

# Innovation at the Waist

musings

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OLAF

Who am I

EVANGINEER

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1000110001  
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Labs

Why am I here

OPEN

Trustworthy

Global

INNOVATION

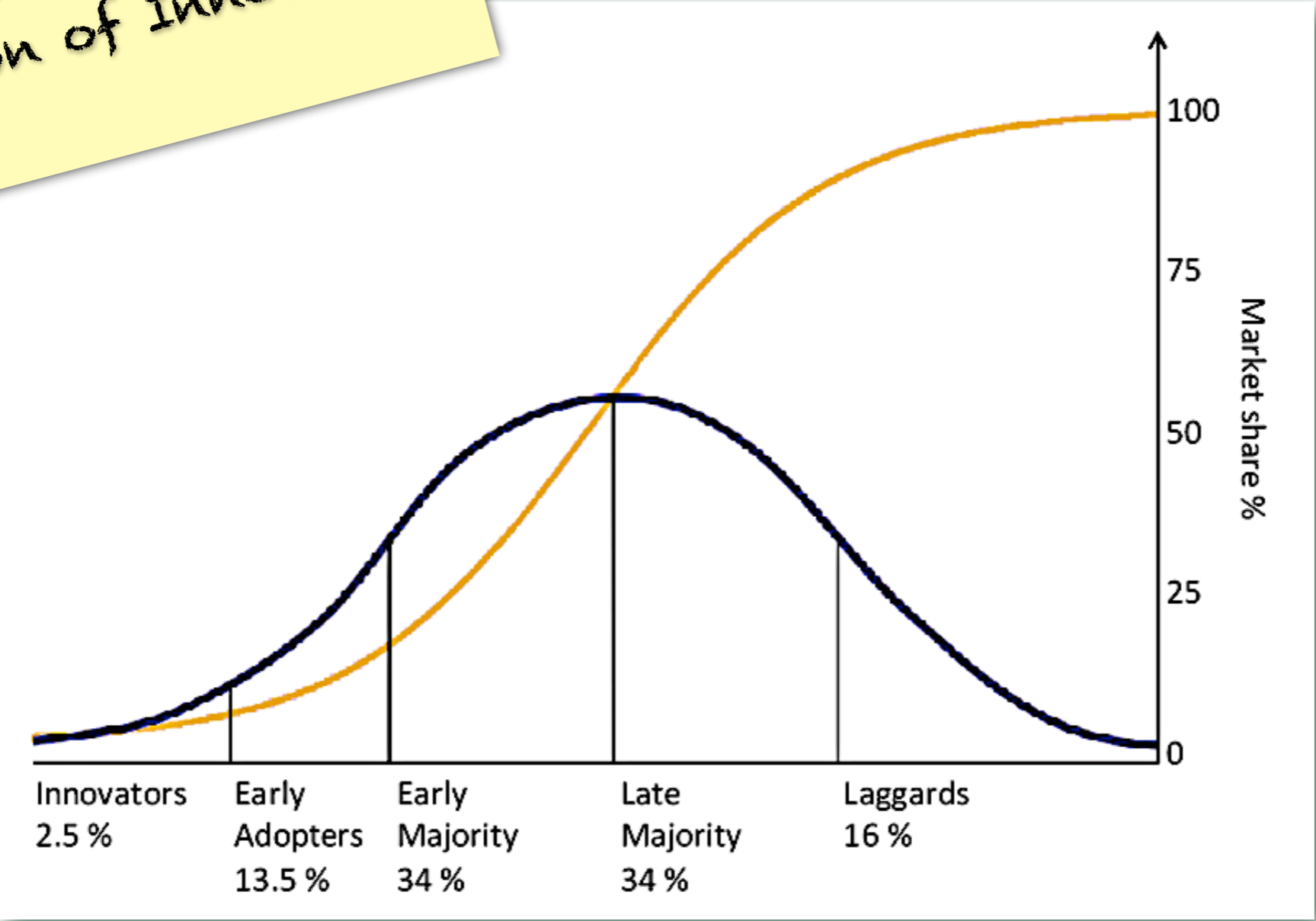
We (technical internet community) introduced a number of technologies like IPv6 and DNSSEC that have a difficult time being deployed.

