- Update on Cilium with tcx & netkit
- Revamping global socket iterator

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LSF/MM/BPF 2024



tcx: What's done



TCX DROP

tcx datapath infra was merged and released with 6.6 kernel

```
static __always_inline struct sk_buff *
sch_handle_ingress(struct sk_buff *skb, struct packet_type **pt_prev, int *ret,
                   struct net_device *orig_dev, bool *another)
ſ
        struct bpf_mprog_entry *entry = rcu_dereference_bh(skb->dev->tcx_ingress);
                                                                                                                     ("bpf mprog" array)
        enum skb_drop_reason drop_reason = SKB_DROP_REASON_TC_INGRESS;
        int sch ret:
                                                                                         tc {ingress,egress}
       if (!entry)
                return skb;
        if (*pt_prev) {
               *ret = deliver_skb(skb, *pt_prev, orig_dev);
                *pt_prev = NULL;
        }
                                                                                                        TCX NEXT
        qdisc_skb_cb(skb)->pkt_len = skb->len;
        tcx_set_ingress(skb, true);
                                                                                                                   BPF prog
        if (static_branch_unlikely(&tcx_needed_key)) {
                sch_ret = tcx_run(entry, skb, true);
               if (sch_ret != TC_ACT_UNSPEC)
                        goto ingress_verdict;
        sch_ret = tc_run(tcx_entry(entry), skb, &drop_reason);
ingress verdict:
        switch (sch ret) {
        case TC ACT REDIRECT:
                /* skb_mac_header check was done by BPF, so we can safely
```

tcx: What's done



cilium/ebpf support was merged (thanks to Lorenz!)

- Goal: BPF program management for direct or link-based attachment

link: add TCX support #1163







TCP stream single flow Pod to Pod over wire, 8k MTU (higher is better)



netkit driver was merged and released with 6.7 kernel

CONFIG_NETKIT=y (bool) is set by default in latest Ubuntu 24.04 LTS !

Introducing Kernel 6.8 for the 24.04 Noble Numbat Release

Kernel kernel, development



5 🖉 🖌 Jan 27

The current tentative target kernel for the upcoming Ubuntu release 24.04 (Noble Numbat) is 6.8.

Deadlines (Noble Numbat Release Schedule 149):

- 🚱 March 28, 2024 (UTC) : kernel feature freeze
- 🚱 April 1, 2024 (UTC) : beta freeze
- 🚱 April 11, 2024 (UTC) : kernel freeze
- 🚱 April 18, 2024 (UTC) : final freeze
- 🚱 April 25, 2024 (UTC) : final release



iproute2 support was merged and released with iproute2 v6.8.0

- Goal: Basic device setup and introspection support

```
# ip link add type netkit
# ip -d a
[...]
7: nk0@nk1: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,NOARP,M-DOWN> mtu 1500 qdisc noop state DOWN group default qlen 1000
link/ether 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff promiscuity 0 allmulti 0 minmtu 68 maxmtu 65535
netkit mode 13 type peer policy forward numtxqueues 1 numrxqueues 1 [...]
8: nkl@nk0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,NOARP,M-DOWN> mtu 1500 qdisc noop state DOWN group default qlen 1000
link/ether 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff promiscuity 0 allmulti 0 minmtu 68 maxmtu 65535
netkit mode 13 type primary policy forward numtxqueues 1 numrxqueues 1 [...]
```

- Support base setup and delegate BPF program management to applications (via libbpf, ebpf-go)



vishvananda/netlink support was merged (thanks to Bytedance!)

- Goal: Native iproute2 equivalent for Go, that is, basic device setup and introspection support





cilium/ebpf support was merged (thanks to Datadog!)

- Goal: BPF program management for direct or link-based attachment, same look & feel as tcx





Fixing networking stats for netkit in general and for peer-redirection

- Goal: Proper network stats accounting for cAdvisor for netkit and veth

From: Peilin Ye <peilin.ye@bytedance.com>

Traffic redirected by bpf_redirect_peer() (used by recent CNIs like Cilium) is not accounted for in the RX stats of supported devices (that is, veth and netkit), confusing user space metrics collectors such as cAdvisor [0], as reported by Youlun.

