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**Application-aware Targeted LDP  
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**Abstract**

Recent targeted LDP (tLDP) applications such as remote loop-free alternate (LFA) and BGP auto discovered pseudowire may automatically establish a tLDP session to any LSR in a network. The initiating LSR has information about the targeted applications to administratively control initiation of the session. However, the responding LSR has no such information to control acceptance of this session. This document defines a mechanism to advertise and negotiate Targeted Applications Capability (TAC) during LDP session initialization. As the responding LSR becomes aware of targeted applications, it may establish a limited number of tLDP sessions for certain applications. In addition, each targeted application is mapped to LDP Forwarding Equivalence Class (FEC) Elements to advertise only necessary LDP FEC-label bindings over the session.

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## **1 Introduction**

LDP uses extended discovery mechanism to establish the tLDP adjacency and subsequent session as described in [[RFC5036](#)]. An LSR initiates extended discovery by sending tLDP Hello to specific address. The remote LSR decides to either accept or ignore the tLDP Hello based on local configuration only. For an application such as FEC 128 pseudowire, the remote LSR is configured with the source LSR address so that it can use that information to accept or ignore given tLDP Hello.

Applications such as Remote LFA and BGP auto discovered pseudowire automatically initiate asymmetric extended discovery to any LSR in a network based on local state only. With these applications, the remote LSR is not explicitly configured with the source LSR address. So the remote LSR either responds or ignores all tLDP Hellos.

In addition, since the session is initiated and established after adjacency formation, the responding LSR has no targeted applications information to choose the targeted application it is configured to support. Also, the initiating LSR may employ a limit per application on locally initiated automatic tLDP sessions, however the responding LSR has no such information to employ a similar limit on the incoming tLDP sessions. Further, the responding LSR does not know whether the source LSR is establishing a tLDP session for configured, automatic or both applications.

This document proposes and describes a solution to advertise Targeted Application Capability (TAC), consisting of a targeted application list, during initialization of a tLDP session. It also defines a mechanism to enable an new application and disable an old application after session establishment. This capability advertisement provides the responding LSR with the necessary information to control the acceptance of tLDP sessions per application. For instance, an LSR may accept all BGP auto discovered tLDP sessions as defined in [[RFC6074](#)] but may only accept limited number of Remote LFA tLDP sessions as defined in [[RFC7490](#)]

Also, targeted LDP application is mapped to LDP FEC element type to advertise specific application FECs only, avoiding the advertisement of other unnecessary FECs over a tLDP session.

### **1.1 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 [RFC 2119](#) [[RFC2119](#)].



## 1.2 Terminology

This document uses terminology discussed in [[RFC7473](#)] along with others defined in this document.

TAC : Targeted Application Capability  
 TAE : Targeted Application Element  
 TA-Id : Targeted Application Identifier  
 SAC : State Advertisement Control Capability

## 2. Targeted Application Capability

### 2.1 Encoding

An LSR MAY advertise that it is capable to negotiate a targeted LDP application list over a tLDP session by using the Capability Advertisement as defined in [[RFC5561](#)].

A new optional capability TLV is defined, 'Targeted Application Capability (TAC)'. Its encoding is as follows:

```

      0              1              2              3
      0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
|U|F| Targeted App. Cap.(IANA)|                               Length |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
|S|  Reserved  |                                               |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
|                                                           |
~                               Targeted App. Cap. data       ~
|                                                           |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+

```

As described in [[RFC5561](#)]

U: set to 1. Ignore, if not known.

F: Set to 0. Do not forward.

S: MUST be set to 1 or 0 to advertise or withdraw the TAC TLV respectively.

Targeted Application Capability data:

A Targeted Applications Capability data consists of none, one or more 32 bit Targeted Application Elements. Its encoding is as follows:

Targeted Application Element(TAE)

```

      0              1              2              3
      0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1

```





```

+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
|E|   Targ. Appl. Id           |           Reserved           |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+

```

Targeted Application Identifier (TA-Id):  
a 16 bit Targeted Application Identifier value.

E-bit: The enable bit indicates whether the sender is advertising or withdrawing the TAE. The E-bit value is used as follows:

- 1 - The TAE is advertising the targeted application.
- 0 - The TAE is withdrawing the targeted application.

The length of TAC depends on the number of TAEs. For instance, if two TAEs are added, the length is set to 9.

