

# Intra-domain Source Address Validation (SAVNET) Architecture

Dan Li, Jianping Wu, **Lancheng Qin**, Nan Geng, Li Chen,  
Mingqing Huang, Fang Gao

November 8, 2023

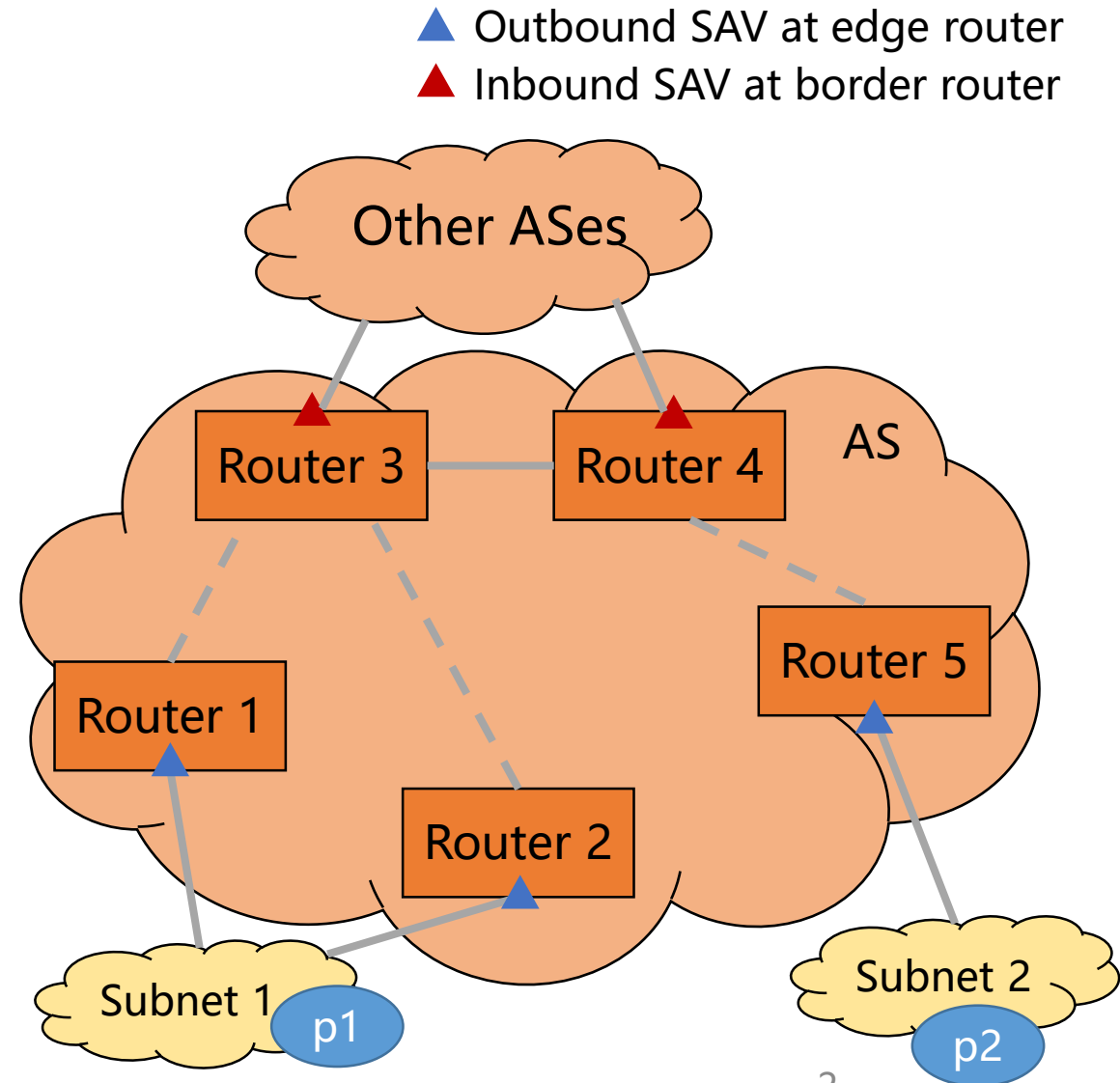
# Two Goals of Intra-domain SAV

## □ Goal #1: Outbound traffic validation

◆ **Edge routers** should block illegitimate packets **coming from the AS's intra-domain subnets** which **forge source addresses of other subnets** (either within the AS or other ASes)

