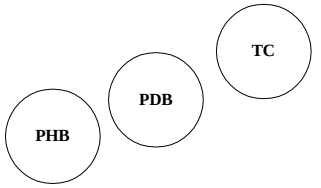
S-38.180: Quality of Service in Internet

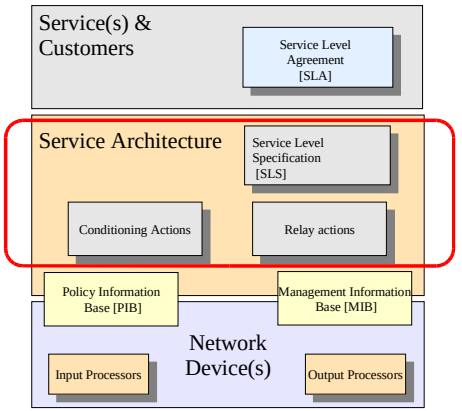
Lecture I: Differentiated Services

7.10.2004

Today's Topic

- This part of the lecture is about Differentiated Services architecture





Internet today

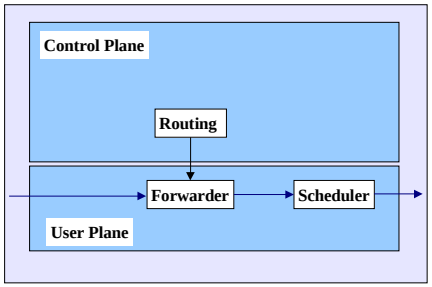
- Current Internet:
  - 'Best Effort'-service
    - Equal opportunities (competitive resource sharing)
    - Equal missouries (uncontrolled delays and packet losses)
- Trend:
  - Internet is becoming commercial network with services leveling the commercial incentives

Best Effort Service

- Ideological background
  - Network is used only with good intent and need
- Turned to battle field
  - As fast and soon as possible
- Customer model
  - Access to the 'Internet'
    - Possibility to use shared information resources
- Basis
  - Connectionless packet forwarding

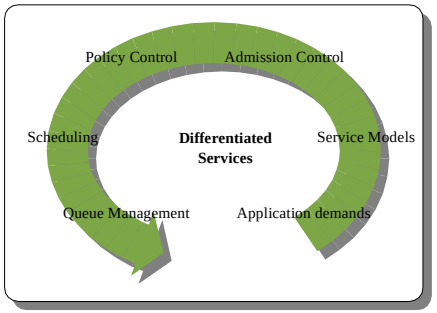
Best Effort Router

- Packets are forwarded based on their **destination address**
- Scheduling and queueing
  - FCFS
- Equal treatment



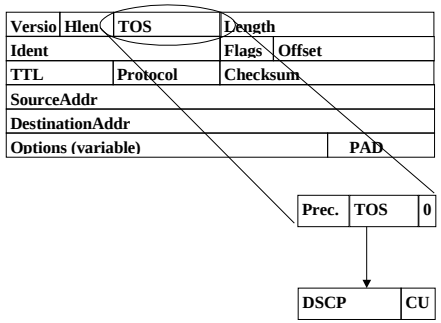
Differentiated Services

- Is combination of mechanisms presented in last wednesday
- Physically, nothing more than Best Effort
- Logically, number of parallel **Best Effort** networks
- Packet is destined to one of the parallel networks
  - Packet per packet processed quality of service
  - Connectionless architecture is still preserved
- Each parallel network uses same routing topology (not neccesarily)



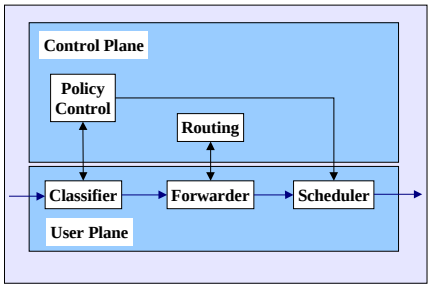
Differentiated Services

- Identification of which parallel best effor network packet is destined, is coded in each packet
  - IPv4 ToS field is reformatted
    - No routing nor precedence
    - Generic class identifier



