

# BGP Tutorial

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**APRICOT 2003, Taipei**

**February 2003**

# APRICOT BGP Tutorials

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- **Four Tutorials over Two Days**

<b>Part 1 – Introduction</b>	<b>Monday morning</b>
<b>Part 2 – Deployment</b>	<b>Monday afternoon</b>
<b>Part 3 – Multihoming</b>	<b>Tuesday morning</b>
<b>Part 4 – Troubleshooting</b>	<b>Tuesday afternoon</b>

# **BGP Tutorial**

## **Part 1 – Introduction**

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# Presentation Slides

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- **Slides are available at**  
<ftp://ftp-eng.cisco.com/pfs/seminars/APRICOT02-BGP00.pdf>
- **Feel free to ask questions any time**

# BGP for Internet Service Providers

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- **Routing Basics**
- **BGP Basics**
- **BGP Attributes**
- **BGP Path Selection**
- **BGP Policy**
- **BGP Capabilities**
- **Scaling BGP**

# Routing Basics

## Terminology and Concepts

# Routing Concepts

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- **IPv4**
- **Routing**
- **Forwarding**
- **Some definitions**
- **Policy options**
- **Routing Protocols**

- **Internet uses IPv4**
  - addresses are 32 bits long**
  - range from 1.0.0.0 to 223.255.255.255**
  - 0.0.0.0 to 0.255.255.255 and 224.0.0.0 to 255.255.255.255 have “special” uses**
- **IPv4 address has a network portion and a host portion**

# IPv4 address format

- **Address and subnet mask**

written as

**12.34.56.78** **255.255.255.0** *or*

**12.34.56.78/24**

**mask** represents the number of network bits in the 32 bit address

**the remaining bits are the host bits**

# What does a router do?



# A day in a life of a router

**find path**

**forward packet, forward packet, forward packet, forward packet...**

**find alternate path**

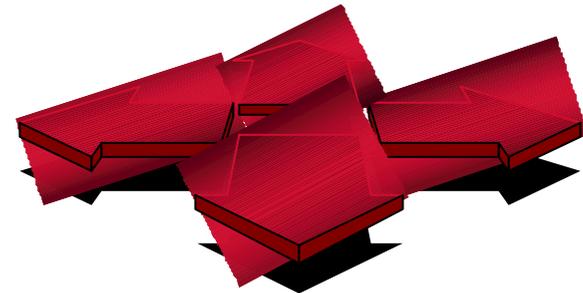
**forward packet, forward packet, forward packet, forward packet...**

**repeat until powered off**



# Routing versus Forwarding

- **Routing = building maps and giving directions**
- **Forwarding = moving packets between interfaces according to the “directions”**



# IP Routing – finding the path

- **Path derived from information received from a routing protocol**
- **Several alternative paths may exist**  
best next hop stored in **forwarding** table
- **Decisions are updated periodically or as topology changes (event driven)**
- **Decisions are based on:**  
topology, policies and metrics (hop count, filtering, delay, bandwidth, etc.)

# IP route lookup

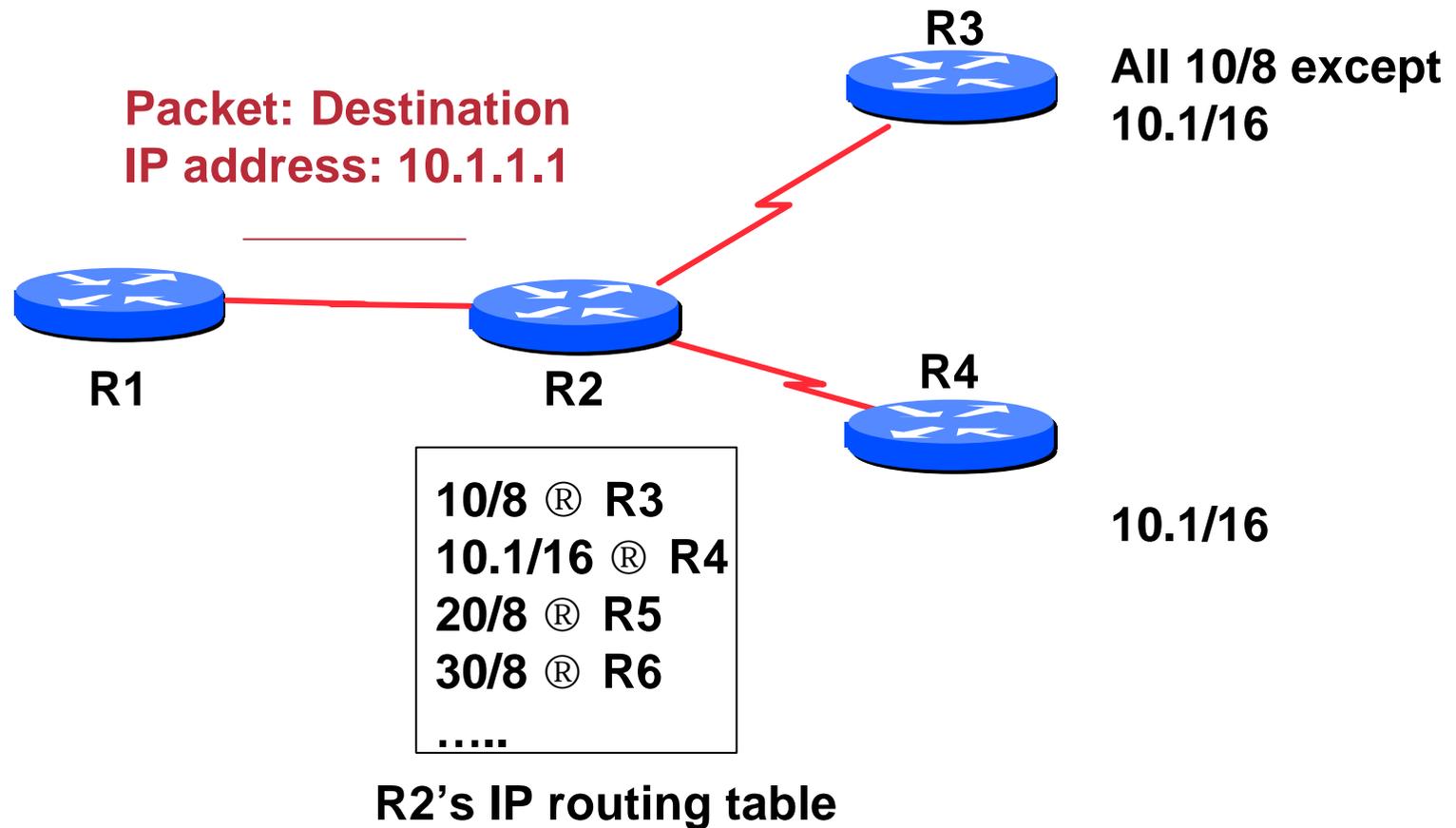
- **Based on destination IP packet**
- **“longest match” routing**

**more specific prefix preferred over less specific prefix**

**example:** packet with destination of 10.1.1.1/32 is sent to the router announcing 10.1/16 rather than the router announcing 10/8.

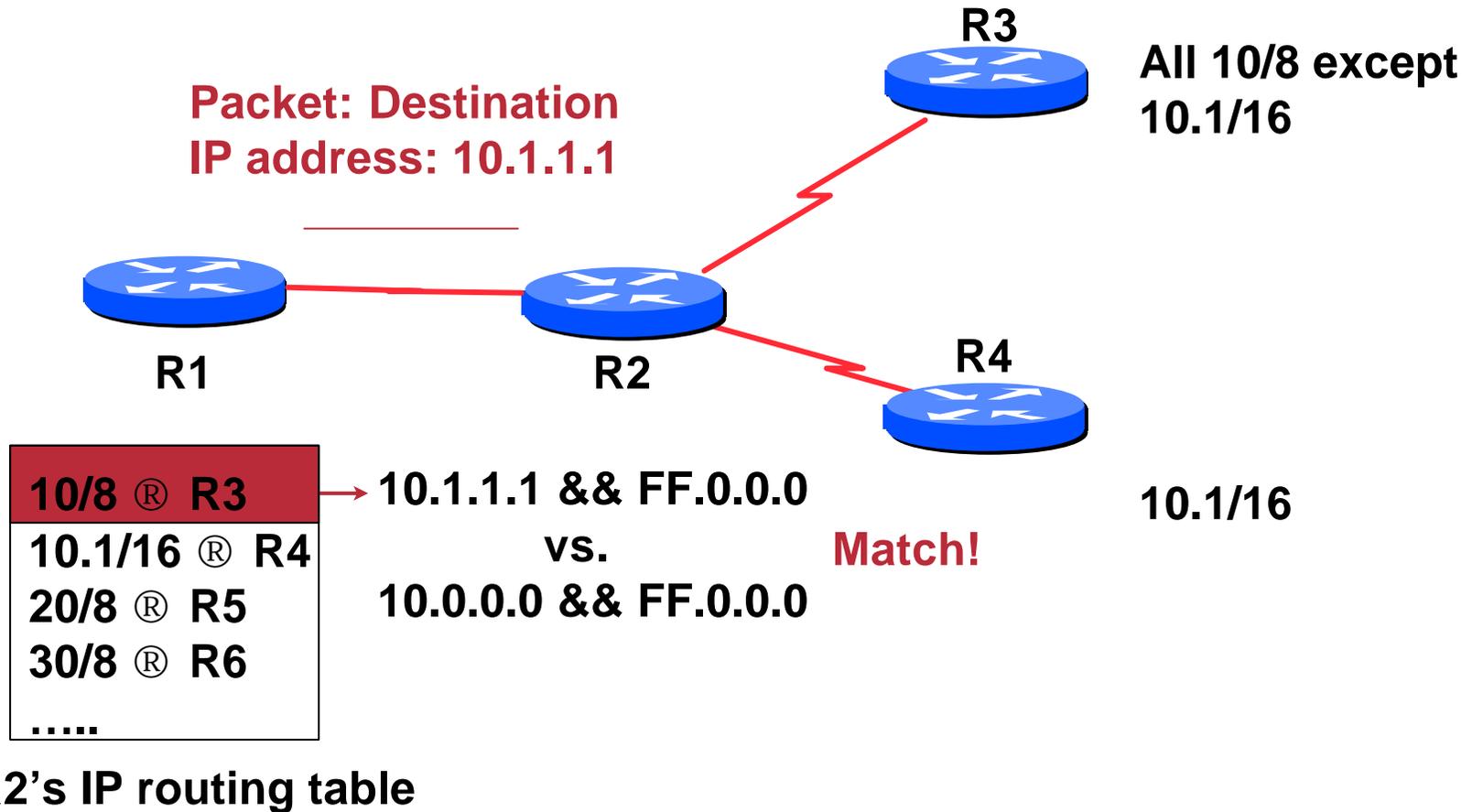
# IP route lookup

- Based on destination IP packet



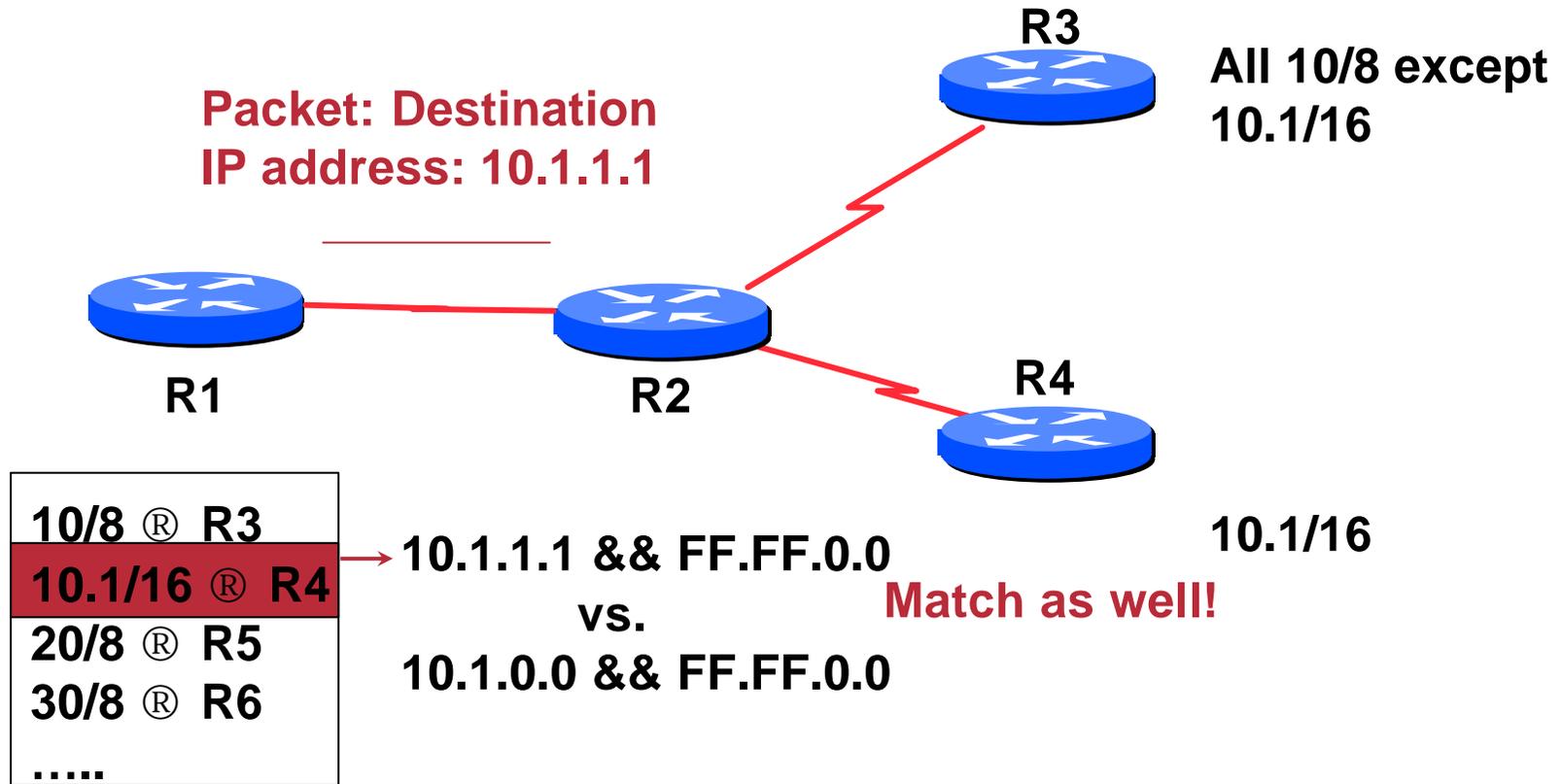
# IP route lookup: Longest match routing

