



containerized Multi-Access Gateway – controller

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Control Plane Function Guide

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1 Getting started

Find general information about this guide.

1.1 About this guide

This guide describes the Nokia containerized Multi-Access Gateway – controller (cMAG-c) for the BNG CUPS solution.

The cMAG-c is based on the packet forwarding control protocol (PFCP) interface as defined in 3GPP TS 29.244 for mobile 4G CUPS and 5G, and extended by BBF TR-459.

The cMAG-c installs session forwarding state on one or more MAG-us. The term MAG-u is a generic converged name for any type user plane, and includes for example a BNG-UP.

This guide is organized into functional chapters and provides concepts and descriptions of the implementation flow, as well as command line interface (CLI) syntax and command usage.

Command outputs shown in this guide are examples only; actual displays may differ depending on supported functionality and user configuration.

The CLI command descriptions can be found in the *cMAG-c CLI and Data Model Explorer*.



Note: This guide generically covers content for the release specified on the title page of the guide, and may also contain some content that will be released in later maintenance loads. See the applicable *cMAG-c Release Notes* for information about features supported in each load of the software release.

1.2 Conventions

This section describes the general conventions used in this guide.

1.2.1 Precautionary and information messages

The following information symbols are used in the documentation.



DANGER: Danger warns that the described activity or situation may result in serious personal injury or death. An electric shock hazard could exist. Before you begin work on this equipment, be aware of hazards involving electrical circuitry, be familiar with networking environments, and implement accident prevention procedures.



WARNING: Warning indicates that the described activity or situation may, or will, cause equipment damage, serious performance problems, or loss of data.



Caution: Caution indicates that the described activity or situation may reduce your component or system performance.



Note: Note provides additional operational information.



Tip: Tip provides suggestions for use or best practices.

1.2.2 Options or substeps in procedures and sequential workflows

Options in a procedure or a sequential workflow are indicated by a bulleted list. In the following example, at step 1, the user must perform the described action. At step 2, the user must perform one of the listed options to complete the step.

Example: Options in a procedure

1. User must perform this step.
2. This step offers three options. User must perform one option to complete this step.
 - This is one option.
 - This is another option.
 - This is yet another option.

Substeps in a procedure or a sequential workflow are indicated by letters. In the following example, at step 1, the user must perform the described action. At step 2, the user must perform two substeps (a. and b.) to complete the step.

Example: Substeps in a procedure

1. User must perform this step.
2. User must perform all substeps to complete this action.
 - a. This is one substep.
 - b. This is another substep.

2 cMAG-c configuration quick start

The quick start steps configure the main components required to prepare the cMAG-c for subscriber management.

2.1 Configuring cMAG-c for subscriber management

Set up and configure basic components to prepare the cMAG-c for subscriber management.

2.1.1 Configuration overview

The cMAG-c basic configuration for subscriber management requires specific configuration tasks to be completed in a particular order.

The following table lists the main components and links to the specific configuration step that you must complete to prepare the cMAG-c for subscriber management.

Table 1: cMAG-c configuration components and quick-start steps

Configuration component	Configuration task
Configure a system name.	Step 1
Configure PFCP connectivity between the cMAG-c and MAG-u.	Step 2
Configure a service and network instance.	Step 3
Configure a local address pool for IP address assignment within the network instance.	Step 4
Configure the authentication database (ADB).	Step 5
Configure the entry point.	Step 6
Configure IBCP to terminate fixed access sessions.	Step 7

2.1.2 Configuring cMAG-c

These quick-start instructions provide the basic steps required to configure the cMAG-c for subscriber management, including references to additional topics for users who want more information.

Prerequisites

- Identify the name of the IES or VPRN service used to host subscriber sessions on the MAG-u; see [Service selection](#).
- Ensure the MAG-u is configured; see "PFCP association" and "Session management" in the *7750 SR and VSR BNG CUPS User Plane Function Guide* for more information.

About this task

This procedure describes the minimal configuration required to create subscriber sessions on the cMAG-c.

Procedure

Step 1. Optional: Configure a cMAG-c system name.

The cMAG-c system name is used as the hostname for the CLI session prompt and as the default value for any protocol that reflects a system identifier; for example, the NAS ID in RADIUS and the node ID in PFCP. Nokia recommends selecting a system name that is concise and adheres to the FQDN encoding rules.

Example

System name configuration

```
# info from running /subscriber-management system-name
subscriber-management {
    system-name cmag-c
}
```

Step 2. Configure PFCP connectivity between the cMAG-c and MAG-u.

The following example shows a cMAG-c connected to a MAG-u with node ID mag-u and IP 192.0.2.11.

Example

PFCP connectivity between the cMAG-c and MAG-u

```
# info from running /subscriber-management ref-points up
subscriber-management {
    ref-points {
        up {
            peer mag-u {
                admin-state enable
                address-resolution {
                    static-ip [
                        192.0.2.11
                    ]
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Step 3. Configure a service and network instance.

Sessions are assigned to a service, which maps to a network instance. A service is a generic concept describing the type of service a session receives; for example, high speed Internet, video, or voice. A network instance maps to a routing context on the UP. See [Service selection](#) for more information about network instance configuration.

Example

Network instance configuration for the service

```
# info from running /subscriber-management services
subscriber-management {
    services {
        network-instance hsi {
        }
        service hsi {
        }
    }
}
```

```

        }
    }
}
network-instance hsi

```

- Step 4.** Configure a local address pool for IP address assignment within the network instance. The following example shows a simple address pool configuration that uses the prefix 192.0.2.0/24 for IPv4 address assignment and 2001:db8:b00::/40 for IPv6 PD prefix assignment. Other methods can be used. See [Local address assignment](#) for more information about IP address assignment.

Example

Local address pool configuration for IP address assignment

```

# info from running /subscriber-management services network-instance hsi pool hsi
subscriber-management {
  services {
    network-instance hsi {
      pool hsi {
        hold-time 300
        ipv4 {
          micro-net-length 28
          prefix 192.0.2.0/24 {
          }
        }
        ipv6 {
          na {
            micro-net-length 120
            prefix 2001:db8:a00::/116 {
            }
          }
          pd {
            micro-net {
              length 48
            }
            prefix 2001:db8:b00::/40 {
            }
          }
          slaac {
            micro-net-length 56
            prefix 2001:db8:c00::/48 {
            }
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}

```

- Step 5.** Configure the ADB. The ADB configuration determines the authentication process and address assignment method, and retrieves attributes associated with the subscriber session. The following example uses the ADB to provide the address assignment and the subscriber and SLA profiles for the subscriber session. The address pool refers to the local address assignment configured in step 4. See [Authentication database](#) for more information.

Example

ADB configuration

```
# info from running /subscriber-management authentication-database basic-adb
subscriber-management {
  authentication-database basic-adb {
    admin-state enable
    match 1 {
      attribute c-vlan
      optional true
    }
    entry default {
      admin-state enable
      service-name hsi
      ip-anti-spoof true
      action {
        accept
      }
      up-parameters {
        sla-profile default
        sub-profile default
      }
      address-assignment {
        local-dynamic {
          ipv4-pool hsi
          ipv6-pd-pool hsi
          ipv6-na-pool hsi
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Step 6. Configure the entry point.

The entry point informs the cMAG-c about the authentication flow and other aspects of session management and setup. See [BNG entry point](#) for more information. The following example shows a simple configuration that refers to the ADB configured in step 5.

Example

Entry point configuration

```
# info from running /subscriber-management entry-point fixed-access
subscriber-management {
  entry-point fixed-access {
    admin-state enable
    match 1 {
      attribute up-node-id
      optional true
    }
    entry default {
      admin-state enable
      ipoe {
        authentication-flow {
          authentication-database [
            basic-adb
          ]
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

```
}
```

Step 7. Configure IBCP to terminate fixed access sessions.

For fixed access sessions, configure IBCP to allow tunneling of control plane messages. The default IBCP tunnel supports tunneling of control packets from the MAG-u to the cMAG-c. The following example configures IBCP to terminate dual stack IPoE sessions. See [In-band control plane and MAG-u selection](#) for more information about IBCP.

Example

Configuration for the IBCP tunnel

```
# info from running /subscriber-management ref-points up fixed-access
subscriber-management {
  ref-points {
    up {
      fixed-access {
        entry-point fixed-access
        ibcp-triggers {
          pppoe-discover true
          ipoe-dhcp true
          ipoe-dhcpv6 true
          ipoe-router-solicit true
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

3 Session management

Get a general overview of the session functionality and the address assignment protocols, and details on the IPoE and PPPoE fixed access session types.

3.1 PFCP session

A session is the basic operational object of the BNG and represents the connectivity of a single device such as a residential gateway. Address assignment, authentication, accounting, and communication are all done in the scope of a single session. A PFCP association is needed to create a PFCP session.

3.2 General session functionality

Get a high-level overview of the PFCP protocol and general session related functionality including grouping sessions for a subscriber, QoS, service selection, session state, and lawful intercept.

3.2.1 PFCP protocol

Get a high-level overview of the core protocol of session management.

The core of session management is the PFCP protocol as defined in 3GPP TS 29.244, with BNG-specific extensions defined in BBF TR-459.

3.2.1.1 PFCP association and path

The PFCP association and path define the connectivity between the cMAG-c and MAG-u.

To send a session to a MAG-u, a PFCP association needs to be established. While establishing this association, the MAG-u and the cMAG-c exchange capabilities, functional features, and parameters; for example, a MAG-u sends functional features such as PPPoE support, IPoE support, and LCP keep-alive offload support. Capability exchange can influence the IE applicability in PFCP session messages.

- **PFCP association**

A PFCP association must be set up before sessions can be established between the MAG-u and the cMAG-c. Only one association per cMAG-c and MAG-u pair is allowed. The identifiers of the association are the cMAG-c and the MAG-u node IDs, which can be IP addresses or domain names.

- **PFCP path**

Multiple paths are possible per PFCP association. The identifier of a PFCP path is the pair of IP addresses to communicate between the cMAG-c and the MAG-u. Paths are not negotiated but are learned while using PFCP signaling. Each IP address is called a PFCP entity. Each pair of cMAG-c and MAG-u IP addresses is called a PFCP path.



Note: Both the cMAG-c and MAG-u verify that all peering PFCP entities are alive using PFCP heartbeat messages. The heartbeat parameters are configured in the context of the PFCP profile. When a path fails, all related sessions are removed.

3.2.1.2 MAG-u selection

The cMAG-c selects a MAG-u for each session depending on the session type.

The MAG-u selection varies from very static to very dynamic.

See [In-band control plane and MAG-u selection](#) for more information about the selection process for fixed access session.

3.2.1.3 PFCP session state

PFCP sessions require the creation of a forwarding state on the MAG-u device. Session operations allow to manage the forwarding state on the MAG-u.

The forwarding state includes rules (for example, encapsulation and decapsulation), information about routing context forwarding, QoS rules, and requested charging functionality.

The PFCP session establishment procedure creates the initial forwarding state. The path used for the PFCP session establishment procedure is tied to the session.

The following operations are supported for an established session:

- **PFCP session modification**
The cMAG-c modifies the state or performs a state query (for example, to fetch statistics).
- **PFCP session deletion**
The cMAG-c removes all state information.
- **PFCP session report**
The MAG-u sends information unsolicited (for example, to report statistics or a connectivity failure).

In stable conditions, the MAG-u only modifies or deletes the state if instructed by the cMAG-c. If the MAG-u detects a failure, for example, a link failure, it does not delete the state but sends a report and keeps the local state. The MAG-u deletes the state only when the cMAG-c sends a delete request.

3.2.1.4 PFCP provisioning

The PFCP protocol uses components that must be provisioned and verified using the CLI.

Components for PFCP provisioning

To enable the PFCP protocol, provision and reference the following components in the reference-point configuration:

- **IP interface**
The IP interface for signaling is provisioned at the infrastructure layer. See the cMAG-c Installation Guide for more information.
- **Node ID**

The cMAG-c requires an FQDN-based node ID for the PFCP association. By default, the cMAG-c system name, which is set to **cmag-c** by default, serves as the node ID. Use the following command to configure the system name.

```
subscriber-management system-name
```

Use the following command to override the used node ID.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up mag-c-node-id
```

- **PFCP association peer list**

Use the following command to configure the list of peer MAG-u devices.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up peer
```

- **PFCP profile**

Use the commands in the following context to configure PFCP profile options.

```
subscriber-management profiles pfcp-profile
```



Note: The heartbeat and the retransmit options must be configured with the same values in both the MAG-u and cMAG-c, to prevent the MAG-u and cMAG-c from going out of sync if a link failure occurs. See the *7750 SR and VSR BNG CUPS User Plane Function Guide* for more information about the MAG-u configuration.

Example: PFCP provisioning



Note: In this example the system interface is referenced. However, other interface types (for example, direct and loopback interfaces) are also allowed.

```
# info from running /subscriber-management ref-points up
subscriber-management {
  ref-points {
    up {
      fixed-access {
        entry-point fixed-access
        ibcp-triggers {
          pppoe-discover true
          ipoe-dhcp true
          ipoe-dhcpv6 true
          ipoe-router-solicit true
        }
      }
      peer up-east {
        admin-state enable
        address-resolution {
          static-ip [
            192.0.2.11
          ]
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

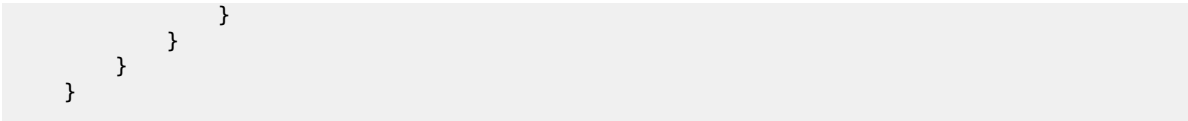
Verifying PFCP association setup

Use the following command to view the PFCP association establishment for the cMAG-c.

```
info from state /subscriber-management ref-points up
```

Output example: PFCP association reference point peers

```
# info detail depth 1 from state /subscriber-management ref-points up peer up-east
  subscriber-management {
    ref-points {
      up {
        peer up-east {
          association-state up
          setup-time 2025-04-03T15:35:30Z
          last-change 2025-04-03T15:35:30Z
          up-state active
          admin-state enable
          node-id-type fqdn
          drain false
          oper-mag-c-node-id cmag-c
          apply-state applied
          up-function-features-3gpp [
            ip6pl
            adpdp
            mnop
            empu
            pdiu
            frrt
            ftup
            treu
          ]
          up-function-features-bbf [
            agf-direct
            b-upf
            pppoe
            ipoe
            lcp-keepalive-offload
          ]
          up-function-features-nokia [
            bulk-audit
            lac
            session-subnet-signaling
            fsg
            per-l2-access-id-tunnels
            partial-audit
          ]
          fsg {
          }
          path 192.0.2.11 {
            path-state up
            last-successful-heartbeat 2025-04-03T16:25:30Z
            ongoing-heartbeat 2025-04-03T16:25:30Z
            recovery-timestamp 2025-04-03T15:27:21Z
            last-changed 2025-04-03T15:35:30Z
          }
          statistics {
          }
          address-resolution {
            static-ip [
              192.0.2.11
            ]
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
```



Related topics

[Headless mode](#)

3.2.1.5 Session message priority

To prioritize PFCP session-related messages toward the MAG-u, the cMAG-c uses the message priority field of the PFCP header. The value of the message priority ranges from 0 to 15, with 0 indicating the highest priority. For more information about how the MAG-u enforces the priority, see the *7750 SR and VSR BNG CUPS User Plane Function Guide*.

Table 2: Message header for session-related PFCP messages

Bits								
Octets	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
1	Version			Spare	Spare	FO	MP	S=1
2	Message Type							
3	Message Length (1st Octet)							
4	Message Length (2nd Octet)							
5 to 12	Session Endpoint Identifier							
13 to 15	Sequence Number							
16	Message Priority				Spare			

The MP bit, which can only be set for session-related PFCP messages, indicates whether the message priority field is set. If the MP bit is not set, the message priority field is ignored and the MAG-u determines the priority. The Nokia MAG-u usually uses priority 15 if the MP bit is not set. See the *7750 SR and VSR BNG CUPS User Plane Function Guide* for more information.

The message priority field indicates the actual priority of a message. The cMAG-c uses a part of the priority fields to assign priority between different transaction types as part of its overload handling. For example, mid-session session modifications are prioritized over the creation of new sessions, making sure that existing sessions are less likely to be affected than new sessions in the event of overload.

3.2.2 PFCP connectivity failure

To protect against temporary PFCP connectivity failures, cMAG-c supports a headless mode. Following the rules for configuring sessions timers ensures that the headless mode works as expected.

3.2.2.1 Headless mode

To prevent the removal of sessions with a temporary heartbeat failure, cMAG-c supports a short-lived headless mode to restore connectivity.

PFCP heartbeat messages check the connectivity of a PFCP path. When the heartbeat procedure fails, all state information for the corresponding path is removed and all sessions using that path are terminated. The association remains in place.

Use the following command to configure the heartbeat parameters.

```
subscriber-management profiles pfcpc-profile heart-beat
```

To protect against temporary failures, the cMAG-c and MAG-u support a headless mode. Use the following command to enable the headless mode.

```
subscriber-management profiles pfcpc-profile path-restoration
```



Note: When using headless mode, Nokia recommends configuring the total message retransmit timeout for all other messages to be longer than the time to detect headless mode. To accomplish this, configure the message retransmit to be higher than the value of the **interval** command plus the **retry-count** command times the **timeout** command, as configured in the **heart-beat** context.

$$\text{message retransmit timeout} > \text{interval} + \text{retry-count} \times \text{timeout}$$

When headless mode is enabled, the sessions are not removed when there is a heartbeat failure. Instead, the configured timer starts and heartbeats continue to be sent. Subsequently, one of the following events occurs:

- The timer expires and all sessions are removed. The association remains in place.
- The path is restored (a successful heartbeat is completed) but a MAG-u restart is detected and all sessions are removed.
- The path is restored (a successful heartbeat is completed), the sessions are kept, and a PFCP audit procedure is started to ensure that the MAG-u and cMAG-c states are synchronized.



Note:

- To prevent the cMAG-c or MAG-u from deleting all sessions while the other node keeps all the sessions, Nokia recommends that the path restoration time is at least twice as large as the sum of the **heart-beat interval** plus the total heartbeat timeout.

$$\text{path restoration time} \geq 2 \times (\text{heart-beat interval} + \text{total heartbeat timeout})$$

$$\text{total heartbeat timeout} = \text{heart-beat retry-count } N1 \times \text{heart-beat timeout } T1$$

This ensures that the cMAG-c and MAG-u nodes each run an audit or delete all the sessions in their respective nodes.

- All parameter configurations must be identical between the cMAG-c and MAG-u.

To avoid hanging resources on a MAG-u, the cMAG-c only removes a session after it receives confirmation that the MAG-u has removed the session. The cMAG-c may receive confirmation in the following messages:

- PFCP Session Deletion Response message (most common case)
- PFCP message including a Cause IE that indicates an error (the MAG-u lost the session)
- an indication that the MAG-u restarted and lost all its sessions; for example, a new PFCP Association Setup Request

If no confirmation is received, the cMAG-c retries the deletion of the session for up to 15 minutes. After this time, the cMAG-c removes the session without waiting for the MAG-u confirmation. To expedite the removal of a session, use the **local-only** keyword with the following command to manually remove the session.

```
tools subscriber-management session clear
```

This removes operational sessions on the cMAG-c without synchronization with any external server or the client.

Related topics

[Operational commands and debugging](#)

3.2.2.2 Session timer alignment

Nokia recommends aligning the session timers (signaled to the BNG RG) with the path restoration time. If the session timers are not aligned with the path restoration time, a session may time out autonomously before the headless mode could restore the path.

The following configurations for the session timers guarantee that the headless mode kicks in as expected.

- For DHCP, the DHCP lease time must at least equal the renew time plus the path restoration time. In the default case, where the renew time is half of the lease time, the lease time must be at least twice the path restoration time.
- For all IPv6 enabled sessions, the router lifetime included in RA messages must be at least equal to the maximum advertisement interval plus the path restoration time. In the default case, where the router lifetime is three times the maximum advertisement interval, the maximum advertisement interval must be equal to at least twice the path restoration time.
- For SLAAC, the IPv6 preferred lifetime must be at least equal to the maximum router advertisement interval plus the path restoration time.
- For DHCPv6, the IPv6 preferred lifetime must be at least equal to the renew timer (T1 timer) plus the path restoration time. In the default case, where the renew timer is half of the preferred lifetime, the preferred lifetime must be equal to at least twice the path restoration time.

The parameters can be locally configured or received from an external AAA server.

To configure or display information locally, use the following commands:

- **path restoration time**

```
subscriber-management profiles pfcprofile path-restoration
```

- **DHCP lease time**

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment dhcpv4-lease-times  
lease-time
```

- **renew time**

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment dhcpv4-lease-times  
renew-time
```

- **router lifetime in RA messages**

```
subscriber-management profiles ra-profile options router-lifetime
```

- **maximum advertisement interval**

```
subscriber-management profiles ra-profile advertisement-interval max
```

- **IPv6 preferred lifetime**

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment ipv6-lifetimes  
preferred-lifetime
```

3.2.3 Subscribers

The cMAG-c supports bundling a group of sessions for a single subscriber.

Grouping of sessions is useful in cases where a subscription consists of multiple directly connected devices. For example, a subscription may consist of a routed residential gateway for Internet access, VoIP phones, and set-top boxes. The residential gateway bridges traffic for voice and video services to the VoIP phones and to the set-top boxes. The cMAG-c automatically creates a subscriber based on keys it derives from the session types, and allocates an auto-generated subscriber ID to the sessions.

See [Subscriber identification](#) for fixed access sessions and for more information about how the subscriber ID is generated.

A subscriber ID alias can be provided via AAA interfaces, but this alias cannot change the scope of a subscriber. For example, if the key of a subscriber contains a Layer 2 circuit (I2-circuit), the AAA subscriber ID alias cannot group two sessions with two different I2-circuit values.

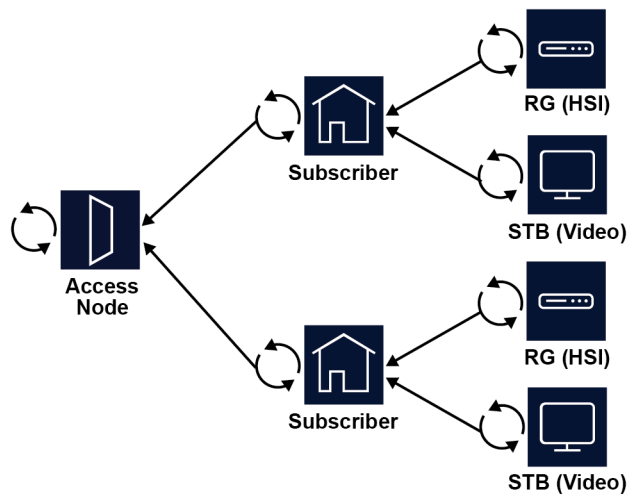
3.2.4 QoS

The cMAG-c enables the appropriate HQoS configuration by sending subscriber profiles and SLA profiles to the MAG-u.

A BNG connection uses HQoS structures, in which there are multiple levels of rate limiting and scheduling. For example, one structure has an aggregate rate per MSAN, a second structure has an aggregate rate per subscriber level, and a third structure has an aggregate rate per session.

The following figure shows an example of an HQoS model.

Figure 1: HQoS example



sw2080

HQoS models can be complex and very hardware specific, the cMAG-c signals the MAG-u profiles to enable the appropriate HQoS configuration. The Nokia cMAG-c signals a subscriber profile and an SLA profile in the PFCP message. The profiles are provisioned during authentication.

The subscriber profile should be kept consistent for all sessions of a subscriber, but the cMAG-c does not enforce consistency. Short-lived inconsistencies are allowed while changing a subscriber profile; for example, when sending a CoA message to all sessions of the subscribers. However, long-lived inconsistencies may lead to unexpected behavior, including reverting to an old subscriber profile.

3.2.5 Service selection

The cMAG-c service model is based on a locally significant service and a network instance.

The cMAG-c service model is based on two concepts:

- A locally significant service defines the service to be delivered; for example, high speed Internet (HSI), video, or voice services. Each service can be associated with service-specific parameters, including a default set of IP pool names for address management. Use the following command to configure services.

```
subscriber-management services service
```

- A network instance defines the forwarding context in which the session is installed on the MAG-u, typically a routing instance. The network instance also serves as the context for provisioning IP pool details. Use the following command to configure network instances.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance
```

Each service must be associated with a network instance, and network instances can be shared across multiple services. The following example shows three services ("hsi", "voice", and "video"), all using the same network instance "base" but with distinct default IPv4 pools for address assignment.

```
# info from running /subscriber-management services
```



```
subscriber-management {
  services {
    network-instance base {
      pool hsi {
        ipv4 {
          micro-net-length 28
          prefix 192.168.0.0/24 {
          }
        }
      }
      pool video {
        ipv4 {
          micro-net-length 28
          prefix 192.168.1.0/24 {
          }
        }
      }
      pool voice {
        ipv4 {
          micro-net-length 28
          prefix 192.168.2.0/24 {
          }
        }
      }
    }
    service hsi {
      network-instance base
      address-assignment-defaults {
        local-dynamic {
          ipv4-pool hsi
        }
      }
    }
    service video {
      network-instance base
      address-assignment-defaults {
        local-dynamic {
          ipv4-pool video
        }
      }
    }
    service voice {
      network-instance base
      address-assignment-defaults {
        local-dynamic {
          ipv4-pool voice
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

3.2.6 Operational commands and debugging

Use the commands in the **show**, **clear**, and **tools** contexts to display cMAG-c sessions and subscribers, remove a session, and debug a failing session setup. Use the call trace feature for advanced debugging.

