





The Structure of Today's Public Internet 

The

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Internet Peering Ecosystem



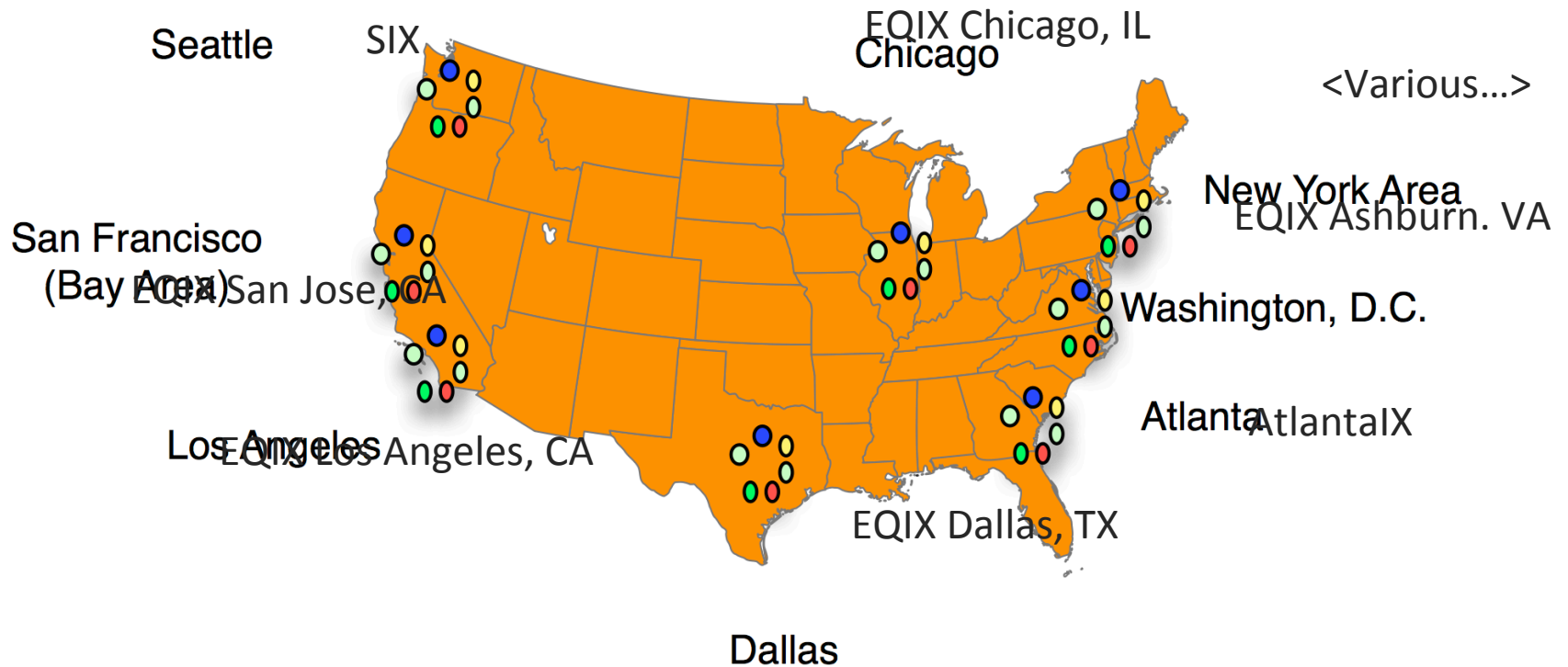
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# Tier 1 ISPs migrate back into IXPs

- 1999 WP:  
Interconnection  
Strategies for ISPs
- Working closely to understand their motivations
- Identify pain point: 18 mos past FOC date
- IXPs can do 24 hr turnaround
- Documented the math
- 5 ISPs in completely cover the cost of metro circuits
- And no 18 mo turnaround
- 8 independent RFPs released
- 2001: EQIX wins most

# Where the Tier 1 ISPs peer

## The 8 U.S. Interconnection Regions



Spread the load, more paths to destination, better performance for customers.

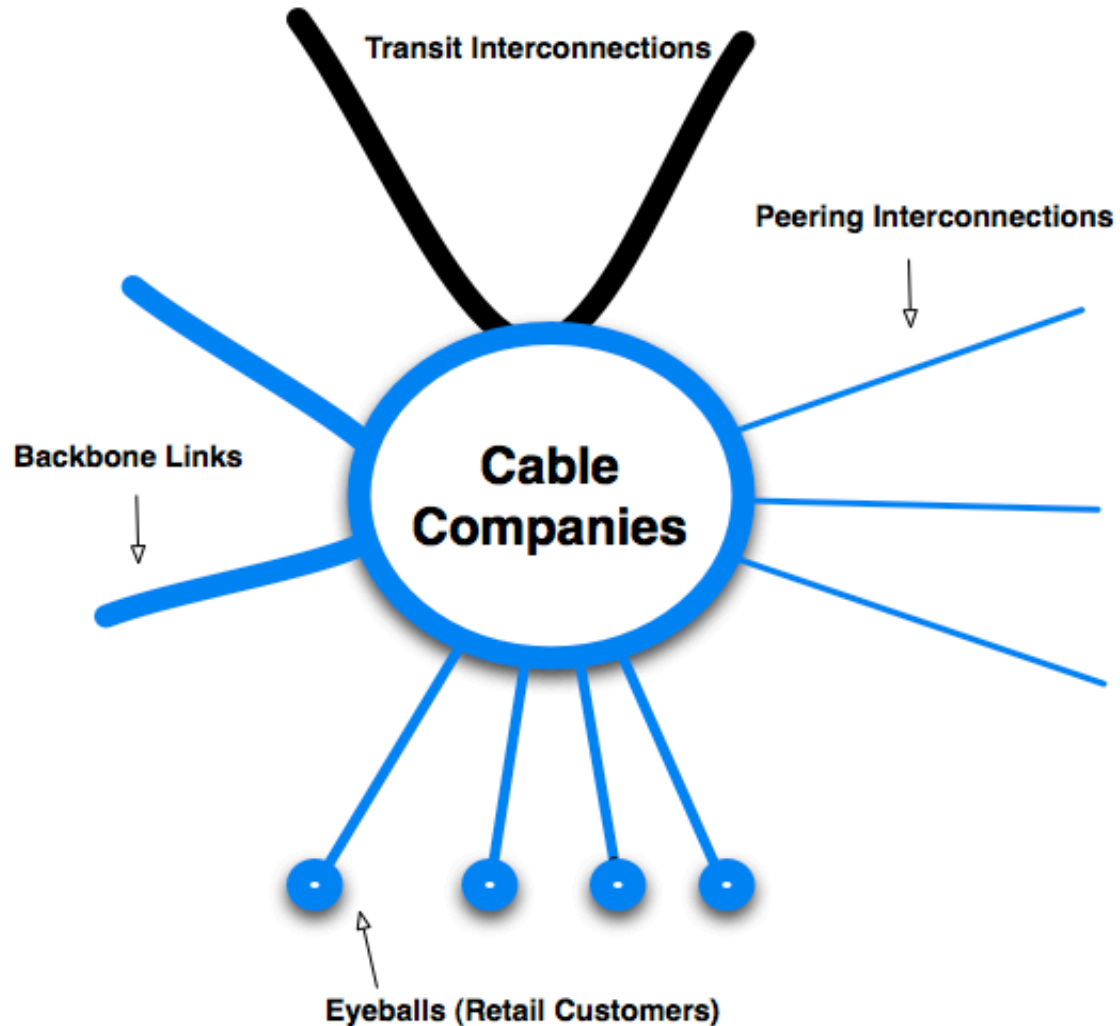
# Evolution of the U.S. Peering Ecosystem

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- 1999/2000 Economic Collapse of the Telecom Sector
- Growth in used equipment market
- Upstream for cable cos goes bankrupt (@Home) 30 days notice to be ISPs!
- Peer-to-peer file sharing fills pipes
- Transit prices drop

