An architecture for metarouting

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• Define a metalanguage in which we can write new routing protocols

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- Define a metalanguage in which we can write new routing protocols
- Mechanise the 'boiler-plate' for routing protocols e.g. wire formats, data-structures, policy application, metric comparisons

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- Long-term project, just getting started

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- BGP in a few pages?
- Create a tool for network researchers / operators
- Long-term project, just getting started
- First ever demonstration of working code

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System overview



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- Metrics: <dist=d, bw=b>

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- Automatically infer *monotonicity*

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- Automatically infer *monotonicity*
- Use with generalised Dijkstra (e.g. OSPF, IS-IS) or vectoring mechanism (e.g. RIP, BGP)

```
preorder-semigroup bw_dist =
   lex_product <bw : positive_integer_gte_min,
        dist : positive_integer_lte_plus>
```

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• Order: compare bandwidth, tie-break on distance

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- Order: compare bandwidth, tie-break on distance
- Policy application as before

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- Order: compare bandwidth, tie-break on distance
- Policy application as before
- Increasing (not monotonic).

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- Order: compare bandwidth, tie-break on distance
- Policy application as before
- Increasing (not monotonic).
- Can only use with vectoring (e.g. RIP, BGP). [Sobrinho03]

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- Can count to infinity

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- Order: compare bandwidth, tie-break on distance
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- Increasing (not monotonic).
- Can only use with vectoring (e.g. RIP, BGP). [Sobrinho03]
- Can count to infinity
- Will demonstrate later!

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preorder-semigroup bw_dist_path = lex_product <bw : positive_integer_gte_min, dist : positive_integer_lte_plus, path : router_path>

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preorder-semigroup bw_dist_path = lex_product <bw : positive_integer_gte_min, dist : positive_integer_lte_plus, path : router_path>

• Order: as before, but additionally tie-break on path length

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preorder-semigroup bw_dist_path = lex_product <bw : positive_integer_gte_min, dist : positive_integer_lte_plus, path : router_path>

- Order: as before, but additionally tie-break on path length
- Policy application: as before, but add on new path element

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- Order: as before, but additionally tie-break on path length
- Policy application: as before, but add on new path element
- Additional constraint: no duplicate path elements (cf. BGP)

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- Order: as before, but additionally tie-break on path length
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- Additional constraint: no duplicate path elements (cf. BGP)
- No counting to infinity
- Lots of other possible specifications...

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Example of generated code

```
static int mrc_int_cmp(mrc_int_t x, mrc_int_t y) {
  return y - x;
}
static int mrc_string_cmp(mrc_string_t x, mrc_string_t y) {
  int res;
  if (x == y)
    res = 0;
  else /* Lexicographic ordering */
    res = strcmp(x->value, y->value);
  return res;
}
static int mrc_list_cmp(mrc_slist_t x, mrc_slist_t y) {
  int res;
  if (x == y) /* Physical equality */
    res = 0;
  else {
    for(; x \&\& y; x = x \rightarrow next, y = y \rightarrow next)
      if ((res = mrc_string_cmp(x->value, y->value))) /* Elements non-equal */
        goto end;
    if (x == NULL) {
      if (y == NULL) /* Structural equality */
        res = 0;
      else /* x is prefix of y */
        res = -1;
    }
    else /* y is prefix of x */
      res = 1;
  }
end: return res;
}
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```

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• Take existing routing protocol e.g. RIP, BGP, OSPF, IS-IS

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- Take existing routing protocol e.g. RIP, BGP, OSPF, IS-IS
- Abstract metric-specific operations behind API

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- Take existing routing protocol e.g. RIP, BGP, OSPF, IS-IS
- Abstract metric-specific operations behind API
- e.g. comparisons, policy application, printing, marshaling, ...
- Currently: generalised Quagga RIP implementation
- Result: generalised soft-state, distance vector protocol.

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API for generalised RIP

```
metric_t metric_parse(const char*);
size_t metric_print(char*, size_t, metric_t);
```

metric_t metric_copy(metric_t);
void metric_free(metric_t);

size_t metric_marshal(void*, size_t, metric_t);
metric_t metric_unmarshal(const void*, size_t);

```
metric_t metric_infinity(void);
metric_t policy_apply(policy_t, metric_t);
```

```
int metric_is_better(metric_t, metric_t);
int metric_is_infinity(metric_t);
int metric_is_equal(metric_t, metric_t);
```

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Open research topic!

• 3 areas: time, memory, bandwidth

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- 3 areas: time, memory, bandwidth
- 'Reasonable' data-structures e.g. red-black trees for sets

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- 3 areas: time, memory, bandwidth
- 'Reasonable' data-structures e.g. red-black trees for sets
- Only store metrics on heap if they don't fit within a word

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- Only store metrics on heap if they don't fit within a word
- Maximise sharing

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- Maximise sharing
 - Decreased memory usage

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- Only store metrics on heap if they don't fit within a word
- Maximise sharing
 - Decreased memory usage
 - Fast comparisons using pointer equality checks

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- Clean code that can be optimised by the C compiler

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- Maximise sharing
 - Decreased memory usage
 - Fast comparisons using pointer equality checks
 - Side-effect: immutable metrics
- Clean code that can be optimised by the C compiler
- Goal: tunable tradeoff between time and memory

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Performance: memory



Performance: CPU



• Use QEMU to emulate multiple routers on single machine

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- What do you do?

• Expressiveness e.g. how do we model EIGRP in general?

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- Redistribution

Demonstration: algebra

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    lex_product <bw : positive_integer_gte_min,
        dist : positive_integer_lte_plus>
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- (Adjust timings, disable triggered updates)

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