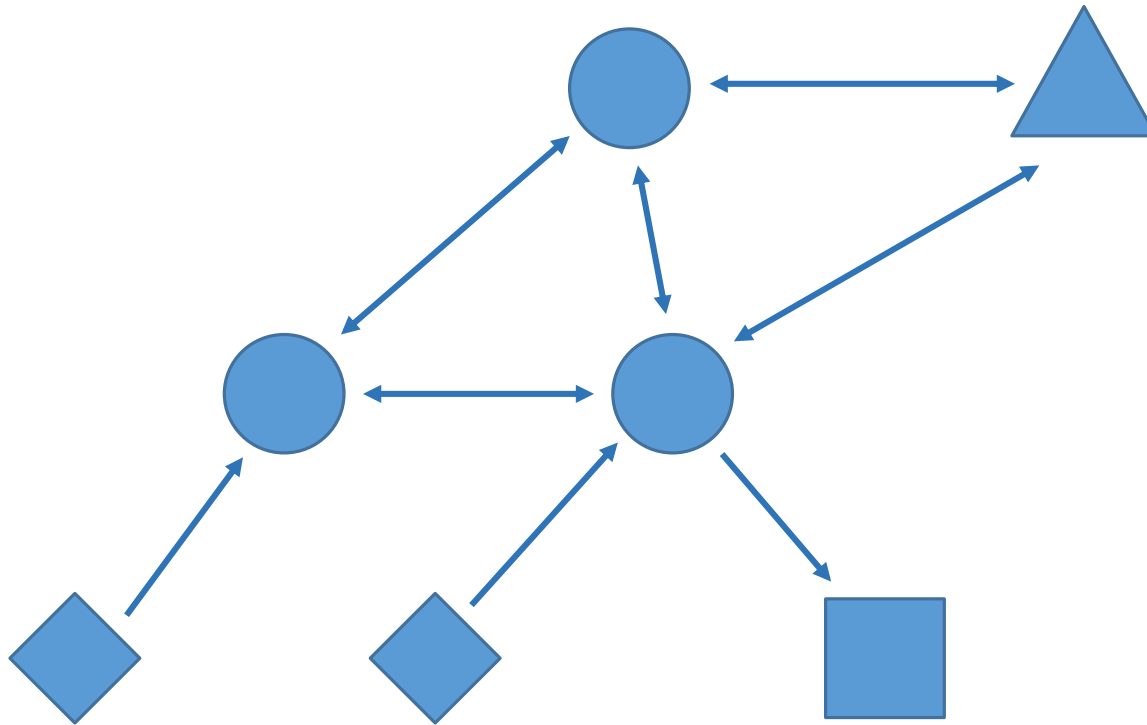
- \* Chosen from a set of available implementations  $I$

- \* xample set:  $I = \{ \text{●}, \text{●}, \text{●}, \text{●} \}$



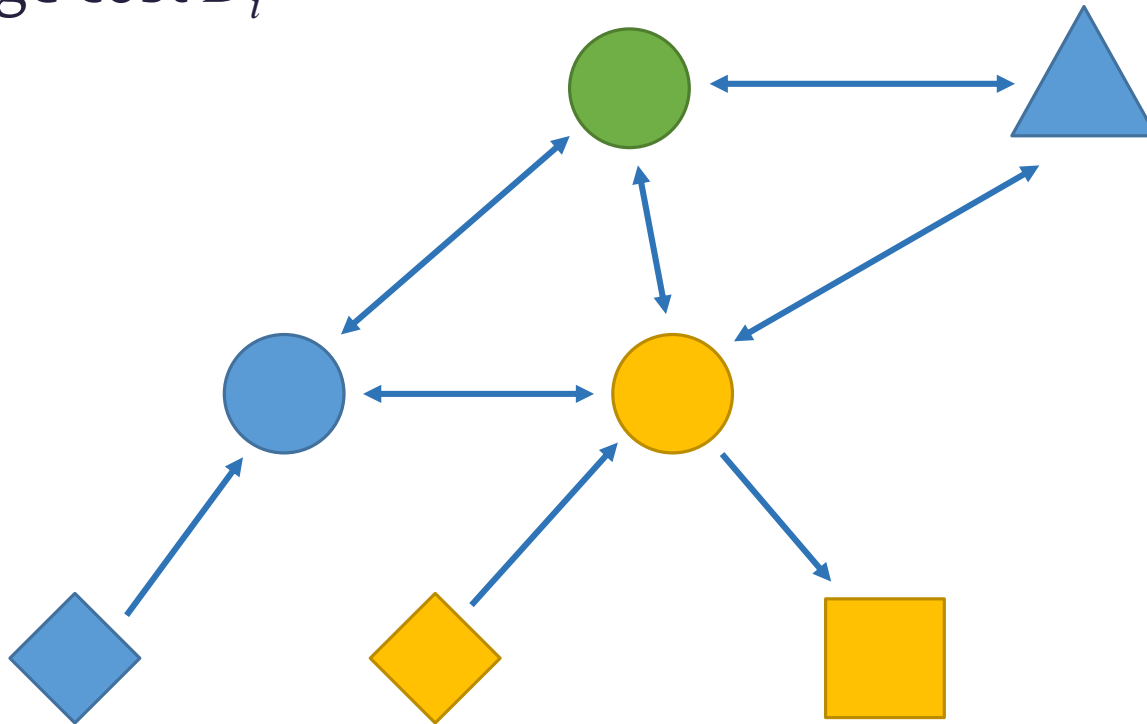


# How to improve the resilience of a CPS?



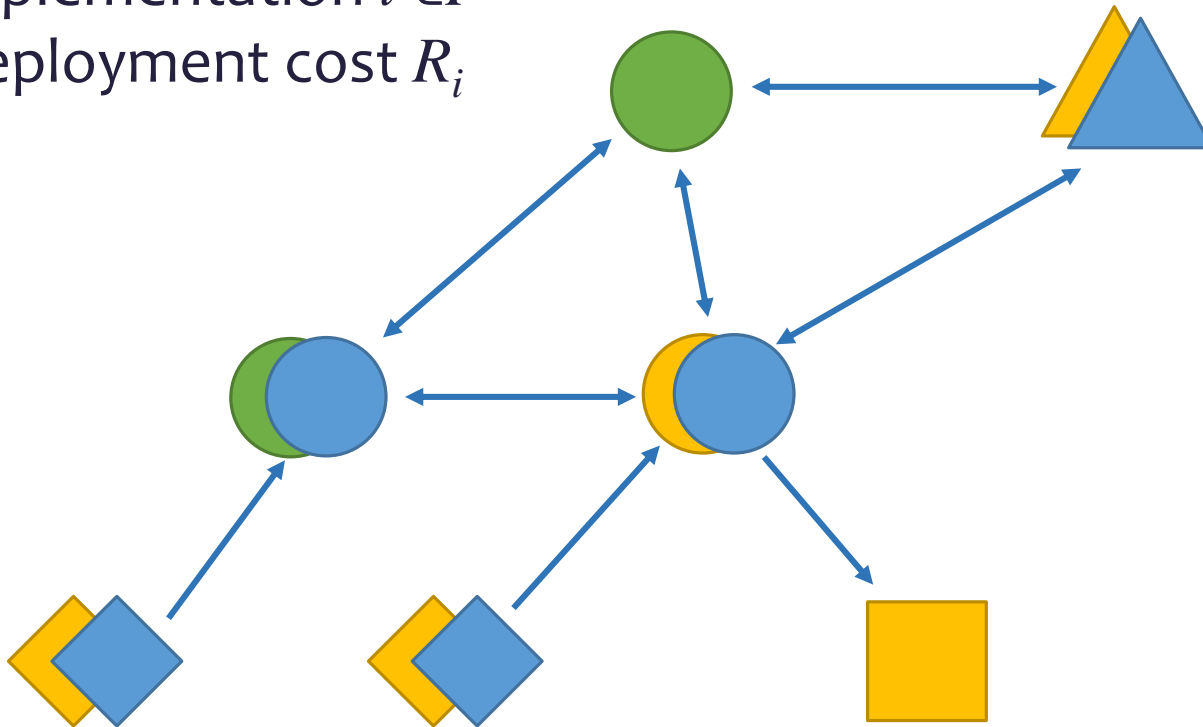
# Diversity

- \* Use a variety of implementations
- \* Each implementation  $i \in I$  has a usage cost  $D_i$



# Redundancy

- \* Deploy additional instances of some components (based on different implementations)
- \* Each implementation  $i \in I$  has a deployment cost  $R_i$



# Hardening

- \* Harden some implementations (e.g., source code reviews, firewalls, penetration testing)
- \* Each implementation has a set of available hardening levels  $L_i$ 
  - \* Each level  $l \in L_i$  has a cost  $H_l$  and an estimate of being secure  $S_l$
  - \* Example levels:  
{ (DEFAULT: \$100 000, 0.9),  
(SECURE: \$500 000, 0.95),  
(VERY SECURE: \$1 000 000, 0.99) }
- \* Example selection:
  - → SECURE
  - → DEFAULT
  - → VERY SECURE

