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Dynamic Routing and Performance Assessment in IPv6 Networks

Yash Tanksale[1], Aparna R. Lokhande[2,*],
Prathamesh Pavase[3], Meghana Sobhage[4]

Abstract

In the fast-paced world of networking technologies and the growing demands of contemporary communication, it is crucial to thoroughly examine adaptive routing in IPv6 networks. This project undertakes a thorough analysis and evaluation of adaptive routing protocols, particularly OSPFv3 and Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)+, within the context of IPv6. Through meticulous scrutiny of network dynamics, traffic behavior, and routing protocol decisions, this study aims to elucidate the efficacy and adaptability of these protocols in dynamic IPv6 environments. By employing advanced methodologies and simulation tools, this research aims to provide valuable insights into the complex relationship between adaptive routing mechanisms and the performance metrics of IPv6 networks. The findings are expected to make meaningful contributions to the current discussions on IPv6 networking, offering practical insights for network administrators, researchers, and industry professionals. The choice of protocol, which is determined by certain network requirements such as scalability, policy complexity, and adaptability, becomes an important factor. OSPFv3 is appropriate for systems with frequent topology changes due to their quick convergence and effective route recalculations. On the other hand, BGP+ exhibits better flexibility, especially in large-scale implementations with a variety of routing strategies. Network architects and administrators can benefit from the practical advice provided by the highlighted trade-offs and concerns. Given the security issues that have been recognized, security measures must be strengthened to ensure that protocols are deployed effectively.

Keywords: Network adaptability, IPv6 infrastructure, protocol efficacy, dynamic environments

INTRODUCTION

The rapid proliferation of Internet-connected devices and escalating data volumes necessitate a reassessment of routing protocols tailored to the IPv6 landscape. Although IPv6 offers a substantially larger address space than its precursor, effectively navigating data across these expansive and dynamic networks presents unique hurdles. Conventional routing protocols fine-tuned for smaller IPv4 networks may prove inadequate for the intricate and ever-evolving nature of IPv6 environments. This study delves into the potential of adaptive routing protocols within IPv6 networks. These protocols can dynamically adjust to real-time network conditions, such as congestion and link failures, thereby optimizing data transmission and ensuring efficient packet conveyance. We scrutinize the functionalities and merits of diverse adaptive routing protocols expressly engineered for IPv6. Additionally, we will gauge their efficacy through metrics pivotal for routing within IPv6 environments, encompassing throughput, latency, and packet loss. This assessment is executed by simulating distinct IPv6 network scenarios and

***Author for Correspondence**
Aparna R. Lokhande
E-mail: aparna.lokhande_skncoe@sinhgad.edu

[1,3,4]Student, Department of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering, Smt. Kashibai Navale College of Engineering (SKNCOE), Pune, Maharashtra, India
[2]Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering, Smt. Kashibai Navale College of Engineering (SKNCOE), Pune, Maharashtra, India

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conducting a comparative examination of the sorted adaptive routing protocols. This research endeavors to provide invaluable insights for network administrators and researchers by identifying the most effective protocols tailored to specific network conditions. These insights can empower them to devise and deploy robust and scalable routing solutions, thereby paving the way for a more streamlined and resilient future internet.

LITERATURE SURVEY

Subramanian and Patil (2019) evaluated the performance of IPv6 routing protocols for Indian MANETs. "Performance Evaluation of IPv6 Routing Protocols in Indian Mobile Ad Hoc Networks" is their paper title. Their findings can inform protocol selection in mobile and dynamic network environments [1].

Reddy and Kumar (2018) proposed an adaptive routing algorithm for the IPv6 networks in rural India. Their work highlighted the need for routing protocols that adapt to the unique challenges of rural networks, such as limited infrastructure and varying connectivity [2].

Gupta, Mishra, et al. (2017) analyzed the performance of IPv6 routing protocols in Indian smart cities. Their research provides valuable insights into scaling routing protocols for large-scale interconnected urban environments [3].

Patel and Prajapati (2016) evaluated energy-efficient adaptive routing protocols for IPv6-based wireless sensor networks (WSNs) in an Indian environment. Their work emphasized energy efficiency, which is a crucial factor in resource-constrained sensor networks [4].

