

# Practical Implementation of BGP Community with Geotags and Traffic Engineering based on Geotags

Muhammad Moinur Rahman

# BGP routes with location information

- Routers don't have a builtin GPS device
- Need a process to manually Geocode it's route-origin
- Need to add a tag to the route objects or group of routes
- Answer : BGP Communities

# BGP – Border Gateway Protocol

- An INTER-AS routing protocol
- Building a robust scalable network
- Customers can chose
  - How to exit the network
  - How to bring the return traffic
- But to give that control we need to make maximum utilization of

**BGP Community**

# Cause

- A scalable network needs them for its own use
  - Be able to identify customers, transits, peers, etc
  - To perform traffic engineering and export controls
  - There is no other truly acceptable implementation
- But customers love using them as well
  - “Power user” customers demand high level of control.
  - Having self-supporting customers doesn’t hurt either.
  - The more powerful you make your communities, the more work it will save you in the long run.

# Controls and Caveats

- Exit Traffic

- You cannot decide
- Customer needs to decide
- But you can help a little more the customer to decide

- Return Traffic

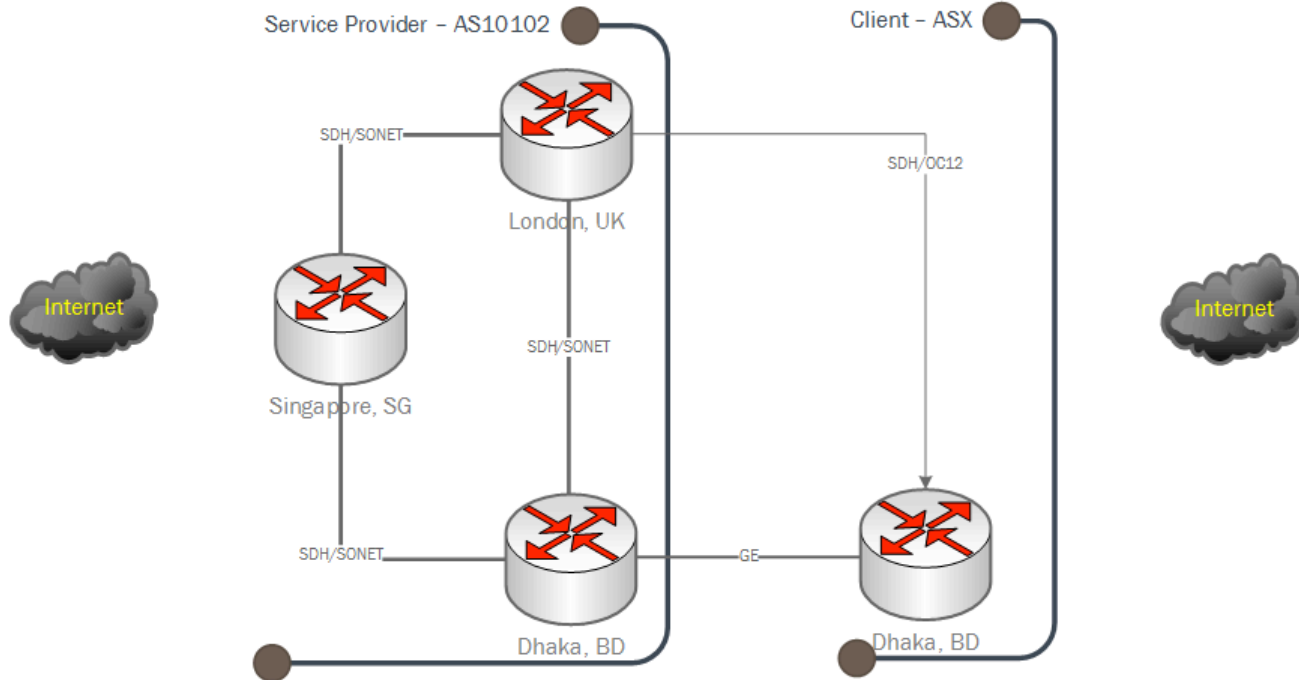
- You can control
- You can help the customer decide

# Problems faced by Service Provider

## Customer Requires

1. Inbound Load Balancing
2. Upstream's outbound traffic is preferring more expensive links
3. Upstream outbound traffic is preferring a higher latency/packet loss link
4. Traffic is not returning network efficiently (shortest/best path)
5. Return traffic load balancing due to cost/latency or Multiple geographical connectivity with same Transit Provider
6. Remotely Triggered Blackhole Route

# Problem 1 : Inbound Load Balancing



# Problem 1 : Details

- Client has multiple connectivity
- To ensure Redundancy
- Advertising same prefixes in both links
- Downstream traffic is received by both links
- Client wants to specify specific link for incoming traffic





# Problem 2: Details

- Customer has Multiple upstreams
- Upstream AS10102 has connectivity with EQUINIX IX Singapore, London IX, BDIX
- Upstream ASY has no connectivity with any IX for Public Peering or Private peering. Only transit connectivity through another upstream
- ASY inbound routes are won in Customer's Router whereas AS10102 has so many better routes through IXP
- AS10102 provided BGP Communities for identifying Transit Routes, Private Peering Routes, Public Peering Routes and Customer Routes
- AS10102 defines different Local Preference for different routes

# Problem 2 - Links – Types

- Transit
- Peers
  - Public
  - Private
- Customers

# Problem 2 - Links – Types - Transit

- The network operator pays money (or *settlement*) to another network (Transit Provider) for Internet access (or *transit*)
- Pays Money
- Costliest

# Problem 2 - Links – Types - Peers

## ●Public

- Two networks exchange traffic between their users freely, and for mutual benefit
- Connected at a public Internet eXchange Point like LINX, DE-CIX, AMS-IX
- Internet eXchange Point charges a nominal fee for equipment financing and maintenance
- Less Costlier than transit

## ●Private

- Same as public except the two networks connectivity takes place privately
- Only link costs are involved
- Less Costlier than Public Peering

