



# Observations on Routing Policies and Traffic Engineering Practice

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Feng Wang and **Lixin Gao**

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

University of Massachusetts

{fewang,lgao}@ecs.umass.edu



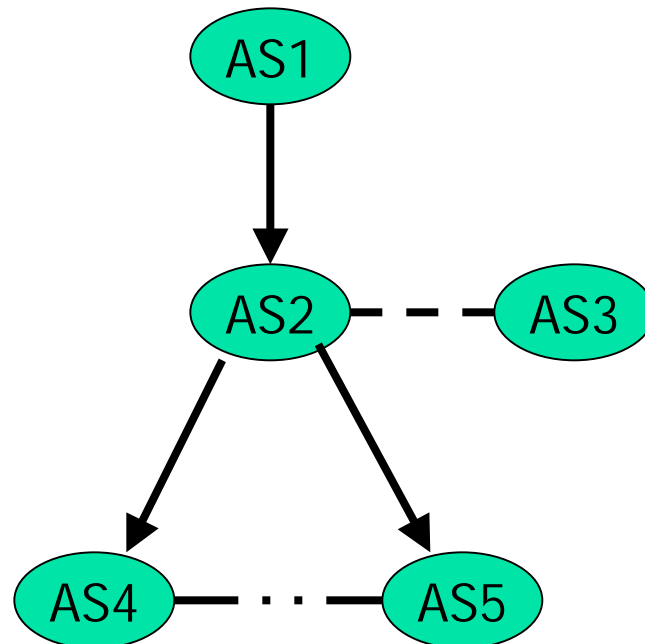
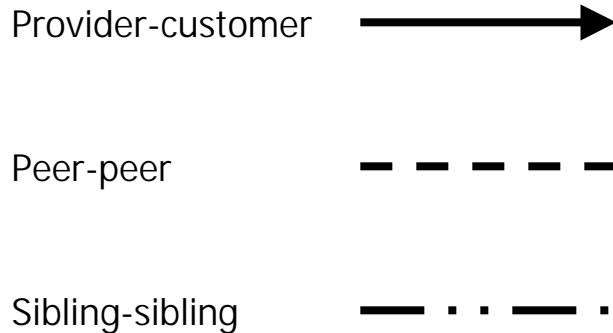
# Outline

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- Internet Architecture
- Analysis of traffic flow patterns
- Inferring routing policies
- Impact on network performance
- Conclusions

# AS Relationships

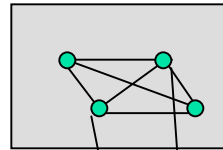
- Provider to customer: customer pays provider for transit traffic
- Peer to peer: exchange traffic between customers free of charge
- Sibling to sibling: transit traffic for each other



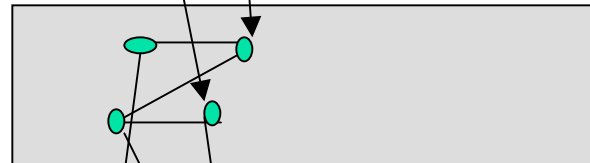
# Hierarchical Internet Structure

- **Tier-1 AS**: providers that access the global Internet and don't buy network capacity from other providers

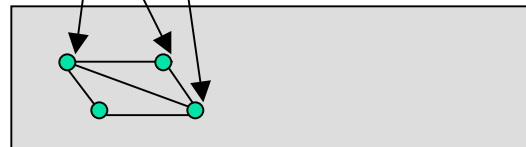
**Tier-1 ASs**



**Tier-2 ASs**



**Tier-3 ASs**





## Our Work

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- Internet traffic flow patterns
  - Use peer route even if customer route exist?
  - Use provider route even if customer or peer route exist?
- What routing policies cause flow patterns?
- Impact on performance ?

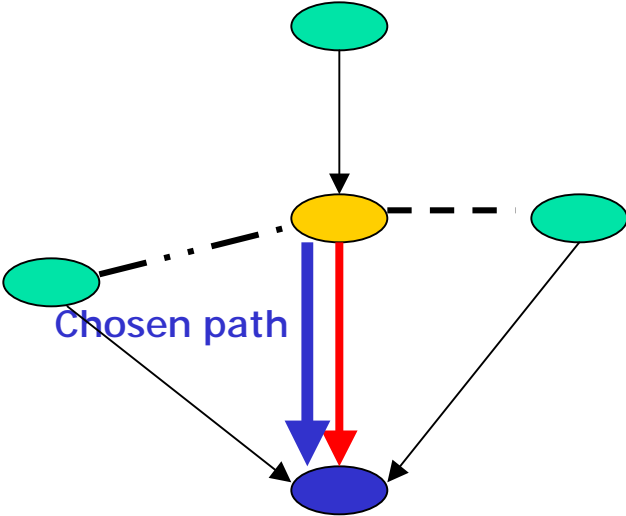


## Related Work

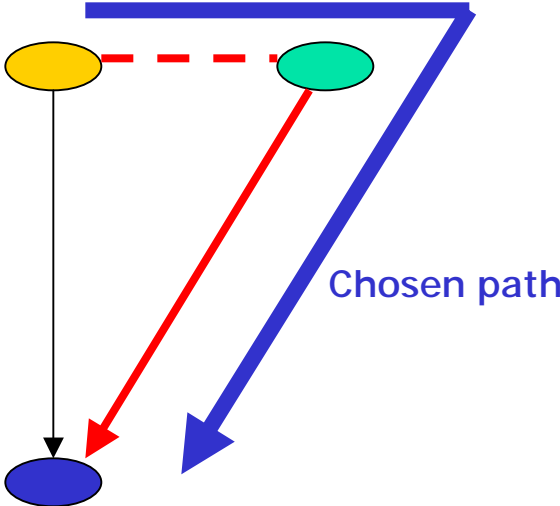
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- Savage et al (SI GCOMM'99)
  - there are better alternate paths
- Padmanabhan et al (SI GCOMM'01)
  - there are circuitious routes
- Tangmunarunkit et al (INFOCOM'00)
  - Longer paths due to routing policies