Is it possible to innovate at the waist?



Innovation

Everett Rogers  
Diffusion of Innovation





Innovation

The Deployment Curve is about take-up of innovation.

Everest looks at what Decision Stages individuals go through.

At any point on the deployment curve you will have a mix of individuals at different decision stages

# 5 Decision Stages

Knowledge

Persuasion

Decision

Implementation

Confirmation

# 5 Decision Stages

Knowledge

Individual is exposed but doesn't know much about the innovation.

You might have seen an IPv6 configuration option

You've heard about IPv6 at a conference

A IPv6 task force may be active in your industry

# 5 Decision Stages

Individual seeks more information

Persuasion

Read the IPv6 Wikipedia article

Talk to colleagues

Take a course or workshop



# 5 Decision Stages

Individual weighs risks and benefits and takes the decision to adapt or reject

Decision

Often: Engineer decides to persuade the Management

Management then is at stage 1

Once decision is made it will take new persuasion to reconsider

# 5 Decision Stages

Individual implements the innovation  
and may seek further information

This is where the  
engineers do a lot of  
work and find out they  
lack information or  
skills

Implementation

# 5 Decision Stages

Individual confirms the decision that implementation useful and deploy to full potential

Typically this is the stage where the pilot is moved to production.

Confirmation

# New questions to ask

Knowledge

Persuasion

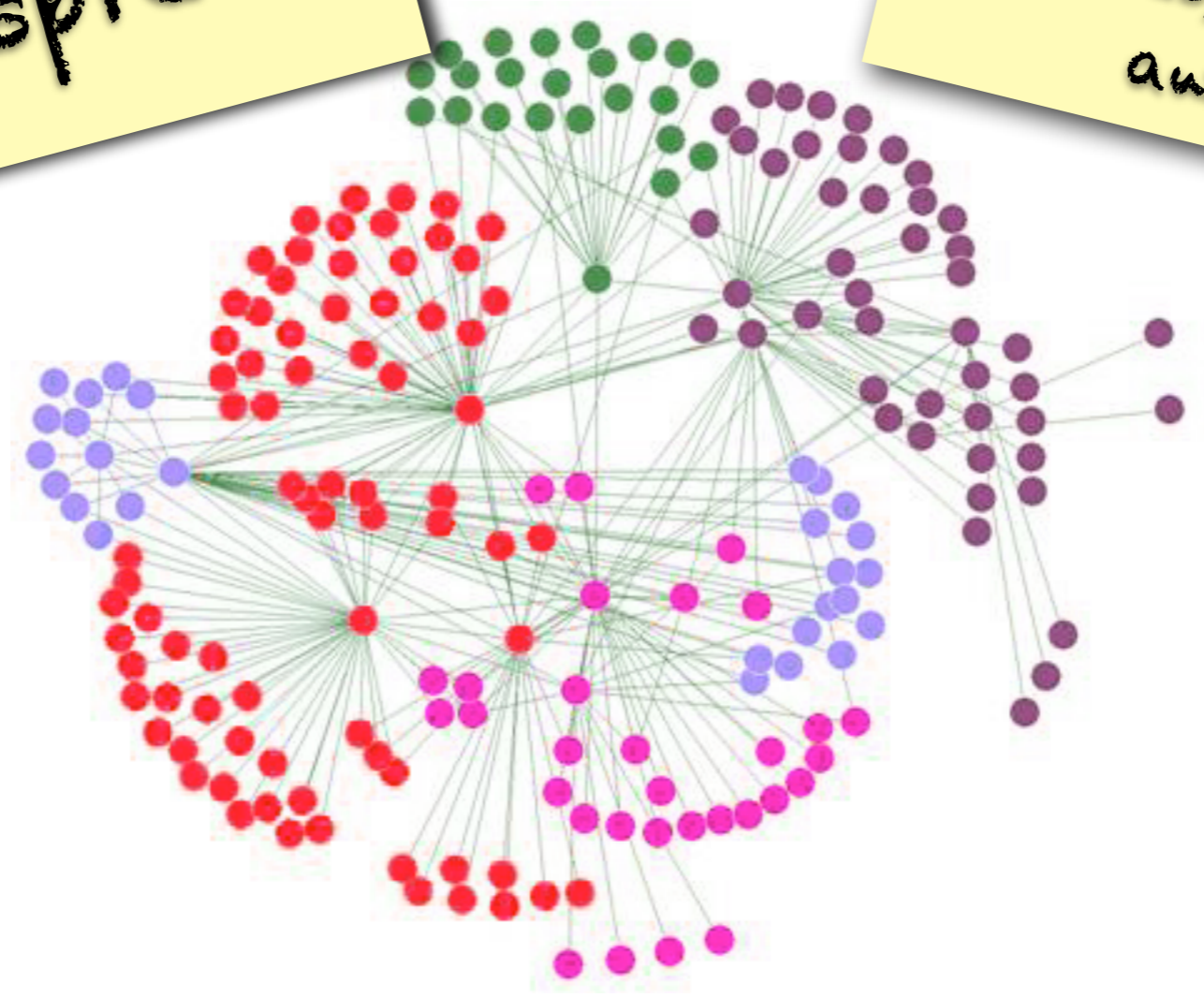
Decision

How does knowledge spread?

How are decisions made?

Social network  
drives spread

Spread works most  
effective when: shared  
values, but lack of  
awareness



Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Social\\_Red.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Social_Red.jpg)

Decision types:  
optional,  
collective, or  
authoritative

● Optional Innovation-Decision: This decision is made by an individual who is in some way distinguished from others in a social system.

● Collective Innovation-Decision: This decision is made collectively by all individuals of a social system.

● Authority Innovation-Decision: This decision is made for the entire social system by few individuals in positions of influence or power.

On Internet scale  
the decision to  
deploy IPv6 is  
Optional

# We talked about Individuals making decisions about innovation

What are the properties of the innovation that inform the decisions of that individual?

