



Advanced Program On Technology Enhanced Learning

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Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol

Spanning tree protocol version

| | |
|------|--|
| STP | Legacy Spanning Tree Protocol. Slow convergence speed (~1 min) |
| RSTP | Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol. Fast convergence speed (<1 sec). Most commonly used. |
| MSTP | Multiple Spanning Tree Protocol. Used when more than once instance of Spanning Tree is required. |



Main differences

- Standard STP (IEEE 802.1D)
- Rapid STP (IEEE 802.1W)



RSTP

- Rapid spanning tree protocol is improved version of the classic IEEE 802.1D
- Both standard share many features and functions
- **RSTP Differences in five areas**
 - Port roles
 - Port states
 - Rapid STP :Link type
 - Faster topology change detection
 - Faster convergence

Port roles and port state

3 Types of Port Roles

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Root Port | A port on a switch to reach the root bridge with the shortest path. |
| Designated Port | The other end of a Root port . |
| Blocked Port | A port blocked to prevent a loop . |



5 Types of Port States

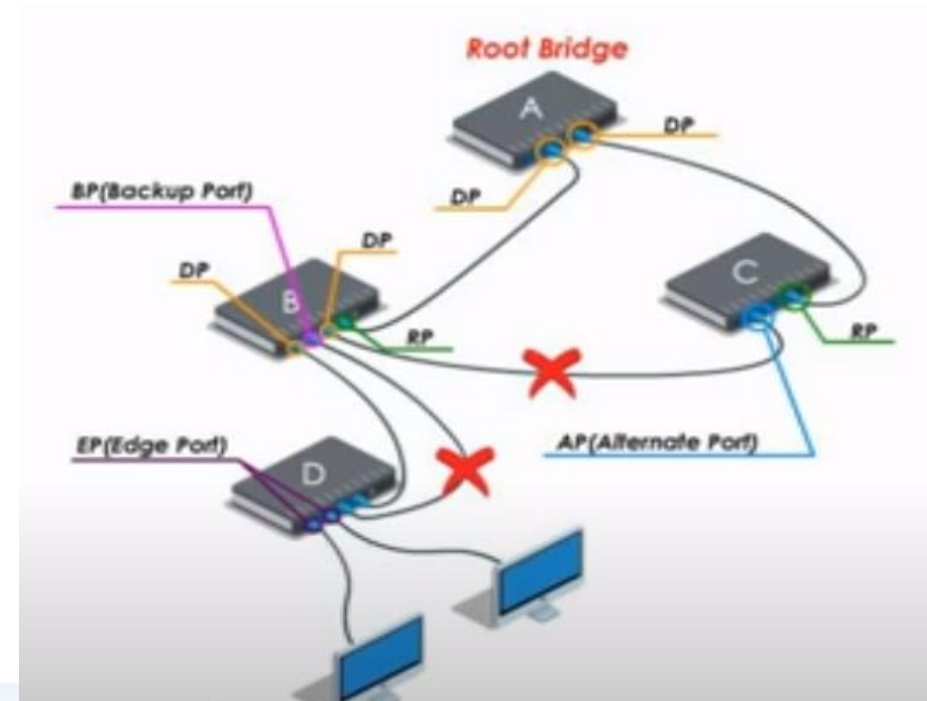
| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Forwarding | Any port in the forwarding state will process BPDUs, receiving/forwarding frames. |
| Learning | The learning port starts learning about BPDUs. Transitioning and temporary. |
| Listening | The listening port is listening to BPDUs before transitioning to the learning state. Transitioning and temporary. |
| Blocking | Receiving but dropping any BPDUs. |
| Disabled | Non-operational in STP. |

IEEE 802.1D VS IEEE 802.1W

port role

Port Roles

| Spanning Tree Protocol (IEEE 802.1D) | | Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol (IEEE 802.1W) |
|---|---|---|
| Root Port | | Root Port |
| Designated Port | | Designated Port |
| Blocked Port |  | Alternate Port |
| |  | Backup Port |



