On Routing and Routers

Geoff Huston Chief Scientist, APNIC

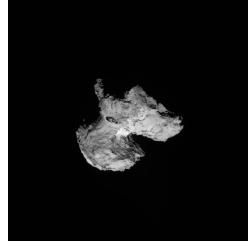
12 August 2014



World Elephant Day



Newborn Panda Triplets in China



Rosetta closes in on comet 67P/ Churyumov-Gerasimenko

has a bad hair day The Telegraph



Is the Internet full? Major sites brought problems

Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, "" Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, "" Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, "" Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, "" Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, "" Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, "" Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, "" Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa, " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Likely repeat of this week's technical problems affecting eBa," " Lik millions as the Internet runs out of space, experts fear

Here's why your Internet might have been slow on Tuesday

Subscribe



The Washington Post

Some users were frustrated to find some of their favorite Web sites were unresponsive or otherwise inaccessible Tuesday. But it wasn't a data center outage or a squirrel chewing through a cable line causing the disruption. Instead, structural problems with one of the core technologies that keeps

the Internet working were to blame, researchers say.

By Andrea Peterson August 13 💟 🍑 Follow @kansasalps



Echoes of Y2K: Engineers Buzz That Internet Is Outgrowing Its Gear

Routers That Send Data Online Could Become Overloaded as Number of Internet Routes Hits '512K'



discusses what that means on Lunch Break with Sara Murray, Photo: Getty



Network engineers are buzzing this week as the Internet outgrows some of its gear. Autopsy Finds 6

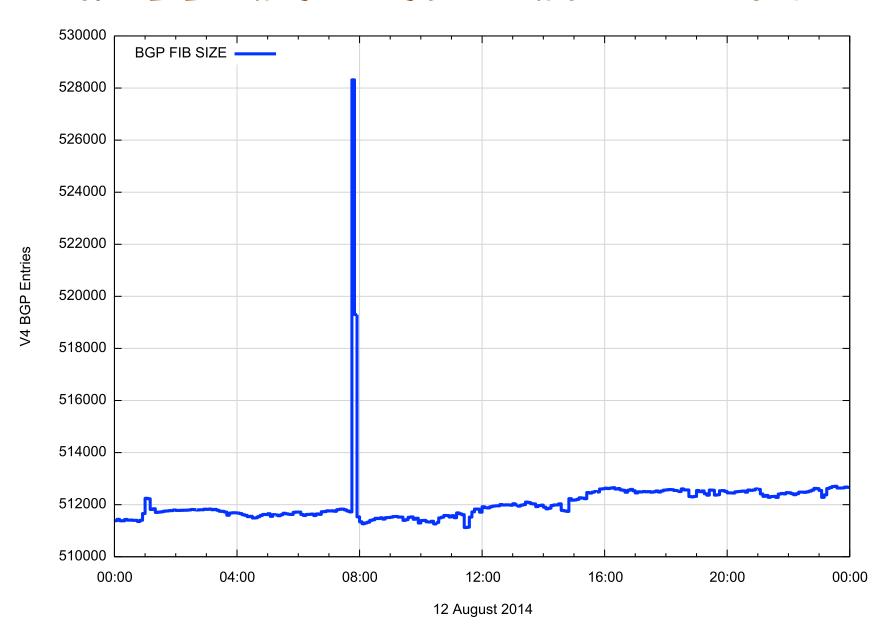




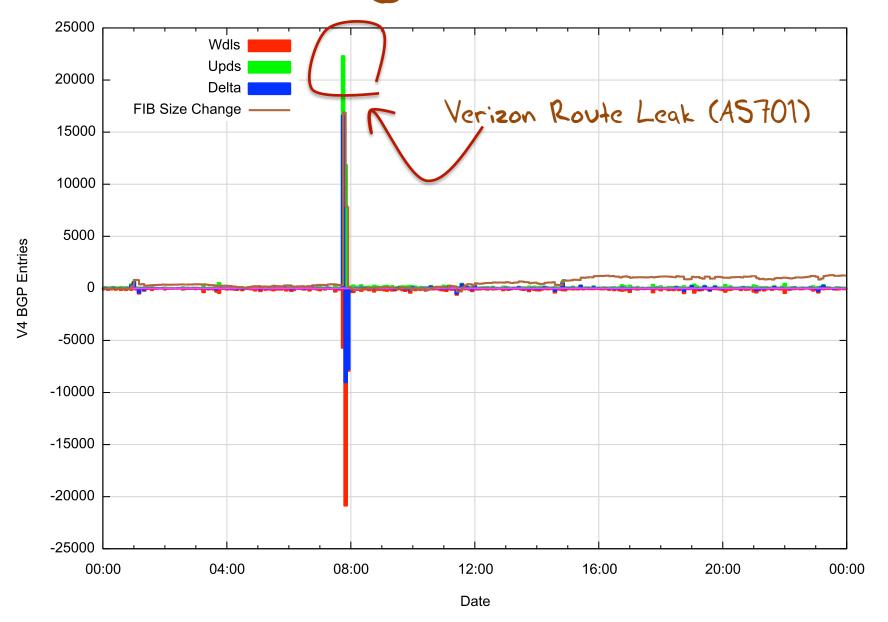
What happened?

Did we all sneeze at once and cause the routing system to fail?

Well someone sneezed!