# Traffic Flow Patterns

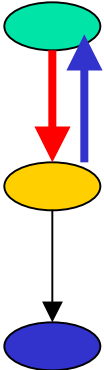


Cu/other

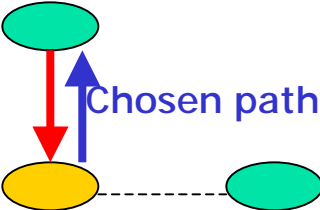


Pe/Cu

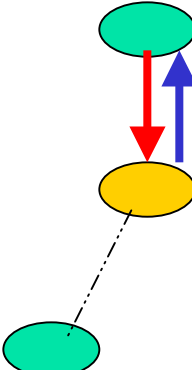
# More Traffic Flow Patterns



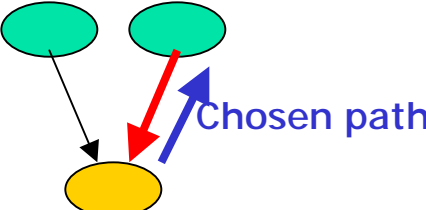
Pr/Cu



Pr/Pe



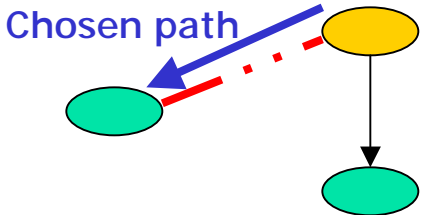
Pr/Si



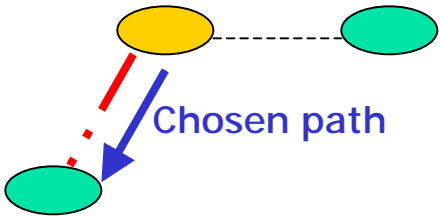
Pr/(otherPr)



