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**Yang data model for TACACS+  
draft-ietf-opsawg-tacacs-yang-04**

**Abstract**

This document defines YANG modules that augment the System Management data model defined in the [RFC 7317](#) with TACACS+ client model. The data model of Terminal Access Controller Access Control System Plus (TACACS+) client allows the configuration of TACACS+ servers for centralized Authentication, Authorization and Accounting.

The YANG modules in this document conforms to the Network Management Datastore Architecture (NMDA) defined in [RFC 8342](#).

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## [1.](#) Introduction

This document defines YANG modules that augment the System Management data model defined in the [[RFC7317](#)] with TACACS+ client model.

TACACS+ provides Device Administration for routers, network access servers and other networked computing devices via one or more centralized servers which is defined in the TACACS+ Protocol. [[I-D.ietf-opsawg-tacacs](#)]

The System Management Model [[RFC7317](#)] defines two YANG features to support local or RADIUS authentication:

- o User Authentication Model: Defines a list of usernames and passwords and control the order in which local or RADIUS authentication is used.
- o RADIUS Client Model: Defines a list of RADIUS servers that a device uses.

Since TACACS+ is also used for device management and the feature is not contained in the System Management model, this document defines a YANG data model that allows users to configure TACACS+ client functions on a device for centralized Authentication, Authorization and Accounting provided by TACACS+ servers.



The YANG models can be used with network management protocols such as NETCONF[RFC6241] to install, manipulate, and delete the configuration of network devices.

The YANG data model in this document conforms to the Network Management Datastore Architecture (NMDA) defined in [RFC8342].

## **2. Conventions used in this document**

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 BCP14, [RFC2119], [RFC8174] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

The following terms are defined in [RFC6241] and are used in this specification:

- o client
- o configuration data
- o server
- o state data

The following terms are defined in [RFC7950] and are used in this specification:

- o augment
- o data model
- o data node

The terminology for describing YANG data models is found in [RFC7950].

### **2.1. Tree Diagrams**

Tree diagrams used in this document follow the notation defined in [RFC8340].

## **3. Design of the Data Model**

This model is used to configure TACACS+ client on the device to support deployment scenarios with centralized authentication, authorization, and accounting servers. Authentication is used to



validate a user's name and password, authorization allows the user to access and execute commands at various command levels assigned to the user and accounting keeps track of the activity of a user who has accessed the device.

The `ietf-system-tacacsplus` module is intended to augment the `/sys:system` path defined in the `ietf-system` module with the contents of the `tacacsplus` grouping. Therefore, a device can use local, Remote Authentication Dial In User Service (RADIUS), or Terminal Access Controller Access Control System Plus (TACACS+) to validate users who attempt to access the router by several mechanisms, e.g. a command line interface or a web-based user interface.

The `"server"` list is directly under the `"tacacsplus"` container, which holds a list of TACACS+ servers and uses `server-type` to distinguish between the three protocols. The list of servers is for redundancy.

Most of the parameters in the `"server"` list are taken directly from the TACACS+ protocol [[I-D.ietf-opsawg-tacacs](#)], and some are derived from the various implementations by network equipment manufacturers. For example, when there are multiple interfaces connected to the TACACS+ client or server, the source address of outgoing TACACS+ packets could be specified, or the source address could be specified through the interface setting, or derived from the out-bound interface from the local FIB. For the TACACS+ server located in a Virtual Private Network(VPN), a VRF instance needs to be specified.

The `"statistics"` container under the `"server list"` is to record session statistics and usage information during user access which include the amount of data a user has sent and/or received during a session.

The data model for TACACS+ client has the following structure:



```

module: ietf-system-tacacsplus
augment /sys:system:
  +--rw tacacsplus {tacacsplus}?
    +--rw server* [name]
      +--rw name string
      +--rw server-type? tcsplus-server-type
      +--rw address inet:host
      +--rw port? inet:port-number
      +--rw shared-secret string
      +--rw (source-type)?
        | +--:(source-ip)
        | | +--rw source-ip? inet:ip-address
        | +--:(source-interface)
        | +--rw source-interface? if:interface-ref
      +--rw vrf-instance?
        | -> /ni:network-instances/network-instance/name
      +--rw single-connection? boolean
      +--rw timeout? uint16
      +--ro statistics
        +--ro connection-opens? yang:counter64
        +--ro connection-closes? yang:counter64
        +--ro connection-aborts? yang:counter64
        +--ro connection-failures? yang:counter64
        +--ro connection-timeouts? yang:counter64
        +--ro messages-sent? yang:counter64
        +--ro messages-received? yang:counter64
        +--ro errors-received? yang:counter64
        +--ro sessions? yang:counter64

