



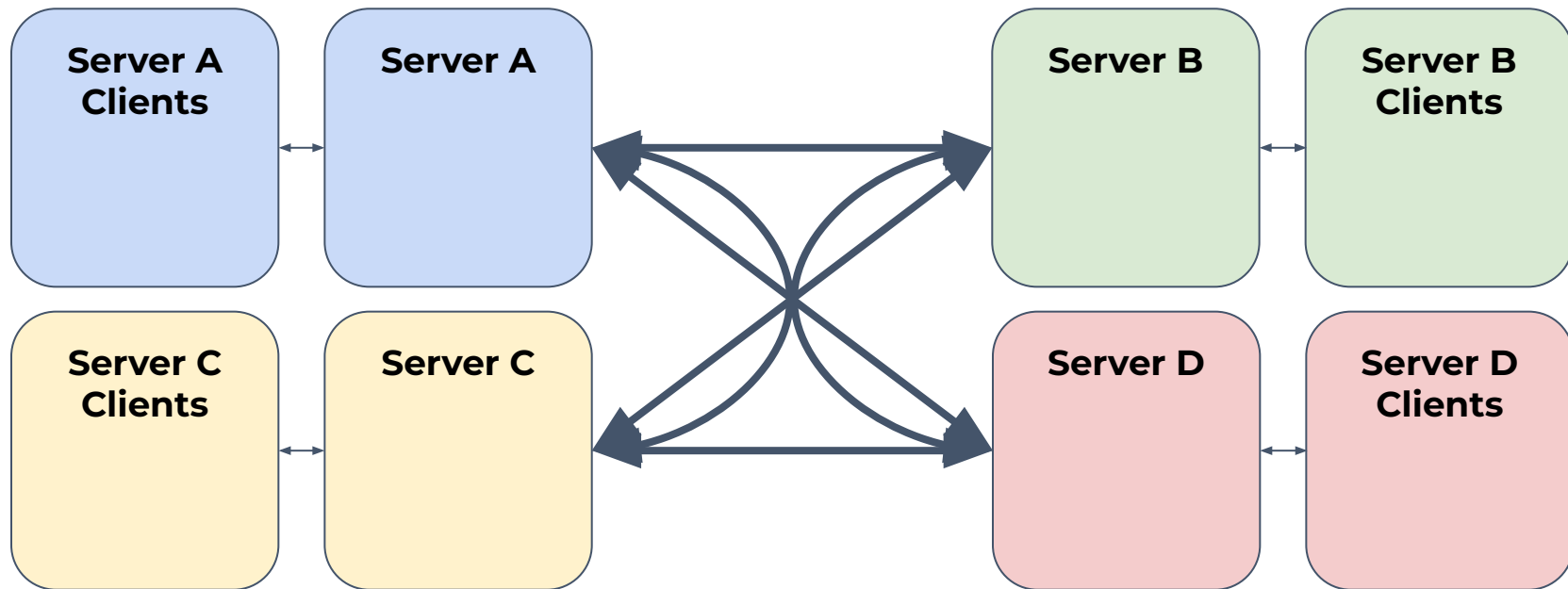
Community Moderation in Matrix

FOSDEM 2026

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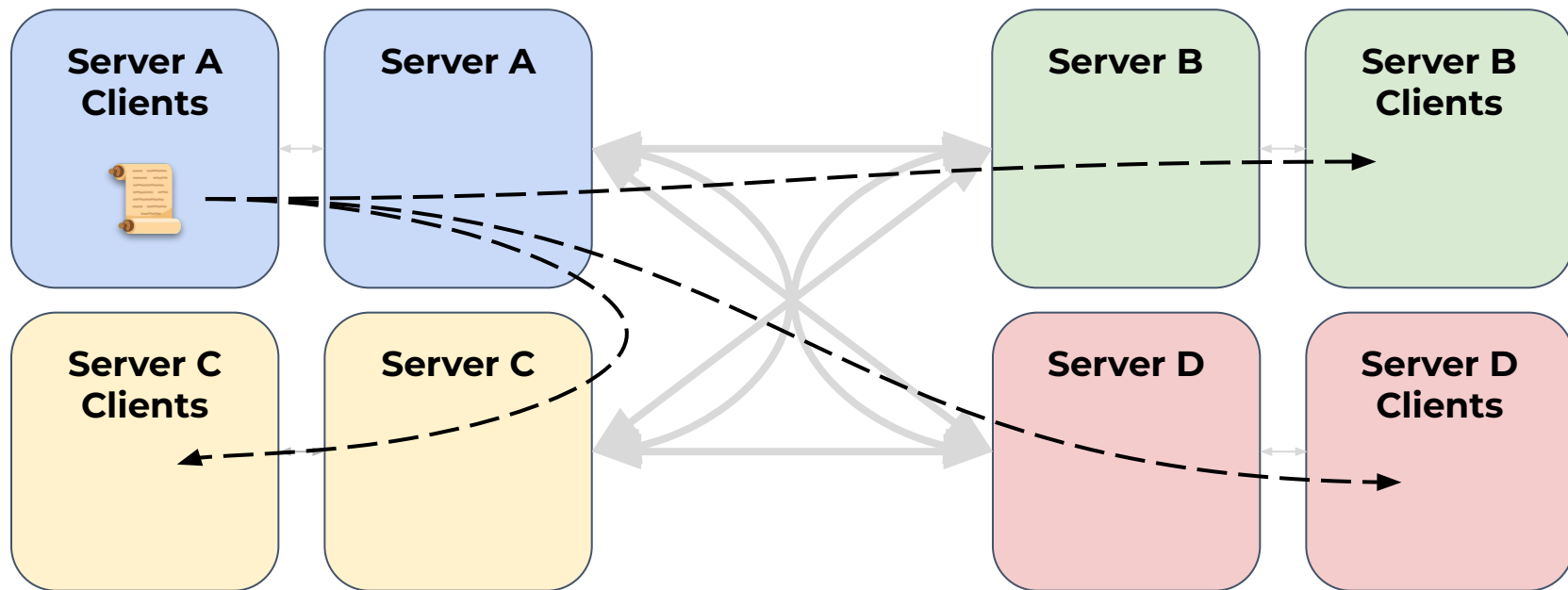
What is Matrix? (T&S Edition)

- Events (“messages”) transit rooms
- Full mesh distribution of events between servers
- Clients and users reside on servers



