

# UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

Department of Information Engineering

# Network Automation and Deployment Advanced Networking

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### 1 Introduction

- This project automates network deployment and configuration.
- YAML defines network data, and Jinja2 generates configuration files.
- Containerlab is used to create and deploy the network topology.
- The network consists of multiple routers across different autonomous systems (AS).
- BGP (Border Gateway Protocol) is the primary routing protocol for communication.
- The goal is to automate router setups and collect BGP routing data efficiently.

#### 1.1 Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)

- BGP is a protocol used to exchange routing information between networks.
- It connects multiple autonomous systems (AS) to form the internet.
- It determines the best path for data transfer based on policies, not distance.
- BGP ensures stable and scalable routing for large networks.
- Both service providers and enterprises use BGP for reliable connectivity.
- It operates in two modes: iBGP (internal) and eBGP (external).
  - **iBGP** enables internal routing within an AS for consistency.
  - **eBGP** allows routers in different ASes to communicate.

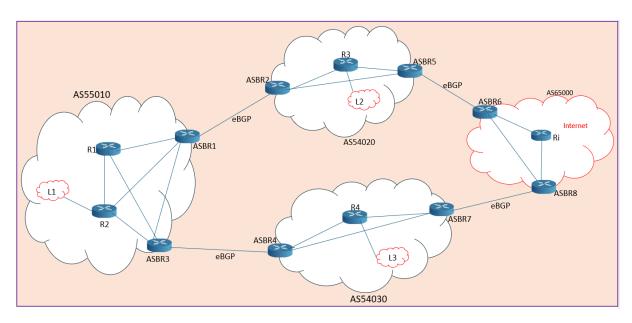


Figure 1: Network topology designed for the project, featuring internal routers (R1, R2, R3, R4), ASBRs (ASBR1–ASBR8), and hosts (h1, h2, h3) for local network. The topology connects multiple autonomous systems (AS55010, AS54020, AS54030, and AS65000) using BGP for routing.

#### 1.2 Network Topology and Routing Tables

- The network consists of multiple autonomous systems (AS55010, AS54020, AS54030, and AS65000).
- Each AS has internal routers connected using iBGP for internal routing.
- eBGP(ASBR) is used between ASBR routers to exchange routing information across ASes.

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- The topology connects local networks (h1, h2, h3) to their respective AS routers.
- AS65000 represents the external Internet, providing global connectivity.
- $\bullet$  The routing table details interfaces, next-hop addresses, and BGP types.
- Loopback interfaces serve as router identifiers and ensure stable routing.
- The table helps visualize BGP peerings and interconnections between ASes.

Device	Interface	Connected To	IP	Network St	NH	AS Number	BGP Type
R1	Loopback0	-	192.168.1.1/32	192.168.1.1/32	-	55010	iBGP
	eth1	R2	10.1.1.1/30	10.1.1.0/30	10.1.1.2	55010	iBGP
	eth2	ASBR1	10.1.2.1/30	10.1.2.0/30	10.1.2.2	55010	iBGP
	eth3	ASBR3	10.1.3.1/30	10.1.3.0/30	10.1.3.2	55010	iBGP
R2	Loopback0	-	192.168.2.1/32	192.168.2.1/32	-	55010	iBGP
	eth4	R1	10.1.1.2/30	10.1.1.0/30	10.1.1.1	55010	iBGP
	eth5	ASBR1	10.1.4.1/30	10.1.4.0/30	10.1.4.2	55010	iBGP
	eth6	ASBR3	10.1.5.1/30	10.1.5.0/30	10.1.5.2	55010	iBGP
	eth7	h1	192.168.10.1/24	192.168.10.0/24	-	55010	-
ASBR1	Loopback0	-	192.168.5.1/32	192.168.5.1/32	-	55010	iBGP
	eth8	R1	10.1.2.2/30	10.1.2.0/30	10.1.2.1	55010	iBGP
	eth9	R2	10.1.4.2/30	10.1.4.0/30	10.1.4.1	55010	iBGP
	eth10	ASBR3	10.1.6.1/30	10.1.6.0/30	10.1.6.2	55010	iBGP
	eth11	AS54020	10.1.7.1/30	10.1.7.0/30	10.1.7.2	54020	eBGP
ASBR3	Loopback0	-	192.168.7.1/32	192.168.7.1/32	-	55010	iBGP
	eth12	R1	10.1.3.2/30	10.1.3.0/30	10.1.3.1	55010	iBGP
	eth13	R2	10.1.5.2/30	10.1.5.0/30	10.1.5.1	55010	iBGP
	eth14	ASBR1	10.1.6.2/30	10.1.6.0/30	10.1.6.1	55010	iBGP
	eth15	AS54030	10.1.8.1/30	10.1.8.0/30	10.1.8.2	54030	eBGP