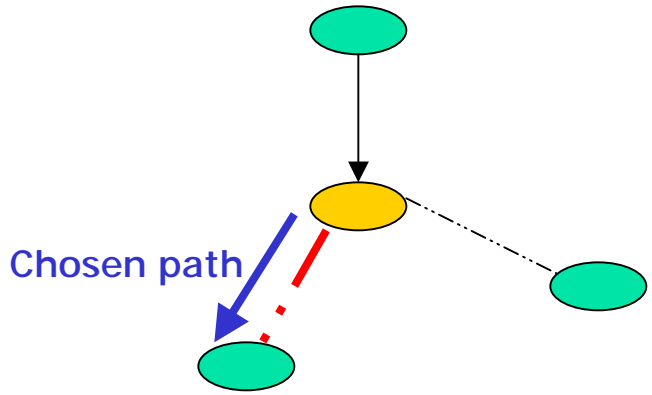
# More Traffic Flow Patterns



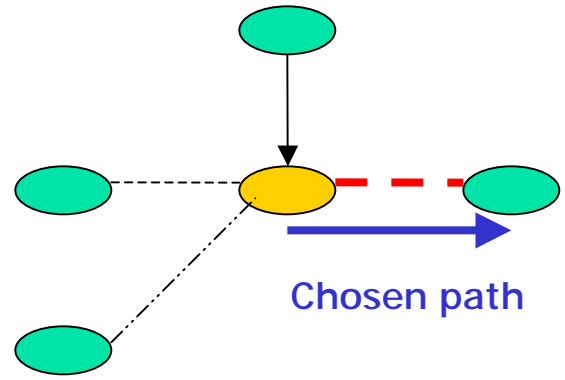
Si/Cu



Si/Pe

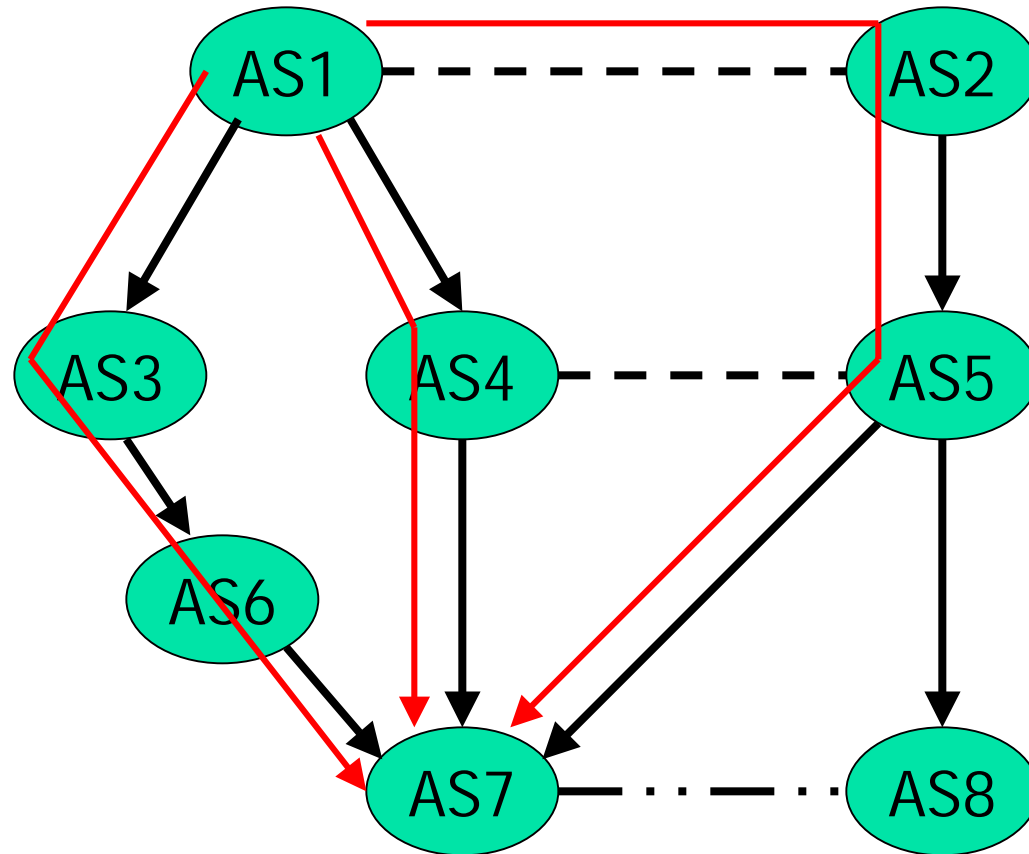
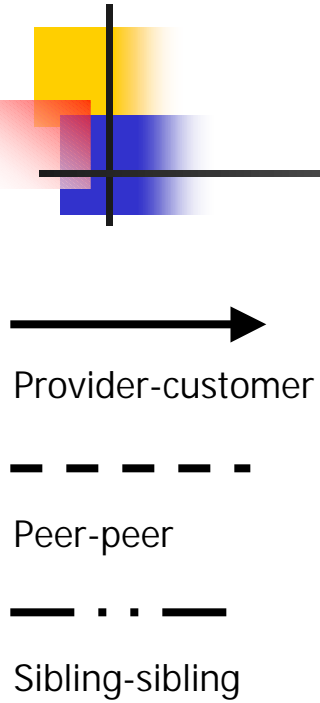


Si/(Si, Pr)



Pe/(Pe, Si, Pr)

# Best Available Path



AS path {1 4 7} is the best available path



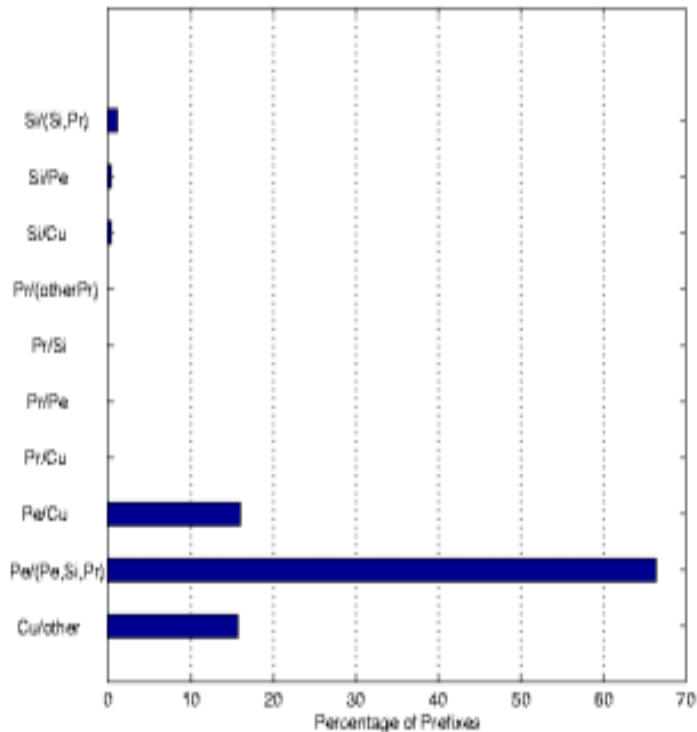
# Analysis of traffic flow patterns for Tier-1 ASs

