

CDN Performance Evaluation with Edge-Embedded Watermarking

Gwendal Simon

Gwenaël Doërr

John Prakash

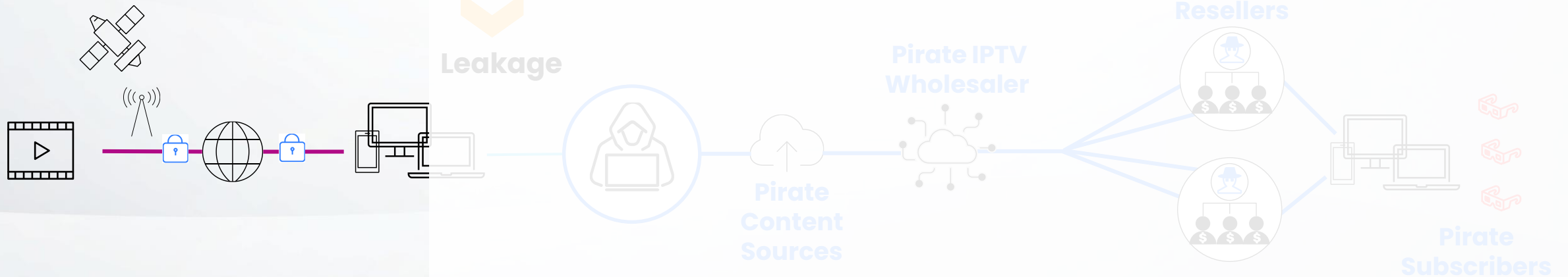
May 2023

Piracy flow



Forensic Watermarking

- Insertion of marks into video
- Contains a unique identifier
- Fidelity, robustness, throughput

