



Computer Networks

CMSC 417 : Spring 2024



COMPUTER SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Topic: BGP – Part2
(Textbook chapter 4)

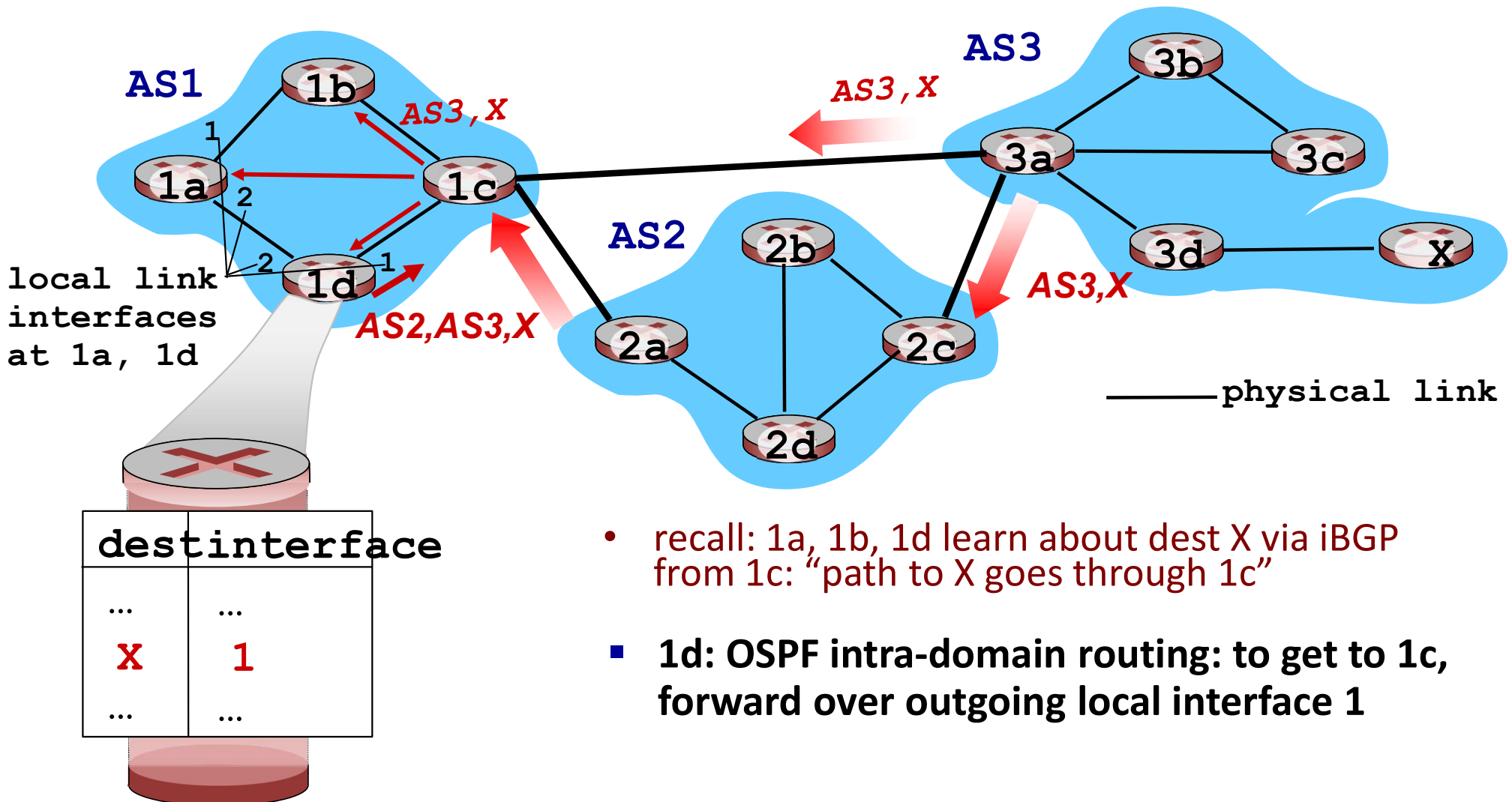
Nirupam Roy
Tu-Th 2:00-3:15pm
CSI 2117

May 1st, 2024



BGP, OSPF, forwarding table entries

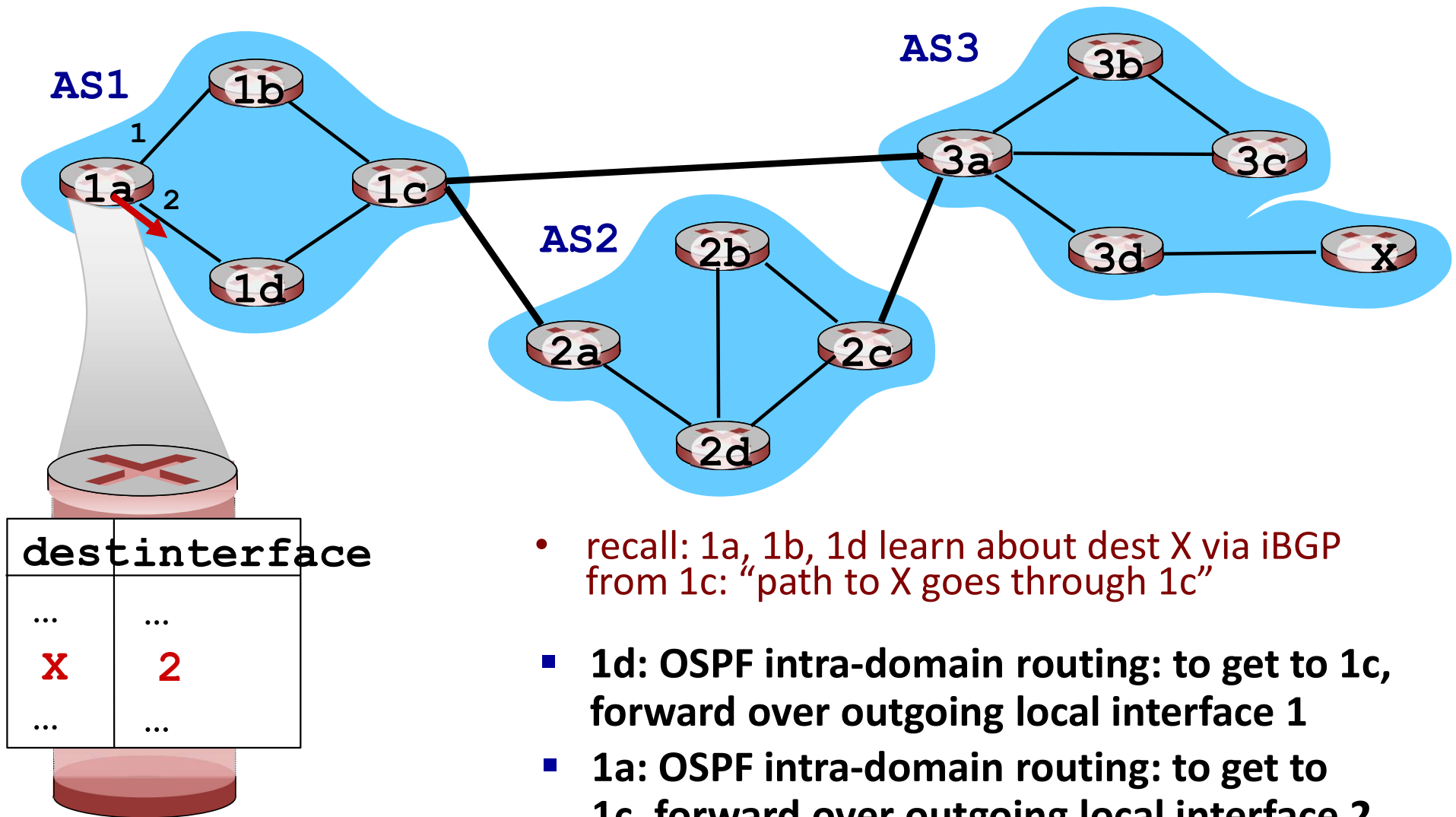
Q: how does router set forwarding table entry to distant prefix?



- recall: 1a, 1b, 1d learn about dest X via iBGP from 1c: "path to X goes through 1c"
- 1d: OSPF intra-domain routing: to get to 1c, forward over outgoing local interface 1

BGP, OSPF, forwarding table entries

Q: how does router set forwarding table entry to distant prefix?



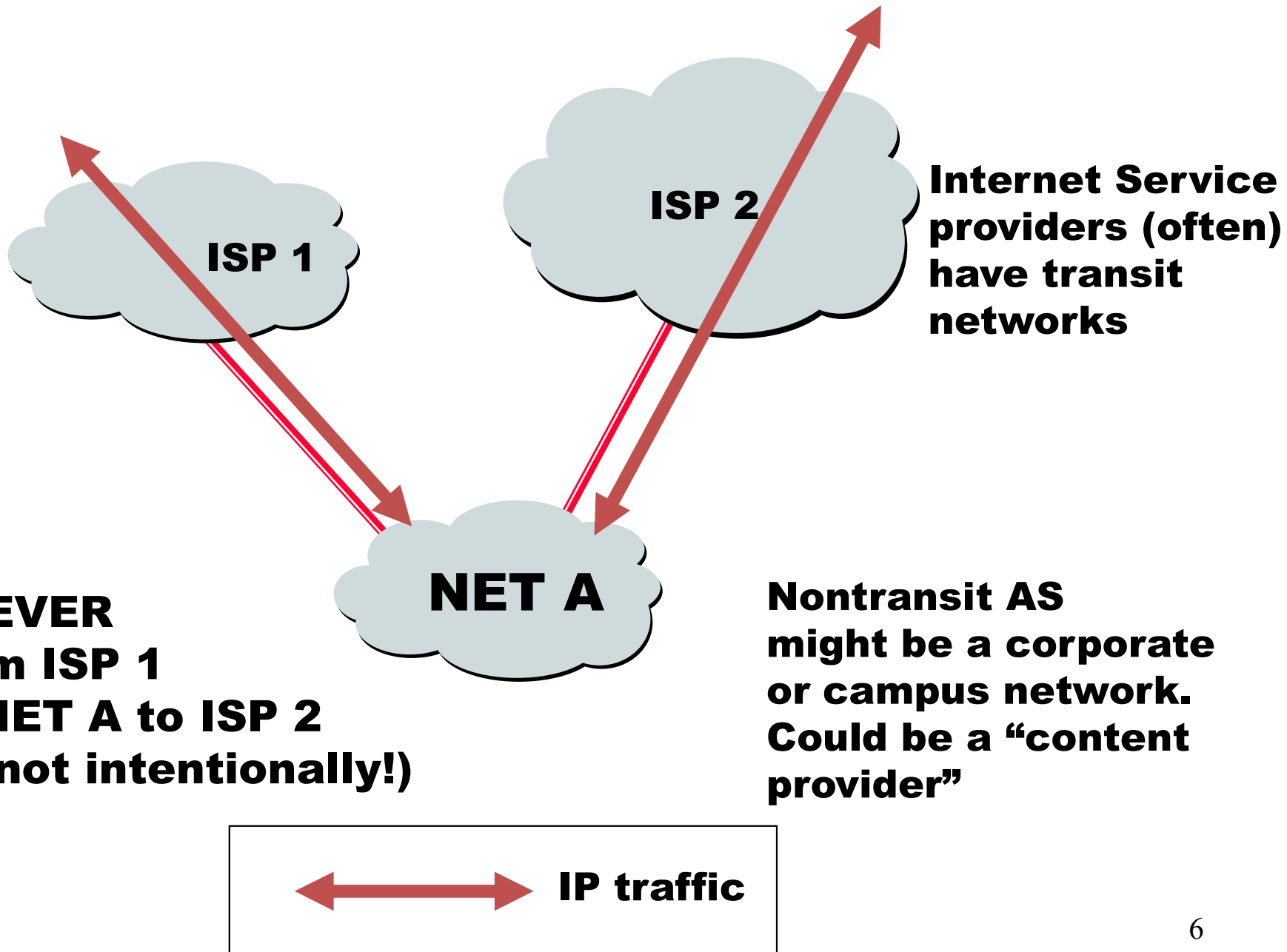
- recall: 1a, 1b, 1d learn about dest X via iBGP from 1c: "path to X goes through 1c"
- 1d: OSPF intra-domain routing: to get to 1c, forward over outgoing local interface 1
- 1a: OSPF intra-domain routing: to get to 1c, forward over outgoing local interface 2

BGP route selection

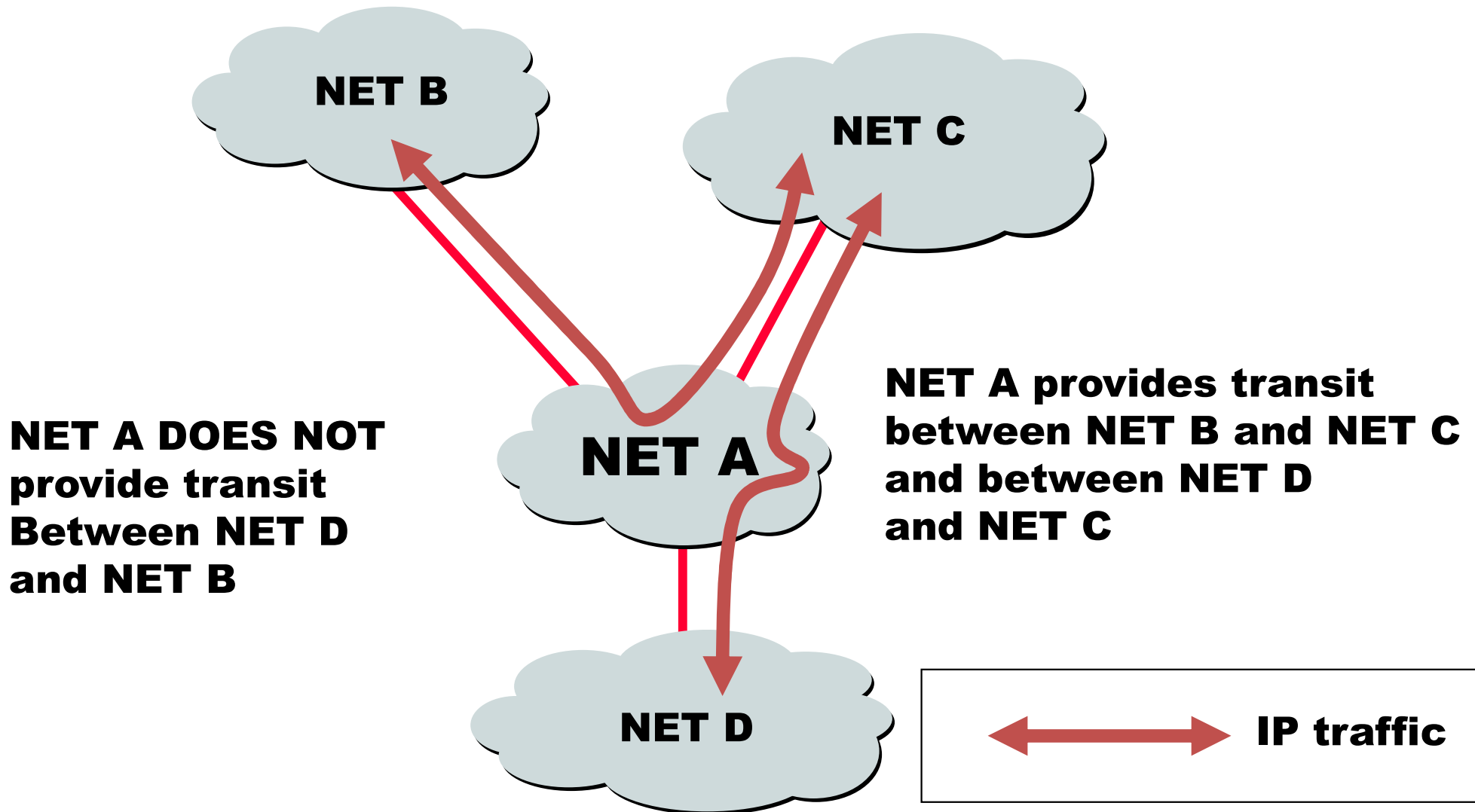
- router may learn about more than one route to destination AS, selects route based on:
 1. local preference value attribute: policy decision
 2. shortest AS-PATH
 3. closest NEXT-HOP router: hot potato routing
 4. additional criteria

