Abstract

This document defines an information model for the I2RS Filter-based Routing Information Base (RIB) Yang model. A routing system uses the Filter-based RIB to program FIB entries that process incoming packets by matching on multiple fields within the packet and then performing a specified action on it. The FB-RIB can also specify an action to forward the packet according to the FIB entries programmed using the RIBs of its routing instance.
The Interface to the Routing System (I2RS) architecture provides dynamic read and write access to the information and state within the routing elements. The I2RS client interacts with the I2RS agent in one or more network routing systems.

This document provides an information module for the I2RS filter Based Routing Information Base (FB-RIB) and describes the I2RS interaction with routing filters within a routing element.
1.1. Definition of I2RS Filter Based RIB

Filter-based routing is a technique used to make packet forwarding decisions based on a filter that is matched to the incoming packets and the specified action. It should be noted that this is distinct from the static routes in the RIB [I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-info-model] where the routing is destination address based.

A Filter-Based RIB (Routing Information Base) is contained in a routing instance (defined in [I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-info-model]). It contains a list of filters (match-action conditions), a list of interface the filter-based forwarding operates on. Filter-based RIBs (FB-RIBs) operate only on the interface the FB-RIB are configured on.

A Filter Based RIB uses Event-Condition-Action policy. A Filter-based RIB entry specifies matches on fields in a packet (which may include layer 2 fields, IP header fields, transport or application fields) or size of the packet or interface received on. The matches are contained in an ordered list of filters which contain pairs of match condition-action (aka event-condition-action).

If all matches fail, default action is to forward the packet using FIB entries that were programmed by the Routing Informational Base (RIB) manager described in [I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-info-model].

Actions in the condition-action pair may impact forwarding or set something in the packet that will impact forwarding. Policy actions are typically applied before applying QoS constraints since policy actions may override QoS constraint.

The Filter-Based RIB resides in ephemeral state as does the I2RS RIB and I2RS topology models.

1.2. ECA Policy Supported

The filter based-RIB uses event-condition-action policy (ECA) rules. The following policies are used in this version of the yang module:

- Access lists (ACLs) [I-D.ietf-netmod-acl-model]
- Basic network filters [I-D.hares-i2rs-bnp-info-model]

Proprietary filters may augment these IETF defined ECA rules. The IETF filters support basic filtering plus QoS and load balancing. Below is an example set of match conditions on ingressI2RS that the basic I2RS FB-RIB can support.
Ingress filter Matches (for ECA policy)

|       |        |         |     |      |    |     |
|-------+--------+--+------+-----+------+----+-----+
L3-Header L2-header L4-header VLAN VN ID size event ...

Figure 1: Possible matching conditions for basic network filters

1.3. I2RS Use Cases Supported by Filter-Based RIB

The I2RS use cases which benefit from Filter-Based Routing are:

- Protocol independent Use cases and large flow use cases described in [I-D.hares-i2rs-usecase-reqs-summary].

- The use cases of steering traffic to their designated service functions that are different than the packet’s destinations, and

- Large flow use cases described in [I-D.hares-i2rs-usecase-reqs-summary]

2. Definitions and Acronyms

CLI

Command Line Interface

FB-RIB

Filter-Based Routing Information Base

FB-Route

The policy rules in the filter-based RIB are prescriptive of the Event-Condition-Action form which is often represented by if Condition then action".

Policy Group

Policy Groups are groups of policy rules. The groups of policy in the basic network policy [I-D.hares-i2rs-bnp-info-model] allow grouping of policy by name. This name allow easier management of customer-based or provider based filters.

RIB IM
RIB Informational Model (RIB IM) [I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-info-model]

Routing instance

A routing instance, in the context of the FB-FIB is a collection of RIBs, interfaces, and routing parameters. A routing instance creates a logical slice of the router and allows different logical slices; across a set of routers; to communicate with each other.

3. Filter-Based-RIB module

A Filter-Based RIB (FB-RIB) contains an ordered set of filter routes where each filter-route is a match condition followed by an action. An FB-RIB is contained in a routing-instance that is defined in [I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-info-model] and whose data modelling is done in [I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-data-model]. An FB-RIB has a list of interfaces that is a subset of the list of interfaces in the routing-instance that it is contained in. An incoming packet on an interface belonging to a FB-RIB is first handled by the FIB programmed using that FB-RIB. If no match action succeeds, then the packet is forwarded using the FIB programmed using the RIB of that routing instance.

An ordered set of filters implies that the insertion of a filter route into a FB-RIB MUST provide the ability to insert a filter route at any specific position and delete of a filter-based route at a specific position. The ability to change a filter route at a specific position combines these two functions (delete an existing filter route rule and add a new policy rule).

Each FB-RIB is contained within a routing instance, but one routing instance (named by an INSTANCE_NAME) can contain multiple FB-RIBs. Each routing instance is associated with a set of interfaces, a router-id, and list of FB-RIBs. Each interface can be associated with at most one FB RIB.

The processing within the FB-RIB process within the routing system is expected to do the following:

- When a packet successfully matches match term/entry in a filter-route, the corresponding rule-actions are applied.

