

# CS144

## An Introduction to Computer Networks

### Routing

*BGP*



**Nick McKeown**

Professor of Electrical Engineering  
and Computer Science, Stanford University

# Border Gateway Protocol (BGP-4)

## *Basics*

BGP is not a link-state or distance-vector routing protocol.

- Instead, BGP uses what is called a “Path vector”

BGP routers advertise complete paths (a list of AS's).

- Also called AS\_PATH (this is the path vector)
- Example of path advertisement:

“The network 171.64/16 can be reached via the path {AS1, AS5, AS13}”

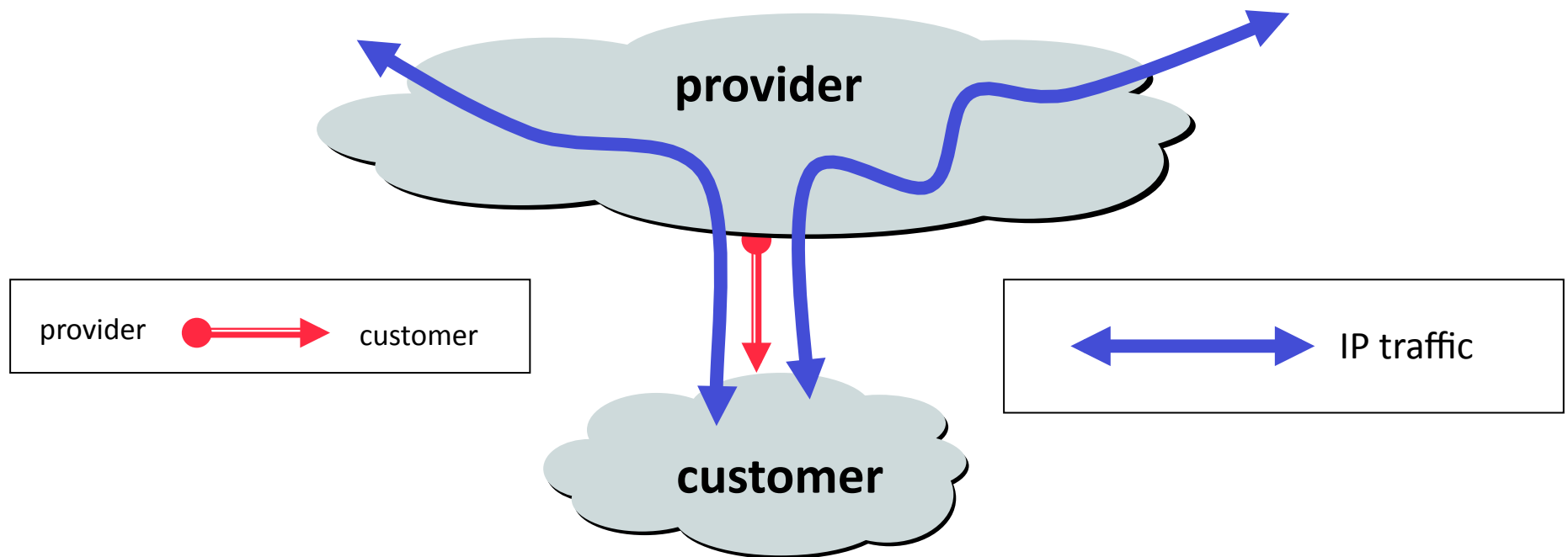
Paths with loops are detected locally and ignored.

Local policies pick the preferred path among options.

When a link/router fails, the path is “withdrawn”.

