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H. Chen
Huawei Technologies
A. Liu
Ciena
T. Saad
Cisco Systems
F. Xu
Verizon
L. Huang
China Mobile
March 5, 2018

Extensions to RSVP-TE for LSP Egress Local Protection
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Abstract

This document describes extensions to Resource Reservation Protocol - Traffic Engineering (RSVP-TE) for locally protecting the egress node(s) of a Point-to-Point (P2P) or Point-to-Multipoint (P2MP) Traffic Engineered (TE) Label Switched Path (LSP).

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1. Introduction

[RFC 4090](#) describes two methods for locally protecting the transit nodes of a P2P LSP: one-to-one and facility protection. [RFC 4875](#) specifies how these methods can be used to protect the transit nodes of a P2MP LSP. These documents do not discuss the procedures for locally protecting the egress node(s) of an LSP.

This document fills that void and specifies extensions to RSVP-TE for local protection of the egress node(s) of an LSP. Egress node and egress will be used exchangeably.

1.1. Egress Local Protection

Figure 1 shows an example of using backup LSPs to locally protect egress nodes L1 and L2 of a primary P2MP LSP from ingress R1 to two egress nodes L1 and L2. La and Lb are the designated backup egress nodes for primary egress nodes L1 and L2 respectively. The backup LSP for protecting L1 is from its upstream node R3 to backup egress node La and the backup LSP for protecting L2 is from R5 to Lb.

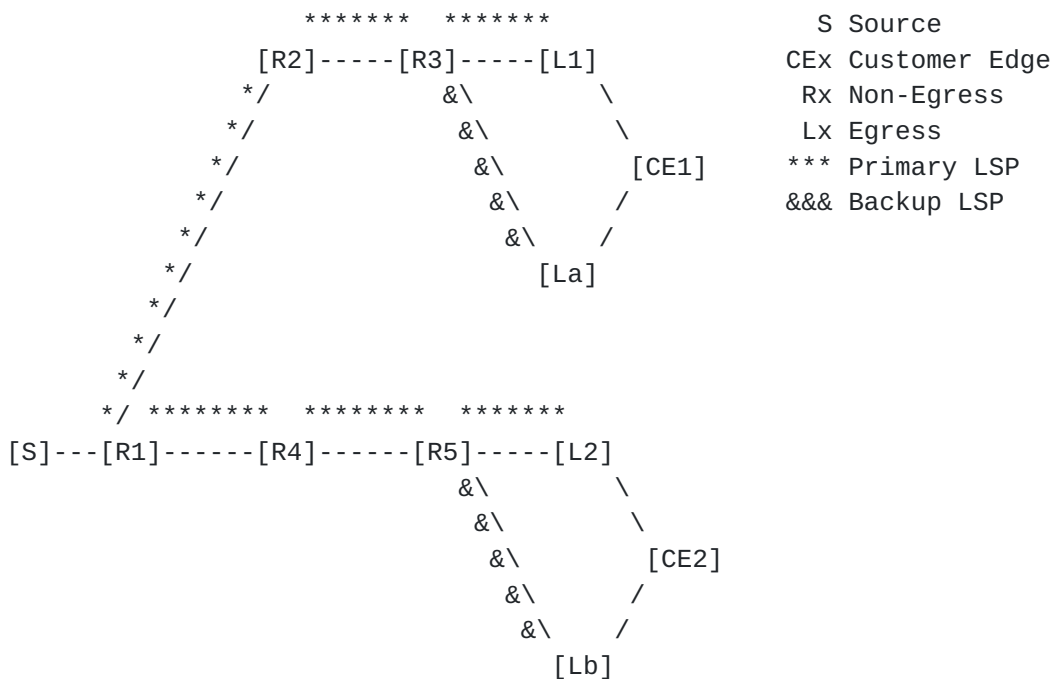


Figure 1: Backup LSP for Locally Protecting Egress

During normal operations, the traffic carried by the P2MP LSP is sent through R3 to L1, which delivers the traffic to its destination CE1. When R3 detects the failure of L1, R3 switches the traffic to the backup LSP to backup egress node La, which delivers the traffic to CE1. The time for switching the traffic is within tens of

milliseconds.

