



# KEY DISTRIBUTION STRATEGIES FOR AD HOC AND SENSOR NETWORKS

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Patrick Traynor

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

The Pennsylvania State University

Advisor: Dr. Tom La Porta



# Approaches to Cryptography

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- Asymmetric (e.g. RSA):
  - Computationally VERY expensive!
  - The presence of a Key Distribution Center (KDC) can not be ensured in a remote, wireless environment.
  - Sensor nodes lack enough memory to hold all of the variables necessary for 1024-bit RSA encryption
  - Another approach must be taken!

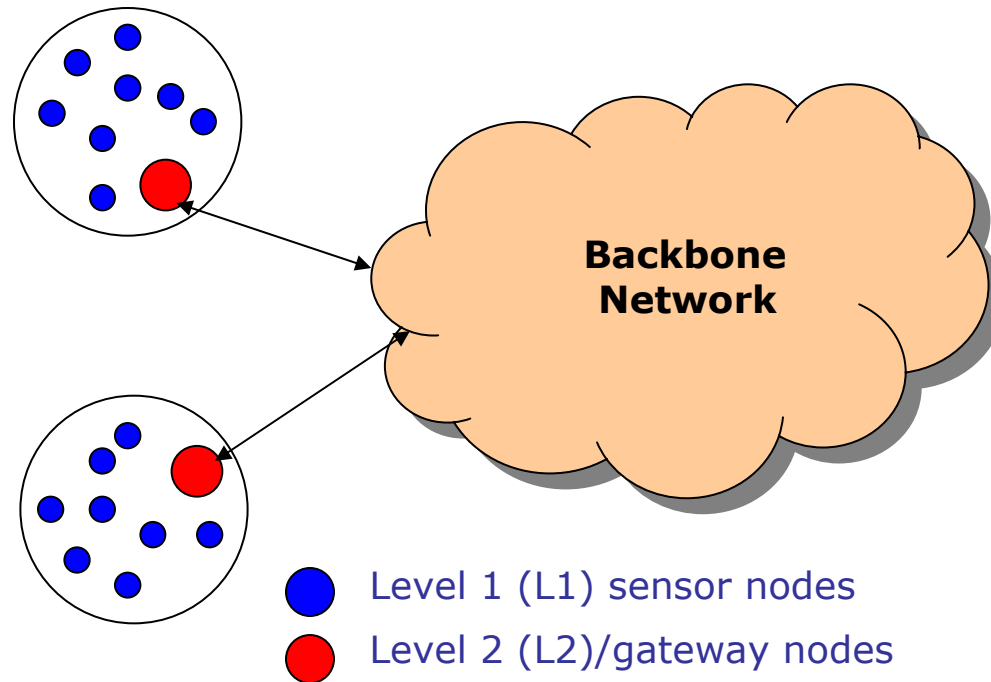


# Approaches to Cryptography

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- Symmetric (e.g. DES, AES):
  - Using a single key compromises the entire network if a single node is captured.
  - Another traditional approach requires  $n-1$  keys per node to ensure communication between all nodes  $\rightarrow O(n^2)$
  - Pre-distributing specific keys can reduce the difficulty in key exchange, but the potential overhead can be huge!
  - Is it possible to distribute enough random keys in each node to ensure communication?

# Robust Network Model



Traditional flat topologies only work in best- case scenarios



# Equations

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P(Balanced Key Conn)

$$p' = 1 - \frac{((P - k)!)^2}{P!(P - 2k)!}$$

P(Unbalanced Key Conn)