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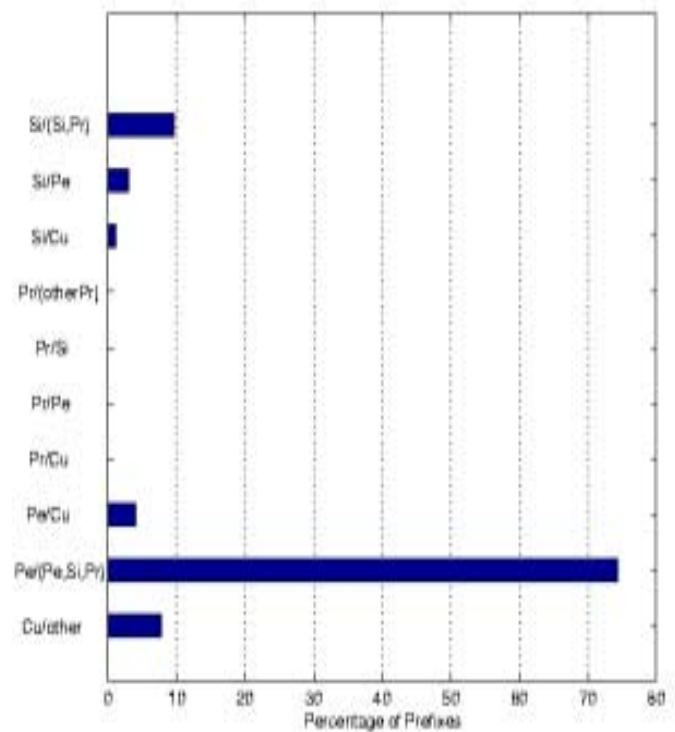
Use AS relationships inferred  
from Gao'00

# Traffic Flow Patterns

- For AS1, 16% of prefixes belong to the Pe/Cu category
- For AS3549, 5% of prefixes belong to the Pe/Cu category



