# DETERMINISTIC6G

CFM for FRER

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Recap: Frame Replication and Elimination for Reliability (FRER)

- ❏ FRER provides great service protection
  - ❏ Stream survives as long as at least one of the redundant paths survive
  - ❏ Note: the maximally disjoint explicit paths are typically Traffic Engineered (TE) paths
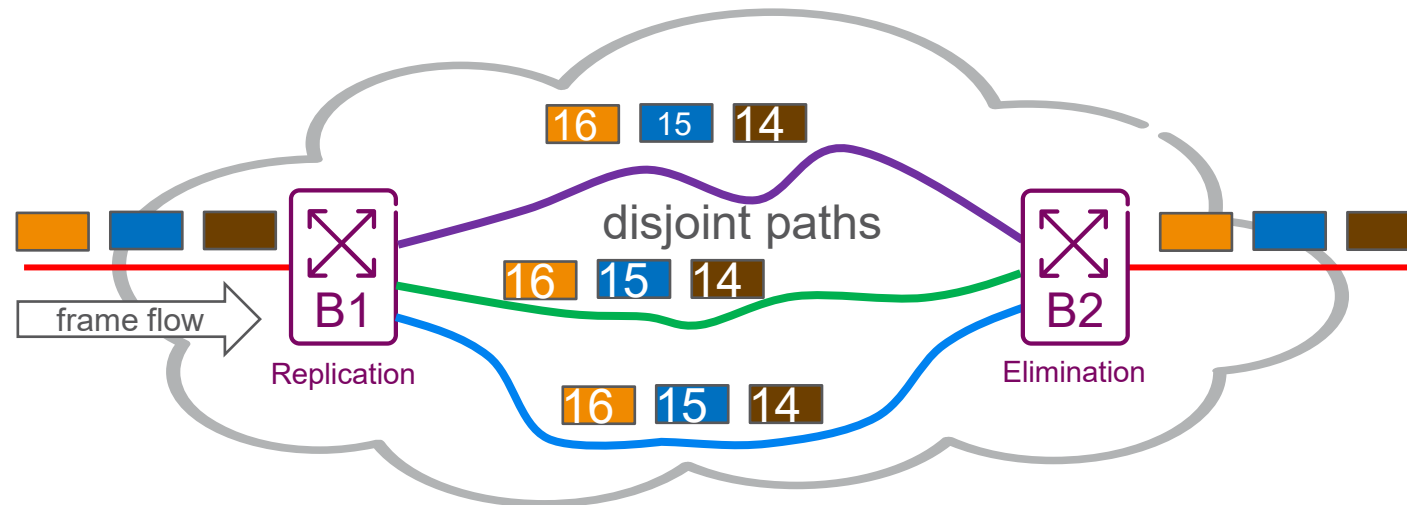
- ❏ Some are concerned that it is not known what is going on in the network as FRER hides failures
- ❏ FRER has in-built counters, which provide some node-local warnings
  - ❏ However, network-wide full picture cannot be derived from FRER counters

Recap: Connectivity Fault Management (CFM)

- ❑ Operations, Administration, and Maintenance (OAM):
  - ❑ The goal of OAM is to provide tools that make it possible to know what is going on in the network
  - ❑ The key task to be solved is fate sharing between data packets and OAM packets
- ❑ Based on https://www.ieee802.org/1/files/public/docs2021/60802-finn-intro-to-CFM-0721-v02.pdf:
- ❑ CFM provides OAM functions for VLAN bridged Ethernet networks
  - ❑ CFM was originally designed for service instances distinguished by their VID
- ❑ Two independent standards developed in collaboration
  - ❑ IEEE Std 802.1ag "Connectivity Fault Management" → Clauses 18-22 in IEEE Std 802.1Q
    - ❑ Specifies Fault Management (FM) functions
  - ❑ ITU G.8013/Y.1731 "OAM functions and mechanisms for Ethernet-based networks"
    - ❑ Specifies Performance Monitoring (PM) (e.g., loss measurement and delay measurement) on top of FM, i.e., ITU-T G.8013/Y.1731 is a superset
- ❑ Note: For simplicity, this presentation deliberately does not go into the details of Maintenance Domains (MDs), Maintenance Domain Levels (MDLs), and Maintenance Associations (MAs)

Recap: CFM Protocols

- ❑ CFM functions include path discovery, fault detection, fault notification, fault verification and isolation

- ❑ Maintenance Points (MPs), i.e., Maintenance End Points (MEPs) and Maintenance Intermediate Points (MIPs) can participate in the CFM protocols:

- ❑ Continuity Check protocol
  - ❑ Continuity Check Messages (CCMs) are transmitted periodically for fault detection, i.e., to detect both connectivity failures and unintended connectivity
  - ❑ A CCM does not generate a response

- ❑ Loopback protocol
  - ❑ The Loopback protocol includes the Loopback Message (LBM) and the Loopback Reply (LBR), which can be used to perform fault verification and isolation

- ❑ Linktrace protocol
  - ❑ The Loopback protocol includes the Linktrace Message (LTM) and the Linktrace Reply (LTR), which can be used to perform path discovery and fault isolation

Recap: CFM PDUs

❑ CFM PDUs can be identified by the EtherType value 89-02, see Table 21-1 in IEEE Std 802.1Q-2020

❑ Destination Address (DA)
  ❑ For monitoring a service instance distinguished by its VID
    ❑ CFM entities use the group MAC addresses for CCM and LTM PDUs listed in Table 8-18 and Table 8-19 in IEEE Std 802.1Q-2020
  ❑ For monitoring a TE service
    ❑ CFM entities use the individual MAC addresses or the group MAC addresses that are associated with the monitored services

❑ Source Address (SA)
  ❑ The individual MAC address of the MP transmitting the CFM PDU