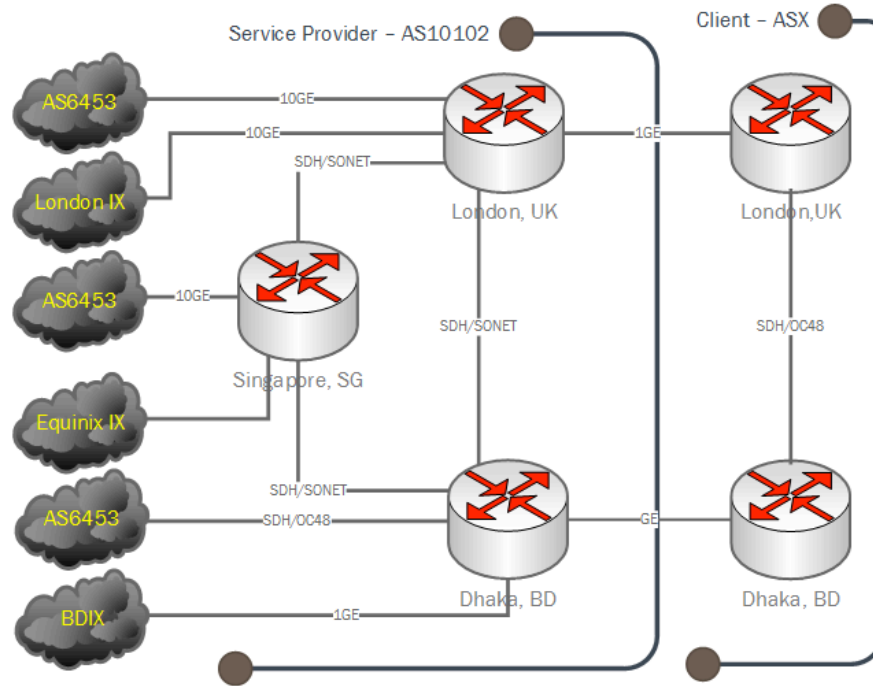
# Problem 2 - Links – Types - Customer

- A network pays another network money to be provided with Internet access
- You are earning money
- No Costs involved as we are generating revenue

# Problem 2 - Links – Budget Decision

- Customer Routes are the least expensive so Customer Routes should have higher preference
- Private Peering Routes are more expensive than Customer Routes so these should have lesser preference
- Public Peering Routes are more expensive than Private Peering Routes so these should have lesser preference
- Transit Routes are most expensive so these should have the least preference

# Problem 3 – Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links

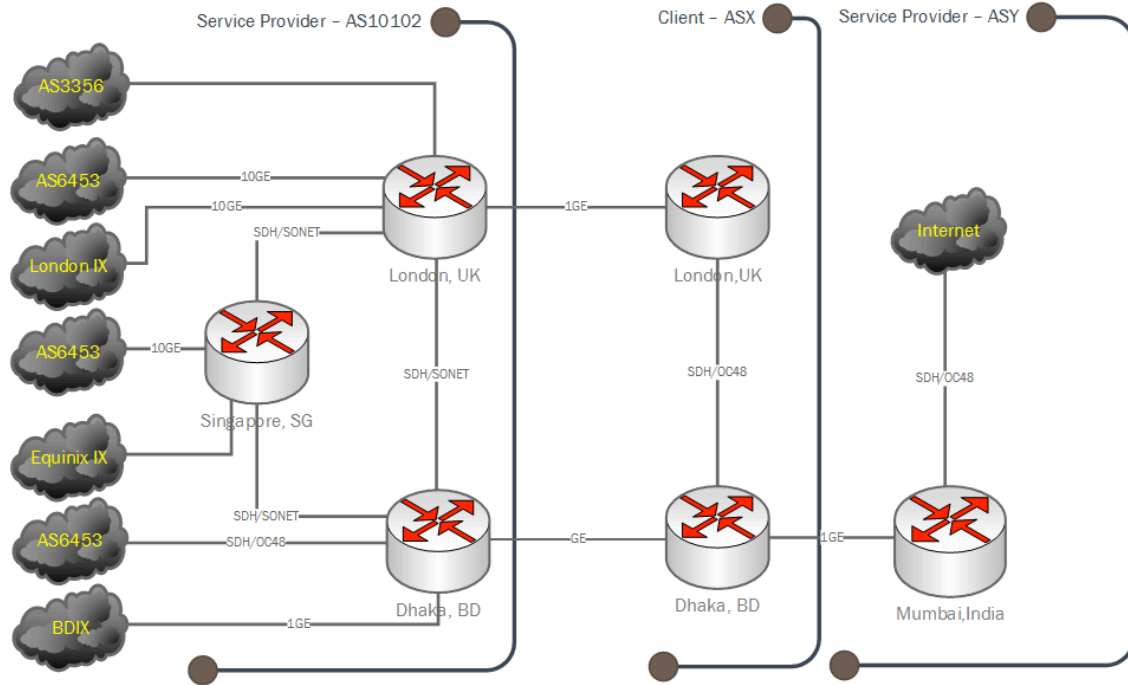




# Problem 3 – Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links

- Customer Routes are traversing through Higher Latency/Ping Loss Links
- Customer is connected with AS10102 in multiple location (Dhaka & London)
- Customer's AP destined traffic from Dhaka is traversing High Latency London Router then going to Singapore
- Customer's EU destined traffic from Dhaka is traversing High Latency Singapore Router then going to London
- Customer's AP destined traffic from London is traversing High Latency Dhaka Router then going to Singapore

