OmniPGW Operations Guide

OmniPGW - Packet Gateway Control Plane (PGW-C)

by Omnitouch Network Services

Table of Contents

Overview

OmniPGW is a high-performance Packet Gateway Control Plane (PGW-C) implementation for 3GPP LTE Evolved Packet Core (EPC) networks, developed by Omnitouch Network Services. It manages the control plane functions for data sessions, including:

- **Session Management** - Creating, modifying, and terminating UE (User Equipment) data sessions
- **IP Address Allocation** - Assigning IP addresses to mobile devices from configured pools
- **Policy & Charging Control** - Interfacing with PCRF for policy enforcement and charging
- **User Plane Coordination** - Controlling the PGW-U (User Plane) for packet forwarding

What PGW-C Does

- **Accepts session requests** from SGW-C via S5/S8 interface (GTP-C)
- **Allocates UE IP addresses** from configured subnet pools

- **Requests policy decisions** from PCRF via Gx interface (Diameter)
- **Programs forwarding rules** in PGW-U via Sxb interface (PFCP)
- **Manages QoS enforcement** through bearer contexts and QoS rules
- **Tracks charging information** for billing systems

Architecture

Component Overview

Process Architecture

PGW-C is built on Elixir/OTP and uses a supervised process architecture:

- **Application Supervisor** - Top-level supervisor managing all components
- **Protocol Brokers** - Handle incoming/outgoing protocol messages
- **Session Processes** - One GenServer per active PDN connection
- **Registries** - Track allocated resources (IPs, TEIDs, SEIDs, etc.)
- **PFCP Node Manager** - Maintains PFCP associations with PGW-U peers

Each component is supervised and will automatically restart on failure, ensuring system reliability.

Network Interfaces

PGW-C implements three primary 3GPP interfaces:

S5/S8 Interface (GTP-C v2)

Purpose: Control plane signaling between SGW-C and PGW-C

Protocol: GTP-C Version 2 over UDP

Key Messages:

- Create Session Request/Response
- Delete Session Request/Response
- Create Bearer Request/Response
- Delete Bearer Request/Response

Configuration: See [S5/S8 Configuration](#)

Sxb Interface (PFCP)

Purpose: Control plane signaling between PGW-C and PGW-U

Protocol: PFCP (Packet Forwarding Control Protocol) over UDP

Key Messages:

- Association Setup Request/Response
- Session Establishment Request/Response
- Session Modification Request/Response
- Session Deletion Request/Response
- Heartbeat Request/Response

Configuration: See [PFCP/Sxb Interface Documentation](#)

Gx Interface (Diameter)

Purpose: Policy and Charging Rules Function (PCRF) interface

Protocol: Diameter (IETF RFC 6733)

Key Messages:

- Credit Control Initial Request/Answer (CCR-I/CCA-I)
- Credit Control Termination Request/Answer (CCR-T/CCA-T)

Configuration: See [Diameter Gx Interface Documentation](#)

Key Concepts

PDN Session

A PDN (Packet Data Network) Session represents a UE's data connection to an external network (like the Internet). Each session has:

- **UE IP Address** - Allocated from a configured subnet pool
- **APN** (Access Point Name) - Identifies the external network
- **Bearer Context** - Contains QoS parameters and tunnel information
- **Charging ID** - Unique identifier for billing
- **TEID** (Tunnel Endpoint ID) - S5/S8 interface tunnel identifier
- **SEID** (Session Endpoint ID) - Sxb interface session identifier

Bearer Context

A bearer represents a traffic flow with specific QoS characteristics:

- **Default Bearer** - Created with every PDN session
- **Dedicated Bearers** - Additional bearers for specific QoS needs
- **EBI** (EPS Bearer ID) - Unique identifier for each bearer

- **QoS Parameters** - QCI, ARP, bitrates (MBR, GBR)

PFCP Rules

The PGW-C programs the PGW-U with packet processing rules:

- **PDR** (Packet Detection Rule) - Matches packets (uplink/downlink)
- **FAR** (Forwarding Action Rule) - Specifies forwarding behavior
- **QER** (QoS Enforcement Rule) - Enforces bitrate limits
- **BAR** (Buffering Action Rule) - Controls packet buffering

See [PFCP Interface Documentation](#) for details.

IP Address Allocation

UE IP addresses are allocated from configured subnet pools:

- **APN-based selection** - Different APNs can use different subnets
- **Dynamic allocation** - Random IP selection from available range
- **Static allocation** - Support for UE-requested IP addresses
- **Collision detection** - Ensures unique IP assignment

See [UE IP Pool Allocation](#) for configuration.

Getting Started

Prerequisites

- Elixir ~1.16
- Erlang/OTP 26+
- Network connectivity to SGW-C, PGW-U, and PCRF
- Understanding of LTE EPC architecture

Starting OmniPGW

1. **Configure runtime settings** in `config/runtime.exs`
2. **Compile the application:**

```
mix deps.get
mix compile
```

3. **Start the application:**

```
mix run --no-halt
```

Verifying Operation

Check the logs for successful startup:

```
[info] Starting OmniPGW...
[info] Starting Metrics Exporter on 127.0.0.42:42069
[info] Starting S5/S8 Broker on 127.0.0.10
[info] Starting Sxb Broker on 127.0.0.20
[info] Starting Gx Broker
[info] Starting PFCP Node Manager
[info] OmniPGW successfully started
```

Access metrics at `http://127.0.0.42:42069/metrics` (configured address).

Configuration

All runtime configuration is defined in `config/runtime.exs`. The configuration is structured into several sections:

Configuration Overview

Quick Configuration Reference

Section	Purpose	Documentation
metrics	Prometheus metrics exporter	[Monitoring Guide](#)
diameter	Gx interface to PCRF	[Diameter Gx Config](#)
s5s8	GTP-C interface to SGW-C	[S5/S8 Config](#)
sxb	PFCP interface to PGW-U	[PFCP Config](#)
ue	UE IP address pools	[IP Pool Config](#)
pco	Protocol Configuration Options	[PCO Config](#)

See the **[Complete Configuration Guide](#)** for detailed information.

Web UI - Real-Time Operations Dashboard

OmniPGW includes a built-in **Web UI** for real-time monitoring and operations, providing instant visibility into system status without needing command-line tools or metrics queries.

Accessing the Web UI

```
http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/
```

Available Pages:

Page	URL	Purpose	Refresh Rate
PGW Sessions	/pgw_sessions	View all active PDN sessions	2 seconds
PFCP Sessions	/pfcp_sessions	View PFCP sessions with PGW-U	2 seconds
UPF Status	/upf_status	Monitor PFCP peer associations	2 seconds
Diameter Peers	/diameter	Monitor PCRF connectivity	1 second
Logs	/logs	Real-time log streaming	Live

Key Features

Real-Time Updates:

- All pages auto-refresh (no manual reload needed)
- Live data streaming from OmniPGW processes
- Color-coded status indicators (green/red)

Search & Filter:

- Search sessions by IMSI, IP, MSISDN, or APN
- Instant filtering without page reload

Expandable Details:

- Click any row to see complete details
- Inspect full session state
- View peer configuration and capabilities

No Authentication Required (Internal Use):

- Direct access from management network
- Designed for NOC/operations team use
- Bind to management IP only for security

Operational Workflows

Session Troubleshooting:

```
1. User reports connection issue
2. Open PGW Sessions page
3. Search by IMSI or phone number
4. Verify session exists and has correct:
   - UE IP address allocated
   - QoS parameters from PCRF
   - Tunnel endpoints established
5. If no session found → Check Diameter page for PCRF connectivity
```

System Health Check:

```
1. Open UPF Status page → Verify all PGW-U peers "Associated"
2. Open Diameter page → Verify all PCRF peers "Connected"
3. Open PGW Sessions → Check active session count vs. capacity
```

Capacity Monitoring:

- Glance at PGW Sessions count
- Compare to licensed/expected capacity
- Identify peak usage times
- Monitor distribution across APNs

Web UI vs. Metrics

Use Web UI for:

- Individual session details
- Real-time peer status
- Quick health checks
- Troubleshooting specific users
- Verifying configuration

Use Prometheus Metrics for:

- Historical trends
- Alerting and notifications
- Capacity planning graphs
- Performance analysis
- Long-term monitoring

Best Practice: Use both together - Web UI for immediate operations, Prometheus for trends and alerts.

Monitoring & Metrics

In addition to the Web UI, OmniPGW exposes Prometheus-compatible metrics for monitoring:

Available Metrics

- **Session Metrics**

    - `teid_registry_count` - Active S5/S8 sessions
    - `seid_registry_count` - Active PFCP sessions
    - `session_id_registry_count` - Active Gx sessions
    - `address_registry_count` - Allocated UE IP addresses
    - `charging_id_registry_count` - Active charging IDs

- **Message Metrics**

  - `s5s8_inbound_messages_total` - GTP-C messages received
  - `sxb_inbound_messages_total` - PFCP messages received
  - `gx_inbound_messages_total` - Diameter messages received
  - Message handling duration distributions

- **Error Metrics**

  - `s5s8_inbound_errors_total` - S5/S8 protocol errors
  - `sxb_inbound_errors_total` - PFCP protocol errors
  - `gx_inbound_errors_total` - Diameter errors

Accessing Metrics

Metrics are exposed via HTTP at the configured endpoint:

```
curl http://127.0.0.42:42069/metrics
```

See [Monitoring & Metrics Guide](#) for dashboard setup and alerting.

Detailed Documentation

This section provides a comprehensive overview of all OmniPGW documentation. Documents are organized by topic and use case.

Documentation Structure

```
OmniPGW Documentation
├── OPERATIONS.md (This Guide)
│
└── docs/
    ├── Configuration & Setup
    │   ├── configuration.md          Complete runtime.exs reference
    │   ├── ue-ip-allocation.md        IP pool configuration
    │   └── pco-configuration.md       DNS, P-CSCF, MTU settings
    │
    ├── Network Interfaces
    │   ├── pfcp-interface.md          Sxb/PFCP (PGW-U communication)
    │   ├── diameter-gx.md             Gx (PCRF communication)
    │   ├── diameter-gy.md             Gy/Ro (OCS communication)
    │   └── s5s8-interface.md          S5/S8 (SGW-C communication)
    │
    └── Operations
        ├── session-management.md      PDN session lifecycle
        └── monitoring.md              Prometheus metrics & alerting
```

Documentation by Topic

◈ Getting Started

Document	Description	Purpose
OPERATIONS.md	Main operations guide (this document)	Overview and quick start

⚙ Configuration

Document	Description	Lines
configuration.md	Complete runtime.exs configuration reference	1,600+
ue-ip-allocation.md	UE IP pool management and allocation	943
pco-configuration.md	Protocol Configuration Options (DNS, P-CSCF, MTU)	344

◈ Network Interfaces

Document	Description	Lines
pfcp-interface.md	PFCP/Sxb interface to PGW-U	1,355
diameter-gx.md	Diameter Gx interface to PCRF (Policy Control)	941
diameter-gy.md	Diameter Gy/Ro interface to OCS (Online Charging)	1,100+
s5s8-interface.md	GTP-C S5/S8 interface to SGW-C	456

◈ Operations & Monitoring

Document	Description	Lines
session-management.md	PDN session lifecycle and operations	435
monitoring.md	Prometheus metrics, Grafana dashboards, alerting	807

Documentation Features

◈ Mermaid Diagrams

All documents include **Mermaid charts** for visual understanding:

- Architecture diagrams
- Sequence diagrams (message flows)
- State machines
- Network topology

◇ Practical Examples

Every document includes:

- Real-world configuration examples
- Copy-paste ready configs
- Common use cases

◇ Troubleshooting

Each interface document includes:

- Common issues and solutions
- Debug commands
- Metrics for diagnosis

◇ Cross-References

Documents are extensively cross-linked for easy navigation.

Reading Paths

For Network Operators

1. OPERATIONS.md - Overview (this document)
2. configuration.md - Setup
3. monitoring.md - Monitoring
4. session-management.md - Day-to-day operations

For Network Engineers

1. OPERATIONS.md - Architecture overview (this document)
2. pfcp-interface.md - User plane control
3. diameter-gx.md - Policy control
4. diameter-gy.md - Online charging
5. s5s8-interface.md - Session management
6. ue-ip-allocation.md - IP management

For Configuration & Deployment

1. configuration.md - Complete reference
2. ue-ip-allocation.md - IP pools
3. pco-configuration.md - Network parameters
4. monitoring.md - Set up monitoring

Document Statistics

- **Total Documents:** 10
- **Total Lines:** ~7,300+
- **Total Size:** ~180 KB
- **Mermaid Diagrams:** 65+
- **Code Examples:** 120+

Key Concepts Covered

Architecture

- ◈ Control/User plane separation
- ◈ OTP/Elixir architecture
- ◈ Process supervision
- ◈ GenServer-based sessions

Protocols

- ◈ PFCP (Packet Forwarding Control Protocol)
- ◈ GTP-C v2 (GPRS Tunnelling Protocol)
- ◈ Diameter (RFC 6733)

3GPP Interfaces

- ◈ Sxb (PGW-C ↔ PGW-U)
- ◈ Gx (PGW-C ↔ PCRF)
- ◈ Gy/Ro (PGW-C ↔ OCS)
- ◈ S5/S8 (SGW-C ↔ PGW-C)

Operations

- ◈ Session management
- ◈ IP allocation strategies
- ◈ QoS enforcement
- ◈ Charging integration
- ◈ Monitoring & alerting

Additional Resources

3GPP Specifications

Spec	Title
TS 29.274	GTP-C v2 (S5/S8 interface)

Spec	Title
TS 29.244	PFCP (Sxb interface)
TS 29.212	Diameter Gx interface (Policy Control)
TS 32.299	Diameter Charging Applications (Gy/Ro)
TS 32.251	Packet Switched domain charging
TS 23.401	EPC architecture

Related Documentation

- Project README: README.md
- Configuration file: config/runtime.exs

Contributing

To update documentation:

1. Edit Markdown files in `docs/`
2. Include Mermaid diagrams for visual concepts
3. Add practical examples
4. Cross-reference related docs
5. Update OPERATIONS.md if adding new documents

Quick Links

- GitHub Repository
- Project README
- Configuration File

Support

For questions or issues with OmniPGW:

- Review documentation in this guide
- Check configuration examples
- Consult troubleshooting sections in interface docs
- Refer to the project repository for contributions

OmniPGW - *Carrier-grade LTE Packet Gateway Control Plane*

Developed by Omnitouch Network Services

Documentation Version: 1.0 **Last Updated:** 2025-10-29

OmniPGW Configuration Guide

Complete Reference for runtime.exs Configuration

by Omnitouch Network Services

Table of Contents

Overview

OmniPGW uses **runtime configuration** defined in `config/runtime.exs`. This file is evaluated at **application startup** and allows for dynamic configuration based on environment variables or external sources.

Configuration Philosophy

Key Principles:

- **Single Source of Truth** - All configuration in one file
- **Type Safety** - Configuration validated at startup
- **Environment Flexibility** - Support for dev, test, production
- **Clear Defaults** - Sensible defaults with explicit overrides

---

Configuration File Structure

File Location

```
pgw_c/
├── config/
    ├── config.exs         # Base configuration (imports runtime.exs)
    ├── dev.exs            # Development-specific config
    ├── prod.exs           # Production-specific config
    └── runtime.exs        # ← Main configuration file
```

Top-Level Structure

```
# config/runtime.exs
import Config

config :logger, level: :info

config :pgw_c,
  metrics: %{...},
  diameter: %{...},
  s5s8: %{...},
  sxb: %{...},
  ue: %{...},
  pco: %{...}
```

Configuration Sections

Metrics Configuration

Purpose

Configure the Prometheus metrics exporter for monitoring OmniPGW.

Configuration Block

```
config :pgw_c,
  metrics: %{
    # Enable/disable metrics exporter
    enabled: true,

    # IP address to bind HTTP server
    ip_address: "0.0.0.0",

    # Port for metrics endpoint
```

```
    port: 9090,

    # How often to poll registries (milliseconds)
    registry_poll_period_ms: 10_000
  }
```

Parameters

Parameter	Type	Default	Description
enabled	Boolean	`true`	Enable metrics exporter
ip_address	String (IP)	`"0.0.0.0"`	Bind address (0.0.0.0 = all interfaces)
port	Integer	`9090`	HTTP port for `/metrics` endpoint
registry_poll_period_ms	Integer	`10_000`	Polling interval for registry counts

Examples

Production - Bind to specific IP:

```
metrics: %{
  enabled: true,
  ip_address: "10.0.0.20",  # Management network
  port: 9090,
  registry_poll_period_ms: 5_000  # Poll every 5 seconds
}
```

Development - Localhost only:

```
metrics: %{
  enabled: true,
  ip_address: "127.0.0.1",
  port: 42069,  # Non-standard port
  registry_poll_period_ms: 10_000
}
```

Disable metrics:

```
metrics: %{
  enabled: false
}
```

Accessing Metrics

```
# Default endpoint
curl http://<ip_address>:<port>/metrics

# Example
curl http://10.0.0.20:9090/metrics
```

See: [Monitoring & Metrics Guide](#) for detailed metrics documentation.

Diameter/Gx Configuration

Purpose

Configure the Diameter protocol for Gx interface (PCRF communication).

Configuration Block

```
config :pgw_c,
  diameter: %{
    # IP address to listen for Diameter connections
    listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",

    # OmniPGW's Diameter identity (Origin-Host)
    host: "omnipgw.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",

    # OmniPGW's Diameter realm (Origin-Realm)
    realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",

    # List of PCRF peers
    peer_list: [
      %{
        # PCRF Diameter identity
        host: "pcrf.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",

        # PCRF realm
        realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",

        # PCRF IP address
        ip: "10.0.0.30",

        # Initiate connection to PCRF
        initiate_connection: true
      }
    ]
  }
```

Parameters

Parameter	Type	Required	Description
listen_ip	String (IP)	Yes	Diameter listen address
host	String (FQDN)	Yes	OmniPGW's Origin-Host (must be FQDN)
realm	String (Domain)	Yes	OmniPGW's Origin-Realm
peer_list	List	Yes	PCRF peer configurations

Peer Configuration:

Parameter	Type	Required	Description
host	String (FQDN)	Yes	PCRF Diameter identity
realm	String (Domain)	Yes	PCRF realm
ip	String (IP)	Yes	PCRF IP address
initiate_connection	Boolean	Yes	Whether OmniPGW connects to PCRF

FQDN Format

Diameter identities MUST be FQDNs:

```
# CORRECT
host: "omnipgw.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org"

# INCORRECT
host: "omnipgw"                # Not a FQDN
host: "10.0.0.20"              # IP not allowed
```

3GPP Format:

```
<hostname>.epc.mnc<MNC>.mcc<MCC>.3gppnetwork.org

Examples:
- omnipgw.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org  (MCC=001, MNC=001)
- pgw-c.epc.mnc260.mcc310.3gppnetwork.org    (MCC=310, MNC=260 - US T-
Mobile)
```

Examples

Single PCRF:

```
diameter: %{
  listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",
  host: "omnipgw.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
  realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
  peer_list: [
    %{
      host: "pcrf.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
      realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
      ip: "10.0.0.30",
      initiate_connection: true
    }
  ]
}
```

Multiple PCRFs (Redundancy):

```
diameter: %{
  listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",
  host: "omnipgw.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
  realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
  peer_list: [
    %{
      host: "pcrf-primary.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
      realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
      ip: "10.0.1.30",
      initiate_connection: true
    },
    %{
      host: "pcrf-backup.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
      realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
      ip: "10.0.2.30",
      initiate_connection: true
    }
  ]
}
```

PCRF-Initiated Connection:

```
diameter: %{
  listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",
  host: "omnipgw.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
  realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
  peer_list: [
    %{
      host: "pcrf.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
      realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
      ip: "10.0.0.30",
      initiate_connection: false  # Wait for PCRF to connect
    }
  ]
}
```

See: [Diameter Gx Interface Documentation](#)

S5/S8 Configuration

Purpose

Configure the GTP-C interface for communication with SGW-C.

Configuration Block

```
config :pgw_c,
  s5s8: %{
    # Local IPv4 address for S5/S8 interface
    local_ipv4_address: "10.0.0.20",

    # Optional: Local IPv6 address
    local_ipv6_address: nil,

    # Optional: Override default GTP-C port (2123)
    local_port: 2123
  }
```

Parameters

Parameter	Type	Default	Description
local_ipv4_address	String (IPv4)	Required	S5/S8 interface IPv4 address
local_ipv6_address	String (IPv6)	nil	S5/S8 interface IPv6 address (optional)
local_port	Integer	2123	UDP port for GTP-C (standard port 2123)

Protocol Details

- **Protocol:** GTP-C Version 2
- **Transport:** UDP
- **Standard Port:** 2123
- **Direction:** Receives from SGW-C

Examples

IPv4 Only (Common):

```
s5s8: %{
  local_ipv4_address: "10.0.0.20"
}
```

IPv4 + IPv6 Dual-Stack:

```
s5s8: %{
  local_ipv4_address: "10.0.0.20",
  local_ipv6_address: "2001:db8::20"
}
```

Custom Port (Non-Standard):

```
s5s8: %{
  local_ipv4_address: "10.0.0.20",
  local_port: 2124  # Custom port
}
```

Network Planning

IP Address Selection:

- Use dedicated management/signaling network
- Ensure reachability from all SGW-C nodes
- Consider redundancy (VRRP/HSRP) for HA

Firewall Rules:

```
# Allow GTP-C from SGW-C
iptables -A INPUT -p udp --dport 2123 -s <sgw_c_network> -j ACCEPT
```

Sxb/PFCP Configuration

Purpose

Configure the PFCP interface for communication with PGW-U (User Plane).