## 2.2 Procedures

At tLDP session establishment time, a LSR MAY include a new capability TLV, TAC TLV, as an optional TLV in the LDP Initialization message. The TAC TLV's Capability data MUST consists of none, one or more TAE each pertaining to a unique TA-Id that a LSR supports over the session. If the receiver LSR receives the same TA-Id in more than one TAE, it MUST process the first element and ignore the duplicate elements. If the receiver LSR receives an unknown TA-Id in the TAE, it MUST silently ignore such a TAE and continue processing the rest of the TLV.

If the receiver LSR does not receive the TAC TLV in the Initialization message or it does not understand the TAC TLV, the TAC negotiation MUST be considered unsuccessful and the session establishment MUST proceed as per [[RFC5036](#)]. On the receipt of a valid TAC TLV, an LSR MUST generate its own TAC TLV with TAEs consisting of unique TA-Ids that it supports over the tLDP session. If there is at least one TAE common between the TAC TLV it has received and its own, the session MUST proceed to establishment as per [[RFC5036](#)]. If not, A LSR MUST send a 'Session Rejected/Targeted Application Capability Mis-Match' Notification message to the peer and close the session. The initiating LSR SHOULD tear down the corresponding tLDP adjacency after sent or receipt of a 'Session Rejected/Targeted Application Capability Mis-Match' Notification message to or from the responding LSR respectively.

If both the peers advertise TAC TLV, an LSR decides to establish or close a tLDP session based on the negotiated targeted application list. For instance, suppose a initiating LSR advertises A, B and C as



TA-Ids. Further, suppose the responding LSR advertises C, D and E as TA-Ids. Then the negotiated TA-Id, as per both the LSRs is C. In the second instance, suppose a initiating LSR advertises A, B and C as TA-Ids and the responding LSR, which acts as a passive LSR, advertises all the applications - A, B, C, D and E that it supports over this session. Then the negotiated targeted applications as per both the LSRs are A, B and C. In the last instance, suppose the initiating LSR advertises A, B and C as a TA-Ids and the responding LSR advertises D and E as TA-Ids, then the negotiated targeted applications as per both the LSRs are none. The Responding LSR sends 'Session Rejected/Targeted Application Capability Mis-Match' Notification message to the initiating LSR and may close the session.

When the responding LSR playing the active role in LDP session establishment receives a 'Session Rejected/Targeted Application Capability Mis-Match' Notification message, it MUST set its session setup retry interval to a maximum value, as 0xffff. The session MAY stay in non-existent state. When it detects a change in the initiating LSR or local LSR configuration pertaining to TAC TLV, it MUST clear the session setup back off delay associated with the session to re-attempt the session establishment. A LSR detects configuration change on the other LSR with the receipt of tLDP Hello message that has a higher configuration sequence number than the earlier tLDP Hello message.

When the initiating LSR playing the active role in LDP session establishment receives a 'Session Rejected/Targeted Application Capability Mis-Match' Notification message, either it MUST close the session and tear down the corresponding tLDP adjacency or it MUST set its session setup retry interval to a maximum value, as 0xffff.

If it decides to tear down the associated tLDP adjacency, the session is destroyed on the initiating as well as the responding LSR. The initiating LSR MAY take appropriate actions if it is unable to bring up the tLDP session. For instance, if an automatic session intended to support the Remote LFA application is rejected by the responding LSR, the initiating LSR may inform the IGP to calculate another PQ node [[RFC7490](#)] for the route or set of routes. More specific actions are a local matter and outside the scope of this document.

If it sets the session setup retry interval to maximum, the session MAY stay in a non-existent state. When this LSR detects a change in the responding LSR configuration or its own configuration pertaining to TAC TLV, it MUST clear the session setup back off delay associated with the session in order to re-attempt the session establishment.

After a tLDP session has been established with TAC capability, the



initiating and responding LSR MUST distribute FEC-label bindings for the negotiated applications only. For instance, if the tLDP session is established for BGP auto discovered pseudowire, only FEC 129 label bindings MUST be distributed over the session. Similarly, a LSR operating in downstream on demand mode MUST request FEC-label bindings for the negotiated applications only.

If the Targeted Application Capability and Dynamic Capability, described in [[RFC5561](#)], are negotiated during session initialization, TAC MAY be re-negotiated after session establishment by sending an updated TAC TLV in LDP Capability message. The updated TAC TLV carries TA-Ids with incremental update only. The updated TLV MUST consist of one or more TAEs with E-bit set or E-bit off to advertise or withdraw the new and old application respectively. This may lead to advertisements or withdrawals of certain types of FEC-Label bindings over the session or tear down of the tLDP adjacency and subsequently the session.

