



Open Shortest Path First (OSPF)

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Information About OSPF

OSPF is an Interior Gateway Protocol (IGP) designed expressly for IP networks, supporting IP subnetting and tagging of externally derived routing information. OSPF also allows packet authentication and uses IP multicast when sending and receiving packets. The Cisco implementation supports RFC 1253, OSPF management information base (MIB).

The Cisco implementation conforms to the OSPF Version 2 specifications with these key features:

- Definition of stub areas is supported.
- Routes learned through any IP routing protocol can be redistributed into another IP routing protocol. At the intradomain level, this means that OSPF can import routes learned through EIGRP and RIP. OSPF routes can also be exported into RIP.
- Plain text and MD5 authentication among neighboring routers within an area is supported.
- Configurable routing interface parameters include interface output cost, retransmission interval, interface transmit delay, router priority, router dead and hello intervals, and authentication key.
- Virtual links are supported.
- Not-so-stubby-areas (NSSAs) per RFC 1587 are supported.

OSPF typically requires coordination among many internal routers, area border routers (ABRs) connected to multiple areas, and autonomous system boundary routers (ASBRs). The minimum configuration would use all default parameter values, no authentication, and interfaces assigned to areas. If you customize your environment, you must ensure coordinated configuration of all routers.

OSPF for Routed Access



Note OSPF is supported in . OSPF for Routed Access supports only one OSPFv2 and one OSPFv3 instance with a combined total of 1000 dynamically learned routes. The image provides OSPF for routed access. However, these restrictions are not enforced in this release.

With the typical topology (hub and spoke) in a campus environment, where the wiring closets (spokes) are connected to the distribution switch (hub) that forwards all nonlocal traffic to the distribution layer, the wiring closet switch need not hold a complete routing table. A best practice design, where the distribution switch sends a default route to the wiring closet switch to reach interarea and external routes (OSPF stub or totally stub area configuration) should be used when OSPF for Routed Access is used in the wiring closet.

For more details, see the “High Availability Campus Network Design—Routed Access Layer using EIGRP or OSPF” document.

OSPF Area Parameters

You can optionally configure several OSPF area parameters. These parameters include authentication for password-based protection against unauthorized access to an area, stub areas, and not-so-stubby-areas (NSSAs). Stub areas are areas into which information on external routes is not sent. Instead, the area border router (ABR) generates a default external route into the stub area for destinations outside the autonomous system (AS). An NSSA does not flood all LSAs from the core into the area, but can import AS external routes within the area by redistribution.

Route summarization is the consolidation of advertised addresses into a single summary route to be advertised by other areas. If network numbers are contiguous, you can use the **area range** router configuration command to configure the ABR to advertise a summary route that covers all networks in the range.

Other OSPF Parameters

You can optionally configure other OSPF parameters in router configuration mode.

- **Route summarization:** When redistributing routes from other protocols. Each route is advertised individually in an external LSA. To help decrease the size of the OSPF link state database, you can use the **summary-address** router configuration command to advertise a single router for all the redistributed routes included in a specified network address and mask.
- **Virtual links:** In OSPF, all areas must be connected to a backbone area. You can establish a virtual link in case of a backbone-continuity break by configuring two Area Border Routers as endpoints of a virtual link. Configuration information includes the identity of the other virtual endpoint (the other ABR) and the nonbackbone link that the two routers have in common (the transit area). Virtual links cannot be configured through a stub area.
- **Default route:** When you specifically configure redistribution of routes into an OSPF routing domain, the route automatically becomes an autonomous system boundary router (ASBR). You can force the ASBR to generate a default route into the OSPF routing domain.
- **Domain Name Server (DNS) names for use in all OSPF **show** privileged EXEC command displays** makes it easier to identify a router than displaying it by router ID or neighbor ID.