## □ Goal #2: Inbound traffic validation

◆ **Border routers** should block illegitimate packets **coming from other ASes** which **forge internal source addresses**



# Review of Intra-domain SAV Problem Statement

---

- Problems of existing intra-domain SAV mechanisms<sup>[1]</sup>
  - ◆ ACL-based SAV requires **high operational overhead**
  - ◆ uRPF-based SAV has **improper block or improper permit** problems
- Requirements of the new intra-domain SAV mechanism<sup>[1]</sup>
  - ◆ Automatic update
  - ◆ Accurate validation
  - ◆ Incremental/partial deployment
  - ◆ Convergence
  - ◆ Security

# Background of Intra-domain SAVNET Architecture

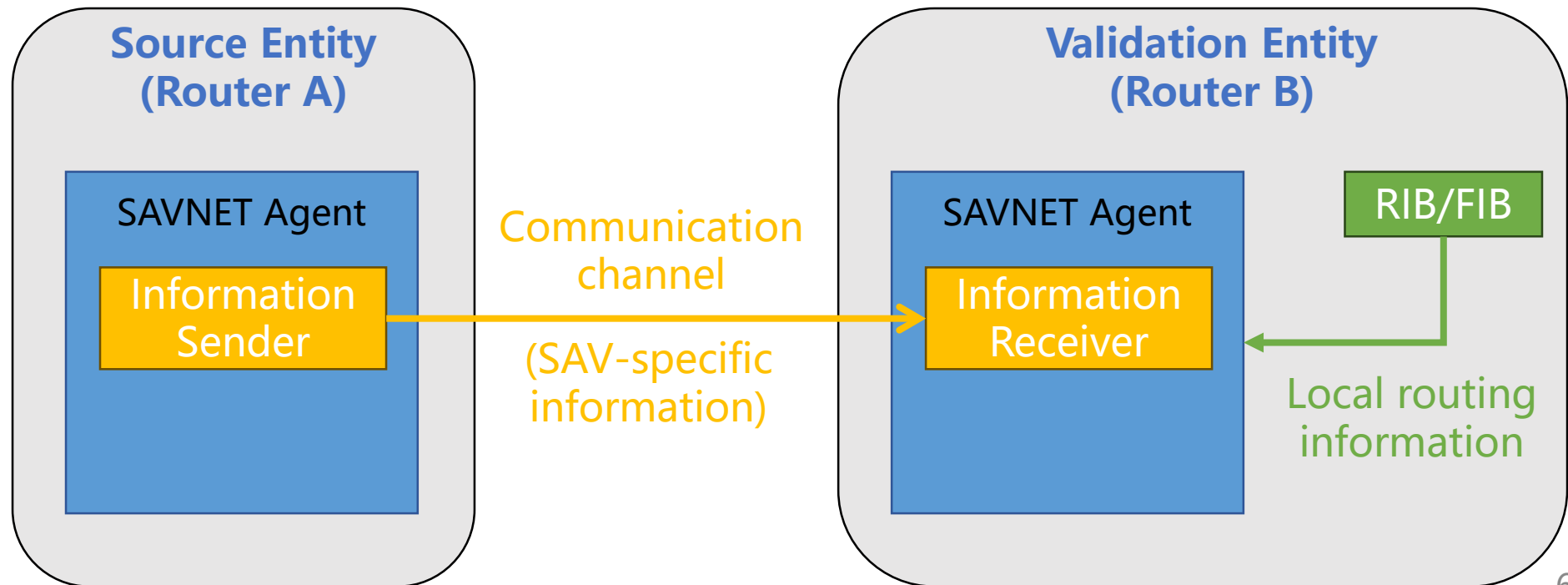
- Intra-domain SAVNET architecture aims to achieve accurate SAV in an intra-domain network by an automatic way
  - ◆ Address the problems of existing intra-domain SAV mechanisms
  - ◆ Meet the requirements proposed in [draft-ietf-savnet-intra-domain-problem-statement]
- Historical versions
  - ◆ draft-li-savnet-intra-domain-architecture-00, IETF 115 SAVNET WG
  - ◆ draft-li-savnet-intra-domain-architecture-01, IETF 116 SAVNET WG
  - ◆ draft-li-savnet-intra-domain-architecture-02, June 1, 2023
  - ◆ **draft-li-savnet-intra-domain-architecture-03, IETF 117 SAVNET WG**
  - ◆ draft-li-savnet-intra-domain-architecture-04, Oct. 20, 2023
  - ◆ **draft-li-savnet-intra-domain-architecture-05, IETF 118 SAVNET WG**

