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SAI attributes for disabling L3 rewrites for IP Multicast forwarding

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Overview

This document discusses requirements and the SAI spec proposal for disabling rewriting fields (Source MAC, VLAN) as part of IPMC routing.

Background

SAI pipeline for IPMC forwarding. After Multicast Replication, the egress pipeline is very similar to Unicast Forwarding. The reference pipeline is from Unicast Forwarding.



- Nexthop sets the egress RIF and NextHop IP
- Neighbor table lookup on NextHop IP to set packet's destination MAC address
- Egress RIF lookup to set packet's source MAC address, VLAN and port.

Requirements

We require knobs for disabling rewrites to following fields as part of Multicast forwarding flows

- Src MAC disable
- Vlan rewrite disable

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We have scenarios where we need knobs for disabling header field rewrites, for Multicast Replication.

Case 1: For certain flows, the switch does Multicast Replication for a VLAN tagged packet. However, we do not want the VLAN tag to be over-written during replication, we want the replication to retain the VLAN tag. For such a case we would like to disable L3 VLAN rewrite.

Case 2: For some scenarios, we may want to rewrite the SRC MAC. Having Next Hop based knobs for such rewrites would be very helpful.

In summary, with SDN based forwarding, Controller treats the L2 fields like any other header field which can be controlled and requires them to be configured flexibility as part of Multicast Replication.

Proposal

Since we require capability to disable the rewrites for certain Multicast flows and not for all flows via/to neighbor, the best option is to have these as part of Next Hop object:

- SAI_NEXT_HOP_ATTR_DISABLE_SRC_MAC_REWRITE
- SAI NEXT HOP ATTR DISABLE DST MAC REWRITE
- SAI NEXT HOP ATTR DISABLE VLAN REWRITE

Example SAI object creation for an IPMC Group:

- Create a SAI_OBJECT_TYPE_IPMC_GROUP for the multicast group with the following attributes.
- Create a SAI OBJECT TYPE ROUTER INTERFACE with following attributes:
 - SAI_ROUTER_INTERFACE_ATTR_VIRTUAL_ROUTER_ID
 - SAI ROUTER INTERFACE ATTR SRC MAC ADDRESS
 - SAI_ROUTER_INTERFACE_ATTR_TYPE=SAI_ROUTER_INTERFACE_TYPE_ PORT
 - SAI ROUTER INTERFACE ATTR PORT ID
- Create a SAI OBJECT TYPE NEIGHBOR ENTRY for each neighbor with:
 - "ip" = Link local address
 - "rif"
 - "switch id"
 - SAI NEIGHBOR ENTRY ATTR DST MAC ADDRESS (optional)
 - SAI NEIGHBOR ENTRY ATTR NO HOST ROUTE=true
- Create SAI OBJECT TYPE NEXT HOP with:
 - SAI NEXT HOP ATTR TYPE=SAI NEXT HOP TYPE IPMC
 - SAI NEXT HOP ATTR ROUTER INTERFACE ID
 - SAI_NEXT_HOP_ATTR_IP = "ip" of neighbor

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- SAI_NEXT_HOP_ATTR_DISABLE_SRC_MAC_REWRITE = true
- SAI_NEXT_HOP_ATTR_DISABLE_VLAN_REWRITE = true
- Create a SAI_OBJECT_TYPE_IPMC_GROUP_MEMBER with following attributes:
 - SAI_IPMC_GROUP_MEMBER_ATTR_IPMC_GROUP_ID with ipmc_group_oid
 - SAI_IPMC_GROUP_MEMBER_ATTR_IPMC_OUTPUT_ID with rif_oid
 - SAI_IPMC_GROUP_MEMBER_ATTR_IPMC_NEXT_HOP with next_hop_oid