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Designing Layer 2 Networks – Avoiding Loops, Drops, and Flooding

BRKCRS-2661

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#clmel

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Abstract

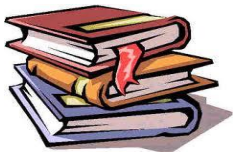
Designing Layer 2 networks is easy.

Apparently, In fact there are many traps and dependencies. Three issues of Layer 2 networks - loops, traffic drop and excessive flooding can be demanding. This session is to discuss and present how to avoid them with the standard design techniques or by new mechanisms.

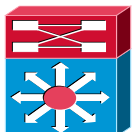
Presentation Legend



Key Points



Reference Material



Standalone Multilayer Switch



Virtual Switching System



Layer 2 Link



Layer 3 Link

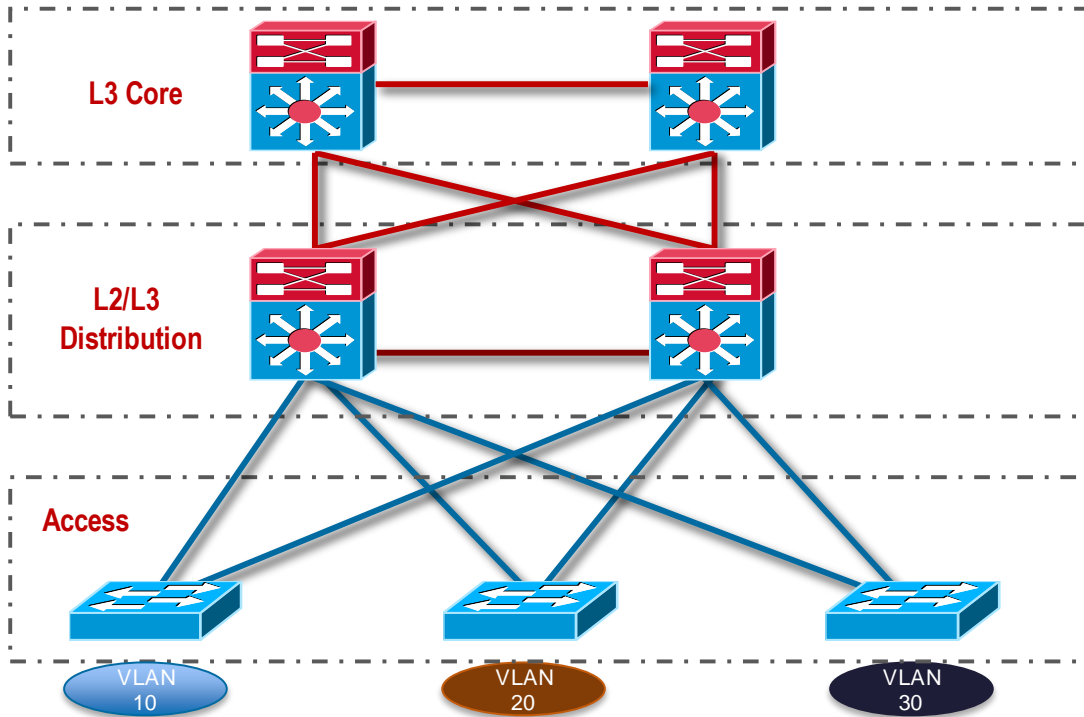
Agenda

- L2 Network Design Challenges
- Layer 1 and Layer 2 Best Practices
- Spanning Tree Toolkit
- Integrated Security Toolkit
- Control Plane Protection
- Alternative Designs



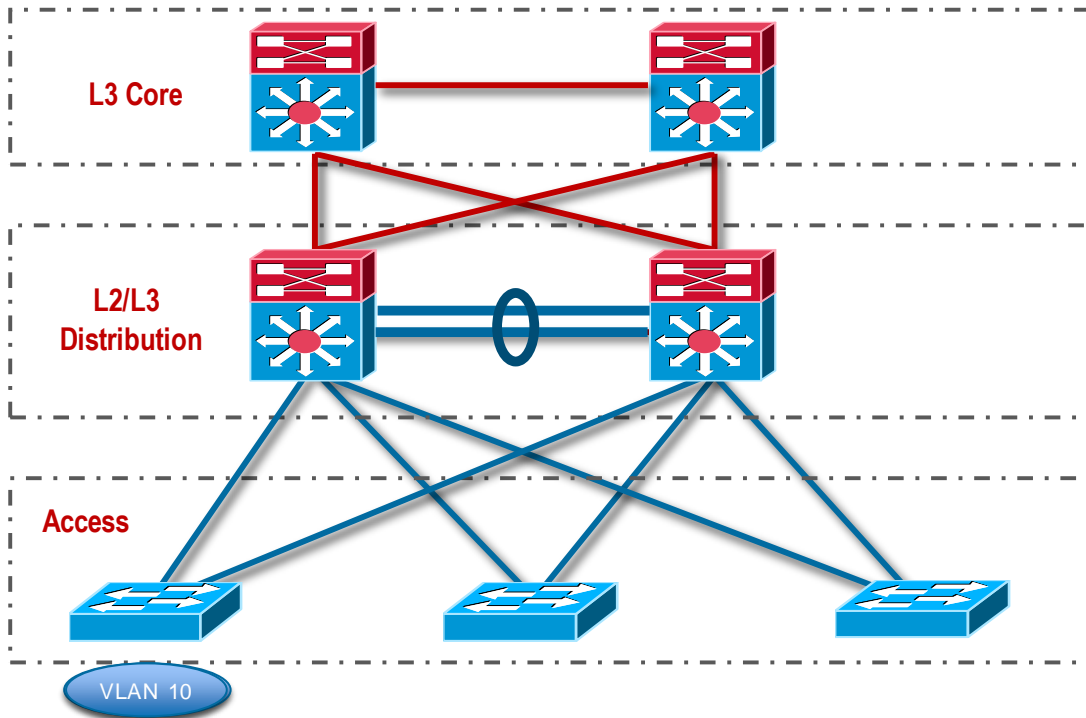
L2 Network Design Challenges

Traditional Multi-Layer Design – No L2 Loops



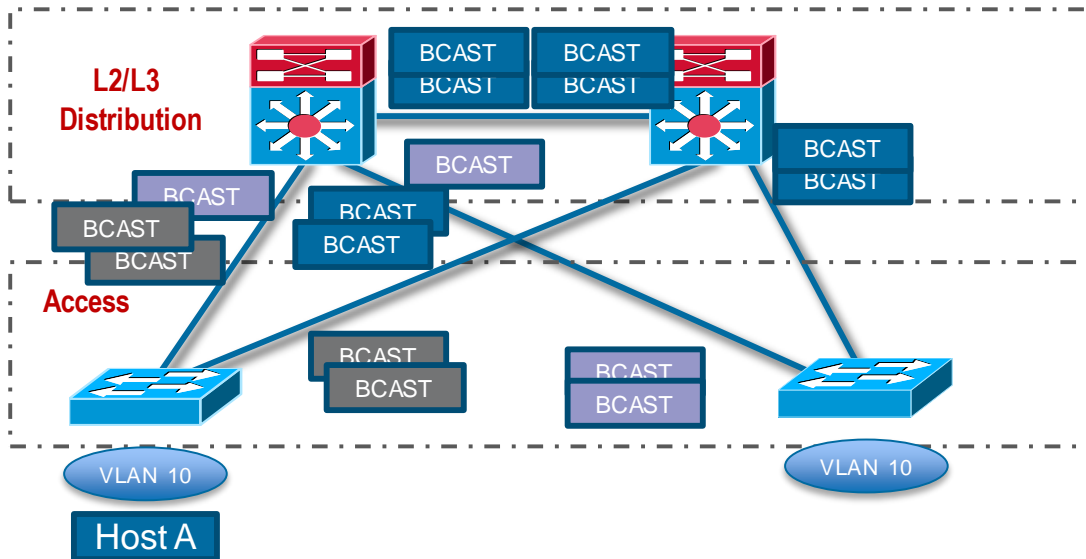
- One switch per subnet per vlan
- Simple design
- Limits L2 domain size to port density to size of the access switch

Traditional Multi-Layer Design – With L2 Loops



- Extending the L2 domain beyond the single switch
- Best practice says
 - Distribution link must be an L2 link
 - Redundant Links
- Now we have the loop

L2 Loop – What's the Problem?



- Broadcast and multicast storm
- Source MAC address appear to be moving around as the MAC gets learned on different ports
- Frames are replicated repeatedly

Effects of a Broadcast Storm

- Bandwidth gets consumed by the frame replication
- CPU utilisation on network attached devices can start to reach high levels due to processing the broadcast traffic
- MAC addresses move from one port another
- Traffic drops
- This can occur with broadcast , multicast and unknown unicast traffic

Solution: Harden and Mitigate Vulnerabilities in the Design

- Layer 1 Best Practices
- Layer 2 Best Practices
- Spanning Tree Protocol Best Practices

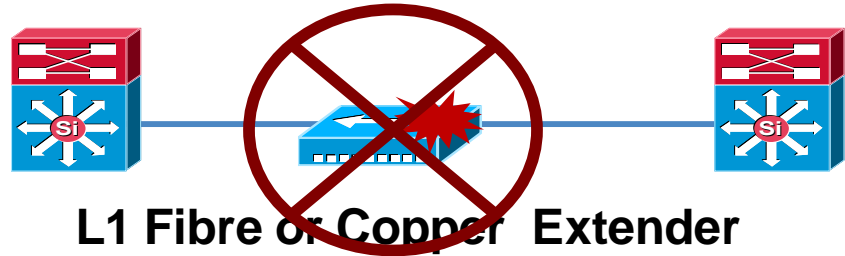
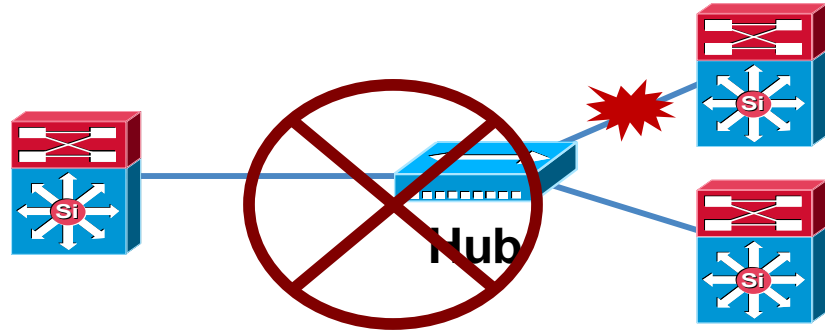
“Make the network fail closed”

A long-exposure photograph of a city street at night. The foreground is dominated by vibrant, multi-colored light trails from moving vehicles, creating a sense of motion and energy. In the background, modern city buildings are illuminated with various lights, and a pedestrian bridge spans across the street. The overall scene is a dynamic urban environment.

Layer 1 and Layer 2 Best Practices

Layer 1 Best Practice

- Use point-to-point links only
- Eliminate or Avoid at all cost intermediate L1 devices
- Use point-to-point link only

