BLIP – A UDP packet’s path
Complete code walkthrough for a single packet being sent, forwarded, and received in TinyOS’s BLIP stack.

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Figure 1 Layers involved in a packet’s path through the network

Mapping from IP stack layering to BLIP code
Quick reference for anyone looking through the code

Figure 2 Component Layering in BLIP
Core concepts
- Static allocation across the stack (no dynamic allocations. Can be a programming pain.)
- Assuming CC2420 radio (just relevant to one part below)
- Assumes basic NesC syntax familiarity

Function calls

Packet transmission from source

UDP_BCP_BLIPP::Status::sendto

UdpP::UDP::sendto("/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/interfaces/UDP.nc")

UdpP::UDP::sendto "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/UdpP.nc"
  - Add IOvector base for payload

UdpP::UDP::sendtov "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/UdpP.nc"
  - Add UDP header as IO vector

UdpP::UDP::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/interfaces/IP.nc"

IPProtocolsP::IP::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/IPProtocolsP.nc"
  - Add TTL, “IP” type

IPProtocolsP::SubIP::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/interfaces/IP.nc"

IPForwardingEngineP::IP::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/IPForwardingEngineP.nc"
  - Lookup next hop to reach dest in routing table

IPForwardingEngineP::do_send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/IPForwardingEngineP.nc"
  - Get some 8byte thing from Pool
  - IPForwardingEngineP::IPForward::send
  - If send failed, return to Pool

IPForwardingEngineP::IPForward::send[ROUTE_IFACE_154] "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/interfaces/IPForward.nc"

IPNeighborDiscoveryP::IPForward::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/IPNeighborDiscoveryP.nc"
  - Resolve next hop IPv6 address to LL address (else drop)
  - Resolve source IPv6 address to LL address (else drop)

IPNeighborDiscoveryP::IPLower::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/blip/interfaces/IPLower.nc"
IPDispatchP::IPLower::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/IPDispatchP.nc"

- Check if free frag available
  o If not, ERETRY
- Clear fragment (IPDispatchP::BarePacket::clear)
  o IPDispatchP::BarePacket::clear "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/interfaces/Packet.nc"
  o CC2420TinyosNetworkP::BarePacket::clear "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/chips/cc2420/lowpan/sim(CC2420TinyosNetworkP.nc"
- Pack IOVectors into compressed 802.15.4 format in a byte-buffer
  o IPDispatchP::lowpan_frag_get "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/support/sdk/c/blip/lib6lowpan/lib6lowpan_frag.c"
    ▪ IPDispatchP::pack_ieee154_header
    ▪ IPDispatchP::lowpan_pack_headers -
    ▪ IPDispatchP::pack_nhjc_chain
    ▪ ...
- IPDispatchP::BarePacket::setPayloadLength - Finalize packet
- IPDispatchP::SendQueue::enqueue - Enqueue into send queue
- IPDispatchP::PacketLink::setRetries - Set retries
- Repeat for all fragments
- IPDispatchP::sendTask::postTask – prepare to send
  o IPDispatchP::sendTask
  o
Separate task to send out packets  IPDispatchP::sendTask::runTask "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/IPDispatchP.nc"

- Get entry from send queue
- IPDispatchP::ieee154Send::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/interfaces/Send.nc"
- CC2420TinyosNetworkP::BareSend::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/chips/cc2420/lowpan/sim(CC2420TinyosNetworkP.nc"
- CC2420TinyosNetworkP::SubSend::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/interfaces/Send.nc"
- UniqueSendP::SubSend::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/interfaces/Send.nc"
  o Check if unique (“dsn”)
- PacketLinkP::Send::send
  o Until success/num retries
    ▪ PacketLinkP::SubSend::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/interfaces/Send.nc"
    ▪ CC2420CsmaP::Send::send "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/chips/cc2420/csma/sim(CC2420CsmaP.nc"
  o From this point on it reaches hardware
Packet reception at destination
Event signaled from hardware interfaces

CC2420CsmaP::Receive::receive "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/interfaces/Receive.nc"
  - Check if this packet is for me (imitating CC2420)

UniqueReceiveP::SubReceive::receive "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/chips/cc2420/unique/sim/UniqueReceiveP.nc"
  - Ensure this is not a duplicate. If it’s been seen before then drop here silently

CC2420TinyosNetworkP::SubReceive::receive "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/chips/cc2420/lowpan/sim/CC2420TinyosNetworkP.nc"
  - Check if this is “Bare” packet
  - AMs are routed elsewhere, not relevant to BLIP. BLIP needs low-level access.

IPDispatchP::ieee154Receive::receive "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/IPDispatchP.nc"
  - Unpack header from the byte-buffer
  - If header indicates fragmented packet
    - Check if this is start. If it is then start a fresh recon buffer
    - If it is middle then add to prev recon buffer
    - If it is end then finalize recon buffer
  - If not fragmented
    - Insert into recon buffer
  - In both cases call next event below with recon buffer as input

IPDispatchP::deliver "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/IPDispatchP.nc"
  - Get the recon buffer
  - Free it after below call

IPNeighborDiscoveryP::IPLower::recv "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/IPNeighborDiscoveryP.nc"

IPNeighborDiscoveryP::IPForward::recv "/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/interfaces/IPForward.nc"

IPForwardingEngineP::IPForward::recv ""/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/IPForwardingEngineP.nc"
  - Signal raw IP packet, if anyone is interested
  - Check if it is destined for local address
- If not, forward to next hop (see next section)
- else

IPForwardingEngineP::IP::recv "'/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/interfaces/IP.nc"

IPProtocolsP::SubIP::recv "'/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/IPProtocolsP.nc"

- Get IP header
- Check that it is valid IP packet header

IPProtocolsP::IP::recv "'/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/interfaces/IP.nc"

- Check the protocol type UDP/TCP/ICMP

UdpP::IP::recv "'/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/UdpP.nc"

- Check the port if someone has called “bind()” for this port
- Check UDP checksum

UdpP::UDP::recvfrom[my “instance” of UDP] "'/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/interfaces/UDP.nc"

UDP_BCP_BLIPP::Echo::recvfrom "UDP_BCP_BLIPP.nc"

Packet forwarding at intermediate hop
IPForwardingEngineP::IPForward::recv "'/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/IPForwardingEngineP.nc"

- Signal raw IP packet, if anyone is interested
- Check if it is destined for local address
- If it is NOT, then we need to fwd this to the next hop
- Get IP header from IO vector
- Lookup Route to next hop from fwding table

IPForwardingEngineP::do_send "'/opt/tinyos-2.1.2/tos/lib/net/blip/IPForwardingEngineP.nc"

- Continue as before. No change.