Chapter 5 Network Layer: The Control Plane



Chapter 5: network layer control plane

chapter goals: understand principles behind network control plane

- traditional routing algorithms
- SDN controlllers
- Internet Control Message Protocol
- network management

and their instantiation, implementation in the Internet:

 OSPF, BGP, OpenFlow, ODL and ONOS controllers, ICMP, SNMP

Chapter 5: outline

- 5.1 introduction
- 5.2 routing protocols
- link state
- distance vector
- 5.3 intra-AS routing in the Internet: OSPF
- 5.4 routing among the ISPs: BGP

- 5.5 The SDN control plane
- 5.6 ICMP: The Internet Control Message Protocol
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Network-layer functions

Recall: two network-layer functions:

- forwarding: move packets from router's input to appropriate router output
- data plane
- routing: determine route taken by packets from source to destination

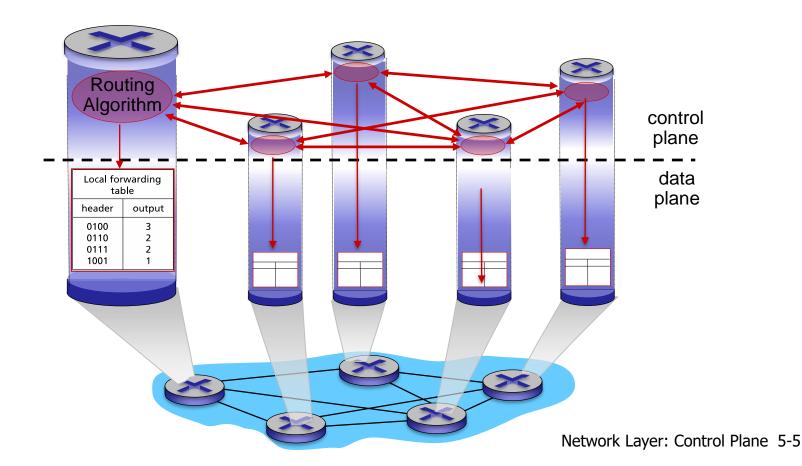
control plane

Two approaches to structuring network control plane:

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

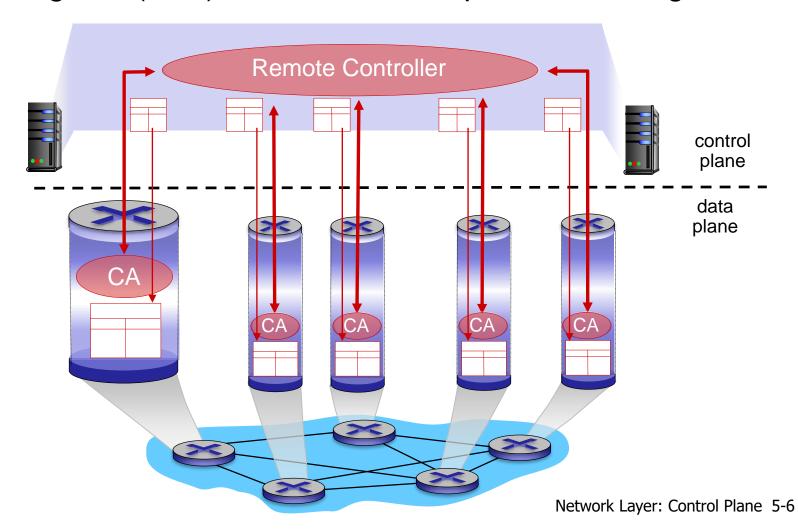
Per-router control plane

Individual routing algorithm components in each and every router interact with each other in control plane to compute forwarding tables



Logically centralized control plane

A distinct (typically remote) controller interacts with local control agents (CAs) in routers to compute forwarding tables



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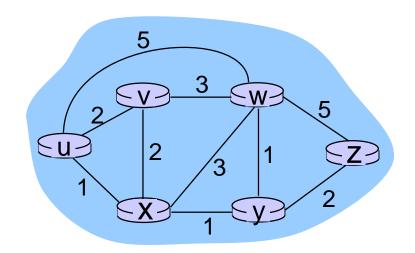
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Routing protocols

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

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

Graph abstraction of the network



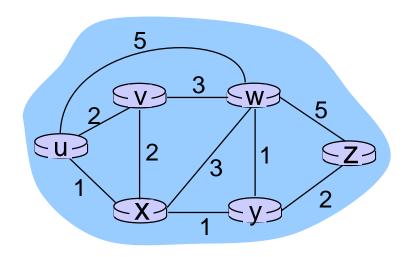
graph: G = (N,E)

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

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

aside: graph abstraction is useful in other network contexts, e.g., P2P, where *N* is set of peers and *E* is set of TCP connections

Graph abstraction: costs



$$c(x,x') = cost of link (x,x')$$

e.g., $c(w,z) = 5$

cost could always be 1, or inversely related to bandwidth, or inversely related to congestion

cost of path
$$(x_1, x_2, x_3, ..., x_p) = c(x_1, x_2) + c(x_2, x_3) + ... + c(x_{p-1}, x_p)$$

key question: what is the least-cost path between u and z? routing algorithm: algorithm that finds that least cost path

Routing algorithm classification

Q: global or decentralized information?

global:

- all routers have complete topology, link cost info
- "link state" algorithms

decentralized:

- router knows physicallyconnected neighbors, link costs to neighbors
- iterative process of computation, exchange of info with neighbors
- "distance vector" algorithms

Q: static or dynamic?

static:

routes change slowly over time

dynamic:

- routes change more quickly
 - periodic update
 - in response to link cost changes

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A link-state routing algorithm

Dijkstra's algorithm

- net 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 dest.'s

notation:

- C(X,y): link cost from node x to y; = ∞ if not direct neighbors
- D(V): current value of cost of path from source to dest. v
- P(V): predecessor node along path from source to v
- N': set of nodes whose least cost path definitively known

Dijsktra's algorithm

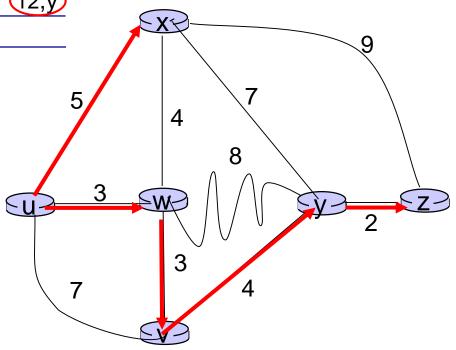
```
Initialization:
   N' = \{u\}
   for all nodes v
     if v adjacent to u
       then D(v) = c(u,v)
6
     else D(v) = \infty
   Loop
    find w not in N' such that D(w) is a minimum
10 add w to N'
    update D(v) for all v adjacent to w and not in N':
       D(v) = \min(D(v), D(w) + c(w,v))
13 /* new cost to v is either old cost to v or known
     shortest path cost to w plus cost from w to v */
15 until all nodes in N'
```

Dijkstra's algorithm: example

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

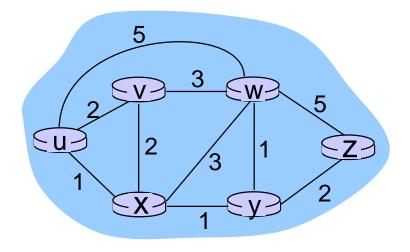
notes:

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



Dijkstra's algorithm: another example

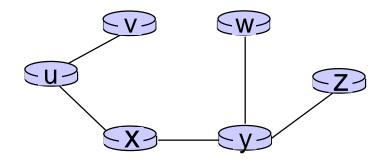
St	tep	N'	D(v),p(v)	D(w),p(w)	D(x),p(x)	D(y),p(y)	D(z),p(z)
	0	u	2,u	5,u	1,u	∞	∞
	1	ux ←	2,u	4,x		2,x	∞
	2	uxy <mark>←</mark>	2,u	3,y			4,y
	3	uxyv 🗸		3,y			4,y
	4	uxyvw ←					4,y
	5	11X\/\/\// 7 ←					



