

# Exploring IPv6 at Home

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Preparing for the Future of the Internet Protocol

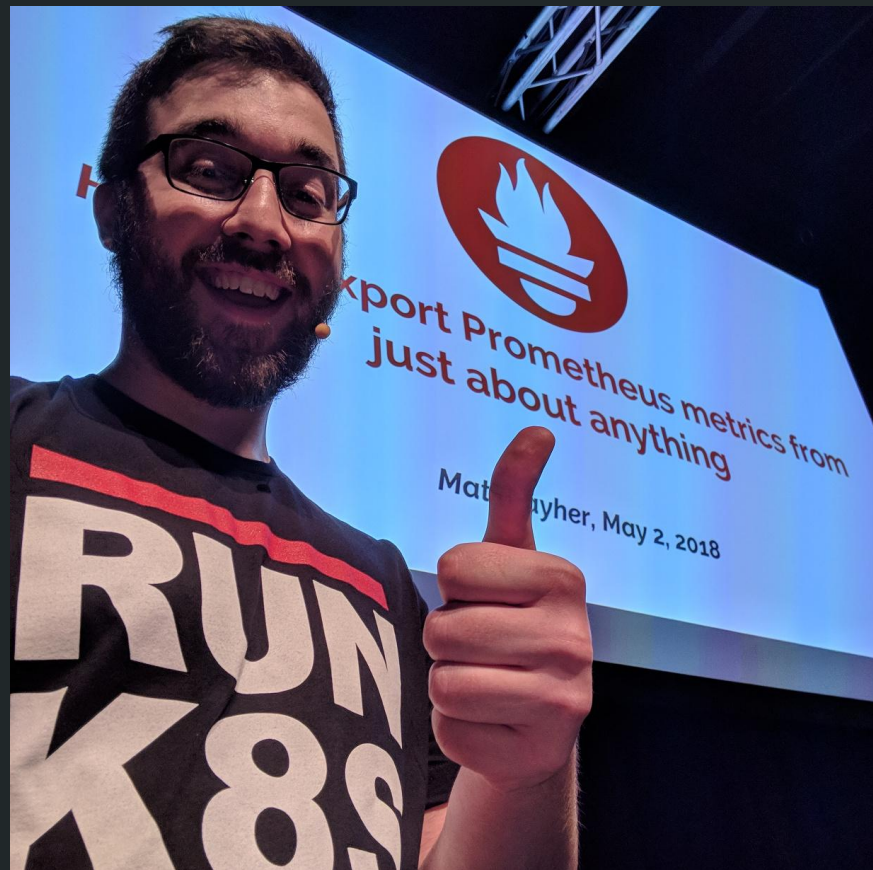
**Matt Layher**

Orcheststructure, March 27, 2019

# Matt Layher

- Engineer at Fastly\*
- GitHub + Twitter: @mdlayher
- [mdlayher.com](https://mdlayher.com)
- [github.com/mdlayher/talks](https://github.com/mdlayher/talks)

\* **Disclaimer:** this talk is entirely based on my own experiences, and is not related to Fastly in any way!



# Intro

- IPv6 ([RFC 8200](#)) is the next step in the evolution of the Internet
- As long as your ISP is on-board, it's not too difficult to set up IPv6 at home
  - Comcast and Charter/Spectrum should be fine

# Agenda

- Introduce some of the fundamental concepts of IPv6
- Explain the differences between IPv6 and IPv4
- Demonstrate how to set up IPv6 at home with a Ubiquiti® EdgeRouter™ device

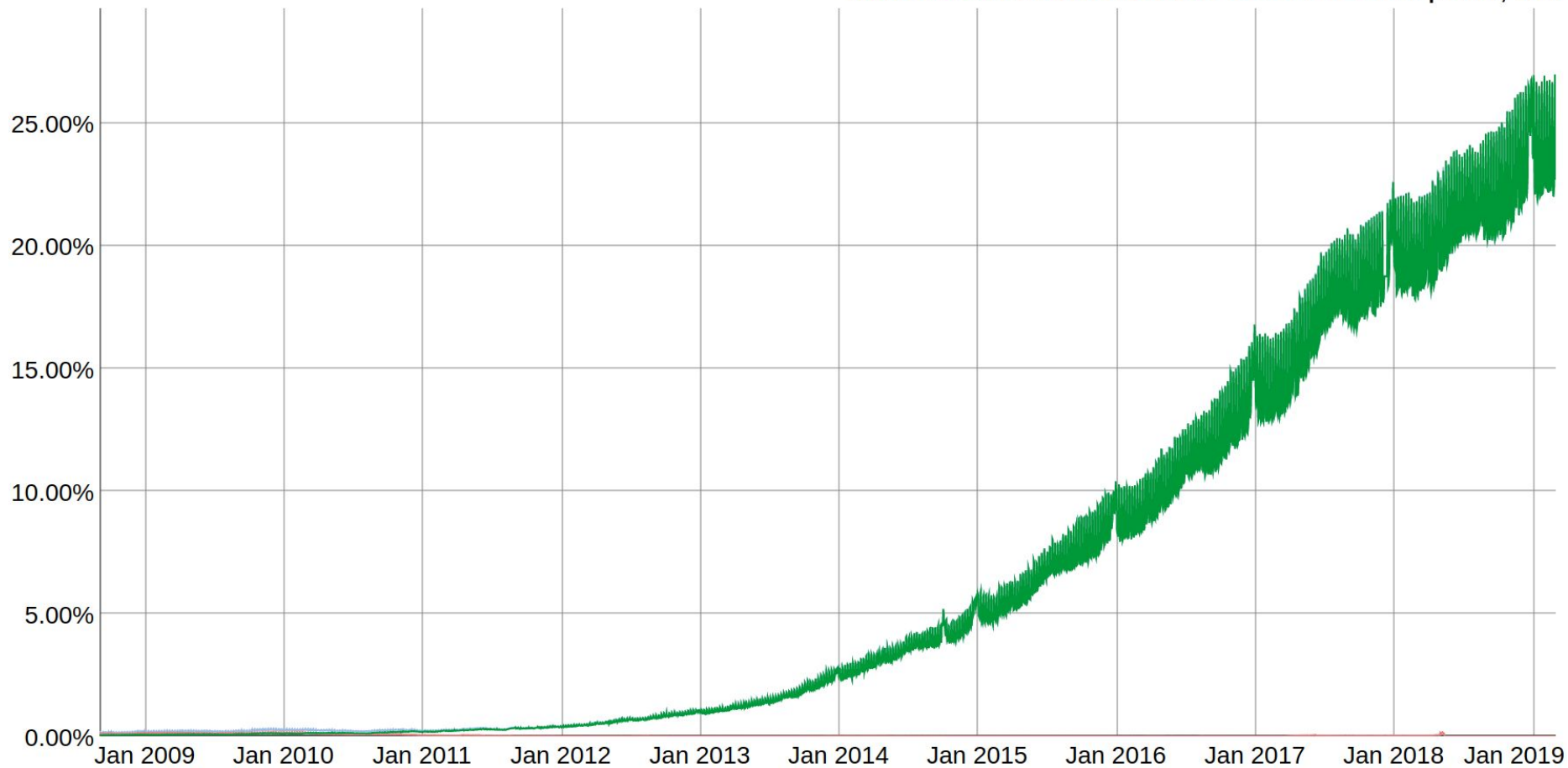
EdgeRouter™ is a registered trademark of Ubiquiti Networks, Inc. in the United States and other countries.

# Introduction to IPv6

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How many audience  
members are using  
IPv6 at home?

