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OSPF Extensions for BIER
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Abstract

Bit Index Explicit Replication (BIER) is an architecture that provides multicast forwarding through a "BIER domain" without requiring intermediate routers to maintain multicast related per-flow state. Neither does BIER require an 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. Such header contains a bit-string 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 the according set of bits switched on in BIER packet header.

This document describes the OSPF protocol extension required for BIER with MPLS encapsulation.

Status of This Memo

This Internet-Draft is submitted in full conformance with the provisions of BCP 78 and BCP 79.

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This Internet-Draft will expire on September 14, 2017.

Table of Contents

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. Neither does BIER explicitly require a 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 bit-string 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.

BIER architecture requires routers participating in BIER to exchange BIER related information within a given domain. BIER architecture permits link-state routing protocols to perform distribution of such information. This document describes extensions to OSPF necessary to carry BIER specific information in the case where BIER uses MPLS encapsulation as described in [I-D.wijnands-mpls-bier-encapsulation].

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].

2. Flooding of the BIER Information in OSPF

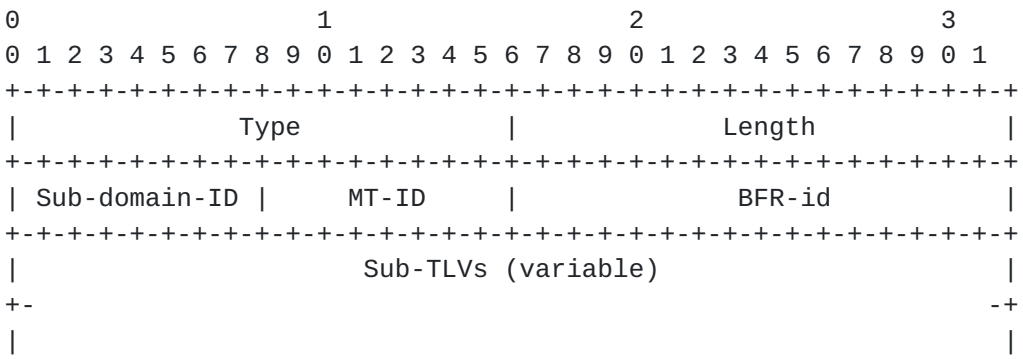
All BIER specific information that a BFR needs to advertise to other BFRs is associated with a BFR-Prefix. BFR prefix is a unique (within a given BIER domain), routable IP address that is assigned to each BFR as described in more detail in section 2 of [I-D.wijnands-bier-architecture].

Given that BIER information must be associated with a BFR prefix, the OSPF Extended Prefix Opaque LSA [I-D.ietf-ospf-prefix-link-attr] has been chosen to flood it.

2.1. The BIER Sub-TLV

A new Sub-TLV of the Extended Prefix TLV (defined in [I-D.ietf-ospf-prefix-link-attr]) is defined for distributing BIER information. The new Sub-TLV is called BIER Sub-TLV. Multiple BIER Sub-TLVs may be included in the Extended Prefix TLV.

BIER Sub-TLV has the following format:



Type: TBD

Length: variable

Sub-domain-ID: Unique value identifying the BIER sub-domain within the BIER domain, as described in section 1 of [I-D.wijnands-bier-architecture].

MT-ID: Multi-Topology ID (as defined in [RFC4915]) that identifies the topology that is associated with the BIER sub-domain.

BFR-id: A 2 octet field encoding the BFR-id, as documented in section 2 [I-D.wijnands-bier-architecture]. If the BFR is not locally configured with a valid BFR-id, the value of this field is set to invalid BFR-id per [I-D.wijnands-bier-architecture].

Each BFR sub-domain MUST be associated with one and only one OSPF topology that is identified by the MT-ID. If the association between BIER sub-domain and OSPF topology advertised in the BIER sub-TLV by other BFRs is in conflict with the association locally configured on the receiving router, whole BIER sub-TLV of the advertising routers MUST be ignored.

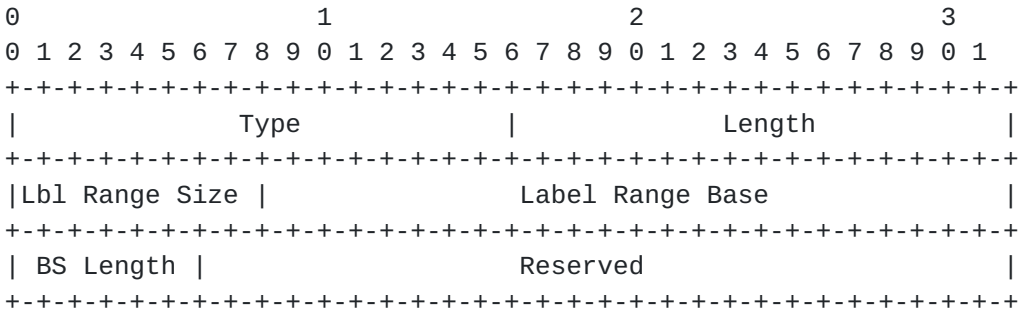
If a BFR advertises the same Sub-domain-ID in multiple BIER sub-TLVs, the BRF MUST be treated as if it did not advertise a BIER sub-TLV for such sub-domain.

All BFRs MUST detect advertisement of duplicate valid BFR-IDs for a given MT-ID and Sub-domain-ID. When such duplication is detected all BFRs advertising duplicates MUST be treated as if they did not advertise a valid BFR-id.