A dive into the BGP policies

Nontransit vs. Transit ASes

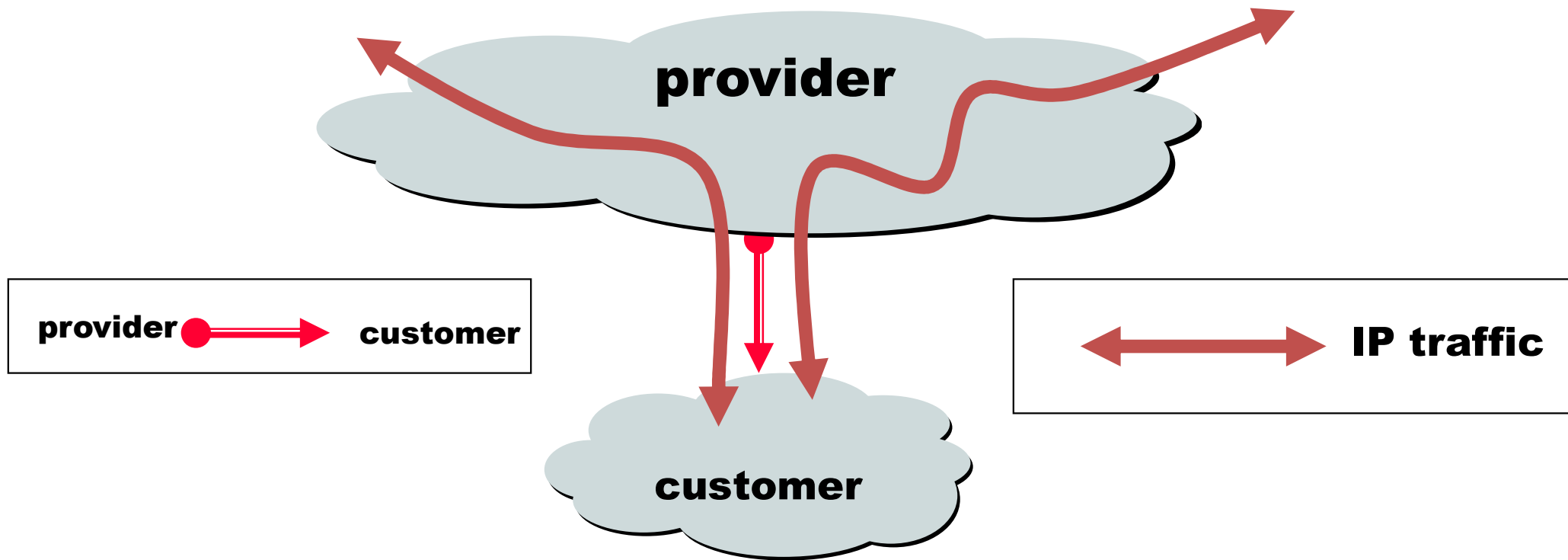


Selective Transit



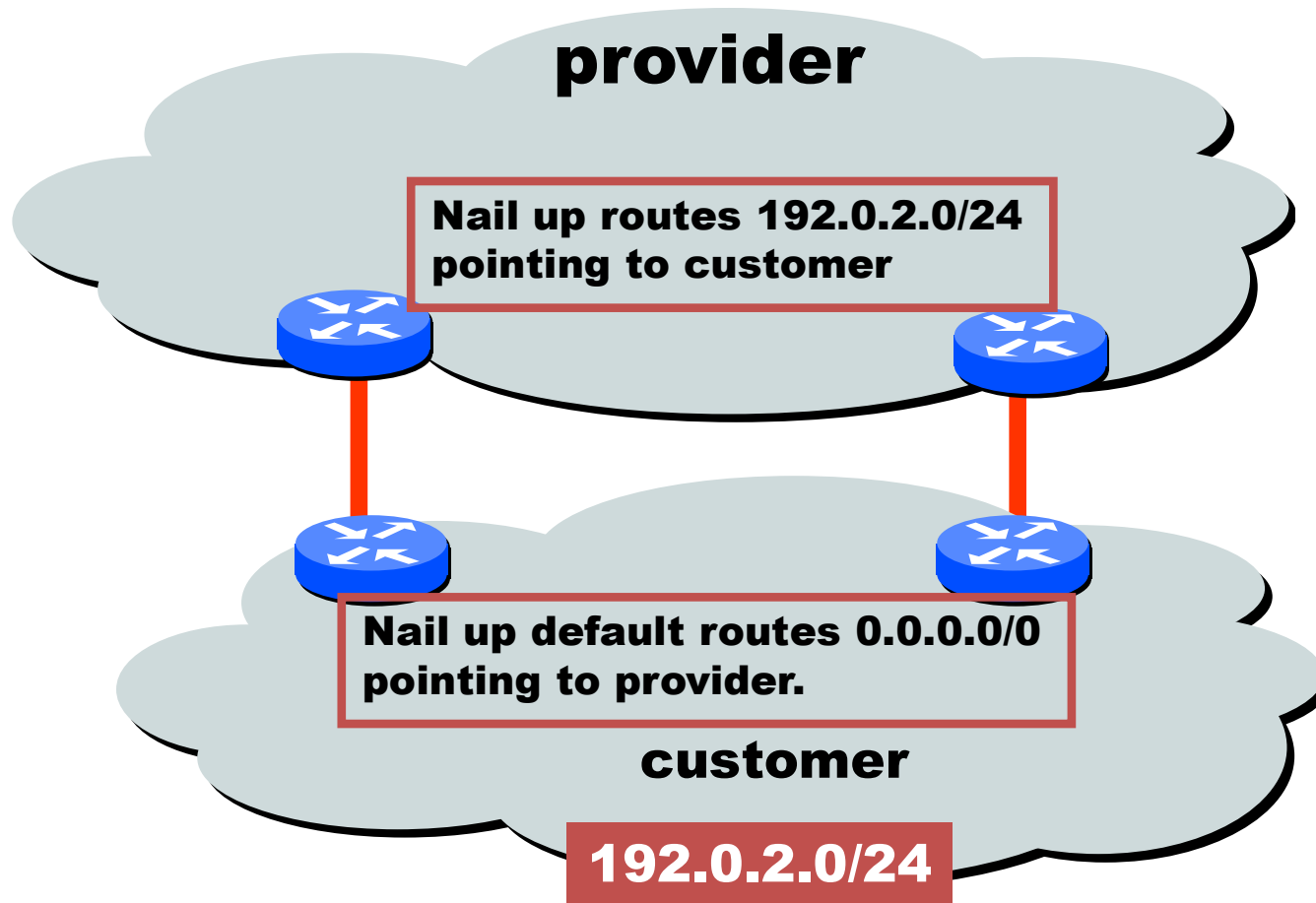
Most transit networks transit in a selective manner...

Customers and Providers



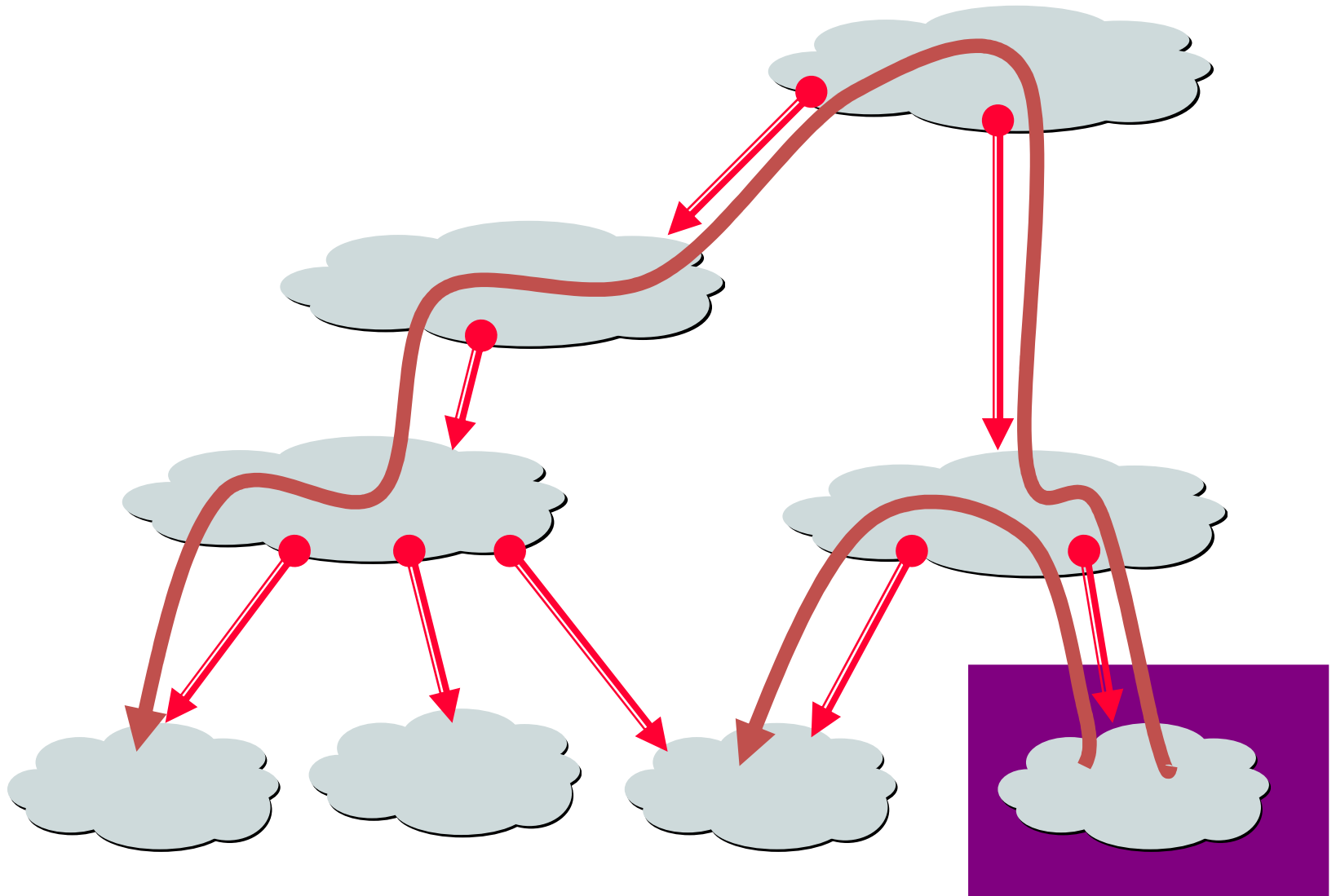
Customer pays provider for access to the Internet

Customers Don't Always Need BGP



Static routing is the most common way of connecting an autonomous routing domain to the Internet. This helps explain why BGP is a mystery to many ...

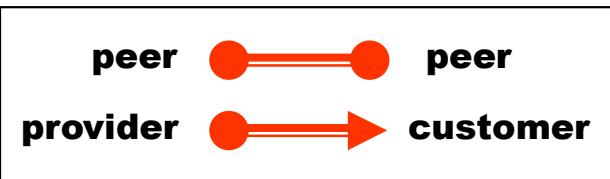
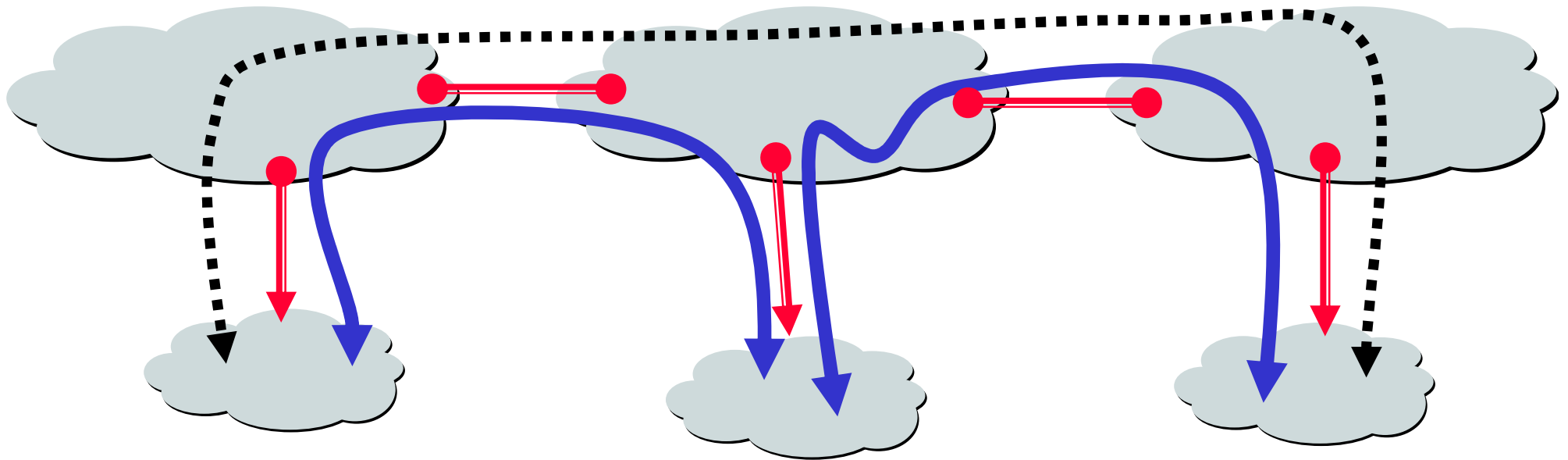
Customer-Provider Hierarchy



provider  customer

 **IP traffic**

The Peering Relationship



**traffic
allowed**



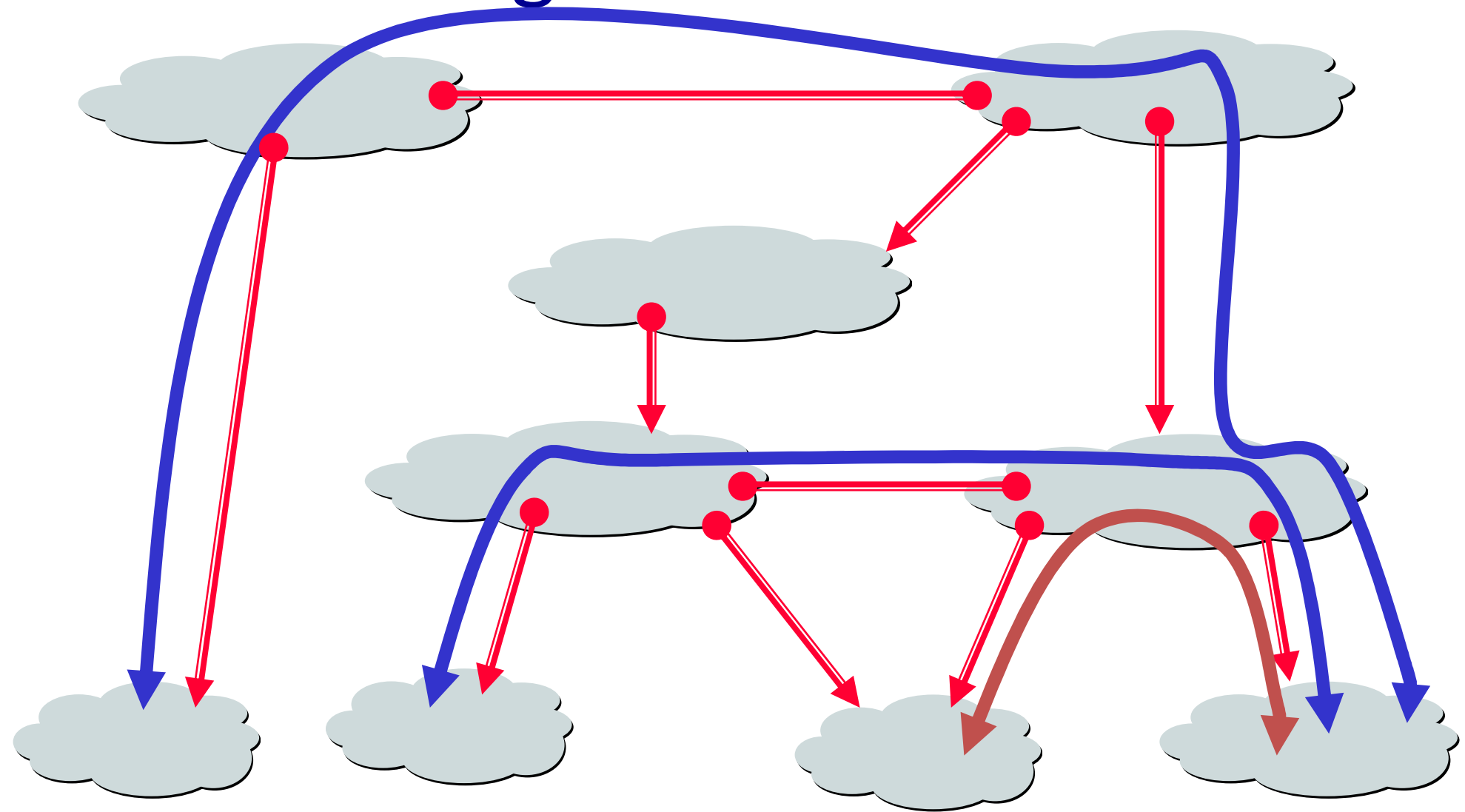
**traffic NOT
allowed**

**Peers provide transit between
their respective customers**

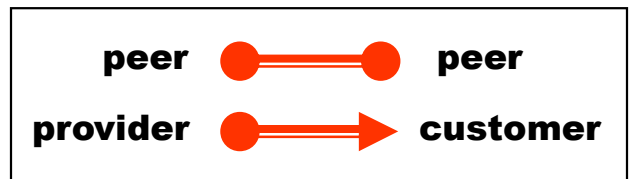
**Peers do not provide transit
between peers**

Peers (often) do not exchange \$\$\$

Peering Provides Shortcuts



Peering also allows connectivity between the customers of “Tier 1” providers.

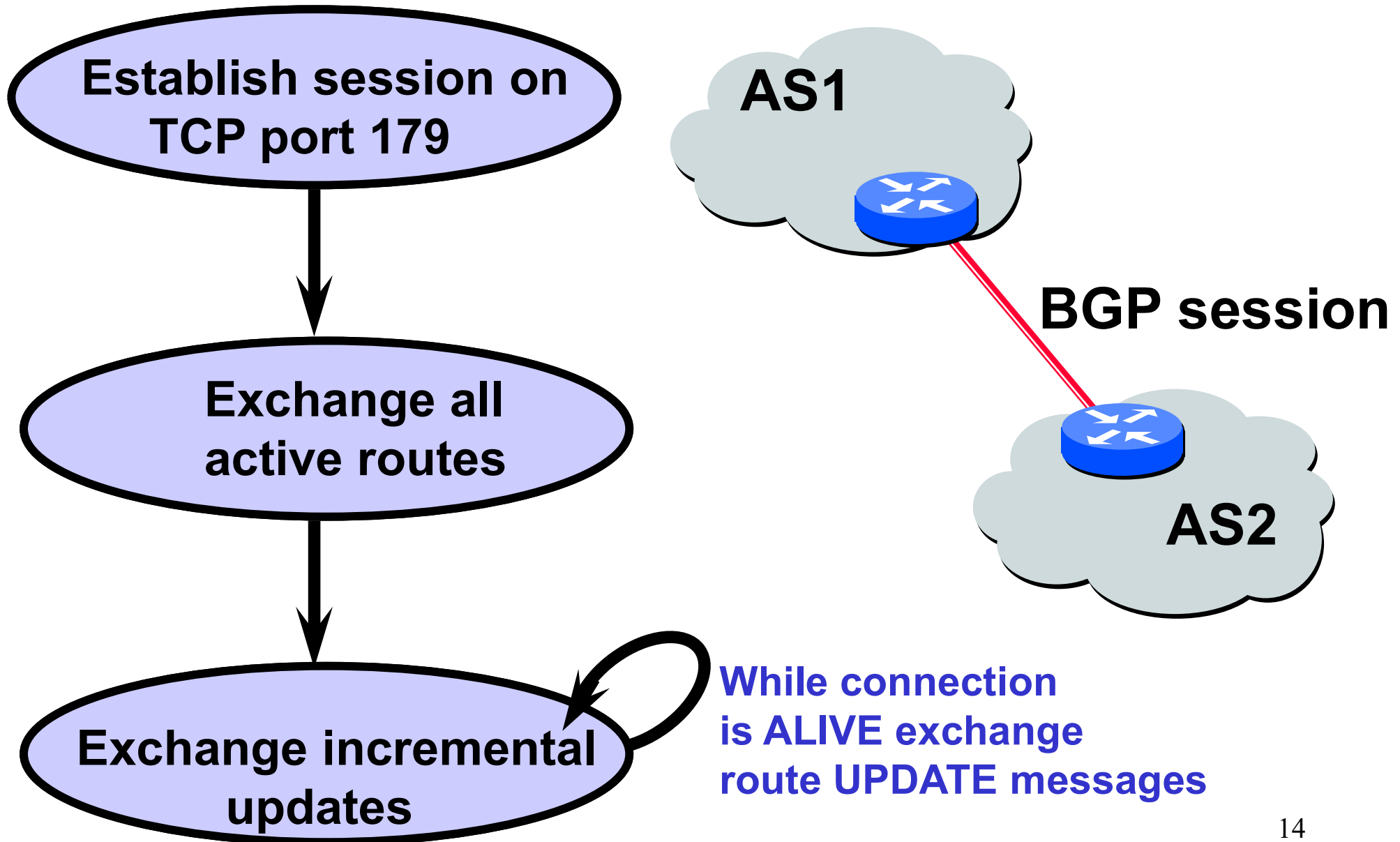


BGP-4

- **BGP** = Border Gateway Protocol
- Is a **Policy-Based** routing protocol
- Is the **de facto EGP** of today's global Internet
- Relatively simple protocol, but configuration is complex and the entire world can see, and be impacted by, your mistakes.