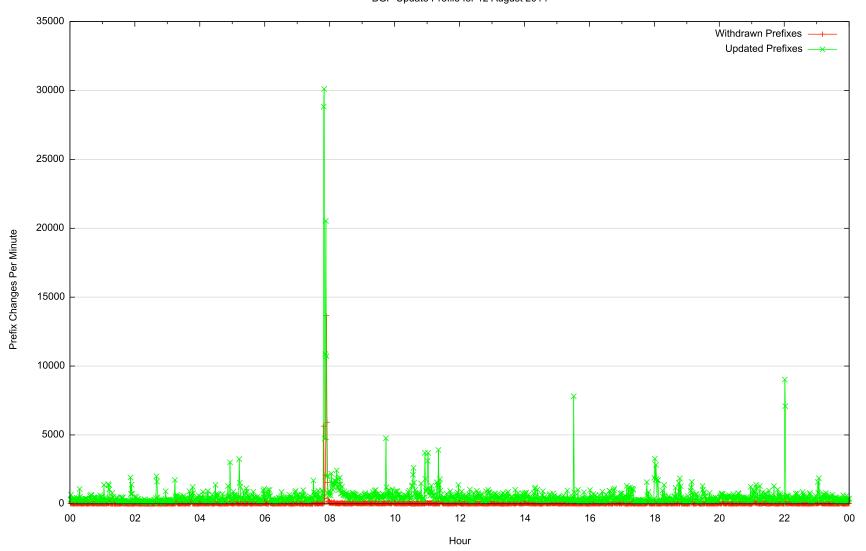


12 August 2014



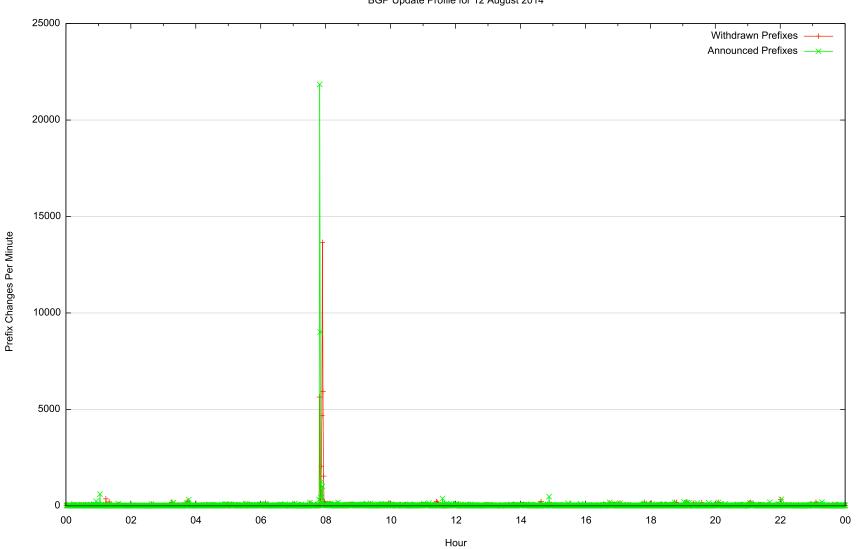
Minute by Minute UPDs & WDLs

BGP Update Profile for 12 August 2014



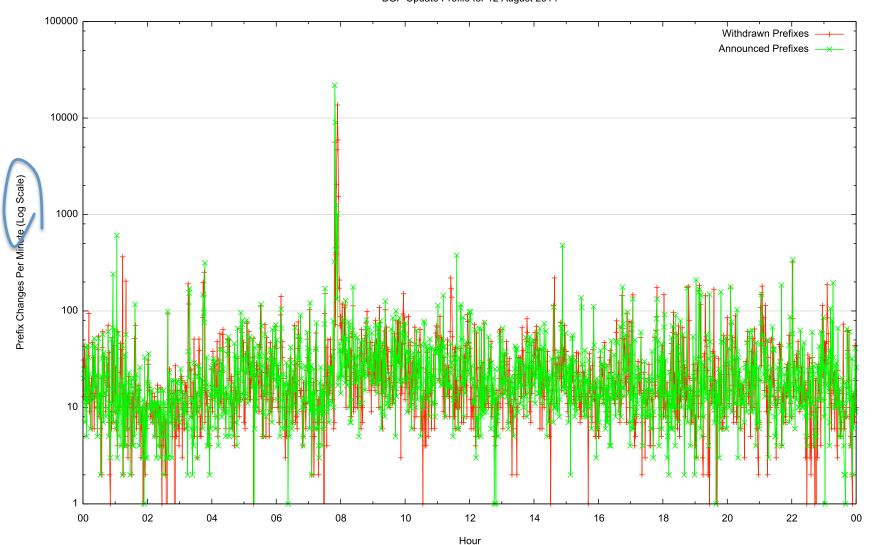
Minute by Minute ANNces & WDLs

BGP Update Profile for 12 August 2014



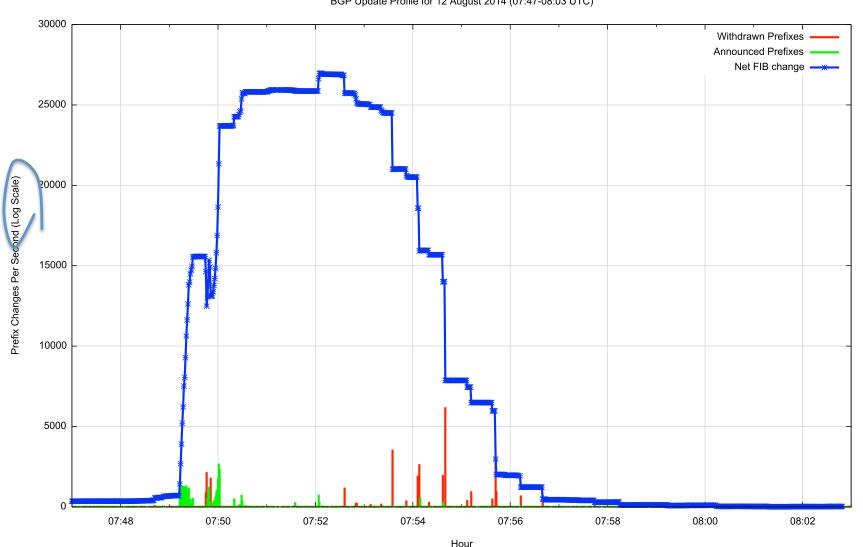
Minute by Minute ANNces & WDLs

BGP Update Profile for 12 August 2014



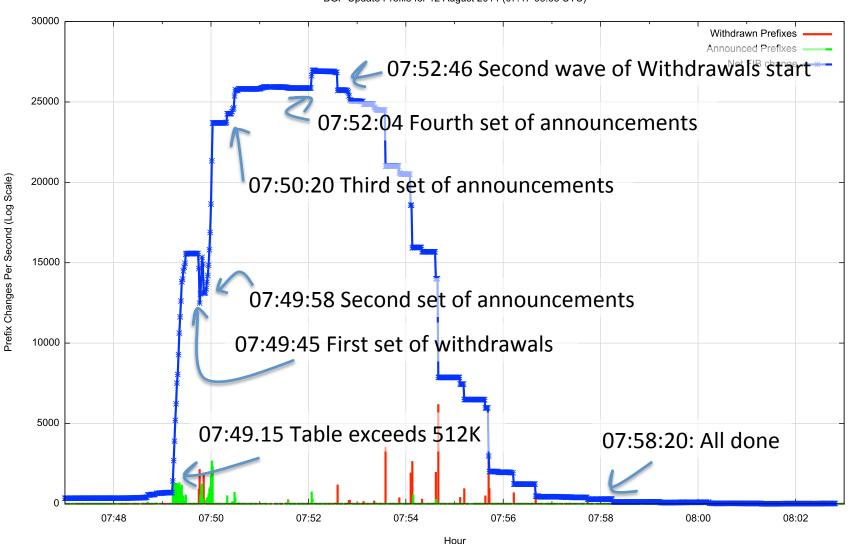
Second by Second

BGP Update Profile for 12 August 2014 (07:47-08:03 UTC)



Second by Second

BGP Update Profile for 12 August 2014 (07:47-08:03 UTC)



Profile

Default

Profile

ipv4

Profile

Logical

size:

512K

Logical

size:

1M

Logical

size:

64K

0

MAC

Logical

size:

128K

Logical

size:

32K

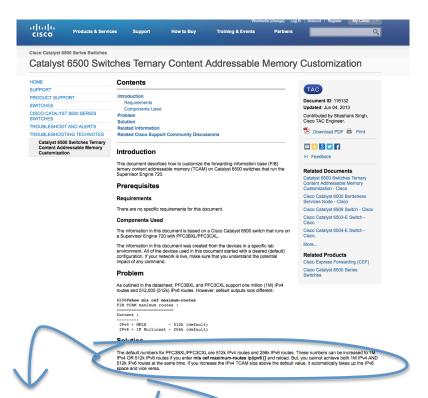
Logical

0

size:

0

128K



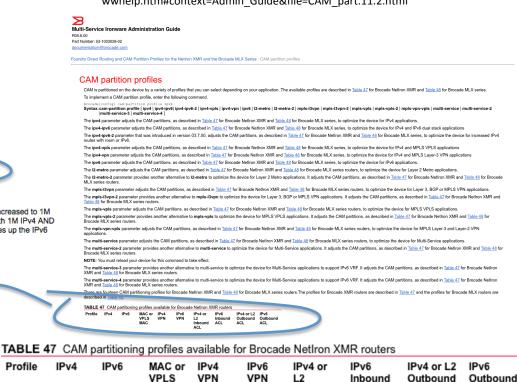
The default numbers for PFC3BXL/PFC3CXI are 512k IPv4 routes and 256k IPv6 routes. These numbers can be increased to 1M IPv4 OR 512k IPv6 routes if you enter mis cef maximum-routes ir ipv6 [] and reload. But, you cannot achieve both 1M IPv4 AND 512k IPv6 routes at the same time. If you increase the IPv4 TCAM lize above the default value, it automatically takes up the IPv6 space and vice versa

Cisco Cat 6500

512K is a default constant in some of the older Cisco and Brocade products

Brocade NetIron XMR

http://www.brocade.com/downloads/documents/html product manuals/ NI 05600 ADMIN/wwhelp/wwhimpl/common/html/ wwhelp.htm#context=Admin Guide&file=CAM part.11.2.html



Inbound

ACL

size:

48K

Logical

Logical

size:

112K

ACL

Logical

size:

4K

0

ACL

48K

Logical size:

Logical size: 0

ACL

Logical size:

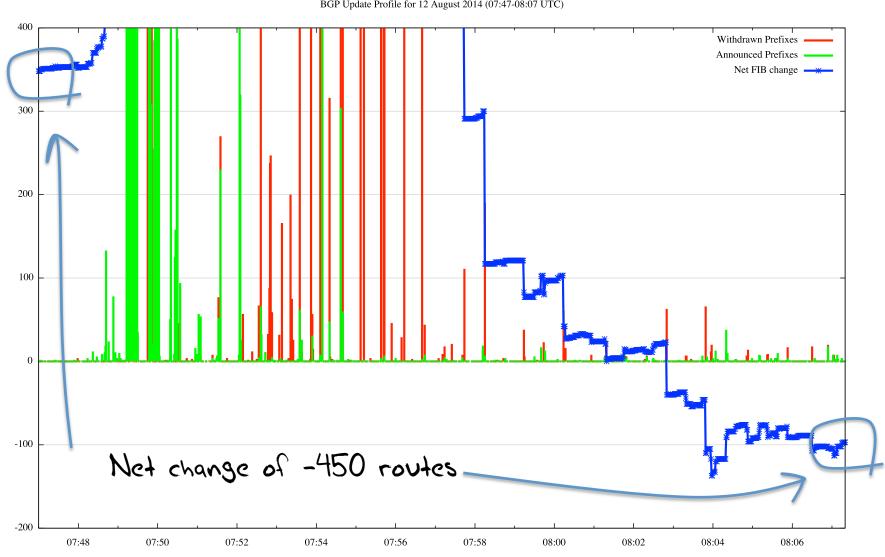
What happens then?

- ☐ Crash and reboot?
- ☐ Crash and die?
- ☐ Push excess routes to slow path?
- ☐ Discard excess routes

Was there any evidence of dropped routes?

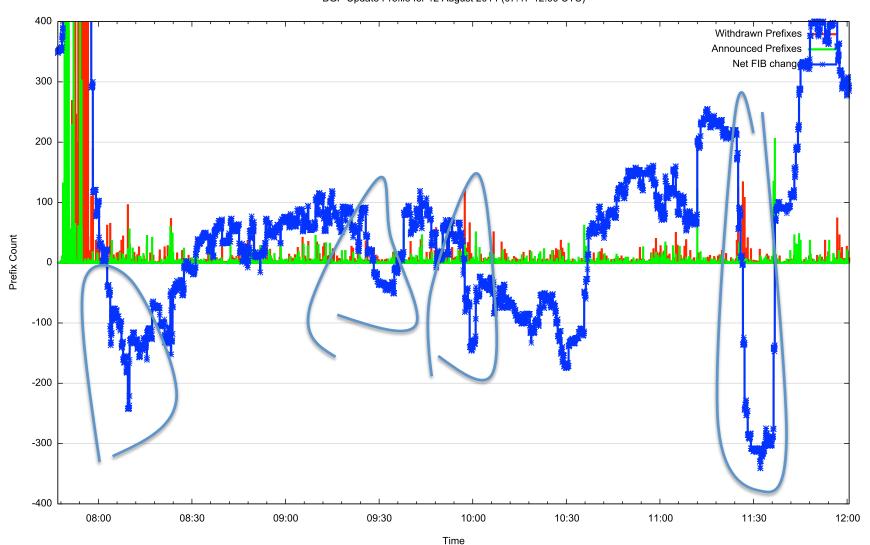
Dropped Routes?

BGP Update Profile for 12 August 2014 (07:47-08:07 UTC)



Maybe there's more ...

BGP Update Profile for 12 August 2014 (07:47-12:00 UTC)



Collateral Damage

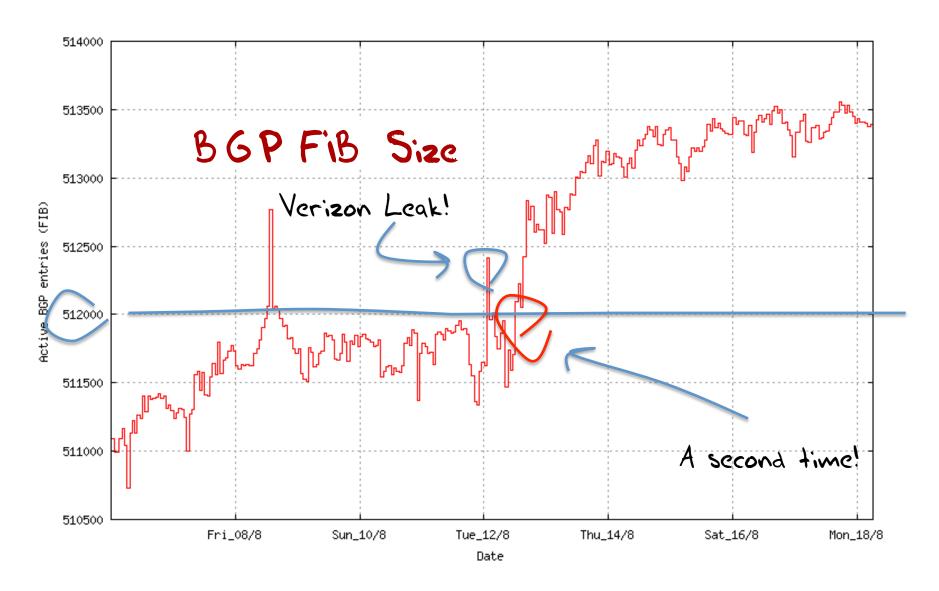
Outside of AS701, a further **1,497** routes were withdrawn between 07:47 and 12:00, but some of these were probably part of the route leak as they appeared to be part of the Verizon enterprise structure. But there were others who were clearly unrelated to Verizon...

