



DC – AI – Routing – Switching – Security – Wireless – Automation

MX301 A Powerful Filtering Gateway

An HPE Juniper Networking Techpost

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HPE



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1 MX301 A Powerful Filtering Gateway

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Figure 1: MX301 A Powerful Filtering Gateway

Let's use the Juniper filtering tools in a more comprehensive and realistic use case in which MX301 will serve as a filtering routing gateway to protect peering points, critical cloud platforms, or any network infrastructure that requires large-scale security.

1.1 Introduction

This is the second article on the MX301 platform's filtering topic. [The first article \[1\]](#).

1.2 MX301 as a Filtering Gateway

In this second article, we will reuse the FlowSpec FLT Acceleration feature alongside other Juniper filtering tools in a more comprehensive and realistic use case in which MX301 will serve as a filtering routing gateway to protect peering points, critical cloud platforms, or any network infrastructure that requires large-scale security.

1.2.1 Network Topology

We use the following typical architecture, illustrated in Figure 2. In this architecture, certain devices sit at the boundary between two zones: a Trust Zone, which hosts critical customer resources, and an Untrust Zone, which is unmanaged from the customer's point of view. These devices should serve as the means of securely interconnecting these two worlds. In the lab, we simulated this role by adding this feature set on MX301:

- 800Gbps allocated for the trust and the untrust zones
- 2 times the BGP IPv4 and IPv6 Full view (we used official tables from [3])
- Rib-Sharding enabled
- IPv4 and IPv6 PIC Edge (Protect core)
- 2K ISIS nodes / ~10K ISIS routes (for the Trust Zone)
- Ingress IPFIX enabled with a 1:4000 sampling rate on all interfaces
- gRPC gNMI Streaming telemetry enabled (using OpenJTS [4] as collector)

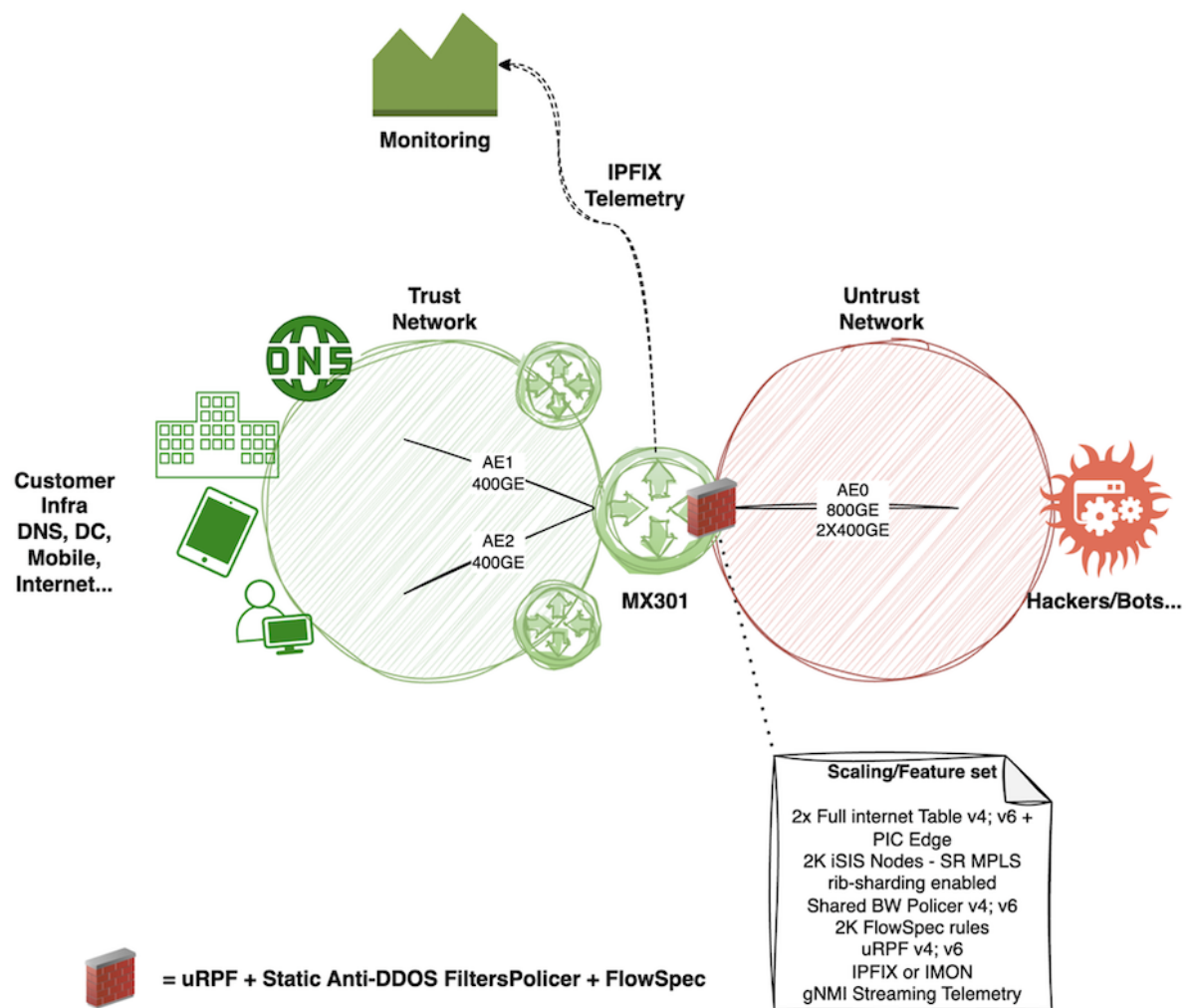


Figure 2: Typical network architecture with a network filtering gateway.

Let's first review the current state and scaling figures on our MX301. We can start with the routing table summary, as shown, there are approximately 9K IS-IS routes, both the IPv4 and IPv6 BGP "official" Internet tables in the RIB, and 2K BGP FlowSpec entries.

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show isis database brief level 2 |match LSPs
2 2022 LSPs
3
4 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show route summary
5 Autonomous system number: 65000
6 Router ID: 10.255.152.59
7
8 Highwater Mark (All time / Time averaged watermark)
9 RIB unique destination routes: 1521714 at 2025-12-15 05:36:54 / 0
10 RIB routes : 2808095 at 2025-12-15 04:13:58 / 0
11 FIB routes : 1291504 at 2025-12-15 05:40:12 / 0
12 VRF type routing instances : 0 at 2025-12-15 01:45:02
13
14 inet.0: 1050840 destinations, 2092629 routes (1050839 active, 0 holddown, 1 hidden)
15   Direct: 9 routes, 8 active
16   Local: 4 routes, 4 active
17   BGP: 2083576 routes, 1041788 active
18   Static: 20 routes, 20 active
19   IS-IS: 9019 routes, 9018 active
20   LDP: 1 routes, 1 active
21
22 inet.3: 2025 destinations, 2025 routes (2025 active, 0 holddown, 0 hidden)
23   LDP: 2025 routes, 2025 active
24
25 __raass__inet.inet.0: 2 destinations, 2 routes (2 active, 0 holddown, 0 hidden)
26   Raas: 2 routes, 2 active
27

```

```

28 iso.0: 2 destinations, 2 routes (2 active, 0 holddown, 0 hidden)
29     Direct: 2 routes, 2 active
30
31 mpls.0: 2056 destinations, 2056 routes (2056 active, 0 holddown, 0 hidden)
32     MPLS: 6 routes, 6 active
33     LDP: 2050 routes, 2050 active
34
35 inet6.0: 238630 destinations, 477250 routes (238630 active, 0 holddown, 0 hidden)
36     Direct: 4 routes, 4 active
37     Local: 5 routes, 5 active
38     BGP: 477240 routes, 238620 active
39     INET6: 1 routes, 1 active
40
41 inet6.3: 2025 destinations, 2025 routes (2025 active, 0 holddown, 0 hidden)
42     LDP: 2025 routes, 2025 active
43
44 __raass__inet6.inet6.0: 2 destinations, 2 routes (2 active, 0 holddown, 0 hidden)
45     RaaS: 2 routes, 2 active
46
47 inetflow.0: 2003 destinations, 2003 routes (2003 active, 0 holddown, 0 hidden)
48     Flow: 2003 routes, 2003 active

```

The second command shows us the 2K ISIS nodes:

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show isis database level 2 | match LSP
2 LSP ID Sequence Checksum Lifetime Attributes
3 2022 LSPs

```

As configured below, the PIC-Edge feature installs both the nominal and backup paths in the FIB.

```

1 set routing-options rib inet6.0 protect core
2 set routing-options protect core

```

In practice, we only consume a single “unlist next-hop” ,À not twice the full views. Thanks to the Trio’s NextHop hierarchy, this “unilist next-hop” handles the nominal/backup forwarding next-hop indirection and consumes only a few more ASIC memory. Let’s verify this using a well-known Internet route:

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show route forwarding-table destination 8.8.8.0/24 extensive
2 Routing table: default.inet [Index 0]
3 Internet:
4
5 Destination: 8.8.8.0/24
6 Route type: user
7 Route reference: 0 Route interface-index: 0
8 Multicast RPF nh index: 0
9 P2mpidx: 0
10 Flags: sent to PFE, rt nh decoupled
11 Next-hop type: unilist Index: 1048579 Reference: 1041789
12 Next-hop type: indirect Index: 1048577 Reference: 2
13                               Weight: 0x1 << NOMINAL BGP
14 Nexthop: 192.168.1.6
15 Next-hop type: Push 51450 Index: 876 Reference: 2
16 Label: None
17 Next-hop interface: ae0.0 Weight: 0x1
18 Next-hop type: indirect Index: 1048578 Reference: 2
19                               Weight: 0x4000 << BACKUP BGP
20 Nexthop: 192.168.1.6
21 Next-hop type: Push 51451 Index: 877 Reference: 2
22 Label: None
23 Next-hop interface: ae1.0 Weight: 0x4000

```

As mentioned, we also rely on IPFIX for exporting flow statistics to an external appliance. IPFIX is configured as follows ,À we only show the IPv4 config, but the config would be the same for IPv6 and MPLS family.

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration forwarding-options
2 sampling {
3     instance {
4         flow-ipfix {
5             input {
6                 rate 4000;
7                 max-packets-per-second 65535;
8             }
9             family inet {
10                 output {

```

```

11         flow-server 10.1.1.1 {
12             port 9999;
13             autonomous-system-type peer;
14             no-local-dump;
15             source-address 172.16.255.1;
16             version-ipfix {
17                 template {
18                     template1;
19                 }
20             }
21         }
22         inline-jflow {
23             source-address 172.16.255.1;
24         }
25     }
26 }
27 [...]
28
29 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration services
30 flow-monitoring {
31     version-ipfix {
32         template template1 {
33             flow-active-timeout 10;
34             flow-inactive-timeout 10;
35             nexthop-learning {
36                 enable;
37             }
38             template-refresh-rate {
39                 packets 100;
40                 seconds 10;
41             }
42             option-refresh-rate {
43                 packets 1000;
44                 seconds 10;
45             }
46             ipv4-template;
47         }
48     }
49 }

```

With this configuration and scaling, RPD consumes about 5% of the RE memory. The heap memory of the “pseudo-FPC” reaches 41%, while the NextHop ASIC memory partition still has 73% free space:

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show task memory
2 Memory Size (kB) Percentage When
3   Currently In Use: 4455064 5% now
4   Maximum Ever Used: 4736364 5% 25/12/15 05:15:02
5   Available: 83809688 100% now
6
7 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show chassis fpc
8           Temp CPU Utilization (%) CPU Utilization (%) Memory Utilization (%)
9 Slot State (C) Total Interrupt 1min 5min 15min DRAM (MB) Heap Buffer
10  0 Online 43 3 0 2 2 5 32768 41 0
11
12 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show system resource-monitor fpc slot 0
13 FPC Resource Usage Summary
14
15 Free Heap Mem Watermark : 20 %
16 Free NH Mem Watermark : 20 %
17 Free Filter Mem Watermark : 20 %
18
19 * - Watermark reached
20
21 Slot # % Heap Free RTT Average RTT
22  0 58
23
24           PFE # % ENCAP mem Free % NH mem Free % FW mem Free
25  0 73 99
26  1 73 99

```

1.3 How to Secure the Network?

In the previous section, we detailed our baseline. To build this “secure” gateway use case, we will use four main Junos features.

Note: Of course, there are other ways to secure a network architecture. BGP RTBH is one of the most popular, efficient, and simplest solutions to deploy destination blackholing at scale. However, in this article, we focus on a smarter approach that combines multiple Trio capabilities to mitigate various attack types against a destination while keeping it reachable.

- **Unicast RPF (uRPF):** for every packet entering the MX301 from an untrust interface, we will check the source IP address against the RIB (source lookup). uRPF provides only a basic, first-level source validation, which, by itself, is no longer sufficient from a security standpoint. But since Trio can easily support source lookup along with destination, without any performance degradation, why not add this feature to secure our infrastructure a bit more? We have the following three choices, and in our example, we will select the third one, which offers a good compromise.

uRPF Strict Mode: BCP38 at the customer's SP edge. Each incoming packet is validated against the FIB. If the ingress interface does not match the best reverse path, the packet is dropped.

uRPF Loose Mode: sRTBH anywhere in the network. The router verifies only the presence of a route in the FIB. If no route exists, the packet is dropped; if a route is present, the packet is accepted. This mode is well-suited for sRTBH and for mitigating specific spoofed traffic at peering edges.

uRPF Feasible Path Mode: sRTBH anywhere in the network and BCP38 for multihomed or asymmetric environments. In feasible-path mode, the FIB retains multiple valid routes to a destination IP address. A packet is forwarded if its ingress interface matches any of these feasible paths; otherwise, it is dropped.

- A set of static firewall filter terms and policers designed to mitigate well-known DDoS attack patterns. In practice, DDoS attacks are most often a combination of amplification attacks and dynamic attacks. Amplification attacks exploit vulnerabilities in well-known network services to generate large volumes of DDoS traffic, typically consisting of large UDP packets and fragmented payloads. Common amplification vectors include DNS and NTP service vulnerabilities but not only. The signature of these kinds of attacks is well-known. Why policing and not dropping those attacks instead? The challenge with the Amplification Attacks is that they use standard protocols that are very useful, like DNS. Dropping all the DNS traffic will bring you a lot of trouble, as you may imagine. So, the idea with these static filters is to dramatically limit the load from these attacks and leave enough bandwidth in the nominal state for forwarding legitimate traffic associated with those network services.
- BGP FlowSpec, together with its new FLT acceleration, is the third security mechanism used to precisely blackhole dynamic attack signatures, which are most often observed alongside amplification attacks (but not always). This approach provides a much more granular, targeted mitigation, allowing us to eliminate the remaining traffic from a complex attack. In this article, we use IPFIX as the flow observability protocol. IPFIX is enabled on all ingress interfaces and exports flow records to an external appliance, which quickly identifies dynamic attack signatures and generates corresponding BGP FlowSpec updates toward our security gateway. The details of this scrubbing solution are beyond the scope of this article.
- Finally, we will leverage the Juniper Streaming Telemetry stack to monitor in real time all “data-plane” counters associated with the three previously described features. This allows monitoring and NOC teams to observe the benefits of each solution under different attack types in real time.

1.4 Putting our MX301 Under Attack

For now, let's assume that our MX301 has no security features enabled, except for BGP FlowSpec and the FLT acceleration described in our previous article [1]. We also assume that 2K FlowSpec routes, of varying complexity, are already installed. Their complexity is not a concern here, as we rely on FLT acceleration.

```
1 set routing-options rib inet6.0 flow fast-lookup-filter
2 set routing-options flow fast-lookup-filter
```

But, why this baseline of pre-installed FlowSpec rules? First, to stress a bit more the MX301, but we could also imagine this “customer” uses BGP FlowSpec not only to mitigate Dynamic DDoS attacks but also to blackhole some well-known illegal destinations/contents permanently.

Let's focus our eyes on these interfaces:

- Untrust interface: ae0 made of 2x400GE ports (one port per PFE)
- Trust interface: ae2 made of 1 single 400GE port.

As mentioned earlier, we have nothing fancy configured by default on these interfaces, just IPFIX to provide flow statistics to an external scrubbing center.

```
1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration interfaces ae0
2 description TO_INTERNET;
3 unit 0 {
4     family inet {
5         filter {
6             group 1;
7         }
8         sampling {
9             input;
10        }
11        address 172.16.254.1/31;
12    }
13    family inet6 {
14        filter {
15            group 1;
16        }
17        sampling {
18            input;
19        }
20        address 2001:cafe:254::1/127;
21    }
22 }
23
24 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration interfaces ae2
25 description TO_POP_2;
26 mtu 9200;
27 unit 0 {
28     family inet {
29         sampling {
30             input;
31         }
32         address 192.85.1.1/24;
33     }
34     family inet6 {
35         sampling {
36             input;
37         }
38         address 2001::1/64;
39     }
40     family mpls;
41 }
```

However, you may notice that we also configured “filter group 1” on both families of ae0. Why is that? Recall that FlowSpec is enabled by default on all interfaces. Here, we want to apply FS only on untrust interfaces. To achieve this, we assigned the arbitrary group ID “1” to those interfaces and explicitly bound FlowSpec to this group:

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration routing-options flow
2 interface-group 1;
3 fast-lookup-filter;
4
5 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration routing-options rib inet6.0 flow
6 interface-group 1;
7 fast-lookup-filter;

```

Based on this initial configuration, let's assume these legitimate flows constitute the traffic baseline. All flows are IPv4, but everything we will describe later in this article is fully applicable to IPv6.