# Customers and Providers

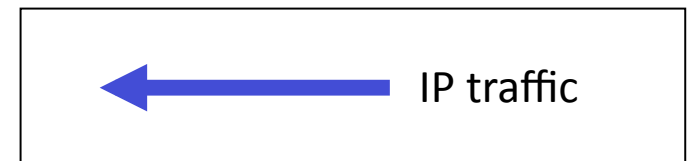
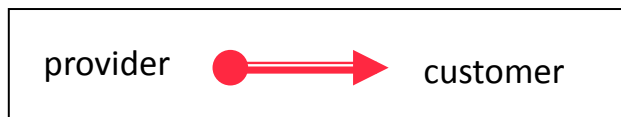
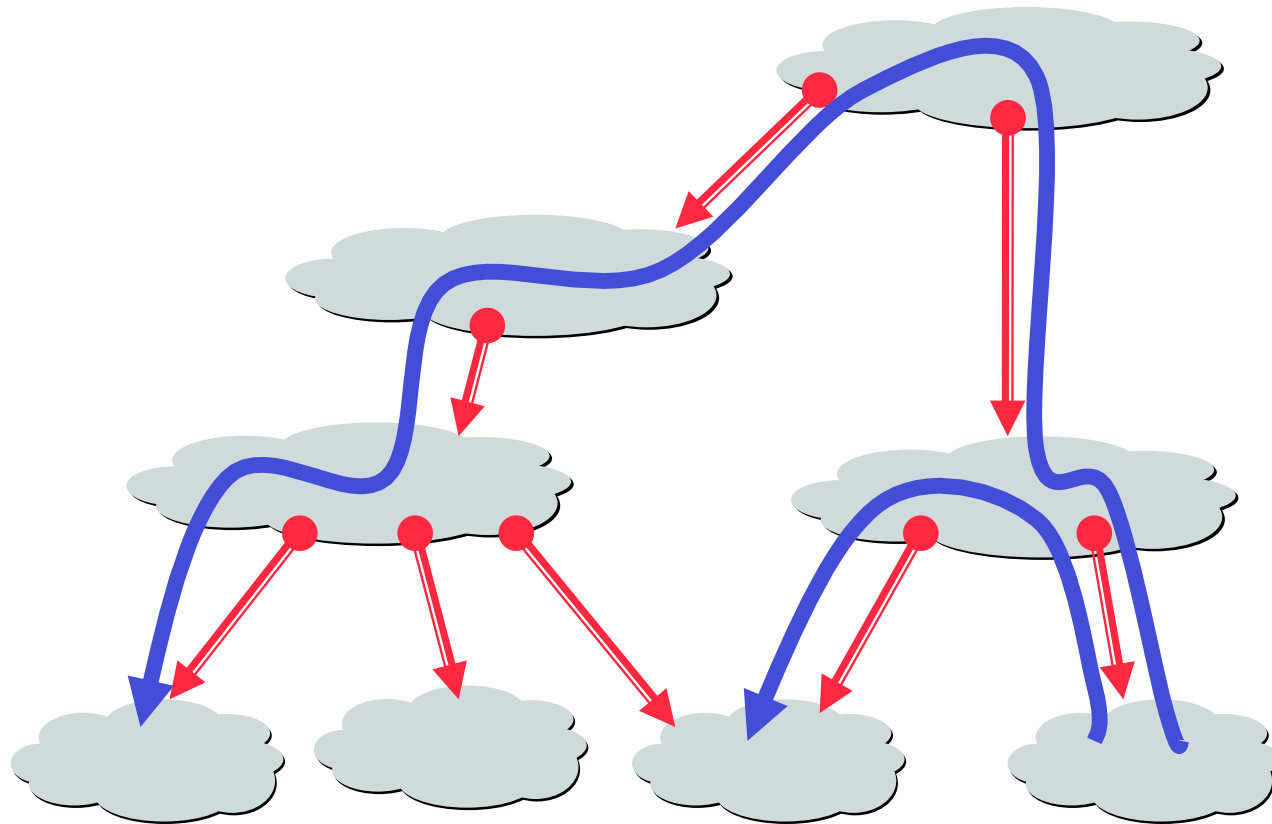
# Customers and Providers