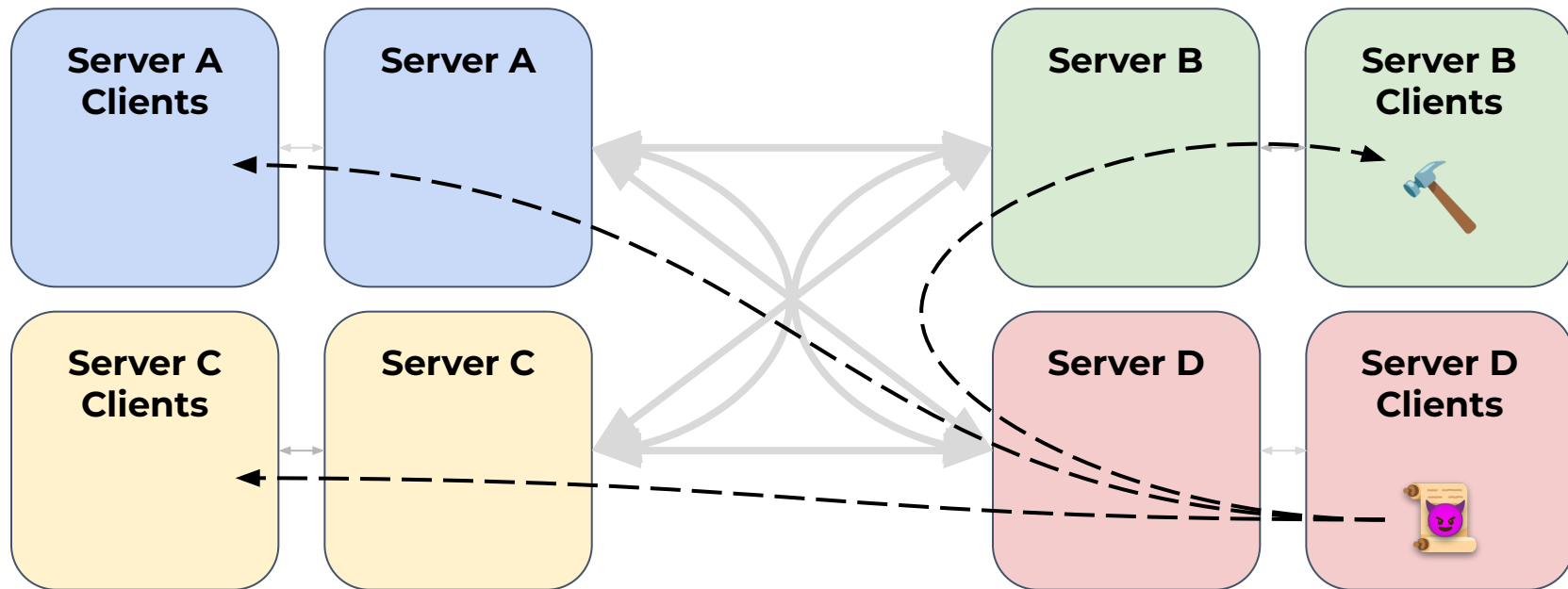
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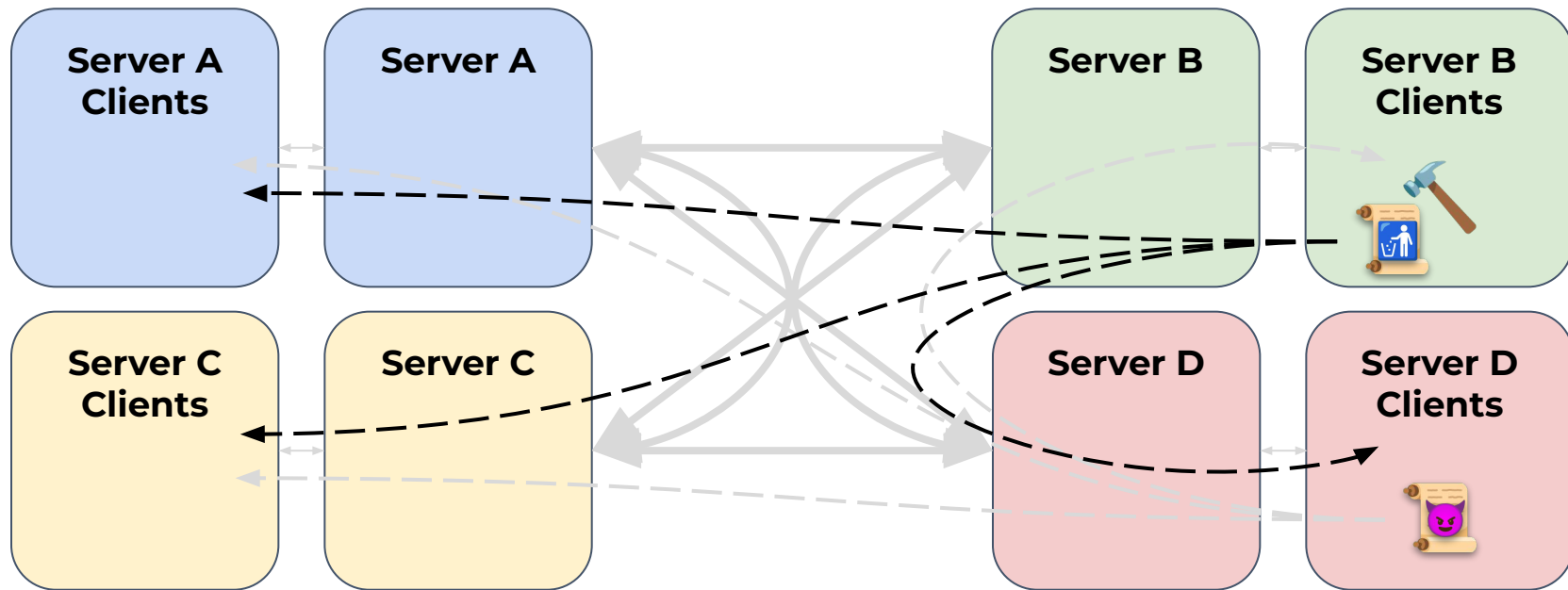
Moderation Bots

- Reactive tooling to remove events
- Can usually be set up pretty quickly (see <https://asgard.chat>)
- Examples: [Draupnir](#), [Meowlnir](#), [Mjolnir](#)



