

IPv4 Subnetting

IP address space

- IP address: 32-bit identifier for host, router interface
- This translates to 4,294,967,296 unique addresses
- The internet is network of networks, i.e. a collection of multiple IP networks spread across the globe
- Each IP network is a range of IP addresses a smaller address space
- An IP address space is identified by a subnet ID obtained using a subnet mask
- The size of the address space is determined by the hosts bits

The internet does not have a hierarchical topology, rather the interpretation of addresses is hierarchical. -- (RFC 950)

IP addressing: ISPs

- Q: How does an ISP get block of addresses?
- A: ICANN: Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
 - allocates addresses
 - manages DNS
 - o assigns domain names, resolves disputes

IP addresses: how to get one?

Network (network portion):

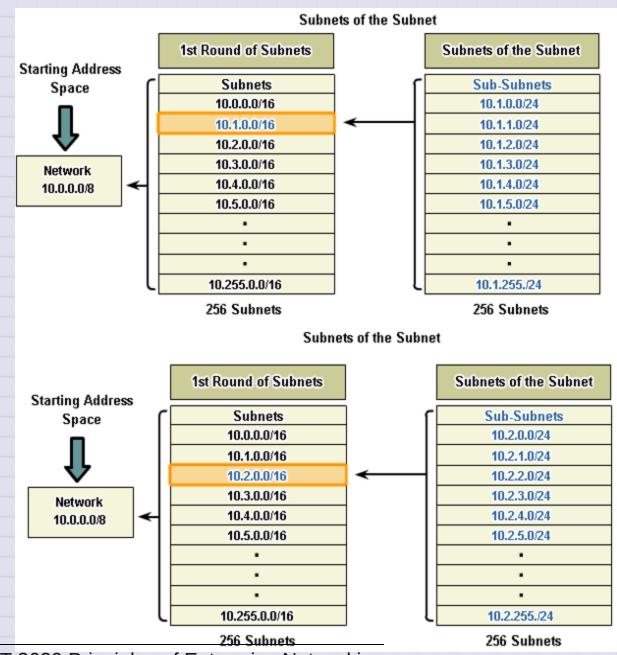
- get allocated portion of ISP's address space:
 - ISP's block 11001000 00010111 00010000 00000000 200.23.16.0/20
 - Organization 1 11001000 00010111 00010010 00000000 200.23.18.0/23
 - o Organization 2 11001000 00010111 00010100 00000000 200.23.20.0/23
 - 0
 - o Organization 7 11001000 00010111 00011110 00000000 200.23.30.0/23

Subnetting

- The prefix "sub" implies a relation (i.e. a portion of another larger network)
- It is the process dividing a larger address range into a contiguous sets of addresses (whose size is a power of 2) to best reflect a network's logical topology
- Example:
 - Subnet 10.1.0.0/16
 - 8 more bits are assigned to the network ID, to create 256 subnets with a
 /24 mask.
 - Mask allows for 254 host addresses per subnet
 - Subnets range from:
 - 10.1.0.0 / 24 to 10.1.255.0 / 24

Subnetting: Why?

- Smaller networks are easier to manage
- Network topology constraints
- Reduced network traffic. LANs rely on ARP broadcasting to communicate.
 Because of this broadcasting nature of LAN, larger networks mean poor performance
- Increased security
- Reduced IP wastage



ACIT 2620 Principles of Enterprise Networking

Subnetting table

CIDR Notation	Network Mask	Available Networks	Available Hosts per network	Total usable hosts
/24	255.255.255.0	1	254	254
/25	255.255.255.128	2	126	252
/26	255.255.255.192	4	62	248
/27	255.255.255.224	8	30	240
/28	255.255.255.240	16	14	224
/29	255.255.255.248	32	6	192
/30	255.255.252	64	2	128

Subnet size

- Each subnet represents a finite address space, a block or range of IP addresses
- The first address in the range is used to identify the entire subnet
- The last address in the range is the broadcast address for the subnet
- If N is the size of subnet S, then the number of usable addresses in S is N-2
- Eg. Given IP address 10.0.15.20/24 then:

Subnet size: 256

Subnet ID: 10.0.15.0/24

Broadcast ID: 10.0.15.255/24

Usable addresses: **254** (10.0.15.1 – 10.0.15.254)

