



2021-02-23

Core Protocols: BGP

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IPv4 Addressing and Forwarding

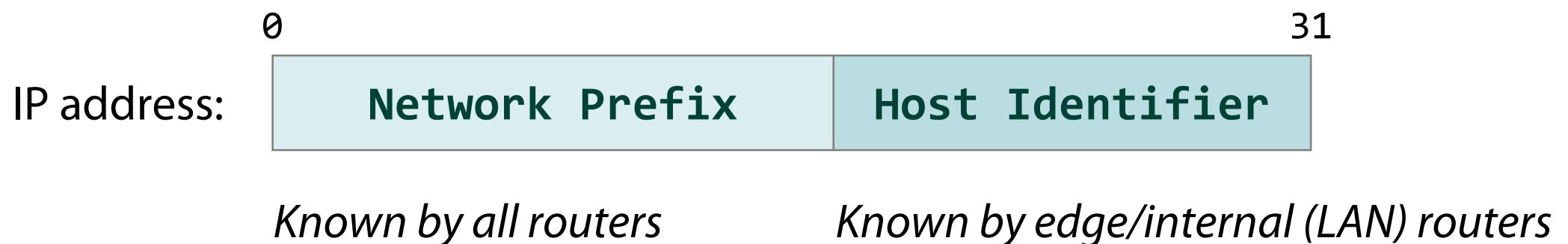
Packets are routed based on their destination IP address

Router's task: for every IP address, forward the packet to the next hop

Table lookup for each packet in a routing table

32-bit addresses, 2^{32} possibilities → impractical to maintain 2^{32} entries

Solution: hierarchical address scheme



IPv4 Address Classes

	0	7 8	15 16	23 24	31	
Class A	0	Network		Host		1.0.0.0 – 127.255.255.255
Class B	10	Network		Host		128.0.0.0 – 191.255.255.255
Class C	110	Network		Host		192.0.0.0 – 223.255.255.255
Class D	1110		Multicast			224.0.0.0 – 239.255.255.255
Class E	1111		Reserved			240.0.0.0 – 255.255.255.255

Classless Inter-Domain Routing (CIDR) was introduced in 1993

Replaced the *classful* A/B/C network addressing architecture

IP addresses are now associated with a *subnet mask*

Allocations to ISPs and end users can be made on any address-bit boundary

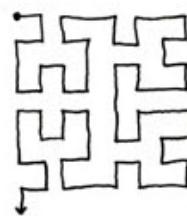
MAP of the INTERNET

THE IPv4 SPACE, 2006



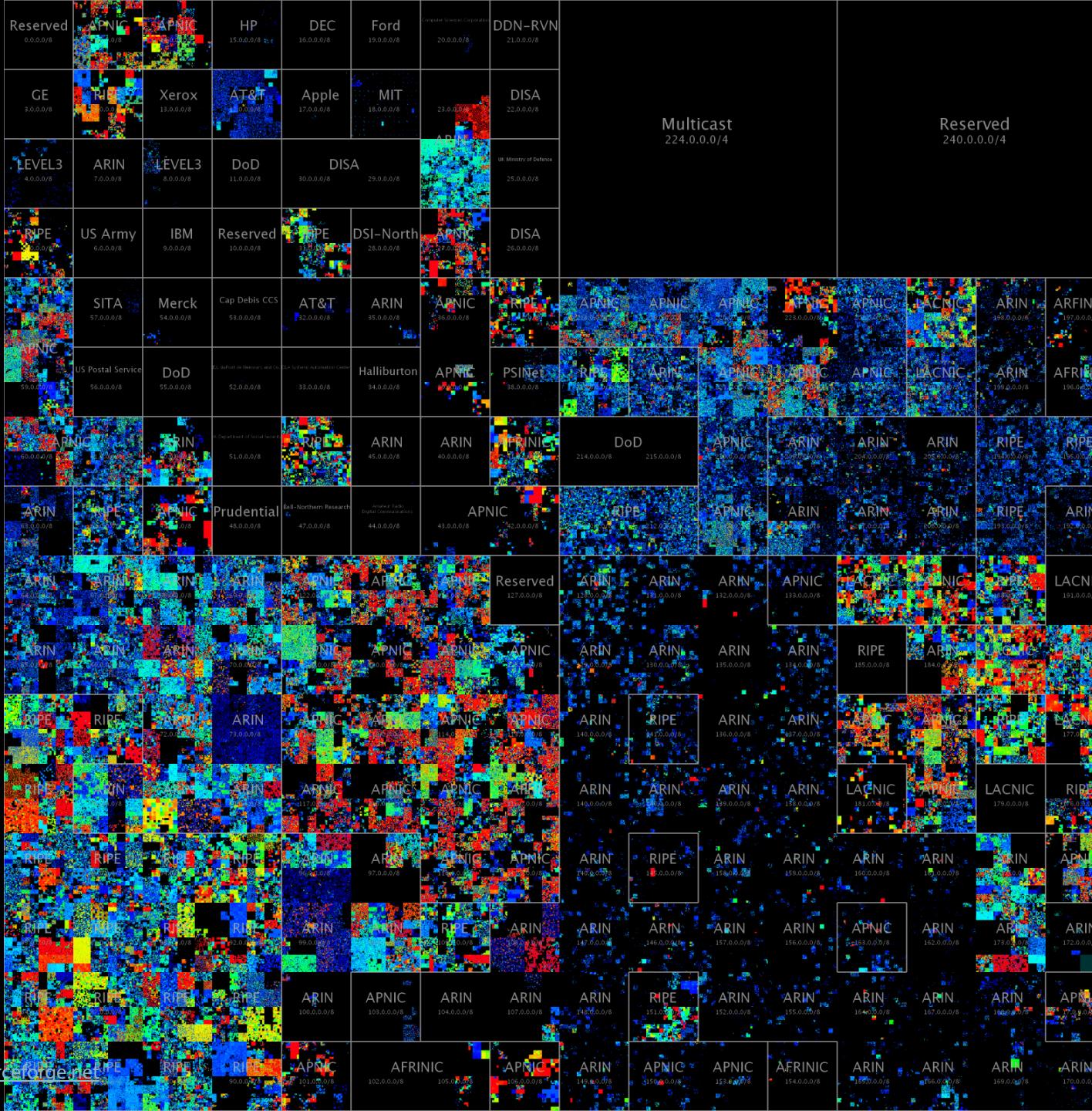
THIS CHART SHOWS THE IP ADDRESS SPACE ON A PLANE USING A FRACTAL MAPPING WHICH PRESERVES GROUPING -- ANY CONSECUTIVE STRING OF IPs WILL TRANSLATE TO A SINGLE COMPACT, CONTIGUOUS REGION ON THE MAP. EACH OF THE 256 NUMBERED BLOCKS REPRESENTS ONE /8 SUBNET (CONTAINING ALL IPs THAT START WITH THAT NUMBER). THE UPPER LEFT SECTION SHOWS THE BLOCKS SOLD DIRECTLY TO CORPORATIONS AND GOVERNMENTS IN THE 1990's BEFORE THE RIRs TOOK OVER ALLOCATION.

0	1	14	15	16	19	→
3	2	13	12	17	18	
4	7	8	11			
5	6	9	10			



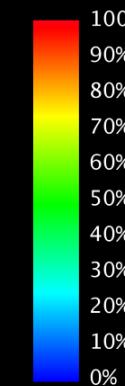
= UNALLOCATED BLOCK

No green patches after 2011...



