CHAPTER 33 INTEL® PROCESSOR TRACE

33.1 OVERVIEW

Intel® Processor Trace (**Intel PT**) is an extension of Intel® Architecture that captures information about software execution using dedicated hardware facilities that cause only minimal performance perturbation to the software being traced. This information is collected in **data packets**. The initial implementations of Intel PT offer **control flow tracing**, which generates a variety of packets to be processed by a software decoder. The packets include timing, program flow information (e.g., branch targets, branch taken/not taken indications) and program-induced mode related information (e.g., Intel TSX state transitions, CR3 changes). These packets may be buffered internally before being sent to the memory subsystem or other output mechanism available in the platform. Debug software can process the trace data and reconstruct the program flow.

Intel Processor Trace was first introduced in Intel® processors based on Broadwell microarchitecture and Intel Atom® processors based on Goldmont microarchitecture. Later generations include additional trace sources, including software trace instrumentation using PTWRITE, and Power Event tracing.

33.1.1 Features and Capabilities

Intel PT’s control flow trace generates a variety of packets that, when combined with the binaries of a program by a post-processing tool, can be used to produce an exact execution trace. The packets record flow information such as instruction pointers (IP), indirect branch targets, and directions of conditional branches within contiguous code regions (basic blocks).

Intel PT can also be configured to log software-generated packets using PTWRITE, and packets describing processor power management events. Further, Precise Event-Based Sampling (PEBS) can be configured to log PEBS records in the Intel PT trace; see Section 20.5.5.2.

In addition, the packets record other contextual, timing, and bookkeeping information that enables both functional and performance debugging of applications. Intel PT has several control and filtering capabilities available to customize the tracing information collected and to append other processor state and timing information to enable debugging. For example, there are modes that allow packets to be filtered based on the current privilege level (CPL) or the value of CR3.

Configuration of the packet generation and filtering capabilities are programmed via a set of MSRs. The MSRs generally follow the naming convention of IA32_RTIT_*. The capability provided by these configuration MSRs are enumerated by CPUID, see Section 33.3. Details of the MSRs for configuring Intel PT are described in Section 33.2.8.

33.1.1.1 Packet Summary

After a tracing tool has enabled and configured the appropriate MSRs, the processor will collect and generate trace information in the following categories of packets (for more details on the packets, see Section 33.4):

- Packets about basic information on program execution; these include:
  - Packet Stream Boundary (PSB) packets: PSB packets act as ‘heartbeats’ that are generated at regular intervals (e.g., every 4K trace packet bytes). These packets allow the packet decoder to find the packet boundaries within the output data stream; a PSB packet should be the first packet that a decoder looks for when beginning to decode a trace.
  - Paging Information Packet (PIP): PIPs record modifications made to the CR3 register. This information, along with information from the operating system on the CR3 value of each process, allows the debugger to attribute linear addresses to their correct application source.
  - Time-Stamp Counter (TSC) packets: TSC packets aid in tracking wall-clock time, and contain some portion of the software-visible time-stamp counter.
  - Core Bus Ratio (CBR) packets: CBR packets contain the core:bus clock ratio.

  - Mini Time Counter (MTC) packets: MTC packets provide periodic indication of the passing of wall-clock time.
  - Cycle Count (CYC) packets: CYC packets provide indication of the number of processor core clock cycles that pass between packets.
  - Overflow (OVF) packets: OVF packets are sent when the processor experiences an internal buffer overflow, resulting in packets being dropped. This packet notifies the decoder of the loss and can help the decoder to respond to this situation.
- Packets about control flow information:
  - Taken Not-Taken (TNT) packets: TNT packets track the "direction" of direct conditional branches (taken or not taken).
  - Target IP (TIP) packets: TIP packets record the target IP of indirect branches, exceptions, interrupts, and other branches or events. These packets can contain the IP, although that IP value may be compressed by eliminating upper bytes that match the last IP. There are various types of TIP packets; they are covered in more detail in Section 33.4.2.2.
  - Flow Update Packets (FUP): FUPs provide the source IP addresses for asynchronous events (interrupt and exceptions), as well as other cases where the source address cannot be determined from the binary.
  - MODE packets: These packets provide the decoder with important processor execution information so that it can properly interpret the dis-assembled binary and trace log. MODE packets have a variety of formats that indicate details such as the execution mode (16-bit, 32-bit, or 64-bit).
- Packets inserted by software:
  - PTWRITE (PTW) packets: includes the value of the operand passed to the PTWRITE instruction (see "PTWRITE—Write Data to a Processor Trace Packet" in the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 2B).
- Packets about processor power management events:
  - MWAIT packets: Indicate successful completion of an MWAIT operation to a C-state deeper than C0.0.
  - Power State Entry (PWRE) packets: Indicate entry to a C-state deeper than C0.0.
  - Power State Exit (PWRX) packets: Indicate exit from a C-state deeper than C0.0, returning to C0.
  - Execution Stopped (EXSTOP) packets: Indicate that software execution has stopped, due to events such as P-state change, C-state change, or thermal throttling.
- Packets containing groups of processor state values:
  - Block Begin Packets (BBP): Indicate the type of state held in the following group.
  - Block Item Packets (BIP): Indicate the state values held in the group.
  - Block End Packets (BEP): Indicate the end of the current group.

33.2 INTEL® PROCESSOR TRACE OPERATIONAL MODEL

This section describes the overall Intel Processor Trace mechanism and the essential concepts relevant to how it operates.

33.2.1 Change of Flow Instruction (COFI) Tracing

A basic program block is a section of code where no jumps or branches occur. The instruction pointers (IPs) in this block of code need not be traced, as the processor will execute them from start to end without redirecting code flow. Instructions such as branches, and events such as exceptions or interrupts, can change the program flow. These instructions and events that change program flow are called Change of Flow Instructions (COFI). There are three categories of COFI:

- Direct transfer COFI.
- Indirect transfer COFI.
- Far transfer COFI.

The following subsections describe the COFI events that result in trace packet generation. Table 33-1 lists branch instruction by COFI types. For detailed description of specific instructions, see the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual.

Table 33-1. COFI Type for Branch Instructions

COFI Type	Instructions
Conditional Branch	JA, JAE, JB, JBE, JC, JCXZ, JECXZ, JRCXZ, JE, JG, JGE, JL, JLE, JNA, JNAE, JNB, JNBE, JNC, JNE, JNG, JNGE, JNL, JNLE, JNO, JNP, JNS, JNZ, JO, JP, JPE, JPO, JS, JZ, LOOP, LOOPE, LOOPNE, LOOPNZ, LOOPZ
Unconditional Direct Branch	JMP (E9 xx, EB xx), CALL (E8 xx)
Indirect Branch	JMP (FF /4), CALL (FF /2), RET (C3, C2 xx)
Far Transfers	INT1, INT3, INT *n*, INTO, IRET, IRETD, IRETQ, JMP (EA xx, FF /5), CALL (9A xx, FF /3), RET (CB, CA xx), SYSCALL, SYSRET, SYSENTER, SYSEXIT, VMLAUNCH, VMRESUME

33.2.1.1 Direct Transfer COFI

Direct Transfer COFI are relative branches. This means that their target is an IP whose offset from the current IP is embedded in the instruction bytes. It is not necessary to indicate target of these instructions in the trace output since it can be obtained through the source disassembly. Conditional branches need to indicate only whether the branch is taken or not. Unconditional branches do not need any recording in the trace output. There are two subcategories:

- **Conditional Branch (Jcc, J*CXZ) and LOOP**

  To track this type of instruction, the processor encodes a single bit (taken or not taken — TNT) to indicate the program flow after the instruction.

  Jcc, J*CXZ, and LOOP can be traced with TNT bits. To improve the trace packet output efficiency, the processor will compact several TNT bits into a single packet.

- **Unconditional Direct Jumps**

  There is no trace output required for direct unconditional jumps (like JMP near relative or CALL near relative) since they can be directly inferred from the application assembly. Direct unconditional jumps do not generate a TNT bit or a Target IP packet, though TIP.PGD and TIP.PGE packets can be generated by unconditional direct jumps that toggle Intel PT enables (see Section 33.2.6).

33.2.1.2 Indirect Transfer COFI

Indirect transfer instructions involve updating the IP from a register or memory location. Since the register or memory contents can vary at any time during execution, there is no way to know the target of the indirect transfer until the register or memory contents are read. As a result, the disassembled code is not sufficient to determine the target of this type of COFI. Therefore, tracing hardware must send out the destination IP in the trace packet for debug software to determine the target address of the COFI. Note that this IP may be a linear or effective address (see Section 33.3.1.1).

An indirect transfer instruction generates a Target IP Packet (TIP) that contains the target address of the branch. There are two sub-categories:

- **Near JMP Indirect and Near Call Indirect**

  As previously mentioned, the target of an indirect COFI resides in the contents of either a register or memory location. Therefore, the processor must generate a packet that includes this target address to allow the decoder to determine the program flow.

- **Near RET**

  When a CALL instruction executes, it pushes onto the stack the address of the next instruction following the CALL. Upon completion of the call procedure, the RET instruction is often used to pop the return address off of the call stack and redirect code flow back to the instruction following the CALL.

  A RET instruction simply transfers program flow to the address it popped off the stack. Because a called procedure may change the return address on the stack before executing the RET instruction, debug software can be misled if it assumes that code flow will return to the instruction following the last CALL. Therefore, even for near RET, a Target IP Packet may be sent.

— **RET Compression**

A special case is applied if the target of the RET is consistent with what would be expected from tracking the CALL stack. If it is assured that the decoder has seen the corresponding CALL (with "corresponding" defined as the CALL with matching stack depth), and the RET target is the instruction after that CALL, the RET target may be "compressed". In this case, only a single TNT bit of "taken" is generated instead of a Target IP Packet. To ensure that the decoder will not be confused in cases of RET compression, only RETs that correspond to CALLs which have been seen since the last PSB packet may be compressed in a given logical processor. For details, see "Indirect Transfer Compression for Returns (RET)" in Section 33.4.2.2.

33.2.1.3 Far Transfer COFI

All operations that change the instruction pointer and are not near jumps are "far transfers". This includes exceptions, interrupts, traps, TSX aborts, and instructions that do far transfers.

All far transfers will produce a Target IP (TIP) packet, which provides the destination IP address. For those far transfers that cannot be inferred from the binary source (e.g., asynchronous events such as exceptions and interrupts), the TIP will be preceded by a Flow Update packet (FUP), which provides the source IP address at which the event was taken. Table 33-23 indicates exactly which IP will be included in the FUP generated by a far transfer.

33.2.2 Software Trace Instrumentation with PTWRITE

PTWRITE provides a mechanism by which software can instrument the Intel PT trace. PTWRITE is a ring3-accessible instruction that can be passed to a register or memory variable, see "PTWRITE—Write Data to a Processor Trace Packet" in the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 2B, for details. The contents of that variable will be used as the payload for the PTW packet (see Table 33-40 "PTW Packet Definition"), inserted at the time of PTWRITE retirement, assuming PTWRITE is enabled and all other filtering conditions are met. Decode and analysis software will then be able to determine the meaning of the PTWRITE packet based on the IP of the associated PTWRITE instruction.

PTWRITE is enabled via IA32_RTIT_CTL.PTWEn[12] (see Table 33-6). Optionally, the user can use IA32_RTIT_CTL.FUPonPTW[5] to enable PTW packets to be followed by FUP packets containing the IP of the associated PTWRITE instruction. Support for PTWRITE is introduced in Intel Atom processors based on the Goldmont Plus microarchitecture.

33.2.3 Power Event Tracing

Power Event Trace is a capability that exposes core- and thread-level sleep state and power down transition information. When this capability is enabled, the trace will expose information about:

- Scenarios where software execution stops.
  - Due to sleep state entry, frequency change, or other powerdown.
  - Includes the IP, when in the tracing context.
- The requested and resolved hardware thread C-state.
  - Including indication of hardware autonomous C-state entry.
- The last and deepest core C-state achieved during a sleep session.
- The reason for C-state wake.

This information is in addition to the bus ratio (CBR) information provided by default after any powerdown, and the timing information (TSC, TMA, MTC, CYC) provided during or after a powerdown state.

Power Event Trace is enabled via IA32_RTIT_CTL.PwrEvtEn[4]. Support for Power Event Tracing is introduced in Intel Atom processors based on the Goldmont Plus microarchitecture.

33.2.4 Event Tracing

Event Trace is a capability that exposes details about the asynchronous events, when they are generated, and when their corresponding software event handler completes execution. These include:

- Interrupts, including NMI and SMI, including the interrupt vector when defined.
- Faults, exceptions including the fault vector.
  - Page faults additionally include the page fault address, when in context.
- Event handler returns, including IRET and RSM.
- VM exits and VM entries.[1]
  - VM exits include the values written to the "exit reason" and "exit qualification" VMCS fields.
- INIT and SIPI events.
- TSX aborts, including the abort status returned for the RTM instructions.
- Shutdown.

Additionally, it provides indication of the status of the Interrupt Flag (IF), to indicate when interrupts are masked.

Event Trace is enabled via IA32_RTIT_CTL.EventEn[31]. Event Trace information is conveyed in Control Flow Event (CFE) and Event Data (EVD) packets, as well as the legacy MODE.Exec packet. See Section 33.4.2 for packet details. Support for Event Trace is introduced in Intel® processors based on Gracemont microarchitecture.

33.2.5 Trace Filtering

Intel Processor Trace provides filtering capabilities, by which the debug/profile tool can control what code is traced.

33.2.5.1 Filtering by Current Privilege Level (CPL)

Intel PT provides the ability to configure a logical processor to generate trace packets only when CPL = 0, when CPL > 0, or regardless of CPL.

CPL filtering ensures that no IPs or other architectural state information associated with the filtered CPL can be seen in the log. For example, if the processor is configured to trace only when CPL > 0, and software executes SYSCALL (changing the CPL to 0), the destination IP of the SYSCALL will be suppressed from the generated packet (see the discussion of TIP.PGD in Section 33.4.2.5).

It should be noted that CPL is always 0 in real-address mode and that CPL is always 3 in virtual-8086 mode. To trace code in these modes, filtering should be configured accordingly.

When software is executing in a non-enabled CPL, ContextEn is cleared. See Section 33.2.6.1 for details.

33.2.5.2 Filtering by CR3

Intel PT supports a CR3-filtering mechanism by which the generation of packets containing architectural states can be enabled or disabled based on the value of CR3. A debugger can use CR3 filtering to trace only a single application without context switching the state of the RTIT MSRs. For the reconstruction of traces from software with multiple threads, debug software may wish to context-switch for the state of the RTIT MSRs (if the operating system does not provide context-switch support) to separate the output for the different threads (see Section 33.3.5, "Context Switch Consideration").

To trace for only a single CR3 value, software can write that value to the IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH MSR, and set IA32_RTIT_CTL.CR3Filter. When CR3 value does not match IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH and IA32_RTIT_CTL.CR3Filter is 1, ContextEn is forced to 0, and packets containing architectural states will not be generated. Some other packets can be generated when ContextEn is 0; see Section 33.2.6.3 for details. When CR3 does match IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH (or when IA32_RTIT_CTL.CR3Filter is 0), CR3 filtering does not force ContextEn to 0 (although it could be 0 due to other filters or modes).

---

1. Logging of VMX transitions depends on VMCS configuration, see Section 33.5.1.

CR3 matches IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH if the two registers are identical for bits 63:12, or 63:5 when in PAE paging mode; the lower 5 bits of CR3 and IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH are ignored. CR3 filtering is independent of the value of CR0.PG.

When CR3 filtering is in use, PIP packets may still be seen in the log if the processor is configured to trace when CPL = 0 (IA32_RTIT_CTL.OS = 1). If not, no PIP packets will be seen.

33.2.5.3 Filtering by IP

Trace packet generation with configurable filtering by IP is supported if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 2] = 1. Intel PT can be configured to enable the generation of packets containing architectural states only when the processor is executing code within certain IP ranges. If the IP is outside of these ranges, generation of some packets is blocked.

IP filtering is enabled using the ADDRn_CFG fields in the IA32_RTIT_CTL MSR (Section 33.2.8.2), where the digit 'n' is a zero-based number that selects which address range is being configured. Each ADDRn_CFG field configures the use of the register pair IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_A and IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_B (Section 33.2.8.5). IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_A defines the base and IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_B specifies the limit of the range in which tracing is enabled. Thus each range, referred to as the ADDRn range, is defined by [IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_B]. There can be multiple such ranges, software can query CPUID (Section 33.3.1) for the number of ranges supported on a processor.

Default behavior (ADDRn_CFG=0) defines no IP filter range, meaning FilterEn is always set. In this case code at any IP can be traced, though other filters, such as CR3 or CPL, could limit tracing. When ADDRn_CFG is set to enable IP filtering (see Section 33.3.1), tracing will commence when a taken branch or event is seen whose target address is in the ADDRn range.

While inside a tracing region and with FilterEn is set, leaving the tracing region may only be detected once a taken branch or event with a target outside the range is retired. If an ADDRn range is entered or exited by executing the next sequential instruction, rather than by a control flow transfer, FilterEn may not toggle immediately. See Section 33.2.6.5 for more details on FilterEn.

Note that these address range base and limit values are inclusive, such that the range includes the first and last instruction whose first instruction byte is in the ADDRn range.

Depending upon processor implementation, IP filtering may be based on linear or effective address. This can cause different behavior between implementations if CSbase is not equal to zero or in real mode. See Section 33.3.1.1 for details. Software can query CPUID to determine filters are based on linear or effective address (Section 33.3.1).

Note that some packets, such as MTC (Section 33.3.7) and other timing packets, do not depend on FilterEn. For details on which packets depend on FilterEn, and hence are impacted by IP filtering, see Section 33.4.1.

TraceStop

The ADDRn ranges can also be configured to cause tracing to be disabled upon entry to the specified region. This is intended for cases where unexpected code is executed, and the user wishes to immediately stop generating packets in order to avoid overwriting previously written packets.

The TraceStop mechanism works much the same way that IP filtering does, and uses the same address comparison logic. The TraceStop region base and limit values are programmed into one or more ADDRn ranges, but IA32_RTIT_CTL.ADDRn_CFG is configured with the TraceStop encoding. Like FilterEn, TraceStop is detected when a taken branch or event lands in a TraceStop region.

Further, TraceStop requires that TriggerEn=1 at the beginning of the branch/event, and ContextEn=1 upon completion of the branch/event. When this happens, the CPU will set IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped, thereby clearing TriggerEn and hence disabling packet generation. This may generate a TIP.PGD packet with the target IP of the branch or event that entered the TraceStop region. Finally, a TraceStop packet will be inserted, to indicate that the condition was hit.

If a TraceStop condition is encountered during buffer overflow (Section 33.3.8), it will not be dropped, but will instead be signaled once the overflow has resolved.

Note that a TraceStop event does not guarantee that all internally buffered packets are flushed out of internal buffers. To ensure that this has occurred, the user should clear TraceEn.

To resume tracing after a TraceStop event, the user must first disable Intel PT by clearing IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn before the IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped bit can be cleared. At this point Intel PT can be reconfigured, and tracing resumed.

Note that the IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped bit can also be set using the ToPA STOP bit. See Section 33.2.7.2.

IP Filtering Example

The following table gives an example of IP filtering behavior. Assume that IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_A = the IP of Range-Base, and that IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_B = the IP of RangeLimit, while IA32_RTIT_CTL.ADDRn_CFG = 0x1 (enable ADDRn range as a FilterEn range).

Table 33-2. IP Filtering Packet Example

Code Flow	Packets

`Bar:`
`    jmp RangeBase // jump into filter range`
`RangeBase:`
`    jcc Foo // not taken`
`    add eax, 1`
`Foo:`
`    jmp RangeLimit+1 // jump out of filter range`
`RangeLimit:`
`    nop`
`    jcc Bar`
	TIP.PGE(RangeBase)
	TNT(0)
	TIP.PGD(RangeLimit+1)

IP Filtering and TraceStop

It is possible for the user to configure IP filter range(s) and TraceStop range(s) that overlap. In this case, code executing in the non-overlapping portion of either range will behave as would be expected from that range. Code executing in the overlapping range will get TraceStop behavior.

33.2.6 Packet Generation Enable Controls

Intel Processor Trace includes a variety of controls that determine whether a packet is generated. In general, most packets are sent only if Packet Enable (**PacketEn**) is set. PacketEn is an internal state maintained in hardware in response to software configurable enable controls, PacketEn is not visible to software directly. The relationship of PacketEn to the software-visible controls in the configuration MSRs is described in this section.

33.2.6.1 Packet Enable (PacketEn)

When PacketEn is set, the processor is in the mode that Intel PT is monitoring. PacketEn is composed of other states according to this relationship:

```
PacketEn := TriggerEn AND ContextEn AND FilterEn AND BranchEn
```

These constituent controls are detailed in the following subsections.

PacketEn ultimately determines when the processor is tracing. When PacketEn is set, all control flow packets are enabled. When PacketEn is clear, no control flow packets are generated, though other packets (timing and book-keeping packets) may still be sent. See Section 33.2.7 for details of PacketEn and packet generation.

Note that, on processors that do not support IP filtering (i.e., CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 2] = 0), FilterEn is treated as always set.

33.2.6.2 Trigger Enable (TriggerEn)

Trigger Enable (**TriggerEn**) is the primary indicator that trace packet generation is active. TriggerEn is set when IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn is set, and cleared by any of the following conditions:

- TraceEn is cleared by software.
- A TraceStop condition is encountered and IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped is set.
- IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Error is set due to an operational error (see Section 33.3.10).

Software can discover the current TriggerEn value by reading the IA32_RTIT_STATUS.TriggerEn bit. When TriggerEn is clear, tracing is inactive and no packets are generated.

33.2.6.3 Context Enable (ContextEn)

Context Enable (**ContextEn**) indicates whether the processor is in the state or mode that software configured hardware to trace. For example, if execution with CPL = 0 code is not being traced (IA32_RTIT_CTL.OS = 0), then ContextEn will be 0 when the processor is in CPL0.

Software can discover the current ContextEn value by reading the IA32_RTIT_STATUS.ContextEn bit. ContextEn is defined as follows:

```
ContextEn = !((IA32_RTIT_CTL.OS = 0 AND CPL = 0) OR
(IA32_RTIT_CTL.USER = 0 AND CPL > 0) OR (IS_IN_A_PRODUCTION_ENCLAVE[1]) OR
(IA32_RTIT_CTL.CR3Filter = 1 AND IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH does not match CR3)
```

If the clearing of ContextEn causes PacketEn to be cleared, a Packet Generation Disable (TIP.PGD) packet is generated, but its IP payload is suppressed. If the setting of ContextEn causes PacketEn to be set, a Packet Generation Enable (TIP.PGE) packet is generated.

When ContextEn is 0, control flow packets (TNT, FUP, TIP.*, MODE.*) are not generated, and no Linear Instruction Pointers (LIPs) are exposed. However, some packets, such as MTC and PSB (see Section 33.4.2.16 and Section 33.4.2.17), may still be generated while ContextEn is 0. For details of which packets are generated only when ContextEn is set, see Section 33.4.1.

The processor does not update ContextEn when TriggerEn = 0.

The value of ContextEn will toggle only when TriggerEn = 1.

33.2.6.4 Branch Enable (BranchEn)

This value is based purely on the IA32_RTIT_CTL.BranchEn value. If **BranchEn** is not set, then relevant COFI packets (TNT, TIP*, FUP, MODE.*) are suppressed. Other packets related to timing (TSC, TMA, MTC, CYC), as well as PSB, will be generated normally regardless. Further, PIP and VMCS continue to be generated, as indicators of what software is running.

33.2.6.5 Filter Enable (FilterEn)

Filter Enable indicates that the Instruction Pointer (IP) is within the range of IPs that Intel PT is configured to watch. Software can get the state of Filter Enable by a RDMSR of IA32_RTIT_STATUS.FilterEn. For details on configuration and use of IP filtering, see Section 33.2.5.3.

On clearing of FilterEn that also clears PacketEn, a Packet Generation Disable (TIP.PGD) will be generated, but unlike the ContextEn case, the IP payload may not be suppressed. For direct, unconditional branches, as well as for indirect branches (including RETs), the PGD generated by leaving the tracing region and clearing FilterEn will contain the target IP. This means that IPs from outside the configured range can be exposed in the trace, as long as they are within context.

When FilterEn is 0, control flow packets are not generated (e.g., TNT, TIP). However, some packets, such as PIP, MTC, and PSB, may still be generated while FilterEn is clear. For details on packet enable dependencies, see Section 33.4.1.

1. Trace packets generation is disabled in a production enclave, see Section 33.2.9.5. See the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 3D, about differences between a production enclave and a debug enclave.

After TraceEn is set, FilterEn is set to 1 at all times if there is no IP filter range configured by software (IA32_RTIT_CTL.ADDRn_CFG != 1, for all n), or if the processor does not support IP filtering (i.e., CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 2] = 0). FilterEn will toggle only when TraceEn=1 and ContextEn=1, and when at least one range is configured for IP filtering.

33.2.7 Trace Output

Intel PT output should be viewed independently from trace content and filtering mechanisms. The options available for trace output can vary across processor generations and platforms.

Trace output is written out using one of the following output schemes, as configured by the ToPA and FabricEn bit fields of IA32_RTIT_CTL (see Section 33.2.8.2):

- A single, contiguous region of physical address space.
- A collection of variable-sized regions of physical memory. These regions are linked together by tables of pointers to those regions, referred to as Table of Physical Addresses (**ToPA**). The trace output stores bypass the caches and the TLBs, but are not serializing. This is intended to minimize the performance impact of the output.
- A platform-specific trace transport subsystem.

Regardless of the output scheme chosen, Intel PT stores bypass the processor caches by default. This ensures that they don't consume precious cache space, but they do not have the serializing aspects associated with un-cacheable (UC) stores. Software should avoid using MTRRs to mark any portion of the Intel PT output region as UC, as this may override the behavior described above and force Intel PT stores to UC, thereby incurring severe performance impact.

There is no guarantee that a packet will be written to memory or other trace endpoint after some fixed number of cycles after a packet-producing instruction executes. The only way to assure that all packets generated have reached their endpoint is to clear TraceEn and follow that with a store, fence, or serializing instruction; doing so ensures that all buffered packets are flushed out of the processor.

33.2.7.1 Single Range Output

When IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA and IA32_RTIT_CTL.FabricEn bits are clear, trace packet output is sent to a single, contiguous memory (or MMIO if DRAM is not available) range defined by a base address in IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE (Section 33.2.8.7) and mask value in IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS (Section 33.2.8.8). The current write pointer in this range is also stored in IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS. This output range is circular, meaning that when the writes wrap around the end of the buffer they begin again at the base address.

This output method is best suited for cases where Intel PT output is either:

- Configured to be directed to a sufficiently large contiguous region of DRAM.
- Configured to go to an MMIO debug port, in order to route Intel PT output to a platform-specific trace endpoint (e.g., JTAG). In this scenario, a specific range of addresses is written in a circular manner, and SoC will intercept these writes and direct them to the proper device. Repeated writes to the same address do not overwrite each other, but are accumulated by the debugger, and hence no data is lost by the circular nature of the buffer.

