

# Chapter 4

## Network Layer

Reti di Elaboratori

Corso di Laurea in Informatica

Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza"

Canale A-L

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Parte di queste slide sono state prese dal materiale associato al libro  
*Computer Networking: A Top Down Approach* , 5th edition.

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Francesco LoPresti, Un. di Roma Tor Vergata

# Chapter 4: Network Layer

- ❑ 4.1 Introduction
- ❑ 4.2 Virtual circuit and datagram networks
- ❑ 4.3 What's inside a router
- ❑ 4.4 IP: Internet Protocol
  - Datagram format
  - IPv4 addressing
  - ICMP
  - IPv6
- ❑ 4.5 **Routing algorithms**
  - Link state
  - Distance Vector
  - **Hierarchical routing**
- ❑ 4.6 Routing in the Internet
  - RIP
  - OSPF
  - BGP
- ❑ 4.7 Broadcast and multicast routing

# Hierarchical Routing

Our routing study thus far - idealization

- ❑ all routers identical
- ❑ network “flat”

... *not* true in practice

**scale:** with 200 million destinations:

- ❑ can't store all dest's in routing tables!
- ❑ routing table exchange would swamp links!

**administrative autonomy**

- ❑ internet = network of networks
- ❑ each network admin may want to control routing in its own network

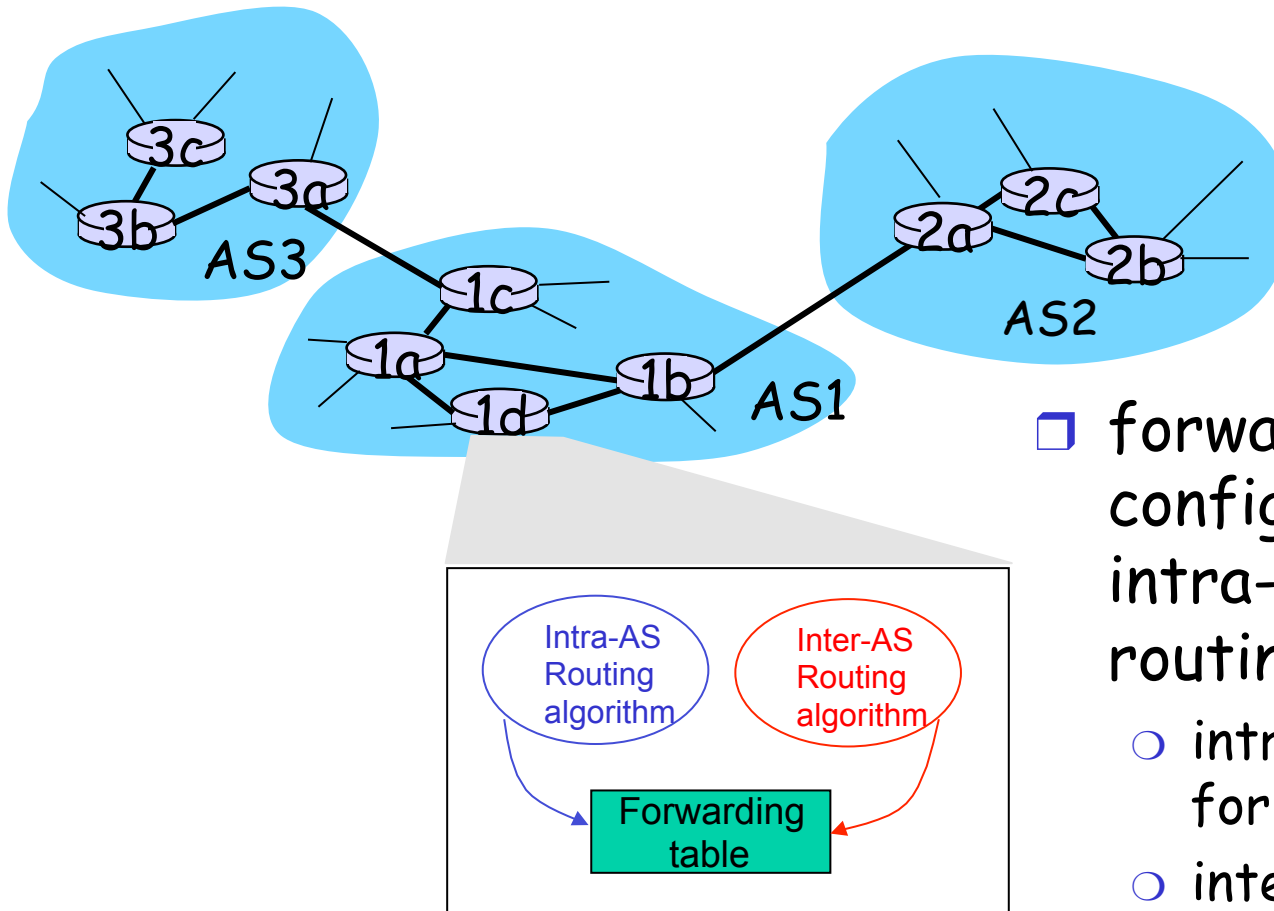
# Hierarchical Routing

- ❑ aggregate routers into regions, “autonomous systems” (AS)
- ❑ routers in same AS run same routing protocol
  - “intra-AS” routing protocol
  - routers in different AS can run different intra-AS routing protocol

## Gateway router

- ❑ Direct link to router in another AS

# Interconnected ASes



- forwarding table configured by both intra- and inter-AS routing algorithm
  - intra-AS sets entries for internal dests
  - inter-AS & intra-AS sets entries for external dests

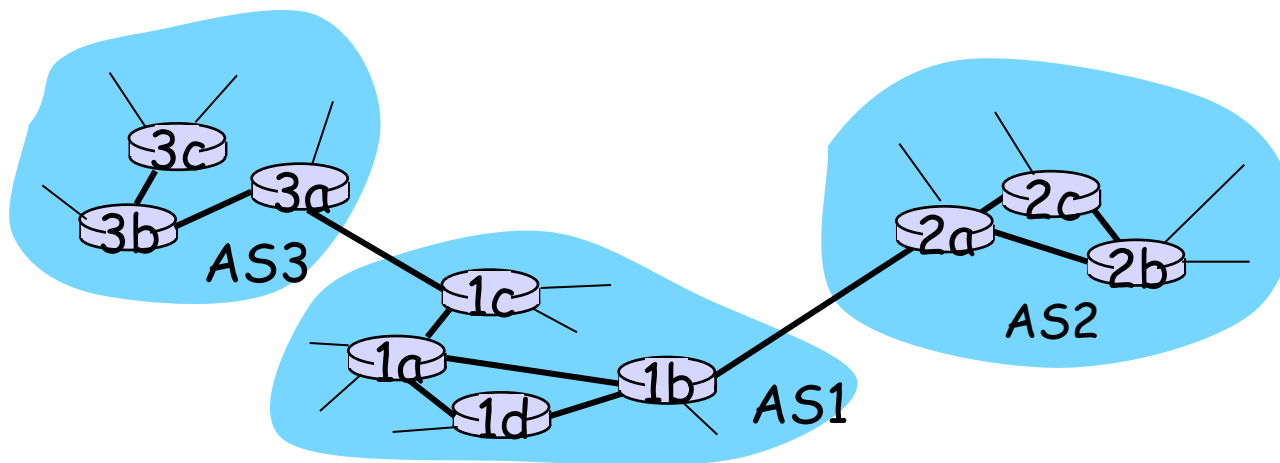
# Inter-AS tasks

- ❑ suppose router in AS1 receives datagram destined outside of AS1:
  - router should forward packet to gateway router, but which one?

## AS1 must:

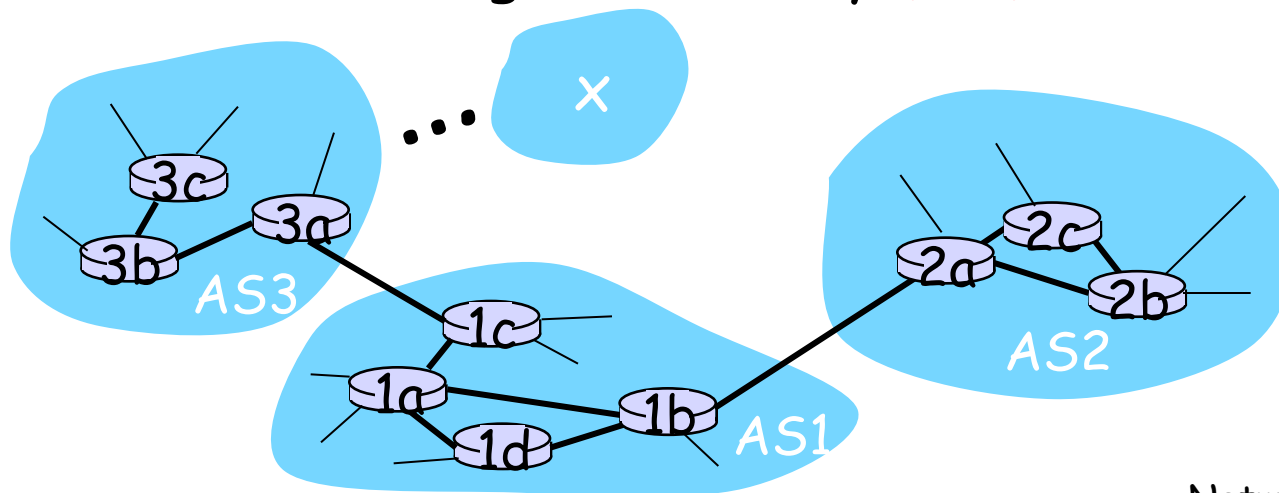
1. learn which dests are reachable through AS2, which through AS3
2. propagate this reachability info to all routers in AS1