# How to quantify security risks?

$$\text{Risk} = \sum_{\text{outcome}} \text{Pr}[\text{outcome}] \cdot \text{Impact}(\text{outcome})$$

which components  
are compromised

what is the  
probability that they  
are compromised

what is the impact of  
their compromise on  
the system

# Probability of Compromise

- \* Each implementation  $i$  is vulnerable with probability  $1 - S_{li}$  (independently of other implementations)
- \* Instances of vulnerable implementations are compromised
- \* A component is compromised if

	Component Type			
	sensor	computational	actuator	interface
stealthy attack	<b>all</b> instances are compromised	<b>all</b> instances are compromised or <b>all</b> input components are compromised		
non-stealthy attack	<b>majority</b> of instances are compromised	either <b>majority</b> of instances are compromised or <b>majority</b> of input components are compromised		

# Impact of Compromise

- \* Impact depends on the set of compromised components

$$\textit{Impact} = \textit{MaximumDamage}(\text{compromised components})$$

- \* Exact formulation depends on specific system and context
- \* We present two example systems
  1. Smart water-distribution monitoring for contaminants
  2. Transportation networks

# Resilience Maximization Problem

- \* Given redundancy, diversity, and hardening expenditures  $\mathbf{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}$ , the optimal deployment is

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{l}} \text{Risk}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{l}) \\ & \text{subject to } \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{i \in r_c} R_i \leq \mathbf{R}, \quad \sum_{i \in \cup_c r_c} D_i \leq \mathbf{D}, \quad \sum_{i \in I} H_{l_i} \leq \mathbf{H} \end{aligned}$$

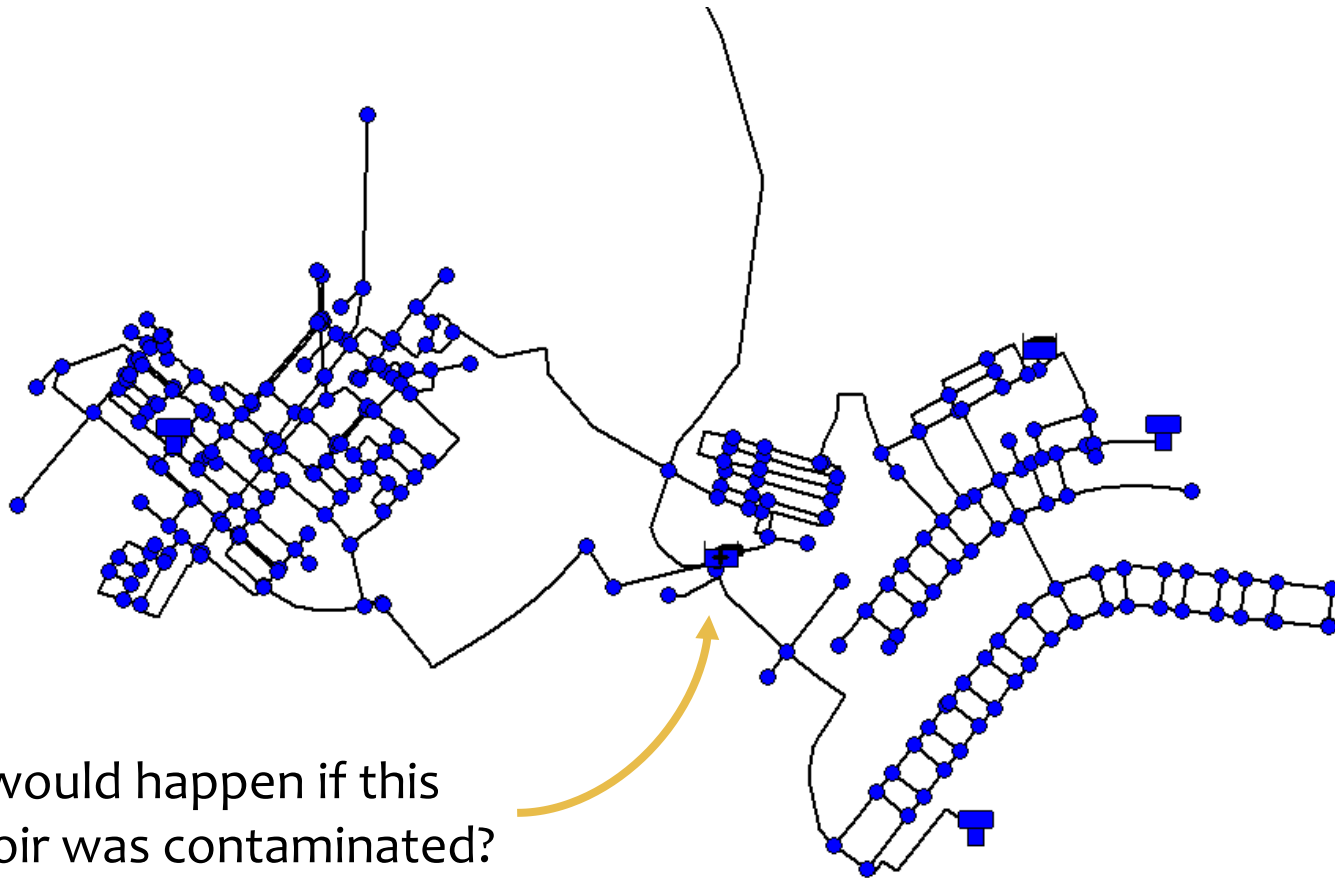
- \* Computationally challenging (NP-hard), but typically we can devise efficient heuristics that work well in practice
- \* General formulation: Given budget  $\mathbf{B}$ , the optimal deployment is

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{l}} \text{Risk}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{l}) \\ & \text{subject to } \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{i \in r_c} R_i + \sum_{i \in \cup_c r_c} D_i + \sum_{i \in I} H_{l_i} \leq \mathbf{B} \end{aligned}$$



# Water-Distribution Networks

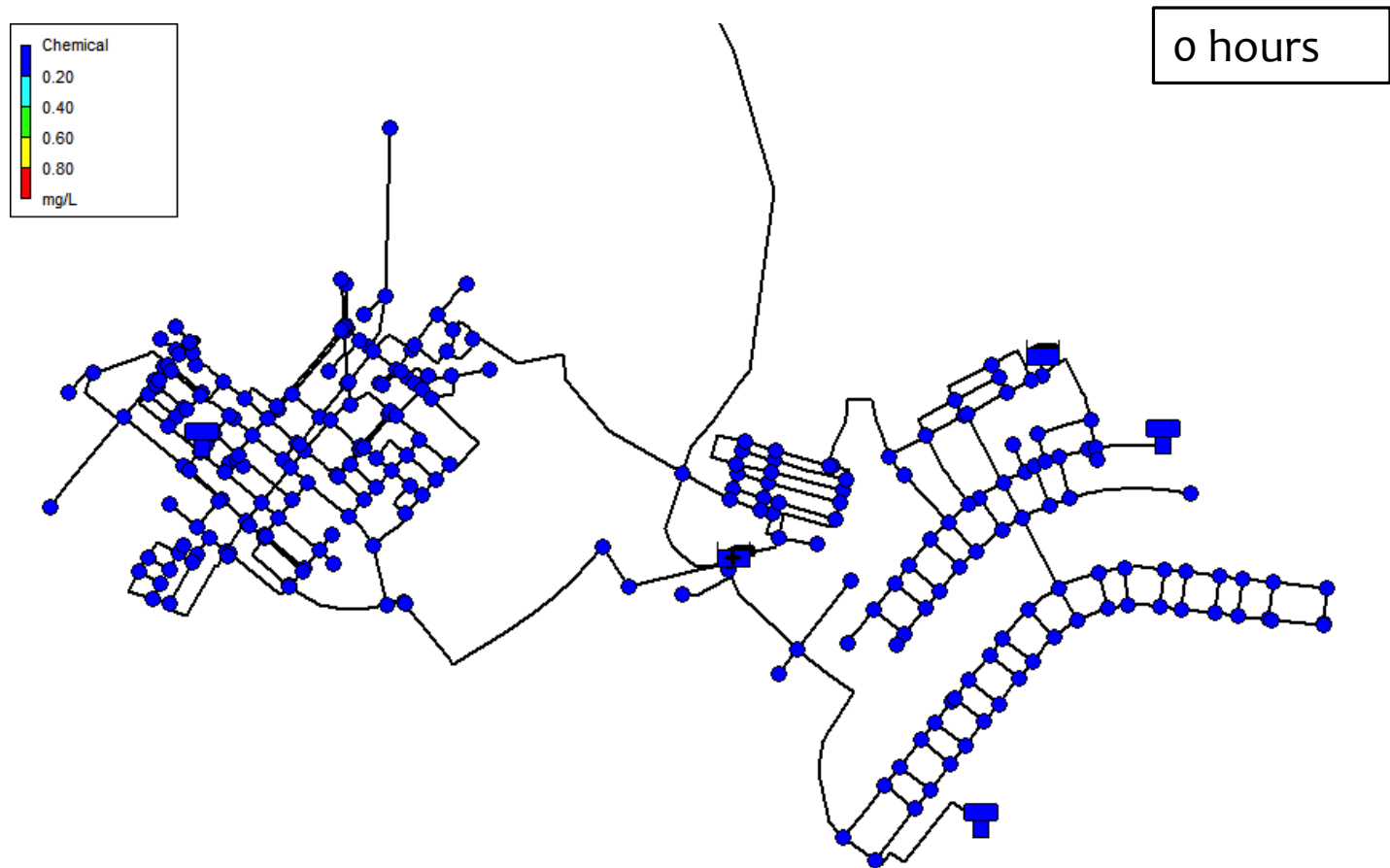
- \* Example topology (real residential network from Kentucky)



What would happen if this reservoir was contaminated?

