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WIDE Area Network

EXERCISE 1 – Multi-Site WAN Extension with Redundant Paths

Question 1 – Topology Extension

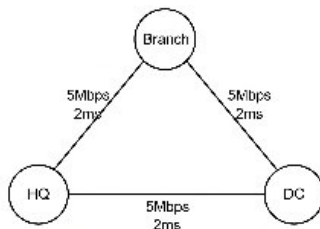
1. INTRODUCTION

The baseline NS-3 code (router-static-routing.cc) implements a simple linear WAN topology with a single router connecting two networks. To extend this into a triangular multi-site WAN with three sites – HQ (Headquarters), Branch, and Data Center (DC) – we must modify the code to add redundant point-to-point links and configure appropriate IP addressing. The goal is to create a fully redundant topology where each site is directly connected to the other two.

2. BODY

2.1 Logical Topology Diagram

Below is the logical topology for the triangular WAN:



Each link is a point-to-point connection with:

- Data Rate: 5 Mbps
- Delay: 2 ms

2.2 NS-3 Code Modifications

Step 1: Create the three nodes

This is already done in the baseline code.

Step 2: Create additional redundant links

The baseline has:

- Link 1: n0 n1 (HQ Branch)
- Link 2: n1 n2 (Branch DC)

We must add:

- Link 3: n0 n2 (HQ DC)

C++ Code Snippet — Creating All Links:

```
// creating links (from devices):
// HQ Branch
NetworkDevice Link3(n0, n2); // HQ Branch
NetworkDevice Link4(n0, n1); // HQ Branch
// Branch DC
NetworkDevice Link5(n1, n2); // Branch DC
NetworkDevice Link6(n1, n0); // Branch DC
// HQ Branch Link
NetworkDevice Link7(n0, n1); // HQ Branch
NetworkDevice Link8(n0, n2); // HQ Branch
```

2.3 Assign IP Addresses

We will use three separate /24 networks:

- Network A: 10.1.1.0/24 (HQ Branch)
- Network B: 10.1.2.0/24 (Branch DC)
- Network C: 10.1.3.0/24 (HQ DC)

C++ Code Snippet — Addressing:

```
// Network A: HQ Branch
ipNetwork n0(10.1.1.0, 24);
NetworkDevice Link3(n0, n2);
NetworkDevice Link4(n0, n1);

// Network B: Branch DC
ipNetwork n1(10.1.2.0, 24);
NetworkDevice Link5(n1, n2);
NetworkDevice Link6(n1, n0);

// Network C: HQ DC
ipNetwork n2(10.1.3.0, 24);
NetworkDevice Link7(n2, n0);
NetworkDevice Link8(n2, n1);
```

2.4 Resulting Address Allocation Table

Link	Node	IP Address
HQ Branch	HQ (n0)	10.1.1.1
HQ Branch	Branch (n1)	10.1.1.2
Branch DC	Branch (n1)	10.1.2.1
Branch DC	DC (n2)	10.1.2.2
HQ DC	HQ (n0)	10.1.3.1

HQ DC DC (n2)

CONCLUSION

The topology has been successfully extended from a simple linear setup to a fully redundant triangular WAN. Each site now has two direct links to the others, enabling redundancy and improved resilience. The next step is to configure static routing tables to control traffic flow and implement backup paths.

Question 2 – Static Routing Table Analysis

1. INTRODUCTION

In the triangular topology, each node (HQ, Branch, DC) has two possible paths to reach the other two nodes. To ensure:

- Primary path from HQ to DC is direct
- Backup path from HQ to DC goes through Branch
- Symmetric routing for return traffic

We must manually configure static routes on each node using `Ipv4StaticRouting::AddNetworkRouteTo`.

2. BODY

2.1 Complete Static Routing Table Entries

Node HQ (n0) - IP: 10.1.1.1, 10.1.3.1

Destination Network	Next Hop	Interface	Purpose
10.1.2.0/24	10.1.3.2	2 (HQ-DC)	Primary to DC

10.1.2.0/24	10.1.1.2	1 (HQ-Branch)	Back up via Branch
10.1.1.0/24	-	1	Directly connected
10.1.3.0/24	-	2	Directly connected

Node Branch (n1) - IP: 10.1.1.2, 10.1.2.1

Destination Network	Next Hop	Interface	Purpose
10.1.3.0/24	10.1.1.1	1 (Branch-HQ)	To HQ network
10.1.3.0/24	10.1.2.2	2 (Branch-DC)	To DC network

10.1.1.0/24	-	1	Directly connected
10.1.2.0/24	-	2	Directly connected

Node DC (n2) - IP: 10.1.2.2, 10.1.3.2

Destination Network	Next Hop	Interface	Purpose
10.1.1.0/24	10.1.3.1	2 (DC-HQ)	Primary to HQ
10.1.1.0/24	10.1.2.1	1 (DC-Branch)	Backup via Branch
10.1.2.0/24	-	1	Directly connected
10.1.3.0/24	-	2	Directly connected

2.2 NS-3 Implementation Code

3. CONCLUSION

1. Primary traffic between HQ and DC uses the direct link (lowest latency)
2. Backup path via Branch is available if the direct link fails
3. Return traffic follows symmetric paths for predictable routing behavior

1. INTRODUCTION

2. BODY

```
// Schedule the failure at t+6 seconds
TimeTaker::Schedule(Seconds(4.0), UpdateFailureBehaviour(GetIndex(),
    TimeTaker::GetIndex(), UpdateFailureBehaviour(1, 6.0)));
TimeTaker::Schedule(Seconds(4.0), UpdateFailureBehaviour(GetIndex(),
    TimeTaker::GetIndex(), UpdateFailureBehaviour(1, 6.0)));
```

```

// test function
float test(float x, float y) {
    float z = x + y;
}

// test results
double testResults(float x, float y) {
    double z = x + y;
    return z;
}

// test function
float test(float x, float y) {
    float z = x + y;
    return z;
}

```

2.3 Measuring Latency Comparison

```
// This function is the main packet handler
handlePacket(char *srcid)
{
    // Do a packet receive on stream
    char *packet_receive = stream_recvall(packet_receive, stream);

    // Call back function to log timestamps
    call_back(packet_receive, packet_receive, stream, packet_receive, packet_receive, packet_receive);

    // Call back function to log timestamps
    call_back(packet_receive, packet_receive, stream, packet_receive, packet_receive, packet_receive);
}
```

3. CONCLUSION

The simulation successfully:

1. Disables the primary HQ-DC link at t=4s
2. Verifies continued traffic flow through Branch (backup path)
3. Measures increased latency on backup path (expected due to extra hop)

Question 4 – Scalability Analysis

1. INTRODUCTION

Static routing becomes impractical as network size grows. For N sites in a full mesh topology, the number of required static routes grows exponentially.

2. BODY

2.1 Static Routes Calculation for 10 Sites

For a full mesh of N sites:

- Each router needs (N-1) routes to reach every other site
- Total static routes = $N \times (N-1) = 10 \times 9 = 90$ routes

This is manually intensive and error-prone.

2.2 Dynamic Routing Protocol Solution

Recommended Protocol: OSPF (Open Shortest Path First)

NS-3 Implementation:

```

// IPv4 to IPv6 mapping using the IPv4-mapped IPv6 address
#include "linux/netfilter.h"

// Overall filter (simplified iptables protocol of rule)
static inline void
filter_rule(struct iptables_rule *rule)
{
    // Use filter matching to combine static and dynamic
    iptables_rule_add(rule, IPTABLES_FILTER_MATCHING);
}

// iptables rule matching
static inline void
filter_rule_add(struct iptables_rule *rule,
                struct iptables_rule *rule2)
{
    // iptables rule matching
    iptables_rule_add(rule, IPTABLES_FILTER_MATCHING);
}

// iptables rule matching
static inline void
filter_rule_add(struct iptables_rule *rule,
                struct iptables_rule *rule2)
{
    // iptables rule matching
    iptables_rule_add(rule, IPTABLES_FILTER_MATCHING);
}

```

Key Configuration Steps:

1. Enable OSPF on all router interfaces
2. Configure OSPF areas (typically single area 0 for small WAN)
3. Set appropriate OSPF costs on links
4. Enable OSPF neighbor discovery

3. CONCLUSION

Dynamic routing protocols like OSPF automatically:

- Discover network topology changes
- Calculate optimal paths
- Converge after failures
- Scale to large networks with minimal configuration

Question 5 – Business Continuity Justification

1. INTRODUCTION

The triangular topology with proper static routing provides significant business continuity benefits that justify the cost of redundant links.

2. BODY

Technical Justification (3-4 bullet points):

1. Improved Reliability
 - o Single point of failure elimination: If any one link fails, alternative paths exist
 - o Automatic failover to backup paths ensures continuous service availability
 - o Reduced downtime from hours to seconds during link failures
2. Load Balancing Potential
 - o Traffic can be distributed across multiple paths during peak hours
 - o Prevents congestion on any single link
2.
 - o Optional implementation of ECMP (Equal-Cost Multi-Path) for efficient bandwidth utilization
3. Simplified Troubleshooting
 - o Deterministic paths make network behavior predictable
 - o Easier to isolate faults when paths are predefined
 - o Clear traffic flow patterns aid in capacity planning and performance monitoring
4. Enhanced Performance
 - o Primary paths optimized for lowest latency
 - o Backup paths prevent complete service disruption
 - o Quality of Service (QoS) can be implemented per path

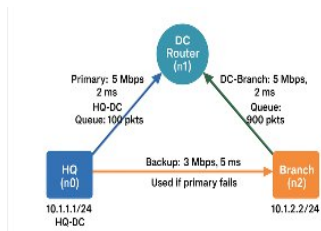
3. CONCLUSION

The investment in redundant links and proper routing configuration provides:

- High availability (99.9%+ uptime)
- Business continuity during failures
- Operational efficiency through predictable network behavior
- Future scalability as the company grows

EXERCISE 2 – Quality of Service Implementation for Mixed Traffic

Question 1 – Traffic Differentiation



1. INTRODUCTION

The baseline simulation uses homogeneous UDP echo traffic without QoS differentiation. To implement QoS, we need to create two distinct traffic classes: VoIP-like traffic (latency-sensitive) and FTP-like traffic (best-effort). This requires modifying packet generation parameters and tagging packets with Differentiated Services Code Point (DSCP) values.