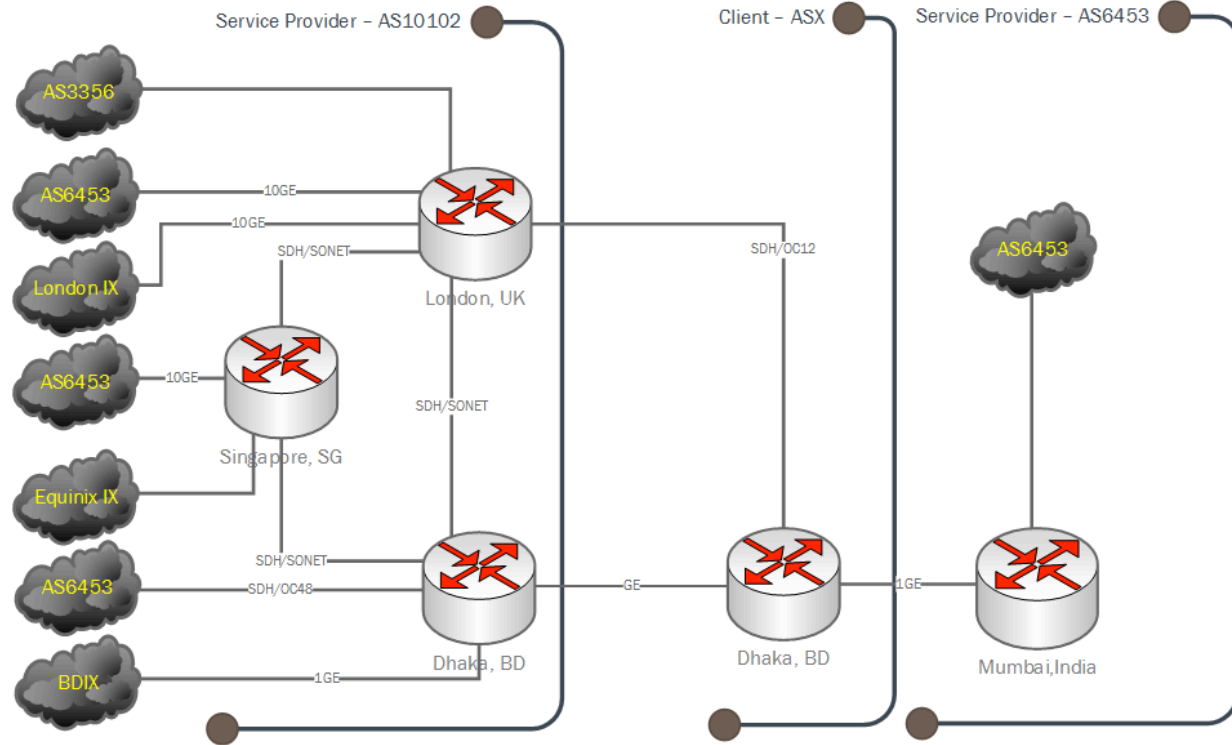
# Problem 4: Return Traffic is not exiting network efficiently



# Problem 4: Return Traffic is not Exiting Efficiently

- Customer is Connected with AS10102 in Dhaka & London
- Customer is also connected with ASY in Dhaka
- Customer is advertising same prefixes across all upstream from both the routers
- Customers Dhaka destined traffic from London Router(AS10102) is coming through Customer's London Router instead of Upstream's Dhaka Router
- Customers London destined traffic from Dhaka Router(AS10102) is coming through Customer's London Router instead of Upstream's Dhaka Router
- Customer cannot change Local Preference. Changing it causes all it's traffic routed via ASY

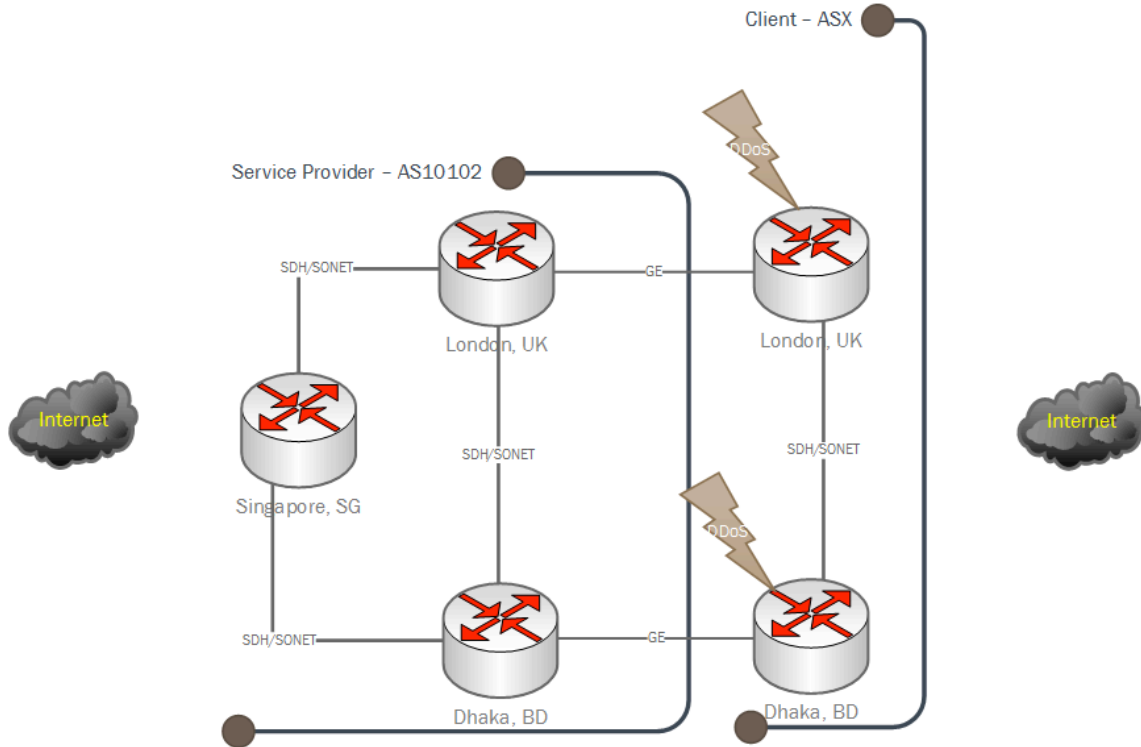
# Problem 5: Return Traffic Load Balancing



# Problem 5: Return Traffic Load Balancing

- Customer is connected with AS10102 and AS6453 in both London and Dhaka
- AS6453 is Tier-1 Provider whereas AS10102 is not
- As Customer has direct connectivity with AS6453; Customer doesn't want its AP AS6453 return traffic from Dhaka router(AS10102) to come through AS10102 only except last resort
- Customer doesn't want EU return traffic from AS6453 via AS10102 as they have better latency through other tertiary provider