Moderation Bots

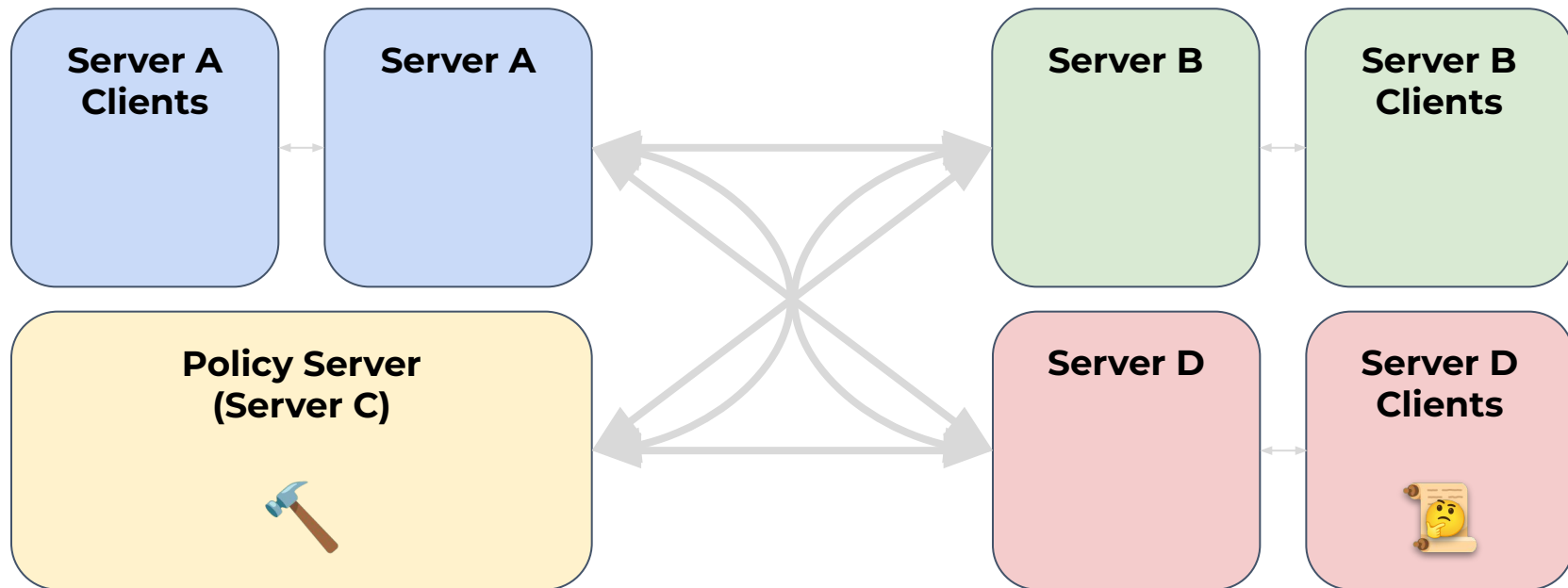
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Policy Servers ([MSC4284](#))

[matrix]

