
Network Layer: Distance Vector Protocols Variations

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<https://sngroup.org.cn/courses/cnns-xmuf25/index.shtml>

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Outline

- ❑ Admin and recap
- ❑ Network overview
- ❑ Network control plane
 - Routing
 - Link weights assignment
 - Routing computation
 - Distance vector protocols (distributed computing)
 - Link state protocols (distributed state synchronization)

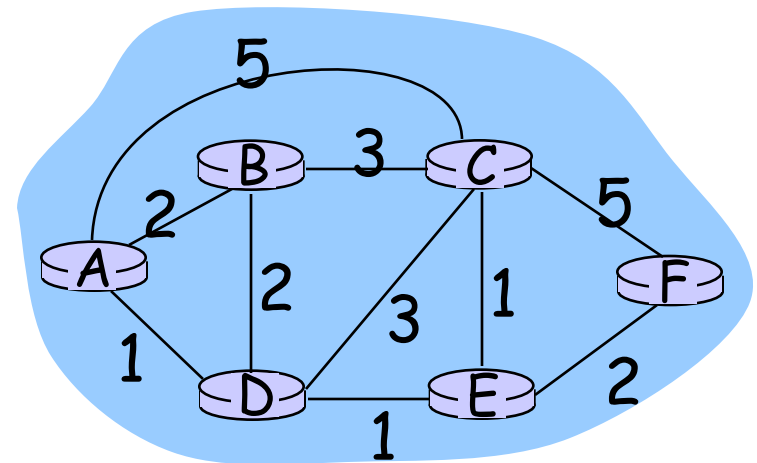
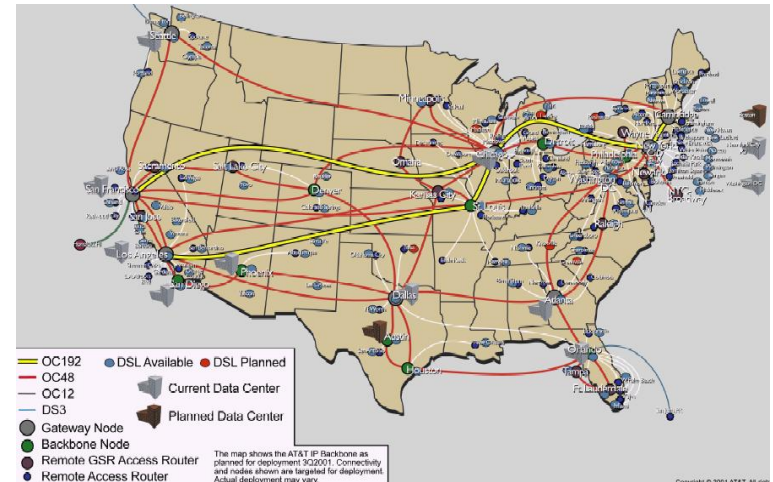
Recap: Routing Context

Routing

Goal: determine "good" paths (sequences of routers) thru networks from source to dest.

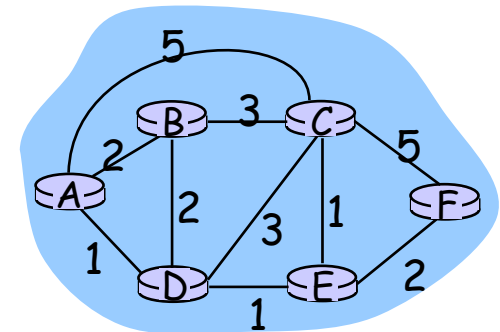
Often depends on a graph abstraction:

- graph nodes are routers
- graph edges are physical links
 - links have properties: delay, capacity, \$ cost, **policy**



Recap: Routing Design Space

- Routing has a large design space
 - who decides routing?
 - source routing: end hosts make decision
 - network routing: networks make decision
 - how many paths from source s to destination d ?
 - multi-path routing
 - single path routing
 - what does routing compute?
 - network cost minimization (shortest path routing)
 - QoS aware
 - will routing adapt to network traffic demand?
 - adaptive routing
 - static routing
 - ...



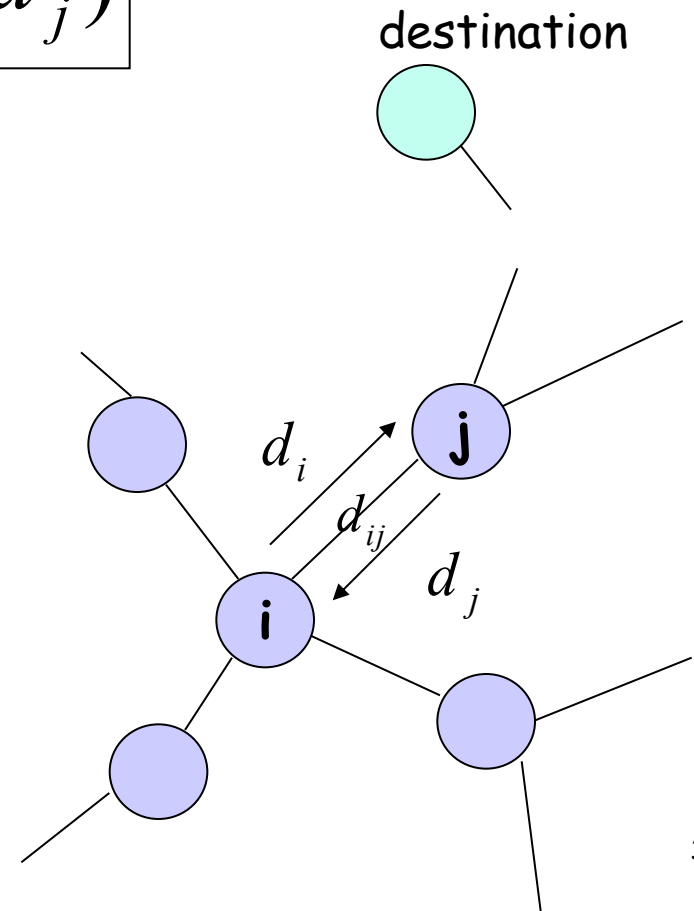
Recap: Distance Vector Routing: Basic Idea (Bellman-Ford Alg)

□ At node i , the basic update rule

$$d_i = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j)$$

where

- d_i denotes the distance estimation from i to the destination,
- $N(i)$ is set of neighbors of node i , and
- d_{ij} is the distance of the direct link from i to j

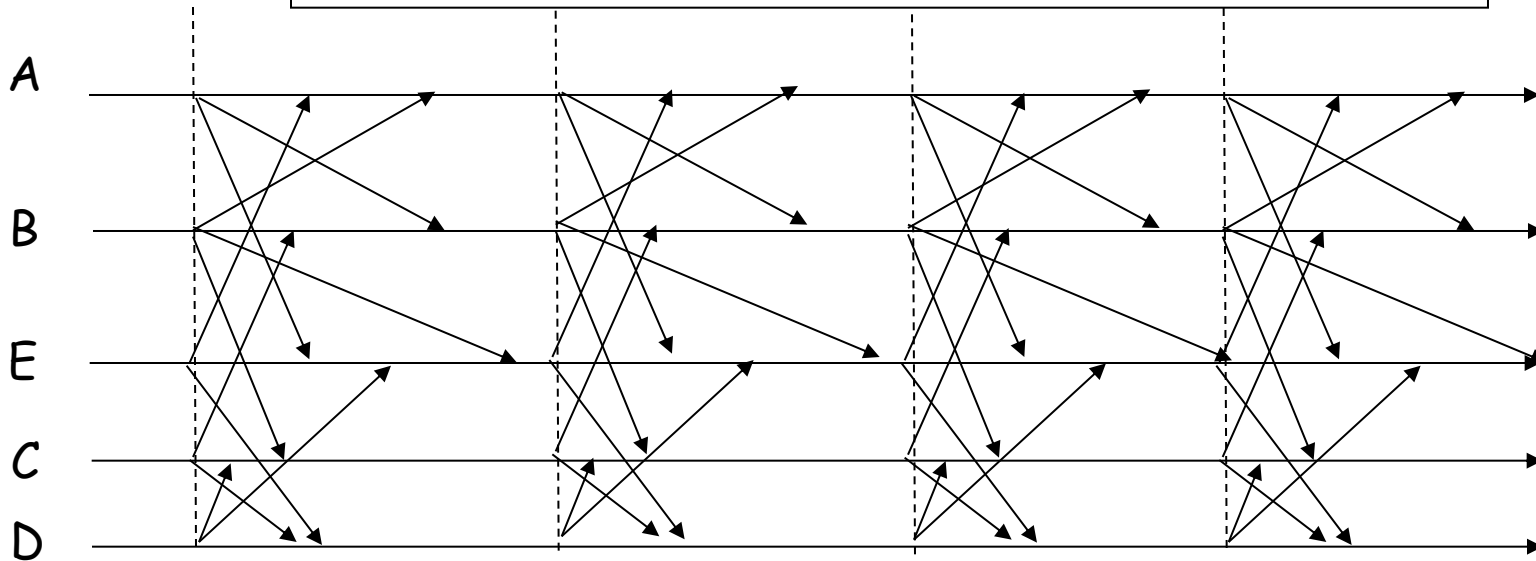


Recap: Synchronous Bellman-Ford (SBF)

□ Nodes update in rounds:

- there is a global clock;
- at the beginning of each round, each node sends its estimate to all of its neighbors;
- at the end of the round, updates its estimation

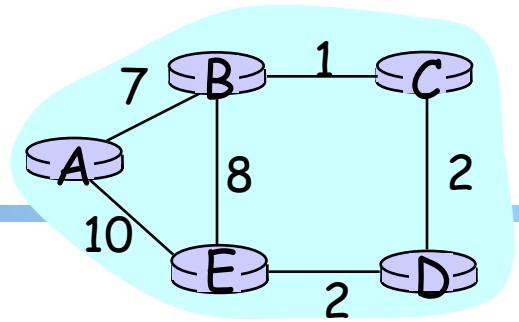
$$d_i(h+1) = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j(h))$$



Recap: SBF/ ∞

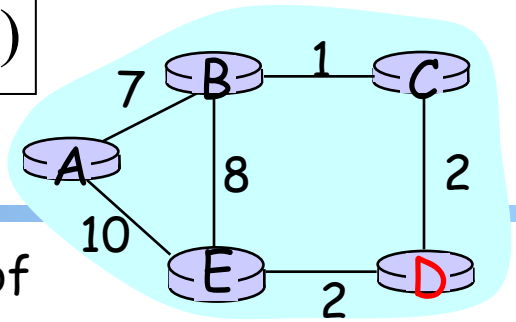
□ Initialization (time 0):

$$d_i(0) = \begin{cases} 0 & i = \text{dest} \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Example

$$d_i(h+1) = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j(h))$$



Consider D as destination; $d(t)$ is a vector consisting of estimation of each node at round t

	A	B	C	E	D
$d(0)$	∞	∞	∞	∞	0
$d(1)$	∞	∞	2	2	0
$d(2)$	12	3	2	2	0
$d(3)$	10	3	2	2	0
$d(4)$	10	3	2	2	0

Observation: $d(0) \geq d(1) \geq d(2) \geq d(3) \geq d(4) = d^*$

$$d_i(h+1) = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j(h))$$

A Nice Property of SBF: Monotonicity

- Consider two configurations $d(t)$ and $d'(t)$
- If $d(t) \geq d'(t)$
 - i.e., each node has a higher estimate in one scenario (d) than in another scenario (d'),
- then $d(t+1) \geq d'(t+1)$
 - i.e., each node has a higher estimate in d than in d' after one round of synchronous update.

$$d_i(h+1) = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j(h))$$

Correctness of SBF/ ∞

- Claim: $d_i(h)$ is the length $L_i(h)$ of a shortest path from i to the destination using $\leq h$ hops
 - base case: $h = 0$ is trivially true
 - assume true for $\leq h$,
i.e., $L_i(h) = d_i(h)$, $L_i(h-1) = d_i(h-1)$, ...