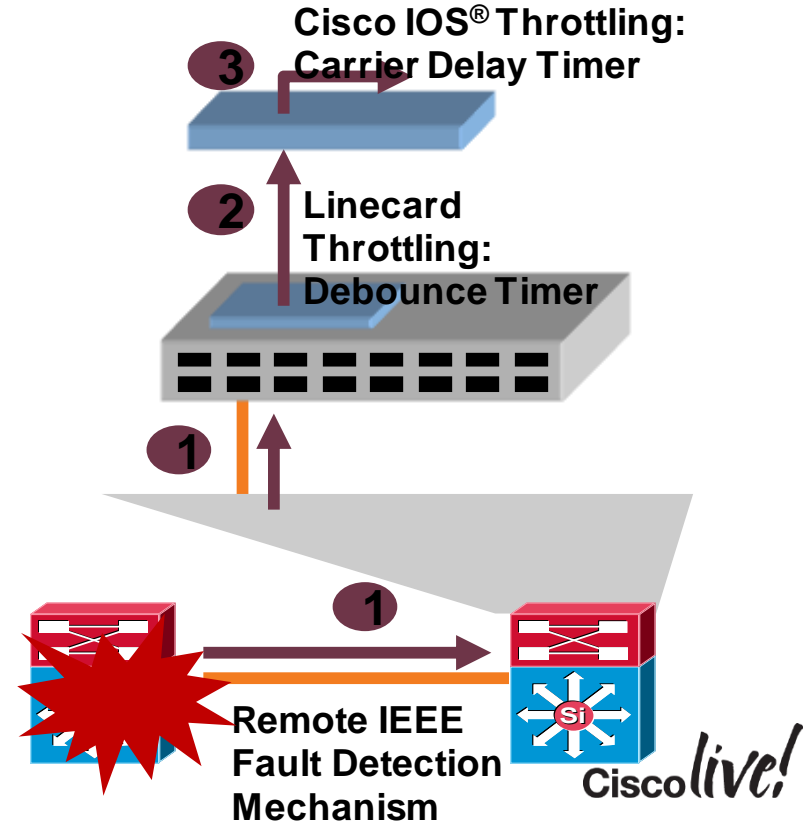


L1 Fibre or Copper Extender

Redundancy and Protocol Interaction

• Fibre Links Versus Copper Links

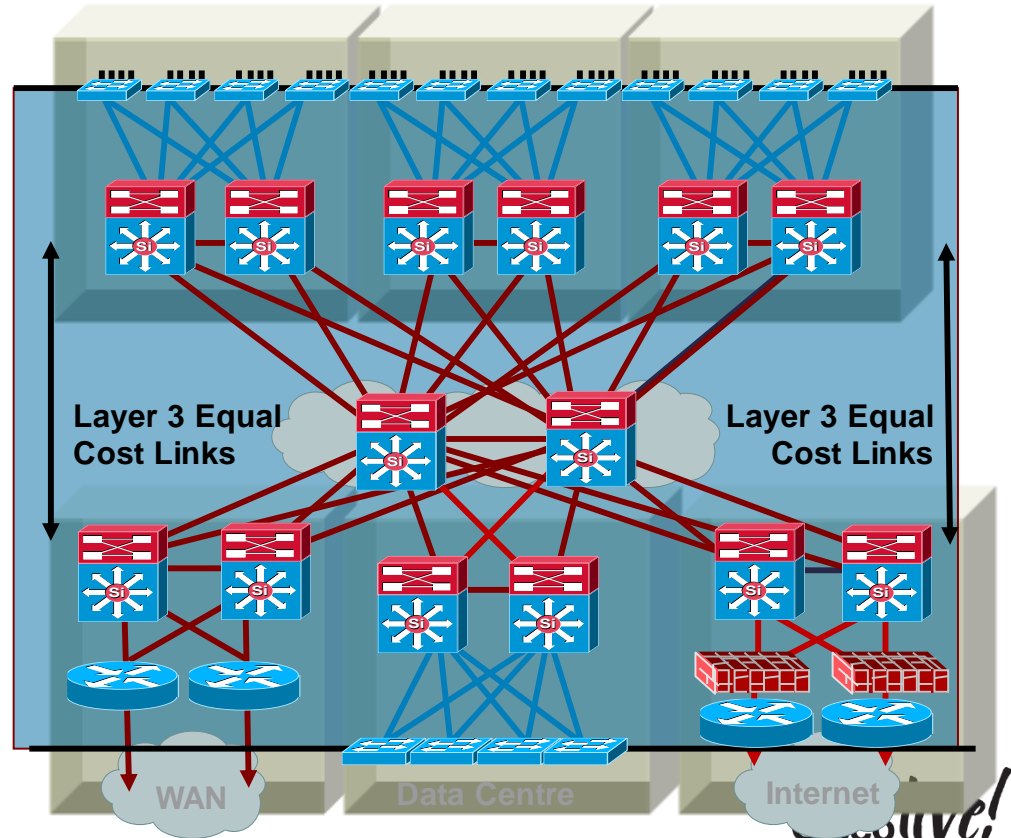
- Direct point-to-point fibre provides for fast failure detection
- IEEE 802.3z and 802.3ae link negotiation define the use of remote fault indicator and link fault signalling mechanisms
- Bit D13 in the Fast Link Pulse (FLP) can be set to indicate a physical fault to the remote side
- Do not disable auto-negotiation on GigE and 10GigE interfaces
- The default debounce timer on GigE and 10GigE fibre linecards is 10 msec
- The minimum debounce for copper is 300 msec
- Carrier-delay
 - Default 10 microseconds is adequate for most applications



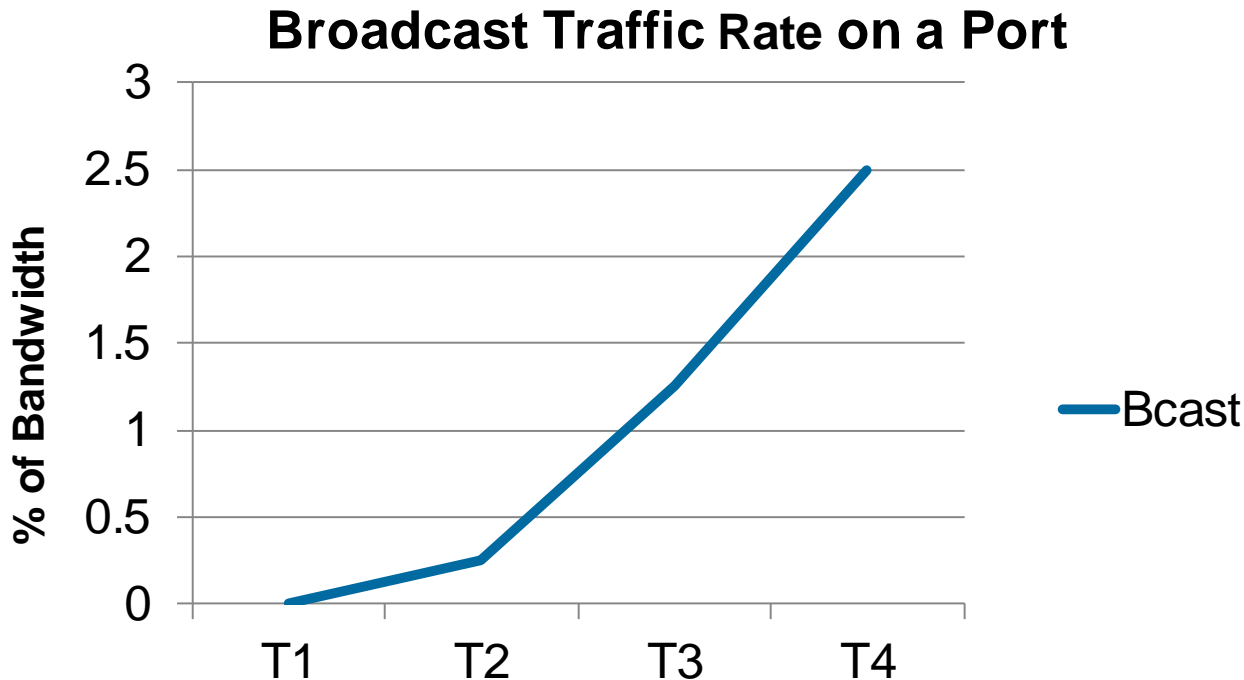
Best Practices

Layer 1 Physical Things

- Use point-to-point interconnections—no L2 aggregation points between nodes
- Use fibre for best convergence (debounce timer)

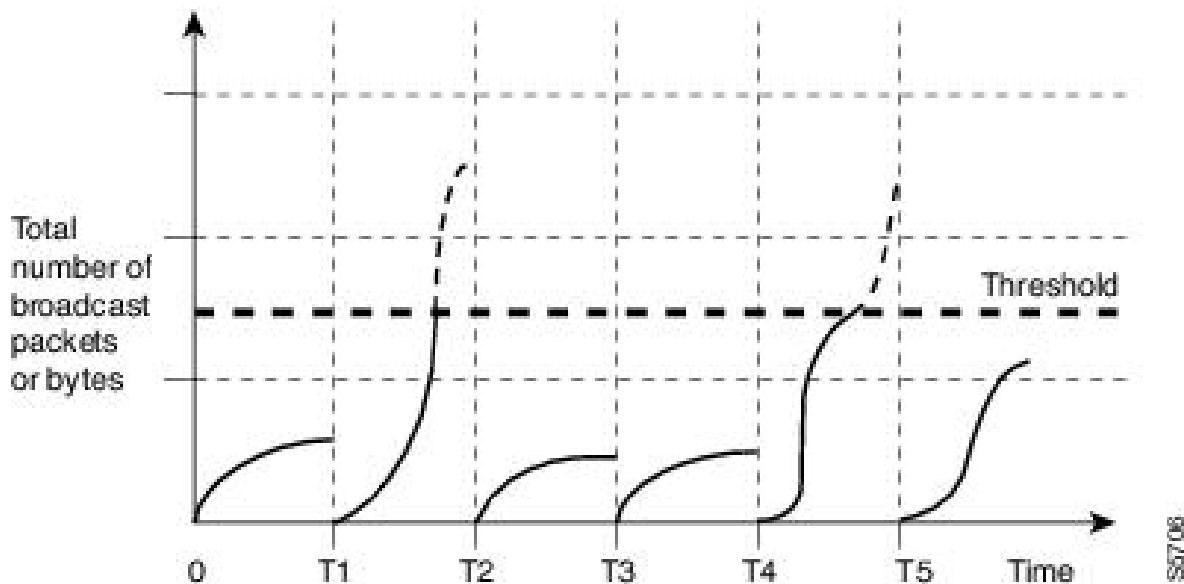


L2 Loops and the Effect of Frame Replication on Interface Bandwidth



Storm Control / Traffic Suppression

- Use hardware-based rate-limiting to protect and harden the broadcast domain



- Limit broadcast, multicast and unknown unicast to a specific rate
- 1 sec sample interval
- The rate-limiter will drop all profiled traffic above the threshold rate during the sample period
 - All profile traffic including legitimate traffic

Determining Typical Rates

- Take some time to monitor bcast, mcast rates under normal conditions
 - Use Top N tools (if available on the platform)
 - Netflow monitoring
 - Interface counters and SNMP tools
 - Wire Shark monitoring

Example using Top N reports on Catalyst 6500

```
VSS01#collect top counters interface ten sort-by broadcast interval 30
TopN collection started.
VSS01#
*Mar  6 16:58:18.735: %TOPN_COUNTERS-SW2-5-STARTED: TopN collection for report 1 started by console
```

Show Top Reports Example

```
VSS01#collect top counters interface ten sort-by broadcast interval 30
```

```
TopN collection started.
```

```
VSS01#VSS01#show top counters interface report 1
```

```
Started By      : console
Start Time     : 16:58:18 UTC Thu Mar 6 2014
End Time      : 16:58:48 UTC Thu Mar 6 2014
Port Type     : TenGigEthernet
Sort By      : broadcast
Interval     : 30 seconds
```

Port	Band width	Util	Bytes (Tx + Rx)	Packets (Tx + Rx)	Broadcast (Tx + Rx)	Multicast (Tx + Rx)	In-err	Buf-ovfl
Te1/2/4	10000	0	21559	151	9	142	0	0
Te2/2/4	10000	0	21559	151	9	142	0	0
Te1/2/5	10000	0	18256	140	1	137	0	0
Te2/1/5	10000	0	18160	139	1	137	0	0
Te2/4/1	10000	0	168	2	0	0	0	0
Te1/4/4	10000	9	7072412223	17148485	0	3	0	0
Te2/4/5	10000	0	168	2	0	0	0	0
Te1/4/3	10000	9	7072658842	17148739	0	3	0	0
Te1/4/2	10000	0	6496	82	0	82	0	0
Te1/4/8	10000	0	168	2	0	0	0	0

RMON History Example

```
C3850#show rmon history
```

```
Entry 30 is active, and owned by  
Monitors ifIndex.27 every 15 second(s)  
Requested # of time intervals, ie buckets, is 30,  
Sample # 8 began measuring at 3w4d  
Received 128 octets, 0 packets,  
0 broadcast and 0 multicast packets,  
0 undersized and 0 oversized packets,  
0 fragments and 0 jabbers,  
0 CRC alignment errors and 0 collisions.  
# of dropped packet events is 0  
Network utilization is estimated at 0  
Sample # 9 began measuring at 3w4d  
Received 460 octets, 0 packets,  
0 broadcast and 4 multicast packets,  
0 undersized and 0 oversized packets,  
0 fragments and 0 jabbers,  
0 CRC alignment errors and 0 collisions.  
# of dropped packet events is 0  
Network utilization is estimated at 0  
Sample # 10 began measuring at 3w4d  
Received 949 octets, 0 packets,  
0 broadcast and 2 multicast packets,  
0 undersized and 0 oversized packets,  
0 fragments and 0 jabbers,
```

RMON History Example on Catalyst 3850

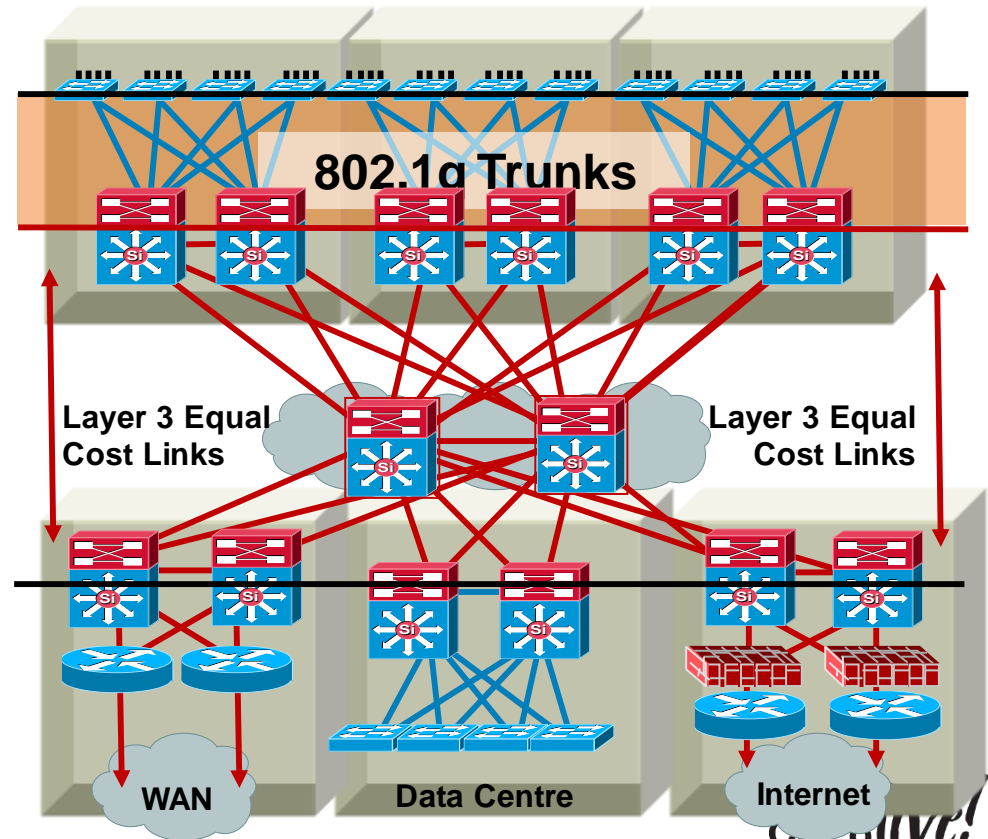
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Storm Control Recommendations

- Based on your network metrics, choose a value that will allow for peak Broadcast, multicast, unknown unicast plus 50%
 - 1% bcast rate is common for 1GbE interfaces
 - 0.5% is a common rate for 10GbE interfaces
- The higher the interface speed the less the percentage needs to be
- Be very cautious when configuring storm control for multicast frames, as this can limit BPDUs
- Verify platform specific support and caveats
 - Some platforms treat traffic types individually, some will group bcast and mcast together
 - Some legacy hardware do not support storm-control or implement software-based mechanisms