The processor will determine the address to which to write the next trace packet output byte as follows:

```
OutputBase[63:0] := IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE[63:0]
OutputMask[63:0] := ZeroExtend64(IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS[31:0])
OutputOffset[63:0] := ZeroExtend64(IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS[63:32])
trace_store_phys_addr := (OutputBase & ~OutputMask) + (OutputOffset & OutputMask)
```

Single-Range Output Errors

If the output base and mask are not properly configured by software, an operational error (see Section 33.3.10) will be signaled, and tracing disabled. Error scenarios with single-range output are:

- Mask value is non-contiguous.

  IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS.MaskOrTablePointer value has a 0 in a less significant bit position than the most significant bit containing a 1.
- Base address and Mask are mis-aligned, and have overlapping bits set.

  IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE && IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS[31:0] > 0.
- Illegal Output Offset

  IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS.OutputOffset is greater than the mask value IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS[31:0].

Also note that errors can be signaled due to trace packet output overlapping with restricted memory, see Section 33.2.7.4.

33.2.7.2 Table of Physical Addresses (ToPA)

When IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA is set and IA32_RTIT_CTL.FabricEn is clear, the ToPA output mechanism is utilized. The ToPA mechanism uses a linked list of tables; see Figure 33-1 for an illustrative example. Each entry in the table contains some attribute bits, a pointer to an output region, and the size of the region. The last entry in the table may hold a pointer to the next table. This pointer can either point to the top of the current table (for circular array) or to the base of another table. The table size is not fixed, since the link to the next table can exist at any entry.

The processor treats the various output regions referenced by the ToPA table(s) as a unified buffer. This means that a single packet may span the boundary between one output region and the next.

The ToPA mechanism is controlled by three values maintained by the processor:

- **proc_trace_table_base.**
  This is the physical address of the base of the current ToPA table. When tracing is enabled, the processor loads this value from the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE MSR. While tracing is enabled, the processor updates the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE MSR with changes to proc_trace_table_base, but these updates may not be synchronous to software execution. When tracing is disabled, the processor ensures that the MSR contains the latest value of proc_trace_table_base.
- **proc_trace_table_offset.**
  This indicates the entry of the current table that is currently in use. (This entry contains the address of the current output region.) When tracing is enabled, the processor loads the value from bits 31:7 (MaskOrTableOffset) of the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS into bits 27:3 of proc_trace_table_offset. While tracing is enabled, the processor updates IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS.MaskOrTableOffset with changes to proc_trace_table_offset, but these updates may not be synchronous to software execution. When tracing is disabled, the processor ensures that the MSR contains the latest value of proc_trace_table_offset.
- **proc_trace_output_offset.**
  This a pointer into the current output region and indicates the location of the next write. When tracing is enabled, the processor loads this value from bits 63:32 (OutputOffset) of the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS. While tracing is enabled, the processor updates IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS.OutputOffset with changes to proc_trace_output_offset, but these updates may not be synchronous to software execution. When tracing is disabled, the processor ensures that the MSR contains the latest value of proc_trace_output_offset.

Figure 33-1 provides an illustration (not to scale) of the table and associated pointers.

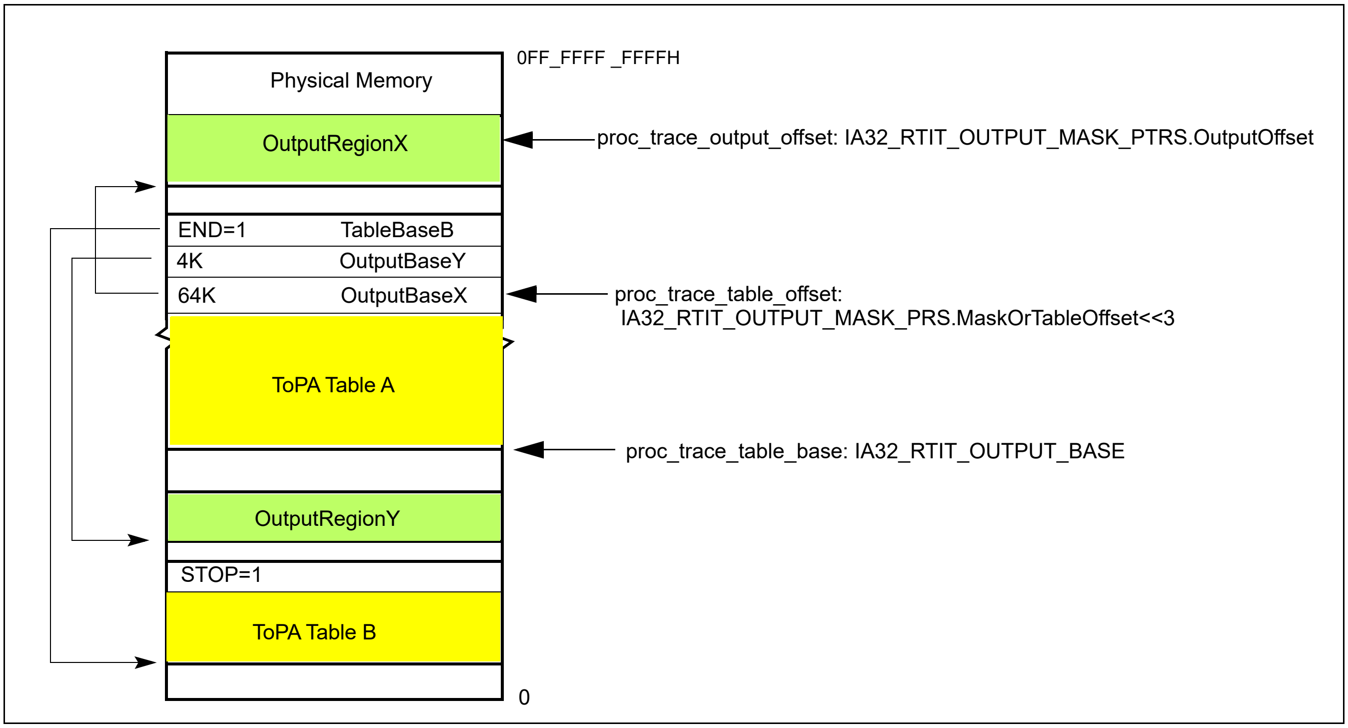


Figure 33-1. ToPA Memory Illustration

With the ToPA mechanism, the processor writes packets to the current output region (identified by proc_trace_table_base and the proc_trace_table_offset). The offset within that region to which the next byte will be written is identified by proc_trace_output_offset. When that region is filled with packet output (thus proc_trace_output_offset = RegionSize–1), proc_trace_table_offset is moved to the next ToPA entry, proc_trace_output_offset is set to 0, and packet writes begin filling the new output region specified by proc_trace_table_offset.

As packets are written out, each store derives its physical address as follows:

```
trace_store_phys_addr := Base address from current ToPA table entry +
proc_trace_output_offset
```

Eventually, the regions represented by all entries in the table may become full, and the final entry of the table is reached. An entry can be identified as the final entry because it has either the END or STOP attribute. The END attribute indicates that the address in the entry does not point to another output region, but rather to another ToPA table. The STOP attribute indicates that tracing will be disabled once the corresponding region is filled. See Table 33-3 and the section that follows for details on STOP.

When an END entry is reached, the processor loads proc_trace_table_base with the base address held in this END entry, thereby moving the current table pointer to this new table. The proc_trace_table_offset is reset to 0, as is the proc_trace_output_offset, and packet writes will resume at the base address indicated in the first entry.

If the table has no STOP or END entry, and trace-packet generation remains enabled, eventually the maximum table size will be reached (proc_trace_table_offset = 0FFFFFF8H). In this case, the proc_trace_table_offset and proc_trace_output_offset are reset to 0 (wrapping back to the beginning of the current table) once the last output region is filled.

It is important to note that processor updates to the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE and IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS MSRs are asynchronous to instruction execution. Thus, reads of these MSRs while Intel PT is enabled may return stale values. Like all IA32_RTIT_* MSRs, the values of these MSRs should not be trusted or saved unless trace packet generation is first disabled by clearing IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn. This ensures that the output MSR values account for all packets generated to that point, after which the processor will cease updating the output MSR values until tracing resumes. [1]

The processor may cache internally any number of entries from the current table or from tables that it references (directly or indirectly). If tracing is enabled, the processor may ignore or delay detection of modifications to these tables. To ensure that table changes are detected by the processor in a predictable manner, software should clear TraceEn before modifying the current table (or tables that it references) and only then re-enable packet generation.

Single Output Region ToPA Implementation

The first processor generation to implement Intel PT supports only ToPA configurations with a single ToPA entry followed by an END entry that points back to the first entry (creating one circular output buffer). Such processors enumerate CPUID.(EAX=14H,ECX=0):ECX.MENTRY[bit 1] = 0 and CPUID.(EAX=14H,ECX=0):ECX.TOPAOUT[bit 0] = 1.

If CPUID.(EAX=14H,ECX=0):ECX.MENTRY[bit 1] = 0, ToPA tables can hold only one output entry, which must be followed by an END=1 entry which points back to the base of the table. Hence only one contiguous block can be used as output.

The lone output entry can have INT or STOP set, but nonetheless must be followed by an END entry as described above. Note that, if INT=1, the PMI will actually be delivered before the region is filled.

ToPA Table Entry Format

The format of ToPA table entries is shown in Figure 33-2. The size of the address field is determined by the processor's physical-address width (MAXPHYADDR) in bits, as reported in CPUID.80000008H:EAX[7:0].

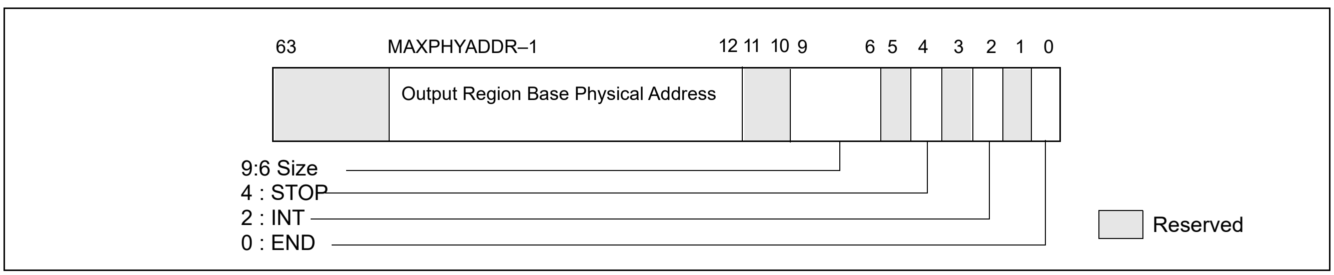


Figure 33-2. Layout of ToPA Table Entry

Table 33-3 describes the details of the ToPA table entry fields. If reserved bits are set to 1, an error is signaled.

Table 33-3. ToPA Table Entry Fields

ToPA Entry Field	Description
Output Region Base Physical Address	If END=0, this is the base physical address of the output region specified by this entry. Note that all regions must be aligned based on their size. Thus a 2M region must have bits 20:12 clear. If the region is not properly aligned, an operational error will be signaled when the entry is reached. If END=1, this is the 4K-aligned base physical address of the next ToPA table (which may be the base of the current table, or the first table in the linked list if a circular buffer is desired). If the processor supports only a single ToPA output region (see above), this address must be the value currently in the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE MSR.

1. Although WRMSR is a serializing instruction, the execution of WRMSR that forces packet writes by clearing TraceEn does not itself cause these writes to be globally observed.

Table 33-3. ToPA Table Entry Fields (Contd.)

ToPA Entry Field	Description
Size	Indicates the size of the associated output region. Encodings are: 0: 4K, 1: 8K, 2: 16K, 3: 32K, 4: 64K, 5: 128K, 6: 256K, 7: 512K, 8: 1M, 9: 2M, 10: 4M, 11: 8M, 12: 16M, 13: 32M, 14: 64M, 15: 128M This field is ignored if END=1.
STOP	When the output region indicated by this entry is filled, software should disable packet generation. This will be accomplished by setting IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped, which clears TriggerEn. This bit must be 0 if END=1; otherwise it is treated as reserved bit violation (see ToPA Errors).
INT	When the output region indicated by this entry is filled, signal Perfmon LVT interrupt. Note that if both INT and STOP are set in the same entry, the STOP will happen before the INT. Thus the interrupt handler should expect that the IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped bit will be set, and will need to be reset before tracing can be resumed. This bit must be 0 if END=1; otherwise it is treated as reserved bit violation (see ToPA Errors).
END	If set, indicates that this is an END entry, and thus the address field points to a table base rather than an output region base. If END=1, INT and STOP must be set to 0; otherwise it is treated as reserved bit violation (see ToPA Errors). The Size field is ignored in this case. If the processor supports only a single ToPA output region (see above), END must be set in the second table entry.

ToPA STOP

Each ToPA entry has a STOP bit. If this bit is set, the processor will set the IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped bit when the corresponding trace output region is filled. This will clear TriggerEn and thereby cease packet generation. See Section 33.2.8.4 for details on IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped. This sequence is known as "ToPA Stop".

No TIP.PGD packet will be seen in the output when the ToPA stop occurs, since the disable happens only when the region is already full. When this occurs, output ceases after the last byte of the region is filled, which may mean that a packet is cut off in the middle. Any packets remaining in internal buffers are lost and cannot be recovered.

When ToPA stop occurs, the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE MSR will hold the base address of the table whose entry had STOP=1. IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS.MaskOrTableOffset will hold the index value for that entry, and the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS.OutputOffset should be set to the size of the region minus one.

Note that this means the offset pointer is pointing to the next byte after the end of the region, a configuration that would produce an operational error if the configuration remained when tracing is re-enabled with IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped cleared.

ToPA PMI

Each ToPA entry has an INT bit. If this bit is set, the processor will signal a performance-monitoring interrupt (PMI) when the corresponding trace output region is filled. This interrupt is not precise, and it is thus likely that writes to the next region will occur by the time the interrupt is taken.

The following steps should be taken to configure this interrupt:

1. Enable PMI via the LVT Performance Monitor register (at MMIO offset 340H in xAPIC mode; via MSR 834H in x2APIC mode). See the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 3B, for more details on this register. For ToPA PMI, set all fields to 0, save for the interrupt vector, which can be selected by software.
2. Set up an interrupt handler to service the interrupt vector that a ToPA PMI can raise.
3. Set the interrupt flag by executing STI.
4. Set the INT bit in the ToPA entry of interest and enable packet generation, using the ToPA output option. Thus, TraceEn=ToPA=1 in the IA32_RTIT_CTL MSR.

Once the INT region has been filled with packet output data, the interrupt will be signaled. This PMI can be distinguished from others by checking bit 55 (Trace_ToPA_PMI) of the IA32_PERF_GLOBAL_STATUS MSR (MSR 38EH). Once the ToPA PMI handler has serviced the relevant buffer, writing 1 to bit 55 of the MSR at 390H (IA32_GLOBAL_STATUS_RESET) clears IA32_PERF_GLOBAL_STATUS.Trace_ToPA_PMI.

Intel PT is not frozen on PMI, and thus the interrupt handler will be traced (though filtering can prevent this). The Freeze_Perfmon_on_PMI and Freeze_LBRs_on_PMI settings in IA32_DEBUGCTL will be applied on ToPA PMI just as on other PMIs, and hence Perfmon counters are frozen.

Assuming the PMI handler wishes to read any buffered packets for persistent output, or wishes to modify any Intel PT MSRs, software should first disable packet generation by clearing TraceEn. This ensures that all buffered packets are written to memory and avoids tracing of the PMI handler. The configuration MSRs can then be used to determine where tracing has stopped. If packet generation is disabled by the handler, it should then be manually re-enabled before the IRET if continued tracing is desired.

In rare cases, it may be possible to trigger a second ToPA PMI before the first is handled. This can happen if another ToPA region with INT=1 is filled before, or shortly after, the first PMI is taken, perhaps due to EFLAGS.IF being cleared for an extended period of time. This can manifest in two ways: either the second PMI is triggered before the first is taken, and hence only one PMI is taken, or the second is triggered after the first is taken, and thus will be taken when the handler for the first completes. Software can minimize the likelihood of the second case by clearing TraceEn at the beginning of the PMI handler. Further, it can detect such cases by then checking the Interrupt Request Register (IRR) for PMI pending, and checking the ToPA table base and off-set pointers (in IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE and IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS) to see if multiple entries with INT=1 have been filled.

PMI Preservation

In some cases a ToPA PMI may be taken after completion of an XSAVES instruction that saves Intel PT state, and in such cases any modification of Intel PT MSRs within the PMI handler will not persist when the saved Intel PT context is later restored with XRSTORS. To account for such a scenario, the PMI Preservation feature has been added. Support for this feature is indicated by CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 6].

When IA32_RTIT_CTL.InjectPsbPmiOnEnable[56] = 1, PMI preservation is enabled. When a ToPA region with INT=1 is filled, a PMI is pended and the new IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PendToPAPMI[7] is set to 1. If this bit is set when Intel PT is enabled, such that IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn[0] transitions from 0 to 1, a ToPA PMI is pended. This behavior ensures that any ToPA PMI that is pended during XSAVES, and hence can't be properly handled, will be re-pended when the saved PT state is restored.

When this feature is enabled, the PMI handler should take the following actions:

1. Ignore ToPA PMIs that are taken when TraceEn = 0. This indicates that the PMI was pended during Intel PT disable, and the PendToPAPMI flag will ensure that the PMI is re-pended once Intel PT is re-enabled in the same context. For this reason, the PendToPAPMI bit should be left set to 1.
2. If TraceEn=1 and the PMI can be properly handled, clear the new PendTopaPMI bit. This will ensure that additional, spurious ToPA PMIs are not taken. It is required that PendToPAPMI is cleared before the PMI LVT mask is cleared in the APIC, and before any clearing of either LBRS_FROZEN or COUNTERS_FROZEN in IA32_PERF_GLOBAL_STATUS.

ToPA PMI and Single Output Region ToPA Implementation

A processor that supports only a single ToPA output region implementation (such that only one output region is supported; see above) will attempt to signal a ToPA PMI interrupt before the output wraps and overwrites the top of the buffer. To support this functionality, the PMI handler should disable packet generation as soon as possible.

Due to PMI skid, it is possible that, in rare cases, the wrap will have occurred before the PMI is delivered. Software can avoid this by setting the STOP bit in the ToPA entry (see Table 33-3); this will disable tracing once the region is filled, and no wrap will occur. This approach has the downside of disabling packet generation so that some of the instructions that led up to the PMI will not be traced. If the PMI skid is significant enough to cause the region to fill and tracing to be disabled, the PMI handler will need to clear the IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped indication before tracing can resume.

ToPA PMI and XSAVES/XRSTORS State Handling

In some cases the ToPA PMI may be taken after completion of an XSAVES instruction that switches Intel PT state, and in such cases any modification of Intel PT MSRs within the PMI handler will not persist when the saved Intel PT context is later restored with XRSTORS. To account for such a scenario, it is recommended that the Intel PT output configuration be modified by altering the ToPA tables themselves, rather than the Intel PT output MSRs. On processors that support PMI preservation (CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 6] = 1), setting IA32_RTIT_CTL.InjectPsbPmiOnEnable[56] = 1 will ensure that a PMI that is pending at the time PT is disabled will be recorded by setting IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PendTopaPMI[7] = 1. A PMI will then be pended when the saved PT context is later restored.

Table 33-4 depicts a recommended PMI handler algorithm for managing multi-region ToPA output and handling ToPA PMIs that may arrive between XSAVES and XRSTORS, if PMI preservation is not in use. This algorithm is flexible to allow software to choose between adding entries to the current ToPA table, adding a new ToPA table, or using the current ToPA table as a circular buffer. It assumes that the ToPA entry that triggers the PMI is not the last entry in the table, which is the recommended treatment.

Table 33-4. Algorithm to Manage Intel PT ToPA PMI and XSAVES/XRSTORS

Pseudo Code Flow

```
IF (IA32_PERF_GLOBAL_STATUS.ToPA)
    Save IA32_RTIT_CTL value;
    IF ( IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEN )
        Disable Intel PT by clearing TraceEn;
    FI;
    IF ( there is space available to grow the current ToPA table )
        Add one or more ToPA entries after the last entry in the ToPA table;
        Point new ToPA entry address field(s) to new output region base(s);
    ELSE
        Modify an upcoming ToPA entry in the current table to have END=1;
        IF (output should transition to a new ToPA table )
            Point the address of the “END=1” entry of the current table to the new table base;
        ELSE
            /* Continue to use the current ToPA table, make a circular. */
            Point the address of the “END=1”l entry to the base of the current table;
            Modify the ToPA entry address fields for filled output regions to point to new, unused output regions;
            /* Filled regions are those with index in the range of 0 to (IA32_RTIT_MASK_PTRS.MaskOrTableOffset -1). */
        FI;
      FI;
      Restore saved IA32_RTIT_CTL.value;
FI;
```

ToPA Errors

When a malformed ToPA entry is found, an **operational error** results (see Section 33.3.10). A malformed entry can be any of the following:

1. **ToPA entry reserved bit violation**.
   This describes cases where a bit marked as reserved in Section 33.2.7.2 above is set to 1.
2. **ToPA alignment violation**.
   This includes cases where illegal ToPA entry base address bits are set to 1:
   a. ToPA table base address is not 4KB-aligned. The table base can be from a WRMSR to IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE, or from a ToPA entry with END=1.
   b. ToPA entry base address is not aligned to the ToPA entry size (e.g., a 2MB region with base address[20:12] not equal to 0), for ToPA entries with END=0.
   c. ToPA entry base address sets upper physical address bits not supported by the processor.

3. **Illegal ToPA Output Offset**.
IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS.OutputOffset is greater than or equal to the size of the current ToPA output region size.
4. **ToPA rules violations**.
These are similar to ToPA entry reserved bit violations; they are cases when a ToPA entry is encountered with illegal field combinations. They include the following:
   a. Setting the STOP or INT bit on an entry with END=1.
   b. Setting the END bit in entry 0 of a ToPA table.
   c. On processors that support only a single ToPA entry (see above), two additional illegal settings apply:
      i) ToPA table entry 1 with END=0.
      ii) ToPA table entry 1 with base address not matching the table base.

In all cases, the error will be logged by setting IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Error, thereby disabling tracing when the problematic ToPA entry is reached (when proc_trace_table_offset points to the entry containing the error). Any packet bytes that are internally buffered when the error is detected may be lost.

Note that operational errors may also be signaled due to attempts to access restricted memory. See Section 33.2.7.4 for details.

A tracing software have a range of flexibility using ToPA to manage the interaction of Intel PT with application buffers, see Section 33.4.2.26.

33.2.7.3 Trace Transport Subsystem

When IA32_RTIT_CTL.FabricEn is set, the IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA bit is ignored, and trace output is written to the trace transport subsystem. The endpoints of this transport are platform-specific, and details of configuration options should refer to the specific platform documentation. The FabricEn bit is available to be set if CPUID(EAX=14H,ECX=0):EBX[bit 3] = 1.

33.2.7.4 Restricted Memory Access

Packet output cannot be directed to any regions of memory that are restricted by the platform. In particular, all memory accesses on behalf of packet output are checked against the SMRR regions. If there is any overlap with these regions, trace data collection will not function properly. Exact processor behavior is implementation-dependent; Table 33-5 summarizes several scenarios.

Table 33-5. Behavior on Restricted Memory Access

Scenario	Description
ToPA output region overlaps with SMRR	Stores to the restricted memory region will be dropped, and that packet data will be lost. Any attempt to read from that restricted region will return all 1s. The processor also may signal an error (Section 33.3.10) and disable tracing when the output pointer reaches the restricted region. If packet generation remains enabled, then packet output may continue once stores are no longer directed to restricted memory (on wrap, or if the output region is larger than the restricted memory region).
ToPA table overlaps with SMRR	The processor will signal an error (Section 33.3.10) and disable tracing when the ToPA write pointer (IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE + proc_trace_table_offset) enters the restricted region.

It should also be noted that packet output should not be routed to the 4KB APIC MMIO region, as defined by the IA32_APIC_BASE MSR. For details about the APIC, refer to the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 3A. No error is signaled for this case.

Modifications to Restricted Memory Regions

It is recommended that software disable packet generation before modifying the SMRRs to change the scope of the SMRR regions. This is because the processor reserves the right to cache any number of ToPA table entries internally, after checking them against restricted memory ranges. Once cached, the entries will not be checked again, meaning one could potentially route packet output to a newly restricted region. Software can ensure that any cached entries are written to memory by clearing IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn.

33.2.8 Enabling and Configuration MSRs

33.2.8.1 General Considerations

Trace packet generation is enabled and configured by a collection of model-specific registers (MSRs), which are detailed below. Some notes on the configuration MSR behavior:

- If Intel Processor Trace is not supported by the processor (see Section 33.3.1), RDMSR or WRMSR of the IA32_RTIT_* MSRs will cause #GP.
- A WRMSR to any of the IA32_RTIT_* configuration MSRs while packet generation is enabled (IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn=1) will generate a #GP exception. Packet generation must be disabled before the configuration MSRs can be changed.

  Note: Software may write the same value back to IA32_RTIT_CTL without #GP, even if TraceEn=1.
- All configuration MSRs for Intel PT are duplicated per logical processor
- For each configuration MSR, any MSR write that attempts to change bits marked reserved, or utilize encodings marked reserved, will cause a #GP fault.
- All configuration MSRs for Intel PT are cleared on a warm or cold RESET.
  — If CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 2] = 1, only the TraceEn bit is cleared on warm RESET; though this may have the impact of clearing other bits in IA32_RTIT_STATUS. Other MSR values of the trace configuration MSRs are preserved on warm RESET.
- The semantics of MSR writes to trace configuration MSRs in this chapter generally apply to explicit WRMSR to these registers, using VMexit or VM entry MSR load list to these MSRs, XRSTORS with requested feature bit map including XSAVE map component of state_8 (corresponding to IA32_XSS[bit 8]), and the write to IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn by XSAVES (Section 33.3.5.2).

33.2.8.2 IA32_RTIT_CTL MSR

IA32_RTIT_CTL, at address 570H, is the primary enable and control MSR for trace packet generation. Bit positions are listed in Table 33-6.

Table 33-6. IA32_RTIT_CTL MSR

Position	Bit Name	At Reset	Bit Description
0	TraceEn	0	If 1, enables tracing; else tracing is disabled. When this bit transitions from 1 to 0, all buffered packets are flushed out of internal buffers. A further store, fence, or architecturally serializing instruction may be required to ensure that packet data can be observed at the trace endpoint. See Section 33.2.8.3 for details of enabling and disabling packet generation. Note that the processor will clear this bit on #SMI (Section 33.2.9.3) and warm reset. Other MSR bits of IA32_RTIT_CTL (and other trace configuration MSRs) are not impacted by these events.
1	CYCEn	0	0: Disables CYC Packet (see Section 33.4.2.14). 1: Enables CYC Packet. This bit is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 1] = 0.
2	OS	0	0: Packet generation is disabled when CPL = 0. 1: Packet generation may be enabled when CPL = 0.
3	User	0	0: Packet generation is disabled when CPL > 0. 1: Packet generation may be enabled when CPL > 0.
4	PwrEvtEn	0	0: Power Event Trace packets are disabled. 1: Power Event Trace packets are enabled (see Section 33.2.3, “Power Event Tracing”).