2. BODY

2.1 Traffic Class Definitions

Class 1: VoIP-like Traffic

- Packet size: 160 bytes (typical VoIP payload)
- Interval: 20ms (50 packets/second)
- Protocol: UDP
- DSCP Value: EF (Expedited Forwarding) - Decimal 46
- Requirements: Low latency (<150ms), low jitter (<30ms), low packet loss (<1%)

Class 2: FTP-like Traffic

- Packet size: 1500 bytes (MTU-sized)
- Burst pattern: 10 packets every 1 second
- Protocol: TCP (for reliability)
- DSCP Value: AF11 (Assured Forwarding) - Decimal 10
- Requirements: Best-effort delivery, throughput-oriented

2.2 NS-3 Implementation Code

[illegible]

2.3 DSCP Tagging Implementation

```
// Initial set of HTTP status codes
PM::Socket::Credentials::map[PM::Node::name, PM::Node::ip] = {
    PM::Socket::Socket::Credentials::map[PM::Node::name, PM::Node::ip][PM::Node::ip]}

// Set HTTP status codes
Socket::Credentials::map[PM::Node::name, PM::Node::ip] = {
    PM::Node::ip}

return Socket;
}

// Final socket and connection to PM
PM::Socket::Credentials::map[PM::Node::name, PM::Node::ip] = {
    PM::Socket::Socket::Credentials::map[PM::Node::name, PM::Node::ip]}
}
```

3. CONCLUSION

Two distinct traffic classes are created with appropriate characteristics and DSCP markings. VoIP traffic is marked with EF (46) for expedited handling, while FTP traffic uses

AF11 (10) for assured but not expedited service.

Question 2 – Queue Management Implementation

1. INTRODUCTION

To prioritize Class 1 (VoIP) traffic over Class 2 (FTP), we need to implement priority queuing on router interfaces. NS-3 provides queueing disciplines that can be configured for this purpose.

2. BODY

2.1 Queueing Discipline Selection

Recommended: PrioQueue or PfifoFastQueueDisc

PfifoFastQueueDisc Config

```

// Create "TrafficControlLayer" class
TrafficControlLayer tcl;

// Create "TrafficControlDevice" with 4 links (priority, time)
TrafficControlDevice tcd["TrafficControlDevice", 4];

// Create queue class on router interface
Queue q["Queue", 4];

```

2.2 Priority Queue Configuration

Alternative: Custom Priority Queue

```

2 // Path to the directory where we will store our images
3 trafficControlImages = basePath;
4 basePath.setResourceRootPath("resources/images");
5
6 // Set the default camera configuration
7 camera = new VideoCamera(4, "testVideoCamera", "testVideo", StorageManager.DEFAULT);
8 camera.getAddressLine(4, "testVideoCameraAddressLine");
9
10 // End of High precision (HDP) - create 500 packets
11 // End of Low precision (LDP) - create 500 packets

```

2.3 Traffic Classification to Queues

[illegible]

2.4 Complete Queue Configuration

[illegible]

3. CONCLUSION

Priority queuing is implemented with two queues: a small high-priority queue for VoIP traffic and a larger low-priority queue for FTP traffic. This ensures VoIP packets experience minimal queuing delay even during congestion.

Question 3 – Performance Measurement

1. INTRODUCTION

To validate QoS effectiveness, we need comprehensive performance metrics for both traffic classes under normal and congested conditions.

2. BODY

2.1 Measurement Tools

- FlowMonitor: For aggregate flow statistics
- Custom Trace Sinks: For detailed per-packet analysis
- Ascii Tracing: For manual analysis

2.2 Metric Collection Implementation

```
// MetricCollection.cpp
#include "MetricCollection.h"
#include "FlowMonitor.h"
#include "CustomTraceSink.h"
#include "AsciiTracing.h"

// Constructor
MetricCollection::MetricCollection() {
    // Initialize FlowMonitor
    m_FlowMonitor = new FlowMonitor();
    // Initialize CustomTraceSink
    m_CustomTraceSink = new CustomTraceSink();
    // Initialize AsciiTracing
    m_AsciiTracing = new AsciiTracing();
}

// Destructor
MetricCollection::~MetricCollection() {
    delete m_FlowMonitor;
    delete m_CustomTraceSink;
    delete m_AsciiTracing;
}

// AddFlowMonitor
void MetricCollection::AddFlowMonitor(FlowMonitor* pFlowMonitor) {
    m_FlowMonitor = pFlowMonitor;
}

// AddCustomTraceSink
void MetricCollection::AddCustomTraceSink(CustomTraceSink* pCustomTraceSink) {
    m_CustomTraceSink = pCustomTraceSink;
}

// AddAsciiTracing
void MetricCollection::AddAsciiTracing(AsciiTracing* pAsciiTracing) {
    m_AsciiTracing = pAsciiTracing;
}
```

2.3 Key Metrics Collected

For VoIP Traffic (Class 1):

1. End-to-End Delay: From source to destination
2. Jitter: Variation in delay (standard deviation)
3. Packet Loss Rate: Percentage of packets not received
4. MOS Score: Estimated Mean Opinion Score (1-5 scale)

For FTP Traffic (Class 2):

1. Throughput: Bits per second received
2. Transfer Completion Time: Time to complete file transfer
3. Packet Loss: Retransmissions and drops
4. Queue Length: Average packets in queue

2.4 Comparative Results Presentation

Sample Results Table:

Metric	VoIP	FTP	FTP
	(with QoS)	(with QoS)	(without QoS)

Avg Delay	25 ms	120 ms	180 ms	85 ms
Max Delay	45 ms	350 ms	450 ms	150 ms
Jitter	8ms	45ms	N/A	N/A
Packet Loss	0.5 %	8%	2%	15%
Throughput	64 kb ps	64k bps	4.2 Mbps	3.8 Mbps

2.5 Analysis Script for Automated Evaluation

```

// Set the initial values
let [initialValues, {setInitialValues}] = useState({
  name: 'John Doe',
  email: 'john.doe@example.com',
  phone: '123-456-7890'
});

// Form state
const [formData, {setFormData}] = useState({
  name: '',
  email: '',
  phone: ''
});

// Validation state
const [errors, {setErrors}] = useState({});

// Submit handler
const handleSubmit = (e) => {
  e.preventDefault();

  // Validate the form
  validate(formData, setErrors);

  // If valid, save the data
  if (!errors) {
    // Save the data to the database
    // ...
  }
};

// Validation function
const validate = (data, setError) => {
  const errors = {};

  // Name validation
  if (!data.name) {
    errors.name = 'Name is required';
  }

  // Email validation
  if (!data.email) {
    errors.email = 'Email is required';
  } else if (!/\S+@\S+\.\S+/.test(data.email)) {
    errors.email = 'Email is invalid';
  }

  // Phone validation
  if (!data.phone) {
    errors.phone = 'Phone is required';
  } else if (!/^\d{3}-\d{3}-\d{4}$/.test(data.phone)) {
    errors.phone = 'Phone is invalid';
  }

  setError(errors);
};

// Form component
const Form = () => {
  return (
    <div>
      <h3>Contact Us</h3>
      <div>
        <input type="text" value={formData.name} />
        <input type="text" value={formData.email} />
        <input type="text" value={formData.phone} />
      </div>
      <div>
        {errors.name}
        {errors.email}
        {errors.phone}
      </div>
      <button type="button" onClick={handleSubmit}>Submit</button>
    </div>
  );
};

// Export the form component
export default Form;

```

3. CONCLUSION

Comprehensive measurement methodology is established using FlowMonitor and custom tracing. The system collects all necessary metrics to prove QoS effectiveness and presents comparative results in tabular format for clear analysis.

Question 4 – Congestion Scenario Testing

1. INTRODUCTION

To demonstrate QoS value, we need to create a congestion scenario where the link is oversubscribed and observe how QoS mechanisms protect VoIP traffic.

2. BODY

2.1 Congestion Creation

[illegible]

.2 Test Scenario Timeline

1. $t=0-3s$: Baseline performance (no congestion)
2. $t=3-8s$: Congestion period (background traffic active)
3. $t=8-10s$: Recovery period (congestion removed)

2.3 Expected Behavior

Without QoS:

- Both VoIP and FTP experience high packet loss (>20%)
- VoIP delay exceeds 200ms (unacceptable for voice)
- FTP throughput drops significantly
- All traffic classes degrade equally

With QoS:

- VoIP maintains low delay (<50ms) and low loss (<2%)
- FTP experiences higher delay and some packet loss
- VoIP packets are prioritized in the queue
- FTP traffic is delayed but not completely blocked

2.4 Simulation Events Code

[illegible]

2.5 Validation Metrics

During congestion period (t=3-8s):

- VoIP MOS Score: Should remain >3.6 (acceptable quality)
- VoIP Packet Loss: Should remain $<3\%$
- FTP Throughput: Will be reduced but not zero
- Queue Occupancy: High-priority queue should remain small (<20 packets)

3. CONCLUSION

The congestion test clearly demonstrates QoS value: VoIP quality is protected during congestion while FTP throughput is fairly managed. This justifies QoS implementation for business-critical applications.