**Job of inter-AS routing!**



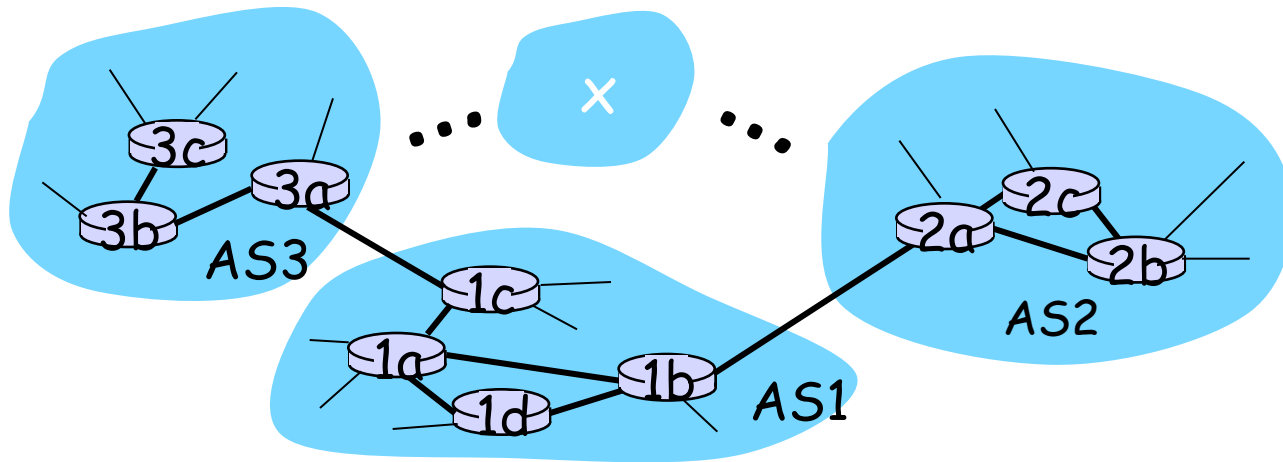
## Example: Setting forwarding table in router 1d

- ❑ suppose AS1 learns (via inter-AS protocol) that subnet **x** is reachable via AS3 (gateway 1c) but not via AS2.
- ❑ inter-AS protocol propagates reachability info to all internal routers.
- ❑ router 1d determines from intra-AS routing info that its interface **I** is on the least cost path to 1c.
  - installs forwarding table entry **(x,I)**



# Example: Choosing among multiple ASes

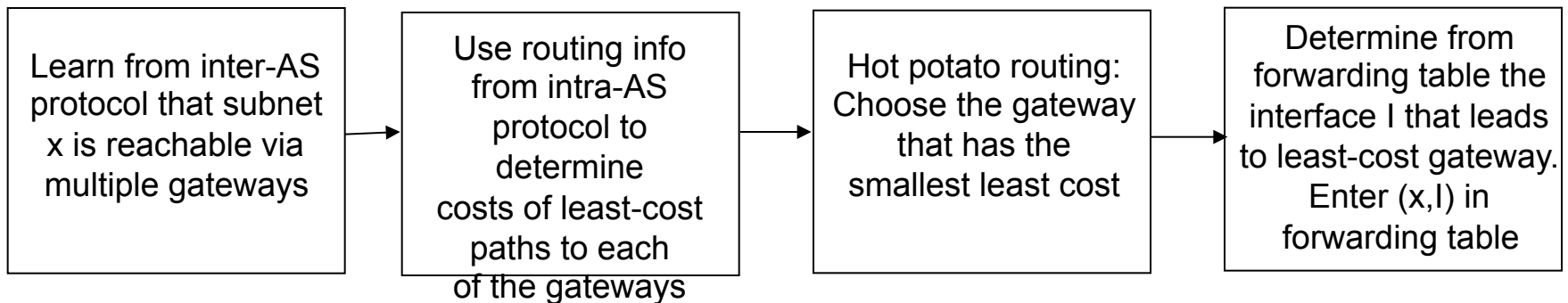
- ❑ now suppose AS1 learns from inter-AS protocol that subnet **x** is reachable from AS3 *and* from AS2.
- ❑ to configure forwarding table, router 1d must determine towards which gateway it should forward packets for dest **x**.
  - this is also job of inter-AS routing protocol!





# Example: Choosing among multiple ASes

- ❑ now suppose AS1 learns from inter-AS protocol that subnet **x** is reachable from AS3 *and* from AS2.
- ❑ to configure forwarding table, router 1d must determine towards which gateway it should forward packets for dest **x**.
  - this is also job of inter-AS routing protocol!
- ❑ **hot potato routing**: send packet towards closest of two routers.



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# Intra-AS Routing

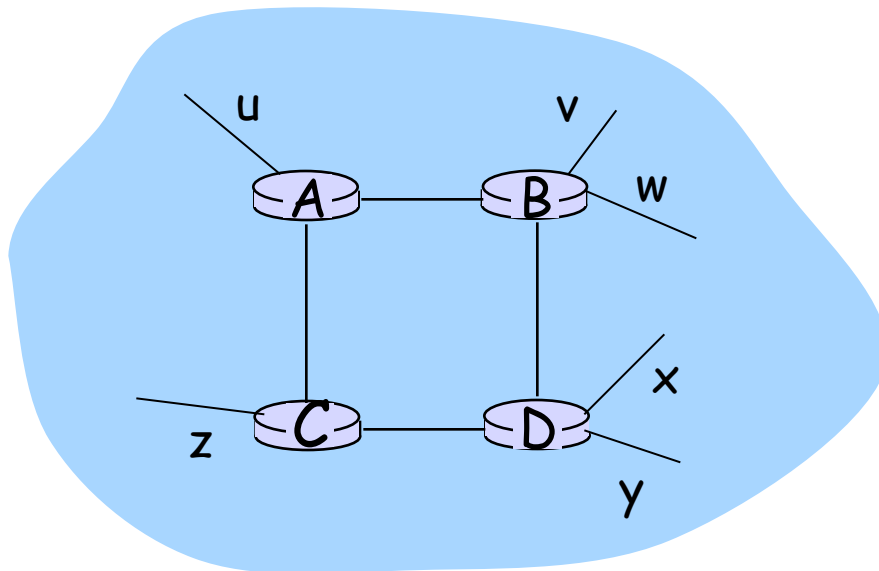
- ❑ also known as **Interior Gateway Protocols (IGP)**
- ❑ most common Intra-AS routing protocols:
  - RIP: Routing Information Protocol
  - OSPF: Open Shortest Path First
  - IGRP: Interior Gateway Routing Protocol (Cisco proprietary)

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# RIP ( Routing Information Protocol)

- ❑ distance vector algorithm
- ❑ included in BSD-UNIX Distribution in 1982
- ❑ distance metric: # of hops (max = 15 hops)



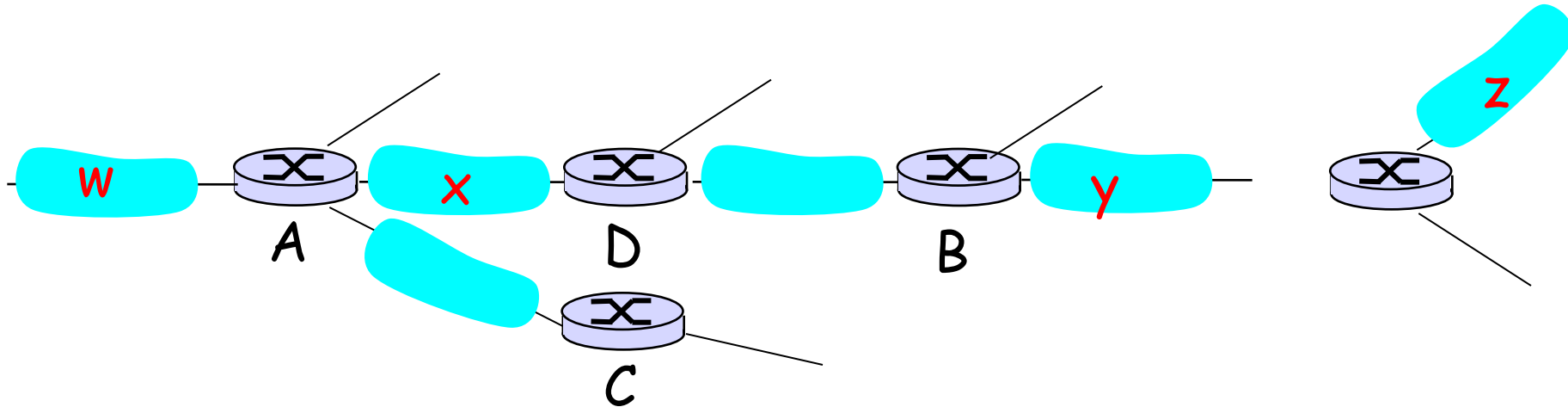
From router A to subnets:

<u>destination</u>	<u>hops</u>
u	1
v	2
w	2
x	3
y	3
z	2

# RIP advertisements

- ❑ distance vectors: exchanged among neighbors every 30 sec via Response Message (also called **advertisement**)
- ❑ each advertisement: list of up to 25 destination subnets within AS