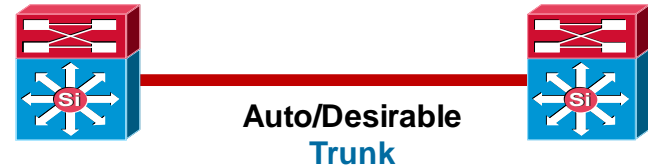
Best Practices -Trunk Configuration

- Typically deployed on interconnection between access and distribution layers
- Use VTP transparent mode to decrease potential for operational error
- Hard set trunk mode to on and encapsulation negotiate off for optimal convergence
- Change the native VLAN to something unused to avoid VLAN hopping
- Manually prune all VLANS except those needed
- Disable on host ports:
 - Cisco IOS: `switchport host`



DTP Dynamic Trunk Protocol

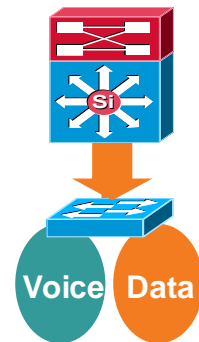
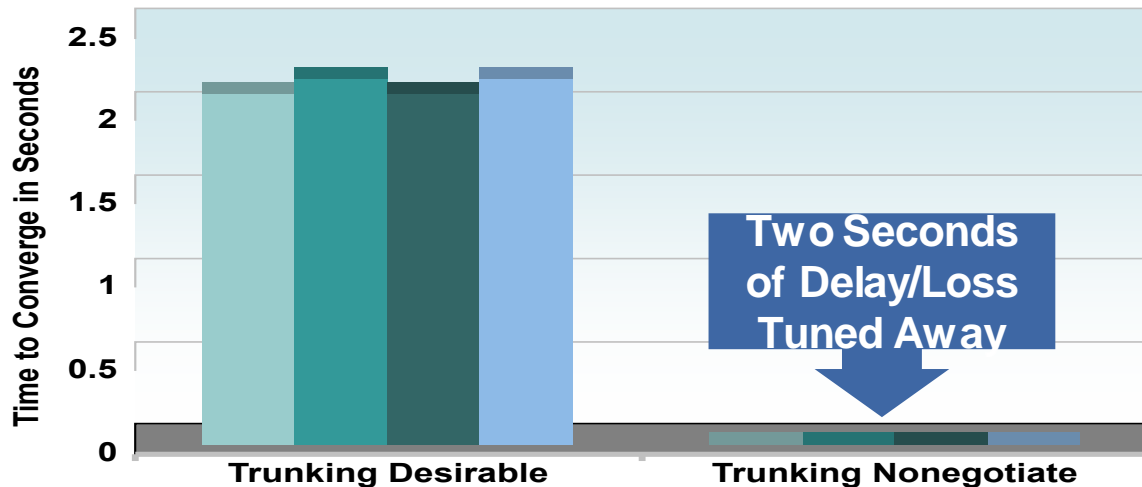
- Automatic formation of trunked switch-to-switch interconnection
 - **On:** always be a trunk
 - **Desirable:** ask if the other side can/will
 - **Auto:** if the other sides asks I will
 - **Off:** don't become a trunk
- Negotiation of 802.1Q or ISL encapsulation
 - **ISL:** try to use ISL trunk encapsulation
 - **802.1q:** try to use 802.1q encapsulation
 - **Negotiate:** negotiate ISL or 802.1q encapsulation with peer
 - **Non-negotiate:** always use encapsulation that is hard set



Optimising Convergence: Trunk Tuning

Trunk Auto/Desirable Takes Some Time

- DTP negotiation tuning improves link up convergence time
 - IOS(config-if)# switchport mode trunk
 - IOS(config-if)# switchport nonegotiate



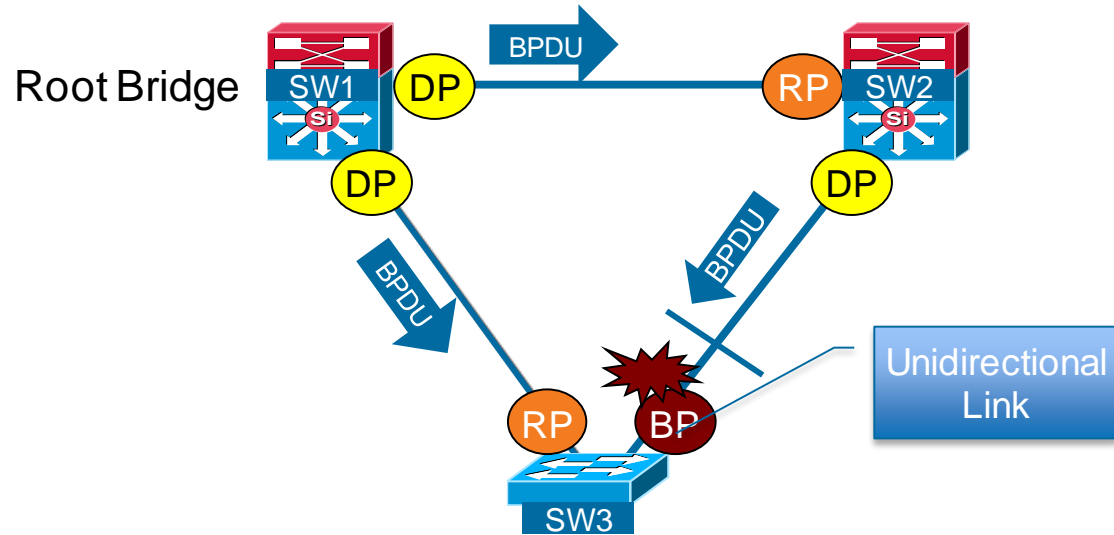
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Trunking/VTP/DTP - Quick Summary

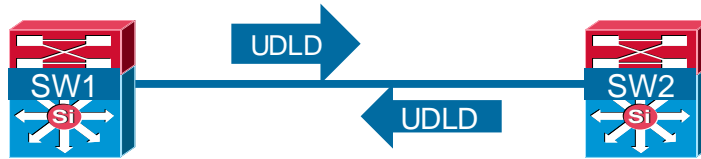
- VTP transparent should be used; there is a trade off between administrative overhead and the temptation to span existing VLANS across multiple access layer switches
- One can consider a configuration that uses DTP **ON/ON** and **NO NEGOTIATE**; there is a trade off between performance/HA impact and maintenance and operations implications
- An **ON/ON** and **NO NEGOTIATE** configuration is faster from a link up (restoration) perspective than a desirable/desirable alternative. However, in this configuration DTP is not actively monitoring the state of the trunk and a misconfigured trunk is not easily identified
- It's really a balance between fast convergence and your ability to manage configuration and change control ...

Unidirectional Link Detection (UDLD)

- Example topology where a uni-directional link can cause an L2 loop
- If SW3 stops receiving BPDUs from SW2, SW3 will change its Blocking Port to Forwarding after STP timeout

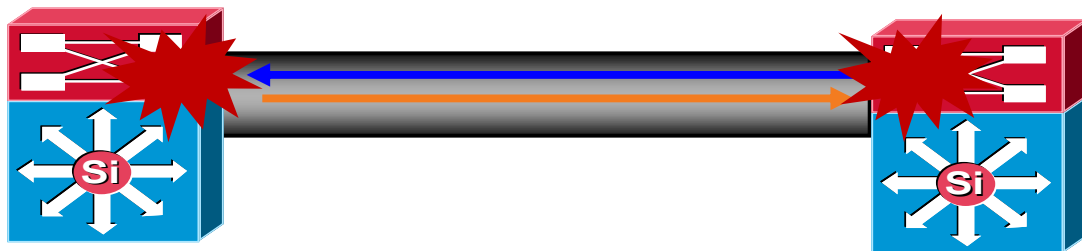


UDLD Operation



- UDLD works by exchanging protocol packets between the neighbouring devices.
- Both devices on the link must support UDLD and have it enabled on respective ports.
- UDLD protocol packets contain the port's own device/port ID, and the neighbour's device/port IDs seen by UDLD on that port. Neighbouring ports should see their own device/port ID (echo) in the packets received from the other side.

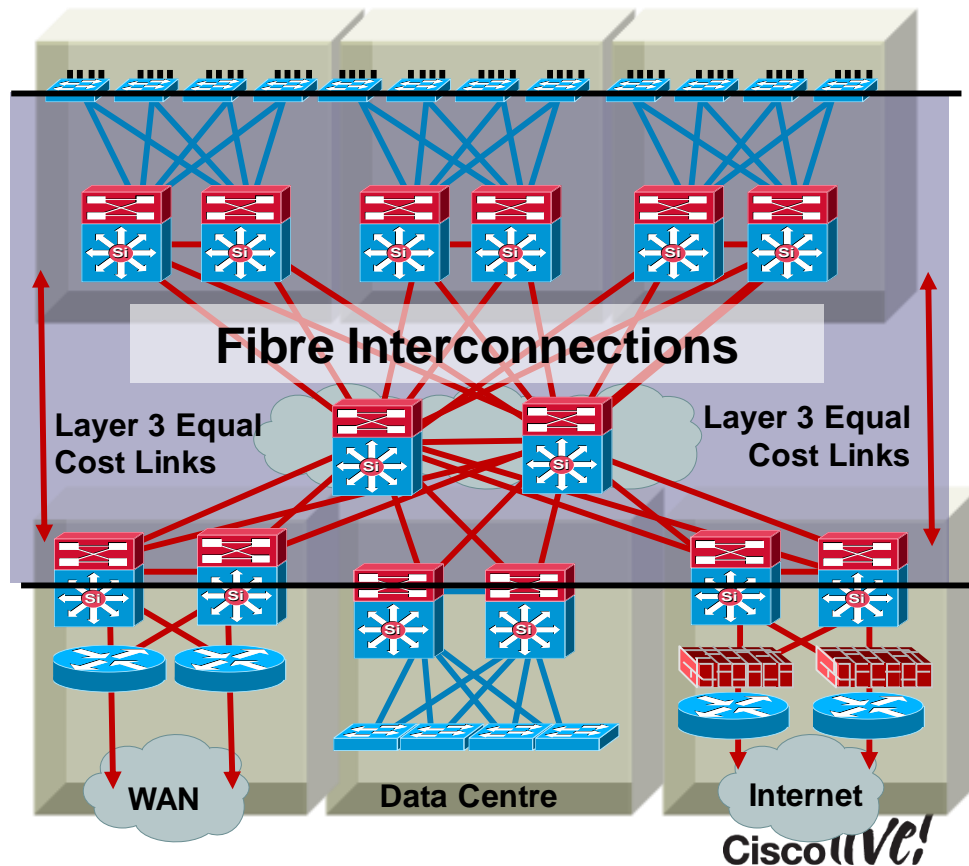
UDLD Aggressive and UDLD Normal



- Timers are the same—15-second hellos by default
- UDLD—Normal Mode—will transition a port to “undetermined” state
- UDLD—Aggressive—err-disable **both** ends of the connection due to err-disable when aging and re-establishment of UDLD communication fails
 - Aggressive Mode—after aging on a previously bi-directional link—tries eight times (once per second) to reestablish connection then err-disables port

Best Practices - UDLD Configuration

- Typically deployed on any fibre optic interconnection
 - Use UDLD aggressive mode with caution
 - Ensure an out-of-band console connection to the device in the event that an err-disabled port will cut-off in-band management
- Turn on in global configuration to avoid operational error/misses
- Config example
 - Cisco IOS:
udld enable

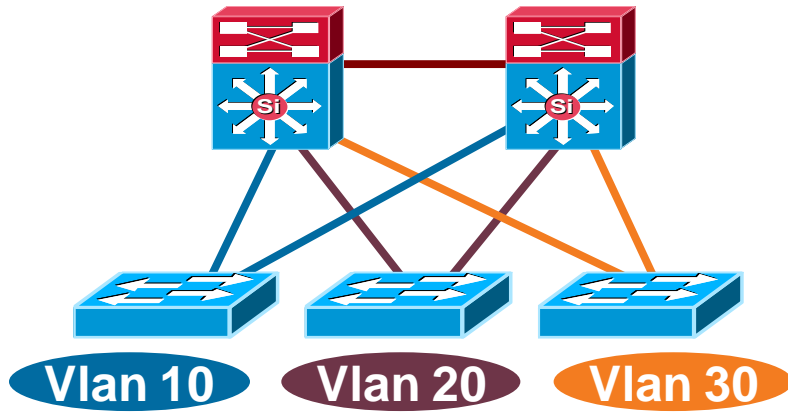




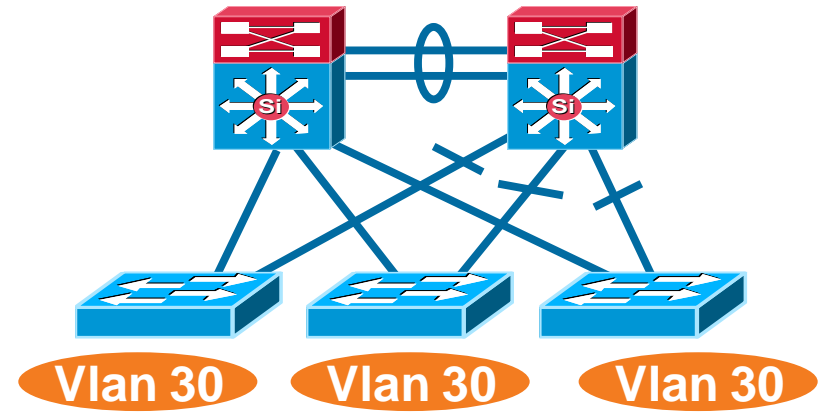
Spanning Tree Toolkit

Multilayer Network Design

Layer 2 Access with Layer 3 Distribution



- Each access switch has unique VLANs
- No Layer 2 loops
- Layer 3 link between distribution
- No blocked links