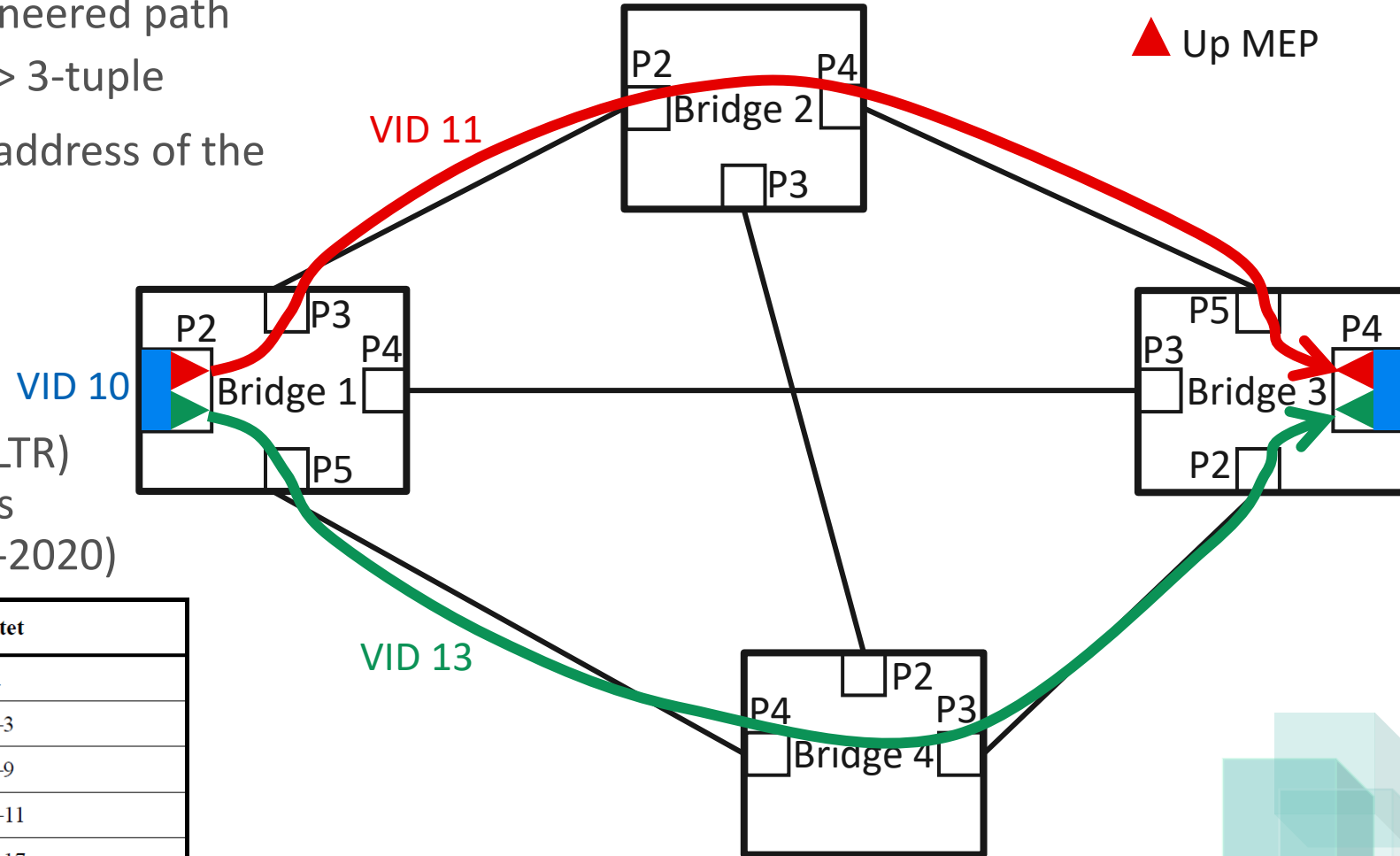# Recap: Traffic Engineering (TE) / Software Defined Networking (SDN)

❑ Traffic Engineering (TE) / Software Defined Networking (SDN) has been introduced to IEEE Std 802.1Q by IEEE Std 802.1Qay-2009 Provider Backbone Bridge Traffic Engineering (PBB-TE) (see also a paper on it)

❑ Introduces concepts and knobs for Traffic Engineering, e.g., TE-MSTID

❑ Extends CFM for Traffic Engineering

    ❑ (CFM was originally designed for service instances distinguished by their VID)

❑ Although, the scope was Provider Backbone Bridge (PBB) networks, the introduced Traffic Engineering capabilities are generic

    ❑ Some minor updates might be required for applicability in C-VLANs or S-VLANs

Recap: Some Definitions Introduced by 802.1Qay

❑ **Ethernet Switched Path (ESP)**: provisioned traffic engineered unidirectional connectivity path among two or more Customer Backbone Ports (CBPs) that extends over a Provider Backbone Bridged Network (PBBN). The path is identified by a 3-tuple <ESP-DA, ESP-SA, ESP-VID>, where ESP-DA and ESP-SA are Media Access Control (MAC) addresses and ESP-VID is a Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN) Identifier (VID) allocated to Traffic Engineering Multiple Spanning Tree Instance Identifier (TE-MSTID).

❑ **Ethernet Switched Path [ESP] Virtual Local Area Network [VLAN] Identifier [VID] (ESP-VID)**: A VLAN Identifier (VID) associated with a special (Traffic Engineering) value of the Multiple Spanning Tree Instance Identifier (MSTID) in the Multiple Spanning Tree (MST) Configuration Table, the TE-MSTID, indicating that the VID is under the control of an external agent responsible for setting up ESPs and that learning is disabled and forwarding is enabled.

