Accessing the Networking Stack

The Cisco IOS XR Software serves as a networking stack for communication. This section explains how applications on IOS XR can communicate with internal processes, and with servers or outside devices.

Packet I/O on IOS XR

This section illustrates how, with the Packet I/O functionality, you can use Linux applications to manage communication with the IOS XR interfaces. It describes how the OS environment must be set up to establish packet I/O communication with hosted applications.

Exposed IOS-XR Interfaces in Linux

Feature Name	Release Information	Description
Automatic Synchronization of Secondary IPv4 addresses from XR to Linux OS	Release 7.9.1	Now the configured interface secondary IPv4 addresses on the Cisco IOS XR software are automatically synchronized to Linux operating system. The third-party applications on Cisco IOS XR can use the secondary IPv4 addresses without any manual intervention. Earlier, you had to configure the secondary IPv4 addresses on the Linux operating system manually.

The secondary IPv4 addresses that are configured for an XR interface are now synchronized into the Linux operating system automatically. With this secondary IPv4 address synchronization, the third party applications that are deployed on Cisco IOS XR can now use the secondary IPv4 addresses. Prior to this release, only

primary IPv4 addresses were supported and the secondary IPv4 addresses had to be configured manually in the Linux operating system.

Exposed XR interfaces (EXIs) and address-only interfaces support secondary IPv4 address synchronization:

- EXIs have secondary IP addresses added to their corresponding Linux interface
- Address-only interfaces have secondary IP addresses added to the Linux loopback device. For additional information on address-only interfaces, see show linux networking interfaces address-only.

The restrictions of secondary IPv4 addresses synchronization are:

- Secondary IPv4 addresses are not synchronized from Linux to XR for Linux-managed interfaces.
- The **ifconfig** Linux command only displays the first configured IPv4 address. To view the complete list of IPv4 addresses, use the **ip addr show** Linux command.

For additional information on secondary IPv4 addresses, see ipv4 address (network).

You can run **bash** commands at the IOS XR router prompt to view the interfaces and IP addresses stored in global VRF. When you access the Cisco IOS XR Linux shell, you directly enter the global VRF.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. From your Linux box, access the IOS XR console through SSH, and log in.
2. View the ethernet interfaces on IOS XR.
3. Check the IP and MAC addresses of the interface that is in `Up` state. Here, interfaces `HundredGigE0/0/0/24` and `MgmtEth0/RP0/CPU0/0` are in the `Up` state.
4. Verify that the bash command runs in global VRF to view the network interfaces.
5. Access the Linux shell.
6. (Optional) View the IP routes used by the `to_xr` interfaces.

DETAILED STEPS

Procedure

Step 1 From your Linux box, access the IOS XR console through SSH, and log in.

Example:

```
cisco@host:~$ ssh root@192.168.122.188
root@192.168.122.188's password:
Router#
```

Step 2 View the ethernet interfaces on IOS XR.

Example:

```
Router#show ip interface brief
Interface IP-Address Status Protocol Vrf-Name
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/0 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/1 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/2 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/3 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/4 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/5 unassigned Shutdown Down default
```

```
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/6 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/7 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/8 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/9 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/10 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/11 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/12 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/13 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/14 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/15 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/16 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/17 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/18 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/19 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/20 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/21 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/22 unassigned Shutdown Down default
FourHundredGigE0/0/0/23 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/24 10.1.1.10 Up Up default
HundredGigE0/0/0/25 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/26 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/27 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/28 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/29 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/30 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/31 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/32 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/33 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/34 unassigned Shutdown Down default
HundredGigE0/0/0/35 unassigned Shutdown Down default
MgmtEth0/RP0/CPU0/0 192.168.122.22 Up Up default
```

Note

Use the **ip addr show** or **ip link show** commands to view all corresponding interfaces in Linux. The IOS XR interfaces that are `admin-down` state also reflects a `Down` state in the Linux kernel.

Step 3 Check the IP and MAC addresses of the interface that is in `Up` state. Here, interfaces `HundredGigE0/0/0/24` and `MgmtEth0/RP0/CPU0/0` are in the `Up` state.

Example:

```
Router#show interfaces HundredGigE0/0/0/24
...
HundredGigE0/0/0/24 is up, line protocol is up
Interface state transitions: 4
Hardware is HundredGigE0/0/0/24, address is 5246.e8a3.3754 (bia
5246.e8a3.3754)
Internet address is 10.1.1.1/24
MTU 1514 bytes, BW 1000000 Kbit (Max: 1000000 Kbit)
reliability 255/255, txload 0/255, rxload 0/255
Encapsulation ARPA,
Duplex unknown, 1000Mb/s, link type is force-up
output flow control is off, input flow control is off
loopback not set,
Last link flapped 01:03:50
ARP type ARPA, ARP timeout 04:00:00
Last input 00:38:45, output 00:38:45
Last clearing of "show interface" counters never
5 minute input rate 0 bits/sec, 0 packets/sec
5 minute output rate 0 bits/sec, 0 packets/sec
12 packets input, 1260 bytes, 0 total input drops
0 drops for unrecognized upper-level protocol
Received 2 broadcast packets, 0 multicast packets
0 runts, 0 giants, 0 throttles, 0 parity
```

```
0 input errors, 0 CRC, 0 frame, 0 overrun, 0 ignored, 0 abort
12 packets output, 1224 bytes, 0 total output drops
Output 1 broadcast packets, 0 multicast packets
```

Step 4 Verify that the bash command runs in global VRF to view the network interfaces.

Example:

```
Router#bash -c ifconfig
Hu0_0_0_24 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 78:e7:e8:d3:20:c0
inet addr:10.1.1.10 Bcast:0.0.0.0 Mask:255.255.255.0
UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:4 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
RX bytes:360 (360.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 54:00:00:00:bd:49
inet addr:192.168.122.22 Bcast:0.0.0.0 Mask:255.255.255.0
UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:3859 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:1973 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
RX bytes:2377782 (2.2 MiB) TX bytes:593602 (579.6 KiB)
lo Link encap:Local Loopback
inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0
inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:65536 Metric:1
RX packets:242 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:242 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1
RX bytes:12100 (11.8 KiB) TX bytes:12100 (11.8 KiB)
to_xr Link encap:UNSPEC HWaddr 00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00
UP POINTOPOINT RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:1 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:500
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:60 (60.0 B)
```

The `to_xr` interface indicates access to the global VRF.

Step 5 Access the Linux shell.

Example:

```
Router#bash
[ios:~]$
```

Step 6 (Optional) View the IP routes used by the `to_xr` interfaces.

Example:

```
[ios:~]$ip route
default dev to_xr scope link metric 2048
6.1.0.0/16dev Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0 proto kernel scope link src 6.1.22.41
20.1.0.0/16dev Hu0_0_0_0 proto kernel scope link src 20.1.1.1
20.2.0.0/16dev Hu0_0_0_20 proto kernel scope link src 20.2.1.1
30.1.0.0/24dev BE500 proto kernel scope link src 30.1.0.1
172.17.0.0/16dev docker0 proto kernel scope link src 172.17.0.1linkdown
```

Note
You can also enter the global VRF directly after logging into IOS XR using the **run ip netns exec vrf-default bash** command.

