

## Emulate video streaming traffic with the 13\_video\_em.pl Script

**Goal**: Emulate video stream traffic patterns using Layer-3 connections. Using the 13\_video\_em.p1 and the 13\_vid\_group.p1, we assemble two test groups of connections, a group of Generic connections, and a group of Layer3 connections, that emulate the bursty buffer filling pattern of traffic that video streaming tends to resemble. Requires LANforge 5.4.2.



**Begin with stations** 

A. Using a CT523c, we can create 16 stations, and for this script setup you probably do not want to create more than that. These scripts poll LANforge every 200ms and that loads the server quickly. If you are using a CT521a or CT522b, then consider starting with five or six stations.

There needs to be a continuously named series of stations.

ontrol <u>R</u> epo	rting Toor (									
	rung rear o	off Info	Plugins							
Chamber View Stop						Restart Manager	E	Refresh	HELF	
Status Por	t Mgr VoIP	/RTP V	oIP/RTP End	ps DUT Profiles	Alerts Messages	Warnings +				
Disp: 192.168.92.14:0.0 Sniff			Sniff Pack	cets Down	1 Clear Counters	Clear Counters Reset Port				
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				—All Ethernet Interfaces	(Ports) for all Resou	ırces.				
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1.00			eth0			192.168.92.14	0470	01 - 0		
1.00			eth0				0c:c4:7a:e2:0			
1.01	ibo	150		i	00.05.05.70.05.00	10.40.0.74	0c:c4:7a:e2:0			
1.02		153	sta000	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.155	00:0e:8e:25:			
1.04	200 2007	153	sta001	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.153	00:0e:8e:c5:			
1.05		153	sta002	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.150	00:0e:8e:de:			
1.06	The same of the sa	153	sta003	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.151	00:0e:8e:79:			
1.07		153	sta004	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.157	00:0e:8e:13:			
1.09		153	sta005	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.152	00:0e:8e:ce:			
1.10		153	sta006	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.161	00:0e:8e:d6:			
1.11		153	sta007	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.159	00:0e:8e:e2:			
1.12		153	sta008	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.164	04:f0:21:94:e			
1.14		153	sta009	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.162	04:f0:21:57:1			
1.15		153	sta010	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.160	04:f0:21:82:0			
1.16		153	sta011	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.163	04:f0:21:ee:8			
1.17		153	sta012	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.158	00:19:70:02:			
1.19		153	sta013	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.154	00:19:70:34:			
1.20		153	sta014	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		10.40.10.156	00:19:70:7f:e			
1.21	wiphy3	153	sta015	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1	1 00:0E:8E:7B:DF:9B	10.40.10.165	00:19:70:d5:			
1.03		0	wiphy0			0.0.0.0	00:0e:8e:4e:			
1.08		0	wiphy1			0.0.0.0	00:0e:8e:5a:			
1.13		0	wiphy2			0.0.0.0	04:f0:21:20:3			
1.18		0	wiphy3			0.0.0.0	00:19:70:be:			
1.22		153	wlan0	jedway-wpa2-x2048-5-1		0.0.0.0	5a:12:5e:ea:			
1.23	wiphy1	153	wlan1		Not-Associated	0.0.0.0	06:78:0b:9c:			

For more information see Creating Stations

2.

B. In this example we will use eth1 as our upstream port. We will be referring to that using the EID format: 1.1.2 For more information see LANforge Entity IDs

