



Deploying IGRP/E-IGRP

Session 2208



Understanding E-IGRP



Understanding and deploying E-IGRP is like driving a car



Fundamentals of E-IGRP

- DUAL
- Summarization and Load Balancing
- Query Process
- Deployment Guidelines with E-IGRP
- Summary

IGRP: Interior Gateway Routing Protocol

- Cisco proprietary
- Distance vector
- Broadcast based
- Utilizes link bandwidth and delay
 15 hops is no longer the limit
- 90 seconds updates (RIP is 30 sec.)
- Load balance over unequal cost paths

IGRP/E-IGRP Metrics Calculation

 Metric = [K1 x BW + (K2 x BW) / (256 - Load) + K3 x Delay] x [K5 / (Reliability + K4)]

By Default: K1 = 1, K2 = 0, K3 = 1, K4 = K5 = 0

 Delay is sum of all the delays of the link along the paths

Delay = Delay/10

 Bandwidth is the lowest bandwidth of the link along the paths

Bandwidth = 1000000/Bandwidth

Problems with RIP and IGRP

- Slow convergence
- Not 100% loop free
- Don't support VLSM and discontiguous network
- Periodic full routing updates
- RIP has hop count limitation

Advantages of E-IGRP

- Advanced distance vector
- 100% loop free
- Fast convergence
- Easy configuration
- Less network design constraints than OSPF
- Incremental update
- Supports VLSM and discontiguous network
- Classless routing
- Compatible with existing IGRP network
- Protocol independent (support IPX and AppleTalk)

Advantages of E-IGRP

- Uses multicast instead of broadcast
- Utilize link bandwidth and delay E-IGRP Metric = IGRP Metric x 256 (32 bit Vs. 24 bit)
- Unequal cost paths load balancing
- More flexible than OSPF

Full support of distribute list

Manual summarization can be done in any interface at any router within network

E-IGRP Packets

- Hello: Establish neighbor relationships
- Update: Send routing updates
- Query: Ask neighbors about routing information
- Reply: Response to query about routing information
- Ack: Acknowledgement of a reliable packet

E-IGRP Neighbor Relationship

 Two routers become neighbors when they see each other's hello packet

Hello address = 224.0.0.10

 Hellos sent once every five seconds on the following links:

Broadcast Media: Ethernet, Token Ring, FDDI, etc.

Point-to-point serial links: PPP, HDLC, point-topoint frame relay/ATM subinterfaces

Multipoint circuits with bandwidth greater than T1: ISDN PRI, SMDS, Frame Relay

E-IGRP Neighbor Relationship

Hellos sent once every 60 seconds on the following links:

Multipoint circuits with bandwidth less than or equal to T1: ISDN BRI, Frame Relay, SMDS, etc.

 Neighbor declared dead when no E-IGRP packets are received within hold interval

Not only Hello can reset the hold timer

 Hold time by default is three times the hello time

E-IGRP Neighbor Relationship

- E-IGRP will form neighbors even though hello time and hold time don't match
- E-IGRP sources hello packets from primary address of the interface
- E-IGRP will not form neighbor if K-values are mismatched
- E-IGRP will not form neighbor if AS numbers are mismatched
- Passive interface (IGRP vs. E-IGRP)















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E-IGRP DUAL

- Diffusing update algorithm
- Finite-State-Machine

Track all routes advertised by neighbors

Select loop-free path using a successor and remember any feasible successors

If successor lost

Use feasible successor

If no feasible successor

Query neighbors and recompute new successor

E-IGRP Feasible Distance (FD)

Feasible distance is the minimum distance (metric) along a path to a destination network

Feasible Distance Example



E-IGRP Reported Distance (RD)

Reported distance is the distance (metric) towards a destination as advertised by an upstream neighbor

Reported distance is the distance reported in the queries, the replies and the updates

Reported Distance Example



E-IGRP Feasibility Condition (FC)

A neighbor meets the feasibility condition (FC) if the reported distance by the neighbor is smaller than the feasible distance (FD) of this router