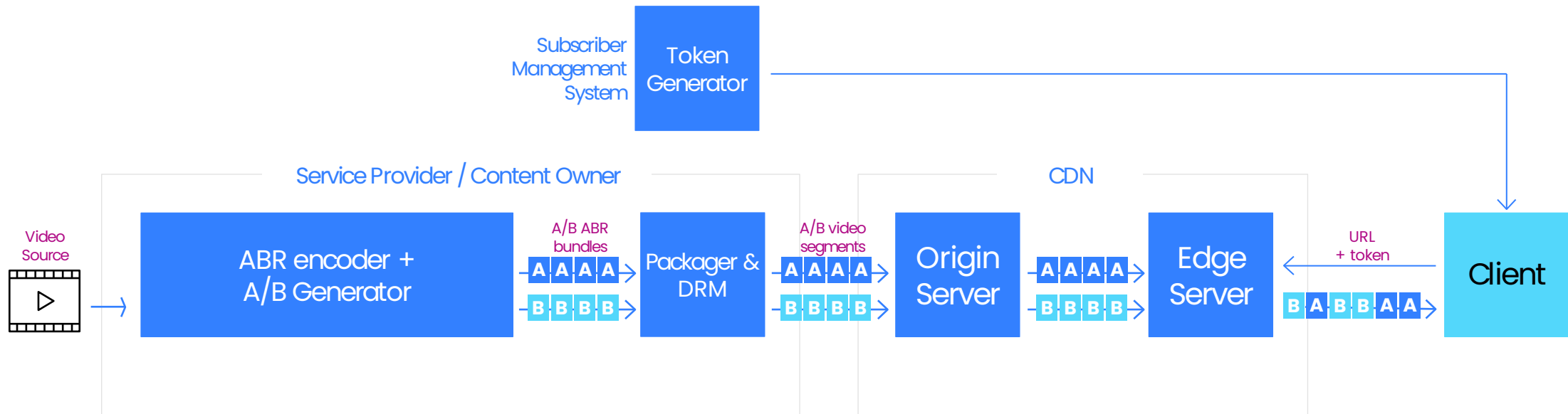


Legitimate video distribution

Leakage

Piracy supply chain

A/B Watermarking

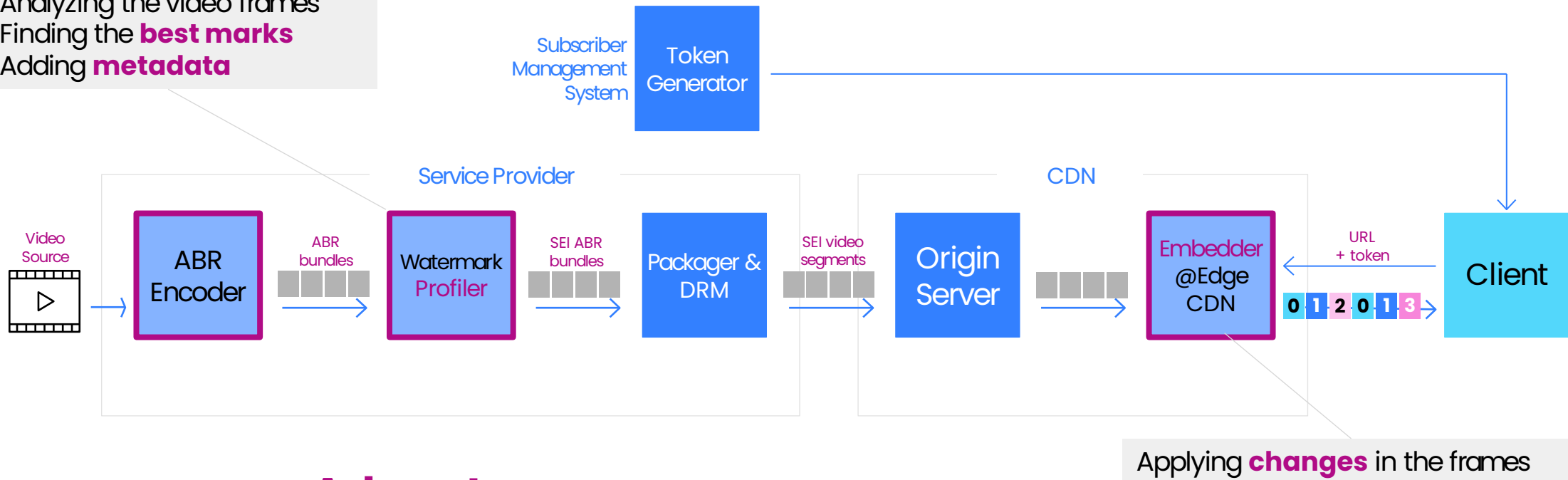


Weaknesses

- Only two variants of segments
