



CSC/CPE 138 - Computer Network Fundamentals

Network Layer: Control Plane

The presentation was adapted from the textbook: *Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach* 8th edition Jim Kurose, Keith Ross, Pearson, 2020

Redefine the Possible™



- understand principles behind network control plane:
 - traditional routing algorithms
 - SDN controllers
 - network management, configuration
- instantiation, implementation in the Internet:
 - OSPF, BGP

- introduction
- routing protocols
 - link state
 - distance vector
- intra-ISP routing: OSPF
- routing among ISPs: BGP
- SDN control plane
- Internet Control Message Protocol



- network management, configuration
 - SNMP
 - NETCONF/YANG

- **forwarding**: move packets from router's input to appropriate router output

data plane

- **routing**: determine route taken by packets from source to destination

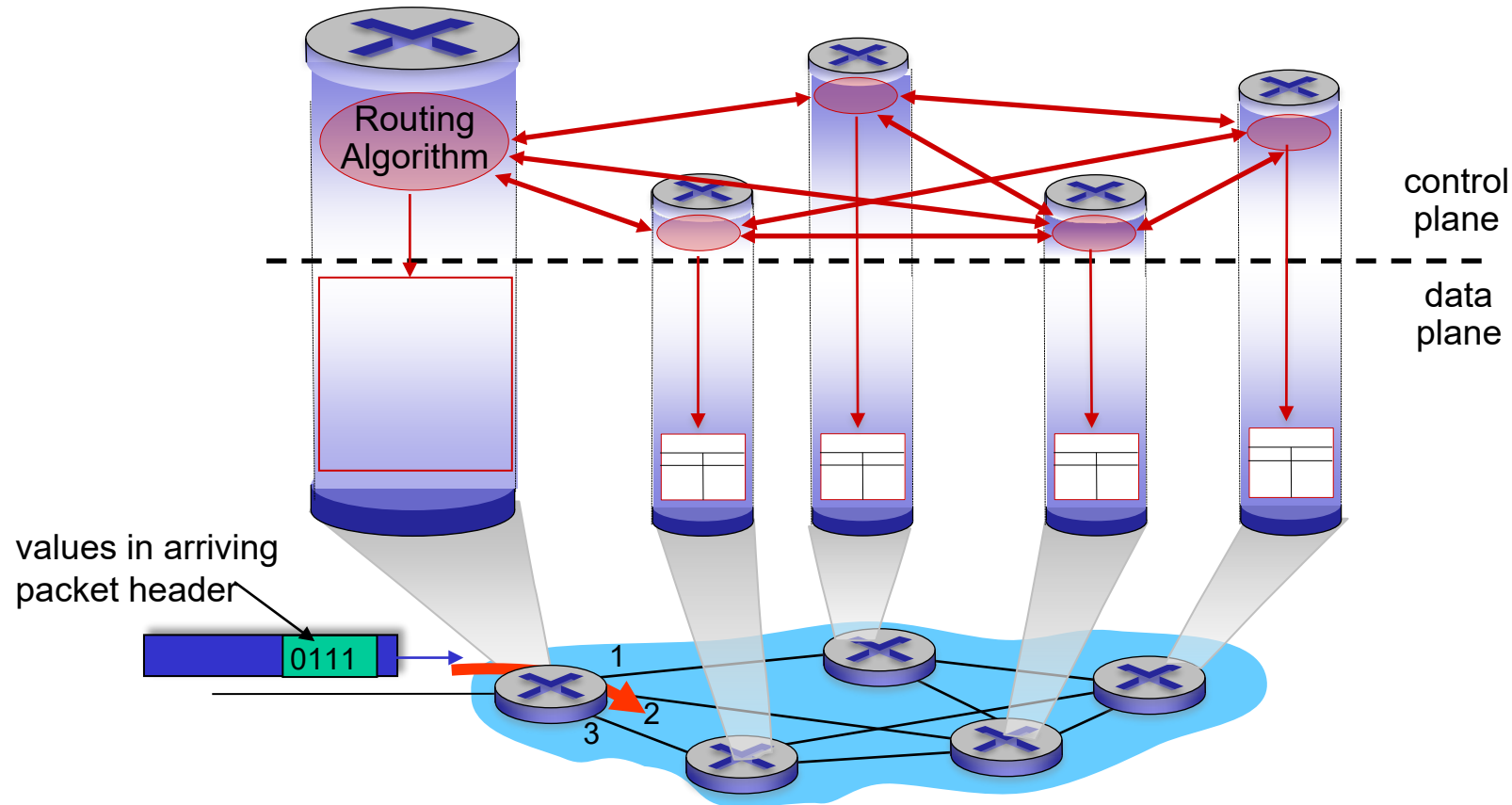
control plane

Two approaches to structuring network control plane:

- per-router control (traditional)
- logically centralized control (software defined networking)

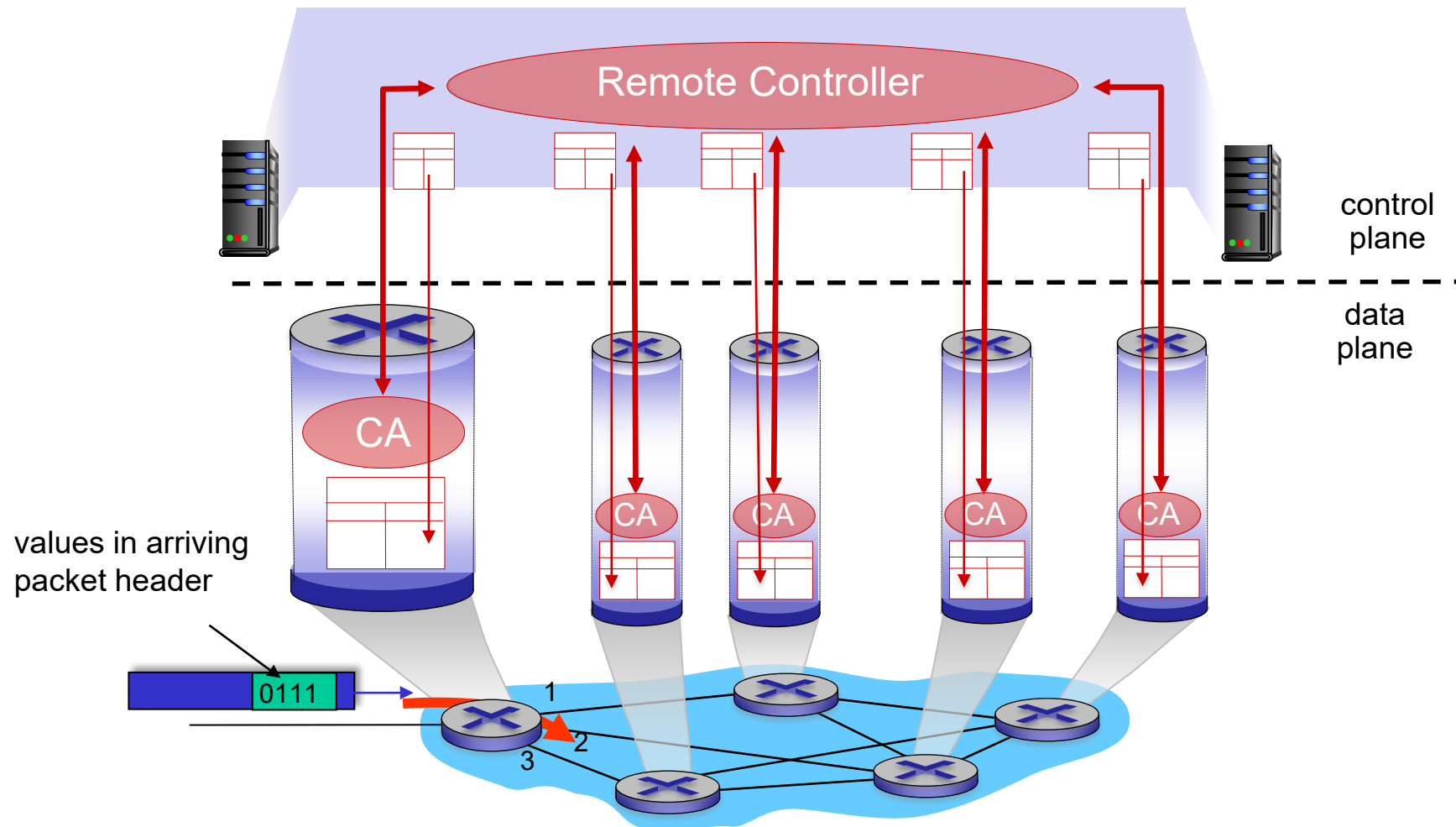
Per-router control plane

Individual routing algorithm components *in each and every router* interact in the control plane



