

# BGP hacks

## Traffic engineering with BGP

Fernando García Fernández  
IP Architect



**MI MASCARA PARA  
HALOWEEN?**

**255.255.255.0**

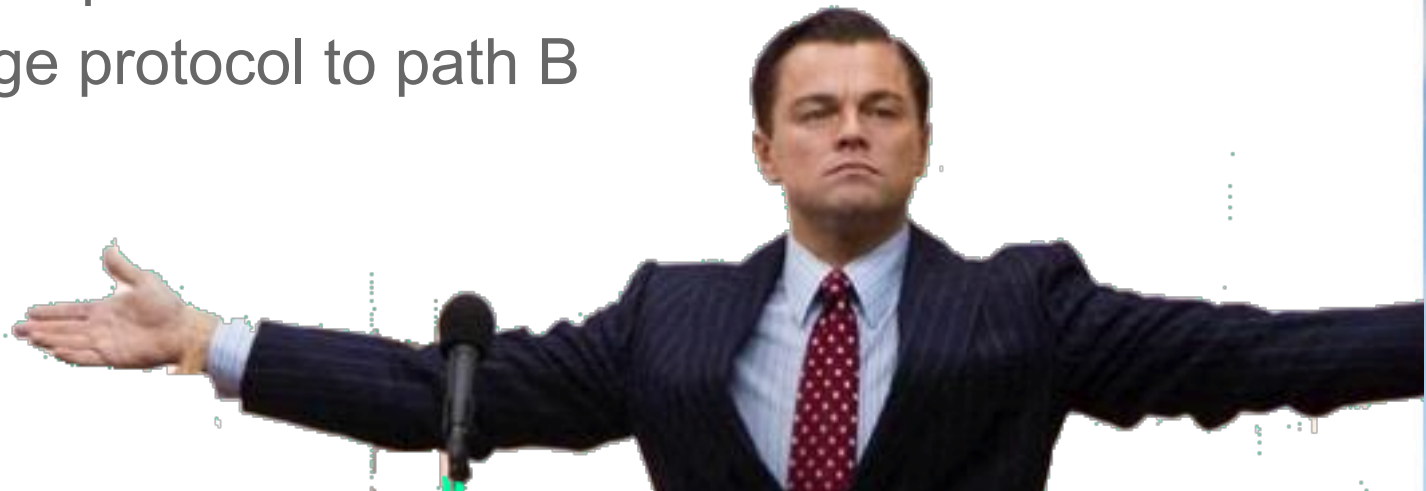
[memegenerator.net](http://memegenerator.net)

# Theory

- BGP is vector-distance protocol
  - Select best path based on defined rules
- AS path length should be the decision point
- Other elements tie-breaks
- Operation should be:
  - if BGP select mostly path A, upgrade path A

# Practice

- BGP is a political protocol
- Operation is:
  - (management) if BGP select path A and path A is more expensive...
  - change protocol to path B



# Typical BGP hacks

- AS path prepend

```
*>i 1.187.32.0/20      164.128.32.11 (65000) 174
9583 55644 55644 55644 55644 55644 55644 55644
55644 55644 55644 55644 55644 55644 55644 55644
55644 55644 55644 55644 55644 55644 55644 55644
55644 55644 55644 45271 i
```

