LDP Extensions for RMR
draft-esale-mpls-ldp-rmr-extensions-02

Abstract

   This document describes LDP extensions to signal Resilient MPLS Ring
   (RMR) Label Switched Paths (LSPs). An RMR LSP is a multipoint to
   point LSP signaled using LDP (Label Distribution Protocol). RMR
   Architecture document - draft-ietf-mpls-rmr-02 - describes why and
   how MPLS should be used in ring topologies.

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1 Introduction

   This document describes LDP extensions to signal resilient MPLS ring
   (RMR) label switched paths (LSPs). An RMR LSP is a multipoint to
   point LSP signaled using LDP (Label Distribution Protocol).
   Architecture document of RMR - draft-ietf-mpls-rmr-02 - describes why
   and how MPLS should be used in ring topologies.

   The ring is either auto-discovered or configured using IGP protocol
   such as OSPF or ISIS. IGP extensions for RMR is described in a
   companion documents. After the ring discovery, each ring node acting
   as egress constructs and signals a clockwise (CW) and anti-clockwise
   (AC) ring FEC towards AC and CW direction respectively. Each transit
   node that receives the RMR FEC signals this LSP further in same
   direction using RMR link state database. In addition, it also adds a
   transit and ingress route for this LSP. Once the signaling is
   complete, every node in a ring should have two counter rotating LSPs
   in CW and AC direction to reach every other node on the ring.

2. Terminology

   A ring consists of a subset of n nodes {R_i, 0 <= i < n}. The
   direction from node R_i to R_i+1 is defined as as "clockwise" (CW)
   and the reverse direction is defined as "anti-clockwise" (AC). As
   there may be several rings in a graph, each ring is numbered with a
   distinct ring ID (RID).

   The following terminology is used for ring LSPs:

     Ring ID (RID): A non-zero number that identifies a ring; this is
        unique in some scope of a Service Provider's network. A node
        may belong to multiple rings.

     Ring node: A member of a ring. Note that a device may belong to
        several rings.

     Node index: A logical numbering of nodes in a ring, from zero upto
        one less than the ring size. Used purely for exposition in this
        document.

     Ring neighbors: Nodes whose indices differ by one (modulo ring
        size).

     Ring links: Links that connect ring neighbors.

     Express links: Links that connect non-neighboring ring nodes.

MP2P LSP: Each LSP in the ring is a multipoint to point LSP such
    that LSP can have multiple ingress nodes and one egress node.

3. Protocol extensions

This section describes LDP extensions to signal RMR LSP in a ring.

3.1. Ring LSP Capability

RMR LSPs support for a LSR is advertised using LDP capabilities as
defined in [RFC5561]. An implementation that supports the RMR
procedures specified in this document MUST add the procedures
pertaining to Capability Parameters for Initialization messages.

A new optional capability parameter TLV, RMR Capability, is defined.
Following is the format of the RMR Capability Parameter:

```
 0                   1                   2                   3
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1
 +-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
 |U|F| RMR Capability (TBD)     |       Length (= 1)            |
 +-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
 |S| Reserved    |
 +-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+

    As described in [RFC5561]
    U: set to 1. Ignore, if not known.
    F: Set to 0. Do not forward.
    S: MUST be set to 1 to advertise the RMR Capability TLV.
```


The RMR Capability TLV MUST be advertised in the LDP Initialization
message. If the peer has not advertised the RMR capability, then
label messages pertaining to RMR FEC Element MUST NOT be sent to the
peer.

3.2. Ring FEC Element

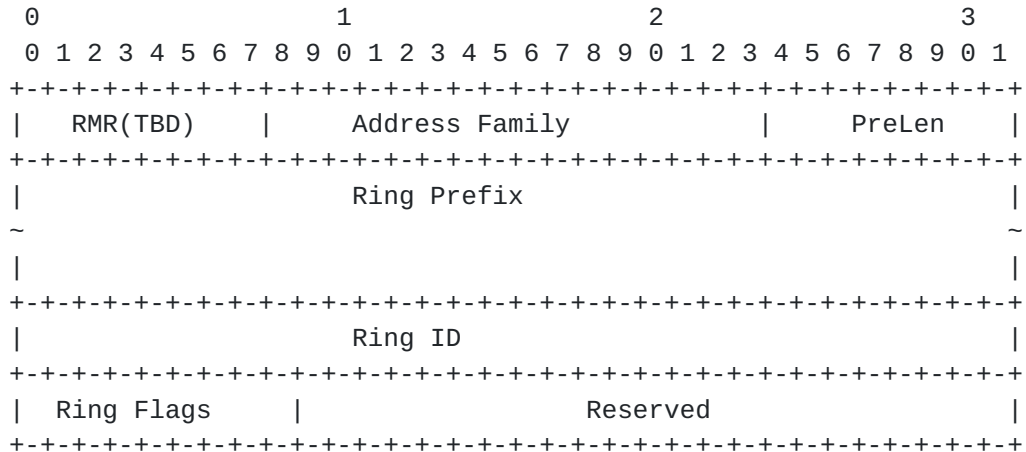In order to setup RMR LSP in clockwise and anti-clockwise direction
for every ring node, this document defines new protocol entity, the
RMR FEC Element, to be used as a FEC Element in the FEC TLV.