Configuration Block

```
config :pgw_c,
  sxb: %{
    # Local IP address for PFCP communication
    local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20",

    # Optional: Override default PFCP port (8805)
    local_port: 8805
  }
```

Parameters

Parameter	Type	Default	Description
local_ip_address	String (IP)	Required	PFCP listen address
local_port	Integer	8805	PFCP UDP port

Important:

- **All UPF peers are automatically registered** from the upf_selection configuration (rules + fallback pool) at startup
- Auto-registered UPFs use sensible defaults:

- - Auto-generated name: "UPF-<ip>:<port>"
    - Passive PFCP association (wait for UPF to initiate)
    - 5-second heartbeat interval
  - UPF selection rules and pools are configured in the separate upf_selection section. See [UPF Selection Strategies](#) below.
  - Dynamic UPF registration is supported for DNS-discovered UPFs that aren't in the configuration

Examples

Minimal Configuration:

```
sxb: %{
  local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20"
}

# All UPFs in upf_selection will be automatically registered with:
# - Auto-generated name: "UPF-10.0.0.21:8805"
# - Passive PFCP association (wait for UPF to connect)
# - 5-second heartbeat interval
```

Custom PFCP Port:

```
sxb: %{
  local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20",
  local_port: 8806  # Non-standard PFCP port
}
```

Complete Example with UPF Selection:

```
sxb: %{
  local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20"
},
upf_selection: %{
  rules: [
    %{
      name: "IMS Pool",
      priority: 10,
      match_field: :apn,
      match_regex: ~r/^ims$/,
      upf_pool: [
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.21", remote_port: 8805, weight:
100},
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.22", remote_port: 8805, weight:
100}
      ]
    }
  ],
  fallback_pool: [
```

```
    %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.2.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 100}
  ]
}
# All 3 UPFs (10.0.1.21, 10.0.1.22, 10.0.2.21) are automatically
registered
```

DNS-Based Selection (Dynamic Registration):

```
sxb: %{
  local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20"
},
upf_selection: %{
  dns_enabled: true,
  dns_query_priority: [:ecgi, :tai],
  dns_suffix: "epc.3gppnetwork.org",
  fallback_pool: [
    %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.2.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 100}
  ]
}
# DNS-discovered UPFs will be dynamically registered on first use
```

UPF Selection Strategies

Important: UPF selection configuration has been simplified. All UPF peers are automatically registered from the upf_selection configuration.

Configuration Structure

UPF selection is configured in the **upf_selection** section which defines:

1. **Static Rules** - Pattern-based routing with load balancing pools
2. **DNS Settings** - Location-based dynamic UPF discovery
3. **Fallback Pool** - Default pool when no rules match and DNS fails

Selection Priority Order

1. **Static Rules** (Highest Priority) - Pattern-based routing with load balancing pools
2. **DNS-Based Selection** (Lower Priority) - Location-based dynamic UPF discovery
3. **Fallback Pool** (Lowest Priority) - Default pool when no rules match and DNS fails

UPF Selection Decision Flow

Available Match Fields

Static rules can match on any of these session attributes:

Match Field	Description	Example Pattern
`:imsi`	International Mobile Subscriber Identity	`^313380.*` (US carrier)
`:apn`	Access Point Name / DNN	`^internet\.` or `^ims\.`
`:serving_network_plmn_id`	Serving network identifier	`^313380$`
`:sgw_ip_address`	SGW IP address	`^10\.100\..*`
`:uli_tai_plmn_id`	Tracking Area PLMN ID	`^313.*`
`:uli_ecgi_plmn_id`	E-UTRAN Cell PLMN ID	`^313.*`

Selection Methods Comparison

Method	When to Use	Pros	Cons
UPF Pools	Production deployments	Load balancing, HA, flexible weights	Requires multiple UPFs
APN-Based	Service differentiation	Route IMS/Internet separately	Static configuration
IMSI-Based	Roaming scenarios	Geographic routing	Regex complexity
DNS-Based	MEC/Edge computing	Dynamic, location-aware	Requires DNS infrastructure
Fallback Pool	Safety net	Always have a UPF	May not be optimal
Dry-Run Mode	Testing configs	Safe testing	No real traffic

Complete Session Establishment Flow

This diagram shows the complete end-to-end flow of session establishment including UPF selection and PCO population:

Key Decision Points:

1. **UPF Selection Priority:**

   - Static Rules (Pattern Match) → DNS Discovery → Fallback Pool
   - Health filtering applied at all stages
   - Active/Standby logic for high availability
   - **See:** PFCP Interface for UPF communication details

2. **PCO Population Priority:**

   - Rule PCO Override → P-CSCF DNS Discovery → Global PCO Config
   - Per-field merging (rule overrides specific fields, global provides defaults)
   - **See:** [PCO Configuration](#) for detailed PCO parameters

3. **P-CSCF Discovery Priority:**

   - Per-Rule FQDN → Global DNS Discovery → Static Rule PCO → Global Static PCO
   - **See:** [P-CSCF Monitoring](#) for discovery metrics and health tracking

4. **Charging Integration:**

   - PCRF determines if online charging required (Rating-Group + Online=1)
   - OCS grants quota before session establishment
   - PGW-C tracks quota and requests more via CCR-Update
   - **See:** [Diameter Gx Interface](#) and [Diameter Gy Interface](#) for charging details

Complete Configuration Example

Here's a complete example showing multi-pool UPF selection with automatic peer registration:

```
config :pgw_c,
  # PFCP Interface - All UPFs are auto-registered from upf_selection
  sxb: %{
    local_ip_address: "127.0.0.20"
  },

  # UPF Selection Logic - All UPFs defined here are automatically
registered
  upf_selection: %{
    # DNS-based selection settings
    dns_enabled: false,
    dns_query_priority: [:ecgi, :tai, :rai, :sai, :cgi],
    dns_suffix: "epc.3gppnetwork.org",
    dns_timeout_ms: 5000,

    # Static selection rules (evaluated in priority order)
    rules: [
      # Rule 1: IMS Traffic - Highest Priority
      %{
        name: "IMS Traffic",
        priority: 20,
        match_field: :apn,
```

```
          match_regex: "^ims",
          upf_pool: [
            %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.2.21", remote_port: 8805,
weight: 80},
            %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.2.22", remote_port: 8805,
weight: 20}
          ]
        },

        # Rule 2: Enterprise APN
        %{
          name: "Enterprise Traffic",
          priority: 15,
          match_field: :apn,
          match_regex: "^(enterprise|corporate)\.apn",
          upf_pool: [
            %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.3.21", remote_port: 8805,
weight: 100}
          ]
        },

        # Rule 3: Internet Traffic - Load Balanced
        %{
          name: "Internet Traffic",
          priority: 5,
          match_field: :apn,
          match_regex: "^internet",
          upf_pool: [
            %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.21", remote_port: 8805,
weight: 33},
            %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.22", remote_port: 8805,
weight: 33},
            %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.23", remote_port: 8805,
weight: 34}
          ]
        }
      ],

      # Fallback pool - Used when no rules match and DNS fails
      fallback_pool: [
        %{remote_ip_address: "127.0.0.21", remote_port: 8805, weight:
100}
      ]
  }
```

Key Features

Current Format:

- ◈ **Automatic Registration**: All UPFs from `upf_selection` are automatically registered at startup
- ◈ **Centralized Configuration**: All UPF selection and peer configuration in one section
- ◈ **Required Pools**: All rules use `upf_pool` format (even for single UPF)
- ◈ **Structured Fallback**: Dedicated `fallback_pool` with weighted distribution
- ◈ **DNS Integration**: DNS settings alongside selection rules
- ◈ **Dynamic Registration**: DNS-discovered UPFs are automatically registered on first use
- ◈ **Health Monitoring**: All configured UPFs are monitored with 5-second heartbeats

Migration from Previous Format:

- Removed: `sxb.peer_list` field (no longer needed)
- Removed: `selection_list` embedded in peer configurations
- All UPF definitions now go in `upf_selection` rules and fallback pool

How UPF Pools Work:

1. **Health-Aware Selection**: Only healthy UPFs receive traffic

   - Healthy = PFCP association active + less than 3 consecutive missed heartbeats
   - Unhealthy UPFs are automatically filtered out
   - Falls back to all UPFs if none are healthy (fail-fast)

2. **Active/Standby Support**: Use `weight: 0` for standby UPFs

   - **Active UPFs** (weight > 0): Receive traffic when healthy
   - **Standby UPFs** (weight == 0): Only receive traffic when all active UPFs are down
   - Standby UPFs are treated as `weight: 1` when activated

3. **Weighted Random Selection**: Each session is randomly assigned to a healthy UPF based on weights

   - In the example above: 70% go to .21, 20% to .22, 10% to .23
   - Higher weight = more sessions assigned to that UPF
   - Equal weights = equal distribution

4. **Automatic Registration**: All UPFs in pools are automatically registered at startup

   - Auto-generated names: "UPF-<ip>:<port>"
   - Default settings: passive PFCP association, 5-second heartbeats
   - Immediate health tracking for all configured UPFs

Health-Aware Selection with Active/Standby

Weighted Random Selection Example:

```
Pool: [
  UPF-A: weight 50, healthy ✓
  UPF-B: weight 30, healthy ✓
  UPF-C: weight 20, healthy ✓
]

Total Weight: 50 + 30 + 20 = 100

Weight Ranges:
  UPF-A: 0-49   (50%)
  UPF-B: 50-79  (30%)
  UPF-C: 80-99  (20%)

Random number: 63 → Selects UPF-B
Random number: 15 → Selects UPF-A
Random number: 91 → Selects UPF-C
```

Active/Standby Failover Example:

```
Initial Pool: [
  UPF-A: weight 100, healthy ✓   (Active)
  UPF-B: weight 0, healthy ✓     (Standby)
]

Scenario 1: UPF-A Healthy
→ Use Active Pool: [UPF-A: 100]
→ All traffic to UPF-A

Scenario 2: UPF-A Fails
→ No active UPFs healthy
→ Activate Standby: [UPF-B: 1]
→ All traffic fails over to UPF-B
→ Log: "All active UPFs down, activating standby UPFs"

Scenario 3: Both Unhealthy
→ No healthy UPFs
→ Use full pool: [UPF-A: 100, UPF-B: 0]
→ Select with weights (attempt connection, may fail)
→ Log: "No healthy UPFs in pool, using full pool as fallback"
```

Common Weight Patterns:

```
# Equal distribution (25% each)
upf_pool: [
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.1", remote_port: 8805, weight: 1},
```

```
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.2", remote_port: 8805, weight: 1},
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.3", remote_port: 8805, weight: 1},
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.4", remote_port: 8805, weight: 1}
]

# Primary/backup load balanced (90% / 10%)
upf_pool: [
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 90},
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.22", remote_port: 8805, weight: 10}
]

# Active/Standby (100% primary, 0% standby until primary fails)
upf_pool: [
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 100},
# Active
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.22", remote_port: 8805, weight: 0}
# Standby (only when active down)
]

# Active with multiple standbys (load balanced when activated)
upf_pool: [
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.1", remote_port: 8805, weight: 100},
# Active
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.2", remote_port: 8805, weight: 0},
# Standby 1
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.3", remote_port: 8805, weight: 0}
# Standby 2
]
# Result: Active gets 100%. If active fails, standbys get 50/50%.

# A/B testing (50% / 50%)
upf_pool: [
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.100", remote_port: 8805, weight: 50},
# Old version
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.200", remote_port: 8805, weight: 50}
# New version
]
```

Use Cases:

- **Active/Standby Failover**: Use `weight: 0` for hot standby UPFs that only activate when primaries fail
- **Health-Aware HA**: Automatic failover when UPFs lose PFCP association or miss heartbeats
- **Horizontal Scaling**: Distribute load across multiple UPFs to increase capacity
- **High Availability**: Automatic distribution prevents single UPF overload
- **Gradual Rollouts**: Use weights for canary deployments (e.g., 95% old, 5% new)

- **Cost Optimization**: Route more traffic to higher-capacity UPFs
- **Geographic Distribution**: Balance sessions across edge UPFs

PCO (Protocol Configuration Options) Overrides:

Each UPF selection rule can optionally specify custom PCO values that override the default PCO configuration for matching sessions. This allows different APNs or traffic types to receive different network parameters.

How PCO Overrides Work:

1. **Partial Overrides**: Only specify the PCO fields you want to override
2. **Default Fallback**: Unspecified fields use values from the main `pco` config
3. **Rule-Specific**: Each rule can have different PCO overrides
4. **Priority Merging**: Rule PCO takes priority over default PCO

PCO Population Hierarchy

Priority Order for Each PCO Field:

1. **Rule PCO Override** (Highest Priority)
2. **P-CSCF DNS Discovery** (for P-CSCF addresses only)
3. **Global PCO Configuration** (Lowest Priority / Fallback)

Example: IMS Rule Overrides DNS, Enterprise Rule Overrides Everything

```
IMS Session (matched "IMS Traffic" rule):
├─ DNS Servers: FROM GLOBAL (not overridden in rule)
├─ P-CSCF: FROM DNS DISCOVERY (p_cscf_discovery_fqdn set in rule)
│  └─ Fallback: FROM RULE if DNS fails
└─ MTU: FROM GLOBAL (not overridden in rule)

Enterprise Session (matched "Enterprise Traffic" rule):
├─ DNS Servers: FROM RULE (192.168.1.10, 192.168.1.11)
├─ P-CSCF: FROM GLOBAL (not overridden in rule)
└─ MTU: FROM RULE (1500)

Default Session (no rule matched):
├─ DNS Servers: FROM GLOBAL
├─ P-CSCF: FROM GLOBAL or DNS if global discovery enabled
└─ MTU: FROM GLOBAL
```

Available PCO Override Fields:

- `primary_dns_server_address` - Primary DNS server IP
- `secondary_dns_server_address` - Secondary DNS server IP
- `primary_nbns_server_address` - Primary WINS server IP
- `secondary_nbns_server_address` - Secondary WINS server IP
- `p_cscf_ipv4_address_list` - List of P-CSCF server IPs (for IMS) - See [PCO](PCO)

[Configuration](#) and [P-CSCF Monitoring](#) for dynamic P-CSCF discovery
- `ipv4_link_mtu_size` - MTU size in bytes

P-CSCF Discovery Per Rule:

In addition to PCO overrides, UPF selection rules can specify dynamic P-CSCF discovery:

- `p_cscf_discovery_fqdn` - (String) FQDN for DNS-based P-CSCF discovery (e.g., "pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org")

When this parameter is set:

1. PGW-C performs DNS lookup for the specified FQDN during session establishment
2. DNS server returns list of P-CSCF IP addresses
3. Discovered P-CSCF addresses are sent to UE via PCO
4. If DNS lookup fails, falls back to `p_cscf_ipv4_address_list` from PCO override (if specified) or global PCO config
5. See [P-CSCF Monitoring](#) for monitoring discovery success/failure rates

This is particularly useful for:

- **IMS APNs** - Different IMS networks with different P-CSCF servers
- **Multi-tenant deployments** - Different enterprises with dedicated P-CSCF infrastructure
- **Geographic routing** - DNS returns closest P-CSCF based on UE location
- **High availability** - DNS automatically returns only healthy P-CSCF servers

Example: IMS Traffic with Custom P-CSCF:

```
rules: [
  %{
    name: "IMS Traffic",
    priority: 20,
    match_field: :apn,
    match_regex: "^ims",
    upf_pool: [
      %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.2.21", remote_port: 8805, weight:
80},
      %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.2.22", remote_port: 8805, weight:
20}
    ],
    # P-CSCF Discovery: Dynamically query DNS for P-CSCF addresses
    # DNS lookup returns current P-CSCF IPs based on this FQDN
    p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org",
    # IMS sessions get custom P-CSCF servers (used as fallback if DNS
fails)
    pco: %{
```

```
          p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100", "10.101.2.101"]
          # DNS, NBNS, MTU will use defaults from main pco config
      }
    }
]
```

Example: Enterprise Traffic with Custom DNS:

```
rules: [
  %{
    name: "Enterprise Traffic",
    priority: 15,
    match_field: :apn,
    match_regex: "^(enterprise|corporate)\.apn",
    upf_pool: [
      %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.3.21", remote_port: 8805, weight:
100}
    ],
    # Enterprise sessions get corporate DNS and custom MTU
    pco: %{
      primary_dns_server_address: "192.168.1.10",
      secondary_dns_server_address: "192.168.1.11",
      ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1500
      # P-CSCF, NBNS will use defaults from main pco config
    }
  }
]
```

Example: Complete Override (All PCO Fields):

```
rules: [
  %{
    name: "IoT APN - Fully Custom",
    priority: 10,
    match_field: :apn,
    match_regex: "^iot\.m2m",
    upf_pool: [
      %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.5.21", remote_port: 8805, weight:
100}
    ],
    # IoT sessions get completely custom PCO
    pco: %{
      primary_dns_server_address: "8.8.8.8",
      secondary_dns_server_address: "8.8.4.4",
      primary_nbns_server_address: "10.0.0.100",
      secondary_nbns_server_address: "10.0.0.101",
      p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: [],  # No P-CSCF for IoT
      ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1280       # Smaller MTU for constrained
devices
```

```
      }
    }
]
```

Use Cases:

- **IMS/VoLTE**: Provide carrier-specific P-CSCF servers for voice services
- **Enterprise APNs**: Route corporate traffic through company DNS servers
- **IoT/M2M**: Use public DNS and optimized MTU for low-bandwidth devices
- **Roaming**: Provide local DNS servers for visiting subscribers
- **Service Differentiation**: Different network parameters per service type

DNS-Based UPF Selection:

Enable dynamic UPF selection based on User Location Information (ULI) using DNS NAPTR queries. DNS settings are now configured within the `upf_selection` section.

Note: This provides geographic or topology-based UPF selection. See [PFCP Interface](#) for PFCP association setup with dynamically discovered UPFs and [Session Management](#) for session establishment flows.

```
upf_selection: %{
  # Enable DNS-based selection
  dns_enabled: true,

  # Location types to query in priority order
  dns_query_priority: [:ecgi, :tai, :rai, :sai, :cgi],

  # DNS suffix for 3GPP NAPTR queries
  dns_suffix: "epc.3gppnetwork.org",

  # DNS query timeout in milliseconds
  dns_timeout_ms: 5000,

  # ... rules and fallback_pool ...
}
```

DNS-based selection works as follows:

1. **Priority**: DNS selection is used only when **NO static rules match** (lower priority)
2. **Query Generation**: Builds DNS NAPTR queries based on UE location:
   - ECGI query: `eci-<hex>.ecgi.epc.mnc<MNC>.mcc<MCC>.epc.3gppnetwork.org`
   - TAI query: `tac-lb<hex>.tac-hb<hex>.tac.epc.mnc<MNC>.mcc<MCC>.epc.3gppnetwork.org`
   - RAI, SAI, CGI queries follow similar 3GPP TS 23.003 format
3. **Fallback Hierarchy**: Tries each location type in priority order until a

match is found
4. **Peer Matching**: DNS results are filtered against configured peer list
5. **Selection**: Chooses matching peer (currently first match, load-based selection coming soon)

Example DNS Records (configure on your DNS server):

```
; NAPTR record for TAC 100 in PLMN 313-380
tac-lb64.tac-hb00.tac.epc.mnc380.mcc313.epc.3gppnetwork.org IN NAPTR
10 50 "a" "x-3gpp-upf:x-sxb" "" upf-edge-1.example.com.

; A record for the UPF
upf-edge-1.example.com IN A 10.100.1.21
```

Use Cases:

- **Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC)**: Route sessions to geographically closest edge UPFs
- **Dynamic UPF Discovery**: Add/remove UPFs without reconfiguring PGW-C
- **Load Balancing**: Distribute load across UPFs based on location
- **Network Slicing**: Route different slices to different UPFs per location

UPF Health Monitoring

Automatic Health-Aware Selection: The PGW-C continuously monitors the health of all UPFs and automatically excludes unhealthy UPFs from selection.

Health Check Criteria

A UPF is considered **healthy** when ALL of the following conditions are met:

1. **PFCP Association Active**: The UPF has an established PFCP association
2. **Heartbeat Responsiveness**: Less than 3 consecutive missed heartbeats
3. **Process Alive**: The UPF peer GenServer process is running

A UPF is considered **unhealthy** if ANY of the following are true:

- PFCP association is not established (`associated: false`)
- 3 or more consecutive heartbeat timeouts
- UPF peer process has crashed or is unresponsive

Monitoring Mechanism

For Configured UPFs (in `upf_selection`):

- Health tracking starts immediately at boot
- PFCP association is monitored continuously
- Heartbeats are sent every 5 seconds

- `missed_heartbeats_consecutive` counter tracks consecutive failures
- All UPFs from rules and fallback pool are automatically registered

For DNS-Discovered UPFs (dynamic registration):

- Assumed healthy until first session attempt
- Registered automatically on first use
- Health tracking begins after registration

Selection Behavior

Active/Standby Mode (when using `weight: 0`):

1. Filter to only healthy UPFs
2. Separate into **active** (weight > 0) and **standby** (weight == 0)
3. Use active UPFs if any are healthy
4. Activate standby UPFs (treat as weight 1) if all active are unhealthy
5. Fall back to full pool if no healthy UPFs exist

Load-Balanced Mode (all weight > 0):

1. Filter to only healthy UPFs
2. Perform weighted random selection among healthy UPFs
3. Fall back to full pool if no healthy UPFs exist

Logging:

```
[debug] Using active UPF pool (2/3 healthy UPFs, 1 standby)
[info] All active UPFs down, activating standby UPFs (1 standby UPFs,
treating weight 0 as 1)
[warning] No healthy UPFs in pool (3 total), using full pool as
fallback
```

Checking UPF Health

Programmatically:

```
# Check if a specific UPF is healthy
iex> PGW_C.PFCP_Node.is_peer_healthy?({10, 100, 1, 21})
true

# Get detailed health information
iex> PGW_C.PFCP_Node.get_peer_health({10, 100, 1, 21})
%{
  associated: true,
  missed_heartbeats: 0,
  healthy: true,
  registered: true
```

```
}
```

Via Web UI:

- Navigate to `/upf_selection` in the control panel
- View real-time health status for all UPFs in each pool
- Status badges: ◇ Active-UP, ◇ Standby-Ready, ◇ Active-DOWN, ◇ Not Associated
- Role badges: ACTIVE (weight > 0), STANDBY (weight == 0), DYNAMIC (DNS-discovered, not in config)
- Heartbeat miss counter displayed for associated UPFs

Health Monitoring Best Practices

1. **Configure UPFs in upf_selection**: All UPFs in rules and fallback pools are automatically monitored

```
upf_selection: %{
  rules: [
    %{
      name: "Internet Traffic",
      priority: 10,
      match_field: :apn,
      match_regex: "^internet",
      upf_pool: [
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.21", remote_port: 8805,
weight: 100}
      ]
    }
  ],
  fallback_pool: [
    %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.2.21", remote_port: 8805,
weight: 100}
  ]
}
# All UPFs automatically get:
# - 5-second heartbeats
# - Health monitoring from startup
# - Auto-generated names
```

2. **Use standby UPFs**: Configure hot standbys with `weight: 0` for automatic failover

```
upf_pool: [
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.1.1.1", remote_port: 8805, weight:
100},  # Active
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.1.1.2", remote_port: 8805, weight: 0}
# Standby
]
```

3. **Monitor via Web UI**: Regularly check UPF health status in the control panel

4. **Tune heartbeat threshold**: Adjust the `< 3` missed heartbeats threshold in code if needed

   - Located in: `lib/core/pfcp_node/impl/peer.ex` function `is_peer_healthy?/1`
   - Lower threshold = faster failover but more sensitive to network blips
   - Higher threshold = more tolerant but slower failover

Dynamic UPF Registration

Feature: The PGW-C automatically registers and monitors UPFs discovered through DNS, even if they aren't in the `upf_selection` configuration.

