

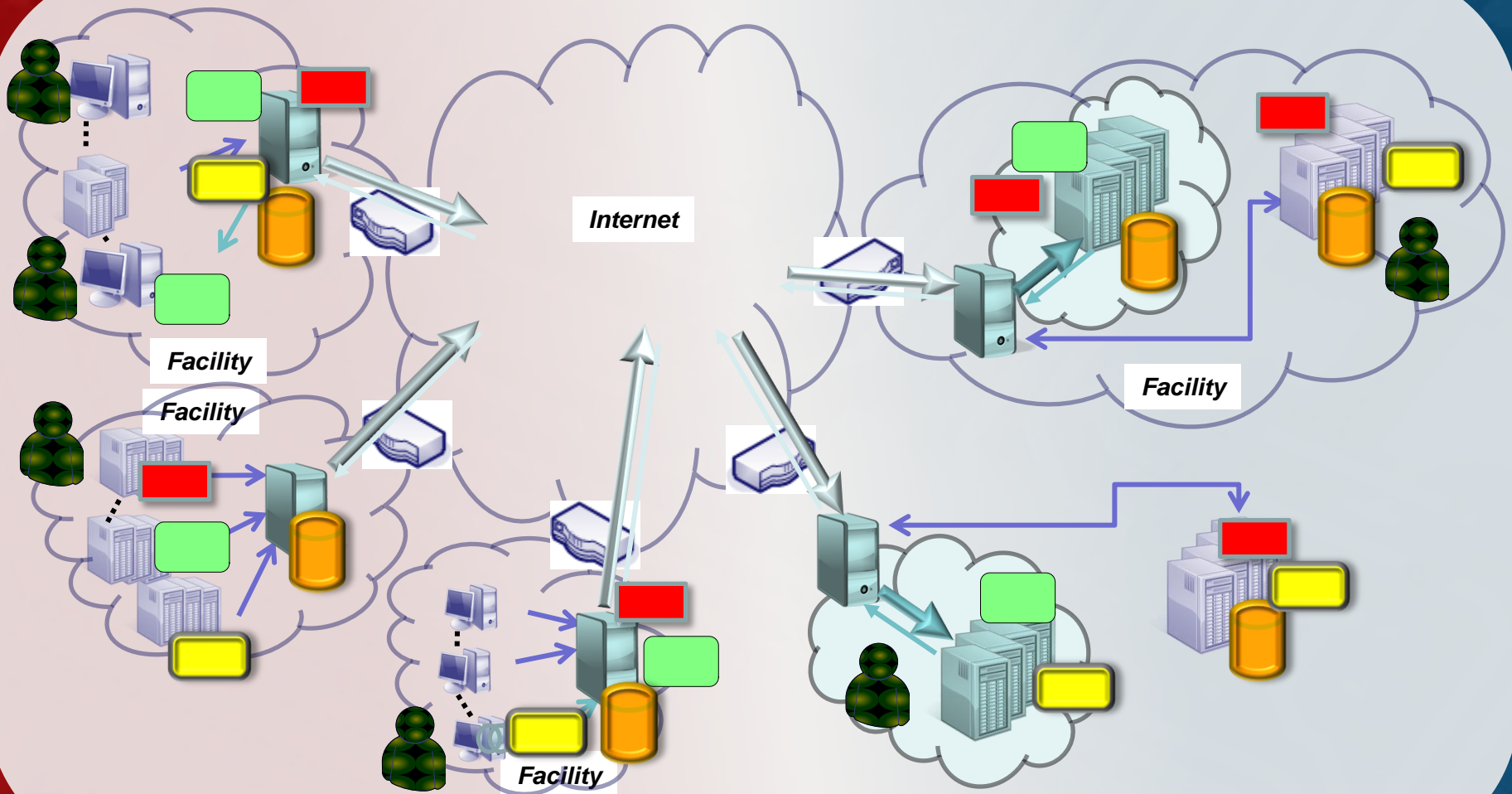
Are we keeping the security and dependability balance of DevOps in a “cloudified” world?

Paulo Esteves Veríssimo

ULisboa - Faculdade de Ciências - LaSIGE
<http://www.di.fc.ul.pt/~pju>

Research Reports, 66th IFIP WG10.4 meeting
June 2014

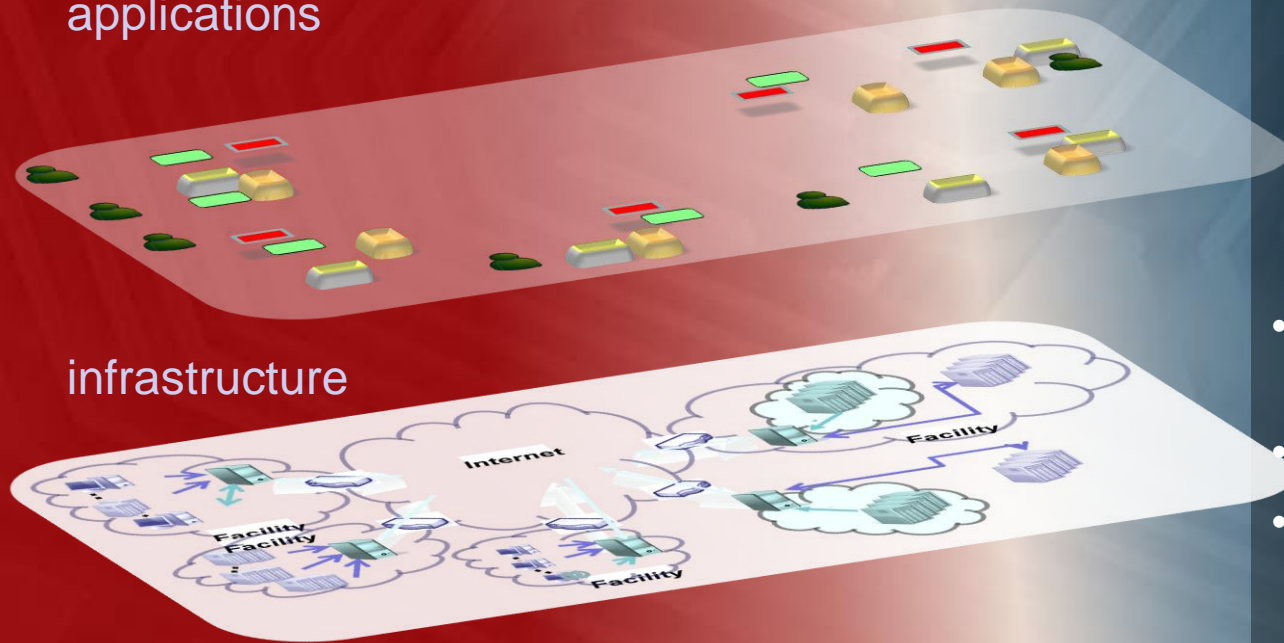
Classical IT development and operations (DevOps)



Security and dependability perspective (classical IT)

platforms and
applications

infrastructure



- short-term and dynamic dev/test/deploy cycle
- manageable Sec&Dep
- high separation from infrastructure