Native: 22.70% 6to4/Teredo: 0.00% Total IPv6: 22.71% | Mar 4, 2019



User IPv6 adoption on Google services: [google.com/intl/en/ipv6/statistics.html](https://google.com/intl/en/ipv6/statistics.html)

# IPv6: more than just a bigger address space

- **128 bit** IP addresses: **64 bits** for networks, **64 bits** for hosts
- Example prefix types:

**Global unicast** 2600:6c4a:787f:d200::/56

**Unicast local** fd00::/7

**Link local\*** fe80::/10

\* Link local IPv6 addresses are **mandatory** and **unique per link**



# IPv6 address types

- IPv6-enabled interfaces **will** have multiple addresses
- The typical size of a single network is **/64**, meaning  **$2^{64}$  hosts per network**

**Global unicast** 2600:6c4a:787f:d200:4cb:90ff:fe4d:a259/64

**Unicast local** fd00::4cb:90ff:fe4d:a259/64

**Link local\*** fe80::4cb:90ff:fe4d:a259%eth0/64

\* Link local IPv6 addresses are **mandatory** and **unique per link**

“[...] you can give every millimetre from one side of the universe to the opposite side of the universe in a straight line about 3.6 billion IPv6 addresses...”

- redditor /u/Accendil

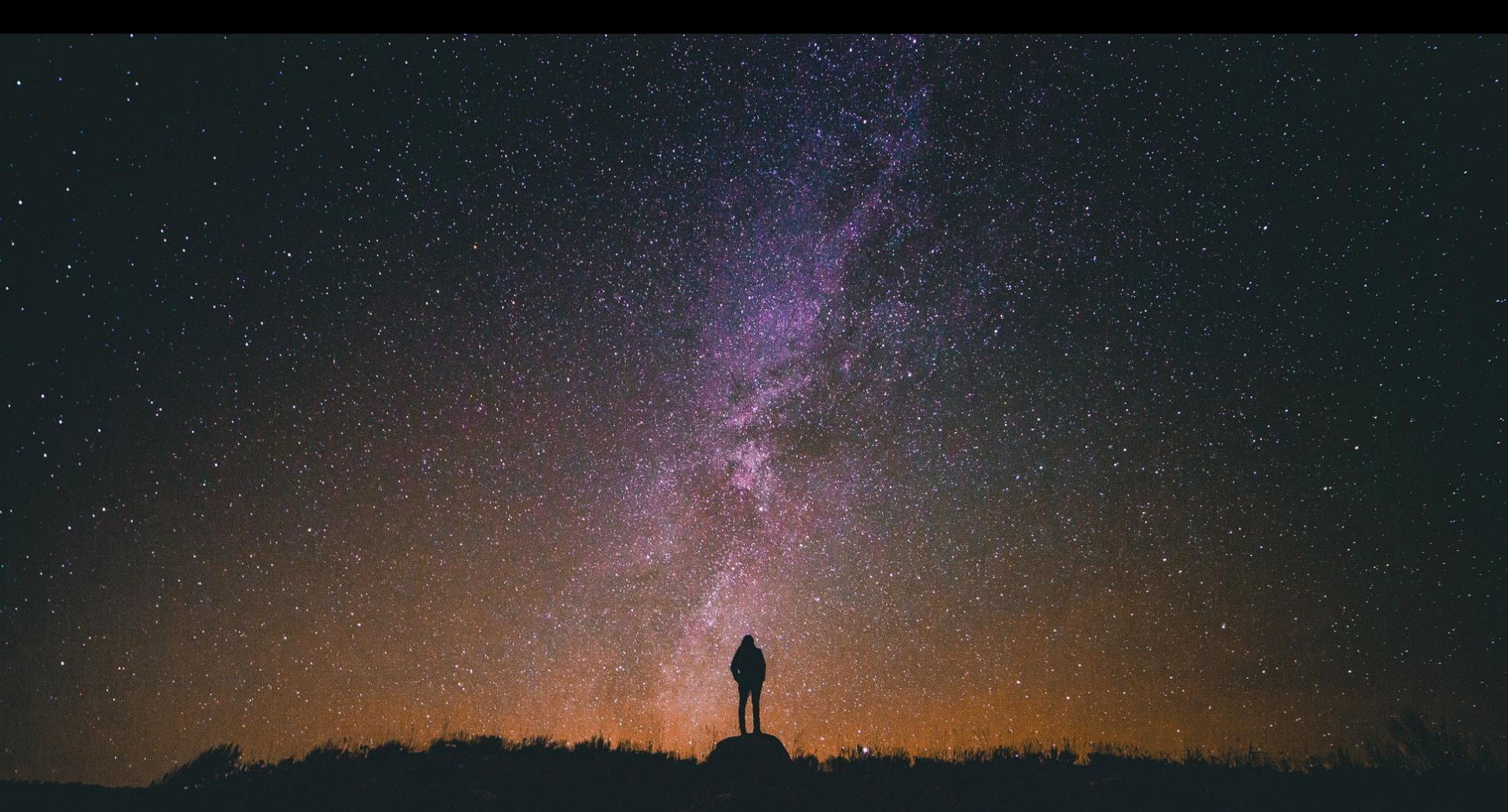


Image credit: [unsplash.com/@grakozy](https://unsplash.com/@grakozy)

# IPv6 address assignment

- Static assignment: **::1 (localhost)**
- Modified EUI-64 format:
  - MAC address: **06:cb:90:4d:a2:59**
  - IPv6 address: **fe80::4cb:90ff:fe4d:a259/64**
- Temporary: **2600:6c4a:787f:d200:203e:861b:b6c6:e6de/64**
  - IPv6 privacy extensions

# IPv6 prefix delegation

- Your ISP can route an **entire IPv6 prefix** to your house
  - If you're paying \$\$\$, maybe you'll get a handful of static IPv4 addresses
  - Spectrum: **/56 IPv6 prefix, 256 networks of  $2^{64}$  addresses**
    - NAT no longer a necessity

# IPv6 tips and tricks

- Many shell utilities have a “-6” flag to use IPv6
- A useful website for testing IPv6 configuration: [ipv6-test.com](https://ipv6-test.com)
- My favorite ping target:

```
$ ping -6 2600::  
PING 2600::(2600::) 56 data bytes  
64 bytes from 2600::: icmp_seq=1 ttl=48 time=56.9 ms
```

How can I obtain an  
IPv6 prefix at home?

# Introduction to DHCPv6 Prefix Delegation (DHCPv6-PD)

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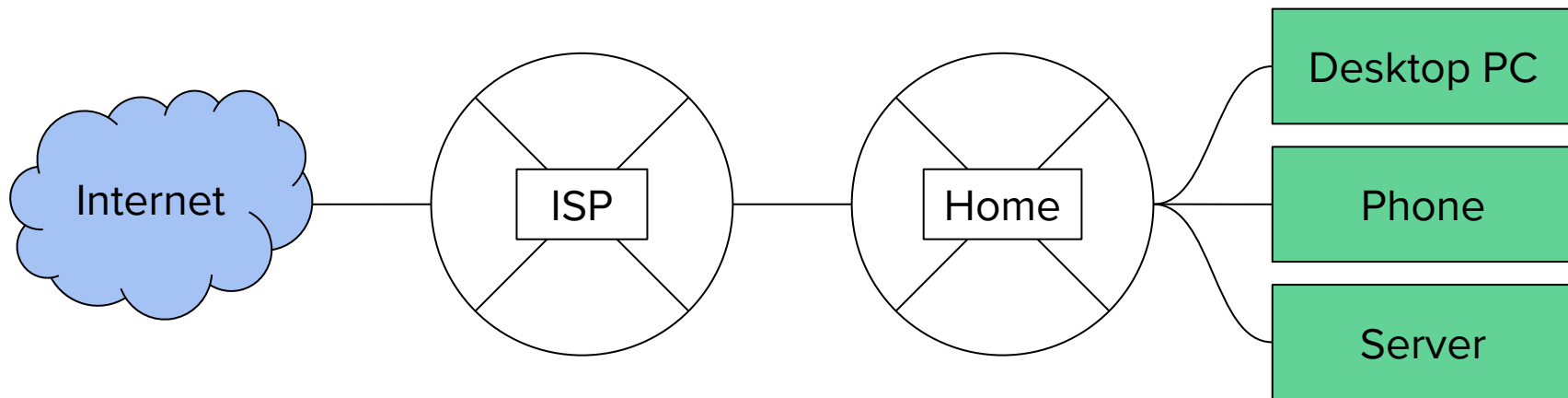
# What is DHCPv6-PD?