Table 33-6. IA32_RTIT_CTL MSR (Contd.)

Position	Bit Name	At Reset	Bit Description
5	FUPonPTW	0	0: PTW packets are not followed by FUPs. 1: PTW packets are followed by FUPs. This bit is reserved when CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 4] ("PTWRITE Supported") is 0.
6	FabricEn	0	0: Trace output is directed to the memory subsystem, mechanism depends on IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA. 1: Trace output is directed to the trace transport subsystem, IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA is ignored. This bit is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX[bit 3] = 0.
7	CR3Filter	0	0: Disables CR3 filtering. 1: Enables CR3 filtering. This bit is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 0] ("CR3 Filtering Support") is 0.
8	ToPA	0	0: Single-range output scheme enabled if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX.SNGLRGNOUT[bit 2] = 1 and IA32_RTIT_CTL.FabricEn=0. 1: ToPA output scheme enabled (see Section 33.2.7.2) if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX.TOPA[bit 0] = 1, and IA32_RTIT_CTL.FabricEn=0. Note: WRMSR to IA32_RTIT_CTL that sets TraceEn but clears this bit and FabricEn would cause #GP, if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX.SNGLRGNOUT[bit 2] = 0. WRMSR to IA32_RTIT_CTL that sets this bit causes #GP, if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX.TOPA[bit 0] = 0.
9	MTCEn	0	0: Disables MTC Packet (see Section 33.4.2.16). 1: Enables MTC Packet. This bit is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 3] = 0.
10	TSCEn	0	0: Disable TSC packets. 1: Enable TSC packets (see Section 33.4.2.11).
11	DisRETC	0	0: Enable RET compression. 1: Disable RET compression (see Section 33.2.1.2).
12	PTWEn	0	0: PTWRITE packet generation disabled. 1: PTWRITE packet generation enabled (see Table 33-40 "PTW Packet Definition"). This bit is reserved when CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 4] ("PTWRITE Supported") is 0.
13	BranchEn	0	0: Disable COFI-based packets. 1: Enable COFI-based packets: FUP, TIP, TIP.PGE, TIP.PGD, TNT, MODE.Exec, MODE.TSX. See Section 33.2.6.4 for details on BranchEn.
17:14	MTCFreq	0	Defines MTC packet Frequency, which is based on the core crystal clock, or Always Running Timer (ART). MTC will be sent each time the selected ART bit toggles. The following Encodings are defined: 0: ART(0), 1: ART(1), 2: ART(2), 3: ART(3), 4: ART(4), 5: ART(5), 6: ART(6), 7: ART(7), 8: ART(8), 9: ART(9), 10: ART(10), 11: ART(11), 12: ART(12), 13: ART(13), 14: ART(14), 15: ART(15) Software must use CPUID to query the supported encodings in the processor, see Section 33.3.1. Use of unsupported encodings will result in a #GP fault. This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 3] = 0.
18	Reserved	0	Must be 0.

Table 33-6. IA32_RTIT_CTL MSR (Contd.)

Position	Bit Name	At Reset	Bit Description
22:19	CycThresh	0	CYC packet threshold, see Section 33.3.6 for details. CYC packets will be sent with the first eligible packet after N cycles have passed since the last CYC packet. If CycThresh is 0 then N=0, otherwise N is defined as $2^{(CycThresh-1)}$. The following Encodings are defined: 0: 0, 1: 1, 2: 2, 3: 4, 4: 8, 5: 16, 6: 32, 7: 64, 8: 128, 9: 256, 10: 512, 11: 1024, 12: 2048, 13: 4096, 14: 8192, 15: 16384 Software must use CPUID to query the supported encodings in the processor, see Section 33.3.1. Use of unsupported encodings will result in a #GP fault. This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 1] = 0.
23	Reserved	0	Must be 0.
27:24	PSBFreq	0	Indicates the frequency of PSB packets. PSB packet frequency is based on the number of Intel PT packet bytes output, so this field allows the user to determine the increment of IA32_IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PacketByteCnt that should cause a PSB to be generated. Note that PSB insertion is not precise, but the average output bytes per PSB should approximate the SW selected period. The following Encodings are defined: 0: 2K, 1: 4K, 2: 8K, 3: 16K, 4: 32K, 5: 64K, 6: 128K, 7: 256K, 8: 512K, 9: 1M, 10: 2M, 11: 4M, 12: 8M, 13: 16M, 14: 32M, 15: 64M Software must use CPUID to query the supported encodings in the processor, see Section 33.3.1. Use of unsupported encodings will result in a #GP fault. This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 1] = 0.
30:28	Reserved	0	Must be 0.
31	EventEn	0	0: Event Trace packets are disabled. 1: Event Trace packets are enabled. This bit is reserved when CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 7] ("Event Trace Supported") is 0.
35:32	ADDR0_CFG	0	Configures the base/limit register pair IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_A/B based on the following encodings: 0: ADDR0 range unused. 1: The [IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_A..IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_B] range defines a FilterEn range. FilterEn will only be set when the IP is within this range, though other FilterEn ranges can additionally be used. See Section 33.2.5.3 for details on IP filtering. 2: The [IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_A..IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_B] range defines a TraceStop range. TraceStop will be asserted if code branches into this range. See 4.2.8 for details on TraceStop. 3..15: Reserved (#GP). This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=1):EBX.RANGECNT[2:0] < 1.
39:36	ADDR1_CFG	0	Configures the base/limit register pair IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_A/B based on the following encodings: 0: ADDR1 range unused. 1: The [IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_A..IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_B] range defines a FilterEn range. FilterEn will only be set when the IP is within this range, though other FilterEn ranges can additionally be used. See Section 33.2.5.3 for details on IP filtering. 2: The [IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_A..IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_B] range defines a TraceStop range. TraceStop will be asserted if code branches into this range. See Section 33.4.2.10 for details on TraceStop. 3..15: Reserved (#GP). This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=1):EBX.RANGECNT[2:0] < 2.

Table 33-6. IA32_RTIT_CTL MSR (Contd.)

Position	Bit Name	At Reset	Bit Description
43:40	ADDR2_CFG	0	Configures the base/limit register pair IA32_RTIT_ADDR2_A/B based on the following encodings: 0: ADDR2 range unused. 1: The [IA32_RTIT_ADDR2_A..IA32_RTIT_ADDR2_B] range defines a FilterEn range. FilterEn will only be set when the IP is within this range, though other FilterEn ranges can additionally be used. See Section 33.2.5.3 for details on IP filtering. 2: The [IA32_RTIT_ADDR2_A..IA32_RTIT_ADDR2_B] range defines a TraceStop range. TraceStop will be asserted if code branches into this range. See Section 33.4.2.10 for details on TraceStop. 3..15: Reserved (#GP). This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=1):EBX.RANGECNT[2:0] < 3.
47:44	ADDR3_CFG	0	Configures the base/limit register pair IA32_RTIT_ADDR3_A/B based on the following encodings: 0: ADDR3 range unused. 1: The [IA32_RTIT_ADDR3_A..IA32_RTIT_ADDR3_B] range defines a FilterEn range. FilterEn will only be set when the IP is within this range, though other FilterEn ranges can additionally be used. See Section 33.2.5.3 for details on IP filtering. 2: The [IA32_RTIT_ADDR3_A..IA32_RTIT_ADDR3_B] range defines a TraceStop range. TraceStop will be asserted if code branches into this range. See Section 33.4.2.10 for details on TraceStop. 3..15: Reserved (#GP). This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=1):EBX.RANGECNT[2:0] < 4.
54:48	Reserved	0	Reserved only for future trace content enables, or address filtering configuration enables. Must be 0.
55	DisTNT	0	0: Include TNT packets in control flow trace. 1: Omit TNT packets from control flow trace. This bit is reserved when CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 8] ("TNT Disable Supported") is 0. SeeSection 33.3.9 for details.
56	InjectPsbPmi OnEnable	0	1: Enables use of IA32_RTIT_STATUS bits PendPSB[6] and PendTopaPMI[7], see Section 33.2.8.4, "IA32_RTIT_STATUS MSR," for behavior of these bits. 0: IA32_RTIT_STATUS bits 6 and 7 are ignored. This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 6] = 0.
59:57	Reserved	0	Reserved only for future trace content enables, or address filtering configuration enables. Must be 0.
63:60	Reserved	0	Must be 0.

33.2.8.3 Enabling and Disabling Packet Generation with TraceEn

When TraceEn transitions from 0 to 1, Intel Processor Trace is enabled, and a series of packets may be generated. These packets help ensure that the decoder is aware of the state of the processor when the trace begins, and that it can keep track of any timing or state changes that may have occurred while packet generation was disabled. A full PSB+ (see Section 33.4.2.17) will be generated if IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PacketByteCnt=0, and may be generated in other cases as well. Otherwise, timing packets will be generated, including TSC, TMA, and CBR (see Section 33.4.1.1).

In addition to the packets discussed above, if and when PacketEn (Section 33.2.6.1) transitions from 0 to 1 (which may happen immediately, depending on filtering settings), a TIP.PGE packet (Section 33.4.2.3) will be generated.

When TraceEn is set, the processor may read ToPA entries from memory and cache them internally. For this reason, software should disable packet generation before making modifications to the ToPA tables (or changing the configuration of restricted memory regions). See Section 33.7 for more details of packets that may be generated with modifications to TraceEn.

Disabling Packet Generation

Clearing TraceEn causes any packet data buffered within the logical processor to be flushed out, after which the output MSRs (IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE and IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS) will have stable values. When output is directed to memory, a store, fence, or architecturally serializing instruction may be required to ensure that the packet data is globally observed. No special packets are generated by disabling packet generation, though a TIP.PGD may result if PacketEn=1 at the time of disable.

Other Writes to IA32_RTIT_CTL

Any attempt to modify IA32_RTIT_CTL while TraceEn is set will result in a general-protection fault (#GP) unless the same write also clears TraceEn. However, writes to IA32_RTIT_CTL that do not modify any bits will not cause a #GP, even if TraceEn remains set.

33.2.8.4 IA32_RTIT_STATUS MSR

The IA32_RTIT_STATUS MSR is readable and writable by software, though some fields cannot be modified by software. See Table 33-7 for details. The WRMSR instruction ignores these bits in the source operand (attempts to modify these bits are ignored and do not cause WRMSR to fault).

This MSR can only be written when IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn is 0; otherwise WRMSR causes a general-protection fault (#GP). The processor does not modify the value of this MSR while TraceEn is 0 (software can modify it with WRMSR).

Table 33-7. IA32_RTIT_STATUS MSR

Position	Bit Name	At Reset	Bit Description
0	FilterEn	0	This bit is written by the processor, and indicates that tracing is allowed for the current IP, see Section 33.2.6.5. Writes are ignored.
1	ContextEn	0	The processor sets this bit to indicate that tracing is allowed for the current context. See Section 33.2.6.3. Writes are ignored.
2	TriggerEn	0	The processor sets this bit to indicate that tracing is enabled. See Section 33.2.6.2. Writes are ignored.
3	Reserved	0	Must be 0.
4	Error	0	The processor sets this bit to indicate that an operational error has been encountered. When this bit is set, TriggerEn is cleared to 0 and packet generation is disabled. For details, see “ToPA Errors” in Section 33.2.7.2. When TraceEn is cleared, software can write this bit. Once it is set, only software can clear it. It is not recommended that software ever set this bit, except in cases where it is restoring a prior saved state.
5	Stopped	0	The processor sets this bit to indicate that a ToPA Stop condition has been encountered. When this bit is set, TriggerEn is cleared to 0 and packet generation is disabled. For details, see “ToPA STOP” in Section 33.2.7.2. When TraceEn is cleared, software can write this bit. Once it is set, only software can clear it. It is not recommended that software ever set this bit, except in cases where it is restoring a prior saved state.
6	PendPSB	0	If IA32_RTIT_CTL.InjectPsbPmiOnEnable[56] = 1, the processor sets this bit when the threshold for a PSB+ to be inserted has been reached. The processor will clear this bit when the PSB+ has been inserted into the trace. If PendPSB = 1 and InjectPsbPmiOnEnable = 1 when IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn[0] transitions from 0 to 1, a PSB+ will be inserted into the trace. This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 6] = 0.

Table 33-7. IA32_RTIT_STATUS MSR

Position	Bit Name	At Reset	Bit Description
7	PendTopaPMI	0	If IA32_RTIT_CTL.InjectPsbPmiOnEnable[56] = 1, the processor sets this bit when the threshold for a ToPA PMI to be inserted has been reached. Software should clear this bit once the ToPA PMI has been handled, see "ToPA PMI" for details. If PendTopaPMI = 1 and InjectPsbPmiOnEnable = 1 when IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn[0] transitions from 0 to 1, a PMI will be pended. This field is reserved if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 6] = 0.
31:8	Reserved	0	Must be 0.
48:32	PacketByteCnt	0	This field is written by the processor, and holds a count of packet bytes that have been sent out. The processor also uses this field to determine when the next PSB packet should be inserted. Note that the processor may clear or modify this field at any time while IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn=1. It will have a stable value when IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn=0. See Section 33.4.2.17 for details. This field is reserved when CPUID.(EAX=14H,ECX=0):EBX[bit 1] ("Configurable PSB and CycleAccurate Mode Supported") is 0.
63:49	Reserved	0	Must be 0.

33.2.8.5 IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_A and IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_B MSRs

The role of the IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_A/B register pairs, for each n, is determined by the corresponding ADDRn_CFG fields in IA32_RTIT_CTL (see Section 33.2.8.2). The number of these register pairs is enumerated by CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=1):EAX.RANGECNT[2:0].

- Processors that enumerate support for 1 range support:
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_B
- Processors that enumerate support for 2 ranges support:
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_B
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_B
- Processors that enumerate support for 3 ranges support:
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_B
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_B
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR2_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR2_B
- Processors that enumerate support for 4 ranges support:
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR0_B
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR1_B
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR2_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR2_B
  - IA32_RTIT_ADDR3_A, IA32_RTIT_ADDR3_B

Each register has a single 64-bit field that holds a linear address value. Writes must ensure that the address is in canonical form, otherwise a general-protection fault (#GP) fault will result.

Each MSR can be written only when IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn is 0; otherwise WRMSR causes a general-protection fault (#GP).

33.2.8.6 IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH MSR

The IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH register is compared against CR3 when IA32_RTIT_CTL.CR3Filter is 1. Bits 63:5 hold the CR3 address value to match, bits 4:0 are reserved to 0. For more details on CR3 filtering and the treatment of this register, see Section 33.2.5.2.

This MSR is accessible if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 0], "CR3 Filtering Support", is 1. This MSR can be written only when IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn is 0; otherwise WRMSR causes a general-protection fault (#GP). IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH[4:0] are reserved and must be 0; an attempt to set those bits using WRMSR causes a #GP.

33.2.8.7 IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE MSR

This MSR is used to configure the trace output destination, when output is directed to memory (IA32_RTIT_CTL.FabricEn = 0). The size of the address field is determined by the maximum physical address width (MAXPHYADDR), as reported by CPUID.80000008H:EAX[7:0].

When the ToPA output scheme is used, the processor may update this MSR when packet generation is enabled, and those updates are asynchronous to instruction execution. Therefore, the values in this MSR should be considered unreliable unless packet generation is disabled (IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn = 0).

Accesses to this MSR are supported only if Intel PT output to memory is supported, hence when either CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX[bit 0] or CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX[bit 2] are set. Otherwise WRMSR or RDMSR cause a general-protection fault (#GP). If supported, this MSR can be written only when IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn is 0; otherwise WRMSR causes a general-protection fault (#GP).

Table 33-8. IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE MSR

Position	Bit Name	At Reset	Bit Description
6:0	Reserved	0	Must be 0.
MAXPHYADDR-1:7	BasePhysAddr	0	The base physical address. How this address is used depends on the value of IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA: 0: This is the base physical address of a single, contiguous physical output region. This could be mapped to DRAM or to MMIO, depending on the value. The base address should be aligned with the size of the region, such that none of the 1s in the mask value(Section 33.2.8.8) overlap with 1s in the base address. If the base is not aligned, an operational error will result (see Section 33.3.10). 1: The base physical address of the current ToPA table. The address must be 4K aligned. Writing an address in which bits 11:7 are non-zero will not cause a #GP, but an operational error will be signaled once TraceEn is set. See "ToPA Errors" in Section 33.2.7.2, as well as Section 33.3.10.
63:MAXPHYADDR	Reserved	0	Must be 0.

33.2.8.8 IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS MSR

This MSR holds any mask or pointer values needed to indicate where the next byte of trace output should be written. The meaning of the values held in this MSR depend on whether the ToPA output mechanism is in use. See Section 33.2.7.2 for details.

The processor updates this MSR while when packet generation is enabled, and those updates are asynchronous to instruction execution. Therefore, the values in this MSR should be considered unreliable unless packet generation is disabled (IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn = 0).

Accesses to this MSR are supported only if Intel PT output to memory is supported, hence when either CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX[bit 0] or CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX[bit 2] are set. Otherwise WRMSR or RDMSR cause a general-protection fault (#GP). If supported, this MSR can be written only when IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn is 0; otherwise WRMSR causes a general-protection fault (#GP).

Table 33-9. IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS MSR

Position	Bit Name	At Reset	Bit Description
6:0	LowerMask	7FH	Forced to 1, writes are ignored.
31:7	MaskOrTableOffset	0	The use of this field depends on the value of IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA: 0: This field holds bits 31:7 of the mask value for the single, contiguous physical output region. The size of this field indicates that regions can be of size 128B up to 4GB. This value (combined with the lower 7 bits, which are reserved to 1) will be ANDed with the OutputOffset field to determine the next write address. All 1s in this field should be consecutive and starting at bit 7, otherwise the region will not be contiguous, and an operational error (Section 33.3.10) will be signaled when TraceEn is set. 1: This field holds bits 27:3 of the offset pointer into the current ToPA table. This value can be added to the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE value to produce a pointer to the current ToPA table entry, which itself is a pointer to the current output region. In this scenario, the lower 7 reserved bits are ignored. This field supports tables up to 256 MBytes in size.
63:32	OutputOffset	0	The use of this field depends on the value of IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA: 0: This is bits 31:0 of the offset pointer into the single, contiguous physical output region. This value will be added to the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE value to form the physical address at which the next byte of packet output data will be written. This value must be less than or equal to the MaskOrTableOffset field, otherwise an operational error (Section 33.3.10) will be signaled when TraceEn is set. 1: This field holds bits 31:0 of the offset pointer into the current ToPA output region. This value will be added to the output region base field, found in the current ToPA table entry, to form the physical address at which the next byte of trace output data will be written. This value must be less than the ToPA entry size, otherwise an operational error (Section 33.3.10) will be signaled when TraceEn is set.

33.2.9 Interaction of Intel® Processor Trace and Other Processor Features

33.2.9.1 Intel® Transactional Synchronization Extensions (Intel® TSX)

The operation of Intel TSX is described in Chapter 14 of the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 1. For tracing purpose, packet generation does not distinguish between hardware lock elision (HLE) and restricted transactional memory (RTM), but speculative execution does have impacts on the trace output. Specifically, packets are generated as instructions complete, even for instructions in a transactional region that is later aborted. For this reason, debugging software will need indication of the beginning and end of a transactional region; this will allow software to understand when instructions are part of a transactional region and whether that region has been committed.

To enable this, TSX information is included in a MODE packet leaf. The mode bits in the leaf are:

- **InTX**: Set to 1 on an TSX transaction begin, and cleared on transaction commit or abort.
- **TXAbort**: Set to 1 only when InTX transitions from 1 to 0 on an abort. Cleared otherwise.

If BranchEn=1, this MODE packet will be sent each time the transaction status changes. See Table 33-10 for details.

Table 33-10. TSX Packet Scenarios with BranchEn=1

TSX Event	Instruction	Packets
Transaction Begin	Either XBEGIN or XACQUIRE lock (the latter if executed transactionally)	MODE(TXAbort=0, InTX=1), FUP(CurrentIP)
Transaction Commit	Either XEND or XRELEASE lock, if transactional execution ends. This happens only on the outermost commit	MODE(TXAbort=0, InTX=0), FUP(CurrentIP)

Table 33-10. TSX Packet Scenarios with BranchEn=1

TSX Event	Instruction	Packets
Transaction Abort	XABORT or other transactional abort	MODE(TXAbort=1, InTX=0), FUP(CurrentIP), TIP(TargetIP)
Other	One of the following: ▪ Nested XBEGIN or XACQUIRE lock ▪ An outer XACQUIRE lock that doesn't begin a transaction (InTX not set) ▪ Non-outermost XEND or XRELEASE lock	None. No change to TSX mode bits for these cases.

The CurrentIP listed above is the IP of the associated instruction. The TargetIP is the IP of the next instruction to be executed; for HLE, this is the XACQUIRE lock; for RTM, this is the fallback handler.

Intel PT stores are non-transactional, and thus packet writes are not rolled back on TSX abort.

33.2.9.2 TSX and IP Filtering

A complication with tracking transactions is handling transactions that start or end outside of the tracing region. Transactions can't span across a change in ContextEn, because CPL changes and CR3 changes each cause aborts. But a transaction can start within the IP filter region and end outside it.

To assist the decoder handling this situation, MODE.TSX packets can be sent even if FilterEn=0, though there will be no FUP attached. Instead, they will merely serve to indicate to the decoder when transactions are active and when they are not. When tracing resumes (due to PacketEn=1), the last MODE.TSX preceding the TIP.PGE will indicate the current transaction status.

33.2.9.3 System Management Mode (SMM)

SMM code has special privileges that non-SMM code does not have. Intel Processor Trace can be used to trace SMM code, but special care is taken to ensure that SMM handler context is not exposed in any non-SMM trace collection. Additionally, packet output from tracing non-SMM code cannot be written into memory space that is either protected by SMRR or used by the SMM handler.

SMM is entered via a system management interrupt (SMI). SMI delivery saves the value of IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn into SMRAM and then clears it, thereby disabling packet generation.

The saving and clearing of IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn ensures two things:

1. All internally buffered packet data is flushed before entering SMM (see Section 33.2.8.2).
2. Packet generation ceases before entering SMM, so any tracing that was configured outside SMM does not continue into SMM. No SMM instruction pointers or other state will be exposed in the non-SMM trace.

When the RSM instruction is executed to return from SMM, the TraceEn value that was saved by SMI delivery is restored, allowing tracing to be resumed. As is done any time packet generation is enabled, ContextEn is re-evaluated, based on the values of CPL, CR3, etc., established by RSM.

Like other interrupts, delivery of an SMI produces a FUP containing the IP of the next instruction to execute. By toggling TraceEn, SMI and RSM can produce TIP.PGD and TIP.PGE packets, respectively, indicating that tracing was disabled or re-enabled. See Table 33.7 for more information about packets entering and leaving SMM.

Although #SMI and RSM change CR3, PIP packets are not generated in these cases. With #SMI tracing is disabled before the CR3 change; with RSM TraceEn is restored after CR3 is written.

TraceEn must be cleared before executing RSM, otherwise it will cause a shutdown. Further, on processors that restrict use of Intel PT with LBRs (see Section 33.3.1.2), any RSM that results in enabling of both will cause a shutdown.

Intel PT can support tracing of System Transfer Monitor operating in SMM, see Section 33.6.

33.2.9.4 Virtual-Machine Extensions (VMX)

Initial implementations of Intel Processor Trace do not support tracing in VMX operation. Such processors indicate this by returning 0 for IA32_VMX_MISC[bit 14]. On these processors, execution of the VMXON instruction clears IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn and any attempt to write IA32_RTIT_CTL in VMX operation causes a general-protection exception (#GP).

Processors that support Intel Processor Trace in VMX operation return 1 for IA32_VMX_MISC[bit 14]. Details of tracing in VMX operation are described in Section 33.4.2.26.

33.2.9.5 Intel® Software Guard Extensions (Intel® SGX)

Intel SGX provides an application with the ability to instantiate a protective container (an enclave) with confidentiality and integrity (see the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 3D). On a processor with both Intel PT and Intel SGX enabled, when executing code within a production enclave, no control flow packets are produced by Intel PT. An enclave entry will clear ContextEn, thereby blocking control flow packet generation. A TIP.PGD packet will be generated if PacketEn=1 at the time of the entry.

Upon enclave exit, ContextEn will no longer be forced to 0. If other enables are set at the time, a TIP.PGE may be generated to indicate that tracing is resumed.

During the enclave execution, Intel PT remains enabled, and periodic or timing packets such as PSB, TSC, MTC, or CBR can still be generated. No IPs or other architectural state will be exposed.

For packet generation examples on enclave entry or exit, see Section 33.7.

Debug Enclaves

Intel SGX allows an enclave to be configured with relaxed protection of confidentiality for debug purposes, see the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 3D. In a debug enclave, Intel PT continues to function normally. Specifically, ContextEn is not impacted by an enclave entry or exit. Hence, the generation of ContextEn-dependent packets within a debug enclave is allowed.

33.2.9.6 SENTER/ENTERACCS and ACM

GETSEC[SENTER] and GETSEC[ENTERACCS] instructions clear TraceEn, and it is not restored when those instruction complete. SENTER also causes TraceEn to be cleared on other logical processors when they rendezvous and enter the SENTER sleep state. In these two cases, the disabling of packet generation is not guaranteed to flush internally buffered packets. Some packets may be dropped.

When executing an authenticated code module (ACM), packet generation is silently disabled during ACRAM setup. TraceEn will be cleared, but no TIP.PGD packet is generated. After completion of the module, the TraceEn value will be restored. There will be no TIP.PGE packet, but timing packets, like TSC and CBR, may be produced.

33.2.9.7 Intel® Memory Protection Extensions (Intel® MPX)

Bounds exceptions (#BR) caused by Intel MPX are treated like other exceptions, producing FUP and TIP packets that indicate the source and destination IPs.

33.3 CONFIGURATION AND PROGRAMMING GUIDELINE

33.3.1 Detection of Intel Processor Trace and Capability Enumeration

Processor support for Intel Processor Trace is indicated by CPUID.(EAX=07H,ECX=0H):EBX[bit 25] = 1. CPUID function 14H is dedicated to enumerate the resource and capability of processors that report CPUID.(EAX=07H,ECX=0H):EBX[bit 25] = 1. Different processor generations may have architecturally-defined variation in capabilities. Table 33-11 describes details of the enumerable capabilities that software must use across generations of processors that support Intel Processor Trace.