Table 1: Legitimate baseline traffic.

Flow	Direction	Throughput bps or rate pps	Traffic pattern	Description
Customer traffic downstream	AE0 to AE2	240Gbps / 30Mpps	IMIX	Typical Internet traffic
Customer trafficupstream	AE2 to AE0	100Gbps / 12Mpps	IMIX	Typical Internet traffic
Legitimate DNS traffic (to recursive DNS)	AE0 to AE0	200Mbps / 90Kpps	~256 Bytes	Simulate "Internet DNS" responses toward the Customer Recursive DNS

Why do we simulate legitimate DNS server traffic? The goal is to illustrate further the complexity of handling DNS amplification attacks. As is well known, the DNS infrastructure is highly distributed. In our example, we assume a fictitious customer operating both recursive and authoritative DNS servers. To briefly simplify the DNS workflow: the customer's recursive DNS server processes end-user DNS queries. It first checks its local cache and, if no entry is found, it recursively queries the DNS hierarchy (root servers, then authoritative DNS servers). These external DNS servers respond to the customer's recursive DNS queries, typically using source port 53. The customer's authoritative DNS server is responsible for serving records for the customer's own domain names. Let's consider our customer has 2 Recursive DNS VIP:

- 10.0.0.1/32
- 10.0.0.2/32

Also, remind you, we monitor via streaming telemetry the interface throughput that confirms everything is well forwarded:

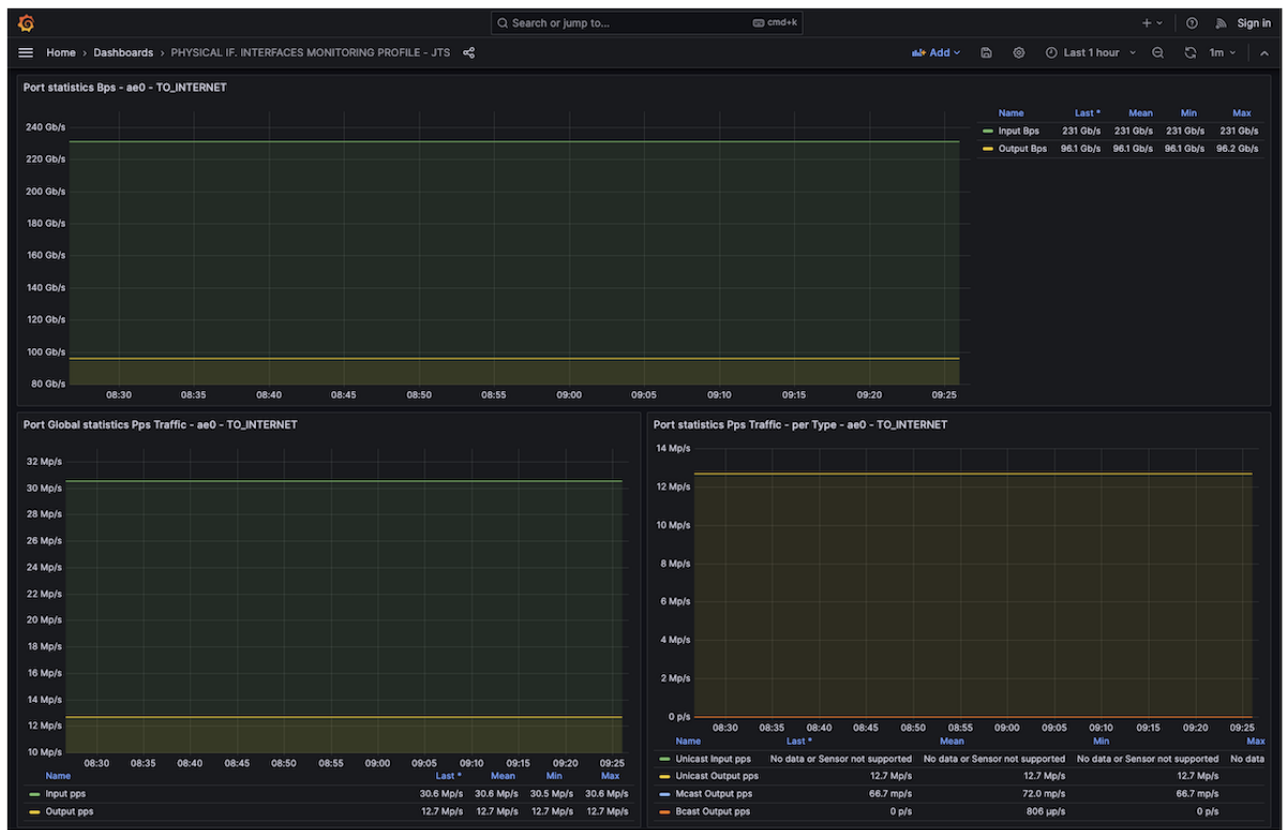


Figure 3: Physical Interface traffic monitoring via Telemetry

And our tester also monitors transmitted and received traffic ,À as seen below, everything is forwarded well:

Table 2: Baseline traffic statistics collected by the tester

Type of traffic	Direction	Tx L1 Rate (bps)	Rx L1 Rate (bps)	Tx Rate (fps)	Rx Rate (fps)
Legitimate Downstream customer traffic	AE0 to AE2	240,022,896,663	240,022,904,892	30,460,810	30,460,792
Legitimate DNS Traffic	AE0 to AE2	197,913,101	197,913,023	89,635	89,634
Legitimate Upstream customer traffic	AE2 to AE0	99,999,999,667	100,000,010,902	12,690,791	12,690,692

Now, the idea is to simulate a complex DDoS attack by combining private IP address spoofing, DNS amplifica- tion, and dynamic TCP attacks.

Important note of the simulated attack: All these parallel flows will target a single IPv4 destination host located inside the customer’s network. In this example, this host represents our critical resource under attack. Let’s assume the IP address is 192.168.1.1/32 (in real life, this would be a public IP).

Here is the profile of the DDoS attack received on the ae0 interface:

Table 3: Flow attacks definition

Flow	Throughput bps or rate pps	Traffic pattern
IP spoofing target	7.3Gbps / 3Mpps	Size 256 Bytes - Random IP Source (IP Spoofed from customer's IP ranges)
DNS Amplification	158Gbps / 13.3Mpps	Size 1500Bytes - UDP port source 53
DNS Amplification	158Gbps / 13.3Mpps	Size 1500Bytes (except the last frag) - UDP fragments (trailing packets of the DNS attack)
Dynamic TCP Attack	72Gbps / 46Mpps	Random Size 128-256 Bytes, Random TCP random IP Source, Random Source Ports, 4 Destination Ports: 1024, 1025, 1026, 5000

Let's start our attacks. As you can see below, the physical port et-0/0/0, a member link of the ae2 trust interface, is totally overloaded and experiences massive RED drops. This is expected, since ae0 receives more than 600 Gbps, while ae2 (the interface on which 192.168.1.1/32 is reachable) has a maximum capacity of 400 Gbps.

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show interfaces queue et-0/0/0
2 Physical interface: et-0/0/0, Enabled, Physical link is Up
3   Interface index: 158, SNMP ifIndex: 534
4   Description: TO_POP_2
5 Forwarding classes: 16 supported, 6 in use
6 Egress queues: 8 supported, 6 in use
7 Queue: 0, Forwarding classes: BEST-EFFORT
8   Queued:
9     Packets : 134671505681 132068620 pps
10    Bytes : 75562459379016 627097108480 bps
11 Transmitted:
12   Packets : 109413590220 81493768 pps
13   Bytes : 60570127525651 386967339008 bps
14 Tail-dropped packets : 0 0 pps
15 RL-dropped packets : 0 0 pps
16 RL-dropped bytes : 0 0 bps
17 RED-dropped packets : 25257915461 50574852 pps
18   Low : 25257915461 50574852 pps
19   Medium-low : 0 0 pps
20   Medium-high : 0 0 pps
21   High : 0 0 pps
22 RED-dropped bytes : 14992331853365 240129769472 bps
23   Low : 14992331853365 240129769472 bps
24   Medium-low : 0 0 bps
25   Medium-high : 0 0 bps
26   High : 0 0 bps
27 Queue-depth bytes :
28   Average : 1233108992
29   Current : 1233550187
30   Peak : 1234426636
31   Maximum : 1258291200
32
33 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show interfaces ae0 | match rate
34   Input rate : 606975448960 bps (132067379 pps)
35   Output rate : 96143530352 bps (12691126 pps)
36

```

