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Constrained YANG Module Library
draft-ietf-core-yang-library-03

Abstract

This document describes a constrained version of the YANG library that provides information about the YANG modules, datastores, and datastore schemas used by a constrained network management server (e.g., a CORECONF server).

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[1.](#) Introduction

There is a need for a standard mechanism to expose which YANG modules, datastores and datastore schemas are in use by a constrained network management server. This document defines the YANG module 'ietf-constrained-yang-library' that provides this information.

YANG module 'ietf-constrained-yang-library' shares the same data model and objectives as 'ietf-yang-library', only datatypes and mandatory requirements have been updated to minimize its size to allow its implementation by Constrained Nodes and/or Constrained Networks as defined by [\[RFC7228\]](#). To review the list of objectives and the proposed data model, please refer to [\[RFC8525\] section 2](#) and 3.

[2.](#) Terminology and Notation

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [BCP 14](#) [\[RFC2119\]](#) [\[RFC8174\]](#) when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

The following terms are defined in [\[RFC7950\]](#): client, deviation,

feature, module, submodule, and server.

The following term is defined in [[I-D.ietf-core-sid](#)]: YANG Schema Item iDentifier (SID).

The following terms are defined in [[RFC8525](#)]: YANG library and YANG library checksum.

[3.](#) Overview

The conceptual model of the YANG library is depicted in Figure 1.

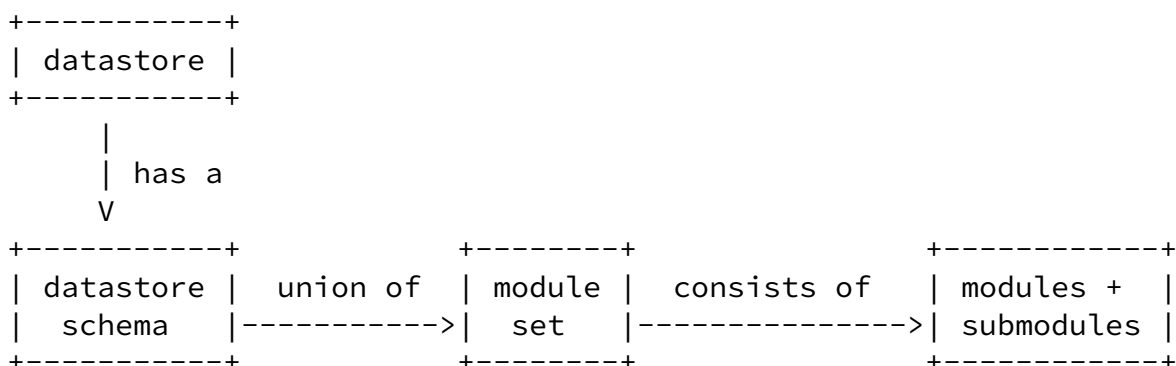


Figure 1: Conceptual model of the YANG library

It's expected that most constrained network management servers have one datastore (e.g. a unified datastore). However, some servers may have multiples datastore as described by NMDA [[RFC8342](#)]. The YANG library data model supports both cases.

In this model, every datastore has an associated datastore schema, which is the union of module sets, which is a collection of modules. Multiple datastores may refer to the same datastore schema and individual datastore schemas may share module sets.

For each module, the YANG library provides:

- o the YANG module identifier (i.e., SID)
- o its revision

- o its list of submodules
- o its list of imported modules
- o its set of features and deviations

YANG module namespace and location are also supported, but their implementation is not recommended for constrained servers.

[3.1.](#) Tree diagram

The tree diagram of YANG module `ietf-constrained-yang-library` is provided below. This graphical representation of a YANG module is defined in [\[RFC8340\]](#).

```

module: ietf-constrained-yang-library
  +--ro yang-library
    +--ro module-set* [index]
      |   +--ro index          uint8
      |   +--ro module* [identifier]
      |     |   +--ro identifier  sid:sid
      |     |   +--ro revision?   revision-identifier
      |     |   +--ro namespace?  inet:uri
      |     |   +--ro location*   inet:uri
      |     |   +--ro submodule* [identifier]
      |     |     |   +--ro identifier  sid:sid
      |     |     |   +--ro revision?   revision-identifier
      |     |     |   +--ro location*   inet:uri
      |     |     +--ro feature*     sid:sid
      |     |     +--ro deviation*    -> ../../module/identifier
      |     +--ro import-only-module* [identifier revision]
      |       +--ro identifier  sid:sid
      |       +--ro revision    union
      |       +--ro namespace?  inet:uri
      |       +--ro location*   inet:uri
      |       +--ro submodule* [identifier]
      |         +--ro identifier  sid:sid
      |         +--ro revision?   revision-identifier

