Idealized BGPsec: Formally Verifiable BGP

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for the

Informal BGPsec Design Group

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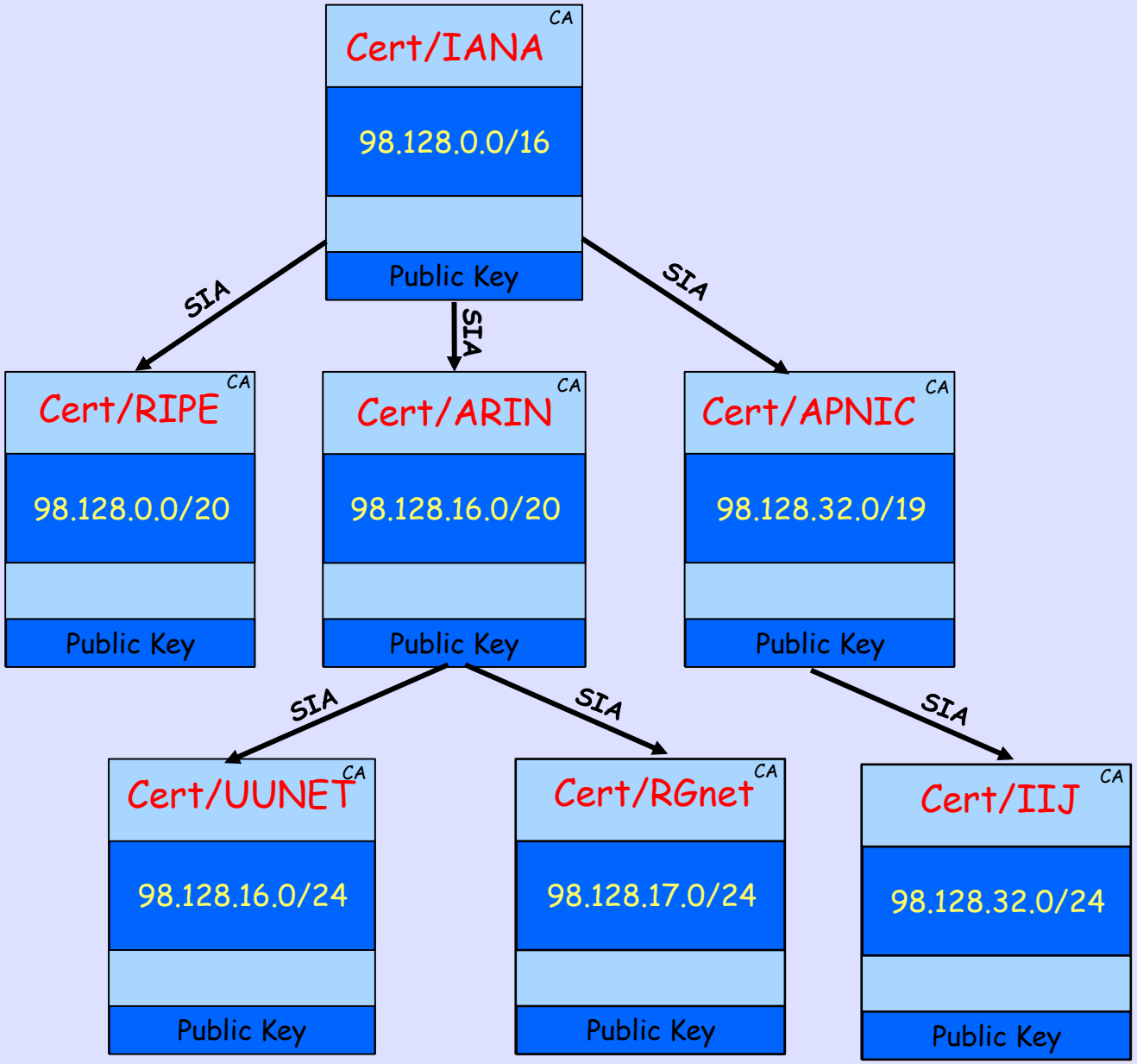
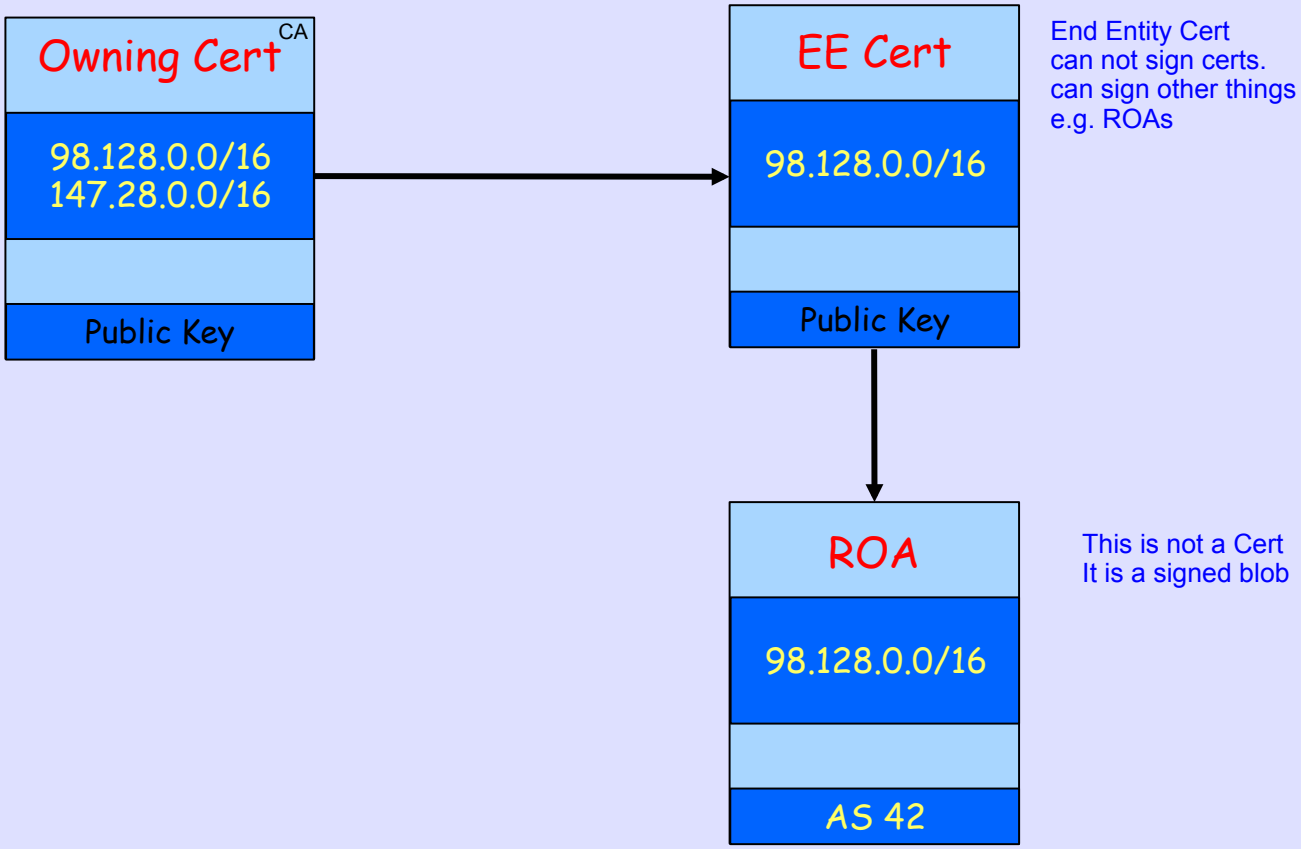
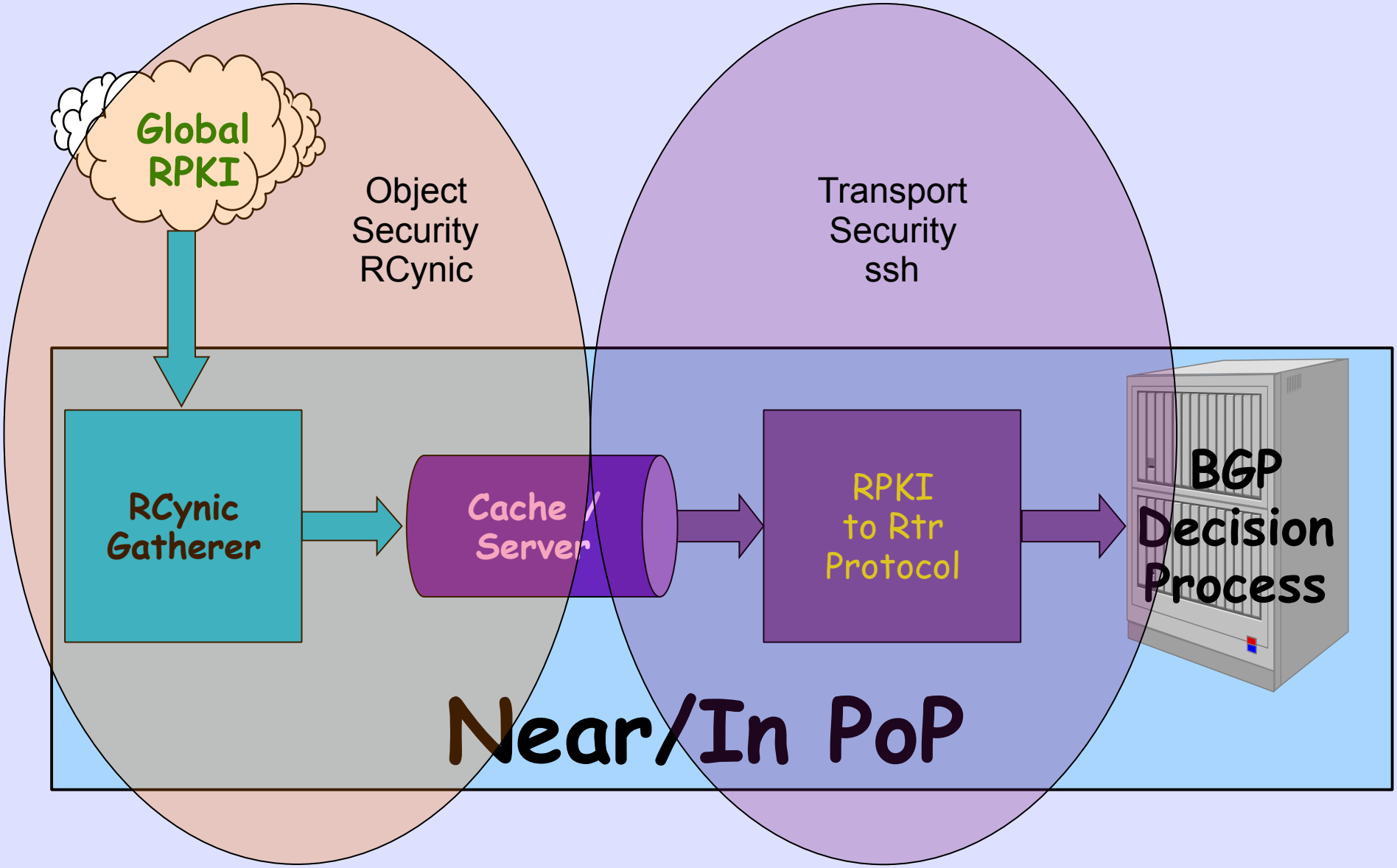
Assume RPKI is a Given



