CS4700/CS5700 Fundamentals of Computer Networks

Lecture 12: Inter-domain routing

Slides used with permissions from Edward W. Knightly, T. S. Eugene Ng, Ion Stoica, Hui Zhang



Autonomous Systems (AS)

- Internet is not a single network!
- The Internet is a collection of networks, each controlled by different administrations
- An autonomous system (AS) is a network under a single administrative control

AS Numbers (ASNs)

ASNs are 16 bit values. 64512 through 65535 are "private" Currently over 11,000 in use.

- Genuity: 1
- AT&T: 7018, 6341, 5074, ...
- UUNET: 701, 702, 284, 12199, ...
- Sprint: 1239, 1240, 6211, 6242, ...

Implications

- ASs want to choose own local routing algorithm
 - AS takes care of getting packets to/from their own hosts
 - Intradomain routing: RIP, OSPF, etc
- ASs want to choose own non-local routing policy
 - Interdomain routing must accommodate this
 - BGP is the current interdomain routing protocol
 - BGP: Border Gateway Protocol





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- BGP is sort of a hybrid: Path vector protocol

Border Gateway Protocol Part I: E-BGP



- Two types of routers
 - Border router (Edge), Internal router (Core)



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Share connectivity information across ASes





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I-BGP



I-BGP neighbors do not announce routes received via I-BGP to other I-BGP neighbors.

- Problem: Injecting external routes into IGP (e.g. OSPF) does not scale and causes BGP policy information to be lost
- I-BGP can be used to disseminate BGP routes to <u>all</u> routers in AS
- BGP route + IGP route suffice to create forwarding table

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Join I-BGP with IGP to Create Forwarding Table



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Routing between ISPs

- Routing protocol (BGP) contains reachability information (no metrics)
 - Not about optimizing anything
 - All about policy (business and politics)
- Why?
 - Metrics optimize for a particular criteria
 - AT&T's idea of a good route is not the same as UUnet's
 - Scale
- What a BGP speaker announces or not announces to a peer determines what routes may get used by whom





Most transit networks transit in a selective manner...

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Customers Don't Always Need BGP



Static routing is the most common way of connecting an autonomous routing domain to the Internet.

This helps explain why BGP is a mystery to many ...

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BGP: Path Vector Protocol

- Distance vector algorithm with extra information
 - For each route, store the complete path (ASs)
 - No extra computation, just extra storage
- Advantages:
 - can make policy choices based on set of ASs in path
 - can easily avoid loops



Four Types of BGP Messages

- **Open** : Establish a peering session.
- **Keep Alive** : Handshake at regular intervals.
- **Notification** : Shuts down a peering session.
- Update : <u>Announcing</u> new routes or <u>withdrawing</u> previously announced routes.

Announcement = prefix + <u>attributes values</u>

Attributes are Used to Select Best Routes



Given multiple routes to the same prefix, a BGP speaker must pick at most <u>one</u> best route

(Note: it could reject them all!)



Shorter Doesn't Always Mean Shorter



Implementing Customer/Provider and Peer/ Peer relationships

- What you announce determines what route can be used by whom
- Enforce transit relationships
 - Outbound route filtering
- Enforce order of route preference
 - provider < peer < customer</p>













How Can Routes be Colored? BGP Communities!



Used for signaling within and between ASes

Very powerful BECAUSE it has no predefined meaning

Community Attribute = a list of community values. (So one route can belong to multiple communities)



The <u>subgraph</u> showing all ASes that have more than 100 neighbors in full graph of 11,158 nodes. July 6, 2001. Point of view: AT&T route-server

Does not reflect true topology

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BGP Issues

- BGP designed for policy not performance
- Susceptible to router misconfiguration
 - Blackholes: announce a route you cannot reach
- Incompatible policies
 - Solutions to limit the set of allowable policies

More Issues

- Scaling the I-BGP mesh
 - Confederations
 - Route Reflectors
- BGP Table Growth
 - 140K prefixes and growing
 - Address aggregation (CIDR)
 - Address allocation
- AS number allocation and use
- Dynamics of BGP
 - Inherent vs. accidental oscillation
 - Rate limiting and route flap dampening
 - Lots and lots of redundant info
 - Slow convergence time