Removing, debugging, and displaying session information

Use the following command to display information about cMAG-c sessions and subscribers.

```
show subscriber-management session
```

- The **session** command displays basic data related to all sessions on the cMAG-c.
- The supported filter options for the **session** command display the data for specific sets of sessions.
- The **detail** keyword displays all data relevant to a session in a structured fashion.

Use the following state tree to get session counts in various scopes; for example, total sessions on cMAG-c or per MAG-u.

```
subscriber-management statistics
```

The following example displays the session counters for the entire cMAG-c system.

```
# info depth 0 detail from state /subscriber-management statistics
subscriber-management {
  statistics {
    active-sessions 1
    standby-sessions 0
    ipoe-sessions 1
    pppoe-sessions 0
    ipv4-stacks 1
    ipv6-stacks 0
    ipv6-slaac 0
    ipv6-na 0
    ipv6-pd 0
  }
}
```

Use the following command to display an overview of the operational data related to a subscriber. The command has similar options as the session command.

```
show subscriber-management subscriber
```

Use the following state tree to get IBCP statistics .

```
subscriber-management ref-points up statistics ibcp
```

Use the following command to remove a session from the cMAG-c. When you issue this command, the cMAG-c sends a PFCP Session Deletion Request to the MAG-u.

```
tools subscriber-management session clear
```

Use the **local-only** keyword to delete an operational session on the cMAG-c without synchronization with any external server or the client session. This also bypasses the headless mode mechanism.



Tip: Always add filters to the **clear** command in the **tools subscriber-management session** context to avoid accidentally clearing all sessions.

Use the following command to display the session manager log for debugging a failing setup session.

```
show subscriber-management log subsystem session-manager
```

Related topics

[In-band control plane and MAG-u selection](#)

[PFCP connectivity failure](#)

3.2.7 Session state storage

For scalability and redundancy, the Nokia cMAG-c distributes the session state functionality across multiple pods. This section provides a high-level overview of how the cMAG-c handles session state in a distributed environment.

To efficiently handle a distributed system where multiple pods operate on the same session state, the cMAG-c employs a stateless model, storing all session state in a database. This database serves as the sole stable state for a session and is maintained in a consistent manner. Multiple types of pods use the database state in different ways:

- **session management pods**
Session management pods are the only pods that can update (write) session state in the database. They use transactions, including session setup, DHCP lease renewal, charging update, or session removal, to update the session state. At the start of each transaction, a session management pod retrieves the necessary session state from the database and locks the session. At the end of the transaction, the session management pod writes to the database, releases the lock, and removes all local in-memory session state. The lock guarantees that no other session management pod can start transactions for the same session, thereby preventing conflicting state. Because a session management pod removes all local session state at the end of a transaction, any subsequent transaction can be handled by any session management pod in the cMAG-c, without requiring it to be the same pod.
- **session orchestration pods**
Session orchestration pods guarantee that the shared resources are correctly managed by the cMAG-c, primarily to prevent duplicate resource assignments to sessions. Examples of orchestration pods include the following:
 - **gatekeeper pod**
The gatekeeper pod assigns a session to a new or existing subscriber and allocates a unique session and subscriber ID. It also applies session limits, such as per-subscriber, per-UP, or per-Layer 2 access ID limits.
 - **ODSA pod**
The ODSA pod assigns addresses to sessions for local address assignment.These pods maintain partial session state in memory to track allocations. For example, the ODSA pod retains in-memory records of allocated addresses to avoid overlap when assigning new addresses. When these pods need to restart (for example, because of upgrade or pod relocation), they retrieve the necessary session state from the database records.
- **other pods**
A lot of other pods interact with session state in a read-only fashion. Similar to session management pods, these pods do not maintain any session state in long-lived memory, but remove any local state upon completion of a specific work item. Examples include:

- **session state pod**

The session state pod collects session state directly from the database and reflects it back to the requesting application. This is used, for example, to retrieve data when executing the **info from state subscriber-management subscriber** command, or its equivalent through external interfaces (Netconf or gNMI).

- **timer pod**

The timer pod scans the database for expired timers (for example, lease timeout, RADIUS interim update interval) and triggers a session management pod to start a transaction to handle the timer.

3.2.8 Prefix delegation as a framed route

When configured properly, the cMAG-c can signal a PD prefix as a framed route to the MAG-u.

When a PD prefix is allocated to a session, the cMAG-c can be configured to signal the PD prefix as a framed route instead of as an explicit session address to the MAG-u. When the PD prefix is signaled as a framed route, the MAG-u cannot identify that the signaled prefix originated from a DHCPv6 PD lease, and treats it as any other IPv6 framed route.

To have the PD prefix signaled as a framed route, enable the following command (set to **true**).

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment pd-as-framed-route
```

To optimize host resource consumption on a Nokia MAG-u, the framed route is signaled with a :: next-hop address. As with regular framed routes, it is a requirement that the following command is set to **false**.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry ip-anti-spoof
```

When no other IPv6 stack is available, the cMAG-c automatically installs the PD prefix as a regular IP address and not as a framed route on the MAG-u.

Related topics

[AAA-based address assignment from RADIUS, HSS, or UDM](#)

3.2.9 Call trace

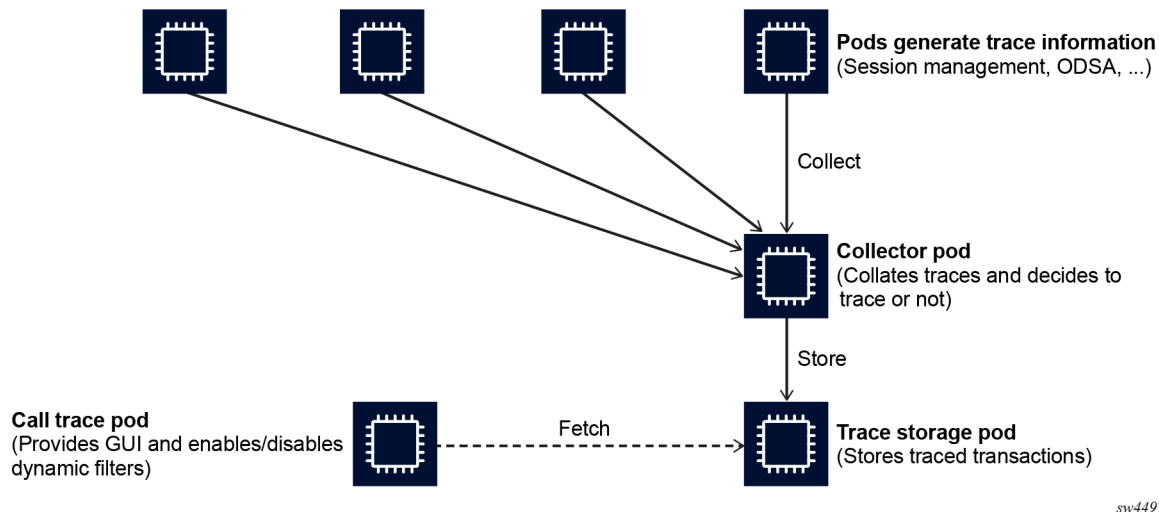
The cMAG-c supports call trace, an advanced debugging feature that supports tracing of CP packets and events during the lifetime of a session.

Call trace is an advanced debugging tool that provides detailed inspection of all the transactions of single sessions. It correlates multiple protocols and internal events in a single interface. All the pods that process call trace sessions decide whether a specific packet or event is traced. At a high-level, call trace consists of the following major elements:

- Pods, including the session management, ODSA, and so on, generate trace information.
- One or more collector pods collect the individual trace candidates and correlate them to a single transaction and session. When a transaction finishes, the pod makes the final decision about whether to trace or discard the transaction.
- A trace storage pod (tempo) stores all the traced transactions.
- The call trace pod provides a GUI to inspect the traced transactions and manage the capture filters.

The following figure shows the high-level elements for call tracing.

Figure 2: High-level call trace elements



3.2.9.1 Always-on tracing

All the pods that participate in the processing of session transactions assess each transaction to determine whether it is subject to tracing. To ensure that every transaction is automatically subject to tracing, the always-on tracing mode is enabled by default. The user can change the configuration of this mode to conserve resources, as needed.

Every pod that participates in processing a session transaction must decide whether the transaction is potentially subject to tracing. The easiest way to accomplish this is to use the default **always-on enabled** tracing mode. This mode automatically assumes that every transaction is potentially subject to tracing.

Example: Always-on tracing enabled

```
# info from running /subscriber-management call-trace always-on
enabled {
    sample-rate 100
}0
```

The benefit of always-on tracing is the traces are only evaluated upon finalizing a transaction. This allows advanced tracing capabilities such as the following:

- Trace transactions based on parameters that are not available in each packet, such as a username or subscriber name. See [Managing session tracing filters](#) for more information.
- Trace any transaction that is considered failed, regardless of the point at which the failure occurs. See [Enabling automatic tracing based on error conditions](#) for more information.

The disadvantage of always-on tracing is it consumes resources to send transactions to the collector pods. If enough resources are available, Nokia recommends to keep always-on tracing enabled. However, if insufficient resources are available, you can reduce the sampling rate or entirely disable always-on tracing.

Use the following CLI to disable always-on tracing. With this option, only the always-available filters are subject to tracing; see [Managing session tracing filters](#).

Example: Always-on tracing disabled

```
# info from running /subscriber-management call-trace always-on
disabled
```

Use the following CLI to reduce the sampling rate for the **always-on** configuration. With this option, pods decide randomly whether to send a transaction to a collector, based on the configured sample-rate percentage. This lowers the resource consumption, although advanced filters, such as described in [Managing session tracing filters](#), may not capture all the matching transactions.

Example: Always-on tracing reduced sampling rate

```
# info from running /subscriber-management call-trace always-on
  enabled {
    sample-rate 50
  }
```

Both the **sample-rate** and **always-on disable** options only have an effect if a transaction does not match an always-available filter, as described in [Managing session tracing filters](#). If a transaction matches an always-available filter, it is traced regardless of the enabled or disabled state of the always-on configuration.

3.2.9.2 Packet tracing

You can use the cMAG-c CLI to manage the configuration of the default call trace packet-tracing options.

By default, the cMAG-c captures packets as part of all the traced transactions. You can use the commands in the following context to change the packet-tracing properties.

```
subscriber-management call-trace packet-tracing
```

The following are examples of reasons you may want to disable packet capturing for traced transactions, and the properties to use to do so:

- If you need to lower the resource impact of always-on tracing, use the **packet-tracing default-off** property. This disables the default packet-tracing functionality, while allowing session filters to explicitly enable packet tracing using the CLI or the GUI tool.

```
subscriber-management call-trace packet-tracing default-off
```

See [Managing session tracing filters](#) for information about how to configure call trace filters for specific sessions.

- If you need to manage privacy or regulatory requirements, use the **packet-tracing disallowed** property. This disables all packet tracing, and prevents individual session filters from enabling it.

```
subscriber-management call-trace packet-tracing disallowed
```

3.2.9.3 Enabling automatic tracing based on error conditions

The cMAG-c provides the ability to configure automatic tracing based on error conditions, when always-on tracing is enabled. For example, it is possible to automatically trace any session transaction that leads to a failure, and to manage the duration of tracing transactions.

Enabling automatic tracing based on any error

When always-on tracing is enabled, it is possible to configure the tracing functionality to automatically trace any session transaction that leads to a failure. To enable tracing based on any error condition, set the **any-error** property to **true**.

```
subscriber-management call-trace any-error true
```

When **any-error** is enabled, the system traces any transaction that does not lead to an expected result, as internally determined by the cMAG-c; for example, a PFCP or RADIUS communication times out or is rejected.

Example: Any-error tracing configuration

```
# info from running /subscriber-management call-trace
  any-error true
  always-on {
    enabled {
      sample-rate 100
    }
  }
```

Configuring automatic tracing based on maximum duration

When always-on tracing is enabled, it is possible to configure a maximum duration for packet tracing. When a maximum duration is specified, the system traces any transaction that takes longer than the configured value. This is useful for debugging transactions that incur timeouts or very high latency but cannot be associated with specific sessions. To use automatic tracing based on a maximum duration, configure the **max-duration** property to the required value (in milliseconds).



WARNING: Nokia cautions against permanently enabling duration-based tracing. Only use duration-based tracing to debug specific issues, and then disable it immediately afterwards. Because high-latency transactions can naturally occur in a network, for example, in the case of routing updates, a majority of transactions are fully traced when duration-based tracing is enabled, which is not recommended.

Example: Maximum transaction duration configuration

```
# info from running /subscriber-management call-trace
  max-duration 5000
  always-on {
    enabled {
      sample-rate 100
    }
  }
```

3.2.9.4 Managing session tracing filters

The *cMAG-c* provides session filters with configurable options for matching the sessions to trace. You can use the CLI or the *cMAG-c Call Trace GUI* tool to manage filters for session tracing.

It is possible to always trace specific sessions, whether they fail or not. To do this, use the CLI or the GUI tool to enable the applicable filters. Filters provisioned using the CLI are referred to as static filters, while filters provisioned using the GUI tool are referred to as dynamic filters. Static filters cannot be modified using the GUI and dynamic filters cannot be modified using the CLI.

A filter provides the following configurable properties for matching the sessions to trace:

- options that are always available:
 - MAC address
 - UP node ID
 - Layer 2 access ID
 - C-VLAN
 - S-VLAN
- options that are only available when the **always-on** property is enabled:
 - subscriber name
 - username

The configuration may include multiple options that must all match (logical AND) for a transaction to match the filter. A filter is considered always available only if all its configured options are always available. If even one option requires always-on tracing, the entire filter requires always-on tracing.

To administratively disable a static filter entry without removing it, specify the **disable** option for the **admin-state** command.

```
subscriber-management call-trace filter admin-state disable
```

You can use the GUI tool to administratively disable dynamic filters.

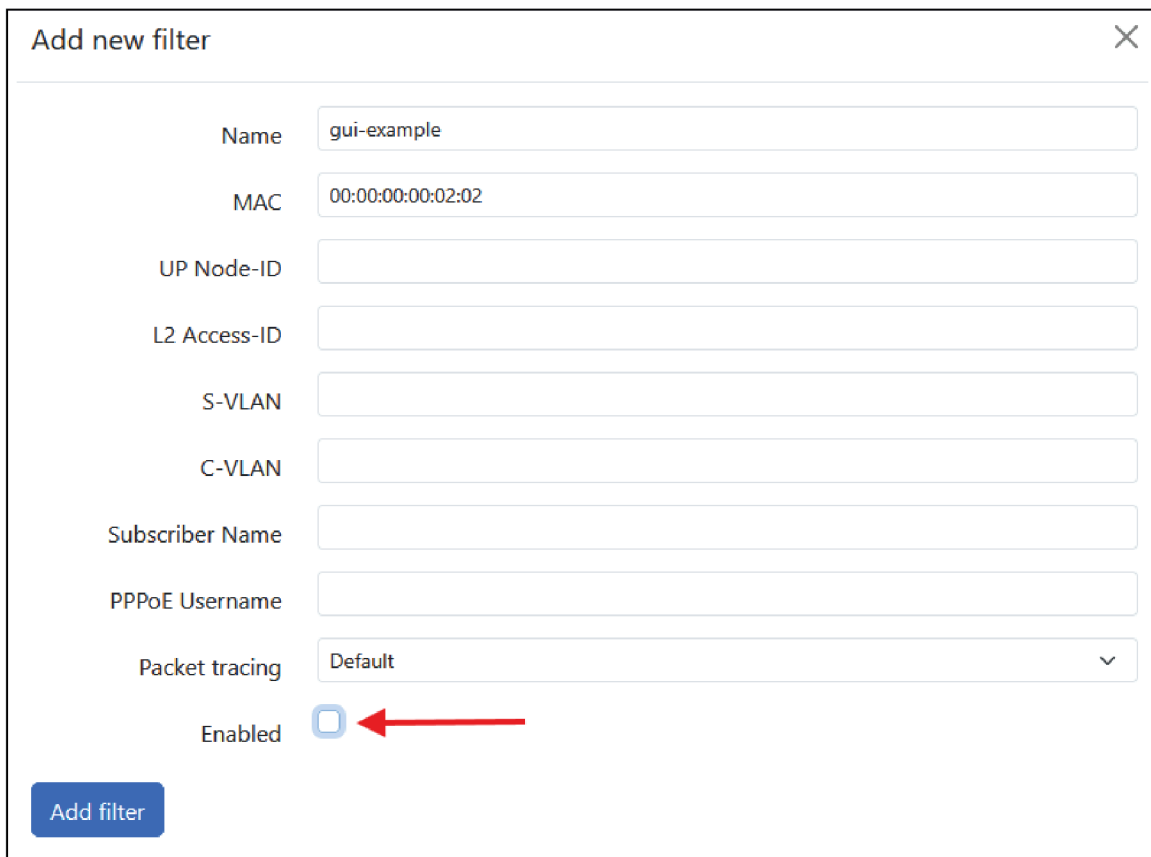
1. Navigate to the **cMAG-c Call Trace Configuration** window in the GUI tool.
2. Under **Dynamic filters**, select the edit icon beside the filter.
3. Uncheck the **Enabled** check box in the **Add new filter** window; see the following figure.

See [Managing dynamic filters using the Call Trace GUI tool](#) for more information about using the GUI tool to manage filters.



Note: When debugging is complete, Nokia recommends fully removing the filter entry. Do not leave the entry permanently in the administratively-disabled state.

Figure 3: Administratively disabling a filter using the Call Trace GUI tool



The screenshot shows a web-based form titled "Add new filter" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The form contains several input fields for filter configuration:

- Name:** A text input field containing "gui-example".
- MAC:** A text input field containing "00:00:00:00:02:02".
- UP Node-ID:** An empty text input field.
- L2 Access-ID:** An empty text input field.
- S-VLAN:** An empty text input field.
- C-VLAN:** An empty text input field.
- Subscriber Name:** An empty text input field.
- PPPoE Username:** An empty text input field.
- Packet tracing:** A dropdown menu currently showing "Default".
- Enabled:** A checkbox that is currently unchecked. A red arrow points to this checkbox.

At the bottom left of the form is a blue button labeled "Add filter".

sc0201

3.2.9.4.1 Managing static filters using the CLI

Prerequisites

See [Managing session tracing filters](#) to learn about managing specific session filters, if needed.

About this task

You can enable, modify, or delete a static call trace filter using the CLI.

Procedure

Step 1. Create or navigate to a filter entry.

```
subscriber-management call-trace filter name
```

Example

```
subscriber-management call-trace filter example
```

Step 2. Specify the match options under the new filter entry.

The following example shows a configuration to capture transactions for sessions with a specific MAC address.

Example

```
# info from running /subscriber-management call-trace filter example
mac 00:00:00:00:01:01
```

- Step 3. Commit the configuration.
- Step 4. Optional: If you want to delete a specific filter entry, use the following CLI to remove it from the configuration.

```
subscriber-management call-trace delete filter example
```

3.2.9.4.2 Managing dynamic filters using the Call Trace GUI tool

Prerequisites

See [Managing session tracing filters](#) to learn about managing specific session filters.

About this task

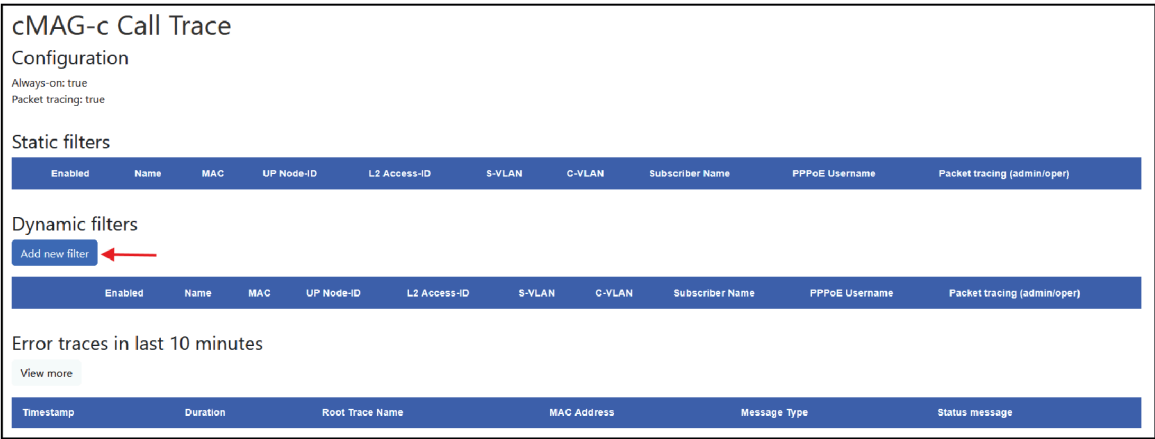
You can use the cMAG-c Call Trace GUI tool to create, modify, or delete dynamic call trace session filters.

Procedure

- Step 1. Navigate to the **cMAG-c Call Trace Configuration** window in the GUI tool.
- Step 2. To add a new filter, use the following steps.

a. Under **Dynamic filters**, click the **Add new filter** button.

Example



sc0187

- b. Enter the filter name in the form and at least one filter parameter.

The subscriber name and username can only be entered if the always-on mode is enabled.

Example

Add new filter

Name

gui-example

MAC

00:00:00:00:02:02

UP Node-ID

L2 Access-ID

S-VLAN

C-VLAN

Subscriber Name

PPPoE Username

Packet tracing

Default

Enabled

☒

Add filter

sc0194

- c. Click the **Add filter** button to create the new filter entry.
The dynamic filter becomes visible in the list of filter entries.

Example

cMAG-c Call Trace

Configuration

Always-on: true

Packet tracing: true

Static filters

Enabled	Name	MAC	UP Node-ID	L2 Access-ID	S-VLAN	C-VLAN	Subscriber Name	PPPoE Username	Packet tracing (admin/oper)
---------	------	-----	------------	--------------	--------	--------	-----------------	----------------	-----------------------------

Dynamic filters

Add new filter

Enabled	Name	MAC	UP Node-ID	L2 Access-ID	S-VLAN	C-VLAN	Subscriber Name	PPPoE Username	Packet tracing (admin/oper)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	enable	gui-example	00:00:00:00:02:02						default/On

Error traces in last 10 minutes

View more

Timestamp	Duration	Root Trace Name	MAC Address	Message Type	Status message
-----------	----------	-----------------	-------------	--------------	----------------

sc0192

Step 3. To modify an existing filter, use the following steps:

- a. Select the edit icon next to the filter entry.

Example

cMAG-c Call Trace

Configuration

Always-on: true


Packet tracing: true

Static filters

Enabled	Name	MAC	UP Node-ID	L2 Access-ID	S-VLAN	C-VLAN	Subscriber Name	PPPoE Username	Packet tracing (admin/oper)
---------	------	-----	------------	--------------	--------	--------	-----------------	----------------	-----------------------------

Dynamic filters

Add new filter

Enabled	Name	MAC	UP Node-ID	L2 Access-ID	S-VLAN	C-VLAN	Subscriber Name	PPPoE Username	Packet tracing (admin/oper)
	enable	gui-example	00:00:00:02:02						default/On

Error traces in last 10 minutes

View more

Timestamp	Duration	Root Trace Name	MAC Address	Message Type	Status message
-----------	----------	-----------------	-------------	--------------	----------------

sc0195

- b. Change the filter information as needed and click the **Add filter** button.

Example

Add new filter

Name

gui-example

MAC

00:00:00:00:02:02

UP Node-ID

L2 Access-ID

S-VLAN

C-VLAN

Subscriber Name

PPPoE Username

Packet tracing

Default

Enabled

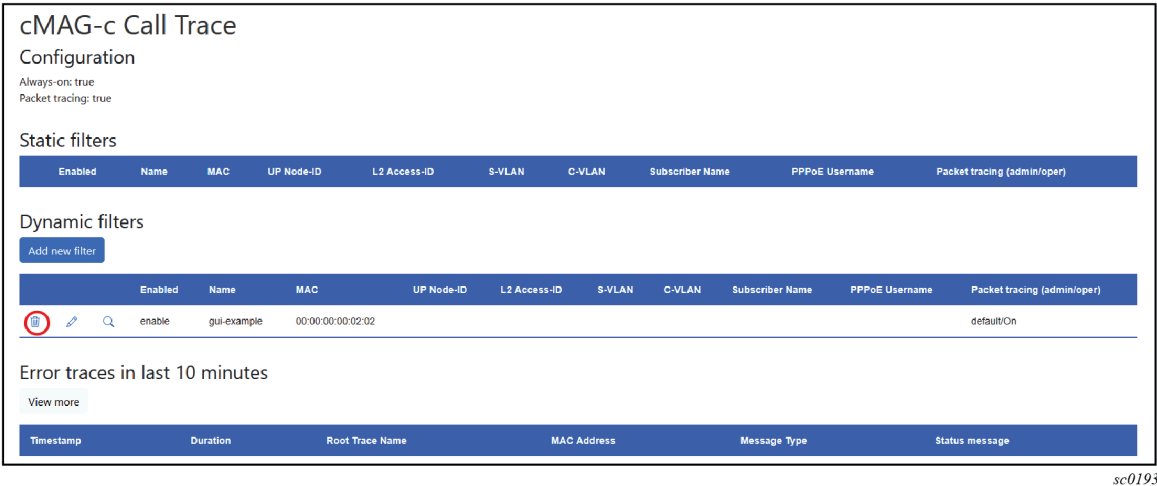
☒

Add filter

sc0194

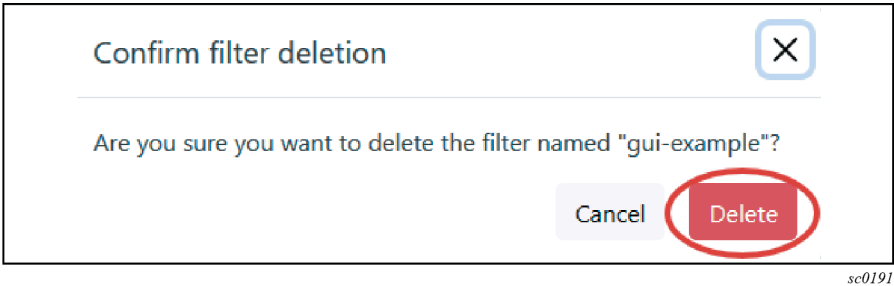
- Step 4.** To delete a filter, do the following steps:
- a. Select the delete icon beside the filter entry.

