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**L3DL Upper Layer Protocol Configuration**  
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Abstract

This document users the Layer 3 Liveness and Discovery protocol to communicate the parameters needed to exchange inter-device Upper Layer Protocol Configuration for upper layer protocols such as the BGP family.

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 [BCP 14](#) [[RFC2119](#)] [[RFC8174](#)] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

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## [1.](#) Introduction

Massive Data Centers (MDCs) which use upper layer protocols such as BGP4, BGP-LS, BGP-SPF, etc. may use the Layer 3 Liveness and Discovery Protocol, L3DP, [[I-D.ietf-lsvr-l3dl](#)] to reveal the inter-device links of the topology. It is desirable for devices to facilitate the configuration parameters of those upper layer protocols to enable more hands-free configuration. This document defines a new L3DP PDU to communicate these Upper Layer Protocol Configuration parameters.

## [2.](#) Reading and Terminology

The reader is assumed to have read Layer 3 Discovery and Liveness [[I-D.ietf-lsvr-l3dl](#)]. The terminology and PDUs there are assumed here.

Familiarity with the BGP4 Protocol [[RFC4271](#)] is assumed. Familiarity with BGP-SPF, [[I-D.ietf-lsvr-bgp-spf](#)], might be useful.



### 3. Upper Layer Protocol Configuration PDU

To communicate parameters required to configure peering and operation of Upper Layer Protocols at IP layer 3 and above, e.g., BGP sessions on a link, a neutral sub-TLV based Upper Layer Protocol PDU is defined as follows:

```

      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
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
|   Type = 9   |                               Payload Length   ~
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
~               |   ULPC Type   |   AttrCount   |               ~
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
~       Attribute List ...   |   Sig Type   | Signature Len ~
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
~               |               Signature ...   |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+

```

The Type and Payload Length are defined in [[I-D.ietf-lsvr-l3dl](#)].

ULPC Type: An integer denoting the type of the upper layer protocol

```

0      : Reserved
1      : BGP
2-255 : Reserved

```

The AttrCount is the number of attribute sub-TLVs in the Attribute List.

The Attribute List is a, possibly null, set of sub-TLVs describing the configuration attributes of the specific upper layer protocol.

#### 3.1. BGP ULPC Attribute sub-TLVs

The parameters needed for BGP peering on a link are exchanged in sub-TLVs within an Upper Layer Protocol PDU. The following describe the various sub-TLVs for BGP.

The goal is to provide the minimal set of configuration parameters needed by BGP OPEN to successfully start a BGP peering. The goal is specifically not to replace or conflict with data exchanged during BGP OPEN. Multiple sources of truth are a recipe for complexity and hence pain.

If there are multiple BGP sessions on a link, e.g., IPv4 and IPv6, then multiple sets of BGP sub-TLVs are exchanged within the BGP ULPC PDU.



A peer receiving BGP ULPC PDUs has only one active BGP ULPC PDU at any point in time; receipt of a new BGP ULPC PDU replaces any previous one. If there are one or more open BGP sessions, receipt of a new BGP ULPC PDU does not affect these sessions.

As a link may have multiple encapsulations and multiple addresses for an IP encapsulation, which address of which encapsulation are to be used for the BGP session MUST be specified.

For each BGP peering on a link here MUST be one agreed encapsulation, and the addresses used MUST be in the corresponding L3DP IPv4/IPv6 Announcement PDUs. If a peering address has been announced as a loopback, a two or three (one or both ends could be loopbacks) hop BGP session will be established. Otherwise a direct one hop session is used.

### **3.1.1. BGP ASN**

The Autonomous System number MUST be specified. If the AS Number is less than 32 bits, it is padded with high order zeros.

```

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
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| Attr Type = 1 | Attr Len = 48 |                               My ASN ~
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
~
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+

```

### **3.1.2. BGP IPv4 Address**

The BGP IPv4 Address sub-TLV announces the sender's IPv4 BGP peering source address to be used by the receiver. At least one of IPv4 or IPv6 BGP source addresses MUST be announced.

As usual, the BGP OPEN capability negotiation will determine the AFI/SAFIs to be transported over the peering, see [[RFC4760](#)] .

```

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
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| Attr Type = 2 | Attr Len = 56 |   My IPv4 Peering Address ~
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
~
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+
| Prefix Len |
+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+

```



### 3.1.3. BGP IPv6 Address

The BGP IPv6 Address sub-TLV announces the sender's IPv6 BGP peering source address to be used by the receiver. At least one of IPv4 or IPv6 BGP source addresses **MUST** be announced.

As usual, the BGP OPEN capability negotiation will determine the AFI/SAFIs to be transported over the peering, see [RFC4760] .

[illegible]

#### 3.1.4. BGP Authentication sub-TLV

The BGP Authentication sub-TLV provides any authentication data needed to OPEN the BGP session. Depending on operator configuration of the environment, it might be a simple MD5 key (see [RFC2385]), the name of a key chain a KARP database (see [RFC7210]), or one of multiple Authentication sub-TLVs to support hop[RFC4808].

```

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
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| Attr Type = 4 |      Attr Len      |                               ~
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
~                                         BGP Authentication Data ...
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+

```

### 3.1.5. BGP Miscellaneous Flags

The BGP session OPEN has extensive, and a bit complex, capability negotiation facilities. In case one or more extra attributes might be needed, the BGP Miscellaneous Flags sub-TLV may be used. No flags are currently defined.





```

      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
+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+
| Attr Type = 5 | Attr Len = 32 |           Misc Flags           |
+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+

```

Misc Attrs:

Bit 0: Ghu knows what

Bit 1-15: Must be zero

#### 4. Security Considerations

All the Security considerations of [[I-D.ietf-lsvr-l3dl](#)] apply to this PDU.

As the ULPC PDU may contain keying material, see [Section 3.1.4](#), it SHOULD BE signed.

Any keying material in the PDU SHOULD BE salted ad hashed.

The BGP Authentication sub-TLV provides for provisioning MD5, which is a quite weak hash, horribly out of fashion, and kills puppies. But, like it or not, it is what BGP deployments use.

#### 5. IANA Considerations

This document requests the IANA create a new entry in the L3DL PDU Type registry as follows:

PDU Code	PDU Name
-----	-----
9	ULPC

This document requests the IANA create a registry for L3DL ULPC Type, which may range from 0 to 255. The name of the registry should be L3DL-ULPC-Type. The policy for adding to the registry is RFC Required per [[RFC5226](#)], either standards track or experimental. The initial entries should be the following:

Value	Name
-----	-----
0	Reserved
1	BGP
2-255	Reserved



## 6. References

### 6.1. Normative References

- [I-D.ietf-lsvr-l3dl]  
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- [I-D.ietf-lsvr-bgp-spf]  
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