- Fix is calling dev_sw_netstats_rx_add() in skb_do_redirect() and move netkit & veth to dev->tstats

- Guard if drivers implementing ndo_get_peer_dev and do not use dev->tstats
- Suggestion from Jakub Kicinski to move {I,t,d}stats allocation into net core



Fast-path optimising getting peer pointer from struct net_device

- Goal: Get rid of ndo_get_peer_dev entirely and add peer pointer to net_device (suggestion from Jakub Kicinski)

- The latter is only implemented by veth and netkit

- Helps performance for ingress direction due to the current indirect call in skb_do_redirect()

```
if (flags & BPF_F_PEER) {
    const struct net_device_ops *ops = dev->netdev_ops;
    if (unlikely(!ops->ndo_get_peer_dev ||
            !skb_at_tc_ingress(skb)))
        goto_out_drop;
    dev = ops->ndo_get_peer_dev(dev);
    if (unlikely(!dev ||
            !(dev->flags & IFF_UP) ||
            net_eq(net, dev_net(dev))))
        goto_out_drop;
    skb->dev = dev;
    return -EAGAIN;
```



Fast-path optimising getting peer pointer from struct net_device

- Goal: Get rid of ndo_get_peer_dev entirely and add peer pointer to net_device (suggestion from Jakub Kicinski)
- The latter is only implemented by veth and netkit
- Helps performance for ingress direction due to the current indirect call in skb_do_redirect()

```
static struct net device *skb get peer dev(struct net device *dev)
if (flags & BPF_F_PEER) {
        if (unlikely(!skb at tc ingress(skb)))
                                                             const struct net_device_ops *ops = dev->netdev_ops;
                goto out_drop;
        dev = skb_get_peer_dev(dev);
                                                             if (likely(ops->ndo get peer dev))
        if (unlikely(!dev ||
                                                                     return INDIRECT_CALL_1(ops->ndo_get_peer_dev,
                      !(dev->flags & IFF_UP) ||
                                                                                            netkit_peer_dev, dev);
                      net_eq(net, dev_net(dev))))
                                                             return NULL;
                 goto out_drop;
        skb->dev = dev;
        dev_sw_netstats_rx_add(dev, skb->len);
                                                                     Possible given CONFIG_NETKIT is bool
        return -EAGAIN;
```



Integration and merge for Cilium 1.16 with tcx complete

- Enabled by default for 6.6+ kernels, opt-out to old style tc possible
- Now all Cilium attachments are BPF link based (XDP, tcx, cgroups)!

oader: attach programs using tcx #30103
⊱ Merged ti-mo merged 6 commits into cilium:main from rgo3:tcx-for-cilium 🖓 2 weeks ago
□ Conversation 55 -> Commits 6 □ □ E Files changed 35
rgo3 commented on Jan 4 · edited by ti-mo - Member ····
For more detailed descriptions, please refer to the individual commits.
On a high level, this PR:
 attaches TC progs using bpf_link (tcx) respecting upgrade and downgrade paths
 uses per-endpoint bpffs dirs, at e.g. /sys/fs/bpf/cilium/endpoints/12345/links/cil_to_container adds netns-driven tests for attaching skb progs via tcx
adds a Helm flag (enableTXC) to optionally disable the feature to ease integration with other tools
Closes <u>#27632</u>



Seamless up/downgrade path:





Attachment as "last":

- Observability programs can attach in front of Cilium
- Cilium terminates tcx and does not enter into legacy tc

func attachTCX(device netlink.Link, prog *ebpf.Program, progName, bpffsDir string, attach ebpf.AttachType) error {

```
l, err := link.AttachTCX(link.TCXOptions{
    Program: prog,
    Attach: attach,
    Interface: device.Attrs().Index,
    Anchor: link.Tail(),
})
if err != nil {
    return fmt.Errorf("attaching tcx: %w", err)
}
....
```



Minor gotchas:

- Programs worked as-is, only tc_classid had to be zeroed explicitly in our code base
- With that all connectivity tests passed & we were able to merge it

T

Integration and merge for Cilium 1.16 planned

- Goal: Last step of final Cilium integration via --datapath-mode={veth,netkit,netkit-l2}

- netkit: L3 mode, default peer policy if no BPF is attached: drop
- netkit-I2: Same as above but L2 mode

cilium: netkit support #32429





"netkit-l2" mode:

- Working but ran into two issues which needed netkit changes

- Setting mac addresses in the driver (easy, patch coming)

"netkit-l2" mode:

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Use a Specific MAC Address for a Pod	
Some applications bind software licenses to network interface MAC addresses. Cilium provides the ability to specific MAC pods at deploy time instead of letting the operating system allocate them.	Caddresses for
Configuring the address	
Cilium will configure the MAC address for the primary interface inside a Pod if you specify the MAC address in the cni.c: address annotation before deploying the Pod. This MAC address is isolated to the container so it will not collide with any addresses assigned to other Pods on the same node. The MAC address must be specified before deploying the Pod.	ilium.io/mac– other MAC
Annotate the pod with cni.cilium.io/mac-address set to the desired MAC address. For example:	
apiVersion: v1 kind: Pod metadata:	D
annotations: cni.cilium.io/mac-address: e2:9c:30:38:52:61 labels: app: busybox name: busybox namespace: default	