- Based on destination IP packet



# IP route lookup: Longest match routing

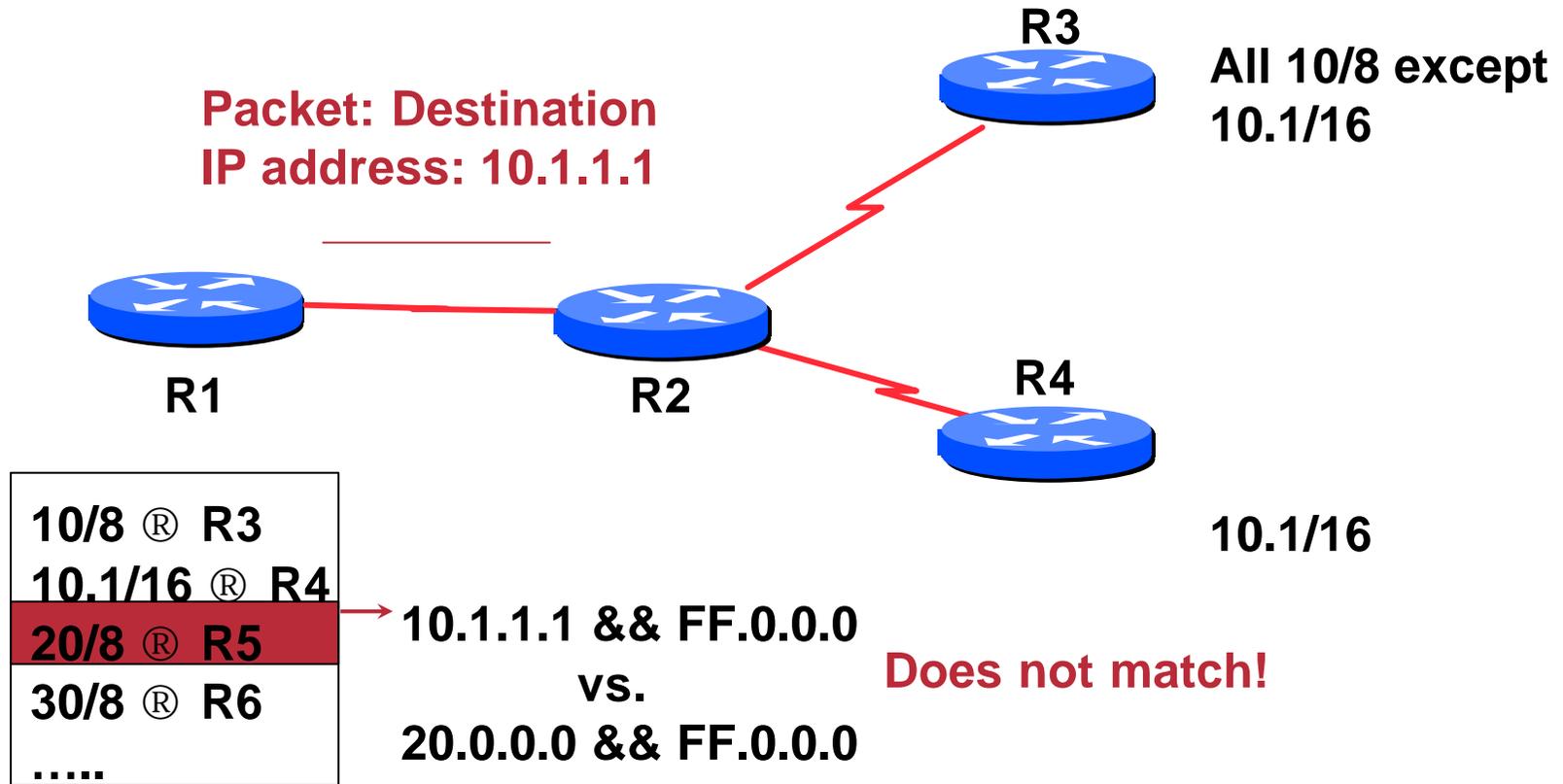
- Based on destination IP packet



R2's IP routing table

# IP route lookup: Longest match routing

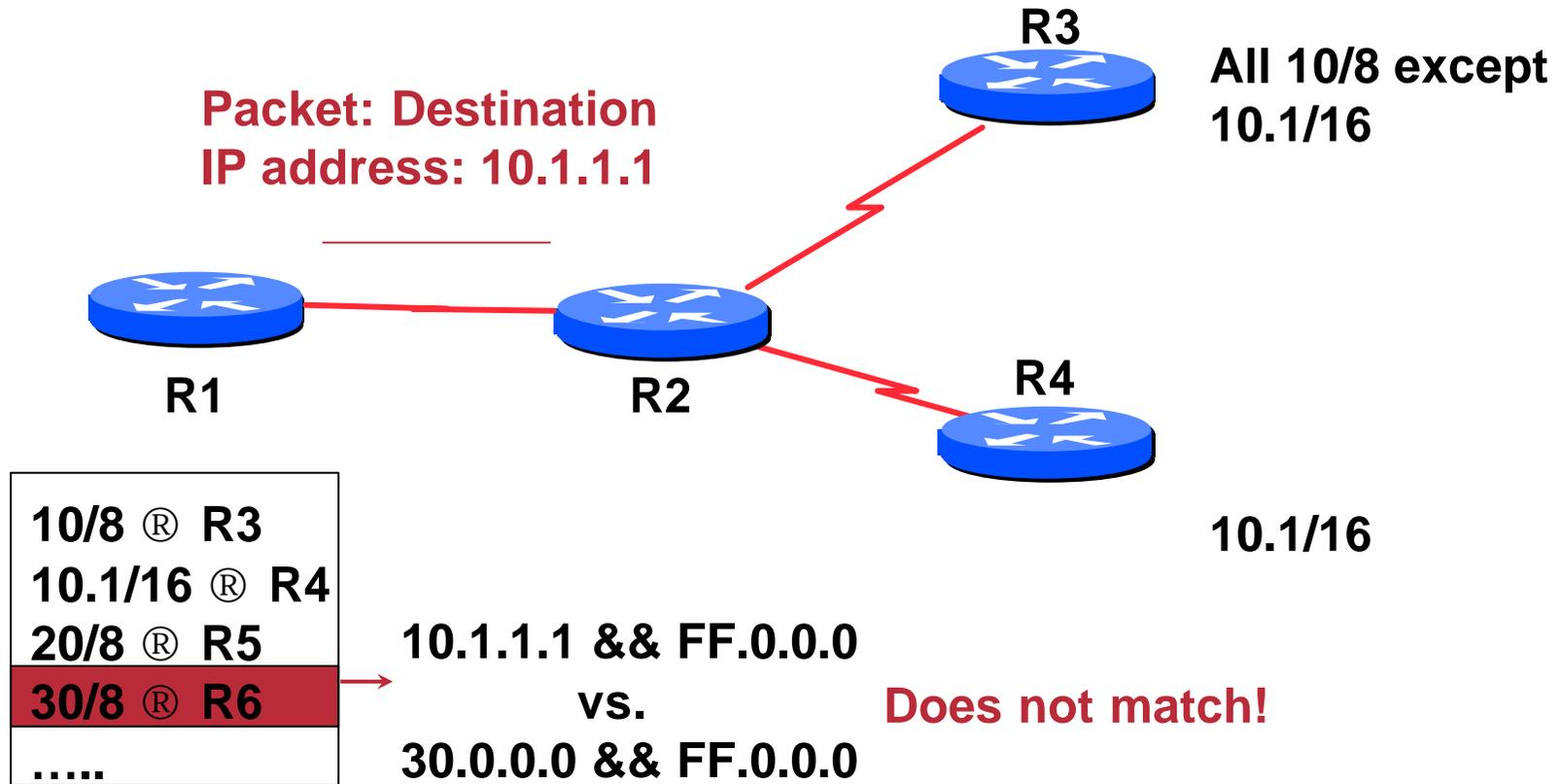
- Based on destination IP packet



R2's IP routing table

# IP route lookup: Longest match routing

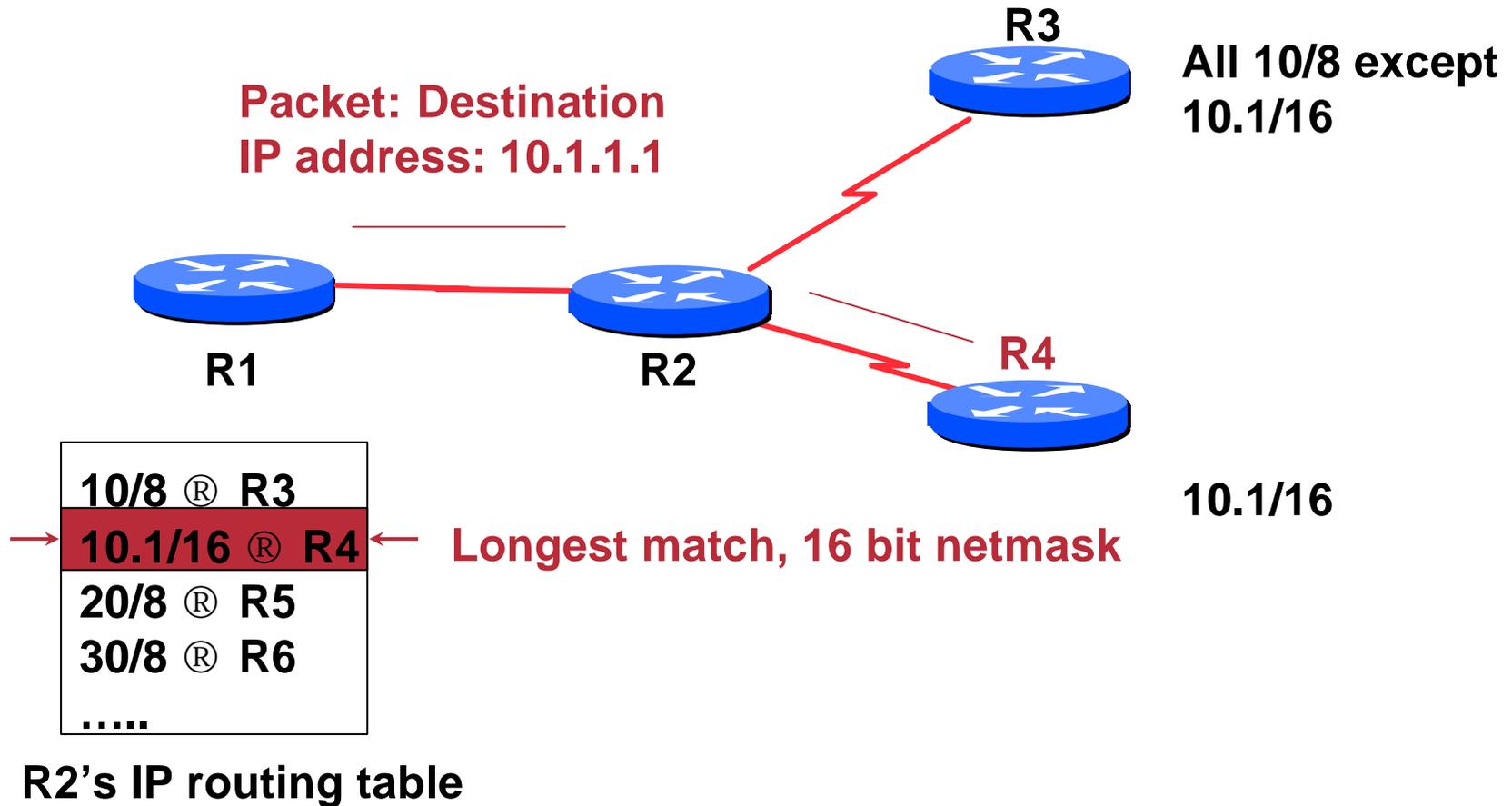
- Based on destination IP packet



R2's IP routing table

# IP route lookup: Longest match routing

- Based on destination IP packet

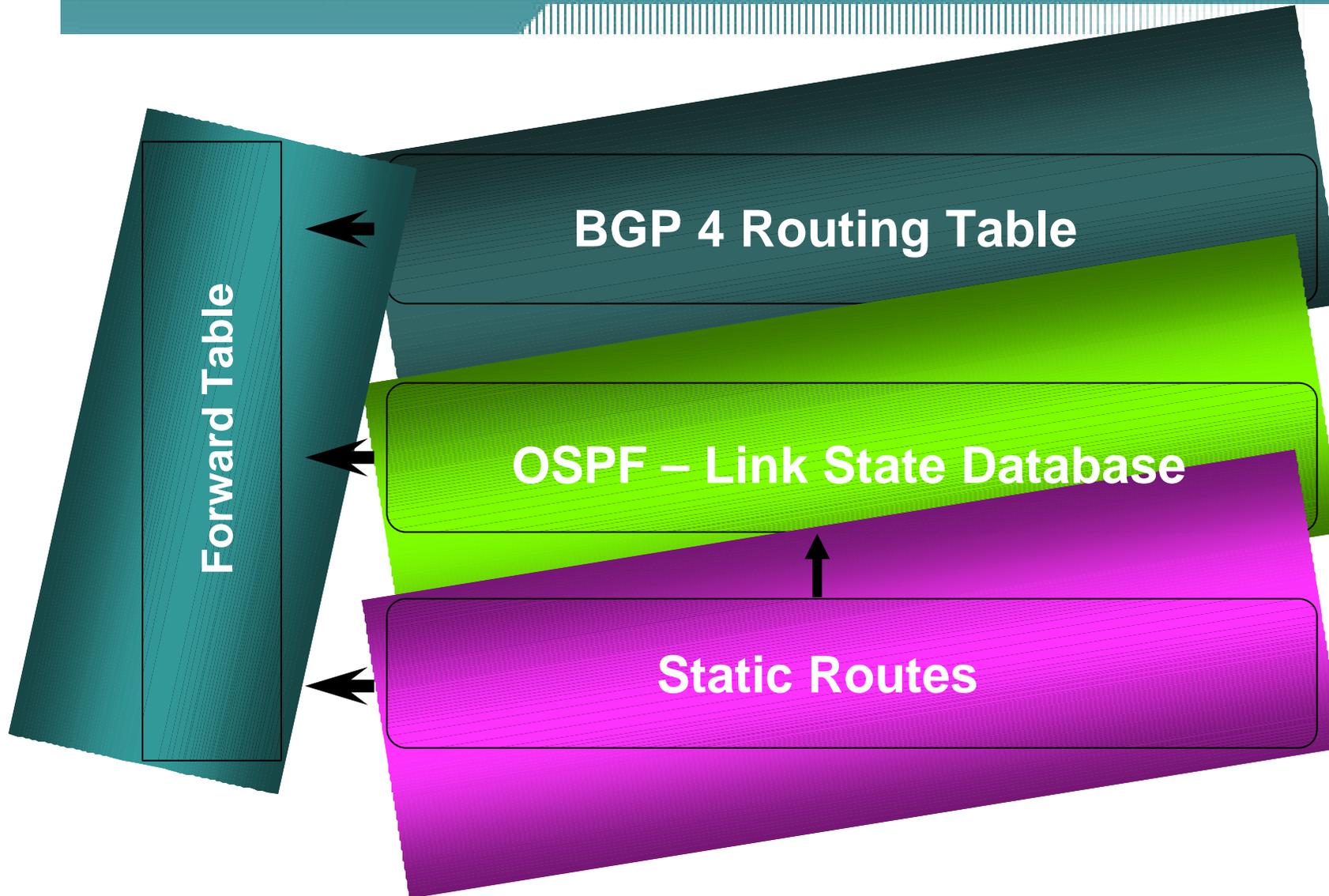


# IP Forwarding

- **Router makes decision on which interface a packet is sent to**
- **Forwarding table populated by routing process**
- **Forwarding decisions:**
  - destination address**
  - class of service (fair queuing, precedence, others)**
  - local requirements (packet filtering)**
- **Can be aided by special hardware**

# Routing Tables Feed the Forwarding Table

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# Explicit versus Default routing

- **Default:**
  - simple, cheap (cycles, memory, bandwidth)
  - low granularity (metric games)
- **Explicit (default free zone)**
  - high overhead, complex, high cost, high granularity
- **Hybrid**
  - minimise overhead
  - provide useful granularity
  - requires some filtering knowledge

# Egress Traffic

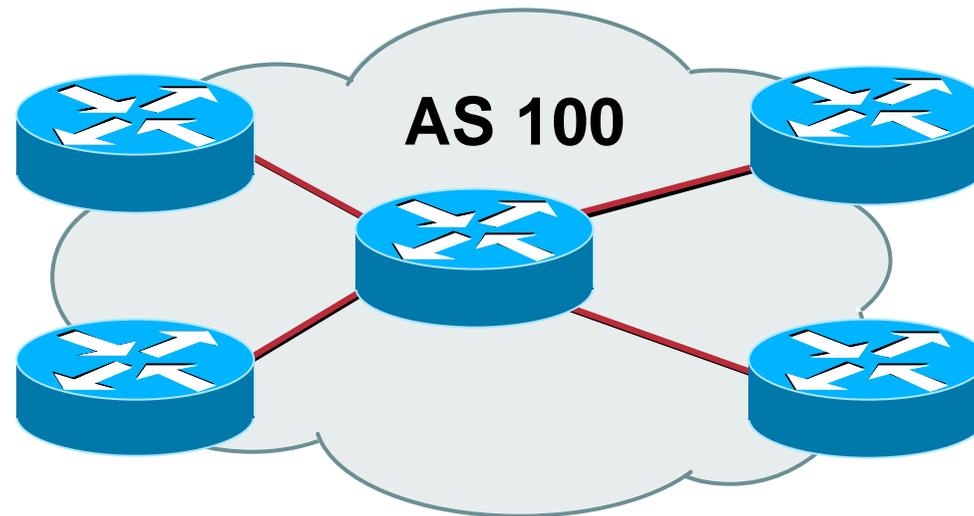
- **How packets leave your network**
- **Egress traffic depends on:**
  - route availability (what others send you)**
  - route acceptance (what you accept from others)**
  - policy and tuning (what you do with routes from others)**
  - Peering and transit agreements**

# Ingress Traffic

- **How packets get to your network and your customers' networks**
- **Ingress traffic depends on:**
  - what information you send and to whom**
  - based on your addressing and AS's**
  - based on others' policy (what they accept from you and what they do with it)**

# Autonomous System (AS)

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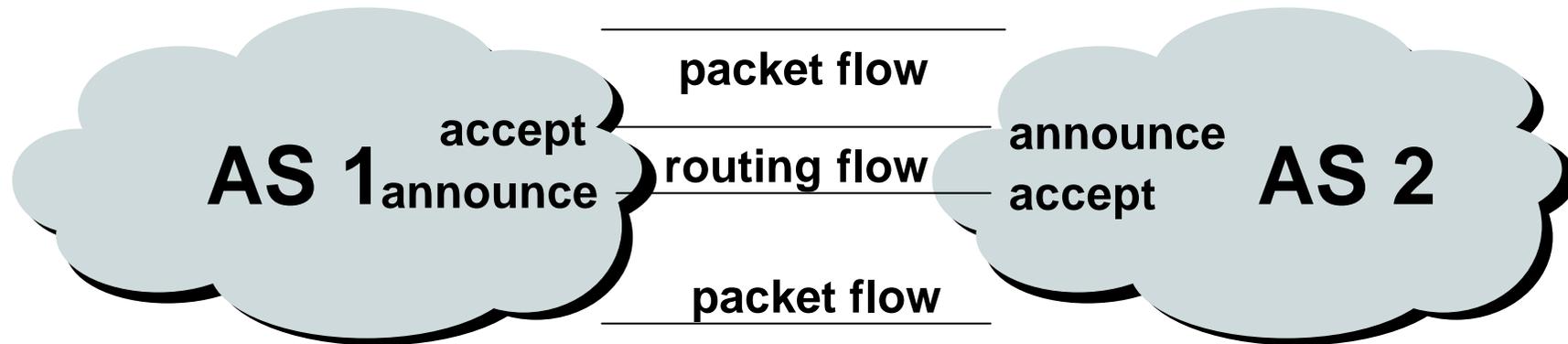


- **Collection of networks with same routing policy**
- **Single routing protocol**
- **Usually under single ownership, trust and administrative control**

# Definition of terms

- **Neighbours** – AS's which directly exchange routing information
- **Announce** – send routing information to a neighbour
- **Accept** – receive and use routing information sent by a neighbour
- **Originate** – insert routing information into external announcements (usually as a result of the IGP)
- **Peers** – routers in neighbouring AS's or within one AS which exchange routing and policy information

# Routing flow and packet flow



**For networks in AS1 and AS2 to communicate:**

**AS1 must announce to AS2**

**AS2 must accept from AS1**

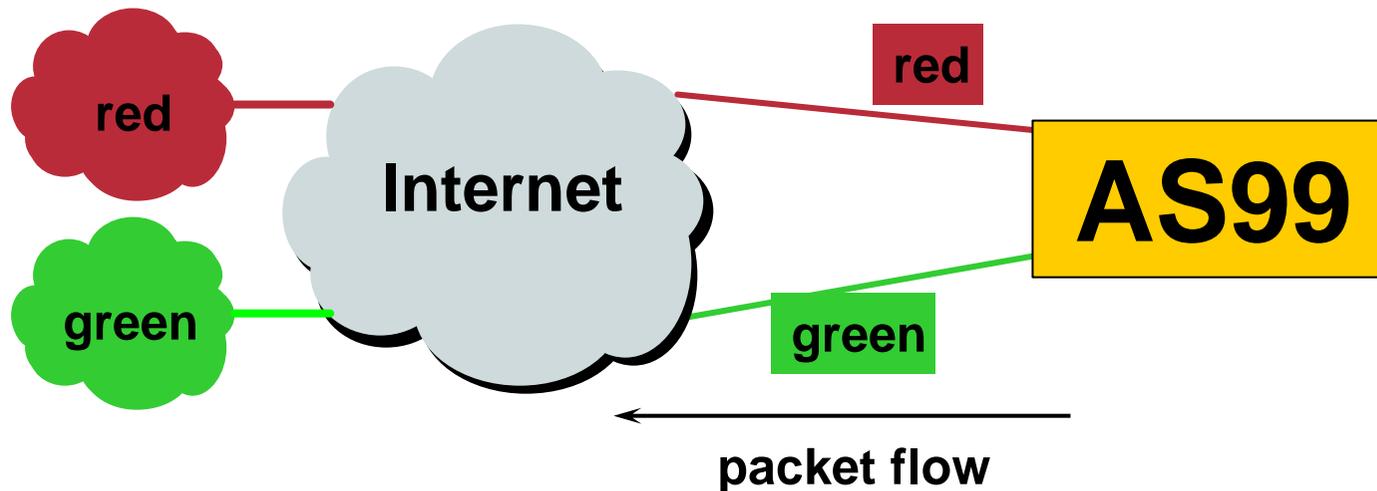
**AS2 must announce to AS1**

**AS1 must accept from AS2**

# Routing flow and Traffic flow

- **Traffic flow is always in the opposite direction of the flow of routing information**
  - filtering outgoing routing information inhibits traffic flowing in**
  - filtering incoming routing information inhibits traffic flowing out**

# Routing policy limitations



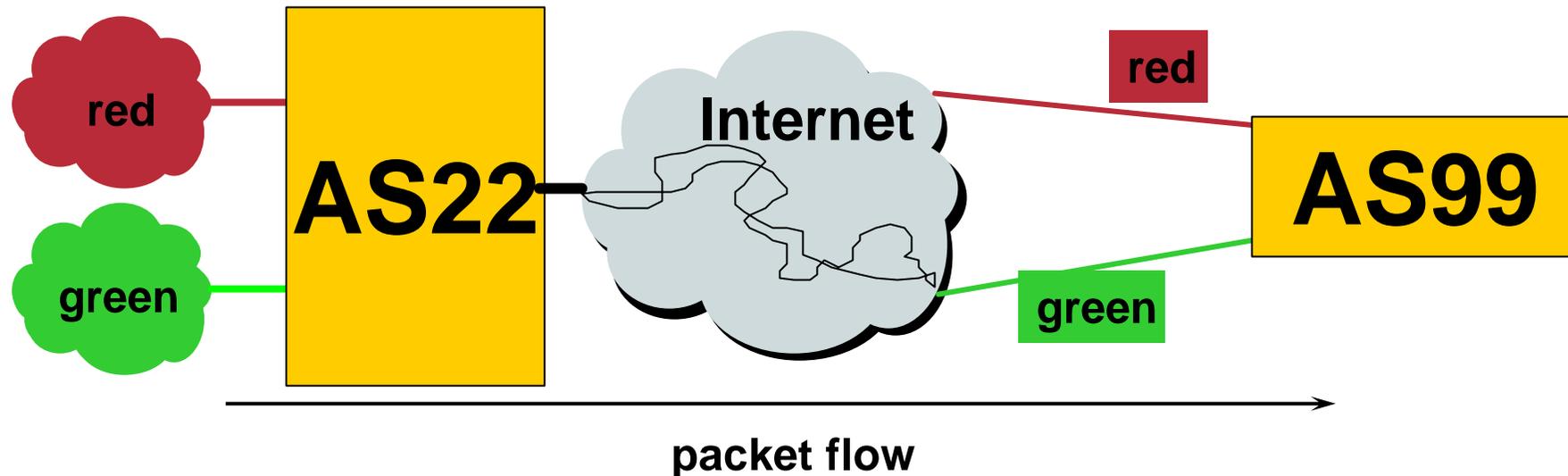
**AS99 uses red link for traffic going to the red AS and green link for traffic going to the green AS**

**To implement this policy for AS99:**

- **accept routes originating in the red AS on the red link**
- **accept all other routes on the green link**

# Routing policy limitations

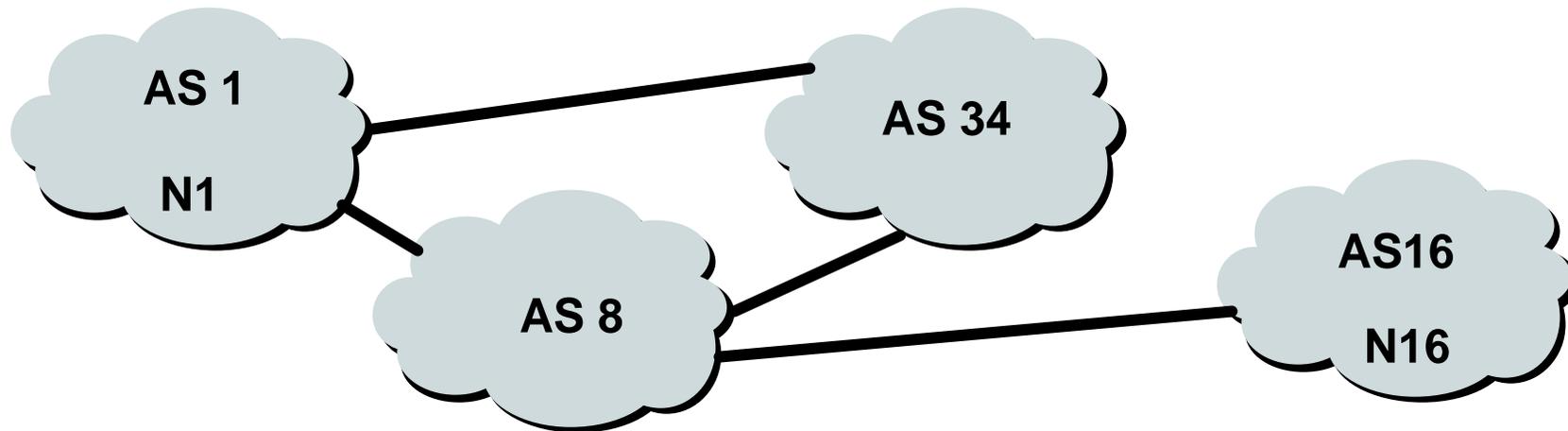
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For packets flowing *toward* AS 99:

Unless AS 22 and all other intermediate AS's co-operate in pushing **green** traffic to the **green** link then some reasonable policies can not be implemented.