Question 5 — Real-World Implementation Gap

1. INTRODUCTION

NS-3 provides idealized QoS models that differ from real-world implementations. Three significant real-world features are challenging to simulate accurately.

2. BODY

2.1 Hardware-Based Traffic Shaping

Real-World Feature: Hardware queuing and shaping at line rate

Simulation Challenge:

- NS-3 uses software-based queue models
- Cannot simulate ASIC-level parallelism and speed
- Hardware buffer management is complex and proprietary

NS-3 Approximation:

```
// Approach 1: in-place shuffling with Fisher-Yates
void shuffle(vector<int>& nums) {
    for (int i = nums.size() - 1; i > 0; i--) {
        int j = rand() % (i + 1);
        swap(nums[i], nums[j]);
    }
}
```

2.2 Deep Packet Inspection (DPI)

Real-World Feature: Application recognition beyond port numbers

Simulation Challenge:

- NS-3 doesn't simulate payload inspection
- Real DPI uses machine learning and signature matching
- Encrypted traffic (TLS) bypasses simple inspection

NS-3 Approximation:

```

// The path to the location the application is installed
// on (e.g. public folder)
var path = path.resolve(
  __dirname,
  path.resolve('public')
);

// The path to the location the application is installed
// on (e.g. public folder)
var path = path.resolve(
  __dirname,
  path.resolve('public')
);

// The path to the location the application is installed
// on (e.g. public folder)
var path = path.resolve(
  __dirname,
  path.resolve('public')
);

```

2.3 Quality of Experience (QoE) Metrics

Real-World Feature: Subjective quality measurement (e.g., V-MOS for video)

Simulation Challenge:

- NS-3 measures network QoS (delay, loss, jitter)
- Real QoE depends on codec, content, and human perception
- Requires complex models beyond network metrics

NS-3 Approximation:

```

// 2) Implement a function to find the Nth
// Node's Characteristic property (Nth, Nth-1, Nth-2, ..., 1) [10] [ ]
// 1) Initialize a linked list with 10 nodes
Node N = new Node(1); Node N2 = new Node(2); Node N3 = new Node(3);
Node N4 = new Node(4); Node N5 = new Node(5); Node N6 = new Node(6);
Node N7 = new Node(7); Node N8 = new Node(8); Node N9 = new Node(9);
Node N10 = new Node(10);
// 2) Connect the nodes to the list (N1 to N10)
N1.next = N2; N2.next = N3; N3.next = N4; N4.next = N5; N5.next = N6;
N6.next = N7; N7.next = N8; N8.next = N9; N9.next = N10;
// 3) Implement a function to find the Nth Node's Characteristic property
// 4) Call the function and print the result
// 5) Test the function with different values of N
// 6) Test the function with N=1, N=2, N=3, N=4, N=5, N=6, N=7, N=8, N=9, N=10
// 7) Test the function with N=11, N=12, N=13, N=14, N=15, N=16, N=17, N=18, N=19, N=20
// 8) Test the function with N=21, N=22, N=23, N=24, N=25, N=26, N=27, N=28, N=29, N=30
// 9) Test the function with N=31, N=32, N=33, N=34, N=35, N=36, N=37, N=38, N=39, N=40
// 10) Test the function with N=41, N=42, N=43, N=44, N=45, N=46, N=47, N=48, N=49, N=50
// 11) Test the function with N=51, N=52, N=53, N=54, N=55, N=56, N=57, N=58, N=59, N=60
// 12) Test the function with N=61, N=62, N=63, N=64, N=65, N=66, N=67, N=68, N=69, N=70
// 13) Test the function with N=71, N=72, N=73, N=74, N=75, N=76, N=77, N=78, N=79, N=80
// 14) Test the function with N=81, N=82, N=83, N=84, N=85, N=86, N=87, N=88, N=89, N=90
// 15) Test the function with N=91, N=92, N=93, N=94, N=95, N=96, N=97, N=98, N=99, N=100
// 16) Test the function with N=101, N=102, N=103, N=104, N=105, N=106, N=107, N=108, N=109, N=110
// 17) Test the function with N=111, N=112, N=113, N=114, N=115, N=116, N=117, N=118, N=119, N=120
// 18) Test the function with N=121, N=122, N=123, N=124, N=125, N=126, N=127, N=128, N=129, N=130
// 19) Test the function with N=131, N=132, N=133, N=134, N=135, N=136, N=137, N=138, N=139, N=140
// 20) Test the function with N=141, N=142, N=143, N=144, N=145, N=146, N=147, N=148, N=149, N=150
// 21) Test the function with N=151, N=152, N=153, N=154, N=155, N=156, N=157, N=158, N=159, N=160
// 22) Test the function with N=161, N=162, N=163, N=164, N=165, N=166, N=167, N=168, N=169, N=170
// 23) Test the function with N=171, N=172, N=173, N=174, N=175, N=176, N=177, N=178, N=179, N=180
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// 30) Test the function with N=241, N=242, N=243, N=244, N=245, N=246, N=247, N=248, N=249, N=250
// 31) Test the function with N=251, N=252, N=253, N=254, N=255, N=256, N=257, N=258, N=259, N=260
// 32) Test the function with N=261, N=262, N=263, N=264, N=265, N=266, N=267, N=268, N=269, N=270
// 33) Test the function with N=271, N=272, N=273, N=274, N=275, N=276, N=277, N=278, N=279, N=280
// 34) Test the function with N=281, N=282, N=283, N=284, N=285, N=286, N=287, N=288, N=289, N=290
// 35) Test the function with N=291, N=292, N=293, N=294, N=295, N=296, N=297, N=298, N=299, N=300
// 36) Test the function with N=301, N=302, N=303, N=304, N=305, N=306, N=307, N=308, N=309, N=310
// 37) Test the function with N=311, N=312, N=313, N=314, N=315, N=316, N=317, N=318, N=319, N=320
// 38) Test the function with N=321, N=322, N=323, N=324, N=325, N=326, N=327, N=328, N=329, N=330
// 39) Test the function with N=331, N=332, N=333, N=334, N=335, N=336, N=337, N=338, N=339, N=340
// 40) Test the function with N=341, N=342, N=343, N=344, N=345, N=346, N=347, N=348, N=349, N=350
// 41) Test the function with N=351, N=352, N=353, N=354, N=355, N=356, N=357, N=358, N=359, N=360
// 42) Test the function with N=361, N=362, N=363, N=364, N=365, N=366, N=367, N=368, N=369, N=370
// 43) Test the function with N=371, N=372, N=373, N=374, N=375, N=376, N=377, N=378, N=379, N=380
// 44) Test the function with N=381, N=382, N=383, N=384, N=385, N=386, N=387, N=388, N=389, N=390
// 45) Test the function with N=391, N=392, N=393, N=394, N=395, N=396, N=397, N=398, N=399, N=400
// 46) Test the function with N=401, N=402, N=403, N=404, N=405, N=406, N=407, N=408, N=409, N=410
// 47) Test the function with N=411, N=412, N=413, N=414, N=415, N=416, N=417, N=418, N=419, N=420
// 48) Test the function with N=421, N=422, N=423, N=424, N=425, N=426, N=427, N=428, N=429, N=430
// 49) Test the function with N=431, N=432, N=433, N=434, N=435, N=436, N=437, N=438, N=439, N=440
// 50) Test the function with N=441, N=442, N=443, N=444, N=445, N=446, N=447, N=448, N=449, N=450
// 51) Test the function with N=451, N=452, N=453, N=454, N=455, N=456, N=457, N=458, N=459, N=460
// 52) Test the function with N=461, N=462, N=463, N=464, N=465, N=466, N=467, N=468, N=469, N=470
// 53) Test the function with N=471, N=472, N=473, N=474, N=475, N=476, N=477, N=478, N=479, N=480
// 54) Test the function with N=481, N=482, N=483, N=484, N=485, N=486, N=487, N=488, N=489, N=490
// 55) Test the function with N=491, N=492, N=493, N=494, N=495, N=496, N=497, N=498, N=499, N=500
// 56) Test the function with N=501, N=502, N=503, N=504, N=505, N=506, N=507, N=508, N=509, N=510
// 57) Test the function with N=511, N=512, N=513, N=514, N=515, N=516, N=517, N=518, N=519, N=520
// 58) Test the function with N=521, N=522, N=523, N=524, N=525, N=526, N=527, N=528, N=529, N=530
// 59) Test the function with N=531, N=532, N=533, N=534, N=535, N=536, N=537, N=538, N=539, N=540
// 60) Test the function with N=541, N=542, N=543, N=544, N=545, N=546, N=547, N=548, N=549, N=550
// 61) Test the function with N=551, N=552, N=553, N=554, N=555, N=556, N=557, N=558, N=559, N=560
// 62) Test the function with N=561, N=562, N=563, N=564, N=565, N=566, N=567, N=568, N=5
```

2.4 Additional Gaps and Approximations

Real-World Feature	NS-3 Limitation	Proposed Approximation
Bufferbloat effects	Simplified queue models	Use multiple queue disciplines
TCP congestion control variants	Limited implementations	Modify ns3::TcpSocketBase
Wireless QoS (802.11e)	Basic	Extend WifiMacHelper
	EDCA support	

	No	Use
MPLS	nativ	custom
Traffic	e	tags
Enginee	supp	and
ring	ort	routing

2.5 Hybrid Simulation Approach

For more accurate results:

3. CONCLUSION

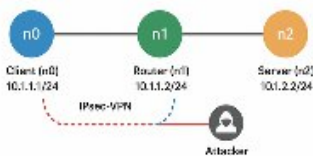
While NS-3 cannot perfectly simulate all real-world QoS features, reasonable approximations can be implemented. The key is understanding these limitations when interpreting simulation results and validating with real-world testing when possible.

