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R. Gandhi,
C.
Cisco Systems,
D.
Bell
M.
B.
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**Performance Measurement Using TWAMP Light
for Segment Routing Networks
draft-gandhi-spring-twamp-srpm-05**

Abstract

Segment Routing (SR) leverages the source routing paradigm. SR is applicable to both Multiprotocol Label Switching (SR-MPLS) and IPv6 (SRv6) data planes. This document specifies procedure for sending and processing probe query and response messages for Performance Measurement (PM) in Segment Routing networks. The procedure uses the mechanisms defined in [RFC 5357](#) (Two-Way Active Measurement Protocol (TWAMP) Light) and Simple Two-Way Active Measurement Protocol (STAMP) for Delay Measurement, and also uses the mechanisms defined in this document for Loss Measurement. The procedure specified is applicable to SR-MPLS and SRv6 data planes and are used for both links and end-to-end SR Policies.

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[1.](#) Introduction

Segment Routing (SR) leverages the source routing paradigm and greatly simplifies network operations for Software Defined Networks (SDNs). SR is applicable to both Multiprotocol Label Switching (SR-MPLS) and IPv6 (SRv6) data planes. SR takes advantage of the Equal-Cost Multipaths (ECMPs) between source and transit nodes, between transit nodes and between transit and destination nodes. SR Policies as defined in [[I-D.spring-segment-routing-policy](#)] are used to steer traffic through a specific, user-defined paths using a stack of Segments. Built-in SR Performance Measurement (PM) is one of the essential requirements to provide Service Level Agreements (SLAs).

The One-Way Active Measurement Protocol (OWAMP) defined in [[RFC4656](#)] and Two-Way Active Measurement Protocol (TWAMP) defined in [[RFC5357](#)] provide capabilities for the measurement of various performance metrics in IP networks using probe messages. These protocols rely on control-channel signaling to establish a test-channel over an UDP path. These protocols lack support for direct-mode Loss Measurement (LM) to detect actual data traffic loss which is required in SR networks. The Simple Two-way Active Measurement Protocol (STAMP) [[I-D.ippm-stamp](#)] alleviates the control-channel signaling by using configuration data model to provision a test-channel. The TWAMP Light [Appendix I in [RFC5357](#)] [[BBF.TR-390](#)] provides simplified mechanisms for active performance measurement in Customer IP networks by provisioning UDP paths and eliminates the control-channel signaling.

This document specifies procedures for sending and processing probe query and response messages for Performance Measurement in SR

networks. The procedure uses the mechanisms defined in [[RFC5357](#)] (TWAMP Light) and STAMP for Delay Measurement (DM), and also uses the mechanisms defined in this document for Loss Measurement. The procedure specified is applicable to SR-MPLS and SRv6 data planes and are used for both links and end-to-end SR Policies. This document also defines mechanisms for handling ECMPs of SR Policies for performance delay measurements.

2. Conventions Used in This Document

2.1. Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [[RFC2119](#)] [[RFC8174](#)] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

2.2. Abbreviations

BSID: Binding Segment ID.

DM: Delay Measurement.

ECMP: Equal Cost Multi-Path.

HMAC: Hashed Message Authentication Code.

LM: Loss Measurement.

MPLS: Multiprotocol Label Switching.

NTP: Network Time Protocol.

OWAMP: One-Way Active Measurement Protocol.

PM: Performance Measurement.

PSID: Path Segment Identifier.

PTP: Precision Time Protocol.

SID: Segment ID.

SL: Segment List.

SR: Segment Routing.

SRH: Segment Routing Header.

SR-MPLS: Segment Routing with MPLS data plane.

SRv6: Segment Routing with IPv6 data plane.

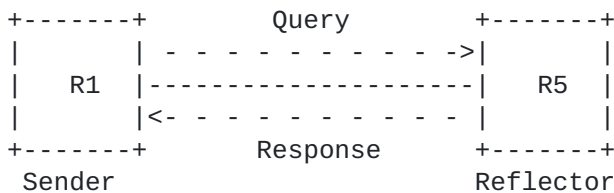
STAMP: Simple Two-way Active Measurement Protocol.

TC: Traffic Class.

TWAMP: Two-Way Active Measurement Protocol.

2.3. Reference Topology

In the reference topology shown below, the sender node R1 initiates a probe query for performance measurement and the reflector node R5 sends a probe response for the query message received. The probe response is sent to the sender node R1. The nodes R1 and R5 may be directly connected via a link enabled with Segment Routing or there exists a Point-to-Point (P2P) SR Policy [\[I-D.spring-segment-routing-policy\]](#) on node R1 with destination to node R5. In case of Point-to-Multipoint (P2MP), SR Policy originating from source node R1 may terminate on multiple destination leaf nodes [\[I-D.spring-sr-p2mp-policy\]](#).



Reference Topology

3. Overview

For one-way, two-way and round-trip delay measurements in Segment Routing networks, the TWAMP Light procedures defined in [Appendix I of RFC5357](#) are used. For one-way and two-way direct-mode and inferred-mode loss measurements in Segment Routing networks, the procedures defined in this document are used. One-way loss measurement provides receive packet loss whereas two-way loss measurement provides both transmit and receive packet loss.

Separate

UDP destination port numbers are user-configured for delay and loss measurements from the range specified in [\[I-D.ippm-stamp\]](#). The sender uses the UDP port number following the guidelines specified

in

[Section 6 in RFC6335](#). For both links and end-to-end SR Policies, no PM session for delay or loss measurement is created on the reflector node R5 [\[RFC5357\]](#).