# RIP: Example



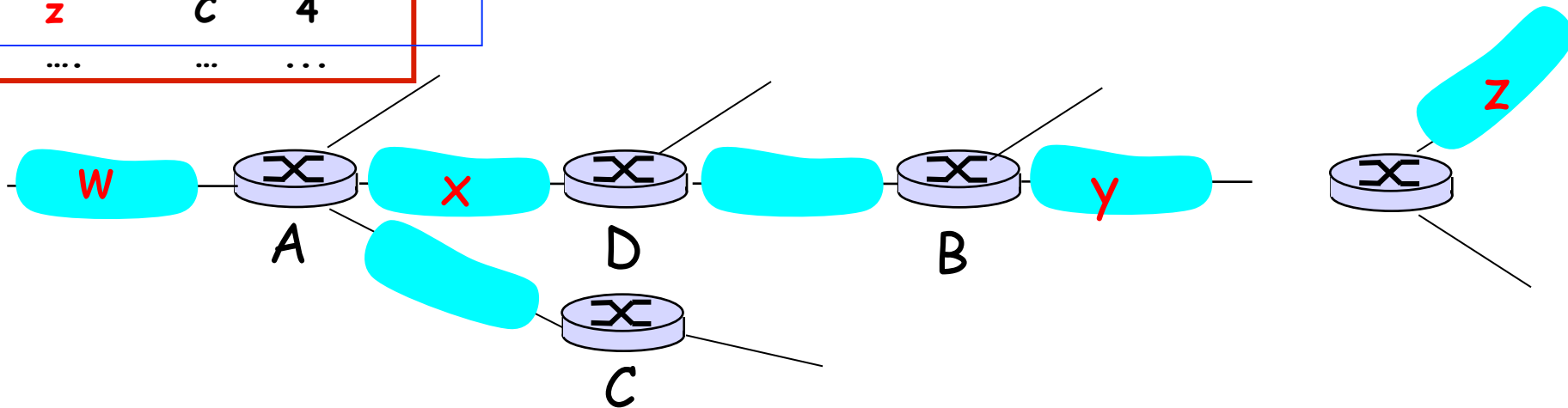
Destination Network	Next Router	Num. of hops to dest.
W	A	2
Y	B	2
Z	B	7
X	--	1
...	...	...

Routing/Forwarding table in D

# RIP: Example

Dest	Next	hops
w	-	1
x	-	1
z	C	4
...	...	...

Advertisement  
from A to D



Destination Network	Next Router	Num. of hops to dest.
w	A	2
y	B	2
z	<del>B</del> A	<del>7</del> 5
x	--	1
...	...	...

Routing/Forwarding table in D

Network Layer 4-16



# Differences wrt Bellman Ford

- ❑ Since count to infinity not solved upper bound on the network size
- ❑ Info on the cost of going through destination X through neighbor Z is maintained ONLY IF the path through Z is the current "best" (min cost) path
  - Different way of updating costs
    - Suppose current route to dest has cost D and goes through G
    - if an update arrives from  $X \neq G$  then updates route ONLY IF cost is  $< D$
    - if an update arrives from G always update route cost
    - PROBLEM: what if the router we go through crashes?
      - Route cost aging MUST be adopted
- ❑ Cost is maintained for each subnetwork (rather than node)
- ❑ Periodic exchange of messages

# The RIP algorithm (from RFC)

- Keep a table with an entry for every possible destination in the system. The entry contains the distance  $D$  to the destination, and the first router  $G$  on the route to that network. Conceptually, there should be an entry for the entity itself, with metric 0, but this is not actually included.
- Periodically, send a routing update to every neighbor. The update is a set of messages that contain all of the information from the routing table. It contains an entry for each destination, with the distance shown to that destination.
- When a routing update arrives from a neighbor  $G'$ , add the cost associated with the network that is shared with  $G'$ . (This should be the network over which the update arrived.) Call the resulting distance  $D'$ . Compare the resulting distances with the current routing table entries. If the new distance  $D'$  for  $N$  is smaller than the existing value  $D$ , adopt the new route. That is, change the table entry for  $N$  to have metric  $D'$  and router  $G'$ . If  $G'$  is the router from which the existing route came, i.e.,  $G' = G$ , then use the new metric even if it is larger than the old one.

# RIP: Link Failure and Recovery

If no advertisement heard after 180 sec --> neighbor/  
link declared dead

- routes via neighbor invalidated
- new advertisements sent to neighbors
- neighbors in turn send out new advertisements (if tables changed)
- link failure info quickly (?) propagates to entire net
- *poison reverse* used to prevent ping-pong loops (infinite distance = 16 hops)

# Differences with Bellman Ford

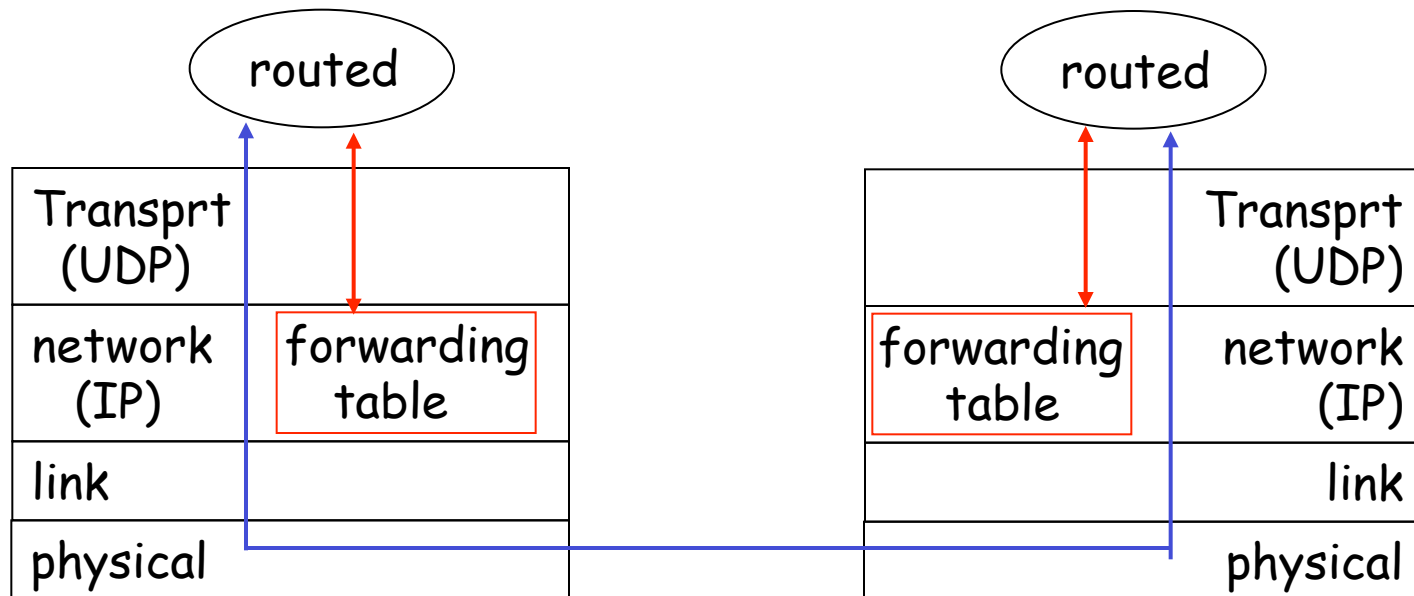
- ❑ Split Horizon
  - with Poison Reverse
  - Simple split horizon (omits cost of reaching destination when advertising through the router it goes through)
- ❑ Clear implementation with point to point links. But consider the possibility that A and C are connected by a broadcast network such as an Ethernet, and there are other routers on that network. Is it a problem?
  - If A has a route through C, it should indicate that D is unreachable when talking to any other router on that network. The other routers on the network can get to C themselves. They would never need to get to C via A.
  - If A's best route is really through C, no other router on that network needs to know that A can reach D. This is fortunate, because it means that the same update message that is used for C can be used for all other routers on the same network. Thus, update messages can be sent by broadcast.