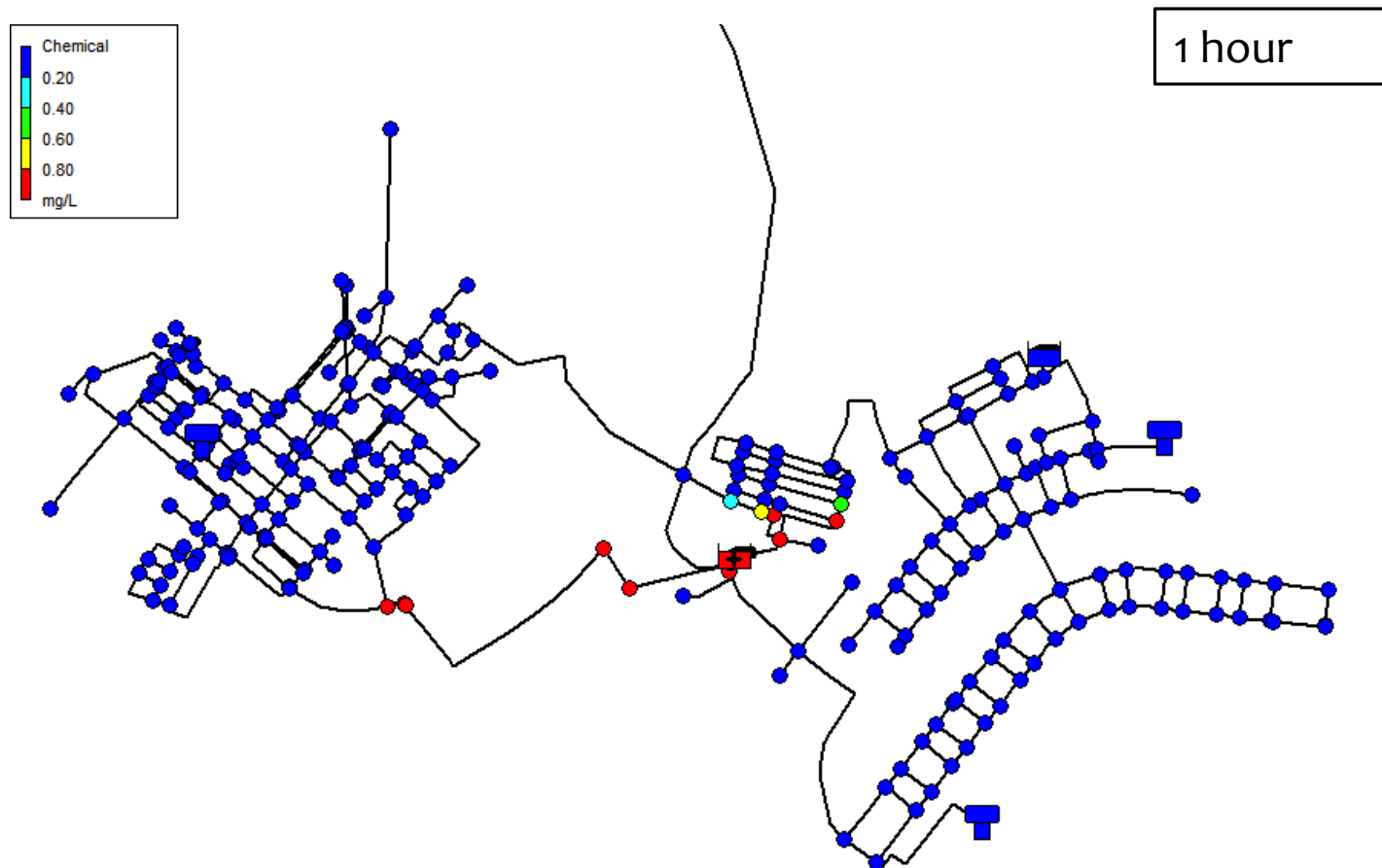
# Contamination in Water-Distribution Networks

