

draft-eckert-anima-acp-free-ani-00

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Summary

This work is proposed as informational – in support of new planned ASA work!

ANIMA ANI = BRSKI + ACP + GRASP

Infrastructure to build network automation (and autonomy) on top of

We want to enable in-network automation/decentralised – well call it ASA

But ACP is challenging to implement (Routing, VRF, „Subinterfaces“, IPsec, ...)

~~Solution~~: Workaround „automation Network Infrastructure“ (aNI)

ANI without ACP = aNI

What can it do, what do we miss ?

aNI overview

Replace ACP simply with „Data Plane“

Data Plane can still be (incrementally) auto-provisioned by controllers/orchestrators
IPv4 and/or IPv6 – whatever the network needs/wants to use anyhow

GRASP used pretty much unchanged from ACP (RFC8994) GRASP

„GRASP relay“ operating on every router. Hop-by-Hop connections via TLS
But packets go via „Data Plane“ – need to decide IPv4 or IPv6
GRASP relay provides network wide discovery of services / ASA

BRSKI pretty much unchanged

Discovery of Join Proxy is link-local, Discovery of registrars uses GRASP relays.
But for IPv4 only network, BRSKI needs to operate over IPv4.

Domain security concept unchanged

All TLS communications uses aNI Domain Cert (from BRSKI)
Includes the primary Data Plane address of router, otherwise like ACP certificate

aNI vs. ANI downsides vs. upsides

Downsides:

Relies on some external entity (operators, controller, orchestrators)

... to configure Data Plane

Including correct configuration of BRSKI/proxy/GRASP-relay

... suggest simple „aNI“ config option

When Data Plane has problems (misconfig) – aNI will also fail (mostly)

Grasp relay will still work, but end-to-end connectivity will fail!

Upside:

Easy to implement on every router OS:

BRSKI, GRASP relay are simple application level processes on every router.

Control-Plane only – no forwarding plane complexity (!hah!)

Easiest way to enable autoconfiguring distributed ASA

which would also be control-plane only

Complexities / „Extensions“

ACP also „poked“ through network segmentations

- Segments of networks with just IPv4 vs. Others with just IPv6

- Or across NAT in the data-plane

- Or between SP-Core and customer VRFs

This is replaced by aNI driven concept of GRASP relay++ driven connectivity

- Any router that separates Data-Plane connectivity...

- Can provide „proxied“ connectivity via combination of GRASP relay++ and (as needed) Data Plane functions

- Example NAT: If server on inside should be available outside, GRASP on the NAT node would need to allocate „proxy“ server socket and announce that as the service socket to the outside.

- Effectively the generalized concept of BRSKI proxy (and discovery proxying)

Draft describes various generic options for such a „segment edge router“

- Based on different type of forwarding plane segmentation

Questions ?

Please review / comment !

Thank you !