IP6 Flow Lable

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Question: How would RSVP like to use IP6 flow labels?

Desire: Using the flow label to simplify packet classification

From IPv6 specification:

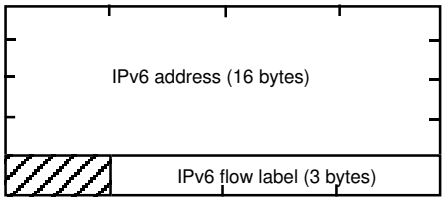
The 24-bit Flow Label field in the IPv6 header may be used by a source to label those packets for which it requests special handling by the IPv6 routers, such as non-default qualit of service or “real-time” service.

.....

All packets belonging to the same flow must be sent with the same source address, same destination address, and same non-zero flow label.

(RSVP spec Page 48)

IP6 filter_spec object: Class = 6, C-type = 129



the filter spec is used in 2 places
- flow descriptor
- sender-template

Is life better with IP6 flow label?

Yes.

- Looks “more correct” architectually
  - no more “layer violation”
  - independent from transport layer protocols
- Possible to mux multiple data streams from the same host to a single flow