❑ **Traffic Engineering service instance Identifier (TE-SID)**: An identifier of the Traffic Engineering service instance (TESI) that corresponds to a series of 3-tuples <ESP-DA, ESP-SA, ESP-VID>, each one identifying one of the TESI's Ethernet Switched Paths (ESPs).

Recap: CFM for TE Paths

- ❑ ESP: unidirectional traffic engineered path
  - ❑ Identified by: <DA, SA, VID> 3-tuple

- ❑ MEPs use the individual MAC address of the port on which they operate

- ❑ No requirements on using the same or different VIDs

- ❑ New TLV introduced for Response messages (LBR and LTR) due to the unidirectional paths (see 21.7.5 in IEEE Std 802.1Q-2020)

Field	Octet
Type = 9	1
Length	2–3
MIP MAC address	4–9
Reverse VID	10–11
Reverse MAC	12–17

▲ Up MEP

VID 11

VID 10

VID 13

Bridge 2 — P2, P4, P3
Bridge 1 — P2, P3, P4, P5
Bridge 3 — P5, P3, P4, P2
Bridge 4 — P2, P4, P3

What Is New in TSN?

- ❑ Some TSN tools operate on per-Stream basis, e.g., FRER

- ❑ Stream identification
see Clause 6 in
IEEE Std 802.1CB-2017
as amended by
IEEE Std 802.1CBdb-2021

Stream identification function	Active/passive	Examines	Overwrites	Reference
Null Stream identification	Passive	destination_address, vlan_identifier	None	6.4, 9.1.2
Source MAC and VLAN Stream identification	Passive	source_address, vlan_identifier	None	6.5, 9.1.3
Active Destination MAC and VLAN Stream identification	Active	destination_address, vlan_identifier	destination_address, vlan_identifier, priority	6.6, 9.1.4
IP Stream identification	Passive	destination_address, vlan_identifier, IP source address, IP destination address, DSCP, IP next protocol, source port, destination port	None	6.7, 9.1.5
Mask-and-match Stream identification function	Passive	destination_address, source_address, mac_service_data_unit	None	6.8, 9.1.6

- ❑ Note that traffic engineering, unidirectional communication, and the use of a different path for a response message are not new

Consequence of Per-Stream Operation

❑ Reminder: fate sharing between data packets and OAM packets is essential

❑ Consequently, the header fields used for packet processing have to be the same for OAM and data packets

❑ TE path (solid line) vs Stream (dashed line)
  ❑ TE path identified by: <B3.P4, B1.P2, VID 11>
  ❑ Stream identified by:
    ❑ <L, VID 11>, or
    ❑ <T, VID 11>,
    ❑ etc.
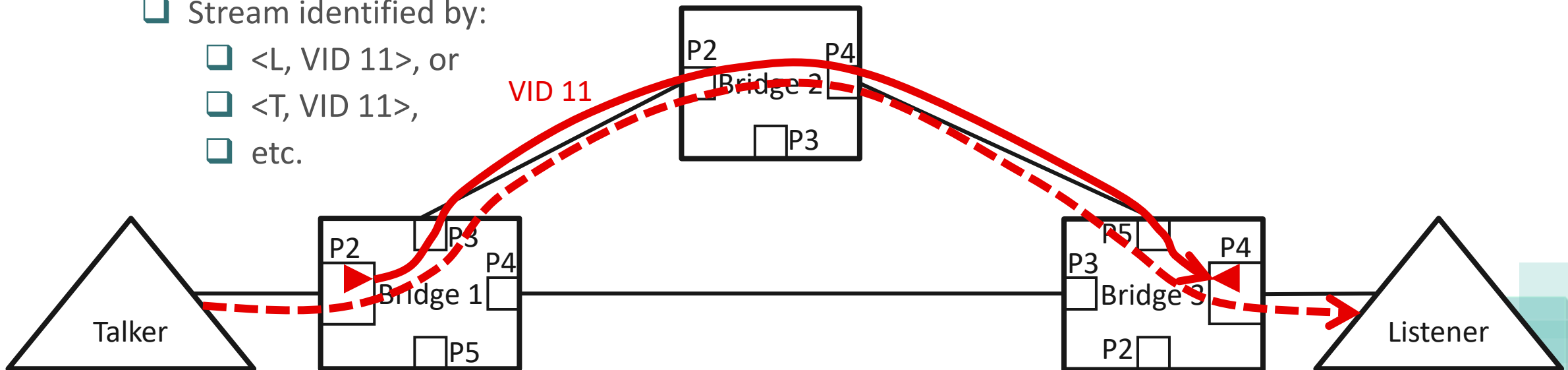
MEP Operation

