Chapter IV: Network Layer

UG3 Computer Communications & Networks (COMN)

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Hierarchical routing

our routing study thus far - idealization

- all routers identical
- network "flat"

… *not* true in practice

scale: with 600 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

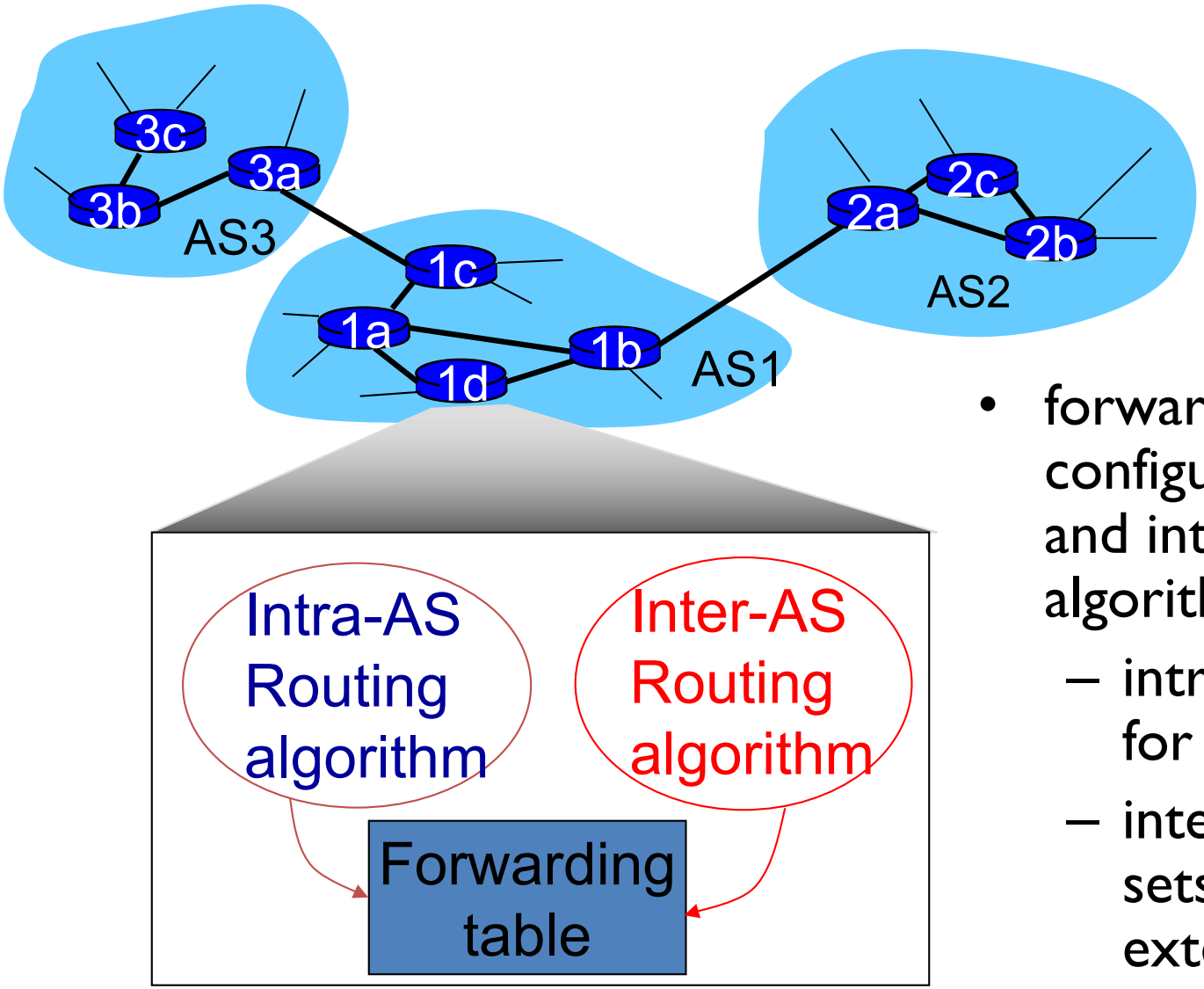
Hierarchical routing

- 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:

- at "edge" of its own AS
- has 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