```

```

|      +--ro location*      inet:uri
+--ro schema* [index]
|   +--ro index            uint8
|   +--ro module-set*      -> ../../module-set/index
+--ro datastore* [identifier]
|   +--ro identifier        ds:datastore-ref
|   +--ro schema            -> ../../schema/index
+--ro checksum              binary

```

notifications:

```

+---n yang-library-update
    +--ro checksum      -> /yang-library/checksum

```

[3.2.](#) Major differences between ietf-constrained-yang-library and ietf-yang-library

The changes between the reference data model 'ietf-yang-library' and its constrained version 'ietf-constrained-yang-library' are listed below:

- o module-set 'name' and schema 'name' are implemented using 8 bits unsigned integers and renamed 'index'.
- o module 'name', submodule 'name' and datastore 'name' are implemented using a SID (i.e. an unsigned integer) and renamed 'identifier'.
- o 'feature' and 'deviation' are implemented using a SID (i.e. an unsigned integer).
- o 'revision' fields are implemented using a 4 bytes binary string.
- o the mandatory requirement of the 'namespace' fields is removed, and implementation is not recommended. SIDs used by constrained devices and protocols don't require namespaces.
- o the implementation of the 'location' fields are not recommended, the use of the module SID as the handle to retrieve the associated YANG module is proposed instead.

[4.](#) YANG Module "ietf-constrained-yang-library"

RFC Ed.: update the date below with the date of RFC publication and remove this note.

```
<CODE BEGINS> file "ietf-constrained-yang-library@2019-03-28.yang"
module ietf-constrained-yang-library {
  yang-version 1.1;
  namespace
    "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-constrained-yang-library";
  prefix "yanglib";

  // RFC Ed.: update ietf-core-sid reference.

  import ietf-sid-file {
    prefix sid;
    reference "RFC YYYY: YANG Schema Item iDentifier (SID)";
    // RFC Editor: Please replace YYYY with RFC number of I-D.ietf-core-sid.
  }
  import ietf-inet-types {
    prefix inet;
    reference "RFC 6991: Common YANG Data Types.";
  }
  import ietf-datastores {
    prefix ds;
    reference
      "RFC 8342: Network Management Datastore Architecture (NMDA).";
  }
}
```

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This version of this YANG module is part of RFC XXXX (<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfcXXXX>); see the RFC itself for full legal notices.

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This module provides information about the YANG modules, datastores, and datastore schemas implemented by a constrained network management server."

```
// RFC Editor: Please replace XXXX with RFC number and remove this note

revision 2019-03-28 {
  description
    "Second revision.";
  reference
    "RFC XXXX: Constrained YANG Module Library";
  // RFC Editor: Please replace XXXX with RFC number and remove this note
}
```

```
/*
 * Typedefs
 */

typedef revision-identifier {
  type binary {
    length "4";
  }
}
```

```

    description
        "Revision date encoded as a binary string, each nibble
        representing a digit of the revision date. For example,
        revision 2018-09-21 is encoded as 0x20 0x18 0x09 0x21.";
}

/*
 * Groupings
 */

grouping module-identification-leafs {
    description
        "Parameters for identifying YANG modules and submodules.";

    leaf identifier {
        type sid:sid;
        mandatory true;
        description
            "SID assigned to this module or submodule.";
    }
    leaf revision {
        type revision-identifier;
        description
            "The YANG module or submodule revision date. If no
            revision statement is present in the YANG module
            or submodule, this leaf is not instantiated.";
    }
}

grouping location-leaf-list {
    description
        "Common location leaf list parameter for modules and
        submodules.";

    leaf-list location {
        type inet:uri;
        description
            "Contains a URL that represents the YANG schema resource
            for this module or submodule."
    }
}