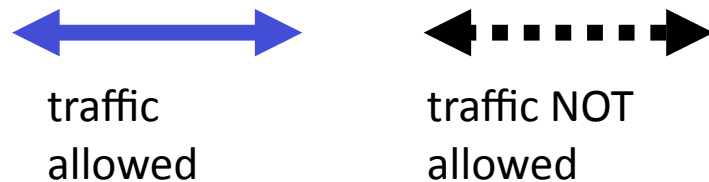
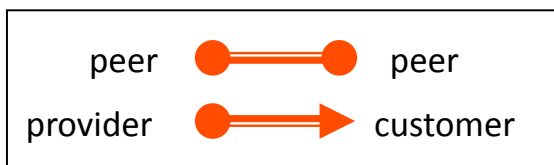
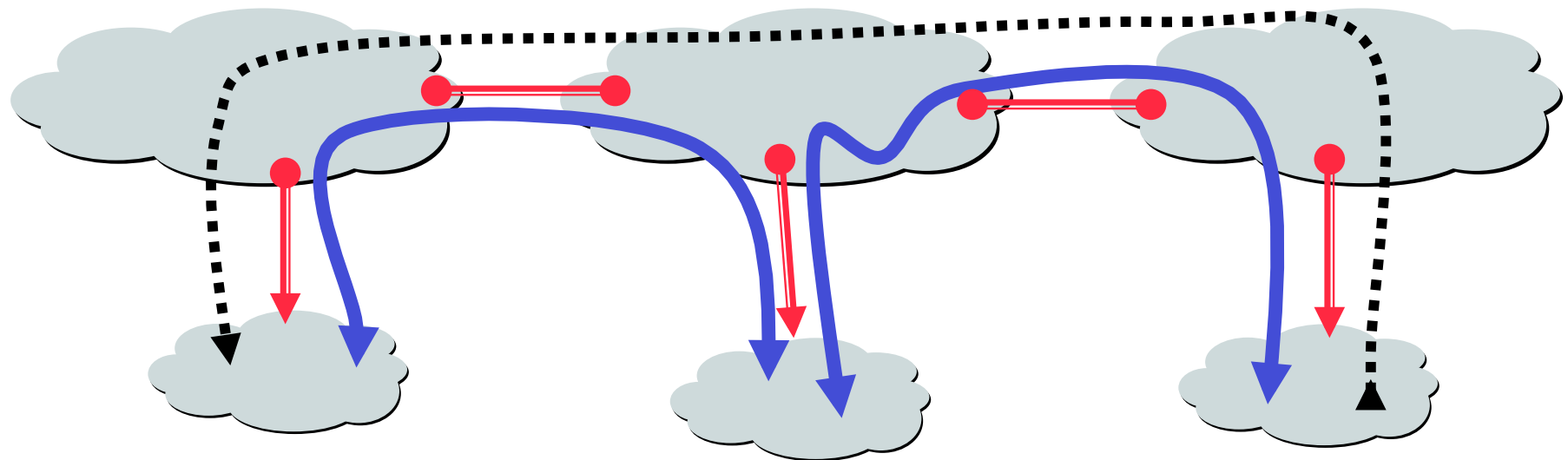
Customer pays provider to carry its packets.