How It Works

When any selection method (static rules, pools, or DNS) returns a UPF that's not already registered, the system automatically:

1. **Creates a PFCP Peer**: Generates a default peer configuration for the unknown UPF
2. **Initiates PFCP Association**: Attempts to establish a PFCP association with the UPF
3. **Registers in Peer Registry**: Adds the UPF to the internal peer tracking system
4. **Starts Heartbeat Monitoring**: Begins periodic heartbeat exchanges (10-second intervals)
5. **Tracks Liveness**: Monitors the UPF for failures and recovery

Default Configuration for Dynamic UPFs

When a UPF is dynamically registered, it receives the following default configuration:

```
%{
  name: "Dynamic-UPF-<IP>",                 # e.g., "Dynamic-
UPF-10-100-1-21"
  remote_ip_address: <discovered_ip>,     # IP from DNS or selection
  remote_port: 8805,                      # Standard PFCP port
(overridable)
  initiate_pfcp_association_setup: true,  # PGW-C initiates
association
  heartbeat_period_ms: 10_000             # 10-second heartbeat
interval
}
```

> **Note**: Dynamic UPFs are registered purely for association management. They are used as targets in `upf_selection` rules, not as sources of selection logic.

Example: DNS Returns Unknown UPF

```
# DNS query returns: upf-edge-2.example.com -> 10.200.5.99
# This UPF is NOT in your upf_selection configuration

# Dynamic registration flow:
# 1. System detects unknown UPF 10.200.5.99
# 2. Logs: "UPF {10, 200, 5, 99} not pre-configured, attempting
dynamic registration..."
# 3. Sends PFCP Association Setup Request to 10.200.5.99:8805
# 4. If UPF responds: Association established, session continues
normally
# 5. If UPF doesn't respond: Session fails gracefully with clear error
message
```

Benefits

◇ **True Dynamic Discovery**: DNS-based UPF selection now works without pre-configuration ◇ **Automatic Scaling**: Add UPFs to your network without restarting PGW-C ◇ **Graceful Degradation**: If association fails, sessions fail cleanly (no crashes) ◇ **Backwards Compatible**: Pre-configured UPFs continue to work exactly as before ◇ **Full Monitoring**: Dynamic UPFs get the same heartbeat monitoring as static peers

Failure Handling

If a dynamically discovered UPF fails to respond to PFCP Association Setup:

```
[error] PFCP Association Setup failed for dynamic UPF {10, 200, 5,
99}: :timeout
[error] Failed to dynamically register UPF {10, 200, 5, 99}: :timeout.
        Session creation will fail. Consider adding this UPF to the
upf_selection configuration.
```

The session creation will fail, but the PGW-C remains stable and continues processing other sessions.

When to Pre-Configure vs. Dynamic Registration

Scenario	Recommendation
Production Core UPFs	Pre-configure in `upf_selection` (explicit configuration, monitored from startup)
DNS-Discovered	Use dynamic registration (scales automatically with

Scenario	Recommendation
Edge UPFs	infrastructure)
Test/Development UPFs	Either approach works (dynamic is more convenient)
Mission-Critical UPFs	Pre-configure in `upf_selection` (ensures monitoring from startup)
Ephemeral/Auto-Scaled UPFs	Use dynamic registration (UPFs come and go dynamically)

Monitoring Dynamic UPFs

Dynamic UPFs appear in logs with their auto-generated names:

```
[info] Creating dynamic PFCP peer configuration for Dynamic-
UPF-10-200-5-99 ({10, 200, 5, 99}:8805)
[info] Dynamic UPF peer Dynamic-UPF-10-200-5-99 registered
successfully with PID #PID<0.1234.0>
```

You can query the peer registry to see all registered peers (both static and dynamic):

```
# Get all registered peers
PGW_C.PFCP_Node.registered_peer_count()

# Check if a specific UPF is registered
PGW_C.PFCP_Node.get_peer({10, 200, 5, 99})
# Returns: {:ok, #PID<0.1234.0>} if registered, :error otherwise
```

Custom Port for Dynamic UPFs

If your UPFs use a non-standard PFCP port, you can manually trigger registration:

```
# Register UPF at custom port
PGW_C.PFCP_Node.register_dynamic_peer({10, 200, 5, 99}, 9999)
```

However, DNS-based selection and automatic registration always use port 8805 (standard PFCP port).

UPF Selection Dry-Run Mode:

Test and validate your UPF selection configuration without affecting real sessions:

```
config :pgw_c,
  # Enable dry-run mode for testing (disabled by default)
  upf_selection_dry_run: true
```

When dry-run mode is enabled:

1. **No Real Assignment**: Sessions are not actually assigned to UPFs
2. **Detailed Logging**: Selection decisions are logged with full details
3. **Error Return**: `assign_sxb_peer/1` returns `{:error, :dry_run_mode}`
4. **Session Prevention**: Returning an error prevents session creation
5. **Both Methods**: Works with both static rules and DNS-based selection

Log Output Example:

```
[warning] ⚠  UPF SELECTION DRY-RUN MODE ENABLED - No actual assignment
will occur

[info] ◈ DRY-RUN: Static rule matched
  Method: Static Rule
  Match Field: :apn
  Match Regex: ~r/^internet\./
  Priority: 10
  Selected UPF: 10.0.1.21:8805

[warning] ◈ DRY-RUN: Would assign UPF but skipping actual assignment
  Session IMSI: 313380000000670
  Session APN: internet.apn
  Selection Method: static
  Would Link To: 10.0.1.21:8805
  ⚠  Returning error to prevent session creation
```

Testing via LiveView UI:

The UPF Selection LiveView page (`/upf_selection`) includes an interactive testing interface:

1. Navigate to the UPF Selection page in the web panel
2. Scroll to the "Test UPF Selection" section
3. Enter test session attributes:
   - IMSI (e.g., `313380000000670`)
   - APN (e.g., `internet.apn`)
   - Serving Network PLMN ID (e.g., `313380`)
4. Click "Test Selection" to simulate the selection
5. View detailed results showing:
   - Which rule matched (or if DNS would be used)
   - Selected UPF and peer name
   - Match field and pattern details
   - Rule priority

The LiveView testing interface simulates the selection logic **without requiring dry-run mode** to be enabled globally, making it safe to test in production environments without affecting real traffic.

Use Cases:

- **Configuration Testing**: Validate routing rules before deploying to production
- **Troubleshooting**: Understand why specific sessions route to specific UPFs
- **Training**: Demonstrate UPF selection logic to operations teams
- **Development**: Test new selection rules during development

Match Fields:

- `:imsi` - International Mobile Subscriber Identity
- `:apn` - Access Point Name (APN/DNN)
- `:serving_network_plmn_id` - Serving network PLMN ID
- `:sgw_ip_address` - SGW IP address
- `:uli_tai_plmn_id` - Tracking Area PLMN ID
- `:uli_ecgi_plmn_id` - E-UTRAN Cell PLMN ID

Heartbeat Tuning:

```
# Aggressive (detect failures quickly)
heartbeat_period_ms: 2_000  # 2 seconds

# Standard (recommended)
heartbeat_period_ms: 5_000  # 5 seconds

# Relaxed (high-latency networks)
heartbeat_period_ms: 10_000  # 10 seconds
```

See: PFCP Interface Documentation

UE IP Pool Configuration

Purpose

Configure IP address pools for UE allocation, organized by APN.

Configuration Block

```
config :pgw_c,
  ue: %{
    subnet_map: %{
      # APN "internet" pools
      "internet" => [
        "100.64.0.0/20"  # 4094 usable IPs
      ],

      # APN "ims" pools
      "ims" => [
        "100.64.16.0/22"  # 1022 usable IPs
```

```
    ],

    # Default pool for unknown APNs
    default: [
      "42.42.42.0/24"  # 254 usable IPs
    ]
  }
}
```

Parameters

Parameter	Type	Required	Description
subnet_map	Map	Yes	Maps APN names to subnet lists
default	List (Subnets)	Yes	Fallback pool for unknown APNs

Subnet Format

CIDR Notation: `<network_address>/<prefix_length>`

Usable IP Calculation:

CIDR	Total IPs	Usable IPs	Example Range
/24	256	254	100.64.1.1 - 100.64.1.254
/23	512	510	100.64.0.1 - 100.64.1.254
/22	1024	1022	100.64.0.1 - 100.64.3.254
/21	2048	2046	100.64.0.1 - 100.64.7.254
/20	4096	4094	100.64.0.1 - 100.64.15.254
/16	65536	65534	100.64.0.1 - 100.64.255.254

Examples

Simple Configuration:

```
ue: %{
  subnet_map: %{
    "internet" => ["100.64.1.0/24"],
    default: ["42.42.42.0/24"]
  }
}
```

Production Configuration:

```
ue: %{
  subnet_map: %{
    # General internet - large pool
    "internet" => [
      "100.64.0.0/18"  # 16,382 IPs
```

```
    ],

    # IMS (VoLTE)
    "ims" => [
      "100.64.64.0/22"  # 1,022 IPs
    ],

    # Enterprise APN
    "enterprise.corp" => [
      "10.100.0.0/16"  # 65,534 IPs
    ],

    # IoT devices
    "iot.m2m" => [
      "100.64.72.0/20"  # 4,094 IPs
    ],

    # Default fallback
    default: [
      "42.42.42.0/24"  # 254 IPs
    ]
  }
}
```

Load Balancing (Multiple Subnets per APN):

```
ue: %{
  subnet_map: %{
    "internet" => [
      "100.64.0.0/22",   # 1022 IPs
      "100.64.4.0/22",   # 1022 IPs
      "100.64.8.0/22",   # 1022 IPs
      "100.64.12.0/22"   # 1022 IPs
    ],
    # Total: 4088 IPs, randomly distributed
    default: ["42.42.42.0/24"]
  }
}
```

IPv6 Support:

```
ue: %{
  subnet_map: %{
    # IPv4 pools
    "internet" => [
      "100.64.0.0/20"
    ],

    # IPv6 pools (prefix delegation)
```

```
    "internet.ipv6" => [
      "2001:db8:1::/48"
    ],

    default: [
      "42.42.42.0/24"
    ]
  }
}
```

Recommended IP Ranges

RFC 6598 (Carrier-Grade NAT):

- **Range:** 100.64.0.0/10
- **Size:** ~4 million IPs
- **Purpose:** Designed for service provider NAT

Private IP Ranges (RFC 1918):

- 10.0.0.0/8 - 16 million IPs
- 172.16.0.0/12 - 1 million IPs
- 192.168.0.0/16 - 65,534 IPs

See: [UE IP Pool Allocation Documentation](#)

PCO Configuration

Purpose

Configure Protocol Configuration Options (PCO) sent to UE.

Configuration Block

```
config :pgw_c,
  pco: %{
    # DNS servers
    primary_dns_server_address: "8.8.8.8",
    secondary_dns_server_address: "8.8.4.4",

    # NBNS servers (optional, for Windows devices)
    primary_nbns_server_address: nil,
    secondary_nbns_server_address: nil,

    # P-CSCF addresses for IMS
    p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.0.0.50", "10.0.0.51"],
```

```
    # IPv4 MTU size
    ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
  }
```

Parameters

Parameter	Type	Default	Description
primary_dns_server_address	String (IPv4)	Required	Primary DNS server
secondary_dns_server_address	String (IPv4)	Optional	Secondary DNS server
primary_nbns_server_address	String (IPv4)	nil	Primary NBNS (NetBIOS) server
secondary_nbns_server_address	String (IPv4)	nil	Secondary NBNS server
p_cscf_ipv4_address_list	List (IPv4)	[]	P-CSCF addresses for IMS
ipv4_link_mtu_size	Integer	1400	Maximum Transmission Unit size

Examples

Public DNS (Google):

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "8.8.8.8",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "8.8.4.4",
  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
}
```

Private DNS:

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.10",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.11",
  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
}
```

IMS Configuration:

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.10",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.11",

  # P-CSCF for IMS/VoLTE
  p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: [
    "10.0.0.50",  # Primary P-CSCF
    "10.0.0.51"   # Secondary P-CSCF
```

```
  ],

  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
}
```

NBNS (Windows Compatibility):

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.10",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.11",
  primary_nbns_server_address: "10.0.0.20",
  secondary_nbns_server_address: "10.0.0.21",
  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
}
```

MTU Tuning:

```
# Standard Ethernet
ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1500

# Reduced for tunneling overhead
ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400

# Jumbo frames (if supported)
ipv4_link_mtu_size: 9000
```

See: [PCO Configuration Documentation](#)

Web UI Configuration

Purpose

Configure the Control Panel web interface and REST API endpoints for managing and monitoring OmniPGW.

> **Note:** Web UI configuration is only active in non-test environments. The configuration is automatically skipped when `config_env()` is `:test`, `:test_mock`, or `:test_impl`.

Control Panel Configuration

```
config :control_panel,
  # Define page navigation order
  page_order: [
    "/application",
    "/configuration",
    "/topology",
```

```
    "/ue_search",
    "/pgw_sessions",
    "/session_history",
    "/ip_pools",
    "/diameter",
    "/pfcp_sessions",
    "/upf_status",
    "/upf_selection",
    "/pcscf_monitor",
    "/gy_simulator",
    "/logs"
  ]

# HTTPS Endpoint for Control Panel
config :control_panel, ControlPanelWeb.Endpoint,
  url: [host: "0.0.0.0", path: "/"],
  https: [
    port: 8086,
    keyfile: "priv/cert/omnitouch.pem",
    certfile: "priv/cert/omnitouch.crt"
  ],
  render_errors: [
    formats: [html: ControlPanelWeb.ErrorHTML, json:
ControlPanelWeb.ErrorJSON],
    layout: false
  ]
```

Control Panel Parameters

Parameter	Type	Required	Description
page_order	List (Strings)	Yes	Navigation menu page order (list of URL paths)
url.host	String (IP)	Yes	Host address for URL generation
url.path	String	Yes	Base path for all routes (usually "/")
https.port	Integer	Yes	HTTPS port for web interface
https.keyfile	String (Path)	Yes	Path to SSL/TLS private key file
https.certfile	String (Path)	Yes	Path to SSL/TLS certificate file
render_errors.formats	Keyword List	Yes	Error page rendering modules
render_errors.layout	Boolean/ Module	Yes	Error page layout (false = no layout)

REST API Configuration

```
config :api_ex,
  api: %{
    # Network settings
    port: 8443,
    listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",

    # API metadata
    product_name: "PGW-C",
    title: "API - PGW-C",
    hostname: "localhost",

    # TLS settings
    enable_tls: true,
    tls_cert_path: "priv/cert/omnitouch.crt",
    tls_key_path: "priv/cert/omnitouch.pem",

    # Route definitions
    routes: [
      %{
        path: "/status",
        module: ApiEx.Api.StatusController,
        actions: [:index]
      }
    ]
  }
```

API Parameters

Parameter	Type	Default	Description
port	Integer	8443	HTTPS port for REST API
listen_ip	String (IP)	"0.0.0.0"	API listen address (0.0.0.0 = all interfaces)
product_name	String	"PGW-C"	Product name (for API metadata)
title	String	"API - PGW-C"	API documentation title
hostname	String	"localhost"	API server hostname
enable_tls	Boolean	true	Enable HTTPS for API
tls_cert_path	String (Path)	Required	Path to SSL/TLS certificate file
tls_key_path	String (Path)	Required	Path to SSL/TLS private key file
routes	List (Maps)	[]	API route definitions

Route Definition Format

Each route in the `routes` list is a map with:

Field	Type	Description	Example
path	String	URL path for the route	"/status"
module	Module	Controller module handling requests	ApiEx.Api.StatusController
actions	List (Atoms)	Allowed controller actions	[:index, :show]

Examples

Default Configuration (Development):

```
# Control Panel on localhost:8086
config :control_panel, ControlPanelWeb.Endpoint,
  url: [host: "localhost", path: "/"],
  https: [
    port: 8086,
    keyfile: "priv/cert/dev-key.pem",
    certfile: "priv/cert/dev-cert.crt"
  ]

# API on localhost:8443
config :api_ex,
  api: %{
    port: 8443,
    listen_ip: "127.0.0.1",  # localhost only
    hostname: "localhost",
    enable_tls: true,
    tls_cert_path: "priv/cert/dev-cert.crt",
    tls_key_path: "priv/cert/dev-key.pem",
    routes: [
      %{path: "/status", module: ApiEx.Api.StatusController, actions:
[:index]}
    ]
  }
```

Production Configuration:

```
# Control Panel on all interfaces
config :control_panel, ControlPanelWeb.Endpoint,
  url: [host: "pgw-c.example.com", path: "/"],
  https: [
    port: 443,  # Standard HTTPS port
    keyfile: "/etc/ssl/private/pgw-c.key",
    certfile: "/etc/ssl/certs/pgw-c.crt"
```

```
    ]

# API on management interface
config :api_ex,
  api: %{
    port: 8443,
    listen_ip: "10.0.0.20",  # Management network
    product_name: "OmniPGW-C",
    hostname: "pgw-c-api.example.com",
    enable_tls: true,
    tls_cert_path: "/etc/ssl/certs/pgw-c-api.crt",
    tls_key_path: "/etc/ssl/private/pgw-c-api.key",
    routes: [
      %{path: "/status", module: ApiEx.Api.StatusController, actions:
[:index]},
      %{path: "/sessions", module: ApiEx.Api.SessionController,
actions: [:index, :show]}
    ]
  }
```

Custom Page Order:

```
# Prioritize operational pages
config :control_panel,
  page_order: [
    "/ue_search",          # Most frequently used
    "/pgw_sessions",
    "/upf_status",
    "/logs",
    "/diameter",
    "/topology",
    "/configuration",
    "/ip_pools",
    "/pfcp_sessions",
    "/upf_selection",
    "/pcscf_monitor",
    "/gy_simulator",
    "/session_history",
    "/application"
  ]
```

Accessing Web UI

Control Panel:

```
# Default access
https://localhost:8086

# Production
```

```
https://pgw-c.example.com
```

REST API:

```
# Status endpoint
curl -k https://localhost:8443/status

# With proper certificate
curl https://pgw-c-api.example.com:8443/status
```

TLS Certificate Setup

Generate Self-Signed Certificate (Development):

```
# Generate private key and certificate
openssl req -x509 -newkey rsa:4096 -keyout priv/cert/omnitouch.pem \
  -out priv/cert/omnitouch.crt -days 365 -nodes \
  -subj "/CN=localhost"
```

Production Certificate:

For production, use certificates from a trusted Certificate Authority (CA):

- Let's Encrypt (free, automated)
- Commercial CA (DigiCert, GlobalSign, etc.)
- Internal CA for enterprise deployments

Security Considerations

1. **Always use TLS in production** - Set `enable_tls: true`
2. **Restrict listen_ip** - Use specific IP addresses in production (not 0.0.0.0)
3. **Use valid certificates** - Avoid self-signed certs in production
4. **Firewall protection** - Restrict access to management ports (8086, 8443)
5. **Strong key files** - Use 4096-bit RSA or equivalent
6. **Regular updates** - Rotate certificates before expiration

Troubleshooting

Issue: Cannot access Control Panel

```
# Check if port is listening
netstat -tulpn | grep 8086

# Check certificate files exist
ls -la priv/cert/

# Check logs for startup errors
tail -f /var/log/pgw_c/application.log
```

Issue: SSL/TLS errors

- Verify certificate and key paths are correct
- Ensure certificate matches the hostname
- Check certificate expiration: `openssl x509 -in cert.crt -text -noout`
- Verify key file permissions (should be readable by PGW-C process)