- Double footprint
- Complex pipeline synchronization

Edge-Embedded Watermarking

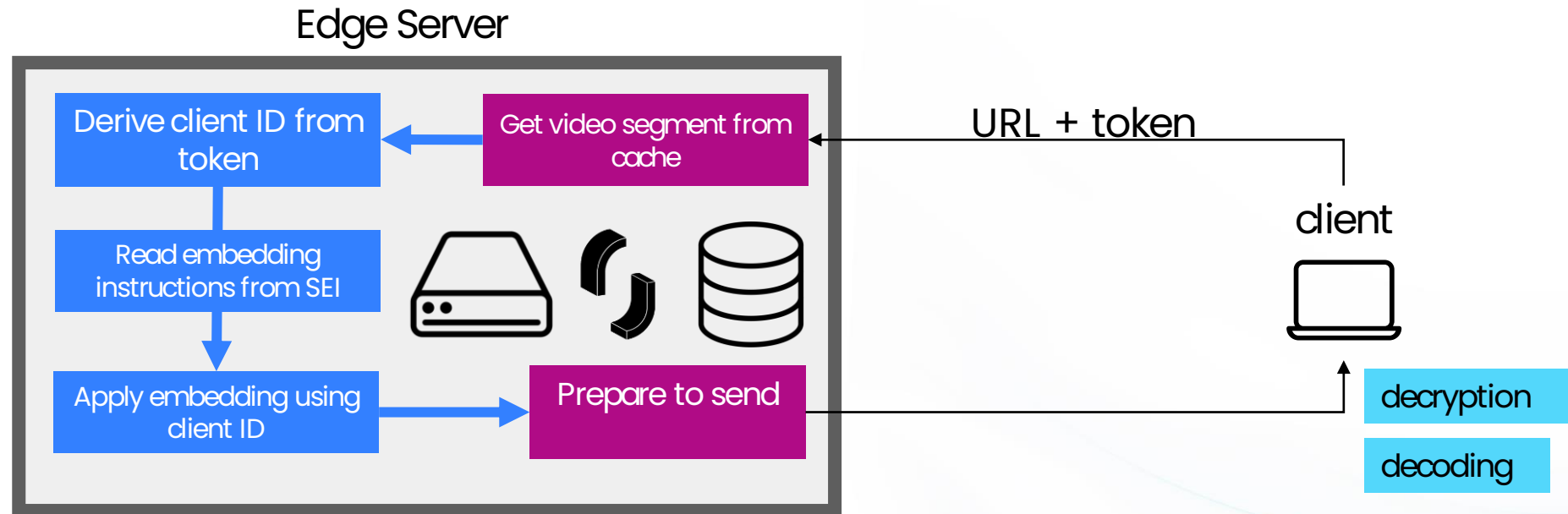
- Analyzing the video frames
- Finding the **best marks**
- Adding **metadata**