Sharma et al. (2019) conducted a comparative analysis of IPv6 routing protocols for Indian industrial IoT networks. This research helps to identify the most suitable routing protocols for secure and reliable industrial automation systems [5].

Another one is in the agriculture sector, Choudhary and Jain (2018) proposed an adaptive routing protocol for IPv6 networks used in Indian agricultural sensor networks. Their work addressed the specific needs of agricultural monitoring systems, which often operate in remote and resource-constrained environments [6].

Singh and Singh (2017) evaluated the performance of IPv6 routing protocols on Indian educational campus networks. Their research findings can inform the selection of routing protocols for high-density and dynamic network environments like universities [7].

Mishra and Das (2016) proposed a lightweight adaptive routing protocol for IPv6-based WSNs in rural Indian environments. Their work emphasized resource efficiency and scalability, which are essential aspects of rural networks with limited resources [8].

Sharma et al. (2019) conducted an adaptive routing analysis of Indian urban vehicular networks using the IPv6. Their work contributes to the development of intelligent transportation systems (ITS), where efficient routing is crucial for real-time traffic management and vehicle communication. Efficient routing protocols can optimize traffic flow, reduce congestion, and improve overall transportation efficiency in urban environments [9].

Singh and Singh (2018) proposed an energy-efficient and reliable adaptive routing protocol for IPv6-based WSNs in Indian Weather Monitoring Systems. Their research addressed the critical need for energy-saving routing protocols in resource-constrained sensor networks deployed for weather monitoring applications. Efficient routing protocols can extend the lifespan of sensor nodes and ensure reliable data collection for weather forecasting and climate monitoring [10].

Mishra and Patel (2017) evaluated the performance of IPv6 routing protocols in Indian railway communication networks. Efficient routing is essential for reliable communication among trains, stations, and control centers to ensure smooth and safe railway operations. Reliable routing protocols can facilitate real-time train tracking, signaling systems, and the overall operational efficiency of railway networks [11]. Sharma and Jain (2016) proposed an adaptive routing algorithm based on Artificial Neural Networks for IPv6 networks in Indian e-health systems. Their work emphasized the importance of reliable and efficient routing for timely and secure transmission of medical data in healthcare applications. Efficient routing protocols can ensure the timely delivery of critical medical data, enabling remote patient monitoring, telemedicine consultations, and improved healthcare outcomes [12].

Kumar and Singh (2019) evaluated IPv6 routing protocols in Indian disaster-management networks. Efficient routing plays a vital role in coordinating relief efforts, disseminating real-time information, and ensuring effective communication during disaster-response scenarios. Reliable routing protocols can facilitate communication between emergency personnel, enable rapid response to disasters, and support information sharing for effective rescue and recovery operations [13].

Singh and Sharma (2018) proposed a novel adaptive routing protocol for IPv6-based WSNs in environmental monitoring systems in India. Their research contributes to environmental data collection and analysis, which relies on efficient data transmission through sensor networks. Efficient routing protocols can optimize data collection from environmental sensors, enabling pollution monitoring, resource management, and environmental protection initiatives [14].

Verma and Gupta (2017) evaluated the performance of IPv6 routing protocols in Indian defense communication networks. Secure and reliable routing is paramount for military communication to ensure seamless information exchange and strategic decision-making. Robust routing protocols can facilitate secure communication between military personnel at various locations, enabling effective command and control operations and national defense strategies [15].

IPv4 Versus IPv6 Performance

IPv6 provides significant improvements over IPv4 in terms of address space, routing efficiency, and security. Its streamlined packet processing and advanced addressing mechanisms contribute to enhanced network performance. However, the transition from IPv4 to IPv6 presents challenges that must be addressed through effective strategies. With the ongoing expansion of the internet, the adoption of IPv6 is essential for maintaining scalable and efficient network operations.

Figure 1 shows the relative performance between IPv4 and IPv6 measured by relative mean fetch times (solid lines) and minimum SYN/ACK round-trip time (RTT) (dashed lines). Because small pages (although over 10 K bytes) are fetched, the performance is dominated by the relative RTT. The annotations at x=0.1 represent the points where performance is at least 10% worse in IPv4 or IPv6. The IPv4 and IPv6 performances are more likely to be similar if the same AS-level paths are used for both IP protocols.