The exact mechanism by which the failure of the primary egress node is detected by the upstream node is out of the scope of this document.

In the beginning, the primary P2MP LSP from ingress R1 to primary egress nodes L1 and L2 is configured. It may be used to transport the traffic from source S connected to R1 to destinations CE1 and CE2 connected to L1 and L2 respectively.

When we want to protect the primary egress nodes L1 and L2, we may configure on the ingress R1 a backup egress node for L1, another backup egress node for L2 and other options. After the configuration, the ingress sends a Path message for the LSP with the information such as SEROs (refer to [section 4.1](#)) containing the backup egress nodes for protecting the primary egress nodes.

After receiving the Path message with the information, the upstream node of a primary egress node sets up a backup LSP to the corresponding backup egress node for protecting the primary egress node.

2. 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](#).

3. Terminologies

The following terminologies are used in this document.

LSP: Label Switched Path

TE: Traffic Engineering

P2MP: Point-to-MultiPoint

P2P: Point-to-Point

LSR: Label Switching Router

RSVP: Resource ReSerVation Protocol

S2L: Source-to-Leaf

SERO: Secondary Explicit Route Object

RR0: Record Route Object

BFD: Bidirectional Forwarding Detection

VPN: Virtual Private Network

L3VPN: Layer 3 VPN

VRF: Virtual Routing and Forwarding

LFIB: Label Forwarding Information Base

UA: Upstream Assigned

PLR: Point of Local Repair

BGP: Border Gateway Protocol

CE: Customer Edge

PE: Provider Edge

4. Protocol Extensions

4.1. Extensions to SERO

The Secondary Explicit Route object (SERO) is defined in [RFC 4873](#). The format of the SERO is re-used.

The SERO used for protecting a primary egress node of a primary LSP may be added into the Path messages for the LSP and sent from the ingress node of the LSP to the upstream node of the egress node. It contains three subobjects.

The first subobject (refer to [RFC 4873](#)) indicates the branch node that is to originate the backup LSP (to a backup egress node). The branch node is the direct upstream node of the primary egress node of the primary LSP if it can provide fast local protection for the primary egress node. The branch node can be a (upstream) node on the primary LSP, but not the direct upstream node if the direct upstream node does not provide any fast local protection against the failure

The third (final) subobject (refer to [RFC 4873](#)) in the SERO contains the egress node of the backup LSP, i.e., the address of the backup egress node.

After the upstream node of the primary egress node as the branch node receives the SERO and determines a backup egress node for the primary egress node, it computes a path from itself to the backup egress node and sets up a backup LSP along the path for protecting the primary egress node according to the information in the FAST_REROUTE object in the Path message. For example, if facility protection is desired, facility protection is provided for the primary egress node.

The upstream node constructs a new SERO based on the SERO received and adds the new SERO into the Path message for the backup LSP. The new SERO also contains three subobjects as the SERO for the primary LSP. The first subobject in the new SERO indicates the upstream node, which may be copied from the first subobject in the SERO received. The second subobject in the new SERO includes a primary egress node, which indicates the address of the primary egress node. The third one contains the backup egress node.

The upstream node updates the SERO in the Path message for the primary LSP. The egress protection subobject in the SERO contains a subobject called a P2P LSP ID subobject, which contains the information for identifying the backup LSP. The final subobject in the SERO indicates the address of the backup egress node.

4.1.1. Primary Egress Subobject

There are two primary egress subobjects. One is IPv4 primary egress subobject and the other is IPv6 primary egress subobject.

