



# Configuring Ethernet Dataplane Loopback

Ethernet data plane loopback provides a means for remotely testing the throughput of an Ethernet port.

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## Information on Ethernet Data Plane Loopback

The Ethernet data plane loopback feature provides a means for remotely testing the throughput of an Ethernet port. You can verify the maximum rate of frame transmission with no frame loss. This feature allows for bidirectional or unidirectional throughput measurement, and on-demand/out-of-service (intrusive) operation during service turn-up. This feature supports two types of Ethernet loopback. RSP3 supports the following types of loopback from Cisco IOS XE Everest 16.5.1 release.

- Facility loopback (external)—Traffic loopback occurs at the Ingress interface. Traffic does not flow into the router for loopback.
- Terminal loopback (internal)—Traffic loopback occurs at the Egress interface. Traffic loopback occurs after the traffic flows into the router to the other interface.

## QoS Support for Ethernet Data Plane Loopback

- Ingress QoS is bypassed in external loopback on service instances.
- Internal loopback sequence is as follows:
  - Ingress QoS
  - Egress QoS (egress port) (both, shaper and policer are supported).
  - Ingress QoS on ingress port and egress QoS on egress port (both, shaper and policer are supported) on the RSP3 module.
  - Ingress QoS on egress port and egress QoS on ingress port on the RSP3 module.

- All port-level and EFP-level QoS is applicable for internal Ethernet data plane loopback.
- For external Ethernet data plane loopback:
  - All port-level and EFP-level QoS is bypassed except for shaper.
  - Port-level shaper cannot be bypassed.

## Restrictions for Ethernet Data Plane Loopback on Physical Interfaces

- Data plane loopback on routed port infrastructure is *not* supported.
- Etype, src-mac, and llc-oui based loopback traffic filtering is *not* supported.
- Port-level QoS is *not* bypassed.
- Port shaper cannot be bypassed in facility loopback.
- Facility and terminal Ethernet data plane loopback (ELB) are *not* supported on dot1ad nni interface.
- Internal loopback sessions configured must be within the 1 GB reserved bandwidth for Cisco ASR 900 Series RSP2 Module.
- A maximum number of 20 facility loopback sessions can be created per system, provided 16 sessions are with Dot1Q and 4 sessions are with Dot1Q and destination MAC address. This scale reduces if SPAN or RSPAN is configured. This scale is supported on the Cisco ASR 900 Series RSP2 module.
- A maximum number of 12 terminal loopback sessions can be created per system, provided 8 sessions are with Dot1Q and 4 sessions are with Dot1Q and destination MAC address. This scale reduces if RSPAN or SADT is configured. This scale is supported on the Cisco ASR 900 Series RSP2 module.
- Only one Ethernet loopback (terminal or facility) session can be active on an EFP at any instance.
- Local SPAN and ELB cannot be enabled on a physical interface at the same time.
- Loopback sessions cannot be initiated on a port configured with SPAN or RSPAN.
- Ethernet loopback is not supported on a range of dot1q tags.
- Ethernet Data Plane Loopback is affected on STP enabled interface.
- Dynamic addition of rewrite ingress tags with default EFP is not supported.
- Dynamic changes at EFP and interface level are not supported when Ethernet Data Plane Loopback is active.
- Egress EFP is not updated for external Ethernet data plane loopback statistics.
- For internal Ethernet data plane loopback ingress and egress interface statistics are not updated on interface, where internal ELB is enabled.
- If traffic is more than 650Mbps and if the packet size is less than a frame size of 64, then BFD and OSPF flaps are expected.

- Starting from Cisco IOS XE Cupertino Release 17.7.1, SADT is *not* supported over EFP with untagged VLAN.

