Mobile Ad hoc Networking (MANET)
Internet-Draft
Intended status: Standards Track
Expires: January 14, 2010

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July 13, 2009

The Optimized Link State Routing Protocol version 2
draft-ietf-manet-olsrv2-09

Status of This Memo

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Abstract

This document describes version 2 of the Optimized Link State Routing (OLSRv2) protocol for Mobile Ad hoc NETworks (MANETs).

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1. Introduction

The Optimized Link State Routing protocol version 2 (OLSRv2) is an update to OLSRv1 as published in [RFC3626]. Compared to [RFC3626], OLSRv2 retains the same basic mechanisms and algorithms, while using a more flexible and efficient signaling framework, and includes some simplification of the messages being exchanged.

OLSRv2 is developed for mobile ad hoc networks. It operates as a table driven, proactive protocol, i.e. it exchanges topology information with other routers in the network regularly. It is an optimization of the classical link state routing protocol. The key concept used in the protocol is that of MultiPoint Relays (MPRs). Each router selects a set of its neighbor routers (which "cover" all of its symmetrically connected 2-hop neighbor routers) as MPRs. Control traffic is flooded through the network using hop by hop forwarding, but where a router only needs to forward control traffic directly received from its MPR selectors (routers which have selected it as an MPR). This mechanism, denoted "MPR flooding", provides an efficient mechanism for information distribution within the MANET by reducing the number of transmissions required.

Routers selected as MPRs also have a special responsibility when declaring link state information in the network. A sufficient requirement for OLSRv2 to provide shortest (lowest hop count) path routes to all destinations is that routers declare link state information for their MPR selectors, if any. Additional available link state information may be transmitted, e.g. for redundancy. Thus, as well as being used to facilitate MPR flooding, use of MPRs allows the reduction of the number and size of link state messages, and MPRs are used as intermediate routers in multi-hop routes.

A router selects MPRs from among its one hop neighbors connected by "symmetric", i.e. bidirectional, links. Therefore, selecting routes through MPRs automatically avoids the problems associated with data packet transfer over unidirectional links (such as the problem of not getting link layer acknowledgments at each hop, for link layers employing this technique).

OLSRv2 uses and extends [NHDP] and uses [RFC5444], [RFC5497] and, optionally, [RFC5148]. (These other protocols and specifications were all originally created as part of OLSRv2, but have been specified separately for wider use.)

OLSRv2 makes no assumptions about the underlying link layer. However, OLSRv2, through its use of [NHDP], may use link layer information and notifications when available and applicable.

OLSRv2, as OLSRv1, inherits its concept of forwarding and relaying from HIPERLAN (a MAC layer protocol) which is standardized by ETSI [HIPERLAN], [HIPERLAN2].

2. Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

All terms introduced in [RFC5444], including "packet", "message", "Address Block", "TLV Block", and "TLV", are to be interpreted as described there.

All terms introduced in [NHDP], including "interface", "MANET interface", "address", "symmetric link", "symmetric 1-hop neighbor", "symmetric 2-hop neighbor", "constant", "interface parameter", and "router parameter", are to be interpreted as described there.

Additionally, this document uses the following terminology:

Router - A MANET router which implements the Optimized Link State Routing protocol version 2 as specified in this document.

OLSRv2 interface - A MANET interface, running OLSRv2. Note that all references to MANET interfaces in [NHDP] refer to OLSRv2 interfaces when using [NHDP] to support OLSRv2.

Originator address - An address which is unique (within the MANET) to the selecting router. A router MUST select an originator address; it MAY choose one of its interface addresses as its originator address. An originator address MUST NOT have a prefix length. An originator address MUST be included in all messages generated by this protocol, and as specified in [RFC5444].

Willingness - A numerical value between WILL_NEVER and WILL_ALWAYS (both inclusive), which represents the router's willingness to be selected as an MPR.

Willing symmetric 1-hop neighbor - A symmetric 1-hop neighbor of this router which has willingness not equal to WILL_NEVER.

Symmetric strict 2-hop neighbor - A router, X, is a symmetric strict 2-hop neighbor of a router Y, if router X is a symmetric 2-hop neighbor of router Y and if router X is not also a willing symmetric 1-hop neighbor of router Y.

Symmetric strict 2-hop neighbor through OLSRv2 interface I - A symmetric strict 2-hop neighbor of the router with OLSRv2 interface I which is a symmetric 1-hop neighbor of a willing symmetric 1-hop neighbor of that router via a symmetric link using OLSRv2 interface I. The router MAY elect to consider only information received over OLSRv2 interface I in making this determination.

Symmetric strict 2-hop neighborhood - The symmetric strict 2-hop neighborhood of a router X is the set of symmetric strict 2-hop neighbors of router X.

Multipoint relay (MPR) - A router, X, is an MPR for a router, Y, if router Y has selected router X to "re-transmit" all the broadcast messages that it receives from router X, provided that the message is not a duplicate, and that the hop limit field of the message is greater than one.

MPR selector - A router, Y, is an MPR selector of router X if router Y has selected router X as MPR.

MPR flooding - The optimized MANET-wide information distribution mechanism, employed by this protocol, in which a message is relayed by only a reduced subset of the routers in the network.

This document employs the same notational conventions as in [RFC5444] and [NHDP].

3. Applicability Statement

The Optimized Link State Routing protocol version 2 (OLSRv2):

- o Is a proactive routing protocol for mobile ad hoc networks (MANETs) [RFC2501].
- o Is designed to work in networks with a dynamic topology, and in which messages may be lost, such as due to collisions in wireless networks.
- o Supports routers that each have one or more participating OLSRv2 interfaces. The set of a router's interfaces may change over time. Each OLSRv2 interface may have one or more addresses (which may have prefix lengths), and these may also be dynamically changing.
- o Enables hop-by-hop routing, i.e., each router can use its local information provided by OLSRv2 to route packets.

- Continuously maintains routes to all destinations in the network, i.e., routes are instantly available and data traffic is subject to no delays due to route discovery. Consequently, no data traffic buffering is required.

- Supports routers which have non-OLSRv2 interfaces which may be local to a router or which can serve as gateways towards other networks.

- Is optimized for large and dense networks: the larger and more dense a network, the more optimization can be achieved by using MPRs, compared to the classic link state algorithm.

- Uses the message format specified in [RFC5444]. This includes the definition of a TC Message Type, used for MANET wide signaling of network topology information.

- Allows "external" and "internal" extensibility as enabled by [RFC5444].

- Uses [NHDP] for discovering each OLSRv2 router's 1-hop and symmetric 2-hop neighbors, and extends [NHDP] by addition of MPR and willingness information.

- Is designed to work in a completely distributed manner, and does not depend on any central entity.

4. Protocol Overview and Functioning

The objective of OLSRv2 is, for each router to, independently:

- Identify all destinations in the network.

- Identify a sufficient subset of links in the network, in order that shortest paths can be calculated to all available destinations.

- Provide a Routing Set, containing these shortest paths from this router to all destinations.

These objectives are achieved for each router by:

- Using [NHDP] to identify symmetric 1-hop neighbors and symmetric 2-hop neighbors.

- Independently selecting MPRs from among its symmetric 1-hop neighbors such that all symmetric 2-hop neighbors are reachable via at least one symmetric 1-hop neighbor. An analysis and examples of MPR selection algorithms is given in [MPR], a suggested algorithm is included in this specification. Note that it is not necessary for routers to use the same algorithm to interoperate.

- Signaling its MPR selection by extending [NHDP] to include this information in outgoing HELLO messages.

- Extracting its MPR selectors from received HELLO messages.

- Reporting its willingness to be an MPR in HELLO messages. The router's willingness to be an MPR indicates how willing it is to participate in MPR flooding and to be an intermediate node for routing. A node can absolutely decline to perform either role.

- Periodically signaling links between MPR selectors and itself throughout the MANET, by using TC (Topology Control) messages, defined in this specification.

- Diffusing TC messages by using flooding reduction mechanism, denoted "MPR flooding": only the MPRs of a router will retransmit messages received from (i.e., originated or last relayed by) that router.

This specification defines, in turn:

- Parameters and constants used by OLSRv2, in addition to those specified in [NHDP]. Parameters used by OLSRv2 may be, where appropriate, specific to a given OLSRv2 interface, or to an OLSRv2 router. OLSRv2 allows all parameters to be changed dynamically, and to be set independently for each OLSRv2 router or OLSRv2 interface, as appropriate.

- Extensions to the Information Bases specified in [NHDP], and new Topology Information Base and Processing and Forwarding Information Base.

- An Address Block TLV, to be included within the HELLO messages of [NHDP], allowing a router to signal MPR selection.

- A Message TLV, to be included within the HELLO messages of [NHDP], allowing a router to indicate its willingness to be an MPR.

- The MPR flooding mechanism.

- The format of the TC message that is used for MANET wide signaling.

- The generation of TC messages from the appropriate information in the Information Bases.

- The updating of the Information Bases according to received TC messages.

- The response to other events, such as the expiration of information in the Information Bases.

OLSRv2 inherits the stability of a link state algorithm and has the advantage of having routes immediately available when needed due to its proactive nature.

OLSRv2 only interacts with IP through routing table management, and the use of the sending IP address for IP datagrams containing OLSRv2 messages.

4.1. Routers and Interfaces

In order for a router to participate in a MANET, it MUST have at least one, and possibly more, OLSRv2 interfaces. Each OLSRv2 interface:

- Is configured with one or more addresses, as specified in [NHDP]. These addresses MUST be unique within the MANET.

- Has a number of interface parameters, adding to those specified in [NHDP].

- Has an Interface Information Base, extending that specified in [NHDP].

- Generates and processes HELLO messages according to [NHDP], extended as specified in Section 9 and Section 10.

In addition to a set of MANET interfaces as described above, each router:

- Has a number of router parameters, adding to those specified in [NHDP].

- Has a Local Information Base, extending that specified in [NHDP].

- Has a Neighbor Information Base, extending that specified in [NHDP].

- Has a Topology Information Base, recording information required for generation and processing of TC messages.

- Has a Processing and Forwarding Information Base, recording information required for MPR flooding, and to ensure that each TC message is only processed once by a router.

- Generates and processes TC messages.

4.2. Information Base Overview

Each router maintains the Information Bases described in the following sections. These are used for describing the protocol in this document. An implementation of this protocol MAY maintain this information in the indicated form, or in any other organization which offers access to this information. In particular, note that it is not necessary to remove Tuples from Sets at the exact time indicated, only to behave as if the Tuples were removed at that time.

4.2.1. Local Information Base

The Local Information Base is specified in [NHDP] and contains a router's local configuration. It is extended in this specification to also contain a router's:

- Originator Set, containing addresses that were recently used as this router's originator address.

- Local Attached Network Set, containing addresses of networks to which this router can act as a gateway.

The Originator Set is used to enable a router to recognize and discard control traffic which was originated by the router itself.

The Local Attached Network Set is used to enable a router to include advertisement of reachability to a network, for which the router can act as a gateway, when generating TC messages.

4.2.2. Interface Information Bases

The Interface Information Bases, one for each OLSRv2 interface, are specified in [NHDP]. In addition to the uses in [NHDP], information recorded in the Interface Information Bases is used for completing the Routing Set.

4.2.3. Neighbor Information Base

The Neighbor Information Base is specified in [NHDP], and is extended to also record the willingness of each neighbor to be an MPR, as well as this router's MPR relationships with each neighbor. Specifically, each Neighbor Tuple is extended to record whether that neighbor is an

MPR and/or MPR selector of this router, as well as the neighbor's willingness to be an MPR.

In addition to the uses in [NHDP], information recorded in the Neighbor Information Base is used to determine inclusion of the MPR Address Block TLV, defined in this document, as well as for populating the Advertised Neighbor Set and the Relay Sets of a router.

4.2.4. Topology Information Base

The Topology Information Base contains:

o An Advertised Neighbor Set, describing the symmetric 1-hop neighbors of this router that are to be advertised in TC messages. This set contains at least the MPR selectors of this router, and is associated with an Advertised Neighbor Sequence Number (ANSN), which is incremented for each change made to this Advertised Neighbor Set.

o An Advertising Remote Router Set, describing each other router from which TC messages have been received.

o A Topology Set, recording links between routers in the MANET, as described by received TC messages.

o An Attached Network Set, recording networks to which a remote router has advertised that it may act as a gateway.

o A Routing Set, calculated based on the Interface Information Bases, the Neighbor Information Base, and the Topology Information Base to record routes from this router to all available destinations, The routing table is to be updated from this Routing Set. (A router MAY choose to use any or all destination addresses in the Routing Set to update the routing table, this selection is outside the scope of OLSRv2.)

