

# Will the real David D. Clark please stand up?



CLARK'S

PARADOX



“The Internet should support a mechanism for choice of source routing that would permit a customer to control the path of his packets at the level of providers.”

Clark, et al. *Tussle in Cyberspace: Defining Tomorrow's Internet*. SIGCOMM'02, August 19-23, 2002. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

“Low-level network functions are justified only as performance enhancements.”

Saltzer, J. H., Reed, D.P. and Clark, D.D. *End-to-End Arguments in System Design*. 2nd International Conference on Distributed Systems (Paris, France, April 8-10) 1981, pp. 509-512.

## 1. Why



Consumer chooses network path based on own criteria:

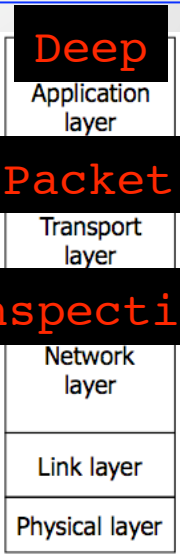
- Economic (least congestion, highest data rate)
- Political (“Free Speech” routes)
- Environmental (IEEE 802.3az, green DCs)

## 2. How

Bit 0		Bit 31	
Version (4)	Hdr. Len (4)	TOS (8)	Total Length in bytes (16)
Identification (16 bits)		Flags (3)	Fragment Offset (13)
Time to Live (8)	Protocol (8)	Header Checksum (16)	
<b>Source Routing</b>			
Data (variable length)			

## 3. Or

Gotcha 



- Enables/encourages ISP misuse:
  - QoS manipulation
  - Comcast BitTorrent packet drops
- Privacy violations
  - Warrantless wiretapping

- Undermines flexibility (SSR):
  - Overrides most protocols
  - Requires detailed knowledge of network topology
- Undermines security (LSRR):
  - Enables source address spoofing
  - Enables private address routing