For Performance Measurement, probe query and response messages are sent as following:

- o For Delay Measurement, the probe messages are sent on the

congruent path of the data traffic by the sender node, and are

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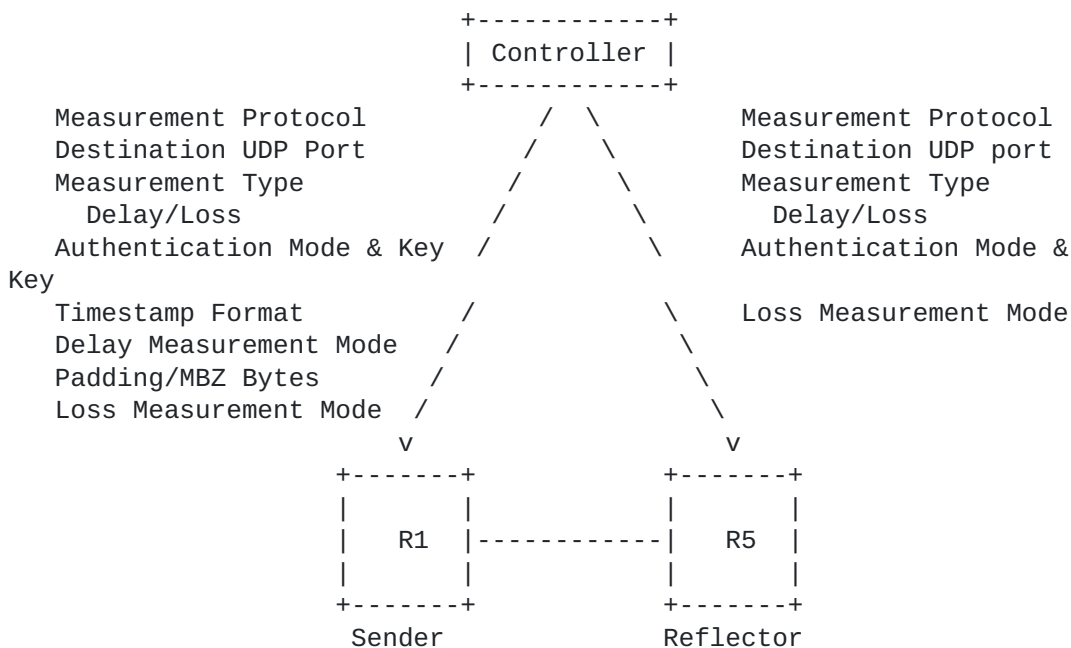
used to measure the delay experienced by the actual data traffic flowing on the links and SR Policies.

- o For Loss Measurement, the probe messages are sent on the congruent path of the data traffic by the sender node, and are used to collect the receive traffic counters for the incoming link or incoming SID where the probe query messages are received at the reflector node (incoming link or incoming SID needed since the reflector node does not have PM session state present).

The In-Situ Operations, Administration, and Maintenance (IOAM) mechanisms for SR-MPLS defined in [I-D.spring-ioam-sr-mpls] and for SRv6 defined in [I-D.spring-ioam-srv6] are used to carry PM information such as timestamp in-band as part of the data packets, and are outside the scope of this document.

3.1. Example Provisioning Model

An example of a provisioning model and typical measurement parameters for performance delay and loss measurements is shown in the following Figure:



Example Provisioning Model

The reflector node R5 uses the parameters for the timestamp format, delay measurement mode (i.e. one-way, two-way or loopback mode) and packet padding size from the received probe query message.

Examples of Measurement Protocol is TWAMP Light or STAMP, the Timestamp Format is PTPv2 [[IEEE1588](#)] or NTP and the Loss Measurement mode is inferred or direct mode. The mechanisms to provision the sender and reflector nodes are outside the scope of this document.

3.2. STAMP Applicability

The Simple Two-way Active Measurement Protocol (STAMP) [[I-D.ippm-stamp](#)] and the STAMP TLVs [[I-D.ippm-stamp-option-tlv](#)] are both equally applicable to the procedures specified in this document.

This is because the delay measurement message formats defined for STAMP and STAMP TLVs are backwards compatible with the delay measurement message formats defined in [[RFC5357](#)]. Hence, the same user-configured destination UDP port for delay measurement can be used for STAMP and TWAMP Light messages. The STAMP with a TLV for "direct measurement" can be used for combined delay + loss measurement using a separate user-configured UDP destination port.

The loss measurement probe and query messages defined in this document are also equally applicable to STAMP and STAMP TLVs, and use the message formats defined in [[I-D.ippm-stamp](#)].

4. Probe Messages

4.1. Probe Query Message

In this document, the probe messages defined in [[RFC5357](#)] are used for Delay and Loss measurements for SR links and end-to-end SR Policies. The user-configured destination UDP ports (separate UDP ports for different delay and loss message formats) are used for identifying the PM probe packets as described in [Appendix I of \[RFC5357\]](#).

The Sender IPv4 or IPv6 address is used as the source address. When known, the reflector IPv4 or IPv6 address is used as the destination address. If not known, the address in the range of 127/8 for IPv4

or

0:0:0:0:0:FFFF:7F00/104 for IPv6 is used as destination address.

This is the case for example, when using SR Policy with IPv4 endpoint

of 0.0.0.0 or IPv6 endpoint of ::0
[[I-D.spring-segment-routing-policy](#)].