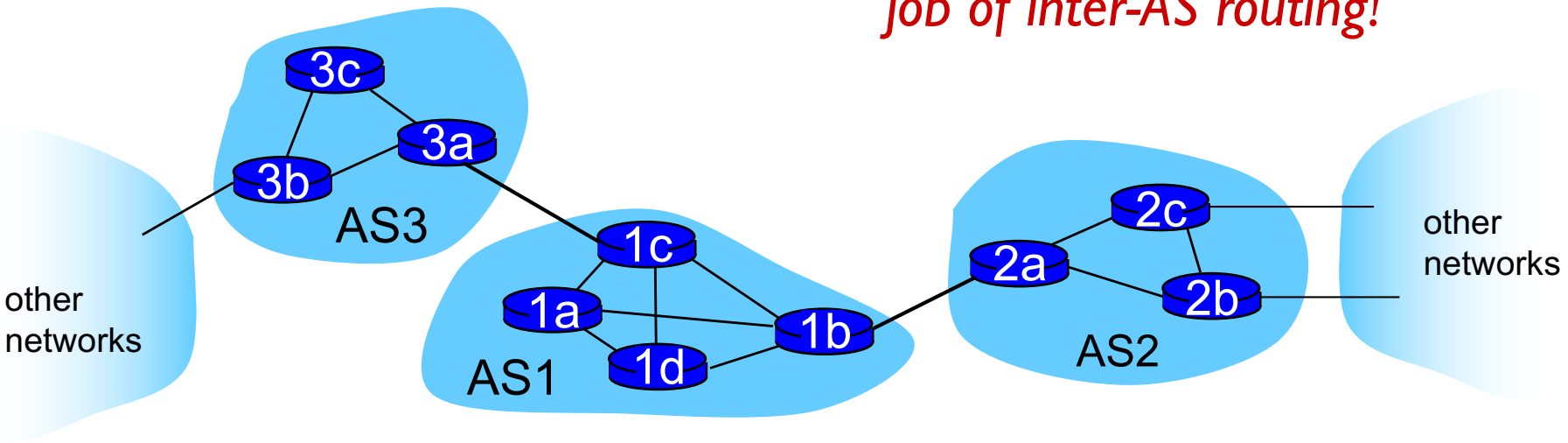
Inter-AS tasks

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

AS1 must:

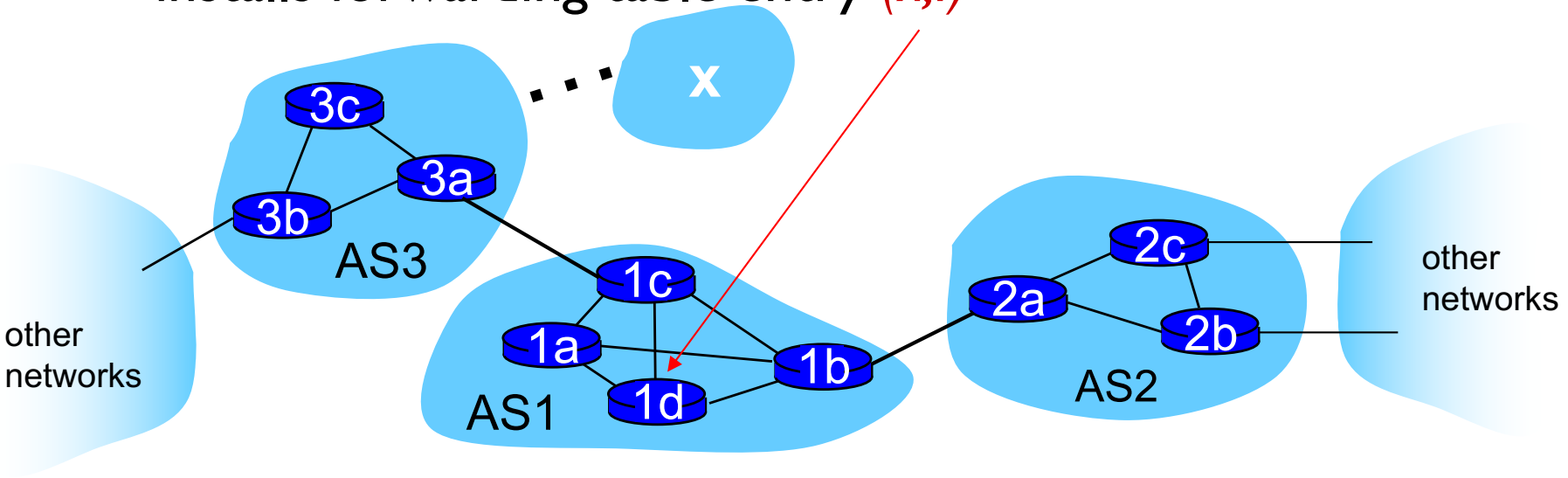
1. learn which dests are reachable through AS2, which through AS3
2. propagate this reachability info to all routers in AS1

job of inter-AS routing!



Example: setting forwarding table in router 1d

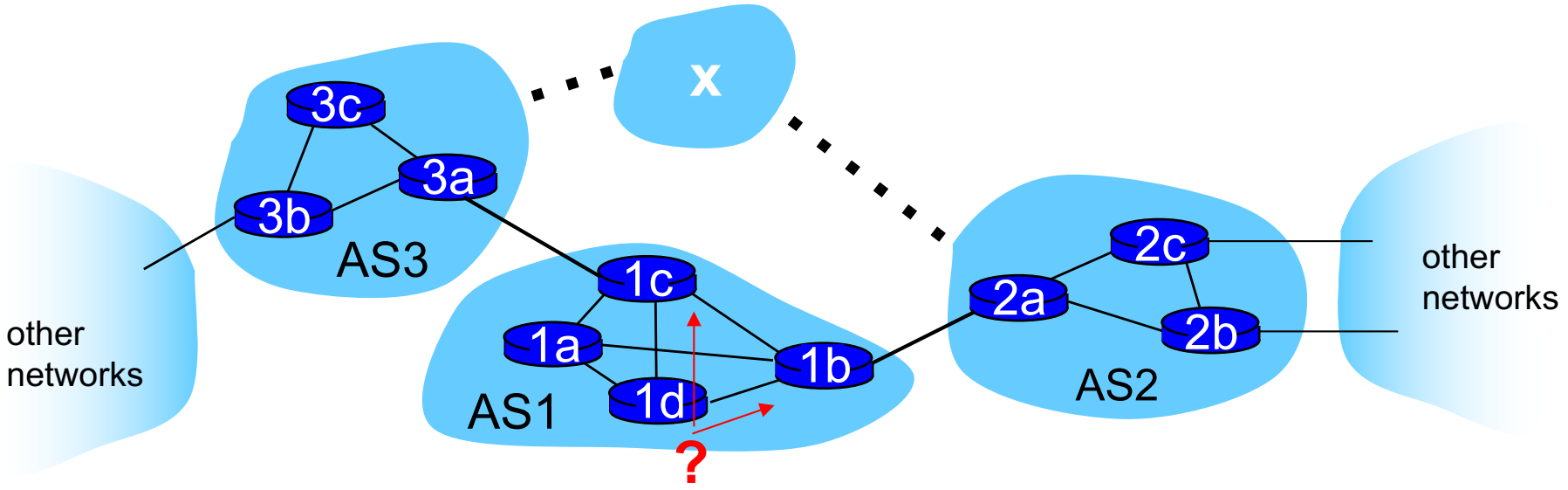
- suppose AS1 learns (via inter-AS protocol) that subnet *x* reachable via AS3 (gateway 1c), but not via AS2
  - inter-AS protocol propagates reachability info to all internal routers
- router 1d determines from intra-AS routing info that its interface *I* is on the least cost path to 1c
  - installs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



