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- Assume complete global network information is available, derive minimum cost tree connecting all relevant routers
 - Steiner tree
 - problem is NP-complete

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17

19



A Distributed Solution: Center-based Tree

- One router identified as "center" of tree
- To join:
 - edge router sends unicast join-msg addressed to center router
 - join-msg "processed" by intermediate routers and forwarded towards center
 - join-msg either hits existing tree branch for this center, or arrives at center
 - path taken by *join-msg* becomes new branch of tree for this router

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Comparison

Compare reverse path forwarding with center-based tree

- Better multicast delivery along shortest paths produced by reverse path forwarding
- Too much pruning in a "sparse" system with relatively few interested routers

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Internet Multicast Routing

DVMF

- distance vector multicast routing protocol, based on reverse path forwarding with pruning
- PIN
 - in a sparse mode where reverse path forwarding with pruning doesn't do well, it uses center-based trees
- IP multicast deployment?

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18

20



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21