# An additional way to speed up convergence

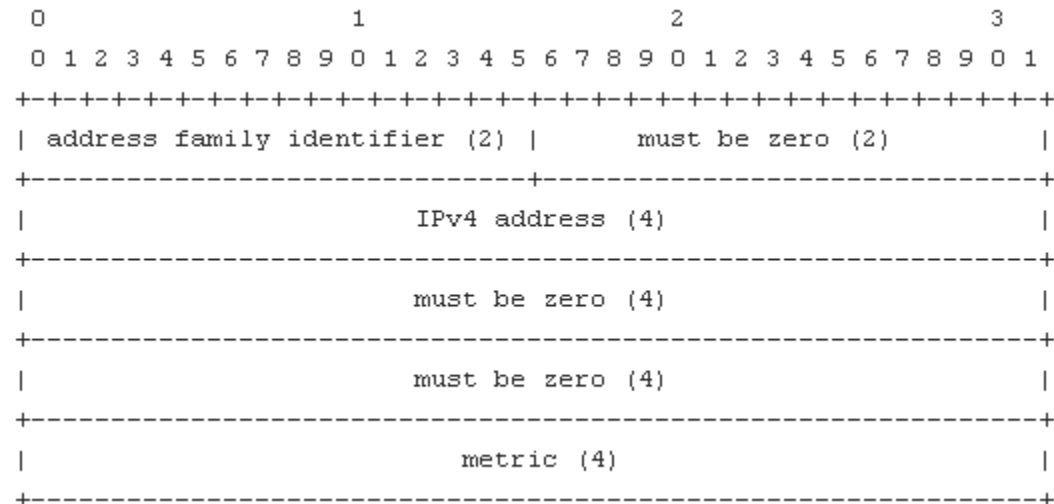
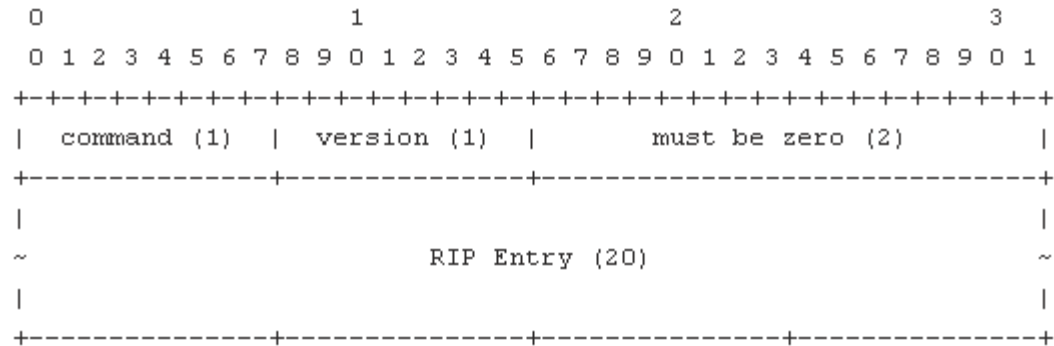
- ❑ Triggered updates
  - Whenever a router changes the metric for a route it is required to send update messages almost immediately
    - must be implemented for deleted routes

# RIP Table processing

- ❑ RIP routing tables managed by **application-level** process called route-d (daemon)
  - port number 520
- ❑ advertisements sent in UDP packets, periodically repeated



# Packet format



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# OSPF (Open Shortest Path First)

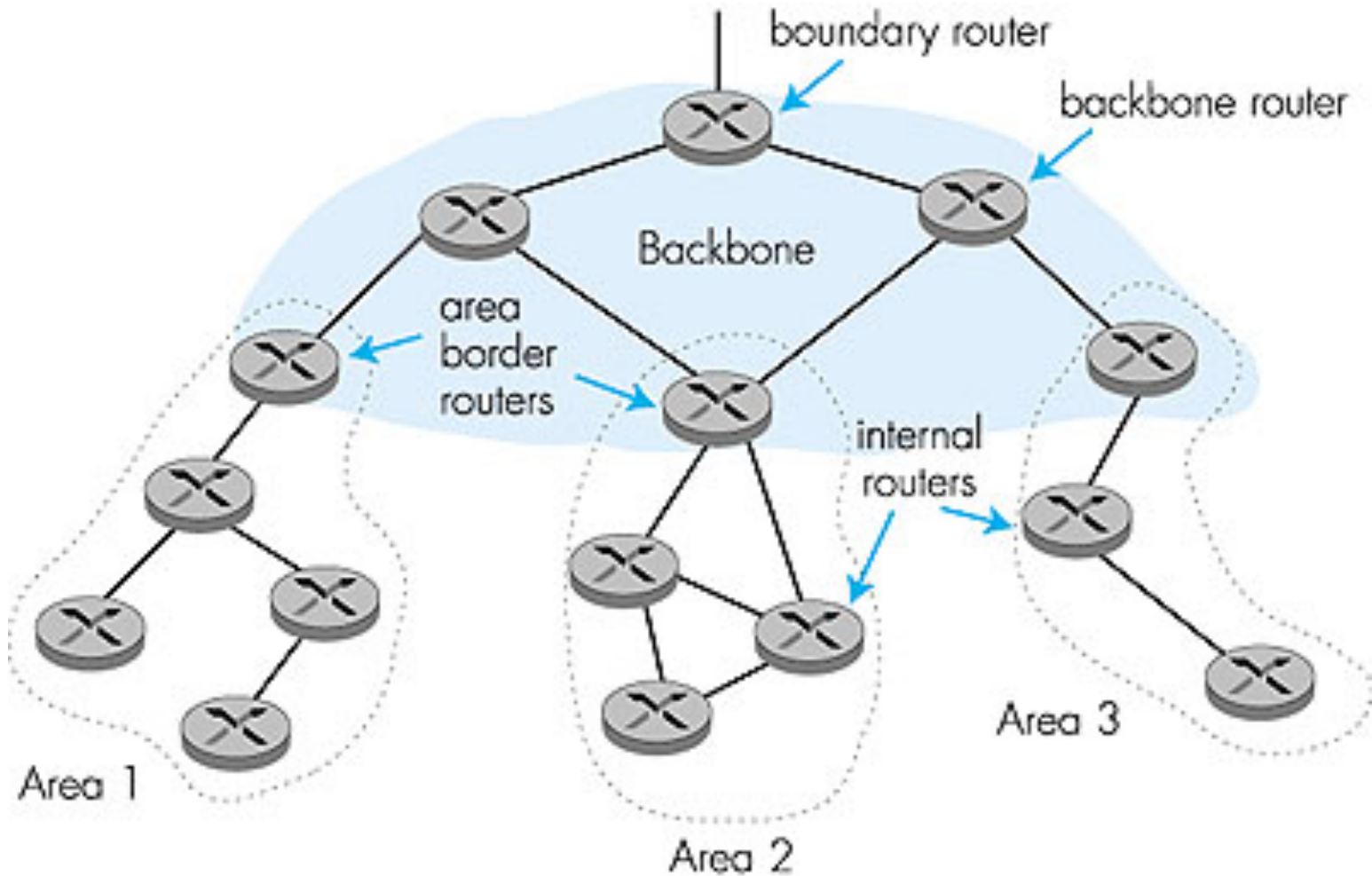
- ❑ “open”: publicly available
- ❑ uses Link State algorithm
  - LS packet dissemination
  - topology map at each node
  - route computation using Dijkstra's algorithm
- ❑ OSPF advertisement carries one entry per neighbor router
  - Each node disseminates its local view of the topology
  - i.e., the router usable interfaces and reachable neighbors
- ❑ advertisements disseminated to **entire** AS (via flooding)
  - carried in OSPF messages directly over IP (using protocol number 89)

# OSPF “advanced” features (not in RIP)

- ❑ **security**: all OSPF messages authenticated (to prevent malicious intrusion)
- ❑ **multiple** same-cost **paths** allowed (only one path in RIP)
- ❑ For each link, multiple cost metrics for different **TOS** (e.g., satellite link cost set “low” for best effort; high for real time)
  - Periodic updates (30 min) or event driven (link cost change)
- ❑ integrated uni- and **multicast** support:
  - Multicast OSPF (MOSPF) uses same topology data base as OSPF
- ❑ **hierarchical** OSPF in large domains.

Externally derived routing data is advertised throughout the Autonomous System unaltered

# Hierarchical OSPF




# Splitting the AD into areas

- ❑ OSPF allows collections of contiguous networks and hosts to be grouped together
  - Such a group together with the routers with interfaces to any of the included networks is called an area
  - Each area runs a separate copy of the basic link-state routing algorithm
    - has its own link state database
  - The topology of an area is invisible from the outside
  - Routers internal to a given area know nothing of the detailed topology external to the area