Create Connections Using 13\_vid\_group.pl

A. The script 13\_vid\_group.p1 has help examples. You can do four tasks with the script.

```
△ _ □ X
 jreynolds@cholla5:~/git/lanforge-scripts
                                                                                   × | lanforge@ct524-genia:~/scripts
[lanforge@ct524-genia scripts]$ ./l3_vid_group.pl
Usage: ./l3_vid_group.pl # create a large group of Layer 3 creations that emulate video traffic
--action -a { create | destroy | start | stop }
 --buffer_size -b {bytes K|M} # size of emulated RX buffer, default 3MB
 --clear_group -z # empty test group first

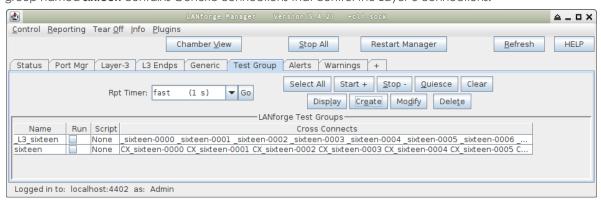
-cx_name -c {connection prefix}

--endp_type -t {tcp|udp|lf_tcp|lf_udp}
 --endp_type -t
--first_sta -i
 --log_cli
                         {1|filename} # log cli commands
                        {lanforge server} # default localhost
{lanforge port} # default 4002
{number} # default 1
 --mgr -m
 --mgr_port -p
 --num cx -n
 --resource -r
                         {station resource}
                         {bps K|M|G} # maximum speed of tx side, default 1Gbps
  --speed -s
 --stream --vid_mode -e {stream resolution name|list} # default yt-sdr-1080p30
                        # list of streams maintained in l3_video_em.pl
                        {test group name} # all connections placed in this group
 --test_grp -g
                        # default is {cx_name}_tg for the Generic connections
# we manage Layer 3 connections in _L3_{cx_name}_tg
                        {port short-EID} # video transmitter port;
 --upstream -u
                        # use 1.1.eth1 or 1.2.br0 for example
                        # upstream port does not need to be on same resource
Examples:
# create 30 stations emulating 720p HDR 60fps transmitted from resource 2:
    ./l3_vid_group.pl --action create --buffer_size 8M --clear_group --cx_name yt1080p60.1 \
    --endp_type udp --first_sta sta0000 --num_cx 30 \
    --resource 2 --speed 200M --stream yt-hdr-720p60 --test_group yt60fps \
    --upstream 1.2.br0
# start test group:
 ./l3 vid group.pl -a start -g yt60fps
# stop test group:
 ./l3_vid_group.pl -a stop -g yt60fps
# add 30 more stations on resource 3 to group
 ./l3_vid_group.pl -a create -b 8M -c yt1080p60.3 -t udp -i sta0100 -n 30 -r 3 \
-s 200M -e yt-hdr-720p60 -g yt60fps -u 1.2.br0
# destroy test group
./l3_vid_group.pl -a destroy -g yt60fps
[lanforge@ct524-genia scripts]$
```

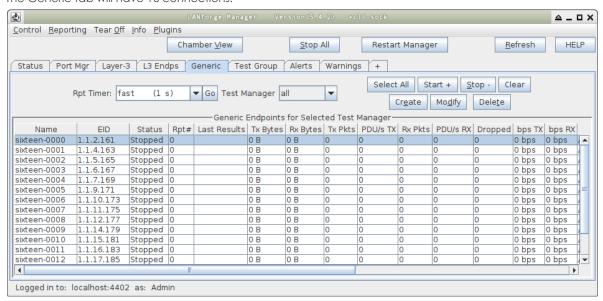
- A. Create groups of video emulators
- B. Start groups
- C. Stop groups
- D. Destroy groups
- B. We will create a group of 16 connections on our stations. Use the command:

```
./13_vid_group.pl --action create --endp_type tcp --first_sta sta000
--num_cx 16 --test_grp sixteen --upstream 1.1.eth1
```

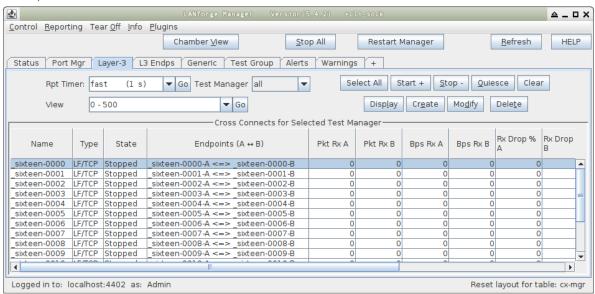
C. You will see two test group created. The group named **\_L3\_sixteen** contains the Layer-3 tcp connections. The group named **sixteen** contains Generic connections that control the Layer-3 connections.