Assume ROAs are a Given



Assume RPKI-RTR Given



Assume Origin Validation

```
RP/0/1/CPU0:r0.dfw#sh bgp 64.9.224.0
BGP routing table entry for 64.9.224.0/20
Versions:
  Process              bRIB/RIB  SendTblVer
  Speaker                    0           0
Last Modified: Oct  2 17:38:27.630 for 4d22h
Paths: (6 available, no best path)
  Not advertised to any peer
  Path #1: Received by speaker 0
  2914 3356 36492
    157.238.224.149 from 157.238.224.149 (129.250.0.85)
      Origin IGP, metric 2, localpref 100, valid, external,\
origin validity state: invalid
      Community: 2914:420 2914:2000 2914:3000 4128:380
```

The Gap

RPKI-based Origin Validation provides neither cryptographic assurance (announcements are not signed), nor assurance of the AS Path of the announcement

Origin Validation is Weak

- Today's Origin Validation only stops accidental misconfiguration, which is quite useful. But ...
- A malicious router may announce as any AS, i.e. forge the ROAed origin AS.
- This would pass ROA Validation as in draft-ietf-sidr-pfx-validate.

Policy is Already Done

- Policy on the global Internet changes every 36ms
- You can't capture it in a database, even if ISPs were willing, which they are not
- We already have a protocol to distribute policy or its effects, it is called BGP
- The goal here is to ensure that the distribution mechanism is not abused