\* Simulation using EPANET



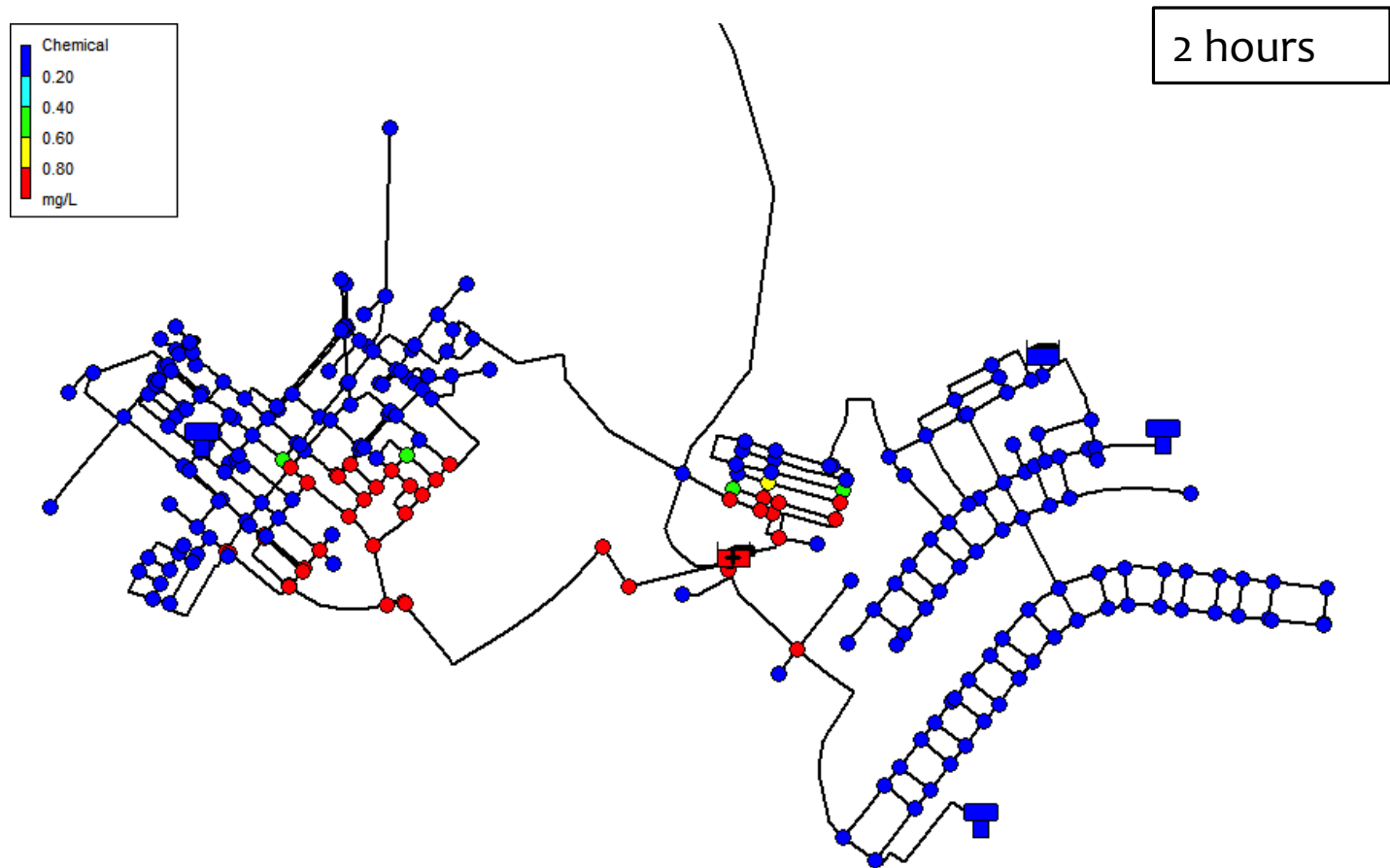
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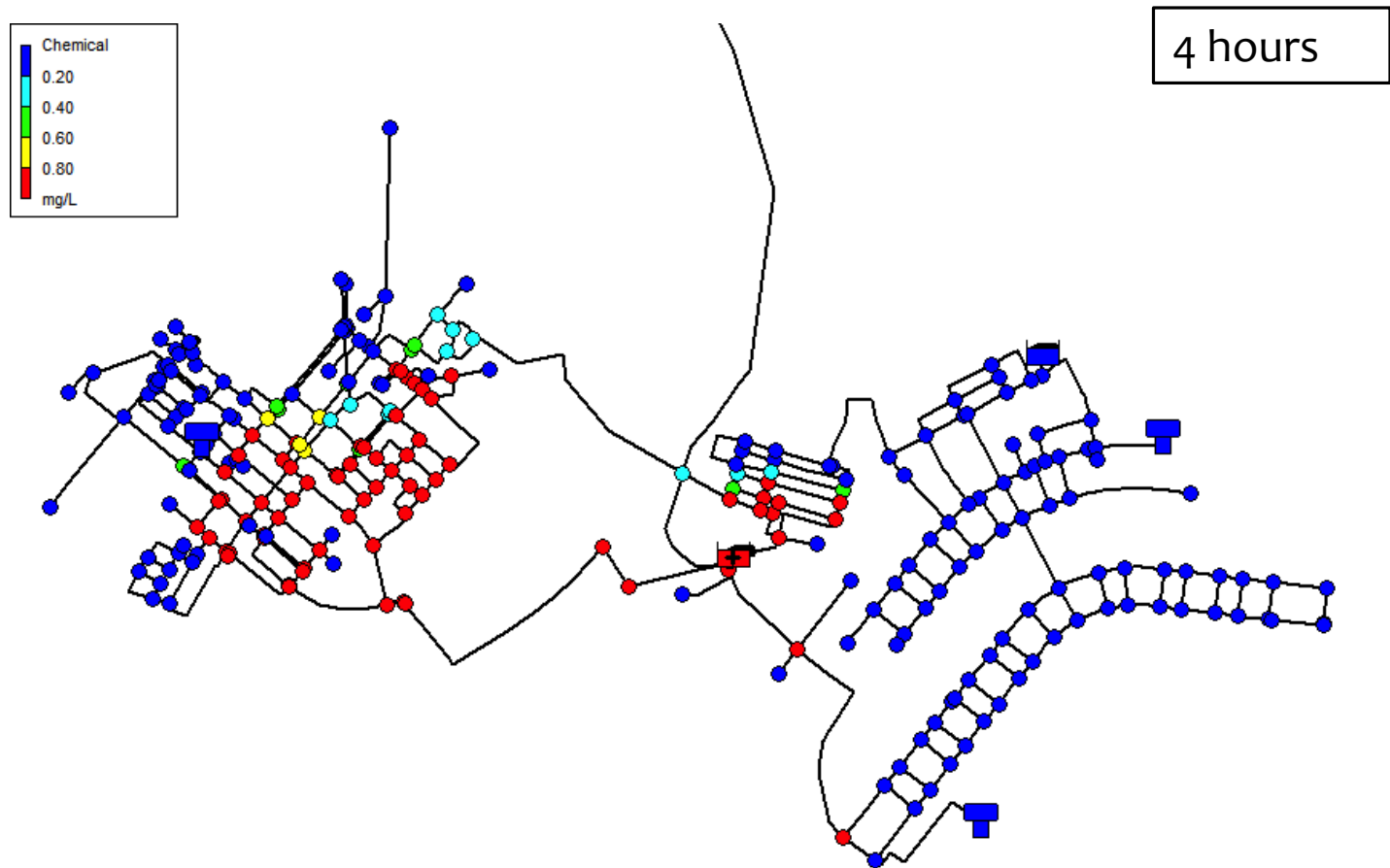
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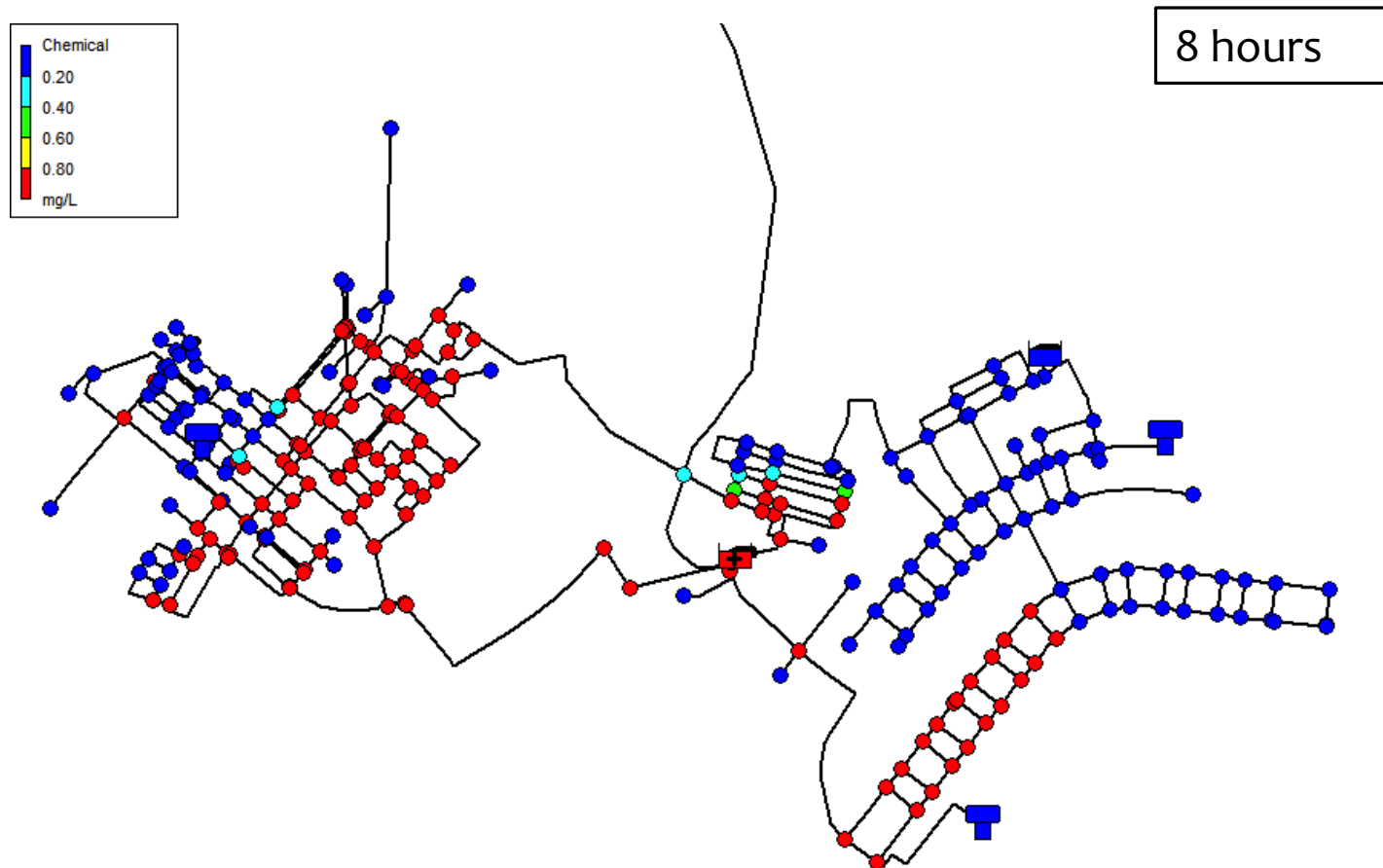
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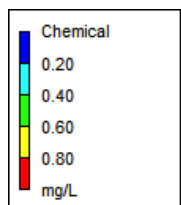
# Contamination in Water-Distribution Networks