# Main Updates Compared to Version-03

- Updates in Intra-domain SAVNET Architecture section
  - ◆ Clarify the **content of SAV-specific information**
  - ◆ Introduce the **SAV rule generation process for edge router and border router**, respectively
- Updates in Use Cases section
  - ◆ Use the **two use cases proposed in [draft-ietf-savnet-intra-domain-problem-statement]** to illustrate intra-domain SAVNET achieves more accurate and efficient SAV than existing intra-domain SAV mechanisms
- Add a new section
  - ◆ Describe how intra-domain SAVNET **meet the five design requirements** proposed in [draft-ietf-savnet-intra-domain-problem-statement]

# Key Idea of Intra-domain SAVNET Architecture

- ❑ Exchange **SAV-specific information** among routers automatically
- ❑ Generate SAV rules in routers based on both **SAV-specific information** and **local routing information**

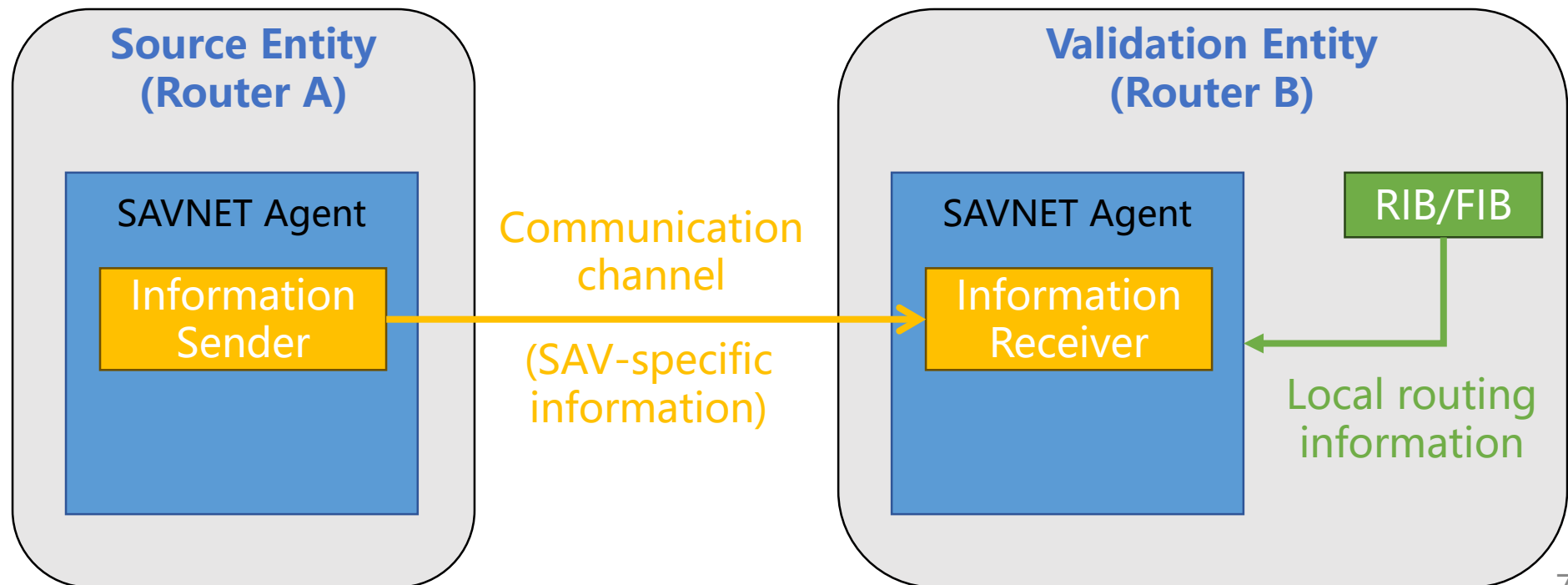


# Source Entity and Validation Entity

An intra-domain router can act as one or two roles:  