# Routing policy with multiple ASes

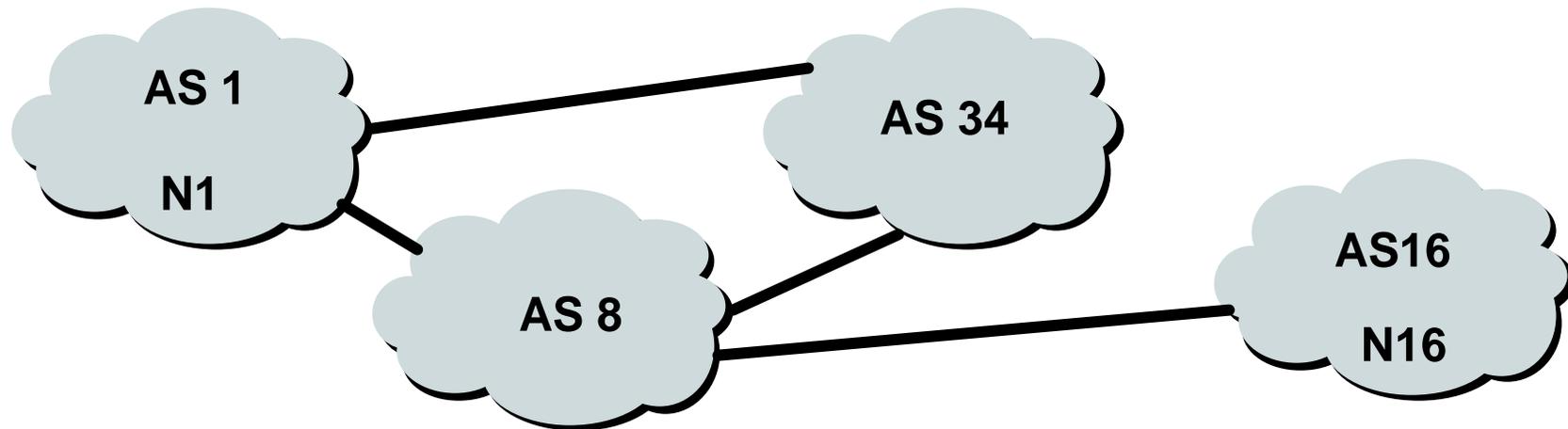


**For net N1 in AS1 to send traffic to net N16 in AS16:**

- **AS16 must originate and announce N16 to AS8.**
- **AS8 must accept N16 from AS16.**
- **AS8 must announce N16 to AS1 or AS34.**
- **AS1 must accept N16 from AS8 or AS34.**

**For two-way packet flow, similar policies must exist for N1.**

# Routing policy with multiple AS's



**As multiple paths between sites are implemented it is easy to see how policies can become quite complex.**

# Granularity of routing policy

- **What to announce/accept**
- **Preferences between multiple accepts**

single route

routes originated by single AS

routes originated by a group of AS's

routes traversing specific path

routes traversing specific AS

routes belonging to other groupings (including combinations)

# Routing Policy Issues

- **120000 prefixes (not realistic to set policy on all of them individually)**
- **15000 origin AS's (too many)**
- **routes tied to a specific AS or path may be unstable regardless of connectivity**
- **groups of AS's are a natural abstraction for filtering purposes**

# What Is an IGP?

- **Interior Gateway Protocol**
- **Within an Autonomous System**
- **Carries information about internal infrastructure prefixes**
- **Examples – OSPF, ISIS, EIGRP...**

# Why Do We Need an IGP?

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- **ISP backbone scaling**

**Hierarchy**

**Modular infrastructure construction**

**Limiting scope of failure**

**Healing of infrastructure faults using dynamic routing with fast convergence**

# What Is an EGP?

- **Exterior Gateway Protocol**
- **Used to convey routing information between Autonomous Systems**
- **De-coupled from the IGP**
- **Current EGP is BGP**

# Why Do We Need an EGP?

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- **Scaling to large network**
  - Hierarchy**
  - Limit scope of failure**
- **Define Administrative Boundary**
- **Policy**
  - Control reachability to prefixes**
  - Merge separate organizations**
  - Connect multiple IGPs**

# Interior versus Exterior Routing Protocols

- **Interior**

- automatic neighbour discovery**

- generally trust your IGP routers**

- prefixes go to all IGP routers**

- binds routers in one AS together**

- **Exterior**

- specifically configured peers**

- connecting with outside networks**

- set administrative boundaries**

- binds AS's together**

# Interior versus Exterior Routing Protocols

- **Interior**

**Carries ISP infrastructure addresses only**

**ISPs aim to keep the IGP small for efficiency and scalability**

- **Exterior**

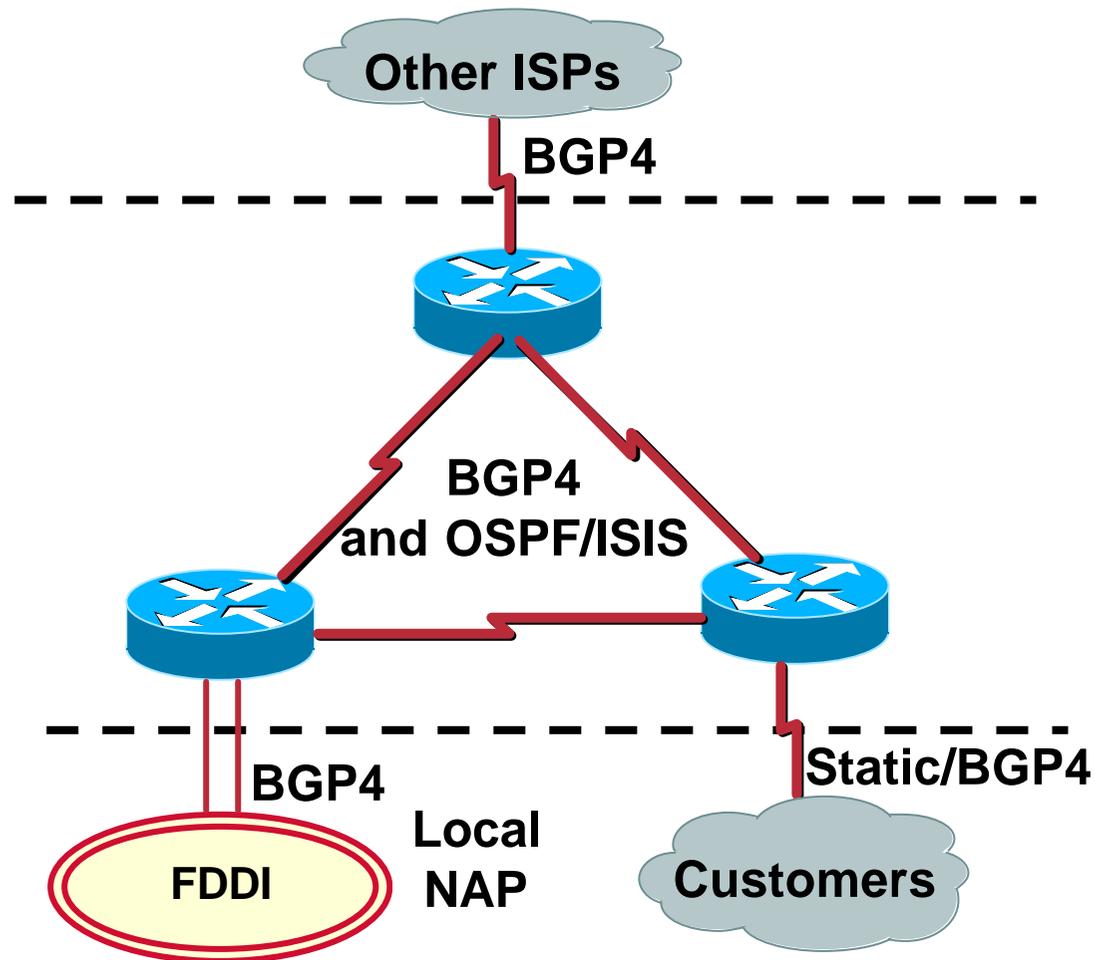
**Carries customer prefixes**

**Carries Internet prefixes**

**EGPs are independent of ISP network topology**

# Hierarchy of Routing Protocols

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# Default Administrative Distances

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Route Source	Default Distance
<b>Connected Interface</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Static Route</b>	<b>1</b>
Enhanced IGRP Summary Route	5
<b>External BGP</b>	<b>20</b>
Internal Enhanced IGRP	90
IGRP	100
<b>OSPF</b>	<b>110</b>
IS-IS	115
RIP	120
EGP	140
External Enhanced IGRP	170
<b>Internal BGP</b>	<b>200</b>
Unknown	255

# BGP for Internet Service Providers

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- Routing Basics
- **BGP Basics**
- BGP Attributes
- BGP Path Selection
- BGP Policy
- BGP Capabilities
- Scaling BGP

# **BGP Basics**

**What is this BGP thing?**

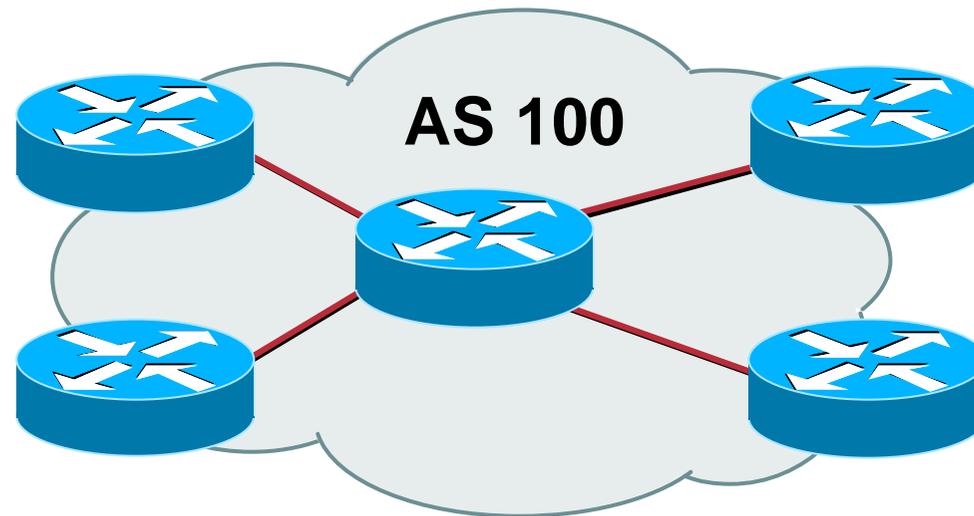
# Border Gateway Protocol

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- **Routing Protocol used to exchange routing information between networks**  
**exterior gateway protocol**
- **Described in RFC1771**  
**work in progress to update**  
[www.ietf.org/internet-drafts/draft-ietf-idr-bgp4-18.txt](http://www.ietf.org/internet-drafts/draft-ietf-idr-bgp4-18.txt)

# Autonomous System (AS)

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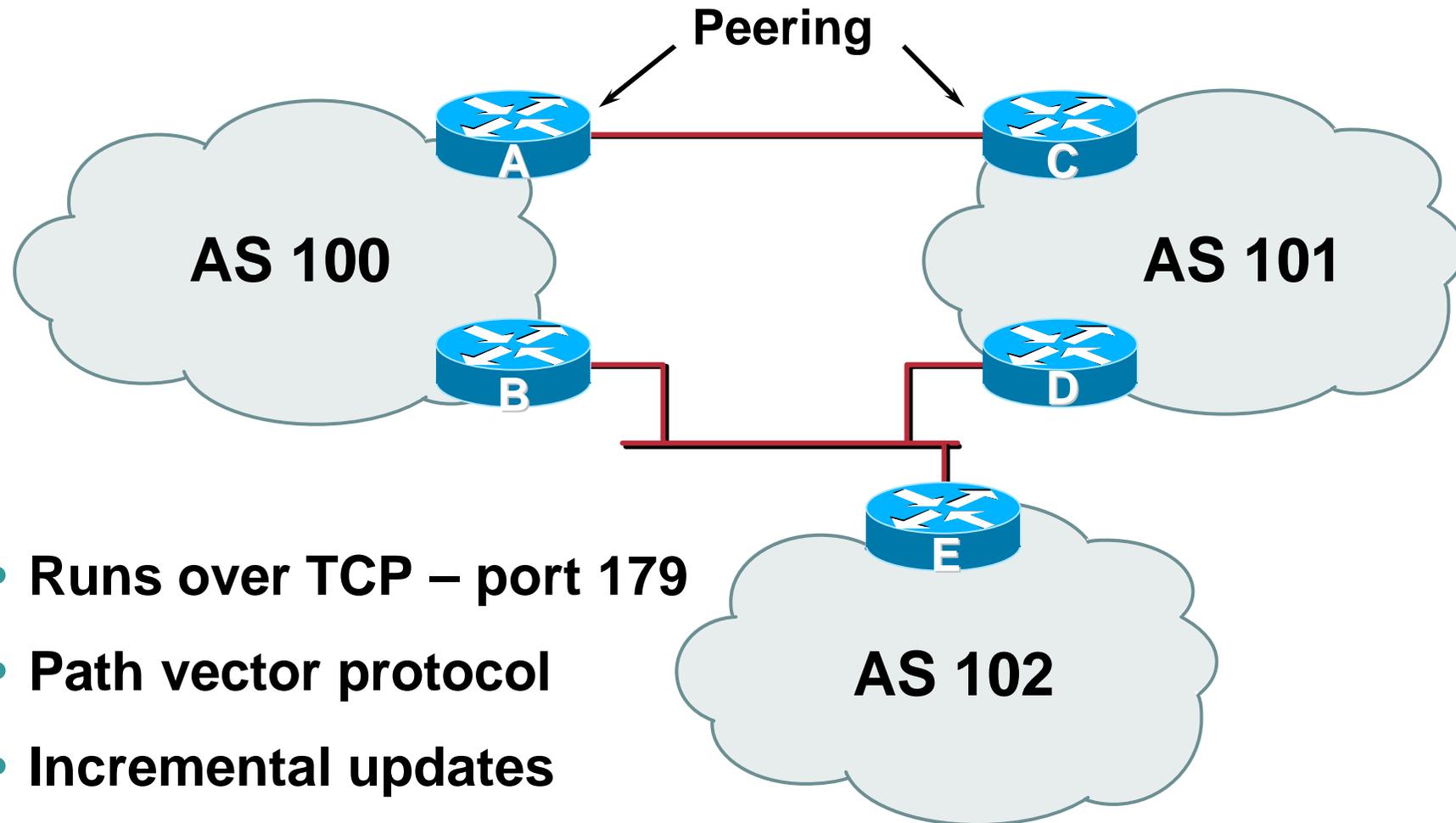
- **Collection of networks with same routing policy**
- **Single routing protocol**
- **Usually under single ownership, trust and administrative control**
- **Identified by a unique number**

# Autonomous System Number (ASN)

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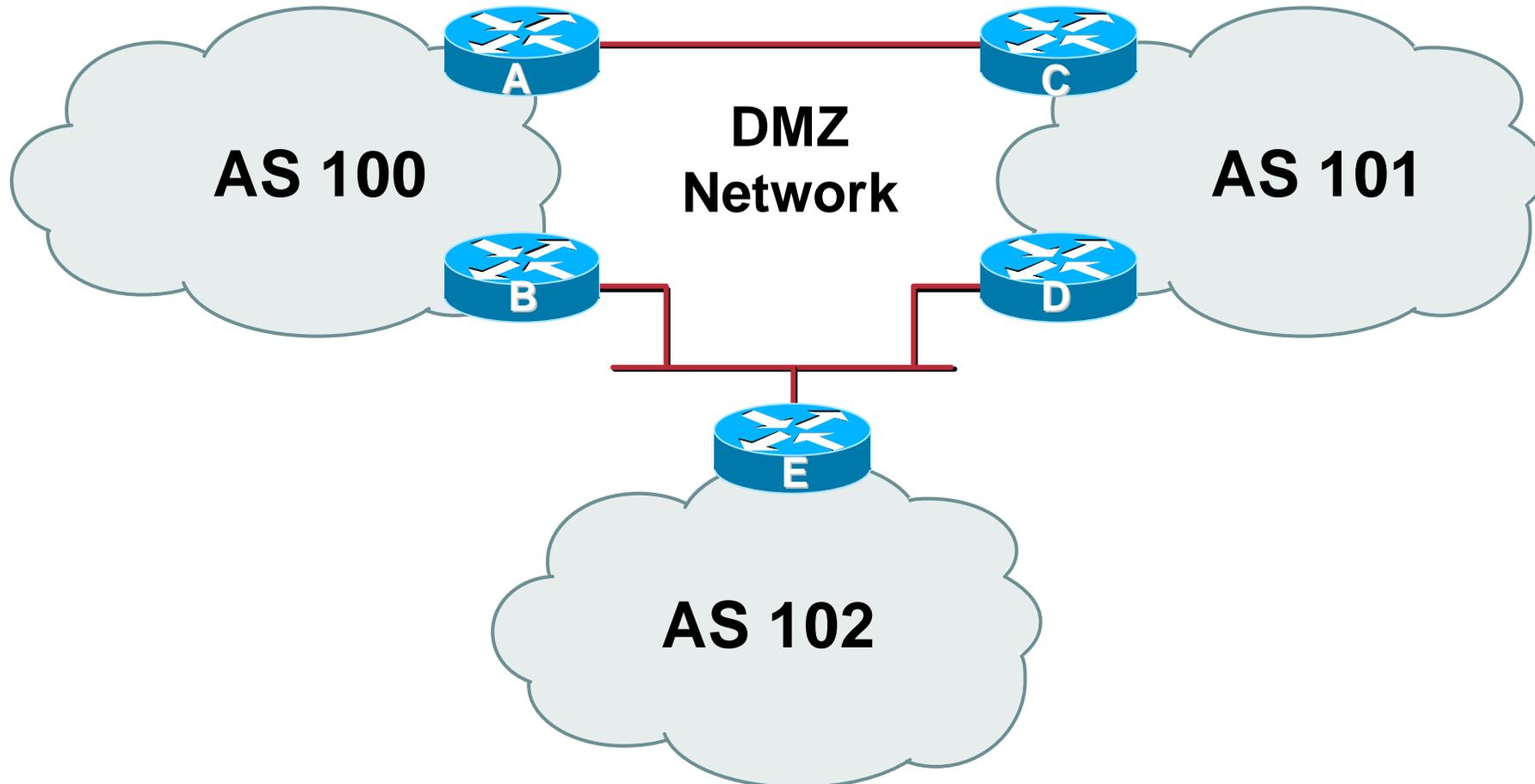
- An ASN is a 16 bit number
  - 1-64511 are assigned by the RIRs
  - 64512-65534 are for private use and should never appear on the Internet
  - 0 and 65535 are reserved
- 32 bit ASNs are coming soon
  - [www.ietf.org/internet-drafts/draft-ietf-idr-as4bytes-06.txt](http://www.ietf.org/internet-drafts/draft-ietf-idr-as4bytes-06.txt)
- ASNs are distributed by the Regional Internet Registries
  - Also available from upstream ISPs who are members of one of the RIRs
  - Current ASN allocations up to 29695 have been made to the RIRs

