

# BGP Security

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# Internet Routing is a large challenge

- The Internet is composed of over 80,000 independently-managed **Autonomous Systems (ASes)**, mostly for-profit.
- IPv4 and IPv6 addresses are split to **prefixes**, each **owned** by given AS.
  - Over 1M IPv4 and 200K IPv6 prefix/origin pairs announced.
  - Topology, ownership of prefixes and announcements change.
- Routing coordinated between ASes, each with their own goals.
  - Provide good service to customers, maximize revenues, minimize costs
  - A free market economy: no centralized planning, controls.

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<sup>1</sup>RFC-4271

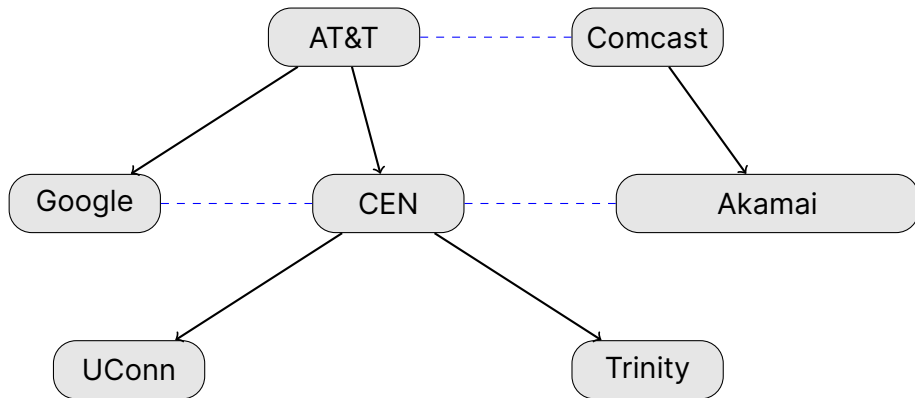
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  - A free market economy: no centralized planning, controls.
- IETF solution: separate **Inter-AS Routing** and **Intra-AS Routing** protocols
  - Each AS can use its own **Intra-AS Routing**
  - **Inter-AS Routing** done by the **Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)**<sup>1</sup>.

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## BGP: customer-provider and bilateral-peers AS relationships



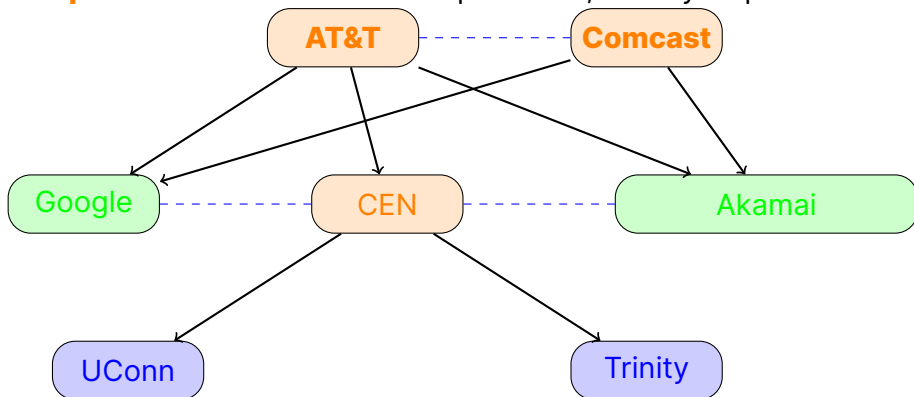
# Types of ASes

**Transit:** have customer (often also peers, providers)

**Stubs:** have only one provider, no customers, rarely peers

**Multi-home:** no customers; at least two providers, possibly peers

**Top-tier:** transit ASes with no providers, usually all peered



# Forwarding Packets and FIB

- Routers (aka gateways) **forward** IP packets toward destination network
- Networks identified by **prefix**:  $1.2/16 = \{1.2.x.y\}_{x,y=0}^{255}$
- **Forwarding Info-Base (FIB)**: table mapping prefixes to next-AS (or router)
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|----------|---------|
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| 1.2.3/24 | 2       |
| 5.6.8/22 | 3       |

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| Prefix   | Next-AS | Destination 1.2.3.4, route to AS ____ |
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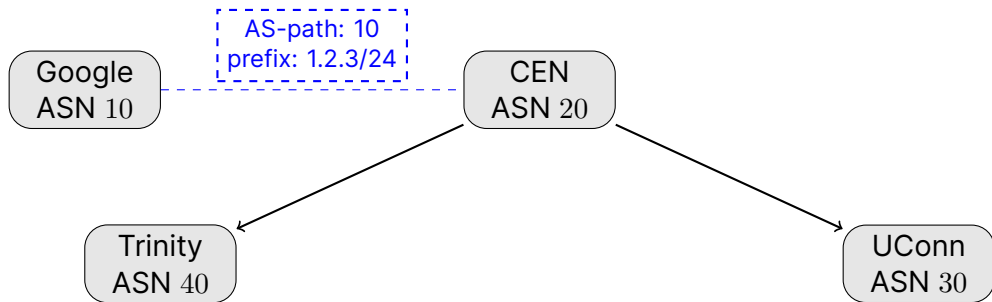
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|          |         | Destination 7.8.9.2, _____             |

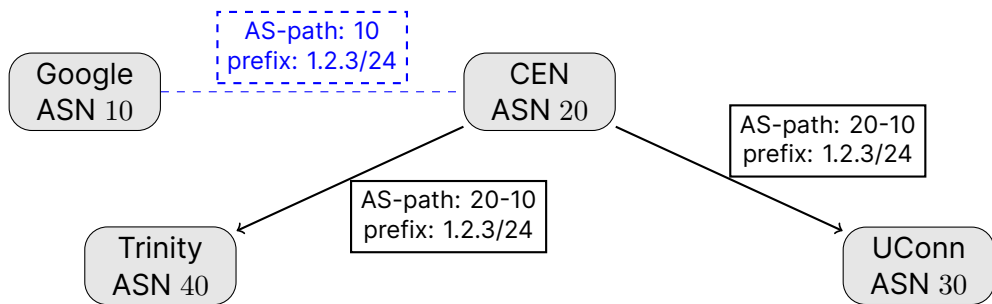
# Routing: Creating the Forwarding Tables (FIBs)

- Routers (gateways) receive route-announcements from neighboring routers, put (best?) route to each prefix in FIB
- Routing protocol receives, processes and sends announcements
- Intra-Domain Routing: routing within the AS
- Inter-Domain Routing: routing to/from other ASes
- BGP (Border Gateway Protocol): the Internet's standard Inter-Domain Routing protocol

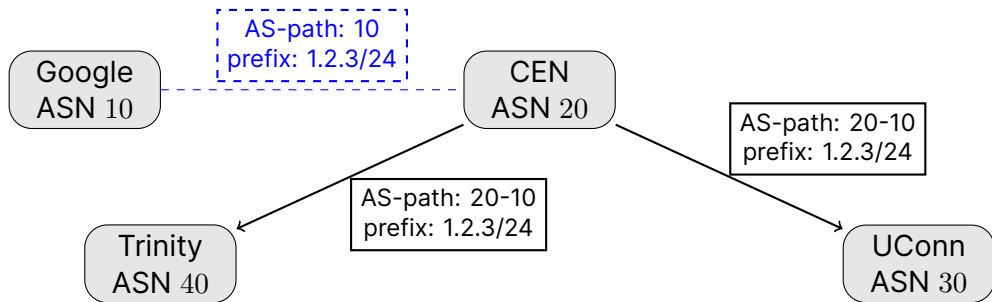
# BGP Announcements



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# BGP Announcements



- Ignore incoming announcement if it contains your ASN (loop prevention)
- Policy determines which incoming announcement to use and which (if any) to **export** (send) to each neighbor
- Policy determined by AS, but expected to be **sensible**
- These considerations imply most policy choices!