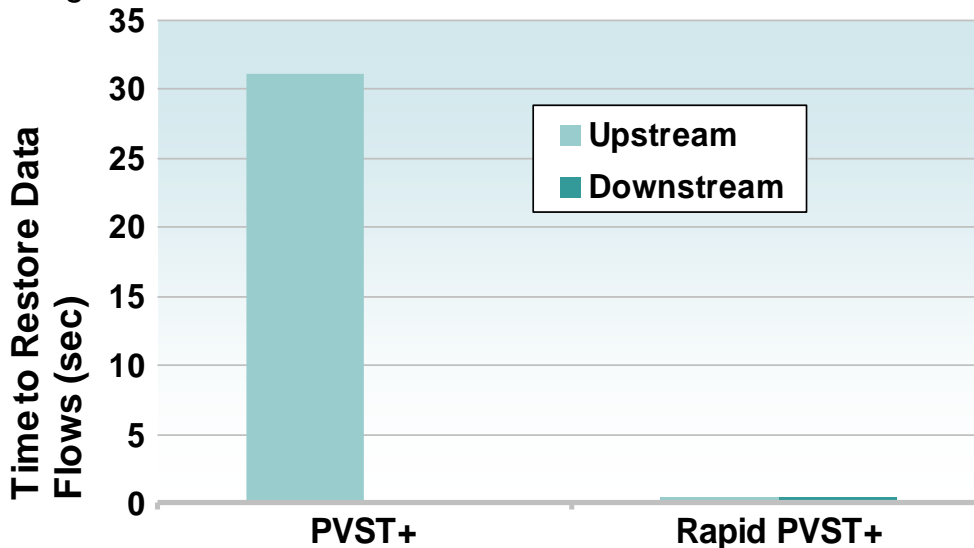


- At least some VLANs span multiple access switches
- Layer 2 loops
- Layer 2 and 3 running over link between distribution
- Blocked links

Spanning Tree Protocol Options

PVST+, Rapid PVST+ or MST

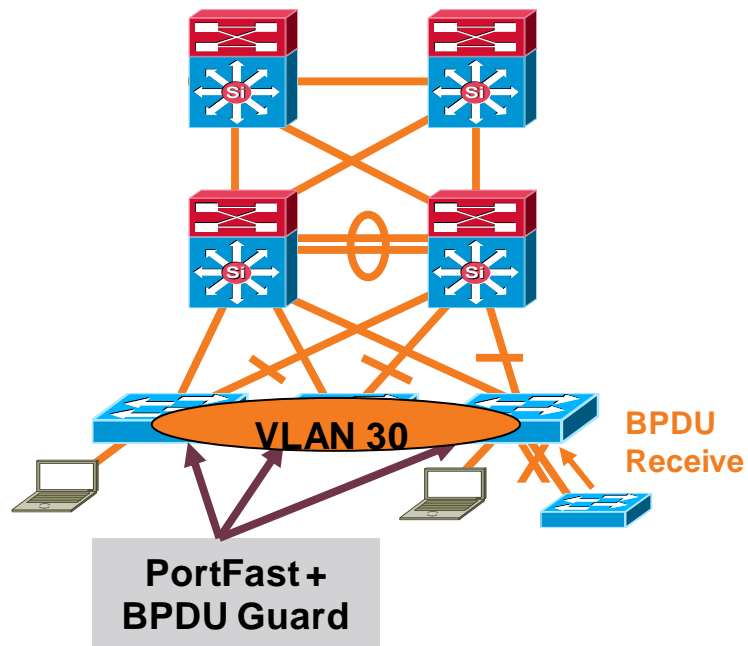
- Rapid-PVST+ greatly improves the restoration times for any VLAN that requires a topology convergence due to link UP
- Rapid-PVST+ also greatly improves convergence time over backbone fast for any indirect link failures
- PVST+ (802.1d)
 - Traditional spanning tree implementation
- Rapid PVST+ (802.1w)
 - Scales to large size (~10,000 logical ports)
 - **Easy to implement, proven, scales**
- MST (802.1s)
 - Permits very large scale STP implementations (~30,000 logical ports)
 - **Not as flexible as rapid PVST+**



Optimising the Layer 2 Design

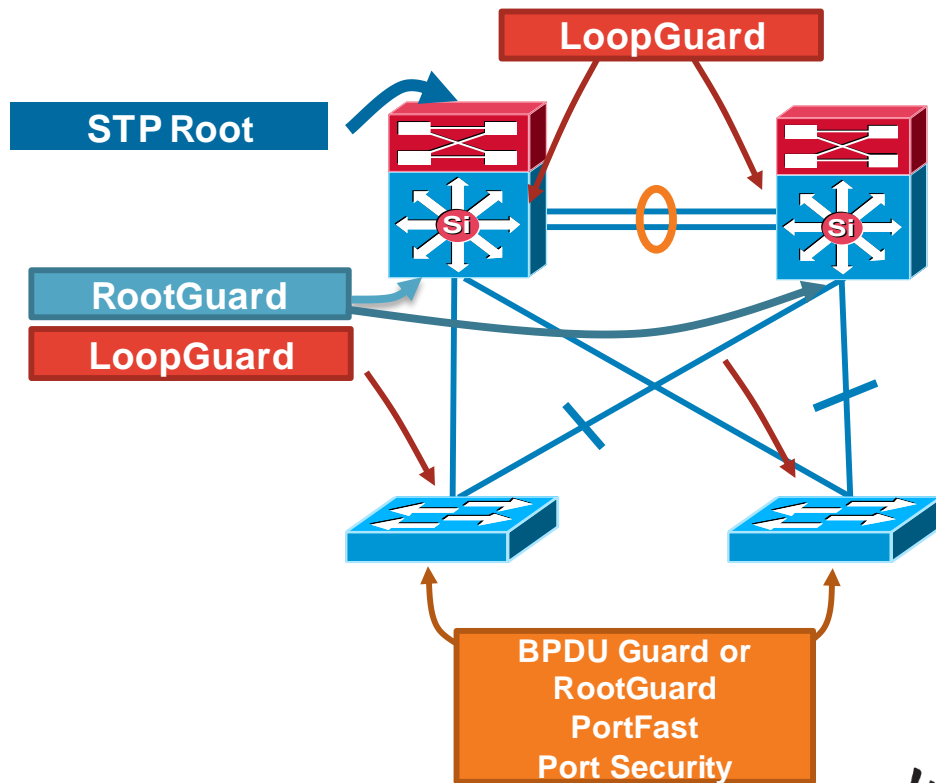
STP Toolkit – PortFast and BPDU Guard

- PortFast is configured on edge ports to allow them to quickly move to forwarding bypassing listening and learning and avoids TCN (Topology Change Notification) messages
- BPDU Guard can prevent loops by moving PortFast configured interfaces that receive BPDUs to errdisable state
- BPDU Guard prevents ports configured with PortFast from being incorrectly connected to another switch
- When enabled globally, BPDU Guard applies to all interfaces that are in an operational PortFast state



Force Spanning Tree to Perform as Expected

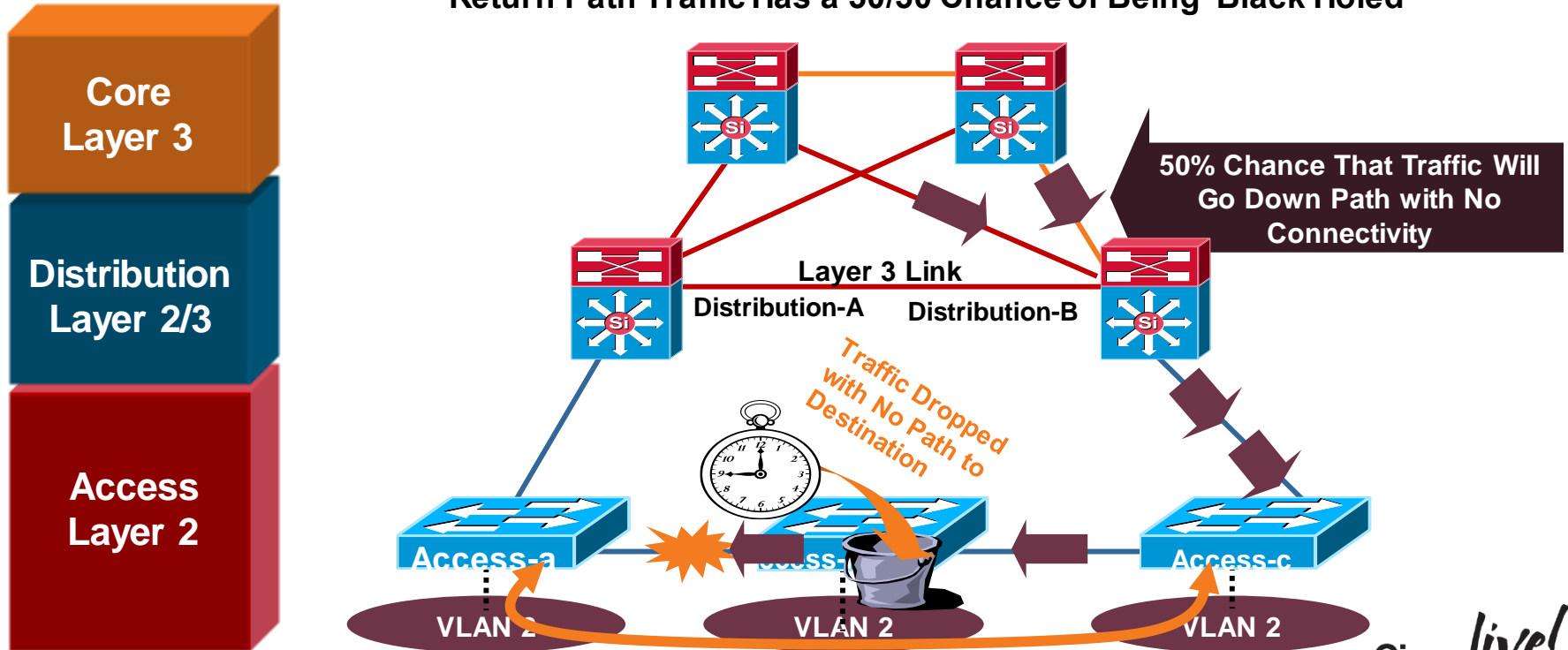
- Place the root where you want it
 - Root primary/secondary macro
- The root bridge should stay where you put it
 - RootGuard
 - LoopGuard
 - UplinkFast
 - UDLD
- Only end-station traffic should be seen on an edge port
 - BPDU Guard
 - RootGuard
 - PortFast
 - Port-security



Avoid Daisy Chaining Access Layer Switches

Avoid Potential Black Holes

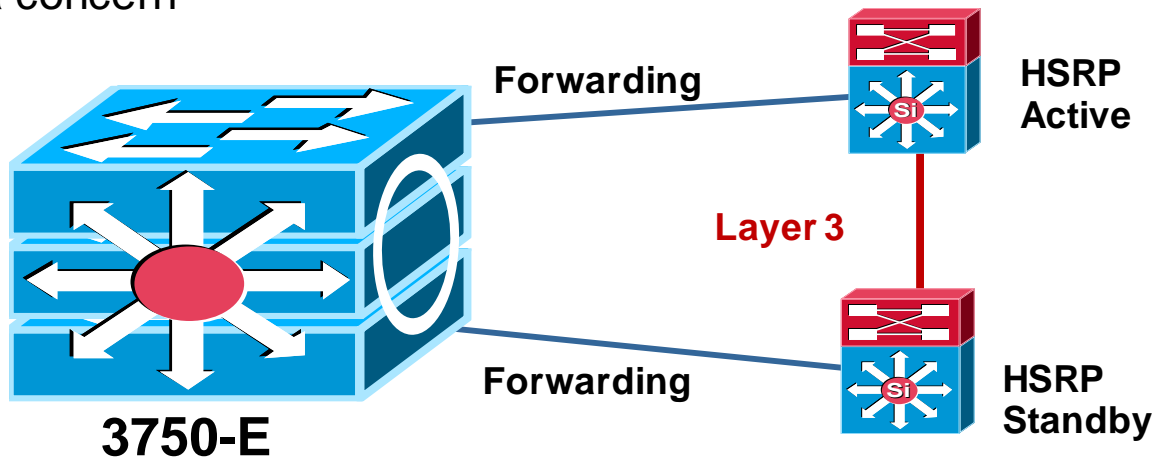
Return Path Traffic Has a 50/50 Chance of Being 'Black Holed'



Use Stacking Technologies for Access Layer Switches

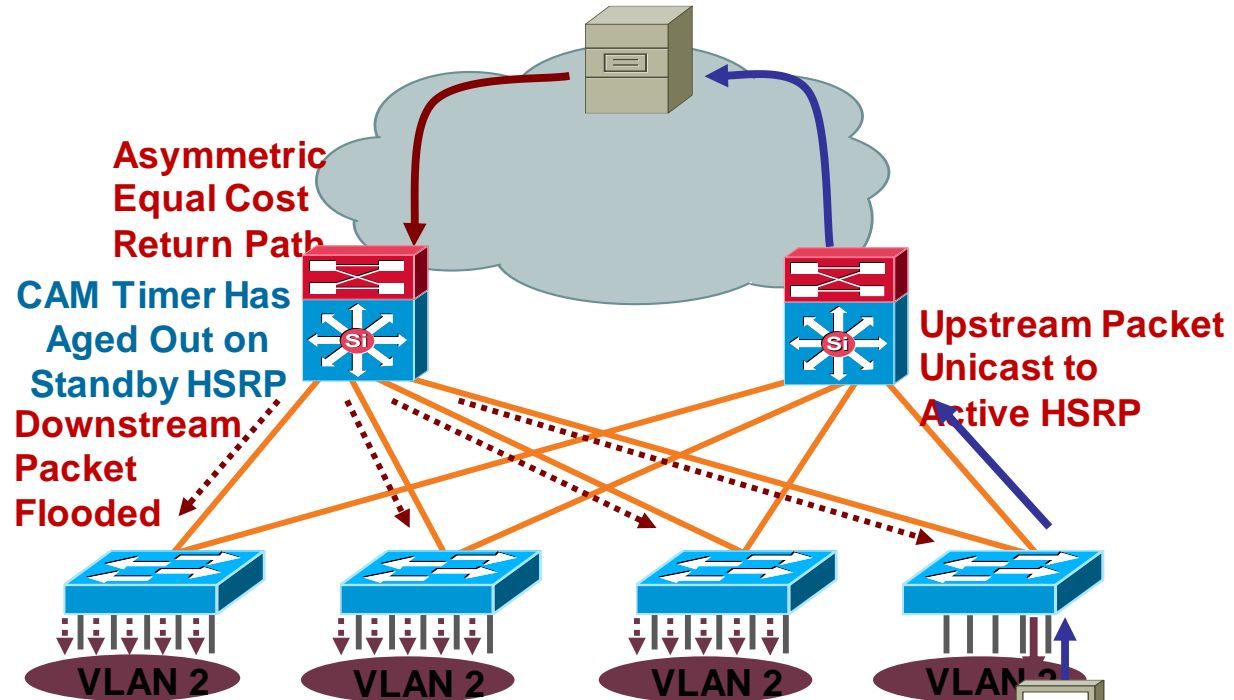
Stacking Technology Addresses Old Problems