4.1.1. Delay Measurement Probe Query Message

The message content for Delay Measurement probe query message using UDP header [[RFC768](#)] is shown in Figure 1. The DM probe query message

is sent with user-configured Destination UDP port number for DM.

The
Destination UDP port cannot be used as Source port, since the
message

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does not have any indication to distinguish between query and response. The DM probe query message contains the payload for delay measurement defined in [Section 4.1.2 of \[RFC5357\]](#). For symmetrical size query and response messages [\[RFC6038\]](#), the DM probe query message contains the payload format defined in [Section 4.2.1 of \[RFC5357\]](#).

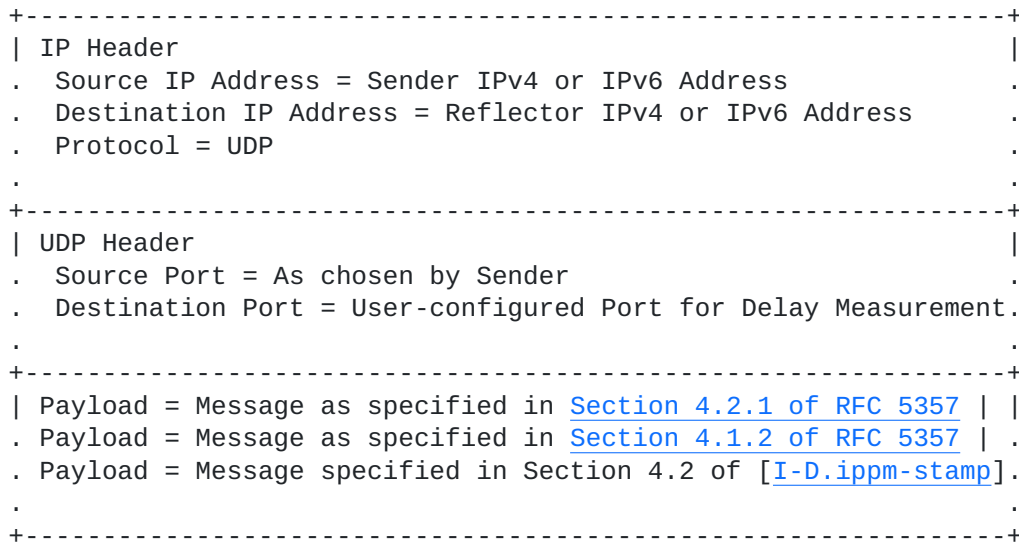
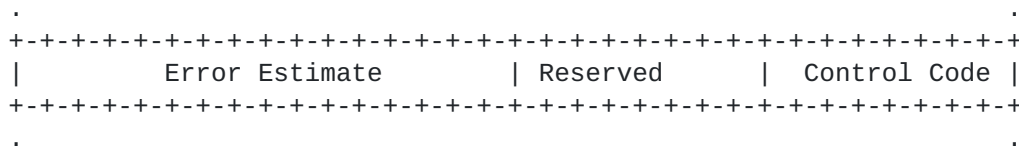


Figure 1: DM Probe Query Message

The Control Code field is defined in the modified DM probe message format as follows. This DM probe message format is backwards compatible with the format defined in [\[RFC5357\]](#) as its reflector

MUST

ignore the received MBZ field.



Control Code: Set as follows in a probe query and response messages.

For a Query:

0x0: Out-of-band Response Requested. Indicates that the response is not required over the same path in the reverse direction. This is also the default behavior.

0x1: In-band Response Requested. Indicates that this query has

been sent over a bidirectional path and the response is required over the same path in the reverse direction.

For a Response:

0x1: Error - Invalid Message. Indicates that the operation failed because the received query message was malformed.

Reserved: Reserved for future use.

Timestamp field is eight bytes and use the format defined in [Section 4.2.1 of \[RFC5357\]](#). It is recommended to use the IEEE 1588v2 Precision Time Protocol (PTP) truncated 64-bit timestamp format [\[IEEE1588\]](#) as specified in [\[RFC8186\]](#), preferred with hardware support in Segment Routing networks.

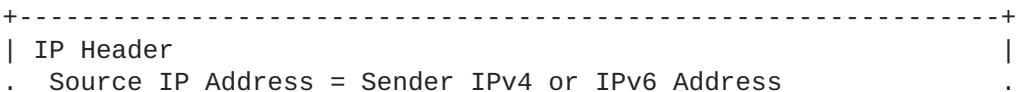
4.1.1.1. Delay Measurement Authentication Mode

When using the authenticated mode for delay measurement, the matching authentication type (e.g. HMAC-SHA-256) and key are user-configured on both the sender and reflector nodes. A separate user-configured destination UDP port is used for the delay measurement in authentication mode due to the different probe message format.

4.1.1.2. Loss Measurement Probe Query Message

In this document, new probe query message formats are defined for loss measurement as shown in Figure 3A and Figure 3B. The message formats are hardware efficient due to the small size payload and well-known locations of counters. They are similar to the delay measurement message formats and do not require any backwards compatibility and support for the existing DM message formats from [\[RFC5357\]](#).

The message content for Loss Measurement probe query message using UDP header [\[RFC768\]](#) is shown in Figure 2. The LM probe query message is sent with user-configured Destination UDP port number for LM. Separate Destination UDP ports are used for direct-mode and inferred-mode loss measurements. The Destination UDP port cannot be used as Source port, since the message does not have any indication to distinguish between query and response. The LM probe query message contains the payload for loss measurement as defined in Figure 3A-3D.