# BGP policy: economics, performance, connectivity

- ASes pay their providers based on amount of traffic (send and received!)
- No payments for traffic between bilateral peers
- Shorter path (less ASes) is often also faster (less routers, delay)
- Most important: **connectivity** (to your AS and your customers)



# Valley-Free (Gao-Rexford) BGP Policies

- Prefer announcements based on relationships:
  - Best: announcements from customers (get paid!)
  - Ok: announcements from bilateral peers
  - Least: announcements from providers (pay)
- Among these, prefer announcements with shortest AS-path

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- Continue using current announcement if as good as new one
- Tie-break: if all the same, use announcement from AS with lower ASN

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- Continue using current announcement if as good as new one
- Tie-break: if all the same, use announcement from AS with lower ASN
- **Export** the chosen announcement to all customers; if it is from a customer, export to peers and to one or all providers.
  - By default (and in most works): export to all providers

# BGP Traffic Engineering (TE)

- Methods for prefix-owner to influence selection of path:
- **Prepending:** announce as usual to preferred provider (e.g., AS-path:10) and by prepending to depreferred provider (AS-path 10-10-10)
- **Announce only to preferred provider;** announce to other provider only if/when needed
- **Communities:** optional fields for customer AS to signal requests to provider AS (e.g., do not announce to AS X)

# Secure BGP (Inter-Domain Routing) is a **really** large challenge

- BGP coordinates routing between many ASes
  - A free market economy: no centralized planning, controls.
  - **BGP allows each AS to choose its own policy.**
  - **Often conflicting goals; many attacks, failures!**
- Some basic rules **should** be respected:

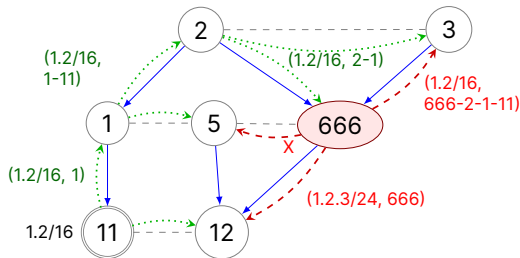
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  - Often conflicting goals; many attacks, failures!
- Some basic rules **should** be respected:
  - Only announce your prefixes and relayed announcements
  - Preserve the integrity of relayed announcements
  - Valley-free routing: maximize profits and customer-connectivity
- BGP attacks are forbidden behaviors.

# BGP Mis-Routing Attacks

BGP lacks authentication. BGP sessions are often authenticated against MitM (using TLS, IPSec,...) but BGP is still vulnerable to **rogue AS attacks**:

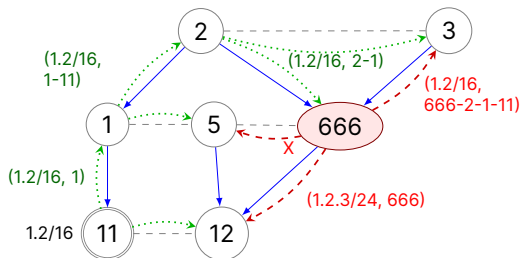
- Route Leak (valley): **up to AS 3**
- Prefix Hijack: **X=(1.2/16, 666)** to AS 5
- Subprefix Hijack: **(1.2.3/24,666)** to AS 12
- Origin Hijack: **X=(1.2/16, 666-11)** to AS 5
- Path Manipulation: **X=(1.2/16, 666-2-11)**



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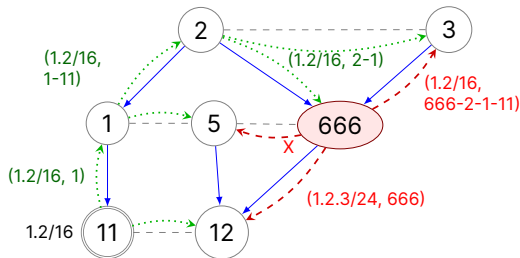




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- Attack or misconfiguration ('fat fingers')?
  - Motivations for attacks: MitM, eavesdrop, DoS, spam/phishing, deanonymization, DNS poison, ...



# A Brief, Partial History of BGP Security (not to scale)

1989

*RFC 1105 A Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)  
Security Problems in the TCP/IP Protocol Suite*

1994

*RFC 1654 A Border Gateway Protocol 4 (BGP-4)*

1999

*Secure Border Gateway Protocol (S-BGP)*

2001

*Stable Internet Routing without Global Coordination*

2003

*Origin Authentication in Interdomain Routing  
Securing BGP through Secure Origin BGP (soBGP)*

2004

*Evaluation of Efficient Security for BGP Route Announcements using Parallel Simulation*

*SPV: Secure Path Vector Routing for Securing BGP  
Listen and Whisper: Security Mechanisms for BGP*

2005

*Aggregated Path Authentication for Efficient BGP Security*

2006

*RFC 4272 BGP Security Vulnerabilities Analysis  
PHAS: a Prefix Hijack Alert System*

2007

*On Interdomain Routing Security and Pretty Secure BGP (psBGP)*

2008

*Autonomous Security for Autonomous Systems*

2009

*Netreview: Detecting When Interdomain Routing Goes Wrong*

# A Brief, Partial History of BGP Security (not to scale)

## 2010

*A Survey of BGP Security Issues and Solutions*

*How Secure are Secure Interdomain Routing Protocols?*

## 2011

*Let the Market Drive Deployment: A Strategy for Transitioning to BGP Security*

*Having your Cake and Eating it too: Routing Security with Privacy Protections*

*Preventing Attacks on BGP Policies: One Bit is Enough*

## 2012

*RFC 6480 An Infrastructure to Support Secure Internet Routing*

*RFC 6481 A Profile for Resource Certificate Repository Structure*

*Private and Verifiable Interdomain Routing Decisions*

*A new approach to Interdomain Routing based on Secure Multi-party Computation*

## 2013

*RFC 6811 BGP Prefix Origin Validation*

*BGP Security in Partial Deployment: Is the Juice worth the Squeeze?*

*On the Risk of Misbehaving RPKI Authorities*

*A Survey of Interdomain Routing Policies*

## 2014

*Why is it Taking so Long to Secure Internet Routing?*

*RFC 7132 Threat Model for BGP Path Security*

*PEERING: an AS for us*

*A Survey of Interdomain Routing Policies*

## 2015

*Secure Routing for Future Communication Networks*

*Investigating Interdomain Routing Policies in the Wild*

*Self-reliant Detection of Route Leaks in Inter-domain Routing*

# A Brief, Partial History of BGP Security (not to scale)

## 2016

*RFC 7908 Problem Definition and  
Classification of BGP Route Leaks*  
*Jumpstarting BGP Security with Path-End  
Validation*  
*Rethinking Security for Internet Routing*  
*NTT Peer Locking*

## 2017

*RFC 8205 BGPsec Protocol  
Specification*  
*Are We There Yet? On RPKI's  
Deployment and Security*  
*Design and Analysis of Optimization  
Algorithms to Minimize  
Cryptographic Processing in BGP  
Security Protocols*  
*The SCION Internet Architecture*

## 2018

*RFC 8374 BGPsec Design Choices and  
Summary of Supporting Discussions*  
*Practical Experience: Methodologies for  
Measuring Route Origin Validation*  
*Towards a Rigorous Methodology for  
Measuring Adoption of RPKI Route  
Validation and Filtering*  
*University of Oregon Route Views Project*  
*The State of Affairs in BGP Security: A  
Survey of Attacks and Defenses*

## 2019

*Resilient Interdomain Traffic Exchange:  
BGP Security and DDoS Mitigation*  
*RPKI is Coming of Age: A Longitudinal  
Study of RPKI Deployment and  
Invalid Route Origins*  
*SICO: Surgical Interception Attacks by  
Manipulating BGP Communities*

