BroadView[™] Instrumentation Agent Specification

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The BroadView™ Instrumentation Agent unlocks powerful features available on Broadcom® switch silicon and provides rich analytics and telemetry functionality. BroadView Instrumentation benefits network operators by enabling:

- Increased visibility into traffic flows.
- Greater control over the network.
- Optimal utilization of network resources.
- Proactive detection and mitigation of network issues.

The Agent is Apache licensed, sports a modular design, offers application friendly REST API, and is easily adaptable into customer solutions.

OVERVIEW

With the proliferation of Software-Defined Networking (SDN), multi-tenant networks, and server virtualization—aided by cloud deployments for applications and storage—network complexity is growing exponentially. Troubleshooting such networks has become an increasingly daunting task. Network operators need increased visibility into the network and deeper telemetry data in order to remain in control of the network and to ensure optimal network resource utilization. BroadView Instrumentation software provides this critical visibility and telemetry information.

BroadView Instrumentation Agent unlocks the potential of Broadcom switch silicon by augmenting CPU functionality to deliver advanced network analytics. The Agent source code is Apache licensed, sports a modular design, offers REST API for interaction, and is easily adaptable into customer solutions.

The BroadView Instrumentation Agent communicates with the underlying Broadcom switch silicon. It collects various telemetry and visibility information, runs algorithms on the data, packages the information appropriately, and provides it to a registered client. Similarly, the Agent configures the silicon based on the configuration requests from the client.

The Agent communicates with clients using REST-style communication, with the data exchange in JSON-RPC (2.0) format. The Agent supports both the pull model of operation (the client requests data and obtains it) as well as the push model of operation (the Agent sends periodic reports, asynchronously).

The Agent works with a wide range of Broadcom switch silicon, and the features offered by the Agent operate in accordance with the underlying silicon.

In a deployment scenario, the BroadView Agent works in conjunction with the Network Operating System (NOS). The Agent can work completely integrated into the NOS, or as an independent application on the switch. Likewise, the telemetry information can be used by the NOS itself and/or by clients interacting with the Agent via the REST API.

This document describes the Agent architecture and each of the supported BroadView features. Each BroadView feature description is followed by a listing of REST APIs supported by the feature.

SUPPORTED FEATURES BY SILICON

The following table lists the BroadView Instrumentation Agent features and identifies which Broadcom devices support each feature.

Feature	Supported Silicon
Buffer Statics and Tracking (BST)	BCM56850
	BCM56960
Packet Trace (PT)	BCM56960
Black Hole Detection (BHD) 1	BCM56850
	BCM56960
	BCM88375

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¹ BHD sFlow sampling is supported only on the BCM56960.

ARCHITECTURE

The BroadView Instrumentation Agent has a modular architecture and consists of a set of components that serve different purposes in the architecture. Some core components implement the telemetry and analytics algorithms, while others function as infrastructure components. Some of the components are meant for porting and/or customization, and the reference implementations of those components are for illustrative purposes only. For example, by default, the Agent software does not support any authentication or security for the communication with the collector. However, the security and webserver modules can be easily enhanced or added to provide additional functionality. Subsequent pages list various customizations that are possible.

Figure 1 shows the high-level architecture diagram for the Agent.

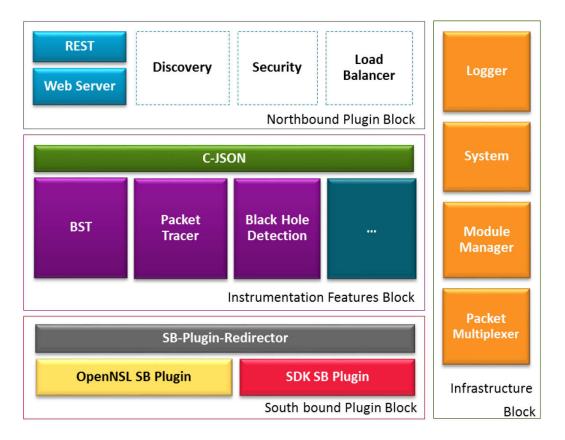


Figure 1: BroadView Agent Architecture

ARCHITECTURE BLOCKS

The components that form the Agent software are divided into the following four blocks:

- Northbound (NB) Plugin block
- Instrumentation Features block
- Southbound (SB) Plugin block
- Infrastructure block

Each of these blocks is described below.

NORTHBOUND PLUGIN BLOCK

The NB Plugin block is responsible for setting up and managing the communication with the applications/controller(s)/collector(s), henceforth referred to as collectors that interface with the Agent. The distribution includes a reference application that exercises the NB API of the reference Agent.

The Agent uses REST-style communication to communicate with the collector, with the data exchange in the JSON-RPC format. The REST and webserver components handle these interactions with the collectors. The REST component extracts the incoming JSON-RPC request, deciphers the API being invoked by the collector, and passes-on the JSON message to the appropriate Instrumentation Features block component (using the Module Manager component services).

The Discovery component is responsible for detecting the presence of one or more collectors on the network and establishing communication between the Agent and the device. It also maintains a heartbeat channel with the collector for detecting any loss of communication.

The Security component provides encryption support for the communication between the Agent and the collector. It also provides the necessary authentication for the discovered collectors.

The Load Balancer component provides the notion of active and standby collectors. It keeps track of communication errors with the designated active collector. In the event of persistent failures, this component switches the standby collector to the active state and establishes communication with it.

REFERENCE IMPLEMENTATION

The reference implementation of the Discovery module reads the active collector IP address and communication port numbers from a predefined configuration file.

The Security module is not provided as part of the reference implementation. This means that the Agent allows unencrypted communication between the collector and the Agent. Likewise, the collectors are considered genuine, and no attempt is made to validate the authenticity of the collector.

The Load Balancer module is not provided as part of reference implementation. Any errors during either the pull or during the push operations are logged, and communication is reattempted.

INFRASTRUCTURE BLOCK

The Infrastructure block provides the necessary infrastructure and utilities for the other modules in the Agent.

The Logging component provides logging functionality to the Agent system. It provides API functions that can be used for logging various events and data. Different levels of logging are supported. The Module Manager component provides for registration of various Instrumentation components with the Agent. Each of the Instrumentation components must register with the Module Manager to provide the details of various APIs it supports, the feature identification, supported silicon, and the callback functions that process the API. When a REST API is invoked by the collector, the Module Manager component assists the REST component in invoking the appropriate handler for the API, based on the registration information.

The Instrumentation components are typically C code linked with the Agent. The components register the supported REST API with the Module Manager at run time during the initialization process.

The System component is in charge of setting up the Agent based on the configuration and starting/stopping various other components as needed. The System component also provides the timer API, which can be used by the other components for periodic data collection by the hardware. Note that the periodic data collection may be disabled/enabled by the collector on a system-wide basis or selectively on a per-component basis.

REFERENCE IMPLEMENTATION

The reference implementation of the Logging component uses syslog. It can be easily enhanced to use a simple SQLite3 database.

SOUTH-BOUND PLUGIN BLOCK

This block features different plug-in modules that conform to the SB-API specification. Each of the plugins registers with the SB-Plugin Redirector component, with the list of features as well as the silicon that are supported by the plugin. When any BroadView Instrumentation component attempts to communicate with the silicon, it invokes the corresponding API of the SB-Plugin Redirector component, which in turn uses the registration information to invoke the corresponding plugin component. The purpose of the SB-Plugin is to allow functions to be written that are specific to the mechanism that is available to obtain the instrumentation information from the silicon on any specific system. For example, System 1 could allow the use of an SDK API while System 2 may have its own API (such as the OpenNSL API).

The SB-Plugin modules are typically shared object libraries linked with the Agent. The plugin registration is done by invoking the SB-Plugin Redirector component's registration API.

REFERENCE IMPLEMENTATION

The reference implementation consists of an SDK SB Plugin and OpenNSL SB Plugin.

INSTRUMENTATION FEATURES BLOCK

The Instrumentation components are registered statically with the Agent. Upon startup, the Agent initializes each of the registered components as part of the global initialization sequence. The components are required to register the supported silicon, features, and the REST API with the Module Manager component. Such registration enables the Module Manager to understand the set of REST APIs that are supported by the entire Agent. Any feature configuration REST API is also included in the registration.

The webserver thread invokes the API handler function with the JSON message buffer.

The supported data formats for the API (commands) as well as the responses are documented in XML format. A tool is run on these XML files, which can generate C code that can parse the JSON buffer and convert the incoming data to an appropriate C structure. This generated code is used as the implementation for the handler functions. After the C structure is derived, the control is handed over to the component thread. The webserver thread acknowledges the REST API to the collector.

The component, under its own thread context now, makes the appropriate function calls to process the request and invoke the appropriate SB-Plugin API calls. It is also likely that the component may not be required to make any SB-Plugin calls for fulfilling the REST API since the data may be collected by the periodic thread already. When all the required data is available, the data is converted into JSON. Using a webserver API function, the data is sent back to the collector.

EXECUTION IN LINUX

Various components of the Agent are compiled and linked into a single Linux-executable². This user-space executable (as a single process) runs multiple threads within, based on the needs.

Typically, each of the Instrumentation feature modules start and maintain a thread. The API invoked by the collector is to be executed in the corresponding feature/module thread context. In addition, there is a system-wide timer thread meant for the periodic data collection. The other modules register their data-gathering functions with the system data-collection thread and suggest the periodicity with which the functions need to be invoked. The registered callbacks are invoked in the data-collection thread context, and care must be taken by the callbacks to ensure data integrity.

The components in the Agent use a POSIX API for any required inter-thread communication.

No kernel space operations are performed within the Agent process. Multiple Agent instances running in a single Linux environment is not supported.

USING THE AGENT WITH A NOS

This section describes high-level porting considerations when adapting the Agent to a NOS.

SB PLUGINS

A Southbound plugin provides a means of interaction with the underlying silicon to the rest of the Agent software. The reference Agent has an SB plugin that uses the SDK /OpenNSL API calls directly inside the implementation. For various reasons, this may not be desirable when the Agent is used in conjunction with a NOS. It may be preferable to route the silicon accesses via the NOS.

If the access to the silicon is to be routed via the NOS, an appropriate SB plugin must be developed.

NB PLUGINS

The default webserver provided by the Agent does not handle the security or the discovery/load-sharing aspects. If this is not an ideal implementation, use one of the following alternatives:

- Replace the default webserver with another webserver component, or integrate the Agent into the NOS-supported webserver.
- Use the NOS webserver to handle the incoming REST requests. After authenticating the request, the NOS webserver hands the request over to the Agent webserver.

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² Linux Operating System is assumed.

COMMUNICATION

REST

BroadView Agent supports a REST-based API and uses JSON-RPC messaging as the payload over REST. The name of the API becomes the method in the JSON-RPC message, and any associated parameters for the command form the **params** in the JSON-RPC message.

All the commands are to be sent as HTTP 1.1 POST operations, with the JSON content as the HTTP message body.