Software-Defined Networking (SDN) control plane

Remote controller computes, installs forwarding tables in routers



Network layer: “control plane” roadmap

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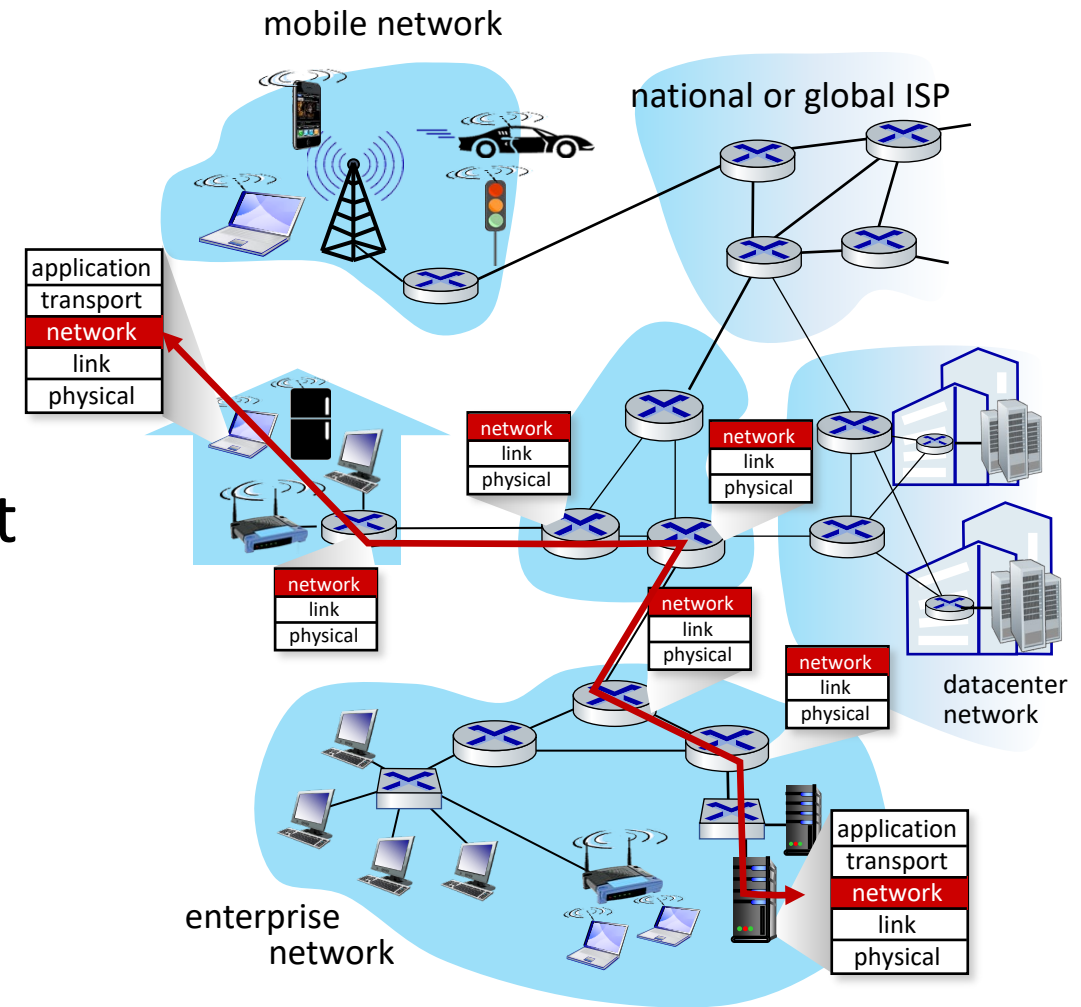
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Routing protocols