## 2020

*Limiting the Power of RPKI Authorities*  
*DISCO: Sidestepping RPKI's Deployment  
Barriers*  
*On Measuring RPKI Relying Parties*  
*Peerlock: Flexsealing BGP*

## 2021

*Revisiting RPKI Route Origin  
Validation on the Data Plane*  
*ROV++: Improved Deployable  
Defense Against BGP  
Hijacking*  
*The Hijackers Guide to the  
Galaxy: Off-Path Taking Over  
Internet Resources*

## 2024

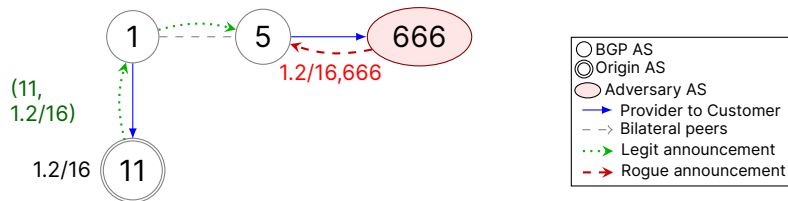
*BGP-iSec*  
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# BGP Security and Attacks

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But Rogue AS is often able to **intercept traffic**

Example: prefix hijack intercepts traffic sent from AS 5 to 1.2/16

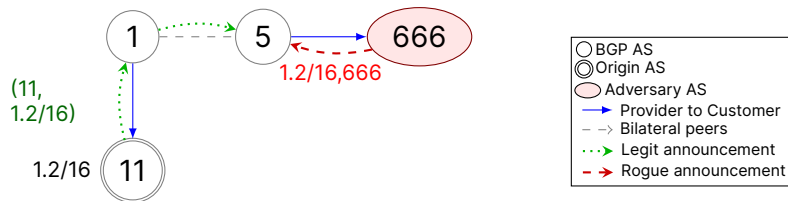


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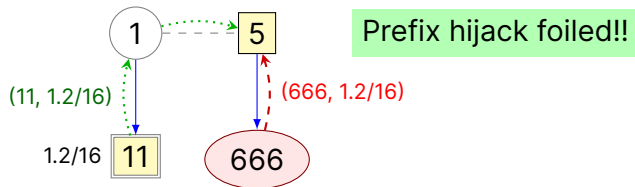
What defenses can foil this attack?

# Route Origin Authorization (ROA)

- Prefix-owners sign **Route Origin Authorization (ROA)**, defining a valid origin-AS for each prefix
- Assume **ROA for 1.2/16, origin AS 11**. Following announcement are **invalid**:
  - Announcements with origin AS 666 and prefix **1.2/16**: **wrong origin AS**,
  - and with origin AS 11, and prefix **??**

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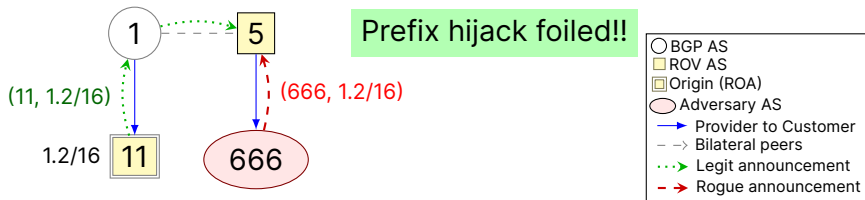
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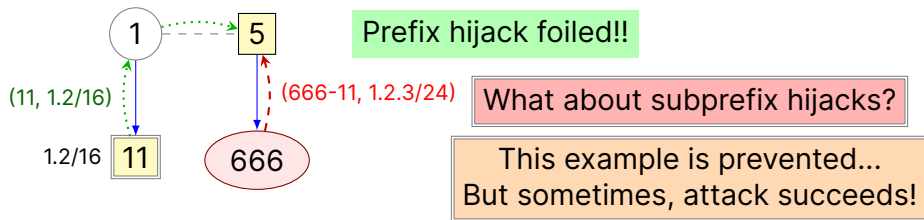


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  - ROA has optional parameter **max-length=  $l$** ; in this case, subprefixes with length up to  $l$  are valid
  - E.g., with a ROA for 1.2/16 with max-length= 22 and origin AS 11, announcement (11, 1.2.8/22) is valid (but 1.2.3/24 is invalid)
  - Can reduce number of ROAs but vulnerable if not all prefixes allowed, therefore, **avoid it** [RFC9319]

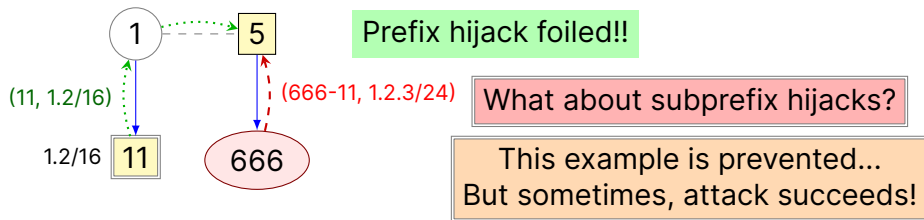
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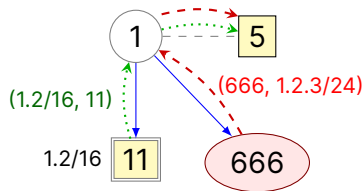


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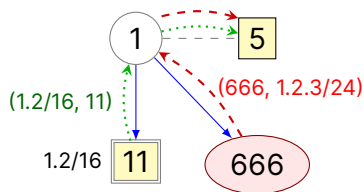


## Partially-adopted Route Origin Validation (ROV) may fail against subprefix hijacks



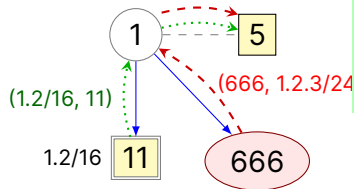
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- Even if AS 5 adopts ROV, and drops (666, 1.2.3/24), it would route to AS 1 packets with dest-IP in 1.2/16, including in 1.2.3/24; and AS 1 routes to the attacker packets with dest-IP in 1.2.3/24 (IP always routes to the most specific prefix in the routing table)

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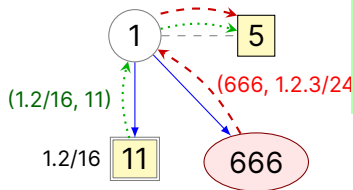
## ROV++ [NDSS21] foils this (and most) subprefix hijacks!



Suppose AS 5 adopts ROV++.  
It would blackhole traffic to  $1.2.3/2$   
rather than send via AS 1  
 $\Rightarrow$  **subprefix hijack foiled!!**

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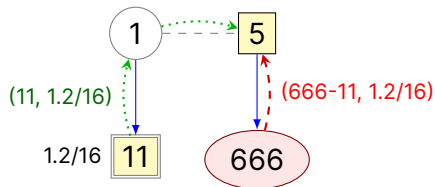
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  - Attackers expected to switch to **post-ROV** attacks



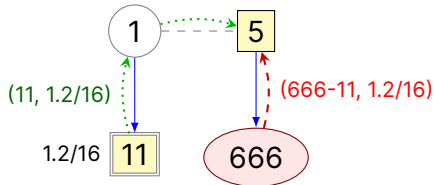
# Route Origin Validation (ROV) may fail against Origin Hijacks

- **Origin hijack:** attacker exports announcement with AS-path containing itself and the legitimate origin, e.g., (666-11, 1.2/16), i.e., as if it received it from the origin
- ROV (and ROV++) evaluate (666-11, 1.2/16) as valid
- The AS-path contains one more AS (cf. prefix hijack)  $\Rightarrow$  less likely to 'win'
  - BGP ASes prefer an announcement from customer, then peer, then provider; if there are multiple announcements from same 'type' (e.g. customer), prefer shorter AS-path.