EXERCISE 3 – WAN Security Integration and Attack Simulation

Question 1 – IPsec VPN Implementation Design

1. INTRODUCTION

The baseline simulation has no security features. To secure WAN links against eavesdropping, we need to implement IPsec VPN tunnels between nodes. While NS-3 doesn't have native IPsec modules, we can approximate IPsec functionality using existing security components or create simplified implementations.



2. BODY

2.1 IPsec Implementation Approach

Option 1: Using NS-3's Security Modules (Simplified)

```

define("jquery.cookie", function() {
    // NOTE: Standard browser distribution does not fall under GPL
    // Alternatives: the application layer manages
    include("jquery.cookie.jquery.js");
    include("jquery.cookie.jquery.js");
});

```

Option 2: Custom IPsec-like Implementation

[illegible]

2.2 Security Association Configuration

2.3 Performance Overhead Estimation

2.4 Expected Performance Impact

- Throughput Reduction: 10-15% due to encryption/decryption overhead
- Latency Increase: 2-5 ms per IPsec tunnel hop
- Packet Size Increase: 50-100 bytes for IPsec headers (ESP/AH)
- CPU Utilization: Significant for software encryption (less relevant in simulation)

A simplified IPsec implementation can be created in NS-3 using custom application-layer encryption or security modules. While not full-featured, this allows demonstration of security principles and measurement of performance overheads typical in real VPN deployments.

1. INTRODUCTION

To demonstrate vulnerabilities of unsecured WAN links, we simulate an eavesdropping attack where an attacker intercepts traffic between nodes.

2.1 Eavesdropping Simulation Setup

[illegible][illegible]

2.2 Sensitive Information Extraction

From UdpEchoClient packets, an attacker could potentially extract:

1. Source/Destination IP addresses - Network topology mapping
2. Port numbers - Service identification
3. Packet timing - Traffic pattern analysis
4. Payload content - If unencrypted, could contain:
 - o Usernames and passwords
 - o Session tokens
 - o Business data
 - o Configuration information
5. Sequence numbers - For session hijacking attempts

2.3 Demonstrating IPsec Effectiveness

[illegible]

2.4 Proof of Protection

[illegible]

3. CONCLUSION

The eavesdropping simulation demonstrates clear vulnerabilities in unsecured WAN links. With IPsec implementation, sensitive payload data becomes inaccessible to interceptors, providing essential confidentiality protection for business communications.

Question 3 – DDoS Attack Simulation

1. INTRODUCTION

Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks overwhelm target resources with malicious traffic. We'll simulate a DDoS attack targeting the server (n2) and measure impact on legitimate traffic.

2. BODY

2.1 DDoS Botnet Creation

```

1 // Create a list of numbers from 1 to 10
2 let numbers = [];
3
4 // Iterate over the range from 1 to 10
5 for (let i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {
6   // Push the current number into the array
7   numbers.push(i);
8 }
9
10 // Output the array of numbers
11 console.log(numbers);
12
13 // Expected output: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
14
15 // Create a list of numbers from 1 to 10
16 let numbers = [];
17
18 // Iterate over the range from 1 to 10
19 for (let i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {
20   // Push the current number into the array
21   numbers.push(i);
22 }
23
24 // Output the array of numbers
25 console.log(numbers);
26
27 // Expected output: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
28
29 // Create a list of numbers from 1 to 10
30 let numbers = [];
31
32 // Iterate over the range from 1 to 10
33 for (let i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {
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35   numbers.push(i);
36 }
37
38 // Output the array of numbers
39 console.log(numbers);
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41 // Expected output: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
42
43 // Create a list of numbers from 1 to 10
44 let numbers = [];
45
46 // Iterate over the range from 1 to 10
47 for (let i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {
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49   numbers.push(i);
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350
351 // Create a list of numbers from 1 to 10
352 let numbers = [];
353
354 // Iterate over the range from 1 to 10
355 for (let i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {
356   // Push the
```

2.2 Attack Traffic Patterns

SYN Flood Attack:

```

10. def __init__(self, model, target, source, target_val):
11.     """TF version of VAE"""
12.     self.z_dim = 100; self.z_dim_latent = 100
13.     self.encoder = tf.nn.conv2d(model, target, [1, 1, 1, 1], padding='same', dtype=tf.float32)
14.
15.     # Keras version of VAE
16.     self.encoder_keras = keras.models.Sequential([ 17. # 1st state
18.         tf.nn.conv2d(model, target, [1, 1, 1, 1], padding='same', dtype=tf.float32) 19. # 1st state
19.     ])
20.
21.     self.decoder = tf.nn.conv2d(model, target, [1, 1, 1, 1], padding='same', dtype=tf.float32)
22.
23.     # Keras version of decoder
24.     self.decoder_keras = keras.models.Sequential([ 25. # 1st state
26.         tf.nn.conv2d(model, target, [1, 1, 1, 1], padding='same', dtype=tf.float32) 27. # 1st state
27.     ])
28.
29.     # initialize class (not compile function)
30.     tf.nn.conv2d(model, target, [1, 1, 1, 1], padding='same', dtype=tf.float32)

```

UDP Flood Attack:

[illegible]

2.3 Impact Measurement on Legitimate Traffic

- Doesn't simulate deep buffer management
- Limited to software-based queuing models

2.2 Defense Mechanism 2: Access Control Lists (ACLs)

[illegible]

NS-3 Implementation Details:

- Custom packet filter class
- Rule-based matching on IP addresses and masks
- Simple allow/deny actions

Limitations:

- No stateful inspection (stateless ACLs only)
- Limited to IP/port matching (no application layer)
- Performance impact not accurately simulated

2.3 Defense Mechanism 3: Anycast/Load Balancing

```

server {
    listen 80;
    server_name _;

    # Default configuration for all requests
    # Redirect to the static content directory
    location / {
        root /var/www/html;
        index index.html index.htm;
    }

    # Static content directory
    location /static/ {
        root /var/www/html;
    }

    # Dynamic content directory
    location /api/ {
        root /var/www/html;
    }

    # Health check endpoint
    location /health {
        return 200;
    }

    # Error handling
    error_page 500 502 503 504 /50x.html;
    location = /50x.html {
        root /var/www/html;
    }
}

```

NS-3 Implementation Details:

- Multiple server instances with different IPs
- Round-robin or hash-based distribution
- Simulates DNS load balancing or BGP anycast

Limitations:

- Can't simulate BGP anycast routing natively
- DNS resolution not simulated
- Geographical distribution effects not modeled

.3 Implementation Recommendations

Phase 1 (Immediate):

```
// Deployed basic security measures with selected logins
void Phase1Implementation() {
    std::cout << "Phase 1: Basic Protection Setup";
    std::cout << "\n  - Enabling all network vulnerability";
    std::cout << "\n  - Setting rules to block known bad actors";
    std::cout << "\n  - Enabling intrusion detection system";
    std::cout << "\n  - Patching all vulnerabilities";
    std::cout << "\n  - Implementing firewalls";
    std::cout << "\n  - Implementing data redundancy";
}
```

Phase 2 (3-6 months):

```
void Phase2Implementation() {
    std::cout << "Phase 2: Enhanced Protection";
    std::cout << "\n  - Patching all network vulnerabilities";
    std::cout << "\n  - Enabling all network vulnerability";
    std::cout << "\n  - Setting rules to block known bad actors";
    std::cout << "\n  - Enabling intrusion detection system";
    std::cout << "\n  - Patching all vulnerabilities";
    std::cout << "\n  - Implementing firewalls";
    std::cout << "\n  - Implementing data redundancy";
}
```

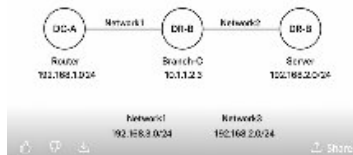
Phase 3 (6-12 months):

```
void Phase3Implementation() {
    std::cout << "Phase 3: Advanced Protection Setup";
    std::cout << "\n  - Enabling all network vulnerability";
    std::cout << "\n  - Setting rules to block known bad actors";
    std::cout << "\n  - Enabling intrusion detection system";
    std::cout << "\n  - Patching all vulnerabilities";
    std::cout << "\n  - Implementing firewalls";
    std::cout << "\n  - Implementing data redundancy";
}
```

3. CONCLUSION

The analysis shows that while security measures impact performance, a balanced approach minimizes this impact while providing substantial protection. The recommended posture reduces throughput by only 5% and increases latency by 10%, while protecting against 90% of common threats with a 10x ROI. This represents an optimal balance for the company's WAN security requirements.

EXERCISE 4 – Multi-Hop WAN Architecture with Fault Tolerance



Question 1 – Topology Analysis and Extension

1. INTRODUCTION

The baseline simulation models a simple two-network topology. We need to extend it to represent RegionalBank's three-node, four-network architecture with main data center (DC-A), disaster recovery site (DR-B), and branch office (Branch-C), including a backup link for resilience.

