External Routing (BGP and MP-BGP)

Redes de Comunicações II

Licenciatura em
Engenharia de Computadores e Informática
DETI-UA

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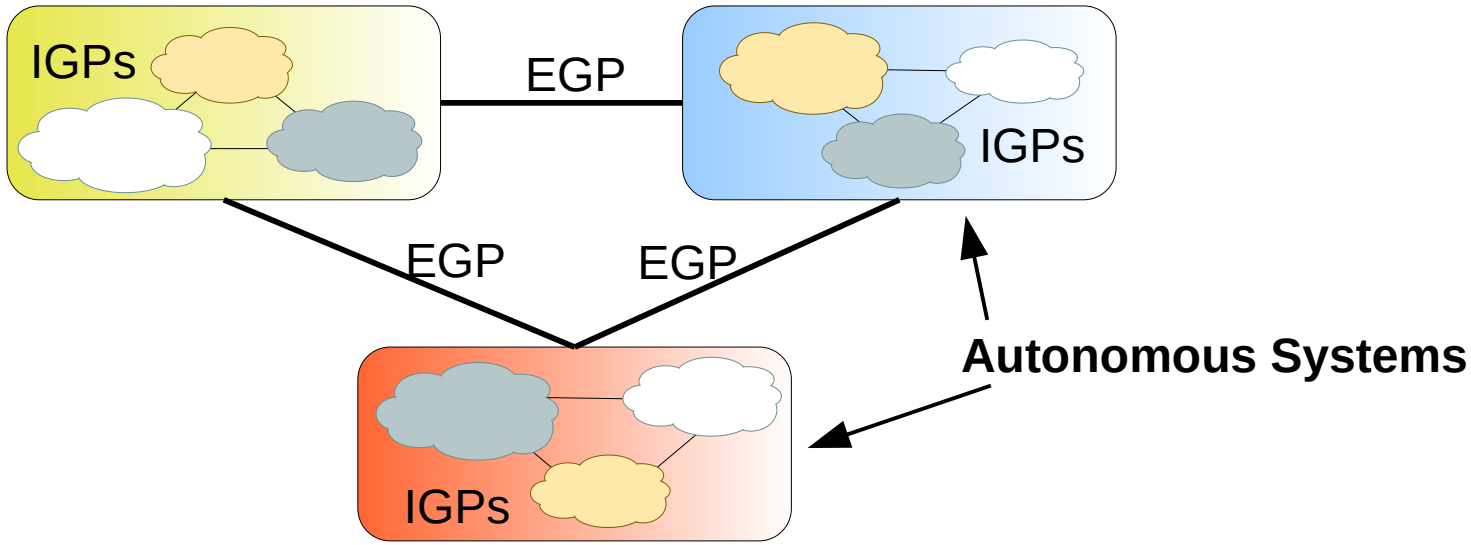
Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)



- Border Gateway Protocol Version 4 of the protocol (BGP4) was deployed in 1993 and currently is the protocol that assures Internet connectivity
- BGP is mainly used for routing between Autonomous Systems
- Autonomous System (AS) is a network under a single administration
  - One or more network operators with a common well defined global routing policy

AS Numbers

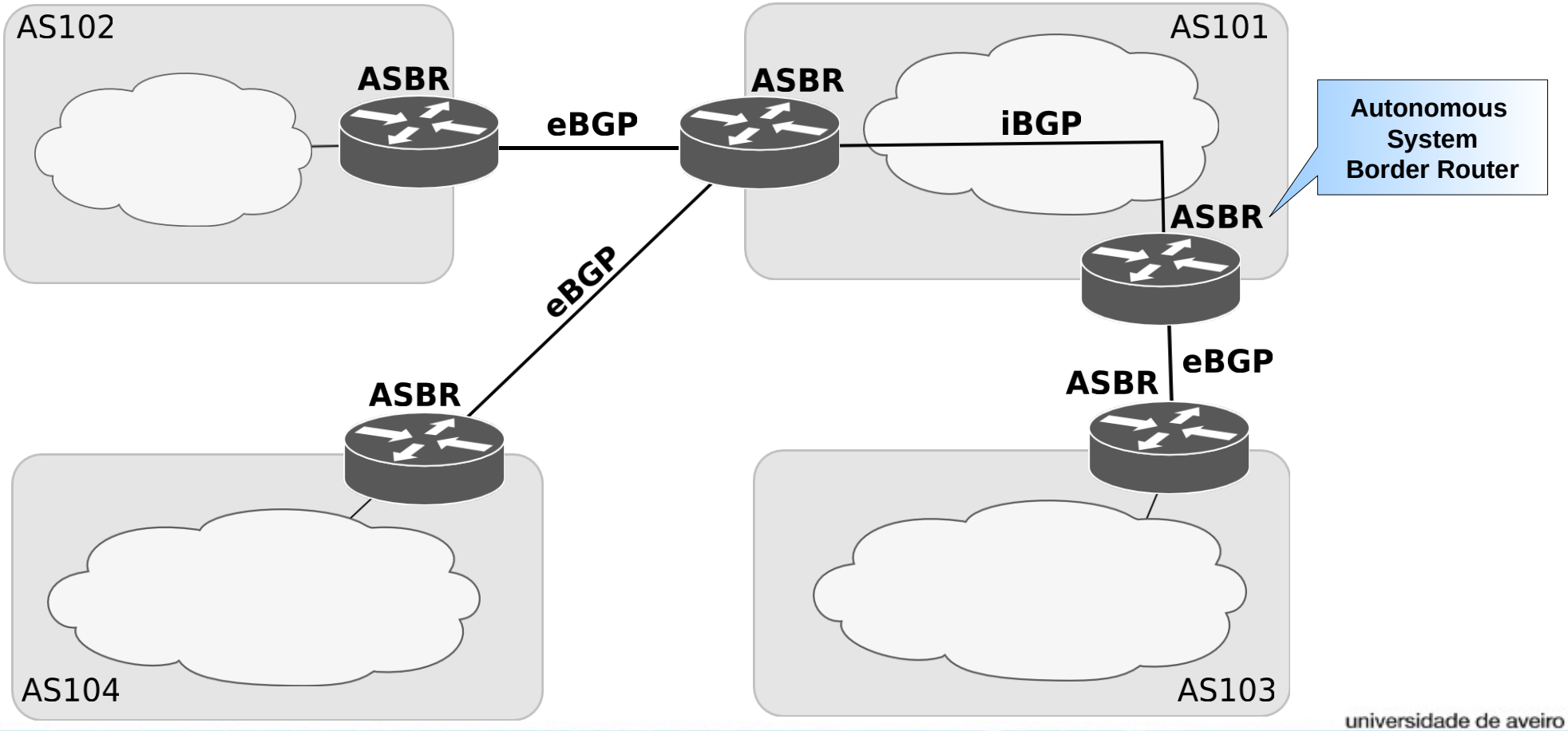
- Allocated ID by InterNIC and is globally unique
- RFC 4271 defines an AS number as 2-bytes
  - Private AS Numbers = 64512 through 65535
  - Public AS Numbers = 1 through 64511
    - 39000+ have already been allocated
    - We will eventually run out of AS numbers
- Need to expand AS size from 2-bytes to 4-bytes
- RFC4893 defines BGP support for 4-bytes AS numbers
  - 4,294,967,295 AS numbers
  - As of January 1, 2009, all new Autonomous System numbers issued will be 4-byte by default, unless otherwise requested.
  - The full binary 4-byte AS number is split two words of 16 bits each
    - Notation:
    - <higher2bytes in decimal>.<lower2bytes in decimal>
    - Example1: AS 65546 is represented as “1.10”
    - Example2: AS 50000 is represented as “0.50000”
  - Cannot have a “flag day” solution

BGP Neighbor Relationships

- Often called peering
  - Usually manually configured into routers by the administrator
- Each neighbor session runs over TCP (port 179)
  - Ensures reliable data delivery
- Peers exchange all their routes when the session is first established
- Updates are also sent when there is a topology change in the network or a change in routing policy
- BGP peers exchange session KEEPALIVE messages
  - To avoid extended periods of inactivity.
  - Low keepalive intervals can be set if a fast fail-over is required

Internal BGP (iBGP) & External BGP (eBGP)

- Neighbor relations can be established between
  - Same AS routers (Internal BGP – iBGP).
  - Different AS routers (External BGP – eBGP).
- Routers that implement neighbor relations are called an Autonomous System Border Router (ASBR).

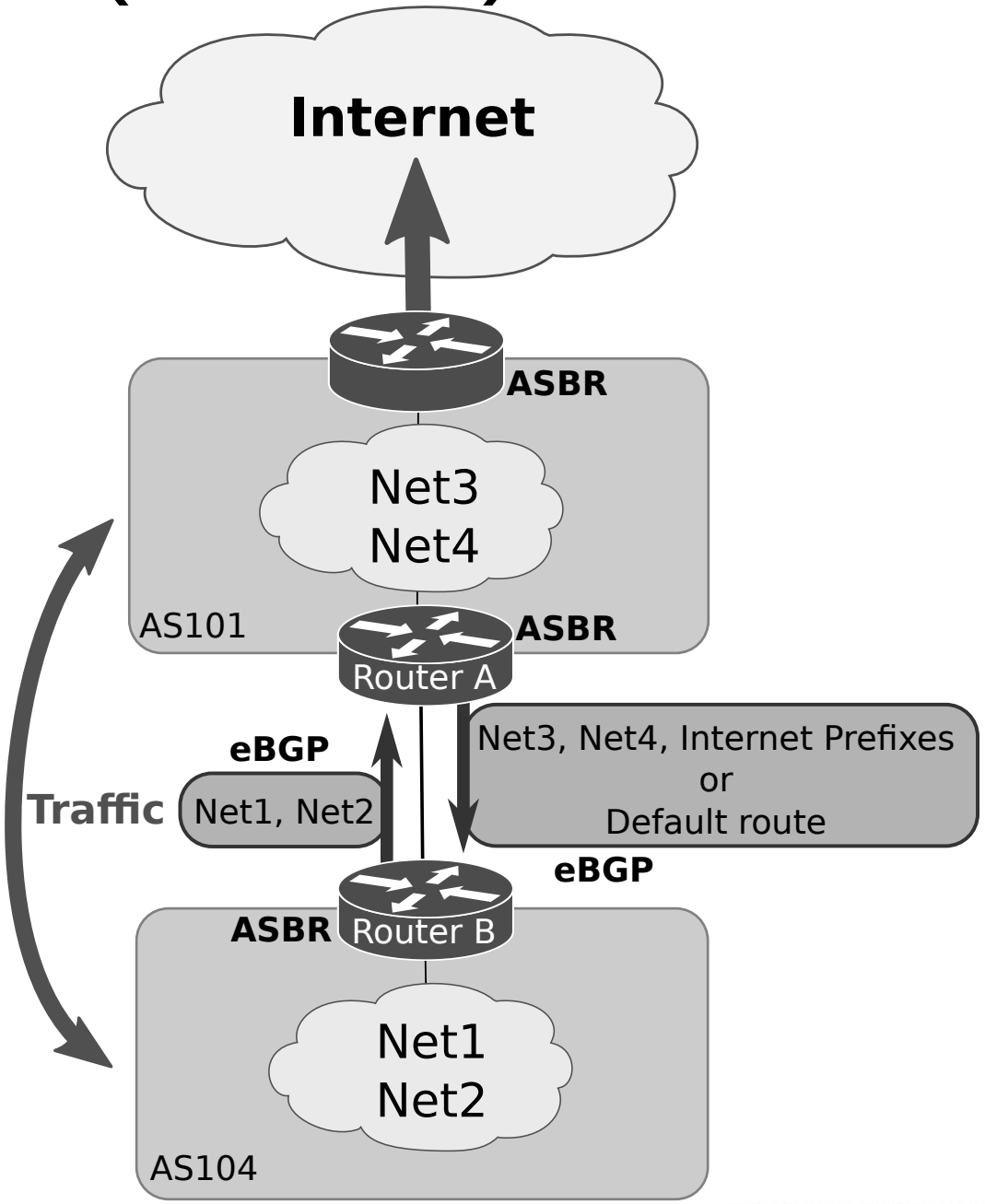


External and Internal BGP

- External BGP (eBGP) is used between AS.
- Internal BGP (iBGP) is used within AS.
- A BGP router never forwards a path learned from one iBGP peer to another iBGP peer even if that path is the best path.
  - An exception is when a router is configured as route-reflector.
- A BGP forward the routes learned from one eBGP peer to both eBGP and iBGP peers.
  - Filters can be used to modify this behavior.
- iBGP routers in an AS **must maintain an iBGP session with all other iBGP routers** in the AS (iBGP Mesh).
  - To obtain complete routing information about external networks.
  - Most networks also use an IGP, such as OSPF.
  - Additional methods can be used to reduce iBGP Mesh complexity.
    - Route reflectors, private AS, ...

