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JSON Format Extensions for Traffic Engineering (TE) performance metrics
in the ALTO Information Resource Directory
[draft-wu-alto-json-te-01](#)

Abstract

The base ALTO specification defines two properties for cost metric attribute in the Cost MAP, including 'hopcount' and 'routingcost'. This specification define five new cost metric and one new parameter for Traffic Engineering(TE) performance information in the ALTO Information Resource Directory: Link Delay, Delay Variation, Packet Loss, Residual Bandwidth, Available Bandwidth,linkstate. They can be used either as constraint attribute associated with cost metric attribute 'routingcost' or returned cost metric in the response.

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1. Introduction

The ALTO protocol [I.D-ietf-alto-protocol] uses a REST-ful design , and encodes its requests and responses using JSON. In ALTO architecture [I.D-ietf-alto-protocol], the ALTO server allows alto information to be gathered from multiple systems(e.g., routing protocol). [I.D-ietf-ospf-te-metric-extensions] describes extensions to OSPF TE called "OSPF TE Metric Extensions", that can be used to distribute network performance information (such as link delay, delay variation, packet loss, residual bandwidth, and available bandwidth). The mechanism defined in [I.D-ietf-ospf-te-metric-extensions] can be used by an ALTO Server to retrieve the necessary performance information supplementing the prefix and network topology data gathered from other sources in the underlying network.

In the ALTO Information Resource Directory, Network and Cost Map are two core ALTO Information provided to clients. The TE performance metric can be represented using Cost MAP. The base ALTO specification [I.D-ietf- alto-protocol] defines one typical cost metric attribute for Cost Type in the Cost MAP (i.e., 'routingcost') and uses constraint attribute to list additional constraints to which elements of the Cost Map are related. This specification defines five new cost map attributes and one property associated with these attributes in alto information service: Link Delay, Link Jitter, Packet Loss, Residual Bandwidth, Available Bandwidth, linkstate. These five attribute and one new parameter can be either used as constraint attribute associated with 'routingcost' cost metric attribute or used as returned Cost Map in the response.

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 [RFC2119](#) [[RFC2119](#)].

Syntax specifications shown here use the augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF) as described in [[RFC5234](#)], and are specified as in the base JSON specification [[RFC4627](#)].

3. Cost Map constraint Extensions:

[Section 10.2.2.3](#) of "ALTO: Application Layer Traffic Optimization Protocol" [I.D-ietf-alto-protocol] states:

```
"
object {
  CostType   cost-type;
  [JSONString constraints<0..*>;]
  [PIDFilter  pids;]
} ReqFilteredCostMap;

object {
  PIDName srcs<0..*>;
  PIDName dsts<0..*>;
} PIDFilter;
```

with members:

cost-type The CostType ([Section 9.7](#)) for the returned costs. The cost-metric and cost-mode fields MUST match one of the supported Cost Types indicated in this resource's capabilities ([Section 10.2.2.4](#)). The ALTO Client SHOULD omit the description field, and if present, the ALTO Server MUST ignore the description field.

constraints Defines a list of additional constraints on which elements of the Cost Map are returned. This parameter MUST NOT be specified if this resource's capabilities ([Section 10.2.2.4](#)) indicate that constraint support is not available. A constraint contains two entities separated by whitespace: (1) an operator, 'gt' for greater than, 'lt' for less than, 'ge' for greater than or equal to, 'le' for less than or equal to, or 'eq' for equal to; (2) a target cost value. The cost value is a number that MUST be defined in the same units as the Cost Metric indicated by the cost-metric parameter. ALTO Servers SHOULD use at least IEEE 754 double-precision floating point [IEEE.754.2008] to store the cost value, and SHOULD perform internal computations using double-precision floating-point arithmetic. If multiple 'constraint' parameters are specified, they are interpreted as being related to each other with a logical AND.

"

In the JSON Object of type ReqFilteredCostMap, the constraint attribute is expressed as:

```
"
[gt | lt | ge | le | eq ] <value>
"
```


In this specification, the constraint attribute is changed to

```
"  
<cost-type2> [gt | lt | ge | le | eq ] <value>  
"
```

Accordingly, the constraints definition is changed to:

```
"  
constraints Defines a list of additional constraints on which  
elements of the Cost Map are returned. This parameter MUST NOT be  
specified if this resource's capabilities ( Section 10.2.2.4)  
indicate that constraint support is not available. A constraint  
contains three entities separated by whitespace: (1)an cost type  
is by default cost-type in the JSON Object of type ReqFilteredCostMap.  
In addition, it could be another cost-type used for the returned cost  
(2) an operator, 'gt' for greater than, 'lt' for less than, 'ge' for  
greater than or equal to, 'le' for less than or equal to, or 'eq' for  
equal to; (3) a target cost value. The cost value is a number that  
MUST be defined in the same units as the Cost Metric indicated by the  
cost-metric parameter. ALTO Servers SHOULD use at least IEEE 754  
double-precision floating point [IEEE.754.2008] to store the cost  
value, and SHOULD perform internal computations using double-  
precision floating-point arithmetic. If multiple 'constraint'  
parameters are specified, they are interpreted as being related to  
each other with a logical AND.  
"
```


4. Cost Metric Extensions: Cost Map attributes

4.1. Attribute: linkdelay

Namespace:

Attribute name: linkdelay

Purpose: To specify the average link delay between two directly connected neighboring peers in the network.