^{*} Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples: http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose_ross/interactive/

Dijkstra's algorithm: example (2)

resulting shortest-path tree from u:



resulting forwarding table in u:

destination	link		
V	(u,v)		
X	(u,x)		
у	(u,x)		
W	(u,x)		
Z	(u,x)		

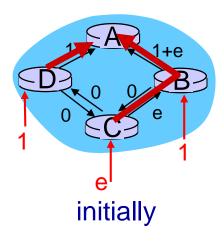
Dijkstra's algorithm, discussion

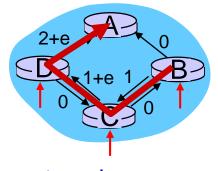
algorithm complexity: n nodes

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

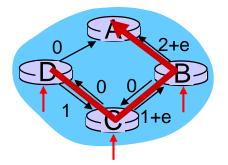
oscillations possible:

e.g., support link cost equals amount of carried traffic:

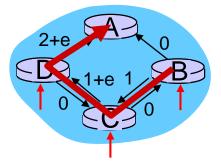




given these costs, find new routing.... resulting in new costs



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



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

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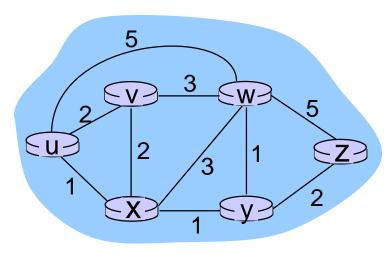
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Bellman-Ford equation (dynamic programming)

```
let
  d_{x}(y) := cost of least-cost path from x to y
then
  d_{x}(y) = \min \{c(x,v) + d_{v}(y)\}
                             cost from neighbor v to destination y
                    cost to neighbor v
            min taken over all neighbors v of x
```

Bellman-Ford example



clearly,
$$d_v(z) = 5$$
, $d_x(z) = 3$, $d_w(z) = 3$

B-F equation says:

$$d_{u}(z) = \min \{ c(u,v) + d_{v}(z), \\ c(u,x) + d_{x}(z), \\ c(u,w) + d_{w}(z) \}$$

$$= \min \{ 2 + 5, \\ 1 + 3, \\ 5 + 3 \} = 4$$

node achieving minimum is next hop in shortest path, used in forwarding table

- $D_x(y)$ = estimate of least cost from x to y
 - x maintains distance vector $\mathbf{D}_{x} = [\mathbf{D}_{x}(y): y \in \mathbb{N}]$
- node x:
 - knows cost to each neighbor v: c(x,v)
 - maintains its neighbors' distance vectors. For each neighbor v, x maintains

$$\mathbf{D}_{\mathsf{v}} = [\mathsf{D}_{\mathsf{v}}(\mathsf{y}): \mathsf{y} \in \mathsf{N}]$$

key idea:

- from time-to-time, each node sends its own distance vector estimate to neighbors
- when x receives new DV estimate from neighbor, it updates its own DV using B-F equation:

$$D_x(y) \leftarrow \min_{v} \{c(x,v) + D_v(y)\}$$
 for each node $y \in N$

* under minor, natural conditions, the estimate $D_x(y)$ converge to the actual least cost $d_x(y)$

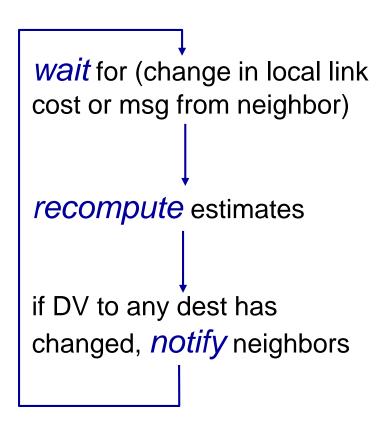
iterative, asynchronous: each local iteration caused by:

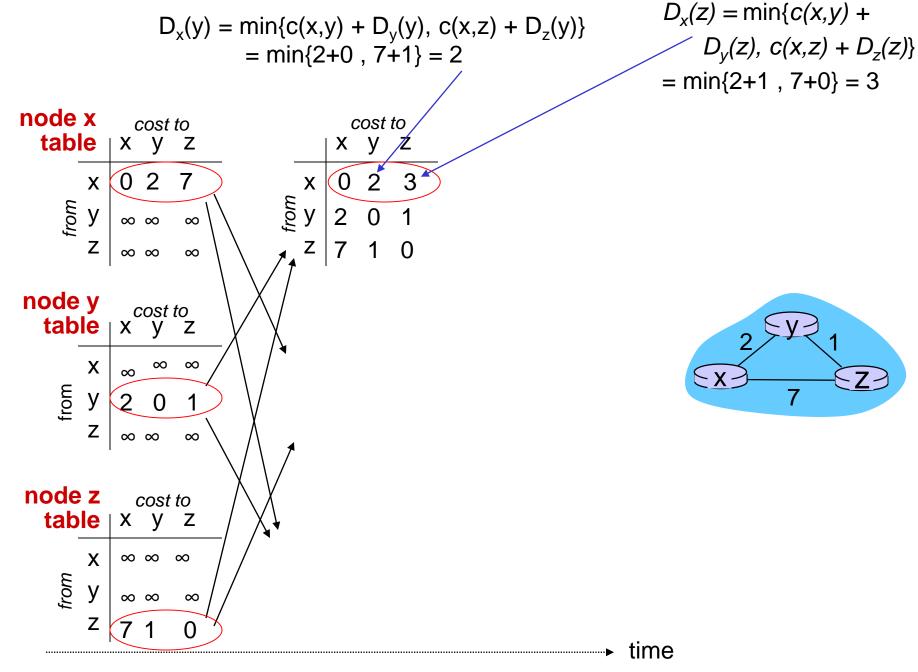
- local link cost change
- DV update message from neighbor

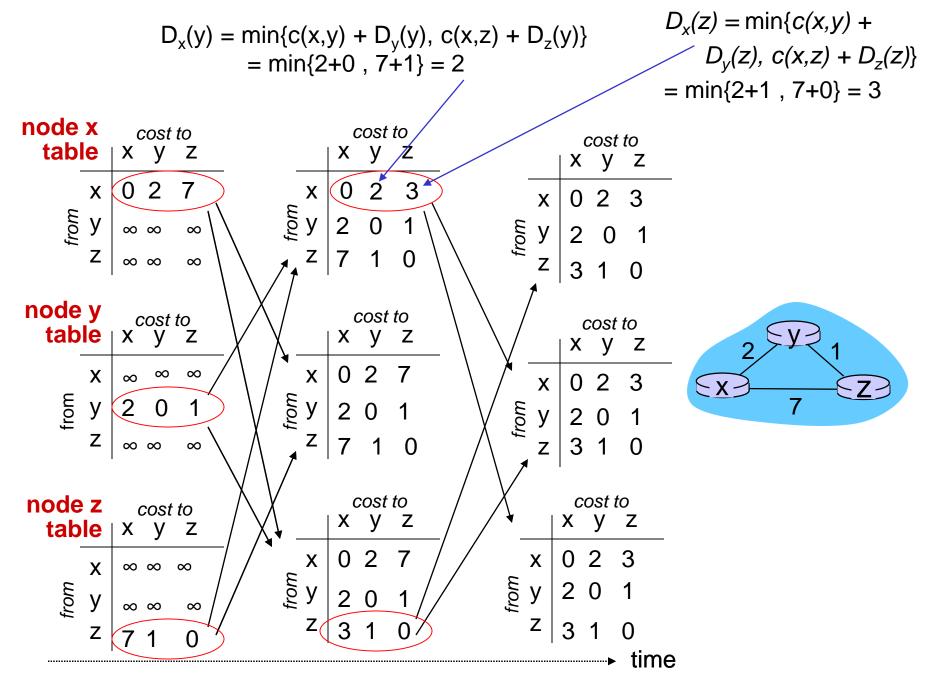
distributed:

- each node notifies neighbors only when its DV changes
 - neighbors then notify their neighbors if necessary

each node:



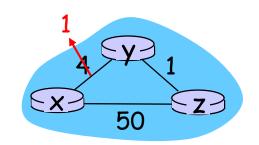




Distance vector: link cost changes

link cost changes:

- node detects local link cost change
- updates routing info, recalculates distance vector
- if DV changes, notify neighbors



"good news travels fast"

 t_0 : y detects link-cost change, updates its DV, informs its neighbors.

 t_1 : z receives update from y, updates its table, computes new least cost to x, sends its neighbors its DV.