# Problem 6: Remotely Triggered BlackHole Route



# Problem 6: Remotely Triggered BlackHole Route

- Client suddenly starts facing massive DDoS attacks
- All of Client's backbone links are saturated
- Client needs to let the upstream know about the IP
- Upstream will NULL route that specific IP

# BGP Community Analysis – AS6453

- Accepts STANDARD Communities
  - NO\_EXPORT, NO\_ADVERTISE
- Local Preference Adjustment
  - Accepts 70, 80, 90, and 110
  - Standard for Customer Routes 100
  - Standard for Peer Routes 90
  - Nothing defined for Transit Routes as they are a TRANSIT Free Operator
- Mitigation of DDoS attacks/ Remotely Triggered Blackhole Routes
  - /32 prefixes can be blackholed with 64999:0(Uses PRIVATE number)



# BGP Community Analysis – AS6453(Cont)

## ● Distribution to PEERS

- 6500n:ASN n={1,2,3} prepend 6453 n times to peer ASN
- 65009:ASN do not redistribute to peer ASN
- 6500n:0 n={1,2,3} prepend 6453 to all peers
- 65009:0 do not redistribute to any peers

## ● Informational Community

- Peer Routes classified as 6453:86
- Nothing defined for Customer Routes
- Nothing defined for Transit Routes as they are transit free operator
- Geographical Information encoded within 4 characters with limited visibility

# Solution 1: Inbound Load Balancing

- Changing the Local Preference on one link
- But Local Preference does not traverse across different AS
- Upstream needs to change the Local Preference while configuring BGP inbound route policy
- But Upstream can set Local Preference based on conditional BGP community check

# Solution 1: Inbound Load Balancing :: Upstream IOS-XR

```
route-policy CUSTOMER-IN
if community matches-any (10102:75) then
    set local-preference 75
elseif community matches-any (10102:85) then
    set local-preference 85
elseif community matches-any (10102:95) then
    set local-preference 95
elseif community matches-any (10102:105) then
    set local-preference 105
else
    done
endif
end-policy
```

# Solution 1: Inbound Load Balancing :: Upstream IOS

```
ip community-list 1 permit 10102:75
ip community-list 2 permit 10102:85
ip community-list 3 permit 10102:95
ip community-list 4 permit 10102:105

route-map CUSTOMER-IN permit 10
  match community 1
  set local-preference 75

route-map CUSTOMER-IN permit 20
  match community 2
  set local-preference 85

route-map CUSTOMER-IN permit 30
  match community 3
  set local-preference 95

route-map CUSTOMER-IN permit 40
  match community 4
  set local-preference 105
```

# Solution 1: Inbound Load Balancing :: Customer IOS :: London Link

```
route-map AS10102-OUT-LONDON permit 1000  
  set community 10102:{75,85,95,105}
```

# Solution 2: Outbound Traffic Preferring Expensive Links

- Upstream has two tasks

- Setting Local preference

- Transit Local Preference – 90
    - Public/Private Peering Local Preference – 95
    - Client Local Preference – 100

- Setting BGP Community to isolate routes

- Transit Routes – 1<sup>st</sup> digit of 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 1 (10102:1XXXX)
  - Public/Private Peer Routes – 1<sup>st</sup> digit of 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 2/3 (10102:2XXXX/10102:3XXXX)
  - Client Routes – 1<sup>st</sup> digit of 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 4 (10102:4XXXX)
  - Define GeoTAGS

# Solution 2: Outbound Traffic Preferring Expensive Links :: Upstream IOS-XR :: DHAKA

```
route-policy CUSTOMER-IN
  set community 10102:41011 additive
end-policy
route-policy PRIVATE-PEER-IN
  set community 10102:31011 additive
  set local-preference 90
end-policy
route-policy PUBLIC-PEER-IN
  set community 10102:21011 additive
  set local-preference 90
end-policy
route-policy TRANSIT-IN
  set community 10102:11011 additive
  set local-preference 80
end-policy
```

## Solution 2: Outbound Traffic Preferring Expensive Links :: Customer

- Upstream has defined optimized outbound routing
- But customer has to route selective traffic upto upstreams router
- Local Preference rests to vendor neutral default value across AS



# Solution 2: Outbound Traffic Preferring Expensive Links :: Customer IOS

```
ip community-list 100 permit 10102:[2-3].{4}
ip community-list 101 permit 10102:1.{4}
route-map AS10102-IN permit 10
  match community 100
  set local-preference 90
route-map AS10102-IN permit 20
  match community 101
  set local-preference 80
route-map ASY-IN permit 10
  set local-preference 80
```

# Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links

- Upstream is TAGGING routes based on it's origin as follows
  - ASIAN region – 2<sup>nd</sup> digit on 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 1(10102:X1XXX)
  - AFRICAN region – 2<sup>nd</sup> digit on 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 2(10102:X2XXX)
  - EUROPEAN region – 2<sup>nd</sup> digit on 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 3(10102:X3XXX)
  - NORTH AMERICAN region – 2<sup>nd</sup> digit on 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 4(10102:X4XXX)
  - SOUTH AMERICAN region – 2<sup>nd</sup> digit on 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 5(10102:X5XXX)
  - AUSTRALIAN region – 2<sup>nd</sup> digit on 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 6(10102:X6XXX)
  - ANTARCTICA region – 2<sup>nd</sup> digit on 2<sup>nd</sup> octet is 7(10102:X7XXX)

# Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links :: UPSTREAM IOS-XR :: DHAKA

- Peer Configuration

```
route-policy SETCMTY-PEER
  set community 10102:21011 additive
end-policy
```

- Transit Configuration

```
route-policy SETCMTY-TRANSIT
  set community 10102:11011 additive
end-policy
```

- Client configuration

```
route-policy SETCMTY-CUSTOMER
  set community 10102:41011 additive
end-policy
```

# Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links :: UPSTREAM IOS-XR :: SINGAPORE

- **Peer Configuration**

```
route-policy SETCMTY-PEER
  set community 10102:21021 additive
end-policy
```