The Type of an IPv4 primary egress subobject is 1, and the body of the subobject is given below:

```

      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
  +-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
  |                               IPv4 address (4 bytes)                               |
  +-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+

```

- o IPv4 address: IPv4 address of the primary egress node

The Type of an IPv6 primary egress subobject is 2, and the body of the subobject is shown below:


```

      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
+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+
~      P2P LSP Tunnel Egress IPv6 Address (16 bytes)      ~
+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+
|   Reserved (MUST be zero)   |   Tunnel ID   |
+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+
~      Extended Tunnel ID (16 bytes)      ~
+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+

```

- o P2P LSP Tunnel Egress IPv6 Address:
IPv6 address of the egress node of the tunnel
- o Tunnel ID (ref to [RFC 4875](#) and [RFC 3209](#)):
A 16-bit identifier being constant over the life of the tunnel occupies the least significant 16 bits of the 32 bit word.
- o Extended Tunnel ID (ref to [RFC 4875](#) and [RFC 3209](#)):
A 16-byte identifier being constant over the life of the tunnel

5. Egress Protection Behaviors

5.1. Ingress Behavior

To protect a primary egress node of an LSP, the ingress MUST set the "label recording desired" flag and the "node protection desired" flag in the SESSION_ATTRIBUTE object.

If one-to-one backup or facility backup is desired to protect a primary egress node of an LSP, the ingress MUST include a FAST_REROUTE object and set the "One-to-One Backup Desired" or "Facility Backup Desired" flag respectively.

If S2L Sub LSP backup is desired to protect a primary egress node of a P2MP LSP, the ingress MUST set the "S2L Sub LSP Backup Desired" flag in an SERO object.

A backup egress node MUST be configured on the ingress of an LSP to protect a primary egress node of the LSP if and only if the backup egress node is not configured on the primary egress node (refer to [section 5.2](#)).

The ingress MUST send a Path message for the LSP with the objects above and the SEROs for protecting egress nodes of the LSP if protection of the egress nodes is desired. For each primary egress node of the LSP to be protected, the ingress MUST add an SERO object into the Path message if the backup egress node or some options are given. If the backup egress node is given, then the final subobject

in the SERO contains it; otherwise the address in the final subobject is zero.

5.2. Primary Egress Behavior

To protect a primary egress node of an LSP, a backup egress node MUST be configured on the primary egress node of the LSP to protect the primary egress node if and only if the backup egress node is not configured on the ingress of the LSP (refer to [section 5.1](#)).

If the backup egress node is configured on the primary egress node of the LSP, the primary egress node MUST send its upstream node a Resv message for the LSP with an SERO for protecting the primary egress node. It sets the flags in the SERO in the same way as an ingress.

If the LSP carries the service traffic with a service label, the primary egress node sends its corresponding backup egress node the information about the service label as a UA label and the related forwarding.

5.3. Backup Egress Behavior

When a backup egress node receives a Path message for an LSP, it determines whether the LSP is used for egress local protection through checking the SERO with egress protection subobject in the message. If there is an egress protection subobject in the Path message for the LSP and the Egress local protection flag in the object is set to one, the LSP is the backup LSP for egress local protection. The primary egress node to be protected is in the primary egress subobject in the SERO.

When the backup egress node receives the information about a UA label and its related forwarding from the primary egress node, it uses the backup LSP label as a context label and creates a forwarding entry using the information about the UA label and the related forwarding. This forwarding entry is in a forwarding table for the primary egress node.

When the primary egress node fails, its upstream node switches the traffic from the primary LSP to the backup LSP to the backup egress node, which delivers the traffic to its receiver such as CE using the backup LSP label as a context label to get the forwarding table for the primary egress node and the service label as UA label to find the forwarding entry in the table to forward the traffic to the receiver.

5.4. Transit Node and PLR Behavior

If a transit node of an LSP receives the Path message with the SEROs and it is not an upstream node of any primary egress node of the LSP as a branch node, it MUST forward them unchanged.

