

COSC364 Assignment 1

Frederik Markwell (fma107) - 51118501

Christopher Stewart (cst141) - 21069553

Questions

Contribution percentages

Christopher Stewart: 50%

Frederik Markwell: 50%

List of contributions

Christopher Stewart (cst141) 21069553

- Basic skeleton program
- Send and receive packet
- Packet validation

Frederik Markwell (fma107) 51118501

- Configuration file validation
- Code cleanup and commenting
- Report editing
- Forwarding table printer

All other major parts of the daemon were pair programmed on the same computer.

Successes

One aspect of the program that we feel was particularly well done is the overall structure of the program. We went with an object oriented approach, with a main singleton class (Rip_Router/Rip_Daemon) which represents a single router, and a second class that represents an entry in a forwarding table (Row). We particularly like this approach because it allows us to represent all the data and functionality of the router in an easily understandable way.

Another aspect we particularly like is the sending of triggered updates. Originally we simply called the `send_all_responses()` in `update_table()` when it saw a cost of 16. We modified this to instead set a flag called `triggered_update_waiting`, and then the actual update is sent in the main run loop. This ensures that triggered updates contain all the changes made in the routing table, and also allows us to send the updates when a route times out.

Improvements needed

One of the areas that could have been improved is our event scheduler. Every iteration through the main run loop, the router checks whether any of the timers have expired. This does have a higher CPU load than implementing it so that the program sleeps and is awoken by some mechanism when it is time to process the timer.

We mitigated this issue by giving our select call a timeout of 0.1 instead of 0. The CPU no longer has to run constantly, and in our testing the CPU usage of each process was so low

as to round to 0. This does mean that some timers may fire slightly later than they should, but given that the timeouts are randomised over a much bigger range than 0.1 s the effect is negligible.

Event processing atomicity

Our program is single threaded - each function call returns before the next one can run. Upon an event (timer firing, receiving packet), the code for processing that event runs, finishes, and only then does the code go back to check for another event. This effectively means that two events will never interfere with each other.

Weaknesses of RIP

We encountered two issues with RIP in the course of testing our program. The first is the count to infinity problem. As per the specification, we had implemented split-horizon with poison reverse. We tested this on a sample network, and were surprised to see the routers still counting to infinity. It turned out that if there is a larger loop in the network, poisoned reverse doesn't help, as RIP only knows if a route came directly from a neighbouring router. RIP seemingly has no defence against this other than capping infinity at 16.

The second issue with RIP is this capping to 16. In the example network in the assignment specification, if routers 3 and 6 go down the only route between routers 2 and 5 has a cost of 16. Since 16 is treated as infinity, the routers ignore this route, and treat each other as unreachable, when in reality the route is perfectly available.

Testing

Blue Sky Convergence

Our first test was to make sure that in a blue sky scenario the routers converge to a minimal hop network. We set up the routers as described in the example network, and computed the shortest path tree to all nodes from router 1 using an implementation of Dijkstra's algorithm (created for COSC262). Our expected results are in Table 1. We then started all the routers, and examined the table of router 1 (Table 2). The actual routing table, taken from the running program (Table 2) was identical.

Similar results were established comparing the Dijkstra created tables for other routers to their actual tables. This shows that our routing daemon allows routers to successfully acquire new and/or better routes to destinations.

Table 1: Expected Forwarding Table for Router 1

Address	Next Hop	Cost
1	1	0
2	2	1
3	2	4
4	2	8
5	6	6
6	6	5
7	7	8

Table 2: Actual forwarding table for Router 1

Forwarding Table for 1					
Address	Next Hop	Cost	Timer	Change	
1	1	0	0.00	False	
2	2	1	0.84	False	
3	2	4	0.84	False	
4	2	8	0.84	False	
5	6	6	0.83	False	
6	6	5	0.83	False	
7	7	8	0.85	False	

Poisoned Reverse

Our next test was testing that routers were correctly poisoning routes to neighbouring routers. We set up a network with three routers 5, 6, 7, connected in a triangle. Code was added so that routers print out the messages they receive from other routers. We expect these messages should show a 16 as the metric for any route that goes through that router.

Indeed, this was the case. Below is a message that 5 received from 7. 7's routes to get to 6 and 5 both go through 5, so they are sent with a cost of 16.

```
{7: (cost:0, next_hop:7), 6: (cost:16, next_hop:7), 5: (cost:16, next_hop:7)}
```

We can conclude from this that the poisoned reverse mechanism is working correctly.