Table 33-11. CPUID Leaf 14H Enumeration of Intel Processor Trace Capabilities

CPUID.(EAX=14H,ECX=0)		Name	Description Behavior
Register	**Bits**		
EAX	31:0	Maximum valid sub-leaf Index	Specifies the index of the maximum valid sub-leaf for this CPUID leaf.
EBX	0	CR3 Filtering Support	1: Indicates that IA32_RTIT_CTL.CR3Filter can be set to 1, and that IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH MSR can be accessed. See Section 33.2.8. 0: Indicates that writes that set IA32_RTIT_CTL.CR3Filter to 1, or any access to IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH, will generate a #GP exception.
	1	Configurable PSB and Cycle-Accurate Mode Supported	1: (a) IA32_RTIT_CTL.PSBFreq can be set to a non-zero value, in order to select the preferred PSB frequency (see below for allowed values). (b) IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PacketByteCnt can be set to a non-zero value, and will be incremented by the processor when tracing to indicate progress towards the next PSB. If trace packet generation is enabled by setting TraceEn, a PSB will only be generated if PacketByteCnt=0. (c) IA32_RTIT_CTL.CYCEn can be set to 1 to enable Cycle-Accurate Mode. See Section 33.2.8. 0: (a) Any attempt to write a non-zero value to IA32_RTIT_CTL.PSBFreq or IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PacketByteCnt will generate a #GP exception. (b) If trace packet generation is enabled by setting TraceEn, a PSB is always generated. (c) Any attempt to write a non-zero value to IA32_RTIT_CTL.CYCEn or IA32_RTIT_CTL.CycThresh will generate a #GP exception.
	2	IP Filtering and TraceStop supported, and Preserve Intel PT MSRs across warm reset	1: (a) IA32_RTIT_CTL provides at one or more ADDRn_CFG field to configure the corresponding address range MSRs for IP Filtering or IP TraceStop. Each ADDRn_CFG field accepts a value in the range of 0:2 inclusive. The number of ADDRn_CFG fields is reported by CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=1):EAX.RANGECNT[2:0]. (b) At least one register pair IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_A and IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_B are provided to configure address ranges for IP filtering or IP TraceStop. (c) On warm reset, all Intel PT MSRs will retain their pre-reset values, though IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn will be cleared. The Intel PT MSRs are listed in Section 33.2.8. 0: (a) An Attempt to write IA32_RTIT_CTL.ADDRn_CFG with non-zero encoding values will cause #GP. (b) Any access to IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_A and IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_B, will generate a #GP exception. (c) On warm reset, all Intel PT MSRs will be cleared.
	3	MTC Supported	1: IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCEn can be set to 1, and MTC packets will be generated. See Section 33.2.8. 0: An attempt to set IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCEn or IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCFreq to a non-zero value will generate a #GP exception.
	4	PTWRITE Supported	1: Writes can set IA32_RTIT_CTL[12] (PTWEn) and IA32_RTIT_CTL[5] (FUPonPTW), and PTWRITE can generate packets. 0: Writes that set IA32_RTIT_CTL[12] or IA32_RTIT_CTL[5] will generate a #GP exception, and PTWRITE will #UD fault.
	5	Power Event Trace Supported	1: Writes can set IA32_RTIT_CTL[4] (PwrEvtEn), enabling Power Event Trace packet generation. 0: Writes that set IA32_RTIT_CTL[4] will generate a #GP exception.

Table 33-11. CPUID Leaf 14H Enumeration of Intel Processor Trace Capabilities (Contd.)

CPUID.(EAX=14H,ECX=0) Register	Bits	Name	Description Behavior
	6	PSB and PMI Preservation Supported	1: Writes can set IA32_RTIT_CTL[56] (InjectPsbPmiOnEnable), enabling the processor to set IA32_RTIT_STATUS[7] (PendTopaPMI) and/or IA32_RTIT_STATUS[6] (PendPSB) in order to preserve ToPA PMIs and/or PSBs otherwise lost due to Intel PT disable. Writes can also set PendToPAPMI and PendPSB. 0: Writes that set IA32_RTIT_CTL[56], IA32_RTIT_STATUS[7], or IA32_RTIT_STATUS[6] will generate a #GP exception.
	7	Event Trace Supported	1: Writes can set IA32_RTIT_CTL[31] (EventEn), enabling Event Trace packet generation. 0: Writes that set IA32_RTIT_CTL[31] will generate a #GP exception.
	8	TNT Disable Supported	1: Writes can set IA32_RTIT_CTL[55] (DisTNT), disabling TNT packet generation. 0: Writes that set IA32_RTIT_CTL[55] will generate a #GP exception.
	31:9	Reserved	
ECX	0	ToPA Output Supported	1: Tracing can be enabled with IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA = 1, hence utilizing the ToPA output scheme (Section 33.2.7.2) IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE and IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS MSRs can be accessed. 0: Unless CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX.SNGLRNGOUT[bit 2] = 1. writes to IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE or IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS. MSRs will generate a #GP exception.
	1	ToPA Tables Allow Multiple Output Entries	1: ToPA tables can hold any number of output entries, up to the maximum allowed by the MaskOrTableOffset field of IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS. 0: ToPA tables can hold only one output entry, which must be followed by an END=1 entry which points back to the base of the table. Further, ToPA PMIs will be delivered before the region is filled. See ToPA PMI in Section 33.2.7.2. If there is more than one output entry before the END entry, or if the END entry has the wrong base address, an operational error will be signaled (see “ToPA Errors” in Section 33.2.7.2).
	2	Single-Range Output Supported	1: Enabling tracing (TraceEn=1) with IA32_RTIT_CTL.ToPA=0 is supported. 0: Unless CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX.TOPAOUT[bit 0] = 1. writes to IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_BASE or IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_MASK_PTRS. MSRs will generate a #GP exception.
	3	Output to Trace Transport Subsystem Supported	1: Setting IA32_RTIT_CTL.FabricEn to 1 is supported. 0: IA32_RTIT_CTL.FabricEn is reserved. Write 1 to IA32_RTIT_CTL.FabricEn will generate a #GP exception.
	30:4	Reserved	
	31	IP Payloads are LIP	1: Generated packets which contain IP payloads have LIP values, which include the CS base component. 0: Generated packets which contain IP payloads have RIP values, which are the offset from CS base.
EDX	31:0	Reserved	

If CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EAX reports a non-zero value, additional capabilities of Intel Processor Trace are described in the sub-leaves of CPUID leaf 14H.

Table 33-12. CPUID Leaf 14H, sub-leaf 1H Enumeration of Intel Processor Trace Capabilities

CPUID.(EAX=14H,ECX=1)		Name	Description Behavior
Register	Bits		
EAX	2:0	Number of Address Ranges	A non-zero value specifies the number ADDRn_CFG field supported in IA32_RTIT_CTL and the number of register pair IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_A/IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_B supported for IP filtering and IP TraceStop. **NOTE:** Currently, no processors support more than 4 address ranges.
	15:3	Reserved	
	31:16	Bitmap of supported MTC Period Encodings	The non-zero bits indicate the map of supported encoding values for the IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCFreq field. This applies only if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 3] = 1 (MTC Packet generation is supported), otherwise the MTCFreq field is reserved to 0. Each bit position in this field represents 1 encoding value in the 4-bit MTCFreq field (ie, bit 0 is associated with encoding value 0). For each bit: 1: MTCFreq can be assigned the associated encoding value. 0: MTCFreq cannot be assigned to the associated encoding value. A write to IA32_RTIT_CTLMTCFreq with unsupported encoding will cause #GP fault.
EBX	15:0	Bitmap of supported Cycle Threshold values	The non-zero bits indicate the map of supported encoding values for the IA32_RTIT_CTL.CycThresh field. This applies only if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 1] = 1 (Cycle-Accurate Mode is Supported), otherwise the CycThresh field is reserved to 0. See Section 33.2.8. Each bit position in this field represents 1 encoding value in the 4-bit CycThresh field (ie, bit 0 is associated with encoding value 0). For each bit: 1: CycThresh can be assigned the associated encoding value. 0: CycThresh cannot be assigned to the associated encoding value. A write to CycThresh with unsupported encoding will cause #GP fault.
	31:16	Bitmap of supported Configurable PSB Frequency encoding	The non-zero bits indicate the map of supported encoding values for the IA32_RTIT_CTL.PSBFreq field. This applies only if CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 1] = 1 (Configurable PSB is supported), otherwise the PSBFreq field is reserved to 0. See Section 33.2.8. Each bit position in this field represents 1 encoding value in the 4-bit PSBFreq field (ie, bit 0 is associated with encoding value 0). For each bit: 1: PSBFreq can be assigned the associated encoding value. 0: PSBFreq cannot be assigned to the associated encoding value. A write to PSBFreq with unsupported encoding will cause #GP fault.
ECX	31:0	Reserved	
EDX	31:0	Reserved	

33.3.1.1 Packet Decoding of RIP versus LIP

FUP, TIP, TIP.PGE, and TIP.PGE packets can contain an instruction pointer (IP) payload. On some processor generations, this payload will be an effective address (RIP), while on others this will be a linear address (LIP). In the former case, the payload is the offset from the current CS base address, while in the latter it is the sum of the offset and the CS base address (Note that in real mode, the CS base address is the value of CS<<4, while in protected mode the CS base address is the base linear address of the segment indicated by the CS register.). Which IP type is in use is indicated by enumeration (see CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX.LIP[bit 31] in Table 33-11).

For software that executes while the CS base address is 0 (including all software executing in 64-bit mode), the difference is indistinguishable. A trace decoder must account for cases where the CS base address is not 0 and the resolved LIP will not be evident in a trace generated on a CPU that enumerates use of RIP. This is likely to cause problems when attempting to link the trace with the associated binaries.

Note that IP comparison logic, for IP filtering and TraceStop range calculation, is based on the same IP type as these IP packets. For processors that output RIP, the IP comparison mechanism is also based on RIP, and hence on those processors RIP values should be written to IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_[AB] MSRs. This can produce differing behavior if the same trace configuration setting is run on processors reporting different IP types, i.e., CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):ECX.LIP[bit 31]. Care should be taken to check CPUID when configuring IP filters.

33.3.1.2 Model Specific Capability Restrictions

Some processor generations impose restrictions that prevent use of LBRs/BTS/BTM/LERs when software has enabled tracing with Intel Processor Trace. On these processors, when TraceEn is set, updates of LBR, BTS, BTM, LERs are suspended but the states of the corresponding IA32_DEBUGCTL control fields remained unchanged as if it were still enabled. When TraceEn is cleared, the LBR array is reset, and LBR/BTS/BTM/LERs updates will resume. Further, reads of these registers will return 0, and writes will be dropped.

The list of MSRs whose updates/accesses are restricted follows.

- MSR_LASTBRANCH_x_TO_IP, MSR_LASTBRANCH_x_FROM_IP, MSR_LBR_INFO_x, MSR_LASTBRANCH_TOS
- MSR_LER_FROM_LIP, MSR_LER_TO_LIP
- MSR_LBR_SELECT

For processors with CPUID DisplayFamily_DisplayModel signatures of 06_3DH, 06_47H, 06_4EH, 06_4FH, 06_56H, and 06_5EH, the use of Intel PT and LBRs are mutually exclusive.

33.3.2 Enabling and Configuration of Trace Packet Generation

To configure trace packets, enable packet generation, and capture packets, software starts with using CPUID instruction to detect its feature flag, CPUID.(EAX=07H,ECX=0H):EBX[bit 25] = 1; followed by enumerating the capabilities described in Section 33.3.1.

Based on the capability queried from Section 33.3.1, software must configure a number of model-specific registers. This section describes programming considerations related to those MSRs.

33.3.2.1 Enabling Packet Generation

When configuring and enabling packet generation, the IA32_RTIT_CTL MSR should be written after any other Intel PT MSRs have been written, since writes to the other configuration MSRs cause a general-protection fault (#GP) if TraceEn = 1. If a prior trace collection context is not being restored, then software should first clear IA32_RTIT_STATUS. This is important since the Stopped, and Error fields are writable; clearing the MSR clears any values that may have persisted from prior trace packet collection contexts. See Section 33.2.8.2 for details of packets generated by setting TraceEn to 1.

If setting TraceEn to 1 causes an operational error (see Section 33.3.10), there may be a delay after the WRMSR completes before the error is signaled in the IA32_RTIT_STATUS MSR.

While packet generation is enabled, the values of some configuration MSRs (e.g., IA32_RTIT_STATUS and IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_*) are transient, and reads may return values that are out of date. Only after packet generation is disabled (by clearing TraceEn) do reads of these MSRs return reliable values.

33.3.2.2 Disabling Packet Generation

After disabling packet generation by clearing IA32_RTIT_CTL, it is advisable to read the IA32_RTIT_STATUS MSR (Section 33.2.8.4):

- If the Error bit is set, an operational error was encountered, and the trace is most likely compromised. Software should check the source of the error (by examining the output MSR values), correct the source of the problem, and then attempt to gather the trace again. For details on operational errors, see Section 33.3.10. Software should clear IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Error before re-enabling packet generation.
- If the Stopped bit is set, software execution encountered an IP TraceStop (see Section 33.2.5.3) or the ToPA Stop condition (see "ToPA STOP" in Section 33.2.7.2) before packet generation was disabled.

33.3.3 Flushing Trace Output

Packets are first buffered internally and then written out asynchronously. To collect packet output for post-processing, a collector needs first to ensure that all packet data has been flushed from internal buffers. Software can ensure this by stopping packet generation by clearing IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn (see "Disabling Packet Generation" in Section 33.2.8.2).

When software clears IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn to flush out internally buffered packets, the logical processor issues an SFENCE operation which ensures that WC trace output stores will be ordered with respect to the next store, or serializing operation. A subsequent read from the same logical processor will see the flushed trace data, while a read from another logical processor should be preceded by a store, fence, or architecturally serializing operation on the tracing logical processor.

When the flush operations complete, the IA32_RTIT_OUTPUT_* MSR values indicate where the trace ended. While TraceEn is set, these MSRs may hold stale values. Further, if a ToPA region with INT=1 is filled, meaning a ToPA PMI has been triggered, IA32_PERF_GLOBAL_STATUS.Trace_ToPA_PMI[55] will be set by the time the flush completes.

33.3.4 Warm Reset

The MSRs software uses to program Intel Processor Trace are cleared after a power-on RESET (or cold RESET). On a warm RESET, the contents of those MSRs can retain their values from before the warm RESET with the exception that IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn will be cleared (which may have the side effect of clearing some bits in IA32_RTIT_STATUS).

33.3.5 Context Switch Consideration

To facilitate construction of instruction execution traces at the granularity of a software process or thread context, software can save and restore the states of the trace configuration MSRs across the process or thread context switch boundary. The principle is the same as saving and restoring the typical architectural processor states across context switches.

33.3.5.1 Manual Trace Configuration Context Switch

The configuration can be saved and restored through a sequence of instructions of RDMSR, management of MSR content and WRMSR. To stop tracing and to ensure that all configuration MSRs contain stable values, software must clear IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn before reading any other trace configuration MSRs. The recommended method for saving trace configuration context manually follows:

1. RDMSR IA32_RTIT_CTL, save value to memory
2. WRMSR IA32_RTIT_CTL with saved value from RDMSR above and TraceEn cleared
3. RDMSR all other configuration MSRs whose values had changed from previous saved value, save changed values to memory

When restoring the trace configuration context, IA32_RTIT_CTL should be restored last:

1. Read saved configuration MSR values, aside from IA32_RTIT_CTL, from memory, and restore them with WRMSR
2. Read saved IA32_RTIT_CTL value from memory, and restore with WRMSR.

33.3.5.2 Trace Configuration Context Switch Using XSAVES/XRSTORS

On processors whose XSAVE feature set supports XSAVES and XRSTORS, the Trace configuration state can be saved using XSAVES and restored by XRSTORS, in conjunction with the bit field associated with supervisory state component in IA32_XSS. See Chapter 13, "Managing State Using the XSAVE Feature Set," of Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 1.

33.3.6 Cycle-Accurate Mode

Intel PT can be run in a cycle-accurate mode which enables CYC packets (see Section 33.4.2.14) that provide low-level information in the processor core clock domain. This cycle counter data in CYC packets can be used to compute IPC (Instructions Per Cycle), or to track wall-clock time on a fine-grain level.

To enable cycle-accurate mode packet generation, software should set IA32_RTIT_CTL.CYCEn=1. It is recommended that software also set TSCEn=1 anytime cycle-accurate mode is in use. With this, all CYC-eligible packets will be preceded by a CYC packet, the payload of which indicates the number of core clock cycles since the last CYC packet. In cases where multiple CYC-eligible packets are generated in a single cycle, only a single CYC will be generated before the CYC-eligible packets, otherwise each CYC-eligible packet will be preceded by its own CYC. The CYC-eligible packets are:

- TNT, TIP, TIP.PGE, TIP.PGD, MODE.EXEC, MODE.TSX, PIP, VMCS, OVF, MTC, TSC, PTWRITE, EXSTOP

TSC packets are generated when there is insufficient information to reconstruct wall-clock time, due to tracing being disabled (TriggerEn=0), or power down scenarios like a transition to a deep-sleep MWAIT C-state. In this case, the CYC that is generated along with the TSC will indicate the number of cycles actively tracing (those powered up, with TriggerEn=1) executed between the last CYC packet and the TSC packet. And hence the amount of time spent while tracing is inactive can be inferred from the difference in time between that expected based on the CYC value, and the actual time indicated by the TSC.

Additional CYC packets may be sent stand-alone, so that the processor can ensure that the decoder is aware of the number of cycles that have passed before the internal hardware counter wraps, or is reset due to other micro-architectural condition. There is no guarantee at what intervals these standalone CYC packets will be sent, except that they will be sent before the wrap occurs. An illustration is given below.

Example 33-1. An Illustrative CYC Packet Example

Time (cycles)	Instruction Snapshot	Generated Packets	Comment
x	call %eax	CYC(?), TIP	?Elapsed cycles from the previous CYC unknown
x + 2	call %ebx	CYC(2), TIP	1 byte CYC packet; 2 cycles elapsed from the previous CYC
x + 8	jnz Foo (not taken)	CYC(6)	1 byte CYC packet
x + 9	ret (compressed)		
x + 12	jnz Bar (taken)		
x + 16	ret (uncompressed)	TNT, CYC(8), TIP	1 byte CYC packet
x + 4111		CYC(4095)	2 byte CYC packet
x + 12305		CYC(8194)	3 byte CYC packet
x + 16332	mov cr3, %ebx	CYC(4027), PIP	2 byte CYC packet

33.3.6.1 Cycle Counter

The cycle counter is implemented in hardware (independent of the time stamp counter or performance monitoring counters), and is a simple incrementing counter that does not saturate, but rather wraps. The size of the counter is implementation specific.

The cycle counter is reset to zero any time that TriggerEn is cleared, and when a CYC packet is sent. The cycle counter will continue to count when ContextEn or FilterEn are cleared, and cycle packets will still be generated. It will not count during sleep states that result in Intel PT logic being powered-down, but will count up to the point where clocks are disabled, and resume counting once they are re-enabled.

33.3.6.2 Cycle Packet Semantics

Cycle-accurate mode adheres to the following protocol:

- All packets that precede a CYC packet represent instructions or events that took place before the CYC time.
- All packets that follow a CYC packet represent instructions or events that took place at the same time as, or after, the CYC time.
- The CYC-eligible packet that immediately follows a CYC packet represents an instruction or event that took place at the same time as the CYC time.

These items above give the decoder a means to apply CYC packets to a specific instruction in the assembly stream. Most packets represent a single instruction or event, and hence the CYC packet that precedes each of those packets represents the retirement time of that instruction or event. In the case of TNT packets, up to 6 conditional branches and/or compressed RETs may be contained in the packet. In this case, the preceding CYC packet provides the retirement time of the first branch in the packet. It is possible that multiple branches retired in the same cycle as that first branch in the TNT, but the protocol will not make that obvious. Also note that a MTC packet could be generated in the same cycle as the first JCC in the TNT packet. In this case, the CYC would precede both the MTC and the TNT, and apply to both.

Note that there are times when the cycle counter will stop counting, though cycle-accurate mode is enabled. After any such scenario, a CYC packet followed by TSC packet will be sent. See Section 33.8.3.2 to understand how to interpret the payload values

Multi-packet Instructions or Events

Some operations, such as interrupts or task switches, generate multiple packets. In these cases, multiple CYC packets may be sent for the operation, preceding each CYC-eligible packet in the operation. An example, using a task switch on a software interrupt, is shown below.

Example 33-2. An Example of CYC in the Presence of Multi-Packet Operations

Time (cycles)	Instruction Snapshot	Generated Packets
x	jnz Foo (not taken)	CYC(?)
x + 2	ret (compressed)	
x + 8	jnz Bar (taken)	
x + 9	jmp %eax	TNT, CYC(9), TIP
x + 12	jnz Bar (not taken)	CYC(3)
x + 32	int3 (task gate)	TNT, FUP, CYC(10), PIP, CYC(20), MODE.Exec, TIP

33.3.6.3 Cycle Thresholds

Software can opt to reduce the frequency of cycle packets, a trade-off to save bandwidth and intrusion at the expense of precision. This is done by utilizing a cycle threshold (see Section 33.2.8.2).

IA32_RTIT_CTL.CycThresh indicates to the processor the minimum number of cycles that must pass before the next CYC packet should be sent. If this value is 0, no threshold is used, and CYC packets can be sent every cycle in which a CYC-eligible packet is generated. If this value is greater than 0, the hardware will wait until the associated number of cycles have passed since the last CYC packet before sending another. CPUID provides the threshold options for CycThresh, see Section 33.3.1.

Note that the cycle threshold does not dictate how frequently a CYC packet will be posted, it merely assigns the maximum frequency. If the cycle threshold is 16, a CYC packet can be posted no more frequently than every 16 cycles. However, once that threshold of 16 cycles has passed, it still requires a new CYC-eligible packet to be generated before a CYC will be inserted. Table 33-13 illustrates the threshold behavior.

Table 33-13. An Illustrative CYC Packet Example

Time (cycles)	Instruction Snapshot	Threshold			
		0	16	32	64
x	jmp %eax	CYC, TIP	CYC, TIP	CYC, TIP	CYC, TIP
x + 9	call %ebx	CYC, TIP	TIP	TIP	TIP
x + 15	call %ecx	CYC, TIP	TIP	TIP	TIP
x + 30	jmp %edx	CYC, TIP	CYC, TIP	TIP	TIP
x + 38	mov cr3, %eax	CYC, PIP	PIP	CYC, PIP	PIP
x + 46	jmp [%eax]	CYC, TIP	CYC, TIP	TIP	TIP
x + 64	call %edx	CYC, TIP	CYC, TIP	TIP	CYC,TIP
x + 71	jmp %edx	CYC, TIP	TIP	CYC,TIP	TIP

33.3.7 Decoder Synchronization (PSB+)

The PSB packet (Section 33.4.2.17) serves as a synchronization point for a trace-packet decoder. It is a pattern in the trace log for which the decoder can quickly scan to align packet boundaries. No legal packet combination can result in such a byte sequence. As such, it serves as the starting point for packet decode. To decode a trace log properly, the decoder needs more than simply to be aligned: it needs to know some state and potentially some timing information as well. The decoder should never need to retain any information (e.g., LastIP, call stack, compound packet event) across a PSB; all compound packet events will be completed before a PSB, and any compression state will be reset.

When a PSB packet is generated, it is followed by a PSBEND packet (Section 33.4.2.18). One or more packets may be generated in between those two packets, and these inform the decoder of the current state of the processor. These packets, known collectively as PSB+, should be interpreted as "status only", since they do not imply any change of state at the time of the PSB, nor are they associated directly with any instruction or event. Thus, the normal binding and ordering rules that apply to these packets outside of PSB+ can be ignored when these packets are between a PSB and PSBEND. They inform the decoder of the state of the processor at the time of the PSB.

PSB+ can include:

- Timestamp (TSC), if IA32_RTIT_CTL.TSCEn=1.
- Timestamp-MTC Align (TMA), if IA32_RTIT_CTL.TSCEn=1 && IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCEn=1.
- Paging Information Packet (PIP), if ContextEn=1 and IA32_RTIT_CTL.OS=1. The non-root bit (NR) is set if the logical processor is in VMX non-root operation and the "conceal VMX from PT" VM-execution control is 0.
- VMCS packet, if either the logical is in VMX root operation or the logical processor is in VMX non-root operation and the "conceal VMX from PT" VM-execution control is 0.
- Core Bus Ratio (CBR).
- MODE.TSX, if ContextEn=1 and BranchEn = 1.
- MODE.Exec, if PacketEn=1.
- Flow Update Packet (FUP), if PacketEn=1.

PSB is generated only when TriggerEn=1; hence PSB+ has the same dependencies. The ordering of packets within PSB+ is not fixed. Timing packets such as CYC and MTC may be generated between PSB and PSBEND, and their meanings are the same as outside PSB+.

A PSB+ can be lost in some scenarios. If IA32_RTIT_STATUS.TriggerEn is cleared just as the PSB threshold is reached, e.g., due to TraceEn being cleared, the PSB+ may not be generated. On processors that support PSB preservation (CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 6] = 1), setting IA32_RTIT_CTL.InjectPsbPmiOnEnable[56] = 1 will ensure that a PSB+ that is pending at the time PT is disabled will be recorded by setting IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PendPSB[6] = 1. A PSB will be inserted, and PendPSB cleared, when PT is later re-enabled while PendPSB = 1.

Note that an overflow can occur during PSB+, and this could cause the PSBEND packet to be lost. For this reason, the OVF packet should also be viewed as terminating PSB+. If IA32_RTIT_STATUS.TriggerEn is cleared just as the PSB threshold is reached, the PSB+ may not be generated. TriggerEn can be cleared by a WRMSR that clears IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn, a VM exit that clears IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn, an #SMI, or any time that either IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped is set (e.g., by a TraceStop or ToPA stop condition) or IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Error is set (e.g., by an Intel PT output error). On processors that support PSB preservation (CPUID.(EAX=14H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 6] = 1), setting IA32_RTIT_CTL.InjectPsbPmiOnEnable[56] = 1 will ensure that a PSB+ that is pending at the time PT is disabled will be recorded by setting IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PendPSB[6] = 1. A PSB will then be pended when the saved PT context is later restored.

33.3.8 Internal Buffer Overflow

In the rare circumstances when new packets need to be generated but the processor's dedicated internal buffers are all full, an "internal buffer overflow" occurs. On such an overflow packet generation ceases (as packets would need to enter the processor's internal buffer) until the overflow resolves. Once resolved, packet generation resumes.

When the buffer overflow is cleared, an OVF packet (Section 33.4.2.16) is generated, and the processor ensures that packets which follow the OVF are not compressed (IP compression or RET compression) against packets that were lost.

If IA32_RTIT_CTL.BranchEn = 1, the OVF packet will be followed by a FUP if the overflow resolves while PacketEn=1. If the overflow resolves while PacketEn = 0 no packet is generated, but a TIP.PGE will naturally be generated later, once PacketEn = 1. The payload of the FUP or TIP.PGE will be the Current IP of the first instruction upon which tracing resumes after the overflow is cleared. If the overflow resolves while PacketEn=1, only timing packets may come between the OVF and the FUP. If the overflow resolves while PacketEn=0, any other packets that are not dependent on PacketEn may come between the OVF and the TIP.PGE.