Table 1: IP Routing Table for AS55010  $\,$ 

Device	Interface	Connected To	IP	Network St	NH	AS Number	BGP Type
R3	Loopback0	_	192.168.3.1/32	192.168.3.1/32	-	54020	iBGP
	eth23	ASBR2	10.2.1.2/30	10.2.1.0/30	10.2.1.1	54020	iBGP
	eth24	ASBR5	10.2.3.1/30	10.2.3.0/30	10.2.3.2	54020	iBGP
	eth25	h2	192.168.20.1/24	192.168.20.0/24	-	54020	_
ASBR2	Loopback0	-	192.168.6.1/32	192.168.6.1/32	-	54020	iBGP
	eth20	R3	10.2.1.1/30	10.2.1.0/30	10.2.1.2	54020	iBGP
	eth21	ASBR5	10.2.2.1/30	10.2.2.0/30	10.2.2.2	54020	iBGP
	eth22	AS55010	10.1.7.2/30	10.1.7.0/30	10.1.7.1	55010	eBGP
ASBR5	Loopback0	-	192.168.9.1/32	192.168.9.1/32	-	54020	iBGP
	eth26	ASBR2	10.2.2.2/30	10.2.2.0/30	10.2.2.1	54020	iBGP
	eth27	R3	10.2.3.2/30	10.2.3.0/30	10.2.3.1	54020	iBGP

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Device	e Interface	Connected To	IP	Network St	NH	AS Number	BGP Type
	eth28	AS65000	10.3.1.1/30	10.3.1.0/30	10.3.1.2	65000	eBGP

Table 2: IP Routing Table for AS54020  $\,$ 

Device	Interface	Connected To	IP	Network St	NH	AS Number	BGP Type
R4	Loopback0	-	192.168.4.1/32	192.168.4.1/32	-	54030	iBGP
	eth43	ASBR4	10.5.2.2/30	10.5.2.0/30	10.5.2.1	54030	iBGP
	eth44	ASBR7	10.5.3.1/30	10.5.3.0/30	10.5.3.2	54030	iBGP
	eth45	h3	192.168.30.1/24	192.168.30.0/24	-	54030	-
ASBR4	Loopback0	-	192.168.8.1/32	192.168.8.1/32	-	54030	iBGP
	eth40	AS55010	10.1.8.2/30	10.1.8.0/30	10.1.8.1	55010	eBGP
	eth41	R4	10.5.2.1/30	10.5.2.0/30	10.5.2.2	54030	iBGP
	eth42	ASBR7	10.5.4.1/30	10.5.4.0/30	10.5.4.2	54030	iBGP
ASBR7	Loopback0	-	192.168.11.1/32	192.168.11.1/32	-	54030	iBGP
	eth50	R4	10.5.3.2/30	10.5.3.0/30	10.5.3.1	54030	iBGP
	eth51	ASBR4	10.5.4.2/30	10.5.4.0/30	10.5.4.1	54030	iBGP
	eth48	AS65000	10.6.1.1/30	10.6.1.0/30	10.6.1.2	65000	eBGP