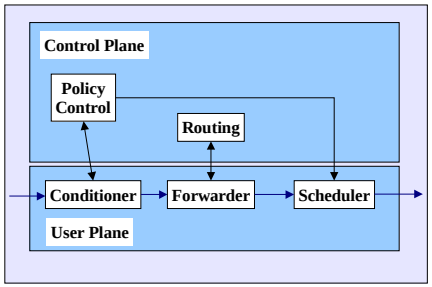
DiffServ Router

- Packets are forwarded based on the destination address and **class information**
- Scheduling and queueing is done based on the class information



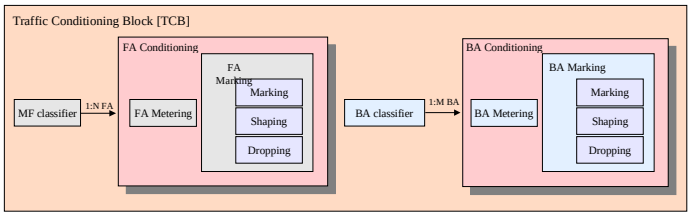
DiffServ Router

- DiffServ router has one additional element in datapath compared to basic Best Effort router:
  - Conditioner
- Control plane of a DiffServ router has one extra element ie policy controller, which is responsible of internal management and configuration of conditioner and scheduler



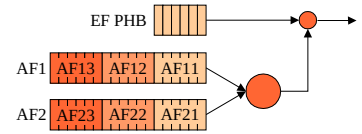
DiffServ Conditioner

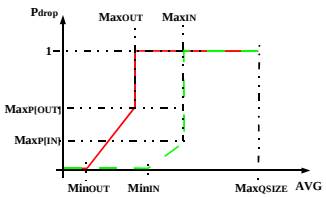
- Traffic Conditioner is constructed a set of
  - Classifiers
    - Responsible of logical separation of packet streams
  - Meters
    - Responsible of rate metering of logical streams
  - Markers
    - Responsible of actions based on metering results and predefined thresholds



DiffServ PHB

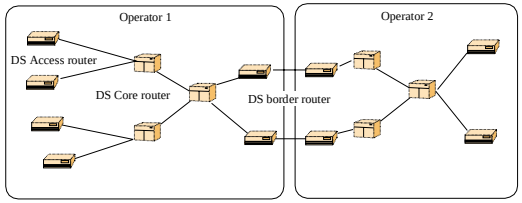
- Per hop behavior is block which contains queue management methods required to implement desired service
  - Queues
  - Queue space management algorithms
  - Schedulers





DiffServ terminology

- Workload in DiffServ is divided between two inherently different types of routers
  - Edge routes
  - Core routers
- Edge routers are on the domain edge interfacing
  - Customer
  - Other ISP
- **Edge routers** are responsible of conditioning actions which eventually **determine the logical network** where packet is to be forwarded



DiffServ terminology

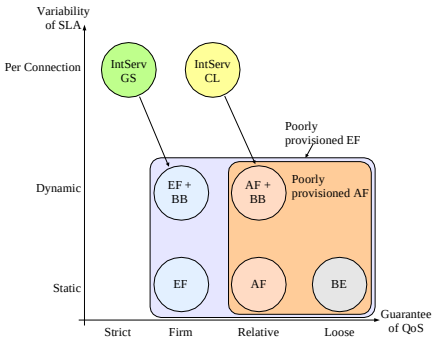
- Logical network is concatenation of PHBs which interact together.
- These logical networks have target service called per domain behavior (PDB).
- Target service is loose definition for the goal of the logical network when it is provisioned and configured in a predefined way.
- Edge router chooses PDB for each packet which comes from the customer
  - Marks packet with DSCP of PHB used to implement PDB

DiffServ

- Service decission in edge router can be based on:
  - **Metering result**
    - Rate based
  - **Predefined set of filters**
    - IP address ie customer
    - TCP/UDP port ie application
  - **User request**
    - Precoded DSCP
    - RSVP signaling
- Core routers do nothing but forwarding of packets based on the extra information in DSCP field of packets
- Requires
  - Classifier to detect DSCP fields
  - PHB to implement forwarding behaviors