\* Simulation using EPANET

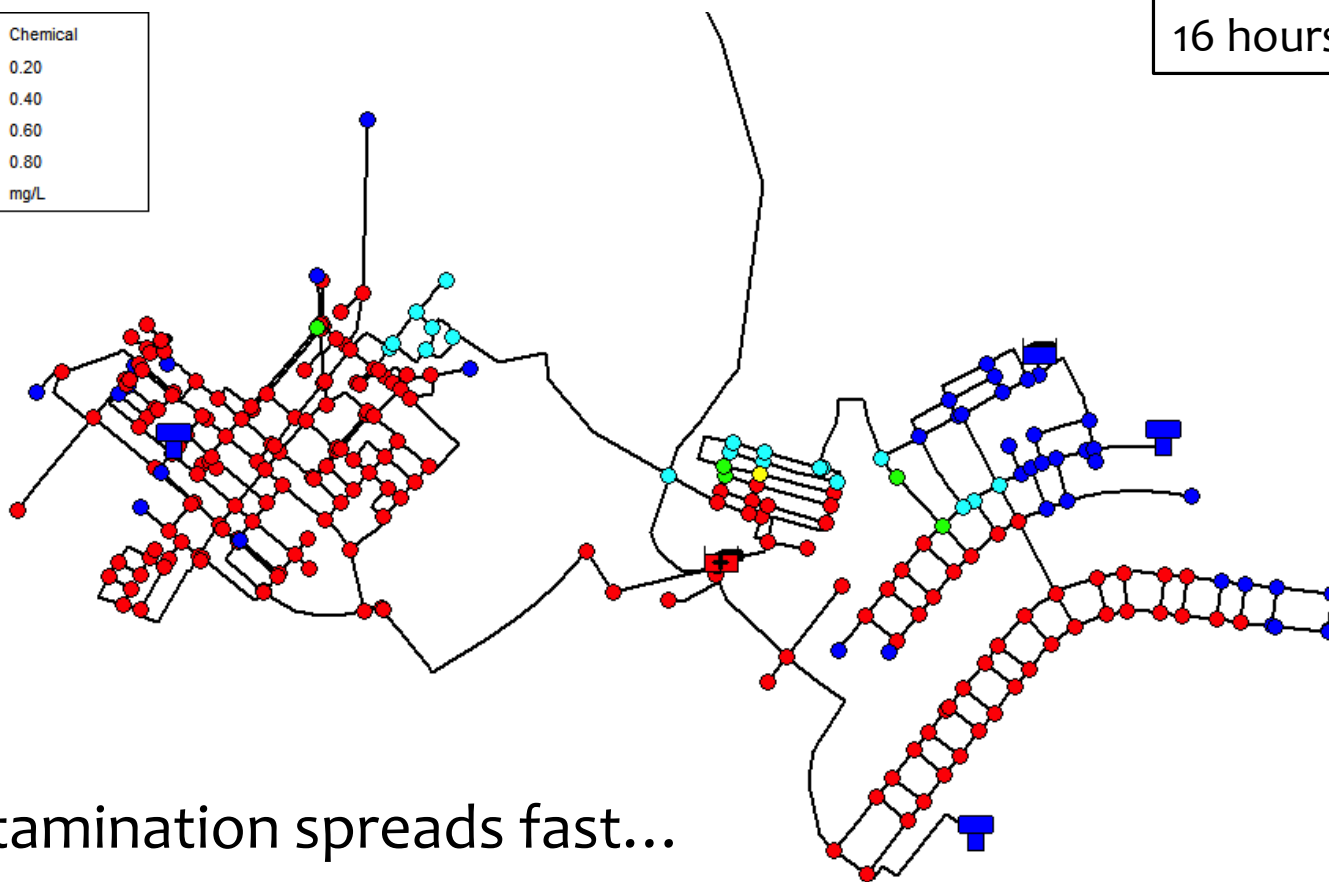


# Contamination in Water-Distribution Networks

\* Simulation using EPANET



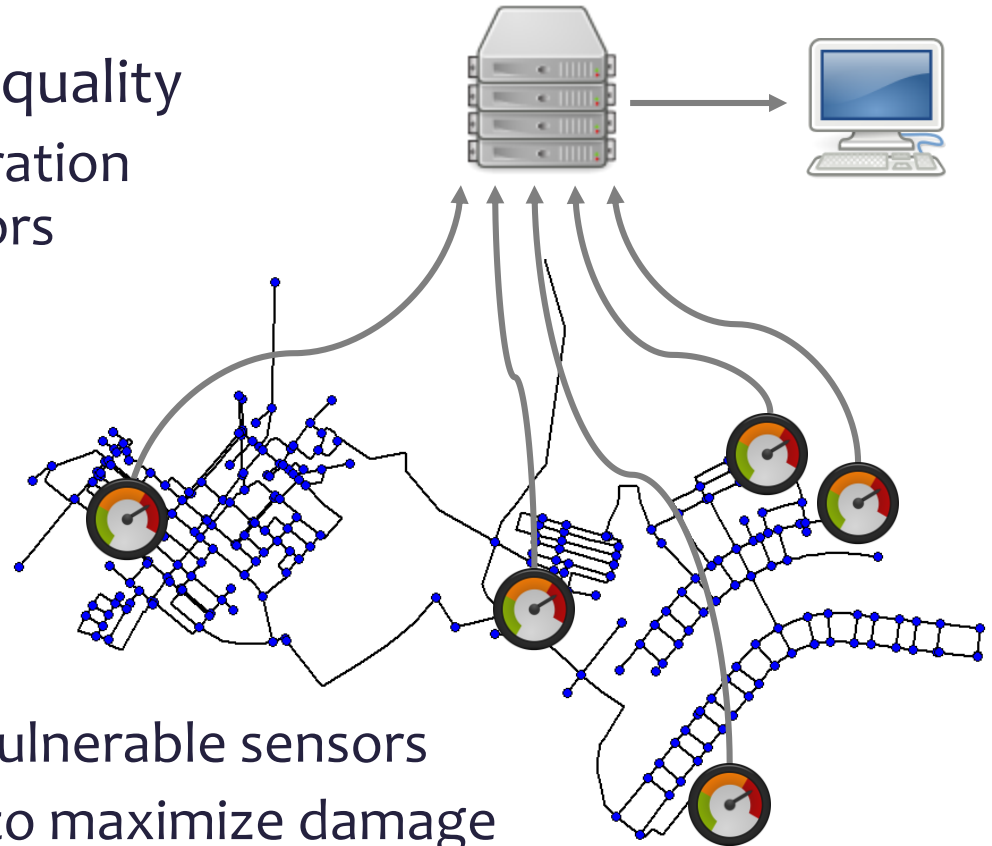
16 hours



Contamination spreads fast...

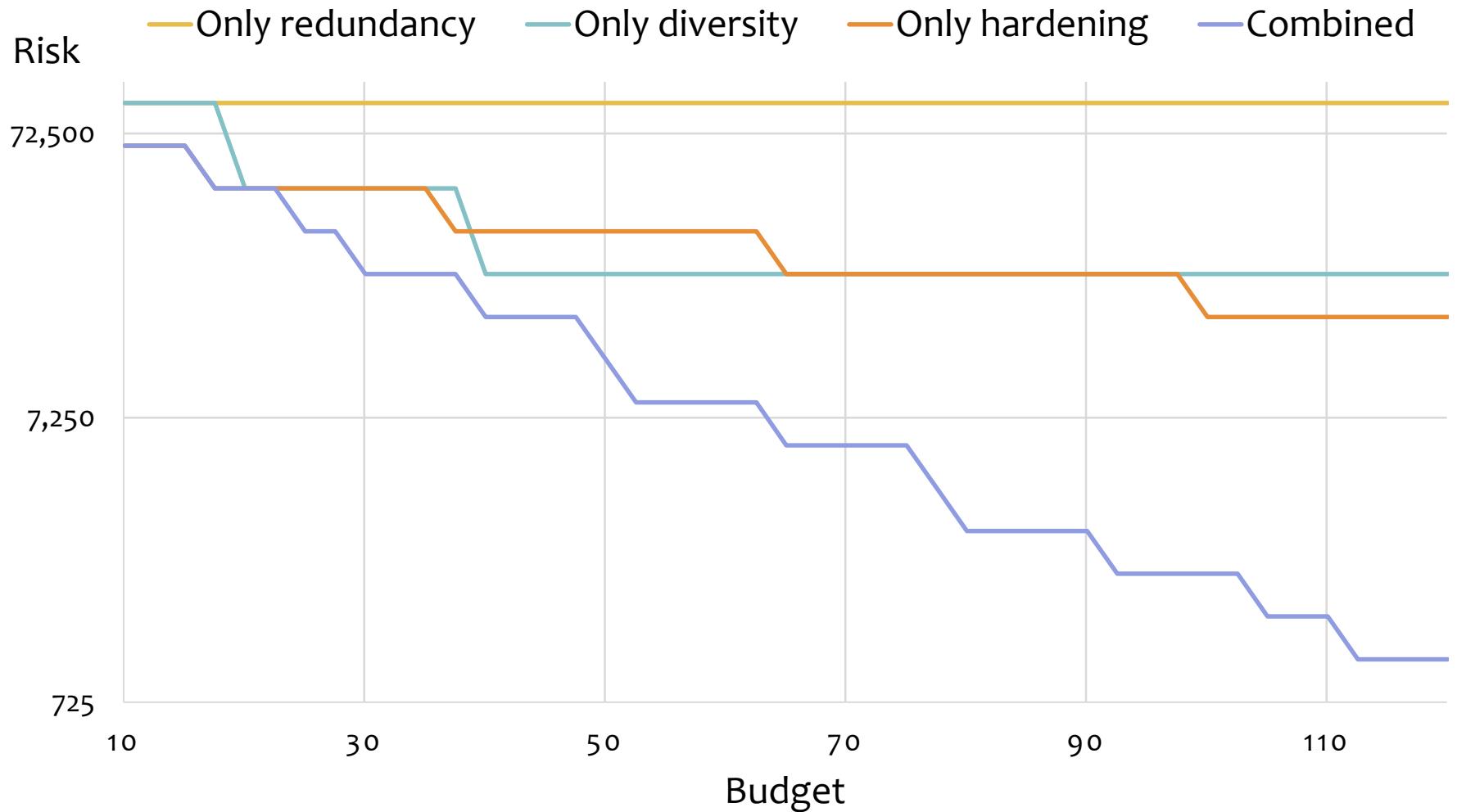
# Monitoring Water Quality

- \* We can deploy sensors that continuously monitor water quality
  - \* When contaminant concentration reaches a threshold, operators are alerted
- \* Impact: Amount of contaminants consumed by the residents before detection
- \* Cyber-physical attack
  - \* Compromises and disables vulnerable sensors
  - \* Contaminates the reservoir to maximize damage
- \* Defender deploys sensors by combining redundancy, diversity, and hardening to improve resilience