- Uses DHCPv6 ([RFC8415](#)) to request a prefix assignment from your ISP
  - IPv6 traffic with a matching prefix is **delegated to your router**
- A popular method for ISPs to enable **dual-stack** (IPv4 + IPv6) network access

2600:6c4a:787f:d200::/56

# DHCPv6-PD in action

- Home network is currently set up for IPv4 only



```
$ ping -6 2600::  
connect: Network is unreachable
```

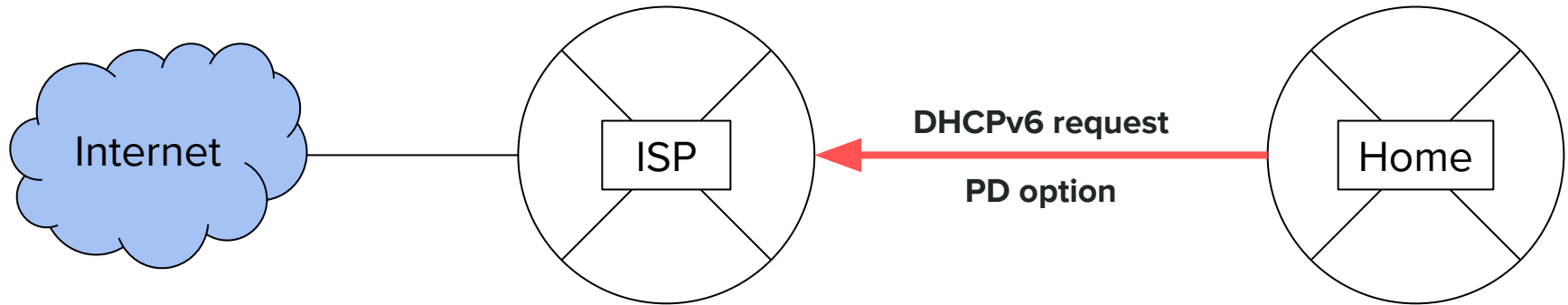




Image credit: [unsplash.com/@cbyoung](https://unsplash.com/@cbyoung)

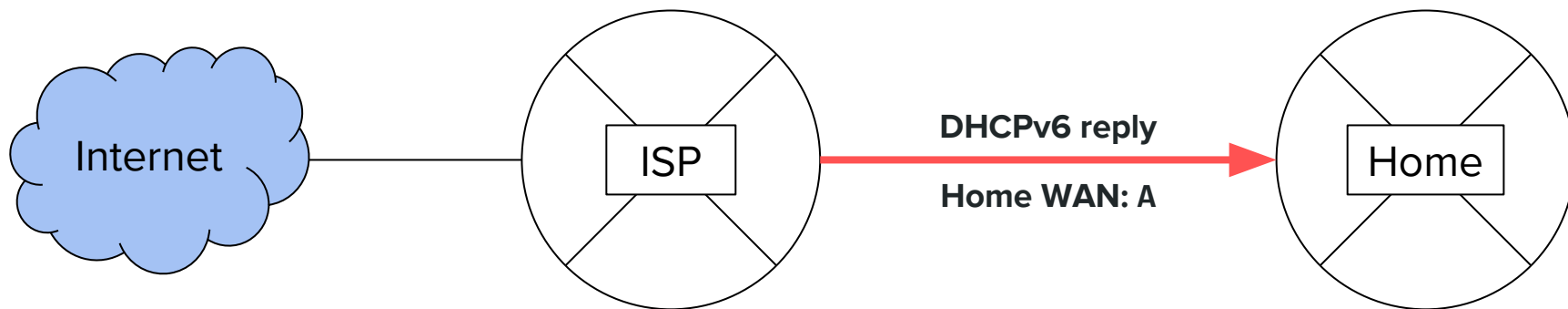
# DHCPv6-PD in action

- Home router uses DHCPv6 to request IPv6 connectivity from ISP



# DHCPv6-PD in action

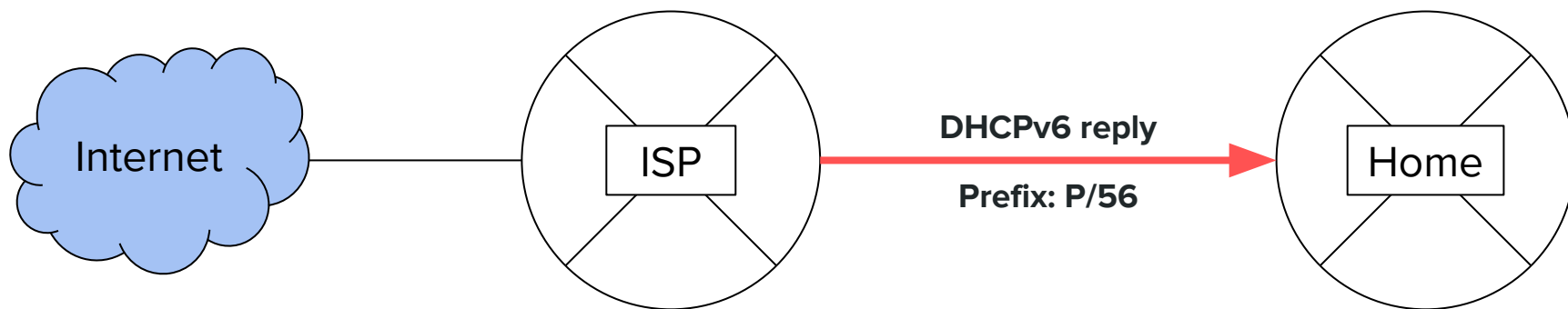
- ISP router assigns IPv6 address **A** to home router's WAN interface