source entity or/and validation entity

**Source entity** sends its SAV-specific information to other routers

**Validation entity** receives SAV-specific information from other routers and generates SAV rules based on SAV-related information



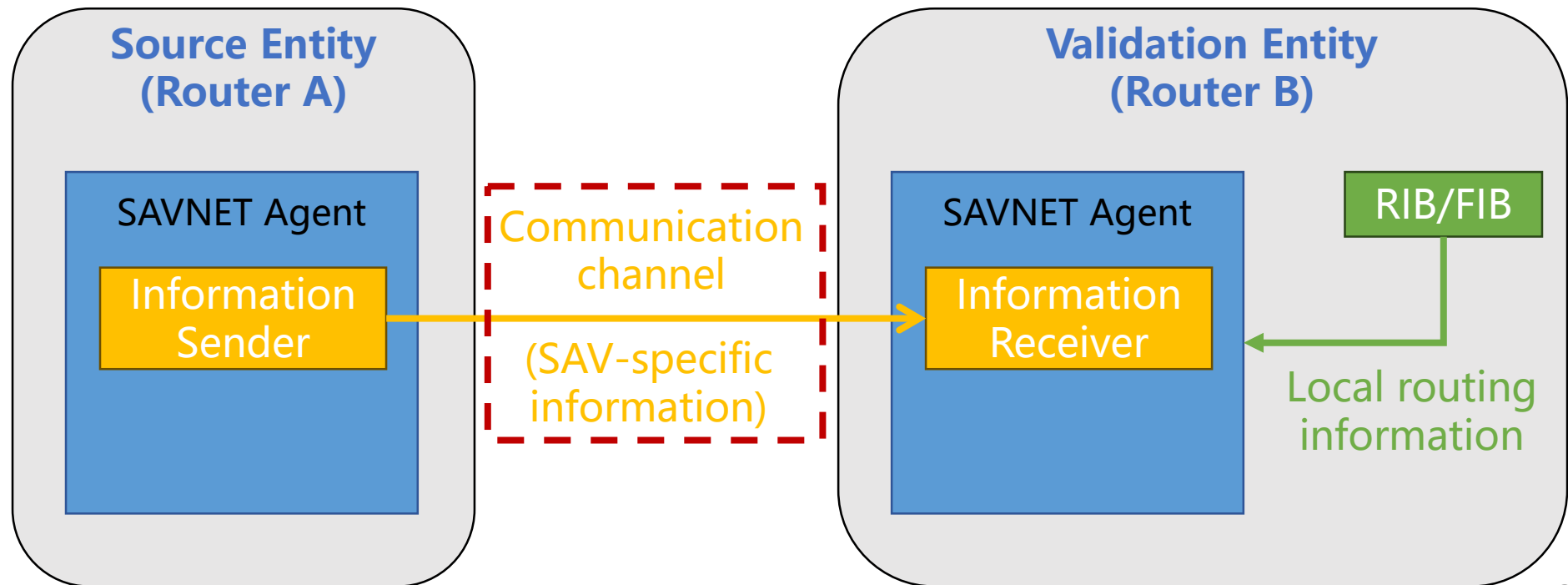
# SAV-specific Information

- SAV-specific information is specialized for SAV rule generation
  - ◆ It carries necessary information which cannot be learned from local routing information in asymmetric routing scenarios, helping generate accurate SAV rules
- Examples of SAV-specific information in intra-domain SAVNET
  - ◆ The router's locally known source prefixes of its connected subnets
  - ◆ The ownership of source prefixes, e.g., belonging to a single-homed subnet or belonging to a multi-homed subnet
  - ◆ The type of source prefixes, e.g., anycast prefix, hidden prefix, etc.
- A new mechanism (namely, SAV-specific information communication mechanism) is needed to communicate SAV-specific information