Value type: A single number value containing an integer component that may be prefixed with an optional minus sign, which may be followed by a fraction part and/or an exponent part.

Cardinality: *1

Attribute parameters: linkstate

Description: This is intended to be a new cost metric. It could be used as a cost metric constraint attribute used together with cost metric attribute 'routingcost' or as returned cost metric in the response. 'routingcost' may also be used with other cost constraint attributes that is used to specify cost constraints. If 'linkdelay' is present, 'routingcost' MUST have at most one 'linkdelay'.

Cost mode: A Cost Mode is encoded as a US-ASCII string. The string MUST either have the value 'numerical' or 'ordinal'.

Examples 1:

```
POST /endpointcost/lookup HTTP/1.1
Host: alto.example.com
Content-Length: 195
Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcostparams+json
Accept: application/alto-endpointcost+json,application/alto-error+json
```

```
{
  "cost-type": {"cost-mode" : "numerical",
               "cost-metric" : "linkdelay"},
  "endpoints" : {
    "srcs": [ "ipv4:192.0.2.2" ],
    "dsts": [
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89",
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34",
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45"
    ]
  }
}
```


HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Length: 231

Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcost+json

```
{
  "meta" : {},
  "data" : {
    "cost-type": {"cost-mode" : "numerical",
                  "cost-metric" : "linkdelay"},
    "map" : {
      "ipv4:192.0.2.2": {
        "ipv4:192.0.2.89" : 1,
        "ipv4:198.51.100.34" : 2,
        "ipv4:203.0.113.45" : 3
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Example 2:

POST /endpointcost/lookup HTTP/1.1

Host: alto.example.com

Content-Length: 195

Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcostparams+json

Accept: application/alto-endpointcost+json,application/alto-error+json

```
{
  "cost-type": {"cost-mode" : "numerical",
                "cost-metric" : "routingcost"},
                "constraints" : {"linkdelay ls 15"},
  "endpoints" : {
    "srcs": [ "ipv4:192.0.2.2" ],
    "dsts": [
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89",
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34",
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45"
    ]
  }
}
```

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Length: 231

Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcost+json

```
"data": {
  "cost type": {
    "cost-mode": "numerical",
    "cost-metric": "routingcost",
    "constraints" : {"linkdelay"},
  }
}
```



```

    }
  "map": {
    "ipv4:192.0.2.2": {
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89": 0.0[linkdelay eq 0.0],
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34": 15.0[linkdelay eq 3.0],
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45": 1.0[linkdelay eq 12.0],
    }
  }
}

```

4.2. Attribute: linkjitter

Namespace:

Attribute name: linkjitter

Purpose: To specify the average link delay variation between two directly connected neighboring peers.

Value type: A single number value containing an integer component that may be prefixed with an optional minus sign, which may be followed by a fraction part and/or an exponent part.

Cardinality: *1

Attribute parameters: linkstate

Description: This is intended to be a constraint attribute value used together with 'routingcost' cost metric attribute. 'routingcost' may also be used with other cost constraint attributes that is used to specify cost constraints. If 'linkjitter' is present, 'routingcost' MUST have at most one 'linkjitter'.

Cost mode: A Cost Mode is encoded as a US-ASCII string. The string MUST either have the value 'numerical' or 'ordinal'.

Examples:

POST /endpointcost/lookup HTTP/1.1

Host: alto.example.com

Content-Length: 195

Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcostparams+json

Accept: application/alto-endpointcost+json,application/alto-error+json

```

{
  "cost-type": {"cost-mode" : "numerical",
               "cost-metric" : "routingcost"},
  "constraints" : {"linkdelay ls 15","linkjitter ls 8"},
  "endpoints" : {
    "srcs": [ "ipv4:192.0.2.2" ],

```