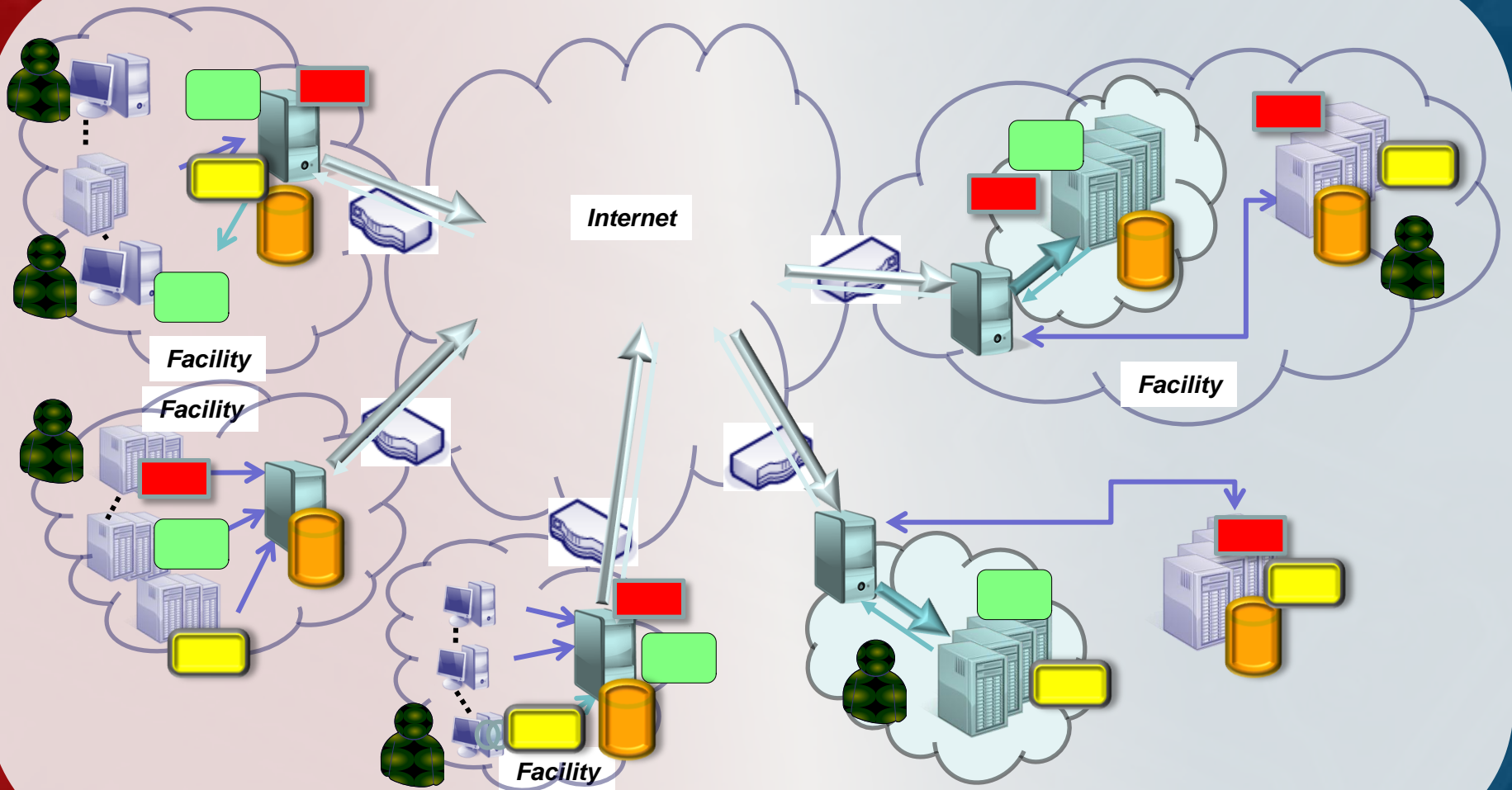
- long-term and stable dev/test/deploy cycle
- good Sec&Dep
- high insulation

Computing and communications are becoming pervasive commodities

“buying computing and communications as buying electricity”



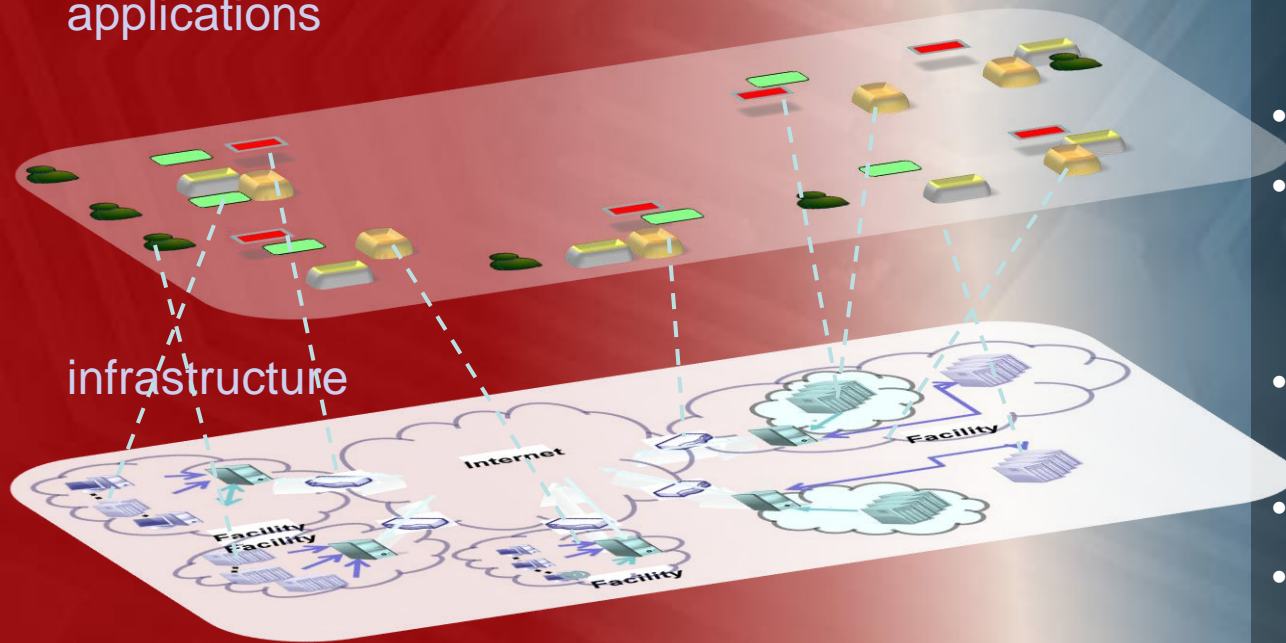
DevOps in a cloud-oriented IT world



Security and dependability perspective (classical IT)

platforms and
applications

infrastructure

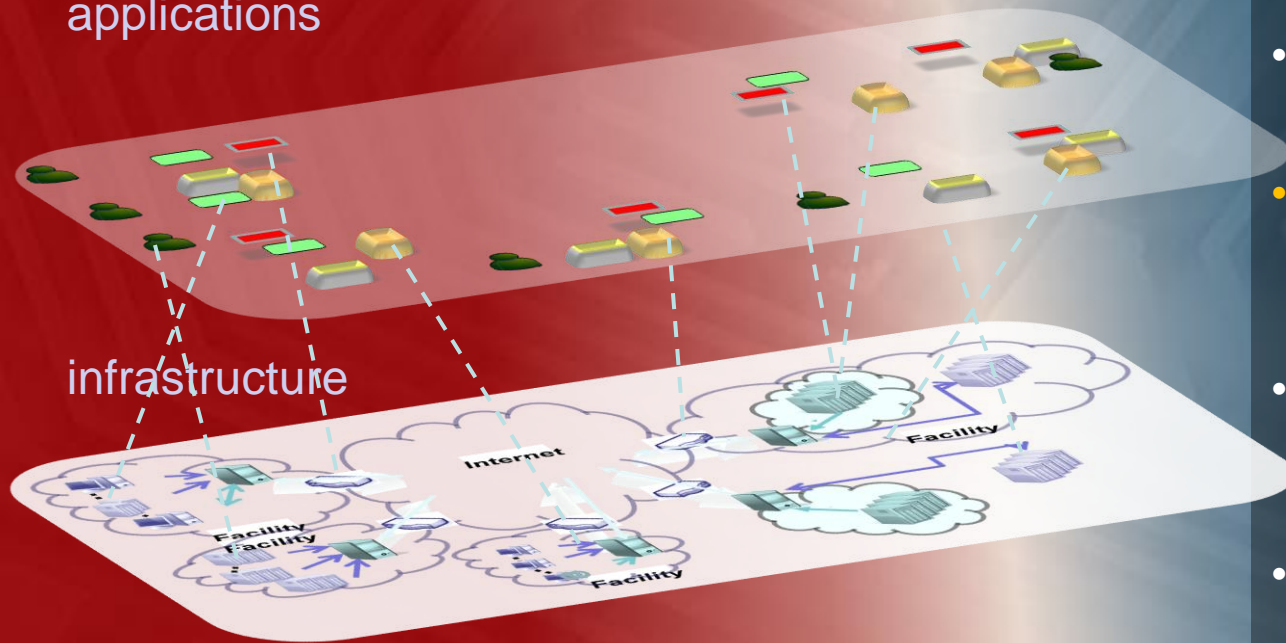


- short-term and dynamic dev/test/deploy cycle
- manageable Sec&Dep
- high separation from infrastructure
- long-term and stable dev/test/deploy cycle
- good Sec&Dep
- high insulation