33.3.8.1 Overflow Impact on Enables

The address comparisons to ADDRn ranges, for IP filtering and TraceStop (Section 33.2.5.3), continue during a buffer overflow, and TriggerEn, ContextEn, and FilterEn may change during a buffer overflow. Like other packets, however, any TIP.PGE or TIP.PGD packets that would have been generated will be lost. Further, IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PacketByteCnt will not increment, since it is only incremented when packets are generated.

If a TraceStop event occurs during the buffer overflow, IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped will still be set, tracing will cease as a result. However, the TraceStop packet, and any TIP.PGD that result from the TraceStop, may be dropped.

33.3.8.2 Overflow Impact on Timing Packets

Any timing packets that are generated during a buffer overflow will be dropped. If only a few MTC packets are dropped, a decoder should be able to detect this by noticing that the time value in the first MTC packet after the buffer overflow incremented by more than one. If the buffer overflow lasted long enough that 256 MTC packets are lost (and thus the MTC packet 'wraps' its 8-bit CTC value), then the decoder may be unable to properly understand the trace. This is not an expected scenario. No CYC packets are generated during overflow, even if the cycle counter wraps.

Note that, if cycle-accurate mode is enabled, the OVF packet will generate a CYC packet. Because the cycle counter counts during overflows, this CYC packet can provide the duration of the overflow. However, there is a risk that the cycle counter wrapped during the overflow, which could render this CYC misleading.

33.3.9 TNT Disable

Software can opt to omit TNT packets from control flow trace (BranchEn=1) by setting IA32_RTIT_CTL.DisTNT[bit 55]. This can dramatically reduce trace size. Results will vary by workload, but trace size reductions of 40-75% are typical, which will have a corresponding reduction in performance overhead and memory bandwidth consumption from Intel PT. However, omitting TNT packets means the decoder is not able to follow the full control flow trace, since conditional branch and compressed RET results won't be known. Thus, TNT Disable should be employed only for usages that do not depend on full control flow trace.

NOTE

To avoid loss of RET results with TNT Disable, software may wish to disable RET compression by setting IA32_RTIT_CTL.DisRETC[bit 11].

33.3.10 Operational Errors

Errors are detected as a result of packet output configuration problems, which can include output alignment issues, ToPA reserved bit violations, or overlapping packet output with restricted memory. See "ToPA Errors" in Section 33.2.7.2 for details on ToPA errors, and Section 33.2.7.4 for details on restricted memory errors. Operational errors are only detected and signaled when TraceEn=1.

When an operational error is detected, tracing is disabled and the error is logged. Specifically, IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Error is set, which will cause IA32_RTIT_STATUS.TriggerEn to be 0. This will disable generation of all packets. Some causes of operational errors may lead to packet bytes being dropped.

It should be noted that the timing of error detection may not be predictable. Errors are signaled when the processor encounters the problematic configuration. This could be as soon as packet generation is enabled but could also be later when the problematic entry or field needs to be used.

Once an error is signaled, software should disable packet generation by clearing TraceEn, diagnose and fix the error condition, and clear IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Error. At this point, packet generation can be re-enabled.

33.4 TRACE PACKETS AND DATA TYPES

This section details the data packets generated by Intel Processor Trace. It is useful for developers writing the interpretation code that will decode the data packets and apply it to the traced source code.

33.4.1 Packet Relationships and Ordering

This section introduces the concept of packet "binding", which involves determining the IP in a binary disassembly at which the change indicated by a given packet applies. Some packets have the associated IP as the payload (FUP, TIP), while for others the decoder need only search for the next instance of a particular instruction (or instructions) to bind the packet (TNT). However, in many cases, the decoder will need to consider the relationship between packets, and to use this packet context to determine how to bind the packet.

Section 33.4.1.1 below provides detailed descriptions of the packets, including how packets bind to IPs in the disassembly, to other packets, or to nothing at all. Many packets listed are simple to bind, because they are generated in only a few scenarios. Those that require more consideration are typically part of "compound packet events", such as interrupts, exceptions, and some instructions, where multiple packets are generated by a single operation (instruction or event). These compound packet events frequently begin with a FUP to indicate the source address (if it is not clear from the disassembly), and are concluded by a TIP or TIP.PGD packet that indicates the destination address (if one is provided). In this scenario, the FUP is said to be "coupled" with the TIP packet.

Other packets could be in between the coupled FUP and TIP packet. Timing packets, such as TSC, MTC, CYC, or CBR, could arrive at any time, and hence could intercede in a compound packet event. If an operation changes CR3 or the processor's mode of execution, a state update packet (i.e., PIP or MODE) is generated. The state changes indicated by these intermediate packets should be applied at the IP of the TIP* packet. A summary of compound packet events is provided in Table 33-14; see Section 33.4.1.1 for more per-packet details and Section 33.7 for more detailed packet generation examples.

Table 33-14. Compound Packet Event Summary

Event Type	Beginning	Middle	End	Comment
Unconditional, uncompressed control-flow transfer	FUP or none	Any combination of PIP, VMCS, MODE.Exec, or none	TIP or TIP.PGD	FUP only for asynchronous events. Order of middle packets may vary. PIP/VMCS/MODE only if the operation modifies the state tracked by these respective packets.
TSX Update	MODE.TSX, and (FUP or none)	None	TIP, TIP.PGD, or none	FUP TIP/TIP.PGD only for TSX abort cases.
Overflow	OVF	PSB, PSBEND, or none	FUP or TIP.PGE	FUP if overflow resolves while ContextEn=1, else TIP.PGE.

33.4.1.1 Packet Blocks

Packet blocks are a means to dump one or more groups of state values. Packet blocks begin with a Block Begin Packet (BBP), which indicates what type of state is held within the block. Following each BBP there may be one or more Block Item Packets (BIPs), which contain the state values. The block is terminated by either a Block End Packet (BEP) or another BBP indicating the start of a new block.

The BIP packet includes an ID value that, when combined with the Type field from the BBP that preceded it, uniquely identifies the state value held in the BIP payload. The size of each BIP packet payload is provided by the Size field in the preceding BBP packet.

Each block type can have up to 32 items defined for it. There is no guarantee, however, that each block of that type will hold all 32 items. For more details on which items to expect, see documentation on the specific block type of interest.

See the BBP packet description (Section 33.4.2.26) for details on packet block generation scenarios.

Packet blocks are entirely generated within an instruction or between instructions, which dictates the types of packets (aside from BIPs) that may be seen within a packet block. Packets that indicate control flow changes, or other indication of instruction completion, cannot be generated within a block. These are listed in the following table. Other packets, including timing packets, may occur between BBP and BEP.

Table 33-15. Packets Forbidden Between BBP and BEP

TNT
TIP, TIP.PGE, TIP.PGD
MODE.Exec, MODE.TSX
PIP, VMCS
TraceStop
PSB, PSBEND
PTW
MWAIT

It is possible to encounter an internal buffer overflow in the middle of a block. In such a case, it is guaranteed that packet generation will not resume in the middle of a block, and hence the OVF packet terminates the current block. Depending on the duration of the overflow, subsequent blocks may also be lost.

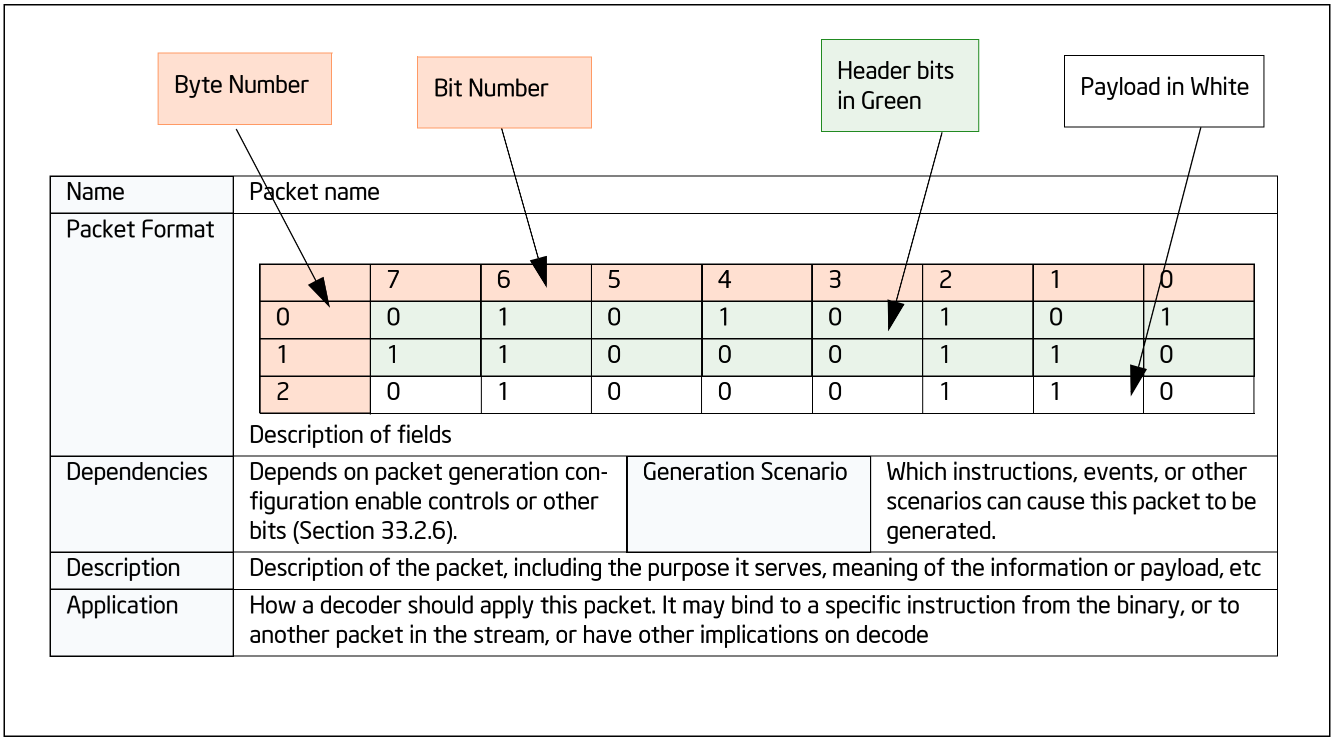
Decoder Implications

When a Block Begin Packet (BBP) is encountered, the decoder will need to decode some packets within the block differently from those outside a block. The Block Item Packet (BIP) header byte has the same encoding as a TNT packet outside of a block, but must be treated as a BIP header (with following payload) within one.

When an OVF packet is encountered, the decoder should treat that as a block ending condition. Packet generation will not resume within a block.

33.4.2 Packet Definitions

The following description of packet definitions are in tabular format. Figure 33-3 explains how to interpret them. Packet bits listed as “RSVD” are not guaranteed to be 0.



Name	Packet name		
Packet Format	(see bit table below) Description of fields		
Dependencies	Depends on packet generation configuration enable controls or other bits (Section 33.2.6).	Generation Scenario	Which instructions, events, or other scenarios can cause this packet to be generated.
Description	Description of the packet, including the purpose it serves, meaning of the information or payload, etc		
Application	How a decoder should apply this packet. It may bind to a specific instruction from the binary, or to another packet in the stream, or have other implications on decode		

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0

Figure 33-3. Interpreting Tabular Definition of Packet Format

33.4.2.1 Taken/Not-taken (TNT) Packet

Table 33-16. TNT Packet Definition

Name	Taken/Not-taken (TNT) Packet
Packet Format	

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0	1	B_1	B_2	B_3	B_4	B_5	B_6	0	Short TNT

B1...BN represent the last N conditional branch or compressed RET (Section 33.4.2.2) results, such that B1 is oldest and BN is youngest. The short TNT packet can contain from 1 to 6 TNT bits. The long TNT packet can contain from 1 to 47 TNT bits.

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	Long TNT
1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	
2	B_{40}	B_{41}	B_{42}	B_{43}	B_{44}	B_{45}	B_{46}	B_{47}	
3	B_{32}	B_{33}	B_{34}	B_{35}	B_{36}	B_{37}	B_{38}	B_{39}	
4	B_{24}	B_{25}	B_{26}	B_{27}	B_{28}	B_{29}	B_{30}	B_{31}	
5	B_{16}	B_{17}	B_{18}	B_{19}	B_{20}	B_{21}	B_{22}	B_{23}	
6	B_8	B_9	B_{10}	B_{11}	B_{12}	B_{13}	B_{14}	B_{15}	
7	1	B_1	B_2	B_3	B_4	B_5	B_6	B_7	

Irrespective of how many TNT bits is in a packet, the last valid TNT bit is followed by a trailing 1, or Stop bit, as shown above. If the TNT packet is not full (fewer than 6 TNT bits for the Short TNT, or fewer than 47 TNT bits for the Long TNT), the Stop bit moves up, and the trailing bits of the packet are filled with 0s. Examples of these “partial TNTs” are shown below. An implementation may choose to use long TNTs, short TNTs, or both.

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0	0	0	1	B_1	B_2	B_3	B_4	0	Short TNT

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	Long TNT
1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	
2	B_{24}	B_{25}	B_{26}	B_{27}	B_{28}	B_{29}	B_{30}	B_{31}	
3	B_{16}	B_{17}	B_{18}	B_{19}	B_{20}	B_{21}	B_{22}	B_{23}	
4	B_8	B_9	B_{10}	B_{11}	B_{12}	B_{13}	B_{14}	B_{15}	
5	1	B_1	B_2	B_3	B_4	B_5	B_6	B_7	
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Dependencies	PacketEn && ~IA32_RTIT_CTL.DisTNT	Generation Scenario	On a conditional branch or compressed RET, if it fills the TNT. Also, partial TNTs may be generated at any time, as a result of other packets being generated, or certain micro-architectural conditions occurring, before the TNT is full.

Table 33-16. TNT Packet Definition (Contd.)

Description	Provides the taken/not-taken results for the last 1..6 (Short TNT) or 1..47 (Long TNT) conditional branches (Jcc, J*CXZ, or LOOP) or compressed RETs (Section 33.4.2.2). The TNT payload bits should be interpreted as follows: ▪ 1 indicates a taken conditional branch, or a compressed RET ▪ 0 indicates a not-taken conditional branch TNT payload bits are stored internal to the processor in a TNT buffer, until either the buffer is filled or another packet is to be generated. In either case a TNT packet holding the buffered bits will be emitted, and the TNT buffer will be marked as empty.
Application	Each valid payload bit (that is, bits between the header bits and the trailing Stop bit) applies to an upcoming conditional branch or RET instruction. Once a decoder consumes a TNT packet with N valid payload bits, these bits should be applied to (and hence provide the destination for) the next N conditional branches or RETs.

33.4.2.2 Target IP (TIP) Packet

Table 33-17. IP Packet Definition

Name	Target IP (TIP) Packet		
Packet Format	(see packet format below)		
Dependencies	PacketEn	Generation Scenario	Indirect branch (including un-compressed RET), far branch, interrupt, exception, INIT, SIPI, VM exit, VM entry, TSX abort, EENTER, EEXIT, ERESUME, AEX[1].
Description	Provides the target for some control flow transfers		
Application	Anytime a TIP is encountered, it indicates that control was transferred to the IP provided in the payload.		
	The source of this control flow change, and hence the IP or instruction to which it binds, depends on the packets that precede the TIP. If a TIP is encountered and all preceding packets have already been bound, then the TIP will apply to the upcoming indirect branch, far branch, or VMRESUME. However, if there was a preceding FUP that remains unbound, it will bind to the TIP. Here, the TIP provides the target of an asynchronous event or TSX abort that occurred at the IP given in the FUP payload. Note that there may be other packets, in addition to the FUP, which will bind to the TIP packet. See the packet application descriptions for other packets for details.		

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	IPBytes			0	1	1	0	1
1	TargetIP[7:0]							
2	TargetIP[15:8]							
3	TargetIP[23:16]							
4	TargetIP[31:24]							
5	TargetIP[39:32]							
6	TargetIP[47:40]							
7	TargetIP[55:48]							
8	TargetIP[63:56]							

NOTES:

1. EENTER, EEXIT, ERESUME, AEX would be possible only for a debug enclave.

IP Compression

The IP payload in a TIP. FUP, TIP.PGE, or TIP.PGD packet can vary in size, based on the mode of execution, and the use of IP compression. IP compression is an optional compression technique the processor may choose to employ to reduce bandwidth. With IP compression, the IP to be represented in the payload is compared with the last IP sent out, via any of FUP, TIP, TIP.PGE, or TIP.PGD. If that previous IP had the same upper (most significant) address bytes, those matching bytes may be suppressed in the current packet. The processor maintains an internal state of the "Last IP" that was encoded in trace packets, thus the decoder will need to keep track of the "Last IP" state in software, to match fidelity with packets generated by hardware. "Last IP" is initialized to zero, hence if the first IP in the trace may be compressed if the upper bytes are zeroes.

The "IPBytes" field of the IP packets (FUP, TIP, TIP.PGE, TIP.PGD) serves to indicate how many bytes of payload are provided, and how the decoder should fill in any suppressed bytes. The algorithm for reconstructing the IP for a TIP/FUP packet is shown in the table below.

Table 33-18. FUP/TIP IP Reconstruction

IPBytes	Uncompressed IP Value							
	63:56	55:48	47:40	39:32	31:24	23:16	15:8	7:0
000b	None, IP is out of context							
001b	Last IP[63:16]						IP Payload[15:0]	
010b	Last IP[63:32]				IP Payload[31:0]			
011b	IP Payload[47] extended		IP Payload[47:0]					
100b	Last IP [63:48]		IP Payload[47:0]					
101b	Reserved							
110b	IP Payload[63:0]							
111b	Reserved							

The processor-internal Last IP state is guaranteed to be reset to zero when a PSB is sent out. This means that the IP that follows the PSB with either be un-compressed (011b or 110b, see Table 33-18), or compressed against zero.

At times, "IPbytes" will have a value of 0. As shown above, this does not mean that the IP payload matches the full address of the last IP, but rather that the IP for this packet was suppressed. This is used for cases where the IP that applies to the packet is out of context. An example is the TIP.PGD sent on a SYSCALL, when tracing only USR code. In that case, no TargetIP will be included in the packet, since that would expose an instruction point at CPL = 0. When the IP payload is suppressed in this manner, Last IP is not cleared, and instead refers to the last IP packet with a non-zero IPBytes field.

On processors that support a maximum linear address size of 32 bits, IP payloads may never exceed 32 bits (IPBytes <= 010b).

Indirect Transfer Compression for Returns (RET)

In addition to IP compression, TIP packets for near return (RET) instructions can also be compressed. If the RET target matches the next IP of the corresponding CALL, then the TIP packet is unneeded, since the decoder can deduce the target IP by maintaining a CALL/RET stack of its own.

When a RET is compressed, a Taken indication is added to the TNT buffer. Because the RET generates no TIP packet, it also does not update the internal Last IP value, and thus the decoder should treat it the same way. If the RET is not compressed, it will generate a TIP packet (just like when RET compression is disabled, via IA32_RTIT_CTL.DisRETC).

A CALL/RET stack can be maintained by the decoder by doing the following:

1. Allocate space to store 64 RET targets.
2. For near CALLs, push the Next IP onto the stack. Once the stack is full, new CALLs will force the oldest entry off the end of the stack, such that only the youngest 64 entries are stored. Note that this excludes zero-length CALLs, which are direct near CALLs with displacement zero (to the next IP). These CALLs typically don't have matching RETs.
3. For near RETs, pop the top (youngest) entry off the stack. This will be the expected target of the RET.

In cases where a RET is compressed, the RET target is guaranteed to match the expected target from 3) above. If the target is not compressed, a TIP packet will be generated with the RET target, which may differ from the expected target in some cases.

The hardware ensures that packets read by the decoder will always have seen the CALL that corresponds to any compressed RET. The processor will never compress a RET across a PSB, a buffer overflow, or scenario where PacketEn=0. This means that a RET whose corresponding CALL executed while PacketEn=0, or before the last PSB, etc., will not be compressed.

If the CALL/RET stack is manipulated or corrupted by software, and thereby causes a RET to transfer control to a target that is inconsistent with the CALL/RET stack, then the RET will not be compressed, and will produce a TIP packet. This can happen, for example, if software executes a PUSH instruction to push a target onto the stack, and a later RET uses this target.

For processors that employ deferred TIPs (Section 33.4.2.3), an uncompressed RET will not be deferred, and hence will force out any accumulated TNTs or TIPs. This serves to avoid ambiguity, and make clear to the decoder whether the near RET was compressed, and hence a bit in the in-progress TNT should be consumed, or uncompressed, in which case there will be no in-progress TNT and thus a TIP should be consumed.

Note that in the unlikely case that a RET executes in a different execution mode than the associated CALL, the decoder will need to model the same behavior with its CALL stack. For instance, if a CALL executes in 64-bit mode, a 64-bit IP value will be pushed onto the software stack. If the corresponding RET executes in 32-bit mode, then only the lower 32 target bits will be popped off of the stack, which may mean that the RET does not go to the CALL's Next IP. This is architecturally correct behavior, and this RET could be compressed, thus the decoder should match this behavior.

33.4.2.3 Deferred TIPs

The processor may opt to defer sending out the TNT when TIPs are generated. Thus, rather than sending a partial TNT followed by a TIP, both packets will be deferred while the TNT accumulates more Jcc/RET results. Any number of TIP packets may be accumulated this way, such that only once the TNT is filled, or once another packet (e.g., FUP) is generated, the TNT will be sent, followed by all the deferred TIP packets, and finally terminated by the other packet(s) that forced out the TNT and TIP packets. Generation of many other packets (see list below) will force out the TNT and any accumulated TIP packets. This is an optional optimization in hardware to reduce the bandwidth consumption, and hence the performance impact, incurred by tracing.

Table 33-19. TNT Examples with Deferred TIPs

Code Flow	Packets, Non-Deferred TIPS	Packets, Deferred TIPS
0x1000 cmp %rcx, 0 0x1004 jnz Foo // not-taken 0x1008 jmp %rdx	TNT(0b0), TIP(0x1308)	
0x1308 cmp %rcx, 1 0x130c jnz Bar // not-taken 0x1310 cmp %rcx, 2 0x1314 jnz Baz // taken 0x1500 cmp %eax, 7 0x1504 jg Exit // not-taken 0x1508 jmp %r15	TNT(0b010), TIP(0x1100)	
0x1100 cmp %rbx, 1 0x1104 jg Start // not-taken 0x1108 add %rcx, %eax 0x110c ... // **an asynchronous Interrupt arrives** INThandler: 0xcc00 pop %rdx	TNT(0b0), FUP(0x110c), TIP(0xcc00)	TNT(0b00100), TIP(0x1308), TIP(0x1100), FUP(0x110c), TIP(0xcc00)

33.4.2.4 Packet Generation Enable (TIP.PGE) Packet

Table 33-20. TIP.PGE Packet Definition

Name	Target IP - Packet Generation Enable (TIP.PGE) Packet
Packet Format	(see packet format table below)
Dependencies	PacketEn transitions to 1
Generation Scenario	Any branch instruction, control flow transfer, or MOV CR3 that sets PacketEn, a WRMSR that enables packet generation and sets PacketEn
Description	Indicates that PacketEn has transitioned to 1. It provides the IP at which the tracing begins. This can occur due to any of the enables that comprise PacketEn transitioning from 0 to 1, as long as all the others are asserted. Examples: ▪ TriggerEn: This is set on software write to set IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn as long as the Stopped and Error bits in IA32_RTIT_STATUS are clear. The IP payload will be the Next IP of the WRMSR. ▪ FilterEn: This is set when software jumps into the tracing region. This region is defined by enabling IP filtering in IA32_RTIT_CTL.ADDRn_CFG, and defining the range in IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_[AB], see. Section 33.2.5.3. The IP payload will be the target of the branch. ▪ ContextEn: This is set on a CPL change, a CR3 write or any other means of changing ContextEn. The IP payload will be the Next IP of the instruction that changes context if it is not a branch, otherwise it will be the target of the branch.
Application	TIP.PGE packets bind to the instruction at the IP given in the payload.

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	IPBytes			1	0	0	0	1
1	TargetIP[7:0]							
2	TargetIP[15:8]							
3	TargetIP[23:16]							
4	TargetIP[31:24]							
5	TargetIP[39:32]							
6	TargetIP[47:40]							
7	TargetIP[55:48]							
8	TargetIP[63:56]							

33.4.2.5 Packet Generation Disable (TIP.PGD) Packet

Table 33-21. TIP.PGD Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">Target IP - Packet Generation Disable (TIP.PGD) Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	IPBytes			0	0	0	0	1
1	TargetIP[7:0]							
2	TargetIP[15:8]							
3	TargetIP[23:16]							
4	TargetIP[31:24]							
5	TargetIP[39:32]							
6	TargetIP[47:40]							
7	TargetIP[55:48]							
8	TargetIP[63:56]							

</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>PacketEn transitions to 0</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Any branch instruction, control flow transfer, or MOV CR3 that clears PacketEn, a WRMSR that disables packet generation and clears PacketEn</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">Indicates that PacketEn has transitioned to 0. It will include the IP at which the tracing ends, unless ContextEn= 0 or TraceEn=0 at the conclusion of the instruction or event that cleared PacketEn.
PacketEn can be cleared due to any of the enables that comprise PacketEn transitioning from 1 to 0. Examples:
• TriggerEn: This is cleared on software write to clear IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn, or when IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped is set, or on operational error. The IP payload will be suppressed in this case, and the “IPBytes” field will have the value 0.
• FilterEn: This is cleared when software jumps out of the tracing region. This region is defined by enabling IP filtering in IA32_RTIT_CTL.ADDRn_CFG, and defining the range in IA32_RTIT_ADDRn_[AB], see. Section 33.2.5.3. The IP payload will depend on the type of the branch. For conditional branches, the payload is suppressed (IPBytes = 0), and in this case the destination can be inferred from the disassembly. For any other type of branch, the IP payload will be the target of the branch.
• ContextEn: This can happen on a CPL change, a CR3 write or any other means of changing ContextEn. See Section 33.2.5.3 for details. In this case, when ContextEn is cleared, there will be no IP payload. The “IPBytes” field will have value 0.
Note that, in cases where a branch that would normally produce a TIP packet (i.e., far transfer, indirect branch, interrupt, etc) or TNT update (conditional branch or compressed RT) causes PacketEn to transition from 1 to 0, the TIP or TNT bit will be replaced with TIP.PGD. The payload of the TIP.PGD will be the target of the branch, unless the result of the instruction causes TraceEn or ContextEn to be cleared (ie, SYSCALL when IA32_RTIT_CTL.OS=0, In the case where a conditional branch clears FilterEn and hence PacketEn, there will be no TNT bit for this branch, replaced instead by the TIP.PGD.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">TIP.PGD can be produced by any branch instructions, as well as some non-branch instructions, that clear PacketEn. When produced by a branch, it replaces any TIP or TNT update that the branch would normally produce.
In cases where there is an unbound FUP preceding the TIP.PGD, then the TIP.PGD is part of compound operation (i.e., asynchronous event or TSX abort) which cleared PacketEn. For most such cases, the TIP.PGD is simply replacing a TIP, and should be treated the same way. The TIP.PGD may or may not have an IP payload, depending on whether the operation cleared ContextEn.
If there is not an associated FUP, the binding will depend on whether there is an IP payload. If there is an IP payload, then the TIP.PGD should be applied to either the next direct branch whose target matches the TIP.PGD payload, or the next branch that would normally generate a TIP or TNT packet. If there is no IP payload, then the TIP.PGD should apply to the next branch or MOV CR3 instruction.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.6 Flow Update (FUP) Packet

Table 33-22. FUP Packet Definition

Name	Flow Update (FUP) Packet		
Packet Format	(see packet format table below)		
Dependencies	TriggerEn && ContextEn. (Typically depends on BranchEn and FilterEn as well, see Section 33.2.5, Section 33.4.2.21, and Section 33.4.2.22 for details.)	Generation Scenario	Asynchronous Events (interrupts, exceptions, INIT, SIPI, SMI, VM exit, #MC), PSB+, XBEGIN, XEND, XABORT, XACQUIRE, XRELEASE, EENTER, EEXIT, ERESUME, EEE, AEX,[1], INTO, INT1, INT3, INT *n*, a WRMSR that disables packet generation.
Description	Provides the source address for asynchronous events, and some other instructions. Is never sent alone, always sent with an associated TIP or MODE packet, and potentially others.		
Application	FUP packets provide the IP to which they bind. However, they are never standalone, but are coupled with other packets. In TSX cases, the FUP is immediately preceded by a MODE.TSX, which binds to the same IP. A TIP will follow only in the case of TSX aborts, see Section 33.4.2.8 for details. Otherwise, FUPs are part of compound packet events (see Section 33.4.1). In these compound cases, the FUP provides the source IP for an instruction or event, while a following TIP (or TIP.PGD) packet will provide the destination IP. Other packets may be included in the compound event between the FUP and TIP.		