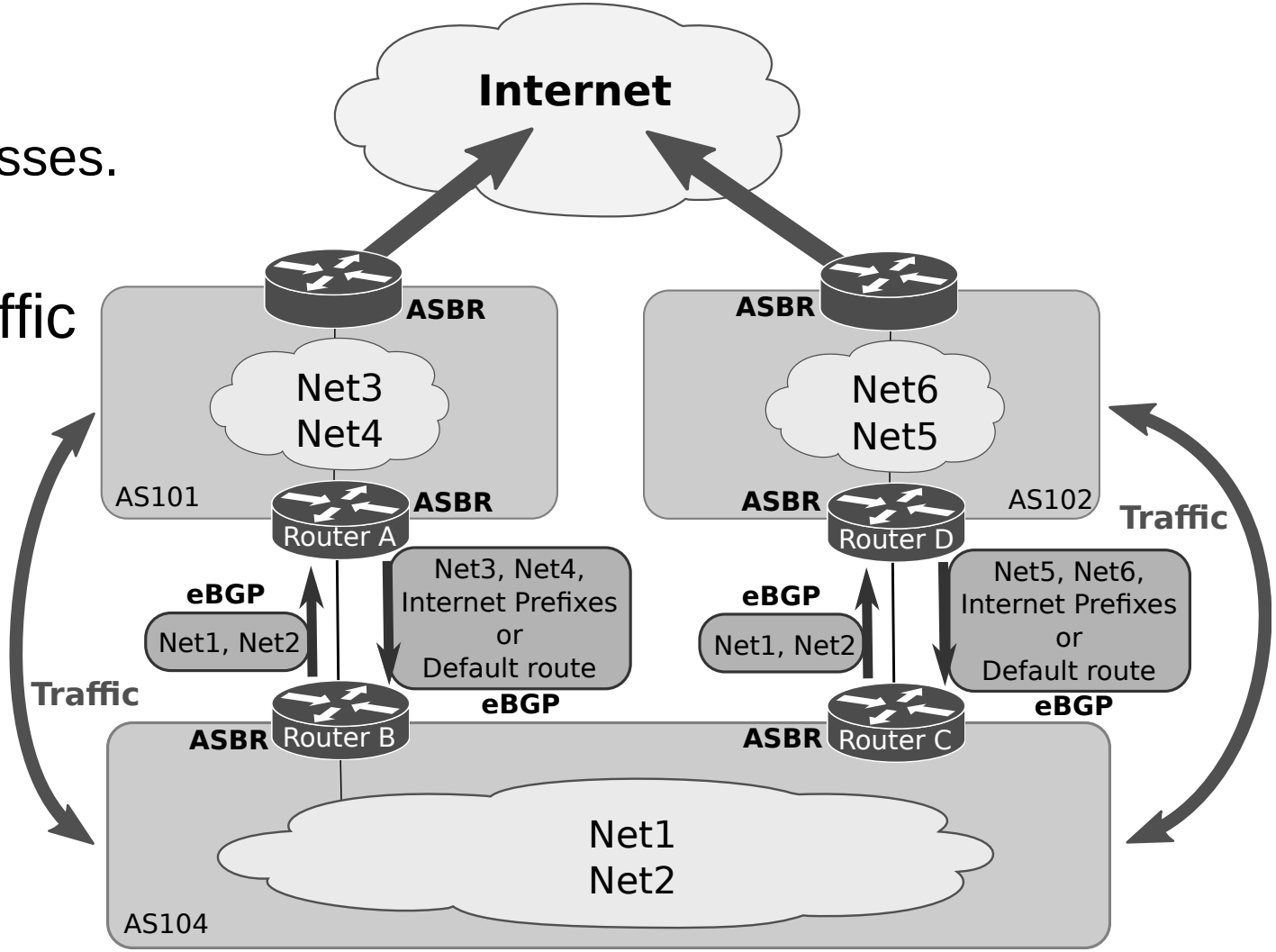
Single-homed (or Stub) AS

- AS has only one border router (ASBR)
  - Single Internet access.
  - Single ISP.



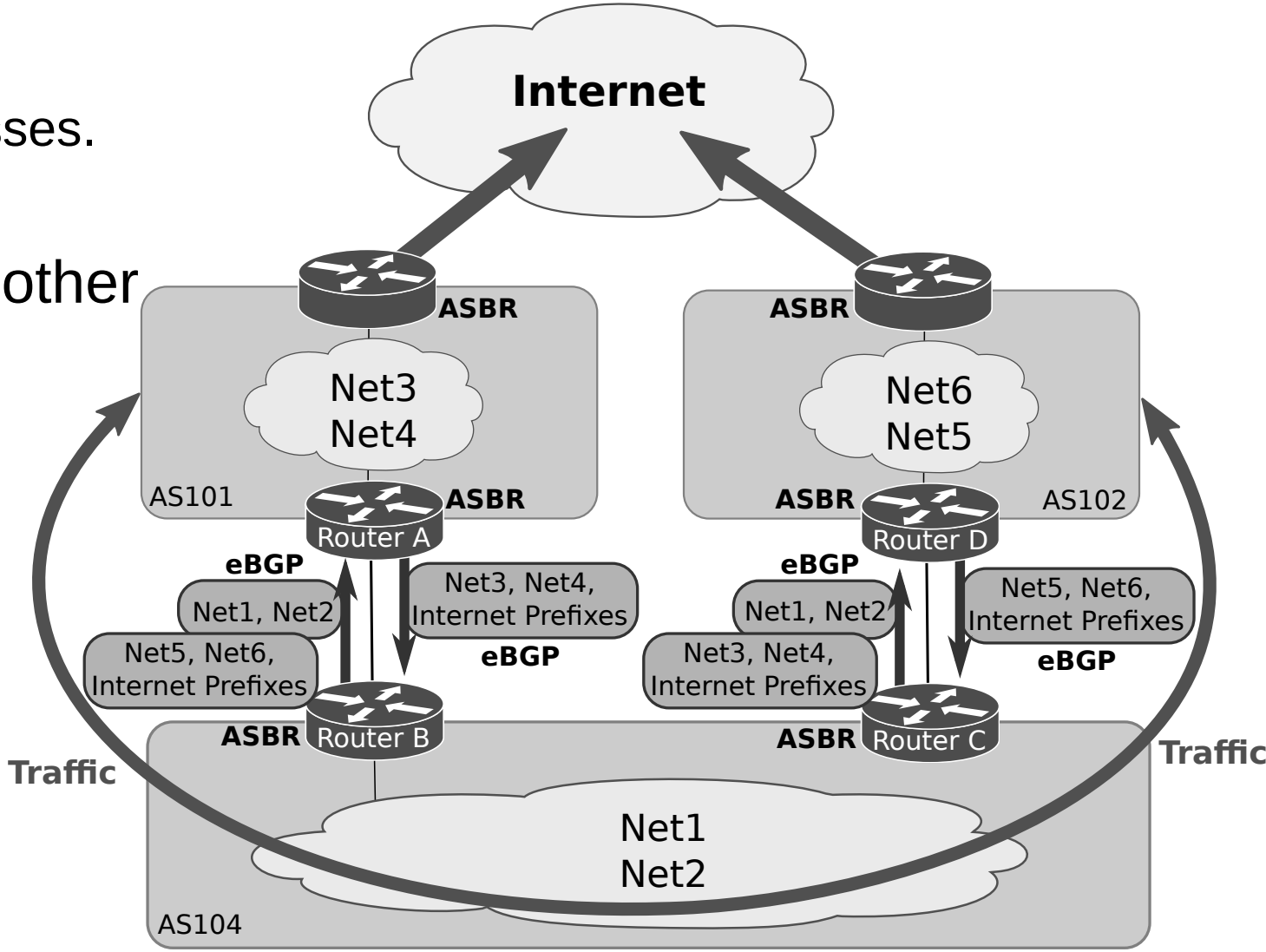
Multi-homed Non-transit AS

- AS has more than one border router (ASBR)
  - Multiple Internet accesses.
  - Multiple ISP.
- Does not transport traffic from other AS.



Multi-homed Transit AS

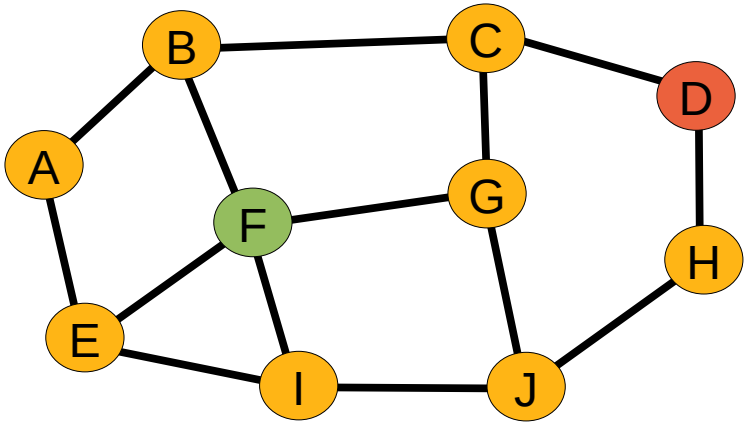
- AS has more than one border router (ASBR).
  - Multiple Internet accesses.
  - Multiple ISP.
- Transports traffic from other AS.



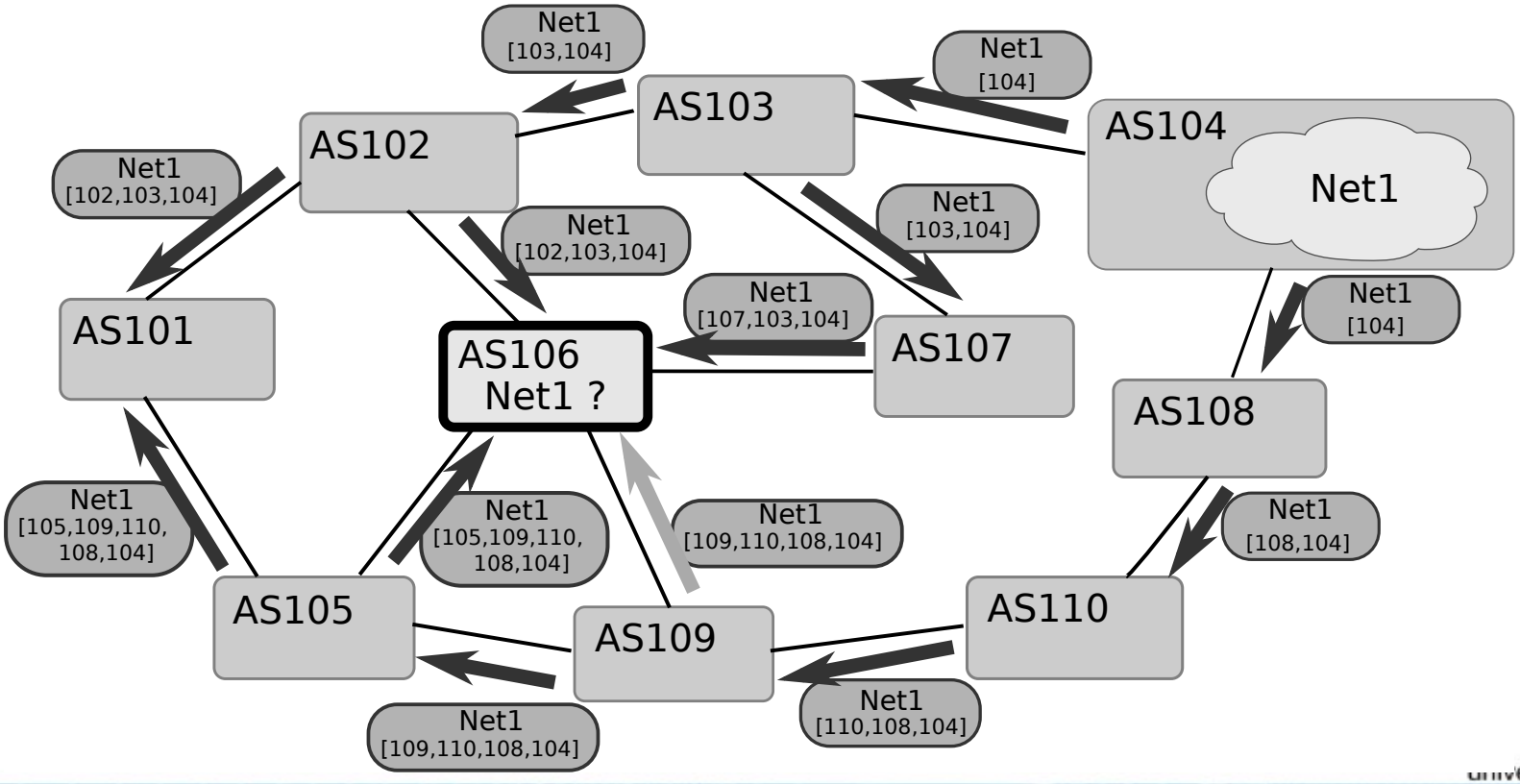
Path-vector

- BGP is a path-vector protocol
- Although it is essentially a distance-vector protocol that carries a list of the AS traversed by the route
  - Provides loop detection
- An EBGP speaker adds its own AS to this list before forwarding a route to another EBGP peer
- An IBGP speaker does not modify the list because it is sending the route to a peer within the same AS
  - AS list cannot be used to detect the IBGP routing loops

