



Migrating from OSPF to ISIS

ISP/IXP Workshops

Motivation

- “Security”

ISIS runs on link layer, while OSPF runs on IP

- “Reliability”

ISIS has long been used by the majority of the world’s biggest ISPs

Belief that equipment vendors pay more attention to ISIS reliability, scalability, and features

- Migration to IPv6

IPv6 requires OSPFv2 and OSPFv3 in network

Two protocols, two sets of identical configuration

ISIS simply requires the addition of the IPv6 address-family

Most networks operate single topology for IPv4 and IPv6

Migration Plan

1. Verify OSPF configuration and operation
2. Deploy ISIS over entire backbone
3. Set ISIS admin distance to be lower than OSPF
4. Check for remnants in OSPF
5. Remove OSPF from entire backbone
6. Restore ISIS default admin distance
7. Confirm IGP operation

Verify OSPF Configuration

- `next-hop-self` for iBGP

No external point-to-point links need to be carried on OSPF

If external point-to-point links are required (for monitoring), carry in iBGP tagged with specific community visible to monitoring system only

- Remove surplus OSPF `network` statements

Only Loopback and internal point-to-point links should remain

(For IOS 12.4 onwards and IOS-XR ensure that OSPF is only activated on internal and loopback interfaces – same for OSPFv3 configuration)

Configuration Example: IOS <12.4

```
interface loopback 0
  ip addr 172.16.1.1 255.255.255.255
interface fastethernet 0/0
  ip address 172.16.0.1 255.255.255.252
interface fastethernet 0/1
  ip address 172.16.0.5 255.255.255.252
...
router ospf 100
  max-metric router-lsa on-startup wait-for-bgp
  passive-interface default
  no passive-interface fastethernet 0/0
  no passive-interface fastethernet 0/1
  network 172.16.0.0 mask 0.0.0.3 area 0
  network 172.16.0.4 mask 0.0.0.3 area 0
  network 172.16.1.1 mask 0.0.0.0 area 0
```

Configuration Example: IOS 12.4

```
interface loopback 0
  ip addr 172.16.1.1 255.255.255.255
  ip ospf 100 area 0
interface fastethernet 0/0
  ip address 172.16.0.1 255.255.255.252
  ip ospf 100 area 0
interface fastethernet 0/1
  ip address 172.16.0.5 255.255.255.252
  ip ospf 100 area 0
...
router ospf 100
  max-metric router-lsa on-startup wait-for-bgp
  passive-interface default
  no passive-interface fastethernet 0/0
  no passive-interface fastethernet 0/1
```

Configuration Example: IOS-XR

```
interface loopback 0
  ip addr 172.16.1.1 255.255.255.255
interface fastethernet 0/0
  ip address 172.16.0.1 255.255.255.252
interface fastethernet 0/1
  ip address 172.16.0.5 255.255.255.252
...
router ospf ISP
  area 0
    interface Loopback0
      passive enable
    !
  interface fastethernet 0/0
    !
  interface fastethernet 0/1
```

IPv6 configuration

- If IPv6 has already been deployed
OSPFv3 configuration also needs to be tidied up
- For IOS:
`router ospf 100` configuration should look identical to the
`ipv6 router ospf 100` configuration
- For IOS-XR:
`router ospf ISP` configuration should look identical to the
`router ospfv3 ISP` configuration
- Check that the IPv4 adjacencies match the IPv6 adjacencies

Verifying OSPF operation

- Verifying operation is important after clean up
 - iBGP peers all stable
 - Next hop values are all valid
 - Check OSPF routing table
- If OSPFv3 deployed for IPv6, compare with OSPFv2
 - As well as adjacencies, compare routing table entries

Deploy ISIS over entire backbone

- Ten years ago ISPs were experimenting with partial IPv6 deployments before extending over entire backbone

Fears about router code stability

Uncertainty about need to deploy IPv6 (given lack of “market demand” and continued abundance of IPv4 addresses)

- Today, IPv6 deployment is fundamentally important to ensure continued network and Internet growth

Which means that ISPs will deploy dual-stack

And every device running an IPv4 IGP will also require to run an IPv6 IGP

⇒ Single congruent topology (no multi-topology ISIS)

Deploy ISIS over entire backbone

- ISIS deployment:

- Leave distance at default of 115 (higher than OSPF's 110)

- Use wide metrics (required for IPv6 address family support)

- Only using Level-2 IS (IOS default is L1L2)

- Deploy both IPv4 and IPv6 at the same time

- Passive interface configuration means ISIS is not run on the interface, but the address is announced in the IGP

- IPv6 addressing in backbone – choice of:

- Global unicast addresses

- Link local addressing/unnumbered interfaces

Configuration Example: IOS

```
interface loopback 0
  ip address 172.16.1.1 255.255.255.255
  ipv6 address 2001:db8::1/128
```

!

```
interface fastethernet 0/0
  ip address 172.16.0.1 255.255.255.252
  ipv6 unnumbered loopback 0
```

```
ip router isis ISP
```


```
isis metric 20 level-2
```

```
ipv6 router isis ISP
```

```
isis ipv6 metric 20 level-2
```

!