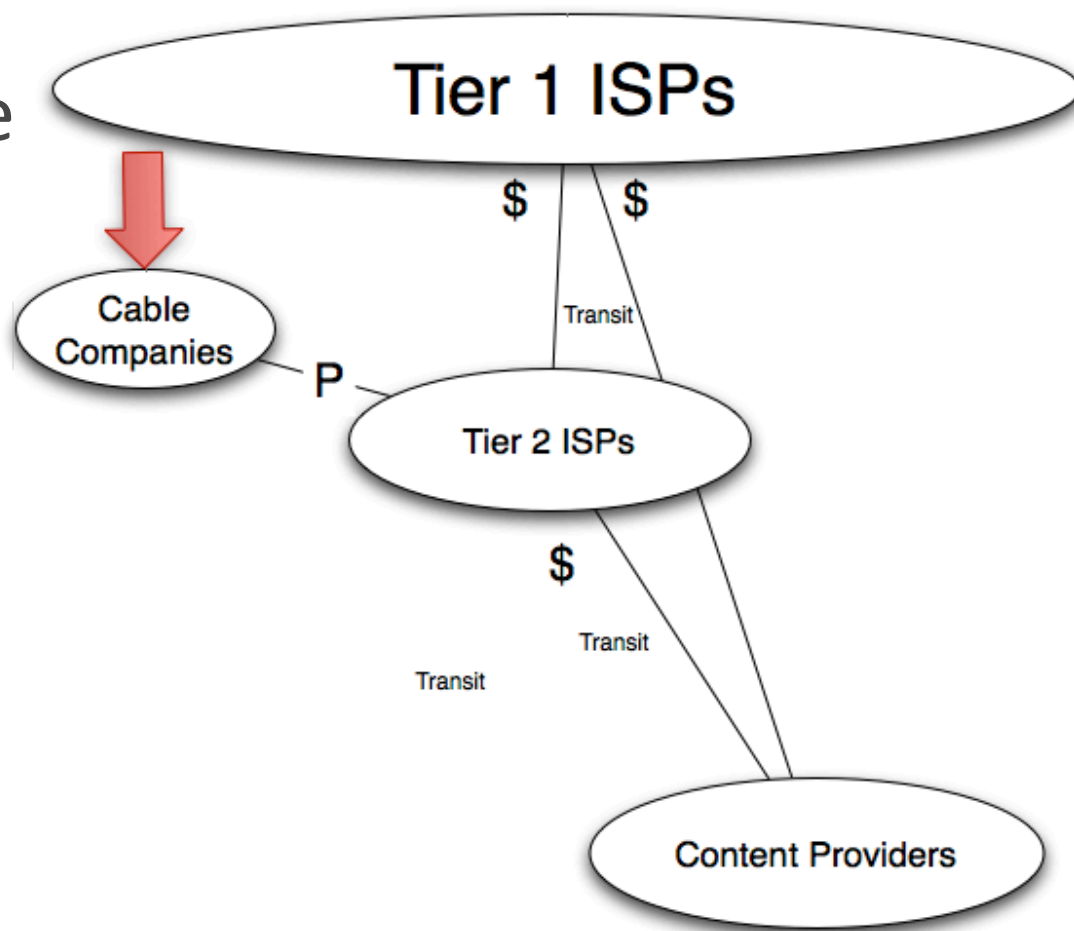
# Evolution #1 – Cable companies peer

- 40% P2P (Kazaa)
- Capacity upgrades filled immediately
- Cable doesn't compete with cable
- Conference call



# Cable Companies Peer

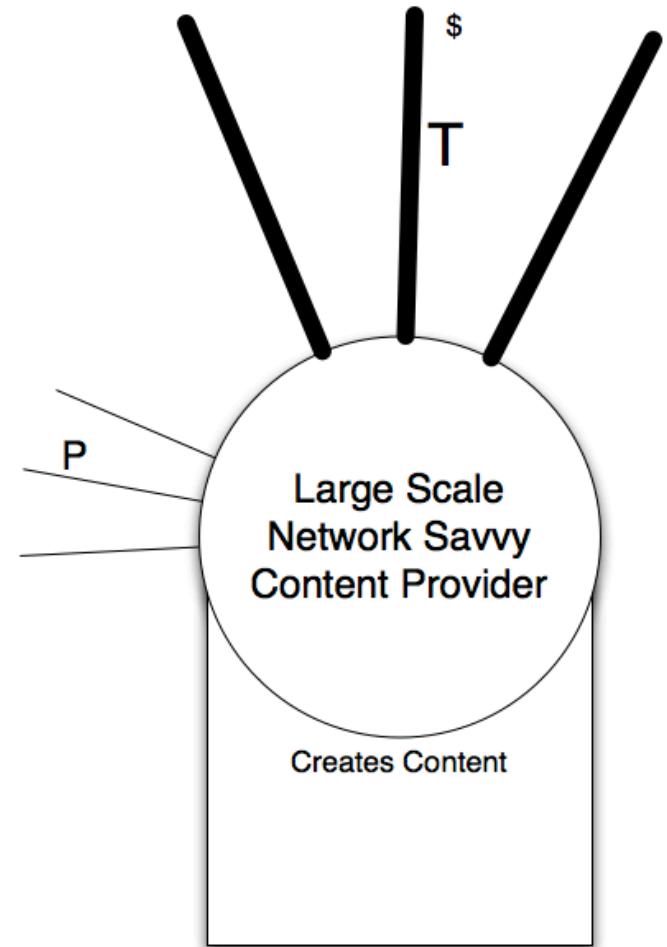
- Significant evolution because
  - Massive Volume of traffic peered
  - Kazaa Effect
    - 20%+ bump
    - “More local”
  - Grandma Story
  - Cable companies adopted open Peering Policy





# Evolution #2 – Large Scale Network Savvy Content Providers Peer

- #1 Improve end user experience
- Reduce transit costs
- Move to new data center anyway
- Large volume traffic
- Open Peering Policies
- Leaders: Yahoo!, Google, Electronic Arts, Sony Online, Microsoft, etc.