By default, the webserver provided as part of the reference Agent uses the following URL scheme to provide the access to the API:

http://<ipaddr>:8080/broadview/<feature>/<api-name>

For example, the configure-bst-feature API is accessible via the following URL:

http://<ipaddr>:8080/broadview/bst/configure-bst-feature

For the Generic Agent Management API, the URL scheme does not have the feature name embedded in the URL. For example, the configure-system-feature API is accessible via the following URL:

http://<ipaddr>:8080/broadview/configure-system-feature

JSON-RPC MESSAGING

REQUEST RESPONSE MESSAGES

The API supported by BroadView Agent uses JSON-RPC messaging as payload over HTTP. There are three forms of JSON-RPC messages that are supported by the Agent:

- Request (from the collector and received/processed by the Agent), sometimes also called as a Command.
- Response (from the Agent and received/processed by the collector in response to a previous request)
- Notification (from the Agent and received/processed by the collector, asynchronously)

An example JSON-RPC request message sample is provided below for illustrative purposes.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-feature",
    "params": {},
    "asic-id": "1",
    "id": 1232
}
```

A sample JSON-RPC response message is provided below for illustrative purposes.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "version": "1",
    "result": {
        "bst-enable": 1,
        "bst-trackers": {
            "device" : 0,
            "egress-unicast-queue" : 1
```

```
}
},
"id": 1232
}
```

A notification message is similar to a request message, with the exception that it does not have an "id" field. More details are available at http://www.jsonrpc.org/specification.

When an Agent receives a request from the collector, the **method** field specifies the request that is sent. Any data associated with the request is part of the **params** field.

TIMESTAMPS

The messages sent by the Agent may contain the timestamp indicating the time at which the data is read from the ASIC. The timestamp is reported in the YYYY-MM-DD - HH:MM:SS format.

A sample JSON report snippet containing a timestamp is provided below.

```
...
"method": "get-bst-report",
"asic-id": "2",
"time-stamp": "2014-10-18 - 00:15:04 ",
"report": [{
...
```

VERSION

The response message from the Agent contains a field called *version*. This field contains an integer indicating the specific JSON payload version being used by the Agent. The version number is incremented for every set of changes introduced in the JSON payload. The client may use this version number information to parse/decipher the response messages from the Agent.

Appendix A: JSON Payload Revision History lists the changes introduced in the JSON payload with various versions.

MULTI-ASIC PLATFORMS

The Agent supports platforms with more than one switch ASIC device. The configuration command/reporting is on a per-ASIC basis. The configuration commands, responses, and notification reports carry the ASIC identifier as part of the message.

All parts of the REST API supported by the BroadView Instrumentation Agent take asic-id as a parameter via the JSON requests. Similarly, all the responses and notification messages from the Agent include the asic-id as a parameter in the response JSON. This is illustrated below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-feature",
    "params": "all",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "id": 1232
}
```

```
"method": "get-bst-report",
"asic-id": "2",
"time-stamp": "2014-10-18 - 00:15:04 ",
"report": [{
...
```

For a single ASIC platform, the ASIC identifier (asic-id) part of the configuration command for response messages and notification reports is ignored by the Agent, and the corresponding value is set to 0.

This document describes the REST API for all supported features in detail, including specific parameters for the request/response messages. These descriptions do not include the asic-id parameter to avoid repetitive duplication.

ERROR REPORTING

The Agent uses the standard HTTP error reporting mechanism for reporting any errors. The error codes are listed below.

HTTP Status Code	Description
HTTP 200	Indicates that the request is successfully executed on the Agent. If the request is for status/data, the response accompanies this status ³ .
HTTP 400	Indicates a JSON error in the request message. The JSON message is badly formatted and contains errors.
HTTP 404	Indicates an error. The method requested is not supported.
HTTP 500	Indicates an error. There was an internal error on the Agent which caused this.

Each of the errors listed above (HTTP error codes 4xx and 5xx) have a JSONRPC payload in the response packet to give additional error details in the JSON payload. An example of an HTTP 404 error is provided below.

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³ An HTTP 200 status indicates successful execution only at the transport and agent level, but not necessarily at the application/feature level. In most cases, they are the same. However, in some corner cases, they may be different. Where applicable, the JSON response messages indicate application-level execution status, and the client is required to parse the response.

GENERIC AGENT MANAGEMENT

OVERVIEW

The BroadView Instrumentation Agent offers an API that helps clients and SDN controllers discover switches running the Agent and determine the switch capabilities, including both ASIC capabilities and the features supported by the Agent.

HEARTBEAT MESSAGING

Heartbeat messages are keep-alive messages sent by the Agent to the client. The heartbeat messaging allows clients to auto detect the switches running the Agent and to configure the Agent, without requiring manual intervention. The heartbeat message is in the form of REST/JSON notification messages.

Upon configuration, the Agent sends periodic heartbeat messages to a client. The messages contain the Agent and ASIC capabilities. By default, the heartbeat messages are sent every five seconds. Upon discovering the Agent, the client can start configuring the Agent and use the BroadView capabilities for monitoring the switch/network. Optionally, the Agent can reduce the frequency with which the heartbeat messages are sent to the client.

The heartbeat mechanism allows the registration of a specific switch with BroadView Agent capability but does not provide information about any connectivity of the switch to other switches.

SWITCH PROPERTIES

The switch properties are a set of parameters describing the Agent capabilities as well as the switch information. This set of parameters packed inside a JSON message becomes the heartbeat message. It can also be retrieved on-demand via the get-switch-properties API.

The parameters are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
number-of-asics	Integer	Number of ASICs on the switch.
asic-info	Multi- Parameter	Describes each of the ASICs onboard. More details are presented after this table.
supported- features	Array of Strings	A list of strings indicating the features supported by the Agent.
network-os	String	The NOS currently used on the switch.
uid	String	Unique identifier for this switch. This unique ID is the key for the SDN controller to map the switch to the nodes existing in their discovery database.
agent-ip	String	IP address of the switch where the Agent is being run.
agent-port	String	TCP port number of the switch, at which the Agent is listening.
agent-sw-version	String	Software version number for the Agent.

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⁴ Sometimes the heartbeat messages prior to Client configuration of the Agent are called registration / discovery messages. The content of the message is same, independent of the name.

The asic-info parameter is a multi-parameter, and each of the sub-parameters is described below. The asic-info parameter is encoded as a positional-parameter list in the JSON message.

Position	Parameter	Туре	Description
1	asic-id	String	Identifier for an ASIC on the switch. This ID must be used in all subsequent interactions with the Agent to refer to this ASIC.
2	chip-id	String	Indicates the part number of the silicon.
3	num-ports	Integer	Number of ports available on the switch, managed by this ASIC.

A sample heartbeat message is provided below.

```
"jsonrpc": "2.0",
"method": "get-switch-properties",
"version": "2",
"time-stamp": "2015-10-18 - 00:15:04",
"result": {
  "number-of-asics": 1,
  "asic-info": [
      "1",
       "BCM56850",
    ]
  "supported-features": [
    "BST"
  "network-os": "openNSL",
  "uid": "0000d80bb99bbbbb",
  "agent-ip": "192.168.1.2",
  "agent-port": "8080",
"agent-sw-version": "3.0.0.1"
},
"id": 10
```

CONFIGURABILITY

The following configurability is provided under the Generic Agent Management category.

The Agent can be configured to enable/disable heartbeat messaging to the client, as well as the interval at which the registration messages are to be sent.

API

OVERVIEW

This section lists various APIs supported for the Generic Agent Management. A detailed description of each API is available in subsequent sections.

API	Туре	Description
configure-system- feature	Configuration	Configure global Agent management functionality.
get-system-feature	Status/Reporting	Retrieve Agent management configuration.
get-switch-properties	Status/Reporting	Retrieve the switch capabilities
cancel-request⁵	Configuration	Stop a previously initiated periodic reporting command.

CONFIGURATION API

CONFIGURE-SYSTEM-FEATURE

The configure-system-feature API sets up the core Agent functionality on the switch. The parameters associated with this command are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
heartbeat-enable	Boolean	When enabled, the Agent asynchronously sends the registration and heartbeat message to the collector.
		By default, the sending discovery message is turned ON.
msg-interval	Integer (range 1 to 600)	Determines the interval with which the registration and heartbeat messages are sent to the collector. The units for this parameter are seconds. The default value is 5
		seconds.

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⁵ This API is not specific to any single feature and may be used to cancel any previously initiated periodic reporting command.

CANCEL-REQUEST

The cancel-request API is a generic API, and it cancels a previously configured periodic reporting request such as get-bst-congestion-drop-counters on the Agent. The parameter associated with this command is described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
request-id	Integer	The request-id parameter is the ID of the request made already by the client.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "cancel-request",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "request-id": 7
      },
    "id": 4
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

STATUS/REPORTING API

GET-SYSTEM-FEATURE

}

The get-system-feature API retrieves the current Agent configuration. There is no parameter associated with this API. The parameters that form the response message are the same as described in the configure-system-feature API.

A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.

{
 "jsonrpc": "2.0",
 "method": "get-system-feature",
 "params": { },
 "id": 1

An associated sample response is shown below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-system-feature",
    "version": "2",
    "result": {
        " heartbeat-enable": 1,
        "msg-interval": 5
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

GET-SWITCH-PROPERTIES

The get-switch-properties API retrieves the switch properties as described in Switch Properties. There are no parameters associated with this command.

A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-switch-properties",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": { },
    "id": 1
}
```

```
An associated sample response is shown below.
  "jsonrpc": "2.0",
  "method": "get-switch-properties",
"version": "2",
"time-stamp": "2015-10-18 - 00:15:04",
  "result": {
    "number-of-asics": 1,
     "asic-info": [
         "1",
         "BCM56850",
         78
       ]
    ], supported-features": [
      "BST"
    ],
"network-os": "openNSL",
     "uid": "0000d80bb99bbbbb",
    "agent-ip": "192.168.1.2",
    "agent-port": "8080",
    "agent-sw-version": "3.0.0.1"
 },
"id": 10
```

BUFFER STATISTICS AND TRACKING (BST)

OVERVIEW

The Buffer Statistics and Tracking (BST) feature provides a means to retrieve how each of the on-chip buffers are being utilized under different traffic scenarios. A collection of all such buffer-counts for various on-chip buffers is the BST report. This BST report is sent from the Agent to the collector either on-demand or periodically.

BST tracks either the current values or peak values of the buffer utilization. Also, BST can selectively track certain buffer categories.

BST allows thresholds to be set for some of the buffers and can send a notification to the client when the buffer usage exceeds the configured threshold.

BST allows clients to monitor for top ports suffering congestion or monitor the number of packets dropped due to congestion, on a per-port, per-queue, or per-port-per-queue basis.

BUFFER UTILIZATION STATISTICS AND THRESHOLDS

Broadcom switch ASICs track buffer utilization for various on-chip buffers. The buffer utilization statistics are presented under the corresponding categories, called realms. To access (statistics of a) a buffer, the realm parameters must be provided. These parameters act as indices for the given buffer. For example, to access a buffer in the egress-uc-queue realm, the parameter is the corresponding queue ID. Similarly, to access a buffer in the ingress-port-priority-group realm, the parameters are the port ID and the priority-group ID. The device realm has no indices. No realm has more than two indices.

Each buffer, given its parameters, may have one or more statistic. For example, the ingress-port-service-pool realm buffer, for a given port and service pool ID, offers a single statistic: um-share-buffer-count. The egress-port-service-pool buffer, for a given port and service pool ID, offers four statistics: uc-share-buffer-count, um-share-buffer-count, mc-share-buffer-count, and mc-share-queue-entries. Each buffer statistic has an associated threshold for configuration. For example, for the uc-share-buffer-count, there is an associated uc-share-threshold.

The following table provides the list of realms and the associated indices for each realm. It also lists all available statistics and thresholds for each realm.