AS1

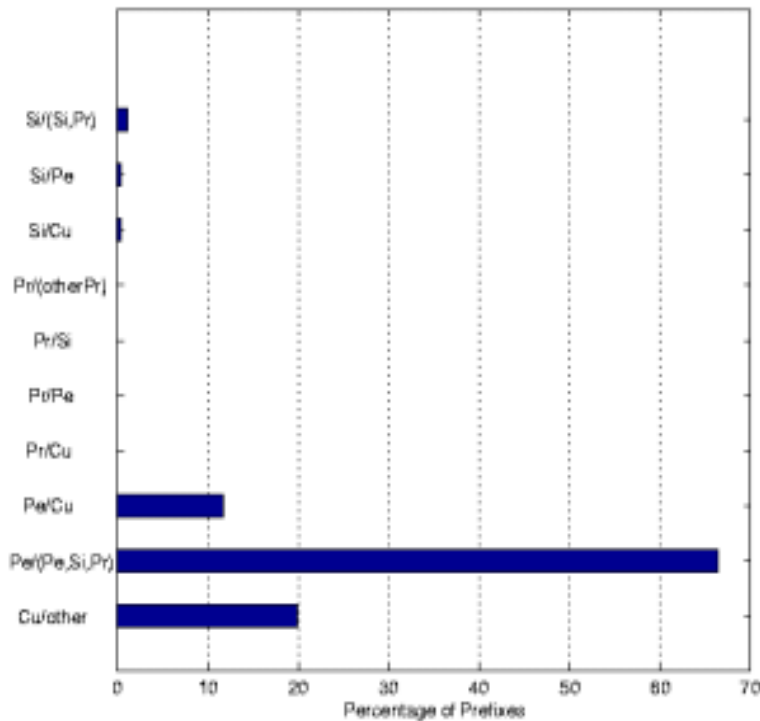


AS3549

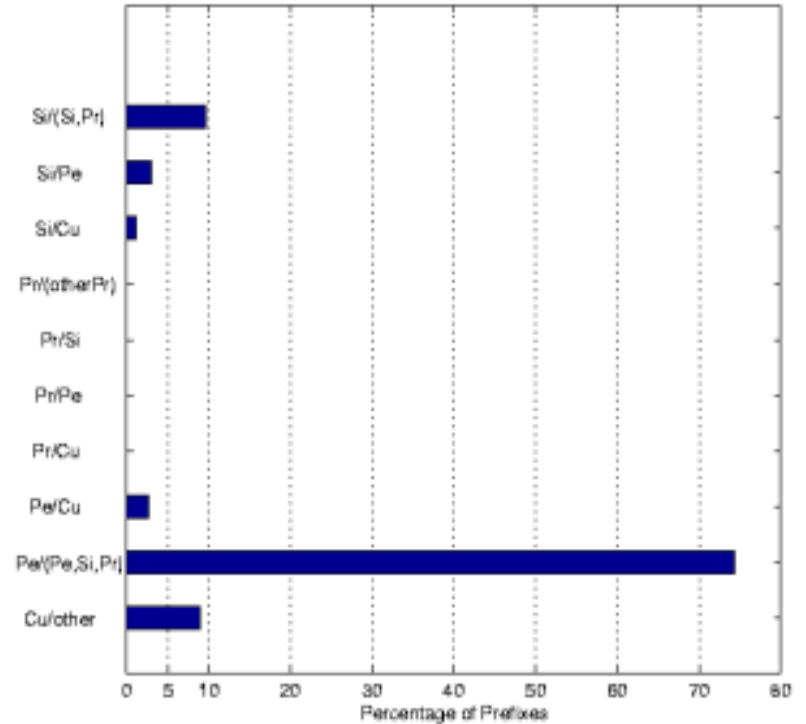
Jan 4, 2002

# Minimum Number of Prefixes Belonging to Pe/Cu

Next hop AS is one of ten Tier-1 ASs



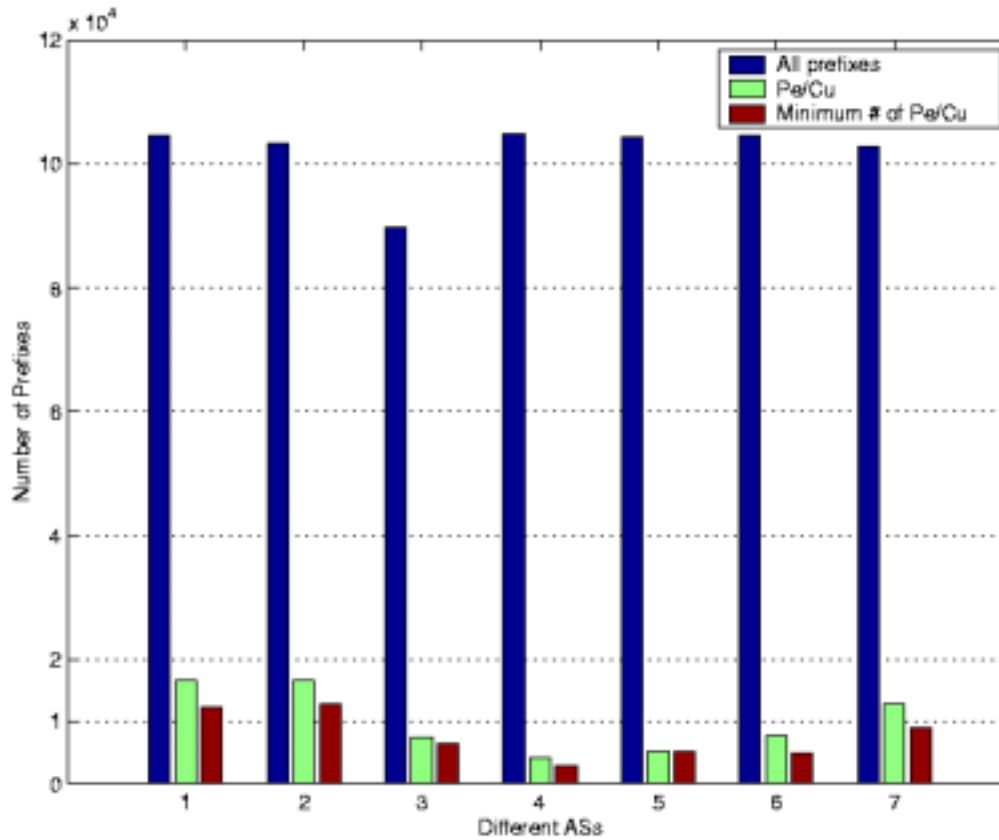
AS1



Jan 04, 2002

AS3549

# Prevalence on 7 Tier-1 ASs



Jan 04, 2002

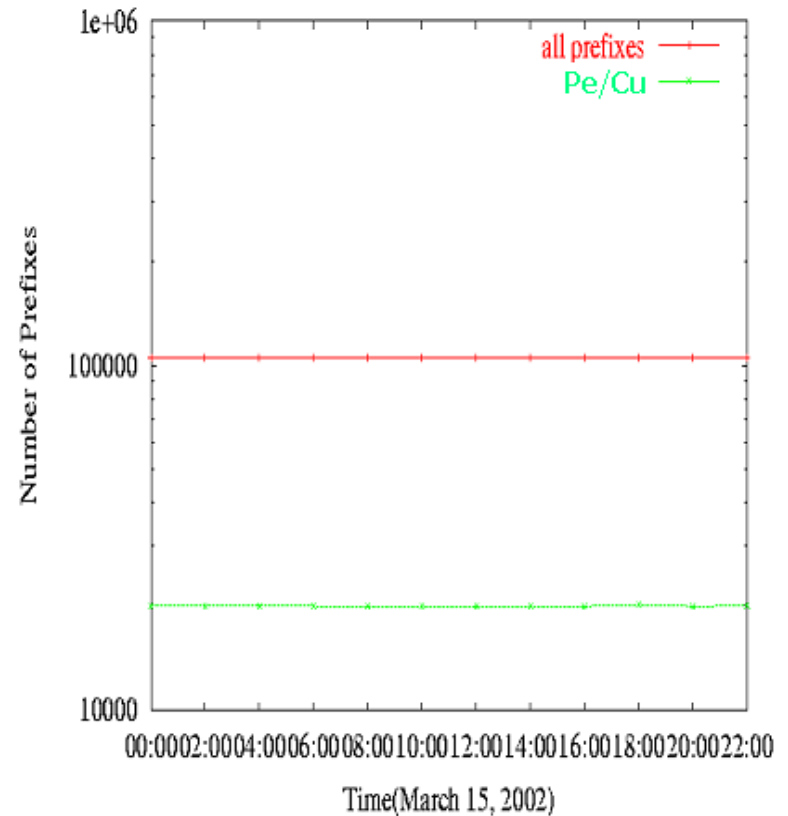
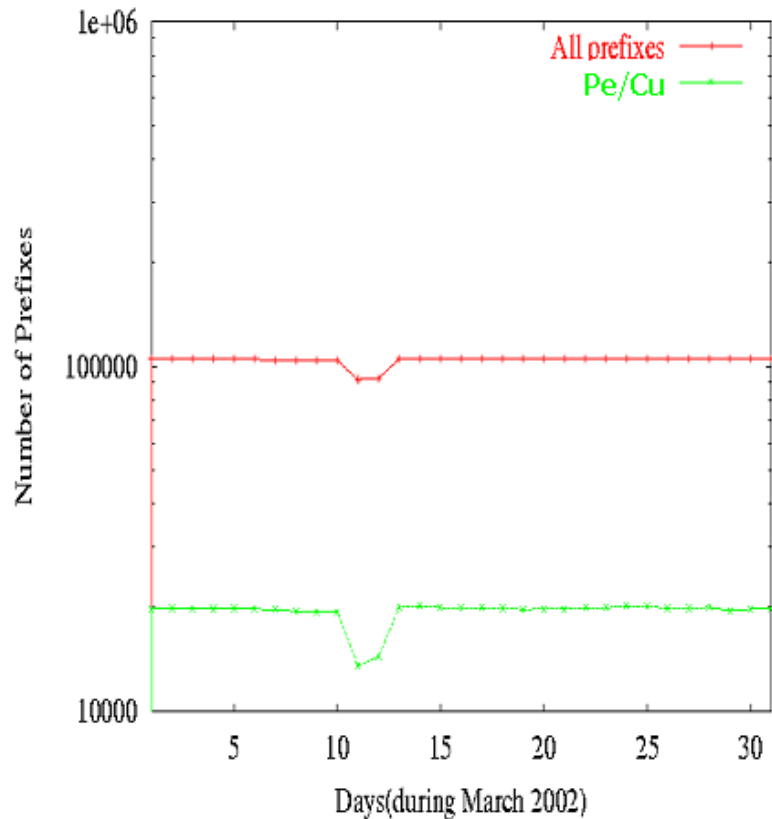