IPv4 Census Map
June – October 2012

Utilization

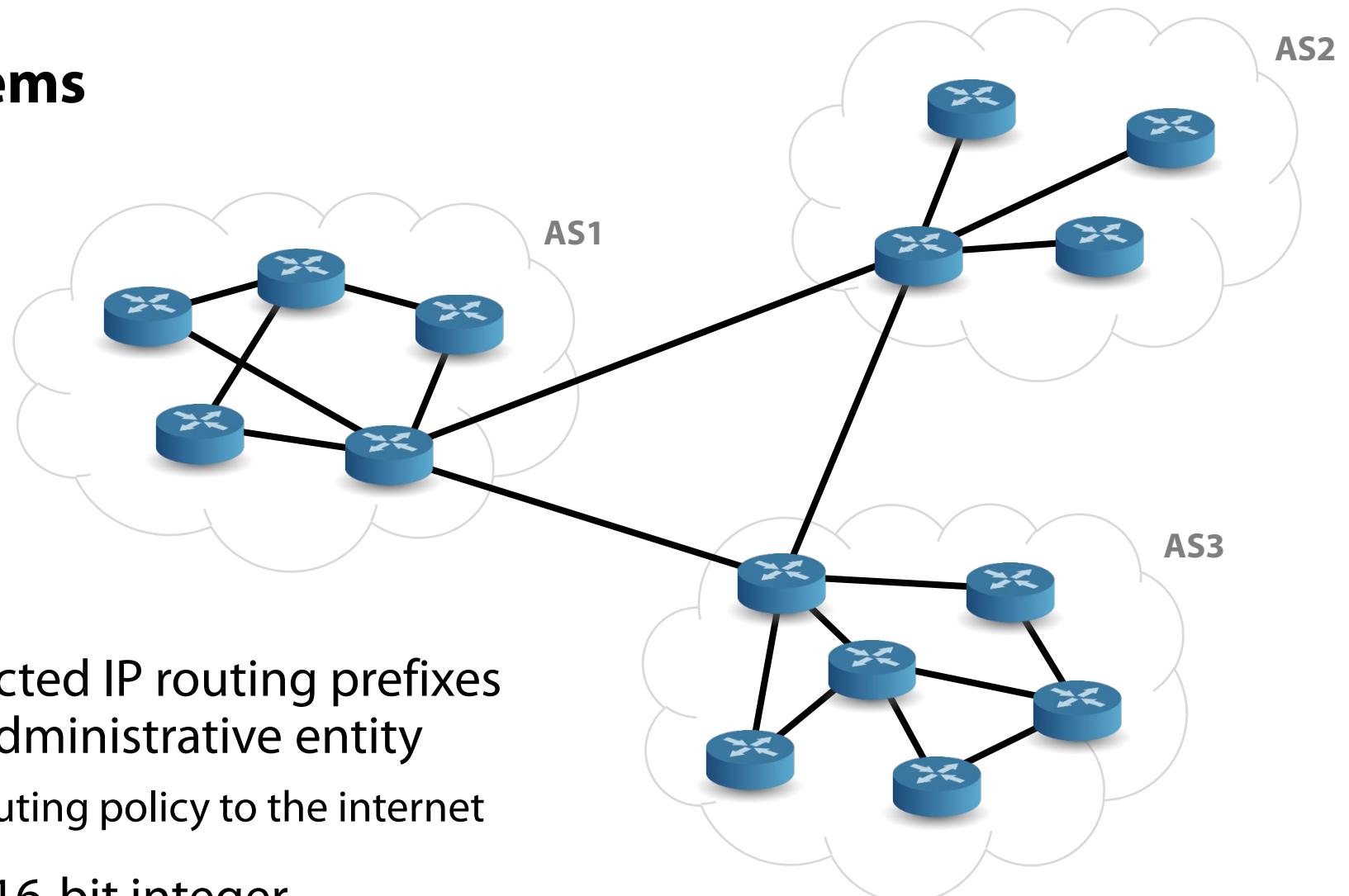


Prefix Sizes



420 Million hosts that responded to ICMP Ping at least 2 times between June and October 2011
Source: Carna Botnet

Autonomous Systems



AS: collection of connected IP routing prefixes belonging to a single administrative entity

Presents a common routing policy to the internet

AS number defined as 16-bit integer

99,857 ASNs as of February 2021, assigned by IANA

```
mikepo@konami:~> nslookup hexlab.cs.stonybrook.edu
```

Name: hexlab.cs.stonybrook.edu

Address: 130.245.42.42

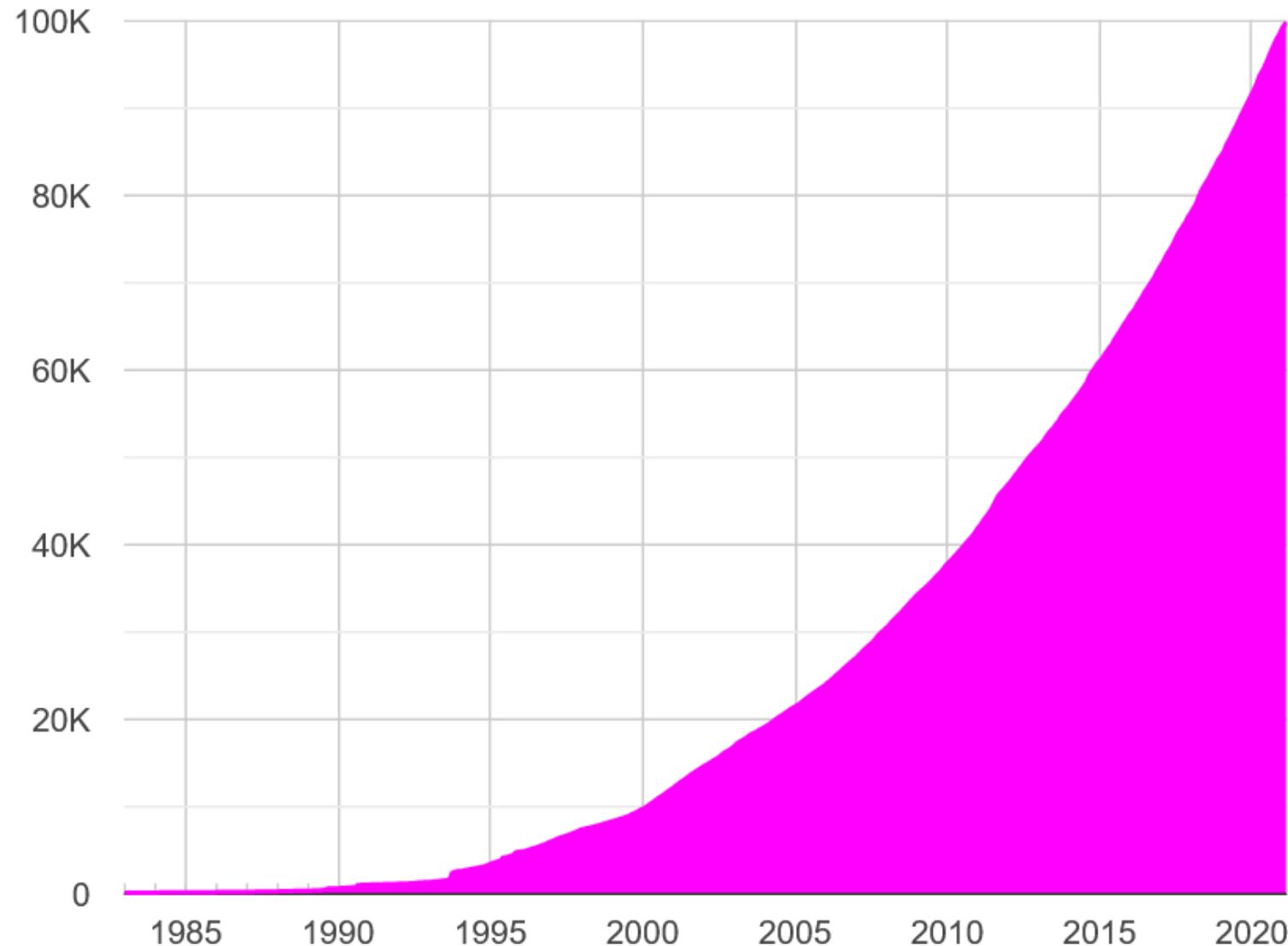
```
mikepo@konami:~> whois 130.245.42.42
```

NetRange: 130.245.0.0 - 130.245.255.255
CIDR: 130.245.0.0/16
NetName: SUNYSB-CS
NetHandle: NET-130-245-0-0-1
Parent: NET130 (NET-130-0-0-0-0)
NetType: Direct Assignment
OriginAS:
Organization: State University of New York at Stony Brook (SUNYASB)
RegDate: 1988-10-25
Updated: 2015-04-14
Ref: <https://rdap.arin.net/registry/ip/130.245.0.0>

```
mikepo@konami:~> whois -h whois.cymru.com 130.245.42.42
```