## Route Origin Validation (ROV) may fail against Origin Hijacks

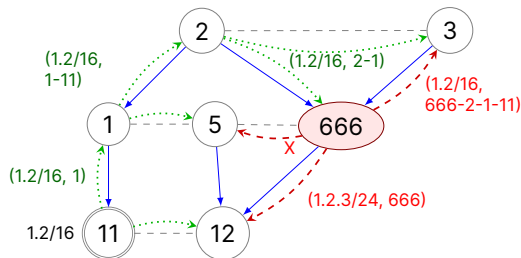
- **Origin hijack:** attacker exports (666-11, 1.2/16)
- ROV (and ROV++) evaluate (666-11, 1.2/16) as valid
- AS 5 receives (1-11, 1.2/16) from peer (AS 1) and (666-11, 1.2/16) from customer (AS 666). Customer routes are preferred  $\Rightarrow$  traffic to 1.2/16 sent to AS 666!
- The AS-path contains one more AS (cf. prefix hijack)  $\Rightarrow$  less likely to 'win'
- If ROV/ROV++ is only partially adopted, attacker may combine this with a subprefix hijack



# BGP Mis-Routing Attacks

BGP lacks authentication. BGP sessions are often authenticated against MitM (using TLS, IPSec,...) but BGP is still vulnerable to **rogue AS attacks**:

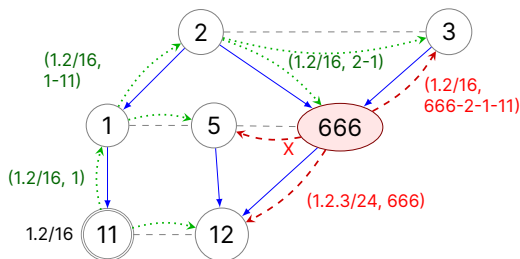
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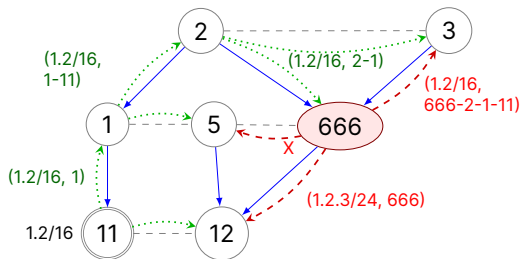
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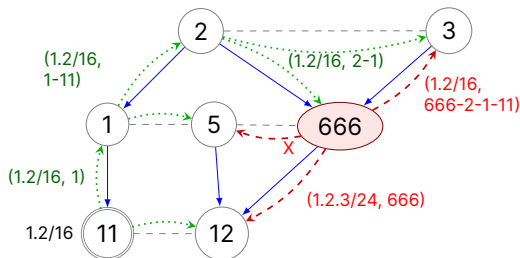
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- Attack or misconfiguration ('fat fingers')
  - Motivations for attacks: MitM, eavesdrop, DoS, spam/phishing, deanonymization, DNS poison, ...



# Post-ROV BGP Mis-Routing Attacks

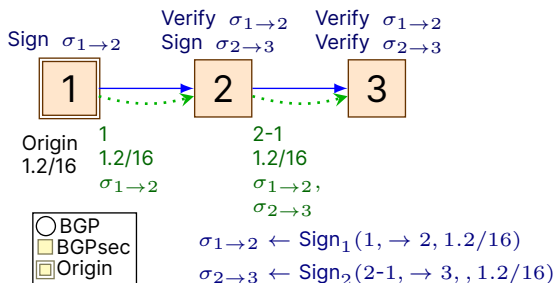
With complete adoption of ROAs and ROV, prefix and subprefix attacks are eliminated. Remaining threats:

- Prefix Hijack:  ~~$X=(1.2/16, 666)$~~  to AS 5
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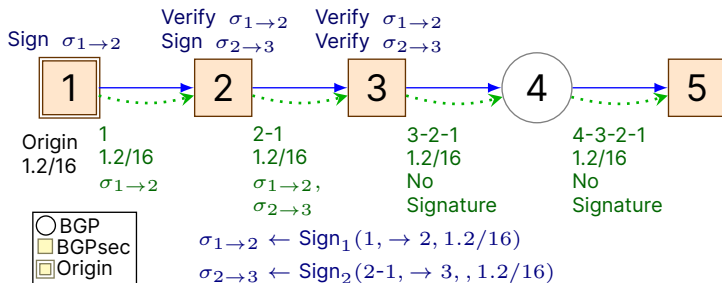
# BGPsec (RFC8205): IETF standard against path manipulations.

- ASes sign announcements they export, and validate sigs on incoming announcements
- Add 'next AS' to announcement, e.g., (2 - 1,  $\rightarrow$  3, 1.2/16)
- RPKI contains certificates with ASN and public key of that ASN



- Attacker can't make a BGPsec-valid origin hijack or other path-manipulations

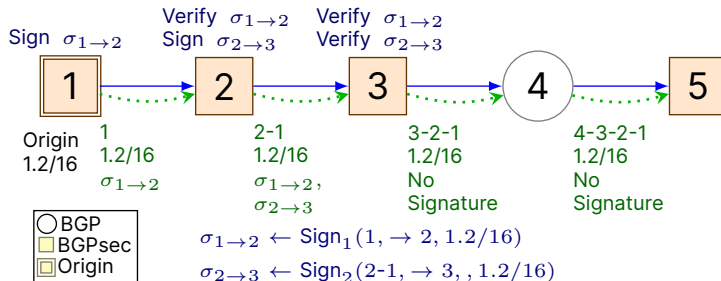
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- Attacker can't make a BGPsec-valid origin hijack or other path-manipulations
- BGPsec ASes downgrade to BGP for BGP neighbors
  - E.g, AS 5 will not receive signature, can't validate.
- $\Rightarrow$  Very limited benefits for partial deployment [LychevGS13]

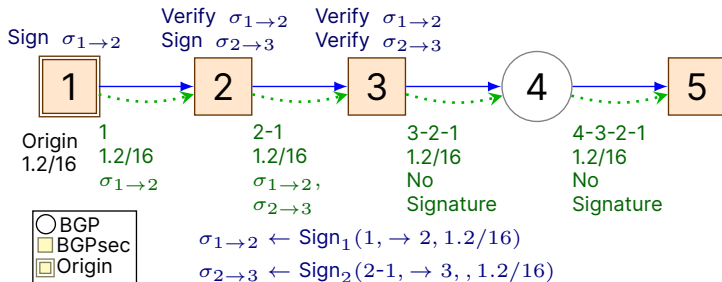


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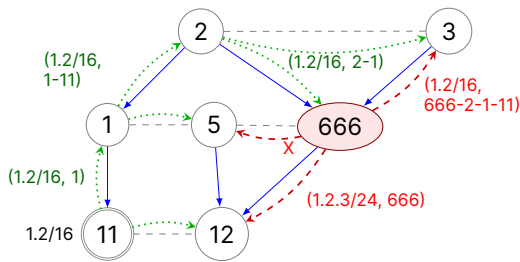


- BGPsec ASes downgrade to BGP for BGP neighbors
- **Why does BGPsec downgrade to BGP?**
- BGPsec ASes do not relay BGPsec info to BGP-only routers.
- Even if they did, rogue AS can omit BGPsec info
  - BGPsec has no registry of adopting ASes
  - And adopting ASes may stop signing at any time

# Mis-Routing Attacks in spite of BGPsec (and ROV)

All post-ROV vulnerabilities remain even with global adoption of BGPsec!

