

Overview of Source Address Dependent Routing
draft-sarikaya-6man-sadr-overview-00

Abstract

This document presents an overview source address dependent routing. Different architectures are introduced and with their help, why source address dependent routing is needed is explained.

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Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	2
2.	Terminology	3
3.	Source Address Dependent Routing	3
4.	SADR Scenarios	4
5.	Security Considerations	8
6.	IANA Considerations	8
7.	Acknowledgements	8
8.	References	8
8.1.	Normative References	8
8.2.	Informative References	9
	Author's Address	10

[1.](#) Introduction

[BCP 38](#) recommends ingress traffic routing to prohibit Denial of Service (DoS) attacks, i.e. datagrams which have source addresses that do not match with the network where the host is attached are discarded [[RFC2827](#)]. Avoiding packets to be dropped because of ingress filtering is difficult especially in multihomed networks where the host receives more than one prefix from the connected Internet Service Providers (ISP) and may have more than one source addresses. Based on [BCP 38](#), [BCP 84](#) introduced recommendations on the routing system for multihomed networks [[RFC3704](#)].

Recommendations on the routing system for ingress filtering such as in [BCP 84](#) inevitably involve source address checks. This leads us to the source address dependent routing. Source address dependent routing is an issue especially when the host is connected to a multihomed network and is communicating with another host in another multihomed network. In such a case, the communication can be broken in both directions if ISPs apply ingress filtering and the datagrams contain wrong source addresses [[I-D.huitema-multi6-ingress-filtering](#)].

Hosts with simultaneously active interfaces receive multiple prefixes and have multiple source addresses. Datagrams originating from such hosts carry great risks to be dropped due to ingress filtering. Source address selection algorithm needs to be careful to try to avoid ingress filtering on the next-hop router [[RFC6724](#)].

Many use cases have been reported for source/destination routing in [[I-D.baker-rtgwg-src-dst-routing-use-cases](#)]. These use cases clearly indicate that the multihomed host or Customer Premises Equipment (CPE) router needs to be configured with correct source prefixes/addresses so that it can route packets upstream correctly to avoid ingress filtering applied by an upstream ISP to drop the packets.

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Expires March 8, 2015

[Page 2]

2. Terminology

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 [\[RFC2119\]](#).

3. Source Address Dependent Routing

In multihomed networks there is a need to do source address based routing if some providers are performing the ingress filtering defined in [BCP38](#) [\[RFC2827\]](#). This requires the routers to consider the source addresses as well as the destination addresses in determining the next hop to send the packet to.

Based on the use cases defined in [\[I-D.baker-rtgwg-src-dst-routing-use-cases\]](#), the routers may be informed about the source addresses to use in routing using extensions to the routing protocols like IS-IS defined in [\[ISO.10589.1992\]](#) [\[I-D.baker-ipv6-isis-dst-src-routing\]](#) and OSPF defined in [\[RFC5340\]](#) [\[I-D.baker-ipv6-ospf-dst-src-routing\]](#). In this document we describe the use cases for source address dependent routing from the host perspective.

There are two cases. A host may have a single interface with multiple addresses (from different prefixes or /64s). Each address or prefix is connected to or coming from different exit routers, and this case can be called multi-prefix multihoming (MPMH). A host may have simultaneously connected multiple interfaces where each interface is connected to a different exit router and this case can be called multi-prefix multiple interface (MPMI).

Consistent set of network configuration information is called provisioning domain (PvD). In case of multi-prefix multihoming (MPMH), more than one provisioning domain is present on a single link. In case of multi-prefix multiple interface (MPMI), elements of the same domain may be present on multiple links. PvD aware nodes support association of configuration information into PvDs and use these PvDs to serve requests for network connections, e.g. choosing the right source address for the packets. PvDs can be constructed from one of more DHCP or Router Advertisement (RA) options carrying such information as PvD identity [\[I-D.ietf-mif-mpvd-ndp-support\]](#). PvDs constructed based on such information are called explicit PvDs [\[I-D.ietf-mif-mpvd-arch\]](#).

Apart from PvD identity, PvD content may be defined in separate RA or DHCP options. Examples of such content are defined in [\[I-D.sarikaya-6man-next-hop-ra\]](#) and

[[I-D.sarikaya-dhc-dhcpv6-raoptions-sadr](#)]. They constitute the content or parts of the content of explicit PvD.

Explicit PvDs may be received from different interfaces. Single PvD may be accessible over one interface or simultaneously accessible over multiple interfaces. Explicit PvDs may be scoped to a configuration related to a particular interface, however in general this may not apply. What matters is PvD ID provided that PvD ID is authenticated by the node even in cases where the node has a single connected interface. Single PvD information may be received over multiple interfaces as long as PvD ID is the same. This applies to the router advertisements (RAs) in which case a multi-homed host (that is, with multiple interfaces) should trust a message from a router on one interface to install a route to a different router on another interface.