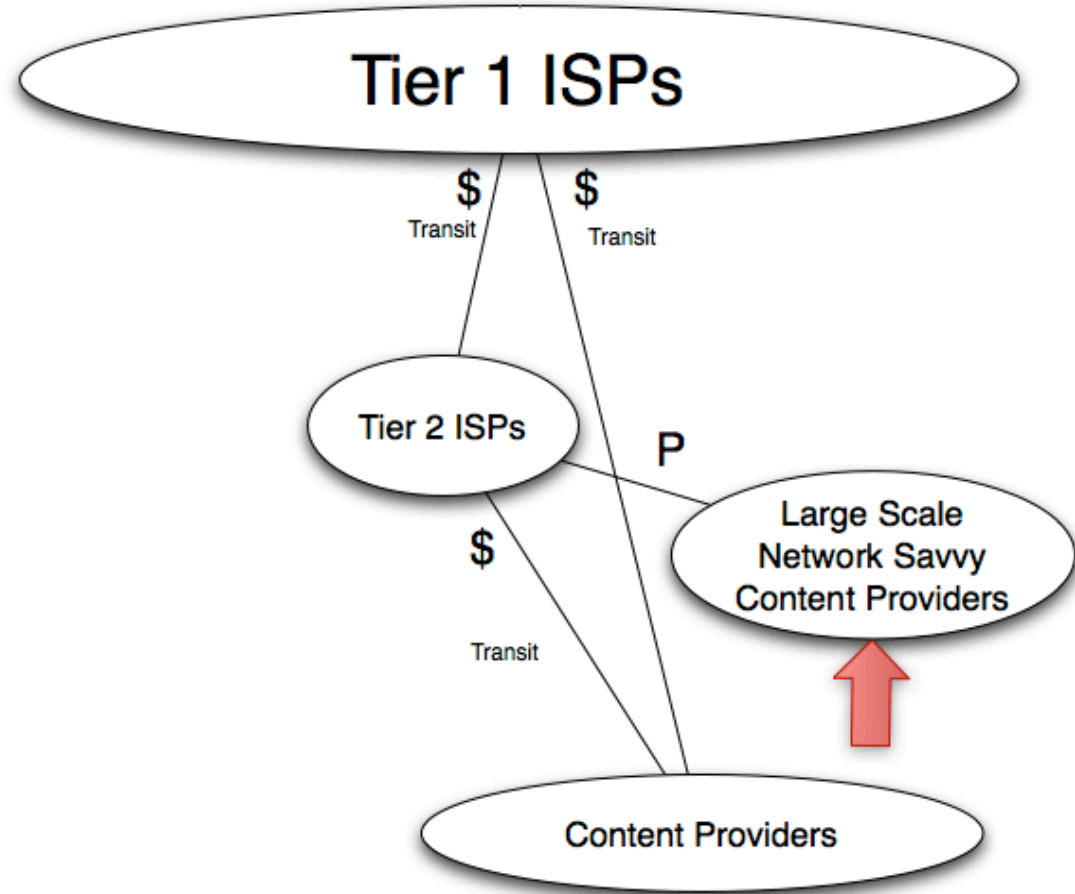
# LSNSCP Peer

- Significant because:

1) End-User performance

2) Transit cost reduction

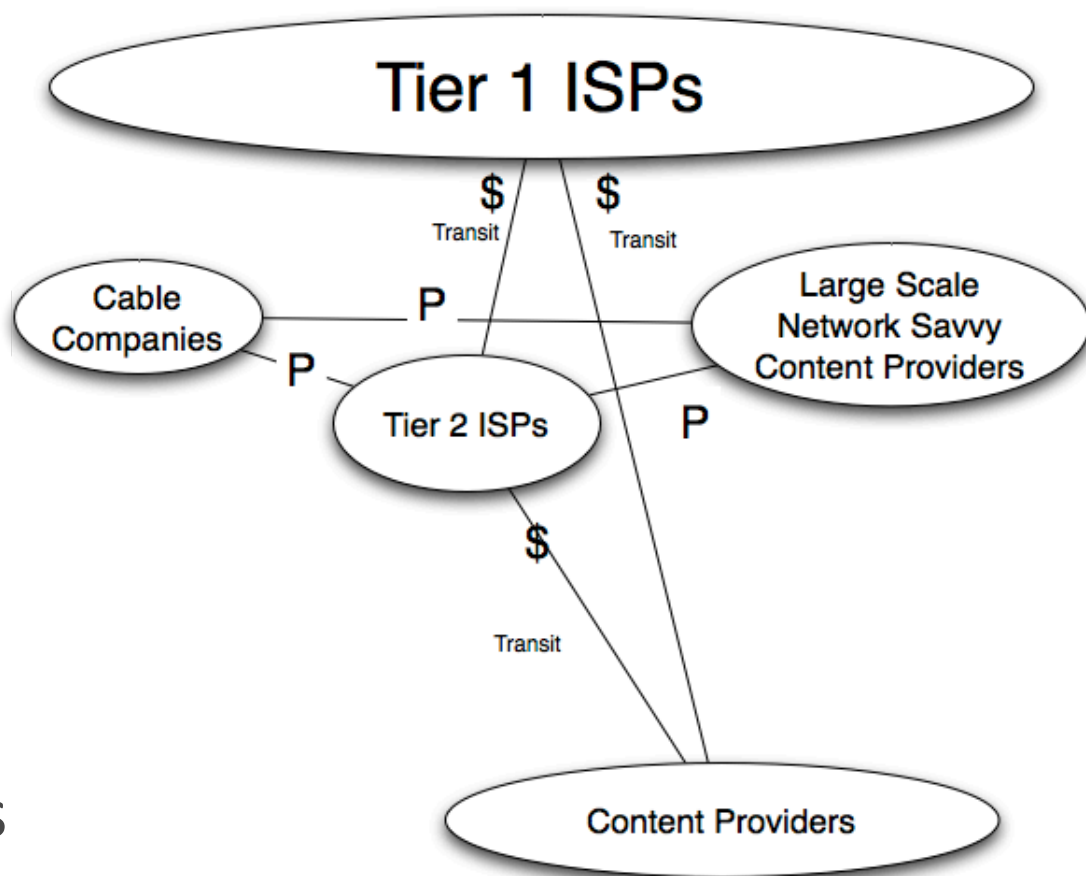
3) Needed to move anyway (out of bankrupt data center)





## Evolution #3: Cable Companies and LSNSCP Peer

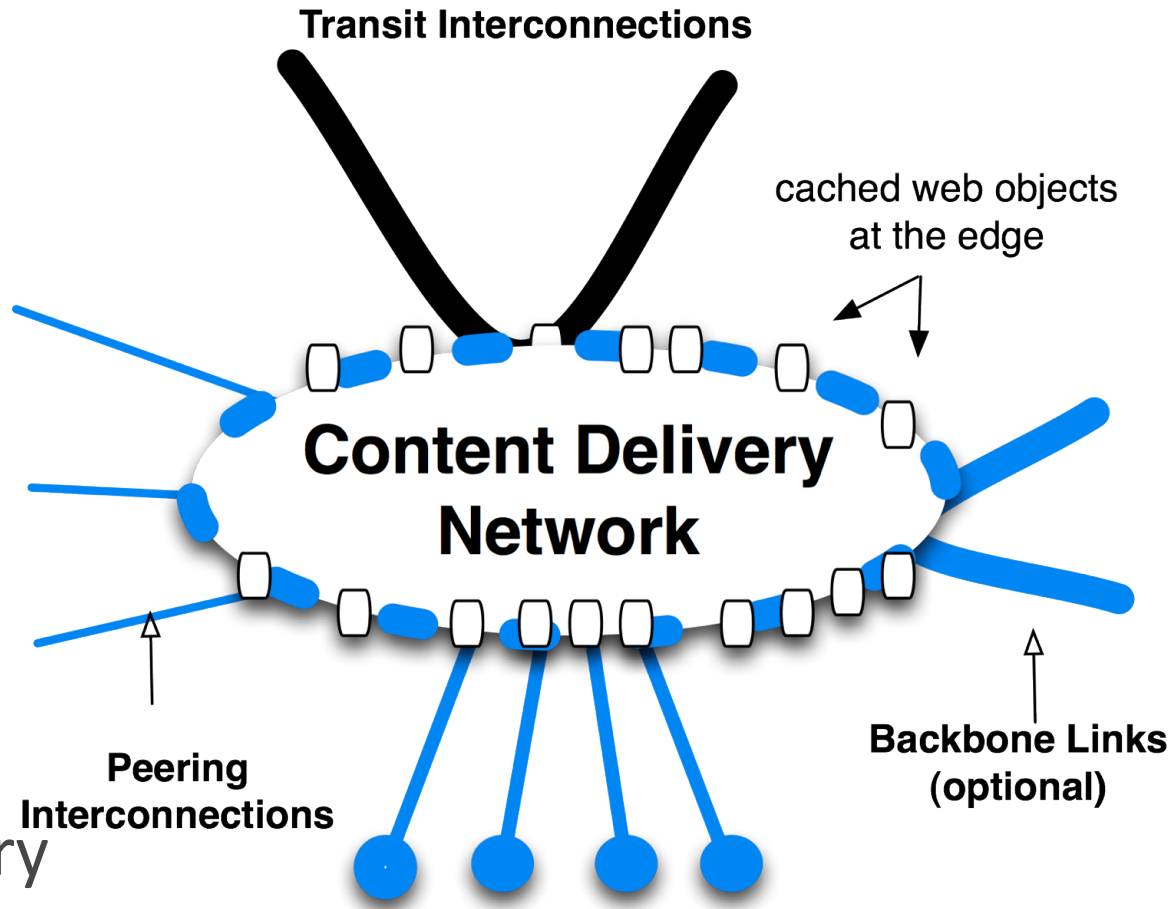
- Open Peering
- Massive traffic pulled from Tier 1 ISPs
- Fat Middle of the Internet Peering Ecosystem
- “Donut Peering”
- Leaders pave the wave
- “We expect customers to to that which is rational” – Level 3




