

IDR Working Group

Internet Draft

Intended status: Standards Track

Expires: November 2016

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May 17, 2016

Dissemination of Flow Specification Rules for NV03
draft-ietf-idr-flowspec-nvo3-00.txt

Abstract

This draft proposes a new subset of component types to support the NV03 flow-spec application.

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[1.](#) Introduction

BGP Flow-spec is an extension to BGP that allows for the dissemination of traffic flow specification rules. It leverages the BGP Control Plane to simplify the distribution of ACLs, new filter rules can be injected to all BGP peers simultaneously without changing router configuration. The typical application of BGP Flow-spec is to automate the distribution of traffic filter lists to routers for DDOS mitigation.

[RFC5575](#) defines a new BGP Network Layer Reachability Information (NLRI) format used to distribute traffic flow specification rules. NLRI (AFI=1, SAFI=133) is for IPv4 unicast filtering. NLRI (AFI=1, SAFI=134) is for BGP/MPLS VPN filtering. [IPv6-FlowSpec] and [Layer2-FlowSpec] extend the flow-spec rules for IPv6 and layer 2 Ethernet packets respectively. All these flow specifications match parts only reflect single layer IP/Ethernet information like source/destination MAC, source/destination IP prefix, protocol type, ports, and etc.

In cloud computing era, multi-tenancy has become a core requirement for data centers. Since NV03 can satisfy multi-tenancy key requirements, this technology is being deployed in an increasing

number of cloud data center network. NV03 is an overlay technology, VXLAN and NVGRE are two typical NV03 encapsulations. GENEVE [[draft-ietf-nvo3-geneve-00](#)], GUE [[draft-ietf-nvo3-gue-01](#)] and GPE [[draft-ietf-nvo3-vxlan-gpe-00](#)] are three emerging NV03 encapsulations in progress.

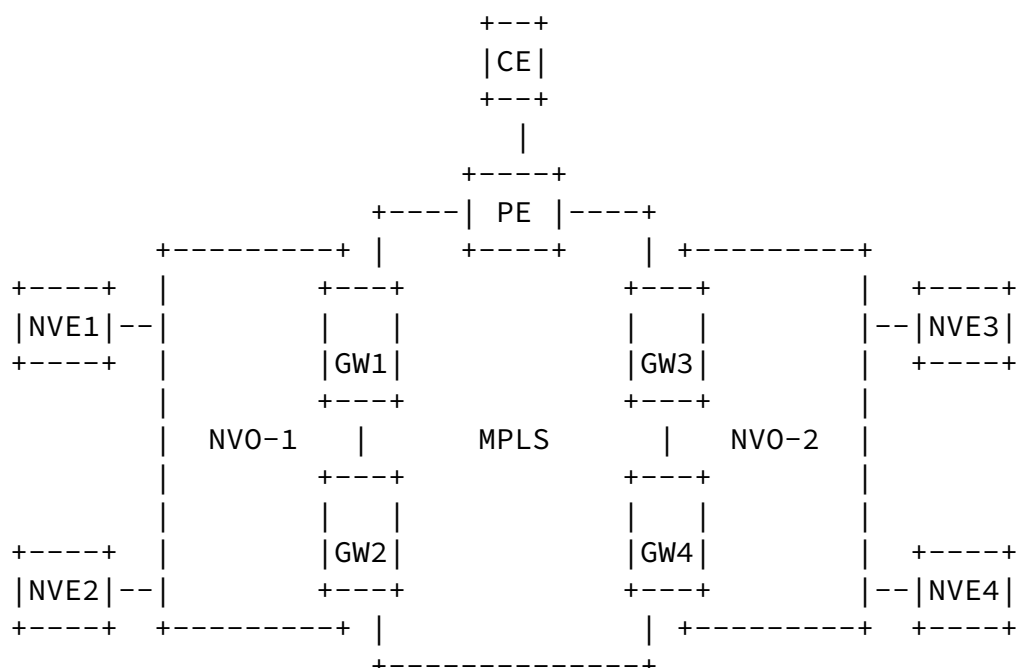


Figure 1 NV03 data center interconnection

The MPLS L2/L3 VPN in the WAN network can be used for NV03 based data center network interconnection. When the DC and the WAN are operated by the same administrative entity, the Service Provider can decide to integrate the GW and WAN Edge PE functions in the same router for obvious CAPEX and OPEX saving reasons. This is illustrated in Figure 1. There are two interconnection solutions as follows:

1. End to end NV03 tunnel across different data centers. NVE1 perform NV03 encapsulation for DCI interconnection with NVE3, the destination VTEP IP is NVE3's IP. The GW doesn't perform NV03 tunnel termination. The DCI WAN is pure underlay network.
2. Segmented NV03 tunnels across different data centers. NVE1

doesn't perform end to end NV03 encapsulation to NVE3 for DCI interconnection. The GW performs NV03 tunnel encapsulation termination, and then transmits the inner original traffic through MPLS network to peer data center GW. The peer data center GW

terminates MPLS encapsulation, and then performs NV03 encapsulation to transmit the traffic to local NVE3.

