DetNet Data Plane: SRv6

draft-varga-detnet-srv6-data-plane
draft-varga-spring-preof-sid

Authors: Balázs Varga (A), Ferenc Fejes
## DetNet IP Data Plane History

- **RFC8655**: Deterministic Networking Architecture
  - DetNet provides a capability to carry specified unicast or multicast data flows for real-time applications with extremely low data loss rates and bounded latency within a network domain

- **RFC8939**: Deterministic Networking (DetNet) Data Plane: IP
  - Universal IP Data Plane for DetNet: both IPv4 and IPv6
  - Limitations: no support for DetNet Service sub-layer

- **RFC9566**: Deterministic Networking (DetNet): DetNet PREOF via MPLS over UDP/IP
  - Universal IP Data Plane for DetNet: both IPv4 and IPv6
  - Support for DetNet Service sub-layer (PREOF) using existing DetNet PW and MPLS-over-UDP technologies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Service protection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sub-layer</td>
<td>(e.g., PREOF)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forwarding</th>
<th>Resource allocation,</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sub-layer</td>
<td>Explicit routes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DetNet

+-----------------+-----------------+
| Service | Service protection |
| sub-layer | (e.g., PREOF)    |
+-----------------+-----------------+
| Forwarding | Resource allocation, |
| sub-layer  | Explicit routes |
+-----------------+-----------------+
Native support of PREOF for IPv6

- DetNet toolset (RFC8655):
  - (i) Resource allocation, (ii) **Service protection**, and (iii) **Explicit routes**
  - If service protection (i.e., PREOF) is used it is always combined with explicit routes

- IPv6:
  - Flexible & Extensible header format
  - Native PREOF support in IPv6 can mitigate the overhead of “PW + MPLS over UDP” solution
  - Task to be solved: adding Sequence Number to the IPv6 header
    - Option: Re-Use existing IPv6 header fields

Note on Explicit routes:
- Needed between DetNet Relay nodes (implementing service sub-layer (i.e., PREOF))
- **Do not** need to describe the whole PREOF graph, only the path to the next DetNet Relay node executing PREOF on the DetNet Flow
Proposals

Building blocks of the proposed DetNet SRv6 solution:

1. A DetNet-specific SID format, which contains the Sequence Number parameter used by PREOF instances.
2. A method to place Flow-ID and Sequence Number in the argument (ARG) part of the DetNet-specific SID.
3. A new set of SRv6 SID behaviors regarding the DetNet-specific SID
   - SR Endpoint Behavior
     • End.PREOF
   - SR Policy Headend Behaviors
     • H.Encaps.PREOF
     • H.Encaps.PREOF.Red
     • H.Encaps.PREOF.L2
     • H.Encaps.PREOF.L2.Red
Segment Routing for IPv6 (SRv6)

- In IPv6 networks the primary technology to create an explicit route: SRv6

- RFC8402 – Segment Routing Architecture
  - When applied to the IPv6 data plane, Segment Routing does introduce the Segment Routing Header (SRH, [RFC8754]) which is a type of Routing Extension header as defined in [RFC8200].
  - In SRv6, a SID represents a 128-bit value, consisting of the following three parts [RFC8986]:
    - Locator: first part of the SID with most significant bits and represents a specific SRv6 node
    - Function: the portion of the SID that is local to the owner node and designates a specific SRv6 function (network instruction) that is executed locally on a particular node (specified by Locator)
    - Arguments: optional field and represents optional arguments to the function
DetNet-specific SID

- An SRv6 Endpoint behavior may require additional information for its processing (e.g., related to the flow or service). This information may be encoded in the ARG bits of the SID.

- For PREOF processing two arguments are needed
  - Flow-ID: defines which DetNet flow the packet belongs to (what is used to determine which PREOF instance has to be used), size: 20 bits for DetNet MPLS data plane [RFC8964]
  - Sequence Number: defines the sequencing information, it is used by PRF/PEF/POF, size: 0/16/28 bits [RFC8964]
  - Required size: max. 48 bits

- Recommendations for size of the SID parts
  - RFC8986: Section 3.2. — 64+16+48 bits
Proposed format of DetNet-specific SID

- **Locator:**
  - Specifies the node (allocation same as for any SID of the node)

- **Function:**
  - Single value is enough for all PREOF functions of the nodes

- **Arguments**
  - Contains the Flow-ID and SeqNum

Note: if Function=PREOF, Arg=0 is also meaningful
New Set of SRv6 Behaviors

- The DetNet-specific SID must be the last segment in an SR Policy!

