

# Using SNMP to Find a Port Number from a MAC Address on a Catalyst Switch

Document ID: 44800

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## Introduction

This document describes how to use Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) to obtain the port number on a Cisco Catalyst switch from which you know the MAC address.

## Prerequisites

### Requirements

Readers of this document should have knowledge of these topics:

- How to get VLANs from a Catalyst switch with use of SNMP
- How to use community string indexing with SNMP
- General use of the SNMP **get** command and **walk** command

### Components Used

This document applies to Catalyst switches that run regular Catalyst OS (CatOS) or Cisco IOS® Software. The software supports the BRIDGE-MIB and the IF-MIB.

The information in this document is based on these software and hardware versions:

- Catalyst 3524XL that runs Cisco IOS Software Release 12.0(5)WC5a
- Net-SNMP version 5.0.6

**Note:** To obtain this software, refer to Net-SNMP .

The information in this document was created from the devices in a specific lab environment. All of the devices used in this document started with a cleared (default) configuration. If your network is live, make sure that you understand the potential impact of any command.

## Conventions

For more information on document conventions, refer to the Cisco Technical Tips Conventions.

## Background

For more information on how to query the content-addressable memory (CAM) table, VLANs, and all related MIBs, such as the CISCO-VTP-MIB and the BRIDGE-MIB, refer to the *Background* section of the document How To Get Dynamic CAM Entries (CAM Table) for Catalyst Switches Using SNMP.

## Details of the MIB Variables, Which Includes Object Identifiers (OIDs)

```
.1.3.6.1.2.1.17.4.3.1.1
dotldTpFdbAddress OBJECT-TYPE
    -- FROM BRIDGE-MIB
    -- TEXTUAL CONVENTION MacAddress
    SYNTAX          OCTET STRING (6)
    MAX-ACCESS      read-only
    STATUS          Mandatory
    DESCRIPTION     "A unicast MAC address for which the bridge has forwarding
                    and/or filtering information."
 ::= { iso(1) org(3) dod(6) internet(1) mgmt(2) mib-2(1) dotldBridge(17) dotldTp(4)
 dotldTpFdbTable(3) dotldTpFdbEntry(1) 1 }

.1.3.6.1.2.1.17.4.3.1.2
dotldTpFdbPort OBJECT-TYPE
    -- FROM BRIDGE-MIB
    SYNTAX          Integer
    MAX-ACCESS      read-only
    STATUS          Mandatory
    DESCRIPTION     "Either the value "0", or the port number of the port on which
                    a frame having a source
                    address equal to the value of the corresponding instance of
                    dotldTpFdbAddress has been seen.
                    A value of "0" indicates that the port number has not been learned,
                    but that the bridge does
                    have some forwarding/filtering information about this address (that is,
                    in the StaticTable).
                    Implementors are encouraged to assign the port value to this
                    object whenever it is
                    learned, even for addresses for which the corresponding value of
                    dotldTpFdbStatus is not learned(3)."
```

```
 ::= { iso(1) org(3) dod(6) internet(1) mgmt(2) mib-2(1) dotldBridge(17) dotldTp(4)
 dotldTpFdbTable(3) dotldTpFdbEntry(1) 2 }

.1.3.6.1.2.1.2.2.1.1
ifIndex OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX          InterfaceIndex
    MAX-ACCESS      read-only
    STATUS          current
    DESCRIPTION     "A unique value, greater than zero, for each interface. It
                    is recommended that values are assigned contiguously
                    starting from 1. The value for each interface sub-layer
                    must remain constant at least from one re-initialization of
                    the entity's network management system to the next re-
                    initialization."
```

```
 ::= { ifEntry 1 }

.1.3.6.1.2.1.17.1.4.1.2
dotldBasePortIfIndex OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX          INTEGER
    ACCESS          read-only
```

```

STATUS mandatory
DESCRIPTION
    "The value of the instance of the ifIndex object,
    defined in MIB-II, for the interface corresponding
    to this port."
 ::= { dot1dBasePortEntry 2 }

.1.3.6.1.2.1.31.1.1.1.1
ifName OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX      DisplayString
    MAX-ACCESS  read-only
    STATUS      current
    DESCRIPTION "The textual name of the interface. The value of this
    object should be the name of the interface as assigned by
    the local device and should be suitable for use in commands
    entered at the device's `console'. This might be a text
    name, such as `le0' or a simple port number, such as `1',
    depending on the interface naming syntax of the device. If
    several entries in the ifTable together represent a single
    interface as named by the device, then each will have the
    same value of ifName. Note that for an agent which responds
    to SNMP queries concerning an interface on some other
    (proxied) device, then the value of ifName for such an
    interface is the proxied device's local name for it.
    If there is no local name, or this object is otherwise not
    applicable, then this object contains a zero-length string."
 ::= { ifXEntry 1 }

```

## Get the Port Number on Which a MAC Address Has Been Learned

### Step-by-Step Instructions

Complete the steps in this section in order to use SNMP to get the port number on which a MAC address has been learned. Consider that the port number is in VLAN1.

**Note:** In the commands in this section:

- **public** is the read community string.
- **@1** is the VLAN 1 part of the read community string.
- **crumpy** is the device host name.

**Note:** You can also use the IP address for this host name.

**Note:** The Conclusion section uses the values that appear in *italics* in the command output.

1. Retrieve the VLANs. Use the **snmpwalk** command on the vtpVlanState object (.1.3.6.1.4.1.9.9.46.1.3.1.1.2):

```

%snmpwalk -c public crumpy .1.3.6.1.4.1.9.9.46.1.3.1.1.2
CISCO-VTP-MIB::vtpVlanState.1.1 = INTEGER: operational(1)
CISCO-VTP-MIB::vtpVlanState.1.3 = INTEGER: operational(1)
CISCO-VTP-MIB::vtpVlanState.1.7 = INTEGER: operational(1)
CISCO-VTP-MIB::vtpVlanState.1.10 = INTEGER: operational(1)
...