Setting up Virtual IP Addresses

Feature Name	Release Information	Description
Virtual IP address in the Linux networking stack	Release 7.5.2	Virtual IP addresses allow a single IP address to connect to the current active RP after an RP switchover event. In addition, this functionality enables your network stack to support virtual IP addresses for third-party applications and IOS XR applications that use the Linux networking stack. The following commands are modified: • ipv4 virtual address • ipv6 virtual address • show linux networking interfaces address-only

Interfaces configured on IOS XR are programmed into the Linux kernel. These interfaces allow Linux applications to run as if they were running on a regular Linux system. This packet I/O capability ensures that off-the-shelf Linux applications can be run alongside IOS XR, allowing operators to use their existing tools and automate deployments with IOS XR.

The IP address on the Linux interfaces, MTU settings, MAC address are inherited from the corresponding settings of the IOS XR interface. Accessing the global VRF network namespace ensures that when you issue the **bash** command, the default or the global VRF in IOS XR is reflected in the kernel. This ensures default reachability based on the routing capabilities of IOS XR and the packet I/O infrastructure.

Virtual addresses can be configured to access a router from the management network such as gRPC using a single virtual IP address. On a device with two or more RPs, the virtual address refers to the management interface that is currently active. This functionality can be used across RP failover without the information of which RP is currently active. This is applicable to the Linux packet path.

Procedure

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	You can use the following commands to verify the IP Address in the Linux networking stack:	• ipv4 virtual address • ipv6 virtual address • show linux networking interfaces address-only

Third-Party Application Networking in Named VRFs

Feature Name	Release Information	Description
Virtual Routing and Forwarding for Linux Third-Party Applications using Data Port	Release 7.9.1	This feature empowers you to run your native Linux applications on Cisco IOS XR as-is, without any modifications. You can now configure a host of utilities that allows for easy integration of Linux devices and applications. These utilities allow applications hosted in containers to interact with native Cisco IOS XR applications (hosted in the XR control plane). The following commands are modified:**show linux networking vrfs**.

Cisco IOS XR now supports the use of standard Linux APIs to send and receive packets, update routes, interface state, interface IP addresses, and so on.

The supported utilities are:

- Default Route Source Address
- East-West Communication
- Hardware LPTS Support for Traffic Protection
- Management Route Export
- Automatic Mapping of Deprecated TPA Configuration
- Software Forwarding
- Statistics Synchronization
- VRF Disable

Default Route Source Address

The *Default Route Source Address* utility allows you to specify an interface in which the address should be used as the *source hint* on Linux's default route.

This source hint is used for traffic where:

- The application is not bound to a specific address.
- The traffic is destined over a nonconnected route. This is commonly seen as *Rx-inject traffic* and represents most of the traffic that is sent by Linux.

Ensure that the interface is synchronized to Linux, to qualify as a valid source hint interface.

- Its VRF must not be disabled.
- On XR platforms, it must not be the East-West interface.
- It is a supported interface type.
- If explicitly configured, it must be in the specified VRF.

The following configuration parameters are used to select the interface to be used:

- If an interface is specified explicitly and valid, it is used.
- If **active-management** is specified, the lowest-numbered valid management interface on the active RP is used. The identity of this interface will change after RP switchover.
- If no configuration is specified, the lowest-numbered valid loopback interface in the VRF is used.

The address that is chosen from the selected source hint interface depends on the address family:

- IPv4: The primary address is used, when present. Secondary addresses are not considered.
- IPv6: The IP address that is numerically the lowest is used.

Following is the configuration for setting the default source hint interface address:

```
vrf blue
!
linux networking
 vrf blue
  east-west Loopback3
  address-family ipv4
   source-hint default-route interface Loopback2
  !
  address-family ipv6
   source-hint default-route interface Loopback2
  !
 !
!
interface Loopback2
 vrf blue
 ipv4 address 192.0.2.1 255.255.255.255
 ipv6 address 2001:db8::1/128
!
interface Loopback3
 vrf blue
 ipv6 address 2001:db8::ea57/128
!
```

Use the following show command to verify whether the default source hint interface address is configured:

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios#show linux networking vrfs vrf blue
VRF blue (Linux network namespace vrf-blue):
  Status:                          active
  IPv4 default route source hint: 192.0.2.1
  IPv6 default route source hint: 2001:db8::1
  IPv4 XR East-West:               none
  IPv6 XR East-West:               2001:db8::ea57
```

The following TPA configuration has been deprecated, from Cisco IOS XR Release 7.9.1:

```
tpa
  vrf < vrf-name >
```

```
    address-family { ipv4 | ipv6 }
      update-source dataports { < interface > | active-management }
```

East-West Communication

The *East-West Communication* utility allows you to specify a Cisco IOS XR interface that should be used for communication between Linux and Cisco IOS XR applications.

Configuring an interface as East-West for a virtual routing and forwarding (VRF) ensures that all listed addresses are reserved for East-West communication, with the following behaviour:

- Traffic cannot be routed from Linux to other devices using this IP address.
- Traffic destined to the listed addresses cannot be received by Linux applications.
- The IP addresses will not appear in Linux.
- For Linux applications: Traffic might be sourced from any local IP address present in Linux. Traffic must be sent to one of the reserved East-West IP addresses.
- For Cisco IOS XR applications: Traffic must be sourced from one of the reserved East-West IP addresses. Traffic might be sent to any local IP address present in Linux.

Ensure the following, for the interface to be qualified as a valid East-West interface:

- Be in a VRF that is not disabled.
- Have one or more IP addresses.
- The following configuration is used to select the interface to be used:
    - If an interface is specified explicitly and valid, it is used.
    - If no configuration is specified, Loopback1 is used.
- All IP addresses on the interface are reserved for East-West.

Following is the configuration to define the East-West communication:

```
vrf blue
!
linux networking
 vrf blue
  east-west Loopback3
  address-family ipv4
   source-hint default-route interface Loopback2
  !
  address-family ipv6
   source-hint default-route interface Loopback2
  !
 !
!
interface Loopback2
 vrf blue
 ipv4 address 192.0.2.1 255.255.255.255
 ipv6 address 2001:db8::1/128
!
interface Loopback3
 vrf blue
```

```
 ipv6 address 2001:db8::ea57/128
!
```

Use the following show command to verify whether the east-west communication is configured:

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios#show linux networking vrfs vrf blue
VRF blue (Linux network namespace vrf-blue):
  Status:                          active
  IPv4 default route source hint: 192.0.2.1
  IPv6 default route source hint: 2001:db8::1
  IPv4 XR East-West:               none
  IPv6 XR East-West:               2001:db8::ea57
```

The following TPA configuration has been deprecated, from Cisco IOS XR Release 7.9.1:

```
tpa
  vrf < vrf-name >
    east-west < interface >
```

Hardware LPTS Support For Traffic Protection

The *Hardware Local Packet Transport Services (LPTS) Support for Traffic Protection* utility allows you to specify traffic protection rules to be factored into as an LPTS programming that is done by the Linux Packet I/O. This is in addition to the existing method where the rules were implemented using the Linux kernel's software-based *nftables firewall*. The nftables firewall is a subsystem of the Linux kernel, and provides filtering and classification of network packets. The nftables firewall is retained as a fallback, but augmented by higher performance LPTS rules.

