        LDP Extensions for Hub and Spoke Multipoint Label Switched Path

Abstract

   This document introduces a hub and spoke multipoint (HSMP) Label
   Switched Path (LSP), which allows traffic from root to leaf through
   point-to-multipoint (P2MP) LSPs and also leaf to root along the
   reverse path. That means traffic entering the HSMP LSP from the
   application/customer at the root node travels downstream to each leaf
   node, exactly as if it were traveling downstream along a P2MP LSP to
   each leaf node. Upstream traffic entering the HSMP LSP at any leaf
   node travels upstream along the tree to the root, as if it were
   unicast to the root. Direct communication among the leaf nodes is
   not allowed.

Status of This Memo

   This is an Internet Standards Track document.

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction

   The point-to-multipoint (P2MP) Label Switched Path (LSP) defined in
   [RFC6388] allows traffic to transmit from root to several leaf nodes,
   and multipoint-to-multipoint (MP2MP) LSP allows traffic from every
   node to transmit to every other node. This document introduces a hub
   and spoke multipoint (HSMP) LSP, which has one root node and one or
   more leaf nodes. An HSMP LSP allows traffic from root to leaf
   through downstream LSP and also leaf to root along the upstream LSP.
   That means traffic entering the HSMP LSP at the root node travels
   along the downstream LSP, exactly as if it were traveling along a
   P2MP LSP, and traffic entering the HSMP LSP at any other leaf nodes
   travels along the upstream LSP toward only the root node. The
   upstream LSP should be thought of as a unicast LSP to the root node,
   except that it follows the reverse direction of the downstream LSP,
   rather than the unicast path based on the routing protocol. The
   combination of upstream LSPs initiated from all leaf nodes forms a
   multipoint-to-point LSP.

2. Terminology

   The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT",
   "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this
   document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

   This document uses the following terms and acronyms:

      mLDP: Multipoint extensions for Label Distribution Protocol (LDP)
      defined in [RFC6388].

      P2MP LSP: point-to-multipoint Label Switched Path. An LSP that
      has one Ingress Label Switching Router (LSR) and one or more
      Egress LSRs.

      MP2MP LSP: multipoint-to-multipoint Label Switched Path. An LSP
      that connects a set of nodes, such that traffic sent by any node
      in the LSP is delivered to all others.

      HSMP LSP: hub and spoke multipoint Label Switched Path. An LSP
      that has one root node and one or more leaf nodes, allows traffic
      from the root to all leaf nodes along the downstream P2MP LSP and
      also leaf to root node along the upstream unicast LSP.

      FEC: Forwarding Equivalence Class

3. Setting Up HSMP LSP with LDP

   An HSMP LSP is similar to MP2MP LSP described in [RFC6388], with the
   difference being that, when the leaf LSRs send traffic on the LSP,
   the traffic is first delivered only to the root node and follows the
   upstream path from the leaf node to the root node. The root node
   then distributes the traffic on the P2MP tree to all of the leaf
   nodes.

   An HSMP LSP consists of a downstream path and upstream path. The
   downstream path is the same as P2MP LSP, while the upstream path is
   only from leaf to root node, without communication between the leaf
   nodes themselves. The transmission of packets from the root node of
   an HSMP LSP to the receivers (the leaf nodes) is identical to that of
   a P2MP LSP. Traffic from a leaf node to the root follows the
   upstream path that is the reverse of the path from the root to the
   leaf. Unlike an MP2MP LSP, traffic from a leaf node does not branch
   toward other leaf nodes, but it is sent direct to the root where it
   is placed on the P2MP path and distributed to all leaf nodes
   including the original sender.

   To set up the upstream path of an HSMP LSP, ordered mode MUST be
   used. Ordered mode can guarantee that a leaf will start sending
   packets to the root immediately after the upstream path is installed,
   without being dropped due to an incomplete LSP.