```



```

        with 'ietf-yang-library'. Support of this leaf in
        constrained devices is not necessarily required, nor
        expected. It is recommended that clients used the module
        or sub-module SID as the handle used to retrieve the
        corresponding YANG module";
    }
}

grouping implementation-parameters {
    description
        "Parameters for describing the implementation of a module.";

    leaf-list feature {
        type sid:sid;
        description
            "List of all YANG feature names from this module that are
            supported by the server, regardless whether they are
            defined in the module or any included submodule.";
    }
    leaf-list deviation {
        type leafref {
            path "../../module/identifier";
        }
        description
            "List of all YANG deviation modules used by this server to
            modify the conformance of the module associated with this
            entry. Note that the same module can be used for
            deviations for multiple modules, so the same entry MAY
            appear within multiple 'module' entries.

            This reference MUST NOT (directly or indirectly)
            refer to the module being deviated.

            Robust clients may want to make sure that they handle a
            situation where a module deviates itself (directly or
            indirectly) gracefully.";
    }
}

grouping module-set-parameters {
    description
        "A set of parameters that describe a module set.";

    leaf index {
        type uint8;
        description
            "An arbitrary number assigned of the module set.";
    }
}

```

```
}
list module {
  key "identifier";
  description
    "An entry in this list represents a module implemented
    by the server, as per RFC 7950 section 5.6.5, with a
    particular set of supported features and deviations.";
  reference
    "RFC 7950: The YANG 1.1 Data Modeling Language.";

  uses module-identification-leafs;

  leaf namespace {
    type inet:uri;
    description
      "The XML namespace identifier for this module.
      This leaf is present in the model to keep the alignment
      with 'ietf-yang-library'. Support of this leaf in
      constrained devices is not required, nor expected.";
  }

  uses location-leaf-list;

  list submodule {
    key "identifier";
    description
      "Each entry represents one submodule within the parent
      module.";
    uses module-identification-leafs;
    uses location-leaf-list;
  }

  uses implementation-parameters;
}
list import-only-module {
  key "identifier revision";
  description
    "An entry in this list indicates that the server imports
    reusable definitions from the specified revision of the
    module, but does not implement any protocol accessible
    objects from this revision.

    Multiple entries for the same module name MAY exist.
    This can occur if multiple modules import the same
    module, but specify different revision-dates in the
    import statements.";
```

leaf identifier {

```
    type sid:sid;
    description
      "The YANG module name.";
  }
  leaf revision {
    type union {
      type revision-identifier;
      type string {
        length 0;
      }
    }
    description
      "The YANG module revision date.";
  }
  leaf namespace {
    type inet:uri;
    description
      "The XML namespace identifier for this module.
      This leaf is present in the model to keep the alignment
      with 'ietf-yang-library'. Support of this leaf in
      constrained devices is not required, nor expected.";
  }

  uses location-leaf-list;

  list submodule {
    key "identifier";
    description
      "Each entry represents one submodule within the
      parent module.";

    uses module-identification-leafs;
    uses location-leaf-list;
  }
}

grouping yang-library-parameters {
  description
```

"The YANG library data structure is represented as a grouping so it can be reused in configuration or another monitoring data structure.";

```
list module-set {  
  key index;  
  description  
    "A set of modules that may be used by one or more schemas.
```

A module set does not have to be referentially complete, i.e., it may define modules that contain import statements for other modules not included in the module set.";

```
uses module-set-parameters;  
}
```

```
list schema {  
  key "index";  
  description  
    "A datastore schema that may be used by one or more  
    datastores.
```

The schema must be valid and referentially complete, i.e., it must contain modules to satisfy all used import statements for all modules specified in the schema.";

```
leaf index {  
  type uint8;  
  description  
    "An arbitrary reference number assigned to the schema.";  
}  
leaf-list module-set {  
  type leafref {  
    path "../module-set/index";  
  }  
  description  
    "A set of module-sets that are included in this schema.  
    If a non import-only module appears in multiple module  
    sets, then the module revision and the associated  
    features and deviations must be identical.";  
}
```

```

}

list datastore {
    key "identifier";
    description
        "A datastore supported by this server.

        Each datastore indicates which schema it supports.

        The server MUST instantiate one entry in this list
        per specific datastore it supports.

        Each datastore entry with the same datastore schema
        SHOULD reference the same schema.";

    leaf identifier {