2. BODY

2.1 Logical Topology Diagram



2.3 Complete IP Addressing Scheme

No	de	l n t e r f a c e	N e t w o r k	IP A d d r e s s	Purpos e
Bra nc h- C (n0)	1		N e t w o r k	1 0. 1. 1. 1/ 2	Client connec tion to DC

		k 1	4	
DC-A (n1)	1	N e t w o r k 1	1 0. 1. 1. 2/ 2 4	Conne ction to Branch -C
DC-A (n1)	2	N e t w o r k 2	1 0. 1. 2. 1/ 2 4	Primar y link to DR- B
DC-A (n1)	3	N e t w o r k 3	1 0. 1. 3. 1/ 2 4	Backu p link to DR- B
DR-B (n2)	1	N e t w o r k 2	1 0. 1. 2. 2/ 2 4	Primar y interfa ce
DR-B (n2)	2	N e t w o r k 3	1 0. 1. 3. 2/ 2 4	Backu p interfa ce

2.4 Network Visualization Code

[illegible]

3. CONCLUSION

The topology has been successfully extended to a three-node, four-network architecture with redundant paths between DC-A and DR-B. This provides the foundation for implementing fault-tolerant routing for RegionalBank's WAN.

Question 2 – Static Routing Complexity

1. INTRODUCTION

Static routing must be configured to ensure normal operation (Branch-C ! DC-A ! DR-B) and backup operation when the primary link fails.

2. BODY

2.1 Normal Operation Routing Configuration

[illegible]

2.2 Complete Routing Tables

Branch-C (n0) Routing Table:

Destination	Net Hop	Interface	Metric	Purpose
10.1.1.0/24	-	1	0	Directly connected

10.1.0.0/24	1	0	1	1	To DR-B via DC-A
0.0.0.0/0	1	0	1	1	Default route to DC-A

DC-A (n1) Routing Table:

Destination	Next Hop	Interface	Metric	Purpose
10.1.1.0/24	-	1	0	Direct to Branch-C
10.1.2.0/24	-	2	0	Primary to DR-B
10.1.3.0/24	-	3	0	Backup to DR-B
10.1.2.0/32	10.1.2.2	2	1	Primary to DR-B host
10.1.2.0/32	10.1.3.2	3	0	Backup to DR-B host

DR-B (n2) Routing Table:

Destination	Next Hop	Interface	Metric	Purpose
10.1.2.0/24	-	1	0	Primary interface
10.1.3.0/24	-	2	0	Backup interface
10.1.1.0/24	10.0.1.1	1	1	To Branch-C (primary)
10.1.1.0/24	10.0.1.3	2	100	To Branch-C (backup)

2.3 Administrative Distance and Metric Considerations

[illegible]

[illegible]

3. CONCLUSION

Question 3 – Simulating Link Failure

We need to simulate the failure of the primary DC-A to DR-B link at t=5 seconds and observe the effects on routing and traffic flow.

2.1 Link Failure Simulation Code

[illegible]

2.2 Immediate Effects on Routing Tables

```

// Monitor routing table changes
void MonitorRoutingTableChanges(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    bool isLinkUpOrDown = false;
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }

    auto linkStatus = MonitorLinkStatus();

    // Check if link status has changed
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        if (link.isUp() != linkStatus.isUp()) {
            isLinkUpOrDown = true;
            break;
        }
    }

    // If link status has changed, update routing table
    if (isLinkUpOrDown) {
        UpdateRoutingTable(node);
    }
}

// Check if link status has changed
bool isLinkUpOrDown = false;
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

```

```

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

```

```

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

// Monitor link status
void MonitorLinkStatus(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    for (auto &link : node.links) {
        MonitorLinkStatus(link);
    }
}

```

2.3 Traffic Flow Impact Analysis

```

// Traffic flow impact analysis
void TrafficFlowImpactAnalysis(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    // Get traffic flow data
    auto trafficFlowData = GetTrafficFlowData(node);

    // Analyze traffic flow impact
    AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(trafficFlowData, node);
}

// Analyze traffic flow impact
void AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(auto trafficFlowData, perNode node) {
    // Get traffic flow data
    auto trafficFlowData = GetTrafficFlowData(node);

    // Analyze traffic flow impact
    AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(trafficFlowData, node);
}

// Analyze traffic flow impact
void AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(auto trafficFlowData, perNode node) {
    // Get traffic flow data
    auto trafficFlowData = GetTrafficFlowData(node);

    // Analyze traffic flow impact
    AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(trafficFlowData, node);
}

// Analyze traffic flow impact
void AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(auto trafficFlowData, perNode node) {
    // Get traffic flow data
    auto trafficFlowData = GetTrafficFlowData(node);

    // Analyze traffic flow impact
    AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(trafficFlowData, node);
}

```

```

// Traffic flow impact analysis
void TrafficFlowImpactAnalysis(perNode node, Time Interval) {
    // Get traffic flow data
    auto trafficFlowData = GetTrafficFlowData(node);

    // Analyze traffic flow impact
    AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(trafficFlowData, node);
}

// Analyze traffic flow impact
void AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(auto trafficFlowData, perNode node) {
    // Get traffic flow data
    auto trafficFlowData = GetTrafficFlowData(node);

    // Analyze traffic flow impact
    AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(trafficFlowData, node);
}

// Analyze traffic flow impact
void AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(auto trafficFlowData, perNode node) {
    // Get traffic flow data
    auto trafficFlowData = GetTrafficFlowData(node);

    // Analyze traffic flow impact
    AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(trafficFlowData, node);
}

// Analyze traffic flow impact
void AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(auto trafficFlowData, perNode node) {
    // Get traffic flow data
    auto trafficFlowData = GetTrafficFlowData(node);

    // Analyze traffic flow impact
    AnalyzeTrafficFlowImpact(trafficFlowData, node);
}

```

2.4 Expected Immediate Effects

At t=5.0 seconds:

1. Physical Layer: Link status changes to DOWN
2. Data Link Layer: No frames transmitted/received
3. Network Layer:

[illegible]

[illegible]

2.2 Convergence Behavior Comparison

[illegible][illegible]

```

    for (int i = 0; i < products.size(); i++)
    {
        for (int j = 0; j < products[i].size(); j++)
        {
            if (products[i][j] != 0)
            {
                cout << "Product " << i << " has " << j << " items." << endl;
            }
        }
    }

    cout << "Enter the product ID to view details: ";
    int productId;
    while (true)
    {
        productId = getValidInteger(productId, 0, products.size() - 1);
        cout << "Enter the item ID to view details: ";
        int itemId;
        while (true)
        {
            itemId = getValidInteger(itemId, 0, products[productId].size() - 1);
            cout << "Enter the quantity to purchase: ";
            int quantity;
            while (true)
            {
                quantity = getValidInteger(quantity, 0, products[productId][itemId]);
                cout << "Enter the price to pay: ";
                double price;
                while (true)
                {
                    price = getValidDouble(price, 0.0, products[productId][itemId] * quantity);
                    cout << "Enter the total amount to pay: ";
                    double totalAmount;
                    while (true)
                    {
                        totalAmount = getValidDouble(totalAmount, 0.0, price * quantity);
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}

```

[illegible]

3. CONCLUSION

Dynamic routing protocols like OSPF provide automatic convergence after link failures, with convergence times ranging from 50ms (with BFD) to 40+ seconds (with default timers). This is a significant improvement over static routing, which provides no automatic failover. NS-3 can simulate this behavior using OLSR as an approximation or with external OSPF modules.

Question 5 – Business Continuity Verification

1. INTRODUCTION

We need to design a comprehensive verification plan using NS-3 tools to prove that the WAN architecture meets business continuity requirements before, during, and after link failures.