3.1. Support for HSMP LSP Setup with LDP

   An HSMP LSP requires the LDP capabilities [RFC5561] for nodes to
   indicate that they support setup of HSMP LSPs. An implementation
   supporting the HSMP LSP procedures specified in this document MUST
   implement the procedures for Capability Parameters in Initialization
   messages. Advertisement of the HSMP LSP Capability indicates support
   of the procedures for HSMP LSP setup.

   A new Capability Parameter TLV is defined, the HSMP LSP Capability
   Parameter. Below is the format of the HSMP LSP Capability Parameter.

```
 0                   1                   2                   3
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|U|F|   HSMP LSP Cap (0x0902)    |           Length              |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|S|   Reserved    |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
```
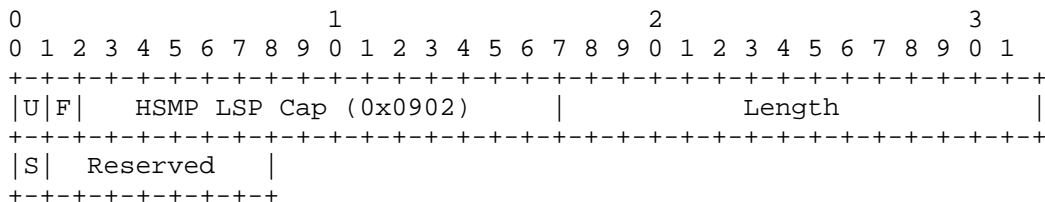
                Figure 1: HSMP LSP Capability Parameter Encoding

   U-bit: Unknown TLV bit, as described in [RFC5036]. The value MUST
           be 1. The unknown TLV MUST be silently ignored and the rest
           of the message processed as if the unknown TLV did not exist.

   F-bit: Forward unknown TLV bit, as described in [RFC5036]. The
           value of this bit MUST be 0 since a Capability Parameter TLV
           is sent only in Initialization and Capability messages, which
           are not forwarded.

   Length: SHOULD be 1.

   S-bit: As defined in Section 3 of [RFC5561].

   Reserved: As defined in Section 3 of [RFC5561].

   HSMP LSP Capability Parameter type: 0x0902.

   If the peer has not advertised the corresponding capability, then
   label messages using the HSMP Forwarding Equivalence Class (FEC)
   Element SHOULD NOT be sent to the peer (as described in Section 2.1
   of [RFC6388]). Since ordered mode is applied for HSMP LSP signaling,
   the label message break would ensure that the initiating leaf node is
   unable to establish the upstream path to root node.

3.2. HSMP FEC Elements

   We define two new protocol entities: the HSMP Downstream FEC Element
   and Upstream FEC Element. If a FEC TLV contains one of the HSMP FEC
   Elements, the HSMP FEC Element MUST be the only FEC Element in the
   FEC TLV. The structure, encoding, and error handling for the HSMP-
   downstream FEC Element and HSMP-upstream FEC Element are the same as
   for the P2MP FEC Element described in Section 2.2 of [RFC6388]. The
   difference is that two additional new FEC types are defined: HSMP-
   downstream FEC (10) and HSMP-upstream FEC (9).

3.3. Using the HSMP FEC Elements

   The entries in the list below describe the processing of the HSMP FEC
   Elements. Additionally, the entries defined in Section 3.3 of
   [RFC6388] are also reused in the following sections.

   1.   HSMP downstream LSP <X, Y> (or simply downstream <X, Y>): an
        HSMP LSP downstream path with root node address X and opaque
        value Y.

   2.   HSMP upstream LSP <X, Y> (or simply upstream <X, Y>): an HSMP
        LSP upstream path for root node address X and opaque value Y
        that will be used by any downstream node to send traffic
        upstream to root node.

   3.   HSMP-downstream FEC Element <X, Y>: a FEC Element with root node
        address X and opaque value Y used for a downstream HSMP LSP.

   4.   HSMP-upstream FEC Element <X, Y>: a FEC Element with root node
        address X and opaque value Y used for an upstream HSMP LSP.

   5.   HSMP-D Label Mapping <X, Y, L>: A Label Mapping message with a
        single HSMP-downstream FEC Element <X, Y> and label TLV with
        label L. Label L MUST be allocated from the per-platform label
        space of the LSR sending the Label Mapping Message.