Relative  
Advantage

Complexity/  
Simplicity

Compatibility

Trialability

observability



Complexity/  
Simplicity

Relative  
Advantage

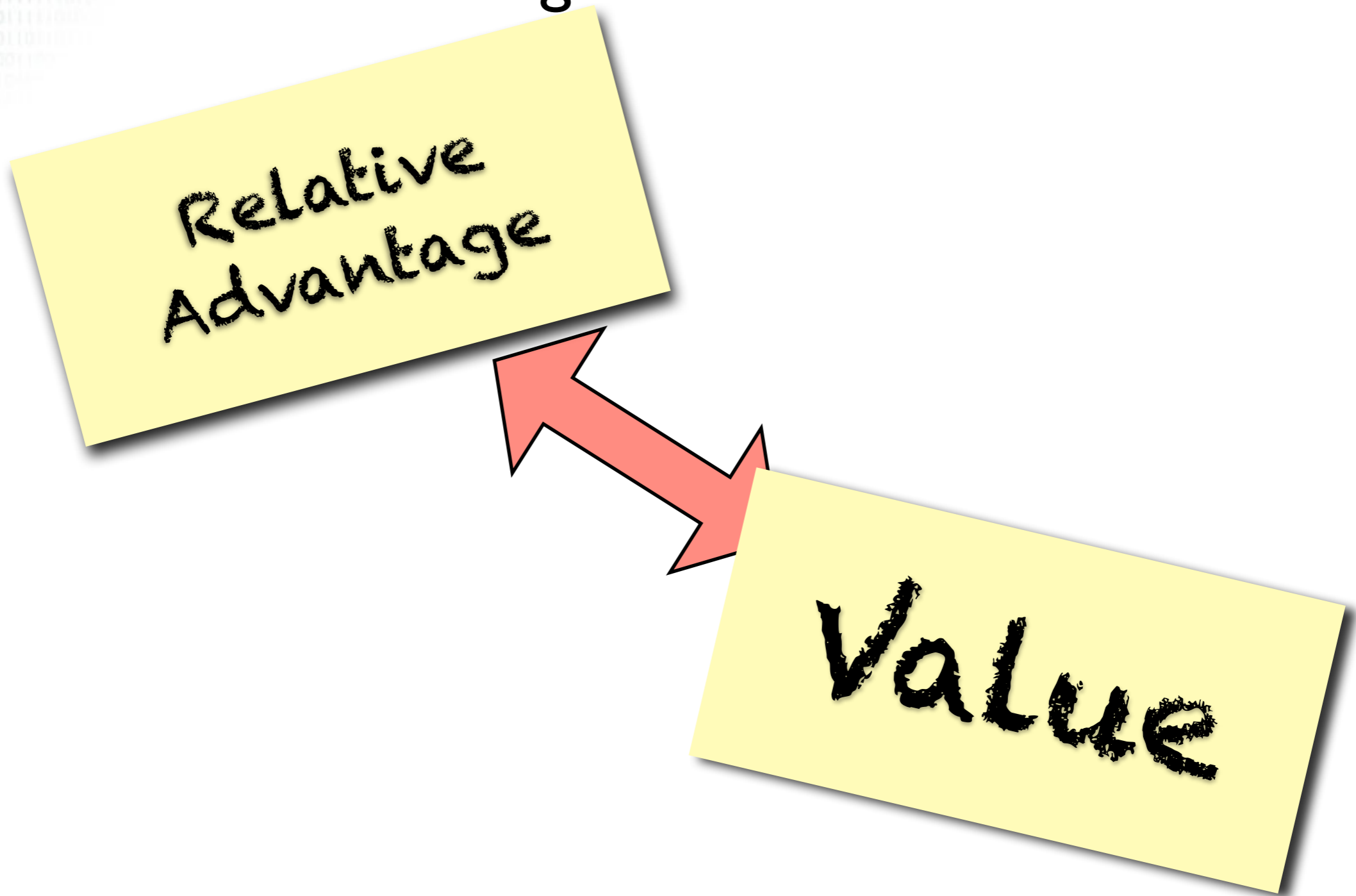
Compatibility

Trialability

Observability

- Is the innovation difficult to use, if so the individual that needs to make the decision is less likely to adopt it
- Does the innovation bring relative improvement?
- Is the innovation compatible with what the individual already has deployed
- Can the individual try the innovation?  
Is it testable?
- Does the innovation have some cool?  
Can you talk about the innovation at the bar?