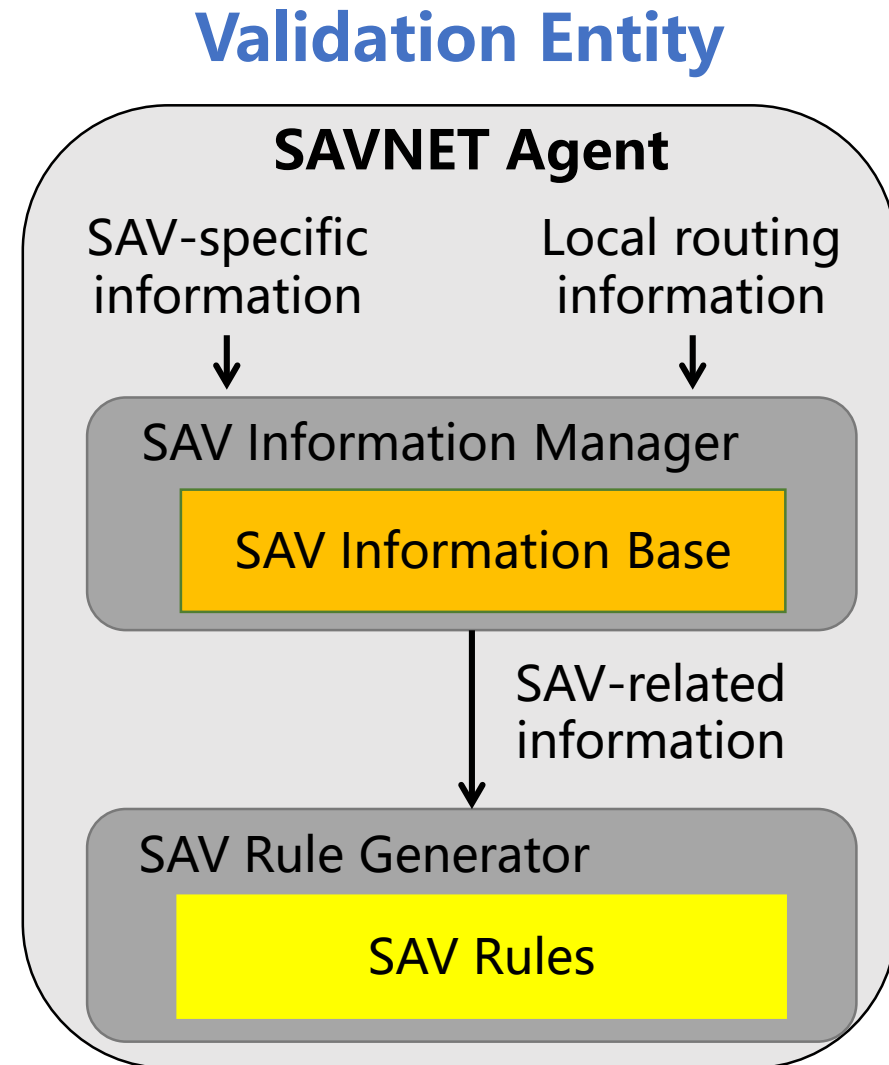
# SAV-specific Information Communication Mechanism

- Building the communication channel and propagating SAV-specific information from source entity to validation entity
  - ◆ Automatic update in a timely manner
  - ◆ Session authentication before session establishment



# SAV Rule Generation

- Edge routers generate SAV rules and perform outbound SAV
  - ◆ Obtain the complete source prefixes of each connected subnet based on SAV-specific information and local routing information
- Border routers generate SAV rules and perform inbound SAV
  - ◆ Obtain internal source prefixes of the AS based on SAV-specific information and local routing information



