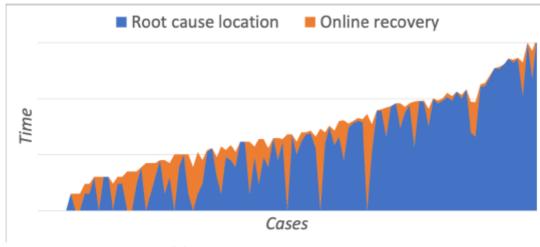
# [SIGCOMM 2020] Flow Event Telemetry on Programmable Data Plane

## 1. Introduction

随着块存储系统从 kernel TCP 迁移到 RDMA,数据中心内端到端的网络延迟期望值从 2ms 下降到 20us。因此,偶然的网络异常波动都会影响用户体验和 IO 性能。但是快速消除 NPA(Network Performance Anomalies) 极其困难,它对网络监测的 **覆盖范围、速度、准确度** 要求很高。在大多数 NPA 案例中,消除 NPA 的 **瓶颈在于故障定位**。



# (a) Recovery time of NPAs

目前的网络监测方法并不能满足 NPA 定位的需求。比如 off-the-shelf switch 仅提供 per-interface / per-device / per-sampled-flow 粒度的聚合计数器; probe-based 监测系统只能探测 10s+ 粒度,且不能感知原始流量事件。而packet-level的监控系统虽然可以定位故障单overhead比较大。

本文提出了基于流事件的监控系统NetSeer来监控造成NFA的数据而事件

## 2. Architecture

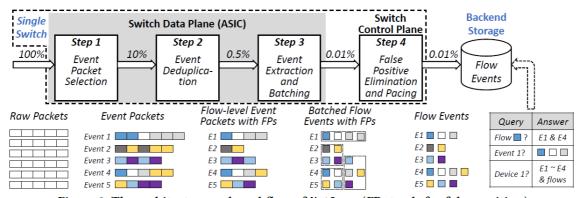


Figure 2: The architecture and workflow of NetSeer. (FP stands for false positive.)

## 3.Flow Event

- Packet drop: 会导致timeout/retransmission/slowing down at senders
- Packet queuing:会延迟包的传输和到达,通常拥塞造成
- Packet out-of-order: 导致NAK,deep buffer(因为要等待无序包到达才能交付,缓冲区会保持很满状态一段时间)通常因为path change引起

NAK: 非确认帧,当在一定时间内没有收到某个数据帧的ACK时,回复一个NACK。 在发送过程中,如果一个数据帧计时器超时,就认为该帧丢失或者被破坏,接收端只把出错的的帧 丢弃,其后面的数据帧保存在缓存中,并向发送端回复NAK。发送端接收到NAK时,只发送出错的 帧。

• Packet pause: PFC造成

基于优先级的流量控制 (PFC: Priority-based Flow Control) 在IEEE:802.1Qbb标准文档中定义,对传统流控的暂停机制一种增强。与传统的流控机制相比,当出现拥塞时传统流控但会阻止一条链路上的所有流量。而PFC允许在一条以太网链路上创建8个虚拟通道,并为每条虚拟通道指定一个IEEE 802.1P优先等级 (cos),允许单独暂停和重启其中任意一条虚拟通道,同时允许其它虚拟通道的流量无中断通过。这一方法使网络能够为单个虚拟链路创建无丢包类别的服务,使其能够与同一接口上的其它流量类型共存。其实PFC就是普通流控功能的一种增强。

# 4. How to identify flow event

### Congestion, path change and pause detection

- Congestion:通过switch内的进出时间戳得到排队时长,超过阈值就记录
- Path Change: 记录 flow 的进出 port,把新流的第一个包和老流的第一个路径变化的包作为 event packet。因为硬件资源有限,快速替换老流,保证新流被记录,虽然有时会导致老流被当作新流被上报多次,但是后续可做聚合
- Pause Detection: 在ingress口去检测PFC Messages(PAUSE or RESUME)识别状态
- Packet Drop:

**Intra-detect** 比较容易把事件上报代码嵌入ASIC中,当发生Pipeline Drop和MMU Drop的时候就可以把Event Packet给上报

| Switch status                       | Drop type                          | Drop reason (partial) | Detection method                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Functional Fully covered by NetSeer | Pipeline drop                      | Parity error          | Report a packet when table lookup miss happens to this packet in the pipeline                                                                                                                            |
|                                     |                                    | Port / Link down      | Report a packet when the target port / link / switch for the packet is down                                                                                                                              |
|                                     |                                    | ACL config error      | Report a packet when it is dropped by an ACL rule                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                     |                                    | Forwarding loop       | Report a packet when its TTL reaches 0                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                     | MMU Congestion<br>drop             | Uneven ECMP           | Redirect packets to be dropped by MMU to a dedicated internal port, and report in egress                                                                                                                 |
|                                     |                                    | Unexpected volume     |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                     | Inter-switch drop<br>or corruption | Link corruption       | Record & number packets in upstream switch 2. Transmit packets 3. Detect discrete sequence numbers of received packets in downstream switch 4. Inform upstream switch of loss 5. Report drop in upstream |
|                                     |                                    | Transmitter failure   |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                     | Inter-card drop                    | Backplane drop        | Similar to inter-switch drop detection with programmable switch boards or cards                                                                                                                          |
|                                     |                                    | Communication drop    |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Malfunctioning                      | ASIC failure                       | Switch ASIC failure   | Advanced switches could detect ASIC failures and produce Syslog                                                                                                                                          |
|                                     | MMU failure                        | MMU block / failure   | A switch cannot forward packets, which can be detected through active probing                                                                                                                            |

Figure 4: The types and reasons of packet drops, and the methods NetSeer uses to detect them.