IEEE 802.1D VS IEEE 802.1W

Port states

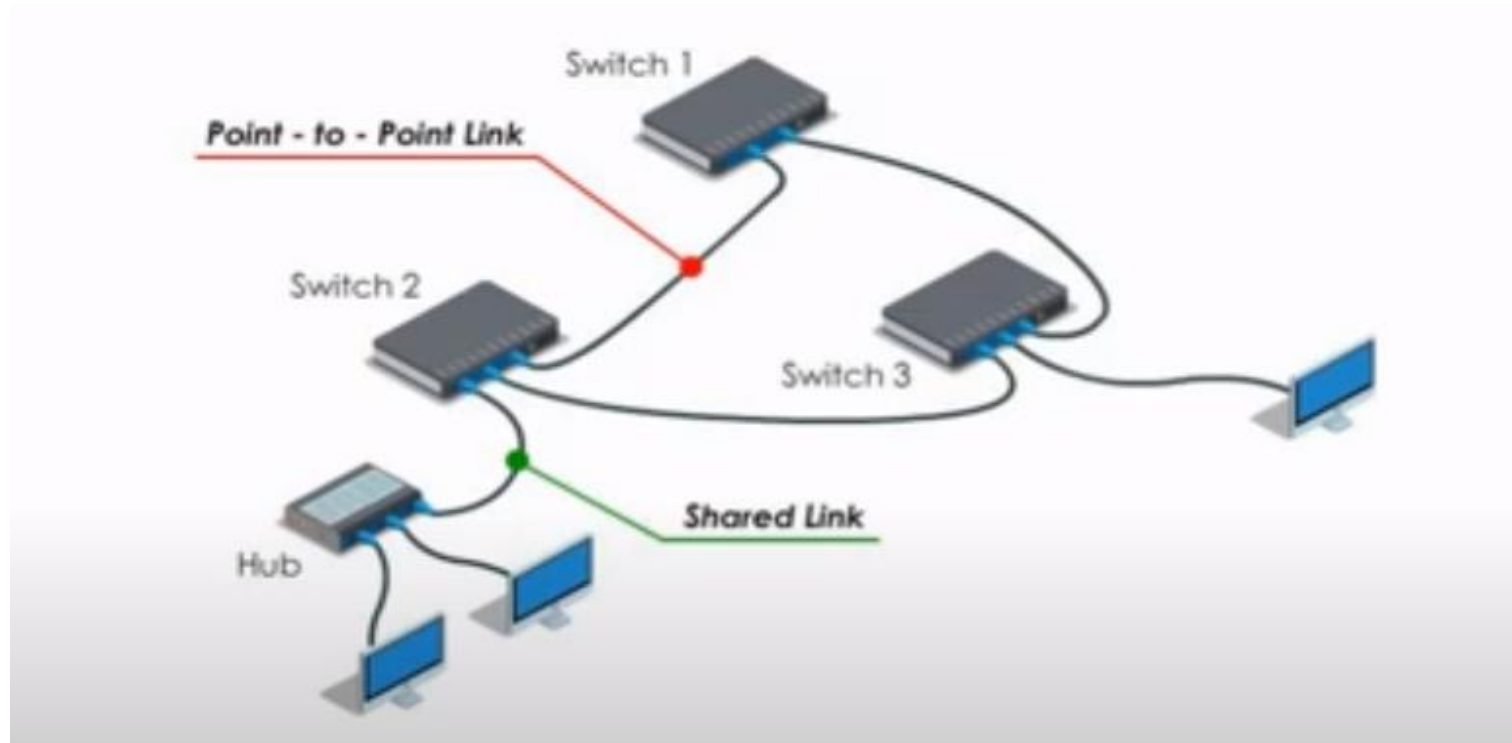
| Spanning Tree Protocol (IEEE 802.1D) | | Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol (IEEE 802.1W) |
|---|--|---|
| Forwarding | | Forwarding |
| Learning | | Learning |
| Listening | | Discarding |
| Blocking | | |
| Disabled | | |



