Asymmetric IPv6

draft-jiang-asymmetric-ipv6-02

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Motivation and Approach

- In edge IoT deployments, physical MTU and bit rate may be very low, so packet size needs to be minimized
- Also, the edge routers may be constrained
 - compression/decompression algorithms use resources
 - 128 bit addresses consume memory
- The proposed approach is
 - Shorten addresses inside IPv6 packets
 - Route on shortened addresses
 - Don't transmit unnecessary bytes
 - Avoid compression/decompression algorithms



Method

- Define an address length N within a domain
- All addresses inside the domain are assumed to have a common prefix of (128-N) bits
- RIB/FIB can use short addresses for intradomain forwarding, full addresses outside
- Unnecessary header bytes are elided
- Use a "flexible header encoding"

How to determine address length within a domain

- Each node must be configured with address length
 - By manufacturers
 - By network operators
 - By endpoint users
- Get address length as a parameter from gateway when attaching



- Negotiate address length with neighbors
 - ✓ Use function f to determine the address length



RA Message with modified prefix option

- Reuse RA message
- But define new flag bit for short address mode

Router Advertisement Message





RA

Device

ICMP type = 134 Src = router link-local address Dst = all-nodes multicast address(FF02::1) Data = Router lifetime, Cur hop limit, Autoconfig flag, Options(prefix(Prefix Length, S), MTU)

Stateless short address configuration

- Device get SRA (Short Router Address) from RA message
- Generate a short address according to SRA
- Validate the address with revised DAD(Duplicate Address Detection)



Encapsulation of Asymmetric IPv6

• Use adaption layer like 6lowpan, new dispatch should be assigned.

• Use a "flexible header encoding"



- Modified version field
 - Ob0000: The source address (if exist) has pre-determined length inside the domain and the
 destination address (if exist) uses standard 128-bit IPv6 address. (Outward traffic)
 - 0b0001: The source address (if exist) uses standard 128-bit IPv6 address and the destination address (if exist) has pre-determined length inside the domain. (Inward traffic)
 - 0b0010: The source address and destination address have the same length inside the domain. The address length will be pre-determined.

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0b0110: Reserved for IPv6 compatible case.

0b0100: Reserved for IPv4 compatible case.

0b0011~0b1111(except 0b0110, 0b0100):

Reserved.

Communication with short address

- From inner node to outer node (outward)
 - Gateway must add prefix to form standard IPv6 address



• Intra-domain communication uses short address only

Delegation of outer nodes' address

- Use short address as delegation of the IPv6 address inside domain.
- Use RS/RA message to run delegation process



Discussion

• Comments? Questions?