



IPv6: The New Generation Internet Protocol

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Famous quotes

- “I think there is a world market for maybe five computers”
 - Thomas Watson, IBM, 1943
- “640K should be enough for anybody”
 - Bill Gates, 1981
- “32 bits ought to be enough address space”
 - Vint Cerf, 1977

IP Everywhere

- The Internet Protocol is becoming pervasive
 - but it was designed over 20 years ago
- More and more devices are using IP
 - places a demand on IP address space
 - requires IP routing to be scalable

Internet growth

- Current estimates
 - 300M users online worldwide, US/Europe-centric
 - 70M hosts connected
- IPv4 with 32-bit addressing allows 4B hosts
 - but allocation has been done inefficiently
 - CIDR and NAT have patched the problems a little
 - but the ship is still sinking...

CIDR and NAT

- Classless Inter-Domain Routing
 - registries allocated blocks (16M hosts) to CIDR
 - address space allocated in aggregated fashion
 - reduces size of default-free zone routing table
 - but registries unable to honour large block requests
- NAT
 - masquerade multiple hosts behind pool of IP addresses
 - has scaling issues
 - breaks end to end transparency/security model

Address space demands

- Third generation mobile
 - UMTS, as directed by the 3GPP
 - Predictions of 1B mobile handsets by 2002
 - each device needs to be addressable
- Emerging nations
 - China, Asia, Africa, South America
 - with 1 IP per person, IPv4 cannot cope

New models of computing

- Always-on devices
 - ADSL, cable modems, mobile handsets,...
 - “Wiring up the Cities” (Telia)
- Pervasive devices
 - embedded CPUs
 - with new communications media, e.g. Bluetooth
 - perhaps many per office or household
 - person to host and also host to host

Benefits of IPv6

- Increased address space
 - 128-bit addresses in place of 32-bit
 - removes IPv4 address space barrier (“Yv4”)
- More efficient routing
 - aggregated address allocations
 - fixed length headers
 - no fragmentation en route

Benefits (2)

- Reduced management requirement
 - autoconfiguration of hosts
 - also offers support for ad hoc networking
- Improved methods to change ISP
 - router renumbering
 - new DNS methods (e.g. DNAME records)

Benefits (3)

- Better mobility support
 - no explicit foreign agent
 - no triangular communication via home agent
 - anycast feature allows home agent “farms”
- Multihoming enabled
 - devices can autoconfigure on many prefixes
 - multiple IP addresses per host may be the norm

Benefits (4)

- IPsec mandated
 - authorisation and encryption as standard
 - though still need key exchange/PKI methods
- Scoped addresses
 - link and site local
 - better multicast scoping

Quality of Service

- IPv6 header has two QoS-related fields
- 20-bit Flow label
 - geared to IntServ use
 - implemented in Lancaster RSVP media server
- 8-bit Traffic Class indicator
 - geared to DiffServ use
 - implemented in Thomson IPv6 edge device



How does IPv6 help QoS?

- Usage problems remain the same as IPv4
 - but IPv6 is a more streamlined protocol
 - its key benefit over IPv4 is scalability
 - many features of IPv6 are IPv4 “bolt-ons”
- Consider IPv6 when implementing
 - future QoS products will require IPv6
 - methods used for IPv4 can be brought over to IPv6



How mature is IPv6?

- Core IETF specifications already completed
- Many (inter)national deployments exist
- Vendors are pledging commercial support
- ISPs are rolling out commercial services
- 3GPP has adopted IPv6
- Production IPv6 address space is being assigned

- But still plenty to do...



