



# OSPF Shortest Path First Throttling

**Last Updated: July 19, 2011**

The OSPF Shortest Path First Throttling feature makes it possible to configure SPF scheduling in millisecond intervals and to potentially delay shortest path first (SPF) calculations during network instability. SPF is scheduled to calculate the Shortest Path Tree (SPT) when there is a change in topology. One SPF run may include multiple topology change events.

The interval at which the SPF calculations occur is chosen dynamically and is based on the frequency of topology changes in the network. The chosen interval is within the boundary of the user-specified value ranges. If network topology is unstable, SPF throttling calculates SPF scheduling intervals to be longer until topology becomes stable.

## Feature Specifications for OSPF Shortest Path First Throttling

### Feature History

Release	Modification
12.2(14)S	This feature was introduced.
12.0(23)S	This feature was integrated into Cisco Release 12.0(23)S.
12.2(15)T	This feature was integrated into Cisco IOS Release 12.2(15)T.

### Finding Support Information for Platforms and Cisco IOS Software Images

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and Cisco IOS software image support. Access Cisco Feature Navigator at <http://www.cisco.com/go/fn> . You must have an account on Cisco.com. If you do not have an account or have forgotten your username or password, click **Cancel** at the login dialog box and follow the instructions that appear.

- [Finding Feature Information, page 2](#)
- [Information About OSPF SPF Throttling, page 2](#)

- [How to Configure OSPF SPF Throttling](#), page 3
- [Configuration Examples for OSPF SPF Throttling](#), page 6
- [Additional References](#), page 6

## Finding Feature Information

Your software release may not support all the features documented in this module. For the latest feature information and caveats, see the release notes for your platform and software release. To find information about the features documented in this module, and to see a list of the releases in which each feature is supported, see the Feature Information Table at the end of this document.

Use Cisco Feature Navigator to find information about platform support and Cisco software image support. To access Cisco Feature Navigator, go to [www.cisco.com/go/cfn](http://www.cisco.com/go/cfn). An account on Cisco.com is not required.

## Information About OSPF SPF Throttling

- [Shortest Path First Calculations](#), page 2

## Shortest Path First Calculations

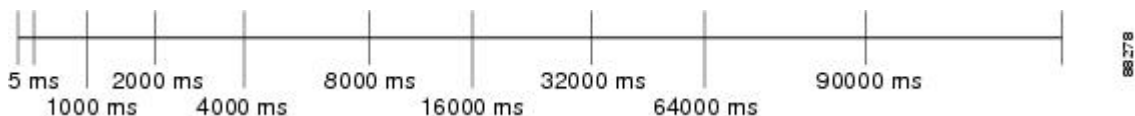
SPF calculations occur at the interval set by the **timers throttle spf** command. The wait interval indicates the amount of time to wait until the next SPF calculation occurs. Each wait interval after that calculation is twice as long as the previous one until the wait interval reaches the maximum wait time specified.

The SPF timing can be better explained using an example. In this example the start interval is set at 5 milliseconds (ms), the wait interval at 1000 milliseconds, and the maximum wait time is set at 90,000 milliseconds.

```
timers throttle spf 5 1000 90000
```

The figure below shows the intervals at which the SPF calculations occur so long as at least one topology change event is received in a given wait interval.

**Figure 1**



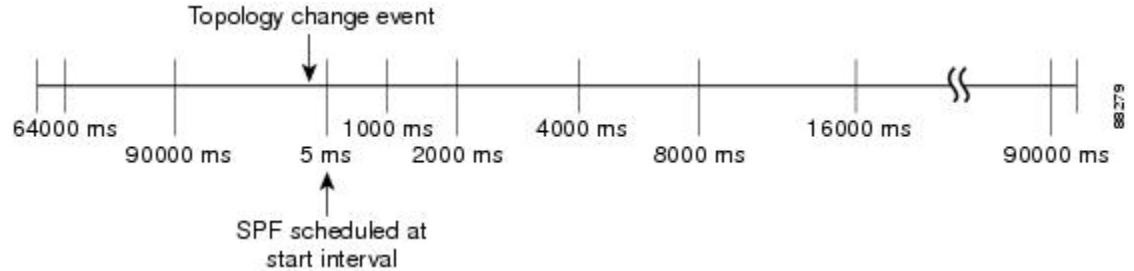
Notice that the wait interval between SPF calculations doubles when at least one topology change event is received during the previous wait interval. Once the maximum wait time is reached, the wait interval remains the same until the topology stabilizes and no event is received in that interval.

If the first topology change event is received after the current wait interval, the SPF calculation is delayed by the amount of time specified as the start interval. The subsequent wait intervals continue to follow the dynamic pattern.

If the first topology change event occurs after the maximum wait interval begins, the SPF calculation is again scheduled at the start interval and subsequent wait intervals are reset according the parameters

specified in the **timers throttle spf** command. Notice in the figure below that a topology change event was received after the start of the maximum wait time interval and that the SPF intervals have been reset.

Figure 2



## How to Configure OSPF SPF Throttling

- [Configuring OSPF SPF Throttling, page 3](#)
- [Verifying SPF Throttle Values, page 5](#)

### Configuring OSPF SPF Throttling

#### SUMMARY STEPS

1. **enable**
2. **configure terminal**
3. **interface** *type slot / port*
4. **ip address** *ip-address mask [secondary]*
5. **exit**
6. **router ospf** *process-id*
7. **network** *network-number [mask | prefix-length]*
8. **timers throttle spf** *spf-start spf-hold spf-max-wait*
9. **end**

#### DETAILED STEPS

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 1</b> <b>enable</b>  <b>Example:</b> Router> enable	Enables higher privilege levels, such as privileged EXEC mode.  Enter your password if prompted.