- **Transit Configuration**

```
route-policy SETCMTY-TRANSIT
  set community 10102:11021 additive
end-policy
```

- **Client configuration**

```
route-policy SETCMTY-CUSTOMER
  set community 10102:41021 additive
end-policy
```

# Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links :: UPSTREAM IOS-XR :: LONDON

- Peer Configuration

```
route-policy SETCMTY-PEER
  set community 10102:23011 additive
end-policy
```

- Transit Configuration

```
route-policy SETCMTY-TRANSIT
  set community 10102:13011 additive
end-policy
```

- Client configuration

```
route-policy SETCMTY-CUSTOMER
  set community 10102:43011 additive
end-policy
```

## Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links :: Customer :: London ::IOS

```
ip community-list 100 permit 10102:[1-5]1.{3}
ip community-list 101 permit 10102:[1-5]3.{3}
route-map AS10102-IN permit 10
  match community 101
  set weight 1000
route-map ASCUSTOMER-IN permit 10
  match community 100
  set weight 1000
```

# Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links :: Customer :: Dhaka :: IOS

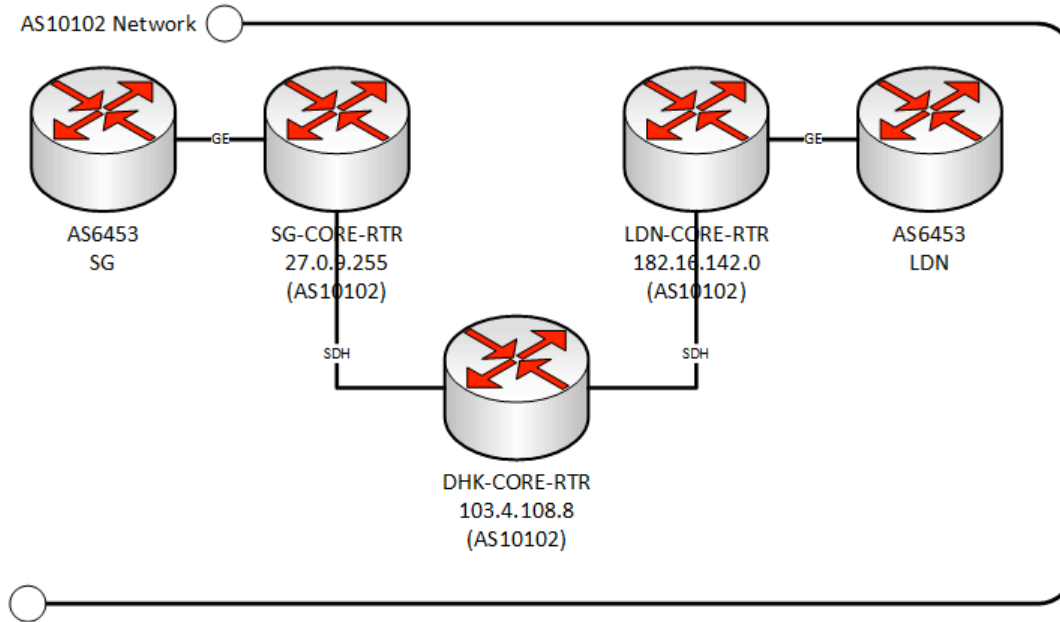
```
ip community-list 100 permit 10102:[1-5]1.{3}
ip community-list 101 permit 10102:[1-5]3.{3}
route-map AS10102-IN permit 10
  match community 100
  set weight 1000
route-map ASCUSTOMER-IN permit 10
  match community 101
  set weight 1000
```

## Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links :: Real Life Example

- This has been a debate where it really gives added advantage
- AS10102 is using this sort of setup
- AS10102 thinks this gives better result



# Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links :: Real Life Example :: Scenario



# Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links :: Real Life Example

- 6453:3000 – AP Region
- 6453:2000 – EU Region

# Case1 : 1.0.4.1 (BGP Community 6453:3000)

Path #4: Received by speaker 0

Advertised to update-groups (with more than one peer):

0.3 0.9 0.16 0.21 0.29

Advertised to peers (in unique update groups):

103.4.108.138 103.4.109.170 103.4.109.134

9498 7545 56203

125.23.197.26 from 125.23.197.26 (203.101.87.173)

Origin IGP, localpref 90, valid, external, best, group-best, import-candidate

Received Path ID 0, Local Path ID 1, version 369496799

Community: 10102:11000 10102:11010 10102:11011

Origin-AS validity: not-found

# Case1 : 1.0.4.1 (Default BGP Table TraceRoute)

Sun Dec 14 21:49:24.004 UTC

Type escape sequence to abort.

Tracing the route to 1.0.4.1

```
 1  125.17.2.53 45 msec  45 msec
 2  125.62.187.113 436 msec  447 msec  448 msec
 3  any2ix.coresite.com (206.72.210.141) 621 msec  622 msec  607 msec
 4  203-29-129-130.static.tpgi.com.au (203.29.129.130) 615 msec  614 msec  613 msec
 5  203-29-140-110.static.tpgi.com.au (203.29.140.110) 613 msec  620 msec  617 msec
 6  203-29-140-110.static.tpgi.com.au (203.29.140.110) 612 msec  619 msec  623 msec
 7  * * *
 8  * * *
 9  * * *
10  * * *
11 203-26-30-91.static.tpgi.com.au (203.26.30.91) 632 msec  * *
```

# Case1 : 1.0.4.1 (via London)

Sun Dec 14 21:56:45.596 UTC

Type escape sequence to abort.