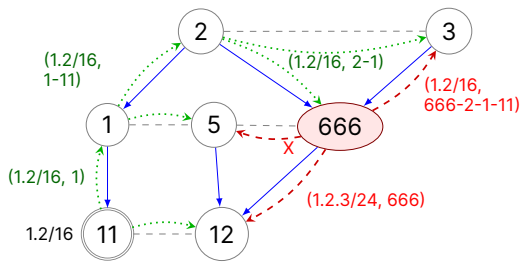
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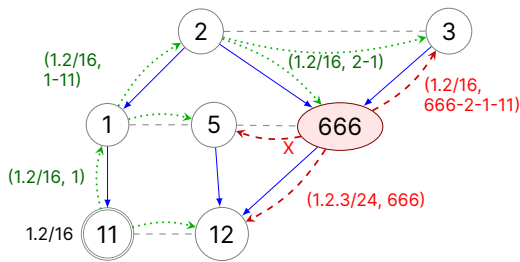


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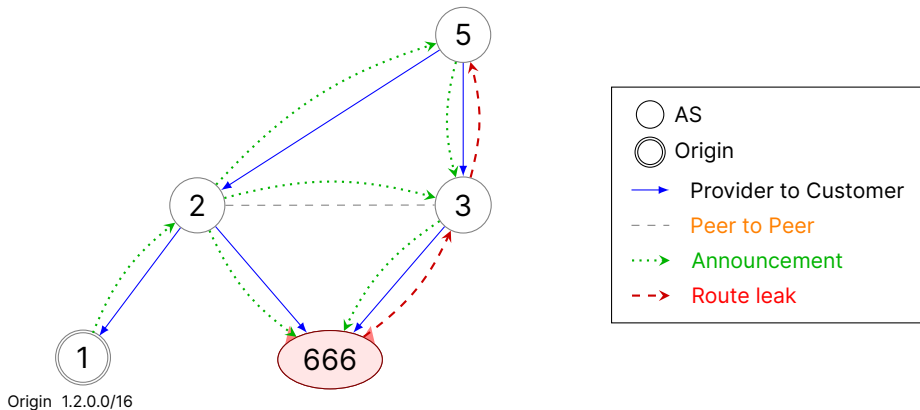
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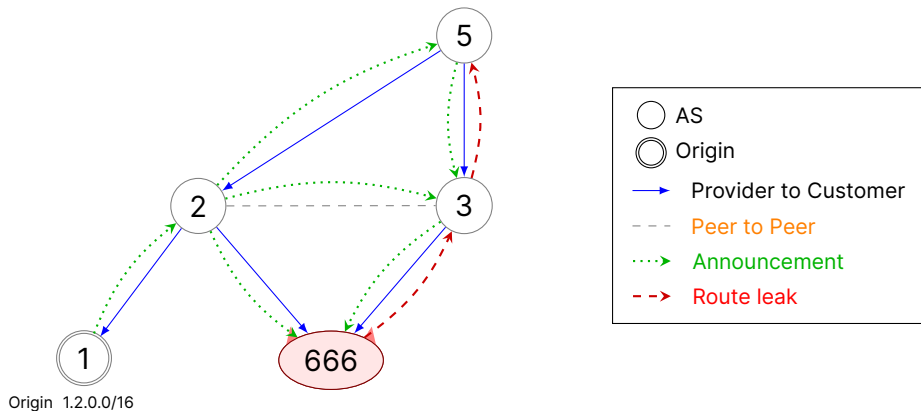
... and BGPsec is also computationally expensive (signatures, verifications)!

# Route leak: export announcement not received from a customer



Announcement from customer should only contain an **up-path** (customer exports to provider). In announcement from peer, path should be **up** except the last (peer) edge.

# Route leak: export announcement not received from a customer

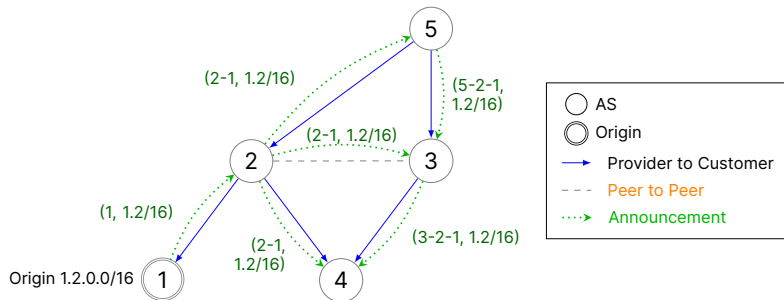


Leaks can be intentional attacks or not (misconfigurations, 'fat fingers')

A leak has a valley, even if it BGP-compliant, e.g.: (666-2-1, 1.2/16) to AS 3

# Recall: Valley-Free Routing Policy (Gao-Rexford)

- 1st, prefer routes to maximize profits: **Best: from customers (income);**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> best: from peers (no cost); Worse: from providers (\$!!)**
  - If same relationship, prefer shorter AS path
- Export customer announcement to all neighbors; if best is from peer/provider, export only to customers.





# Defenses against Route Leaks

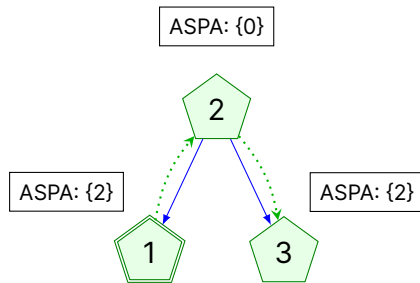
- Prefix and path filtering: only by provider of leaking AS
- Detect and Fightback (announce subprefix): attacker can leak subprefix

# Defenses against Route Leaks

- Prefix and path filtering: only by provider of leaking AS
- Detect and Fightback (announce subprefix): attacker can leak subprefix
- **AS Provider Authorization (ASPA)**
- Only-to-Customer (OTC) attribute [RFC9234]
- BGP-iSec route-leak defenses: signed OTC, UP attributes and ProConID

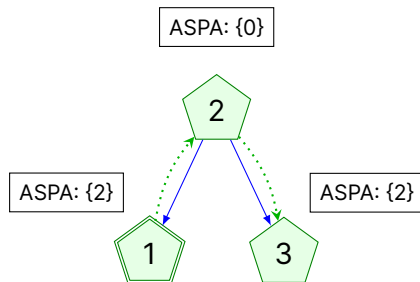
# ASPA: AS Provider Authorization

- ASPA: an Internet Draft (I-D) of IETF's SIDR WG; its (main) goal is to foil **route leaks**.
- ASPA adopting ASes also adopt ROV
- Each AS publishes a Set of Provider ASes
  - $\text{ASPA:}\{0\}$  means no provider AS



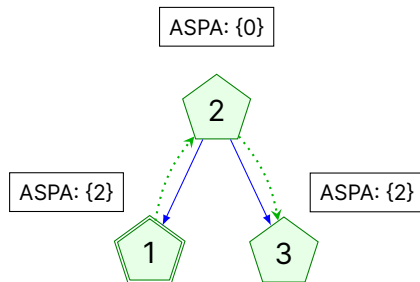
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- Fully deployed, ASPA ensures (only) **path plausibility**; can't validate that path was actually announced

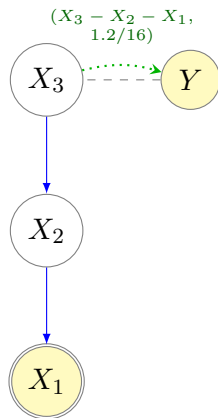


# ASPA Validation for announcements from customer/peer

- Customer and bilateral peers should export only announcements from their customers
- $ASPA(X)$ : signed list of  $X$ 's **providers**
  - No providers?  $\Rightarrow ASPA(X) = \{AS0\}$
  - $\perp$  if  $X$  did not publish ASPA list
- Suppose AS  $Y$  receives announcement  $\alpha$  from customer/peer  $X_n$ , with path:  $X_n - \dots - X_1$ 
  - Path must be 'upwards':  $(\forall 1 < i \leq n) X_{i-1} \notin ASPA(X_i)$   
and  $(\forall i < n) ASPA(X_i) \neq \perp \Rightarrow X_{i+1} \in ASPA(X_i)$
  - Otherwise:  $Y$  discards announcement  $\alpha$