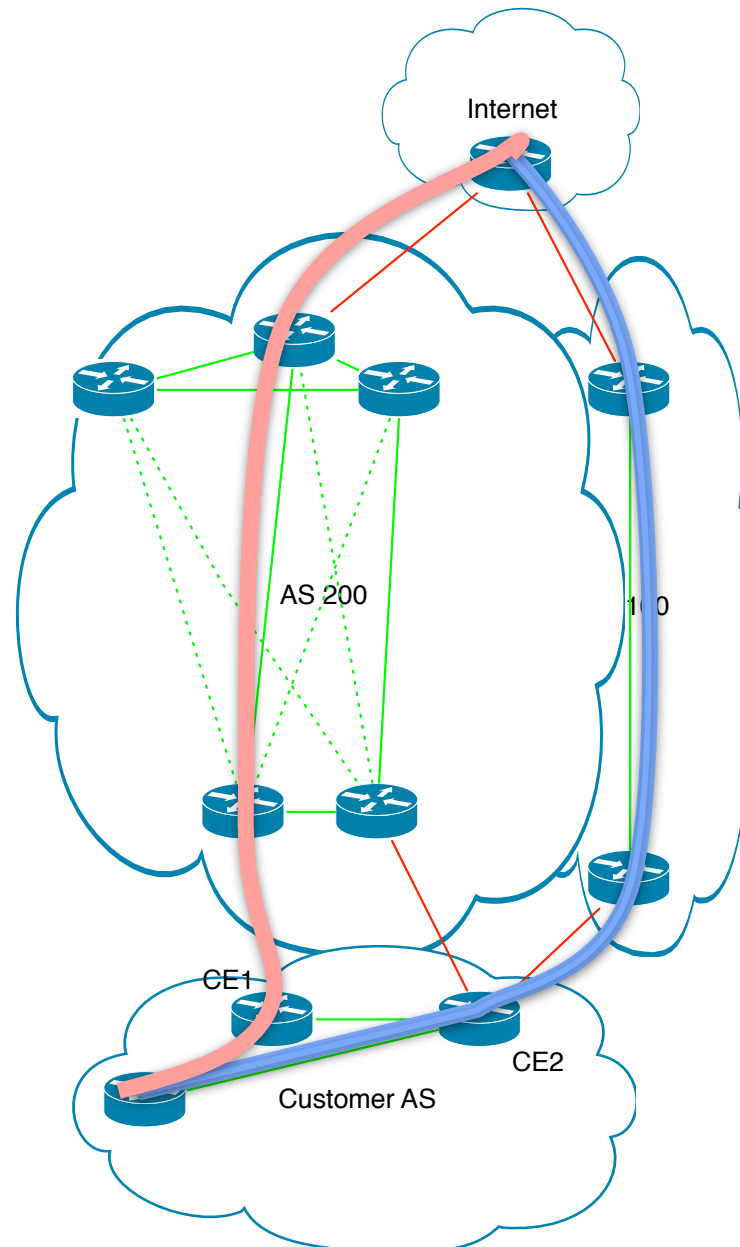
- Prefix deaggregation

```
*>i 164.128.36.32/32
*>i 164.128.36.34/32
*>i 164.128.36.36/32
*>i 164.128.36.37/32
*>i 164.128.36.48/32
*>i 164.128.36.50/32
*>i 164.128.36.54/32
```

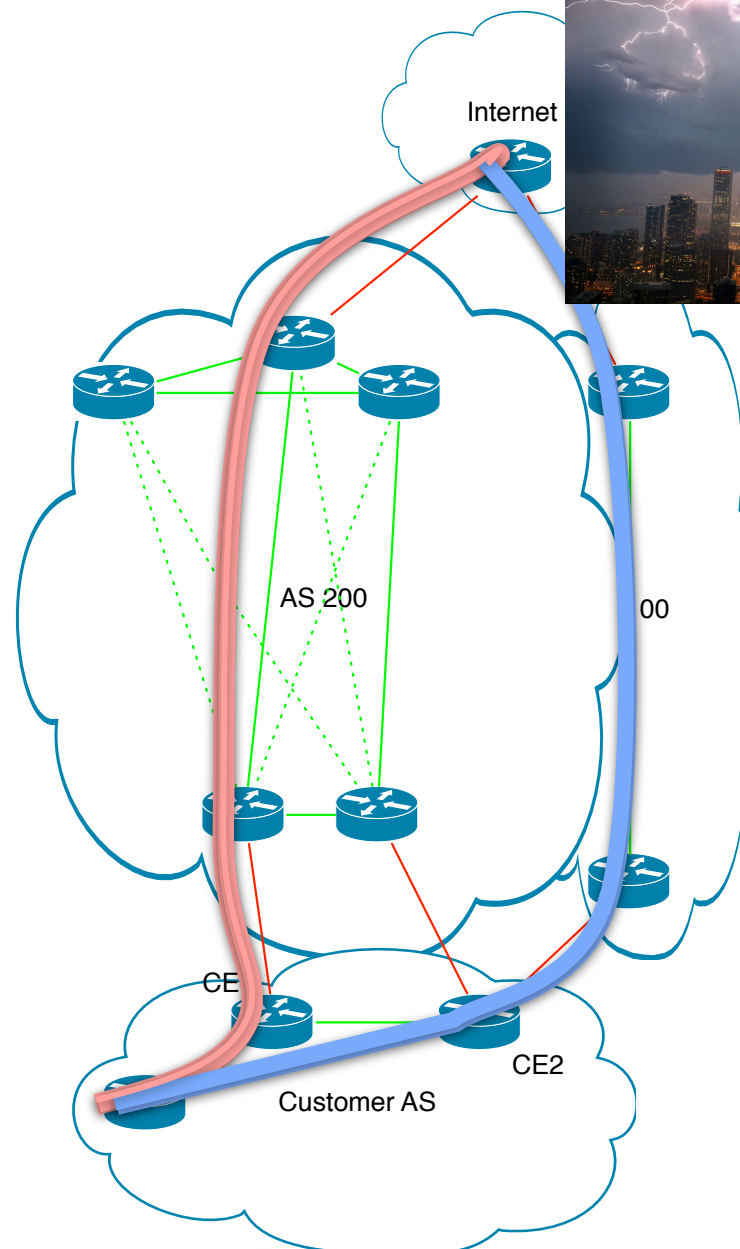


# PROBLEMS...

# AS Prepend: ON/OFF



# Deaggregation: ON/OFF







Let's hack!!!