# Evolution #4: CDNs Dominate Traffic Volume




- “Web Objects” uploaded to CDN
- Video Objects are massive
- Selling Transit but delivering from a place closer to the eyeballs
- Open Peering policy
- 10G deployment story







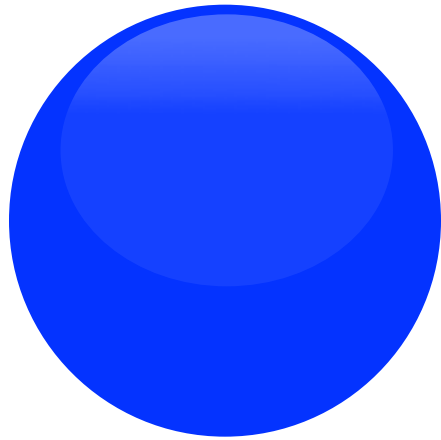
A fundamental shift in the power base of  
the Internet Peering Ecosystem 



## **#6: Access Power Peering**

# Evolution #6: Access Power Peering

- 2010 – 40-50% of all Internet Traffic is Video
- Video unlike other content: quality matters
  - Artifacts & suspension of disbelief
  - Massive volume
- Cable Companies peering policy changes
  - Balanced ratios
  - Paid Peering offered
- Video is or soon will be the dominant application
- Massive customer demand
- Who has the power?
  - Eyeball networks?
  - Content distributors?
- We will demonstrate this with a recent story



# 2010-2012 CAPTIVE ACCESS POWER PEERING

The Hot Topic **Today** in the Internet Peering Community



# Captive Access Power Peering Example

## Level3 broad business deal

Fiber, transit, free peering (on-net), etc.

## \*3 Ways to reach Comcast

- 1) Transit (LLNW → GLBX → Comcast)
- 2) Paid Peering (LLNW → Comcast)
- 3) ~~Peering (LLNW → Comcast) w/vol & <2.5:1 ratio~~

Video is highly asymmetric up to 30:1

Comcast peering ratio requirement <2.5:1

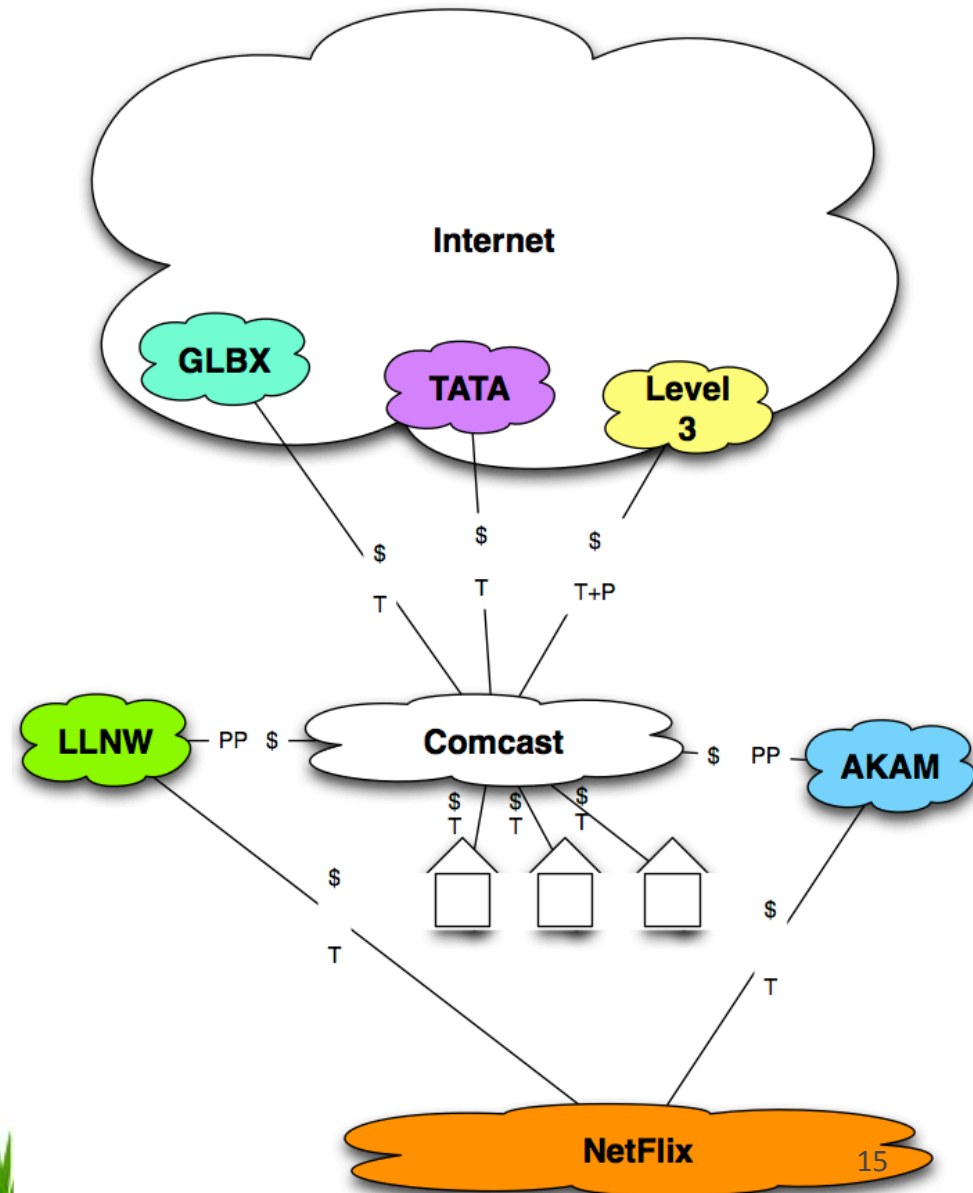
All paths require Comcast

Peering is direct, high performance

Transit is subject to loss/latency

OTT Video requires high performance

No alternative path to Comcast eyeballs but through Comcast (Captive customers)