Collateral Damage

763 Origin ASes were probably affected

```
AS Pfxs AS Name
 9658 391 ETPI-IDS-AS-AP Eastern Telecoms Phils., Inc., PH
 6648 127 BAYAN-TELECOMMUNICATIONS Bayan Telecommunications, Inc., PH
23498 75 CDSI - COGECODATA, CA
21332 60 NTC-AS OJSC "Vimpelcom", RU
27882 59 Telefonica Celular de Bolivia S.A., BO
30036 56 MEDIACOM-ENTERPRISE-BUSINESS - Mediacom Communications Corp.US
131222 51 MTS-INDIA-IN 334, Udyog Vihar, IN
 6459 45 TRANSBEAM - I-2000, Inc., US
46805 42 CACHED - CachedNet LLC,US
45664 42 LBNI Liberty Broadcasting Network Inc,PH
 8402 40 CORBINA-AS OJSC "Vimpelcom", RU
55465 38 TTT-AS-AP TT&T Co,TH
18025 38 ACE-1-WIFI-AS-AP Ace-1 Wifi Network, PH
22363
       36 PHMGMT-AS1 - Powerhouse Management, Inc., US
15085 33 IMMEDION - Immedion, LLC, US
50710
       32 EARTHLINK-AS EarthLink Ltd. Communications&Internet Services,IQ
27229 32 WEBHOST-ASN1 - Webhosting.Net, Inc., US
21284 32 VIVODI-AS ON S.A., GR
       31 BELLTELECOM-PH-AS-PH Bell Telecommunication Philippines, PH
23606
 7018
       30 ATT-INTERNET4 - AT&T Services, Inc., US
50576 30 KRASNET-UA-AS Krasnet ltd.,UA
16058 30 Gabon-Telecom, GA
13188 30 BANKINFORM-AS TOV "Bank-Inform", UA
```

But then it happened again!



So maybe we should broaden the question...

Was the AS701 Route Leak the problem?

Or was the FiB growth passing 512K entries the problem?

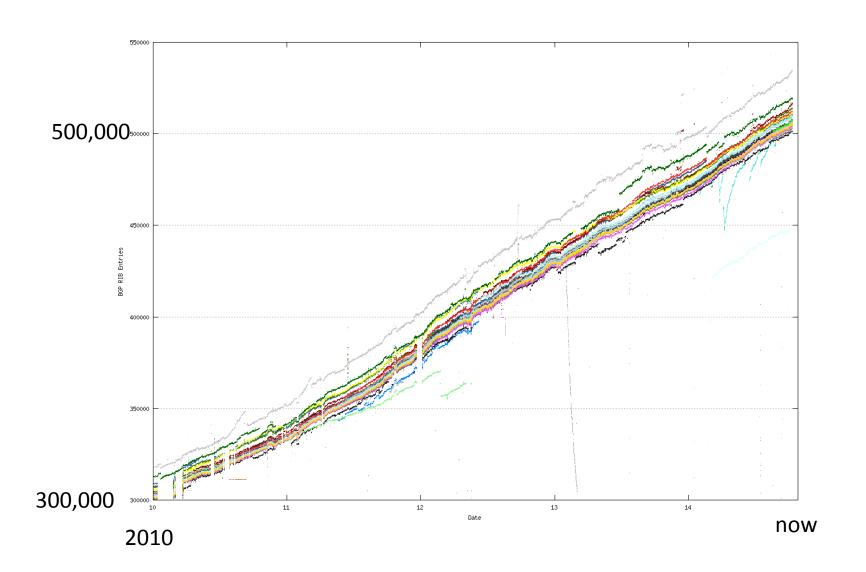
There is no Routing God!

There is no single objective "out of the system" view of the Internet's Routing environment.

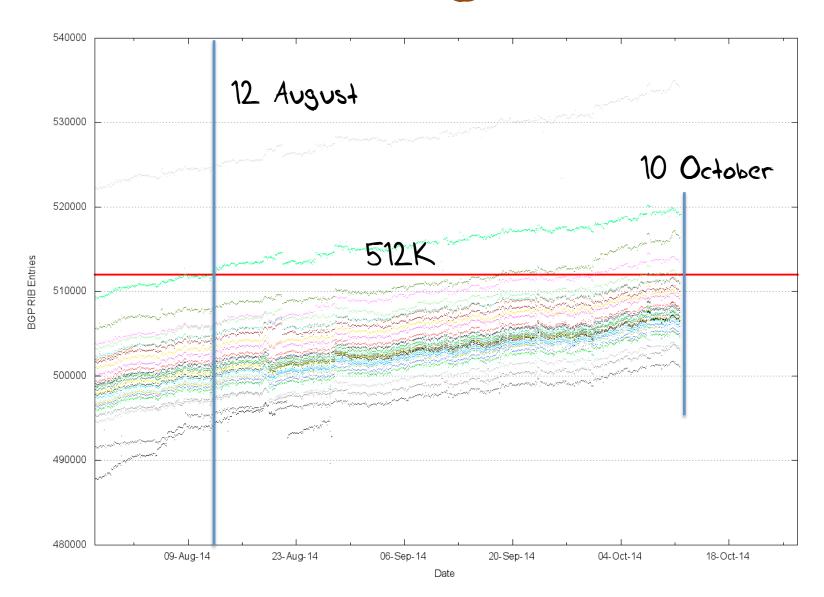
BGP distributes a routing view that is modified as it is distributed, so every eBGP speaker will see a slightly different set of prefixes, and each view is relative to a given location

When we look at some of the route collector sites we see a variance of ~20,000 routes across the routing peer set

The RouteViews View



Zooming in



For most networks...

(probably including yours)

Its likely that your router's routing table has yet to pass over the 512K point

(Except for the occasional route leak of course)

So there is still some time to check if you can cope with a steady-state default free routing table with more than 512K entries

For most networks

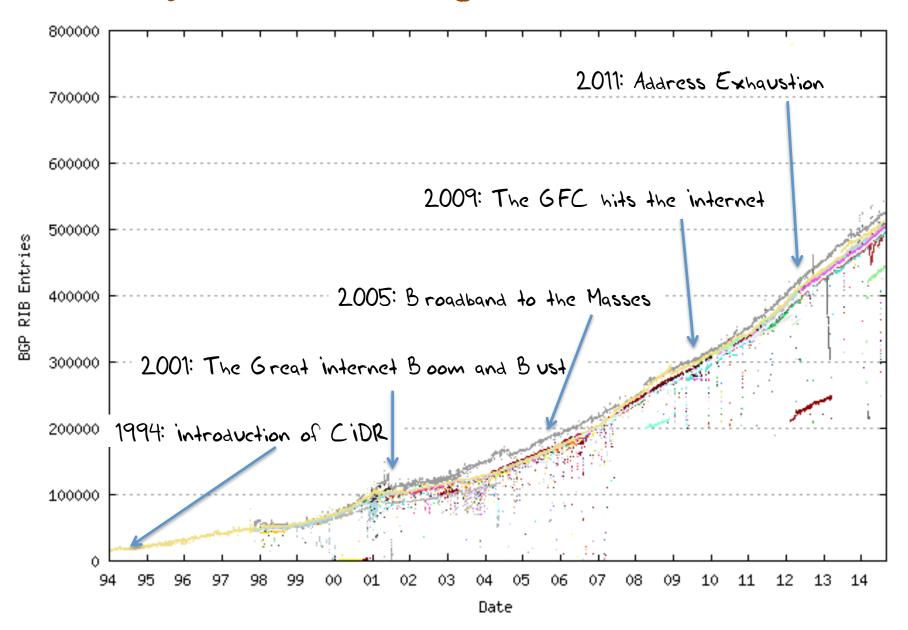
For most affected networks, it was the AS701 route leak that tipped them over the edge on the day

However, passing through 512K routes in the IPv4 routing table is inevitable

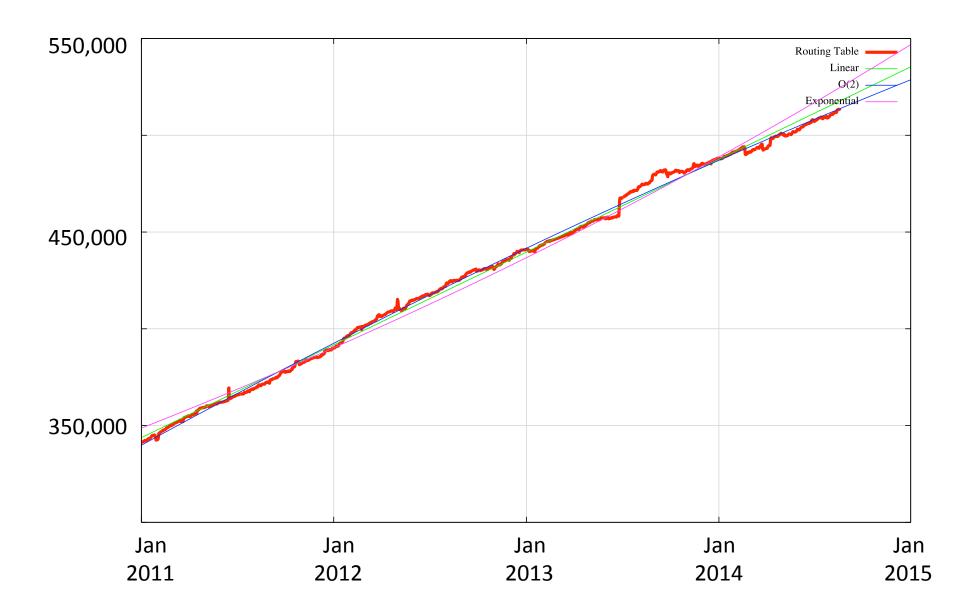
When? And what's next?

How quickly is the routing table growing?