**A:** 2600:6c4a:7002:100:d59c:8634:4669:65db/128

# DHCPv6-PD in action

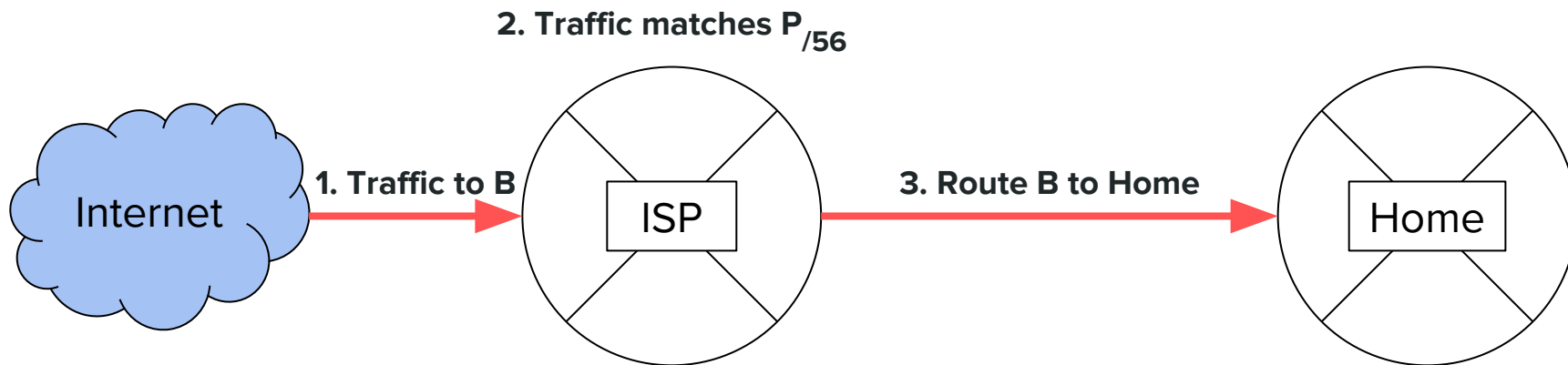
- ISP router delegates and routes IPv6 prefix  $P_{/56}$  to home router



$P_{/56}$ : 2600:6c4a:787f:d200::/56

# DHCPv6-PD in action

- ISP router routes IPv6 traffic with matching prefixes to home router



$P_{/56}$ : 2600:6c4a:787f:d200::/56

**B**: 2600:6c4a:787f:d200::1/128



How can I distribute  
addresses from my  
IPv6 prefix?

# Introduction to the IPv6 Neighbor Discovery Protocol (NDP)

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# What is NDP?

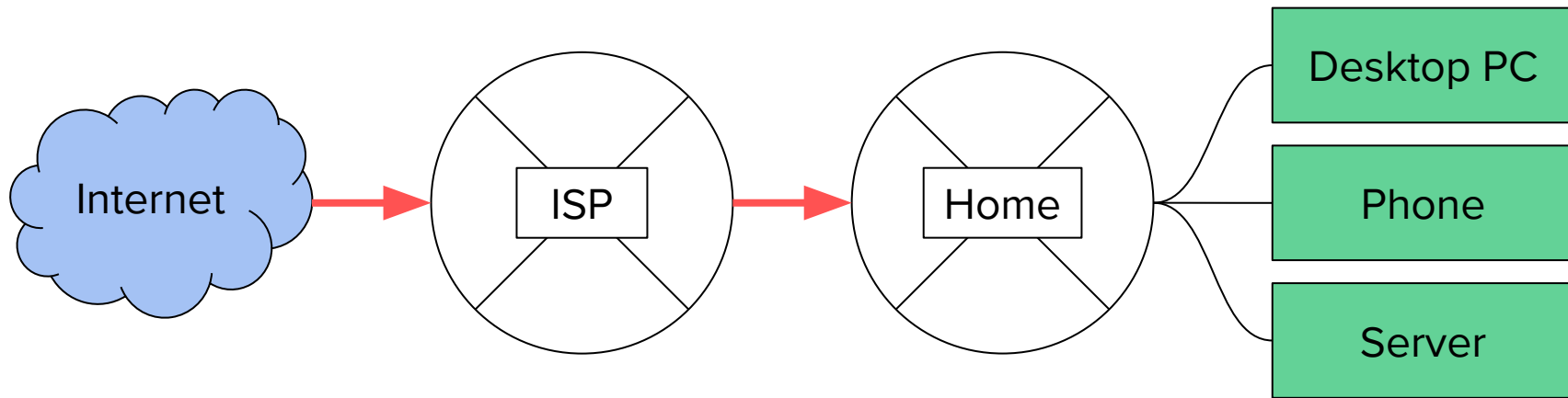
- Akin to an “IPv6 ARP”, but uses ICMPv6 with link-local addresses
- Ask a network neighbor for its MAC address using its IPv6 address:
  - `fd00::4cb:90ff:fe4d:a259`: Who has “**fd00::1**”?
  - `fd00::1`: I am at “**04:18:d6:a1:ce:b7**”.

# IPv6 and NDP's big advantage

- **DHCPv6 is not necessary** to configure globally-routable IPv6 addresses
- **Stateless Address Autoconfiguration (SLAAC) via NDP**
  - Clients can fetch additional configuration from DHCPv6, if configured

# NDP + SLAAC in action

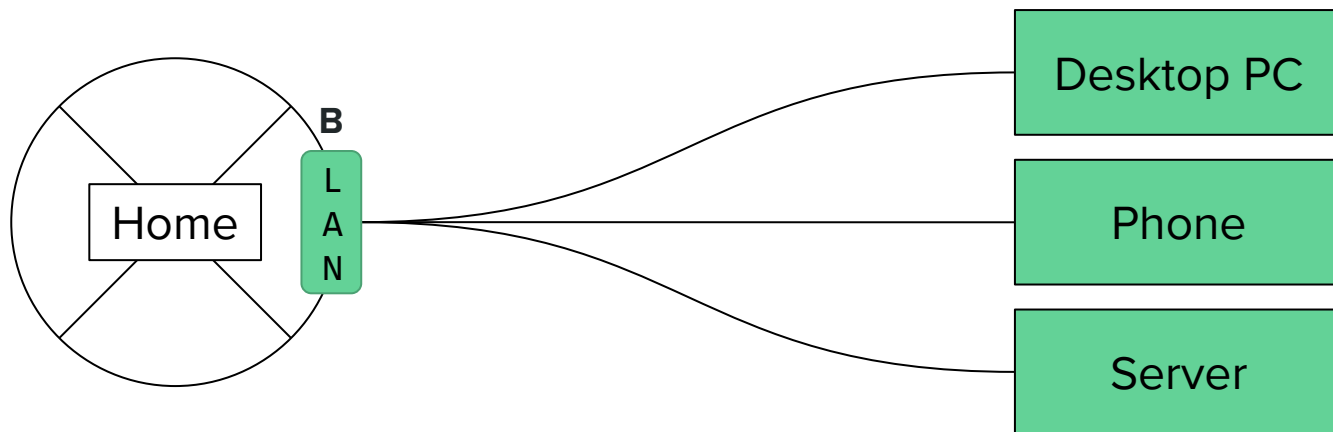
- Home router has been delegated an IPv6 prefix by ISP router



$P_{/56}$ : 2600:6c4a:787f:d200::/56

# NDP + SLAAC in action

- Home router creates a network within  $\mathbf{P}_{/56}$ , creates  $\mathbf{P}_{/64}$ , and assigns IPv6 address  $\mathbf{B}$  to its LAN interface