# Captive Access Power Peering Example

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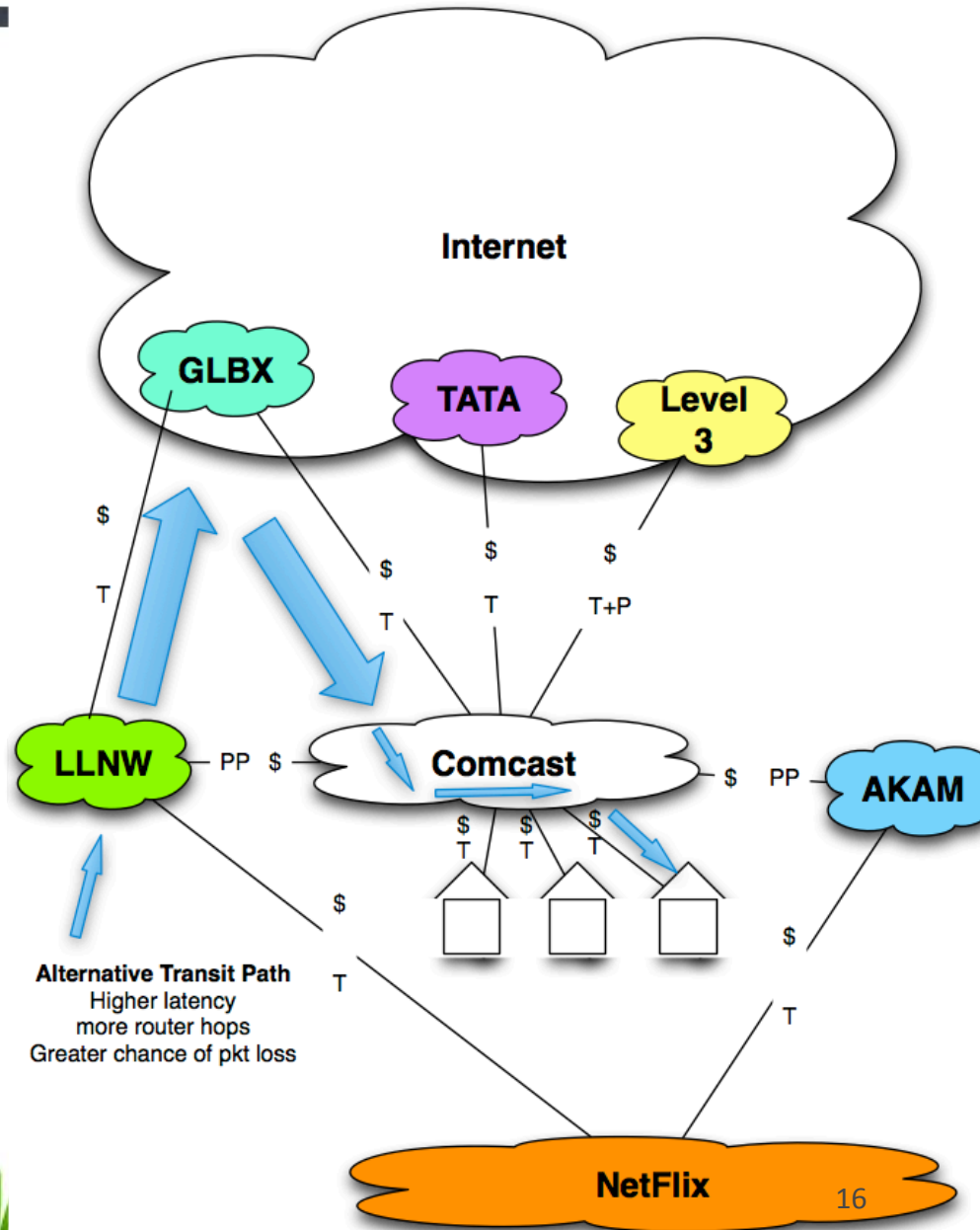
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If you are in the video distro biz you **must buy paid peering from Comcast**



