



IP SLAs—Analyzing IP Service Levels Using the TCP Connect Operation

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This module describes how to use the Cisco IOS IP Service Level Agreements (SLAs) TCP Connect operation to measure the response time taken to perform a TCP Connect operation between a Cisco router and devices using IP. IP SLAs is a portfolio of technology embedded in most devices that run Cisco IOS software, which allows Cisco customers to analyze IP service levels for IP applications and services, to increase productivity, to lower operational costs, and to reduce the frequency of network outages. IP SLAs uses active traffic monitoring—the generation of traffic in a continuous, reliable, and predictable manner—for measuring network performance. TCP Connect accuracy is enhanced by using the IP SLAs Responder at the destination Cisco router. This module also demonstrates how the results of the TCP Connect operation can be displayed and analyzed to determine how the connection times to servers and hosts within your network can affect IP service levels. The TCP Connect operation is useful for measuring response times for a server used for a particular application or connectivity testing for server availability.

Finding Feature Information in This Module

Your Cisco IOS software release may not support all of the features documented in this module. To reach links to specific feature documentation in this module and to see a list of the releases in which each feature is supported, use the “[Feature Information for the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation](#)” section on page 13.

Finding Support Information for Platforms and Cisco IOS Software Images

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and Cisco IOS software image support. Access Cisco Feature Navigator at <http://www.cisco.com/go/fn>. You must have an account on Cisco.com. If you do not have an account or have forgotten your username or password, click **Cancel** at the login dialog box and follow the instructions that appear.

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Prerequisites for the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation

Before configuring the IP SLAs TCP Connect operation you should be familiar with the “[Cisco IOS IP SLAs Overview](#)” chapter of the *Cisco IOS IP SLAs Configuration Guide*, Release 12.4.

Information About the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation

To perform the tasks required to analyze TCP connection times using IP SLA, you should understand the following concept:

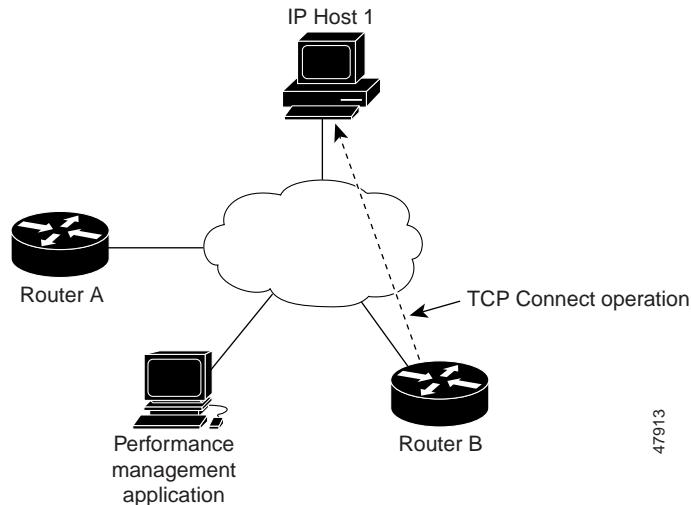
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TCP Connect Operation

The IP SLAs TCP Connect operation measures the response time taken to perform a TCP Connect operation between a Cisco router and devices using IP. TCP is a transport layer (Layer 4) Internet protocol that provides reliable full-duplex data transmission. The destination device can be any device using IP or an IP SLAs Responder.

In [Figure 1](#) Router B is configured as the source IP SLAs device and a TCP Connect operation is configured with the destination device as IP Host 1.

Figure 1 *TCP Connect Operation*



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Connection response time is computed by measuring the time taken between sending a TCP request message from Router B to IP Host 1 and receiving a reply from IP Host 1.

TCP Connect accuracy is enhanced by using the IP SLAs Responder at the destination Cisco device. If the destination router is a Cisco router, then IP SLAs makes a TCP connection to any port number that you specified. If the destination is not a Cisco IP host, then you must specify a known destination port number such as 21 for FTP, 23 for Telnet, or 80 for an HTTP server.

Using the IP SLAs Responder is optional for a TCP Connect operation when using Cisco devices. The IP SLAs Responder cannot be configured on non-Cisco devices.

TCP Connect is used to test virtual circuit availability or application availability. Server and application connection performance can be tested by simulating Telnet, SQL, and other types of connection to help you verify your IP service levels.