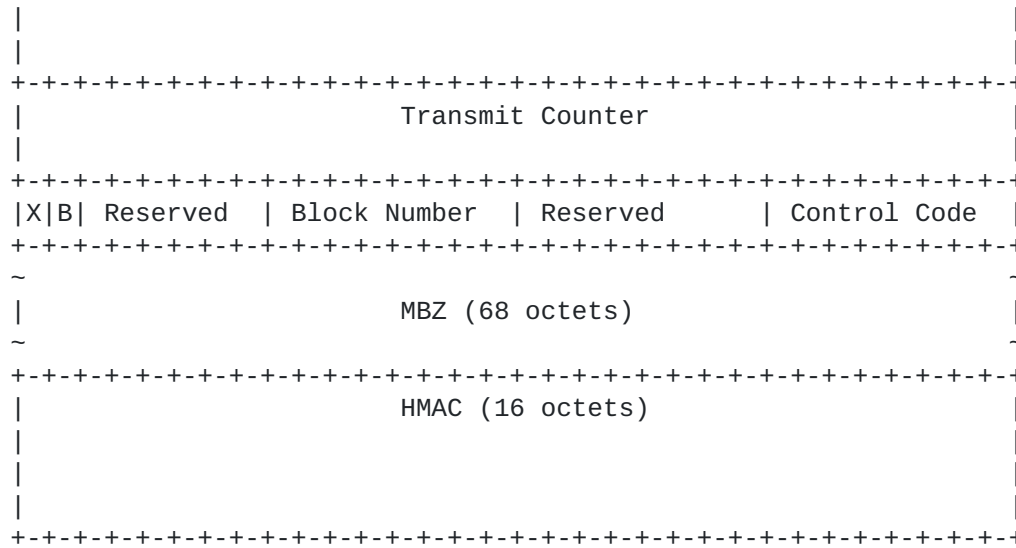


Figure 3D: STAMP LM Probe Query Message Format - Authenticated Mode

Sequence Number (32-bit): As defined in [RFC5357].

Transmit Counter (64-bit): The number of packets or octets sent by the sender node in the query message and by the reflector node in the response message. The counter is always written at the fixed location in the probe query and response messages.

Receive Counter (64-bit): The number of packets or octets received at the reflector node. It is written by the reflector node in the probe response message.

Sender Counter (64-bit): This is the exact copy of the transmit counter from the received query message. It is written by the reflector node in the probe response message.

Sender Sequence Number (32-bit): As defined in [RFC5357].

Sender TTL: As defined in [RFC5357].

LM Flags: The meanings of the Flag bits are:

X: Extended counter format indicator. Indicates the use of extended (64-bit) counter values. Initialized to 1 upon creation (and prior to transmission) of an LM Query and copied from an LM Query to an LM response. Set to 0 when the LM message is transmitted or received over an interface that writes 32-bit counter values.

B: Octet (byte) count. When set to 1, indicates that the Counter 1-4 fields represent octet counts. The octet count applies to all packets within the LM scope, and the octet count of a packet sent or received includes the total length of that packet (but excludes headers, labels, or framing of the channel itself). When set to 0, indicates that the Counter fields represent packet counts.

Block Number (8-bit): The Loss Measurement using Alternate-Marking method defined in [RFC8321] requires to color the data traffic. To be able to compare the transmit and receive traffic counters of the matching color, the Block Number (or color) of the traffic counters is carried by the probe query and response messages for loss measurement.

HMAC: The PM probe packet in authenticated mode includes a key Hashed Message Authentication Code (HMAC) ([RFC2104]) hash. Each probe query and response messages are authenticated by adding Sequence Number with Hashed Message Authentication Code (HMAC) TLV. It can use HMAC-SHA-256 truncated to 128 bits (similarly to the use of it in IPsec defined in [RFC4868]); hence the length of the HMAC field is 16 octets.

HMAC uses its own key and the mechanism to distribute the HMAC key is outside the scope of this document.

In authenticated mode, only the sequence number is encrypted, and the other payload fields are sent in clear text. The probe packet MAY include Comp.MBZ (Must Be Zero) variable length field to align the packet on 16 octets boundary.

4.1.2.1. Loss Measurement Authentication Mode

When using the authenticated mode for loss measurement, the matching authentication type (e.g. HMAC-SHA-256) and key are user-configured on both the sender and reflector nodes. A separate user-configured destination UDP port is used for the loss measurement in authentication mode due to the different message format.

4.1.3. Probe Query for SR Links

The probe query message as defined in Figure 1 is sent on the congruent path of the data traffic for Delay measurement. The probe query message as defined in Figure 2 is sent on the congruent path of the data traffic for Loss measurement.

4.1.4. Probe Query for End-to-end Measurement for SR Policy

The performance delay and loss measurement for segment routing is

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applicable to both SR-MPLS and SRv6 Policies.

4.1.4.1. Probe Query Message for SR-MPLS Policy

The probe query messages for end-to-end performance measurement of an SR-MPLS Policy is sent using its SR-MPLS header containing the MPLS segment list as shown in Figure 4.