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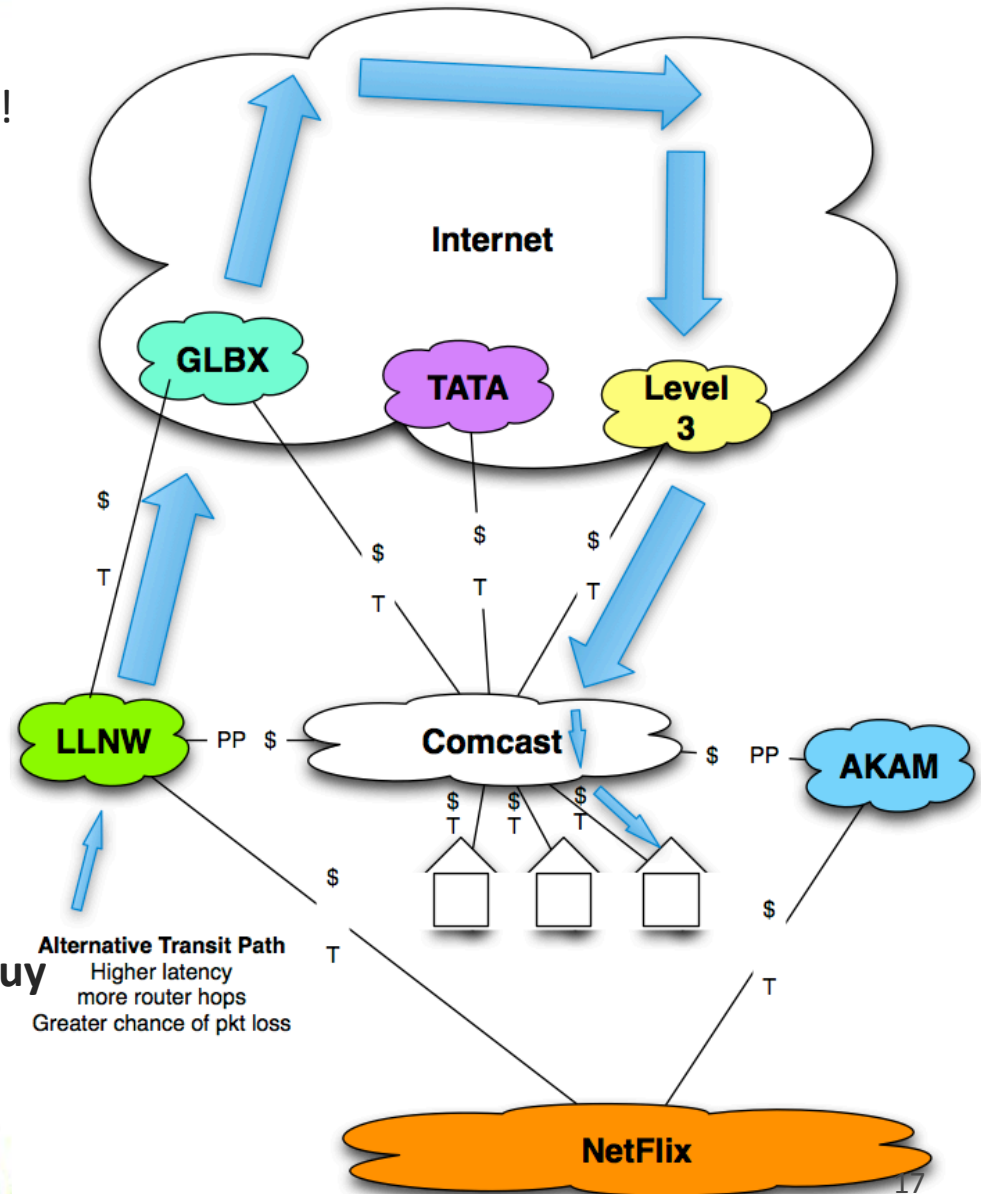
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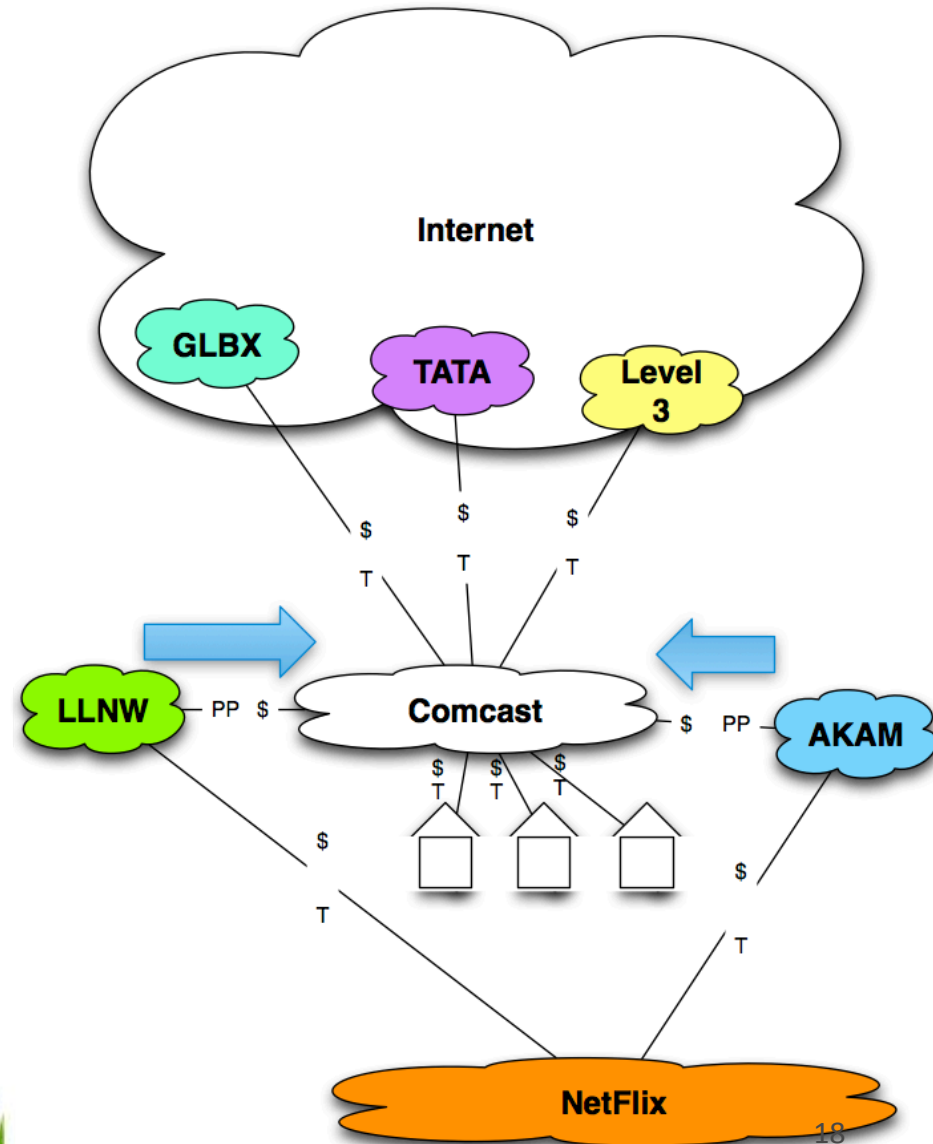
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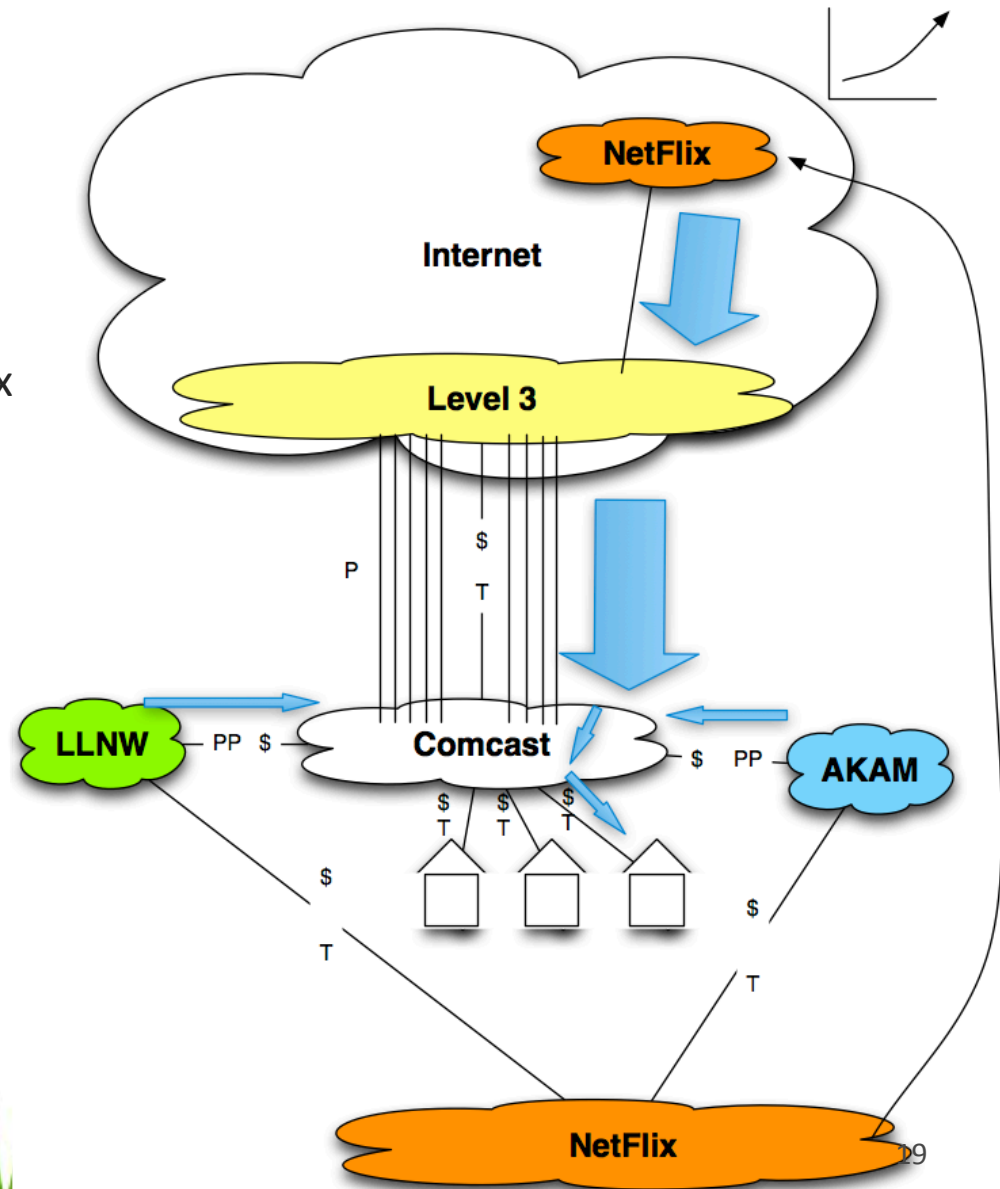
# 1) NetFlix Application 2010