(next slide)




Both IPv4 and IPv6
configurations

Configuration Example: IOS (cont)

```
interface fastethernet 0/1
  ip address 172.16.0.5 255.255.255.252
  ipv6 unnumbered loopback 0
  ip router isis ISP
  isis metric 20 level-2
  ipv6 router isis ISP
  isis ipv6 metric 20 level-2
!
router isis ISP
  net 49.0001.1720.1600.1001.00
  passive-interface Loopback 0
  is-type level-2-only
  metric-style wide
  set-overload-bit on-startup wait-for-bgp
!
```

Both IPv4 and IPv6
configurations



Configuration Example: IOS-XR

```
interface loopback 0
  ip address 172.16.1.1 255.255.255.255
  ipv6 address 2001:db8::1/128
interface fastethernet 0/0
  ip address 172.16.0.1 255.255.255.252
  ipv6 enable
interface fastethernet 0/1
  ip address 172.16.0.5 255.255.255.252
  ipv6 enable
...
router isis ISP
  set-overload-bit on-startup wait-for-bgp
  is-type level-2-only
  net 49.0001.1720.1600.1001.00
  address-family ipv4 unicast
    metric-style wide
  address-family ipv6 unicast
    metric-style wide
    single-topology
(next slide)
```

Single Topology IS



Configuration Example: IOS-XR (cont)

```
router isis ISP
!
interface Loopback0
  passive
  address-family ipv4 unicast
    metric 1 level 2
  address-family ipv6 unicast
    metric 1 level 2
!
interface fastethernet 0/0
  address-family ipv4 unicast
    metric 20 level 2
  address-family ipv6 unicast
    metric 20 level 2
!
interface fastethernet 0/1
  address-family ipv4 unicast
    metric 20 level 2
  address-family ipv6 unicast
    metric 20 level 2
```

Set ISIS Admin Distance Low

- Once ISIS is deployed over entire backbone set admin distance below that of OSPF

For all routers across the backbone

- Example:

```
router isis ISP
 distance 105 ip
```

**“ip” keyword
required in IOS**



- All ISIS paths learned by the router now take priority over the OSPF paths

For both IPv4 and IPv6

OSPF remnants

- As ISIS is now responsible for interior routing, if all the preparation work was completed, there should be no prefixes left in OSPF

If there are, check what they are, and what caused them

- Remnant prefixes could include:
 - Forgotten passive interfaces for ISIS
 - Forgotten active adjacencies

OSPF remnants

- Check adjacencies across the backbone

Compare `show ip ospf neigh` with `show isis neigh`

There should be the same number of neighbours

If not, fix the problem

- End result of tidying up work should mean:

1. No more prefixes left in OSPF

2. A successful deployment of ISIS

Remove OSPF

- OSPF can now be safely removed from the entire backbone

- IOS:

```
no router ospf 100
```

```
no ipv6 router ospf 100
```

Will also need to go to each interface and remove ospf metric, link type, and authentication configuration

IOS does not remove these when the routing process is removed

- IOS-XR

```
no router ospf ISP
```

```
no router ospfv3 ISP
```

Performs a clean removal

Restore ISIS default distance

- ISIS protocol distance should now be returned to the default value of 115

Done across the entire backbone

- Example:

```
router isis ISP
  no distance 105 ip
!
```

- There should be no impact on the IGP operation in doing this change

Confirm IGP operation

- ISIS should now be functioning normally
- Verify iBGP sessions
 - Should have been completely unaffected by the entire migration process
- Verify next hop values
 - Adjacencies should be known ISIS
- Verify customer and external access
- Task complete

Conclusion

- Migration from OSPFv2 and OSPFv3 to ISIS is straightforward
 - With planning
 - With adherence to procedure developed during planning
- Can be carried out any time
 - (but planned maintenance slots strongly recommended)
- Now running single multi-address family IGP to support both IPv4 and IPv6

Footnote

- Migrating from ISIS to OSPF

Use the reverse of the described process

But why would anyone?

- Migrating from EIGRP to ISIS

Follow the same procedures described here

EIGRP's administrative distance is either 90 or 170, depending on prefix origin ⇒ set ISIS admin distance appropriately



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