- **Default Metrics:** OSPF calculates the OSPF metric for an interface according to the bandwidth of the interface. The metric is calculated as $ref\text{-}bw$ divided by bandwidth, where ref is 10 by default, and bandwidth (bw) is specified by the **bandwidth** interface configuration command. For multiple links with high bandwidth, you can specify a larger number to differentiate the cost on those links.
- **Administrative distance** is a rating of the trustworthiness of a routing information source, an integer between 0 and 255, with a higher value meaning a lower trust rating. An administrative distance of 255 means the routing information source cannot be trusted at all and should be ignored. OSPF uses three different administrative distances: routes within an area (interarea), routes to another area (interarea), and routes from another routing domain learned through redistribution (external). You can change any of the distance values.
- **Passive interfaces:** Because interfaces between two devices on an Ethernet represent only one network segment, to prevent OSPF from sending hello packets for the sending interface, you must configure the sending device to be a passive interface. Both devices can identify each other through the hello packet for the receiving interface.
- **Route calculation timers:** You can configure the delay time between when OSPF receives a topology change and when it starts the shortest path first (SPF) calculation and the hold time between two SPF calculations.
- **Log neighbor changes:** You can configure the router to send a syslog message when an OSPF neighbor state changes, providing a high-level view of changes in the router.

LSA Group Pacing

The OSPF LSA group pacing feature allows the router to group OSPF LSAs and pace the refreshing, check-summing, and aging functions for more efficient router use. This feature is enabled by default with a 4-minute default pacing interval, and you will not usually need to modify this parameter. The optimum group pacing interval is inversely proportional to the number of LSAs the router is refreshing, check-summing, and aging. For example, if you have approximately 10,000 LSAs in the database, decreasing the pacing interval would benefit you. If you have a very small database (40 to 100 LSAs), increasing the pacing interval to 10 to 20 minutes might benefit you slightly.

Loopback Interfaces

OSPF uses the highest IP address configured on the interfaces as its router ID. If this interface is down or removed, the OSPF process must recalculate a new router ID and resend all its routing information out its interfaces. If a loopback interface is configured with an IP address, OSPF uses this IP address as its router ID, even if other interfaces have higher IP addresses. Because loopback interfaces never fail, this provides greater stability. OSPF automatically prefers a loopback interface over other interfaces, and it chooses the highest IP address among all loopback interfaces.

How to Configure OSPF

Default OSPF Configuration

Table 1: Default OSPF Configuration

Feature	Default Setting
Interface parameters	Cost: Retransmit interval: 5 seconds. Transmit delay: 1 second. Priority: 1. Hello interval: 10 seconds. Dead interval: 4 times the hello interval. No authentication. No password specified. MD5 authentication disabled.
Area	Authentication type: 0 (no authentication). Default cost: 1. Range: Disabled. Stub: No stub area defined. NSSA: No NSSA area defined.
Auto cost	100 Mb/s.
Default-information originate	Disabled. When enabled, the default metric setting is 10, and the external route type is Type 2.
Default metric	Built-in, automatic metric translation, as appropriate for each routing protocol.
Distance OSPF	dist1 (all routes within an area): 110. dist2 (all routes from one area to another): 110. dist3 (routes from other routing domains): 110.
OSPF database filter	Disabled. All outgoing link-state advertisements (LSAs) are flooded to the interface.
IP OSPF name lookup	Disabled.
Log adjacency changes	Enabled.
Neighbor	None specified.
Neighbor database filter	Disabled. All outgoing LSAs are flooded to the neighbor.
Network area	Disabled.

Feature	Default Setting
Router ID	No OSPF routing process defined.
Summary address	Disabled.
Timers LSA group pacing	240 seconds.
Timers shortest path first (spf)	spf delay: 5 seconds.; spf-holdtime: 10 seconds.
Virtual link	No area ID or router ID defined. Hello interval: 10 seconds. Retransmit interval: 5 seconds. Transmit delay: 1 second. Dead interval: 40 seconds. Authentication key: no key predefined. Message-digest key (MD5): no key predefined.