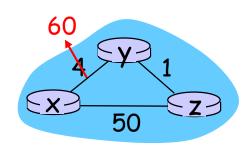
 t_2 : y receives z's update, updates its distance table. y's least costs do not change, so y does not send a message to z.

^{*} Check out the online interactive exercises for more examples: http://gaia.cs.umass.edu/kurose_ross/interactive/

Distance vector: link cost changes

link cost changes:

- node detects local link cost change
- bad news travels slow "count to infinity" problem!
- 44 iterations before algorithm stabilizes: see text



poisoned reverse:

- If Z routes through Y to get to X:
 - Z tells Y its (Z's) distance to X is infinite (so Y won't route to X via Z)
- will this completely solve count to infinity problem?

Comparison of LS and DV algorithms

message complexity

- LS: with n nodes, E links, O(nE) msgs sent
- DV: exchange between neighbors only
 - convergence time varies

speed of convergence

- LS: O(n²) algorithm requires
 O(nE) msgs
 - may have oscillations
- DV: convergence time varies
 - may be routing loops
 - count-to-infinity problem

robustness: what happens if router malfunctions?

LS:

- node can advertise incorrect link cost
- each node computes only its own table

DV:

- DV node can advertise incorrect path cost
- each node's table used by others
 - error propagate thru network

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Making routing scalable

our routing study thus far - idealized

- all routers identical
- network "flat"
- ... not true in practice

scale: with billions of destinations:

- can't store all destinations in routing tables!
- routing table exchange would swamp links!

administrative autonomy

- internet = network of networks
- each network admin may want to control routing in its own network

Internet approach to scalable routing

aggregate routers into regions known as "autonomous systems" (AS) (a.k.a. "domains")

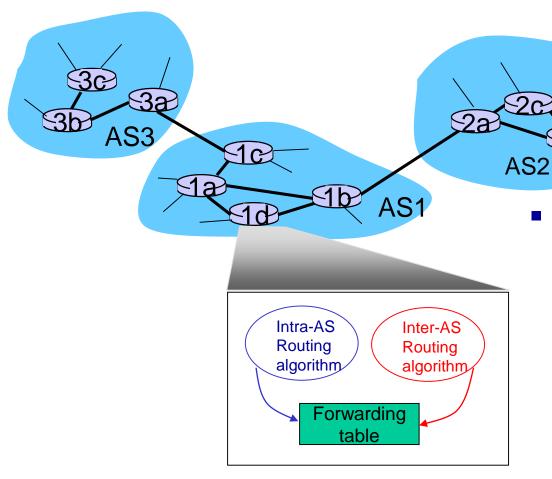
intra-AS routing

- routing among hosts, routers in same AS ("network")
- all routers in AS must run same intra-domain protocol
- routers in different AS can run different intra-domain routing protocol
- gateway router: at "edge" of its own AS, has link(s) to router(s) in other AS'es

inter-AS routing

- routing among AS'es
- gateways perform interdomain routing (as well as intra-domain routing)

Interconnected ASes



forwarding table configured by both intra- and inter-AS routing algorithm

- intra-AS routing determine entries for destinations within AS
- inter-AS & intra-AS determine entries for external destinations

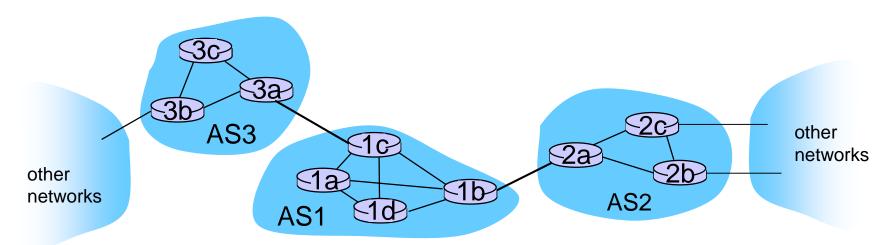
Inter-AS tasks

- suppose router in AS1 receives datagram destined outside of AS1:
 - router should forward packet to gateway router, but which one?

AS1 must:

- learn which dests are reachable through AS2, which through AS3
- 2. propagate this reachability info to all routers in AS1

job of inter-AS routing!



Intra-AS Routing

- also known as interior gateway protocols (IGP)
- most common intra-AS routing protocols:
 - RIP: Routing Information Protocol
 - OSPF: Open Shortest Path First (IS-IS protocol essentially same as OSPF)
 - IGRP: Interior Gateway Routing Protocol (Cisco proprietary for decades, until 2016)

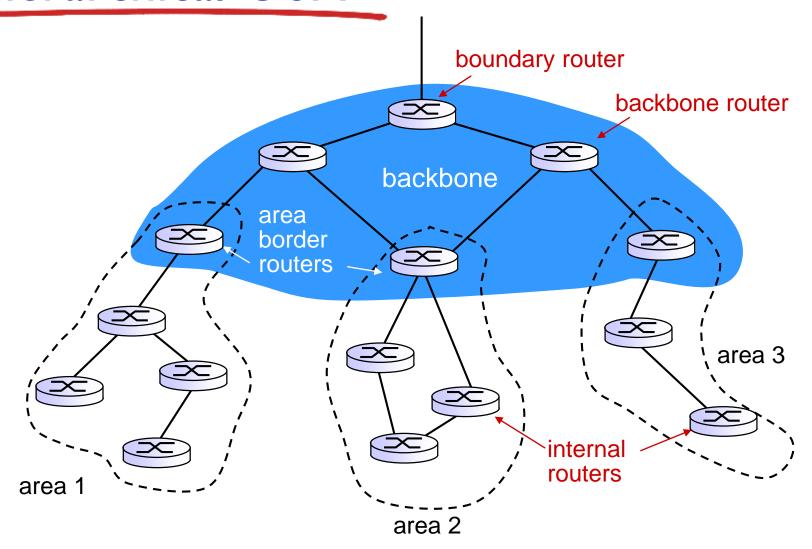
OSPF (Open Shortest Path First)

- "open": publicly available
- uses link-state algorithm
 - link state packet dissemination
 - topology map at each node
 - route computation using Dijkstra's algorithm
- router floods OSPF link-state advertisements to all other routers in entire AS
 - carried in OSPF messages directly over IP (rather than TCP or UDP
 - link state: for each attached link
- Intermediate System to Intermediate System (IS-IS) protocol: nearly identical to OSPF

OSPF "advanced" features

- security: all OSPF messages authenticated (to prevent malicious intrusion)
- multiple same-cost paths allowed (only one path in RIP)
- for each link, multiple cost metrics for different TOS (e.g., satellite link cost set low for best effort ToS; high for real-time ToS)
- integrated uni- and multi-cast support:
 - Multicast OSPF (MOSPF) uses same topology data base as OSPF
- hierarchical OSPF in large domains.