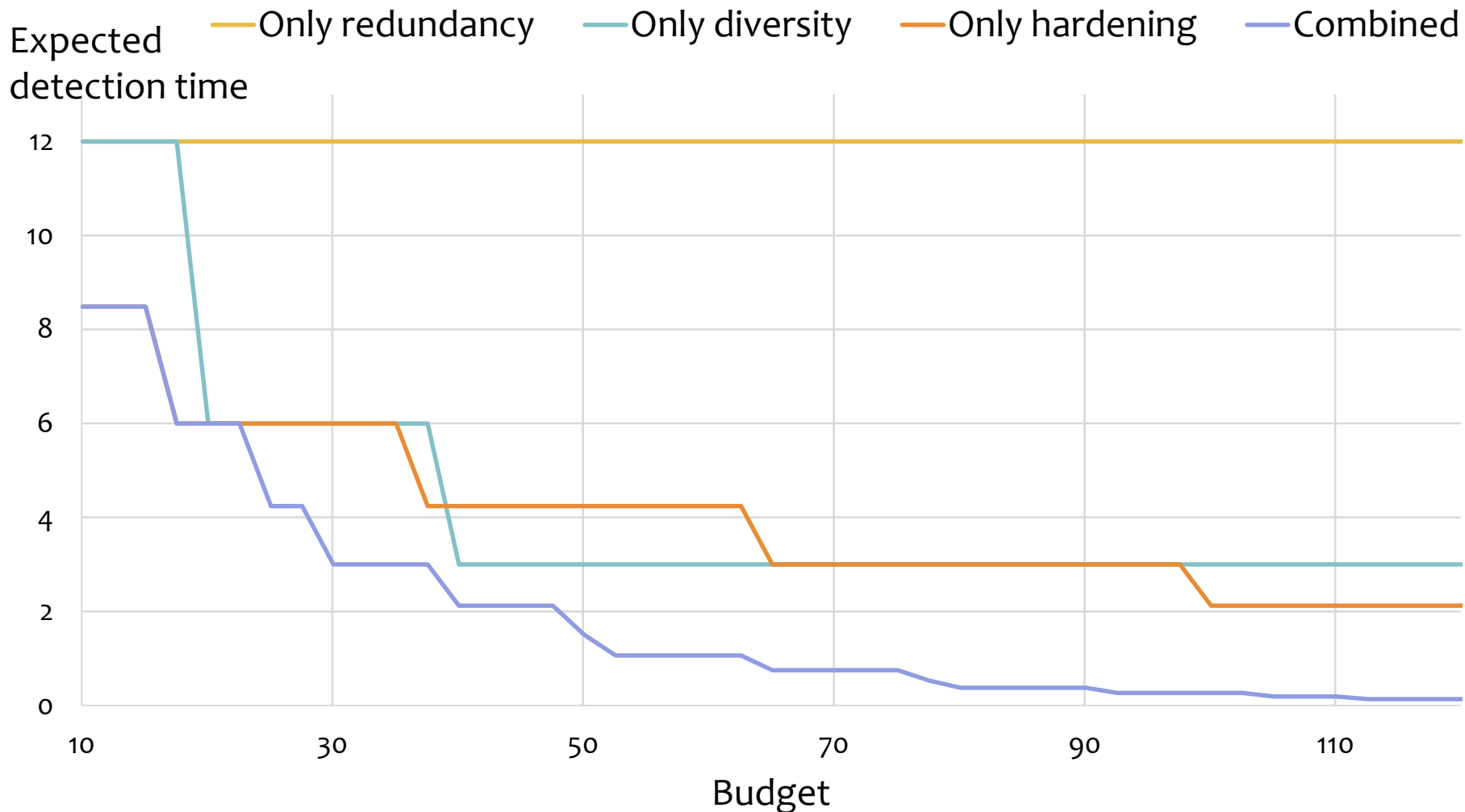




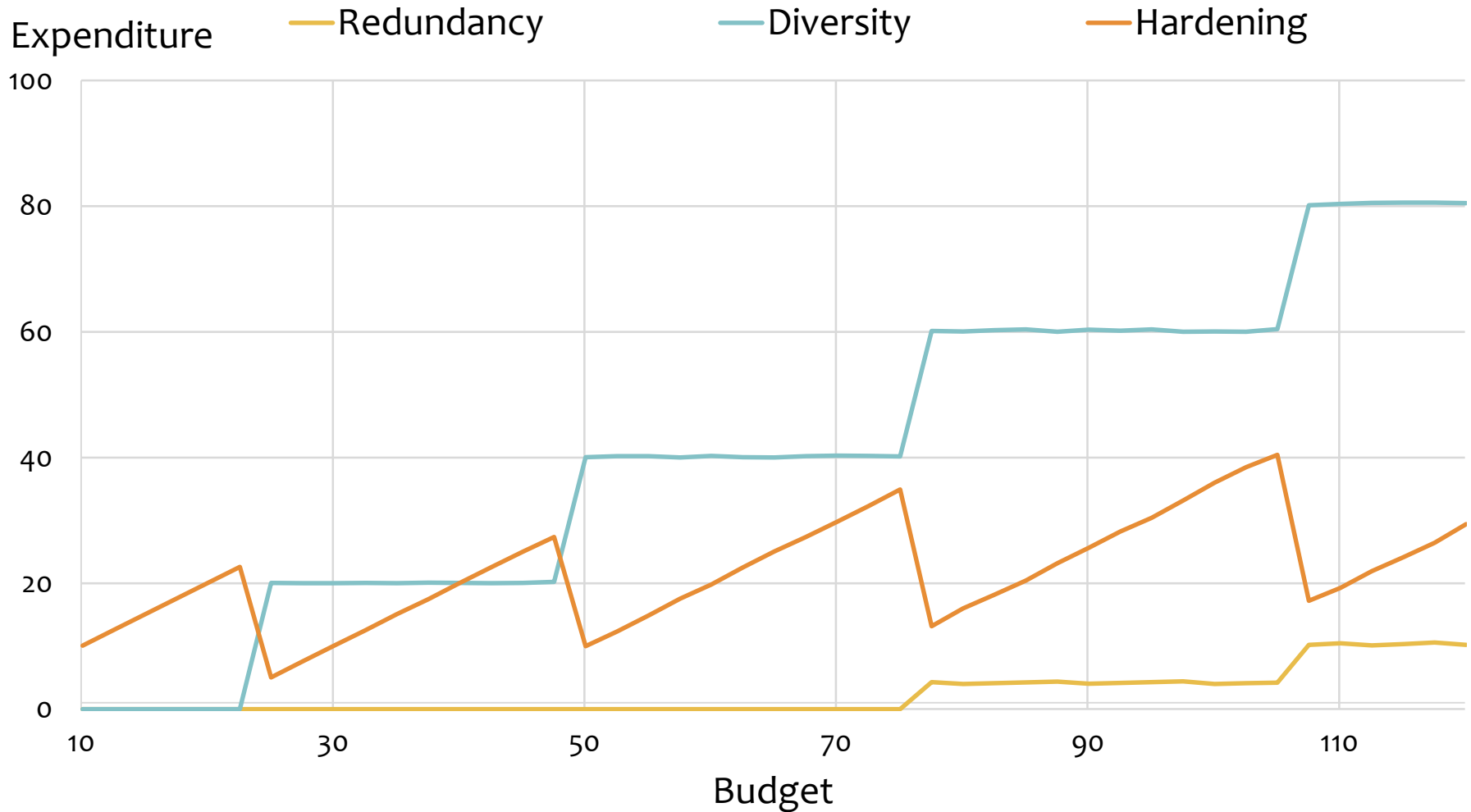
# Security Risks



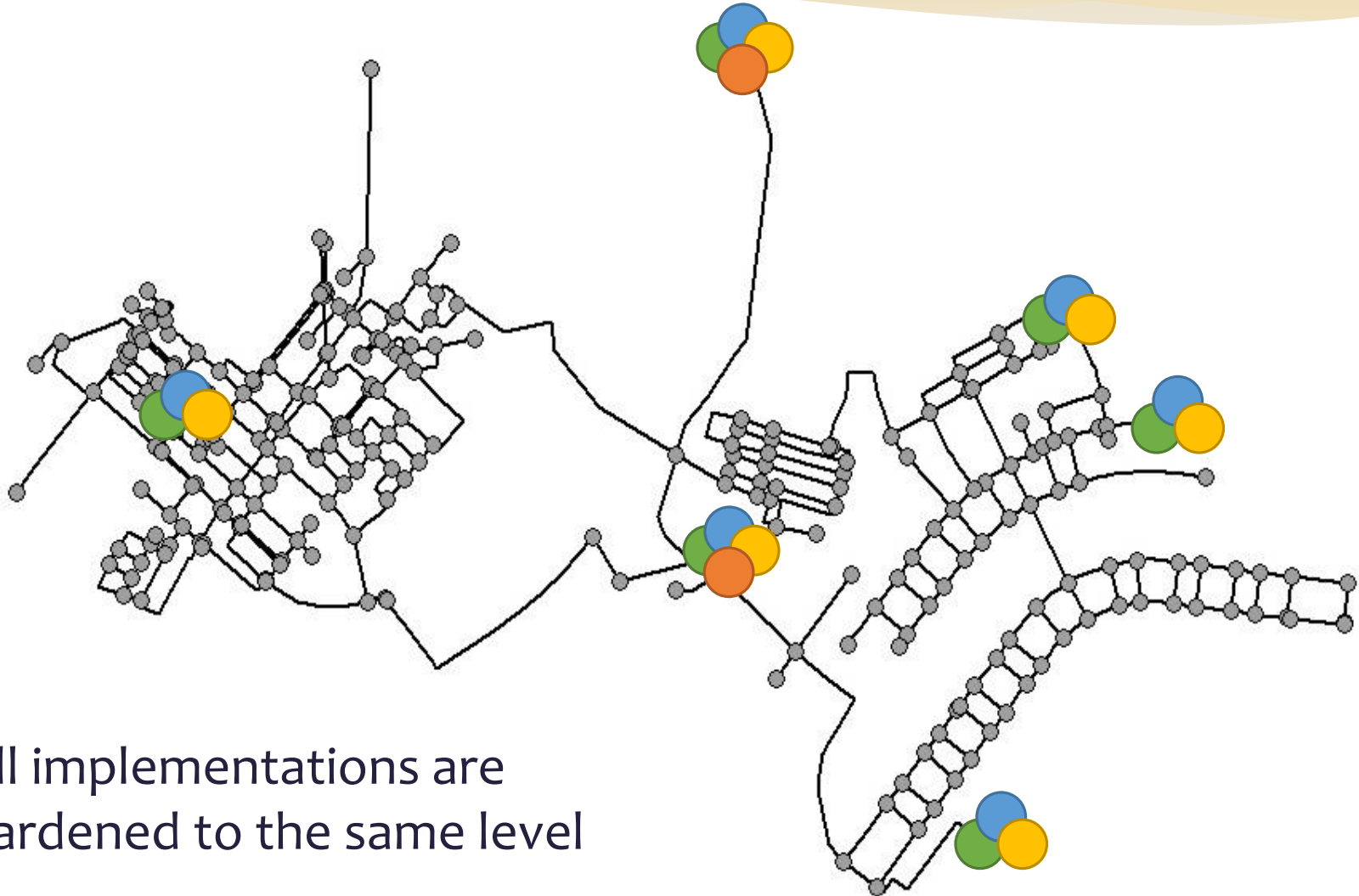
# Expected Detection Time



# Optimal Allocation of Investments



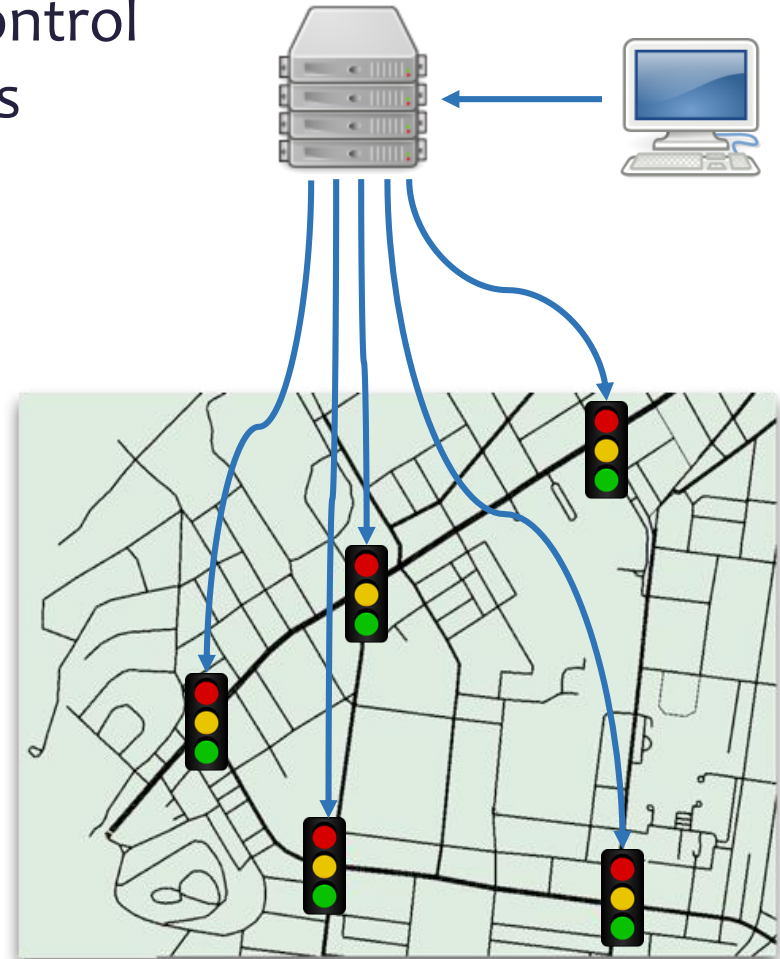
# Optimal Deployment ( $B = 90$ )



\* All implementations are hardened to the same level

# Transportation Network

- \* Attacker may tamper with traffic control systems in order to cause disastrous traffic congestions
- \* Component
  - \* Embedded computers deployed at an intersection
  - \* Control of traffic lights
  - \* Compromised components may be used by an attacker to disrupt traffic in the intersection