Route Timeouts and Garbage Collection

We next tested that if a route is not updated regularly it times out and has its cost set to 16. After allowing the example network to converge, router 6 was shut down. We expected that the neighbouring routers routes that include router 6 should time out, resulting in a flow on effect. Each route that uses router 6 will have its metric set to 16.

In practice, we watched routers 1 and 5 as their timers ran out and they set the metric to 16, then saw their updates propagate across the network.

This scenario is also a good test of garbage collection. We expect that after some time, all routes to 6 will be deleted from routing tables. We waited 120 s after

Triggered Updates

To test that a triggered update is sent and propagated, when a router goes down a scenario is set similar to the above timeout and garbage collection test, but with the response timer for each router set high enough so the triggered update changes can be seen separate from normal updates. As router 6 is shut down, its neighbours 1 and 5 will first send triggered updates and then the neighbours of 1 and 5 will send triggered updates and so on. Router 3 should be the last router to update its cost to reach router 6 to 16 (assuming it doesn't receive a response with a replacement route beforehand).

Periodic Update Variation

To test that response packets are sent with a random variation (e.g 30 ± 5 s), we wait for the network to converge, then analyse the forwarding table. Only entries with the same next hop will have the same timer value. This was true in practice.

Sending Partial Routing Tables

Triggered update packets should only include the RIP entries for routes that have changed. We test this by printing the length of packets before they are sent. When a single isolated router with 1 neighbour goes down, the length of the triggered update sent by its neighbour (after the route had timed out) is 24 bytes in theory and in practice.

With a network like 1-7-4 and the shutting down of router 1, the payload length (in the triggered update) sent by router 7 is 20 (a single RIP entry) while the table holds three entries so would normally send $60 + 4$ bytes. The payload length is printed twice as two messages are sent - one to each neighbour.

Table 3: Router 7 sending a triggered update with a single RIP entry (20 bytes)

```

-----
Forwarding Table for 7
Address | Next Hop | Cost | Timer | Change
-----
  1    |    1    |   16 |   5.01 |   True
  4    |    4    |    6 |   0.42 |  False
  7    |    7    |    0 |   0.00 |  False
payload len: 20
payload len: 20
Sent a triggered update!

```

Link Cost Increases

To ensure that an increased link cost propagates across the network, we set the route timeout to a high value. This allowed us to stop two routers, edit the link cost between them, and restart them before any neighbouring routers routes could time out (and trigger an update).

As router 4 uses 5 to reach 6, increasing the cost between 5 and 6 from 1 to 2 should result in router 4 citing a cost to reach 6 from 3 to 4. Router 3 uses 4 to reach 6 so will also change its cost from 7 to 8. This behaviour was witnessed in practice.

Table 4: Router 3 converging correctly after a link cost increase between 5 and 6

```

-----
Forwarding Table for 3
Address | Next Hop | Cost | Timer | Change
-----
-
  1    |    2    |    4 |   0.41 |  False
  2    |    2    |    3 |   0.41 |  False
  3    |    3    |    0 |   0.00 |  False
  4    |    4    |    4 |   0.10 |  False
  5    |    4    |    6 |   0.10 |  False
  6    |    4    |    8 |   0.10 |  False
  7    |    4    |   10 |   0.10 |  False

```

Ignoring Unreachable Routes

To test that an unreachable route is ignored, we used the example network without routers 6 and 3, noting that the cost from 5 to 1 would be 16, and 5 to 2 would be 17. As expected router 5 does not include an address entry to router 1 or 2 as they are unreachable (cost greater than 15).

Table 5: router 5 correctly not accepting unreachable routes (routes 1 and 2)

Forwarding Table for 5					
Address	Next Hop	Cost	Timer	Change	
4	4	2	0.82	False	
5	5	0	0.00	False	
7	4	8	0.82	False	

Restarting a Router

Our final test was to restart a router after shutting it down. We start all routers in the example network, then stop router 1. We wait for the network to reconverge, then start up router 1 again. It is expected that router 1 can fairly quickly establish routes to the rest of the network, as it just needs to get updates from its neighbours. In practice it took 33 seconds for router 1 to converge to the pre-shutdown value, which makes sense given each neighbour is updating with a period of roughly 30s.

This means we can be confident our network can recover quickly from failures.