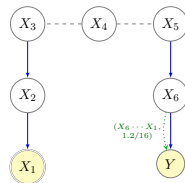
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  - Otherwise:  $Y$  discards announcement  $\alpha$
  - In example,  $Y$  permits announcement  $\alpha$ , iff:
    - $X_2 \in ASPA(X_1)$ ,
    - $X_2$  has no ASPA or  $X_3 \in ASPA(X_2)$ , and
    - $X_2 \notin ASPA(X_3)$



# ASPA validation for announcement from provider

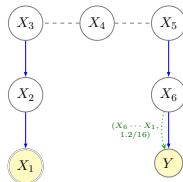
- Suppose AS  $Y$  receives announcement  $\alpha$  from provider  $X_n$ , with path:  $X_n - \dots - X_1$ 
  - Path must be **Up\*-[Peer]-Down\*** :  $\exists 1 \leq l \leq r \leq n$  s.t.:
    - $(\forall i < l) ASPA(X_i) \neq \perp \Rightarrow X_{i+1} \in ASPA(X_i)$  and  $X_{i-1} \notin ASPA(X_i)$ ,
    - $(\forall i > r) ASPA(X_{i+1}) \neq \perp \Rightarrow X_i \in ASPA(X_{i+1})$  and  $X_{i+1} \notin ASPA(X_i)$ ,
    - $(\forall k (l \leq k < r)), X_k \notin ASPA(X_{k+1})$  and  $X_{k+1} \notin ASPA(X_k)$ ,
    - either  $r = l + 1$  or  $ASPA(X_k) \neq \perp$  for at most one  $k \in [l, r]$
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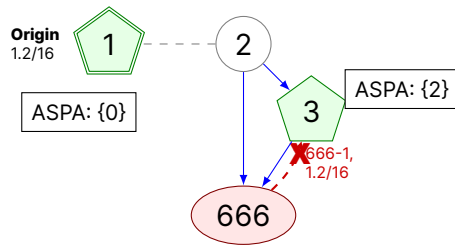
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    - $X_6$  has no ASPA or  $X_5 \in \text{ASPA}(X_6)$ , and
    - $X_6 \notin \text{ASPA}(X_5)$
    - At most one of  $\{X_3, X_4, X_5\}$  adopted ASPA
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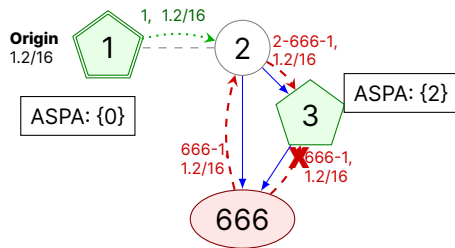
# ASPA prevents many leaks

- ASPA discards an announcement if its path contains an adopting AS announcing to a non-provider, followed by adopting AS receiving from non-provider or exporting to provider
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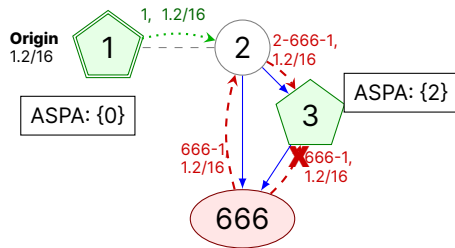
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- But may fail to foil leaks from a rogue or non-adopting **provider**; why?



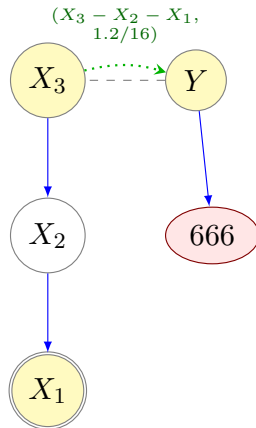
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- Many of these can be foiled by an extension called ASRA (AS Relationship Authorization); out of scope



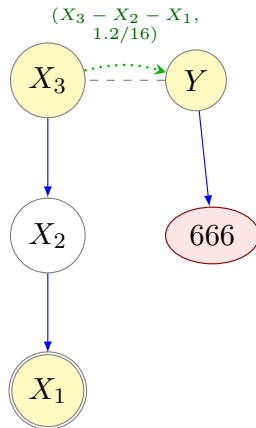
# ASPA does not plug all leaks

- ASPA can't prevent a customer from leaking announcement from any non-adopting provider of the origin
  - In example: AS 666 leaks  $(666 - X_2 - X_1, 1.2/16)$ , an announcement it never received



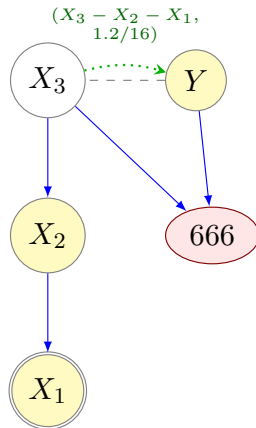
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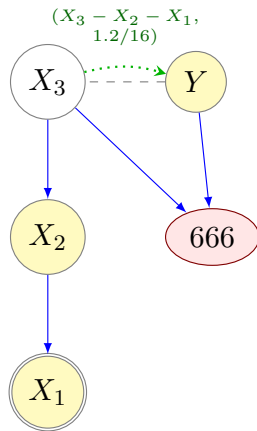
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- Many of these leaks are prevented by ASRA (Autonomous System Relationship Authorization) - out of scope

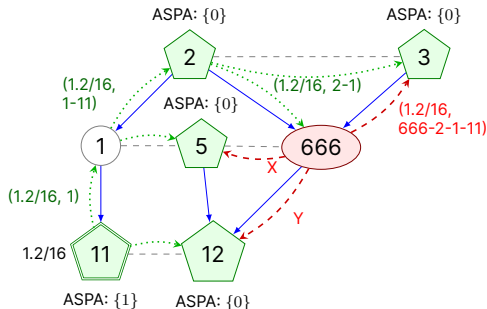




## Mis-Routing Attacks in spite of **ASPA** (and ROV)

## ASPA prevents many route leaks and some other attacks

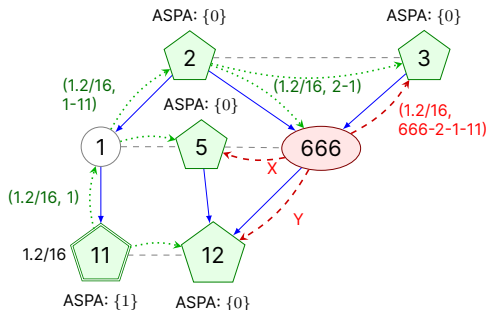
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- **Foils some** path manipulations:  $X=(1.2/16, 666-2-11)$  (if 11, 5 adopt)
- **But not all**, e.g,  $X=(1.2/16, 666-1-11)$ ,  
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  - Also not attribute manipulation:  $Y=(1.2/16, 666-2-1-11, \text{blackhole})$



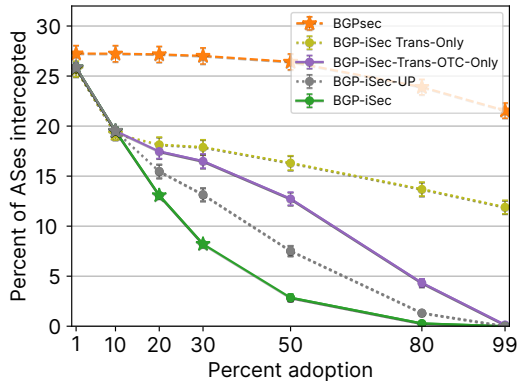
# BGP-iSec: **improved** security for BGP

**BGP-iSec** aims to improve on the security of BGPsec, esp. in partial adoption, with few modifications to the BGPsec design. The main modifications:

- Enable **partial path verification**.
- Identify adopters and their PK, prevent **unauthorized downgrades** to BGP.
- Authenticate integrity-protected **attributes**.
- Effective defenses against **route leaks** (better than ASPA).