Smallest possible subnet

- Since two addresses are reserved for the network ID and broadcast ID, the smallest possible subnet has a size of 4
- 2 bits are needed to represent a magnitude of 4
- In subnetting, 2 bits are always reserved for the host
- /30 is the smallest subnet
- In reality, the need for such a network rarely occurs

Subnet prefix

- The subnet prefix is the portion of the IP address that identifies the subnet, in binary
- For classful subnets, this maps to a decimal prefix
- Example:

10.0.1.0/8 prefix: 10

192.168.0.1/16 prefix: 192.168

10.0.15.20/24 prefix: 10.0.15

Subnet prefix

- For classless subnets, the binary prefix does not always map to a decimal representation
- Example:

10.48.20.200/12 and 10.63.255.10/12 are both part of the same subnet (in this case, the network ID is 10.48.0.0/12 and the broadcast ID is 10.63.255.255/12)

Subnet prefix table

Power of 2	27	2 ⁶	2 ⁵	24	2 ³	2 ²	21	20
Digit value	128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1
Digit sum	255	127	63	31	15	7	3	1
Subnet sum	128	192	224	240	248	252	254	255
CIDR bits 1st byte	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
CIDR bits 2 nd byte	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
CIDR bits 3 rd byte	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
CIDR bits 4 th byte	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

Classless subnetting

- Traditionally, breaking a larger network into smaller subnets followed a classful strategy, i.e. the split occurred at the byte boundary
- Example:

Large address space: 10.0.0.0/16

Subnets:

10.0.0.0/24

10.0.0.1/24

10.0.0.2/24

etc

- The problem with this approach is that it wastes addresses. All subnets have the same size, regardless of actual requirements (Fixed Length Subnet Mask or FLSM)
- Classless subnetting supports both FLSM and VLSM (Variable Length Subnet Mask) subnetting

 Instead of splitting the network at byte boundary, you estimate the number of host bits to use in subnetting based on desired number of networks and range requirements for each subnet

• Example:

Large address space: 10.0.1.0/24

Subnets:

10.0.1.0/25 126 hosts

10.0.1.128/26 62 hosts

10.0.1.192/26 62 hosts

etc

Generic subnetting method

- 1. Determine number of networks
- 2. Determine number of hosts per network
- 3. Add 2 to number of hosts per network and round up to the nearest power of 2
- 4. Perform a quick check that assigned network range can accommodate all the required addresses.

- 5. Sort the networks in order of size (this can be altered but makes process not algorithmic)
- 6. Starting with largest network:
 - i. Divide the network into equal parts sized according to the largest subnet. The number of parts will determine how many extra bits to use in subnetting.
 - ii. Example: 1 extra bit to yield 2 subnets, 2 extra bits to yield 4 subnets, 3 extra bits to yield 8 subnets, etc
 - iii. Assign the blocks to subnets excluding already assigned blocks.
 - iv. Repeat the process, starting with the next biggest subnet until all subnets have been assigned.

Subnetting example

- Given the address space: 192.168.1.0/24
- This corresponds to a size of 256 addresses
- We want to create subnets that can accommodate 25 hosts each
- Each subnet requires a subnetID and broadcastID, giving a range requirement of 27 (25 + 2)
- The closest power of 2 is 32

• This gives 8 distinct subnets as shown below (3 extra bits):

Subnet	Broadcast	Subnet	Broadcast
192.168.1.0/27	192.168.1.31	192.168.1.128/27	192.168.1.159
192.168.1.32/27	192.168.1.63	192.168.1.160/27	192.168.1.191
192.168.1.64/27	192.168.1.95	192.168.1.192/27	192.168.1.223
192.168.1.96/27	192.168.1.127	192.168.1.224/27	192.168.1.255

Subnetting example 2

- Given the address space: 192.168.1.0/24
- Three departments with variable requirements:
 - Marketing: 74
 - Accounting: 28
 - o Sales: 52
- Factoring in the subnetID and broadcastID, we get:
 - Marketing: 74 + 2 = 76 (closest power of 2 is 128)
 - Accounting: 28 + 2 = 30 (closest power of 2 is 32)
 - Sales: 52 + 2 = 54 (closest power of 2 is 64)

Ranking from largest to smallest:

Subnet 1: 128

Subnet 2: 64

Subnet 3: 32

• Total: 128 + 64 + 32 = 224 (we can proceed)