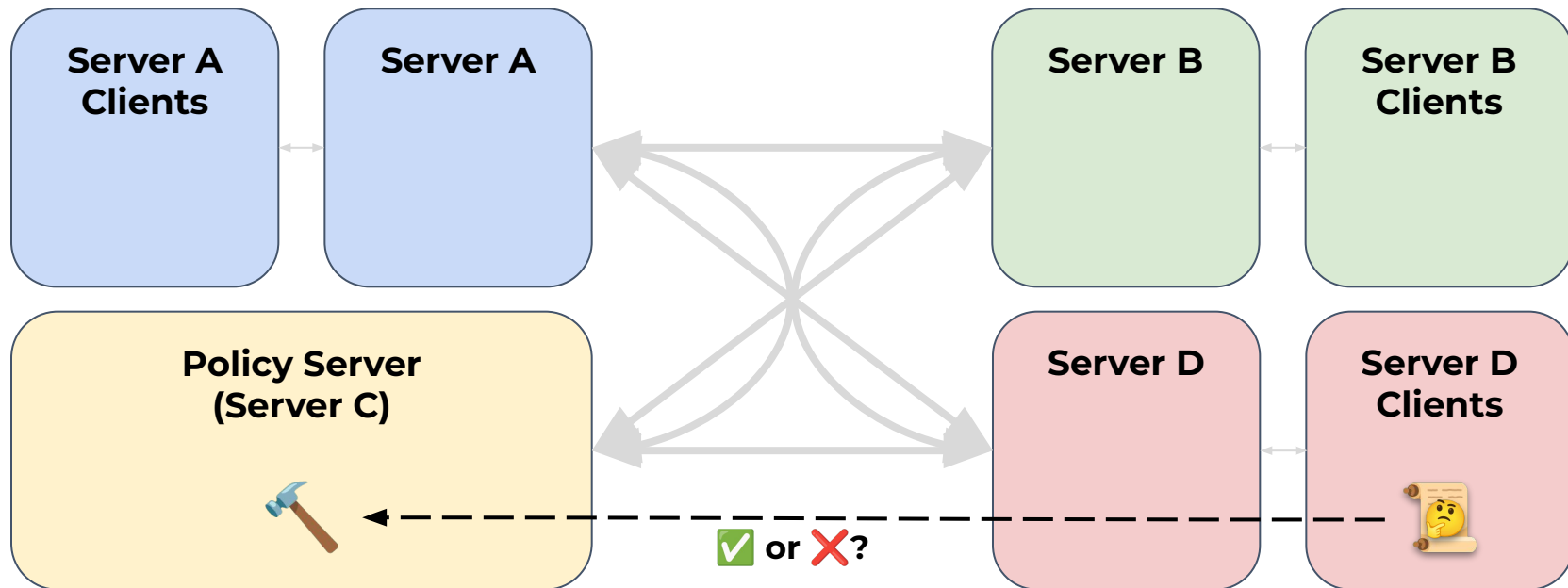
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- Can be self-hosted or use shared infrastructure
- [policyserv](#) is the Foundation's implementation