In the first solution, to differentiate bandwidth and QoS among different tenants or applications, different TE tunnels in the WAN network will be used to carry the end to end NV03 encapsulation traffic using VN ID, NV03 outer header DSCP and etc as traffic classification match part. BGP Flow-spec protocol can be used to set the traffic classification on all GWs simultaneously.

In the second solution, a centralized BGP speaker can be deployed for DDOS mitigation in the WAN network. When the analyzer detects abnormal traffic, it will automatically generate Flow-spec rules and distribute it to each GW through BGP Flow-spec protocol, the match part should include inner or outer L2/L3 layer or NV03 header.

In summary, the Flow specification match part on the GW/PE should include inner layer 2 Ethernet header, inner layer 3 IP header, outer layer 2 Ethernet header, outer layer 3 IP header, and/or NV03 header information. Because the current match part lacks layer indicator and NV03 header information, so it can't be used directly for the traffic filtering based on NV03 header or a specified layer header directly. This draft will propose a new subset of component types to support the NV03 flow-spec application.

[2.](#) The Flow Specification encoding for NV03

In default, the current flow-spec rules can only impose on the outer layer header of NV03 encapsulation data packets. To make traffic filtering based on NV03 header and inner header of NV03 packets, a new component type acts as a delimiter is introduced. The delimiter type is used to specify the boundary of the inner or outer layer component types for NV03 data packets. All the component types defined in [\[RFC5575\]](#), [\[IPv6-FlowSpec\]](#), [\[Layer2-FlowSpec\]](#), and etc can be used between two delimiters.

The NV03 outer layer address normally belongs to public network, the

"Flow Specification" NLRI only for the outer layer header doesn't need to include Route Distinguisher field (8 bytes). If the outer layer address belongs to a VPN, the NLRI format for the outer header should consist of a fixed-length Route Distinguisher field (8 bytes) corresponding to the VPN, the RD is followed by the detail flow specifications for the outer layer.

VN ID is the identification for each tenant network, the "Flow Specification" NLRI for NV03 header part should always include VN ID field, Route Distinguisher field doesn't need to be included.

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The inner layer MAC/IP address always associates with a VN ID, the NLRI format for the inner header should consist of a fixed-length VNID field (4 bytes), the VNID is followed by the detail flow specifications for the inner layer. The NLRI length field shall include both the 4 bytes of the VN ID as well as the subsequent flow specification. In NV03 terminating into VPN scenario, if multiple access VN ID maps to one VPN instance, one share VN ID can be carried in the Flow-Spec rule to enforce the rule to entire VPN instance, the share VN ID and VPN correspondence should be configured on each VPN PE beforehand, the function of the layer3 VN ID is same with Route Distinguisher to act as the identification of VPN instance.

This document proposes the following extended specifications for NV03 flow:

Type TBD1 - Delimiter type

Encoding: <type (1 octet), length (1 octet), Value>.

When the delimiter type is present, it indicates the component types for the inner or outer layer of NV03 packets will be followed immediately. At the same time, it indicates the end of the component types belonging to the former delimiter.

The value field defines encapsulation type and is encoded as:

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

```

+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
|           Encap Type           |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| I | 0 |           Resv           |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+

```

This document defines the following Encap types:

- VXLAN: Tunnel Type = 0
- NVGRE: Tunnel Type = 1

I: If I is set to one, it indicates the component types for the inner layer of NV03 packets will be followed immediately.

0: If 0 is set to one, it indicates the component types for the outer layer of NV03 packets will be followed immediately.

For NV03 header part, the following additional component types are introduced.

Type TBD2 - VNID

Encoding: <type (1 octet), [op, value]+>.

Defines a list of {operation, value} pairs used to match 24-bit VN ID which is used as tenant identification in NV03 network. For NVGRE encapsulation, the VNID is equivalent to VSID. Values are encoded as 1- to 3-byte quantities.

Type TBD3 - Flow ID

Encoding: <type (1 octet), [op, value]+>

Defines a list of {operation, value} pairs used to match 8-bit Flow id fields which are only useful for NVGRE encapsulation. Values are encoded as 1-byte quantity.

[3.](#) The Flow Specification Traffic Actions for NV03

The current traffic filtering actions can still be used for NV03 encapsulation traffic. For Traffic Marking, only the DSCP in outer header can be modified.

[4.](#) Security Considerations

No new security issues are introduced to the BGP protocol by this specification.

[5.](#) IANA Considerations

IANA is requested to create and maintain a new registry entitled:

"Flow spec NV03 Component Types":

Type TBD1 - Delimiter type

Type TBD2 - VNID

Type TBD3 - Flow ID

[5.1.](#) Normative References

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[6](#). Acknowledgments

The authors wish to acknowledge the important contributions of Jeff Haas, Susan Hares, Qiandeng Liang, Nan Wu, Yizhou Li, Lucy Yong.

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