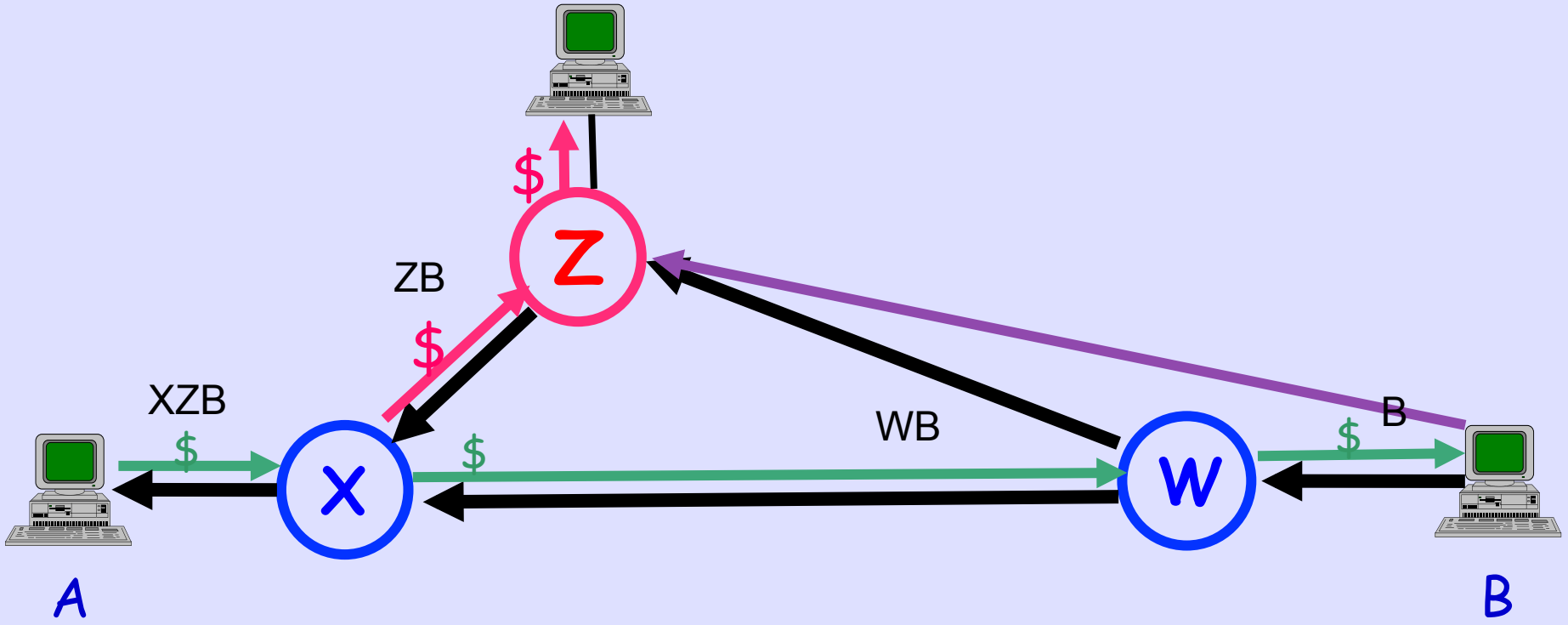
Protocol Not Policy

- We can not know intent, should Mary have announced the prefix to Bob
- But Joe can formally validate that Mary did announce the prefix to Bob
- BGPsec is all about validating that the protocol has not been violated, and not at all about intent or business policy

Full Path Validation

- Rigorous per-prefix AS path validation is the goal
- Protect against origin forgery and AS-Path monkey in the middle attacks
- Not merely showing that a received AS path is not impossible
- Yes, this is S-BGP-like not SO-BGP-like

Path Shortening Attack



Expected Path - A->X->W->B

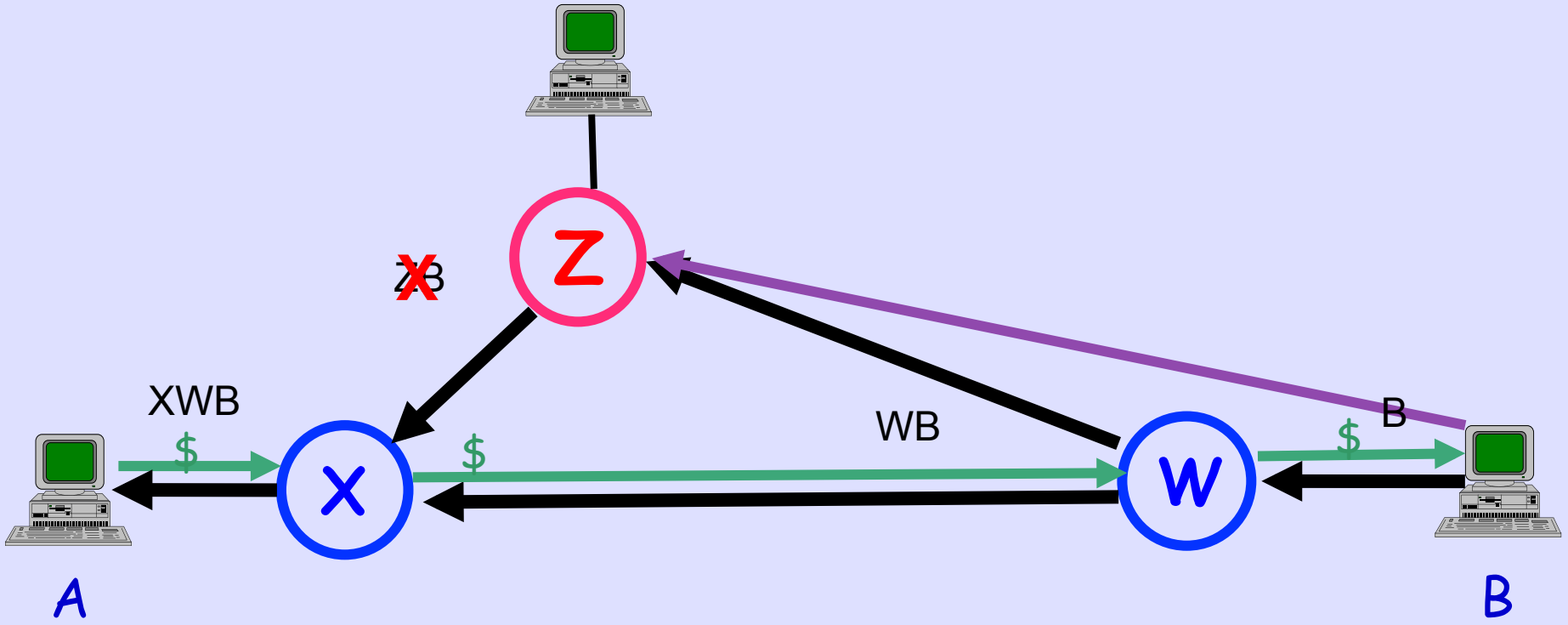
Diverted Path - A->X->Z->W->B

There Are Many Many Other Attacks

Forward Path Signing

AS hop N signing (among other things) that it is sending the announcement to AS hop N+1 by AS number, is believed to be fundamental to protecting against monkey in the middle attacks

Forward-Signing



B cryptographically signs the message to W Sb(B->W)

W signs messages to X and Z encapsulating B's message

Sw(W->X (Sb(B->W))) and Sw(W->Z (Sb(B->W)))

X signs the message to A Sx(X->A (Sw(W->X (Sb(B->W)))))

Z can only sign Sz(Z->X (Sw(W->Z (Sb(B->W)))))