   6.   HSMP-U Label Mapping <X, Y, Lu>: A Label Mapping message with a
        single HSMP upstream FEC Element <X, Y> and label TLV with label
        Lu. Label Lu MUST be allocated from the per-platform label
        space of the LSR sending the Label Mapping Message.

   7.   HSMP-D Label Withdraw <X, Y, L>: a Label Withdraw message with a
        FEC TLV with a single HSMP-downstream FEC Element <X, Y> and
        label TLV with label L.

   8.   HSMP-U Label Withdraw <X, Y, Lu>: a Label Withdraw message with
        a FEC TLV with a single HSMP-upstream FEC Element <X, Y> and
        label TLV with label Lu.

   9.   HSMP-D Label Release <X, Y, L>: a Label Release message with a
        FEC TLV with a single HSMP-downstream FEC Element <X, Y> and
        Label TLV with label L.

   10. HSMP-U Label Release <X, Y, Lu>: a Label Release message with a
        FEC TLV with a single HSMP-upstream FEC Element <X, Y> and label
        TLV with label Lu.

3.4. HSMP LSP Label Map

   This section specifies the procedures for originating HSMP Label
   Mapping messages and processing received HSMP Label Mapping messages
   for a particular HSMP LSP. The procedure of a downstream HSMP LSP is
   similar to that of a downstream MP2MP LSP described in [RFC6388].
   When LDP operates in Ordered Label Distribution Control mode
   [RFC5036], the upstream LSP will be set up by sending an HSMP LSP LDP
   Label Mapping message with a label that is allocated by the upstream
   LSR to its downstream LSR hop-by-hop from root to leaf node,
   installing the upstream forwarding table by every node along the LSP.

The detailed procedure of setting up upstream HSMP LSP is different
than that of upstream MP2MP LSP, and it is specified in the remainder
of this section.

All labels discussed here are downstream-assigned [RFC5332] except
those that are assigned using the procedures described in Section 4.

Determining the upstream LSR for the HSMP LSP <X, Y> follows the
procedure for a P2MP LSP described in Section 2.4.1.1 of [RFC6388].
That is, a node Z that wants to join an HSMP LSP <X, Y> determines
the LDP peer U that is Z's next hop on the best path from Z to the
root node X. If there are multiple upstream LSRs, a local algorithm
should be applied to ensure that there is exactly one upstream LSR
for a particular LSP.

To determine one's HSMP downstream LSR, an upstream LDP peer that
receives a Label Mapping with the HSMP-downstream FEC Element from an
LDP peer D will treat D as HSMP downstream LDP peer.

3.4.1. HSMP LSP Leaf Node Operation

The leaf node operation is much the same as the operation of MP2MP
LSP defined in Section 3.3.1.4 of [RFC6388]. The only difference is
the FEC elements as specified below.

A leaf node Z of an HSMP LSP <X, Y> determines its upstream LSR U for
<X, Y> as per Section 3.3, allocates a label L, and sends an HSMP-D
Label Mapping <X, Y, L> to U. Leaf node Z expects an HSMP-U Label
Mapping <X, Y, Lu> from node U and checks whether it already has
forwarding state for upstream <X, Y>. If not, Z creates forwarding
state to push label Lu onto the traffic that Z wants to forward over
the HSMP LSP. How it determines what traffic to forward on this HSMP
LSP is outside the scope of this document.

3.4.2. HSMP LSP Transit Node Operation

The procedure for processing an HSMP-D Label Mapping message is much
the same as that for an MP2MP-D Label Mapping message defined in
Section 3.3.1.5 of [RFC6388]. The processing of an HSMP-U Label
Mapping message is different from that of an MP2MP-U Label Mapping
message as specified below.