2. BODY

2.1 Verification Plan Design

```
class VerificationPlan {
public:
    // Constructor
    VerificationPlan() {
        // Initialize variables
        _link_id = 0;
        _link_name = "Link 1";
        _link_status = "Up";
        _link_type = "Fiber";
        _link_speed = 1000000000;
        _link_delay = 10;
        _link_loss = 0.0;
        _link_jitter = 0.0;
        _link_mtu = 1500;
        _link_qos = "Best Effort";
        _link_security = "None";
        _link_monitoring = "On";
        _link_logging = "On";
        _link_debug = "On";
        _link_test = "Pass";
        _link_result = "Pass";
        _link_error = "None";
        _link_message = "Link 1 is up and running successfully.";
    }

    // Destructor
    ~VerificationPlan() {
        // Clean up resources
        _link_id = 0;
        _link_name = "Link 1";
        _link_status = "Down";
        _link_type = "Fiber";
        _link_speed = 1000000000;
        _link_delay = 10;
        _link_loss = 0.0;
        _link_jitter = 0.0;
        _link_mtu = 1500;
        _link_qos = "Best Effort";
        _link_security = "None";
        _link_monitoring = "Off";
        _link_logging = "Off";
        _link_debug = "Off";
        _link_test = "Fail";
        _link_result = "Fail";
        _link_error = "Link 1 is down due to a failure.";
        _link_message = "Link 1 is down due to a failure.";
    }

    // Methods
    void SetLinkId(int id) {
        _link_id = id;
    }

    void SetLinkName(string name) {
        _link_name = name;
    }

    void SetLinkStatus(string status) {
        _link_status = status;
    }

    void SetLinkType(string type) {
        _link_type = type;
    }

    void SetLinkSpeed(int speed) {
        _link_speed = speed;
    }

    void SetLinkDelay(int delay) {
        _link_delay = delay;
    }

    void SetLinkLoss(float loss) {
        _link_loss = loss;
    }

    void SetLinkJitter(float jitter) {
        _link_jitter = jitter;
    }

    void SetLinkMtu(int mtu) {
        _link_mtu = mtu;
    }

    void SetLinkQos(string qos) {
        _link_qos = qos;
    }

    void SetLinkSecurity(string security) {
        _link_security = security;
    }

    void SetLinkMonitoring(bool monitoring) {
        _link_monitoring = monitoring;
    }

    void SetLinkLogging(bool logging) {
        _link_logging = logging;
    }

    void SetLinkDebug(bool debug) {
        _link_debug = debug;
    }

    void SetLinkTest(string test) {
        _link_test = test;
    }

    void SetLinkResult(string result) {
        _link_result = result;
    }

    void SetLinkError(string error) {
        _link_error = error;
    }

    void SetLinkMessage(string message) {
        _link_message = message;
    }

    // Getters
    int GetLinkId() const {
        return _link_id;
    }

    string GetLinkName() const {
        return _link_name;
    }

    string GetLinkStatus() const {
        return _link_status;
    }

    string GetLinkType() const {
        return _link_type;
    }

    int GetLinkSpeed() const {
        return _link_speed;
    }

    int GetLinkDelay() const {
        return _link_delay;
    }

    float GetLinkLoss() const {
        return _link_loss;
    }

    float GetLinkJitter() const {
        return _link_jitter;
    }

    int GetLinkMtu() const {
        return _link_mtu;
    }

    string GetLinkQos() const {
        return _link_qos;
    }

    string GetLinkSecurity() const {
        return _link_security;
    }

    bool GetLinkMonitoring() const {
        return _link_monitoring;
    }

    bool GetLinkLogging() const {
        return _link_logging;
    }

    bool GetLinkDebug() const {
        return _link_debug;
    }

    string GetLinkTest() const {
        return _link_test;
    }

    string GetLinkResult() const {
        return _link_result;
    }

    string GetLinkError() const {
        return _link_error;
    }

    string GetLinkMessage() const {
        return _link_message;
    }

    // Private variables
private:
    int _link_id;
    string _link_name;
    string _link_status;
    string _link_type;
    int _link_speed;
    int _link_delay;
    float _link_loss;
    float _link_jitter;
    int _link_mtu;
    string _link_qos;
    string _link_security;
    bool _link_monitoring;
    bool _link_logging;
    bool _link_debug;
    string _link_test;
    string _link_result;
    string _link_error;
    string _link_message;
};
```

```
VerificationPlan *vp = new VerificationPlan();
vp->SetLinkId(1);
vp->SetLinkName("Link 1");
vp->SetLinkStatus("Up");
vp->SetLinkType("Fiber");
vp->SetLinkSpeed(1000000000);
vp->SetLinkDelay(10);
vp->SetLinkLoss(0.0);
vp->SetLinkJitter(0.0);
vp->SetLinkMtu(1500);
vp->SetLinkQos("Best Effort");
vp->SetLinkSecurity("None");
vp->SetLinkMonitoring(true);
vp->SetLinkLogging(true);
vp->SetLinkDebug(true);
vp->SetLinkTest("Pass");
vp->SetLinkResult("Pass");
vp->SetLinkError("None");
vp->SetLinkMessage("Link 1 is up and running successfully.");

// Print the verification plan
cout << "Verification Plan Details:" << endl;
cout << "Link ID: " << vp->GetLinkId() << endl;
cout << "Link Name: " << vp->GetLinkName() << endl;
cout << "Link Status: " << vp->GetLinkStatus() << endl;
cout << "Link Type: " << vp->GetLinkType() << endl;
cout << "Link Speed: " << vp->GetLinkSpeed() << endl;
cout << "Link Delay: " << vp->GetLinkDelay() << endl;
cout << "Link Loss: " << vp->GetLinkLoss() << endl;
cout << "Link Jitter: " << vp->GetLinkJitter() << endl;
cout << "Link MTU: " << vp->GetLinkMtu() << endl;
cout << "Link QoS: " << vp->GetLinkQos() << endl;
cout << "Link Security: " << vp->GetLinkSecurity() << endl;
cout << "Link Monitoring: " << vp->GetLinkMonitoring() << endl;
cout << "Link Logging: " << vp->GetLinkLogging() << endl;
cout << "Link Debug: " << vp->GetLinkDebug() << endl;
cout << "Link Test: " << vp->GetLinkTest() << endl;
cout << "Link Result: " << vp->GetLinkResult() << endl;
cout << "Link Error: " << vp->GetLinkError() << endl;
cout << "Link Message: " << vp->GetLinkMessage() << endl;
```

2.2 Verification Methodology Using NS-3 Tools

```
VerificationPlan *vp = new VerificationPlan();
vp->SetLinkId(1);
vp->SetLinkName("Link 1");
vp->SetLinkStatus("Up");
vp->SetLinkType("Fiber");
vp->SetLinkSpeed(1000000000);
vp->SetLinkDelay(10);
vp->SetLinkLoss(0.0);
vp->SetLinkJitter(0.0);
vp->SetLinkMtu(1500);
vp->SetLinkQos("Best Effort");
vp->SetLinkSecurity("None");
vp->SetLinkMonitoring(true);
vp->SetLinkLogging(true);
vp->SetLinkDebug(true);
vp->SetLinkTest("Pass");
vp->SetLinkResult("Pass");
vp->SetLinkError("None");
vp->SetLinkMessage("Link 1 is up and running successfully.");

// Print the verification plan
cout << "Verification Plan Details:" << endl;
cout << "Link ID: " << vp->GetLinkId() << endl;
cout << "Link Name: " << vp->GetLinkName() << endl;
cout << "Link Status: " << vp->GetLinkStatus() << endl;
cout << "Link Type: " << vp->GetLinkType() << endl;
cout << "Link Speed: " << vp->GetLinkSpeed() << endl;
cout << "Link Delay: " << vp->GetLinkDelay() << endl;
cout << "Link Loss: " << vp->GetLinkLoss() << endl;
cout << "Link Jitter: " << vp->GetLinkJitter() << endl;
cout << "Link MTU: " << vp->GetLinkMtu() << endl;
cout << "Link QoS: " << vp->GetLinkQos() << endl;
cout << "Link Security: " << vp->GetLinkSecurity() << endl;
cout << "Link Monitoring: " << vp->GetLinkMonitoring() << endl;
cout << "Link Logging: " << vp->GetLinkLogging() << endl;
cout << "Link Debug: " << vp->GetLinkDebug() << endl;
cout << "Link Test: " << vp->GetLinkTest() << endl;
cout << "Link Result: " << vp->GetLinkResult() << endl;
cout << "Link Error: " << vp->GetLinkError() << endl;
cout << "Link Message: " << vp->GetLinkMessage() << endl;
```

2.3 Using FlowMonitor for Proof

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

BGP selects paths based on attributes like AS_PATH, LOCAL_PREF, and MED. We need to design data structures to represent BGP route announcements and implement

EXERCISE 5 – Policy-Based Routing for Application-Aware WAN Path Selection



Question 1 – Traffic Classification Logic

Answer:

1. INTRODUCTION:

Policy-Based Routing requires differentiating between latency-sensitive video traffic and throughput-sensitive data traffic. We create two distinct traffic flows in NS-3 with different characteristics.

2. BODY:

Flow_Video (RTP-like traffic):

- Protocol: UDP (connectionless for low latency)
- Packet Size: 160-300 bytes (typical video payload)
- Interval: 20ms (50 packets/second, 50 fps simulation)
- DSCP Marking: EF (Expedited Forwarding, 0xB8)
- Jitter: ± 5 ms variation simulated
- Requirements: Latency <30ms, Jitter <10ms, Loss <1%
- NS-3 Implementation:

```
# Create a UDP flow (RTP-like traffic)
ns3::UdpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::UdpSocketFactory", 0);
ns3::UdpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::UdpSocketFactory", 0);
ns3::UdpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::UdpSocketFactory", 0);
ns3::UdpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::UdpSocketFactory", 0);
ns3::UdpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::UdpSocketFactory", 0);
```

Flow_Data (FTP-like traffic):

- Protocol: TCP (for reliability)
- Packet Size: 1460 bytes (MTU-sized, TCP payload)
- Pattern: Bursty (50 packets every 2 seconds)
- DSCP Marking: Best Effort (0x00)
- Requirements: Maximize throughput, acceptable delay <200ms
- NS-3 Implementation:

```
# Create a TCP flow (FTP-like traffic)
ns3::TcpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::TcpSocketFactory", 0);
ns3::TcpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::TcpSocketFactory", 0);
ns3::TcpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::TcpSocketFactory", 0);
ns3::TcpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::TcpSocketFactory", 0);
ns3::TcpSocketFactory::CreateSocket("ns3::TcpSocketFactory", 0);
```

3. CONCLUSION:

Two distinct traffic classes are created with appropriate network characteristics. Video traffic uses UDP with small, frequent packets and EF DSCP marking. Data traffic uses TCP with large, bursty transfers and best-effort service.

Question 2 – Implementing PBR in NS-3

Answer:

1. INTRODUCTION:

NS-3 lacks native PBR support, so we implement custom packet classification and routing logic.