# BGP Basics



- Runs over TCP – port 179
- Path vector protocol
- Incremental updates
- “Internal” & “External” BGP

# Demarcation Zone (DMZ)



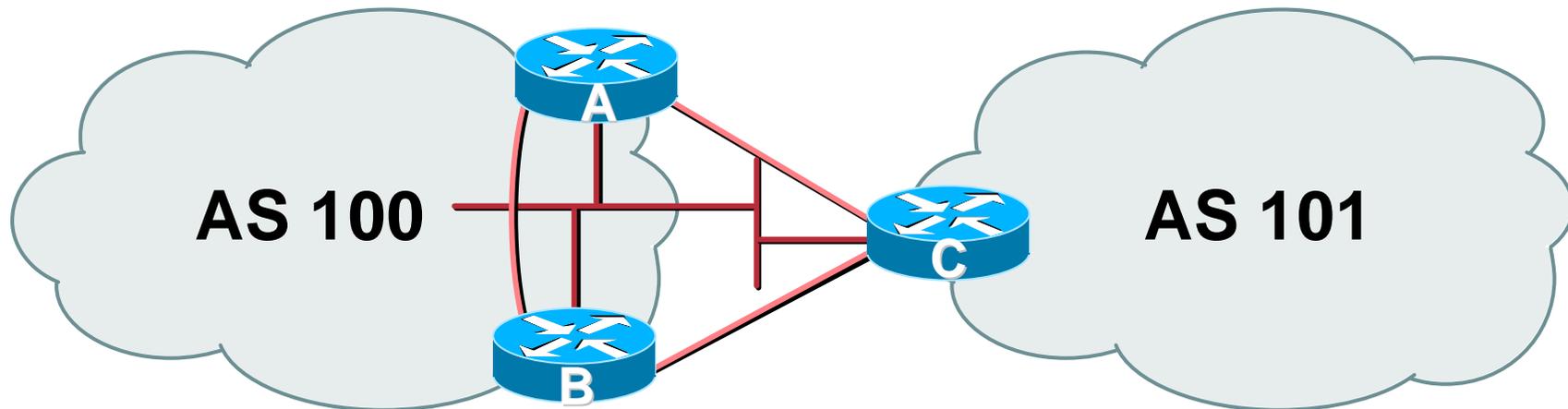
- **Shared network between ASes**

# BGP General Operation

- **Learns multiple paths via internal and external BGP speakers**
- **Picks the best path and installs in the forwarding table**
- **Best path is sent to external BGP neighbours**
- **Policies applied by influencing the best path selection**

# External BGP Peering (eBGP)

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- **Between BGP speakers in different AS**
- **Should be directly connected**
- **Never** run an IGP between eBGP peers

# Configuring External BGP

## Router A in AS100

```
interface ethernet 5/0
 ip address 222.222.10.2 255.255.255.240
!
router bgp 100
 network 220.220.8.0 mask 255.255.252.0
 neighbor 222.222.10.1 remote-as 101
 neighbor 222.222.10.1 prefix-list RouterC in
 neighbor 222.222.10.1 prefix-list RouterC out
!
```

ip address on  
ethernet interface

Local ASN

Remote ASN

ip address of Router C  
ethernet interface

Inbound and  
outbound filters

# Configuring External BGP

## Router C in AS101

```
interface ethernet 1/0/0
 ip address 222.222.10.1 255.255.255.240
!
router bgp 101
 network 220.220.8.0 mask 255.255.252.0
 neighbor 222.222.10.2 remote-as 100
 neighbor 222.222.10.2 prefix-list RouterA in
 neighbor 222.222.10.2 prefix-list RouterA out
!
```

ip address on  
ethernet interface

Local ASN

Remote ASN

ip address of Router A  
ethernet interface

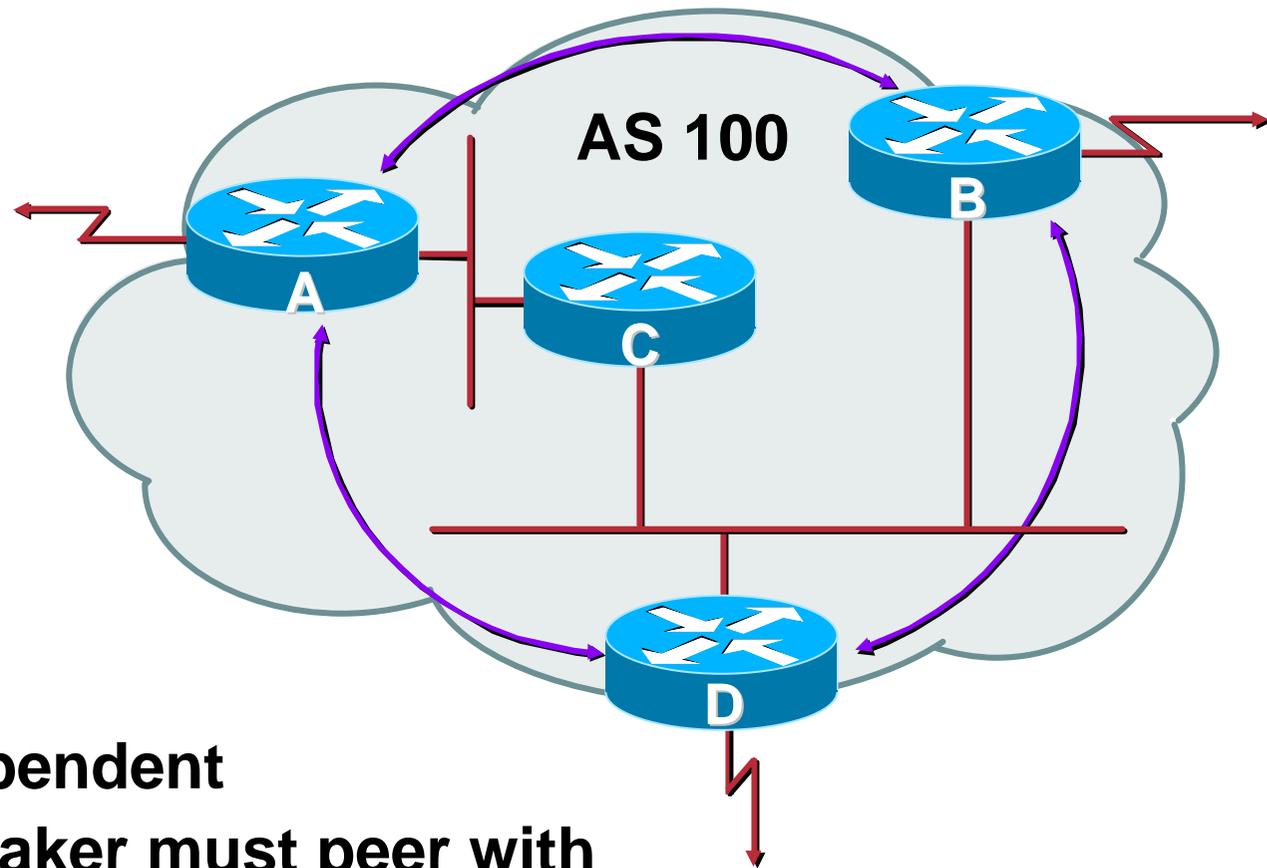
Inbound and  
outbound filters

# Internal BGP (iBGP)

- **BGP peer within the same AS**
- **Not required to be directly connected**
  - IGP takes care of inter-BGP speaker connectivity**
- **iBGP speakers need to be fully meshed**
  - they originate connected networks**
  - they do not pass on prefixes learned from other iBGP speakers**

# Internal BGP Peering (iBGP)

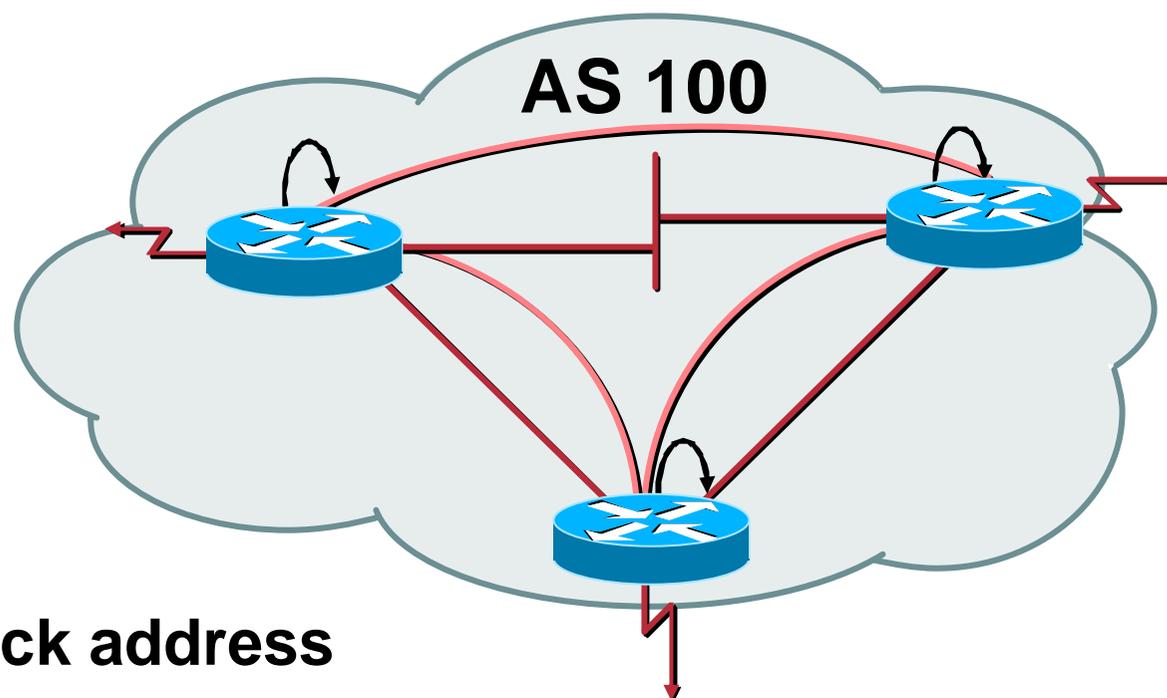
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- **Topology independent**
- **Each iBGP speaker must peer with every other iBGP speaker in the AS**

# Peering to Loop-back Address

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- **Peer with loop-back address**  
Loop-back interface does not go down – ever!
- **iBGP session is not dependent on state of a single interface**
- **iBGP session is not dependent on physical topology**

# Configuring Internal BGP

## Router A in AS100

```
interface loopback 0
 ip address 215.10.7.1 255.255.255.255
!
router bgp 100
 network 220.220.1.0
 neighbor 215.10.7.2 remote-as 100
 neighbor 215.10.7.2 update-source loopback0
 neighbor 215.10.7.3 remote-as 100
 neighbor 215.10.7.3 update-source loopback0
!
```

ip address on  
loopback interface

Local ASN

Local ASN

ip address of Router B  
loopback interface

# Configuring Internal BGP

## Router B in AS100

```
interface loopback 0
 ip address 215.10.7.2 255.255.255.255
!
router bgp 100
 network 220.220.1.0
 neighbor 215.10.7.1 remote-as 100
 neighbor 215.10.7.1 update-source loopback0
 neighbor 215.10.7.3 remote-as 100
 neighbor 215.10.7.3 update-source loopback0
!
```

ip address on  
loopback interface

Local ASN

Local ASN

ip address of Router A  
loopback interface

# BGP for Internet Service Providers

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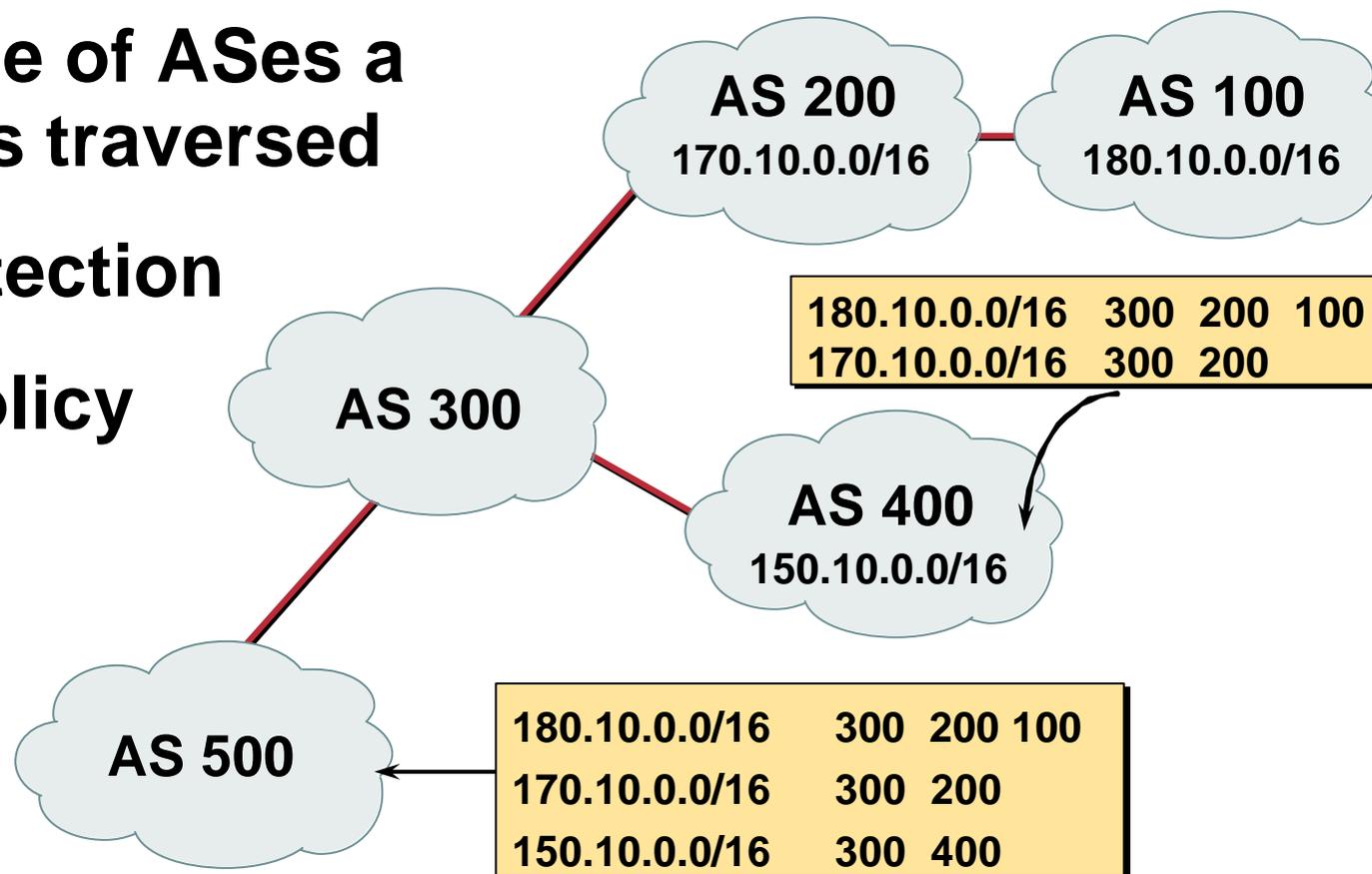
- Routing Basics
- BGP Basics
- **BGP Attributes**
- BGP Path Selection
- BGP Policy
- BGP Capabilities
- Scaling BGP