AS	IP	AS Name
5719	130.245.42.42	SUNYSB, US

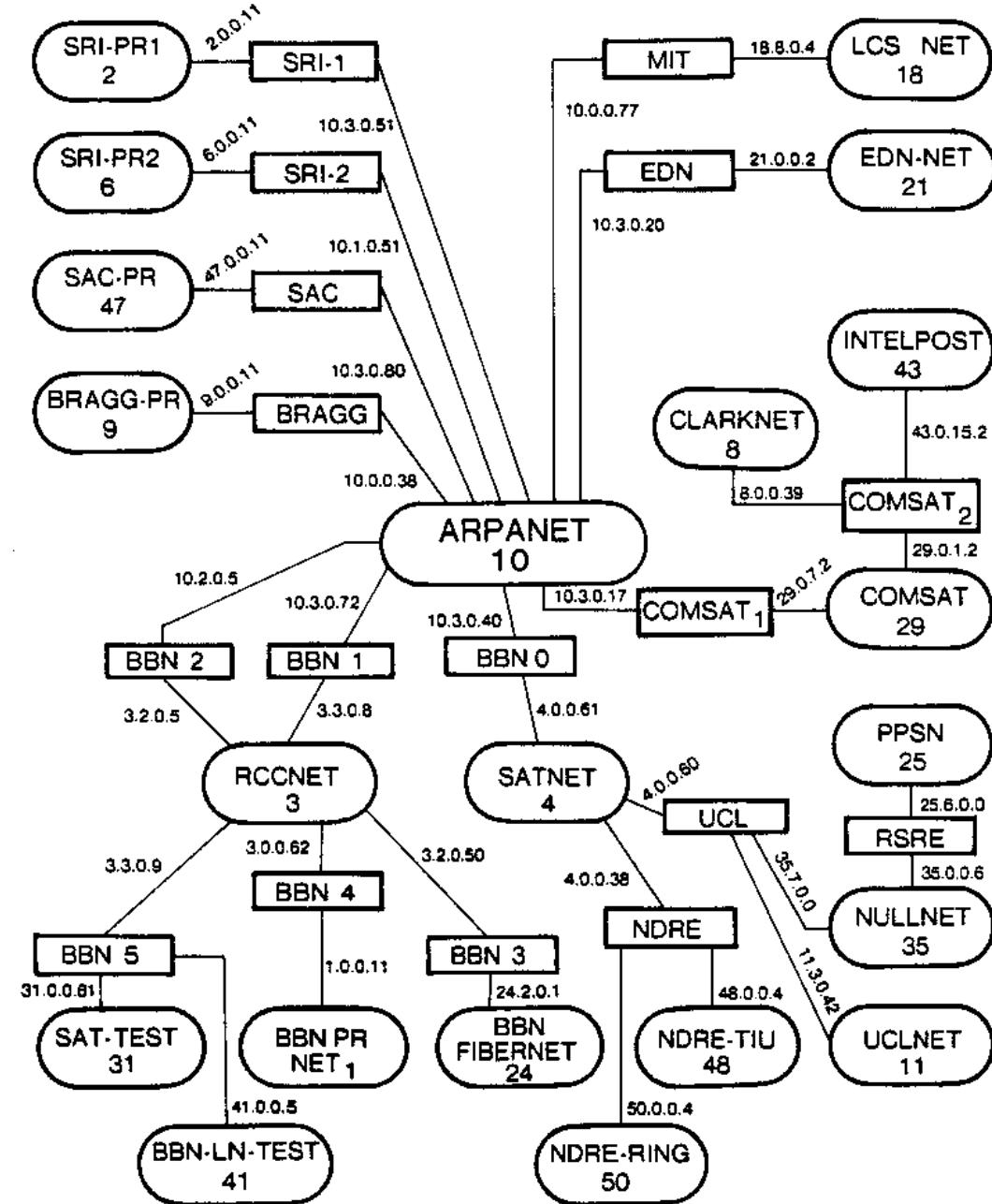
ASN History in World zone



Map of the internet, 1982

Ovals: sites/networks

Rectangles: routers



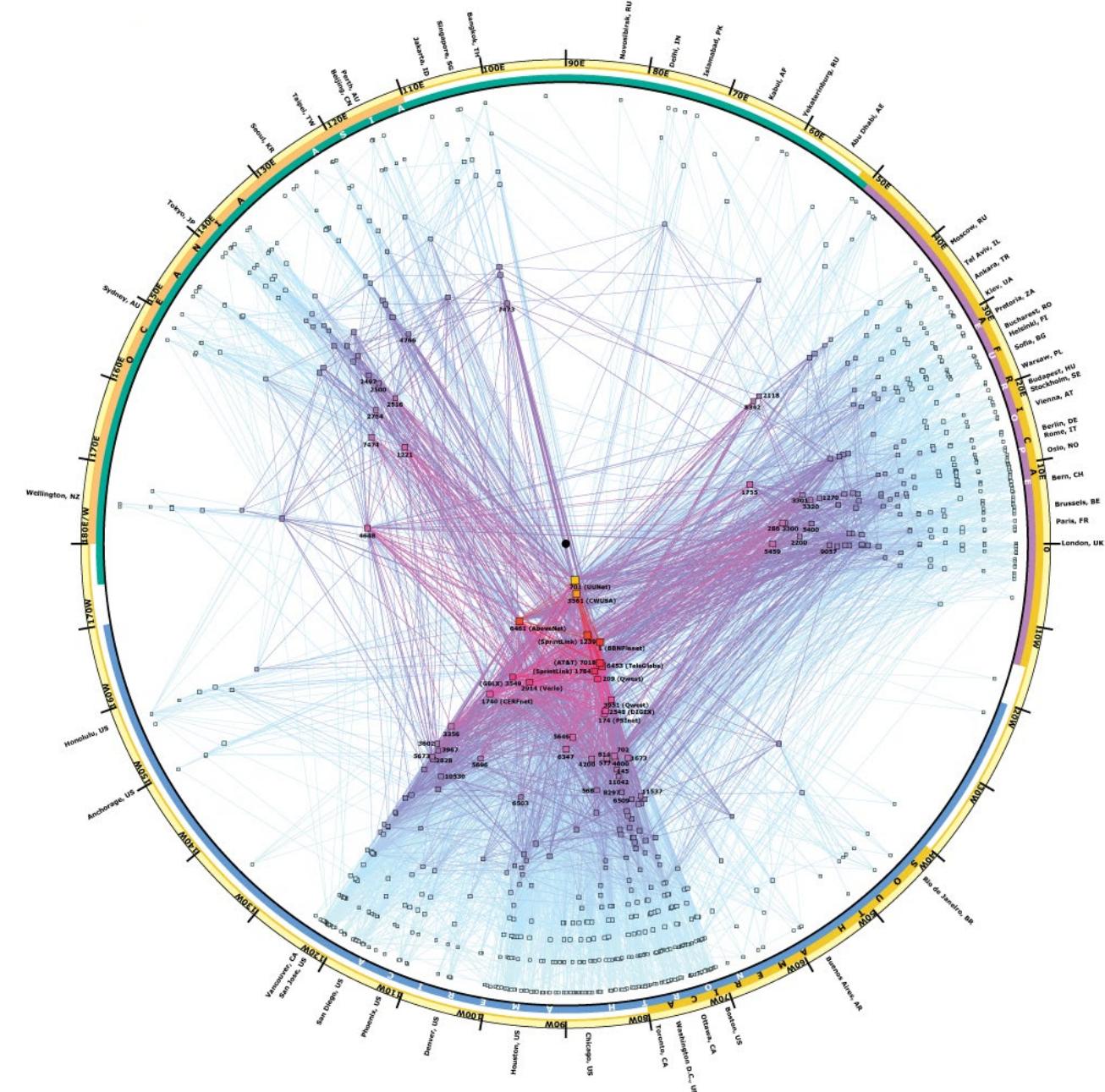
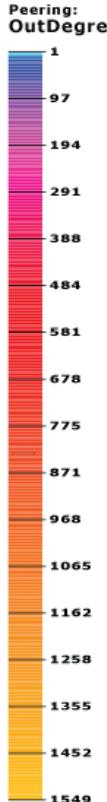
CAIDA's IPv4 AS Core AS-level Internet Graph