IPv6 Deployments

- Commercial ISPs
 - IJ, NTT, BT
- International deployments
 - 6Bone, WIDE (Japan), Internet 2 (US/Canada)
- European academic networks
 - JANET, DFN, Surfnet, ACONet, Renater
- European projects
 - 6INIT, QTPv6

IANA/ICANN

- Delegating IPv6 production address space
- Allocations made via regional registries
 - ARIN (Americas), APNIC (Asia), RIPE (Europe)
- Allocating under 2001::/16
 - So far: ARIN (6), APNIC (13), RIPE (19)
 - e.g. UK-JANET-19991019 2001:0630::/35
 - UK-BT-19990903 2001:0618::/35



6INIT

- 12 partner EU project (Jan'00 - Apr'01)
 - Pan-European IPv6 deployment, 5 regional clusters
- Applications:
 - stock exchange, news-on-demand, media streaming
- IPv4/IPv6 integration issues
- Also deploying:
 - QoS (DiffServ), IPsec (FreeSWAN) and VoIPv6 (SIP)
- See: www.6init.org



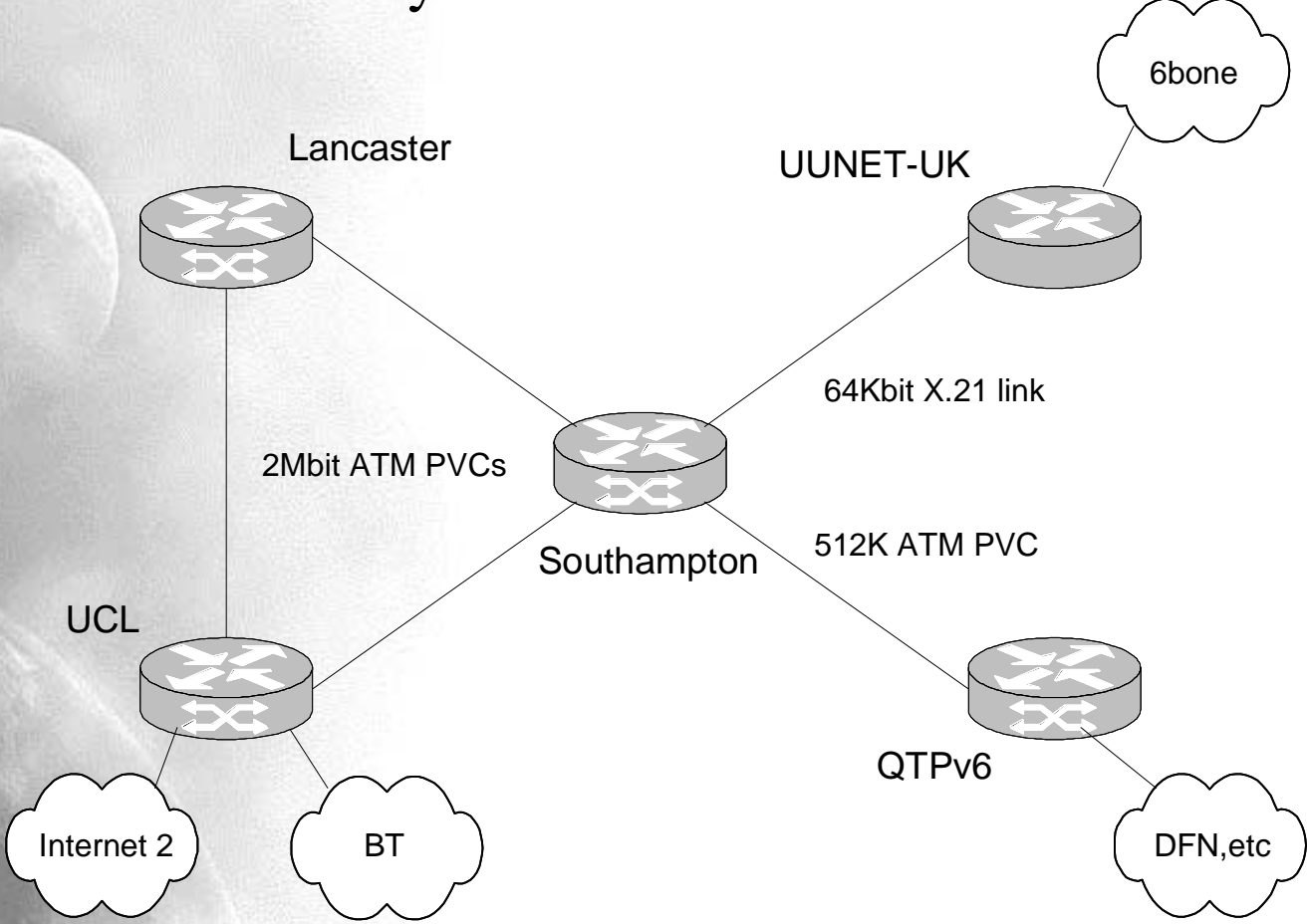
UK Academic Network

- Bermuda project