Security and dependability perspective (“cloudified” IT)

platforms and
applications

infrastructure



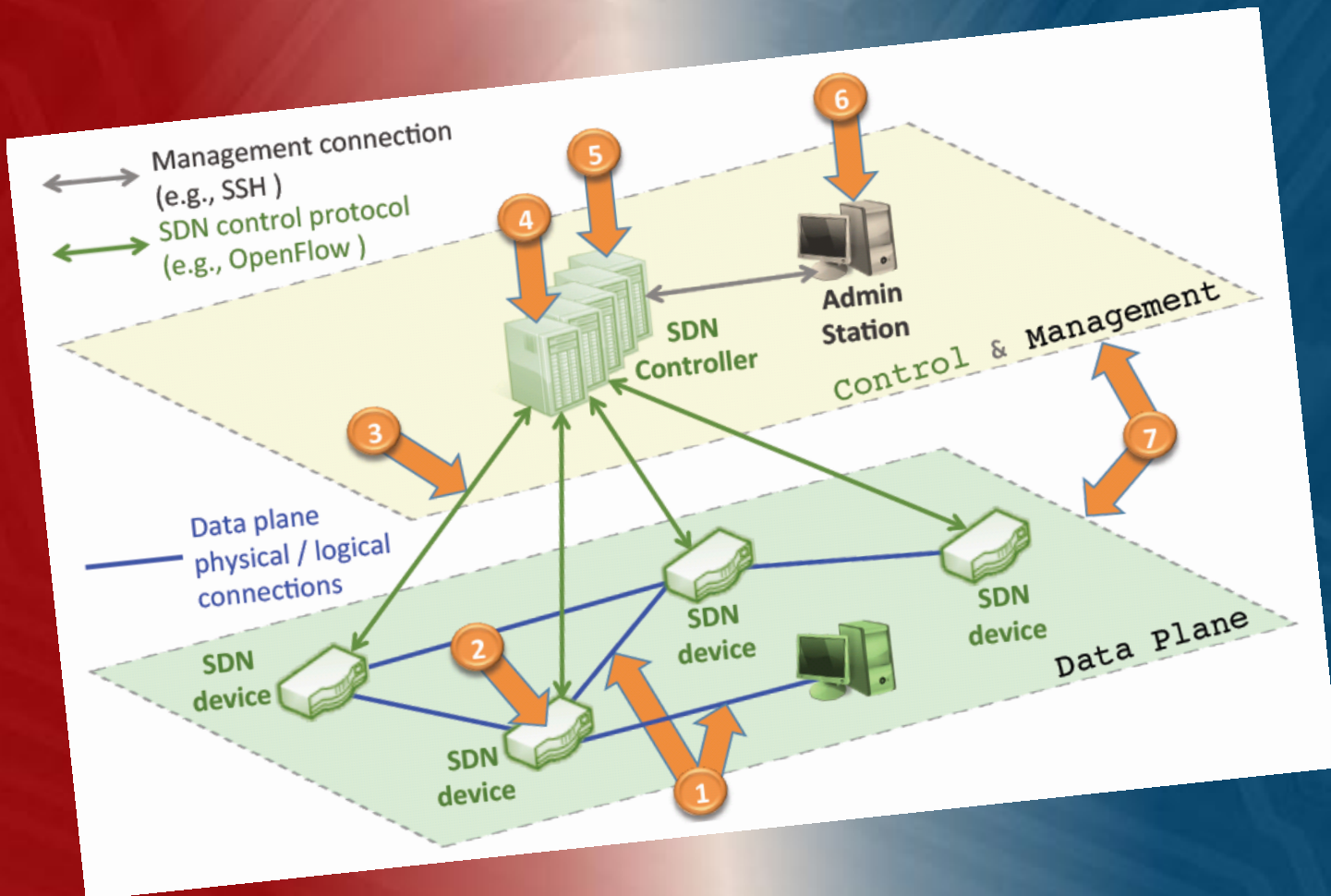
- short-term and dynamic dev/test/deploy cycle
- manageable Sec&Dep ?
- weak separation between both layers
- short-term and dynamic dev/test/deploy cycle
- manageable Sec&Dep ?

Security and dependability balance has been disturbed

- Fundamentals no longer valid:
 - High uncertainty of both infrastructure and platforms/applications
- Emergence of new vulnerabilities:
 - interference
 - interdependence
- Emergence of new threats:
 - compounded attack surfaces
- **Where to look?**
 - Virtualization (VMM, etc.)
 - SDNs