If the transit node is the upstream node of a primary egress node to be protected as a branch node, it determines the backup egress node, obtains a path for the backup LSP and sets up the backup LSP along the path. If the upstream node receives the Resv message with an SERO object, it MUST send its upstream node the Resv message without the object.

The PLR (upstream node of the primary egress node as the branch node) MUST extract the backup egress node from the respective SERO object in either a Path or a Resv message. If no matching SERO object is found, the PLR tries to find the backup egress node, which is not the primary egress node but has the same IP address as the destination IP address of the LSP.

Note that if a backup egress node is not configured explicitly for protecting a primary egress node, the primary egress node and the backup egress node SHOULD have a same local address configured, and the cost to the local address on the backup egress node SHOULD be much bigger than the cost to the local address on the primary egress node. Thus primary egress node and backup egress node is considered as a virtual node. Note that the backup egress node is different from this local address (e.g., from the primary egress node's view). In other words, it is identified by an address different from this local address.

After obtaining the backup egress node, the PLR computes a backup path from itself to the backup egress node and sets up a backup LSP along the path. It excludes the segment including the primary egress node to be protected when computing the path. The PLR sends the primary egress node a Path message with an SERO for the primary LSP, which indicates the backup egress node by the final subobject in the SERO. The PLR puts an SERO into the Path messages for the backup LSP, which indicates the primary egress node.

The PLR MUST provide one-to-one backup protection for the primary egress node if the "One-to-One Backup Desired" flag is set in the message; otherwise, it MUST provide facility backup protection if the "Facility Backup Desired flag" is set.

The PLR MUST set the protection flags in the RRO Sub-object for the primary egress node in the Resv message according to the status of the primary egress node and the backup LSP protecting the primary

egress node. For example, it sets the "local protection available" and the "node protection" flag indicating that the primary egress node is protected when the backup LSP is up and ready for protecting the primary egress node.

5.4.1. Signaling for One-to-One Protection

The behavior of the upstream node of a primary egress node of an LSP as a PLR is the same as that of a PLR for one-to-one backup described in [RFC 4090](#) except for that the upstream node as a PLR creates a backup LSP from itself to a backup egress node in a session different from the primary LSP.

If the LSP is a P2MP LSP and a primary egress node of the LSP is also a transit node (i.e., bud node), the upstream node of the primary egress node as a PLR creates a backup LSP from itself to each of the next hops of the primary egress node.

When the PLR detects the failure of the primary egress node, it switches the packets from the primary LSP to the backup LSP to the backup egress node. For the failure of the bud node of a P2MP LSP, the PLR also switches the packets to the backup LSPs to the bud node's next hops, where the packets are merged into the primary LSP.

5.4.2. Signaling for Facility Protection

Except for backup LSP and downstream label, the behavior of the upstream node of the primary egress node of a primary LSP as a PLR follows the PLR behavior for facility backup described in [RFC 4090](#).

For a number of primary P2P LSPs going through the same PLR to the same primary egress node, the primary egress node of these LSPs MAY be protected by one backup LSP from the PLR to the backup egress node designated for protecting the primary egress node.

The PLR selects or creates a backup LSP from itself to the backup egress node. If there is a backup LSP that satisfies the constraints given in the Path message, then this one is selected; otherwise, a new backup LSP to the backup egress node is created.

After getting the backup LSP, the PLR associates the backup LSP with a primary LSP for protecting its primary egress node. The PLR records that the backup LSP is used to protect the primary LSP against its primary egress node failure and MUST include an SERO object in the Path message for the primary LSP. The object MUST contain the backup LSP ID. It indicates that the primary egress node MUST send the backup egress node the service label as UA label and the information about forwarding the traffic to its destination using

the label if there is a service carried by the LSP and the primary LSP label as UA label if the label is not implicit null. How UA label is sent is out of scope for this document.

When the PLR detects the failure of the primary egress node, it redirects the packets from the primary LSP into the backup LSP to backup egress node and keeps the primary LSP label from the primary egress node in the label stack if the label is not implicit null. The backup egress node delivers the packets to the same destinations as the primary egress node using the backup LSP label as context label and the labels under as UA labels.