## RSP3 Module

- Starting from Cisco IOS XE Amsterdam 17.1.x release, the template `sr_5_label_push_enable` is not supported with Ethernet loopback.
- Etype, VLAN, COS, src-mac, and llc-oui based loopback traffic filtering is *not* supported.
- Port-based ELB is *not* supported. Ethernet loopback sessions are supported only on EFPs and Trunk EFPs on the RSP3 module.
- Internal ELB is *not* supported when the physical interface port state is down.
- Data filtering of loopback is *not* enforced for the traffic coming in the opposite direction.
- Filtering based on specific VLAN is *not* supported. ELB is applicable to all the VLANs configured in EFP on the RSP3 module.
- Random unknown IP packets may be looped back with MAC address swap, but RSP3 module does *not* support IP address swap. If the packet has a destination MAC address and a destination IP address similar to the BDI MAC and IP address, then the packet is punted and is *not* looped back. The L3 packets that must be routed is also *not* looped back. Hence, dscp/prec marking with ELB is *not* supported.
- Traffic to TEF, which is not part of BDI or CFM, is looped back based on filters. But traffic to TEF with VLAN which is part of BDI or CFM, is *not* looped back on the RSP3 module. This is applicable for both types of Ethernet data plane loopback.
- All packets with broadcast or multicast destination MAC is *not* qualified for ELB, hence such packets will *not* be looped back on the RSP3 module.
- Three-level HQOS shaper/policer *not* supported with ELB.
- Dot1Q filter is *not* supported.
- Internal loopback sessions configured must be within the 100 GB reserved recycle bandwidth.
- MAC-ACL *cannot* be bypassed in with facility loopback.
- A maximum number of 20 facility loopback and 12 terminal loopback sessions are supported.
- When the "bdi\_mtu" template is enabled on the RSP3 router, ELB will not be able to support facility loopback.

# How to Configure Ethernet Data Plane Loopback on Physical Interfaces

## Enabling Ethernet Data Plane Loopback on Physical Interfaces

Table 1: Feature History

Feature Name	Release Information	Feature Description
EDPL support on dot1ad	Cisco IOS XE Cupertino 17.8.1	This feature enables configuration of Ethernet Data Plane Loopback on interfaces configured with 802.1ad encapsulation. This helps measure the interface throughput handling encapsulated traffic.

```
enable
configure terminal
interface gigabitEthernet 0/2/1
service instance 1 ethernet
encapsulation dot1ad 101 dot1q 100
bridge-domain 120
ethernet loopback permit external
end
```



**Note** ELB is supported using a MAC filter for UP-MEP session. If you are starting ELB without the MAC filter, the UP-MEP session will go DOWN.

## Starting an Ethernet Data Plane Loopback Session on Physical Interfaces



**Note** To start a loopback for untagged and default EFPs, dot1q and second-dot1q are not needed. Dot1q is *not* applicable to start a loopback session on the RSP3 module.



**Note** By default the session would be running for 300 seconds unless you explicitly specify and automatically stops after the session time expiry.

```
enable
configure terminal
ethernet loopback start local interface gigabitEthernet 0/4/1 service instance 10 external
dot1q 10 cos 1 destination mac-address 0000.0000.0001 timeout none
end
This is an intrusive loopback and the packets matched with the service will not be able
```

```
to pass through.
Continue? (yes/[no]): yes
```

Dot1q and COS-based filtering is not supported on the RSP3 module.

```
enable
configure terminal
ethernet loopback start local interface gigabitEthernet 0/4/1 service instance 10 external
  destination mac-address 0000.0000.0001 timeout none
end
```

## Stopping an Active Session on Physical Interfaces

Use the **ethernet loopback stop** command to stop an active session on an interface or to stop all sessions based on the session id.

```
Router# ethernet loopback stop local interface gigabitEthernet 0/4/1 id 1
```

## Configuration Examples

### Example: Configuring External Loopback on Physical Interfaces

This example shows how to configure external (facility) loopback.

```
Router(config)# interface gigabitEthernet 0/4/1
Router(config-if)# service instance 1 ethernet
Router(config-if-srv)# encapsulation dot1q 120
Router(config-if-srv)# bridge-domain 120
Router(config-if-srv)# ethernet loopback permit external
```