Tracing the route to 1.0.4.1

```
 1 182.16.142.13 175 msec 168 msec
 2  if-3-1-1.core4.LDN-London.as6453.net (195.219.51.85) 167 msec 168 msec 173 msec
 3  if-0-1-3-0.tcore2.LDN-London.as6453.net (80.231.62.25) [MPLS: Label 614247 Exp 0] 324 msec 318 msec 316 msec
 4  if-15-2.tcore2.L78-London.as6453.net (80.231.131.117) 324 msec 335 msec
 5  if-20-2.tcore2.NYY-New-York.as6453.net (216.6.99.13) [MPLS: Label 467080 Exp 0] 321 msec 319 msec 321 msec
 6  * * *
 7  if-1-2.tcore1.PDI-Palo-Alto.as6453.net (66.198.127.5) [MPLS: Label 353936 Exp 0] 317 msec 317 msec 319 msec
 8  if-2-2.tcore2.PDI-Palo-Alto.as6453.net (66.198.127.2) [MPLS: Label 344256 Exp 0] 320 msec 319 msec 319 msec
 9  if-5-2.tcore2.SQN-San-Jose.as6453.net (64.86.21.1) 317 msec 316 msec 316 msec
10 64.86.21.58 516 msec
11 syd-sot-ken-crt1-be-10.tpgi.com.au (203.219.35.1) 532 msec
12 203-29-140-110.static.tpgi.com.au (203.29.140.110) 565 msec 565 msec 556 msec
13 203-29-140-110.static.tpgi.com.au (203.29.140.110) 537 msec 545 msec 545 msec
14 203-26-30-91.static.tpgi.com.au (203.26.30.91) 530 msec 530 msec
```

# Case1 : 1.0.4.1 (After route-policy)

Sun Dec 14 21:54:55.800 UTC

Type escape sequence to abort.

Tracing the route to 1.0.4.1

```
 1  if-0-9-0-2.core01.PSB-Dhaka.lasiacom.net (27.0.9.18) 88 msec  95 msec
 2  ix-0-1-3-565.tcore1.SVQ-Singapore.as6453.net (120.29.215.25) 91 msec  91 msec  88 msec
 3  if-20-2.tcore2.SVW-Singapore.as6453.net (180.87.96.22) 118 msec  *
 4  if-1-2.tcore1.HK2-Hong-Kong.as6453.net (180.87.112.1) 116 msec  117 msec  116 msec
 5  116.0.67.34 233 msec  235 msec  233 msec
 6  203-29-129-193.static.tpgi.com.au (203.29.129.193) 244 msec  243 msec  265 msec
 7  203-29-140-110.static.tpgi.com.au (203.29.140.110) 287 msec  264 msec  252 msec
 8  203-29-140-110.static.tpgi.com.au (203.29.140.110) 251 msec  252 msec  252 msec
 9  * * *
10  * * *
11 203-26-30-91.static.tpgi.com.au (203.26.30.91) 259 msec  * *
```

## Case1 : 1.0.4.1 (ROUTE-POLICY)

```
route-policy AS10102-IN
  if source in (27.0.9.255) and (community
matches-any AS6453-AP) then
    set weight 2000
  else
    done
  endif
end-policy
```

# Case2 : 1.8.52.1 (BGP Community 6453:2000)

Path #1: Received by speaker 0

Advertised to update-groups (with more than one peer):

0.3 0.9 0.16 0.21 0.29

Advertised to peers (in unique update groups):

103.4.108.138 103.4.109.170 103.4.109.134

6453 38345, (aggregated by 38345 209.58.75.66), (Received from a RR-client),  
(received & used)

27.0.9.255 (metric 10) from 27.0.9.255 (27.0.9.255)

Origin IGP, localpref 90, valid, internal, best, group-best, import-candidate

Received Path ID 0, Local Path ID 1, version 377221249

Community: 6453:50 6453:1000 6453:1100 6453:1112 10102:11000 10102:11020  
10102:11021



# Case2 : 1.8.52.1 (Default BGP Table TraceRoute)

Sun Dec 14 22:24:20.319 UTC

Type escape sequence to abort.

Tracing the route to 1.8.152.1

```
 1  if-0-7-1-2.core01.EDC-Singapore.lasiacom.net (27.0.9.6) 90 msec  89 msec
 2  ix-0-1-3-565.tcore1.SVQ-Singapore.as6453.net (120.29.215.25) 87 msec  87 msec  88 msec
 3  if-20-2.tcore2.SVW-Singapore.as6453.net (180.87.96.22) [MPLS: Label 702807 Exp 0] 293 msec  294 msec  *
 4  if-2-2.tcore1.SVW-Singapore.as6453.net (180.87.12.1) [MPLS: Label 383568 Exp 0] 291 msec  292 msec  292 msec
 5  if-6-2.tcore2.TV2-Tokyo.as6453.net (180.87.12.110) [MPLS: Label 722261 Exp 0] 305 msec  303 msec  303 msec
 6  if-2-2.tcore1.TV2-Tokyo.as6453.net (180.87.180.1) [MPLS: Label 475028 Exp 0] 306 msec  305 msec  *
 7  if-9-2.tcore2.PDI-Palo-Alto.as6453.net (180.87.180.17) 313 msec  305 msec
 8  if-2-2.tcore1.PDI-Palo-Alto.as6453.net (66.198.127.1) [MPLS: Label 338135 Exp 0] 303 msec  304 msec  304 msec
 9  if-1-2.tcore1.NYY-New-York.as6453.net (66.198.127.6) [MPLS: Label 747619 Exp 0] 305 msec  303 msec  305 msec
10  if-4-0-0.mse1.NW8-New-York.as6453.net (216.6.90.42) 307 msec  306 msec  306 msec
11  ix-9-5.mse1.NW8-New-York.as6453.net (209.58.75.66) 302 msec  303 msec  302 msec
12  gns1.zdnscloud.net (1.8.152.1) 306 msec  304 msec  304 msec
```

# Case2 : 1.8.52.1 (After route-policy)

Sun Dec 14 22:22:00.881 UTC

Type escape sequence to abort.