$$d_i(h+1) = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j(h))$$

Correctness of SBF/ ∞

□ consider $\leq h+1$ hops:

$$\begin{aligned} L_i(h+1) &= \min(L_i(h), \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + L_j(h))) \\ &= \min(d_i(h), \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j(h))) \\ &= \min(d_i(h), d_i(h+1)) \end{aligned}$$

since $d_i(h) \leq d_i(h-1)$

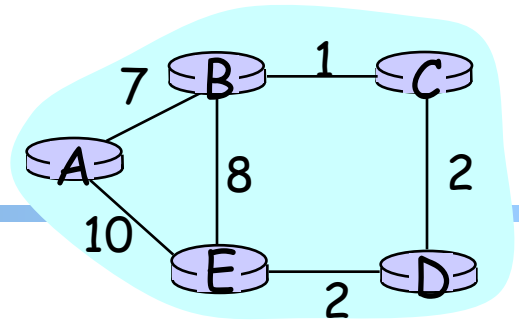
$$d_i(h+1) = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j(h)) \leq \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j(h-1)) = d_i(h)$$

$$L_i(h+1) = d_i(h+1)$$

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 - *synchronous Bellman-Ford (SBF)*
 - SBF/ ∞
 - SBF/-1 SBF/ ∞

SBF at another Initial Configuration: SBF/-1

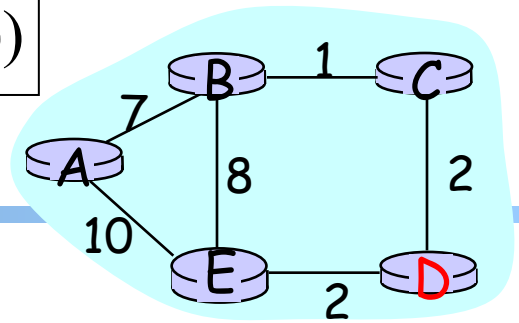


□ Initialization (time 0):

$$d_i(0) = \begin{cases} 0 & i = \text{dest} \\ -1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$d_i(h+1) = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j(h))$$

Example



Consider D as destination

	A	B	C	E	D
d(0)	-1	-1	-1	-1	0
d(1)	6	0	0	2	0
d(2)	7	1	1	2	0
d(3)	8	2	2	2	0
d(4)	9	3	3	2	0
d(5)	10	3	3	2	0
d(6)	10	3	3	2	0

Observation: $d(0) \leq d(1) \leq d(2) \leq d(3) \leq d(4) \leq d(5) = d(6) = d^*$

Correctness of SBF/-1

- SBF/-1 converges due to monotonicity

- Remaining question:
 - Can we guarantee that SBF/-1 converges to shortest path?

Correctness of SBF/-1

- Common between SBF/ ∞ and SBF/-1: they solve the Bellman equation

$$d_i = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j)$$

where $d_D = 0$.

- We have proven SBF/ ∞ is the shortest path solution.
- SBF/-1 computes shortest path if Bellman equation has a unique solution.

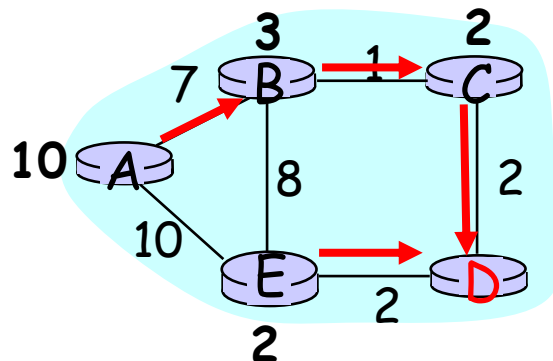
$$d_i = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j)$$

Uniqueness of Solution to BE

□ Assume another solution d , we will show that $d = d^*$

case 1: we show $d \geq d^*$

Since d is a solution to BE, we can construct paths as follows: for each i , pick a j which satisfies the equation; since d^* is shortest, $d \geq d^*$



$$d_i = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j)$$

Uniqueness of Solution to BE

Case 2: we show $d \leq d^*$

assume we run SBF with two initial configurations:

- one is d
- another is $SBF/\infty (d^\infty)$,

-> monotonicity and convergence of SBF/∞ imply that $d \leq d^*$

Discussion

- ❑ Will SBF converge under other non-negative initial conditions?
- ❑ Problems of running *synchronous* BF?

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 - *asynchronous Bellman-Ford (ABF)*

Asynchronous Bellman-Ford (ABF)

- No notion of global iterations
 - each node updates at its own pace
- Asynchronously each node i computes

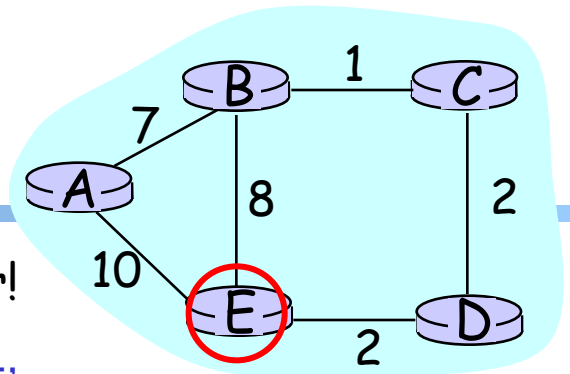
$$d_i = \min_{j \in N(i)} (d_{ij} + d_j^i)$$

using last received value d_j^i from neighbor j .

- Asynchronously node j sends its estimate to its neighbor i :
 - We assume that there is an upper bound on the delay of estimate packet

ABF: Example

Below is just one step! The protocol repeats forever!

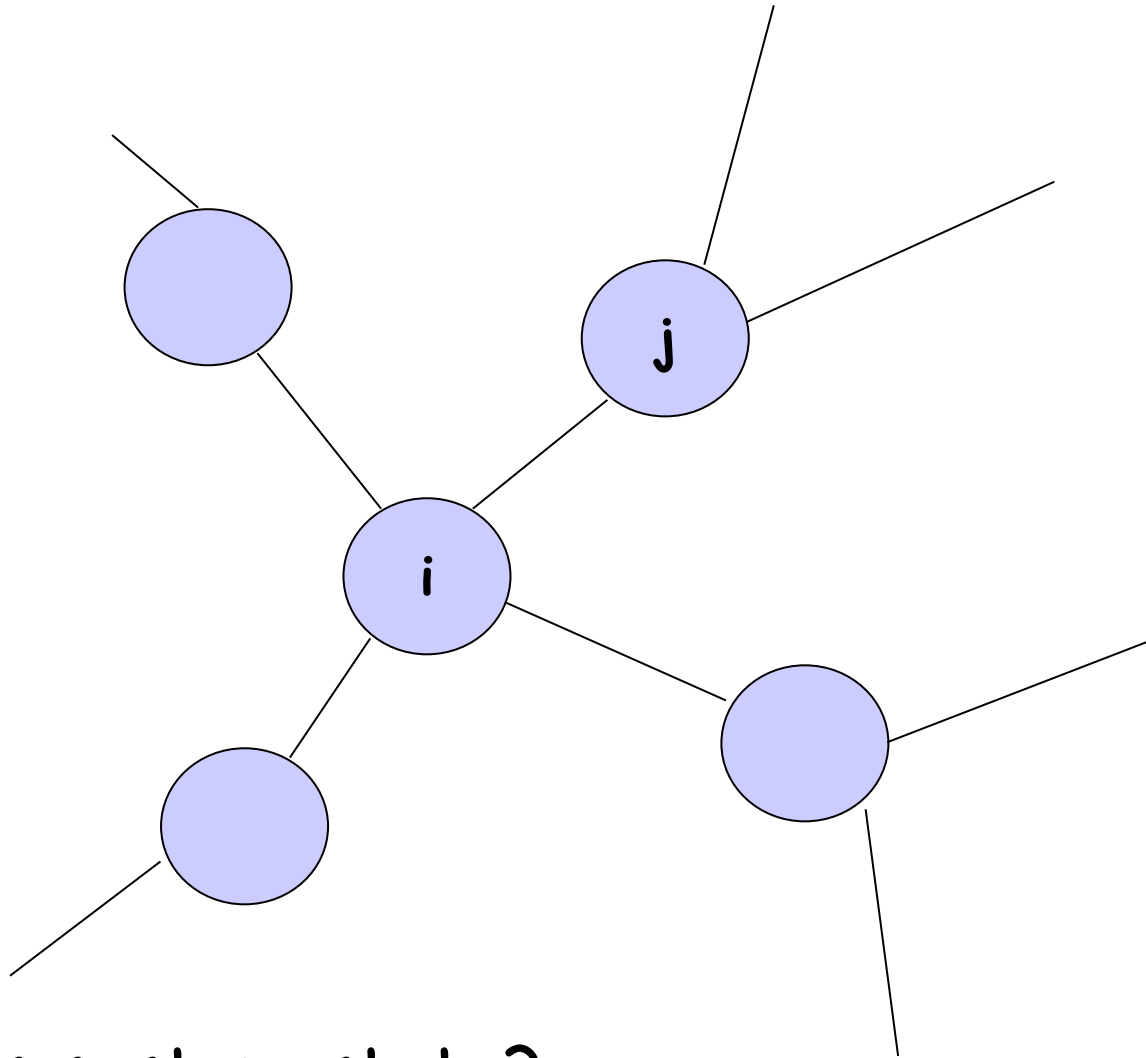


		distance tables from neighbors			computation			E's distance table	distance table E sends to its neighbors
destinations	$d_E()$	A	B	D	A	B	D		
	A	0	7	∞	10	15	∞	A: 10	A: 10
	B	7	0	∞	17	8	∞	B: 8	B: 8
	C	∞	1	2	∞	9	4	D: 4	C: 4
	D	∞	∞	0	∞	∞	2	D: 2	D: 2
		10	8	2					E: 0

Asynchronous Bellman-Ford (ABF)

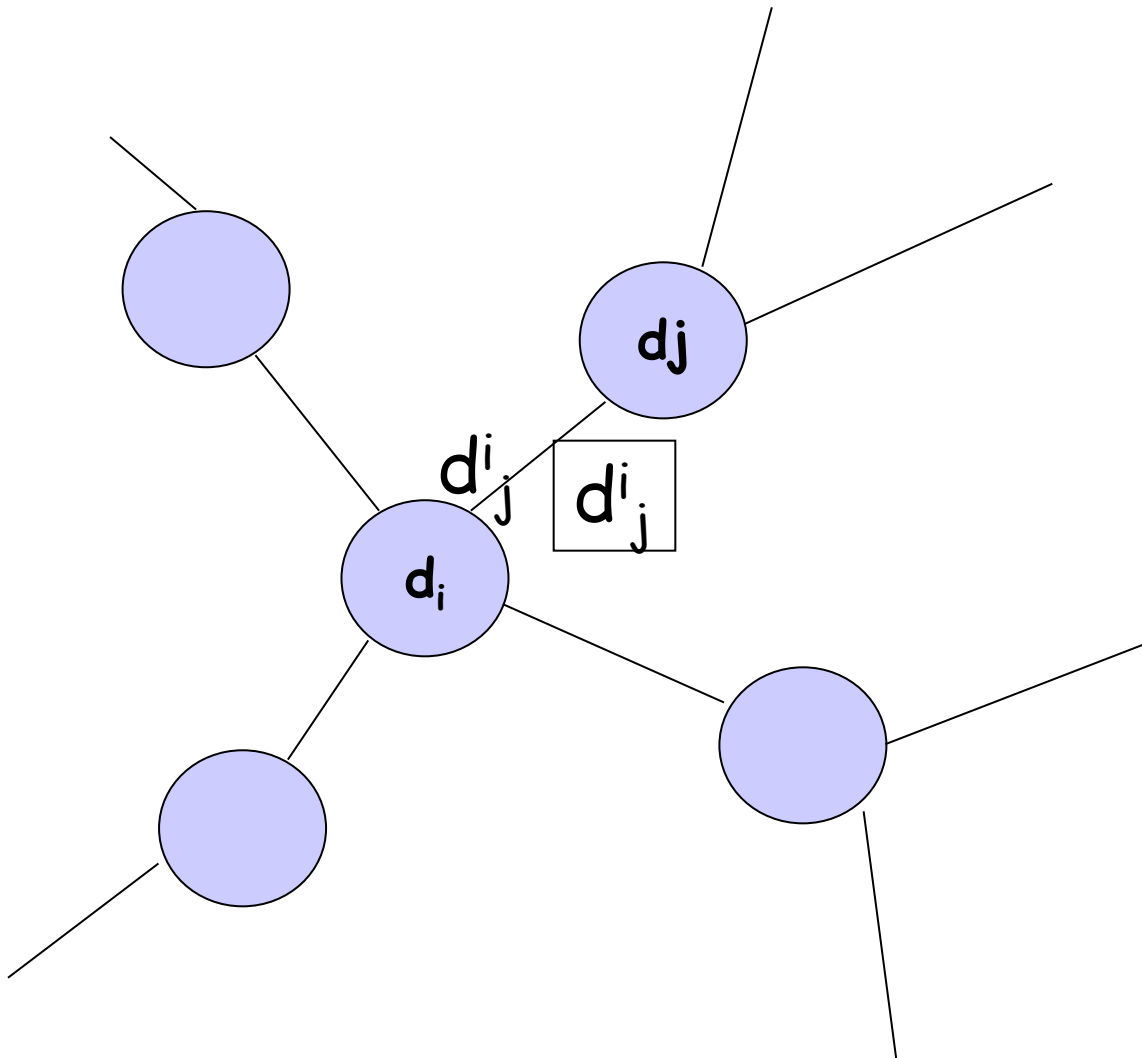
- ABF will eventually converge to the shortest path
 - links can go down and come up - but if topology is stabilized after some time t and connected, ABF will eventually converge to the shortest path !