#### Inter-detect

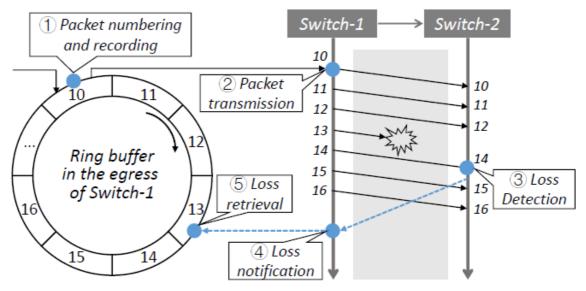


Figure 5: Inter-switch drop/corruption detection.

ring buffer会缓存一些包,然后当丢掉的包后面的包到达switch2的时候,会触发switch2向switch1汇报 (start,end)

但是一旦发生连续丢包,因为buffer有限,被override掉的包丢掉的话就没法上报,但是因为packet id 是唯一的,所以不会出现误报。

# 5. Flow Event Generation & Compression

we define redundant event packets as those belonging to the same flow and encountering the same event. This could reduce the monitoring traffic volume from O(#event packets) to O(#event f lows)

• Event packets to flow events:通过 hash 表基数,达到阈值/发生冲突产生替换时生成流事件。同样,当大流被产生冲突替换时,后续还会替换回来,导致一条流产生多个事件。

# Algorithm 1: Deduplication based on group caching

```
Input:Event packet \mathcal{P}; Group caching table cache[]
1 Function event_packet_deduplication (P, cache[])
         index \leftarrow calculate\_hash(\mathcal{P}.flow\_info);
2
         if cache[index].flow_info is equal to P.flow_info then
3
              cache[index].counter ++;
 4
              if cache[index].counter ≥ cache[index].target then
 5
                   produce_event(cache[index]);
6
                   cache[index].target ← cache[index].target + C;
7
         else
8
              cache[index].flow_info \leftarrow \mathcal{P}.flow_info;
 9
              cache[index].counter \leftarrow 1;
10
              cache[index].target \leftarrow C; // C is a constant;
11
              produce_event(cache[index]);
12
```

• 对于 ACL 丢包事件,聚合是按 ACL 粒度,而不是流粒度,因为通常 ACL 丢包属于正常行为。而且 ACL的头部就包含了packet的信息。对ACL的每一项都维护一个packet drop counter

• **Event information Extraction**: 只记录必要的流信息,比如 5-tuple、switch-port-queue、事件相关数据(拥塞-延迟,丢包-丢包原因)

# **6.Circulating Flow Event Batching**

单独的事件信息只占 24 bytes,以太网最小帧 64 bytes,如果直接发送会导致额外开销。考虑到以太网包长,建议 50个event为一个batch 发送。但是 switch 资源限制不足以维持 50 个 event,因此通过采取构造一个circulating event batching packet,然后在 switch pipeline 内循环拼接,避免在处理阶段内维持内存,直到拼接完 50 个 event。event会先进栈,然后在栈里面不断pop,拼接到circulating event batching packet的payload之中。

## 7. False Positive Elimination

false positive 即重复上报的事件。switch CPU 维持一个 hash 表来消除重复,为了节省 CPU,可以在 switch pipeline 中计算 hash 值,把值给拼到event上,然后可以直接访问index来获得hash值。

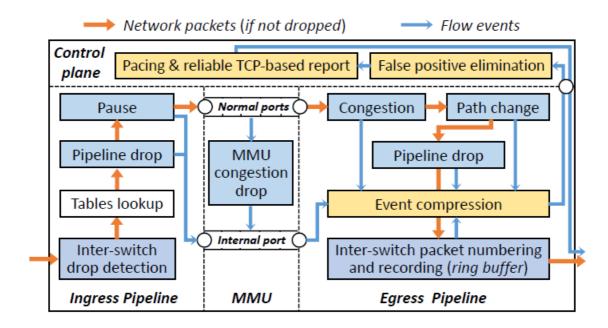


Figure 6: NetSeer switch implementation.

#### **Event Formats:**

- Flow (13B): <5-tuple> for TCP/UDP packets. Flow fields can be flexibly defined and extended according to packet formats.(记录flow信息)
- Congestion (5B): <egress port, egress queue, queue latency> (识别交换机的哪个出口和哪个队列上发生了Congestion,同时记录拥塞的排队时延)
- Path change (2B): <ingress port, egress port>.
- Pause (2B): <egress port, egress queue> (识别交换机的哪个出口和哪个队列上发生了Pause)
- Drop (3B): <ingress port, egress port, drop code>. Packet drop reasons are encoded into the drop code field.