20 years of routing the Internet



IPv4 BGP Prefix Count 2011 - 2014



IPv4 2013- 2014 BGP Vital Statistics

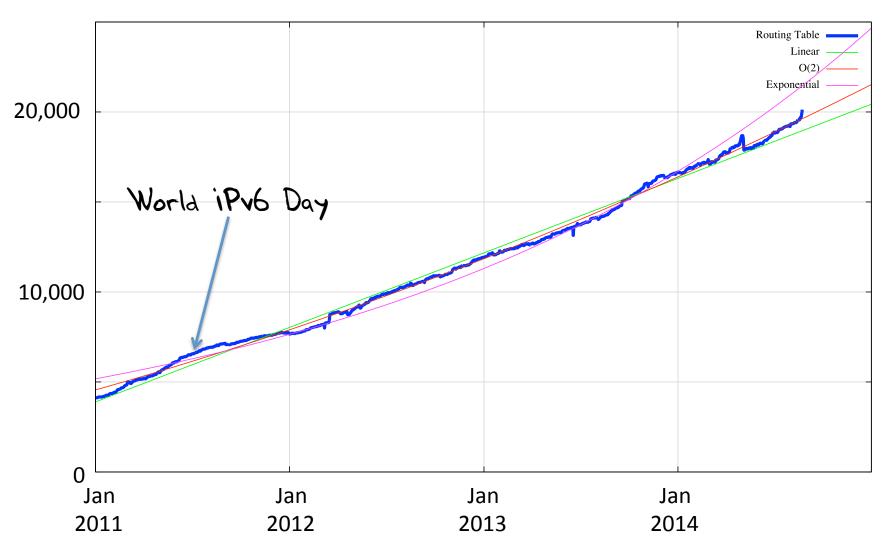
	Jan-13	Aug-14	
Prefix Count	440,000	512,000	+ 11% p.a.
Roots	216,000	249,000	+ 9%
More Specifics	224,000	264,000	+ 11%
Address Span	156/8s	162/8s	+ 2%
AS Count	43,000	48,000	+ 7%
Transit	6,100	7,000	+ 9%
Stub	36,900	41,000	+ 7%

IPv4 in 2014 - Growth is Slowing (slightly)

- Overall IPv4 Internet growth in terms of BGP is at a rate of some ~9%-10% p.a.
- Address span growing far more slowly than the table size (although the LACNIC runout in May caused a visible blip in the address rate)
- The rate of growth of the IPv4 Internet is slowing down (slightly)
 - Address shortages?
 - Masking by NAT deployments?
 - Saturation of critical market sectors?

IPv6 BGP Prefix Count

V6 BGP FIB Size



IPv6 2013-2014 BGP Vital Statistics

	Jan-13	Aug-14	p.a. rate
Prefix Count	11,500	19,036	+ 39%
Roots	8,451	12,998	+ 32%
More Specifics	3,049	6,038	+ 59%
Address Span (/32s)	65,127	73,153	+ 7%
AS Count	6,560	8,684	+ 19%
Transit	1,260	1,676	+ 20%
Stub	5,300	7,008	+ 19%

IPv6 in 2013

- Overall IPv6 Internet growth in terms of BGP is
 20% 40 % p.a.
 - -2012 growth rate was $\sim 90\%$.

(Looking at the AS count, if these relative growth rates persist then the IPv6 network would span the same network domain as IPv4 in ~16 years time -- 2030!)

IPv6 in 2013 - Growth is Slowing?

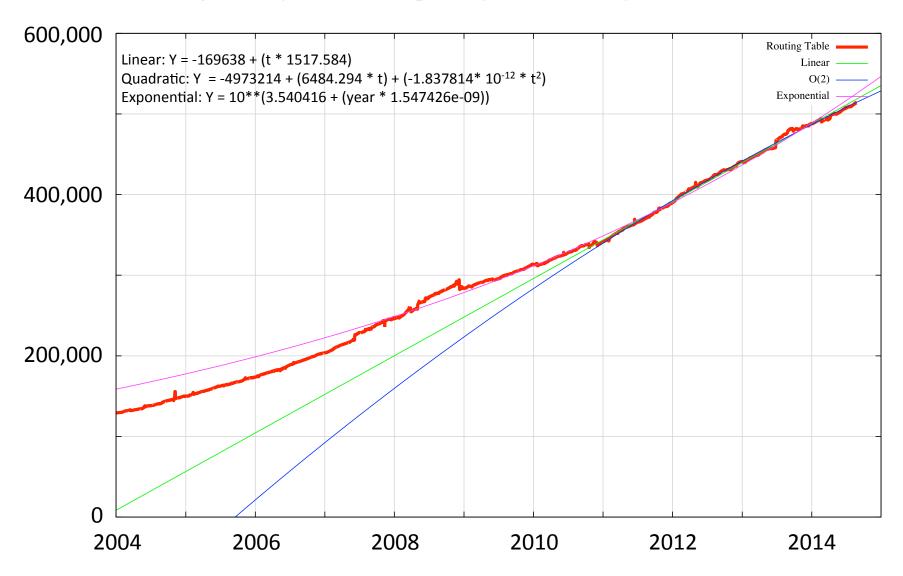
- Overall Internet growth in terms of BGP is at a rate of some ~20-40% p.a.
- AS growth sub-linear
- The rate of growth of the IPv6 Internet is also slowing down
 - Lack of critical momentum behind IPv6?
 - Saturation of critical market sectors by IPv4?
 - <some other factor>?

What to expect

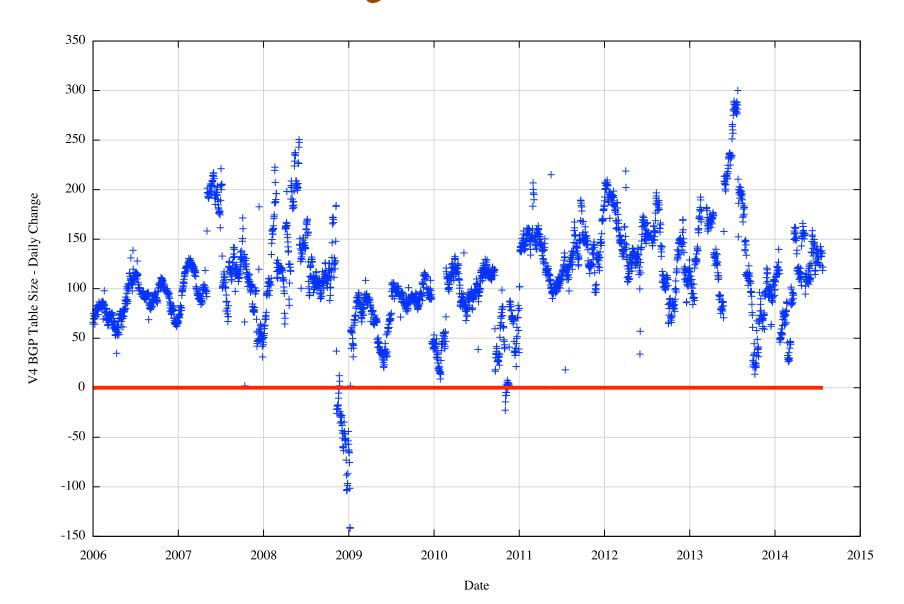
BGP Size Projections

- Generate a projection of the IPv4 routing table using a quadratic (O(2) polynomial) over the historic data
 - For IPv4 this is a time of extreme uncertainty
 - Registry IPv4 address run out
 - Uncertainty over the impacts of any after-market in IPv4 on the routing table
 - which makes this projection even more speculative than normal!

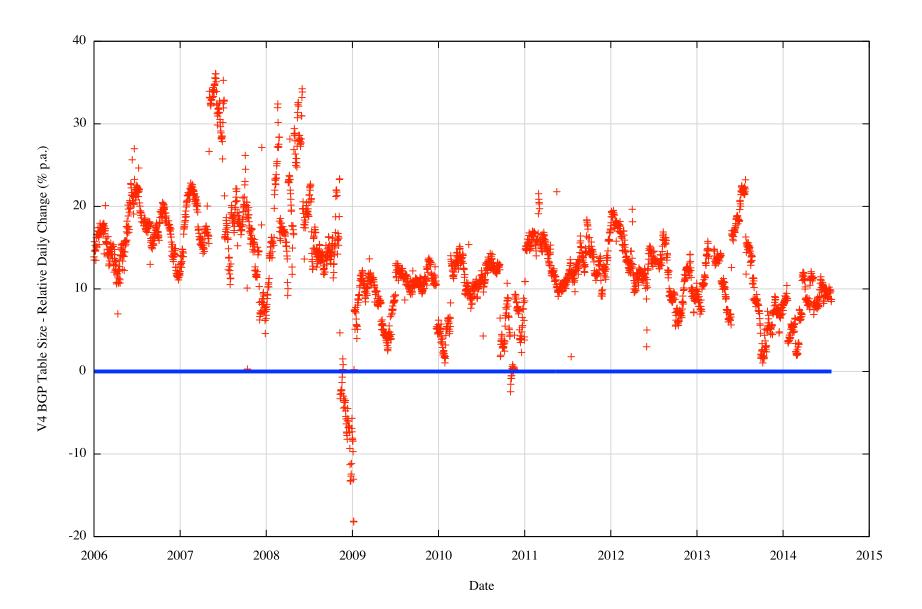
IPv4 Table Size



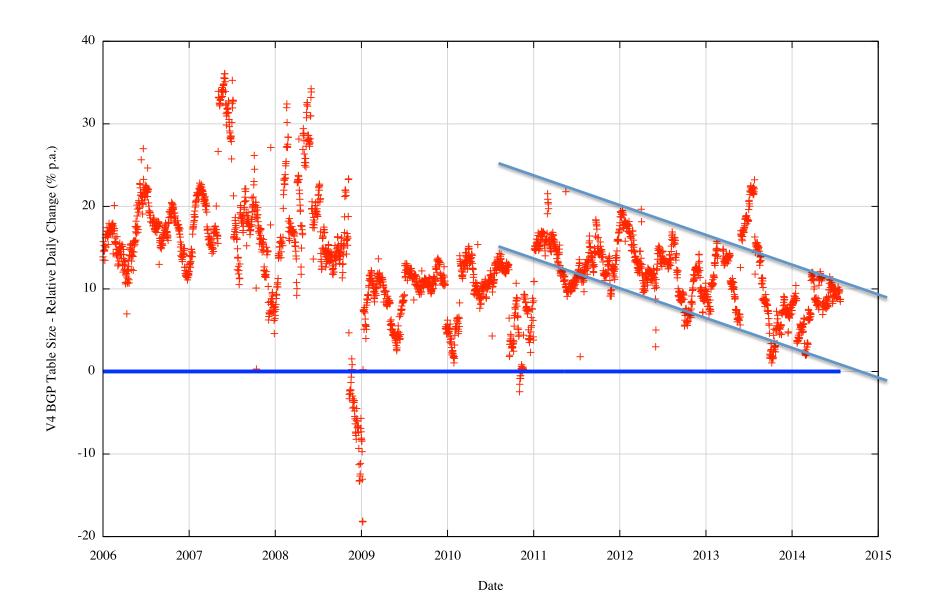
V4 - Daily Growth Rates



V4 - Relative Daily Growth Rates



V4 - Relative Daily Growth Rates



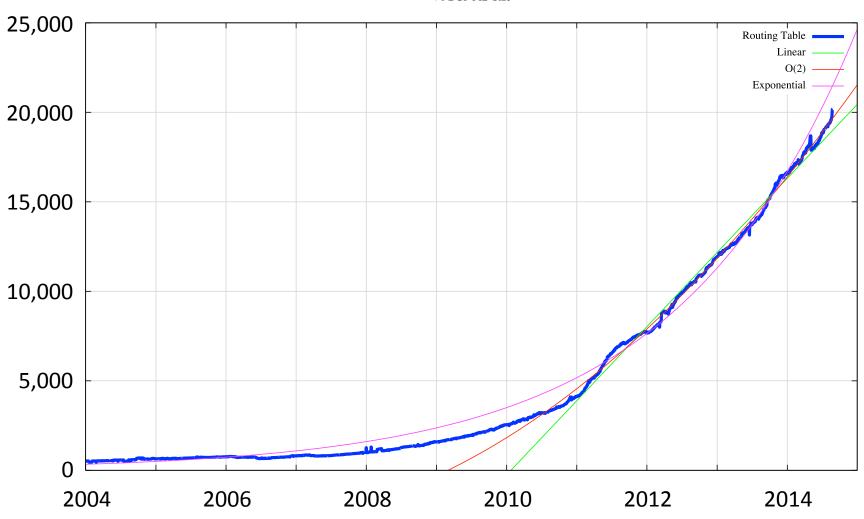
IPv4 BGP Table Size predictions

	Linear Model	Exponential Model
Jan 2013	441,172 entries	
2014	488,011 entries	
2015	540,000 entries	559,000
2016	590,000 entries	630,000
2017	640,000 entries	710,000
2018	690,000 entries	801,000
2019	740,000 entries	902,000