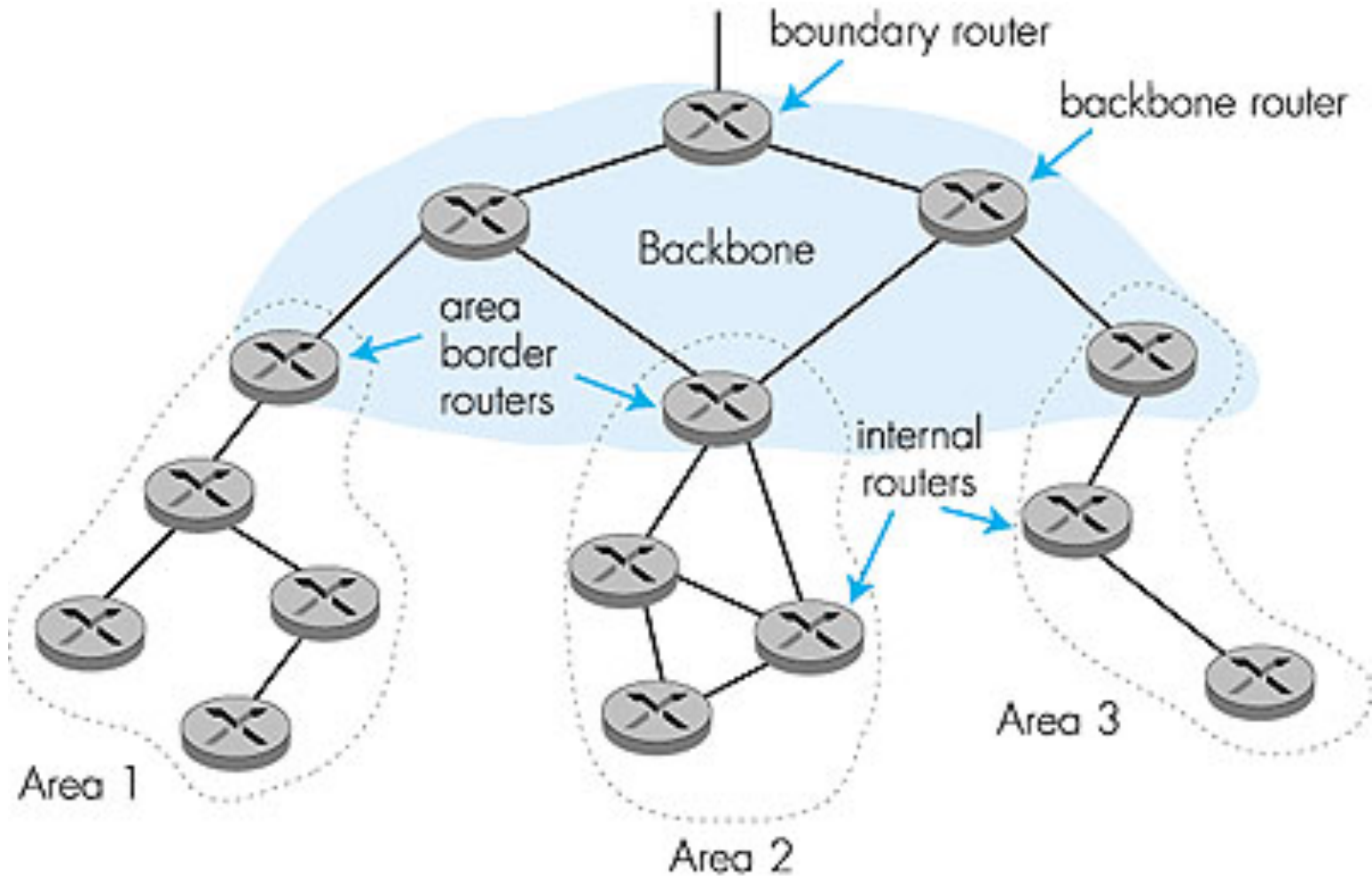
# Hierarchical OSPF

Isolamento info  
di area funzionali  
a ridurre il  
traffico di  
routing



- ❑ **two-level hierarchy:** local area, backbone.
  - Link-state advertisements only in area
  - each node has detailed area topology; only known direction (shortest path) to nets in other areas.
- ❑ **area border routers:** “summarize” distances to nets in own area, advertise to other Area Border routers.

# Hierarchical OSPF



# Hierarchical OSPF

- ❑ The OSPF backbone is the special OSPF Area 0
- ❑ The OSPF backbone always contains backbone routers
- ❑ Backbone routers: run OSPF routing limited to backbone.
- ❑ The backbone is responsible for distributing routing information between non backbone areas
  - Every area border router hears the area summaries from all other area border routers
  - adding backbone distance+distance in summaries each router knows distance to different destinations
  - These distances are then advertised internally to their areas
- ❑ The backbone must be contiguous but not physically contiguous
  - Backbone connectivity can be established/maintained through the configuration of virtual links (part of the backbone with actual way to route between end point of the virtual link based on intra\_AS routing)
- ❑ Boundary routers: connect to other AS' s.
- ❑ AS external LSAs are advertised in the AS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF stub areas
  - Stub areas use a default routing

# Types of networks

- ❑ Transit networks are capable of carrying data traffic which is neither locally originated nor locally destined
- ❑ A stub network only carries traffic it either generates or addressed to it



# LSA (Link State Advertisement)

- ❑ Periodic advertisement
- ❑ Link state is also advertised when a router state changes
  - Hello packets used to discover and maintain neighbor relationships
- ❑ Disseminated via flooding
- ❑ Flooding algorithm is reliable ensuring that all routers in the area have the same link state database

# Chapter 4: Network Layer

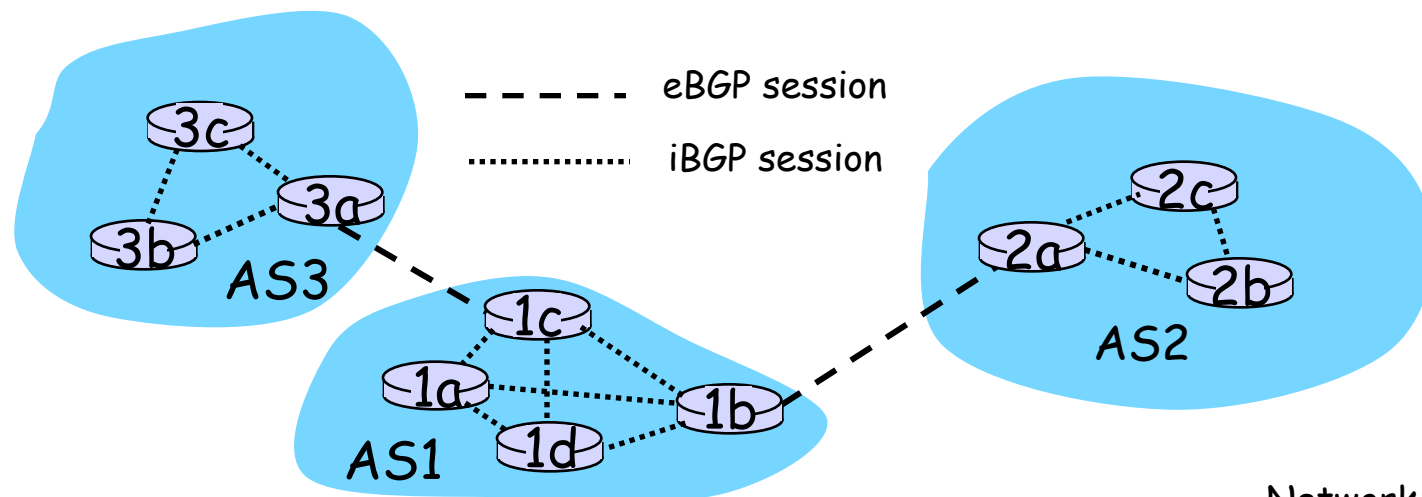
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# Internet inter-AS routing: BGP

- ❑ **BGP (Border Gateway Protocol):** *the de facto standard*
- ❑ BGP provides each AS a means to:
  1. Obtain subnet reachability information from neighboring ASs.
  2. Propagate reachability information to all AS-internal routers.
  3. Determine “good” routes to subnets based on reachability information and policy.
- ❑ allows subnet to advertise its existence to rest of Internet: *“I am here”*

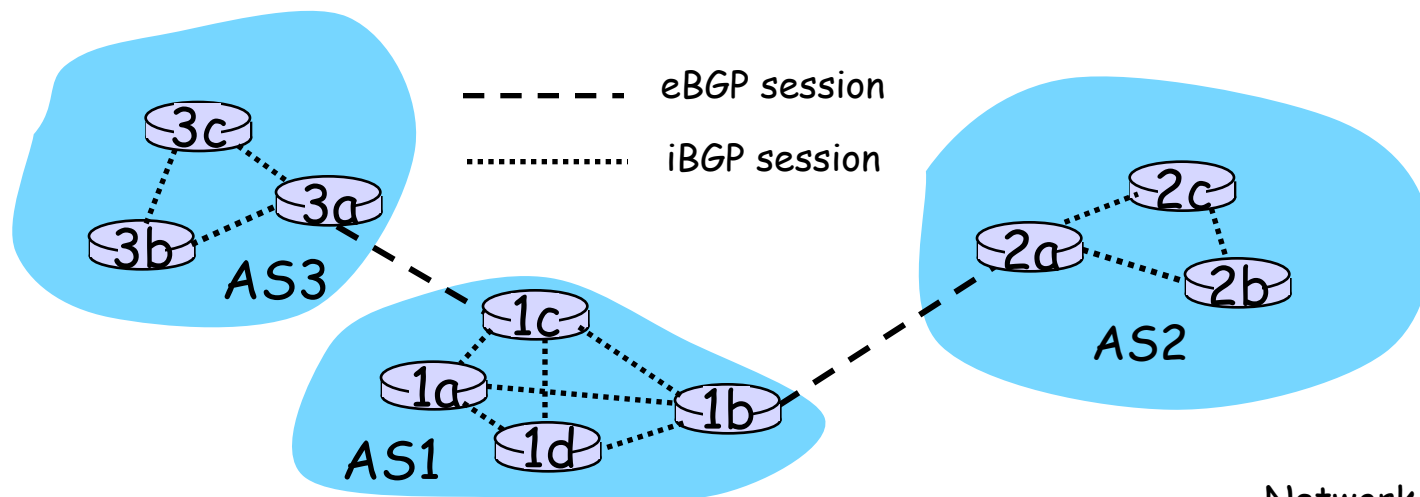
# BGP basics

- ❑ pairs of routers (BGP peers) exchange routing info over semi-permanent TCP connections: **BGP sessions**
  - BGP sessions need not correspond to physical links.
- ❑ when AS2 advertises a prefix to AS1:
  - AS2 **promises** it will forward datagrams towards that prefix.
  - AS2 can aggregate prefixes in its advertisement



# Distributing reachability info

- using eBGP session between 3a and 1c, AS3 sends prefix reachability info to AS1.
  - 1c can then use iBGP to distribute new prefix info to all routers in AS1
  - 1b can then re-advertise new reachability info to AS2 over 1b-to-2a eBGP session
- when router learns of new prefix, it creates entry for prefix in its forwarding table.



# Path attributes & BGP routes

- ❑ advertised prefix includes BGP attributes.
  - prefix + attributes = “route”
- ❑ two important attributes:
  - **AS-PATH**: contains ASs through which prefix advertisement has passed: e.g, AS 67, AS 17
  - **NEXT-HOP**: indicates specific internal-AS router to next-hop AS. (may be multiple links from current AS to next-hop-AS)
- ❑ when gateway router receives route advertisement, uses **import policy** to accept/decline.

