

A YANG Data Model for Interface Management
draft-ietf-netmod-interfaces-cfg-13

Abstract

This document defines a YANG data model for the management of network interfaces. It is expected that interface type specific data models augment the generic interfaces data model defined in this document. The data model includes configuration data, state data and counters for the collection of statistics.

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1. Introduction

This document defines a YANG [[RFC6020](#)] data model for the management of network interfaces. It is expected that interface type specific data models augment the generic interfaces data model defined in this document.

Network interfaces are central to the management of many Internet protocols. Thus, it is important to establish a common data model for how interfaces are identified, configured, and monitored.

The data model includes configuration data, state data and counters for the collection of statistics.

1.1. Terminology

The keywords "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](#)].

The following terms are used within this document:

- o system-controlled interface: An interface is said to be system-controlled if the system creates and deletes the interface independently of what has been explicitly configured. Examples are interfaces representing physical hardware that appear and disappear when hardware (e.g., a line card) is added or removed. System-controlled interfaces may also appear if a certain functionality is enabled (e.g., a loopback interface might appear if the IP protocol stack is enabled).
- o user-controlled interface: An interface is said to be user-controlled if the creation of the interface is controlled by adding explicit interface configuration to the running configuration datastore and the removal of the interface is controlled by removing explicit interface configuration from the running configuration datastore. Examples are VLAN interfaces configured on a system-controlled Ethernet interface.

The following terms are defined in [[RFC6241](#)] and are not redefined here:

- o client
- o configuration data

- o server
- o state data

The following terms are defined in [[RFC6020](#)] and are not redefined here:

- o augment
- o data model
- o data node

1.2. Tree Diagrams

A simplified graphical representation of the data model is used in this document. The meaning of the symbols in these diagrams is as follows:

- o Brackets "[" and "]" enclose list keys.
- o Abbreviations before data node names: "rw" means configuration (read-write) and "ro" state data (read-only).
- o Symbols after data node names: "?" means an optional node, "!" means a presence container, and "*" denotes a list and leaf-list.
- o Parentheses enclose choice and case nodes, and case nodes are also marked with a colon (":").
- o Ellipsis ("...") stands for contents of subtrees that are not shown.

2. Objectives

This section describes some of the design objectives for the model presented in [Section 5](#).

- o It is recognized that existing implementations will have to map the interface data model defined in this memo to their proprietary native data model. The data model should be simple to facilitate such mappings.
- o The data model should be suitable for new implementations to use as-is, without requiring a mapping to a different native model.
- o References to interfaces should be as simple as possible, preferably by using a single leafref.
- o The mapping to ifIndex [[RFC2863](#)] used by SNMP to identify interfaces must be clear.
- o The model must support interface layering, both simple layering where one interface is layered on top of exactly one other interface, and more complex scenarios where one interface results from the aggregation of N other interfaces, or when N interfaces are multiplexed over one other interface.
- o The data model should support the pre-provisioning of interface configuration, i.e., it should be possible to configure an interface whose physical interface hardware is not present on the device. It is recommended that devices that support dynamic addition and removal of physical interfaces also support pre-provisioning.
- o The data model should support both physical interfaces as well as logical interfaces.
- o The data model should include read-only counters in order to gather statistics for octets, packets and errors, sent and received.

3. Interfaces Data Model

This document defines the YANG module "ietf-interfaces", which has the following structure:

```

+--rw interfaces
|  +--rw interface* [name]
|    +--rw name                string
|    +--rw description?        string
|    +--rw type                identityref
|    +--rw enabled?            boolean
|    +--rw link-up-down-trap-enable? enumeration
+--ro interfaces-state
  +--ro interface* [name]
    +--ro name                string
    +--ro type                identityref
    +--ro admin-status        enumeration
    +--ro oper-status         enumeration
    +--ro last-change?        yang:date-and-time
    +--ro if-index            int32
    +--ro phys-address?       yang:phys-address
    +--ro higher-layer-if*    interface-state-ref
    +--ro lower-layer-if*    interface-state-ref
    +--ro speed?              yang:gauge64
    +--ro statistics
      +--ro discontinuity-time yang:date-and-time
      +--ro in-octets?         yang:counter64
      +--ro in-unicast-pkts?   yang:counter64
      +--ro in-broadcast-pkts? yang:counter64
      +--ro in-multicast-pkts? yang:counter64
      +--ro in-discards?      yang:counter32
      +--ro in-errors?        yang:counter32
      +--ro in-unknown-protos? yang:counter32
      +--ro out-octets?       yang:counter64
      +--ro out-unicast-pkts? yang:counter64
      +--ro out-broadcast-pkts? yang:counter64
      +--ro out-multicast-pkts? yang:counter64
      +--ro out-discards?     yang:counter32
      +--ro out-errors?       yang:counter32

```

3.1. The interface Lists

The data model for interfaces presented in this document uses a flat list of interfaces. Each interface in the list is identified by its name. Furthermore, each interface has a mandatory "type" leaf.

The "iana-if-type" module [[I-D.ietf-netmod-iana-if-type](#)] defines YANG identities for the interface types in the IANA-maintained "ifType

registry".

There is one list of configured interfaces ("/interfaces/interface"), and a separate list for the operational state of all interfaces ("/interfaces-state/interface").

It is expected that interface type specific data models augment the interface lists, and possibly use the "type" leaf to make the augmentation conditional.