Path vector

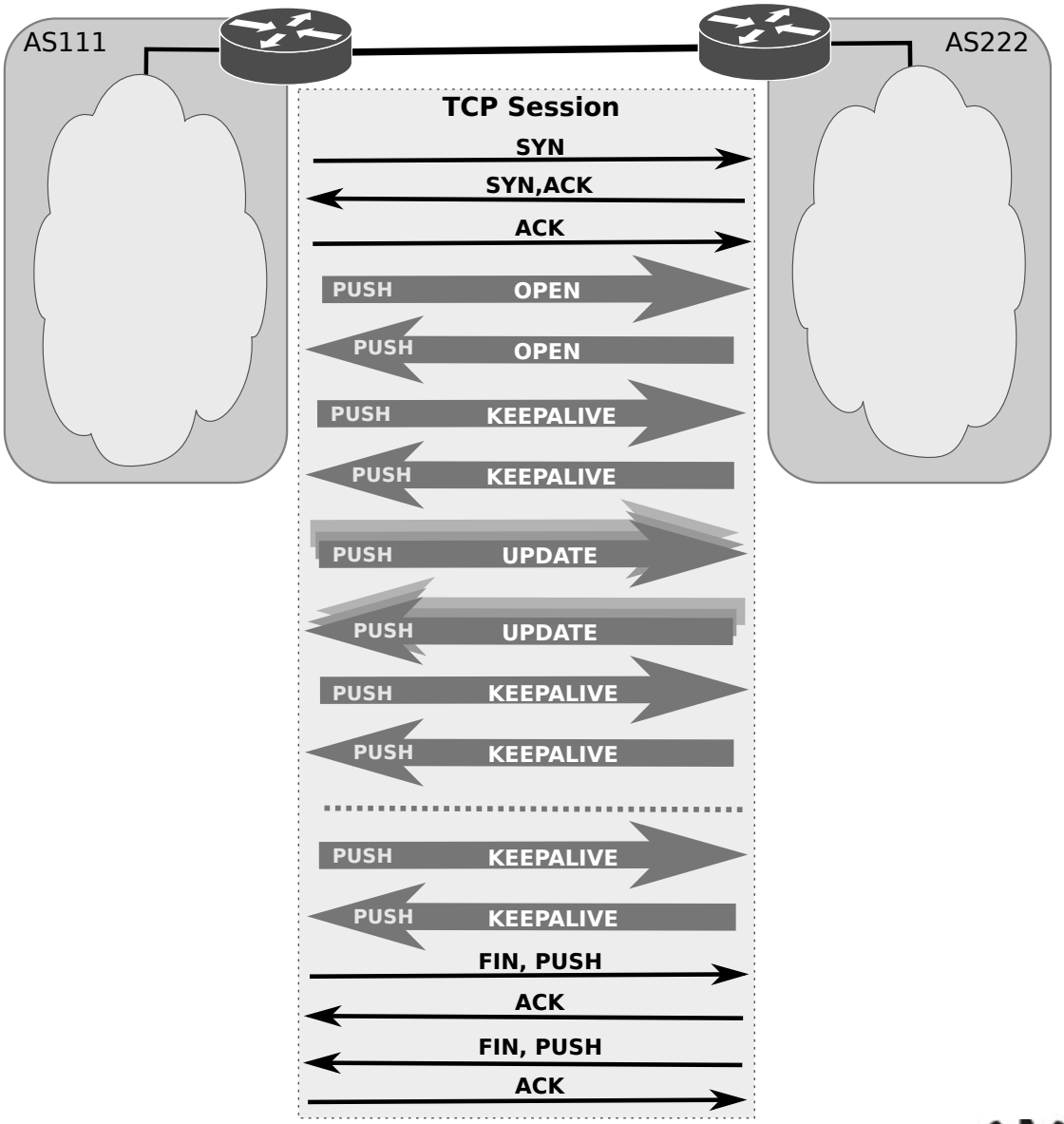


- F receives from its neighbors different paths to D:
  - De B: “I use BCD”
  - De G: “I use GCD”
  - De I: “I use IFGCD”
  - De E: “I use EFGCD”



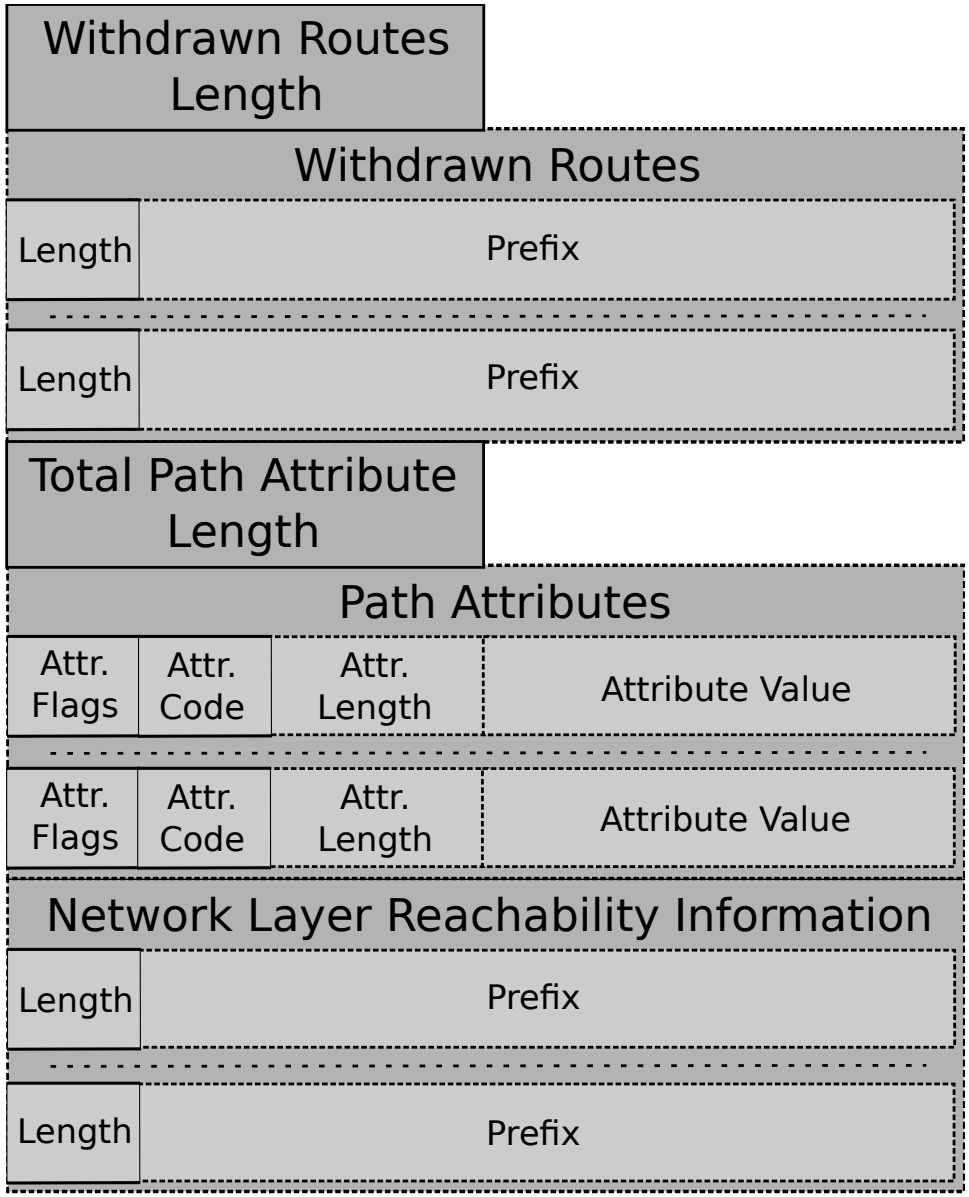
BGP Messages

- OPEN messages are used to establish the BGP session.
- UPDATE messages are used to send routing prefixes, along with their associated BGP attributes (such as the AS-PATH).
- KEEPALIVE messages are exchanged whenever the keepalive period is exceeded, without an update being exchanged.
- NOTIFICATION messages are sent whenever a protocol error is detected, after which the BGP session is closed.

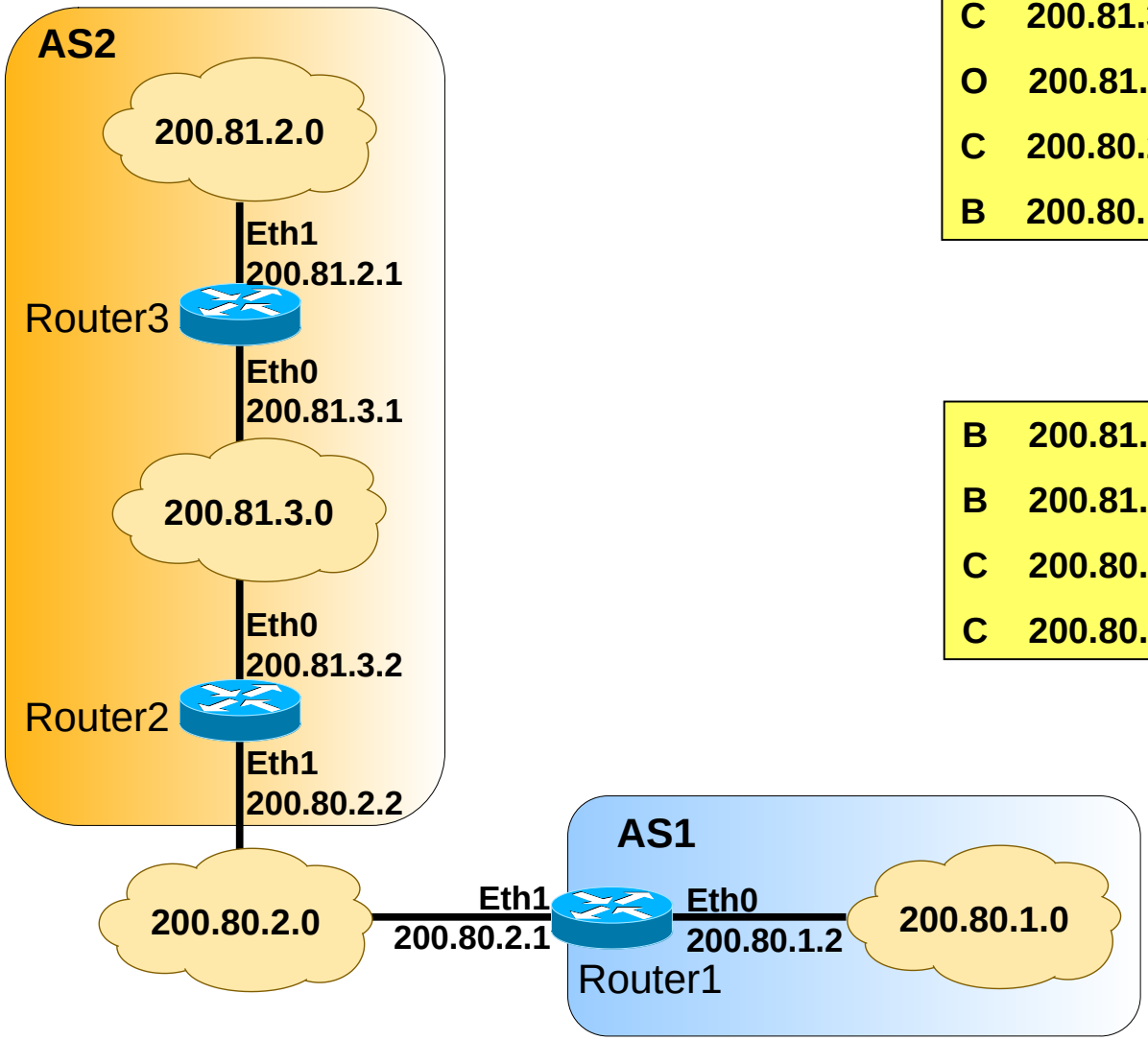


Update Message

- Withdrawn routes – List of IP networks no longer accessible.
- Path attributes – parameters used to define routing and routing policies.
- Network layer reachability information – List of IP networks with connectivity.