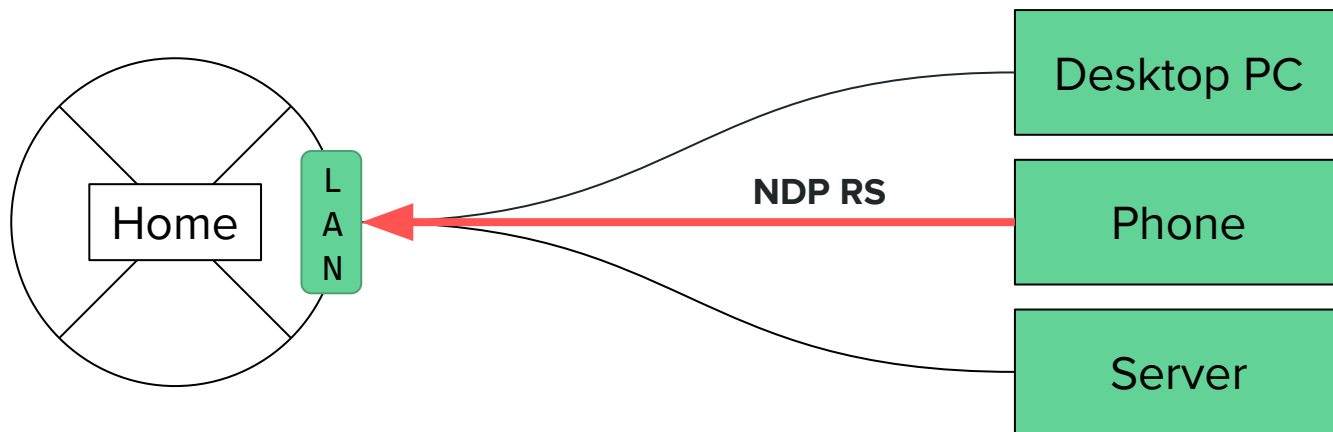


$\mathbf{P}_{/64}$ : 2600:6c4a:787f:d200::/64

$\mathbf{B}$ : 2600:6c4a:787f:d200::1/128

# NDP + SLAAC in action

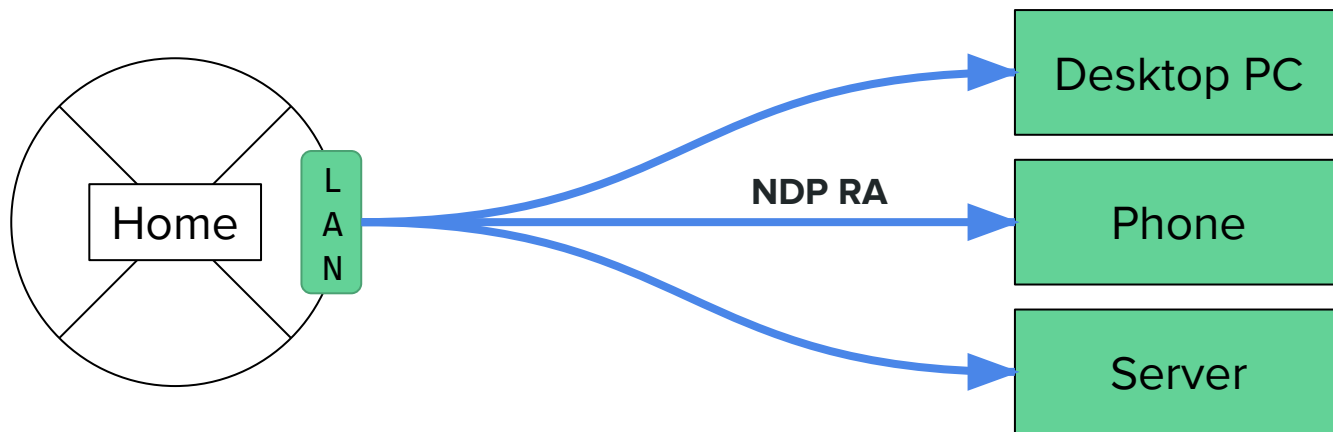
- Devices may request a **router advertisement** by sending a multicast **router solicitation**



**RS:** "Any IPv6 routers out there?"

# NDP + SLAAC in action

- Home router sends a multicast **router advertisement** for prefix  $P_{/64}$



**RA:** “I’m an IPv6 router, use prefix  $2600:6c4a:787f:d200::/64$ ,  
use **SLAAC**, your address is valid for 24 hours.”



# NDP + SLAAC in action

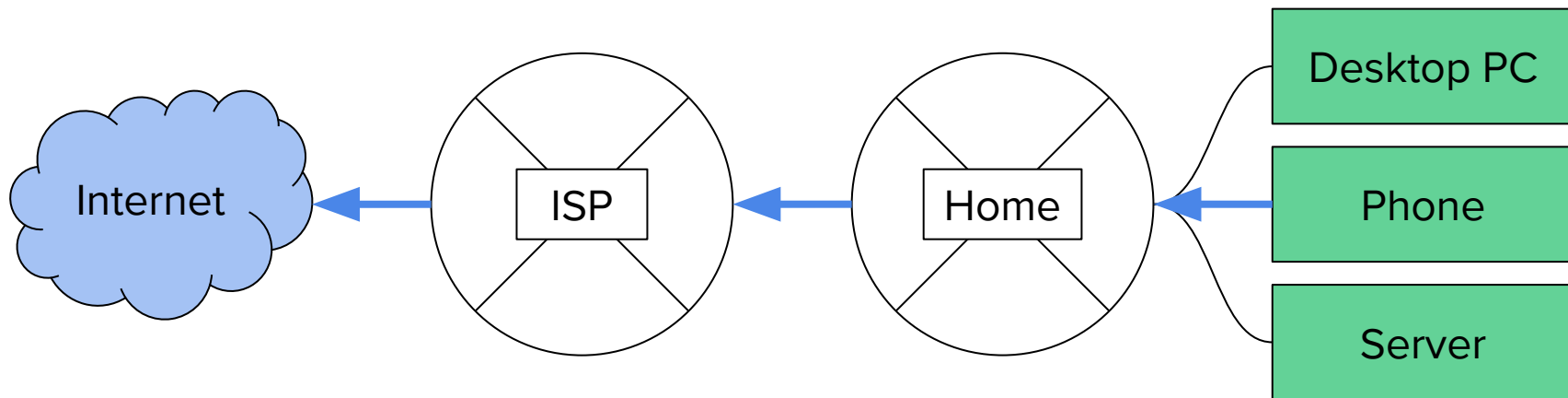
- Each device computes and assigns one or more address from prefix  $P_{/64}$

Desktop PC	2600:6c4a:787f:d200: <b>76d4:35ff:fee7:cbc4</b> /64
Phone	2600:6c4a:787f:d200: <b>3e28:6dff:fe0f:43bd</b> /64
Server	2600:6c4a:787f:d200: <b>04cb:90ff:fe4d:a259</b> /64

$P_{/64}$ : 2600:6c4a:787f:d200::/64

# NDP + SLAAC in action

- Home LAN with **globally routable addresses** now has IPv6 internet access



```
$ ping -6 2600::  
PING 2600::(2600::) 56 data bytes  
64 bytes from 2600::: icmp_seq=1 ttl=48 time=56.9 ms
```

# IPv6



Image credit: [unsplash.com/@chuttersnap](https://unsplash.com/@chuttersnap)

# NDP and Go resources

- Visit [mdlayher.com](https://mdlayher.com) for an index, and see also:
  - [github.com/mdlayher/ndp](https://github.com/mdlayher/ndp)
  - [Network Protocol Breakdown: NDP and Go](#)
  - [GopherCon 2018: Implementing a Network Protocol in Go](#)

How can I set up  
IPv6 on my home  
network?

# Setting up IPv6 via DHCPv6-PD on a Ubiquiti® EdgeRouter™ device

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EdgeRouter™ is a registered trademark of Ubiquiti Networks, Inc. in the United States and other countries.

# Introducing our router of choice

- The Ubiquiti® EdgeRouter™ Lite is powerful, customizable, and a great value



Image credit: [ui.com/marketing/#edgemax](https://ui.com/marketing/#edgemax)

EdgeRouter™ is a registered trademark of Ubiquiti Networks, Inc. in the United States and other countries.