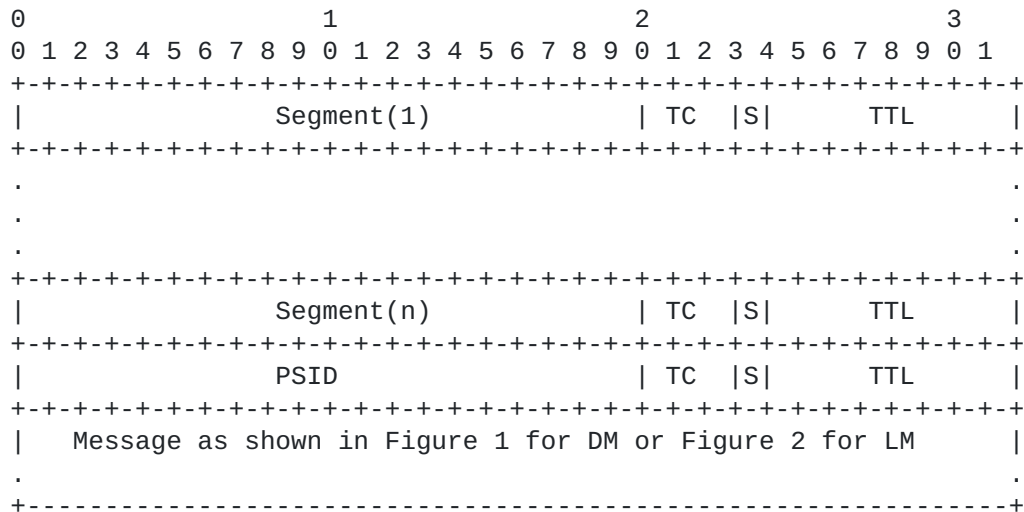


Figure 4: Probe Query Message for SR-MPLS Policy

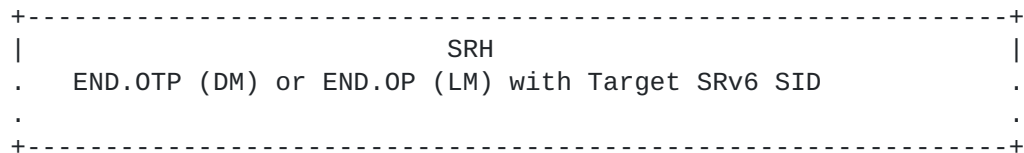
The Segment List (SL) can be empty to indicate Implicit NULL label case for a single-hop SR Policy.

The Path Segment Identifier (PSID) [[I-D.spring-mpls-path-segment](#)] of the SR-MPLS Policy is used for accounting received traffic on the egress node for loss measurement. The PSID is not required for end-to-end SR Policy delay measurement.

4.1.4.2. Probe Query Message for SRv6 Policy

An SRv6 Policy setup using the SRv6 Segment Routing Header (SRH) and a Segment List as defined in [[I-D.6man-segment-routing-header](#)]. The probe query messages for end-to-end performance measurement of an SRv6 Policy is sent using its SRH and Segment List as shown in

Figure 5.




```

| Message as shown in Figure 1 for DM or Figure 2 for LM |
. (Using IPv6 Source and Destination Addresses) .
. . . . .
+-----+

```

Figure 5: Probe Query Message for SRv6 Policy

For delay measurement of SRv6 Policy using SRH, END function END.OTP [I-D.6man-srv6-oam] is used with the target SRv6 SID to punt probe messages on the target node, as shown in Figure 5. Similarly, for loss measurement of SRv6 Policy, END function END.OP [I-D.6man-srv6-oam] is used with target SRv6 SID to punt probe messages on the target node.

4.2. Probe Response Message

The probe response message is sent using the IP/UDP information from the received probe query message. The content of the probe response message is shown in Figure 6.

```

+-----+
| IP Header |
. Source IP Address = Reflector IPv4 or IPv6 Address .
. Destination IP Address = Source IP Address from Query .
. Protocol = UDP .
. . . . .
+-----+
| UDP Header |
. Source Port = As chosen by Reflector .
. Destination Port = Source Port from Query .
. . . . .
+-----+
| DM Payload as specified in Section 4.2.1 of RFC 5357, or |
. DM payload as specified in Section 4.3 of [I-D.ippm-stamp] .
. LM Payload as specified in Figure 7A or 7B in this document or.
. LM Payload as specified in Figure 7C or 7D in this document .
. . . . .
+-----+

```

Figure 6: Probe Response Message

In this document, probe response message formats are defined for loss

measurement as shown in Figure 7A-7D. The message formats are hardware efficient due to the small size payload and well known locations of the counters. They are also similar to the delay measurement message formats.

