

Using the IPv6 Flow Label for Load Balancing in Server Farms: *Updates after IESG review*

draft-ietf-intarea-flow-label-balancing-03

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Small clarifications

- Title etc. now emphasise that the scope is “server farms.”
- Examples are for HTTP, but analogous techniques may be used for other application protocols.
- Added L3 ECMP routing to list of techniques.
- Noted that there may be difficulty correlating an ICMPv6 PTB response with its session.
- A few wording improvements.

Session detection comment

- Balancer will not identify new transport sessions from the same source that use the same flow label; they will be delivered to the same server.
- Balancer will not detect FIN/ACK sequences at the end of sessions. Therefore, it will rely on inactivity timers to delete session state.
- Malicious source or MITM could generate a flow where flow label is constant but the transport port numbers are invalid. Such packets could reach the target server (DOS risk).

Next steps

- Waiting for IESG approval