# Use Case #1: Outbound SAV at Edge Routers

## □ Outbound traffic validation in asymmetric routing scenario<sup>[1]</sup>

◆ Edge routers 1 and 2 only learn part of source prefixes of Subnet 1 from local routing information in the asymmetric routing scenario

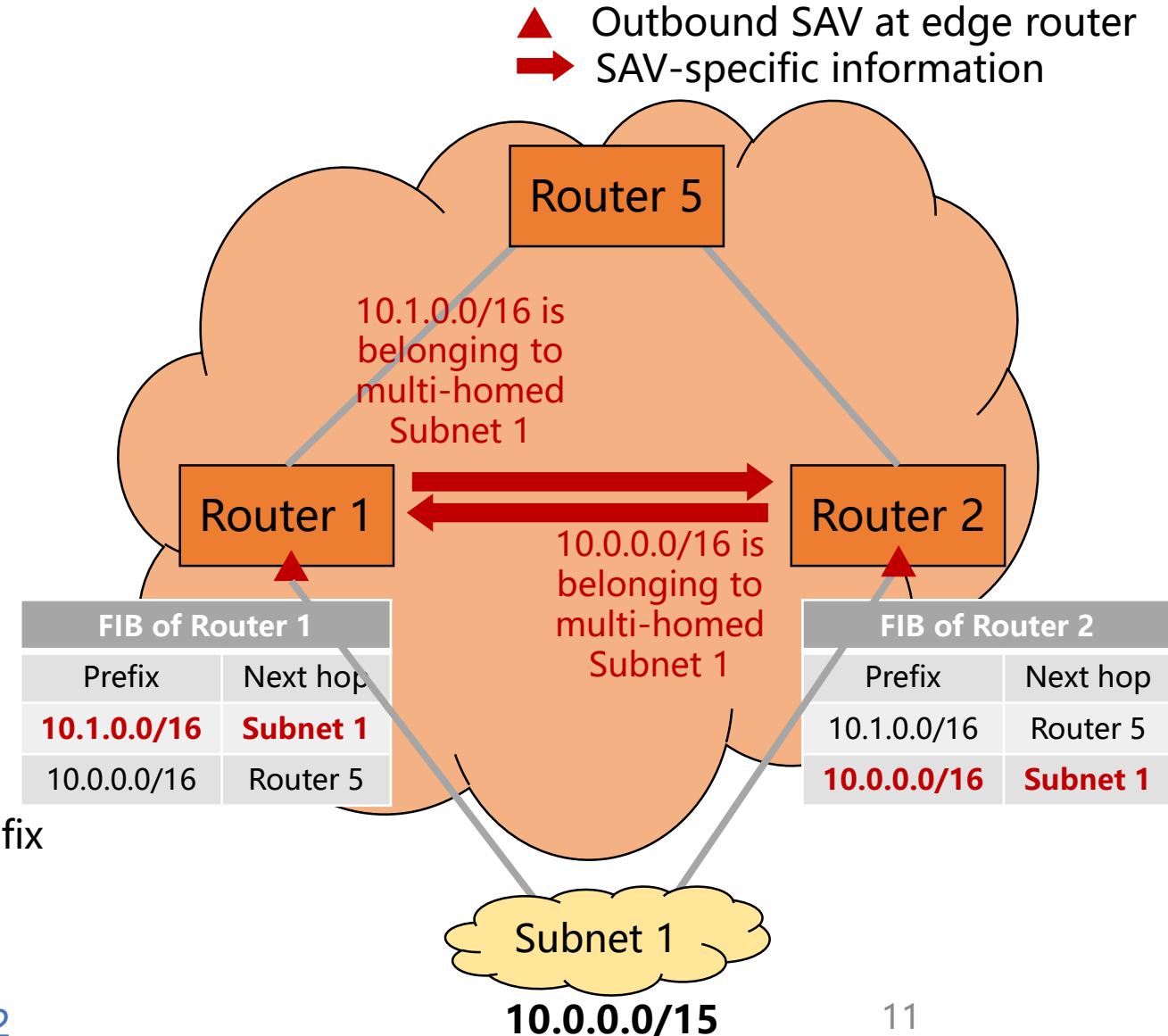
## □ If using strict uRPF

◆ Improper block

## □ If using intra-domain SAVNET

◆ Accurate & Automatic outbound SAV

➤ Routers 1 and 2 obtain the complete source prefix of Subnet 1 by exchanging their locally known source prefixes of Subnet 1