The Advertised Neighbor Set is used for when generating TC messages; the Advertised Neighbor Sequence Number is included in each TC message, thereby allowing a receiving router to identify if a TC message contains fresh or outdated information.

The Advertising Remote Router Set, the Topology Set and the Attached Network Set are all updated upon receipt of TC messages, and are used when determining the contents of the Routing Set.

4.2.5. Processing and Forwarding Information Base

The Processing and Forwarding Information Base contains:

- o A Received Set, describing TC messages received by this router.
- o A Processed Set, describing TC messages processed by this router.
- o A Forwarded Set, describing TC messages forwarded by this router.
- o A Relay Set for each OLSRv2 interface, describing the set of neighbor routers from which received traffic is to be relayed (if otherwise appropriate).

The Processing and Forwarding Information Base serves the MPR flooding mechanism by enabling that received messages are forwarded at most once, by a router. and also ensures that received messages are processed exactly once.

4.3. Signaling Overview

OLSRv2 uses the neighborhood discovery protocol [NHDP], and generates and processes HELLO messages according to [NHDP], extended according to Section 9 and Section 10.

OLSRv2 specifies a single message type, the TC message.

OLSRv2 does not require reliable transmission of TC messages; each router sends TC messages periodically, and can therefore sustain a reasonable loss of some such messages. Such losses may occur frequently in wireless networks due to collisions or other transmission problems. OLSRv2 MAY use "jitter", randomized adjustments to message transmission times, to reduce the incidence of collisions as specified in [RFC5148].

OLSRv2 does not require sequenced delivery of TC messages. Each TC message contains a sequence number which is incremented when the message contents change. Thus the recipient of a TC message can, if required, easily identify which information is more recent, even if messages have been re-ordered while in transmission.

TC messages may be "complete" or "incomplete". A complete TC message contains at least the set of addresses of the originating router's MPR selectors. Complete TC messages are generated periodically (and also, optionally, in response to neighborhood changes). Incomplete TC messages may be used to report additions to advertised information without repeating unchanged information.

TC messages are MPR flooded throughout the MANET. A router retransmits a TC message only if it is received from (i.e., originated from or was last relayed by) one of that router's MPR selectors.

Some TC messages may be MPR flooded over only part of the network, allowing a router to ensure that nearer routers are kept more up to date than distant routers, such as is used in Fisheye State Routing [FSR] and Fuzzy Sighted Link State routing [FSLS]. This is enabled in OLSRv2 by using [RFC5497].

5. Protocol Parameters and Constants

The parameters and constants used in this specification are those defined in [NHDP] plus those defined in this section. The separation in [NHDP] into interface parameters, router parameters and constants is also used in OLSRv2, however all but one (RX_HOLD_TIME) of the parameters added by OLSRv2 are router parameters. Parameters may be classified into the following categories:

- Local history times
- Message intervals
- Advertised information validity times
- Received message validity times
- Jitter times
- Hop limits
- Willingness

In addition, constants for particular cases of a router's willingness to be an MPR are defined. These parameters and constants are detailed in the following sections. As for the parameters in [NHDP], parameters defined in this document may be changed dynamically by a router, and need not be the same on different routers, even in the same MANET, or on different interfaces of the same router (for interface parameters).

5.1. Protocol and Port Numbers

This protocol specifies TC messages, which are included in packets as defined by [RFC5444]. These packets may be sent either using the "manet" protocol number or the "manet" well-known UDP port number, as specified in [RFC5498].

TC messages and HELLO messages [NHDP] SHOULD, in a given deployment of OLSRv2, both be using the same of either of IP or UDP, in order that it is possible to combine messages of both protocols into the same [RFC5444] packet.

5.2. Multicast Address

This protocol specifies HELLO messages, which are included in packets as defined by [RFC5444]. These packets may be locally transmitted using the link local multicast address "LL-MANET-Routers", as specified in [RFC5498].

5.3. Local History Times

The following router parameter manages the time for which local information is retained:

O_HOLD_TIME - is used to define the time for which a recently used and replaced originator address is used to recognize the router's own messages.

The following constraint applies to this parameter:

- O_HOLD_TIME >= 0

5.4. Message Intervals

The following router parameters regulate TC message transmissions by a router. TC messages are usually sent periodically, but MAY also be sent in response to changes in the router's Advertised Neighbor Set and Local Attached Network Set. With a larger value of the parameter TC_INTERVAL, and a smaller value of the parameter TC_MIN_INTERVAL, TC messages may more often be transmitted in response to changes in a highly dynamic network. However because a router has no knowledge of, for example, routers remote to it (i.e. beyond 2 hops away) joining the network, TC messages MUST NOT be sent purely responsively.

TC_INTERVAL - is the maximum time between the transmission of two successive TC messages by this router. When no TC messages are sent in response to local network changes (by design, or because the local network is not changing) then TC messages SHOULD be sent at a regular interval TC_INTERVAL, possibly modified by jitter as specified in [RFC5148].

TC_MIN_INTERVAL - is the minimum interval between transmission of two successive TC messages by this router. (This minimum interval MAY be modified by jitter, as specified in [RFC5148].)

The following constraints apply to these parameters:

- o TC_INTERVAL > 0
- o TC_MIN_INTERVAL >= 0
- o TC_INTERVAL >= TC_MIN_INTERVAL
- o If INTERVAL_TIME TLVs as defined in [RFC5497] are included in TC messages, then TC_INTERVAL MUST be representable as described in [RFC5497].

5.5. Advertised Information Validity Times

The following router parameters manage the validity time of information advertised in TC messages:

T_HOLD_TIME - is used to define the minimum Value in the VALIDITY_TIME TLV included in all TC messages sent by this router. If a single value of parameter TC_HOP_LIMIT (see Section 5.8) is used then this will be the only Value in that TLV.

A_HOLD_TIME - is the period during which TC messages are sent after they no longer have any advertised information to report, but are sent in order to accelerate outdated information removal by other routers.

The following constraints apply to these parameters:

- o T_HOLD_TIME > 0
- o A_HOLD_TIME >= 0
- o T_HOLD_TIME >= TC_INTERVAL
- o If TC messages can be lost, then both T_HOLD_TIME and A_HOLD_TIME SHOULD be significantly greater than TC_INTERVAL; a value >= 3 x TC_INTERVAL is RECOMMENDED.
- o T_HOLD_TIME MUST be representable as described in [RFC5497].

5.6. Received Message Validity Times

The following parameters manage the validity time of recorded received message information:

RX_HOLD_TIME - is an interface parameter, and is the period after receipt of a message by the appropriate OLSRv2 interface of this router for which that information is recorded, in order that the message is recognized as having been previously received on this OLSRv2 interface.

P_HOLD_TIME - is a router parameter, and is the period after receipt of a message which is processed by this router for which that information is recorded, in order that the message is not processed again if received again.

F_HOLD_TIME - is a router parameter, and is the period after receipt of a message which is forwarded by this router for which that information is recorded, in order that the message is not forwarded again if received again.

The following constraints apply to these parameters:

- RX_HOLD_TIME > 0
- P_HOLD_TIME > 0
- F_HOLD_TIME > 0
- All of these parameters SHOULD be greater than the maximum difference in time that a message may take to traverse the MANET, taking into account any message forwarding jitter as well as propagation, queuing, and processing delays.

5.7. Jitter

If jitter, as defined in [RFC5148], is used then these parameters are as follows:

TP_MAXJITTER - represents the value of MAXJITTER used in [RFC5148] for periodically generated TC messages sent by this router.

TT_MAXJITTER - represents the value of MAXJITTER used in [RFC5148] for externally triggered TC messages sent by this router.

F_MAXJITTER - represents the default value of MAXJITTER used in [RFC5148] for messages forwarded by this router. However before using F_MAXJITTER a router MAY attempt to deduce a more appropriate value of MAXJITTER, for example based on any INTERVAL_TIME or VALIDITY_TIME TLVs contained in the message to be forwarded.

For constraints on these parameters see [RFC5148].

5.8. Hop Limit Parameter

The parameter TC_HOP_LIMIT is the hop limit set in each TC message. TC_HOP_LIMIT MAY be a single fixed value, or MAY be different in TC messages sent by the same router. However each other router, at any hop count distance, SHOULD see a regular pattern of TC messages, in order that meaningful Values of INTERVAL_TIME and VALIDITY_TIME TLVs at each hop count distance can be included as defined in [RFC5497]. Thus the pattern of TC_HOP_LIMIT SHOULD be defined to have this property. For example the repeating pattern (255 4 4) satisfies this property (having period TC_INTERVAL at hop counts up to 4, inclusive, and 3 x TC_INTERVAL at hop counts greater than 4), but the repeating pattern (255 255 4 4) does not satisfy this property because at hop counts greater than 4, message intervals are alternately TC_INTERVAL and 3 x TC_INTERVAL.

The following constraints apply to this parameter:

- The maximum value of TC_HOP_LIMIT >= the network diameter in hops, a value of 255 is RECOMMENDED.

- All values of TC_HOP_LIMIT >= 2.

5.9. Willingness

Each router has a WILLINGNESS parameter, which MUST be in the range WILL_NEVER to WILL_ALWAYS, inclusive, and represents its willingness to be an MPR, and hence its willingness to forward messages and be an intermediate router on routes. If a router has WILLINGNESS = WILL_NEVER it does not perform these tasks. A MANET using OLSRv2 with too many routers with WILLINGNESS = WILL_NEVER will not function; it MUST be ensured, by administrative or other means, that this does not happen.

Routers MAY have different WILLINGNESS values; however the three constants WILL_NEVER, WILL_DEFAULT and WILL_ALWAYS MUST have the values defined in Section 17. (Use of WILLINGNESS = WILL_DEFAULT allows a router to avoid including an MPR_WILLING TLV in its TC messages, use of WILLINGNESS = WILL_ALWAYS means that a router will always be selected as an MPR by all symmetric 1-hop neighbors.)

The following constraints apply to this parameter:

- o WILLINGNESS >= WILL_NEVER
- o WILLINGNESS <= WILL_ALWAYS

5.10. Parameter Change Constraints

This section presents guidelines, applicable if protocol parameters are changed dynamically.

O_HOLD_TIME

* If O_HOLD_TIME for a router changes, then O_time for all Originator Tuples MAY be changed.

TC_INTERVAL

* If the TC_INTERVAL for a router increases, then the next TC message generated by this router MUST be generated according to the previous, shorter, TC_INTERVAL. Additional subsequent TC messages MAY be generated according to the previous, shorter, TC_INTERVAL.

* If the TC_INTERVAL for a router decreases, then the following TC messages from this router MUST be generated according to the current, shorter, TC_INTERVAL.

RX_HOLD_TIME

* If RX_HOLD_TIME for an OLSRv2 interface changes, then RX_time for all Received Tuples for that OLSRv2 interface MAY be changed.

P_HOLD_TIME

* If P_HOLD_TIME changes, then P_time for all Processed Tuples MAY be changed.

F_HOLD_TIME

* If F_HOLD_TIME changes, then F_time for all Forwarded Tuples MAY be changed.

TP_MAXJITTER

* If TP_MAXJITTER changes, then the periodic TC message schedule on this router MAY be changed immediately.

TT_MAXJITTER

* If TT_MAXJITTER changes, then externally triggered TC messages on this router MAY be rescheduled.

F_MAXJITTER

* If F_MAXJITTER changes, then TC messages waiting to be forwarded with a delay based on this parameter MAY be rescheduled.

TC_HOP_LIMIT

* If TC_HOP_LIMIT changes, and the router uses multiple values after the change, then message intervals and validity times included in TC messages MUST be respected. The simplest way to do this is to start any new repeating pattern of TC_HOP_LIMIT values with its largest value.

6. Information Bases

The purpose of OLSRv2 is to determine the Routing Set, which may be used to update IP's Routing Table, providing "next hop" routing information for IP datagrams. OLSRv2 maintains the following Information Bases:

Local Information Base - as defined in [NHDP], extended by the addition of an Originator Set, defined in Section 6.1.1 and a Local Attached Network Set, defined in Section 6.1.2.