The RMR FEC Element consists of the ring address, ring identifier and
ring flags which depicts ring direction. The combination of ring
address, ring identifier and ring flags uniquely identifies a ring

LSP within the MPLS network.

The RMR FEC Element value encoding is as follows:

```
 0                   1                   2                   3
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|   RMR(TBD)    |        Address Family         |     PreLen    |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|                       Ring Prefix                             |
~                                                               ~
|                                                               |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|                        Ring ID                                |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|  Ring Flags   |                  Reserved                     |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
```

   FEC Type
      One octet quantity containing a value from FEC Type
      Name Space that encodes the fec type for a RMR LDP LSP.

   Address Family
      Two octet quantity containing a value from ADDRESS FAMILY
      NUMBERS in [ASSIGNED_AF] that encodes the address family for
      the address prefix in the Prefix field.

   PreLen
      One octet unsigned integer containing the length in bits of
      the address prefix that follows. A length of zero indicates
      a prefix that matches all addresses (the default
      destination); in this case, the Prefix itself is zero
      octets).

   Prefix
      An address prefix encoded according to the Address Family
      field, whose length, in bits, was specified in the PreLen
      field, padded to a byte boundary.

   Ring ID (RID)
      A four-octet non-zero number that identifies a ring; this is
      unique in some scope of a Service Provider's network.

   Ring Flags

```
       0
       0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
      +-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
```

```
         |RF | Reserved  |
         +-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
         The value of ring flags (RF) is defined as follows:
         1: Clockwise (CW) FEC
         2: Anti-clockwise (AC) FEC
```

4. Ring Procedures

   This section describes LDP procedures to signal RMR LSP in a ring.

4.1 Upstream LSR

   Upstream LSR for RMR LSP is selected as follows:

```
                    R0 . . . R1

                 .                .
              R7   .  RID = 18 .  R2
             |  .     .       .    . |
     Anti-   |  .     R9 . . R8    . |
     Clockwise v  .                .  v Clockwise
              R6     RID =17     R3

                 .                .
                 R5 . . . R4
```
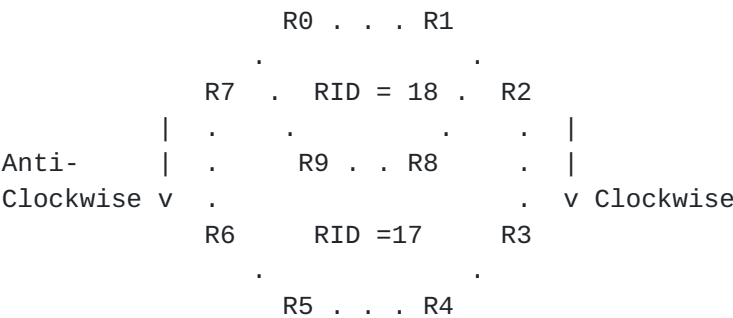
                Figure 1: Two Rings with 10 nodes

   Consider a MPLS ring with 10 nodes. During the discovery of this
   ring, IGP populates its link state database with ring information.
   After the discovery, there are just two paths - one in clockwise
   direction and other in anti-clockwise direction - for every ring
   neighbor on a specific ring. For instance, the following table shows
   router R0's path for ring 17 and 18 depicted in figure 1.

```
      +-------------------------------+
      | RID    |CW neighbor|AC neighbor|
      +-------------------------------+
      |  17    | R1        | R7        |
      +-------------------------------+
      |  18    | R1        | R9        |
      +-------------------------------+
```

             Figure 2: R0's RMR upstream signaling table

   IGP informs LDP that a new MPLS ring, RID 17, is discovered. A LDP
   transit LSR uses this information to establish RMR LSPs. For
   instance, suppose R5 receives a FEC with prefix R0, RID 17 and ring
   flags AC. R5 knows that its clockwise path is R6 and anti-clockwise

path is R4 to reach R0 and that the label map arrived from router R4
for a anti-clockwise LSP. Therefore, R5 selects the upstream session
for this LSP as R6.

