BGP Advanced Concepts

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Announcing IPv4 prefixes via IPv6-only networks

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BGP Topics Overview

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Advanced Concepts

Announcing IPv4 prefixes via IPv6-only networks

Motivation



Where networks meet

Announcing Prefixes

2001.db8.10../64

What do we need the next-hop address for?

BGP Announcement:

Prefix: 192.0.2.0/24 AS-PATH: 65001 Next-Hop 198.51.100.1



2001:db8:10::5 198.51.100.5











Do we really need IPv4 for that?





Where networks meet













How to configure this?



Where networks meet

→In BGP, transport (how to connect to my neighbor) and announced prefixes are two different things

→Command (here: Cisco)
 "neighbor xx:xx::xx" is how to connect to my neighbor

router bgp 196610 neighbor 2a02:c50:db8:7:1:0:aaaa:0 remote-as 64501 address-family ipv4 unicast next-hop-self soft-reconfiguration inbound always address-family ipv6 unicast soft-reconfiguration inbound always



Where networks meet

- →Prefixes announced are configured in the "address-family" context
- router bgp 196610 neighbor 2a02:c50:db8:7:1:0:aaaa:0 remote-as 64501 address-family ipv4 unicast next-hop-self soft-reconfiguration inbound always address-family ipv6 unicast soft-reconfiguration inbound always



Where networks meet

→So, "address-family ipv6 unicast" controls the announcement of IPv6 prefixes

```
router bgp 196610
neighbor 2a02:c50:db8:7:1:0:aaaa:0
  remote-as 64501
  address-family ipv4 unicast
   next-hop-self
   soft-reconfiguration inbound always
  address-family ipv6 unicast
   soft-reconfiguration inbound always
```



Where networks meet

- →So, "address-family ipv6 unicast" controls the announcement of IPv6 prefixes
- →And "address-family ipv4 unicast" the announcement of IPv4 prefixes





Where networks meet

- →So, "address-family ipv6 unicast" controls the announcement of IPv6 prefixes
- →And "address-family ipv4 unicast" the announcement of IPv4 prefixes
 - →here the "next-hop-self" is important so an IPv6 next-hop is set









Where networks meet

Conclusion

- → The next-hop address in BGP is needed for routers to find out the Layer 2 MAC address to send traffic to
- → Usually for IPv4 an IPv4 next-hop address is used, and for IPv6 and IPv6 next-hop address is used
- → RFC5549 first defined that the independence of prefix-type (IPv4 or IPv6) and type of next-hop address
- → So IPv4 traffic can be transported across a LAN with no IPv4 configured, using an IPv6 next-hop address.



Thank you!

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Where networks meet

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Links and further reading



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Links and further reading

- <u>RFC5549</u>: Advertising IPv4 Network Layer Reachability Information with an IPv6 Next Hop (obsolete)
- <u>RFC8950</u>: Advertising IPv4 Network Layer Reachability Information (NLRI) with an IPv6 Next Hop



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