```

    "dsts": [
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89",
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34",
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45"
    ]
  }
}
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 231
Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcost+json
"data": {
  "cost type": {
    "cost-mode": "numerical",
    "cost-metric": "routingcost",
    "constraints" : {"linkdelay", "linkjitter"}
  }
  "map": {
    "ipv4:192.0.2.2": {
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89": 0[linkdelay eq0.0, linkjitter eq0.00],
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34": 5[linkdelay eq3.0, linkjitter eq1.0],
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45": 2[linkdelay eq12.0, linkjitter eq5.0],
    }
  }
}

```

4.3. Attribute: linkloss

Namespace:

Attribute name: linkloss

Purpose: To specify a percentage of the total traffic sent over a configurable interval between two directly connected neighboring peers.

Value type: A single number value containing an integer component that may be prefixed with an optional minus sign, which may be followed by a fraction part and/or an exponent part.

Cardinality: *1

Attribute parameters: linkstate

Description: This is intended to be new cost metric. It can be either used as a constraint attribute value used together with 'routingcost' cost metric attribute or used as returned cost metric. 'routingcost' may also be used with other cost constraint attributes that is used to specify cost constraints. If 'linkloss' is present, 'routingcost' MUST have at most one 'linkloss'.

Cost mode: A Cost Mode is encoded as a US-ASCII string.

The string MUST either have the value 'numerical' or 'ordinal'.

Examples:

```
POST /endpointcost/lookup HTTP/1.1
```

```
Host: alto.example.com
```

```
Content-Length: 195
```

```
Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcostparams+json
```

```
Accept: application/alto-endpointcost+json,application/alto-error+json
```

```
{
  "cost-type": {"cost-mode" : "numerical",
               "cost-metric" : "routingcost"},
  "constraints" : {"linkloss le 0.3"}
  "endpoints" : {
    "srcs": [ "ipv4:192.0.2.2" ],
    "dsts": [
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89",
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34",
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45"
    ]
  }
}
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
Content-Length: 231
```

```
Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcost+json
```

```
"data": {
  "cost type": {
    "cost-mode": "numerical",
    "cost-metric": "routingcost",
    "constraints" : {"linkloss"}
  }
  "map": {
    "ipv4:192.0.2.2": {
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89": 0 [linkloss eq0],
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34": 1 [linkloss eq0.0001],
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45": 0 [linkloss eq0],
    }
  }
}
```

4.4. Attribute: residualbandwidth

Namespace:

Attribute name: residualbandwith

Purpose: To specify Maximum Link Bandwidth minus the bandwidth currently allocated between two directly connected neighboring peers. For a link, residual bandwidth is

defined to be Maximum Bandwidth minus the bandwidth currently allocated to RSVP-TE packets. For a bundled link, residual bandwidth is defined to be the sum of the component link residual bandwidths.

Value type: A single number value containing an integer component that may be prefixed with an optional minus sign, which may be followed by a fraction part and/or an exponent part.

Cardinality: *1

Attribute parameters: linkstate

Description: This is intended to be a new cost metric. It could be either used as a constraint attribute value used together with 'routing cost' cost metric attribute or as returned cost metric in the response. 'routingcost' may also be used with other cost constraint attributes that is used to specify cost constraints. If 'residualbw' is present, 'routingcost' MUST have at most one 'residualbw'.

Cost mode: A Cost Mode is encoded as a US-ASCII string. The string MUST either have the value 'numerical' or 'ordinal'.

Examples:

```
POST /endpointcost/lookup HTTP/1.1
Host: alto.example.com
Content-Length: 195
Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcostparams+json
Accept: application/alto-endpointcost+json,application/alto-error+json
```

```
{
  "cost-type": {"cost-mode" : "numerical",
               "cost-metric" : "routingcost"},
  "constraints" : {"residbw ls 15"},
  "endpoints" : {
    "srcs": [ "ipv4:192.0.2.2" ],
    "dsts": [
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89",
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34",
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45"
    ]
  }
}
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 231
Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcost+json
```



```
"data": {
  "cost type": {
    "cost-mode": "numerical",
    "cost-metric": "routingcost",
    "constraints" : {"residbw"}
  }
"map": {
  "ipv4:192.0.2.2": {
    "ipv4:192.0.2.89": 0[residbw eq0.000000],
    "ipv4:198.51.100.34": 5[residbw eq12.5],
    "ipv4:203.0.113.45": 2[residbw eq5.9],
  }
}
```

4.5. Attribute: availablebandwidth

Namespace:

Attribute name: availablebandwidth

Purpose: To specify the available bandwidth on a link between two directly connected neighboring peers. For a link, available bandwidth is defined to be residual bandwidth minus the measured bandwidth used for the actual forwarding of non-RSVP-TE packets. For a bundled link, available bandwidth is defined to be the sum of the component link available bandwidths.

Value type: A single number value containing an integer component that may be prefixed with an optional minus sign, which may be followed by a fraction part and/or an exponent part.

Cardinality: *1

Attribute parameters: linkstate

Description: This is intended to be a new cost metric. It can be either used as constraint attribute value used together with 'routing cost' cost metric attribute or used as returned cost metric in the response. 'routingcost' may also be used with other cost constraint attributes that is used to specify cost constraints. If 'availablebw' is present, 'routingcost' MUST have at most one 'availablebw'.

Cost mode: A Cost Mode is encoded as a US-ASCII string. The string MUST either have the value 'numerical' or 'ordinal'.

Examples:

POST /endpointcost/lookup HTTP/1.1

Host: alto.example.com

Content-Length: 195

Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcostparams+json

Accept: application/alto-endpointcost+json,application/alto-error+json

