

# **Export of Structured Data in IPFIX**

**IETF-77 March 23rd, 2010**

**<draft-ietf-ipfix-structured-data-01.txt>**

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# **New in this Version**

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- **How to encode a variable-length with the BasicList**
  - interface name example
- **Some editorial changes**

# Only One Open Issue: Semantic

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- **Example: basicList of egress interfaces in a Flow Record**

**Has every counted packet been sent on every egress interface?**

**= multicast case = AND semantic**

**Has every counted packet been sent on any one of the egress interfaces?**

**= load balancing case = OR semantic**

# Discussions on the Mailing List

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- Completely ignoring the semantic is not an option
- The solution is for the structured data only, so the semantic of the IEs within a structured data
- No change to RFC5101
- Add a semantic field to the 3 list types: basicList, subTemplateList, and subTemplateMultiList
- For example, in the basicList Information Element Encoding becomes:

```

+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+
|0|           Field ID   |           Element Length           |
+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+
| Semantic |           BasicList Content ...           |
+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+
|           |           ...           |
+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+
  
```

# Discussions on the Mailing List

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- **No "semanticsless" versions of the IPFIX structured data types**
- **Semantic as a single list, as opposed to a bit vector**  
In order to reduce the possibilities of wrong combinations
- **Required semantics are:**
  - 0x00: undefined (default)**
  - 0x01: allOf**
  - 0x02: oneOrMoreOf**
  - 0x03: exactlyOneOf**
  - 0x04: noneOf**
  - 0x05: ordered**
- **An IANA registry is required, to have an extensible solution, like for the "MPLS label type" registry**

# Discussions on the Mailing List

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- **“exactlyOneOf” example: an aggregated observation point, composed of multiple template records**

template 1: exporterIPAddress

template 2: exporterIPAddress, basicList of interfaces

template 3: exporterIPAddress, LC

Those three templates are linked with the semantic “exactlyOneOf”

- **“ordered example: BGP AS path**

BGP AS-PATH 10 20 30 40 {50,60}

(basicList, ORDERED, (basicList, ORDERED, AS10,AS20,AS30,AS40), (basicList, exactlyOneOf, AS50, AS60))

# Discussions on the Mailing List

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- **Open issue: Do we need the RANGE semantic?**  
Required by Gerhard, but is is in scope for this draft?  
Is it only valid for a list of single IE such as port range?

# **Export of Structured Data in IPFIX**

**IPFIX IETF-76 Nov 11th, 2009**

**<draft-ietf-ipfix-structured-data-00.txt>**

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# New Abstract Data Type and Information Element: basicList

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## basicList

represents a list of zero or more instances of any single Information Element. Primarily used for single-valued data types.

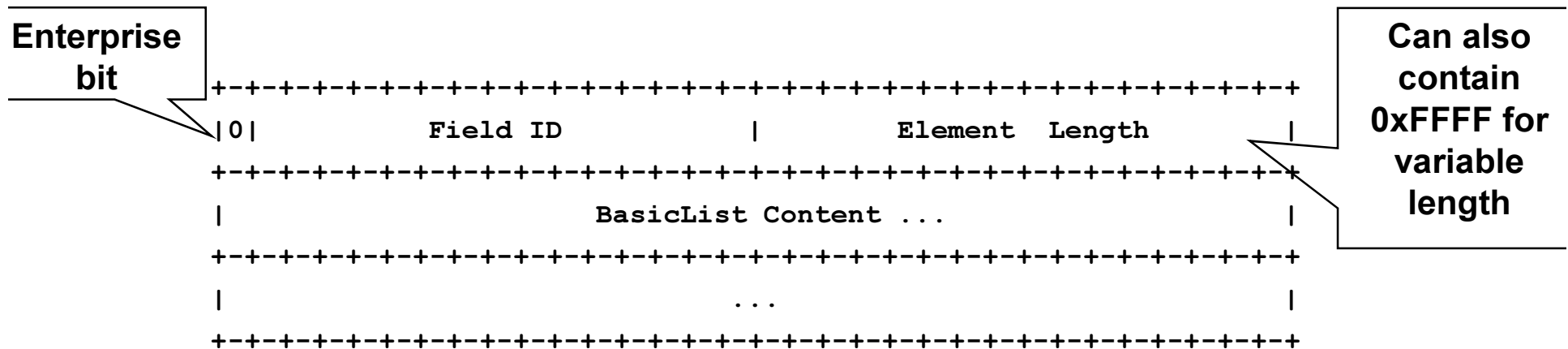


Figure A: basicList Information Element Encoding

**Example: list of output interfaces, list of BGP AS Path, list of port numbers**

# New Abstract Data Type and Information Element: subTemplateList

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## subTemplateList

represents a list of zero or more instances of structured data, where the data type of each list element is the same and corresponds with a single Template Record.

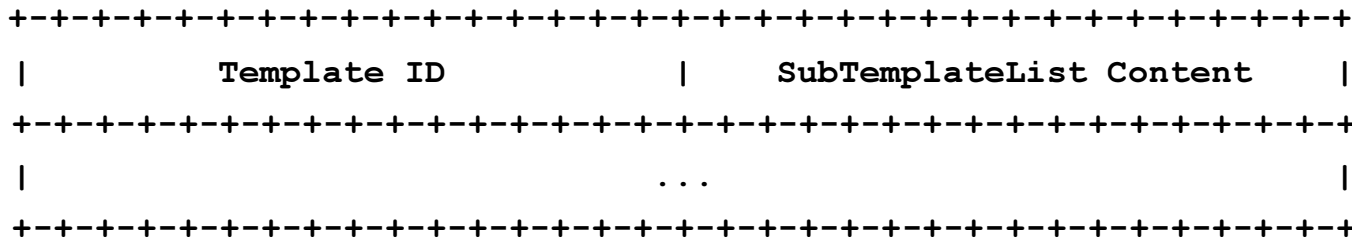


Figure E: subTemplateList Encoding

**Example: MPLS label stack, src/dst IP addresses pairs, performance metric for a fixed tuple**

# New Abstract Data Type and Information Element: subTemplateMultiList

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## subTemplateMultiList

represents a list of zero or more instances of structured data, where the data type of each list element can be different and correspond with different template definitions.

**Example:  
aggregated  
observation point in  
a mediation  
function**

```
+++++
|      Element 1 Template Id   |      Element 1 Length      |
+++++
|                               |                               |
|      Element 1 Content ...  |                               |
|                               |                               |
|                               |      ...                    |
+++++
|      Element 2 Template Id   |      Element 2 Length      |
+++++
|                               |                               |
|      Element 2 content ...  |                               |
|                               |                               |
|                               |      ...                    |
+++++
|      Element N Template Id   |      Element N Length      |
+++++
|                               |                               |
|      Element N content ...  |                               |
+++++
```