- **Stackwise/Stackwise-Plus** technology eliminates the concern
 - Loopback links not required
 - No longer forced to have L2 link in distribution
- If you use modular (chassis-based) switches, these problems are not a concern



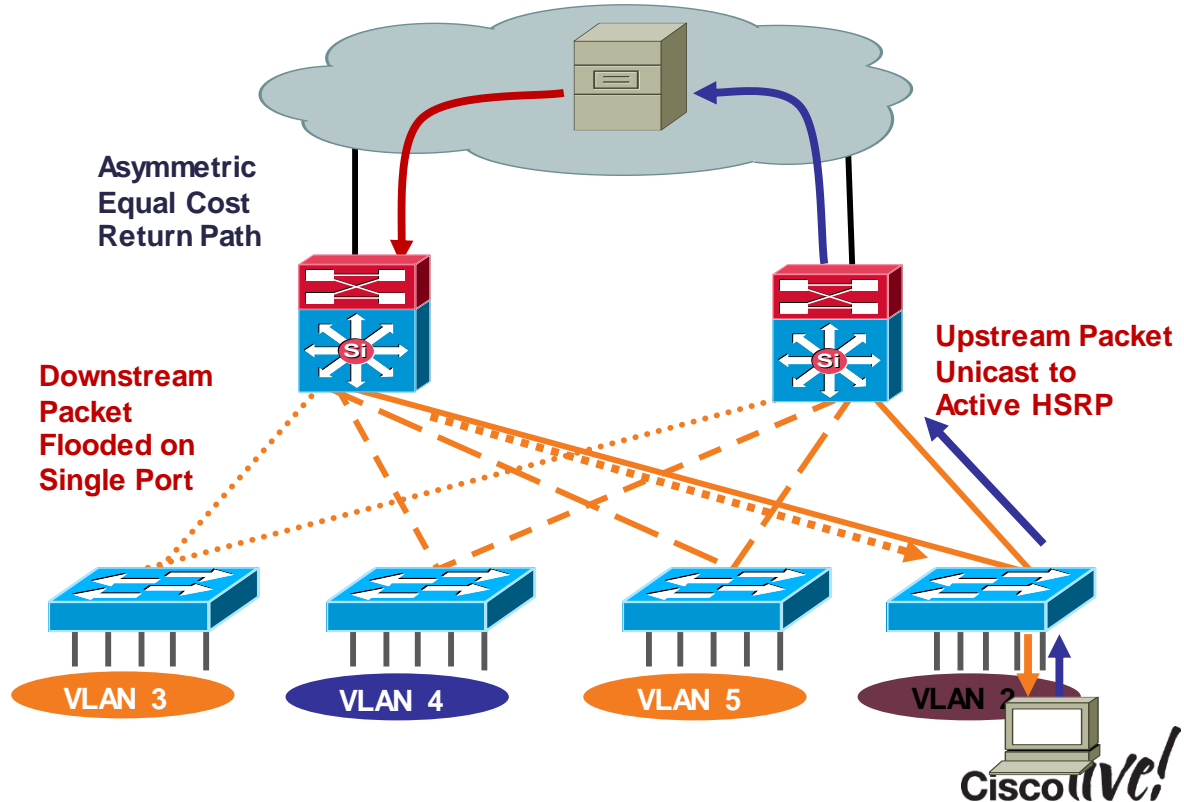
Asymmetric Routing (Unicast Flooding)

- Affects redundant topologies with shared L2 access
- One path upstream and two paths downstream
- CAM table entry ages out on standby HSRP
- Without a CAM entry packet is flooded to all ports in the VLAN



Best Practices Prevent Unknown Unicast Flooding

- Assign one unique data and voice VLAN to each access switch
- Traffic is now only flooded down one trunk
- Access switch unicasts correctly; no flooding to all ports
- If you have to:
 - Tune ARP and CAM aging timers; CAM timer exceeds ARP timer
 - Bias routing metrics to remove equal cost routes

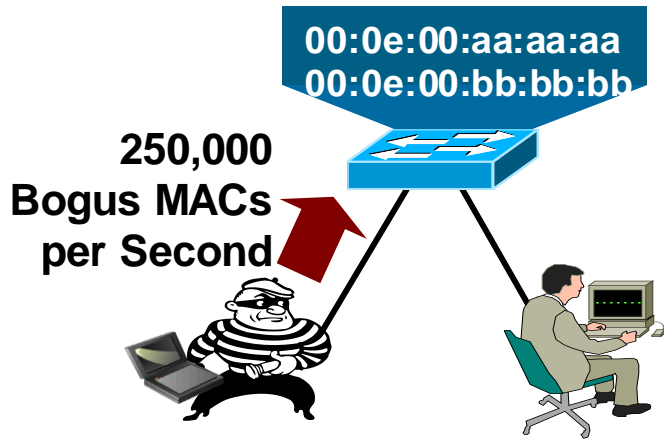


A nighttime photograph of a city street. In the background, there are modern buildings with lit windows and a pedestrian bridge with blue lighting. The middle ground shows a road with traffic lights and some vehicles. The foreground is dominated by long, colorful light trails from moving vehicles, creating a sense of motion and energy. The overall scene is illuminated by city lights, with a mix of warm and cool tones.

Integrated Security Toolkit

Securing Layer 2 From Surveillance Attacks

Cutting Off MAC-Based Attacks

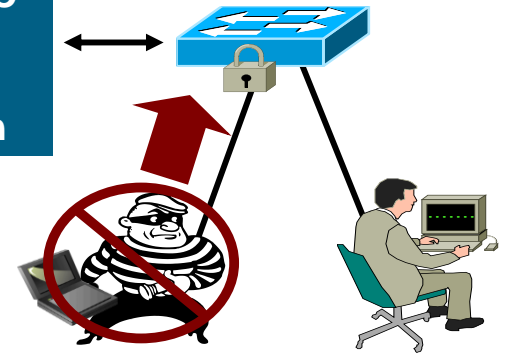


Problem –

Hacking Tools Enable Attackers to Flood Switch CAM Tables with Bogus MACs – Turning the VLAN into a Hub

Switch CAM Table Limit Is Finite Number of MAC Addresses

Only Three MAC Addresses Allowed on the Port: Shutdown



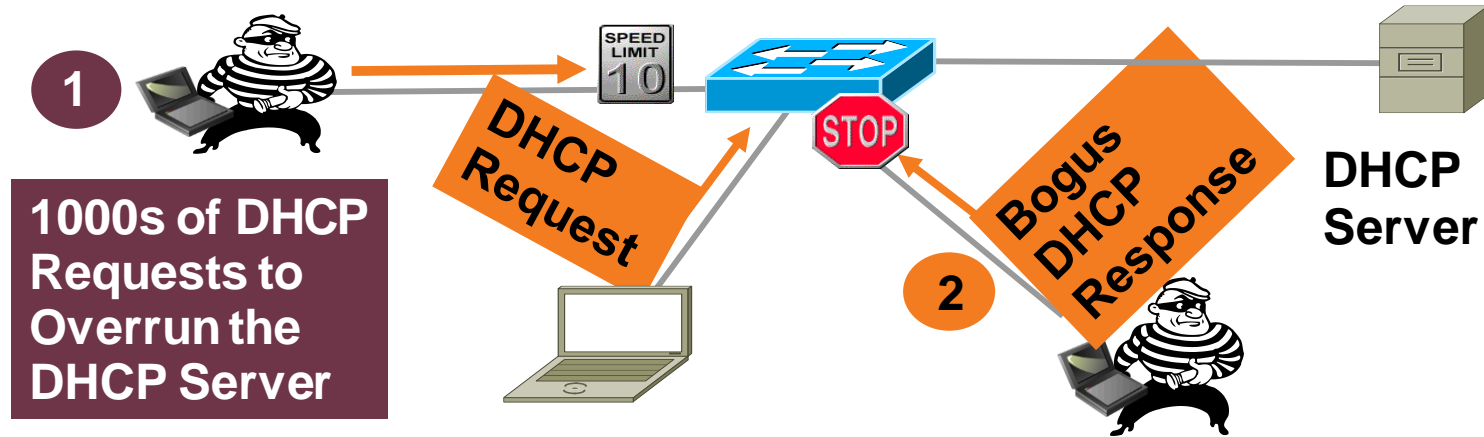
Solution –

Port Security Limits MAC Flooding Attack – Locks Down Port and Sends an SNMP Trap

```
switchport port-security
switchport port-security maximum 10
switchport port-security violation restrict
switchport port-security aging time 2
switchport port-security aging type inactivity
```


DHCP Snooping

Protection Against Rogue / Malicious DHCP Server



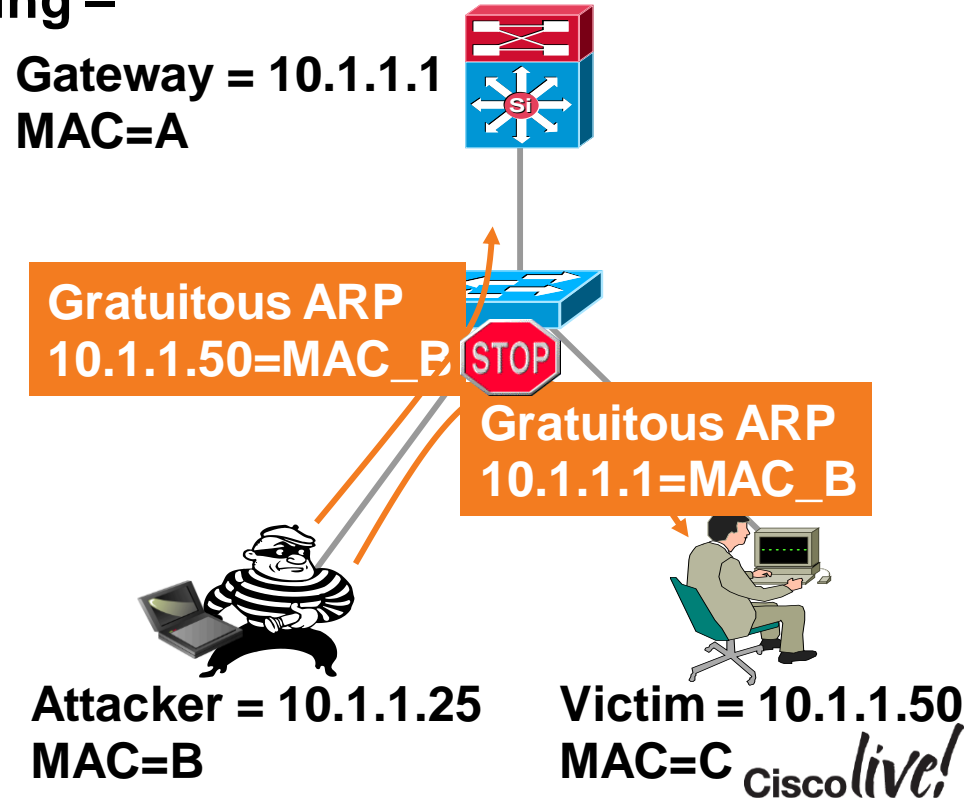
- DHCP requests (discover) and responses (offer) tracked
- Rate-limit requests on trusted interfaces – limits DoS attacks on DHCP server
- Deny responses (offers) on non-trusted interfaces – stop malicious or errant DHCP server

Securing Layer 2

From Surveillance Attacks

Protection Against ARP Poisoning –

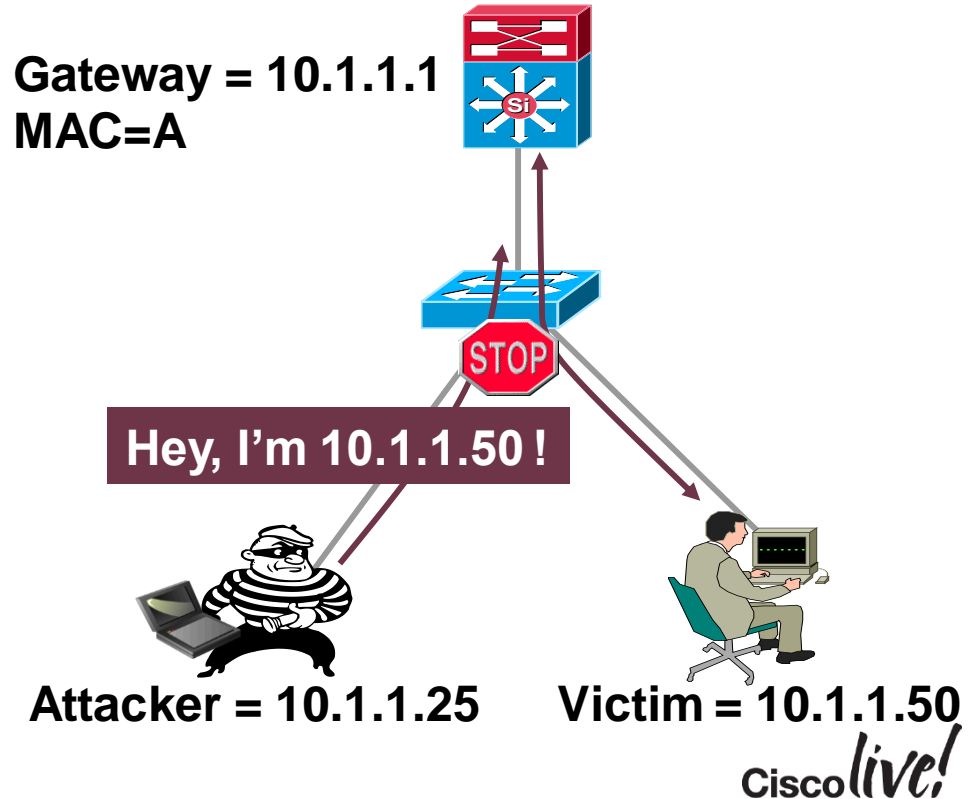
- **Dynamic ARP inspection** protects against ARP poisoning (ettercap, dsnif, arpspoof)
- Uses the DHCP Snooping binding table
- Tracks MAC to IP from DHCP transactions
- Rate-limits ARP requests from client ports
- Drop **bogus** gratuitous ARPs – stops ARP poisoning/ MITM attacks