# BGP Attributes

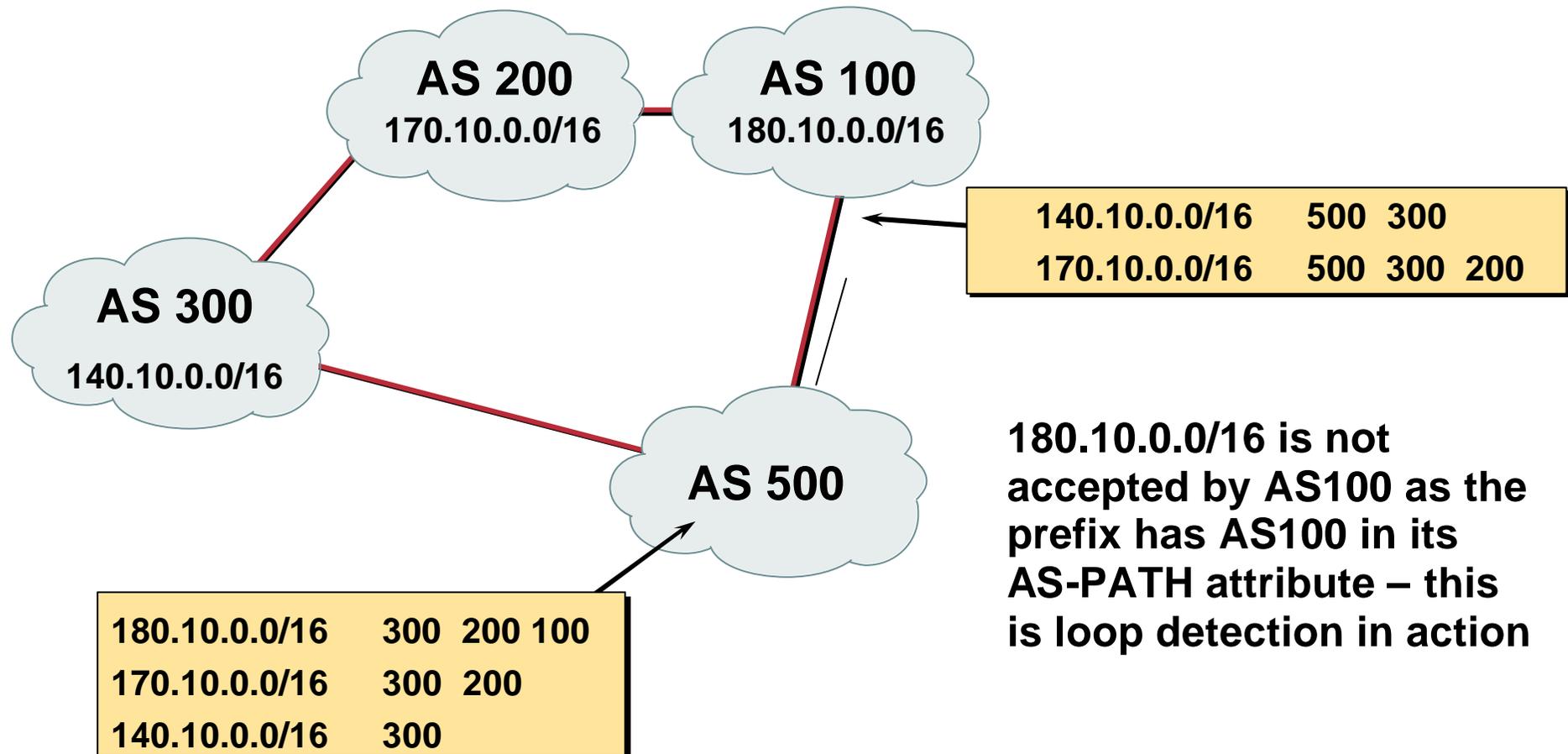
## Recap

# AS-Path

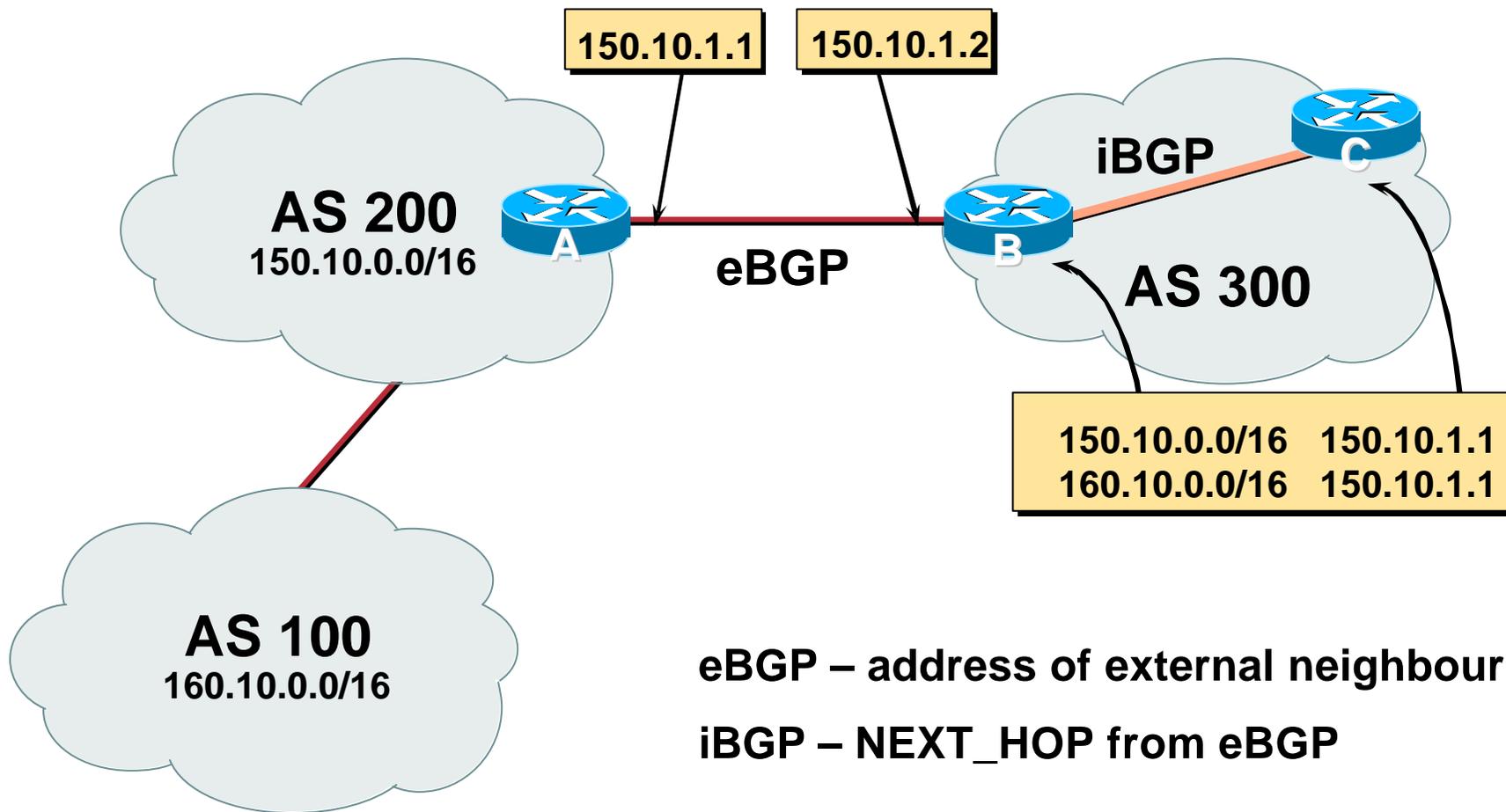
- Sequence of ASes a route has traversed
- Loop detection
- Apply policy



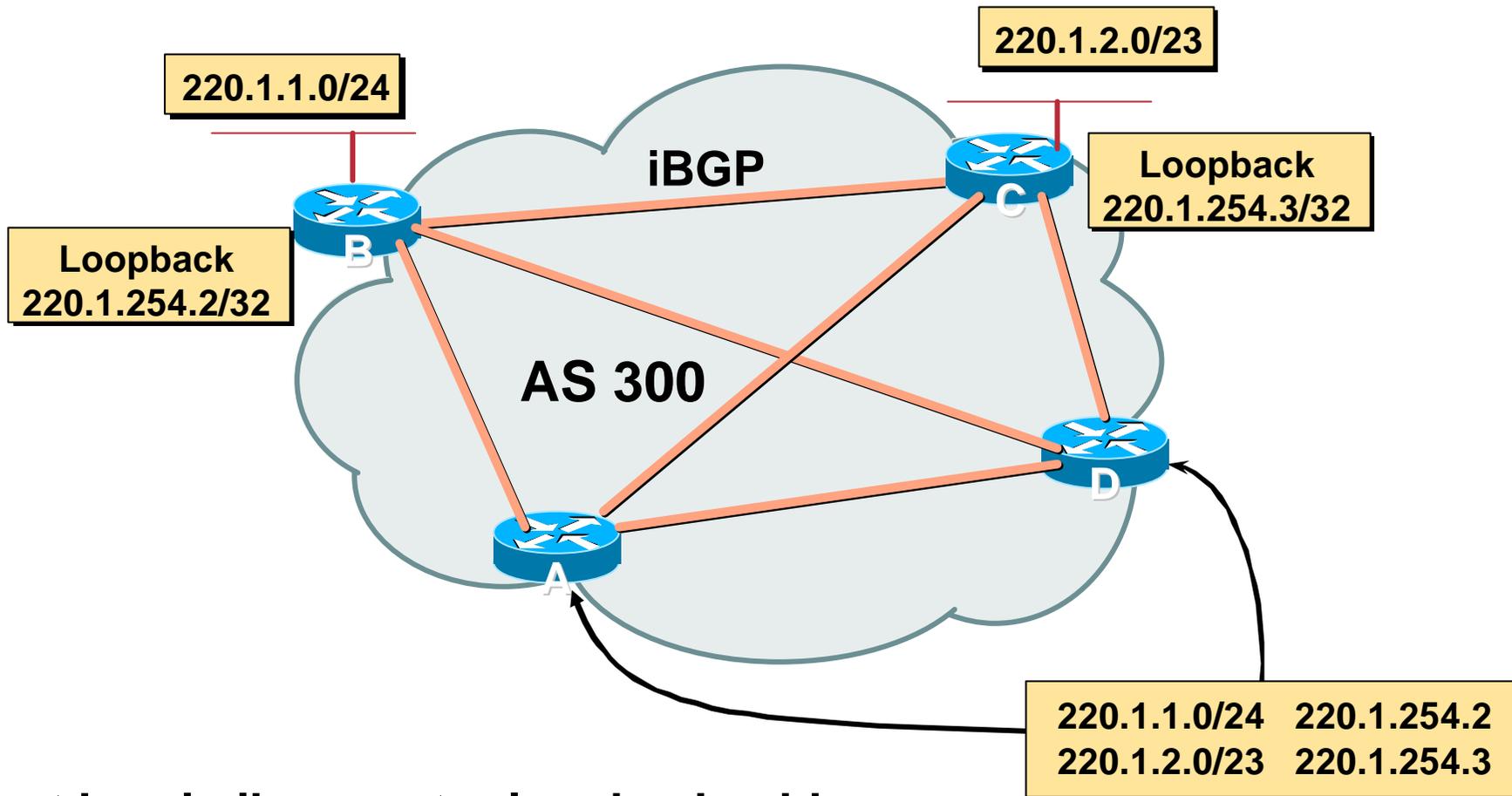
# AS-Path loop detection



# Next Hop



# iBGP Next Hop



Next hop is ibgp router loopback address

Recursive route look-up

# Next Hop (summary)

- **IGP should carry route to next hops**
- **Recursive route look-up**
- **Unlinks BGP from actual physical topology**
- **Allows IGP to make intelligent forwarding decision**

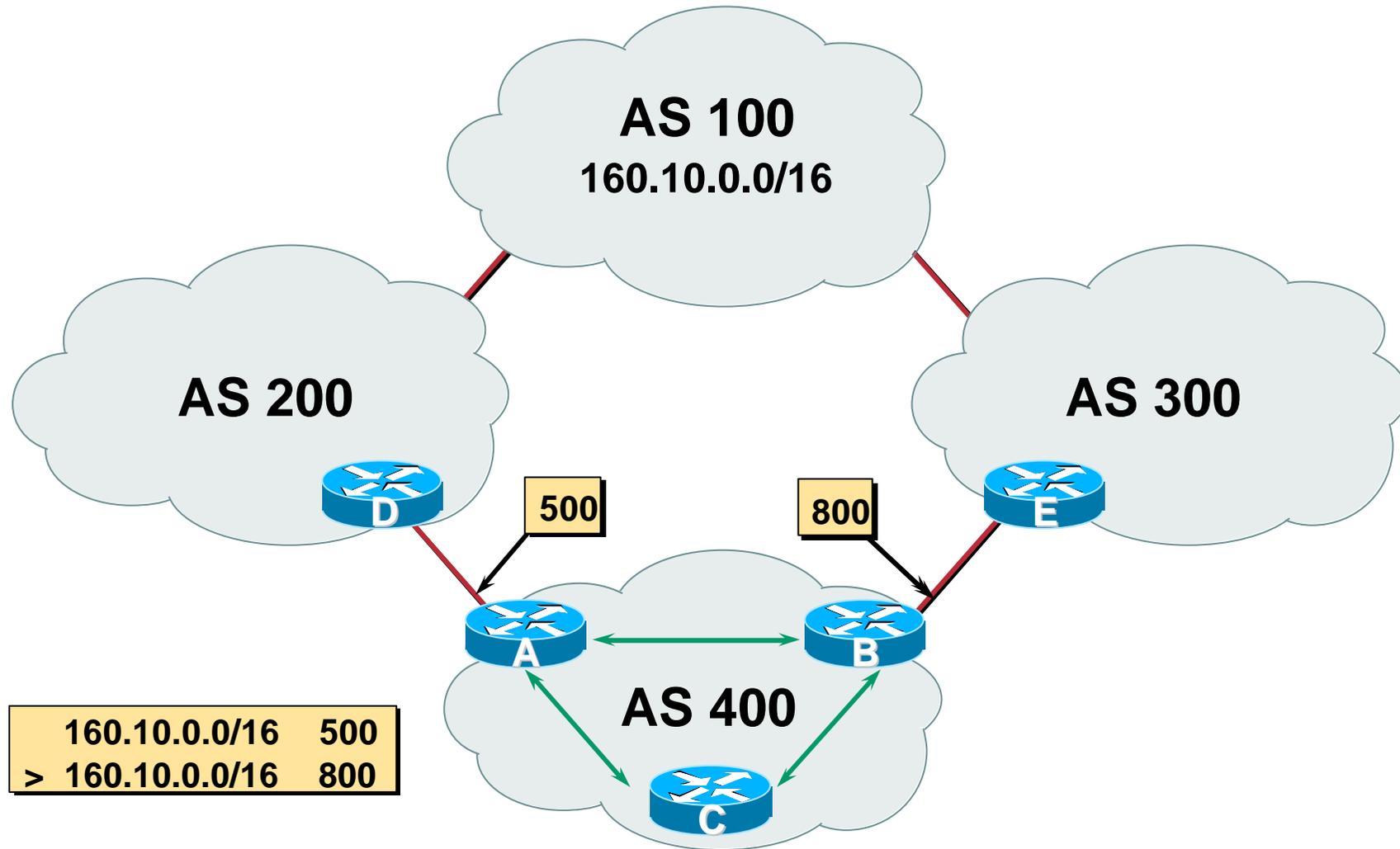
# Origin

- **Conveys the origin of the prefix**
- **“Historical” attribute**
- **Influences best path selection**
- **Three values: IGP, EGP, incomplete**
  - IGP – generated by BGP network statement**
  - EGP – generated by EGP**
  - incomplete – redistributed from another routing protocol**

# Aggregator

- **Conveys the IP address of the router/BGP speaker generating the aggregate route**
- **Useful for debugging purposes**
- **Does not influence best path selection**

# Local Preference



# Local Preference

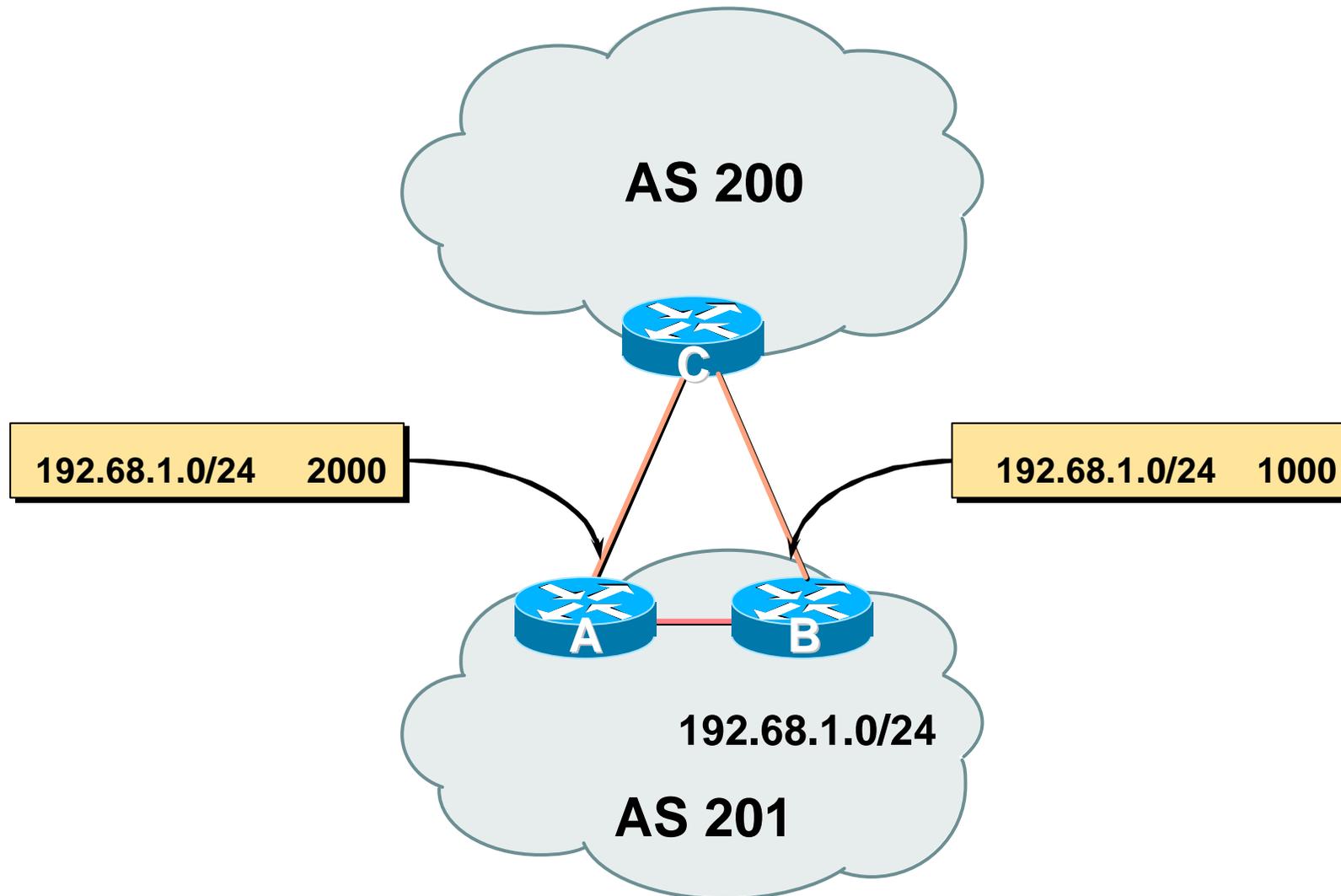
- **Local to an AS – non-transitive**  
Default local preference is 100 (IOS)
- **Used to influence BGP path selection**  
determines best path for *outbound* traffic
- **Path with highest local preference wins**

# Local Preference

- **Configuration of Router B:**

```
router bgp 400
  neighbor 220.5.1.1 remote-as 300
  neighbor 220.5.1.1 route-map local-pref in
!
route-map local-pref permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list MATCH
  set local-preference 800
!
ip prefix-list MATCH permit 160.10.0.0/16
```

# Multi-Exit Discriminator (MED)



# Multi-Exit Discriminator

- **Inter-AS – non-transitive**
- **Used to convey the relative preference of entry points**
  - determines best path for *inbound* traffic
- **Comparable if paths are from same AS**
- **IGP metric can be conveyed as MED**
  - set metric-type internal** in route-map

# Multi-Exit Discriminator

- **Configuration of Router B:**

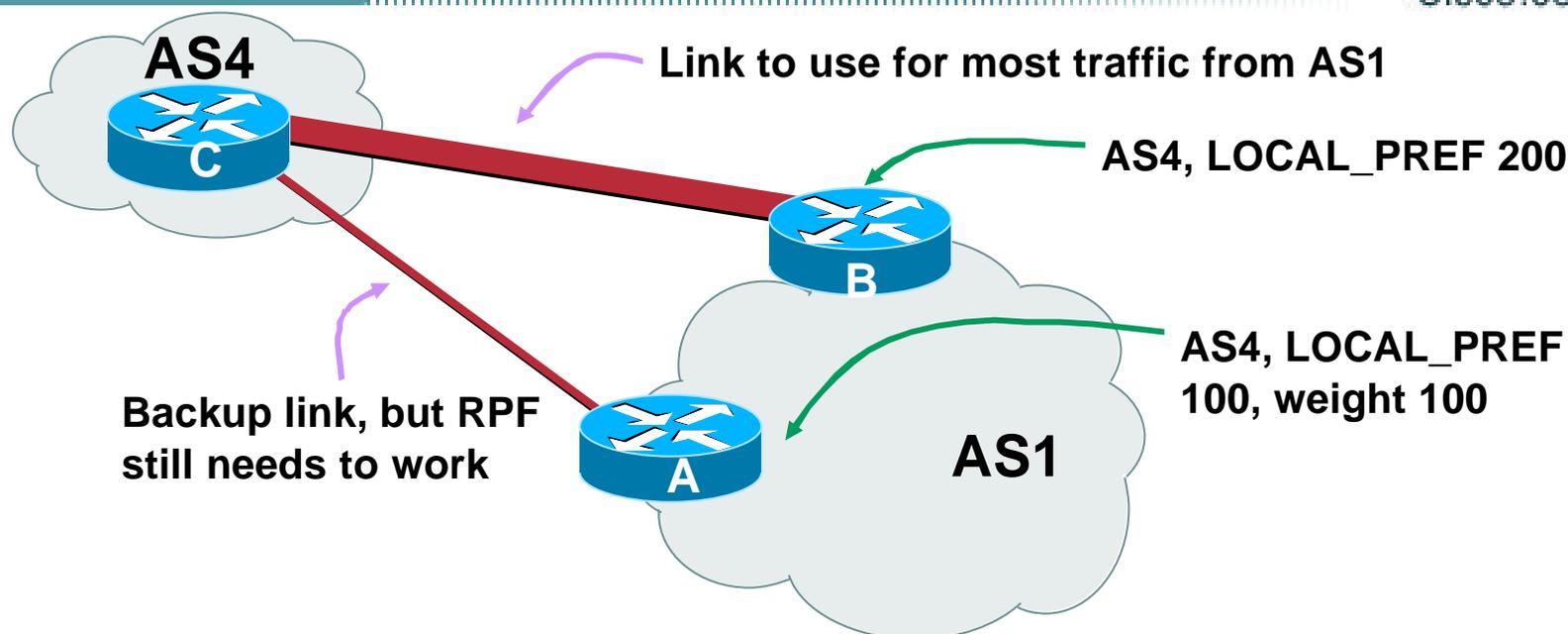
```
router bgp 400
  neighbor 220.5.1.1 remote-as 200
  neighbor 220.5.1.1 route-map set-med out
!
route-map set-med permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list MATCH
  set metric 1000
!
ip prefix-list MATCH permit 192.68.1.0/24
```