 - JANET expanding, IPv6 needs investigation
- Examining IPv6 deployment issues
 - interoperability, DNS, management
 - applications: multicast, PIMv6
- Runs as PVCs over current JANET ATM network
 - SuperJANET4 coming online soon
 - IPv6 roadmap required in tender

Address allocation for JANET

- IPv6 addressing scheme
 - 2001:0630::/35 assigned to JANET
 - though it is really a /29 allocation
 - registries want only 8K routes in Default-free Zone
- How to assign to JANET Institutions?
 - One /48 per site?
 - Implies 65K networks at 8K sites
 - but “small customer” can get a /48?

Bermuda Connectivity



Vendor host support

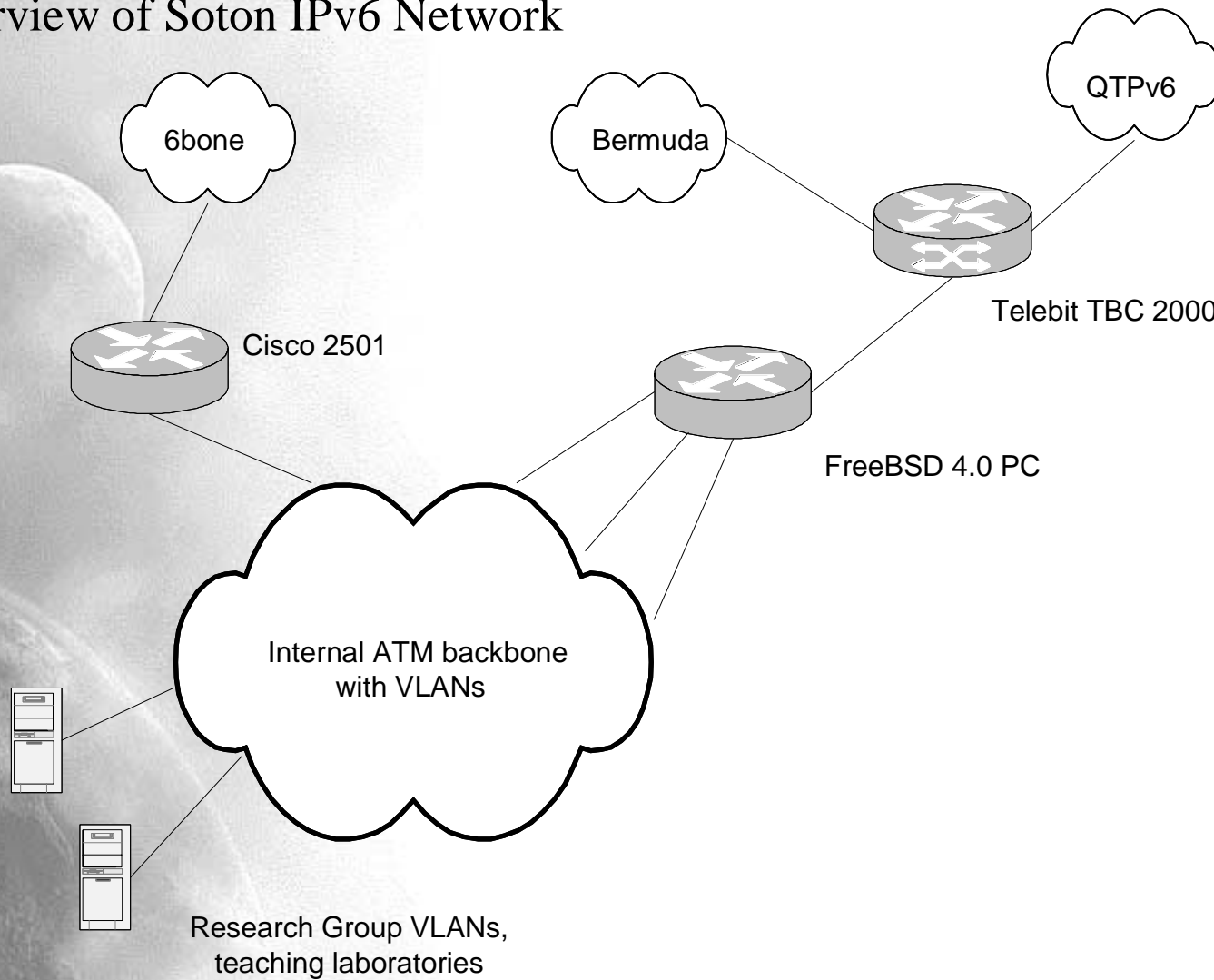
- Solaris 8: available with IPv6 since March 2000
- Windows 2000: preview released March 2000
- FreeBSD: IPv6 as standard in FreeBSD4.0
- Linux: IPv6 packages available
- Compaq: Tru64 Unix has IPv6 early access kit
- IBM: AIX 4.3