Realm	Index # 1	Index # 2	Statistic(s)	Threshold(s)
device			data	threshold
ingress- port- priority- group	port	priority- group	um-share-buffer- count, um-headroom-buffer- count	um-share-threshold, um-headroom- threshold
ingress- port- service-pool	port	service- pool	um-share-buffer-count	um-share-threshold
ingress- service-pool	service- pool		um-share-buffer-count	um-share-threshold

Realm	Index # 1	Index # 2	Statistic(s)	Threshold(s)
egress-port- service-pool	port	service- pool	uc-share-buffer- count, um-share-buffer- count, mc-share-buffer- count, mc-share-queue- entries	uc-share-threshold, um-share-threshold, mc-share-threshold, mc-share-queue- entries- threshold
egress- service-pool	service- pool		um-share-buffer- count, mc-share-buffer- count, mc-share-queue- entries	um-share-threshold, mc-share-threshold, mc-share-queue- entries- threshold
egress-uc- queue	queue		uc-buffer-count	uc-threshold
egress-uc- queue-group	queue- group		uc-buffer-count	uc-threshold
egress-mc- queue	queue		mc-buffer-count, mc-queue-entries	mc-threshold, mc-queue-entries- threshold
egress-cpu- queue	queue		cpu-buffer-count	cpu-threshold
egress-rqe- queue	queue		rqe-buffer-count	rqe-threshold

CONFIGURABILITY

The following configurability is provided by the BST feature:

- The BST feature can be enabled or disabled on the Agent.
- The BST feature can be configured to auto-accumulate the buffer statistics periodically and send the BST report to the collector at configurable intervals (as notification messages).
- The BST feature can provide buffer statistics (BST report) on demand.
- Buffer statistics collection (in the switch and in the Agent) of various subsets of buffer statistics (such as device-level, various ingress-groups, etc.) can be selectively disabled or enabled.
- The ASIC can be set up to gather the statistics of current values or peak values for the statistics.
- The Agent can be configured to report the buffer statistics in units of bytes, or in the units of cells, or in terms of a percentage of buffer usage (in terms of allocated levels).
- Various thresholds can be set up for the statistics in the ASIC, and the current values can be retrieved.
- The Agent can be set up to asynchronously send the buffer statistics report, called the trigger report, when the buffer usage exceeds the configured threshold.
- The BST feature can provide the number of packets dropped within the ASIC because of the congestion, for top ports suffering congestion, at a per-port level, or at per-queue level, or both.

Any changes made to the feature configuration come into effect starting with the next reporting period.

COMPLETE AND INCREMENTAL REPORTS

Keeping in mind the extensive data that is likely to be collected and communicated, the following constraints are imposed on the BST reports.

- All of the on-demand BST reports are complete in nature.
- All of the asynchronous BST reports are incremental in nature, unless configured otherwise.
 - The BST feature compares the statistics collected in the current cycle to that of the previous cycle and marks the changed statistics in its native representation.
 - The JSON packing from the native representation is aware of the marking and ignores those statistics that have not changed since the last cycle.
 - Any statistics that are not supported by the underlying ASIC or the SDK are explicitly encoded with special value in the JSON message. These statistics are not included in subsequent asynchronous reports (being incremental).

DECIPHERING REPORTS

While reporting statistics for a given realm, the statistics names are not included in the report. A JSON positional parameter method is used. In addition, one (and not more than one) of the indices is included as the first element in the array. This scheme is used to reduce the JSON message size for report messages. This scheme is applicable only for BST reports and threshold reports. For configuration messages to the Agent, all parameters are named JSON parameters.

This method is illustrated below with a few examples.

EXAMPLE 1

Consider the following report snippet: {

```
"realm": "ingress-service-pool",
            "data": [[1, 3240], [2, 3660]]
}
```

The ingress-service-pool has a single index (service pool), and it is mentioned in the JSON array.

This report indicates the following.

- The realm is the ingress-service-pool.
- The service pool with ID 1 has the uc-share-buffer-count value of 3240.
- The service pool with ID 2 has the uc-share-buffer-count value of 3660.

EXAMPLE 2

Consider the following report snippet:

The ingress-port-priority-group has two indices: port and the priority-group. The top-level index (port) is mentioned explicitly, and the second index (priority-group) is included as the first element in the JSON array.

This report indicates the following:

- The realm is the ingress-port-priority-group.
- The port 2 report has the following entries:
 - priority-group id 5 has
 - o The um-share-buffer-count value is 45500.
 - The um-headroom-buffer-count value is 44450.
- The port 3 report has the following entries:
 - priority-group id 5 has
 - o The um-share-buffer-count value is 6700.
 - o The um-headroom-buffer-count value is 250.
 - priority-group id 7 has
 - o The um-share-buffer-count value is 12267.
 - The um-headroom-buffer-count value is 13456.

EXAMPLE 3

Consider the following report snippet:

```
{
    "realm": "egress-mc-queue",
    "data": [[1, "1", 34, 89], [10, "2", 1244, 0]]
}
```

The egress-mc-queue has a single index (queue). It is included as the first element in the JSON array. The second element is *port*, to which queue is assigned.

This report indicates the following:

- The realm is the egress-mc-queue,
- The Queue #1 and port #1 has the following entries
 - The mc-buffer-count value is 34.
 - The mc-queue-entries value is 89.
- The Queue #10 and port #2 has the following entries
 - The mc-buffer-count value is 1244.
 - The mc-queue-entries value is 0.

EXAMPLE 4

Consider the following report snippet:

The egress-uc-queue has a single index (queue). It is included as the first element in the JSON array. The second element is *port* to which queue is assigned.

This report indicates the following.

- The realm is the egress-uc-queue,
- The Queue #1 and port #1 has the following entries
 - The uc-buffer-count value is 34

The *port* is included as a second parameter for the buffer usage report and threshold reports for the egress-uc-queue and egress-mc-queue realms.

API

OVERVIEW

This section lists various APIs supported by the BST feature. A detailed description of each of the API is available in subsequent sections.

API	Туре	Description
configure-bst-feature	Configuration/Clear	Configure global options for BST and reporting.
configure-bst-tracking	Configuration/Clear	Setup tracking parameters.
configure-bst- thresholds	Configuration/Clear	Configure threshold/watermarks for specific buffers.
clear-bst-statistics	Configuration/Clear	Clear all statistics.
clear-bst-thresholds	Configuration/Clear	Clear all configured thresholds.
get-bst-feature	Status/Reporting	Retrieve current BST configuration.
get-bst-tracking	Status/Reporting	Retrieve current tracking configuration.
get-bst-thresholds	Status/Reporting	Retrieve current threshold configuration.
get-bst-report	Status/Reporting	Obtain a snapshot/incremental buffer usage report.
trigger-report	Notification	Asynchronous report indicating a breach of a configured threshold.
get-bst-congestion- drop-counters	Status/Reporting	Obtain number of packets dropped due to congestion on a per-port/per-queue basis, immediately or periodically.
cancel-request ⁶	Configuration/Clear	Stop a previously initiated periodic reporting command.

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 $^{^{6}}$ This API is not specific to the BST feature and may be used to cancel any previously initiated periodic reporting command.

CONFIGURATION/CLEAR API

CONFIGURE-BST-FEATURE

The configure-bst-feature API configures the BST functionality on the Agent^7 . The parameters associated with this command are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
bst-enable	Boolean	Determines whether the BST feature should be active or not, on the Agent.
		By default, the BST feature is inactive on the Agent.
send-async- reports	Boolean	When enabled, the BST feature asynchronously collects the buffer statistics and sends the BST reports to the collector.
		By default, the asynchronous reporting is turned off.
collection- interval	Integer (range 0 to 600)	Determines the periodicity with which the BST reports are sent to the collector. The Agent may also use this value to read the statistics from the ASIC.
		The units for this parameter are seconds. The default value is 60 seconds.
stats-in- percentage	Boolean	When enabled, the Agent reports the buffer usage statistics as a percentage. When stats-in-percentage is enabled, the parameter stat-units-in-cells ⁸ is ignored while reporting the statistics. This field is applicable for statistics and threshold reporting.
		By default, the value is set to <i>false</i> .
		The percentage value in the BST/trigger report is an approximation of buffer utilization, not an exact value.
stat-units-in- cells	Boolean	Determines whether the Agent reports the buffer statistics in the units of bytes or in the units of cells.
		Set to false, by default. The Agent reports the usage in bytes.
trigger-rate- limit	Integer (range 1 to 30)	Determines the maximum number of trigger reports for the configured interval (as specified by the trigger-rate-limit-interval parameter below) to be sent to the collector. The default value is 1.
trigger-rate- limit-interval	Integer (range 1 to 60)	Determines the interval during which the number of trigger-reports is rate limited (trigger-rate-limit) for sending to the collector. The default value is 1 second.

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⁷ But not on the ASIC; also see the next command.

⁸ Cells are buffers inside the ASIC that are used to hold parts of a packet. Please refer to the hardware documentation for detail.

Parameter	Туре	Description
send-snapshot-on- trigger	Boolean	Determines whether the Agent should send a complete buffer statistics report for all configured realms to the collector, when a threshold is breached.
		If set to <i>true</i> , trigger-report contains buffer statistics for all configured realms. If set to <i>false</i> , trigger-report contains buffer statistics only for the statistic/ counter for which the trigger was raised. Default value is <i>true</i> .
async-full- reports	Boolean	When enabled, the BST feature asynchronously sends full BST reports to the collector.
		By default, the asynchronous full reporting is turned off.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "configure-bst-feature",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "bst-enable": 1,
        "send-async-reports": 1,
        "collection-interval": 300,
        "stat-units-in-cells": 0,
        "trigger-rate-limit": 5,
        "trigger-rate-limit-interval": 2,
        "send-snapshot-on-trigger": 1,
        "async-full-reports": 1,
        "stats-in-percentage": 0
     },
    "id": 1
```

CONFIGURE-BST-TRACKING

The configure-bst-tracking command sets up the BST trackers and the tracking-mode on the ASIC. The parameters associated with this command are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
track-peak-stats	Boolean	Determines whether ASIC tracks the current buffer usage count or the peak buffer usage.
		Set to false, by default. The ASIC tracks current buffer count.
track-ingress- port-priority-	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks ingress per-port and per- priority group buffers.
group		By default, this tracking is turned on.
track-ingress- port-service-	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks ingress per-port and per- service pool buffers.
pool		By default, this tracking is turned on.

Parameter	Туре	Description
track-ingress- service-pool	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks ingress per-service pool buffers.
		By default, this tracking is turned on.
track-egress- port-service-	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks egress per-port and per- service pool buffers.
pool		By default, this tracking is turned on.
track-egress- service-pool	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks egress per-service pool buffers.
		By default, this tracking is turned on.
track-egress-uc- queue	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks egress per unicast queue buffers.
		By default, this tracking is turned on.
track-egress-uc- queue-group	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks egress per unicast queue group buffers.
		By default, this tracking is turned on.
track-egress-mc- queue	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks egress per multicast queue buffers.
		By default, this tracking is turned on.
track-egress- cpu-queue	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks egress per CPU queue buffers.
		By default, this tracking is turned on.
track-egress- rqe-queue	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks egress per RQE queue buffers.
		By default, this tracking is turned on.
track-device	Boolean	When enabled, the ASIC actively tracks per-device (ASIC) buffers.
		By default, this tracking is turned on.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
```

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "configure-bst-tracking",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "track-peak-stats" : 1,
        "track-ingress-port-priority-group" : 1,
        "track-ingress-port-service-pool" : 1,
        "track-ingress-service-pool" : 1,
        "track-egress-port-service-pool" : 1,
        "track-egress-service-pool" : 1,
        "track-egress-uc-queue" : 1,
        "track-egress-uc-queue" : 1,
        "track-egress-mc-queue" : 1,
        "track-egress-mc-queue" : 1,
        "track-egress-cpu-queue" : 1,
        "track-e
```

```
"track-egress-rqe-queue" : 1,
    "track-device" : 1
},
    "id": 1
}
```

CONFIGURE-BST-THRESHOLDS

The configure-bst-thresholds command sets up the BST thresholds for various realms in the ASIC.

When a threshold is configured, and the associated buffer usage exceeds the threshold value, then an asynchronous notification is sent by the Agent.

The parameters associated with this command depend on the realm for which the thresholds are being set up. The list of realms and associated parameters/thresholds for each realm is provided in Buffer Utilization Statistics and Thresholds.

At any point in time, the valid set of thresholds depends on the MMU configuration of the Broadcom ASIC. Consult the Broadcom ASIC documentation for supported combinations.

Threshold configurations are in terms of number of bytes, number of cells, or percentage of allocated buffer size. The actual unit is determined by the Agent based on its current configuration for reporting the statistics set via configure-bst-feature command. For example, when the Agent is configured to report statistics in terms of percentage via configure-bst-feature command, then the Agent accepts threshold configuration in terms of percentage.