Interface Information Bases - as defined in [NHDP], one Interface Information Base for each OLSRv2 interface.

Neighbor Information Base - as defined in [NHDP], extended by the addition of three elements to each Neighbor Tuple, as defined in Section 6.2.

Topology Information Base - this Information Base is specific to OLSRv2, and is defined in Section 6.3.

Processing and Forwarding Information Base - this Information Base is specific to OLSRv2, and is defined in Section 6.4.

The ordering of sequence numbers, when considering which is the greater, is as defined in Section 18.

6.1. Local Information Base

The Local Information Base as defined in [NHDP] is extended by the addition of an Originator Set, defined in Section 6.1.1, and a Local Attached Network Set, defined in Section 6.1.2.

6.1.1. Originator Set

A router's Originator Set records addresses that were recently used as originator addresses by this router. If a router's originator address is immutable then this set is always empty and MAY be omitted. It consists of Originator Tuples:

(O_orig_addr, O_time)

where:

O_orig_addr is a recently used originator address;

O_time specifies the time at which this Tuple expires and MUST be removed.

6.1.2. Local Attached Network Set

A router's Local Attached Network Set records its local non-OLSRv2 interfaces via which it can act as gateways to other networks. The Local Attached Network Set is not modified by this protocol. This protocol MAY respond to changes to the Local Attached Network Set, which MUST reflect corresponding changes in the router's status. It consists of Local Attached Network Tuples:

(AL_net_addr, AL_dist)

where:

AL_net_addr is the network address of an attached network which can be reached via this router.

AL_dist is the number of hops to the network with address AL_net_addr from this router.

Attached networks local to this router SHOULD be treated as local non-MANET interfaces, and added to the Local Interface Set, as specified in [NHDP], rather than being added to the Local Attached Network Set.

An attached network MAY also be attached to other routers.

It is not the responsibility of OLSRv2 to maintain routes from this router to networks recorded in the Local Attached Network Set.

Local Attached Neighbor Tuples are removed from the Local Attached Network Set only when the routers' local attached network configuration changes, i.e., they are not subject to timer-based expiration or changes due to received messages.

6.2. Neighbor Information Base

Each Neighbor Tuple in the Neighbor Set, defined in [NHDP], has these additional elements:

N_willingness is the router's willingness to be selected as an MPR, in the range from WILL_NEVER to WILL_ALWAYS, both inclusive;

N_mpr is a boolean flag, describing if this neighbor is selected as an MPR by this router;

N_mpr_selector is a boolean flag, describing if this neighbor has selected this router as an MPR, i.e., is an MPR selector of this router.

6.3. Topology Information Base

The Topology Information Base stores information required for the generation and processing of TC messages, and information received in TC messages. The Advertised Neighbor Set contains addresses of symmetric 1-hop neighbors which are to be reported in TC messages. The Advertising Remote Router Set, the Topology Set and the Attached Network Set record information received in TC messages.

Additionally, a Routing Set is maintained, derived from the information recorded in the Neighborhood Information Base, Topology Set, Attached Network Set and Advertising Remote Router Set.

6.3.1. Advertised Neighbor Set

A router's Advertised Neighbor Set contains addresses of symmetric 1-hop neighbors which are to be advertised through TC messages. It consists of Advertised Neighbor Tuples:

(A_neighbor_addr)

In addition, an Advertised Neighbor Set Sequence Number (ANSN) is maintained. Each time the Advertised Neighbor Set is updated, the ANSN MUST be incremented. The ANSN MUST also be incremented if there is a change to the set of Local Attached Network Tuples that are to be advertised in the router's TC messages.

The Advertised Neighbor Set for a router is derived from the Neighbor Set of that same router, specifically, each address in the N_neighbor_addr_list of a Neighbor Tuple MUST be an A_neighbor_addr if the corresponding N_mpr_selector = true, and MAY be an A_neighbor_addr if the corresponding N_mpr_selector = false. No other address may be an A_neighbor_addr. The Advertised Neighbor Set MUST therefore be updated when the Neighbor Set changes, see Section 13. Advertised Neighbor Tuples are not subject to timer-based expiration.

6.3.2. Advertising Remote Router Set

A router's Advertising Remote Router Set records information describing each remote router in the network that transmits TC messages. It consists of Advertising Remote Router Tuples:

(AR_orig_addr, AR_seq_number, AR_addr_list, AR_time)

where:

AR_orig_addr is the originator address of a received TC message, note that this does not include a prefix length;

AR_seq_number is the greatest ANSN in any TC message received which originated from the router with originator address AR_orig_addr (i.e., which contributed to the information contained in this Tuple);

AR_addr_list is an unordered list of the addresses of the router with originator address AR_orig_addr;

AR_time is the time at which this Tuple expires and MUST be removed.

6.3.3. Topology Set

A router's Topology Set records topology information about the network. It consists of Topology Tuples:

(T_dest_addr, T_orig_addr, T_seq_number, T_time) where:

T_dest_addr is an address of a destination router, which may be reached in one hop from the router with originator address T_orig_addr;

T_orig_addr is the originator address of a router which is the last hop on a path towards the router with address T_dest_addr, note that this does not include a prefix length;

T_seq_number is the greatest ANSN in any TC message received which originated from the router with originator address T_orig_addr (i.e., which contributed to the information contained in this Tuple);

T_time specifies the time at which this Tuple expires and MUST be removed.

6.3.4. Attached Network Set

A router's Attached Network Set records information about networks attached to other routers. It consists of Attached Network Tuples:

(AN_net_addr, AN_orig_addr, AN_dist, AN_seq_number, AN_time)

where:

AN_net_addr is the network address of an attached network, which may be reached via the router with originator address AN_orig_addr;

AN_orig_addr is the originator address of a router which can act as gateway to the network with address AN_net_addr, note that this does not include a prefix length;

AN_dist is the number of hops to the network with address AN_net_addr from the router with originator address AN_orig_addr;

AN_seq_number is the greatest ANSN in any TC message received which originated from the router with originator address AN_orig_addr (i.e., which contributed to the information contained in this Tuple);

AN_time specifies the time at which this Tuple expires and MUST be removed.

6.3.5. Routing Set

A router's Routing Set records the selected path to each destination for which a route is known. It consists of Routing Tuples:

(R_dest_addr, R_next_iface_addr, R_dist, R_local_iface_addr)

where:

R_dest_addr is the address of the destination, either the address of an interface of a destination router, or the network address of an attached network;

R_next_iface_addr is the address of the "next hop" on the selected path to the destination;

R_dist is the number of hops on the selected path to the destination;

R_local_iface_addr is the address of the local OLSRv2 interface over which a packet MUST be sent to reach the destination by the selected path.

The Routing Set for a router is derived from the contents of the other sets of the router, and is updated (Routing Tuples added or removed) when routing paths are calculated. Routing Tuples are not subject to timer-based expiration.

6.4. Processing and Forwarding Information Base

The Processing and Forwarding Information Base records information required to ensure that a message is processed at most once and is forwarded at most once per OLSRv2 interface of a router, using MPR flooding.

6.4.1. Received Set

A router has a Received Set per local OLSRv2 interface. Each Received Set records the signatures of messages which have been received over that OLSRv2 interface. Each consists of Received Tuples:

(RX_type, RX_orig_addr, RX_seq_number, RX_time)

where:

RX_type is the received Message Type;

RX_orig_addr is the originator address of the received message;

RX_seq_number is the message sequence number of the received message;

RX_time specifies the time at which this Tuple expires and MUST be removed.

6.4.2. Processed Set

A router's Processed Set records signatures of messages which have been processed by the router. It consists of Processed Tuples:

(P_type, P_orig_addr, P_seq_number, P_time)

where:

P_type is the processed Message Type;

P_orig_addr is the originator address of the processed message;

P_seq_number is the message sequence number of the processed message;

P_time specifies the time at which this Tuple expires and MUST be removed.

6.4.3. Forwarded Set

A router's Forwarded Set records signatures of messages which have been processed by the router. It consists of Forwarded Tuples:

(F_type, F_orig_addr, F_seq_number, F_time)

where:

F_type is the forwarded Message Type;

F_orig_addr is the originator address of the forwarded message;

F_seq_number is the message sequence number of the forwarded message;

F_time specifies the time at which this Tuple expires and MUST be removed.

6.4.4. Relay Set

A router has a Relay Set per local OLSRv2 interface. Each Relay Set records the addresses of symmetric 1-hop neighbors, such that the router is to forward messages received from those neighbors' OLSRv2 interfaces, on that local OLSRv2 interface, if not otherwise excluded from forwarding that message (e.g., by it having been previously forwarded). It consists of Relay Tuples:

(RY_neighbor_iface_addr)

The Relay Set for an interface is derived from the Link Set for the same interface, and so Relay Tuples are removed when the corresponding Link Tuples in the Link Set of this interface are removed, or when processing otherwise suggests their removal. Relay Tuples are not subject to timer-based expiration.

7. Message Processing and Forwarding

On receiving a packet, as defined in [RFC5444], a router divides the packet into the Packet Header and messages. OLSRv2 defines, and hence owns, the TC Message Type, and hence receives all TC messages. OLSRv2 is responsible for determining whether a TC message is to be processed (updating Information Bases) and/or forwarded.

OLSRv2 also receives HELLO messages, which are defined, and hence owned, by [NHDP]. Received HELLO messages MUST be made available to OLSRv2 when received on an OLSRv2 interface and after NHDP has completed its processing thereof. OLSRv2 also processes HELLO messages, OLSRv2 does not forward HELLO messages.

Extensions to OLSRv2 which define, and hence own, other Messages Types, MAY manage the processing and/or forwarding of these messages using the same mechanism as for TC messages. These mechanisms contain elements (P_type, RX_type, F_type) required only for such usage.

The processing selection and forwarding mechanisms are designed to only need to parse the Message Header in order to determine whether a message is to be processed and/or forwarded, and not to have to parse the Message Body even if the message is forwarded (but not processed). An implementation MAY either only parse the Message Body if necessary, or MAY always parse the Message Body. An implementation MUST discard the message silently if it is unable to parse the Message Header or (if attempted) the Message Body.

OLSRv2 does not require any part of the Packet Header.

7.1. Actions when Receiving a Message

If the router receives a HELLO message from [NHDP], then the message is processed according to Section 10.

A router MUST perform the following tasks for each received TC message or other Message Type defined by an extension to OLSRv2 and specified to use this process:

1. If the router recognizes from the originator address of the message that the message is one which the receiving router itself originated (i.e. is the current originator address of the router, or is an O_orig_addr in an Originator Tuple) then the message MUST be silently discarded.

2. Otherwise:

    1. Otherwise:

        1. If the message is of a type which may be processed, including being a TC message, then the message is considered for processing according to Section 7.2, AND;

        2. If for the message is of a type which may be forwarded, including being a TC message, AND:

            - <msg-hop-limit> is present and <msg-hop-limit> > 1, AND;

            - <msg-hop-count> is not present or <msg-hop-count> < 255

            then the message is considered for forwarding according to Section 7.3.

7.2. Message Considered for Processing

If a message (the "current message") is considered for processing, then the following tasks MUST be performed:

1. If a Processed Tuple exists with:

    * P_type = the Message Type of the current message, AND;

    * P_orig_addr = the originator address of the current message, AND;

  * P_seq_number = the message sequence number of the current message;

  then the current message MUST NOT be processed.

2. Otherwise:

   1. Create a Processed Tuple with:

      + P_type := the Message Type of the current message;

      + P_orig_addr := the originator address of the current message;

      + P_seq_number := the sequence number of the current message;

      + P_time := current time + P_HOLD_TIME.

   2. Process the current message according to its type. For a TC message this is as defined in Section 12.

7.3. Message Considered for Forwarding

If a message (the "current message") is considered for forwarding, then the following tasks MUST be performed:

1. If the sending address (i.e., the source address of the IP datagram containing the current message) does not match (taking into account any address prefix) an address in an L_neighbor_iface_addr_list of a Link Tuple, with L_status = SYMMETRIC, in the Link Set for the OLSRv2 interface on which the current message was received (the "receiving interface") then the current message MUST be silently discarded.