As an example of such an interface type specific augmentation, consider this YANG snippet. For a more complete example, see [Appendix A](#).

```
import interfaces {
  prefix "if";
}
import iana-if-type {
  prefix ianaift;
}

augment "/if:interfaces/if:interface" {
  when "if:type = 'ianaift:ethernetCsmacd'";

  container ethernet {
    leaf duplex {
      ...
    }
  }
}
```

For system-controlled interfaces, the "name" is the device-specific name of the interface. The 'config false' list "/interfaces-state/interface" contains all existing interfaces on the device.

If the device supports arbitrarily named user-controlled interfaces, the NETCONF server advertises the feature "arbitrary-names". If the device does not advertise this feature, the names of user-controlled interfaces MUST match the device's naming scheme. How a client can learn the naming scheme of such devices is outside the scope of this document.

When a system-controlled interface is created by the system, the system tries to apply the interface configuration in /interfaces/interface with the same name as the new interface. If no such interface configuration is found, or if the configured type does not match the real interface type, the system creates the interface without applying explicit configuration.

When a user-controlled interface is created, the configuration determines the name of the interface.

3.2. Interface References

An interface is identified by its name, which is unique within the server. This property is captured in the "interface-ref" and "interface-state-ref" typedefs, which other YANG modules SHOULD use when they need to reference a configured interface or operationally used interface, respectively.

3.3. Interface Layering

There is no generic mechanism for how an interface is configured to be layered on top of some other interface. It is expected that interface type specific models define their own data nodes for interface layering, by using "interface-ref" types to reference lower layers.

Below is an example of a model with such nodes. For a more complete example, see [Appendix B](#).

```
import interfaces {
    prefix "if";
}
import iana-if-type {
    prefix ianaift;
}

augment "/if:interfaces/if:interface" {
    when "if:type = 'ianaift:ieee8023adLag'";

    leaf-list slave-if {
        type if:interface-ref;
        must "/if:interfaces/if:interface[if:name = current()]"
            + "/if:type = 'ianaift:ethernetCsmacd'" {
            description
                "The type of a slave interface must be ethernet";
        }
    }
    // other bonding config params, failover times etc.
}
```

Two state data leaf-lists, "higher-layer-if" and "lower-layer-if", represent a read-only view of the interface layering hierarchy.

4. Relationship to the IF-MIB

If the device implements IF-MIB [[RFC2863](#)], each entry in the `"/interfaces-state/interface"` list is typically mapped to one `ifEntry`. The `"if-index"` leaf **MUST** contain the value of the corresponding `ifEntry`'s `ifIndex`.

In most cases, the `"name"` of an `"interface"` entry is mapped to `ifName`. `ifName` is defined as an `DisplayString` [[RFC2579](#)] which uses a 7-bit ASCII character set. An implementation **MUST** restrict the allowed values for `"name"` to match the restrictions of `ifName`.

The IF-MIB allows two different `ifEntries` to have the same `ifName`. Devices that support this feature, and also support the data model defined in this document, cannot have a 1-1 mapping between the `"name"` leaf and `ifName`.

The configured `"description"` of an `"interface"` has traditionally been mapped to `ifAlias` in some implementations. This document allows this mapping, but implementers should be aware of the differences in the value space and persistence for these objects. See the YANG module definition of the leaf `"description"` in [Section 5](#) for details.

The IF-MIB also defines the writable object `ifPromiscuousMode`. Since this object typically is not a configuration object, it is not mapped to the `"ietf-interfaces"` module.

There are a number of counters in the IF-MIB that exist in two versions; one with 32 bits and one with 64 bits. The YANG module contains the 64 bits counters only. Note that NETCONF and SNMP may differ in the time granularity in which they provide access to the counters. For example, it is common that SNMP implementations cache counter values for some time.

The following table lists the YANG data nodes with corresponding objects in the IF-MIB.

YANG data node	IF-MIB object
/interfaces-state/interface	ifEntry
/interfaces-state/name	ifName
description	ifAlias
type	ifType
enabled / admin-status	ifAdminStatus
oper-status	ifOperStatus
last-change	ifLastChange
if-index	ifIndex
link-up-down-trap-enable	ifLinkUpDownTrapEnable
phys-address	ifPhysAddress
higher-layer-if / lower-layer-if	ifStackTable
speed	ifSpeed
in-octets	ifHCInOctets
in-unicast-pkts	ifHCInUcastPkts
in-broadcast-pkts	ifHCInBroadcastPkts
in-multicast-pkts	ifHCInMulticastPkts
in-discards	ifInDiscards
in-errors	ifInErrors
in-unknown-protos	ifInUnknownProtos
out-octets	ifHCOctets
out-unicast-pkts	ifHCOctetsUcastPkts
out-broadcast-pkts	ifHCOctetsBroadcastPkts
out-multicast-pkts	ifHCOctetsMulticastPkts
out-discards	ifOutDiscards
out-errors	ifOutErrors

YANG data nodes and related IF-MIB objects

5. Interfaces YANG Module

This YANG module imports typedefs from [[RFC6991](#)].