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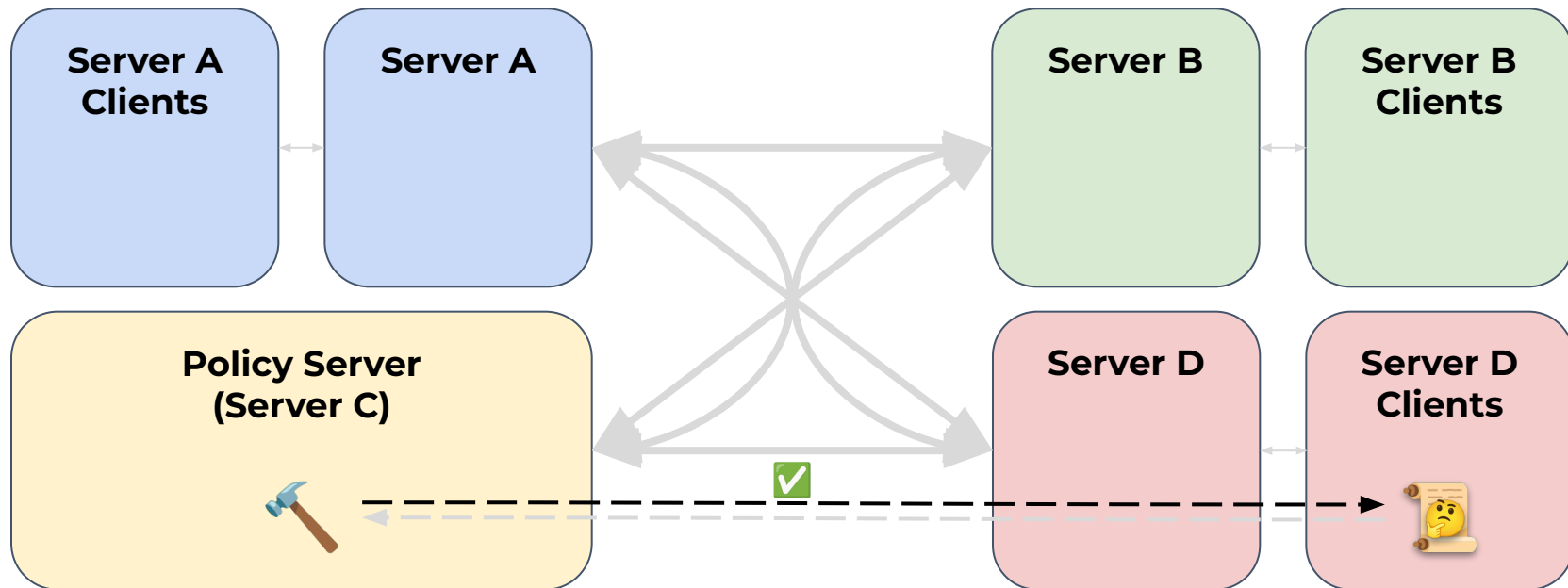
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