5.4.3. Signaling for S2L Sub LSP Protection

The S2L Sub LSP Protection uses a S2L Sub LSP (ref to [RFC 4875](#)) as a backup LSP to protect a primary egress node of a P2MP LSP. The PLR MUST determine to protect a primary egress node of a P2MP LSP via S2L sub LSP protection when it receives a Path message with flag "S2L Sub LSP Backup Desired" set.

The PLR MUST set up the backup S2L sub LSP to the backup egress node, create and maintain its state in the same way as of setting up a source to leaf (S2L) sub LSP defined in [RFC 4875](#) from the signaling's point of view. It computes a path for the backup LSP from itself to the backup egress node, constructs and sends a Path message along the path, receives and processes a Resv message responding to the Path message.

After receiving the Resv message for the backup LSP, the PLR creates a forwarding entry with an inactive state or flag called inactive forwarding entry. This inactive forwarding entry is not used to forward any data traffic during normal operations.

When the PLR detects the failure of the primary egress node, it changes the forwarding entry for the backup LSP to active. Thus, the PLR forwards the traffic to the backup egress through the backup LSP, which sends the traffic to its destination.

5.4.4. PLR Procedures during Local Repair

When the upstream node of a primary egress node of an LSP as a PLR detects the failure of the primary egress node, it follows the procedures defined in [section 6.5 of RFC 4090](#). It SHOULD notify the ingress about the failure of the primary egress node in the same way as a PLR notifies the ingress about the failure of a transit node.

Moreover, the PLR MUST let the upstream part of the primary LSP stay alive after the primary egress node fails through sending Resv

message to its upstream node along the primary LSP. The downstream part of the primary LSP from the PLR to the primary egress node SHOULD be removed. When a bypass LSP from the PLR to a backup egress node protects the primary egress node, the PLR MUST NOT send any Path message for the primary LSP through the bypass LSP to the backup egress node.

In the local revertive mode, the PLR will re-signal each of the primary LSPs that were routed over the restored resource once it detects that the resource is restored. Every primary LSP successfully re-signaled along the restored resource will be switched back.

Note that the procedure for protecting the primary egress node is triggered on the PLR if the primary egress node failure is determined. If link (from PLR to primary egress node) failure and primary egress node alive are determined, then link protection procedure is triggered on the PLR. How to determine these is out of scope for this document.

6. Considering Application Traffic

This section focuses on the application traffic carried by P2P LSPs.

6.1. A Typical Application

L3VPN is a typical application. Figure 2 below shows a simple VPN, which consists of two CEs CE1 and CE2 connected to two PEs R1 and L1 respectively. There is a P2P LSP from R1 to L1, which is represented by stars (****). This LSP is called primary LSP. R1 is the ingress of the LSP and L1 is the (primary) egress node of the LSP. R1 sends the VPN traffic received from CE1 through the P2P LSP to L1, which delivers the traffic to CE2. R1 sends the VPN traffic with a LSP label and a VPN label via the LSP. When the traffic reaches the egress node L1 of the LSP, L1 pops the LSP label and uses the VPN label to deliver the traffic to CE2.

To protect the VPN traffic against the failure of the egress node L1 of the LSP, an existing solution (refer to Figure 2) includes:

1. A multi-hop BFD session between ingress R1 and egress node L1 of primary LSP. The BFD session is represented by dots (...).
2. A backup LSP from ingress R1 to backup egress node La, which is indicated by ands (&&&).

3. La sends R1 a VPN backup label and related information via BGP.
4. R1 has a VRF with two sets of routes for CE2: one set uses the primary LSP and L1 as next hop; the other uses the backup LSP and La as next hop.