```

37 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show interfaces ae2 | match rate
38   Input rate : 96142644648 bps (12690704 pps)
39   Output rate : 374550573856 bps (81503216 pps)

```

Thanks to the rich Junos data-plane telemetry sensors, we can confirm and monitor these drops. As shown below, we observe the “peak of traffic” on ae2, Queue 0 being full, and the RED engine working heavily by dropping a large amount of “Internet traffic.”

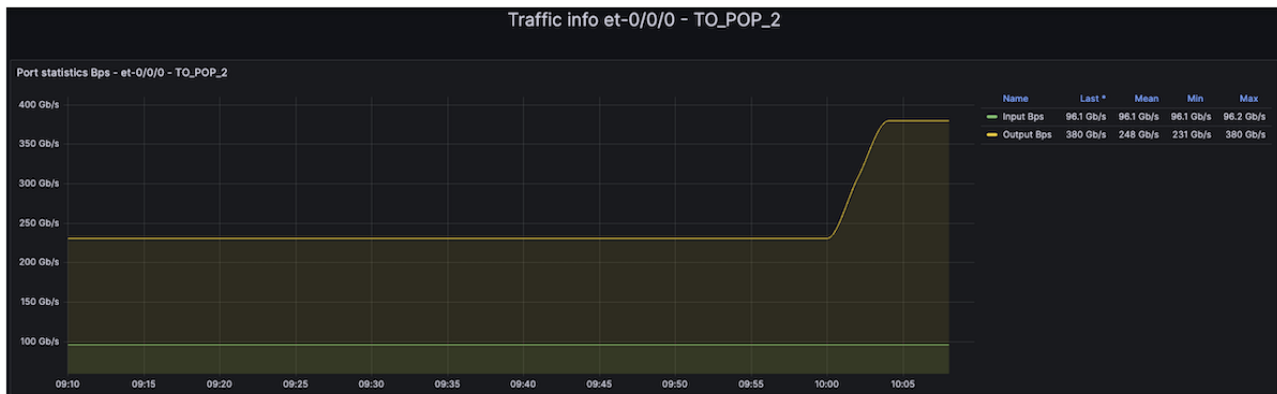


Figure 4: Egress Port congestion



Figure 5: Queue Depth real-time monitoring



Figure 6: Per-Queue and port RED/TAIL drops monitoring

Now, if we look at the tester’s statistics, we can confirm that this DDoS attack has a significant impact on our downstream legitimate traffic, including DNS traffic.

Table 4: Traffic impact measured by the Tester

Type of traffic	Direction	Tx L1 Rate (bps)	Rx L1 Rate (bps)	Tx Rate (fps)	Rx Rate (fps)
Legitimate Downstream customer traffic	AE0 to AE2	239,904,620,780	148,244,312,502	30,445,733	18,800,049
Legitimate DNS Traffic	AE0 to AE2	197,912,101	72,002,114	89,632	32,610
Legitimate Upstream customer traffic	AE2 to AE0	100,000,001,318	99,999,988,451	12,690,787	12,690,945

1.5 Secure the Customer’s Infra

Now, it’s time to secure our trust infrastructure. First, we will enable uRPF strict mode with the **feasible-paths** option. As mentioned earlier, nowadays, uRPF does not help much, but why deprive ourselves of this feature if Trio enables it without compromise? It could help our customer to mitigate some IP spoofing attacks. Let’s start by enabling the “feasible-paths” uRPF option globally:

```
1 set routing-options forwarding-table unicast-reverse-path feasible-paths
```

Then, we create a dedicated firewall filter that applies the “discard” “log,” and “count” actions for spoofed IP traffic.

```
1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration firewall family inet filter uRPFv4
2 term 1 {
3   then {
4     count urpfv4;
5     log;
6     discard;
7   }
8 }
9
10 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration firewall family inet6 filter uRPFv6
11 term 1 {
```

```
12     then {
13         count urpfv6;
14         log;
15         discard;
16     }
17 }
```

Finally, enable IPv4 and IPv6 uRPF feature on Untrust interfaces (i.e. ae0):