IP Source Guard

Protection Against Spoofed IP Addresses

- **IP Source Guard** protects against spoofed IP addresses
- Uses the DHCP Snooping binding table
- Tracks IP address to port associations
- Dynamically programs port ACL to drop traffic not originating from IP address assigned via DHCP



Catalyst Integrated Security Features

Summary



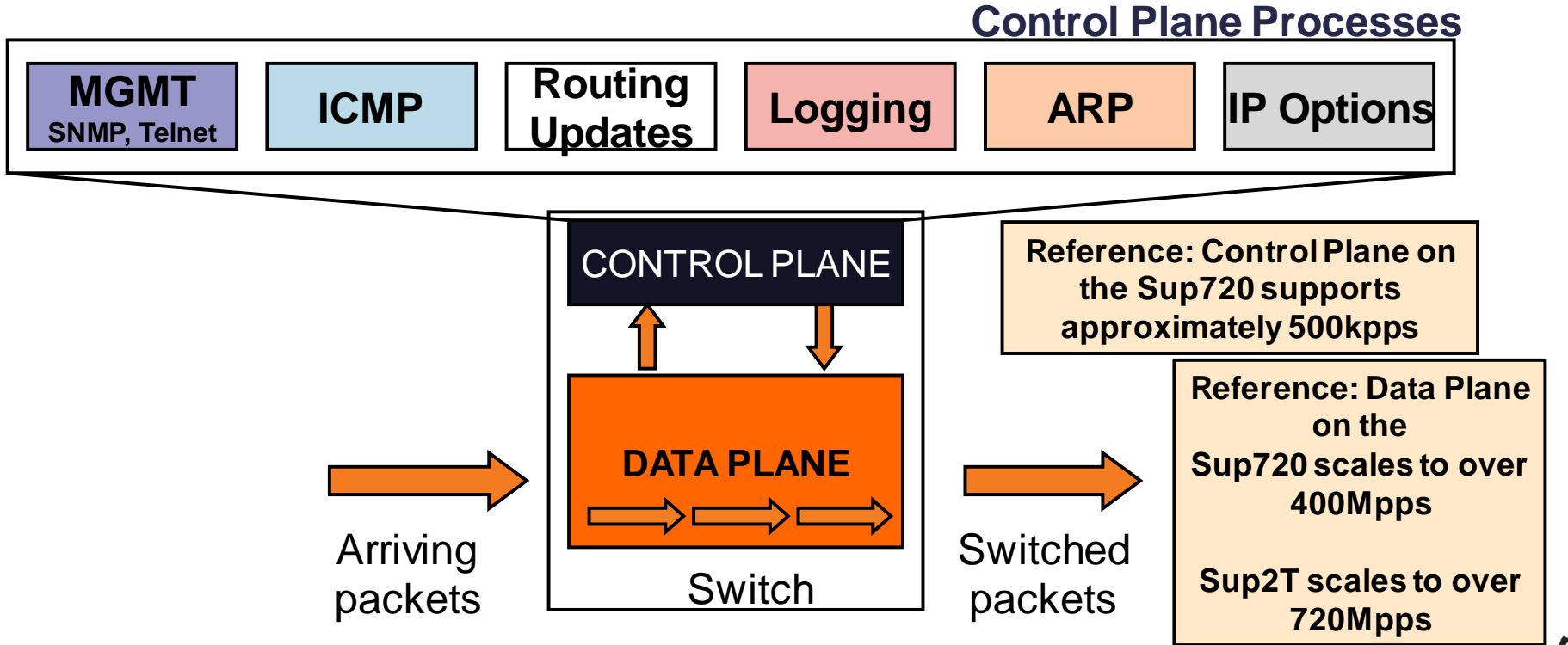
- **Port security** prevents MAC flooding attacks
- **DHCP Snooping** prevents client attack on the switch and server
- **Dynamic ARP Inspection** adds security to ARP using the DHCP snooping table
- **IP Source Guard** adds security to IP source addresses, using the DHCP snooping table

```
ip dhcp snooping
ip dhcp snooping vlan 2-10
ip arp inspection vlan 2-10
!
interface fa3/1
switchport port-security
switchport port-security max 3
switchport port-security violation restrict
switchport port-security aging time 2
switchport port-security aging type inactivity
ip arp inspection limit rate 100
ip dhcp snooping limit rate 100
ip verify source vlandhcp-snooping
!
Interface gigabit1/1
ip dhcp snooping trust
ip arp inspection trust
```

A long-exposure photograph of a city street at night. The foreground is dominated by vibrant, multi-colored light trails from moving vehicles, creating a sense of motion and energy. In the background, a modern pedestrian bridge with blue lighting spans across the street. Tall buildings with illuminated windows and balconies line the street, and traffic lights are visible in the distance. The overall scene is a dynamic urban environment.

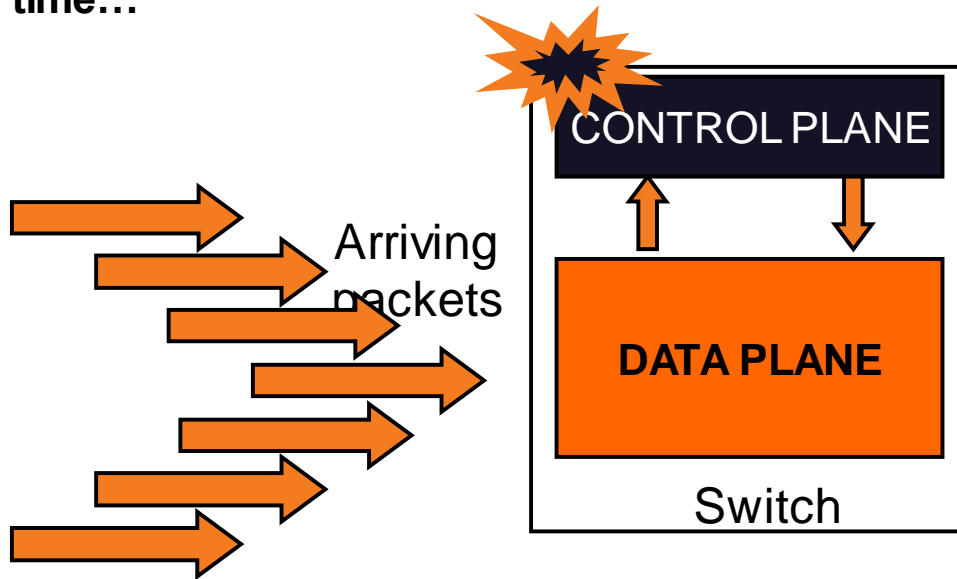
Control Plane Protection CoPP

Control Plane Performance



Control Plane Oversubscription

Control Plane features are processed by the switch CPU so there is a limited amount of processing power available for these tasks. If that CPU is swamped, all other processes stop. This can have a bad impact on the switch if the CPU is overwhelmed for a period of time...



Result of CPU overload

- Dropping Routing Neighbours
- Failure to send Route Updates
- Failure to send STP Updates
- Failure to keep up with Logging requests
- No ARP' s processed
- CLI locks up
- Switch locking up
- and more...

REFERENCE : Example Protocols and Services Processed in Software

Control Plane Protocols	Control Plane Packet Forwarding
UDLD Protocol	IP Options
PagP Protocol	Fragmentation
LACP Protocol	Select Tunnel Options
SNMP Protocol	ICMP Packets
Syslog Export	MTU failure
Netflow & Netflow Data Export	TTL=1 or TTL=0
Address Resolution Protocol	Packets with Checksum error or error length
HSRP, VRRP, GLBP	RPF Check
Cisco Discovery Protocol	Packets that require ARP resolution
VLAN Trunking Protocol	Non-IP (IPX, Appletalk)
Dynamic Trunking Protocol	ACL logging
Telnet, IP Sec, SSH	Broadcast traffic denied in RACL
BGP, OSPF, EIGRP, RIP, ISIS	Authentication Proxy
Web Cache Control Protocol	PBR traffic for certain “match” or “set” arguments

Control Plane Protection on Catalyst Switches

	Catalyst 6500 / 6800 Series	Catalyst 4500 Series	Catalyst 3850 series
Hardware Rate-Limiters	Yes	No	No
Modular QoS Class Maps	Yes	Yes	Yes

SUP2T Control Plane Protection

Hardware Rate Limiters Support

Unicast Rate Limiters	
CEF Receive	Traffic Destined to the Router
CEF Receive Secondary	Traffic destined to an IP address terminated on the C6500
CEF Glean	Traffic requiring ARP
CEF No Route	Packets with Not Route in the FIB
ICMP Redirect	Packets that Require ICMP Redirects
IP Errors	Packet with IP Checksum or Length Errors
ICMP No Route	ICMP Unreachables for Unroutable Packets
ICMP ACL Drop	ICMP Unreachables for Admin Deny Packets
RPF Failure	Packets that Fail uRPF Check
L3 Security	CBAC, Auth-Proxy, and IPSEC Traffic
ACL Bridged In	NAT, TCP Int, Reflexive ACLs, Log on ACLs
ACL Bridged Out	NAT, TCP Int, Reflexive ACLs, Log on ACLs
ARP Inspection	Dynamic ARP Inspection Traffic to CPU
DHCP Snoop In	DHCP Snooping Traffic to CPU
IP Features	Security Features (Auth-Proxy, IP Sec, others)
UCAST UNKNOWN FLOOD	L2 unknown unicast traffic
VACL Logging	CLI Notification of VACL Denied Packets
IP Options	Unicast Traffic with IP Options Set
Capture	Used with Optimized ACL Logging

Layer 2 Rate Limiters	
LAYER_2 PT	L2PT Encapsulation/Decapsulation
LAYER_2 PDU	Layer 2 PDUs
MAC PBF In	
IP Admis. on L2 Port	
LAYER_2 PORTSEC	
LAYER_2 SPAN PCAP	

General Rate Limiters	
MTU Failure	Packets Requiring Fragmentation
TTL Failure	Packets with TTL<=1
Capture Pkt	Limits packets punted to the CPU because of Optimized ACL Logging (OAL).
DIAG RESERVED 0	Reserved
DIAG RESERVED 1	Reserved
DIAG RESERVED 2	Reserved
MCAST REPL RESERVED	Reserved

SUP2T Control Plane Protection

Hardware Rate Limiters Support

Multicast Rate Limiters	
MCAST IPV4 FIB MISS	Packets w ith No mroute in the FIB
MCAST IPv4 IGMP	IGMP Packets
MCAST IPv4 Direct C	Local Multicast on Connected Interface
MCAST IPV4 OPTIONS	Multicast Traffic w ith IP Options Set
MCAST IPV4 CONTROL PK	IPv4 Multicast Control Traffic to CPU
MCAST IPV6 DIRECTLY C	Packets w ith No Mroute in the FIB
MCAST IPV6 MLD	IPv6 Multicast Control Traffic to CPU
MCAST IPV6 CONTROL PK	Partial Shortcut Entries
MCAST BRG FLD IP CNTR	Partial Shortcut Entries
MCAST BRG FLD IP	Partial Shortcut Entries
MCAST BRG	Partial Shortcut Entries
MCAST BRG OMF	Partial Shortcut Entries
V6 Route Control	Partial Shortcut Entries
V6 Default Route	Multicast Traffic w ith IP Options Set
V6 Second Drop	Mulicast Traffic w ith IP Options Set

These HWRL were all covered as a single HWRL in the PFC3

Some new HWRL are added and also more granularity to existing HWRLs is provided in the PFC4 versus PFC3

Control Plane Protection Comparison Sup720 and Sup2T

Feature/Capability	Sup720	Sup2T
Uses Modular QoS CLI for applying policies to the Control Plane Interface	Yes	Yes
Special Case Rate-Limiters for non-IP traffic types (HWRL)	Yes	Yes
Max number of HWRLs supported	8 (L3) 4 (L2)	31 (L3) 26 (L2)
Distributed policing: synchronization of hardware policers on different linecards	No	Yes
HWRL measured in Packets and Bits per second	No, PPS only	Yes, PPS and BPS
Traffic Counters	CoPP only	Yes, both HWRL and CoPP
Traffic Exceptions configurable in CoPP (allow CoPP based counters and monitoring)	No	Yes
Full suite of Multicast HWRL	No	Yes
Microflow Policers via CoPP	No	Yes
Ability to leak the first packet above the rate (allows packet capture)	No	Yes
CoPP Polices to match ARP and RARP traffic	No	Yes

Catalyst 3850 Built in Rate Limiters

```
C3850#show platform qos queue stats internal cpu
policer
```

Queue	Drop		

DOT1X Auth	0	WLESS PRI-4	0
L2 Control	0	BROADCAST	0
Forus traffic	0	Learning cache ovfl	0
ICMP GEN	0	Sw forwarding	0
Routing Control	0	Topology Control	0
Forus Address resolution	0	Proto Snooping	0
ICMP Redirect	0	BFD Low Latency	0
WLESS PRI-5	0	Transit Traffic	0
WLESS PRI-1	0	RPF Failed	0
WLESS PRI-2	0	MCAST END STATION	0
WLESS PRI-3	0	LOGGING	0
		Health check	0
		Crypto Control	0
		Exception	0
		General Punt	0

Control Plane Protection on Catalyst Switches

	Catalyst 6500 / 6800 Series	Catalyst 4500 Series	Catalyst 3850 series
Hardware Rate-Limiters	Yes	No	No
Modular QoS Class Maps	Yes	Yes	Yes