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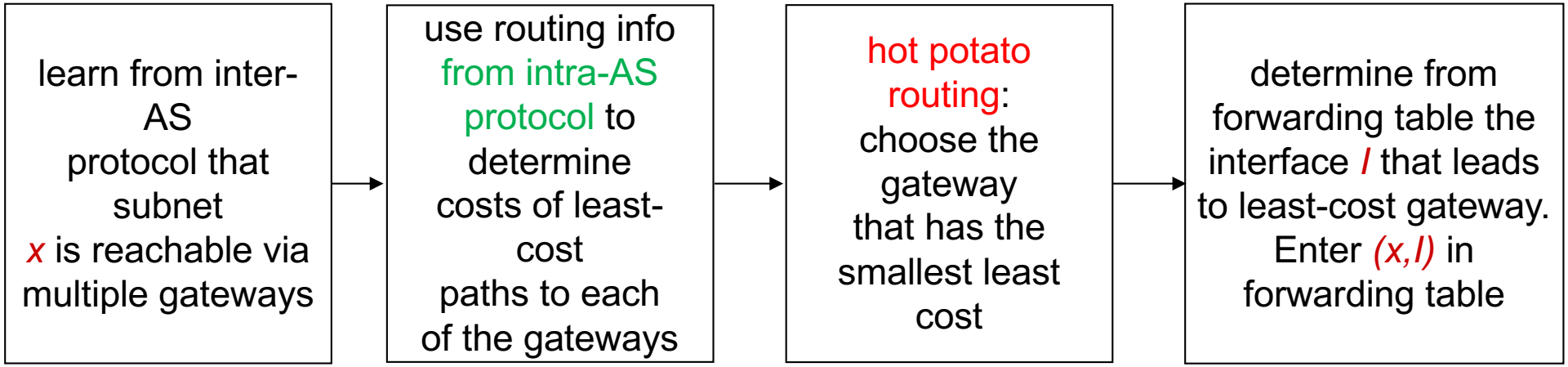
  - this is also job of inter-AS routing protocol!
- *hot potato routing: send* packet towards closest of two routers

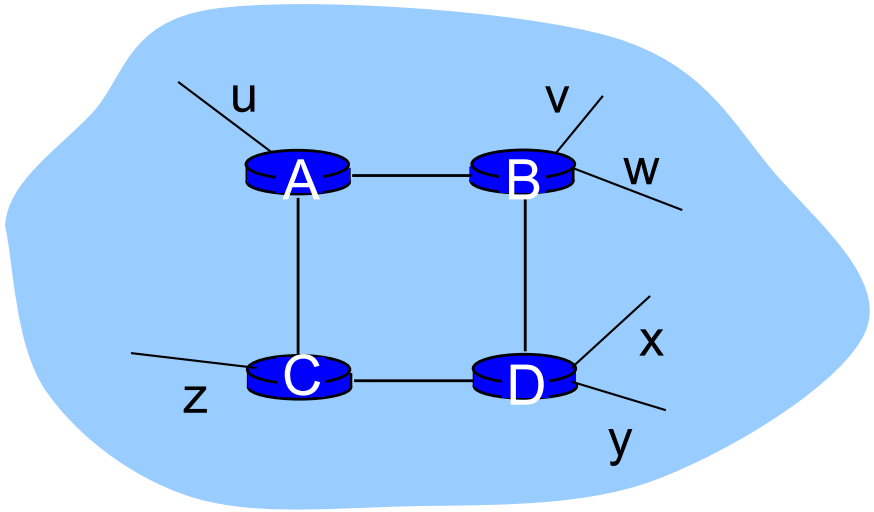


Intra-AS Routing

- 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)

RIP (Routing Information Protocol)