D. The Generic tab will have 16 connections.



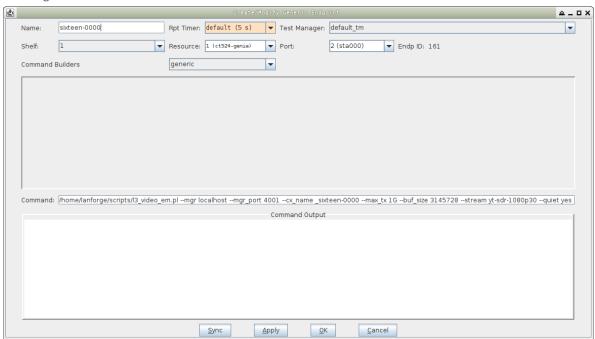
E. The Layer-3 tab will have 16 connections.



F. When we inspect one of the Generic connections, we can see the command it uses.

```
/home/lanforge/scripts/13_video_em.pl --mgr localhost --mgr_port 4001
--cx_name _sixteen-0000 --max_tx 1000000000 --buf_size 3145728 --stream yt-sdr-360p30
--tx_style bufferfill --quiet yes
```

You can paste this command into a shell prompt on your LANforge and use it. We discuss the options in the following section.



G. You can highlight the command in the window and copy it with Ctrl-C

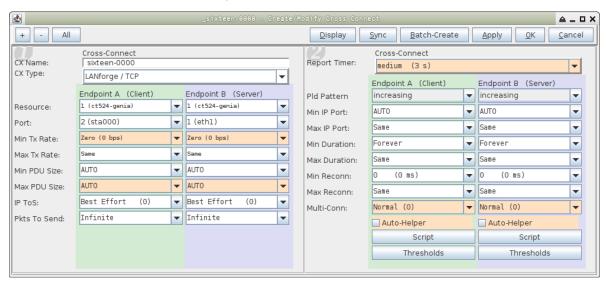
Command: //home/lanforge/scripts/l3\_video\_em.pl --mgr localhost --mgr\_port 4001 --cx\_name\_sixteen-0000 --max\_tx1G --buf\_size 3145728 --stream yt-sdr-1080p30 --quiet yes

Command Output

H. You can paste the command into the shell with Ctrl-Shift-V

- I. When we inspect the Layer-3 connection, we see these aspects:
  - It is a TCP connection. This is optional, you can create UDP connections; the Android YouTube app uses TLS over UDP (QUIC protocol) connections.
  - Both endpoints are set at 0 bps transmit. The Generic script will control the throttle on the Bside of the connection.
  - The PDU size is auto. This doesn't have much bearing on TCP, but might have bearing on UDP connections.
  - The **Report Timer** is set to three seconds. This value is too long to graph with much detail in the Dynamic Report, but you can shorten it to 500ms if you desire to see more resolution in the Dynamic Report graph. This Report Timer value directly impacts processor load, so use it judiciously.
  - Auto-Helper is a new feature intended to reduce CPU load, it has little impact at the moment.
  - Multi-con is not desired for this style of connection.

3.

