

TR-471
**Maximum IP-Layer Capacity Metric, Related Metrics,
and Measurements**

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Table of Contents

1 Purpose and Scope..... 7

 1.1 Purpose7

 1.2 Scope7

2 References and Terminology 8

 2.1 Conventions.....8

 2.2 References8

 2.3 Definitions.....9

 2.4 Abbreviations.....9

3 Technical Report Impact 11

 3.1 Energy Efficiency11

 3.2 Security.....11

 3.3 Privacy.....11

4 Maximum IP-Layer Capacity Metric – related definitions..... 12

 4.1 Population of Interest.....12

 4.2 IP packet sending bit rate Metric Definition12

 4.3 Maximum IP-Layer Capacity Metric Definition.....12

5 Methods of Measurement for the IP-Layer Capacity Metric 14

 5.1 Measurement Reference Architecture.....14

 5.2 Measurement Procedure.....15

 5.2.1 *Sending Rate Search Algorithm*.....22

6 Results 25

Annex A: Sending Rates Table 30

 A.1 Example Table of Sending Rates and Related Information30

Table of Figures

Figure 1: Illustration of Time and Trial results during a single search for Maximum IP-Layer Capacity in the measurement process.12

Figure 2: Maximum IP Capacity measurement reference architecture.....14

Figure 3: IP Edge to CPE measurement of Maximum IP Capacity15

Figure 4: Flowchart for Offered Load adjustment as part of the “B” Search Algorithm.....23

Table of Tables

Table 1: Measurement Variables, Ranges, and Default values15

Table 2: Parameters for Metrics and Supporting Test Protocols.....20

Table 3: Flowchart Variables, Descriptions, Ranges, and Default values23

Table 4: Data Model Definition for Results.....25

Table A.1: Example Table of Sending Rates30

Executive Summary

As the speed of access links increase into the Gigabit range for some technologies, the dominant methods of helping users test to discover their actual “Internet Speed” are showing their age. These TCP-based methods, even with CUBIC window flow control, reacting conservatively to loss and round-trip delay often produce a significant underestimate of Maximum IP-Layer Capacity.

Meanwhile, the Industry is seeing a transition to new Transport protocols that will replace TCP for many users. They use UDP as the Transport protocol, and encrypt activity above the transport layer (such as IETF QUIC). Measuring the IP-Layer Capacity on a User’s access link should be straightforward and use the same Transport protocols as Users (many use UDP now, more in the future).

This document defines a Maximum IP-layer Capacity Metric and Methods of Measurement whose accuracy has been carefully evaluated with lab and field measurements.

1 Purpose and Scope

The Purpose and Scope sections describe the work on Active measurements of Maximum IP-Layer Capacity.

1.1 Purpose

The main goal is to harmonize the specified definitions, metrics and methods across the industry, and this project is the vehicle through which the BBF consensus is captured and communicated to achieve broad agreement, and possibly resulting in changes in similar the specifications of other Standards Development Organizations (SDO).

A goal unique to BBF is to provide efficient test procedures, especially the locations of measurement points, and to recommend results reporting with a view to data models for the results. These procedures are developed with an eye towards future remote control, data collection, and automation through TR-069 or TR-369 (USP).

1.2 Scope

The scope of this TR is to provide definitions, define metrics and the corresponding methods to unambiguously perform active measurements of Maximum IP-Layer Capacity. This includes the definition of the metric's parameters that influence how the test stream is generated and the metric is measured, resulting in an assessment of the Maximum IP-Layer Capacity over the (short) test interval. The scope includes any related IP-layer metrics as required by the method.

2 References and Terminology

2.1 Conventions

In this Technical Report, several words are used to signify the requirements of the specification. These words are always capitalized. More information can be found in RFC 2119 [9].

MUST	This word, or the term “REQUIRED”, means that the definition is an absolute requirement of the specification.
MUST NOT	This phrase means that the definition is an absolute prohibition of the specification.
SHOULD	This word, or the term “RECOMMENDED”, means that there could exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore this item, but the full implications need to be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.
SHOULD NOT	This phrase, or the phrase “NOT RECOMMENDED” means that there could exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the particular behavior is acceptable or even useful, but the full implications need to be understood and the case carefully weighed before implementing any behavior described with this label.
MAY	This word, or the term “OPTIONAL”, means that this item is one of an allowed set of alternatives. An implementation that does not include this option MUST be prepared to inter-operate with another implementation that does include the option.

2.2 References

The following references are of relevance to this Technical Report. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All references are subject to revision; users of this Technical Report are therefore encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the references listed below.

A list of currently valid Broadband Forum Technical Reports is published at www.broadband-forum.org.

Document	Title	Source	Year
[1] TR-069 Amendment 6	CPE WAN Management Protocol	BBF	2019
[2] TR-101 Issue 2	Migration to Ethernet-Based Broadband Aggregation	BBF	2011
[3] TR-143	Enabling Network Throughput Performance Tests and Statistical Monitoring, Issue: 1 Amendment 1 Corrigendum 1	BBF	2015
[4] TR-181	Device Data Model for TR-069	BBF	2015
[5] TR-304	Broadband Access Service Attributes and Performance Metrics	BBF	2015
[6] TR-369	User Services Platform (USP)	BBF	2019
[7] Y.1540	Internet protocol data communication service - IP packet transfer and availability performance parameters (and Amendment 1)	ITU-T	2019
[8] Y.1565	Home network performance parameters	ITU-T	2011

[9]	RFC 2119	Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels	IETF	1997
[10]	RFC 2681	A Round-trip Delay Metric for IPPM	IETF	1999
[11]	RFC 3393	IP Packet Delay Variation Metric for IP Performance Metrics (IPPM)	IETF	2002
[12]	RFC 4737	Packet Reordering Metrics	IETF	2006
[13]	RFC 5481	Packet Delay Variation Applicability Statement	IETF	2009
[14]	RFC 6335	Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Procedures for the Management of the Service Name and Transport Protocol Port Number Registry	IETF	2011
[15]	RFC 6576	IP Performance Metrics (IPPM) Standard Advancement Testing (a.k.a. BCP 176)	IETF	2012
[16]	RFC 7680	A One-Way Loss Metric for IP Performance Metrics (IPPM) (a.k.a. STD 82)	IETF	2016

2.3 Definitions

The following terminology is used throughout this Technical Report.