Configuring Basic OSPF Parameters

To enable OSPF, create an OSPF routing process, specify the range of IP addresses to associate with the routing process, and assign area IDs to be associated with that range.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	configure terminal Example: Device# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	router ospf <i>process-id</i> Example: Device(config)# router ospf 15	Enables OSPF routing, and enter router configuration mode. The process ID is an internally used identification parameter that is locally assigned and can be any positive integer. Each OSPF routing process has a unique value. Note OSPF for Routed Access supports only one OSPFv2 and one OSPFv3 instance with a maximum number of 1000 dynamically learned routes.
Step 3	network <i>address wildcard-mask area area-id</i> Example:	Define an interface on which OSPF runs and the area ID for that interface. You can use the wildcard-mask to use a single command to

	Command or Action	Purpose
	Device(config-router)# network 10.1.1.1 255.240.0.0 area 20	define one or more multiple interfaces to be associated with a specific OSPF area. The area ID can be a decimal value or an IP address.
Step 4	end Example: Device(config-router)# end	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 5	show ip protocols Example: Device# show ip protocols	Verifies your entries.
Step 6	copy running-config startup-config Example: Device# copy running-config startup-config	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Configuring OSPF Interfaces

You can use the **ip ospf** interface configuration commands to modify interface-specific OSPF parameters. You are not required to modify any of these parameters, but some interface parameters (hello interval, dead interval, and authentication key) must be consistent across all routers in an attached network. If you modify these parameters, be sure all routers in the network have compatible values.



Note The **ip ospf** interface configuration commands are all optional.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	configure terminal Example: Device# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	interface <i>interface-id</i> Example: Device(config)# interface gigabitethernet 1/0/1	Enters interface configuration mode, and specifies the Layer 3 interface to configure.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 3	ip ospf cost <i>cost</i> Example: Device(config-if)# ip ospf cost 8	(Optional) Explicitly specifies the cost of sending a packet on the interface.
Step 4	ip ospf retransmit-interval <i>seconds</i> Example: Device(config-if)# ip ospf transmit-interval 10	(Optional) Specifies the number of seconds between link state advertisement transmissions. The range is 1 to 65535 seconds. The default is 5 seconds.
Step 5	ip ospf transmit-delay <i>seconds</i> Example: Device(config-if)# ip ospf transmit-delay 2	(Optional) Sets the estimated number of seconds to wait before sending a link state update packet. The range is 1 to 65535 seconds. The default is 1 second.
Step 6	ip ospf priority <i>number</i> Example: Device(config-if)# ip ospf priority 5	(Optional) Sets priority to help find the OSPF designated router for a network. The range is from 0 to 255. The default is 1.
Step 7	ip ospf hello-interval <i>seconds</i> Example: Device(config-if)# ip ospf hello-interval 12	(Optional) Sets the number of seconds between hello packets sent on an OSPF interface. The value must be the same for all nodes on a network. The range is 1 to 65535 seconds. The default is 10 seconds.
Step 8	ip ospf dead-interval <i>seconds</i> Example: Device(config-if)# ip ospf dead-interval 8	(Optional) Sets the number of seconds after the last device hello packet was seen before its neighbors declare the OSPF router to be down. The value must be the same for all nodes on a network. The range is 1 to 65535 seconds. The default is 4 times the hello interval.
Step 9	ip ospf authentication-key <i>key</i> Example: Device(config-if)# ip ospf authentication-key password	(Optional) Assign a password to be used by neighboring OSPF routers. The password can be any string of keyboard-entered characters up to 8 bytes in length. All neighboring routers on the same network must have the same password to exchange OSPF information.
Step 10	ip ospf message-digest-key <i>keyid md5 key</i> Example: Device(config-if)# ip ospf message digest-key 16 md5 yourlpass	(Optional) Enables MDS authentication. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>keyid</i>—An identifier from 1 to 255. • <i>key</i>—An alphanumeric password of up to 16 bytes.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 11	ip ospf database-filter all out Example: <pre>Device(config-if)# ip ospf database-filter all out</pre>	(Optional) Block flooding of OSPF LSA packets to the interface. By default, OSPF floods new LSAs over all interfaces in the same area, except the interface on which the LSA arrives.
Step 12	end Example: <pre>Device(config)# end</pre>	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 13	show ip ospf interface [interface-name] Example: <pre>Device# show ip ospf interface</pre>	Displays OSPF-related interface information.
Step 14	show ip ospf neighbor detail Example: <pre>Device# show ip ospf neighbor detail</pre>	Displays NSF awareness status of neighbor switch. The output matches one of these examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Options is 0x52</i> <i>LLS Options is 0x1 (LR)</i> When both of these lines appear, the neighbor switch is NSF aware. • <i>Options is 0x42</i>—This means the neighbor switch is not NSF aware.
Step 15	copy running-config startup-config Example: <pre>Device# copy running-config startup-config</pre>	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Configuring OSPF Area Parameters