"netkit-l2" mode:

- Working but ran into two issues which needed netkit changes

- Setting mac addresses in the driver (easy, patch coming)

```
if newEp != nil && newEp.Status != nil && newEp.Status.Networking != nil && newEp.Status.Networking.Mac != "" {
    // Set the MAC address on the interface in the container namespace
    if conf.DatapathMode != datapathOption.DatapathModeNetkit {
        err = ns.Do(func() error {
            return mac.ReplaceMacAddressWithLinkName(args.IfName, newEp.Status.Networking.Mac)
        })
        if err != nil {
            return fmt.Errorf("unable to set MAC address on interface %s: %w", args.IfName, err)
        }
    }
    macAddrStr = newEp.Status.Networking.Mac
```



"netkit-l2" mode:

- Working but ran into two issues which needed netkit changes
- Setting mac addresses in the driver (easy, patch coming)
- Respecting setting skb->pkt_type from BPF program





"netkit-l2" mode:

- Working but ran into two issues which needed netkit changes
- Setting mac addresses in the driver (easy, patch coming)
- Respecting setting skb->pkt_type from BPF program (only relevant here in netkit-I2)
- Options:
 - In BPF program copy dst MAC to MAC of host device (retains PACKET_HOST)
 - Do eth_type_trans() before invoking BPF, needs skb push/pull dance
 - Detect that BPF program set pkt_type and override after eth_type_trans()
 - Remove eth_type_trans() and push responsibility into BPF program,
 just do skb pull in driver if BPF otherwise eth_type_trans() if no BPF



"netkit" mode:

- Next step after netkit-I2 is working
- Given L3 mode, BPF ARP responder needs to be compiled out
- Also all netkit-related MACs are zeroed (CNI records them, currently crashes with all-zero MAC tbd)
- From datapath PoV ETH_HLEN still remains at 14
- BPF remains the same, except for local Pod-Pod: s/bpf_redirect_peer/bpf_redirect/
- Traffic to external must use bpf_redirect_neigh to populate L2



Experimenting with head/tailroom customization

- Goal: Being able to control dev->needed_headroom and dev->needed_tailroom
- Could benefit datapath performance under tunneling (vxlan, geneve) or encryption (wireguard)
 Potentially avoids pskb expand head() reallocation costs
- Idea: Have actual IFLA_HEADROOM and IFLA_TAILROOM attributes to dump and set on a device
- needed_{head,tail}room is by default 0, vxlan/geneve adjusts needed_headroom, wireguard also needed_tailroom
 Performance benefit: to be measured, references from <u>old patches mention</u> costs around 5% on realloc





Adding new ndo for setting dev->gso_{ipv4,}_max_size

- Goal: Enabling BIG TCP for Pods without having to restart Pods

- Cilium agent is not able to exec into the Pod's netns at runtime and mounting host procfs into Cilium container is not desired (security reasons). Only the Cilium CNI plugin has access when setting up devices.

- Downside: Enabling BIG TCP on an existing cluster requires restart of application Pod

- New ndo for updating dev->gso_{ipv4,}_max_size in similar style as dev->needed_{head,tail}room would be desirable.. e.g. picks max of primary/peer and applies it to both





Implement ndo_change_mtu for netkit

- Goal: Changing MTU on primary without needing to change on peer
- Cilium agent is not able to exec into the Pod's netns at runtime and mounting host procfs into Cilium container is not desired (security reasons). Only the Cilium CNI plugin has access when setting up devices.





netkit and AF_XDP support

- Goal: 100G+ tput via AF_XDP with netkit without pulling in all the XDP infra into the driver. If these speeds can be achieved, then it would be more advantageous than SRIOV given there is still possibility of visibility / policy enforcement via BPF

Qemu now has native AF_XDP support:

"-netdev

af-xdp,id=str,ifname=name[,mode=native|skb][,force-copy=on|off][,queues=n][,start-queue=m][,inhibit=on|off][,sock-fds=x:y:...:z]"



"Global socket iterator"



Problem: TCP/UDP connect binds VIP to backend, backend terminates, but application does not receive feedback for it. Stays connected, worst case: backend IP reuse.

Last attempt presented in LSF/MM/BPF 2023:

- Part 1: socket destroy kfunc
- Part 2: Iterator over netns'es given Cilium agent does not have access to Pod netns'es

"Global socket iterator"



In Cilium: Only solved in hostns today (via SOCK_DESTROY through DIAG infra)

Socket-Ib: Handle connections to deleted backends #25169



aditighag merged 9 commits into cilium:main from aditighag:pr/aditighag/handle-stale-backend-connections 🖓 on Oc



-O- Commits 9 🗊 Checks 43

Files changed 11

Member

...



aditighag commented on Apr 27, 2023 • edited 👻

This PR addresses a limitation with socket-lb by handling stale connections to deleted service backends.