Advantages

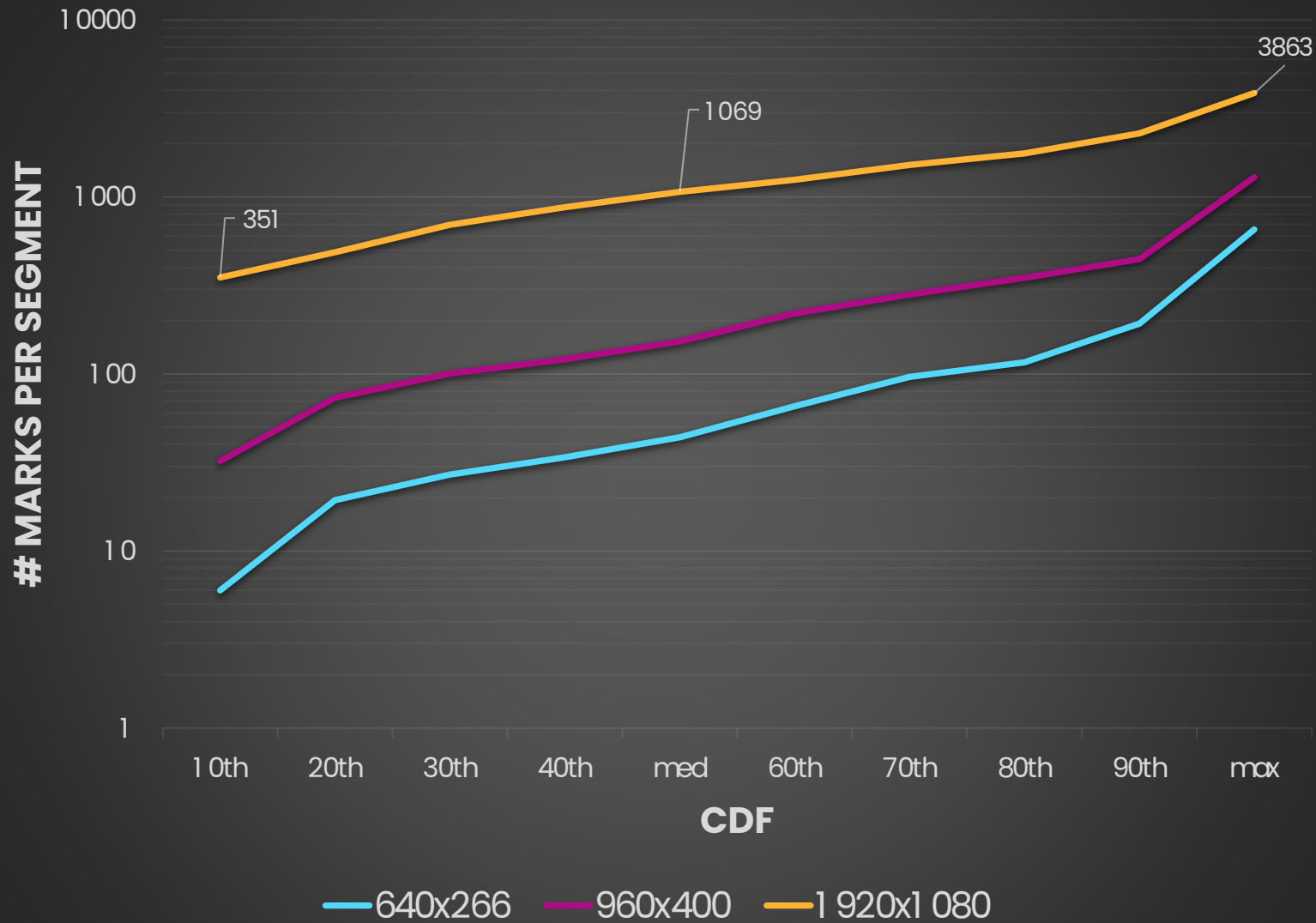
- Simplified pipeline (no dependency to segment filename)
- Single footprint
- Multiple segment *variants*