Command or Action	Purpose
<p><b>Step 2</b> <code>configure terminal</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router# configure terminal</pre>	<p>Enters global configuration mode.</p>
<p><b>Step 3</b> <code>interface type slot / port</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config)# interface ethernet 1/1/1</pre>	<p>Enters interface configuration mode for the interface specified.</p>
<p><b>Step 4</b> <code>ip address ip-address mask [secondary]</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config-if)# ip address 192.168.0.2 255.255.255.0</pre>	<p>Sets a primary or secondary IP address for an interface.</p>
<p><b>Step 5</b> <code>exit</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>router# exit</pre>	<p>Exits interface configuration mode.</p>
<p><b>Step 6</b> <code>router ospf process-id</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config)# router ospf 1</pre>	<p>Configures an OSPF routing process.</p>
<p><b>Step 7</b> <code>network network-number [mask   prefix-length]</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config-router)# network 192.168.0.0 0.0.255.255 area 0</pre>	<p>Configures the subnet number and mask for a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) address pool on a Cisco IOS DHCP Server.</p>
<p><b>Step 8</b> <code>timers throttle spf spf-start spf-hold spf-max-wait</code></p> <p><b>Example:</b></p> <pre>Router(config-router)# timers throttle spf 10 4800 90000</pre>	<p>Sets OSPF throttling timers.</p>

Command or Action	Purpose
<b>Step 9</b> end  <b>Example:</b>  Router(config-router)# end	Exits configuration mode.

## Verifying SPF Throttle Values

To verify SPF throttle timer values, use the **show ip ospf** command. The values are displayed in the lines that begin, "Initial SPF schedule delay...", "Minimum hold time between two consecutive SPF...", and "Maximum wait time between two consecutive SPF..."

```
Router# show ip ospf
Routing Process "ospf 1" with ID 10.10.10.2 and Domain ID 0.0.0.1
Supports only single TOS(TOS0) routes
Supports opaque LSA
It is an autonomous system boundary router
Redistributing External Routes from,
    static, includes subnets in redistribution
Initial SPF schedule delay 5 msec
Minimum hold time between two consecutive SPF 1000 msec
Maximum wait time between two consecutive SPF 90000 msec
Minimum LSA interval 5 sec. Minimum LSA arrival 1 sec
LSA group pacing timer 240 sec
Interface flood pacing timer 33 msec
Retransmission pacing timer 66 msec
Number of external LSA 4. Checksum Sum 0x17445
Number of opaque AS LSA 0. Checksum Sum 0x0
Number of DCbitless external and opaque AS LSA 0
Number of DoNotAge external and opaque AS LSA 0
Number of areas in this router is 1. 1 normal 0 stub 0 nssa
External flood list length 0
  Area BACKBONE(0)
    Number of interfaces in this area is 2
    Area has no authentication
    SPF algorithm last executed 19:11:15.140 ago
    SPF algorithm executed 28 times
    Area ranges are
    Number of LSA 4. Checksum Sum 0x2C1D4
    Number of opaque link LSA 0. Checksum Sum 0x0
    Number of DCbitless LSA 0
    Number of indication LSA 0
    Number of DoNotAge LSA 0
    Flood list length 0
```

The table below describes the **show ip ospf** display fields and their descriptions.

**Table 1** *show ip ospf Field Descriptions*

Field	Description
Routing process "ospf 201" with ID 192.42.110.200	Process ID and OSPF router ID.
Supports ...	Number of types of service supported (Type 0 only).

Field	Description
It is ...	Possible types are internal, area border, or autonomous system boundary.
Summary Link update interval	Specifies summary update interval in hours:minutes:seconds, and time until next update.
External Link update interval	Specifies external update interval in hours:minutes:seconds, and time until next update.
Redistributing External Routes from	Lists of redistributed routes, by protocol.
SPF calculations	Lists start, hold, and maximum wait interval values in milliseconds.
Number of areas	Number of areas in router, area addresses, and so on.
SPF algorithm last executed	Shows the last time an SPF calculation was performed in response to topology change event records.
Link State Update Interval	Specifies router and network link-state update interval in hours:minutes:seconds, and time until next update.
Link State Age Interval	Specifies max-aged update deletion interval, and time until next database cleanup, in hours:minutes:seconds.

## Configuration Examples for OSPF SPF Throttling

- [Throttle Timers Example, page 6](#)

### Throttle Timers Example

This example shows a router configured with the start, hold, and maximum interval values for the **timers throttle spf** command set at 5, 1,000, and 90,000 milliseconds, respectively.

```
router ospf 1
router-id 10.10.10.2
log-adjacency-changes
timers throttle spf 5 1000 90000
redistribute static subnets
network 21.21.21.0 0.0.0.255 area 0
network 22.22.22.0 0.0.0.255 area 00
```

### Additional References

For additional information related to OSPF, refer to the following references:

## Related Documents

Related Topic	Document Title
OSPF commands	<i>Cisco IOS IP Routing: OSPF Command Reference</i>
OSPF configuration tasks	"Configuring OSPF" module in the <i>Cisco IOS IP Routing Protocols Configuration Guide</i>

## Standards

Standards	Title
No new or modified RFCs are supported by this feature, and support for existing RFCs has not been modified by this feature.	

## MIBs

MIBs	MIBs Link
No new or modified MIBs are supported by this feature, and support for existing MIBs has not been modified by this feature.	To locate and download MIBs for selected platforms, Cisco IOS releases, and feature sets, use Cisco MIB Locator found at the following URL: <a href="http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs">http://www.cisco.com/go/mibs</a>

## RFCs

RFCs	Title
No new or modified standards are supported by this feature, and support for existing standards has not been modified by this feature.	

## Technical Assistance

Description	Link
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