Sender	The test endpoint which sends test packets to the Receiver and which receives status messages from the Receiver.
Receiver	The test endpoint which receives test packets from the Sender and which sends status messages to the Sender.
Test Endpoint	The host at either end of the network test path. A test endpoint can be either a Sender or a Receiver for any given test.
Test Controller	A host which configures the test endpoints for a test. The test endpoint which performs the sending rate search algorithm during the test and which reports the measurement results. Either the Sender or the Receiver can be the Test Controller for any given test.

2.4 Abbreviations

This Technical Report uses the following abbreviations:

CUBIC	A widespread form of congestion control for transport-layer protocols
DSCP	Diffserv Code Point
Dst	Destination
IETF	Internet Engineering Task Force
IPDV	IP Packet Delay Variation
IPRR	IP Packet Reordered Ratio
IPSBR	IP Packet Sending Bit Rate
PM	Performance Metrics
QUIC	A new transport protocol under development in the IETF (work-in-progress)
Src	Source
TCP	Transmission Control Protocol
TR	Technical Report

UDP	User Datagram Protocol
WA	Work Area
WT	Working Text

3 Technical Report Impact

3.1 Energy Efficiency

Similar to TR-143 [3], this WT has no impact on energy efficiency.

3.2 Security

Similar to TR-143 [3], this WT has no additional impact on Security.

3.3 Privacy

Similar to TR-143 [3], this WT has no additional impact on Privacy.

4 Maximum IP-Layer Capacity Metric – related definitions

Supporting definitions and conventions are provided in this section.

4.1 Population of Interest

Population of Interest: All of the performance metrics defined in this document require a specific set of packets called the population of interest. For the end-to-end 1-way measurement case, the population of interest is (usually) the total set of measurement packets being sent from the sender to the receiver. The measurement points in the end-to-end 1-way case are at the sender and receiver. This definition is equivalent to the sum of qualifications used in IETF RFCs developed by the IPPM working group, where Parameters such as the packet stream characteristics and the Type-P describing the make-up of packets in the measurement stream sent from Src (source, or Sender) to Dst (destination, or Receiver) constitute the population of interest. For bi-directional testing, the populations may be different by direction, and require a separate specification applying to each direction.

4.2 IP packet sending bit rate Metric Definition

For a given population of interest, the IP packet sending bit rate (IPPSBR) generated by the Source host is the number of bits in the IP packet headers and payloads resulting in IP packet reference events divided by the time interval duration.

4.3 Maximum IP-Layer Capacity Metric Definition

An illustration of the testing process is given below, as viewed by the Receiver.

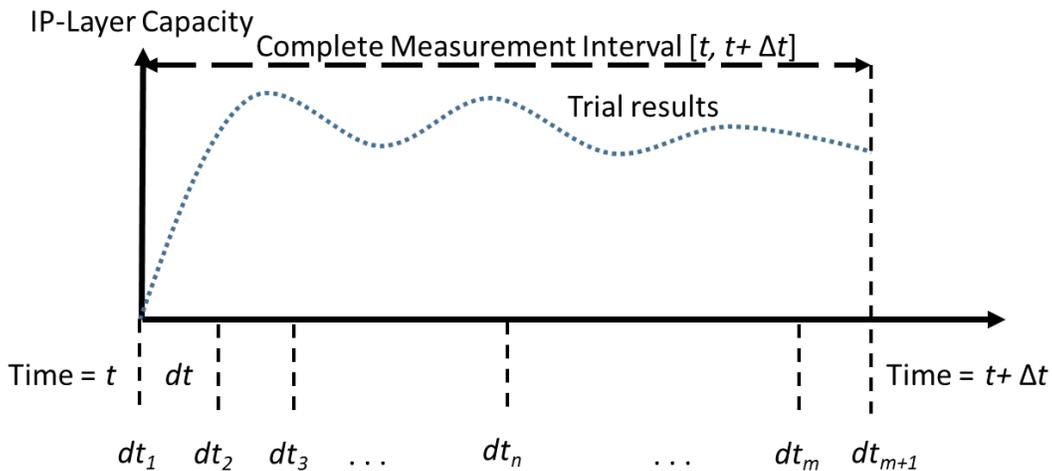


Figure 1: Illustration of Time and Trial results during a single search for Maximum IP-Layer Capacity in the measurement process.

The measurement process can be characterized as a search for the Maximum IP-Layer Capacity, where the Sender bit-rate is adjusted according to feedback from the receiver in an effort to discover the Maximum IP-Layer Capacity along with the performance in terms of packet loss and delay. The test packets arrive at the

receiver during a corresponding sub-interval dt_n , (equivalent to $[dt_n, dt_{n+1}]$), of which m sub-intervals comprise the complete measurement interval, $[t, t + \Delta t]$.

During each sub-interval, dt_n , there are many adjustments of the sending rate and subsequent measurement feedback reports from the receiver, called Trials. Each Trial report is the input to a sender load-adjustment algorithm. The search algorithm has a measurement goal, such as minimal loss and delay variation less than a configured value. These adjustments apply to type Search, whereas type Fixed-rate runs at a fixed bit rate.