Hierarchical OSPF



Hierarchical OSPF

- two-level hierarchy: local area, backbone.
 - link-state advertisements only in area
 - each nodes has detailed area topology; only know direction (shortest path) to nets in other areas.
- area border routers: "summarize" distances to nets in own area, advertise to other Area Border routers.
- backbone routers: run OSPF routing limited to backbone.
- boundary routers: connect to other AS' es.

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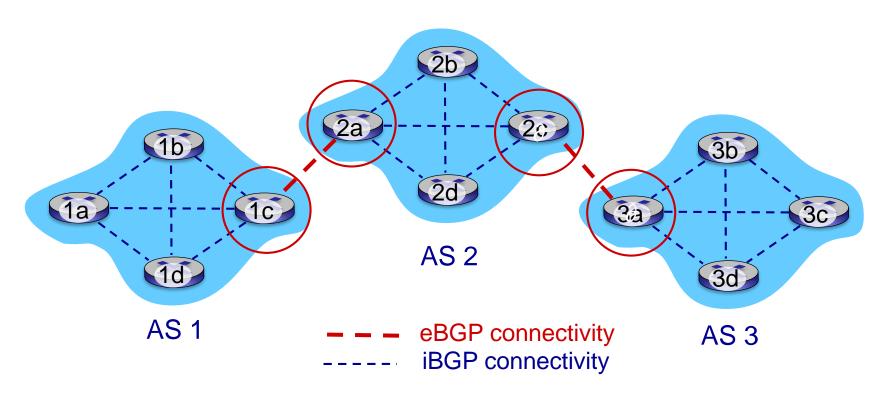
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Internet inter-AS routing: BGP

- BGP (Border Gateway Protocol): the de facto inter-domain routing protocol
 - "glue that holds the Internet together"
- BGP provides each AS a means to:
 - eBGP: obtain subnet reachability information from neighboring ASes
 - iBGP: propagate reachability information to all AS-internal routers.
 - determine "good" routes to other networks based on reachability information and policy
- allows subnet to advertise its existence to rest of Internet: "I am here"

eBGP, iBGP connections

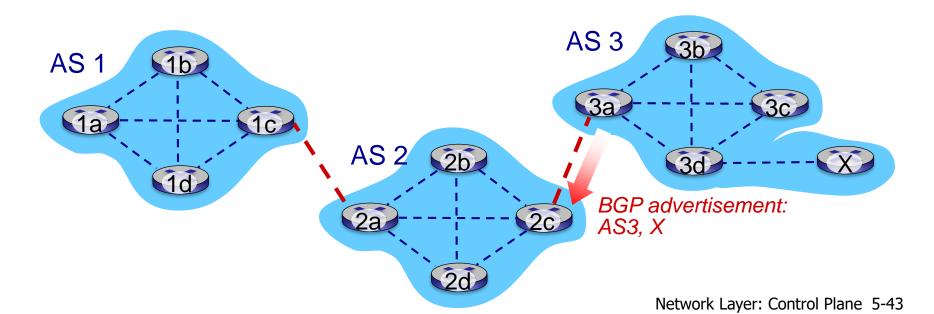




gateway routers run both eBGP and iBGP protools

BGP basics

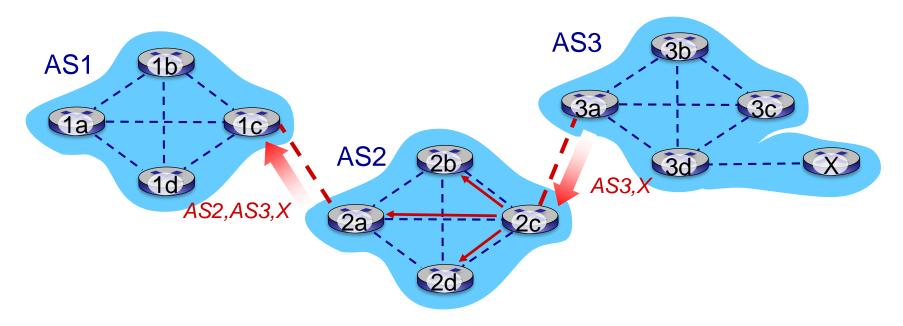
- BGP session: two BGP routers ("peers") exchange BGP messages over semi-permanent TCP connection:
 - advertising paths to different destination network prefixes (BGP is a "path vector" protocol)
- when AS3 gateway router 3a advertises path AS3,X to AS2 gateway router 2c:
 - AS3 promises to AS2 it will forward datagrams towards X



Path attributes and BGP routes

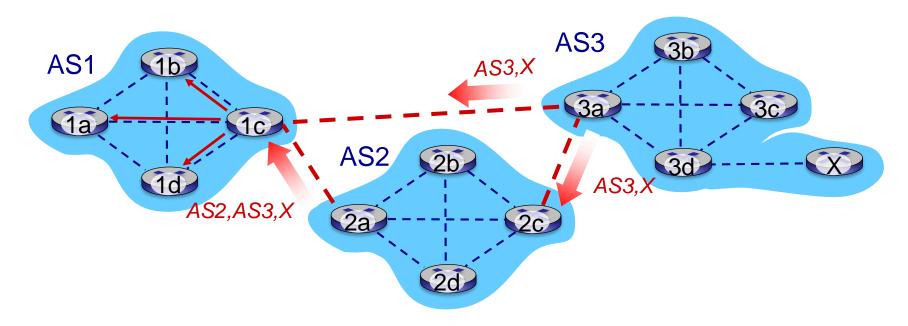
- advertised prefix includes BGP attributes
 - prefix + attributes = "route"
- two important attributes:
 - AS-PATH: list of ASes through which prefix advertisement has passed
 - NEXT-HOP: indicates specific internal-AS router to next-hop AS
- Policy-based routing:
 - gateway receiving route advertisement uses import policy to accept/decline path (e.g., never route through AS Y).
 - AS policy also determines whether to advertise path to other other neighboring ASes

BGP path advertisement



- AS2 router 2c receives path advertisement AS3,X (via eBGP) from AS3 router 3a
- Based on AS2 policy, AS2 router 2c accepts path AS3,X, propagates (via iBGP) to all AS2 routers
- Based on AS2 policy, AS2 router 2a advertises (via eBGP) path AS2, AS3, X to AS1 router 1c

BGP path advertisement



gateway router may learn about multiple paths to destination:

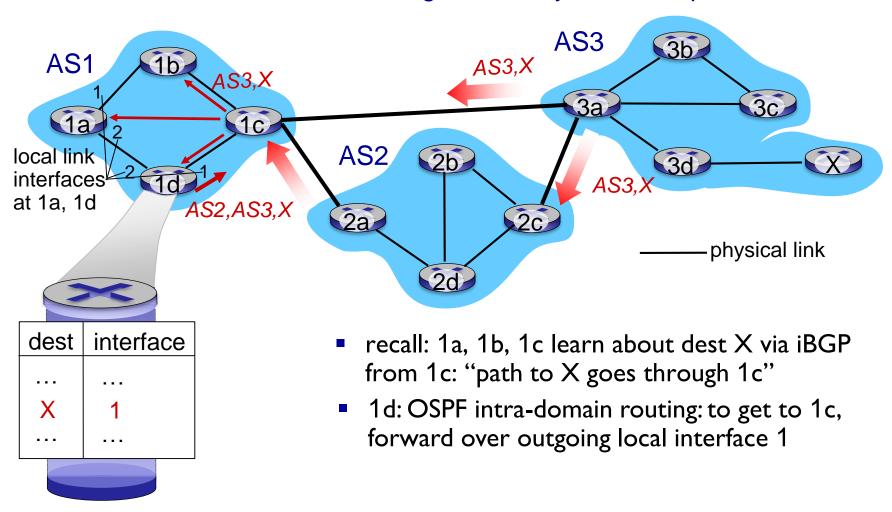
- AS1 gateway router 1c learns path AS2,AS3,X from 2a
- AS1 gateway router 1C learns path AS3,X from 3a
- Based on policy, AS1 gateway router 1c chooses path AS3, X, and advertises path within AS1 via iBGP