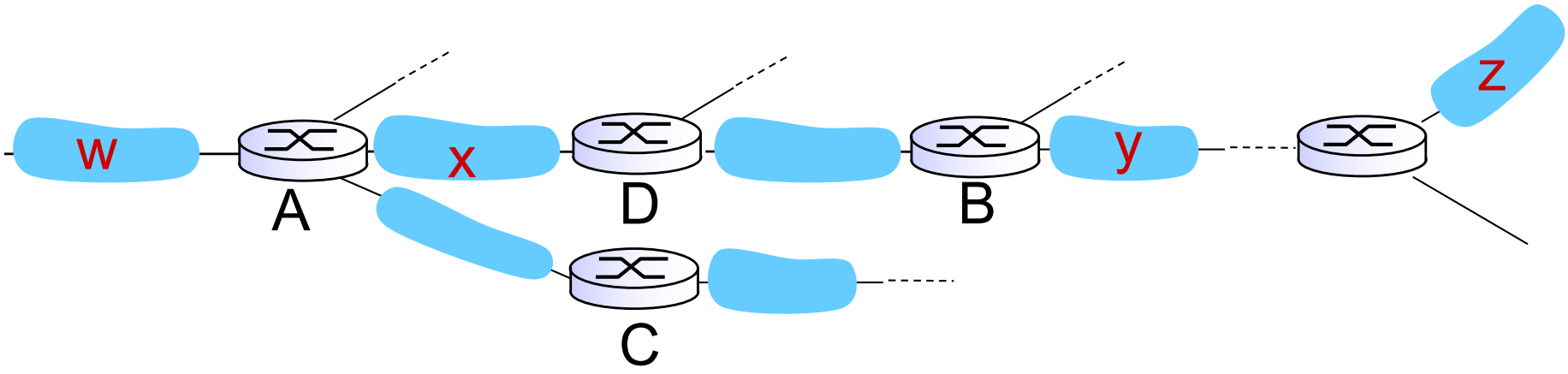
- included in BSD-UNIX distribution in 1982
- distance vector algorithm
  - distance metric: # hops (max = 15 hops), each link has cost 1
  - DVs exchanged with neighbors every 30 sec in response message (aka advertisement)
  - each advertisement: list of up to 25 destination *subnets (in IP addressing sense)*



from router A to destination *subnets:*

subnet	hops
u	1
v	2
w	2
x	3
y	3
z	2

RIP: example



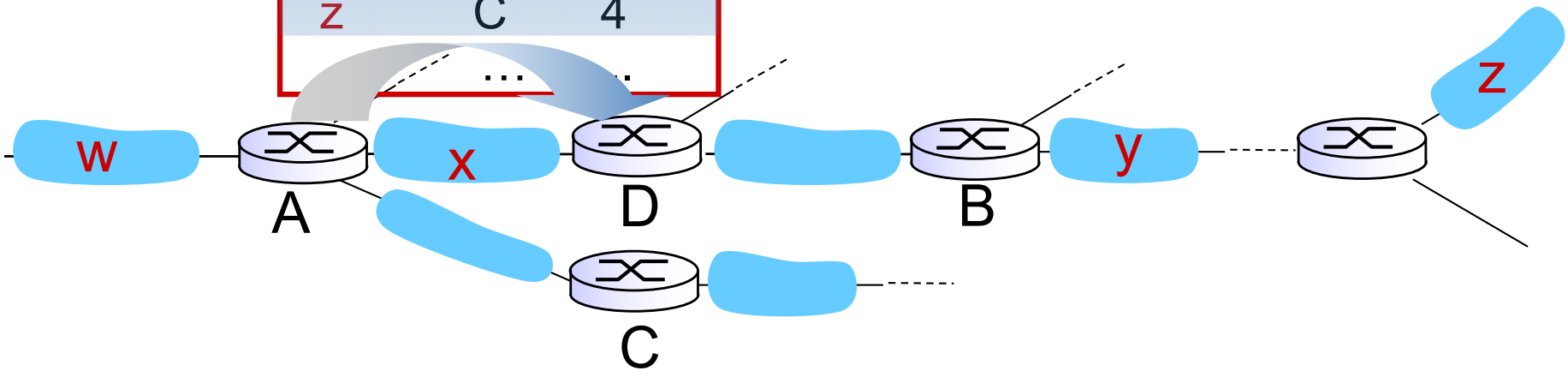
routing table in router D

destination subnet	next router	# hops to dest
w	A	2
y	B	2
z	B	7
x	--	1
….	….	....

RIP: example

A-to-D advertisement

dest	next	hops
w	-	1
x	-	1
z	C	4
...	...	...



routing table in router D

destination subnet	next router	# hops to dest
w	A	2
y	B	2
z	B → A	7 → 5
x	--	1
....	....	....