Skitter
January 2000

220,533 IP addresses

5,107 ASes

Peering:
OutDegree

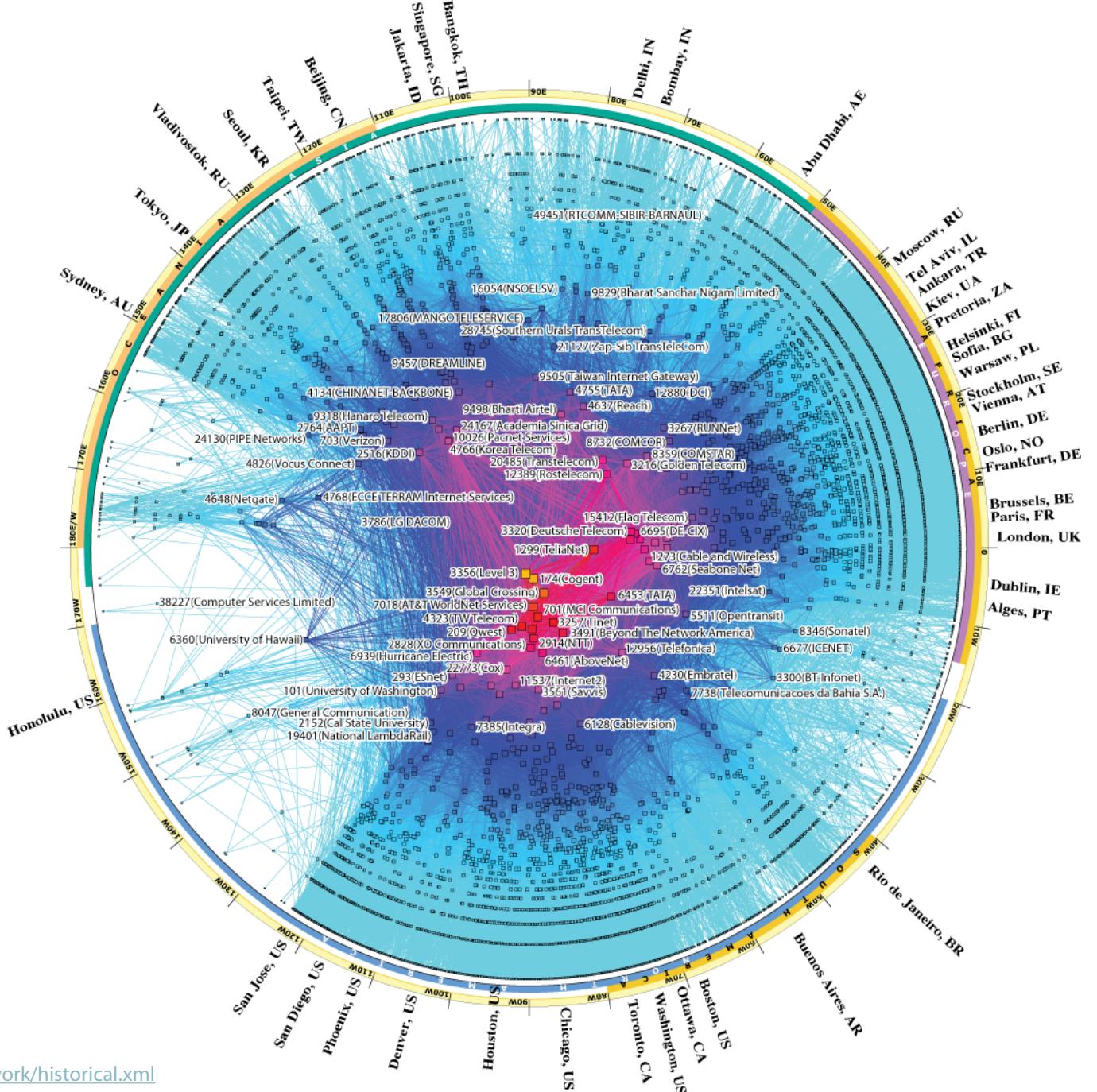


CAIDA's IPv4 AS Core AS-level Internet Graph

Archipelago
August 2010

16,802,061 IP addresses

26,702 ASes

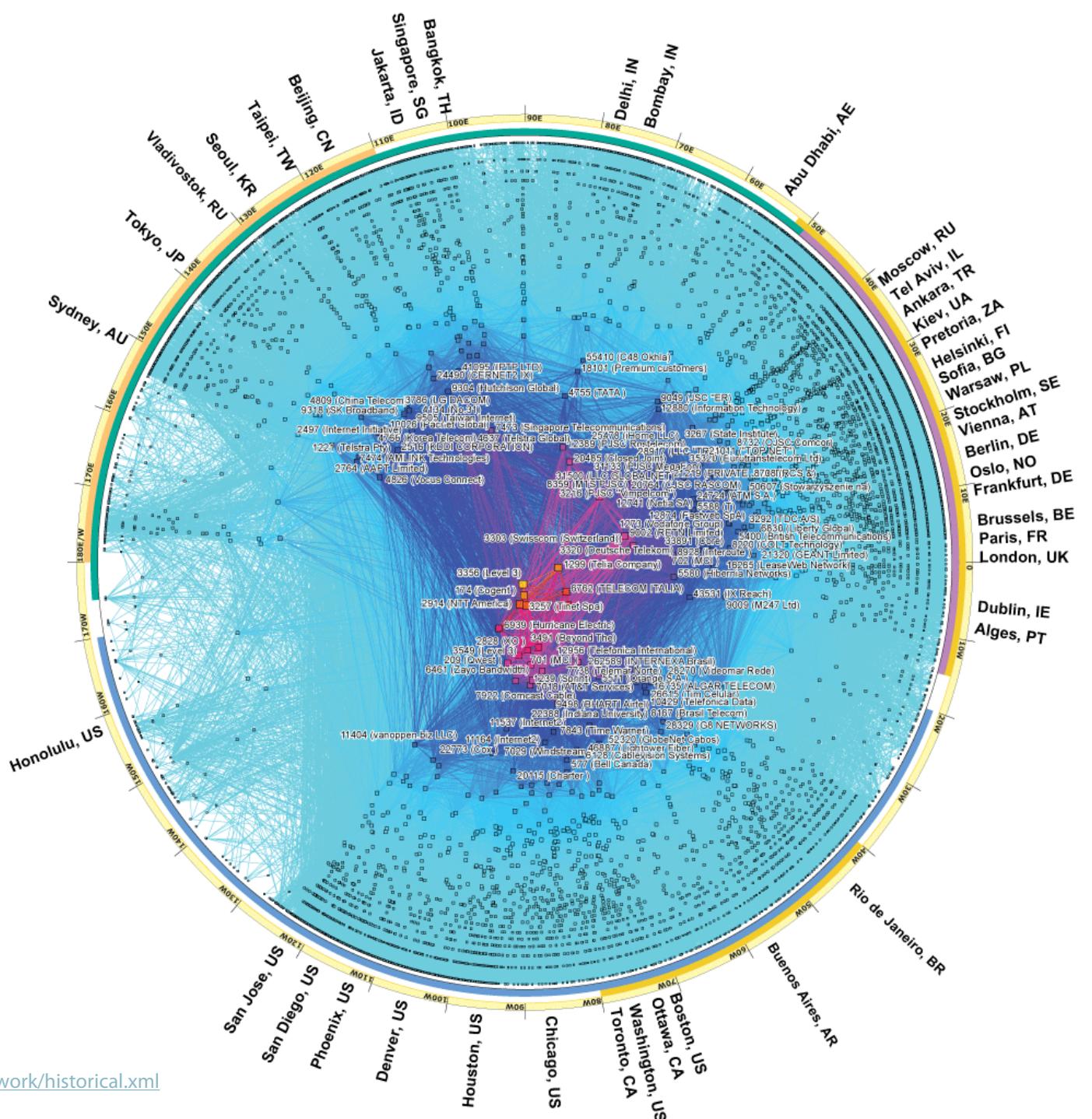


CAIDA's IPv4 AS Core AS-level Internet Graph

Archipelago
February 2017

50 million IP addresses

47,610 ASes



Internet Routing

Routers speak to each other to establish internet paths

- Exchange topology and cost information

- Calculate the best path to each destination

Intra-domain routing: set up routes within a single network/AS

- RIP** (Routing Information Protocol): distance vector

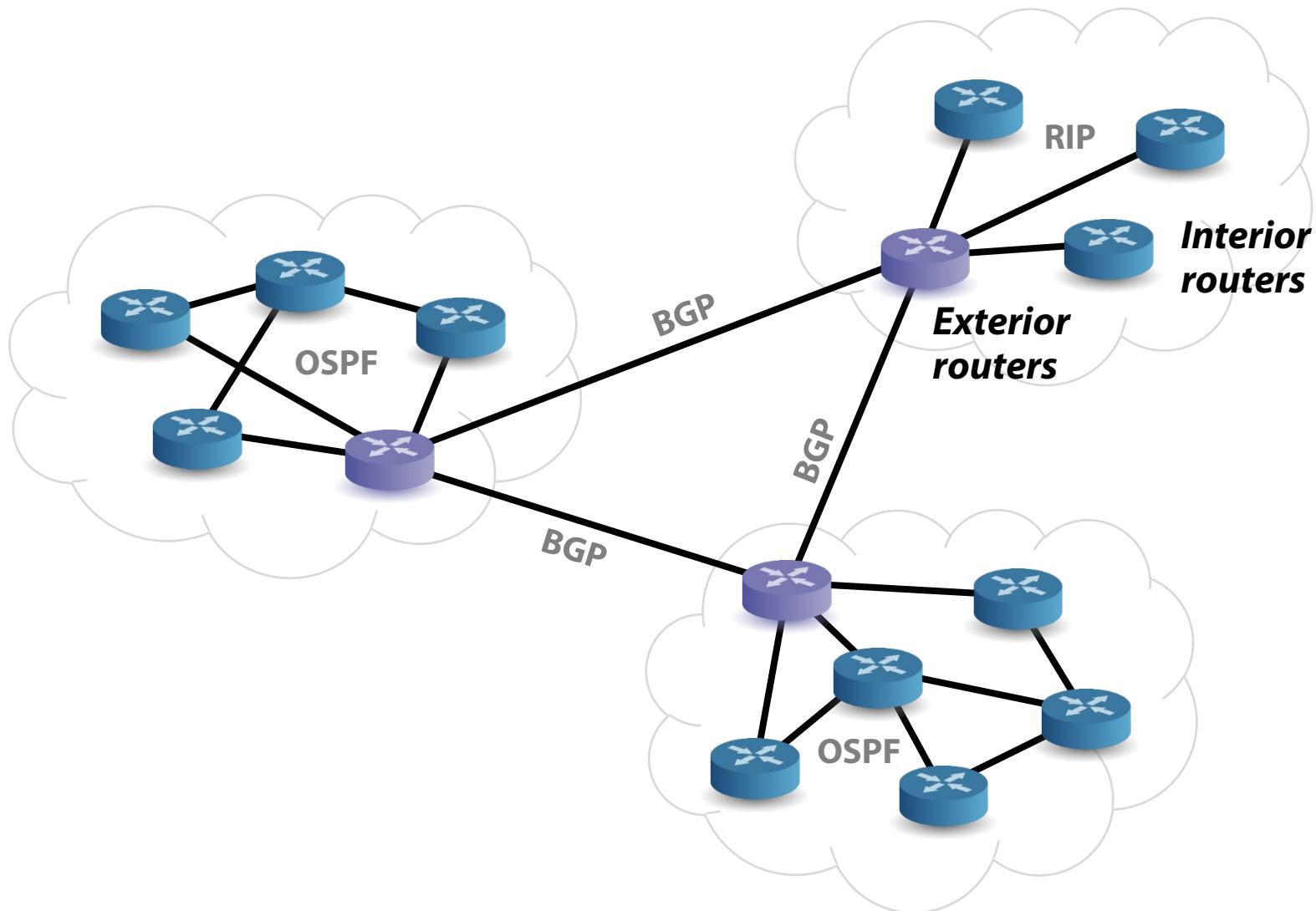
- OSPF** (Open Shortest Path First): link state