# BGP route selection

- ❑ router may learn about more than 1 route to some prefix. Router must select route.
- ❑ elimination rules (in priority order):
  1. local preference value attribute: policy decision
  2. (in case of same preference) shortest AS-PATH
  3. (in case of same preference and AS-PATH length) closest NEXT-HOP router: hot potato routing
  4. additional criteria to break the tie

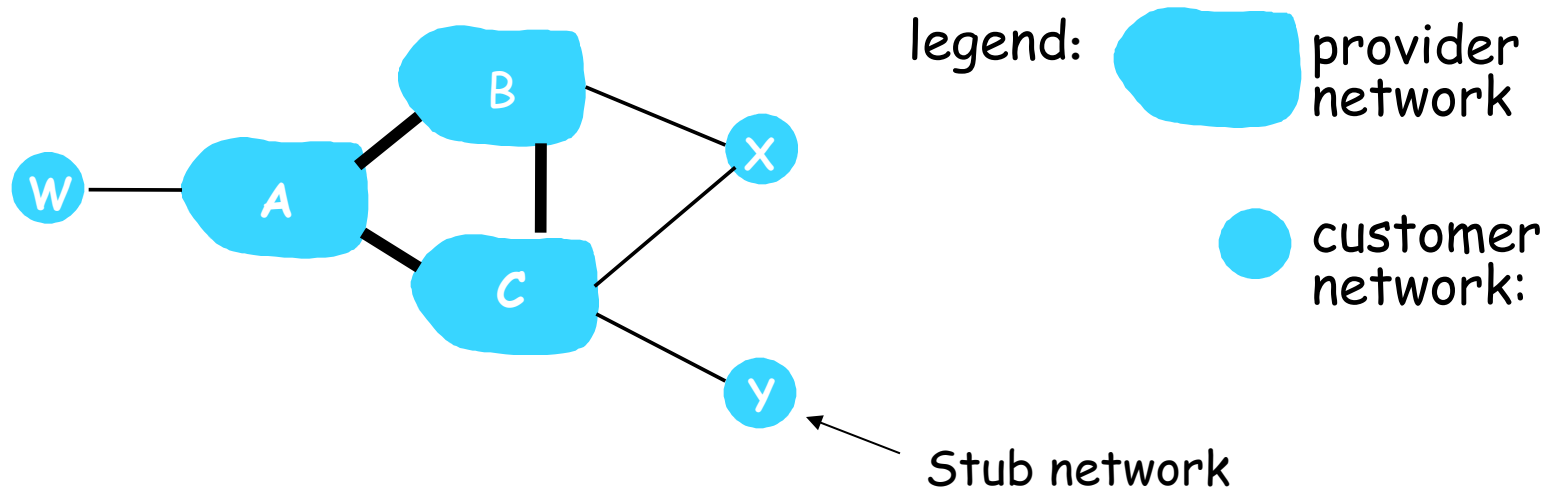
# BGP messages

- ❑ BGP messages exchanged using TCP.
- ❑ BGP messages:
  - **OPEN**: opens TCP connection to peer and authenticates sender
  - **UPDATE**: advertises new path (or withdraws old)
  - **KEEPALIVE** keeps connection alive in absence of UPDATES; also ACKs OPEN request
  - **NOTIFICATION**: reports errors in previous msg; also used to close connection

Sent periodically or in case of selected routes changes

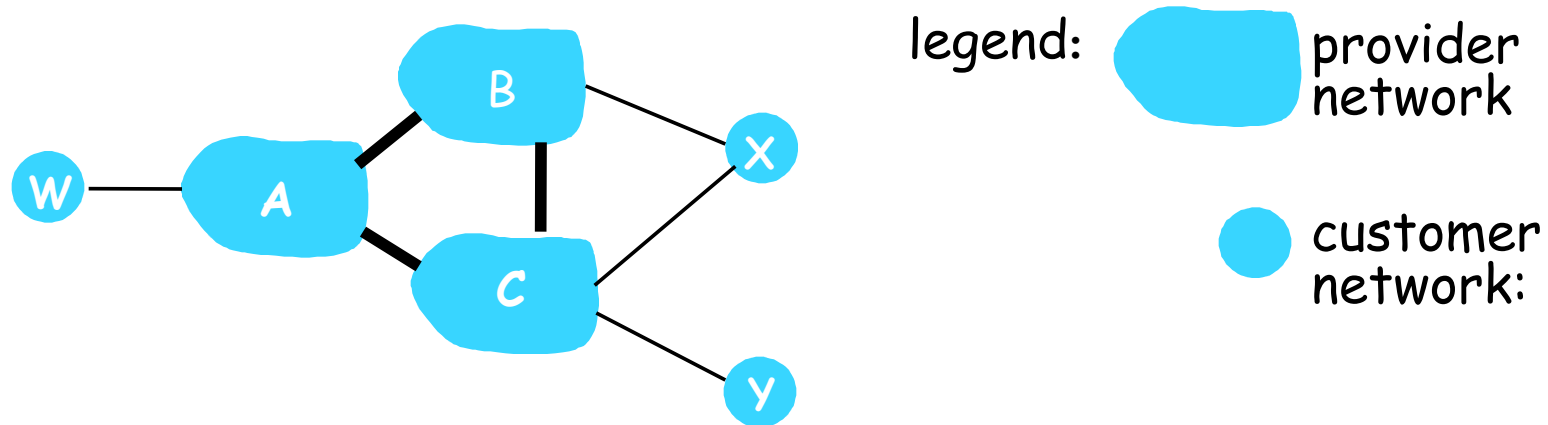


# BGP routing policy



- ❑ A,B,C are **provider networks**
- ❑ X,W,Y are customer (of provider networks)
- ❑ X is **dual-homed**: attached to two networks
  - X does not want to route from B via X to C
  - .. so X will not advertise to B a route to C

## BGP routing policy (2)



- ❑ A advertises path AW to B
- ❑ B advertises path BAW to X (who is its client)
- ❑ Should B advertise path BAW to C?
  - No way! B gets no “revenue” for routing CBAW since neither W nor C are B’s customers
  - B wants to force C to route to w via A
  - B wants to route *only* to/from its customers!
  - Peering agreements amongs pairs of ISP possible to solve this problem

# Decision process

- ❑ The decision process selects routes for subsequent advertisement applying the policies in the local Policy Information Base (PIB) to the routes stored in its Adj-RIBs\_In (Incoming Routing Information Base)
- ❑ A function takes as argument the attributes of a give route and returns a) either a non negative integer identifying the degree of preference for the route or b) a value indicating the route is inelegible

# Why different Intra- and Inter-AS routing ?

## Policy:

- ❑ Inter-AS: admin wants control over how its traffic routed, who routes through its net.
- ❑ Intra-AS: single admin, so no policy decisions needed

## Scale:

- ❑ hierarchical routing saves table size, reduced update traffic

## Performance:

- ❑ Intra-AS: can focus on performance
- ❑ Inter-AS: policy may dominate over performance