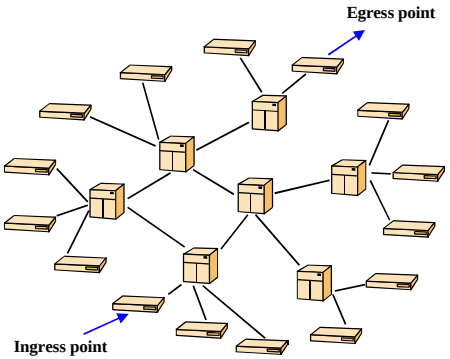
Service classes

- Differentiated Services is alligned between Best Effort and IntServ
- There is counterpart for each IntServ service class in DiffServ
  - Guaranteed Service <-> Expedited Service
  - Controlled Load <-> Assured Forwarding



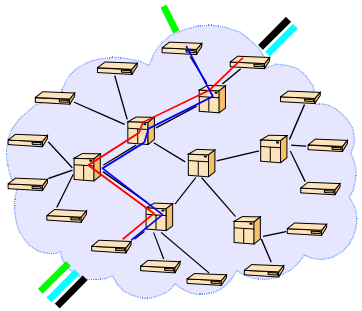
Expedited Forwarding (EF) [RFC2598]

- Leased line emulation
  - From destined ingress point to destined egress point
  - End-to-end service with
    - Low loss
    - Low latency
    - Low jitter
    - Assured bandwidth



EF

- Service commitment is **only** assured
  - Resources inside EF class are shared
    - Amount of other EF traffic influences to the value of delay, jitter and loss
  - Path is freely chosen
    - Delay constraint can not be held as the delay of paths are inherently different
  - No reservation is done
    - **Provisioning is in the key role**

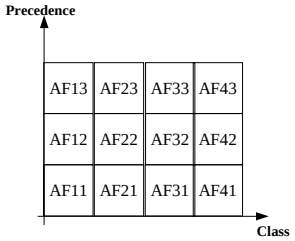


EF

- **Leased Line**
  - Dedicated resources
    - Full isolation
    - No room for overflow
- **Virtual Leased Line**
  - Shared resources
    - Partial isolation
      - From other than leased line traffic
    - Can accommodate overflow
      - Vague service guarantee
- Control of service guarantee
  - Access control
    - Rate control
    - User control
  - Provisioning
    - At least sum of contracted rates is allocated to EF traffic
    - High priority in the network
      - Scheduled ahead of other traffic
      - Starvation of lower priorities ?
        - » Only small fraction of total link capacity (10-30%)

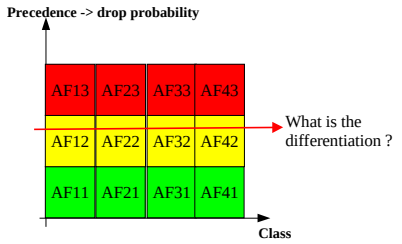
Assured Forwarding (AF) [RFC2597]

- **Four** independent service classes
  - All packets of a flow are destined to one of the classes
  - No association of service level between the classes
- **Three** precedences in each class
  - Flow can have packets with different precedences
  - Order of packets in al flow is not allowed to change
    - Precedence can not be used to scheduling decissions inside the class



AF

- No end-to-end semantics
  - Service can be deployed as any to any service
    - Like today
  - Uncontrollable resource usage inside the network
    - Very vague QoS
  - Class / precedence in contrast to service guarantee ???