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

```
<CODE BEGINS> file "ietf-interfaces@2013-11-07.yang"
```

```
module ietf-interfaces {

  namespace "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-interfaces";
  prefix if;

  import ietf-yang-types {
    prefix yang;
  }

  organization
    "IETF NETMOD (NETCONF Data Modeling Language) Working Group";

  contact
    "WG Web:  <http://tools.ietf.org/wg/netmod/>
    WG List:  <mailto:netmod@ietf.org>

    WG Chair: David Kessens
               <mailto:david.kessens@nsn.com>

    WG Chair: Juergen Schoenwaelder
               <mailto:j.schoenwaelder@jacobs-university.de>

    Editor:   Martin Bjorklund
               <mailto:mbj@tail-f.com>";

  description
    "This module contains a collection of YANG definitions for
    managing network interfaces.

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    authors of the code.  All rights reserved.

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    Relating to IETF Documents
    (http://trustee.ietf.org/license-info).
```



```
    This version of this YANG module is part of RFC XXXX; see
    the RFC itself for full legal notices.";

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

// RFC Ed.: update the date below with the date of RFC publication
// and remove this note.
revision 2013-07-04 {
    description
        "Initial revision.";
    reference
        "RFC XXXX: A YANG Data Model for Interface Management";
}

/*
 * Typedefs
 */

typedef interface-ref {
    type leafref {
        path "/if:interfaces/if:interface/if:name";
    }
    description
        "This type is used by data models that need to reference
        configured interfaces.";
}

typedef interface-state-ref {
    type leafref {
        path "/if:interfaces-state/if:interface/if:name";
    }
    description
        "This type is used by data models that need to reference
        the operationally present interfaces.";
}

/*
 * Identities
 */

identity interface-type {
    description
        "Base identity from which specific interface types are
        derived.";
}

/*
```



```
* Features
*/

feature arbitrary-names {
  description
    "This feature indicates that the device allows user-controlled
    interfaces to be named arbitrarily.";
}

feature pre-provisioning {
  description
    "This feature indicates that the device supports
    pre-provisioning of interface configuration, i.e., it is
    possible to configure an interface whose physical interface
    hardware is not present on the device.";
}

feature if-mib {
  description
    "This feature indicates that the device implements IF-MIB.";
  reference
    "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB";
}

/*
* Configuration data nodes
*/

container interfaces {
  description
    "Interface configuration parameters.";

  list interface {
    key "name";

    description
      "The list of configured interfaces on the device.

      The operational state of an interface is available in the
      /interfaces-state/interface list. If the configuration of a
      system-controlled interface cannot be used by the system
      (e.g., the interface hardware present does not match the
      interface type), then the configuration is not applied to
      the system-controlled interface shown in the
      /interfaces-state/interface list. If the the configuration
      of a user-controlled interface cannot be used by the system,
      the configured interface is not instantiated in the
      /interfaces-state/interface list.";
```



```
leaf name {
  type string;
  description
    "The name of the interface.

    A device MAY restrict the allowed values for this leaf,
    possibly depending on the type of the interface.

    For system-controlled interfaces, this leaf is the
    device-specific name of the interface. The 'config false'
    list /interfaces-state/interface contains the currently
    existing interfaces on the device.

    If a client tries to create configuration for a
    system-controlled interface that is not present in the
    /interfaces-state/interface list, the server MAY reject
    the request, if the implementation does not support
    pre-provisioning of interfaces, or if the name refers to
    an interface that can never exist in the system. A
    NETCONF server MUST reply with an rpc-error with the
    error-tag 'invalid-value' in this case.

    If the device supports pre-provisioning of interface
    configuration, the feature 'pre-provisioning' is
    advertised.

    If the device allows arbitrarily named user-controlled
    interfaces, the feature 'arbitrary-names' is advertised.

    When a configured user-controlled interface is created by
    the system, it is instantiated with the same name in the
    /interface-state/interface list. Since the name in that
    list MAY be mapped to ifName by an implementation, such an
    implementation MUST restrict the allowed values for this
    leaf so that it matches the restrictions of ifName.

    If a NETCONF server that implements this restriction is
    sent a value that doesn't match the restriction, it MUST
    reply with an rpc-error with the error-tag
    'invalid-value'.";
```

```
}
```

```
leaf description {
  type string;
  description
    "A textual description of the interface.

    This leaf MAY be mapped to ifAlias by an implementation.
```


Such an implementation MUST restrict the allowed values for this leaf so that it matches the restrictions of ifAlias.

If a NETCONF server that implements this restriction is sent a value that doesn't match the restriction, it MUST reply with an rpc-error with the error-tag 'invalid-value'.

Since ifAlias is defined to be stored in non-volatile storage, the MIB implementation MUST map ifAlias to the value of 'description' in the persistently stored datastore.

Specifically, if the device supports ':startup', when ifAlias is read the device MUST return the value of 'description' in the 'startup' datastore, and when it is written, it MUST be written to the 'running' and 'startup' datastores. Note that it is up to the implementation if it modifies this single leaf in 'startup', or if it performs an implicit copy-config from 'running' to 'startup'.

If the device does not support ':startup', ifAlias MUST be mapped to the 'description' leaf in the 'running' datastore.";

reference

"[RFC 2863](#): The Interfaces Group MIB - ifAlias";

}

```
leaf type {  
  type identityref {  
    base interface-type;  
  }  
  mandatory true;  
  description  
    "The type of the interface.
```

When an interface entry is created, a server MAY initialize the type leaf with a valid value, e.g., if it is possible to derive the type from the name of the interface.