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	IPBytes			1	1	1	0	1
1	IP[7:0]							
2	IP[15:8]							
3	IP[23:16]							
4	IP[31:24]							
5	IP[39:32]							
6	IP[47:40]							
7	IP[55:48]							
8	IP[63:56]							

NOTES:

1. EENTER, EEXIT, ERESUME, EEE, AEX apply only if Intel Software Guard Extensions is supported.

FUP IP Payload

Flow Update Packet gives the source address of an instruction when it is needed. In general, branch instructions do not need a FUP, because the source address is clear from the disassembly. For asynchronous events, however, the source address cannot be inferred from the source, and hence a FUP will be sent. Table 33-23 illustrates cases where FUPs are sent, and which IP can be expected in those cases.

Table 33-23. FUP Cases and IP Payload

Event	Flow Update IP	Comment
External Interrupt, NMI/SMI, Traps, Machine Check (trap-like), INIT/SIPI	Address of next instruction (Next IP) that would have been executed	Functionally, this matches the LBR FROM field value and also the EIP value which is saved onto the stack.
Exceptions/Faults, Machine check (fault-like)	Address of the instruction which took the exception/fault (Current IP)	This matches the similar functionality of LBR FROM field value and also the EIP value which is saved onto the stack.
Software Interrupt	Address of the software interrupt instruction (Current IP)	This matches the similar functionality of LBR FROM field value, but does not match the EIP value which is saved onto the stack (Next Linear Instruction Pointer - NLIP).
EENTER, EEXIT, ERESUME, Enclave Exiting Event (EEE), AEX[1]	Current IP of the instruction	This matches the LBR FROM field value and also the EIP value which is saved onto the stack.
XACQUIRE	Address of the X* instruction	
XRELEASE, XBEGIN, XEND, XABORT, other transactional abort	Current IP	
#SMI	IP that is saved into SMRAM	
WRMSR that clears TraceEn, PSB+	Current IP	

NOTES:

1. Information on EENTER, EEXIT, ERESUME, EEE, Asynchronous Enclave eXit (AEX) can be found in the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 3D.

On a canonical fault due to sequentially fetching an instruction in non-canonical space (as opposed to jumping to non-canonical space), the IP of the fault (and thus the payload of the FUP) will be a non-canonical address. This is consistent with what is pushed on the stack for such faulting cases.

If there are post-commit task switch faults, the IP value of the FUP will be the original IP when the task switch started. This is the same value as would be seen in the LBR_FROM field. But it is a different value as is saved on the stack or VMCS.

33.4.2.7 Paging Information (PIP) Packet

Table 33-24. PIP Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">Paging Information (PIP) Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td colspan="7">CR3[11:5] or 0</td><td>RSVD/NR</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="8">CR3[19:12]</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td colspan="8">CR3[27:20]</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td colspan="8">CR3[35:28]</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td colspan="8">CR3[43:36]</td></tr>
<tr><td>7</td><td colspan="8">CR3[51:44]</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn && ContextEn &&
IA32_RTIT_CTL.OS</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>MOV CR3, Task switch, INIT, SIPI, PSB+, VM exit,
VM entry</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">The CR3 payload shown includes only the address portion of the CR3 value. For PAE paging, CR3[11:5] are thus included. For other paging modes (32-bit and 4-level paging[1]), these bits are 0.
This packet holds the CR3 address value. It will be generated on operations that modify CR3:
• MOV CR3 operation
• Task Switch
• INIT and SIPI
• VM exit, if “conceal VMX from PT” VM-exit control is 0 (see Section 33.5.1)
• VM entry, if “conceal VMX from PT” VM-entry control is 0
PIPs are not generated, despite changes to CR3, on SMI and RSM. This is due to the special behavior on these operations, see Section 33.2.9.3 for details. Note that, for some cases of task switch where CR3 is not modified, no PIP will be produced.
The purpose of the PIP is to indicate to the decoder which application is running, so that it can apply the proper binaries to the linear addresses that are being traced.
The PIP packet contains the new CR3 value when CR3 is written.
PIPs generated by VM entries set the NR bit. PIPs generated in VMX non-root operation set the NR bit if the “conceal VMX from PT” VM-execution control is 0 (see Section 33.5.1). All other PIPs clear the NR bit.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">The purpose of the PIP packet is to help the decoder uniquely identify what software is running at any given time.
When a PIP is encountered, a decoder should do the following:
1) If there was a prior unbound FUP (that is, a FUP not preceded by a packet such as MODE.TSX that consumes it, and it hence pairs with a TIP that has not yet been seen), then this PIP is part of a compound packet event (Section 33.4.1). Find the ending TIP and apply the new CR3/NR values to the TIP payload IP.
2) Otherwise, look for the next MOV CR3, far branch, or VMRESUME/VMLAUNCH in the disassembly, and apply the new CR3 to the next (or target) IP.
For examples of the packets generated by these flows, see Section 33.7.</td></tr>
</table>

NOTES:

1. Earlier versions of this manual used the term “IA-32e paging” to identify 4-level paging.

33.4.2.8 MODE Packets

MODE packets keep the decoder informed of various processor modes about which it needs to know in order to properly manage the packet output, or to properly disassemble the associated binaries. MODE packets include a header and a mode byte, as shown below.

Table 33-25. General Form of MODE Packets

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
1	Leaf ID			Mode				

The MODE Leaf ID indicates which set of mode bits are held in the lower bits.

MODE.Exec Packet

Table 33-26. MODE.Exec Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">MODE.Exec Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td colspan="2">Reserved</td><td>IF</td><td>CS.D</td><td>(CS.L & LMA)</td></tr>
</table>
MODE Leaf ID is ’000.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn && ContextEn && FilterEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Any operation that changes the CS.L, CS.D, or EFER.LMA, if IA32_RTIT_CTL.BranchEn=1.
Any operation that changes RFLAGS.IF, if IA32_RTIT_CTL.EventEn=1.
Any TIP.PGE scenario, such that any of the mode bits tracked may have changed since the last MODE.Exec.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">Indicates whether software is in 16, 32, or 64-bit mode, by providing the CS.D and (CS.L & IA32_EFER.LMA) values. Essential for the decoder to properly disassemble the associated binary. Further, if CPUID.0x14.0.EBX[6]=1 (“Event Trace Support”), it indicates when interrupts are masked by providing the RFLAGS.IF value.

MODE.Exec is sent at the time of a mode change, if dependencies are met at the time, otherwise it is sent when tracing resumes. In the former case, the MODE.Exec packet is generated along with other packets that result from the operation that changes the mode, and is guaranteed to be followed by a TIP or TIP.PGE for branch operations, or a FUP for non-branch operations (CLI, STI, or POPF if EventEn=1). In cases where the mode changes while filtering dependencies are not met, the processor ensures that the decoder doesn’t lose track of the mode by sending any needed MODE.Exec once tracing resumes (preceding the TIP.PGE, if BranchEn=1). The processor may opt to suppress the MODE.Exec when tracing resumes if the mode matches that of the last MODE.Exec packet.
MODE.Exec packets are generated on CS.L, CS.D, or EFER.LMA changes only if control flow tracing is enabled (BranchEn=1). This is essential for the decoder to properly disassemble the associated binary.
<table>
<tr><td>CS.D</td><td>(CS.L & IA32_EFER.LMA)</td><td>Addressing Mode</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>64-bit mode</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>32-bit mode</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>16-bit mode</td></tr>
</table>
MODE.Exec packets are generated on interrupt flag (RFLAGS.IF) changes only if event tracing is enabled (EventEn=1).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">MODE.Exec always precedes an IP packet (TIP, TIP.PGE, or FUP). The mode change applies to the IP address in the payload of the IP packet. When MODE.Exec is followed by a FUP, it is a stand-alone FUP and should be consumed by the MODE.Exec.</td></tr>
</table>

MODE.TSX Packet

Table 33-27. MODE.TSX Packet Definition

Name	MODE.TSX Packet
Packet Format	(see below)
Dependencies	TriggerEn && ContextEn — Generation Scenario: XBEGIN, XEND, XABORT, XACQUIRE, XRELEASE, if InTX changes, Asynchronous TSX Abort, PSB+
Description	Indicates when a TSX transaction (either HLE or RTM) begins, commits, or aborts. Instructions executed transactionally will be "rolled back" if the transaction is aborted. (see below)
Application	If PacketEn=1, MODE.TSX always immediately precedes a FUP. If the TXAbort bit is zero, then the mode change applies to the IP address in the payload of the FUP. If TXAbort=1, then the FUP will be followed by a TIP, and the mode change will apply to the IP address in the payload of the TIP. MODE.TSX packets may be generated when PacketEn=0, due to FilterEn=0. In this case, only the last MODE.TSX generated before TIP.PGE need be applied.

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	TXAbort	InTX

Description:

TXAbort	InTX	Implication
1	1	N/A
0	1	Transaction begins, or executing transactionally
1	0	Transaction aborted
0	0	Transaction committed, or not executing transactionally

33.4.2.9 TraceStop Packet

Table 33-28. TraceStop Packet Definition

Name	TraceStop Packet		
Packet Format	(see format table below)		
Dependencies	TriggerEn && ContextEn	Generation Scenario	Taken branch with target in TraceStop IP region, MOV CR3 in TraceStop IP region, or WRMSR that sets TraceEn in TraceStop IP region.
Description	Indicates when software has entered a user-configured TraceStop region. When the IP matches a TraceStop range while ContextEn and TriggerEn are set, a TraceStop action occurs. This disables tracing by setting IA32_RTIT_STATUS.Stopped, thereby clearing TriggerEn, and causes a TraceStop packet to be generated. The TraceStop action also forces FilterEn to 0. Note that TraceStop may not force a flush of internally buffered packets, and thus trace packet generation should still be manually disabled by clearing IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn before examining output. See Section 33.2.5.3 for more details.		
Application	If TraceStop follows a TIP.PGD (before the next TIP.PGE), then it was triggered either by the instruction that cleared PacketEn, or it was triggered by some later instruction that executed while FilterEn=0. In either case, the TraceStop can be applied at the IP of the TIP.PGD (if any). If TraceStop follows a TIP.PGE (before the next TIP.PGD), it should be applied at the last known IP.		

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

33.4.2.10 Core:Bus Ratio (CBR) Packet

Table 33-29. CBR Packet Definition

Name	Core:Bus Ratio (CBR) Packet		
Packet Format	(see format table below)		
Dependencies	TriggerEn	Generation Scenario	After any frequency change, on C-state wake up, PSB+, and after enabling trace packet generation.
Description	Indicates the core:bus ratio of the processor core. Useful for correlating wall-clock time and cycle time.		
Application	The CBR packet indicates the point in the trace when a frequency transition has occurred. On some implementations, software execution will continue during transitions to a new frequency, while on others software execution ceases during frequency transitions. There is not a precise IP provided, to which to bind the CBR packet.		

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
2	Core:Bus Ratio							
3	Reserved							

33.4.2.11 Timestamp Counter (TSC) Packet

Table 33-30. TSC Packet Definition

Name	Timestamp Counter (TSC) Packet		
Packet Format	(see packet format table below)		
Dependencies	IA32_RTIT_CTL.TSCEn && TriggerEn	Generation Scenario	Sent after any event that causes the processor clocks or Intel PT timing packets (such as MTC or CYC) to stop, This may include P-state changes, wake from C-state, or clock modulation. Also on transition of TraceEn from 0 to 1.
Description	When enabled by software, a TSC packet provides the lower 7 bytes of the current TSC value, as returned by the RDTSC instruction. This may be useful for tracking wall-clock time, and synchronizing the packets in the log with other timestamped logs.		
Application	TSC packet provides a wall-clock proxy of the event which generated it (packet generation enable, sleep state wake, etc). In all cases, TSC does not precisely indicate the time of any control flow packets; however, all preceding packets represent instructions that executed before the indicated TSC time, and all subsequent packets represent instructions that executed after it. There is not a precise IP to which to bind the TSC packet.		

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
1	SW TSC[7:0]							
2	SW TSC[15:8]							
3	SW TSC[23:16]							
4	SW TSC[31:24]							
5	SW TSC[39:32]							
6	SW TSC[47:40]							
7	SW TSC[55:48]							

33.4.2.12 Mini Time Counter (MTC) Packet

Table 33-31. MTC Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">Mini time Counter (MTC) Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td colspan="8">CTC[N+7:N]</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCEn && TriggerEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Periodic, based on the core crystal clock, or Always Running Timer (ART).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">When enabled by software, an MTC packet provides a periodic indication of wall-clock time. The 8-bit CTC (Common Timestamp Copy) payload value is set to (ART >> N) & FFH. The frequency of the ART is related to the Maximum Non-Turbo frequency, and the ratio can be determined from CPUID leaf 15H, as described in Section 33.8.3.
Software can select the threshold N, which determines the MTC frequency by setting the IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCFreq field (see Section 33.2.8.2) to a supported value using the lookup enumerated by CPUID (see Section 33.3.1).
See Section 33.8.3 for details on how to use the MTC payload to track TSC time.
MTC provides 8 bits from the ART, starting with the bit selected by MTCFreq to dictate the frequency of the packet. Whenever that 8-bit range being watched changes, an MTC packet will be sent out with the new value of that 8-bit range. This allows the decoder to keep track of how much wall-clock time has elapsed since the last TSC packet was sent, by keeping track of how many MTC packets were sent and what their value was. The decoder can infer the truncated bits, CTC[N-1:0], are 0 at the time of the MTC packet.
There are cases in which MTC packet can be dropped, due to overflow or other micro-architectural conditions. The decoder should be able to recover from such cases by checking the 8-bit payload of the next MTC packet, to determine how many MTC packets were dropped. It is not expected that >256 consecutive MTC packets should ever be dropped.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">MTC does not precisely indicate the time of any other packet, nor does it bind to any IP. However, all preceding packets represent instructions or events that executed before the indicated ART time, and all subsequent packets represent instructions that executed after, or at the same time as, the ART time.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.13 TSC/MTC Alignment (TMA) Packet

Table 33-32. TMA Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">TSC/MTC Alignment (TMA) Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td colspan="8">CTC[7:0]</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="8">CTC[15:8]</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td colspan="7">Reserved</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td colspan="8">FastCounter[7:0]</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td colspan="7">Reserved</td><td>FC[8]</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCEn && IA32_RTIT_CTL.TSCEn && TriggerEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Sent with any TSC packet.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">The TMA packet serves to provide the information needed to allow the decoder to correlate MTC packets with TSC packets. With this packet, when a MTC packet is encountered, the decoder can determine how many timestamp counter ticks have passed since the last TSC or MTC packet. See Section 33.8.3.2 for details on how to make this calculation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">TMA is always sent immediately following a TSC packet, and the payload values are consistent with the TSC payload value. Thus the application of TMA matches that of TSC.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.14 Cycle Count (CYC) Packet

Table 33-33. Cycle Count Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">Cycle Count (CYC) Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td colspan="5">Cycle Counter[4:0]</td><td>Exp</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td colspan="7">Cycle Counter[11:5]</td><td>Exp</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td colspan="7">Cycle Counter[18:12]</td><td>Exp</td></tr>
<tr><td>...</td><td colspan="8">... (if Exp = 1 in the previous byte)</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>IA32_RTIT_CTL.CYCEn && TriggerEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Can be sent at any time, though a maximum of one CYC packet is sent per core clock cycle. See Section 33.3.6 for CYC-eligible packets.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">The Cycle Counter field increments at the same rate as the processor core clock ticks, but with a variable length format (using a trailing EXP bit field) and a range-capped byte length.
If the CYC value is less than 32, a 1-byte CYC will be generated, with Exp=0. If the CYC value is between 32 and 4095 inclusive, a 2-byte CYC will be generated, with byte 0 Exp=1 and byte 1 Exp=0. And so on.
CYC provides the number of core clocks that have passed since the last CYC packet. CYC can be configured to be sent in every cycle in which an eligible packet is generated, or software can opt to use a threshold to limit the number of CYC packets, at the expense of some precision. These settings are configured using the IA32_RTIT_CTL.CycThresh field (see Section 33.2.8.2). For details on Cycle-Accurate Mode, IPC calculation, etc, see Section 33.3.6.
When CycThresh=0, and hence no threshold is in use, then a CYC packet will be generated in any cycle in which any CYC-eligible packet is generated. The CYC packet will precede the other packets generated in the cycle, and provides the precise cycle time of the packets that follow.
In addition to these CYC packets generated with other packets, CYC packets can be sent stand-alone. These packets serve simply to update the decoder with the number of cycles passed, and are used to ensure that a wrap of the processor's internal cycle counter doesn't cause cycle information to be lost. These stand-alone CYC packets do not indicate the cycle time of any other packet or operation, and will be followed by another CYC packet before any other CYC-eligible packet is seen.
When CycThresh>0, CYC packets are generated only after a minimum number of cycles have passed since the last CYC packet. Once this threshold has passed, the behavior above resumes, where CYC will either be sent in the next cycle that produces other CYC-eligible packets, or could be sent stand-alone.
When using CYC thresholds, only the cycle time of the operation (instruction or event) that generates the CYC packet is truly known. Other operations simply have their execution time bounded: they completed at or after the last CYC time, and before the next CYC time.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">CYC provides the offset cycle time (since the last CYC packet) for the CYC-eligible packet that follows. If another CYC is encountered before the next CYC-eligible packet, the cycle values should be accumulated and applied to the next CYC-eligible packet.
If a CYC packet is generated by a TNT, note that the cycle time provided by the CYC packet applies to the first branch in the TNT packet.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.15 VMCS Packet

Table 33-34. VMCS Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">VMCS Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><th></th><th>7</th><th>6</th><th>5</th><th>4</th><th>3</th><th>2</th><th>1</th><th>0</th></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td colspan="8">VMCS pointer [19:12]</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="8">VMCS pointer [27:20]</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td colspan="8">VMCS pointer [35:28]</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td colspan="8">VMCS pointer [43:36]</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td colspan="8">VMCS pointer [51:44]</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn && ContextEn; Also in VMX operation.</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Generated on successful VMPTRLD, and optionally on PSB+, SMM VM exits, and VM entries that return from SMM (see Section 33-53).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">The VMCS packet provides a VMCS pointer for a decoder to determine the transition of code contexts:
• On a successful VMPTRLD (i.e., a VMPTRLD that doesn’t fault, fail, or VM exit), the VMCS packet contains the logical processor’s VMCS pointer established by VMPTRLD (for subsequent execution of a VM guest context).
• An SMM VM exit loads the logical processor’s VMCS pointer with the SMM-transfer VMCS pointer. If the “conceal VMX from PT” VM-exit control is 0 (see Section 33.5.1), a VMCS packet provides this pointer. See Section 33.6 on tracing inside and outside STM.
• A VM entry that returns from SMM loads the logical processor’s VMCS pointer from a field in the SMM-transfer VMCS. If the “conceal VMX from PT” VM-entry control is 0, a VMCS packet provides this pointer. Whether the VM entry is to VMX root operation or VMX non-root operation is indicated by the PIP.NR bit.
A VMCS packet generated before a VMCS pointer has been loaded, or after the VMCS pointer has been cleared will set all 64 bits in the VMCS pointer field.
VMCS packets will not be seen on processors with IA32_VMX_MISC[bit 14]=0, as these processors do not allow TraceEn to be set in VMX operation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">The purpose of the VMCS packet is to help the decoder uniquely identify changes in the executing software context in situations that CR3 may not be unique.
When a VMCS packet is encountered, a decoder should do the following:
▪ If there was a prior unbound FUP (that is, a FUP not preceded by a packet such as MODE.TSX that consumes it, and it hence pairs with a TIP that has not yet been seen), then this VMCS is part of a compound packet event (Section 33.4.1). Find the ending TIP and apply the new VMCS base pointer value to the TIP payload IP.
▪ Otherwise, look for the next VMPTRLD, VMRESUME, or VMLAUNCH in the disassembly, and apply the new VMCS base pointer on the next VM entry.
For examples of the packets generated by these flows, see Section 33.7.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.16 Overflow (OVF) Packet

Table 33-35. OVF Packet Definition

Name	Overflow (OVF) Packet		
Packet Format	(see below)		
Dependencies	TriggerEn	Generation Scenario	On resolution of internal buffer overflow
Description	OVF simply indicates to the decoder that an internal buffer overflow occurred, and packets were likely lost. If BranchEN= 1, OVF is followed by a FUP or TIP.PGE which will provide the IP at which packet generation resumes. See Section 33.3.8.		
Application	When an OVF packet is encountered, the decoder should skip to the IP given in the subsequent FUP or TIP.PGE. The cycle counter for the CYC packet will be reset at the time the OVF packet is sent. Software should reset its call stack depth on overflow, since no RET compression is allowed across an overflow. Similarly, any IP compression that follows the OVF is guaranteed to use as a reference LastIP the IP payload of an IP packet that preceded the overflow.		

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1

33.4.2.17 Packet Stream Boundary (PSB) Packet

Table 33-36. PSB Packet Definition

Name	Packet Stream Boundary (PSB) Packet
Packet Format	(see below)

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
7	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
9	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
11	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
13	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
14	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
15	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

Table 33-36. PSB Packet Definition (Contd.)

Dependencies	TriggerEn	Generation Scenario	Periodic, based on the number of output bytes generated while tracing. PSB is sent when IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PacketByteCnt=0, and each time it crosses the software selected threshold after that. May be sent for other micro-architectural conditions as well.
Description	PSB is a unique pattern in the packet output log, and hence serves as a sync point for the decoder. It is a pattern that the decoder can search for in order to get aligned on packet boundaries. This packet is periodic, based on the number of output bytes, as indicated by IA32_RTIT_STATUS.PacketByteCnt. The period is chosen by software, via IA32_RTIT_CTL.PSBFreq (see Section 33.2.8.2). Note, however, that the PSB period is not precise, it simply reflects the average number of output bytes that should pass between PSBs. The processor will make a best effort to insert PSB as quickly after the selected threshold is reached as possible. The processor also may send extra PSB packets for some micro-architectural conditions. PSB also serves as the leading packet for a set of "status-only" packets collectively known as PSB+ (Section 33.3.7).		
Application	When a PSB is seen, the decoder should interpret all following packets as "status only", until either a PSBEND or OVF packet is encountered. "Status only" implies that the binding and ordering rules to which these packets normally adhere are ignored, and the state they carry can instead be applied to the IP payload in the FUP packet that is included.		

33.4.2.18 PSBEND Packet

Table 33-37. PSBEND Packet Definition

Name	PSBEND Packet		
Packet Format	(see below)		
Dependencies	TriggerEn	Generation Scenario	Always follows PSB packet, separated by PSB+ packets
Description	PSBEND is simply a terminator for the series of "status only" (PSB+) packets that follow PSB (Section 33.3.7).		
Application	When a PSBEND packet is seen, the decoder should cease to treat packets as "status only".		

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1

33.4.2.19 Maintenance (MNT) Packet

Table 33-38. MNT Packet Definition

Name	Maintenance (MNT) Packet
Packet Format	(see below)
Dependencies	TriggerEn; Generation Scenario: Implementation specific.
Description	This packet is generated by hardware, the payload meaning is model-specific.
Application	Unless a decoder has been extended for a particular family/model/stepping to interpret MNT packet payloads, this packet should simply be ignored. It does not bind to any IP.

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	Payload[7:0]							
4	Payload[15:8]							
5	Payload[23:16]							
6	Payload[31:24]							
7	Payload[39:32]							
8	Payload[47:40]							
9	Payload[55:48]							
10	Payload[63:56]							

33.4.2.20 PAD Packet

Table 33-39. PAD Packet Definition

Name	PAD Packet
Packet Format	(see below)
Dependencies	TriggerEn; Generation Scenario: Implementation specific
Description	PAD is simply a NOP packet. Processor implementations may choose to add pad packets to improve packet alignment or for implementation-specific reasons.
Application	Ignore PAD packets.