# Back to relative advantage



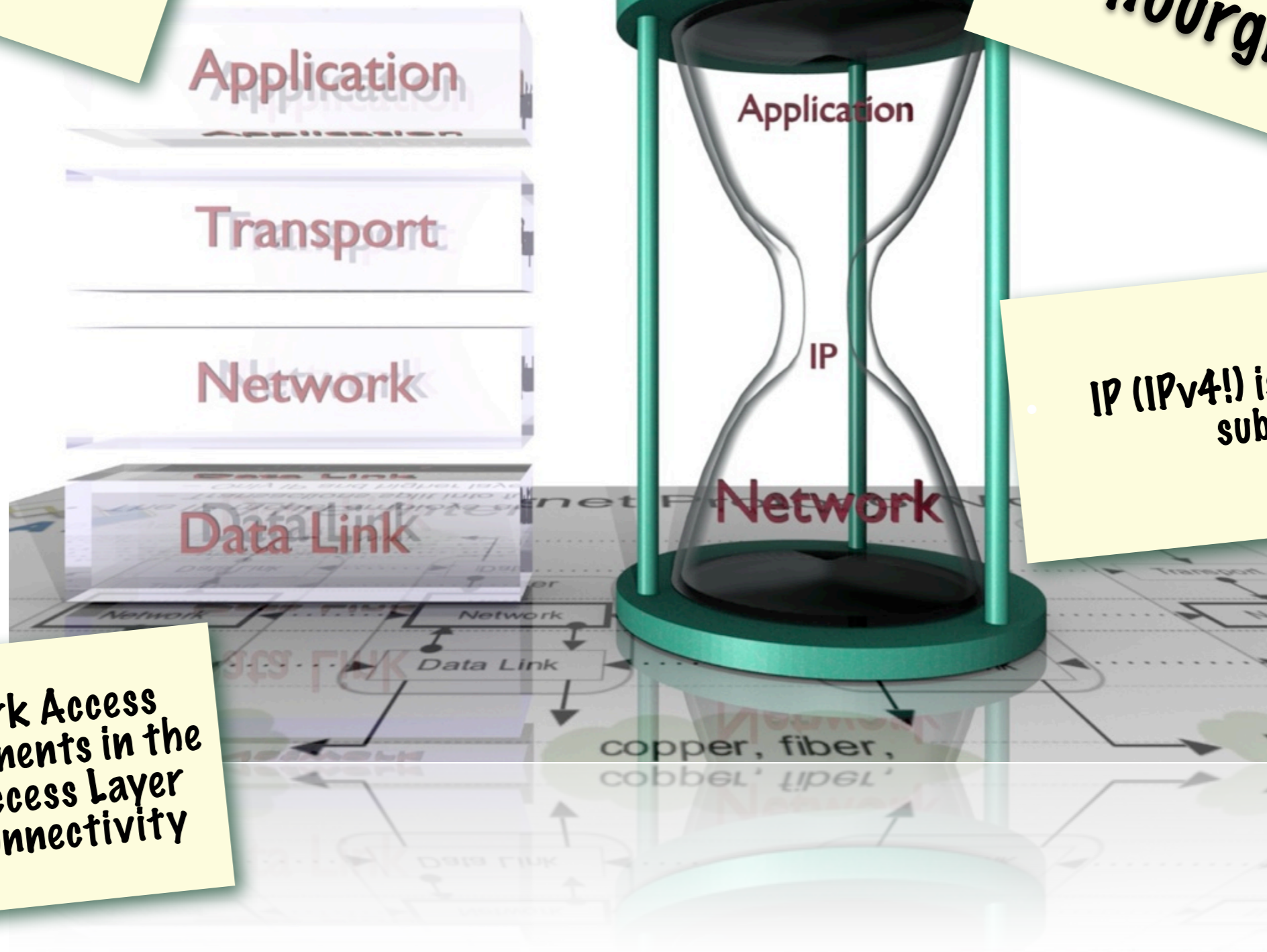
This is where value comes into the picture

Value of networks

$n \log(n)$

*Metcalf's law*

Application Layer:  
Applications use IP for  
connectivity



IP (IPv4!) is the common  
substrate

The Network Access  
Layer: Components in the  
Network Access Layer  
deliver IP connectivity