If a client tries to set the type of an interface to a value that can never be used by the system, e.g., if the type is not supported or if the type does not match the name of the interface, the server MUST reject the request. A NETCONF server MUST reply with an rpc-error with the


```
        error-tag 'invalid-value' in this case.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifType";
}

leaf enabled {
    type boolean;
    default "true";
    description
        "This leaf contains the configured, desired state of the
        interface.

        Systems that implement the IF-MIB use the value of this
        leaf in the 'running' datastore to set
        IF-MIB.ifAdminStatus to 'up' or 'down' after an ifEntry
        has been initialized, as described in RFC 2863.

        Changes in this leaf in the 'running' datastore are
        reflected in ifAdminStatus, but if ifAdminStatus is
        changed over SNMP, this leaf is not affected.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifAdminStatus";
}

leaf link-up-down-trap-enable {
    if-feature if-mib;
    type enumeration {
        enum enabled {
            value 1;
        }
        enum disabled {
            value 2;
        }
    }
    description
        "Controls whether linkUp/linkDown SNMP notifications
        should be generated for this interface.

        If this node is not configured, the value 'enabled' is
        operationally used by the server for interfaces which do
        not operate on top of any other interface (i.e., there are
        no 'lower-layer-if' entries), and 'disabled' otherwise.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB -
        ifLinkUpDownTrapEnable";
}
}
}
```



```
/*
 * Operational state data nodes
 */

container interfaces-state {
  config false;
  description
    "Data nodes for the operational state of interfaces.";

  list interface {
    key "name";

    description
      "The list of interfaces on the device.

      System-controlled interfaces created by the system are
      always present in this list, whether they are configured or
      not.";

    leaf name {
      type string;
      description
        "The name of the interface.

        This leaf MAY be mapped to ifName by an implementation.";
      reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifName";
    }

    leaf type {
      type identityref {
        base interface-type;
      }
      mandatory true;
      description
        "The type of the interface.";
      reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifType";
    }

    leaf admin-status {
      if-feature if-mib;
      type enumeration {
        enum up {
          value 1;
          description
            "Ready to pass packets.";
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```



```
    enum down {
      value 2;
      description
        "Not ready to pass packets and not in some test mode.";
    }
    enum testing {
      value 3;
      description
        "In some test mode.";
    }
  }
  mandatory true;
  description
    "The desired state of the interface.

    This leaf has the same read semantics as ifAdminStatus.";
  reference
    "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifAdminStatus";
}

leaf oper-status {
  type enumeration {
    enum up {
      value 1;
      description
        "Ready to pass packets.";
    }
    enum down {
      value 2;
      description
        "The interface does not pass any packets.";
    }
    enum testing {
      value 3;
      description
        "In some test mode.  No operational packets can
        be passed.";
    }
    enum unknown {
      value 4;
      description
        "Status cannot be determined for some reason.";
    }
    enum dormant {
      value 5;
      description
        "Waiting for some external event.";
    }
  }
}
```



```
    enum not-present {
        value 6;
        description
            "Some component (typically hardware) is missing.";
    }
    enum lower-layer-down {
        value 7;
        description
            "Down due to state of lower-layer interface(s).";
    }
}
mandatory true;
description
    "The current operational state of the interface.

    This leaf has the same semantics as ifOperStatus.";
reference
    "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifOperStatus";
}

leaf last-change {
    type yang:date-and-time;
    description
        "The time the interface entered its current operational
        state. If the current state was entered prior to the
        last re-initialization of the local network management
        subsystem, then this node is not present.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifLastChange";
}

leaf if-index {
    if-feature if-mib;
    type int32 {
        range "1..2147483647";
    }
    mandatory true;
    description
        "The ifIndex value for the ifEntry represented by this
        interface.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifIndex";
}

leaf phys-address {
    type yang:phys-address;
    description
        "The interface's address at its protocol sub-layer. For
```



```
    example, for an 802.x interface, this object normally
    contains a MAC address. The interface's media-specific
    modules must define the bit and byte ordering and the
    format of the value of this object. For interfaces that do
    not have such an address (e.g., a serial line), this node
    is not present.";
  reference
    "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifPhysAddress";
}

leaf-list higher-layer-if {
  type interface-state-ref;
  description
    "A list of references to interfaces layered on top of this
    interface.";
  reference
    "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifStackTable";
}

leaf-list lower-layer-if {
  type interface-state-ref;
  description
    "A list of references to interfaces layered underneath this
    interface.";
  reference
    "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifStackTable";
}

leaf speed {
  type yang:gauge64;
  units "bits / second";
  description
    "An estimate of the interface's current bandwidth in bits
    per second. For interfaces that do not vary in
    bandwidth or for those where no accurate estimation can
    be made, this node should contain the nominal bandwidth.
    For interfaces that have no concept of bandwidth, this
    node is not present.";
  reference
    "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB -
    ifSpeed, ifHighSpeed";
}

container statistics {
  description
    "A collection of interface-related statistics objects.";

  leaf discontinuity-time {
```



```
    type yang:date-and-time;
    mandatory true;
    description
      "The time on the most recent occasion at which any one or
       more of this interface's counters suffered a
       discontinuity.  If no such discontinuities have occurred
       since the last re-initialization of the local management
       subsystem, then this node contains the time the local
       management subsystem re-initialized itself.";
  }

  leaf in-octets {
    type yang:counter64;
    description
      "The total number of octets received on the interface,
       including framing characters.

       Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
       at re-initialization of the management system, and at
       other times as indicated by the value of
       'discontinuity-time'.";
    reference
      "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifHCInOctets";
  }

  leaf in-unicast-pkts {
    type yang:counter64;
    description
      "The number of packets, delivered by this sub-layer to a
       higher (sub-)layer, which were not addressed to a
       multicast or broadcast address at this sub-layer.

       Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
       at re-initialization of the management system, and at
       other times as indicated by the value of
       'discontinuity-time'.";
    reference
      "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifHCInUcastPkts";
  }

  leaf in-broadcast-pkts {
    type yang:counter64;
    description
      "The number of packets, delivered by this sub-layer to a
       higher (sub-)layer, which were addressed to a broadcast
       address at this sub-layer.

       Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
       at re-initialization of the management system, and at
       other times as indicated by the value of
```



```
        'discontinuity-time'. ";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB -
            ifHCInBroadcastPkts";
}
leaf in-multicast-pkts {
    type yang:counter64;
    description
        "The number of packets, delivered by this sub-layer to a
        higher (sub-)layer, which were addressed to a multicast
        address at this sub-layer. For a MAC layer protocol,
        this includes both Group and Functional addresses.

        Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
        at re-initialization of the management system, and at
        other times as indicated by the value of
        'discontinuity-time'. ";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB -
            ifHCInMulticastPkts";
}
leaf in-discards {
    type yang:counter32;
    description
        "The number of inbound packets which were chosen to be
        discarded even though no errors had been detected to
        prevent their being deliverable to a higher-layer
        protocol. One possible reason for discarding such a
        packet could be to free up buffer space.

        Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
        at re-initialization of the management system, and at
        other times as indicated by the value of
        'discontinuity-time'. ";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifInDiscards";
}
leaf in-errors {
    type yang:counter32;
    description
        "For packet-oriented interfaces, the number of inbound
        packets that contained errors preventing them from being
        deliverable to a higher-layer protocol. For character-
        oriented or fixed-length interfaces, the number of
        inbound transmission units that contained errors
        preventing them from being deliverable to a higher-layer
        protocol."
```



```

        Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
        at re-initialization of the management system, and at
        other times as indicated by the value of
        'discontinuity-time'.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifInErrors";
}
leaf in-unknown-protos {
    type yang:counter32;
    description
        "For packet-oriented interfaces, the number of packets
        received via the interface which were discarded because
        of an unknown or unsupported protocol. For
        character-oriented or fixed-length interfaces that
        support protocol multiplexing the number of transmission
        units received via the interface which were discarded
        because of an unknown or unsupported protocol. For any
        interface that does not support protocol multiplexing,
        this counter is not present.

        Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
        at re-initialization of the management system, and at
        other times as indicated by the value of
        'discontinuity-time'.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifInUnknownProtos";
}

leaf out-octets {
    type yang:counter64;
    description
        "The total number of octets transmitted out of the
        interface, including framing characters.

        Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
        at re-initialization of the management system, and at
        other times as indicated by the value of
        'discontinuity-time'.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifHCOutOctets";
}

leaf out-unicast-pkts {
    type yang:counter64;
    description
        "The total number of packets that higher-level protocols
        requested be transmitted, and which were not addressed
        to a multicast or broadcast address at this sub-layer,
        including those that were discarded or not sent.
```



```
        Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
        at re-initialization of the management system, and at
        other times as indicated by the value of
        'discontinuity-time'.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB - ifHCOutUcastPkts";
}
leaf out-broadcast-pkts {
    type yang:counter64;
    description
        "The total number of packets that higher-level protocols
        requested be transmitted, and which were addressed to a
        broadcast address at this sub-layer, including those
        that were discarded or not sent.

        Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
        at re-initialization of the management system, and at
        other times as indicated by the value of
        'discontinuity-time'.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB -
        ifHCOutBroadcastPkts";
}
leaf out-multicast-pkts {
    type yang:counter64;
    description
        "The total number of packets that higher-level protocols
        requested be transmitted, and which were addressed to a
        multicast address at this sub-layer, including those
        that were discarded or not sent.  For a MAC layer
        protocol, this includes both Group and Functional
        addresses.

        Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur
        at re-initialization of the management system, and at
        other times as indicated by the value of
        'discontinuity-time'.";
    reference
        "RFC 2863: The Interfaces Group MIB -
        ifHCOutMulticastPkts";
}
leaf out-discards {
    type yang:counter32;
    description
        "The number of outbound packets which were chosen to be
        discarded even though no errors had been detected to
        prevent their being transmitted.  One possible reason
        for discarding such a packet could be to free up buffer
```


space.

Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur at re-initialization of the management system, and at other times as indicated by the value of 'discontinuity-time'.";

reference

"[RFC 2863](#): The Interfaces Group MIB - ifOutDiscards";

}

leaf out-errors {

type yang:counter32;

description

"For packet-oriented interfaces, the number of outbound packets that could not be transmitted because of errors. For character-oriented or fixed-length interfaces, the number of outbound transmission units that could not be transmitted because of errors.

Discontinuities in the value of this counter can occur at re-initialization of the management system, and at other times as indicated by the value of 'discontinuity-time'.";

reference

"[RFC 2863](#): The Interfaces Group MIB - ifOutErrors";

}

}

}

}

}

<CODE ENDS>

6. IANA Considerations

This document registers a URI in the IETF XML registry [[RFC3688](#)]. Following the format in [RFC 3688](#), the following registration is requested to be made.

URI: urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-interfaces

Registrant Contact: The IESG.

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

This document registers a YANG module in the YANG Module Names registry [[RFC6020](#)].

name:	ietf-interfaces
namespace:	urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-interfaces
prefix:	if
reference:	RFC XXXX

7. Security Considerations

The YANG module defined in this memo is designed to be accessed via the NETCONF protocol [[RFC6241](#)]. The lowest NETCONF layer is the secure transport layer and the mandatory-to-implement secure transport is SSH [[RFC6242](#)]. The NETCONF access control model [[RFC6536](#)] provides the means to restrict access for particular NETCONF users to a pre-configured subset of all available NETCONF protocol operations and content.

There are a number of data nodes defined in the YANG module which are writable/creatable/deletable (i.e., config true, which is the default). These data nodes may be considered sensitive or vulnerable in some network environments. Write operations (e.g., <edit-config>) to these data nodes without proper protection can have a negative effect on network operations. These are the subtrees and data nodes and their sensitivity/vulnerability:

/interfaces/interface: This list specifies the configured interfaces on a device. Unauthorized access to this list could cause the device to ignore packets it should receive and process.

/interfaces/interface/enabled: This leaf controls if an interface is enabled or not. Unauthorized access to this leaf could cause the device to ignore packets it should receive and process.

8. Acknowledgments

The author wishes to thank Alexander Clemm, Per Hedeland, Ladislav Lhotka, and Juergen Schoenwaelder for their helpful comments.

9. References

9.1. Normative References

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9.2. Informative References

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[Appendix A](#). Example: Ethernet Interface Module

This section gives a simple example of how an Ethernet interface module could be defined. It demonstrates how media-specific configuration parameters can be conditionally augmented to the generic interface list. It also shows how operational state parameters can be conditionally augmented to the operational interface list. The example is not intended as a complete module for ethernet configuration.