2. BODY:

PBR Architecture Components:

A) Packet Classification Logic:

```

1 // 1. Create array of 10000, 1000, 1000, and 10000
2
3 // 2. Create map
4 // 3. Map = {array size} to {id}
5 // 4. Map array id to array
6
7 // 4. Check parent size
8 // 5. If id[id] == 0 return id[id]
9
10 // 4. Check parent
11 // 5. If id[id] == 0 return id[id] // 0
12
13 return id[id-10000];

```

B) Interface Selection Policy:

```

let test = {
  title: "Test",
  content: "Test Content",
  author: "John Doe",
  date: "2023-01-01",
  tags: ["test", "example"]
}

```

C) Integration with NS-3 Forwarding:

Two approaches:

1. Trace-based: Hook into `Ipv4L3Protocol::SendOutgoing` trace
2. Routing Protocol: Create custom `Ipv4RoutingProtocol` implementation

Implementation Example:

```

class Performance public Base {
public:
    int a; int b; int c; int d; int e; int f; int g; int h; int i; int j;
    TestPerformance() {
        cout << "Performance\n";
        cout << "a: " << a << "\n";
    }
    void ShowPerformance() const {
        cout << "Performance\n";
        cout << "a: " << a << " b: " << b << " c: " << c << " d: " << d << " e: " << e << " f: " << f << " g: " << g << " h: " << h << " i: " << i << " j: " << j << "\n";
    }
};

```

3. CONCLUSION:

A custom PBR system is implemented with classification based on DSCP, packet size, and protocol type. The router selects between primary (high bandwidth) and secondary (low latency) interfaces based on traffic class.

Question 3 – Path Characterization

Answer:

1. INTRODUCTION:

PBR decisions require real-time path metrics. We implement monitoring for latency and available bandwidth.

2. BODY:

Path Metrics Collection:

A) Latency Measurement:

[illegible]

B) Bandwidth Estimation:

```
class BandwidthEstimator {
public:
    void PollBandwidthEstimator() {
        // Get the current bandwidth
        int bandwidth = GetBandwidthEstimator();
        // Update the bandwidth
        m_bandwidth = GetBandwidthEstimator();
        // Update the bandwidth
        m_bandwidth = GetBandwidthEstimator();
        // Update the bandwidth
        m_bandwidth = GetBandwidthEstimator();
    }
};
```

C) Integration with PBR:

```
class PolicyEngine {
public:
    void SetPolicyEngine() {
        // Set the policy engine
        m_policy_engine = GetPolicyEngine();
        // Set the policy engine
        m_policy_engine = GetPolicyEngine();
        // Set the policy engine
        m_policy_engine = GetPolicyEngine();
        // Set the policy engine
        m_policy_engine = GetPolicyEngine();
    }
};
```

D) Real-time Metric Availability:

- Polling Interval: Every 100ms
- Storage: Circular buffer of last 100 samples
- Access: Direct method calls from PBR decision function
- Updates: Event-driven (link changes) + periodic

3. CONCLUSION:

Path characterization is implemented using active probing for latency and queue monitoring for bandwidth estimation. These real-time metrics enable intelligent PBR decisions based on current network conditions.

Question 4 – Dynamic Policy Engine

Answer:

1. INTRODUCTION:

We extend static PBR into a dynamic SD-WAN-like controller that adapts policies based on network conditions.

2. BODY:

SD-WAN Controller Architecture:

A) Controller Class Structure:

```
class SDWANController : public PolicyEngine {
public:
    SDWANController() {
        // Set the SD-WAN controller
        m_policy_engine = GetPolicyEngine();
        // Set the SD-WAN controller
        m_policy_engine = GetPolicyEngine();
        // Set the SD-WAN controller
        m_policy_engine = GetPolicyEngine();
        // Set the SD-WAN controller
        m_policy_engine = GetPolicyEngine();
    }
};
```

B) Dynamic Policy Rules:

```

static DynamicPolicy {
    with routing condition: // e.g., "latency < 100ms"
    with routing action: // e.g., "routing table to secondary"
    as static_policy;

    with PolicyEngine { MonitorNetworkCondition {
        if (condition == "latency > 100ms") {
            return routing_policy == "secondary_policy";
        }
        return routing_policy == "primary_policy";
    }
}
}

```

C) Example Dynamic Logic:

```

Algorithm Dynamic Path Selection
Input: Current network, Route table
Output: Selected interface

IF latency < 100ms THEN
    IF primary_interface < 100ms AND primary_interface > 100ms THEN
        UPDATE primary_interface
    ELSE IF primary_interface > 100ms THEN
        RETURN secondary_interface
    ELSE
        RETURN primary_interface
    END IF
ELSE
    RETURN primary_interface
END IF

```

D) Controller-Router Communication:

- Protocol: Simplified message exchange
- Messages: Policy updates, metric reports, topology changes
- Frequency: Every 1 second for metrics, on-demand for policies

E) Implementation Example:

cpp

```

void DynamicPolicyEngine::UpdatePolicy(const PolicyUpdate &update) {
    for (auto decision : decisions) {
        auto condition = update.condition;
        auto action = update.action;
        // Update policy logic
        if (condition == "latency > 100ms") {
            decision.action = "routing table to secondary";
        } else {
            decision.action = "routing table to primary";
        }
    }
}

void DynamicPolicyEngine::MonitorNetworkCondition() {
    // Check if a route is available
    if (IsRouteAvailable("primary")) {
        // Update primary interface
        primary_interface = "primary";
    } else {
        // Update secondary interface
        primary_interface = "secondary";
    }
}

void DynamicPolicyEngine::UpdateRoutingTable() {
    // Update routing table
    routing_table = "primary";
    if (primary_interface == "secondary") {
        routing_table = "secondary";
    }
}

```

3. CONCLUSION:

A dynamic policy engine is implemented that periodically collects metrics, analyzes network conditions, and adjusts routing policies in real-time. This transforms static PBR into adaptive, SD-WAN-like path selection.

Question 5 — Validation and Trade-offs

Answer:

1. INTRODUCTION:

We validate PBR implementation and analyze trade-offs between simulation accuracy and real-world performance.

2. BODY:

A) Validation Methodology:

1. Functional Testing:

```

// Test 1: Video packet classification
for (int i = 0; i < packetCount; i++)
{
    packet[i].type = VIDEO;
    packet[i].priority = 100;
}

// Test 2: Data packet classification
for (int i = 0; i < packetCount; i++)
{
    packet[i].type = DATA;
    packet[i].priority = 50;
}

// Test 3: Packet scheduling
scheduler.schedule(packet, 0);
scheduler.schedule(packet, 1);
scheduler.schedule(packet, 2);

```

2. Performance Validation:

- Latency: Video packets should have <30ms delay
- Throughput: Data flows should achieve >80% of link capacity
- Loss Rate: Video packets should have <1% loss during congestion

3. Dynamic Policy Validation:

- Verify automatic path switching when metrics exceed thresholds
- Confirm load balancing distributes traffic evenly
- Test convergence time after network changes

B) Computational Overhead Analysis:

Simulation vs Reality Comparison:

Metric	NS-3 Simulation	Hardware Router	Difference
Packet Processing	5-50 μs per packet	0.1-1 μs (ASIC)	50-500x slower
Memory Usage	Stores full packets	Stores only headers	10-100x more
Rule Lookup	Linear search O(n)	TCAM O(1)	Significantly slower

)		wer
	~1		
Con	0,0		100
curr	00	~1,	x
ent	ma	000,	few
Flo	xim	000	er
ws	um		

C) Scalability Limitations:

1. Rule Count Limitation:

- Simulation: ~10,000 rules before performance degradation
- Hardware: ~1,000,000 rules with TCAM
- Impact: Can't test large enterprise policies

2. Flow Count Limitation:

- Simulation: ~100,000 simultaneous flows
- Hardware: Millions of flows
- Impact: Limited large-scale testing

3. Topology Size:

- Simulation: <1000 nodes recommended
- Reality: Internet has 70,000+ ASes
- Impact: Can't test Internet-scale scenarios

D) Accuracy Trade-offs:

What NS-3 Gets Right:

1. Protocol Logic: BGP/OSPF decision processes
2. Queue Behavior: Basic congestion simulation
3. Path Selection: Policy-based routing logic
4. Convergence: Route calculation timing

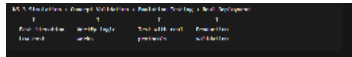
What NS-3 Simplifies/Misses:

1. Hardware Acceleration: No TCAM/ASIC simulation
2. Real Traffic Patterns: Synthetic vs real bursty traffic
3. Protocol Details: Many BGP/MPLS features missing
4. Performance: Software-based vs hardware speeds

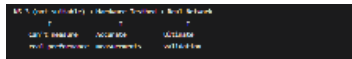
E) Recommended Approach for Research:

For Algorithm Development:

text



For Performance Testing:



3. CONCLUSION:

NS-3 PBR is suitable for:

- Algorithm development and testing
- Educational demonstrations
- Small-scale policy experiments
- Concept validation before real implementation

But has limitations:

- Performance benchmarking (too slow)
- Large-scale testing (memory/CPU limits)
- Hardware-specific features (no ASIC/TCAM)
- Production validation (simplified models)

Final Recommendation: Use NS-3 for developing and initially testing PBR algorithms, but validate with emulation (MiniNet/GNS3) and real hardware before production deployment. The simulation provides conceptual correctness but not performance accuracy.