- **1989 : BGP-1 [RFC 1105]**
 - Replacement for EGP (1984, RFC 904)
- **1990 : BGP-2 [RFC 1163]**
- **1991 : BGP-3 [RFC 1267]**
- **1995 : BGP-4 [RFC 1771]**
 - Support for Classless Interdomain Routing (CIDR)

BGP Operations (Simplified)



Four Types of BGP Messages

- **Open** : Establish a peering session.
- **Keep Alive** : Handshake at regular intervals.
- **Notification** : Shuts down a peering session.
- **Update** : Announcing new routes or withdrawing previously announced routes.

announcement
=
prefix + attributes values

BGP Attributes

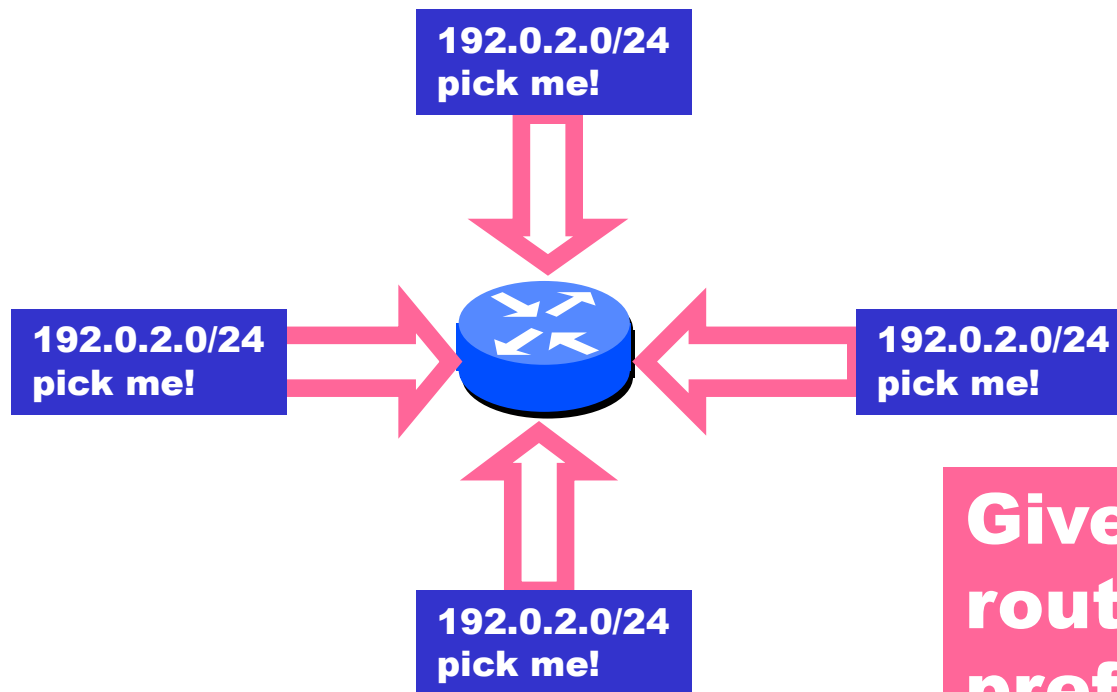
Value	Code	Reference
1	ORIGIN	[RFC1771]
2	AS_PATH	[RFC1771]
3	NEXT_HOP	[RFC1771]
4	MULTI_EXIT_DISC	[RFC1771]
5	LOCAL_PREF	[RFC1771]
6	ATOMIC_AGGREGATE	[RFC1771]
7	AGGREGATOR	[RFC1771]
8	COMMUNITY	[RFC1997]
9	ORIGINATOR_ID	[RFC2796]
10	CLUSTER_LIST	[RFC2796]
11	DPA	[Chen]
12	ADVERTISER	[RFC1863]
13	RCID_PATH / CLUSTER_ID	[RFC1863]
14	MP_REACH_NLRI	[RFC2283]
15	MP_UNREACH_NLRI	[RFC2283]
16	EXTENDED COMMUNITIES	[Rosen]
...		
255	reserved for development	

**Most
important
attributes**

From IANA: <http://www.iana.org/assignments/bgp-parameters>

**Not all attributes
need to be present in
every announcement**¹⁶

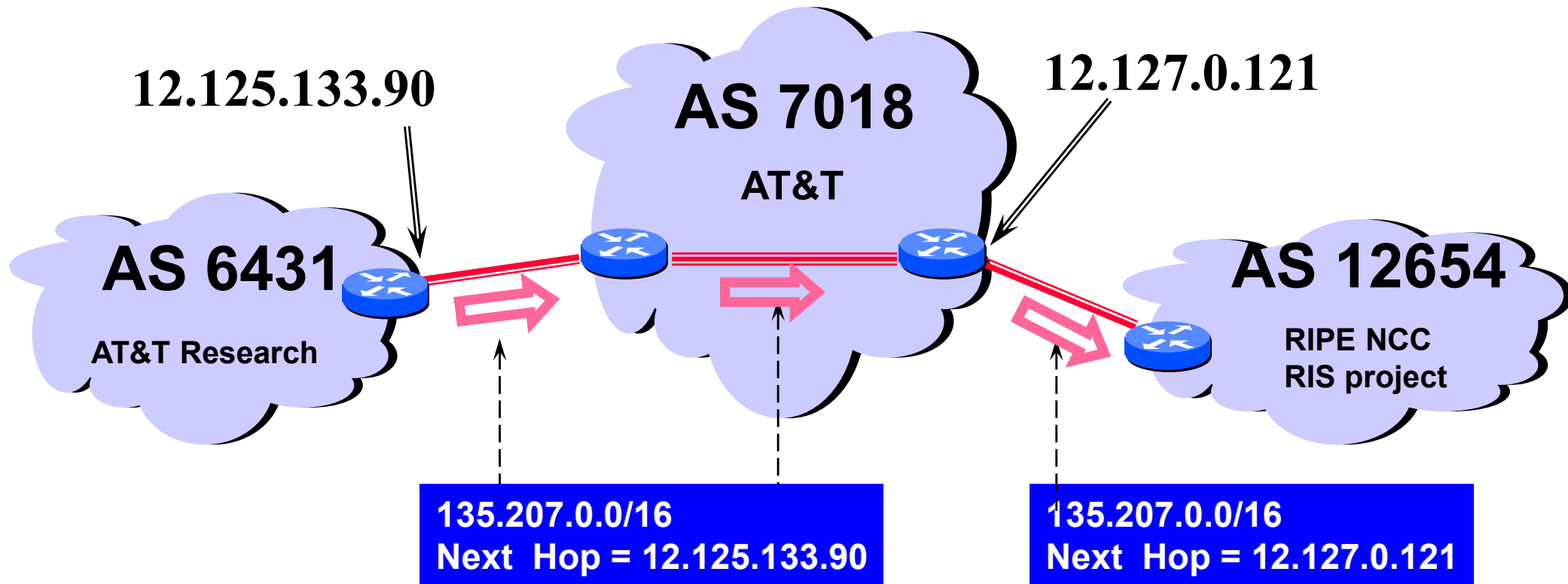
Attributes are Used to Select Best Routes



Given multiple routes to the same prefix, a BGP speaker must pick at most one best route

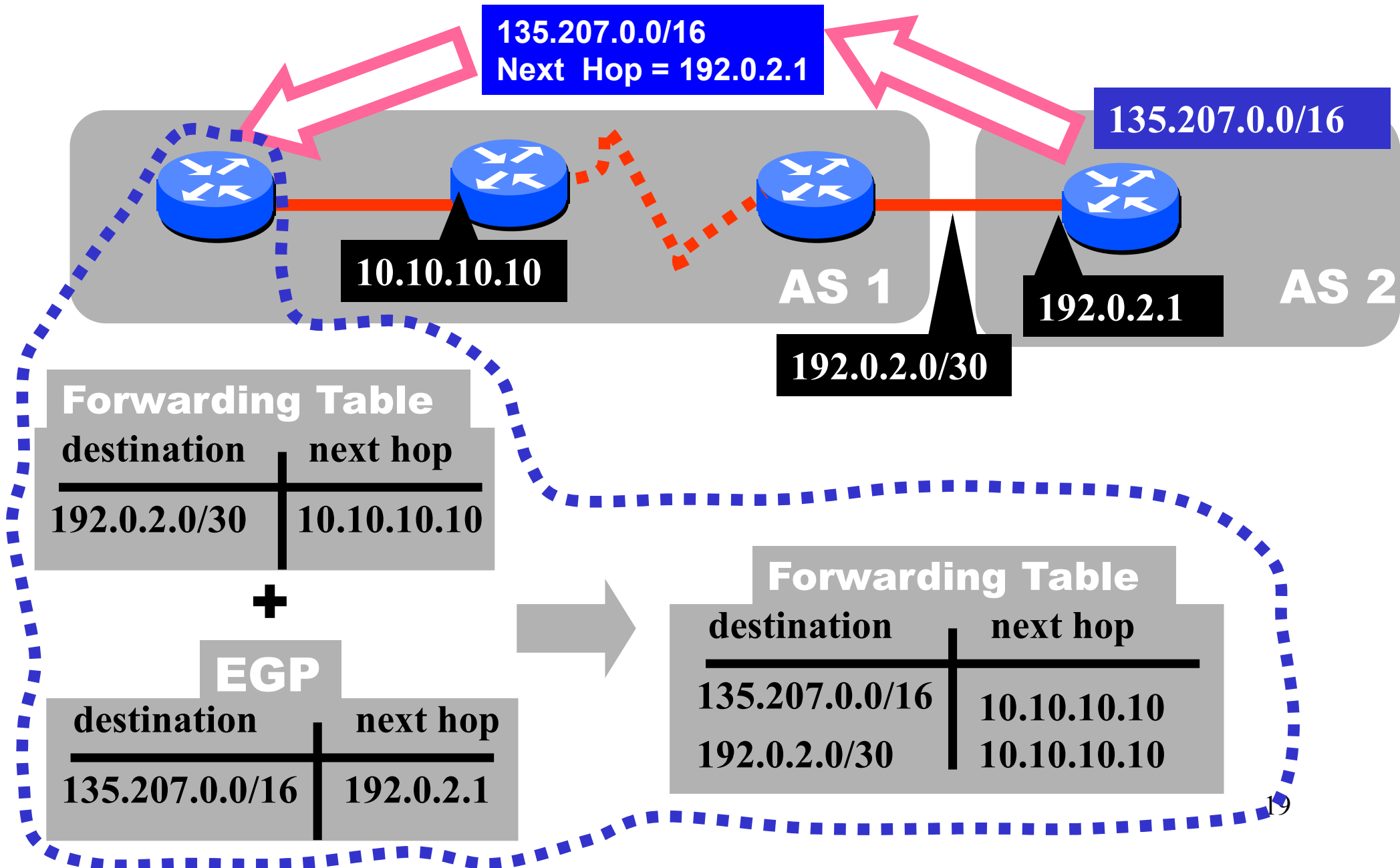
(Note: it could reject them all!)

BGP Next Hop Attribute



Every time a route announcement crosses an AS boundary, the Next Hop attribute is changed to the IP address of the border router that announced the route.

Join EGP with IGP For Connectivity



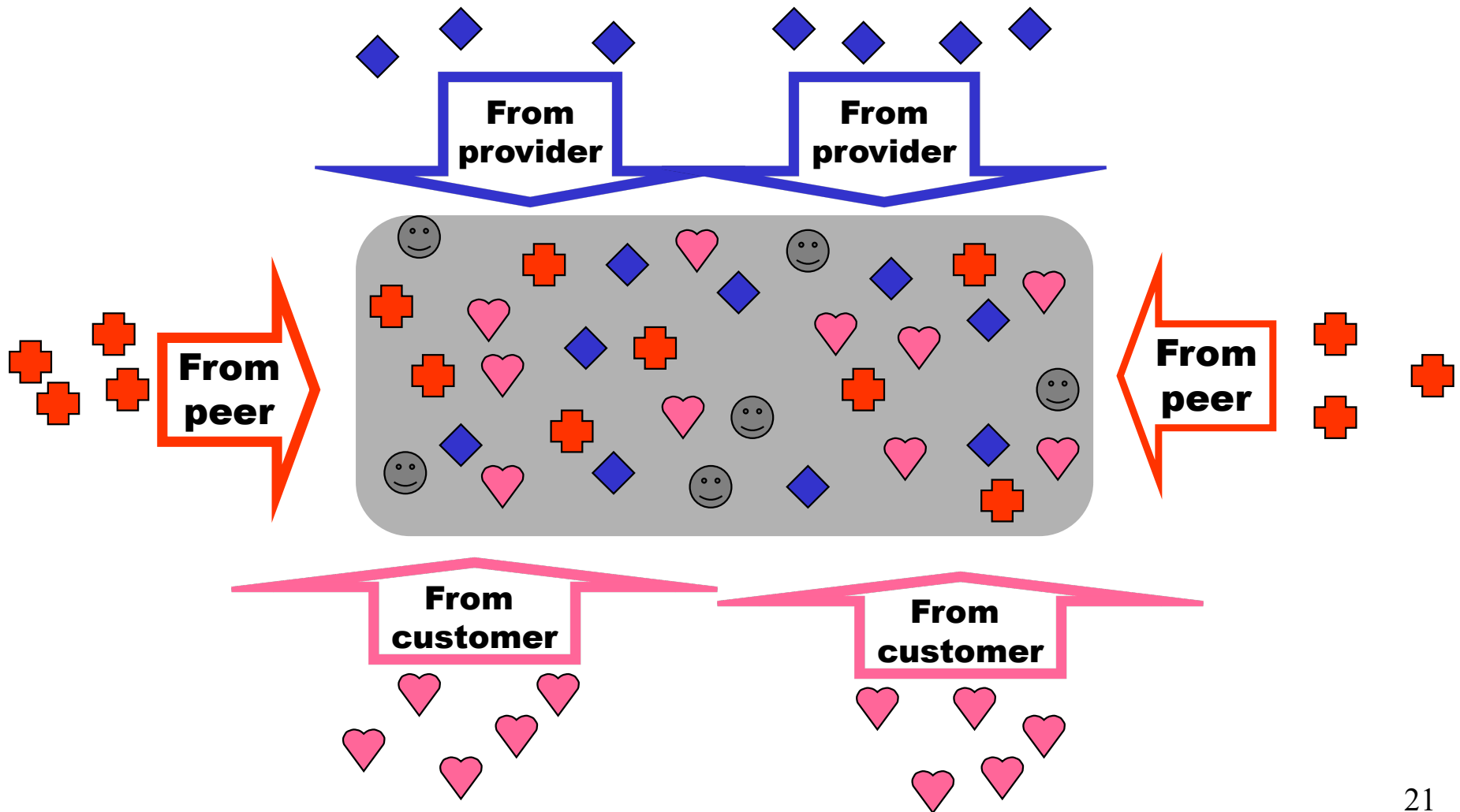
Implementing Customer/Provider and Peer/Peer relationships

Two parts:

- **Enforce transit relationships**
 - **Outbound route filtering**
- **Enforce order of route preference**
 - **provider < peer < customer**

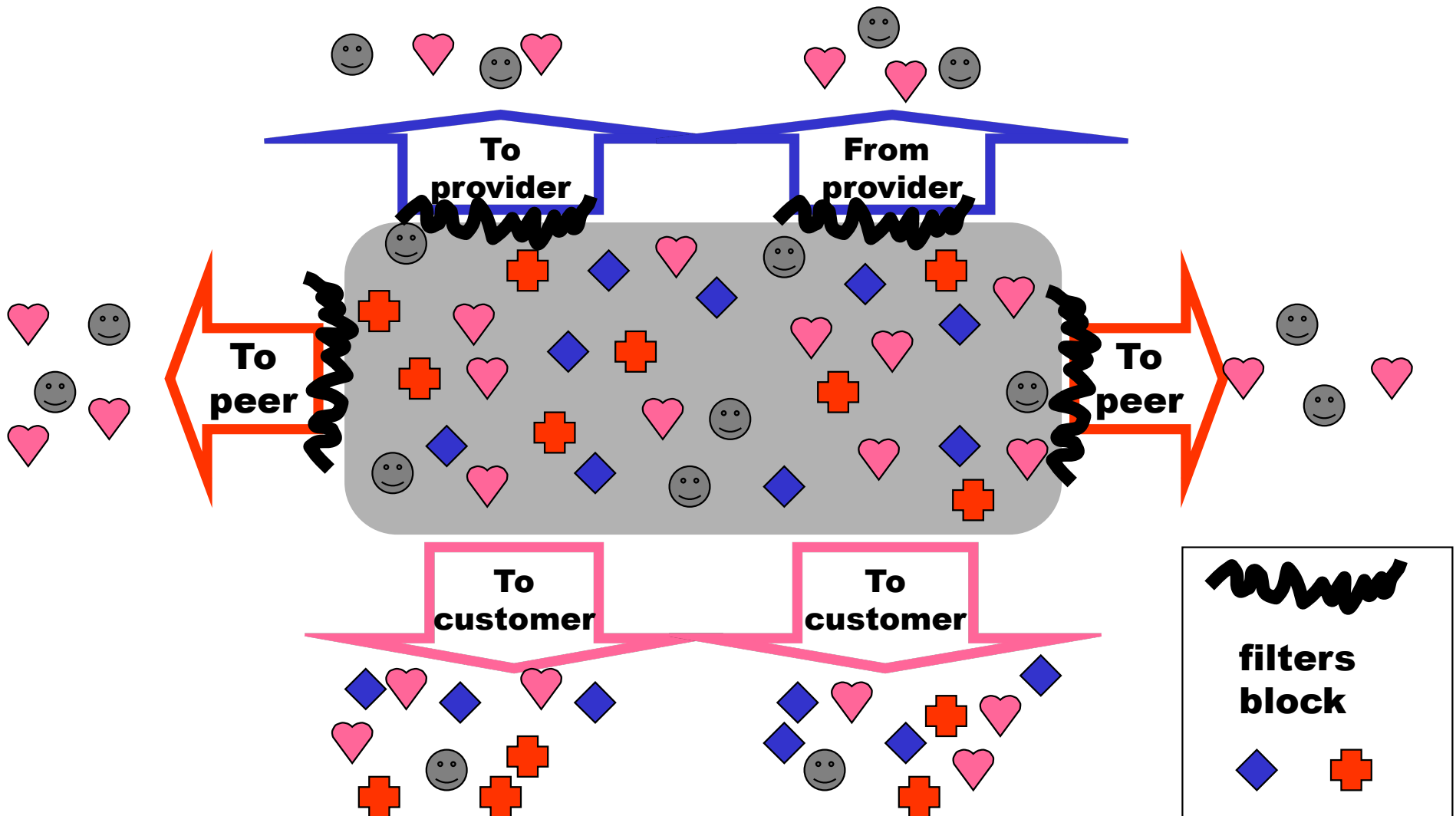
Import Routes

◆ provider route + peer route ♥ customer route ☺ ISP route



Export Routes

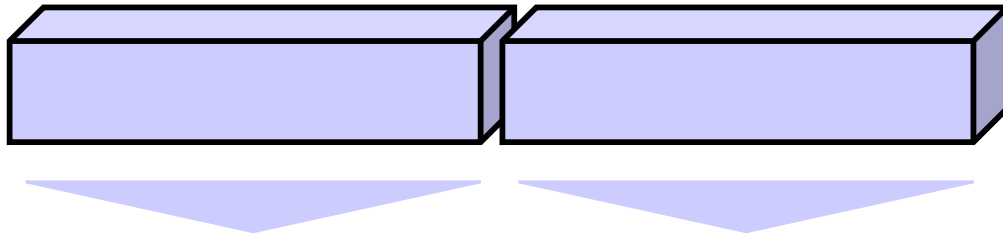
◆ provider route + peer route ♥ customer route ☺ ISP route



How Can Routes be Colored?

BGP Communities!