2.2. The BIER MPLS Encapsulation Sub-TLV

BIER MPLS Encapsulation Sub-TLV is a sub-TLV of the BIER Sub-TLV. BIER MPLS Encapsulation Sub-TLV is used in order to advertise MPLS specific information used for BIER. It MAY appear multiple times in the BIER Sub-TLV.

BIER MPLS Encapsulation Sub-TLV has the following format:



Type: TBD

Length: 4 bytes

Label Range Size: A 1 octet field encoding the label range size of the label range. It MUST be greater then 0, otherwise the advertising router MUST be treated as if it did not advertise a BIER sub-TLV.

Label Range Base: A 3 octet field, where the 20 rightmost bits represent the first label in the label range.

BS Length: A 1 octet field encoding the supported BitString length associated with this BFR-prefix. The values allowed in this field are specified in section 3 of [I-D.wijnands-mpls-bier-encapsulation].

The "label range" is the set of labels beginning with the label range base and ending with (label range base)+(label range size)-1. A unique label range is allocated for each BitStream length and Sub-domain-ID. These labels are used for BIER forwarding as described in [I-D.wijnands-bier-architecture] and [I-D.wijnands-mpls-bier-encapsulation].

The size of the label range is determined by the number of Set Identifiers (SI) (section 2 of [I-D.wijnands-bier-architecture]) that are used in the network. Each SI maps to a single label in the label range. The first label is for SI=0, the second label is for SI=1, etc.

If same BS length is repeated in multiple BIER MPLS Encapsulation Sub-TLV inside the same BIER Sub-TLV, the advertising router MUST be treated as if it did not advertise a BIER sub-TLV.

Label ranges within all BIER MPLS Encapsulation Sub-TLV inside the same BIER Sub-TLV MUST NOT overlap. If the overlap is detected, the advertising router MUST be treated as if it did not advertise a BIER sub-TLV.

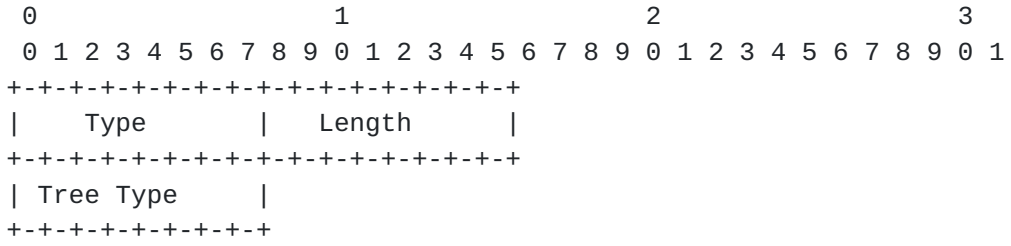
All advertised labels MUST be valid, otherwise the advertising router MUST be treated as if it did not advertise a BIER sub-TLV.

2.3. Optional BIER Tree Type Sub-TLV

This Sub-TLV carries the information associated with the supported BIER tree type for a subdomain. This Sub-TLV is optional and its absence has the same semantics as its presence with Tree Type value 0 (SPF). When Tree Type 0 is used it is recommended that this Sub-TLV is omitted in order to reduce the space consumed in the parent TLV.

This Sub-TLV MAY occur no more than once in a BIER sub-TLV. If multiple occurences of this Sub-TLV are present in a single BIER Sub-TLV the advertising router MUST be treated as if it did not advertise a BIER sub-TLV.

If the tree type (implied or explicitly advertised) does not match the locally configured tree type associated with the matching subdomain the advertising router MUST be treated as if it did not advertise a BIER sub-TLV.



Type: value of 1 indicating BIER Tree Type.

Length: 1 octet.

Tree Type: 1 octet

2.4. Flooding scope of BIER Information

Flooding scope of the OSPF Extended Prefix Opaque LSA [I-D.ietf-ospf-prefix-link-attr] that is used for advertising BIER Sub TLV is set to area. To allow BIER deployment in a multi-area environment, OSPF must propagate BIER information between areas. The following procedure is used in order to propagate BIER related information between areas:

When an OSPF ABR advertises a Type-3 Summary LSA from an intra-area or inter-area prefix to all its connected areas, it will also originate an Extended Prefix Opaque LSA, as described in [I-D.ietf-ospf-prefix-link-attr]. The flooding scope of the Extended Prefix Opaque LSA type will be set to area-scope. The route-type in the OSPF Extended Prefix TLV is set to inter-area. When determining whether a BIER Sub-TLV should be included in this LSA ABR will:

- look at its best path to the prefix in the source area and find the advertising router associated with the best path to that prefix.

- determine if such advertising router advertised a BIER Sub-TLV for the prefix. If yes, ABR will copy the information from

such BIER MPLS Sub-TLV when advertising BIER MPLS Sub-TLV to each connected area.

3. Security Considerations

Implementations must assure that malformed TLV and Sub-TLV permutations do not result in errors which cause hard OSPF failures.

4. IANA Considerations

The document requests three new allocations from the OSPF Extended Prefix sub-TLV registry as defined in [I-D.ietf-ospf-prefix-link-attr].

BIER Sub-TLV: TBD

BIER MPLS Encapsulation Sub-TLV: TBD

BIER Tree Type Sub-TLV: TBD

5. Acknowledgments

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6. Normative References

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