BGP messages

- BGP messages exchanged between peers over TCP connection
- BGP messages:
 - OPEN: opens TCP connection to remote BGP peer and authenticates sending BGP peer
 - UPDATE: advertises new path (or withdraws old)
 - KEEPALIVE: keeps connection alive in absence of UPDATES; also ACKs OPEN request
 - NOTIFICATION: reports errors in previous msg; also used to close connection

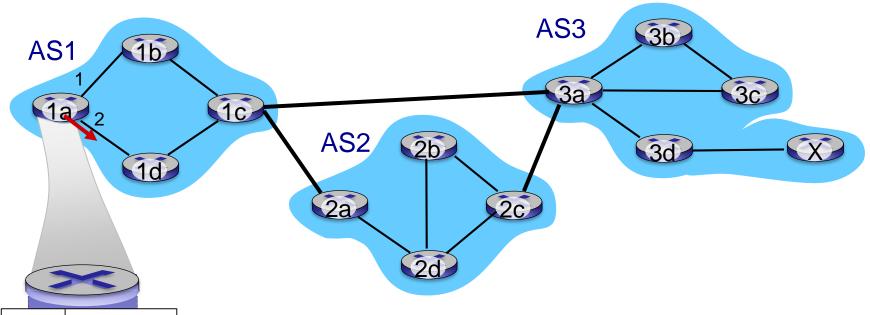
BGP, OSPF, forwarding table entries

Q: how does router set forwarding table entry to distant prefix?



BGP, OSPF, forwarding table entries

Q: how does router set forwarding table entry to distant prefix?



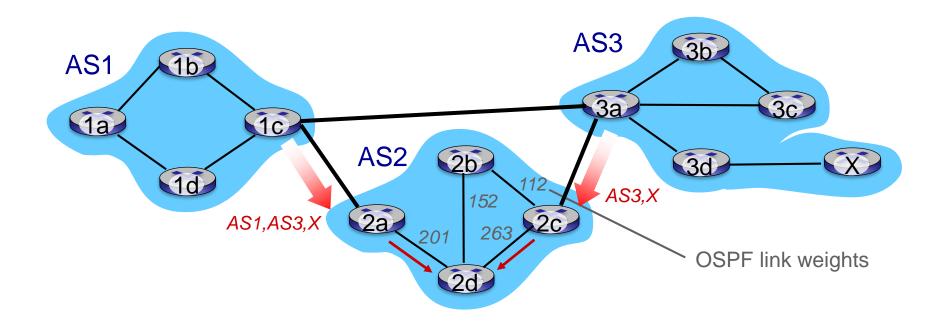
dest	interface	
X	2	

- recall: Ia, Ib, Ic learn about dest X via iBGP from Ic: "path to X goes through Ic"
- 1d: OSPF intra-domain routing: to get to 1c, forward over outgoing local interface 1
- 1a: OSPF intra-domain routing: to get to 1c, forward over outgoing local interface 2

BGP route selection

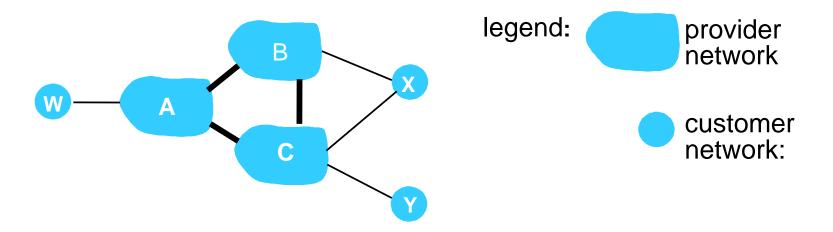
- router may learn about more than one route to destination AS, selects route based on:
 - I. local preference value attribute: policy decision
 - shortest AS-PATH
 - 3. closest NEXT-HOP router: hot potato routing
 - 4. additional criteria

Hot Potato Routing



- 2d learns (via iBGP) it can route to X via 2a or 2c
- hot potato routing: choose local gateway that has least intradomain cost (e.g., 2d chooses 2a, even though more AS hops to X): don't worry about inter-domain cost!

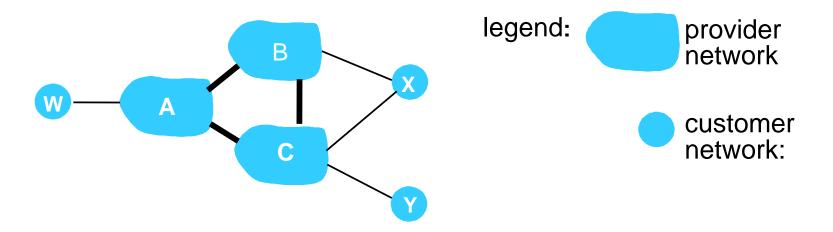
BGP: achieving policy via advertisements



Suppose an ISP only wants to route traffic to/from its customer networks (does not want to carry transit traffic between other ISPs)

- A advertises path Aw to B and to C
- B chooses not to advertise BAw to C:
 - B gets no "revenue" for routing CBAw, since none of C,A, w are B's customers
 - C does not learn about CBAw path
- C will route CAw (not using B) to get to w

BGP: achieving policy via advertisements



Suppose an ISP only wants to route traffic to/from its customer networks (does not want to carry transit traffic between other ISPs)

- A,B,C are provider networks
- X,W,Y are customer (of provider networks)
- X is dual-homed: attached to two networks
- policy to enforce: X does not want to route from B to C via X
 - .. so X will not advertise to B a route to C

Why different Intra-, Inter-AS routing?

policy:

- inter-AS: admin wants control over how its traffic routed, who routes through its net.
- intra-AS: single admin, so no policy decisions needed scale:
- hierarchical routing saves table size, reduced update traffic

performance:

- intra-AS: can focus on performance
- inter-AS: policy may dominate over performance

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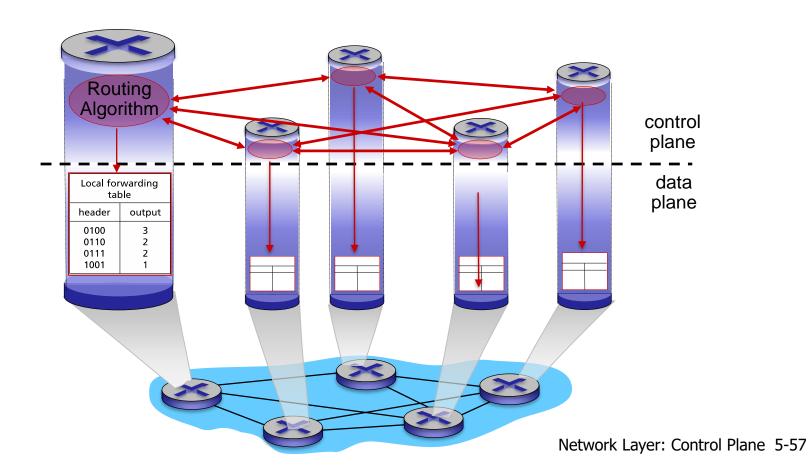
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Software defined networking (SDN)

- Internet network layer: historically has been implemented via distributed, per-router approach
 - monolithic router contains switching hardware, runs proprietary implementation of Internet standard protocols (IP, RIP, IS-IS, OSPF, BGP) in proprietary router OS (e.g., Cisco IOS)
 - different "middleboxes" for different network layer functions: firewalls, load balancers, NAT boxes, ..
- ~2005: renewed interest in rethinking network control plane