For each sub-interval, dt_n , the IP-Layer Capacity is calculated as the number of IP-layer bits received (n_0) divided by the time, dt , for a result in bits per second. Corresponding values of Packet loss and delay are summarized and associated with each Capacity.

When the time for a search is completed, the IP-layer Capacity values are evaluated for the maximum in the test interval, and reported with the corresponding values of Packet loss and delay, with the condition that the target threshold for at least one fundamental metric has been met in that sub-interval, dt_n .

Mathematically, we express this process as follows:

For a given population of interest, the maximum IP-layer capacity during time interval $[t, t + \Delta t]$ is:

$$\text{Maximum_}C(t, \Delta t, PM) = \frac{\max_{[t, \Delta t]}(n_0(dt_n, dt_{n+1}))}{dt}$$

Equation 1: Maximum IP Capacity Metric

where:

time interval $[t, t + \Delta t]$ is composed of m equal sub-intervals, dt in length;

PM is a list of fundamental metrics, such as loss, delay, and reordering, and a corresponding Target performance threshold. At least one fundamental metric and Target performance threshold must be supplied (such as One-way IP Packet Loss [RFC7680] equal to zero).

n_0 is the total number of IP-layer header and payload bits that can be transferred over a basic section generating successful IP packet transfer outcomes at the egress measurement point during a specified time interval, $[dt_n, dt_{n+1}]$, and

the Maximum $C(t, \Delta t)$ corresponds to the maximum value of n_0 measured in any sub-interval $[dt_n, dt_{n+1}]$ within time interval $[t, t + \Delta t]$, divided by the duration of the sub-interval.

Note that UDP transport shall be used when assessing the Measureable IP Capacity Metric.

The method of measurement also needs a definition for its sending rate, supplied in section 4.2.

5 Methods of Measurement for the IP-Layer Capacity Metric

Methods of measurement are provided in this section. The Methods have sufficiently detailed specifications for implementation that will produce statistically equivalent results (as described in [IETF RFC 6576] from IPPM work). The Methods are described independently of the data modeling language or the protocols used to organize and transmit information between the different elements in the test architecture.

5.1 Measurement Reference Architecture

The reference architecture for measuring Maximum IP Capacity is shown in Figure 2. The primary functional elements in the architecture are the Sender and Receiver, denoting the transmitting and receiving endpoints of the test path through the network being measured. Sender and Receiver are functional terms defined by both the network path to be tested and the direction of the test, in that the Sender for a test in one direction becomes the Receiver for a test across the same network path in the other direction. A physical endpoint supporting Maximum IP Capacity will support both Sender and Receiver functions.

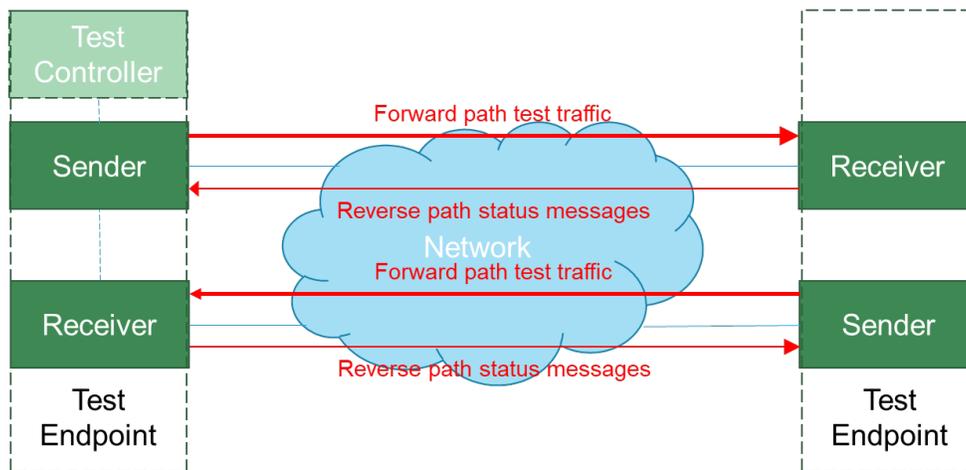


Figure 2: Maximum IP Capacity measurement reference architecture

A Test Controller forms a third element.

The Test Controller receives requests to perform a test from one of the Test Endpoints, providing test parameters prior to test initialization and receiving measurement results at the conclusion of the test. The Test Controller will typically communicate with the same physical endpoint, even as the testing roles are reversed in the course of testing both directions of a network path.

During a test, the Test Controller continually communicates with the Sender and the Receiver, to learn the current measurement results from status messages and increase or decrease the test traffic sending rate. As a result, it is essential to locate the Test Controller sufficiently near one of the Test Endpoints, to reduce the delay in the feedback loop from status message generation to sending rate modification, and to allow more accurate Round-Trip-Time (RTT) measurements.

The reference architecture shown in Figure 1 can be applied at any two nodes that can communicate with each other across an IP-based network path. It can, for example, be applied at two devices within a home network and controlled via USP [TR-369].

Another example, in which a test platform located at the IP edge is used to measure the Maximum IP Capacity between its location and the CPEs served by that access network, is shown in Figure 3 (partly adapted from TR-304).