Table 3: IP Routing Table for AS54030  $\,$ 

Device	Interface	Connected To	IP	Network St	NH	AS Number	BGP Type
Ri	Loopback0	-	192.168.13.1/32	192.168.13.1/32	-	65000	iBGP
	eth64	ASBR6	10.4.1.2/30	10.4.1.0/30	10.4.1.1	65000	iBGP
	eth65	ASBR8	10.5.1.1/30	10.5.1.0/30	10.5.1.2	65000	iBGP
ASBR6	Loopback0	-	192.168.10.1/32	192.168.10.1/32	-	65000	iBGP
	eth61	AS54020	10.3.1.2/30	10.3.1.0/30	10.3.1.1	54020	eBGP
	eth62	Ri	10.4.1.1/30	10.4.1.0/30	10.4.1.2	65000	iBGP
	eth63	ASBR8	10.6.2.1/30	10.6.2.0/30	10.6.2.2	65000	iBGP
ASBR8	Loopback0	-	192.168.12.1/32	192.168.12.1/32	-	65000	iBGP
	eth66	AS54030	10.6.1.2/30	10.6.1.0/30	10.6.1.1	54030	eBGP
	eth67	Ri	10.5.1.2/30	10.5.1.0/30	10.5.1.1	65000	iBGP
	eth68	ASBR6	10.6.2.2/30	10.6.2.0/30	10.6.2.1	65000	iBGP

Table 4: IP Routing Table for AS65000

## 2 Task1: Network Automation System

#### • Device Provisioning:

- Automated creation of startup-config files for all routers using a YAML data store and Jinja2 templates.
- Parameters such as IP addresses, AS numbers, and BGP neighbors are dynamically configured.

#### • Configuration Generation:

- Example: Generated R1 configuration includes:
  - \* Loopback and interface IPs.
  - \* BGP configuration with router ID, neighbors, and network statements.

#### • Efficiency and Scalability:

- The system allows network administrators to **easily specify parameters** and generate configurations for multiple routers, reducing manual effort and ensuring consistency.

```
routers:
  R1:
    interfaces:
      Loopback0:
        ip: 192.168.1.1/32
      eth1:
        ip: 10.1.1.1/30
        ip: 10.1.2.1/30
      eth3:
        ip: 10.1.3.1/30
    bgp:
      as: 55010
      neighbors:
        - ip: 10.1.1.2
          as: 55010
        - ip: 10.1.2.2
          as: 55010
          ip: 10.1.3.2
          as: 55010
```

```
(a) YAML Data
```

```
ervice routing protocols model multi-agent
p routing
no shutdown
nterface eth1
ip address 10.1.1.1/30
no shutdown
nterface eth2
no shutdown
no switchport
ip address 10.1.3.1/30
no shutdown
outer bgp 55010
bgp router-id 192.168.1.1
neighbor 10.1.1.2 remote-as 55010
neighbor 10.1.2.2 remote-as 55010
neighbor 10.1.3.2 remote-as 55010
neighbor 10.1.1.2 next-hop-self
neighbor 10.1.2.2 next-hop-self
neighbor 10.1.3.2 next-hop-self
network 192.168.1.1/32
```

(b) Rendered CFG

Figure 2: Router 1 YAML data and corresponding configuration file generated using Jinja2 templates. The YAML file defines parameters such as IP addresses, AS numbers, and BGP neighbors, while the rendered CFG file applies these configurations.

# 3 Task 2: Network Deployment

### 3.1 Network Deployment

- Internal Routers:
  - R1, R2, R3, R4 are internal routers within AS55010, handling intra-AS routing.
  - All internal routers are running with IPv4 and IPv6 addresses assigned.
- Autonomous System Border Routers (ASBRs):
  - ASBR1 to ASBR8 are border routers that peer with external ASes (e.g., AS54020, AS54030).
  - All ASBRs are running and have both IPv4 and IPv6 addresses
- Hosts:
  - h1, h2, h3 are Linux hosts connected to the network for testing and validation.
  - All hosts are running with IPv4 and IPv6 addresses.

.

Name	Kind/Image	State	IPv4/6 Address
clab-bgp-ASBR1	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.3 3fff:172:20:20::3
clab-bgp-ASBR2	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.12 3fff:172:20:20::c
clab-bgp-ASBR3	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.11 3fff:172:20:20::b
clab-bgp-ASBR4	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.15 3fff:172:20:20::f
clab-bgp-ASBR5	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.2 3fff:172:20:20::2
clab-bgp-ASBR6	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.14 3fff:172:20:20::e
clab-bgp-ASBR7	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.9 3fff:172:20:20::9
clab-bgp-ASBR8	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.7 3fff:172:20:20::7

clab-bgp-R1	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.10 3fff:172:20:20::a				
clab-bgp-R2	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.8 3fff:172:20:20::8				
clab-bgp-R3	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.4 3fff:172:20:20::4				
clab-bgp-R4	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.6 3fff:172:20:20::6				
clab-bgp-Ri	ceos ceos:4.33.1F	running	172.20.20.5 3fff:172:20:20::5				
clab-bgp-h1	linux alpine:latest	running	172.20.20.16 3fff:172:20:20::10				
clab-bgp-h2	linux alpine:latest	running	172.20.20.13 3fff:172:20:20::d				
clab-bgp-h3	linux alpine:latest	running	172.20.20.17 3fff:172:20:20::11				
(venv) root@Containerlab4:~/networking_project/task2#							