The IP API as the common open interface to the network



Asterisk



Permissionless Innovation



Mini note: HTTP is more and more the de-facto substrate

New applications are  
conceived and deployed  
almost daily

Proprietary

Open Source

No Imposed Business  
Model

Freeware

Privacyware

Payware

Adware

Imagination is the limit

Relative  
Advantage

Complexity/  
Simplicity

Compatibility

Trialability

observability







Highly competitive

Commodity

## The Price of Bandwidth, in bulk, per Mbps

A EUR80 fiber cross connect:	\$0.01
Internet Exchange traffic:	\$0.25*
Backbone traffic Western Europe:	\$0.50
Transatlantic traffic, wholesale:	\$1
Internet Transit, wholesale:	\$2
Internet Transit, retail:	\$15
Broadband Internet, consumer:	\$50
National Ethernet service:	\$180
3G mobile data, national:	\$11,400
GSM voice call, national:	\$483,840
3G mobile data, roaming low:	\$834,000
3G mobile data, roaming high:	\$3,127,500
GSM voice call, roaming:	\$3,338,496
SMS Text Messages:	\$210,000,000
SMS Text Messages, roaming:	\$1,166,400,000

Western Europe, early-mid 2011 (based on 10Gbps or 300GB)

Table courtesy of Remco van Mook, Equinix

SDN

MPLS

ADSL

SONET

VDSL

IEEE 802.11

Docsis

Deliver IP to the edge and  
route with your peers

Innovating the fabric is an  
internal decision

Compatibility

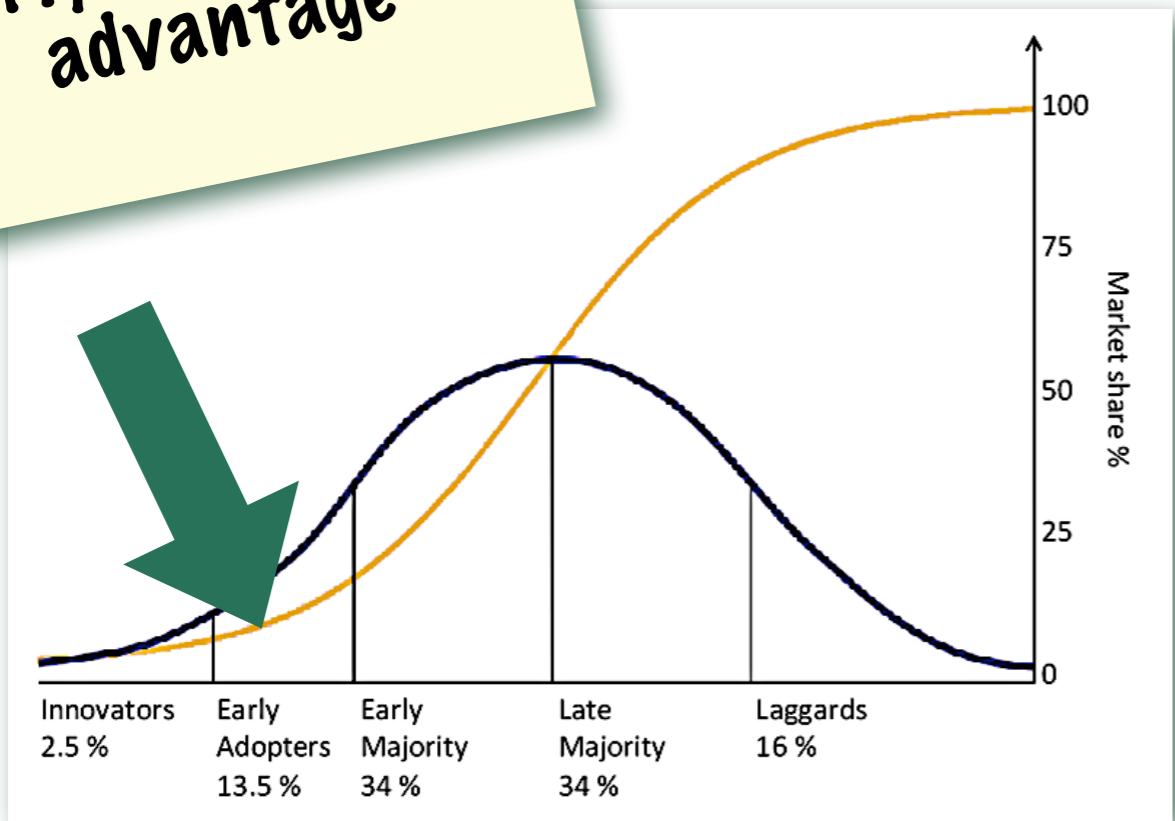
Observability

Triability

Innovative gear pushes the packets cheaper

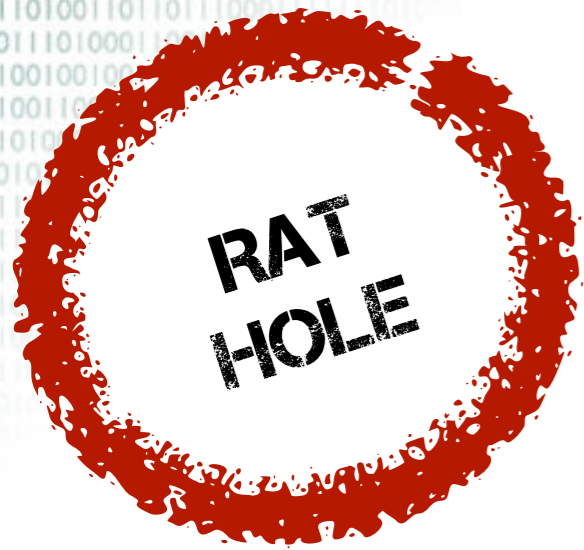
capex and (temporarily increased opex) have known risks

Early deployment advantage



Early deployment advantage: Commodity price remains the same while delivery price drops.

Late move disadvantage: Commodity price drops while delivery price remains the same