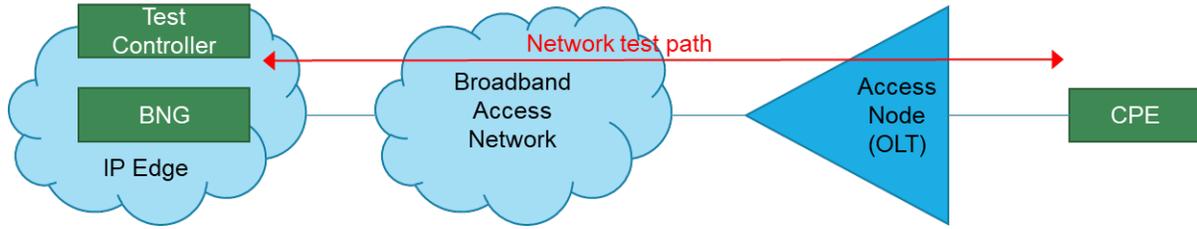


Figure 3: IP Edge to CPE measurement of Maximum IP Capacity

5.2 Measurement Procedure

Each measurement of Maximum IP Capacity occurs in a specific direction (for example, IP Edge to CPE) across a network test path. A typical test process between two endpoints may include measuring the Maximum IP Capacity in both directions; however, the measurement procedure in each direction is conducted independently of the measurement procedure in the other direction. Multiple independent one-directional tests MUST NOT be performed concurrently between the same endpoint pair.

Before the procedure begins, parameters needed to conduct the test are configured in both the Sender and the Receiver. The test parameters are defined in Table 1.

Table 1: Measurement Variables, Ranges, and Default values

Name	Parameter	Unit	Type; Range	Write	Default value
Connection Category:					
Role	Configuration for the measurement system’s role in the method, either Sender or Receiver	NA	enumeration [Receiver, Sender]	W	No Default
Host	Host name or address of the host to perform tests to.		string(256)		No Default
Port	Port on the host to perform tests to.		unsignedInt-[1:65535]		No Default
NumberOfConnections (see Note 1)	Number of parallel connections in a test.	#	unsignedInt; 1 ≤ # ≤ 10, or supported Maximum if less than 10	W	1 connection
JumboFramesPermitted	Configuration	NA	Boolean;[0:1]	W	0 (False: not

	for the measurement system permitting use of Jumbo-length Frames				permitted)
EthernetPriority	Ethernet priority code for marking packets transmitted in the test (if applicable).		unsignedInt; [0:7]	W	0
DSCP	DSCP markings for special treatment in the network		unsignedInt; [0:63]	W	0 = Best Effort
UDPPayloadRange	Range of UDP Payload sizes, where 1 Byte = 8 bits	Bytes	unsignedInt; [35:1472] Minimum 35 byte, Maximum at 1472 bytes (Max 9000 with Jumbo Frames, if permitted. Min for small packets added to adjust rate, method unspecified.)	W	No default, Recommend max at largest value that avoids fragmentation (i.e. using path MTU discovery).
PortRange	REQUIRED range of ports supported for test traffic and status feedback messages	#	unsignedInt; The Dynamic Ports, also known as the Private or Ephemeral Ports, from 49152-65535 (never assigned by IANA as per RFC 6335)	W	No default
PortRangeOptional	OPTIONAL range of ports supported for test traffic and status feedback messages	#	unsignedInt; The User Ports, also known as the Registered Ports, from 1024-49151 (assigned by IANA, RFC 6335)	W	No default. Use of Port(s) from the User range and its impact on the network needs to be carefully monitored by the testing organization before using the ports in testing, to

					avoid collision and contention.
Test Category:					
TestType	Type of test, Search or Fixed-Rate		enumeration; search or fixed	W	Search
EnableIPDV	Configuration for the measurement system permitting measurement of IPDV as per [Y.1540]	NA	Boolean;[0:1]	W	0 (False: not enabled)
EnableIPRR	Configuration for the measurement system permitting measurement of IPRR as per [Y.1540]	NA	Boolean;[0:1]	W	0 (False: not enabled)
PreambleDuration (see Note 2)	Duration of active traffic preamble to testing.	seconds	unsignedInt; $0 \leq \text{seconds} \leq 5$	W	2 seconds
StartSendingRate	Initial value of SendingRate	Kbps, where $b=1$ bit	unsignedInt; $500 \leq \# \leq 10,000,000$ (10 Gbps)	W	500 Kbps
Δt (TestInterval)	Duration of the test (either downlink or uplink) with search algorithm in use, which serves as the maximum duration of the search process	seconds	unsignedInt; $5 \leq \text{seconds} \leq 60$	-	Computed from m and dt , Type;Range is a constraint on $m * dt = \Delta t$
m (NumberTestSubIntervals)	Number of intermediate measurement intervals, dt , in Δt	#	unsignedInt; $1 \leq \# \leq 100$	W	10
dt (TestSubInterval)	Duration of intermediate reporting intervals	ms	unsignedInt; $100 \leq \text{ms} \leq 6000$ (max $\Delta t/(m=10)$) in milliseconds) MUST meet Type;Range	W	1000 ms

			constraints on $\Delta t = m * dt.$		
TimeoutNoTraffic	Timeout value, no test packets at Receiver, or no Status Messages at Sender	seconds	unsignedInt; $5 \leq \text{seconds} \leq 30$	W	5 seconds
StatusFeedbackInterval	Period of status feedback message (Receiver of offered load returns messages to the sender with the results of the measured metrics)	ms	$5 \leq \text{ms} \leq 250$	W	50 ms
Tmax	Maximum one-way Waiting time for packets to arrive	ms	unsignedInt; $50 \leq \text{ms} \leq 3000$	W	1000 ms
TmaxRTT	Maximum Round Trip Waiting time for packets to arrive	ms	unsignedInt; $50 \leq \text{ms} \leq 3000$	W	3000 ms
TimestampResolution	This is a function of the measurement protocol, and it is usually determined once the protocol chosen			-	See Table 2 for information on required resolution
Note 1: For NumberOfConnections: Aggregate measurement results are for connections >1. Note 2: For PreambleDuration: Traffic sent between sender and receiver at the StartingRate.					