Vendor router support

- Cisco IOS: commercial version October 2000
- Telebit: first commercial IPv6 router, TBC2000
- FreeBSD 3.4 or 4.0 (KAME stack)
- Zebra (GNU router project)
- 3Com Netbuilder II, software v11.3
- Hitachi NR60, GR2000

Overview of Soton IPv6 Network



Core applications

- DNS
 - BIND 9 (beta 4) offers native IPv6 DNS lookups
 - Viagenie preparing IPv6 root name server
- World Wide Web
 - Apache server
 - MSIE for NT4, Mozilla and Lynx. No Netscape.
- E-mail
 - Sendmail 8.10 has IPv6 built-in

Other applications

- Routing protocols, e.g. BGP4+
- The “Mbone” audio/video multicast tools
 - vic, rat, SPAR
- Quake, IRC, INN, ...

- IPv6 API implemented in vendor OS solutions
 - porting (C code) is not a huge issue
 - Java support is still missing from Sun



Transition/Integration

- IPv4 will exist a long time
 - must therefore integrate and co-exist
- Deployments likely to happen from the edges
- When deploying an IPv6 network you may
 - need to connect to other IPv6 networks
 - need to connect to IPv6 hosts over IPv4 networks
 - need to connect to IPv4 hosts
- A variety of tools exist...



Integration methods

- IPv4/IPv6 interworking
 - IPv6-in-IPv4 tunnels
 - Automated tunnel brokers, e.g. www.freenet6.net
 - NAT/PT and Ultima (BT)
 - Dual stack
 - easier if you have enough IPv4 addresses
 - Proxy methods
 - DSTM, 6to4, ...
- Different scenarios require different tools

IPv6 Forum

- Founded in July 1999
 - Now has 85 member institutions
 - Most major players have joined
- Activities
 - Holds IPv6 Summits (four to date)
 - Dissemination of IPv6 information (via Web site)
 - www.ipv6forum.com
 - Participation in other events to raise awareness



Headlines in the Press

- As reported at the IPv6 Forum site:
 - “Nokia demonstrates IPv6 live in the UK”
 - “BT offers free IPv6 trial”
 - “IPv6 ready for prime time”
 - “Nokia adopts IPv6 for mobile Internet”
 - “Microsoft and Cisco to support IPv6”
 - “NTT to be first ISP to offer IPv6”
 - “IIJ to launch native IPv6 service”



Conclusions

- IPv6 will deploy
 - UMTS may drive wide deployment by 2002/3
- Core standards done
- Vendor and application support hardening
- QoS issues remain the same as IPv4
 - but IPv6 is a scalable protocol
 - so be prepared to implement IPv6 solutions

For more info

- IPv6 Forum
 - www.ipv6forum.com
- 6INIT Project
 - www.6init.org
- UK IPv6 sites
 - www.ipv6.org.uk
- IPv6 at Southampton
 - www.ipv6.ecs.soton.ac.uk