4.2 Ring Label Mapping Procedures

The procedures in the subsequent sections are organized by the role
that a node plays to establish a ring LSP. Each node is egress for
its own prefixes and transit for every prefix received with a Label
Mapping message. Every transit node is also a ingress for that LSP.

4.2.1 Definitions

This section defines the notations for initiation, decoding,
processing and propagation of RMR FEC Element.

1. RMR FEC Element <P, R, C> or <P, R, A>: a FEC Element with egress
   prefix P, RID R and clockwise direction C or
   anti-clockwise direction A.
2. RMR Label Mapping <P, R, C, L> or <P, R, A, L>: a Label Mapping
   message with a FEC TLV with a single RMR FEC Element <P, R, C> or
   <P, R, A> and Label TLV with label L. Label L MUST be allocated
   from the per-platform label space of the LSR sending the Label
   Mapping message. The use of the interface label space is outside
   the scope of this document.
3. RMR Label Withdraw <P, R, C, L> or <P, R, A, L>: a Label Withdraw
   message with a FEC TLV with a single RMR FEC Element <P, R, C> or
   <P, R, A> and Label TLV with label L.
4. RMR LSP <P, R, C> or <P, R, A>: A RMR LSP with egress prefix P,
   Ring ID R and clockwise direction C or anti-clockwise direction A.

4.2.2 Preliminary

A node X wishing to participate in LDP RMR signaling SHOULD negotiate
the RMR capability with all its neighbors. When the IGP informs X of
its RMR neighbors A and C for RID R, it MUST check that A and C have
also negotiated the RMR capability with X. If these conditions are
not satisfied, X cannot participate in signaling for ring R. This
applies for all roles that X may play: ingress, transit and egress.

4.2.3 Egress LSR

Every ring node initiates two counter-rotating LSPs that egress on
that node. After the IGP discovers the ring, LDP constructs the
clockwise RMR FEC <P, R, C> and sends it in a Label Mapping message
to anti-clockwise neighbor. Similarly, LDP constructs a anti-
clockwise RMR FEC <P, R, A> and sends it in a Label Mapping message

to clockwise neighbor. This SHOULD establish a clockwise and anti-
clockwise LSP - in terms of data traffic - in the clockwise and anti-
clockwise direction respectively.

Furthermore, if a label other than implicit or explicit null is
advertised for a LSP, LDP SHOULD add a pop route for this label in
the Incoming Label Map (ILM) MPLS table.

When the node is no longer part of the ring, it SHOULD tear down its
egress LSPs - CW and AC - by sending a label withdraw message.

4.2.4 Ingress and Transit LSR

When a transit LSR R5 depicted in figure 1 receives a label map
message with RMR FEC Element <R0, 17, A, L1> from a downstream LDP
session to R4, it SHOULD verify that R4 is indeed its anticlockwise
neighbor for ring 17. If not, it SHOULD stop decoding the FEC TLV,
abort processing the message containing the TLV, send an "Unknown
FEC" Notification message to its LDP peer R4 signaling an error and
close the session.

If the LSR encounters no other error while parsing the RMR FEC
element, it allocates a Label L2 and determines a upstream LDP
session as R6 using the algorithm described in section 'Upstream
LSR'. It also programs a MPLS ILM table with label route L2 swapped
to L1 and Ingress tunnel table with prefix R0 with label push L1 on
all the LDP interfaces to R4, and sends the RMR FEC Element <R0, 17,
A, L2> to R6.

If a session to the anti-clockwise neighbor for RID 17 depicted in
Figure 2, namely R6, does not exist, the RMR FEC Element <R0, 17, A,
L2> SHOULD NOT be propagated further. Similarly, when the upstream
session changes because of ring topology change, transit LSR should
send a label withdraw for RMR FEC Element <R0, 17, A, L2> to older
upstream session R6 before sending Label Mapping message with RMR FEC
Element <R0, 17, A, L2> to a new upstream session.

4.3 Equal Cost Multipath (ECMP)

A transit and ingress LSR of RMR LSP uses all the links between
itself and downstream LSR to program transit and ingress route. Thus,
ECMP works automatically for a LDP RMR LSP. A vendor could provide
exception when necessary to this behavior by disabling certain ring
links for RMR LSPs.