$$p' = 1 - \frac{(P - k)!(P - m)!}{P!(P - m - k)!}$$

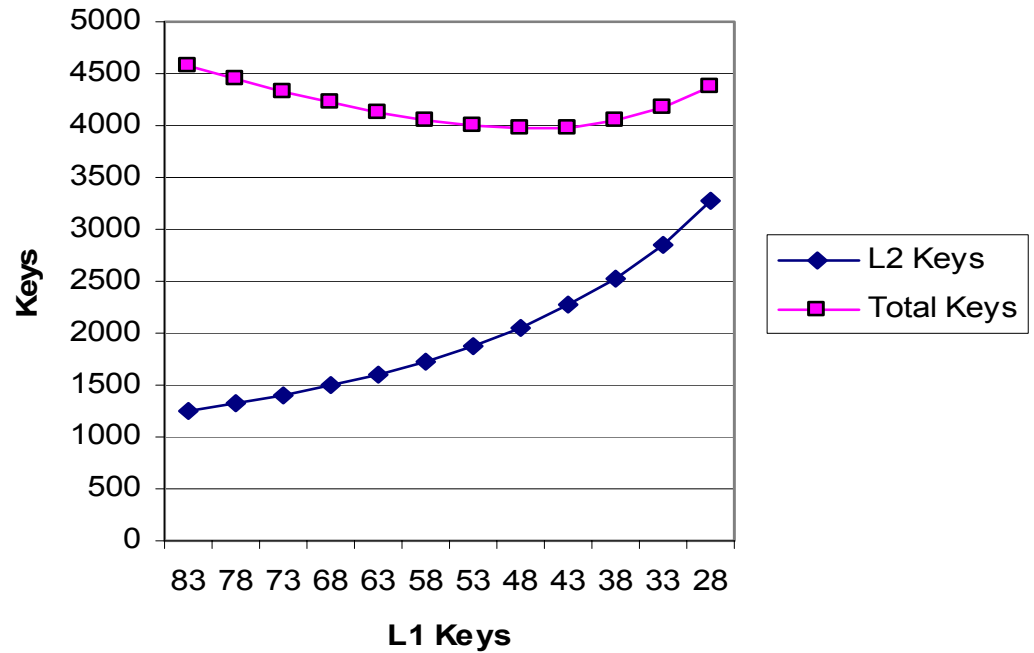
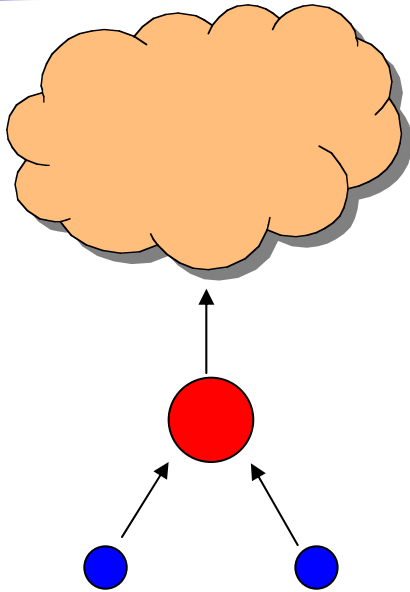
P(L1->L1)

$$P(S) = 1 - \prod_{h=0}^{n-2} (1 - L1^{h+1})^R$$

P(L1->L2->L1)

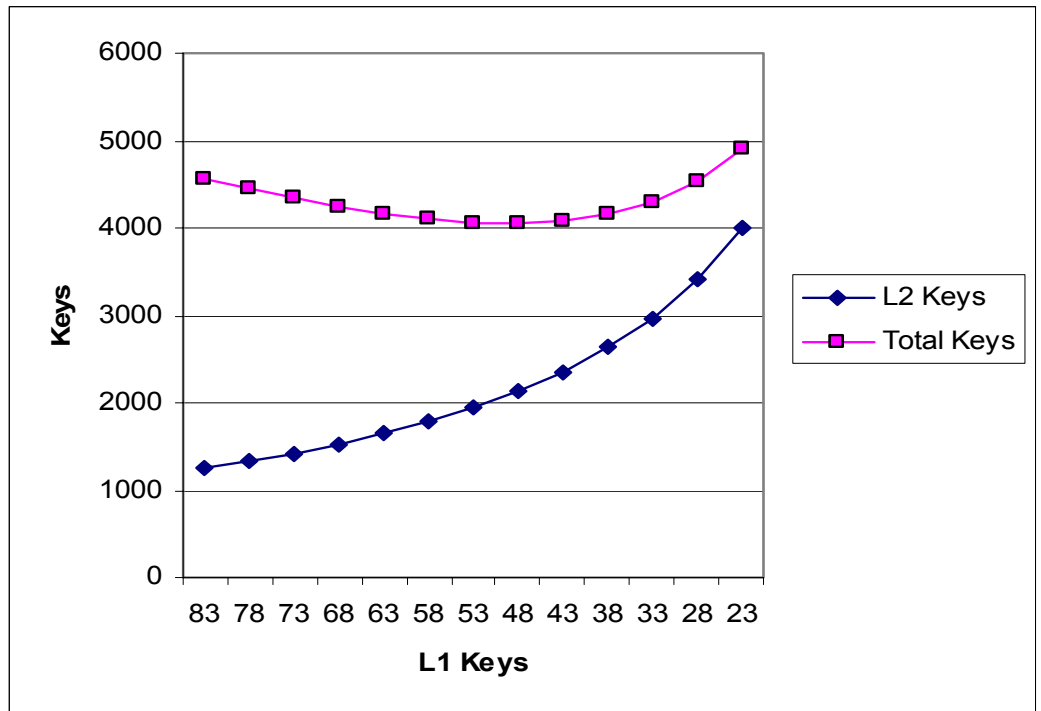
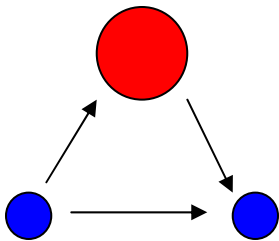
$$P(A) = 1 - \prod_{h=0}^{n-2} (1 - (L1^h)(L2))^R$$