A community value is 32 bits



By convention,
first 16 bits is
ASN indicating
who is giving it
an interpretation

community
number

Used for signalling
within and between
ASes

Very powerful
BECAUSE it
has no (predefined)
meaning

**Community Attribute = a list of community values.
(So one route can belong to multiple communities)**

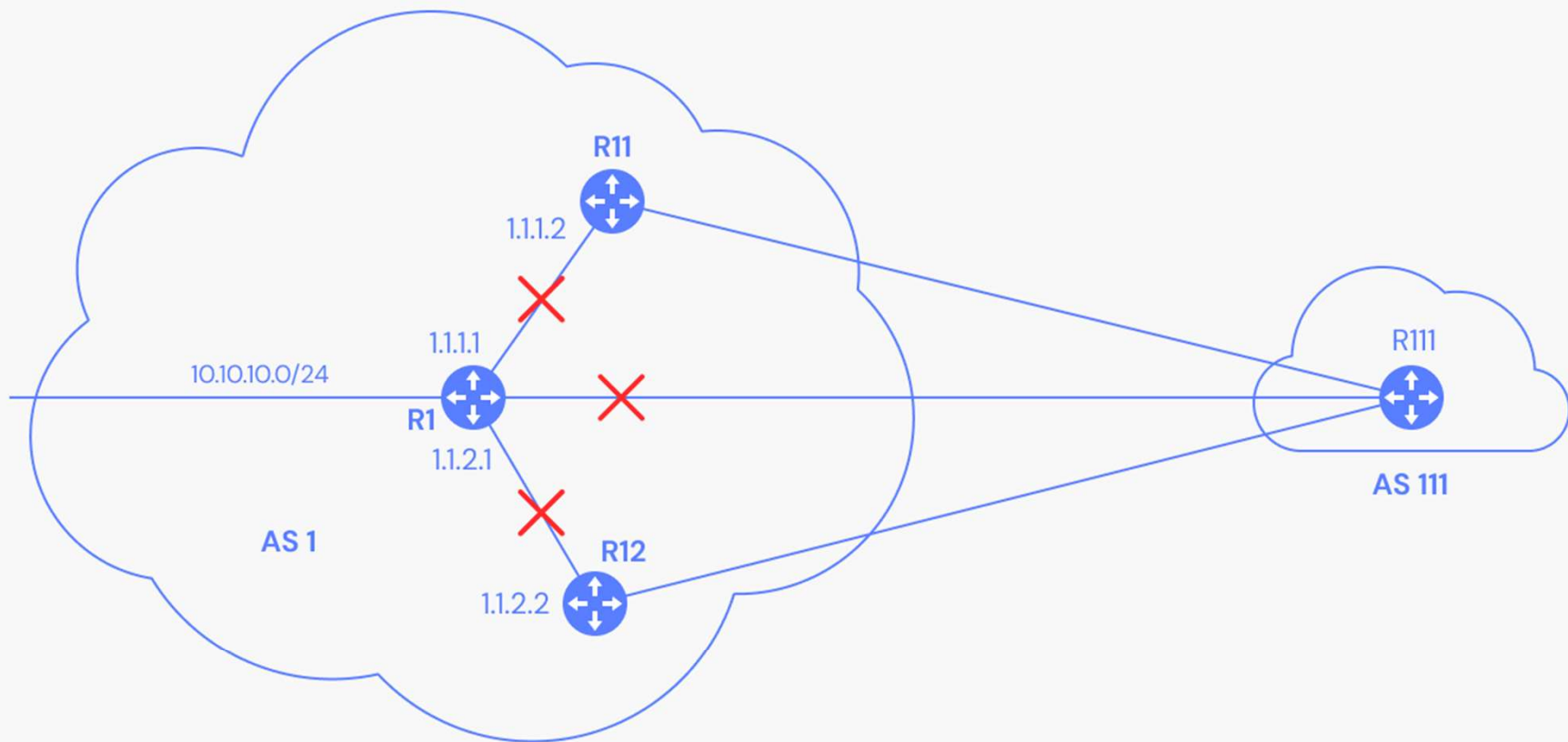
Two reserved communities

no_export = 0xFFFFF001: don't export out of AS

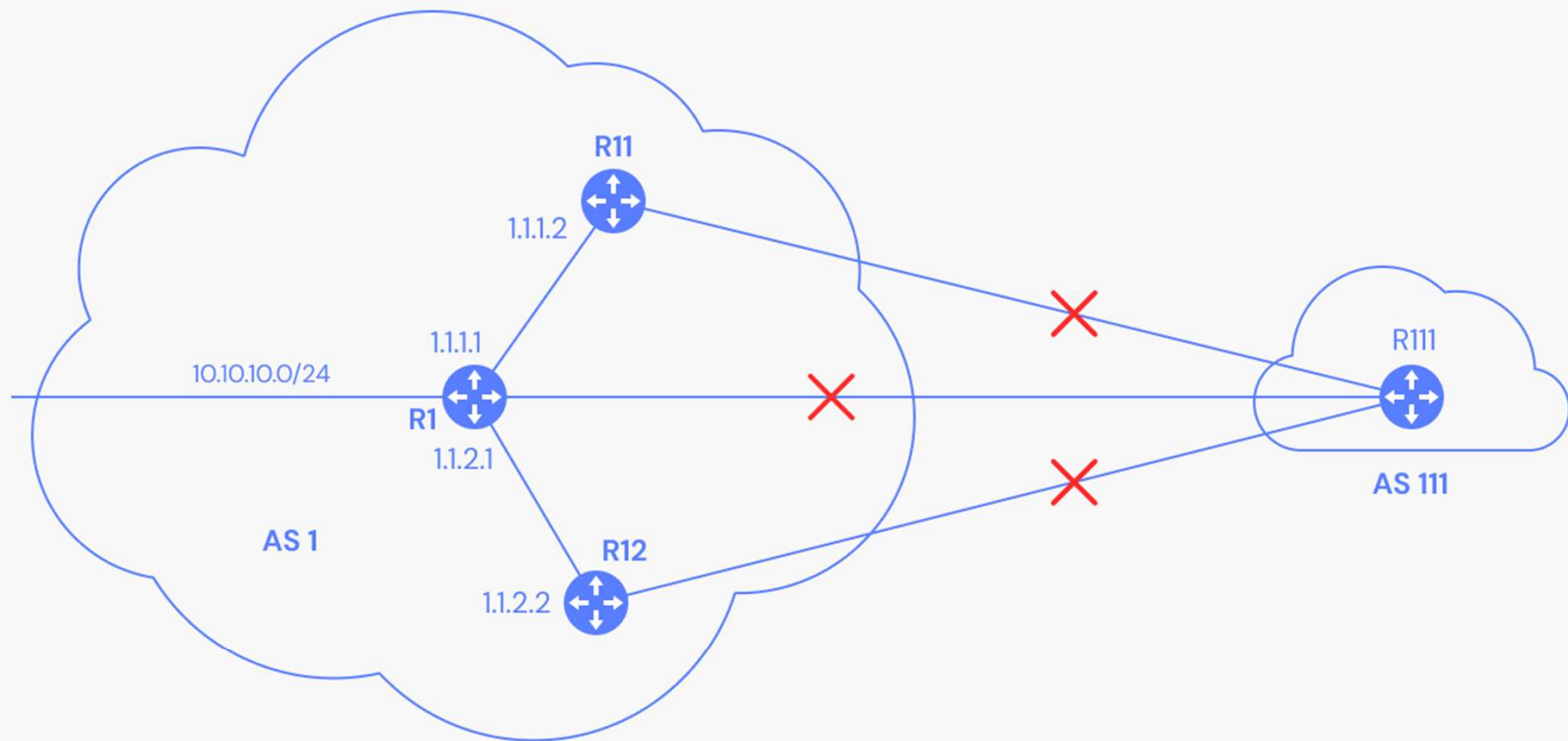
no_advertise 0xFFFFF002: don't pass to BGP neighbors

RFC 1997 (August 1996)

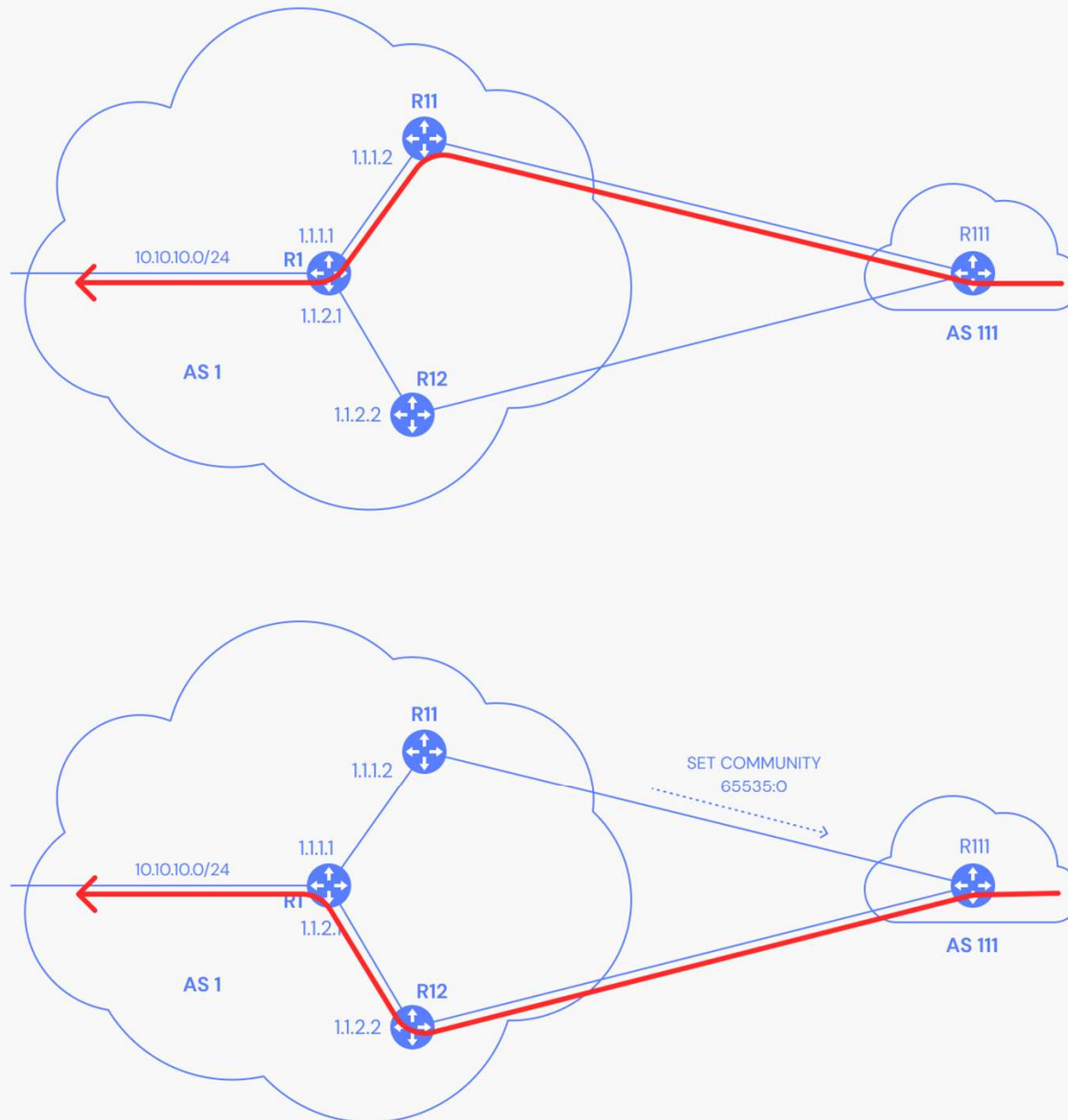
Community attribute: No_Advertise



Community attribute: No_Export

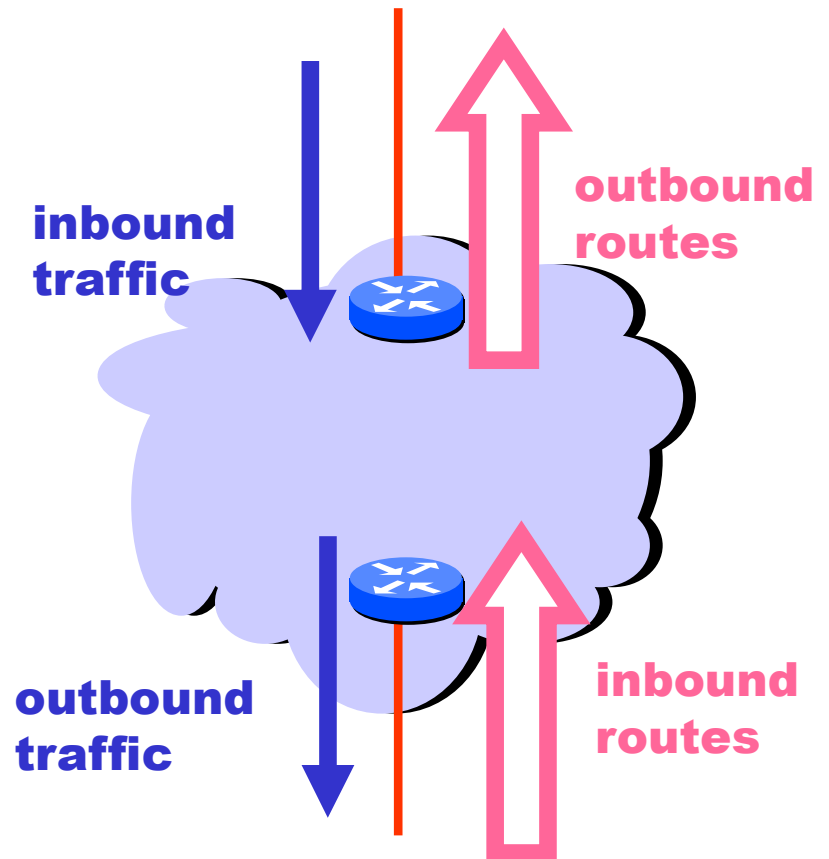


BGP Community attribute: Example



Tweak Tweak Tweak

- For inbound traffic
 - Filter **outbound** routes
 - Tweak attributes on outbound routes in the hope of influencing your neighbor's best route selection
- For outbound traffic
 - Filter inbound routes
 - Tweak attributes on inbound routes to influence best route selection