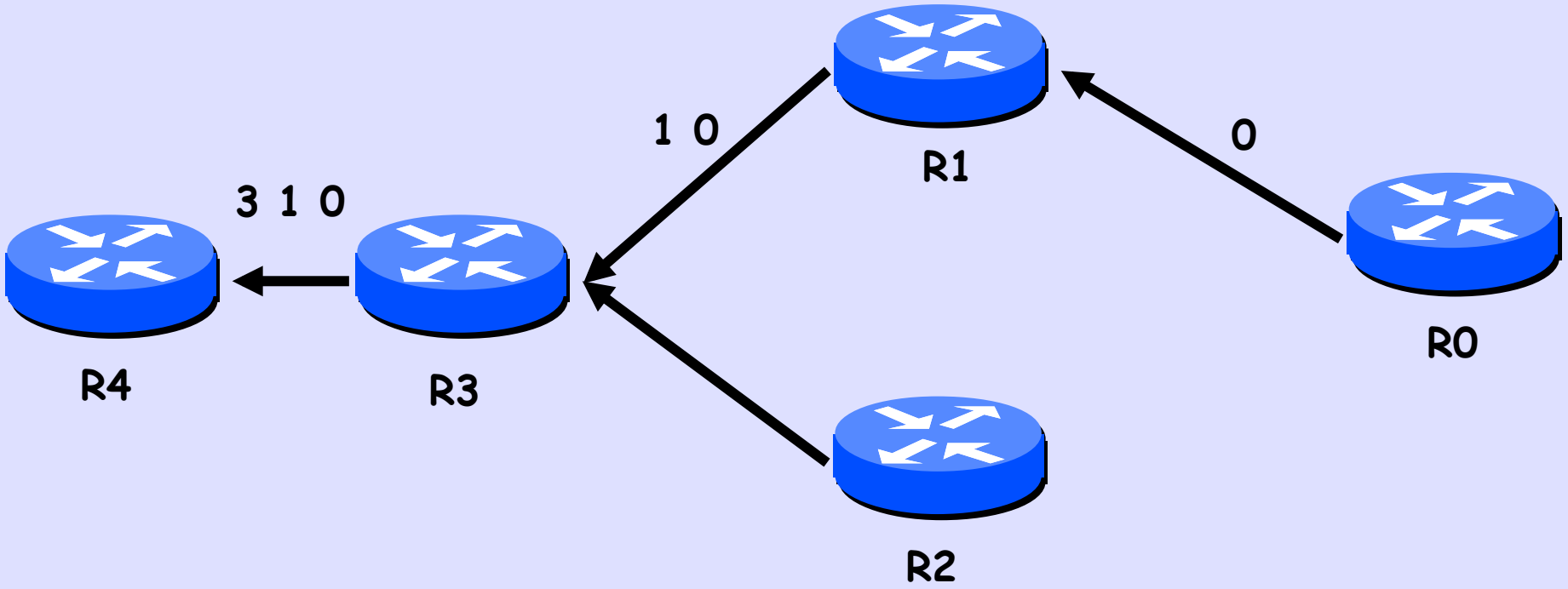
Capability Negotiation

- It is assumed that consenting routers will use BGP capability exchange to agree to run BGPsec between them
- The capability will, among other things remove the 4096 PDU limit for updates
- If BGPsec capability is not agreed, then only traditional BGP data are sent