E-IGRP Successor

- A successor is a neighbor that has met the feasibility condition and has the least cost path towards the destination
- It is the next hop for forwarding packets
- Multiple successors are possible (load balancing)

E-IGRP Feasible Successor (FS)

A feasible successor is a neighbor whose reported distance (RD) is less than the feasible distance (FD)

Successor Example



H is the feasible successor (30 < 121)

Passive, Active, and Stuck in Active (SIA)

 Passive routes are routes that have successor information

Passive route = Good

 Active routes are routes that have lost their successors and no feasible successors are available. The router is actively looking for alternative paths

Active route = Bad

 Stuck in Active means the neighbor still has not replied to the original query within three minutes

Stuck in active = Ugly

Dual Algorithm

Local computation

When a route is no longer available via the current successor, the router checks its topology table

Router can switch from successor to feasible successor without involving other routers in the computation

Router stays passive

Updates are sent

DUAL: Local Computation



Dual Algorithm

Diffused Computation

When a route is no longer available via its current successor and no feasible successor is available, queries are sent out to neighbors asking about the lost route

The route is said to be in active state

Neighbors reply to the query if they have information about the lost route. If not, queries are sent out to all of their neighbors.

The router sending out the query waits for all of the replies from its neighbors and will make routing decision based on the replies

DUAL: Diffused Computation



DUAL Example



DUAL Example










DUAL Example (Start)



DUAL Example (End)



- E-IGRP reliable packets are packets that requires explicit acknowledgement:
 - Update
 - Query
 - Reply
- E-IGRP unreliable packets are packets that do not require explicit acknowledgement: Hello

- The router keeps a neighbor list and a retransmission list for every neighbor
- Each reliable packet (Update, Query, Reply) will be retransmitted when packet is not acked
- E-IGRP transport has window size of one (stop and wait mechanism)

Every single reliable packet needs to be acknowledged before the next sequenced packet can be sent

- With reliable multicast traffic, one must wait to transmit the next reliable multicast packets, until all peers have acknowledged the previous multicast
- If one or more peers are slow in acknowledging, all other peers suffer from this
- Solution: The nonacknowledged multicast packet will be retransmitted as a unicast to the slow neighbor

- Per neighbor, retransmission limit is 16
- Neighbor relationship is reset when retry limit (limit = 16) for reliable packets is reached



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Summary

E-IGRP Summarization

- Purpose: Smaller routing tables, smaller updates, query boundary
- Auto summarization:

On major network boundaries, networks are summarized to the major networks

Auto summarization is turned on by default



E-IGRP Summarization

Manual summarization

Configurable on per interface basis in any router within network

When summarization is configured on an interface, the router immediate creates a route pointing to null zero with administrative distance of five

Loop prevention mechanism

When the last specific route of the summary goes away, the summary is deleted

The minimum metric of the specific routes is used as the metric of the summary route

E-IGRP Summarization

Manual summarization command:

ip summary-address E-IGRP <as number> <address> <mask>



E-IGRP Load Balancing

- Routes with equal metric to the minimum metric, will be installed in the routing table (Equal Cost Load Balancing)
- There can be up to six entries in the routing table for the same destination (default = 4)

ip maximum-paths <1-6>

E-IGRP Unequal Cost Load Balancing

- E-IGRP offers unequal cost load balancing feature with the command: Variance <multiplier>
- Variance command will allow the router to include routes with a metric smaller than multiplier times the minimum metric route for that destination, where multiplier is the number specified by the variance command

Variance Example



- Router E will choose router C to get to net X FD=20
- With variance of 2, router E will also choose router B to get to net X
- Router D will not be used to get to net X



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E-IGRP Query Process

- E-IGRP is Advanced Distant Vector. It relies on its neighbor to provide routing information
- If a route is lost and no feasible successor is available, E-IGRP needs to converge fast, its only mechanism for fast convergence is to actively query for the lost route to its neighbors



E-IGRP Query Process

- Queries are sent out when a route is lost and no feasible successor is available
- The lost route is now in active state
- Queries are sent out to all of its neighbors on all interfaces except the interface to the successor
- If the neighbor does not have the lost route information, queries are sent out to their neighbors