Inter-domain routing: set up routes between networks

- BGP** (Border Gateway Protocol)

- Advertisements contain a prefix and a list of ASes to traverse to reach that prefix

Internet Routing



BGP (Border Gateway Protocol)

The de facto standard inter-AS routing protocol in today's Internet

BGP is what enables subnets to advertise their existence to the rest of the Internet

Main goals:

- Obtain subnet reachability information from neighboring ASs

- Propagate the reachability information to all internal routers

- Determine "good" routes to subnets based on the obtained reachability information and the policies of the involved ASes

Path-vector routing protocol

- Maintains path information that is updated dynamically

- Makes routing decisions based on paths, network policies, or rules configured by network administrators

Root Causes of BGP Security Issues

No authentication of path announcements

Neighbor adjacencies can be “secured” using MD5 digests

BGP messages are sent over TCP connections

All the usual problems: eavesdropping, content manipulation, ...

Misconfigurations are easy

BGP is a complex protocol, with complex interactions

Attackers can lie to other routers

Routing Attacks

Blackholing

False route advertisements to attract and drop traffic

Redirection

Force some or all traffic to take a different network path → sniffing, interception (MitM), flooding/congestion

Instability

Frequent advertisements and withdrawals, or increased BGP traffic to cause connectivity disruption

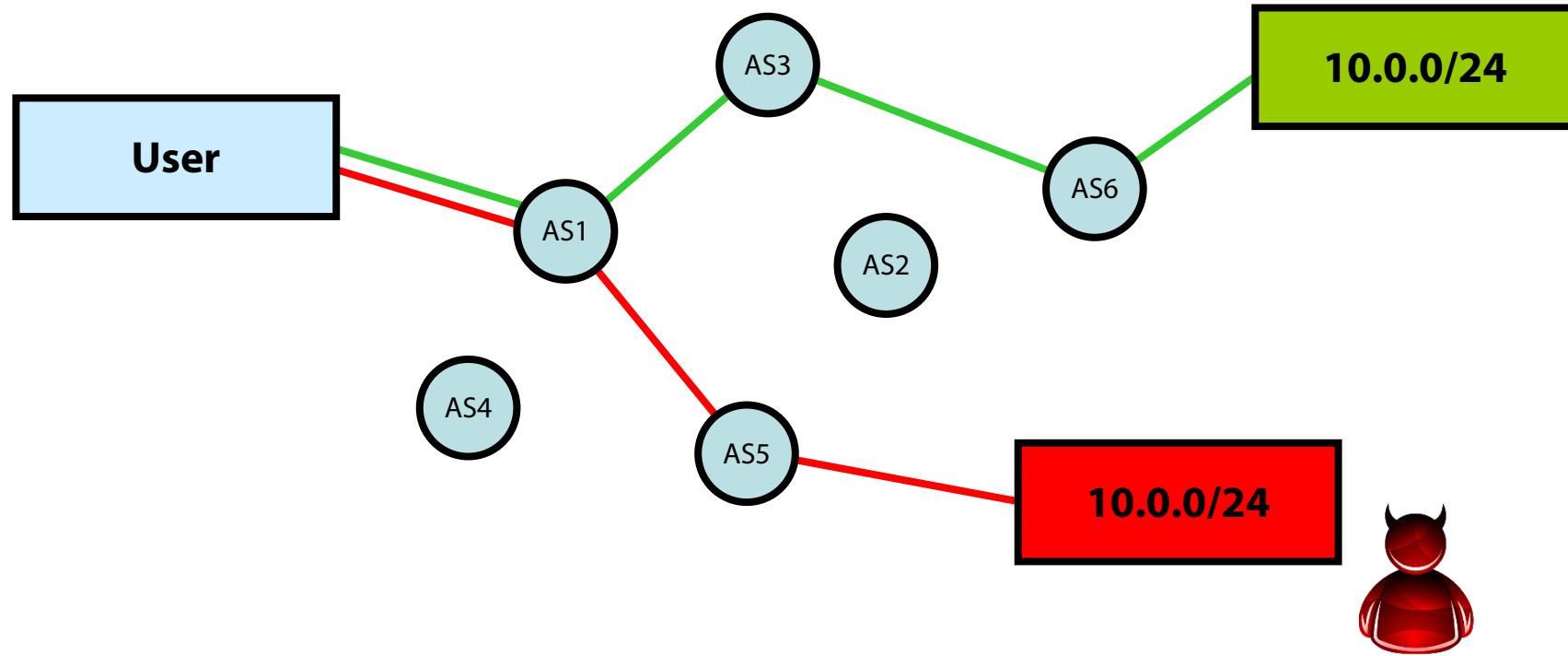
How?

Misconfigurations, insider attacks, compromised routers, BGP traffic manipulation, ...

Prefix Hijacking

Announce someone else's prefix

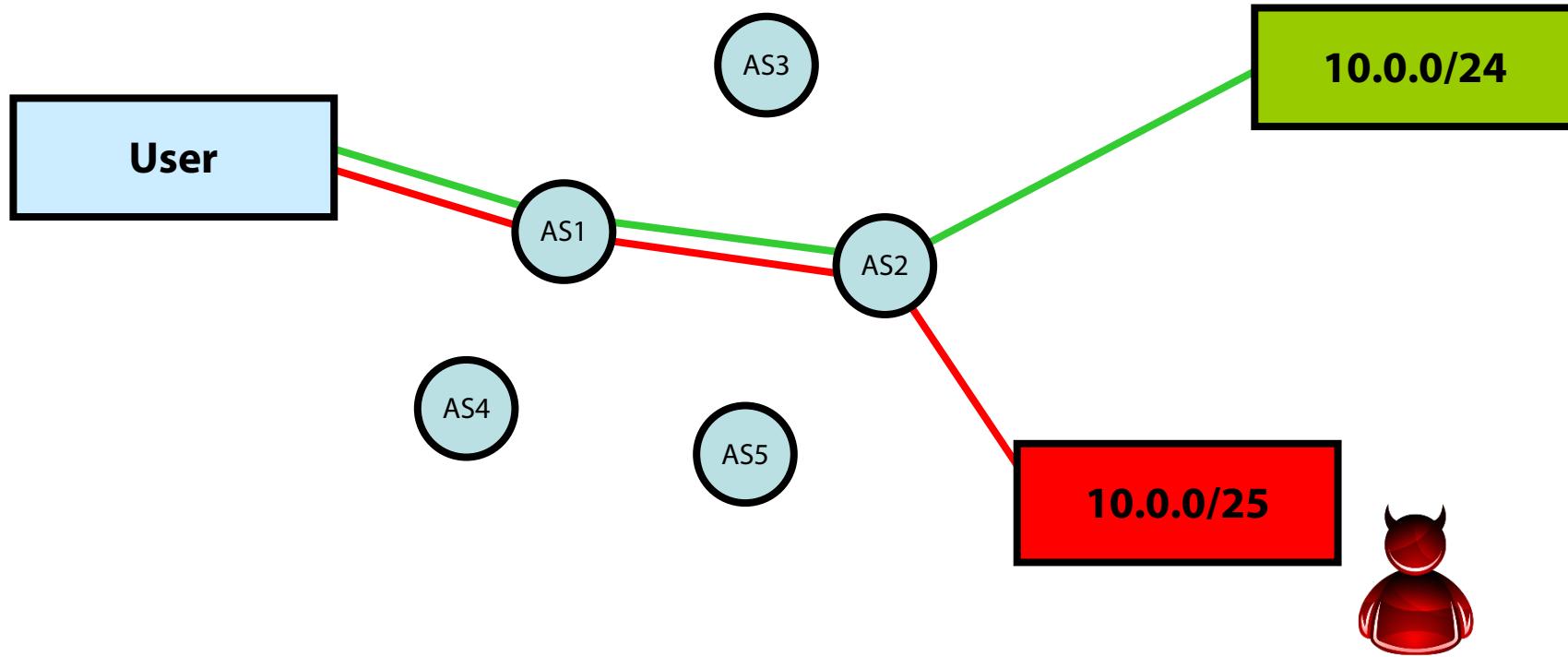
Victim prefers the *shortest* path



Prefix Hijacking

Announce a more specific prefix than someone else

Victim prefers the *more specific* path



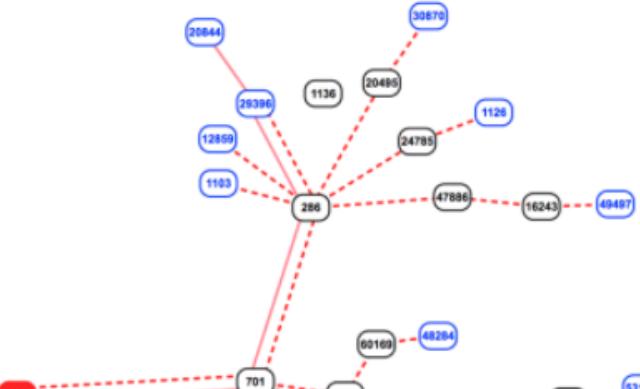
BGP leak causing Internet outages in Japan and beyond.