ABF Convergence Proof Complexity: Complex System State



What is system state?

System State



three types of distance state from node j :

- d_j : current distance estimate state at node j
- d_j^i : last d_j that neighbor i received
- \bar{d}_j^i : those d_j that are still in transit to neighbor i

ABF Convergence Proof: The Sandwich Technique

□ Basic idea:

- bound system state using extreme states

□ Extreme states:

- SBF/∞ ; call the sequence $U()$
- $SBF/-1$; call the sequence $L()$

ABF Convergence

- Consider the time when the topology is stabilized as time 0
- $U(0)$ and $L(0)$ provide upper and lower bounds at time 0 on all corresponding elements of states
 - $L_j(0) \leq d_j \leq U_j(0)$ for all d_j state at node j
 - $L_j(0) \leq d_j^i \leq U_j(0)$
 - $L_j(0) \leq \text{update messages } d_j^i \leq U_j(0)$

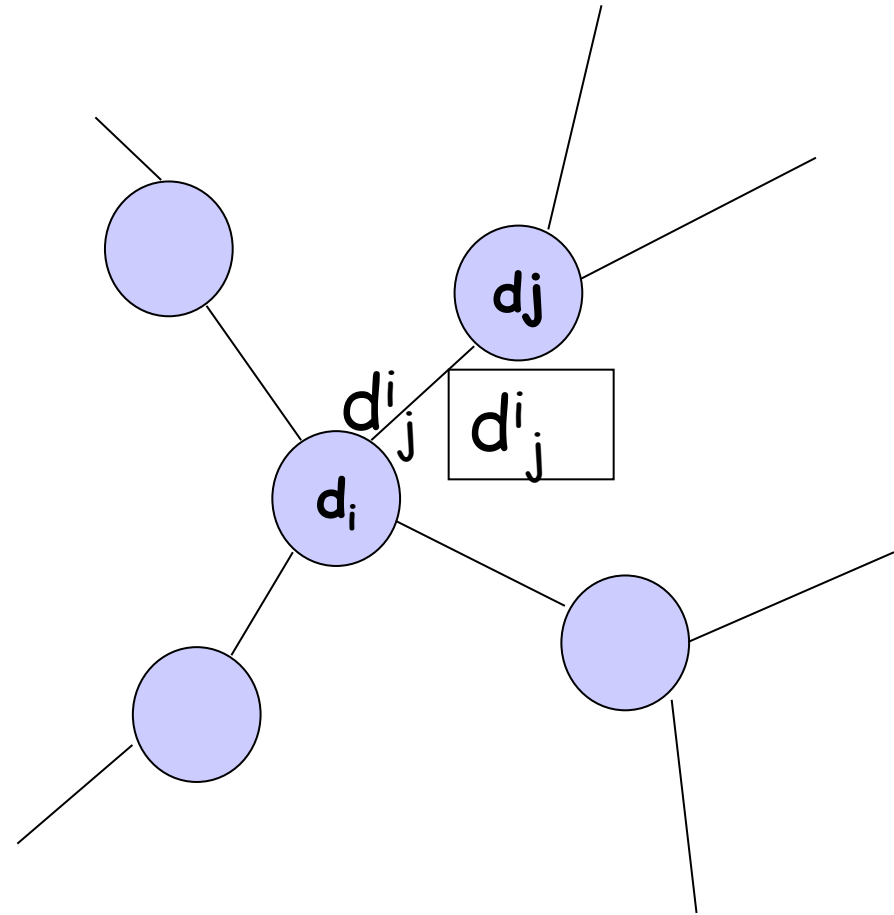
ABF Convergence

□ d_j

- after at least one update at node j :
 d_j falls between
 $L_j(1) \leq d_j \leq U_j(1)$

□ d_j^i :

- eventually all d_j^i that
are only bounded by
 $L_j(0)$ and $U_j(0)$ are
replaced with in
 $L_j(1)$ and $U_j(1)$



Asynchronous Bellman-Ford: Summary

❑ Distributed

- each node communicates its routing table to its directly-attached neighbors

❑ Iterative

- continues periodically or when link changes, e.g. detects a link failure

❑ Asynchronous

- nodes need *not* exchange info/iterate in lock step!

❑ Convergence

- in finite steps, independent of initial condition if network is connected

Summary: Distributed Distance-Vector

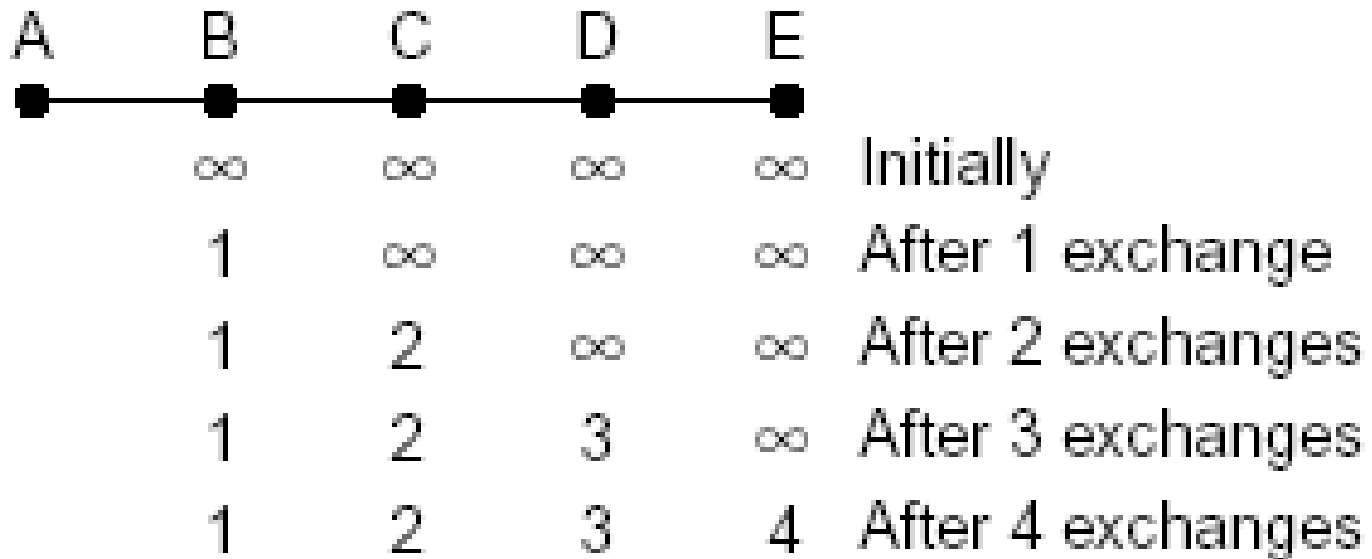
- ❑ Tool box: a key technique for proving convergence (**liveness**) of distributed protocols: **monotonicity** and **bounding-box (sandwich)** design
 - Consider two configurations $d(t)$ and $d'(t)$:
 - if $d(t) \leq d'(t)$, then $d(t+1) \leq d'(t+1)$
 - Identify two extreme configurations to sandwich any real configurations

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 - *properties of DV*

Properties of Distance-Vector Algorithms

- Good news propagate fast



Properties of Distance-Vector Algorithms

❑ Bad news propagate slowly

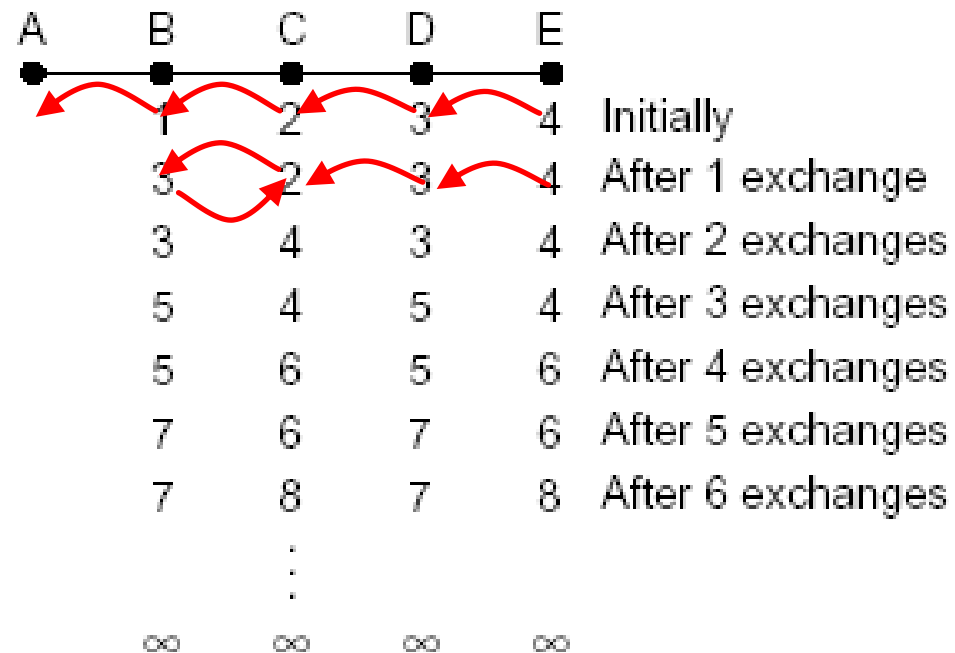
	A	B	C	D	E	
	●	●	●	●	●	
		1	2	3	4	Initially
A-B link down		3	2	3	4	After 1 exchange
		3	4	3	4	After 2 exchanges
		5	4	5	4	After 3 exchanges
		5	6	5	6	After 4 exchanges
		7	6	7	6	After 5 exchanges
		7	8	7	8	After 6 exchanges
			⋮			
		∞	∞	∞	∞	

❑ This is called the *counting-to-infinity* problem

❑ Q: what causes counting-to-infinity?

Counting-To-Infinity is Because of Routing Loop

- Counting-to-infinity is caused by a routing loop, which is a **global state** (consisting of the nodes' local states) at a global moment (observed by an oracle) such that there exist nodes A, B, C, ... E such that A (locally) thinks B as next hop, B thinks C as next hop, ... E thinks A as next hop



Discussion

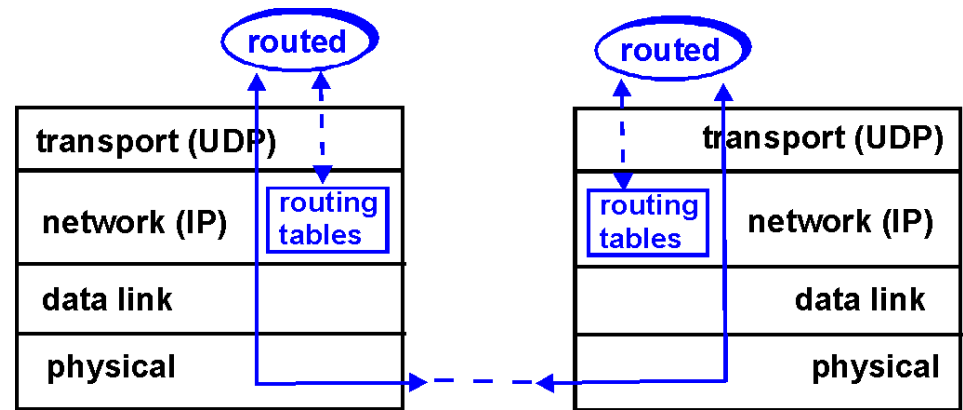
- ❑ Why avoid routing loops is hard?
- ❑ Any proposals to avoid routing loops?