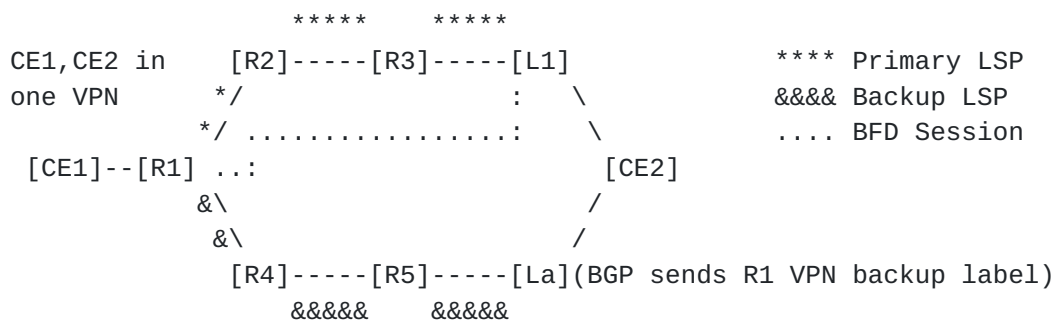


Figure 2: Protect Egress for L3VPN Traffic

In normal operations, R1 sends the VPN traffic from CE1 through the primary LSP with the VPN label received from L1 as inner label to L1, which delivers the traffic to CE2 using the VPN label.

When R1 detects the failure of L1, R1 sends the traffic from CE1 via the backup LSP with the VPN backup label received from La as inner label to La, which delivers the traffic to CE2 using the VPN backup label.

A new solution (refer to Figure 3) with egress local protection for protecting L3VPN traffic includes:

1. A BFD session between R3 (i.e., upstream of L1) and egress node L1 of the primary LSP. This is different from the BFD session in Figure 2, which is multi-hop between ingress R1 and egress node L1. The PLR R3 is closer to L1 than the ingress R1. It may detect the failure of the egress node L1 faster and more reliable. Thus we can have faster protection for egress node.
2. A backup LSP from R3 to backup egress node La. This is different from the backup LSP in Figure 2, which is an end to end LSP from ingress R1 to backup egress node La.
3. Primary egress node L1 sends backup egress node La the VPN label as UA label and related information. The backup egress node La uses the backup LSP label as a context label and creates a forwarding entry using the VPN label in a LFIB for the primary egress node L1.

4. L1 and La is virtualized as one node (or address). R1 has a VRF with one set of routes for CE2, using the primary LSP from R1 to L1 and virtualized node as next hop. This can be achieved by configuring a same local address on L1 and La, using the address as a destination of the LSP and BGP next hop for the VPN traffic. The cost to L1 is configured to be less than the cost to La.

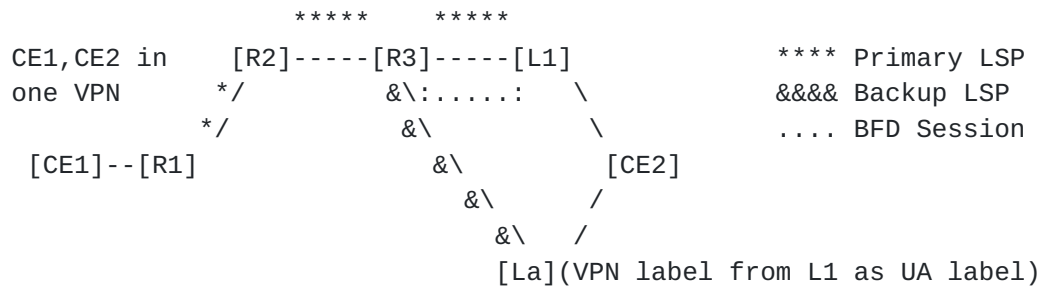


Figure 3: Locally Protect Egress for L3VPN Traffic

In normal operations, R1 sends the VPN traffic from CE1 via the primary LSP with the VPN label as inner label to L1, which delivers the traffic to CE2 using the VPN label.