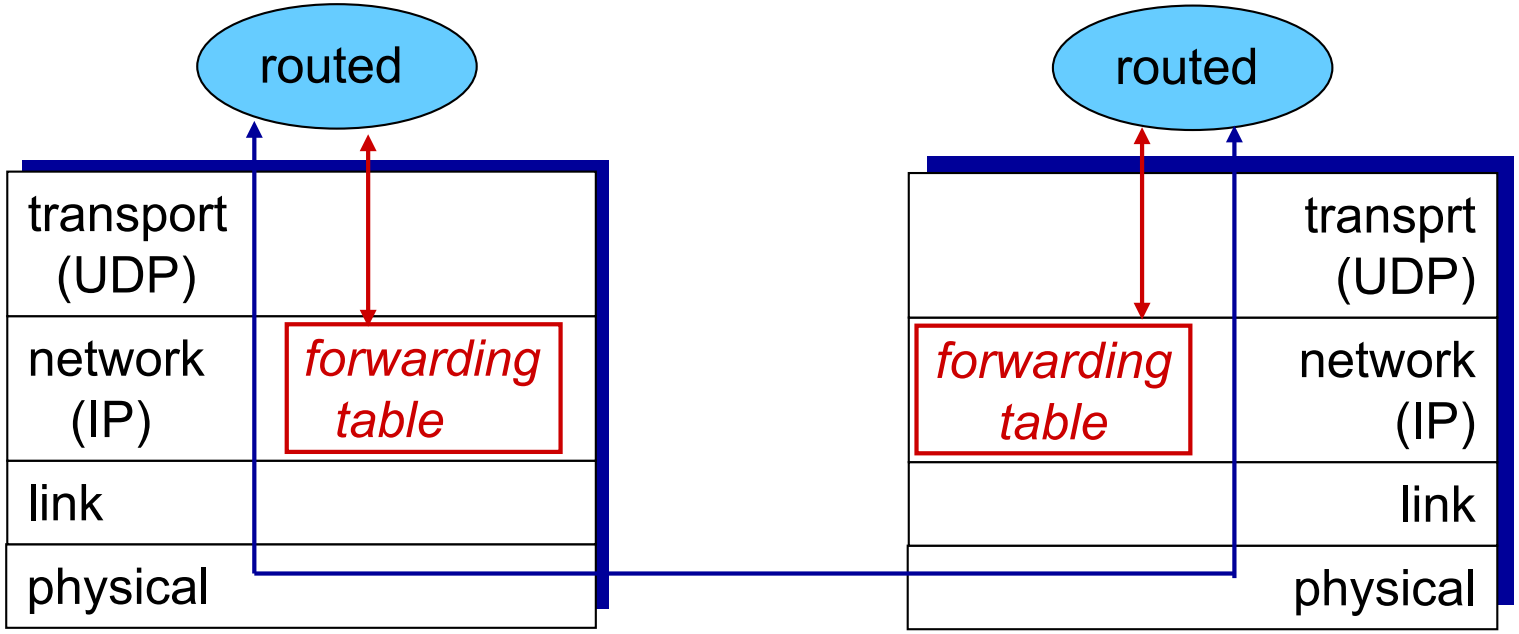
RIP: link failure, recovery

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)

RIP table processing

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



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
- advertisements flooded to *entire* AS
  - carried in OSPF messages directly over IP (rather than TCP or UDP)
- *IS-IS routing* protocol: nearly identical to OSPF

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 ToS; high for real time ToS)
- integrated uni- and multicast support:
  - Multicast OSPF (MOSPF) uses same topology data base as OSPF
- hierarchical OSPF in large domains

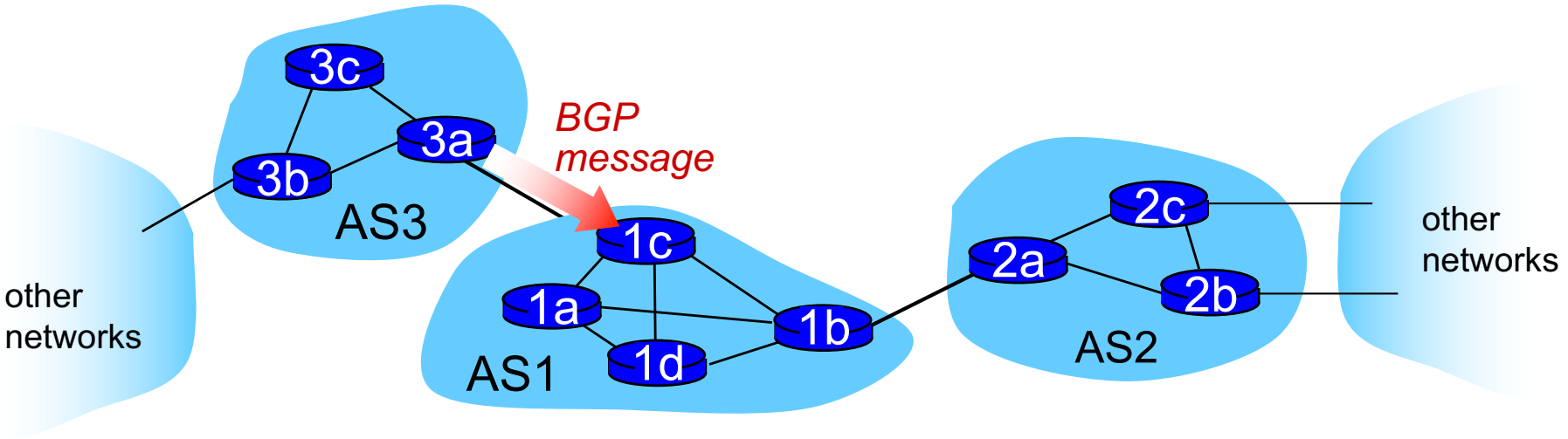
Internet inter-AS routing: BGP

- BGP (Border Gateway Protocol): *the* de facto inter-domain routing protocol
  - "glue that holds the Internet together"
- BGP provides each AS a means to:
  - eBGP: obtain subnet reachability information from neighboring ASs
  - iBGP: propagate reachability information to all AS-internal routers
  - determine "good" routes to other networks based on reachability information and policy
- allows subnet to advertise its existence to rest of Internet: *"I am here"*

