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G. Van de Velde, Ed.  
W. Henderickx  
M. Bocci  
Nokia  
K. Patel  
Arcus  
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Signalling ERLD using BGP-LS  
draft-ietf-idr-bgp-ls-segment-routing-rlid-05

## Abstract

This document defines the attribute encoding to use for BGP-LS to expose ERLD "Entropy capable Readable Label Depth" from a node to a centralised controller (PCE/SDN).

## 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 [RFC 2119](#) [1].

## Status of This Memo

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[1.](#) Introduction

When Segment Routing tunnels are computed by a centralised controller, it is beneficial that the controller knows the ERLD (Entropy Readable Label Depth) of each node or link a tunnel traverses. A network node signalling an ERLD MUST support the ability to read the signalled number of labels before any action is done upon the packet and SHOULD support entropy awareness found within the signalled ERLD depth.

ERLD awareness of each node will allow a network SDN controller to influence the path used for each tunnel. The SDN controller may for example only create tunnels with a label stack smaller or equal as the ERLD of each node on the path. This will allow the network to behave accordingly (e.g. make use of Entropy Labels to improve ECMP) upon the imposed Segment Routing label stack on each packet.

This document describes how to use BGP-LS to expose the ERLD of a node.

## [2.](#) Conventions used in this document

### [2.1.](#) Terminology

BGP-LS: Distribution of Link-State and TE Information using Border Gateway Protocol

ERLD: Entropy capable Readable Label Depth

ELC: Entropy Label Capability

MSD: Maximum SID Depth

SID: Segment Identifier

## [3.](#) Problem Statement

For Segment Routing technology both ISIS [[7](#)] and OSPF [[6](#)] have proposed extensions to signal the ERLD (Entropy Readable Label Depth) and ELC (Entropy Label Capability) of a node. However, if a network SDN controller is connected to the network through a BGP-LS session and not through either ISIS or OSPF technology, then both ERLD and ELC needs to be signalled using BGP-LS encoding. This document describes the extension BGP-LS requires to signal ERLD.

A network SDN controller having awareness of the ERLD can for example use it as a constraint on path computation to make sure that high bandwidth LSPs are not placed on LAG (Link Aggregation Group), containing links with smaller member bandwidth, if they know the entropy label cannot be processed by the node at the ingress to the link.

## [4.](#) Advertising of ERLD in BGP-LS

Both ISIS [[7](#)] and OSPF [[6](#)] have proposed extensions to signal the ERLD (Entropy Readable Label Depth) and ELC (Entropy Label Capability) using new MSD-type of the Node MSD sub-Type TLV [RFC8491](#) [[4](#)] or [RFC8476](#) [[3](#)].

This document defines a new node BGP MSD sub-type TLV from [draft-ietf-idr-bgp-ls-segment-routing-msd](#) [5] to signal the ERLD.

A BGP-LS router exporting the IGP LSDB, MUST NOT encode the IGP ERLD value in an BGP-LS ERLD attribute, if the associated ELC is not signalled.

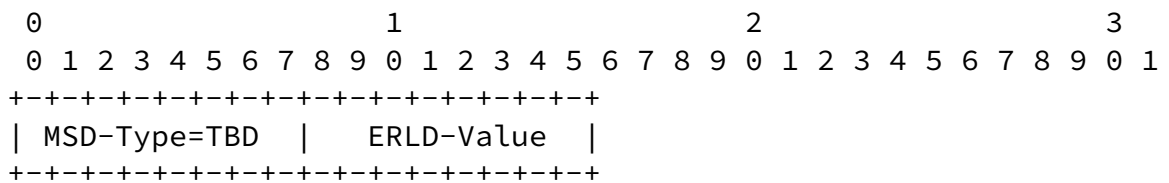


Figure 1

The BGP-LS ERLD is encoded as a node MSD sub-type defined in the IANA registry titled "IGP MSD-Types" under the "Interior Gateway Protocol (IGP) Parameters" registry created by [RFC8491](#) [4].

The ERLD-Value field in the range between 0 to 255 is set to the BGP-LS imported IGP ERLD. The value of 0 represents lack of ability to read a label stack of any depth, any other value represents the readable label depth of the node.

## 5. Security Considerations

This document does not introduce security issues beyond those discussed in [RFC7752](#) [2]

## 6. Acknowledgements

Thanks to discussions with Acee Lindem, Jeff Tantsura, Stephane Litkowski, Bruno Decraene, Kireeti Kompella, John E. Drake and Carlos Pignataro to bring the concept of combining ELC and RLD into a single ERLD signalled parameter more suitable for SDN controller

based networks.

## 7. IANA Considerations

This document requests assigning new BGP MSD sub-TLV code-points as described in [section 4](#).

Note: placeholder IANA request

## 8. References

### 8.1. Normative References

- [1] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", [BCP 14](#), [RFC 2119](#), March 1997, <<http://xml.resource.org/public/rfc/html/rfc2119.html>>.

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- [5] Tantsura, J., Chunduri, U., Talaulikar, K., Mirsky, G., and N. Triantafyllis, "[draft-ietf-idr-bgp-ls-segment-routing-msd](#)", June 2019.

### 8.2. Informative References

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- [7] Xu, X., Kini, S., Sivabalan, S., Filsfils, C., and S. Litkowski, "[draft-ietf-isis-mpls-elic](#)", May 2019.

#### Authors' Addresses

Gunter Van de Velde (editor)  
Nokia  
Antwerp  
BE

Email: [gunter.van\\_de\\_velde@nokia.com](mailto:gunter.van_de_velde@nokia.com)

Wim Henderickx  
Nokia  
Belgium

Email: [wim.henderickx@nokia.com](mailto:wim.henderickx@nokia.com)

Matthew Bocci  
Nokia  
Shoppenhangers Road  
Maidenhead, Berks  
UK

Email: [matthew.bocci@nokia.com](mailto:matthew.bocci@nokia.com)

Keyur Patel  
Arrcus  
USA

Email: [keyur@arrcus.com](mailto:keyur@arrcus.com)