In general, an AS has more control over outbound traffic

Route Selection Summary



Highest Local Preference

Enforce relationships

Shortest ASPATH

Lowest MED

i-BGP < e-BGP



**Lowest IGP cost
to BGP egress**

traffic engineering

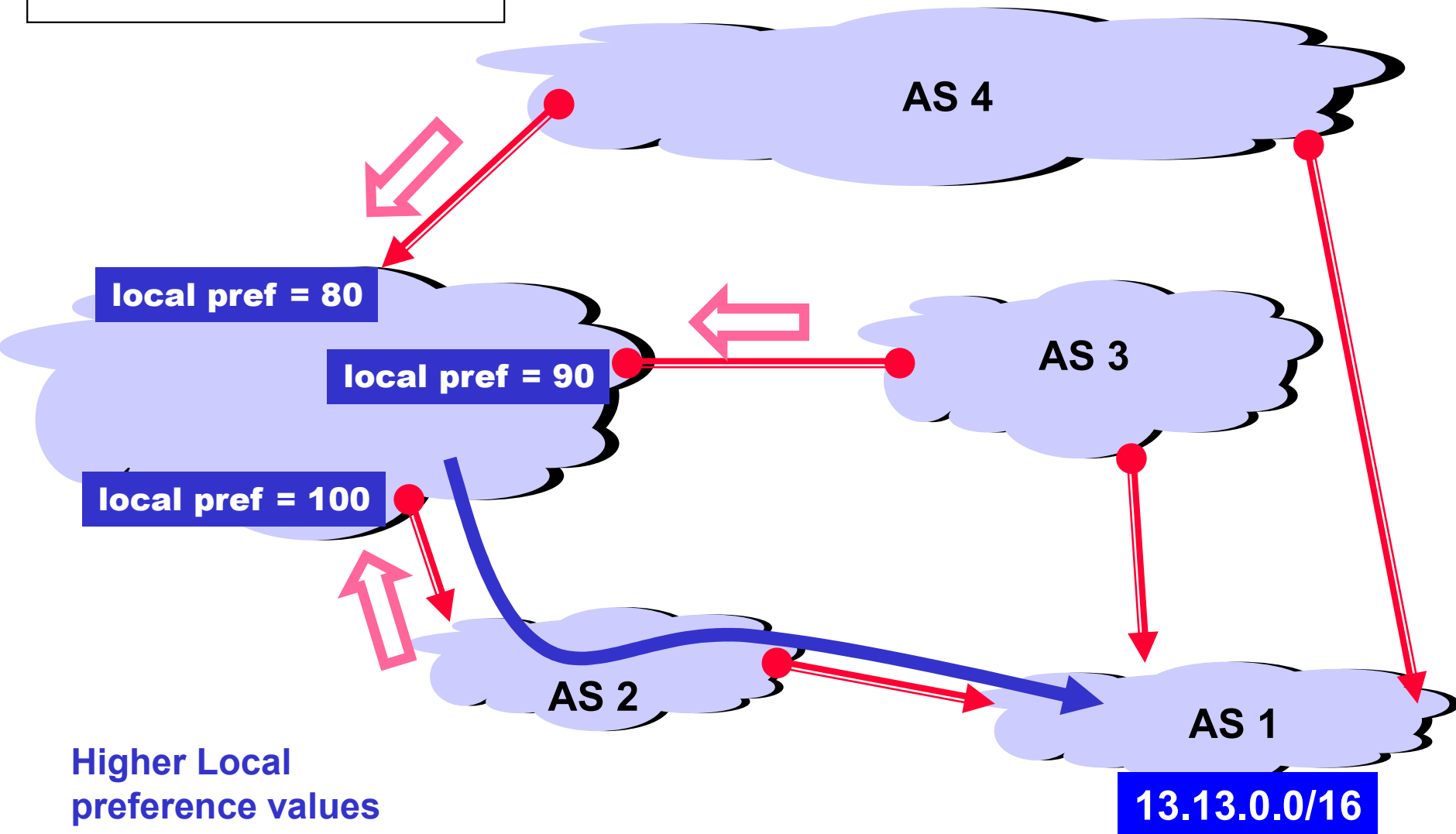
Lowest router ID

**Throw up hands and
break ties**

Local Preference Attribute

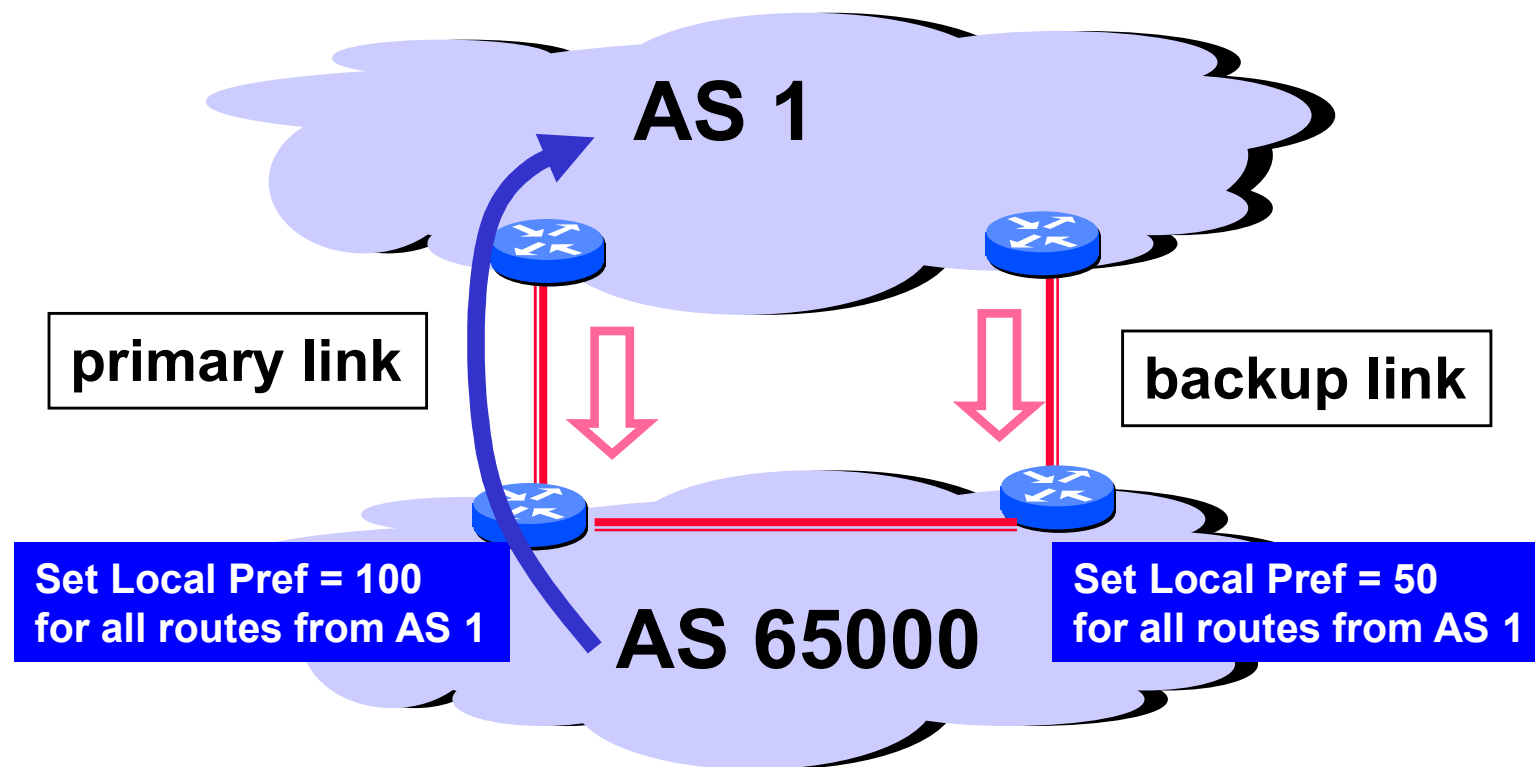
peer  peer
provider  customer

Local preference only used in iBGP



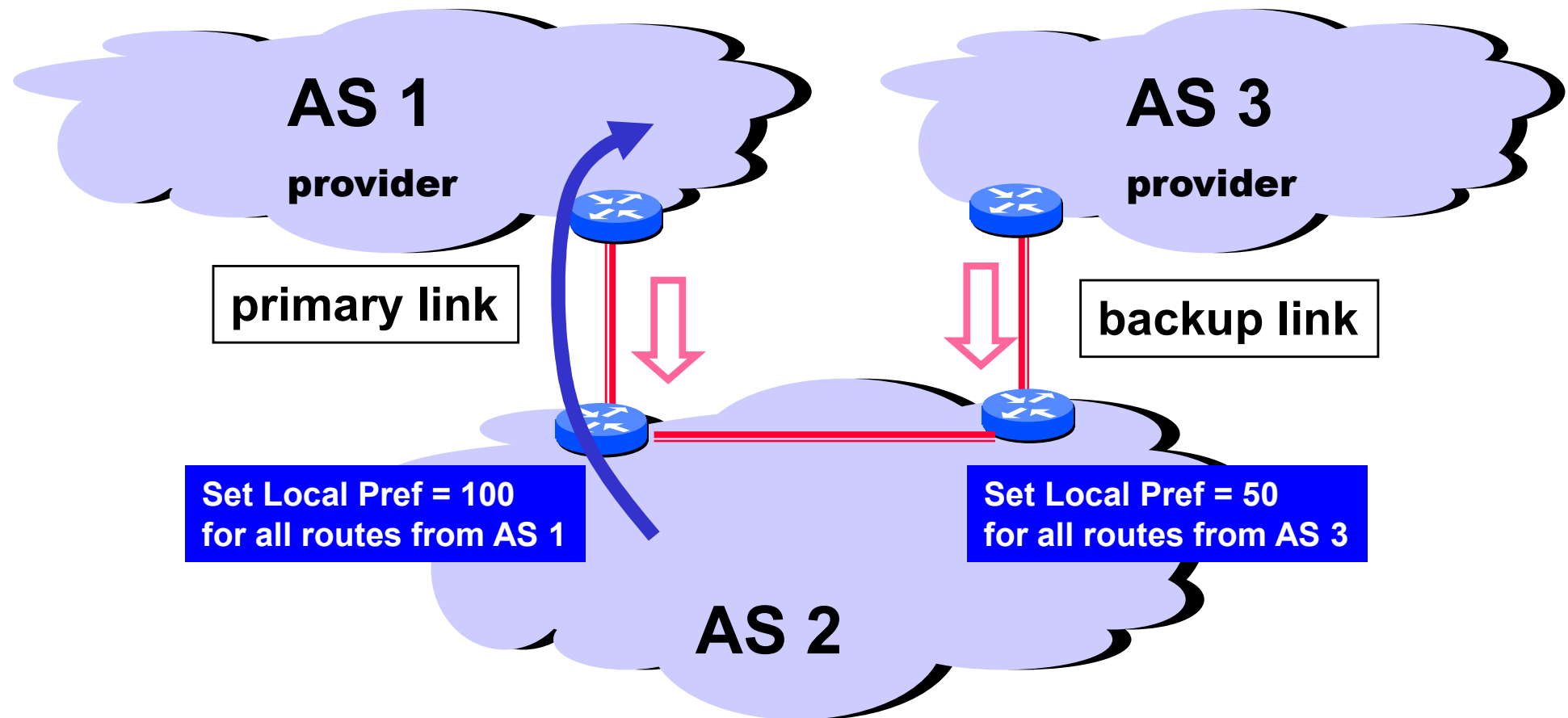
Higher Local
preference values
are more preferred

Implementing Backup Links with Local Preference (Outbound Traffic)



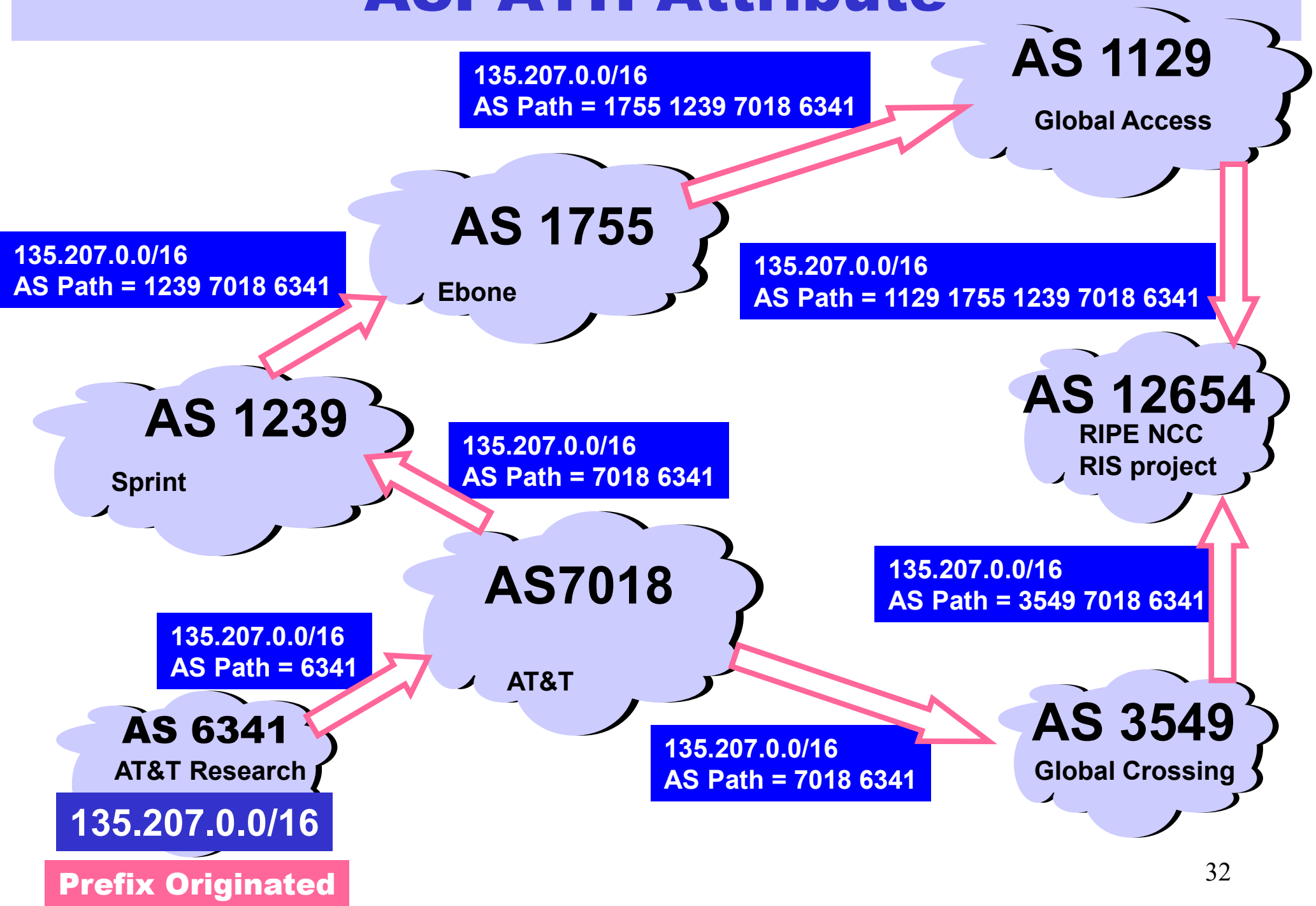
Forces outbound traffic to take primary link, unless link is down.

Multihomed Backups (Outbound Traffic)



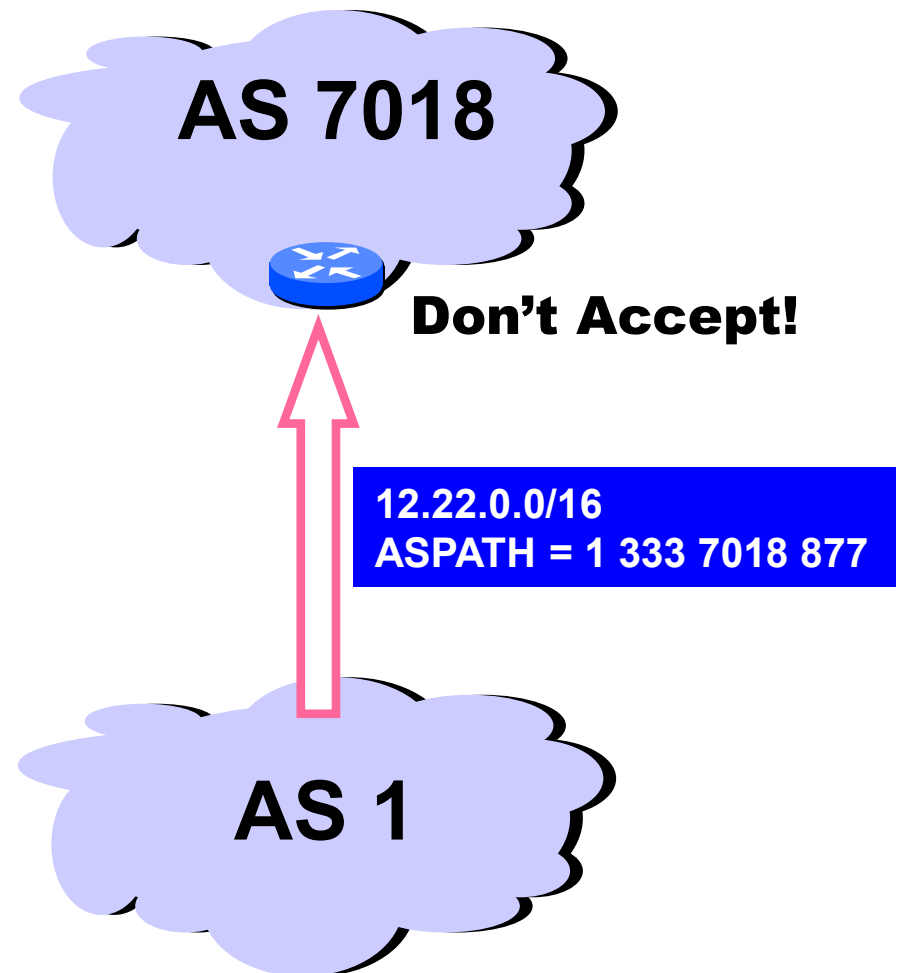
Forces outbound traffic to take primary link, unless link is down.

ASPATH Attribute

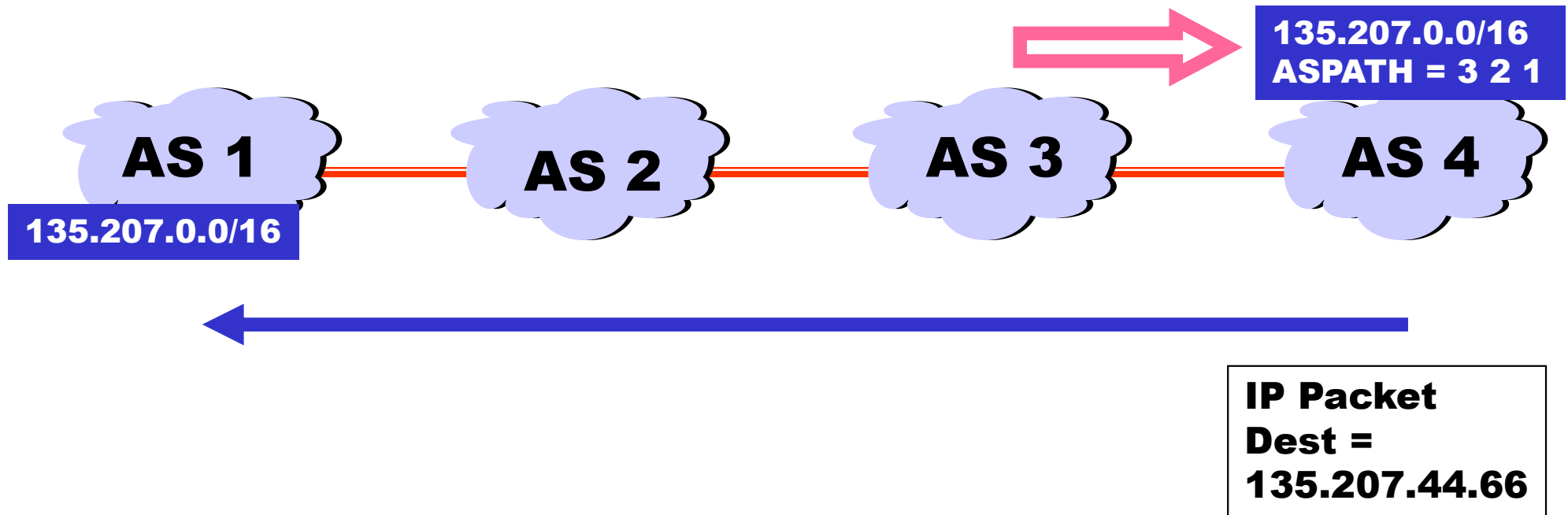


Interdomain Loop Prevention

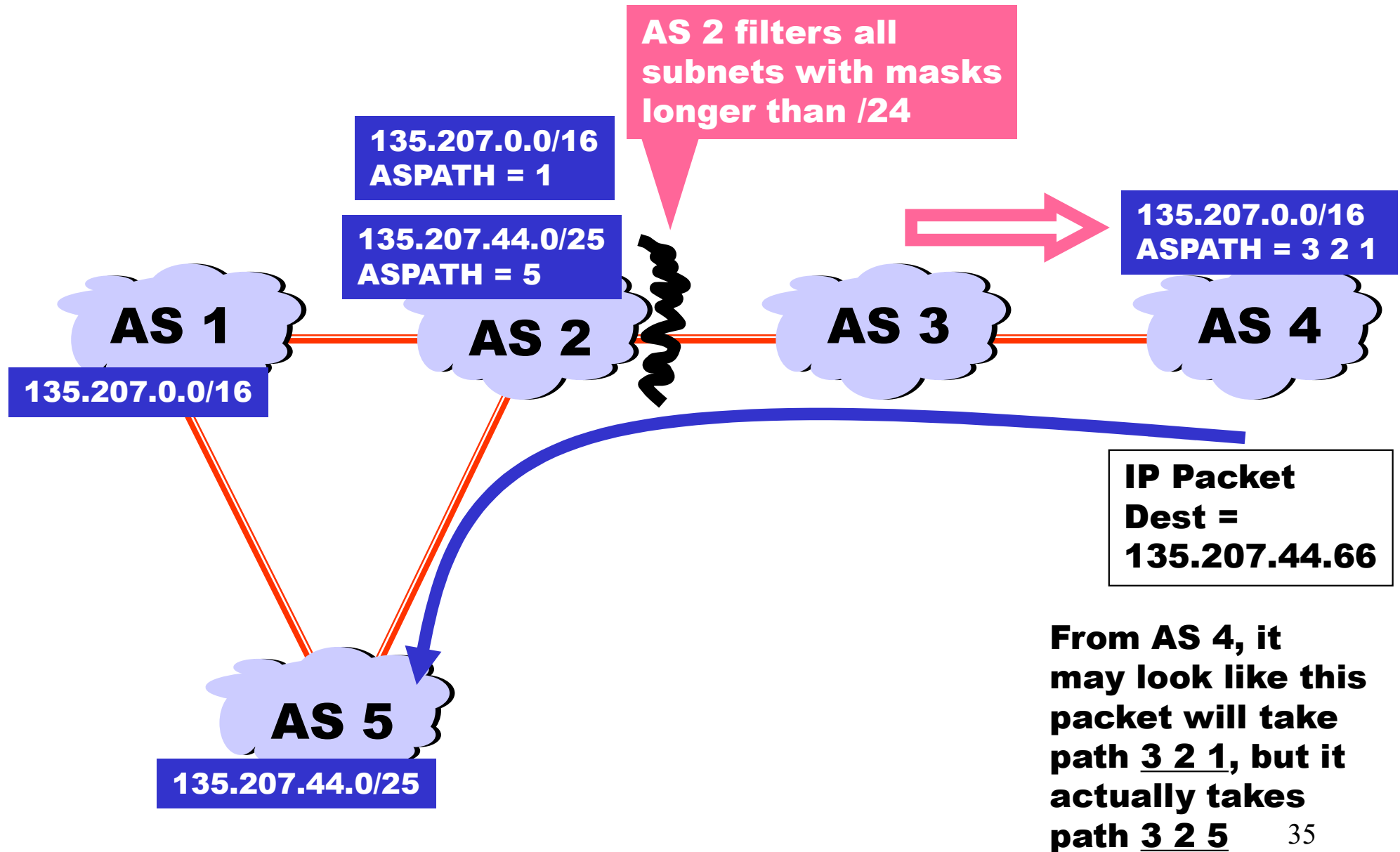
BGP at AS YYY will never accept a route with ASPATH containing YYY.