This example shows external (facility) loopback on the Gigabit Ethernet 0/4/1 interface:

```
interface GigabitEthernet0/4/1
  no ip address
  negotiation auto
  service instance 10 ethernet
  encapsulation dot1q 10
  rewrite ingress tag pop 1 symmetric
  bridge-domain 10
  ethernet loopback permit external ===? For facility loopback
  !
end
```

This example below shows how to start external (facility) loopback on the router. A warning message is displayed. Type **yes** to continue.

```
Router# ethernet loopback start local interface gigabitEthernet 0/4/1 service instance 10
external dot1q 10 cos 1
  destination mac-address 0000.0000.0001 timeout none
```

```
This is an intrusive loopback and the packets matched with the service will not be able
to pass through.
Continue? (yes/[no]): yes
```



**Note** Dot1q and COS-based filtering is not supported on the RSP3 module.

## Example: Configuring Terminal Loopback on Physical Interfaces

This example shows how to configure internal (terminal) loopback.

```
Router(config)# interface gigabitEthernet 0/0/0
Router(config-if)# service instance 1 ethernet
Router(config-if-srv)# encapsulation dot1q 120
Router(config-if-srv)# bridge-domain 120
Router(config-if-srv)# ethernet loopback permit internal
```

This example shows internal (terminal) loopback on Gigabit Ethernet 0/0/0 interface:

```
interface TenGigabitEthernet0/0/0
no ip address
service instance 10 ethernet
 encapsulation dot1q 10
 rewrite ingress tag pop 1 symmetric
 bridge-domain 10
 ethernet loopback permit internal
!
end
```

## Verifying Ethernet Data Plane Loopback

### Example: Verifying Ethernet Dataplane Loopback on Physical Interfaces

Use the **show ethernet loopback {active | permitted} [interface interface number]** command.

- The following example displays the loopback capabilities per interface. The output shows internal (terminal) loopback has been permitted on Ten Gigabit Ethernet 0/0/0 interface and external (facility) loopback has been permitted on Gigabit Ethernet 0/4/1 interface.

```
Router# show ethernet loopback permitted
```

```
-----
Interface                               SrvcInst Direction
Dot1q/Dot1ad(s)                         Second-Dot1q(s)
-----
Te0/0/0                                  10              Internal
10
Gi0/4/1                                  10              External
10
```

- This example shows all active sessions on the router.

```
Router# show ethernet loopback active
```

```
=====
Loopback Session ID      : 1
Interface                 : GigabitEthernet0/4/1
Service Instance         : 10
Direction                 : External
Time out(sec)            : none
```

```

Status                : on
Start time            : 10:31:09.539 IST Mon Aug 26 2013
Time left             : N/A

Second-dot1q(s)      :
Source Mac Address    : Any
Destination Mac Address : 0000.0000.0001
Ether Type            : Any
Class of service      : 1
Llc-oui               : Any

Total Active Session(s) : 1
Total Internal Session(s) : 0
Total External Session(s) : 1

```

- This example shows how to stop the sessions on the router.

```

Router# ethernet loopback stop local interface GigabitEthernet
0/4/1 id 1

```

## Support for Ethernet Data Plane Loopback on Bundle Interface

**Table 2: Feature History**

Feature Name	Release Information	Feature Description
Support for Ethernet Data Plane Loopback on Bundle Interface	Cisco IOS XE Cupertino 17.8.1	This feature enables ethernet data plane loopback on bundle interfaces. You can also configure the feature when the router is not physically connected and the port is in down state.  This feature is only applicable on internal or terminal loopback in up or down state.

Bundle interface or a link bundle is a group of one or more ports that are aggregated together and treated as a single link. This allows you to group multiple point-to-point links together into one logical link and provide higher bidirectional bandwidth, redundancy, and load balancing between two routers. A virtual interface is assigned to the bundled link. The component links can be dynamically added and deleted from the virtual interface. The virtual interface is treated as a single interface on which you can configure an IP address and other software features used by the link bundle. Packets sent to the link bundle are forwarded to one of the links in the bundle.