Sup2T CoPP Default Class-maps

Default Class-Maps Supported with Sup2T

class-map: class-copp-icmp-redirect-unreachable (match-all)

class-map: class-copp-ucast-rpf-fail (match-all)

class-map: class-copp-vacl-log (match-all)

class-map: class-copp-mcast-punt (match-all)

class-map: class-copp-mcast-copy (match-all)

class-map: class-copp-ip-connected (match-all)

class-map: class-copp-ipv6-connected (match-all)

class-map: class-copp-match-pim-data (match-any)

class-map: class-copp-match-pimv6-data (match-any)

class-map: class-copp-match-mld (match-any)

class-map: class-copp-match-igmp (match-any)

class-map: class-copp-match-ndv6 (match-any)

SUP2T Control Plane Protection

Default Class-maps for Control Plane Protection

Using the class-maps allows for better visibility using show commands

```
Router#show policy-map control-plane input class class-copp-options
```

Control Plane Interface

Service-policy input: policy-default-autocopp

Hardware Counters:

class-map: class-copp-options (match-all)

Match: any

police:

100 pps 24 limit 24 extended limit

Earl in slot 1:

0 packets

5 minute offered rate 0 pps

aggregate-forwarded 0 packets

action: transmit

exceeded 0 packets action: drop

aggregate-forward 0 pps exceed 0 pps

Earl in slot 3:

997 packets

5 minute offered rate 196 pps

```
aggregate-forwarded 198 packets
```

action: transmit

```
exceeded 798 packets action: drop
```

```
aggregate-forward 99 pps exceed 0 pps
```

Earl in slot 5:

0 packets

5 minute offered rate 0 pps

aggregate-forwarded 0 packets

action: transmit

```
exceeded 0 packets action: drop
```

```
aggregate-forward 0 pps exceed 0 pps
```

Default Class map “class-copp-options” classifies traffic with IP Options set

Traffic counters matching the class-map on the DFC in slot 3

Catalyst Control Plane Protection

CoPP Deployment- Step 1

- Step 1: Identify traffic of interest and classify it into multiple traffic classes:

- BGP
- IGP (EIGRP, OSPF, ISIS)
- Management (telnet, TACACS, ssh, SNMP, NTP)
- Reporting (SAA)
- Monitoring (ICMP)
- Critical applications (HSRP, DHCP)
- Undesirable
- Default

```
ip access-list extended coppacl-bgp
permit tcp host 192.168.1.1 host 10.1.1.1 eq bgp
permit tcp host 192.168.1.1 eq bgp host 10.1.1.1
!
ip access-list extended coppacl-igp
permit ospf any host 224.0.0.5
permit ospf any host 224.0.0.6
permit ospf any any
!
ip access-list extended coppacl-management
permit tcp host 10.2.1.1 host 10.1.1.1
established
permit tcp 10.2.1.0 0.0.0.255 host 10.1.1.1 eq 22
permit tcp 10.86.183.0 0.0.0.255 any eq telnet
permit udp host 10.2.2.2 host 10.1.1.1 eq snmp
permit udp host 10.2.2.3 host 10.1.1.1 eq ntp
!
```

Catalyst 6500 Control Plane Protection

CoPP Deployment- Step 2

- Step 2: Associate the identified traffic with a class, and permit the traffic in each class
 - Must enable QoS globally(Sup720 only), else CoPP will not be applied in hardware
 - Always apply a policing action for each class since the switch will ignore a class that does not have a corresponding policing action

```
class-map match-all copp-bgp
  match access-group name coppacl-bgp
class-map match-all copp-igp
  match access-group name coppacl-igp
class-map match-all copp-management
  match access-group name coppacl-management
class-map match-all copp-reporting
  match access-group name coppacl-reporting
class-map match-all copp-monitoring
  match access-group name coppacl-monitoring
class-map match-all copp-critical-app
  match access-group name coppacl-critical-app
class-map match-all copp-undesirable
  match access-group name coppacl-undesirable
```

```
policy-map copp-policy
  class copp-bgp
    police 30000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
  class copp-igp
    police 30000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
  class copp-management
    police 30000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
  class copp-reporting
    police 30000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
  class copp-monitoring
    police 30000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
  class copp-critical-app
    police 30000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
  class copp-undesirable
    police 30000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
  class class-default
```

```
control-plane
  service-policy input copp-policy
```

Catalyst 6500 Control Plane Protection

CoPP Deployment- Step 3

- Step 3: Adjust classification, and apply liberal CoPP policies for each class of traffic
 - show policy-map control-plane displays dynamic information for monitoring control plane policy. Statistics include rate information and number of packets/ bytes confirmed or exceeding each traffic class
 - CoPP rates on Sup720 are bps—pps is not possible. However, HWRL rates are in pps

```
Switch# show policy-map control-plane
Control Plane Interface
Service-policy input: copp-policy
<snip>
Hardware Counters:
class-map: copp-monitoring (match-all)
Match: access-group name coppacl-monitoring
police :
 30000000 bps 937000 limit 937000 extended limit
Earl in slot 5 :
 0 bytes
 5 minute offered rate 0 bps
aggregate-forwarded 0 bytes action: transmit
exceeded 0 bytes action: drop
aggregate-forward 0 bps exceed 0 bps
Earl in slot 7 :
112512 bytes
 5 minute offered rate 3056 bps
aggregate-forwarded 112512 bytes action: transmit
exceeded 0 bytes action: drop
aggregate-forward 90008 bps exceed 0 bps

=====
```

Catalyst 6500 Control Plane Protection

CoPP Deployment—Step 3 (Cont.)

- Step 3: Adjust Classification, and Apply liberal CoPP policies for each class of traffic
 - show ip access-lists provides packet count statistics per ACE. Absence of any hits on an entry indicate lack of traffic matching the ACE criteria—the rule might be rewritten
 - Hardware ACL hit counters are available in PFC3B/BXL for security ACL TCAM only (not QoS ACL TCAM)

```
Switch#sh access-list
Extended IP access list coppacl-bgp
  10 permit tcp host 192.168.1.1 host 10.1.1.1 eq bgp
  20 permit tcp host 192.168.1.1 eq bgp host 10.1.1.1
Extended IP access list coppacl-critical-app
  10 permit ip any host 224.0.0.1
  20 permit udp host 0.0.0.0 host 255.255.255.255 eq bootps
  30 permit udp host 10.2.2.8 eq bootps any eq bootps
Extended IP access list coppacl-igmp
  10 permit ospf any host 224.0.0.5 (64062 matches)
  20 permit ospf any host 224.0.0.6
  30 permit ospf any any (17239 matches)
Extended IP access list coppacl-management
  10 permit tcp host 10.2.1.1 host 10.1.1.1 established
  20 permit tcp 10.2.1.0 0.0.0.255 host 10.1.1.1 eq 22
  30 permit tcp 10.86.183.0 0.0.0.255 any eq telnet
  40 permit udp host 10.2.2.2 host 10.1.1.1 eq snmp
  50 permit udp host 10.2.2.3 host 10.1.1.1 eq ntp
Extended IP access list coppacl-monitoring
  10 permit icmp any any ttl-exceeded (120 matches)
  20 permit icmp any any port-unreachable
  30 permit icmp any any echo-reply (17273 matches)
  40 permit icmp any any echo (5 matches)
Extended IP access list coppacl-reporting
  10 permit icmp host 10.2.2.4 host 10.1.1.1 echo
Extended IP access list coppacl-undesirable
  10 permit udp any any eq 1434
```

Catalyst 6500 Control Plane Protection

CoPP Deployment - Step 4

- Step 4: Fine tune the control plane policy

- Narrow the ACL permit statements to specific addresses and depending on traffic type

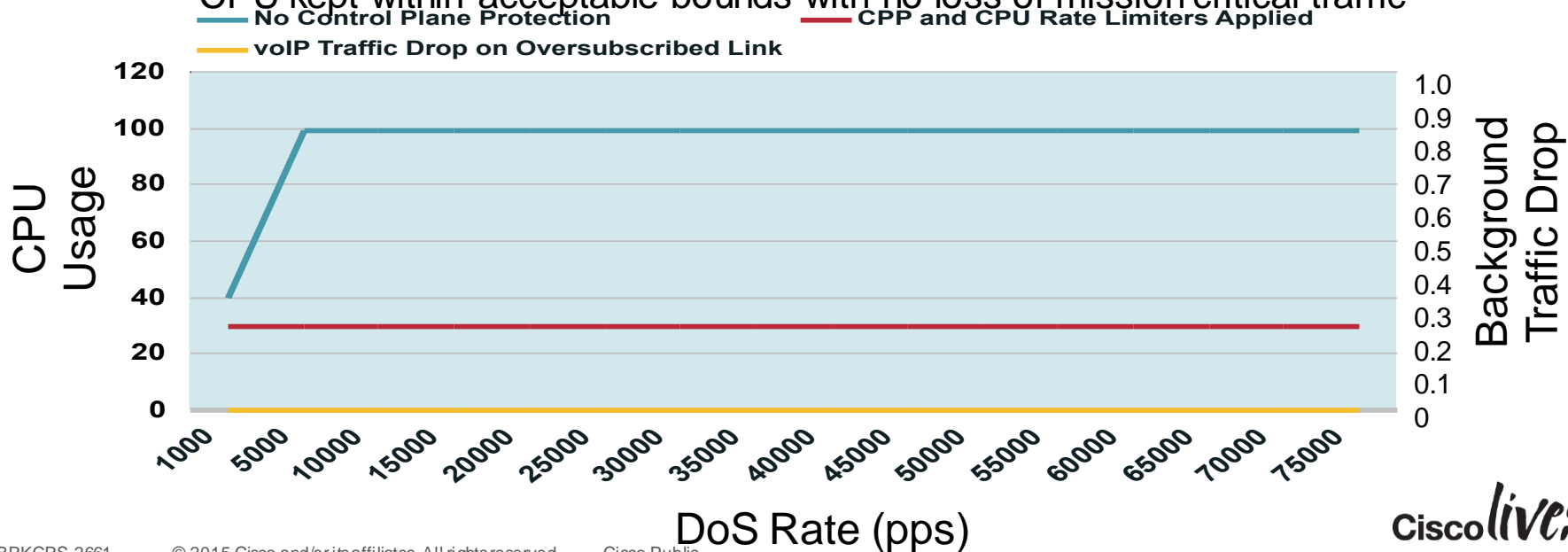
- Routing protocol traffic—no limit
- Management traffic—conservative rate limit
- Reporting traffic—conservative rate limit
- Monitoring traffic—conservative rate limit
- Critical traffic—conservative rate limit
- Default traffic—low rate limit
- Undesirable traffic—drop

```
policy-map copp-policy
class coppclass-bgp
  police 15000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
class coppclass-igp
  police 15000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
class coppclass-management
  police 2560000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
class coppclass-reporting
  police 1000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
class coppclass-monitoring
  police 1000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
class coppclass-critical-app
  police 7500000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
class coppclass-undesirable
  police 32000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
class class-default
  police 1000000 conform-action transmit exceed-action drop
```

Catalyst 6500 Control Plane Protection

Mitigating attacks with CoPP and CPU RL (Example)

- Multiple concurrent attacks (multicast ttl=1, multicast partial shortcuts, unicast IP options, unicast fragments to receive adjacency, unicast TCP SYN flood to receive adjacency)
- CPU kept within acceptable bounds with no loss of mission critical traffic

