



ATHENS UNIVERSITY
OF ECONOMICS
AND BUSINESS

### **Information-Centric Networks**

Section # 7.2: Evolved Addressing & Forwarding

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### Week 7 / Paper 2

- NIRA: A New Inter-Domain Routing Architecture
  - Xiaowei Yang, David Clark, Arthur W. Berger
  - IEEE/ACM TRANSACTIONS ON NETWORKING, VOL. 15, NO.
     4, AUGUST 2007
- Main point
  - Users choose ISPs but ISPs choose routes
  - What if users could choose provider level routes?
    - How do you discover routes?
    - How do you represent routes?
    - How do you switch routes quickly?
    - How are providers compensated?
  - NIRA represents routes as a sender and receiver part
    - Each part is represented as a single address

#### Introduction

- Consider routes at the AS level
  - Users select ISPs only
  - ISPs interconnect independently
- Why have users control routes?
  - With cable against DSL local competition is very slim
  - Route selection introduces competition at the top level
    - Gives backbone ISPs an incentives to invest
- BGP selected routes are not always the best
  - For almost 80% of paths, better ones can be found
  - Even more opportunities for multihomed hosts
  - Users know whether they prefer (say) latency or bandwidth
- NIRA provides route selection at the domain level
  - More manageable than the router level

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#### Basic concepts

- A user can only select routes for which he pays for
- Route consists of sender, core and receiver part
  - Source and destination part represented as a single address

#### Design rationale

- Users need to discover failure free routes
- Routes must be encoded into packets
- Providers must be compensated
  - Assume bilateral contracts between providers
  - Contracts are typically customer-provider or peer-to-peer
  - Tier-1 providers do not purchase transit from others
  - The Internet core consists of the Tier-1 providers

- Route discovery
  - Users can only see their providers, recursively up to the core
    - · Including the peering connections outside the core
  - This is the up-graph of the user
    - Represented as one route per domain and one link between domains
  - Topology information propagation protocol (TIPP)
  - TIPP path-vector component
    - Advertises reachability towards the core
    - Tier-1 providers advertise themselves, customers attach themselves
  - TIPP link-state component
    - Advertises network dynamics within provider hierarchy
  - A sender combines an up-graph and a reverse up-graph
    - Valley-free routes: upward, horizontal, downward

- Efficient route representation
  - NIRA encodes a path through an up-graph into a single address
    - Both sender and receiver fit into single addresses
  - Each Tier-1 provider obtains a globally unique address prefix
    - This is subdivided to its customers, recursively
    - The final address encodes all the providers it is using
  - NIRA uses 128 bit IPv6 addresses.
    - 96 bits encode the up-graph and 32 bits a host in the ISP
    - Could instead use a sequence of IPv4 addresses
  - Peering links use a private address space
    - They are also recursively allocated to customers
  - Each host eventually obtains a set of addresses
    - Each address encodes a path to the core or to a peering domain

- Bootstrap communication
  - How do you find out the receiver's addresses?
    - Need to select a path for the receiver too!
  - NRLS: maps names to route segments
    - Similar to DNS but returns multiple up-graphs
  - Hosts are notified by TIPP about network changes
    - They may then need to notify NLRS about their routes
- Handling route failures
  - TIPP notifies the sender but not the receiver
  - If a route is unavailable, the routers return ICMP errors
    - Local errors are masked in domain level paths
    - Inter-domain errors are passed to the sender for a decision
    - The sender consults the NLRS again to choose a new route

#### Choosing routes

- A user agent runs on each user's computer
- The agent combines sender and receiver parts
- Depending on preferences it chooses a combination
  - Subsequent packets can be used to switch to another route

#### Forwarding

- The up-graphs and reverse up-graphs are specified
- The route through the core is not specified
  - Tier-1 providers retain control of these routes
  - Users are not exposed to the dense backbone connectivity
  - Each Tier-1 provider needs to advertise a single prefix
- Any ISP (not only Tier-1's) can decide to join the core
  - It simply needs to obtain a global prefix

#### **TIPP**

- TIPP runs between domains but not in the core
  - Separate address and topology propagation
  - Propagating address information
    - A provider announces address prefixes to customers
    - Customers recursively propagate these announcements
  - Propagating topology information
    - Link-state protocol with policy controls
  - Scope enforcement: limit what neighbors know about customers
  - Information hiding: limit what neighbors know about neighbors
  - Uses the Shortest Path Topology Algorithm (SPTA)
    - Computationally more expensive than OSPF or IS-IS
    - But easier to resolve inconsistencies between different messages
    - Should be sufficient for the small scale of the upgraphs

## Forwarding

- What is the next hop towards a destination address?
  - Three tables are maintained at each router
    - Uphill: points to the provider that allocated each prefix
    - Downhill: points to the customer that received each prefix
    - Bridge: points to the neighbor allocated with each private prefix
  - Separate from other routing tables (for core routers)
  - Lookup destination in downhill table
  - Lookup source in uphill table
  - Special entries in uphill table
    - Routing: forward through the core
    - Bridge: forward via bridge table (to peer)
  - Special entries in downhill table
    - Blackhole: drop packet (customer is disconnected)
    - Self: forward packet inside the domain

#### **Evaluation**

- Amount of state obtained from TIPP
  - The up-graph can grow exponentially
    - Provider hierarchy is not fully known, but inferred
  - Statistics for 90% of domains
    - Less than 20 addresses prefixes
    - Less than 30 link records
    - Less than 100 forwarding entries
- Message overhead and convergence speed of TIPP
  - Less than 1 sec to converge after link failure/recovery
  - Less than 2 messages per link failure/recovery
- Setup latency due to reactive failure detection (ICMP)
  - 80% of connections need a round trip
  - 99% need three round trips

#### OIKONOMIKO ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ



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#### **End of Section #7.2**

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