2. Otherwise:

   1. If a Received Tuple exists in the Received Set for the receiving interface, with:

      + RX_type = the Message Type of the current message, AND;

      + RX_orig_addr = the originator address of the current message, AND;

      + RX_seq_number = the sequence number of the current message;

then the current message MUST be silently discarded.

2. Otherwise:

   1. Create a Received Tuple in the Received Set for the receiving interface with:

      - RX_type := the Message Type of the current message;

      - RX_orig_addr := originator address of the current message;

      - RX_seq_number := sequence number of the current message;

      - RX_time := current time + RX_HOLD_TIME.

   2. If a Forwarded Tuple exists with:

      - F_type = the Message Type of the current message, AND;

      - F_orig_addr = the originator address of the current message, AND;

      - F_seq_number = the sequence number of the current message.

      then the current message MUST be silently discarded.

   3. Otherwise if the sending address matches (taking account of any address prefix) an RY_neighbor_iface_addr in the Relay Set for the receiving interface, then:

      1. Create a Forwarded Tuple with:

         o F_type := the Message Type of the current message;

         o F_orig_addr := originator address of the current message;

         o F_seq_number := sequence number of the current message;

         o F_time := current time + F_HOLD_TIME.

      2. The Message Header of the current message is modified by:

- o if present, decrement <msg-hop-limit> in the Message Header by 1, AND;

- o if present, increment <msg-hop-count> in the Message Header by 1.

3. For each OLSRv2 interface of the router, include the message in a packet to be transmitted on that OLSRv2 interface, as described in Section 8. This packet MAY contain other forwarded messages and/or messages generated by this router, including by other protocols using [RFC5444]. Forwarded messages MAY be jittered as described in [RFC5148]. The value of MAXJITTER used in jittering a forwarded message MAY be based on information in that message (in particular any INTERVAL_TIME or VALIDITY_TIME TLVs in that message) or otherwise SHOULD be with a maximum delay of F_MAXJITTER. A router MAY modify the jitter applied to a message in order to more efficiently combine messages in packets, as long as the maximum jitter is not exceeded.

8. Packets and Messages

The packet and message format used by OLSRv2 is defined in [RFC5444]. Except as otherwise noted, options defined in [RFC5444] may be freely used, in particular alternative formats defined by packet, message, Address Block and TLV flags.

OLSRv2 defines and owns the TC Message Type. OLSRv2 also modifies HELLO messages (owned by [NHDP]) by adding TLVs to these messages when sent over OLSRv2 interfaces, and processes these HELLO messages, subsequent to their processing by NHDP. Extensions to OLSRv2 MAY define additional Message Types to be handled similarly to TC messages.

Routers using OLSRv2 exchange information through messages. One or more messages sent by a router at the same time SHOULD be combined into a single packet. These messages may have originated at the sending router, or have originated at another router and are forwarded by the sending router. Messages with different originating routers MAY be combined for transmission within the same packet. Messages from other protocols defined using [RFC5444] MAY be combined for transmission within the same packet.

The remainder of this section defines, within the framework of [RFC5444], Message Types and TLVs specific to OLSRv2. All references in this specification to TLVs that do not indicate a type extension, assume Type Extension = 0. TLVs in processed messages with a type extension which is neither zero as so assumed, nor a specifically indicated non-zero type extension, are ignored.

8.1. HELLO Messages

A HELLO message in OLSRv2 is generated as specified in [NHDP]. In addition, an OLSRv2 router MUST be able to modify such messages, prior to these being sent on an OLSRv2 interface, so that such HELLO messages:

- MUST include TLV(s) with Type := MPR associated with all addresses that:
  * are included in the HELLO message associated with a TLV with Type = LINK_STATUS and Value = SYMMETRIC; AND
  * are included in a Neighbor Tuple with N_mpr = true.
- MUST NOT include any TLVs with Type = MPR associated with any other addresses.
- MAY include a message TLV with Type := MPR_WILLING, indicating the router's willingness to be selected as an MPR.

An OLSRv2 router MUST also be able to process any HELLO message received on an OLSRv2 interface, subsequent to the processing specified in [NHDP].

8.1.1. HELLO Message TLVs

In a HELLO message, a router MUST include an MPR_WILLING Message TLV as specified in Table 1, unless WILLINGNESS = WILL_DEFAULT (in which case it MAY be included). A router MUST NOT include more than one MPR_WILLING Message TLV.

Type	Value Length	Value
MPR_WILLING	1 octet	Router parameter WILLINGNESS; unused bits (based on the maximum willingness value WILL_ALWAYS) are RESERVED and SHOULD be set to zero.

Table 1

If a router does not advertise an MPR_WILLING TLV in a HELLO message, then the router MUST be assumed to have WILLINGNESS equal to WILL_DEFAULT.

8.1.2. HELLO Message Address Block TLVs

In a HELLO message, a router MAY include MPR Address Block TLV(s) as specified in Table 2.

Type	Value Length	Value
MPR	0 octets	None.

Table 2

8.2. TC Messages

A TC message MUST contain:

- <msg-orig-addr>, <msg-seq-num> and <msg-hop-limit> elements in its Message Header, as specified in [RFC5444].

- A <msg-hop-count> element in its Message Header if the message contains a TLV with either Type = VALIDITY_TIME or Type = INTERVAL_TIME indicating more than one time value according to distance. (A TC message MAY contain <msg-hop-count> even if it does not need to.)

- A single Message TLV with Type := CONT_SEQ_NUM, and Type Extension := COMPLETE or Type Extension := INCOMPLETE, as specified in Section 8.2.1 (for complete and incomplete TC messages, respectively).

- A Message TLV with Type := VALIDITY_TIME, as specified in [RFC5497]. The options included in [RFC5497] for representing zero and infinite times MUST NOT be used.

- All of the router's addresses. These MUST be included in the message's Address Blocks, unless:

  * the router has a single interface, with a single address with maximum prefix length; AND

  * that address is the router's originator address.

  In this exceptional case, the address will be included as the message's originator address, and MAY be omitted from the message's Address Blocks.

- TLV(s) with Type := LOCAL_IF and Value := UNSPEC_IF associated with all of the router's addresses.

- If the TC message is complete, all addresses in the Advertised Address Set and all addresses in the Local Attached Network Set, the latter (only) with associated GATEWAY Address Block TLV(s), as specified in Section 8.2.2.

A TC message MAY contain:

- If the TC message is incomplete, any addresses in the Advertised Address Set and any addresses in the Local Attached Network Set, the latter (only) with associated GATEWAY Address Block TLV(s), as specified in Section 8.2.2.

- A Message TLV with Type := INTERVAL_TIME, as specified in [RFC5497]. The options included in [RFC5497] for representing zero and infinite times MUST NOT be used.

8.2.1. TC Message TLVs

In a TC message, a router MUST include a single CONT_SEQ_NUM Message TLV, as specified in Table 3, and with Type Extension = COMPLETE or Type Extension = INCOMPLETE, according to whether the TC message is complete or incomplete.

Type	Value Length	Value
CONT_SEQ_NUM	2 octets	The ANSN contained in the Advertised Neighbor Set.

Table 3

8.2.2. TC Message Address Block TLVs

In a TC message, a router MAY include GATEWAY Address Block TLV(s) as specified in Table 4.

Type	Value Length	Value
GATEWAY	1 octet	Number of hops to attached network.

Table 4

GATEWAY Address Block TLV(s) MUST be associated with all attached network addresses, and MUST NOT be associated with any other addresses.

9. HELLO Message Generation

An OLSRv2 HELLO message is composed and generated as defined in [NHDP], with the following additions:

- A Message TLV with Type := MPR_WILLING and Value := WILLINGNESS MUST be included, unless WILLINGNESS = WILL_DEFAULT (in which case it MAY be included).

- For each address which is included in the message with an associated TLV with Type = LINK_STATUS and Value = SYMMETRIC, and is of an MPR (i.e. the address is in the N_neighbor_addr_list of a Neighbor Tuple with N_mpr = true), that address (including a different copy of that address, in the same or a different Address Block) MUST be associated with an Address Block TLV with Type := MPR.

- For each address which is included in the message and is not associated with a TLV with Type = LINK_STATUS and Value = SYMMETRIC, or is not of an MPR (i.e. the address is not in the N_neighbor_addr_list of a Neighbor Tuple with N_mpr = true), that address (including different copies of that address, in the same or different Address Blocks) MUST NOT be associated with an Address Block TLV with Type := MPR.

- An additional HELLO message MAY be sent when the router's set of MPRs changes, in addition to the cases specified in [NHDP], and subject to the same constraints.

9.1. HELLO Message: Transmission

HELLO messages are included in packets as specified in [RFC5444]. These packets may contain other messages, including TC messages.

10. HELLO Message Processing

All HELLO message processing, including determination of whether a message is invalid, considers only TLVs with Type Extension = 0. TLVs with any other type extension are ignored. All references to, for example, a TLV with Type = MPR_WILLING refer to a TLV with Type = MPR_WILLING and Type Extension = 0.

In addition to the reasons specified in [NHDP], for discarding a HELLO message on reception, a HELLO message MUST NOT:

- o Have more than one TLV with Type = MPR_WILLING in its Message TLV Block, where TLVs have different Values.

- o Contain any address associated with a TLV with Type = MPR, where that address (including a different copy of that address, in the same or a different Address Block) which is not also associated with the single Value SYMMETRIC by a TLV with Type = LINK_STATUS or Type = OTHER_NEIGHB.

Such a HELLO message MAY be discarded before processing. If it is not then all TLVs with the type(s) for which an error was indicated MUST be ignored (treated as not present) in the following processing.

HELLO messages are first processed as specified in [NHDP]. The router MUST identify the Neighbor Tuple corresponding to the originator of the HELLO message (the "current Neighbor Tuple") and update its N_willingness as described in Section 10.1 and its N_mpr_selector as described in Section 10.2. Following these, the router MUST also perform the processing defined in Section 10.3.

10.1. Updating Willingness

N_willingness in the current Neighbor Tuple is updated as follows:

1. If the HELLO message contains a Message TLV with Type = MPR_WILLING then N_willingness := the Value of that TLV;

2. Otherwise, N_willingness := WILL_DEFAULT.

10.2. Updating MPR Selectors

N_mpr_selector is updated as follows:

1. If a router finds any of its local addresses with an associated TLV with Type = MPR in the HELLO message (indicating that the originator router has selected the receiving router as an MPR) then, for the current Neighbor Tuple:

* N_mpr_selector := true

2. Otherwise, if a router finds any of its own addresses with an associated TLV with Type = LINK_STATUS and Value = SYMMETRIC in the HELLO message, then for the current Neighbor Tuple:

   * N_mpr_selector := false

10.3. Symmetric 1-Hop and 2-Hop Neighborhood Changes

A router MUST also perform the following:

1. If N_symmetric of a Neighbor Tuple changes from true to false, for that Neighbor Tuple:

   * N_mpr_selector := false

2. The set of MPRs of a router MUST be recalculated if:

   * a Link Tuple is added with L_status = SYMMETRIC, OR;

   * a Link Tuple with L_status = SYMMETRIC is removed, OR;

   * a Link Tuple with L_status = SYMMETRIC changes to having L_status = HEARD or L_status = LOST, OR;

   * a Link Tuple with L_status = HEARD or L_status = LOST changes to having L_status = SYMMETRIC, OR;

   * a 2-Hop Tuple is added or removed, OR;

   * the N_willingness of a Neighbor Tuple with N_symmetric = true changes from WILL_NEVER to any other value, OR;

   * the N_willingness of a Neighbor Tuple with N_symmetric = true and N_mpr = true changes to WILL_NEVER from any other value, OR;

   * the N_willingness of a Neighbor Tuple with N_symmetric = true and N_mpr = false changes to WILL_ALWAYS from any other value.

3. Otherwise the set of MPRs of a router MAY be recalculated if the N_willingness of a Neighbor Tuple with N_symmetric = true changes in any other way; it SHOULD be recalculated if N_mpr = false and this is an increase in N_willingness or if N_mpr = true and this is a decrease in N_willingness.

If the set of MPRs of a router is recalculated, this MUST be as described in Section 14. Before that calculation, the N_mpr of all Neighbor Tuples are set false. After that calculation the N_mpr of all Neighbor Tuples representing symmetric 1-hop neighbors which are chosen as MPRs, are set true.