```
module ex-ethernet {
  namespace "http://example.com/ethernet";
  prefix "eth";

  import ietf-interfaces {
    prefix if;
  }
  import iana-if-type {
    prefix ianaift;
  }

  // configuration parameters for ethernet interfaces
  augment "/if:interfaces/if:interface" {
    when "if:type = 'ianaift:ethernet'";

    container ethernet {
      choice transmission-params {
        case auto {
          leaf auto-negotiate {
            type empty;
          }
        }
        case manual {
          leaf duplex {
            type enumeration {
              enum "half";
              enum "full";
            }
          }
          leaf speed {
            type enumeration {
              enum "10Mb";
              enum "100Mb";
              enum "1Gb";
              enum "10Gb";
            }
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```



```
    }
    // other ethernet specific params...
  }
}

// operational state parameters for ethernet interfaces
augment "/if:interfaces-state/if:interface" {
  when "if:type = 'ethernetCsmacd'";

  container ethernet {
    leaf duplex {
      type enumeration {
        enum "half";
        enum "full";
      }
    }
    // other ethernet specific params...
  }
}
```


[Appendix B](#). Example: Ethernet Bonding Interface Module

This section gives an example of how interface layering can be defined. An ethernet bonding interface is defined, which bonds several ethernet interfaces into one logical interface.

```
module ex-ethernet-bonding {
  namespace "http://example.com/ethernet-bonding";
  prefix "bond";

  import ietf-interfaces {
    prefix if;
  }
  import iana-if-type {
    prefix ianaift;
  }

  augment "/if:interfaces/if:interface" {
    when "if:type = 'ianaift:ieee8023adLag'";

    leaf-list slave-if {
      type if:interface-ref;
      must "/if:interfaces/if:interface[if:name = current()]"
        + "/if:type = 'ianaift:ethernetCsmacd'" {
        description
          "The type of a slave interface must be ethernet.";
      }
    }
    leaf bonding-mode {
      type enumeration {
        enum round-robin;
        enum active-backup;
        enum broadcast;
      }
    }
    // other bonding config params, failover times etc.
  }
}
```


[Appendix C](#). Example: VLAN Interface Module

This section gives an example of how a vlan interface module can be defined.

```
module ex-vlan {
  namespace "http://example.com/vlan";
  prefix "vlan";

  import ietf-interfaces {
    prefix if;
  }
  import iana-if-type {
    prefix ianaift;
  }
  import ex-ethernet {
    prefix eth;
  }

  augment "/if:interfaces/if:interface" {
    when "if:type = 'ianaift:ethernetCsmacd' or
          if:type = 'ianaift:ieee8023adLag'";
    leaf vlan-tagging {
      type boolean;
      default false;
    }
  }

  augment "/if:interfaces/if:interface" {
    when "if:type = 'ianaift:l2vlan'";

    leaf base-interface {
      type if:interface-ref;
      must "/if:interfaces/if:interface[if:name = current()]"
        + "/vlan:vlan-tagging = 'true'" {
        description
          "The base interface must have vlan tagging enabled.";
      }
    }
    leaf vlan-id {
      type uint16 {
        range "1..4094";
      }
      must "../base-interface" {
        description
          "If a vlan-id is defined, a base-interface must
           be specified.";
      }
    }
  }
}
```