Figure 3: Network deployment using Containerlab, showing the successful initialization of routers (R1, R2, R3, R4), ASBRs (ASBR1–ASBR8), and hosts (h1, h2, h3). The deployment ensures proper connectivity and routing across all devices.

#### 3.1.1 DHCP Configuration

- IPv4 DHCP Server:
  - Active on interface Ethernet7 with subnet 192.168.10.0/24.
  - Address range: 192.168.10.10 to 192.168.10.99 (1 out of 90 addresses leased).
- DNS and Gateway:
  - DNS server: 8.8.8.8.
- Lease Duration:
  - Lease duration: 1 day.

Figure 4: DHCP server configuration on R2, with the subnet 192.168.10.0/24 and address range 192.168.10.10 to 192.168.10.99. The server provides dynamic IP assignment to hosts connected to eth7.

#### 3.1.2 BGP Announcement for Local Host

- All local networks (including Loopback and connected interfaces) are correctly announced through BGP.
- $\bullet$  The DHCP server network (192.168.10.0/24) is advertised and marked as valid and active in the BGP table.
- Traffic flow is verified, ensuring that the local host can communicate through the preferred BGP exit point.

Figure 5: BGP announcement of the local host network (192.168.10.0/24) from R2. The route is marked as valid and active, ensuring the host can communicate through the preferred BGP exit point.

#### 3.1.3 Transit Configuration

- AS54020 and AS54030 are configured as transit ASes for AS55010.
  - AS Path Verification:
    - \* Routes from AS55010 show the correct AS path (54020 55010 i and 54030 55010 i).
    - $\ast\,$  Routes to AS54020 and AS54030 include 55010 i in the AS path.
  - Traffic Flow:
    - \* Traffic is routed through AS54020 and AS54030, ensuring transit functionality for AS55010.

```
      (venv) root@Containerlab4:~/networking_project/task2# docker exec -it clab-bgp-Ri Cli

      Ri>show ip bgp

      BGP routing table information for VRF default

      Router identifier 192.168.13.1, local AS number 65000

      Route status codes: s - suppressed contributor, * - valid, > - active, E - ECMP head, e - ECMP

      S - Stale, c - Contributing to ECMP, b - backup, L - labeled-unicast

      % - Pending best path selection

      Origin codes: i - IGP, e - EGP, ? - incomplete

      RPKI Origin Validation codes: V - valid, I - invalid, U - unknown

      AS Path Attributes: Or-ID - Originator ID, C-LST - Cluster List, LL Nexthop - Link Local Nexthop

      Network
      Next Hop
      Metric AIGP
      LocPref Weight
      Path

      * > 10.1.1.0/30
      10.4.1.1
      0 - 100
      0 54020 55010 i

      * > 10.1.2.0/30
      10.5.1.2
      0 - 100
      0 54030 55010 i

      * > 10.1.2.0/30
      10.4.1.1
      0 - 100
      0 54030 55010 i

      * > 10.1.3.0/30
      10.4.1.1
      0 - 100
      0 54030 55010 i

      * > 10.1.3.0/30
      10.5.1.2
      0 - 100
      0 54020 55010 i

      * > 10.1.3.0/30
      10.5.1.2
      0 - 100
      0 54020 55010 i
```

Figure 6: Transit configuration for AS55010, showing routes advertised to AS54020 and AS54030. The AS path (54020 55010 i and 54030 55010 i) confirms proper transit functionality.

#### 3.1.4 Preference Configuration (ASBR1)

- Higher Local Preference:
  - Routes received from 10.1.7.2 (AS54020) have a local preference of 300, making them the preferred paths.
- Internal Routes:
  - Internal routes (e.g., 10.5.4.1/30) have the default local-preference 100 and are marked as
    active.