# Tools

- BGP selection path decision flow is large
  - Gives space to imagination...

## Interesting

Paths for which the NEXT\_HOP is inaccessible

Higher Local Preference

Locally originated via a network or aggregate

Shorter AS Path

Origin IGP<EGP<incomplete

Lower MED

Prefer exit eBGP over iBGP

Best IGP metric to next hop

**This is  
previous!!!  
Random path  
generator**

## Pseudo random

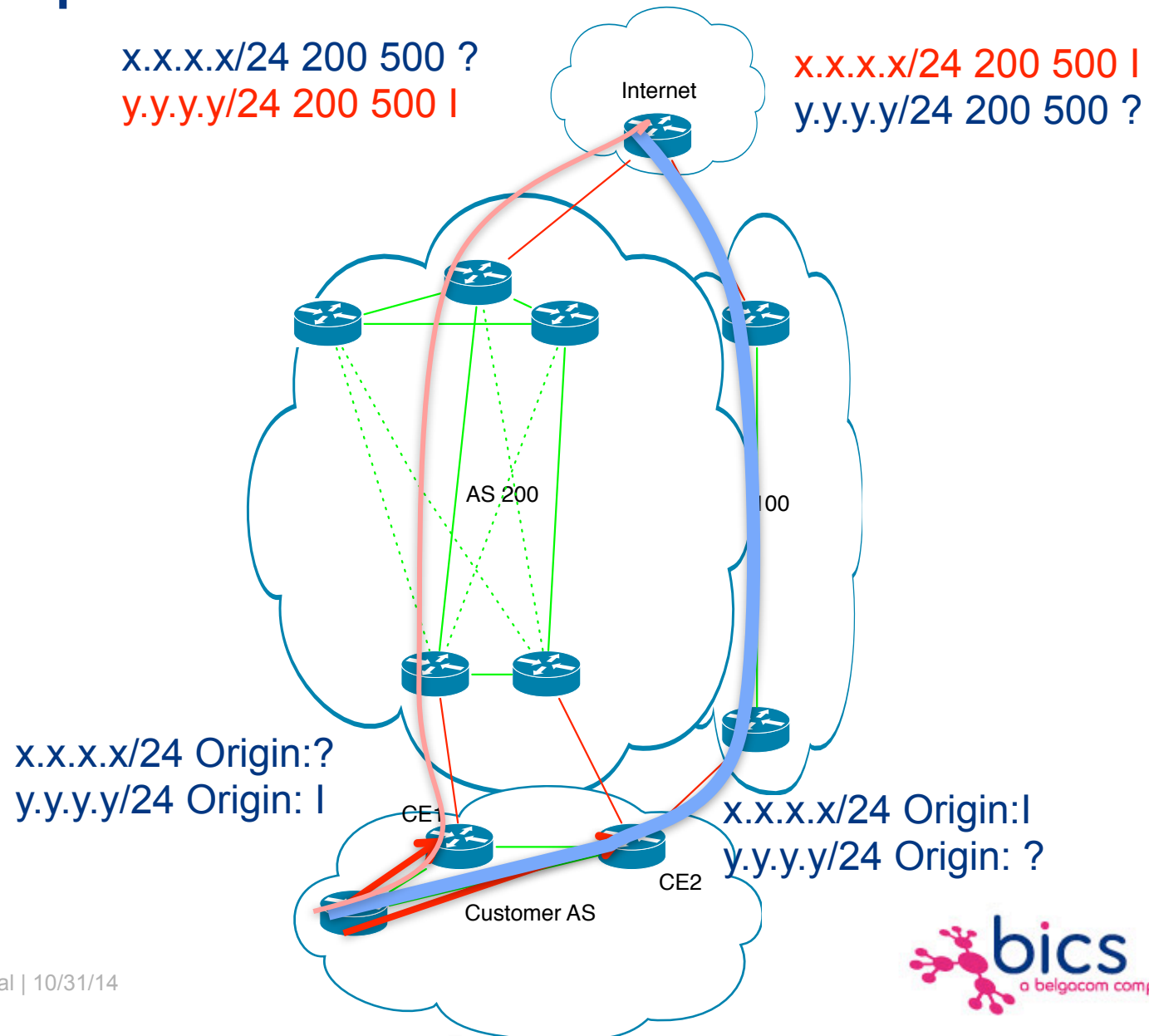