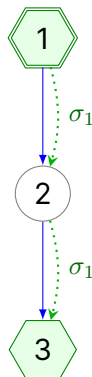
# BGP-iSec Components

- Path integrity defense: transitive Signatures.
- Route-leak defenses:
  - Signed OTC attribute.
  - Up-Permitted attributes.
  - ProConID mechanism.



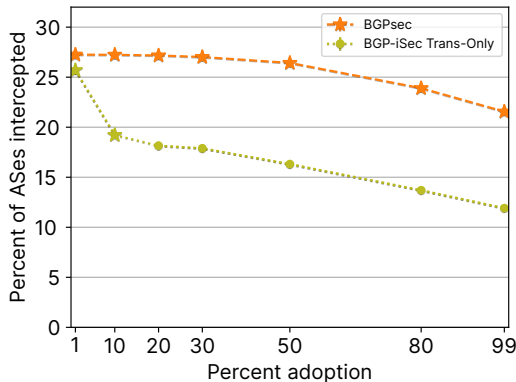
# Transitive Signatures (1/2)

- Signatures in BGPsec have the transitive bit set to **false**. They are not sent to BGP neighbors that do not run BPGsec.
- Signatures in Secure BGP (S-BGP, [Kent et al., 2000]) had the transitive bit set to **true**, but they were not sent to neighbors who were not running S-BGP.
- BGP-iSec sets the transitive bit to **true** and *sends signatures to non-adopting neighbors.*
- Transitive signatures allow BGP-iSec to *enforce downgrade prevention and authenticate adopting (sub)paths.*



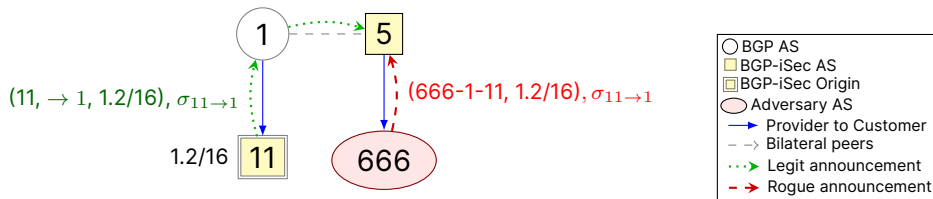
## Transitive Signatures (2/2)

- BGP-iSec prevents fake downgrades: signatures are relayed by **all** ASes; RPKI identifies adopters, keys
- Significant security - for some overhead
- Transitive signatures with partial path verification alone completely prevent hijacks of adopting origins.
- Protects announcement integrity, e.g., the OTC **anti-leakage** mechanism.



# Transitive signatures don't prevent BGP-compliant leaks

- **Route leak:** attacker exports **to provider/peer** a path it did not receive from a customer
- With BGPsec, attacker can (leak) origin-hijack by degrading to BGP
- With transitive signatures (BGP-iSec), attacker can leak announcement they received or hijack from a non-adopting AS, e.g., AS 1.
- Rogue announcement, but contains a valid signatures by adopting ASes!



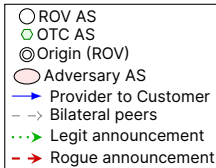
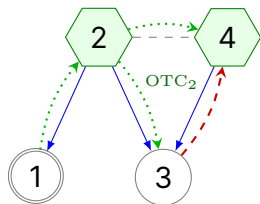
# Defenses against Route Leaks

- Prefix and path filtering: only by provider of leaking AS
- Detect and Fightback (announce subprefix): attacker can leak subprefix
- AS Provider Authorization (ASPA)
- **Only-to-Customer (OTC) attribute** [RFC9234]
- BGP-iSec route-leak defenses: signed OTC, UP attributes and ProConID



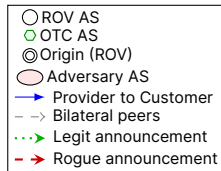
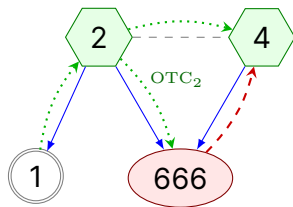
## Only-To-Customer (OTC) (1/2)

- RFC-9234 defines the OTC attribute, indicating that the route should be propagated **Only To Customers**.
  - Adopting AS sets when sending to customer/peer; drops announcement with OTC if received from customer, also from peer except the peer who set OTC
  - In example, allows AS 4 to ignore leak from AS 3
- OTC prevents unintentional leaks; growing adoption.



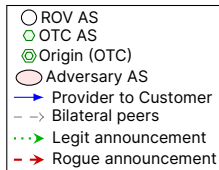
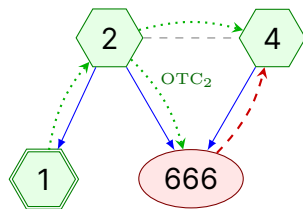
## Only-To-Customer (OTC) (1/2)

- RFC-9234 defines the OTC attribute, indicating that the route should be propagated **Only To Customers**.
- OTC prevents unintentional leaks; growing adoption.
- The OTC attribute is unauthenticated; **a malicious attacker can remove it**.
  - AS 666 removes  $OTC_2$ , causing AS 4 to route via AS 666



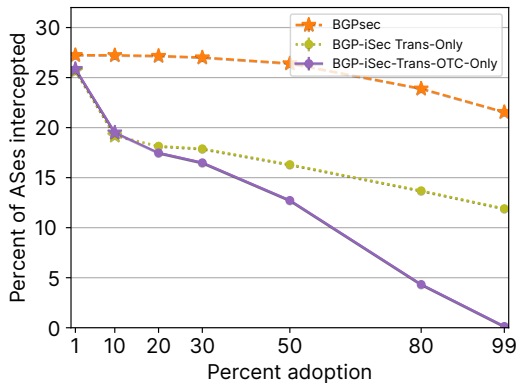
## Signed Only-To-Customer (OTC) (1/2)

- RFC-9234 defines the OTC attribute, indicating that the route should be propagated **Only To Customers**.
- OTC prevents unintentional leaks; growing adoption.
- The OTC attribute is unauthenticated; **a malicious attacker can remove it**.
- BGP-iSec' transitive signatures authenticate the OTC attribute, preventing also **malicious route leaks**.
  - If AS 666 removes  $OTC_2$ , AS 4 discards rogue announcement since it will not be well-signed by AS 2
  - AS 1 should also adopt BGP-iSec, otherwise, AS 666 can origin hijack instead



## Signed Only-To-Customer (OTC) (2/2)

- By authenticating OTC [RFC9234], BGP-iSec foils significantly more post-ROV routing attacks.
- OTC attributes are already in use; authenticates on reaching BGP-iSec adopting AS.
- BGP-iSec has two other defenses which improve prevention of intentional leaks: the **UP attributes** and the **ProConID mechanism**

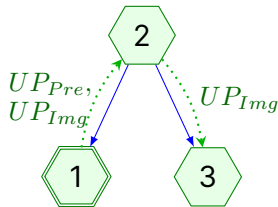


# Defenses against Route Leaks

- Prefix and path filtering: only by provider of leaking AS
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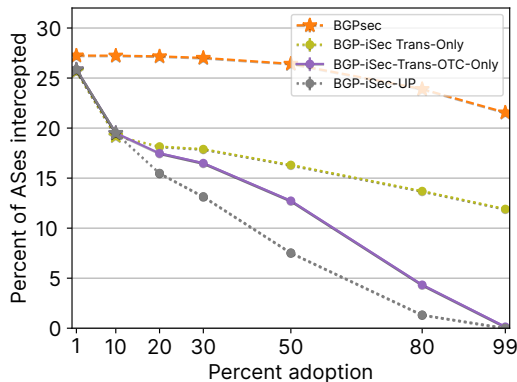
## BGP-iSec UP (Up Permitted) Attributes (1/2)

- The two *Up-Permitted* (UP) attributes,  $UP_{Pre}$  and  $UP_{Img}$ , indicate whether an announcement can be sent to providers (upward).
- $UP_{Pre}$  contains a random string  $x$ ;  $UP_{Img}$  contains  $h(x)$ , where  $h$  is a crypto-hash function
- The UP Preimage is removed when an announcement is sent to a customer or peer (downward).
- Since the hash function cannot be reversed, the preimage cannot be re-added.