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 - DV w/ loop prevention
 - *reverse poison*

DV+RP => RIP (Routing Information Protocol)

- ❑ Included in BSD-UNIX Distribution in 1982
- ❑ Link cost: 1
- ❑ Distance metric: # of hops
- ❑ Distance vectors
 - exchanged every 30 sec via Response Message (also called **advertisement**) using UDP
 - each advertisement: route to up to 25 destination nets



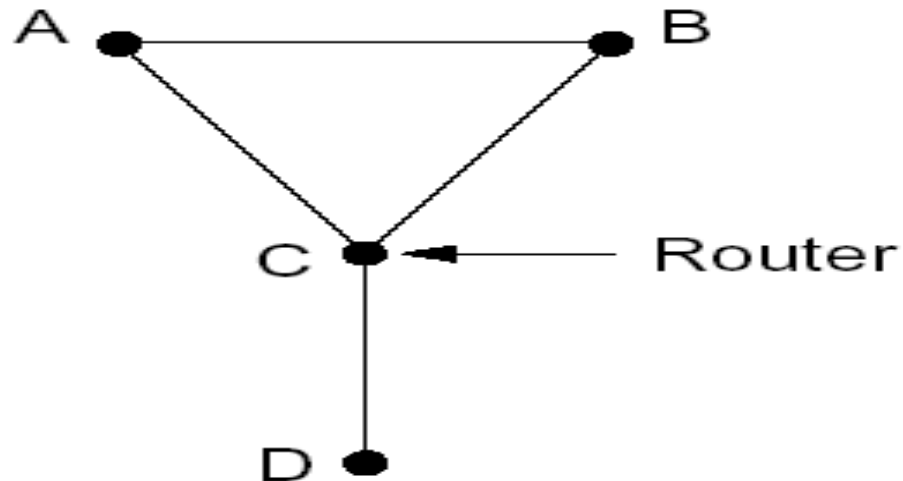
RIP: Link Failure and Recovery

If no advertisement heard after 180 sec -->
neighbor/link declared dead

- routes via neighbor invalidated
- new advertisements sent to neighbors
- neighbors in turn send out new advertisements (if tables changed)
- link failure info quickly propagates to entire net
- reverse-poison used to prevent **ping-pong** loops
- set infinite distance = 16 hops (why?)

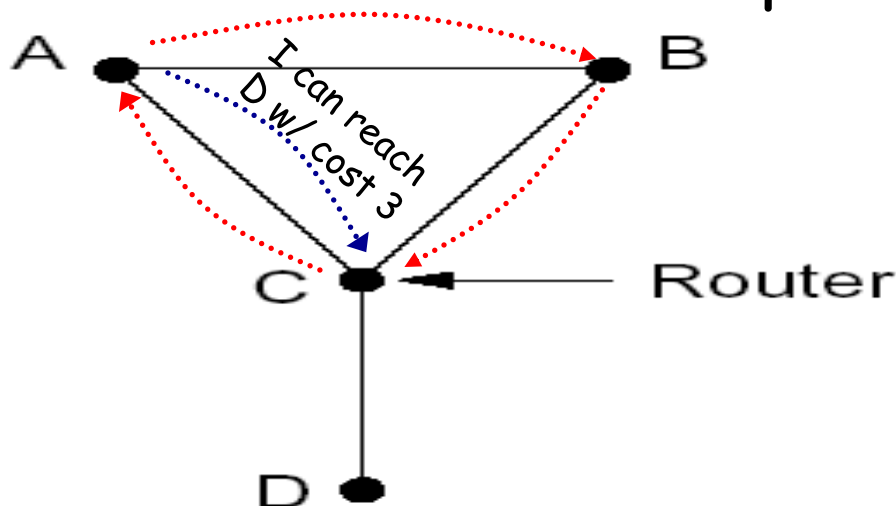
General Routing Loops and Reverse-poison

- Exercise: Can Reverse-poison guarantee no loop for this network?



General Routing Loops and Reverse-poison

- ❑ Reverse-poison removes two-node loops but may not remove more-node loops



- ❑ Unfortunate timing can lead to a loop
 - When the link between C and D fails, C will set its distance to D as ∞
 - A receives the bad news (∞) from C, A will use B to go to D
 - A sends the news to C
 - C sends the news to B

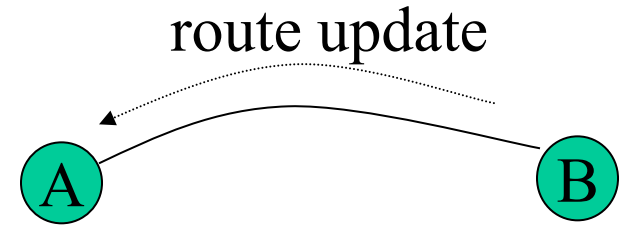
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Destination-Sequenced Distance Vector protocol (DSDV)

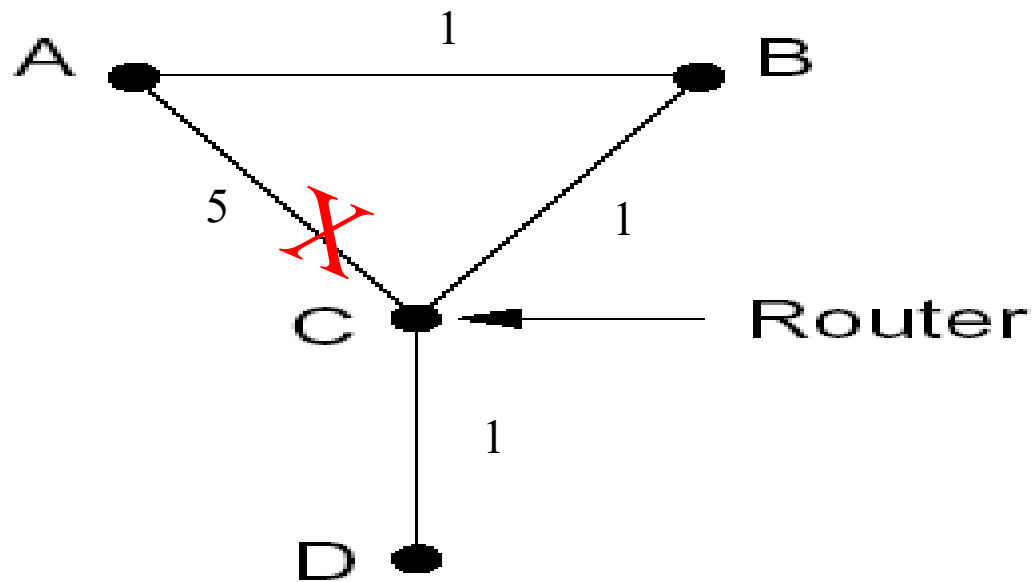
- ❑ Basic idea: use sequence numbers to partition computation
 - tags each route with a sequence number
 - each destination node D periodically advertises monotonically increasing even-numbered sequence numbers
 - when a node realizes that **the link it uses to reach destination D is broken**, it advertises an **infinite** metric and a **sequence number which is one greater** than the previous route (i.e., an odd seq. number)
 - the route is repaired by a later even-number advertisement from the destination

DSDV: More Detail



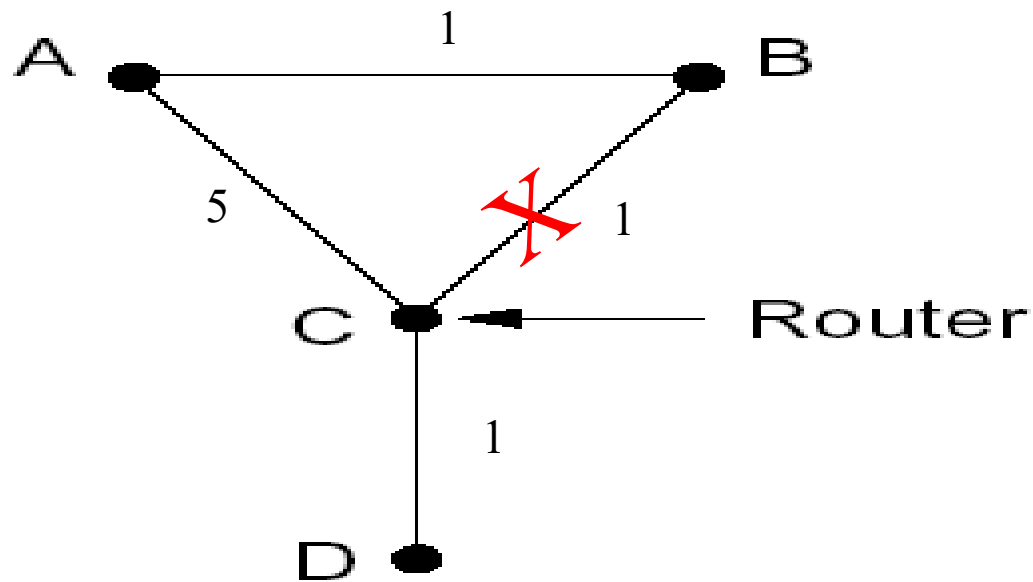
- ❑ Let's assume the destination node is D
- ❑ There are optimizations but we present a simple version:
 - each node B maintains (S^B, d^B) , where S^B is the sequence number at B for destination D and d^B is the best distance using a neighbor from B to D
- ❑ Both periodical and triggered updates
 - periodically: D increases its seq. by 2 and broadcasts with $(S^D, 0)$
 - if B is using C as next hop to D and B discovers that C is no longer reachable
 - B increases its sequence number S^B by 1, sets d^B to ∞ , and sends (S^B, d^B) to all neighbors

Example



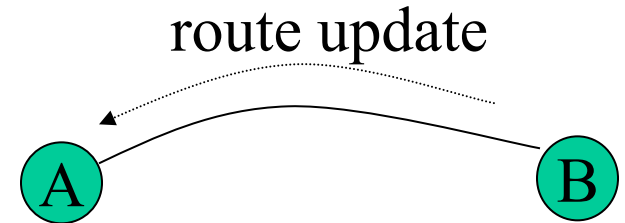
Will this trigger an update?

Example



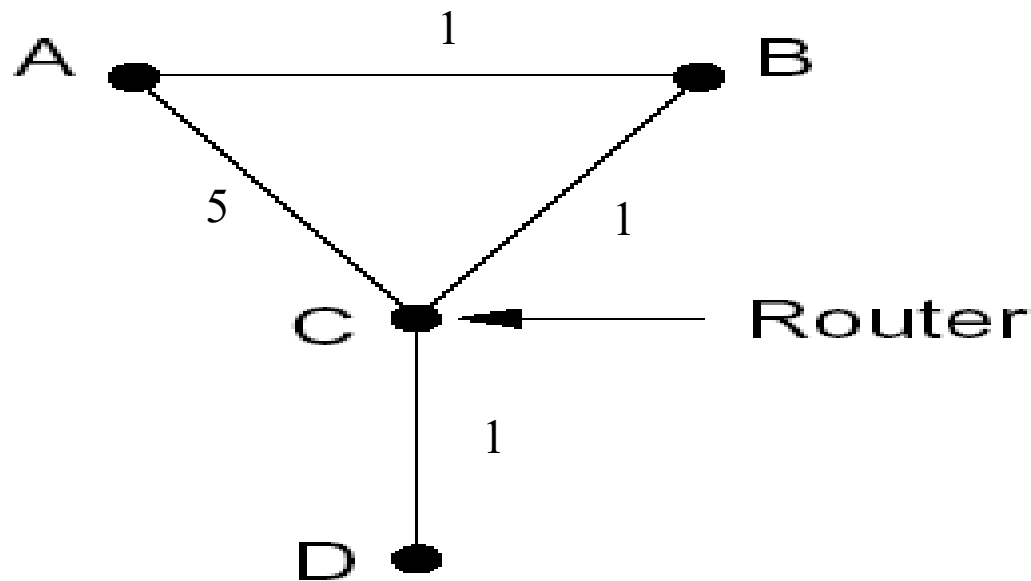
Will this trigger an update?

DSDV: Update Alg.