Adaptive Routing Protocols for IPv6 Networks

OSPFv3 (Open Shortest Path First version 3): OSPFv3 is a link-state routing protocol exclusively designed for IPv6 networks. It creates a detailed network topology and uses Dijkstra's algorithm to determine the shortest path for data transmission. Owing to its quick convergence, hierarchical addressing, and loop prevention, the OSPFv3 is highly favored in extensive and intricate IPv6 networks.

EIGRPv6 (Enhanced Interior Gateway Routing Protocol version 6): EIGRPv6 is a hybrid routing protocol that merges aspects of link state and distance vector protocols. It uses distance vectors for path selection while maintaining partial network topology data to accelerate convergence. With features, such as fast route updates, loop-free routing, and load balancing, EIGRPv6 is ideal for medium-sized IPv6 networks.

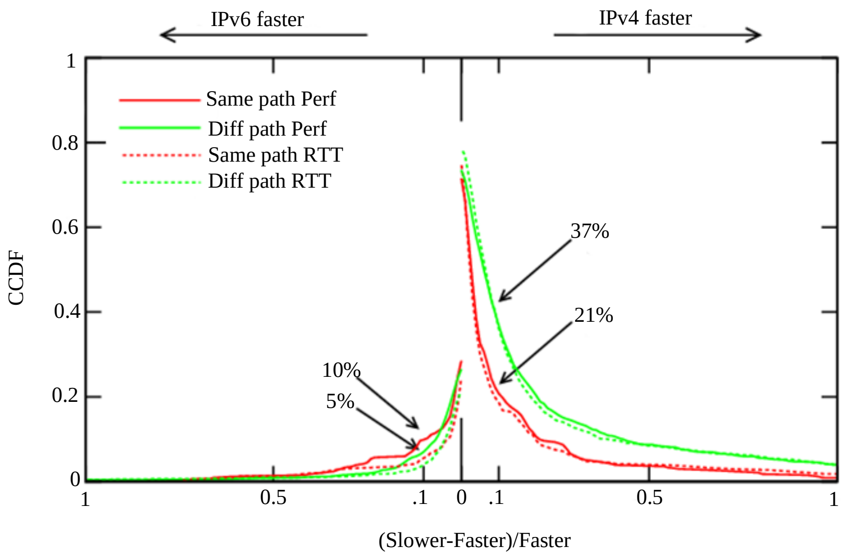


Figure 1. IPv4 versus IPv6 performance.
Source: Dhamdhere A, Luckie M, Huffaker B, Claffy K, Elmokashfi A, Aben E. Measuring the deployment of IPv6: Topology, routing and performance. CAIDA, University of California, San Diego; Simula Research; RIPE NCC; 2012. DOI: 10.1145/2398776.2398832.

Routing Information Protocol next generation (RIP-ng): RIP-ng is a distance vector routing protocol designed specifically for IPv6. It exchanges routing information with neighboring routers and determines paths based on hop count. Despite its straightforwardness, RIP-ng can experience slow convergence and routing loops, making it unsuitable for large networks.

AODVv6 (Ad Hoc On-Demand Distance Vector Routing Protocol Version 6): AODVv6 is a proactive reactive routing protocol crafted for dynamic and mobile IPv6 networks. It establishes on-demand routes and uses periodic route advertisements to maintain connectivity. Known for efficient route discovery, loop-free routing, and scalability, AODVv6 is well-suited for dynamic network environments.

SYSTEM DESIGN

The exponential expansion of the internet has intensified the demand for resilient addressing systems. IPv6, which is renowned for its expansive address pool, was the optimal solution. However, ensuring peak network performance within this novel framework relies heavily on the efficacy of the routing protocols. Traditional static protocols often fail to adapt to the fluid nature of contemporary networks.

Block Diagram

This project delves deeply into adaptive routing protocols, meticulously crafted to dynamically alter data packet routes in response to real-time network conditions, such as congestion or link failures. This dynamic methodology holds the promise of substantial enhancements in network performance, scalability, and reliability, particularly for IPv6 deployments in India, as shown in Figure 2.