# Customer-Provider Hierarchy

# Customer-Provider Hierarchy



# The Peering Relationship



Peers provide transit between their respective customers

Peers do not provide transit between peers

Peers (often) do not exchange \$\$\$

# BGP Messages

**Open** : Establish a BGP session.

**Keep Alive** : Handshake at regular intervals.

**Notification** : Shuts down a peering session.

**Update** : Announcing new routes or withdrawing previously announced routes.

BGP announcement = prefix + path attributes

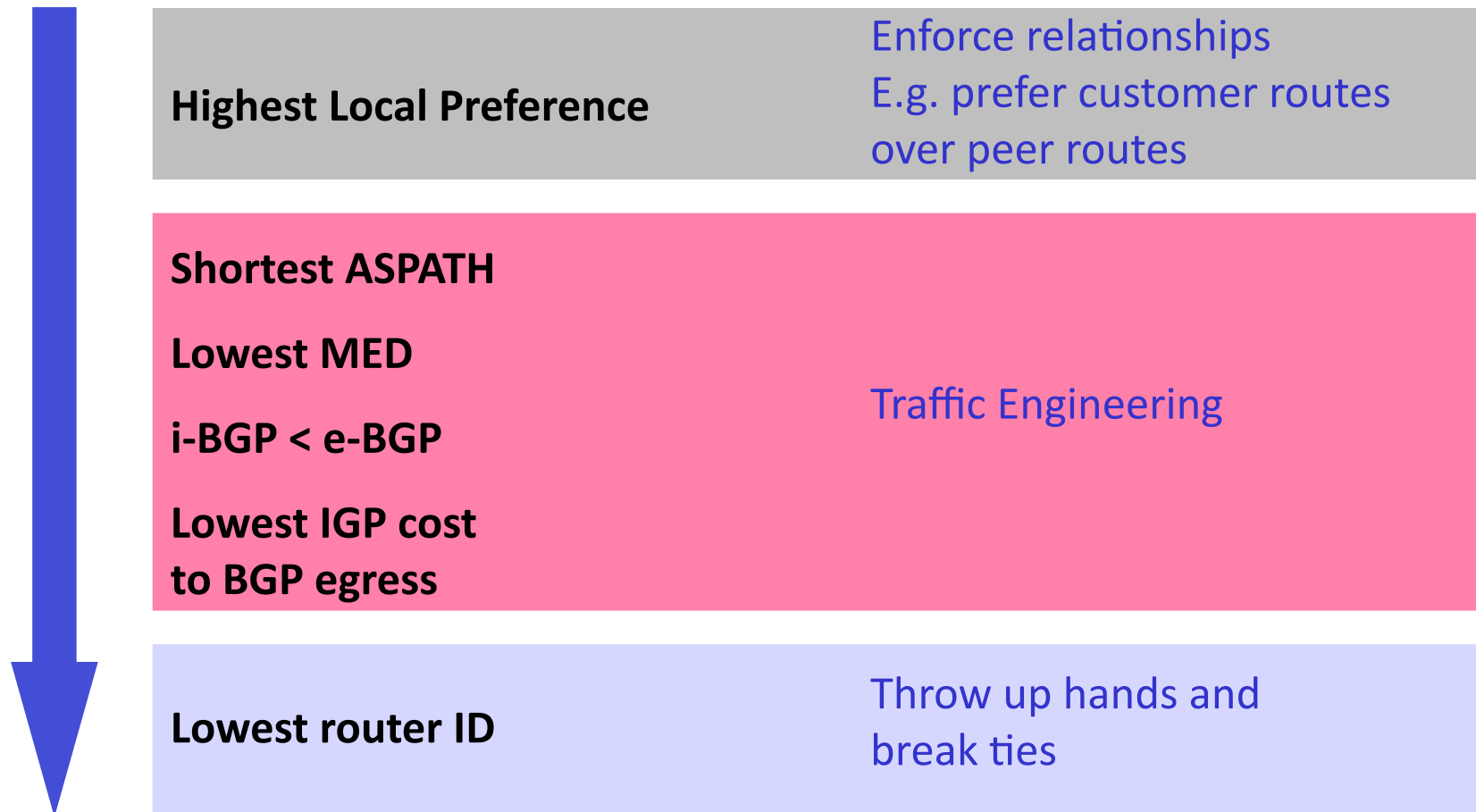
## Path attributes

Include: next hop, AS Path, local preference, Multi-exit discriminator, ...