Round 1

- Network can yield 2 subnets of size 128
- 1 extra bit needed: /25
- Subnet 1 assigned 1st block: 192.168.1.0/25

Subnet	Broadcast	Subnet	Broadcast
192.168.1.0/25	192.168.1.127		
192.168.1.128/25	192.168.1.255		

Round 2

- Network can yield 4 subnets of size 64
- 2 extra bits needed: /26
- Subnet 2 assigned 3rd block: 192.168.1.128/26

Note: first two blocks already assigned in round 1

Subnet	Broadcast	Subnet	Broadcast
192.168.1.0/26	192.168.1.63		
192.168.1.64/26	192.168.1.127		
192.168.1.128/26	192.168.1.191		
192.168.1.192/26	192.168.1.255		

Round 3

Network can yield 8 subnets of size 32

• 3 extra bits needed: /27

• Subnet 3 assigned 7th block: 192.168.1.192/27

Note: first six blocks already assigned in round 1 & 2

Subnet	Broadcast	Subnet	Broadcast
192.168.1.0/27	192.168.1.31	192.168.1.128/27	192.168.1.159
192.168.1.32/27	192.168.1.63	192.168.1.160/27	192.168.1.191
192.168.1.64/27	192.168.1.95	192.168.1.192/27	192.168.1.223
192.168.1.96/27	192.168.1.127	192.168.1.224/27	192.168.1.255

- Subnet identity is defined by the subnetID and broadcast ID
- For classful subnets, it is easy to locate subnet boundaries
- Variable length subnets are a bit harder to interpret

- Given the address: 10.48.0.0/8
- The subnetID is: 10.0.0.0/8
 - All hosts bits set to 0
- The broadcastID is: 10.255.255.255/8
 - All hosts bits set to 1

- Given the address: 10.48.0.0/12
- The network/host split occurs in the 2nd byte
- 4 additional bits in the 2nd byte were used for subnetting
- 4 bits yield 16 different permutations, corresponding to 16 different subnets

• Isolating the 2nd byte: (byte-level block size)

0000	0000 - 0000 1111 => 0 - 15
0001	0000 - 0001 1111 => 16 - 31
0010	0000 - 0010 1111 => 32 - 47
0011	0000 - 0011 1111 => 48 - 63
OOTT	0000 - 0011 1111 -> 40 - 03
	0000 - 0011 1111 -> 40 - 03

 Byte-level block size: 16, i.e the distance between subnets viewed from the 2nd byte

• We get:

subnetID: 10.48.0.0/12

o broadcastID: **10.63.255.255/12**

- Given the address: 40.60.240.0/16
- The subnetID is: 40.60.0.0/16
 - All hosts bits set to 0
- The broadcastID is: 40.60.255.255/16
 - All hosts bits set to 1

- Given the address: 40.60.240.0/17
- The network/host split occurs in the 3rd byte
- 1 additional bit in the 3rd byte was used for subnetting
- 1 bit yields 2 different permutations, corresponding to 2 different subnets

• Isolating the 3rd byte: (byte-level block size)

0 000 0000 - 0111 1111 => 0 - 127

1 000 0000 - 1111 1111 => 128 - 255

- Byte-level block size: 128, i.e the distance between subnets viewed from the 3rd byte
- We get:

subnetID: 40.60.128.0/17

o broadcastID: 40.60.255.255/17

- Given the address: 192.168.1.240/24
- The subnetID is: 192.168.1.0/24
 - All hosts bits set to 0
- The broadcastID is: 192.168.1.255/24
 - All hosts bits set to 1

- Given the address: 192.168.1.240/26
- The network/host split occurs in the 4th byte
- 2 additional bit in the 4th byte were used for subnetting
- 2 bits yield 4 different permutations, corresponding to 4 different subnets

• Isolating the 4th byte: (byte-level block size)

00	00 0000 - 0011 1111 => 0 - 63
01	00 0000 - 0111 1111 => 64 - 127
10	00 0000 - 1011 1111 => 128 - 191
11	00 0000 - 1111 1111 => 192 - 255

• Byte-level block size: 64, i.e the distance between subnets viewed from the 4th byte

• We get:

o subnetID: 192.168.1.192/26

o broadcastID: **192.168.1.255/26**

Supernetting

- Works in reverse direction in relation to subnetting
- Route aggregation: subnets that share the same prefix are aggregated into a larger network
- Smaller routing tables

Supernetting example