```

```

        type ds:datastore-ref;
        description
            "The identity of the datastore.";
    }
    leaf schema {
        type leafref {
            path "../..../schema/index";
        }
        mandatory true;
        description
            "A reference to the schema supported by this datastore.
            All non import-only modules of the schema are
            implemented with their associated features and
            deviations.";
    }
}

/*
 * Top-level container
 */

container yang-library {
    config false;
    description

```

```

    "Container holding the entire YANG library of this server.";

uses yang-library-parameters;

leaf checksum {
    type binary;
    mandatory true;
    description
        "A server-generated checksum or digest of the contents of
        the 'yang-library' tree. The server MUST change the
        value of this leaf if the information represented by
        the 'yang-library' tree, except 'yang-library/checksum',
        has changed.";
}
}

/*
 * Notifications
 */

notification yang-library-update {
    description
        "Generated when any YANG library information on the

```

```

    server has changed.";

leaf checksum {
    type leafref {
        path "/yanglib:yang-library/yanglib:checksum";
    }
    mandatory true;
    description
        "Contains the YANG library checksum or digest for the
        updated YANG library at the time the notification is
        generated.";
}
}
}
<CODE ENDS>

```

[5.](#) IANA Considerations

[5.1.](#) YANG Module Registration

This document registers one YANG module in the YANG Module Names registry [[RFC7950](#)].

name: ietf-constrained-yang-library

namespace: urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-constrained-yang-library

prefix: lib

reference: RFC XXXX

// RFC Ed.: replace XXXX with RFC number and remove this note

[5.2.](#) YANG Namespace Registration

This document registers the following XML namespace URN in the "IETF XML Registry", following the format defined in [[RFC3688](#)]:

URI: please assign urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-constrained-yang-library

Registrant Contact: The IESG.

XML: N/A, the requested URI is an XML namespace.

Reference: RFC XXXX

// RFC Ed.: replace XXXX with RFC number and remove this note

[6.](#) Security Considerations

The YANG module specified in this document defines a schema for data that is designed to be accessed via network management protocols such as NETCONF [[RFC6241](#)], RESTCONF [[RFC8040](#)] or CORECONF [[I-D.ietf-core-comi](#)]. The lowest NETCONF layer is the secure transport layer, and the mandatory-to-implement secure transport is Secure Shell (SSH) [[RFC6242](#)]. The lowest RESTCONF layer is HTTPS, and the mandatory-to-implement secure transport is TLS [[RFC8446](#)]. The lowest CORECONF layer is CoAP [[RFC7252](#)] and the mandatory-to-implement security transport is any one of DTLS [[RFC6347](#)] and OSCORE

[\[RFC8613\]](#).

The Network Configuration Access Control Model (NACM) [\[RFC8341\]](#) provides the means to restrict access for particular NETCONF or RESTCONF users to a preconfigured subset of all available NETCONF or RESTCONF protocol operations and content.

Some of the readable data nodes in this YANG module may be considered sensitive or vulnerable in some network environments. It is thus important to control read access (e.g., via get, get-config, or notification) to these data nodes.

Specifically, the 'module' list may help an attacker to identify the server capabilities and server implementations with known bugs. Server vulnerabilities may be specific to particular modules, module revisions, module features, or even module deviations. This information is included in each module entry. For example, if a particular operation on a particular data node is known to cause a server to crash or significantly degrade device performance, then the module list information will help an attacker to identify server implementations with such a defect, in order to launch a denial of service attack on these devices.

[7.](#) Acknowledgments

The YANG module defined by this memo has been derived from an already existing YANG module, ietf-yang-library [\[RFC8525\]](#), we will like to thank the authors of this YANG module. A special thank also to Andy Bierman for his initial recommendations for the creation of this YANG module. The authors would also like to thank Tom Petch for his help during the development of this document and his useful comments during the review process.

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