Older route

Lower router-id

Lower cluster list

Lower neighbor IP

# AS Prepend: ON/OFF

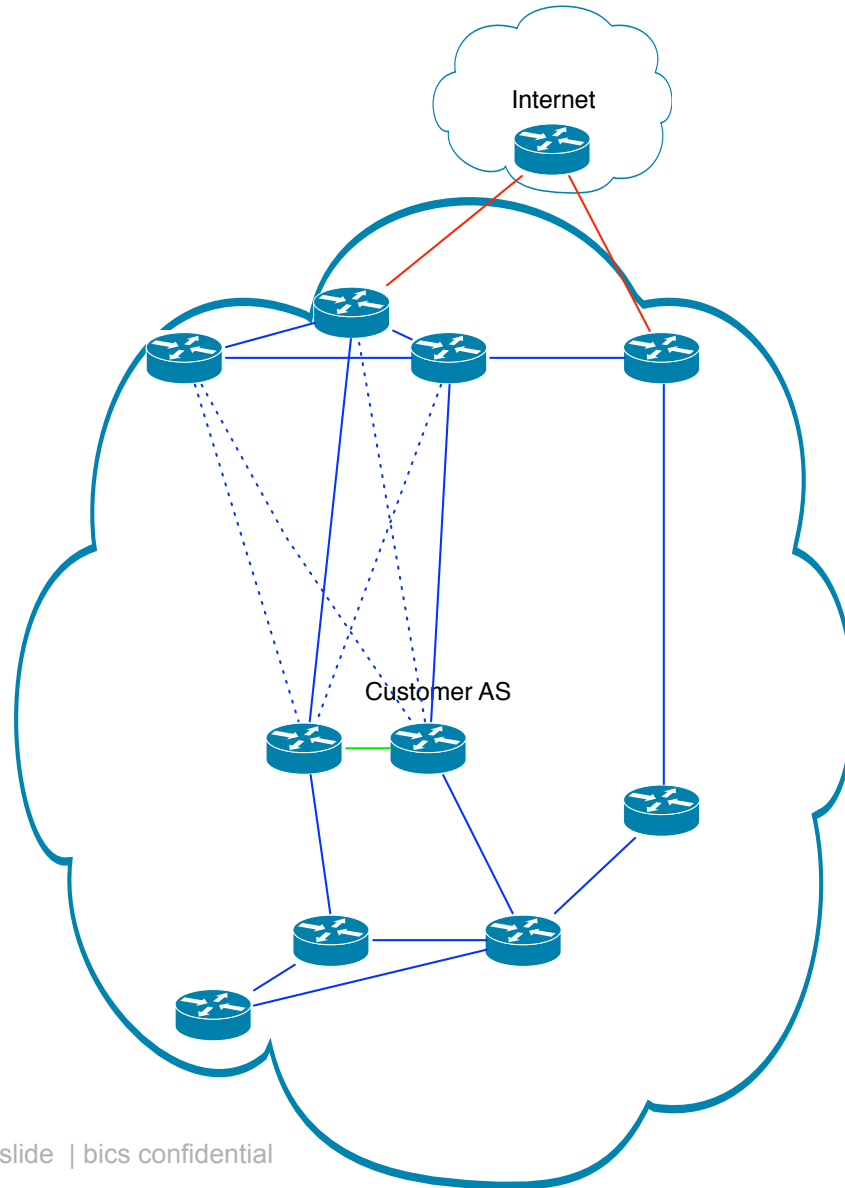


Disclaimer: ideas for your brain. To be processed

# CENTRALIZED HACKING



# Large network not easy to hack



# Centralized hacking

One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them,  
One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind  
them