```

#### 4. TACACS+ Client Module

<CODE BEGINS> file "ietf-system-tacacsplus@2020-05-09.yang"

```

module ietf-system-tacacsplus {
  yang-version 1.1;
  namespace "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-system-tacacsplus";
  prefix sys-tcsplus;

  import ietf-inet-types {
    prefix inet;
    reference
      "RFC 6991: Common YANG Data Types";
  }
  import ietf-yang-types {
    prefix yang;
    reference
      "RFC 6991: Common YANG Data Types";
  }
}

```



```
import ietf-network-instance {
  prefix ni;
  reference
    "RFC 8529: YANG Data Model for Network Instances";
}
import ietf-interfaces {
  prefix if;
  reference
    "RFC 8343: A YANG Data Model for Interface Management";
}
import ietf-system {
  prefix sys;
  reference
    "RFC 7317: A YANG Data Model for System Management";
}
import ietf-netconf-acm {
  prefix nacm;
  reference
    "RFC 8341: Network Configuration Access Control Model";
}

organization
  "IETF Opsawg (Operations and Management Area Working Group)";
contact
  "WG Web:  <http://tools.ietf.org/wg/opsawg/>
  WG List:  <mailto:opsawg@ietf.org>

  Editor: Bo Wu <lane.wubo@huawei.com>
  Editor: Guangying Zheng <zhengguangying@huawei.com>;
description
  "This module provides configuration of TACACS+ client.

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  authors of the code.  All rights reserved.

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  without modification, is permitted pursuant to, and subject
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  set forth in Section 4.c of the IETF Trust's Legal Provisions
  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.";

revision 2020-05-09 {
  description
    "Initial revision.";
```



```
    reference
      "RFC XXXX: A Yang Data Model for TACACS+";
  }

  typedef tcsplus-server-type {
    type bits {
      bit authentication {
        description
          "When set, the server is an authentication server.";
      }
      bit authorization {
        description
          "When set, the server is an authorization server.";
      }
      bit accounting {
        description
          "When set, the server is an accounting server.";
      }
    }
    description
      "server-type can be set to authentication/authorization/accounting
      or any combination of the three types. When all three types are
      supported, all the three bits are set.";
  }

  feature tacacsplus {
    description
      "Indicates that the device can be configured as a TACACS+
      client.";
    reference
      "draft-ietf-opsawg-tacacs-18: The TACACS+ Protocol";
  }

  identity tacacsplus {
    base sys:authentication-method;
    description
      "Indicates AAA operation using TACACS+.";
    reference
      "draft-ietf-opsawg-tacacs-18: The TACACS+ Protocol";
  }

  grouping statistics {
    description
      "Grouping for TACACS+ statistics attributes";
    container statistics {
      config false;
      description
        "A collection of server-related statistics objects";
    }
  }
```



```
leaf connection-opens {
  type yang:counter64;
  description
    "Number of new connection requests sent to the server, e.g.
    socket open";
}
leaf connection-closes {
  type yang:counter64;
  description
    "Number of connection close requests sent to the server, e.g.
    socket close";
}
leaf connection-aborts {
  type yang:counter64;
  description
    "Number of aborted connections to the server. These do
    not include connections that are close gracefully.";
}
leaf connection-failures {
  type yang:counter64;
  description
    "Number of connection failures to the server";
}
leaf connection-timeouts {
  type yang:counter64;
  description
    "Number of connection timeouts to the server";
}
leaf messages-sent {
  type yang:counter64;
  description
    "Number of messages sent to the server";
}
leaf messages-received {
  type yang:counter64;
  description
    "Number of messages received by the server";
}
leaf errors-received {
  type yang:counter64;
  description
    "Number of error messages received from the server";
}
leaf sessions {
  type yang:counter64;
  description
    "Number of TACACS+ sessions completed with the server.
    If the Single Connection Mode was NOT enabled, the number of
```



```
        sessions is the same as the number of 'connection-closes'.
        If the Mode was enabled, a single TCP connection may contain
        multiple TACACS+ sessions.";
    }
}

grouping tacacsplus {
    description
        "Grouping for TACACS+ attributes";
    container tacacsplus {
        if-feature "tacacsplus";
        must "not(derived-from-or-self(..sys:authentication"
            + "/sys:user-authentication-order, 'tacacsplus')) or server" {
            error-message "When 'tacacsplus' is used as a system"
                + " authentication method, a TACACS+ server"
                + " must be configured.";
            description
                "When 'tacacsplus' is used as an authentication method,
                a TACACS+ server must be configured.";
        }
        description
            "Container for TACACS+ configurations and operations.";
        list server {
            key "name";
            ordered-by user;
            description
                "List of TACACS+ servers used by the device.";
            leaf name {
                type string;
                description
                    "An arbitrary name for the TACACS+ server.";
            }
            leaf server-type {
                type tcsplus-server-type;
                description
                    "Server type: authentication/authorization/accounting and
                    various combinations.
                    When all three types are supported, all the three bits
                    are set.";
            }
            leaf address {
                type inet:host;
                mandatory true;
                description
                    "The address of the TACACS+ server.";
            }
            leaf port {
```



```
    type inet:port-number;
    default "49";
    description
      "The port number of TACACS+ Server port.";
  }
  leaf shared-secret {
    type string {
      length "16..max";
    }
    mandatory true;
    nacm:default-deny-all;
    description
      "The shared secret, which is known to both the
       TACACS+ client and server. TACACS+ server administrators
       should configure shared secret of minimum 16 characters
       length.
       It is highly recommended that shared keys are at least 32
       characters long.";
    reference
      "TACACS+ protocol";
  }
  choice source-type {
    description
      "The source address type for outbound TACACS+ packets.";
    case source-ip {
      leaf source-ip {
        type inet:ip-address;
        description
          "Specifies source IP address for TACACS+ outbound
           packets.";
      }
    }
    case source-interface {
      leaf source-interface {
        type if:interface-ref;
        description
          "Specifies the interface from which the IP address is
           derived for use as the source for the outbound TACACS+
           packet";
      }
    }
  }
  leaf vrf-instance {
    type leafref {
      path "/ni:network-instances/ni:network-instance/ni:name";
    }
    description
      "Specifies the VPN Routing and Forwarding (VRF) instance to
```



```
        use to communicate with the TACACS+ server.";
    }
    leaf single-connection {
        type boolean;
        default "false";
        description
            "Whether the single connection mode is enabled for the
            server. By default, the single connection mode is
            disabled.";
    }
    leaf timeout {
        type uint16 {
            range "1..300";
        }
        units "seconds";
        default "5";
        description
            "The number of seconds the device will wait for a
            response from each TACACS+ server before trying with a
            different server.";
    }
    uses statistics;
}
}
}

augment "/sys:system" {
    description
        "Augment the system model with the tacacsplus model";
    uses tacacsplus;
}
}
```