Linux Packet I/O programs the LPTS in response to Linux socket operations, to ensure that Linux clients can receive traffic from other devices. When traffic protection rules are configured, this feature applies filtering to the programmed LPTS rules to allow a restricted subset that matches the traffic protection rules.

The following TPA configuration has been deprecated, from Cisco IOS XR Release 7.9.1:

```
tpa
  vrf < vrf-name >
    address-family { ipv4 | ipv6 }
      protection
        allow protocol { tcp | udp } local-port < local-port >

          {  remote-address < remote-address >/< prefix-len >
           | local-address  < local-address >/< prefix-len >
           | interface      < interface-name > }
```

Management Route Export

The *Management Route Export* utility allows for a subset of Cisco IOS XR static routes that resolve over the active management interfaces to be replicated to Linux. This avoids the need for a line card NPU inject and FIB lookup for routing Linux traffic matching these management routes.

In order for the routes to be exported from Cisco IOS XR to Linux, you must ensure that the routes:

- Resolve over the management interface.
- Are static.
- Not recursive.
- Not the default XR route.

A specified source hint interface is qualified only if:

- Its VRF is not disabled.
- The interface is in the same VRF as the management interface.
- On Cisco IOS XR platforms, it is not the East-West interface.
- It is a supported interface type.

If the specified interface is valid, then the address that is chosen from it depends on the address family:

- IPv4: The primary address is used, when present. Secondary addresses are not considered.
- IPv6: The IP address that is numerically the lowest is used.

The following configuration allows for the source hint interface to be specified for the static routes which are synchronized into Linux.

```
linux networking
 vrf default
  address-family ipv4
   source-hint management-route interface Loopback2
  !
 !
!
interface Loopback0
ipv4 address 192.0.2.128 255.255.255.255
!
interface Loopback2
 ipv4 address 192.0.2.200 255.255.255.255
!
interface MgmtEth0/RP0/CPU0/0
 ipv4 address 192.0.2.1 255.255.255.240
!
router static
 address-family ipv4 unicast
  192.0.2.16/28 192.0.2.2
  192.0.2.32/28 192.0.2.2
 !
!
```

Use the following show command to verify whether the east-west communication is configured:

Note The management ethernet is directly connected to a device with the unicast route IP address.

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios#bash vrf default ip route
default dev to_xr scope link src 192.0.2.128 metric 2048 mtu 1500 advmss 1460
192.0.2.1/30 dev Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0 proto static scope link src 192.0.2.200
192.0.16.0/24 via 192.0.2.2 dev Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0 proto static src 192.0.2.200 metric 2048
192.0.17.0/24 via 192.0.2.2 dev Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0 proto static src 192.0.2.200 metric 2048
```

The verification for source hint config is to check that all Linux routes resolving via the management ethernet interface are using the source address from the configured device. The verification for management route export is to check that all static routes resolving via the management ethernet interfaceare exported to Linux.

The following TPA configuration has been deprecated, from Cisco IOS XR Release 7.9.1:

```
tpa
```

```
vrf < vrf-name >
  address-family { ipv4 | ipv6 }
    update-source destination < management-interface > source < interface >
```

Mapping of Deprecated TPA Configuration

The *Automatic Mapping of Deprecated TPA Configuration* utility supports seamless migrations from a Cisco IOS XR environment to Linux, with the Packet I/O functionality. The configuration is translated from the deprecated TPA configuration (under **tpa**) to Linux, with the Packet I/O configuration (under **linux networking**).

The configuration will be automatically translated to the equivalent Linux Packet I/O configuration, after installation.

The following scenarios are relevant for this utility:

- Applying deprecated TPA configuration on a Cisco IOS XR device that supports Linux Packet I/O.
- Upgrading a Cisco IOS XR device from a version that does not support Linux Packet I/O, to a version that supports Linux Packet I/O.
- Downgrading a Cisco IOS XR device from a version that supports Linux Packet I/O, to a version that does not support Linux Packet I/O.
- The deprecated configuration is available until all Cisco XR platforms are migrated to support Linux Packet I/O.

Note Downgrading to an unsupported version of Linux Packet I/O cannot be done automatically. The definitions required to support Linux Packet I/O configuration does not exist on releases earlier to Cisco IOS XR Release 7.9.1.

Software Forwarding

The *Software Forwarding* utility allows you to choose software forwarding over hardware forwarding. Software forwarding is provided primarily for compatibility with Cisco IOS XR networking stack, where hardware forwarding could not route packets over the management interface.

When software forwarding is configured, the Net I/O will be used for forwarding packets. The packet path might be slow, although no change to Linux reachability is noticeable. You can use software forwarding to avoid injecting traffic toward line card NPUs in scenarios where the Linux traffic in a VRF will be sent over management interfaces.

Following is the configuration for software forwarding:

```
linux networking
 vrf default
  address-family ipv6
   default-route software-forwarding
  !
 !
!
```

The following TPA configuration has been deprecated, from Cisco IOS XR Release 7.9.1:

```
tpa
```

```
vrf < vrf-name >
  address-family { ipv4 | ipv6 }
    default-route mgmt
```

Statistics Synchronization

The *Statistics Synchronization* utility allows you to specify the intervals when interface statistics for all interfaces are synchronized to Linux, when using the Linux **ethtool** interface, to gather interface statistics.

For supported configurations, Cisco IOS XR's **statsd infra** is polled at specified intervals to retrieve cached interface statistics for all interfaces that are exposed to Linux, as an exposed Cisco IOS XR interface (those visible to the Linux **ip link** command).

However, statistics are not gathered for interfaces in disabled VRFs, or for those interfaces which are not synchronized to Linux as an exposed interface.

This example shows how the bundle-ether interface packet statistics are synchronized between Cisco IOS XR and Linux. The packet and byte counters that are maintained by Linux for Cisco IOS XR interfaces display only the traffic that is sourced in Linux. You can configure to periodically synchronize these counters with the Cisco IOS XR statistics for the interfaces.

1. Following is the configure for statistics synchronization, including the direction and synchronization interval.

   ```
   linux networking
     statistics-synchronization from-xr every { 30s | 60s | 2m | 3m | 4m | 5m | 6m | 7m |
   8m | 9m | 10m }
   ```

   The following example shows statistics synchronization in global configuration:

   ```
   Router(config)#linux networking statistics-synchronization from-xr
   every 30s
   ```

   The following example shows statistics synchronization in exposed-interface configuration:

   ```
   Router(config)#linux networking exposed-interfaces interface
   bundle-ether 1 statistics-synchronization from-xr every 10s
   ```

   where—

   - **from-xr:** The direction indicating that the interface packet statistics will be pushed from Cisco IOS XR to the Linux kernel.
   - **every:** Shows the frequency at which to synchronize statistics. The intervals that are supported for global configuration are 30s and 60s. The intervals that are supported for exposed interfaces are 5s, 10s, 30s, or 60s. The interval `s` is in seconds.

2. Verify that the statistics synchronization is applied successfully on Cisco IOS XR.

   ```
   Router#show run linux networking
   linux networking
    vrf default
     address-family ipv4
      protection
      protocol tcp local-port all default-action deny
       permit interface bundle-ether 1
       !
      !
     !
    !
   exposed-interfaces
    interface bundle-ether 1 linux-managed
   ```