Traffic Often Follows ASPATH



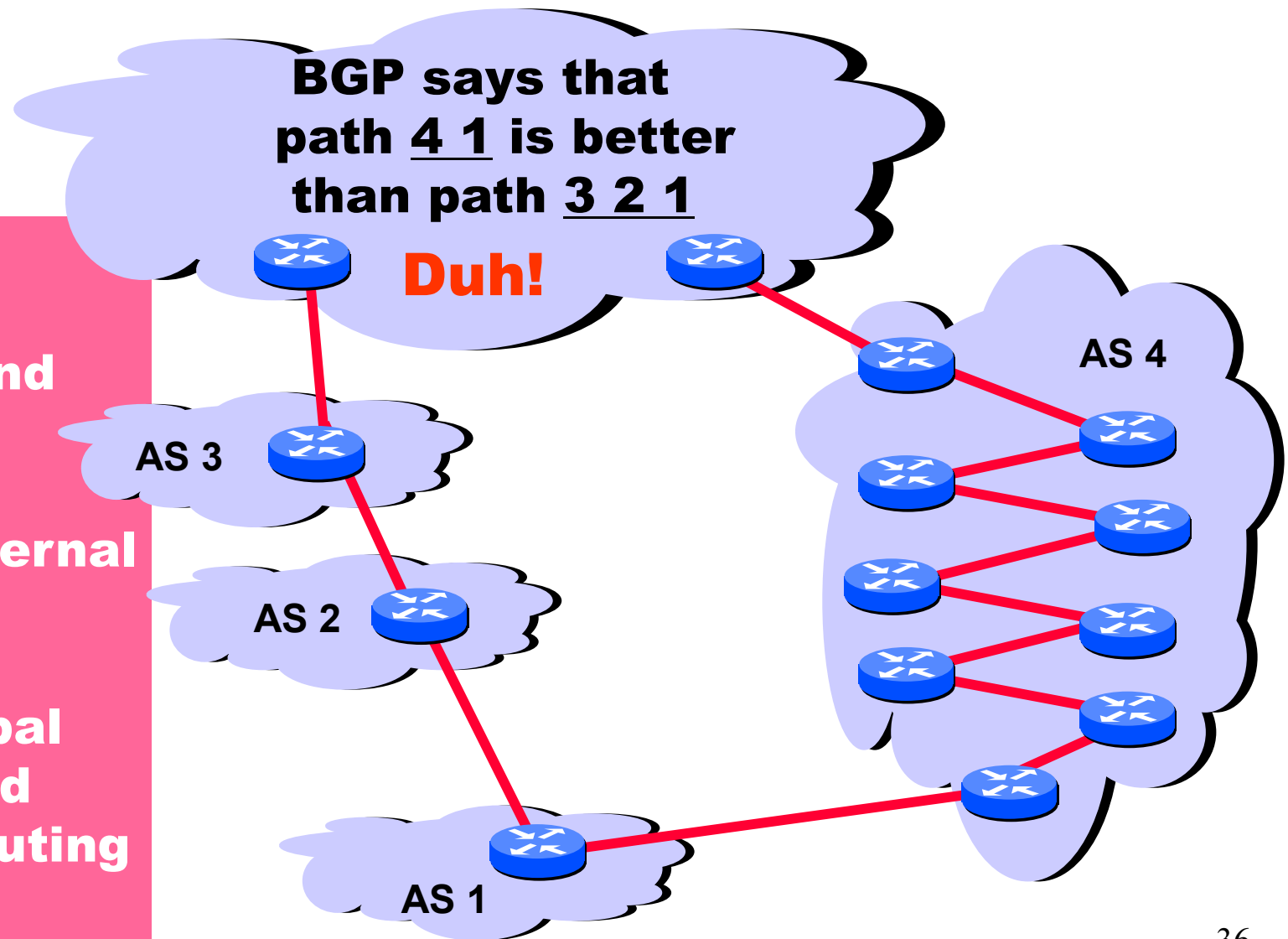
... But It Might Not



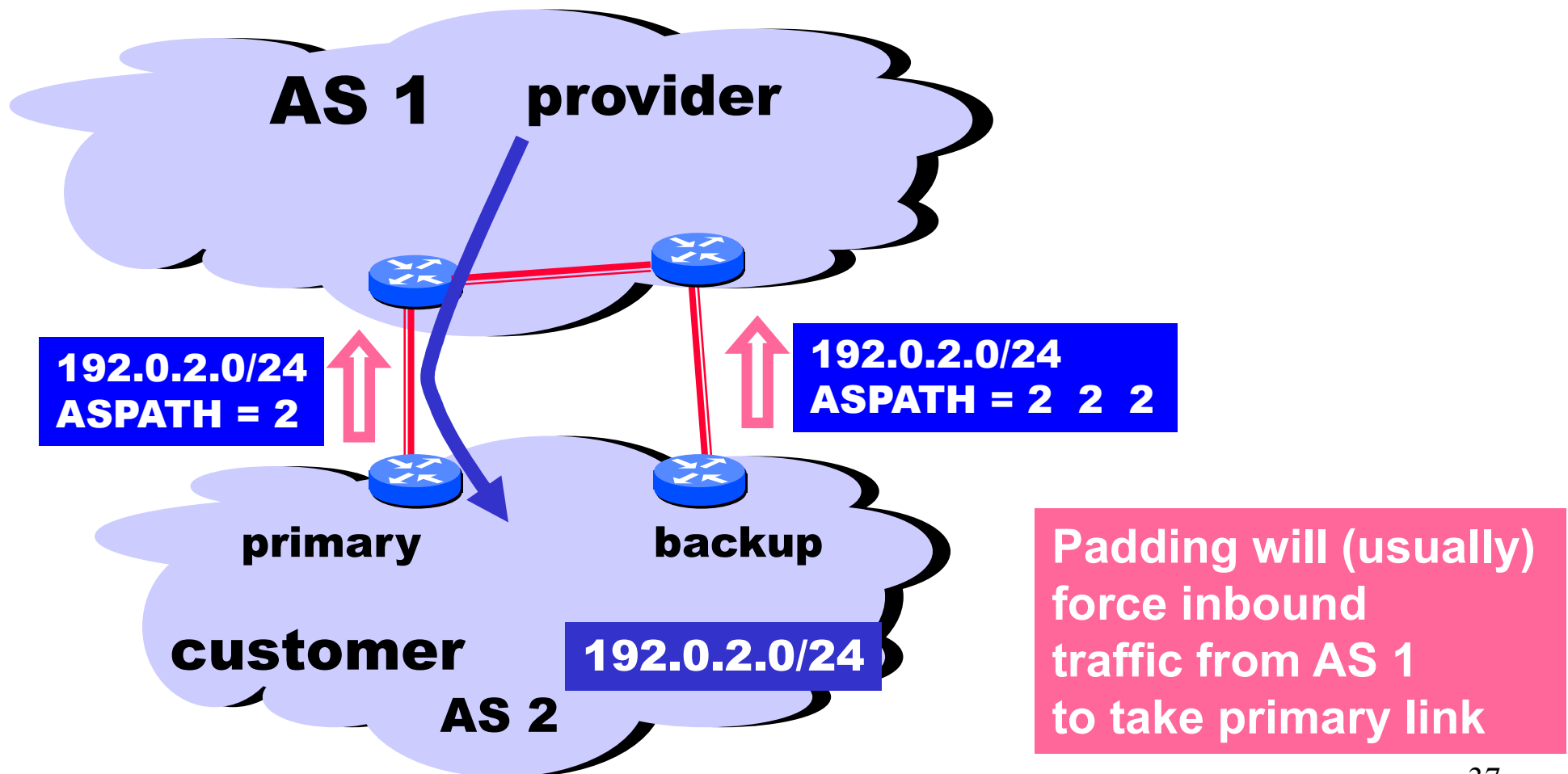
Shorter Doesn't Always Mean Shorter

In fairness:
could you do
this “right” and
still scale?

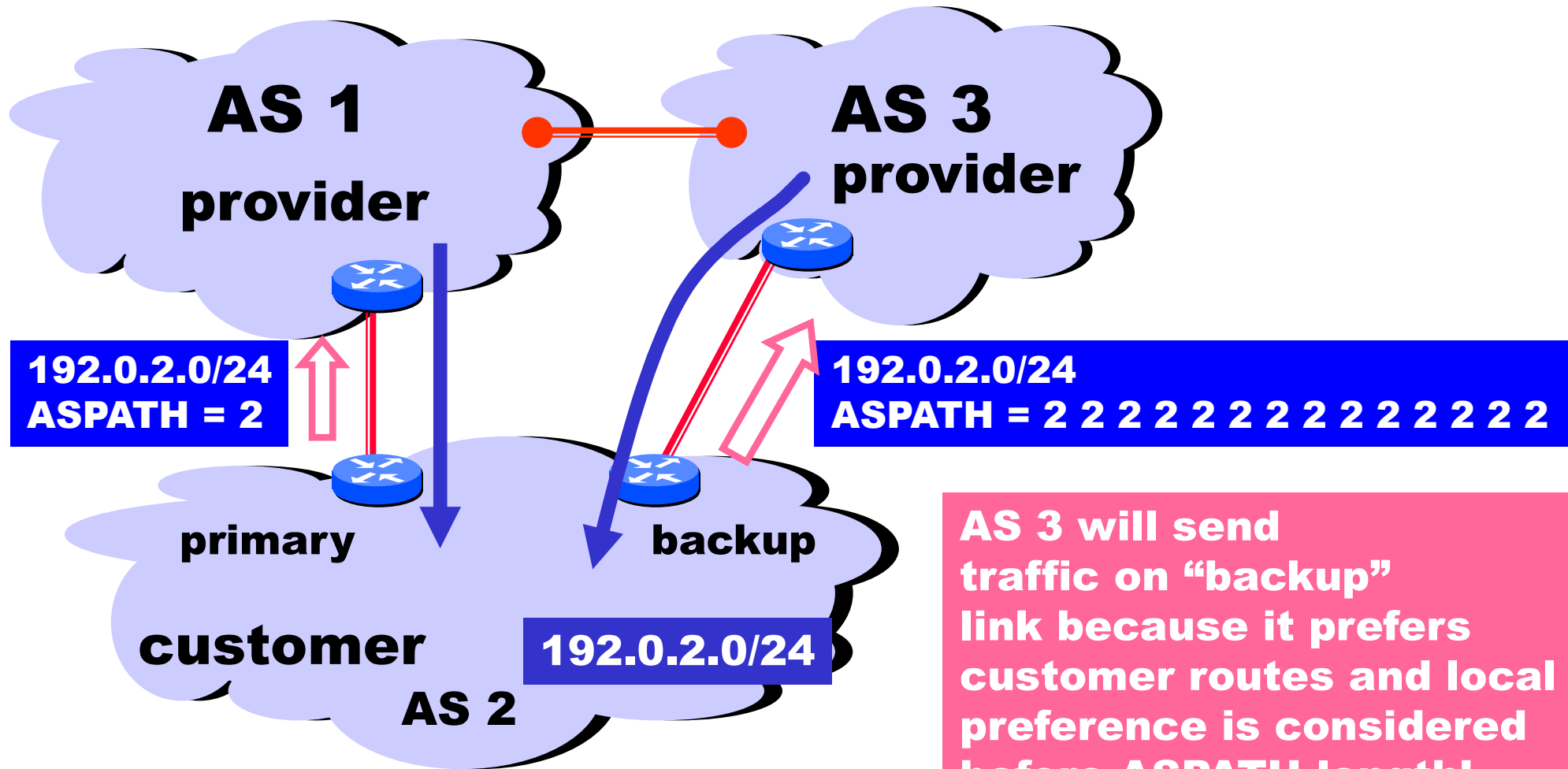
Exporting internal
state would
dramatically
increase global
instability and
amount of routing
state



Shedding Inbound Traffic with ASPATH Padding Hack



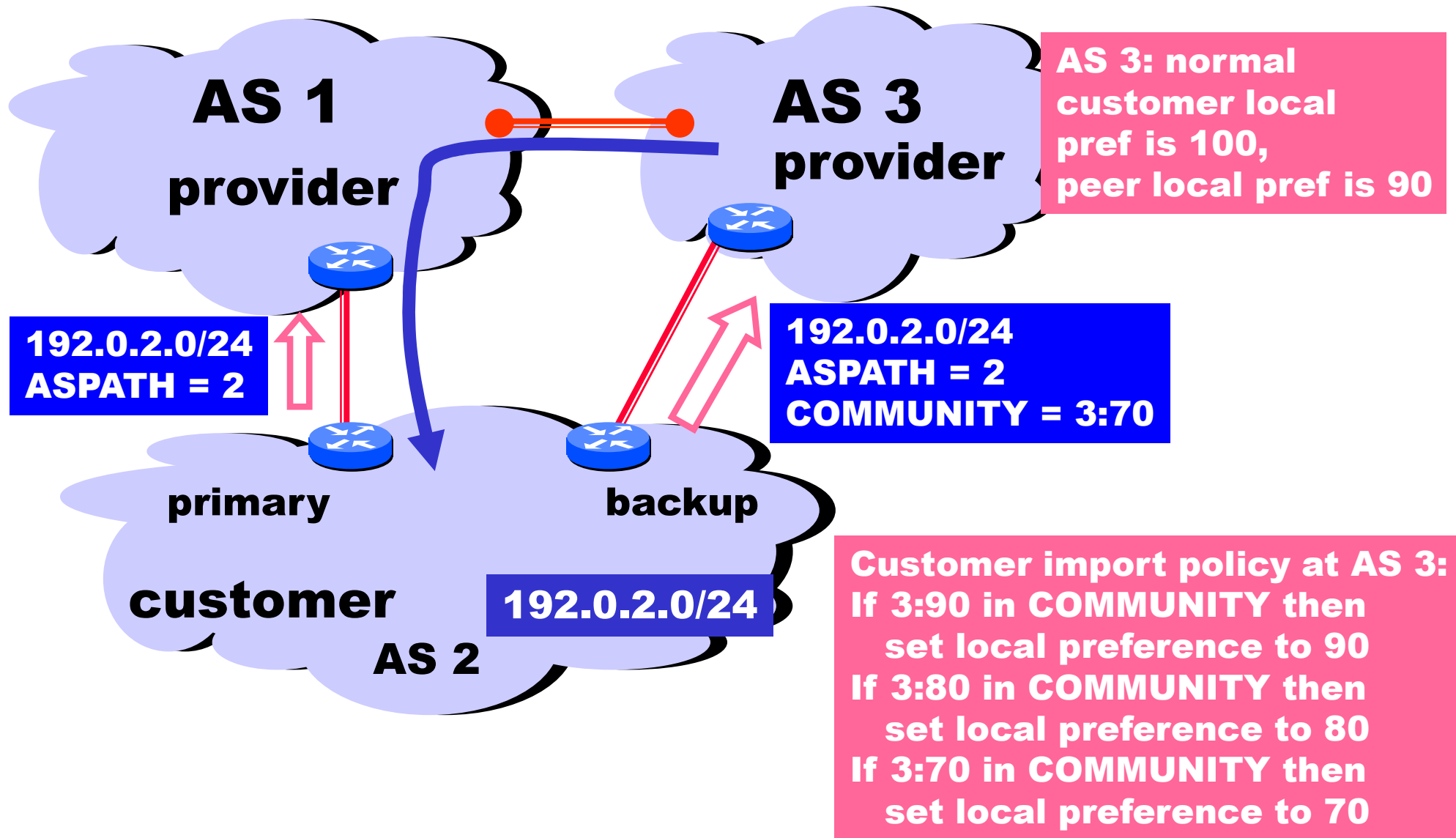
Padding May Not Shut Off All Traffic



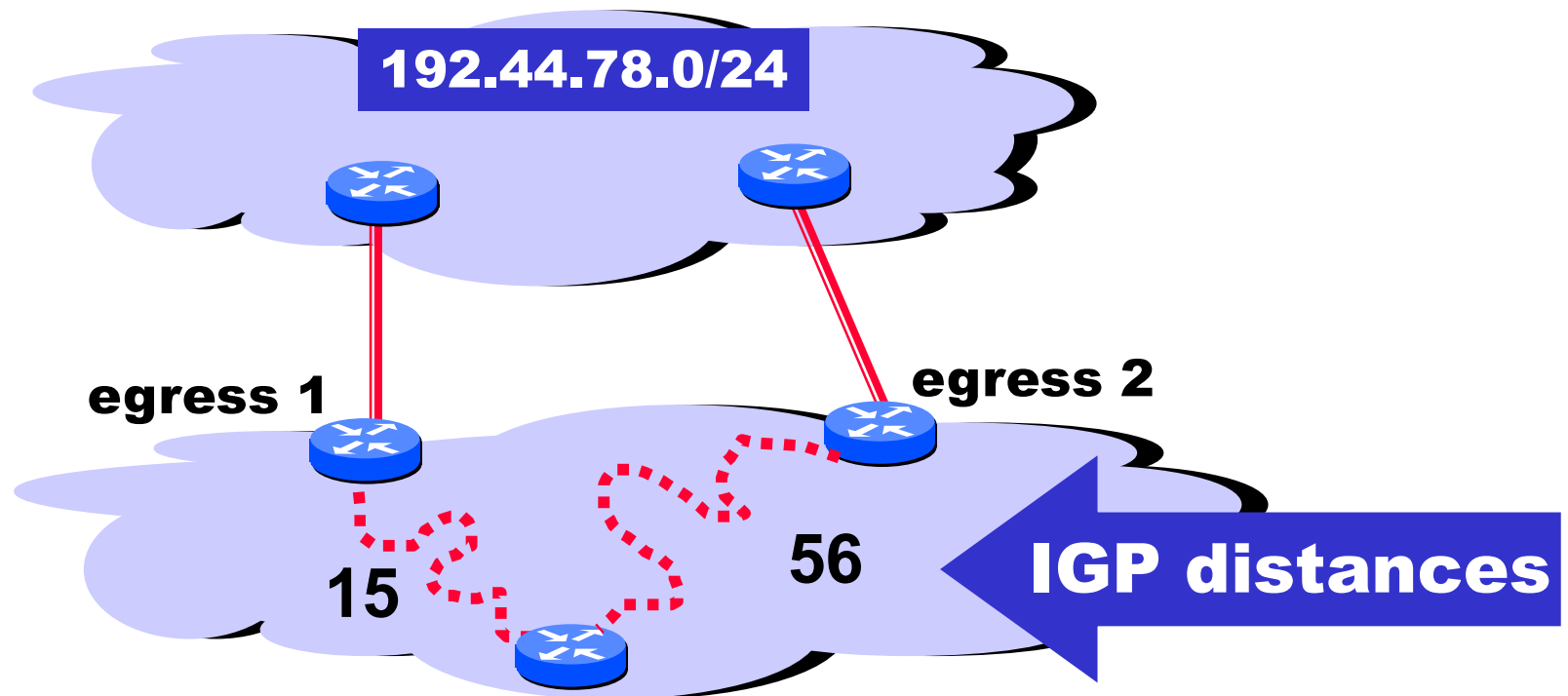
AS 3 will send traffic on “backup” link because it prefers customer routes and local preference is considered before ASPath length!

Padding in this way is often used as a form of load balancing

COMMUNITY Attribute to the Rescue!



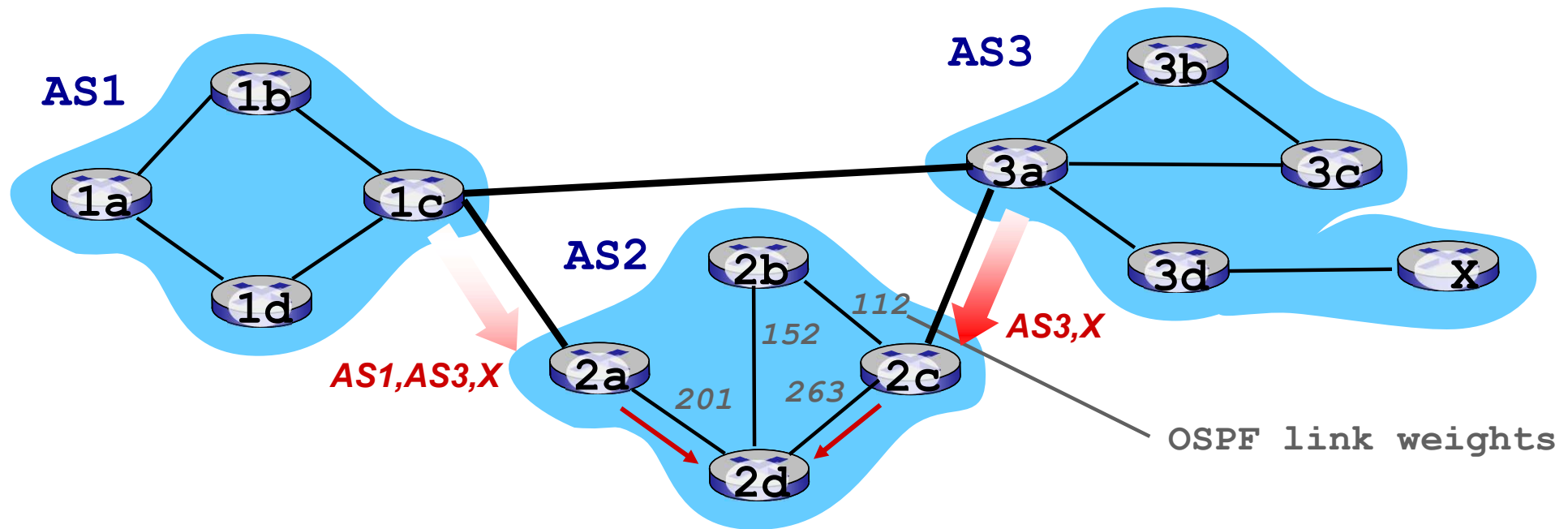
Hot Potato Routing: Go for the Closest Egress Point



This Router has two BGP routes to 192.44.78.0/24.