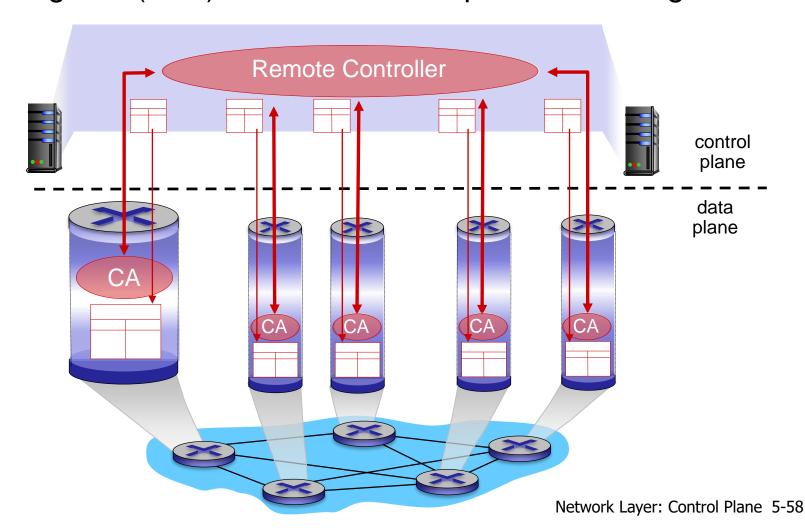
Recall: per-router control plane

Individual routing algorithm components in each and every router interact with each other in control plane to compute forwarding tables



Recall: logically centralized control plane

A distinct (typically remote) controller interacts with local control agents (CAs) in routers to compute forwarding tables



Software defined networking (SDN)

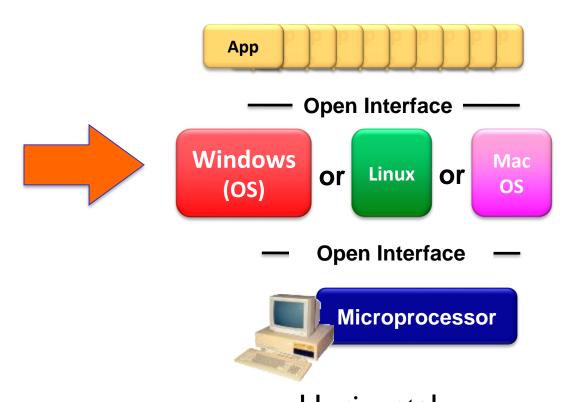
Why a logically centralized control plane?

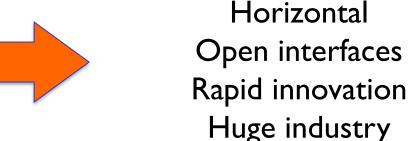
- easier network management: avoid router misconfigurations, greater flexibility of traffic flows
- table-based forwarding (recall OpenFlow API) allows "programming" routers
 - centralized "programming" easier: compute tables centrally and distribute
 - distributed "programming: more difficult: compute tables as result of distributed algorithm (protocol) implemented in each and every router
- open (non-proprietary) implementation of control plane

Analogy: mainframe to PC evolution*

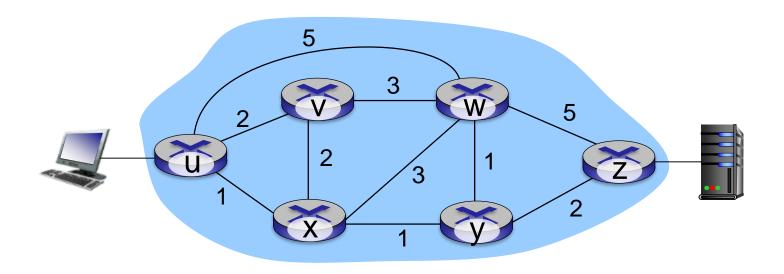


Vertically integrated Closed, proprietary Slow innovation Small industry





Traffic engineering: difficult traditional routing

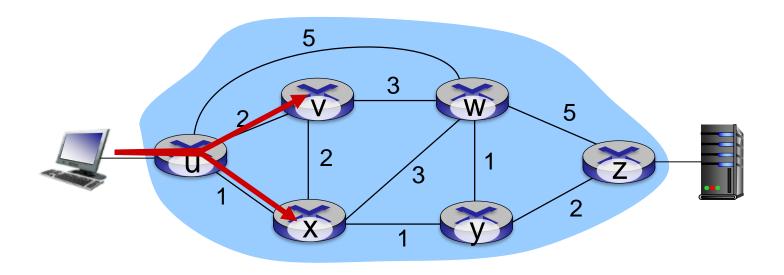


Q: what if network operator wants u-to-z traffic to flow along uvwz, x-to-z traffic to flow xwyz?

<u>A:</u> need to define link weights so traffic routing algorithm computes routes accordingly (or need a new routing algorithm)!

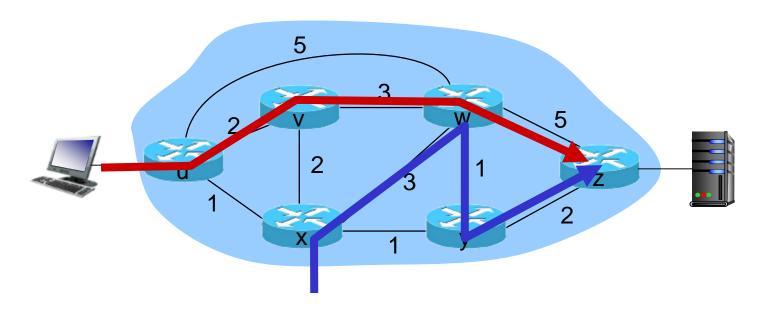
Link weights are only control "knobs": wrong!

Traffic engineering: difficult



Q: what if network operator wants to split u-to-z traffic along uvwz and uxyz (load balancing)?A: can't do it (or need a new routing algorithm)

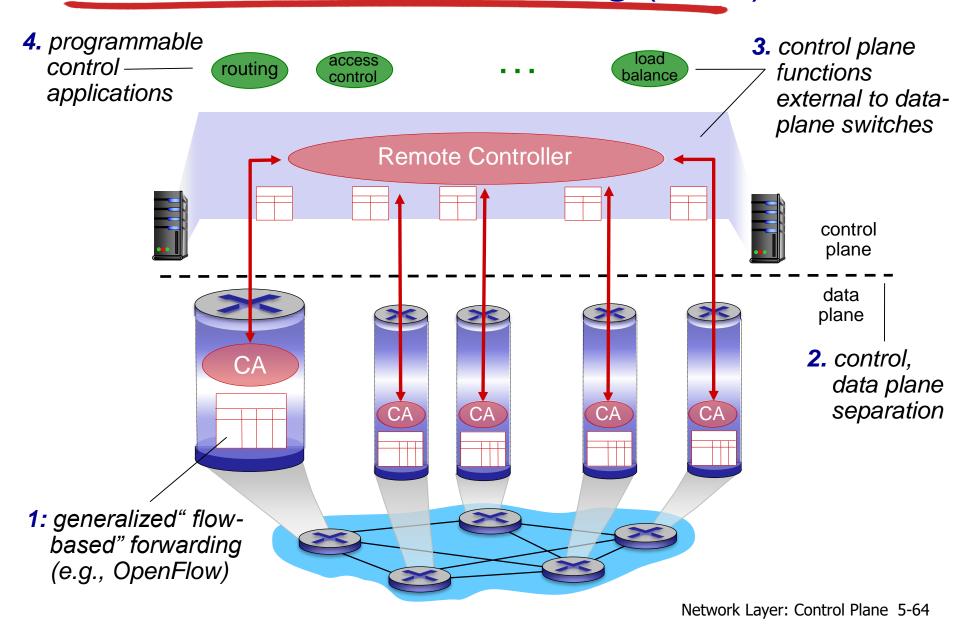
Traffic engineering: difficult



<u>Q:</u> what if w wants to route blue and red traffic differently?