Posted by Andree Toonk - August 26, 2017 - [BGP instability](#) - [No Comments](#)

Yesterday some Internet users would have seen issues with their Internet connectivity, experiencing slowness or parts of the Internet as unreachable. This incident hit users in Japan particularly hard and it caused the [Internal Affairs and Communications Ministry of Japan](#) to start an investigation into what caused the large-scale internet disruption that slowed or blocked access to websites and online services for dozens of Japanese companies.

In this blog post we will take a look at the root cause of these outages, who was affected and what networks were involved.

Starting at 03:22 UTC yesterday (aug 25) followers of [@BGPstream](#) would have seen an increase in alerts involving Google. The BGPstream alerts were informing us that Google was [announcing](#) the peering IAN prefixes of a few well known Internet exchanges. This in itself is actually a fairly common type of incident and typically indicates something isn't quite right within the networks hijacking those prefixes and so these alerts were the first clues that something wasn't quite right with Google's BGP advertisements.



Latest Tweets

Tweets by @bgpmon

 BGPmon.net
@bgpmon

New blog: Route leak via Google and Verizon causing internet outages in japan and beyond
[bgpmon.net/bgp-leak-causi...](https://bgpmon.net/bgp-leak-causing-internet-outages-in-japan-and-beyond/)

  Aug 26, 2017

 BGPmon.net Retweeted
 bgpstream
@bgpstream

BGP,OT,KP,Korea, Democratic People's Republic of,-,Outage affected 4 prefixes,
bgpstream.com/event/95347

  Aug 14, 2017

 BGPmon.net
@bgpmon

Another Internet outage in Syria. Interestingly one remaining Syrian telecom network still BGP visible 91.144.0.0/20
twitter.com/bgpstream/stat...

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THREAT LEVEL

Glitches and Bugs Sunshine and Secrecy

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Pakistan's Accidental YouTube Re-Routing Exposes Trust Flaw in Net

BY RYAN SINGEL 02.25.08 | 10:37 AM | PERMALINK

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Government: you have to block this YouTube video

Pakistan Telecom: sure

Use URL filtering?

Nope

Change the DNS record?

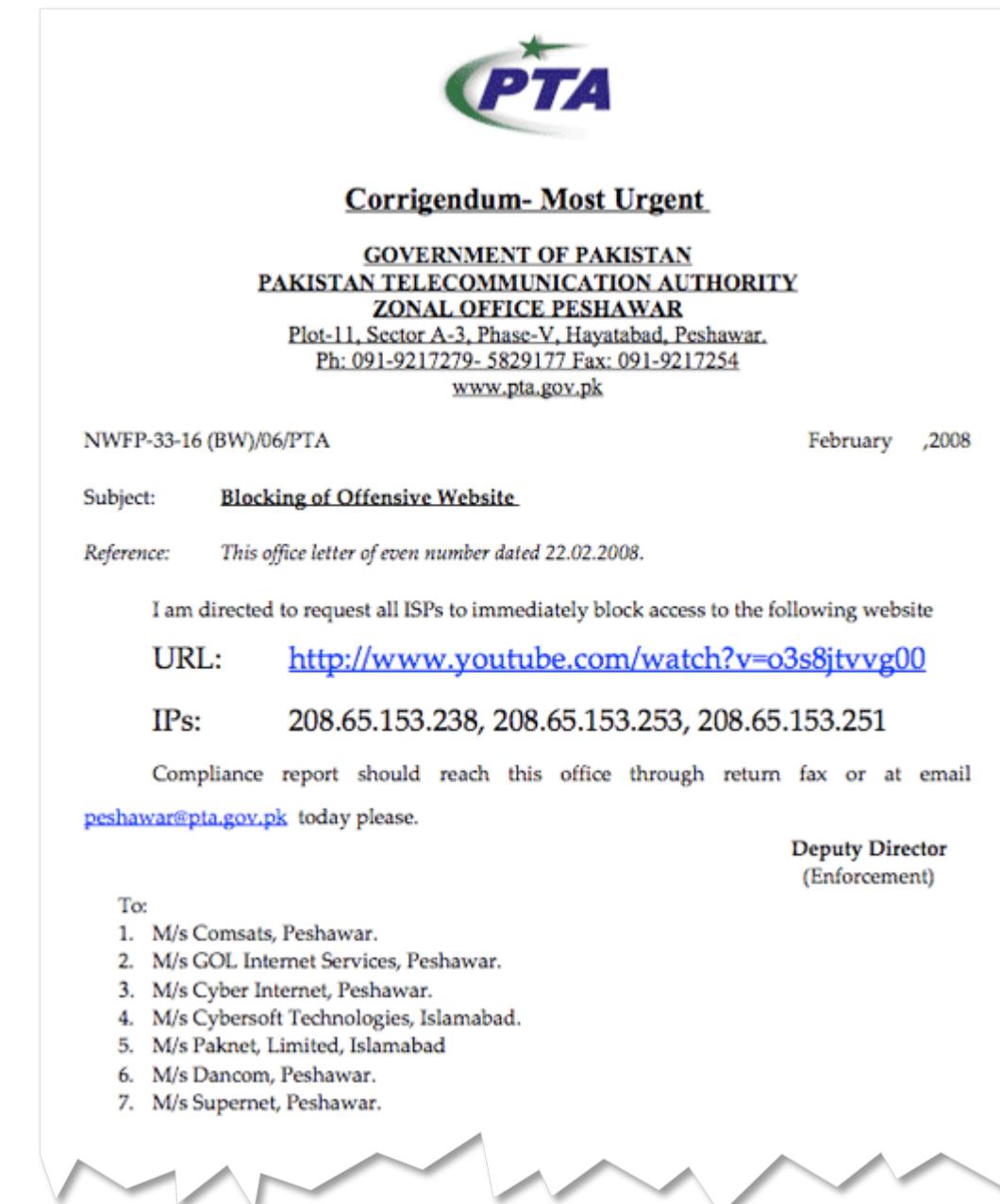
Nope

Use IP blocking?