- SR Endpoint Behavior
  - End.PREOF

- SR Policy Headend Behaviors
  - H.Encaps.PREOF
  - H.Encaps.PREOF.Red
  - H.Encaps.PREOF.L2
  - H.Encaps.PREOF.L2.Red
When $N$ receives a packet destined to $S$ and $S$ is a local End.DF.PPREOF SID, $N$ does the following:

S01. When an SRH is processed {
S02. If (Segments Left != 0) {
S03. Send an ICMP Parameter Problem to the Source Address with Code 0 (Erroneous header field encountered) and Pointer set to the Segments Left field, interrupt packet processing, and discard the packet.
S04. }
S05. Extract the ARG part of the SID
S06. Remove the outer IPv6 header with all its extension headers
S07. Forward the exposed payload and the ARG part to the PREOF functionality
S08. }
H.Encaps.PREOF

Node N receives a packet $P_1=(A, B_2)$ identified as a DetNet Flow. $B_2$ is neither a local address nor SID of N. It executes the DetNet Flow related PREOF functions, resulting on one or more replica packets with related parameters (Flow-ID, SeqNum).

Node N is configured with an IPv6 address $T$ (e.g., assigned to its loopback). N steers the egress of the DetNet packet $P_1'$ into an SRv6 Policy with a Source Address $T$ and a segment list $<S_1, S_2, S_3>$.

The H.Encaps.PREOF encapsulation behavior is defined as follows:

S01. Push an IPv6 header with its own SRH
   - Set the ARG part of the LAST SID in the segment list
S02. Set outer IPv6 SA = $T$ and outer IPv6 DA to the first SID
   - in the segment list
S03. Set outer Payload Length, Traffic Class, Hop Limit, and
   - Flow Label fields
S04. Set the outer Next Header value
S05. Decrement inner IPv6 Hop Limit or IPv4 TTL
S06. Submit the packet to the IPv6 module for transmission to $S_1$

The H.Encaps.PREOF.Red behavior is an optimization of the H.Encaps.PREOF behavior.
H.Encap.PREOF.L2

The H.Encaps.PREOF.L2 encapsulation behavior is similar to H.Encaps.PREOF but sets an Ethernet specific outer Next Header and lacks the TTL/Hop Limit related action. H.Encaps.PREOF.L2 is defined as follows:

S01. Push an IPv6 header with its own SRH
   - Set the ARG part of the LAST SID in the segment list

S02. Set outer IPv6 SA = T and outer IPv6 DA to the first SID
   - in the segment list

S03. Set outer Payload Length, Traffic Class, Hop Limit, and Flow Label fields

S04. Set the outer Next Header value

S05. <N/A>

S06. Submit the packet to the IPv6 module for transmission to S11

The H.Encaps.PREOF.L2.Red behavior is an optimization of the H.Encaps.PREOF.L2 behavior.
DetNet-specific SID related counters

• PREOF implementation may provide counters per DetNet flow.
• However, in order to be inline with the intention of RFC8986 (section 6. Counters), its recommendation may apply on the DetNet-specific SID and the above described set of SR Behaviors.
  – It means, a node supporting DetNet-specific SID should implement a pair of traffic counters (one for packets and one for bytes) per local SID entry, for traffic that matched that SID and was processed successfully (i.e., packets that generate ICMP Error Messages or are dropped are not counted).
  – The retrieval of these counters from MIB, NETCONF/YANG, or any other data structure is outside the scope of this document.
Building blocks of the proposed DetNet SRv6 solution:

1. A DetNet-specific SID format, which contains the Sequence Number parameter used by PREOF instances.
2. A method to place Flow-ID and Sequence Number in the argument (ARG) part of the DetNet-specific SID.
3. A new set of SRv6 SID behaviors regarding the DetNet-specific SID
   - SR Endpoint Behavior
     • End.PREOF
   - SR Policy Headend Behaviors
     • H.Encaps.PREOF
     • H.Encaps.PREOF.Red
     • H.Encaps.PREOF.L2
     • H.Encaps.PREOF.L2.Red