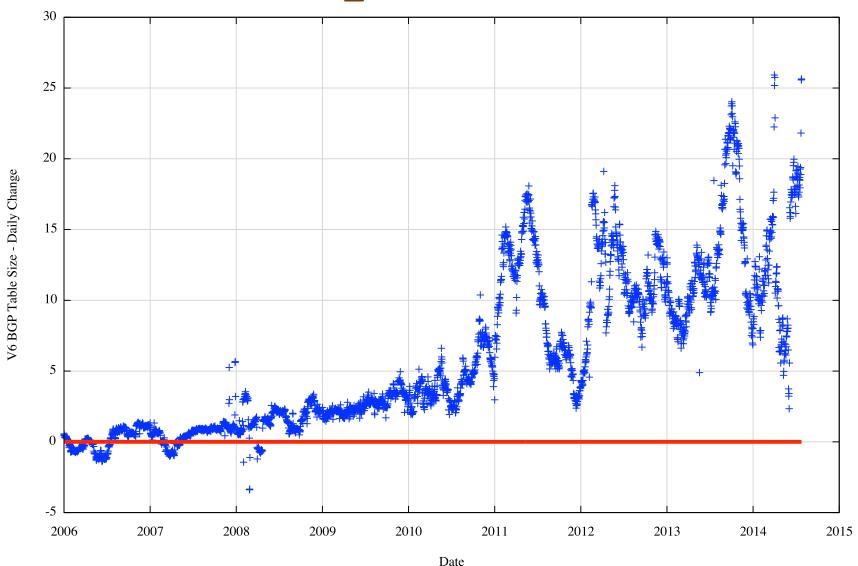
These numbers are dubious due to uncertainties introduced by IPv4 address exhaustion pressures.

IPv6 Table Size

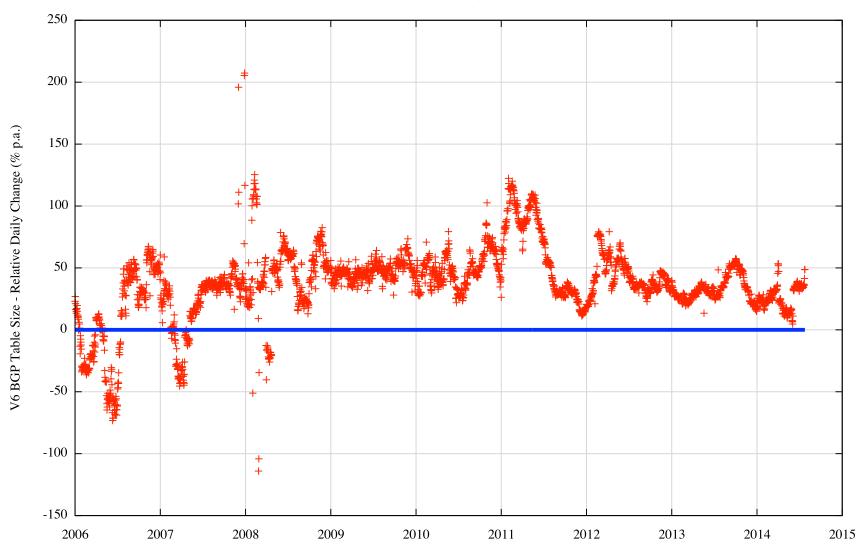
V6 BGP FIB Size



V6 - Daily Growth Rates

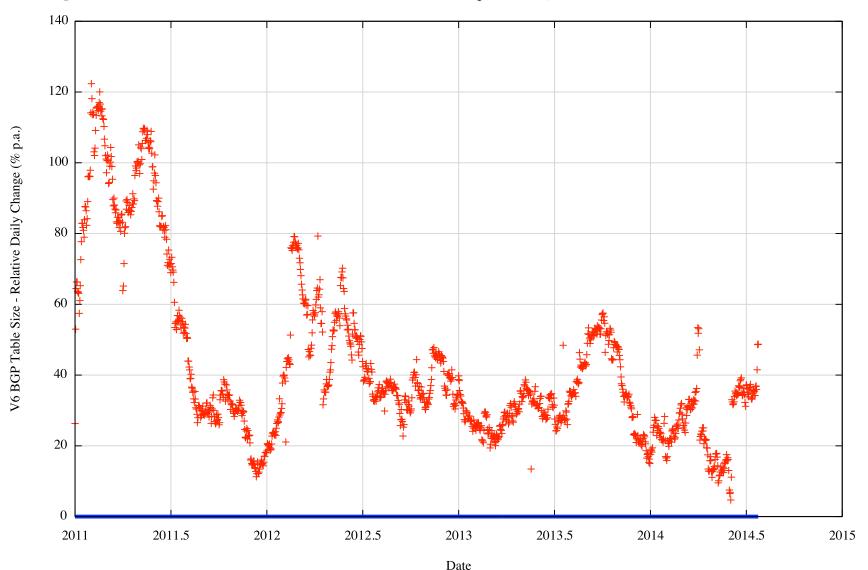


V6 - Relative Growth Rates

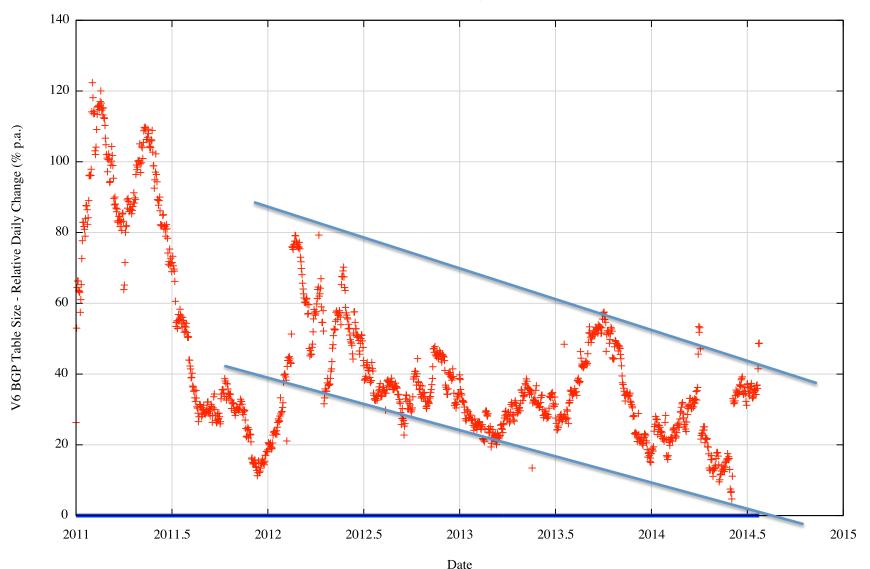


Date

V6 - Relative Growth Rates



V6 - Relative Growth Rates



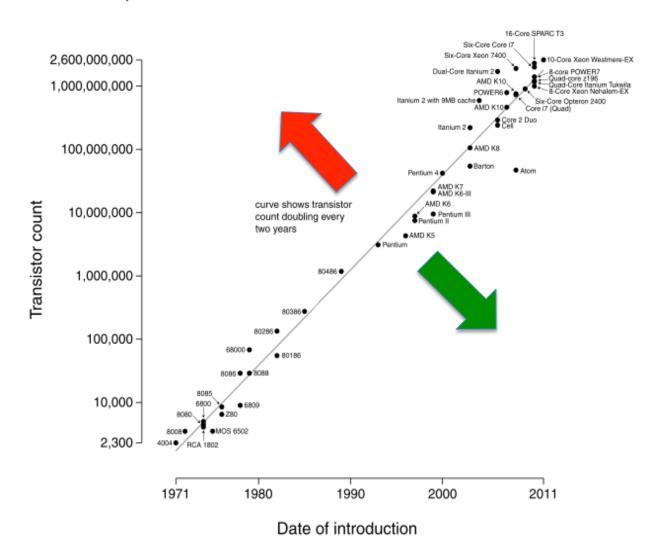
IPv6 BGP Table Size predictions

	Exponential Model	LinearModel
Jan 2013	11,600 entries	
2014	16,200 entries	
2015	24,600 entries	19,000
2016	36,400 entries	23,000
2017	54,000 entries	27,000
2018	80,000 entries	30,000
2019	119,000 entries	35,000

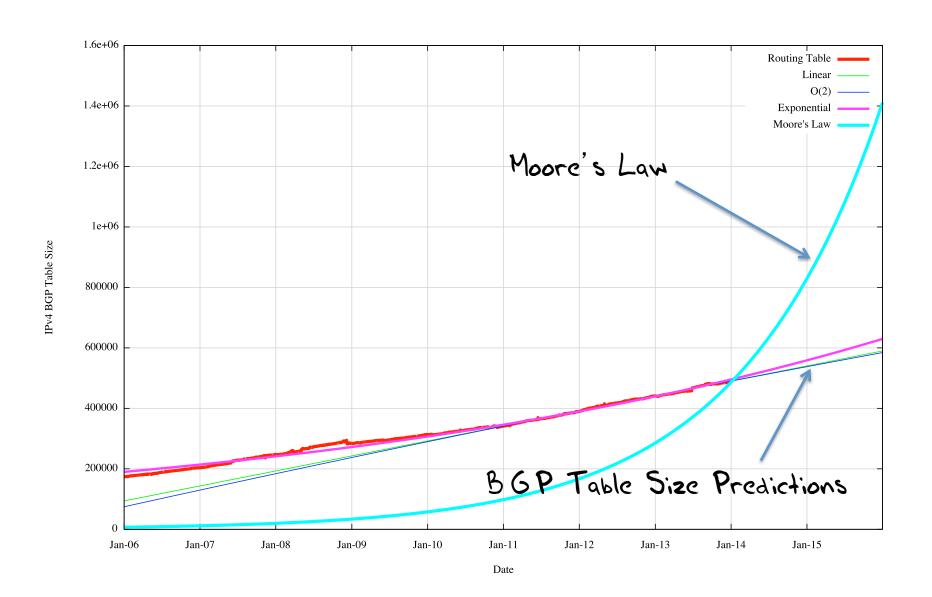
Up and to the Right

- Most Internet curves are "up and to the right"
- But what makes this curve painful?
 - The pain threshold is approximated by Moore's
 Law