BGP basics

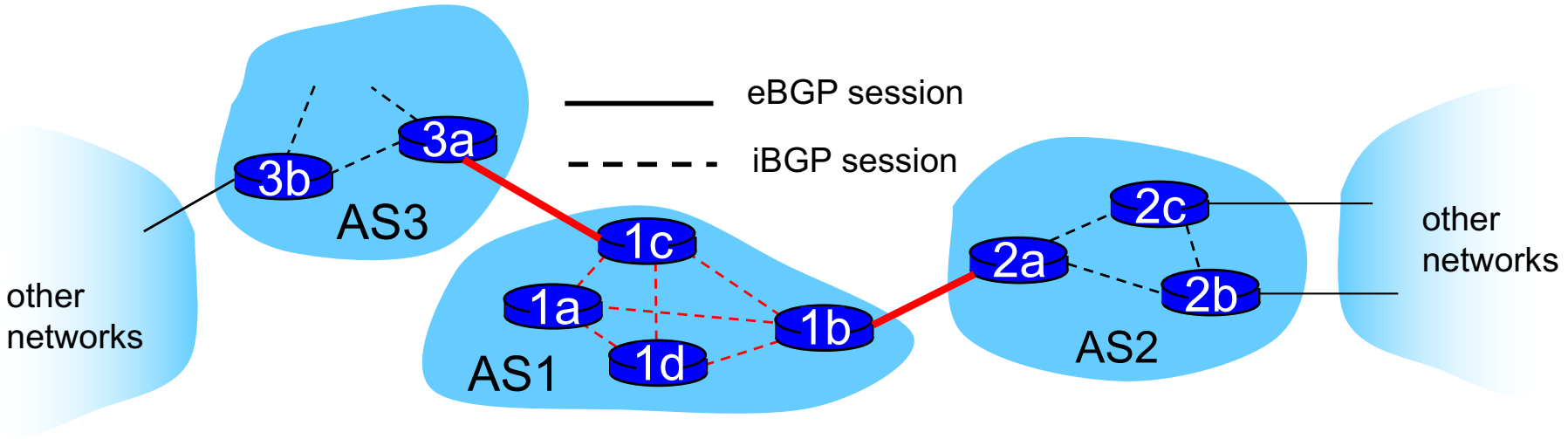
- BGP session: two BGP routers ("peers") exchange BGP messages:
  - advertising *paths* to different destination network prefixes ("path vector" protocol)
  - exchanged over semi-permanent TCP connections

- when AS3 advertises a prefix to AS1:
  - AS3 *promises* it will forward datagrams towards that prefix
  - AS3 can aggregate prefixes in its advertisement



BGP basics: distributing path information

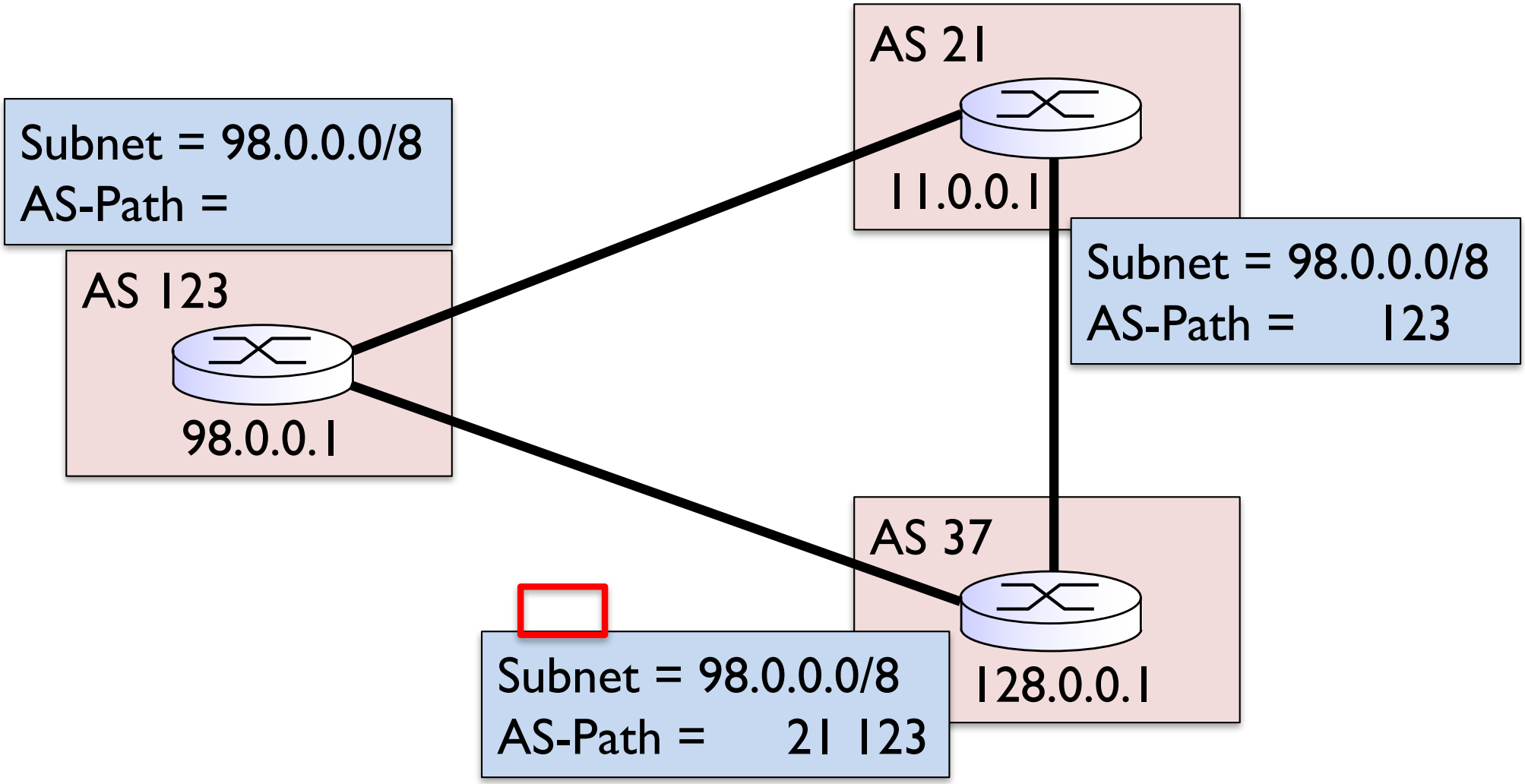
- using eBGP session between 3a and 1c, AS3 sends prefix reachability info to AS1
  - 1c can then use iBGP to distribute new prefix info to all routers in AS1
  - 1b can then re-advertise new reachability info to AS2 over 1b-to-2a eBGP session
- when router learns of new prefix, it creates entry for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