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

33.4.2.21 PTWRITE (PTW) Packet

Table 33-40. PTW Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">PTW Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	IP	PayloadBytes		1	0	0	1	0
2	Payload[7:0]							
3	Payload[15:8]							
4	Payload[23:16]							
5	Payload[31:24]							
6	Payload[39:32]							
7	Payload[47:40]							
8	Payload[55:48]							
9	Payload[63:56]							

</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="3">The PayloadBytes field indicates the number of bytes of payload that follow the header bytes. Encodings are as follows:

PayloadBytes	Bytes of Payload
‘00	4
‘01	8
‘10	Reserved
‘11	Reserved

IP bit indicates if a FUP, whose payload will be the IP of the PTWRITE instruction, will follow.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn && ContextEn && FilterEn && PTWEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>PTWRITE Instruction</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">Contains the value held in the PTWRITE operand.
This packet is CYC-eligible, and hence will generate a CYC packet if IA32_RTIT_CTL.CYCEn=1 and any CYC Threshold has been reached.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">Binds to the associated PTWRITE instruction. The IP of the PTWRITE will be provided by a following FUP, when PTW.IP=1.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.22 Execution Stop (EXSTOP) Packet

Table 33-41. EXSTOP Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">EXSTOP Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>IP</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
</table>
IP bit indicates if a FUP will follow.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn && PwrEvtEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>C-state entry, P-state change, or other processor clock power-down. Includes :
▪ Entry to C-state deeper than C0.0
▪ TM1/2
▪ STPCLK#
▪ Frequency change due to IA32_CLOCK_MODULATION, Turbo</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">This packet indicates that software execution has stopped due to processor clock powerdown. Later packets will indicate when execution resumes.
If EXSTOP is generated while ContextEn is set, the IP bit will be set, and EXSTOP will be followed by a FUP packet containing the IP at which execution stopped. More precisely, this will be the IP of the oldest instruction that has not yet completed.
This packet is CYC-eligible, and hence will generate a CYC packet if IA32_RTIT_CTL.CYCEn=1 and any CYC Threshold has been reached.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">If a FUP follows EXSTOP (hence IP bit set), the EXSTOP can be bound to the FUP IP. Otherwise the IP is not known.
Time of powerdown can be inferred from the preceding CYC, if CYCEn=1. Combined with the TSC at the time of wake (if TSCEn=1), this can be used to determine the duration of the powerdown.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.23 MWAIT Packet

Table 33-42. MWAIT Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">MWAIT Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td colspan="8">MWAIT Hints[7:0]</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="8">Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td colspan="8">Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td colspan="8">Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td colspan="6">Reserved</td><td colspan="2">EXT[1:0]</td></tr>
<tr><td>7</td><td colspan="8">Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>8</td><td colspan="8">Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>9</td><td colspan="8">Reserved</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn && PwrEvtEn && ContextEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>MWAIT, UMWAIT, or TPAUSE instructions, or I/O redirection to MWAIT, that complete without fault or VMexit.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">Indicates that an MWAIT operation to C-state deeper than C0.0 completed. The MWAIT hints and extensions passed in by software are exposed in the payload. For UMWAIT and TPAUSE, the EXT field holds the input register value that determines the optimized state requested.
For entry to some highly optimized C0 sub-C-states, such as C0.1, no MWAIT packet is generated.
This packet is CYC-eligible, and hence will generate a CYC packet if IA32_RTIT_CTL.CYCEn=1 and any CYC Threshold has been reached.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">The binding for the upcoming EXSTOP packet also applies to the MWAIT packet. See Section 33.4.2.22.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.24 Power Entry (PWRE) Packet

Table 33-43. PWRE Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">PWRE Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>HW</td><td colspan="7">Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="4">Resolved Thread C-State</td><td colspan="4">Resolved Thread Sub C-State</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn && PwrEvtEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Transition to a C-state deeper than C0.0.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">Indicates processor entry to the resolved thread C-state and sub C-state indicated. The processor will remain in this C-state until either another PWRE indicates the processor has moved to a C-state deeper than C0.0, or a PWRX packet indicates a return to C0.0.
For entry to some highly optimized C0 sub-C-states, such as C0.1, no PWRE packet is generated.
Note that some CPUs may allow MWAIT to request a deeper C-state than is supported by the core. These deeper C-states may have platform-level implications that differentiate them. However, the PWRE packet will provide only the resolved thread C-state, which will not exceed that supported by the core.
If the C-state entry was initiated by hardware, rather than a direct software request (such as MWAIT, UMWAIT, TPAUSE, HLT, or shutdown), the HW bit will be set to indicate this. Hardware Duty Cycling (see Section 15.5, “Hardware Duty Cycling (HDC),” in the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer’s Manual, Volume 3B) is an example of such a case.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">When transitioning from C0.0 to a deeper C-state, the PWRE packet will be followed by an EXSTOP. If that EXSTOP packet has the IP bit set, then the following FUP will provide the IP at which the C-state entry occurred. Subsequent PWRE packets generated before the next PWRX should bind to the same IP.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.25 Power Exit (PWRX) Packet

Table 33-44. PWRX Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">PWRX Packet</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td colspan="4">Last Core C-State</td><td colspan="4">Deepest Core C-State</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="4">Reserved</td><td colspan="4">Wake Reason</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td colspan="8">Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td colspan="8">Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td colspan="8">Reserved</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn && PwrEvtEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Transition from a C-state deeper than C0.0 to C0.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">Indicates processor return to thread C0 from a C-state deeper than C0.0.
For return from some highly optimized C0 sub-C-states, such as C0.1, no PWRX packet is generated.
The Last Core C-State field provides the MWAIT encoding for the core C-state at the time of the wake. The Deepest Core C-State provides the MWAIT encoding for the deepest core C-state achieved during the sleep session, or since leaving thread C0. MWAIT encodings for C-states can be found in Table 4-11 in the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer's Manual, Volume 2B. Note that these values reflect only the core C-state, and hence will not exceed the maximum supported core C-state, even if deeper C-states can be requested.
The Wake Reason field is one-hot, encoded as follows:
<table>
<tr><th>Bit</th><th>Field</th><th>Meaning</th></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>Interrupt</td><td>Wake due to external interrupt received.</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>Timer Deadline</td><td>Wake due to timer expiration, such as UMWAIT/TPAUSE TSC-quanta.</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>Store to Monitored Address</td><td>Wake due to store to monitored address.</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td>HW Wake</td><td>Wake due to hardware autonomous condition, such as HDC.</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">PWRX will always apply to the same IP as the PWRE. The time of wake can be discerned from (optional) timing packets that precede PWRX.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.26 Block Begin Packet (BBP)

Table 33-45. Block Begin Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">BBP</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>SZ</td><td colspan="2">Reserved</td><td colspan="5">Type[4:0]</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>PEBS event, if IA32_PEBS_ENABLE.OUTPUT=1.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">This packet indicates the beginning of a block of packets which are collectively tied to a single event or instruction.
The size of the block item payloads within this block is provided by the Size (SZ) bit:
SZ=0: 8-byte block items
SZ=1: 4-byte block items
The meaning of the BIP payloads is provided by the Type field:
<table>
<tr><th>BBP.Type</th><th>Block name</th></tr>
<tr><td>0x00</td><td>Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x01</td><td>General-Purpose Registers</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x02..0x03</td><td>Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x04</td><td>PEBS Basic</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x05</td><td>PEBS Memory</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x06..0x07</td><td>Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x08</td><td>LBR Block 0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x09</td><td>LBR Block 1</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x0A</td><td>LBR Block 2</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x0B..0x0F</td><td>Reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x10</td><td>XMM Registers</td></tr>
<tr><td>0x11..0x1F</td><td>Reserved</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">A BBP will always be followed by a Block End Packet (BEP), and when the block is generated while ContextEn=1 that BEP will have IP=1 and be followed by a FUP that provides the IP to which the block should be bound. Note that, in addition to BEP, a block can be terminated by a BBP (indicating the start of a new block) or an OVF packet.</td></tr>
</table>

33.4.2.27 Block Item Packet (BIP)

Table 33-46. Block Item Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">BIP</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">If the preceding BBP.SZ=0:
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td colspan="5">ID[5:0]</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td colspan="8">Payload[7:0]</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td colspan="8">Payload[15:8]</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="8">Payload[23:16]</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td colspan="8">Payload[31:24]</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td colspan="8">Payload[39:32]</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td colspan="8">Payload[47:40]</td></tr>
<tr><td>7</td><td colspan="8">Payload[55:48]</td></tr>
<tr><td>8</td><td colspan="8">Payload[63:56]</td></tr>
</table>
If the preceding BBP.SZ=1:
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td colspan="5">ID[5:0]</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td colspan="8">Payload[7:0]</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td colspan="8">Payload[15:8]</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="8">Payload[23:16]</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td colspan="8">Payload[31:24]</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>TriggerEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>See BBP.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">The size of the BIP payload is determined by the Size field in the preceding BBP packet.
The BIP header provides the ID value that, when combined with the Type field from the preceding BBP, uniquely identifies the state value held in the BIP payload. See Table 33-47 below for the complete list.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">See BBP.</td></tr>
</table>

BIP State Value Encodings

The table below provides the encoding values for all defined block items. State items that are larger than 8 bytes, such as XMM register values, are broken into multiple 8-byte components. BIP packets with Size=1 (4 byte payload) will provide only the lower 4 bytes of the associated state value.

Table 33-47. BIP Encodings

BBP.Type	BIP.ID	State Value
General-Purpose Registers		
0x01	0x00	R/EFLAGS
0x01	0x01	R/EIP
0x01	0x02	R/EAX
0x01	0x03	R/ECX

Table 33-47. BIP Encodings (Contd.)

BBP.Type	BIP.ID	State Value
0x01	0x04	R/EDX
0x01	0x05	R/EBX
0x01	0x06	R/ESP
0x01	0x07	R/EBP
0x01	0x08	R/ESI
0x01	0x09	R/EDI
0x01	0x0A	R8
0x01	0x0B	R9
0x01	0x0C	R10
0x01	0x0D	R11
0x01	0x0E	R12
0x01	0x0F	R13
0x01	0x10	R14
0x01	0x11	R15
PEBS Basic Info (Section 20.9.2.2.1)		
0x04	0x00	Instruction Pointer
0x04	0x01	Applicable Counters
0x04	0x02	Timestamp
PEBS Memory Info (Section 20.9.2.2.2)		
0x05	0x00	MemAccessAddress
0x05	0x01	MemAuxInfo
0x05	0x02	MemAccessLatency
0x05	0x03	TSXAuxInfo
LBR_0		
0x08	0x00	LBR[TOS-0]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x01	LBR[TOS-0]_TO_IP
0x08	0x02	LBR[TOS-0]_INFO
0x08	0x03	LBR[TOS-1]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x04	LBR[TOS-1]_TO_IP
0x08	0x05	LBR[TOS-1]_INFO
0x08	0x06	LBR[TOS-2]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x07	LBR[TOS-2]_TO_IP
0x08	0x08	LBR[TOS-2]_INFO
0x08	0x09	LBR[TOS-3]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x0A	LBR[TOS-3]_TO_IP
0x08	0x0B	LBR[TOS-3]_INFO
0x08	0x0C	LBR[TOS-4]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x0D	LBR[TOS-4]_TO_IP

Table 33-47. BIP Encodings (Contd.)

BBP.Type	BIP.ID	State Value
0x08	0x0E	LBR[TOS-4]_INFO
0x08	0x0F	LBR[TOS-5]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x10	LBR[TOS-5]_TO_IP
0x08	0x11	LBR[TOS-5]_INFO
0x08	0x12	LBR[TOS-6]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x13	LBR[TOS-6]_TO_IP
0x08	0x14	LBR[TOS-6]_INFO
0x08	0x15	LBR[TOS-7]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x16	LBR[TOS-7]_TO_IP
0x08	0x17	LBR[TOS-7]_INFO
0x08	0x18	LBR[TOS-8]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x19	LBR[TOS-8]_TO_IP
0x08	0x1A	LBR[TOS-8]_INFO
0x08	0x1B	LBR[TOS-9]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x1C	LBR[TOS-9]_TO_IP
0x08	0x1D	LBR[TOS-9]_INFO
0x08	0x1E	LBR[TOS-10]_FROM_IP
0x08	0x1F	LBR[TOS-10]_TO_IP
	LBR_1	
0x09	0x00	LBR[TOS-10]_INFO
0x09	0x01	LBR[TOS-11]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x02	LBR[TOS-11]_TO_IP
0x09	0x03	LBR[TOS-11]_INFO
0x09	0x04	LBR[TOS-12]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x05	LBR[TOS-12]_TO_IP
0x09	0x06	LBR[TOS-12]_INFO
0x09	0x07	LBR[TOS-13]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x08	LBR[TOS-13]_TO_IP
0x09	0x09	LBR[TOS-13]_INFO
0x09	0x0A	LBR[TOS-14]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x0B	LBR[TOS-14]_TO_IP
0x09	0x0C	LBR[TOS-14]_INFO
0x09	0x0D	LBR[TOS-15]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x0E	LBR[TOS-15]_TO_IP
0x09	0x0F	LBR[TOS-15]_INFO
0x09	0x10	LBR[TOS-16]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x11	LBR[TOS-16]_TO_IP
0x09	0x12	LBR[TOS-16]_INFO

Table 33-47. BIP Encodings (Contd.)

BBP.Type	BIP.ID	State Value
0x09	0x13	LBR[TOS-17]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x14	LBR[TOS-17]_TO_IP
0x09	0x15	LBR[TOS-17]_INFO
0x09	0x16	LBR[TOS-18]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x17	LBR[TOS-18]_TO_IP
0x09	0x18	LBR[TOS-18]_INFO
0x09	0x19	LBR[TOS-19]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x1A	LBR[TOS-19]_TO_IP
0x09	0x1B	LBR[TOS-19]_INFO
0x09	0x1C	LBR[TOS-20]_FROM_IP
0x09	0x1D	LBR[TOS-20]_TO_IP
0x09	0x1E	LBR[TOS-20]_INFO
0x09	0x1F	LBR[TOS-21]_FROM_IP
	LBR_2	
0x0A	0x00	LBR[TOS-21]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x01	LBR[TOS-21]_INFO
0x0A	0x02	LBR[TOS-22]_FROM_IP
0x0A	0x03	LBR[TOS-22]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x04	LBR[TOS-22]_INFO
0x0A	0x05	LBR[TOS-23]_FROM_IP
0x0A	0x06	LBR[TOS-23]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x07	LBR[TOS-23]_INFO
0x0A	0x08	LBR[TOS-24]_FROM_IP
0x0A	0x09	LBR[TOS-24]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x0A	LBR[TOS-24]_INFO
0x0A	0x0B	LBR[TOS-25]_FROM_IP
0x0A	0x0C	LBR[TOS-25]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x0D	LBR[TOS-25]_INFO
0x0A	0x0E	LBR[TOS-26]_FROM_IP
0x0A	0x0F	LBR[TOS-26]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x10	LBR[TOS-26]_INFO
0x0A	0x11	LBR[TOS-27]_FROM_IP
0x0A	0x12	LBR[TOS-27]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x13	LBR[TOS-27]_INFO
0x0A	0x14	LBR[TOS-28]_FROM_IP
0x0A	0x15	LBR[TOS-28]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x16	LBR[TOS-28]_INFO
0x0A	0x17	LBR[TOS-29]_FROM_IP

Table 33-47. BIP Encodings (Contd.)

BBP.Type	BIP.ID	State Value
0x0A	0x18	LBR[TOS-29]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x19	LBR[TOS-29]_INFO
0x0A	0x1A	LBR[TOS-30]_FROM_IP
0x0A	0x1B	LBR[TOS-30]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x1C	LBR[TOS-30]_INFO
0x0A	0x1D	LBR[TOS-31]_FROM_IP
0x0A	0x1E	LBR[TOS-31]_TO_IP
0x0A	0x1F	LBR[TOS-31]_INFO
XMM Registers		
0x10	0x00	XMM0_Q0
0x10	0x01	XMM0_Q1
0x10	0x02	XMM1_Q0
0x10	0x03	XMM1_Q1
0x10	0x04	XMM2_Q0
0x10	0x05	XMM2_Q1
0x10	0x06	XMM3_Q0
0x10	0x07	XMM3_Q1
0x10	0x08	XMM4_Q0
0x10	0x09	XMM4_Q1
0x10	0x0A	XMM5_Q0
0x10	0x0B	XMM5_Q1
0x10	0x0C	XMM6_Q0
0x10	0x0D	XMM6_Q1
0x10	0x0E	XMM7_Q0
0x10	0x0F	XMM7_Q1
0x10	0x10	XMM8_Q0
0x10	0x11	XMM8_Q1
0x10	0x12	XMM9_Q0
0x10	0x13	XMM9_Q1
0x10	0x14	XMM10_Q0
0x10	0x15	XMM10_Q1
0x10	0x16	XMM11_Q0
0x10	0x17	XMM11_Q1
0x10	0x18	XMM12_Q0
0x10	0x19	XMM12_Q1
0x10	0x1A	XMM13_Q0
0x10	0x1B	XMM13_Q1
0x10	0x1C	XMM14_Q0

Table 33-47. BIP Encodings (Contd.)

BBP.Type	BIP.ID	State Value
0x10	0x1D	XMM14_Q1
0x10	0x1E	XMM15_Q0
0x10	0x1F	XMM15_Q1

33.4.2.28 Block End Packet (BEP)

Table 33-48. Block End Packet Definition

Name	BEP		
Packet Format	(see bit layout below)		
Dependencies	TriggerEn	Generation Scenario	See BBP.
Description	Indicates the end of a packet block. The IP bit indicates if a FUP will follow, and will be set if ContextEn=1.		
Application	The block, from initial BBP to the BEP, binds to the FUP IP, if IP=1, and consumes the FUP.		

Packet Format:

	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	IP	0	1	1	0	0	1	1

33.4.2.29 Control Flow Event (CFE) Packet

Table 33-49. Control Flow Event Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">CFE</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>IP</td><td colspan="2">Reserved</td><td colspan="5">Type[4:0]</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="8">Vector[7:0]</td></tr>
</table>
IP bit indicates if a stand-alone FUP will follow.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>IA32_RTIT_CTL.EventEn && TriggerEn && ContextEn
On ContextEn transitions, the CFE will be generated regardless of direction (1⟶0 or 0⟶1). VM exit is an exception, where CFE.VMEXIT depends only on the prior value of ContextEn.</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Software interrupt, external interrupt, user interrupt, or exception, including those injected on VM entry.
INIT, SIPI, SMI, RSM, IRET, Shutdown.
VM exit, if “Conceal VMX in PT” VMCS exit control is 0.
VM entry, if “Conceal VMX in PT” VMCS entry control is 0.
TSX Abort.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">This packet indicates that an asynchronous event or related event (see list above) has occurred. The type of event is provided in the packet (see Table 33-50 below), and, if the IP bit is set, the IP at which the event occurred is provided in a stand-alone FUP packet that follows. Further, in the case of an interrupt or exception, the vector field provides the vector of the event.
The IP bit will be set only when ContextEn=1 before the event is taken, and either BranchEn=0 or else no FUP is generated for this event by BranchEn=1. There are some cases, such as SIPI and RSM, where no FUP is generated.
Note that events that are not delivered to software, such as nested events or events which cause a VM exit, do not generate CFE packets.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">If the IP bit is set, a FUP will follow that is stand-alone (not part of a compound packet event), and the CFE consumes the FUP. If the IP bit is not set, the CFE binds to the next FUP if PacketEn=1 (hence the CFE comes after a TIP.PGE but before the next TIP.PGD), and is stand-alone if PacketEn=0.</td></tr>
</table>

CFE Packet Type and Vector Fields

Every CFE has a Type field, which provides the type of event which generated the packet. For a subset of CFE Types, the CFE.Vector field may be valid. Details on these fields, as well as the IP to be expected in any following FUP packet, are provided in the table below.

Table 33-50. CFE Packet Type and Vector Fields Details

CFE Subtype	Type	Vector	FUP IP	Details
INTR	0x1	Event Vector	Varies	Used for interrupts (external and software), Exceptions, Faults, and NMI. FUP contains that address of the instruction that has not completed (NLIP for trap events, CLIP for fault events).
IRET	0x2	Invalid	CLIP	
SMI	0x3	Invalid	NLIP	
RSM	0x4	Invalid	None	
SIPI	0x5	SIPI Vector	None	
INIT	0x6	Invalid	NLIP	
VMENTRY	0x7	Invalid	CLIP	FUP contains IP of VMLAUNCH/VMRESUME.

Table 33-50. CFE Packet Type and Vector Fields Details (Contd.)

CFE Subtype	Type	Vector	FUP IP	Details
VMEXIT	0x8	Invalid	Varies	FUP IP varies depending on type of VM exit, but will be the address of the instruction that has not completed. Will be consistent with Guest IP saved in VMCS.
VMEXIT_INTR	0x9	Event Vector	Varies	Sent in cases where VM exit was caused by an INTR event (interrupt, exception, fault, or NMI). Vector provided is for the event which caused the VM exit. FUP IP behavior matches that of INTR type above.
SHUTDOWN	0xa	Invalid	Varies	FUP IP varies depending on the type of event that caused shutdown, but will be the address of the instruction that has not completed.
Reserved	0xb	N/A	N/A	
UINTR	0xc	User Interrupt Vector	NLIP	User interrupt delivered.
UIRET	0xd	Invalid	CLIP	Exiting from user interrupt routine.
Reserved	0xe...0x1f	N/A	N/A	Reserved

33.4.2.30 Event Data (EVD) Packet

Table 33-51. Event Data Packet Definition

<table>
<tr><td>Name</td><td colspan="3">EVD</td></tr>
<tr><td>Packet Format</td><td colspan="3">
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td colspan="2">Reserved</td><td colspan="6">Type[5:0]</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td colspan="8">Payload[7:0]</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td colspan="8">Payload[15:8]</td></tr>
<tr><td>5</td><td colspan="8">Payload[23:16]</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td colspan="8">Payload[31:24]</td></tr>
<tr><td>7</td><td colspan="8">Payload[39:32]</td></tr>
<tr><td>8</td><td colspan="8">Payload[47:40]</td></tr>
<tr><td>9</td><td colspan="8">Payload[55:48]</td></tr>
<tr><td>10</td><td colspan="8">Payload[63:56]</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dependencies</td><td>IA32_RTIT_CTL.EventEn && TriggerEn && ContextEn</td><td>Generation Scenario</td><td>Page fault, including those injected on VM entry.
VM exit, if “Suppress VMX packets on exit” VMCS exit control is 0.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Description</td><td colspan="3">Provides additional data about the event that caused the following CFE. The Payload field is dictated by the Type.
<table>
<tr><th>Type</th><th>Payload</th></tr>
<tr><td>’000000</td><td>Page Fault Linear Address, same as CR2 (PFA)</td></tr>
<tr><td>’000001</td><td>VMX Exit Qualification (VMXQ)</td></tr>
<tr><td>’000010</td><td>VMX Exit Reason (VMXR)</td></tr>
<tr><td>’000011 - ’111111</td><td>Reserved</td></tr>
</table>
EVD packets are never generated in cases where a CFE is not.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application</td><td colspan="3">EVD packets bind to the same IP (if any) as the subsequent CFE packet.</td></tr>
</table>

33.5 TRACING IN VMX OPERATION

On processors that IA32_VMX_MISC[bit 14] reports 1, TraceEn can be set in VMX operation. The VMM can configure specific VMX controls to control what virtualization-specific data is included within the trace packets (see Section 33.5.1 for details). The VMM can also configure the VMCS to limit tracing to non-root operation, or to trace across both root and non-root operation. The VMCS controls exist to simplify virtualization of Intel PT for guest use, including the “Clear IA32_RTIT_CTL” exit control (See Section 25.7.1), “Load IA32_RTIT_CTL” entry control (See Section 25.8.1), and “Intel PT uses guest physical addresses” execution control (See Section 26.5.3).

For older processors that do not support these VMCS controls, the MSR-load areas used by VMX transitions can be employed by the VMM to restrict tracing to the desired context. See Section 33.5.2 for details. Tracing with SMM Transfer Monitor is described in Section 33.6.

33.5.1 VMX-Specific Packets and VMCS Controls

In all of the usages of VMX and Intel PT, a decoder in the host or VMM context can identify the occurrences of VMX transitions with the aid of VMX-specific packets. There are four kinds of packets relevant to VMX:

- **VMCS packet.** The VMX transitions of individual VMs can be distinguished by a decoder using the VMCS-pointer field in a VMCS packet. A VMCS packet is sent on a successful execution of VMPTRLD, and its VMCS-pointer field stores the VMCS pointer loaded by that execution. See Section 33.4.2.15 for details.
- **The NR (non-root) bit in a PIP packet.** Normally, the NR bit is set in any PIP packet generated in VMX non-root operation. In addition, PIP packets are generated with each VM entry and VM exit. Thus a transition of the NR bit from 0 to 1 indicates the occurrence of a VM entry, and a transition of 1 to 0 indicates the occurrence of a VM exit.
- **CFE packet.** Identifies VM exit and VM entry operations.
- **EVD packet.** Provides the exit reason and exit qualification for VM exits.

There are VMX controls that a VMM can set to conceal some of this VMX-specific information (by suppressing its recording) and thereby prevent it from leaking across virtualization boundaries. There is one of these controls (each of which is called “conceal VMX from PT”) of each type of VMX control.

Table 33-52. VMX Controls For Intel Processor Trace

Type of VMX Control	Bit Position[1]	Value	Behavior
Secondary processor-based VM-execution control	19	0	Each PIP generated in VM non-root operation will set the NR bit. PSB+ in VMX non-root operation will include the VMCS packet, to ensure that the decoder knows which guest is currently in use.
		1	Each PIP generated in VMX non-root operation will clear the NR bit. PSB+ in VMX non-root operation will not include the VMCS packet.
VM-exit control	24	0	Each VM exit generates a PIP in which the NR bit is clear, and a CFE/EVD if Event Trace is enabled. In addition, SMM VM exits generate VMCS packets.
		1	VM exits do not generate PIPs, CFEs, or EVDs, and no VMCS packets are generated on SMM VM exits.
VM-entry control	17	0	Each VM entry generates a PIP in which the NR bit is set (except VM entries that return from SMM to VMX root operation), and a CFE if Event Trace is enabled. In addition, VM entries that return from SMM generate VMCS packets.
		1	VM entries do not generate PIPs or CFEs, and no VMCS packets are generated on VM entries that return from SMM.

NOTES:

1. These are the positions of the control bits in the relevant VMX control fields.

The 0-settings of these VMX controls enable all VMX-specific packet information. The scenarios that would use these default settings also do not require the VMM to use VMX MSR-load areas to enable and disable trace-packet generation across VMX transitions.

If IA32_VMX_MISC[bit 14] reports 0, the 1-settings of the VMX controls in Table 33-52 are not supported, and VM entry will fail on any attempt to set them.

33.5.2 Managing Trace Packet Generation Across VMX Transitions

In tracing scenarios that collect packets for both VMX root operation and VMX non-root operation, a host executive can manage the MSRs associated with trace packet generation directly. The states of these MSRs need not be modified across VMX transitions.

For tracing scenarios that collect packets only within VMX root operation or only within VMX non-root operation, the VMM can toggle IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn on VMX transitions.

33.5.2.1 System-Wide Tracing

When a host or VMM configures Intel PT to collect trace packets of the entire system, it can leave the relevant VMX controls clear to allow VMX-specific packets to provide information across VMX transitions.

The decoder will desire to identify the occurrence of VMX transitions. The packets of interests to a decoder are shown in Table 33-53.

