

Networking Working Group  
Internet-Draft  
Intended status: Standards Track  
Expires: May 2, 2021

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October 29, 2020

**BGP Link-State extensions for BIER**  
**draft-ietf-bier-bgp-ls-bier-ext-08**

Abstract

Bit Index Explicit Replication (BIER) is an architecture that provides optimal multicast forwarding through a "BIER domain" without requiring intermediate routers to maintain any multicast related per-flow state. BIER also does not require any explicit tree-building protocol for its operation. A multicast data packet enters a BIER domain at a "Bit-Forwarding Ingress Router" (BFIR), and leaves the BIER domain at one or more "Bit-Forwarding Egress Routers" (BFERs). The BFIR router adds a BIER header to the packet. The BIER header contains a bitstring in which each bit represents exactly one BFER to forward the packet to. The set of BFERs to which the multicast packet needs to be forwarded is expressed by setting the bits that correspond to those routers in the BIER header.

BGP Link-State (BGP-LS) enables the collection of various topology information from the network, and the topology informations are used by the controller to calculate the forwarding table and then program them onto the ingress nodes (instead of having each node to calculate on its own) and that can be for both inter-as and intra-as situations.

This document specifies extensions to the BGP Link-state address-family in order to advertise BIER informations.

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## [1.](#) Introduction

Bit Index Explicit Replication (BIER) is an architecture that provides optimal multicast forwarding through a "BIER domain" without requiring intermediate routers to maintain any multicast related per-flow state. BIER also does not require any explicit tree-building protocol for its operation. A multicast data packet enters a BIER domain at a "Bit-Forwarding Ingress Router" (BFIR), and leaves the BIER domain at one or more "Bit-Forwarding Egress Routers" (BFERs).



The BFIR router adds a BIER header to the packet. The BIER header contains a bitstring in which each bit represents exactly one BFER to forward the packet to. The set of BFERs to which the multicast packet needs to be forwarded is expressed by setting the bits that correspond to those routers in the BIER header.

When BIER is enabled in an IGP domain, BIER-related information will be advertised via IGP link-state routing protocols. IGP extensions are described in: ISIS[[[RFC8401](#)]], OSPFv2[[[RFC8444](#)]] and OSPFv3[[[I-D.ietf-bier-ospfv3-extensions](#)]]. The flooding scope for the IGP extensions for Segment routing is IGP area-wide. by using the IGP alone it is not enough to construct segments across multiple IGP Area.

The BGP-LS address-family/sub-address-family have been defined to allow BGP to carry Link-State information. This document specifies extensions to the BGP Link-state address-family in order to advertise BIER-specific informations. An external component (e.g., a controller/a PCE) then can learn the BIER information in the "northbound" direction and calculate BIRT/BIFT and then program them onto BFRs (instead of having each BFR to calculate on its own), and that can be for both inter-as and intra-as situations.

## **2. Conventions used in this document**

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](#).

## **3. BGP-LS Extensions for BIER**

[RFC8279] defines the BFR - A router that supports BIER is known as a "Bit-Forwarding Router"(BFR), and each BFR MUST be assigned a "BFR-Prefix". A BFR's BFR-Prefix MUST be an IP address (either IPv4 or IPv6) of the BFR, and MUST be unique and routable within the BIER domain as described in [section 2 of \[RFC8279\]](#), and then external component (e.g., a controller) need to collect BIER information of BIER routers are associated with the BFR-Prefix in the "northbound" direction within the BIER domain.

Given that the BIER information is associated with the prefix, the Prefix Attribute TLV [[RFC7752](#)] can be used to carry the BIER information. A new Prefix Attribute TLVs are defined for the encoding of BIER information.



### 3.1. Prefix Attributes TLVs

The following Prefix Attribute TLVs are defined:

Type	Description	Section
TBD	BIER information	<a href="#">Section 3.1.1</a>
TBD	BIER MPLS Encapsulation	<a href="#">Section 3.1.2</a>
TBD	BIER non-MPLS Encapsulation	<a href="#">Section 3.1.2</a>

Table 1: The new Prefix Attribute TLVs

#### 3.1.1. The BIER information TLV

A new Prefix Attribute TLV (defined in [\[RFC7752\]](#) is defined for distributing BIER information. The new TLV is called the BIER TLV. The BIER information TLVs may appear multiple times.