```
Sample JSON-RPC requests are shown below.
```

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "configure-bst-thresholds",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "realm": "egress-port-service-pool",
        "port": "1",
        "service-pool": 3,
        "uc-share-threshold": 15156,
        "um-share-threshold": 15156,
        "mc-share-threshold": 15156,
        "mc-share-queue-entries-threshold": 15156
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

CLEAR-BST-STATISTICS

The clear-bst-statistics command clears all the BST statistics on the Agent⁹. This API does not require any parameters.

A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "clear-bst-statistics",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
      },
      "id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

CLEAR-BST-THRESHOLDS

The clear-bst-thresholds command clears all configured BST thresholds on the Agent. This API does not require any parameters.

A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.

```
"jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "clear-bst-thresholds",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

Instead of clearing all thresholds, clearing a specific threshold can be achieved by setting the corresponding threshold to 0 by using the configure-bst-thresholds command.

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⁹ A side-effect of this command is that the following asynchronous BST report will be complete, including all realms.

STATUS/ REPORTING API

GET-BST-FEATURE

The get-bst-feature command is used to retrieve the current configuration of the BST functionality on the Agent. This API does not require any parameters.

For the response, the Agent returns the same parameters as sent via the configure-bst-feature command.

A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-feature",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": { },
    "id": 1
}
```

An associated sample response is shown below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-feature",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "version": "1",
    "result": {
        "bst-enable": 1,
        "send-async-reports": 0,
        "collection-interval": 200,
        "stats-in-percentage": 0,
        "stat-units-in-cells": 0,
        "trigger-rate-limit": 0,
        "trigger-rate-limit-interval": 0,
        "send-snapshot-on-trigger": 0
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

GET-BST-TRACKING

The get-bst-tracking command is used to retrieve the current BST tracking configuration of the Broadcom ASIC. This API does not require any parameters.

For the response, the Agent returns the same parameters as those sent via the configure-bst-tracking command.

This command is valid even when the feature is disabled on the Agent.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-tracking",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": { },
    "id": 1
}
An associated sample response is shown below.
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-tracking",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "version": "1",
    "result": {
        "track-peak-stats" : 1,
        "track-ingress-port-priority-group" : 1,
        "track-ingress-port-service-pool" : 1,
        "track-ingress-service-pool" : 1,
        "track-egress-port-service-pool" : 1,
        "track-egress-service-pool" : 1,
        "track-egress-uc-queue" : 1,
        "track-egress-uc-queue-group" : 1,
        "track-egress-mc-queue" : 1,
        "track-egress-cpu-queue" : 1,
        "track-egress-rqe-queue" : 1,
        "track-device" : 1
    "id": 1
}
```

GET-BST-THRESHOLDS

The get-bst-thresholds command is used to retrieve the currently configured BST thresholds from the Agent. The collector may choose to request a selective report (see parameters below).

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
```

```
"jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-thresholds",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "include-ingress-port-priority-group" : 1,
        "include-ingress-port-service-pool" : 1,
        "include-ingress-service-pool" : 1,
        "include-egress-port-service-pool" : 1,
        "include-egress-service-pool" : 1,
        "include-egress-uc-queue" : 1,
        "include-egress-uc-queue" : 1,
        "include-egress-rc-queue" : 1,
        "include-egress-cpu-queue" : 1,
        "include-egress-cpu-queue" : 1,
```

```
"include-egress-rqe-queue" : 1,
    "include-device" : 1
},
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent always returns a complete report for the requested thresholds.

The thresholds in the ASIC are set by the Agent only as part of the configure-bst-thresholds command. Unlike statistics, the threshold configuration does not change on its own. For this reason, it is not necessary to retrieve a periodic threshold report from the Agent.

Threshold reporting is in terms of bytes, cells, or percentage of maximum allocated buffer size. The actual reporting unit is determined by the Agent based on its current configuration for reporting the statistics via the configure-bst-feature command. For example, when the Agent is configured to report statistics in terms of percentage via the configure-bst-feature command, the Agent reports thresholds in terms of percentage.

The method object of the JSON message in the BST report is set to get-bst-thresholds for the response message.

A sample BST threshold report indicating various realms (categories) and the associated data is shown below. It is provided for illustrative purposes only and does not include all port/queue/pool data in it. Rather, the JSON array is used to indicate the multiplicity while providing data for a single element.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-thresholds",
    "asic-id": "20",
    "version": "1",
    "time-stamp": "2014-11-14 - 00:15:04 ",
    "report": [{
             "realm": "device",
             "data": 46
        }, {
    "realm": "ingress-port-priority-group",
             "data": [{
                       'port": "2",
                      "data": [[5, 45500, 44450]]
                 }, {
    "port": "3",
    "; [[5,
                      "data": [[5, 45500, 44450]]
        }, {
    "realm": "ingress-port-service-pool",
             "data": [{
                       'port": "2",
                      "data": [[5, 324]]
                 }, {
    "port": "3",
    ". [[6,
                      "data": [[6, 366]]
             "realm": "ingress-service-pool",
             "data": [[1, 3240], [2, 3660]]
        }, {
    "realm": "egress-cpu-queue",
             "data": [[3, 4566, 0]]
```

```
}, {
    "realm": "egress-mc-queue",
    "1" 34 89],
    "data": [[1, "1", 34, 89], [2, "4", 1244, 0], [3, "5", 0, 3]]
}, {
    "realm": "egress-port-service-pool",
    "data": [{
            "port": "2",
            "data": [[5, 0, 324, 0]]
       }, {
    "port": "3",
    ". [[6]
            "data": [[6, 0, 366, 0]]
"data": [[2, 3333, 4444], [5, 25, 45]]
}, {
    "realm": "egress-service-pool",
   "data": [[2, 0, 0, 3240], [3, 3660, 0, 0]]
"data": [[6, 0, 1111]]
}, {
    "realm": "egress-uc-queue-group",
    "data": [[6, 2222]]
}]
```

GET-BST-REPORT

The get-bst-report command is used to retrieve the current BST report from the Agent. The collector may choose to request for selective report (see parameters below).

Parameter	Туре	Description
include-ingress- port-priority- group	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the ingress per-port per-priority group buffer statistics into the report.
include-ingress- port-service- pool	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the ingress per-port per-service pool buffer statistics into the report.
include-ingress- service-pool	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the ingress per-service pool buffer statistics into the report.
include-egress- port-service- pool	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the egress per-port per-service pool buffer statistics into the report.
include-egress- service-pool	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the egress per-service pool buffer statistics into the report.
include-egress- uc-queue	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the egress per-unicast queue buffer statistics into the report.
include-egress- uc-queue-group	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the egress per-unicast queue group buffer statistics into the report.

Parameter	Туре	Description
include-egress- mc-queue	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the egress per-multicast queue buffer statistics into the report.
include-egress- cpu-queue	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the egress per-CPU queue buffer statistics into the report.
include-egress- rqe-queue	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the ingress per-RQE queue buffer statistics into the report.
include-device	Boolean	When set, the Agent includes the ingress device level buffer statistics into the report.

A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-report",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "include-ingress-port-priority-group" : 1,
        "include-ingress-port-service-pool" : 1,
        "include-ingress-service-pool" : 1,
        "include-egress-port-service-pool" : 1,
        "include-egress-service-pool" : 1,
        "include-egress-uc-queue" : 1,
        "include-egress-uc-queue-group" : 1,
        "include-egress-mc-queue" : 1,
        "include-egress-cpu-queue" : 1,
        "include-egress-rqe-queue" : 1,
        "include-device" : 1
    "id": 1
```

The Agent always returns a complete report for the requested buffer statistics.

It must be noted that the Agent returns the BST report following the command. However, the asynchronous reporting cycle may be reset.

The method object of the JSON message in the BST report is set to get-bst-report for both the asynchronous notifications as well as the response message.

The parameters associated with this command depend on the realm for which the buffer usage (count) is being reported. The list of realms and associated parameters / buffer-count for each realm is provided in Buffer Utilization Statistics and Thresholds.

It may be noted that at any point in time, the valid set of buffer counts (usage) depends on the MMU configuration of the Broadcom ASIC. Consult the Broadcom ASIC documentation for supported configurations.

A sample BST report indicating various realms (categories) and the associated statistics is shown below. It is provided for illustrative purposes only and does not include all the realm/port/queue/pool data in it. Rather, the JSON array is used to indicate the multiplicity while providing data for a single element.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-report",
    "asic-id": "20",
```