Block Diagram Description

In a network environment where end devices operate using IPv6 and are connected through IPv6 routers, which then interface with IPv4 routers, the layout can be described as follows.

End Devices (IPv6)

These include a variety of devices such as computers, smartphones, printers, and servers, all of which utilize IPv6 addresses for communication. These devices generate and exchange data within the network infrastructure.

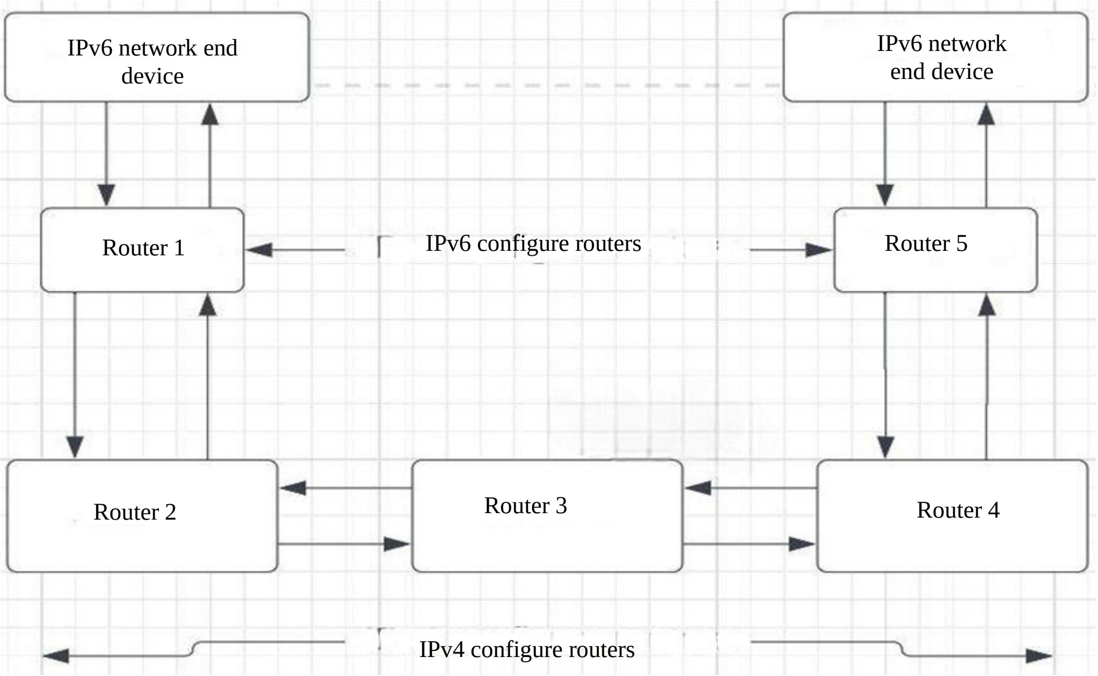


Figure 2. Block diagram of dynamic routing and performance assessment in IPv6 networks.

IPv6 Routers

Acting as the backbone of the network, IPv6 routers facilitate data transmission among the end devices. They used IPv6 to address mechanisms to route packets within the IPv6 network, managing packet forwarding based on routing table information.

IPv4 Routers

These routers act as intermediaries between the IPv6 and IPv4 networks, bridging the gap between them. They handle address translation tasks, enabling seamless communication between devices by using different IP versions. IPv4 routers maintain routing tables for both IPv4 and IPv6 networks, ensuring efficient data routing and the necessary address translation.

Network Architecture Overview

This layout illustrates the network architecture, with end devices linked to IPv6 routers, which then interface with the IPv4 routers. Data flows bidirectionally across the network, traversing through various components and protocols seamlessly. By highlighting the flow of data packets and the critical roles of IPv6 and IPv4 routers, this description underscores the network's capability to support interoperability and efficient communication across different IP versions.

Performance Evaluation (Performance Metrics)

Latency

Latency refers to the end-to-end delay experienced by packets as they travel from the source to their destination across the network. Measurements included the average, minimum, and maximum latencies observed during simulations, providing insight into the time sensitivity of the routing protocols under different network conditions.