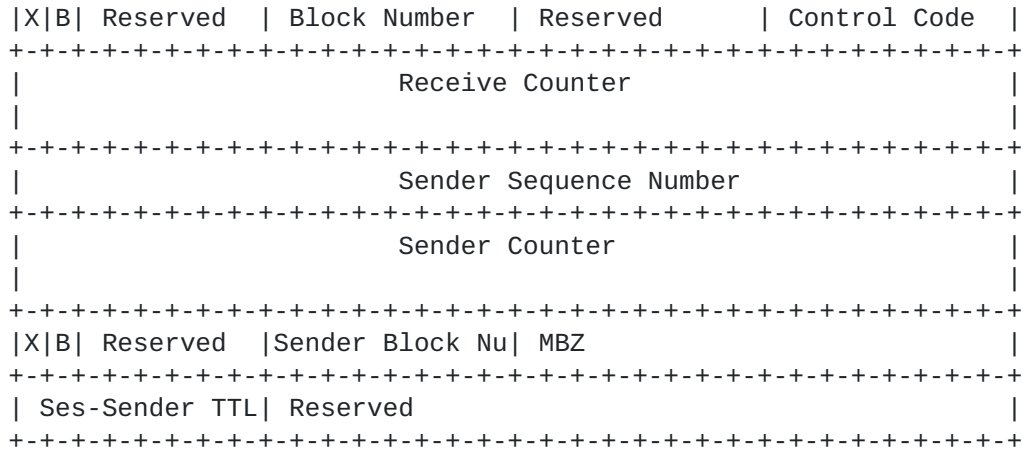
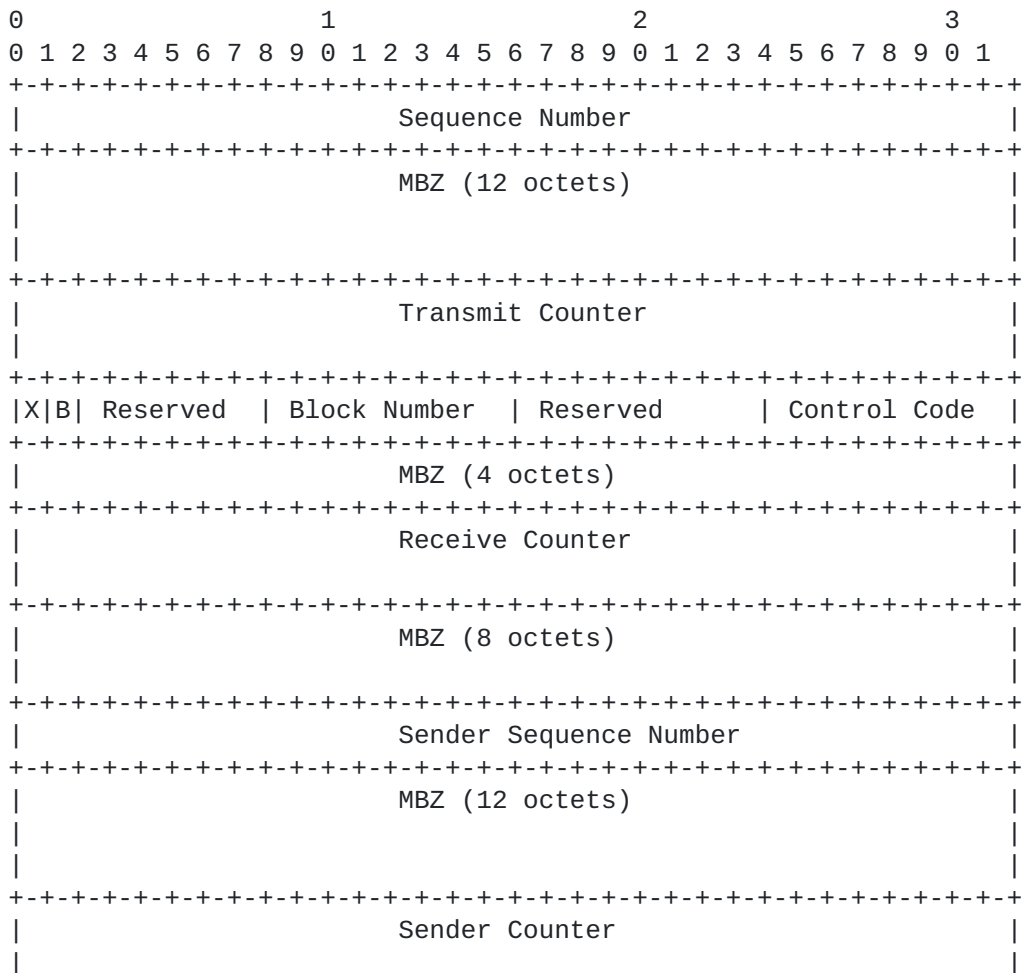


Figure 7C: STAMP LM Probe Response Message Format



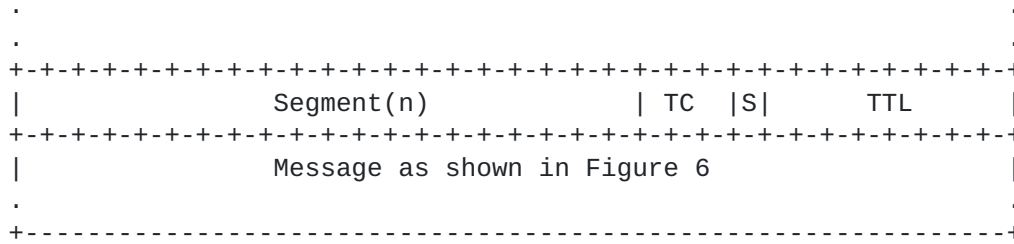


Figure 9: Probe Response Message for SR-MPLS Policy

The Path Segment Identifier (PSID) [[I-D.spring-mpls-path-segment](#)] of the forward SR Policy in the probe query can be used to find the associated reverse SR Policy [[I-D.bidir-sr](#)] to send the probe response message for two-way measurement of SR Policy when Return Path TLV is not sent.

4.2.2.2. Probe Response Message for SRv6 Policy

The message content for sending probe response message on the congruent path of the data traffic for two-way end-to-end performance measurement of an SRv6 Policy with SRH is shown in Figure 10.