# Backhaul Case



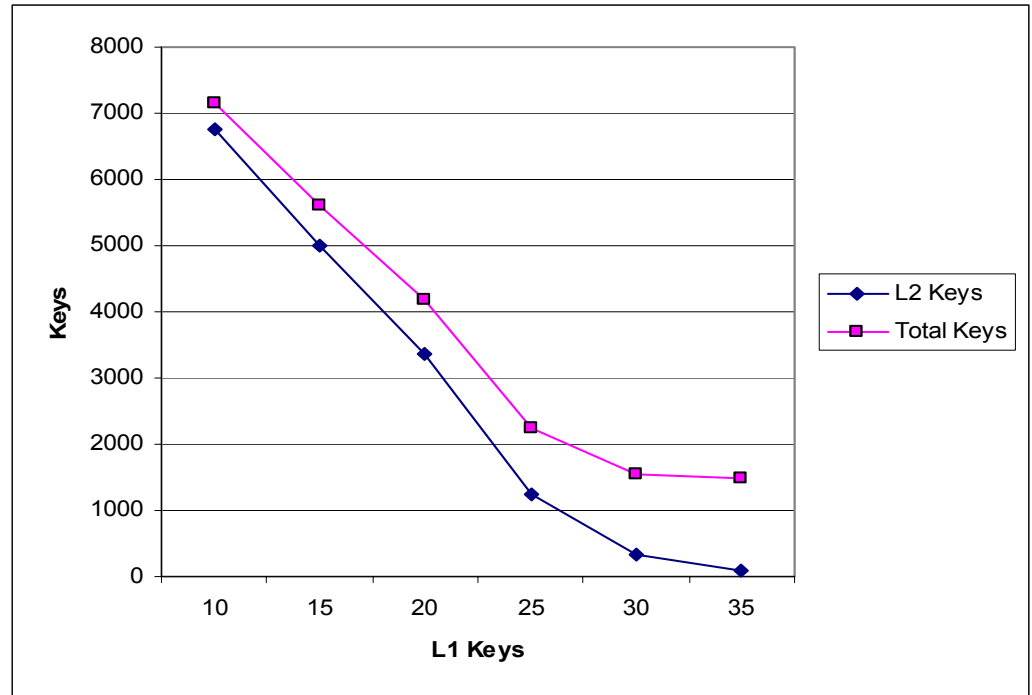
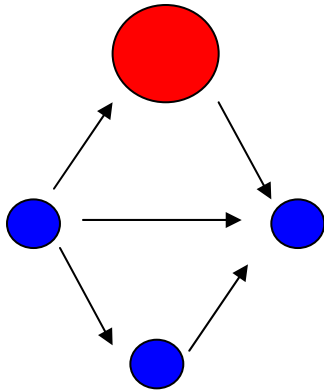
Balanced Case: 328 keys/node  
Total: 13,120 keys  
Unbalanced Case: 20-80 keys/node

# Local P2P, Limited Trust



Balanced Case: 328 keys/node  
Total: 13,120 keys  
Unbalanced Case: 20-80 keys/node