# CLI vs web UI

- CLI config tree; not all IPv6 functionality is available in the web UI
- A Linux CLI is also available by SSH'ing into the device

```
matt@routnerr-1:~$ uname -a
Linux routnerr-1 3.10.107-UBNT #1 SMP Wed Feb 13 18:23:28 UTC 2019 mips64 GNU/Linux
matt@routnerr-1:~$ w
 11:04:31 up 1 day, 23:03,  1 user,  load average: 0.45, 0.27, 0.16
USER      TTY      FROM          LOGIN@   IDLE   JCPU   PCPU WHAT
matt      pts/1    fd00::2c1d:b96f: 11:04    2.00s  0.19s  0.03s w
```

```
matt@routnerr-1:~$ configure
[edit]
matt@routnerr-1# show system offload
  hwnat disable
  ipsec enable
  ipv4 {
    forwarding enable
    gre enable
    pppoe enable
    vlan enable
  }
  ipv6 {
    forwarding enable
    pppoe disable
    vlan enable
  }
[edit]
```

# Step 0: the setup

- We'll need to configure a few things to make this all work:
  - IPv6 firewall (**important, you can't rely on NAT as a firewall!**)
  - DHCPv6-PD on the WAN interface
  - NDP RAs with SLAAC on the LAN interface
- These slides will be based on my current router configuration
  - **eth0: LAN, eth1: WAN**
  - [This blog post by Bradley Heilbrun](#) might be the guide I originally used

# Step 1: IPv6 firewall rules

- We will set up two named IPv6 firewalls on WAN interface:
  - Inbound IPv6 traffic to the router (WAN6\_LOCAL)
  - Inbound IPv6 traffic to the LAN behind the router (WAN6\_IN)

## Step 1a: WAN6\_LOCAL

- When IPv6 traffic arrives bound for our router's address, it should:
  - Allow established/related state
    - TCP responses to requests we initiate
  - Drop invalid state
    - Nonsensical traffic, ACK on closed TCP connections and etc.
  - Allow ICMPv6 to the router **(important!)**:
    - ping, NDP RAs from ISP, many more...
  - Allow DHCPv6 server responses
    - We need DHCPv6 and DHCPv6-PD to work

```
# set firewall ipv6-name WAN6_LOCAL
# edit firewall ipv6-name WAN6_LOCAL
[edit firewall ipv6-name WAN6_LOCAL]
```

```
# set default-action drop
# set description "IPv6 WAN to router"
```

```
# set rule 10 action accept
# set rule 10 description "Allow established/related"
# set rule 10 state established enable
# set rule 10 state related enable
```

```
# set rule 20 action drop
# set rule 20 description "Drop invalid state"
# set rule 20 state invalid enable
```

```
# set rule 30 action accept
# set rule 30 description "Allow ICMPv6"
# set rule 30 protocol icmpv6

# set rule 40 action accept
# set rule 40 description "Allow DHCPv6"
# set rule 40 destination port 546
# set rule 40 protocol udp
# set rule 40 source port 547

# up
[edit firewall]
```

## Step 1b: WAN6\_IN

- When IPv6 traffic arrives bound for our LAN subnet, it should:
  - Allow established/related state
  - Drop invalid state
  - Allow ICMPv6 to the LAN **(important!)**
  - *Optional:* allow individual TCP/UDP services
    - SSH, HTTP, and HTTPS



```
# set ipv6-name WAN6_IN
# edit ipv6-name WAN6_IN
[edit firewall ipv6-name WAN6_IN]
```

```
# set default-action drop
# set description "IPv6 WAN to LAN"
```

```
# set rule 10
# set rule 10 action accept
# set rule 10 description "Allow established/related"
# set rule 10 state established enable
# set rule 10 state related enable
```

```
# set rule 20
# set rule 20 action drop
# set rule 20 description "Drop invalid state"
# set rule 20 state invalid enable
```

```
# set rule 30 action accept
# set rule 30 description "Allow ICMPv6"
# set rule 30 protocol icmpv6

# set rule 40 action accept
# set rule 40 description "Allow SSH to server"
# set rule 40 destination address [IPv6 address]
# set rule 40 destination port 22
# set rule 40 protocol tcp

# top
# set interfaces ethernet eth1 firewall in ipv6-name WAN6_IN
# set interfaces ethernet eth1 firewall local ipv6-name WAN6_LOCAL

# commit
# save
Saving configuration to '/config/config.boot'...
Done
```

## Step 2: DHCPv6-PD on WAN interface

- Our router must request an IPv6 prefix via DHCPv6-PD on its WAN interface
  - Specify the prefix length: **/56**
  - Subnet the **first /64** out of our prefix for use
  - Set up address **P::1/128** on the router for convenience
  - Specify that we should use **SLAAC** to distribute addresses on the LAN
  - *Optional:* ignore ISP's DNS servers

```
# edit interfaces ethernet eth1
[edit interfaces ethernet eth1]

# set dhcpv6-pd pd 0 prefix-length 56
# set dhcpv6-pd pd 0 interface eth0 prefix-id :0
# set dhcpv6-pd pd 0 interface eth0 host-address ::1
# set dhcpv6-pd pd 0 interface eth0 service slaac
# set dhcpv6-pd no-dns

# top
# commit
# save
Saving configuration to '/config/config.boot'...
Done
```

## Step 3: verify IPv6 connectivity on router

- Check interface status to see IPv6 address assignments
- Ping the IPv6 internet

```
matt@routnerr-1:~$ show interfaces
```

```
Codes: S - State, L - Link, u - Up, D - Down, A - Admin Down
```

Interface	IP Address	S/L	Description
-----	-----	---	-----
eth0	192.168.1.1/24	u/u	LAN
	2600:6c4a:787f:d200::1/64		
	fd00::1/64		
eth1	24.176.13.215/22	u/u	WAN
	2600:6c4a:7002:100:d59c:8634:4669:65db/128		
eth2	-	A/D	
lo	127.0.0.1/8	u/u	
	::1/128		

```
matt@routnerr-1:~$ ping6 2600::
```

```
PING 2600::(2600::) 56 data bytes
```

```
64 bytes from 2600::: icmp_seq=1 ttl=49 time=48.8 ms
```

## Step 4: verify IPv6 connectivity on LAN device

- Verify your router's NDP RAs are reaching your LAN devices
- Ping the IPv6 internet
- Open an IPv6 test in your browser: [ipv6-test.com](https://ipv6-test.com)

```
matt@nerr-2:~$ ndp rs
ndp> interface: enp5s0, link-layer address: 74:d4:35:e7:cb:c4, IPv6 address:
    fe80::76d4:35ff:fee7:cbc4
ndp rs> router solicitation:
    - source link-layer address: 74:d4:35:e7:cb:c4

ndp rs> router advertisement from: fe80::618:d6ff:fea1:ceb7:
    - hop limit:          64
    - preference:         Medium
    - router lifetime:    30m0s
    - options:
        - prefix information: 2600:6c4a:787f:d200::/64, flags: [0A], valid: 48h0m0s,
            preferred: 24h0m0s
        - prefix information: fd00::/64, flags: [0A], valid: 48h0m0s, preferred: 24h0m0s
        - source link-layer address: 04:18:d6:a1:ce:b7
```

```
matt@nerr-2:~$ ping 2600::
PING 2600::(2600::) 56 data bytes
64 bytes from 2600::: icmp_seq=1 ttl=48 time=47.5 ms
```