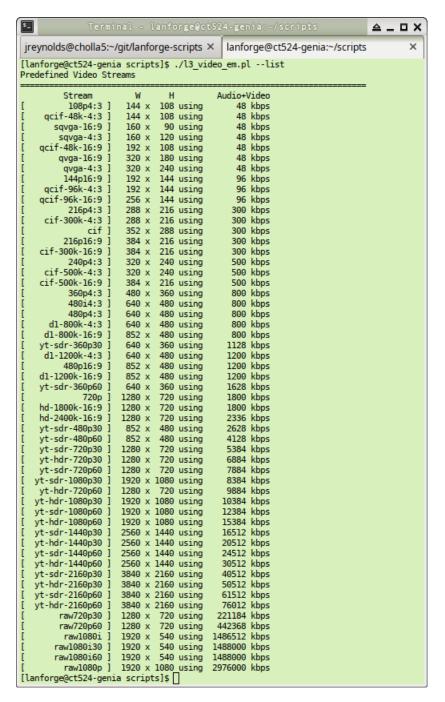


Exploring 13\_video\_em.pl

- A. The options for 13\_video\_em.p1 are available with --help. The most important options for tuning video streaming emulation are:
  - tx\_style: bufferfill is default and models present video playback
  - max\_tx: this is the starting TX rate. The I3\_vid\_group script defaults this to 1Gbps, which is unrealistic for common WiFi connections. The script will regularly poll the station side for a TX-RATE value of the station to determine a more realistic upper bound for maximum rate. The more stations that share the same channel, the less realistic this rate becomes. We want to know this to some degree so that we can determine a realistic pause between buffer fills at a given bit rate.
  - **buf\_size**: observation of packet captures indicate that a video plugin on a browser buffers three to four megabytes of video. Between this number and our max\_tx rate, we can calculate when to transmit to fill the video buffer before it empties.
  - **stream\_res**: This is a list with broadly agreed upon estimates of video bitrates. When people mention frame-rate, that is just part of the bitrate calculation; audio quality, color depth, and resolution are all part of the bitrate value.



- B. A table of **stream resolutions** are available when you use the --list option. By default, the 13\_vid\_group.p1 script uses the **yt-sdr-1080p30** stream size. That name can be decoded like so:
  - yt: YouTube (but any popular stream, really)
  - sdr: Standard Dynamic Range color, hdr: High Dynamic Range color
  - 1080: frame height
  - p: progressive, i: interlaced
  - 30: 30 frames per second; smaller bitrates might be 29.9, 25, or 24



C. Running the command

D. When we run the 13\_video\_em.p1 command that we copied and pasted into our terminal above, we'll see regular output ever several seconds. Lets discuss whats going on:

```
△ _ □ X
 jreynolds@cholla5:~/git/lanforge-scripts
                                                          × lanforge@ct524-genia:~/scripts
[lanforge@ct524-genia scripts]$ /home/lanforge/scripts/l3_video_em.pl --mgr localhost --mgr_port 400
1 --cx_name_sixteen-0000 --max_tx_1G --buf_size_3145728 --stream_yt-sdr-1080p30 --quiet_yes
Filling_yt-sdr-1080p30_3072_KB_buffer_est_0.050331648sec,_empties_in_3.00164885496183_sec
Random start delay: 3.30490141553221.
Stopping and configuring _sixteen-0000
Starting _sixteen-0000
Likely overfill detected, txsec: 0.0007
## drain_wait_seconds: 1.8043; est fill: 0.1398; actual fill 1.1973; dev: -1.0575
deltas: Sent 1900544 B/ 2879862464.36994 bps;
Setting max tx to 360000000
## drain_wait_seconds: 2.2942; est fill: 0.1678; actual fill 0.7074; dev: -0.5397
deltas: Sent 20971520 B/ 26679081050.06976 bps;, Sent 19333120 B/ 44991395.84851 bps;
Setting max tx to 300000000
## drain_wait_seconds: 2.3269; est fill: 0.1398; actual fill 0.6747; dev: -0.5349
deltas: Sent 51576832 B/ 58945207837.85504 bps;, Sent 16515072 B/ 37426482.13639 bps;
Setting max tx to 360000000
## drain_wait_seconds: 2.2706; est fill: 0.1678; actual fill 0.7311; dev: -0.5633 deltas: Sent 76742656 B/ 1870580609.91320 bps;, Sent 22151168 B/ 44755255.38064 bps;
Setting max_tx to 300000000
## drain_wait_seconds: 2.3010; est fill: 0.1553; actual fill 0.7006; dev: -0.5453
deltas: Sent 108199936 B/ 108181984353.88416 bps;, Sent 15728640 B/ 36379923.07554 bps;
Setting max_tx to 324000000
## drain_wait_seconds: 2.2852; est fill: 0.1553; actual fill 0.7164; dev: -0.5611
deltas: Sent 134021120 B/ 166901817013.20667 bps;, Sent 17367040 B/ 40456583.69786 bps;
Setting max tx to 324000000
## drain_wait_seconds: 2.3233; est fill: 0.1398; actual fill 0.6784; dev: -0.5386
deltas: Sent 162791424 B/ 195196318138.62094 bps;, Sent 17498112 B/ 40336066.73510 bps;
Setting max_tx to 360000000
Stopping _sixteen-0000: INT
[lanforge@ct524-genia scripts]$ [
```