Note that it may take longer for other routers to use the new routes available through router 1, as they may have to wait for several update messages.

Example Configuration File

The below code block shows the configuration file for router 1 in the example network

config1.txt

```
router-id 1
input-ports 10001, 10002, 10003
outputs 2001-1-2, 7001-8-7, 6001-5-6
route-timeout 180
periodic-update-time 30
garbage-time 120
```

Source Code

ripd.py

```
"""
An implementation of the RIP routing protocol for COSC364 Assignment 1
Routes using router-ids instead of network addresses

Christopher Stewart (cst141) 21069553
Frederik Markwell (fma107) 51118501
"""

import socket, os, sys, select, time, random
from parseutils import parse_config_file

# Sets the maximum size packet that the router can receive
MAX_PACKET_SIZE = 4096

# Changes how the router prints out its table. If PRETTY, prints as
often as
# possible, clearing the screen. If not, prints only when there is an
update
# and does not clear the screen.
PRETTY = True

class Row():
    """
    Entry in the routers forwarding table (dictionary) where the key is
the
    destination router_id. A new row is created whenever the route is
updated
    """
    def __init__(self, cost, next_hop):
        self.cost = cost
        self.next_hop = next_hop
        self.last_response_time = time.time()
        self.timer = 0

        self.changed = True # Set false when a packet is sent containing
this row
    def __str__(self):
        return '(cost:' + str(self.cost) + ', next_hop:' +
str(self.next_hop) + ')'
    def __repr__(self):
        return str(self)
```



```

class RIP_Router():
    """
    The main router class. Calls self.run on init, which enters an
    infinite loop.
    The infinite loop sends an update message every 30 s, and waits for
    incoming
    messages, which it uses to update its forwarding table
    """
    # Dictionary with key=destination_router_id, value=Row object
    table = {}

    # List of sockets, each bound to one of the input_ports
    input_sockets = None

    # Local computer address
    address = 'localhost'

    # Router-id of running process
    instance_id = None

    # List of info on links to neighbour routers
    # Composed of tuples (output_port, cost, router_id)
    neighbour_info = None

    # Timer to keep track of whether a triggered update has been sent
    recently
    # Helps prevent network congestion
    triggered_update_timer = 0

    # If the triggered_update_timer reaches 0 and this is True, will
    send a triggered update
    triggered_update_waiting = False

    def close(self):
        """
        Closes all sockets and exits the program
        """
        print("Closing")
        if self.input_sockets:
            for input_socket in self.input_sockets:
                input_socket.close()
        sys.exit()

```

```

def __init__(self, filename):
    """
    Parses the provided configuration file and sets all configurable
    variables. Creates sockets, initial forwarding table, and then
    listens in a loop for other RIP daemons
    """
    (self.instance_id,
     input_ports,
     self.neighbour_info,
     self.timeout,
     self.periodic_update_time,
     self.garbage_time) = parse_config_file(filename)

    self.garbage_time += self.timeout

    self.init_input_ports(input_ports)

    #init table with own entry
    self.table[self.instance_id] = Row(0, self.instance_id)

    self.print_table()

    self.run()
    self.close()

def init_input_ports(self, input_ports):
    """
    Creates a socket for each input port provided in the
    configuration file
    and binds them to localhost
    """
    self.input_sockets = []
    for rx_port in input_ports:
        try:
            rx_socket = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET,
socket.SOCK_DGRAM, 0)
            rx_socket.bind((self.address, rx_port))
            self.input_sockets.append(rx_socket)
        except Exception as e:
            print("failed to create socket.", rx_port, e)
            self.close()

def print_table(self):
    """

```

```

Prints the forwarding table to the console
"""
print("\n" + "-" * 30)
print("Forwarding Table for {}".format(self.instance_id))
headings = ["Address", "Next Hop", "Cost", "Timer", "Change"]
print((" | ").join(headings))
print("-" * sum(len(heading) + 3 for heading in headings))
for dest, row in sorted(self.table.items(), key=lambda x: x[0]):
    timer = ""
    if dest in self.table.keys():
        timer = f"{self.table[dest].timer:.2f}"

    print("{} | {} | {} | {} | {}".format(
        str(dest).center(len(headings[0])),
        str(row.next_hop).center(len(headings[1])),
        str(row.cost).center(len(headings[2])),
        str(timer).center(len(headings[3])),
        str(row.changed).center(len(headings[4]))
    ))

def create_response(self, destination, triggered):
    """
    Creates a RIP response packet for the destination router in
    the below format

    command(1) - version(1) - router_id(2) #header(4)

    addr_family_id(2) - zero(2) #each entry (20)
    ipv4_addr(4)
    zero(4)
    zero(4)
    metric(4)
    """
    command = int(2).to_bytes(1, 'big')
    version = int(2).to_bytes(1, 'big')
    router_id = int(self.instance_id).to_bytes(2, 'big')
    zero2 = int(0).to_bytes(2, 'big')
    header = command + version + router_id #header uses router_id
instead of 16bit zero

    payload = bytes()
    for router_id in self.table.keys(): # for each destination
router_id
        if not triggered or self.table[router_id].changed:
            # Only send all routes if not triggered update