Example



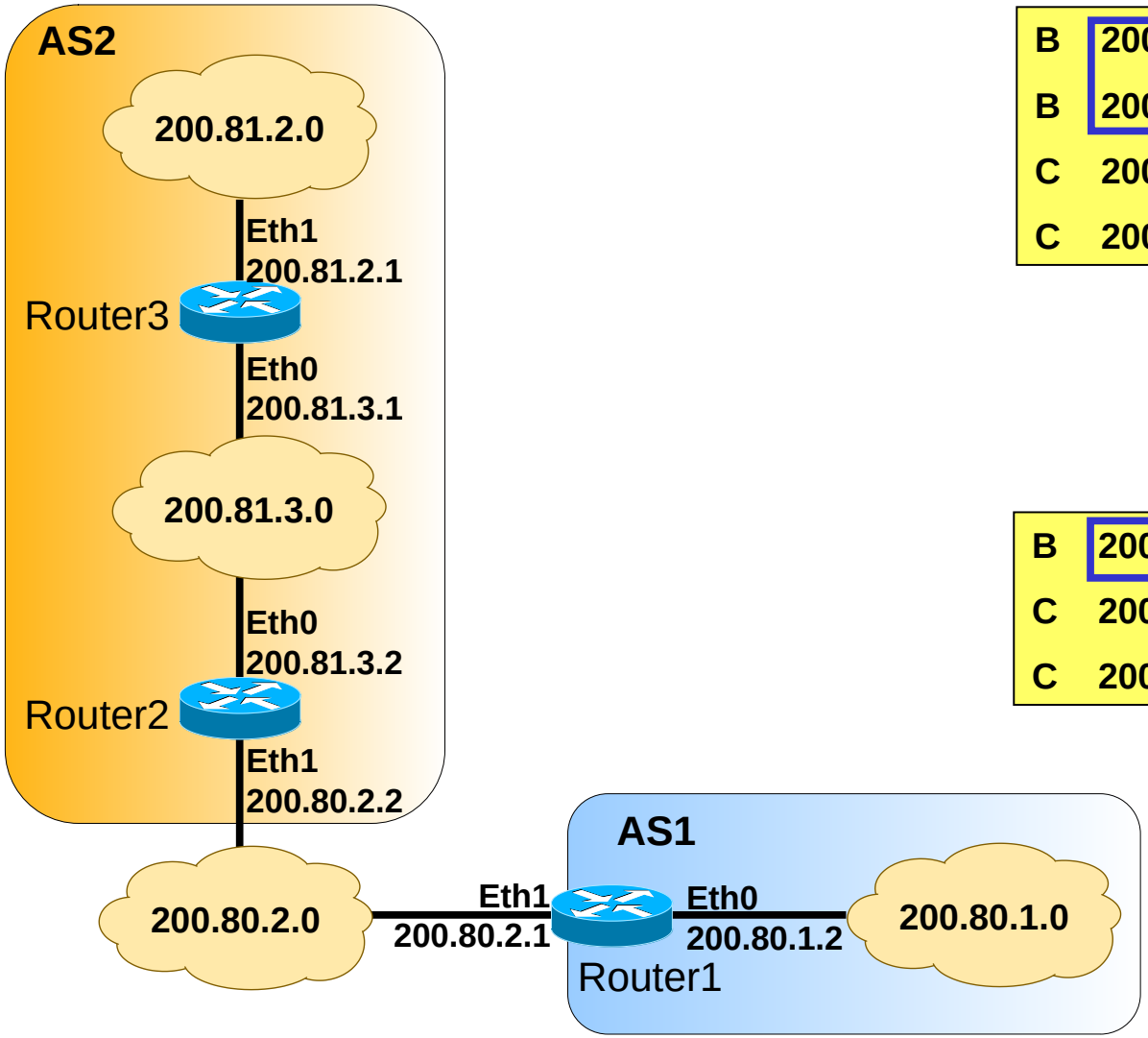
C	200.81.3.0/24 is directly connected, Ethernet0
O	200.81.2.0/24 [110/20] via 200.81.3.1, 00:01:12
C	200.80.2.0/24 is directly connected, Ethernet1
B	200.80.1.0/24 [20/0] via 200.80.2.1, 00:00:29

Router 2's routing table

B	200.81.3.0/24 [20/0] via 200.80.2.2, 00:01:58
B	200.81.2.0/24 [20/0] via 200.80.2.2, 00:01:57
C	200.80.2.0/24 is directly connected, Ethernet1
C	200.80.1.0/24 is directly connected, Ethernet0

Router 1's routing table

Example – BGP networks aggregation



Before aggregation

```
B   200.81.3.0/24 [20/0] via 200.80.2.2, 00:01:58
B   200.81.2.0/24 [20/0] via 200.80.2.2, 00:01:57
C   200.80.2.0/24 is directly connected, Ethernet1
C   200.80.1.0/24 is directly connected, Ethernet0
```

Router 1

After aggregation

```
B   200.81.2.0/23 [20/0] via 200.80.2.2, 00:01:06
C   200.80.2.0/24 is directly connected, Ethernet1
C   200.80.1.0/24 is directly connected, Ethernet0
```

Router 1

BGP Attributes

- A BGP attribute, or path attribute, is a metric used to describe the characteristics of a BGP path.
- Attributes are contained in update messages passed between BGP peers to advertise routes. There are 4+1 categories of BGP attributes.
  - Well-known Mandatory (included in BGP updates)
    - AS-path, Next-hop, Origin.
  - Well-known Discretionary (may or may not be included in BGP updates)
    - Local Preference, Atomic Aggregate.
  - Optional Transitive (may not be supported by all BGP implementations)
    - Aggregator, Community, AS4_Aggregator, AS4_path.
  - Optional Non-transitive (may not be supported by all BGP implementations)
    - If the neighbor doesn't support that attribute it is deleted
    - Multi-exit-discriminator (MED).
  - Cisco-defined (local to router, not advertised)
    - Weight

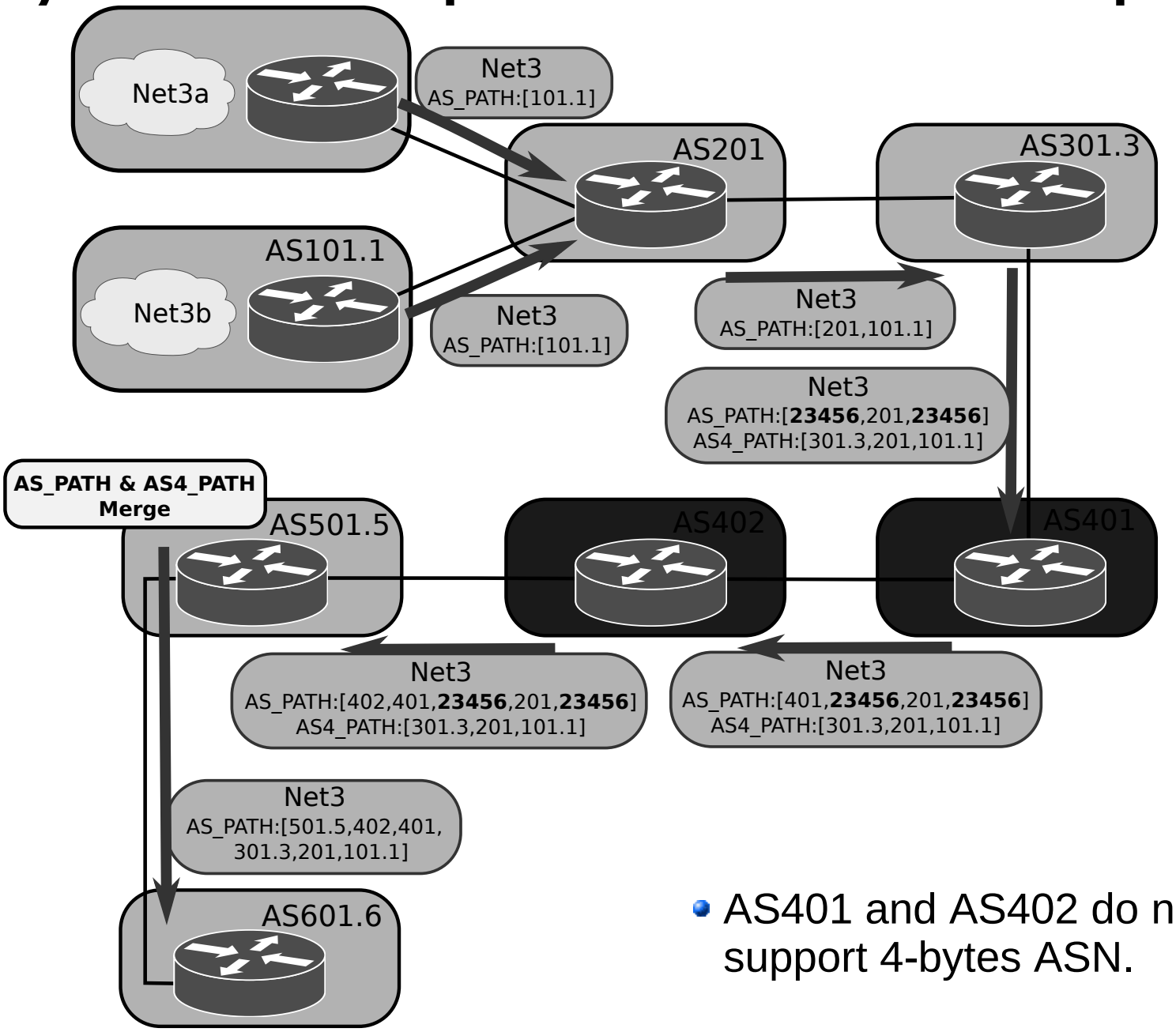
AS-PATH and ORIGIN Attributes

- AS-PATH
  - When a route advertisement passes through an autonomous system, the AS number is added to an ordered list of AS numbers that the route advertisement has traversed.
- ORIGIN
  - Indicates how BGP learned about a particular route. Can take three possible values:
    - IGP (0) value is set if the route is interior to the originating AS, resulting from an explicit inclusion of a network within the BGP routing process by means of manual configuration.
    - INCOMPLETE (2) value is set if the route is learned by other means, namely, route redistribution from other routing processes into the BGP routing process.
    - EGP (1) is no longer used in modern networks.

