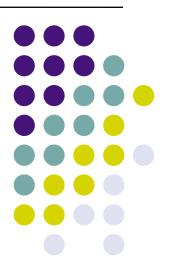
Simple join failure notification for PIM-SM multicast routing

draft-hoerdt-pim-group-unreachable-00

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Introduction



- Multicast debugging is hard, especially interdomain
- When someone is not able to receive, it is difficult to identify where and what the problem is
 - For interdomain it's next to impossible to track down which domain is at fault
- The idea in this draft, is to send a message downstream if join propagation fails
- This mechanism is simpler than a multicast traceroute, but still very useful

Proposal



- I will focus on SSM/SPT, but draft also considers ASM/ RPT
- If a router fails to send an (S,G)-join, it sends an ICMP error message downstream, which is propagated hop-by-hop
 - Sent out on all interfaces in oif list to the all-nodes multicast address
 - The next hops will accept it if it arrives on the incoming interface for S
 - The next hops will resend it on all interface in oif list
- Message contains information on why the join failed, and the address of the router that failed to send it

Example error codes



- Interface pointing towards S is not multicast enabled
- Next-hop is not a PIM neighbor
- No route for source
- Exceeding admin scope
- Filtered
- For ASM, the RP-address is wrong

How this can be used



- Routers might log reception of such messages
- Someone that fails to receive could look for logged errors on the router, or report to provider
 - Provider can check logs and find out where the error is
 - The entity responsible for the router at fault can be contacted
- A common problem is that there is no state to diagnose problem when user complaint is received
 - Having logs with timestamps really helps here
- Also, user might run an application that can help diagnose multicast problems
 - This application might report errors to users based on the received ICMP messages
 - General multicast applications might also utilise this

Further details



- A single message might contain reports for multiple join failures
 - multiple (S,G)s etc.
- These are split up as needed when being forwarded downstream
 - For a given interface we only send message with reports for the (S,G)-entries where it is in the oif list
- Messages should be rate-limited