Throughput

Throughput is measured as the rate of successful message delivery over a communication channel and is typically expressed in bits per second (bps). This metric evaluates the efficiency of data transmission across the network, reflecting the capacity of routing protocols to handle varying traffic loads and maintain high data rates.

Packet Loss

Packet loss statistics detail the number and percentage of packets lost during the transmission. This metric is crucial for assessing the reliability of the network and the ability of routing protocols to ensure data integrity, especially under conditions of high traffic and network congestion.

Jitter

Jitter represents the variability in packet delay, indicating the consistency of packet arrival times. Measurements of jitter are essential for evaluating the performance of routing protocols in delivering stable and predictable network services, particularly for real-time applications, such as voice over internet protocol (VoIP) and video conferencing.

Routing Overhead

The routing overhead includes the additional bandwidth and processing power consumed by the routing protocols to maintain and update the routing tables. This metric is calculated by analyzing the frequency and size of routing updates, control messages, and other protocol-related traffic, which affects the overall efficiency and scalability of the network.

Convergence Time

The convergence time measures the duration required for the network to stabilize and reach a consistent routing state after a change, such as a link failure or topology update. This metric assesses the responsiveness and robustness of routing protocols in adapting to network changes and minimizing disruptions in the data flow.

IMPLEMENTATION

Software Implementation

This simulation initiative entails constructing and evaluating IPv4 and IPv6 networks augmented with tunneling functionalities. Its primary goal is to assess the efficacy and performance implications of tunneling within both the IPv4 and IPv6 contexts. Through systematic experimentation, this project aims to discern the effects of tunneling on key network metrics such as latency, throughput, and reliability. Ultimately, the outcomes provide essential guidance for optimizing tunneling configurations to facilitate seamless communication across diverse network environments, as shown in Figure 3.