Differences

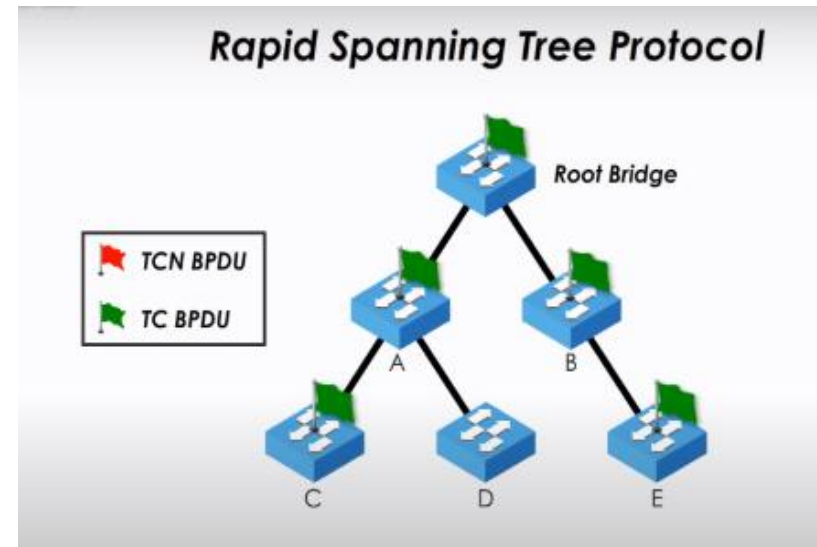
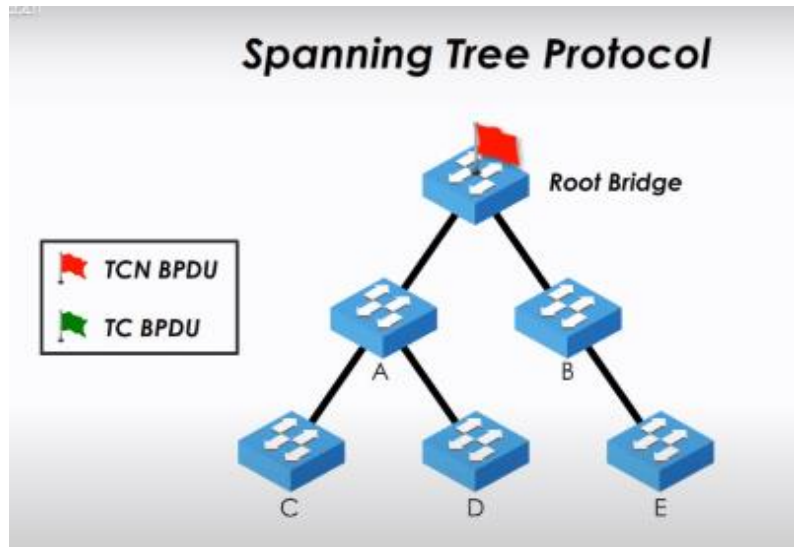
- The third differences the Link type
- RSTP introduces a new concept :Link type
- There are two link types :point to point link & shared link

Rapid STP (link type)



Differences

RSTP provides faster topology change detection



BPDU Timers of convergence

RSTP provides significantly faster convergence in response to network changes

| <i>BPDU Timers</i> | <i>Spanning Tree Protocol (IEEE 802.1D)</i> | <i>Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol (IEEE 802.1W)</i> |
|--|--|--|
| Max Age | 20 | 6 (3 x Hello time) |
| Delay Forward for the Listening State | 15 | 0 |
| Delay Forward for the Learning state | 15 | 0 |
| Total | 50 | 6 |

RSTP:Proposal/Agreement process



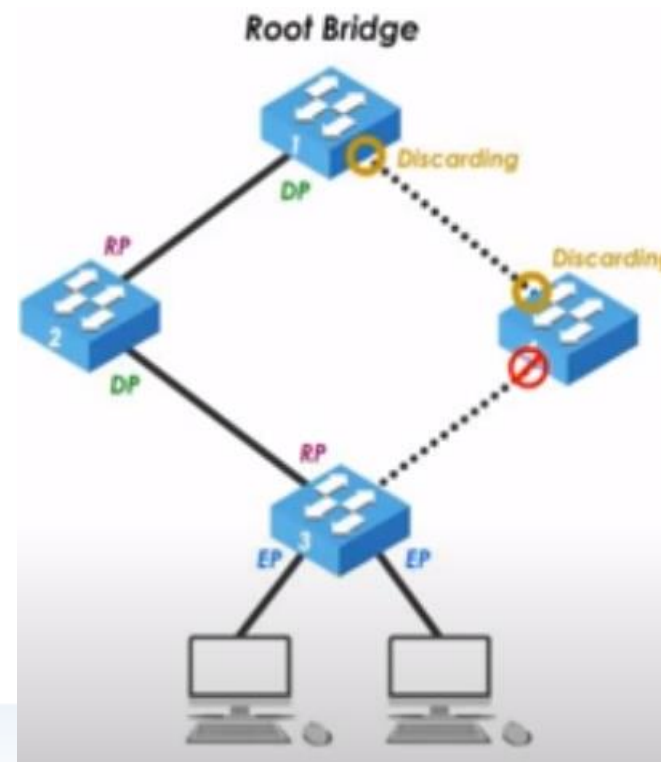
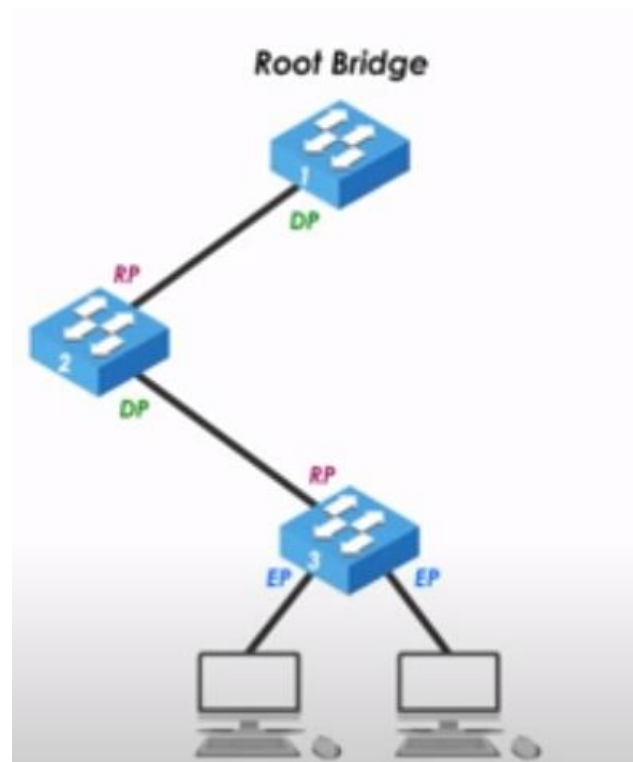
IEEE 802.1D