Tracing the route to 1.8.152.1

```
 1 182.16.142.13 168 msec 167 msec
 2 if-3-1-1.core4.LDN-London.as6453.net (195.219.51.85) 187 msec 195 msec 199 msec
 3 if-2-3-1-0.tcore1.LDN-London.as6453.net (80.231.76.122) [MPLS: Label 506579 Exp 0] 183 msec 172 msec 172 msec
 4 if-17-2.tcore1.L78-London.as6453.net (80.231.130.129) [MPLS: Label 412885 Exp 0] 172 msec 173 msec *
 5 if-11-2.tcore2.SV8-Highbridge.as6453.net (80.231.139.41) [MPLS: Label 441702 Exp 0] 173 msec 172 msec 186 msec
 6 if-0-3-6-5.thar2.HW1-London.as6453.net (195.219.101.49) 172 msec
 7 ibercom-gw.as6453.net (195.219.101.38) 172 msec 172 msec 175 msec
 8 gns1.zdnscloud.net (1.8.152.1) 172 msec 171 msec 172 msec
```

## Case2 : 1.8.52.1 (ROUTE-POLICY)

```
route-policy AS10102-IN
  if source in (182.16.142.0) and (community
matches-any AS6453-EU) then
    set weight 2000
  else
    done
  endif
end-policy
```

# Solution 3: Outbound Traffic Preferring Higher Latency Links :: Real Life Example :: Results

In both cases:

- Lower latency
- Lower hop count
- Better performance

## Solution 4: Return Traffic is not exiting network efficiently

- Changing Local Preference in any side might force Customer's all traffic to come through ASY
- Changing Local Preference in any side might result in AS10102's transit routes to win over Customer's route
- Safest attribute to handle is MED(Multi Exit Discriminator)
- Lower the metric value; more preferable the route is

## Solution 4: Return Traffic is not exiting network efficiently :: Upstream :: IOS-XR

```
route-policy CUSTOMER-IN
if community matches-any (10102:4000) then
    set metric 0
else
    done
endif
end-policy
```

## Solution 4: Return Traffic is not exiting network efficiently :: Customer :: IOS :: London

```
ip prefix-list LONDON ..
ip prefix-list DHAKA ..
route-map AS10102-OUT-LONDON permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list LONDON
  set community 10102:4000
route-map AS10102-OUT-LONDON permit 20
  match ip address prefix-list DHAKA
```

## Solution 4: Return Traffic is not exiting network efficiently :: Customer :: IOS :: Dhaka

```
ip prefix-list LONDON ..
ip prefix-list DHAKA ..
route-map AS10102-OUT-DHAKA permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list DHAKA
  set community 10102:4000
route-map AS10102-OUT-DHAKA permit 20
  match ip address prefix-list LONDON
```



# Solution 5: Return Traffic Load Balancing

- Customer will use AS10102 for transit to AS6453 AP region as the last resort
- Customer's prefix has to be AS path prepended to AS6453 in AP region
- Customer prefix has not to be advertised to AS6453 EU region but to other upstream and peers

# Solution 5: Return Traffic Load Balancing

- AS10102 has community for
  - AS path-prepend once (10102:1CTP)
  - AS path-prepend twice (10102:2CTP)
  - AS path-prepend thrice (10102:3CTP)
  - Do not redistribute (5CTP)
    - C = {0..7}
      - 0 – Globally
      - 1-7 – Region Code
    - TP Provider code
      - 00 – Globally
      - 01 – AS6453
      - 02 – AS3356

# Solution 5: Return Traffic Load Balancing :: Upstream :: IOS-XR :: Dhaka

```
route-policy PROCCMTY-AS6453-OUT
if community matches-any (10102:1001, 10102:1101) then
    prepend as-path 10102 1
elseif community matches-any (10102:2001, 10102:2101) then
    prepend as-path 10102 2
elseif community matches-any (10102:3001, 10102:3101) then
    prepend as-path 10102 3
elseif community matches-any (10102:5000, 10102:5001, 10102:5101) then
    drop
else
    done
endif
end-policy
```

# Solution 5: Return Traffic Load Balancing :: Upstream :: IOS-XR :: Singapore

```
route-policy PROCCMTY-AS6453-OUT
if community matches-any (10102:1001, 10102:1101) then
    prepend as-path 10102 1
elseif community matches-any (10102:2001, 10102:2101) then
    prepend as-path 10102 2
elseif community matches-any (10102:3001, 10102:3101) then
    prepend as-path 10102 3
elseif community matches-any (10102:5000, 10102:5001, 10102:5101) then
    drop
else
    done
endif
end-policy
```

# Solution 5: Return Traffic Load Balancing :: Upstream :: IOS-XR :: London

```
route-policy PROCCMTY-AS6453-OUT
if community matches-any (10102:1000,10102:1001, 10102:1301) then
    prepend as-path 10102 1
elseif community matches-any (10102:2000, 10102:2001, 10102:2301) then
    prepend as-path 10102 2
elseif community matches-any (10102:3000, 10102:3001, 10102:3301) then
    prepend as-path 10102 3
elseif community matches-any (10102:5000, 10102:5001, 10102:5301) then
    drop
else
    done
endif
end-policy
```

# Solution 5: Return Traffic Load Balancing :: Customer :: IOS

```
route-map AS10102-OUT permit 10  
  match <CLAUSE>  
  set community 10102:3101 10102:5301
```

# Solution 6: Remotely Triggered BlackHole Route

- Customer is facing DoS or DDoS
- Customer has to let it's upstream or upstream's upstream know about the destination address
- AS10102 has community for
  - Remotely Triggering Blackhole Route (10102:0)

# Solution 6: Remotely Triggered BlackHole Route :: Upstream :: IOS-XR

```
interface Null 0 ipv4 unreachable disable
router static
  address-family ipv4 unicast
    192.0.2.0/32 Null0
router bgp 10102
address-family ipv4 unicast
  redistribute static route-policy black-hole
route-policy CUSTOMER-IN
  if community matches-any (10102:0) then
    set tag 66
    set local-preference 200
    set origin igp
    set next-hop 192.0.2.0
    set community (no-export)
  endif
end-policy
```

```
route-policy black-hole
  if tag eq 66 then
    set local-preference 200
    set origin igp
    set next-hop 2001:db8:0:ff::abcf
    set community (no-export)
  else
    drop
  endif
end-policy
```