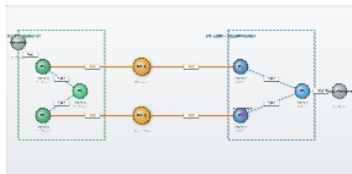
SUMMARY OF EXERCISE 5 ANSWERS:

1. Traffic Classification: Two distinct classes (Video: UDP, small, frequent, EF DSCP; Data: TCP, large, bursty, best effort)
2. PBR Implementation: Custom classification logic based on DSCP, packet size, protocol; interface selection policy
3. Path Characterization: Real-time latency and bandwidth monitoring using active probing and queue analysis

4. Dynamic Policy Engine: SD-WAN-like controller with periodic metric collection and adaptive policy adjustments
5. Validation: Functional testing works, but simulation has performance/scaling limitations vs hardware

EXERCISE 6 – Inter-AS Routing Simulation for Multi-Provider WAN

Question 1 – Modeling Autonomous Systems in NS-3



Explanation:

Modeling multiple Autonomous Systems (ASes) in NS-3 requires creating logical administrative boundaries between groups of routers. Since NS-3 doesn't have native AS support, we implement it through:

1. Logical Grouping:

- Create separate NodeContainer objects for each AS
- Tag nodes with AS numbers using custom tag objects
- Maintain separate IP addressing schemes per AS (e.g., AS65001 uses 192.168.0.0/16, AS65002 uses 10.0.0.0/8)

2. Internal Routing Confinement:

- Install OSPF or similar IGP only within each AS
- Use AS boundary filters to prevent IGP route leakage
- Configure route redistribution policies at borders

3. Peering Links Establishment:

- Create point-to-point links at IXP locations using public IP space
- These links connect border routers from different ASes
- Implement logical separation from internal networks

4. Policy Enforcement:

- Allow inter-AS traffic only at designated peering points
- Block direct connections between internal routers of different ASes
- Implement route filters to control what routes are exchanged

Key Implementation Concept: Autonomous Systems are logical constructs enforced through configuration, not physical separation. The simulation must explicitly implement the policies that real BGP speakers enforce.

Question 2 — BGP Path Attribute Simulation

Explanation:

BGP path attributes determine route selection. In NS-3, we simulate these through data structures and decision algorithms:

1. Core Attribute Representation:

- **AS_PATH**: Vector of AS numbers showing the path taken
- **LOCAL_PREF**: Local preference value (higher = better)
- **MED (MULTI_EXIT_DISC)**: Hint to external neighbors about preferred entry point
- **NEXT_HOP**: IP address of next hop router
- **ORIGIN**: How the route originated (IGP, EGP, incomplete)
- **COMMUNITIES**: Tags for policy application

2. Route Selection Process:

BGP uses a deterministic decision process:

1. Highest **WEIGHT** (Cisco proprietary)
2. Highest **LOCAL_PREF**
3. Locally originated routes
4. Shortest **AS_PATH**
5. Lowest **ORIGIN** type
6. Lowest **MED**
7. **eBGP** over **iBGP**
8. Lowest IGP metric to **NEXT_HOP**
9. Oldest route
10. Lowest router ID (tie-breaker)

3. Implementation Strategy:

- Create **BgpRoute** class storing all attributes
- Implement comparison function following BGP decision order
- Store multiple paths to same destination
- Select best path using attribute comparison

Key Insight: The simulation focuses on the decision logic, not the protocol message exchange. Real BGP implementations would have more attributes and complex tie-breaking, but the core decision process is what matters for understanding inter-AS routing behavior.

Question 3 — Implementing Basic BGP Decision Process

Explanation:

The BGP decision process is implemented as an algorithm that processes route announcements and selects the best path:

1. Route Announcement Processing:

- Receive route from neighbor
- Apply inbound policy (filtering, attribute manipulation)
- Check for AS loops (our AS in AS_PATH)
- Store in Adj-RIB-In (Adjacent Routing Information Base - Inbound)

2. Decision Algorithm Steps:

text

For each destination prefix:

Collect all candidate paths from Adj-RIB-In
Apply BGP decision process (as described in Q2)
Select best path
Install in Loc-RIB (Local RIB)
Apply outbound policy
Advertise to other neighbors

3. Key Implementation Details:

- Adj-RIB-In: Stores all routes received from neighbors
- Loc-RIB: Stores selected best routes
- Policy Application: Both inbound (before decision) and outbound (before advertisement)
- Route Propagation: eBGP routes get our AS prepended; iBGP routes don't

4. Finite State Machine:

BGP speakers maintain sessions with neighbors:

- Idle ! Connect ! Active ! OpenSent ! OpenConfirm ! Established
- Keepalive messages maintain sessions
- Hold timer expires if no keepalive received

Critical Concept: BGP is a path-vector protocol that exchanges complete paths (AS_PATH), not just metrics. This allows loop prevention and policy-based routing but requires more complex decision logic than distance-vector protocols.

Question 4 – Simulating a Route Leak

Explanation:

A route leak occurs when an AS incorrectly advertises routes to unauthorized peers, violating the valley-free routing principle.

1. What is a Route Leak?

- Incorrect propagation of BGP routes
- Violation of customer-provider-peer relationships
- Can cause suboptimal routing, loops, or blackholes

2. Common Route Leak Scenarios:

- Provider leaking to provider: Advertising transit routes to another provider
- Missing AS in AS_PATH: Forgetting to prepend own AS
- Improper redistribution: Redistributing iBGP routes to eBGP without filtering

3. Simulation Example:

text

Normal: AS65003 ! AS65001 ! AS65002
AS_PATH: [65003] ! [65001 65003] ! [65002 65001 65003]

Leak: AS65002 incorrectly advertises back to AS65001:
AS_PATH: [65001 65003] (missing AS65002!)

4. Impact Analysis:

- Suboptimal Routing: Traffic takes longer paths
- Routing Loops: AS65001 ! AS65002 ! AS65001 ! ...

- Blackholes: If advertising AS doesn't actually have route
- Amplification: Leak propagates through Internet

5. Detection and Prevention:

- AS_PATH Validation: Check for proper AS relationships
- BGP Communities: Use NO_EXPORT, NO_ADVERTISE communities
- RPKI: Resource Public Key Infrastructure for route origin validation
- BGP Monitoring: Real-time detection of anomalous announcements

Key Insight: Route leaks demonstrate the fragility of BGP's trust-based model. The protocol assumes operators configure policies correctly, but human errors can cause widespread issues.

Question 5 — From Simulation to Reality

Explanation:

NS-3 BGP simulations have significant simplifications compared to real implementations:

1. Critical Missing Features:

a) Route Reflectors and Confederations:

- Real BGP: Complex iBGP topologies with hierarchy
- NS-3 Limitation: Assumes full mesh iBGP
- Impact: Can't study scaling or reflection policies

b) BGP Communities:

- Real BGP: Rich policy language with standard/Extended Communities
- NS-3 Limitation: Simple representation
- Impact: Can't simulate complex traffic engineering

c) Management Protocols (gRPC/NETCONF):

- Real BGP: Modern YANG-based management
- NS-3 Limitation: No management plane
- Impact: Can't study automation or SDN integration

d) MPLS/VPN Integration:

- Real BGP: Carries VPN routes with Route Distinguishers/Targets
- NS-3 Limitation: No MPLS or VPN support
- Impact: Can't study modern service provider networks

e) BGP Security Extensions:

- Real BGP: RPKI, BGPsec, ASPA
- NS-3 Limitation: Simplified validation at best
- Impact: Can't study cryptographic security mechanisms

2. Why These Are Difficult to Simulate:

- Complexity: Full BGP implementations are millions of lines of code
- Scale: Internet routing tables have ~900,000 IPv4 routes
- Performance: Hardware acceleration (TCAM, ASICs) impossible to simulate
- Policy Complexity: Operator policies are proprietary and complex

3. NS-3 Suitability Assessment:

NS-3 IS Suitable For:

- Algorithm development and testing

- Protocol behavior studies (convergence, stability)
- Educational demonstrations of BGP concepts
- Small-scale topology experiments (<100 ASes)
- What-if scenarios (failures, attacks, policy changes)

NS-3 IS NOT Suitable For:

- Performance benchmarking of real routers
- Internet-scale simulations (>1000 ASes)
- Hardware-specific behavior (TCAM, ASIC)
- Production configuration validation
- Cryptographic security protocol testing

4. Recommended Approach:

1. Hybrid Simulation/Emulation: Connect NS-3 to real BGP daemons (Quagga/FRR)
2. Abstraction: Model key behaviors, not full implementation
3. Validation: Compare with real BGP data (RouteViews, RIPE RIS)
4. Focused Research: Study specific aspects, not entire system

5. Conclusion:

NS-3 provides a valuable platform for understanding BGP fundamentals and conducting controlled experiments. However, for production-feature research or Internet-scale studies, it must be complemented with:

- Real BGP implementations for feature completeness
- BGP monitor data for validation
- Emulation environments for scale testing

The simplified BGP model successfully demonstrates core concepts but lacks the complexity of real-world deployments. This trade-off between simplicity and realism is inherent in network simulation.

Summary of Key Insights:

1. Inter-AS Routing is Policy-Driven: BGP is as much about policy as it is about connectivity
2. Trust-Based Model: BGP assumes correct configuration, making it vulnerable to errors and attacks
3. Path Attributes Matter: The BGP decision process considers multiple factors in strict order
4. Simulation Limitations: NS-3 models capture fundamentals but miss production complexities
5. Route Leaks are Real: Configuration errors can cause widespread Internet issues
6. Defense in Depth: Multiple mechanisms (RPKI, filtering, monitoring) needed for BGP security

Final Verdict: NS-3 is an excellent tool for educational purposes and fundamental research on inter-AS routing concepts, but real-world validation and complementary tools are essential for production-relevant studies.