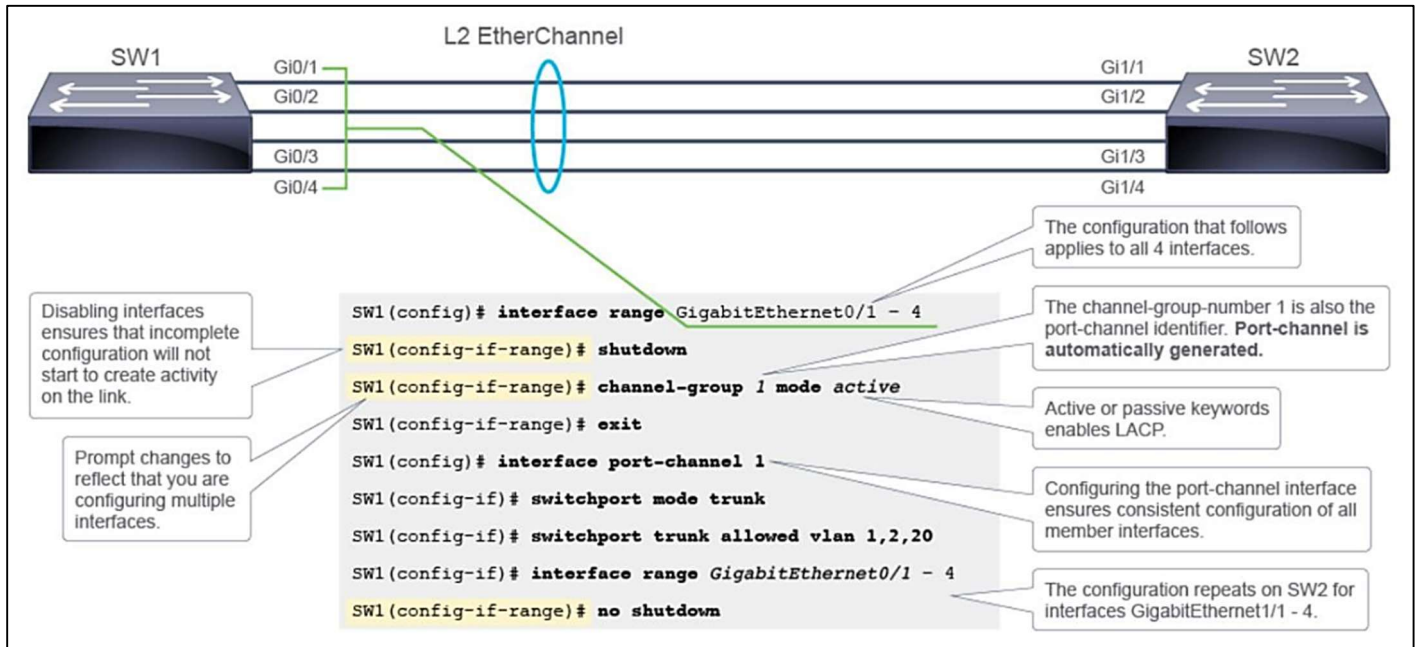
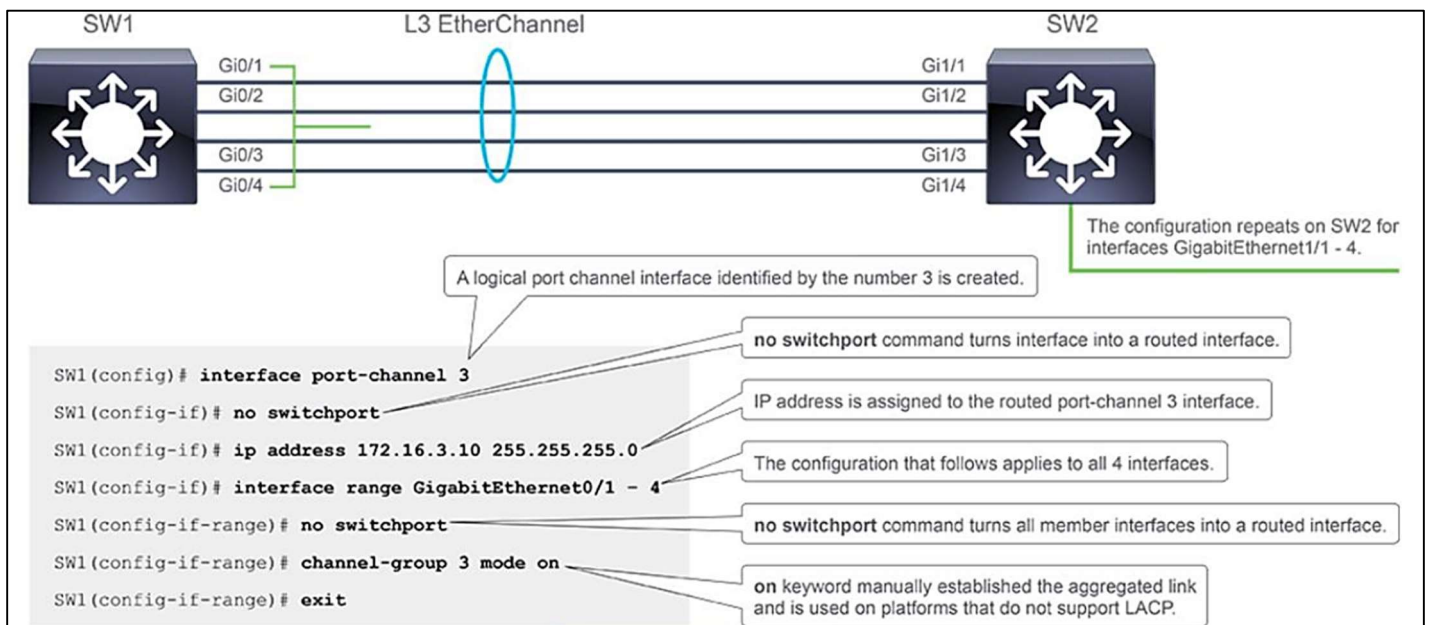