# Weight

- **Not really an attribute – local to router**  
Allows policy control, similar to local preference
- **Highest weight wins**
- **Applied to all routes from a neighbour**  
`neighbor 220.5.7.1 weight 100`
- **Weight assigned to routes based on filter**  
`neighbor 220.5.7.3 filter-list 3 weight 50`

# Weight – Used to help Deploy RPF

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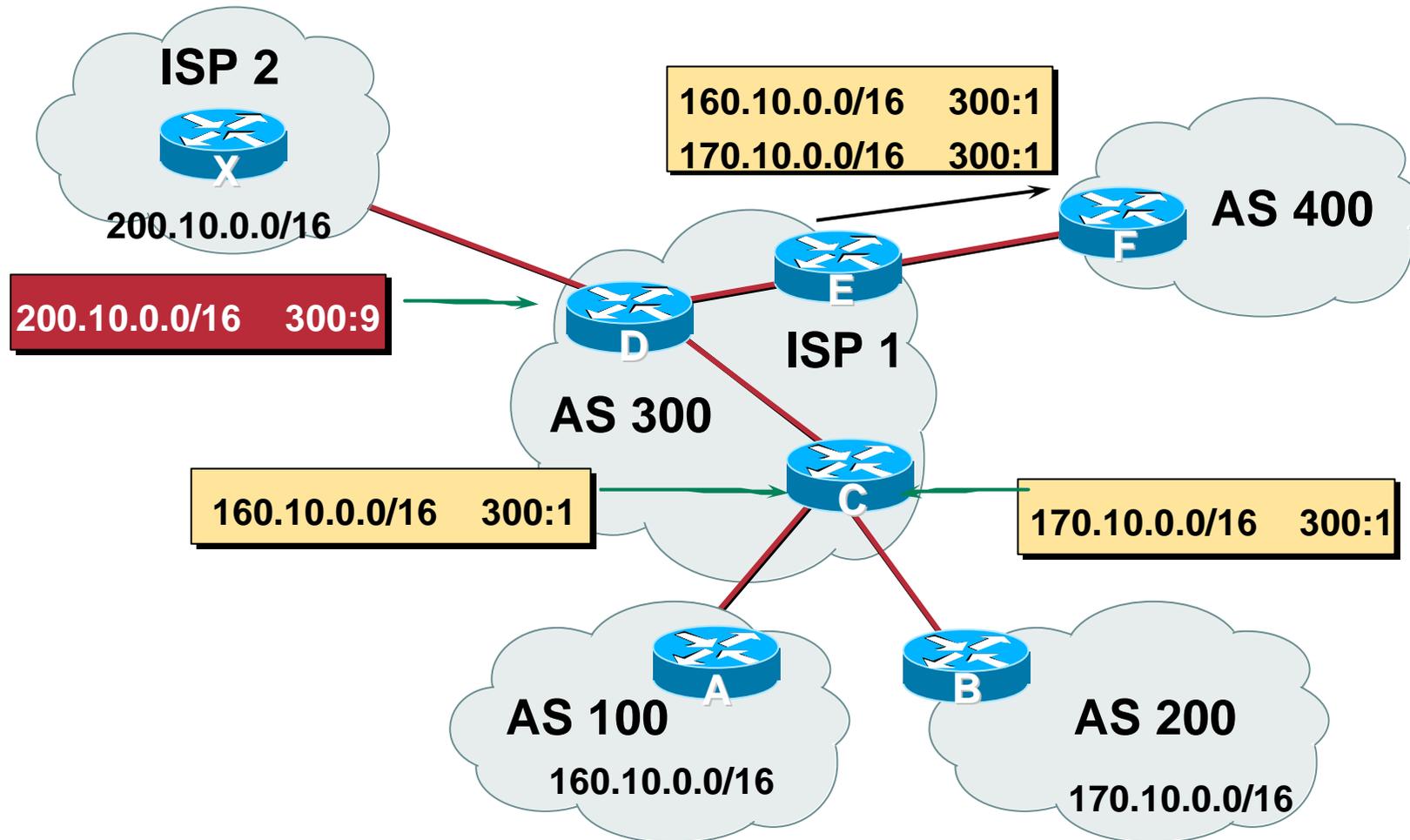
- **Best path to AS4 from AS1 is always via B due to local-pref**
- **But packets arriving at A from AS4 over the direct C to A link will pass the RPF check as that path has a priority due to the weight being set**

**If weight was not set, best path would be via B, and the RPF check would fail**

# Community

- **Communities are described in RFC1997**
- **32 bit integer**
  - Represented as two 16 bit integers (RFC1998)
- **Used to group destinations**
  - Each destination could be member of multiple communities
- **Community attribute carried across AS's**
- **Very useful in applying policies**

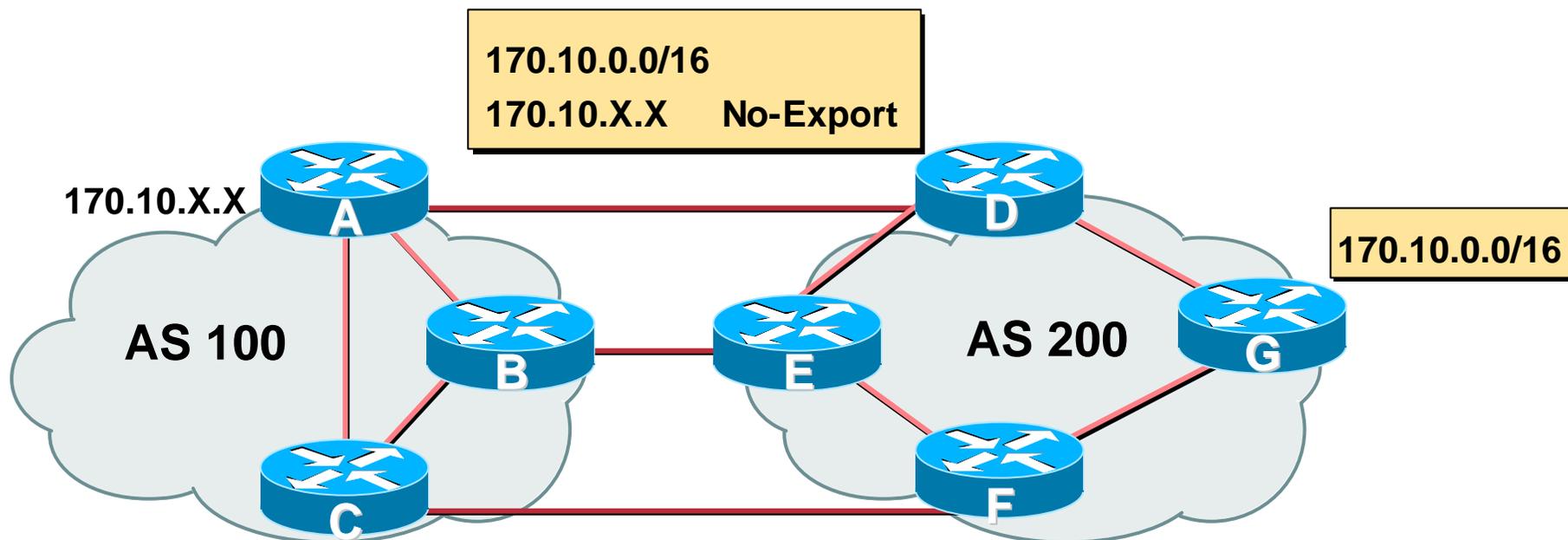
# Community



# Well-Known Communities

- **no-export**  
do not advertise to eBGP peers
- **no-advertise**  
do not advertise to any peer
- **local-AS**  
do not advertise outside local AS (only used with confederations)

# No-Export Community



- AS100 announces aggregate and subprefixes  
aim is to improve loadsharing by leaking subprefixes
- Subprefixes marked with **no-export** community
- Router G in AS200 does not announce prefixes with **no-export** community set

# BGP for Internet Service Providers

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- **Routing Basics**
- **BGP Basics**
- **BGP Attributes**
- **BGP Path Selection**
- **BGP Policy**
- **BGP Capabilities**
- **Scaling BGP**

# BGP Path Selection Algorithm

**Why Is This the Best Path?**

# BGP Path Selection Algorithm

## Part One

- **Do not consider path if no route to next hop**
- **Do not consider iBGP path if not synchronised (Cisco IOS)**
- **Highest weight (local to router)**
- **Highest local preference (global within AS)**
- **Prefer locally originated route**
- **Shortest AS path**

# BGP Path Selection Algorithm

## Part Two

- **Lowest origin code**

**IGP < EGP < incomplete**

- **Lowest Multi-Exit Discriminator (MED)**

**If `bgp deterministic-med`, order the paths before comparing**

**If `bgp always-compare-med`, then compare for all paths**

**otherwise MED only considered if paths are from the same AS (default)**

# BGP Path Selection Algorithm

## Part Three

- **Prefer eBGP path over iBGP path**
- **Path with lowest IGP metric to next-hop**
- **Lowest router-id (originator-id for reflected routes)**
- **Shortest Cluster-List**

Client **must** be aware of Route Reflector attributes!

- **Lowest neighbour IP address**

# BGP for Internet Service Providers

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- **Routing Basics**
- **BGP Basics**
- **BGP Attributes**
- **BGP Path Selection**
- **BGP Policy**
- **BGP Capabilities**
- **Scaling BGP**

# Applying Policy with BGP

**Control!**

# Applying Policy with BGP

- **Applying Policy**

  - Decisions based on AS path, community or the prefix**

  - Rejecting/accepting selected routes**

  - Set attributes to influence path selection**

- **Tools:**

  - Prefix-list (filter prefixes)**

  - Filter-list (filter ASes)**

  - Route-maps and communities**

# Policy Control Prefix List

- Filter routes based on prefix
- Inbound and Outbound

```
router bgp 200
  neighbor 220.200.1.1 remote-as 210
  neighbor 220.200.1.1 prefix-list PEER-IN in
  neighbor 220.200.1.1 prefix-list PEER-OUT out
!
ip prefix-list PEER-IN deny 218.10.0.0/16
ip prefix-list PEER-IN permit 0.0.0.0/0 le 32
ip prefix-list PEER-OUT permit 215.7.0.0/16
```

# Policy Control

## Filter List

- Filter routes based on AS path
- Inbound and Outbound

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor 220.200.1.1 remote-as 210
  neighbor 220.200.1.1 filter-list 5 out
  neighbor 220.200.1.1 filter-list 6 in
!
ip as-path access-list 5 permit ^200$
ip as-path access-list 6 permit ^150$
```

# Policy Control

## Regular Expressions

- **Like Unix regular expressions**
  - .** Match one character
  - \*** Match any number of preceding expression
  - +** Match at least one of preceding expression
  - ^** Beginning of line
  - \$** End of line
  - \_** Beginning, end, white-space, brace
  - |** Or
  - ()** brackets to contain expression

# Policy Control

## Regular Expressions

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- **Simple Examples**

<b>.*</b>	<b>Match anything</b>
<b>.+</b>	<b>Match at least one character</b>
<b>^\$</b>	<b>Match routes local to this AS</b>
<b>_1800\$</b>	<b>Originated by 1800</b>
<b>^1800_</b>	<b>Received from 1800</b>
<b>_1800_</b>	<b>Via 1800</b>
<b>_790_1800_</b>	<b>Passing through 1800 then 790</b>
<b>_(1800_)+</b>	<b>Match at least one of 1800 in sequence</b>
<b>_\\(65350\\)_</b>	<b>Via 65350 (confederation AS)</b>

# Policy Control

## Regular Expressions

- **Not so simple Examples**

**^[0-9]+\$**

**Match AS\_PATH length of one**

**^[0-9]+\_[0-9]+\$**

**Match AS\_PATH length of two**

**^[0-9]\*\_[0-9]+\$**

**Match AS\_PATH length of one or two**

**^[0-9]\*\_[0-9]\*\$**

**Match AS\_PATH length of one or two  
(will also match zero)**

**^[0-9]+\_[0-9]+\_[0-9]+\$**

**Match AS\_PATH length of three**

**\_(701|1800)\_**

**Match anything which has gone  
through AS701 or AS1800**

**\_1849(.\_+\_ )12163\$**

**Match anything of origin AS12163  
and passed through AS1849**

# Policy Control Route Maps

- A route-map is like a “programme” for IOS
- Has “line” numbers, like programmes
- Each line is a separate condition/action
- Concept is basically:
  - if *match* then do *expression* and *exit*
  - else
  - if *match* then do *expression* and *exit*
  - else *etc*

# Policy Control

## Route Maps

- Example using prefix-lists

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor 1.1.1.1 route-map infilter in
  !
  route-map infilter permit 10
    match ip address prefix-list HIGH-PREF
    set local-preference 120
  !
  route-map infilter permit 20
    match ip address prefix-list LOW-PREF
    set local-preference 80
  !
  route-map infilter permit 30
  !
  ip prefix-list HIGH-PREF permit 10.0.0.0/8
  ip prefix-list LOW-PREF permit 20.0.0.0/8
```

# Policy Control

## Route Maps

- Example using filter lists

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor 220.200.1.2 route-map filter-on-as-path in
  !
route-map filter-on-as-path permit 10
  match as-path 1
  set local-preference 80
  !
route-map filter-on-as-path permit 20
  match as-path 2
  set local-preference 200
  !
route-map filter-on-as-path permit 30
  !
ip as-path access-list 1 permit _150$
ip as-path access-list 2 permit _210_
```

# Policy Control Route Maps

- **Example configuration of AS-PATH prepend**

```
router bgp 300
  network 215.7.0.0
  neighbor 2.2.2.2 remote-as 100
  neighbor 2.2.2.2 route-map SETPATH out
!
route-map SETPATH permit 10
  set as-path prepend 300 300
```

- **Use your own AS number when prepending**

**Otherwise BGP loop detection may cause disconnects**

# Policy Control

## Setting Communities

- **Example Configuration**

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor 220.200.1.1 remote-as 200
  neighbor 220.200.1.1 send-community
  neighbor 220.200.1.1 route-map set-community out
!
route-map set-community permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list NO-ANNOUNCE
  set community no-export
!
route-map set-community permit 20
!
ip prefix-list NO-ANNOUNCE permit 172.168.0.0/16 ge 17
```

# BGP for Internet Service Providers

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- **Routing Basics**
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- **BGP Policy**
- **BGP Capabilities**
- **Scaling BGP**

# BGP Capabilities

## Extending BGP

# BGP Capabilities

- **Documented in RFC2842**
- **Capabilities parameters passed in BGP open message**
- **Unknown or unsupported capabilities will result in NOTIFICATION message**
- **Codes:**
  - 0 to 63 are assigned by IANA by IETF consensus**
  - 64 to 127 are assigned by IANA “first come first served”**
  - 128 to 255 are vendor specific**

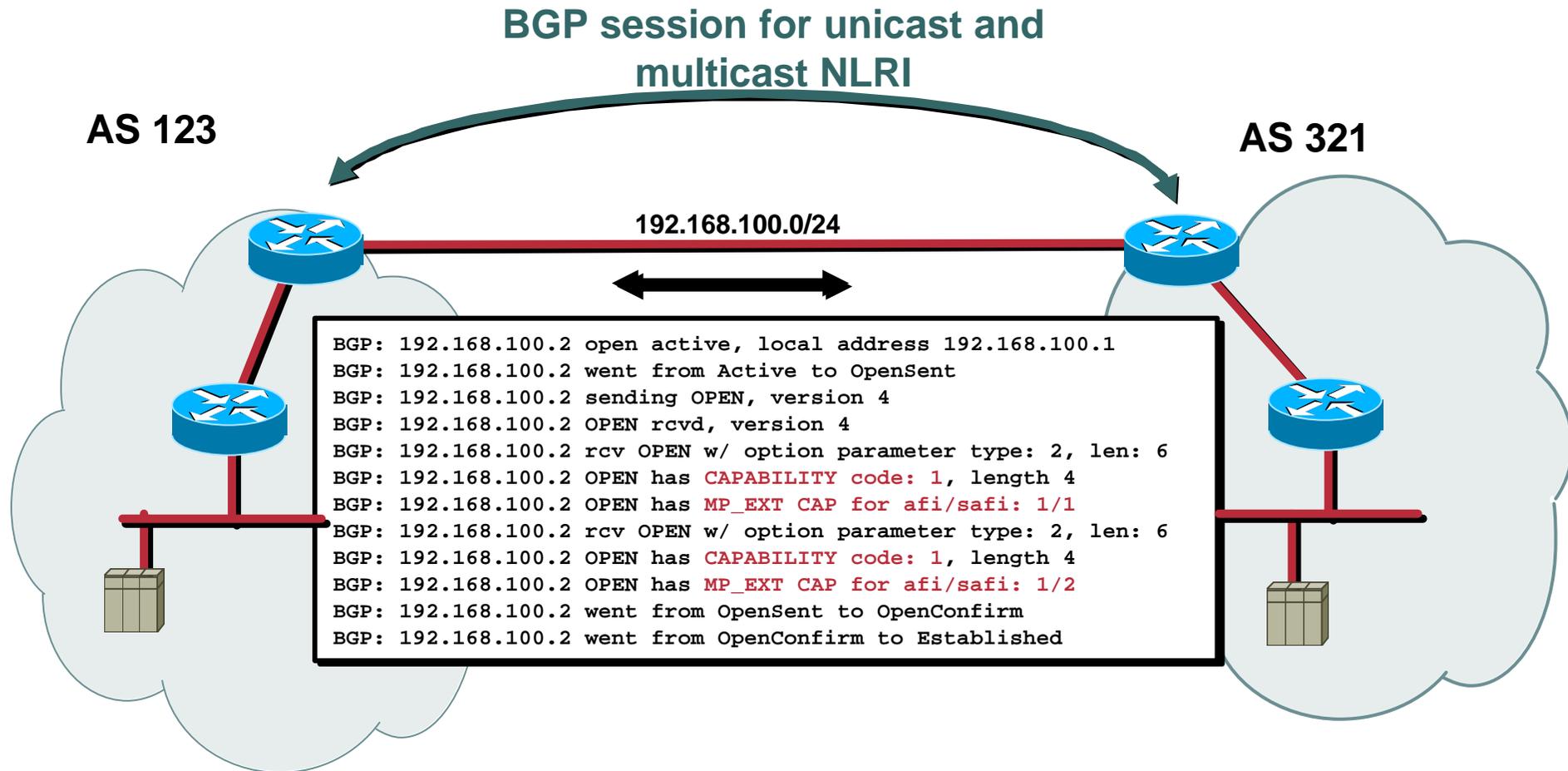
# BGP Capabilities

## Current capabilities are:

0	Reserved	[RFC3392]
1	Multiprotocol Extensions for BGP-4	[RFC2858]
2	Route Refresh Capability for BGP-4	[RFC2918]
3	Cooperative Route Filtering Capability	[ ]
4	Multiple routes to a destination capability	[RFC3107]
64	Graceful Restart Capability	[ ]
65	Support for 4 octet ASNs	[ ]
66	Support for Dynamic Capability	[ ]

See <http://www.iana.org/assignments/capability-codes>

# BGP Capabilities Negotiation



# BGP for Internet Service Providers

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- **Routing Basics**
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- **BGP Attributes**
- **BGP Path Selection**
- **BGP Policy**
- **BGP Capabilities**
- **Scaling BGP**

# BGP Scaling Techniques

# BGP Scaling Techniques

- **How does a service provider:**
  - Scale the iBGP mesh beyond a few peers?**
  - Implement new policy without causing flaps and route churning?**
  - Reduce the overhead on the routers?**
  - Keep the network stable, scalable, as well as simple?**