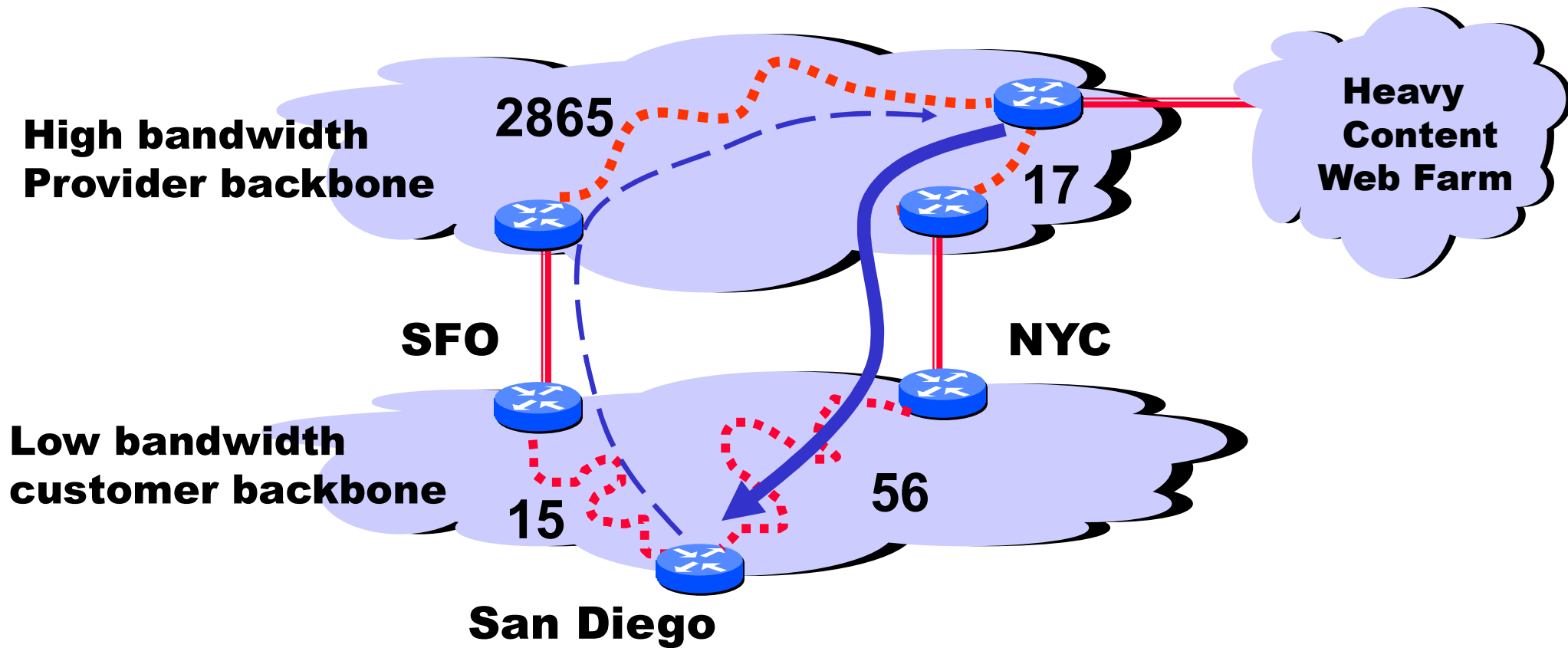
Hot potato: get traffic off of your network as Soon as possible. Go for egress 1!

Hot Potato Routing



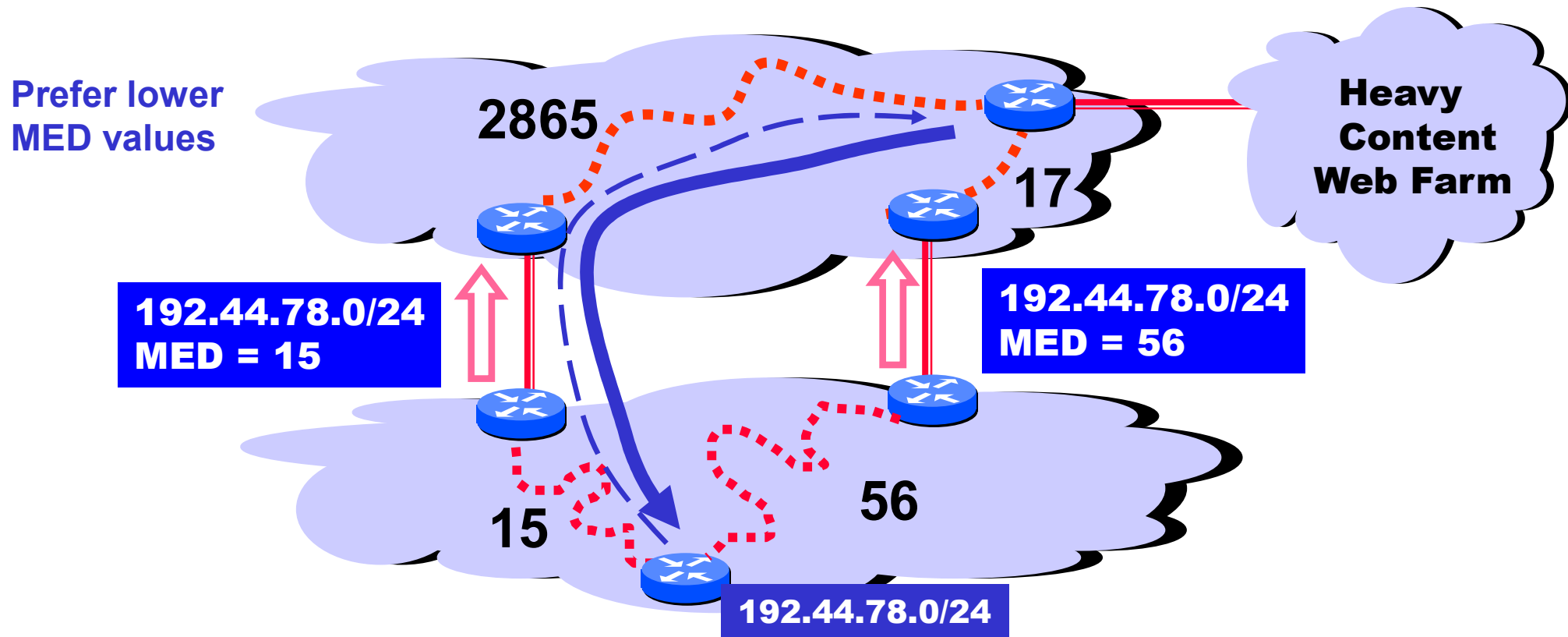
- 2d learns (via iBGP) it can route to X via 2a or 2c
- **hot potato routing:** choose local gateway that has least intra-domain cost (e.g., 2d chooses 2a, even though more AS hops to X): don't worry about inter-domain cost!

Getting Burned by the Hot Potato



Many customers want their provider to carry the bits!

Cold Potato Routing with MEDs (Multi-Exit Discriminator Attribute)



This means that MEDs must be considered BEFORE IGP distance!

Note1 : some providers will not listen to MEDs

Note2 : MEDs need not be tied to IGP distance

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traffic engineering

**Lowest IGP cost
to BGP egress**

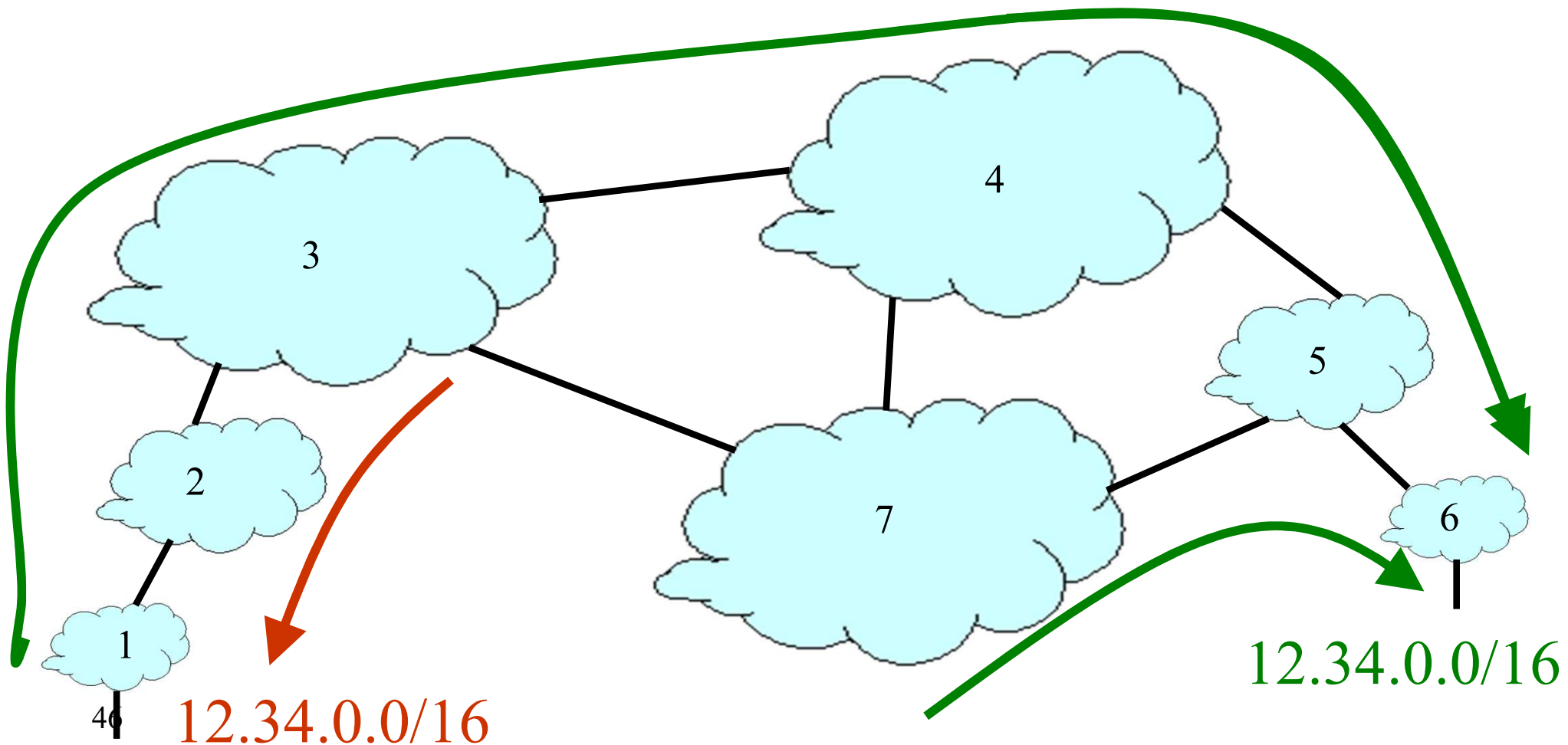
Lowest router ID

**Throw up hands and
break ties**

BGP Attacks/Misconfiguration

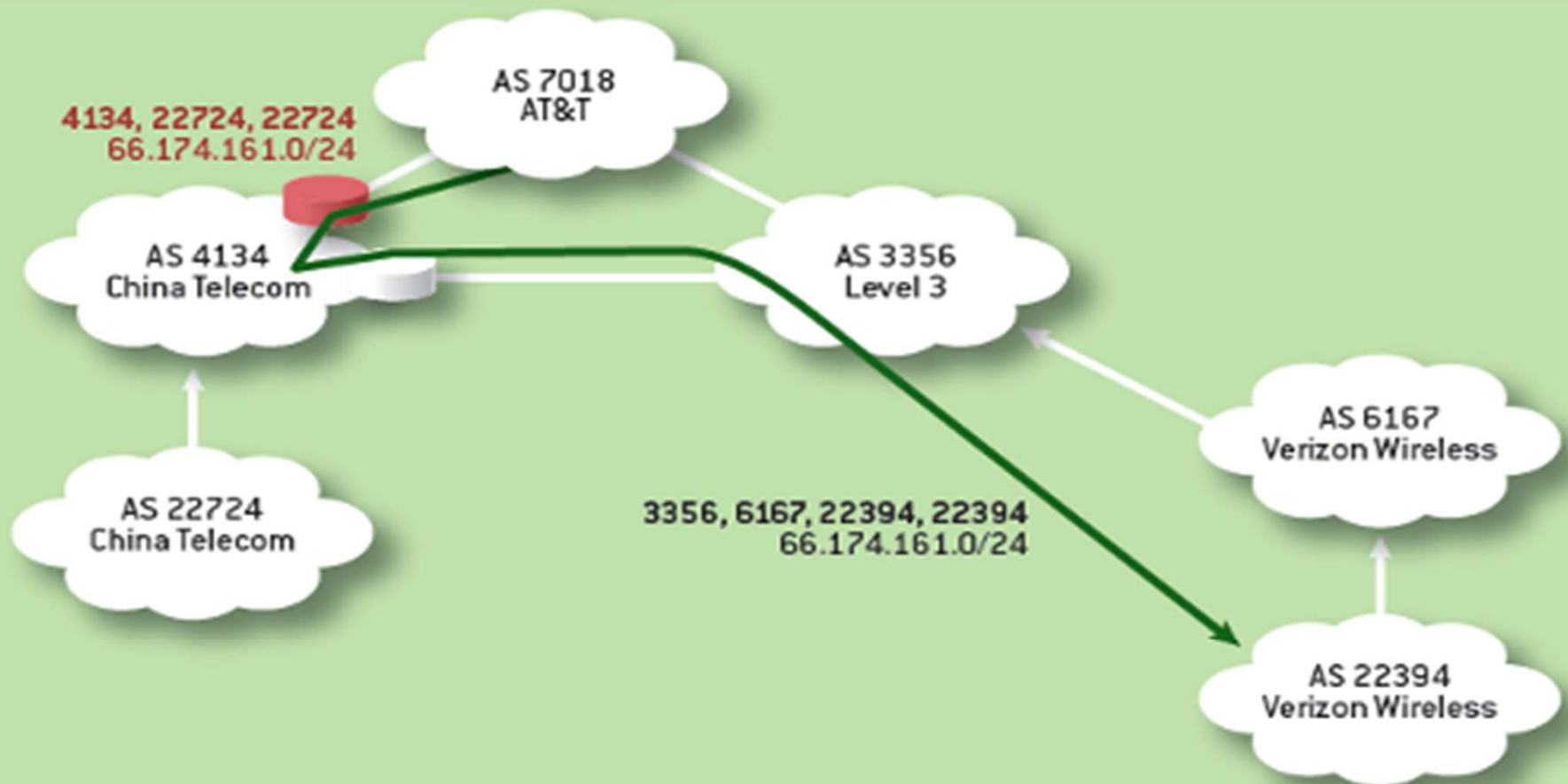
Prefix Hijacking

- **Originating someone else's prefix**
 - **What fraction of the Internet believes it?**

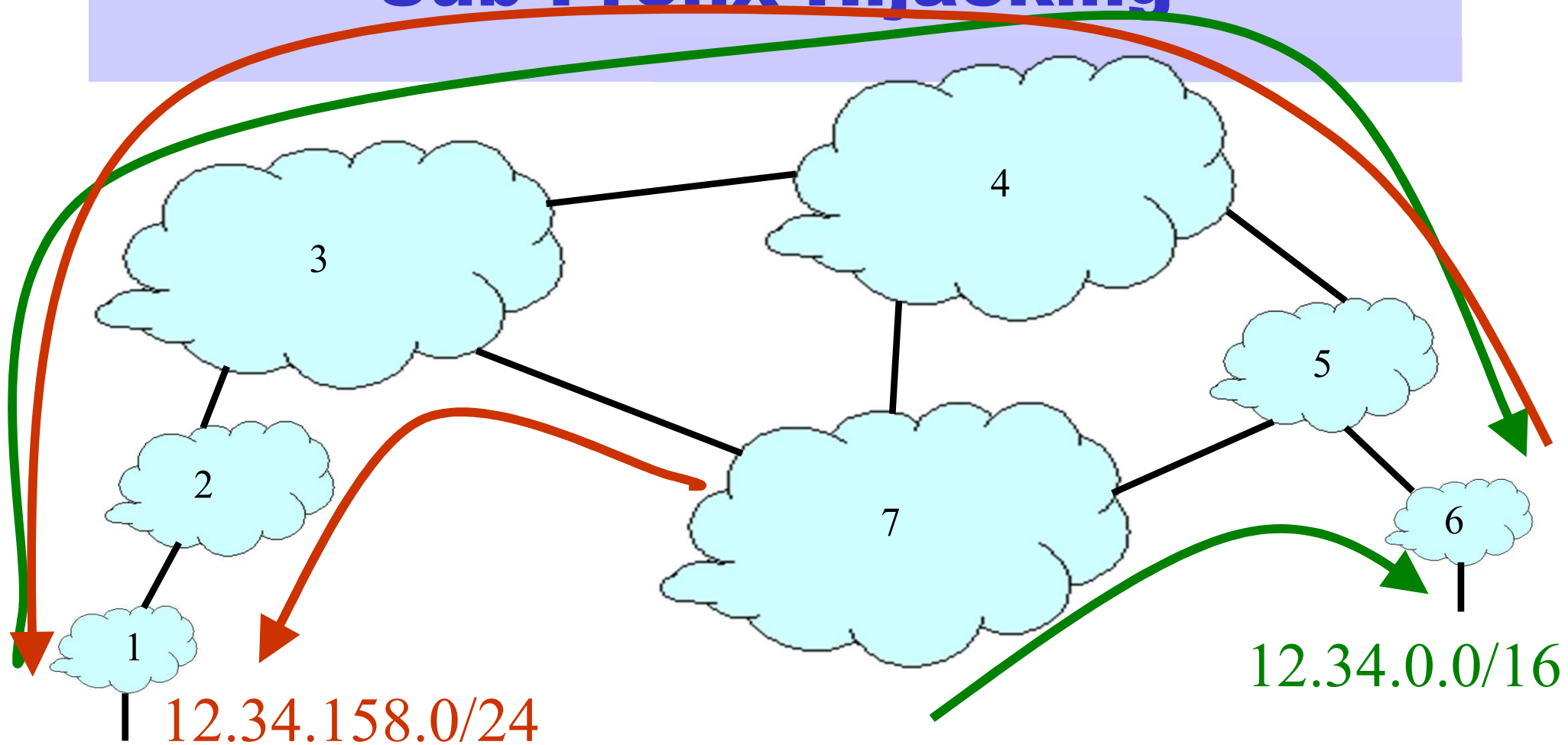


Prefix hijack

Prefix misconfiguration incident with Verizon Wireless



Sub-Prefix Hijacking



- **Originating a more-specific prefix**
 - **Every AS picks the bogus route for that prefix**
 - **Traffic follows the longest matching prefix**

Sub-prefix hijack

February 2008 : YouTube traffic was hijacked for a couple of hours

YouTube



Corrigendum- Most Urgent

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
PAKISTAN TELECOMMUNICATION AUTHORITY
ZONAL OFFICE PESHAWAR
Plot-11, Sector A-3, Phase-V, Hayatabad, Peshawar.
Ph: 091-9217279- 5829177 Fax: 091-9217254
www.pta.gov.pk

NWFP-33-16 (BW)/06/PTA

February ,2008

Subject: Blocking of Offensive Website

Reference: *This office letter of even number dated 22.02.2008.*

I am directed to request all ISPs to immediately block access to the following website