- ❑ MEP operation has to be updated for CFM for Streams
- ❑ In case of Null Stream identification
  - ❑ The DA in CCM PDUs has to be the DA of the Listener to achieve fate sharing
  - ❑ MEPs have to be able use and operate on the DA of end stations
  - ❑ The DAs for the monitored Streams are to be configured at MEPs
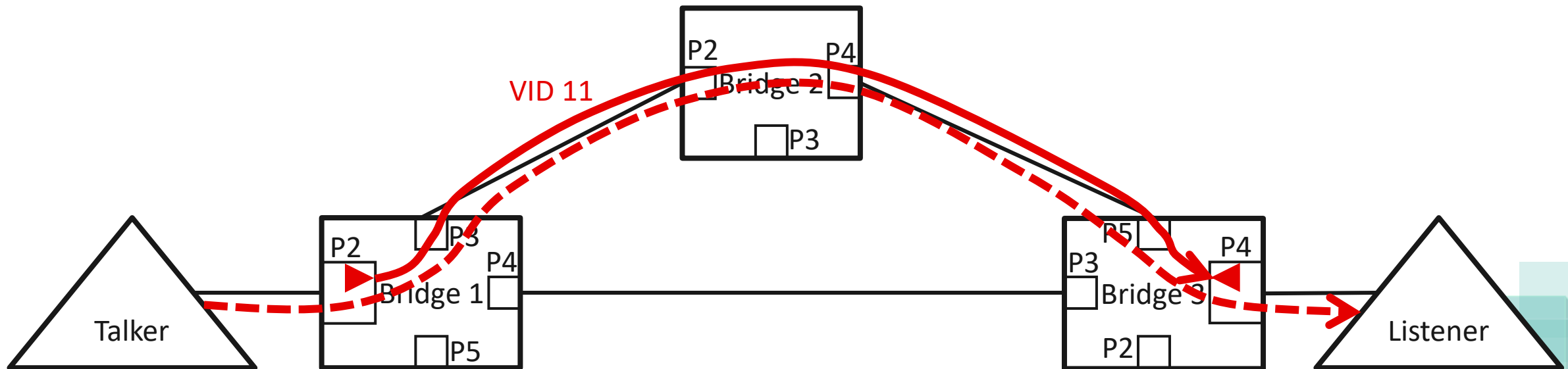
OAM for FRER?

- ❑ OAM covering FRER would provide the knowledge of what is going on in the network (despite of the great service protection provided by FRER)

- ❑ How to achieve fate sharing in case of FRER?

- ❑ Primarily, OAM packets have to be R-tagged and have to go through the Replication and Elimination functions just like data packets
  - ❑ OAM packets are distinguished by EtherType
  - ❑ OAM packets need to have their own sequence number space distinct from the sequence number space of data packets
  - ❑ Sequence recovery can be simple, i.e., the MatchRecoveryAlgorithm can be used for infrequent OAM packets