See: [Monitoring Guide](#) for Control Panel usage details

Complete Example

Production-Ready Configuration

```elixir
# config/runtime.exs
import Config

# Logger configuration
config :logger, level: :info

config :pgw_c,
  # Metrics (Prometheus)
  metrics: %{
    enabled: true,
    ip_address: "10.0.0.20",  # Management network
    port: 9090,
    registry_poll_period_ms: 5_000
  },

  # Diameter/Gx (PCRF interface)
  diameter: %{
    listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",
    host: "omnipgw.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
    realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
    peer_list: [
      %{
        host: "pcrf-primary.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
        realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
        ip: "10.0.1.30",
        initiate_connection: true
      },
      %{
        host: "pcrf-backup.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
        realm: "epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org",
        ip: "10.0.2.30",
        initiate_connection: true
      }
    ]
```

```elixir
  },

  # S5/S8 (SGW-C interface)
  s5s8: %{
    local_ipv4_address: "10.0.0.20"
  },

  # Sxb/PFCP (PGW-U interface)
  sxb: %{
    local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20"
  },

  # UPF Selection
  upf_selection: %{
    rules: [
      %{
        name: "Default Internet",
        priority: 1,
        match_field: :apn,
        match_regex: ~r/^internet/,
        upf_pool: [
          %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.0.21", remote_port: 8805, weight:
100},
          %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.0.22", remote_port: 8805, weight:
0}  # Standby
        ]
      }
    ],
    fallback_pool: [
      %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.0.21", remote_port: 8805, weight:
100}
    ]
  },

  # UE IP Pools
  ue: %{
    subnet_map: %{
      "internet" => [
        "100.64.0.0/18"  # 16,382 IPs
      ],
      "ims" => [
        "100.64.64.0/22"  # 1,022 IPs
      ],
      "enterprise.corp" => [
        "10.100.0.0/16"  # 65,534 IPs
      ],
      default: [
        "100.64.127.0/24"  # 254 IPs
      ]
```

```
    }
  },

  # Protocol Configuration Options
  pco: %{
    primary_dns_server_address: "8.8.8.8",
    secondary_dns_server_address: "8.8.4.4",
    p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.0.0.50", "10.0.0.51"],
    ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
  }
```

Configuration Validation

Startup Validation

OmniPGW validates configuration at startup. Check logs:

```
[info] Loading configuration from runtime.exs
[info] Validating configuration...
[info] Configuration valid
[info] Starting OmniPGW...
```

Common Validation Errors

Invalid IP Address:

```
[error] Invalid IP address in s5s8.local_ipv4_address: "10.0.0"
```

Missing Required Field:

```
[error] Missing required configuration: sxb.local_ip_address
```

Invalid CIDR:

```
[error] Invalid subnet in ue.subnet_map: "100.64.1.0/33"
```

Invalid Diameter Identity:

```
[error] Diameter host must be FQDN, not IP: "10.0.0.20"
```

Configuration Testing

Test configuration without starting:

```
# Validate syntax
mix compile
```

```
# Check configuration loading
iex -S mix
iex> Application.get_env(:pgw_c, :metrics)
```

Environment-Specific Configuration

Development

```
# config/dev.exs
import Config

config :logger, level: :debug

config :pgw_c,
  metrics: %{
    enabled: true,
    ip_address: "127.0.0.1",
    port: 42069,
    registry_poll_period_ms: 10_000
  },
  diameter: %{
    listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",
    host: "omnipgw-dev.local",
    realm: "local",
    peer_list: [
      %{
        host: "pcrf-dev.local",
        realm: "local",
        ip: "127.0.0.1",
        initiate_connection: true
      }
    ]
  },
  s5s8: %{
    local_ipv4_address: "127.0.0.10"
  },
  sxb: %{
    local_ip_address: "127.0.0.20"
  },
  upf_selection: %{
    fallback_pool: [
      %{remote_ip_address: "127.0.0.21", remote_port: 8805, weight:
100}
    ]
  },
  ue: %{
    subnet_map: %{
```

```
      "internet" => ["100.64.1.0/24"],
      default: ["42.42.42.0/24"]
    }
  },
  pco: %{
    primary_dns_server_address: "8.8.8.8",
    secondary_dns_server_address: "8.8.4.4",
    ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
  }
```

Using Environment Variables

```
# config/runtime.exs
import Config

config :pgw_c,
  metrics: %{
    enabled: System.get_env("METRICS_ENABLED", "true") == "true",
    ip_address: System.get_env("METRICS_IP", "0.0.0.0"),
    port: String.to_integer(System.get_env("METRICS_PORT", "9090")),
    registry_poll_period_ms: 10_000
  },
  diameter: %{
    listen_ip: System.get_env("DIAMETER_LISTEN_IP", "0.0.0.0"),
    host: System.get_env("DIAMETER_HOST") || raise("DIAMETER_HOST
required"),
    realm: System.get_env("DIAMETER_REALM") || raise("DIAMETER_REALM
required"),
    peer_list: [
      %{
        host: System.get_env("PCRF_HOST") || raise("PCRF_HOST
required"),
        realm: System.get_env("PCRF_REALM") ||
System.get_env("DIAMETER_REALM"),
        ip: System.get_env("PCRF_IP") || raise("PCRF_IP required"),
        initiate_connection: true
      }
    ]
  }
  # ... rest of config
```

Usage:

```
export DIAMETER_HOST="omnipgw.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org"
export DIAMETER_REALM="epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org"
export PCRF_HOST="pcrf.epc.mnc001.mcc001.3gppnetwork.org"
export PCRF_IP="10.0.0.30"

mix run --no-halt
```

Related Documentation

Interface Configuration

- **PFCP Interface** - Sxb/PFCP configuration, UPF communication, session establishment
- **Diameter Gx Interface** - PCRF policy control, PCC rules, QoS management
- **Diameter Gy Interface** - OCS online charging, quota management, credit control
- **S5/S8 Interface** - GTP-C configuration, SGW-C communication

Network Configuration

- **UE IP Allocation** - IP pool management, APN-based allocation, DHCP
- **PCO Configuration** - Protocol Configuration Options, DNS, P-CSCF, MTU
- **P-CSCF Monitoring** - P-CSCF discovery monitoring, IMS health tracking

Operational Guides

- **Session Management** - PDN session lifecycle, bearer management
- **Monitoring Guide** - Prometheus metrics, alerts, dashboards
- **Data CDR Format** - Offline charging records, billing integration

---

Back to Operations Guide

OmniPGW Configuration Guide - *by Omnitouch Network Services*

Data Charging Data Record (CDR) Format

Offline Charging for PGW-C and SGW-C

Table of Contents

Overview

The **Data CDR (Charging Data Record)** format provides offline charging capabilities for both the Packet Gateway Control Plane (PGW-C) and the Serving Gateway Control Plane (SGW-C). CDRs are generated to record bearer session events, data usage, and subscriber information for billing and analytics purposes.

This common format is used by both network elements to ensure consistency in charging records across the EPC infrastructure.

Key Features

- **CSV-based format** - Simple, human-readable comma-separated values
- **Event-based recording** - Captures bearer start, update, and end events
- **Volume metering** - Records uplink and downlink data usage
- **Automatic rotation** - Configurable file rotation based on time intervals
- **3GPP compliant** - Follows 3GPP TS 32.251 (PS domain charging) and TS 32.298 (CDR encoding)

Use Cases

Use Case	Description
Offline Charging	Generate CDRs for postpaid billing
Analytics	Analyze subscriber usage patterns
Audit Trail	Track all bearer session events
Capacity Planning	Monitor network resource utilization
Troubleshooting	Debug session and bearer issues

CDR File Format

File Naming Convention

```
<epoch_timestamp>
```

Example:

```
1726598022
```

The filename is the Unix epoch timestamp (in seconds) of when the file was created.

File Location

Default directories:

- PGW-C: `/var/log/pgw_c/cdrs/`
- SGW-C: `/var/log/sgw_c/cdrs/`

Configurable via `directory` parameter in the CDR reporter configuration.

File Header

Each CDR file begins with a multi-line header containing metadata:

```
# Data CDR File:
# File Start Time: HH:MM:SS (unix_timestamp)
# File End Time: HH:MM:SS (unix_timestamp)
# Gateway Name: <gateway_name>
# epoch,imsi,event,charging_id,msisdn,ue_imei,timezone_raw,plmn,tac,eci,sgw_ip,ue_ip,pgw_ip,apn,qci,octets_in,octets_out
```

Header Fields:

- **File Start Time** - When the CDR file was created (human-readable and Unix timestamp)
- **File End Time** - When the file rotation will occur (human-readable and Unix timestamp)
- **Gateway Name** - Identifier for the gateway instance (PGW-C or SGW-C)
- **Column Headers** - CSV field names for the data records

CDR Fields

Field Summary

Position	Field Name	Type	Description
0	epoch	integer	Event timestamp (Unix epoch seconds)
1	imsi	string	International Mobile Subscriber Identity
2	event	string	CDR event type (e.g., "default_bearer_start")
3	charging_id	integer	Unique charging identifier for the bearer
4	msisdn	string	Mobile Station ISDN Number (phone number)
5	ue_imei	string	International Mobile Equipment Identity
6	timezone_raw	string	UE timezone (reserved, currently empty)
7	plmn	integer	Public Land Mobile Network identifier
8	tac	integer	Tracking Area Code
9	eci	integer	E-UTRAN Cell Identifier
10	sgw_ip	string	SGW-C S5/S8 control plane IP address (or PGW-C S5/S8 IP for PGW CDRs)
11	ue_ip	string	UE IP address (IPv4|IPv6 format)
12	pgw_ip	string	PGW-C S5/S8 control plane IP address
13	apn	string	Access Point Name
14	qci	integer	QoS Class Identifier
15	octets_in	integer	Downlink data volume (bytes)
16	octets_out	integer	Uplink data volume (bytes)

CDR Events

Event Types

CDRs are generated for three types of events:

Event Type	Format	Description	When Generated
Bearer Start	<type>_bearer_start	Bearer establishment	Create Session Response sent
Bearer Update	<type>_bearer_update	Usage reporting during session	Periodic usage reports from user plane
Bearer End	<type>_bearer_end	Bearer termination	Delete Session Request/Response

Bearer Types:

- default - Default bearer (one per PDN connection)
- dedicated - Dedicated bearer (zero or more per PDN connection)

Event Examples

```
default_bearer_start     - Default bearer established
default_bearer_update    - Default bearer usage update
default_bearer_end       - Default bearer terminated
dedicated_bearer_start   - Dedicated bearer established
dedicated_bearer_update  - Dedicated bearer usage update
dedicated_bearer_end     - Dedicated bearer terminated
```

File Structure

Example CDR File

```
# Data CDR File:
# File Start Time: 18:53:42 (1726598022)
# File End Time: 19:53:42 (1726601622)
# Gateway Name: pgw-c-prod-01
# epoch,imsi,event,charging_id,msisdn,ue_imei,timezone_raw,plmn,tac,eci,sgw_ip,ue_ip,pgw_ip,apn,qci,octets_in,octets_out
1726598022,310260123456789,default_bearer_start,12345,15551234567,123456789012345,,349552,1234,5678,10.0.1.10,172.16.1.100|2001:db8::1,10.0.1.20,internet,9,0,0
1726598322,310260123456789,default_bearer_update,12345,15551234567,123456789012345,,349552,1234,5678,10.0.1.10,172.16.1.100|2001:db8::1,10.0.1.20,internet,9,1048576,524288
1726598622,310260123456789,default_bearer_update,12345,15551234567,123456789012345,,349552,1234,5678,10.0.1.10,172.16.1.100|2001:db8::1,10.0.1.20,internet,9,5242880,2097152
1726598922,310260123456789,default_bearer_end,12345,15551234567,123456789012345,,349552,1234,5678,10.0.1.10,172.16.1.100|2001:db8::1,10.0.1.20,internet,9,10485760,5242880
```

File Rotation

CDR files are automatically rotated based on the configured duration:

Rotation Process:

1. Close current CDR file
2. Create new file with current timestamp
3. Write header to new file
4. Continue recording CDRs to new file

Configuration

Configuration Parameters

Parameter	Type	Description	Default	Recommended
gateway_name	string	Gateway instance identifier	-	Use hostname or instance ID
duration	integer	File rotation interval (ms)	-	3600000 (1 hour)
directory	string	CDR output directory path	-	/var/log/{pgw,sgw}_c/cdrs

Configuration Examples

Production:

- **gateway_name:** "pgw-c-prod-01" or "sgw-c-prod-01"
- **duration:** 3,600,000 ms (1 hour rotation)
- **directory:** "/var/log/pgw_c/cdrs" or "/var/log/sgw_c/cdrs"

Development:

- **gateway_name:** "pgw-c-dev" or "sgw-c-dev"
- **duration:** 300,000 ms (5 minute rotation for testing)
- **directory:** "/tmp/pgw_c_cdrs" or "/tmp/sgw_c_cdrs"

High-Volume:

- **gateway_name:** "pgw-c-prod-heavy" or "sgw-c-prod-heavy"
- **duration:** 1,800,000 ms (30 minute rotation)
- **directory:** "/mnt/fast-storage/cdrs"

CDR Generation Flow

Bearer Lifecycle CDR Events

SGW-C CDR Generation:

PGW-C CDR Generation:

CDR Generation Events

1. Bearer Start:

- **When:** Create Session Response is sent
- **Purpose:** Records bearer establishment with zero usage
- **octets_in:** 0
- **octets_out:** 0

2. Bearer Update:

- **When:** PFCP Session Report Request received from user plane
- **Purpose:** Records incremental data usage
- **octets_in:** Cumulative downlink bytes since bearer start
- **octets_out:** Cumulative uplink bytes since bearer start

3. Bearer End:

- **When:** PFCP Session Deletion Response received (with final usage)
- **Purpose:** Records final data usage before session termination
- **octets_in:** Final total downlink bytes
- **octets_out:** Final total uplink bytes

Field Details

1. epoch (Timestamp)

Type: Unix epoch timestamp (seconds)

Description: The time when the CDR event occurred

Example:

```
1726598022  → 2025-09-17 18:53:42 UTC
```

Source: `DateTime.utc_now() |> DateTime.to_unix()`

2. imsi (Subscriber Identity)

Type: String (up to 15 digits)

Format: MCCMNC + MSIN

Description: International Mobile Subscriber Identity uniquely identifying the subscriber

Example:

```
310260123456789
└─┘ └─┘ └───────┘
MCC MNC    MSIN
(310)(260) (123456789)
```

Source: UE context, received in Create Session Request

3. event (CDR Event Type)

Type: String

Format: `<bearer_type>_bearer_<event>`

Values:

- `default_bearer_start`
- `default_bearer_update`
- `default_bearer_end`
- `dedicated_bearer_start`
- `dedicated_bearer_update`
- `dedicated_bearer_end`

Determination:

- If EBI (EPS Bearer ID) equals LBI (Linked Bearer ID): `default`
- If EBI does not equal LBI: `dedicated`

Source: Bearer context (EBI vs LBI comparison)

4. charging_id (Charging Identifier)

Type: Unsigned 32-bit integer

Description: Unique identifier for charging correlation across network elements

Example:

```
12345
```

Source: Assigned by PGW-C, received in Create Session Response

Usage:

- Correlates charging events across SGW and PGW
- Used in Diameter Gy/Gz charging interfaces
- Unique per bearer

5. msisdn (Phone Number)

Type: String (E.164 format)

Description: Mobile Station ISDN Number (subscriber's phone number)

Format: Country code + national number

Example:

```
15551234567
└┘ └────────┘
CC  National
(1) (5551234567)
```

Source: UE context, typically from HSS via MME

6. ue_imei (Equipment Identity)

Type: String (15 digits)

Format: TAC (8) + SNR (6) + Spare (1)

Description: International Mobile Equipment Identity (device identifier)

Example:

```
123456789012345
└──────┘ └───┘ └┘
  TAC     SNR  S
```

Source: UE context, received from MME

7. timezone_raw (UE Timezone)

Type: String (currently reserved/empty)

Description: Reserved field for UE timezone information

Current Status: Not populated (empty field in CSV)

Future Use: May include timezone offset and daylight saving time flag

Example:

```
,  (empty field)
```

---

8. plmn (Network Identifier)

Type: Integer (legacy format)

Description: Public Land Mobile Network identifier encoded as little-endian hex

Encoding Process:

```
MCC: 505, MNC: 57
    ↓
"50557"
    ↓
Swap pairs: "055570"
    ↓
Hex to decimal: 0x055570 = 349552
```

Example:

```
349552  → MCC: 505, MNC: 57
```

Source: UE location information from MME

Note: This is a legacy encoding format for backward compatibility

---

9. tac (Tracking Area Code)

Type: Unsigned 16-bit integer

Description: Tracking Area Code identifies the tracking area where the UE is located

Range: 0 - 65535

Example:

```
1234
```

Source: UE location information, received from MME in Create Session Request

Usage:

- Identifies mobility management area
- Used for paging and location updates
- Part of TAI (Tracking Area Identity)

---

10. eci (E-UTRAN Cell Identifier)

Type: Unsigned 28-bit integer

Description: E-UTRAN Cell Identifier uniquely identifies the cell serving the UE

Format: eNodeB ID (20 bits) + Cell ID (8 bits)

Range: 0 - 268,435,455

Example:

```
5678
```

Source: UE location information from MME

Usage:

- Identifies specific cell tower and sector
- Used for handover and mobility management
- Granular location information

---

11. sgw_ip (Gateway Control Plane IP)

Type: String (IPv4 or IPv6 address)

Description: Gateway S5/S8 control plane IP address (F-TEID)

- For SGW-C CDRs: SGW-C's S5/S8 control plane IP
- For PGW-C CDRs: PGW-C's S5/S8 control plane IP (local F-TEID)

Format: Dotted decimal (IPv4) or colon-hex (IPv6)

Example:

```
10.0.1.10        (IPv4)
2001:db8::10     (IPv6)
```

Source:

- SGW-C: Local configuration, assigned to S5/S8 interface
- PGW-C: Local configuration, assigned to S5/S8 interface

Note: Despite the field name "sgw_ip", this contains the local gateway's IP address for both PGW and SGW CDRs

---

12. ue_ip (UE IP Address)

Type: String (IPv4|IPv6 format)

Description: IP address assigned to the UE for the PDN connection

Format: <ipv4>|<ipv6>

Examples:

```
172.16.1.100|                (IPv4 only)
|2001:db8::1                  (IPv6 only)
172.16.1.100|2001:db8::1      (Dual-stack)
```

Source: PDN Address Allocation (PAA) from PGW-C

Notes:

- Empty IPv4: No IPv4 address allocated
- Empty IPv6: No IPv6 address allocated
- Both present: Dual-stack PDN connection

13. pgw_ip (Peer Gateway Control Plane IP)

Type: String (IPv4 or IPv6 address)

Description: Peer gateway S5/S8 control plane IP address (F-TEID)

- For SGW-C CDRs: PGW-C's S5/S8 control plane IP (remote F-TEID)
- For PGW-C CDRs: SGW-C's S5/S8 control plane IP (remote F-TEID)

Format: Dotted decimal (IPv4) or colon-hex (IPv6)

Example:

```
10.0.1.20        (IPv4)
2001:db8::20     (IPv6)
```

Source:

- SGW-C: Received in Create Session Response from PGW-C
- PGW-C: Received in Create Session Request from SGW-C

Note: Despite the field name "pgw_ip", this contains the peer gateway's IP address

---

14. apn (Access Point Name)

Type: String (up to 100 characters)

Description: Access Point Name identifying the external network (PDN)

Format: DNS-like label format

Examples:

```
internet
ims
mms
enterprise.corporate
```

Source: Received in Create Session Request from MME

Usage:

- Determines which external network to connect to
- Drives policy and charging rules
- May determine IP address pool

---

15. qci (QoS Class Identifier)

Type: Unsigned 8-bit integer

Description: QoS Class Identifier defines the bearer's quality of service

Range: 1 - 9 (standardized), 128-254 (operator-specific)

Standardized QCI Values:

QCI	Resource Type	Priority	Packet Delay	Packet Loss	Example Service
1	GBR	2	100 ms	10^-2	Conversational Voice
2	GBR	4	150 ms	10^-3	Conversational Video
3	GBR	3	50 ms	10^-3	Real-time Gaming
4	GBR	5	300 ms	10^-6	Non-conversational Video
5	Non-GBR	1	100 ms	10^-6	IMS Signaling
6	Non-GBR	6	300 ms	10^-6	Video (buffered)
7	Non-GBR	7	100 ms	10^-3	Voice, Video, Gaming
8	Non-GBR	8	300 ms	10^-6	Video (buffered)
9	Non-GBR	9	300 ms	10^-6	Default Bearer

Example:

```
9  → Default bearer (best effort)
```

Source: Bearer QoS parameters from PGW-C

---

16. octets_in (Downlink Volume)

Type: Unsigned 64-bit integer

Description: Number of bytes transmitted in the downlink direction (network → UE)

Units: Bytes

Example:

```
1048576  → 1 MB downlink
```

Source: PFCP Volume Measurement from user plane (PGW-U or SGW-U)

Notes:

- Cumulative for update events
- Final total for end events
- Always 0 for start events

---

17. octets_out (Uplink Volume)

Type: Unsigned 64-bit integer

Description: Number of bytes transmitted in the uplink direction (UE → network)

Units: Bytes

Example:

```
524288  → 512 KB uplink
```

Source: PFCP Volume Measurement from user plane (PGW-U or SGW-U)

Notes:

- Cumulative for update events
- Final total for end events
- Always 0 for start events

Examples

Example 1: Basic Session with Single Update

Timeline:

1. Bearer established
2. 5 minutes later: Usage update (10 MB down, 5 MB up)
3. Session terminated

CDR Output:

```
# Data CDR File:
# File Start Time: 10:00:00 (1726570800)
# File End Time: 11:00:00 (1726574400)
# Gateway Name: pgw-c-01
# epoch,imsi,event,charging_id,msisdn,ue_imei,timezone_raw,plmn,tac,eci,sgw_ip,ue_ip,pgw_ip,apn,qci,octets_in,octets_out
1726570800,310260111111111,default_bearer_start,10001,15551111111,111111111111111,,349552,1000,2000,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.1|,10.0.2.1,internet,9,0,0
1726571100,310260111111111,default_bearer_update,10001,15551111111,111111111111111,,349552,1000,2000,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.1|,10.0.2.1,internet,9,10485760,5242880
1726571400,310260111111111,default_bearer_end,10001,15551111111,111111111111111,,349552,1000,2000,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.1|,10.0.2.1,internet,9,10485760,5242880
```