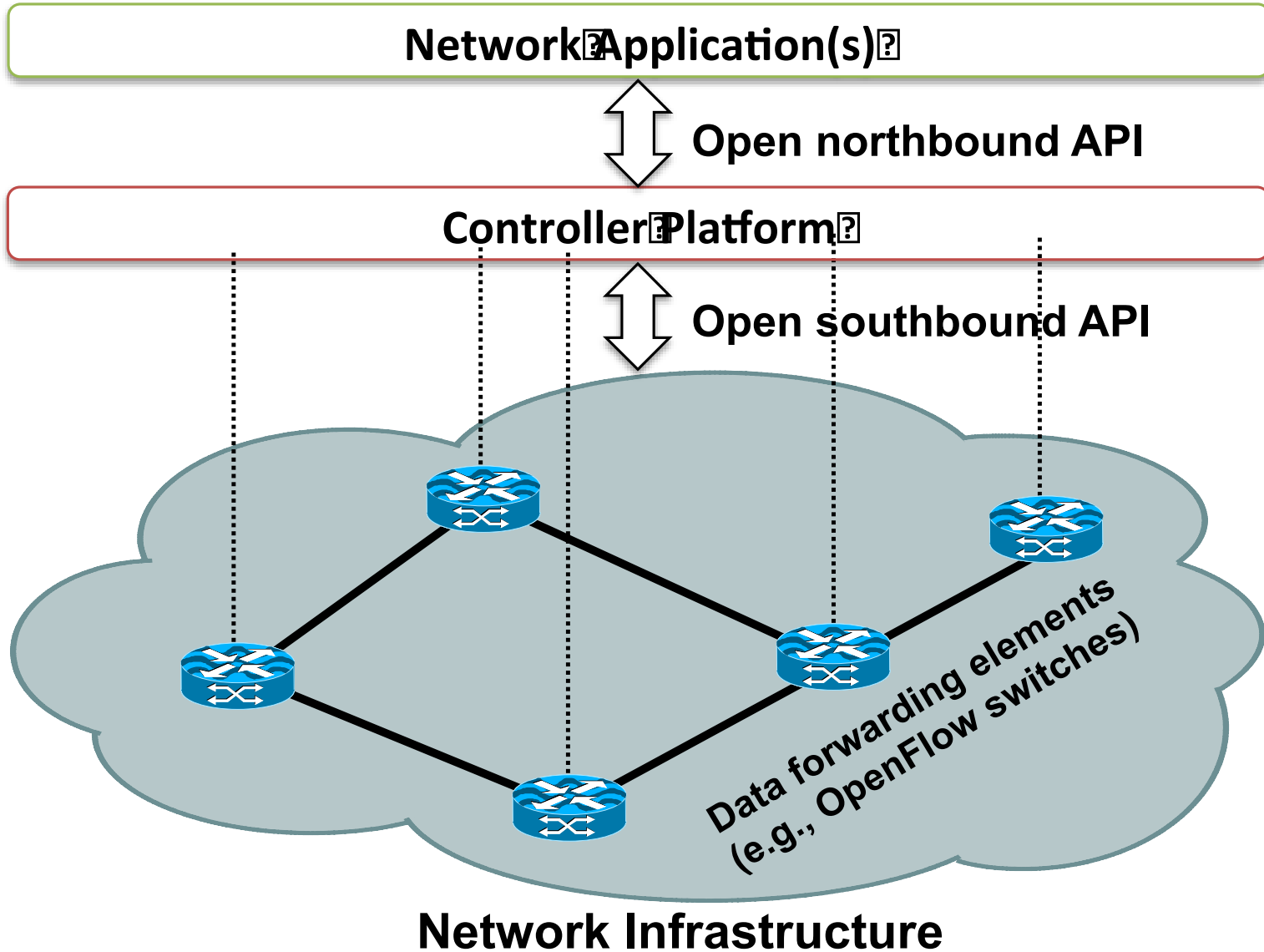
Threats to SDN systems



Software-Defined Networks

- Decoupled control and data planes
- Logically centralized controllers
- Programmability
- Openness
- Interoperability

Software-Defined Networks



Problem statement

ironically, main causes of concern lie in SDN's main benefits:

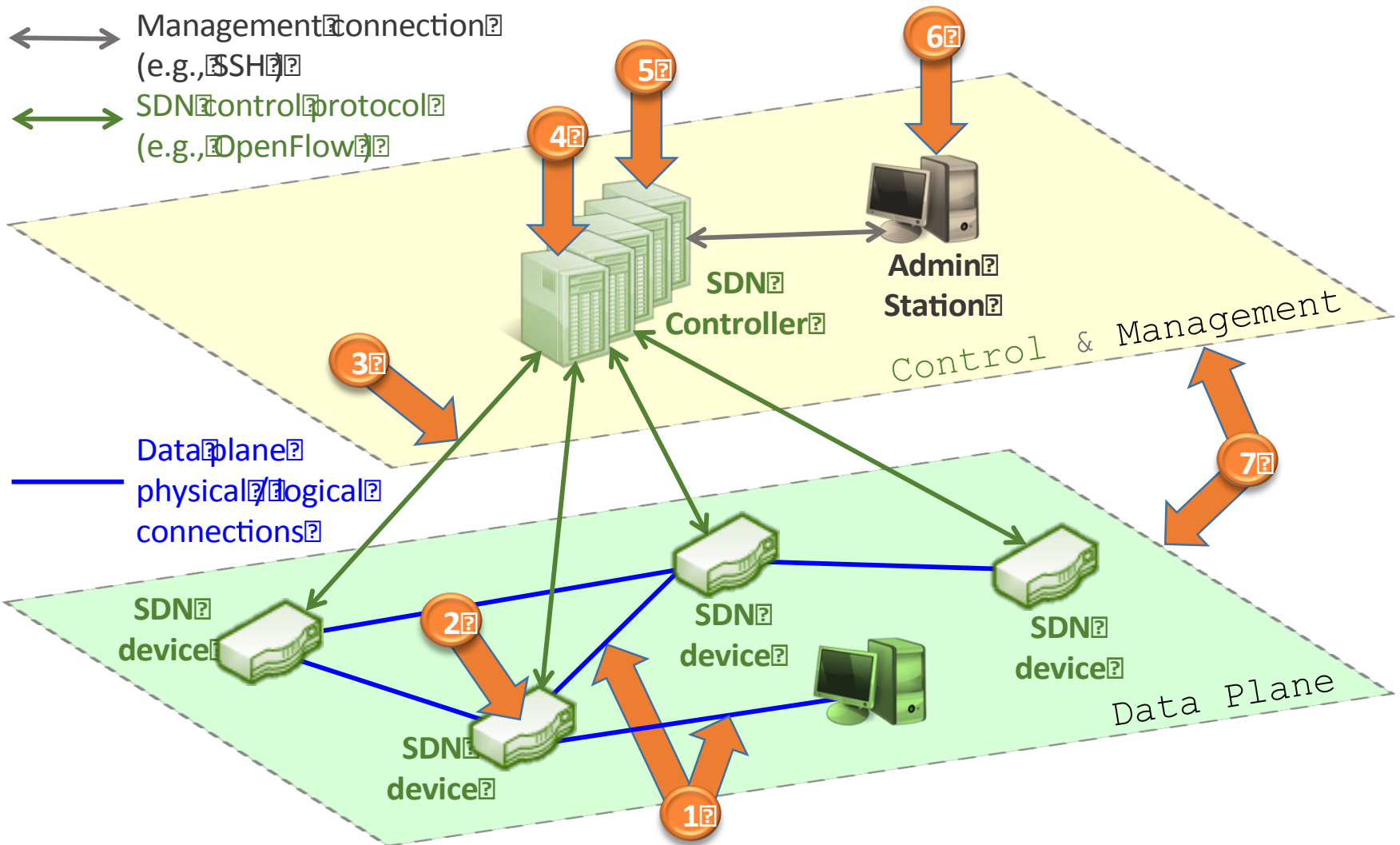
network programmability and control logic centralization bring in new fault and attack planes

which open the doors for new threats that did not exist before or were harder to exploit

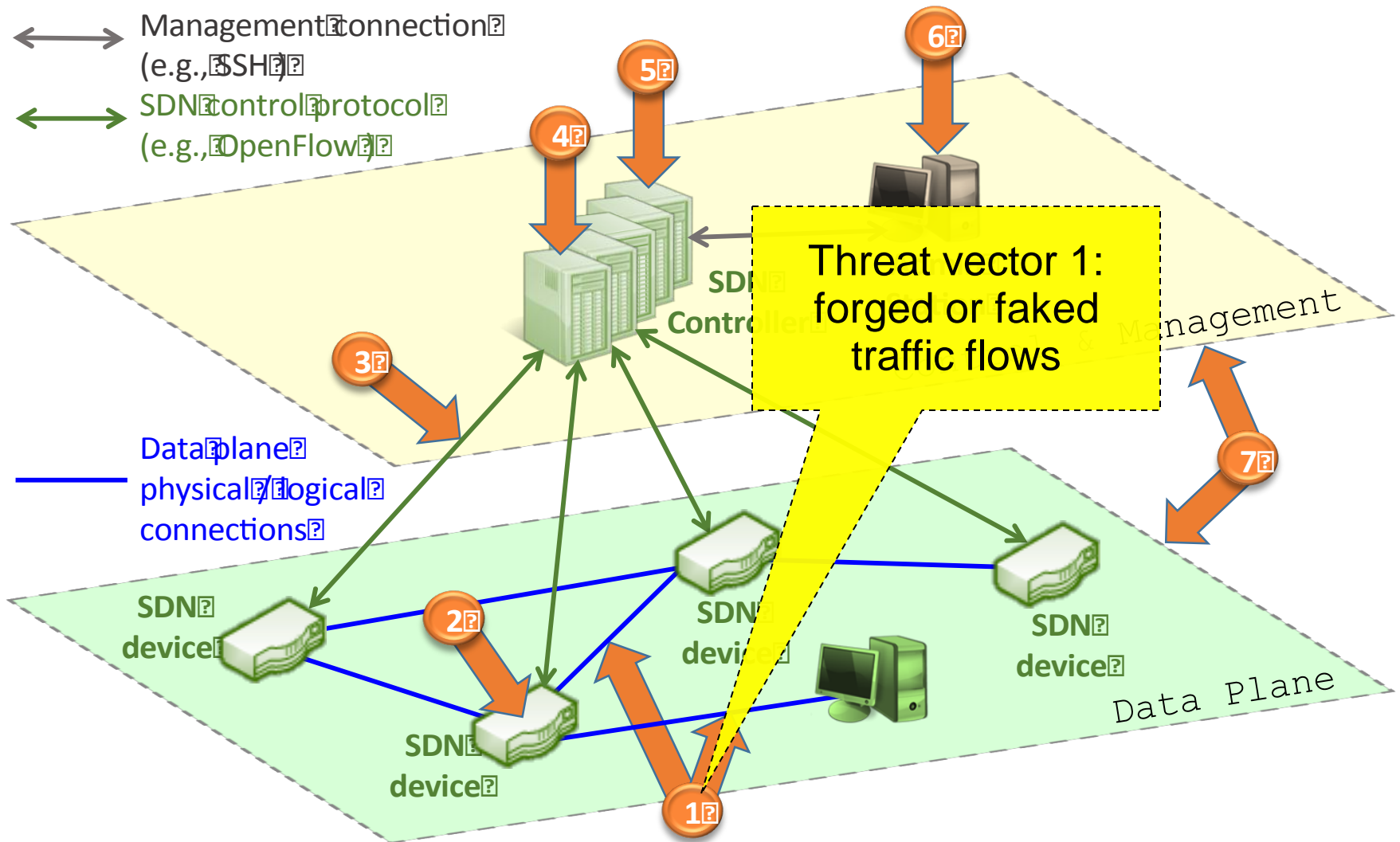
comparatively smaller diversity in SDNs added to high configurability and programmability:

