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BIER in BABEL

Abstract

BIER introduces a novel multicast architecture. It does not require a signaling protocol to explicitly build multicast distribution trees, nor does it require intermediate nodes to maintain any per-flow state.

Babel defines a distance-vector routing protocol that operates in a robust and efficient fashion both in wired as well as in wireless mesh networks. This document defines a way to carry necessary BIER signaling information in Babel.

Status of This Memo

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1. Introduction

[RFC8279] introduces a novel multicast architecture. It does not require a signaling protocol to explicitly build multicast distribution trees, nor does it require intermediate nodes to maintain any per-flow state. All procedures necessary to support BIER are abbreviated by the "BIER architecture" moniker in this document.

[RFC8966] define a distance-vector routing protocol under the name of "Babel". Babel operates in a robust and efficient fashion both in ordinary wired as well as in wireless mesh networks.

2. Terminology

The terminology of this documents follows [RFC8279] and [RFC8966].

3. Conventions Used in This Document

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.

4. Advertisement of BIER information

In case a router is configured with BIER information, and Babel is the routing protocol used, such a router MAY use Babel protocol to announce the BIER information using the BIER sub-TLV specified below.

4.1. BIER BFR-prefix and BIER sub-TLV

BFR-prefix and according information is carried in a Babel Update TLV per [RFC8966]. A new sub-TLV is defined to convey further BIER information such as BFR-id, sub-domain-id and BSL. Two sub-sub-TLVs are carried as payload of BIER sub-TLV.

The mandatory bit of BIER sub-TLV should be set to 0. If a router cannot recognize a sub-TLV, the router MUST ignore this unknown sub-TLV.

4.1.1. BIER sub-TLV

The BIER sub-TLV format aligns exactly with the definition and restrictions in [RFC8401] , [RFC8444] and [I-D.ietf-bier-ospfv3-extensions]. It is a sub-TLV of Babel update TLV. The prefix MUST NOT be summarized and the according sub-TLV MUST be treated as optional and transitive.

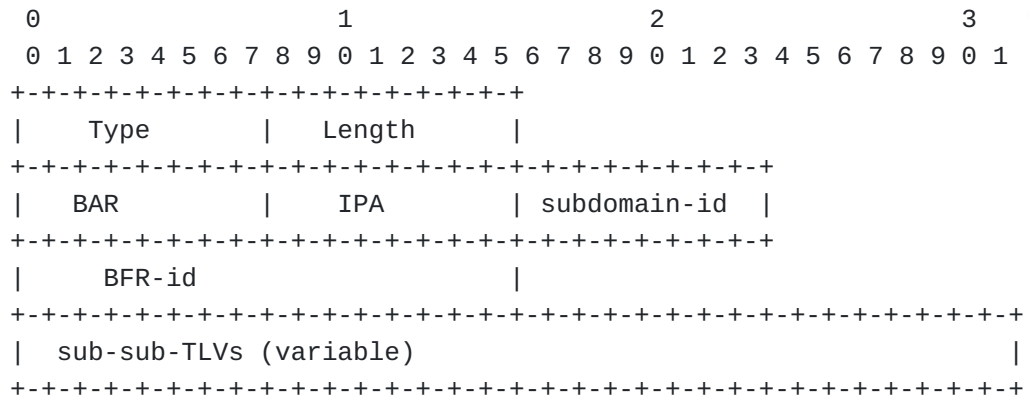

Figure 1: BIER sub-TLV

*Type: as indicated in IANA section.

*Length: 1 octet. Include the length of BIER sub-TLV and potential length of the sub-sub-TLVs.

*BAR: BIER Algorithm. Specifies a BIER-specific algorithm used to calculate underlay paths to reach BFERs. Values are allocated from the "BIER Algorithms" registry. 1 octet.

*IPA: IGP Algorithm. Specifies an IGP Algorithm to either modify, enhance, or replace the calculation of underlay paths to reach

BFERs as defined by the BAR value. Values are from the IGP Algorithm registry. 1 octet.

*subdomain-id: Unique value identifying the BIER sub-domain. 1 octet.

*BFR-id: A 2 octet field encoding the BFR-id, as documented in [RFC8279]. If no BFR-id has been assigned this field is set to the invalid BFR-id.