[Appendix D](#). Example: NETCONF <get> reply

This section gives an example of a reply to the NETCONF <get> request for a device that implements the example data models above.

```
<rpc-reply
  xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:netconf:base:1.0"
  message-id="101">
  <data>

    <interfaces
      xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-interfaces"
      xmlns:ianaift="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:iana-if-type"
      xmlns:vlan="http://example.com/vlan">

      <interface>
        <name>eth0</name>
        <type>ianaift:ethernetCsmacd</type>
        <enabled>false</enabled>
      </interface>

      <interface>
        <name>eth1</name>
        <type>ianaift:ethernetCsmacd</type>
        <enabled>true</enabled>
        <vlan:vlan-tagging>true</vlan:vlan-tagging>
      </interface>

      <interface>
        <name>eth1.10</name>
        <type>ianaift:l2vlan</type>
        <enabled>true</enabled>
        <vlan:base-interface>eth1</vlan:base-interface>
        <vlan:vlan-id>10</vlan:vlan-id>
      </interface>

      <interface>
        <name>lo1</name>
        <type>ianaift:softwareLoopback</type>
        <enabled>true</enabled>
      </interface>

    </interfaces>

    <interfaces-state
      xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-interfaces"
      xmlns:ianaift="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:iana-if-type">
```



```
<interface>
  <name>eth0</name>
  <type>ianaift:ethernetCsmacd</type>
  <admin-status>down</admin-status>
  <oper-status>down</oper-status>
  <if-index>2</if-index>
  <phys-address>00:01:02:03:04:05</phys-address>
  <statistics>
    <discontinuity-time>
      2013-04-01T03:00:00+00:00
    </discontinuity-time>
    <!-- counters now shown here -->
  </statistics>
</interface>
```

```
<interface>
  <name>eth1</name>
  <type>ianaift:ethernetCsmacd</type>
  <admin-status>up</admin-status>
  <oper-status>up</oper-status>
  <if-index>7</if-index>
  <phys-address>00:01:02:03:04:06</phys-address>
  <higher-layer-if>eth1.10</higher-layer-if>
  <statistics>
    <discontinuity-time>
      2013-04-01T03:00:00+00:00
    </discontinuity-time>
    <!-- counters now shown here -->
  </statistics>
</interface>
```

```
<interface>
  <name>eth1.10</name>
  <type>ianaift:l2vlan</type>
  <admin-status>up</admin-status>
  <oper-status>up</oper-status>
  <if-index>9</if-index>
  <lower-layer-if>eth1</lower-layer-if>
  <statistics>
    <discontinuity-time>
      2013-04-01T03:00:00+00:00
    </discontinuity-time>
    <!-- counters now shown here -->
  </statistics>
</interface>
```

```
<!-- This interface is not configured -->
<interface>
```



```
<name>eth2</name>
<type>ianaift:ethernetCsmacd</type>
<admin-status>down</admin-status>
<oper-status>down</oper-status>
<if-index>8</if-index>
<phys-address>00:01:02:03:04:07</phys-address>
<statistics>
  <discontinuity-time>
    2013-04-01T03:00:00+00:00
  </discontinuity-time>
  <!-- counters now shown here -->
</statistics>
</interface>

<interface>
  <name>lo1</name>
  <type>ianaift:softwareLoopback</type>
  <admin-status>up</admin-status>
  <oper-status>up</oper-status>
  <if-index>1</if-index>
  <statistics>
    <discontinuity-time>
      2013-04-01T03:00:00+00:00
    </discontinuity-time>
    <!-- counters now shown here -->
  </statistics>
</interface>

</interfaces-state>
</data>
</rpc-reply>
```


[Appendix E](#). Examples: Interface Naming Schemes

This section gives examples of some implementation strategies.

The examples make use of the example data model "ex-vlan" (see [Appendix C](#)) to show how user-controlled interfaces can be configured.

[E.1](#). Router with Restricted Interface Names

In this example, a router has support for 4 line cards, each with 8 ports. The slots for the cards are physically numbered from 0 to 3, and the ports on each card from 0 to 7. Each card has fast- or gigabit-ethernet ports.

The device-specific names for these physical interfaces are "fastethernet-N/M" or "gigabitethernet-N/M".

The name of a vlan interface is restricted to the form "<physical-interface-name>.<subinterface-number>".

It is assumed that the operator is aware of this naming scheme. The implementation auto-initializes the value for "type" based on the interface name.

The NETCONF server does not advertise the 'arbitrary-names' feature in the <hello> message.

An operator can configure a physical interface by sending an <edit-config> containing:

```
<interface nc:operation="create">
  <name>fastethernet-1/0</name>
</interface>
```

When the server processes this request, it will set the leaf "type" to "ianaift:ethernetCsmacd". Thus, if the client performs a <get-config> right after the <edit-config> above, it will get:

```
<interface>
  <name>fastethernet-1/0</name>
  <type>ianaift:ethernetCsmacd</type>
</interface>
```

The client can configure a vlan interface by sending an <edit-config> containing:


```
<interface nc:operation="create">
  <name>fastethernet-1/0.10005</name>
  <type>ianaift:l2vlan</type>
  <vlan:base-interface>fastethernet-1/0</vlan:base-interface>
  <vlan:vlan-id>5</vlan:vlan-id>
</interface>
```

If the client tries to change the type of the physical interface with an `<edit-config>` containing:

```
<interface nc:operation="merge">
  <name>fastethernet-1/0</name>
  <type>ianaift:tunnel</type>
</interface>
```

then the server will reply with an "invalid-value" error, since the new type does not match the name.

[E.2.](#) Router with Arbitrary Interface Names

In this example, a router has support for 4 line cards, each with 8 ports. The slots for the cards are physically numbered from 0 to 3, and the ports on each card from 0 to 7. Each card has fast- or gigabit-ethernet ports.

The device-specific names for these physical interfaces are "fastethernet-N/M" or "gigabitethernet-N/M".

The implementation does not restrict the user-controlled interface names. This allows to more easily apply the interface configuration to a different interface. However, the additional level of indirection also makes it a bit more complex to map interface names found in other protocols to configuration entries.