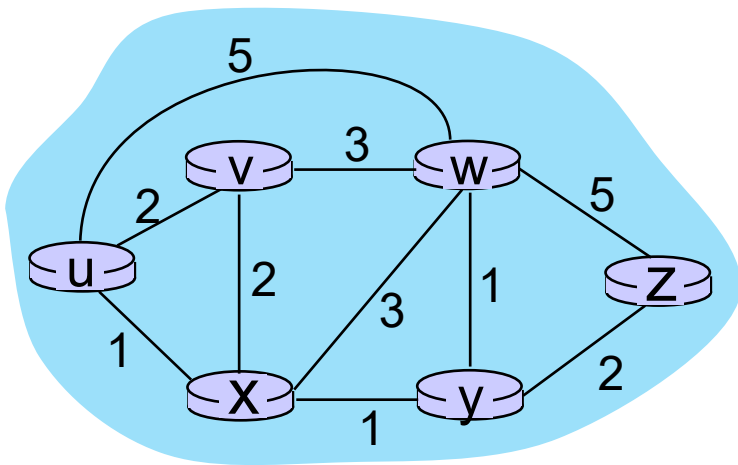


Routing protocol goal: determine “good” paths (equivalently, routes), from sending hosts to receiving host, through network of routers

- **path:** sequence of routers packets traverse from given initial source host to final destination host
- **“good”:** least “cost”, “fastest”, “least congested”
- routing: a “top-10” networking challenge!



Graph abstraction: link costs



$c_{a,b}$: cost of *direct* link connecting a and b

e.g., $c_{w,z} = 5$, $c_{u,z} = \infty$

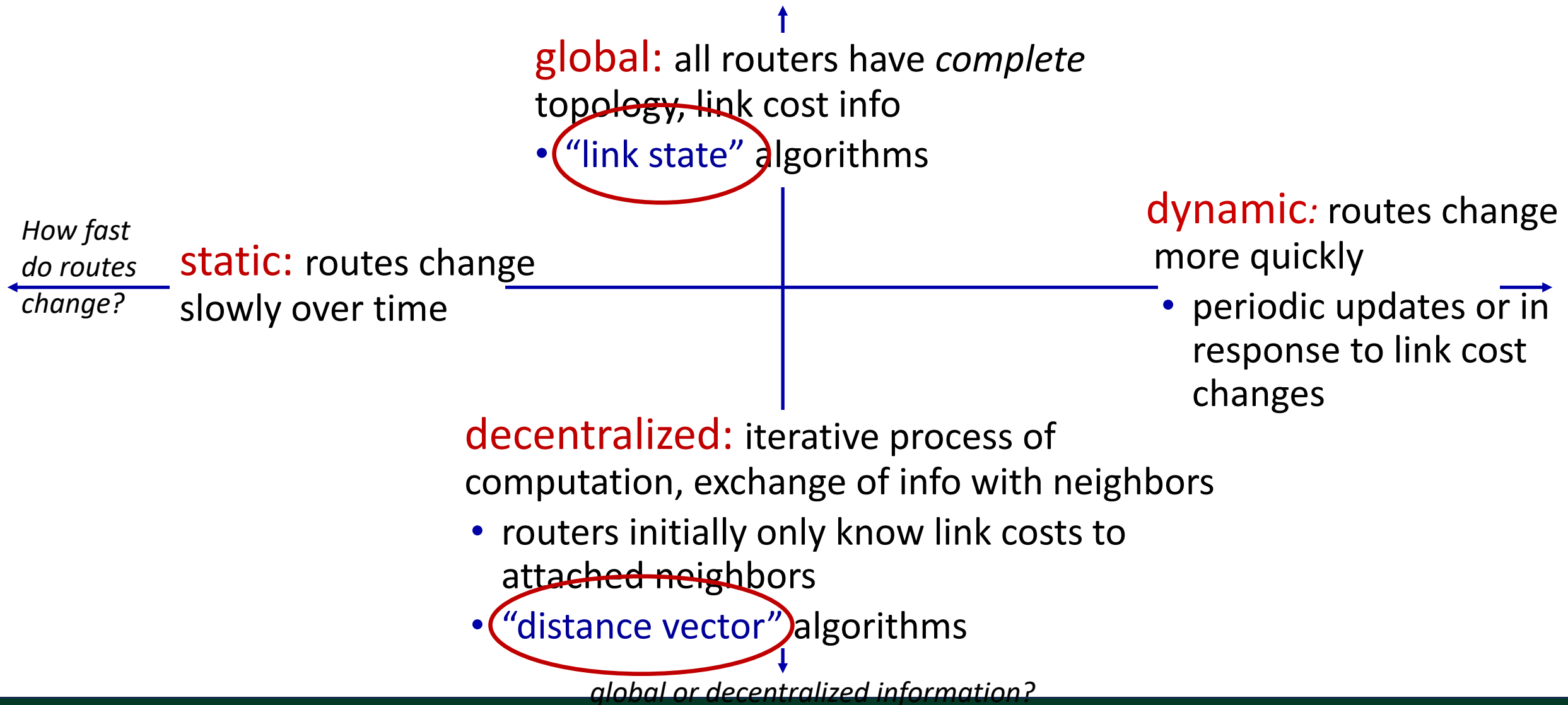
cost defined by network operator:
could always be 1, or inversely related
to bandwidth, or inversely related to
congestion