# Centralized hacking

One Router to rule them all, One Router to find them,

One Router to bring them all and in the darkness bind the



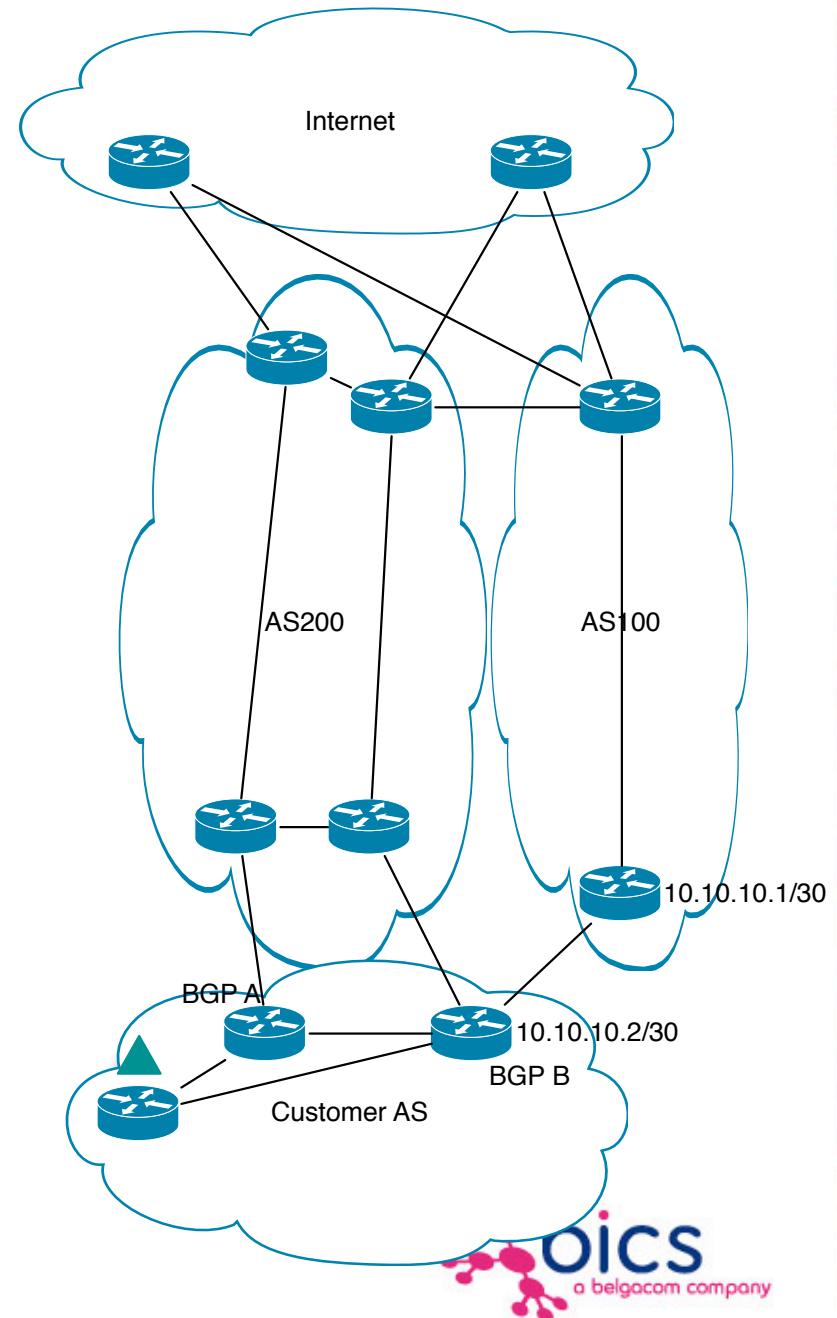
## 2 Scenarios

- Upstream the same for all 2
- Downstream based on customer config
  - 1 circuit with each router
  - Same router for several circuits



# Tunnel upstream

- Prefix to be reached
  - Announced by Remote manager to border router
    - Next-hop IP of carrier P2P.
  - Announced by Remote manager to other border routers
    - Next-hop IP of selected border router
- Traffic will be send to selected router/carrier