The NETCONF server advertises the 'arbitrary-names' feature in the `<hello>` message.

Physical interfaces are configured as in [Appendix E.1](#).

An operator can configure a VLAN interface by sending an `<edit-config>` containing:

```
<interface nc:operation="create">
  <name>acme-interface</name>
  <type>ianaift:l2vlan</type>
  <vlan:base-interface>fastethernet-1/0</vlan:base-interface>
  <vlan:vlan-id>5</vlan:vlan-id>
</interface>
```


If necessary, the operator can move the configuration named "acme-interface" over to a different physical interface with an <edit-config> containing:

```
<interface nc:operation="merge">
  <name>acme-interface</name>
  <vlan:base-interface>fastethernet-1/1</vlan:base-interface>
</interface>
```

E.3. Ethernet Switch with Restricted Interface Names

In this example, an ethernet switch has a number of ports, each port identified by a simple port number.

The device-specific names for the physical interfaces are numbers that match the physical port number.

An operator can configure a physical interface by sending an <edit-config> containing:

```
<interface nc:operation="create">
  <name>6</name>
</interface>
```

When the server processes this request, it will set the leaf "type" to "ianaift:ethernetCsmacd". Thus, if the client performs a <get-config> right after the <edit-config> above, it will get:

```
<interface>
  <name>6</name>
  <type>ianaift:ethernetCsmacd</type>
</interface>
```

E.4. Generic Host with Restricted Interface Names

In this example, a generic host has interfaces named by the kernel. The system identifies the physical interface by the name assigned by the operating system to the interface.

The name of a vlan interface is restricted to the form "<physical-interface-name>:<vlan-number>".

The NETCONF server does not advertise the 'arbitrary-names' feature in the <hello> message.

An operator can configure an interface by sending an <edit-config> containing:


```
<interface nc:operation="create">
  <name>eth8</name>
</interface>
```

When the server processes this request, it will set the leaf "type" to "ianaift:ethernetCsmacd". Thus, if the client performs a <get-config> right after the <edit-config> above, it will get:

```
<interface>
  <name>eth8</name>
  <type>ianaift:ethernetCsmacd</type>
</interface>
```

The client can configure a vlan interface by sending an <edit-config> containing:

```
<interface nc:operation="create">
  <name>eth8:5</name>
  <type>ianaift:l2vlan</type>
  <vlan:base-interface>eth8</vlan:base-interface>
  <vlan:vlan-id>5</vlan:vlan-id>
</interface>
```

E.5. Generic Host with Arbitrary Interface Names

In this example, a generic host has interfaces named by the kernel. The system identifies the physical interface by the name assigned by the operating system to the interface.

The implementation does not restrict the user-controlled interface names. This allows to more easily apply the interface configuration to a different interface. However, the additional level of indirection also makes it a bit more complex to map interface names found in other protocols to configuration entries.

The NETCONF server advertises the 'arbitrary-names' feature in the <hello> message.

Physical interfaces are configured as in [Appendix E.4](#).

An operator can configure a VLAN interface by sending an <edit-config> containing:

```
<interface nc:operation="create">
  <name>acme-interface</name>
  <type>ianaift:l2vlan</type>
  <vlan:base-interface>eth8</vlan:base-interface>
  <vlan:vlan-id>5</vlan:vlan-id>
```



```
</interface>
```

If necessary, the operator can move the configuration named "acme-interface" over to a different physical interface with an <edit-config> containing:

```
<interface nc:operation="merge">  
  <name>acme-interface</name>  
  <vlan:base-interface>eth3</vlan:base-interface>  
</interface>
```


[Appendix F](#). **ChangeLog**

RFC Editor: remove this section upon publication as an RFC.

[F.1](#). **Version -13**

- o Made the interface type an identity, instead of an enumeration.

[F.2](#). **Version -11**

- o Separated the operational state from the configuration.
- o Removed 'location', and instead use the name to identify physical interfaces.
- o Added the feature 'pre-provisioning'.
- o Made 'oper-status' and 'if-index' mandatory in the data model.
- o Added 'admin-status'.
- o Clarified why description can be mapped to ifAlias.
- o Clarified that 64-bit counters only are used, where there exist 64-bit and 32-bit counters in IF-MIB.
- o Updated Security Considerations section with a reference to NACM.

[F.3](#). **Version -08**

- o Removed the mtu leaf.
- o Added examples of different interface naming schemes.

[F.4](#). **Version -07**

- o Made leaf speed config false.

[F.5](#). **Version -06**

- o Added oper-status leaf.
- o Added leaf-lists higher-layer-if and lower-layer-if, that show the interface layering.
- o Added container statistics with counters.

[F.6.](#) Version -05

- o Added an Informative References section.
- o Updated the Security Considerations section.
- o Clarified the behavior of an NETCONF server when invalid values are received.

[F.7.](#) Version -04

- o Clarified why ifPromiscuousMode is not part of this data model.
- o Added a table that shows the mapping between this YANG data model and IF-MIB.

[F.8.](#) Version -03

- o Added the section Relationship to the IF-MIB.
- o Changed if-index to be a leaf instead of leaf-list.
- o Explained the notation used in the data model tree picture.

[F.9.](#) Version -02

- o Editorial fixes

[F.10.](#) Version -01

- o Changed leaf "if-admin-status" to leaf "enabled".
- o Added Security Considerations

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