AS4_PATH & AS4_AGGREGATOR

- AS4_PATH attribute has the same semantics as the AS_PATH attribute, except that it is optional transitive, and it carries 4-bytes AS numbers.
- AS4_AGGREGATOR attribute has the same semantics as the AGGREGATOR attribute, except that it carries a 4-bytes AS number.
- 4-byte AS support is advertised via BGP capability negotiation
  - Speakers who support 4-byte AS are known as NEW BGP speakers
  - Those who do not are known as OLD BGP speakers
- New Reserved AS number
  - AS_TRANS = AS 23456
    - 2-byte placeholder for a 4-byte AS number
    - Used for backward compatibility between OLD and NEW BGP speakers
- Receiving UPDATEs from a NEW speaker
  - Decode each AS number as 4-bytes
  - AS_PATH and AGGREGATOR are effected
- Receiving UPDATEs from an OLD speaker
  - AS4_AGGREGATOR will override AGGREGATOR
  - AS4_PATH and AS_PATH must be merged to form the correct as-path
- Merging AS4_PATH and AS_PATH
  - AS_PATH → [275 250 225 23456 23456 200 23456 175]
  - AS4_PATH → [100.1 100.2 200 100.3 175]
  - Merged AS-PATH → [275 250 225 100.1 100.2 200 100.3 175]

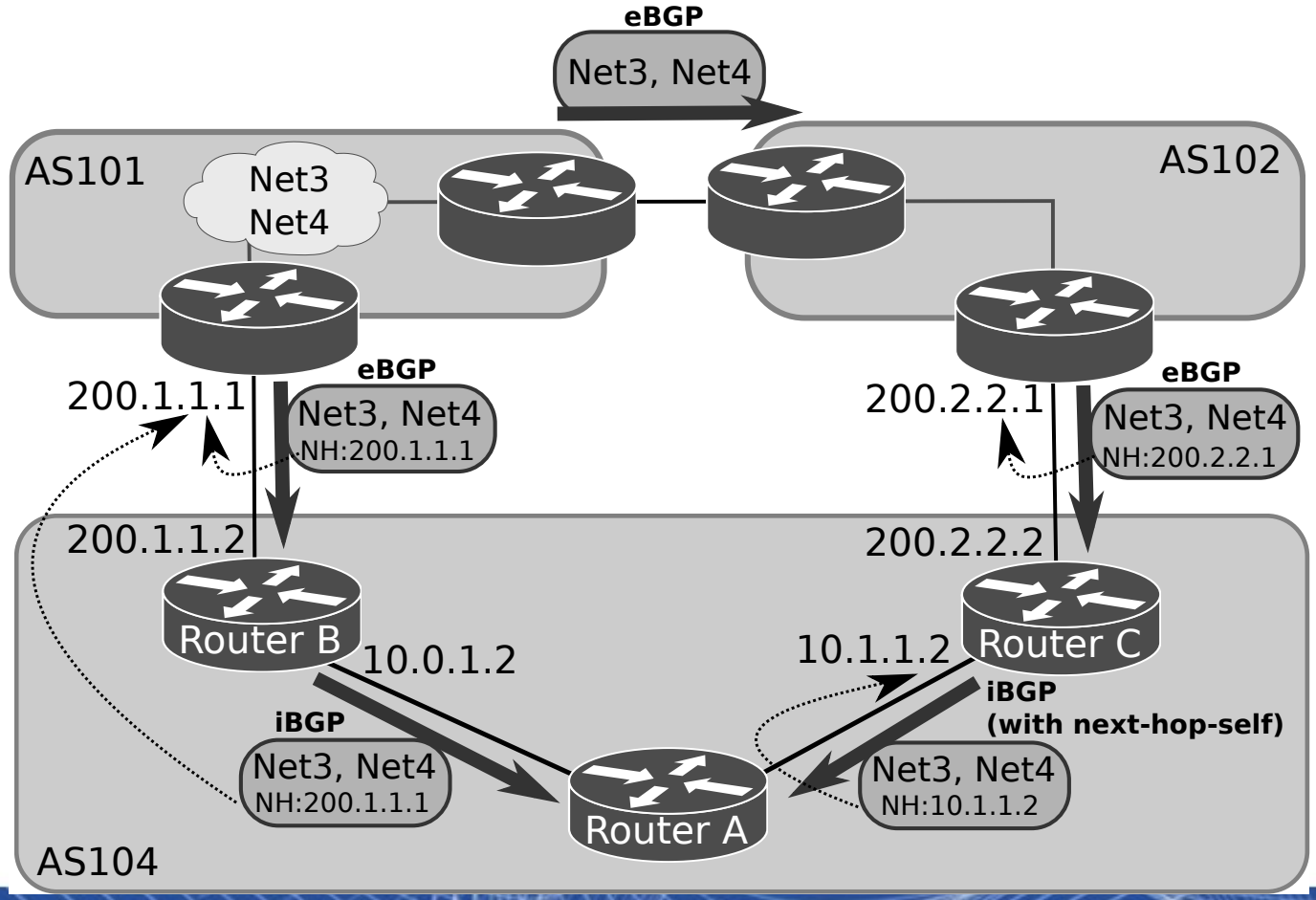
4-bytes AS Operational Example



- AS401 and AS402 do not support 4-bytes ASN.

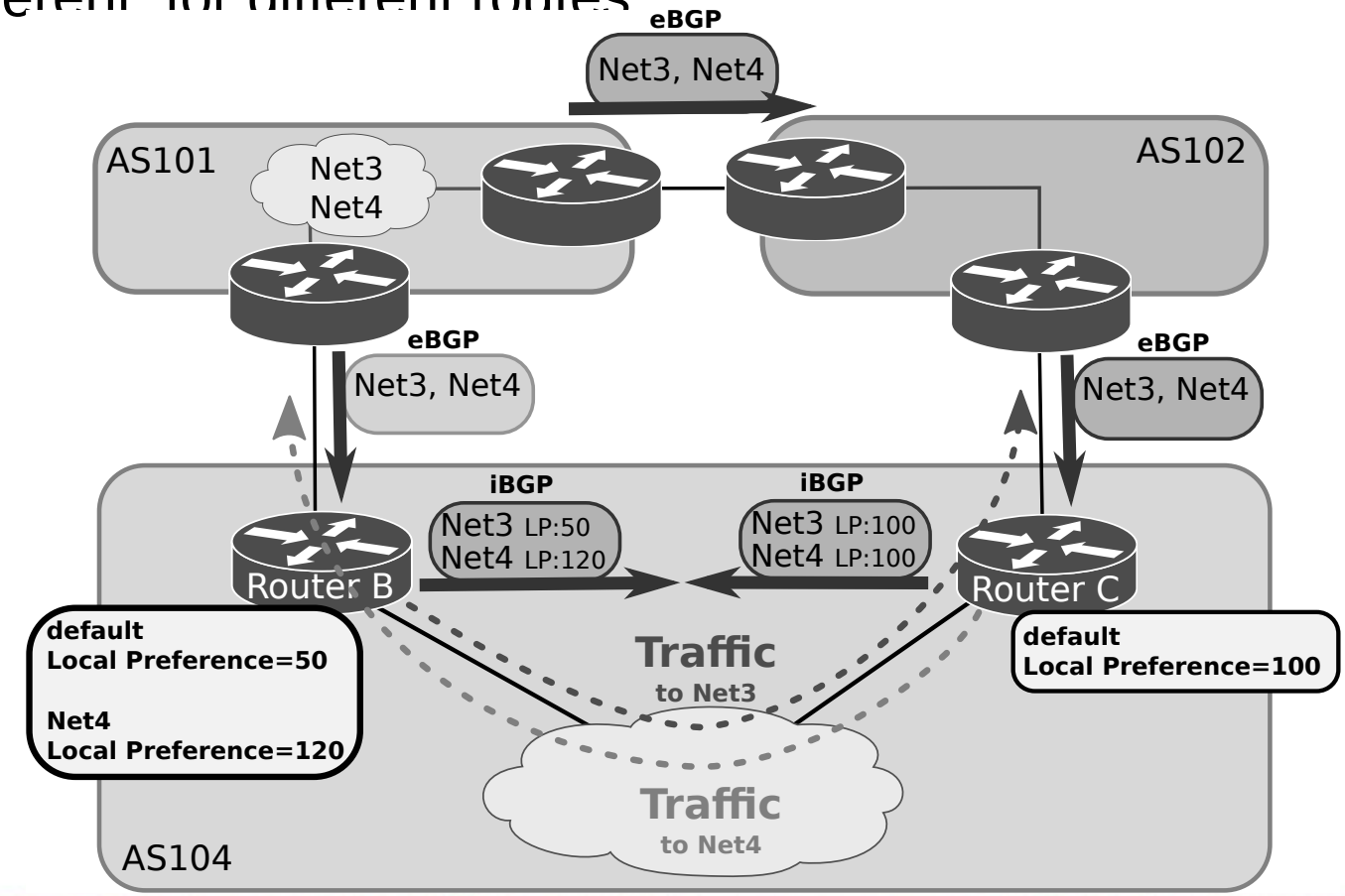
Next-Hop Attribute

- The eBGP next-hop attribute is the IP address that is used to reach the advertising router
- For eBGP, the next-hop address is the IP address of the connection between the peers
- For iBGP, the eBGP next-hop address is carried into the local AS
  - By configuration the AS border router can be the next-hop to iBGP neighbors



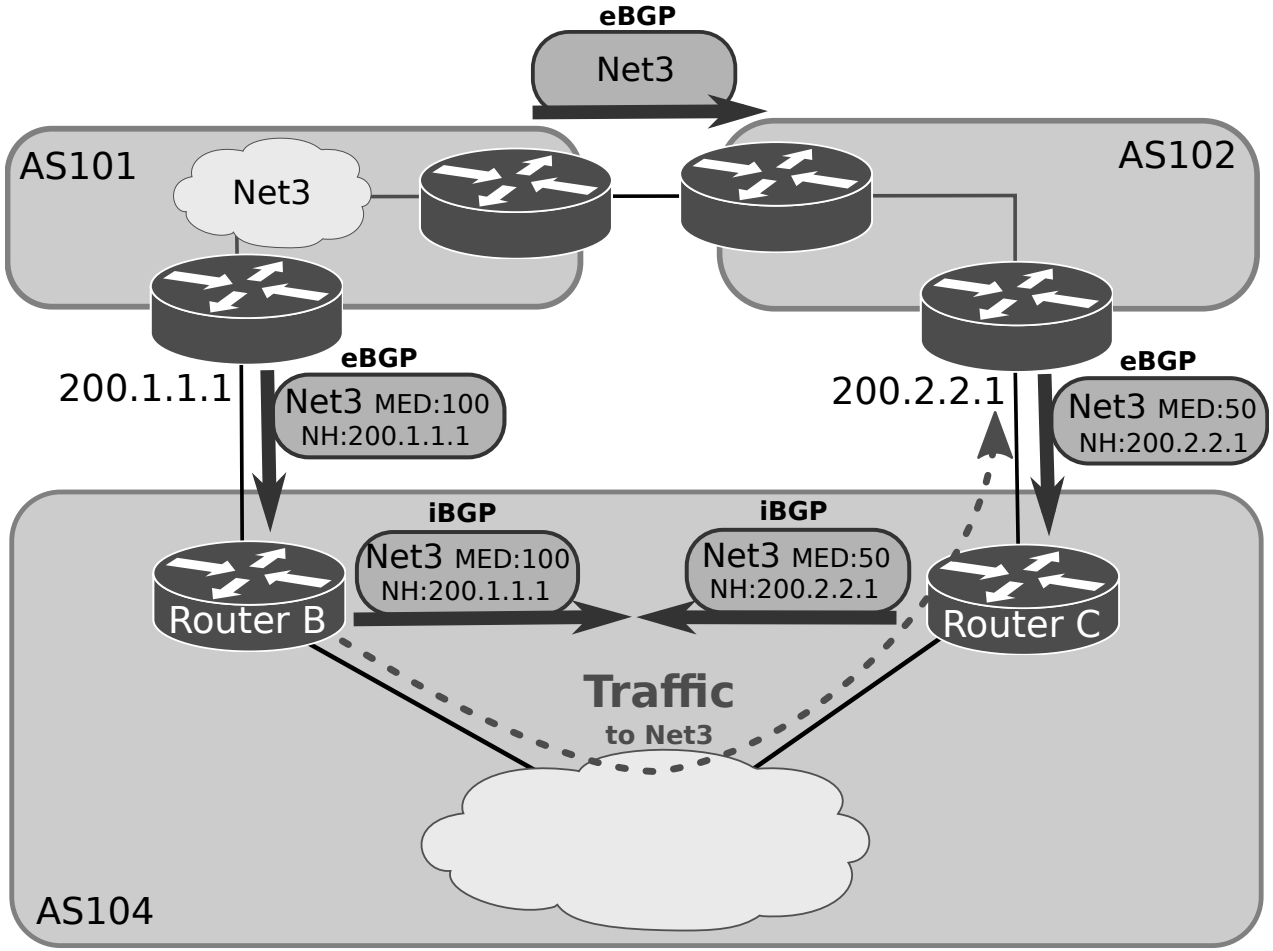
Local Preference Attribute

- The local preference attribute is used to choose an exit point from the local autonomous system (AS).
  - **Higher value** is preferred.
- The local preference attribute is propagated throughout the local AS.
- Can be different for different routes