```
     statistics-synchronization from-xr every 10s
     !
    !
   !
```

You can use the **show tech-support linux networking** command to display debugging information, with regard to statistics synchronisation.

The following TPA configuration has been deprecated, from Cisco IOS XR Release 7.9.1:

```
tpa
  statistics update-frequency < 1 - 99999999 >
```

Note The integer values here are mapped to the nearest matching value in supported configuration:

- For values not exceeding 600 seconds, it is corrected to the nearest matching interval.
- For values exceeding 600 seconds, it is corrected to 10 minutes.

VRF Disable

The *VRF Disable* utility enables you to specify the virtual routing and forwarding (VRF) that should not be synchronized to Linux, and will not be used by applications using the Linux packet path. This configuration improves performance. Communication using Linux Packet I/O (including East-West communication) will not be functional in the VRF or network namespace which was disabled.

The usage of the VRF Disable utility depends on whether you are using the Cisco IOS XR default VRF or the nondefault VRF:

- For the default VRF, no interfaces, routes, or addresses are synchronized to Linux, but a network namespace called "vrf-default" still exists.
- For nondefault VRFs, the corresponding network namespace is deleted.

You can run the VRF Disable utility by using the following configuration:

```
vrf green
!
linux networking
 vrf green
  disable
 !
!
```

Use the following show command to verify whether the VRF is disabled:

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios#show linux networking vrfs vrf green
VRF green (Linux network namespace not created):
  Status:                          VRF disabled
```

The following TPA configuration has been deprecated, from Cisco IOS XR Release 7.9.1:

```
tpa
  vrf < vrf-name >
    disable
```

Program Routes in Linux

The basic routes required to allow applications to send or receive traffic can be programmed into the kernel. The Linux network stack that is part of the kernel is used by normal Linux applications to send/receive packets. In an IOS XR stack, IOS XR acts as the network stack for the system. Therefore to allow the Linux network stack to connect into and use the IOS XR network stack, basic routes must be programmed into the Linux Kernel.

Procedure

Step 1 View the routes from the bash shell.

Example:

```
[ios:~]$ip route
default dev to_xr scope link src 10.1.1.10 metric 2048
10.1.1.0/24 dev Hu0_0_0_24 proto kernel scope link src 10.1.1.10
192.168.122.0/24 dev Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.122.22
```

Step 2 Programme the routes in the kernel.

Two types of routes can be programmed in the kernel:

- **Default Route:** The default route sends traffic destined to unknown subnets out of the kernel using a special `to_xr` interface. This interface sends packets to IOS XR for routing using the routing state in XR Routing Information Base (RIB) or Forwarding Information Base (FIB). The `to_xr` interface does not have an associated IP address. In Linux, most applications expect the outgoing packets to use the IP address of the outgoing interface as the source IP address.

  With the `to_xr` interface, because there is no IP address, a source hint is required. The source hint can be changed to use the IP address another physical interface IP or loopback IP address. In the following example, the source hint is set to 10.1.1.10, which is the IP address of the Hu0_0_0_24 interface. To use the Management port IP address, change the source hint:

  ```
  Router#bash

  [ios:~]$ip route replace default dev to_xr scope link src 192.168.122.22 metric 2048

  [ios:~]$ip route
  default dev to_xr scope link src 192.168.122.22 metric 2048
  10.1.1.0/24 dev Hu0_0_0_24 proto kernel scope link src 10.1.1.10
  192.168.122.0/24 dev Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0 proto kernel scope link src 192.168.122.22
  ```

  With this updated source hint, any default traffic exiting the system uses the Management port IP address as the source IP address.

- **Local or Connected Routes:** The routes are associated with the subnet configured on interfaces. For example, the 10.1.1.0/24 network is associated with the `Hu0_0_0_24` interface, and the 192.168.122.0/24 subnet is associated with the `Mg0_RP0_CPU0` interface .

Configure VRFs in Linux

VRFs configured in IOS XR are automatically synchronized to the kernel. In the kernel, the VRFs appear as network namespaces (netns). For every globally-configured VRF, a Linux network namespace is created. With this capability it is possible to isolate Linux applications or processes into specific VRFs like an out-of-band management VRF and open-up sockets or send or receive traffic only on interfaces in that VRF.

Every VRF, when synchronized with the Linux kernel, is programmed as a network namespace with the same name as a VRF but with the string `vrf` prefixed to it. The default VRF in IOS XR has the name `default`. This name gets programmed as `vrf-default` in the Linux kernel.

The following example shows how to configure a custom VRF `blue`:

Procedure

Step 1 Identify the current network namespace or VRF.

Example:

```
[ios:~]$ip netns identify $$
vrf-default
global-vrf
```

Step 2 Configure a custom VRF `blue`.

Example:

```
Router#conf t

Router(config)#vrf blue
Router(config-vrf)#commit
```

Step 3 Verify that the VRF `blue` is configured in IOS XR.

Example:

```
Router#show run vrf
vrf blue
!
```

Step 4 Verify that the VRF `blue` is created in the kernel.

Example:

```
Router#bash

[ios:~]$ls -l /var/run/netns
total 0
-r--r--r--. 1 root root 0 Jul 30 04:17 default
-r--r--r--. 1 root root 0 Jul 30 04:17 global-vrf
-r--r--r--. 1 root root 0 Jul 30 04:17 tpnns
-r--r--r--. 1 root root 0 Aug 1 17:01 vrf-blue
-r--r--r--. 1 root root 0 Jul 30 04:17 vrf-default
-r--r--r--. 1 root root 0 Jul 30 04:17 xrnns
```

Step 5 Access VRF `blue` to launch and execute processes from the new network namespace.

Example:

```
[ios:~]$ip netns exec vrf-blue bash
[ios:~]$
```

```
[ios:~]$ip netns identify $$
vrf-blue
[ios:~]$
```

Running an **ifconfig** command shows only the default `to-xr` interface because there is no IOS XR interface in this VRF.

```
[ios:~]$ifconfig
lo Link encap:Local Loopback
inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0
inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:65536 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
to_xr Link encap:UNSPEC HWaddr 00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00
UP POINTOPOINT RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:500
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
[ios:~]$
```

Step 6 Configure an interface in the VRF `blue` in IOS XR. This interface will be configured automatically in the network namespace `vrf-blue` in the kernel.