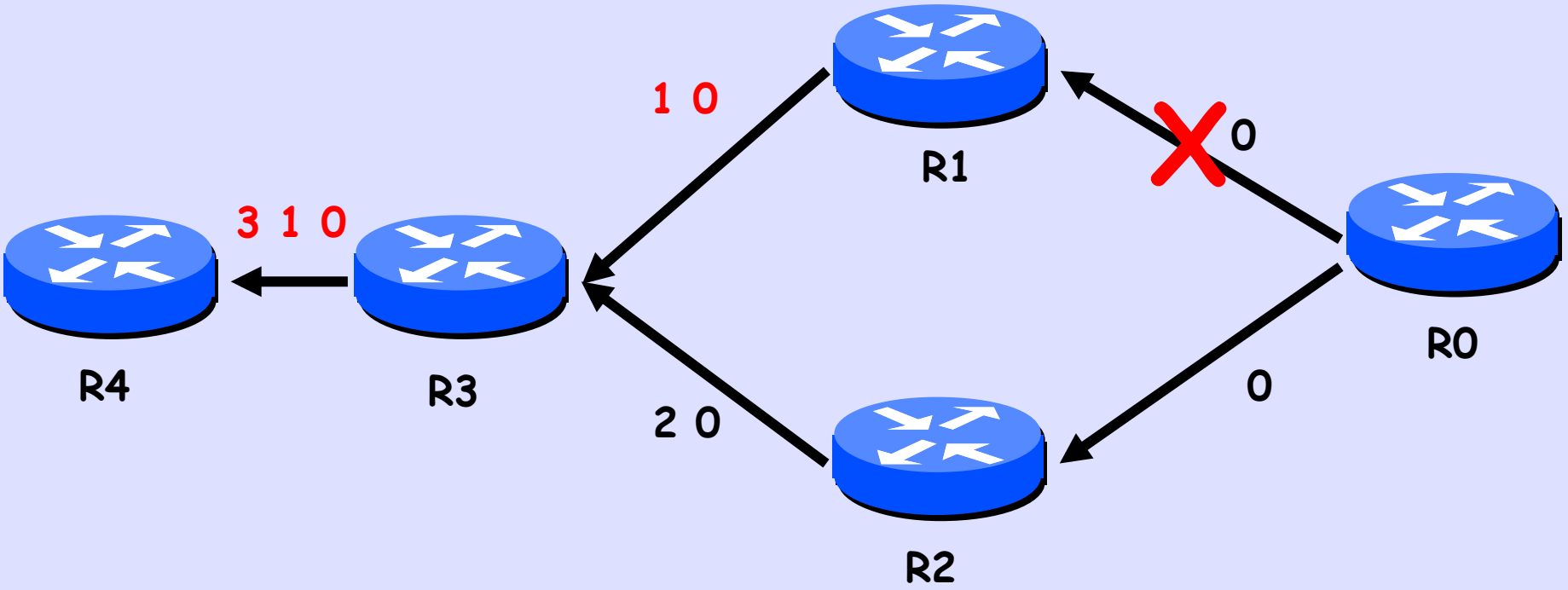
New BGP Attribute

This protocol uses a new transitive optional BGP attribute which contains signed assertions that the prefix and path update has been received by the signing AS and that it is forwarding the update to a specific next AS.

Replay Attack



Replay Attack



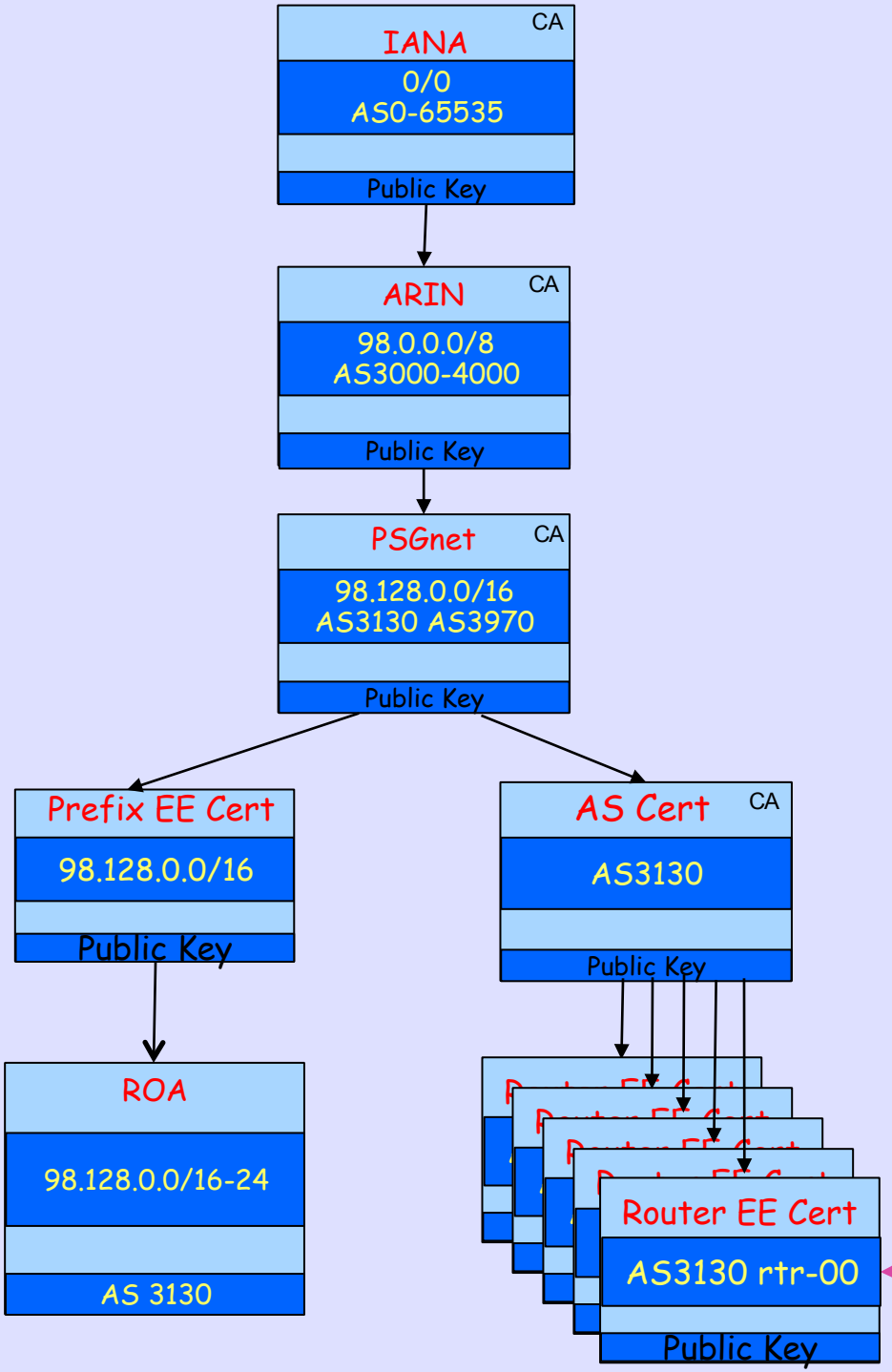
Replay Reduction

- Announcement replay is a vulnerability
- Therefore freshness is critical
- So originating announcer signs with a relatively short signature lifetime
- Origin re-announces prefix well within that lifetime, AKA ***beaconing***
- Suggested to be days, but can be hours for truly critical infrastructure