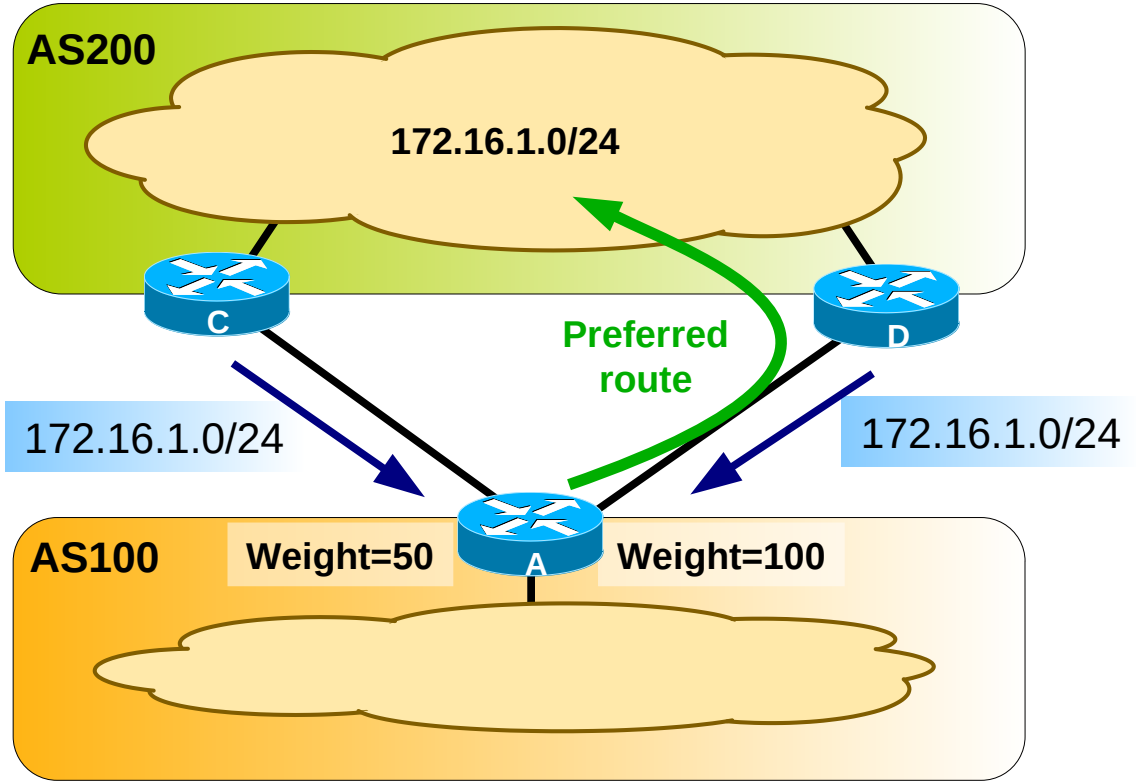
Multi-Exit Discriminator Attribute (MED)

- The multi-exit discriminator (MED) or metric attribute is used as a suggestion to an external AS.
- The external AS that is receiving the MEDs may be using other BGP attributes for route selection.
- The **lower value** of the metric is preferred.
- MED is designed to influence incoming traffic.

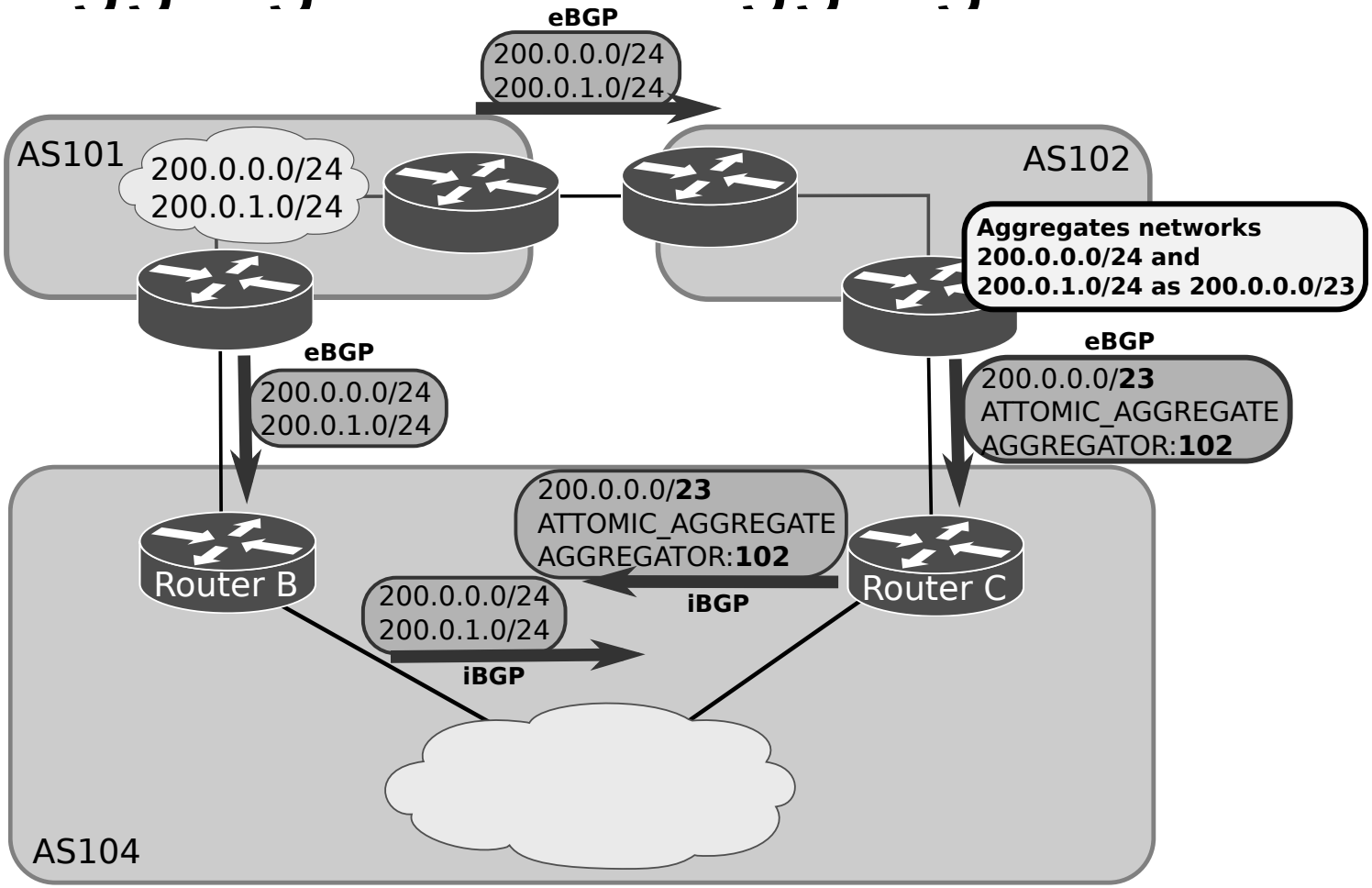


Weight Attribute

- Weight is a Cisco-defined attribute that is local to a router.
- The weight attribute is not advertised to neighboring routers.
- If the router learns about more than one route to the same destination, the route with the **highest weight** will be preferred.

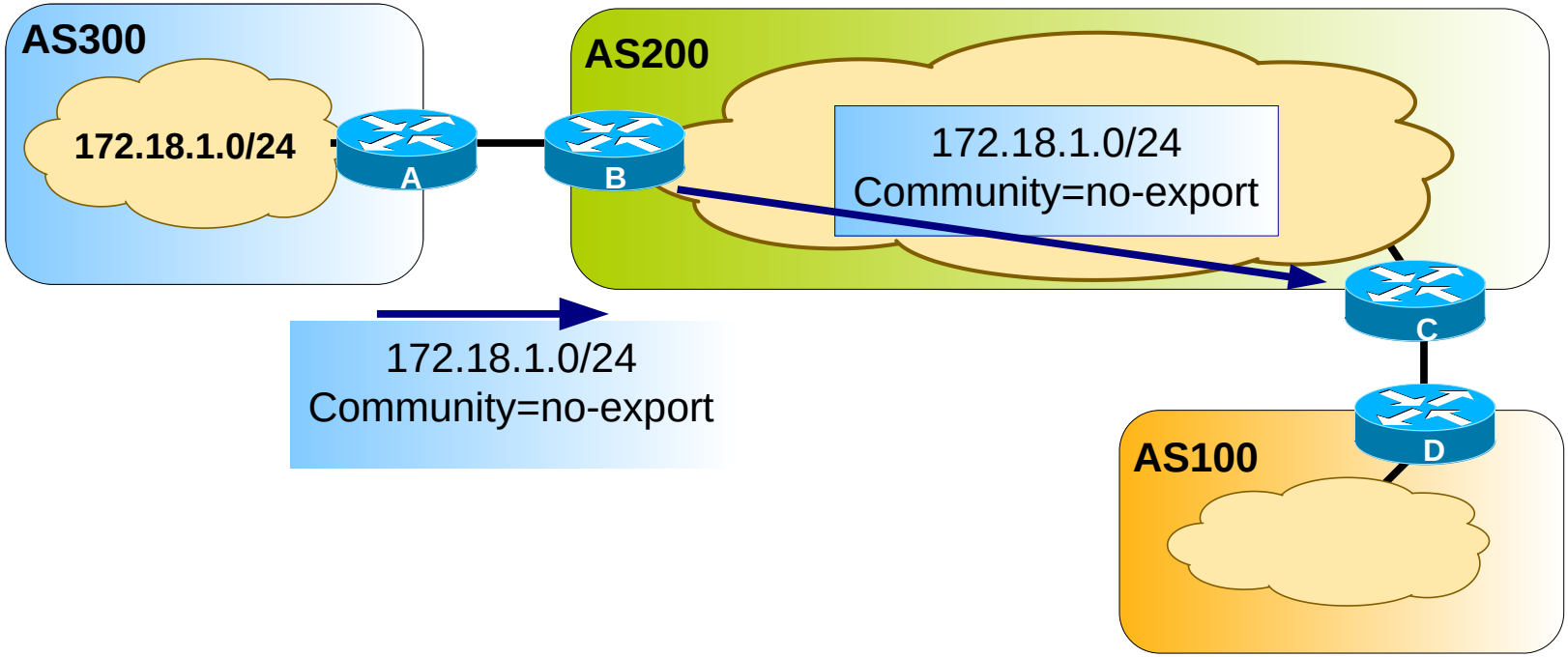


Atomic Aggregate and Aggregator Attributes



- Atomic Aggregate
  - Is used to alert routers that specific routes have been aggregated into a less specific route.
  - When aggregation like this occurs, more specific routes are lost.
- Aggregator
  - Provides information about which AS performed the aggregation.
  - And the IP address of the router that originated the aggregate.

Community Attribute



- Used to group routes that share common properties so that policies can be applied at the group level
- Predefined community attributes are:
  - no-export - Do not advertise this route to EBGP peers
  - no-advertise - Do not advertise this route to any peer
  - internet - Advertise this route to the Internet community; all routers in the network belong to it
- General communities format is ASnumber:Cnumber
  - e.g. 300:1, 200:38, etc...

BGP Path Selection

- BGP may receive multiple advertisements for the same route from multiple sources.
- BGP selects only one path as the best path.
- BGP puts the selected path in the IP routing table and propagates the path to its neighbors. BGP uses the following criteria, in the order:
  - Largest weight (Cisco only)
  - Largest local preference
  - Path that was originated locally
  - Shortest path
  - Lowest origin type (IGP lower than EGP, EGP lower than incomplete)
  - Lowest MED attribute
  - Prefer the external path over the internal path
  - Closest IGP neighbor

Multi-Protocol Border Gateway Protocol (MP-BGP)

MP-BGP Description

- Extension to the BGP protocol
- Carries routing information about other protocols/families:
  - IPv6 Unicast
  - Multicast (IPv4 and IPv6)
  - 6PE - IPv6 over IPv4 MPLS backbone
  - Multi-Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) VPN (IPv4 and IPv6)
- Exchange of Multi-Protocol Reachability Information (NLRI)

MP-BGP Attributes

- New non-transitive and optional attributes
  - MP_REACH_NLRI
    - Carry the set of reachable destinations together with the next- hop information to be used for forwarding to these destinations
  - MP_UNREACH_NLRI
    - Carry the set of unreachable destinations
- Attribute contains one or more triples
  - Address Family Information (AFI) with Sub-AFI
    - Identifies protocol information carried in the Network Layer Reachability Information
  - Next-hop information
    - Next-hop address must be of the same family
- Reachability information