NetFlix distributes Video via CDNs  
Massive growth  
O(100'sGbps)  
Great Service

Level 3 bids cheaper and wins the NetFlix business

Who wins?

Who loses?





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NetFlix – lower prices

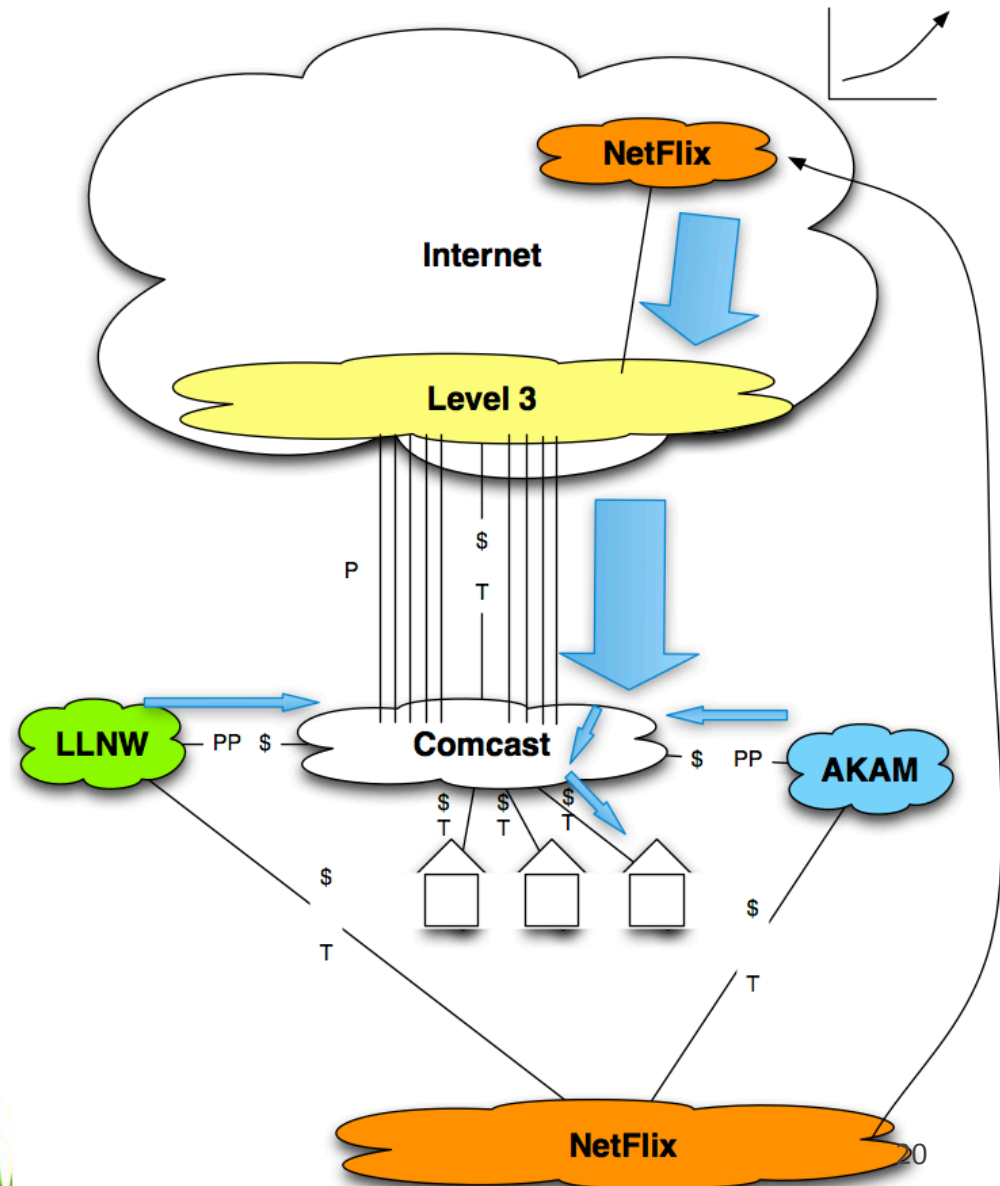
Level 3 – new customer

Has eyeballs as customers also

Who loses?

Akamai – revenue for leading & growing video customer

Comcast – revenue from Akamai

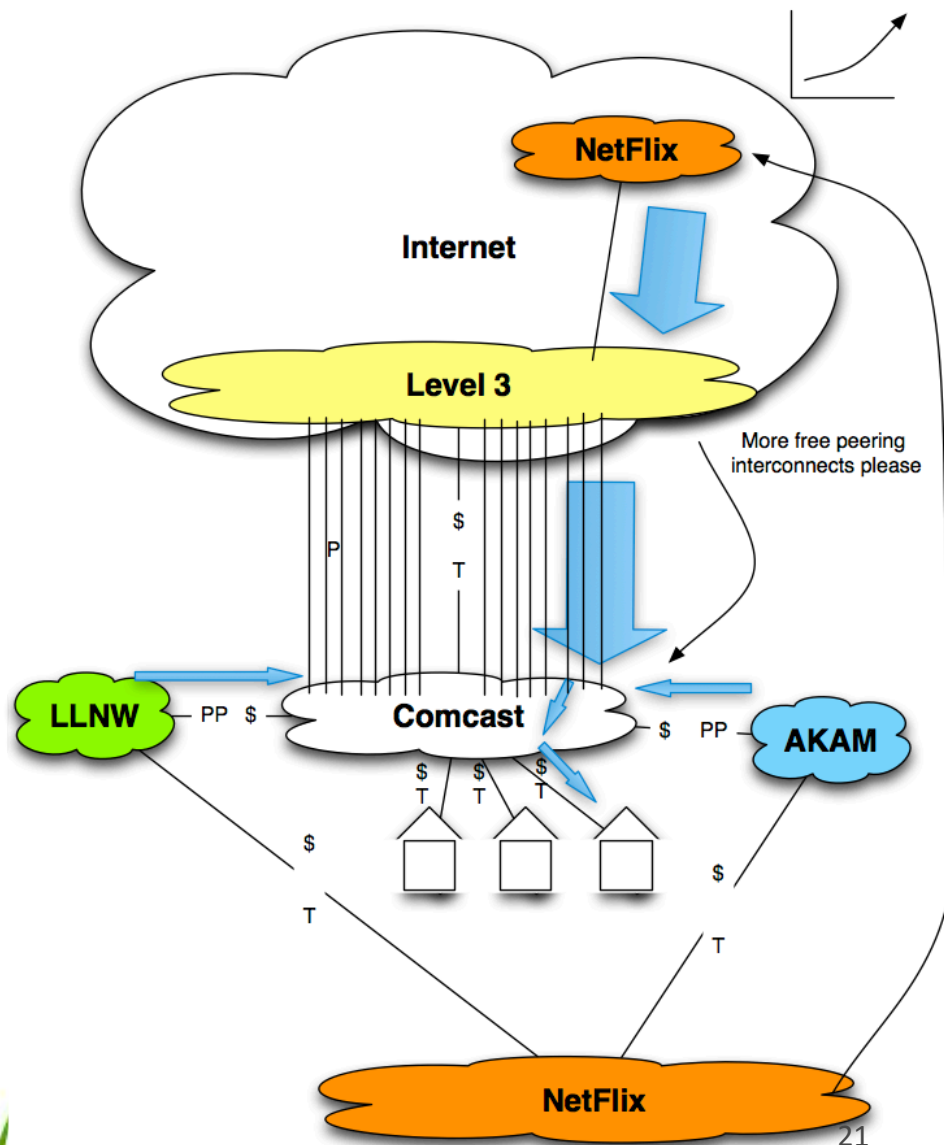




## 2) Level 3 requests more peering interconnects

Akamai loses T\$  
Comcast loses PP\$

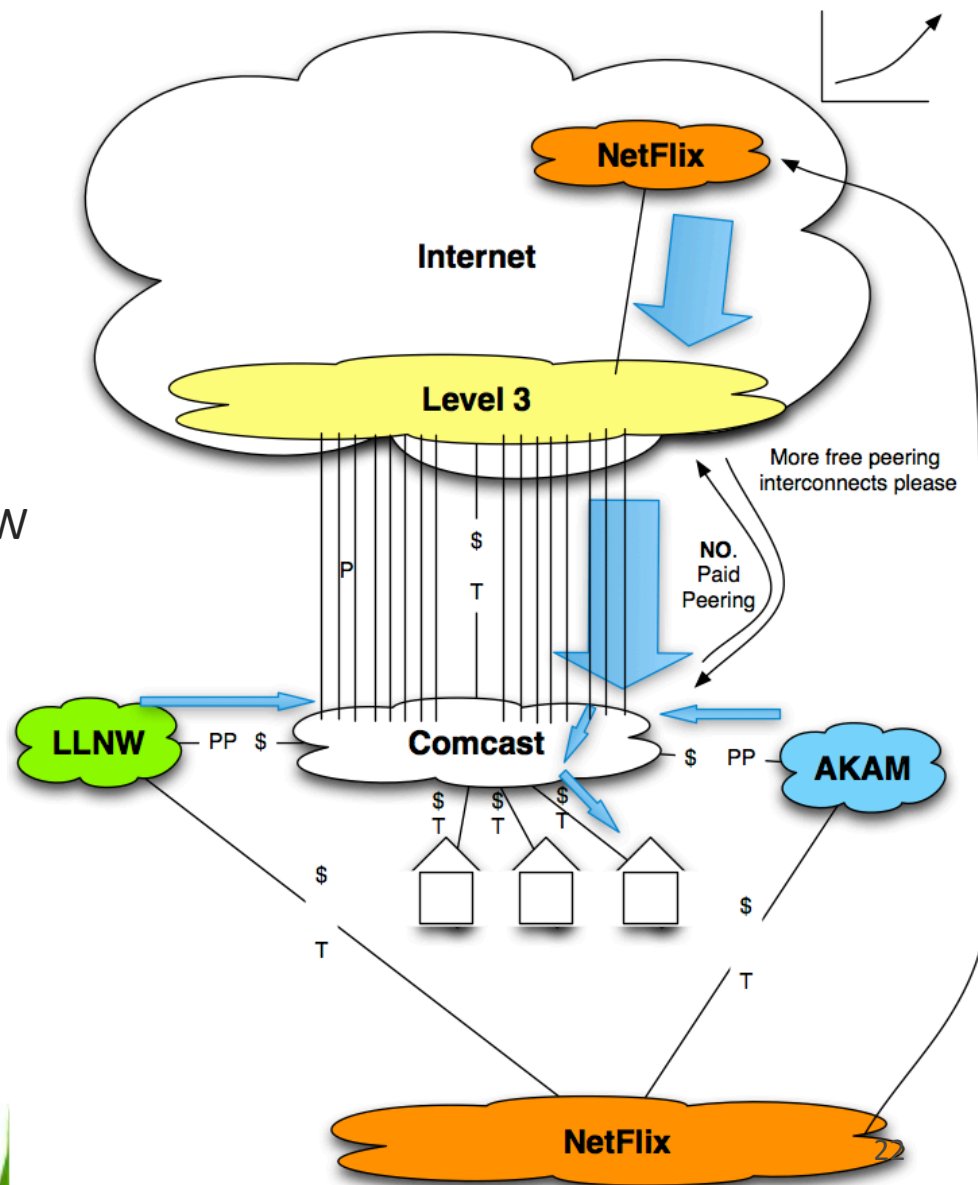
Level 3 freely peers the traffic  
Level 3 requests more interconnects