```

**Note:** This command uses community string indexing. The command also uses vtpVlanState, which has OID .1.3.6.1.4.1.9.9.46.1.3.1.1.2. If you have loaded the MIBs to your network management system (NMS), you can use the object name instead of the OID. Issue this command

instead:

```
%snmpwalk -c public@1 crumpy vtpVlanState
```

**Note:** You can also use the object names in steps 2 through 6.

2. Issue this command in order to obtain the MAC address table by considering that the port belongs to VLAN1:

```
snmpwalk -c public@1 crumpy .1.3.6.1.2.1.17.4.3.1.1  
  
17.4.3.1.1.0.0.12.7.172.8 = Hex: 00 00 0C 07 AC 08  
17.4.3.1.1.0.1.2.27.80.145 = Hex: 00 01 02 1B 50 91  
17.4.3.1.1.0.1.3.72.77.90 = Hex: 00 01 03 48 4D 5A  
17.4.3.1.1.0.1.3.72.221.191 = Hex: 00 01 03 48 DD BF  
...
```

**Note:** Provide the appropriate VLAN number after the community string. In this example, it is VLAN1.

The command lists all MAC addresses that have been learned on all ports that belong to VLAN 1.

3. Issue this command to determine the bridge port number for VLAN 1:

```
snmpwalk -c public@1 crumpy .1.3.6.1.2.1.17.4.3.1.2  
  
17.4.3.1.2.0.0.12.7.172.8 = 13  
17.4.3.1.2.0.1.2.27.80.128 = 13  
17.4.3.1.2.0.1.2.27.80.145 = 13  
17.4.3.1.2.0.1.2.163.145.225 = 13  
...
```

**Note:** VLAN 1 is dot1dTpFdbPort, or .1.3.6.1.2.1.17.4.3.1.2.

4. Issue this command to map the bridge port to the ifIndex, OID .1.3.6.1.2.1.2.2.1.1:

```
snmpwalk -c public@1 crumpy .1.3.6.1.2.1.17.1.4.1.2  
  
17.1.4.1.2.13 = 2  
17.1.4.1.2.14 = 3  
17.1.4.1.2.15 = 4  
17.1.4.1.2.16 = 5
```

This command queries the dot1dBasePortIfIndex, which has OID .1.3.6.1.2.1.17.1.4.1.2.

5. Use the **walk** command with ifName in order to correlate the ifIndex value with a correct port name.

Issue this command:

**Note:** The ifName has OID .1.3.6.1.2.1.31.1.1.1.1.

```
snmpwalk -c public@1 crumpy .1.3.6.1.2.1.31.1.1.1.1  
  
ifMIB.ifMIBObjects.ifXTable.ifXEntry.ifName.1 = VL1  
ifMIB.ifMIBObjects.ifXTable.ifXEntry.ifName.2 = Fa0/1  
ifMIB.ifMIBObjects.ifXTable.ifXEntry.ifName.3 = Fa0/2  
ifMIB.ifMIBObjects.ifXTable.ifXEntry.ifName.4 = Fa0/3  
ifMIB.ifMIBObjects.ifXTable.ifXEntry.ifName.5 = Fa0/4  
ifMIB.ifMIBObjects.ifXTable.ifXEntry.ifName.6 = Fa0/5  
ifMIB.ifMIBObjects.ifXTable.ifXEntry.ifName.7 = Fa0/6  
...
```

6. Link a MAC address to the port on which the address was learned.

◆ From Step 1, the MAC address is:

17.4.3.1.1.0.0.12.7.172.8 = Hex: 00 00 0C 07 AC 08

- ◆ From Step 2, the bridge port tells that the MAC address belongs to bridge port number 13:

17.4.3.1.2.0.0.12.7.172.8 = 13

- ◆ From Step 3, the bridge port number 13 has ifIndex number 2:

17.1.4.1.2.13 = 2

- ◆ From Step 4, the ifIndex 2 corresponds to port Fast Ethernet 0/1:

ifMIB.ifMIBObjects.ifXTable.ifXEntry.ifName.2 = Fa0/1

## Conclusion

The MAC address 00 00 0C 07 AC 08 is learned on port Fa0/1.

Compare this conclusion with output from:

- The **show cam dynamic** command for CatOS switches
- The **show mac** command for Cisco IOS Software switches

Here is the sample output:

```
crumpy# show mac
Dynamic Address Count:          58
Secure Address Count:           2
Static Address (User-defined) Count: 0
System Self Address Count:      51
Total MAC addresses:            111
Maximum MAC addresses:          8192
Non-static Address Table:
Destination Address  Address Type  VLAN  Destination Port
-----
0000.0c07.ac08      Dynamic      1     FastEthernet0/1
0001.021b.5091      Dynamic      1     FastEthernet0/1
0001.0348.4d5a      Dynamic      1     FastEthernet0/1
0001.0348.ddbf      Dynamic      1     FastEthernet0/1
0001.972d.dfae      Dynamic      1     FastEthernet0/1
0002.55c6.cfe7      Dynamic      1     FastEthernet0/1
0002.7d61.d400      Dynamic      1     FastEthernet0/1
&
```

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## Related Information

- [SNMP Object Navigator](#)
- [Technical Support & Documentation – Cisco Systems](#)

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Updated: Oct 26, 2005

Document ID: 44800

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