Background

When socket-lb is enabled, traffic destined to service cluster IPs is load-balanced to service backends in the BPF cgroup hooks at the socket layer (socket connect() aka fast path). When service backends are deleted, source application sockets continue to send traffic to deleted backends (particularly, for connected UDP) as there are no hooks in the slow path (e.g., socket send() / receive() calls).

Fix

When backends are deleted, filter host-wide sockets based on socket cookie and destination ip/port, and destroy the sockets connected to deleted backends. We use the SOCK_DESTROY capability in the kernel based on NETLINK_SOCK_DIAG infrastructure. This requires kernel to be compiled with CONFIG_INET_DIAG_DESTROY config.

"Global socket iterator"



Problem: TCP/UDP connect binds VIP to backend, backend terminates, but application does not receive feedback for it. Stays connected, worst case: backend IP reuse.

Last attempt presented in <u>LSF/MM/BPF 2023</u>:

- Part 1: socket destroy kfunc (Cilium upgraded to LLVM 17 few weeks ago, last blocker for kfuncs gone)
- Part 2: Iterator over netns'es given Cilium agent does not have access to Pod netns'es

Possible options:

- Plumb global flag for bpf_iter_attach_opts (LSF/MM/BPF 2023): not flexible enough
- Socket connect() call records {backendIP/port + socket address or cookie} -> {socket kptr} in hash map and upon destruction we iterate hash map, fetch kptr and destroy socket
- Downside: needs to hold reference on socket
- Sockmap as storage which does not need to hold reference, but installs psock and might have other bumps
- Open-coded netns iterator and then we feed netns pointer into open-coded socket iterator



Slow-path example upon backend termination event:

```
SEC("fentry/" SYS_PREFIX "sys_getpgid")
int foo_nested(void *ctx)
```

```
struct task_struct *cur_task = bpf_get_current_task_btf();
struct sock_common *skc;
struct net *net;
```

```
struct bpf_iter_net {
    __u64 __opaque[3];
} __attribute__((aligned(8)));
```

```
struct bpf_iter_net_kern {
    struct net **net_array;
    netns_tracker ns_tracker;
    u32 len;
    u32 pos;
} __attribute__((aligned(8)));
```

```
Can be used in sleepable / non-sleepable programs.
```

```
__bpf_kfunc int bpf_iter_net_new(struct bpf_iter_net *it)
```

```
struct bpf_iter_net_kern *kit = (void *)it;
struct net *net, **tmp;
u32 i;
```



```
BUILD_BUG_ON(sizeof(struct bpf_iter_net_kern) > sizeof(struct bpf_iter_net));
BUILD_BUG_ON(__alignof__(struct bpf_iter_net_kern) !=
                                __alignof__(struct bpf_iter_net));
kit->len = kit->pos = 0;
kit->net array = NULL;
rcu_read_lock();
for_each_net_rcu(net) {
        tmp = realloc array(kit->net array, kit->len, kit->len + 1,
                            sizeof(*kit->net_array), GFP_ATOMIC, false);
       if (!tmp) {
                rcu_read_unlock();
                goto unwind;
        }
        kit->net_array = tmp;
        kit->net_array[kit->len++] = get_net_track(net, &kit->ns_tracker,
                                                   GFP_ATOMIC);
rcu read unlock();
```

```
return 0;
```

unwind:

3

}



```
__bpf_kfunc struct net *bpf_iter_net_next(struct bpf_iter_net *it)
{
        struct bpf_iter_net_kern *kit = (void *)it;
        struct net *pos = NULL;
        if (kit->pos < kit->len) {
                pos = kit->net_array[kit->pos];
                kit->pos++;
        }
        return pos;
}
__bpf_kfunc void bpf_iter_net_destroy(struct bpf_iter_net *it)
{
        struct bpf_iter_net_kern *kit = (void *)it;
        u32 i;
        for (i = 0; i < kit->len; i++)
                put_net_track(kit->net_array[i], &kit->ns_tracker);
        kfree(kit->net_array);
```



Open TODOs:

net argument required to be trusted input argument:

- Refcount handling is part of bpf_iter_net_new() / bpf_iter_net_destroy()

- Either bpf_iter_net_next() described as KF_RET_TRUSTED or we assign obj id as if it was refcounted (tbd)

- Still needs TCP/UDP socket iterator conversion to open-coded iterator as next step



Thank you! Questions?

github.com/cilium/cilium

tcx BPF datapath

netkit devices

Open coded iterators for netns