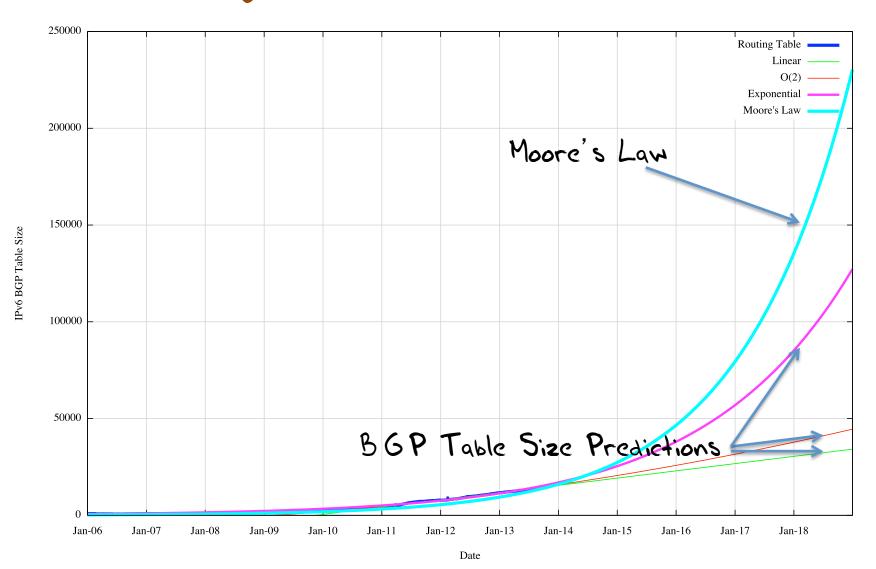
Microprocessor Transistor Counts 1971-2011 & Moore's Law



IPv4 BGP Table size and Moore's Law



IPv6 Projections and Moore's Law



BGP Table Growth

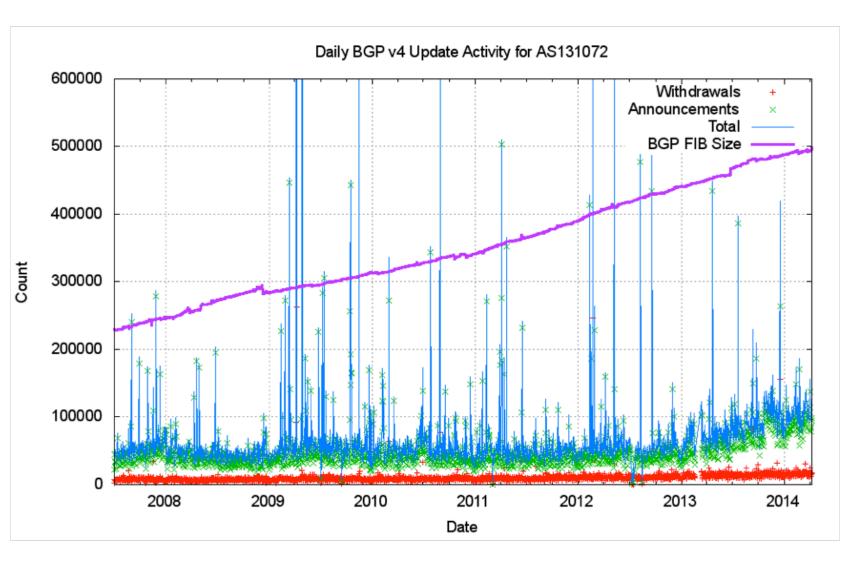
- Nothing in these figures suggests that there is cause for urgent alarm -- at present
- The overall eBGP growth rates for IPv4 are holding at a modest level, and the IPv6 table, although it is growing rapidly, is still relatively small in size in absolute terms
- As long as we are prepared to live within the technical constraints of the current routing paradigm it will continue to be viable for some time yet

Table Size vs Updates

BGP Updates

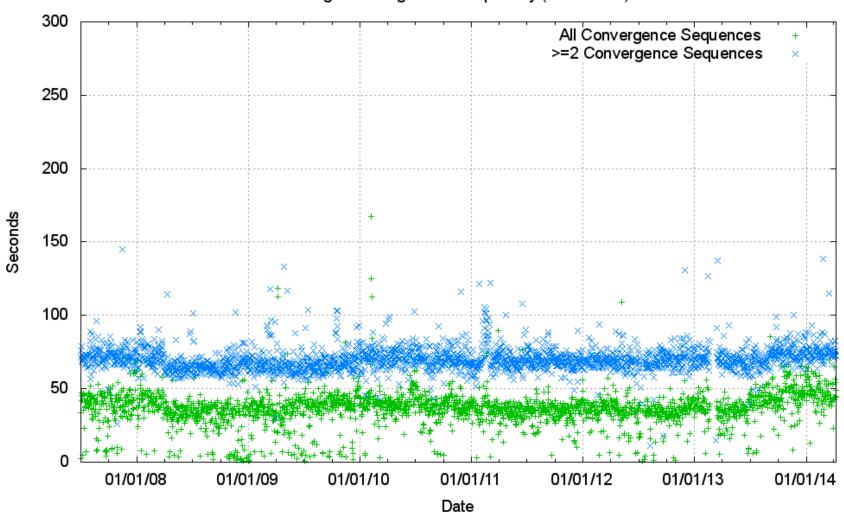
- What about the level of updates in BGP?
- Let's look at the update load from a single eBGP feed in a DFZ context

Announcements and Withdrawals

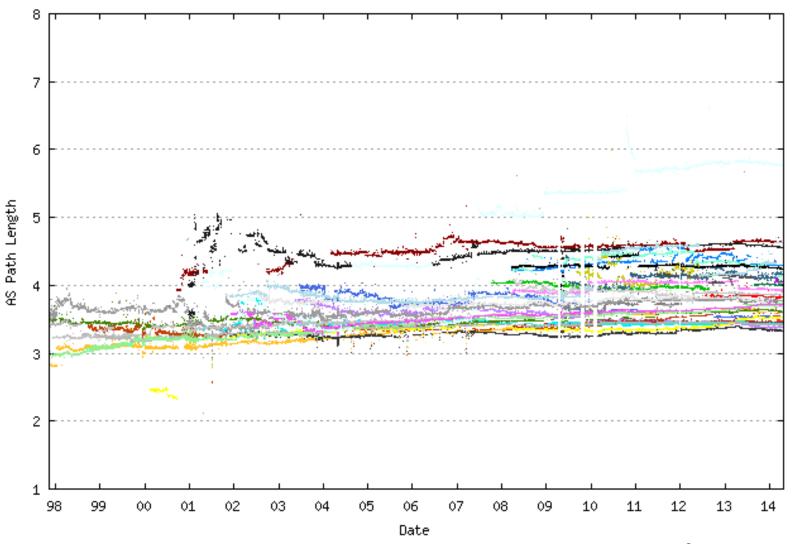


Convergence Performance

Average Convergence Time per day (AS 131072)



IPv4 Average AS Path Length



Updates in IPv4 BGP

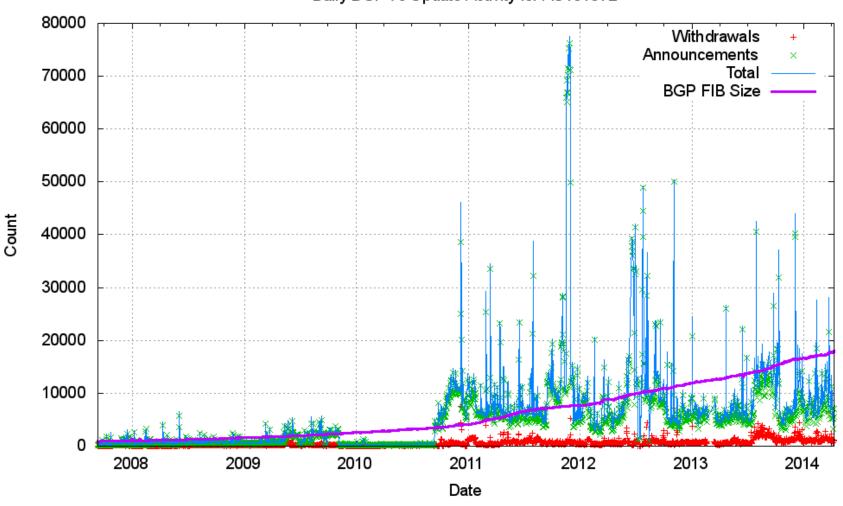
Nothing in these figures is cause for any great level of concern ...

 The number of updates per instability event has been constant, due to the damping effect of the MRAI interval, and the relatively constant AS Path length over this interval

What about IPv6?