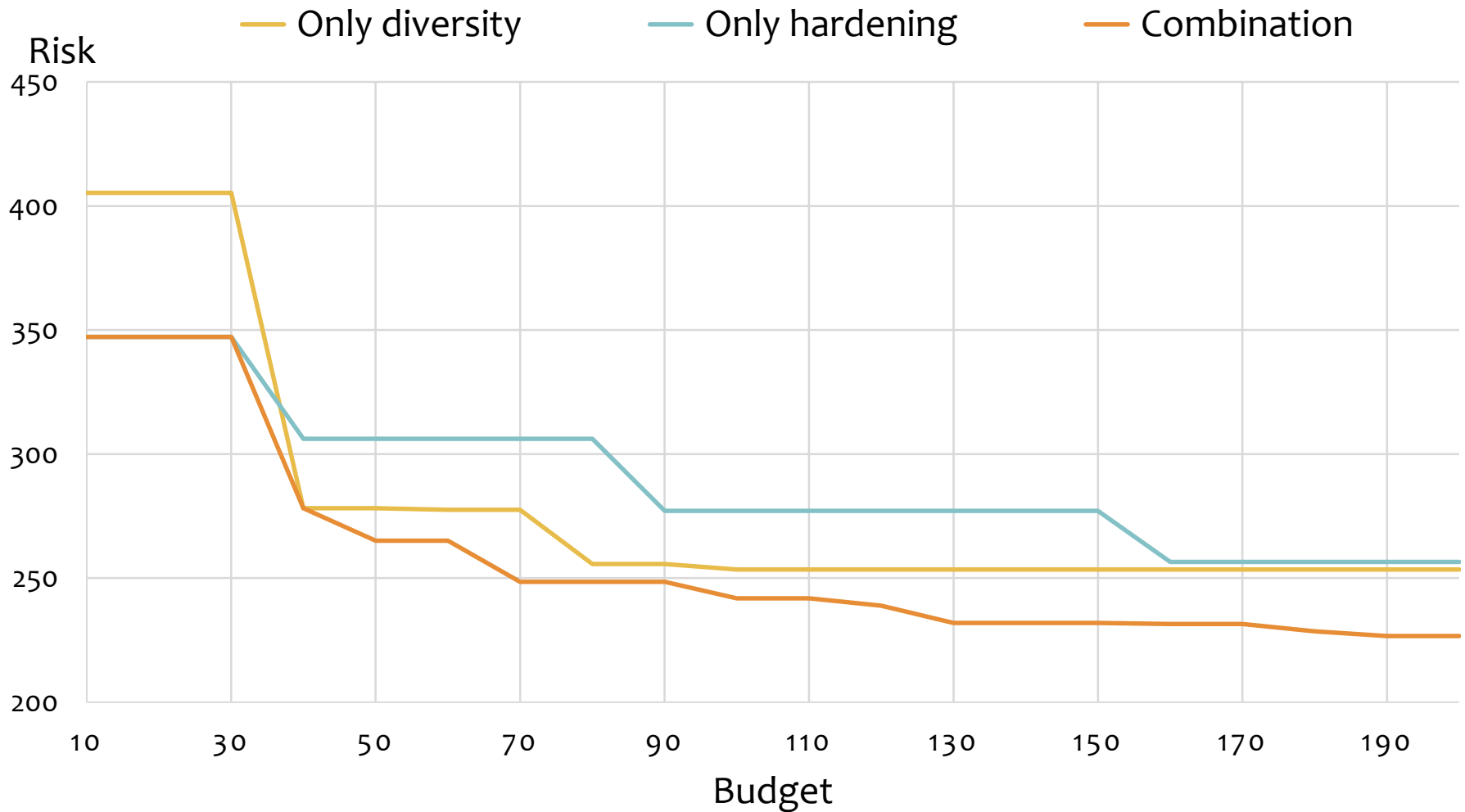
# Transportation Network Risk Model

- \* We do **not consider redundancy** in this case since deploying redundant traffic light controllers requires additional assumptions
- \* Diversity is based on different software/hardware implementations
- \* Hardening an implementation decreases the probability that the implementation has an exploitable vulnerability
- \* The attacker compromises all components whose implementation is vulnerable, and it shuts down the traffic lights corresponding to the compromised components
- \* Traffic then flows through the transportation network using only uncompromised intersections, and the impact is simply the travel time of the vehicles.



- \* Damage: Increase in travel time due to adversarial tampering with traffic control
- \* We can quantify impact either using simulations (inefficient) or using Daganzo's cell transmission model
  - \* Compromised intersections are "blocked" (no through traffic)
  - \* Travel time computed by solving the model using a linear program

# Security Risks

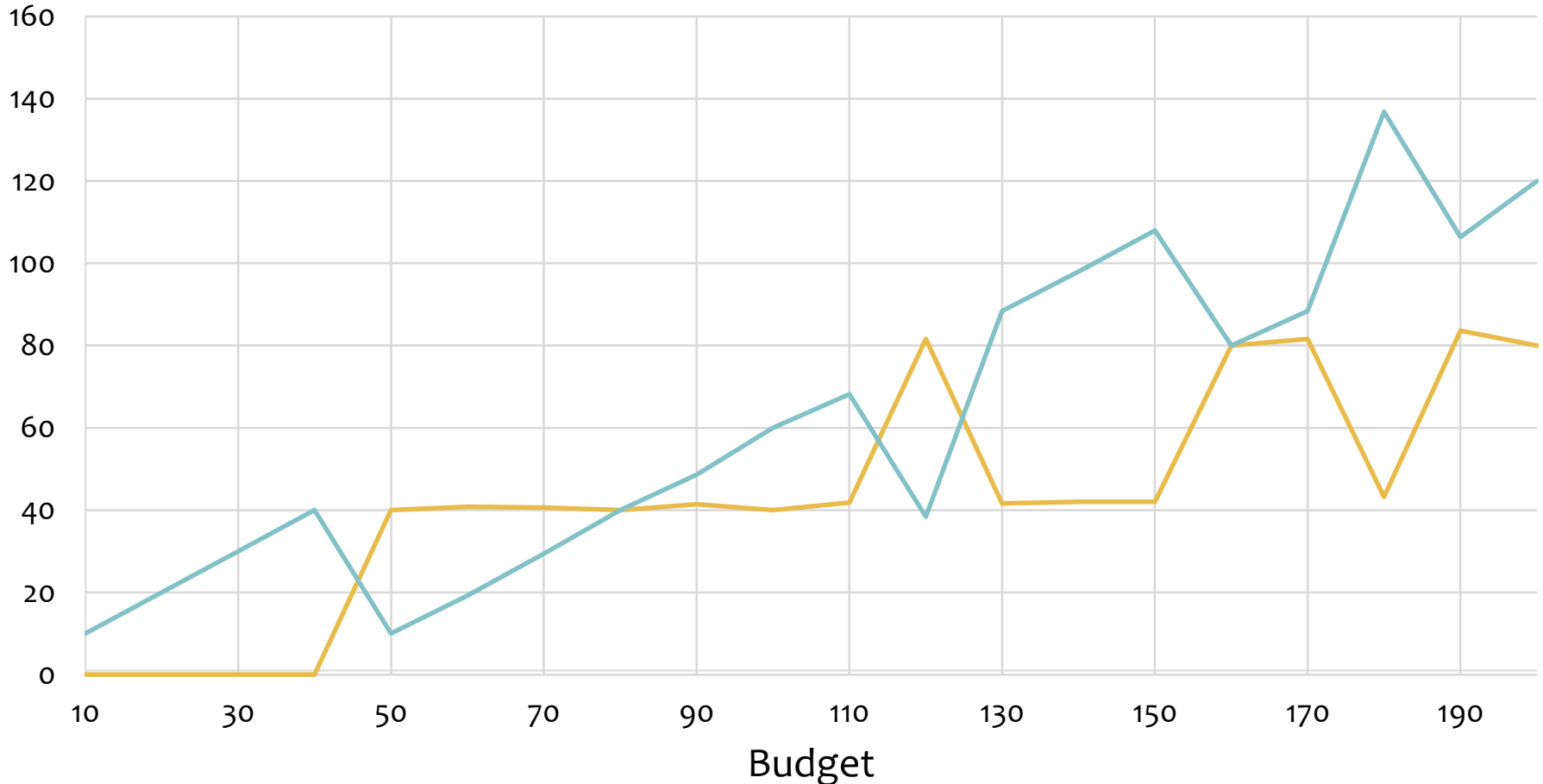


# Optimal Allocation of Investments

Expenditure

— Diversity

— Hardening

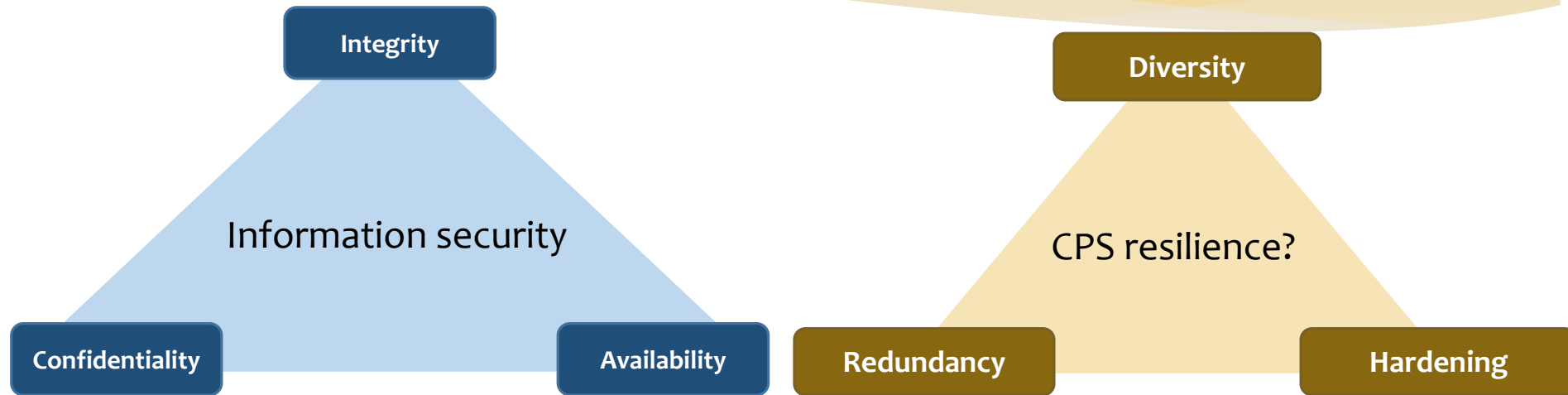




# Conclusions and Future Work

- \* Develop model for combining redundancy, diversity, and hardening to improve CPS resilience
- \* Investigate methods for sensors, actuators, computing devices, and networks links
- \* CPS application domains
  - \* Water distribution systems
  - \* Transportation systems
  - \* Power networks
- \* Develop analytical methods for improving structural robustness in networks

# Basic Components of CPS Resilience



- \* The basic components of information security are confidentiality, integrity, and availability and have been used extensively to shape the science and technology of computer security.
- \* What are the main components of CPS resilience?
- \* How can we shape research efforts in developing CPS resilient architectures so that we understand and quantify the impact of each proposed solution?
- \* How do we organize, analyze, integrate, and evaluate the broad range of techniques that are available?