- ❑ No new header field needed for OAM

- ❑ However, we are not there yet; see next slides

CFM for Replication and Elimination Functions

- ❏ OAM has to cover Replication (R) and Elimination (E) functions
  - ❏ MEP before R
    - ❏ MEP generates CCMs
    - ❏ CCMs' DA and VID are identical to data packets
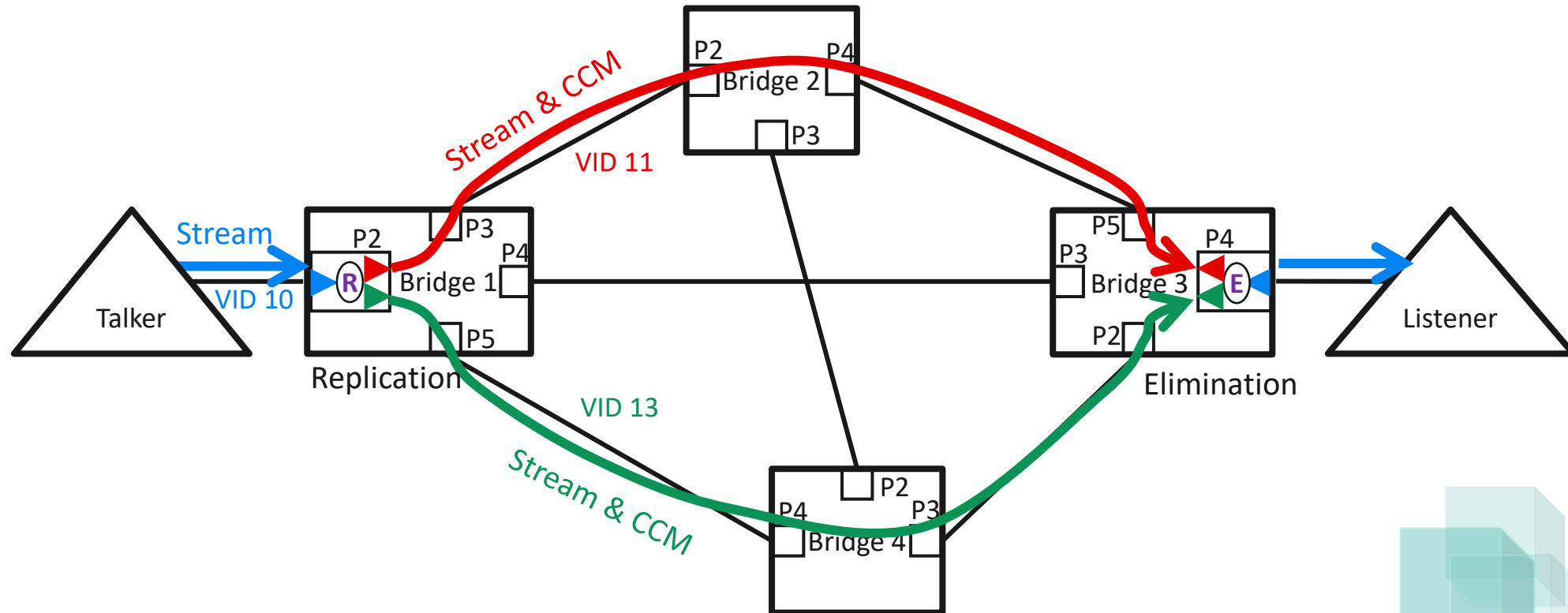   - ❏ CCMs go through R
  - ❏ MEP after E
    - ❏ CCMs go through E before MEP receives them
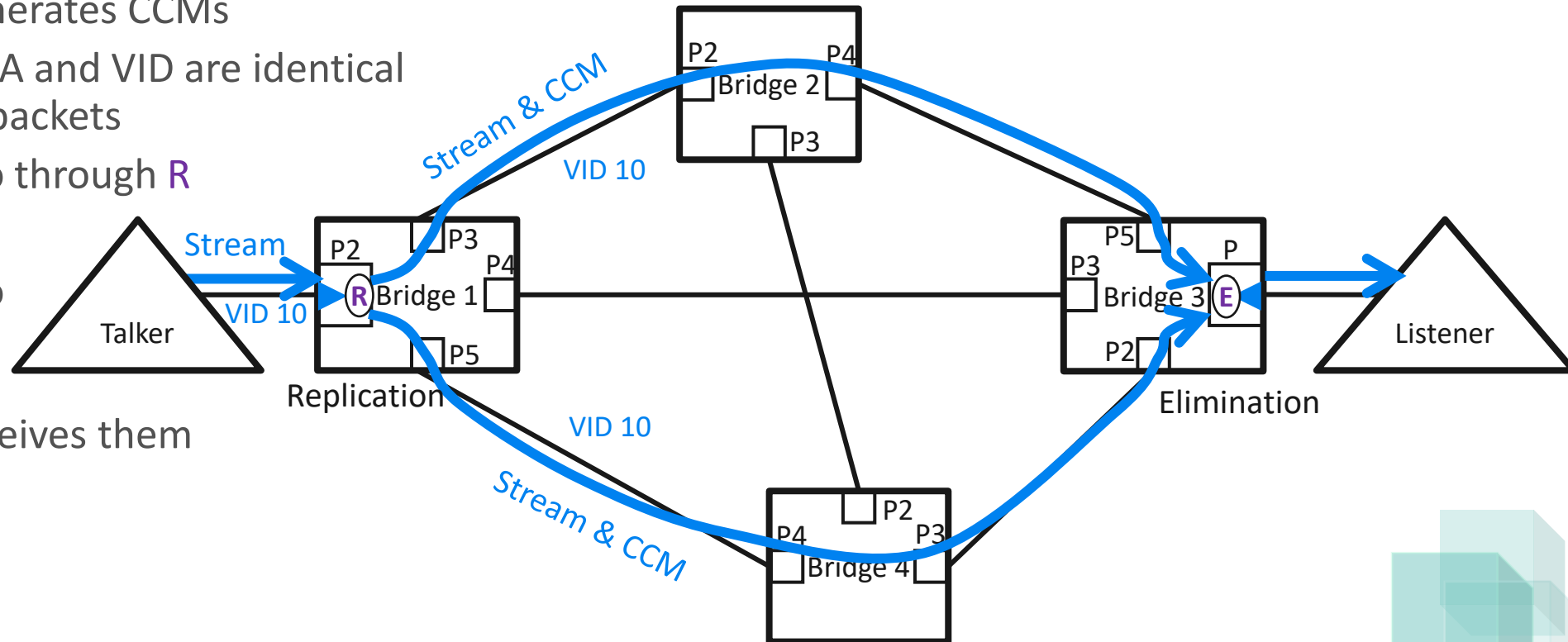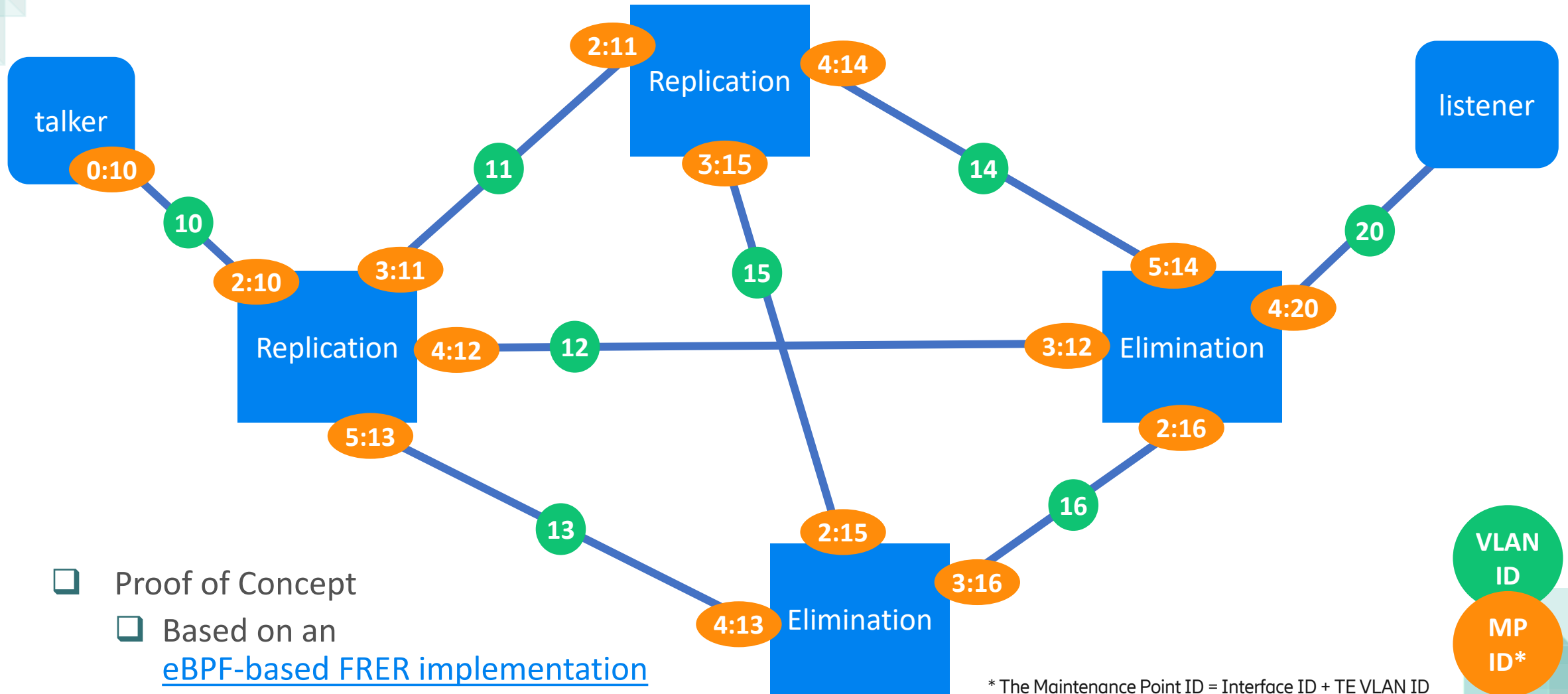
CFM for R+E Functions and TE Paths

❑ Blue MEPs cover the Replication (R) and Elimination (E) functions

❑ Red and Green MEPs cover the corresponding TE paths

Where Are We at The Moment?

