A Vocabulary of Path Properties

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Terminology (1)

Node: Processes packets (physical or virtual)
Host: ... explicitly addressed to itself
Router: ... not explicitly addressed to itself

Link: Connects two or more nodes, enables to exchange packets (physical or virtual)
Terminology (2)

Subpath: Sequence of adjacent path elements
Alternates between nodes and links
Starts and ends with node

Path: ... starts and ends with host
**Terminology (3)**

**Flow:** One or more packets
Traverse the same subpath or path

**Property:** Trait of path element or sequence of path elements
or trait of a flow with respect to one or a sequence of path elements
(aggregated, measured, estimated)
→ Tuple of sequence of path elements, flow or empty set, name, value
Path Properties (examples)

• Domain Properties
  • Access Technology (path element + flow)

• Backbone Properties
  • Network function (node)
  • Transport Protocols available (path or subpath)

• Dynamic Properties
  • Maximum Data Rate (link, subpath, or path)
  • Latency (packet + subpath)
Questions

• Terms clear and consistent?
• Adoption?