

**NAME**

**ovs-tcpdump** – Dump traffic from an Open vSwitch port using tcpdump

**SYNOPSIS**

**ovs-tcpdump -i <port> <tcpdump options>...**

**DESCRIPTION**

**ovs-tcpdump** creates switch mirror ports in the **ovs-vswitchd** daemon and executes **tcpdump** to listen against those ports. When the **tcpdump** instance exits, it then cleans up the mirror port it created.

**ovs-tcpdump** will not allow multiple mirrors for the same port. It has some logic to parse the current configuration and prevent duplicate mirrors.

The **-i** option may not appear multiple times.

It is important to note that under Linux-based kernels, tap devices do not receive packets unless the specific tuntap device has been opened by an application. This requires **CAP\_NET\_ADMIN** privileges, so the **ovs-tcpdump** command must be run as a user with such permissions (this is usually a super-user).

**OPTIONS**

- **-h** or **--help**

Prints a brief help message to the console.

- **-V** or **--version**

Prints version information to the console.

- **--db-sock <socket>**

The Open vSwitch database socket connection string. The default is **unix:<rundir>/db.sock**.

- **--dump-cmd <command>**

The command to run instead of **tcpdump**.

- **-i** or **--interface**

The interface for which a mirror port should be created, and packets should be dumped.

- **--mirror-to**

The name of the interface which should be the destination of the mirrored packets. The default is **mi<port>**.

- **--span**

If specified, mirror all ports (optional).

**SEE ALSO**

**ovs-appctl(8)**, **ovs-vswitchd(8)**, **ovs-pcap(1)**, **ovs-tcpundump(1)**, **tcpdump(8)**, **wireshark(8)**.

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