Example



- b. Select **Delete** to confirm that you want to proceed with the deletion.

Example



Troubleshooting

The following are examples of the conditions when an existing dynamic filter could become inconsistent with the base call trace configuration in CLI:

- The dynamic filter in the GUI is set to enable packet capture, while the CLI configuration is changed to always disallow packet capture.
- The dynamic filter in the GUI specifies a match criterion that requires always-on tracing, while the CLI configuration is changed to disable always-on tracing.

In cases such as these, the cMAG-c automatically disables the filters and no longer captures new transactions. However, the filters are not removed from the system and you can still inspect the previously-captured transactions.

3.2.9.5 Inspecting call trace captures

Use the Nokia Call Trace GUI tool to inspect the details of call trace captures.

3.2.9.5.1 Searching for session traces

About this task

Use the cMAG-c Call Trace GUI tool to locate and perform analysis of the call-trace captures for a session.

Procedure

- Step 1. Navigate to the Call Trace GUI tool.
- Step 2. Select the magnifying glass icon next to the filter to see all traces for the filter.

Example


cMAG-c Call Trace

Configuration

Always-on: true




Packet tracing: true

Static filters

Enabled	Name	MAC	UP Node-ID	L2 Access-ID	S-VLAN	C-VLAN	Subscriber Name	PPPoE Username	Packet tracing (admin/oper)
	enable	example	00:00:00:00:01:01						default/On

Dynamic filters

Add new filter

Enabled	Name	MAC	UP Node-ID	L2 Access-ID	S-VLAN	C-VLAN	Subscriber Name	PPPoE Username	Packet tracing (admin/oper)
  	enable	gui-example	00:00:00:00:02:02						default/On

Error traces in last 10 minutes

View more

Timestamp	Duration	Root Trace Name	MAC Address	Message Type	Status message
-----------	----------	-----------------	-------------	--------------	----------------

sc0202

Expected outcome

The GUI tool displays a list of captured transactions for the session with the following information:

- capture timestamp
- duration of the captured transaction
- incoming service that started the capture
- name of the captured procedure
- message type that initiated the transaction
- if the transaction was faulty or not, with an applicable error message if faulty

- Step 3. Optional: If you want to display more traces, do one of the following:
 - Use the drop-down menu to change the maximum-trace age.
 - Use the slider to change the maximum number of traces.



Note: By default, the tool only shows a limited number of recent traces.

Example

cMAG-c Call Trace

Results for filter "example"

Last 10 minutes

Limit: 20

Search

Some results may be missing from this output. Increase the search limit or reduce the search interval to ensure all results are shown.

sc0200

Step 4. From the list of traces, select the timestamp for a specific trace to display detailed information about it.

Example

cMAG-c Call Trace

Results for filter "example"

Last 10 minutes

Limit: 20

Search

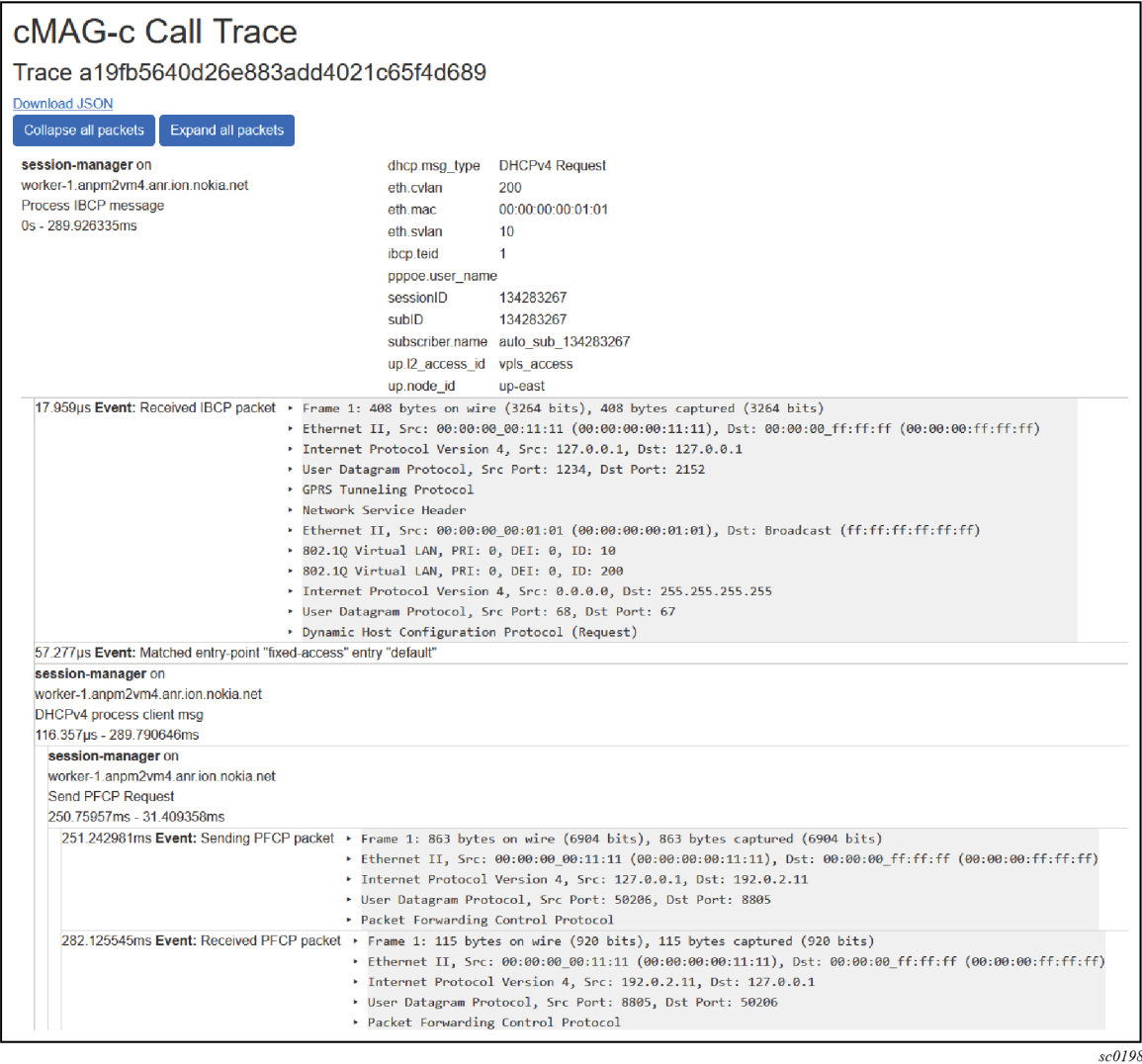
Export as: HTML JSON PCAP

Timestamp	Duration	Root Service	Root Trace Name	Message Type	Status	Status message
<0/25-06-07T16:15:42.965 +00:00>	289ms	session-manager	Process IBCP message	DHCPv4 Request	ok	
<0/25-06-07T16:15:42.885 +00:00>	12ms	session-manager	Process IBCP message	DHCPv4 Discover	ok	

sc0188

Expected outcome

The following example shows the details of a specific traced transaction, including packet captures, if enabled; see [Enabling automatic tracing based on error conditions](#).
See [Reviewing the details of a trace](#) for more information about the trace details.



- The second event shows an entry point lookup was done for an entry named “default”.
- The third event shows further processing of the DHCP request within the session management pod. For illustration purposes, the event shows the first of multiple sub-events. The first sub-event shows handling of a PFCP Session Establishment transaction that also consists of two sub-events, one for sending the outgoing PFCP request message, and one for handling the incoming PFCP response message. Both sub-events also show the PFCP packet details.

Figure 4: Viewing event details in the Call Trace tool

cMAG-c Call Trace
Trace a19fb5640d26e883add4021c65f4d689

Download JSON

Collapse all packets **Expand all packets**

Event	Details
session-manager on worker-1.anpm2vm4.anr.ion.nokia.net Process IBCP message 0s - 269.926335ms	<pre> dhcp.msg_type DHCPv4 Request eth.cvlan 200 eth.mac 00:00:00:00:01:01 eth.svlan 10 ibcp.teid 1 pppoe.user_name sessionID 134283267 subID 134283267 subscribername auto_sub_134283267 up.l2_access_id vpls_access up.node_id up-east </pre>
17.959µs Event: Received IBCP packet	<pre> Frame 1: 408 bytes on wire (3264 bits), 408 bytes captured (3264 bits) Ethernet II, Src: 00:00:00:00:11:11 (00:00:00:00:11:11), Dst: 00:00:00:ff:ff:ff (00:00:00:ff:ff:ff) Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 127.0.0.1, Dst: 127.0.0.1 User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 1234, Dst Port: 2152 GPRS Tunneling Protocol Network Service Header Ethernet II, Src: 00:00:00:00:01:01 (00:00:00:00:01:01), Dst: Broadcast (ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff) 802.1Q Virtual LAN, PRI: 0, DEI: 0, ID: 10 802.1Q Virtual LAN, PRI: 0, DEI: 0, ID: 200 Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 0.0.0.0, Dst: 255.255.255.255 User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 68, Dst Port: 67 Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (Request) </pre>
57.277µs Event: Matched entry-point "fixed-access" entry "default"	
session-manager on worker-1.anpm2vm4.anr.ion.nokia.net DHCPv4 process client msg 116.357µs - 289.790646ms	
session-manager on worker-1.anpm2vm4.anr.ion.nokia.net Send PFCP Request 250.75957ms - 31.409358ms	<pre> 251.242981ms Event: Sending PFCP packet Frame 1: 863 bytes on wire (6904 bits), 863 bytes captured (6904 bits) Ethernet II, Src: 00:00:00:00:11:11 (00:00:00:00:11:11), Dst: 00:00:00:ff:ff:ff (00:00:00:ff:ff:ff) Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 127.0.0.1, Dst: 192.0.2.11 User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 50206, Dst Port: 8805 Packet Forwarding Control Protocol </pre>
282.125545ms Event: Received PFCP packet	<pre> Frame 1: 115 bytes on wire (920 bits), 115 bytes captured (920 bits) Ethernet II, Src: 00:00:00:00:11:11 (00:00:00:00:11:11), Dst: 00:00:00:ff:ff:ff (00:00:00:ff:ff:ff) Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.0.2.11, Dst: 127.0.0.1 User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 8805, Dst Port: 50206 Packet Forwarding Control Protocol </pre>

sc0197

By default, only a summary of each protocol layer in a traced packet is displayed. To expand the details for all the traced packets:

- For a specific layer, select the arrow next to it.
- For all layers of all packets, click the **Expand all packets** button.

To collapse the details of all layers of all packets, click the **Collapse all packets** button.

3.3 Lawful intercept

The lawful intercept (LI) solution is implemented on the cMAG-c and on the user plane (UP). The cMAG-c and the UP share a private key to allow decryption of LI PFCP IEs. This topic describes the LI implementation, the content of LI notifications, and how to configure LI on the cMAG-c.

LI is a legally sanctioned, official access to private communications. To provide intercepted private communications to law enforcement officials, a service provider or network operator collects communication of a private subscriber or organization using an LI security process.

LI typically consists of the following interfaces, irrespective of the access technology:

- administrative interface – supports LI target provisioning
- information-related interface – provides event information related to subscribers
- contents-of-communications interface – sends mirrored packets to the LI gateway (LIG)

The Nokia CUPS architecture supports administrative and information-related interfaces on the cMAG-c and the contents-of-communication interface on each MAG-u.

The cMAG-c provides a centralized location to provision all LI targets, and instructs the UP to perform LI for specific target subscribers by sending encrypted LI PFCP IEs through the Sx interface. The cMAG-c and the UP share a private key to allow decryption of LI PFCP IEs.

To allow the LI target to remain anonymous, every subscriber PFCP session includes encrypted LI PFCP IEs.

3.3.1 LI solution for wireline application

Understand the tools to use and guidelines to follow when configuring cMAG-c LI for wireline applications.

For wireline (BNG) applications, the following criteria apply for the cMAG-c LI:

- Perform all target provisioning for LI on the cMAG-c through SSH CLI.
- The cMAG-c sends log events related to LI targets on syslog.
- Each MAG-u can be configured to send mirrored traffic according to the mirror destination type: SAP, SDP, or IP-UDP SHIM.

Use the following command on the cMAG-c to configure LI targets.

```
lawful-intercept targets
```

For wireline subscribers, use the following command to configure the target source. The name (ID) must match the subscriber ID returned from RADIUS, which is VSA Alc-Subsc-ID-Str [11].

```
lawful-interface targets subscriber
```

Other parameters including the intercept direction, mirror-instance-name on the UP, intercept ID, and session ID can also be configured.

3.4 Fixed access sessions

Learn about the key identifiers for fixed access sessions, IBCP tunnels, MAG-u selection, limits on the number of sessions, and the IPoE setup flows.

3.4.1 Layer 2 circuit

The Layer 2 circuit (I2-circuit) is the combination of the Layer 2 access ID and the VLAN parameters.

Fixed access sessions have direct Ethernet connectivity from the client device to the BNG. The cMAG-c assumes that the Ethernet connectivity is configured and makes an abstraction of the underlying technology and topology. The cMAG-c only needs the opaque Layer 2 access ID (I2-access-id) that uniquely identifies the access context of a session. The access context can be a port, a LAG, a pseudowire, an EVPN service, or anything that provides Ethernet connectivity. The MAG-u defines the content of the I2-access-id. The cMAG-c does not interpret it.

The I2-access-id is called the logical port in BBF TR-459. The cMAG-c is aware of all Ethernet parameters such as MAC address, S-VLAN, and C-VLAN. Nokia uses the I2-circuit for the combination of the I2-access-id and VLAN parameters.

3.4.2 In-band control plane and MAG-u selection

The cMAG-c creates IBCP tunnels per Layer 2 access ID for messages between the MAG-u and cMAG-c. Initial packets use these per-Layer 2 access ID tunnels. At session creation, the cMAG-c sets up a per-session tunnel. The MAG-u selection is based on the per-Layer 2 access ID tunnel used for the triggering packet.

Fixed access sessions send in-band cMAG-c messages over the connection to the MAG-u. As defined in BBF TR-459, the cMAG-c creates GTP-U tunnels (called IBCP tunnels) between the MAG-u and the cMAG-c to forward in-band cMAG-c messages.

The initial cMAG-c packets of a fixed access session are sent over the per-Layer 2 access ID IBCP tunnel associated with the Layer 2 access ID where that packet is received by the MAG-u. The cMAG-c automatically sets up the per-Layer 2 access ID IBCP tunnels for all learned Layer 2 access IDs of an existing PFCP association. Layer 2 access IDs are learned in the following way:

- From the **I2-access-id** configuration in the following context.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up group
```

- From health reports sent by the MAG-u. See [MAG-u health determination](#) for more information.

When a Layer 2 access ID is no longer configured and not seen in consecutive health reports, the per-Layer 2 access ID tunnel is automatically removed by the cMAG-c.

Packets sent over the per-Layer 2 access ID tunnel signal metadata like the Layer 2 access ID itself, the local MAG-u MAC address, and the MAG-u node ID to the cMAG-c in an NSH header (as defined in BBF TR-459). The cMAG-c matches packets coming in over the per-Layer 2 access ID tunnel against a UP group and subsequently to an entry point (EP). The following applies:

- The UP group identifies interconnected UPs on which resiliency is available. This step is optional and if no UP group is matched, the session is set up only in the context of the UP associated with the incoming IBCP tunnel.

- The EP acts as a gateway mechanism and provides basic setup parameters. It is mandatory for a packet to match an EP.

The cMAG-c can instruct the MAG-u to forward only specified packet triggers over the IBCP tunnels and to ignore other triggers. For example, ignore IPoE triggers if only PPPoE is deployed or the other way around.

Configure the EP and triggers using the following commands.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up fixed-access entry-point
subscriber-management ref-points up fixed-access ibcp-triggers
```

The following example shows IBCP configuration that matches only IPoE control plane packets and matches them against an EP named fixed-access.

```
# info from running /subscriber-management ref-points up fixed-access
subscriber-management {
  ref-points {
    up {
      fixed-access {
        entry-point fixed-access
        ibcp-triggers {
          ipoe-dhcp true
          ipoe-dhcpv6 true
          ipoe-router-solicit true
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

The cMAG-c sets up a per-session tunnel at session creation.

To get IBCP statistics for both the per-Layer 2 access ID tunnel and the per-session tunnel, use the following state tree.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up statistics ibcp
```

To clear the IBCP statistics, use the following command.

```
tools subscriber-management statistics clear ref-points up ibcp
```

When multiple MAG-u devices are managed by the same cMAG-c, each MAG-u has its own set of per-Layer 2 access ID tunnels. At session creation, the MAG-u selection is based on the triggering packet, as follows:

- If the triggering packet matches a UP group, the session is tied to an FSG of that UP group. The cMAG-c creates the session on the active (and optionally standby) MAG-u of the FSG.
- If the triggering packet does not match a UP group, the cMAG-c installs the session on the MAG-u that corresponds with the per-Layer 2 access ID tunnel on which the packet was received.

Related topics

[BNG entry point](#)

[Modeling a resilient MAG-u deployment using UP groups](#)

3.4.3 Session keys and anti-spoofing

Session keys identify and match data traffic to specific sessions, using different keys for IPoE and PPPoE sessions. The cMAG-c creates sessions and maps keys to ensure packets from different UPs match the same session.

The cMAG-c creates a session when receiving the initial triggering packet for a specific session type. Fixed access sessions are, by default, identified by the key <UP, Layer 2 circuit, MAC address>, for IPoE and PPPoE. In case a session is set up in the context of a resilient UP group, the UP and Layer 2 circuit keys are internally mapped to a common key based on the UP group configuration. This guarantees that packets coming from different UPs within the same UP group match the same session.

Data plane rules on the MAG-u use the following keys to match data traffic to a specific session:

- IPoE: <I2-circuit, source MAC address> or <I2-circuit, source MAC address, source IP address>
- PPPoE: <I2-circuit, source MAC address, session ID> or <I2-circuit, source MAC address, session ID, source IP address>

To add the source IP address to the key, set the following command to **true**.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry ip-anti-spoof
```

If not explicitly specified, the **ip-anti-spoof** command is enabled for all sessions.

3.4.4 Subscriber identification

The subscriber identification is equal to the session key..

For fixed access sessions, the BNG subscriber key is by default equal to the session key, that is, there is a single session per subscriber.

Related topics

[Subscribers](#)

3.4.5 Session limits

The cMAG-c enforces limits on the number of sessions. These limits can be configured within a specific scope; for example, per Layer 2 access ID.

The cMAG-c supports limits on the number of sessions within a specific scope; for example, per Layer 2 access ID. The session limits are applied when the session is created, before authentication. Changing a session limit only affects new sessions. Existing sessions are not removed to align with new session limits.

Use the commands in the following context to configure the session limits.

```
subscriber-management entry-point entry
```

The cMAG-c enforces session limits in the following order:

1. per Layer 2 access ID

Use the **session-limits per-l2-access-id** command to set a limit for the maximum number of sessions per Layer 2 access ID (l2-access-id). The system limits the maximum number of sessions per Layer 2 access ID (for example, port) and the associated MAG-u. By default, two sessions with the same Layer 2 access ID on two different MAG-u nodes do not count for the same session limit. However, if sessions are set up in the context of a UP group, the system maintains the limit per UP group and Layer 2 access

ID combination. In this case, two sessions with the same Layer 2 access ID on different MAG-u nodes in the same UP group count for the same session limit.

2. per Layer 2 circuit

Use the **session-limits per-l2-circuit** command to set a limit for the maximum number of sessions per Layer 2 circuit (l2-circuit). The system limits the maximum number of sessions per Layer 2 circuit and the associated MAG-u. By default, two sessions with the same Layer 2 circuit on two different MAG-u nodes do not count for the same session limit. However, if sessions are set up in the context of a UP group, the system maintains the limit per UP group and Layer 2 circuit ID combination. In this case, two sessions with the same Layer 2 circuit ID on different MAG-u nodes in the same UP group count for the same session limit.

3. per UP

Use the **session-limits per-up** command to set a limit for the maximum number of sessions per MAG-u. When the sessions are set up in the context of a UP group, this limit applies to the UP group instead because sessions can dynamically move between MAG-u nodes in one UP group.

It is possible to configure conflicting limits for the same context. For example, two sessions with the same Layer 2 access ID can match two different BNG EP entries. Both entries can have a different session limit. The enforced limit at session creation is the limit that is configured in the matching BNG EP entry.

Limits enforced for nonresilient contexts and resilient UP group contexts are never mixed. For example, if a BNG EP is configured with a per-UP session limit of 100, the system allows up to 100 nonresilient sessions on that MAG-u, and another 100 resilient sessions on any UP group linked to that MAG-u.

Related topics

[Session keys and anti-spoofing](#)

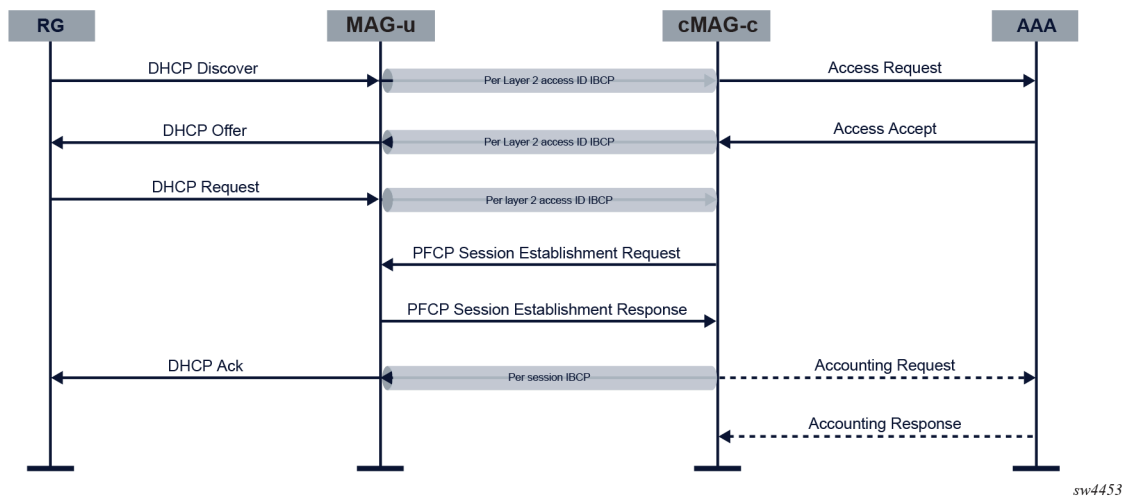
[Subscriber identification](#)

3.4.6 IPoE

IPoE does not involve a lower-layer connectivity protocol. Address assignment protocols and upstream data packets directly trigger IPoE sessions. The cMAG-c supports DHCP, DHCPv6, and ICMPv6 RS as triggering protocols.

The following figure shows an example of an IPoE session setup flow with DHCP as triggering protocol.

Figure 5: IPoE session setup with RADIUS authentication



When the cMAG-c receives the initial triggering packet over the per-Layer 2 access ID IBCP tunnel, the following actions are executed:

1. The cMAG-c matches the triggering packet with an EP, and creates an IPoE session using the configured keys. The cMAG-c assigns the EP and an IPoE profile. The IPoE profile defines the following behavior of the cMAG-c:
 - The cMAG-c sets dot1p and DSCP values in Ethernet and IP headers of CP messages to the IPoE client.
 - For packets that trigger session creation, the cMAG-c verifies the DHCP client Ethernet address (chaddr field). If the DHCP client Ethernet address does not equal the Ethernet source MAC address, the packet is dropped and no session is created.

Use the following command to create an IPoE profile.

```
subscriber-management profiles ipoe-profile
```

Use the following command to assign an IPoE profile to a session matching an EP entry.

```
subscriber-management entry-point entry ipoe profile
```



Note: If no IPoE profile is provisioned for a session, setup continues as if an IPoE profile with default values was provisioned.

2. The cMAG-c assigns a single authentication flow to the session and starts the authentication. Subsequent triggers for the same IPoE session do not trigger re-authentication.
3. The cMAG-c allocates addresses for the session.
4. The cMAG-c creates data plane rules and per-session IBCP tunnels on the MAG-u.
5. The cMAG-c assigns addresses over the per-session IBCP tunnel.
6. If accounting is provisioned, the cMAG-c starts accounting for the session.

The events in the following non-exhaustive list cause deletion of an IPoE session:

- The AAA triggers a failure; for example, RADIUS-initiated disconnect.
- An operator gives an explicit clear command for the session.
- No more DHCP or DHCPv6 lease is running; for example, because of a lease timeout or an explicit release message. Because of the lack of client-generated messages, SLAAC-assigned addresses are not tracked independently and require an active DHCP or DHCPv6 lease in the IPoE session.
- A session timeout has occurred.

Related topics[Session keys and anti-spoofing](#)[Authentication](#)[Address assignment](#)[Accounting and charging](#)

3.4.6.1 SHCV

Subscriber Host Connectivity Verification (SHCV) monitors the connection status of IPoE sessions and removes the appropriate stacks if a session is no longer connected while generating a log event.

The cMAG-c performs SHCV by instructing the user plane function (UPF) at the start of an IPoE session to periodically send ARP requests or Neighbor Solicitations (NS) to end devices. In the case of an IPv4 stack, an ARP request is sent to the device's assigned IPv4 address, whereas for IPv6 stack, an NS is sent to the device's link-local address. If there is no response and all retries fail, SHCV removes the appropriate stack and generates a log event in the syslog server.



Note: SHCV does not anticipate the IPv6 link-local address of end devices to change during an IPoE session. In case of such a change, the session must be re-established for SHCV to target the new address.

To configure how often (in minutes) SHCV checks for disconnected IPoE sessions, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles shcv-profile periodic interval
```

The default is 30 minutes.