Hardware Setup

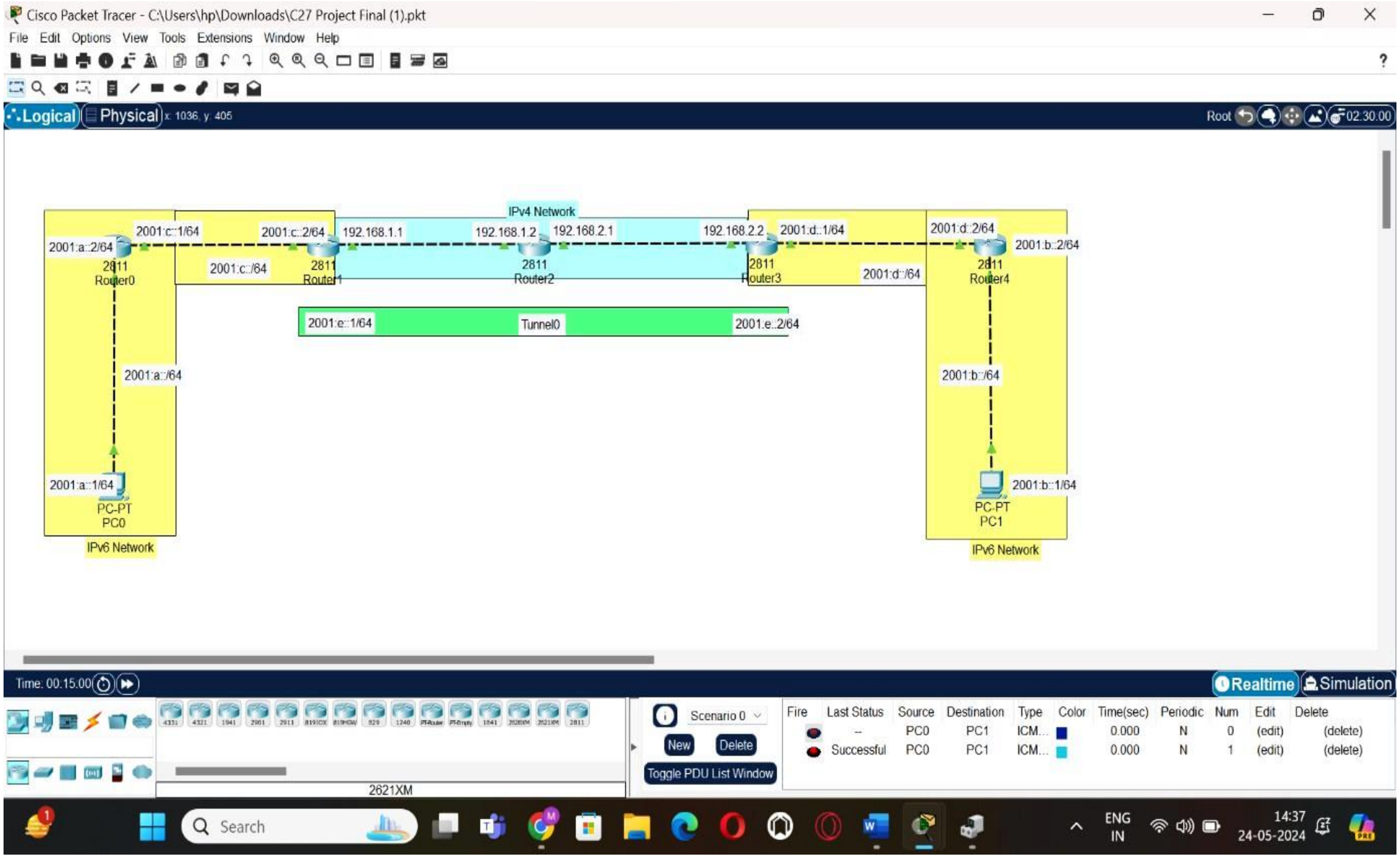
As the world transitions to IPv6, understanding its performance dynamics and routing efficiency becomes critical. This guide provides a comprehensive overview of the hardware setup necessary for dynamic routing and performance assessment in IPv6 networks (Figure 4).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The analysis of the adaptive routing protocols OSPFv3 and Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)+ within IPv6 networks revealed noteworthy outcomes. OSPFv3 exhibited swift convergence and effective route recalibration, whereas BGP+ demonstrated superior adaptability to various policies, especially in large-scale deployments. The performance assessment revealed low-latency attributes under stable conditions with noticeable throughput fluctuations during network alterations. The study highlighted the inherent trade-offs between adaptability and scalability, underscoring the importance of selecting protocols aligned with specific network demands. Security vulnerabilities identified in both protocols underscored the need to bolster security measures. These findings offer valuable insights into network architecture and suggest considerations based on adaptability, scalability, and policy intricacies. Future endeavors may entail exploring advanced security protocols and integrating artificial intelligence for dynamic routing decisions, further fortifying network resilience in IPv6 environments.

Comparing Path Exploration and Convergence Times

The average number of updates per routing change event gradually converges between IPv4 and IPv6. The average convergence time in IPv6 was bustier, with a lower bound at a level similar to that in IPv4 (Figure 5).



Fire	Last Status	Source	Destination	Type	Color	Time(sec)	Periodic	Num	Edit	Delete
●	--	PC0	PC1	ICM...	🟦	0.000	N	0	(edit)	(delete)
●	Successful	PC0	PC1	ICM...	🟦	0.000	N	1	(edit)	(delete)

Figure 3. Simulation of IPv4 and IPv6 Network.

Figure 4. Hardware Setup.