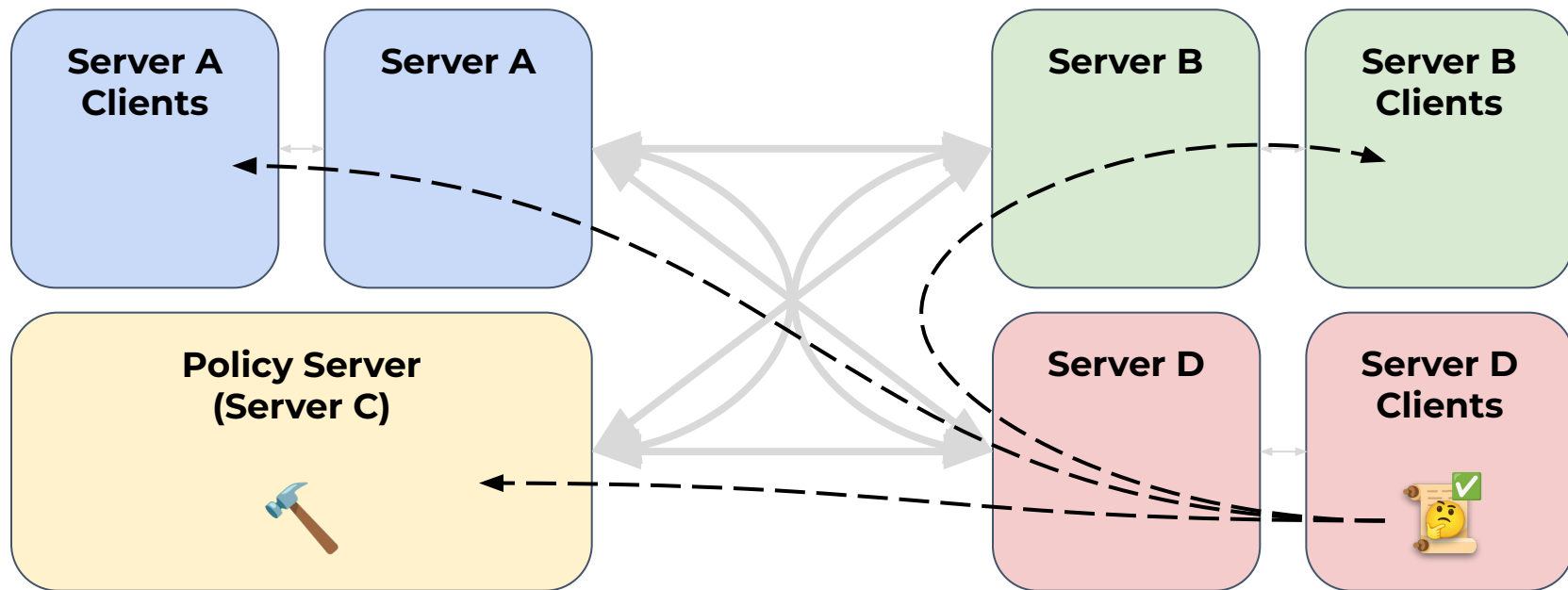
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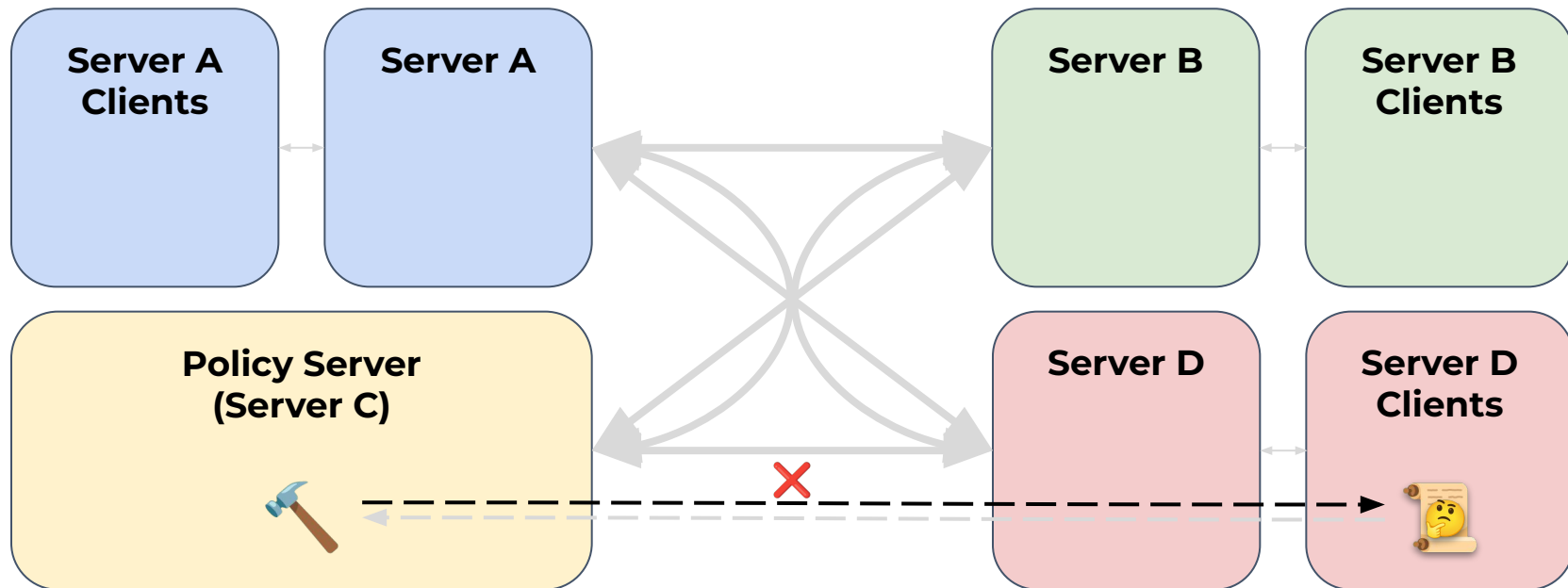
