TRILLing new features for your IXP

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There are a number of features of modern layer 3 routing protocols which would be beneficial if available at layer 2

> RFC5556 J Touch (USC), R Pearlman (Sun)

With packet hop counts we now see, The network need not be loop-free!

> draft-ietf-trill-rbridge-protocol-16 Ray Perlner, Algorhyme v2

Magic here:

- Link State protocols run between switches (Routing Bridges)
- All bridges know all other bridges
- Optimal paths converged for unicast destinations
- Loopless distribution trees configured for unknown or multicast destinations

Link State Protocol

- TRILL-IS-IS
- Election for Designated RBridge per LINK
- DR assigns an appointed forwarder role to one RBridge for each VLAN on the link
- The forwarder listens and learns all end-node MAC addresses, ports and attached RBridge names on Layer 2 link

Frame Encapsulation

- Frames on Inter-switch links encapsulated with a header containing hop count and RBridge nickname (to mitigate reconvergence loops)
- Also details exit RBridge name to calculate frame forwarding path



TRILL Header

Inner Ethernet Header

Ethernet Payload

Frame Check Sequence

Known Unicast Forwarding



- Defined by the presence of an encapsulated frame with known unicast destination MAC
- First RBridge encapsulates the frame with a TRILL header, that identifies the exit RBridge
- Forwarded "hop by hop"

Multi-destination

- Broadcast, multicast, or unknown unicast MACs.
- One or more bidirectional trees calculated and nicknamed
- SPF calculation, not Spanning Tree
- Links with no downstream nodes are pruned.
- Forwarding, generally, is handled by delivering frames to adjacent, downstream RBridges, according to the tree nickname specified in the TRILL header.

Benefits

- Shorter Layer 2 paths with meshing
- Therefore improved latency
- Rol from resilient links
- No fu broken gloop prevention protocol faults
- Multipath forwarding to handle increased unexpected traffic



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