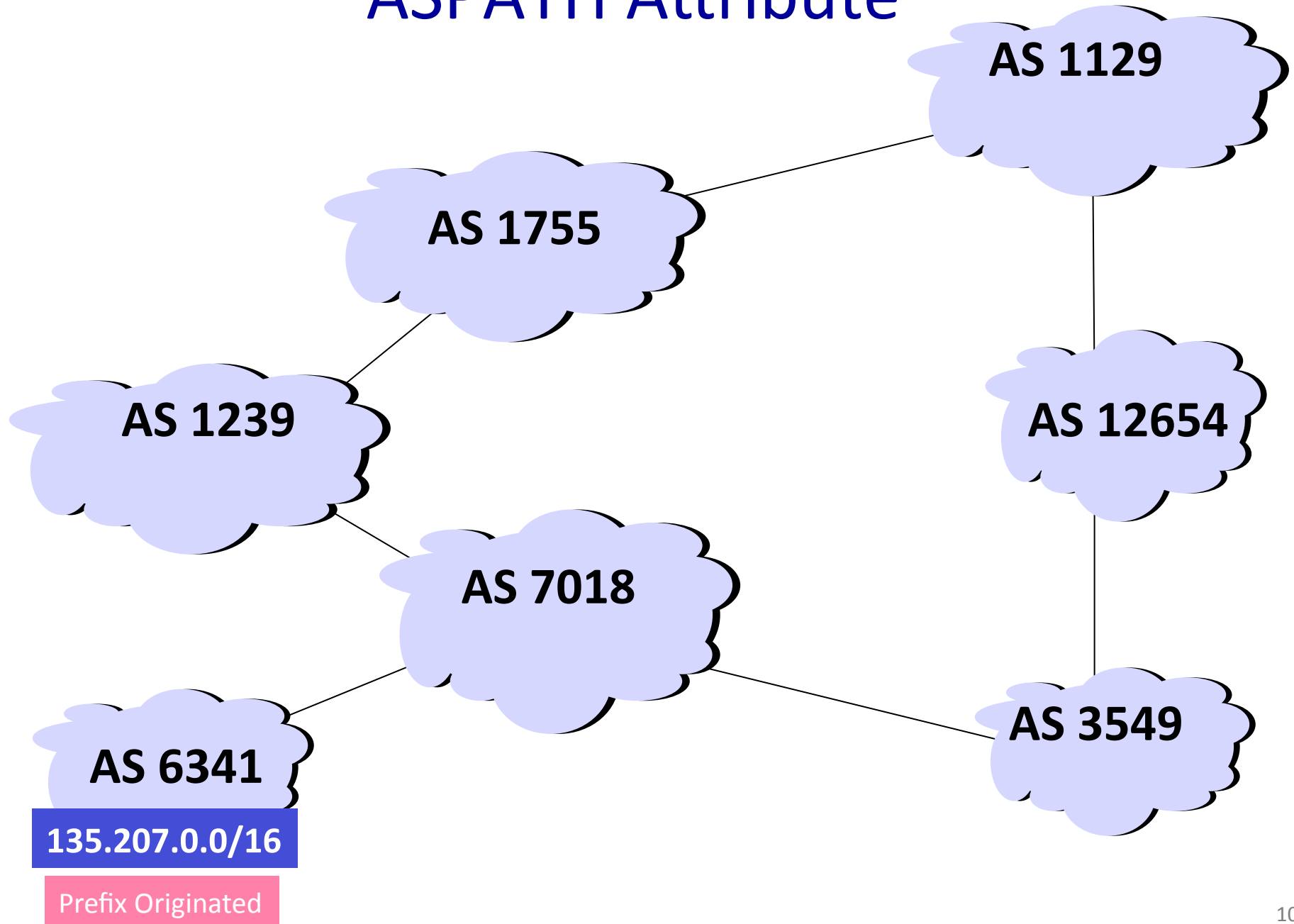
Used to select among multiple options for paths.