```
"version": "1",
"time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
"report": [{
       "realm": "device",
       "data": 46
   }, {
    "realm": "ingress-port-priority-group",
       "data": [{
              "port": "2",
              "data": [[5, 45500, 44450]]
          }, {
    "port": "3",
              "data": [[5, 45500, 44450]]
   }, {
       "realm": "ingress-port-service-pool",
       "data": [{
              "port": "2",
              "data": [[5, 324]]
          "data": [[6, 366]]
          }]
   }, {
       "realm": "ingress-service-pool",
       "data": [[1, 3240], [2, 3660]]
       "realm": "egress-cpu-queue",
       "data": [[3, 4566, 0]]
   "data": [[1, "1", 34, 89], [2, "4", 1244, 0], [3, "5", 0, 3]]
   }, {
    "realm": "egress-port-service-pool",
       "data": [{
              "port": "2",
              "data": [[5, 0, 324, 0]]
          }, {
    "port": "3",
    ". [[6.
              "data": [[6, 0, 366, 0]]
   "data": [[2, 3333, 4444], [5, 25, 45]]
   "data": [[2, 0, 0, 3240], [3, 3660, 0, 0]]
   "data": [[6, "0", 1111]]
   }, {
    "realm": "egress-uc-queue-group",
       "data": [[6, 2222]]
   }]
```

GET-BST-CONGESTION-DROP-COUNTERS

The get-bst-congestion-drop-counters command is used to retrieve the congestion drop counters periodically or immediately from the Agent. There are different sets of drop counters that can be retrieved by the collector. Based on the type of the set, the number of parameters passed to the command varies. The basic parameters are provided below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
request-type	String	Indicates the specific set of drop counters being requested. The following sets are supported.
		 top-drops: Ports suffering maximum congestion in the switch and the associated drop counters. top-port-queue-drops: Top port-queue level drop-counters in the switch. port-drops: Per-port total drop counters. port-queue-drops: Port-queue level drop-counters.
collection- interval	Integer (range 0 to 3600)	Determines the period with which the congestion drop counters are collected from the ASIC and reported to the client. The units for this parameter are seconds. The default value is 0 (zero), which indicates an immediate response.

The following table shows drop report parameters for the top congestion ports/port-queues report.

Parameter	Туре	Description
count	Integer (range 1 to 64)	Number of ports required in the report. The ports are placed in a sorted list, with the port suffering maximum congestion at the top. Out of this list, the count number of ports and their drop-counters are reported back to the client.
"queue-type"	String	This represents the queue type filter for the report. Possible values are:
		 ucast: Indicates unicast queues mcast: Indicates multicast queues
		all: Indicates all supported queue types in the ASIC

Drop report parameters for (all/specific) congestion ports/port-queues are as follows:

Parameter	Туре	Description
"port-list"	array	Comma separated list of Ports for whom, congestion drop counter report is requested.
		A special keyword "a11" is allowed to get congestion drop counters for all ports.
"queue-type"	String	This represents the queue type filter for the report. Possible values are
		ucast: Indicates unicast queues
		mcast: Indicates multicast queues
		all: Indicates all supported queue types in the ASIC
"queue-list"	array	An array of queue numbers to be considered for the drop report.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request to get the top eight congestion drop counters per port is shown below.

{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-congestion-drop-counters",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "request-type": "top-drops",
        "request-params": {
        "count":8
        },
        "collection-interval": 30
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

A sample BST congestion drop report for the above request is as follows: "jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "get-bst-congestion-drop-counters", "asic-id": "1", "version": "3",
"time-stamp": "2016-1-1 - 00:15:04 ", "report": [{ "report-type": "top-drops", "data": [{ 'port": "2", "data": 8500 "port": "8", "data": 7550 }, {
 "port": "6",
 ". 6500 "data": 6500 }, { "port": "1", "data": 5550

```
"port": "7",
                      "data": 4500
                  }, {
                      "port": "10",
                      "data": 3550
                 }, {
    "port": "20",
    " 2500
                      "data": 2500
                 }, {
    "port": "19",
                      "data": 1550
                  }
             ]
       }],
    "id": 1
A sample JSON-RPC request to get the top eight congestion drop counters per port-queue is shown
below.
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-congestion-drop-counters",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
         "request-type" : "top-port-queue-drops",
         "request-params": {
         "count":8,
```

A sample BST congestion drop report for the above request is as follows:

"queue-type": "all"

}, "id": 1

}

"collection-interval": 30

```
"jsonrpc": "2.0",
"method": "get-bst-congestion-drop-counters",
"asic-id": "1",
"version": "3",
"time-stamp": "2016-1-1 - 00:15:04 ",
"report": [{
        "report-type": "top-port-queue-drops",
        "data": [{
                'port": "2",
                "queue-type": "ucast",
                "data": [[1,8500],[4,8400]]
           "queue-type": "mcast",
                "data": [[4,7550]]
                "port": "6",
                "queue-type": "ucast",
                "data": [[2,6500],[1,5400]]
            }, {
```

```
"port": "2",
                       "queue-type": "mcast",
                       "data": [[3,4500],[1,4400],[5,200]]
                  }
             ]
        }],
    "id": 1
}
A sample JSON-RPC request to get all/specific port congestion drop counter information is shown below.
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
"method": "get-bst-congestion-drop-counters",
    "asic-id": "1",
     "params": {
         "request-type" : "port-drops",
         "request-params": {
         "port-list": ["1", "2", "3", "4"]
          "collection-interval": 30
    },
"id": 1
}
A sample BST congestion drop report for the above request is as follows:
{
     "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-congestion-drop-counters",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "version": "3",
     "time-stamp": "2016-1-1 - 00:15:04 ",
    "report": [{
              "report-type": "port-drops",
              "data": [{
                        'port": "1",
                       "data": 8500
                  }, {
    "port": "2",
    ": 2755
                       "data": 27550
                  }, {
    "port": "3",
                       "data": 16500
                  }, {
    "port": "4",
    ": 5550
                       "data": 5550
                  }
              ]
        }],
    "id": 1
}
```

A sample JSON-RPC request to get all port-queue/ specific port-queue congestion drop counter information is shown below.

A sample BST congestion drop report for the above request is as follows:

```
"jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-bst-congestion-drop-counters",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "version": "3",
    "time-stamp": "2016-1-1 - 00:15:04 ",
    "report": [{
            "report-type": "port-queue-drops",
            "data": [{
                    "port": "1",
                    "queue-type": "ucast",
                    "data": [[1,8500],[2,8400], [3,156000]]
                    "port": "1",
                    "queue-type": "mcast",
                    "data": [[1,600],[2,400], [3,1000]]
                }, {
                    "port": "2",
                    "queue-type": "ucast",
                    "data": [[1,500],[2,800], [3,56000]]
               "queue-type": "mcast",
                    "data": [[1,2600],[2,3400], [3,21000]]
                }]
       }],
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent returns the requested drop counter report immediately. When the collection-interval is non-zero, the Agent continues to send requested drop counter reports at the configured interval asynchronously as notifications.

The Agent can be requested to serve multiple periodic reports.

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

TRIGGER REPORTS

When any of the configured threshold (via the configure-bst-thresholds) API is triggered i.e., the buffer usage crosses the configured threshold, an asynchronous notification is sent by the Agent. This notification is identical to an asynchronous BST report with the following two exceptions.

- The method object has the value of trigger-report.
- Additional fields are included to specify the actual counter causing the threshold breach.

A partial sample report is shown below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "trigger-report",
    "asic-id": "20",
    "version": "1",
    "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:13:08 ",
    "realm": "ingress-port-priority-group",
    "counter": "um-share-buffer-count",
    "port": "2",
    "priority-group": "5",
    "report": [{
            "realm": "device",
            "data": 46
        }, {
    "realm": "ingress-port-priority-group",
            "data": [{
                     "port": "2",
                     "data": [[5, 45500, 44450]]
                }, {
    "port": "3",
                     "data": [[5, 45500, 44450]]
                }]
             "realm": "ingress-port-service-pool",
            "data": [{
                     "port": "2",
                     "data": [[5, 324]]
                }, {
    "port": "3",
    ". [[6,
                     "data": [[6, 366]]
            "realm": "ingress-service-pool",
            "data": [[1, 3240], [2, 3660]]
        "data": [[3, 4566, 0]]
        }, {
    "realm": "egress-mc-queue",
    "4" 24 89]
            "data": [[1, "1", 34, 89], [2, "4", 1244, 0], [3, "5", 0, 3]]
        }, {
    "realm": "egress-port-service-pool",
            "data": [{
                     "port": "2",
                     data": [[5, 0, 324, 0]]
                }, {
```

Note that when a trigger situation is encountered (i.e. any of the configured thresholds are breached), the ASIC freezes all the BST counters until the feature is re-enabled/re-configured. The Agent re-enables the BST on the ASIC upon a trigger notification and sends the trigger report to the client. The number of triggers in a given duration can be rate-limited via the configure-bst-feature command.

PACKET TRACE (PT)

OVERVIEW

When a packet enters a switch, it is processed and forwarded out on one or more destination ports. Typically, the results of intermediate packet processing steps are not visible. The Packet Trace feature provides detailed information on these intermediate processes, like egress hashing information for LAG and ECMP. This detailed information is called a *trace-profile*.

The Packet Trace feature allows the client to inject a packet into the ingress packet processing pipeline that is then processed as if it were received on one of the front panel ports. The Packet Trace feature then logs the internal forwarding states. This can be useful in the diagnosis of unexpected errors or as an offline debugging tool.

The Packet Trace feature also provides an option to the client to match incoming live traffic packets against a client-specified match criterion and provide a *trace-profile* for such packets. In this case, the client can specify the packet match criterion instead of providing a packet to be injected.

In both the scenarios, the packet processing information—more specifically the egress port information for the packet—is provided back to the client.

CONFIGURABILITY

The following configurability is provided by the Packet Trace feature.

- The Packet Trace feature can be enabled or disabled on the Agent.
- The Packet Trace feature can be configured to collect trace-profile periodically for a client supplied packet and send trace-profile to the client at configurable interval (as notification reports).
- The Packet Trace feature can provide a trace-profile for a client-supplied packet on demand.
- The Packet Trace feature can be configured to drop or forward the packet injected by requestor after the trace-profile is collected by the Agent.
- The Packet Trace feature can be configured to collect a trace-profile for all live traffic packets on the wire, matching user-supplied criteria and send a trace-profile to the client (as notification reports).

PACKET FORMAT

The BroadView Agent expects the packet to be in a PCAP format, which is a binary format. However, JSON has no data type to represent the binary data. This means that the collector must encode the PCAP in base64 format. The Agent decodes the PCAP information, which is in a base64 format, as binary and strips the PCAP global header and PCAP packet header before injecting the packet.

Each PCAP file can have multiple packets, but the BroadView Agent supports only one packet in a given base64-encoded PCAP data.

After decoding, the Agent checks the first four bytes for the magic number ¹⁰. If the first four bytes is not the magic number, the input file data is ignored. The Agent also checks for the major and minor numbers. The supported major number is 2, and the supported minor number is 4. If the magic number and major and minor numbers are valid, then the Agent extracts the packet by removing the PCAP file header and the PCAP packet header.

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¹⁰ For more details about the PCAP magic number, consult PCAP documentation available on the Internet.

The following is an example of the decoded packet (after base64 decoding) on the Agent.

The Agent deciphers this packet as follows:

- The first four bytes are the magic number (a1 b2 c3 d4).
- The major version is 2 (0 2), which is two bytes.
- The minor version number (0 4) is two bytes.
- The total length of the PCAP file header is 24 bytes, and the PCAP packet length is 16 bytes.
- The four bytes from offset 32 indicate the captured packet length (00 00 00 78), and the subsequent four bytes (00 00 00 78) indicate the length of the packet on the wire.

If the captured packet length is smaller than the packet length on the wire, then the input is discarded, and an appropriate error code is returned by the Agent.

In this document, wherever a packet is used in a JSON request/response, a partial encoded packet with trailing dots as shown below is used for brevity.

"packet": "0010203232.."

LIVE TRAFFIC TRIGGERED TRACE-PROFILE

Instead of the client providing a packet and requesting a trace-profile, the client can provide 5-tuple information and request a trace-profile for packets matching the specified criteria. The Agent copies the packets matching the conditions specified in the 5-tuple to the CPU and then injects them to the switch ASIC to retrieve the packet trace profile. If this feature is supported, then the string Live-PT is included in the response to the API get-switch-properties.

The 5-tuple parameters are listed below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
src-ip	String	IP address is used to match the source IP address of the packet.
dst-ip	String	IP address is used to match destination IP address of the packet.
Protocol	String	Protocol number is used to match layer-4 protocol number in the packet.
14-src-port	String	Layer-4 source port number is used to match the L4 source port of the packet.
14-dst-port	String	Layer-4 destination port number is used to match the L4 destination port of the packet.

The client may specify a wildcard for any of these parameters. A wildcard indicates a "match any" condition for that parameter. A wildcard is specified using the string "any" in the JSON request.

Up to three wildcards in a given 5-tuple are accepted by the Agent.

Trace profile information is sent asynchronously by the Agent for traffic-triggered trace-profile requests.

TIMESTAMPS

The trace-profile data contains the parameters packet-received-time-stamp, packet-ingress-time-stamp and packet-egress-time-stamp.

- The packet-received-time-stamp indicates the CPU time when the packet is received.
- The packet-ingress-time-stamp indicates the ASIC time when the packet is received by the ASIC.
- The packet-egress-time-stamp indicates the ASIC time when the packet leaves the ASIC.

The ability for the Agent to report either/both of the timestamps, packet-ingress-time-stamp and packet-egress-time-stamp, is determined by the capability of the ASIC. If the ASIC does not provide the necessary data, the Agent does not include those fields in the response JSON.

Both of the timestamps, packet-ingress-time-stamp and packet-egress-time-stamp, are valid only for live traffic triggered trace-profile reports.

DECIPHERING TRACE-PROFILE

The ASIC reports the results of the packet trace (trace-profile) for different switching and routing tables. The results are presented under various categories, called *realms*.

The following table provides the list of realms and the associated results for each realm. It also lists the available fields/information for each realm.

Realm	Index	Trace-Profile Parameters
lag-link-resolution		lag-id,
		lag-members,
		dst-lag-member,
		fabric-lag-id ¹¹ ,
		fabric-lag-members,
		fabric-lag-dst-member
ecmp-link-resolution	ecmp-level	ecmpgroup-id,
		ecmp-members,
		ecmp-dst-member,
		ecmpdst-port,
		ecmpnext-hop-ip
link-resolution		dst-port

The LAG and ECMP resolution parameters are standard parameters and need no further explanation. The dst-port parameter in the link-resolution realm indicates the egress-port on which the packet exited the switch.

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¹¹ The three parameters fabric-lag-id, fabric-lag-members and fabric-lag-dst-member are deprecated, and the trace-profile reports sent by the Agent do not hold any value in these parameters. These are kept in the JSON structure for maintaining backward compatibility and may be removed in a future version.