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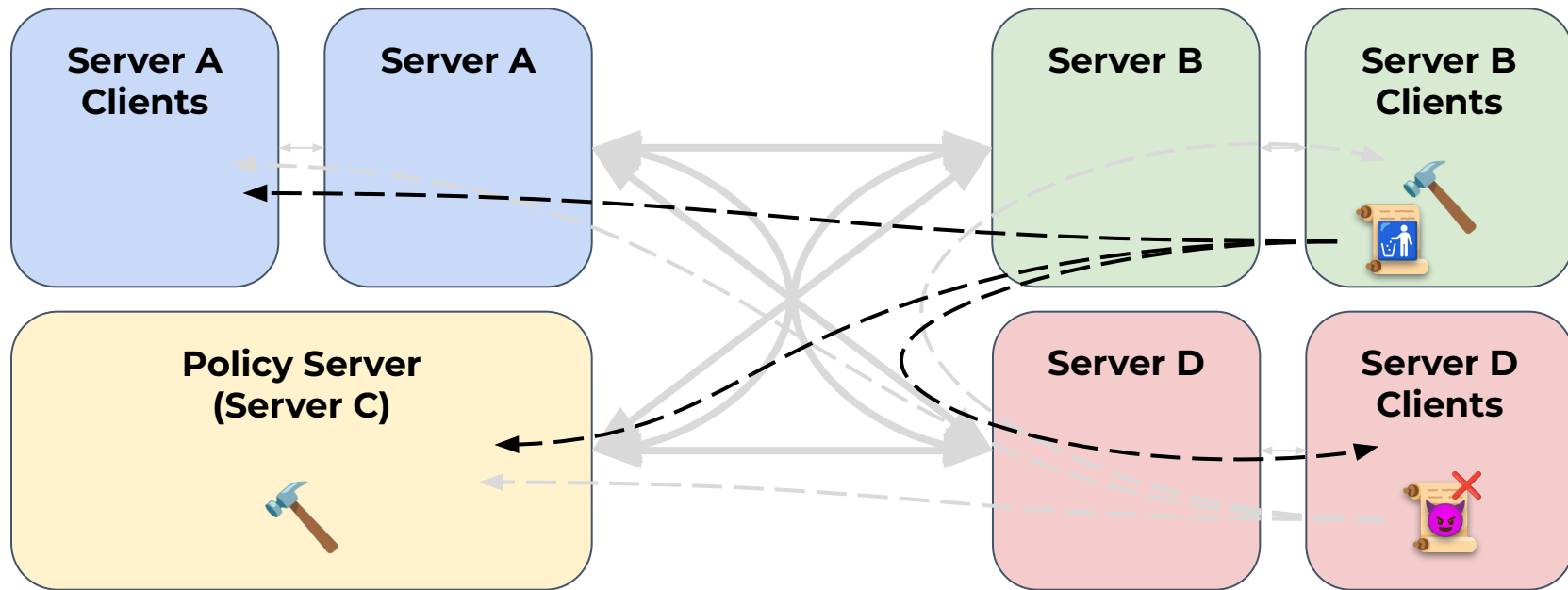
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Layering tools