- A. Filling yt-sdr-1080p30 3072KB buffer. tells us our video bitrate, and our buffer size (3MB)
- B. est 0.0503 sec: estimate of how long at 1Gbps filling the buffer will take
- C. empties in 3.0016 sec: playback rate before buffer is fully played.
- D. **Random start delay: 3.304sec...:** the script is waiting this long before starting. This is so that we avoid a load spike, false detections of constant transmit, and more realistic transmit pattern.
- E. Likely overfill detected This warning appears when you transmit longer than your buffer fill takes. Estimates are inaccurate at the start.
- F. drain\_wait\_seconds is the computed time between stopping and restarting the next transmission. This is our empty time minus our transmit time.
- G. Actual fill: describes how long transmitting a full buffer took.
- H. dev: the difference between estimated fill time and actual fill time.
- I. **Setting max\_tx to 36000000** indicates we have detected our RX-Rate for our station was detected, and estimates could be better in range. Estimates are only for an isolated station.

## Starting and Stopping Connections

- A. You can use the LANforge GUI *Test Groups* tab or the 13\_vid\_group.p1 script to start and stop connections.
- B. First, make sure you stations are associated. The scripts will not admin-up your stations.

## C. Using the LANforge GUI

- A. Highlight the Test Group holding the Generic connections. In our example that is the group named ixteen
- B. Press the Start button.
- C. The Generic scripts will control the Layer-3 scripts in the L3\_sixteen group.
- D. Stopping the test group will also stop the Layer-3 connections.

## D. Using the 13\_vid\_group.pl script

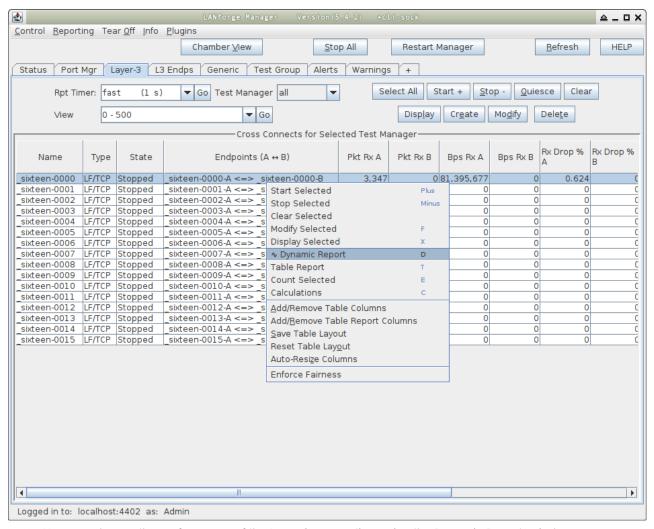
```
A. Starting the groups uses the --action start argument:
```

```
./13_vid_group.pl --test_grp sixteen --action start
```

B. Stopping the groups uses the --action stop argument:

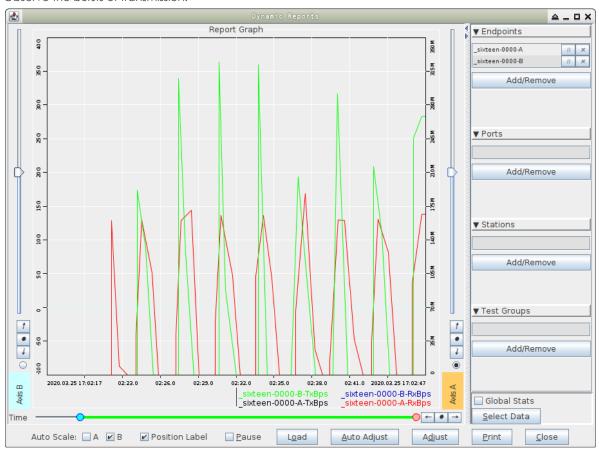
```
./13_vid_group.pl --test_grp sixteen --action stop
```

4



- A. You can observe the performance of the Layer-3 connections using the Dynamic Reports window.
- B. First, use the **Rpt Timer** combo box to apply a 500ms report timer to the connection. Press **Go** to apply
- C. Next, right click the connection and select **Dynamic Report** (or press [D])

D. Observe the bursts of transmission.



- A. Use the **Adjust** button to adjust your time window:
- B. Select **30** for max-time-ago
- C. Select **0** for min-time-ago
- D. Click Apply

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