Example 2: Dual-Stack Session with Multiple Updates

Timeline:

1. Dual-stack bearer established (IPv4 + IPv6)
2. Multiple usage updates
3. Session terminated

CDR Output:

```
1726570800,310260222222222,default_bearer_start,10002,15552222222,222222222222222,,349552,1001,2001,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.2|2001:db8::2,10.0.2.1,internet,9,0,0
1726571100,310260222222222,default_bearer_update,10002,15552222222,222222222222222,,349552,1001,2001,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.2|2001:db8::2,10.0.2.1,internet,9,2097152,1048576
1726571400,310260222222222,default_bearer_update,10002,15552222222,222222222222222,,349552,1001,2001,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.2|2001:db8::2,10.0.2.1,internet,9,8388608,4194304
1726571700,310260222222222,default_bearer_update,10002,15552222222,222222222222222,,349552,1001,2001,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.2|2001:db8::2,10.0.2.1,internet,9,20971520,10485760
1726572000,310260222222222,default_bearer_end,10002,15552222222,222222222222222,,349552,1001,2001,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.2|2001:db8::2,10.0.2.1,internet,9,31457280,15728640
```

Example 3: Session with Dedicated Bearer

Timeline:

1. Default bearer established (QCI 9)
2. Dedicated bearer created for video (QCI 6)
3. Usage updates for both bearers
4. Dedicated bearer deleted
5. Default bearer terminated

CDR Output:

```
1726570800,310260333333333,default_bearer_start,10003,15553333333,333333333333333,,1258248,1002,2002,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.3|,10.0.2.1,internet,9,0,0
1726571100,310260333333333,dedicated_bearer_start,10004,15553333333,333333333333333,,1258248,1002,2002,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.3|,10.0.2.1,internet,6,0,0
1726571400,310260333333333,default_bearer_update,10003,15553333333,333333333333333,,1258248,1002,2002,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.3|,10.0.2.1,internet,9,5242880,2097152
1726571400,310260333333333,dedicated_bearer_update,10004,15553333333,333333333333333,,1258248,1002,2002,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.3|,10.0.2.1,internet,6,104857600,1048576
1726571700,310260333333333,dedicated_bearer_end,10004,15553333333,333333333333333,,1258248,1002,2002,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.3|,10.0.2.1,internet,6,209715200,2097152
1726572000,310260333333333,default_bearer_end,10003,15553333333,333333333333333,,1258248,1002,2002,10.0.1.1,172.16.1.3|,10.0.2.1,internet,9,10485760,4194304
```

Analysis:

- Default bearer (10003) carries background traffic (10 MB down, 4 MB up)
- Dedicated bearer (10004) carries video traffic (200 MB down, 2 MB up)
- Different QCI values (9 vs 6) reflect different QoS treatment

Integration

CDR Processing Pipeline

CDR Collection Methods

1. File-based Collection:

```
# Monitor CDR directory (PGW-C example)
inotifywait -m /var/log/pgw_c/cdrs/ -e close_write | while read path action file; do
    # File rotation completed, process CDR
    process_cdr "$path$file"
done

# Monitor CDR directory (SGW-C example)
inotifywait -m /var/log/sgw_c/cdrs/ -e close_write | while read path action file; do
    # File rotation completed, process CDR
    process_cdr "$path$file"
done
```

2. Real-time Streaming:

```
# Tail and stream to processing pipeline
tail -F /var/log/pgw_c/cdrs/* /var/log/sgw_c/cdrs/* | process_cdr_stream
```

Related Documentation

Charging

- **Diameter Gy Interface** - Online charging for prepaid subscribers
- **Diameter Gx Interface** - Policy control and charging rules in CDRs
- **Configuration Guide** - Online charging configuration

Data Sources

- **PFCP Interface** - Usage reporting from PGW-U via URRs
- **S5/S8 Interface** - Bearer information for CDRs
- **Session Management** - Session lifecycle and CDR triggers
- **UE IP Allocation** - UE IP addresses recorded in CDRs

Operations

- **Monitoring Guide** - CDR generation metrics, billing integration tracking
- **PCO Configuration** - Network parameters context for CDRs

3GPP References:

- TS 32.251 - Packet Switched (PS) domain charging
- TS 29.274 - 3GPP Evolved Packet System (EPS); Evolved General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) Tunnelling Protocol for Control plane (GTPv2-C)
- TS 29.244 - Interface between the Control Plane and the User Plane nodes (PFCP)

Diameter Gx Interface Documentation

Policy and Charging Rules Function (PCRF) Interface

Table of Contents

Overview

The **Gx interface** connects PGW-C to the **PCRF (Policy and Charging Rules Function)** or **PCF (Policy Control Function)** in 5G networks. This interface enables:

- **Dynamic Policy Control** - Real-time QoS and policy enforcement
- **Charging Control** - Credit authorization and usage tracking
- **Service Awareness** - Application-level traffic differentiation
- **Subscriber Profile Management** - Per-user policy application

Gx in the Network Architecture

Key Functions

Function	Description
Policy Provisioning	PCRF provides PCC rules defining how to handle traffic
QoS Control	Dynamic adjustment of bitrates and QoS parameters
Charging Control	Credit authorization for prepaid/postpaid scenarios
Gating Control	Enable/disable traffic flows based on policy
Usage Monitoring	Track data consumption per service

Gx Interface Basics

3GPP Reference

- **Specification:** 3GPP TS 29.212
- **Diameter Application ID:** 16777238 (Gx)
- **Protocol:** Diameter Base Protocol (RFC 6733)

Session Concept

Each UE PDN connection has a corresponding **Gx session** identified by a **Session-ID**. This session:

- Created when UE attaches (CCR-Initial)
- Updated during the connection lifetime (CCR-Update) - optional
- Terminated when UE detaches (CCR-Termination)

Session ID Format

```
Session-ID: <Origin-Host>;<high32>;<low32>[;<optional>]
Example: omni-
pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org;1234567890;98765
```

Components:

- **Origin-Host:** PGW-C's Diameter identity
- **high32:** High 32 bits of unique identifier
- **low32:** Low 32 bits of unique identifier

Diameter Protocol

Message Structure

Diameter messages are binary-encoded with the following structure:

```
Diameter Header (20 bytes)
├── Version (1 byte) = 1
├── Message Length (3 bytes)
├── Flags (1 byte)
│   ├── R: Request (1) / Answer (0)
│   ├── P: Proxiable
│   ├── E: Error
│   └── T: Potentially retransmitted
├── Command Code (3 bytes)
├── Application ID (4 bytes) = 16777238 (Gx)
```

```
├── Hop-by-Hop ID (4 bytes)
└── End-to-End ID (4 bytes)

AVPs (Attribute-Value Pairs)
├── AVP Header
│   ├── AVP Code
│   ├── Flags (V, M, P)
│   ├── AVP Length
│   └── Vendor ID (optional)
└── AVP Data
```

Key Diameter Concepts

AVP (Attribute-Value Pair):

- Basic data unit in Diameter
- Contains a code, flags, and value
- Can be nested (Grouped AVP)

Command:

- Request/Answer pair
- CCR (Credit-Control-Request) / CCA (Credit-Control-Answer)

Result Codes:

- 2001 - DIAMETER_SUCCESS
- 3xxx - Protocol errors
- 4xxx - Transient failures
- 5xxx - Permanent failures

Credit Control Messages

PGW-C uses the **Diameter Credit Control Application** (RFC 4006) for Gx.

Message Types

CCR-Initial (Credit Control Request - Initial)

When: UE creates a new PDN connection

Purpose:

- Request initial policy and charging rules
- Provide UE and network context to PCRF
- Obtain QoS parameters and charging authorization

Key AVPs Sent by PGW-C:

AVP Name	AVP Code	Type	Description
Session-Id	263	UTF8String	Unique Gx session identifier
Auth-Application-Id	258	Unsigned32	16777238 (Gx)
Origin-Host	264	DiamIdent	PGW-C's Diameter identity
Origin-Realm	296	DiamIdent	PGW-C's Diameter realm
Destination-Realm	283	DiamIdent	PCRF's realm
CC-Request-Type	416	Enumerated	1 = INITIAL_REQUEST
CC-Request-Number	415	Unsigned32	Sequence number (starts at 0)
Subscription-Id	443	Grouped	UE identifier (IMSI/MSISDN)
Called-Station-Id	30	UTF8String	APN name
Framed-IP-Address	8	OctetString	Allocated UE IPv4 address
IP-CAN-Type	1027	Enumerated	5 = 3GPP-EPS
RAT-Type	1032	Enumerated	1004 = EUTRAN
QoS-Information	1016	Grouped	Current QoS (AMBR)
Network-Request-Support	1024	Enumerated	Network-initiated procedures
Supported-Features	628	Grouped	Gx feature list

Example CCR-I Structure:

```
CCR (Command Code: 272, Request)
├── Session-Id: "pgw_c.example.com;123;456"
├── Auth-Application-Id: 16777238
├── Origin-Host: "omni-pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Origin-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Destination-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── CC-Request-Type: INITIAL_REQUEST (1)
├── CC-Request-Number: 0
├── Subscription-Id (Grouped)
│   ├── Subscription-Id-Type: END_USER_IMSI (1)
│   └── Subscription-Id-Data: "310260123456789"
├── Called-Station-Id: "internet"
├── Framed-IP-Address: 100.64.1.42
├── IP-CAN-Type: 3GPP-EPS (5)
├── RAT-Type: EUTRAN (1004)
├── QoS-Information (Grouped)
│   ├── APN-Aggregate-Max-Bitrate-UL: 100000000 (100 Mbps)
│   └── APN-Aggregate-Max-Bitrate-DL: 50000000 (50 Mbps)
├── Network-Request-Support: 1
└── Supported-Features: [...]
```

CCA-Initial (Credit Control Answer - Initial)

Sent by: PCRF in response to CCR-I

Purpose:

- Authorize or reject the session
- Provide PCC rules for traffic handling
- Specify QoS parameters

Key AVPs Received by PGW-C:

AVP Name	AVP Code	Description
Result-Code	268	Success (2001) or error code
Experimental-Result	297	Vendor-specific result codes
QoS-Information	1016	Authorized QoS (may differ from request)
Charging-Rule-Install	1001	PCC rules to activate
Charging-Rule-Definition	1003	Inline rule definitions
Default-EPS-Bearer-QoS	1049	QoS for default bearer

Success Response Example:

```
CCA (Command Code: 272, Answer)
├── Session-Id: "pgw_c.example.com;123;456"
├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)
├── Origin-Host: "pcrf.example.com"
├── Origin-Realm: "example.com"
├── Auth-Application-Id: 16777238
├── CC-Request-Type: INITIAL_REQUEST (1)
├── CC-Request-Number: 0
├── QoS-Information (Grouped)
│   ├── APN-Aggregate-Max-Bitrate-UL: 50000000 (50 Mbps - reduced)
│   └── APN-Aggregate-Max-Bitrate-DL: 100000000 (100 Mbps -
increased)
├── Charging-Rule-Install (Grouped)
│   ├── Charging-Rule-Name: "default_internet_rule"
│   └── Charging-Rule-Name: "video_streaming_rule"
└── Charging-Rule-Definition (Grouped)
    ├── Charging-Rule-Name: "default_internet_rule"
    ├── QoS-Information: {...}
    └── Precedence: 1000
```

CCR-Termination (Credit Control Request - Termination)

When: UE detaches or PDN connection is deleted

Purpose:

- Notify PCRF of session termination
- Final accounting/charging record

Key Differences from CCR-I:

- CC-Request-Type: TERMINATION_REQUEST (3)

- May include usage statistics
- Simplified AVP set

Example CCR-T:

```
CCR (Command Code: 272, Request)
├── Session-Id: "pgw_c.example.com;123;456"
├── Auth-Application-Id: 16777238
├── Origin-Host: "omni-pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Origin-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Destination-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── CC-Request-Type: TERMINATION_REQUEST (3)
├── CC-Request-Number: 1
└── Termination-Cause: DIAMETER_LOGOUT (1)
```

CCA-Termination

Sent by: PCRF in response to CCR-T

Purpose:

- Acknowledge session termination
- No policy rules returned

Example CCA-T:

```
CCA (Command Code: 272, Answer)
├── Session-Id: "pgw_c.example.com;123;456"
├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)
├── Origin-Host: "pcrf.example.com"
├── Origin-Realm: "example.com"
├── Auth-Application-Id: 16777238
├── CC-Request-Type: TERMINATION_REQUEST (3)
└── CC-Request-Number: 1
```

Policy and Charging Rules

PCC Rule Structure

A **PCC (Policy and Charging Control) Rule** defines how to handle specific traffic flows:

Rule Components

1. Rule Name:

- Unique identifier for the rule
- Example: `"video_streaming_rule"`

2. Precedence:

- Lower number = higher priority
- Range: 0-65535
- Used when multiple rules match

3. Flow Filters (TFT - Traffic Flow Template):

- Defines which packets match this rule
- Examples:
  - IP 5-tuple: Protocol, Src/Dst IP, Src/Dst Port
  - `"permit out ip from any to 8.8.8.8 80"`

4. QoS Information:

- **QCI (QoS Class Identifier):** 1-9 (standardized), 128-254 (operator-specific)
  - QCI 1: Conversational Voice
  - QCI 5: IMS Signaling
  - QCI 9: Default Internet
- **ARP (Allocation and Retention Priority):** Pre-emption capability
- **MBR/GBR:** Maximum/Guaranteed Bit Rates

5. Charging Information:

- **Rating Group:** Identifies charging category (used by OCS - see [Diameter Gy Interface](#))
- **Metering Method:** Volume, time, or event-based
- **Online/Offline Charging:** OCS (prepaid via [Diameter Gy](#)) vs. offline CDRs (postpaid - see [Data CDR Format](#))

6. Gating Status:

- **OPEN:** Allow traffic
- **CLOSED:** Block traffic

Dynamic Rule Provisioning

PCRF can provide rules in two ways:

1. Predefined Rules (by name):

```
Charging-Rule-Install (Grouped)
├── Charging-Rule-Name: "gold_subscriber_internet"
└── Charging-Rule-Name: "video_qos_boost"
```

2. Dynamic Rules (inline definition):

```
Charging-Rule-Definition (Grouped)
├── Charging-Rule-Name: "dynamic_rule_123"
├── Precedence: 100
├── Flow-Information (Grouped)
│   ├── Flow-Description: "permit out ip from any to 192.0.2.0/24"
│   └── Flow-Direction: DOWNLINK
├── QoS-Information (Grouped)
│   ├── QoS-Class-Identifier: 5
│   ├── Max-Requested-Bandwidth-UL: 10000000
│   └── Max-Requested-Bandwidth-DL: 50000000
└── Rating-Group: 1000
```

QoS Information AVP

APN-AMBR (Aggregate Maximum Bit Rate):

Applies to all non-GBR bearers for this APN:

```
QoS-Information (Grouped)
├── APN-Aggregate-Max-Bitrate-UL: 100000000  # 100 Mbps
└── APN-Aggregate-Max-Bitrate-DL: 200000000  # 200 Mbps
```

PGW-C Response:

- Updates internal AMBR state
- Sends Session Modification Request to PGW-U with updated QER

Configuration

Basic Gx Configuration

Edit `config/runtime.exs`:

```
config :pgw_c,
  diameter: %{
    # IP address to listen for Diameter connections
    listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",

    # PGW-C's Diameter identity (Origin-Host)
    host: "omni-pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",

    # PGW-C's Diameter realm (Origin-Realm)
    realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",

    # List of PCRF peers
```

```
    peer_list: [
      %{
        # PCRF Diameter identity
        host: "pcrf.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",

        # PCRF realm (usually same as PGW-C realm)
        realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",

        # PCRF IP address
        ip: "10.0.0.30",

        # Whether PGW-C initiates connection to PCRF
        # true = PGW-C connects to PCRF
        # false = Wait for PCRF to connect
        initiate_connection: true
      }
    ]
  }
```

Multiple PCRF Peers

For redundancy or geographic distribution:

```
config :pgw_c,
  diameter: %{
    listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",
    host: "omni-pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
    realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
    peer_list: [
      %{
        host: "pcrf-primary.example.com",
        realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
        ip: "10.0.1.30",
        initiate_connection: true
      },
      %{
        host: "pcrf-backup.example.com",
        realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
        ip: "10.0.2.30",
        initiate_connection: true
      }
    ]
  }
```

Load Balancing:

- Diameter protocol handles peer selection
- Requests distributed based on availability

- Automatic failover on peer failure

Hostname Resolution

Diameter Identities must be FQDNs (Fully Qualified Domain Names):

```
# CORRECT - FQDN format
host: "pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"

# INCORRECT - Not a valid Diameter Identity
host: "pgw_c"
host: "10.0.0.20"  # IP addresses not allowed
```

Realm Format:

- Must be valid domain name
- Typically matches 3GPP PLMN format:
  epc.mncXXX.mccYYY.3gppnetwork.org

Message Flows

Successful Session Establishment

Note: QoS parameters from PCRF are translated into QERs (QoS Enforcement Rules) and programmed into PGW-U via PFCP. See [PFCP Interface](#) for QER details.

Policy Update (Network-Initiated)

Session Termination

Error Handling

Result Codes

PGW-C handles various Diameter result codes in CCA messages:

Success Codes:

Code	Name	Action
2001	DIAMETER_SUCCESS	Continue session establishment

Permanent Failures (5xxx):

Code	Name	PGW-C Action
5002	DIAMETER_UNKNOWN_SESSION_ID	Log error, fail session
5030	DIAMETER_USER_UNKNOWN	Reject session (User Unknown)
5140	DIAMETER_ERROR_INITIAL_PARAMETERS	Log error, retry or fail
5003	DIAMETER_AUTHORIZATION_REJECTED	Reject session (Not Authorized)

Transient Failures (4xxx):

Code	Name	PGW-C Action
4001	DIAMETER_AUTHENTICATION_REJECTED	Retry or fail session
4010	DIAMETER_TOO_BUSY	Retry with backoff
4012	DIAMETER_UNABLE_TO_COMPLY	Log error, may retry

Experimental Result Codes

Vendor-specific error codes:

```
Experimental-Result (Grouped)
├── Vendor-Id: 10415 (3GPP)
└── Experimental-Result-Code: <vendor-specific code>
```

Common 3GPP Experimental Codes:

Code	Name	Meaning
5065	IP_CAN_SESSION_NOT_AVAILABLE	PCRF cannot establish session
5143	INVALID_SERVICE_INFORMATION	Service data invalid

Timeout Handling

CCR-I Timeout:

If PCRF doesn't respond to CCR-Initial within timeout:

```
1. PGW-C waits for configured timeout (e.g., 5 seconds)
2. If no CCA received:
   - Log: "CCR-Initial timeout for Session-ID: ..."
   - Respond to SGW-C with error cause
   - Clean up allocated resources
3. SGW-C receives: Create Session Response (Cause: Remote Peer Not
Responding)
```

Error Response to SGW-C:

File: /lib/session/impl/message_handlers.ex

```
{:error, :credit_control_initial_request_timeout} ->
  Procedures.do_gtp_c_error_response(
```

```
    from,
    :create_session_response,
    seq_num,
    :remote_peer_not_responding
  )
```

Failure Scenarios

Scenario 1: PCRF Rejects Session (User Unknown)

Scenario 2: PCRF Temporarily Unavailable

Troubleshooting

Common Issues

1. Diameter Peer Connection Fails

Symptoms:

- Log: "Diameter peer not connected"
- No CCR-Initial sent

Possible Causes:

- PCRF not reachable
- Incorrect PCRF IP in configuration
- Firewall blocking Diameter port (3868)
- Incorrect Diameter identities (host/realm)

Resolution:

```
# Test network connectivity
ping <pcrf_ip>

# Test Diameter port (TCP 3868)
telnet <pcrf_ip> 3868

# Check Diameter identity configuration
# Ensure host and realm are FQDNs, not IPs
```

Verify Configuration:

```
config :pgw_c,
  diameter: %{
    # Must be FQDN, not IP
```

```
    host: "pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
    realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
    peer_list: [
      %{
        host: "pcrf.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
        ip: "10.0.0.30"
      }
    ]
  }
```

2. CCR-Initial Timeouts

Symptoms:

- Create Session Request fails
- Log: "CCR-Initial timeout"

Possible Causes:

- PCRF overloaded
- Network latency
- PCRF not responding to this Session-ID

Resolution:

1. Check PCRF logs for errors
2. Verify PCRF is processing requests
3. Check network latency: `ping <pcrf_ip>`
4. Increase timeout if network latency is high

3. Sessions Rejected by PCRF

Symptoms:

- CCA-Initial with Result-Code != 2001
- Create Session Response fails

Common Result Codes:

Result Code	Likely Cause	Resolution
5030	IMSI not in subscriber database	Provision subscriber in HSS/SPR
5003	Authorization rejected	Check subscriber permissions
4010	PCRF too busy	Retry or add PCRF capacity

Check Logs:

```
# PGW-C logs show:
[error] Diameter Gx error: Result-Code 5030 (DIAMETER_USER_UNKNOWN)
```

```
[error] IMSI 310260999999999 rejected by PCRF
```

4. QoS Not Applied

Symptoms:

- Session established but wrong QoS
- Bitrates don't match expected values

Debugging Steps:

1. **Check CCA-Initial:**

   - Verify `QoS-Information` AVP present
   - Check `APN-Aggregate-Max-Bitrate-UL/DL` values

2. **Check PFCP Session Establishment:**

   - Verify QER created with correct MBR values
   - Check PGW-U logs for QER installation

3. **Verify PCRF Policy:**

   - Check PCRF configuration
   - Verify subscriber profile includes correct QoS

5. Diameter Routing Issues

Symptoms:

- Diameter messages not reaching PCRF
- Log: "No route to Destination-Realm"

Cause:

- Realm mismatch between configuration and messages

Resolution:

Ensure consistency:

```
# All must match
config :pgw_c,
  diameter: %{
    realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",  # PGW-C's realm
    peer_list: [
      %{
        realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"  # PCRF's realm
```

```
(usually same)
      }
    ]
  }
```

In CCR-Initial:

```
Origin-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
Destination-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
```

Monitoring Gx Health

Key Metrics:

```
# Gx message rates
rate(gx_inbound_messages_total{message_type="cca"}[5m])

# Gx error rates
rate(gx_inbound_errors_total[5m])

# Gx session count
session_id_registry_count

# Gx message handling duration
histogram_quantile(0.95,
rate(gx_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m]))
```

Alert Examples:

```
# Alert on high Gx error rate
- alert: GxErrorRateHigh
  expr: rate(gx_inbound_errors_total[5m]) > 0.1
  for: 5m
  annotations:
    summary: "High Gx error rate detected"

# Alert on Gx timeout
- alert: GxTimeout
  expr: rate(gx_inbound_errors_total{error_type="timeout"}[5m]) >
0.05
  for: 2m
  annotations:
    summary: "Gx timeouts occurring"

# Alert on session rejection
- alert: GxSessionRejection
  expr: rate(gx_inbound_errors_total{result_code="5030"}[5m]) > 0.01
  for: 5m
```

```
  annotations:
    summary: "PCRF rejecting sessions (USER_UNKNOWN)"
```

Debug Logging

Enable verbose Diameter logging:

```
# config/runtime.exs
config :logger, level: :debug

# Or at runtime
iex> Logger.configure(level: :debug)
```

Look for:

- [debug] Sending CCR-Initial for Session-ID: ...
- [debug] Received CCA-Initial: Result-Code 2001
- [error] Diameter error: ...