## Comparing the Length of Chosen and the Best Available Paths

	AS1	AS3549
# of prefixes	104554	104779
# of Pe/Cu prefixes	16698	4220
Minimum # of Pe/Cu prefixes	12255	2872
# of Pe/Cu prefixes that take longer than best available path	4887 (30%)	1782 (42%)
Minimum # of Pe/Cu prefixes that take longer than best available path	3802	1379

# Persistence of Traffic Flow Patterns

For AS 1







# Three possible causes of traffic flow patterns

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- **Import policies:**
  - **Routing preference Anomaly:** peer route has higher local\_pref than customer route
  - **Equal Local\_Pref:** peer route has the same local\_pref as customer route. Other attributes (AS path length, MED etc) is the cause.
- **Export policies:**
  - **No routes:** the best available route is not received.



## Local\_Pref in AS1

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AS relationships	Local_Pref					
	200	110	100	90	50	30
Customer(506)	1	1	476	26	2	0
Peer(46)	0	0	2	1	42	1



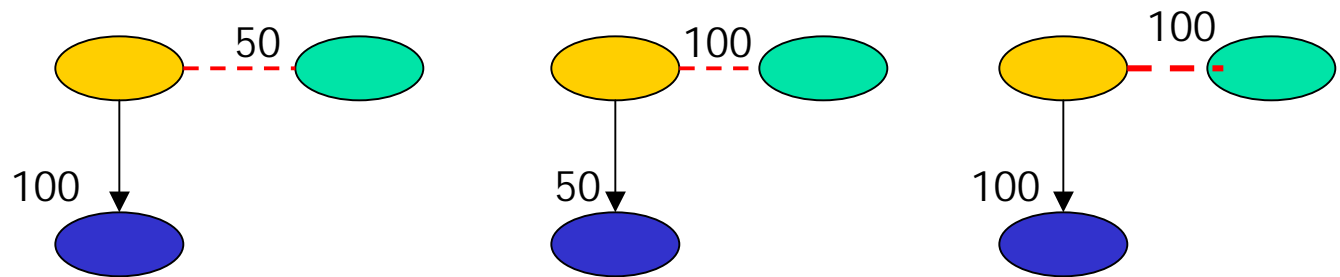
# Consistency of next-hop AS with Local\_Pref

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AS number	Percentage of Ass(%)		
	customer	peer	Mapped provider
AS1	99.2	93.5	0
AS3549	98.9	97.5	0

# Distribution of three possible causes

	Percentage(%)		
	No routes	Routing preference anomaly	Equal Local_Pref
AS1	97	1	2
AS3549	98	1	1