an attack similar to Stuxnet could have dramatic consequences

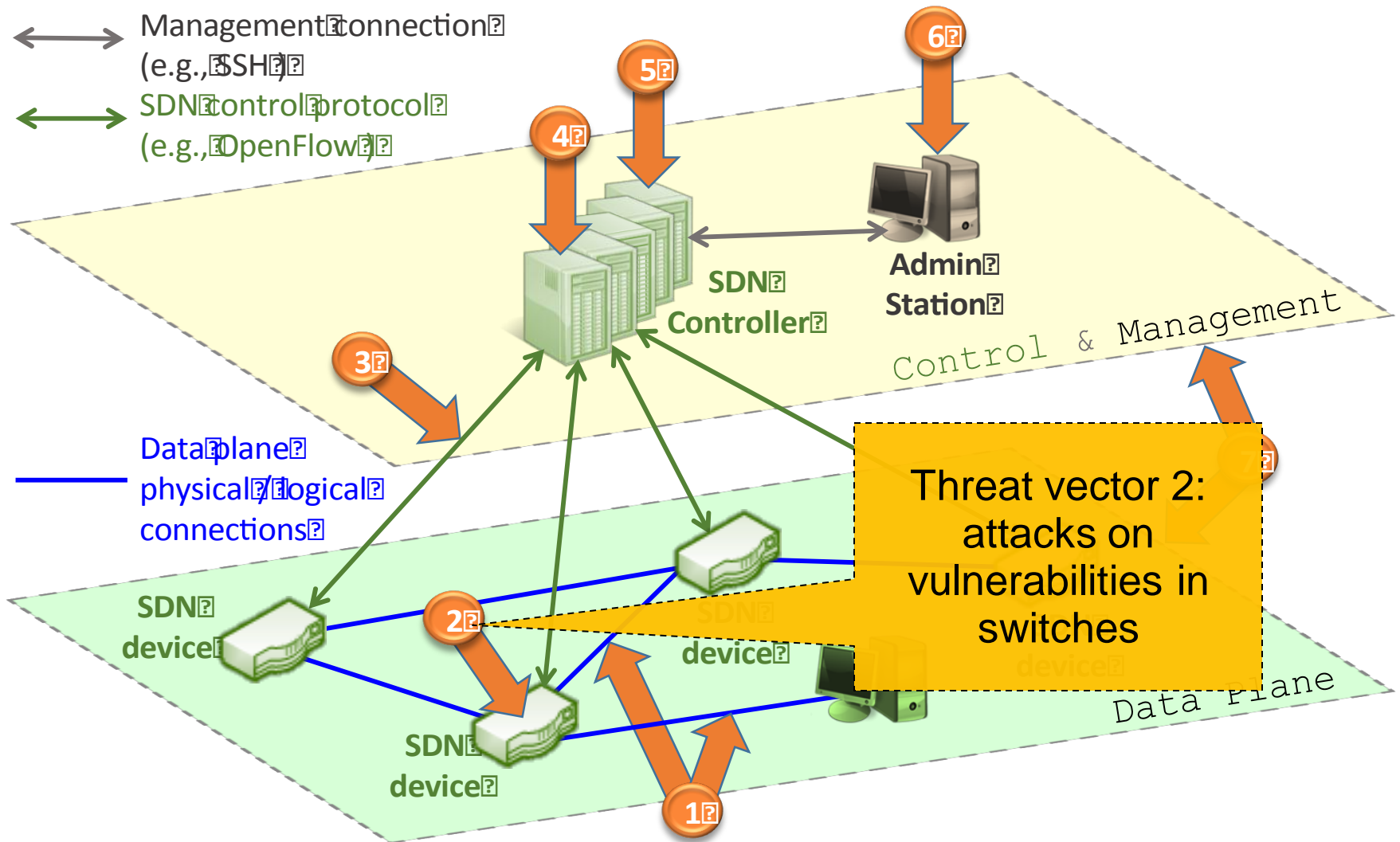
Threat vectors



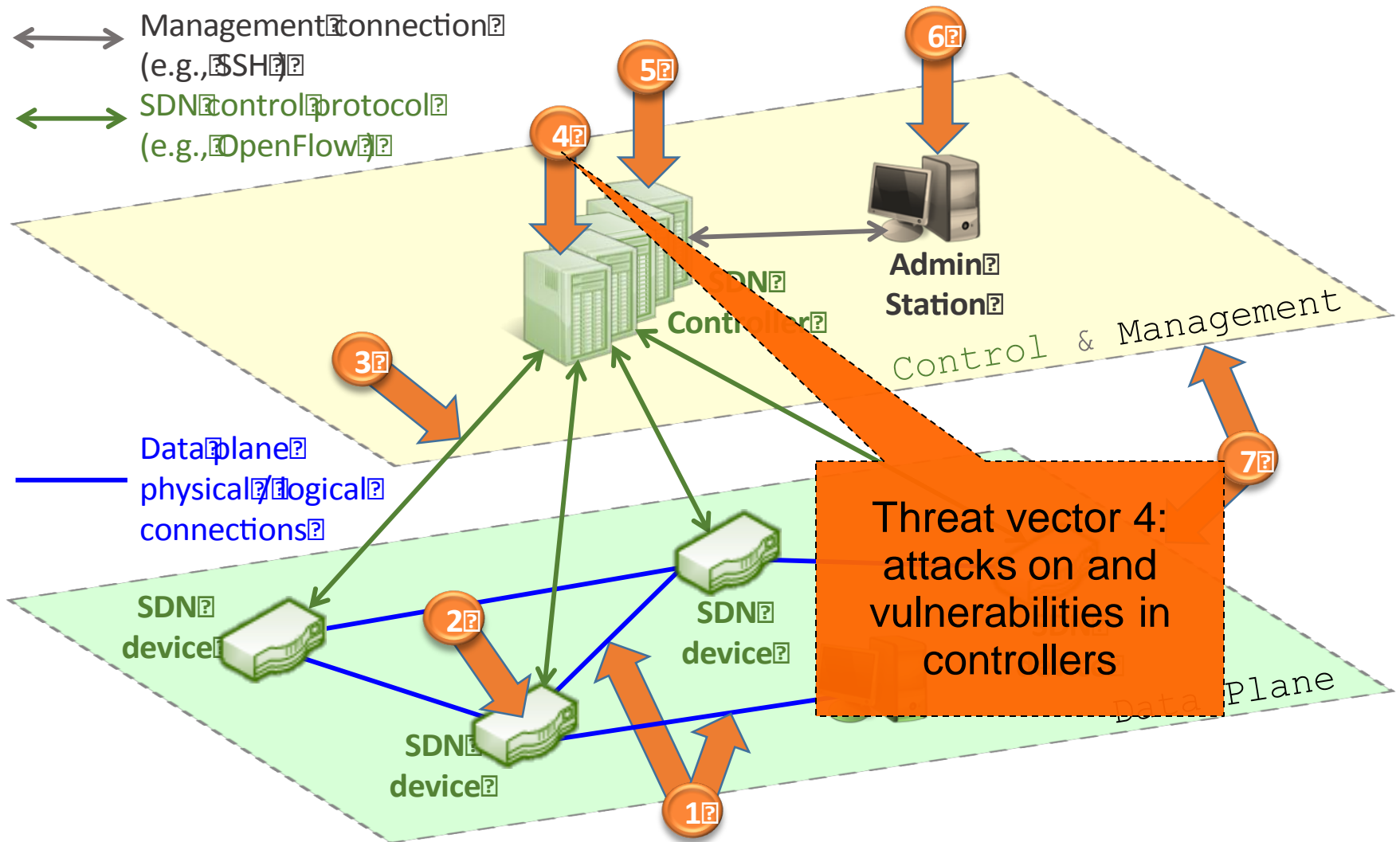
Threat vectors



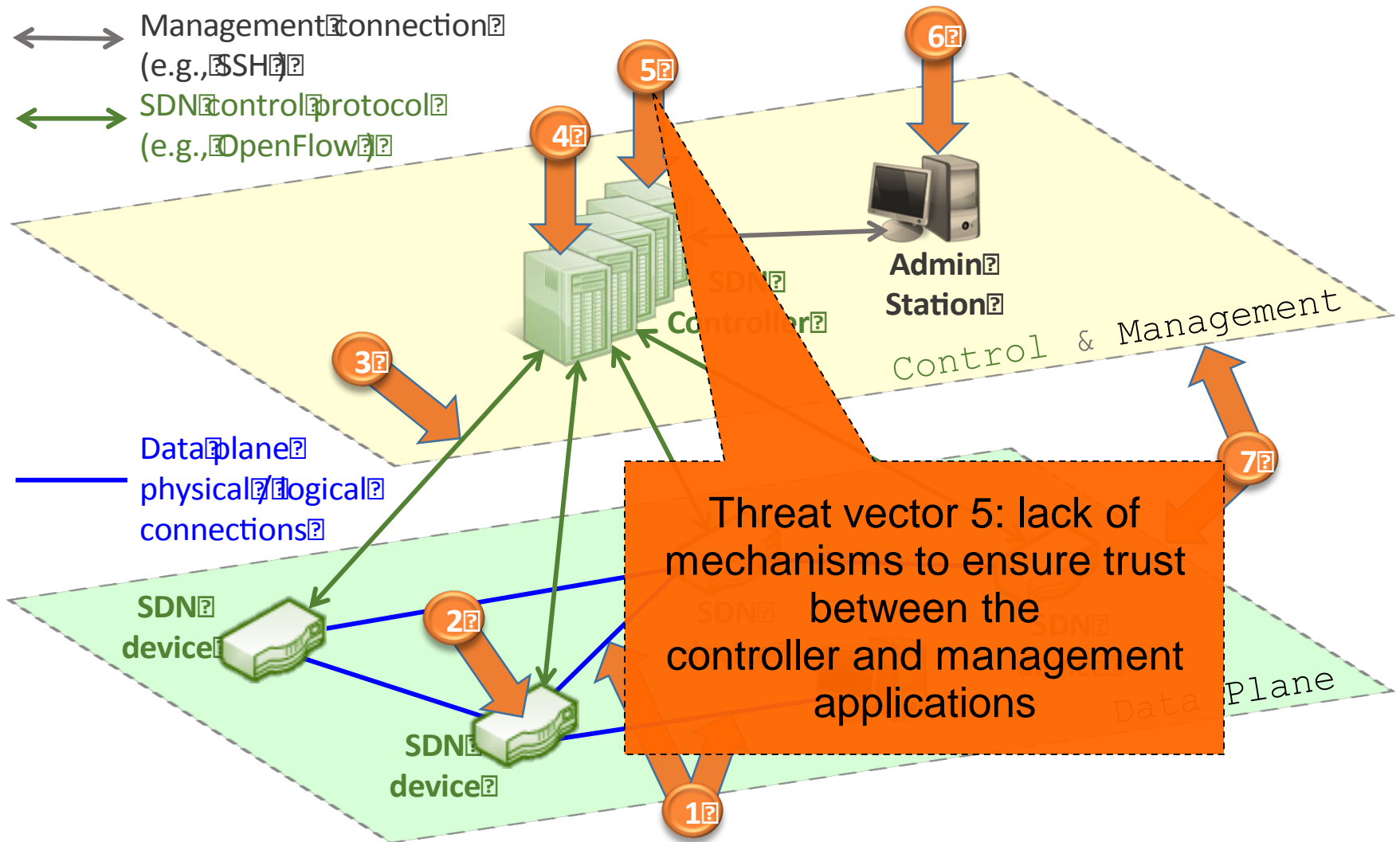
Threat vectors



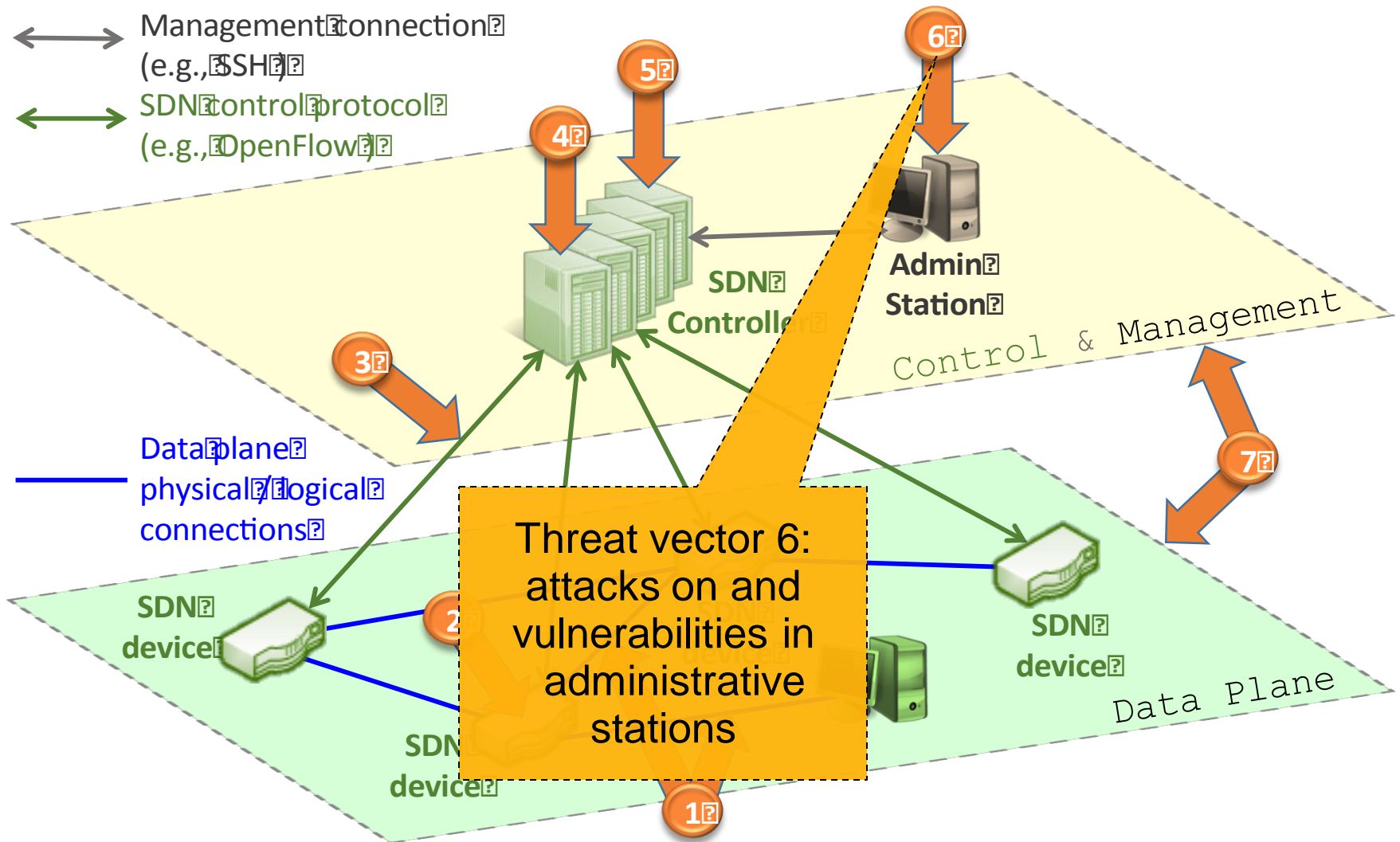
Threat vectors



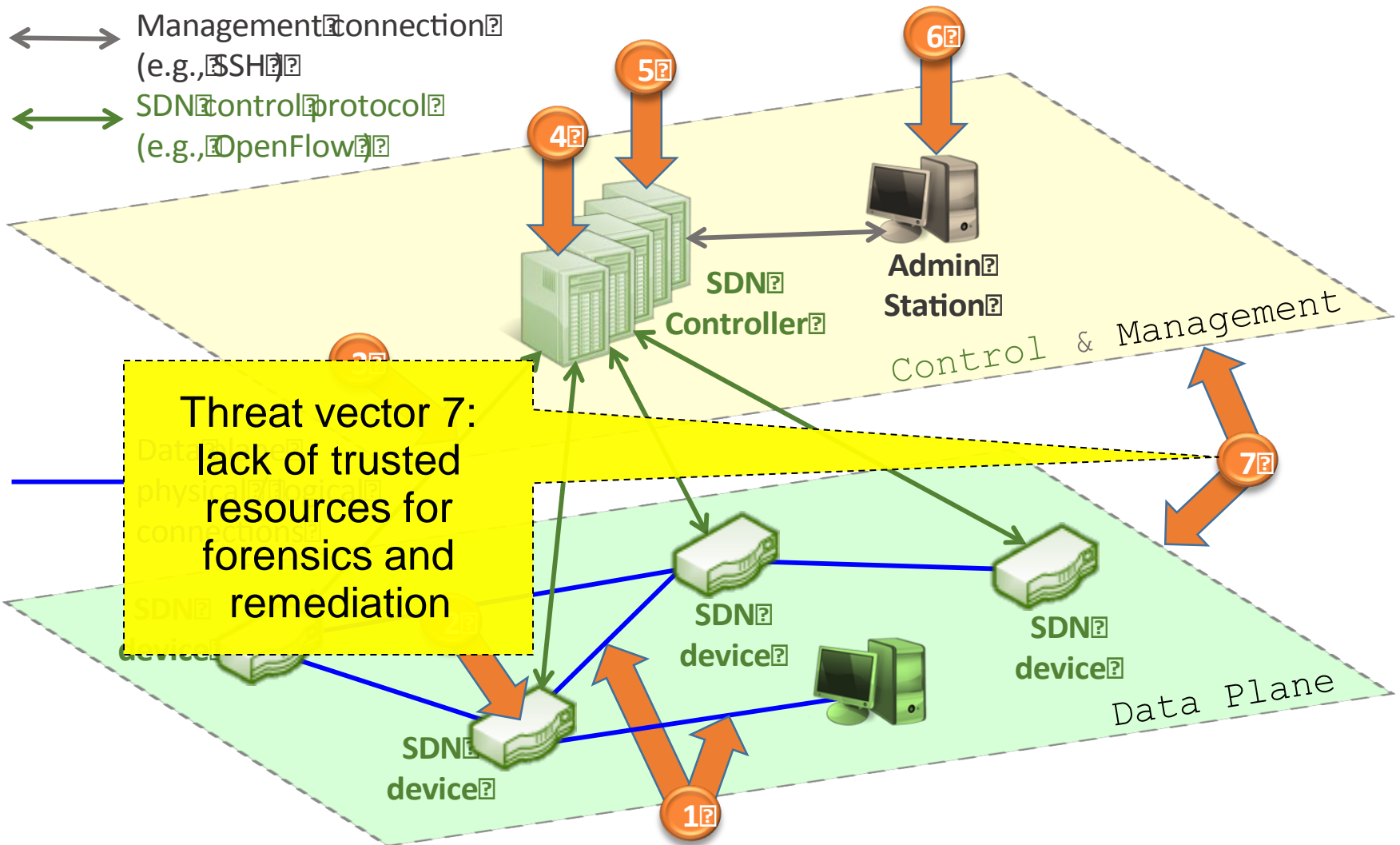