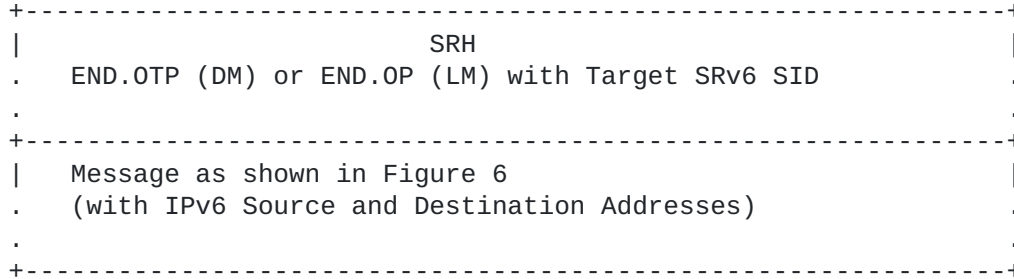


Figure 10: Probe Response Message for SRv6 Policy

4.2.3. Loopback Measurement Mode

The Loopback measurement mode can be used to measure round-trip delay for a bidirectional SR Path. The IP header of the probe query message contains the destination address equals to the sender address and the source address equals to the reflector address. Optionally, the probe query message can carry the reverse path information (e.g. reverse path label stack for SR-MPLS) as part of the SR header. The reflector node does not process the PM probe messages and generate response messages.

4.3. Return Path TLV

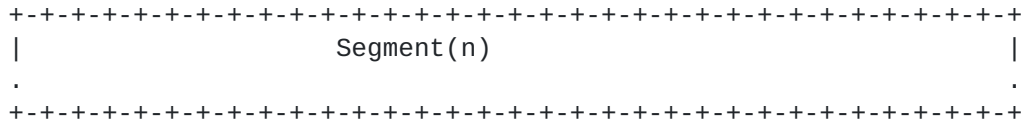


Figure 8B: Segment List Sub-TLV in Return Path TLV

The Segment List Sub-TLV (shown in Figure 8B) in the Return Path TLV can be one of the following Types:

- o Type (value 1): SR-MPLS Label Stack of the Reverse SR Path
- o Type (value 2): SR-MPLS Binding SID [[I-D.pce-binding-label-sid](#)] of the Reverse SR Policy
- o Type (value 3): SRv6 Segment List of the Reverse SR Path
- o Type (value 4): SRv6 Binding SID [[I-D.pce-binding-label-sid](#)] of the Reverse SR Policy

The Return Path TLV is optional. The PM sender node MUST only insert one Return Path TLV in the probe query message and the reflector node MUST only process the first Return Path TLV in the probe query message and ignore other Return Path TLVs if present. The reflector node MUST send probe response message back on the reverse path specified in the Return Path TLV and MUST NOT add Return Path TLV in the probe response message.

In the absence of Return Path TLV, in two-way measurement mode, the probe response message is sent back on the incoming physical interface where the probe query message is received. This is useful for example, in case of two-way measurement mode for SR link delay.

4.4. Node Address TLV

The Node Address TLV has the following format:

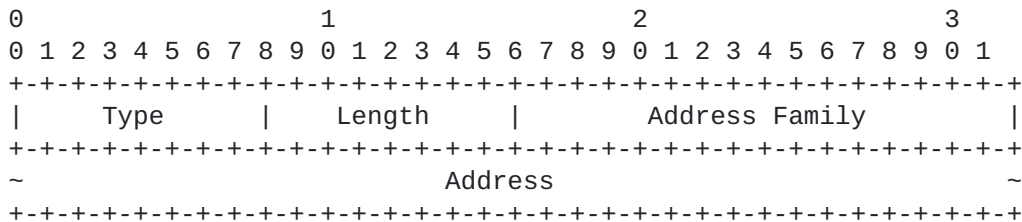


Figure 12: Node Address TLV Format

The Address Family field indicates the type of the address, and it SHALL be set to one of the assigned values in the "IANA Address Family Numbers" registry.

The Node Address TLV is of the following Type: Destination Node Address.

The Destination Node Address TLV is optional. The Destination Node Address TLV indicates the address of the intended recipient of the probe message. The destination node SHOULD NOT send response if it is not the intended destination node of the prone query message. This check is useful for example, for performance measurement of SR Policy when using the destination address in 127/8 range for IPv4 or in 0:0:0:0:0:FFFF:7F00/104 range for IPv6.

5. Performance Measurement for P2MP SR Policies

The procedures for delay and loss measurement described in this document for Point-to-Point (P2P) SR Policies [[I-D.spring-segment-routing-policy](#)] are also equally applicable to the Point-to-Multipoint (P2MP) SR Policies [[I-D.spring-sr-p2mp-policy](#)] as following:

- o The sender root node sends probe query messages using the Replication Segment defined in [[I-D.spring-sr-p2mp-policy](#)] for the P2MP SR Policy as shown in Figure 11.
- o Each reflector leaf node sends its IP address in the Source Address of the probe response messages as shown in Figure 6. This allows the sender root node to identify the reflector leaf nodes of the P2MP SR Policy.
- o The P2MP root node measures the end-to-end delay and loss performance for each P2MP leaf node of the P2MP SR Policy.