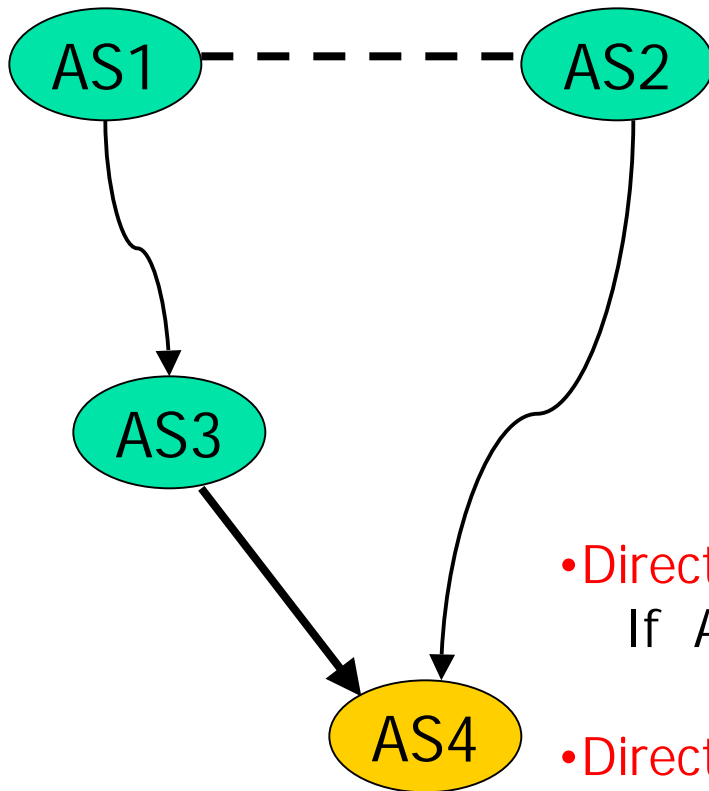


# Inferring Export Policies

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- **Direct providers receive routes:** direct providers in the best available path receive announcements from originating AS.
  - Origin AS might announce prefix to direct provider with no export
- **Direct providers do not receive routes:** direct providers in the best available path do not receive announcements from originating AS
  - Origin AS does not announce prefix to direct provider

# Methodology of inferring export policies



- Direct provider AS3 receives routes:  
If AS path {3 4} appears in BGP table
- Direct provider AS3 does not receive routes:  
If AS path {3 1 2 4} appears in BGP table



## Percentage of two causes

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class	Number	Percentage
Direct providers receive routes	10042	88%
Direct providers do not receive routes	1416	12%

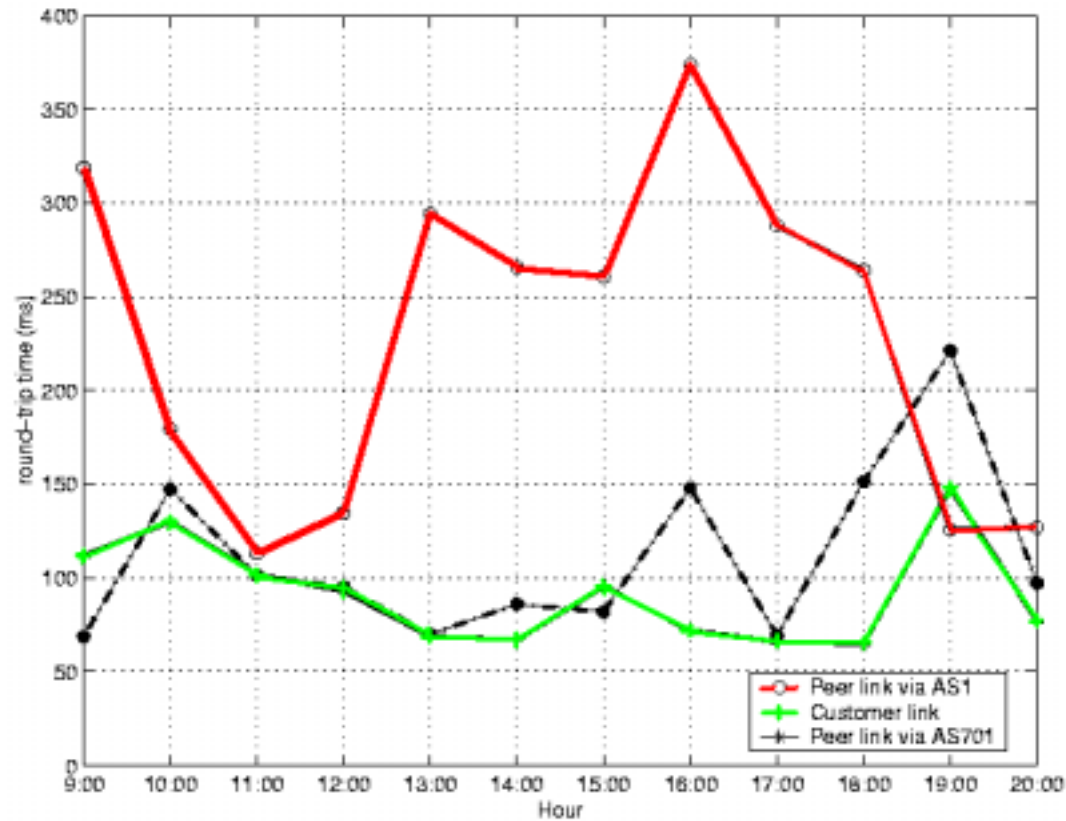
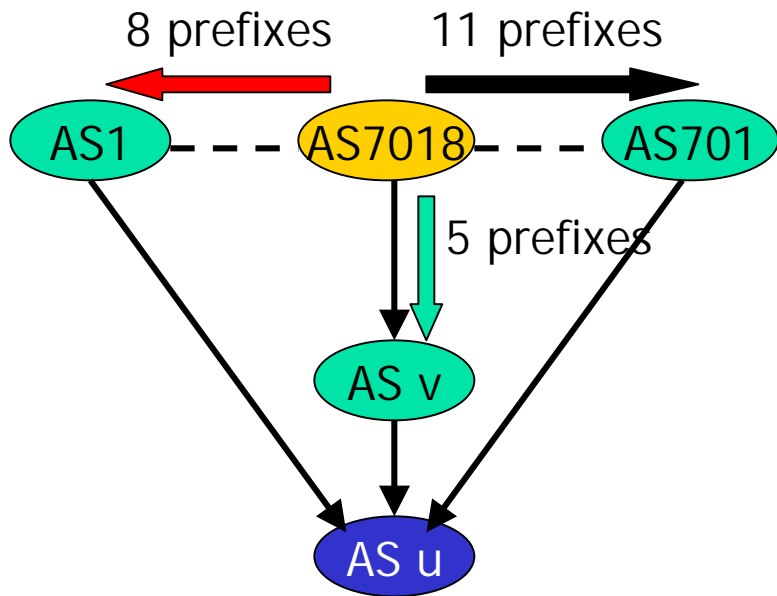