Web UI - Diameter Peer Monitoring

OmniPGW includes a real-time Web UI for monitoring Diameter peer connections and status.

Diameter Peers Page

Access: http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/diameter

Purpose: Monitor Diameter Gx peer connectivity to PCRF in real-time

Features:

1. Peer Connection Overview

- **Connected Count** - Number of PCRF peers with active connection
- **Disconnected Count** - Number of configured but not connected peers
- Auto-refreshes every 1 second (fastest refresh of all pages)

2. Per-Peer Status Information For each configured PCRF peer:

- **Host** - Diameter identity (Origin-Host)
- **IP Address** - PCRF IP
- **Port** - Diameter port (default 3868)
- **Status** - Connected (green) / Disconnected (red)
- **Transport** - TCP or SCTP
- **Connection Initiation** - Who initiates (PGW or PCRF)
- **Realm** - Diameter realm

- **Product Name** - PCRF product identifier (if advertised)
- **Application IDs** - Supported Diameter applications (e.g., Gx = 16777238)

3. Expandable Details Click any peer row to see:

- Complete peer configuration
- Capabilities Exchange (CER/CEA) details
- Supported features
- Full connection state

Operational Use Cases

Monitor PCRF Connectivity:

```
1. Open Diameter page in browser
2. Verify all PCRF peers show "Connected"
3. Check Connection Initiation matches configuration
4. Verify Application IDs include Gx (16777238)
```

Troubleshoot Session Creation Failures (Gx Issues):

```
1. User sessions failing with "PCRF timeout" errors
2. Open Diameter page
3. Check peer status:
   - Disconnected?
     → Check network connectivity
     → Verify PCRF is running
     → Check firewall rules for TCP 3868
   - Connected but sessions failing?
     → Issue is at application level (check logs)
     → PCRF may be rejecting subscribers
```

Verify Diameter Configuration:

```
1. After configuring new PCRF peer
2. Open Diameter page
3. Verify peer appears in list
4. Check status changes to "Connected"
5. Expand peer to verify:
   - Realm matches configuration
   - Application IDs include Gx
   - Product Name shows PCRF identifier
```

Monitor Failover:

```
Scenario: Primary PCRF fails
1. Diameter page shows primary "Disconnected"
2. Verify backup PCRF still "Connected"
3. New sessions automatically use backup
```

```
4. When primary recovers, status returns to "Connected"
```

Detect Diameter Routing Issues:

- Peer shows "Connected" but wrong realm
- Application IDs don't include Gx (16777238)
- Product Name doesn't match expected PCRF

Identify Configuration Mismatches:

```
Web UI shows:
  Connection Initiation: "Peer initiates"
But configuration says:
  initiate_connection: true

This indicates:
  - OmniPGW attempts to connect
  - But PCRF also initiating
  - May cause connection race conditions
```

Advantages:

- **Fastest refresh rate** - 1 second updates
- **Visual connection status** - Immediate red/green indication
- **No Diameter tools needed** - No need for diameter CLI tools
- **Peer configuration visible** - Verify settings without checking config files
- **Application-level details** - See supported Diameter applications
- **Realm verification** - Confirm Diameter routing configuration

Integration with Metrics

While the Web UI provides real-time status, combine with Prometheus for:

- Historical Gx error rates
- CCR/CCA message counts
- Latency trends

Web UI = "Is it working right now?" Metrics = "How has it been working over time?"

Related Documentation

Configuration and Policy

- **Configuration Guide** - Diameter configuration, PCRF peer setup
- **PFCP Interface** - QoS enforcement via QERs from PCC rules
- **Session Management** - Session lifecycle with policy integration

- **QoS & Bearer Management** - Detailed QoS configuration and bearer setup

Charging Integration

- **Diameter Gy Interface** - Online charging triggered by PCC rules
- **Data CDR Format** - Offline charging records with policy info
- **PCO Configuration** - P-CSCF delivery for IMS policy control

Operations

- **Monitoring Guide** - Gx metrics, policy tracking, PCRF connectivity alerts
- **S5/S8 Interface** - Bearer management integration with policy

---

Back to Operations Guide

Diameter Online Charging (Gy/Ro Interface)

Online Charging System (OCS) Interface

Table of Contents

Overview

The **Gy interface** (also called **Ro interface** in IMS contexts) connects PGW-C to the **Online Charging System (OCS)** for real-time credit control. This enables:

- **Prepaid Charging** - Real-time credit authorization and deduction
- **Real-time Credit Control** - Grant quota before service delivery
- **Service-Based Charging** - Different charging for voice, data, SMS, etc.
- **Immediate Account Updates** - Credit balance updates in real-time
- **Service Denial** - Block service when credit exhausted

Online vs. Offline Charging

Aspect	Online Charging (Gy/Ro)	Offline Charging (Gz/Rf)
Timing	Real-time, before service	After service delivery
Use Case	Prepaid subscribers	Postpaid subscribers
Credit Check	Yes, before granting service	No, bill generated later
System	OCS (Online Charging System)	CGF/CDF (Charging Data Function)
Risk	No revenue loss	Risk of unpaid bills
Complexity	High (real-time requirements)	Lower (batch processing)
User Impact	Service denied if no credit	Service always available

See also: Data CDR Format for offline charging records (postpaid billing)

See also: Session Management for complete PDN session lifecycle including charging integration

Gy in the Network Architecture

Key Functions

Function	Description
Credit Authorization	Request quota from OCS before allowing traffic
Quota Management	Track granted units (bytes, time, events)
Credit Depletion Detection	Monitor remaining quota
Re-authorization	Request additional quota when threshold reached
Service Termination	Stop service when credit exhausted
Final Settlement	Report actual usage upon session end

3GPP Charging Architecture

Charging Reference Points

Charging Trigger Function (CTF)

PGW-C acts as a **CTF (Charging Trigger Function)**, responsible for:

1. **Detecting chargeable events** - Session start, data usage, session end
2. **Requesting credit authorization** - Before allowing service
3. **Tracking quota consumption** - Monitor granted units
4. **Generating charging events** - Trigger credit requests
5. **Enforcing credit control** - Block traffic when quota exhausted

Online Charging Function (OCF)

The OCS implements the **OCF (Online Charging Function)**:

1. **Account balance management** - Track subscriber credit
2. **Rating** - Determine price per unit (per MB, per second, etc.)
3. **Credit reservation** - Reserve credit for granted quota
4. **Credit deduction** - Deduct upon usage report
5. **Policy decisions** - Grant or deny based on balance

Gy/Ro Interface Basics

3GPP Reference

- **Specification:** 3GPP TS 32.299 (Charging architecture)
- **Protocol:** 3GPP TS 32.251 (PS domain charging)
- **Diameter Application ID:** 4 (Gy/Ro - Credit Control Application)
- **Base Protocol:** RFC 4006 (Diameter Credit Control Application)

Session Concept

Each UE PDN connection requiring online charging has a **Gy/Ro session** identified by a **Session-ID**. This session:

- Created when bearer requires online charging (CCR-Initial)
- Updated when quota is consumed (CCR-Update)
- Terminated when session ends (CCR-Termination)

Session ID Format

```
Session-ID: <Origin-Host>;<high32>;<low32>[;<optional>]
Example: omni-pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org;9876543210;12345;gy
```

Components:

- **Origin-Host:** PGW-C's Diameter identity
- **high32:** High 32 bits of unique identifier
- **low32:** Low 32 bits of unique identifier
- **optional:** Additional identifier (e.g., "gy" to distinguish from Gx)

Credit Control Messages

Message Types

CCR-Initial (Credit Control Request - Initial)

When: UE creates a PDN connection and bearer requires online charging

Purpose:

- Request initial credit authorization from OCS
- Reserve quota for service delivery
- Establish Gy/Ro session

Key AVPs Sent by PGW-C:

AVP Name	AVP Code	Type	Description
Session-Id	263	UTF8String	Unique Gy session identifier
Auth-Application-Id	258	Unsigned32	4 (Credit Control)
Origin-Host	264	DiamIdent	PGW-C's Diameter identity
Origin-Realm	296	DiamIdent	PGW-C's Diameter realm
Destination-Realm	283	DiamIdent	OCS's realm
CC-Request-Type	416	Enumerated	1 = INITIAL_REQUEST
CC-Request-Number	415	Unsigned32	Sequence number (starts at 0)
Subscription-Id	443	Grouped	UE identifier (IMSI/MSISDN)
Service-Context-Id	461	UTF8String	Charging context identifier
Multiple-Services-Credit-Control	456	Grouped	Service-specific credit requests
Requested-Service-Unit	437	Grouped	Requested quota (bytes, time, etc.)
Used-Service-Unit	446	Grouped	Used quota (0 for initial)
Service-Identifier	439	Unsigned32	Service type identifier
Rating-Group	432	Unsigned32	Charging category identifier

Example CCR-I Structure:

```
CCR (Command Code: 272, Request)
├── Session-Id: "pgw_c.example.com;123;456;gy"
├── Auth-Application-Id: 4
├── Origin-Host: "omni-pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Origin-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Destination-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── CC-Request-Type: INITIAL_REQUEST (1)
├── CC-Request-Number: 0
├── Subscription-Id (Grouped)
│   ├── Subscription-Id-Type: END_USER_IMSI (1)
│   └── Subscription-Id-Data: "310260123456789"
├── Subscription-Id (Grouped)
│   ├── Subscription-Id-Type: END_USER_E164 (0)
│   └── Subscription-Id-Data: "15551234567"
├── Service-Context-Id: "32251@3gpp.org"
├── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control (Grouped)
│   ├── Service-Identifier: 1
│   ├── Rating-Group: 100
│   └── Requested-Service-Unit (Grouped)
│       └── CC-Total-Octets: 10000000 (request 10 MB)
└── Used-Service-Unit (Grouped)
    └── CC-Total-Octets: 0 (no usage yet)
```

CCA-Initial (Credit Control Answer - Initial)

Sent by: OCS in response to CCR-I

Purpose:

- Grant or deny credit authorization
- Provide quota for service delivery
- Specify rating and charging parameters

Key AVPs Received by PGW-C:

AVP Name	AVP Code	Description
Result-Code	268	Success (2001) or error code
Multiple-Services-Credit-Control	456	Service-specific credit grants
Granted-Service-Unit	431	Granted quota (bytes, time, etc.)
Validity-Time	448	Quota validity period (seconds)
Result-Code	268	Per-service result code
Final-Unit-Indication	430	Action when quota exhausted
Volume-Quota-Threshold	-	Threshold for re-authorization

Success Response Example:

```
CCA (Command Code: 272, Answer)
├── Session-Id: "pgw_c.example.com;123;456;gy"
├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)
├── Origin-Host: "ocs.example.com"
├── Origin-Realm: "example.com"
├── Auth-Application-Id: 4
├── CC-Request-Type: INITIAL_REQUEST (1)
├── CC-Request-Number: 0
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control (Grouped)
    ├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)
    ├── Service-Identifier: 1
    ├── Rating-Group: 100
    ├── Granted-Service-Unit (Grouped)
    │   └── CC-Total-Octets: 10000000 (granted 10 MB)
    ├── Validity-Time: 3600 (quota valid for 1 hour)
    └── Volume-Quota-Threshold: 8000000 (re-auth at 8 MB used, 80%)
```

CCR-Update (Credit Control Request - Update)

When:

- Granted quota threshold reached (e.g., 80% consumed)
- Validity time expires
- Service change requires re-authorization
- Tariff time change

Purpose:

- Request additional quota
- Report usage of previously granted quota
- Update charging parameters

Key Differences from CCR-I:

- CC-Request-Type: UPDATE_REQUEST (2)
- CC-Request-Number incremented
- Used-Service-Unit contains actual usage
- Requested-Service-Unit for more quota

Example CCR-U Structure:

```
CCR (Command Code: 272, Request)
├── Session-Id: "pgw_c.example.com;123;456;gy"
├── Auth-Application-Id: 4
├── Origin-Host: "omni-pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Origin-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Destination-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── CC-Request-Type: UPDATE_REQUEST (2)
├── CC-Request-Number: 1
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control (Grouped)
    ├── Service-Identifier: 1
    ├── Rating-Group: 100
    ├── Used-Service-Unit (Grouped)
    │   └── CC-Total-Octets: 8000000 (8 MB used so far)
    └── Requested-Service-Unit (Grouped)
        └── CC-Total-Octets: 10000000 (request another 10 MB)
```

CCA-Update (Credit Control Answer - Update)

Sent by: OCS in response to CCR-U

Purpose:

- Grant additional quota (if credit available)
- Acknowledge usage
- Update charging parameters

Possible Outcomes:

1. More Quota Granted:

```
CCA (Update)
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control
    ├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)
    ├── Granted-Service-Unit
    │   └── CC-Total-Octets: 10000000 (another 10 MB)
    └── Validity-Time: 3600
```

2. Final Quota (Credit Exhausted):

```
CCA (Update)
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control
    ├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)
    ├── Granted-Service-Unit
    │   └── CC-Total-Octets: 1000000 (only 1 MB left)
    └── Final-Unit-Indication
        └── Final-Unit-Action: TERMINATE (0)
```

3. No Credit Available:

```
CCA (Update)
├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_CREDIT_LIMIT_REACHED (4012)
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control
    ├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_CREDIT_LIMIT_REACHED (4012)
    └── Final-Unit-Indication
        └── Final-Unit-Action: TERMINATE (0)
```

CCR-Termination (Credit Control Request - Termination)

When:

- UE detaches
- PDN connection deleted
- Session terminated for any reason

Purpose:

- Final usage report
- Close Gy/Ro session
- Final settlement

Key Differences:

- CC-Request-Type: TERMINATION_REQUEST (3)
- Used-Service-Unit contains final usage
- No Requested-Service-Unit (no more quota needed)
- Includes Termination-Cause

Example CCR-T Structure:

```
CCR (Command Code: 272, Request)
├── Session-Id: "pgw_c.example.com;123;456;gy"
├── Auth-Application-Id: 4
├── Origin-Host: "omni-pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Origin-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── Destination-Realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org"
├── CC-Request-Type: TERMINATION_REQUEST (3)
├── CC-Request-Number: 5
├── Termination-Cause: DIAMETER_LOGOUT (1)
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control (Grouped)
    ├── Service-Identifier: 1
    ├── Rating-Group: 100
    └── Used-Service-Unit (Grouped)
        └── CC-Total-Octets: 18500000 (18.5 MB total usage)
```

CCA-Termination (Credit Control Answer - Termination)

Sent by: OCS in response to CCR-T

Purpose:

- Acknowledge session termination
- Complete accounting
- Release reserved credit

Example CCA-T:

```
CCA (Command Code: 272, Answer)
├── Session-Id: "pgw_c.example.com;123;456;gy"
├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)
├── Origin-Host: "ocs.example.com"
├── Origin-Realm: "example.com"
├── Auth-Application-Id: 4
├── CC-Request-Type: TERMINATION_REQUEST (3)
└── CC-Request-Number: 5
```

Online Charging Flows

Service Unit Types

The OCS can grant quota in different units:

Unit Type	AVP	Description	Use Case
Time	CC-Time	Seconds	Voice calls, session duration
Volume	CC-Total-Octets	Bytes (total up+down)	Data services
Volume (separate)	CC-Input-Octets, CC-Output-Octets	Bytes (separate)	Asymmetric charging
Service-Specific	CC-Service-Specific-Units	Custom units	SMS, MMS, API calls
Events	-	Counted events	Pay-per-use services

Quota Threshold Management

Problem: How does PGW-C know when to request more quota?

Solution: OCS provides a **Volume-Quota-Threshold** or **Time-Quota-Threshold**. PGW-C monitors usage via PFCP Session Reports from PGW-U (see [PFCP Interface](#)).

Example Flow:

```
1. OCS grants 10 MB quota with 80% threshold (8 MB)
2. PGW-C monitors usage via PGW-U usage reports (PFCP Session Reports)
3. When usage reaches 8 MB:
   → PGW-C sends CCR-Update
   → Continue allowing traffic (don't wait for response)
4. OCS responds with more quota
5. If quota exhausted before CCR-Update sent:
   → PGW-C must block traffic
```

Threshold Calculation:

```
Granted-Service-Unit: 10000000 bytes (10 MB)
Volume-Quota-Threshold: 8000000 bytes (8 MB)

When 8 MB consumed → Trigger CCR-Update
Remaining buffer: 2 MB (allows time for OCS response)
```

PGW-C Monitoring:

PGW-C monitors usage via **PFCP Session Reports** from PGW-U:

Final Unit Indication

What happens when credit is exhausted?

OCS includes **Final-Unit-Indication** AVP in CCA to specify action:

Final-Unit-Action	Value	PGW-C Behavior
TERMINATE	0	Block all traffic, initiate session termination
REDIRECT	1	Redirect traffic to portal (e.g., top-up page)
RESTRICT_ACCESS	2	Allow access only to specific services (e.g., top-up server)

Example: Final Unit with Redirect

```
CCA (Update)
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control
    ├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)
    ├── Granted-Service-Unit
    │   └── CC-Total-Octets: 1000000 (final 1 MB)
    └── Final-Unit-Indication
        ├── Final-Unit-Action: REDIRECT (1)
        └── Redirect-Server (Grouped)
            ├── Redirect-Address-Type: URL (2)
            └── Redirect-Server-Address: "http://topup.example.com"
```

PGW-C Actions:

1. **TERMINATE:** Send CCR-T, delete bearer
2. **REDIRECT:** Install PFCP rule to redirect HTTP to top-up URL
3. **RESTRICT_ACCESS:** Install PFCP rules allowing only whitelisted IPs

Bearer Charging Control

What Controls if a Bearer is Charged?

3GPP Specification: TS 23.203, TS 29.212, TS 32.251

Bearer charging is controlled by **PCC Rules** provisioned by the PCRF via the Gx interface. See [Diameter Gx Interface](#) for complete PCC rule documentation.