Table 33-53. Packets on VMX Transitions (System-Wide Tracing)

Event	Packets	Enable	Description
VM exit	EVD.VMXR, EVD.VMXQ, CFE.VMEXIT*	EventEn	The CFE identifies the transfer as a VM exit, while the associated EVDs provide the exit reason and exit qualification.
	FUP(GuestIP)	BranchEn or EventEn	The FUP indicates at which point in the guest flow the VM exit occurred. This is important, since VM exit can be an asynchronous event. The IP will match that written into the VMCS.
	PIP(HostCR3, NR=0)		The PIP packet provides the new host CR3 value, as well as indication that the logical processor is entering VMX root operation. This allows the decoder to identify the change of executing context from guest to host and load the appropriate set of binaries to continue decode.
	TIP(HostIP)	BranchEn	The TIP indicates the destination IP, the IP of the first instruction to be executed in VMX root operation. Note, this packet could be preceded by a MODE.Exec packet (Section 33.4.2.8). This is generated only in cases where CS.D or (CS.L & EFER.LMA) change during the transition.
VM entry	CFEVMENTRY, FUP(CLIP)	EventEn	The CFE identifies the transfer as a VM entry, while the FUP identifies the VMLAUNCH/VMRESUME IP.
	PIP(GuestCR3, NR=1)	BranchEn	The PIP packet provides the new guest CR3 value, as well as indication that the logical processor is entering VMX non-root operation. This allows the decoder to identify the change of executing context from host to guest and load the appropriate set of binaries to continue decode.
	TIP(GuestIP)	BranchEn	The TIP indicates the destination IP, the IP of the first instruction to be executed in VMX non-root operation. This should match the RIP loaded from the VMCS. Note, this packet could be preceded by a MODE.Exec packet (Section 33.4.2.8). This is generated only in cases where CS.D or (CS.L & EFER.LMA) change during the transition.

Since the VMX controls that suppress packet generation are cleared, a VMCS packet will be included in all PSB+ for this usage scenario. Additionally, VMPTRLD will generate such a packet. Thus the decoder can distinguish the execution context of different VMs.

When the host VMM configures a system to collect trace packets in this scenario, it should emulate CPUID to report CPUID.(EAX=07H, ECX=0):EBX[bit 26] as 0 to guests, indicating to guests that Intel PT is not available.

VMX TSC Manipulation

The TSC packets generated while in VMX non-root operation will include any changes resulting from the use of a VMM's use of the TSC offsetting or TSC scaling VMX controls (see Chapter 26, "VMX Non-Root Operation"). In this system-wide usage model, the decoder may need to account for the effect of per-VM adjustments in the TSC packets generated in VMX non-root operation and the absence of TSC adjustments in TSC packets generated in VMX root operation. The VMM can supply this information to the decoder.

33.5.2.2 Guest-Only Tracing

A VMM can configure trace-packet generation while in VMX non-root operation for guests executing normally. This is accomplished by utilizing VMCS controls to manipulate the guest IA32_RTIT_CTL value on VMX transitions. For older processors that do not support these VMCS controls, a VMM can use the VMX MSR-load areas on VM exits (see Section 25.7.2, "VM-Exit Controls for MSRs") and VM entries (see Section 25.8.2, "VM-Entry Controls for MSRs") to limit trace-packet generation to the guest environment.

For this usage, VM entry is programmed to enable trace packet generation, while VM exit is programmed to clear IA32_RTIT_CTL.TraceEn so as to disable trace-packet generation in the host. Further, if it is preferred that the guest packet stream contain no indication that execution was in VMX non-root operation, the VMM should set to 1 all the VMX controls enumerated in Table 33-52.

33.5.2.3 Emulation of Intel PT Traced State

If a VMM emulates an element of processor state by taking a VM exit on reads and/or writes to that piece of state, and the state element impacts Intel PT packet generation or values, it may be incumbent upon the VMM to insert or modify the output trace data.

If a VM exit is taken on a guest write to CR3 (including "MOV CR3" as well as task switches), the PIP packet normally generated on the CR3 write will be missing.

To avoid decoder confusion when the guest trace is decoded, the VMM should emulate the missing PIP by writing it into the guest output buffer. If the guest CR3 value is manipulated, the VMM may also need to manipulate the IA32_RTIT_CR3_MATCH value, in order to ensure the trace behavior matches the guest's expectation.

Similarly, if a VMM emulates the TSC value by taking a VM exit on RDTSC, the TSC packets generated in the trace may mismatch the TSC values returned by the VMM on RDTSC. To ensure that the trace can be properly aligned with software logs based on RDTSC, the VMM should either make corresponding modifications to the TSC packet values in the guest trace, or use mechanisms such as TSC offsetting or TSC scaling in place of exiting.

33.5.2.4 TSC Scaling

When TSC scaling is enabled for a guest using Intel PT, the VMM should ensure that the value of Maximum Non-Turbo Ratio[15:8] in MSR_PLATFORM_INFO (MSR 0CEH) and the TSC/"core crystal clock" ratio (EBX/EAX) in CPUID leaf 15H are set in a manner consistent with the resulting TSC rate that will be visible to the VM. This will allow the decoder to properly apply TSC packets, MTC packets (based on the core crystal clock or ART, whose frequency is indicated by CPUID leaf 15H), and CBR packets (which indicate the ratio of the processor frequency to the Max Non-Turbo frequency). Absent this, or separate indication of the scaling factor, the decoder will be unable to properly track time in the trace. See Section 33.8.3 for details on tracking time within an Intel PT trace.

33.5.2.5 Failed VM Entry

The packets generated by a failed VM entry depend both on the VMCS configuration, as well as on the type of failure. The results to expect are summarized in the table below. Note that packets in *italics* may or may not be generated, depending on implementation choice, and the point of failure.

Table 33-54. Packets on a Failed VM Entry

Usage Model	Entry Configuration	Early Failure (fall through to next IP)	Late Failure (VM exit like)
System-Wide	No use of "Load IA32_RTIT_CTL" entry control or VM-entry MSR-load area	TIP (NextIP)	*CFE.VMENTRY, FUP(CLIP) if EventEn=1* *PIP(Guest CR3, NR=1), TraceEn 0->1 Packets (See Section 33.2.8.3),* PIP(HostCR3, NR=0), TIP(HostIP)
VMM Only	"Load IA32_RTIT_CTL" entry control or VM-entry MSR-load area used to clear TraceEn	TIP (NextIP)	*TraceEn 0->1 Packets (See Section 33.2.8.3),* TIP(HostIP)
VM Only	"Load IA32_RTIT_CTL" entry control or VM-entry MSR-load area used to set TraceEn	None	None

33.5.2.6 VMX Abort

VMX abort conditions take the processor into a shutdown state. On a VM exit that leads to VMX abort, some packets (FUP, PIP) may be generated, but any expected TIP, TIP.PGE, or TIP.PGD may be dropped.

33.6 TRACING AND SMM TRANSFER MONITOR (STM)

The SMM-transfer monitor (STM) is a VMM that operates inside SMM while in VMX root operation. An STM operates in conjunction with an executive monitor. The latter operates outside SMM and in VMX root operation. Transitions from the executive monitor or its VMs to the STM are called SMM VM exits. The STM returns from SMM via a VM entry to the VM in VMX non-root operation or the executive monitor in VMX root operation.

Intel PT supports tracing in an STM similar to tracing support for VMX operation as described above in Section 33.5. As a result, on a SMM VM exit resulting from #SMI, TraceEn is neither saved nor cleared by default. Software can save the state of the trace configuration MSRs and clear TraceEn using the MSR load/save lists.

Within Event Trace, SMM VM exits generate packets indicating both an #SMI and a VM exit. Similarly, VM entries that return from SMM generate packets that indicate both an RSM and a VM entry. SMM VM exits initiated by the VMCALL instruction do not generate any CFE packet, though the subsequent VM entry returning from SMM will generate a CFE.RSM.

33.7 PACKET GENERATION SCENARIOS

The following tables provides examples of packet generation for various operations. The following acronyms are used in the packet examples below:

- CLIP - Current LIP
- NLIP - Next Sequential LIP
- BLIP - Branch Target LIP

Table 33-55 illustrates the packets generated by a series of example operations, assuming that PacketEn (TriggerEn && ContextEn && FilterEn && BranchEn) is set before and after the operation.

Table 33-55. Packet Generation under Different Example Operations

Case	Operation	Details	Packets
1	Normal non-jump operation		None
2	Conditional branch	6th branch in internal TNT buffer	TNT
3	Conditional branch	$1^{st}..5^{th}$ branch in internal TNT buffer	None
4	Near indirect JMP or CALL		TIP(BLIP)
5	Direct near JMP or CALL		None
6	Near RET	Uncompressed	TIP(BLIP)
7	Near RET	Compressed, 6th branch in internal TNT buffer	TNT
8	Far Branch	Assumes no update to CR3, CS.L, or CS.D	TIP(BLIP)
9	Far Branch	Assumes update to CR3	PIP(NewCR3), TIP(BLIP)
10	Far Branch	Assumes update to CR3 and CS.D/CS.L	PIP(NewCR3), MODE.Exec, TIP(BLIP)
11	External Interrupt or NMI	Assumes no update to CR3, CS.D, or CS.L	FUP(NLIP), TIP(BLIP)
12	External Interrupt or NMI	Assumes update to CR3 and CS.D/CS.L	FUP(NLIP), PIP(NewCR3), MODE.Exec, TIP(BLIP)
13	Exception/Fault or Software Interrupt	Assumes no update to CR3, CS.D, or CS.L	FUP(CLIP), TIP(BLIP)
14	MOV to CR3		PIP(NewCR3, NR)

Table 33-55. Packet Generation under Different Example Operations

Case	Operation	Details	Packets
15	VM exit	Assumes system-wide tracing, see Section 33.5.2.1	See Table 33-53
16	VM entry	Assumes system-wide tracing, see Section 33.5.2.1	See Table 33-53
17	ENCLU[EENTER] / ENCLU[ERESUME] / ENCLU[EEXIT] / AEX/EEE	Only debug enclaves allow PacketEn to be set during enclave execution. Assumes no change to CS.L or CS.D.	FUP(CLIP), TIP(BLIP)
18	XBEGIN/XACQUIRE/XEND/XRELEASE	Does not begin/end transactional execution	None
19	XBEGIN/XACQUIRE	Assumes beginning of transactional execution	MODE.TSX(InTX=1, TXAbort=0), FUP(CLIP)
20	XEND/XRELEASE	Completes transaction	MODE.TSX(InTX=0, TXAbort=0), FUP(CLIP)
21	XABORT or Asynchronous Abort	Aborts transactional execution	MODE.TSX(InTX=0, TXAbort=1), FUP(CLIP), TIP(BLIP)
22	INIT	On BSP. Assumes no CR3, CS.D, or CS.L update.	FUP(NLIP), TIP(ResetLIP)
23	INIT	On AP, goes to wait-for-SIPI. Assumes no CR3 update.	FUP(NLIP)
24	SIPI	Assumes no CS.D or CS.L update	TIP.PGE(SIPI.LIP)
25	Wake from state deeper than C0.1, P-state change, or other scenario where timing packets (MTC, CYC) may have ceased.	TSC if TSCEn=1 TMA if TSCEn=MTCEn=1	TSC?, TMA?, CBR
26	UINTR	User interrupt handler entry.	FUP(NLIP)
27	UIRET	Exiting from user interrupt handler.	FUP(NLIP)

Table 33-56 illustrates the packets generated in example scenarios where the operation alters the value of PacketEn. Note that insertion of PSB+ is not included here, though it can be coincident with initial enabling of Intel PT. See Section 33.3.7 for details.

Table 33-56. Packet Generation with Operations That Alter the Value of PacketEn

Case	Operation	PktEn Before	PktEn After	CntxEn After	Details	Packets
1	WRMSR/XRSTORS that changes TraceEn 0 ⟶ 1	0	1	0	TSC if TSCEn=1; TMA if TSCEn=MTCEn=1	TSC?, TMA?, CBR, MODE.Exec
2	WRMSR/XRSTORS that changes TraceEn 0 ⟶ 1	0	1	1	TSC if TSCEn=1; TMA if TSCEn=MTCEn=1	TSC?, TMA?, CBR, MODE.Exec, TIP.PGE(NLIP)
3	WRMSR that changes TraceEn 1 ⟶ 0	1	0	D.C.		FUP(CLIP), TIP.PGD()
4	Taken Branch	1	0	1	Source is in IP filter region. Target is outside IP filter region.	TIP.PGD(BLIP)
5	Taken Branch, Interrupt, EEXIT, etc.	0	1	1	Source is outside IP filter region. Target is in IP filter region.	TIP.PGE(BLIP)
6	Far Branch, Interrupt, EEN-TER, etc.	1	0	0	Requires change to CPL or CR3, or entry to opt-out enclave.	TIP.PGD()

Table 33-56. Packet Generation with Operations That Alter the Value of PacketEn (Contd.)

Case	Operation	PktEn Before	PktEn After	CntxEn After	Details	Packets
7	Trap-like event (external interrupt, NMI, VM exit/entry, etc.)	1	0	0	Requires change to CPL or CR3.	FUP(NLIP), TIP.PGD()
8	Fault-like event (exception/fault, software interrupt, VM exit/entry, etc.)	1	0	0	Requires change to CPL or CR3.	FUP(CLIP), TIP.PGD()
9	SMI, VM exit/entry	1	0	0	TraceEn is cleared.	FUP(NLIP), TIP.PGD()
10	RSM, VM exit/entry	0	1	1	TraceEn is set.	See Case 2 for packets on enable. FUP/TIP.PGE IP is the BLIP.
11	VM Exit	1	0	0	Assumes guest-only tracing, see Section 33.5.2.2. TraceEn is cleared.	FUP(VMCSg.RIP), TIP.PGD()
12	VM entry	0	1	1	Assumes guest-only tracing, see Section 33.5.2.2. TraceEn is set.	TIP.PGE(VMCSg.RIP)

Table 33-57 illustrates examples of PTWRITE, assuming TriggerEn && PTWEn is true.

Table 33-57. Examples of PTWRITE when TriggerEn && PTWEn is True

Case	Operation	ContextEn	Details	Packets
1	MWAIT/UMWAIT gets fault or VM exit.	D.C.		None. Other trace sources may generate packets on fault or VM exit.
2	MWAIT/UMWAIT requests C0, or monitor not armed, or VMX virtual-interrupt delivery.	D.C.		None.
3	MWAIT/UMWAIT enters C-state deeper than C0.1.	0		PWRE(Cx), EXSTOP
4	MWAIT/UMWAIT enters C-state deeper than C0.1.	1		MWAIT(Cy), PWRE(Cx), EXSTOP(IP), FUP(CLIP)
5	HLT, Triple-fault shutdown, other operation that enters C1.	1		PWRE(C1), EXSTOP(IP), FUP(CLIP)
6	Hardware Duty Cycling (HDC).	1	TSC if TSCEn=1 TMA if TSCEn=MTCEn=1	PWRE(HW, C6), EXSTOP(IP), FUP(NLIP), TSC?, TMA?, CBR, PWRX(CC6, CC6, 0x8)
7	Wake event during Cx (x > 0).	D.C.	TSC if TSCEn=1 TMA if TSCEn=MTCEn=1	TSC?, TMA?, CBR, PWRX(LCC, DCC, 0x1) Other trace sources may generate packets for the wake operation (e.g., interrupt).

Table 33-58 illustrates examples of Power Event Trace, assuming TriggerEn && PwrEvtEn is true.

Table 33-58. Examples of Power Event Trace when TriggerEn && PwrEvtEn is True

Case	Operation	ContextEn && FilterEn	Details	Packets
1	PTWRITE rm32/64	0		None

Table 33-58. Examples of Power Event Trace when (Contd.)TriggerEn && PwrEvtEn is True

Case	Operation	ContextEn && FilterEn	Details	Packets
2	PTWRITE rm32	1	FUP, PTW.IP=1 if FUPonPTW=1	PTW(IP=1?, 4B, rm32_value), FUP(CLIP)?
3	PTWRITE rm64	1	FUP, PTW.IP=1 if FUPonPTW=1	PTW(IP=1?, 8B, rm64_value), FUP(CLIP)?

Table 33-59 illustrates examples of Event Trace, assuming TriggerEn && ContextEn && EventEn is true. In all cases, other trace sources (e.g., BranchEn), if enabled, may generate additional packets. For details, see the other tables in this section.

Table 33-59. Event Trace Examples when TriggerEn && ContextEn && EventEn is True

Case	Operation	ContextEn Before	ContextEn After	Details	Packets
1	IRET	1	D.C.		CFE.IRET(IP=1), FUP(CLIP)
2	IRET	0	1		CFE(IRET)
3	External interrupt, including NMI	1	D.C.		CFE.INTR(IP=1, Vector), FUP(NLIP)
4	External interrupt, including NMI	1	1	Assumes BranchEn=1, illustrates the shared FUP.	CFE.INTR(IP=0, Vector), FUP(NLIP), TIP(BLIP)
5	SW Interrupt, Exception/Fault other than #PF	1	D.C.		CFE.INTR(IP=1, Vector), FUP(CLIP)
6	Page Fault (#PF)	1	D.C.		EVD.PFA, CFE.INTR(IP=1,14), FUP(CLIP)
7	Page Fault (#PF)	0	D.C.		None
10	SMI	1	D.C.		CFE.SMI(IP=1), FUP(NLIP)
11	RSM, TraceEn restored to 1	D.C.	1		CFE.RSM(IP=0)
12	Entry to Shutdown	1	D.C.		CFE.SHUTDOWN(IP=1), FUP(CLIP)
13	VM exit caused by interrupt, fault, or SMI	1	D.C.	Assumes “Conceal VMX in PT” exit control is 0.	EVD.VMXQ, EVD.VMXR, CFE.VMEXIT_INTR(IP=1, Vector), FUP(VMCSg.LIP)
14	VM exit caused by other than interrupt, fault, or SMI	1	D.C.	Assumes “Conceal VMX in PT” exit control is 0.	EVD.VMXQ, EVD.VMXR, CFE.VMEXIT(IP=1), FUP(VMCSg.LIP)
15	VM exit caused by other than interrupt, fault, or SMI	0	1	Assumes “Conceal VMX in PT” exit control is 0.	CFE.VMEXIT(IP=0)
16	VM entry	1	D.C.	Assumes “Conceal VMX in PT” entry control is 0.	CFE.VMENTRY(IP=1), FUP(VMCSh.LIP)
17	AEX/EEE, from opt-out (non-debug) enclave	0	0		None
18	AEX/EEE, from opt-out (non-debug) enclave	0	1		CFE.INTR(IP=0)
19	AEX, from opt-in (debug) enclave	1	D.C.		CFE.INTR(IP=1, Vec), FUP(AEP LIP)
20	INIT	1	D.C.		CFE.INIT(IP=1), FUP(NLIP)
21	SIPI	1	D.C.		CFE.SIPI(IP=0)

Table 33-59. Event Trace Examples when TriggerEn && ContextEn && EventEn is True

Case	Operation	ContextEn Before	ContextEn After	Details	Packets
22	STI/CLI/POPF	1	1	Assumes a change to RFLAGS.IF.	MODE.Exec, FUP(CLIP)

33.8 SOFTWARE CONSIDERATIONS

33.8.1 Tracing SMM Code

Nothing prevents an SMM handler from configuring and enabling packet generation for its own use. As described in Section Section 33.2.9.3, SMI will always clear TraceEn, so the SMM handler would have to set TraceEn in order to enable tracing. There are some unique aspects and guidelines involved with tracing SMM code, which follow:

1. SMM should save away the existing values of any configuration MSRs that SMM intends to modify for tracing. This will allow the non-SMM tracing context to be restored before RSM.
2. It is recommended that SMM wait until it sets CSbase to 0 before enabling packet generation, to avoid possible LIP vs RIP confusion.
3. Packet output cannot be directed to SMRR memory, even while tracing in SMM.
4. Before performing RSM, SMM should take care to restore modified configuration MSRs to the values they had immediately after #SMI. This involves first disabling packet generation by clearing TraceEn, then restoring any other configuration MSRs that were modified.
5. RSM
   - Software must ensure that TraceEn=0 at the time of RSM. Tracing RSM is not a supported usage model, and the packets generated by RSM are undefined.
   - For processors on which Intel PT and LBR use are mutually exclusive (see Section 33.3.1.2), any RSM during which TraceEn is restored to 1 will suspend any LBR or BTS logging.

33.8.2 Cooperative Transition of Multiple Trace Collection Agents

A third-party trace-collection tool should take into consideration the fact that it may be deployed on a processor that supports Intel PT but may run under any operating system.

In such a deployment scenario, Intel recommends that tool agents follow similar principles of cooperative transition of single-use hardware resources, similar to how performance monitoring tools handle performance monitoring hardware:

- Respect the “in-use” ownership of an agent who already configured the trace configuration MSRs, see architectural MSRs with the prefix “IA32_RTIT_” in Chapter 2, “Model-Specific Registers (MSRs),” in the Intel® 64 and IA-32 Architectures Software Developer’s Manual, Volume 4, where “in-use” can be determined by reading the “enable bits” in the configuration MSRs.
- Relinquish ownership of the trace configuration MSRs by clearing the “enabled bits” of those configuration MSRs.

33.8.3 Tracking Time

This section describes the relationships of several clock counters whose update frequencies reside in different domains that feed into the timing packets. To track time, the decoder also needs to know the regularity or irregularity of the occurrences of various timing packets that store those clock counters.

Intel PT provides time information for three different but related domains:

- Processor timestamp counter

  This counter increments at the max non-turbo or P1 frequency, and its value is returned on a RDTSC. Its frequency is fixed. The TSC packet holds the lower 7 bytes of the timestamp counter value. The TSC packet occurs occasionally and are much less frequent than the frequency of the time stamp counter. The timestamp counter will continue to increment when the processor is in deep C-States, with the exception of processors reporting CPUID.80000007H:EDX.InvariantTSC[bit 8] =0.
- Core crystal clock

  The ratio of the core crystal clock to timestamp counter frequency is known as P, and can be calculated as CPUID.15H:EBX[31:0] / CPUID.15H:EAX[31:0]. The frequency of the core crystal clock is fixed and lower than that of the timestamp counter. The periodic MTC packet is generated based on software-selected multiples of the crystal clock frequency. The MTC packet is expected to occur more frequently than the TSC packet.
- Processor core clock

  The processor core clock frequency can vary due to P-state and thermal conditions. The CYC packet provides elapsed time as measured in processor core clock cycles relative to the last CYC packet.

A decoder can use all or some combination of these packets to track time at different resolutions throughout the trace packets.

33.8.3.1 Time Domain Relationships

The three domains are related by the following formula:

```
TimeStampValue = (CoreCrystalClockValue * P) + AdjustedProcessorCycles + Software_Offset;
```

The CoreCrystalClockValue, also known as the Always Running Timer (ART) value, can provide the coarse-grained component of the TSC value. P, or the TSC/ART ratio, can be derived from CPUID leaf 15H, as described in Section 33.8.3.

The AdjustedProcessorCycles component provides the fine-grained distance from the rising edge of the last core crystal clock. Specifically, it is a cycle count in the same frequency as the timestamp counter from the last crystal clock rising edge. The value is adjusted based on the ratio of the processor core clock frequency to the Maximum Non-Turbo (or P1) frequency.

The Software_Offsets component includes software offsets that are factored into the timestamp value, such as IA32_TSC_ADJUST.

33.8.3.2 Estimating TSC within Intel PT

For many usages, it may be useful to have an estimated timestamp value for all points in the trace. The formula provided in Section 33.8.3.1 above provides the framework for how such an estimate can be calculated from the various timing packets present in the trace.

The TSC packet provides the precise timestamp value at the time it is generated; however, TSC packets are infrequent, and estimates of the current timestamp value based purely on TSC packets are likely to be very inaccurate for this reason. In order to get more precise timing information between TSC packets, CYC packets and/or MTC packets should be enabled.

MTC packets provide incremental updates of the CoreCrystalClockValue. On processors that support CPUID leaf 15H, the frequency of the timestamp counter and the core crystal clock is fixed, thus MTC packets provide a means to update the running timestamp estimate. Between two MTC packets A and B, the number of crystal clock cycles passed is calculated from the 8-bit payloads of respective MTC packets:

$(CTC_B - CTC_A)$, where $CTC_i = MTC_i[15:8]$ << IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCFreq and i = A, B.

The time from a TSC packet to the subsequent MTC packet can be calculated using the TMA packet that follows the TSC packet. The TMA packet provides both the crystal clock value (lower 16 bits, in the CTC field) and the AdjustedProcessorCycles value (in the FastCounter field) that can be used in the calculation of the corresponding core crystal clock value of the TSC packet.

When the next MTC after a pair of TSC/TMA is seen, the number of crystal clocks passed since the TSC packet can be calculated by subtracting the TMA.CTC value from the time indicated by the MTC_{Next} packet by

$CTC_{Delta}[15:0] = (CTC_{Next}[15:0]$ - TMA.CTC[15:0]), where $CTC_{Next} = MTC_{Payload}$ << IA32_RTIT_CTL.MTCFreq.

The TMA.FastCounter field provides the number of AdjustedProcessorCycles since the last crystal clock rising edge, from which it can be determined the percentage of the next crystal clock cycle that had passed at the time of the TSC packet.

CYC packets can provide further precision of an estimated timestamp value to many non-timing packets, by providing an indication of the time passed between other timing packets (MTCs or TSCs).

When enabled, CYC packets are sent preceding each CYC-eligible packet, and provide the number of processor core clock cycles that have passed since the last CYC packet. Thus between MTCs and TSCs, the accumulated CYC values can be used to estimate the AdjustedProcessorCycles component of the timestamp value. The accumulated CPU cycles will have to be adjusted to account for the difference in frequency between the processor core clock and the P1 frequency. The necessary adjustment can be estimated using the core:bus ratio value given in the CBR packet, by multiplying the accumulated cycle count value by $P1/CBR_{payload}$.

Note that stand-alone TSC packets (that is, TSC packets that are not a part of a PSB+) are typically generated only when generation of other timing packets (MTCs and CYCs) has ceased for a period of time. Example scenarios include when Intel PT is re-enabled, or on wake after a sleep state. Thus any calculated estimate of the timestamp value leading up to a TSC packet will likely result in a discrepancy, which the TSC packet serves to correct.

A greater level of precision may be achieved by calculating the CPU clock frequency, see Section 33.8.3.4 below for a method to do so using Intel PT packets.

CYCs can be used to estimate time between TSCs even without MTCs, though this will likely result in a reduction in estimated TSC precision.

33.8.3.3 VMX TSC Manipulation

When software executes in non-Root operation, additional offset and scaling factors may be applied to the TSC value. These are optional, but may be enabled via VMCS controls on a per-VM basis. See Chapter 26, “VMX Non-Root Operation,” for details on VMX TSC offsetting and TSC scaling.

Like the value returned by RDTSC, TSC packets will include these adjustments, but other timing packets (such as MTC, CYC, and CBR) are not impacted. In order to use the algorithm above to estimate the TSC value when TSC scaling is in use, it will be necessary for software to account for the scaling factor. See Section 33.5.2.4 for details.

33.8.3.4 Calculating Frequency with Intel PT

Because Intel PT can provide both wall-clock time and processor clock cycle time, it can be used to measure the processor core clock frequency. Either TSC or MTC packets can be used to track the wall-clock time. By using CYC packets to count the number of processor core cycles that pass in between a pair of wall-clock time packets, the ratio between processor core clock frequency and TSC frequency can be derived. If the P1 frequency is known, it can be applied to determine the CPU frequency. See Section 33.8.3.1 above for details on the relationship between TSC, MTC, and CYC.