Example:

The following example shows how to configure HundredGigE 0/0/0/24 interface in `vrf-blue` from IOS XR:

```
Router#conf t
Router(config)#int HundredGigE 0/0/0/24
Router(config-if)#no ipv4 address
Router(config-if)#vrf blue
Router(config-if)#ipv4 address 10.1.1.10/24
Router(config-if)#commit
```

Step 7 Verify that the HundredGigE 0/0/0/24 interface is configured in the VRF `blue` in IOS XR.

Example:

```
Router#show run int HundredGigE 0/0/0/24
interface HundredGigE0/0/0/24
vrf blue
ipv4 address 10.1.1.10 255.255.255.0
!
```

Step 8 Verify that the interface is configured in the VRF `blue` in the kernel.

Example:

```
Router#bash
Thu Aug 1 17:09:39.314 UTC
[ios:~]$
[ios:~]$ip netns exec vrf-blue bash
[ios:~]$
[ios:~]$ifconfig
Hu0_0_0_24 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 78:e7:e8:d3:20:c0
inet addr:10.1.1.10 Bcast:0.0.0.0 Mask:255.255.255.0
UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
lo Link encap:Local Loopback
inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0
```

```
inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:65536 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
to_xr Link encap:UNSPEC HWaddr 00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00
UP POINTOPOINT RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:500
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
[ios:~]$
```

Open Linux Sockets

The socket entries are programmed into the Local Packet Transport Services (LPTS) infrastructure that distributes the information through the line cards. Any packet received on a line card interface triggers an LPTS lookup to send the packet to the application opening the socket. Because the required interfaces and routes already appear in the kernel, the applications can open the sockets — TCP or UDP.

Procedure

Step 1 Verify that applications open up sockets.

Example:

```
Router#bash
[ios:~]$nc -l 0.0.0.0 -p 5000 &
[1] 1160
[ios:~]$
[ios:~]$netstat -nlp
Active Internet connections (only servers)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address Foreign Address State PID/Program name
tcp 0 0 0.0.0.0:5000 0.0.0.0:* LISTEN 1160/nc
tcp 0 0 0.0.0.0:57777 0.0.0.0:* LISTEN 14723/emsd
tcp 0 0 0.0.0.0:22 0.0.0.0:* LISTEN 8875/ssh_server
tcp6 0 0 :::22 :::* LISTEN 8875/ssh_server
udp 0 0 0.0.0.0:68 0.0.0.0:* 13235/xr_dhcpcd
Active UNIX domain sockets (only servers)
Proto RefCnt Flags Type State I-Node PID/Program name Path
[ios:~]$exit
Logout
Router#
Router#show lpts pifib brief | i 5000
Thu Aug 1 17:16:00.938 UTC
IPv4 default TCP any 0/RP0/CPU0 any,5000 any
Router#
```

Step 2 Verify that the socket is open.

Example:

```
Router#show lpts pifib brief | i 5000
IPv4 default TCP any 0/RP0/CPU0 any,5000 any
```

Netcat starts listening on port 5000, which appears as an IPv4 TCP socket in the netstat output like a typical Linux kernel. This socket gets programmed to LPTS, creating a corresponding entry in the hardware to the lookup tcp port 5000. The incoming traffic is redirected to the kernel of the active RP where the netcat runs.

Send and Receive Traffic

Connect to the nc socket from an external server. For example, the nc socket was started in the `vrf-default` network namespace. So, connect over an interface that is in the same VRF.

```
[root@localhost ~]#nc -vz 192.168.122.22 5000
Ncat: Version 7.50 ( https://nmap.org/ncat )
Ncat: Connected to 192.168.122.22:5000.
Ncat: 0 bytes sent, 0 bytes received in 0.01 seconds.
```

Manage IOS XR Interfaces through Linux

The Linux system contains a number of individual network namespaces. Each namespace contains a set of interfaces that map to a single interface in the XR control plane. These interfaces represent the exposed XR interfaces (eXI). By default, all interfaces in IOS XR are managed through the IOS XR configuration (CLI or YANG models), and the attributes of the interface (IP address, MTU, and state) are inherited from the corresponding configuration and the state of the interface in XR.

With the new Packet I/O functionality, it is possible to have an IOS XR interface completely managed by Linux. This also means that one or more of the interfaces can be configured to be managed by Linux, and standard automation tools can be used on Linux servers can be used to manage interfaces in IOS XR.

Note Secondary IPv4 addresses cannot be managed by Linux.

Configure an Interface to be Linux-Managed

This section shows how to configure an interface to be Linux-managed.

Procedure

Step 1 Check the available exposed-interfaces in the system.

Example:

```
Router(config)#linux networking exposed-interfaces interface ?

  Bundle-Ether     Aggregated Ethernet interface(s) | short name is BE
  FiftyGigE        FiftyGigabitEthernet/IEEE 802.3 interface(s) | short name is Fi
  FortyGigE        FortyGigabitEthernet/IEEE 802.3 interface(s) | short name is Fo
  FourHundredGigE  FourHundredGigabitEthernet/IEEE 802.3 interface(s) | short name is FH
  GigabitEthernet  GigabitEthernet/IEEE 802.3 interface(s) | short name is Gi
  HundredGigE      HundredGigabitEthernet/IEEE 802.3 interface(s) | short name is Hu
  Loopback         Loopback interface(s) | short name is Lo
  MgmtEth          Ethernet/IEEE 802.3 interface(s) | short name is Mg
  TenGigE          TenGigabitEthernet/IEEE 802.3 interface(s) | short name is Te
```

```
  TwentyFiveGigE   TwentyFiveGigabitEthernet/IEEE 802.3 interface(s) | short name is TF
  TwoHundredGigE   TwoHundredGigabitEthernet/IEEE 802.3 interface(s) | short name is TH
```

Step 2 Configure the interface to be managed by Linux.

Example:

The following example shows how to configure a HundredGigE interface to be managed by Linux:

```
Router#configure
Router(config)#linux networking exposed-interfaces interface HundredGigE 0/0/0/24 linux-managed
Router(config-exi-if)#commit
```

Step 3 View the interface details and the VRF.

Example:

The following example shows the information for HundredGigE interface:

```
Router#show run interface HundredGigE0/0/0/24
interface HundredGigE0/0/0/24
mtu 4110
vrf blue
ipv4 mtu 4096
ipv4 address 10.1.1.10 255.255.255.0
ipv6 mtu 4096
ipv6 address fe80::7ae7:e8ff:fed3:20c0 link-local
!
```

Step 4 Verify the configuration in XR.

Example:

The following example shows the configuration for HundredGigE interface:

```
Router#show running-config linux networking

linux networking
 exposed-interfaces
  interface HundredGigE0/0/0/24 linux-managed
  !
 !
!
```

Step 5 Verify the configuration from Linux.