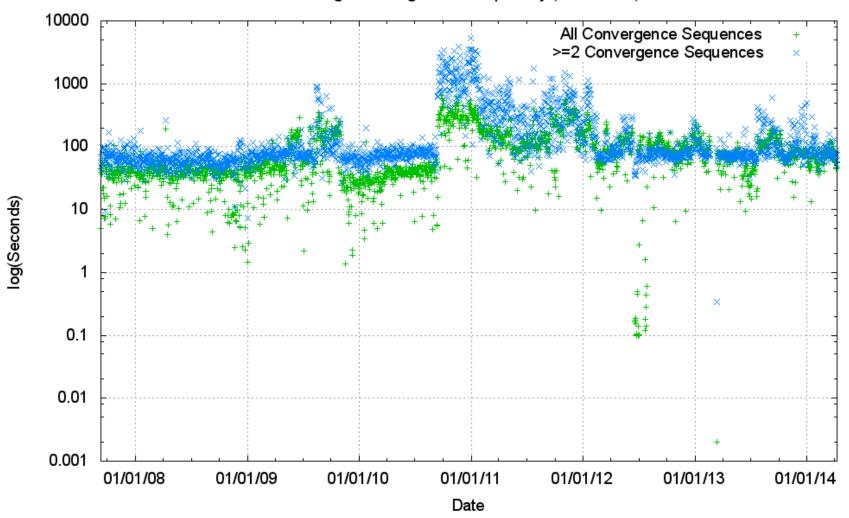
V6 Announcements and Withdrawals



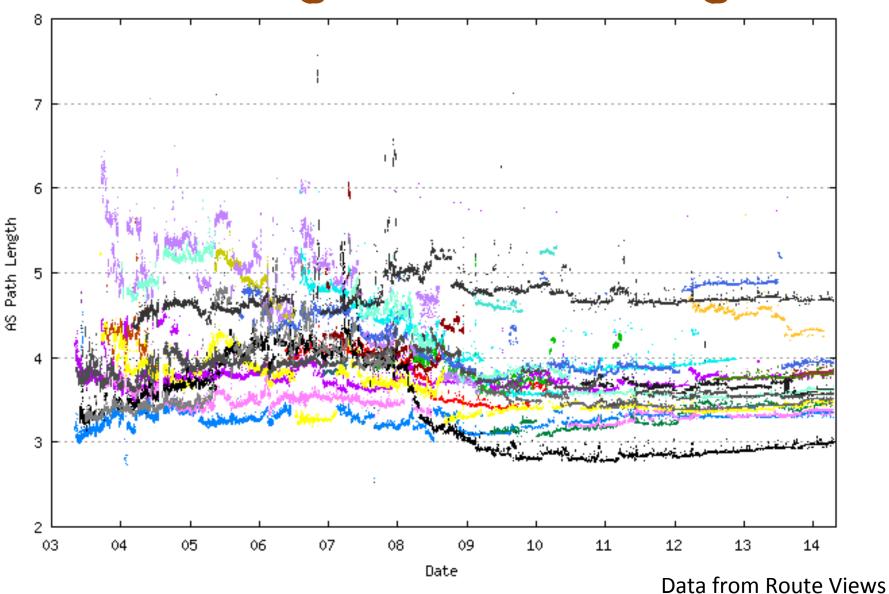


V6 Convergence Performance





V6 Average AS Path Length



BGP Convergence

- The long term average convergence time for the IPv4 BGP network is some 70 seconds, or 2.3 updates given a 30 second MRAI timer
- The long term average convergence time for the IPv6 BGP network is some 80 seconds, or 2.6 updates

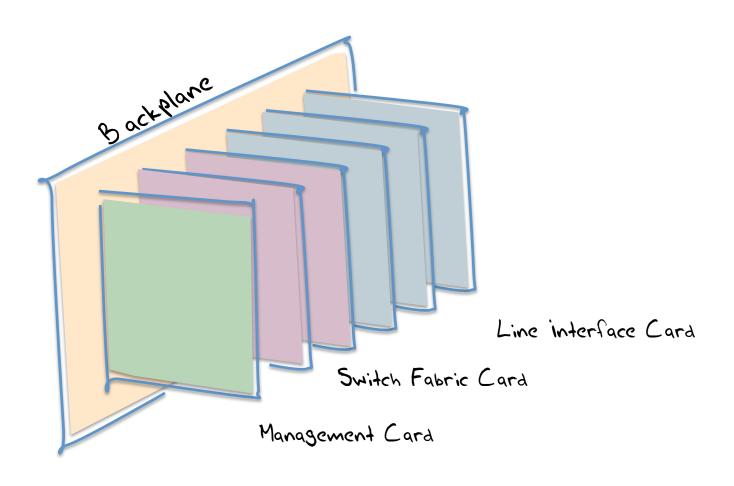
Problem? Not a Problem?

It's evident that the global BGP routing environment suffers from a certain amount of neglect and inattention

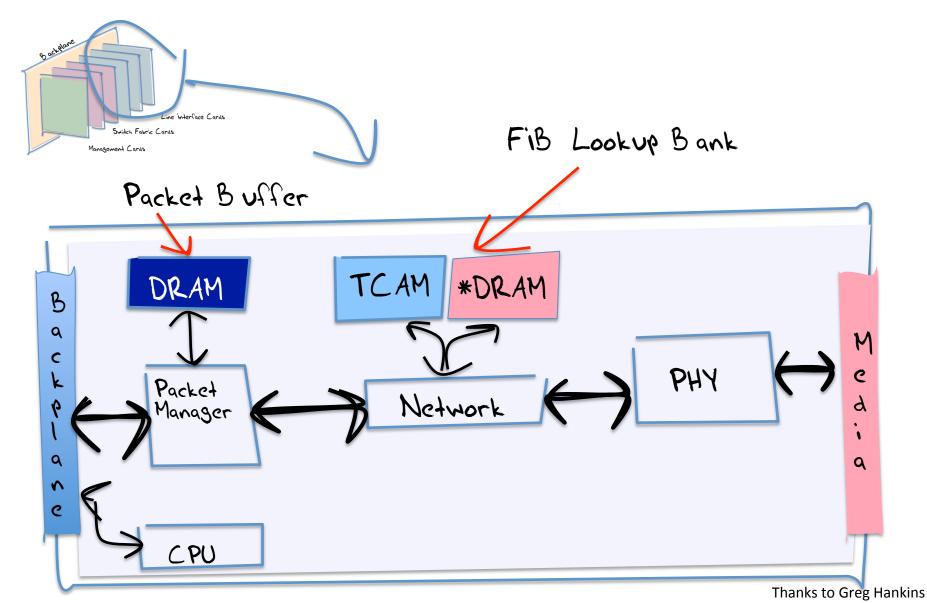
But whether this is a problem or not depends on the way in which routers handle the routing table.

So lets take a quick look at routers...

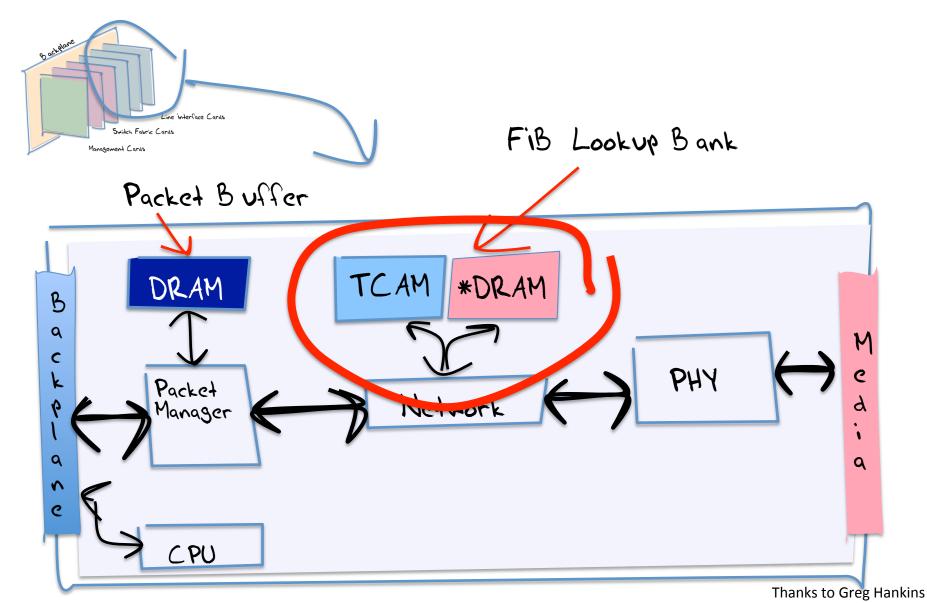
Inside a router



Inside a line card



Inside a line card



FIB Lookup Memory

The interface card's network processor passes the packet's destination address to the FIB module.

The FIB module returns with an outbound interface index

FIB Lookup

This can be achieved by:

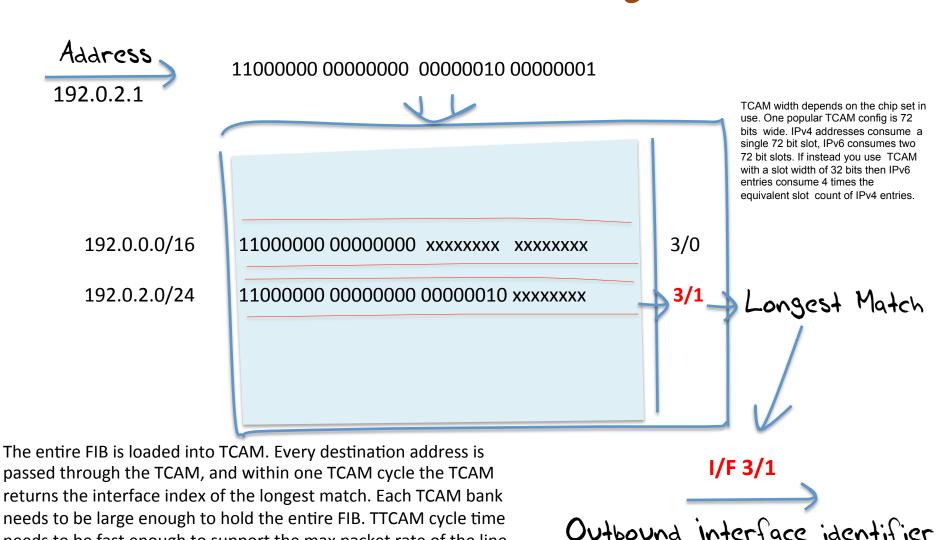
 Loading the entire routing table into a Ternary Content Addressable Memory bank (TCAM)

or

 Using an ASIC implementation of a TRIE representation of the routing table with DRAM memory to hold the routing table

Either way, this needs **fast** memory

TCAM Memory



needs to be fast enough to support the max packet rate of the line

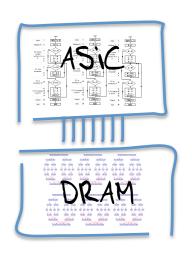
card.