**Earnings don't  
make it through  
the waist**

**Network Providers seek to  
monetize the network to  
fund their investments**

**Most value creation in the  
top half is by different  
players than the investment  
on the bottom half**



Innovation  
around the  
waist



**DNSSEC**

**ROUTING SECURITY**



$n \log(w)$

IPv4:  $n=2 \times 10^9$

IPv6:  $n=O(10^6)$

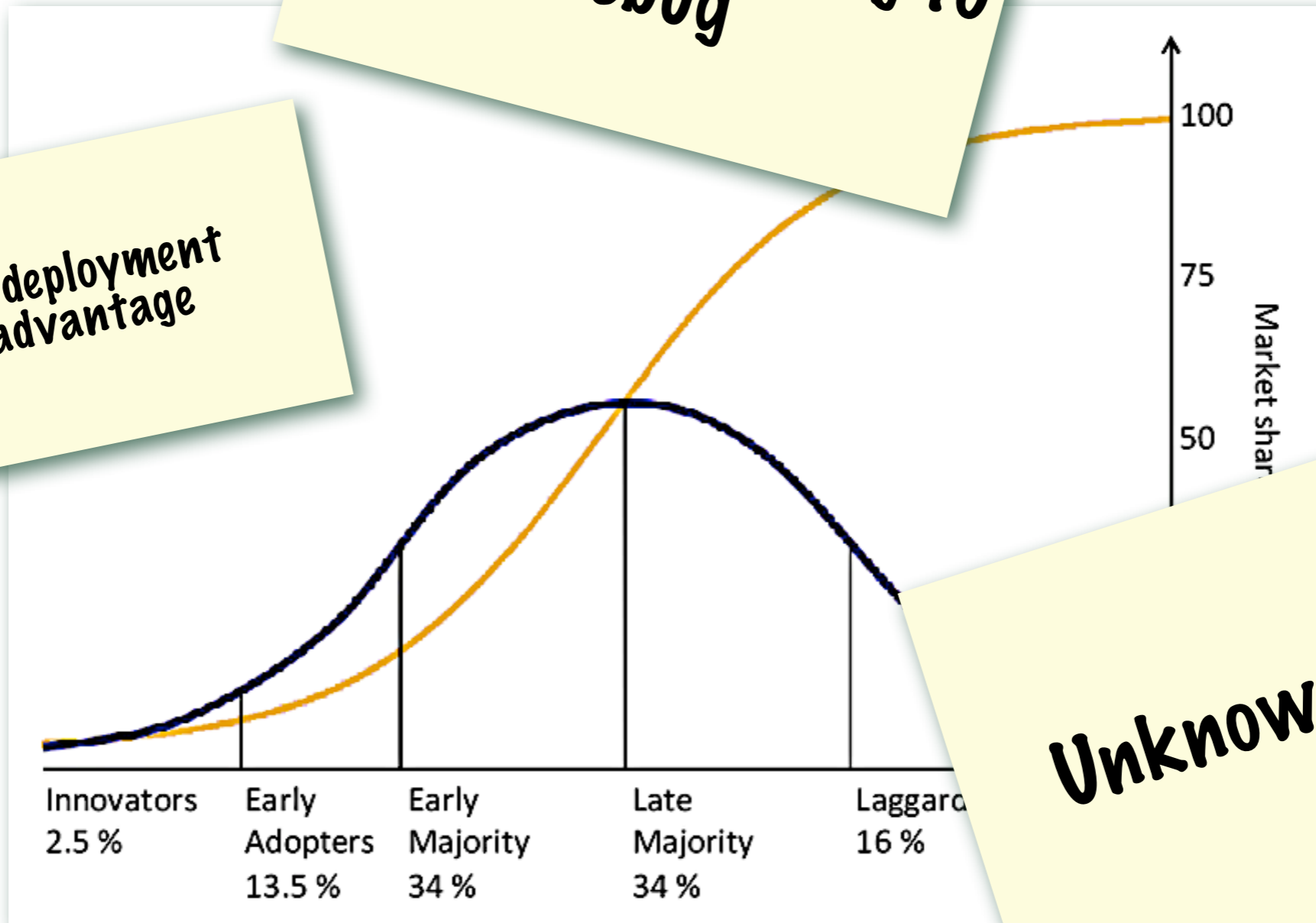
The new kid on the block should not spoil the fun for the others

Any reduction to the value of the network is unacceptable

These numbers are estimates for argument sake

**Innovative gear  
makes you having to  
debug**

**Early deployment  
disadvantage**



**Unknown risks**



Dark Picture

How to push the needle?