- ❑ Consider simple version, no optimization
- ❑ Update after receiving a message
 - assume B sends to A its current state (S^B, d^B)
 - when A receives (S^B, d^B)
 - if $S^B > S^A$, then
 - // always update if a higher seq#**
 - » $S^A = S^B$
 - » if ($d^B == \infty$) $d^A = \infty$; else $d^A = d^B + d(A, B)$
 - else if $S^A == S^B$, then
 - » if $d^A > d^B + d(A, B)$
 - // update for the same seq# only if better route**
 - $d^A = d^B + d(A, B)$ and uses B as next hop

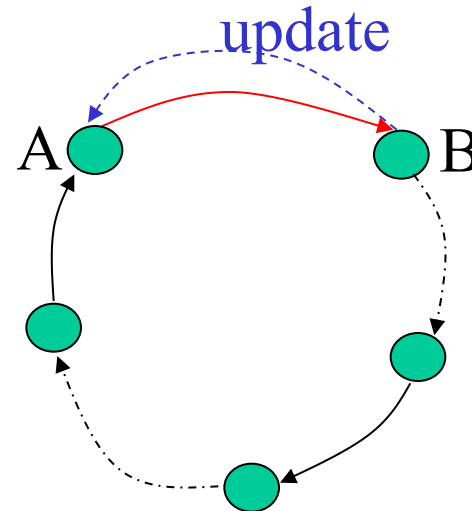
Example



Exercise: update process after D increases its seq# to next even number.

Claim: DSDV will NEVER Form a Loop

- ❑ Initially no loop (no one has next hop so no loop)
- ❑ Derive contradiction if a loop forms after a node processes an update,
 - e.g., when A receives the update from B, A decides to use B as next hop and forms a loop

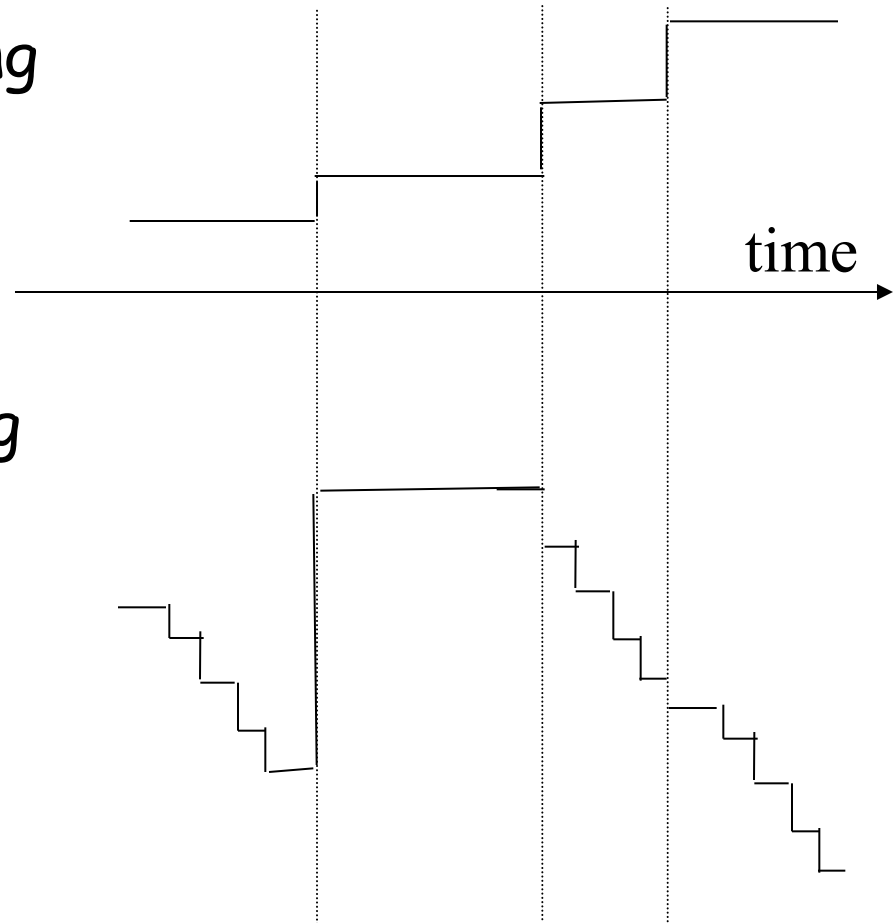


Technique: Global Invariants

- ❑ **Global Invariant** is a very effective method in understanding **safety** of distributed asynchronous protocols
- ❑ Invariants are defined over the states of the distributed nodes
- ❑ Consider any node B .
- ❑ Let's identify some invariants over the state of node B , i.e., (S^B, d^B) .

Invariants of a Single Node B

- Some invariants about the state of a node B
 - [I1] S^B is non-decreasing



- [I2] d^B is non-increasing
for the same
sequence number

Invariants of if A Considers B as Next Hop

- Some invariants if A considers B as next hop



- [I3] d^A is not ∞
- [I4] $S^B \geq S^A$
because A is having the seq# which B last sent to A; B's seq# might be increased after B sent its state
 - [I5] if $S^B == S^A$
 - then $d^B < d^A$ because d^A is based on d^B which B sent to A some time ago, $d^B < d^A$ since all link costs are positive; d^B might be decreased after B sent its state

Loop Freedom of DSDV

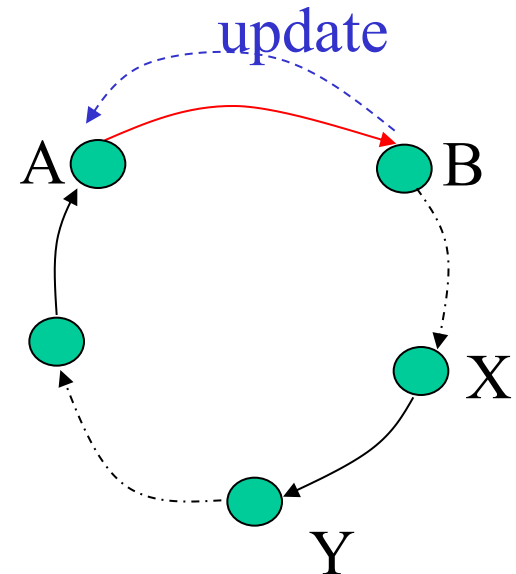
□ Consider a critical moment

- A starts to consider B as next hop, and we have a loop

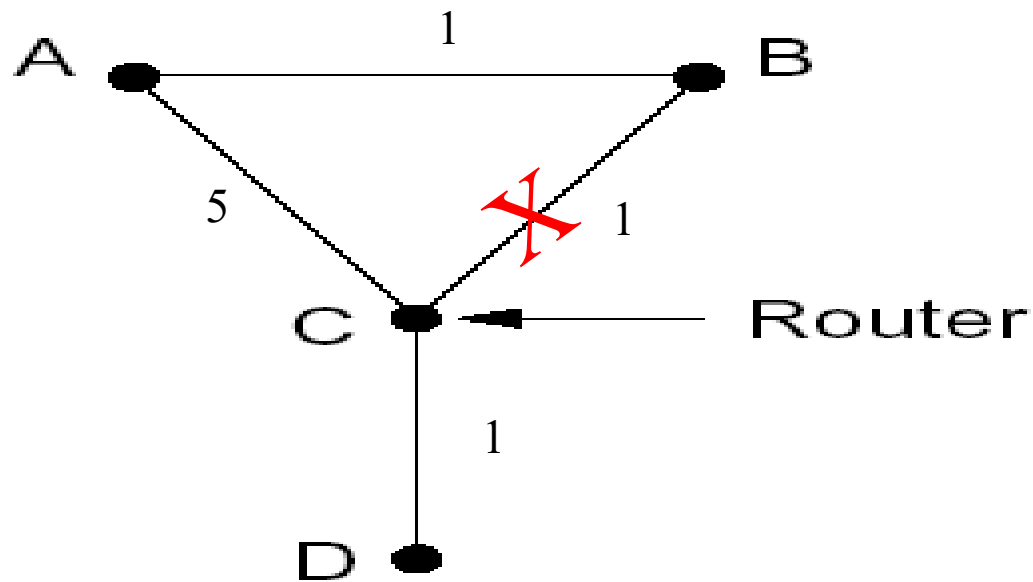
□ According to invariant I4 for each link in the loop (X considers Y as next hop) : $S^Y \geq S^X$

□ Two cases:

- exists $S^Y > S^X$
 - by transition along the loop $S^B > S^A$
- all nodes along the loop have the same sequence number
 - apply I5, by transition along the loop $d^B > d^A$



Issue of DSDV

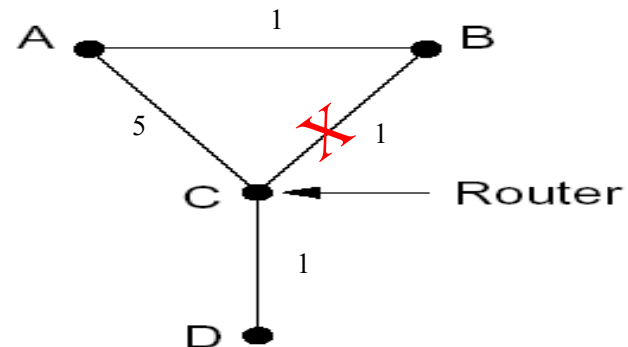


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 - *diffusive update algorithm (DUAL) and EIGRP*

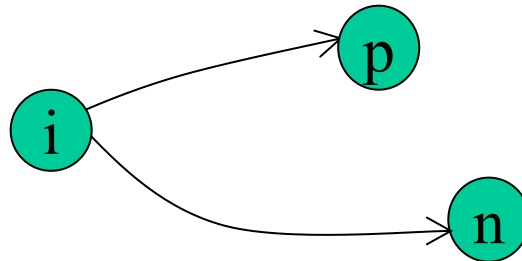
Basic Idea

- ❑ DSDV guarantees no loop, but at the price of not using any backup path before destination re-announces reachability.
- ❑ Basic idea: Sufficient condition to guarantee no loop using backup paths (called switching)?



Key Idea: Feasible Successors

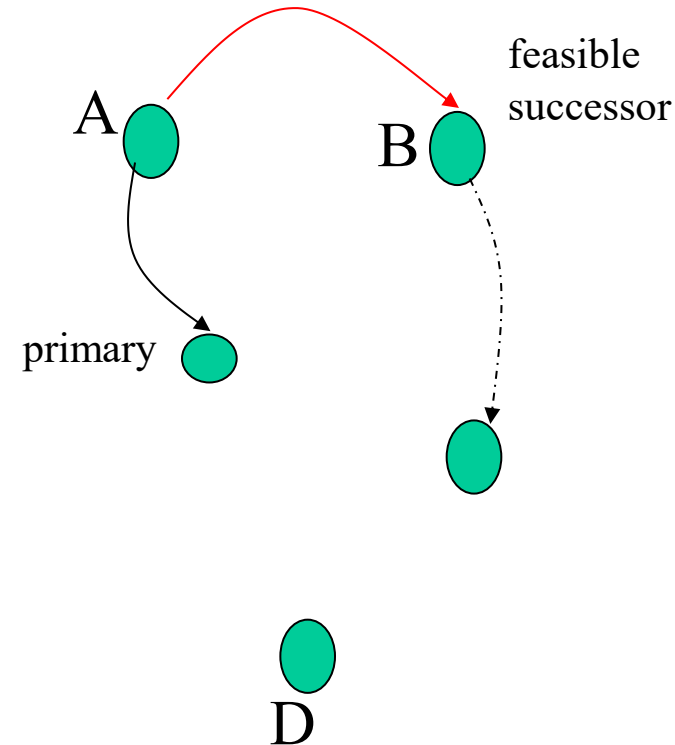
- If the reported distance of a neighbor n is lower than the total distance using primary (current shortest), the neighbor n is a feasible successor



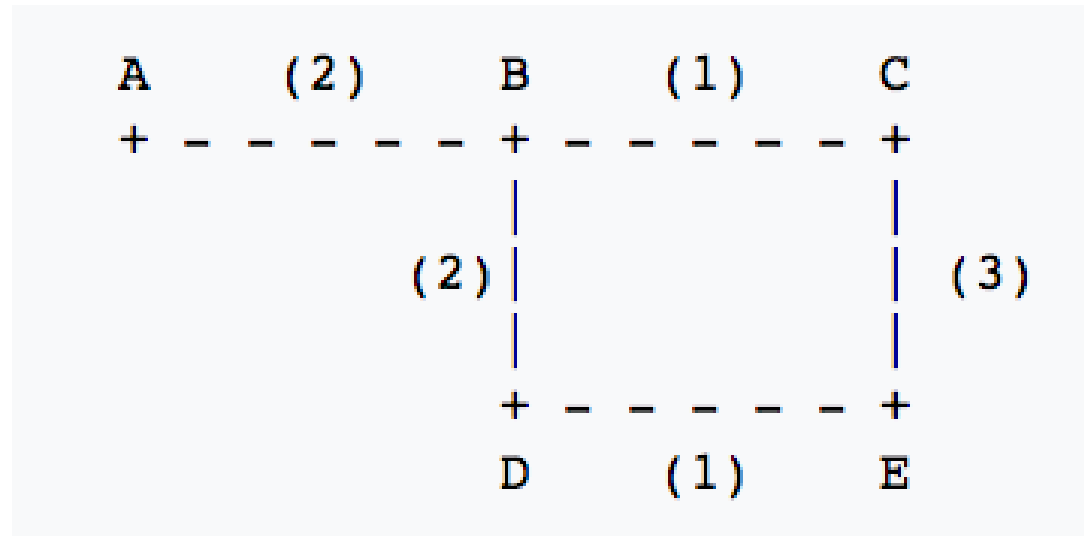
$$d_n + d_{i \rightarrow n} \geq d_{\text{primary}} + d_{i \rightarrow \text{primary}} > d_n$$