To configure how many times SHCV retries to get a response from an end device, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles shcv-profile periodic retries
```

The default is two retries, in addition to the initial ARP request or NS.



Note: Because the initial ARP request or NS does not count as retrying, two retries means that an end device must fail to respond three times before the appropriate session is considered disconnected.

To configure how long (in seconds) SHCV waits for an end device's response to an ARP request or NS, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles shcv-profile periodic timeout
```

The default is 10 seconds.

Changes in the SHCV configuration do not affect existing IPoE sessions.

3.5 Address assignment protocols

A cMAG-c solution supports various address assignment protocols per session type.

Some address assignment protocols are specific to a session type (for example, IPCP for PPPoE) while other protocols are common for multiple session types (for example, SLAAC for IPoE and PPPoE).

The following table lists the supported address assignment protocols per session type.

Table 3: Address assignment protocols per session type

Address assignment protocol	IPoE session	PPPoE session
DHCP	✓	
DHCPv6 NA	✓	✓
DHCPv6 PD	✓	✓
SLAAC (see ICMPv6 Router Advertisements and SLAAC)	✓	✓

3.5.1 DHCP

The DHCP protocol, as defined in RFCs 2131, 2132, 3046, 4679, and 6842, is supported for IPv4 address assignment. The address allocation provides the address and the associated default gateway address. The subnet mask, as signaled in DHCP, is based on the micro-net subnet as provided by ODSA.

For messages sent by the cMAG-c, the source IP, the DHCP server IP option, and the siaddr option are by default equal to the default gateway. To override the default per service, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance local-server-ip
```

The cMAG-c maintains a DHCP lease for every successfully negotiated DHCP transaction and extends the lease on renew or rebind. If a lease expires, the cMAG-c considers the IPv4 address for the session down and takes appropriate actions for the corresponding session (for example, bring the session down).

The following sources define the DHCP options sent in messages to the client:

- explicit option values provided by authentication sources
- bulk options signaled during authentication; for example, via the RADIUS Alc-ToClient-Dhcp-Options VSA
- bulk options derived from a locally configured DHCP profile using the following command

```
subscriber-management profiles dhcp-option-profile
```

- DNS options from local address assignment (used in ODSA)

DHCP Offer and Ack messages to the client are constructed using the explicit option values. The option values of the two bulk sources (authentication and DHCP profile) are appended after the explicit option values.

The following rules apply to the options:

- Only one source can provide DNS or NBNS. If a source with higher priority provides DNS or NBNS, DNS or NBNS are filtered out of lower-priority bulk options if present. The sources have the following priority:
 1. explicit options
 2. authentication bulk options
 3. DHCP profile options
 4. local address assignment options
- Lease time, renew, and rebind timers are only provided by explicit per-session authentication sources and are filtered out of bulk options if present.
- Specific options cannot be configured in the message and are filtered out of authentication bulk options. Overriding these options leads to incorrect DHCP behavior. Examples of these options are subnet mask, router, and DHCP message type.

Related topics

[Address assignment](#)

3.5.2 ICMPv6 Router Advertisements and SLAAC

The cMAG-c periodically generates ICMPv6 Router Advertisements (RA) messages when an IPv6 address is allocated for the session. A client can trigger the generation of an ICMPv6 RA message by sending an ICMPv6 Router Solicitation (RS) message, but this is not mandatory.



Note: RFC 4861 and RFC 4443 define the ICMPv6 RA messages.

The client uses the source address of the ICMPv6 RA message as its default gateway address. By default, this source address is a link-local address derived from a hash of the cMAG-c system name. The cMAG-c installs the link-local address on the MAG-u via PFCP so the MAG-u can answer any ND request for it.

In some cases, this may lead to address conflicts; for example, when two MAG-u nodes are connected to the same Layer 2 aggregation. To solve this, you can override the link-local address using the following command.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry up-parameters link-local-address
```

The cMAG-c installs the override on the MAG-u via PFCP. While this allows very granular overrides, a Nokia MAG-u can only have one unique link-local address per network instance.

ICMPv6 RA messages use an RA profile. The RA profile is assigned to a session during authentication. To configure the RA profile in the ADB, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry ra-profile
```

If no RA profile is retrieved during authentication, the session behaves as if it is using an RA profile with all default values.

Use the following command to configure the RA profile locally.

```
subscriber-management profiles ra-profile
```

The RA profile defines the following parameters:

- **advertisement-interval min** and **advertisement-interval max**

These parameters define the interval between periodical unsolicited ICMPv6 RA messages. The cMAG-c sends periodical unsolicited ICMPv6 RA messages with a random interval between the configured **min** and **max**. The random interval is regenerated after every unsolicited RA message.

By default, the maximum advertisement interval is 600s and the minimum advertisement interval is 33% of the maximum interval.

- **force-unicast-mac**

This parameter defines which MAC address to use.

If **force-unicast-mac** is enabled, the cMAG-c sends ICMPv6 RA messages to the unicast MAC address of the session, otherwise the cMAG-c sends the ICMPv6 RA messages to the all-nodes multicast MAC address (33:33:00:00:00:01).

To avoid sending ICMPv6 RA messages to the wrong client, the **force-unicast-mac** parameter is enabled by default.



Note: The destination IP address is always the all-nodes multicast IP address (FF02::1).

- **router-lifetime**

This parameter defines the validity period of the default router after receipt of the ICMPv6 RA message. By default, the **router-lifetime** is equal to (**advertisement-interval max** × 3).

- **reachable-time** and **retransmit-timer**

The **reachable-time** parameter defines the period that a neighbor can be reached after receiving a reachability confirmation.

The **retransmit-timer** parameter defines the interval between retransmitted NS messages.

By default, both parameters are set to zero, that is, the cMAG-c does not specify a value, and the client can choose a value based on local configurations.

- **hop-limit**

This parameter defines the value of the Hop Limit field in the outgoing ICMPv6 RA messages.

By default, the **hop-limit** value equals 255 hops.

- **mtu**

This parameter defines whether the MTU option is included in the ICMPv6 RA messages and, if included, what value the MTU option contains. By default, the MTU option equals **not-included**.

- **other-configuration**

This parameter defines whether the O flag (other configuration) in the ICMPv6 RA message is enabled. If the O flag is enabled, a client can receive options via DHCPv6 without acquiring an address via DHCPv6; for example, in combination with SLAAC based address assignment. By default, the **other-configuration** parameter is disabled. To indicate whether address assignment via DHCPv6 is available, the related M flag (managed address configuration) is automatically set if a DHCPv6 IA-NA or an IA-PD prefix was allocated to the session.

- **on-link**

This parameter defines whether the L (on-link) flag is set in the SLAAC prefixes that are present in the ICMPv6 RA messages.

By default, this flag is set.

When an SLAAC address is allocated to the client, each ICMPv6 RA message includes the SLAAC prefix with the A (autonomous address-configuration) flag enabled. With the A flag enabled, the client can autonomously allocate an IPv6 address from the signaled SLAAC prefix (as defined in RFC 4862).

The SLAAC prefix contains the preferred and valid lifetime that is learned during authentication. The default values of the preferred and valid lifetime are equal to 7 and 30 days respectively.



Note: Nokia recommends that the preferred lifetime is at least double or more than the configured maximum advertisement interval. This avoids the expiration of the preferred lifetime on the client side because of the loss of a single ICMPv6 RA message.

The ICMPv6 RA messages do not contain any other prefixes. A prefix that is derived from either DHCPv6 IA-PD or IA-NA, is not present.

The ICMPv6 RA messages include all IPv6 DNS servers that are discovered during session authentication (as defined in RFC 8106).

3.5.3 DHCPv6

The cMAG-c supports the DHCPv6 protocol, as defined in RFC 8415, with additional support for a lightweight DHCPv6 relay agent (LDRA) between the DHCPv6 client and the MAG-u/cMAG-c as defined in RFC 6221.

Within the DHCPv6 lease, the following is signaled to the client:

- an allocated IA-NA address, an IA-PD prefix, or both
- preferred and valid lifetimes
- IPv6 DNS servers
- DUID of the server

Preferred and valid lifetimes can be locally configured or received from an external AAA server in the Alc-v6-Preferred-Lifetime and Alc-v6-Valid-Lifetime VSAs. To locally configure the lifetimes, use the **valid-lifetime** and **preferred-lifetime** commands in the following context.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment ipv6-lifetimes
```

Valid and preferred lifetimes are common for all IPv6 addresses of a session.

The server DUID is by default based on the cMAG-c system name. To override the default server DUID per service, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management services service dhcpv6-server-duid
```

The cMAG-c maintains a DHCPv6 lease for every successfully negotiated DHCPv6 transaction and extends the lease on renew or rebind. The lease time is based on the IPv6 valid lifetime. If a lease expires, the cMAG-c considers the IA-NA address or IA-PD prefix for the session down and takes appropriate actions

for the corresponding session (for example, remove dataplane state, bring the session down, or bring IPv6CP down).

DHCPv6 options can come from multiple sources. The following sources define the DHCPv6 options sent in messages to the client:

- explicit option values provided by authentication sources
- bulk options signaled during authentication; for example, via the RADIUS Alc-ToClient-Dhcp6-Options VSA
- bulk options derived from a locally configured DHCP profile using the following command

```
subscriber-management profiles dhcpv6-option-profile
```

- DNS options from local address assignment (ODSA)

DHCPv6 Advertise and Reply messages to the client are constructed using the explicit option values. The option values of the two bulk sources (authentication and DHCPv6 profile) are appended after the explicit options.

The following rules apply to the options:

- Only one source can provide DNS. If a source with higher priority provides DNS options, they are filtered out of lower priority bulk options if present. The sources have the following priority:
 1. explicit options
 2. authentication bulk options
 3. DHCPv6 profile options
 4. local address assignment options
- Identity association (IA) options, server DUID, server unicast, relay message, status code, interface ID, and other similar options are filtered out of the bulk options because these must be in full control of the cMAG-c.
- In case of LDRA, all options are included in the relayed message.

If an IA-PD prefix or IA-NA address is allocated, the cMAG-c sends ICMPv6 RA messages so the client can learn its default gateway address. For consistency, the cMAG-c sends DHCPv6 messages with a link-local address that is the same as the source address in ICMPv6 RA messages.

Related topics

[DHCP](#)

[ICMPv6 Router Advertisements and SLAAC](#)

4 Address assignment

The cMAG-c supports various address assignment options, including local address assignment via ODSA, local static address assignment via authentication database, AAA-based address assignment, non-provisioned address assignment, and external DHCPv4 and DHCPv6 server address assignment.

4.1 Overview of address assignment

For sessions that require direct connectivity to a Layer 3 network, the cMAG-c supports the following address assignment options:

- local address assignment via ODSA
- local static address assignment via authentication database
- AAA-based address assignment
- non-provisioned address assignment
- external DHCPv4 and DHCPv6 server address assignment

Additionally, the cMAG-c allocates corresponding prefixes (micro-nets) for the MAG-u, to allow a MAG-u device to send aggregate routes without announcing the per-session routes. For IPv4, the cMAG-c assigns a dedicated gateway address per prefix. It is possible to select different address allocation methods for different address types of the same session. For example, IPv4 can use AAA-based address assignment while IPv6 PD can use a local pool. However, all allocation methods should be known after session authentication.

After session authentication, an address is allocated based on the local address assignment or the AAA-based address assignment. Addresses are always set up on the MAG-u as soon as they are allocated, independent of whether they are already signaled in associated assignment protocols such as DHCP or IPCP.

4.2 ODSA and local address assignment

ODSA can be used to assign a local address, to assign an aggregate prefix per MAG-u, and to derive the default gateway.

4.2.1 ODSA

On demand subnet allocation (ODSA) is a dedicated CUPS address assignment system.

ODSA is a dedicated CUPS address assignment system that can automatically split a common subnet into smaller subnets (micro-nets). The micro-nets are automatically installed on the associated MAG-u. The MAG-u announces the micro-nets in routing. ODSA can either assign an address itself (local address assignment) or work in combination with external address assignment systems (for example, AAA-based).

ODSA pools are configured on a per-network instance basis. A network instance represents a single IP routing context and maps to an IP service on the MAG-u (for example, to a VPRN). See [Service selection](#) for more information. ODSA guarantees that there is no overlap between addresses within one network instance.

The main function of ODSA is to assign subnets to an allocation context. The default allocation context is a single MAG-u. In resilient environments, the allocation context is a single fate sharing group (FSG). Each ODSA pool consists of one or more prefixes and is either configured in dedicated mode or with a target micro-net length.

- **dedicated mode**

In dedicated mode, a prefix is assigned directly to an allocation context. It is not divided into smaller micro-nets.

To enable the dedicated mode, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance pool dedicated
```



Note: The term micro-net in the documentation, state output, or show commands refers to the full prefix when using dedicated mode.

- **target micro-net length**

With a target micro-net length, all prefixes are divided into smaller, equally sized, micro-nets. Those smaller micro-nets are assigned to an allocation context.



Note:

In case of DHCPv6 prefix delegation, you can allocate a variable prefix length per session and a variable micro-net size.

The following example shows the configuration of an ODSA pool with a target micro-net length.

```
# info from running /subscriber-management services network-instance hsi pool hsi
subscriber-management {
  services {
    network-instance hsi {
      pool hsi {
        hold-time 300
        ipv4 {
          micro-net-length 28
          prefix 192.0.2.0/24 {
          }
        }
        ipv6 {
          na {
            micro-net-length 120
            prefix 2001:db8:a00::/116 {
            }
          }
          pd {
            micro-net {
              length 48
            }
            prefix 2001:db8:b00::/40 {
            }
          }
          slaac {
            micro-net-length 56
            prefix 2001:db8:c00::/48 {
            }
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

```

    }
  }
}

```

A subnet (either micro-net or dedicated prefix) can be assigned to only one context. When the first address of a subnet is assigned to a session, the subnet is assigned to the context of the session (for example, to a MAG-u). To guarantee that the full subnet can always be announced in routing without introducing routing conflicts, the following applies:

- The subnet is only unlinked from the context after the last address of the subnet is released.
- While a subnet is linked to a context, no address of the subnet can be assigned to another context, even if ODSA does not do the address assignment for the other context.

To generate a log event when the number of available free micro-nets is minimal, set a threshold using the following command.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance pool minimum-free
```

For IPv4 subnets, ODSA also assigns a default gateway address. To define whether the first or the last address in the subnet is selected for the default gateway address, set the **default-gateway** command to respectively **first-address** or **last-address** in the following context.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv4
```

To associate default DNS servers with the ODSA pool, use the following commands.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv4 dns primary
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv4 dns secondary
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv6 dns primary
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv6 dns secondary
```

Default DNS servers can be reflected in protocols such as IPCP, DHCP, ICMPv6, and DHCPv6, but sessions can get more specific individual DNS servers.

4.2.2 Local address assignment

ODSA can act as a stand-alone subnet allocation mechanism for MAG-u devices, but it can also assign addresses to individual sessions, without the need for additional configuration.

To allocate an address for a session, ODSA performs the following checks:

- Are there subnets already linked to the allocation context of the session?
- Do any of the linked subnets have available addresses?

If the answer to both questions is yes, an address from any of the linked subnets is allocated to the session.

If the answer to one of the questions is no, a new address is allocated from any subnet that is not yet linked to an allocation context. The subnet is automatically linked to the allocation context of the session. If no subnets are available, the address allocation fails.

To exclude one or more address ranges in a prefix from address allocation, use the following commands.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv4 prefix exclude-address
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv6 slaac prefix exclude-prefix
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv6 na prefix exclude-address
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv6 pd prefix exclude-prefix
```

Excluded address ranges can be assigned with other allocation methods (for example, via AAA). In case of IPv4, excluded address ranges are not used for default gateway selection.

To stop assigning addresses from a prefix, use the following commands.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv4 prefix drain
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv6 slaac prefix drain
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv6 na prefix drain
subscriber-management services network-instance pool ipv6 pd prefix drain
```

When a prefix is being drained, existing address allocations from the prefix remain allocated until the corresponding sessions are terminated.

When a prefix or entire pool is removed while allocations still exist, the prefix or pool is retained internally and put in a similar automatic drain mode. As with regular drain, existing allocations and sessions are not automatically removed. To expedite the cleanup of these pools, sessions must be manually removed, for example, by using the following command with the **ip-prefix** parameter set.

```
tools subscriber-management session clear
```

Local address assignment can be combined with AAA-based address assignment for different address types. For example, IPv4 and IPv6 PD can use local address assignment while IPv6 NA can use AAA-based assignment.

Related topics

[AAA-based address assignment from RADIUS, HSS, or UDM](#)

4.3 AAA-based address assignment from RADIUS, HSS, or UDM

AAA services such as RADIUS, HSS, or UDM can provide an address during authentication. The cMAG-c marks the AAA-based address as in use in the ODSA pools and allocates the micro-net to the corresponding context (for example, the MAG-u). In the case of IPv4, the default gateway is assigned using ODSA.

AAA-based addresses can fall within an exclude-addresses range.

Setup of the new session fails in specific situations including the following:

- The address is already allocated to another session.
- The corresponding micro-net is allocated to a context (for example, UP or FSG) that does not match the context of the session.

The prefix pool on which ODSA operates can be used in the following ways:

- If the AAA service provisions both an address pool and an explicit IP address for the same address type (for example, IPv4 or IPv6 PD), ODSA uses the explicit IP address for assignment and the pool for marking the address and allocating MAG-u prefixes and IPv4 gateway addresses.

- In the absence of a pool signaled by AAA itself, pools can be provisioned using the following commands.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment unmanaged ipv4-pool
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment unmanaged ipv6-slaac-pool
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment unmanaged ipv6-na-pool
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment unmanaged ipv6-pd-pool
```

- In the absence of any pool during authentication, a default fallback pool can be provisioned per service using the following commands.

```
subscriber-management services service address-assignment-defaults unmanaged ipv4-pool
subscriber-management services service address-assignment-defaults unmanaged ipv6-slaac-pool
subscriber-management services service address-assignment-defaults unmanaged ipv6-na-pool
subscriber-management services service address-assignment-defaults unmanaged ipv6-pd-pool
```

When no dedicated pools are available, ODSA assigns micro-nets to a context. It is important that the AAA service is aware of the micro-net sizes and that addresses are allocated per context within the scope of a micro-net.

For example, the prefix 192.168.0.0/16 is available, to which addresses are allocated per MAG-u in the AAA. All sessions of MAG-u "east" fall within 192.168.1.0/24 and all sessions of MAG-u "west" fall within 192.168.2.0/24. In this case, it is not necessary to provision these per-MAG-u prefixes on the cMAG-c. The cMAG-c has provisioned a non-dedicated pool with prefix 192.168.0.0/16 and micro-net length 24 and automatically derives the /24 prefixes based on the AAA-based addresses.

The following requirements apply when using ODSA pools for a mix of AAA-based addresses and locally assigned addresses:

- The AAA-based addresses must fall within the configured exclude-addresses ranges to avoid conflicts with local assigned addresses.
- If a pool is not dedicated to a specific context (for example, the MAG-u), the exclude-addresses ranges should align with a micro-net size. This is required to avoid the case where a locally-assigned address allocates the corresponding micro-net to a different context.

Because of the complexity of the requirements, Nokia recommends having a non-dedicated pool for AAA-based address assignment and a separate non-dedicated pool for local address assignment.

4.4 AAA framed routes

The cMAG-c supports AAA provisioned framed routes for sessions with **ip-anti-spoof** disabled (set to **false**); for example, using the Framed-Route and Framed-IPv6-Route RADIUS attributes. The cMAG-c installs these routes on the MAG-u using the PFCP protocol. The cMAG-c does not check these routes for overlap with other framed routes or session allocated addresses. Framed routes are supported for all address assignment types, and not restricted to AAA-based address allocation.

4.5 Non-provisioned address assignment

Configuration of the support for non-provisioned addresses in the ADB allows an external entity to assign the session address.

When an external entity managed by a third party assigns the session address, the operator is not aware of the subnet/prefix where the address is assigned from. Therefore, the operator cannot provision this subnet/prefix on the BNG system.

To support the above use case, the operator can configure the support of non-provisioned addresses in the ADB for one or multiple address types. The address assigned by the external entity becomes the unmatching address for the session if the following applies:

- After ADB lookup, non-provisioned addresses are supported for the new session.
- The external source assigns an address of a configured address type.
- The address is not within any subnet/prefix of the configured ODSA pool.

To support unmatching addresses of specified address types, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment unmatching-prefix allow
```

The cMAG-c cannot send the subnet/prefix information to the MAG-u because the subnet/prefix for the unmatching address is not provisioned on the BNG system. Therefore, the MAG-u has /32 or /128 routes for each unmatching address, or the exact prefix route for an IPv6 SLAAC delegated prefix.

The following applies to an unmatching address via DHCPv4:

- The cMAG-c automatically generates a default router address and returns it in the DHCP reply. This auto-generated default router address is not passed to the MAG-u, so the MAG-u uses the ARP proxy to answer the client's ARP request for the default router address.

To generate the default router address, the host address part of the assigned address is set to one, or to two if the host address part already equals one. The following examples illustrate the generation of the default router address:

 - The assigned address is 172.16.3.139 and the netmask is /28, so the host bits are the last 4 bits. 139 equals the binary number 0b10001011. The value of the host bits does not equal 1. When setting the value of the last 4 bits to 1, it becomes 0b10000001 or 129. The default router address is 172.16.3.129.
 - The assigned address is 172.16.3.129 and the netmask is /28, so the host bits are the last 4 bits. 129 equals the binary number 0b10000001. The value of the host bits already equals 1. When setting the value of the last 4 bits to 2, it becomes 0b10000010 or 130. The default router address is 172.16.3.130.
- If the external source does not return a subnet mask, the cMAG-c automatically generates one, and returns it in the DHCP reply.

Related topics

[BNG EP and ADB lookup](#)

4.6 Local static address assignment via authentication database

To return the same configured address to a specific client, the cMAG-c supports the following static address options:

- IPv4 address
- IPv6 NA address
- IPv6 PD prefix
- IPv6 SLAAC prefix

Configure the address using the following commands.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment unmanaged ipv4-address
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment unmanaged ipv6-slaac-
prefix
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment unmanaged ipv6-na-
address
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment unmanaged ipv6-pd-prefix
```

These addresses interact with ODSA micro-nets in the same manner as AAA-based address assignment, as described in [AAA-based address assignment from RADIUS, HSS, or UDM](#).

4.7 External DHCPv4 and DHCPv6 server address assignment

An external DHCPv4 or DHCPv6 server can assign a session address via cMAG-c acting as a DHCPv4 or DHCPv6 relay agent, which relays DHCP messages between the client and the external server.

During authentication, only the ADB (and not RADIUS) can return DHCP relay configuration, including an external server address, a tracking pool, a DHCPv4 giaddr, and a DHCPv6 link address. The cMAG-c uses that ADB configuration to relay the DHCP messages.



Note: Relaying a DHCP server initiated exchange (such as DHCPv4 Force-renew or DHCPv6 Reconfigure) is not supported.

4.7.1 Local ODSA pool tracking

In case of DHCP relay, the external server assigns the address and the cMAG-c tracks the assigned address, subnet, and default gateway to make sure there is no conflict in the assignments.

To track the DHCP relay address assignments, specify a local ODSA tracking pool under the DHCP relay configuration in the ADB. The subnets and prefixes configured in the tracking pool must be the same as in the external server. The tracking pool is not used to allocate micro-nets; it is a dedicated pool that can only be used to track the DHCP relay assignments.

Use the following command to create a tracking pool.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance pool tracking dhcp-relay
```

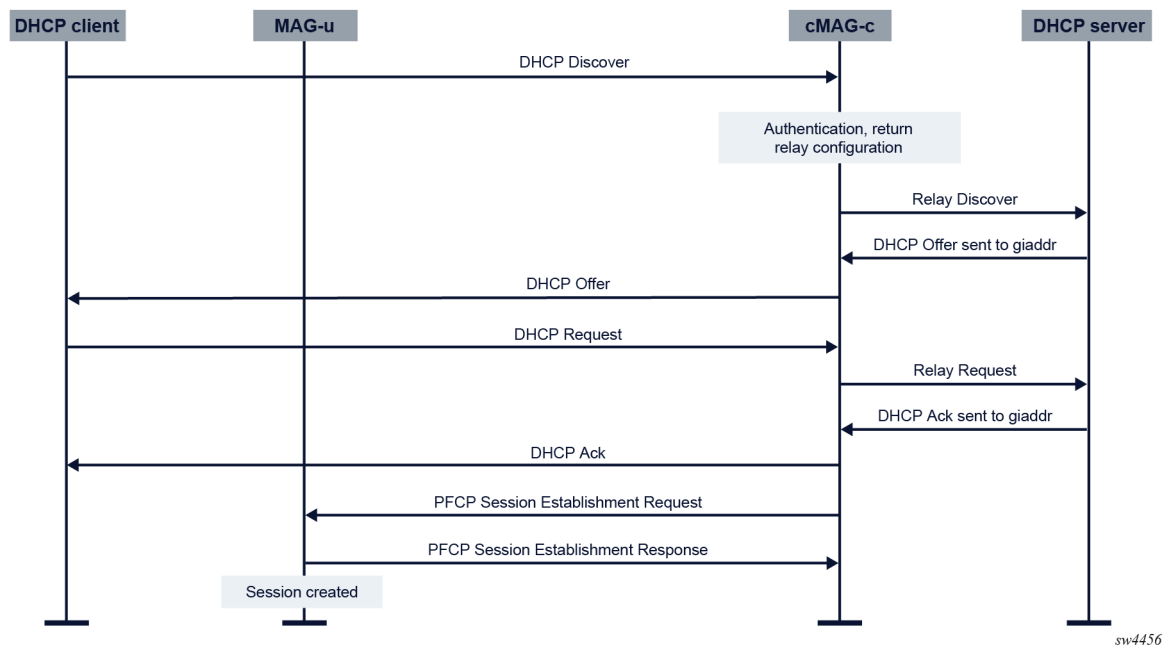
Use the commands in the following context to configure the tracking pool.

```
subscriber-management services network-instance pool
```

4.7.2 DHCPv4 relay

The following figure shows the DHCPv4 call flow.