Path attributes and BGP routes

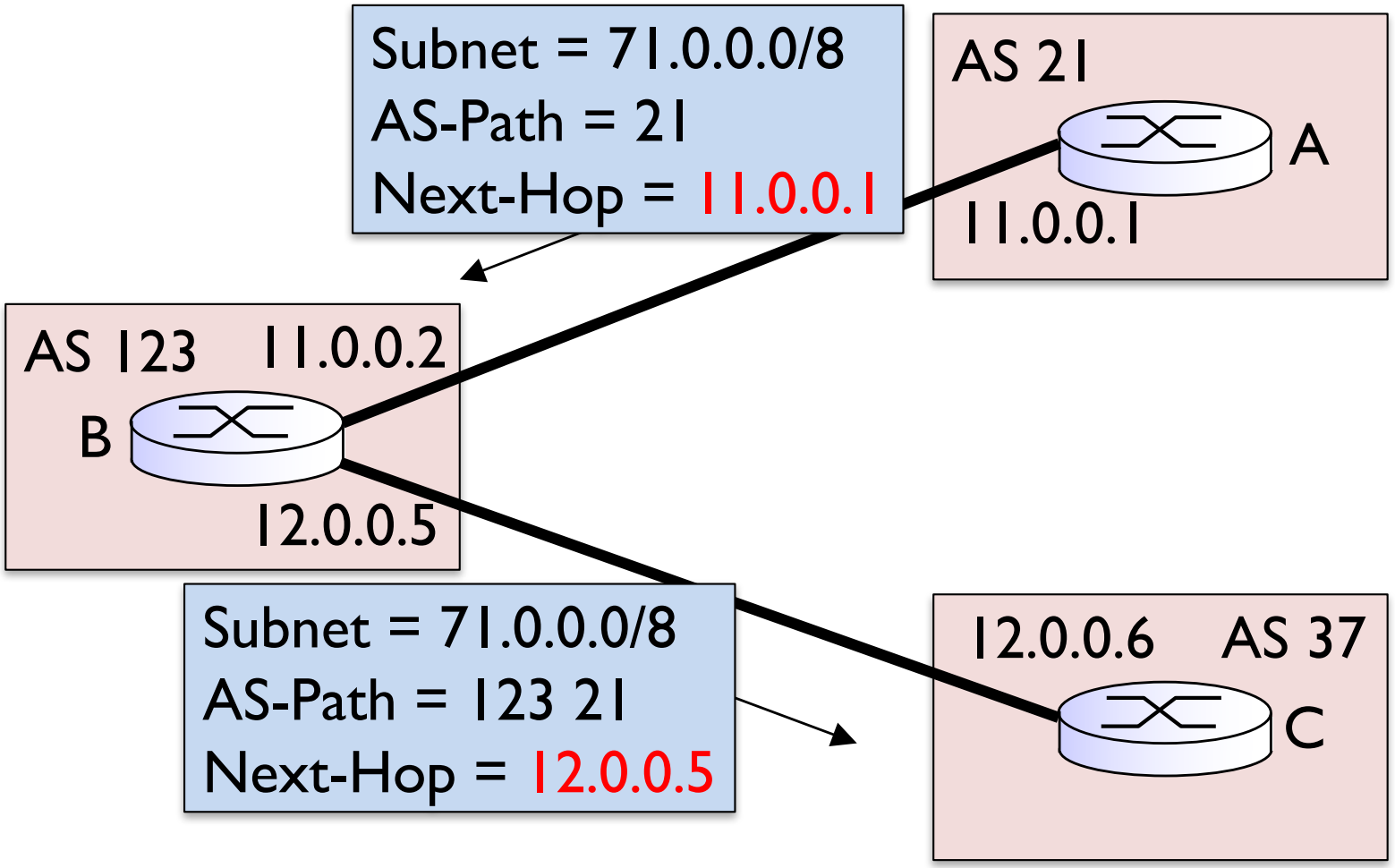
- advertised prefix includes BGP attributes
  - prefix + attributes = "route"
- two important attributes:
  - AS-PATH: contains ASs through which prefix advertisement has passed: e.g., AS 67, AS 17
  - NEXT-HOP: indicates the next-hop IP address used for packet forwarding
- gateway router receiving route advertisement uses import policy to accept/decline
  - e.g., never route through AS x
  - *policy-based* routing