How to Configure the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation

This section contains the following procedures:

- [Configuring the IP SLAs Responder on the Destination Device, page 3](#) (optional)
- [Configuring and Scheduling a TCP Connect Operation on the Source Device, page 4](#) (required)

Configuring the IP SLAs Responder on the Destination Device

Perform this task to enable the IP SLAs Responder on the destination Cisco device of a TCP Connect operation. A TCP Connect operation measures the response time taken to perform a TCP Connect operation between a Cisco router and devices using IP.

Prerequisites

If you are using the IP SLAs Responder, ensure that the networking device to be used as the Responder is a Cisco device and that you have connectivity to that device through the network.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **configure terminal**
3. **ip sla monitor responder**
4. **exit**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	<code>enable</code> Example: Router> enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter your password if prompted.
Step 2	<code>configure terminal</code> Example: Router# configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
Step 3	<code>ip sla monitor responder</code> Example: Router(config)# ip sla monitor responder	Enables IP SLAs Responder functionality on a Cisco device.
Step 4	<code>exit</code> Example: Router(config)# exit	(Optional) Exits global configuration mode and returns to privileged EXEC mode.

Configuring and Scheduling a TCP Connect Operation on the Source Device

To measure TCP connection response times between a Cisco IP device and a destination IP device, use the IP SLAs TCP Connect operation. A TCP Connect operation measures the response time taken to perform a TCP Connect operation between a Cisco router and devices using IP.

Prerequisites

If you are using the IP SLAs Responder, ensure that you have completed the “[Configuring the IP SLAs Responder on the Destination Device](#)” section on page 3 before you start this task.

Perform one of the following tasks in this section, depending on whether you want to configure a basic TCP Connect operation or configure a TCP Connect operation with optional parameters:

- [Configuring and Scheduling a Basic TCP Connect Operation on the Source Device](#), page 4
- [Configuring and Scheduling a TCP Connect Operation with Optional Parameters on the Source Device](#), page 6

Configuring and Scheduling a Basic TCP Connect Operation on the Source Device

Perform this task to enable a TCP Connect operation without any optional parameters.



Note

For information on scheduling a group of operations, see the “[IP SLAs—Multiple Operation Scheduling](#)” chapter of the *Cisco IOS IP SLAs Configuration Guide*, Release 12.4.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **configure terminal**
3. **ip sla monitor operation-number**
4. **type tcpConnect dest-ipaddr {destination-ip-address | destination-hostname} dest-port port-number [source-ipaddr {ip-address | hostname} source-port port-number] [control {enable | disable}]**
5. **frequency seconds**
6. **exit**
7. **ip sla monitor schedule operation-number [life {forever | seconds}] [start-time {hh:mm[:ss] [month day | day month] | pending | now | after hh:mm:ss} [ageout seconds] [recurring]**
8. **exit**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode. • Enter your password if prompted.
	Example: Router> enable	
Step 2	configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
	Example: Router# configure terminal	
Step 3	ip sla monitor operation-number	Begins configuration for an IP SLAs operation and enters IP SLA monitor configuration mode.
	Example: Router(config)# ip sla monitor 10	
Step 4	type tcpConnect dest-ipaddr {destination-ip-address destination-hostname} dest-port port-number [source-ipaddr {ip-address hostname} source-port port-number] [control {enable disable}]	Defines a TCP Connect operation and enters IP SLA Monitor TCP configuration mode.
	Example: Router(config-sla-monitor)# type tcpConnect dest-ipaddr 172.29.139.132 dest-port 5000	
Step 5	frequency seconds	(Optional) Sets the rate at which a specified IP SLAs operation repeats.
	Example: Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# frequency 30	
Step 6	exit	Exits IP SLA Monitor TCP configuration mode and returns to global configuration mode.
	Example: Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# exit	

How to Configure the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation

Command or Action	Purpose
Step 7 <pre>ip sla monitor schedule operation-number [life {forever seconds}] [start-time {hh:mm[:ss] [month day day month] pending now after hh:mm:ss} [ageout seconds] [recurring]</pre>	Configures the scheduling parameters for an individual IP SLAs operation.
Example: <pre>Router(config)# ip sla monitor schedule 10 start-time now life forever</pre>	
Step 8 <pre>exit</pre> Example: <pre>Router(config)# exit</pre>	(Optional) Exits the global configuration mode and returns to privileged EXEC mode.

