

NAME

`ovs-tcpdump` – Dump traffic from an Open vSwitch port using `tcpdump`

SYNOPSIS

`ovs-tcpdump -i <port> <tcpdump options>...`

DESCRIPTION

`ovs-tcpdump` creates switch mirror ports in the `ovs-vswitchd` daemon and executes `tcpdump` to listen against those ports. When the `tcpdump` instance exits, it then cleans up the mirror port it created.

`ovs-tcpdump` will not allow multiple mirrors for the same port. It has some logic to parse the current configuration and prevent duplicate mirrors.

The `-i` option may not appear multiple times.

It is important to note that under Linux-based kernels, tap devices do not receive packets unless the specific tuntap device has been opened by an application. This requires `CAP_NET_ADMIN` privileges, so the `ovs-tcpdump` command must be run as a user with such permissions (this is usually a super-user).

OPTIONS

- `-h` or `--help`

Prints a brief help message to the console.

- `-V` or `--version`

Prints version information to the console.

- `--db-sock <socket>`

The Open vSwitch database socket connection string. The default is `unix:<rundir>/db.sock`.

- `--dump-cmd <command>`

The command to run instead of `tcpdump`.

- `-i` or `--interface`

The interface for which a mirror port should be created, and packets should be dumped.

- `--mirror-to`

The name of the interface which should be the destination of the mirrored packets. The default is `mi<port>`.

- `--span`

If specified, mirror all ports (optional).

SEE ALSO

`ovs-appctl(8)`, `ovs-vswitchd(8)`, `ovs-pcap(1)`, `ovs-tcpundump(1)`, `tcpdump(8)`, `wireshark(8)`.

AUTHOR

The Open vSwitch Development Community

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