# Solution 6: Remotely Triggered BlackHole Route :: Customer :: IOS

```
ip route 10.10.10.10 255.255.255.255 null0
router bgp 65535
address-family ipv4 unicast
    network 10.10.10.10 mask 255.255.255.255
ip prefix-list BLACKHOLE 10.10.10.10/32
route-map AS10102-OUT permit 1000
    match ip address prefix-list BLACKHOLE
    set community 10102:0
```

# Designing Internal Community : Practical consideration

- Most routers parse BGP communities as strings rather than integers, using Regular Expressions.
  - Design your community system with this in mind.
  - Think strings and character positions, not numbers.
  - For Example, 10102:1234 can easily be parsed as
    - Field #1, Value 1
    - Field #2, Value 23
    - Field #3, Value 4
  - But can't easily be parsed numerically
    - For example as "larger than 1233".
  - Remember not to exceed 65535 as a 16-bit value. (65536 options) to represent
- Carried across AS

# Types of Implementation

- Practical BGP Communities Implementation can essentially be classified into two types:
- Informational tags
  - Communities set by and sent from a provider network, to tell their customers (or other interested parties) something about that route.
- Action tags
  - Communities set by and sent from a customer network, to influence the routing policies of the provider network
  - Alter route attributes on demand
  - Both globally and within own network
  - Control the import/export of routes

# Informational tags

- Information communities typically focus on

- Where the route was learned
  - AKA Geographic data (continent, country, region, city, etc in short geotag)
- How the route was learned
  - AKA Relationship data (transit, peer, customer, internal, etc)
- There is no other good way to pass on this data

- This data is then used to make policy decisions

- Either by you, your customer, or an unknown third party.
- Exporting this data to the Internet can provide invaluable assistance to third party networks you may never even know about. This is usually a good thing for everyone.

# Ways to encode Information

- Encode simple arbitrary data

- Each network defines its own mapping
  - Which must be published somewhere like ASN description in IRR for others to use
- Ex: Continent (1 = Asia, 2 = Africa, etc)
- Ex: Relationship (1 = Transit, 2 = Public Peer, etc)

- Standards based encoding

- Ex: ISO 3166 encodes Country Codes into 3 digits

# Providing information

- As always, the exact design decision depends on specific network and footprint.
- Networks in only a few major cities may want to focus on enumerating those cities in a short list.
- Networks in a great number of cities may want to focus on regional aggregation specific to their scope.
- Plan for the future!
  - Changing community design after it is already being used by customers may prove impossible.

# Practical Use of Informational Tags

- Make certain that Informational Tags from your Action Tags can easily be distinguished
- Ex: Make Informational Tags always 5 characters in length, and action tags to be 4 characters or less.
- This allow to easily match Info tags: “10102:.{5}”
- Filter communities from neighbors
  - None is allowed to send Informational tags, these should only be set by Service Provider, and these should be stripped from all BGP neighbors (customers, transits, peers, etc).
  - Otherwise there is a massive security problem.

# Providing Information

- For example: 10102:TCCCP

- T Type of Relationship
- C Continent Code
- CC Country Code
- P POP Code

- The community 10102:21021 could be parsed as:

- Public Peer
- Asia
- Singapore
- Equinix



# Definitions - Types

- Type of routes

- 1XYYP – Transit/Upstream
- 2XYYP – Public Peer
- 3XYYP – Private Peer
- 4XYYP – Customer
- 5XYYP – Internal

# Definitions (Contd)

## ● Continents

- T1YYP – Asia
- T2YYP – Africa
- T3YYP – Europe
- T4YYP – North America
- T5YYP – South America
- T6YYP – Australia
- T7YYP – Antarctica

# Definitions (Contd)

- Countries

- T101P – Bangladesh
- T102P – Singapore
- T201P – United Kingdom
- T202P – France
- So on ..

# Definitions (Contd)

## ●PoP

- T1011 – Central NOC
- T1021 – Singapore Global Switch
- T1022 – Singapore Equinix
- T2011 – United Kingdom Telehouse North
- T3011 – United States TelX
- So on ..

# Providing Access to Action

- Remotely Triggered Blackhole Route
  - 10102:0
- Changing Local Preference
  - 10102:75 (Lower than Transit Routes)
  - 10102:85 (Lower than Peer Routes/Higher than Transit Routes)
  - 10102:95 (Lower than Customer Routes/Higher than Peer Routes)
  - 10102:105 (Higher than Customer Routes)
- Reset MED value
  - 10102:4000 (Resets MED value to 0)
  - Another BGP attribute to prefer Main Link/Backup Link
  - If Local Preference is not a solution

# Providing Access to Action(Cont)

- Applying NO\_EXPORT (Keeping within AS)
  - 10102:5000
- Applying NO\_ADVERTISE (Keeping within Local Router)
  - 10102:6000

# Providing Access to Action(Cont)

- Redistribution to Other Peers/Transits
  - 10102:5CTP (Do NOT Redistribute to Transit Provider/Peering ASN Code)
  - 10102:1CTP (Prepend 10102 once)
  - 10102:2CTP (Prepend 10102 twice)
  - 10102:3CTP (Prepend 10102 twice)

# Providing Access to Action(Cont)

- Where CTP Stands as follows
  - C – Region or Continent
    - 0 – Globally
    - 1-7 As mentioned in Continents in previous
  - TP – Transit Provider or Peering ASN Code
    - 00 – Globally
    - 01 – TATA Communications (AS6453)
    - 02 – Level3 Communications (AS3356)
    - 03 – Cogent (AS174)
    - 04 – Bharti Airtel (AS9498)
    - etc



# Caveats

- RFC 4384 : BGP Communities for Data Collection (BCP 114)
- Uses a similar approach but in bit levels
- For community matching we have to consider numerical value rather than strings (Only IOS-XR and Junos supports matching numerical Community Ranges)
- No space for Action communities unless we use extended communities
- Can point only upto Country Level Geolocations not city or PoP like this

# References

1. Using Communities for Multihoming (  
<http://bgp4all.com/ftp/isp-workshops/BGP%20Presentations/09-BGP-Communities.pdf>)
2. BGP Techniques for Internet Service Providers – Philip Smith
3. BGP Communities: A guide for Service Providers – Richard A. Steenbergen & Tom Scholl