Examples

The following example shows the configuration of an IP SLAs operation type of TCP Connect that will start immediately and run indefinitely.

```
ip sla monitor 9
  type tcpConnect dest-ipaddr 172.29.139.132 dest-port 5000
    frequency 10
  !
  ip sla monitor schedule 9 life forever start-time now
```

What to Do Next

To view and interpret the results of an IP SLAs operation use the **show ip sla monitor statistics** command. Checking the output for fields that correspond to criteria in your service level agreement will help you determine whether the service metrics are acceptable.

Configuring and Scheduling a TCP Connect Operation with Optional Parameters on the Source Device

Perform this task to enable a TCP Connect operation on the source device and configure some optional IP SLAs parameters. The source device is the location at which the measurement statistics are stored.



Note For information on scheduling a group of operations, see the “[IP SLAs—Multiple Operation Scheduling](#)” chapter of the *Cisco IOS IP SLAs Configuration Guide*, Release 12.4.

SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **configure terminal**
3. **ip sla monitor operation-number**
4. **type tcpConnect dest-ipaddr {destination-ip-address | destination-hostname} dest-port port-number [source-ipaddr {ip-address | hostname} source-port port-number] [control {enable | disable}]**
5. **buckets-of-history-kept size**

6. **distributions-of-statistics-kept size**
7. **enhanced-history [interval seconds] [buckets number-of-buckets]**
8. **filter-for-history {none | all | overThreshold | failures}**
9. **frequency seconds**
10. **hours-of-statistics-kept hours**
11. **lives-of-history-kept lives**
12. **owner owner-id**
13. **statistics-distribution-interval milliseconds**
14. **tag text**
15. **threshold milliseconds**
16. **timeout milliseconds**
17. **tos number**
18. **exit**
19. **ip sla monitor schedule operation-number [life {forever | seconds}] [start-time {hh:mm[:ss] [month day | day month] | pending | now | after hh:mm:ss} [ageout seconds] [recurring]**
20. **exit**
21. **show ip sla monitor configuration [operation-number]**

DETAILED STEPS

	Command or Action	Purpose
Step 1	enable	Enables privileged EXEC mode. • Enter your password if prompted.
	Example: Router> enable	
Step 2	configure terminal	Enters global configuration mode.
	Example: Router# configure terminal	
Step 3	ip sla monitor operation-number	Begins configuration for an IP SLAs operation and enters IP SLA monitor configuration mode.
	Example: Router(config)# ip sla monitor 10	
Step 4	type tcpConnect dest-ipaddr {destination-ip-address destination-hostname} dest-port port-number [source-ipaddr {ip-address hostname} source-port port-number] [control {enable disable}]	Defines a TCP Connect operation and enters IP SLA Monitor TCP configuration mode.
	Example: Router(config-sla-monitor)# type tcpConnect dest-ipaddr 172.29.139.132 dest-port 5000	

How to Configure the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation

Command or Action	Purpose
Step 5 <code>buckets-of-history-kept size</code>	(Optional) Sets the number of history buckets that are kept during the lifetime of an IP SLAs operation.
Example: <pre>Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# buckets-of-history-kept 25</pre>	
Step 6 <code>distributions-of-statistics-kept size</code>	(Optional) Sets the number of statistics distributions kept per hop during an IP SLAs operation.
Example: <pre>Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# distributions-of-statistics-kept 5</pre>	
Step 7 <code>enhanced-history [interval seconds] [buckets number-of-buckets]</code>	(Optional) Enables enhanced history gathering for an IP SLAs operation.
Example: <pre>Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# enhanced-history interval 900 buckets 100</pre>	
Step 8 <code>filter-for-history {none all overThreshold failures}</code>	(Optional) Defines the type of information kept in the history table for an IP SLAs operation.
Example: <pre>Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# filter-for-history failures</pre>	
Step 9 <code>frequency seconds</code>	(Optional) Sets the rate at which a specified IP SLAs operation repeats.
Example: <pre>Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# frequency 30</pre>	
Step 10 <code>hours-of-statistics-kept hours</code>	(Optional) Sets the number of hours for which statistics are maintained for an IP SLAs operation.
Example: <pre>Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# hours-of-statistics-kept 4</pre>	
Step 11 <code>lives-of-history-kept lives</code>	(Optional) Sets the number of lives maintained in the history table for an IP SLAs operation.
Example: <pre>Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# lives-of-history-kept 5</pre>	
Step 12 <code>owner owner-id</code>	(Optional) Configures the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) owner of an IP SLAs operation.
Example: <pre>Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# owner admin</pre>	
Step 13 <code>statistics-distribution-interval milliseconds</code>	(Optional) Sets the time interval for each statistics distribution kept for an IP SLAs operation.
Example: <pre>Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# statistics-distribution-interval 10</pre>	