When the primary egress node L1 fails, its upstream node R3 detects it and switches the VPN traffic from the primary LSP to the backup LSP to La, which delivers the traffic to CE2 using the backup LSP label as a context label to get the LFIB for L1 and the VPN label as UA label to find the forwarding entry in the LFIB to forward the traffic to CE2.

6.2. PLR Procedure for Applications

When the PLR gets a backup LSP from itself to a backup egress node for protecting a primary egress node of a primary LSP, it includes an SERO object in the Path message for the primary LSP. The object contains the ID information of the backup LSP and indicates that the primary egress node sends the backup egress node the application traffic label (e.g., the VPN label) as UA label when needed.

6.3. Egress Procedures for Applications

When a primary egress node of an LSP sends the ingress of the LSP a label for an application such as a VPN label, it sends the backup egress node for protecting the primary egress node the label as a UA label. Exactly how the label is sent is out of scope for this document.

When the backup egress node receives a UA label from the primary

egress node, it adds a forwarding entry with the label into the LFIB for the primary egress node. When the backup egress node receives a packet from the backup LSP, it uses the top label as a context label to find the LFIB for the primary egress node and the inner label to deliver the packet to the same destination as the primary egress node according to the LFIB.

7. Security Considerations

This document builds upon existing work, so in particular the security considerations of RFCs 4090, 4875, 3209 and 2205 continue to apply. Additionally, protecting a primary egress node of a P2P LSP carrying service traffic through a backup egress node requires an out-of-band communication between the primary egress node and the backup egress node, in order for the primary egress node to convey a service label as UA label and its related forwarding information to the backup egress node. It is important to confirm that the identifiers used to identify the primary and backup egress nodes in the LSP are verified to match with the identifiers used in the out-of-band protocol (such as BGP).

8. IANA Considerations

IANA maintains a registry called "Class Names, Class Numbers, and Class Types" under "Resource Reservation Protocol (RSVP) Parameters". IANA is to assign a new C-Type under PROTECTION object class, Class Number 37:

Value	Description	Definition
-----	-----	-----
3	Egress Protection	Section 4.1.1

IANA is to create and maintain a new registry under PROTECTION object class (Class Number 37) and Egress Protection (C-Type 3). Initial values for the registry are given below. The future assignments are to be made through IETF Review ([RFC 8216](#)).

Value	Name	Definition
-----	----	-----
0	Reserved	
1	IPv4_PRIMARY_EGRESS	Section 4.1.1
2	IPv6_PRIMARY_EGRESS	Section 4.1.1
3	IPv4_P2P_LSP_ID	Section 4.1.2
4	IPv6_P2P_LSP_ID	Section 4.1.2
5-127	Unassigned	

128-255 Reserved

9. Co-authors and Contributors

1. Co-authors

Ning So
Tata
E-mail: ningso01@gmail.com

Mehmet Toy
Verizon
E-mail: mehmet.toy@verizon.com

Lei Liu
Fujitsu
E-mail: lliu@us.fujitsu.com

Zhenbin Li
Huawei Technologies
Email: lizhenbin@huawei.com

2. Contributors

Boris Zhang
Telus Communications
Email: Boris.Zhang@telus.com

Nan Meng
Huawei Technologies
Email: mengnan@huawei.com

Prejeeth Kaladharan
Huawei Technologies
Email: prejeeth@gmail.com

Vic Liu
China Mobile
Email: liu.cmri@gmail.com

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Authors' Addresses

Huaimo Chen
Huawei Technologies
Boston, MA
USA

Email: huaimo.chen@huawei.com

Autumn Liu
Ciena
USA

Email: hliu@ciena.com

Tarek Saad
Cisco Systems

Email: tsaad@cisco.com

Fengman Xu
Verizon
2400 N. Glenville Dr
Richardson, TX 75082
USA

Email: fengman.xu@verizon.com

Lu Huang
China Mobile
No.32 Xuanwumen West Street, Xicheng District
Beijing, 100053
China

Email: huanglu@chinamobile.com