URL: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3s8jtvvg00>

IPs: 208.65.153.238, 208.65.153.253, 208.65.153.251

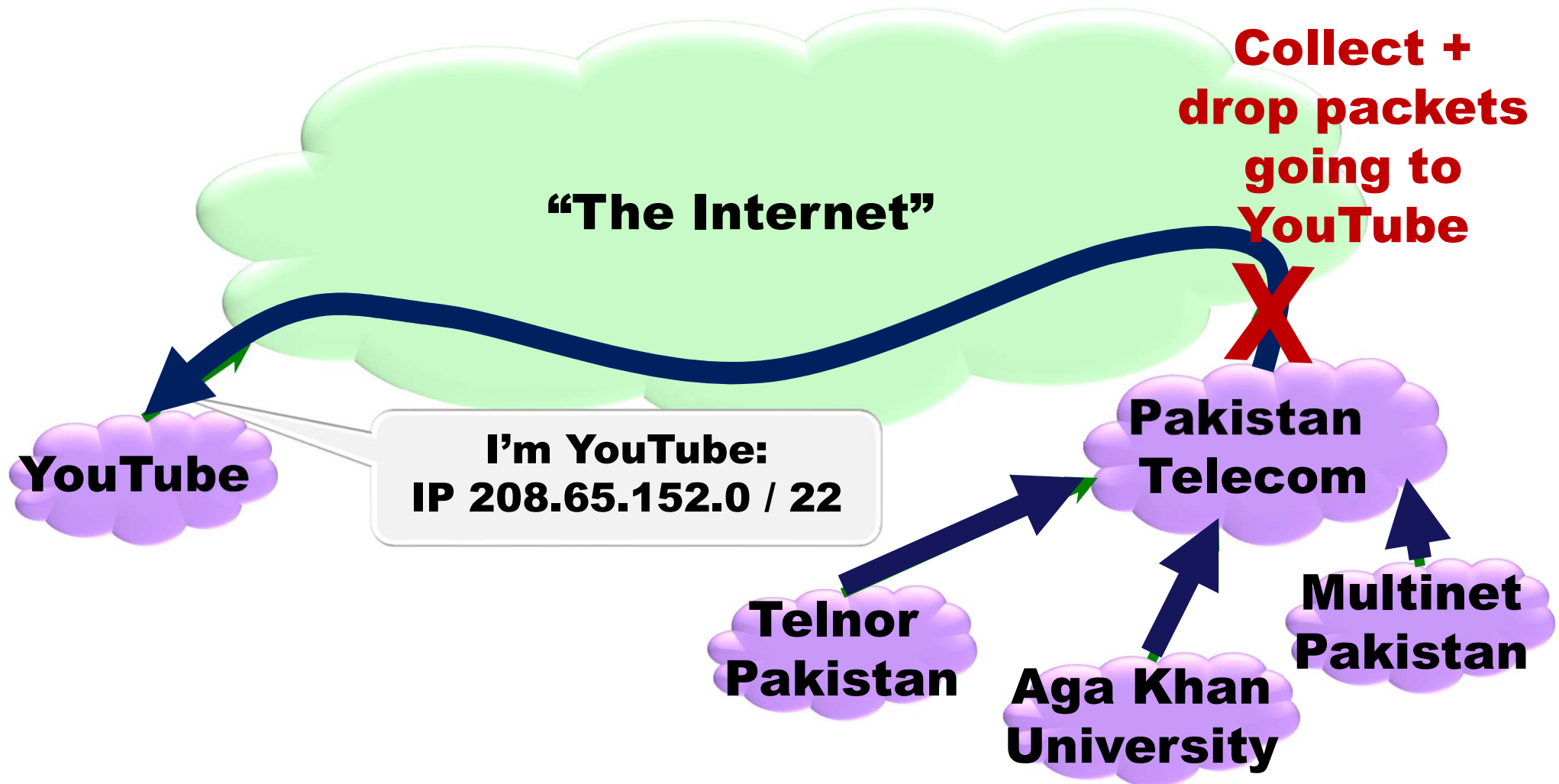
Compliance report should reach this office through return fax or at email
peshawar@pta.gov.pk today please.

an
om

**Multinet
Pakistan**

Pakistan Telecom: Sub-prefix hijack

Here's what should have happened....

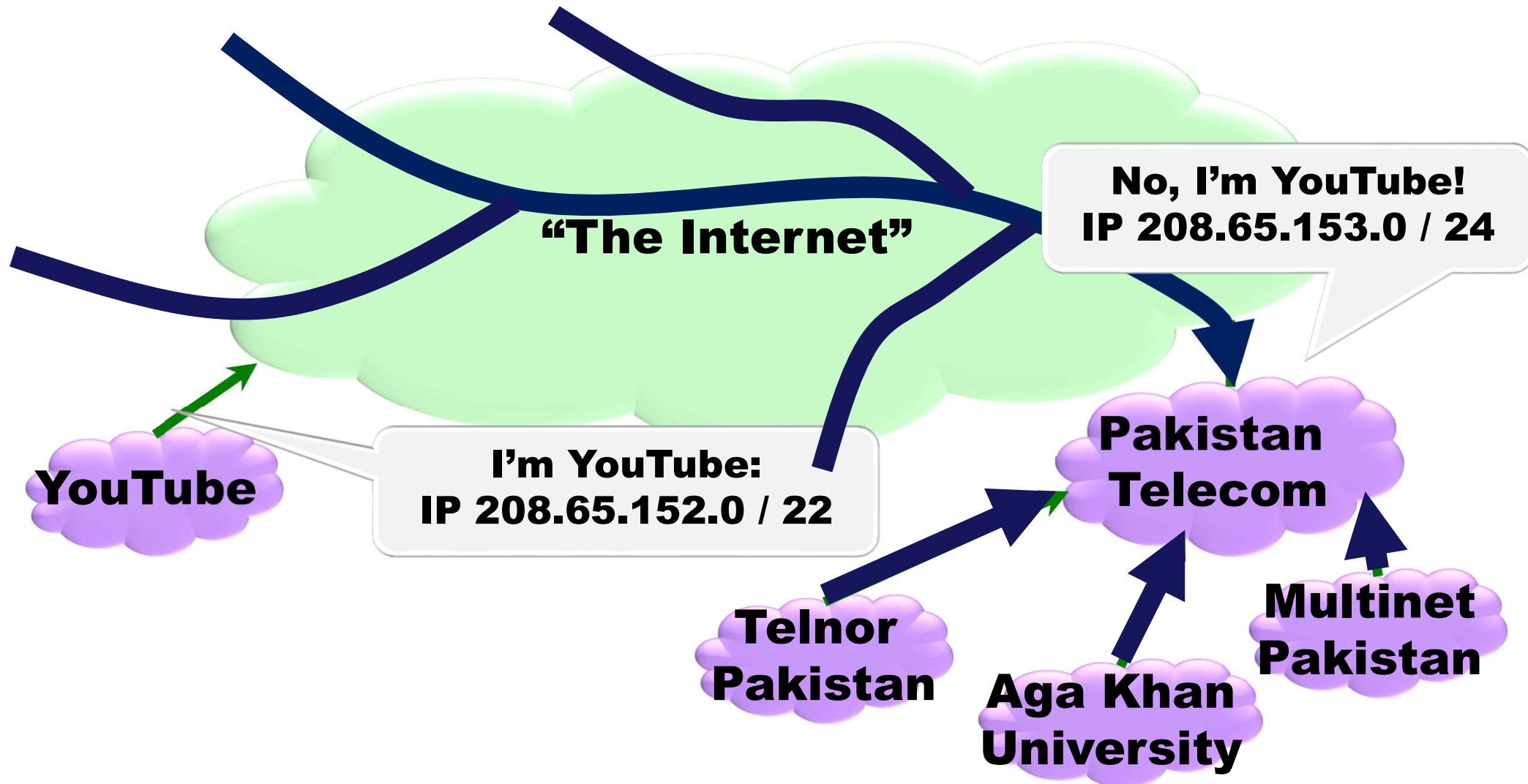


Block your own customers.

Target IPs:[208.65.153.238, 208.65.153.253, 208.65.153.251]

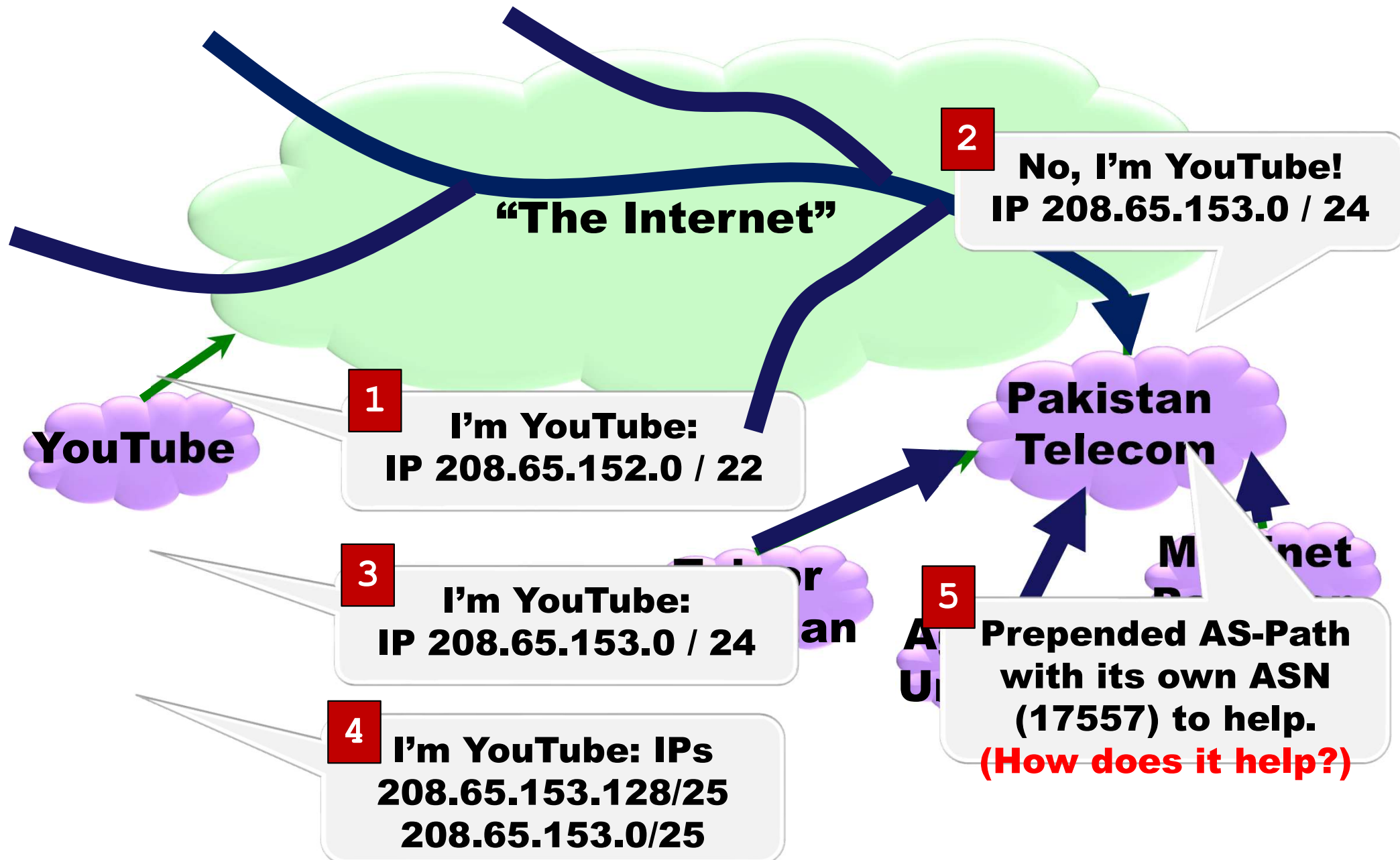
Pakistan Telecom: Sub-prefix hijack

But here's what Pakistan ended up doing...



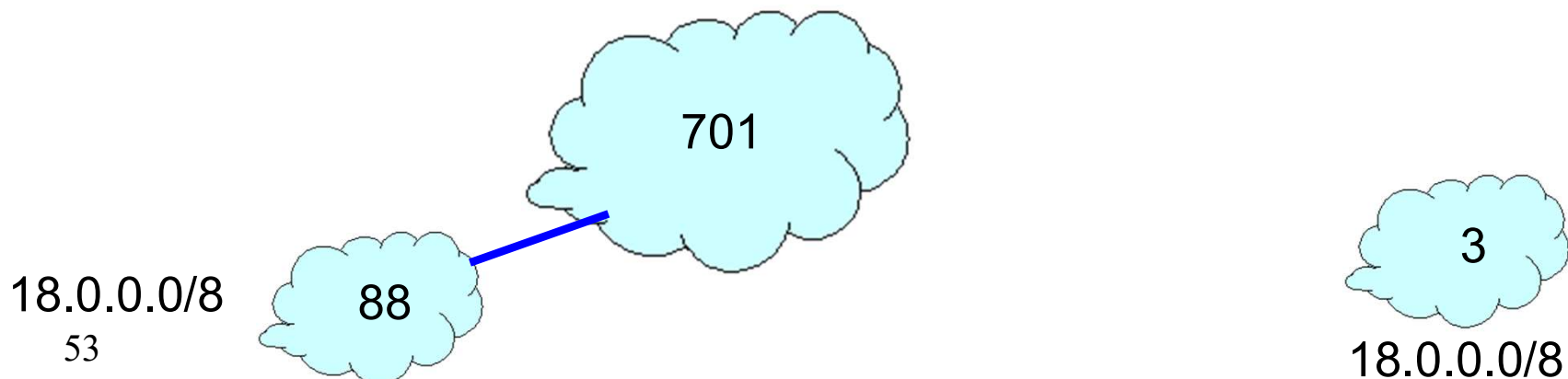
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But here's what Pakistan ended up doing...



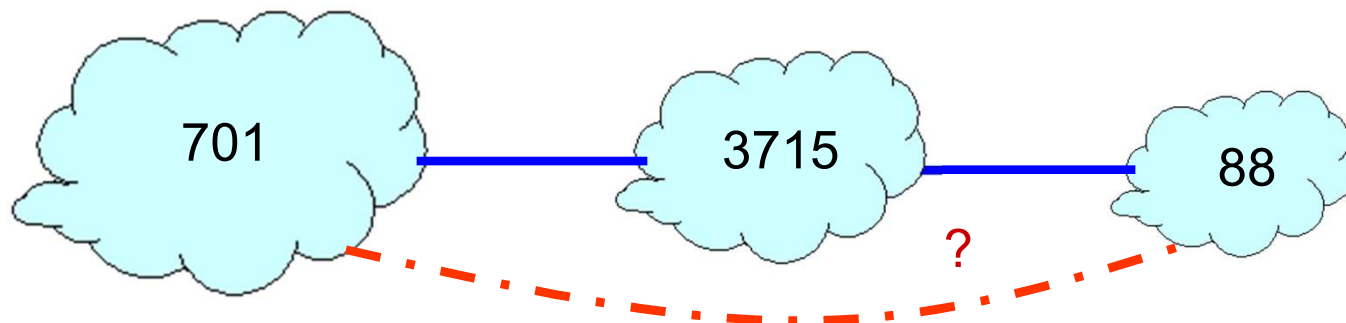
Bogus AS Paths to Hide Hijacking

- **Adds AS hop(s) at the end of the path**
 - E.g., turns “701 88” into “701 88 3”
- **Motivations**
 - Evade detection for a bogus route
 - E.g., by adding the legitimate AS to the end
- **Hard to tell that the AS path is bogus...**
 - Even if other ASes filter based on prefix ownership



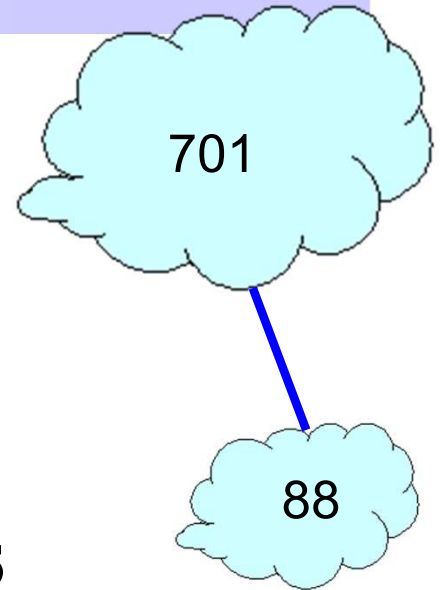
Path-Shortening Attacks

- **Remove ASes from the AS path**
 - E.g., turn “701 3715 88” into “701 88”
- **Motivations**
 - Make the AS path look shorter than it is
 - Attract sources that normally try to avoid AS 3715
 - Help AS 88 look like it is closer to the Internet’s core
- **Who can tell that this AS path is a lie?**
 - Maybe AS 88 **does** connect to AS 701 directly



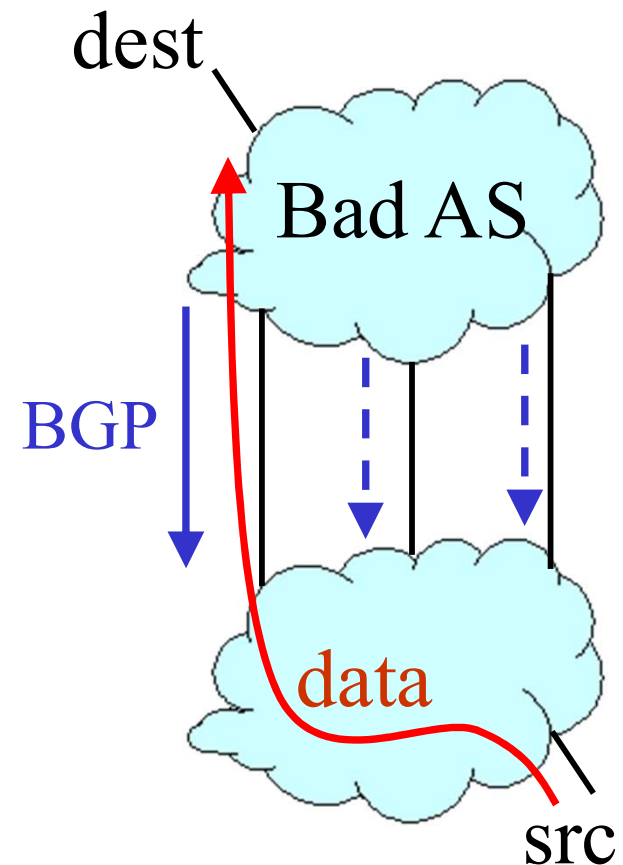
Attacks that Add a Bogus AS Hop

- **Add ASes to the path**
 - E.g., turn “701 88” into “701 3715 88”
- **Motivations**
 - **Trigger loop detection in AS 3715**
 - **Denial-of-service attack** on AS 3715
 - Or, blocking unwanted traffic coming from AS 3715!
 - **Make your AS look like it has richer connectivity**
- **Who can tell the AS path is a lie?**
 - **AS 3715 could, if it could see the route**
 - **AS 88 could, but would it really care as long as it received data traffic meant for it?**



Violating “Consistent Export” to Peers

- **Peers require consistent export**
 - Prefix advertised at all peering points
 - Prefix advertised with same AS path length
- **Reasons for violating the policy**
 - Trick neighbor into “cold potato”
 - Configuration mistake
- **Main defense**
 - Analyzing BGP updates
 - ... or data traffic
 - ... for signs of inconsistency



Other Attacks

- **Attacks on BGP sessions**
 - **Confidentiality of BGP messages**
 - **Denial-of-service on BGP session**
 - **Inserting, deleting, modifying, or replaying messages**
- **Resource exhaustion attacks**
 - **Too many IP prefixes (e.g., BGP “512K Day”)**
 - **Too many BGP update messages**
- **Data-plane attacks**
 - **Announce one BGP routes, but use another**

Solution Techniques

- **Protective filtering**
 - **Know your neighbors**
- **Anomaly detection**
 - **Suspect the unexpected**
- **Checking against registries**
 - **Establish ground truth for prefix origination**
- **Signing and verifying**
 - **Prevent bogus AS PATHs**
- **Data-plane verification**
 - **Ensure the path is actually followed**