The Targeted Application Capability is advertised on tLDP session only. If the tLDP session changes to link session, a LSR should withdraw it with S bit set to 0, which indicates wildcard withdrawal of all TAE elements. Similarly, if the link session changes to tLDP, a LSR should advertise it via the Capability message. If the capability negotiation fails, this may lead to destruction of the tLDP session.

Also, currently the remote LSR accepts asymmetric extended Hellos by default or by appropriate configuration. With this document, the LSR MUST accept tLDP hellos in order to then accept or reject the tLDP session based on the application information.

## **[2.3](#) LDP message procedures**

### **[2.3.1](#) Initialization message**

1. The S-bit of the Targeted Application Capability TLV MUST be set to 1 to advertise Targeted Application Capability and SHOULD be ignored on the receipt.
2. The E-bit of the Targeted Application Element MUST be set to 1 to enable Targeted application and SHOULD be ignored on the receipt.
3. An LSR MAY add State Control Capability by mapping Targeted Application Element to State Advertisement Control (SAC) Elements as defined in [Section 4](#).

### **[2.3.2](#) Capability message**



The initiating or responding LSR may re-negotiate the TAC after local configuration change with the Capability message.

1. The S-bit of TAC is set to 1 or 0 to advertise or withdraw it.
2. After configuration change, If there is no common TAE between its new TAE list and peers TAE list, the LSR MUST send a 'Session Rejected/Targeted Application Capability Mis-Match' Notification message and close the session.
3. If there is a common TAE, a LSR MAY also update SAC Capability based on updated TAC as described in [section 4](#) and send the updated TAC and SAC capabilities in a Capability message to the peer.
4. A receiving LSR processes the Capability message with TAC TLV. If the S-bit is set to 0, the TAC is disabled for the session. After that, the session may remain in established state or torn down based on [[RFC5036](#)] rules.
5. If the S-bit is set to 1, a LSR process a list of TAEs from TACs capability data with E-bit set to 1 or 0 to update the peers TAE. Also, it updates the negotiated TAE list over the tLDP session.

### 3. Targeted Application FEC Advertisement Procedures

The targeted LDP application MUST be mapped to LDP FEC element types as follows to advertise only necessary LDP FEC-Label bindings over the tLDP session.

Targeted Application	Description	FEC mappings
LDPv4 Tunneling	LDP IPv4 over RSVP-TE	IPv4 prefix
	or other MPLS tunnel	
LDPv6 Tunneling	LDP IPv6 over RSVP-TE	IPv6 prefix
	or other MPLS tunnel	
mLDP Tunneling	mLDP over RSVP-TE or	P2MP
	or other MPLS tunnel	MP2MP-up
		MP2MP-down
		HSMP-downstream
		HSMP-upstream





LDPv4 Remote LFA	LDPv4 over LDPv4 or	IPv4 prefix	
	other MPLS tunnel		
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
LDPv6 Remote LFA	LDPv6 over LDPv6 or	IPv6 prefix	
	other MPLS tunnel		
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
LDP FEC 128 PW	LDP FEC 128 Pseudowire	Pwid FEC Element	
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
LDP FEC 129 PW	LDP FEC 129 Pseudowire	Generalized Pwid	
		FEC Element	
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
LDP Session Protection	LDP session protection	FEC types as	
		per protected	
		session	
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
LDP ICCP	LDP Inter-chassis		
	control protocol	None	
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
LDP P2MP PW	LDP P2MP Pseudowire	P2MP PW Upstream	
		FEC Element	
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
mLDP Node Protection	mLDP node protection	P2MP	
		MP2MP-up	
		MP2MP-down	
		HSMP-downstream	
		HSMP-upstream	
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
IPv4 intra-area FECs	IPv4 intra-area FECs	IPv4 prefix	
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
IPv6 intra-area FECs	IPv6 intra-area FECs	IPv6 prefix	
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+	+-----+

#### 4. Interaction of Targeted Application Capabilities and State Advertisement Control Capabilities

As described in this document, the set of TAEs negotiated between two LDP peers advertising TAC represents the willingness of both peers to advertise state information for a set of applications. The set of applications negotiated by the TAC mechanism is symmetric between the two LDP peers. In the absence of further mechanisms, two LDP peers will both advertise state information for the same set of applications.



As described in [[RFC7473](#)], State Advertisement Control(SAC) TLV can be used by an LDP speaker to communicate its interest or disinterest in receiving state information from a given peer for a particular application. Two LDP peers can use the SAC mechanism to create asymmetric advertisement of state information between the two peers.