11. TC Message Generation

A router with one or more OLSRv2 interfaces, and with a non-empty Advertised Neighbor Set or a non-empty Local Attached Network Set MUST generate TC messages. A router with an empty Advertised Neighbor Set and empty Local Attached Network Set SHOULD also generate "empty" TC messages for a period A_HOLD_TIME after it last generated a non-empty TC message. TC messages (non-empty and empty) are generated according to the following:

1. The message originator address MUST be set to the router's originator address.

2. The message hop count, if included, MUST be set to zero.

3. The message hop limit MUST be set to a value greater than 1. A router MAY use the same hop limit TC_HOP_LIMIT in all TC messages, or use different values of the hop limit TC_HOP_LIMIT in TC messages, see Section 5.8.

4. The message MUST contain a Message TLV with Type := CONT_SEQ_NUM and Value := ANSN from the Advertised Neighbor Set. If the TC message is complete then this Message TLV MUST have Type Extension := COMPLETE, otherwise it MUST have Type Extension := INCOMPLETE.

5. The message MUST contain a Message TLV with Type := VALIDITY_TIME, as specified in [RFC5497]. If all TC messages are sent with the same hop limit then this TLV MUST have Value := T_HOLD_TIME. If TC messages are sent with different hop limits (more than one value of TC_HOP_LIMIT) then this TLV MUST specify times which vary with the number of hops distance appropriate to the chosen pattern of TC message hop limits, as specified in [RFC5497], these times SHOULD be appropriate multiples of T_HOLD_TIME.

6. The message MAY contain a Message TLV with Type := INTERVAL_TIME, as specified in [RFC5497]. If all TC messages are sent with the same hop limit then this TLV MUST have Value := TC_INTERVAL. If TC messages are sent with different hop limits, then this TLV MUST specify times which vary with the number of hops distance appropriate to the chosen pattern of TC message hop limits, as specified in [RFC5497], these times SHOULD be appropriate

multiples of TC_INTERVAL.

7. Unless the router has a single interface, with a single address with maximum prefix length, and that address is the router's originator address, the message MUST contain all of the router's addresses (i.e. all addresses in an I_local_iface_addr_list) in its Address Blocks.

8. All addresses of the router's interfaces that are included in an Address Block MUST each be associated with a TLV with Type := LOCAL_IF and Value := UNSPEC_IF.

9. A complete message MUST include, and an incomplete message MAY include, in its Address Blocks:

    1. Each A_neighbor_addr from the Advertised Neighbor Set;

    2. AL_net_addr from each Local Attached Neighbor Tuple, each associated with a TLV with Type := GATEWAY and Value := AL_dist.

11.1. TC Message: Transmission

Complete TC messages are generated and transmitted periodically on all OLSRv2 interfaces, with a default interval between two consecutive TC transmissions by the same router of TC_INTERVAL.

TC messages MAY be generated in response to a change of contents, indicated by a change in ANSN. In this case a router MAY send a complete TC message, and if so MAY re-start its TC message schedule. Alternatively a router MAY send an incomplete TC message with at least the new content in its Address Blocks. Note that a router cannot report removal of advertised content using an incomplete TC message.

When sending a TC message in response to a change of contents, a router must respect a minimum interval of TC_MIN_INTERVAL between generated TC messages. Sending an incomplete TC message MUST NOT cause the interval between complete TC messages to be increased, and thus a router MUST NOT send an incomplete TC message if within TC_MIN_INTERVAL of the next scheduled complete TC message.

The generation of TC messages, whether scheduled or triggered by a change of contents MAY be jittered as described in [RFC5148]. The values of MAXJITTER used SHOULD be:

o TP_MAXJITTER for periodic TC message generation;

o TT_MAXJITTER for responsive TC message generation.

TC messages are included in packets as specified in [RFC5444]. These packets MAY contain other messages, including HELLO messages and TC messages with different originator addresses. TC messages are forwarded according to the specification in Section 7.3.

12. TC Message Processing

On receiving a TC message, a router MUST first check if the message is invalid for processing by this router, as defined in Section 12.1. Otherwise the receiving router MUST update its appropriate Interface Information Base and its Router Information Base as specified in Section 12.2.

All TC message processing, including determination of whether a message is invalid, unless otherwise noted considers only TLVs with Type Extension = 0. TLVs with any other type extension (or any unmentioned type extension when other type extensions are considered) are ignored. All references to, for example, a TLV with Type = VALIDITY_TIME refer to a TLV with Type = VALIDITY_TIME and Type Extension = 0.

12.1. Invalid Message

A received TC message is invalid for processing by this router if any of the following conditions are true.

o The Message Header does not include an originator address, a message sequence number, and a hop limit.

o The Message Header a hop count, and contains a multi-value TLV with Type = VALIDITY_TIME or Type == INTERVAL_TIME, as defined in [RFC5497].

o The message does not have a single TLV with Type = VALIDITY_TIME in its Message TLV Block.

o The message has more than one TLV with Type = INTERVAL_TIME in its Message TLV Block.

o The message does not have a TLV with Type = CONT_SEQ_NUM and Type Extension = COMPLETE or Type Extension = INCOMPLETE in its Message TLV Block.

o The message has more than one TLV with Type = CONT_SEQ_NUM and Type Extension = COMPLETE or Type Extension = INCOMPLETE in its Message TLV Block, and these do not have the same type extension and the same Value.

- The message has any Address Block TLV(s) with Type = LOCAL_IF and any single Value(s) which are not equal to UNSPEC_IF.

- Any address associated with a TLV with Type = LOCAL_IF is one of the receiving router's current or recently used addresses (i.e. is in any I_local_iface_addr_list in the Local Interface Set or is equal to any IR_local_iface_addr in the Removed Interface Address Set).

- Any address (including different copies of an address, in the same or different Address Blocks) is associated with more than one single Value by one or more TLV(s) with Type = GATEWAY.

A router MAY recognize additional reasons for identifying that a message is invalid. An invalid message MUST be silently discarded, without updating the router's Information Bases.

12.2. Initial TC Message Processing

When, according to Section 7.2, a TC message is to be "processed according to its type", this means that:

- If the TC message contains a Message TLV with Type = CONT_SEQ_NUM and Type Extension = COMPLETE, then processing according to Section 12.3 and then according to Section 12.4 is carried out.

- If the TC message contains a Message TLV with Type = CONT_SEQ_NUM and Type Extension = INCOMPLETE, then only processing according to Section 12.3 is carried out.

For the purposes of this section:

- "originator address" refers to the originator address in the TC Message Header.

- "validity time" is calculated from a VALIDITY_TIME Message TLV in the TC message according to the specification in [RFC5497]. All information in the TC message has the same validity time.

- "ANSN" is defined as being the Value of a Message TLV with Type = CONT_SEQ_NUM.

- "sending address list" refers to the list of addresses in all Address Blocks which have associated TLV(s) with Type = LOCAL_IF and Value = UNSPEC_IF. If the sending address list is otherwise empty, then the message's originator address is added to the sending address list, with maximum prefix length.

- o Comparisons of sequence numbers are carried out as specified in Section 18.

12.3. Initial TC Message Processing

The TC message is processed as follows:

1. The Advertising Remote Router Set is updated according to Section 12.3.1; if the TC message is indicated as discarded in that processing then the following steps are not carried out.

2. The Topology Set is updated according to Section 12.3.2.

3. The Attached Network Set is updated according to Section 12.3.3.

12.3.1. Populating the Advertising Remote Router Set

The router MUST update its Advertising Remote Router Set as follows:

1. If there is an Advertising Remote Router Tuple with:

   * AR_orig_addr = originator address; AND

   * AR_seq_number > ANSN

   then the TC message MUST be discarded.

2. Otherwise:

   1. If there is no Advertising Remote Router Tuple such that:

      + AR_orig_addr = originator address;

      then create an Advertising Remote Router Tuple with:

      + AR_orig_addr := originator address.

   2. This Advertising Remote Router Tuple (existing or new, the "current tuple") is then modified as follows:

      + AR_seq_number := ANSN;

      + AR_time := current time + validity time.

      + AR_addr_list := sending address list

3. For each other Advertising Remote Router Tuple (with a different AR_orig_addr, the "other tuple") whose AR_addr_list contains any address in the AR_addr_list of the current tuple:

    1. remove all Topology Tuples with T_orig_addr = AR_orig_addr of the other tuple;

    2. remove all Attached Network Tuples with AN_orig_addr = AR_orig_addr of the other tuple;

    3. remove the other tuple.

12.3.2. Populating the Topology Set

The router MUST update its Topology Set as follows:

1. For each address (henceforth advertised address) in an Address Block that does not have an associated TLV with Type = LOCAL_IF, or an associated TLV with Type = GATEWAY:

    1. If there is no Topology Tuple such that:

        + T_dest_addr = advertised address; AND

        + T_orig_addr = originator address

        then create a new Topology Tuple with:

        + T_dest_addr := advertised address;

        + T_orig_addr := originator address.

    2. This Topology Tuple (existing or new) is then modified as follows:

        + T_seq_number := ANSN;

        + T_time := current time + validity time.

12.3.3. Populating the Attached Network Set

The router MUST update its Attached Network Set as follows:

1. For each address (henceforth network address) in an Address Block that does not have an associated TLV with Type = LOCAL_IF, and does have an associated TLV with Type = GATEWAY:

1. If there is no Attached Network Tuple such that:

   + AN_net_addr = network address; AND

   + AN_orig_addr = originator address

   then create a new Attached Network Tuple with:

   + AN_net_addr := network address;

   + AN_orig_addr := originator address

2. This Attached Network Tuple (existing or new) is then modified as follows:

   + AN_dist := the Value of the associated GATEWAY TLV;

   + AN_seq_number := ANSN;

   + AN_time := current time + validity time.

12.4. Completing TC Message Processing

The TC message is processed as follows:

1. The Topology Set is updated according to Section 12.4.1.

2. The Attached Network Set is updated according to Section 12.4.2.

12.4.1. Purging the Topology Set

The Topology Set MUST be updated as follows:

1. Any Topology Tuples with:

   * T_orig_addr = originator address; AND

   * T_seq_number < ANSN

   MUST be removed.

12.4.2. Purging the Attached Network Set

The Attached Network Set MUST be updated as follows:

1. Any Attached Network Tuples with:

* AN_orig_addr = originator address; AND

* AN_seq_number < ANSN

MUST be removed.

13. Information Base Changes

1. The Originator Set in the Local Information Base MUST be updated when the router changes originator address. If there is no Originator Tuple with:

   * O_orig_addr = old originator address

   then create an Originator Tuple with:

   * O_orig_addr := old originator address

   This Originator Tuple (existing or new) is then modified as follows:

   * O_time := current time + O_HOLD_TIME

2. The Advertised Neighbor Set in the Topology Information Base MUST be changed when the Neighbor Set changes. The following changes are required:

   1. If an address in an N_neighbor_addr_list in a Neighbor Tuple is removed (including when that Neighbor Tuple is removed) and that address is also an A_neighbor_addr in an Advertised Neighbor Tuple, then that Advertised Neighbor Tuple MUST be removed.

   2. If an address is added to an N_neighbor_addr_list in a Neighbor Tuple with N_mpr_selector = true (including when such a Neighbor Tuple is added) or for each address in an N_neighbor_addr_list in a Neighbor Tuple whose N_mpr_selector has changed from false to true, and that address is not already an A_neighbor_addr in an Advertised Neighbor Tuple, then an Advertised Neighbor Tuple MUST be added to the Advertised Neighbor Set with A_neighbor_addr equal to that address.

   Other changes to the Advertised Neighbor Set MAY be made when the Neighbor Set changes, in particular if the N_mpr_selector of a Neighbor Tuple changes from true to false, then the Advertised Neighbor Tuples whose A_neighbor_addr are addresses in the N_neighbor_addr_list of that Neighbor Tuple MAY be removed.

3. The Topology Set and the Attached Network Set in the Topology Information Base MUST be changed when an Advertising Remote Router Tuple expires (AR_time is reached). The following changes are required before the Advertising Remote Router Tuple is removed:

   1. All Topology Tuples with:

      + T_orig_addr = AR_orig_addr of the Advertising Remote Router Tuple

      are removed.

   2. All Attached Network Tuples with:

      + AN_orig_addr = AR_orig_addr of the Advertising Remote Router Tuple

      are removed.