MP-BGP Negotiation Capabilities

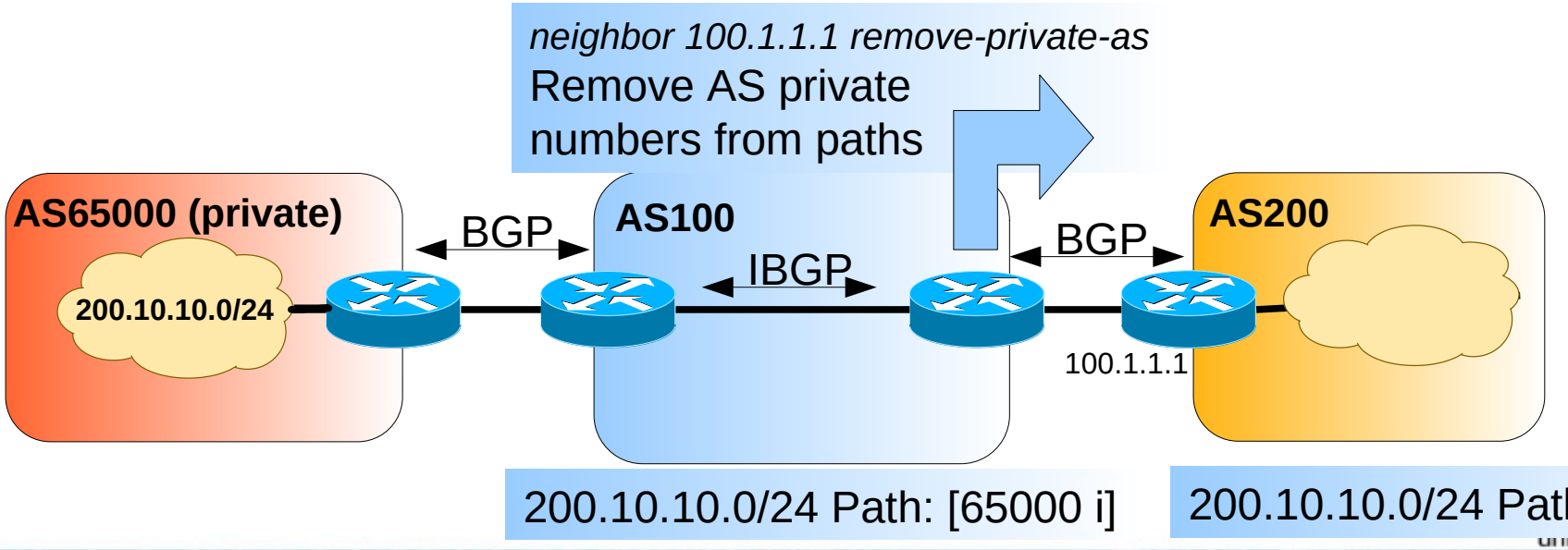
- MP-BGP routers establish BGP sessions through the OPEN message
  - OPEN message contains optional parameters
  - If OPEN parameters are not recognized, BGP session is terminated
  - A new optional parameter: CAPABILITIES
- OPEN message with CAPABILITIES containing:
  - Multi-Protocol extensions (AFI/SAFI)
  - Route Refresh
  - Outbound Route Filtering

MP-BGP New Features for IPv6

- IPv6 Unicast
  - MP-BGP enables the creation of IPv6 Inter-AS relations
- IPv6 Multicast
  - Unicast prefixes for Reverse Path Forwarding (RPF) checking
  - RPF information is disseminated between autonomous systems
  - Compatible with single domain Rendezvous Points or Protocol Independent Multicast-Source Specific Multicast (PIM-SSM)
  - Topology can be congruent or non-congruent with the unicast one
- IPv6 and label (6PE)
  - IPv6 packet is transported over an IPv4 MPLS backbone
- IPv6 VPN (6VPE)
  - Multiple IPv6 VPNs are created over an IPv4 MPLS backbone

Private BGP AS

- Private autonomous system (AS) numbers range from 64512 to 65535
- When a customer network is large, the ISP may assign an AS number:
  - Permanently assigning a **Public** AS number in the range of 1 to 64511
    - Should have a unique AS number to propagate its BGP routes to Internet
    - Done when a customer network connects to two different ISPs, such as multihoming
  - Assigning a **Private** AS number in the range of 64512 to 65535.
    - It is not recommended that you use a private AS number when planning to connect to multiple ISPs in the future



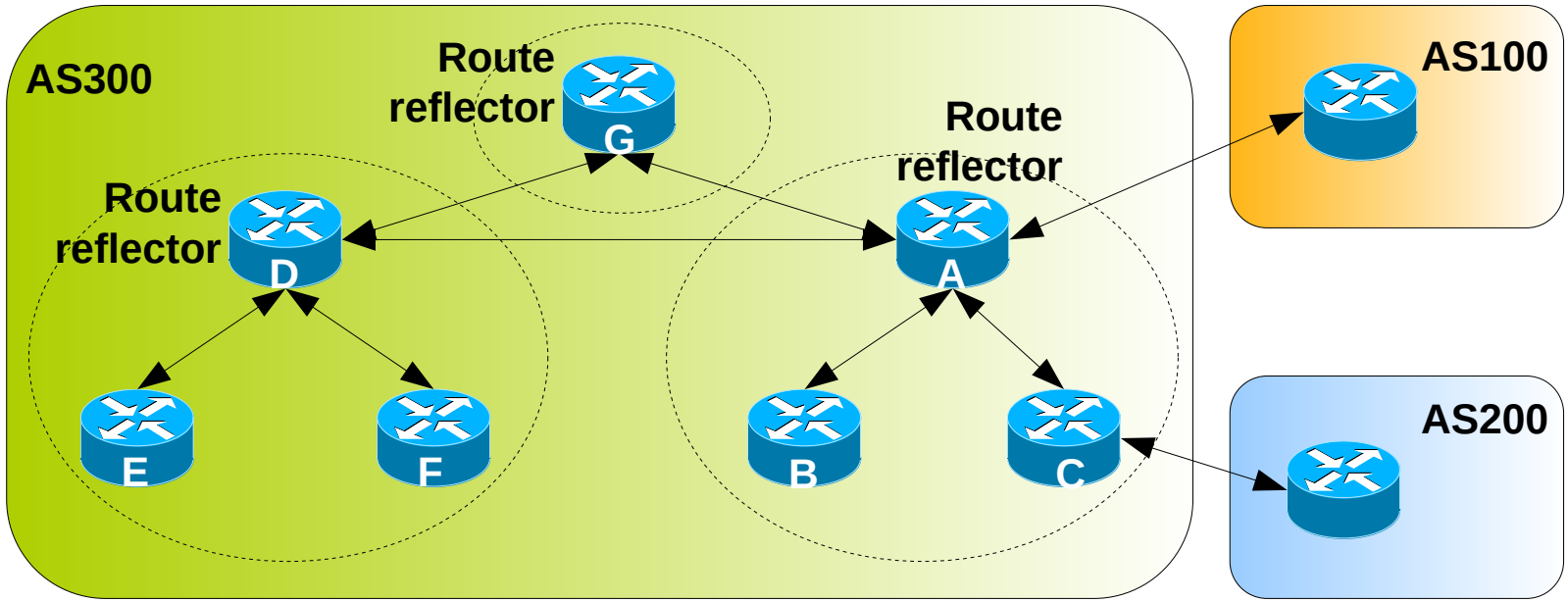
BGP AS Routing Policies

```
aut-num:      AS15525
as-name:      PTPRIMENET
descr:        PT Prime Autonomous System
descr:        Corporate Data Communications Services
descr:        Portugal
import:       from AS1930 action pref=100;
              accept AS-RCCN # RCCN
import:       from AS3243 action pref=200;
              accept AS-TELEPAC # Telepac
import:       from AS5516 action pref=100;
              accept AS5516 # INESC
import:       from AS5533 action pref=100;
              accept AS-VIAPT # Via NetWorks Portugal
import:       from AS8657 action pref=300;
              accept ANY # CPRM
import:       from AS12305 action pref=100;
              accept AS12305 # Nortenet
import:       from AS1897 action pref=100;
              accept AS1897 AS9190 AS13134 AS15931 # KPN Qwest
import:       from AS13156 action pref=100;
              accept AS13156 # Cabovisao
import:       from AS8824 action pref=100;
              accept AS8824 AS15919 # Eastecnica
.................
```

```
export:       to AS1897 announce RS-PTPRIME # KPNQwest
export:       to AS1930 announce RS-PTPRIME # RCCN
export:       to AS3243 announce RS-PTPRIME # Telepac
export:       to AS5516 announce {0.0.0.0/0} # INESC
export:       to AS5533 announce RS-PTPRIME # Via NetWorks Portugal
export:       to AS8657 announce RS-PTPRIME # CPRM
export:       to AS8824 announce RS-PTPRIME  # Eastecnica
export:       to AS8826 announce {0.0.0.0/0} # Siemens
export:       to AS9186 announce RS-PTPRIME # ONI
export:       to AS12305 announce RS-PTPRIME # Nortenet
export:       to AS12353 announce RS-PTPRIME # Vodafone Portugal
export:       to AS13156 announce RS-PTPRIME # Cabovisao
export:       to AS13910 announce ANY # register.com
export:       to AS15931 announce ANY # YASP Hiperbit
export:       to AS24698 announce RS-PTPRIME # Optimus
export:       to AS25005 announce ANY # Finibanco
export:       to AS25253 announce {0.0.0.0/0} # CGDNet
export:       to AS28672 announce ANY # BPN
export:       to AS31401 announce {0.0.0.0/0} # SICAMSERV
export:       to AS39088 announce {0.0.0.0/0} # Santander-Totta
export:       to AS41345 announce RS-PTPRIME  # Visabeira
export:       to AS43064 announce  RS-PTPRIME # Teixeira Duarte
export:       to AS43643 announce  ANY # TAP
.........................
```

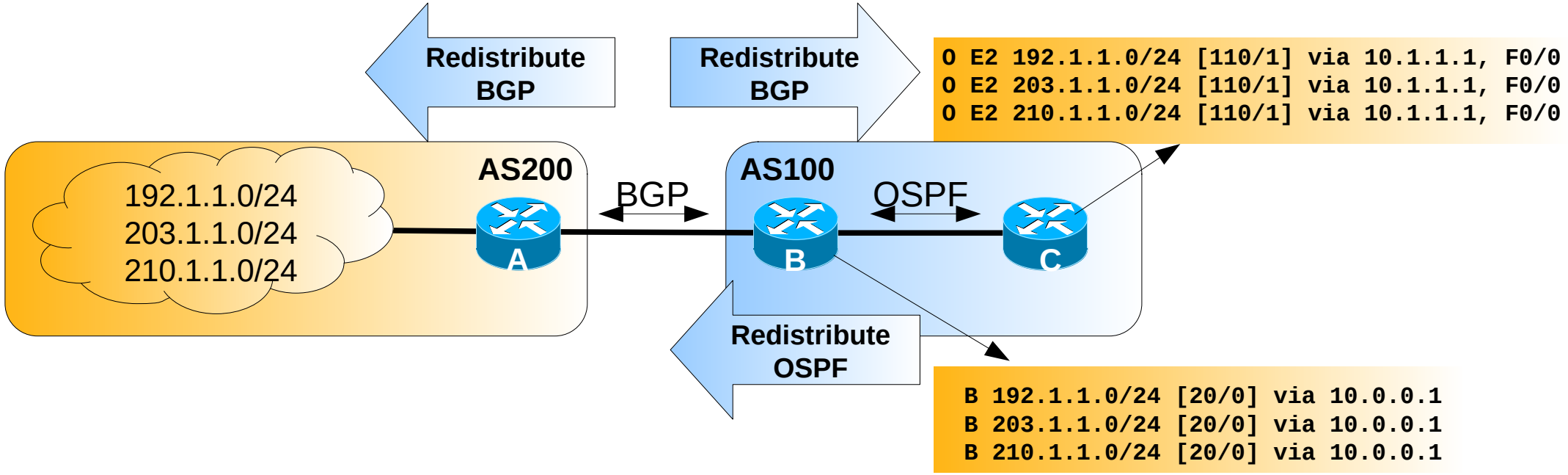
From RIPE database
http://www.db.ripe.net

BGP Route Reflectors



- Without a route reflector, the network requires a full iBGP mesh within AS300.
- The route reflector and its clients are called a cluster.
  - Router A is configured as a route reflector, iBGP peering between Routers B and C (and others) is not required.
  - Router D is configured as a route reflector, iBGP peering between Routers E and F (and others) is not required.
- Full IBGP mesh between route reflector Routers.