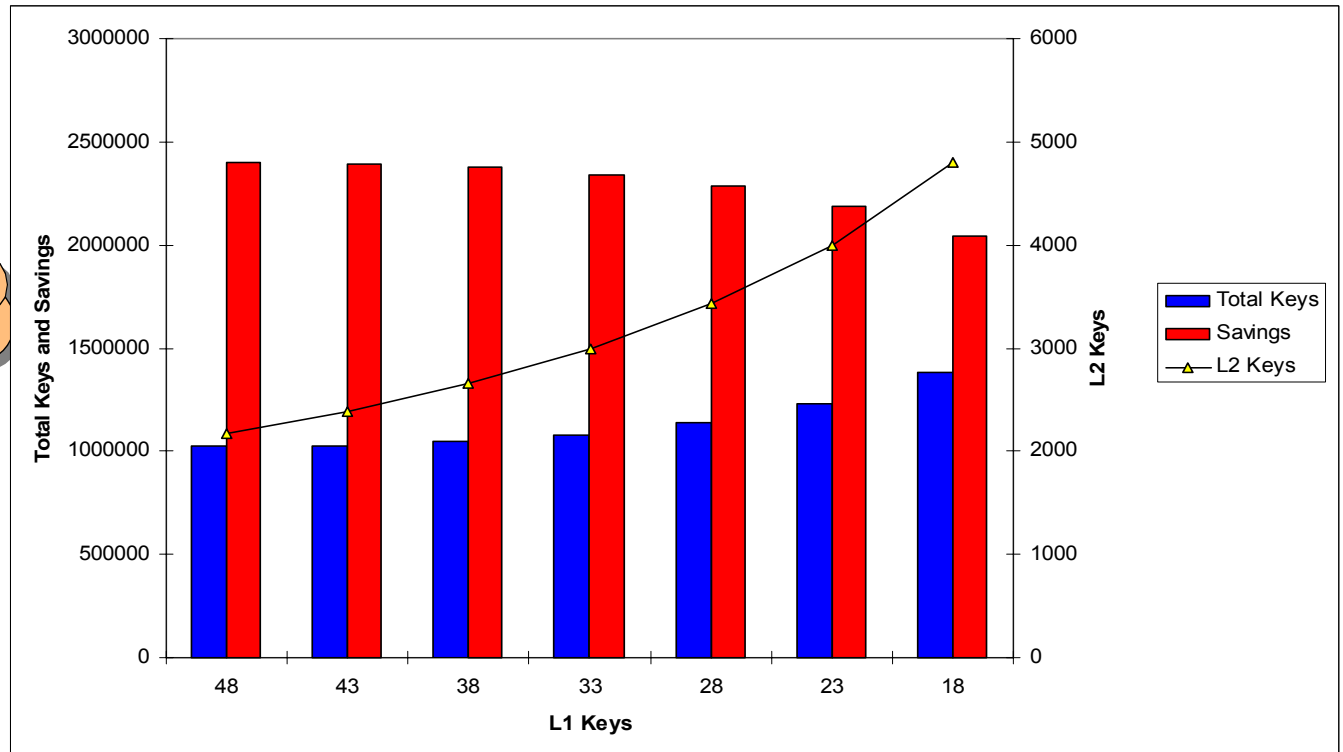
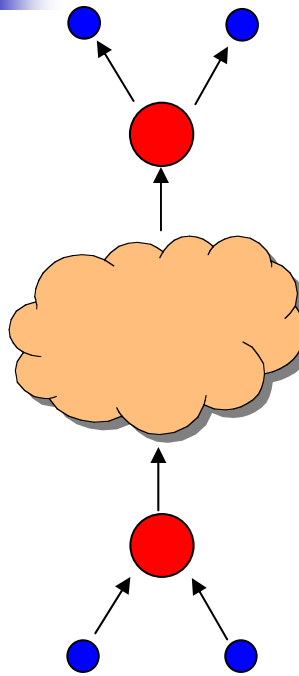
# Local P2P, Liberal Trust



Balanced Case: 40 keys/node  
Total: 1,600 keys  
Unbalanced Case: 10-35 keys/node