# Use Case #2: Inbound SAV at Border Routers

## □ Inbound traffic validation<sup>[1]</sup>

- ◆ Border routers 3 and 4 should block inbound packets with source address of internal source prefixes at border routers

## □ If using ACL-based SAV

- ◆ **Manual update** when internal prefixes or network topology change dynamically

## □ If using loose uRPF

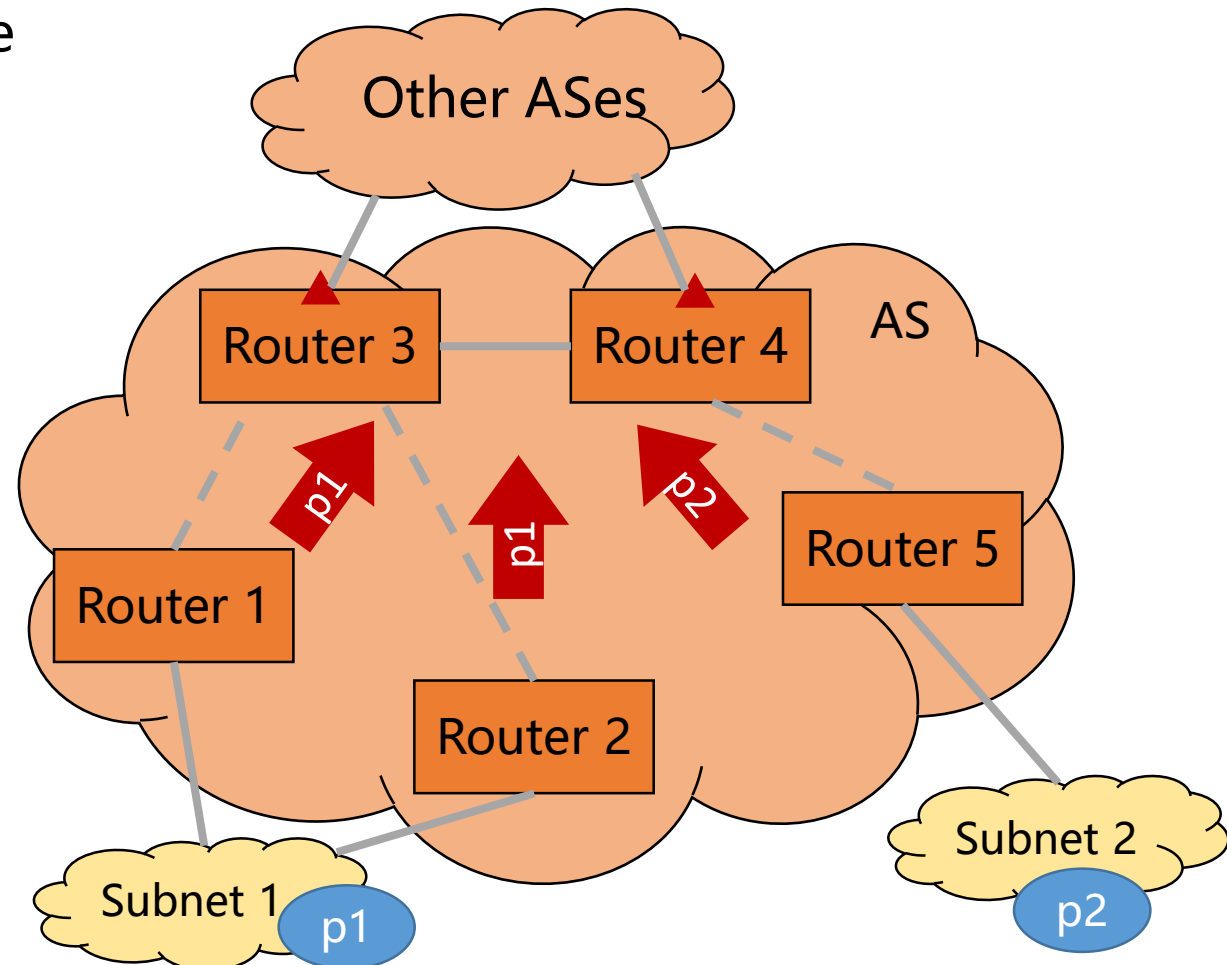
- ◆ **Large amount of improper permit**

## □ If using intra-domain SAVNET

- ◆ **Accurate & Automatic inbound SAV**

- Routers 3 and 4 obtain the complete internal source prefix based on SAV-specific information sent by Routers 1, 2, and 5

▲ Inbound SAV at border router  
➔ SAV-specific information



# Accurate Validation & Automatic Update

Use Cases #1 and #2 shows that intra-domain SAVNET can **achieve more accurate validation and support automatic update**

- ❑ **Compared with uRPF-based SAV** which solely uses local routing information,
  - ◆ Intra-domain SAVNET generates SAV rules by using both local routing information and SAV-specific information exchanged among routers, resulting in **more accurate SAV validation in asymmetric routing scenarios**
- ❑ **Compared with ACL-based SAV** which requires manual updates,
  - ◆ Intra-domain SAVNET **generates SAV rules automatically** in a distributed way and allows routers to **exchange the changes of SAV-specific information among each other automatically**

# Incremental/Partial Deployment

- ❑ Edge routers and border routers deploying intra-domain SAVNET is enough
- ❑ Blocking spoofing traffic in incremental/partial deployment scenarios
  - ◆ Outbound SAV: as long as edge routers connected to the same subnet exchange SAV-specific information, that subnet can be accurately prevented from spoofing other subnets
  - ◆ Inbound SAV: if a border router only obtains partial internal source prefixes, it can still block inbound packets which forge those prefixes
  - ◆ When SAV-specific information is missing, local routing information can be used to generate SAV rules