Example:

The following example shows the configuration for HundredGigE interface:

```
Router#bash
Router:Aug 1 17:40:02.873 UTC: bash_cmd[67805]: %INFRA-INFRA_MSG-5-RUN_LOGIN : User vagrant logged
into shell from vty0

[ios:~]$ip netns exec vrf-blue bash

[ios:~]$ifconfig
lo Link encap:Local Loopback
inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0
inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:65536 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
to_xr Link encap:UNSPEC HWaddr 00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00
```

```
UP POINTOPOINT RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:500
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)

[ios:~]$ifconfig -a
Hu0_0_0_24 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 78:e7:e8:d3:20:c0
BROADCAST MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
lo Link encap:Local Loopback
inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0
inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:65536 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
to_xr Link encap:UNSPEC HWaddr 00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00
UP POINTOPOINT RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:500
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
```

Configure New IP address on the Interface in Linux

This section shows how to configure a new IP address on the Linux-managed interface.

Procedure

Step 1 Configure the IP address on the interface.

Example:

```
[ios:~]$ip addr add 10.1.1.10/24 dev Hu0_0_0_24
[ios:~]$Router:Aug 1 17:41:11.546 UTC: xlncd[253]: %MGBL-CONFIG-6-DB_COMMIT : Configuration
committed by user 'system'. Use 'show configuration commit changes 1000000021' to view the changes.
```

Step 2 Verify that the new IP address is configured.

Example:

```
[ios:~]$ifconfig Hu0_0_0_24
Hu0_0_0_24 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 78:e7:e8:d3:20:c0
inet addr:10.1.1.10 Bcast:0.0.0.0 Mask:255.255.255.0
BROADCAST MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
```

Configure Custom MTU Setting

This section shows how to bring up the interface and configure a custom MTU in a Linux-managed interface.

Procedure

Step 1 Configure the MTU setting.

Example:

```
[ios:~]$ifconfig Hu0_0_0_24 up

[ios:~]$Router:Aug 1 17:41:54.824 UTC: ifmgr[266]: %PKT_INFRA-LINK-3-UPDOWN : Interface
HundredGigE0/0/0/24, changed state to Down
Router:Aug 1 17:41:54.824 UTC: ifmgr[266]: %PKT_INFRA-LINEPROTO-5-UPDOWN : Line protocol on
Interface HundredGigE0/0/0/24, changed state to Down
Router:Aug 1 17:41:56.448 UTC: xlncd[253]: %MGBL-CONFIG-6-DB_COMMIT : Configuration committed by
user 'system'. Use 'show configuration commit changes 1000000022' to view the changes.
Router:Aug 1 17:41:56.471 UTC: ifmgr[266]: %PKT_INFRA-LINK-3-UPDOWN : Interface
HundredGigE0/0/0/24, changed state to Up
Router:Aug 1 17:41:56.484 UTC: ifmgr[266]: %PKT_INFRA-LINEPROTO-5-UPDOWN : Line protocol on
Interface HundredGigE0/0/0/24, changed state to Up
Router:Aug 1 17:41:58.493 UTC: xlncd[253]: %MGBL-CONFIG-6-DB_COMMIT : Configuration committed by
user 'system'. Use 'show configuration commit changes 1000000023' to view the changes.

[ios:~]$
[ios:~]$ ip link set dev Hu0_0_0_24 mtu 4096
[ios:~]$
[ios:~]$Router:Aug 1 17:42:46.830 UTC: xlncd[253]: %MGBL-CONFIG-6-DB_COMMIT : Configuration
committed by user 'system'. Use 'show configuration commit changes 1000000024' to view the changes.
```

Step 2 Verify that the MTU setting has been updated in Linux.

Example:

```
[ios:~]$ifconfig
Hu0_0_0_24 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 78:e7:e8:d3:20:c0
inet addr:10.1.1.10 Bcast:0.0.0.0 Mask:255.255.255.0
inet6 addr: fe80::7ae7:e8ff:fed3:20c0/64 Scope:Link
UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:4096 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:8 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:648 (648.0 B)
lo Link encap:Local Loopback
inet addr:127.0.0.1 Mask:255.0.0.0
inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
UP LOOPBACK RUNNING MTU:65536 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
to_xr Link encap:UNSPEC HWaddr 00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00-00
UP POINTOPOINT RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:500
RX bytes:0 (0.0 B) TX bytes:0 (0.0 B)
```

Step 3 Check the effect on the IOS XR configuration with the change in MTU setting on this interface.

Example:

```
Router#show running-config int HundredGigE0/0/0/24
interface HundredGigE0/0/0/24
 mtu 4110
  vrf blue
  ipv4 mtu 4096
  ipv4 address 10.1.1.10 255.255.255.0
  ipv6 mtu 4096
  ipv6 address fe80::7ae7:e8ff:fed3:20c0 link-local
  !
 !
!
Router#
Router#show ip int br | i HundredGigE0/0/0/24
HundredGigE0/0/0/24 10.1.1.10 Up Up blue
```

The output indicates that the interface acts as a regular Linux interface, and IOS XR configuration receives inputs from Linux.

Configure Traffic Protection for Linux Networking

Traffic protection provides a mechanism to configure Linux firewalls using IOS XR configuration. These rules can be used to restrict traffic to Linux applications. You can restrict traffic to Linux applications using native Linux firewalls or configuring IOS XR Linux traffic protection. It is not recommended to use both mechanisms at the same time. Any combination of remote address, local address and ingress interface can be specified as rules to either allow or deny traffic. However, at least one parameter must be specified for the traffic protection rule to be valid.

Note If traffic is received on a protocol or port combination that has no traffic protection rules configured, then all traffic is allowed by default.

This example explains how to configure a traffic protection rule on IOS XR to deny all traffic on port 999 except for traffic arriving on interface HundredGigE0/0/0/25.

Procedure

Step 1 Configure traffic protection rules.

Example:

```
Router(config)#linux networking vrf default address-family ipv4 protection protocol
tcp local-port 999 default-action deny permit hundredgigE0/0/0/25
Router(config)#commit
```

where —

- **address-family:** Configuration for a particular IPv4 or IPv6 address family.
- **protection:** Configure traffic protection for Linux networking.
- **protocol:** Select the supported protocol - TCP or UDP.

- **local-port:** L4 port number to specify traffic protection rules for Linux networking.
- **port number:** Port number ranges from 1 to 65535 or all ports.
- **default-action:** Default action to take for packets matching this traffic protection service.
- **deny:** Drop packets for this service.
- **permit:** Permit packets to reach Linux application for this service.

Step 2 Verify that the traffic protection rule is applied successfully.

Example:

```
Router(config)#show run linux networking
linux networking
 vrf default
  address-family ipv4
   protection
    protocol tcp local-port 999 default-action deny
     permit interface HundredGigE0/0/0/25
     !
    !
   !
 !
```

Communication Outside Cisco IOS XR

Table 1: Feature History Table

Feature Name	Release Information	Description
Virtual IP address in the Linux networking stack	Release 7.5.2	Virtual IP addresses allow a single IP address to connect to the current active RP after an RP switchover event. In addition, this functionality enables your network stack to support virtual IP addresses for third-party applications and IOS XR applications that use the Linux networking stack. The following commands are modified: • ipv4 virtual address • ipv6 virtual address • show kim status

To communicate outside Cisco IOS XR, applications use the `fwdintf` interface address that maps to the `loopback0` interface or a configured Gigabit Ethernet interface address. For information on the various interfaces on IOS XR, see Application Hosting on the Cisco IOS XR Linux Shell.