```

```

        addr_family_id = int(2).to_bytes(2, 'big') # 2 = AF_INET
        ipv4_addr = int(router_id).to_bytes(4, 'big') # next_hop
is the router sending the response packet
        zero4 = int(0).to_bytes(4, 'big')

        if self.table[router_id].next_hop == destination:
            # Route goes through the router we are sending to,
should poison
            metric = int(16).to_bytes(4, 'big')
        else:
            # No need to poison
            metric = int(self.table[router_id].cost).to_bytes(4,
'big')

        payload += addr_family_id + zero2 + ipv4_addr + zero4 +
zero4 + metric

        result = header + payload
        return bytearray(result)

def send_response(self, addr_id, addr_port, triggered):
    """
    Creates and sends a response / triggered update to a specific
router
    """
    packet = self.create_response(addr_id, triggered)
    target = (self.address, addr_port)
    self.input_sockets[0].sendto(bytes(packet), target)

def send_all_responses(self, triggered=False):
    """
    Iterates all neighbour ports, and sends a response / triggered
update to each
    """

    # If we send a normal message, we don't need to send a triggered
update later
    self.triggered_update_waiting = False

    for output_port, cost, id in self.neighbour_info:
        self.send_response(id, output_port, triggered)

    # Routes are no longer considered "new" once we have sent them
out
    for row in self.table.values():

```

```

        row.changed = False

def read_response(self, data):
    """
    Converts the received packet to a table if it follows the
correct format
    returns (packet_valid(bool), router_id(int), table(dict))
    """
    command = data[0]
    version = data[1]
    if command != 2 or version != 2:
        print("invalid command/version", command, version)
        return False, 0, 0 # command or version value is incorrect

    router_id = int.from_bytes(data[2:4], 'big') # router(id) that
sent the data

    i = 4 # packet payload (RIP entries) starts after 4 bytes
    if (len(data)-4) % 20 != 0 or len(data) <= 4:
        print("invalid packet length", len(data))
        return False, 0, 0 # data length incorrect (should be 4 + 20x)
where x > 0

    recvd_table = {}
    while i < len(data):
        try:
            zeros = [] #append all expected zero values here to
validate packet
            addr_family_id = int.from_bytes(data[i:i+2], 'big')
            i+=2
            zeros.append(int.from_bytes(data[i:i+2], 'big')) #zero2
            i+=2
            ipv4_addr = int.from_bytes(data[i:i+4], 'big') #dest addr
from the router sending
            i+=4
            zeros.append(int.from_bytes(data[i:i+4], 'big')) #zero4
            i+=4
            zeros.append(int.from_bytes(data[i:i+4], 'big')) #zero4
            i+=4
            metric = int.from_bytes(data[i:i+4], 'big') # between
1-15 (inclusive) or 16 (inf)
            row = Row(metric, router_id) #cost, next_hop
            recvd_table[ipv4_addr] = row
            i+=4

            if min(zeros) != 0 or max(zeros) != 0 or metric < 0 or

```

```

metric > 16:
        print("invalid RIP ENTRY format", zeros,metric)
        return False,0,0#bad RIP entry
    except IndexError:
        print("index error", i, len(data))
        return False,0,0#data length incorrect (should be 4 +
20x)
    return True, router_id, recvd_table

def cost_to_neighbour(self, router_id):
    """
    Calculates cost to travel to a particular neighbouring router
    """
    neighbour_ids = [x[2] for x in self.neighbour_info]
    cost = self.neighbour_info[neighbour_ids.index(router_id)][1]
    return cost

def update_table(self, other_router_id, other_table):
    """
    Compares tables with a received table and updates if
        1. A route is better than the current route
        or
        2. The route comes from the router from which the the old
route
        came (here called the authority)
    When a route is updated, the timer on that route is also
updated. Timers
    are not updated if the authority repeatedly reports that the
cost is 16
    (so that route may timeout)
    """
    cost = self.cost_to_neighbour(other_router_id)
    for dest in other_table.keys():
        other_row = other_table[dest]

        try:
            current_row = self.table[dest]
            from_authority = self.table[dest].next_hop ==
other_router_id
            cost_changed = current_row.cost != min(16,
other_row.cost + cost)

            if from_authority:
                # Our current route comes from this router, so must
take their value
                if cost_changed:

```

```

        # Change our table to match the authority
        self.update_row(dest, cost, other_row,
other_router_id)

        if cost + other_row.cost >= 16:
            self.triggered_update_waiting = True
        elif current_row.cost != 16:
            # Resets the timer for reachable routes (to keep
it alive)

            self.table[dest].last_response_time =
time.time()

            self.table[dest].timer = 0.00
        elif current_row.cost > (other_row.cost + cost):
            # The current route is less optimal than the jump to
the neighbour + the neighbours route
            self.update_row(dest, cost, other_row,
other_router_id)

    except KeyError: # We currently do not have a route to this
dest
        if other_table[dest].cost + cost < 16: # Ignore routes
with cost > 16
            self.update_row(dest, cost, other_row,
other_router_id)

        self.print_table()

    def update_row(self, dest, cost, other_row, other_router_id):
        """
        Replaces an existing route with a route from a row in another
table and
        resets the timer on that route
        """

        row = Row(min(16, other_row.cost + cost), other_router_id)
        self.table[dest] = row

        self.table[dest].last_response_time = time.time()
        self.table[dest].timer = 0.00

    def update_table_timers(self):
        """
        Add time waited to each routes timer, if necessary timeout or
delete the route
        """
        routes_to_del = []

```

```

        for key in self.table.keys():
            if key != self.instance_id:#don't increase timer of own
route
                self.table[key].timer = time.time() -
self.table[key].last_response_time#update routes timer
                if self.table[key].timer > self.timeout and
self.table[key].cost != 16:#route timed out
                    self.table[key].cost = 16
                    self.table[key].changed = True
                    self.triggered_update_waiting = True
                    self.print_table()
                if self.table[key].timer > self.garbage_time:#route
deleted
                    routes_to_del.append(key)

            # We delete all the routes together so that we don't alter the
indices while looping through
            for route in routes_to_del:
                del self.table[route]#removes entry from table

            if len(routes_to_del) > 0:#if a route is deleted due to garbage
collection, print updated table
                self.print_table()

def run(self):
    """
    Enters an infinite loop in which the router reacts to incoming
events
    An incoming event is either:
        a routing packet received from a peer
        a timer event
    """

    inputs = [x.fileno() for x in self.input_sockets]

    self.send_all_responses()

    random_range = self.periodic_update_time * 0.4

    response_timer = self.periodic_update_time

    while True:
        try:

```



```

        start = time.time()

        rlist, wlist, xlist = select.select(inputs, [], [], 0.1
if PRETTY else 0.01)

        if response_timer <= 0:
            response_timer = self.periodic_update_time +
(random.random()*random_range) - random_range / 2
            self.send_all_responses()
            self.print_table()

        self.update_table_timers()

        if self.triggered_update_timer == 0 and
self.triggered_update_waiting:
            self.send_all_responses(triggered=True)
            self.triggered_update_waiting = False
            self.triggered_update_timer = 1 + random.random() *
4

            print("Sent a triggered update!")

        '''reads responses (if any) from neighbours and updates
tables'''
        for socket_id in rlist:
            sock = socket.fromfd(socket_id, socket.AF_INET,
socket.SOCK_DGRAM)
            data = sock.recv(MAX_PACKET_SIZE)
            packet_valid, other_router_id, other_table =
self.read_response(data)
            print("Received packet from", other_router_id)
            if packet_valid:
                self.update_table(other_router_id, other_table)
            else:
                print("invalid packet")

        end = time.time()
        delta_time = end - start

        response_timer = max(0, response_timer - delta_time)
        self.triggered_update_timer = max(0,