- Use multiple tools for full coverage
- Spread them out on many servers
- Both the most and least restrictive configs will win



Types of communities

[matrix]

Public

Few access restrictions

Untrusted users

Example:
Matrix HQ

Near Public

Must ask to access

Some untrusted users

Example:
matrix.org
room dir

Near Private

Invite required

Some untrusted users

Example:
FOSDEM
Backstage

Private

Invite required

Trusted users

Example:
Gov. Board
Forum

Examples of community tooling

Public

Few access restrictions

Untrusted users

Example:
Matrix HQ

For rooms:

- Moderation bots
- Policy servers
- Server ACLs
- Code of Conduct / Community Guidelines
- Bans / redactions / silences

For servers:

- Search redirection
- Hasher-Matcher-Actioner ([HMA](#), from Meta) / [hma-matrix](#)
- Terms of Service / Community Guidelines
- User, event, and room reporting
- ROOST tooling: Coop (investigations) & [Osprey](#) (rules)

Examples of community tooling

Near Public

Must ask to access

Some untrusted users

Example: matrix.org room dir

For rooms:

- Join gates / rules
- Power levels
- Topics / pinned events
- Invite links (when available)
- + everything from public

For servers:

- Rate limits
- [HTTP antispam](#) webhooks
- Open governance working groups
- + everything from public

Examples of community tooling

Near Private

Invite
required

Some
untrusted
users

Example:
FOSDEM
Backstage

For rooms:

- Encryption
- Moderation bots
- Power levels
- Join gates

For servers:

- Registration tokens / invite links
- Registration requirements (email domain allow lists)
- Coop/Osprey

Examples of community tooling

Private

Invite
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Trusted
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Example:
Gov. Board
Forum

For rooms:

- Encryption
- Moderation bots
- Power levels

For servers:

- Registration tokens / invite links
- Registration requirements (email domain allow lists)
- Element Server Suite ([ESS](#)) Pro

Demo

Next up for Foundation T&S

- Finish the FCP process on [MSC4284](#) (policy servers)
- In a later room version, make signatures required when a policy server is enabled in the room
- Explore new open source tooling
 - Coop / [Osprey](#) from [ROOST](#)
 - Hasher-Matcher-Actioner ([HMA](#)) / [hma-matrix](#)
 - [gpt-oss-safeguard](#)
- Support server-centric communities in polycyserv
 - Search redirection
 - Join gates
- Turn media back on in our public rooms

How to set up a polycserv

1. Invite @polycserv:matrix.org to a DM/encrypted **private** room
2. Say `!ps community My Community Name Here`
3. Say `!ps apply #room:example.org`
4. Give the bot “Moderator” (or “Admin”) in #room:example.org
5. Wait for our team to approve the request
6. Enjoy polycserv (see `!ps help` for ideas)

Questions and support are best in [#polycserv:matrix.org](https://matrix.org/#polycserv) (including how to host your own).

Thanks

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