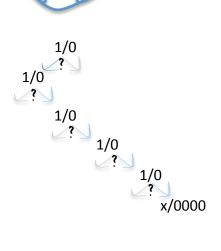
TRIE Lookup

Address

11000000 00000000 00000010 00000001

192.0.2.1





The entire FIB is converted into a serial decision tree. The size of decision tree depends on the distribution of prefix values in the FIB. The performance of the TRIE depends on the algorithm used in the ASIC and the number of serial decisions used to reach a decision

₹ I/F 3/1

Outbound interface identifier

Memory Tradeoffs

	TCAM	RLDRAM 3
Access Speed	Lower	Higher
\$ per bit	Higher	Lower
Power	Higher	Lower
Density	Higher	Lower
Physical Size	Larger	Smaller
Capacity	4:aM08	16 bit
\$ per bit Power Density Physical Size	Higher Higher Higher Larger	Lower Lower Smaller

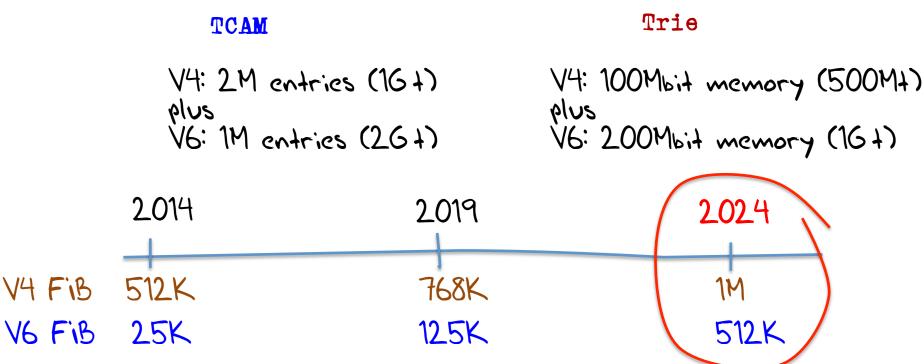
Memory Tradeoffs

TCAMs are higher cost, but operate with a fixed search latency and a fixed add/delete time. TCAMs scale linearly with the size of the FIB

ASICs implement a TRIE in memory. The cost is lower, but the search and add/delete times are variable. The performance of the lookup depends on the chosen algorithm. The memory efficiency of the TRIE depends on the prefix distribution and the particular algorithm used to manage the data structure

Size

What memory size do we need for **10 years** of FIB growth from today?



"The Impact of Address Allocation and Routing on the Structure and Implementation of Routing Tables", Narayn, Govindan & Varghese, SIGCOMM '03

Scaling the FIB

BGP table growth is slow enough that we can continue to use simple FIB lookup in linecards without straining the state of the art in memory capacity

However, if it all turns horrible, there are alternatives to using a complete FIB in memory, which are at the moment variously robust and variously viable:

FIB compression

MPLS

Locator/ID Separation (LISP)

OpenFlow/Software Defined Networking (SDN)

But it's not just size

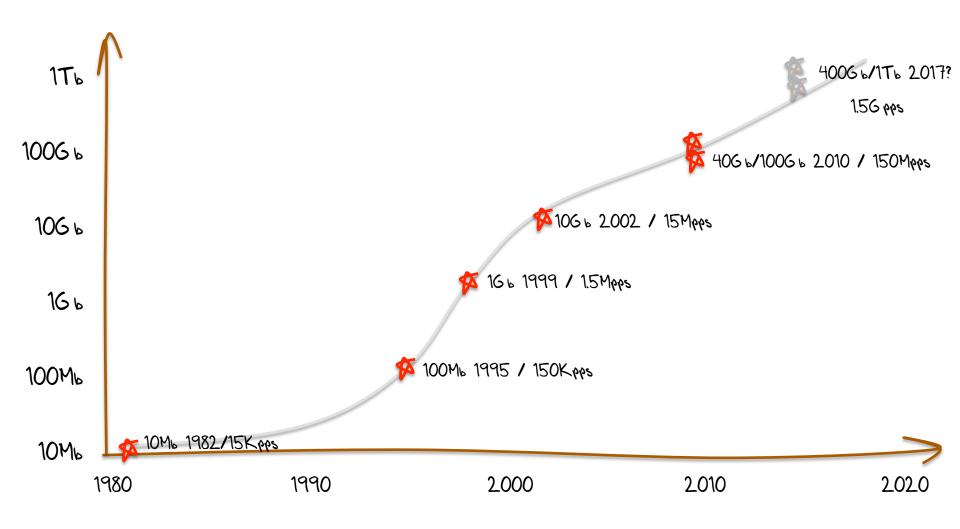
It's speed as well.

10Mb Ethernet had a 64 byte min packet size, plus preamble plus inter-packet spacing

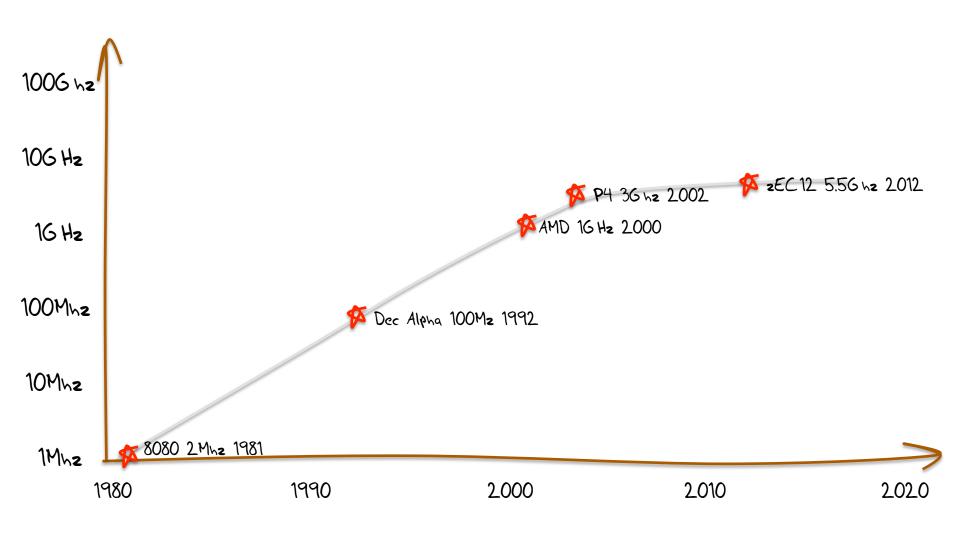
- =14,880 pps
- =1 packet every 67usec

We've increased speed of circuits, but left the Ethernet framing and packet size limits largely unaltered. What does this imply for router memory?

Wireline Speed - Ethernet

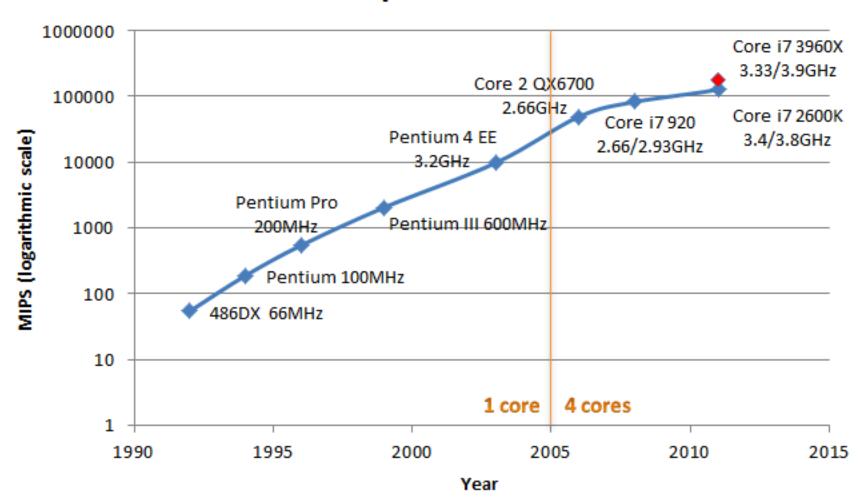


Clock Speed - Processors

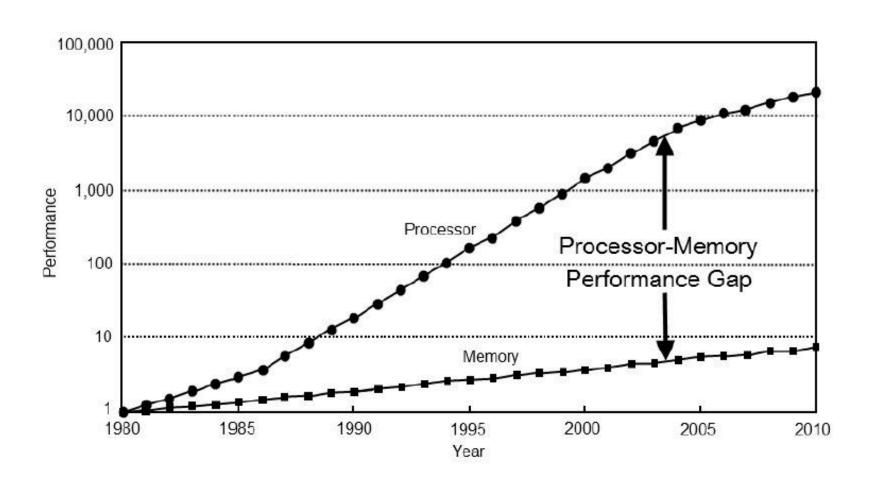


Clock Speed - Processors

Intel CPU Speeds Over Time



CPU vs Memory Speed



Speed, Speed, Speed

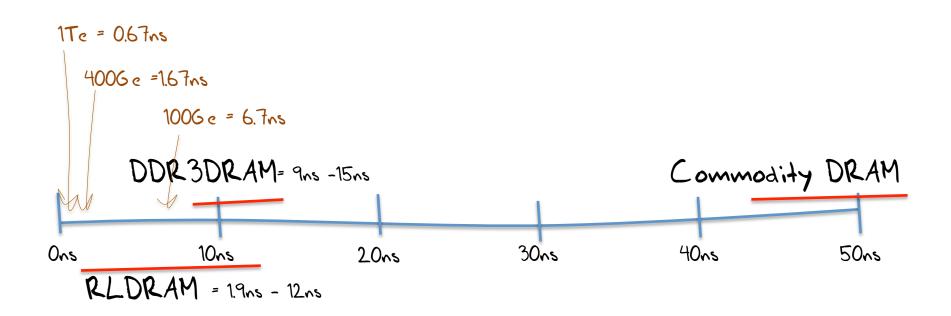
What memory speeds are necessary to sustain a maximal packet rate?

$$100GE \approx 150Mpps \approx 6.7ns$$
 per packet $400Ge \approx 600Mpps \approx 1.6ns$ per packet $1Te \approx 1.5Gpps \approx 0.67ns$ per packet



Speed, Speed, Speed

What memory speeds do we have today?



Scaling Speed

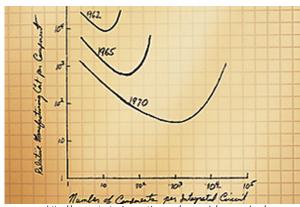
Scaling speed is going to be tougher over time

Moore's Law talks about the number of gates per circuit, but not circuit clocking speeds

Speed and capacity could be the major design challenge for network equipment in the coming years

If we can't route the max packet rate for a terrabit wire then:

- If we want to exploit parallelism as an alternative to wireline speed for terrabit networks, then is the use of best path routing protocols, coupled with destinationbased hop-based forwarding going to scale?
- Or are we going to need to look at path-pinned routing architectures to provide stable flow-level parallelism within the network to limit aggregate flow volumes?
- Or should we reduce the max packet rate by moving away from a 64byte min packet size?



http://www.startupinnovation.org/research/moores-law/

Thank You

Questions?