In DHCP, DHCP server can configure only the interface of the host to which it is directly connected. For example, source address selection rules distributed by [[RFC7078](#)] apply only the interface over which the DHCP Option OPTION_ADDRSEL_TABLE is received. In order for it to apply on other interfaces the option has to be sent on those interfaces as well.

Default source address selection Rule 5.5 in [[RFC6724](#)] recommends to select source addresses advertized by the next hop. These address selection rules can be distributed site-wide using DHCP as in [[RFC7078](#)]. Default routers informing next hop router addresses and source prefixes supported by these next hops such as in [[I-D.sarikaya-6man-next-hop-ra](#)] goes inline with this rule.

4. SADR Scenarios

The use case shown in Figure 1 is multi-prefix multi interface use case where rtr1 and rtr2 represent customer premises equipment/routers (CPE) and there are exit routers in both network 1 and network 2. The issue in this case is ingress filtering. If the packets from the host communicating with a remote destination are routed to the wrong exit router, i.e. carry wrong source address will get dropped.

Source address dependent routing can present a solution to this problem. The solution should start with the correct configuration of the host. The host should be configured with the next hop addresses and the prefixes supported in these next hops. This way the host having received many prefixes will have the correct knowledge in selecting the right source address and next hop when sending packets to remote destinations.

Host configuration can be made using either router advertisements or DHCP. The choice depends on how the network is set up.

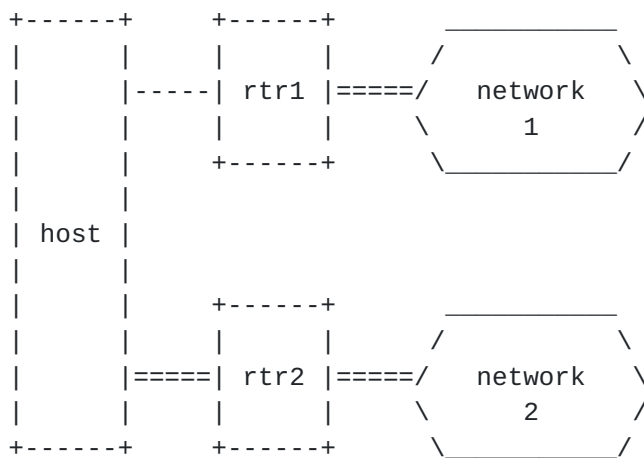


Figure 1: Multihomed Host with Two CPE Routers

Our next use case is shown in Figure 2. This use case is a multi-prefix multihoming use case. rtr is CPEs which is connected to two ISPs each advertising their own prefixes. In this case, the host may have a single interface but it receives multiple prefixes from the connected ISPs. Assuming that ISPs apply ingress filtering policy the packets for any external communication from the host should follow source address dependent routing in order to avoid getting dropped.

In this configuration also it is useful to configure the host the next hop addresses and the prefixes they support. This will enable the host to select the right prefix when sending packets to the right next hop and avoid any ingress filtering.

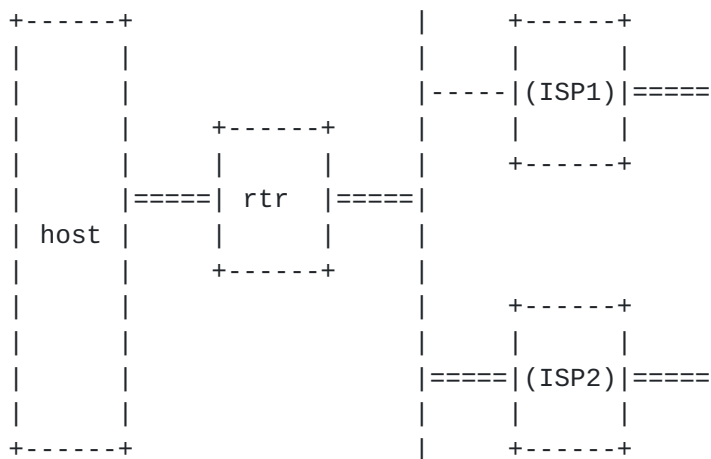


Figure 2: Multihomed Host with Multiple CPE Routers

A variation of this use case is specialized egress routing. Upstream networks offer different services with specific requirements, e.g. video service. The hosts using this service need to use the service's source and destination addresses. No other service will accept this source address, i.e. those packets will be dropped [[I-D.baker-rtgwg-src-dst-routing-use-cases](#)].

Source address dependent routing in this use case may work as follows. The specialized service router advertize one or more specific prefixes with appropriate source prefixes, e.g. to the CPE Router, *rtr* in Figure 2. The CPE router in turn advertizes the specific service's prefixes and source prefixes to the host. This will allow proper configuration at the host so that the host can use the service by sending the packets with the correct source and destination addresses.