E-IGRP Query Process

- The router will have to get ALL of the replies from the neighbors before the router calculates the successor information
- If any neighbor fails to reply the query in three minutes, this route is stuck in active and the router resets the neighbor that fails to reply
- Solution is to limit query range to be covered later in presentation

E-IGRP Query Range

Autonomous System Boundaries

Contrary to popular belief, queries are not bounded by AS boundaries. Queries from AS 1 will be propagated to AS 2



E-IGRP Query Range

Summarization point

Auto or manual summarization bound queries Requires a good address allocation scheme



E-IGRP Bandwidth Utilization

- E-IGRP by default will use up to 50% of the link bandwidth for E-IGRP packets
- This parameter is manually configurable by using the command:

ip bandwidth-percent E-IGRP
<AS-number> <nnn>

Use for greater E-IGRP load control

Bandwidth over WAN Interfaces

 Bandwidth utilization over point-topoint subinterface Frame Relay

Treats bandwidth as T1 by default

Best practice is to manually configure bandwidth as the CIR of the PVC

Bandwidth over WAN Interfaces



 Bandwidth over multipoint Frame Relay, ATM, SMDS, and ISDN PRI:

E-IGRP uses the bandwidth on the main interface divided by the number of neighbors on that interface to get the bandwidth information per neighbor

Bandwidth over WAN Interfaces

 Each PVC might have different CIR, this might create E-IGRP packet pacing problem

Multipoint interfaces:

Convert to point-to-point

Bandwidth configured = (lowest CIR x number of PVC)

ISDN PRI:

Use Dialer Profile (treat as point-to-point link)



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Factors That Influence E-IGRP Scalability

- Keep in mind that E-IGRP is not plug and play for large networks
- Limit E-IGRP query range!
- Quantity of routing information exchanged between peers

Limiting Updates/Queries— Example



Limiting Size/Scope of Updates/Queries

- Evaluate routing requirements
 What routes are needed where?
- Once needs are determined
 - **Use summary address**
 - Use new E-IGRP Stub feature (To be discussed later)
 - **Use distribute lists**

Limiting Updates/Queries—Example



Limiting Updates/Queries—Summary

Remote routers fully involved in convergence

Most remotes are never intended to be transit

Convergence complicated through lack of information hiding

Limiting Updates/Queries—Better



Limiting Updates/Queries— Summary

- Convergence simplified by adding the summary-address statements
- Remote routers just reply when queried

Limiting Updates/Queries New Feature

- New E-IGRP STUB command is now available (12.0.7T and higher)
- [no] E-IGRP stub [receive-only]
 [connected] [static] [summary]

Only specified routes are advertised.

Any neighbor receiving "stub" information from a neighbor will not query those routers for any routes
Limiting Updates/Queries—Best

Best practice is to combine Summarization and E-IGRP STUB command

Limiting Updates/Queries—Best



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Hierarchy/Addressing

- Permits maximum information hiding
- Advertise major net or default route to regions or remotes
- Provides adequate redundancy

E-IGRP Scalability

 E-IGRP is a very scalable routing protocol if proper design methods are used:

Good allocation of address space

Each region should have an unique address space so route summarization is possible

Have a tiered network design model (Core, Distribution, Access)

E-IGRP Scalability

- Use of E-IGRP Stub command if possible
- Proper network resources
 Sufficient memory on the router
 Sufficient bandwidth on WAN interfaces
- Proper configuration of the "bandwidth" statement over WAN interfaces, especially over Frame Relay
- Avoid blind mutual redistribution between two routing protocols or two E-IGRP processes

Tiered Network Design



Nonscalable Network



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Scalable Network



Each region has its own block of address

Queries bounded by using "ip summary-address E-IGRP" command



Query range

Best way to limit query is through route summarization and new E-IGRP Stub command

E-IGRP is not plug and play for large networks

It's a very scalable protocol with little design requirement

• Optimizing E-IGRP network

Limiting query range

Route summarization

Tiered network design

Use of E-IGRP Stub command

Sufficient network resources

Deploying IGRP/E-IGRP

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