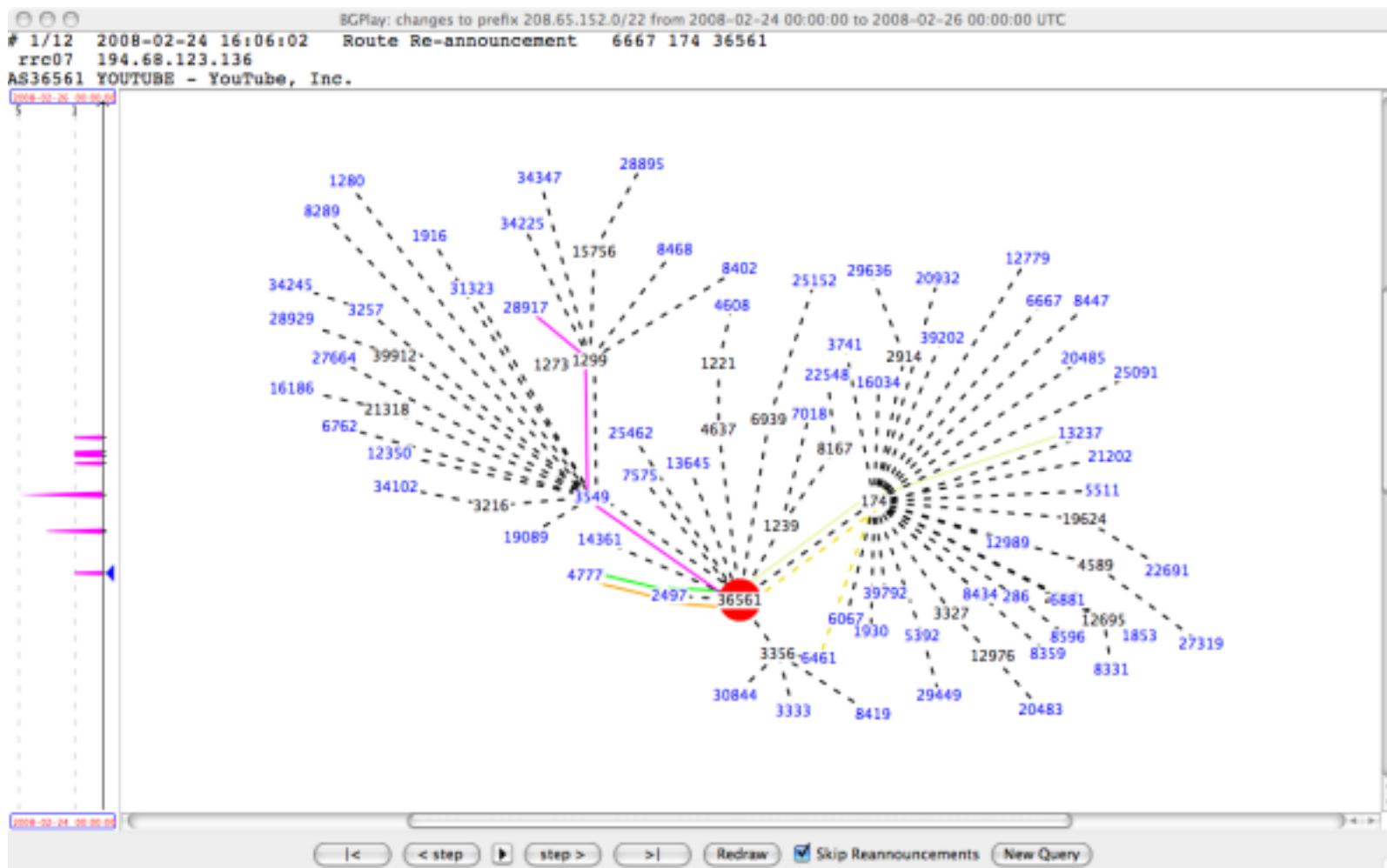
Nope

Blackhole 208.65.153.0/24?

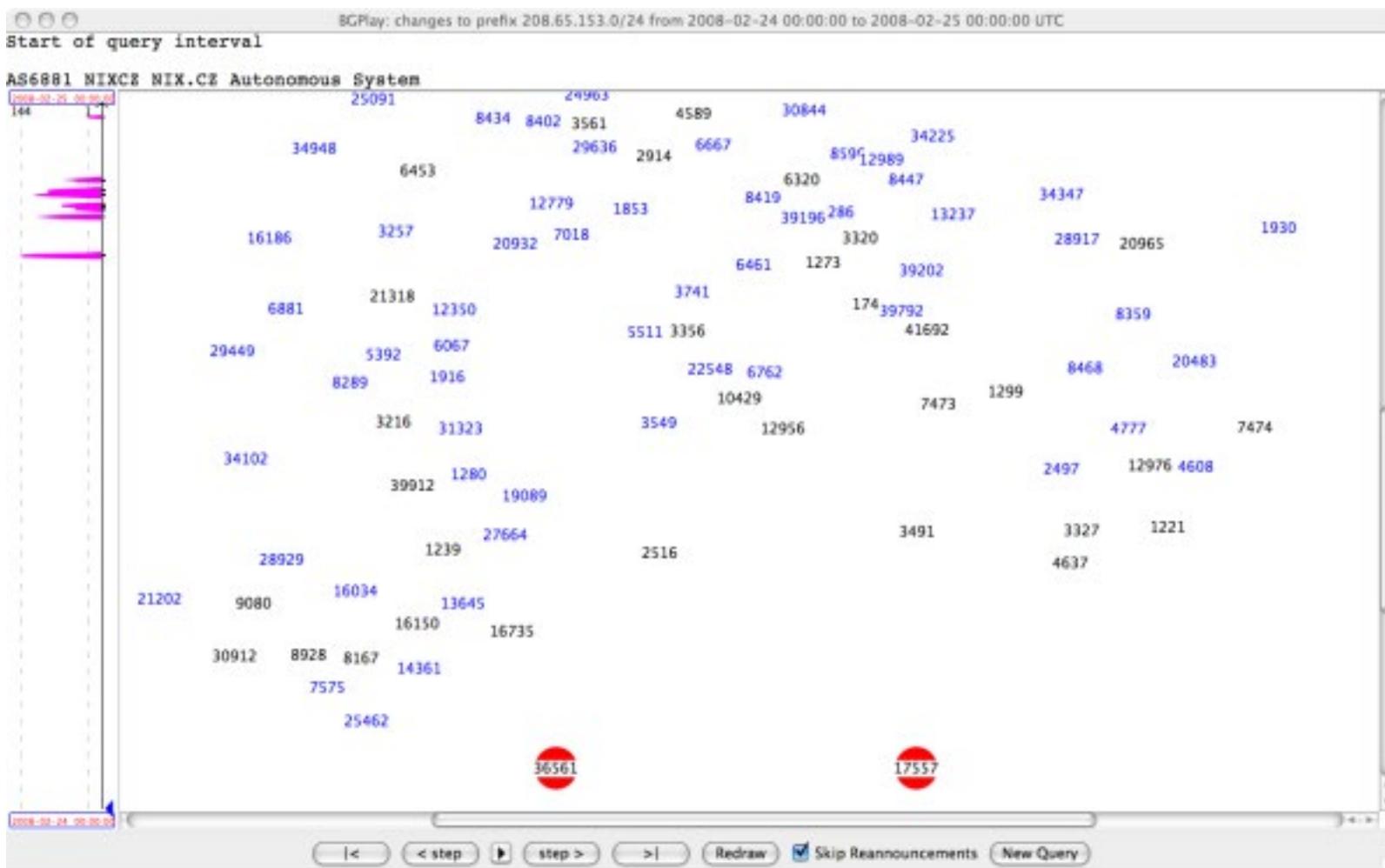
Yeah!



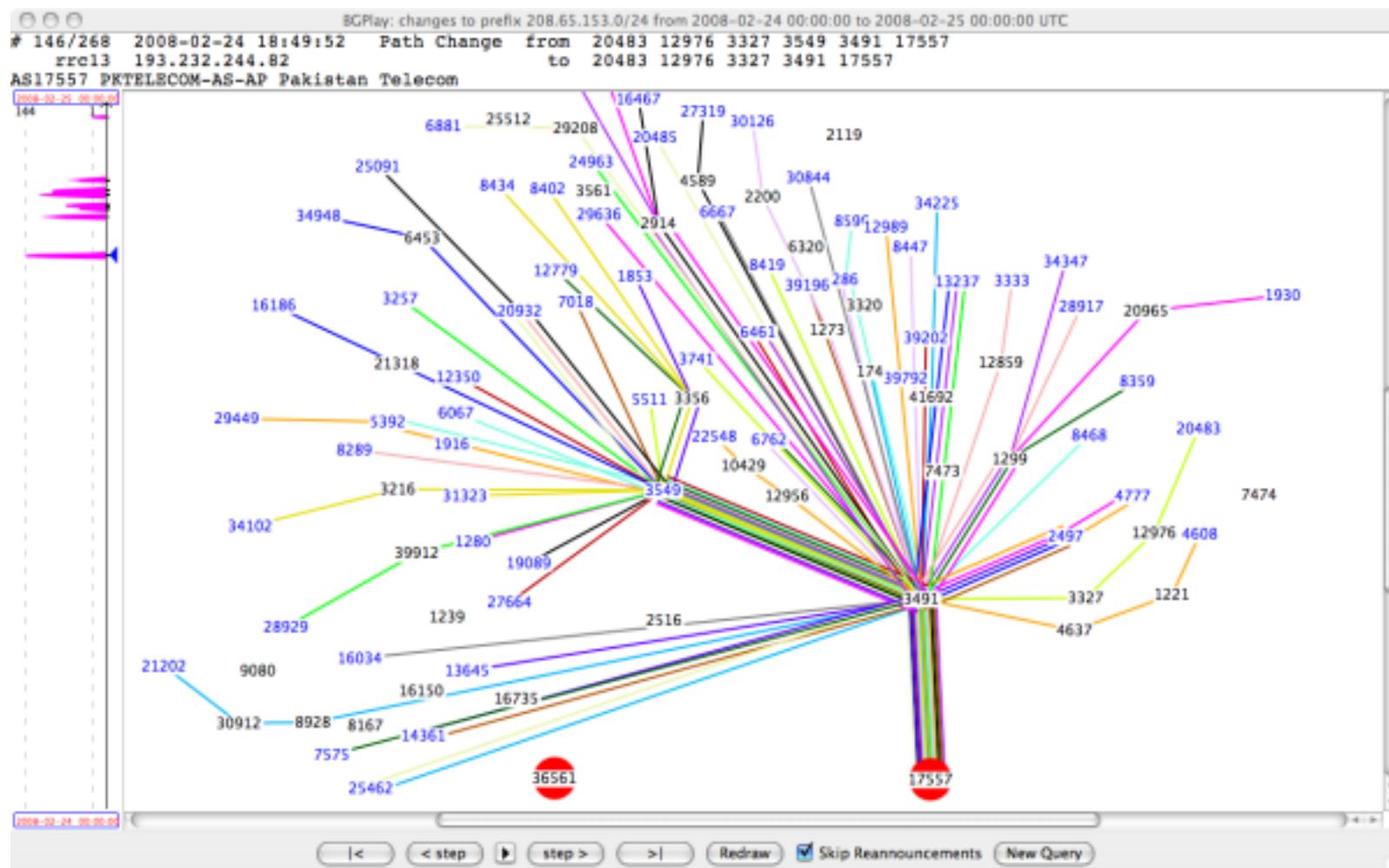
AS36561 (YouTube) announces 208.65.152.0/22