❑ No change to data plane, no new header fields needed to make CFM work for FRER

❑ MEP operations need to be extended for monitoring FRER

❑ Functionality introduced to 802.1Q for traffic engineering needs to be double checked and potential slight refinements might be needed

❑ Best practice guidelines could be provided, e.g.,
  ❑ Use Null Stream identification
  ❑ Add R-tag on edge bridges

❑ OAM is not that straightforward in case of IP Stream Identification and Mask & Match Stream Identification

Demo Network for Proof of Concept

☐ Proof of Concept
  ☐ Based on an
    eBPF-based FRER implementation

* The Maintenance Point ID = Interface ID + TE VLAN ID

Continuity Check


```
oamgen -c 5 -I tx-eth0 -t CC --mpid 3:16
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_CC
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=1, oam_type=OAM_CC
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=2, oam_type=OAM_CC
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=3, oam_type=OAM_CC
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=4, oam_type=OAM_CC

--- MP-ID: 3:16 statistics ---
5 packets transmitted, 5 received, 0.0% packet loss
```
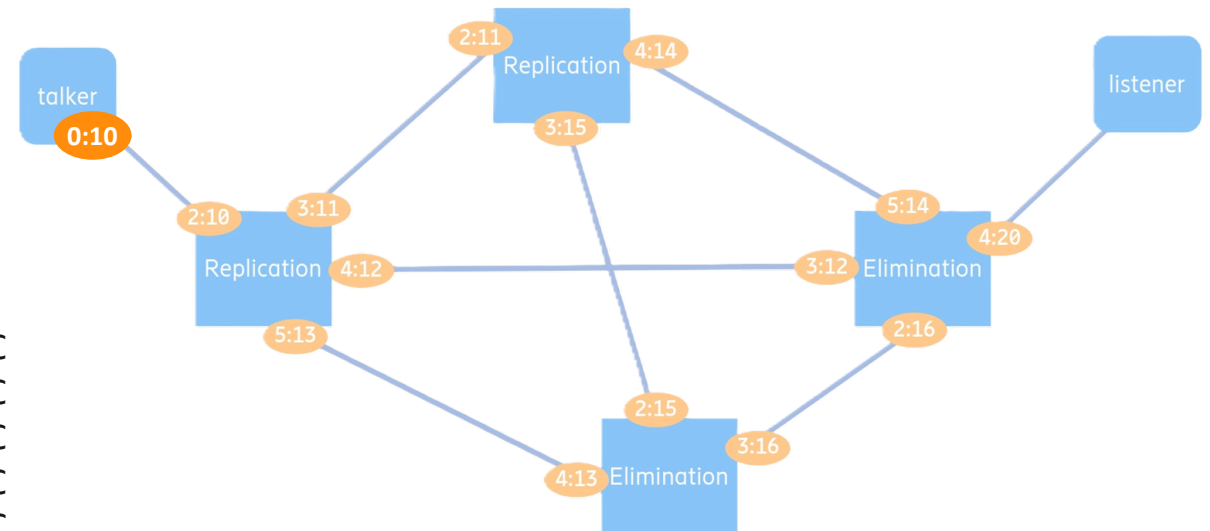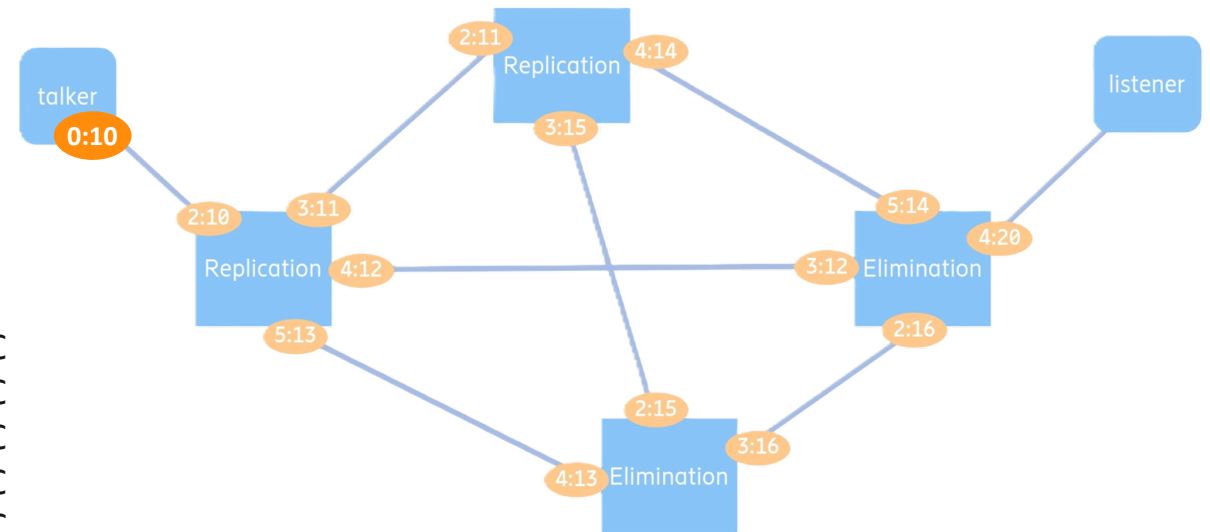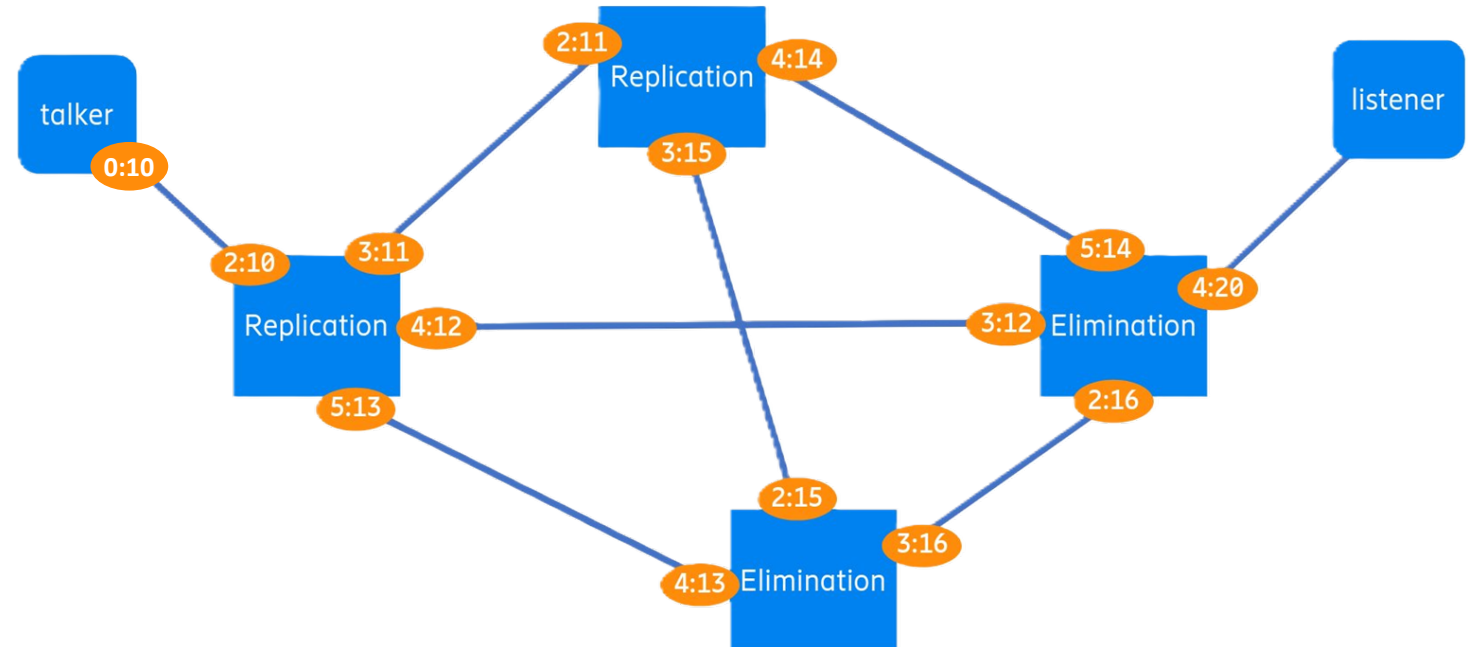
Continuity Check – cont'd

```
oamgen -c 5 -I tx-eth0 -t CC --mpid 3:16
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_CC
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=1, oam_type=OAM_CC
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=2, oam_type=OAM_CC
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=3, oam_type=OAM_CC
34 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=4, oam_type=OAM_CC

--- MP-ID: 3:16 statistics ---
5 packets transmitted, 5 received, 0.0% packet loss
```