14. Selecting MPRs

Each router MUST select, from among its willing symmetric 1-hop neighbors, a subset of routers as MPRs. MPRs are used to flood control messages from a router into the network, while reducing the number of retransmissions that will occur in a region. Thus, the concept of MPR flooding is an optimization of a classical flooding mechanism. MPRs MAY also be used to reduce the shared topology information in the network. Consequently, while it is not essential that the set of MPRs is minimal, keeping the number of MPRs small ensures that the overhead of OLSRv2 is kept at a minimum.

A router MUST select MPRs for each of its OLSRv2 interfaces, but then forms the union of those sets as its single set of MPRs. This union MUST include all symmetric 1-hop neighbors with willingness WILL_ALWAYS. Only this overall set of MPRs is relevant, the recorded and used MPR relationship is one of routers, not interfaces. Routers MAY select their MPRs by any process which satisfies the conditions which follow. Routers can freely interoperate whether they use the same or different MPR selection algorithms.

For each OLSRv2 interface a router MUST select a set of MPRs. This set MUST have the properties that:

- All of the selected MPRs are willing symmetric 1-hop neighbors, AND;

- o If the selecting router sends a message on that OLSRv2 interface, and that message is successfully forwarded by all of the selected MPRs for that interface, then all symmetric strict 2-hop neighbors of the selecting router through that OLSRv2 interface will receive that message on a symmetric link.

Note that it is always possible to select a valid set of MPRs. The set of all willing symmetric 1-hop neighbors of a router is a (maximal) valid set of MPRs for that router. However a router SHOULD NOT select a symmetric 1-hop neighbor with Willingness != WILL_ALWAYS as an MPR if there are no symmetric strict 2-hop neighbors with a symmetric link to that symmetric 1-hop neighbor. Thus a router with no symmetric 1-hop neighbors with willingness WILL_ALWAYS and with no symmetric strict 2-hop neighbors SHOULD NOT select any MPRs.

A router MAY select its MPRs for each OLSRv2 interface independently, or it MAY coordinate its MPR selections across its OLSRv2 interfaces, as long as the required condition is satisfied for each OLSRv2 interface. Each router MAY select its MPRs independently from the MPR selection by other routers, or it MAY, for example, give preference to routers that either are, or are not, already selected as MPRs by other routers.

When selecting MPRs for each OLSRv2 interface independently, this MAY be done using information from the Link Set and 2-Hop Set of that OLSRv2 interface, and the Neighbor Set of the router (specifically the N_willingness elements).

The selection of MPRs (overall, not per OLSRv2 interface) is recorded in the Neighbor Set of the router (using the N_mpr elements). A selected MPR MUST be a willing symmetric 1-hop neighbor (i.e. the corresponding N_symmetric = true, and the corresponding N_willingness != WILL_NEVER).

A router MUST recalculate its MPRs whenever the currently selected set of MPRs does not still satisfy the required conditions. It MAY recalculate its MPRs if the current set of MPRs is still valid, but could be more efficient. It is sufficient to recalculate a router's MPRs when there is a change to any of the router's Link Sets affecting the symmetry of any link (addition or removal of a Link Tuple with L_status = SYMMETRIC, or change of any L_status to or from SYMMETRIC), any change to any of the router's 2-Hop Sets, or a change of the N_willingness (to or from WILL_NEVER or to WILL_ALWAYS is sufficient) of any Neighbor Tuple with N_symmetric = true.

An algorithm that creates a set of MPRs that satisfies the required conditions is given in Appendix B.

15. Populating Derived Sets

The Relay Sets and the Advertised Neighbor Set of a router are denoted derived sets, since updates to these sets are not directly a function of message exchanges, but rather are derived from updates to other sets, in particular to the MPR selector status of other routers recorded in the Neighbor Set.

15.1. Populating the Relay Set

The Relay Set for an OLSRv2 interface contains the set of OLSRv2 interface addresses of those symmetric 1-hop neighbors for which this OLSRv2 interface is to relay broadcast traffic. This set MUST contain only addresses of OLSRv2 interfaces with which this OLSRv2 interface has a symmetric link. This set MUST include all such addresses of all such OLSRv2 interfaces of routers which are MPR selectors of this router.

The Relay Set for an OLSRv2 interface of this router is thus created by:

1. For each Link Tuple in the Link Set for this OLSRv2 interface with L_status = SYMMETRIC, and the corresponding Neighbor Tuple with N_neighbor_addr_list containing L_neighbor_iface_addr_list:

    1. All addresses from L_neighbor_iface_addr_list MUST be included in the Relay Set of this OLSRv2 interface if N_mpr_selector = true, and otherwise MAY be so included.

15.2. Populating the Advertised Neighbor Set

The Advertised Neighbor Set of a router contains all addresses of those symmetric 1-hop neighbors to which the router advertises a link in its TC messages. This set MUST include all addresses in all MPR selector of this router.

The Advertised Neighbor Set for this router is thus created by:

1. For each Neighbor Tuple with N_symmetric = true:

    1. All addresses from N_neighbor_addr_list MUST be included in the Advertised Neighbor Set if N_mpr_selector = true, and otherwise MAY be so included.

Whenever address(es) are added to or removed from the Advertised Neighbor Set, its ANSN MUST be incremented.

16. Routing Set Calculation

The Routing Set of a router is populated with Routing Tuples that represent paths from that router to all destinations in the network. These paths are calculated based on the Network Topology Graph, which is constructed from information in the Information Bases, obtained via HELLO and TC message exchange.

16.1. Network Topology Graph

The Network Topology Graph is formed from information from the router's Link Sets, Neighbor Set, Topology Set and Attached Network Set. The Network Topology Graph SHOULD also use information from the router's 2-Hop Sets. The Network Topology Graph forms that router's topological view of the network in form of a directed graph, containing the following arcs:

- o Local symmetric links - all arcs X -> Y such that:

  * X is an address in the I_local_iface_addr_list of a Local Interface Tuple of this router, AND;

  * Y is an address in the L_neighbor_iface_addr_list of a Link Tuple in the corresponding (to the OLSRv2 interface of that I_local_iface_addr_list) Link Set which has L_status = SYMMETRIC.

- o 2-hop symmetric links - all arcs Y -> Z such that:

  * Y is an address in the L_neighbor_iface_addr_list of a Link Tuple, in any of the router's Link Sets, which has L_status = SYMMETRIC, AND;

  * the Neighbor Tuple with Y in its N_neighbor_addr_list has N_willingness not equal to WILL_NEVER, AND;

  * Z is the N2_2hop_addr of a 2-Hop Tuple in the 2-Hop Set corresponding to the OLSRv2 interface of the chosen Link Set.

- o Advertised symmetric links - all arcs U -> V such that there exists a Topology Tuple and a corresponding Advertising Remote Router Tuple (i.e. with AR_orig_addr = T_orig_addr) with:

  * U is in the AR_addr_list of the Advertising Remote Router Tuple, AND;

  * V is the T_dest_addr of the Topology Tuple.

- o Symmetric 1-hop neighbor addresses - all arcs Y -> W such that:

  * Y is, and W is not, an address in the L_neighbor_iface_addr_list of a Link Tuple, in any of the router's Link Sets, which has L_status = SYMMETRIC, AND;

  * W and Y are included in the same N_neighbor_addr_list (i.e. the one in the Neighbor Tuple whose N_neighbor_addr_list contains the L_neighbor_iface_addr_list that includes Y).

- o Attached network addresses - all arcs U -> T such that there exists an Attached Network Tuple and a corresponding Advertising Remote Router Tuple (i.e. with AR_orig_addr = AN_orig_addr) with:

  * U is in the AR_addr_list of the Advertising Remote Router Tuple, AND;

  * T is the AN_net_addr of the Attached Network Tuple.

All links in the first three cases above have a hop count of one, the symmetric 1-hop neighbor addresses have a hop count of zero, and the attached network addresses have a hop count given by the appropriate value of AN_dist.

16.2. Populating the Routing Set

The Routing Set MUST contain the shortest paths for all destinations from all local OLSRv2 interfaces using the Network Topology Graph. This calculation MAY use any algorithm, including any means of choosing between paths of equal length.

Using the notation of Section 16.1, each path will have as its first arc a local symmetric link X -> Y. There will be a path for each terminating Y, Z, V, W and T which can be connected to local OLSRv2 address X using the indicated arcs. The corresponding Routing Tuple for this path will have:

- o R_dest_addr := the terminating Y, Z, V, W or T;

- o R_next_iface_addr := the first arc's Y;

- o R_dist := the total hop count of the path;

- o R_local_iface_addr := the first arc's X.

An example algorithm for calculating the Routing Set of a router is given in Appendix C.

16.3. Routing Set Updates

The Routing Set MUST be updated when changes in the Neighborhood Information Base or the Topology Information Base indicate a change of the known symmetric links and/or attached networks in the MANET. It is sufficient to consider only changes which affect at least one of:

- o The Link Set of any OLSRv2 interface, and to consider only Link Tuples which have, or just had, L_status = SYMMETRIC (including removal of such Link Tuples).
- o The Neighbor Set of the router, and to consider only Neighbor Tuples that have, or just had, N_symmetric = true.
- o The 2-Hop Set of any OLSRv2 interface.
- o The Advertising Remote Router Set of the router.
- o The Topology Set of the router.
- o The Attached Network Set of the router.

Updates to the Routing Set do not generate or trigger any messages to be transmitted. The state of the Routing Set SHOULD, however, be reflected in the IP routing table by adding and removing entries from the IP routing table as appropriate.

17. Proposed Values for Parameters and Constants

OLSRv2 uses all parameters and constants defined in [NHDP] and additional parameters and constants defined in this document. All but one (RX_HOLD_TIME) of these additional parameters are router parameters as defined in [NHDP]. These proposed values of the additional parameters are appropriate to the case where all parameters (including those defined in [NHDP]) have a single value. Proposed values for parameters defined in [NHDP] are given in that document.

17.1. Local History Time Parameters

- o O_HOLD_TIME := 30 seconds

17.2. Message Interval Parameters

- o TC_INTERVAL := 5 seconds

- TC_MIN_INTERVAL := TC_INTERVAL/4

17.3. Advertised Information Validity Time Parameters

- T_HOLD_TIME := 3 x TC_INTERVAL

- A_HOLD_TIME := T_HOLD_TIME

17.4. Received Message Validity Time Parameters

- RX_HOLD_TIME := 30 seconds

- P_HOLD_TIME := 30 seconds

- F_HOLD_TIME := 30 seconds

17.5. Jitter Time Parameters

- TP_MAXJITTER := HP_MAXJITTER

- TT_MAXJITTER := HT_MAXJITTER

- F_MAXJITTER := TT_MAXJITTER

17.6. Hop Limit Parameter

- TC_HOP_LIMIT := 255

17.7. Willingness Parameter and Constants

- WILLINGNESS := WILL_DEFAULT

- WILL_NEVER := 0

- WILL_DEFAULT := 3

- WILL_ALWAYS := 7

18. Sequence Numbers

Sequence numbers are used in OLSRv2 with the purpose of discarding "old" information, i.e. messages received out of order. However with a limited number of bits for representing sequence numbers, wrap-around (that the sequence number is incremented from the maximum possible value to zero) will occur. To prevent this from interfering with the operation of OLSRv2, the following MUST be observed when determining the ordering of sequence numbers.

The term MAXVALUE designates in the following one more than the largest possible value for a sequence number. For a 16 bit sequence number (as are those defined in this specification) MAXVALUE is 65536.

The sequence number S1 is said to be "greater than" the sequence number S2 if:

- o S1 > S2 AND S1 - S2 < MAXVALUE/2 OR

- o S2 > S1 AND S2 - S1 > MAXVALUE/2

When sequence numbers S1 and S2 differ by MAXVALUE/2 their ordering cannot be determined. In this case, which should not occur, either ordering may be assumed.

Thus when comparing two messages, it is possible - even in the presence of wrap-around - to determine which message contains the most recent information.

19. IANA Considerations

19.1. Message Types

This specification defines one Message Type, to be allocated from the 0-223 range of the "Message Types" namespace defined in [RFC5444], as specified in Table 5.

Name	Type	Description
TC	TBD1	Topology Control (MANET-wide signaling)

Table 5

19.2. Message TLV Types

This specification defines two Message TLV Types, which must be allocated from the "Message TLV Types" namespace defined in [RFC5444]. IANA are requested to make allocations in the 8-127 range for these types. This will create two new type extension registries with assignments as specified in Table 6 and Table 7. Specifications of these TLVs are in Section 8.1.1 and Section 8.2.1.