```

```
self.triggered_update_timer - delta_time)

        if PRETTY:
            os.system("clear")
            self.print_table()

    except Exception as e:
        print("An unexpected error occurred [{}].format(e))
        self.close()
self.close()

def main():
    arguments = sys.argv[1:]
    if len(arguments) != 1:
        print("Invalid arguments given, must include the directory of a
valid configuration file")
        sys.exit()
    filename = arguments[0]
    router = RIP_Router(filename)

main()
```

parseutils.py

```
"""
A collection of functions used in parsing the router config files

Christopher Stewart (cst141) 21069553
Frederik Markwell (fma107) 51118501
"""

import sys

def read_lines_from_file(filename):
    """
    Opens a file and reads the lines, returning a list of strings.
    If the file cannot be found or there is an error, prints a message
    then calls
    sys.exit
    """
    try:
        with open(filename, 'r') as config_file:
            return config_file.read().splitlines()
    except FileNotFoundError:
        print("Couldn't find", filename)
        sys.exit()
    except OSError:
        print("Error opening file")
        sys.exit()

def is_valid_int(val, min, max, name):
    """
    Checks that the given string is a valid integer between min and max
    If it is not, prints a message using name, and then calls sys.exit
    """

    if val.isdigit():
        val = int(val)
        if val >= min and val <= max:
            return True
        else:
            print(val, "is not a valid {} (must be between {} and {})".format(name, min, max))
            sys.exit()
    else:
        print(val, "is not a valid {} (non-integer)".format(name))
        sys.exit()

def is_valid_port(port, existing_ports):
```

```

"""
    Checks that the given value is an integer, within the acceptable
    range,
    and not in the list of existing input_ports. Calls sys.exit if not.
"""
    if is_valid_int(port, 1024, 64000, "port") and int(port) not in
existing_ports:
        return True
    print(port, "is a duplicate")
    sys.exit()

def is_valid_link(link, existing_ports):
    """
        Checks if a link (port-metric-id) is valid and formatted correctly.
        If not,
        calls sys.exit
    """
    try:
        port, cost, id = link.strip().split("-")
    except ValueError:
        print(link, "does not follow the format (port-cost-id)")
        sys.exit()

    # The below functions call sys.exit if not valid
    is_valid_port(port, existing_ports)
    is_valid_int(cost, 1, 16, "cost")
    is_valid_int(id, 1, 64000, "id")

    return True

def parse_config_file(filename):
    """
        Reads a file as described in the assignment description and returns
        a tuple
        with instance_id, input_ports, neighbour_info, and the timeout
        values
    """
    lines = read_lines_from_file(filename)

    id_set = False
    inputs_set = False
    outputs_set = False

    input_ports = []
    neighbour_info = []

```

```

timeout = 180
periodic_update_time = 30
garbage_time = 120

for line in lines:
    line = line.strip()
    line = line.split("#", 1)[0]
    if "router-id" in line:
        id = line.split()[1]
        if is_valid_int(id, 1, 64000, "router_id"):
            instance_id = int(id)
            id_set = True

    elif "input-ports" in line:
        for port in line[len("input-ports"):].split(","):
            port = port.strip()
            if is_valid_port(port, input_ports):
                input_ports.append(int(port))
                inputs_set = True

    elif "outputs" in line:
        output_ports = [] # Keeps track so we can check for
duplicates
        for link in line[len("outputs "):].split(","):
            if is_valid_link(link, input_ports + output_ports):
                port, cost, id = [int(x) for x in link.split("-")]

                neighbour_info.append((port, cost, id))
                output_ports.append(port)
            outputs_set = True
    elif "route-timeout" in line:
        if is_valid_int(line.split()[1], 1, float('inf'), "route
timeout"):
            timeout = int(line.split()[1])
    elif "periodic-update-time" in line:
        if is_valid_int(line.split()[1], 1, float('inf'), "periodic
update time timeout"):
            periodic_update_time = int(line.split()[1])
    elif "garbage-time" in line:
        if is_valid_int(line.split()[1], 1, float('inf'), "garbage
time timeout"):
            garbage_time = int(line.split()[1])
    elif "" == line:
        pass
    else:
        print("Could not process", line)

```

```
sys.exit()
```

```
if not all((id_set, inputs_set, outputs_set)):  
    print("Need all of router-id, input-ports, outputs")  
    sys.exit()  
return instance_id, input_ports, neighbour_info, timeout,  
periodic_update_time, garbage_time
```

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Name: Christopher Stewart

Student ID: 21069553

Signature: 

Date: 01/05/22