## IPv4 connectivity

IPv4 **Supported**

Address 24.176.13.215



Hostname 24-176-13-215.dhcp.klmz.mi.charter.com



ISP Spectrum



## IPv6 connectivity

IPv6 **Supported**

Address 2600:6c4a:787f:d200:f4e8:edae:6ed1:ae15

Type **Native IPv6**SLAAC **No**ICMP **Reachable**

Hostname 2600-6c4a-787f-d200-f4e8-edae-6ed1-ae15.dhcp6.chtrptr.net



ISP Spectrum



## Score



20 / 20

## Browser

Default **IPv6**Fallback **to IPv4 in 1 second**

## DNS

DNS4 + IP6 **Reachable**DNS6 + IP4 **Reachable**DNS6 + IP6 **Reachable**

## More

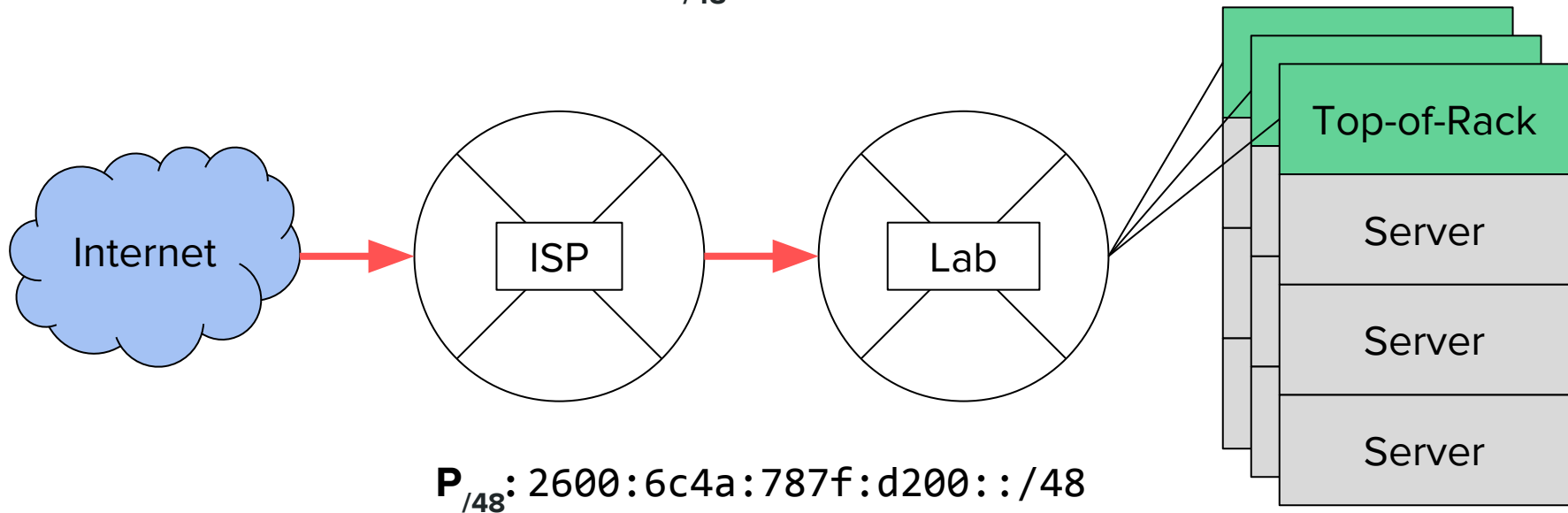
[Speed test »](#)[Ping test »](#)

What if we take our  
IPv6 network a step  
further?\*

\* There are some caveats, but I think this would be fun to try in a lab!

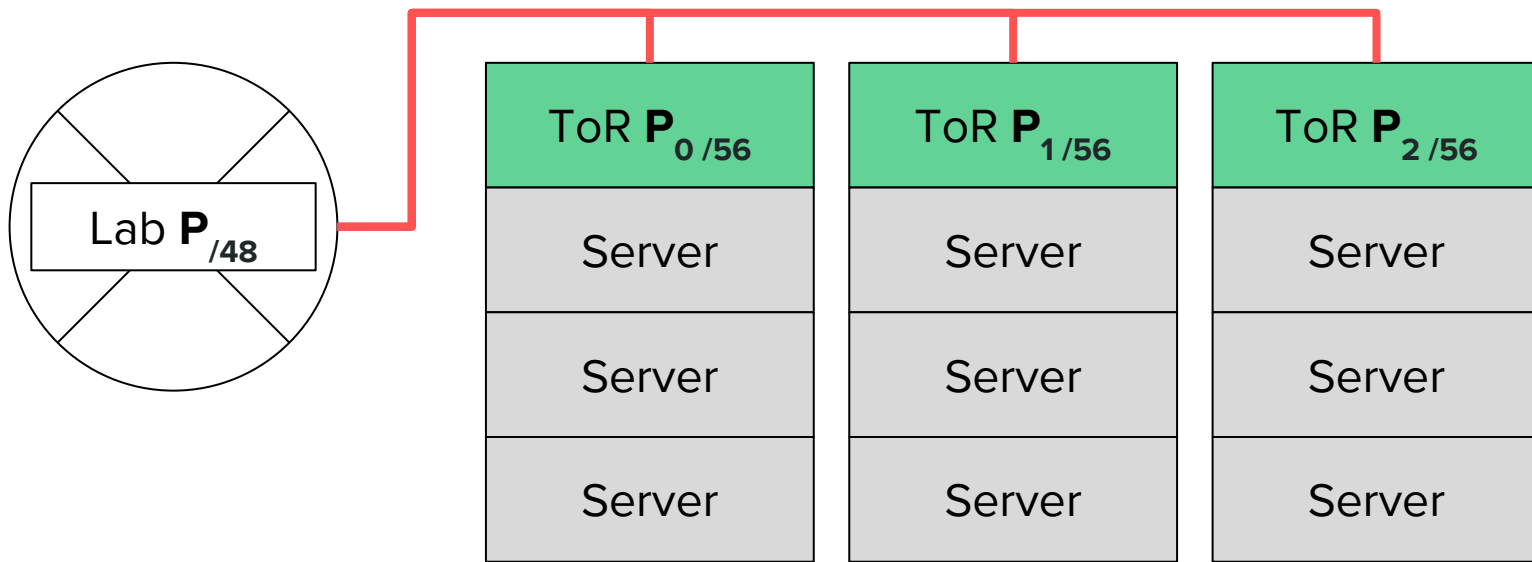
# IPv6 in a larger network

- Lab router has been delegated  $\mathbf{P}_{/48}$  IPv6 prefix by ISP router



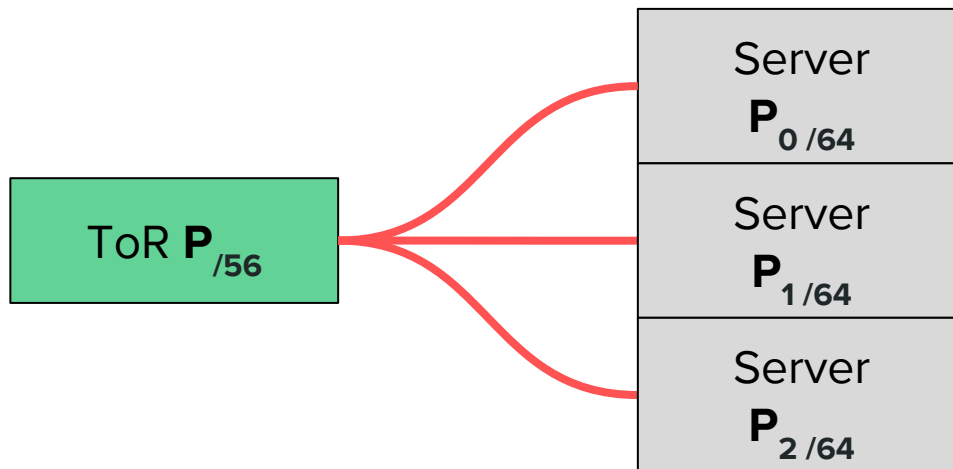
# IPv6 in a larger network

- Lab router can use DHCPv6-PD to delegate and route individual  $\mathbf{P}_{/56}$  IPv6 prefixes to **Top-of-Rack (ToR)** devices