Figure 6: DHCPv4 call flow



Because the DHCPv4 server sends responses to the giaddr, the giaddr must be provisioned via the Kubernetes service. See the *cMAG-c Installation Guide* for more information.

Example: ADB configuration for DHCPv4 relay

```
# info from running /subscriber-management authentication-database adb1 entry 10 address-assignment

dhcp-relay {
  ipv4 {
    gi-address 172.100.100.101
    pool relay-pool
    server-list {
      server [
        10.96.212.90
      ]
    }
  }
}
```

4.7.3 DHCPv6 relay

The cMAG-c as a DHCPv6 relay server supports the following cases:

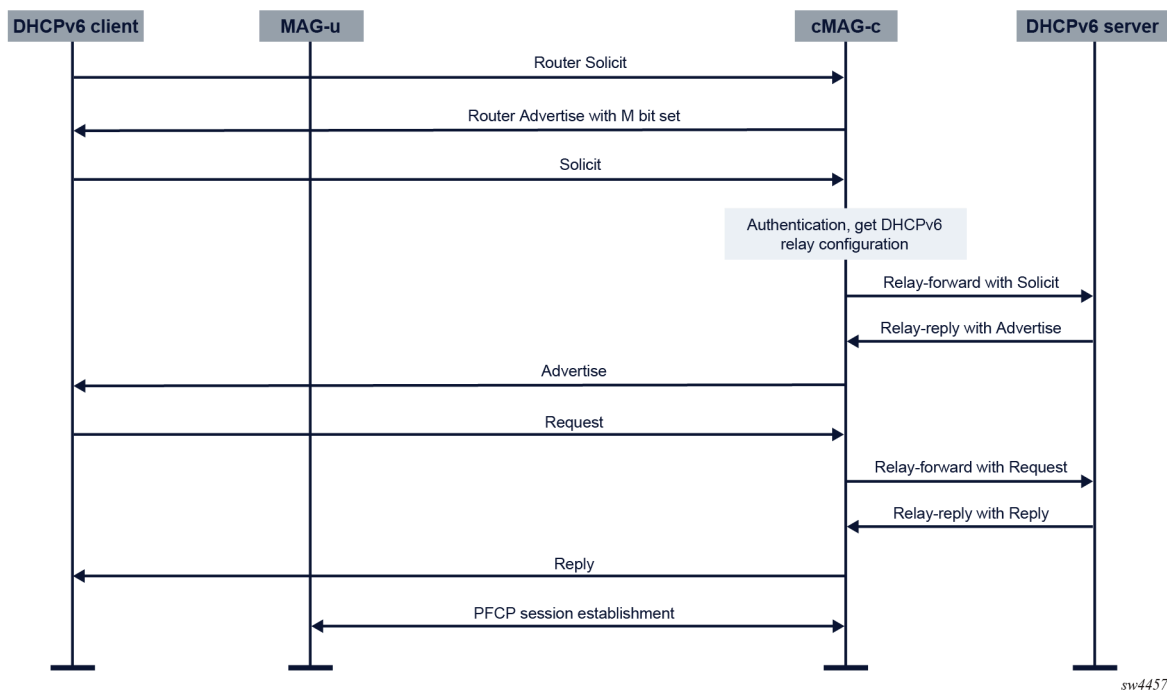
- The DHCPv6 client starts the call flow with a Router Solicit (RS) message.
- The DHCPv6 client does not send the RS message.
- The DHCPv6 client is behind a lightweight DHCPv6 relay agent (LDRA).

Call flow with RS message

The DHCPv6 client first sends an RS message. When the M bit in the Router Advertisement (RA) message is set, the client starts the DHCPv6 message exchange.

The following figure shows the DHCPv6 call flow for a client sending the RS.

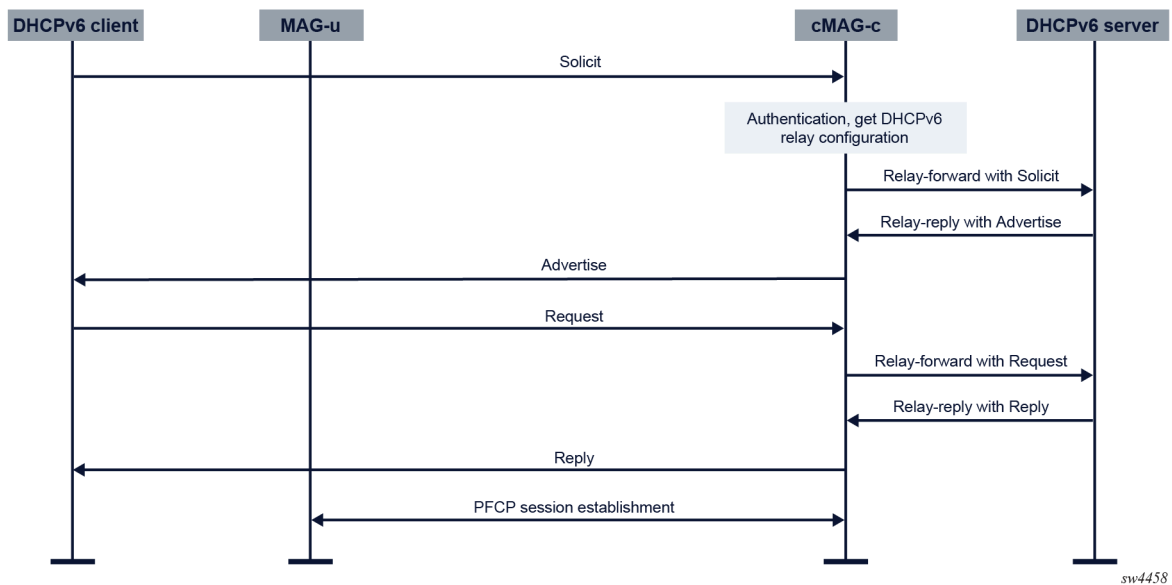
Figure 7: DHCPv6 call flow with RS message



Call flow without RS message

The following figure shows the DHCPv6 call flow when a DHCPv6 client starts the DHCPv6 message exchange without first sending an RS message.

Figure 8: DHCPv6 call flow without RS message



Call flow behind an LDRA

The DHCPv6 client is behind an LDRA. The LDRA sends a Relay-forward message to the cMAG-c and the cMAG-c replies with a Relay-reply message.

Configuration specifics

The configuration of an RA profile in the ADB customizes the content of the RA message. Use the following command to configure an RA profile.

```
subscriber-management profiles ra-profile
```

The source address of the Relay-forward message is typically the worker, because the DHCPv6 proxy pod, which is deployed as a daemon, handles the message forwarding between the cMAG-c and the DHCPv6 server.

Use the following command to configure a link address that the server can use to select a pool and prefix.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment dhcp-relay ipv6 link-address
```

Example: DHCPv6 relay configuration

```
# info from running /subscriber-management authentication-database adb1 entry 10 address-assignment

dhcp-relay {
    ipv6 {
        link-address 2001:9999::1
        pool p2
        server-list {
            server [
```

```

    2001:beef::100
  ]
}
}
}

```

4.7.4 DHCP options

DHCPv4

Use the following commands to configure a DHCPv4 profile for the specified direction:

- **from the cMAG-c toward the DHCP server**

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment dhcp-relay ipv4 to-
server-dhcp-option-profile
```

This profile references a DHCP option profile that specifies the DHCP options that are sent to the server, including the relay-agent options such as the circuit ID and remote ID. A drop or replace action can be configured for the received DHCPv4 Request message from the client.

- **from the cMAG-c toward the DHCP client**

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry to-client-dhcp-option-profile
```

This profile specifies the DHCPv4 options that are sent to the client. Relay-agent options do not apply in this direction.

DHCPv6

Use the following command to configure a DHCPv6 profile that specifies the DHCPv6 options for the Relay-forward message.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry address-assignment dhcp-relay ipv6 to-
server-dhcpv6-option-profile
```

Because a relay agent cannot modify the encapsulated message (per RFC 8415), the cMAG-c inserts the options at the top level of the generated Relay-forward message, and not in the encapsulated message.

This profile can include relay agent options, such as interface ID and remote ID.

4.7.5 DHCP relay and MAG-u redundancy



Note: The content of this chapter only applies if the following conditions are both met:

- MAG-u redundancy is enabled.
- The server relies on the cMAG-c insert option for pool or subnet, and client identification.

If the external server uses a DHCP option inserted by the access node, not configuring any **to-server-dhcp-option-profile** or **to-server-dhcpv6-option-profile** ensures that the option inserted by the access node is not changed during MAG-u switchover.

Access ports and VLANs on multiple MAG-u nodes can be part of the same UP group in case of MAG-u redundancy. Consequently, the same set of sessions may come from different ports, VLANs, or MAG-u nodes depending on the active MAG-u. Therefore, when the DHCP server assigns an address or prefix to a session with MAG-u redundancy enabled and while relying on an option inserted by the cMAG-c to select pool or subnet, it must take the UP group into consideration to avoid sharing subnets or prefixes between different UP groups.

Use one of the following options to prevent sharing subnets or prefixes between different UP groups:

- If the DHCP server uses the giaddr or link address to select a pool or subnet, configure one unique giaddr or link address per UP group on the cMAG-c and use one pool or subnet per UP group on the DHCP server.
- Use the following commands to configure the UP group ID as circuit ID, remote ID, or interface ID in the DHCPv4 or DHCPv6 profile for sessions with MAG-u redundancy enabled. The UP group does not change during MAG-u switchover.

```
subscriber-management profiles dhcp-option-profile relay-agent sub-option circuit-id
subscriber-management profiles dhcp-option-profile relay-agent sub-option remote-id
subscriber-management profiles dhcpv6-option-profile append option remote-id
subscriber-management profiles dhcpv6-option-profile append option interface-id
```

For the DHCP renew to work, the client identification as seen by the DHCP server must be the same during the MAG-u switchover; for example, in case of a MAG-u switchover to a different MAG-u, port, or VLAN, the client identification must be the same. When the DHCP server uses the circuit ID, remote ID, or interface ID as the client identification, and if the port ID is different on the MAG-u nodes for a specific UP group, configure the same Layer 2 access ID alias on all MAG-u nodes in the UP group to obtain the same client identification.

5 Authentication

Configure authentication for a new cMAG-c session, including the RADIUS authentication profile. Learn about the BNG EP and ADB lookup process.

5.1 Overview of the authentication process

The authentication process for a new session on cMAG-c performs a lookup in the following order:

1. BNG EP for sessions
2. authentication flow

The BNG EP lookup returns the following:

- basic configurations for the CP protocol negotiation (for example, the IPoE profile)
- basic session configuration (for example, subscriber identification)
- the authentication flow used to authenticate the session

The authentication flow contains an ordered list of authentication databases (ADBs). The cMAG-c performs a lookup in each ADB in the list, in the specified order. The lookup returns the following configurations required to create the session:

- session attributes (for example, the SLA profile and the subscriber profile)
- address assignment configuration (for example, the local address pool name)
- optional external AAA authentication (for example, RADIUS)

When both the BNG EP lookup and the authentication flow lookup complete successfully, the cMAG-c creates a full forwarding state on the MAG-u for the session using the session management procedures.

Related topics

[Session management](#)

[QoS](#)

5.2 BNG entry point

The BNG entry point (EP) provides information needed in the authentication flow.

Use the following command to create a BNG EP.

```
subscriber-management entry-point
```

To define the control packet types that trigger the BNG EP lookup, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up fixed-access ibcp-triggers
```

To reference the entry-point for the triggers, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up fixed-access entry-point
```

Example

The following example shows an EP configuration in the BNG profile.

```
# info from running /subscriber-management entry-point e1
  admin-state enable
  match 1 {
    attribute up-node-id
  }
  entry 10 {
    admin-state enable
    ipoe {
      authentication-flow {
        authentication-database [
          adb1
          adb2
        ]
      }
    }
  }
}
```

5.3 Authentication database

Each ADB entry contains three groups of configuration parameters:

- match criteria
- action parameters
- session creation parameters (for example, SLA profile)

After the cMAG-c chooses the best matched entry in the ADB, the cMAG-c executes the configured action. The action can be any of the following types:

- **reject**
The session authentication fails and no subsequent ADB lookups are performed, even if they are configured as part of the authentication flow.
- **accept**
The cMAG-c includes the session creation configuration parameters of the chosen ADB entry for the session creation.
- **radius**
The cMAG-c performs the RADIUS authentication using the RADIUS authentication profile. Use the following command to configure the RADIUS authentication profile.

```
subscriber-management profiles radius-authentication-profile
```

If the RADIUS authentication succeeds, the cMAG-c includes the returned RADIUS authentication attributes and the session creation configuration parameters for the session creation. If the RADIUS authentication fails, the session authentication fails.

The cMAG-c uses the session creation configuration parameters of all ADBs. The authentication flow contains an ordered list of ADBs. If ADBx comes before ADBy in the ordered list of ADBs, the values

of the parameters in ADB_y have priority over the values of the parameters in ADB_x. For example, an authentication flow contains two ADBs, ADB1 and ADB2. If the matched entry in ADB1 returns **sla-profile** foo, and the matched entry in ADB2 returns **sla-profile** bar, a new session is created with **sla-profile** bar.

If a session creation configuration is not explicitly configured (for example, it equals the default value), the ADB lookup returns no value for this configuration. For example, an authentication flow contains two ADBs, ADB1 and ADB2. If ADB1 returns **sla-profile** bar, and the matched entry in ADB2 does not contain an explicit configuration for **sla-profile** (it equals the default value), a new session is created with **sla-profile** bar.

Some session creation configuration parameters support a special **discard** keyword. The **discard** keyword means that the previously returned ADB value for the attribute must be discarded. For example, an authentication flow contains two ADBs, ADB1 and ADB2. If ADB1 returns a value for **to-client-dhcp-option-profile** and ADB2 configures **to-client-dhcp-option-profile discard**, the cMAG-c creates the session without **to-client-dhcp-option-profile**.

Related topics

[BNG EP and ADB lookup](#)

5.4 Authentication flow

An authentication flow contains the following configuration items:

- trigger packet type; for example, DHCPv4 discovery or PPPoE PADI packet
- ordered list of one or more ADBs for the specified trigger packet type

When the MAG-u sends a trigger packet, the cMAG-c performs a lookup in each ADB in the list, in the specified order. Each ADB can return session-related configurations. These session-related configurations can be locally configured or returned from an external AAA server.

An IPoE session has only one authentication flow. A PPPoE session requires at least one of the following independent authentication flows:

- PADI
- PAP/CHAP

If an ADB lookup fails, the session setup fails. The ADB lookup may fail, for example, if an entry is matched with the reject action or if there is an AAA authentication failure.

If all lookups complete successfully, the cMAG-c continues session setup using the combined configurations from all ADB lookups. For example, the BNG EP lookup returns two authentication flows for a new PPPoE session. The authentication flows return the following configuration:

- PADI authentication flow with 1 ADB: ADB1 returns PADO delay value
- PAP/CHAP authentication flow with 2 ADBs: ADB2 configures RADIUS authentication, ADB3 returns a local address pool

In this example, the cMAG-c uses the combined configuration result from the three ADB lookups to set up the PPPoE session.

Each session requires a service configuration, as described in [Service selection](#). The service can also provide override for specific configurations. If different types of sources return the same type of configuration (for example, an address pool name), the cMAG-c uses the value of the source with the highest ranking. The sources are ranked as follows, with the highest ranked first:

1. AAA
2. Local ADB
3. Service

If different sources of the same type (for example, different ADBs) return the same type of configuration, the cMAG-c uses the last returned value. For example, if both ADB1 and ADBN return an SLA profile name, and ADB1 returns SLA profile name X and ADBN returns SLA profile name Y, the system uses SLA profile name Y because it is the last returned value.

Related topics

[Authentication database](#)

5.5 BNG EP and ADB lookup

Both the BNG EP entries and the ADB entries contain session configuration and one or more ordered match criteria. The match criteria are used in the lookup. The session configuration is used in the creation of the session.

Match criteria properties

Match criteria have the following properties:

- **match-id**
The match ID defines the priority. The lower the ID, the higher the priority.
- **attribute**
The attribute defines the name of the attribute that is used for the lookup. It is the name of a session attribute. The attribute can be a control protocol field (for example, DHCP option 82 **circuit-id**, **vendor-class**), data packet field (for example, **source-ip-prefix**), or metadata of the session (for example, **l2-access-id**).
- **value**
The value defines the criteria value to which the session value must match for the specified attribute. If the attribute is optional, the value can be empty, meaning any session value matches with the criteria value.
- **optional**
Match criteria can be optional or mandatory. The attribute of optional criteria does need to be present in the session data to match the entry. If the attribute of optional criteria is present in the session data, the session value must equal the criteria value to match the entry. An attribute that is not present in the entry can have any value in the session (including not available).
- **string-mask**
A string mask is applied to the value of the session attribute before comparing it with the value of the criteria. It can be used for supported attributes (for example, **l2-access-id**).

The string mask can be length-based or string-based and can be a suffix or a prefix, as follows:

- **prefix**
 - **length-based**
The cMAG-c removes the specified number of characters from the beginning of the session value.
 - **string-based**

The cMAG-c removes the specified string from the beginning of the session value. An asterisk (*) can be used as a wild-card in the string mask.

- **suffix**
 - **length-based**
The cMAG-c removes the specified number of characters from the end of the session value.
 - **string-based**
The cMAG-c removes the specified string from the end of the session value. An asterisk (*) can be used as a wild-card in the string mask.

The following examples show the string that is used to compare the session value of **I2-access-id** with the criteria value for a specific string mask configuration. Assume that the session value of **I2-access-id** equals 1/2/3.

- For **string-mask** equal to **prefix length 2**, the cMAG-c removes the first two characters of the session value. The resulting value 2/3 is used to match with the end of the criteria value; for example, the resulting value 2/3 matches with the criteria value 4/2/3.
- For **string-mask** equal to **suffix string "/"**, the cMAG-c removes the last slash (/) and everything after it at the end of the session value. The resulting value 1/2 is used to match with the beginning of the criteria value; for example, the resulting value 1/2 matches with the criteria value 1/2/4.

Default entries

If a BNG EP entry or an ADB entry does not have any match criteria, this BNG EP entry or ADB entry is the default entry. The cMAG-c chooses the default entry when there is no other matched entry. Only one default entry is allowed for the BNG EPs and for the ADBs.

Entry matching

Entries of a BNG EP or of an ADB cannot have the same set of match criteria within the same BNG EP or ADB. In this case, the entry becomes operationally down. The system does allow entries with the same match criteria in different BNG EPs or ADBs.

During a BNG EP or ADB lookup, the cMAG-c compares the attributes of the session with the match criteria of all entries in the BNG EP or in the ADB and creates a list of all matched entries. A matched entry is one for which all mandatory match criteria are fulfilled.

At the end of the lookup, the cMAG-c chooses the best matched entry from the list of all matched entries for session creation. The cMAG-c chooses an entry from the list as follows:

- If the list of all matched entries contains only one entry, that entry is the best match.
- If the list of all matched entries contains more than one entry, the cMAG-c reduces the list to the entries with the highest number of match criteria. If this list contains only one entry, that entry is the best match.
- If the reduced list of entries with the highest number of match criteria contains more than one entry, the cMAG-c selects the entry with matches for the highest priority attributes.

Example mandatory and optional match criteria

As an example, the match criteria for an ADB entry contain the attribute **I2-access-id** (marked **optional**) and the attribute **up-ip** (mandatory). To call the ADB entry a matched entry, one of the following must be true.

- Both **up-ip** and **I2-access-id** are present in the session and both match the values in the ADB entry.
- Only **up-ip** is present in the session and it matches the value in the ADB entry.

If both **l2-access-id** and **up-ip** are present in the session, but only **l2-access-id** matches the value in the ADB entry, the ADB entry is not a matched entry.

Example entry matching and selection

The following output defines the configuration of four ADB entries.

```
# info from running /subscriber-management authentication-database testdb
admin-state enable
match 1 {
    !!! first match criteria is UP node id
    attribute up-node-id
    optional true
}
match 2 {
    !!! 2nd match criteria is layer2 access ID
    attribute l2-access-id
    optional true
}
match 3 {
    !!! 3rd match criteria is SVLAN
    attribute s-vlan
    optional true
}
entry 10 {
    admin-state enable
    match {
        up-node-id 172.16.10.50
        l2-access-id 1/1/2
        s-vlan-range {
            start 100
            end 200
        }
    }
    up-parameters {
        sla-profile entry10
        sub-profile entry10
    }
}
entry 20 {
    admin-state enable
    match {
        up-node-id 172.16.10.50
        l2-access-id 1/1/2
    }
    up-parameters {
        sla-profile entry20
        sub-profile entry20
    }
    charging {
        profiles [
            mybngcharging
        ]
    }
}
entry 30 {
    admin-state enable
    match {
        l2-access-id 1/1/2
        s-vlan-range {
            start 100
            end 200
        }
    }
}
```

```

    }
    up-parameters {
        sla-profile entry30
        sub-profile entry30
    }
}
entry 40 {
    admin-state enable
    match {
        s-vlan-range {
            start 100
            end 200
        }
    }
    up-parameters {
        sla-profile entry40
        sub-profile entry40
    }
}
}

```

A new session has the following attributes and values:

- **up-node-id** with value 172.16.10.50
- **I2-access-id** with value 1/1/2
- **s-vlan** with value 100

The session matches with all ADB entries. The cMAG-c chooses the entry 10 because it has the highest number of matching criteria; that is, three matching criteria.

Assume entry 10 is shut down. Both entries 20 and 30 have the highest number of matching criteria; that is, two matching criteria. The cMAG-c chooses entry 20 because it has the matching criteria with the highest priority; that is, **up-ip**.

Assume all entries except entry 40 are shutdown. The cMAG-c chooses the only matching entry; that is, entry 40.

5.6 Required minimal configuration for a session creation

To create a session, the cMAG-c requires a minimal number of session creation configuration parameters. The table lists the parameters that are required for session creation, as well as the source that contains those parameters.

Table 4: Minimal configuration for a session creation

Configuration	Source
authentication-flow	BNG EP
service	ADB, RADIUS
address-assignment	ADB, RADIUS
sla-profile ¹	ADB, RADIUS
sub-profile ¹	ADB, RADIUS

Configuration	Source
group-interface-template ¹	ADB, RADIUS
sap-template ¹	ADB, RADIUS

5.7 RADIUS authentication profile

RADIUS authentication is performed when the **action** parameter in the best-matched ADB entry is set to **radius**. The RADIUS authentication profile defines the RADIUS authentication behavior. Use the following command to define the profile.

```
subscriber-management profiles radius-authentication-profile
```

RADIUS authentication is triggered by the ADB lookup. Consequently, it is possible to have multiple rounds of RADIUS authentication during the authentication flow lookup. If the same attributes are returned in the Access-Accept message during multiple authentication rounds, the last attribute received is used.

A RADIUS authentication profile contains the following configuration commands:

- **server-selection-profile**

The **server-selection-profile** command references a RADIUS server selection profile that is defined using the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles radius-server-selection-profile
```

The RADIUS server selection profile references one or multiple RADIUS servers configured in the **subscriber-management ref-points aaa radius** context.

The RADIUS server configuration contains a server address, port, secret, and other server-specific configuration, while the RADIUS server selection profile contains access-related configuration; for example the access algorithm for selecting the RADIUS server to send the request to from a list of servers.

- **user-name-format**

The **user-name-format** command defines the username format for the RADIUS server.

Use the **data-trigger-source-ip** option in the following command to send the source IP address of the data-trigger packet.

```
subscriber-management profiles radius-authentication-profile username-format ipoe format
```

- **password**

The **password** command defines the password of the RADIUS user.

- **include-attribute**

¹ If the MAG-u contains a template or a profile with the name `default`, the default template or profile is used when the authentication does not return a template or profile. If the MAG-u does not contain a specific template or profile with the name `default`, the configuration of the parameters is required.

The **include-attribute** command defines the RADIUS attributes to be included in an Access-Request message. Use the commands in the following context to define the attributes to include.

```
subscriber-management profiles radius-authentication-profile include-attributes
```

See the *cMAG-c RADIUS Attributes and IU Triggers* for more information about the attributes and the messages they may appear in.

The username and password configuration are required for IPoE authentication and PPPoE PADI authentication.

5.8 RADIUS CoA and DM

A RADIUS Change of Authorization (CoA) message or a Disconnect Message (DM) asks for changes in the session or subscriber object.

To enable support for RADIUS CoA and DM messages, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management ref-points aaa radius dynamic-authorization
```

The listening address and port are provisioned via the Kubernetes service. See the *cMAG-c Installation Guide* for more information.

When the cMAG-c receives a CoA or DM message, it makes the requested change to the target object. The *cMAG-c RADIUS Attributes and IU Triggers* list defines the message attributes that can be used to identify one or multiple sessions as target object. Filter on the value **True** for the CoA key column to find those attributes in the list. If a subscriber is specified in the request, the cMAG-c applies the requested changes to all sessions of the targeted subscriber.

The CoA message contains one or more attributes that define the requested changes; for example, the Alc-SLA-Prof-Str VSA defines a new SLA profile for the target object. For more information about the supported attributes, see the *cMAG-c RADIUS Attributes and IU Triggers*.