graph: $G = (N, E)$

N : set of routers = $\{ u, v, w, x, y, z \}$

E : set of links = $\{ (u,v), (u,x), (v,x), (v,w), (x,w), (x,y), (w,y), (w,z), (y,z) \}$

Routing algorithm classification



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- **centralized:** network topology, link costs known to *all* nodes
 - accomplished via “link state broadcast”
 - all nodes have same info
- computes least cost paths from one node (“source”) to all other nodes
 - gives *forwarding table* for that node
- **iterative:** after k iterations, know least cost path to k destinations

notation

- $c_{x,y}$: direct link cost from node x to y ; $= \infty$ if not direct neighbors
- $D(v)$: *current* estimate of cost of least-cost-path from source to destination v
- $p(v)$: predecessor node along path from source to v
- N' : set of nodes whose least-cost-path *definitively* known

Dijkstra's link-state routing algorithm



1 *Initialization:*

2 $N' = \{u\}$ /* compute least cost path from u to all other nodes */

3 for all nodes v

4 if v adjacent to u /* u initially knows direct-path-cost only to direct neighbors */

5 then $D(v) = c_{u,v}$ /* but may not be *minimum* cost! */

6 else $D(v) = \infty$

7

8 *Loop*

9 find w not in N' such that $D(w)$ is a minimum

10 add w to N'

11 update $D(v)$ for all v adjacent to w and not in N' :

12 **$D(v) = \min (D(v), D(w) + c_{w,v})$**

13 /* new least-path-cost to v is either old least-cost-path to v or known

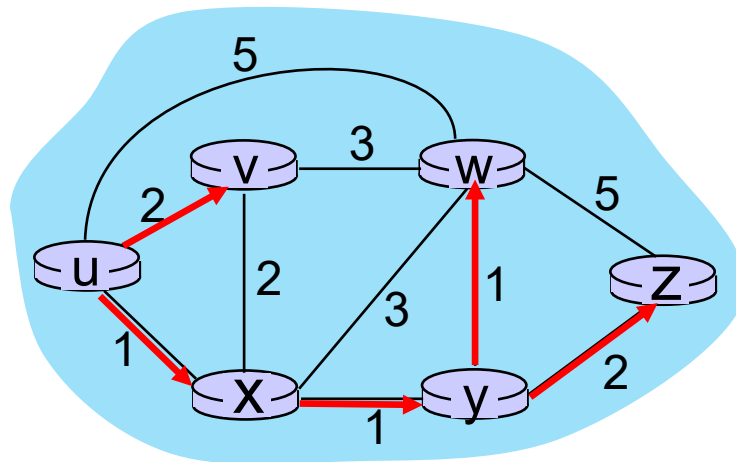
14 least-cost-path to w plus direct-cost from w to v */