# BGP Scaling Techniques

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- **Route Refresh**
- **Peer groups**
- **Route flap damping**
- **Route Reflectors & Confederations**

# Route Refresh

# Route Refresh

## Problem:

- **Hard BGP peer reset required after every policy change because the router does not store prefixes that are rejected by policy**
- **Hard BGP peer reset:**
  - Tears down BGP peering**
  - Consumes CPU**
  - Severely disrupts connectivity for all networks**

## Solution:

- **Route Refresh**

# Route Refresh Capability

- **Facilitates non-disruptive policy changes**
- **No configuration is needed**
  - Automatically negotiated at peer establishment
- **No additional memory is used**
- **Requires peering routers to support “route refresh capability” – RFC2918**
- **clear ip bgp x.x.x.x in** tells peer to resend full BGP announcement
- **clear ip bgp x.x.x.x out** resends full BGP announcement to peer

# Dynamic Reconfiguration

- **Use Route Refresh capability if supported**  
find out from “show ip bgp neighbor”  
Non-disruptive, “Good For the Internet”
- **Otherwise use Soft Reconfiguration IOS feature**
- **Only hard-reset a BGP peering as a last resort**

**Consider the impact to be equivalent to a router reboot**

# Soft Reconfiguration

- Router normally stores prefixes which have been received from peer after policy application
  - Enabling soft-reconfiguration means router also stores prefixes/attributes prior to any policy application
- New policies can be activated without tearing down and restarting the peering session
- Configured on a per-neighbour basis
- Uses more memory to keep prefixes whose attributes have been changed or have not been accepted
- Also **advantageous** when operator requires to know which prefixes have been sent to a router prior to the application of any inbound policy

# Configuring Soft Reconfiguration

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor 1.1.1.1 remote-as 101
  neighbor 1.1.1.1 route-map infilter in
  neighbor 1.1.1.1 soft-reconfiguration inbound
```

***! Outbound does not need to be configured!***

**Then when we change the policy, we issue an exec command**

```
clear ip bgp 1.1.1.1 soft [in | out]
```

# Peer Groups

# Peer Groups

## Without peer groups

- **iBGP neighbours receive same update**
- **Large iBGP mesh slow to build**
- **Router CPU wasted on repeat calculations**

## Solution – peer groups!

- **Group peers with same outbound policy**
- **Updates are generated once per group**

# Peer Groups – Advantages

- **Makes configuration easier**
- **Makes configuration less prone to error**
- **Makes configuration more readable**
- **Lower router CPU load**
- **iBGP mesh builds more quickly**
- **Members can have different inbound policy**
- **Can be used for eBGP neighbours too!**

# Configuring Peer Group

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor ibgp-peer peer-group
  neighbor ibgp-peer remote-as 100
  neighbor ibgp-peer update-source loopback 0
  neighbor ibgp-peer send-community
  neighbor ibgp-peer route-map outfilter out
  neighbor 1.1.1.1 peer-group ibgp-peer
  neighbor 2.2.2.2 peer-group ibgp-peer
  neighbor 2.2.2.2 route-map infilter in
  neighbor 3.3.3.3 peer-group ibgp-peer
```

*! note how 2.2.2.2 has different inbound filter from peer-group !*

# Configuring Peer Group

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor external-peer peer-group
  neighbor external-peer send-community
  neighbor external-peer route-map set-metric out
  neighbor 160.89.1.2 remote-as 200
  neighbor 160.89.1.2 peer-group external-peer
  neighbor 160.89.1.4 remote-as 300
  neighbor 160.89.1.4 peer-group external-peer
  neighbor 160.89.1.6 remote-as 400
  neighbor 160.89.1.6 peer-group external-peer
  neighbor 160.89.1.6 filter-list infilter in
```

# Peer Groups

- **Always configure peer-groups for iBGP**
  - Even if there are only a few iBGP peers**
  - Easier to scale network in the future**
  - Makes template configuration much easier**
- **Consider using peer-groups for eBGP**
  - Especially useful for multiple BGP customers using same AS (RFC2270)**
  - Also useful at Exchange Points where ISP policy is generally the same to each peer**

# Route Flap Damping

## Stabilising the Network

# Route Flap Damping

- **Route flap**

- Going up and down of path or change in attribute**

- BGP WITHDRAW followed by UPDATE = 1 flap**

- eBGP neighbour peering reset is NOT a flap**

- Ripples through the entire Internet**

- Wastes CPU**

- **Damping aims to reduce scope of route flap propagation**

# Route Flap Damping (continued)

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- **Requirements**

- Fast convergence for normal route changes**

- History predicts future behaviour**

- Suppress oscillating routes**

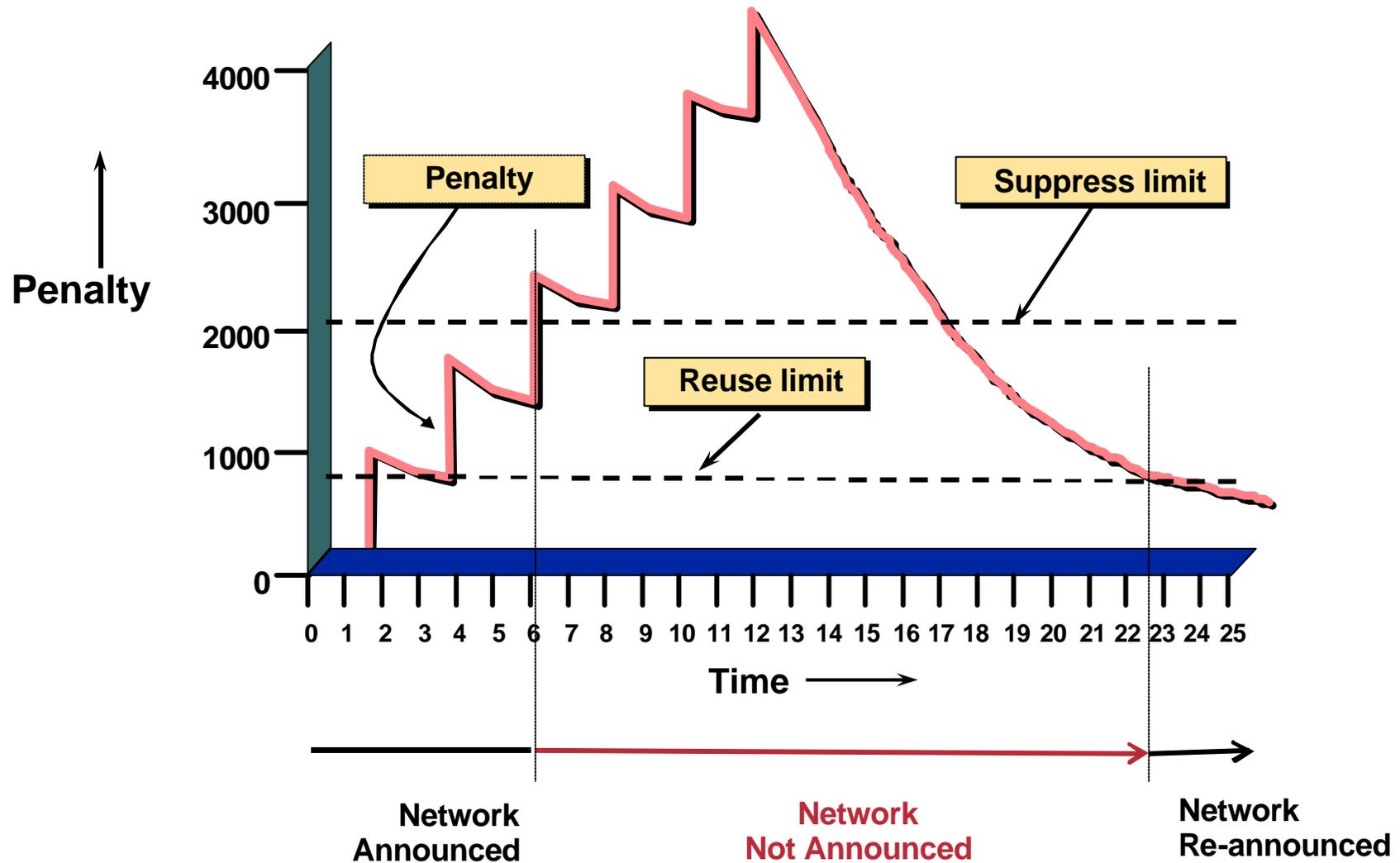
- Advertise stable routes**

- **Documented in RFC2439**

# Operation

- **Add penalty (1000) for each flap**  
Change in attribute gets penalty of 500
- **Exponentially decay penalty**  
half life determines decay rate
- **Penalty above suppress-limit**  
do not advertise route to BGP peers
- **Penalty decayed below reuse-limit**  
re-advertise route to BGP peers  
penalty reset to zero when it is half of reuse-limit

# Operation



# Operation

- **Only applied to inbound announcements from eBGP peers**
- **Alternate paths still usable**
- **Controlled by:**
  - Half-life (default 15 minutes)**
  - reuse-limit (default 750)**
  - suppress-limit (default 2000)**
  - maximum suppress time (default 60 minutes)**

# Configuration

## Fixed damping

```
router bgp 100
  bgp dampening [<half-life> <reuse-value> <suppress-
    penalty> <maximum suppress time>]
```

## Selective and variable damping

```
bgp dampening [route-map <name>]
```

## Variable damping

recommendations for ISPs

<http://www.ripe.net/docs/ripe-229.html>

# Operation

- **Care required when setting parameters**
- **Penalty must be less than reuse-limit at the maximum suppress time**
- **Maximum suppress time and half life must allow penalty to be larger than suppress limit**

# Configuration

- **Examples - ✘**

**bgp dampening 30 750 3000 60**

**reuse-limit of 750 means maximum possible penalty is 3000 – no prefixes suppressed as penalty cannot exceed suppress-limit**

- **Examples - ✔**

**bgp dampening 30 2000 3000 60**

**reuse-limit of 2000 means maximum possible penalty is 8000 – suppress limit is easily reached**

# Maths!

- **Maximum value of penalty is**

$$\text{max-penalty} = \text{reuse-limit} \times 2 \left( \frac{\text{max-suppress-time}}{\text{half-life}} \right)$$

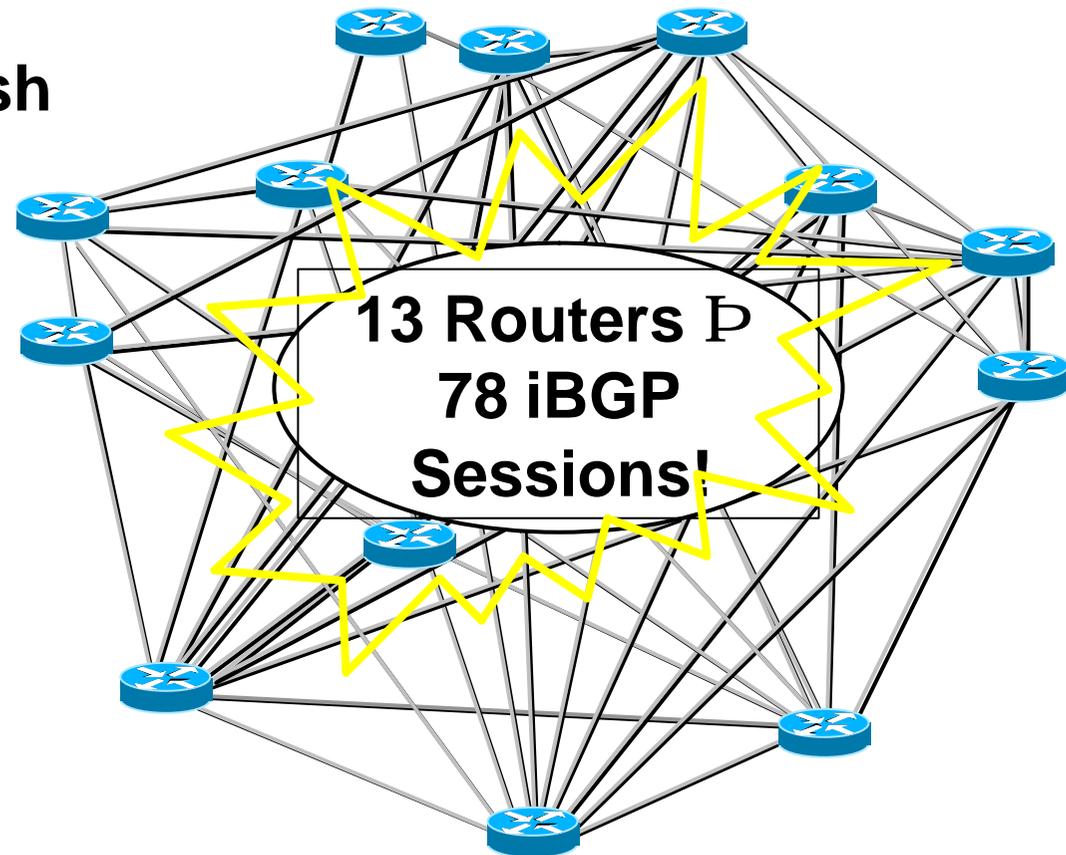
- **Always make sure that suppress-limit is **LESS** than max-penalty otherwise there will be no flap damping**

# Route Reflectors and Confederations

# Scaling iBGP mesh

Avoid  $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$  iBGP mesh

**$n=1000$   $\Rightarrow$  nearly  
half a million  
ibgp sessions!**

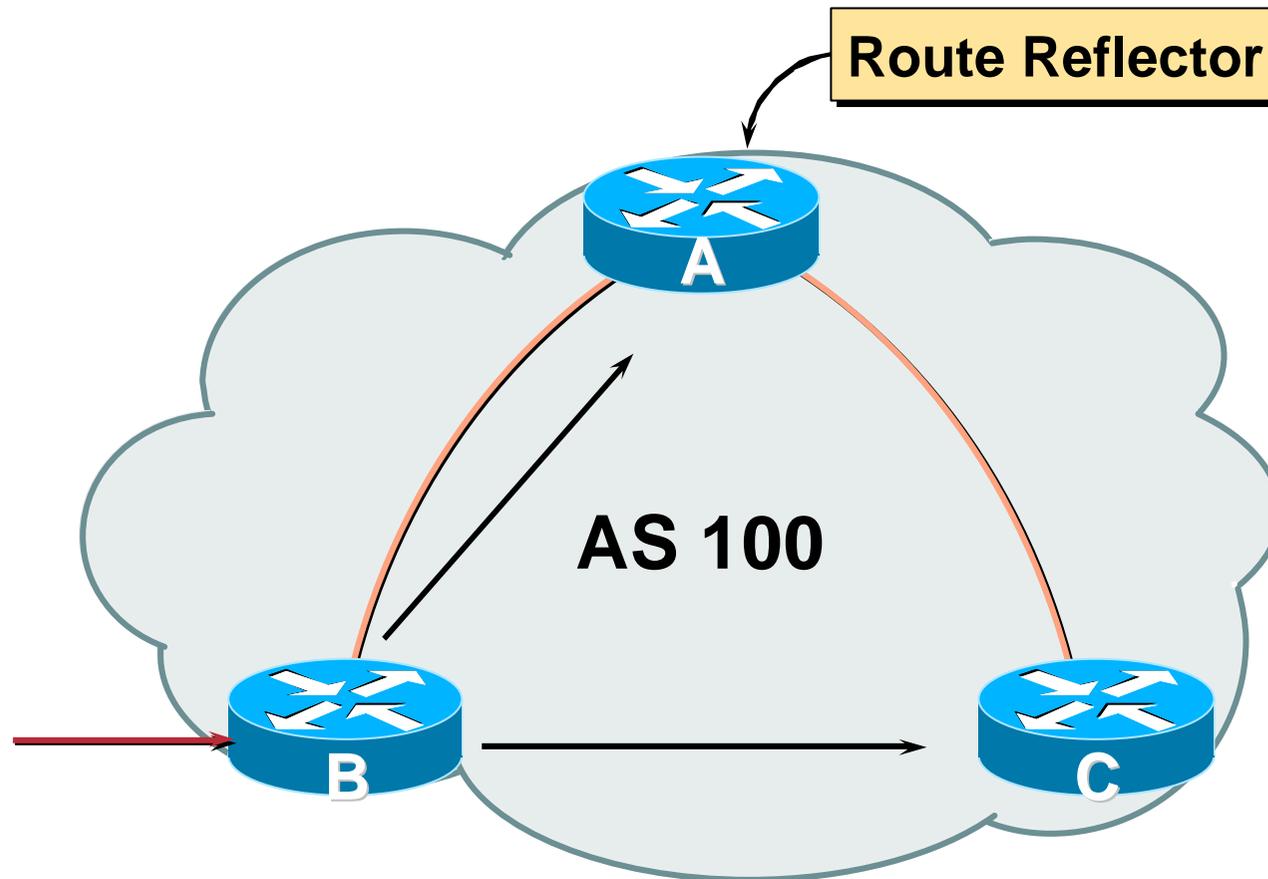


**Two solutions**

**Route reflector – simpler to deploy and run**

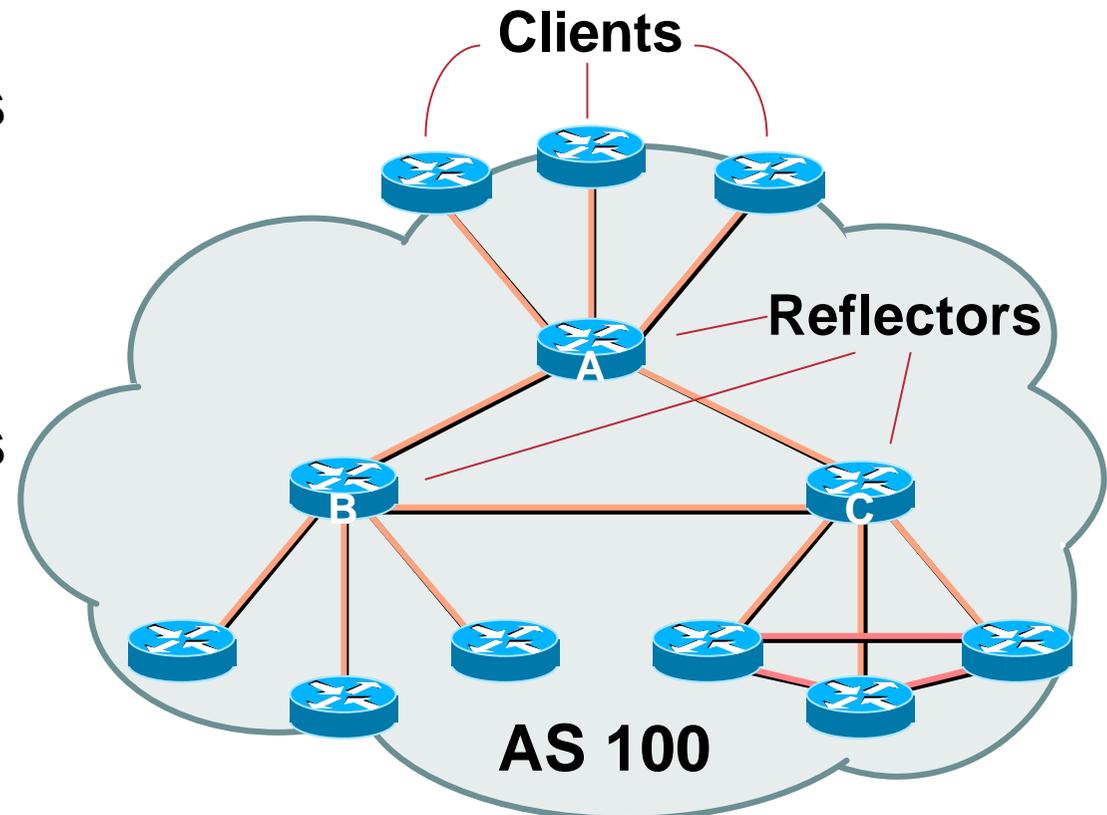
**Confederation – more complex, corner case benefits**

# Route Reflector: Principle



# Route Reflector

- Reflector receives path from clients and non-clients
- Selects best path
- If best path is from client, reflect to other clients and non-clients
- If best path is from non-client, reflect to clients only
- Non-meshed clients
- Described in RFC2796



# Route Reflector Topology

- **Divide the backbone into multiple clusters**
- **At least one route reflector and few clients per cluster**
- **Route reflectors are fully meshed**
- **Clients in a cluster could be fully meshed**
- **Single IGP to carry next hop and local routes**

# Route Reflectors: Loop Avoidance

- **Originator\_ID attribute**

Carries the RID of the originator of the route in the local AS (created by the RR)

- **Cluster\_list attribute**

The local cluster-id is added when the update is sent by the RR

Cluster-id is automatically set from router-id (address of loopback)

**Do NOT use *bgp cluster-id x.x.x.x***

# Route Reflectors: Redundancy

- **Multiple RRs can be configured in the same cluster – not advised!**

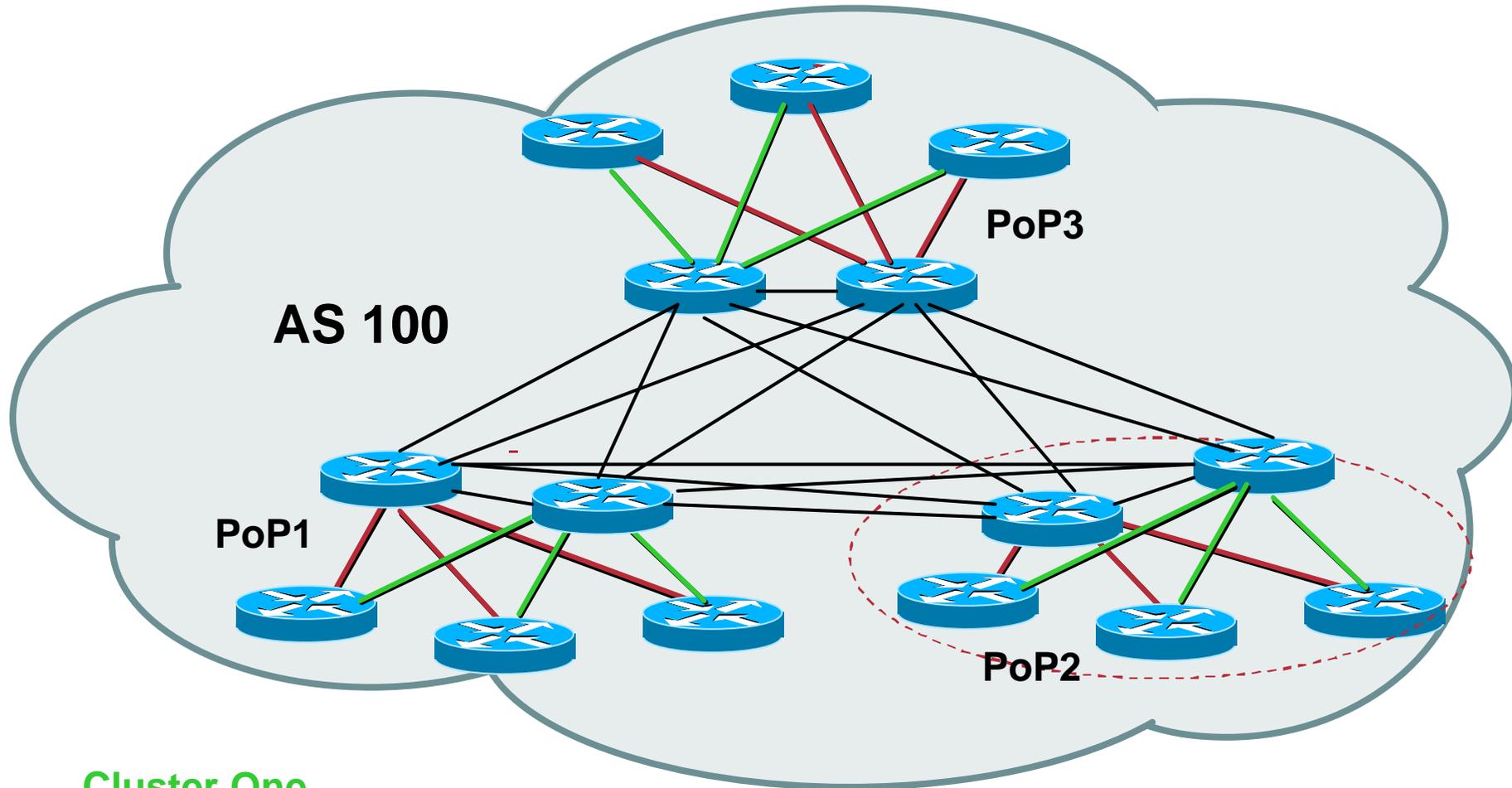
All RRs in the cluster **must** have the same cluster-id (otherwise it is a different cluster)

- **A router may be a client of RRs in different clusters**

Common today in ISP networks to overlay two clusters – redundancy achieved that way

Ⓜ Each client has two RRs = redundancy

# Route Reflectors: Redundancy



Cluster One

Cluster Two

# Route Reflectors: Migration

- **Where to place the route reflectors?**

**Always follow the physical topology!**

**This will guarantee that the packet forwarding won't be affected**

- **Typical ISP network:**

**PoP has two core routers**

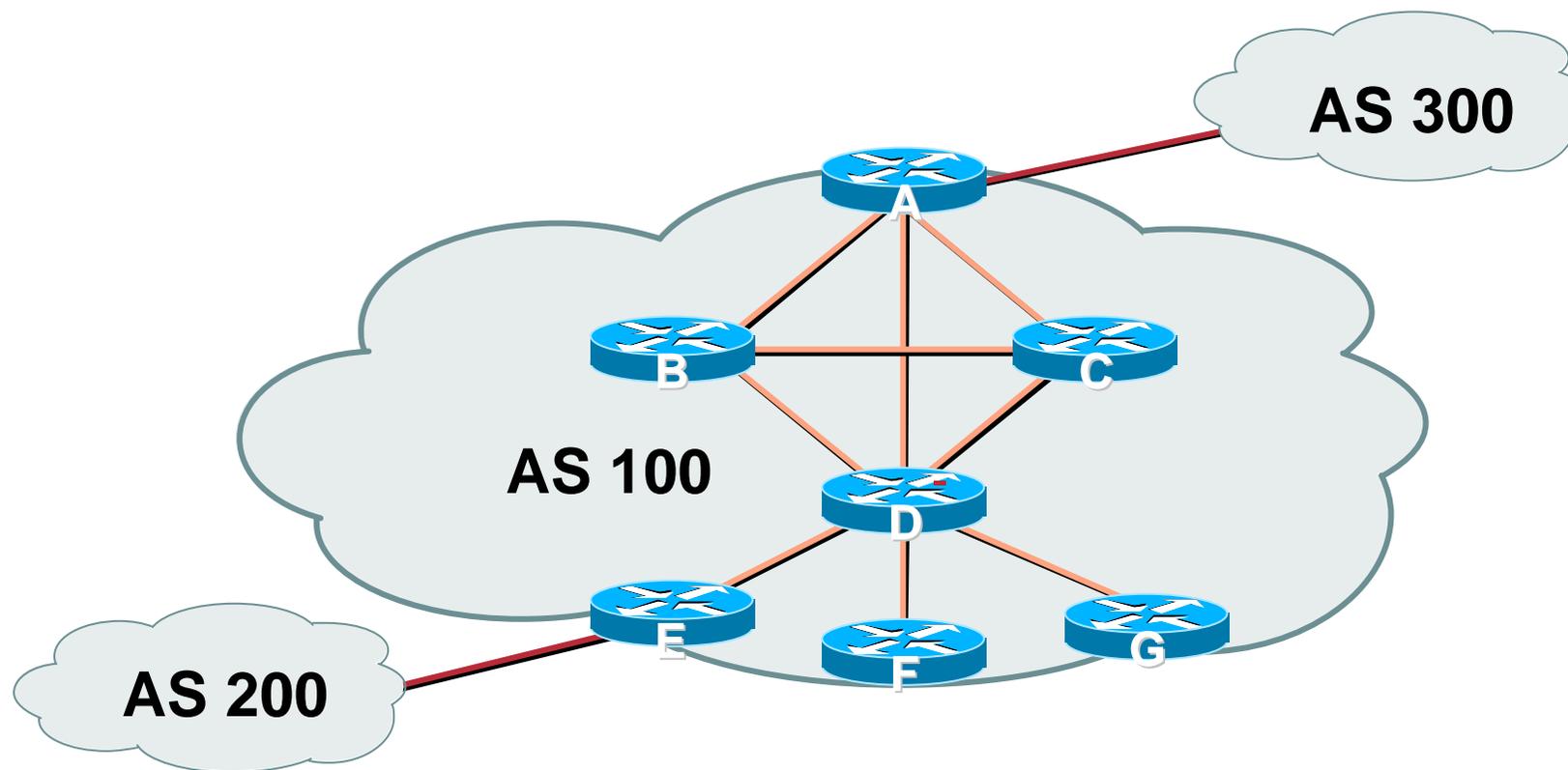
**Core routers are RR for the PoP**

**Two overlaid clusters**

# Route Reflectors: Migration

- **Typical ISP network:**
  - Core routers have fully meshed iBGP**
  - Create further hierarchy if core mesh too big**
  - Split backbone into regions**
- **Configure one cluster pair at a time**
  - Eliminate redundant iBGP sessions**
  - Place maximum one RR per cluster**
  - Easy migration, multiple levels**

# Route Reflector: Migration



- **Migrate small parts of the network, one part at a time.**

# Configuring a Route Reflector

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor 1.1.1.1 remote-as 100
  neighbor 1.1.1.1 route-reflector-client
  neighbor 2.2.2.2 remote-as 100
  neighbor 2.2.2.2 route-reflector-client
  neighbor 3.3.3.3 remote-as 100
  neighbor 3.3.3.3 route-reflector-client
  neighbor 4.4.4.4 remote-as 100
  neighbor 4.4.4.4 route-reflector-client
```

