

Contemporary Operating Systems are not ready for Peer Computing

Surendar Chandra, University of Notre Dame

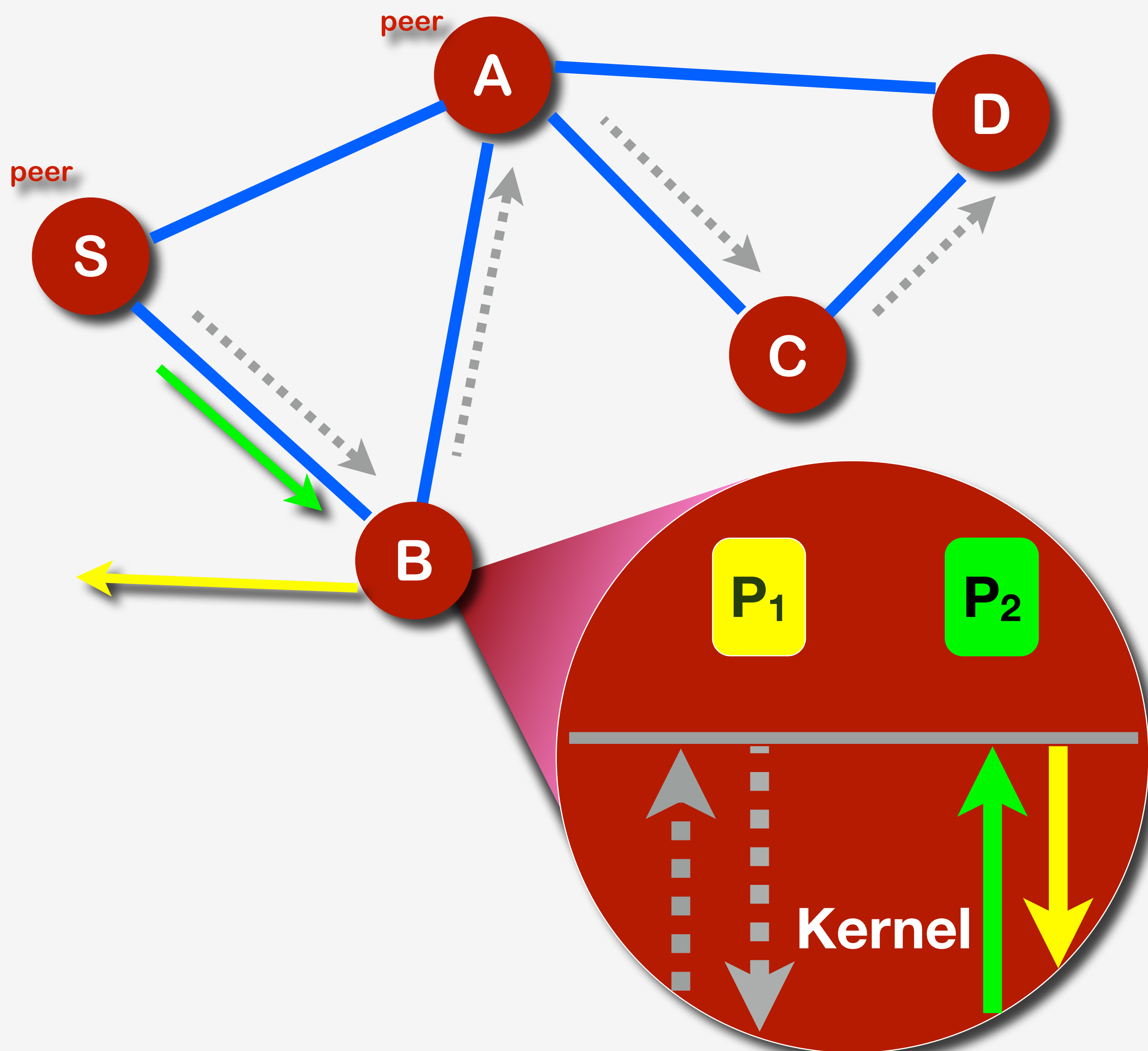


Operating System

manage system resources among schedulable entities

Peer computing

federate spare resources of independently owned peers



Scenario 1: Ad hoc networks

Operating System

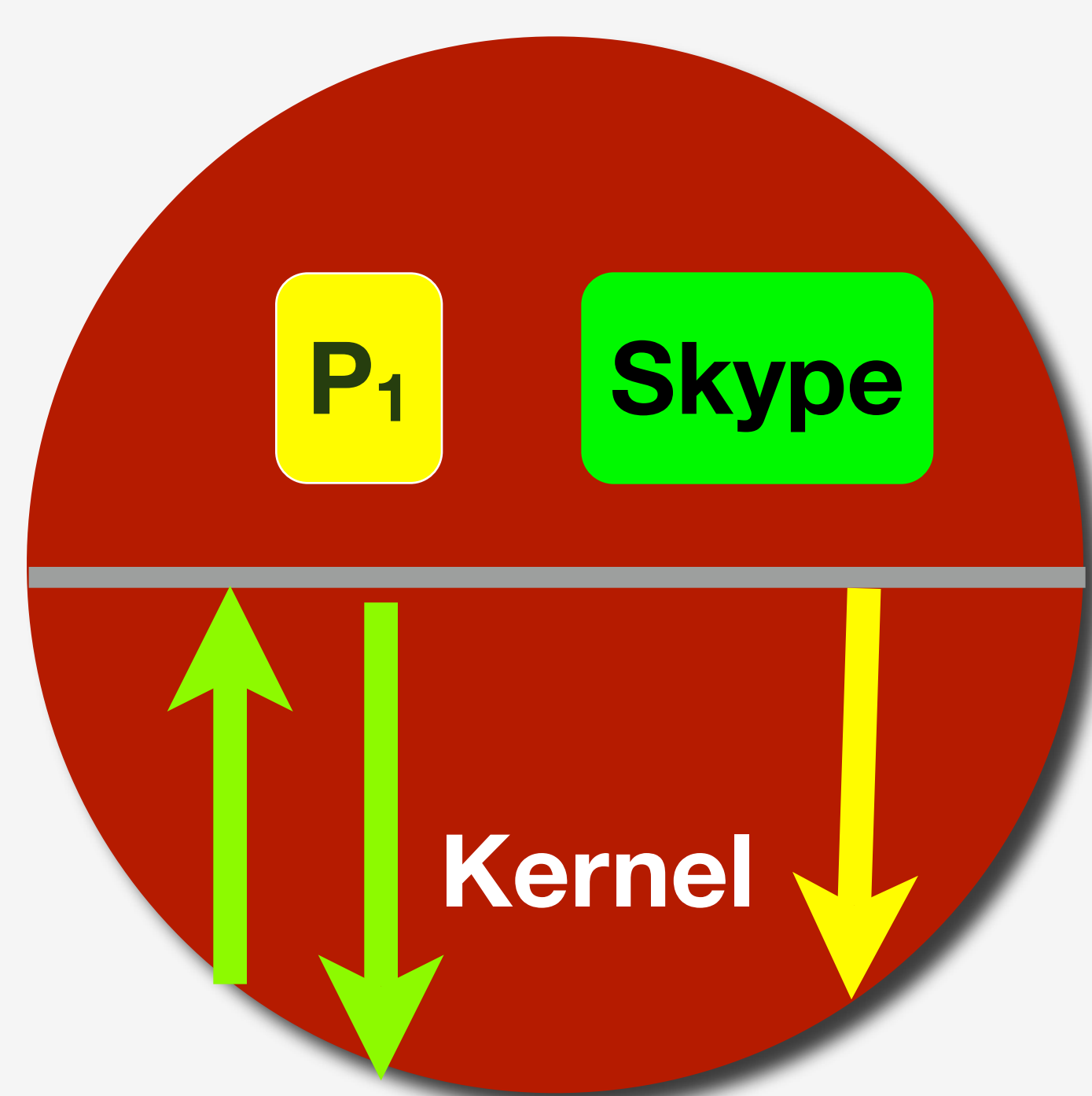
Fair allocation of CPU, I/O, storage resources for processes P_1 , P_2

Peer computing

Route $S \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \rightarrow C \rightarrow D$ based on bandwidth/latency/energy..

OS always routes with no spare capacity notions
- higher priority than for P_1 and P_2
- e.g., WinXP 2GHz laptop, Real media 256 kbps: 80% kernel CPU load for forwarding (interrupt overhead)

Scenario 2: Peer to peer systems



Operating System

Manage resources (e.g., battery) for processes P_1 and Skype

Peer computing - Skype

Local user: Use other peers for VOIP calls
Peer computing: Route and relay calls

Lowering Skype process priority: unacceptable solution
- makes realtime application unusable for local user
- requests eventually serviced to lower priority process

OS does not control spare resource allocation, all requests are eventually serviced. Peers expected to be nice and limit requests (~ tit-for-tat levels)
→ Our approach: peer requests treated as second class citizens
‣ Solution: Less than best effort scheduling
‣ Abundant resources - no difference
‣ Resource constrained - peers receive no service, even if idle
Challenge: Balance local resource control & peer computing needs