```
1  lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration interfaces ae0
2  description TO_INTERNET;
3  unit 0 {
4      family inet {
5          rpf-check {
6              fail-filter uRPFv4;
7          }
8          filter {
9              group 1;
10         }
11         sampling {
12             input;
13         }
14         address 172.16.254.1/31;
15     }
16     family inet6 {
17         rpf-check {
18             fail-filter uRPFv6;
19         }
20         filter {
21             group 1;
22         }
23         sampling {
24             input;
25         }
26         address 2001:cafe:254::1/127;
27     }
28 }
```

As shown, our legitimate traffic remains affected. The telemetry dashboard confirms that Queue 0 on the ae2 interface is still full.

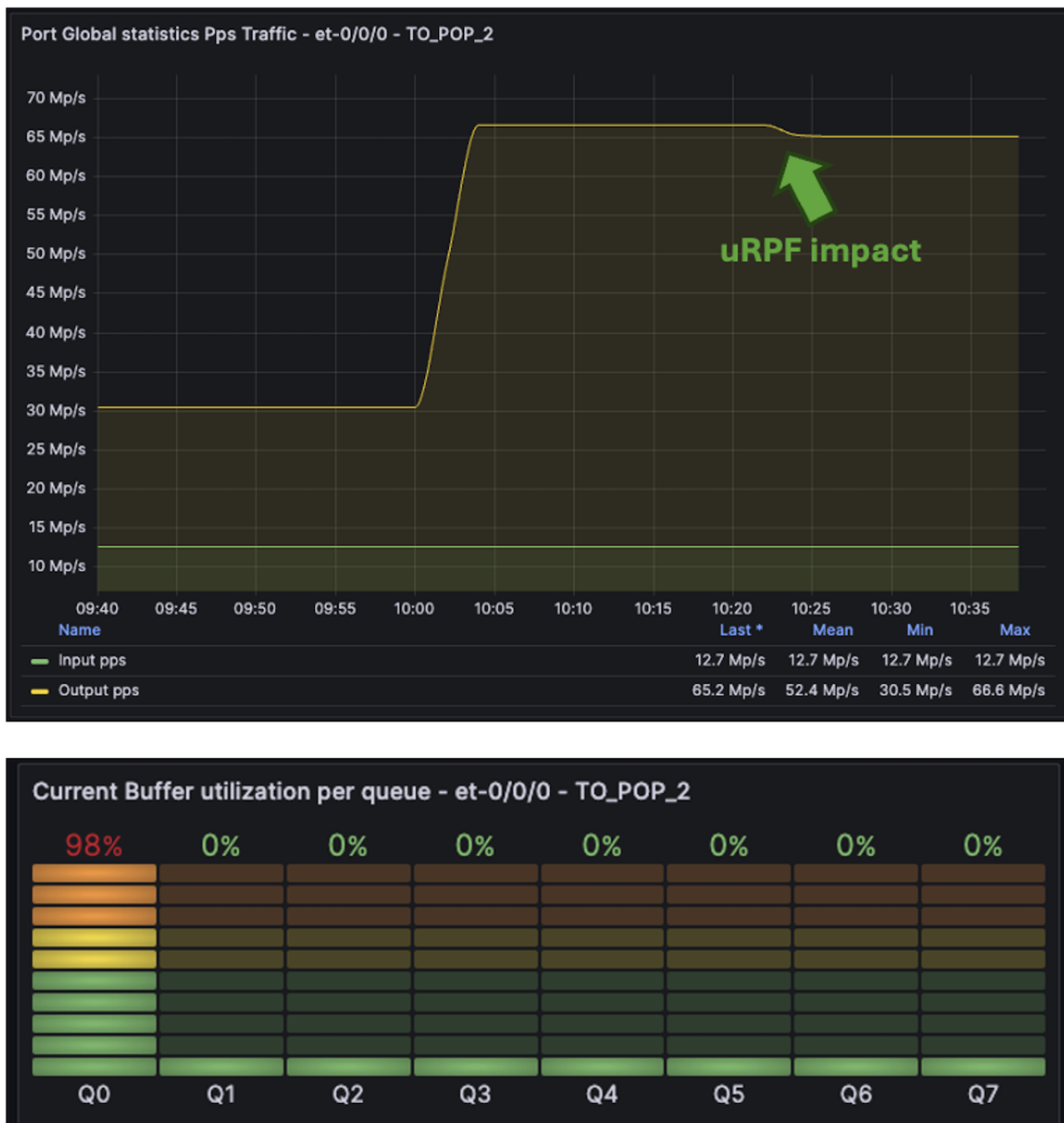


Figure 7: uRPF impact

Nevertheless, if we switch to the Firewall Dashboard (using the Junos firewall filter sensor, which exposes all firewall counters and policer information), we can see that the uRPF filter is discarding ~3 Mpps of spoofed attack traffic. But this is not enough, as expected.

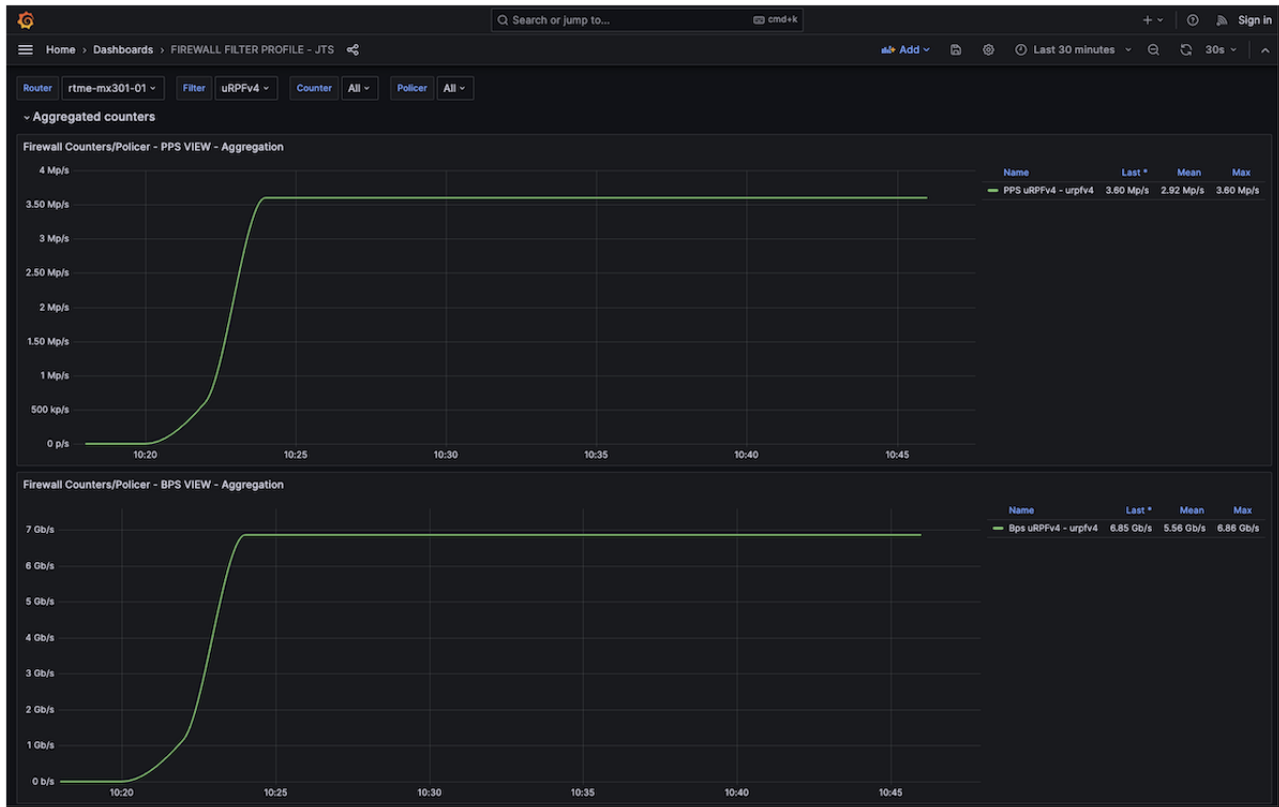


Figure 8: Real-time firewall filter monitoring

As we discussed earlier, most of today’s attacks are a mix of well-known amplification attacks with well-known signatures and dynamic attacks with unpredictable signatures. How can we mitigate well-known amplification attacks? Based on my previous experience within a Service Provider NOC team, I share below a typical (non-exhaustive) list of well-known amplification attacks and their corresponding signatures. Moreover, several public articles also mention some of those attacks, for example [5] or [6]:

Table 5: Some well-known DDOS Amplification Attacks

Attack Type	Network Signature
DNS	UDP traffic sourced from port 53 (DNS amplification)
UDP-FRAGMENT	UDP packets that are IP fragments (protocol udp with is-fragment)
NTP	UDP traffic sourced from port 123 (NTP amplification/reflection)
UPNP	UDP traffic sourced from port 1900 (UPnP SSDP amplification)
CHARGEN	UDP traffic sourced from port 19 (CHARGEN amplification)
SNMP	UDP traffic sourced from port 161 (SNMP amplification)

Attack Type	Network Signature
ONCRPC	UDP traffic sourced from port 111 (ONC RPC / Portmapper amplification)
LDAP	UDP traffic sourced from port 389 (LDAP amplification)
MEMCACHED	UDP traffic sourced from port 11211 (Memcached amplification)
UDP-80	UDP traffic destined to port 80, excluding source port 53 (non-DNS UDP floods toward HTTP services)

The DNS attack is among the most challenging. As mentioned earlier, we cannot “blindly” police DNS traffic, especially when customers host their own DNS services. During DNS attacks, we will rely on the pseudo-algorithm below to preserve as much bandwidth as possible for legitimate DNS services while policing traffic likely part of a DNS amplification attack.

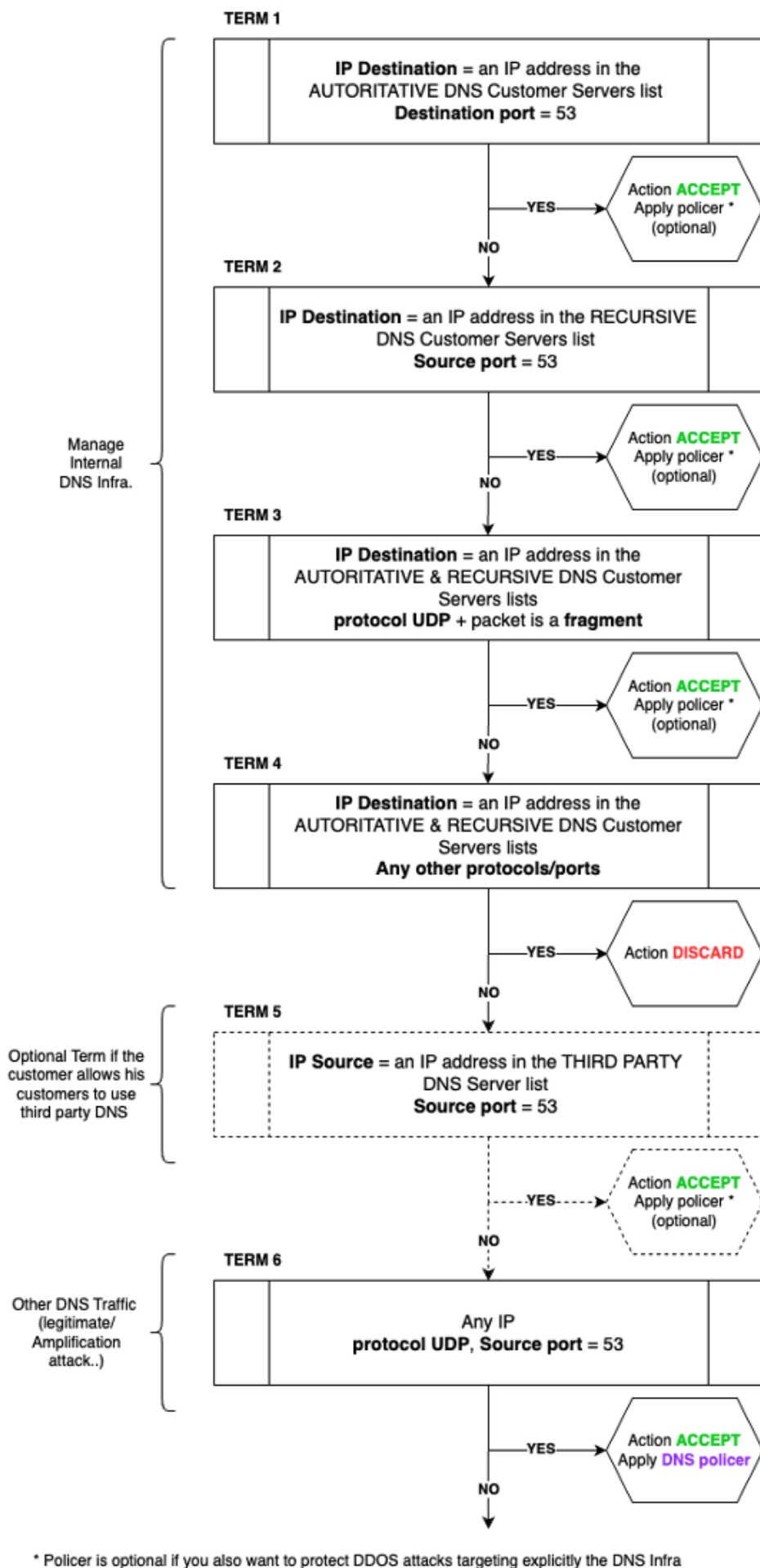


Figure 9: Pseudo Algorithm to protect DNS infra from DDOS attacks

How does it work? First, you need to create prefix-lists (v4 and v6), including IP ranges of the customer DNS infrastructure:

- A prefix-list for the Authoritative DNS servers: we chose DNS-AUTHORITATIVE and DNS-AUTHORITATIVE-V6 as prefix-list names.
- A prefix-list for the Recursive DNS servers: we chose DNS-RECURSIVE and DNS-RECURSIVE-V6 as prefix-list names.

Additionally, if the customer relies on third-party DNS or allows his customers to use well-known public DNS services (such as Google or Cloudflare), you could also create:

- A prefix-list for Third Party DNS servers: we chose the names DNS-THIRD-PARTY and DNS-THIRD-PARTY-V6 as the prefix-list.

Then, the algorithm is working as follows: it applies to both IPv4 and IPv6 DNS:

- Term 1: First, handle DNS traffic (UDP/TCP destination port 53) coming from the Internet/untrust zone and targeting the customer's authoritative DNS server(s) (serving the customer's domain name(s)). We use the "DNS-AUTHORITATIVE" prefix lists to match destination addresses. For this traffic, apply an "Accept" action and an optional dedicated policer (it may also be wise to rate-limit DNS traffic explicitly targeting the DNS servers to mitigate direct DNS server attacks).
- Term 2: Then, handle DNS reply traffic (UDP/TCP source port 53) coming from the Internet/untrust zone and targeting the customer's recursive DNS server(s) (replies to recursive requests initiated by the customer's recursive DNS servers). We use the "DNS-RECURSIVE" prefix lists to match destination addresses. For this traffic, apply an "Accept" action and an optional dedicated policer (again, it may be wise to rate-limit DNS traffic explicitly targeting the DNS servers to mitigate direct DNS server attacks).
- Term 3: Allow UDP fragmented packets targeting both the customer's recursive and authoritative DNS servers. For this traffic, apply an "Accept" action and an optional dedicated policer (it may be wise to also rate-limit DNS traffic explicitly targeting the DNS servers).
- Term 4: Drop all other traffic targeting the customer's recursive and authoritative DNS servers to protect your DNS infrastructure.
- Term 5 (**optional**): Handle replies (UDP/TCP source port 53) from well-known and customer-authorized third-party DNS servers hosted outside the customer network. We use the "DNS-THIRD-PARTY" prefix lists to match source addresses. For this traffic, apply an "Accept" action and an optional dedicated policer (it may be wise to rate-limit DNS traffic generated by well-known third-party DNS servers to mitigate spoofing attacks of public DNS server IPs).
- Term 6: The final term handles all other UDP-based DNS traffic, which represents most amplification attacks. However, it is not advisable to drop everything at this point. The goal of these static filters and policers is to reduce the blast radius of amplification attacks significantly. Therefore, the action is "Accept," but this time associated with a **mandatory** policer that rate-limits DNS amplification attacks.

Below is the IPv4 DDOS mitigation filter configuration. The first six terms relate to the "pseudo-algorithm" described above, and the following terms aim to mitigate the other simpler, well-known amplification attacks previously described in Table 5. You may notice that we also explicitly redirect all traffic to the BEST-EFFORT forwarding class, with an explicit ingress remarking of the DSCP value to 0.

Since this filter is applied on ingress untrust interfaces, we consider the traffic as untrusted. This is purely for illustration purposes and should not be taken as a recommendation.