Watermark Embedder at Edge



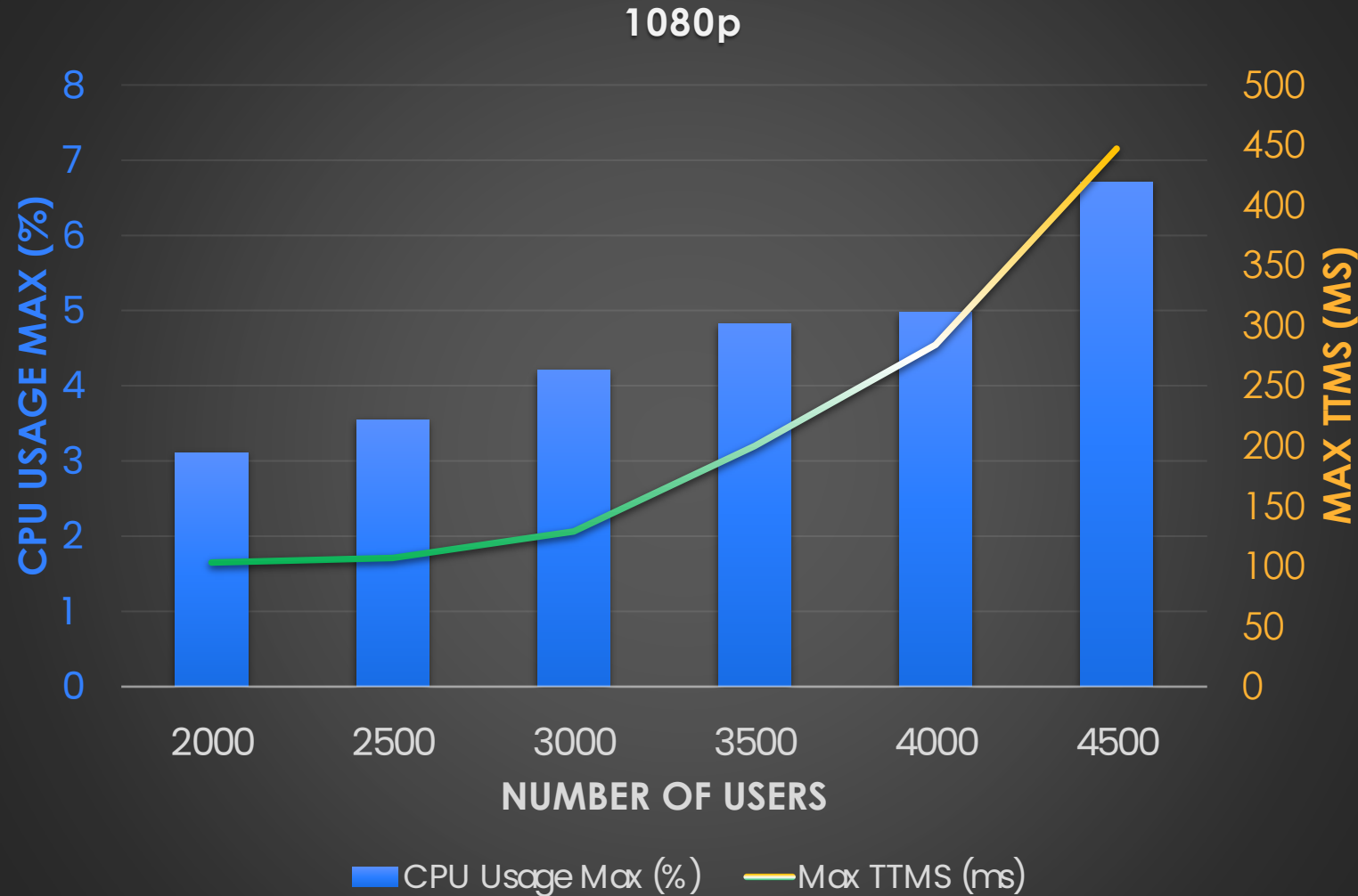
- The SEI is a metadata and does not encode video content
 - ➔ The embedding instructions are extracted **without video decoding/re-encoding**
- The SEI is not encrypted by the content protection layer (DRM)
 - ➔ The SEI instruction enables watermark embedding **without decryption/re-encryption**
- **A single cached segment** can generate **multiple segment variants**