15 *until all nodes in N'*

Dijkstra's algorithm: an example



Step	N'	$D(v), p(v)$	$D(w), p(w)$	$D(x), p(x)$	$D(y), p(y)$	$D(z), p(z)$
0	u	2, u	5, u	1, u	∞	∞
1	ux	2, u	4, x		2, x	∞
2	uxy	2, u	3, y			4, y
3	uxyv		3, y			4, y
4	uxyvw					4, y
5	uxyvwz					



Initialization (step 0): For all a : if a adjacent to then $D(a) = c_{u,a}$

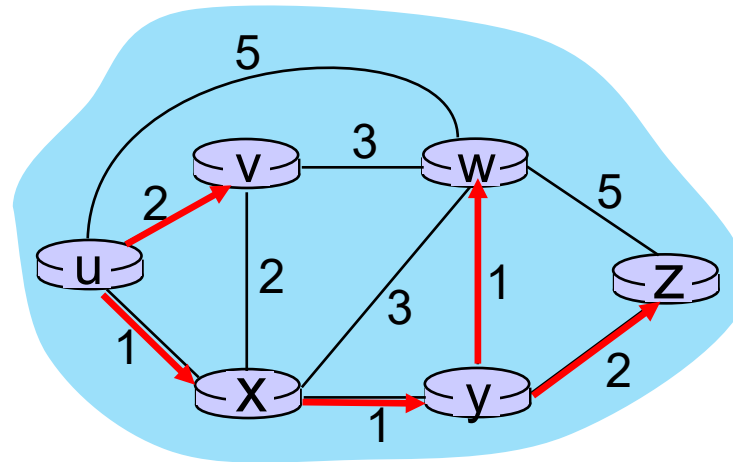
find a not in N' such that $D(a)$ is a minimum

add a to N'

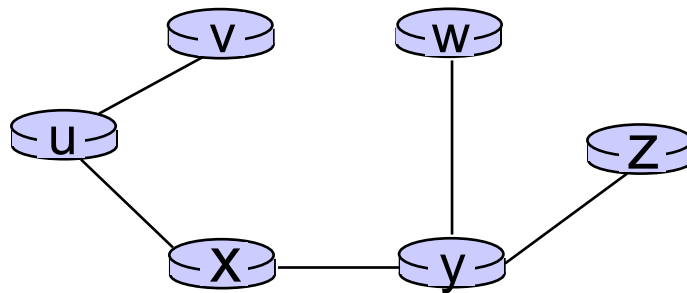
update $D(b)$ for all b adjacent to a and not in N' :

$$D(b) = \min (D(b), D(a) + c_{a,b})$$

Dijkstra's algorithm: an example



resulting least-cost-path tree from u:



resulting forwarding table in u:

destination	outgoing link
v	(u,v)
x	(u,x)
y	(u,x)
w	(u,x)
z	(u,x)