Threat vectors



Threat vectors



Threat vectors

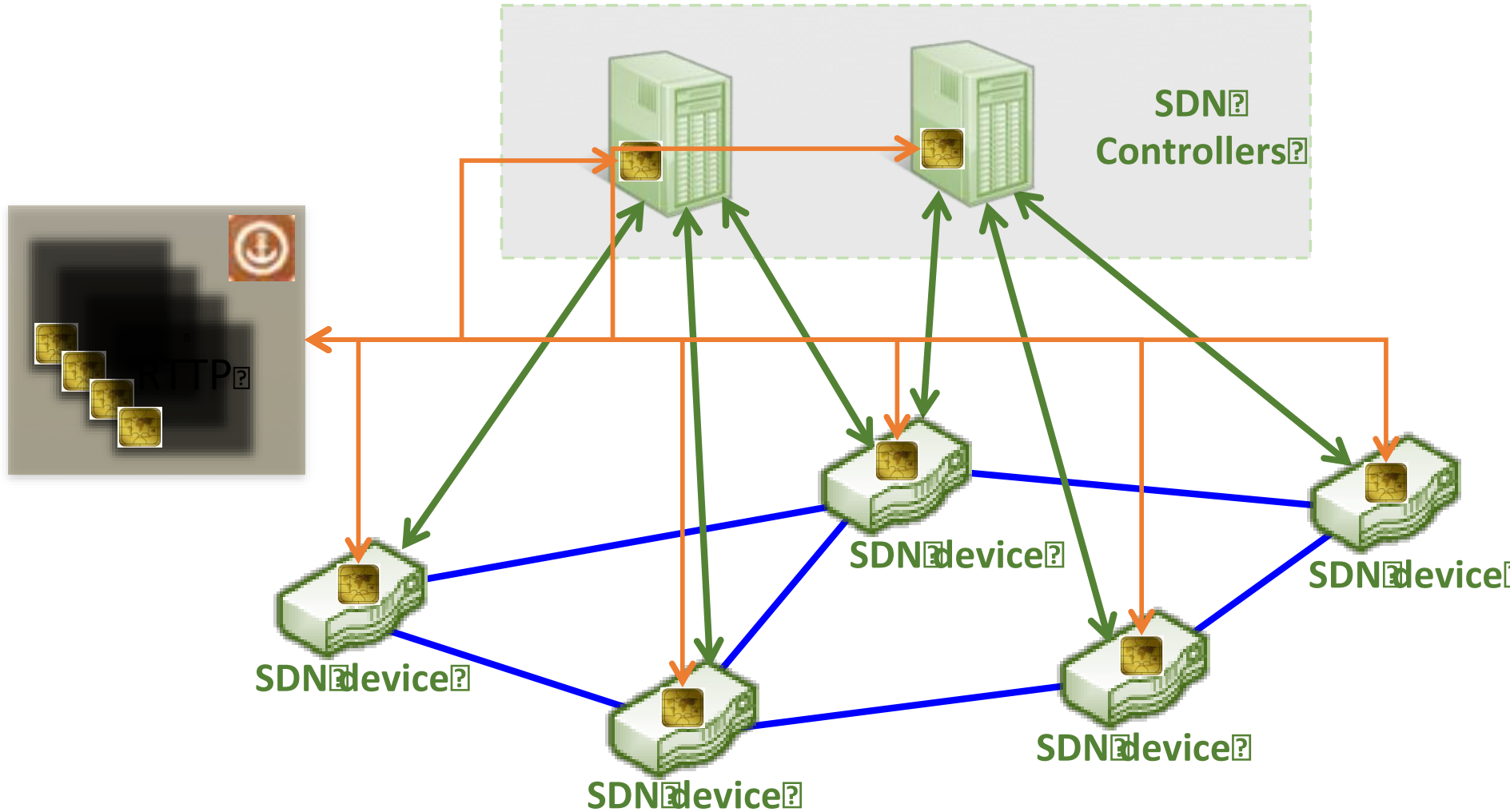


Threat vectors

Threat	Specific to SDN?	Consequences in SDN
Vector 1	no	can be a door for DoS attacks
Vector 2	no	but now the impact is potentially augmented
Vector 3	yes	communication with logically centralized controllers can be explored
