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*Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'ip-rule.8' command*

\$ *man ip-rule.8*

IP-RULE(8) Linux IP-RULE(8)

NAME

## ip-rule - routing policy database management

## SYNOPSIS

```
ip [ OPTIONS ] rule { COMMAND | help }
```

```
ip rule [ list [ SELECTOR ] ]
```

ip rule { add | del } SELECTOR ACTION

```
ip rule { flush | save | restore }
```

SELECTOR := [ not ] [ from PREFIX ] [ to PREFIX ] [ tos TOS ] [ fwmark ]

```
FWMARK[/MASK] ] [ iif STRING ] [ ofif STRING ] [ pref NUMBER ] [  
l3mdev ] [ uidrange NUMBER-NUMBER ] [ ipproto PROTOCOL ] [  
sport [ NUMBER | NUMBER-NUMBER ] ] [ dport [ NUMBER | NUM-  
NUMBER ] ] [ tun_id TUN_ID ]
```

ACTION := [ table TABLE\_ID ] [ protocol PROTO ] [ nat ADDRESS ] [

realms [SRCREALM|DS|REALM ] [ goto NUMBER ] SUPPRESSOR

SUPPRESSOR := [ suppress\_prefixlength NUMBER ] [ suppress\_ifgroup GROUP ]

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TABLE\_ID := [ local | main | default | NUMBER ]

## DESCRIPTION

ip rule manipulates rules in the routing policy database control the route selection algorithm.

Classic routing algorithms used in the Internet make routing decisions based only on the destination address of packets (and in theory, but

not in practice, on the TOS field).

In some circumstances we want to route packets differently depending not only on destination addresses, but also on other packet fields: source address, IP protocol, transport protocol ports or even packet payload. This task is called 'policy routing'.

To solve this task, the conventional destination based routing table, ordered according to the longest match rule, is replaced with a 'routing policy database' (or RPDB), which selects routes by executing some set of rules.

Each policy routing rule consists of a selector and an action predicate. The RPDB is scanned in order of decreasing priority (note that lower number means higher priority, see the description of PREFERENCE below). The selector of each rule is applied to {source address, destination address, incoming interface, tos, fwmark} and, if the selector matches the packet, the action is performed. The action predicate may return with success. In this case, it will either give a route or failure indication and the RPDB lookup is terminated. Otherwise, the RPDB program continues with the next rule.

Semantically, the natural action is to select the nexthop and the output device.

At startup time the kernel configures the default RPDB consisting of three rules:

1. Priority: 0, Selector: match anything, Action: lookup routing table local (ID 255). The local table is a special routing table containing high priority control routes for local and broadcast addresses.
2. Priority: 32766, Selector: match anything, Action: lookup routing table main (ID 254). The main table is the normal routing table containing all non-policy routes. This rule may be deleted and/or overridden with other ones by the administrator.
3. Priority: 32767, Selector: match anything, Action: lookup routing table default (ID 253). The default table is empty. It is reserved for some post-processing if no previous default rules

selected the packet. This rule may also be deleted.

Each RPDB entry has additional attributes. F.e. each rule has a pointer to some routing table. NAT and masquerading rules have an attribute to select new IP address to translate/masquerade. Besides that, rules have some optional attributes, which routes have, namely realms. These values do not override those contained in the routing tables. They are only used if the route did not select any attributes.

The RPDB may contain rules of the following types:

unicast - the rule prescribes to return the route found in the routing table referenced by the rule.

blackhole - the rule prescribes to silently drop the packet.

unreachable - the rule prescribes to generate a 'Network is unreachable' error.

prohibit - the rule prescribes to generate 'Communication is administratively prohibited' error.

nat - the rule prescribes to translate the source address of the IP packet into some other value.

ip rule add - insert a new rule

ip rule delete - delete a rule

type TYPE (default)

the type of this rule. The list of valid types was given in the previous subsection.

from PREFIX

select the source prefix to match.

to PREFIX

select the destination prefix to match.

iif NAME

select the incoming device to match. If the interface is loopback, the rule only matches packets originating from this host. This means that you may create separate routing tables for forwarded and local packets and, hence, completely segregate them.

oif NAME

select the outgoing device to match. The outgoing interface is only available for packets originating from local sockets that are bound to a device.

**tos TOS**

**dsfield TOS**

select the TOS value to match.

**fwmark MARK**

select the fwmark value to match.

**uidrange NUMBER-NUMBER**

select the uid value to match.

**ipproto PROTOCOL**

select the ip protocol value to match.

**sport NUMBER | NUMBER-NUMBER**

select the source port value to match. supports port range.

**dport NUMBER | NUMBER-NUMBER**

select the destination port value to match. supports port range.

**priority PREFERENCE**

the priority of this rule. PREFERENCE is an unsigned integer value, higher number means lower priority, and rules get processed in order of increasing number. Each rule should have an explicitly set unique priority value.

The options preference and order are synonyms with priority.

**table TABLEID**

the routing table identifier to lookup if the rule selector matches. It is also possible to use lookup instead of table.

**protocol PROTO**

the routing protocol who installed the rule in question.

As an example when zebra installs a rule it would get RT?

PROT\_ZEBRA as the installing protocol.

suppress\_prefixlength NUMBER

reject routing decisions that have a prefix length of  
NUMBER or less.

suppress\_ifgroup GROUP

reject routing decisions that use a device belonging to  
the interface group GROUP.

realms FROM/TO

Realms to select if the rule matched and the routing table  
lookup succeeded. Realm TO is only used if the route  
did not select any realm.

nat ADDRESS

The base of the IP address block to translate (for source  
addresses). The ADDRESS may be either the start of the  
block of NAT addresses (selected by NAT routes) or a local  
host address (or even zero). In the last case the  
router does not translate the packets, but masquerades  
them to this address. Using map-to instead of nat means  
the same thing.

Warning: Changes to the RPDB made with these commands do  
not become active immediately. It is assumed that after a  
script finishes a batch of updates, it flushes the routing  
cache with ip route flush cache.

ip rule flush - also dumps all the deleted rules.

protocol PROTO

Select the originating protocol.

ip rule show - list rules

This command has no arguments. The options list or lst are synonymous with show.

ip rule save

protocol PROTO

Select the originating protocol.

save rules table information to stdout

This command behaves like ip rule show except that the output is

raw data suitable for passing to ip rule restore.

**ip rule restore**

restore rules table information from stdin

This command expects to read a data stream as returned from ip

rule save. It will attempt to restore the rules table informa?

tion exactly as it was at the time of the save. Any rules al?

ready in the table are left unchanged, and duplicates are not

ignored.

**SEE ALSO**

ip(8)

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iproute2

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