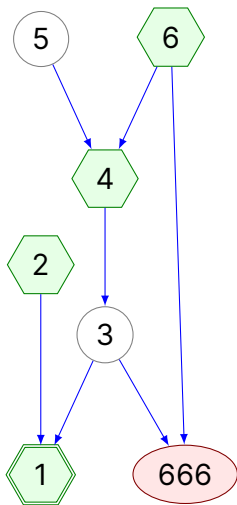
## BGP-iSec Up Permitted (UP) Attributes (2/2)

- Authenticated UP attributes make shortening a leaked AS path more difficult.
- Hash functions are computationally efficient and the digests can be small.
- Drawback: an eavesdropping adversary can capture the preimage.



## BGP-iSec ProConID (1/2)

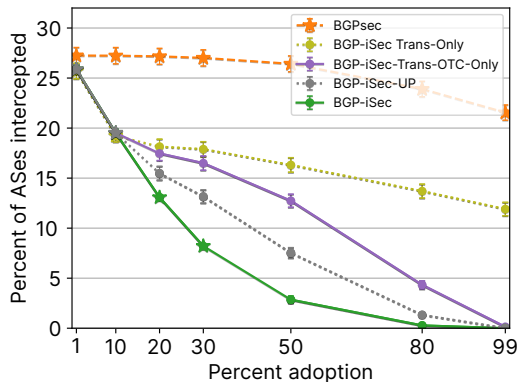
- Adopting AS  $X$  signs  $P_X$ , a list of  $X$ 's nearest-provider BGP-iSec ASes. E.g:  $P_1 = \{2, 4\}$ ,  $P_4 = \{6\}$  and  $P_2$  is empty.
- Let  $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n$  be the adopting ASes in announcement  $\alpha$  received by  $X_n$ . If  $(\exists i) X_i \notin P_{X_{i+1}}$  then  $X_n$  drops  $\alpha$ .
- E.g., AS 6 only allows announcements whose path contains  $\{1, 4, 6\}$ ; e.g., it drops path  $(666 - 3 - 1)$ . And  $(666 - 5 - 4 - 3 - 1)$  is too long.





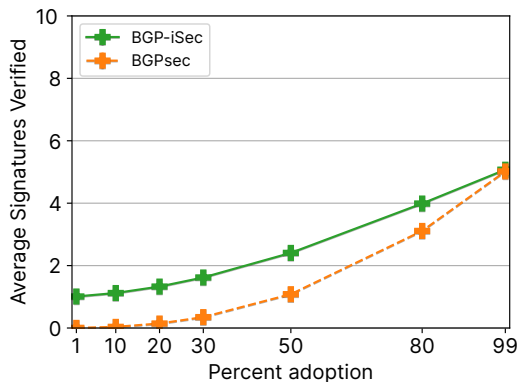
## BGP-iSec ProConID (2/2)

- ProConID provides even stronger protection against route leaks than UP attributes.
- Provider cones are small on average (median size is around 30).
- The overhead of updating and maintaining the ProConID-list is reasonably low (see in paper).



# Overhead Comparison: BGPsec vs. BGP-iSec

- Both BGPsec and BGP-iSec require the same number of signature verification operations in full deployment.
- More signatures on average are verified in partial adoption because they transit over non-adopting ASes.
- In BGPsec, signatures are limited to deployment “islands”.



# Conclusions

- BGP security is challenging
- Many autonomous systems (ASes), conflicting interests, may 'break rules'
- New, improved defenses: ROV, ROV++, BGPsec, BGP-iSec, OTC, ASPA....
- Challenges: partial deployment and incentives
- Some of the many topics not (yet?) covered in this presentation:
  - Exploiting routing attacks: de-anonymization (TOR), DNS-poisoning, defeating domain-validation (get misleading certificates), email interception, ...
  - Routing security aware defenses in applications
  - Source address validation (SAV): uRPF and beyond
  - Data plane failures and attacks: DoS, failure to ensure QoS, and more

Thank you for your attention

**Questions?**

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Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit!

Amir Herzberg, University of Connecticut

**Fragen? (Bitte, in English)**

Backup

# Simulation<sup>2</sup>-based Evaluation of BGP-iSec

## Assumptions:

- Post-ROV: ROA for prefixes, ROV by all ASes
- Valley-free Routing (with export-to-all)
- Relationships (topology) from CAIDA [serial 2]
- Identified Adopters and Public Keys (e.g. in RPKI)
- Security Third
  - If two received paths are from same type of neighbor (e.g., provider) and have same length, prefer the fully-adopting one

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<sup>2</sup>Simulations were performed using custom extensions to BGPpy  
[https://github.com/jfuruness/bgpy\\_pkg](https://github.com/jfuruness/bgpy_pkg)

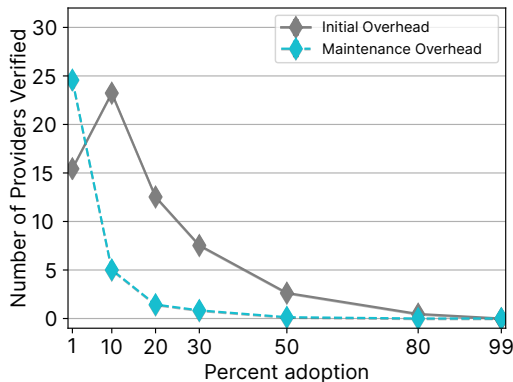
# Evaluation: Attacker Models

- **Full Attacker:** Receives all BGP announcements sent by every AS including BGP-iSec attributes.
- **Global Attacker:** Receives all BGP announcements sent by every AS, but does not receive BGP-iSec attributes.



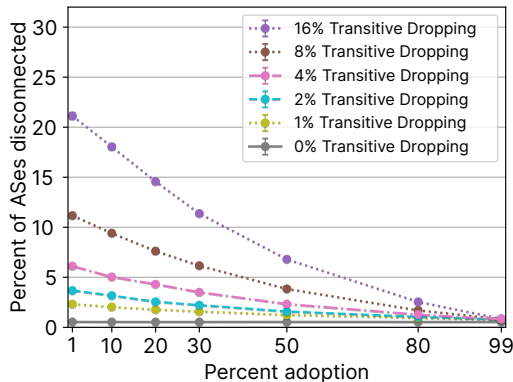
# Overhead of ProConID

- ProConID requires confirming the set of ASes in one's provider cone.
- Initial overhead shows the average number of providers verified when an AS first adopts ProConID.
- Maintenance overhead reflects additional providers they need to verify are in their provider cone as adoption increases.



# Dropped Transitive Attributes?

- Almost all (98-99% of) BGP routers forward transitive attributes they do not recognize, but this behavior is a “SHOULD” requirement in the RFC.
- A dropped transitive signature is indistinguishable from a downgrade attack.
- An AS should ensure its neighbors do not drop unrecognized transitive attributes before enforcing transitive signatures.



# Unknown Adopters?

- So far, we assumed BGP-iSec adopters and their public keys would be known to other adopters, via the RPKI or some other mechanism.
- The overall impact of even a large number of unknown adopters is small.