Per-Router Keys

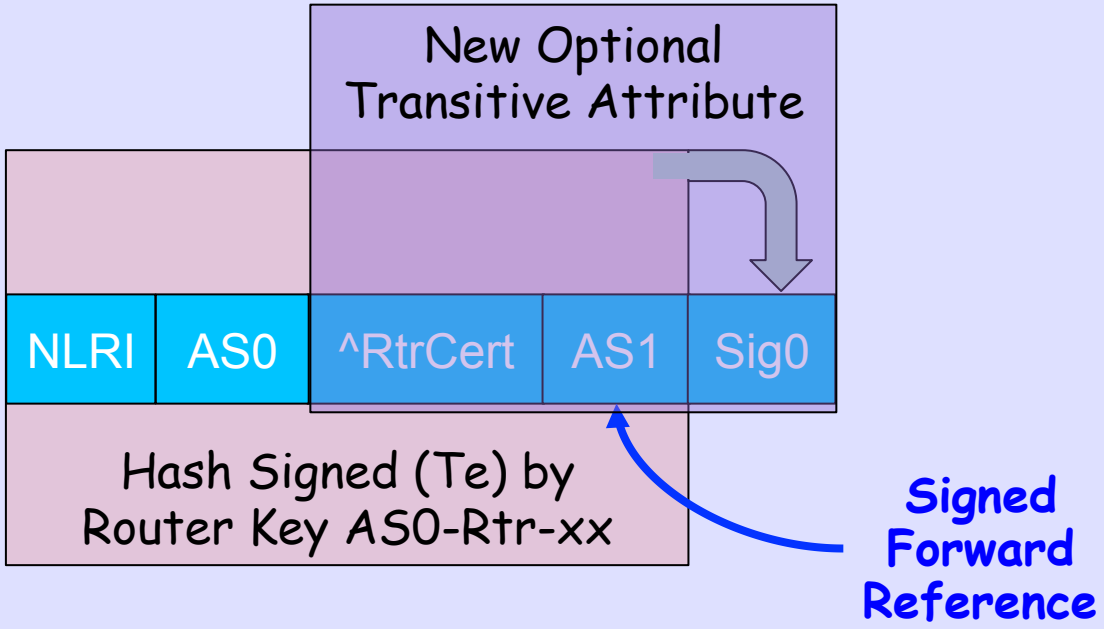
- Needed to deal with compromise of one router exposing an AS's private key
- Implies a more complex certificate and key distribution mechanism
- A router could generate key pair and send certificate request to RPKI for signing
- Certificate, or reference to it, must be in each signed path element
- If you want one per-AS key, share a router key

