# Computer Networks

Name: E. Nivethitha

Reg no.: 192525427

Sub Code: CSA0734

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a) Key advantages of IPV6 over IPV4.

IPV6 has several key advantages over IPV4, Particularly in routing efficiency and address space.

Address space:

IPV6 users 128-bit addresses, which Provides a significantly larger address space than IPV4's 32-bit addresses. The number of available IPV6 addresses is $2^{128}$, which is approximately $3.4 \times 10^{38}$ this Vast address space eliminates the need for network address Translation (NAT) and allows for a more hierarchical and efficient addressing scheme.

Routing Efficiency:

IPV6 simplifies the routing Process by having a simplified header format with fewer fields than the IPV4 header. this allows routers to Process Packets more quickly. IPV6 also supports more efficient. routing with features like aggregation and a lack of fragmentation at the router level.

Simplified header processing.

IPV6 Simplifies header processing compared to IPv4 in several ways:

fixed size header: The IPV6 header has a fixed size of 40 bytes, whereas the IPv4 header can vary in size due to the "options" field. A fixed-size header allows for faster processing by routers as they do not need to check for the header length.

No checksum: The IPV6 header does not include a checksum field. This is because link-layer technologies and transport layer protocols (like TCP and UDP) already include their own error-checking mechanisms.

Simplified Options: IPV6 uses extension headers for optional information, which are processed only by the destination node, not every router along the path. This streamlines the routing process for the core header.

## Challenges of dual-stack operation.

The Primary challenges of dual-stack operation in enterprise networks include:

**Increased complexity:** Managing both IPV4 and IPV6 traffic, which can introduce new vulnerabilities if not managed Properly.

**Resource utilization:** Dual-stack operation requires more memory and CPU resources on network devices to maintain separate routing tables and configuration for both protocols.

**Address Management:** Organizations must manage two separate addressing schemes, which can be difficult to coordinate and maintain.

## Total addresses used:

Step 1: Calculate the number of address in a /64 subnet.

A /64 IPV6 subnet has 64 bits for the network Prefix and 64 bits for the host Portion. the number of addresses in a single /64 Subnet is $2^{64}$.

Step 2: calculate the total number of addresses for 500 departments.

To find the total no. of addresses used by 500 departments,

So,

Total address = (no. of addresses per subnet) × (no. of departments)

Total addresses = $2^{64}$ × 500

= ~~500~~ 5.53 ×10²¹