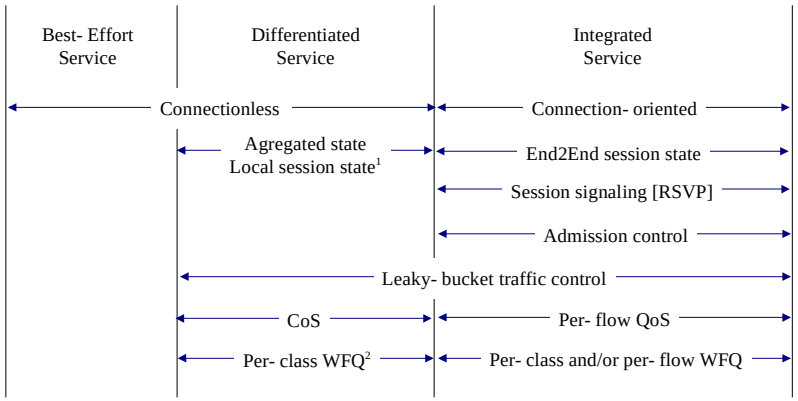


AF

- **Class differentiation**
  - Associate timing
    - Real-time to Bulk
  - Associate money
    - First class to cattle class
  - Associate user
    - CEO to laundry man
  - Associate protocol
    - TCP / UDP
  - Associate application
    - Clustering of similar application types
- **Precende differentiation**
  - Associate rate
    - Under/over subscription
  - The rest same as class based exept timing can not be used

AF

- Construct services based on previous aspects
  - Many dimensions of freedom
  - How to make sure that system can not be manipulated
    - User control vs Network control



[1] Border routers may keep track individual sessions if required by policing or multifield classification.
[2] Scheduling depends on per hop behavior [PHB]. Minimum requirement is FIFO with multilevel RED.

Based on previous

- Based on previous
  - Only way the DiffServ brings something new of valuable is that traffic within the network is well engineered i.e. traffic types sharing common buffer needs to be with similar requirements
  - Only way to achieve this is to **let the network to do classification** and differentiation
    - Users are not, at large, well enough educated to make wise choices for the service classes
    - Or they try to exploit some resource with malicious intent

Best Effort semantics

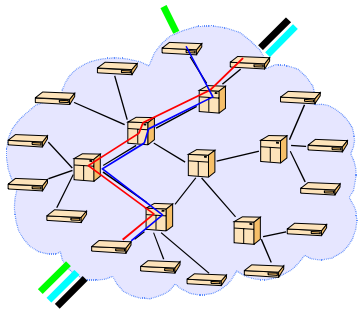
- Best Effort -service
  - All packets are treated equally
    - Forwarding is based on the destination address
    - Packets are queued into single FIFO queue
    - During the time of congestion packets are dropped
      - From the tail of the queue
        - » When there is no space in the queue
        - » When agerage queue length goes above threshold
  - Access to the network is sold to the customers

Differentiated Services semantics

- Differentiated Services
  - Packets are differentiated to ***N*** parallel **Best Effort** networks
    - Each parallel network operates like basic Best Effort network with the exeption that there can be priorities and other semantics associated to the service.
  - 'QoS' based network service is sold to the customer

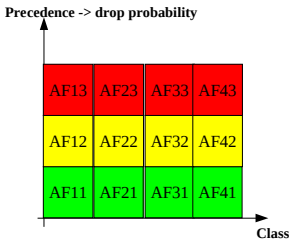
EF semantics

- 'End-to-end' service
  - Single domain end-to-end
  - Quality is defined by two constrains:
    - Provisioning
      - Class should be provisioned with enough resources to handle worst case aggregate
    - Sharing
      - No resource reservation for individual flows.
      - Under and overflows possible
      - Timing and delays can not be held or guaranteed



AF semantics

- No end-to-end semantics
  - Service can be deployed
    - Point-to-point
    - Any-to-any
  - Uncontrollable resource usage inside the network
    - Problem of commons



What a customer wants ...

- Lets face the music
  - Customer **is** only interested in the **perceived quality**
    - How things are rolling compared
      - Minute ago
      - Year ago
  - Customer **is not** interested in the novel **technology** which is behind the service
  - This means end-to-end service quality

End-to-end service

- What prohibits ???
  - Structure of DiffServ is based on local control (policies)
    - Classification based on the policies at the edge of the network
    - Forwarding based on the policies in the core of the network
  - We **can** stretch through single domain (ISP) with EF
  - We **may** stretch through single domain (ISP) with AF
- End-to-end
  - **Is not** within single ISP
  - It **is** between source and destination