Suppose node Z receives an HSMP-D Label Mapping <X, Y, L> from LSR D.
Z checks whether it has forwarding state for downstream <X, Y>. If
not, Z determines its upstream LSR U for <X, Y> as per Section 3.3.
Using this Label Mapping to update the label forwarding table MUST
NOT be done as long as LSR D is equal to LSR U. If LSR U is
different from LSR D, Z will allocate a label L' and install

downstream forwarding state to swap label L' with label L over
interface I associated with LSR D and send an HSMP-D Label Mapping
<X, Y, L'> to U. Interface I is determined via the procedures in
Section 3.7.

If Z already has forwarding state for downstream <X, Y>, all that Z
needs to do in this case is check that LSR D is not equal to the
upstream LSR of <X, Y> and update its forwarding state. Assuming its
old forwarding state was L'-> {<I1, L1> <I2, L2> ..., <In, Ln>}, its
new forwarding state becomes L'-> {<I1, L1> <I2, L2> ..., <In, Ln>,
<I, L>}. If the LSR D is equal to the installed upstream LSR, the
Label Mapping from LSR D MUST be retained and MUST NOT update the
label forwarding table.

Node Z checks if the upstream LSR U already has assigned a label Lu
to upstream <X, Y>. If not, transit node Z waits until it receives
an HSMP-U Label Mapping <X, Y, Lu> from LSR U. Once the HSMP-U Label
Mapping is received from LSR U, node Z checks whether it already has
forwarding state upstream <X, Y> with incoming label Lu' and outgoing
label Lu. If it does not, it allocates a label Lu' and creates a new
label swap for Lu' with Label Lu over interface Iu. Interface Iu is
determined via the procedures in Section 3.7. Node Z determines the
downstream HSMP LSR as per Section 3.4 and sends an HSMP-U Label
Mapping <X, Y, Lu'> to node D.

Since a packet from any downstream node is forwarded only to the
upstream node, the same label (representing the upstream path) SHOULD
be distributed to all downstream nodes. This differs from the
procedures for MP2MP LSPs [RFC6388], where a distinct label must be
distributed to each downstream node. The forwarding state upstream
<X, Y> on node Z will be like this: {<Lu'>, <Iu Lu>}. Iu means the
upstream interface over which Z receives HSMP-U Label Map <X, Y, Lu>
from LSR U. Packets from any downstream interface over which Z sends
HSMP-U Label Map <X, Y, Lu'> with label Lu' will be forwarded to Iu
with label Lu' swapped to Lu.

3.4.3. HSMP LSP Root Node Operation

The procedure for an HSMP-D Label Mapping message is much the same as
processing an MP2MP-D Label Mapping message defined in
Section 3.3.1.6 of [RFC6388]. The processing of an HSMP-U Label
Mapping message is different from that of an MP2MP-U Label Mapping
message as specified below.

Suppose the root node Z receives an HSMP-D Label Mapping <X, Y, L>
from node D. Z checks whether it already has forwarding state for
downstream <X, Y>. If not, Z creates downstream forwarding state and
installs an outgoing label L over interface I. Interface I is

determined via the procedures in Section 3.7. If Z already has
forwarding state for downstream <X, Y>, then Z will add label L over
interface I to the existing state.

Node Z checks if it has forwarding state for upstream <X, Y>. If
not, Z creates a forwarding state for incoming label Lu' that
indicates that Z is the HSMP LSP egress Label Edge Router (LER). For
example, the forwarding state might specify that the label stack is
popped and the packet passed to some specific application. Node Z
determines the downstream HSMP LSR as per Section 3.3 and sends an
HSMP-U Label Map <X, Y, Lu'> to node D.

Since Z is the root of the tree, Z will not send an HSMP-D Label Map
and will not receive an HSMP-U Label Mapping.

The root node could also be a leaf node, and it is able to determine
what traffic to forward on this HSMP LSP; that determination is
outside the scope of this document.

3.5. HSMP LSP Label Withdraw

3.5.1. HSMP Leaf Operation

If a leaf node Z discovers that it has no need to be an Egress LSR
for that LSP (by means outside the scope of this document), then it
SHOULD send an HSMP-D Label Withdraw <X, Y, L> to its upstream LSR U
for <X, Y>, where L is the label it had previously advertised to U
for <X, Y>. Leaf node Z will also send an unsolicited HSMP-U Label
Release <X, Y, Lu> to U to indicate that the upstream path is no
longer used and that label Lu can be removed.