Intuition

- Since the reported distance of B is lower than my total distance, B cannot be using me (along a path) to reach the destination



Example



□ Assume A is destination, consider E

	Reported Dist.	Total Dist.
Neighbor C	3	6
Neighbor D	4	5

Summary: Distance Vector Routing

□ Basic DV protocol

- take away: use monotonicity as a technique to understand liveness/convergence
 - highly recommended reading of Bersekas/Gallager chapter

□ Fix counting-to-infinity problem

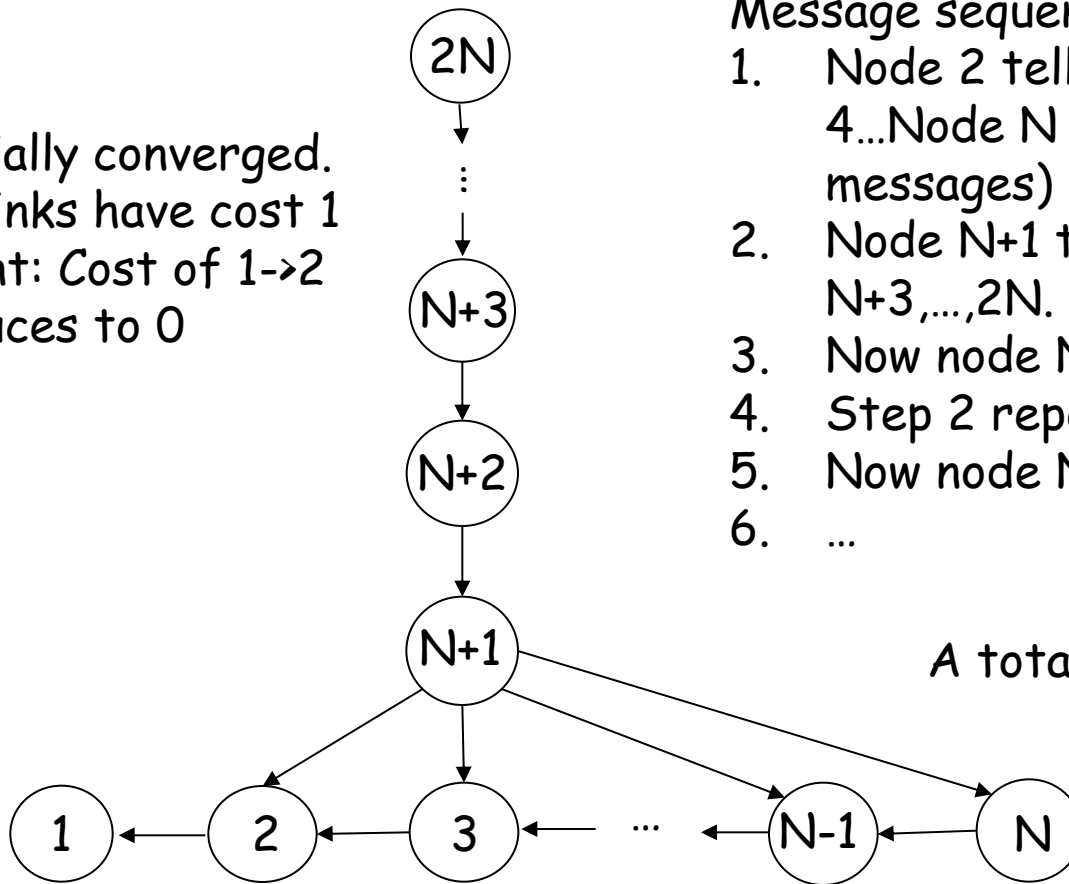
- DSDV
 - Idea: uses sequence number to avoid routing loops
 - seq# partitions routing updates from different outside events
 - within same event, no loop so long each node only decreases its distance
 - Analysis: use global invariants to understand/design safety/no routing loops
- EIRGP (DUAL)
 - Idea: introduces a sufficient condition for local recovery

Discussion: Distance Vector Routing

- ❑ What do you like about distributed, distance vector routing?
- ❑ What do you **not** like about distributed, distance vector routing?

Churns of DV: One Example

Initially converged.
All links have cost 1
Event: Cost of 1→2
reduces to 0



Message sequences

1. Node 2 tells 3. Node 3 tells 4...Node N tells $N+1$. ($N-1$ messages)
2. Node $N+1$ tells $N+2$, $N+2$ tells $N+3$, ..., $2N$. ($N-1$ messages)
3. Now node $N-1$ tells node $N+1$
4. Step 2 repeats
5. Now node $N-2$ tells node $N+1$
6. ...

A total of $O(N^2)$ messages

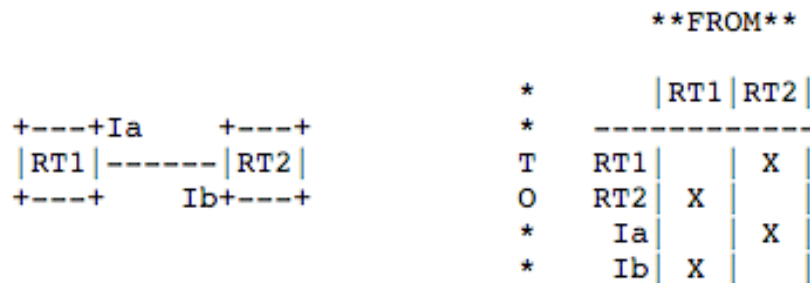
Outline

- ❑ Admin and recap
- ❑ Network control plane
 - Routing
 - Link weights assignment
 - Routing computation
 - Distance vector protocols (distributed computing)
 - *Link state protocols (distributed state synchronization)*

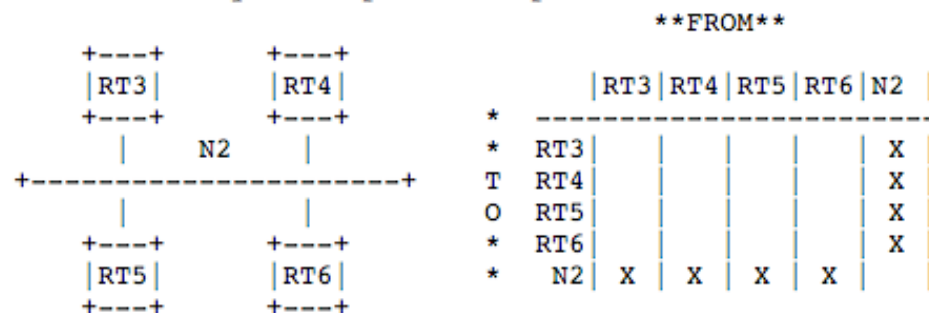
Link-State Routing

- ❑ Basic idea: Not distributed computing, only distributed state distribution
- ❑ Net topology, link costs are distributed to all nodes
 - all nodes have same info
 - Each node computes its shortest paths from itself to all other nodes
 - standard Dijkstra's algorithm as path compute alg
 - Allows multiple same-cost paths
 - Multiple cost metrics per link (for type of service routing)
- ❑ Most commonly used routing protocol (e.g., OSPF/ISIS) by most networks in Internet

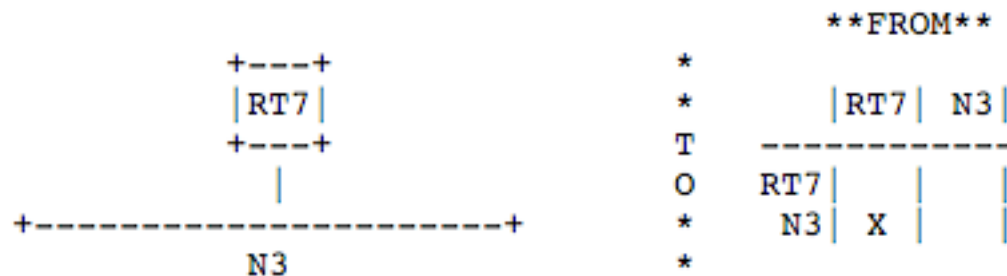
Example: Link State and Directed Graph (OSPFv2)



Physical point-to-point networks



Multi-access networks



Stub multi-access networks

Example: Link State and Directed Graph (OSPFv2)

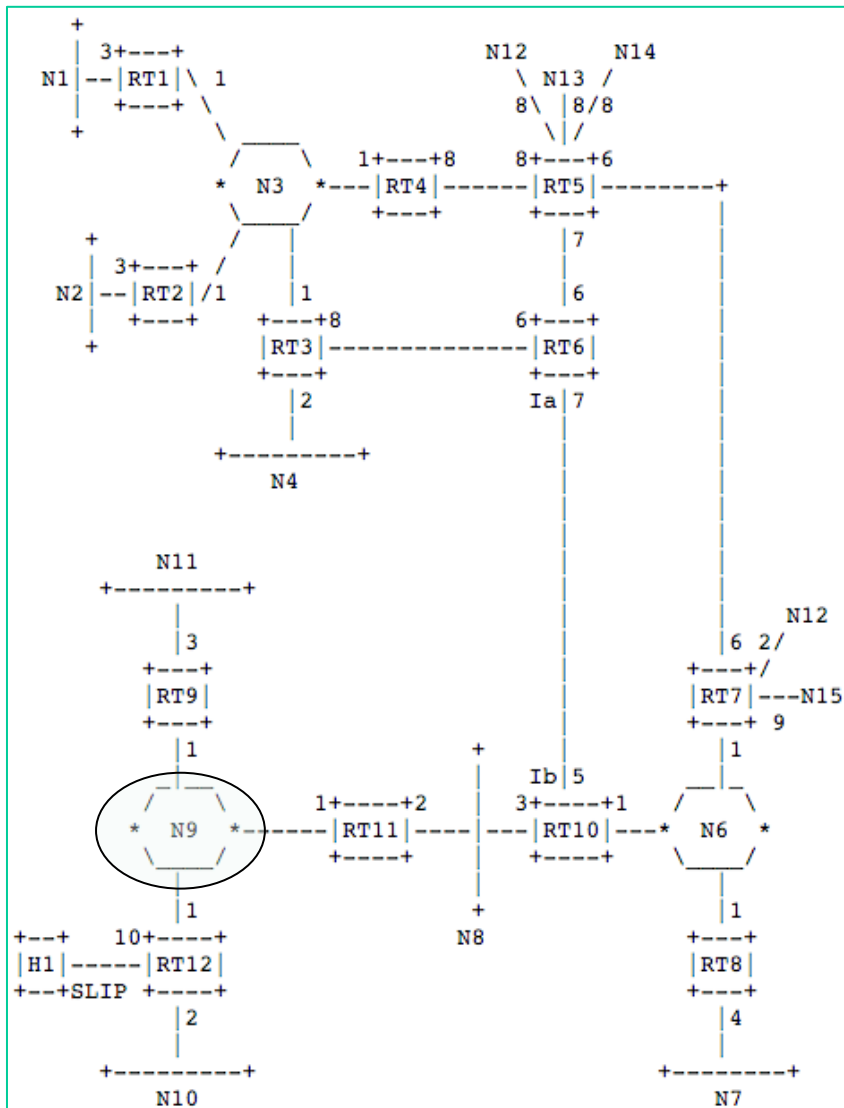


Figure 2: A sample Autonomous System

FROM

	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT	RT				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	N3	N6	N8	N9
RT1													0			
RT2													0			
RT3						6							0			
RT4					8								0			
RT5				8		6	6									
RT6			8		7					5						
RT7					6									0		
* RT8														0		
* RT9																0
T RT10					7								0	0		
O RT11														0	0	
* RT12															0	0
* N1	3															
N2		3														
N3	1	1	1	1												
N4			2													
N6							1	1		1						
N7								4								
N8																
N9										3	2	1				
N10									1				1			
N11									3				2			
N12					8		2									
N13					8											
N14					8											
N15							9									
H1													10			