Record Route

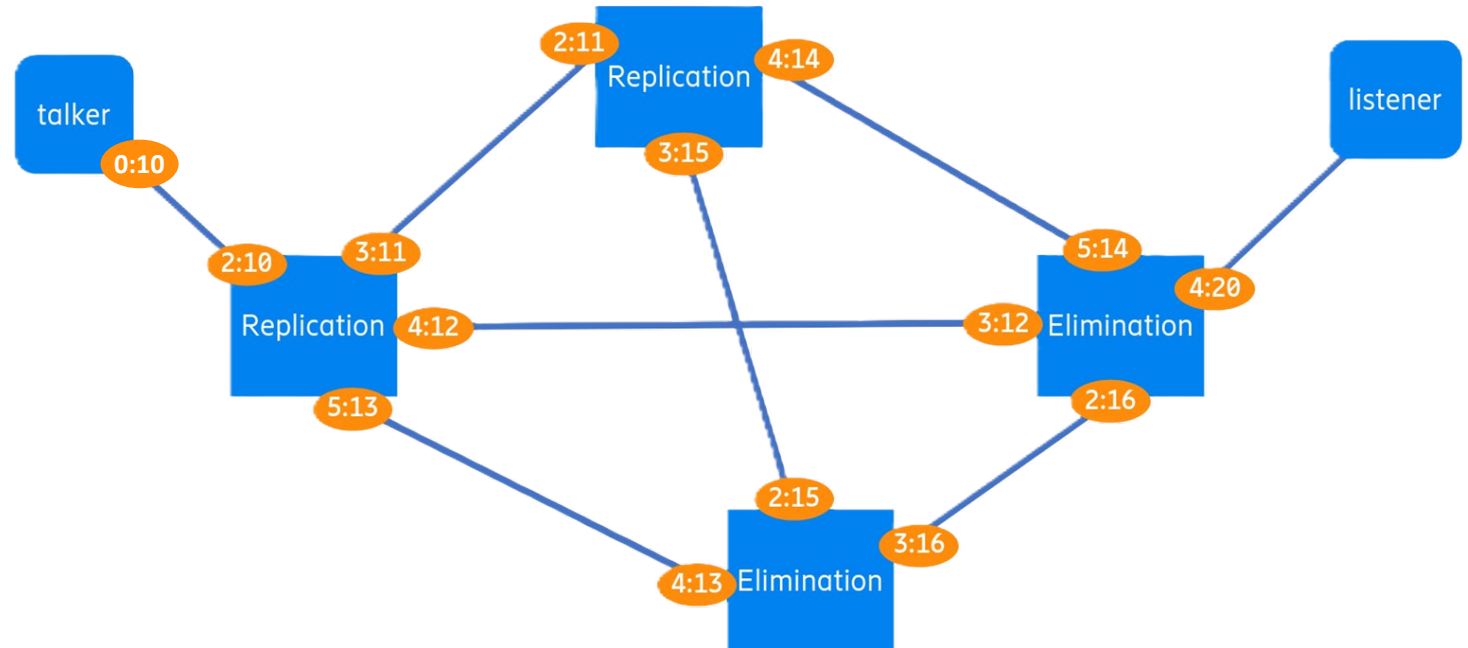❑ Record Route is a new FRER specific OAM function developed by the contributors as they found it useful


```
oamgen -c 5 -I tx-eth0 -t RR --mpid 3:16

50 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 5:13, 4:13, 3:16]
```