# In absence of the magic Deployoforce

## What can be done to stimulate success of the innovation

**Group**

**Credible large N in the future:**

**Identify attractors**

**Share the sense of direction/  
vision**

**Reduce costs**

**Individual**

**Reduce complexity**

**Increase relative advantage**

**Maintain compatibility**

**Enable trialability**

**Make Observable**

**Some of the knobs that can be turned**

# Group

Credible large N in the future:

Identify attractors

Share the sense of direction/vision

Reduce costs

Regulation

Subsidy

taxation

Market Creation

Standardisation

Availability in Products

Open Source



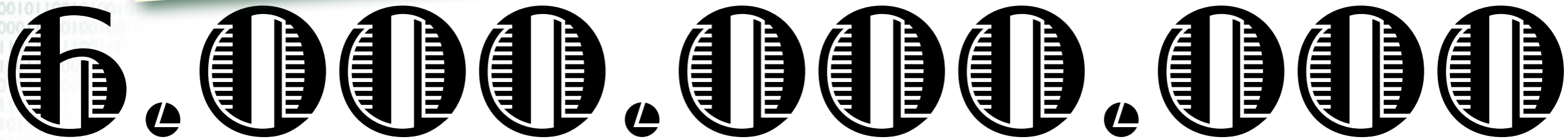
Preaching to the choir  
is easy.  
The Social values are  
shared.







Why go through the effort  
in the first place?



(100 devices per user)

OPENING Global

INNOVATION

Trustworthy

We have to make  
the impossible  
possible

to keep the  
impossible possible