To have an iPerf or Chef client on IOS XR communicate with its respective server outside IOS XR, you must configure an interface address as the source address on XR. The remote servers must configure this route address to reach the respective clients on IOS XR.

Virtual addresses can be configured to access a router from the management network, using the Linux-based app gRPC, through a single virtual IP address. On a device with two or more RPs, the virtual address refers to the management interface that is currently active. This functionality can be used across RP failover without the information of which RP is currently active. This is applicable to the Linux packet path.

This section provides an example of configuring a Gigabit Ethernet interface address as the source address for external communication.

Using a Gigabit Ethernet Interface for External Communication

To configure a GigE interface on IOS XR for external communication, use these steps:

1. Configure a GigE interface.

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# interface GigabitEthernet 0/0/0/1
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv4 address 192.57.43.10 255.255.255.0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# no shut
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# commit
Fri Oct 30 07:51:14.785 UTC
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# exit
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# exit
```

2. Verify whether the configured interface is up and operational on IOS XR.

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios# show ipv4 interface brief
Fri Oct 30 07:51:48.996 UTC

Interface                      IP-Address      Status                Protocol
Loopback0                      1.1.1.1         Up                    Up
Loopback1                      8.8.8.8         Up                    Up
GigabitEthernet0/0/0/0         192.164.168.10  Up                    Up
GigabitEthernet0/0/0/1         192.57.43.10    Up                    Up
GigabitEthernet0/0/0/2         unassigned      Shutdown              Down
MgmtEth0/RP0/CPU0/0            192.168.122.197 Up                    Up
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios#
```

3. Enter the Linux bash shell and verify if the configured interface is up and running.

```
/* If you are using Cisco IOS XR Version 6.0.0, run the following command */
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios# run ip netns exec tpnns bash

/* If you are using Cisco IOS XR Version 6.0.2, run the following command */
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios# bash


[xr-vm_node0_RP0_CPU0:~]$ ifconfig
Gi0_0_0_0 Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 52:46:04:87:19:3c
          inet addr:192.164.168.10  Mask:255.255.255.0
          inet6 addr: fe80::5046:4ff:fe87:193c/64 Scope:Link
          UP RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST  MTU:1514  Metric:1
          RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
          TX packets:3 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
          RX bytes:0 (0.0 B)  TX bytes:210 (210.0 B)

Gi0_0_0_1 Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 52:46:2e:49:f6:ff
          inet addr:192.57.43.10  Mask:255.255.255.0
```

```
          inet6 addr: fe80::5046:2eff:fe49:f6ff/64 Scope:Link
          UP RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST  MTU:1514  Metric:1
          RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
          TX packets:3 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
          RX bytes:0 (0.0 B)  TX bytes:210 (210.0 B)

Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0 Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 52:46:12:7a:88:41
          inet addr:192.168.122.197  Mask:255.255.255.0
          inet6 addr: fe80::5046:12ff:fe7a:8841/64 Scope:Link
          UP RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST  MTU:1514  Metric:1
          RX packets:3 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
          TX packets:6 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
          RX bytes:294 (294.0 B)  TX bytes:504 (504.0 B)

fwd_ew    Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 00:00:00:00:00:0b
          inet6 addr: fe80::200:ff:fe00:b/64 Scope:Link
          UP RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST  MTU:1500  Metric:1
          RX packets:4 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
          TX packets:6 errors:0 dropped:1 overruns:0 carrier:0
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
          RX bytes:392 (392.0 B)  TX bytes:532 (532.0 B)

fwdintf   Link encap:Ethernet  HWaddr 00:00:00:00:00:0a
          inet6 addr: fe80::200:ff:fe00:a/64 Scope:Link
          UP RUNNING NOARP MULTICAST  MTU:1482  Metric:1
          RX packets:0 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
          TX packets:2 errors:0 dropped:1 overruns:0 carrier:0
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
          RX bytes:0 (0.0 B)  TX bytes:140 (140.0 B)

lo        Link encap:Local Loopback
          inet addr:127.0.0.1  Mask:255.0.0.0
          inet6 addr: ::1/128 Scope:Host
          UP LOOPBACK RUNNING  MTU:1500  Metric:1
          RX packets:8 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
          TX packets:8 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
          collisions:0 txqueuelen:0
          RX bytes:672 (672.0 B)  TX bytes:672 (672.0 B)

lo:0      Link encap:Local Loopback
          inet addr:1.1.1.1  Mask:255.255.255.255
          UP LOOPBACK RUNNING  MTU:1500  Metric:1
```

4. Exit the Linux bash shell and configure the GigE interface as the source address for external communication.

```
[xr-vm_node0_RP0_CPU0:~]$ exit

RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios# config
Fri Oct 30 08:55:17.992 UTC
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# tpa address-family ipv4 update-source gigabitEthernet 0/0/0/1
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# commit
Fri Oct 30 08:55:38.795 UTC
```

Note By default, the `fwdintf` interface maps to the `loopback0` interface for external communication. This is similar to binding a routing process or router ID to the `loopback0` interface. When you use the `tpa address-family ipv4 update-source` command to bind the `fwdintf` interface to a Gigabit Ethernet interface, network connectivity can be affected if the interface goes down.

5. Enter the Linux bash shell and verify whether the GigE interface address is used by the `fwdintf` interface for external communication.

```
/* If you are using Cisco IOS XR Version 6.0.0, run the following command */
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios# run ip netns exec tpnns bash

/* If you are using Cisco IOS XR Version 6.0.2, run the following command */
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios# bash

[xr-vm_node0_RP0_CPU0:~]$ ip route
default dev fwdintf  scope link  src 192.57.43.10
8.8.8.8 dev fwd_ew  scope link
192.168.122.0/24 dev Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0  proto kernel  scope link  src 192.168.122.197
[xr-vm_node0_RP0_CPU0:~]$
```

External communication is successfully enabled on IOS XR.

East-West Communication for Third-Party Applications

East-West communication on IOS XR is a mechanism by which applications hosted in containers interact with native XR applications (hosted in the XR control plane).

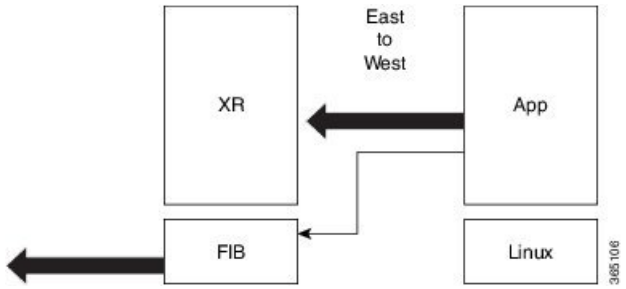
The following figure illustrates how a third-party application hosted on IOS XR interacts with the XR Control Plane.