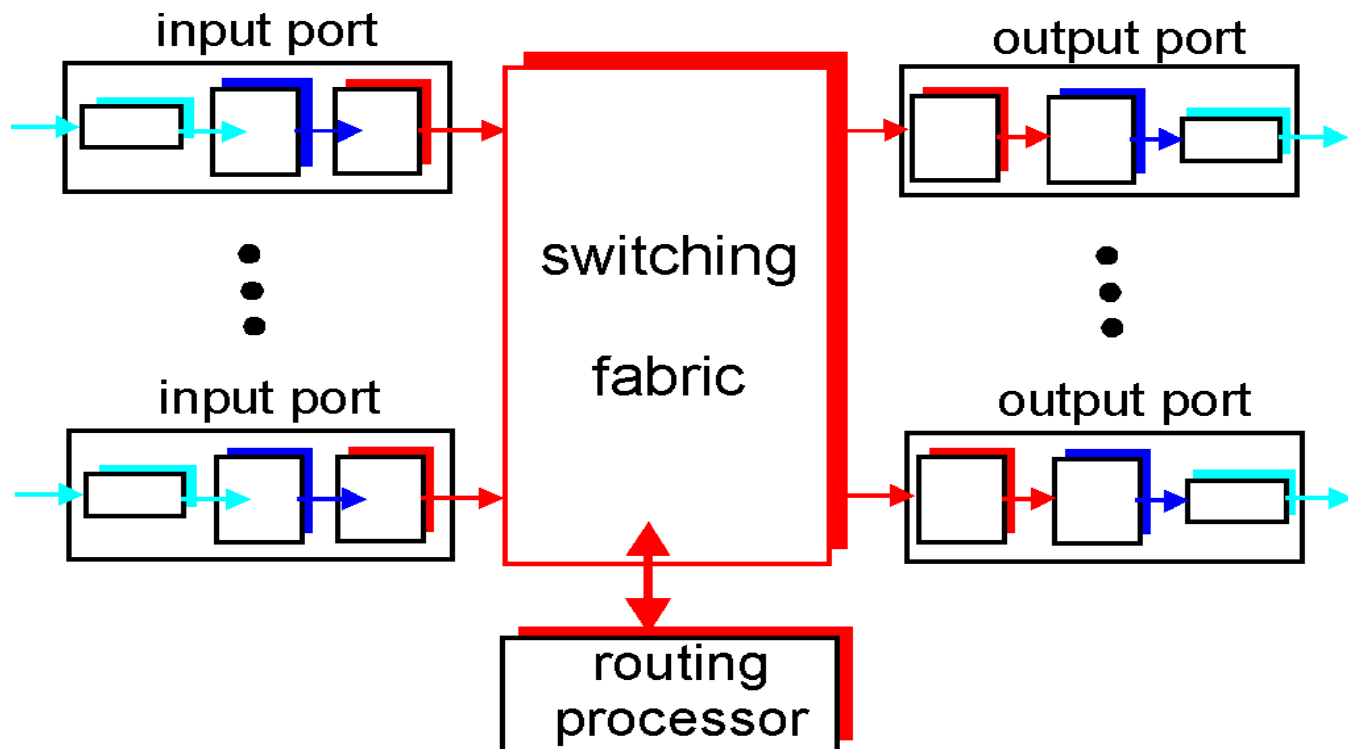
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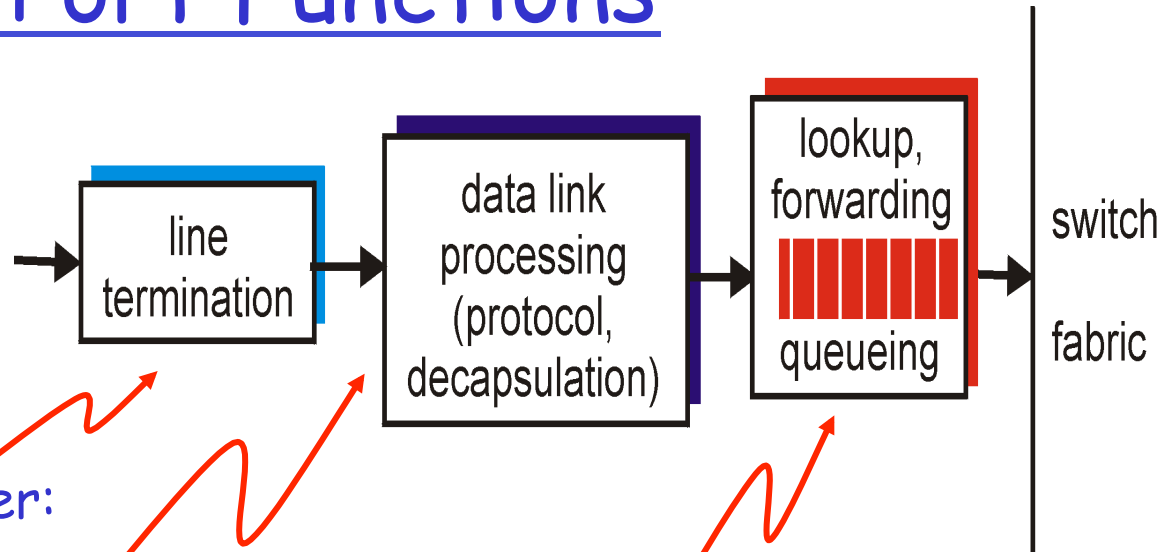
# Router Architecture Overview

Two key router functions:

- ❑ run routing algorithms/protocol (RIP, OSPF, BGP)
- ❑ *forwarding* datagrams from incoming to outgoing link



# Input Port Functions



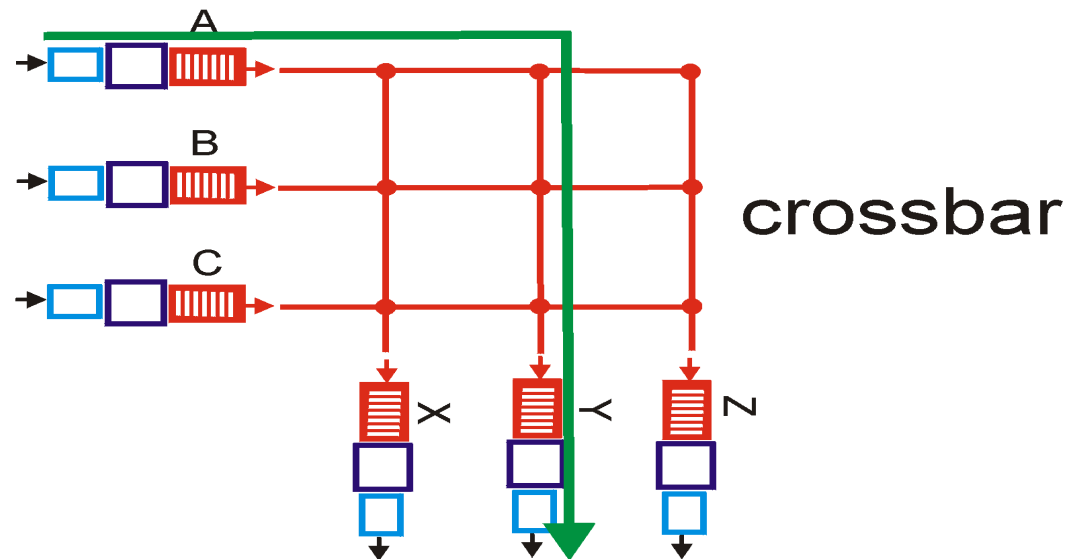
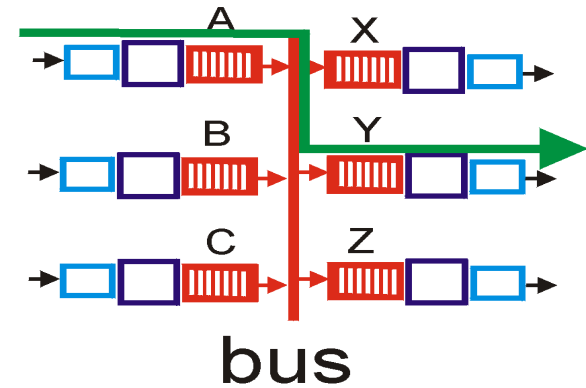
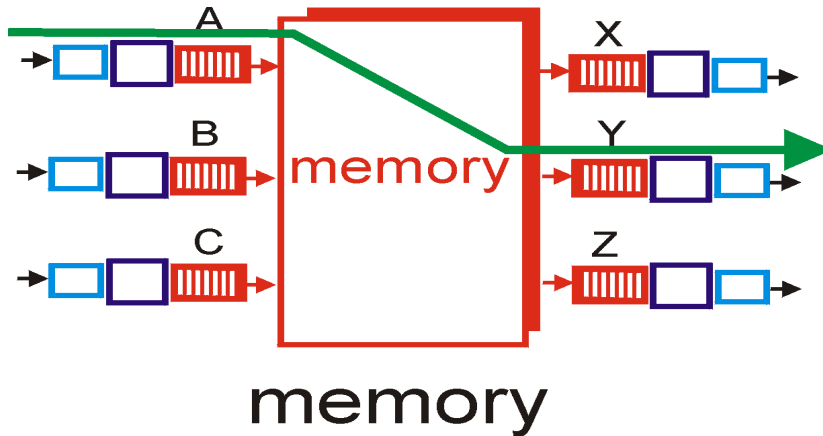
Physical layer:  
bit-level reception

Data link layer:  
e.g., Ethernet  
see chapter 5

## **Decentralized switching:**

- ❑ given datagram dest., lookup output port using forwarding table in input port memory
- ❑ goal: complete input port processing at 'line speed'
- ❑ queuing: if datagrams arrive faster than forwarding rate into switch fabric

# Three types of switching fabrics

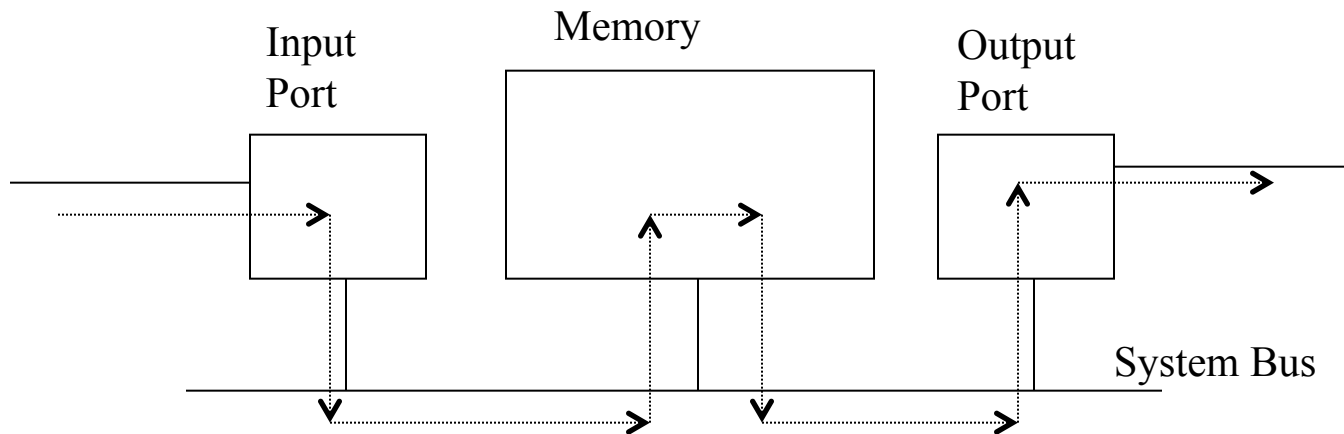




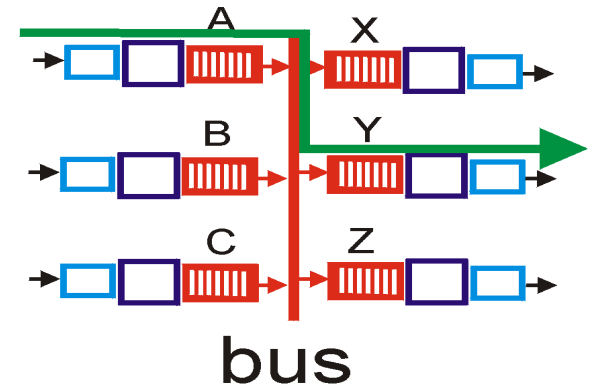
# Switching Via Memory

## First generation routers:

- ❑ traditional computers with switching under direct control of CPU
- ❑ packet copied to system's memory
- ❑ speed limited by memory bandwidth (2 bus crossings per datagram)