- If a packet does not match the match term/entry in the filter route, the filter route processing goes to the next term/entry in the order, and looks for a match, within the current filter or goes to the next filter in the list. This continues until either a filter route match term/entry is successfully matched, or no more filters in the list exists.
If no match has been found within list of filters in FB-RIB list, then the packet will be forwarded using the I2RS RIB specified by the FB-RIB if one exists. If no I2RS RIB is specified, the packet will be discarded.

Figure 2: Routing instance with FB-RIB
Policy definitions

ACL types:
Policy level access-lists
  group level: access_lists: access-list-entries
  rule level:  access_lists: access-list-entries:
              access-list-entry

BNP QOS
Policy level: bnp-eca: bnp-policy-set
  group level: bnp-eca: bnp-policy-set:rule-group-list:rule-group
  rule level:  bnp-eca: bnp-policy-set:rule-group-list:rule-group
              policy-rule-list: policy-rule

Note: The ACL policy definitions do not provide sufficient depth for the I2RS Filter RIB, but are provided here for early implementations.

Figure 3

3.1. FB-RIB entries

The FB-RIB entries associated with each FB-RIB in a routing instance are:

  instance-name (FB-FIB-instance-name)

    Name of Routing instance

  router-id (FB-RIB-router-id)

    router id associated with the FB-RIB function of the Routing instance

  Interface_list (FB-RIB-interface)

    A list of interfaces that all of the FB-RIB RIBs operate over. This list must be a subset of the interface_list associated with the routing instance.

Default RIB

A RIB contained in the same routing instance that can be used to forward packets when the FIB entries in the FB-RIB list do not match the packets. This Default-RIB forwards based on destination based routing.
FB-RIB Order list of policy (FB-FIB-O-Filters)

ordered list of filter rules of the form in
[I-D.hares-i2rs-bnp-info-model]

The Top-level Yang structure for the FB-RIB is:

module: FB-RIB
  +--FB-RIB-module
    +--rw FB-RIB-instance-name
    +--rw RB-RIB-router-id
      |       uses rt:router-id
    +--rw FB-RIB* [rib-name]
      |       +--rw rib-Name
      |       +--rw rib-afi
      |       +--rw fb-rib-intf* if:interface-ref
      |       +--rw default-I2RS-RIB
      |          +--Rib-name
      |          |       uses i2rs-rib:name
      |          +--rw fb-rib-status-info
      |          +--rw fb-rib-update-ref uint64
      +--rw fb-rib-Group*
        |       +--rw filter-type // for group
        |       +--rw order-number // for group
        |          + choice (filter-type)
        |             +--case: acl
        |                |       uses: acl: access_lists: access-list-entries
        |                |          // operational status augment to group
        |                |          augments: access_lists: access-list-entries
        |                |          uses fb-rib-group-order_status;
        |          // operational status augment to individual ACL
        |          augments: access_lists: access-list-entries:
        |              access-list-entry
        |              uses fb-rib-rule-order-status;
        +--case: bnp-eca Rules
        uses bnp-eca: bnp-policy-set
        augments bnp-eca:bnp-policy-set:group-list:group
        uses fb-rib-group-order_status
        augment bnp-eca:bnp-policy-set:group-list:group:rule
        uses fb-rib-rule-order_status

Figure 4: FB RIB Yang Structure
3.2. Relationship between RB-RIB Rule Model and RIB Information Model

The I2RS RIB module is described in [I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-info-model] and [I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-data-model]. The I2RS RIB contains a collection of RIBs with the following information per instance:

- The set of interfaces indicates which interfaces are associated with this routing instance.
- The RIBs specify how incoming traffic is to be forwarded based on destination (E.g. RIB and FB-RIB).
- The routing parameters control the information in the RIBs.

A routing instance may have both an I2RS RIB modules and I2RS FB-FIB modules associated with it.

FB-RIB and RIB can not be used at the same time, which means:

- If a router doesn’t support filter-based routing, a router MUST use RIB and MUST not use FB-RIB.
- If a router supports filter-based routing:
  * FB-RIB is used
  * Multiple FB-RIBs may exist within a routing instance
  * An interface can be associated with at most one FB-RIB
  * The Default RIB for a FB-RIB is used if several criteria beyond destination address is not matched.

4. IANA Considerations

TBD.

5. Security Considerations

A I2RS RIB is ephemeral data store that will dynamically change traffic paths set by the routing configuration. An I2RS FB-RIB provides dynamic Event-Condition-Action policy that will further change the operation of forwarding by allow dynamic policy and ephemeral RIBs to alter the traffic paths set by routing configuration. Care must be taken in deployments to use the appropriate security and operational control to make use of the tools the I2RS RIB and I2RS FB-RIB provide.
6. References

6.1. Normative References:

[I-D.hares-i2rs-bnp-info-model]

[I-D.ietf-i2rs-architecture]

[I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-data-model]

[I-D.ietf-i2rs-rib-info-model]

[I-D.ietf-netmod-acl-model]

6.2. Informative References

[I-D.hares-i2rs-usecase-reqs-summary]

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