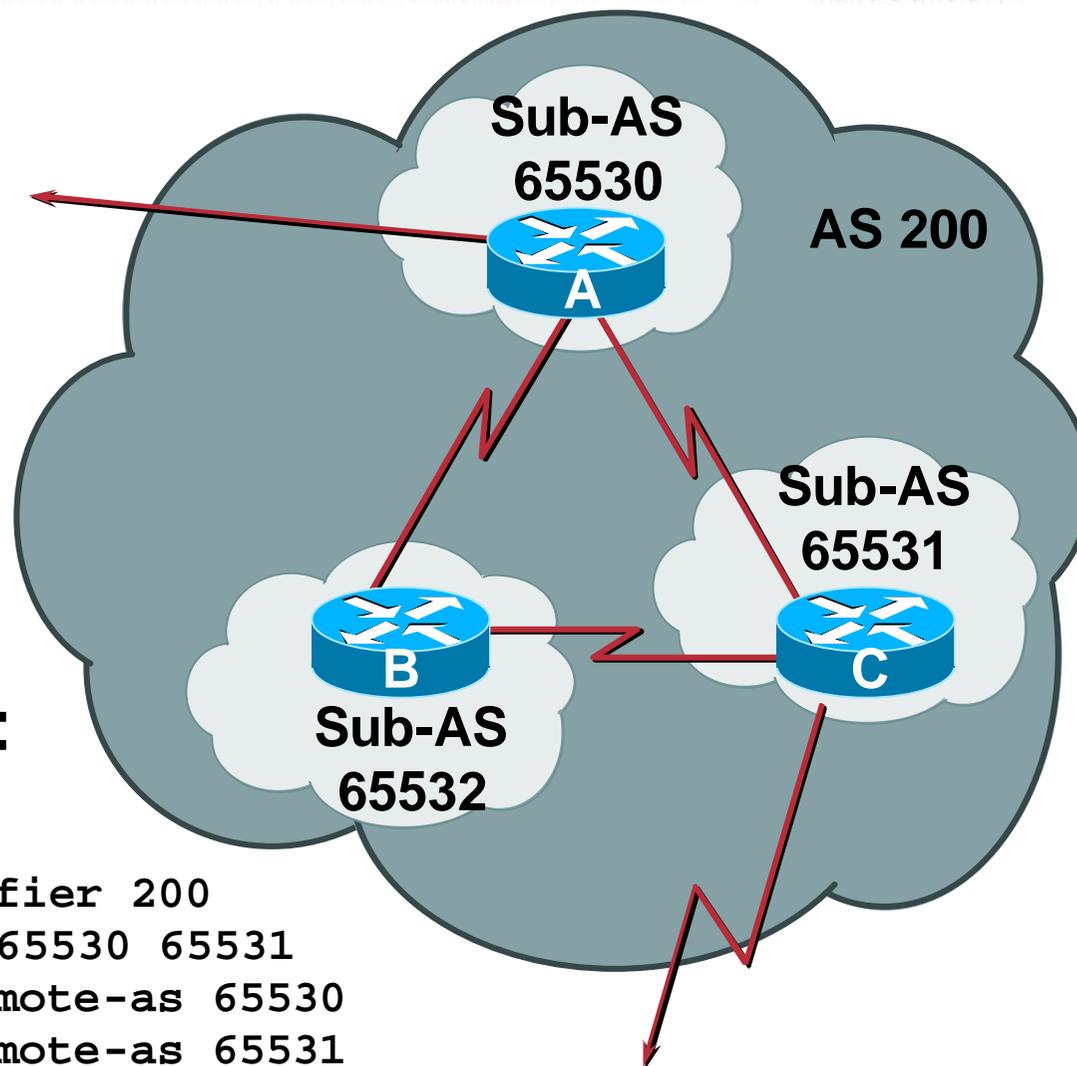
# Confederations

- **Divide the AS into sub-ASes**
  - eBGP between sub-ASes, but some iBGP information is kept**
    - Preserve NEXT\_HOP across the sub-AS (IGP carries this information)**
    - Preserve LOCAL\_PREF and MED**
- **Usually a single IGP**
- **Described in RFC3065**

# Confederations (Cont.)

- **Visible to outside world as single AS – “Confederation Identifier”**
  - Each sub-AS uses a number from the private AS range (64512-65534)**
- **iBGP speakers in each sub-AS are fully meshed**
  - The total number of neighbors is reduced by limiting the full mesh requirement to only the peers in the sub-AS**
  - Can also use Route-Reflector within sub-AS**

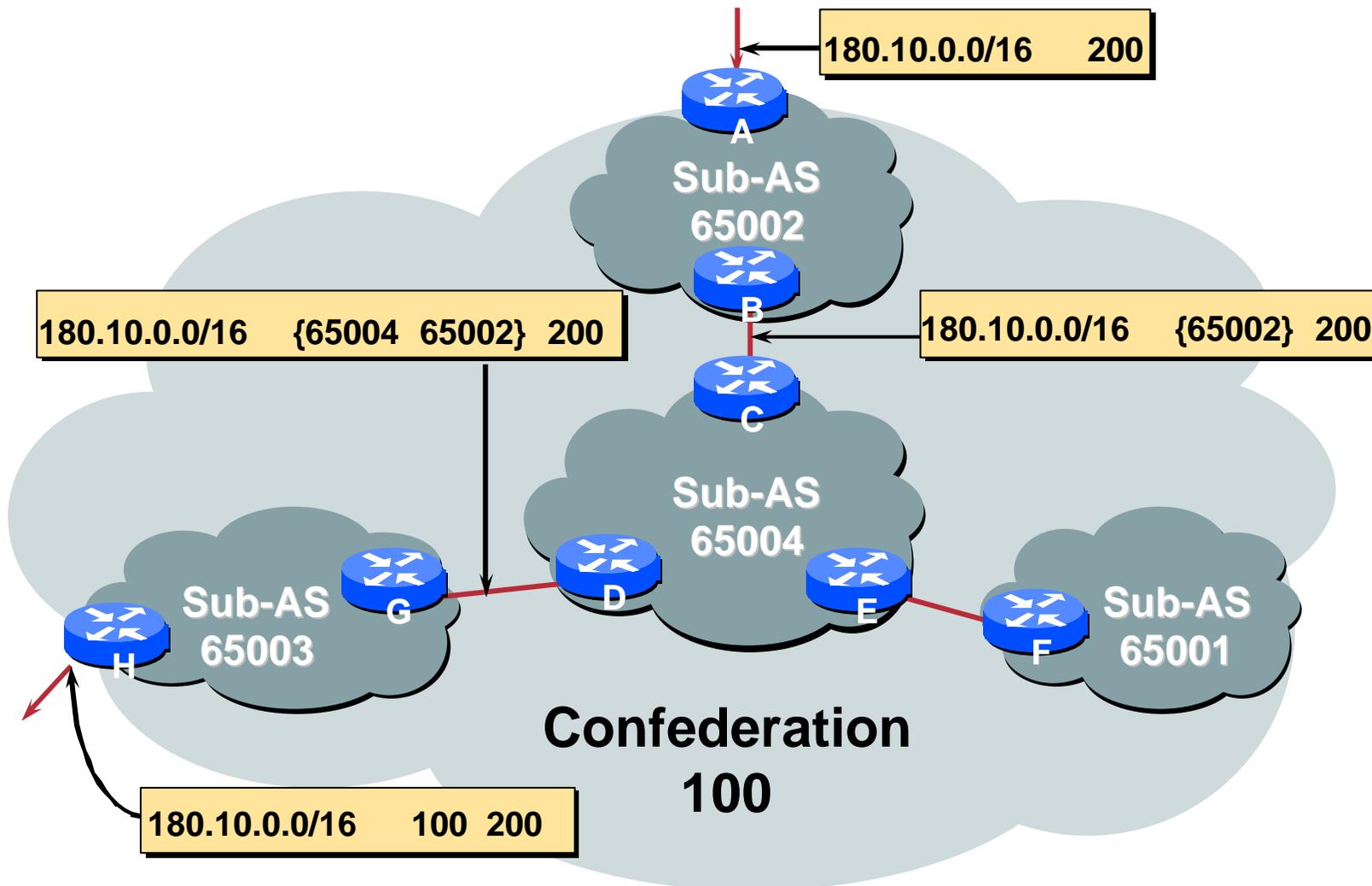
# Confederations (cont.)



- **Configuration (rtr B):**

```
router bgp 65532
  bgp confederation identifier 200
  bgp confederation peers 65530 65531
  neighbor 141.153.12.1 remote-as 65530
  neighbor 141.153.17.2 remote-as 65531
```

# Confederations: AS-Sequence



# Route Propagation Decisions

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- **Same as with “normal” BGP:**
  - From peer in same sub-AS → only to external peers**
  - From external peers → to all neighbors**
- **“External peers” refers to:**
  - Peers outside the confederation**
  - Peers in a different sub-AS**
  - Preserve LOCAL\_PREF, MED and NEXT\_HOP**

# Confederations (cont.)

- **Example (cont.):**

BGP table version is 78, local router ID is 141.153.17.1

Status codes: s suppressed, d damped, h history, \* valid, > best, i - internal

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

Network	Next Hop	Metric	LocPrf	Weight	Path
*> 10.0.0.0	141.153.14.3	0	100	0	(65531) 1 i
*> 141.153.0.0	141.153.30.2	0	100	0	(65530) i
*> 144.10.0.0	141.153.12.1	0	100	0	(65530) i
*> 199.10.10.0	141.153.29.2	0	100	0	(65530) 1 i

# Route Reflectors or Confederations?

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	Internet Connectivity	Multi-Level Hierarchy	Policy Control	Scalability	Migration Complexity
Confederations	Anywhere in the Network	Yes	Yes	Medium	Medium to High
Route Reflectors	Anywhere in the Network	Yes	Yes	High	Very Low

**Most new service provider networks now deploy Route Reflectors from Day One**

# More points about confederations

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- **Can ease “absorbing” other ISPs into you ISP**  
– e.g., if one ISP buys another
  - Or can use **local-as** feature to do a similar thing
- **Can use route-reflectors with confederation sub-AS to reduce the sub-AS iBGP mesh**

# BGP Scaling Techniques

- **These 4 techniques should be core requirements in all ISP networks**

**Route Refresh**

**Peer groups**

**Route flap damping**

**Route reflectors**

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# **BGP Tutorial**

**End of Part 1 – Introduction**

**Part 2 – Deployment Techniques is next**