Before you begin



Note The OSPF **area** router configuration commands are all optional.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	configure terminal Example: Device# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	router ospf <i>process-id</i> Example: Device(config)# router ospf 109	Enables OSPF routing, and enter router configuration mode.
Step 3	area <i>area-id</i> authentication Example: Device(config-router)# area 1 authentication	(Optional) Allow password-based protection against unauthorized access to the identified area. The identifier can be either a decimal value or an IP address.
Step 4	area <i>area-id</i> authentication message-digest Example: Device(config-router)# area 1 authentication message-digest	(Optional) Enables MD5 authentication on the area.
Step 5	area <i>area-id</i> stub [no-summary] Example: Device(config-router)# area 1 stub	(Optional) Define an area as a stub area. The no-summary keyword prevents an ABR from sending summary link advertisements into the stub area.
Step 6	area <i>area-id</i> nssa [no-redistribution] [default-information-originate] [no-summary] Example: Device(config-router)# area 1 nssa default-information-originate	(Optional) Defines an area as a not-so-stubby-area. Every router within the same area must agree that the area is NSSA. Select one of these keywords: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no-redistribution—Select when the router is an NSSA ABR and you want the redistribute command to import routes into normal areas, but not into the NSSA. • default-information-originate—Select on an ABR to allow importing type 7 LSAs into the NSSA. • no-redistribution—Select to not send summary LSAs into the NSSA.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 7	area <i>area-id</i> range <i>address mask</i> Example: Device(config-router)# area 1 range 255.240.0.0	(Optional) Specifies an address range for which a single route is advertised. Use this command only with area border routers.
Step 8	end Example: Device(config)# end	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 9	show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i>] Example: Device# show ip ospf	Displays information about the OSPF routing process in general or for a specific process ID to verify configuration.
Step 10	show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i> [<i>area-id</i>]] database Example: Device# show ip ospf database	Displays lists of information related to the OSPF database for a specific router.
Step 11	copy running-config startup-config Example: Device# copy running-config startup-config	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Configuring Other OSPF Parameters

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	configure terminal Example: Device# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	router ospf <i>process-id</i> Example: Device(config)# router ospf 10	Enables OSPF routing, and enter router configuration mode.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 3	summary-address <i>address mask</i> Example: <pre>Device(config)# summary-address 10.1.1.1 255.255.255.0</pre>	(Optional) Specifies an address and IP subnet mask for redistributed routes so that only one summary route is advertised.
Step 4	area <i>area-id</i> virtual-link <i>router-id</i> [hello-interval <i>seconds</i>] [retransmit-interval <i>seconds</i>] [trans [[authentication-key <i>key</i>] message-digest-key <i>keyid md5 key</i>]] Example: <pre>Device(config)# area 2 virtual-link 192.168.255.1 hello-interval 5</pre>	(Optional) Establishes a virtual link and set its parameters.
Step 5	default-information originate [always] [metric <i>metric-value</i>] [metric-type <i>type-value</i>] [route-map <i>map-name</i>] Example: <pre>Device(config)# default-information originate metric 100 metric-type 1</pre>	(Optional) Forces the ASBR to generate a default route into the OSPF routing domain. Parameters are all optional.
Step 6	ip ospf name-lookup Example: <pre>Device(config)# ip ospf name-lookup</pre>	(Optional) Configures DNS name lookup. The default is disabled.
Step 7	ip auto-cost reference-bandwidth <i>ref-bw</i> Example: <pre>Device(config)# ip auto-cost reference-bandwidth 5</pre>	(Optional) Specifies an address range for which a single route will be advertised. Use this command only with area border routers.
Step 8	distance ospf [[inter-area <i>dist1</i>] [inter-area <i>dist2</i>] [external <i>dist3</i>] Example: <pre>Device(config)# distance ospf inter-area 150</pre>	(Optional) Changes the OSPF distance values. The default distance for each type of route is 110. The range is 1 to 255.
Step 9	passive-interface <i>type number</i> Example: <pre>Device(config)# passive-interface gigabitethernet 1/0/6</pre>	(Optional) Suppresses the sending of hello packets through the specified interface.
Step 10	timers throttle spf <i>spf-delay spf-holdtime</i> <i>spf-wait</i>	(Optional) Configures route calculation timers.