```
A sample trace-profile report is shown below.
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-packet-trace-profile",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "version": "1"
    "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
    "report": [
         {
              "port": "1",
              "trace-profile": [
                  {
                       "realm": "lag-link-resolution",
                       "data": {
                           "lag-id": "2",
                           "lag-members": ["1", "2", "3", "4"],
                           "dst-lag-member": "4"
                       }
                  },
{
                       "realm": "ecmp-link-resolution",
                       "data": [
                           {
                                "ecmp-group-id": "200256",
                                "ecmp-members": [
    ["100005", "3.3.3.2", "15"],
    ["100006", "4.4.4.2", "16"]
                                     ],
                                "ecmp-dst-member": "100005",
                                "ecmp-dst-port": "15",
                                "ecmp-next-hop-ip": "3.3.3.2"
                           }
                       1
          }
             ]
         },
              "port": "2",
              "trace-profile": [
                       "realm": "lag-link-resolution",
                       "data": {
                           "lag-id": "2",
                           "lag-members": ["1","2","3","4"],
                           "dst-lag-member": "4"
                       }
                  },
{
                       "realm": "ecmp-link-resolution",
                       "data": [
                           {
                                "ecmp-group-id": "200256",
                                "ecmp-members": [
                              ["100005", "3.3.3.2", "15"], ["100006", "4.4.4.2", "16"]
```

API

OVERVIEW

This section lists various APIs supported by the Packet Trace feature. A detailed description of each API is available in subsequent sections.

API	Туре	Description
configure-packet-trace- feature	Configuration	Configure global options for packet trace and reporting
get-packet-trace- feature	Status Reporting	Obtain the current configuration for packet trace
get-packet-trace-lag- resolution	Status Reporting	Request the LAG resolution report for a given packet/packet match criterion.
get-packet-trace-ecmp- resolution	Status Reporting	Request the ECMP resolution report for a given packet/packet match criterion.
get-packet-trace- profile	Status Reporting	Request the complete packet resolution report for a given packet/packet match criterion.
cancel-packet-trace- lag-resolution	Configuration	Stop a previously initiated LAG resolution command.
cancel-packet-trace- ecmp-resolution	Configuration	Stop a previously initiated ECMP resolution command.
cancel-packet-trace- profile	Configuration	Stop a previously initiated Packet Trace profile command.
cancel-request	Configuration	Stop a previously initiated periodic reporting command.

CONFIGURATION / CLEAR API

CONFIGURE-PACKET-TRACE-FEATURE

The configure-packet-trace-feature command sets up the Packet Trace functionality on the Agent. The parameters associated with this command are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
packet-trace- enable	Boolean	Determines whether the Packet Trace feature should be active or not on the Agent.
		By default, the Packet Trace feature is inactive on the Agent.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "configure-packet-trace-feature",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "packet-trace-enable": 1
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

CANCEL-PACKET-TRACE-PROFILE

The cancel-packet-trace-profile command is used to cancel the trace-profile request that has been made by the collector through the get-packet-trace-profile API. The parameters associated with this command are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
id	Integer	Identifier of the trace-profile request made by the collector. The ID used in this command is the same as the ID of the corresponding get-packet-trace-profile request.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "cancel-packet-trace-profile",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "id": 2
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

CANCEL-PACKET-TRACE-LAG-RESOLUTION

The cancel-packet-trace-lag-resolution command is used to cancel the lag-resolution request that has been made by the collector through the get-packet-trace-lag-resolution API. The parameter associated with this command is described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
id	Integer	The ID of the lag-resolution request made already by the Collector. The ID used in this command is same as the id parameter of the corresponding get-packet-trace-lag-resolution request.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "cancel-packet-trace-lag-resolution",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "id": 2
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

CANCEL-PACKET-TRACE-ECMP-RESOLUTION

The cancel-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution command is used to cancel the ecmp-resolution request that has been made by the collector through the get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution API.

Parameter	Туре	Description
id	Integer	The ID of the ecmp-resolution request made by the collector. The ID used in this command is same as the id parameter of the <i>get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution</i> request.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "cancel-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "id": 2
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

STATUS / REPORTING API

GET-PACKET-TRACE-FEATURE

The get-packet-trace-feature command is used to retrieve the current configuration of the Packet Trace functionality on the Agent. This API does not require any parameters.

For the response, the Agent returns the same parameters as that of the configure-packet-trace-feature command.

A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-packet-trace-feature",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {},
    "id": 1
}
```

An associated sample response is shown below.

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

GET-PACKET-TRACE-LAG-RESOLUTION

The get-packet-trace-lag-resolution command is used to retrieve the LAG resolution. There are two sets of parameters to this API depending on the following two possibilities:

- Option 1: The client prefers a trace-profile for an injected debug/PCAP packet.
- Option 2: The client prefers to specify a match criterion and needs a trace-profile for live traffic matching that criterion.¹²

The set of parameters for Option 1 are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
packet	String	The packet ¹³ to which the trace-profile is requested. Requestor have to send a full packet to the Agent. The Agent will inject this packet into the ingress pipeline as if it receives the packet.
port-list	String	Determines the ports on which the trace-profile is requested.

¹² This method is described in *Traffic-Triggered Trace-Profile*.

¹³ The packet format is described in *Packet Format*.

Parameter	Туре	Description
collection- interval	Integer	Determines the periodicity with which the trace-profiles are collected from the ASIC.
		The units for this parameter are seconds. The default value for this is 60 seconds. The minimum value of interval is 0 second. If the value is 0, the trace-profile report is sent as response to request and periodic reporting is not enabled.
drop-packet	Boolean	Determines whether the ASIC has to drop the packet or forward once the trace-profile is collected. The default value is true.

The set of parameters for Option#2 are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
src-ip	String	IP address is used to match the source IP address of the packet.
dst-ip	String	IP address is used to match destination IP address of the packet.
protocol	String	Protocol number is used to match the L4 protocol number in the packet.
14-src-port	String	L4 source port number is used to match the L4 source port of the packet
14-dst-port	String	L4 destination port number is used to match the L4 destination port of the packet
port-list	String	Determines the ports on which trace-profile is requested.
packet-limit	Integer	Determines the maximum number of packet samples for configured interval (as specified by the collection-interval parameter below) to be sent to the collector. Default value is 5.
collection- interval	Integer	Determines the time period during which maximum of n (as configured using packet-limit) trace-profiles are collected from the ASIC.
		The units for this parameter are seconds. The default value for this is 10 seconds. The minimum value of interval is 1 second.
drop-packet	Boolean	Determines whether ASIC has to drop the packet or forward once the trace-profile is collected. Default value is true.

A sample JSON-RPC request containing the packet is shown below.

```
"jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-packet-trace-lag-resolution",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "packet": "000001000002....",
        "port-list": ["1","2","3","4-10"],
        "collection-interval": 10,
        "drop-packet": 1
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

An associated sample response for the above requests is shown below. The response is asynchronous if the collection interval is non-zero.

```
{
     "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": " get-packet-trace-lag-resolution",
     "asic-id": "1",
     "version": "3",
     "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
     "packet-info": [{
               "packet-received-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
               "packet-ingress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ", "packet-egress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
               "packet": "0010203232.."
       }],
     "report": [
         {
              "port": "1",
              "lag-link-resolution": {
                   "lag-id": "2",
                   "lag-members": [
                       <sup>*</sup>"1",
                        "2",
                        "3"
                   dst-lag-member": "4"
              }
         },
{
              "port": "2",
              "lag-link-resolution": {
                   "lag-id": "2",
                   "lag-members": [
                        "1",
                        "2",
                       "3",
                        "4"
                   ],
"dst-lag-member": "4"
              }
         }
    ],
"id": 1
}
```

```
A sample JSON-RPC request containing 5-tuple information is shown below.
{
       "jsonrpc": "2.0",
       "method": "get-packet-trace-lag-resolution",
       "asic-id": "1",
       "params": {
              "src-ip": "192.168.1.1",
              "dst-ip": "10.10.1.1",
              "protocol": "4",
              "14-src-port": "27",
              "14-dst-port": "35",
"port-list": ["1", "2", "3", "4-10"],
              "packet-limit": 5,
              "collection-interval": 1,
              "drop-packet": 1
       },
"id": 1
}
```

The profile information is sent asynchronously for the request if the 5-tuple match criterion is specified. An associated sample response for the above request is shown below.

```
{
       "jsonrpc": "2.0",
      "method": " get-packet-trace-lag-resolution",
      "asic-id": "1",
       "version": "3"
       "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
   "packet-info": [{
             "packet-received-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
             "packet-ingress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
             "packet-egress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 "
             "packet": "0010203232..."
      }],
    "report": [
        {
            "port": "1",
            "lag-link-resolution": {
                 "lag-id": "2",
                 "lag-members": [
                     "1",
                     "2",
                     "3"
                     "4"
                 "dst-lag-member": "4"
            }
        },
            "port": "2",
            "lag-link-resolution": {
                 "lag-id": "2",
                "lag-members": [
```

```
"1",
"2",
"3",
"4"
],
"dst-lag-member": "4"
}
}
"id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

GET-PACKET-TRACE-ECMP-RESOLUTION

The get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution API retrieves the ECMP resolution. There are two sets of parameters to this API depending on the two possibilities below.