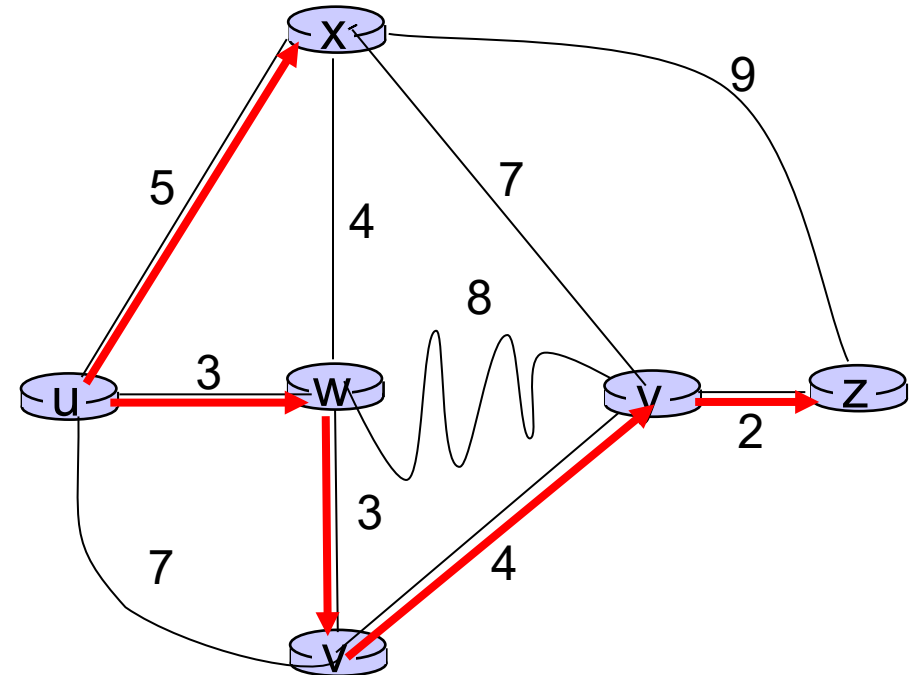
route from u to v directly

route from u to all other destinations via x

Dijkstra's algorithm: another example



Step	N'	$D(v), p(v)$	$D(w), p(w)$	$D(x), p(x)$	$D(y), p(y)$	$D(z), p(z)$
0	u	7, u	3, u	5, u	∞	∞
1	uw	6, w		5, u	11, w	∞
2	uwvx	6, w			11, w	14, x
3	uwxv				10, v	14, x
4	uwxvy					12, y
5	uwxvyz					



notes:

- construct least-cost-path tree by tracing predecessor nodes
- ties can exist (can be broken arbitrarily)

algorithm complexity: n nodes

- each of n iteration: need to check all nodes, w , not in N
- $n(n+1)/2$ comparisons: $O(n^2)$ complexity
- more efficient implementations possible: $O(n \log n)$

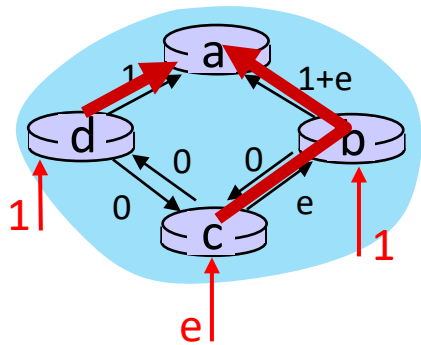
message complexity:

- each router must *broadcast* its link state information to other n routers
- efficient (and interesting!) broadcast algorithms: $O(n)$ link crossings to disseminate a broadcast message from one source
- each router's message crosses $O(n)$ links: overall message complexity: $O(n^2)$

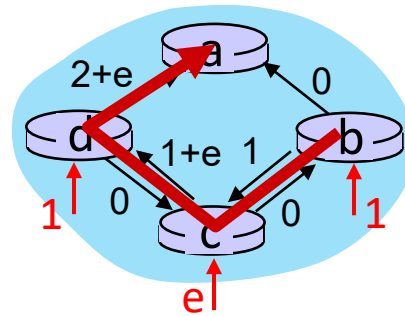
Dijkstra's algorithm: oscillations possible



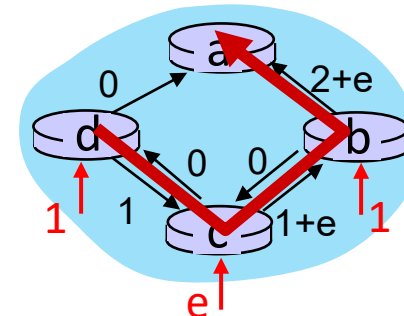
- when link costs depend on traffic volume, **route oscillations** possible
- sample scenario:
 - routing to destination a, traffic entering at d, c, e with rates 1, e (<1), 1
 - link costs are directional, and volume-dependent



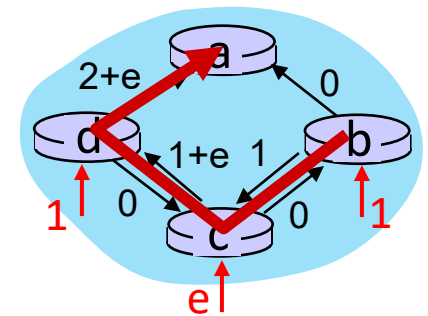
initially



given these costs,
find new routing....
resulting in new costs



given these costs,
find new routing....
resulting in new costs



given these costs,
find new routing....
resulting in new costs