Bundle interfaces increase bandwidth availability, because traffic is forwarded over all available members of the bundle. Therefore, traffic can if one of the links within a bundle fails. can without interrupting packet flow. The ethernet dataplane loopback feature configured on bundle interfaces provides a methodology to verify the maximum rate of frame transmission with no frame loss.

Prior to Cisco IOS XE Cupertino 17.8.1, you could only configure ethernet data plane loopback on the physical interfaces.

Starting with Cisco IOS XE Cupertino 17.8.1, you can also configure ethernet data plane loopback feature on the bundle interfaces. But, you can only configure internal or terminal loopback in up or down state.

This feature is only supported on Cisco RSP2 module.

### Scenario: Support for Ethernet Dataplane Loopback on Link Down Port

Consider a scenario when you need to configure ethernet dataplane loopback feature before the router is physically connected. Thus, you need to configure the feature when the port link is down. Starting with Cisco IOS XE Cupertino 17.8.1, you can configure the terminal or internal ethernet dataplane loopback feature even when the router is not physically connected and the link is down. But, as this feature is not supported on external or facility loopback, you cannot configure external loopback feature when the port link is down.

A port channel bundles individual interfaces into a group to provide increased bandwidth and redundancy. Previously, the internal ethernet dataplane loopback was not supported on the port channel interface. Starting with Cisco IOS XE Cupertino 17.8.1, you can now configure internal loopback on the port channel interface even when the interface is down.

## Restrictions for Ethernet Dataplane Loopback on Bundle Interface

- The internal ethernet dataplane loopback feature is only available with service instance for port channel interface. It is not available when you configure MPLS or IP or Layer 3 on port channel interface.
- At least one member link must be added to the port channel interface for ethernet dataplane loopback.
- External ethernet loopback session on port channel interface is *not* supported.
- This feature will only function for traffic flow on first member of the port channel.
- You cannot configure the feature when the bundle members are in suspended state.
- The maximum traffic performance of terminal loopback is 1GBPS.

## Configure Ethernet Dataplane Loopback Start Session on Bundle Interface

### 1. Activate Loopback on the EFP

To activate terminal loopback on the EFP:

```
interface Po1
  no ip address
  service instance 10 ethernet
    encapsulation dot1q 10
    rewrite ingress tag pop 1 symmetric
    bridge-domain 10
    ethernet loopback permit internal === For Terminal Loopback
  !
```

### 2. Start Loopback Session

To start a terminal loopback session on bundle interface:

```
R11#ethernet loopback start local in po1 ser ins 2 inte dot1q 2 destination mac-address
3333.0001.0003 tim non
```

This is an intrusive loopback and the packets matched with the service will not be able to pass through. Continue? (yes/[no]): yes



## Configure Ethernet Dataplane Loopback Stop Session on Bundle Interface

### 1. Stop Loopback Session

To stop a terminal loopback session on a bundle interface:

```
R2#ethernet loopback stop local interface po1 id 1
```

### 2. Deactivate Loopback Session on the EFP

To stop the terminal loopback session in the EFP:

```
interface Po1
no ip address
service instance 10 ethernet
encapsulation dot1q 10
rewrite ingress tag pop 1 symmetric
bridge-domain 10
no ethernet loopback permit internal
```

## Verification of Ethernet Dataplane Loopback Configuration on Bundle Interface

Use the **show ethernet loopback active** command to display all active sessions on the router.

```
R11#show ethernet loopback active
=====
Loopback Session ID      : 1
Interface                 : Port-channell
Service Instance         : 2
Direction                 : Internal
Time out(sec)            : none
Status                    : on
Start time                : 10:35:16.940 IST Fri Dec 17 2021
Time left                 : N/A
Dot1q/Dot1ad(s)         : 2
Second-dot1q(s)         :
Source Mac Address       : Any
Destination Mac Address  : 3333.0001.0003
Ether Type                : Any
Class of service         : Any
Llc-oui                  : Any

Total Active Session(s) : 1
Total Internal Session(s) : 1
Total External Session(s) : 0
```