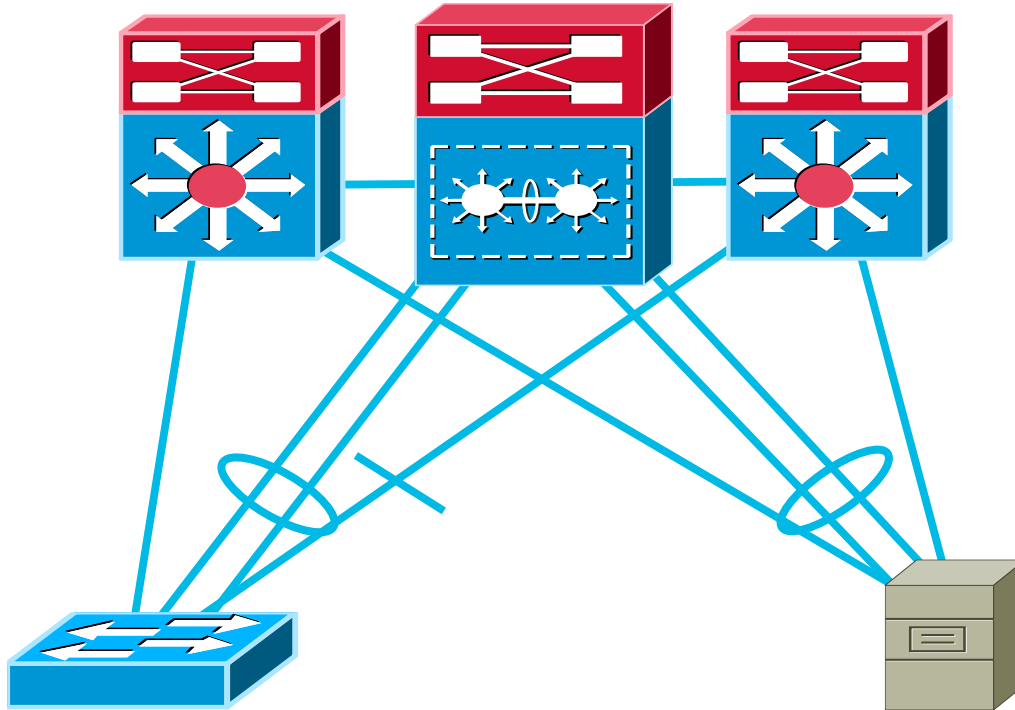




Alternative Designs

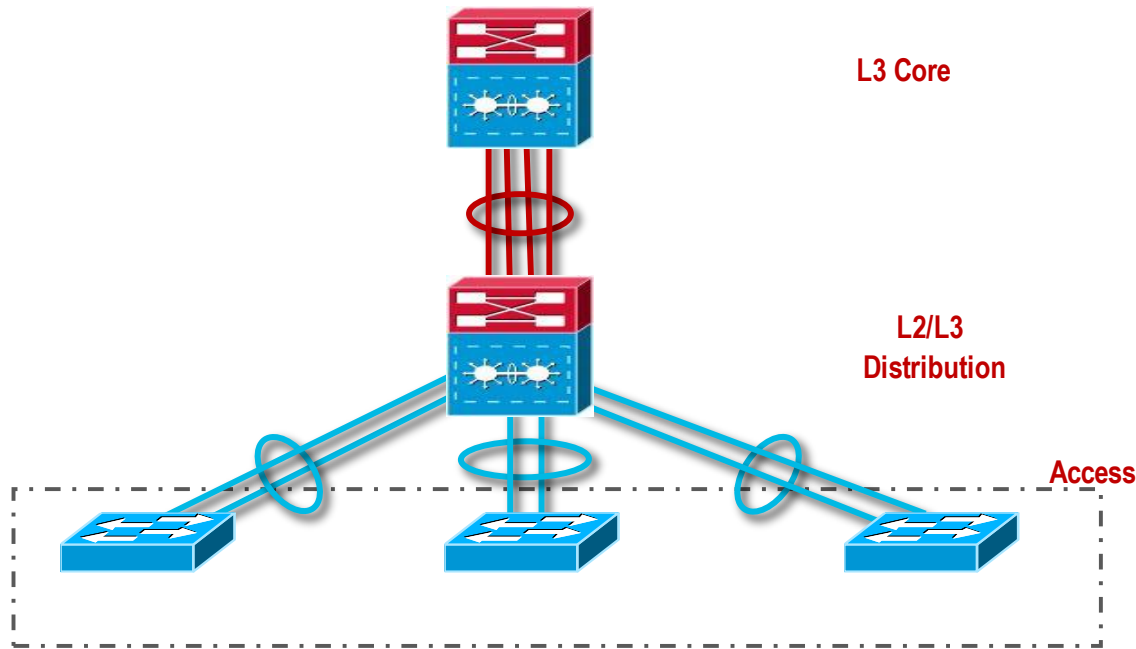
Virtual Switching System

Traditional Design



Virtual Switching System

VSS Enterprise Campus



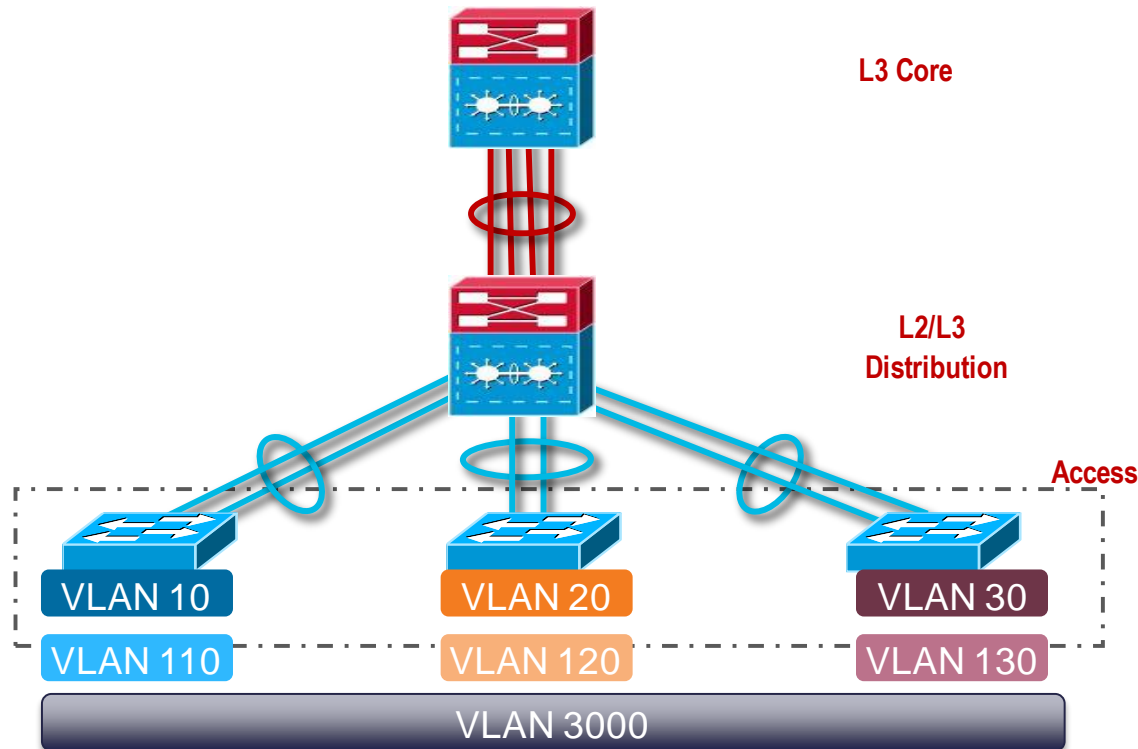
Reduced routing neighbours, Minimal L3 convergence

**No FHRPs
No Looped topology
Policy Management**

Multiple active uplinks per VLAN, No STP convergence

Virtual Switching System

VSS Enterprise Campus



Reduced routing neighbours, Minimal L3 reconvergence

**No FHRPs
No Looped topology
Policy Management**

Multiple active uplinks per VLAN, No STP convergence

VSS Simplifies the Configuration

Standalone Switch 1 (Coordinated Configuration)



Standalone Switch 2 (Coordinated Configuration)



VSS (One simplified configuration)



Spanning Tree Configuration

```
! Enable 802.1d per VLAN spanning tree enhancements.
spanning-tree mode pvst
spanning-tree loopguard default
no spanning-tree optimize bpdu transmission
spanning-tree extend system-id
spanning-tree uplinkfast
spanning-tree backbonefast
spanning-tree vlan 2,4,6,8,10 priority 24576!
```

```
! Enable 802.1d per VLAN spanning tree enhancements.
spanning-tree mode pvst
spanning-tree loopguard default
no spanning-tree optimize bpdu transmission
spanning-tree extend system-id
spanning-tree uplinkfast
spanning-tree backbonefast
spanning-tree vlan 3,5,7,9,11 priority 24576!
```

```
! Enable 802.1d per VLAN spanning tree enhancements
spanning-tree mode rapid-pvst
no spanning-tree optimize bpdu transmission
spanning-tree extend system-id
spanning-tree vlan 2-11 priority 24576
```

L3 SVI Configuration (sample for 1 VLAN)

```
! Define the Layer 3 SVI for each voice and data VLAN
interface Vlan4
description Data VLAN
ip address 10.120.4.3 255.255.255.0
no ip redirects
no ip unreachable
! Reduce PIM query interval to 250 msec
ip pim query-interval 250 msec
ip pim sparse-mode
load-interval 30
! Define HSRP default gateway with 250/800 msec hello/hold
standby 1 ip 10.120.4.1
standby 1 timers msec 250 msec 800
! Set preempt delay large enough to allow network to stabilize
before HSRP
! switches back on power on or link recovery
standby 1 preempt delay minimum 180
! Enable HSRP authentication
standby 1 authentication cisco 123
```

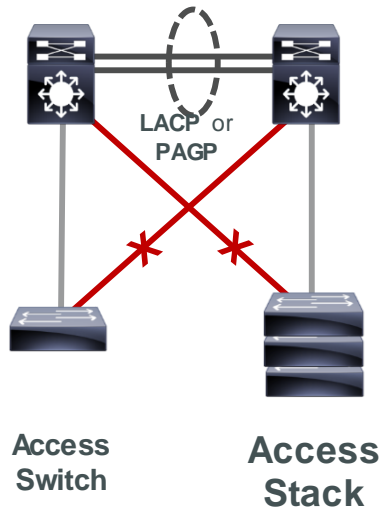
```
! Define the Layer 3 SVI for each voice and data VLAN
interface Vlan4
description Data VLAN
ip address 10.120.4.3 255.255.255.0
no ip redirects
no ip unreachable
! Reduce PIM query interval to 250 msec
ip pim query-interval 250 msec
ip pim sparse-mode
load-interval 30
! Define HSRP default gateway with 250/800 msec hello/hold
standby 1 ip 10.120.4.1
standby 1 timers msec 250 msec 800
! Set preempt delay large enough to allow network to stabilize
before HSRP
! switches back on power on or link recovery
standby 1 preempt delay minimum 180
! Enable HSRP authentication
standby 1 authentication cisco 123
```

```
! Define the Layer 3 SVI for each voice and data VLAN
interface Vlan4
description Data VLAN
ip address 10.120.2.1 255.255.255.0
no ip redirects
no ip unreachable
ip pim sparse-mode
load-interval 30
```

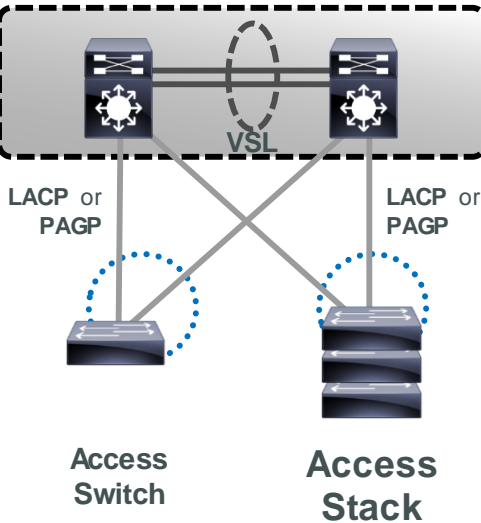
Catalyst Instant Access

- Evolution of the Campus

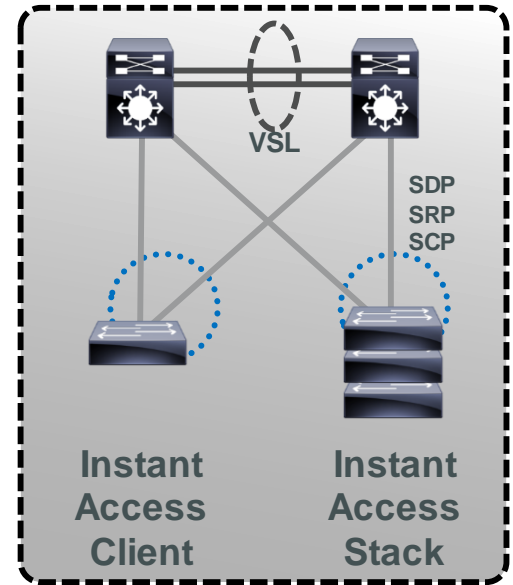
STANDALONE



VSS



INSTANT ACCESS

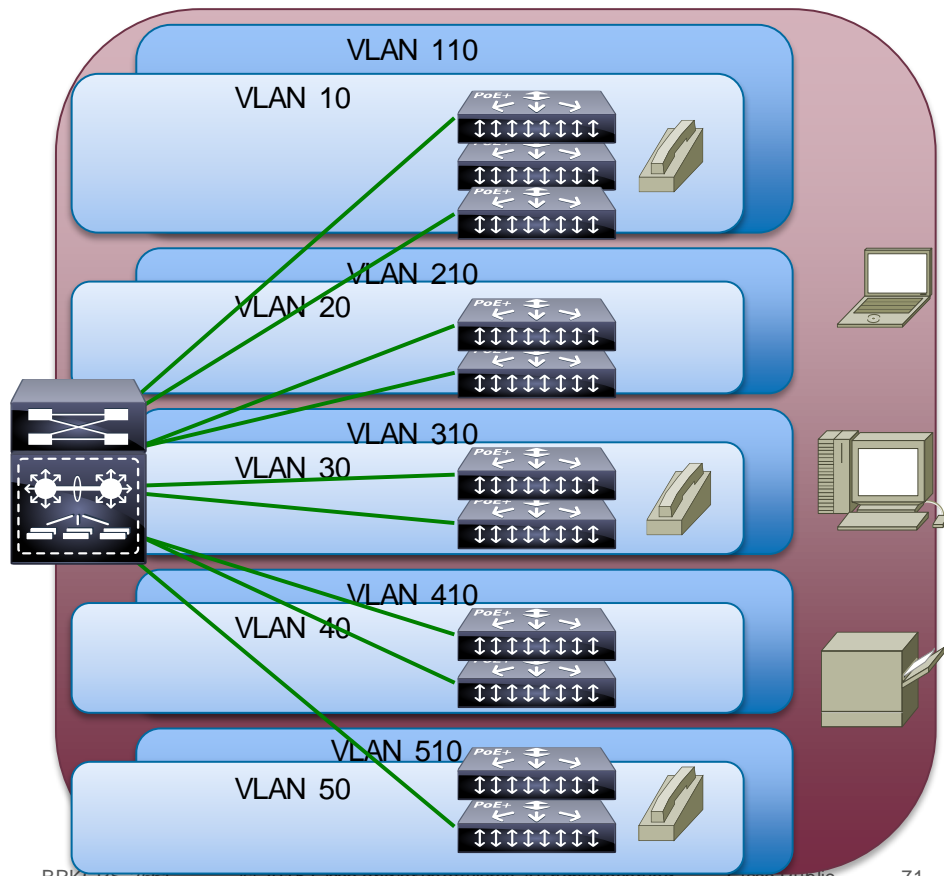


Case Study #1 – Medium Enterprise – Lower Operations Costs

– Large School District in United States

- Business and Technology Drivers
 - Small operations staff and needs to scale services
 - Spend less time managing the network
 - Many legacy applications requiring L2 connectivity still in use
 - No Cisco certified IT staff onsite
- New building deployment, future growth planned
 - Instant Access domain size less than 800 ports
- Already using Catalyst 6500 in core, distribution and access in many existing locations

Instant Access Topology Example



- Five floors with 96 – 144 wired ports per floor
 - 2 X10GbE uplinks per fex
- Instant Access domain size
 - 720 total access ports with PoE
 - RPS2300 for redundant power
- Key applications
 - Third party VoIP
 - Appletalk print services
- Key functionality enabled
 - VLAN bridging for Appletalk
 - Carefully consider L2 domain size whenever extending VLANs across multiple switches



Summary

Designing Layer 2 Networks is Easy!

- Limit the size of the L2 domain as much as possible
- Use L1-L2 best practices to harden the network and eliminate common causes of loops
- Implement Spanning Tree tool kit “Make the network fail closed!”
- Use the Integrated Security tool kit to harden the network from malicious or non-malicious network events
- Harden the control plane of the network devices with Control Plane Protection tools
- Consider alternate designs that minimise L2 loops



Q & A

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