| Bit | Function |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| 0 | Topology Change |
| 1 | Unused |
| 2 | Unused |
| 3 | Unused |
| 4 | Unused |
| 5 | Unused |
| 6 | Unused |
| 7 | Topology Change Acknowledgement |

IEEE 802.1W

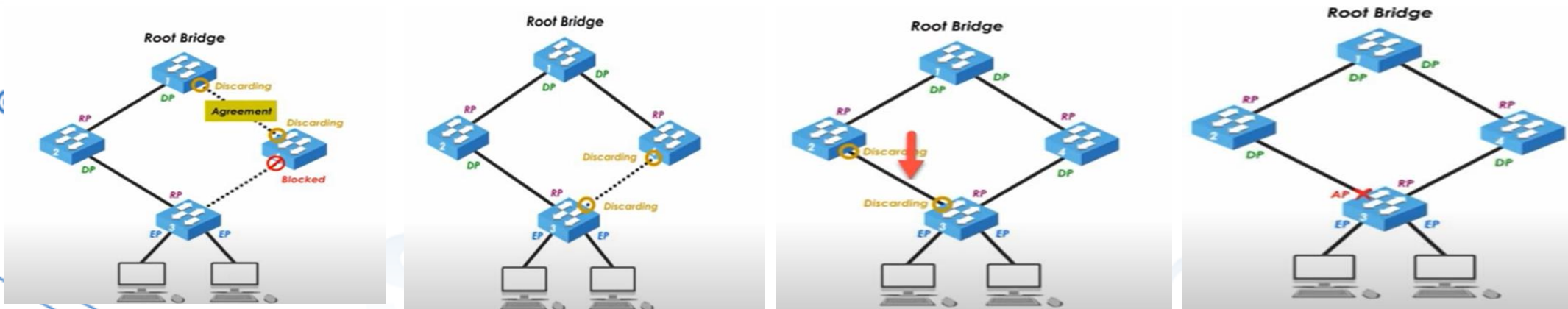
| Bit | Function |
|-----|--|
| 0 | Topology Change |
| 1 | Proposal |
| 2-3 | Port Role: Unknown Alternative Root Port Designated Port |
| 00 | |
| 01 | |
| 10 | |
| 11 | |
| 4 | Learning |
| 5 | Forwarding |
| 6 | Agreement |
| 7 | Topology Change Acknowledgement |

How RSTP reacts to change



Synchronization

- Is a process that a switch blocks all non-edge ports before sending an agreement to another switch
- Synchronization is needed to make sure no loop is created during the Proposal/Agreement process.



Conclusion

- RSTP proposal /agreement process is very quik because it does not depend on traditional BPDU timers as the standard STP does
- Instead, a switch negotiates it neighbors directly.
- RSTP provides faster topology change detection and much faster convergence time than the standard STP.



Q&A

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