Figure 3: The resulting directed graph

Outline

- ❑ Admin and recap
- ❑ Network control plane
 - Routing
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 - Routing computation
 - Distance vector protocols (distributed computing)
 - *Link state protocols (distributed state synchronization)*
 - data structure to be distributed
 - *state distribution protocol*

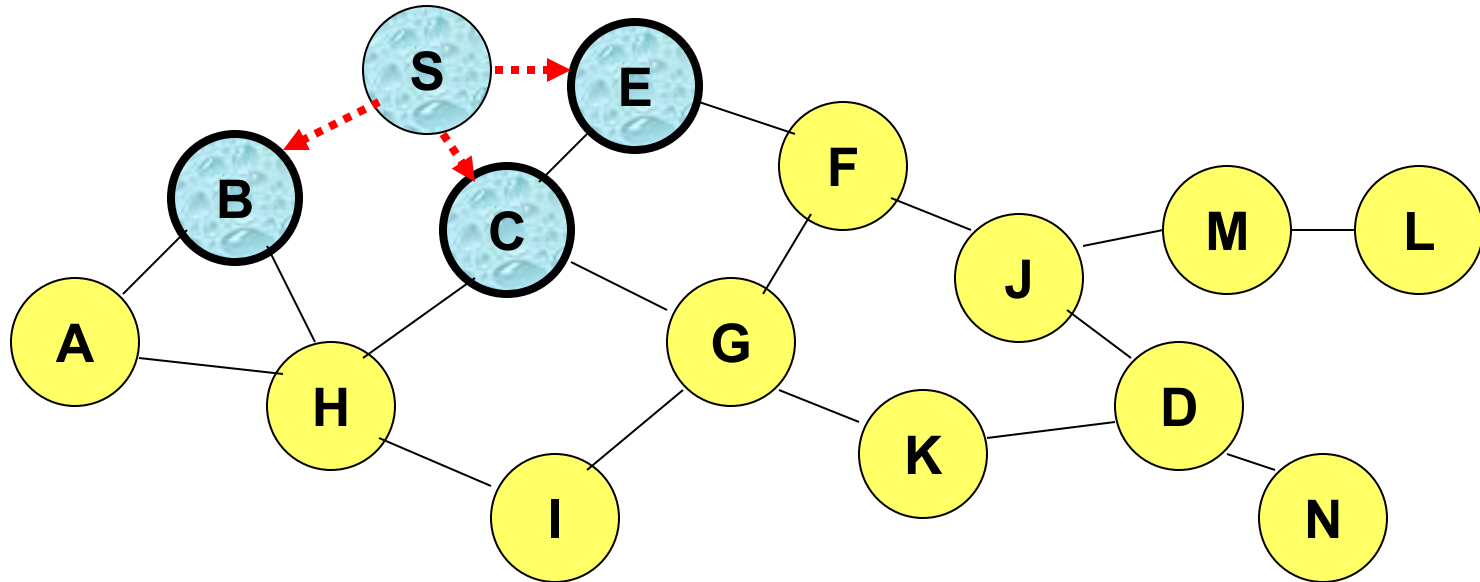
Basic Link State Broadcast Protocol

Basic event structure at node n

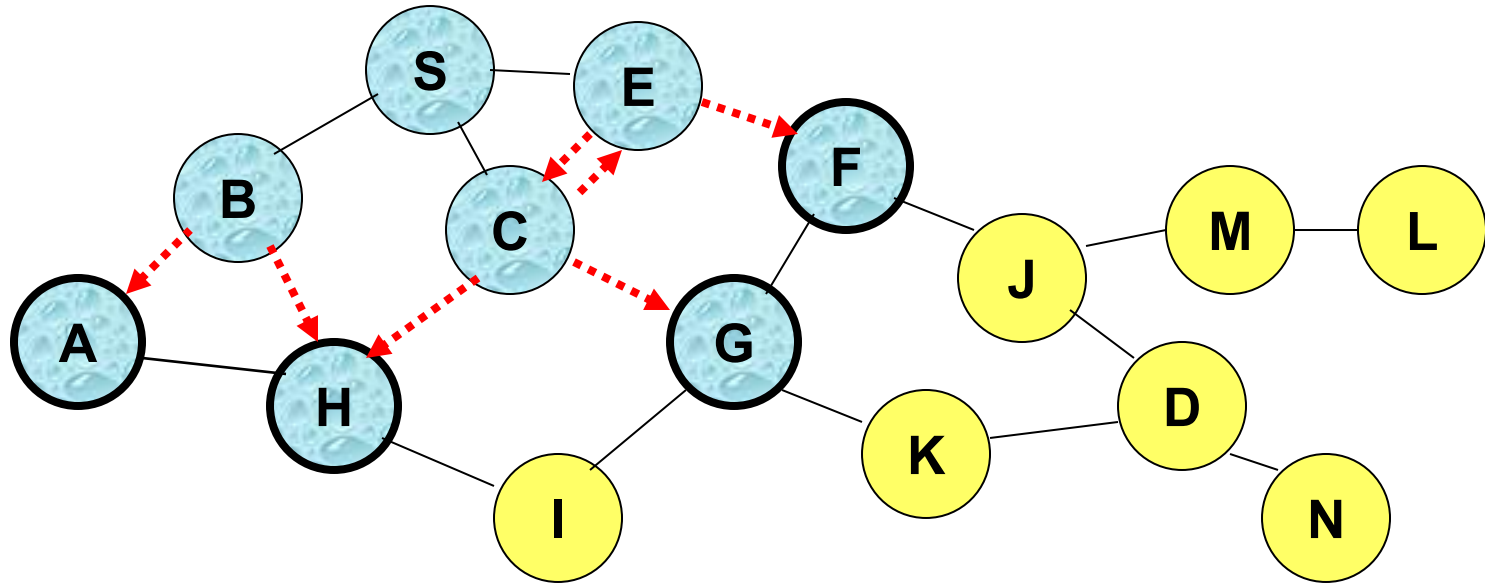
- on initialization:
 - broadcast $LSA[e]$ for each link e connected to n
- on state change to a link e connected to n :
 - broadcast $LSA[e] = \text{new status}$
- on receiving an $LSA[e]$:
 - if (does not have $LSA[e]$)
forwards $LSA[e]$ to all links except the incoming link

Link State Broadcast

Node S updates link states connected to it.



Link State Broadcast



To avoid forwarding the same link state announcement (LSA) multiple times (forming a loop), each node remembers the received LSAs.

- Second LSA[S] received by E from C is discarded
- Second LSA[S] received by C from E is discarded as well
- Node H receives LSA[S] from two neighbors, and will discard one of them

Discussion

- ❑ Issues of the basic link state protocol?
 - Recall: goal is to efficiently distribute to each node to a correct, complete link state map

Link State Broadcast: Issues

❑ Problem: Out of order delivery

- link down and then up
- A node may receive up first and then down

❑ Solution

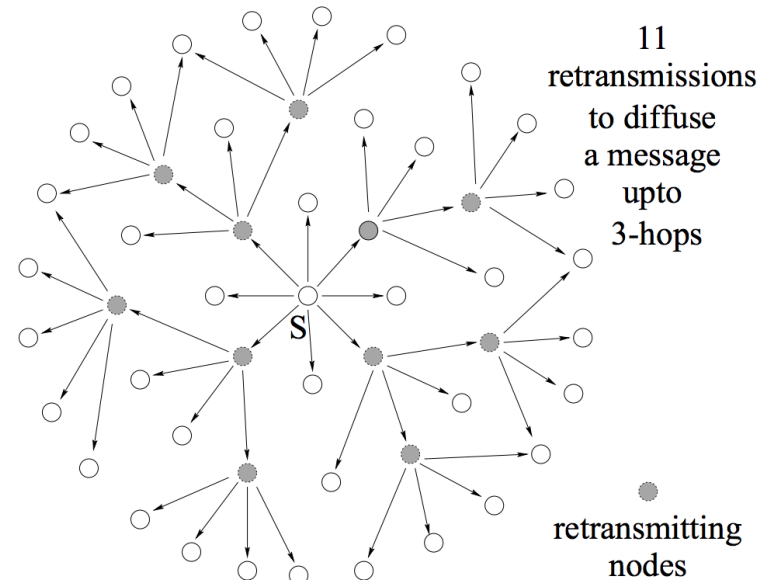
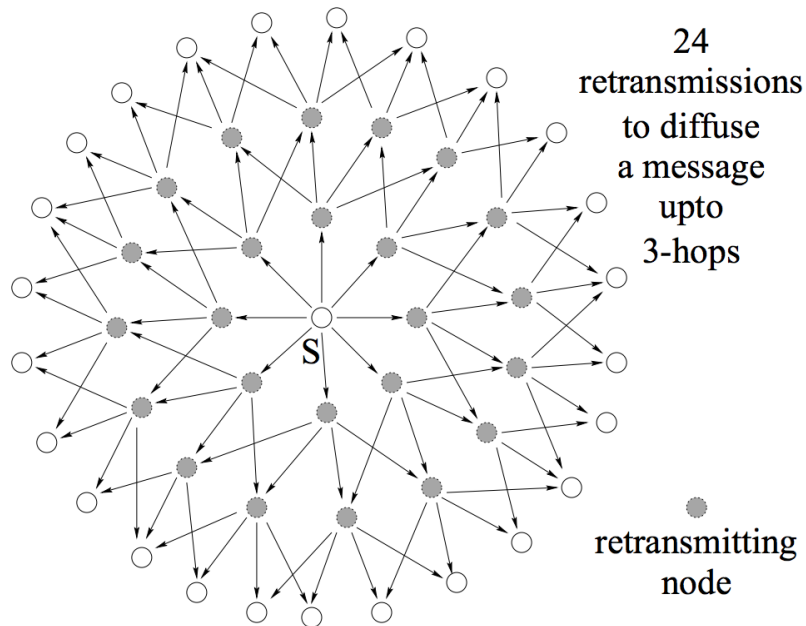
- Each link update is given a sequence number: (initiator, seq#, link, status)
 - the initiator should increase the seq# for each new update
- If the seq# of an update of a link is not higher than the highest seq# a router has seen, drop the update
- Otherwise, forward it to all links except the incoming link (real implementation using packet buffer)
- Problem of solution: seq# corruption
- Solution: age field (e.g., <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc1583#page-102>)

Link State Broadcast: Issues

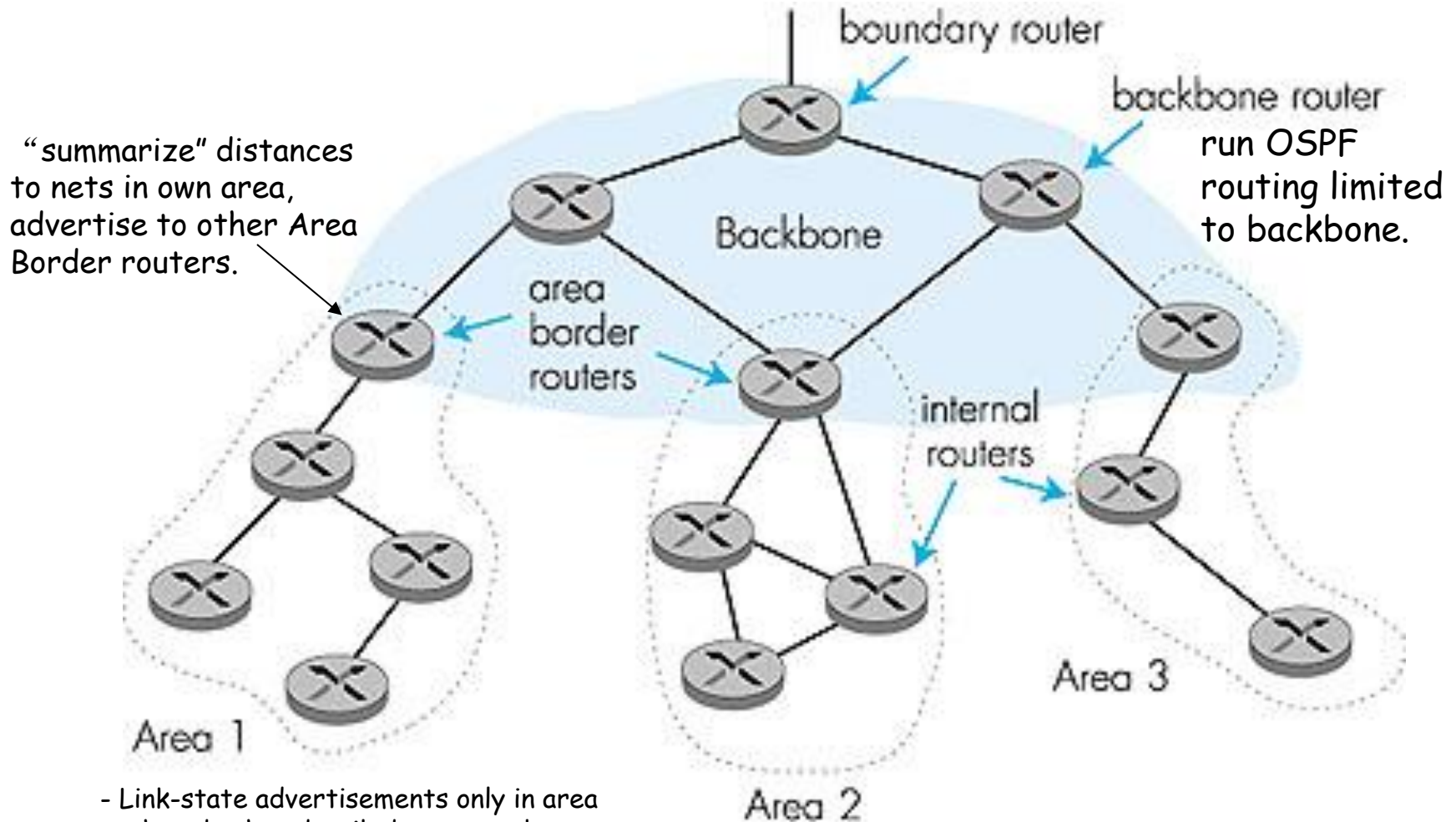
- ❑ Problem: network partition and then reconnect, how to sync across the reconnected components
- ❑ Solution: updates are sent periodically