	Command or Action	Purpose
	Example: <pre>Device(config)# timers throttle spf 200 100 100</pre>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>spf-delay</i>—Delay between receiving a change to SPF calculation. The range is from 1 to 600000 in milliseconds. • <i>spf-holdtime</i>—Delay between first and second SPF calculation. The range is from 1 to 600000 in milliseconds. • <i>spf-wait</i>—Maximum wait time in milliseconds for SPF calculations. The range is from 1 to 600000 in milliseconds.
Step 11	ospf log-adj-changes Example: <pre>Device(config)# ospf log-adj-changes</pre>	(Optional) Sends syslog message when a neighbor state changes.
Step 12	end Example: <pre>Device(config)# end</pre>	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 13	show ip ospf [process-id [area-id]] database Example: <pre>Device# show ip ospf database</pre>	Displays lists of information related to the OSPF database for a specific router.
Step 14	copy running-config startup-config Example: <pre>Device# copy running-config startup-config</pre>	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Changing LSA Group Pacing

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	configure terminal Example: <pre>Device# configure terminal</pre>	Enters global configuration mode.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 2	router ospf <i>process-id</i> Example: Device(config)# router ospf 25	Enables OSPF routing, and enter router configuration mode.
Step 3	timers lsa-group-pacing <i>seconds</i> Example: Device(config-router)# timers lsa-group-pacing 15	Changes the group pacing of LSAs.
Step 4	end Example: Device(config)# end	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 5	show running-config Example: Device# show running-config	Verifies your entries.
Step 6	copy running-config startup-config Example: Device# copy running-config startup-config	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Configuring a Loopback Interface

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	configure terminal Example: Device# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 2	interface loopback 0 Example: Device(config)# interface loopback 0	Creates a loopback interface, and enter interface configuration mode.

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 3	ip address address mask Example: Device(config-if)# ip address 10.1.1.5 255.255.240.0	Assign an IP address to this interface.
Step 4	end Example: Device(config)# end	Returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 5	show ip interface Example: Device# show ip interface	Verifies your entries.
Step 6	copy running-config startup-config Example: Device# copy running-config startup-config	(Optional) Saves your entries in the configuration file.

Monitoring OSPF

You can display specific statistics such as the contents of IP routing tables, caches, and databases.

Table 2: Show IP OSPF Statistics Commands

show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i>]	Displays general information about OSPF processes.
show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i>] database [router] [<i>link-state-id</i>] show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i>] database [router] [self-originate] show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i>] database [router] [adv-router [<i>ip-address</i>]] show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i>] database [network] [<i>link-state-id</i>] show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i>] database [summary] [<i>link-state-id</i>] show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i>] database [asbr-summary] [<i>link-state-id</i>] show ip ospf [<i>process-id</i>] database [external] [<i>link-state-id</i>] show ip ospf [<i>process-id area-id</i>] database [database-summary]	Displays lists of information about OSPF databases.
show ip ospf border-routes	Displays the internal OSPF routing table entries.

<code>show ip ospf interface [interface-name]</code>	Displays OSPF-rela
<code>show ip ospf neighbor [interface-name] [neighbor-id] detail</code>	Displays OSPF inte
<code>show ip ospf virtual-links</code>	Displays OSPF-rela

Configuration Examples for OSPF

Example: Configuring Basic OSPF Parameters

This example shows how to configure an OSPF routing process and assign it a process number of 109:

```
Device(config)# router ospf 109
Device(config-router)# network 131.108.0.0 255.255.255.0 area 24
```