- Option 1: The client prefers a trace-profile for a pre-available packet.
- Option 2: The client prefers to specify a match criterion and needs a trace-profile for live traffic matching that criterion.¹⁴

The set of parameters for Option 1 are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
packet	String	Packet to which trace-profile is requested. The requestor has to send a full packet to the Agent, and the Agent will inject this packet into the ingress pipeline as if it received the packet.
port-list	String	Determines the ports on which a trace-profile is requested.
collection- interval	Integer	Determines the periodicity with which the trace-profiles are collected from the ASIC.
		The units for this parameter are seconds. The default value for this is 60 seconds. The minimum value of interval is 0 second. If the value is 0, the trace-profile report is sent as response to request and periodic reporting is not enabled.
drop-packet	Boolean	Determines whether the ASIC has to drop the packet or forward once the trace-profile is collected. Default value is true.

The set of parameters for Option 2 are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
src-ip	String	IP address is used to match the source IP address of the packet
dst-ip	String	IP address is used to match destination IP address of the packet
protocol	String	Protocol number is used to match L4 protocol number in the packet
14-src-port	String	Layer-4 source port number is used to match the L4 source port of the packet

¹⁴ This method is described in *Traffic–Triggered Trace-Profile*.

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Parameter	Туре	Description
14-dst-port	String	Layer-4 destination port number is used to match the L4 destination port of the packet
port-list	String	Determines the ports on which trace-profile is requested.
packet-limit	Integer	Number of samples made by the Agent in the collection interval. Default value is 5.
collection- interval	Integer	Determines the time period during which maximum of n (as configured using packet-limit) trace-profiles are collected from the ASIC.
		The units for this parameter are seconds. The default value for this is 10 seconds. The minimum value of interval is 1 second.
drop-packet	Boolean	Determines whether the ASIC has to drop the packet or forward once the trace-profile is collected. Default value is true.

A sample JSON-RPC request containing packet is shown below.

```
"jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "packet": "000001000002....",
        "port-list": ["1","2","3","4-10"],
        "collection-interval": 10,
        "drop-packet": 1
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

An associated sample response is shown below. The response is asynchronous if the collection interval is non-zero.

```
"jsonrpc": "2.0",
"method": " get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution",
"asic-id": "1",
"version": "3",
"time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
"packet-info": [{
         "packet-received-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
          "packet-ingress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
          "packet-egress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
          "packet": "0010203232.."
  }],
"report": [
        "port": "1",
        "ecmp-link-resolution": [
            {
                 "ecmp-group-id": "200256",
                 "ecmp-members": [
                               ["100005", "3.3.3.2", "15"],
["100006", "4.4.4.2", "16"]
```

```
"ecmp-dst-member": "100005",
                      "ecmp-dst-port": "15",
                      "ecmp-next-hop-ip": "3.3.3.2"
                  }
             ]
         },
{
             "port": "2",
             "ecmp-link-resolution": [
                  {
                       "ecmp-group-id": "200256",
                      "ecmp-members": [
                                     ["100005", "3.3.3.2", "15"],
                                     ["100006", "4.4.4.2", "16"]
                       "ecmp-dst-member": "100005",
                      "ecmp-dst-port": "15",
                      "ecmp-next-hop-ip": "3.3.3.2"
                  }
             ]
         }
    ],
"id": 1
}
A sample JSON-RPC request containing 5-tuple information is shown below.
       "jsonrpc": "2.0",
"method": " get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution",
"asic-id": "1",
       "params": {
               "src-ip": "192.168.1.1",
               "dst-ip": "10.10.1.1",
              "protocol": "4",
"14-src-port": "27",
              "14-dst-port": "35",
               "port-list": ["1", "2", "3", "4-10"],
               "packet-limit": 5,
               "collection-interval": 1,
              "drop-packet": 1
       },
"id": 1
}
```

An associated sample response is shown below. The profile information is sent asynchronously for the request if the 5-tuple match criterion is specified.

```
{
       "jsonrpc": "2.0",
       "method": " get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution",
       "asic-id": "1",
       "version": "31"
       "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
       "packet-info": [{
              "packet-received-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
              "packet-ingress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 "
              "packet-egress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
              "packet": "0010203232.."
       }],
       "report": [{
              "port": "1",
              "ecmp-link-resolution": [{
                     "ecmp-group-id": "200256",
                     "ecmp-members": [
                                   ["100005", "3.3.3.2", "15"], ["100006", "4.4.4.2", "16"]
                     "ecmp-dst-member": "100005",
                     "ecmp-dst-port": "15",
                     "ecmp-next-hop-ip": "3.3.3.2"
              }]
       }],
       "id": 1
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

GET-PACKET-TRACE-PROFILE

The get-packet-trace-profile API retrieves the Packet Trace egress resolution. This API obtains the LAG resolution (get-packet-trace-lag-resolution), ECMP resolution (get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution) and a link resolution from the ASIC.

There are two sets of parameters to this API depending on the following two possibilities:

- Option 1: The client prefers a trace-profile for a pre-available packet,
- Option 2: The client prefers to specify a match criterion and needs a trace-profile for live traffic matching that criterion ¹⁵

The Agent attempts to resolve LAG and ECMP for the packet(s) obtained. The response includes one of the following:

- The LAG resolution (same as response of resolution get-packet-trace-lag-resolution).
- The ECMP resolution (same as response of resolution get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution).
- The link resolution (egress port information) if the packet could not be traced to either a LAG or ECMP.

The set of parameters for Option 1 are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
packet	String	Packet to which trace-profile is requested. Requestor have to send full packet to Agent, Agent will inject this packet into the ingress pipeline as if it receives the packet.
port-list	String	Determines the ports on which trace-profile is requested.
collection- interval	Integer	Determines the periodicity with which the trace-profiles are collected from the ASIC.
		The units for this parameter are seconds. The default value for this is 60 seconds. The minimum value of interval is 0 second. If the value is 0, the trace-profile report is sent as response to request and periodic reporting is not enabled.
drop-packet	Boolean	Determines whether ASIC has to drop the packet or forward once the trace-profile is collected. Default value is true.

The set of parameters for Option 2 are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
src-ip	String	IP address is used to match the source IP address of the packet
dst-ip	String	IP address is used to match destination IP address of the packet
protocol	String	Protocol number is used to match layer-4 protocol number in the packet
14-src-port	String	Layer-4 source port number is used to match the L4 source port of the packet
14-dst-port	String	Layer-4 destination port number is used to match the L4 destination port of the packet
port-list	String	Determines the ports on which trace-profile is requested.

¹⁵ This method is described in *Traffic–Triggered Trace-Profile*.

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Parameter	Туре	Description
packet-limit	Integer	Number of samples made by the Agent in the collection interval. Default value is 5.
collection- interval	Integer	Determines the time period during which maximum of n (as configured using packet-limit) trace-profiles are collected from the ASIC.
		The units for this parameter are seconds. The default value for this is 10 seconds. The minimum value of interval is 1 second.
drop-packet	Boolean	Determines whether ASIC has to drop the packet or forward once the trace-profile is collected. Default value is true.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request containing packet is shown below.
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-packet-trace-profile",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
        "packet": "000001000002...",
        "port-list": ["1","2","3","4-10"],
        "collection-interval": 10,
        "drop-packet": 1
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

An associated sample response is shown below. The response is asynchronous if the collection interval is non-zero.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-packet-trace-profile",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "version": "3",
    "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
    "packet-info": [{
             "packet-received-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
             "packet-ingress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 "
             "packet-egress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
             "packet": "0010203232.."
      }],
    "report": [
{
            "port": "1",
            "trace-profile": [
                {
                    "realm": "lag-link-resolution",
                    "data": {
                        "lag-id": "2",
                        "lag-members": ["1", "2", "3", "4"],
                        "dst-lag-member": "4"
                    }
                },
```

```
"realm": "ecmp-link-resolution",
              "data":
                 [
                  {
                       "ecmp-group-id": "200256",
                      "ecmp-members": [
    ["100005", "3.3.3.2", "15"],
    ["100006", "4.4.4.2", "16"]],
                       "ecmp-dst-member": "100005",
                       "ecmp-dst-port": "15",
                       "ecmp-next-hop-ip": "3.3.3.2"
                  }
             ]
         },
             "realm": "link-resolution",
             "data": [{
                    "dst-port": "15"
             }]
      }
    ]
},
{
     "port": "2",
     "trace-profile": [
         {
              "realm": "lag-link-resolution",
              "data": {
                  "lag-id": "2",
                  "lag-members": ["1", "2", "3", "4"],
                  "dst-lag-member": "4"
             }
         },
{
             "realm": "ecmp-link-resolution",
              "data":
                  {
                       "ecmp-group-id": "200256",
                       "ecmp-members": [
                            ["100005", "3.3.3.2", "15"],
["100006", "4.4.4.2", "16"]],
                       "ecmp-dst-member": "100005",
                       "ecmp-dst-port": "15",
                       "ecmp-next-hop-ip": "3.3.3.2"
             ]
        },
             "realm": "link-resolution",
             }]
```

```
}
    "id": 1
A sample JSON-RPC request containing 5-tuple information is shown below.
       "jsonrpc": "2.0",
       "method": "get-packet-trace-lag-resolution",
       "asic-id": "1",
       "params": {
              "src-ip": "192.168.1.1",
              "dst-ip": "10.10.1.1",
              "protocol": "4",
              "14-src-port": "27",
              "14-dst-port": "35",
              "port-list": ["1", "2", "3", "4-10"],
              "packet-limit": 5,
              "collection-interval": 1,
              "drop-packet": 1
      },
"id": 1
}
An associated sample response is shown below. The profile information is sent asynchronously for the
request if the 5-tuple match criterion is specified.
{
       "jsonrpc": "2.0",
       "method": "get-packet-trace-profile",
"asic-id": "1",
       "version": "13",
       "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
       "packet-info": [{
```

```
"packet-received-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
      "packet-ingress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
      "packet-egress-time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:00 ",
      "packet": "0010203232.."
}],
"report": [{
      "port": "1",
      "trace-profile": [{
             "realm": "lag-link-resolution",
             "data": {
                    "lag-id": "2",
                    "lag-members": ["1", "2", "3", "4"],
                    "dst-lag-member": "4"
      }, {
             "realm": "ecmp-link-resolution",
             "data": [{
                    "ecmp-group-id": "200256",
                    "ecmp-members": [
                           ["100005", "3.3.3.2", "15"],
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

BLACK HOLE DETECTION (BHD)

OVERVIEW¹⁶

Black holes refer to logical places in the network where incoming or outgoing traffic is silently discarded. A black hole condition arises when the traffic is directed towards an incorrect path, which causes the packets to traverse the same set of nodes in a loop. This continues until the packet's Time-to-Live (TTL) expires, at which point the packet is discarded. This condition is called *black holing* as the packet fails to reach the destination node.

A black hole in the data plane is a symptom of an inconsistent configuration of one or more routing tables in the network data plane. Such inconsistency may be the result of a benign condition that will heal by itself, such as a link or switch failure, and the awareness of the failure has not fully propagated to the entire network. The inconsistency might also be a persistent condition such as a hardware bug, a software defect, or a configuration mistake.

The BroadView Agent allows clients to monitor for potential black holes in the network. Upon appropriate configuration, the Agent notifies the client of a likely black hole, while also providing the specific packets that are being black holed. It allows network operators to separate the benign from the problematic causes, take immediate corrective action to avoid persistent packet loss, and help isolate the root cause.