Command or Action	Purpose
Step 14 <code>tag text</code> Example: Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# tag TelnetPollServer1	(Optional) Creates a user-specified identifier for an IP SLAs operation.
Step 15 <code>threshold milliseconds</code> Example: Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# threshold 10000	(Optional) Sets the upper threshold value for calculating network monitoring statistics created by an IP SLAs operation.
Step 16 <code>timeout milliseconds</code> Example: Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# timeout 10000	(Optional) Sets the amount of time an IP SLAs operation waits for a response from its request packet.
Step 17 <code>tos number</code> Example: Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# tos 160	(Optional) Defines a type of service (ToS) byte in the IP header of an IP SLAs operation.
Step 18 <code>exit</code> Example: Router(config-sla-monitor-tcp)# exit	Exits TCP configuration submode and returns to global configuration mode.
Step 19 <code>ip sla monitor schedule operation-number [life {forever seconds}] [start-time {hh:mm[:ss] [month day day month] pending now after hh:mm:ss} [ageout seconds] [recurring]</code> Example: Router(config)# ip sla monitor schedule 10 start-time now life forever	Configures the scheduling parameters for an individual IP SLAs operation.
Step 20 <code>exit</code> Example: Router(config)# exit	(Optional) Exits global configuration mode and returns to privileged EXEC mode.
Step 21 <code>show ip sla monitor configuration [operation-number]</code> Example: Router# show ip sla monitor configuration 10	(Optional) Displays configuration values including all defaults for all IP SLAs operations or a specified operation.

Examples

The following sample output shows the configuration of all the IP SLAs parameters (including defaults) for the TCP Connect operation number 9.

```
Router# show ip sla monitor configuration 9

Complete Configuration Table (includes defaults)
Entry Number: 9
Owner:
```

■ Configuration Examples for the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation

```

Tag: SL-SGU
Type of Operation to Perform: tcpConnect
Reaction and History Threshold (milliseconds): 5000
Operation Frequency (seconds): 20
Operation Timeout (milliseconds): 60000
Verify Data: FALSE
Status of Entry (SNMP RowStatus): active
Protocol Type: ipTcpConn
Target Address: 172.29.139.132
Source Address: 0.0.0.0
Target Port: 5000
Source Port: 0
Request Size (ARR data portion): 1
Response Size (ARR data portion): 1
Control Packets: enabled
Loose Source Routing: disabled
LSR Path:
Type of Service Parameters: 128
Life (seconds): infinite - runs forever
Next Scheduled Start Time: Start Time already passed
Entry Ageout (seconds): never
Connection Loss Reaction Enabled: FALSE
Timeout Reaction Enabled: FALSE
Threshold Reaction Type: never
Threshold Falling (milliseconds): 3000
Threshold Count: 5
Threshold Count2: 5
Reaction Type: none
Verify Error Reaction Enabled: FALSE
Number of Statistic Hours kept: 2
Number of Statistic Paths kept: 1
Number of Statistic Hops kept: 1
Number of Statistic Distribution Buckets kept: 1
Statistic Distribution Interval (milliseconds): 20
Number of History Lives kept: 0
Number of History Buckets kept: 15
Number of History Samples kept: 1
History Filter Type: none

```

Troubleshooting Tips

Use the **debug ip sla monitor trace** and **debug ip sla monitor error** commands to help troubleshoot issues with an IP SLAs operation.

What to Do Next

To view and interpret the results of an IP SLAs operation use the **show ip sla monitor statistics** command. Checking the output for fields that correspond to criteria in your service level agreement will help you determine whether the service metrics are acceptable.