<u>A:</u> can't do it (with destination based forwarding, and LS, DV routing)

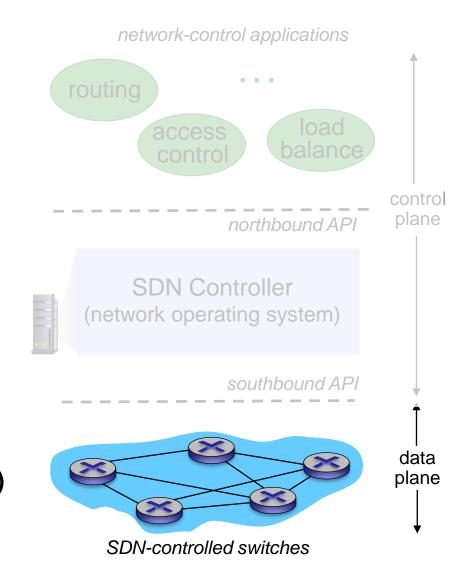
Software defined networking (SDN)



SDN perspective: data plane switches

Data plane switches

- fast, simple, commodity switches implementing generalized data-plane forwarding (Section 4.4) in hardware
- switch flow table computed, installed by controller
- API for table-based switch control (e.g., OpenFlow)
 - defines what is controllable and what is not
- protocol for communicating with controller (e.g., OpenFlow)

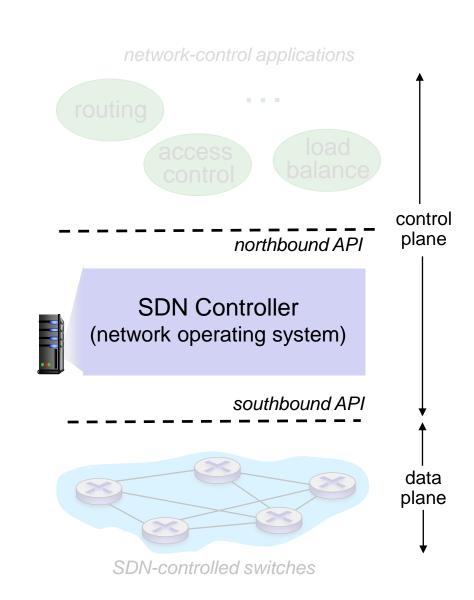


Network Layer: Control Plane 5-65

SDN perspective: SDN controller

SDN controller (network OS):

- maintain network state information
- interacts with network control applications "above" via northbound API
- interacts with network switches "below" via southbound API
- implemented as distributed system for performance, scalability, fault-tolerance, robustness

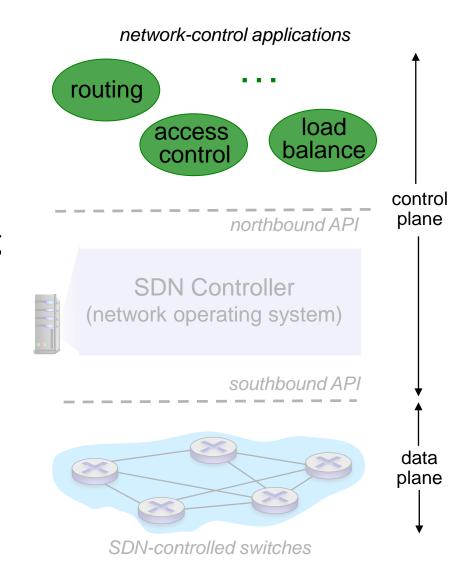


Network Layer: Control Plane 5-66

SDN perspective: control applications

network-control apps:

- "brains" of control: implement control functions using lower-level services, API provided by SND controller
- unbundled: can be provided by 3rd party: distinct from routing vendor, or SDN controller



Network Layer: Control Plane 5-67

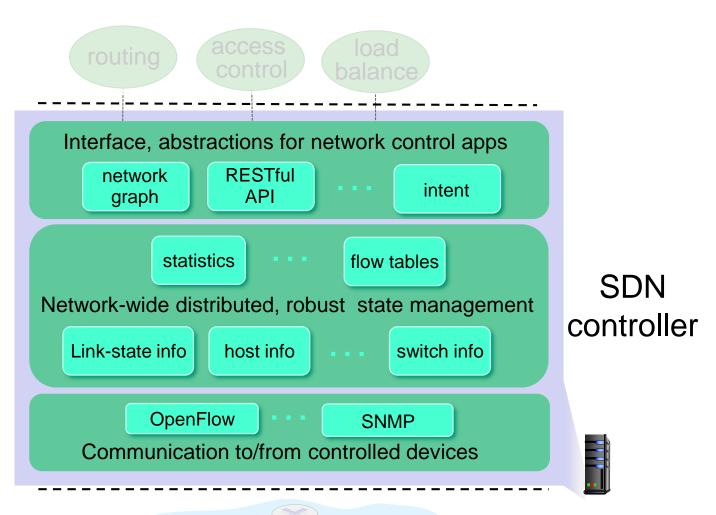
Components of SDN controller

Interface layer to network control apps: abstractions API

Network-wide state management layer: state of networks links, switches, services: a distributed database

communication layer:

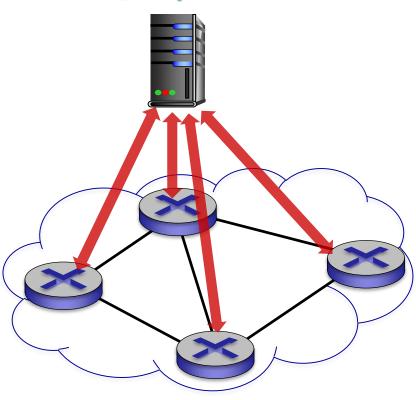
communicate between SDN controller and controlled switches



OpenFlow protocol





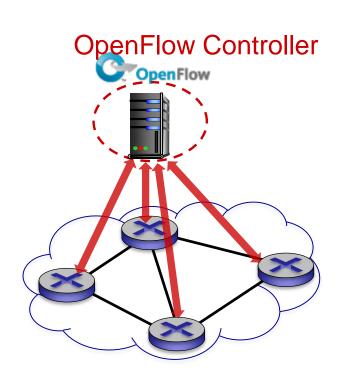


- operates between controller, switch
- TCP used to exchange messages
 - optional encryption
- three classes of OpenFlow messages:
 - controller-to-switch
 - asynchronous (switch to controller)
 - symmetric (misc)

OpenFlow: controller-to-switch messages

Key controller-to-switch messages

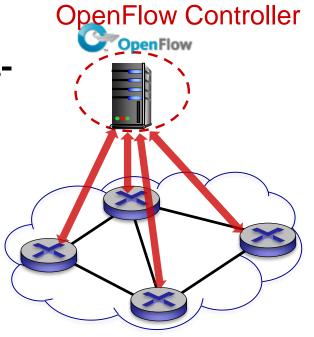
- features: controller queries switch features, switch replies
- configure: controller queries/sets switch configuration parameters
- modify-state: add, delete, modify flow entries in the OpenFlow tables
- packet-out: controller can send this packet out of specific switch port



OpenFlow: switch-to-controller messages

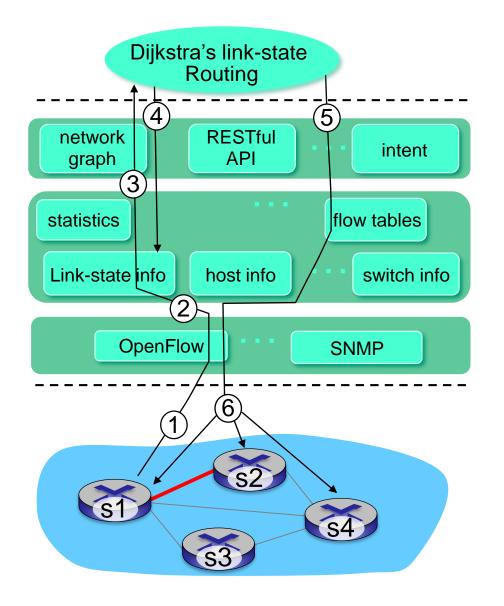
Key switch-to-controller messages

- packet-in: transfer packet (and its control) to controller. See packetout message from controller
- flow-removed: flow table entry deleted at switch
- port status: inform controller of a change on a port.