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Comcast says No – you pay like AKAM&LLNW



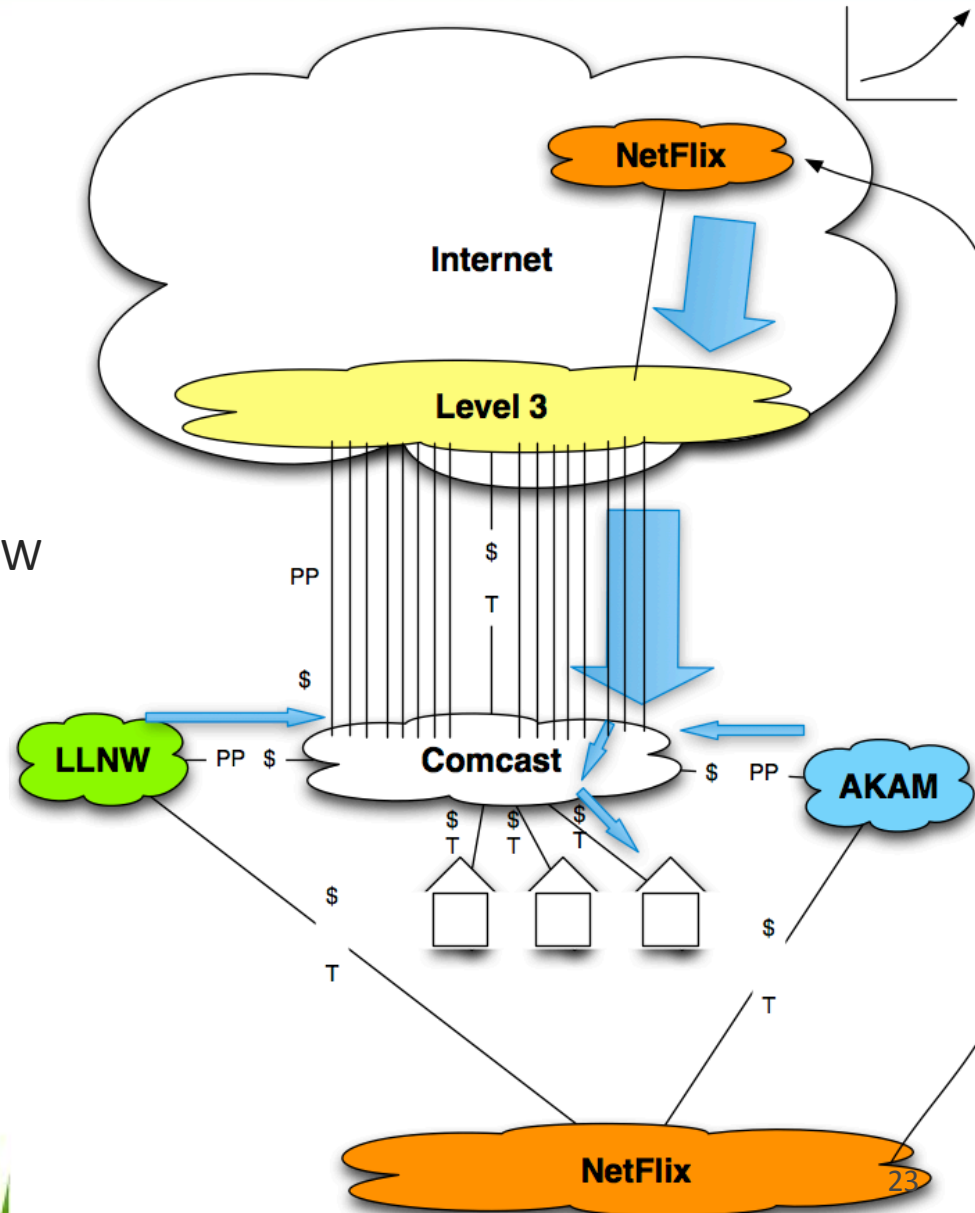
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Comcast says No – you pay like AKAM&LLNW  
Level 3 Acquiesces  
Level 3 pays paid peering fees to Comcast

=Captive Access Power Peering

Comcast's consistency hardens the  
Captive Access Power play into a trend.



# 3) Result & Observation

Comcast leverages peering to get \$\$ from all sides

No alternative to reach Comcast customers

“Captive” Customers

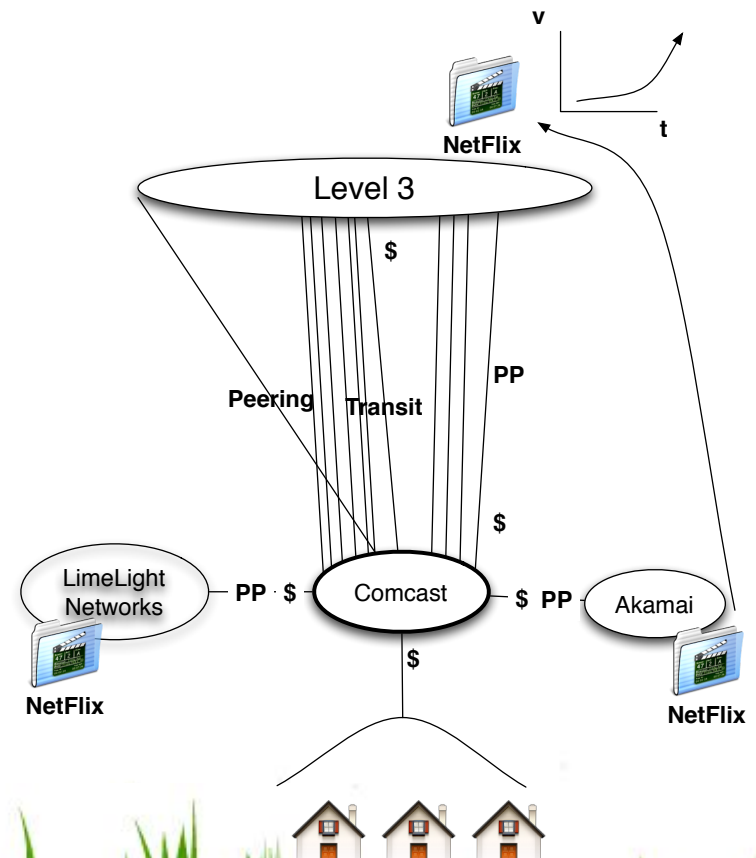
Can't peer around them

Can't choose competitor

Exploiting Market power position: Captive Market

Where is this going?

Is this the right model?



Last Break

Next Up:

The Internet Peering Playbook: The Art of Peering  
Aka  
The Tricks of the Trade