Cert / Key Structure for an ISP



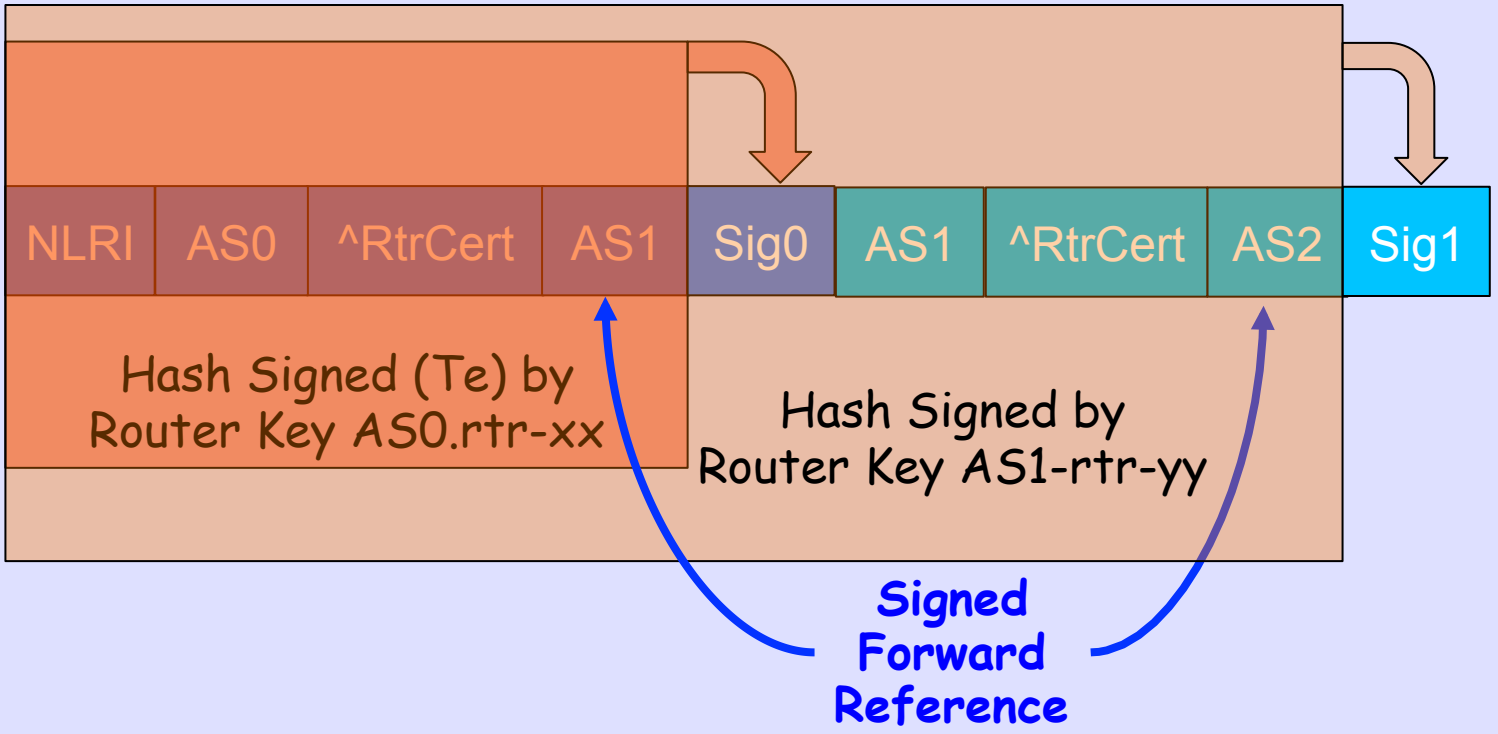
AltName & UID Encode ASN and Router ID

Origination by AS0 to AS1



- Signature has a well-jittered validity end time, Te, of days
- Re-announcement by origin, AKA *beaconing*, every ~(Te-To)/3
- ROA is not needed as prefix is sufficient to find it in RPKI as today
- RtrCert is a reference to the signing router's certificate

Announcement AS1 to AS2



- Non-originating router signatures do not have validity periods
- But when they receive a beacon announcement, they must propagate it
- Therefore, non-originating routers do not re-announce, AKA beacon

Only at Provider Edges

- This design protects only inter-domain routing, not IGPs, not even iBGP
- BGPsec will be used inter-provider, only at the providers' edges
- Of course, the provider's iBGP will have to carry the BGPsec information
- Providers and inter-provider peerings might be heterogeneous

Simplex End Site

- End Site can trust up-stream's policies
- But they want their origination signed
- So they announce capability to send but do not accept signed data
- They sign announcement and beacon
- This can be done without hardware upgrade!!

Incremental Deployment

Meant to be incrementally deployable in today's Internet, and does not require global deployment, a flag day, etc.

No Increase of Operator Data Exposure

- Operators wish to minimize any increase in visibility of information about peering and customer relationships etc.
- No IRR-style publication of customer or peering relationships is needed

iBGP & Confederations

- iBGPsec speakers who are also eBGPsec speakers naturally carry BGPsec data
- Route Reflectors must be non-signing iBGPsec speakers
- Confederations are eBGP boundaries, but a subAS should not sign to coreAS as that signature would have to be removed.

Only Prefix & AS-Path

- Until clear vulnerabilities demonstrate a need for more, only the prefix and the AS path are covered by the signature.
  - Other attributes are too variable, are ephemeral, or we do not understand the security needs.
  - I.e. don't sign what we don't understand.
- NO-EXPORT etc. are over a [secured] next-hop, and thus do not need signing.]

Utterly Un-Optimized

- This design very intentionally abjures premature, in fact any, optimization in an attempt to get the semantics of the protocol correct in a simple and understandable way
- It is assumed that optimization, prepends, packing, etc. will be worked out as the design is finalized

Uses Global RPKI

It is assumed that any needed global RPKI data can be delivered to routers (or ancillary devices) by augmenting the RPKI to Router Protocol described in draft-ietf-sidr-rpki-rtr-protocol, with the additional PDUs necessary to transport certificates, CRLs, etc.

Origin Validation Assumed

- We assume that prefix origin validation can be and/or is already being done by routers using ROAs from the RPKI
- We can leverage the ROA being in the router's prefix trie already, so need not include it in signed updates

Just Another BGP Decision

- The result of validation is similar to any other BGP decision
- Local policy decides what to do with the result of validity testing, a la origin validation
- And the vendors will give the ops too many knobs

Some Consequences

New Hardware Generation

It is likely that routers will have to be upgraded to use this design, likely with much more memory and probably with hardware crypto assistance. It is accepted that this means that it will be some years, O(IPv6 ASIC upgrades) before there is more than test deployment

No PDU Packing

- This 'idealized' protocol has only one prefix in each announcement PDU
- Routers currently unpack prefixes from PDUs, and subsequent re-announcement repacks and reorders rather arbitrarily
- PDU optimization can be studied after the protocol semantics are solid

Route Servers

BGPsec can't forward sign across an AS-transparent route server as you do not know the peer AS

Proxy Aggregation

Proxy Aggregation, i.e.
AS-Sets, is not supported

Does Not Lock Data Plane

- It is acknowledged that rigorous control plane verification does not in any way guarantee that packets follow the control plane
- See IMC 2009 paper which shows that 70% of the ASs in the so-called 'default free zone' also have default

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