Profiling



- Variable** number of marks means
- **Variable** embedding complexity
 - **Variable** metadata size

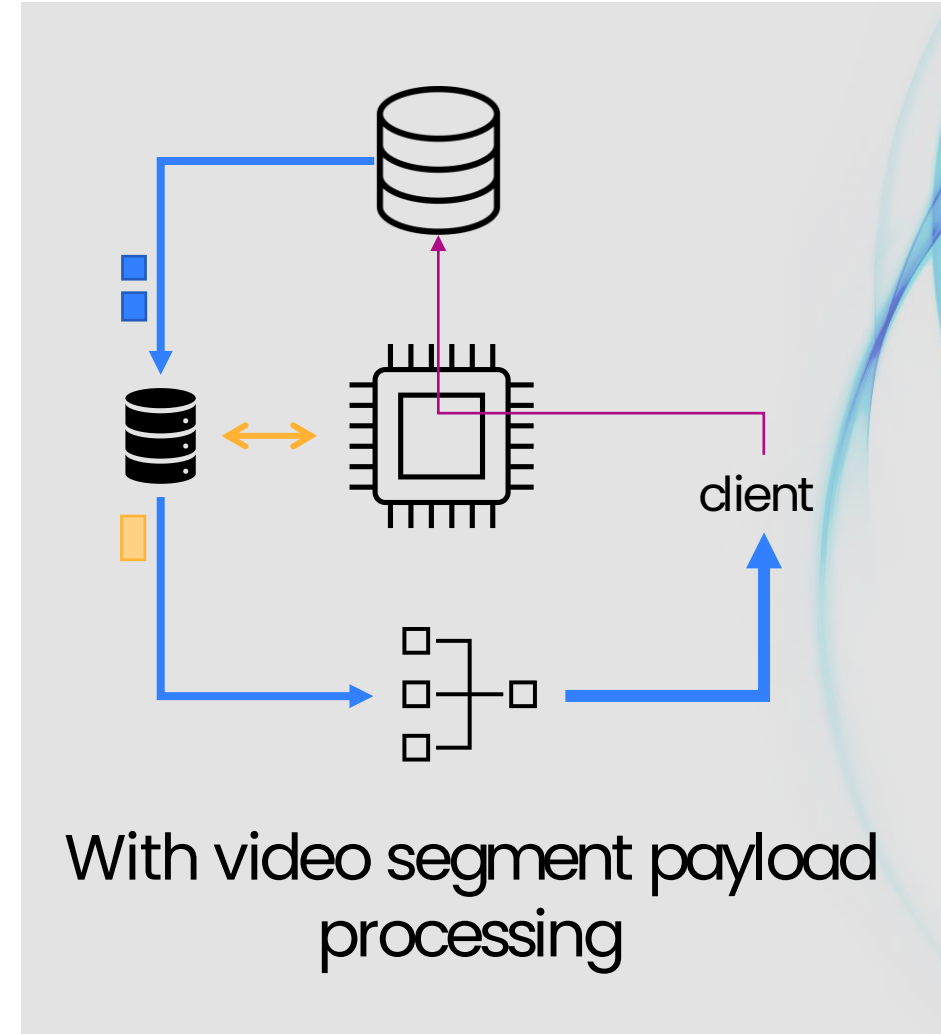
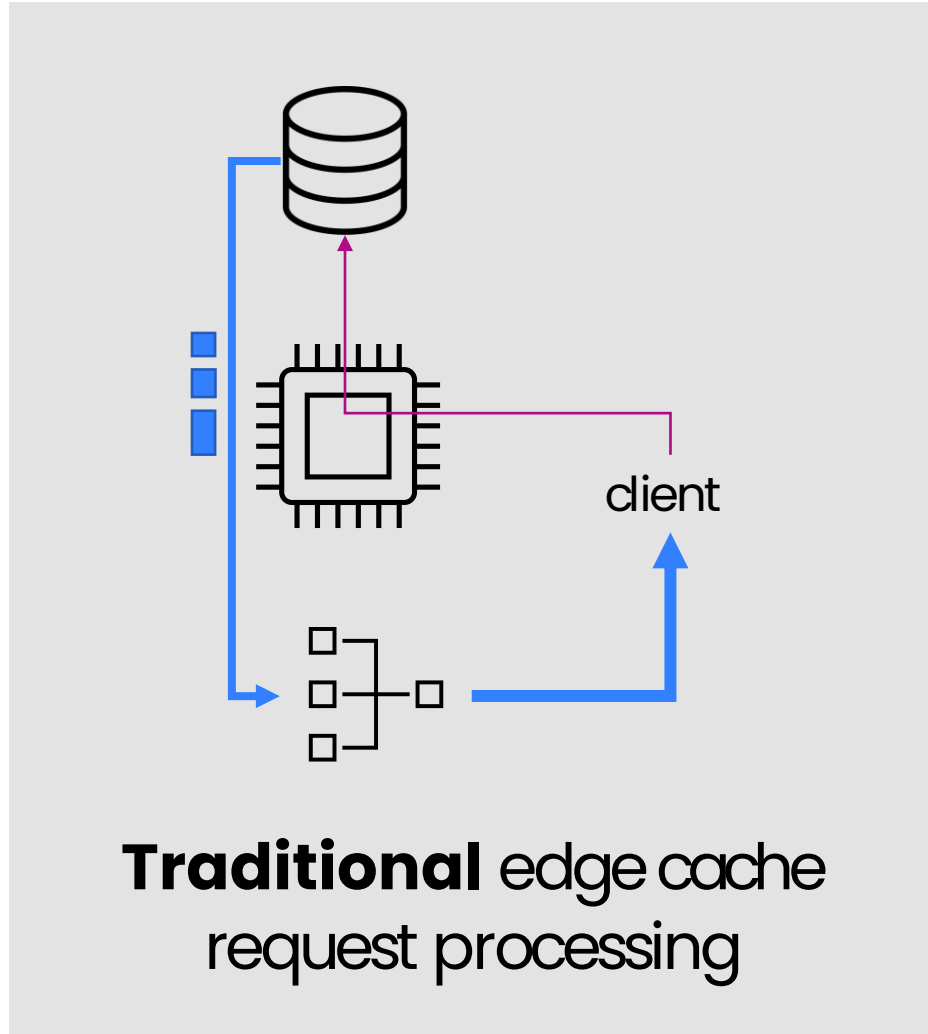
Embedding



Negligible CPU usage

Processing time *dramatic* growth

Internal Edge Processing



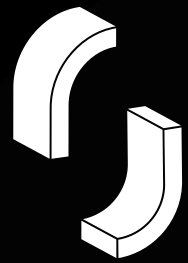
Takeaway

A **new approach** for server-side watermarking

- Separate profiling and embedding
- Fix the main weaknesses of A/B watermarking

Implementation

- **Marginal** impact on CPU
- **Tricky** memory and thread management



Synamedia

ATS Plugin Design