In addition, the following should be included in External Model Definitions:

- Max number of supported connections (by a specific Test Endpoint).
- Interface specification: The IP-layer interface over which the test is to be performed.
- Max number of sub intervals (m)

During the measurement procedure, the Sender transmits a stream of test packets to the Receiver at a sending rate that is periodically updated to find the maximum rate at which packets are delivered while meeting a set of predefined performance requirements. The test interval Δt is subdivided into a number of sub-intervals dt , and each sub-interval is further divided into a number of trial intervals. At the end of each

trial interval, the Receiver transmits a status message to the Sender with information used to update the sending rate.

The search algorithm that updates the sending rate can run on either the Sender or the Receiver. The endpoint that runs the search algorithm for a specific test is referred to as the Test Controller. In addition to running the search algorithm, the Test Controller calculates the Maximum IP Capacity as well as any secondary metrics and makes the measurement results available at the test's conclusion. At least one endpoint in a given test needs to support the Test Controller functions.

[R-1] The test endpoint MUST support both Sender and Receiver functions.

[R-2] The test endpoint MUST support the test parameters listed in Table 1.

[R-3] At least one test endpoint MUST support Test Controller functions.

Each packet sent during the test includes a sending time stamp and sequence number. The Receiver uses the time of reception for each packet along with its sending time stamp and sequence number to measure received rate, packet loss, and one-way packet delay variation per Recommendation Y.1540. The Receiver then may run an iteration of the search algorithm (if it is acting as the Test Controller) before sending a status feedback message to the Sender. Depending on which endpoint is acting as the Test Controller:

- If the Receiver is acting as the Test Controller, it populates the status feedback message with the updated sending rate generated by the search algorithm.
- If the Sender is acting as the Test Controller, the Receiver populates the status feedback message with the received rate, packet loss, and one-way packet delay variation measurements calculated for the most recent trial interval. The Sender then uses this information to run the search algorithm to update its sending rate.

In addition to the above metrics, the Sender periodically measures round-trip delay using the following procedure:

- When the Receiver has a status feedback message ready to send, it waits for the next test packet to arrive from the Sender.
- When the test packet is received, the Receiver populates the status message with the sequence number and sending time stamp of the test packet and immediately sends the status message to the Sender.
- When the Sender receives the status message, it uses the sequence number and sending time stamp, along with the received time of the status message to calculate the round trip delay. The calculated round trip delay includes time to prepare the periodic status feedback message by the Receiver. An implementation should strive to minimize that processing time or use other measurement methods to evaluate round-trip delay.

[R-4] The Receiver MUST measure (using the sequence number and send and receive timestamps) the following metrics during each trial interval: received rate and loss, specified as per Recommendation Y.1540 [Y.1540].

[R-5] The Sender MUST measure sampled Round-trip time (RTT) as per RFC 2681 [RFC2681] or Recommendation Y.1565 [Y.1565], based on periodic status feedback messages from the Receiver.

[R-6] The Receiver MAY measure (using the sequence number and send and receive timestamps) the following metrics during each trial interval: 1-way packet delay variation and reordering, specified as per Recommendation Y.1540 [Y.1540].

Parameter values for metrics in R-4 through R-6 follow:

Table 2: Parameters for Metrics and Supporting Test Protocols

Metric	Parameter	Description	Unit	Range	Default value
IPLR (Loss Ratio) Y.1540, RFC 7680	Tmax	Maximum Waiting time for packets to arrive	ms	$50 \leq ms \leq 3000$	1000 ms
Sampled RTT Y.1565, RFC 2681: RTT uses feedback status messages from receiver	TmaxRTT	Maximum Round Trip Waiting time for packets to arrive	ms	$50 \leq ms \leq 3000$	3000 ms
	TimestampResolution (Determined when test protocol is chosen)	Resolution of Timestamps	ms	$0.001 \leq ms \leq 1$	Suggested for fixed access: .001 (based on current implementation)
IPDV Y.1540, RFC3393, RFC5481 (PDV form is specified here)	Tmax	Maximum Waiting time for packets to arrive	ms	$50 \leq ms \leq 3000$	1000 ms
	TimestampResolution (Determined when test protocol is chosen)	Resolution of Timestamps	ms	$0.001 \leq ms \leq 1$	Suggested for fixed access: .001 (based on current implementation)
IPRR Y.1540, RFC4737	Tmax	Maximum Waiting time for packets to arrive	ms	$50 \leq ms \leq 3000$	1000 ms
	TimestampResolution (Determined when test protocol is chosen)	Resolution of Timestamps	ms	$0.001 \leq ms \leq 1$	Suggested for fixed access: .001 (based on current implementation)

If the Test Controller is acting as Sender:

- [R-7] The Receiver **MUST** send a status feedback message to the Sender with the results of the measured metrics at the end of each trial interval.
- [R-8] The Sender **MUST** update its sending rate per the configured sending rate search algorithm after receiving a status message.
- [R-9] The Sending rate **SHOULD** be measured using the IP Packet Sending bit Rate (IPSBR) metric defined in section 4.2.

If the Test Controller is acting as Receiver:

- [R-10] The Receiver **MUST** update the Sender's sending rate per the configured sending rate search algorithm at the end of each trial interval.
- [R-11] The Sending rate **SHOULD** be measured using the IP Packet Sending bit Rate (IPSBR) metric defined in Annex A/Y.1540.

[R-12] The Receiver MUST send a status feedback message to the Sender with the updated sending rate.

Two methods for updating the sending rate during a measurement are specified. The first method is the “Type B” sending rate search algorithm specified in Section 5.2.1. The second method is a fixed sending rate that does not change for the duration of the test. The fixed sending rate can be used to confirm the results of a measurement using the search algorithm, for example using a sending rate set to a high percentage (e.g., 99.x%) of the measured Maximum IP Capacity. Additional optional methods for determining the sending rate can be supported in the Test Controller.