#### • Traffic Flow:

- Traffic is preferentially routed through AS54020 (10.1.7.2) due to the higher local preference, ensuring optimal exit point selection.

```
ASBR1>show ip bgp
BGP routing table information for VRF default
Router identifier 192.168.5.1, local AS number 55010
Route status codes: s - suppressed contributor, * - valid, > - active, E - ECMP head, e - ECMP
S - Stale, c - Contributing to ECMP, b - backup, L - labeled-unicast
% - Pending best path selection
Origin codes: i - IGP, e - EGP, ? - incomplete
RPKI Origin Validation codes: V - valid, I - invalid, U - unknown
AS Path Attributes: Or-ID - Originator ID, C-LST - Cluster List, LL Nexthop - Link Local Nexthop

Network
Next Hop
Metric AIGP
LocPref Weight Path
* > 10.4.1.0/30 10.1.7.2 0 - 300 0 54020 65000 i
* > 10.5.1.0/30 10.1.7.2 0 - 300 0 54020 65000 i
* > 10.5.2.0/30 10.1.6.2 0 - 100 0 54030 i
* > 10.5.3.0/30 10.1.6.2 0 - 100 0 54030 i
* > 10.5.4.0/30 10.1.6.2 0 - 100 0 54030 i
* > 10.5.4.0/30 10.1.6.2 0 - 300 0 54020 65000 i
* > 10.6.1.0/30 10.1.7.2 0 - 300 0 54020 65000 i
* > 10.6.1.0/30 10.1.7.2 0 - 300 0 54020 65000 i
* > 10.6.1.0/30 10.1.7.2 0 - 300 0 54020 65000 i
* > 10.6.1.0/30 10.1.7.2 0 - 300 0 54020 65000 i
```

Figure 7: Preference configuration on ASBR1, with a local preference of 300 for routes received from 10.1.7.2 (AS54020). These routes are marked as active, ensuring optimal exit point selection.

#### 3.1.5 ASBR Peering Negotiation

- Internal Peering:
  - Neighbors 10.1.2.1, 10.1.4.1, and 10.1.6.2 (AS55010) are in the Established state for IPv4 Unicast.
  - All internal peers have successfully negotiated and exchanged routes.
- External Peering:
  - Neighbor 10.1.7.2 (AS54020) is in the Established state for IPv4 Unicast.
  - External peering is successfully negotiated, and routes are exchanged.
- Stable Sessions::
  - All BGP sessions (internal and external) show stable uptime and no queued messages, indicating healthy peering.

Figure 8: ASBR1 peering status, showing established BGP sessions with internal neighbors (10.1.2.1, 10.1.4.1, 10.1.6.2) and external neighbor 10.1.7.2 (AS54020). All sessions are stable and exchanging routes.

# 4 Task 3: BGP Monitoring System

#### 4.1 Monitoring

- BGP Monitoring Data:
  - JSON files (e.g., ASBR1\_bgp\_monitor.json) are generated for each router, capturing BGP routing information.
  - Each file includes details such as hostname, routerId, asn, and bgpRouteEntries.

#### • Route Details:

- BGP route entries (e.g., 10.1.1.0/30) include nextHop, localPreference, and routeType (e.g., active, valid).
- Routes are marked as active and valid, indicating proper BGP operation.

#### • Comprehensive Coverage:

 Monitoring covers all routers (ASBR1 to ASBR8, R1 to R4, and Ri), ensuring full visibility into the network's BGP state.

```
Team's root@containerlabkt-/networking_project/task2/bgp_outputs# is
ASBR10gp_monitor.json ASBR30gp_monitor.json ASBR20gp_monitor.json R1_bgp_monitor.json R3_bgp_monitor.json
ASBR20gp_monitor.json ASBR30gp_monitor.json ASBR20gp_monitor.json R2_bgp_monitor.json
R4_bgp_monitor.json
```

Figure 9: BGP monitoring system output, showing JSON files generated for each router (e.g., ASBR1\_bgp\_monitor.json). The files capture BGP routing information, including active routes, next-hop addresses, and local preferences.

## 5 Conclusion

- Automated Device Provisioning: Used Jinja2 and Python to generate startup configurations dynamically.
- Deployed a Fully Functional Network: Established a multi-AS topology with BGP configurations using Containerlab and Arista cEOS.
- Implemented BGP Monitoring: Developed an automated system to track BGP peering and routing information via Arista eAPI.