If the cMAG-c applies all requested changes successfully to all targeted objects, the cMAG-c sends a CoA-ACK message to the RADIUS server. If the cMAG-c can apply the requested changes only partially or only on a subset of the target objects, the cMAG-c sends a CoA-NAK message and rolls back the changes as follows:

- If the change request is for multiple attributes on a single session and only part of the attribute changes are successful, the cMAG-c sends a CoA-NAK message with ERROR-CAUSE code 404, and rolls back the already applied changes.
- If the change request is for multiple attributes on multiple sessions and the changes are successful only for a part of all the target sessions, the cMAG-c sends a CoA-NAK message with ERROR-CAUSE code 506 and rolls back the applied changes for the sessions that were only partially changed. For example, if a CoA message requests to change three attributes on five sessions, the cMAG-c successfully applies all attribute changes on session 1, session 2, and session 3 but only one attribute change on session 4 and session 5. The cMAG-c sends a CoA-NAK message with ERROR-CAUSE code 506 and rolls back the attribute change on session 4 and session 5.

A DM message only contains target objects. The cMAG-c removes the sessions of the target objects and sends an ACK message. If the target objects do not exist, the cMAG-c sends a CoA-NAK message with ERROR-CAUSE code 503.

If a CoA or DM message contains an unsupported attribute, the cMAG-c rejects the request with a CoA-NAK message by default. To ignore unsupported attributes, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management ref-points aaa radius dynamic-authorization ignore-unknown-attributes
```

5.9 Example configuration

The example configurations in this section are for the following setup:

- IPE session
- RADIUS authentication
- address pool pool-up-1 for sessions from MAG-u 1.1.1.1
- address pool pool-up-2 for sessions from MAG-u 2.2.2.2
- sla-profile basic, sub-profile basic, and authentication with radius-auth-profile-1 for sessions with s-vlan 100
- sla-profile premium, sub-profile premium, and authentication with radius-auth-profile-2 for sessions with s-vlan 200

This setup uses an authentication flow with three ADBs for which the following are returned:

- ADB adb1 only returns the address pool.
- ADB adb2 only returns the sla-profile and the sub-profile, and performs RADIUS authentication.
- ADB adb3 returns the other configuration parameters.

Example: ADB configuration with three ADBs

```
# info from running /subscriber-management
authentication-database adb1 {
    admin-state enable
    match 1 {
        attribute up-node-id
    }
    entry up-1 {
        admin-state enable
        match {
            up-node-id 1.1.1.1
        }
        address-assignment {
            local-dynamic {
                ipv4-pool pool-up-1
            }
        }
    }
    entry up-2 {
        admin-state enable
        match {
            up-node-id 2.2.2.2
        }
        address-assignment {
            local-dynamic {
                ipv4-pool pool-up-2
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```

    }
    authentication-database adb2 {
        admin-state enable
        match 1 {
            attribute s-vlan
        }
        entry basic {
            admin-state enable
            match {
                s-vlan 100
            }
            action {
                radius {
                    authentication-profile radius-auth-profile-1
                }
            }
            up-parameters {
                sla-profile basic
                sub-profile basic
            }
        }
        entry premium {
            admin-state enable
            match {
                s-vlan 200
            }
            action {
                radius {
                    authentication-profile radius-auth-profile-1
                }
            }
            up-parameters {
                sla-profile premium
                sub-profile premium
            }
        }
    }
}
authentication-database adb3 {
    admin-state enable
    entry default {
        admin-state enable
        service-name mybng
        up-parameters {
            group-interface-template defaultgroup
            sap-template defaultsap
        }
    }
}
}

```

The following example shows the configuration of the BNG EP.

Example: BNG EP configuration

```

# info from running /subscriber-management
entry-point e1 {
    admin-state enable
    entry 10 {
        admin-state enable
        ipoe {
            authentication-flow {
                authentication-database [
                    adb1
                    adb2

```

```
adb3  
]  
}  
}  
}
```

The following example shows a reference to the BNG EP configured in the following context.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up fixed-access
```

Example: BNG EP reference configuration

```
# info from running /subscriber-management ref-points up fixed-access  
entry-point e1  
ibcp-triggers {  
    ipoe-dhcp true  
}
```

6 Accounting and charging

Learn about the statistics collection from the MAG-u, time-based and volume-based charging, RADIUS accounting configuration, and buffering of the RADIUS accounting messages for later retransmission.

6.1 BNG charging profiles

BNG charging profiles define the charging interfaces for a session. A session can be associated with multiple BNG charging profiles.

BNG charging profiles contain the configuration of the charging interfaces for a session; for example, the RADIUS accounting interface. Charging profiles are assigned to sessions during authentication.

Multiple charging profiles can be provisioned per session. The following example use cases enable the same charging interface in different contexts.

- Two charging profiles support duplicate RADIUS accounting to a main and a backup accounting server. The two charging profiles are identical, except for the target servers.
- Multiple charging profiles support multiple distinct logging systems using the same interface. For example, one profile for RADIUS packet and octet accounting, one for NAT port block logging, and one for session create and delete logging.

To configure BNG charging profiles, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile
```

To use a BNG charging profile for a specific set of sessions, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry charging profiles
```

Except for the communication with the MAG-u, there is no interaction between multiple charging profiles for the same session. Each charging profile uses the session data and the triggers (periodic interval or trigger events) to act according to its configuration. For example, a messaging failure for one profile does not affect retransmits in another profile.

The cMAG-c tries to optimize the number of messages sent in the communication with the MAG-u. For example, if the same event triggers multiple charging profiles to fetch MAG-u data, the cMAG-c attempts to send a single request to the MAG-u instead of a request per charging profile.



Caution: The cMAG-c guarantees unique charging identifiers (such as Acct-Session-Id) per session but not per profile and session. If the same servers are used in two profiles, the servers may not be able to distinguish between log events which leads to unpredictable behavior. Nokia recommends that you do not define multiple charging profiles with interfaces to the same set of servers; for example, two profiles using the same server selection profile.

Related topics

[BNG EP and ADB lookup](#)

6.2 Statistics collection from the MAG-u

Configure the pull or push model to fetch mid-session PFCP usage reports from the MAG-u.

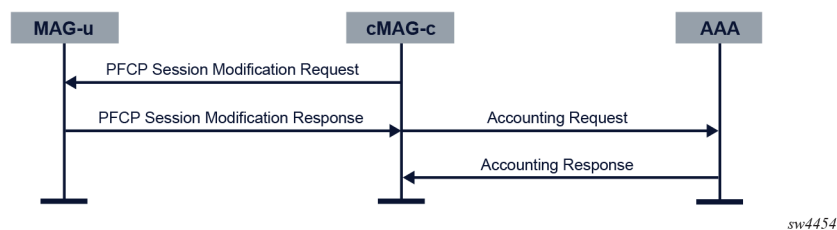
A PFCP Usage Report IE contains incremental MAG-u statistics per session. The usage report includes only statistics collected since the previous usage report. The cMAG-c aggregates the statistics for the session. This incremental method is robust and can handle a MAG-u failure. When a MAG-u failure occurs, statistics collected since the previous report are lost. However, the cMAG-c statistics remain correct and increase monotonically. Similarly, when MAG-u resiliency is used, the cMAG-c can add counters of both MAG-u nodes to calculate the correct aggregate.

The cMAG-c supports two models to fetch mid-session PFCP usage reports:

- **pull model**

The cMAG-c explicitly requests a usage report in a PFCP Session Modification Request message when it needs up-to-date counters. The cMAG-c does not send periodic unsolicited pull requests. For example, it requests a Usage Report for a RADIUS Accounting Request Interim Update message.

Figure 9: Statistics collection using the pull model



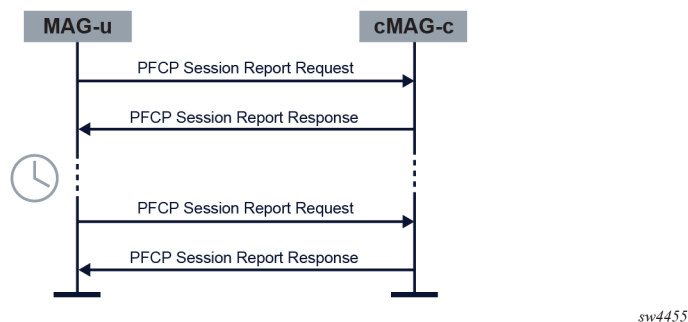
- **push model**

The MAG-u sends an unsolicited PFCP Usage Report IE in a PFCP Session Report Request message. Upon receiving this message, the cMAG-c records and stores the statistics. The push message does not directly trigger an update (for example, Radius Accounting Interim Update or CHF Nchf_ConvergedCharging_Update). However, the statistics update may trigger any reporting limit, threshold, or quota; for example, [Volume-based charging](#).

The unsolicited usage report is periodic. The MAG-u sends a report within a fixed interval. If another report was generated (for example, pull-based), the interval is reset.

The following figure shows the statistics collection using the push model.

Figure 10: Statistics collection using the push model



To enable the periodic push model, configure the push interval using the following command.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry charging up-statistics-collection push-interval
```

A small push interval can reduce counter loss in case of MAG-u failures but increases the load on the cMAG-c. The system must be dimensioned accordingly.

Push and pull modes can work in parallel. For example, the RADIUS accounting is enabled with an interval of 6 h (pull mode) and the MAG-u reporting is enabled with an interval of 15 min (push mode). Every six hours, the RADIUS accounting message triggers an explicit pull from the MAG-u to fetch the latest counters, while the MAG-u sends unsolicited usage reports every 15 min. This allows for a frequent counter update to avoid loss without overloading the AAA server and without the AAA server having outdated statistics.



Note:

If the pull interval is similar to the push interval, Nokia recommends disabling the push mode. Having similar intervals for the push and the pull mode increases the load without a direct benefit.



Note: The cMAG-c may optimize to not pull the stats if the current stats are very recent, for example, because of a push or other pull directly before the event that would cause a pull request. This optimization is however not guaranteed to occur in every instance.

For resilient sessions, the cMAG-c maintains one set of counters that are aggregated from all PFCP sessions that have been set up over the lifetime of the encompassing session. The incremental nature of the PFCP reports allow this without risking duplicate counters. The cMAG-c can present these aggregated counters monotonically increasing to other interfaces such as RADIUS accounting, cMAG-c charging, and **show** commands. Because of MAG-u resiliency, back-end systems, such as accounting servers, do not need to account for sudden counter resets resulting from MAG-u failure.

In case of hot standby MAG-u resiliency, there are two PFCP sessions. When performing pull requests, the cMAG-c pulls statistics from the active MAG-u in steady state, because it does not expect traffic from the standby MAG-u. During switchovers, the cMAG-c pulls from both MAG-u nodes to fetch the potentially still available final statistics from a degraded MAG-u. The cMAG-c installs the push mode on both MAG-u nodes. The Nokia MAG-u, however, is optimized to only send push reports if the reported statistics contain non-zero values. The statistics of a standby MAG-u in steady state normally contain only zero values.

Independent of mid-session statistics collection, final statistics are always fetched when the session is removed in a PFCP session deletion procedure.

The following statistics are supported:

- aggregate number of bytes upstream and downstream
- aggregate number of packets upstream and downstream, if the MAG-u signals the measurement of number of packets (MNOP) function feature in the PFCP association procedure
- detailed statistics as collected by the Nokia MAG-u

Examples of detailed statistics are per queue statistics, per policer statistics, and separate IPv4 and IPv6 counters. The content of the detailed statistics depends on the MAG-u QoS **stat-mode** configuration.

Detailed statistics are collected and available for reporting if the **detailed-statistics** is enabled (set to **true**) in the ADB using the following command.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry charging up-statistics-collection detailed
```


When enabled, the cMAG-c requests the MAG-u to send detailed statistics.

If detailed statistics are collected and available for reporting, they can be included in the RADIUS accounting messages. Use the following command to send detailed statistics in the RADIUS accounting messages.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius session include-attributes detailed-statistics
```

When the cMAG-c detects a new **stat-mode** or SLA Profile, the detailed statistics are reset. The cMAG-c sends the final detailed statistics for the previous **stat-mode** or SLA profile in RADIUS accounting messages if enabled. Because aggregated statistics are not dependent on the **stat-mode** nor on the SLA profile, they are not reset.



Note:

On a Nokia MAG-u, both aggregate and detailed statistics are based on the QoS model. If multiple sessions of the same subscriber share QoS resources, the statistics are collected on a per-session basis, but they do not provide real usage of a specific session. The aggregate of the session statistics is correct for the shared QoS resource. If real usage of per-session statistics are required in a multiple sessions per-subscriber model, Nokia recommends enabling an SLA profile instance (SPI) per session model on the MAG-u.

Related topics

[Authentication](#)

6.3 cMAG-c-based charging

Learn about time-based and volume-based charging.

Time-based charging

The cMAG-c provides time-based charging using the session timeout mechanism. This session timeout starts after successful authentication. The cMAG-c deletes the session when the timer expires.

Volume-based charging

For basic volume-based charging, the cMAG-c compares the statistics to provisioned thresholds. The cMAG-c compares the statistics with the thresholds for every received usage report.

The following thresholds are supported:

- total number of upstream bytes
- total number of downstream bytes
- total number of upstream and downstream bytes

To configure the thresholds in the ADB, use the following commands.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry charging cp-volume-tracking total
subscriber-management authentication-database entry charging cp-volume-tracking uplink
subscriber-management authentication-database entry charging cp-volume-tracking downlink
```

The threshold values can also be provided via RADIUS. For more information, see *cMAG-c RADIUS Attributes and IU Triggers*.

As soon as one of the provisioned thresholds is reached, the cMAG-c deletes the session.

For deterministic behavior, Nokia recommends combining the volume-based charging with periodic statistics collection.

Related topics

[Statistics collection from the MAG-u](#)

6.4 RADIUS accounting

Learn about the RADIUS accounting configuration in the BNG charging profile and how to enable RADIUS accounting.

The cMAG-c supports RADIUS accounting as defined in RFC 2866.

To enable RADIUS accounting, perform the steps in [Enabling RADIUS accounting](#).

The RADIUS accounting configuration in the BNG charging profile includes the following parameters:

- **RADIUS server selection profile**

The RADIUS server selection profile provides the list of RADIUS servers and load-balancing parameters.

Use the following command to reference the RADIUS server selection profile in the BNG charging profile.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius server-selection-profile
```

Use the following command to define and configure the RADIUS server selection profile.

```
subscriber-management profiles radius-server-selection-profile
```

- **session accounting parameters**

The accounting parameters for sessions include configuration of attributes to include in accounting messages, and triggers to send the RADIUS Accounting Request Interim Update message.

Use the commands in the following context for the session accounting parameters.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius session
```

For more information about the accounting attributes, their content, the associated include-attribute configuration, and the messages they can appear in, see the *cMAG-c RADIUS Attributes and IU Triggers* and the *cMAG-c Data Model Reference Guide*.

6.4.1 Enabling RADIUS accounting

Procedure

Step 1. Define a charging profile.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile
```

Step 2. Configure RADIUS accounting for the BNG charging profile.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius
```

Step 3. Reference the BNG charging profile.

```
subscriber-management authentication-database entry charging profiles
```

Step 4. Define match criteria for the ADB so that the BNG charging profile gets assigned to a session during authentication.

Related topics

[BNG EP and ADB lookup](#)

6.4.2 Session accounting

The cMAG-c sends RADIUS accounting messages to start and stop session accounting. Interim update messages contain updates of the accounting data. The interim update messages can be periodic or triggered by an event.

Start and stop messages

When session accounting is enabled, the cMAG-c sends an Accounting Request Start message to the RADIUS accounting server. The exact time when the message is sent in the session setup procedure depends on the session type. Sending the Accounting Request Start message is linked to the data plane creation on the MAG-u and to the IP address assignment protocols.

The server selection for the Accounting Request Start message follows the generic load-balancing configured in the following context.

```
subscriber-management profiles radius-server-selection-profile
```

When the **stickiness** command in the preceding context is set to **true**, subsequent messages are sent to the same server. When the selected server fails, a new server is selected. When the **stickiness** command is set to **false**, load-balancing is applied to each accounting message.

After accounting is started, the cMAG-c sends Accounting Request Interim Update (IU) messages. The cMAG-c sends the IU messages periodically or based on triggers.

When the session is removed, the cMAG-c sends an Accounting Request Stop message, including the final counters.

Periodic interim updates

Periodic sending of Accounting Request IU messages is on by default and can be optionally disabled using the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius session update-triggers periodic
```

When the periodic sending is enabled, the interval for the Accounting Request IU messages can be provisioned as follows, in order of precedence:

1. during the session authentication; for example, using the RADIUS Acct-Interim-Interval attribute
2. using the following command

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius default-interim-update-interval
```



Note: Changing the value by using this command updates existing sessions after the next scheduled Accounting Request Interim Update message. This command does not establish

an interim update interval for sessions that do not already have one, because there is no scheduled IU message to trigger the change.

The interval can be changed during the lifetime of a session by sending a RADIUS CoA with the Acct-Interim-Interval attribute. In this case, a session sends an immediate Accounting Request IU message with the reason Interval-Changed and starts a timer with the new interval.

When multiple BNG charging profiles are configured, the periodic interim update interval can be provisioned or changed per BNG charging profile using the RADIUS Alc-Charging-Profile-Interim-Interval VSA.



Note: Nokia recommends provisioning the same interval for all charging profiles with periodic interim updates enabled. In this case, the cMAG-c runs a common interval timer, and sends only one message per periodic interim update interval to fetch the statistics from the MAG-u for all the periodic Accounting Request IU messages.

Triggered interim updates

The cMAG-c sends a triggered Accounting Request IU message when it detects changes in the session or subscriber data, or when an external system instructs to send an IU message.

The vendor-specific Alc-Acct-Triggered-Reason attribute in the IU message indicates the type of trigger.

See the *cMAG-c RADIUS Attributes and IU Triggers* for information about supported trigger events.

When several trigger events occur at the same time, the cMAG-c sends a single IU message with multiple Alc-Acct-Triggered-Reason attributes to include all trigger reasons.

In case one event triggers multiple IU messages, such as an SLA profile change, other simultaneous trigger events are included in the first IU message.

Related topics

[IPoE](#)

[Message retransmission and buffering](#)

[BNG charging profiles](#)

6.4.3 Message retransmission and buffering

RADIUS accounting messages are retried but can also be buffered for later retransmission. Learn how to enable and configure the buffering of the different RADIUS accounting messages.

The cMAG-c retries RADIUS accounting messages using the configuration of the following commands.

```
subscriber-management ref-points aaa radius server retry-count
subscriber-management ref-points aaa radius server retry-timeout
```

If no accounting response is received after the retries, the cMAG-c buffers the accounting messages to retransmit them later, if buffering is enabled.

To enable buffering of accounting messages, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius buffering
```

When buffering is enabled, the cMAG-c can buffer one Accounting Stop message per session. Optionally one Accounting Start, and up to five IU messages can be buffered.

To enable buffering of the Accounting IU messages, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius buffering interim-update
```

To enable buffering of one Accounting Start message per session, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius buffering start
```

The lifetime of a buffered accounting message is configurable. The default lifetime is 24 hours. Because of final retransmission attempts, the message can be kept longer than the configured lifetime. To configure the lifetime of the buffered accounting messages, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles charging-profile radius buffering lifetime
```

The cMAG-c classifies the Accounting IU messages as critical or non-critical depending on the trigger event.

- Non-critical messages do not reflect a significant state change and contain data that is present either in the subsequent Accounting IU messages or in the Accounting Stop message. For example, a periodic IU message contains only updated cumulative counters that are also present in a subsequent IU or Stop message. When buffering of the IU messages is enabled, the following rules apply:
 - Only the last non-critical IU message for a session is buffered. If there was a previous non-critical message buffered, this previous message is discarded and overwritten.
 - When the session terminates, the optionally stored non-critical IU message for that session is discarded and overwritten with the Stop message.
- Critical messages reflect a significant state change, and can contain data that is lost if not sent; for example, a stop of service and the final statistics related to that service. When buffering of the IU messages is enabled, up to four critical IU messages per session are buffered to prevent loss of data.

Periodic IU messages are non-critical messages. Triggered IU messages can be critical or non-critical depending on the trigger reason.

A non-configurable timer triggers a periodical retransmit of the buffered messages. The timer value changes depending on the load of the system. It uses exponential back-off when a server is unavailable.

Related topics

[Session accounting](#)

6.4.4 Sending Accounting-On and Accounting-Off messages

cMAG-c supports sending Accounting-On and Accounting-Off messages to a RADIUS server based on the configuration.

About this task

Enable sending Accounting-On and Accounting-Off messages to mark the start and end of accounting toward the RADIUS server.



Note: Because the cMAG-c is a cloud-native solution and individual components can be restarted any time, there is no support for the traditional boot, reboot, and shutdown triggers for Accounting-On and Accounting-Off messages as mentioned in RFC 2866.

Procedure

Step 1. Create and configure a RADIUS server.



Note: Do not commit the configuration yet, because the cMAG-c does not generate Accounting-On messages for an already configured server.

Use the commands in the following context.

```
subscriber-management ref-points aaa radius server
```

Step 2. Enable Accounting-On and Accounting-Off messages.

```
subscriber-management ref-points aaa radius server accounting-on-off true
```

Step 3. Commit the configuration for the new server.

```
commit
```



Note: Setting the **accounting-on-off** configuration to **true** after the server is initially created does not result in the generation of an Accounting-On message.

Expected outcome

- The cMAG-c sends Accounting-On messages to the RADIUS server until the RADIUS server acknowledges the message.
- When the server is removed from the system, for example by deleting the server configuration, the cMAG-c sends a single Accounting-Off message to the deleted server.

7 Python support

Customize the cMAG-c behavior by applying user-defined Python scripts to inspect and modify control protocol packets.

Python scripts

Sending or receiving specific control protocol packets can trigger a user-defined Python script. Using the packet as input, the script applies a set of Nokia API calls to inspect and modify the packet. The script outputs the modified packet.

The direction of the triggering protocol message defines when the Python script runs:

- ingress – before the subscriber management processing
- egress – after the subscriber management processing

For example, when the cMAG-c receives a RADIUS Access-Accept message, a user-defined Python script can update the Alc-SLA-Prof-Str attribute in the message to a new SLA profile name. The system processes the modified packet and creates the session with the new SLA profile.

Python version and libraries

The cMAG-c Python support is based on Python version 3.11. The software includes the following libraries:

- Python standard libraries
- Nokia-provided TPSDA API
- Cryptodome package, see [PyCryptodome](#)

For more information about the Nokia-provided TPSDA APIs, see *cMAG-c TPSDA Python 3 API*.

Supported protocol messages

The following tables list the supported protocol message types and direction.

Table 5: Supported direction for RADIUS messages

Message type	Ingress	Egress
Access-Request		✓
Access-Accept	✓	
Access-Reject	✓	
Account-Request		✓
Account-Response	✓	
Access-Challenge	✓	

Table 6: Supported direction for RADIUS CoA messages

Message type	Ingress	Egress
CoA Request	✓	
DM Request	✓	
CoA or DM Reply		✓

Operational commands

To check if a Python script is in service, use the following command.

```
info from state /subscriber-management python python-script <name> oper-state
```

To see the in-use source code of a Python script, use the following command.

```
info from state /subscriber-management python python-script <name> source-in-use
```

To bring a modified script in service, use the following command.

```
tools subscriber-management python python-script reload script
```

7.1 Configuring a Python script

You can customize the cMAG-c behavior with a Python script.

Procedure

- Step 1.** Create a Python script file, and either save it in the /python folder of the Python pod or upload it to an HTTP or FTP server.



Note: When storing the script file in the /python folder of the Python pod, it must be backed up on a cMAG-c-wide storage, so that the Python pod can still access the file if the pod is rescheduled to a different worker.

- Step 2.** Configure the URL of the script file.

```
subscriber-management python python-script
```

- Step 3.** Specify the trigger packet type, the direction, and the corresponding Python script in a Python policy.

```
subscriber-management python python-policy
```

- Step 4.** Reference the Python policy in the corresponding protocol configuration; for example, inside the radius-authentication-profile for the RADIUS authentication messages.

Example

The following example configures to run the `cf3:/test.py` Python script file upon sending the RADIUS Access-Request message.

```
# info from running /subscriber-management python
python-script test {
    admin-state enable
    code {
        path /python/test.py
    }
}
python-policy rad {
    radius access-request direction egress {
        script test
    }
}

# info from running /subscriber-management profiles radius-authentication-profile auth1
server-selection-profile sell
python-policy rad
password $aes1$AWPJEozXM6/vxG8=$P6tGQqEKHwszh6LDBJ3e1w==
username-format {
    ipoe {
        format mac-address
        mac-format ab:ab:ab:ab:ab:ab
    }
}
```

8 MAG-u resiliency

The Nokia cMAG-c supports a cMAG-c-driven MAG-u resiliency scheme. Learn about this resiliency scheme, the resiliency handling, and deployment use cases.

8.1 Terminology for MAG-u resiliency

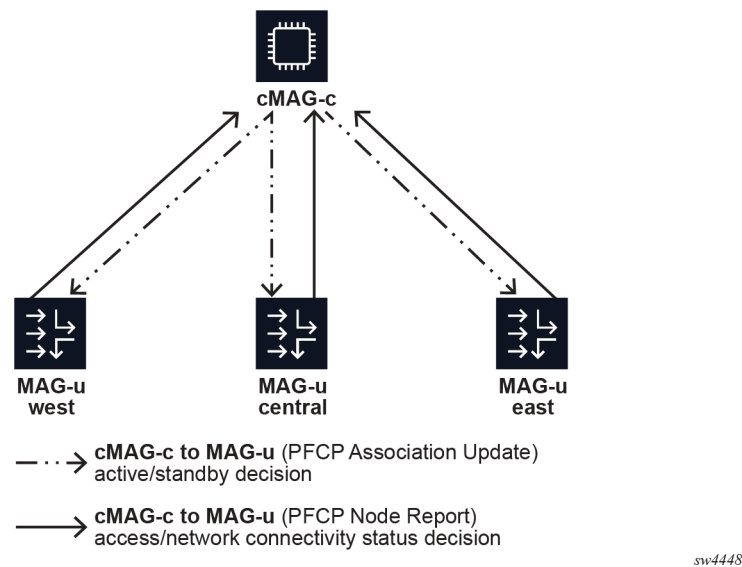
fate sharing group (FSG)	An FSG is a group of sessions that stay together when moved between MAG-u nodes. This guarantees that any associated resources, such as ODSA allocated prefixes, are moved together with the sessions.
active MAG-u	In the scope of a single FSG, the active MAG-u is the MAG-u on which the sessions are created and that actively forwards traffic for those sessions.
standby MAG-u	In the scope of a single FSG, the standby MAG-u indicates the MAG-u that is ready to install sessions and forward traffic upon failure of the active MAG-u. Whether sessions are proactively created on this MAG-u depends on the chosen resiliency model.
hot standby	In the hot standby resiliency model, sessions are proactively created on a standby MAG-u. The standby MAG-u does not attract traffic but is ready to start forwarding as soon as the cMAG-c instructs it to do so.
warm standby	In the warm standby resiliency model, sessions are created solely on the active MAG-u. Sessions on the standby (new active) MAG-u are only created after the active MAG-u fails.