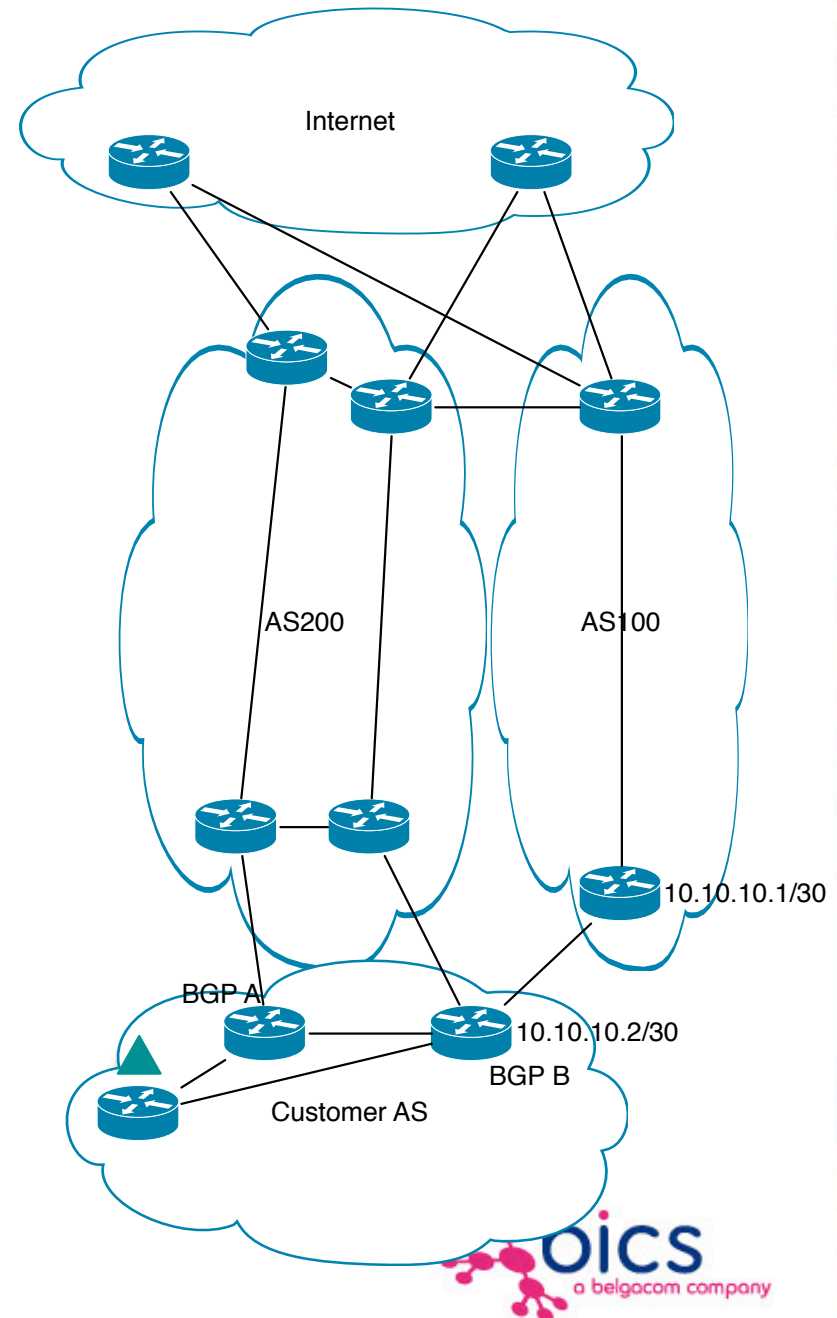
Downstream  
1 circuit with each router

# Requirements

- Deaggregated prefixes
  - Added to RIPE database
  - No lower of /24
- You'll get bad reputation

# Tunnel downstream

- **Border router preferred**
  - Send the prefix for the announced deaggregated prefix
  - NO less than /24.
- **Do not announce to other border routers**
- **Internet will receive the prefix only thru that carrier**



# Tunnel downstream

Prefix A.A.A.A/24

From the customer range

Announces the prefix to  
router BGP B only

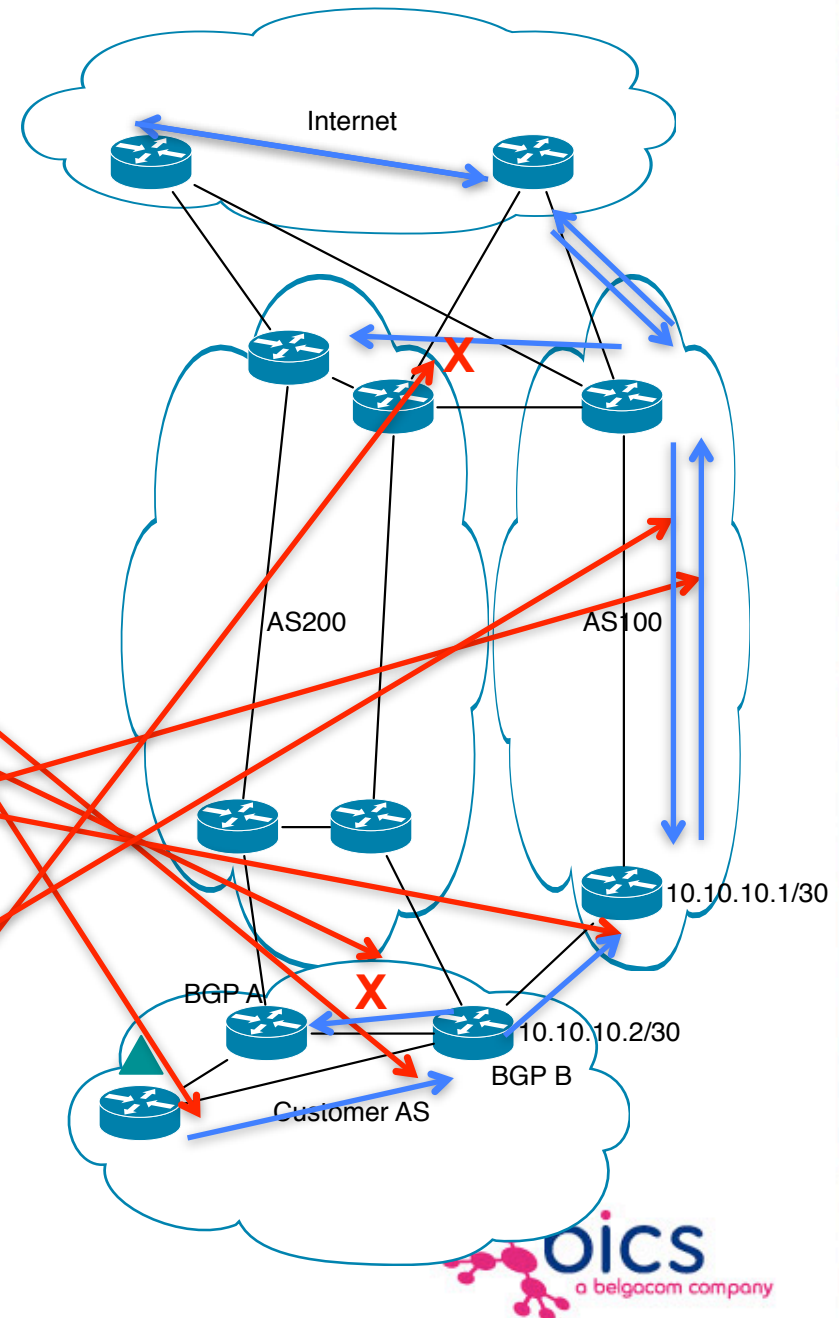
Router BGP B don't announce  
To router BGP A (it's iBGP)

