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UDP Port Allocation for the Receiver Port in Two-Way Active Measurement
Protocol (TWAMP)

[draft-mirsky-ippm-twamp-refl-registered-port-03](#)

Abstract

This document arguments and requests re-allocation of an UDP port number from the System Ports range for a Reflector in Two-Way Active Measurement Protocol (TWAMP). This document, if accepted, will be an update to the TWAMP Test protocol specified in [RFC 5357](#).

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[1.](#) Introduction

One particular compelling vision of the Two-Way Active Measurement Protocol (TWAMP) [[RFC5357](#)] is widespread deployment of open servers that would make IP Performance Metrics (IPPM) measurements a commonplace. This is complemented by the proliferation of the Internet of Things (IoT) devices, such as sensors, and the need for obtaining IPPM measurements from those devices by the service provider. IoT devices are often constrained by limited processing power and memory and benefit from TWAMP Light, as defined in [Appendix I \[RFC5357\]](#).

TWAMP Light provides a simple solution for devices to act as test points in the network, by avoiding the need for the TWAMP-Control protocol [[RFC5357](#)]. In the absence of TWAMP-Control, a registered (default) UDP port that can be used as the Receiver Port for TWAMP-Test will simplify configuration and management of the TWAMP-Light test sessions.

This document requests re-allocation of the UDP port number from the System Ports range [[RFC6335](#)] as Receiver Port for TWAMP-Test.

[2.](#) Requirements Language

The key words "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 [[RFC2119](#)].

3. Impact to TWAMP-Control Protocol

[Section 3.5 \[RFC5357\]](#) describes in details the process of negotiating value of the Receiver Port. The Control-Client, acting on behalf of the Session-Sender, proposes the port number from the Dynamic Port range [\[RFC6335\]](#):

"The Receiver Port is the desired UDP port to which TWAMP-Test packets will be sent by the Session-Sender (the port where the Session-Reflector is asked to receive test packets). The Receiver Port is also the UDP port from which TWAMP-Test packets will be sent by the Session-Reflector (the Session-Reflector will use the same UDP port to send and receive packets)."

But the proposed Receiver Port may be not available, e.g. being in use by other test session or another application. In this case:

"... the Server at the Session-Reflector MAY suggest an alternate and available port for this session in the Port field. The Session-Sender either accepts the alternate port, or composes a new Session-Request message with suitable parameters. Otherwise, the Server uses the Accept field to convey other forms of session rejection or failure to the Control Client and MUST NOT suggest an alternate port; in this case, the Port field MUST be set to zero."

The allocated TWAMP Receiver Port number [Section 5](#) MAY be advertised by the Server. The Control Client that supports use of the allocated TWAMP Receiver Port MUST accept the port number advertised by the Server. If the Server does not support the allocated TWAMP Receiver Port, then it sends another Session-Request message with new parameters. Thus the deployment of the allocated TWAMP Receiver Port number is backward compatible with existing TWAMP-Control solutions that are based on [\[RFC5357\]](#). At the same time, use of the UDP port number allocated from the User Port range [\[RFC6335\]](#) will help to avoid the situation when the Server finds the proposed port being already in use.

4. Impact to TWAMP-Test Protocol

TWAMP-Test may be used to measure IP performance metrics in an Equal Cost Multipath (ECMP) environment. Though algorithms to balance IP flows among available paths had not been standardized, the most common is the Five-tuple that uses destination IP address, source IP address, protocol type, destination port number, and source port number. To attempt to monitor different paths in ECMP network is sufficient to variate only one of five parameters, e.g. the source port number. Thus, there will be no negative impact on ability to have concurrent TWAMP test sessions between the same test points to

monitor different paths in the ECMP network when using the allocated UDP port number as the Receiver Port.

The allocation of the TWAMP Receiver Port from the User Port Range [RFC6335] benefits TWAMP Light mode of the TWAMP-Test. The allocated UDP port number [Section 5](#) may be used as default value for the Receiver Port to simplify configuration and management of the TWAMP-Light test sessions.

5. IANA Considerations

The Service Name and Transport Protocol Port Number Registry defined in [RFC6335].

[RFC5357] has been allocated UDP port 862 for TWAMP-Control protocol. IANA is requested to re-assign UDP port 862 as follows:

Service Name	Port Number	Transport Protocol	Description	Semantics Definition	Reference
twamp-test	862	UDP	TWAMP-Test Receiver Port	Section 4	This document

Table 1: TWAMP Receiver Port

6. Security Considerations

The registered UDP port as the Receiver Port for TWAMP-Test may be used as target of denial-of-service (DoS) or used by man-in-the-middle (MitM) attack. To improve protection from the DoS following methods are recommended:

- o filtering access to the TWAMP Receiver Port by access list;
- o non-routable IPs outside of the domain for the TWAMP loopback.

MitM attack may try to modify the content of the TWAMP-Test packet thus altering measurement results. An implementation can use data consistency check to detect modification of data. In addition, it can use encryption of TWAMP-Test packets to prevent eavesdropping.

7. Acknowledgments

TBD

8. Normative References

- [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", [BCP 14](#), [RFC 2119](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC2119, March 1997, <<http://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc2119>>.
- [RFC5357] Hedayat, K., Krzanowski, R., Morton, A., Yum, K., and J. Babiarz, "A Two-Way Active Measurement Protocol (TWAMP)", [RFC 5357](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC5357, October 2008, <<http://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc5357>>.
- [RFC6335] Cotton, M., Eggert, L., Touch, J., Westerlund, M., and S. Cheshire, "Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Procedures for the Management of the Service Name and Transport Protocol Port Number Registry", [BCP 165](#), [RFC 6335](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC6335, August 2011, <<http://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc6335>>.

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