8.2 Introduction to cMAG-c-driven MAG-u resiliency

The Nokia cMAG-c supports a cMAG-c-driven MAG-u resiliency scheme. In this scheme, the cMAG-c selects the active and standby MAG-u nodes and the MAG-u nodes must follow this decision. The MAG-u nodes do not communicate directly to negotiate the active or standby role or to synchronize session state. Instead, each MAG-u sends its local status indicators to the cMAG-c; for example, whether it has full connectivity to the access network. The cMAG-c aggregates these status indicators from all MAG-u nodes and makes an informed decision that is sent to the MAG-u nodes. The PFCP node messages of the PFCP association between the MAG-u and cMAG-c that are already in place for session management carry the status indicators and informed decisions.

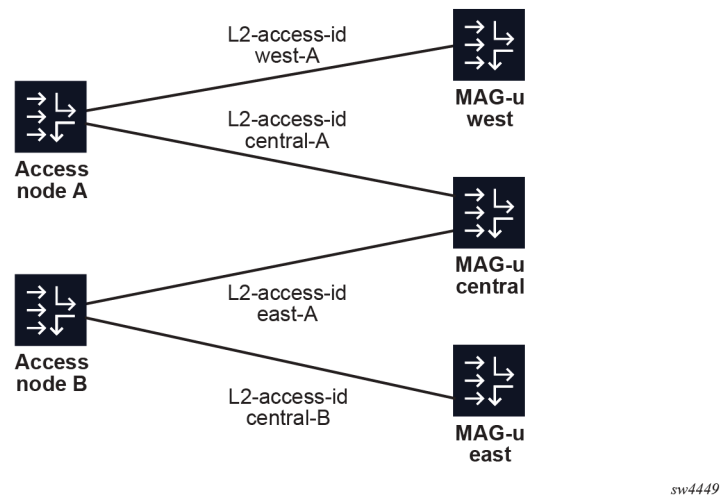
The following figure shows a high-level overview of communication for MAG-u resiliency.

Figure 11: High-level overview of communication for MAG-u resiliency



It is possible and often wanted that a MAG-u is active for a subset of the sessions and standby for another subset of the sessions. For example, when two MAG-u nodes are fully available, making both MAG-u nodes active for half of the sessions and standby for the other half of the sessions may be preferred. Similarly, two Layer 2 access IDs (ports) on the same MAG-u can be backed up by two different MAG-u nodes. The following figure shows the use case where the MAG-u "central" is backed up by both the MAG-u nodes "west" and "east" for two different Layer 2 access IDs.

Figure 12: Multiple backup MAG-us



To support all use cases, the cMAG-c assigns sessions to an FSG. The cMAG-c assigns the active or standby state to each FSG. The state applies to all sessions of the FSG, but not to any other session on the same MAG-u nodes. ODSA is also FSG-aware and allocates micro-nets on an FSG basis, instead of a MAG-u basis, to account for FSGs moving between MAG-u nodes.

8.3 Modeling a resilient MAG-u deployment using UP groups

The UP group configuration is a key component of the CUPS MAG-u resiliency. This configuration serves as a high-level description of the MAG-u access network so that the cMAG-c knows which MAG-u nodes are interconnected for MAG-u resiliency. Based on the UP group configuration, the cMAG-c automatically generates FSGs for the resiliency functionality. The UP group contains parameters to create the FSGs.

Use the following command to configure the UP group.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up group
```

At the core of the UP group configuration is a list of MAG-u nodes. The PFCP Node ID IE as signaled during the PFCP association setup procedure identifies each MAG-u. The identifier can be either a name or an IP address. The MAG-u nodes that form the UP group are interconnected and MAG-u resiliency can occur between them.

Related topics

[Fate sharing groups](#)

8.3.1 Fate sharing group creation

The cMAG-c creates a single FSG per configured UP group. The following configuration for the FSG is provisioned via the UP group:

- **reference to an FSG profile**

Use the following command to configure a reference to an FSG profile.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up group fsg-profile
```

The profile contains detailed parameters on the resiliency behavior; for example, health calculation for each MAG-u. If no profile is provided in the UP group, the UP group behaves as if a profile with default parameters was applied.

- **preferred indicator**

Per MAG-u, a flag indicates whether the MAG-u is active by preference. When the flag is set for a MAG-u, the FSG prefers this MAG-u to be active if all other parameters are equal.

- **drain indicator**

Per MAG-u, a flag indicates whether the MAG-u is in drain mode. When the flag is set for a MAG-u, the FSG avoids selecting this MAG-u as active. For example, this flag can be used before upgrading a MAG-u to achieve a graceful switchover.



Note: Changing the drain flag for an active MAG-u acts as a MAG-u reselection trigger for the linked FSGs. The cMAG-c moves the sessions after changing the configuration.

Related topics

[Fate sharing groups](#)

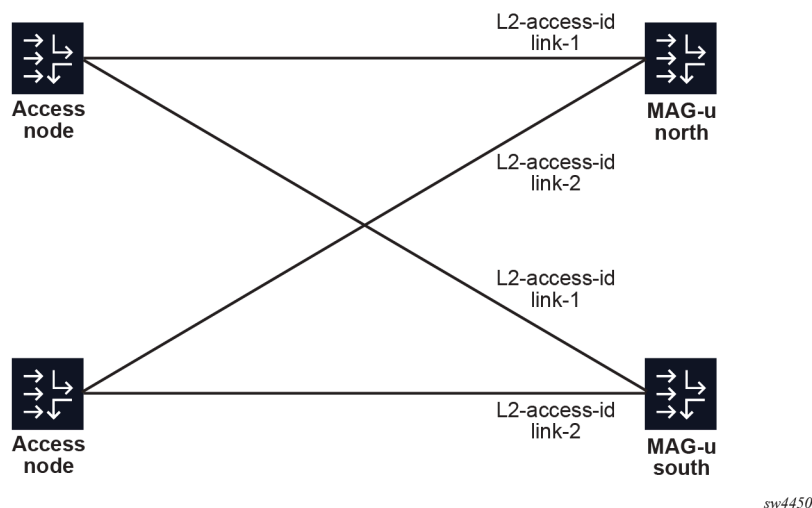
8.3.2 Fixed access with broadcast access

Fixed access sessions require the Layer 2 circuit (Layer 2 access ID and VLAN parameters) that is learned from incoming IBCP packets. In a resilient setting, the Layer 2 circuits can differ between the MAG-u nodes. For example, in [Figure 12: Multiple backup MAG-us](#), Layer 2 access ID "central-A" on MAG-u "central" is backed up by Layer 2 access ID "west-A" on MAG-u "west". Because the cMAG-c cannot rely on the initial IBCP messages to learn all the Layer 2 access IDs, the IDs must be configured manually.

A single Layer 2 access ID can be configured per MAG-u in a UP group. When setting up a new session for this UP group, the cMAG-c learns the initial Layer 2 access ID from the incoming IBCP packet, but derives the Layer 2 access IDs for the other MAG-u nodes from the configuration. A UP group-level default can be configured to simplify cases where the Layer 2 access IDs are identically named. See [Example for a 1:1 hot standby resiliency with an S-tag per access node](#) for this use case.

When all MAG-u nodes use identical Layer 2 access IDs, it is possible to list multiple Layer 2 access IDs per UP group at the group level to avoid creating multiple UP groups for each Layer 2 access ID. When this is configured, the MAG-u assumes that each Layer 2 access ID is backed up by the identically named Layer 2 access ID on other MAG-u nodes. The cMAG-c does not assume that there is one big broadcast domain shared between all ports and does not move sessions between differently named Layer 2 access IDs. The following figure shows a UP group that covers two Layer 2 access IDs, named "link-1" and "link2". The sessions on "link-1" cannot be backed up on "link-2" because "link-2" connects to another access node.

Figure 13: Multiple Layer 2 access IDs per UP group



```
# info from running /subscriber-management ref-points up group demo
subscriber-management {
  ref-points {
    up {
      group demo {
        l2-access-id [
          link-1
          link-2
        ]
        peer north {
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

```

    peer south {
    }
  }
}

```

Similarly, a VLAN range can be configured per MAG-u for both S-tags and C-tags. A UP group-level default is also available. The VLAN range configuration serves the following purposes:

- Split a single Layer 2 access ID in multiple FSGs and set a different preferred status on different MAG-u nodes. In stable conditions, this achieves active/active behavior where some sessions are active on one MAG-u while others are active on another MAG-u. See [Example for a 1:1 hot standby resiliency with an S-tag per access node](#) for this use case.
- Set different VLAN ranges on several MAG-u nodes in more complex aggregation requirements. The cMAG-c automatically adjusts the VLANs learned from IBCP for each MAG-u based on the difference between the start values of the VLAN ranges of each MAG-u. For example, if MAG-u A is configured with range 100 to 200, and MAG-u B with range 500 to 600, a session with VLAN 150 on MAG-u A automatically uses VLAN 550 on MAG-u B. While the start values of the VLAN range can be different, all ranges must have an equal size. For example, it is not possible to configure a range of 100 to 200 on one MAG-u, and 100 to 300 on another MAG-u in the same UP group.



WARNING: VLAN ranges with a different offset over more MAG-u nodes are an advanced use case and should be carefully validated against the deployed aggregation network. To avoid accidentally enabling different offsets when this functionality is not required, Nokia recommends only configuring a VLAN range on the UP group level.

The following subsections provide deployment use cases and example UP group configurations for the MAG-u resiliency concepts.

Example for a 1:1 hot standby resiliency with an S-tag per access node

Four access nodes are connected to a pair of MAG-u nodes using a shared broadcast domain. To simplify Layer 2 forwarding, each access node is assigned a unique S-tag. The broadcast domain is connected to each MAG-u through an identically-named Layer 2 access ID on both MAG-u nodes. The cMAG-c makes abstraction of whether this connection is a port, LAG, BGP-VPLS, EVPN, or any similar construct.



Note: To achieve identical naming on a Nokia MAG-u, provision a Layer 2 access ID alias using the following command on the MAG-u:

- **MD-CLI**

```
configure service vpls capture-sap pfcpl2-access-id-alias
```

- **classic CLI**

```
configure service vpls sap pfcpl2-access-id-alias
```

The goal is to have hot standby resiliency, in stable conditions (both MAG-u nodes are healthy), such that the active sessions are split between the two MAG-u nodes. The following configurations achieve this goal:

- Split the Layer 2 access IDs based on S-tag ranges in two UP groups, each serving half of the access nodes.

- Configure a different MAG-u as preferred in each group to make the associated FSG active on the preferred MAG-u as long as that MAG-u is healthy.



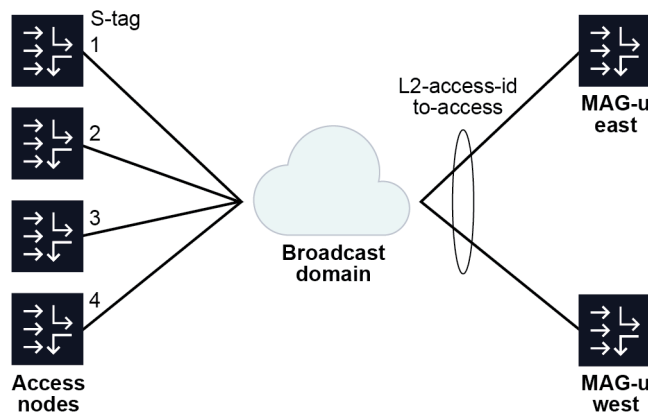
Note: The configuration of an FSG profile is not required because the default mode is hot standby and applied automatically.

```
# info from running /subscriber-management ref-points up group prefer-east
subscriber-management {
  ref-points {
    up {
      group prefer-east {
        l2-access-id [
          to-access
        ]
        s-tag-range {
          start 1
          end 2
        }
        peer up-east {
          preferred true
        }
        peer up-west {
          preferred false
        }
      }
    }
  }
}

# info from running /subscriber-management ref-points up group prefer-west
subscriber-management {
  ref-points {
    up {
      group prefer-west {
        l2-access-id [
          to-access
        ]
        s-tag-range {
          start 3
          end 4
        }
        peer up-east {
          preferred false
        }
        peer up-west {
          preferred true
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

The following figure shows an example for a 1:1 hot standby resiliency with an S-tag per access node.

Figure 14: 1:1 hot standby resiliency example



sw4460

Example for a per S-tag 1:1 hot standby resiliency with an S-tag per access node

This example extends the previous model with two access nodes and two MAG-u nodes.

Instead of splitting the MAG-u nodes such that there are two pairs of 1:1 MAG-u nodes, each S-tag range gets a different pair of standby MAG-u nodes as follows:

- S-tag 1 is backed by MAG-u "north" and "east"
- S-tag 2 is backed by MAG-u "east" and "west"
- S-tag 3 is backed by MAG-u "west" and "south"
- S-tag 4 is backed by MAG-u "south" and "north"
- S-tag 5 is backed by MAG-u "north" and "west"
- S-tag 6 is backed by MAG-u "east" and "south"

```
# info from running /subscriber-management ref-points up group s-tag-*
subscriber-management {
  ref-points {
    up {
      group s-tag-1 {
        l2-access-id [
          to-access
        ]
        s-tag-range {
          start 1
          end 1
        }
        peer up-east {
        }
        peer up-north {
        }
      }
      group s-tag-2 {
        l2-access-id [
          to-access
        ]
        s-tag-range {
          start 2
          end 2
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

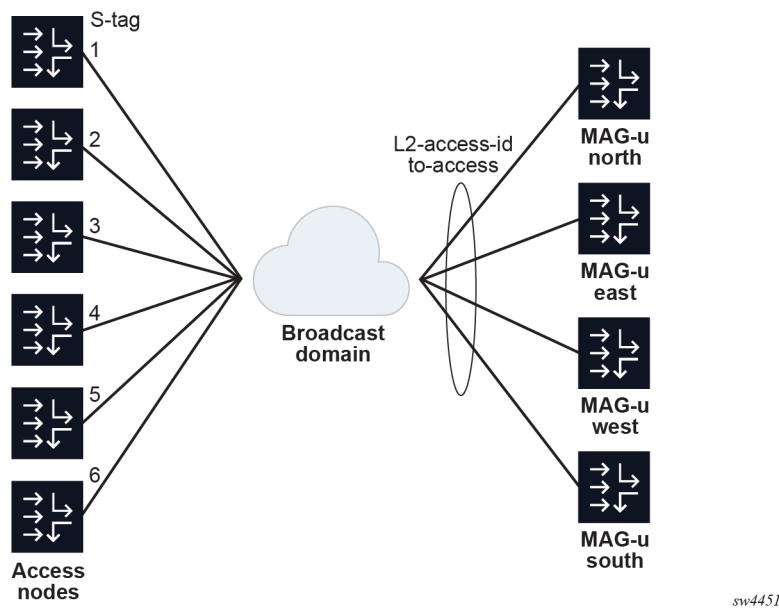


```

    }
    peer up-east {
    }
    peer up-west {
    }
}
group s-tag-3 {
    l2-access-id [
        to-access
    ]
    s-tag-range {
        start 3
        end 3
    }
    peer up-south {
    }
    peer up-west {
    }
}
group s-tag-4 {
    l2-access-id [
        to-access
    ]
    s-tag-range {
        start 4
        end 4
    }
    peer up-north {
    }
    peer up-south {
    }
}
group s-tag-5 {
    l2-access-id [
        to-access
    ]
    s-tag-range {
        start 5
        end 5
    }
    peer up-north {
    }
    peer up-west {
    }
}
group s-tag-6 {
    l2-access-id [
        to-access
    ]
    s-tag-range {
        start 6
        end 6
    }
    peer up-east {
    }
    peer up-south {
    }
}
}
}
}
```

The following figure shows an example of a per S-tag 1:1 hot standby resiliency.

Figure 15: Per S-tag 1:1 hot standby resiliency example



When using default FSGs, the cMAG-c distributes the FSGs and sessions as equal as possible by default:

- Two MAG-u nodes have two active FSGs.
- Two MAG-u nodes have one active FSG.

To improve the balance, you can add more S-tags or more MAG-u nodes or both. For example, using 12 S-tags with a UP group each leads to a balance where each MAG-u has three active FSGs.

The difference between a MAG-u-level 1:1 model and an S-tag-level 1:1 model lies in the impact of multiple MAG-u failures. For example, compare the deployment where "north" and "south" back up each other and "east" and "west" back up each other without overlap. We assume each S-tag range is responsible for about 1/6th of the traffic.

- When two MAG-u nodes fail in the per-S-tag mode, it always impacts 1/6th of the traffic because each pair of MAG-u nodes is always uniquely responsible for one S-tag out of six. For example, if "north" and "south" fail, S-tag 4 completely fails.
- When two MAG-u nodes fail in the per-MAG-u mode, the impact depends on which nodes fail and that can either impact 0% or 50% of the traffic. For example, if both "north" and "west" fail, there is no lasting traffic impact because they do not back up each other. If both "south" and "north" fail, all traffic of the two S-tags covered by these MAG-u nodes fails.

This effect becomes stronger with more MAG-u nodes and S-tags to distribute. For example, in a model with 10 MAG-u nodes, the configuration can limit a failure of two MAG-u nodes to only affect about 2% of the traffic versus potentially 20% of the traffic if five 1:1 pairs are used.

This model makes the following assumptions on the aggregation model:

- A shared L2 broadcast domain must be available for all MAG-u nodes.
- A suitable granularity to differentiate UP groups must be available, such as S-tags in the example above.

- The MAG-u failures are unrelated. If the MAG-u failures happen in bulk (for example, because they are co-located), it can be better to make sure no co-located MAG-u nodes back up each other instead of to distribute resiliency as much as possible.

Related topics[In-band control plane and MAG-u selection](#)[Session keys and anti-spoofing](#)

8.4 Fate sharing groups

Fate sharing groups (FSGs) are groups of sessions on which resiliency operations are performed. FSGs are automatically created based on configured UP groups. The FSGs are provisioned via the UP group.

When an FSG is created, the cMAG-c performs the following operations:

- Map new sessions to the FSG (see [Session-to-FSG mapping](#)).
- Determine traffic management parameters to attract traffic only to the MAG-u that serves the specific FSG (see [Traffic steering parameters](#)).
- Determine an aggregated health value for each MAG-u in the FSG.
- Upon MAG-u state and health changes, reselect an active and standby MAG-u for the FSG. Any change triggers this reselection, which guarantees that no state change is lost. In many cases, the cMAG-c selects the same active and standby MAG-u as before.
- Upon any active/standby change, update the FSG state on the MAG-u and, if necessary, update the session state on the MAG-u.

FSGs follow an intent-based processing model. The configuration specifies the conditions of resiliency behavior, expressing its intent. For example, the configuration specifies whether switchovers should be revertive and whether there is a preferred MAG-u. The cMAG-c monitors multiple parameters and, if necessary, changes active/standby decisions to better match the intent. The cMAG-c may execute multiple subsequent FSG changes to accomplish this.

Related topics[Fate sharing group creation](#)

8.4.1 Session-to-FSG mapping

When setting up a fixed access session, the cMAG-c uses the MAG-u ID, the Layer 2 access ID, and the VLAN ranges of the triggering IBCP packet to look up a UP group. If a UP group contains this set of parameters, the cMAG-c links the session automatically to the FSG created for that UP group.

8.4.2 Traffic steering parameters

FSGs specify the granularity for the session switchover from one MAG-u to another. A MAG-u must uniquely attract traffic for a specific FSG in both the uplink and downlink direction without affecting other FSGs. To achieve this, the cMAG-c:

- associates unique uplink and downlink parameters with each FSG

- signals those parameters to the MAG-u as part of creating the FSG when that MAG-u is selected as active or standby MAG-u for that specific FSG

ODSA allocates a unique set of per-FSG subnets (micro-nets). Because the subnets are unique per FSG, the active MAG-u can announce these subnets. To achieve the uniqueness, a session that is linked to an FSG passes the FSG as an allocation context to ODSA. ODSA automatically makes the micro-nets unique in that context.



Note: A standby MAG-u can also announce the subnet in routing messages but it should make sure that the subnet has lower priority. To achieve this, the standby MAG-u appropriately sets metrics or preference values in the used routing protocol.

For fixed access sessions, the cMAG-c generates a unique MAC address per FSG. When receiving ARP or ND requests in the scope of sessions or subnets linked to a specific FSG, only the active MAG-u can respond to the requests with the unique MAC address. This makes sure that any MAC forwarding databases in the Layer 2 aggregation point to the correct active gateway. Each time the cMAG-c signals a MAG-u to become active, the MAG-u can generate GARPs with the unique MAC address to expedite traffic convergence to the new active MAG-u. The cMAG-c bases the generation of the MAC addresses on a /32 prefix configuration. Use the following command to configure the prefix.

```
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile mac-prefix
```

The default 02-00-5e-00 prefix is based on the MAC prefix used for VRRP, with the L bit flipped to remove its globally unique significance.

[Example of the relationship between FSGs, MAC addresses, and subnets](#) shows the MAC addressing for 6 FSGs with 2 subnets each, distributed over 3 MAG-u nodes. The relationship between the FSGs, MAC addresses, and subnets is as follows:

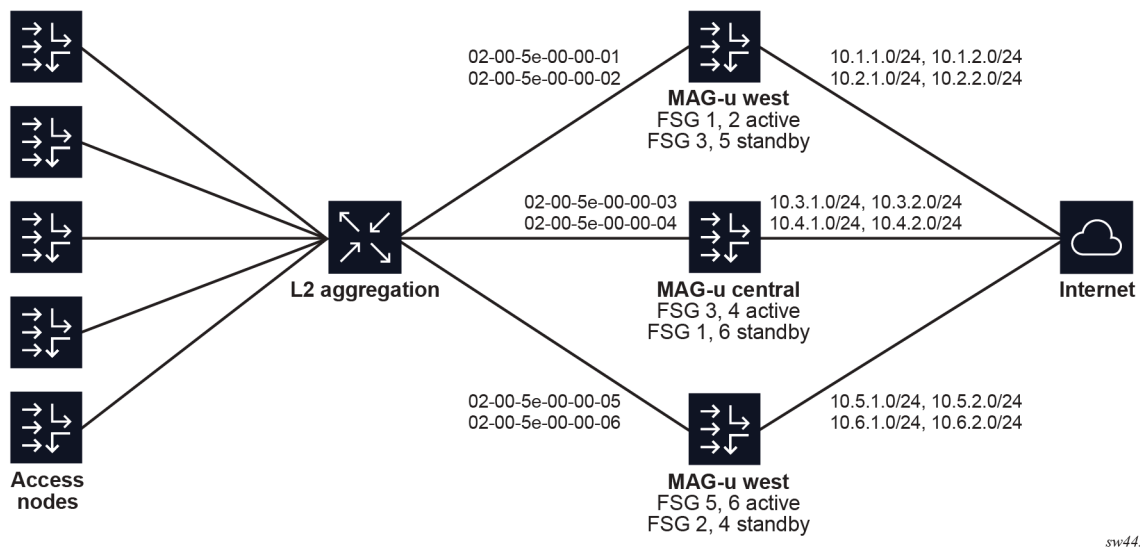
- FSG 1
MAC 02-00-5e-00-00-01
session subnet 10.1.1.0/24
session subnet 10.1.2.0/24
- FSG 2
MAC 02-00-5e-00-00-02
session subnet 10.2.1.0/24
session subnet 10.2.2.0/24
- FSG 3
MAC 02-00-5e-00-00-03
session subnet 10.3.1.0/24
session subnet 10.3.2.0/24
- FSG 4
MAC 02-00-5e-00-00-04
session subnet 10.4.1.0/24
session subnet 10.4.2.0/24
- FSG 5

MAC 02-00-5e-00-00-05
 session subnet 10.5.1.0/24
 session subnet 10.5.2.0/24

- FSG 6

MAC 02-00-5e-00-00-06
 session subnet 10.6.1.0/24
 session subnet 10.6.2.0/24

Figure 16: Example of the relationship between FSGs, MAC addresses, and subnets



Related topics

[ODSA](#)

8.4.3 MAG-u health determination

The MAG-u health is the main criterion that the cMAG-c uses to determine the active and standby MAG-u. Health is a value between 0% and 100%; the -1 value indicates MAG-u unavailability. The following rules determine the MAG-u health per UP group:

- When the PFCP path between the cMAG-c and the MAG-u is down or in headless mode, the health value is -1 (unavailable).



Note: If a PFCP association is not set up, the MAG-u is operationally not part of the UP group and has no health.

- When any of the following commands is set to true, the health value is -1 (unavailable).