Link State Broadcast: Issues

□ Problem: Broadcast redundancy



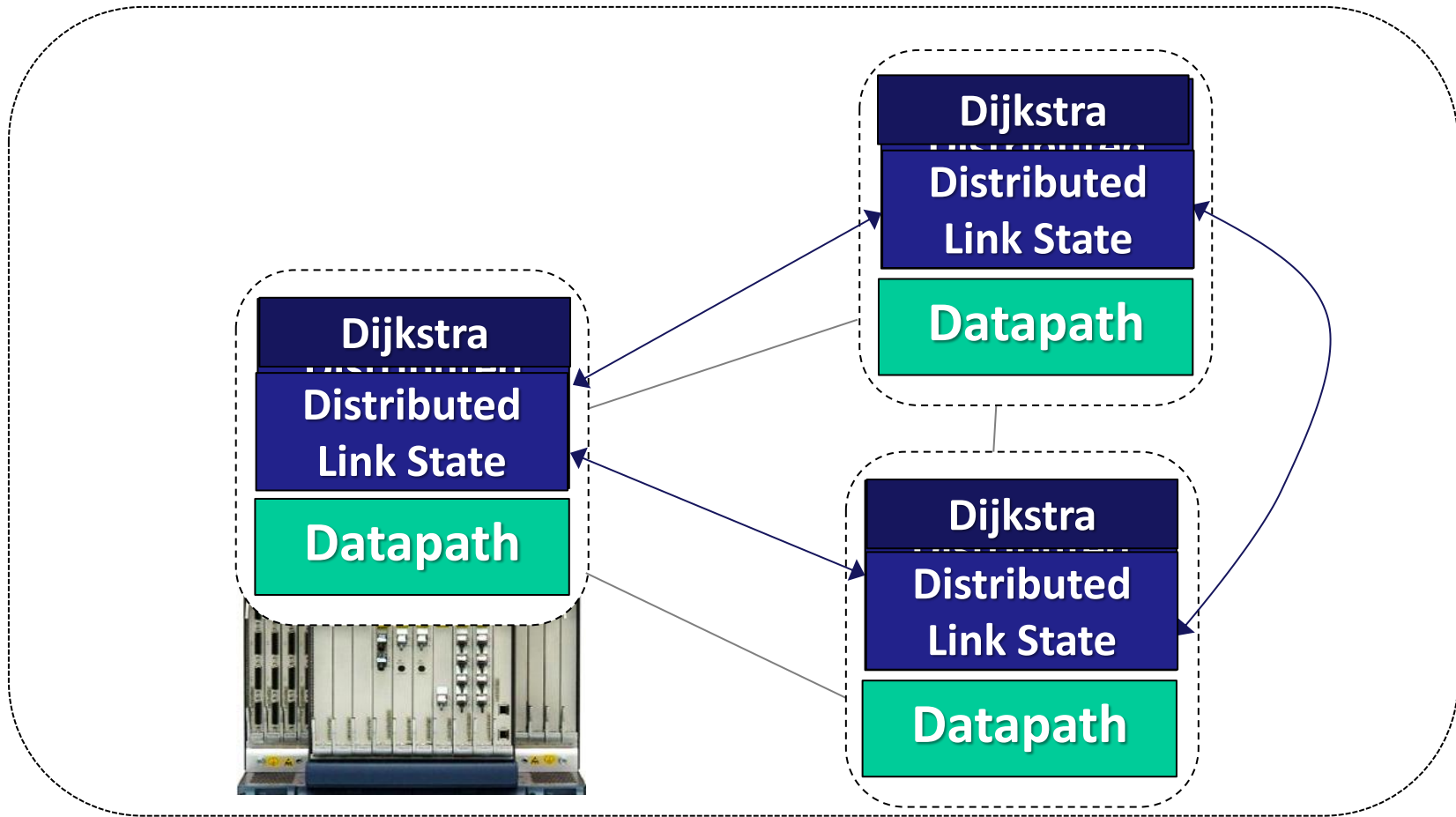
Hierarchical OSPF



- Link-state advertisements only in area each nodes has detailed area topology;
- only know direction (shortest path) to nets in other areas.

Two-level hierarchy: local area, backbone.

Roadmap: Routing Computation Architecture Spectrum

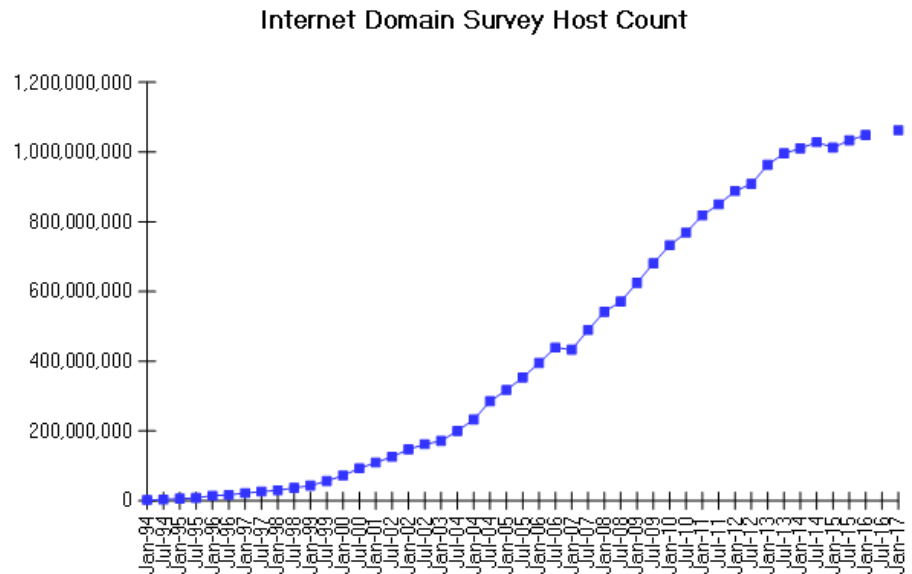
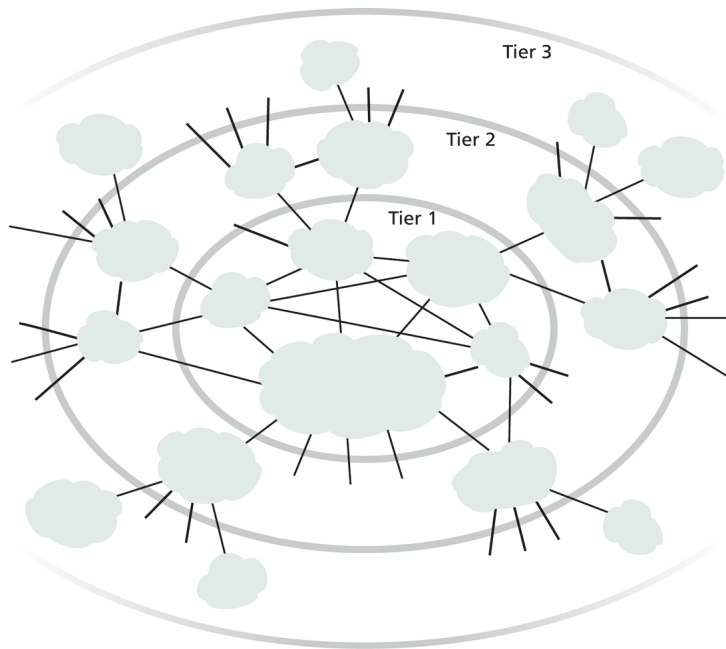


Outline

- ❑ Admin and recap
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 - Routing
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 - Basic routing computation protocols
 - Distance vector protocols (distributed computing)
 - Link state protocols (distributed state synchronization)
 - Global Internet routing

Exercise

- ❑ Does it work to use DV or LS as we discussed for global Internet routing?



Source: Internet Systems Consortium (www.isc.org)

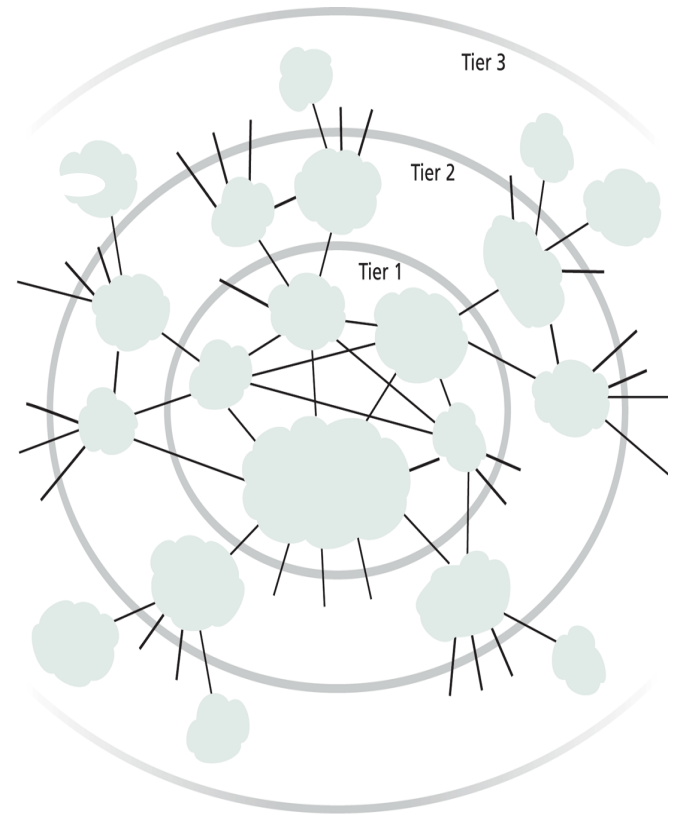
Requirements and Solution of Current Global Internet Routing

- ❑ Scalability: handle network size (#devices) much higher than typical DV or LS can handle
 - Solution: Introduce **new abstraction** to reduce network (graph) size

- ❑ Autonomy: allow each network to have individual preference of routing (full control of its internal routing; control/preference of routing spanning multiple networks)
 - Solution: **hierarchical routing** and **policy routing**

New Abstraction: Autonomous Systems (AS)

- Abstract each network as an autonomous system (AS), identified by an AS number (ASN)
- Conceptually the global routing graph consists of only autonomous systems as nodes



Routing with Autonomous Systems

- ❑ Internet routing is divided into intra-AS routing and inter-AS routing
 - Intra-AS routing (also called intradomain routing)
 - A protocol running inside an AS is called an Interior Gateway Protocol (IGP), each AS can choose its own protocol, such as RIP, E/IGRP, OSPF, IS-IS
 - Inter-AS routing (also called interdomain routing)
 - A protocol runs among autonomous systems is also called an Exterior Gateway Protocol (EGP)
 - The de facto EGP protocol is BGP