```

1 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 interface-specific
2
3 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-AUT from destination-prefix-list
  DNS-AUTHORITATIVE
4 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-AUT from destination-port 53
5 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-AUT then policer DNS-AUT
6 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-AUT then count DNS-AUT
7 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-AUT then loss-priority low
8 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-AUT then forwarding-class BEST-
  EFFORT
9 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-AUT then accept
10 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-AUT then dscp be
11
12 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-REC from destination-prefix-list
  DNS-RECURSIVE
13 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-REC from source-port 53
14 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-REC then policer DNS-REC
15 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-REC then count DNS-REC
16 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-REC then loss-priority low
17 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-REC then forwarding-class BEST-
  EFFORT
18 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-REC then accept
19 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-REC then dscp be<
20
21 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG from destination-prefix-list
  DNS-AUTHORITATIVE
22 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG from destination-prefix-list
  DNS-RECURSIVE
23 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG from is-fragment
24 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG from protocol udp
25 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG then policer DNS-FRAG
26 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG then count DNS-FRAG
27 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG then loss-priority low
28 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG then forwarding-class BEST-
  EFFORT
29 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG then accept
30 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-FRAG then dscp be<
31
32 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-DROP from destination-prefix-list
  DNS-AUTHORITATIVE
33 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-DROP from destination-prefix-list
  DNS-RECURSIVE
34 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-DROP then count DNS-DROP
35 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-INFRA-DROP then discard<
36
37 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-THIRD-PARTY from source-prefix-list DNS-
  THIRD-PARTY
38 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-THIRD-PARTY from source-port 53
39 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-THIRD-PARTY then policer DNS-THIRD
40 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-THIRD-PARTY then count DNS-THIRD
41 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-THIRD-PARTY then loss-priority low
42 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-THIRD-PARTY then forwarding-class BEST-
  EFFORT
43 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-THIRD-PARTY then accept
44 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-THIRD-PARTY then dscp be<
45
46 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-UNKNOWN from protocol udp
47 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-UNKNOWN from source-port 53
48 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-UNKNOWN then policer DNS-UNKNOWN
49 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-UNKNOWN then count DNS-UNKNOWN
50 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-UNKNOWN then loss-priority low
51 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-UNKNOWN then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
52 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-UNKNOWN then accept
53 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term DNS-UNKNOWN then dscp be
54
55 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-FRAGMENT from is-fragment
56 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-FRAGMENT from protocol udp
57 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-FRAGMENT then policer UDP-FRAGMENT
58 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-FRAGMENT then count UDP-FRAGMENT
59 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-FRAGMENT then loss-priority low
60 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-FRAGMENT then forwarding-class BEST-
  EFFORT
61 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-FRAGMENT then accept
62 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-FRAGMENT then dscp be
63
64 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term NTP from protocol udp
65 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term NTP from source-port 123
66 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term NTP then policer NTP
67 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term NTP then count NTP
68 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term NTP then loss-priority low

```

```

69 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term NTP then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
70 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term NTP then accept
71 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term NTP then dscp be
72
73 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UPNP from protocol udp
74 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UPNP from source-port 1900
75 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UPNP then policer UPNP
76 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UPNP then count UPNP
77 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UPNP then loss-priority low
78 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UPNP then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
79 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UPNP then accept
80 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UPNP then dscp be
81
82 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term CHARGEN from protocol udp
83 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term CHARGEN from source-port 19
84 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term CHARGEN then policer CHARGEN
85 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term CHARGEN then count CHARGEN
86 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term CHARGEN then loss-priority low
87 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term CHARGEN then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
88 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term CHARGEN then accept
89 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term CHARGEN then dscp be
90
91 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term SNMP from protocol udp
92 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term SNMP from source-port 161
93 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term SNMP then policer SNMP
94 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term SNMP then count SNMP
95 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term SNMP then loss-priority low
96 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term SNMP then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
97 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term SNMP then accept
98 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term SNMP then dscp be
99
100 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ONCRPC from protocol udp
101 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ONCRPC from source-port 111
102 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ONCRPC then policer ONCRPC
103 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ONCRPC then count ONCRPC
104 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ONCRPC then loss-priority low
105 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ONCRPC then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
106 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ONCRPC then accept
107 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ONCRPC then dscp be
108
109 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term LDAP from protocol udp
110 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term LDAP from source-port 389
111 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term LDAP then policer LDAP
112 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term LDAP then count LDAP
113 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term LDAP then loss-priority low
114 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term LDAP then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
115 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term LDAP then accept
116 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term LDAP then dscp be
117
118 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term MEMCACHED from protocol udp
119 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term MEMCACHED from source-port 11211
120 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term MEMCACHED then policer MEMCACHED
121 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term MEMCACHED then count MEMCACHED
122 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term MEMCACHED then loss-priority low
123 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term MEMCACHED then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
124 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term MEMCACHED then accept
125 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term MEMCACHED then dscp be
126
127 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-80 from protocol udp
128 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-80 from source-port-except 53
129 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-80 from destination-port 80
130 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-80 then policer UDP-80
131 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-80 then count UDP-80
132 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-80 then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
133 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-80 then accept
134 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term UDP-80 then dscp be
135
136 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ACCEPT-ALL then count CLEAN
137 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ACCEPT-ALL then loss-priority low
138 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ACCEPT-ALL then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
139 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ACCEPT-ALL then accept
140 set firewall family inet filter DDOS_MITIG_V4 term ACCEPT-ALL then dscp be

```

For the IPv6 filter instance, this is roughly the same; we share below one term to highlight the syntax differences:

```

1 [...]
2 set firewall family inet6 filter DDOS_MITIG_V6 term NTP from payload-protocol udp
3 set firewall family inet6 filter DDOS_MITIG_V6 term NTP from source-port 123

```

```

4 set firewall family inet6 filter DDOS_MITIG_V6 term NTP then policer NTP-V6
5 set firewall family inet6 filter DDOS_MITIG_V6 term NTP then count NTP-V6
6 set firewall family inet6 filter DDOS_MITIG_V6 term NTP then loss-priority low
7 set firewall family inet6 filter DDOS_MITIG_V6 term NTP then forwarding-class BEST-EFFORT
8 set firewall family inet6 filter DDOS_MITIG_V6 term NTP then traffic-class be
9 set firewall family inet6 filter DDOS_MITIG_V6 term NTP then accept
10 [...]

```

The prefix-list definition on Junos is relatively well-known and standard. Remember, we mentioned at the beginning of the session that our customer had two recursive DNS servers. Here is how we configured the DNS-RECURSIVE IPv4 prefix-list. All the other prefix-lists followed the same configuration syntax:

```

1 set policy-options prefix-list DNS-RECURSIVE 10.0.0.1/32
2 set policy-options prefix-list DNS-RECURSIVE 10.0.0.2/32

```

For each policer associated with each term, it is up to each customer to select the best values based on their infrastructure, traffic levels, traffic forecast, etc. In our example, each policer is configured that way, 500 Mbps max.

```

1 set firewall policer UDP-80 shared-bandwidth-policer
2 set firewall policer UDP-80 if-exceeding bandwidth-limit 500m
3 set firewall policer UDP-80 if-exceeding burst-size-limit 6250000
4 set firewall policer UDP-80 then discard

```

Why the “**shared-bandwidth-policer**” knob? At that time, I highly recommend using this when you apply a policer to LAG interfaces. Indeed, a LAG may be composed of several member links spread across multiple PFEs, ASICs, or even line cards. Without this knob, each PFE receives the same policer value. For example, if you have a LAG with three member links, each attached to a different PFE, and you configure a policer at 500 Mbps, each PFE will enforce 500 Mbps, resulting in a total of 1.5 Gbps for the whole LAG; that is a behavior you could expect/want to have. If not, and you’d prefer to enforce the policer value from the LAG perspective, you need this policer option.

The system will automatically compute and update (when links are added, removed, or during flaps) the per-PFE policer value based on the number of PFEs and the number of ports per PFE in the LAG. This results in a derived policer value for each LAG and policer.

In the previous example, with three links across three PFEs, the system will instantiate a policer of approximately 166 Mbps per PFE. If one link goes down, the policer value is automatically updated to 250 Mbps per PFE. Even on the MX301, this is a valuable option, especially in our case, whereas our “Untrust” LAG ae0 has member links on two different PFE (Remember Trio 6 has two embedded PFE/Slices).

Let’s apply our static filters on the ae0 ingress port and commit the changes.

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show configuration interfaces ae0
2 description TO_INTERNET;
3 unit 0 {
4     family inet {
5         rpf-check {
6             fail-filter uRPFv4;
7             mode loose;
8         }
9         filter {
10            input DDOS_MITIG_V4;
11            group 1;
12        }
13        sampling {
14            input;
15        }
16        address 172.16.254.1/31;
17    }
18    family inet6 {
19        rpf-check {
20            fail-filter uRPFv6;
21            mode loose;

```

```

22     }
23     filter {
24         input DDOS_MITIG_V6;
25         group 1;
26     }
27     sampling {
28         input;
29     }
30     address 2001:cafe:254::1/127;
31 }
32 }

```

Now, let's look at the egress interface statistics for ae2. As shown below, the static filters mitigation dropped most of the DNS amplification attack; only 500 Mbps of UDP 53 and 500 Mbps of trailing fragments have survived. But remember, the attack is complex and mixes dynamic flows. This is why we still observed some extra traffic forwarded toward the target of the attack. The AE2 interface is no longer under congestion, but since a subset of the attack is still forwarded, it does not mean there is no service impact. Indeed, we have been considering the attack, with all the different parallel signatures, as targeting a single destination: our 192.168.1.1/32 critical resource. If this resource hosts a critical public web portal or any other critical service, it is important to clean the remaining attack flows.



Figure 10: Effect of the Static Filtering / Policing

Before doing that, look at the tester results. As expected, that sounds better. The overall legitimate traffic is no longer impacted, and thanks to our DNS protection “pseudo algorithm”, even though we heavily police DNS traffic (attacks), our legitimate DNS traffic between Internet DNS servers and our recursive DNS server remains safe.

Table 6: Legitimate flows status

Type of traffic	Direction	Tx L1 Rate (bps)	Rx L1 Rate (bps)	Tx Rate (fps)	Rx Rate (fps)
Legitimate Downstream customer traffic	AE0 to AE2	239,904,625,976	239,904,551,270	30,445,773	30,445,853
Legitimate DNS Traffic	AE0 to AE2	197,911,212	197,911,102	197,912,098	89,623
Legitimate Upstream customer traffic	AE2 to AE0	100,000,000,350	100,000,007,927	12,690,808	12,690,808

To clean the remaining attack, we need to rely on an external solution to provide us with dynamic signatures. In our example, the MX301 exports IPFIX flow statistics to an external collector. We assume the external solution provides us with the attack signatures as fast as possible. On MX, the minimum flow-inactive-timeout and flow-active-timeout can be set to 10 seconds. If this is not fast enough, you may rely on the Inline Monitoring solution, which is cacheless.

Note: a solution like Corero, which is fully integrated with the MX portfolio, including the MX301, might be another way to detect and mitigate dynamic signatures, thanks to dynamic flexible match filters pushed into the ephemeral DB.

In our example, as we rely on IPFIX with a cache set to the minimum (10 seconds), the external solution should probably identify these signatures in 15 to 20 seconds:

- **TCP Flood:** 192.168.1.1/32 - Source IP: Random ,À Destination Ports: 1024, 1025, 1026, 5000 ,À Source Ports: Random
- **UDP DNS:** Destination IP 192.168.1.1/32 - Source IP: Random - Destination Ports: Random ,À Source Ports: 53
- **UDP Fragments:** Destination IP 192.168.1.1/32 - Source IP: Random

Once again, we assumed that the external solution would generate three FlowSpec rules covering these signatures and propagate them via BGP to our MX301. If we analyze the inetflow.0 table, we can see these three new rules, added to the existing 2K rules, which should completely clean the remaining attack:

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show route table inetflow.0
2
3 inetflow.0: 2003 destinations, 2003 routes (2003 active, 0 holddown, 0 hidden)
4 + = Active Route, - = Last Active, * = Both
5
6 192.168.1.1,*,proto=6,dstport=1024,=1025,=1026,=5000/term:2
7      *[Flow/5] 00:01:28
8      Fictitious
9 192.168.1.1,*,proto=17,srcport=53/term:3
10     *[Flow/5] 00:01:28
11     Fictitious
12 192.168.1.1,*,proto=17,frag:02/term:4
13     *[Flow/5] 00:01:28
14     Fictitious

```

Finally, we could look at the telemetry interface statistics:

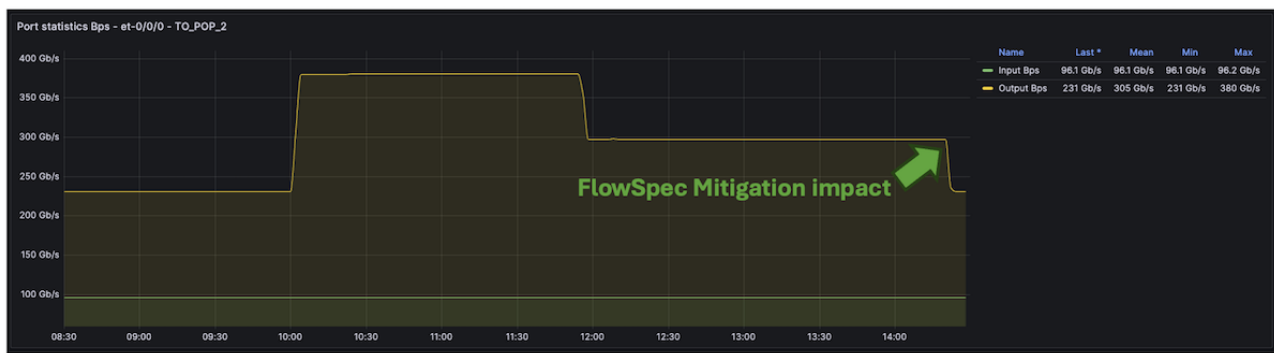


Figure 11: Traffic normalization by combining several Junos filtering tools.

Also, by default on MX, FlowSpec route accounting is enabled, providing per-rule bytes/packets both via CLI and streaming Telemetry:

```

1 lab@rtme-mx301-01> show firewall filter __flowspec_default_inet__
2
3 Filter: __flowspec_default_inet__
4 Counters:
5 Name Bytes Packets [...]
6 192.168.1.1,*,proto=17,frag:02 112800117306 77154663
7 192.168.1.1,*,proto=17,srcport=53 112799588062 77154301
8 192.168.1.1,*,proto=6,dstport=1024,=1025,=1026,=5000 14815652138069 85147901488
9 [...]

```

Note: if you don't need FlowSpec rules accounting, you could disable it by configuring: `set routing-options flow no-per-route-accounting`. In our case, we kept this feature enabled by default, so we could leverage the telemetry solution to export those statistics:

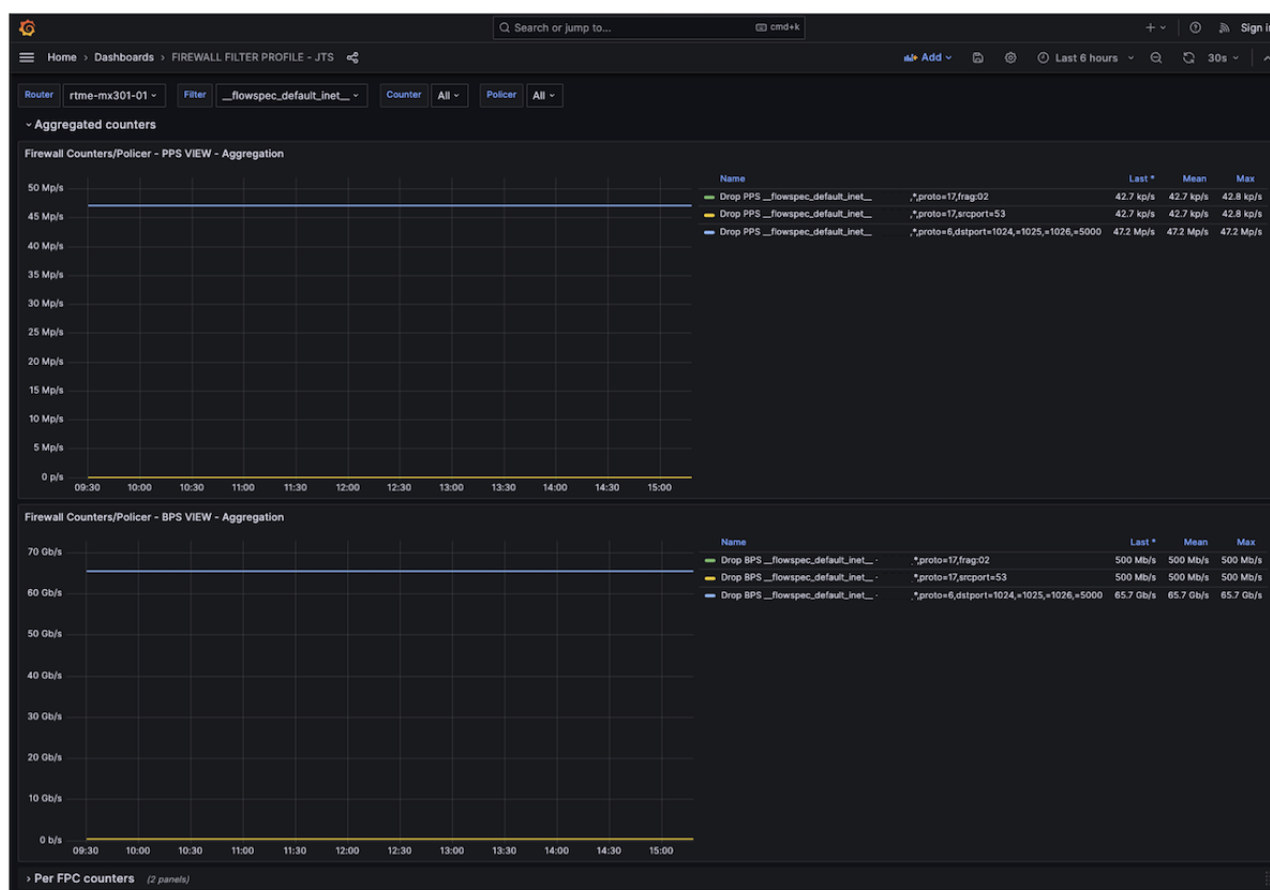


Figure 12: FlowSpec rules statistics monitoring

Remember, uRPF and static mitigation filters have no latency. Once the attack starts, these two initial filtering solutions work immediately. The dynamic signature mitigation could take more or less time depending on the flow protocol used (IPFIX, IMON, sFLOW,Ä), the detection mechanism, and the countermeasure approach used (BGP FlowSpec, dynamic filters,Ä).

1.6 The Cherry on Top of This Cake

This last section is not directly related to filtering, but I wanted to wrap up the article with another touch of streaming telemetry and our newest MX301. Thanks to the “power monitoring” sensor, we can check the power consumption of the MX301 device while under attack, with all the discussed features enabled and at the current scaling + 50% of traffic ,Ä as seen below, that’s pretty low, less than 250W (or ~0.35W/Gbps as shown on the graph)



Figure 13: Power Consumption Monitoring

1.7 Conclusion

In this article, we used the newest MX301 platform to illustrate a powerful improvement in Junos/Trio FlowSpec performance. We showed how to leverage this new feature, combined with other components of the Juniper filtering toolkit, to make the MX301 a flexible and robust secure routing gateway. The telemetry stack and rich data-plane sensors also provide real-time observability to NOC and 24/7 teams, enabling monitoring of the benefits of attack countermeasures and/or helping tune static policers over time. All of these features are fully applicable across the entire MX portfolio for both IPv4 and IPv6 traffic.

1.7.1 Links

- [1] <https://juniper.github.io/techpost/articles/mx301-high-performance-flowspec-without-compromise/article>
- [2] <https://juniper.github.io/techpost/articles/mx301-deepdive/article>
- [3] <https://bgp.potaroo.net>
- [4] <https://github.com/door7302/openjts>
- [5] <https://fastnetmon.com/2025/07/30/understanding-volumetric-amplification-ddos-attacks/>

- [6] <https://qrator.net/library/learning-center/Ddos/What-Are-Amplification-DDoS-Attacks>

1.8 Glossary

- AE: Aggregated Ethernet
- ASIC: Application-Specific Integrated Circuit
- BCP38: Best Current Practice 38 (ingress filtering to prevent IP spoofing)
- BGP: Border Gateway Protocol
- DNS: Domain Name System
- DSCP: Differentiated Services Code Point
- DDoS: Distributed Denial of Service
- FIB: Forwarding Information Base
- FLT: Filter (in “FlowSpec FLT Acceleration”)
- FPC: Flexible PIC Concentrator
- FS / FlowSpec: BGP Flow Specification
- Gbps: Gigabits per second
- IMIX: Internet Mix (typical Internet traffic mix)
- IPFIX: IP Flow Information Export
- IPv4: Internet Protocol version 4
- IPv6: Internet Protocol version 6
- ISP: Internet Service Provider
- JFlow: Juniper Flow Monitoring (inline-jflow)
- L1: Layer 1 (physical layer)
- L2: Layer 2 (data-link layer)
- L3: Layer 3 (network layer)
- LAG: Link Aggregation Group
- LDP: Label Distribution Protocol
- LSP: Link-State Packet (IS-IS)
- Mbps: Megabits per second
- MPLS: Multiprotocol Label Switching
- MX: Juniper MX Series router
- NOC: Network Operations Center
- NTP: Network Time Protocol
- ONCRPC: Open Network Computing Remote Procedure Call
- PIC Edge: Prefix Independent Convergence Edge
- PFE: Packet Forwarding Engine
- QoS: Quality of Service
- RaaS: Routing as a Service
- RED: Random Early Detection
- RE: Routing Engine
- RIB: Routing Information Base
- RTT: Round-Trip Time
- RTBH: Remote Triggered Black Hole
- sRTBH: Source-based Remote Triggered Black Hole
- sFLOW: Sampled Flow

- SNMP: Simple Network Management Protocol
- SSDP: Simple Service Discovery Protocol
- TCP: Transmission Control Protocol
- UDP: User Datagram Protocol
- uRPF: Unicast Reverse Path Forwarding
- UPnP: Universal Plug and Play
- VIP: Virtual IP
- VRF: Virtual Routing and Forwarding



DC – AI – Routing – Switching – Security – Wireless – Automation

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