[R-13] The Test Controller MUST support the “Type B” sending rate search algorithm specified in Section 5.2.1.

[R-14] The Test Controller MUST support a configurable fixed sending rate.

[R-15] The Test Controller MAY support one or more additional sending rate search algorithms.

[R-16] The Test Controller MUST support selection of the sending rate search algorithm.

At the end of the test, the Test Controller generates the Maximum IP Capacity measurement result per the metric definition in Equation 1. A minimal Test Controller can generate intermediate results after each trial interval, updating the result each time a new maximum is found and discarding outdated values. Optionally, the Test Controller can save all intermediate trial results, including IP Capacity as well as packet latency, loss and reordering, for post-measurement analysis. Additional results that can be made available by the Test Controller include:

The Maximum IP Capacity includes all bits in the IP header and extension header fields, the IP payload, which is the UDP header and payload fields. The capacity available to the layers above UDP, which includes the UDP payload but not the UDP header fields, is an additional useful metric that can be calculated from the measurement results and test parameters.

Additional calculations are possible within this measurement framework:

- Calculating an average of all measured values (for IP-Layer Capacity) for all Trials in a sub-interval, dt_n , and for the complete measurement interval $[t, t + \Delta t]$.
- Calculating an average of all measured values (for IP-Layer Capacity) for all Trials in a sub-interval, dt_n , and for all sub intervals in the complete measurement interval $[t, t + \Delta t]$ where the search goal was met.
- Calculating a maximum of all measured values of (for IP-Layer Capacity) for all Trials in a sub-interval, dt_n , and for all sub intervals in the complete measurement interval $[t, t + \Delta t]$ where the search goal was met.
- Calculating an average of all measured values of (for IP-Layer Capacity) for all Trials in a sub-interval, dt_n , and for the complete measurement interval $[t, t + \Delta t]$ for all Trials, where a specified result exclusion criteria has been met (e.g., removal of outliers, as determined by specified criteria).

[R-17] The Test Controller MUST calculate the Maximum IP Capacity measurement result according to Equation 1.

[R-18] The Test Controller MUST report the Maximum IP Capacity and the IP packet loss ratio corresponding to the sub-interval dt_n in which the Maximum IP Capacity was measured according to Equation 1.

[R-19] The Test Controller MUST identify the sending rate search algorithm and parameters used when reporting Maximum IP Capacity measurement results.

[R-20] The Test Controller MAY include one or more secondary measurement results as listed above when reporting Maximum IP Capacity measurement results.

[R-21] The Test Controller MAY report the UDP Capacity corresponding to the Maximum IP-Layer Capacity in terms of UDP payload bits delivered.

When post-measurement analysis is performed, for example to analyze the consistency of test results, the process to summarize the results should include corresponding post-test analysis to ensure data quality and to detect and exclude data artifacts (where possible). The post-test analysis methods should be published with the analysis results.

Some conditions may temporarily prevent the generation of a valid Maximum IP Capacity result. Senders and Receivers should support mechanisms to detect such conditions where possible and to prevent the generation of invalid results. Specific conditions, and the mechanisms for detecting them, may be node-specific. For example, a network-located test platform may need to check for host resource availability before accepting a test command, while it may be more important for a residential gateway to check for user traffic on the broadband connection before conducting a test.

5.2.1 Sending Rate Search Algorithm

The “Type B” sending rate search algorithm specified below makes use of a table of sender bit rates listed in order of ascending rate from the minimum to the maximum rate supported by the test. Depending on the Sender implementation, each bit rate may correspond to a number of packets of specified sizes sent during a specified time interval (which may correspond to the timer granularity supported by the Sender).

An iteration of the Type B search algorithm is shown in the flowchart in Figure 4. In that flowchart, one step represents a single row increment or decrement in the sending rates table (see Annex A). The flowchart uses many variable names and in some cases, configurable thresholds that determine the flowchart decisions. There are three main paths through the flowchart based on the following conditions:

- Feedback indicates measured impairments are absent,
- Impairments are first measured and some congestion may be present but sending rate change is deferred,
- Measured impairments are confirmed by repeated measurement feedback.

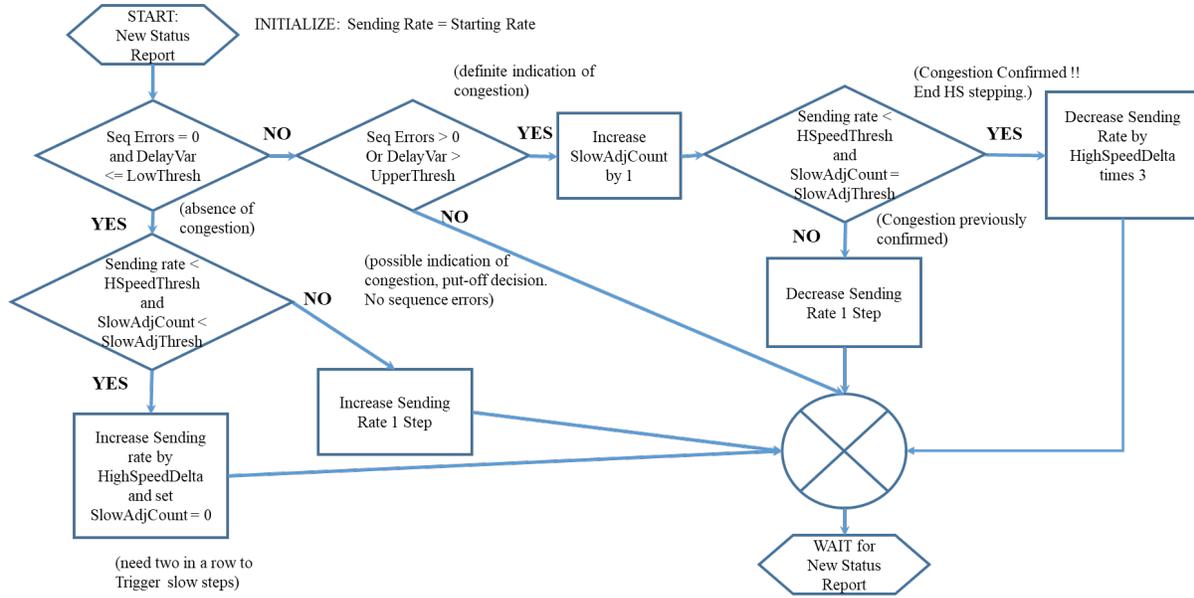


Figure 4: Flowchart for Offered Load adjustment as part of the “B” Search Algorithm