Vector 4	yes	controlling the controller may compromise the entire network
Vector 5	yes	malicious applications can now be easily developed and deployed on controllers
Vector 6	no	but now the impact is potentially augmented
Vector 7	no	it is still critical to assure fast recovery and diagnosis when faults happen

Proposed Approach: RTTP

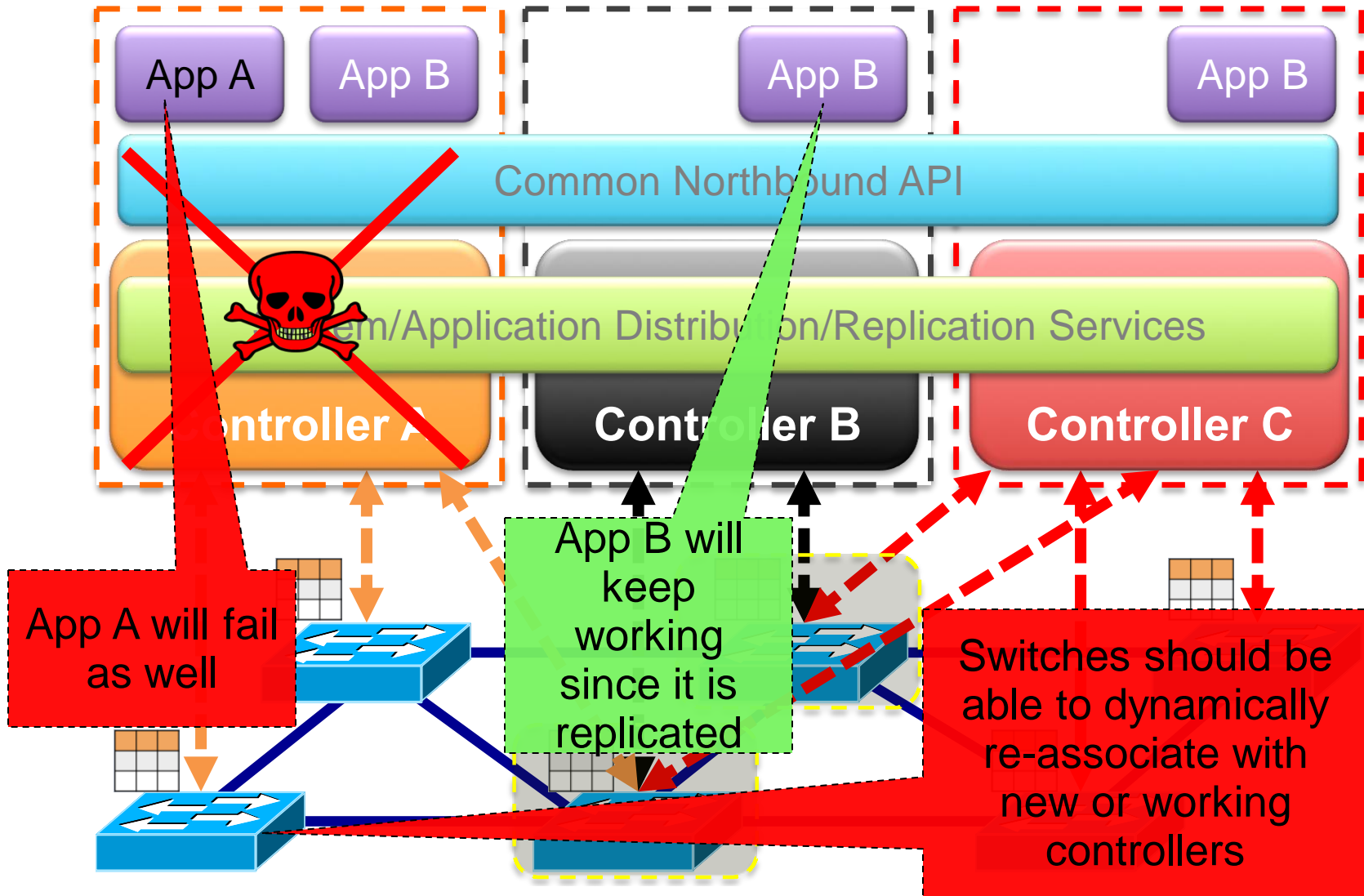
Resilient and Trustworthy Third Party



Security & Dependability mechanisms for SDN

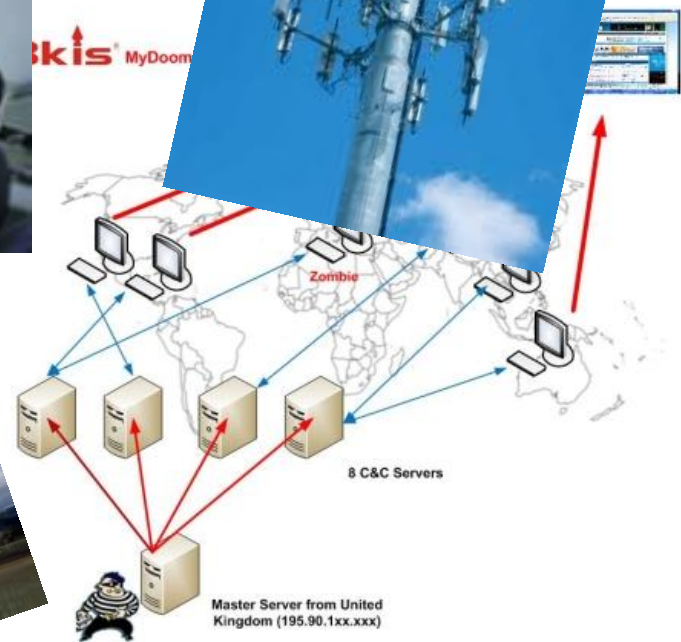
- Replication
- Diversity
- Self-healing mechanisms
- Dynamic device association
- Trust between controllers and devices

Security & Dependability





skis MyDoom



Thank You!