The following BIER information TLV is defined:

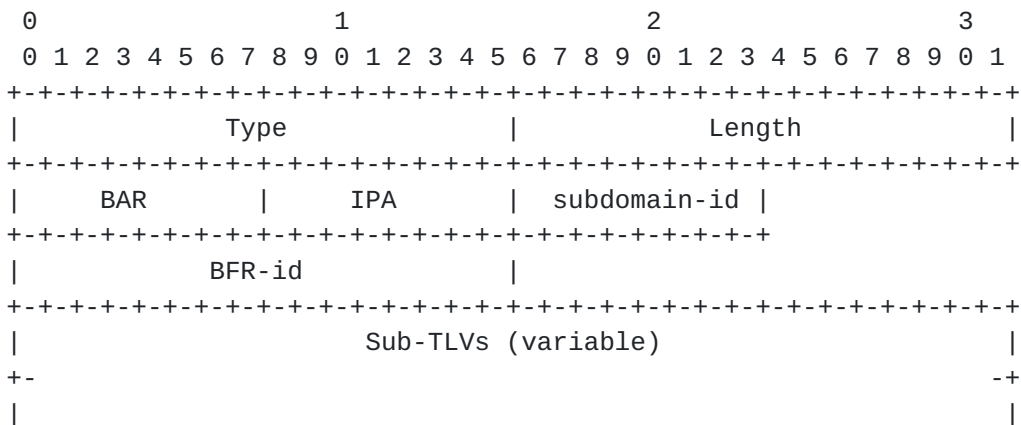


Figure 2: The BIER information TLV

Type: 2 octet field with value TBD, see IANA Considerations section.

Length: 2 octet.

Reserved: MUST be 0 on transmission, ignored on reception. May be used in future versions.



BAR: A 1 octet field encoding the BIER Algorithm, used to calculate underlay paths to reach BFERs. Values are allocated from the "BIER Algorithms" registry which is defined in [[RFC8401](#)].

IPA: A 1 octet field encoding the IGP Algorithm, used to either modify, enhance, or replace the calculation of underlay paths to reach BFERs as defined by the BAR value. Values are from the IGP Algorithm registry.

Subdomain-id: Unique value identifying the BIER sub-domain, 1 octet.

MT-ID: Multi-Topology ID that identifies the topology that is associated with the BIER sub-domain. 1 octet.

BFR-id: A 2 octet field encoding the BFR-id, as documented in [[RFC8279](#)]. If the BFR-id is zero, it means, the advertising router is not advertising any BIER-id. In some environment, BFR-id can be configured by NMS, The BFR-id should be sent to a controller.

BS Length: A 1 octet field encoding the Bitstring length as per [[RFC8296](#)].

If the MT-ID value is outside of the values specified in [[RFC4915](#)], the BIER Sub-TLV MUST be ignored.

### **[3.1.2](#). The BIER MPLS Encapsulation TLV**

The BIER MPLS Encapsulation TLV is used in order to advertise MPLS specific information used for BIER. It MAY appear multiple times.

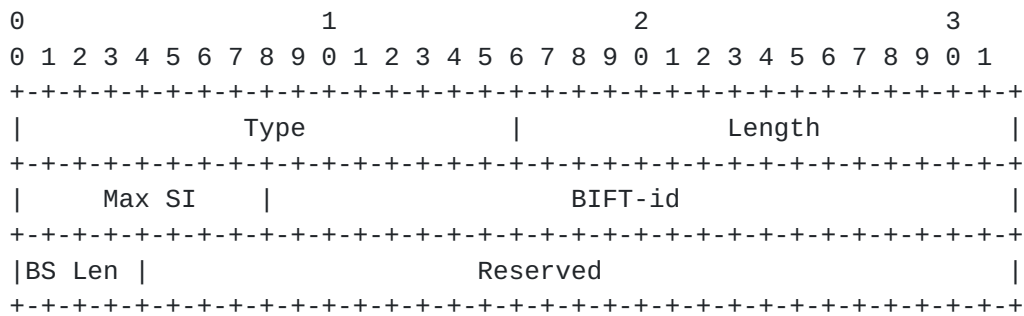
In some environment, each router allocates its labels, and advertises it to the controller. That solution is simpler as the controller does not need to deal with label allocation. If the controller has to deal with Label allocation, there needs to be a (global) range carved out such there are no conflicts. We can avoid all that by having the router allocate the BIER Label range and advertise it to the controller.