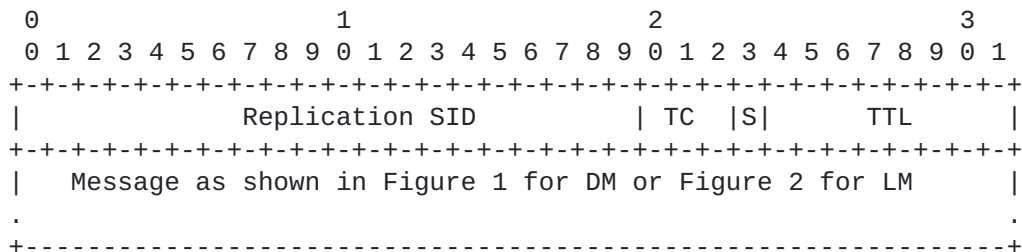


Figure 11: With Replication Segment for SR-MPLS Policy

6. ECMP Support for SR Policies

An SR Policy can have ECMPs between the source and transit nodes, between transit nodes and between transit and destination nodes. Usage of Anycast SID [[RFC8402](#)] by an SR Policy can result in ECMP paths via transit nodes part of that Anycast group. The PM probe messages need to be sent to traverse different ECMP paths to measure performance delay of an SR Policy.

Forwarding plane has various hashing functions available to forward packets on specific ECMP paths. The mechanisms described in [[RFC8029](#)] and [[RFC5884](#)] for handling ECMPs are also applicable to the performance measurement. In the IP header of the PM probe messages, sweeping of Destination Addresses in 127/8 range for IPv4 or 0:0:0:0:0:FFFF:7F00/104 range for IPv6 can be used to exercise a particular ECMP path. As specified in [[RFC6437](#)], Flow Label field in the IPv6 header can also be used for sweeping.

The considerations for performance loss measurement for different ECMP paths of an SR Policy are outside the scope of this document.

7. Additional Message Processing Rules

7.1. TTL Value

The TTL or the Hop Limit field in the IP, MPLS and SRH headers of the probe query messages are set to 255 [[RFC5357](#)].

When using the Destination IPv4 Address from the 127/8 range, the TTL in the IPv4 header is set to 1 [[RFC8029](#)]. Similarly, when using the Destination IPv6 Address from the 0:0:0:0:0:FFFF:7F00/104 range, the Hop Limit field in the inner IPv6 header is set to 1 whereas in the outer IPv6 header is set to 255.

7.2. Router Alert Option

The Router Alert IP option is not set when using the routable Destination IP Address in the probe messages.

When using the Destination IPv4 Address from the 127/8 range, to be able to punt probe packets on the reflector node, the Router Alert IP Option of value 0x0 [[RFC2113](#)] for IPv4 MAY be added [[RFC8029](#)]. Similarly, when using the Destination IPv6 Address from the

0:0:0:0:0:FFFF:7F00/104 range, the Router Alert IP Option of value
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[RFC7506] for IPv6 MAY be added in the destination option. For SRv6 Policy using SRH, it is added in the inner IPv6 header.

7.3. UDP Checksum

The Checksum Complement for delay and loss measurement messages follows the procedure defined in [RFC7820] and can be optionally used with the procedures defined in this document.

For IPv4 and IPv6 probe messages, where the hardware is not capable of re-computing the UDP checksum or adding checksum complement [RFC7820], the sender node sets the UDP checksum to 0 [RFC6936] [RFC8085]. The receiving node bypasses the checksum validation and accepts the packets with UDP checksum value 0 for the UDP port being used for PM delay and loss measurements.

8. Security Considerations

The performance measurement is intended for deployment in well-managed private and service provider networks. As such, it assumes that a node involved in a measurement operation has previously verified the integrity of the path and the identity of the far-end reflector node.

If desired, attacks can be mitigated by performing basic validation and sanity checks, at the sender, of the counter or timestamp fields in received measurement response messages. The minimal state associated with these protocols also limits the extent of measurement disruption that can be caused by a corrupt or invalid message to a single query/response cycle.

Use of HMAC-SHA-256 in the authenticated mode protects the data integrity of the probe messages. SRv6 has HMAC protection authentication defined for SRH [I-D.6man-segment-routing-header]. Hence, PM probe messages for SRv6 may not need authentication mode. Cryptographic measures may be enhanced by the correct configuration of access-control lists and firewalls.

9. IANA Considerations

IANA is requested to allocate a value for the following optional Return Path TLV Type for [I-D.ippm-stamp-option-tlv] to be carried in PM probe query messages:

- o Type TBA1: Return Path TLV

IANA is also requested to allocate the values for the following Sub-TLV Types for the Return Path TLV.

- o Type (value 0): Return Address
- o Type (value 1): SR-MPLS Label Stack of the Reverse SR Path
- o Type (value 2): SR-MPLS Binding SID [[I-D.pce-binding-label-sid](#)] of the Reverse SR Policy
- o Type (value 3): SRv6 Segment List of the Reverse SR Path
- o Type (value 4): SRv6 Binding SID [[I-D.pce-binding-label-sid](#)] of the Reverse SR Policy

IANA is requested to allocate a value for the following optional Destination Address TLV Type for [[I-D.ippm-stamp-option-tlv](#)] to be carried in PM probe message:

- o Type TBA2: Destination Address TLV

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Authors' Addresses

Rakesh Gandhi (editor)
Cisco Systems, Inc.
Canada
Email: rgandhi@cisco.com

Clarence Filsfils
Cisco Systems, Inc.
Email: cfilsfil@cisco.com

Daniel Voyer

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Bell Canada
Email: daniel.voyer@bell.ca

Mach(Guoyi) Chen
Huawei
Email: mach.chen@huawei.com

Bart Janssens
Colt
Email: Bart.Janssens@colt.net