Charging Decision Flow:

PCC Rule with Charging Information

PCRF Response (CCA-I on Gx):

```
CCA (Gx Interface)
└── Charging-Rule-Definition (Grouped)
    ├── Charging-Rule-Name: "prepaid_data_rule"
    ├── Rating-Group: 100
    ├── Online: 1 (enable online charging)
    ├── Offline: 0 (disable offline charging)
    ├── Metering-Method: VOLUME (1)
    ├── Precedence: 100
    ├── Flow-Information: [...]
    └── QoS-Information: [...]
```

Key Charging AVPs in PCC Rules:

AVP Name	AVP Code	Values	Description
Rating-Group	432	Unsigned32	Charging category (maps to tariff in OCS)
Online	1009	0=Disable, 1=Enable	Enable online charging (Gy)
Offline	1008	0=Disable, 1=Enable	Enable offline charging (Gz)
Metering-Method	1007	0=Duration, 1=Volume, 2=Both	What to meter
Reporting-Level	1011	0=Service, 1=Rating Group	Granularity of usage reports

Bearer Charging Decision Matrix

Online	Offline	Rating-Group	Behavior
1	0	Present	Online charging only (prepaid)
0	1	Present	Offline charging only (postpaid)
1	1	Present	Both online and offline (convergent)
0	0	-	No charging (free service)

Multiple Rating Groups

A single PDN connection can have **multiple bearers with different rating groups**:

Example Scenario:

```
Default Bearer (Internet)
├── Rating-Group: 100 (Standard Data)
└── Online: 1

Dedicated Bearer 1 (Video Streaming)
├── Rating-Group: 200 (Video Service)
└── Online: 1

Dedicated Bearer 2 (IMS Voice)
├── Rating-Group: 300 (Voice)
└── Online: 1
```

PGW-C Gy Behavior:

- **Single CCR-I** with multiple MSCC (Multiple-Services-Credit-Control) sections:

```
CCR-Initial
├── Session-Id: "..."
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control
    ├── [Rating-Group: 100] → Standard Data
    ├── [Rating-Group: 200] → Video Service
    └── [Rating-Group: 300] → Voice
```

OCS Response:

```
CCA-Initial
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control
    ├── [Rating-Group: 100] → Granted: 10 MB
    ├── [Rating-Group: 200] → Granted: 5 MB (video more expensive)
    └── [Rating-Group: 300] → Granted: 60 seconds
```

Per-Service Charging Enforcement

PGW-C tracks quota per Rating-Group:

```
# Pseudocode
state.charging_quotas = %{
  100 => %{granted: 10_000_000, used: 0, threshold: 8_000_000},
  200 => %{granted: 5_000_000, used: 0, threshold: 4_000_000},
  300 => %{granted: 60_000, used: 0, threshold: 48_000}  # milliseconds
}
```

Usage Monitoring per Bearer:

Multiple Services Credit Control

MSCC (Multiple-Services-Credit-Control) AVP

Purpose: Group charging information for a specific service/rating group

Structure:

```
Multiple-Services-Credit-Control (Grouped, AVP 456)
├── Service-Identifier (Unsigned32, AVP 439)
├── Rating-Group (Unsigned32, AVP 432)
├── Requested-Service-Unit (Grouped, AVP 437)
│   ├── CC-Time (Unsigned32, AVP 420)
│   ├── CC-Total-Octets (Unsigned64, AVP 421)
│   ├── CC-Input-Octets (Unsigned64, AVP 412)
│   └── CC-Output-Octets (Unsigned64, AVP 414)
```

```
├── Used-Service-Unit (Grouped, AVP 446)
│   └── [Same structure as Requested-Service-Unit]
├── Granted-Service-Unit (Grouped, AVP 431)
│   └── [Same structure as Requested-Service-Unit]
├── Validity-Time (Unsigned32, AVP 448)
├── Result-Code (Unsigned32, AVP 268)
└── Final-Unit-Indication (Grouped, AVP 430)
    └── Final-Unit-Action (Enumerated, AVP 449)
```

Service-Identifier vs. Rating-Group

Attribute	Service-Identifier	Rating-Group
Purpose	Identifies service type	Identifies charging category
Example	1=Data, 2=Voice, 3=SMS	100=Regular, 200=Premium
Granularity	Broad classification	Specific tariff
Required	Optional	Required for charging
Mapping	May map to multiple RGs	Single tariff in OCS

Example:

```
Service-Identifier: 1 (Data Service)
├── Rating-Group: 100 (Standard Data - $0.01/MB)
└── Rating-Group: 200 (Premium Data - $0.05/MB)

Service-Identifier: 2 (Voice)
└── Rating-Group: 300 (Voice Calls - $0.10/min)
```

Configuration

Basic Gy Configuration

Edit `config/runtime.exs`:

```
config :pgw_c,
  online_charging: %{
    # Enable or disable online charging globally
    enabled: true,

    # OCS connection timeout (milliseconds)
    timeout_ms: 5000,

    # Default quota request (bytes) if not specified by PCRF
    default_requested_quota: 10_000_000,  # 10 MB

    # Threshold percentage for re-authorization
    # (0.8 = trigger CCR-Update at 80% quota consumed)
    quota_threshold_percentage: 0.8,

    # Action when OCS timeout occurs
    # Options :block, :allow
    timeout_action: :block,

    # Action when OCS returns no credit
    # Options :terminate, :redirect
    no_credit_action: :terminate,

    # Redirect URL for top-up (used if no_credit_action: :redirect)
    topup_redirect_url: "http://topup.example.com"
  },
  diameter: %{
    listen_ip: "0.0.0.0",
    host: "omni-pgw_c.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
    realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",

    # OCS peer configuration
    peer_list: [
      # PCRF for policy control (Gx)
      %{
        host: "pcrf.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
        realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
        ip: "10.0.0.30",
        initiate_connection: true
      },
      # OCS for online charging (Gy)
      %{
        host: "ocs.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
        realm: "epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org",
        ip: "10.0.0.40",
        initiate_connection: true
      }
    ]
  }
```

Configuration Parameters Explained

enabled

- `true`: Online charging active, CCR messages sent to OCS
- `false`: Online charging disabled, no Gy messages

timeout_ms

- Time to wait for CCA response from OCS
- Recommended: 3000-5000 ms

default_requested_quota

- Default quota to request if PCRF doesn't specify
- Typical values: 1-100 MB

quota_threshold_percentage

- Trigger CCR-Update when this % of quota consumed
- Recommended: 0.75-0.85 (75%-85%)
- Higher = fewer messages, but risk of quota exhaustion
- Lower = more messages, but safer

timeout_action

- `:block` - Block traffic if OCS doesn't respond (safer, prevents revenue loss)
- `:allow` - Allow traffic if OCS doesn't respond (better UX, revenue risk)

no_credit_action

- `:terminate` - Delete bearer when credit exhausted
- `:redirect` - Redirect to top-up portal

Environment-Specific Configuration

Production (prepaid subscribers):

```
config :pgw_c,
  online_charging: %{
    enabled: true,
    timeout_action: :block,
    no_credit_action: :terminate,
    quota_threshold_percentage: 0.8
  }
```

Test/Development:

```
config :pgw_c,
  online_charging: %{
    enabled: false  # Disable for testing
  }
```

Hybrid (some prepaid, some postpaid):

```
config :pgw_c,
  online_charging: %{
    enabled: true,  # Controlled per-subscriber by PCRF
    timeout_action: :allow,  # Don't block postpaid on OCS failure
    no_credit_action: :terminate
  }
```

Message Flows

Successful Session with Online Charging

Quota Re-authorization (CCR-Update)

Credit Exhaustion (Final Unit)

OCS Timeout Handling

Error Handling

Result Codes

Success Codes:

Code	Name	Action
2001	DIAMETER_SUCCESS	Continue with granted quota

Transient Failures (4xxx):

Code	Name	PGW-C Action
4010	DIAMETER_TOO_BUSY	Retry with backoff
4011	DIAMETER_UNABLE_TO_COMPLY	Log error, may retry
4012	DIAMETER_CREDIT_LIMIT_REACHED	Terminate or redirect

Permanent Failures (5xxx):

Code	Name	PGW-C Action
5003	DIAMETER_AUTHORIZATION_REJECTED	Reject session
5031	DIAMETER_USER_UNKNOWN	Reject session (invalid subscriber)

Per-Service Result Codes

Important: Result-Code can appear at **two levels**:

1. **Message level** - Overall result
2. **MSCC level** - Per-service result

Example:

```
CCA-Initial
├── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)  ← Message level: OK
└── Multiple-Services-Credit-Control
    ├── [Rating-Group: 100]
    │   └── Result-Code: DIAMETER_SUCCESS (2001)  ← RG 100: OK
    └── [Rating-Group: 200]
        └── Result-Code: DIAMETER_CREDIT_LIMIT_REACHED (4012)  ← RG 200: No credit
```

PGW-C Behavior:

- Allow traffic for Rating-Group 100
- Block traffic for Rating-Group 200

Integration with Gx

The Gx interface (PCRF policy control) determines whether online charging is required and provides the Rating-Group that drives Gy charging. See Diameter Gx Interface for complete policy control documentation.

Gx and Gy Relationship

Integration Flow

1. Bearer Setup:

```
PGW-C receives Create Session Request
    ↓
Send CCR-I to PCRF (Gx)
    ↓
Receive CCA-I with PCC Rules
    ↓
Parse PCC Rules:
    - Does rule have Rating-Group?
    - Is Online = 1?
    ↓
If YES:
    Send CCR-I to OCS (Gy) with Rating-Group
    ↓
    Receive CCA-I with quota
    ↓
    If quota granted: Proceed
    If no credit: Reject bearer
If NO:
    Proceed without online charging
```

2. Dynamic Policy Update (RAR from PCRF):

```
PCRF sends RAR (Re-Auth-Request) on Gx
    ↓
New PCC Rule added with Online=1, Rating-Group=200
    ↓
PGW-C sends CCR-U to OCS (Gy)
    - Add MSCC for Rating-Group 200
    ↓
OCS grants quota for new service
    ↓
Install dedicated bearer with online charging
```

Troubleshooting

Common Issues

1. CCR-Initial to OCS Timeouts

Symptoms:

- Sessions fail with "OCS timeout"
- Log: "CCR-Initial (Gy) timeout"

Possible Causes:

- OCS not reachable
- Incorrect OCS IP in configuration
- Firewall blocking Diameter port (3868)
- OCS overloaded

Resolution:

```
# Test network connectivity
ping <ocs_ip>
```

```
# Test Diameter port (TCP 3868)
telnet <ocs_ip> 3868

# Check configuration
# Ensure OCS peer is configured in peer_list
```

2. Sessions Rejected by OCS

Symptoms:

- CCA-I with Result-Code != 2001
- Create Session Response fails

Common Result Codes:

Result Code	Likely Cause	Resolution
4012	Credit limit reached	Subscriber needs to top-up
5003	Authorization rejected	Check subscriber permissions
5031	User unknown	Provision subscriber in OCS

Debug Steps:

1. Check OCS logs for rejection reason
2. Verify subscriber balance in OCS
3. Check IMSI/MSISDN in CCR-I matches subscriber record

3. Quota Exhaustion Not Detected

Symptoms:

- User continues using data after balance exhausted
- No CCR-Update sent

Possible Causes:

- URR (Usage Reporting Rule) not installed in PGW-U
- Threshold not configured correctly
- PFCP Session Reports not received

Debug Steps:

1. Verify URR in PFCP Session Establishment:

```
Create URR
├── URR-ID: 1
├── Measurement-Method: VOLUME
├── Volume-Threshold: 8000000 (8 MB)
└── Reporting-Triggers: VOLUME_THRESHOLD
```

2. Check PGW-U logs for usage reports

3. Verify `quota_threshold_percentage` in config

4. Incorrect Rating-Group

Symptoms:

- OCS rejects with "Unknown Rating-Group"
- Sessions fail

Cause:

- Rating-Group in CCR-I doesn't match OCS configuration
- PCRF provisioned invalid Rating-Group

Resolution:

1. Verify Rating-Group in PCC Rule from PCRF
2. Check OCS configuration for valid Rating-Groups
3. Ensure mapping between PCC Rules and OCS tariffs

Monitoring

Key Metrics

```
# Gy message rates
rate(gy_inbound_messages_total{message_type="cca"}[5m])
rate(gy_outbound_messages_total{message_type="ccr"}[5m])

# Gy error rates
rate(gy_inbound_errors_total[5m])

# Quota exhaustion events
rate(gy_quota_exhausted_total[5m])

# OCS timeout rate
rate(gy_timeout_total[5m])

# Gy message handling duration
histogram_quantile(0.95, rate(gy_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m]))
```

Alerts

```yaml
# Alert on high Gy error rate
- alert: GyErrorRateHigh
  expr: rate(gy_inbound_errors_total[5m]) > 0.1
  for: 5m
  annotations:
    summary: "High Gy error rate detected"

# Alert on OCS timeout
- alert: OcsTimeout
  expr: rate(gy_timeout_total[5m]) > 0.05
  for: 2m
  annotations:
    summary: "OCS timeouts occurring"

# Alert on credit exhaustion spike
- alert: CreditExhaustionSpike
  expr: rate(gy_quota_exhausted_total[5m]) > 10
  for: 5m
  annotations:
    summary: "High rate of credit exhaustion"
```

Web UI - Gy Credit Control Simulator

OmniPGW includes a built-in Gy/Ro simulator for testing online charging functionality without requiring an external OCS.

Access: `http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/gy_simulator`

Resources

Configuration

Topology

UE Search

PGW Sessions

Session History

IP Pools

Diameter

PFCP Sessions

UPF Status

UPF Selection

P-CSCF Monitor

Gy Simulator

Logs

Gy Credit Control Simulator

Request Parameters

IMSI

`e.g., 310170123456789`

MSISDN

`e.g., 14155551234`

Requested Units (bytes)	Service ID	Rating Group
1000000	1	1

Send CCR-I

Purpose: Test and simulate online charging scenarios for prepaid subscribers

Features:

1. Request Parameters

- **IMSI** - Subscriber identity (e.g., "310170123456789")
- **MSISDN** - Phone number (e.g., "14155551234")
- **Requested Units** - Amount of quota to request (in bytes)
- **Service ID** - Service type identifier
- **Rating Group** - Charging category

2. CCR-I Simulation

- Send CCR-Initial (Credit-Control-Request Initial)
- Simulates initial quota request during session establishment
- Tests OCS integration without live traffic

3. Use Cases

- **Development Testing** - Test Gy interface during development
- **OCS Integration** - Verify OCS connectivity and responses
- **Quota Testing** - Test different quota scenarios
- **Troubleshooting** - Debug charging issues
- **Demo** - Demonstrate online charging to stakeholders

How to Use:

```
1. Enter subscriber details (IMSI, MSISDN)
2. Set requested units (e.g., 1000000 for 1 MB)
3. Configure Service ID and Rating Group
4. Click "Send CCR-I"
5. View OCS response and granted quota
```

Benefits:

- No need for external OCS during testing
- Quick validation of charging logic
- Safe testing environment
- Useful for training and demos

Related Documentation

Charging and Policy

- **Diameter Gx Interface** - PCRF policy control, PCC rules that trigger online charging
- **Data CDR Format** - Offline charging records for postpaid billing
- **Configuration Guide** - Complete online charging configuration parameters

Session Management

- **Session Management** - PDN session lifecycle, bearer management
- **PFCP Interface** - Usage reporting from PGW-U via URRs
- **S5/S8 Interface** - GTP-C bearer setup and teardown

Operations

- **Monitoring Guide** - Gy metrics, quota tracking, OCS timeout alerts
- **UE IP Allocation** - IP pool configuration for charged sessions

Back to Operations Guide

OmniPGW Monitoring & Metrics Guide

Prometheus Integration and Operational Monitoring

by Omnitouch Network Services

Table of Contents

Overview

OmniPGW provides two complementary monitoring approaches:

1. Real-Time Web UI (covered briefly here, detailed in respective interface docs)

- Live session viewer
- PFCP peer status
- Diameter peer connectivity
- Individual session inspection

2. Prometheus Metrics (main focus of this document)

- Historical trends and analysis
- Alerting and notifications
- Performance metrics
- Capacity planning

This document focuses on **Prometheus metrics**. For Web UI details, see:

- [Session Management - Web UI](#)
- [PFCP Interface - Web UI](#)
- [Diameter Gx - Web UI](#)

Prometheus Metrics Overview

OmniPGW exposes **Prometheus-compatible metrics** for comprehensive monitoring of system health, performance, and capacity. This enables operations teams to:

- **Monitor System Health** - Track active sessions, allocations, and errors
- **Capacity Planning** - Understand resource utilization trends
- **Performance Analysis** - Measure message handling latency
- **Alerting** - Proactive notification of issues
- **Debugging** - Identify root causes of problems

Monitoring Architecture

Metrics Endpoint

Configuration

Enable metrics in `config/runtime.exs`:

```
config :pgw_c,
  metrics: %{
    enabled: true,
    ip_address: "0.0.0.0",  # Bind to all interfaces
    port: 9090,             # HTTP port
    registry_poll_period_ms: 5_000  # Poll interval
  }
```

Accessing Metrics

HTTP Endpoint:

```
http://<omnipgw_ip>:<port>/metrics
```

Example:

```
curl http://10.0.0.20:9090/metrics
```

Output Format

Metrics are exposed in **Prometheus text format**:

```
# HELP teid_registry_count The number of TEID registered to sessions
# TYPE teid_registry_count gauge
teid_registry_count 150

# HELP address_registry_count The number of addresses registered to sessions
# TYPE address_registry_count gauge
address_registry_count 150

# HELP s5s8_inbound_messages_total The total number of messages received from S5/S8 peers
# TYPE s5s8_inbound_messages_total counter
s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="create_session_request"} 1523
s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="delete_session_request"} 1487
```

Available Metrics

OmniPGW exposes the following metric categories:

Session Metrics

Active Session Counts:

Metric Name	Type	Description
teid_registry_count	Gauge	Active S5/S8 sessions (TEID count)
seid_registry_count	Gauge	Active PFCP sessions (SEID count)
session_id_registry_count	Gauge	Active Gx sessions (Diameter Session-ID count)
address_registry_count	Gauge	Allocated UE IP addresses
charging_id_registry_count	Gauge	Active charging IDs (see Data CDR Format for CDR billing records)

Usage:

```
# Current active sessions
teid_registry_count

# Session creation rate (per second)
```

```
rate(teid_registry_count[5m])

# Peak sessions in last hour
max_over_time(teid_registry_count[1h])
```

Message Counters

S5/S8 (GTP-C) Messages:

Metric Name	Type	Labels	Description
s5s8_inbound_messages_total	Counter	message_type	Total inbound S5/S8 messages
s5s8_outbound_messages_total	Counter	message_type	Total outbound S5/S8 messages
s5s8_inbound_errors_total	Counter	message_type	S5/S8 processing errors

Message Types:

- create_session_request
- create_session_response
- delete_session_request
- delete_session_response
- create_bearer_request
- delete_bearer_request

Sxb (PFCP) Messages:

Metric Name	Type	Labels	Description
sxb_inbound_messages_total	Counter	message_type	Total inbound PFCP messages
sxb_outbound_messages_total	Counter	message_type	Total outbound PFCP messages
sxb_inbound_errors_total	Counter	message_type	PFCP processing errors

Message Types:

- association_setup_request
- association_setup_response
- heartbeat_request
- heartbeat_response
- session_establishment_request
- session_establishment_response
- session_modification_request
- session_deletion_request

Gx (Diameter) Messages:

Metric Name	Type	Labels	Description
gx_inbound_messages_total	Counter	message_type	Total inbound Diameter messages
gx_outbound_messages_total	Counter	message_type	Total outbound Diameter messages
gx_inbound_errors_total	Counter	message_type	Diameter processing errors

Message Types:

- cca (Credit-Control-Answer)
- ccr_initial
- ccr_termination

Latency Metrics

Message Processing Duration:

Metric Name	Type	Labels	Description
s5s8_inbound_handling_duration	Histogram	request_message_type	S5/S8 message handling time
sxb_inbound_handling_duration	Histogram	request_message_type	PFCP message handling time
gx_inbound_handling_duration	Histogram	request_message_type	Diameter message handling time

Buckets (microseconds):

- Typical values: 100µs, 500µs, 1ms, 5ms, 10ms, 50ms, 100ms, 500ms, 1s, 5s

Usage:

```
# 95th percentile S5/S8 latency
histogram_quantile(0.95,
  rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m])
)

# Average PFCP latency
rate(sxb_inbound_handling_duration_sum[5m]) /
rate(sxb_inbound_handling_duration_count[5m])
```

System Metrics

Erlang VM Metrics:

Metric Name	Type	Description
vm_memory_total	Gauge	Total VM memory (bytes)
vm_memory_processes	Gauge	Memory used by processes
vm_memory_system	Gauge	Memory used by system
vm_system_process_count	Gauge	Total Erlang processes
vm_system_port_count	Gauge	Total open ports

Prometheus Configuration

Scrape Configuration

Add OmniPGW to Prometheus `prometheus.yml`:

```yaml
# prometheus.yml
global:
  scrape_interval: 15s
  evaluation_interval: 15s

scrape_configs:
  - job_name: 'omnipgw'
    static_configs:
      - targets: ['10.0.0.20:9090']
        labels:
          instance: 'omnipgw-01'
          environment: 'production'
          site: 'datacenter-1'
```

Multiple OmniPGW Instances

```yaml
scrape_configs:
  - job_name: 'omnipgw'
    static_configs:
      - targets:
          - '10.0.0.20:9090'
          - '10.0.0.21:9090'
          - '10.0.0.22:9090'
        labels:
          environment: 'production'
```

Service Discovery

Kubernetes:

```yaml
scrape_configs:
```

```yaml
  - job_name: 'omnipgw'
    kubernetes_sd_configs:
      - role: pod
    relabel_configs:
      - source_labels: [__meta_kubernetes_pod_label_app]
        action: keep
        regex: omnipgw
      - source_labels: [__meta_kubernetes_pod_ip]
        target_label: __address__
        replacement: '${1}:9090'
```

Verification

Test scrape:

```
# Check Prometheus targets
curl http://prometheus:9090/api/v1/targets

# Query a metric
curl 'http://prometheus:9090/api/v1/query?query=teid_registry_count'
```

Grafana Dashboards

Dashboard Setup

1. Add Prometheus Data Source:

```
Configuration → Data Sources → Add data source → Prometheus
URL: http://prometheus:9090
```

2. Import Dashboard:

Create a new dashboard or import from JSON.