The TAC negotiation facilitates the awareness of targeted applications to both the peers. It enables them to advertise only necessary LDP FEC-label bindings corresponding to negotiated applications. With the SAC, the responding LSR is not aware of targeted applications. Thus it may be unable to communicate its interest or disinterest to receive state information from the peer. Therefore, when the responding LSR is not aware of targeted applications such a remote LFA and BGP auto discovered pseudowires, TAC mechanism should be used and when the responding LSR is aware (with appropriate configuration) of targeted applications such as FEC 128 pseudowire, SAC mechanism should be used. Also after TAC mechanism makes the responding LSR aware of targeted application, the SAC mechanism may be used to communicate its disinterest in receiving state information from the peer for a particular negotiated application, creating asymmetric advertisements.

Thus, the TAC mechanism enables two LDP peers to symmetrically advertise state information for negotiated targeted applications. Further, the SAC mechanism enables both of them to asymmetrically disable receipt of state information for some of the already negotiated targeted applications. Collectively, both TAC and SAC mechanisms can be used to control the FEC-label bindings that are advertised over the tLDP session. For instance, suppose the initiating LSR establishes a tLDP session to the responding LSR for Remote LFA and FEC 129 PW targeted applications with TAC. So each LSR advertises the corresponding FEC-Label bindings. Further, suppose the initiating LSR is not the PQ node for responding LSRs Remote LFA IGP calculations. In such a case, the responding LSR may use the SAC mechanism to convey its disinterest in receiving state information for Remote LFA targeted LDP application.

For a given tLDP session, the TAC mechanism can be used without the SAC mechanism, and the SAC mechanism can be used without the TAC mechanism. It is useful to discuss the behavior when TAC and SAC mechanisms are used on the same tLDP session. The TAC mechanism MUST take precedence over the SAC mechanism with respect to enabling applications for which state information will be advertised. For a tLDP session using the TAC mechanism, the LDP peers MUST NOT advertise state information for an application that has not been negotiated in the most recent TAE list (referred to as an un-negotiated application). This is true even if one of the peers announces its interest in receiving state information that



corresponds to the un-negotiated application by sending a SAC TLV. In other words, when TAC is being used, SAC cannot and should not enable state information advertisement for applications that have not been enabled by TAC.

On the other hand, the SAC mechanism MUST take precedence over the TAC mechanism with respect to disabling state information advertisements. If an LDP speaker has announced its disinterest in receiving state information for a given application to a given peer using the SAC mechanism, its peer MUST NOT send state information for that application, even if the two peers have negotiated that the corresponding application via the TAC mechanism.

For the purposes of determining the correspondence between targeted applications defined in this document and application state as defined in [[RFC7473](#)] an LSR MUST use the following mappings:

- LDPv4 Tunneling - IPv4 Prefix-LSPs
- LDPv6 Tunneling - IPv6 Prefix-LSPs
- LDPv4 Remote LFA - IPv4 Prefix-LSPs
- LDPv6 Remote LFA - IPv6 Prefix-LSPs
- LDP FEC 128 PW - FEC128 P2P-PW
- LDP FEC 129 PW - FEC129 P2P-PW

An LSR MUST map Targeted Application to LDP capability as follows:

- mLDP Tunneling - P2MP Capability, MP2MP Capability  
and HSMP LSP Capability TLV
- mLDP node protection - P2MP Capability, MP2MP Capability  
and HSMP LSP Capability TLV

## **5. Use cases**

### **5.1 Remote LFA Automatic Targeted session**

An LSR determines that it needs to form an automatic tLDP session to remote LSR based on IGP calculation as described in [[RFC7490](#)] or some other mechanism, which is outside the scope of this document. The LSR forms the tLDP adjacency and during session setup, constructs an Initialization message with TAC TLV with TAE as Remote LFA. The receiver LSR processes the LDP Initialization message and verifies whether it is configured to accept a Remote LFA tLDP session. If it is, it may further verify that establishing such a session does not exceed the configured limit for Remote LFA sessions. If all these conditions are met, the receiver LSR may respond back with an Initialization message with TAC corresponding to Remote LFA, and



subsequently the session may be established.

After the session has been established with TAC capability, the sender and receiver LSR distribute IPv4 or IPv6 FEC label bindings over the session. Further, the receiver LSR may determine that it does not need these FEC label bindings. So it may disable the receipt of these FEC label bindings by mapping targeted application element to state control capability as described in [section 4](#).

## **[5.2](#) FEC 129 Auto Discovery Targeted session**

BGP auto discovery MAY determine whether an LSR needs to initiate an auto-discovery tLDP session with a border LSR. Multiple LSRs MAY try to form an auto discovered tLDP session with a border LSR. So, a service provider may want to limit the number of auto discovered tLDP sessions a border LSR may accept. As described in [Section 2](#), LDP may convey targeted applications with TAC TLV to border LSR. A border LSR may establish or reject the tLDP session based on local administrative policy. Also, as the receiver LSR becomes aware of targeted applications, it can also employ an administrative policy for security. For instance, it can employ a policy 'accept all auto-discovered session from source-list'.