Configuration Examples for the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation

This section contains the following configuration example:

- [Configuring a TCP Connect Operation: Examples, page 11](#)

Configuring a TCP Connect Operation: Examples

The following example shows how to configure a TCP Connect operation as shown in [Figure 1](#) from Router B to the Telnet port (TCP port 23) of IP Host 1 (IP address 10.0.0.1). The operation is scheduled to start immediately. In this example, the control protocol is disabled. IP SLAs uses the control protocol to notify the IP SLAs Responder to enable the target port temporarily. This action allows the Responder to reply to the TCP Connect operation. In this example, because the target is not a router and a well-known TCP port is used, there is no need to send the control message.

Router A Configuration

```
configure terminal  
ip sla monitor responder
```

Router B Configuration

```
ip sla monitor 9  
type tcpConnect dest-ipaddr 10.0.0.1 dest-port 23 control disable  
frequency 30  
tos 128  
timeout 1000  
tag FLL-RO  
ip sla monitor schedule 9 start-time now
```

The following example shows how to configure a TCP Connect operation with a specific port, port 21, and without an IP SLAs Responder. The operation is scheduled to start immediately and run indefinitely.

```
ip sla monitor 9  
type tcpConnect dest-ipaddr 173.29.139.132 dest-port 21 control disable  
frequency 30  
ip sla monitor schedule 9 life forever start-time now
```

Where to Go Next

- If you want to configure multiple Cisco IOS IP SLAs operations at once, see the “[IP SLAs—Multiple Operation Scheduling](#)” chapter of the *Cisco IOS IP SLAs Configuration Guide*, Release 12.4.
- If you want to configure threshold parameters for an IP SLAs operation, see the “[IP SLAs—Proactive Threshold Monitoring](#)” chapter of the *Cisco IOS IP SLAs Configuration Guide*, Release 12.4.
- If you want to configure other types of IP SLAs operations, see the “Where to Go Next” section of the “[Cisco IOS IP SLAs Overview](#)” chapter of the *Cisco IOS IP SLAs Configuration Guide*, Release 12.4.

■ Additional References

Additional References

The following sections provide references related to the IP SLAs TCP Connect operation.

Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
Overview of Cisco IOS IP SLAs	“Cisco IOS IP SLAs Overview” chapter of the <i>Cisco IOS IP SLAs Configuration Guide</i> , Release 12.4
Cisco IOS IP SLAs commands: complete command syntax, defaults, command mode, command history, usage guidelines, and examples	<i>Cisco IOS IP SLAs Command Reference</i> , Release 12.4

Standards

Standards	Title
No new or modified standards are supported by this feature, and support for existing standards has not been modified by this feature.	—

MIBs

MIBs	MIBs Link
CISCO-RTTMON-MIB	To locate and download MIBs for selected platforms, Cisco IOS releases, and feature sets, use Cisco MIB Locator found at the following URL: http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs

RFCs

RFCs	Title
No new or modified RFCs are supported by this feature, and support for existing RFCs has not been modified by this feature.	—

Technical Assistance

Description	Link
Technical Assistance Center (TAC) home page, containing 30,000 pages of searchable technical content, including links to products, technologies, solutions, technical tips, and tools. Registered Cisco.com users can log in from this page to access even more content.	http://www.cisco.com/public/support/tac/home.shtml

Feature Information for the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation

Table 1 lists the features in this module and provides links to specific configuration information. Only features that were introduced or modified in Cisco IOS Release 12.3(14)T or a later release appear in the table. *Not all features may be supported in your Cisco IOS software release.*

For information on a feature in this technology that is not documented here, see the “[Cisco IOS IP SLAs Features Roadmap](#).”

Not all commands may be available in your Cisco IOS software release. For release information about a specific command, see the command reference documentation.

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Note

Table 1 lists only the Cisco IOS software release that introduced support for a given feature in a given Cisco IOS software release train. Unless noted otherwise, subsequent releases of that Cisco IOS software release train also support that feature.

Table 1 *Feature Information for the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation*

Feature Name	Releases	Feature Information
IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation	12.3(14)T	The Cisco IOS IP SLAs Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) connect operation allows you to measure the network response time taken to perform a TCP Connect operation between a Cisco device and other devices using IP.

■ Feature Information for the IP SLAs TCP Connect Operation

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