

Ospf3 to ospfv3 to support ipv6. ospfv3

Design



OSPFv3 is the modified version of OSPF that is used to support routing in IPv6. In OSPFv3, some basic techniques used in OSPF are still maintained. These techniques include designated router election, flooding, shortest path first calculation, and area support. While these basic mechanisms are still maintained in OSPFv3, some necessary changes have also been introduced because of the difference in protocol structure between IPv4 and IPv6.

(Coltun et al, 2008). OSPF was developed by the IETF in 1987. The version now used in IPv4 is OSPFv2. It was published in RFC 2328. OSPFv2 was later updated to OSPFv3 to support IPv6. OSPFv3 was released in 1999 and was published in RFC 5340. OSPFv3 is a link state protocol which works by using Dijkstra's algorithm to determine the shortest path to a destination within a network. To determine the shortest path to each destination, OSPFv3 first constructs a shortest path tree from the network.

The shortest path tree contains all paths leading to remote networks. From the shortest path tree, OSPFv3 then selects all resulting best paths and uses them to populate its routing table (Lammle, 2007). OSPF supports hierarchical network design, enabling network designers to separate larger networks into smaller ones called Areas. Separating larger networks into areas minimizes the amount of routing information that can be propagated at a time. This reduces convergence time of the network.

Also, when any fault occurs in the whole network it can be traced to each area within the network. Changes for OSPFv3 As discussed by Teare (2010), one of the major changes introduced in OSPFv3 is that the protocol's header has been

redesigned. The header is no longer complex as compared to the header in OSPFv2. The header now includes an instance ID field. Routing in IPv6 is done on a per-interface basis not on per-subnet. Each IPv6 routing protocol is more concerned about the link on which it is configured but not the subnet. The addition of the new instance ID field to the protocol structure therefore makes it possible for several OSPFv3 instances or addresses to be enabled on the same link.

By default, instance ID is 0. When there is an additional instance, it is increased. Each OSPF instance is assigned a separate instance ID.