Leaf node Z expects the upstream router U to respond by sending a
downstream Label Release for L.

3.5.2. HSMP Transit Node Operation

If a transit node Z receives an HSMP-D Label Withdraw message
<X, Y, L> from node D, it deletes label L from its forwarding state
downstream <X, Y>. Node Z sends an HSMP-D Label Release message with
label L to D. There is no need to send an HSMP-U Label Withdraw <X,
Y, Lu> to D because node D already removed Lu and sent a label
release for Lu to Z.

If deleting L from Z's forwarding state for downstream <X, Y> results
in no state remaining for <X, Y>, then Z propagates the HSMP-D Label
Withdraw <X, Y, L> to its upstream node U for <X, Y>. Z should also
check if there are any incoming interfaces in forwarding state
upstream <X, Y>. If all downstream nodes are released and there is

no incoming interface, Z should delete the forwarding state upstream
<X, Y> and send an HSMP-U Label Release message to its upstream node.
Otherwise, no HSMP-U Label Release message will be sent to the
upstream node.

3.5.3. HSMP Root Node Operation

When the root node of an HSMP LSP receives an HSMP-D Label Withdraw
message and an HSMP-U Label Release message, the procedure is the
same as that for transit nodes, except that the root node will not
propagate the Label Withdraw and Label Release upstream (as it has no
upstream).

3.6. HSMP LSP Upstream LSR Change

The procedure for changing the upstream LSR is the same as defined in
Section 2.4.3 of [RFC6388], only with different processing of the FEC
Element.

When the upstream LSR changes from U to U', node Z should set up the
HSMP LSP <X, Y> to U' by applying the procedures in Section 3.4. Z
will also remove the HSMP LSP <X, Y> to U by applying the procedure
in Section 3.5.

To set up an HSMP LSP to U' before/after removing the HSMP LSP to U
is a local matter. The recommended default behavior is to remove
before adding.

3.7. Determining Forwarding Interface

The upstream and downstream LSPs can be co-routed by applying the
procedures below. Both LSR U and LSR D would ensure that the same
interface sends traffic by applying some procedures. For a network
with symmetric IGP cost configuration, the following procedure MAY be
used. To determine the downstream interface, LSR U MUST do a lookup
in the unicast routing table to find the best interface and next hop
to reach LSR D. If the next hop and interface are also advertised by
LSR D via the LDP session, it should be used to transmit the packet
to LSR D. The mechanism to determine the upstream interface is the
same as that used to determine the downstream interface except the
roles of LSR U and LSR D are switched. If symmetric IGP cost could
not be ensured, static route configuration on LSR U and D could also
be a way to ensure a co-routed path.

If a co-routed path is not required for the HSMP LSP, the procedure
defined in Section 2.4.1.2 of [RFC6388] could be applied. LSR U is
free to transmit the packet on any of the interfaces to LSR D. The
algorithm it uses to choose a particular interface is a local matter.

   The mechanism to determine the upstream interface is the same as that
   used to determine the downstream interface.

4. HSMP LSP on a LAN

   The procedure to process the downstream HSMP LSP on a LAN is much the
   same as for a downstream MP2MP LSP as described in Section 6.1.1 of
   [RFC6388].

   When establishing the downstream path of an HSMP LSP, as defined in
   [RFC6389], a Label Request message for an LSP label is sent to the
   upstream LSR. The upstream LSR should send a Label Mapping message
   that contains the LSP label for the downstream HSMP FEC and the
   upstream LSR context label defined in [RFC5331]. When the LSR
   forwards a packet downstream on one of those LSPs, the packet's top
   label must be the "upstream LSR context label" and the packet's
   second label is the "LSP label". The HSMP downstream path will be
   installed in the context-specific forwarding table corresponding to
   the upstream LSR label. Packets sent by the upstream LSR can be
   forwarded downstream using this forwarding state based on a two-label
   lookup.