```
subscriber-management ref-points up group peer drain
subscriber-management ref-points up peer drain
```

- In all other cases, the health value is based on an aggregation of the operational statuses received from the MAG-u.

The MAG-u can signal the following operational status values to the cMAG-c:

- per Layer 2 access ID
A percentage value per Layer 2 access ID indicates the current forwarding capacity compared to the full forwarding capacity. For example, if the Layer 2 access ID represents a LAG with five members where one member failed, the expected capacity is 80%.
- per Layer 3 service (also known as network instance)
A binary connectivity status per Layer 3 service indicates whether the Layer 3 core network is reachable or not (connected or isolated). A Nokia MAG-u additionally augments this value with a percentage value to cover partial failures. The cMAG-c uses the more detailed percentage value if available; otherwise, the cMAG-c interprets the binary connectivity status as 100% for the connected state and 0% for the isolated state.

Not all status values of a single MAG-u apply to a specific FSG. For example, a UP group that only covers a single Layer 2 access ID is not impacted by any other Layer 2 access ID status. The cMAG-c determines the applicable status values as follows:

- By default, the cMAG-c uses for the aggregation all Layer 2 access IDs configured for the MAG-u in the UP group. The following commands configure the Layer 2 access IDs.

```
subscriber-management ref-points up group peer l2-access-id
subscriber-management ref-points up group l2-access-id
```

- The cMAG-c can exclude configured Layer 2 access IDs from the health calculation. This prevents the cMAG-c from automatically setting the health value to 0 if the MAG-u does not or cannot provide a status value for Layer 2 access IDs. The following command specifies whether to include Layer 2 access IDs and is **true** by default.

```
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile health-calculation include-l2-access-ids
```

- The cMAG-c tracks a list of configured network instances for health aggregation. The following command configures the tracked network instances.

```
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile health-calculation network-instance
```

To calculate a single health value from the set of status values, the cMAG-c applies an aggregation calculation that is configured using the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile health-calculation aggregation-mode
```

The options for the aggregation mode are:

- **lowest**
This mode sets the per-MAG-u health to the lowest value of any Layer 2 access ID and network instance value. A single failure aggressively decreases the health.
- **average**
This option sets the per-MAG-u health to the arithmetic mean of all Layer 2 access ID and network instance values. A single failure less aggressively impacts the health.

If the MAG-u does not signal a status value for a Layer 2 access ID or network instance that is configured to be tracked, the cMAG-c sets the status value for the respective Layer 2 access ID or network instance to

0%. Because the cMAG-c uses those values in the aggregation calculation, any missing status value sets the MAG-u health to 0% for an aggregation mode that is equal to **lowest**.

Next to the MAG-u health ranging from 0% to 100%, the cMAG-c maintains a simplified MAG-u failure state. A MAG-u is considered failed if its health is below the failure threshold. To configure the failure threshold, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile health-calculation failure-threshold
```

By default, the failure threshold is set to 1% , meaning that only a MAG-u with a health value equal to 0% or -1 (unavailable) is considered failed.

The cMAG-c maintains a special not-ready indicator for the current standby MAG-u. This indicator is set in the following conditions:

- The MAG-u changes to standby, independent of its previous state or health.
- The MAG-u health becomes unavailable (-1).

The cMAG-c removes the not-ready indicator each time an FSG change successfully completes (see [Active/standby change or switchover](#)) and the health of the MAG-u at that time is 0% or higher.

The cMAG-c avoids making a standby MAG-u with the not-ready indicator active unless it has no other choice; for example, when the PFCP association for the active MAG-u is released. This mechanism gives a failed or new standby MAG-u a chance to go through one FSG change sequence to reinstall all the hot standby sessions before it can be made active.

The cMAG-c can put a MAG-u in a lockout state for an FSG. When a MAG-u is in the lockout state, it cannot be made active or standby. Contrary to the other health values, the lockout state is intended to recover from hard failures where it is important that all FSG and related session state is removed from the MAG-u before it is considered active or standby again. See [UP lockout](#) for more information.

The following table provides an overview of the states that are kept for MAG-u nodes that have an active association and that are linked to at least one FSG.

Table 7: Summary of MAG-u states

State	Description	Sources
health	Value between 0% and 100% or the special value -1 (unavailable) Indicates the health of the MAG-u	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aggregation of the per-logical-port and per-network-instance health reports from the MAG-u.• PFCP path management state (for example, headless).• Drain mode configured with the following command.<div>subscriber-management ref-points up group peer drain</div>

State	Description	Sources
failed indicator	Indicator that considers the MAG-u failed if its health is less than the failure threshold Enables switchovers in more restrictive (for example, non-revertive) scenarios	Based on the health state and the threshold configured with the following command. <pre>subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile health-calculation failure-threshold</pre>
not-ready indicator	Indicator on the standby MAG-u that does not have all hot standby sessions installed Kept until the standby MAG-u has installed the hot standby sessions	Set for each new standby MAG-u or a standby MAG-u whose health becomes unavailable (-1). Removed after the first successful FSG change when the health is 0% or higher.
lockout	Failure state in which the MAG-u cannot be made active or standby Kept until the MAG-u is no longer active or standby and a lockout timer has expired	Applied automatically for multiple failure scenarios, see UP lockout for more information.

8.4.4 Active/standby selection triggers

The cMAG-c monitors multiple triggers that can impact the active/standby selection and trigger a potential switchover. Most events are classified as one of the following:

- recovery (for example, health up)
- degradation (for example, health down)

When a trigger occurs, the cMAG-c performs the following:

- starts a hold timer
- waits for the hold timer expiry
- triggers the active/standby selection

A different hold timer can be set for recovery and degradation using the following commands respectively.

```
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile active-standby-selection hold-off-on-recovery
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile active-standby-selection hold-off-on-degradation
```

By default, the degradation hold timer is disabled (0 ms) to immediately execute potential switchovers because of failure.

When a trigger occurs while the hold timer is running, the new hold timer is only applied if it is shorter than the one already running. For example, suppose the following events occur with 2 s in between:

- A health increase triggers a recovery hold timer of 5 s.
- A health decrease triggers the default degradation hold timer of 0 ms.

Because the second hold timer is shorter than the first one, the cMAG-c immediately triggers the active/standby selection for the degradation.

When a trigger occurs while an active/standby change is in progress, the cMAG-c ignores the hold timer of the new trigger and re-evaluates the active/standby selection as soon as the in-progress change completes.

The cMAG-c treats the following events as a recovery trigger:

- health increase; the cause of the health increase is irrelevant and may be because of headless recovery, change of the **drain** configuration of the MAG-u, or a MAG-u health report
- PFCP association setup, except if it is the first MAG-u set up for the FSG
- UP lockout removal
- intended FSG state not matching the current FSG state after an FSG event (see [Active/standby change or switchover](#)).

The cMAG-c treats the following events as a degradation trigger:

- health decrease
- PFCP association release, except if it is already the active or standby MAG-u
- UP lockout acts as a degradation trigger

The following exceptional triggers bypass the normal reselection mechanism because of their big impact:

- The setup of the first PFCP association for an FSG triggers an immediate reselection. The cMAG-c does not wait for the expiry of the recovery hold timer. If the PFCP association being set up is not the first association, it acts as a health increase and the cMAG-c starts the recovery hold timer.
- A PFCP association release for the active or standby MAG-u triggers an immediate reselection, bypassing any hold timers. If an active/standby change is already in progress, the ongoing change is completed first. A PFCP association release for any other MAG-u acts as a health decrease and the cMAG-c starts the degradation hold timer.
- If all MAG-u nodes become headless, the cMAG-c does not trigger any reselection. As soon as the first MAG-u recovers from headless, the cMAG-c ignores the recovery hold timer but starts a timer based on the configured path-management heartbeat intervals. The cMAG-c triggers reselection of all MAG-u nodes when one of the following occurs:
 - The timer based on the configured path-management heartbeat intervals expires.
 - Five seconds have passed after the last MAG-u recovered.



Note: This mechanism ensures that after a full connectivity failure, all MAG-u nodes have time to recover the PFCP communication. It makes sure that the cMAG-c makes decisions based on the full set of recovered MAG-u nodes and not on the first recovered MAG-u nodes.

8.4.5 Active/standby selection

When an active/standby selection trigger occurs, the cMAG-c re-evaluates the selection of the active and standby MAG-u nodes for an FSG. If only one MAG-u with an active association is available, that specific MAG-u is always selected as the active MAG-u. Otherwise, both the active and standby MAG-u can be reselected.

Replacing the active MAG-u with the current standby MAG-u works in one of the following basic modes:

- **revertive**

The current standby MAG-u can be selected as the active MAG-u even if the active MAG-u did not fail. The conditions in which the standby MAG-u can become the active MAG-u are the same as the conditions to select the standby MAG-u. Additionally, the standby MAG-u cannot have the not-ready indicator set.

- **non-revertive**

The current standby MAG-u can only be selected as the active MAG-u if the PFCP association of the current active MAG-u is removed or if the MAG-u is considered failed (see [MAG-u health determination](#)), or if the MAG-u is in lockout state (see [UP lockout](#)). Otherwise, the current active MAG-u is always reselected as the active MAG-u.

To configure the mode, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile active-standby-selection active-change-without-failure
```

The following command options are available:

- **always**

The cMAG-c always uses the revertive mode.

- **never**

The cMAG-c always uses the non-revertive mode.

- **initial-only**

The cMAG-c uses the revertive behavior for a short period after the first MAG-u PFCP association for the FSG was set up. After that short period, the cMAG-c automatically switches to the non-revertive mode. This option is useful when the non-revertive mode is required but a predictable active/standby MAG-u is expected during startup of the MAG-u and cMAG-c; for example, to select the preferred MAG-u at startup. When the **never** option is set, the first MAG-u to come up is always selected as active (and that does not change), independent of its preferred state.

If the standby MAG-u becomes active, the active MAG-u automatically becomes standby. The cMAG-c takes no further action.

The cMAG-c selects a standby MAG-u independent of the revertive mode configuration.

Both the revertive active MAG-u and the standby MAG-u are selected using the following criteria. This is a fall-through list that stops as soon as there is only one MAG-u that meets all the criteria. Any MAG-u for which the PFCP association is down or which is in lockout is not considered, as follows:

1. the MAG-u with the highest health (see [MAG-u health determination](#))
2. the preferred MAG-u
3. the MAG-u with the lowest number of sessions, simulated as if the FSG would move to that MAG-u



Note: To avoid unnecessary FSG changes when the number of sessions on several MAG-u nodes is very similar, the cMAG-c applies a weight multiplier to the FSG session count when it simulates a move to a different MAG-u than the current one.

4. the MAG-u with the lowest amount of FSGs, excluding the current FSG, with the goal to provide initial load balancing when no sessions are set up
5. the current state of the MAG-u, where the current active MAG-u has priority over the current standby MAG-u that has priority over any backup MAG-u to avoid any unnecessary active or standby changes if all else is equal

6. the MAG-u with the lowest IP used in PFCP signaling, with no specific goal other than to have a deterministic tiebreaker when all else is equal

If the result of the active/standby selection differs from the current active/standby selection, the cMAG-c initiates an active/standby change.

If the result of the active/standby selection is the same as the current active/standby selection, but the health of any MAG-u has changed from unavailable (-1) to 0% or higher, the cMAG-c also initiates an active/standby change.

Otherwise, the cMAG-c takes no further action.



Note: The trigger to change the FSG for a recovered MAG-u (even without an active/standby change) is to guarantee that a MAG-u has all the PFCP state information after a potential communication failure between the MAG-u and the cMAG-c. The FSG change procedure guarantees that all the FSG states and PFCP session states are correctly downloaded if necessary. For example, when a standby MAG-u becomes headless, it may miss the FSG updates and session installations and modifications for hot standby sessions. When the MAG-u is recovered from headless, it becomes not ready (see section [MAG-u health determination](#)). The active/standby state does not change, but the cMAG-c triggers an FSG change procedure so that the latest FSG and session state are installed on the MAG-u. After the FSG change, the cMAG-c removes the not-ready indicator from the MAG-u and the standby MAG-u is again ready to fully take over.

8.4.6 Active/standby change or switchover

If the active/standby selection results in a new active or new standby MAG-u, the cMAG-c executes the change on the MAG-u nodes as follows:

1. The cMAG-c updates the PFCP FSG state on all involved MAG-u nodes.

The change procedure ends if the active MAG-u does not positively confirm. If the active MAG-u change times out or explicitly returns an error, the cMAG-c rolls back the changed FSG states and stops the active/standby change procedure.

Changes to other MAG-u nodes (for example, standby MAG-u nodes) may fail. This is even expected in some cases; for example, in 1:1 deployments where the previously active MAG-u has failed and becomes standby, the failed MAG-u is not expected to respond.

A MAG-u that explicitly rejects an explicit FSG update is put into lockout. This triggers a degradation reselection, which is handled as soon as the change is completed. See [UP lockout](#) for more information.

2. When the active MAG-u confirms the FSG change, the cMAG-c starts updating the PFCP session states. The exact update for each session depends on the change and the session resiliency model as follows:
 - **warm standby, active/standby switch**
The cMAG-c establishes the session on the new active MAG-u and deletes it from the previous active MAG-u.
 - **warm standby, new standby MAG-u**
No updates to the MAG-u nodes are needed.
 - **warm standby, health change only**
No updates to the MAG-u nodes are needed.
 - **hot standby, active/standby switch**

No updates to the MAG-u nodes are needed.

- **hot standby, new standby MAG-u**

The cMAG-c establishes the session on the new standby MAG-u and deletes it from the previous standby MAG-u if there was one.

- **hot standby, health change only**

This acts as a trigger to reinstall missing standby sessions on the standby MAG-u.

3. When the standby MAG-u confirms the FSG change, the cMAG-c sends a second FSG update message to the active MAG-u without changing anything. This can be done in parallel with the previous step. The second FSG update message may seem redundant, but is required to resolve a rare race condition in the GARP/ARP signaling for fixed access connections.
4. When the session change procedure is completed, the cMAG-c signals any required FSG deletions to the MAG-u.
5. When the change is completed, the cMAG-c evaluates whether the current active/standby state matches the expected active/standby state by running the selection logic again (see [Active/standby selection](#)). If the states do not match, the cMAG-c automatically triggers a recovery reselection and starts the recovery hold timer (see [Active/standby selection triggers](#)).

GARP/ARP race conditions

Fixed access connections use per-FSG MAC addresses to attract traffic (see [Traffic steering parameters](#)). Most Layer 2 aggregation switches keep a forwarding database (FDB) that points each gateway MAC address to the correct MAG-u to avoid broadcasting traffic. The FDBs are (amongst others) populated by snooping ARP and ND messages. To expedite updates of the FDBs during active/standby switchovers, the Nokia MAG-u generates a gratuitous ARP (GARP) message with the FSG MAC address when the FSG is signaled to become active. However, in a very exceptional case, a single GARP is not enough when the following conditions apply:

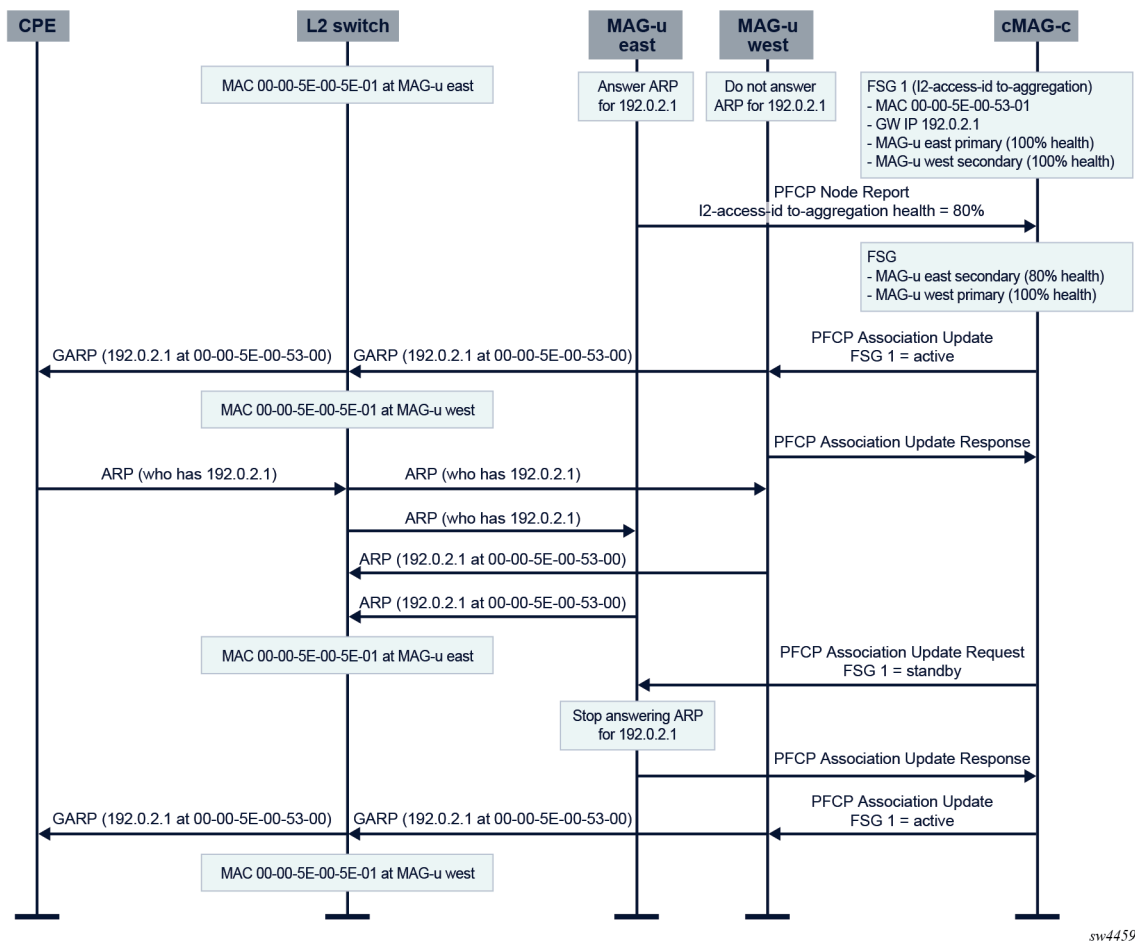
- The new standby MAG-u has not yet processed the message that asks it to become standby.
- A regular ARP is sent and broadcast as normal.
- Both MAG-u nodes answer, and the ARP response from the new standby MAG-u comes later than the ARP response of the new active MAG-u.

If the preceding conditions apply, the Layer 2 aggregation switch has a wrong FDB entry. Sending a second update to the new active MAG-u can act as a new GARP trigger to correct the situation. The following figure shows this case.



Note: The second update is a very lightweight operation as no actual FSG changes need to occur. It only acts as a GARP trigger. The MAG-u may not have any action to perform if it does not need to send GARPs; for example, on aggregation networks where the FDBs are populated out-of-band such as EVPN networks.

Figure 17: GARP race conditions



8.4.7 UP lockout

To handle FSG failure scenarios, the cMAG-c can put a specific MAG-u in lockout for that FSG. The following example scenarios trigger lockout:

- an explicit FSG error from the MAG-u when signaling an FSG create, modify, or delete
- the path of a MAG-u going down, in addition to setting its health to -1 (unavailable) (see [MAG-u health determination](#))



Note: This applies only to a full PFCP path down, and not to headless mode. For more information about the differences, see [Headless mode](#). For more information about the interaction of MAG-u resiliency with headless mode, see [Interaction with headless mode](#).

The cMAG-c treats a MAG-u going in lockout as a degradation trigger for the FSG (see [Active/standby selection triggers](#)). The cMAG-c attempts to remove the locked out MAG-u from being selected as either active or standby (see [Active/standby selection](#)).

Because many failure scenarios do not have an automatic recovery signal, the lockout is subject to a timer. For explicit FSG errors, use the following command to configure the lockout timer.

```
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile active-standby-selection failure-lockout
```

For other scenarios, the lockout timer is set to a fixed value, typically equal to the minimal configurable value. When the lockout timer expires, the cMAG-c performs one of the following actions:

- If the MAG-u is not active or standby for the FSG, the cMAG-c removes the lockout state and triggers a recovery reselection for the FSG.
- Otherwise, the cMAG-c restarts the lockout timer with a fixed value and takes no further action. This guarantees that the MAG-u is removed from the FSG at least one time and starts from a clean slate before it can be made active or standby again.

8.5 Warm and hot standby

Warm and hot standby in MAG-u resiliency is a per-session concept that defines how a session is handled on the standby MAG-u:

- Warm standby sessions are created on the standby MAG-u when the MAG-u becomes active. The sessions are not precreated on the standby MAG-u. This saves resources on the standby MAG-u, but it takes a significantly longer time during which there is no forwarding capability for those sessions.
- Hot standby sessions are precreated on the standby MAG-u. As soon as the MAG-u becomes active, it can start forwarding traffic for those sessions. While this consumes more resources than the standby MAG-u, it can offer significantly reduced forwarding loss during switchovers. Depending on the capabilities of the aggregation network, it may even be possible to achieve non-loss planned switchovers; for example, to seamlessly handle MAG-u upgrades.

For hot standby, any procedure that interacts with a MAG-u change (for example, a CoA with a QoS update) first applies the change on the active MAG-u. If the change succeeds, the procedure continues as usual and updates the standby MAG-u in parallel. In the unlikely event that only the standby MAG-u update fails, the cMAG-c does not fail the triggering procedure. Instead, it tries to reapply the update periodically in the background until the standby MAG-u is realigned with the active MAG-u. If this realignment is not resolved when the standby MAG-u becomes active, the cMAG-c does one final attempt to update the session state and, if not successful, locally removes the full session.

By default, the cMAG-c creates a session in an FSG scope always in the hot standby mode. To change the default at a per-FSG level, use the following command.

```
subscriber-management profiles fsg-profile default-standby-mode
```



WARNING: On a large scale and depending on the install rate of the involved MAG-u nodes, it can take a long time for warm standby sessions to switch over. Timers such as the PPP keepalive, DHCP lease times, and RA lifetimes may time out before the switchover is completed, if they are set too short.

8.6 Interaction with headless mode

MAG-u resiliency is supported in combination with the MAG-u headless mode (see [Headless mode](#)). When a MAG-u becomes headless, its health becomes unavailable (-1) because the cMAG-c cannot differentiate between a MAG-u toward which communication failed (headless) or a MAG-u that completely failed. See [MAG-u health determination](#) for more information.

A MAG-u becoming headless acts as a trigger to perform a potential switchover from active to standby. A switchover cannot be signaled to the headless MAG-u, which operates on stale data. The Nokia MAG-u, by default, uses a heuristic process to determine whether to keep FSGs active or make them standby during headless operations. In rare cases, the MAG-u may keep an FSG active while the cMAG-c has successfully made another MAG-u active. As a result, there is an active/active forwarding situation in which both the headless and non-headless MAG-u nodes of an FSG have an active state. In this scenario, the following applies:

- Uplink QoS cannot always be guaranteed because traffic may switch from one MAG-u to the other at any time. After headless recovery, the active/standby situation stabilizes and traffic flows through only one MAG-u with normal QoS guarantees.



Note: Downlink QoS can still be guaranteed when the non-headless MAG-u announces routes with a higher preference than the headless MAG-u to consistently forward downlink traffic through the non-headless MAG-u. Additionally, if the access network updates its uplink forwarding based on downlink traffic, uplink traffic is forwarded through the non-headless MAG-u.

- Accounting reports may be off because traffic on the headless MAG-u is not counted. After headless recovery, the cMAG-c can fetch the missing statistics and the accounting is corrected.
- If there is unicast replication in the access network, these packets may end up being replicated also in the data network. However, this is extremely unlikely as the FSG MAC is most likely known at any point in time.

For more information about the headless heuristics and the downlink routing differentiation, see the *7750 SR and VSR BNG CUPS User Plane Function Guide*.

To avoid the unwanted consequences of the active/active state, configure the Nokia MAG-u to always automatically make any FSG standby when the headless conditions occur. This configuration avoids an active/active state, and one of following scenarios occurs:

- When a single MAG-u is headless, that MAG-u makes its FSGs standby and the cMAG-c makes the other MAG-u active. This results in an active/standby state as expected.
- When both MAG-u nodes are headless, for example, because of a networking issue at the cMAG-c, the FSG becomes standby on all MAG-u nodes and all traffic is dropped.

9 cMAG-c management

The cMAG-c management features are built on top of SR Linux management with some exceptions and differences from SR Linux.

The cMAG-c management features are built on top of SR Linux management, implemented via the management pod. Key features include:

- CLI
- SSH server
- NETCONF using YANG
- user management with AAA

The cMAG-c management features are identical to those of SR Linux with the following exceptions:

- Not all SR Linux management features are supported on the cMAG-c. See the *cMAG-c Release Notes* for a detailed list of supported features.



Note: See the *SR Linux Configuration Basics Guide* and the *SR Linux System Management Guide* for information about the supported SR Linux management features.

- Specific aspects of the cMAG-c management features differ from SR Linux. See [cMAG-c-specific system management](#) for descriptions of these differences.

9.1 cMAG-c-specific system management

Specific aspects of cMAG-c management features differ from SR Linux.

Persistent Storage

The cMAG-c management features are implemented in a management pod that is run in Kubernetes. Therefore, file changes in the pod are not persistent unless they are stored, for example, with a persistent volume claim (PVC). The following folders provide persistent storage:

- /etc/opt/srlinux
- /python

External client to reach the management server

The cMAG-c is a cloud-native application running on top of Kubernetes. As a result, SR Linux network instance and source address configurations do not apply to the cMAG-c. The external-facing listening addresses and ports of all management servers, including SSH and gNMI servers, are provisioned through the Kubernetes services. See the *cMAG-c Installation Guide* for more information.

User type

SR Linux supports the following management user types:

- local user

- remote user
- Linux user

The cMAG-c does not support the Linux user type.

System time

The cMAG-c is a distributed system consisting of multiple pods that can run on multiple Kubernetes workers. To ensure correct operation, synchronized and consistent time is required across the Kubernetes nodes and pods.

Nokia recommends the following practices:

- Synchronize the time of all nodes in the Kubernetes cluster using NTP.
- Use the UTC time for nodes and pods.

System name

Use the following cMAG-c CLI to configure the system name for the cMAG-c, instead of the **system name** command for SR Linux.

```
subscriber-management system name
```

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