4.2. BIER MPLS Encapsulation sub-sub-TLV

The BIER MPLS Encapsulation sub-sub-TLV can be carried by BIER sub-TLV. The format and restrictions are aligned with [RFC8401], [RFC8444] and [I-D.ietf-bier-ospfv3-extensions]. This sub-sub-TLV carries the information for the BIER MPLS encapsulation including the label range for a specific BSL for a certain <MT,SD> pair.

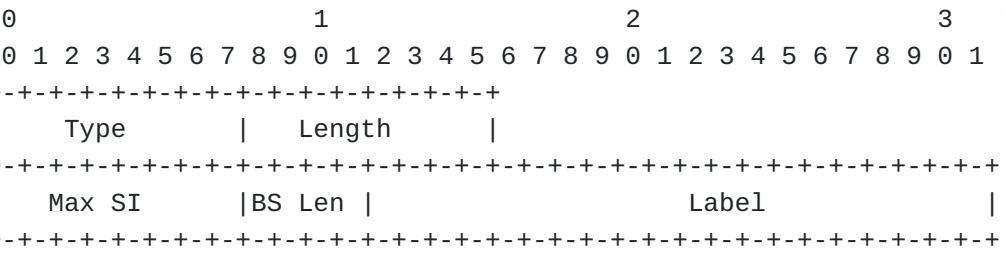

Figure 2: MPLS Encapsulation sub-sub-TLV

*Type: value of 1 indicating MPLS encapsulation.

*Length: 1 octet

*Max SI: Maximum Set Identifier (Section 1 of [RFC8279]) used in the encapsulation for this BIER subdomain for this BitString length, 1 octet. Each SI maps to a single label in the label range. The first label is for SI=0, the second label is for SI=1, etc. If the label associated with the Maximum Set Identifier exceeds the 20-bit range, the sub-sub-TLV MUST be ignored.

*Local BitString Length (BS Len): Encoded BitString length as per [RFC8296]. 4 bits.

*Label: First label, 20 bits. The labels are as defined in [RFC8296].

4.3. BIER non-MPLS Encapsulation sub-sub-TLV

The BIER non-MPLS Encapsulation sub-sub-TLV can be carried by BIER sub-TLV. The format and restrictions are aligned with [I-D.ietf-bier-lsr-non-mpls-extensions]. This sub-sub-TLV carries

the information for the BIER MPLS encapsulation including the label range for a specific BSL for a certain <MT,SD> pair.

Figure 3: non-MPLS Encapsulation sub-sub-TLV

*Type: value of 2 indicating non-MPLS encapsulation.

*Length: 1 octet

*Max SI: Maximum Set Identifier (Section 1 of [RFC8279]) used in the encapsulation for this BIER subdomain for this BitString length, 1 octet. The first BIFT-id is for SI=0, the second BIFT-id is for SI=1, etc. If the BIFT-id associated with the Maximum Set Identifier exceeds the 20-bit range, the sub-sub-TLV MUST be ignored.

*BIFT-id: A 3-octet field, where the 20 rightmost bits represent the first BIFT-id in the BIFT-id range. The 4 leftmost bits MUST be ignored. The "BIFT-id range" is the set of 20-bit values beginning with the BIFT-id and ending with (BIFT-id + (Max SI)). These BIFT-id's are used for BIER forwarding as described in [RFC8279] and [RFC8296].

*Local BitString Length (BS Len): Encoded BitString length as per [RFC8296]. 4 bits.

4.3.1. BIER IPv6 transportation sub-sub-TLV

The BIER IPv6 transportation sub-sub-TLV can be carried by BIER non-MPLS Encapsulation sub-sub-TLV. The format and restrictions are aligned with [I-D.ietf-bier-bierin6]. A node that requires IPv6 encapsualtion MUST advertise the BIER IPv6 transportation sub-sub-TLV according to local configuration or policy in the BIER domain to request other BFRs to always use IPv6 encapsulation.

The format is the same with the definition in section 4.1, [I-D.ietf-bier-bierin6].

5. Tree types and tunneling

Since Babel is performing a diffusion computation, support for different tree types is not as natural as with link-state protocols. Hence this specification is assuming that normal Babel reachability computation is performed without further modifications.

BIER architecture does not rely on all routers in a domain performing BFR procedures. How to support tunnels that will allow to tunnel BIER across such routers in Babel is for further study.

6. Security Considerations

Security considerations discussed in [RFC8296], [RFC8966] apply to this document.

7. IANA Considerations

A new type of Babel update sub-TLV needs to be defined for BIER information advertisement.

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