



# ENHANCING PING AND TRACEROUTE

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JUNIPER  
NETWORKS

Engineering  
Simplicity

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# Credits

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- Developers (Harvey Mudd College)
  - Ishaan Gandhi
  - Andreas Roeseler
  - Spencer Lang
  - Nick Ludwig
- Mentors
  - Ron Bonica (Juniper Network)
  - Zach Dodds (Harvey Mudd College)

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# THE IP OAM TOOLKIT

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- PING and TRACEROUTE are the most commonly use tools in the IP OAM Toolkit
- What do they do?
- How do they work?
- What can't they do?
- *How can they be enhanced?*



PING



# WHAT DOES IT DO?

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- Test the liveness of a *reachable* interface
- Test the liveness of a *reachable* node
  - By testing the liveness of one of its *reachable* interfaces

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## HOW DOES IT WORK?

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- A probing node sends an ICMP Echo to a probed interface
- The probed interface sends an ICMP Echo Reply to the probing node
- Nerd Notes
  - The ICMP Echo may enter the probed node through any of its interfaces
  - The ICMP Echo reply message may leave the probed node through any of its interfaces
  - There is no guarantee that that either ICMP message traverses the probed interface

# WHAT CAN'T IT DO?

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- Test the liveness of *less-than-reachable* interface
- Examples of *less-than-reachable* interfaces
  - IPv4 unnumbered
  - IPv6 unicast with narrowly scoped address (link-local, ULA)
  - Any interface to which the probing node lacks a route

## HOW CAN IT BE ENHANCED? [RFC 8335]

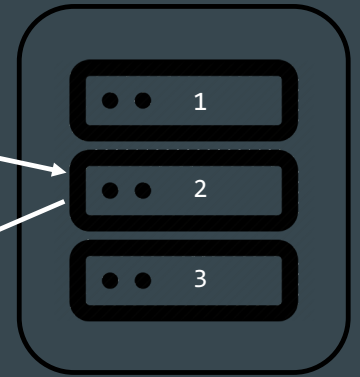
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- A **probing** node sends an ICMP Extended Echo Request to a **proxy** interface
  - ICMP Extended Echo Request identifies the **probed** interface
- The proxy interface sends an Extended ICMP Echo Reply to the probing node
  - The extended ICMP Echo Reply reports the liveness of the probed interface

Nick's  
Machine



How is interface 3?



Interface 3 is up.



# RFC 8335 NERD NOTES

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- The proxy interface can be different from the probed interface
  - And is different in most cases
- The proxy interface must be *reachable* from the probing node
- The proxy interface must reside on one of the following
  - The same node as the probed interface
  - A node that is directly connected to the probed interface

# Example Usage

```
Terminal - aroeseler@aroeseler-ly545
File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help
[aroeseler@aroeseler-ly545 ~/git/iputils/builddir/ping]$ ./ping -4 -e ge-0/0/0 10.0.1.28
PING 10.0.1.28 (10.0.1.28) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.0.1.28: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=60.5 ms
^C
--- 10.0.1.28 ping statistics ---
1 packets transmitted, 1 received, 0% packet loss, time 0ms status: active ipv4 ipv6
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 60.456/60.456/60.456/0.000 ms
[aroeseler@aroeseler-ly545 ~/git/iputils/builddir/ping]$
```

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# SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS

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- Not enabled by default
- Accessible from specified source addresses only

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# IMPLEMENTATIONS

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- JUNOS 20.3R1
- LINUX Kernel(5.13)
- LINUX IP Utils Ping (in progress)
- Wireshark (3.5)
- TCPDUMP (in progress)



# TRACEROUTE



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# WHAT DOES IT DO?

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- Elicit feedback from each *node* on the delivery path between a probing interface and a destination interface
- Identify *nodes* along the delivery path

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## HOW DOES IT WORK?

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- A probing node sends a series of UDP packets to a destination interface
  - Sets the TTL to 1 on the first packet, so that it expires on the first node along the delivery path
  - Increments the TTL on each subsequent, so that it expires on the next node along the delivery path
- When a packet expires on a node along that delivery path, that node sends a ICMP Time Expired message to the probing node

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## NERD NOTES

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- Regarding the UDP probe messages
  - By default, on the first packet, the probing node sets the UDP destination port to 33434
  - Increments UDP destination port on each subsequent packet
- Regarding the ICMP Time Expired message
  - The source address may not identify the interface upon which the UDP probe message arrived
    - IPv4: Identifies the interface through which the ICMP message left the reporting node
    - IPv6: It's complicated. See RFC 6724.

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# WHAT CAN'T IT DO?

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- Identify *interfaces* along the delivery path

## HOW CAN IT BE ENHANCED? [RFC 5837]

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- UDP Probe message is unchanged
- ICMP Time Expired message can contain extensions that identify
  - Interface upon which the UDP probe message arrived
  - Interface through which the message would have been routed had the TTL not expired
  - Attributes of those interfaces (name, IP address, MTU)



# Example Usage

```
[ishaangandhi@Ishaans-MacBook-Pro-5.local ~/Desktop]$ traceroute -v cs.hmc.edu
traceroute to cs.hmc.edu (134.173.42.100), 64 hops max, 52 byte packets
 1 192.168.0.1 (192.168.0.1) 4.885 ms 3.098 ms 3.378 ms
 2 10.79.240.1 (10.79.240.1) 16.694 ms 9.498 ms 15.203 ms
 3 100.127.5.90 (100.127.5.90) 17.656 ms 12.379 ms 15.827 ms
 4 100.120.102.34 (100.120.102.34) 13.698 ms 15.453 ms 10.932 ms
 5 68.1.4.252 (68.1.4.252) 15.853 ms 19.949 ms 28.248 ms
    Arrival interface:
      name: en2
      address: 38.1.5.49
      MTU: 1500
 6 100ge16-2.core1.lax1.he.net (216.218.224.117) 17.620 ms 18.293 ms 17.679 ms
 7 100ge14-1.core1.lax2.he.net (72.52.92.122) 17.727 ms 18.212 ms 22.573 ms
 8 65.19.156.114 (65.19.156.114) 19.951 ms
   216.218.223.26 (216.218.223.26) 21.678 ms 20.780 ms
 9 130.152.184.99 (130.152.184.99) 23.593 ms 17.517 ms
   130.152.184.162 (130.152.184.162) 19.027 ms
10 hmc-a.router.claremont.edu (134.173.253.23) 24.651 ms
   130.152.184.162 (130.152.184.162) 22.136 ms 19.224 ms
11 * * hmc-a.router.claremont.edu (134.173.253.23) 23.770 ms
12 * knuth.cs.hmc.edu (134.173.42.100) 18.032 ms 19.201 ms
```

```
Arrival interface:
  if index: 2
  address: 130.122.104.62
  MTU: 1500
```

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# IMPLEMENTATIONS

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- JUNOS (in progress, EX first)
- LINUX Kernel (in progress)
- LINUX IP Utils Traceroute (in progress)
- Wireshark (3.5)

A close-up photograph of a dandelion seed head. The left side shows the dark, textured seed head, while the right side is a bright green square overlay. The background is a soft-focus image of dandelion seeds.

THANK YOU

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Roeseler