   The upstream path of an HSMP LSP on a LAN is the same as the one on
   other kinds of links. That is, the upstream LSR must send a Label
   Mapping message that contains the LSP label for the upstream HSMP FEC
   to the downstream node. Packets traveling upstream need to be
   forwarded in the direction of the root by using the label allocated
   for the upstream HSMP FEC.

5. Redundancy Considerations

   In some scenarios, it is necessary to provide two root nodes for
   redundancy purposes. One way to implement this is to use two
   independent HSMP LSPs acting as active and standby. At a given time,
   only one HSMP LSP will be active; the other will be standby. After
   detecting the failure of the active HSMP LSP, the root and leaf nodes
   will switch the traffic to the standby HSMP LSP, which takes on the
   role as active HSMP LSP. The details of the redundancy mechanism are
   out of the scope of this document.

6. Failure Detection of HSMP LSP

   The idea of LSP ping for HSMP LSPs could be expressed as an intention
   to test the LSP Ping Echo Request packets that enter at the root
   along a particular downstream path of HSMP LSP and that end their
   MPLS path on the leaf. The leaf node then sends the LSP Ping Echo
   Reply along the upstream path of HSMP LSP, and it ends on the root
   that is the (intended) root node.

New sub-TLVs have been assigned by IANA in Target FEC Stack TLV and Reverse-path Target FEC Stack TLV to define the corresponding HSMP-downstream FEC type and HSMP-upstream FEC type. In order to ensure that the leaf node sends the LSP Ping Echo Reply along the HSMP upstream path, the R flag (Validate Reverse Path) in the Global Flags field defined in [RFC6426] is reused here.

The node-processing mechanism of LSP Ping Echo Request and Echo Reply for the HSMP LSP is inherited from [RFC6425] and Section 3.4 of [RFC6426], except for the following:

1. The root node sending the LSP Ping Echo Request message for the HSMP LSP MUST attach the Target FEC Stack TLV with the HSMP-downstream FEC type, and set the R flag to '1' in the Global Flags field.

2. When the leaf node receives the LSP Ping Echo Request, it MUST send the LSP Ping Echo Reply to the associated HSMP upstream path. The Reverse-path Target FEC Stack TLV attached by the leaf node in the Echo Reply message SHOULD contain the sub-TLV of the associated HSMP-upstream FEC.

7. Security Considerations

The same security considerations apply as for the MP2MP LSP described in [RFC6388] and [RFC6425].

Although this document introduces new FEC Elements and corresponding procedures, the protocol does not bring any new security issues beyond those in [RFC6388] and [RFC6425].

8. IANA Considerations

8.1. New LDP FEC Element Types

Two new LDP FEC Element types have been allocated from the "Label Distribution Protocol (LDP) Parameters" registry, under "Forwarding Equivalence Class (FEC) Type Name Space":

1. the HSMP-upstream FEC type - 9

2. the HSMP-downstream FEC type - 10

The values have been allocated from the "IETF Consensus" [RFC5226] range (0-127).

8.2. HSMP LSP Capability TLV

   One new code point has been allocated for the HSMP LSP capability TLV
   from "Label Distribution Protocol (LDP) Parameters" registry, under
   "TLV Type Name Space":

   HSMP LSP Capability Parameter - 0x0902

   The value has been allocated from the"IETF Consensus" range
   (0x0901-0x3DFF).

8.3. New Sub-TLVs for the Target Stack TLV

   Two new sub-TLV types have been allocated for inclusion within the
   LSP ping [RFC4379] Target FEC Stack TLV (TLV type 1), Reverse-path
   Target FEC Stack TLV (TLV type 16), and Reply Path TLV (TLV type 21).

   o the HSMP-upstream LDP FEC Stack - 29

   o the HSMP-downstream LDP FEC Stack - 30

   The value has been allocated from the "IETF Standards Action" range
   (0-16383) that is used for mandatory and optional sub-TLVs that
   requires a response if not understood.

9. Acknowledgements

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   comments.

10. References

10.1. Normative References

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