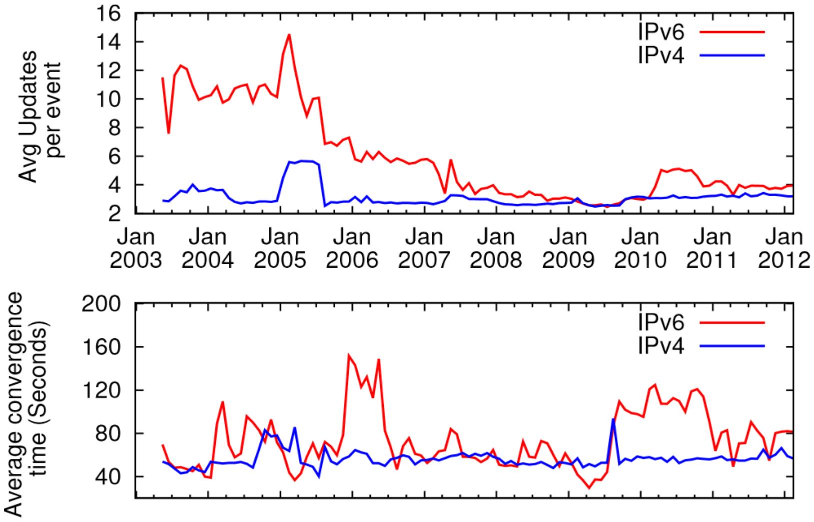


Figure 5. Comparing path exploration and convergence times.

In comparing the IPv4 and IPv6 networks, the average number of updates per routing change event aligns gradually, indicating a convergence in the behavior of routing protocols across both IP versions. This convergence suggests that the frequency of routing updates triggered by network changes tends to stabilize and become consistent between IPv4 and IPv6 over time. Despite the bustier nature of convergence in IPv6, the lower bound of the average convergence time remains at a level similar to that observed in IPv4. This suggests that at their most efficient, both IPv4 and IPv6 networks achieve comparable levels of stability and rapid convergence after routing changes. However, the variability in convergence times within IPv6 networks may necessitate careful consideration and potentially more robust network management strategies to ensure consistent and reliable performance.