AS-Path attribute example



Detect and prevent looping advertisements

Next-Hop attribute example



Next-hop attribute is usually set to the IP address of the sending router

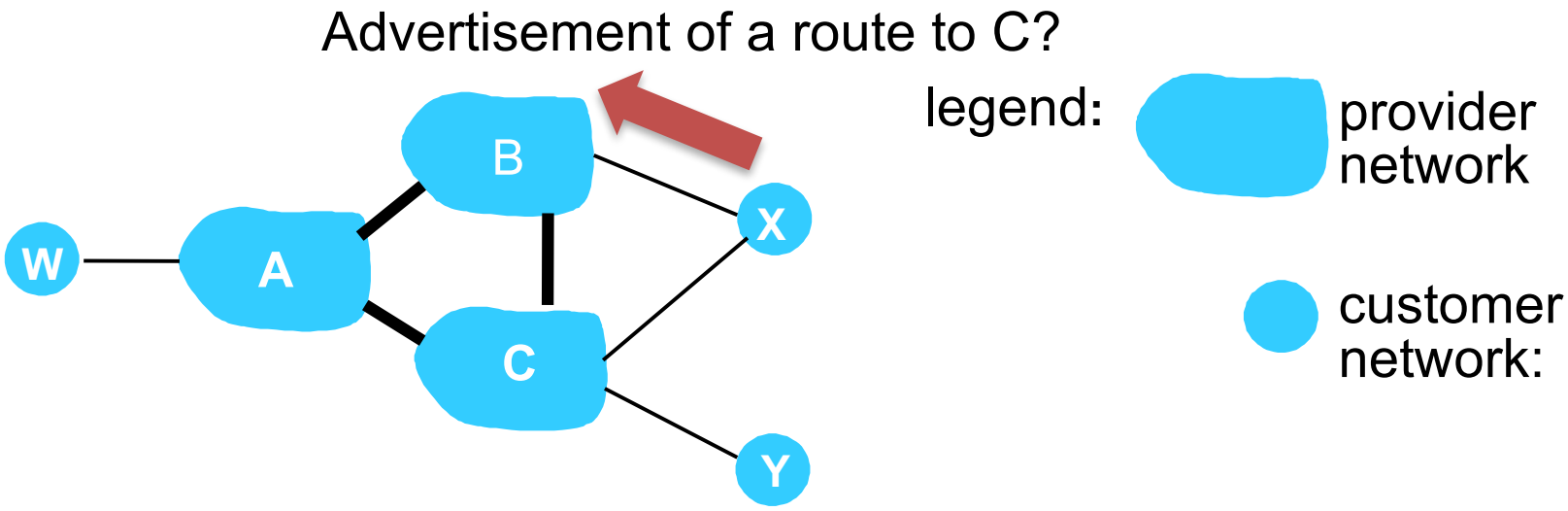
BGP route selection

- router may learn about more than 1 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

BGP messages

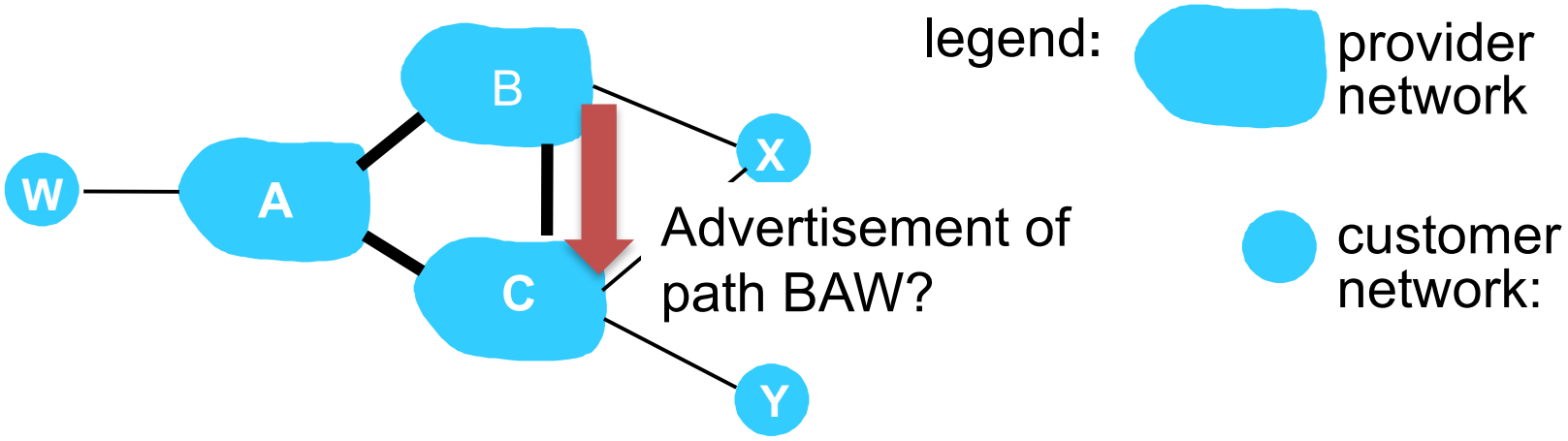
- BGP messages exchanged between peers over TCP connection
- BGP messages:
  - OPEN: opens TCP connection to peer and authenticates sender
  - UPDATE: advertises new path (or withdraws old)
  - KEEPALIVE: keeps connection alive in absence of UPDATES; also ACKs OPEN request
  - NOTIFICATION: reports errors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

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
- 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!

Why different Intra-, Inter-AS routing ?

policy:

- inter-AS: admin wants control over how its traffic routed, who routes through its network
- 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