Routes Redistribution

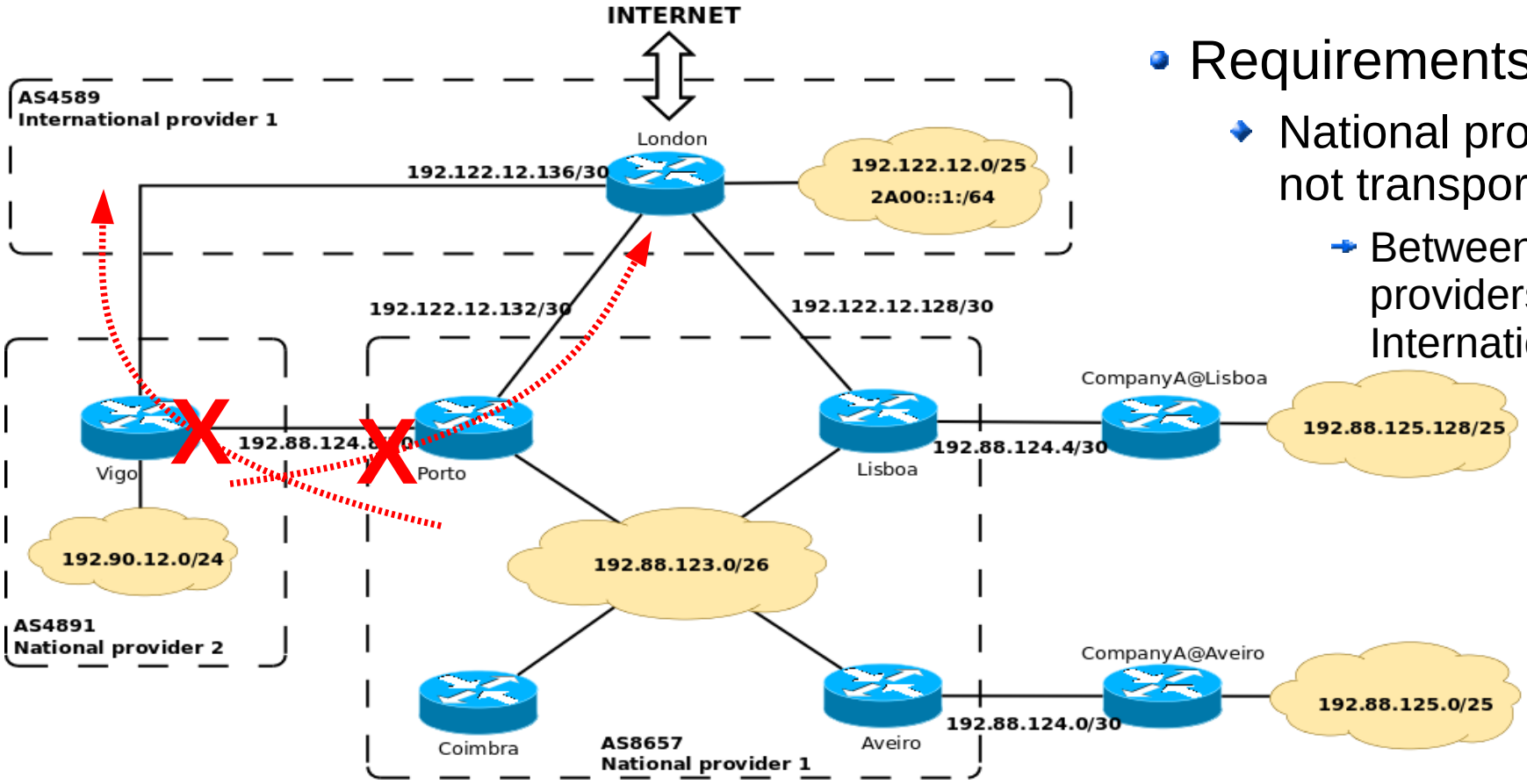


- Redistributing IGP routes by BGP will:
  - Simplify BGP configuration (advantage)
  - And BGP will announce only internal networks with connectivity (advantage)
- Redistributing BGP routes by IGP protocols will:
  - Make internal routes know all external routes (disadvantage/advantage?)
  - Increase routing tables size in internal routers (disadvantage)
    - Decrease routing time, imposes memory requirements, ...
  - Avoid the usage of internal default routes (disadvantage/advantage?)

BGP Filtering

- By default BGP processes announce every network path that receives
  - From other BGP peers, or
  - Redistributed internal routing processes.
- Sending and receiving BGP updates can be controlled by using a number of different filtering methods.
  - Route-maps, prefix-lists, distribution-lists.
- BGP updates can be filtered based on:
  - Route information,
  - Path information,
  - Communities.
- Best practices:
  - Block all IPv4 private networks,
  - Announce default routes only to peers where a traffic transport contract exists.
  - Accept default routes only from peers that provide a traffic transport service.

BGP Case Studies

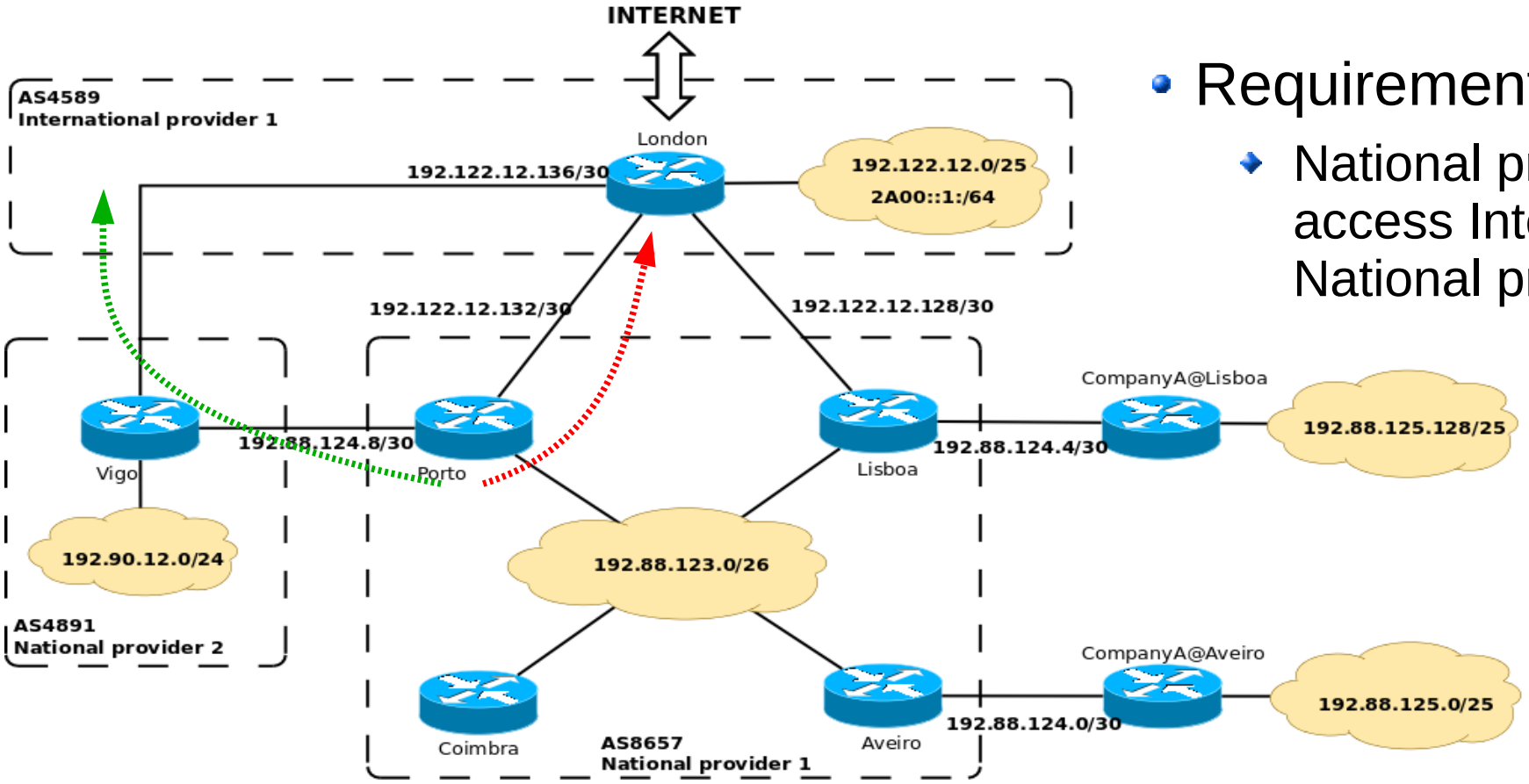


- Requirements
  - National providers should not transport traffic
    - Between other national providers and the International provider

- @Porto, @Lisboa
  - Route filtering applied to all external BGP announcements
  - Announce only internal routes/nets
    - Empty path “^$”

- @Vigo
  - Route-map applied to all external BGP announcements
  - Announce only internal routes/nets
    - Empty path “^$”

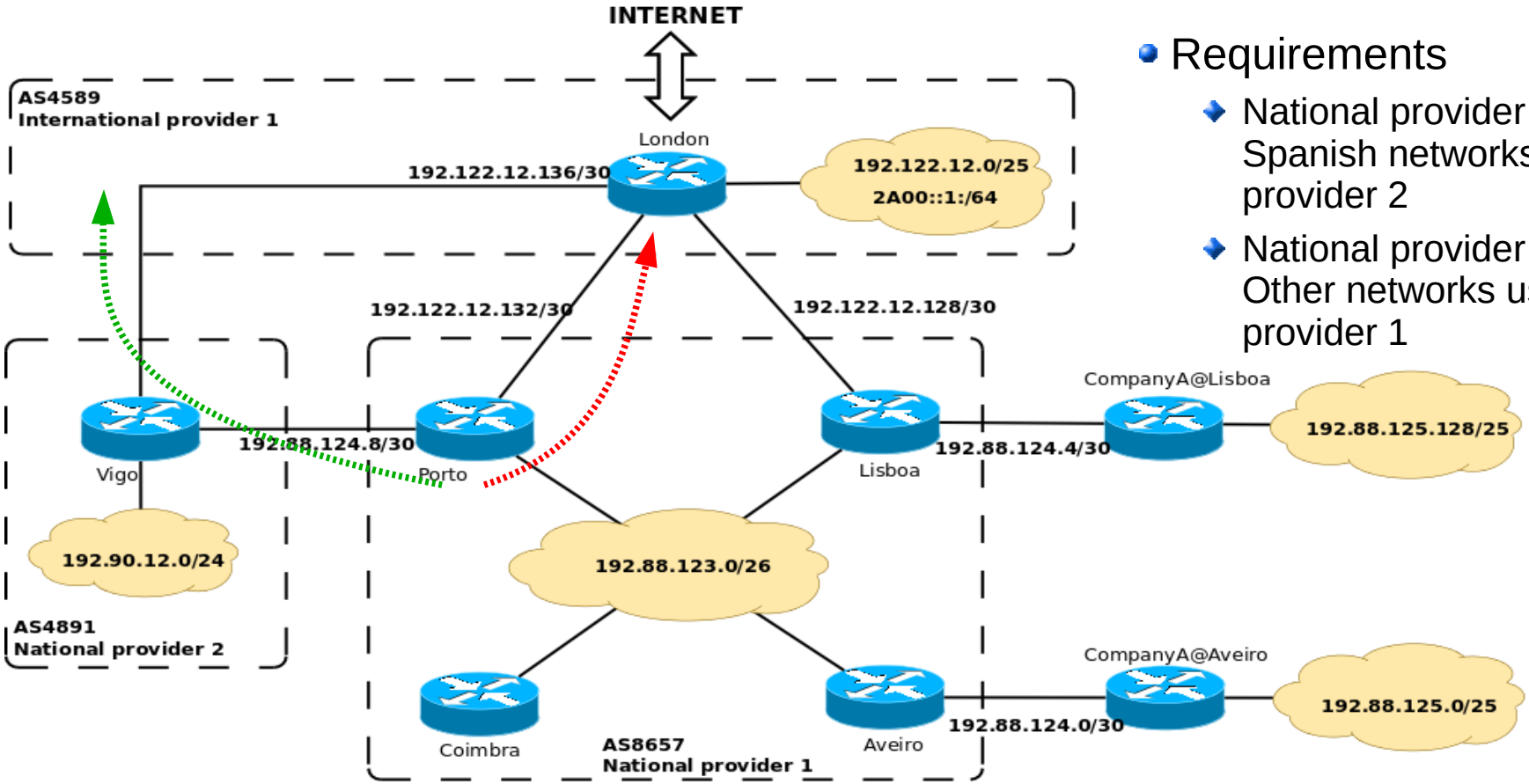
BGP Case Studies



- Requirements
  - National provider 1 should access Internet using National provider 2

- @Porto, @Lisboa
  - Route filtering applied to all BGP announcements received
  - If Path contains “4891” → **Local-preference 200**
  - If Path does not contain “4891” → **Local-preference 100**

BGP Case Studies



- Requirements
  - National provider 1 should access Spanish networks using National provider 2
  - National provider 1 should access Other networks using International provider 1

- @Porto, @Lisboa
  - Route filtering applied to all BGP announcements received
    - E.g. known Spanish operators AS: 4891, 7654, 9876 and 3352
  - If Path starts (from right to left) with “4891$ or 7654$ or 9876$ or 3352$” and ends in “^4891” → **Local-preference 200**
  - If Path does not start with “4891$ or 7654$ or 9876$ or 3352$” and ends in “^4891” → **Local-preference 50**
  - Assuming default Local-preference 100.