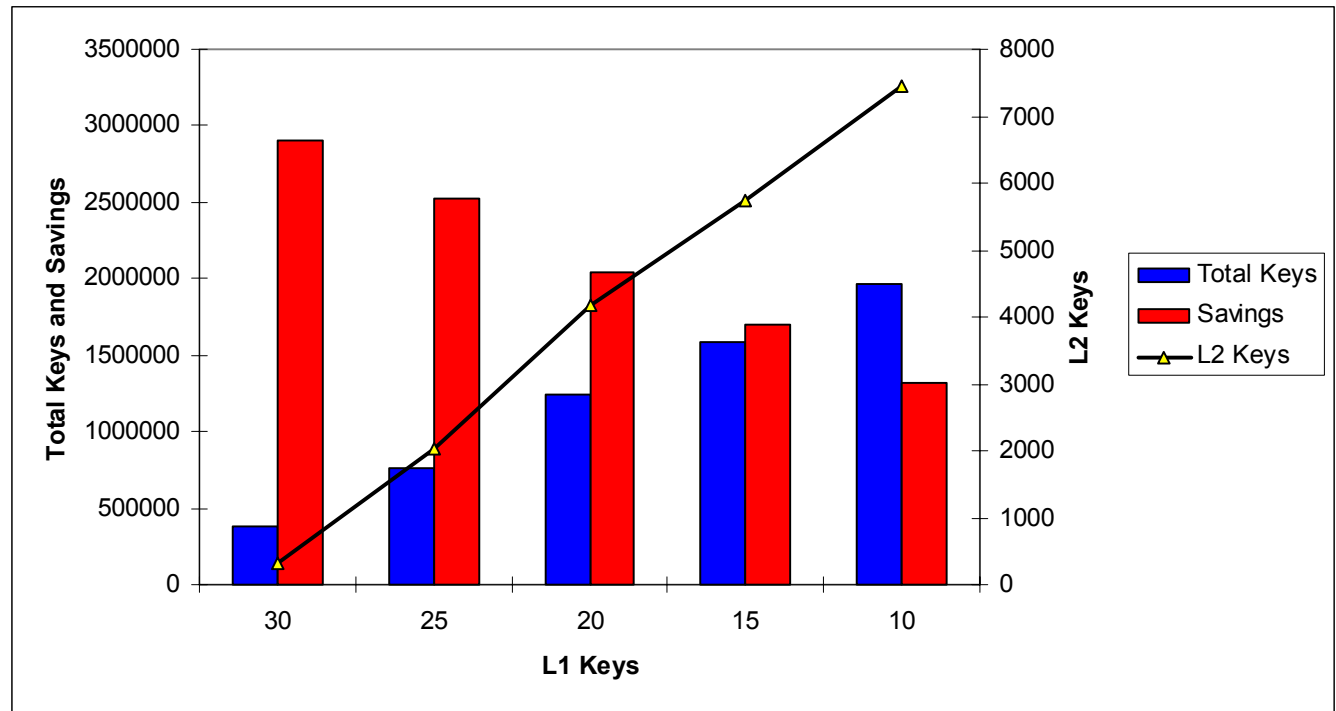
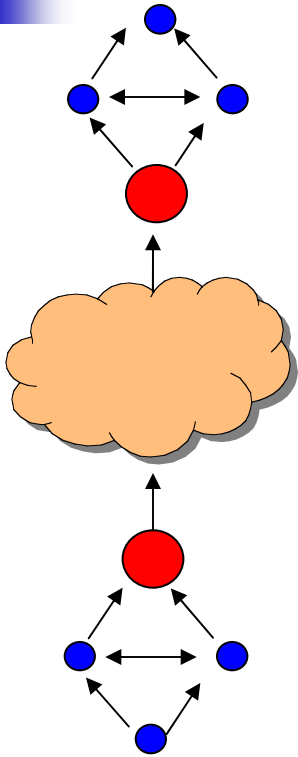


# Non-Local P2P, Limited Trust



Balanced Case: 342 keys/node  
Total: 3,420,000 keys  
Unbalanced Case: 18-48 keys/node

# Non-Local P2P, Liberal Trust



Balanced Case: 342 keys/node  
Total: 3,280,000 keys  
Unbalanced Case: 10-30 keys/node