Name	Type	Type extension	Description
MPR_WILLING	TBD2	0	Specifies the originating router's willingness to act as a relay and to partake in network formation
Unassigned	TBD2	1-255	Expert Review

Table 6

Name	Type	Type extension	Description
CONT_SEQ_NUM	TBD3	0 (COMPLETE)	Specifies a content sequence number for this complete message
CONT_SEQ_NUM	TBD3	1 (INCOMPLETE)	Specifies a content sequence number for this incomplete message
Unassigned	TBD3	2-255	Expert Review

Table 7

Type extensions indicated as Expert Review SHOULD be allocated as described in [RFC5444], based on Expert Review as defined in [RFC5226].

19.3. Address Block TLV Types

This specification defines two Address Block TLV Types, which must be allocated from the "Address Block TLV Types" namespace defined in [RFC5444]. IANA are requested to make allocations in the 8-127 range for these types. This will create two new type extension registries with assignments as specified in Table 8 and Table 9. Specifications of these TLVs are in Section 8.1.2 and Section 8.2.2.

Name	Type	Type extension	Description
MPR	TBD4	0	Specifies that a given address is of a router selected as an MPR
Unassigned	TBD4	1-255	Expert Review

Table 8

Name	Type	Type extension	Description
GATEWAY	TBD5	0	Specifies that a given address is reached via a gateway on the originating router
Unassigned	TBD5	1-255	Expert Review

Table 9

Type extensions indicated as Expert Review SHOULD be allocated as described in [RFC5444], based on Expert Review as defined in [RFC5226].

The Address Block TLV with Type = LOCAL_IF defined in [NHDP] is extended to also permit inclusion of the Value UNSPEC_IF = 2, representing a local address which may or may not be that of the interface on which this message is transmitted.

20. Security Considerations

Currently, OLSRv2 does not specify any special security measures. As a proactive routing protocol, OLSRv2 makes a target for various attacks. The various possible vulnerabilities are discussed in this section.

20.1. Confidentiality

Being a proactive protocol, OLSRv2 periodically MPR floods topological information to all routers in the network. Hence, if used in an unprotected wireless network, the network topology is revealed to anyone who listens to OLSRv2 control messages.

In situations where the confidentiality of the network topology is of importance, regular cryptographic techniques, such as exchange of

OLSRv2 control traffic messages encrypted by PGP [RFC4880] or encrypted by some shared secret key, can be applied to ensure that control traffic can be read and interpreted by only those authorized to do so.

20.2. Integrity

In OLSRv2, each router is injecting topological information into the network through transmitting HELLO messages and, for some routers, TC messages. If some routers for some reason, malicious or malfunction, inject invalid control traffic, network integrity may be compromised. Therefore, message authentication is recommended.

Different such situations may occur, for instance:

1. a router generates TC messages, advertising links to non-neighbor routers;

2. a router generates TC messages, pretending to be another router;

3. a router generates HELLO messages, advertising non-neighbor routers;

4. a router generates HELLO messages, pretending to be another router;

5. a router forwards altered control messages;

6. a router does not forward control messages;

7. a router does not select multipoint relays correctly;

8. a router forwards broadcast control messages unaltered, but does not forward unicast data traffic;

9. a router "replays" previously recorded control traffic from another router.

Authentication of the originator router for control messages (for situations 2, 4 and 5) and on the individual links announced in the control messages (for situations 1 and 3) may be used as a countermeasure. However to prevent routers from repeating old (and correctly authenticated) information (situation 9) temporal information is required, allowing a router to positively identify such delayed messages.

In general, digital signatures and other required security information may be transmitted as a separate OLSRv2 Message Type, or signatures and security information may be transmitted within the OLSRv2 HELLO and TC messages, using the TLV mechanism. Either option permits that "secured" and "unsecured" routers can coexist in the same network, if desired,

Specifically, the authenticity of entire OLSRv2 control packets can be established through employing IPsec authentication headers, whereas authenticity of individual links (situations 1 and 3) require additional security information to be distributed.

An important consideration is that all control messages in OLSRv2 are transmitted either to all routers in the neighborhood (HELLO messages) or broadcast to all routers in the network (TC messages).

For example, a control message in OLSRv2 is always a point-to-multipoint transmission. It is therefore important that the authentication mechanism employed permits that any receiving router can validate the authenticity of a message. As an analogy, given a block of text, signed by a PGP private key, then anyone with the corresponding public key can verify the authenticity of the text.

20.3. Interaction with External Routing Domains

OLSRv2 does, through the use of TC messages, provide a basic mechanism for injecting external routing information to the OLSRv2 domain. Appendix A also specifies that routing information can be extracted from the topology table or the routing table of OLSRv2 and, potentially, injected into an external domain if the routing protocol governing that domain permits.

Other than as described in Appendix A, when operating routers connecting OLSRv2 to an external routing domain, care MUST be taken not to allow potentially insecure and untrustworthy information to be injected from the OLSRv2 domain to external routing domains. Care MUST be taken to validate the correctness of information prior to it being injected as to avoid polluting routing tables with invalid information.

A recommended way of extending connectivity from an existing routing domain to an OLSRv2 routed MANET is to assign an IP prefix (under the authority of the routers/gateways connecting the MANET with the exiting routing domain) exclusively to the OLSRv2 MANET area, and to configure the gateways statically to advertise routes to that IP sequence to routers in the existing routing domain.

21. Contributors

This specification is the result of the joint efforts of the following contributors -- listed alphabetically.

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22. Acknowledgments

The authors would like to acknowledge the team behind OLSRv1, specified in RFC3626, including Anis Laouiti (INT, Paris), Pascale Minet (INRIA, France), Laurent Viennot (INRIA, France), and Amir Qayyum (M.A. Jinnah University, Islamabad) for their contributions.

The authors would like to gratefully acknowledge the following people for intense technical discussions, early reviews and comments on the specification and its components (listed alphabetically): Khaldoun Al Agha (LRI), Song-Yean Cho (LIX), Alan Cullen (BAE Systems), Louise Lamont (CRC), Li Li (CRC), Joe Macker (NRL), Richard Ogier (SRI), Charles E. Perkins (WiChorus), Shubhranshu Singh (Samsung AIT), and the entire IETF MANET working group.

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Appendix A. Router Configuration

OLSRv2 does not make any assumption about router addresses, other than that each router is assumed to have at least one unique and routable IP address for each interface that it has which participates in the MANET.

When applicable, a recommended way of connecting an OLSRv2 network to an existing IP routing domain is to assign an IP prefix (under the authority of the routers/gateways connecting the MANET with the routing domain) exclusively to the OLSRv2 area, and to configure the gateways statically to advertise routes to that IP sequence to routers in the existing routing domain.

Appendix B. Example Algorithm for Calculating MPRs

The following specifies an algorithm which MAY be used to select MPRs. MPRs are calculated per OLSRv2 interface, but then a single set of MPRs is formed from the union of the MPRs for all OLSRv2 interfaces. (As noted in Section 14 a router MAY improve on this, by coordination between OLSRv2 interfaces.) A router's MPRs are recorded using the element N_mpr in Neighbor Tuples.

If using this algorithm then the following steps MUST be executed in order for a router to select its MPRs:

1. Set N_mpr := false in all Neighbor Tuples;

2. For each Neighbor Tuple with N_symmetric = true and N_willingness = WILL_ALWAYS, set N_mpr := true;

3. For each OLSRv2 interface of the router, use the algorithm in Appendix B.2. Note that this sets N_mpr := true for some Neighbor Tuples, these routers are already selected as MPRs when using the algorithm for following OLSRv2 interfaces.

4. OPTIONALLY, consider each selected MPR in turn, and if the set of selected MPRs without that router still satisfies the necessary conditions, for all OLSRv2 interfaces, then that router MAY be removed from the set of MPRs. This process MAY be repeated until no MPRs are removed. Routers MAY be considered in order of increasing N_willingness.

Symmetric 1-hop neighbor routers with N_willingness = WILL_NEVER MUST

NOT be selected as MPRs, and MUST be ignored in the following algorithm, as MUST be symmetric 2-hop neighbor routers which are also symmetric 1-hop neighbor routers (i.e. when considering 2-Hop Tuples, ignore any 2-Hop Tuples whose N2_2hop_addr is in the N_neighbor_addr_list of any Neighbor Tuple, or whose N2_neighbor_iface_addr_list is included in the N_neighbor_addr_list of any Neighbor Tuple with N_willingness = WILL_NEVER).

B.1. Terminology

The following terminology will be used when selecting MPRs for the OLSRv2 interface I:

N(I) - The set of symmetric 1-hop neighbors which have a symmetric link to I.

N2(I) - The set of addresses of interfaces of a router with a symmetric link to a router in N(I); this MAY be restricted to considering only information received over I (in which case N2(I) is the set of N2_2hop_addr in 2-Hop Tuples in the 2-Hop Set for OLSRv2 interface I).

Connected to I via Y - An address A in N2(I) is connected to I via a router Y in N(I) if A is an address of an interface of a symmetric 1-hop neighbor of Y (i.e. A is the N2_2hop_addr in a 2-Hop Tuple in the 2-Hop Set for OLSRv2 interface I, and whose N2_neighbor_iface_addr_list is contained in the set of interface addresses of Y).

D(Y, I) - For a router Y in N(I), the number of addresses in N2(I) which are connected to I via Y.

R(Y, I): - For a router Y in N(I), the number of addresses in N2(I) which are connected to I via Y, but are not connected to I via any router which has already been selected as an MPR.

B.2. MPR Selection Algorithm for each OLSRv2 Interface

When selecting MPRs for the OLSRv2 interface I:

1. For each address A in N2(I) for which there is only one router Y in N(I) such that A is connected to I via Y, select that router Y as an MPR (i.e. set N_mpr := true in the Neighbor Tuple corresponding to Y).

2. While there exists any router Y in N(I) with R(Y, I) > 0:

1. Select a router Y in N(I) with R(Y, I) > 0 in the following order of priority:

   + greatest N_willingness in the Neighbor Tuple corresponding to Y, THEN;

   + greatest R(Y, I), THEN;

   + greatest D(Y, I), THEN;

   + N_mpr_selector is equal to true, if possible, THEN;

   + any choice.

2. Select Y as an MPR (i.e. set N_mpr := true in the Neighbor Tuple corresponding to Y).

Appendix C. Example Algorithm for Calculating the Routing Set

The following procedure is given as an example for calculating the Routing Set using a variation of Dijkstra's algorithm. First all Routing Tuples are removed, and then the procedures in the following sections are applied in turn.

C.1. Add Local Symmetric Links

1. For each Local Interface Tuple:

   1. Select an address (the "local address") in I_local_iface_addr_list.

   2. For each Link Tuple for this local interface with L_status = SYMMETRIC:

      1. For each address (the "current address") in L_neighbor_iface_addr_list, if there is no Routing Tuple with R_dest_addr = current address, then add a Routing Tuple with:

         - R_dest_addr := current address;

         - R_next_iface_addr := current address;

         - R_dist := 1;

         - R_local_iface_addr := local address.

2. For each Neighbor Tuple whose N_neighbor_addr_list contains the R_dest_addr of a Routing Tuple (the "previous Tuple"):

    1. For each address (the "current address") in N_neighbor_addr_list, if there is no Routing Tuple with R_dest_addr = current address, then add a Routing Tuple with:

        + R_dest_addr := current address;

        + R_next_iface_addr := R_dest_addr of the previous Tuple;

        + R_dist := 1;

        + R_local_iface_addr := R_local_iface_addr of the previous Tuple.

C.2. Add Remote Symmetric Links

The following procedure, which adds Routing Tuples for destination routers h+1 hops away, MUST be executed for each value of h, starting with h := 1 and incrementing by 1 for each iteration. The execution MUST stop if no new Routing Tuples are added in an iteration.