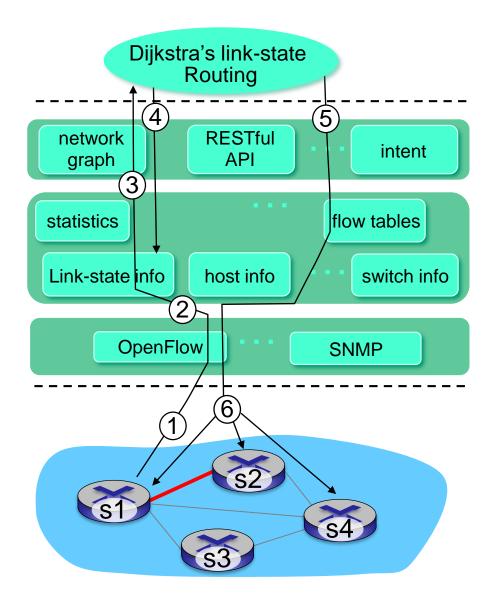
Fortunately, network operators don't "program" switches by creating/sending OpenFlow messages directly. Instead use higher-level abstraction at controller

SDN: control/data plane interaction example



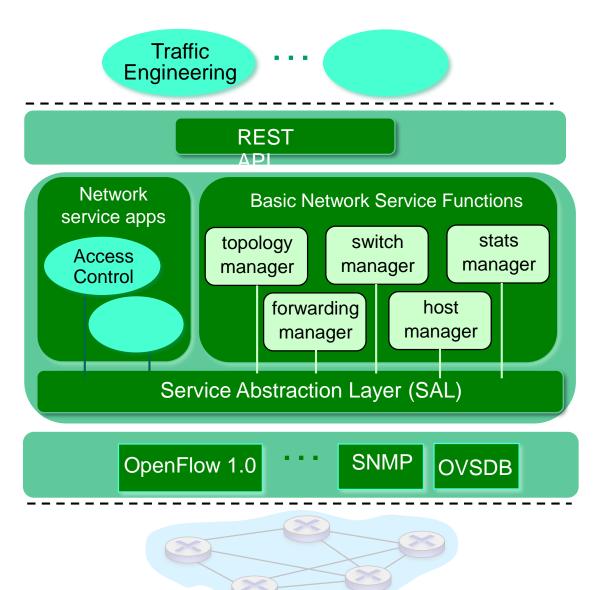
- 1 SI, experiencing link failure using OpenFlow port status message to notify controller
- ② SDN controller receives OpenFlow message, updates link status info
- 3 Dijkstra's routing algorithm application has previously registered to be called when ever link status changes. It is called.
- 4 Dijkstra's routing algorithm access network graph info, link state info in controller, computes new routes

SDN: control/data plane interaction example



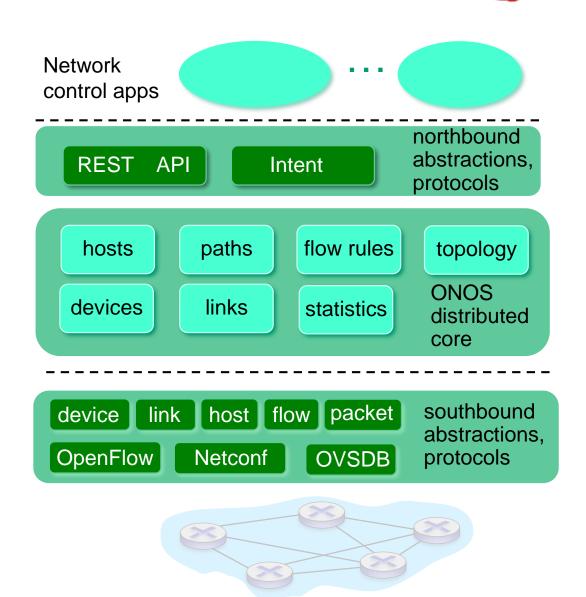
- 5 link state routing app interacts with flow-table-computation component in SDN controller, which computes new flow tables needed
- 6 Controller uses OpenFlow to install new tables in switches that need updating

OpenDaylight (ODL) controller



- ODL Lithium controller
- network apps may be contained within, or be external to SDN controller
- Service Abstraction Layer: interconnects internal, external applications and services

ONOS controller



- control apps separate from controller
- intent framework: high-level specification of service: what rather than how
- considerable emphasis on distributed core: service reliability, replication performance scaling

SDN: selected challenges

- hardening the control plane: dependable, reliable, performance-scalable, secure distributed system
 - robustness to failures: leverage strong theory of reliable distributed system for control plane
 - dependability, security: "baked in" from day one?
- networks, protocols meeting mission-specific requirements
 - e.g., real-time, ultra-reliable, ultra-secure
- Internet-scaling

Chapter 5: outline

- 5.1 introduction
- 5.2 routing protocols
- link state
- distance vector
- 5.3 intra-AS routing in the Internet: OSPF
- 5.4 routing among the ISPs: BGP

- 5.5 The SDN control plane
- 5.6 ICMP: The Internet Control Message Protocol
- 5.7 Network management and SNMP

ICMP: internet control message protocol

used by hosts & routers
to communicate network-
level information

- error reporting: unreachable host, network, port, protocol
- echo request/reply (used by ping)
- network-layer "above" IP:
 - ICMP msgs carried in IP datagrams
- ICMP message: type, code plus first 8 bytes of IP datagram causing error

<u>Type</u>	<u>Code</u>	description
0	0	echo reply (ping)
3	0	dest. network unreachable
3	1	dest host unreachable
3	2	dest protocol unreachable
3	3	dest port unreachable
3	6	dest network unknown
3	7	dest host unknown
4	0	source quench (congestion
		control - not used)
8	0	echo request (ping)
9	0	route advertisement
10	0	router discovery
11	0	TTL expired
12	0	bad IP header

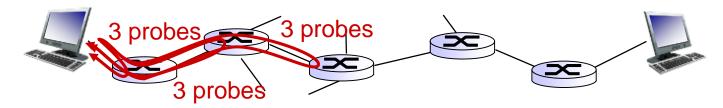
Traceroute and ICMP

- source sends series of UDP segments to destination
 - first set has TTL = I
 - second set has TTL=2, etc.
 - unlikely port number
- when datagram in nth set arrives to nth router:
 - router discards datagram and sends source ICMP message (type II, code 0)
 - ICMP message include name of router & IP address

when ICMP message arrives, source records RTTs

stopping criteria:

- UDP segment eventually arrives at destination host
- destination returns ICMP "port unreachable" message (type 3, code 3)
- source stops



Chapter 5: summary

we've learned a lot!

- approaches to network control plane
 - per-router control (traditional)
 - logically centralized control (software defined networking)
- traditional routing algorithms
 - implementation in Internet: OSPF, BGP
- SDN controllers
 - implementation in practice: ODL, ONOS
- Internet Control Message Protocol
- network management

next stop: link layer!