The application sends data to the Forwarding Information Base (FIB) of IOS XR. The application is hosted in the east portion of IOS XR, while the XR control plane is located in the west region. Therefore, this form of communication between a third-party application and the XR control plane is termed as East-West (E-W) communication.

Third-party applications such as Chef Client and Puppet Agent use this mode of communication to configure and manage containers, packages, and applications on IOS XR. In the future, this support could be extended to IOS XR, configured and managed by such third-party applications.

Note East-West communication is not supported on IOS XR from software release 7.9.1.

Figure 1: East-West Communication on IOS XR



For a third-party application to communicate with IOS XR, the Loopback1 interface must be configured. This is explained in the following procedure.

1. Configure the Loopback1 interface on IOS XR.

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# interface Loopback1
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv4 address 8.8.8.8/32
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# no shut
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# commit
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# exit
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)#
```

2. Verify the creation of the Loopback1 interface.

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios# show ipv4 interface brief
Thu Nov 12 10:01:00.874 UTC

Interface                      IP-Address      Status                Protocol
Loopback0                      1.1.1.1         Up                    Up
Loopback1                      8.8.8.8         Up                    Up
GigabitEthernet0/0/0/0         192.164.168.10  Up                    Up
GigabitEthernet0/0/0/1         192.57.43.10    Up                    Up
GigabitEthernet0/0/0/2         unassigned      Shutdown              Down
MgmtEth0/RP0/CPU0/0            192.168.122.197 Up                    Up
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios#
```

3. Enter the third-party network namespace or global VRF depending on the version of IOS XR version you are using for your network.

```
/* If you are using Cisco IOS XR Version 6.0.0, run the following command */
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios# run ip netns exec tpnns bash

/* If you are using Cisco IOS XR Version 6.0.2, run the following command */
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios# bash
```

4. Verify whether the Loopback1 interface address has been mapped to the E-W interface.

```
[xr-vm_node0_RP0_CPU0:~]$ ip route
default dev fwdintf  scope link  src 192.57.43.10
8.8.8.8 dev fwd_ew  scope link
192.168.122.0/24 dev Mg0_RP0_CPU0_0  proto kernel  scope link  src 192.168.122.197
[xr-vm_node0_RP0_CPU0:~]$
```

Configuring Multiple VRFs for Application Hosting

Cisco NCS 540 routers support the configuration of multiple VRFs. The applications hosted in third-party containers can communicate with VRFs configured on XR, after east-west communication has been enabled on the VRFs.

This section describes the configuration for creating mulitple VRFs, and enabling east-west communication between the applications and the VRFs.

Configuration Procedure

Use the following steps to configure multiple VRFs for use on Cisco IOS XR.

1. Configure VRFs on XR.

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# vrf purple
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-vrf)# address-family ipv4
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-vrf)# address-family ipv6
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-vrf)# exit

RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# vrf green
```

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-vrf)# address-family ipv4
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-vrf)# address-family ipv6
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-vrf)# exit


RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# telnet vrf purple ipv4 server max-servers 2
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# telnet vrf purple ipv6 server max-servers 2
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# telnet vrf green ipv4 server max-servers 2
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# telnet vrf green ipv6 server max-servers 2
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# telnet ipv4 server max-servers 2
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# telnet ipv6 server max-servers 2
```

2. Configure the interfaces to be used with the VRFs.

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# interface loopback1
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# vrf purple
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv4 address 1.1.1.1 255.255.255.0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv6 address 10::1/64
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# exit

RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# interface loopback2
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# vrf purple
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv4 address 2.2.2.2 255.255.255.0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv6 address 20::1/64
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# exit

RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# interface loopback3
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)#vrf green
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv4 address 3.3.3.3 255.255.255.0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv6 address 30::1/64
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# exit

RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# interface loopback4
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# vrf green
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv4 address 4.4.4.4 255.255.255.0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv6 address 40::1/64
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# exit

RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# interface mgmtEth 0/RP0/CPU0/0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# vrf purple
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv4 address dhcp
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# exit

RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# interface GigabitEthernet 0/0/0/0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# vrf purple
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv4 address 10.20.30.40 255.255.255.0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv6 address 24::1/64
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# exit

RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# interface gigabitEthernet 0/0/0/1
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# vrf green
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv4 address 40.30.20.10 255.255.255.0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# ipv6 address 22::1/64
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-if)# exit
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# commit
Fri Sep  1 12:04:37.796 UTC
```

3. Configure TPA VRFs.

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# tpa
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa)# vrf purple
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# east-west loopback1
```

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# east-west loopback2
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# address-family ipv4
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf-afi)# update-source GigabitEthernet 0/0/0/0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf-afi)# exit
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# address-family ipv6
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf-afi)# update-source Gigabitethernet 0/0/0/0
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf-afi)# exit
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# exit


RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa)# vrf green
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# east-west loopback3
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# east-west loopback4
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# address-family ipv4
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf-afi)# update-source GigabitEthernet 0/0/0/1
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf-afi)# exit
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# address-family ipv6
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf-afi)# update-source Gigabitethernet 0/0/0/1
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf-afi)# exit
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa-vrf)# exit
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config-tpa)# exit
```

4. Validate the configuration.

```
RP/0/RP0/CPU0:ios(config)# show run
Fri Sep  1 12:06:35.596 UTC
...
vrf purple
address-family ipv4
address-family ipv6
vrf green
address-family ipv4
address-family ipv6

telnet vrf green ipv4 server max-servers 2
telnet vrf green ipv6 server max-servers 2
telnet vrf purple ipv4 server max-servers 2
telnet vrf purple ipv6 server max-servers 2
telnet vrf default ipv4 server max-servers 2
telnet vrf default ipv6 server max-servers 2
...
!
tpa
 vrf purple
  east-west loopback1
  east-west loopback2
  address-family ipv4
   update-source GigabitEthernet0/0/0/0
 !
  address-family ipv6
   update-source GigabitEthernet0/0/0/0
 !

 vrf green
  east-west loopback3
  east-west loopback4
  address-family ipv4
   update-source GigabitEthernet0/0/0/1
 !
  address-family ipv6
   update-source GigabitEthernet0/0/0/1
 !
!
interface loopback1
```

```
 vrf purple
 ipv4 address 1.1.1.1 255.255.255.0
 ipv6 address 10::1/64
!
interface loopback2
 vrf purple
 ipv4 address 2.2.2.2 255.255.255.0
 ipv6 address 20::1/64
!
interface loopback3
 vrf green
 ipv4 address 3.3.3.3 255.255.255.0
 ipv6 address 30::1/64
!
interface loopback4
 vrf green
 ipv4 address 4.4.4.4 255.255.255.0
 ipv6 address 40::1/64
!
interface MgmtEth0/RP0/CPU0/0
 vrf purple
 ipv4 address dhcp
!
router static
 address-family ipv4 unicast
  0.0.0.0/0 MgmtEth0/RP0/CPU0/0 10.0.2.2
 !
!
```

You have successfully configured multiple VRFs for use on Cisco IOS XR.