Router BGP B announces to  
Carrier B

Internet receives the announce through  
Carrier B

To avoid rerouting of the traffic,  
a prepend of the AS of carrier A  
can be made in the announcement

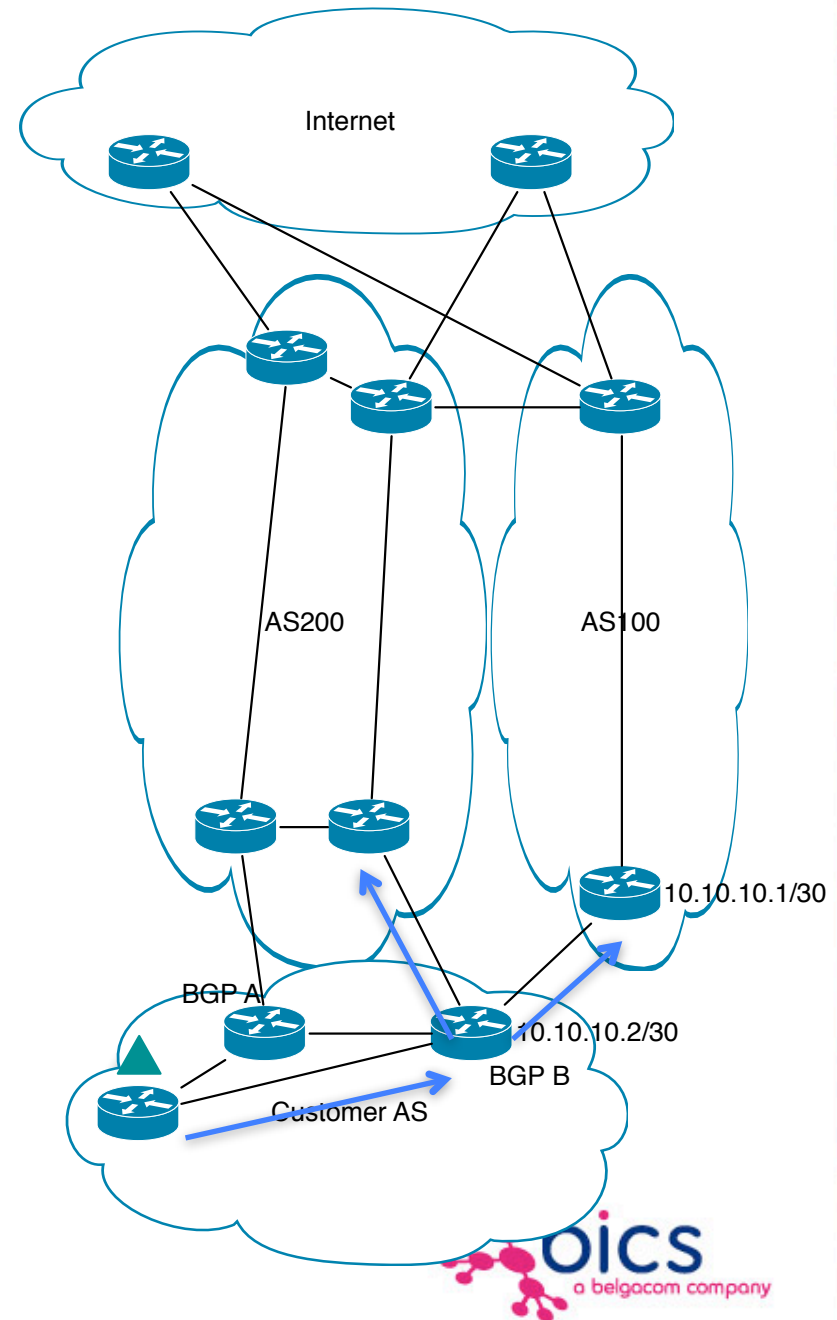
Traffic to A.A.A.A will always go  
through Carrier B