1. For each Topology Tuple, if:

    * T_dest_addr is not equal to R_dest_addr of any Routing Tuple, AND;

    * for the Advertising Remote Router Tuple with AR_orig_addr = T_orig_addr, there is an address in the AR_addr_list which is equal to the R_dest_addr of a Routing Tuple (the "previous Routing Tuple") whose R_dist = h

    then add a new Routing Tuple, with:

    * R_dest_addr := T_dest_addr;

    * R_next_iface_addr := R_next_iface_addr of the previous Routing Tuple;

    * R_dist := h+1;

    * R_local_iface_addr := R_local_iface_addr of the previous Routing Tuple.

    More than one Topology Tuple may be usable to select the next hop R_next_iface_addr for reaching the address R_dest_addr. Ties should be broken such that routers with greater willingness are preferred, and between routers of equal willingness, MPR selectors are preferred over non-MPR selectors.

2. After the above iteration has completed, if h = 1, for each 2-Hop Neighbor Tuple where:

   * N2_2hop_addr is not equal to R_dest_addr of any Routing Tuple, AND;

   * The Neighbor Tuple whose N_neighbor_addr_list contains N2_neighbor_iface_addr_list has N_willingness not equal to WILL_NEVER

   select a Routing Tuple (the "previous Routing Tuple") whose R_dest_addr is contained in N2_neighbor_iface_addr_list, and add a new Routing Tuple with:

   * R_dest_addr := N2_2hop_addr;

   * R_next_iface_addr := R_next_iface_addr of the previous Routing Tuple;

   * R_dist := 2;

   * R_local_iface_addr := R_local_iface_addr of the previous Routing Tuple.

   More than one 2-Hop Neighbor Tuple may be usable to select the next hop R_next_iface_addr for reaching the address R_dest_addr. Ties should be broken such that routers with greater willingness are preferred, and between routers of equal willingness, MPR selectors are preferred over non-MPR selectors.

C.3. Add Attached Networks

1. For each Attached Network Tuple, if for the Advertising Remote Router Tuple with AR_orig_addr = AN_orig_addr, there is an address in the AR_addr_list which is equal to the R_dest_addr of a Routing Tuple (the "previous Routing Tuple"), then:

   1. If there is no Routing Tuple with R_dest_addr = AN_net_addr, then add a new Routing Tuple with:

      + R_dest_addr := AN_net_addr;

      + R_next_iface_addr := R_next_iface_addr of the previous Routing Tuple;

+ R_dist := (R_dist of the previous Routing Tuple) + AN_dist;

+ R_local_iface_addr := R_local_iface_addr of the previous Routing Tuple.

2. Otherwise if the Routing Tuple with R_dest_addr = AN_net_addr (the "current Routing Tuple") has R_dist > (R_dist of the previous Routing Tuple) + AN_dist, then modify the current Routing Tuple by:

   + R_next_iface_addr := R_next_iface_addr of the previous Routing Tuple;

   + R_dist := (R_dist of the previous Routing Tuple) + AN_dist;

   + R_local_iface_addr := R_local_iface_addr of the previous Routing Tuple.

Appendix D. Example Message Layout

An example TC message is as follows. The message has full Message Header (four bit Flags field value is 15). Its four bit Message Address Length field has value 3 and hence addresses in the message have length four octets, here being IPv4 addresses. The overall message length is 65 octets.

The message has a Message TLV Block with content length 13 octets containing three TLVs. The first two TLVs are interval and validity times for the message. The third TLV is the content sequence number TLV used to carry the 2 octet ANSN, and (with default type extension zero, i.e. COMPLETE) indicating that the TC message is complete. Each TLV uses a TLV with Flags octet value 16, indicating that it has a Value, but no type extension or start and stop indexes. The first two TLVs have a Value Length of 1 octet, the last has a Value Length of 2 octets.

The message has two Address Blocks. The first Address Block contains 6 addresses, with Flags octet value 128, hence with a Head section, (with length 2 octets) but no Tail section, and hence Mid sections with length two octets. The following TLV Block (content length 6 octets) contains a single LOCAL_IF TLV (Flags octet value 48) indicating that the first three addresses (indexes 0 to 2) are associated with the Value (with Value Length 1 octet) UNSPEC_IF, i.e. they are the originating router's local addresses. The remaining three addresses have no associated TLV, they are the addresses of advertised neighbors.

The second Address Block contains 1 address, with Flags octet 176 indicating that there is a Head section (with length 2 octets), that the Tail section (length 2 octets) consists of zero valued octets (not included), and that there is a single prefix length, which is 16. The network address is thus Head.0.0/16. The following TLV Block (content length 8 octets) includes one TLV that indicates that the originating router is a gateway to this network, at a given number of hops distance (Value Length 1 octet). The TLV Flags octet value of 16 indicates that no indexes are needed.

```
 0                   1                   2                   3
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|      TC       |1 1 1 1 0 0 1 1|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1|
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|                      Originator Address                       |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|   Hop Limit   |   Hop Count   |    Message Sequence Number    |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 1| INTERVAL_TIME |0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0|
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1|     Value     | VALIDITY_TIME |0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0|
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1|     Value     | CONT_SEQ_NUM  |0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0|
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0|         Value (ANSN)          |0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0|
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0|0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0|             Head              |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|              Mid              |              Mid              |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|              Mid              |              Mid              |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|              Mid              |              Mid              |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0|   LOCAL_IF    |0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0|
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0|0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1|   UNSPEC_IF   |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1|1 0 1 1 0 0 0 0|0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0|     Head      |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|  Head (cont)  |0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0|0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0|
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0|    GATEWAY    |0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0|0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1|
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|  Number Hops  |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
```

Appendix E. Constraints

Any process which updates the Local Information Base, the Neighborhood Information Base or the Topology Information Base MUST ensure that all constraints specified in this appendix are maintained, as well as those specified in [NHDP].

In each Originator Tuple:

- O_orig_addr MUST NOT equal any other O_orig_addr.

- O_orig_addr MUST NOT equal this router's originator address.

In each Local Attached Network Tuple:

- AL_net_addr MUST NOT equal any other AL_net_addr.

- AL_net_addr MUST NOT be in the I_local_iface_addr_list of any Local Interface Tuple or be equal to the IR_local_iface_addr of any Removed Interface Address Tuple.

- AL_dist MUST NOT be less than zero.

In each Link Tuple:

- L_neighbor_iface_addr_list MUST NOT contain the AL_net_addr of any Local Attached Network Tuple.

- If L_status = SYMMETRIC and the Neighbor Tuple whose N_neighbor_addr_list contains L_neighbor_iface_addr_list has N_mpr_selector = true, then, for each address in this L_neighbor_iface_addr_list, there MUST be an equal RY_neighbor_iface_addr in the Relay Set associated with the same OLSRv2 interface.

In each Neighbor Tuple:

- N_neighbor_addr_list MUST NOT contain the AL_net_addr of any Local Attached Network Tuple.

- If N_willingness MUST be in the range from WILL_NEVER to WILL_ALWAYS, inclusive.

- If N_mpr = true, then N_symmetric MUST be true and N_willingness MUST NOT equal WILL_NEVER.

- If N_symmetric = true and N_mpr = false, then N_willingness MUST NOT equal WILL_ALWAYS.

- If N_mpr_selector = true, then N_symmetric MUST be true.

- If N_mpr_selector = true, then, for each address in this N_neighbor_addr_list, there MUST be an equal A_neighbor_addr in the Advertised Neighbor Set.

In each Lost Neighbor Tuple:

- NL_neighbor_addr MUST NOT equal the AL_net_addr of any Local Attached Network Tuple.

In each 2-Hop Tuple:

- N2_2hop_addr MUST NOT equal the AL_net_addr of any Local Attached Network Tuple.

In each Received Tuple:

- RX_orig_addr MUST NOT equal this router's originator address or any O_orig_addr.

- Each ordered triple (RX_type, RX_orig_addr, RX_seq_number) MUST NOT equal the corresponding triple in any other Received Tuple in the same Received Set.

In each Processed Tuple:

- P_orig_addr MUST NOT equal this router's originator address or any O_orig_addr.

- Each ordered triple (P_type, P_orig_addr, P_seq_number) MUST NOT equal the corresponding triple in any other Processed Tuple.

In each Forwarded Tuple:

- F_orig_addr MUST NOT equal this router's originator address or any O_orig_addr.

- Each ordered triple (F_type, F_orig_addr, F_seq_number) MUST NOT equal the corresponding triple in any other Forwarded Tuple.

In each Relay Tuple:

- RY_neighbor_iface_addr MUST NOT equal the RY_neighbor_iface_addr in any other Relay Tuple in the same Relay Set.

- RY_neighbor_iface_addr MUST be in the L_neighbor_iface_addr_list of a Link Tuple with L_status = SYMMETRIC.

In the Advertised Neighbor Set:

- Each A_neighbor_addr MUST NOT equal any other A_neighbor_addr.
- Each A_neighbor_addr MUST be in the N_neighbor_addr_list of a Neighbor Tuple with N_symmetric = true.

In each Advertising Remote Router Tuple:

- AR_orig_addr MUST NOT equal this router's originator address or any O_orig_addr.
- AR_orig_addr MUST NOT equal the AR_orig_addr in any other ANSN History Tuple.
- AR_addr_list MUST NOT be empty.
- AR_addr_list MUST NOT contain any duplicated addresses.
- AR_addr_list MUST NOT contain any address which is in the I_local_iface_addr_list of any Local Interface Tuple or be equal to the IR_local_iface_addr of any Removed Interface Address Tuple.
- AR_addr_list MUST NOT contain any address which is the AL_net_addr of any Local Attached Network Tuple.

In each Topology Tuple:

- T_dest_addr MUST NOT be in the I_local_iface_addr_list of any Local Interface Tuple or be equal to the IR_local_iface_addr of any Removed Interface Address Tuple.
- T_dest_addr MUST NOT equal the AL_net_addr of any Local Attached Network Tuple.
- There MUST be an Advertising Remote Router Tuple with AR_orig_addr = T_orig_addr.
- T_dest_addr MUST NOT be in the AR_addr_list of the Advertising Remote Router Tuple with AR_orig_addr = T_orig_addr.
- T_seq_number MUST NOT be greater than AR_seq_number of the Advertising Remote Router Tuple with AR_orig_addr = T_orig_addr.
- The ordered pair (T_dest_addr, T_orig_addr) MUST NOT equal the corresponding pair in any other Topology Tuple.

In each Attached Network Tuple:

- o AN_net_addr MUST NOT be in the I_local_iface_addr_list of any Local Interface Tuple or be equal to the IR_local_iface_addr of any Removed Interface Address Tuple.

- o AN_net_addr MUST NOT equal the AL_net_addr of any Local Attached Network Tuple.

- o There MUST be an Advertising Remote Router Tuple with AR_orig_addr = AN_orig_addr.

- o AN_seq_number MUST NOT be greater than AR_seq_number of the Advertising Remote Router Tuple with AR_orig_addr = AN_orig_addr.

- o AN_dist MUST NOT be less than zero.

- o The ordered pair (AN_net_addr, AN_orig_addr) MUST NOT equal the corresponding pair in any other Attached Network Tuple.

Appendix F. Flow and Congestion Control

Due to its proactive nature, the OLSRv2 protocol has a natural control over the flow of its control traffic. Routers transmit control messages at predetermined rates specified and bounded by message intervals.

OLSRv2 employs [NHDP] for local signaling, embedding MPR selection advertisement through a simple Address Block TLV, and router willingness advertisement (if any) as a single Message TLV. OLSRv2 local signaling, therefore, shares the characteristics and constraints of [NHDP].

Furthermore, MPR flooding greatly reduces signaling overhead from from link state information dissemination in two ways. First, the amount of link state information for a router to declare is reduced to only contain that router's MPR selectors. This reduces the size of a link state declaration as compared to declaring full link state information. In particular some routers may not need to declare any such information. Second, using MPR flooding, the cost of distributing link state information throughout the network is greatly reduced, as compared to when using classic flooding, since only MPRs need to forward link state declaration messages. In dense networks, the reduction of control traffic can be of several orders of magnitude compared to routing protocols using classical flooding [MPR]. This feature naturally provides more bandwidth for useful data traffic and pushes further the frontier of congestion.

Since the control traffic is continuous and periodic, it keeps the quality of the links used in routing more stable. However, using certain OLSRv2 options, some control messages (HELLO messages or TC messages) may be intentionally sent in advance of their deadline in order to increase the responsiveness of the protocol to topology changes. This may cause a small, temporary, and local increase of control traffic, however this is at all times bounded by the use of minimum message intervals.

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