Optionally, the BroadView Agent can also send samples of black holed packets to an sFlow receiver.

BLACK HOLE PORTS

In a typical spine-leaf topology, the uplink ports on the leaf switches connecting back to spine switches are called *spine ports*. Packets that enter leaf switches from spine switches tend not to go back to spine switches. If a packet comes into a leaf switch from one of the spine ports and egresses from another of the spine ports, it is usually a symptom of black holing. Such packets are likely to be forward within the same spine-leaf-spine loop and will eventually be discarded.

In the context of this feature, the set of ports where the packet cannot both ingress and egress are called *black hole ports*. Typically, these are the spine ports.

REPORTING BLACK HOLE EVENTS

The BroadView Instrumentation Agent monitors the black hole ports and reports each black holing event to the configured client. The event report includes the following information:

- Ingress port
- Egress port
- Packet that caused the event¹⁷

This information enables the client to take appropriate corrective action. It is also possible to configure the Agent to send the black holing packets to an sFlow receiver connected to one of the switch ports.

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¹⁶ A white paper describing the Black Hole Detection and Avoidance feature is available on the Broadcom Website.

¹⁷ The Packet is reported in the base64-encoded-pcap format described in *Packet Format*..

CONFIGURABILITY

The following configurability is provided by the BHD feature.

- The BHD feature can be enabled or disabled on the Agent.
- The client provides the list of black hole ports.
- The BHD feature can be configured to monitor for black holing packets and send black holing event reports to the client (as notification reports).
- The client can configure a watermark level for black holing packets (in packets/sec) to ignore transient conditions.
- The BHD feature can be configured to send the black holing packets to an sFlow receiver connected to one of the switch ports.

Some of the BHD capabilities, such as reporting to an sFlow receiver, require specific ASIC capabilities. If the client configuration cannot be supported on the underlying hardware, the Agent returns an appropriate error.

API

OVERVIEW

This section lists various API supported by the Black Hole Detection feature. A detailed description of each of the API is available in subsequent sections.

API	Туре	Description
black-hole-detection- enable	Configuration	Configure global options for BHD
configure-black-hole	Configuration	Defines a port set constituting a black hole and parameters for reporting parameters.
cancel-black-hole	Configuration	Clears a previously set up black hole configuration and reporting parameters.
get-black-hole- detection-enable	Status Reporting	Obtain current BHD configuration.
get-black-hole	Status Reporting	Obtain the current black hole configuration and reporting parameters.
get-black-hole-event- report	Notification	Report from Agent indicating a "black holed packet" event.
get-sflow-sampling- status	Status Reporting	Obtain the sFlow reporting status.
cancel-request	Configuration	Stop a previously initiated periodic reporting command.

CONFIGURATION API

BLACK-HOLE-DETECTION-ENABLE

The black-hole-detection-enable command enables the Black Hole Detection functionality on the switch. The parameters associated with this command are described below.

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Parameter	Туре	Description
enable	Boolean	When enabled, the BroadView Agent enables the Black Hole Detection feature. When disabled, Black Hole Detection feature is disabled on the Agent and any existing configuration is discarded.
		By default, the feature is turned OFF.

A sample JSON-RPC request to enable BHD is shown below.

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

CONFIGURE-BLACK-HOLE

The configure-black-hole command sets up the Black Hole Detection functionality on the switch.

The parameters associated with this command are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
port-list	String	List of ports where the traffic is monitored for black holes.
sampling-method	String Enumeration	Sampling method used to sample packets. Supported values are "agent" and "sflow".

Sampling parameters for Agent sampling are provided below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
water-mark	Integer	This represents the traffic rate in packet/sec above which traffic is considered as black holed. Sampling would start only after the watermark level is crossed. Default is 1024.
sample- periodicity	Integer	Time interval in seconds. Default is 10secs
sample-count	Integer	Number of samples to be sent for every sample-periodicity interval. Default is 2. If sample-count is set to '0' then sampling is stopped.

Sampling parameters for SFlow sampling are provided below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
mirror-port	String	Port number on which sFlow encapsulated sample packet is sent out
vlan-id	Integer	The VLAN identifier of the sFlow encapsulation header.
destination-ip	String	Destination IP address in the sFlow encapsulation header
source-udp-port	Integer	Source UDP port number in the sFlow encapsulation header
destination-udp- port	Integer	Destination UDP port number in the sFlow encapsulation header
sample-pool-size	Integer	Represents the packet pool size for sampling. One packet is sampled out of <i>sample-pool-size</i> packets. Minimum is 1024. Default is 1024

```
A sample JSON-RPC request to configure BHD using sFlow agent sampling is shown below.

{

"jsonrpc": "2.0",

"method": "configure-black-hole ",

"asic-id": "1",

"params": {

"port-list": ["1", "2", "3", "4"],

"sampling-method": "sflow",

"sampling-params": {

"encapsulation-params": {

"vlan-id": 1,

"destination-ip": "1.1.1.1",

"source-udp-port": 1234,

"destination-udp-port": 4321

},

"mirror-port": "10",

"sample-pool-size": 1024

}
```

```
},
"id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command, and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

CANCEL-BLACK-HOLE

The cancel-black-hole API removes all black hole configurations on the switch. There are no parameters associated with this command.

A sample JSON-RPC request to cancel black hole is shown below.

```
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "cancel-black-hole",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {
    },
    "id": 1
}
```

The Agent acknowledges the command and returns an appropriate error code if needed.

STATUS / REPORTING API

GET-BLACK-HOLE-DETECTION-ENABLE

The get-black-hole-detection-enable API retrieves the current status of the BHD feature on the Agent. There are no parameters to this API. The parameters for response are same as that of black-hole-detection-enable API.

A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.

```
"jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-black-hole-detection-enable",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "params": {},
    "id": 1
}
```

An associated sample response is shown below.

GET-BLACK-HOLE

The get-black-hole API retrieves the current configuration of the Black Hole Detection feature on the Agent. There are no parameters to this API. The parameters for response are same as that of configure-black-hole API.

```
A sample JSON-RPC request is shown below.
{
       "jsonrpc": "2.0",
       "method": "get-black-hole",
       "asic-id": "1",
       "params": {},
       "id": 1
}
An associated sample response is shown below for Agent sampling.
{
       "jsonrpc": "2.0",
       "method": "get-black-hole",
"asic-id": "1",
       "version": "2",
       "result": {
              "port-list": ["1", "2", "3", "4"],
              "sampling-method": "agent",
              "sampling-params": {
                     "water-mark": 200,
                     "sample-periodicity": 15,
                     "sample-count": 10
              }
```

GET-SFLOW-SAMPLING-STATUS

The get-sflow-sampling-status API retrieves the current sFlow status for black holed traffic.

The parameters associated with this command are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
port-list	String	List of ports on which the sFlow sampling status is requested

The parameters associated with response are described below.

The parameters according that responds are according a solution.		
Parameter	Туре	Description
port	String	Port number
sflow-sampling- enabled	Boolean	sFlow sampling status
sampled-packet- count	Integer	Total number of packets sampled since sFlow sampling is enabled
black-holed- packet-count	Integer	Total number of packets Black Holed since sFlow sampling is enabled

An associated sample response is shown below.

```
{
      "jsonrpc": "2.0",
      "method": "get-sflow-sampling-status",
      "asic-id": "1",
      "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
       "version": "2",
      "report": {
             "data": [{
                    "port": "2",
                    "sflow-sampling-enabled": 1,
                    "sampled-packet-count": 100,
                    "black-holed-packet-count": 1000
             }, {
                    "port": "3",
                    "sflow-sampling-enabled": 1,
                    "sampled-packet-count": 200,
                    "black-holed-packet-count": 2000
             }]
      },
"id": 1
```

NOTIFICATIONS

GET-BLACK-HOLE-EVENT-REPORT

The REST JSON message get-black-hole-event-report is used to send asynchronous black hole event reports, including the sampled packet, to the client. This is applicable only when the Agent is configured in Agent sampling mode.

The parameters associated with this notification are described below.

Parameter	Туре	Description
ingress-port	String	Port number on which the packet has entered the switch
egress-port-list	String	List of egress ports where the packet would be sent out.
black-holed- packet-count	Integer	Total number of packets black holed.
sample-packet	String	Sampled packet in PCAP format with BASE 64 encoding.

```
A sample notification message is shown below.
{
    "jsonrpc": "2.0",
    "method": "get-black-hole-event-report",
    "asic-id": "1",
    "version": "2",
    "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ",
    "report": {
        "ingress-port": "1",
        "egress-port-list": ["2", "3"],
        "black-holed-packet-count": 100,
        "sample-packet": "0010203232.."
    }
}
```

Sampled packets larger than 1588 bytes are truncated and might appear as malformed at the client side.

REFERENCE APPLICATIONS

Also available, along with the Agent is the BroadView[™] Analytics application. This application is Javabased, runs on a PC, and can interact with multiple switches running the BroadView[™] Agent. This application showcases the visibility and telemetry information provided by the Agent.

LICENSE

All of the user-space code of BroadView is licensed under the Apache License, Version 2.0 (the "License"). You may obtain a copy of this license at http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0.

SOURCE CODE

BroadView™ software is available in two packages:

- An OEM and ODM Development Package (ODP), which is a full source code package distributed under Broadcom SLA
- A Community Development Package (CDP), which is an Open API library with Application Development Kit distributed on GitHub

DOCUMENTATION

The majority of the technical documents are located in the GitHub repository including:

- BroadView API Guide and Reference Manual
- Compile/Build procedure

APPENDIX A: JSON PAYLOAD REVISION HISTORY

The response message from the Agent contains a field called **version**. This field contains an integer indicating the specific JSON payload version being used by the Agent. The version number is incremented for every set of changes introduced in the JSON payload. The client may use this version number information to parse/decipher the response messages from the Agent.

The table below provides a listing of various changes introduced in the JSON payload along with corresponding values for **version** field.

Previous Version	New Version	Change Description	Example
0	1	New fields introduced in response message for get-bst-feature command stats-in-percentage async-full-reports trigger-rate-limit trigger-rate-limit-interval send-snapshot-on-trigger	<pre>"method": "get-bst-feature", "result": { "stat-in-percentage": 0, "async-full-reports": 1, "trigger-rate-limit": 0, "trigger-rate-limit- interval": 0, "send-snapshot-on- trigger": 0 }, }</pre>
0	1	New fields introduced in the notification message of trigger-report realm counter	<pre>{ "method": "trigger-report", "realm": "ingress-port- priority-group", "counter": "um-share-buffer- count", }</pre>
1	2	New fields introduced in the response message for get-switch-properties command. uid agent-ip agent-port time-stamp	{ "method": "get-switch- properties", "time-stamp": "2015-10-18 - 00:15:04", "uid": "0000d80bb99bbbbb", "agent-ip": "192.168.1.2", "agent-port": "8080" }

Previous Version	New Version	Change Description	Example
2	3	New fields introduced in the response / notification messages for the following commands: get-packet-trace-lag-resolution, get-packet-trace-ecmp-resolution get-packet-trace-profile packet-info packet-received-time-stamp packet-ingress-time-stamp packet-egress-time-stamp packet	<pre>{ "time-stamp": "2014-11-18 - 00:15:04 ", "packet-info": [{</pre>

REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Date	Description
1	25-Jul-16	Initial Draft
2	02-Aug-16	Added Feature and API Listing
3	14-Aug-16	Added API References

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