- ❑ More routers deploy intra-domain SAVNET, more benefits

# Convergence

- When SAV-related information changes,
  - ◆ Source entity MUST **send the updated SAV-specific information** to validation entity **timely**
  - ◆ Validation entity MUST detect the changes of received SAV-specific information and local routing information in time and **update SAV rules with the latest information**
  
- Propagation speed of SAV-specific information is the main factor that affects the convergence of SAV rule generation
  - ◆ SAV-specific information can have a **similar propagation speed as routing information**
    - if SAV-specific information and routing information of an edge router can be advertised to other routers in a similar way
  - ◆ Depending on the design and implementation of the new intra-domain SAV solution

# Security

---

- In some unlikely cases, some routers may do harm to other routers within the same domain
  - ◆ Potential threats: entity impersonating, message blocking, message alteration, message replay, etc.
- The above security threats **SHOULD** be considered when designing the new intra-domain SAV mechanism
  - ◆ Possible solutions: session authentication, message acknowledge, message integrity verification, duplication detection, etc.



# Summary

Following this architecture, the new SAV solution can **meet the requirements** proposed in [draft-ietf-savnet-intra-domain-problem-statement]

- Requirement #1: Accurate Validation
  - ◆ Generate SAV rules using both SAV-specific information and local routing information
- Requirement #2: Automatic update
  - ◆ SAV-specific information exchange is triggered automatically when topology or prefix changes
- Requirement #3: Incremental/partial Deployment
  - ◆ When some SAV-specific information is unavailable, local routing information can be used to fill this gap
- Requirement #4: Convergence
  - ◆ SAV-specific information and SAV rules can be updated in a timely manner
- Requirement #5: Security
  - ◆ Possible security threats should be considered when designing the new SAV solution

---

Thanks!