4.4 Protection

RMR uses the two counter-rotating LSPs to protect the other. Say
that R5 wants to protect the LSP to R0 for RID 17. R5 receives RMR
FEC Element <R0, 17, A, L1> from R4 and sends RMR FEC Element <R0,
17, A, L2> to R6. Then the primary path for the AC LSP is to swap L1
with L2 with next hop R4. Also, R5 receives RMR FEC Element <R0, 17,
C, L3> from R6 and sends RMR FEC Element <R0, 17, C, L4> to R4. The
primary path for the CW LSP is to swap L3 with L4. The protection
path for the AC LSP is to swap L1 with L4 with next hop R6, thus
sending the traffic back where it came from, but with a different
label. The protection path for the CW LSP is to swap L3 with L2 with
next hop R4.

5. LSP Hierarchy

```
                        R9   R10   R11

                        .     .     .

                        .    .    .    .

                        .              .
                        R8 . . . R9

                        .              .

                        .              .

                        .              .
                        R0 . . . R1
                     .              .
                R7                    R2
      Anti-      |  .        Ring       .  |
      Clockwise  |  .                   .  | Clockwise
              v  .      RID = 17      .  v
                R6                    R3
                   .              .
                   R5 . . . R4
```
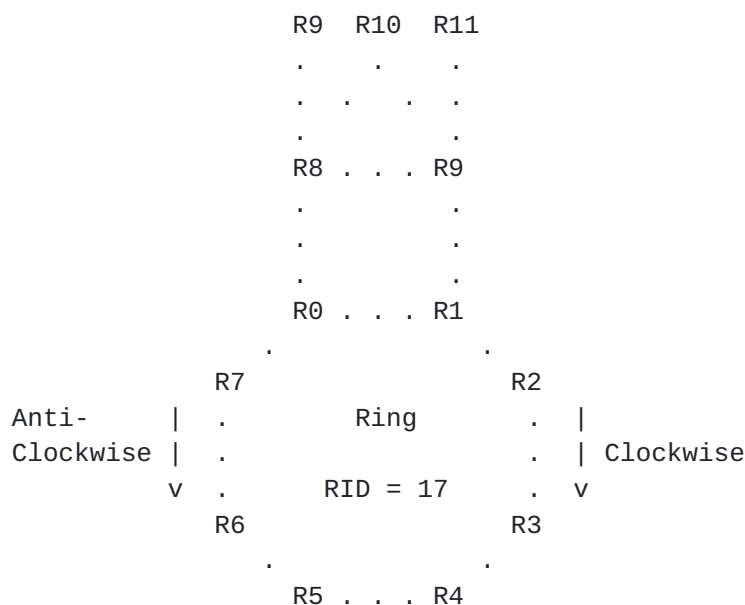
                Figure 3: Ring 17 with rest of the Network

Suppose R5 needs to reach R10. Only RMR LSPs are setup inside the
ring 17. Additionally, whenever services on R5 need to reach R10, R5
dynamically establishes a tLDP session to ring 17 master node R0 and
R1. Further, suppose it only learns IPv4 and IPv6 FECs only over this
session using [draft-ietf-mpls-app-aware-tldp-05]. Thus, in order to
reach R10, R5 uses top label as RMR LSP label to R0 or R1 and bottom
label as R10's FEC label received over tLDP session of R0 or R1
respectively.

6. Ring LSPs

An RMR LSP consists of two counter-rotating ring LSPs that start and
end at the same node, say R1. As such, this appears to cause a loop,
something that is normally to be avoided by LDP [RSVP-TE]. There are
some benefits to this. Having a ring LSP allows the anchor node R1
to ping itself and thus verify the end-to-end operation of the LSP.
This, in conjunction with link-level OAM, offers a good indication of
the operational state of the LSP. [Also, having R1 be the ingress
means that R1 can initiate the Path messages for the two ring LSPs.
This avoids R1 having to coordinate with its neighbors to signal the
LSPs, and simplifies the case where a ring update changes R1's ring
neighbors.] The cost of this is a little more signaling and a couple
more label entries in the LFIB.

[7](#). **Security Considerations**

   The Capability and RMR FEC procedures described in this document will
   not introduce any change to LDP Security Considerations section
   described in [[RFC5036](#)].

[8](#). **IANA Considerations**

   This document requires the assignment of a new code point for a
   Capability Parameter TLVs from the IANA managed LDP registry "TLV
   Type Name Space", corresponding to the advertisement of the RMR
   capability. IANA is requested to assign the lowest available value.

```
   Value   Description        Reference
   -----   ----------------   ---------
   TBD1    RMR capability     [this document]
```

   This document requires the assignment of a new code point for a FEC
   type from the IANA managed LDP registry "Forwarding Equivalence Class
   (FEC) Type Name Space". IANA is requested to assign the lowest
   available value.

```
   Value   Description        Reference
   -----   ----------------   ---------
   TBD1    RMR FEC type       [this document]
```


[9](#). **Acknowledgments**

   TODO.

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