# Switching Via a Bus

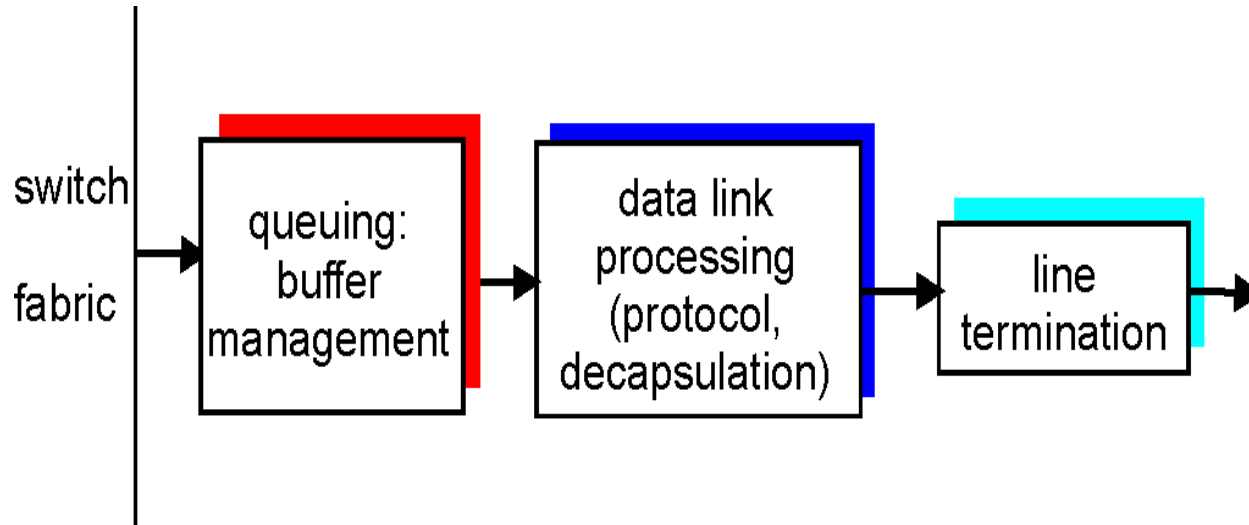


- ❑ datagram from input port memory to output port memory via a shared bus
- ❑ **bus contention:** switching speed limited by bus bandwidth
- ❑ 32 Gbps bus, Cisco 5600: sufficient speed for access and enterprise routers

# Switching Via An Interconnection Network

- ❑ overcome bus bandwidth limitations
- ❑ Banyan networks, other interconnection nets initially developed to connect processors in multiprocessor
- ❑ advanced design: fragmenting datagram into fixed length cells, switch cells through the fabric.
- ❑ Cisco 12000: switches 60 Gbps through the interconnection network

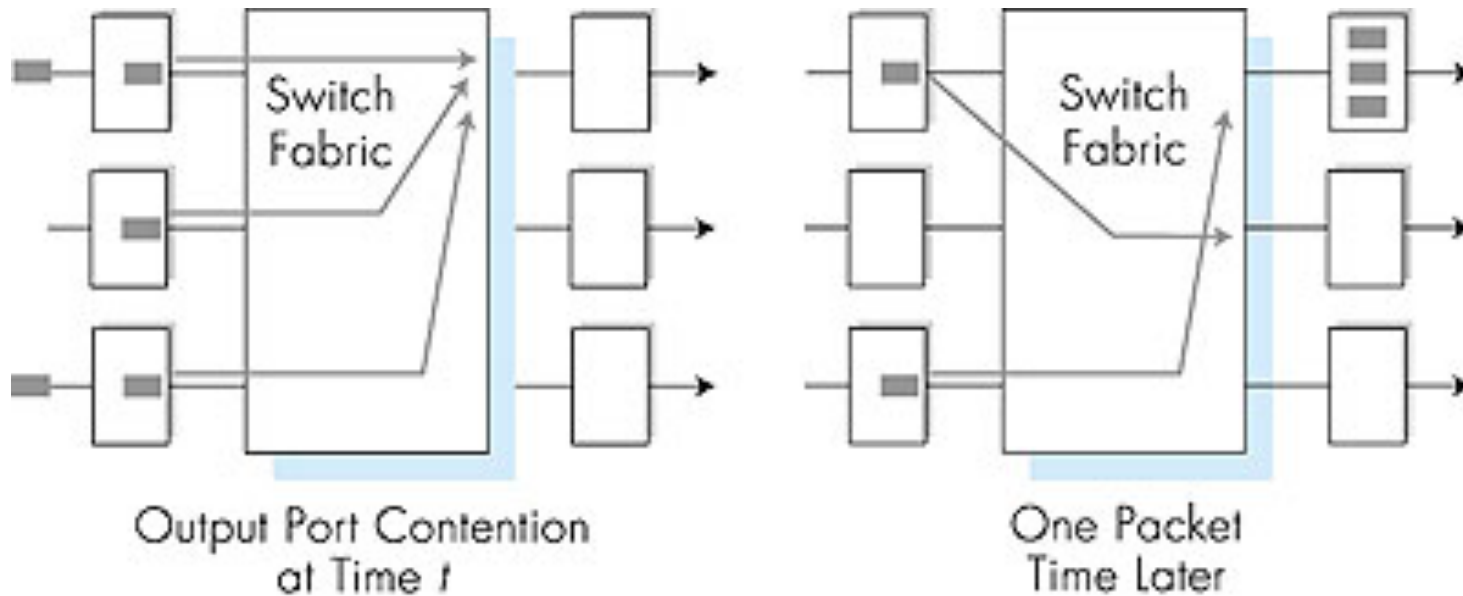
# Output Ports



- ❑ *Buffering* required when datagrams arrive from fabric faster than the transmission rate
  - What if the queue builds up?
    - Drop Tail
    - Random Early Discard
- ❑ *Scheduling discipline* chooses among queued datagrams for transmission
  - First Come First Served
  - Weighted Fair Queueing

$$\frac{Rw_i}{(w_1 + w_2 + \dots + w_N)}$$

# Output port queueing



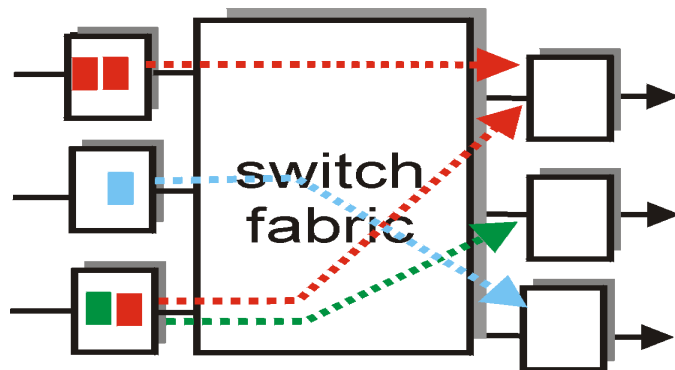
- ❑ buffering when arrival rate via switch exceeds output line speed
- ❑ *queueing (delay) and loss due to output port buffer overflow!*

# How much buffering?

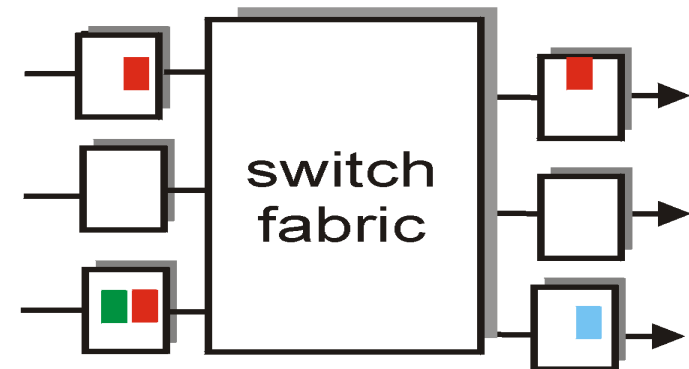
- ❑ RFC 3439 rule of thumb: average buffering equal to “typical” RTT (say 250 msec) times link capacity  $C$ 
  - e.g.,  $C = 10$  Gps link: 2.5 Gbit buffer
- ❑ Recent recommendation: with  $N$  flows, buffering equal to  $\frac{RTT \cdot C}{\sqrt{N}}$

# Input Port Queuing

- ❑ Fabric slower than input ports combined -> queueing may occur at input queues
- ❑ **Head-of-the-Line (HOL) blocking:** queued datagram at front of queue prevents others in queue from moving forward
- ❑ *queueing delay and loss due to input buffer overflow!*



output port contention  
at time t - only one red  
packet can be transferred



green packet  
experiences HOL blocking