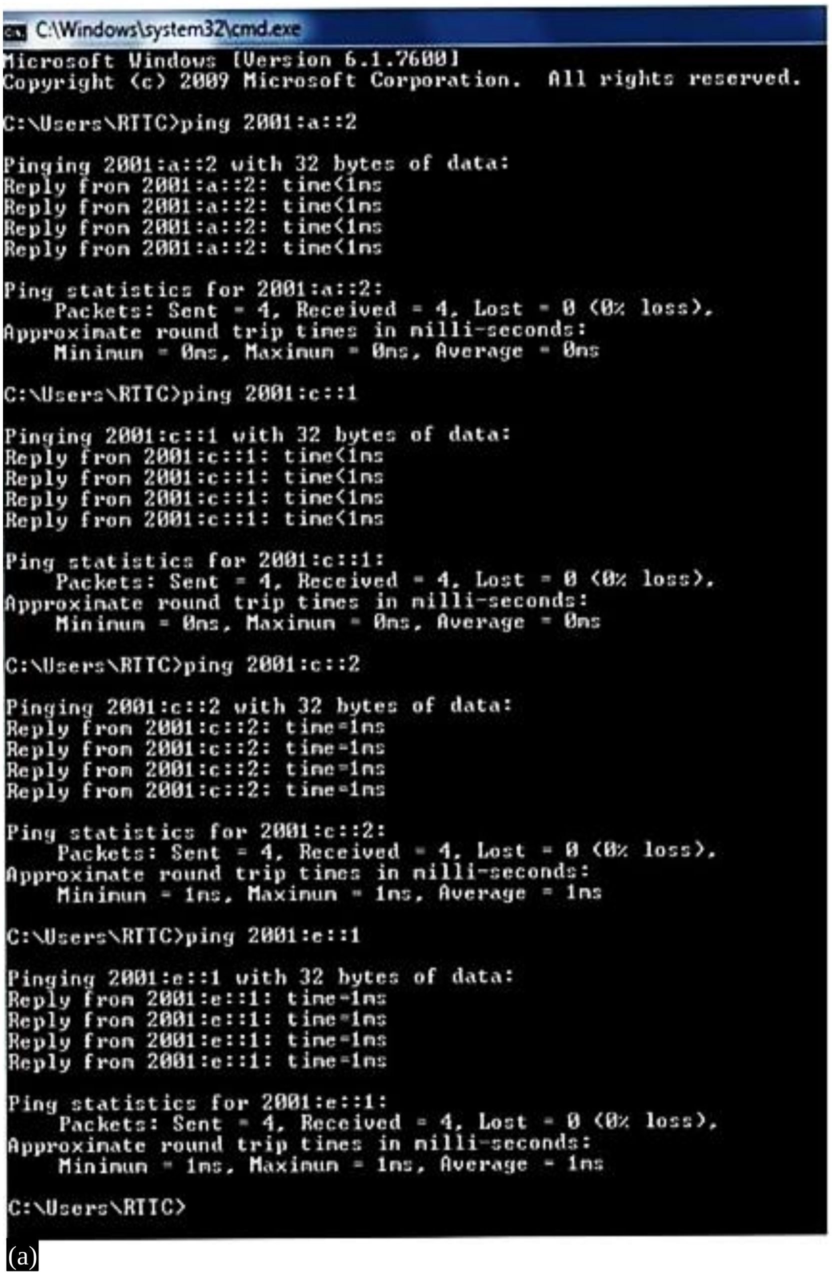
RESULT

A successful IPv6 ping result shows packets sent to and received from a destination address without loss (Figure 6). It includes the destination IPv6 address, packet size, sequence number, TTL value, and RTT in milliseconds.

CONCLUSION

In summary, the analysis and evaluation of adaptive routing in OSPFv3 and BGP+ within IPv6 networks yield valuable insights into routing protocol intricacies in dynamic environments. Protocol selection, which is driven by specific network requirements encompassing adaptability, scalability, and policy complexity, has emerged as a crucial consideration.

The OSPFv3 demonstrates rapid convergence and efficient route recalculations, making it suitable for environments with frequent topology changes. Conversely, BGP+ exhibits superior adaptability, particularly in large-scale deployments with diverse routing policies. The trade-offs and considerations outlined provide practical advice for network architects and administrators. Recognizing the identified security implications, it is clear that enhanced security measures are necessary to ensure effective protocol deployment. Future research directions may involve exploring advanced security mechanisms and integrating artificial intelligence to optimize dynamic routing decision-making and bolster overall network resilience in the IPv6 environment.



```
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7600]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation.  All rights reserved.

C:\Users\RTTC>ping 2001:a::2

Pinging 2001:a::2 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 2001:a::2: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:a::2: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:a::2: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:a::2: time<1ms

Ping statistics for 2001:a::2:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 0ms, Maximum = 0ms, Average = 0ms

C:\Users\RTTC>ping 2001:c::1

Pinging 2001:c::1 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 2001:c::1: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:c::1: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:c::1: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:c::1: time<1ms

Ping statistics for 2001:c::1:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 0ms, Maximum = 0ms, Average = 0ms

C:\Users\RTTC>ping 2001:c::2

Pinging 2001:c::2 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 2001:c::2: time=1ms
Reply from 2001:c::2: time=1ms
Reply from 2001:c::2: time=1ms
Reply from 2001:c::2: time=1ms

Ping statistics for 2001:c::2:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 1ms, Maximum = 1ms, Average = 1ms

C:\Users\RTTC>ping 2001:e::1

Pinging 2001:e::1 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 2001:e::1: time=1ms
Reply from 2001:e::1: time=1ms
Reply from 2001:e::1: time=1ms
Reply from 2001:e::1: time=1ms

Ping statistics for 2001:e::1:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 1ms, Maximum = 1ms, Average = 1ms

C:\Users\RTTC>
```

(a)

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Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19045.3803]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\ZTTC>ping 2001:b::2

Pinging 2001:b::2 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 2001:b::2: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:b::2: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:b::2: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:b::2: time<1ms

Ping statistics for 2001:b::2:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 0ms, Maximum = 0ms, Average = 0ms

C:\Users\ZTTC>ping 2001:d::2

Pinging 2001:d::2 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 2001:d::2: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:d::2: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:d::2: time<1ms
Reply from 2001:d::2: time<1ms

Ping statistics for 2001:d::2:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 0ms, Maximum = 0ms, Average = 0ms

C:\Users\ZTTC>ping 2001:d::1

Pinging 2001:d::1 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 2001:d::1: time=1ms
Reply from 2001:d::1: time=1ms
Reply from 2001:d::1: time=1ms
Reply from 2001:d::1: time=1ms

Ping statistics for 2001:d::1:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
    Minimum = 1ms, Maximum = 1ms, Average = 1ms

C:\Users\ZTTC>
```

(b)

Figure 6. (a and b) Ping results of packet delivered.

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