The prefix 208.65.153.0/24 is not announced on the Internet before the event



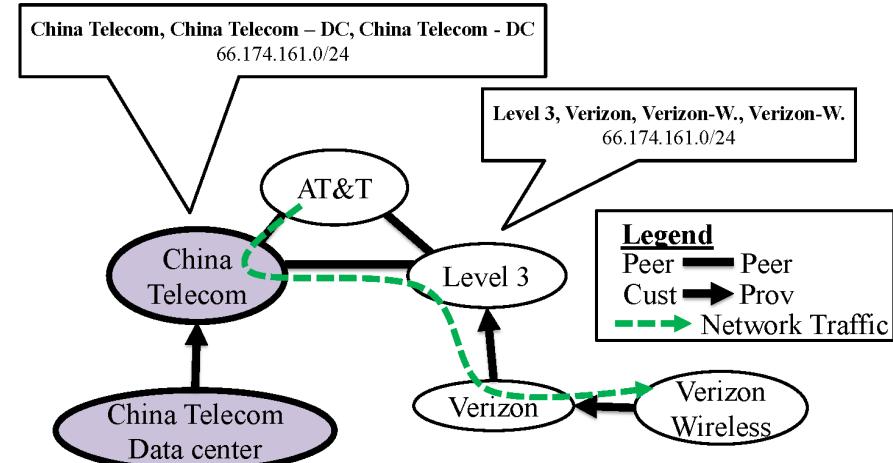
AS17557 (Pakistan Telecom) announces 208.65.153.0/24



Other Notable Incidents

April 2010: China Telecom announced bogus paths to 50,000 IP prefixes

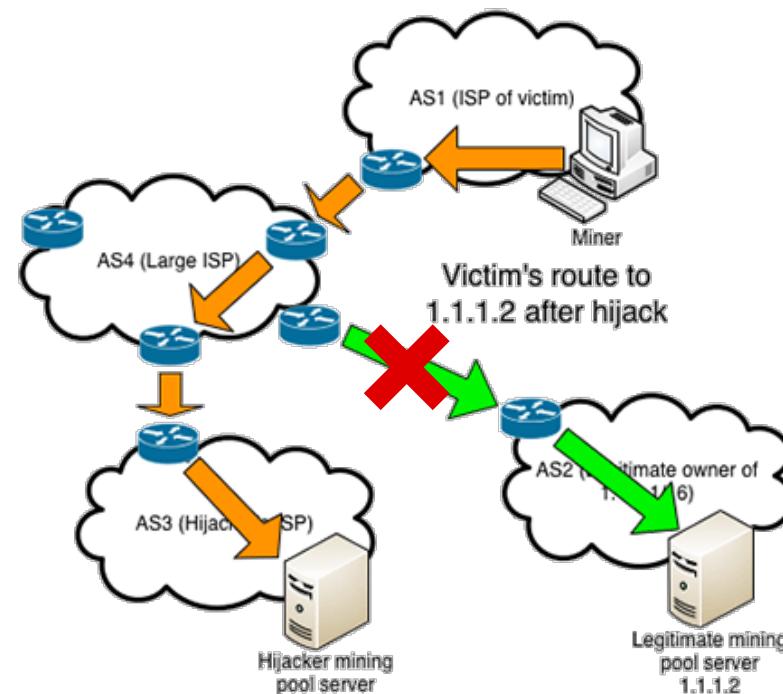
Enabled traffic interception



February 2014: hijacking of 51 networks
(incl. Amazon, Digital Ocean, OVH)

Miner connections were redirected to an attacker-controlled mining pool

Attacker collected the miners' profit
(estimated \$83,000 in 4 months)





BGPMon is Now Part of
CrossworkCloud

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Popular Destinations rerouted to Russia

Posted by Andree Toonk - December 12, 2017 - [Hijack](#) - [No Comments](#)

Early this morning (UTC) our systems detected a suspicious event where many prefixes for high profile destinations were being announced by an unused Russian Autonomous System.

Starting at 04:43 (UTC) 80 prefixes normally announced by organizations such Google, Apple, Facebook, Microsoft, Twitch, NTT Communications and Riot Games were now detected in the global BGP routing tables with an Origin AS of 39523 (DV-LINK-AS), out of Russia.

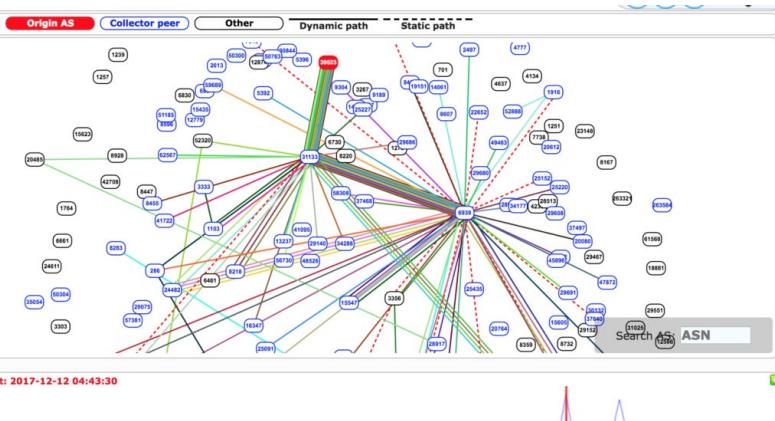
Looking at timeline we can see two event windows of about three minutes each. The first one started at 04:43 UTC and ended at around 04:46 UTC. The second event started 07:07 UTC and finished at 07:10 UTC.

Even though these events were relatively short lived, they were significant because it was picked up by a large number of peers and because of several new more specific prefixes that are not normally seen on the Internet. So let's dig a little deeper.

One of the interesting things about this incident is the prefixes that were affected are all network prefixes for well known and high traffic internet organizations. The other odd thing is that the Origin AS 39523 (DV-LINK-AS) hasn't been seen announcing any prefixes for many years (with one exception below), so why does it all of sudden appear and announce prefixes for networks such as Google?

Latest Tweets

Tweets by @bgpmon



China Telecom has been using poisoned internet routes to suck up massive amounts of US and Canadian internet traffic

CORY DOCTOROW / 6:15 AM FRI OCT 26, 2018

In a new paper published in the journal *Military Cyber Affairs* researchers from the US Naval War College and Tel Aviv University document the use of BGP spoofing by China Telecom to redirect massive swathes of internet traffic through the company's routers as part of state military and commercial espionage efforts.

BGP is a notoriously insecure protocol used to route internet traffic; by design it is dynamic and responsive, moving traffic away from congested routes and onto those with more capacity: this flexibility can be exploited to force traffic to route through surveillance chokepoints, as well as for censorship (publishing BGP routes to censored services that dead-end in nonexistent addresses are a common technique in repressive regimes).

The researchers logged global BGP route announcements and discovered China Telecom publishing bogus routes that sucked up massive amounts of Canadian and US traffic and pushed it through Chinese listening posts. Much of today's internet traffic is still unencrypted, meaning that the entities monitoring these listening posts would have been able to read massive amounts of emails, instant messages and web-sessions.



Mitigating BGP Threats

Neighbor authentication

Only authorized peers can establish a given BGP neighbor relationship

TTL check

Most external peering sessions are established between adjacent routers

Good idea: set TTL=1 → an attacker X hops away can still set TTL=1+X

Better idea: set TTL=255 and accept only packets with TTL=255 → an attacker further away cannot spoof such a packet

BGP prefix restrictions, sanity checks, and filtering

Accept only a certain number of prefixes, ignore unwanted/illegal prefixes, limit the number of accepted AS path segments, ...

ACLs to explicitly permit only authorized BGP traffic

According to existing security policies and configurations

Securing BGP

Secure BGP (S-BGP)

Each node signs its announcements

Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI)

Certified mapping from ASes to public keys and IP prefixes

Secure origin BGP (soBGP)

Origin authentication + trusted database that guarantees that a path exists

BGPPSec

Allow recipients to validate the AS path included in update messages

Many deployment challenges

No complete, accurate registry of prefix ownership

Need for a public-key infrastructure

Cannot react rapidly to changes in connectivity

Cost of cryptographic operations

Incremental deployment not always possible