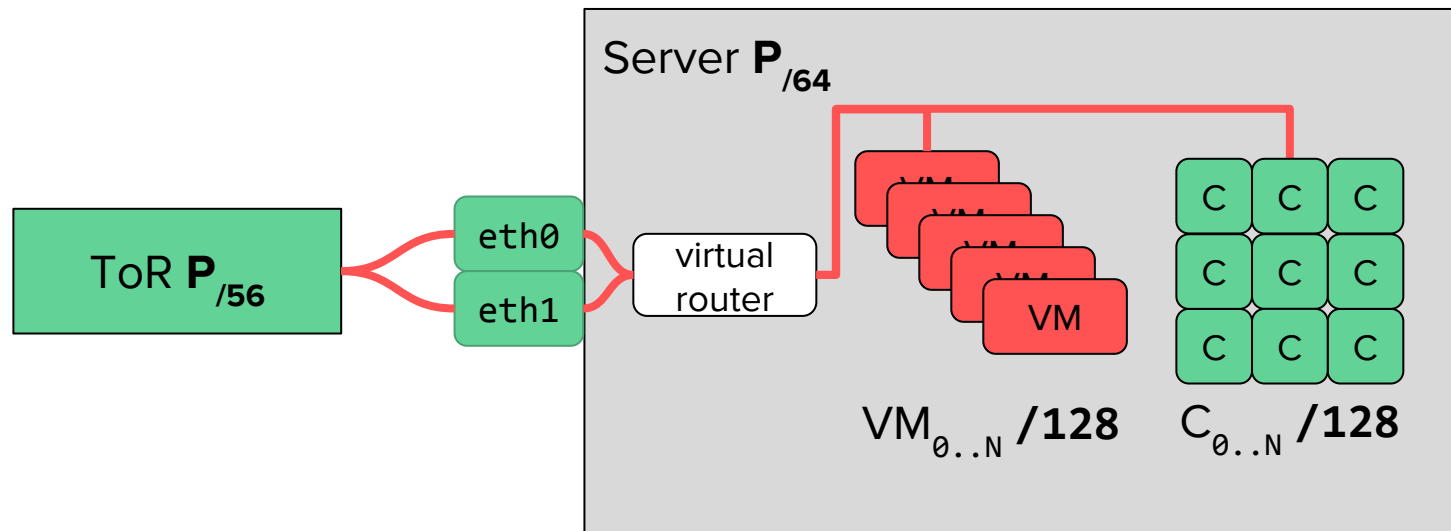
# IPv6 in a larger network

- ToR devices can use DHCPv6-PD to delegate and route individual  $\mathbf{P}_{/64}$  IPv6 prefixes to **servers**



# IPv6 in a larger network

- Servers can use SLAAC to assign individual, **globally routable IPv6 addresses** to each of their **containers or virtual machines**, from their own  $P_{/64}$  prefix



\* **Caveat:** address mobility between servers would be limited in this setup: use a real routing protocol!







$\sim \infty$  IPv6

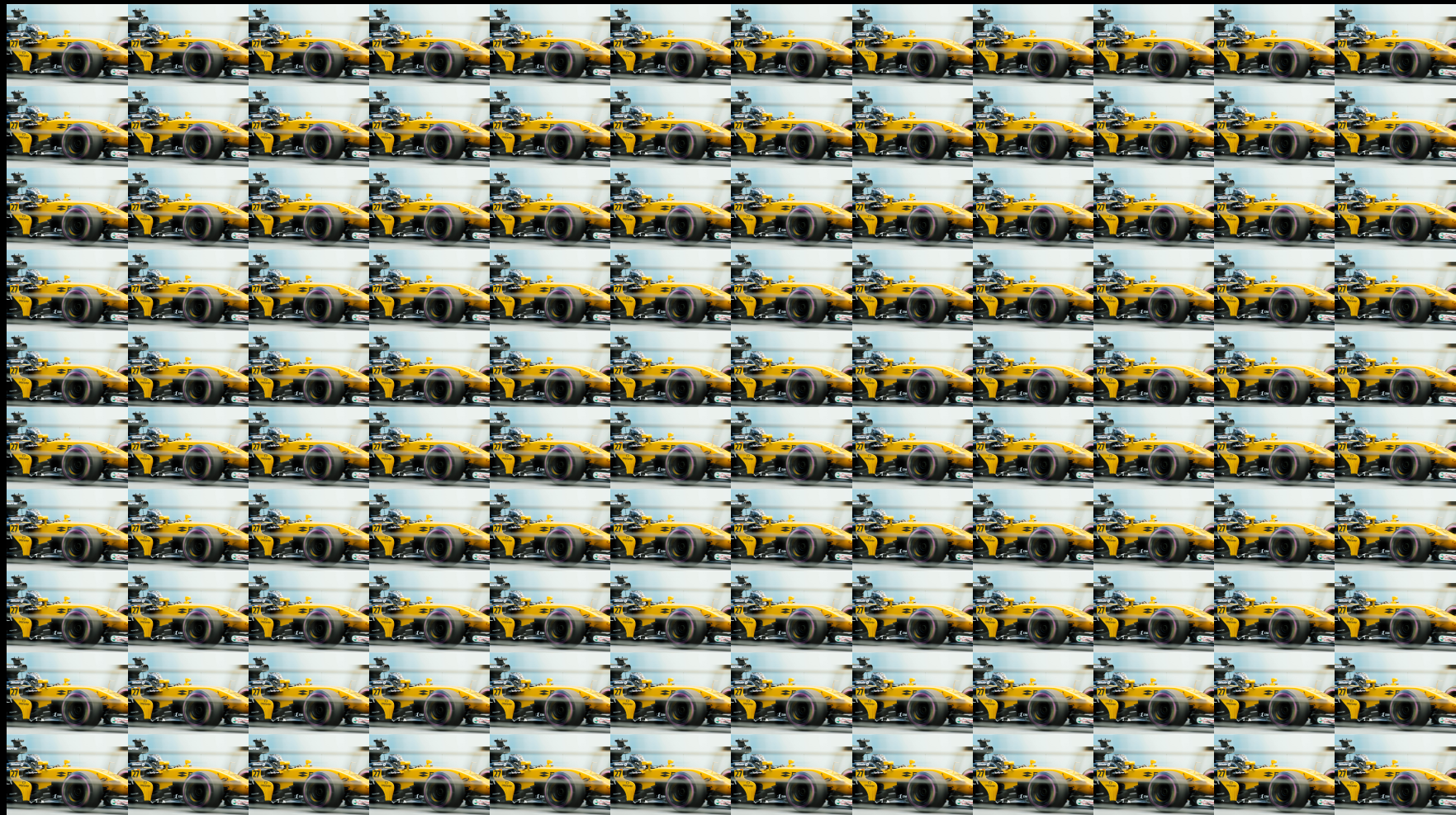


Image credit: [unsplash.com/@chuttersnap](https://unsplash.com/@chuttersnap)

# Thanks!

**Matt Layher**

[mdlayher.com](https://mdlayher.com)

[github.com/mdlayher](https://github.com/mdlayher)

[twitter.com/mdlayher](https://twitter.com/mdlayher)

Image credit: [worldipv6launch.org](https://worldipv6launch.org)