```
{
  "cost-type": {"cost-mode" : "numerical",
               "cost-metric" : "routingcost"},
  "constraints" : {"availablebw ls 15"},
  "endpoints" : {
    "srcs": [ "ipv4:192.0.2.2" ],
    "dsts": [
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89",
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34",
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45"
    ]
  }
}
```

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Length: 231

Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcost+json

```
"data": {
  "cost type": {
    "cost-mode": "numerical",
    "cost-metric": "routingcost"},
  "constraints" : {"residbw", "availbw"}
  "endpoints": {
    "srcs": [ "ipv4:192.0.2.2" ],
    "dsts": [
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89",
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34",
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45"
    ]
  }
}

"map": {
  "ipv4:192.0.2.2": {
    "ipv4:192.0.2.89": 0[residbw eq0,availbw eq0],
    "ipv4:198.51.100.34": 0[residbw eq12.5,availbw eq10.5],
    "ipv4:203.0.113.45": 0[residbw eq5.9,availbw eq3.9],
  }
}
```


5. Cost Metric Extensions: Parameters

The following sections define Parameters used within cost metrics Definitions in the [section 3](#).

5.1. Parameter: linkstate

Namespace:

Parameter name: linkstate

Purpose: Used in a multi-valued property to indicate whether it is steady state link performance.

Description: When a property is multi-valued, LINKSTATE can be used to construct a steady state Performance topology for initial tunnel path computation, or to verify alternative failover paths. The LINKSTATE is set when the measured value of this parameter exceeds its configured maximum threshold. The LINKSTATE is cleared when the measured value falls below its configured threshold. LINKSTATE should be used together with Cost metric we defined in the [section 3](#). Cost Metrics prefixed with 'lss:' are reserved for cost metric that is not steady state link performance. Cost Metrics without prefix 'lss:' indicate the cost metrics are steady state link performance.

Examples:

```
POST /endpointcost/lookup HTTP/1.1
Host: alto.example.com
Content-Length: 195
Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcostparams+json
Accept: application/alto-endpointcost+json,application/alto-error+json
```

```
{
  "cost-type": {"cost-mode" : "numerical",
               "cost-metric" : "routingcost"},
  "constraints" : {"linkdelay ls 15"},
  "endpoints" : {
    "srcs": [ "ipv4:192.0.2.2" ],
    "dsts": [
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89",
      "ipv4:198.51.100.34",
      "ipv4:203.0.113.45"
    ]
  }
}
```



```
    }  
  }  
HTTP/1.1 200 OK  
Content-Length: 231  
Content-Type: application/alto-endpointcost+json
```

```
  "data": {  
    "cost type": {  
      "cost-mode": "numerical",  
      "cost-metric": "routingcost",  
      "constraints": {"linkdelay"}  
    }  
  "map": {  
    "ipv4:192.0.2.2": {  
      "ipv4:192.0.2.89": 0.0[lss:linkdelay eq 100],  
    }  
  }  
}
```


6. Security Considerations

The properties defined in this document present no security considerations beyond those in [Section 14](#) of the base ALTO specification [[draft-ietf-alto-protocol](#)].

7. IANA Considerations

IANA has added the following entries to the ALTO cost map Properties registry, defined in Section 3 of [RFCXXX].

Namespace	Property	Reference
	linkdelay	[RFCxxxx], Section 3.1
	linkjitter	[RFCxxxx], Section 3.2
	linkloss	[RFCxxxx], Section 3.3
	residbw	[RFCxxxx], Section 3.4
	availbw	[RFCxxxx], Section 3.5

IANA has added the following entries to the "ALTO cost map Parameters" registry, defined in [RFCxxxx] Section 4.1.

Name-space	Parameter	Reference
	LINKSTATE	[RFCxxxx], Section 4.1

8. Normative References

- [ALTO] Alimi, R., "ALTO Protocol", ID [draft-ietf-alto-protocol-16](#), May 2013.
- [OSPF] Giacalone, S., "OSPF Traffic Engineering (TE) Metric Extensions", ID [draft-ietf-ospf-te-metric-extensions-04](#), June 2013.
- [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", March 1997.
- [RFC4627] Crockford, D., "The application/json Media Type for JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)", [RFC 4627](#), July 2006.
- [RFC5234] Crocker, D., "Augmented BNF for Syntax Specifications: ABNF", [RFC 5234](#), January 2008.

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