Record Route – cont'd

❑ Record Route is a new FRER specific OAM function developed by the contributors as they found it useful
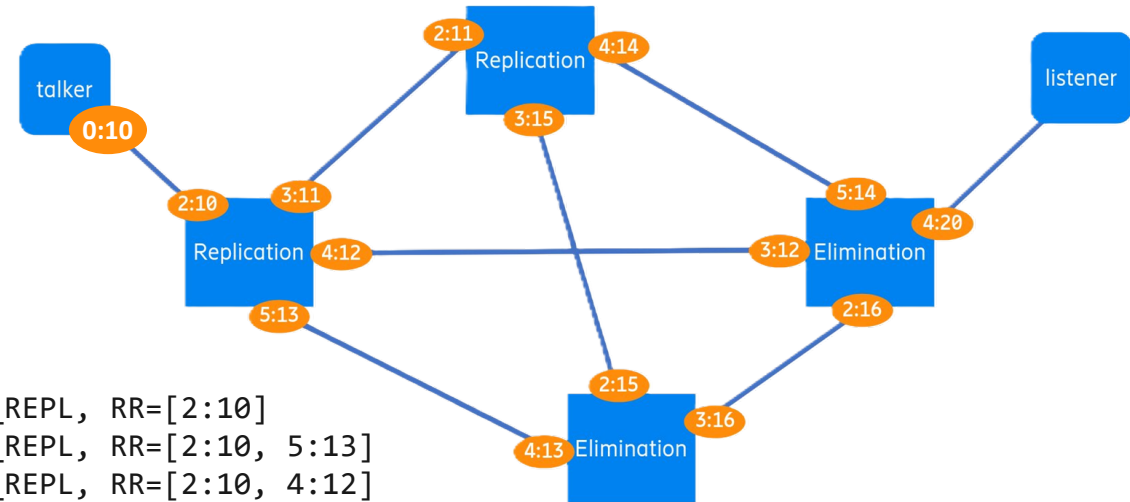


```
oamgen -c 1 -I tx-eth0 -t RR --mpid 3:16

58 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 3:11, 2:11, 3:15, 2:15, 3:16]
```

FRER Graph Discovery

- This is Record Route (see previous slides) for a special MP-ID "any"
- Every MP must reply


```
oamgen -c 1 -x 14 -I tx-eth0 -t RR --mpid any
38 bytes from 5a:12:03:9e:20:20, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10]
42 bytes from 5a:12:03:9e:20:20, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 5:13]
42 bytes from 5a:12:03:9e:20:20, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 4:12]
42 bytes from 5a:12:03:9e:20:20, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 3:11]
46 bytes from 6a:04:55:42:31:b2, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 4:12, 3:12]
50 bytes from 6a:04:55:42:31:b2, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 4:12, 3:12, 4:20]
54 bytes from 6a:04:55:42:31:b2, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 5:13, 4:13, 3:16, 2:16]
54 bytes from 6a:04:55:42:31:b2, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 3:11, 2:11, 4:14, 5:14]
46 bytes from fa:26:12:3a:68:3b, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 3:11, 2:11]
46 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 5:13, 4:13]
50 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 5:13, 4:13, 3:16]
50 bytes from fa:26:12:3a:68:3b, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 3:11, 2:11, 4:14]
50 bytes from fa:26:12:3a:68:3b, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 3:11, 2:11, 3:15]
54 bytes from de:c2:af:0a:d7:3f, rtag_seq=0, oam_type=OAM_RR_REPL, RR=[2:10, 3:11, 2:11, 3:15, 2:15]

--- MP-ID: any statistics ---
1 packet transmitted, 14 received, 0.0% packet loss
```

Summary

❑ The service protection provided by FRER hides network issues completely until a given Stream is fully broken

❑ FRER counters provide some level of warnings, however, do not reveal the network issues

❑ OAM applied to FRER can reveal network issues, provide information on what is going on in the network

❑ OAM can be provided for FRER by extending CFM

    ❑ No change to the data plane

    ❑ MEP operations need to be extended

    ❑ Further refinements might be needed

DETERMINISTIC6G Grant Agreement No. 101096504

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