<CODE ENDS>

## 5. Security Considerations

The YANG module defined in this document is designed to be accessed via network management protocols such as NETCONF [RFC6241] or RESTCONF [RFC8040]. The lowest NETCONF layer is the secure transport layer, and the mandatory-to-implement secure transport is Secure Shell (SSH) [RFC6242]. The lowest RESTCONF layer is HTTPS, and the mandatory-to-implement secure transport is TLS [RFC8446].

The NETCONF access control model [RFC8341] provides the means to restrict access for particular NETCONF or RESTCONF users to a preconfigured subset of all available NETCONF or RESTCONF protocol operations and content.



There are a number of data nodes defined in this YANG module that 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:

/system/tacacsplus/server: This list contains the objects used to control the TACACS+ servers used by the device. Unauthorized access to this list could cause a user management failure on the device .

/system/tacacsplus/server/shared-secret: This leaf controls the key known to both the TACACS+ client and server. Unauthorized access to this leaf could cause the device vulnerable to attacks.

This document describes the use of TACACS+ for purposes of authentication, authorization and accounting, it is vulnerable to all of the threats that are present in TACACS+ applications. For a discussion of such threats, see [Section 9](#) of the TACACS+ Protocol [[I-D.ietf-opsawg-tacacs](#)].

## 6. IANA Considerations

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

URI: urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-system-tacacsplus  
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 [[RFC7950](#)].

Name: ietf-system-tacacsplus  
Namespace: urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang: ietf-tacacsplus  
Prefix: sys-tcsplus  
Reference: RFC XXXX

## 7. Acknowledgments

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## Appendix A. Example Tacacs+ Authentication Configuration

The following shows an example where a tacacs+ authentication server instance is configured.

```
{
  "ietf-system:system": {
    "authentication": {
      "user-authentication-order": [tacacsplus, local-users]
    }
    "tacacsplus": {
      "server": [
        {
          "name": "tac_plus1",
          "server-type": "authentication"
          "address": "10.10.10.2",
          "shared-secret": "QaEfThUk01980100754609236h3TbE8n",
          "source-ip": "10.10.10.12"
          "single-connection": "false"
          "timeout": "10"
        }
      ]
    }
  }
}
```



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