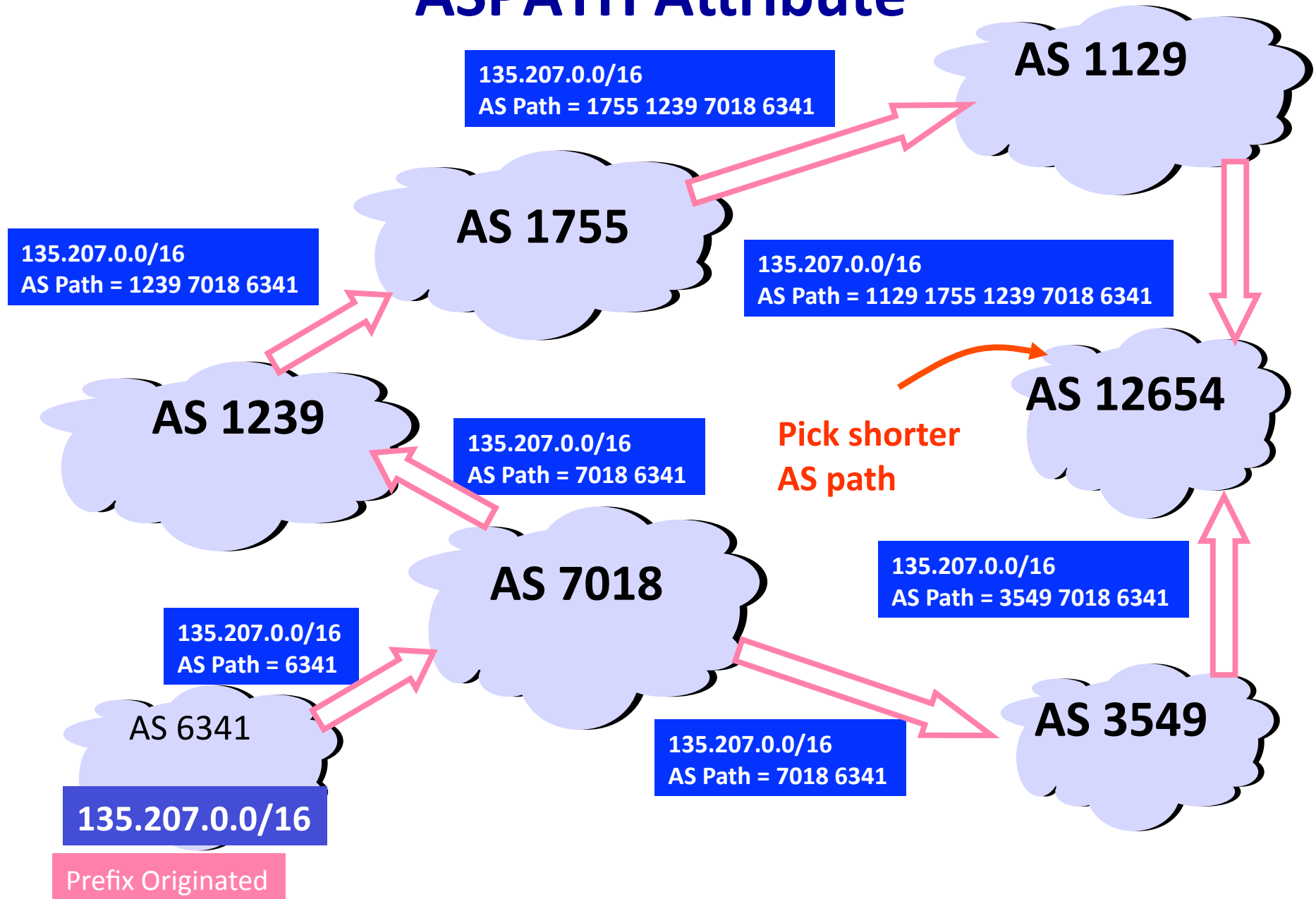
# BGP Route Selection Summary



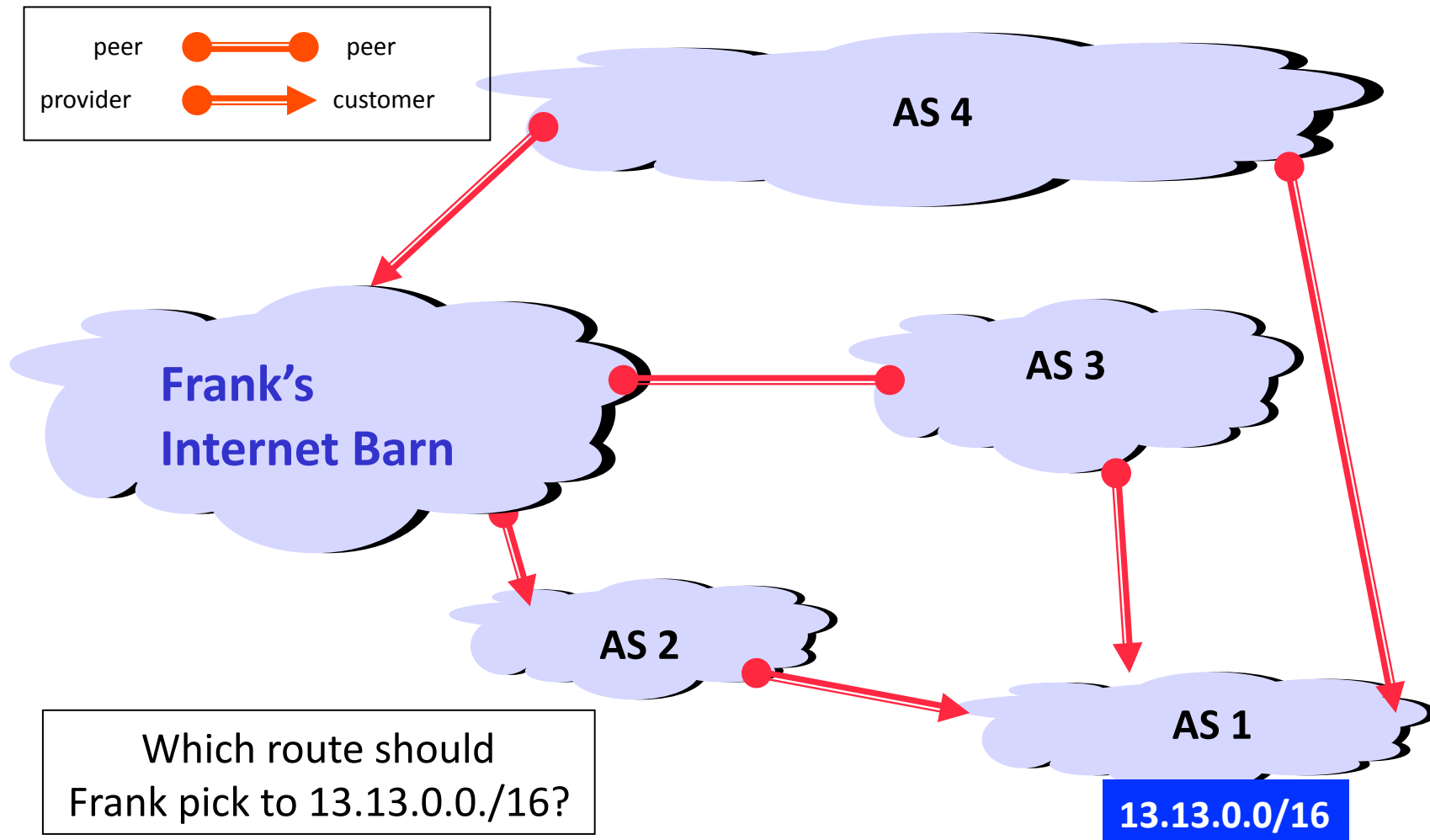
# ASPATH Attribute



# ASPATH Attribute

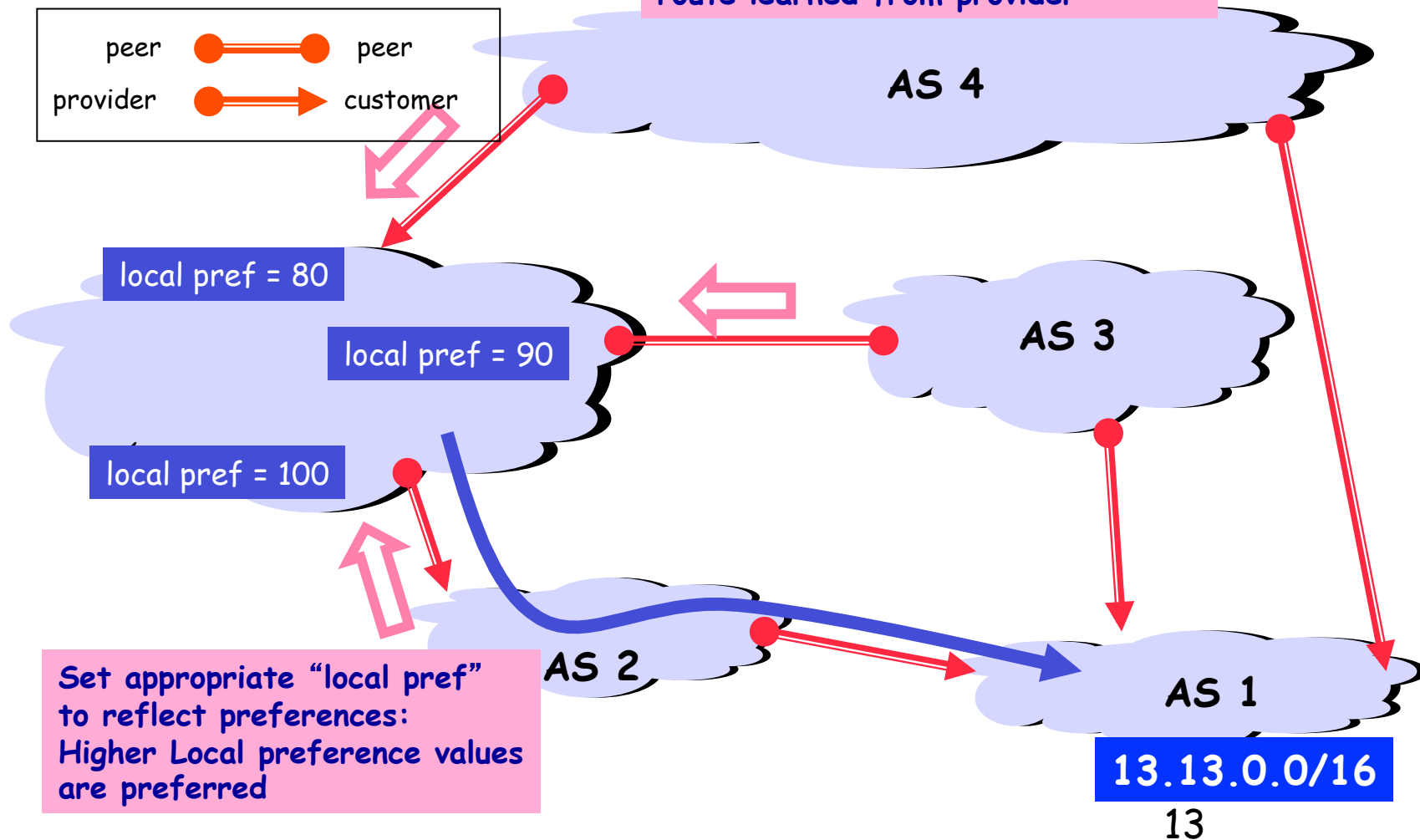
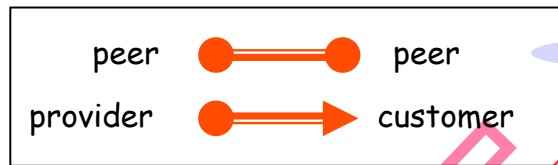


# So Many Choices...



# Frank's Choices...

Route learned from customer  
preferred over  
route learned from peer, preferred  
over  
route learned from provider



Set appropriate "local pref"  
to reflect preferences:  
Higher Local preference values  
are preferred

# Summary

All AS's in the Internet must connect using BGP-4.

BGP-4 is a path vector algorithm, allowing loops to be detected easily.

BGP-4 has a rich and complex interface to let AS's choose a local, private policy.

Each AS decides a local policy for traffic engineering, security and any private preferences.