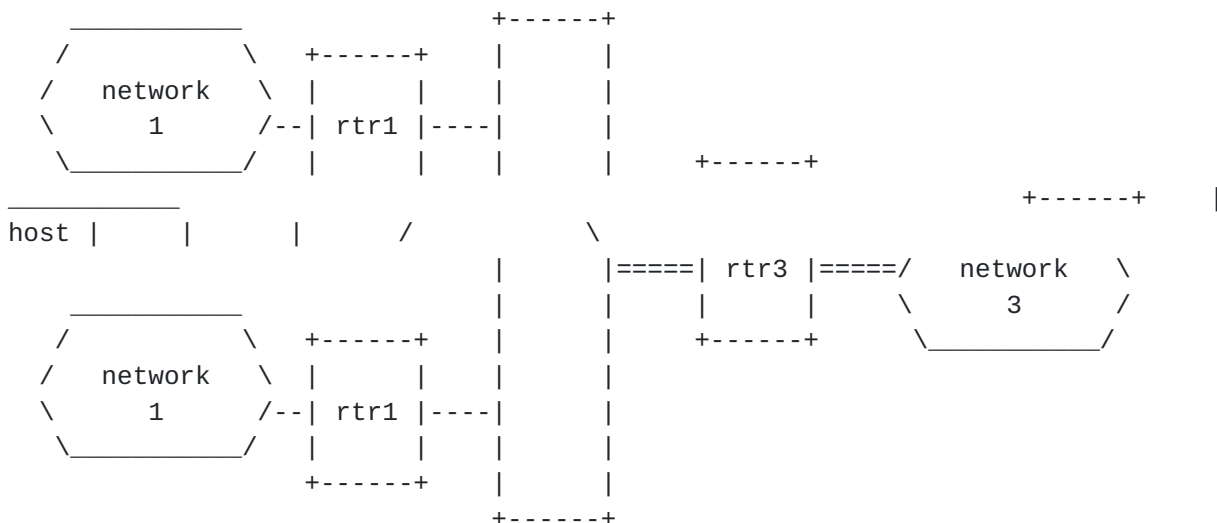


Figure 3: Multihomed Host with Three CPE Routers

Next use case is shown in Figure 3. It is a variation of multi-prefix multi interface use case above. rtr1, rtr2 and rtr3 are CPE Routers. The networks apply ingress routing. Source address dependent routing should be used to avoid any external communications be dropped.

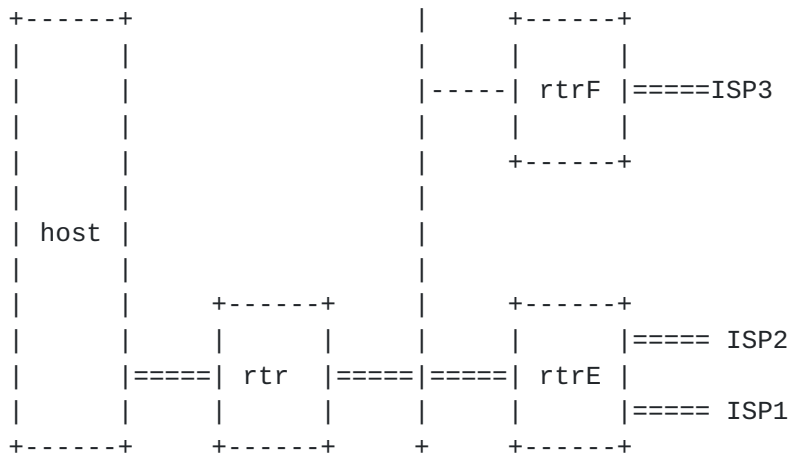


Figure 4: Shim6 Host with Two Routers

The last use case in Figure 4 is also a variation of multi-prefix multihoming use case above. In this case rtrE is connected to two ISPs. All ISPs are assumed to apply ingress routing. The host receives prefixes from each ISP and starts communicating with external hosts, e.g. H1, H2, etc. H1 and H2 may be accessible both from ISP1 and ISP3.

The host receives multiple provider-allocated IPv6 address prefixes, e.g. P1, P2 and P3 for ISP1, ISP2 and ISP3 and supports shim6 protocol [RFC5533]. rtr is a CPE router and the default router for the host. rtr receives OSPF routes and has a default route for rtrE and rtrF.

The host starts external communication with H1 and sends the first packet with source address P3::iid. Since rtr has a default route to rtrE it will use this default route in sending the host's packet out towards rtrE. rtrE will route this packet to ISP1 and the packet will be dropped due to the ingress filtering.

This use case shows that even though all the routers had source address dependent routing support, the packet still got dropped. A solution to this issue could be that rtrE having multiple routes to H1 could use the path through rtrF and could direct the packet to the other route, i.e. rtrF which would reach H1 in ISP3 without being subject to ingress routing [I-D.baker-6man-multiprefix-default-route].

5. Security Considerations

This document describes some use cases and thus brings no new security risks to the Internet.

6. IANA Considerations

None.

7. Acknowledgements

In writing this document, the author benefited from face to face discussions he had with Brian Carpenter and Ole Troan.

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