The variables and thresholds used in Figure 2 are explained in Table 3:

Table 3: Flowchart Variables, Descriptions, Ranges, and Default values

Name	Description	Unit	Range	Write	Default value
SendingRate	The current sending rate (equivalent to a row of the table), Initialized at minimum Sending Rate in the Table of Sending Rates	Kbps, where b=1 bit	unsignedInt; 500 ≤ # ≤ 10,000,000 (10 Gbps)	-	StartSendingRate
SeqErrors	Measured Count of any of Loss or Reordering impairments measured (events where received packet sequence number did not increase by one)	number	NA	-	0 (no sequence errors)
DelayVar	Measured Range of Round Trip Time, RTT (or 1-way Packet Delay Variation, above minimum delay when DelayVar 1-way measurements are reliable)	ms	NA	-	NA
LowThresh	Low threshold on the Range of Round	ms	unsignedInt; 5 ≤ ms ≤ 250	W	30ms default

	Trip Time variation, RTT (Range is values above minimum RTT)				
UpperThresh	High threshold on the Range of Round Trip Time variation, RTT (Range is values above minimum RTT)	ms	unsignedInt; $5 \leq ms \leq 250$	W	90ms default
HighSpeedDelta	The number of rows to move in a single adjustment when initially increasing offered load (to ramp-up quickly)	number of rows	unsignedInt; ≥ 2	W	10 table rows (10 Mbps currently)
SlowAdjCount	Measured Number of consecutive status reports indicating loss and/or delay variation above UpperThreshold.	Count of occurrences	NA	-	See SlowAdjThresh
SlowAdjThresh	Threshold on SlowAdjCount used to infer congestion. Use values >1 to avoid misinterpreting transient loss.	Count of occurrences	unsignedInt; >1	W	2
HSpeedThresh	Threshold for transition between low and high sending rate step sizes (such as 1 Mbps and 100 Mbps). MAY result in use of Jumbo Frames if permitted.	Gbps, where $b=1$ bit	unsignedInt; ≥ 1	W	1 Gbps

The writable parameters above will be used in any data model for configuring IP Capacity testing. Measured output will not be included in reports from the data models (instead they will be included as part of test protocols that support the status message communications).

6 Results

This section specifies details for the Results of measurements using the Maximum IP-Layer Capacity metric.

The primary output parameter is a Summary Statistic (Maximum of individual IP-layer Capacities), calculated at the conclusion of the test.

There are iterations of results that are reported on a per sub-interval basis, and the results associated with the Maximum Capacity measurement, all reported together at the end of the test.

Table 4: Data Model Definition for Results

Name	Description	Unit	Type	Write	Notes
BeginningOfMeasurement	t , the start of a measurement interval, in UTC, which MUST be specified to TimestampResolution precision (Table 2) For example: 2008-04-09T15:01:05.123456Z		dateTime	-	
EndOfMeasurement	$t + \Delta t$, the end of a measurement interval, in UTC, which MUST be specified to TimestampResolution precision (Table 2) For example: 2008-04-09T15:01:05.123456Z		dateTime	-	
Tmax	Configured value of Tmax used in the test	ms	unsignedInt; $50 \leq \text{ms} \leq 3000$	-	
TmaxRTT	Configured value of TmaxRTT used in the test	ms	unsignedInt; $50 \leq \text{ms} \leq 3000$	-	
MaximumIP-LayerCapacity	Results of measurements using the Maximum IP-Layer Capacity metric, see Equation 1	Mbps	decimal64 number with fraction digits = 3, as specified in [Section 9.3 of RFC7950].	-	
TimeOfMaximumIP-LayerCapacity	End Time of the dt_n to dt_{n+1} sub-interval when the Maximum IP-Layer Capacity was measured, in UTC, which MUST be specified to TimestampResolution precision (Table 2). In case of Max Capacity occurring in multiple , report the Time of the earliest sub-interval.		dateTime	-	Note: millisecond resolution would be sufficient!
IP-LayerCapacitySubInterval	Results of measurements using the IP-Layer Capacity	Mbps	decimal64 number with	-	

	metric for a single interval dt_n to dt_{n+1} , see Equation 1, where the Capacity is the number of bits received in the subinterval divided by the duration, dt.		fraction digits = 3, as specified in [Section 9.3 of RFC7950].		
TimeOfIP-LayerCapacitySubInterval	End Time of the dt_n to dt_{n+1} sub-interval when each of the m IP-Layer Capacity was measured, in UTC, which MUST be specified to TimestampResolution precision(Table 2)		dateTime	-	Note: millisecond resolution would be sufficient!
LossRatioAtMaxCapacity	Ratio of lost of total packets sent during dt_n corresponding to the Max IP-Layer Capacity above), determined at the conclusion of the test.		decimal64 with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC6020]) with resolution of 0.0000000001	-	
LossRatioSubInterval	Ratio of lost to total packets sent during dt_n to dt_{n+1} corresponding to each IP-LayerCapacitySubInterval above).		decimal64 with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC6020]) with resolution of 0.0000000001	-	
RTTRangeAtMaxCapacity	The Range of RTT during the dt_n corresponding to the Max IP-Layer Capacity above, determined at the conclusion of the test. The Range of RTT shall be calculated using the conditional distribution of all packets with a finite value of round-trip delay (undefined delays are excluded), a single value as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See section 4.1 of [RFC3393] for details on the conditional distribution to exclude undefined values of delay, and Section 5 of [RFC6703] for background on this analysis choice. • The time value of the result is expressed in units of seconds, as a positive value 	seconds	decimal64 with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC7950]) with resolution of 0.000000001 seconds (1.0 ns).	-	