# Downstream Same router for several circuits

# Problem

- We send the announce to the router
- Don't discriminate between circuits
  - Same announce made to all the circuits





# Solution

- Customer must configure a Community in the CE(s)
  - Community CUS:1
    - On circuit 1: Remove community and announce
    - On circuit 2: Drop announce
  - Community CUS:2
    - On circuit 1: Drop announce
    - On circuit 2: Remove community and announce
  - No community
    - Announce

# Solution

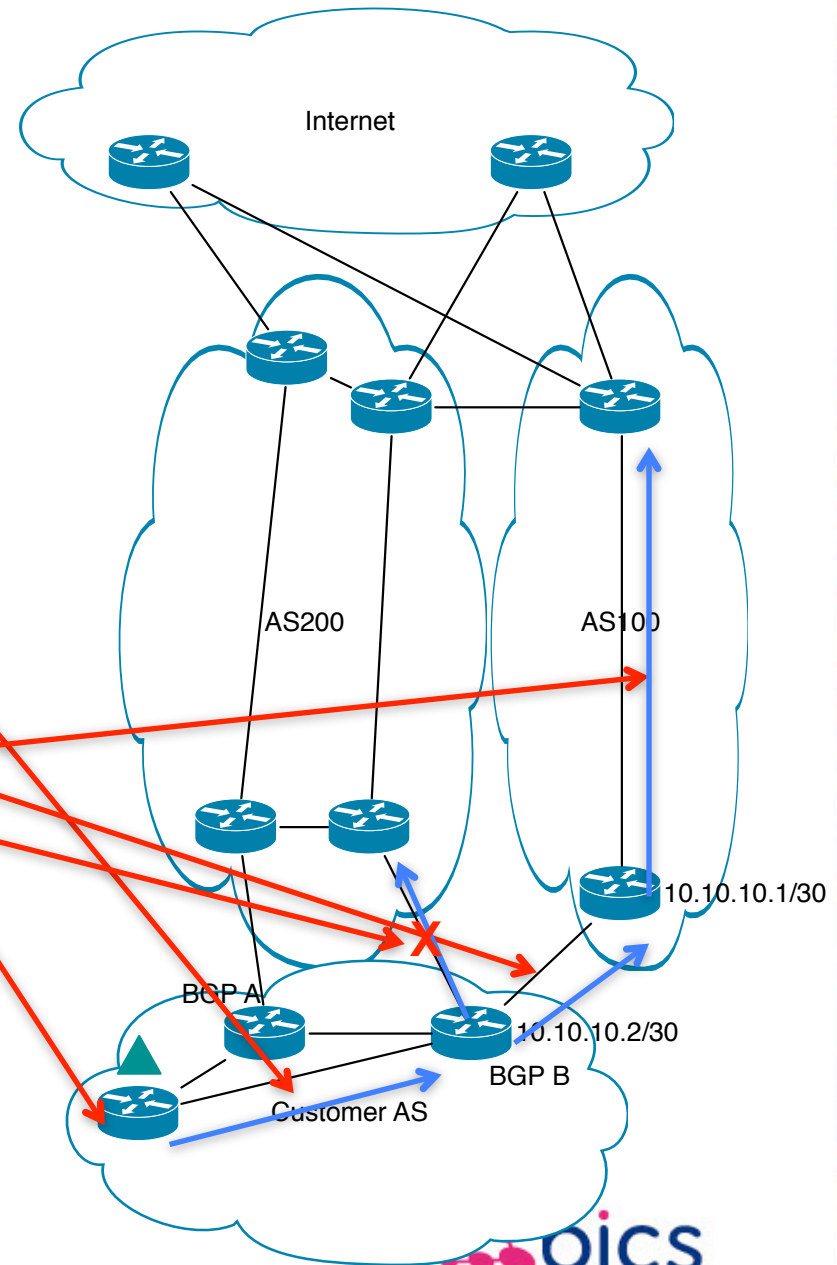
Deaggregated prefix  
From the customer range

Announces the prefix to  
router BGP B community CUS:1

Router BGP B announces to  
AS100

Router BGP B drops announce  
to AS200

Internet receives the announce through  
AS100



# Advantages of centralized hacking

- Probability of fail = num routers  $^2$
- More secure management
- Intelligent routing
  - SDN based
  - House-made based:
    - Cisco IP SLA with ping to a loopback in Unix machine
    - Unix machine shut/no shut based on netflow, etc.
    - route-map announce based on IP SLA