Impact on network performance

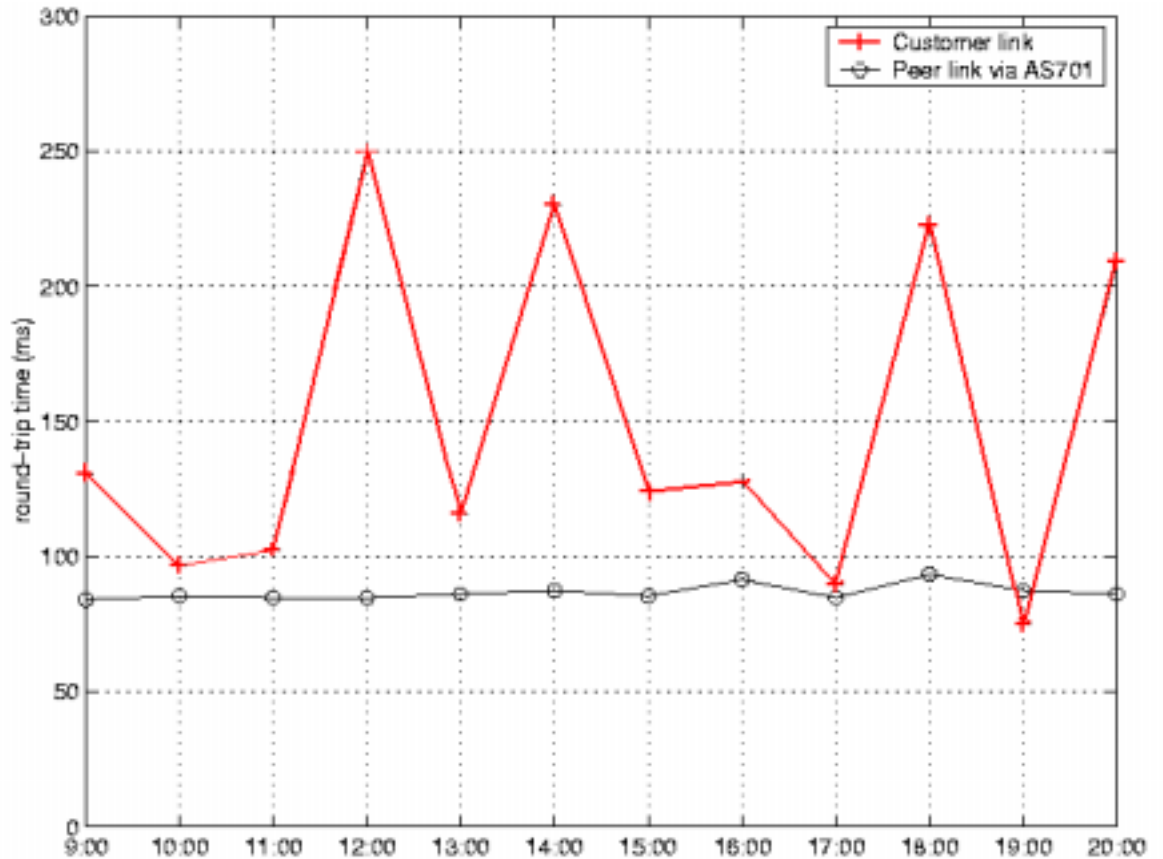
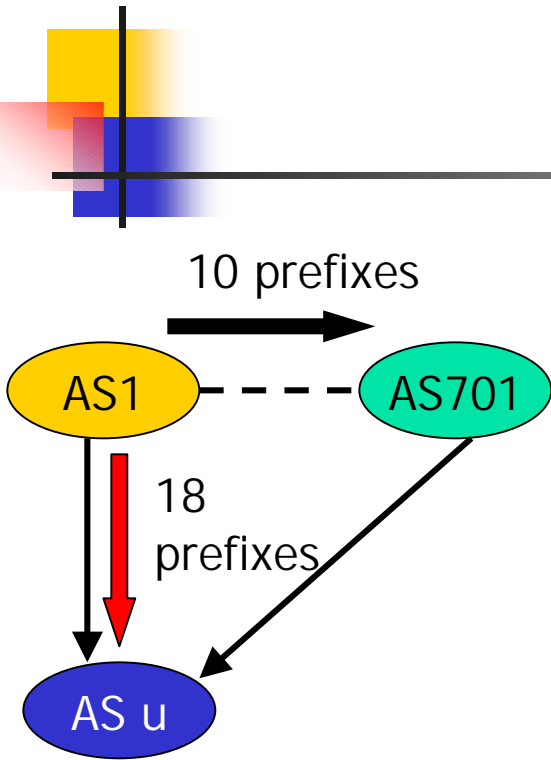
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# Traceroute from AS7018



# Traceroute from AS1





# Conclusions

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- Observations on some unexpected traffic flow patterns
- Observations on traffic engineering practices
  - active traffic engineering of origin ASs
- Impact on Performance