The following the BIER MPLS Encapsulation Sub-TLV is defined:









The following table, illustrates for each BGP-LS TLV, its equivalence in IS-IS.



+-----+-----+ +-----+   Descriptio   IS-IS TLV   Reference   n   /Sub-TLV   +-----+-----+ +-----+   BIER   BIER Info Sub-TLV   [RFC8401]     information         BIER MPLS   BIER MPLS Encapsulation   [RFC8401]     Encapsulation   Sub-Sub-TLV         BIER non-MPLS   BIER non-MPLS Encapsulation   [I-D.ietf-bier-lsr-ethernet-extensions]     Encapsulation   Sub-Sub-TLV   +-----+-----+ +-----+
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Table 2: IS-IS BIER Sub-TLVs/Sub-Sub-TLVs

## 5. Equivalent OSPFv2/OSPFv3 BIER TLVs/Sub-TLVs

This section illustrate the BIER TLVs mapped to the ones defined in this document.

The following table, illustrates for each BGP-LS TLV, its equivalence in OSPFv2/OSPFv3.

+-----+-----+ +-----+   Descriptio   OSPFv2/OSPFv3 sub-TLV   Reference   n   /Sub-Sub-TLV   +-----+-----+ +-----+   BIER   BIER Sub-TLV   [RFC8444] &
--

information		[I-D. ietf-bier-ospfv3-
extensions		
	BIER MPLS	BIER MPLS Encapsulation   [ <a href="#">RFC8444</a> ]&
	Encapsulation	Sub-TLV   [I-D. ietf-bier-ospfv3-
extensions		
	BIER non-MPLS	BIER non-MPLS Encapsulation   [ <a href="#">I-D.ietf-bier-lsr-ethernet-</a>
	Encapsulation	Sub-TLV
+-----+		
+-----+		

Table 3: OSPFv2/OSPFV3 BIER TLVs/Sub-TLVs

## 6. IANA Considerations

This document requests assigning code-points from the registry for the new Prefix Attribute TLVs.

	TLV Code Point	Description	Value defined
	TBD	BIER information	this document
	TBD	BIER MPLS Encapsulation	this document
	TBD	BIER non-MPLS Encapsulation	this document

Table 4: The new Prefix Attribute TLV

## 7. Security Considerations

Procedures and protocol extensions defined in this document do not affect the BGP security model. See the "Security Considerations" section of [\[RFC4271\]](#) for a discussion of BGP security. Also, refer to [\[RFC4272\]](#) and [\[RFC6952\]](#) for analyses of security issues for BGP. Security considerations for acquiring and distributing BGP-LS information are discussed in [\[RFC7752\]](#).

The TLVs introduced in this document are used to propagate the Bit Index Explicit Replication (BIER) defined in [\[RFC8401\]](#), [\[RFC8444\]](#), [\[I-D.ietf-bier-ospfv3-extensions\]](#) and [\[I-D.ietf-bier-lsr-ethernet-extensions\]](#). These TLVs represent the bier information associated with the prefix. It is assumed that the IGP instances originating these TLVs will support all the required security and authentication mechanisms in [\[RFC8401\]](#), [\[RFC8444\]](#), [\[I-D.ietf-bier-ospfv3-extensions\]](#) and [\[I-D.ietf-bier-lsr-ethernet-extensions\]](#) in order to prevent any security issues when propagating the TLVs into BGP-LS. The advertisement of the link attribute information defined in this document presents no additional risk beyond that associated with the existing link attribute information already supported in [\[RFC7752\]](#).

## 8. Acknowledgements

The authors thank Peter Psenak, Ketan Talaulikar, Zhaohui Zhang, Gyan

Mishra and Benchong Xu and many others for their suggestions and comments.

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