ETHERCHANNEL – LAYER 2



ETHERCHANNEL – LAYER 3



SW2# show etherchannel summary

Flags: D - down P - bundled in port-channel
I - stand-alone s - suspended
H - Hot-standby (LACP only)
R - Layer3 S - Layer2
U - in use f - failed to allocate aggregator
M - not in use, minimum links not met
u - unsuitable for bundling
w - waiting to be aggregated
d - default port

Number of channel-groups in use: 1

Number of aggregators: 1

Group Port-channel Protocol Ports

Group	Port-channel	Protocol	Ports
1	Po1(SU)	LACP	Fa0/1(P) Fa0/2(P)

The `show interface port-channel` command displays the general status of the logical port channel interface that represents the aggregated link. In the example, the interface port-channel 1 is operational.

SW1# show interface Port-channel1

Port-channel1 is up, line protocol is up (connected)

Hardware is EtherChannel, address is 000f.34f9.9182 (bia 000f.34f9.9182)

MTU 1500 bytes, BW 200000 Kbit, DLY 100 usec,

reliability 255/255, txload 1/255, rxload 1/255

Encapsulation ARPA, loopback not set

<... output omitted ...>

Switch# show etherchannel Port-channel

Channel-group listing:

Group: 1

Port-channels in the group:

Port-channel: Po1 (Primary Aggregator)

Age of the Port-channel = 4d:01h:29m:00s

<... output omitted ...>

Protocol = LACP

<... output omitted ...>

Ports in the Port-channel:

Index	Load	Port	EC state	No of bits
0	00	Fa0/1	Active	4
1	00	Fa0/2	Active	4

Time since last port bundled: 0d:00h:00m:18s Fa0/2

Guidelines for Configuring EtherChannel

- PAgP is Cisco proprietary.
- LACP is defined in 802.3ad.
- You can combine from two to eight parallel links.
- All ports must be identical:
 - Same speed and duplex
 - Cannot mix Fast Ethernet and Gigabit Ethernet
 - Cannot mix PAgP and LACP
 - Must all be VLAN trunk or nontrunk operational status
- All links must be either Layer 2 or Layer 3 in a single channel group.
- To create a channel in PAgP, sides must be set to
 - Auto-Desirable
 - Desirable-Desirable
- To create a channel in LACP, sides must be set to
 - Active-Active
 - Active-Passive
- To create a channel without using PAgP or LACP, sides must be set to On-On.
- Do *not* configure a GigaStack gigabit interface converter (GBIC) as part of an EtherChannel.
- An interface that is already configured to be a Switched Port Analyzer (SPAN) destination port will not join an EtherChannel group until SPAN is disabled.
- Do *not* configure a secure port as part of an EtherChannel.
- Interfaces with different native VLANs cannot form an EtherChannel.
- When using trunk links, ensure all trunks are in the same mode—Inter-Switch Link (ISL) or dot1q.

Configuring Layer 2 EtherChannel

Switch(config)# interface range fastethernet 0/1 - 4	Moves to interface range configuration mode.
Switch(config-if-range)# channel-protocol pagp	Specifies the PAgP protocol to be used in this channel.
Or	
Switch(config-if-range)# channel-protocol lacp	Specifies the LACP protocol to be used in this channel.
Switch(config-if-range)# channel-group 1 mode {desirable auto on passive active }	Creates channel group 1 and assigns interfaces 01–04 as part of it. Use whichever mode is necessary, depending on your choice of protocol.

EtherChannel Config – using Layer 2 Switches

EtherChannel enables packets to be sent over several physical interfaces as if over a single interface. EtherChannel logically bonds several physical connections into one logical connection. The process offers redundancy and load balancing, while maintaining the combined throughput of physical links.

Benefits:

- The bandwidth of physical links is combined to provide increased bandwidth over the logical link.
- Load balancing is possible across the physical links that are part of the same EtherChannel.
- EtherChannel improves resiliency against link failure, as it provides link redundancy.