<p>RTTRangeSubInterval</p>	<p>The Range of RTT during dt_n corresponding to packets sent during dt_n to dt_{n+1} corresponding to each IP-LayerCapacitySubInterval above). The Range of RTT shall be calculated using the conditional distribution of all packets with a finite value of round-trip delay (undefined delays are excluded), a single value as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See section 4.1 of [RFC3393] for details on the conditional distribution to exclude undefined values of delay, and Section 5 of [RFC6703] for background on this analysis choice. • The time value of the result is expressed in units of seconds, as a positive value 	<p>seconds</p>	<p>decimal64 with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC7950]) with resolution of 0.000000001 seconds (1.0 ns).</p>	<p>-</p>	
<p>PDVRangeAtMaxCapacity</p>	<p>The Range of PDV during the dt_n corresponding to the Max IP-Layer Capacity above, determined at the conclusion of the test. The Range of PDV shall be calculated using the conditional distribution of all packets with a finite value of one-way delay (undefined delays are excluded, as described for other delay measurements).</p>	<p>seconds</p>	<p>decimal64 with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC7950]) with resolution of 0.000000001 seconds (1.0 ns).</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Note: PDV is the metric defined in Y.1540 and RFC5481, not inter-packet delay variation. Y.1540 and RFC5481 prefer a calculation of a high (99.9) percentile, rather than Max, and the percentile should be reported where possible.</p>
<p>PDVRangeSubInterval</p>	<p>The Range of PDV during dt_n</p>	<p>seconds</p>	<p>decimal64</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Note: PDV</p>

	<p>corresponding to packets sent during dt_n to dt_{n+1} corresponding to each IP-LayerCapacitySubInterval above. The Range of PDV shall be calculated using the conditional distribution of all packets with a finite value of one-way delay (undefined delays are excluded, as described for other delay measurements).</p>		<p>with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC7950]) with resolution of 0.000000001 seconds (1.0 ns).</p>		<p>is the metric defined in Y.1540 and RFC5481, not inter-packet delay variation. Y.1540 and RFC5481 prefer a calculation of a high (99.9) percentile, rather than Max, and the percentile should be reported where possible.</p>
MinOnewayDelayAtMaxCapacity	<p>The Minimum One-way Delay during the dt_n corresponding to the Max IP-Layer Capacity above, The Minimum One-way Delay is determined at the conclusion of the test. The Minimum One-way Delay shall be calculated using the conditional distribution of all packets with a finite value of one-way delay (undefined delays are excluded, as described for other delay measurements).</p>	seconds	<p>decimal64 with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC7950]) with resolution of 0.000000001 seconds (1.0 ns).</p>	-	<p>Note: The Minimum One-way Delay is needed to calculate the Y.1540 and RFC5481 PDV, and should be reported separately.</p>
MinOnewayDelaySubInterval	<p>The Minimum One-way Delay during dt_n corresponding to packets sent during dt_n to dt_{n+1} corresponding to each IP-LayerCapacitySubInterval above. The Minimum One-way Delay is determined at the conclusion of the test. The Minimum One-way Delay shall be calculated using the conditional distribution of all packets with a finite value of one-way delay (undefined delays are excluded, as described for other delay measurements).</p>	seconds	<p>decimal64 with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC7950]) with resolution of 0.000000001 seconds (1.0 ns).</p>	-	<p>Note: The Minimum One-way Delay is needed to calculate the Y.1540 and RFC5481 PDV, and should be reported separately.</p>

ReorderedRatioAtMaxCapacity	Ratio of Reorderedof total packets sent during dt_n corresponding to the Max IP-Layer Capacity above), determined at the conclusion of the test.		decimal64 with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC6020]) with resolution of 0.0000000001		
ReorderedRatioSubInterval	Ratio of Reordered to total packets sent during dt_n to dt_{n+1} corresponding to each IP-LayerCapacitySubInterval above).		decimal64 with fraction digits = 9 (see section 9.3 of [RFC6020]) with resolution of 0.0000000001		

Annex A: Sending Rates Table

This Annex provides information on the Sending Rates Table.

A.1 Example Table of Sending Rates and Related Information

When describing the system that conforms to this specification, the text in section 5.2.1 describes a table of sending rates. This is a pre-defined table of transmit rates, which are the number of packets sent during each time interval (corresponding to bits per second and a specified protocol layer) and packet sizes. The table has ascending values for offered load rates, between the minimum and maximum supported sending rates, inclusive. The rows in the table have an index number for simple reference to the flow-chart calculations of the number of rows to move in steps.

The example Table A.1 below begins with the configured Initial Rate, and contains a representation of one table that has been used (with reduced detail). Note that this table results from computation of simple bit rates (in Mbps at Layer 3 or IP Layer) from packet counts, as this was considered efficient.

Table A.1: Example Table of Sending Rates

Index No.	Other Components, such as sending interval, payload size(s), spacing parameters, back-to-back (burst) packet counts, etc.	Mbps (L3/IP)
0		0.50
1		1.00
2		2.00
3		3.00
4		4.00
...		...
997		997.00
998		998.00
999		999.00
1000		1000.00
...		...