Moreover, the sender and receiver LSR MUST exchange FEC 129 label bindings only over the tLDP session.

## **[5.3](#) LDP over RSVP and Remote LFA targeted session**

A LSR may want to establish a tLDP session to a remote LSR for LDP over RSVP tunneling and Remote LFA applications. The sender LSR may add both these applications as a unique Targeted Application Element in the Targeted Application Capability data of a TAC TLV. The receiver LSR MAY have reached a configured limit for accepting Remote LFA automatic tLDP sessions, but it may also be configured to accept LDP over RSVP tunneling. In such a case, the tLDP session is formed for both LDP over RSVP and Remote LFA applications as both needs same FECs - IPv4 and/or IPv6.

## **[5.4](#) mLDP node protection targeted session**

A merge point LSR may determine that it needs to form automatic tLDP session to the upstream point of local repair (PLR) LSR for MP2P and MP2MP LSP [[RFC6388](#)] node protection as described in the [[RFC7715](#)]. The MPT LSR may add a new targeted LDP application - mLDP protection, as a unique TAE in the Targeted Application Capability Data of a TAC TLV and send it in the Initialization message to the PLR. If the PLR is configured for mLDP node protection and establishing this session does not exceed the limit of either mLDP node protection sessions or





automatic tLDP sessions, the PLR may decide to accept this session. Further, the PLR may respond back with the initialization message with a TAC TLV that has one of the TAEs as - mLDP protection and the session proceeds to establishment as per [[RFC5036](#)].

## 6 Security Considerations

The Capability procedure described in this document will apply and does not introduce any change to LDP Security Considerations section described in [[RFC5036](#)].

As described in [[RFC5036](#)], DoS attacks via Extended Hellos can be addressed by filtering Extended Hellos using access lists that define addresses with which Extended Discovery is permitted. Further, as described in [section 5.2](#) of this document, a LSR can employ a policy to accept all auto-discovered Extended Hellos from the configured source addresses list.

Also for the two LSRs supporting TAC, the tLDP session is only established after successful negotiation of the TAC. When there is no common targeted LDP application between two LSRs due to administrative policy, the tLDP session is not established.

## 7 IANA Considerations

This document requires the assignment of a new code point for a Capability Parameter TLVs from the IANA managed LDP registry "TLV Type Name Space", corresponding to the advertisement of the Targeted Applications capability. IANA is requested to assign the lowest available value after 0x050B.

Value	Description	Reference
-----	-----	-----
TBD1	Targeted Applications capability	[this document]

This document requires the assignment of a new code point for a status code from the IANA managed registry "STATUS CODE NAME SPACE" on the Label Distribution Protocol (LDP) Parameters page, corresponding to the notification of session Rejected/Targeted Application Capability Mis-Match. IANA is requested to assign the lowest available value after 0x0000004B.

Value	Description	Reference
-----	-----	-----
TBD2	Session Rejected/Targeted Application Capability Mis-Match	[this document]



This document also creates a new name space 'the LDP Targeted Application Identifier' on the Label Distribution Protocol (LDP) Parameters page, that is to be managed by IANA. The range is 0x0001-0xFFFFE, with the following values requested in this document.

Value	Description	Reference
-----	-----	-----
0x0000	Reserved	[this document]
0x0001	LDPv4 Tunneling	[this document]
0x0002	LDPv6 Tunneling	[this document]
0x0003	mLDP Tunneling	[this document]
0x0004	LDPv4 Remote LFA	[this document]
0x0005	LDPv6 Remote LFA	[this document]
0x0006	LDP FEC 128 PW	[this document]
0x0007	LDP FEC 129 PW	[this document]
0x0008	LDP Session Protection	[this document]
0x0009	LDP ICCP	[this document]
0x000A	LDP P2MP PW	[this document]
0x000B	mLDP Node Protection	[this document]
0x000C	LDPv4 Intra-area FECs	[this document]
0x000D	LDPv6 Intra-area FECs	[this document]
0x0001 - 0x1FFF	Available for assignment by IETF consensus	
0x2000 - 0x7FFE	Available for assignment as first come first served	
0x7FFF - 0xFFFF	Available for vendor specific private use	
0xFFFF	Reserved	[this document]

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## 9 References

### 9.1 Normative References

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