Key Panels

Panel 1: Active Sessions

```
# Query
teid_registry_count

# Panel Type: Gauge
# Thresholds:
#   Green: < 5000
#   Yellow: 5000-8000
#   Red: > 8000
```

Panel 2: Session Rate

```
# Query
rate(s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="create_session_request"}[5m])

# Panel Type: Graph
# Unit: requests/sec
```

Panel 3: IP Pool Utilization

```
# Query (for /24 subnet with 254 IPs)
(address_registry_count / 254) * 100

# Panel Type: Gauge
# Unit: percent (0-100)
```

```
# Thresholds:
#   Green: < 70%
#   Yellow: 70-85%
#   Red: > 85%
```

Panel 4: Message Latency (95th Percentile)

```
# Query
histogram_quantile(0.95,

rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket{request_message_type="create_session_request"}[5m])
)

# Panel Type: Graph
# Unit: milliseconds
```

Panel 5: Error Rate

```
# Query
rate(s5s8_inbound_errors_total[5m])

# Panel Type: Graph
# Unit: errors/sec
# Alert Threshold: > 0.1
```

Panel 6: PFCP Association Status

```
# Query
pfcp_peer_associated

# Panel Type: Stat
# Mappings:
#   1 = "UP" (Green)
#   0 = "DOWN" (Red)
```

Complete Dashboard Example

```
{
  "dashboard": {
    "title": "OmniPGW - Operations Dashboard",
    "panels": [
      {
        "title": "Active Sessions",
        "targets": [
          {
            "expr": "teid_registry_count",
            "legendFormat": "Active Sessions"
          }
        ],
        "type": "graph"
      },
      {
        "title": "Session Creation Rate",
        "targets": [
          {
            "expr":
"rate(s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type=\"create_session_request\"}[5m])",
            "legendFormat": "Sessions/sec"
          }
        ],
        "type": "graph"
      },
      {
        "title": "IP Pool Utilization",
```

```json
      "targets": [
        {
          "expr": "(address_registry_count / 254) * 100",
          "legendFormat": "Pool Usage %"
        }
      ],
      "type": "gauge"
    },
    {
      "title": "Message Latency (p95)",
      "targets": [
        {
          "expr": "histogram_quantile(0.95,
rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m]))",
          "legendFormat": "S5/S8 p95"
        },
        {
          "expr": "histogram_quantile(0.95,
rate(sxb_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m]))",
          "legendFormat": "PFCP p95"
        }
      ],
      "type": "graph"
    }
  ]
 }
}
```

Alerting

Alert Rules

Create `omnipgw_alerts.yml`:

```yaml
groups:
  - name: omnipgw
    interval: 30s
    rules:
      # Session Count Alerts
      - alert: OmniPGW_HighSessionCount
        expr: teid_registry_count > 8000
        for: 5m
        labels:
          severity: warning
        annotations:
          summary: "OmniPGW high session count"
          description: "{{ $value }} active sessions (threshold: 8000)"

      - alert: OmniPGW_SessionCountCritical
        expr: teid_registry_count > 9500
        for: 2m
        labels:
          severity: critical
        annotations:
          summary: "OmniPGW session count critical"
          description: "{{ $value }} active sessions approaching capacity"

      # IP Pool Alerts
      - alert: OmniPGW_IPPoolUtilizationHigh
        expr: (address_registry_count / 254) * 100 > 80
        for: 10m
        labels:
          severity: warning
        annotations:
```

```yaml
        summary: "OmniPGW IP pool utilization high"
        description: "IP pool {{ $value }}% utilized"

  - alert: OmniPGW_IPPoolExhausted
    expr: address_registry_count >= 254
    for: 1m
    labels:
      severity: critical
    annotations:
      summary: "OmniPGW IP pool exhausted"
      description: "No IPs available for allocation"

  # Error Rate Alerts
  - alert: OmniPGW_HighErrorRate
    expr: rate(s5s8_inbound_errors_total[5m]) > 0.1
    for: 5m
    labels:
      severity: warning
    annotations:
      summary: "OmniPGW high error rate"
      description: "{{ $value }} errors/sec on S5/S8 interface"

  - alert: OmniPGW_GxErrorRate
    expr: rate(gx_inbound_errors_total[5m]) > 0.05
    for: 5m
    labels:
      severity: warning
    annotations:
      summary: "OmniPGW Gx errors"
      description: "{{ $value }} Diameter errors/sec"

  # PFCP Alerts
  - alert: OmniPGW_PFCPAssociationDown
    expr: pfcp_peer_associated == 0
    for: 1m
    labels:
      severity: critical
    annotations:
      summary: "PFCP peer {{ $labels.peer }} down"
      description: "PFCP association lost"

  - alert: OmniPGW_PFCPHeartbeatFailures
    expr: pfcp_consecutive_heartbeat_failures > 2
    for: 30s
    labels:
      severity: warning
    annotations:
      summary: "PFCP heartbeat failures"
      description: "{{ $value }} consecutive failures for {{ $labels.peer }}"

  # Latency Alerts
  - alert: OmniPGW_HighLatency
    expr: |
      histogram_quantile(0.95,
        rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m])
      ) > 100000
    for: 5m
    labels:
      severity: warning
    annotations:
      summary: "OmniPGW high message latency"
      description: "p95 latency {{ $value }}µs (> 100ms)"

  # System Alerts
  - alert: OmniPGW_HighMemoryUsage
```

```yaml
        expr: vm_memory_total > 2000000000
        for: 10m
        labels:
          severity: warning
        annotations:
          summary: "OmniPGW high memory usage"
          description: "VM using {{ $value | humanize }}B memory"

      - alert: OmniPGW_HighProcessCount
        expr: vm_system_process_count > 100000
        for: 10m
        labels:
          severity: warning
        annotations:
          summary: "OmniPGW high process count"
          description: "{{ $value }} Erlang processes (potential leak)"
```

AlertManager Configuration

```yaml
# alertmanager.yml
global:
  resolve_timeout: 5m

route:
  receiver: 'ops-team'
  group_by: ['alertname', 'instance']
  group_wait: 10s
  group_interval: 10s
  repeat_interval: 12h

  routes:
    - match:
        severity: critical
      receiver: 'pagerduty'

    - match:
        severity: warning
      receiver: 'slack'

receivers:
  - name: 'ops-team'
    email_configs:
      - to: 'ops@example.com'

  - name: 'slack'
    slack_configs:
      - api_url: 'https://hooks.slack.com/services/YOUR/SLACK/WEBHOOK'
        channel: '#omnipgw-alerts'
        title: 'OmniPGW Alert: {{ .GroupLabels.alertname }}'
        text: '{{ range .Alerts }}{{ .Annotations.description }}{{ end }}'

  - name: 'pagerduty'
    pagerduty_configs:
      - service_key: 'YOUR_PAGERDUTY_KEY'
```

Performance Monitoring

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Throughput Queries

Session Setup Rate:

```
rate(s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="create_session_request"}[5m])
```

Session Teardown Rate:

```
rate(s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="delete_session_request"}[5m])
```

Net Session Growth:

```
rate(s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="create_session_request"}[5m]) -
rate(s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="delete_session_request"}[5m])
```

Latency Analysis

Message Processing Latency (Percentiles):

```
# p50 (Median)
histogram_quantile(0.50,
  rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m])
)

# p95
histogram_quantile(0.95,
  rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m])
)

# p99
histogram_quantile(0.99,
  rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m])
)
```

Latency Breakdown by Message Type:

```
histogram_quantile(0.95,
  rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket[5m])
) by (request_message_type)
```

Capacity Trending

Session Growth Trend (24h):

```
teid_registry_count -
teid_registry_count offset 24h
```

Capacity Remaining:

```
# For max capacity of 10,000 sessions
10000 - teid_registry_count
```

Time to Capacity Exhaustion:

```
# Days until capacity exhausted (based on 1h growth rate)
(10000 - teid_registry_count) /
(rate(teid_registry_count[1h]) * 86400)
```

Troubleshooting Metrics

Identifying Issues

Issue: High Session Rejection Rate

Query:

```
rate(s5s8_inbound_errors_total[5m]) by (message_type)
```

Action:

- Check error logs
- Verify PCRF connectivity (Gx errors)
- Check IP pool exhaustion

Issue: Slow Session Setup

Query:

```
histogram_quantile(0.95,

rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket{request_message_type="create_session_request"}[5m])
)
```

Action:

- Check Gx latency (PCRF response time)
- Check PFCP latency (PGW-U response time)
- Review system resource usage

Issue: Memory Leak Suspected

Queries:

```
# Total memory trend
rate(vm_memory_total[1h])

# Process memory trend
rate(vm_memory_processes[1h])

# Process count trend
rate(vm_system_process_count[1h])
```

Action:

- Check for stale sessions
- Review registry counts
- Restart if leak confirmed

Debugging Queries

Find Peak Session Time:

```
max_over_time(teid_registry_count[24h])
```

Compare Current vs. Historical:

```
teid_registry_count /
avg_over_time(teid_registry_count[7d])
```

Identify Anomalies:

```
abs(
  teid_registry_count -
  avg_over_time(teid_registry_count[1h])
) > 100
```

Best Practices

Metric Collection

1. **Scrape Interval:** 15-30 seconds (balance granularity vs. load)

2. **Retention:** 15+ days for historical analysis
3. **Labels:** Use consistent labeling (instance, environment, site)

Dashboard Design

1. **Overview Dashboard** - High-level KPIs for NOC
2. **Detailed Dashboards** - Per-interface deep dive
3. **Troubleshooting Dashboard** - Error metrics and logs

Alert Design

1. **Avoid Alert Fatigue** - Only alert on actionable issues
2. **Escalation** - Warning → Critical with escalating severity
3. **Context** - Include runbook links in alert descriptions

Related Documentation

Configuration and Setup

- **[Configuration Guide](#)** - Prometheus metrics configuration, Web UI setup
- **[Troubleshooting Guide](#)** - Using metrics for debugging

Interface Metrics

- **[PFCP Interface](#)** - PFCP session metrics, UPF health monitoring
- **[Diameter Gx Interface](#)** - Gx policy metrics, PCRF interaction tracking
- **[Diameter Gy Interface](#)** - Gy charging metrics, quota tracking, OCS timeouts
- **[S5/S8 Interface](#)** - GTP-C message metrics, SGW-C communication

Specialized Monitoring

- **[P-CSCF Monitoring](#)** - P-CSCF discovery metrics, IMS health
- **[Session Management](#)** - Active sessions, session lifecycle metrics
- **[UE IP Allocation](#)** - IP pool utilization metrics

[Back to Operations Guide](#)

OmniPGW Monitoring Guide - *by Omnitouch Network Services*

Protocol Configuration Options (PCO)

Network Parameters Delivered to UE

OmniPGW by Omnitouch Network Services

Overview

PCO (Protocol Configuration Options) are network parameters sent to the UE (mobile device) during PDN connection establishment. These parameters enable the UE to access network services like DNS, IMS, and configure network settings.

PCO Information Elements:

IE Name	Container ID	Description	Required
DNS Server IPv4 Address	0x000D	Primary DNS	Yes
DNS Server IPv4 Address	0x000D	Secondary DNS	Optional
P-CSCF IPv4 Address	0x000C	P-CSCF for IMS	Optional (IMS)
IPv4 Link MTU	0x0010	Maximum transmission unit	Recommended
NBNS Server IPv4 Address	0x0011	NetBIOS name server	Optional

Configuration

Basic Configuration

```
# config/runtime.exs
config :pgw_c,
  pco: %{
    # DNS servers (required)
    primary_dns_server_address: "8.8.8.8",
    secondary_dns_server_address: "8.8.4.4",

    # NBNS servers (optional, for Windows devices)
    primary_nbns_server_address: nil,
    secondary_nbns_server_address: nil,
```

```
    # P-CSCF addresses for IMS/VoLTE (optional)
    p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: [],

    # P-CSCF Dynamic Discovery (optional)
    p_cscf_discovery_enabled: false,
    p_cscf_discovery_dns_server: nil,
    p_cscf_discovery_timeout_ms: 5000,

    # IPv4 MTU size (bytes)
    ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
  }
```

PCO Parameters

DNS Server Addresses

Primary and Secondary DNS:

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "8.8.8.8",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "8.8.4.4"
}
```

Common DNS Providers:

Provider	Primary	Secondary
Google	8.8.8.8	8.8.4.4
Cloudflare	1.1.1.1	1.0.0.1
Quad9	9.9.9.9	149.112.112.112
OpenDNS	208.67.222.222	208.67.220.220

Private DNS:

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.10",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.11"
}
```

P-CSCF Addresses (IMS)

For IMS/VoLTE Services:

```
pco: %{
  p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: [
    "10.0.0.50",  # Primary P-CSCF
```

```
    "10.0.0.51"    # Secondary P-CSCF
  ]
}
```

P-CSCF (Proxy Call Session Control Function):

- Entry point for IMS signaling
- Required for VoLTE, VoWiFi, RCS
- UE uses SIP over this server

P-CSCF Dynamic Discovery

DNS-Based P-CSCF Discovery:

OmniPGW supports dynamic P-CSCF discovery via DNS queries as defined in 3GPP TS 23.003 and TS 24.229. When enabled, PGW-C can query DNS for P-CSCF addresses instead of using static configuration.

```
pco: %{
  # Enable dynamic P-CSCF discovery
  p_cscf_discovery_enabled: true,

  # DNS server for P-CSCF queries (as tuple)
  p_cscf_discovery_dns_server: {10, 179, 2, 177},

  # Timeout for DNS queries (milliseconds)
  p_cscf_discovery_timeout_ms: 5000,

  # Static P-CSCF list (used as fallback if DNS fails)
  p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.0.0.50"]
}
```

How It Works:

1. When `p_cscf_discovery_enabled: true`, PGW-C performs DNS queries for P-CSCF addresses
2. DNS query is sent to the configured `p_cscf_discovery_dns_server`
3. If DNS query succeeds, discovered P-CSCF addresses are sent to UE via PCO
4. If DNS query fails or times out, falls back to static `p_cscf_ipv4_address_list`
5. See [P-CSCF Monitoring](#) for detailed monitoring and metrics

P-CSCF Discovery Flow

Discovery Priority:

1. **Per-Rule FQDN Discovery** (Highest Priority) - `p_cscf_discovery_fqdn` in

UPF selection rule
2. **Global DNS Discovery** - `p_cscf_discovery_enabled`: `true` in global PCO config
3. **Rule PCO Static List** - `p_cscf_ipv4_address_list` in rule PCO override
4. **Global PCO Static List** (Fallback) - `p_cscf_ipv4_address_list` in global PCO config

Monitoring:

All P-CSCF discovery attempts are logged and tracked with metrics:

- DNS query success/failure rates
- Discovery latency
- Fallback usage statistics
- Per-rule and global discovery metrics

See [P-CSCF Monitoring](#) for complete monitoring details.

Configuration Options:

Parameter	Type	Default	Description
`p_cscf_discovery_enabled`	Boolean	`false`	Enable dynamic DNS-based P-CSCF discovery
`p_cscf_discovery_dns_server`	Tuple (IP)	`nil`	DNS server IP address as 4-tuple (e.g., `{10, 179, 2, 177}`)
`p_cscf_discovery_timeout_ms`	Integer	`5000`	Timeout for DNS queries in milliseconds

Use Cases:

- **Dynamic IMS deployments** - P-CSCF addresses change based on DNS configuration
- **Geographic load balancing** - DNS returns closest P-CSCF servers
- **High availability** - DNS automatically returns available P-CSCF servers
- **Multi-tenant environments** - Different subscribers get different P-CSCF servers

Example: Production IMS with DNS Discovery

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.10",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.11",

  # Enable dynamic P-CSCF discovery
  p_cscf_discovery_enabled: true,
  p_cscf_discovery_dns_server: {10, 179, 2, 177},  # IMS DNS server
  p_cscf_discovery_timeout_ms: 3000,
```

```
  # Fallback P-CSCF addresses (if DNS fails)
  p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: [
    "10.0.0.50",  # Primary fallback
    "10.0.0.51"   # Secondary fallback
  ],

  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
}
```

Per-Rule P-CSCF Discovery:

P-CSCF discovery can also be configured per UPF selection rule. This allows different APNs to use different DNS servers for P-CSCF discovery:

```
# In upf_selection configuration
rules: [
  %{
    name: "IMS Traffic",
    priority: 20,
    match_field: :apn,
    match_regex: "^ims",
    upf_pool: [...],

    # Per-rule P-CSCF discovery
    p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org"
  }
]
```

See [UPF Selection Configuration](#) for details on per-rule P-CSCF discovery.

See also: [P-CSCF Monitoring](#) for monitoring P-CSCF discovery and health

NBNS Servers (NetBIOS)

For Windows Device Compatibility:

```
pco: %{
  primary_nbns_server_address: "10.0.0.20",
  secondary_nbns_server_address: "10.0.0.21"
}
```

When to Use:

- Enterprise networks with Windows devices
- Legacy application support
- NetBIOS name resolution required

Link MTU Size

Maximum Transmission Unit:

```
pco: %{
  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400  # bytes
}
```

Common MTU Values:

MTU	Use Case
1500	Standard Ethernet (no tunneling)
1400	GTP tunneling overhead accounted
1420	Reduced overhead
1280	IPv6 minimum MTU
1360	VPN/tunnel environments

Recommendation: Use **1400** for LTE to account for GTP-U overhead.

Configuration Examples

Internet APN

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "8.8.8.8",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "8.8.4.4",
  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
}
```

IMS APN

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.10",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "10.0.0.11",
  p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: [
    "10.0.0.50",
    "10.0.0.51"
  ],
  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
}
```

See: [P-CSCF Monitoring](#) for monitoring IMS registration success rates and P-CSCF health

Enterprise APN

```
pco: %{
  primary_dns_server_address: "10.100.0.10",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "10.100.0.11",
  primary_nbns_server_address: "10.100.0.20",
  secondary_nbns_server_address: "10.100.0.21",
  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
}
```

PCO in GTP-C Messages

Create Session Response

OmniPGW includes PCO in the **Create Session Response** message:

```
Create Session Response
├── Cause: Request accepted
├── UE IP Address: 100.64.1.42
├── PCO (Protocol Configuration Options)
│   ├── DNS Server IPv4 Address: 8.8.8.8
│   ├── DNS Server IPv4 Address: 8.8.4.4
│   ├── P-CSCF IPv4 Address: 10.0.0.50
│   ├── P-CSCF IPv4 Address: 10.0.0.51
│   └── IPv4 Link MTU: 1400
```

UE Processing

The UE receives PCO and:

1. Configures DNS resolver with provided servers
2. Registers with P-CSCF for IMS services
3. Sets interface MTU to specified value

Troubleshooting

Issue: UE Cannot Resolve DNS

Symptoms:

- UE has IP address but cannot access internet
- DNS lookups fail

Possible Causes:

1. Incorrect DNS server addresses in PCO config
2. DNS servers not reachable from UE IP pool
3. Firewall blocking DNS traffic

Resolution:

```
# Test DNS server reachability
ping 8.8.8.8

# Test DNS resolution from UE network
nslookup google.com 8.8.8.8

# Verify PCO configuration
grep "primary_dns_server_address" config/runtime.exs
```

Issue: IMS Registration Fails

Symptoms:

- VoLTE calls fail
- UE shows "No IMS registration"

Possible Causes:

1. Missing P-CSCF configuration
2. Incorrect P-CSCF IP addresses
3. P-CSCF not reachable

Resolution:

```
# Verify P-CSCF configuration
pco: %{
  p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.0.0.50"]  # Ensure not empty
}
```

Issue: MTU Problems

Symptoms:

- Some websites load, others don't
- Large file transfers fail
- Fragmentation issues

Possible Causes:

- MTU too large for tunneling overhead
- MTU too small causing excessive fragmentation

Resolution:

```
# Recommended: 1400 for GTP tunneling
pco: %{
  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1400
}

# If still having issues, try lower
pco: %{
  ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1360
}
```

Best Practices

DNS Configuration

1. **Use Reliable DNS Servers**

   - Public: Google (8.8.8.8), Cloudflare (1.1.1.1)
   - Private: Internal DNS for enterprise

2. **Always Configure Secondary**

   - Provides redundancy
   - Improves reliability

3. **Consider DNS Security**

   - DNSSEC-capable resolvers
   - DNS filtering for security

IMS Configuration

1. **Provide Multiple P-CSCF**

   - At least 2 for redundancy
   - Geographic distribution if possible

2. **Ensure Reachability**

   - P-CSCF must be reachable from UE IP pool
   - Test SIP connectivity

MTU Optimization

1. **Account for Overhead**

- GTP-U: 36 bytes (IPv4)
  - IPsec: Variable (50-100 bytes)

2. **Standard LTE MTU**

   - Recommended: **1400 bytes**
   - Balances throughput and compatibility

3. **Test End-to-End**

   - Path MTU discovery
   - Test with large packets

Related Documentation

Configuration Guides

- **Configuration Guide** - Complete runtime.exs reference, UPF selection with PCO overrides
- **UE IP Allocation** - IP pool management, APN-based allocation
- **P-CSCF Monitoring** - P-CSCF discovery monitoring, health tracking, metrics

Session and Interface Management

- **Session Management** - PDN session lifecycle, bearer establishment
- **S5/S8 Interface** - GTP-C protocol, PCO encoding and delivery
- **PFCP Interface** - User plane session establishment

IMS and VoLTE

- **Diameter Gx Interface** - Policy control for IMS bearers
- **Monitoring Guide** - PCO-related metrics and dashboards

Back to Operations Guide

OmniPGW PCO Configuration - *by Omnitouch Network Services*

P-CSCF Discovery and Monitoring

Dynamic P-CSCF Server Discovery with Real-Time Monitoring

OmniPGW by Omnitouch Network Services

Overview

P-CSCF (Proxy Call Session Control Function) Discovery and Monitoring provides dynamic discovery of IMS P-CSCF servers using DNS SRV queries with real-time SIP OPTIONS health checking. This feature enables:

- **Per-Rule P-CSCF Discovery**: Different P-CSCF servers for different traffic types
- **Automatic Monitoring**: Background process continuously monitors DNS resolution (every 60 seconds)
- **SIP OPTIONS Health Checks**: Verifies P-CSCF servers are alive via SIP OPTIONS pings
  - **TCP First**: Attempts SIP OPTIONS via TCP (preferred for reliability)
  - **UDP Fallback**: Falls back to UDP if TCP fails
  - **Status Tracking**: Marks each server as :up or :down based on response
- **Real-Time Health Tracking**: Web UI displays resolution status, discovered IPs, and health status
- **Graceful Fallback**: Three-tier fallback strategy for maximum reliability
- **Prometheus Metrics**: Full observability via Prometheus metrics

Table of Contents

Quick Start

Basic Configuration

```
# config/runtime.exs

# Global PCO configuration (DNS server for P-CSCF discovery)
config :pgw_c,
  pco: %{
    p_cscf_discovery_dns_server: "10.179.2.177",
    p_cscf_discovery_enabled: true,
    p_cscf_discovery_timeout_ms: 5000
  },

  upf_selection: %{
    rules: [
      # IMS Traffic - Dynamic P-CSCF discovery
      %{
        name: "IMS Traffic",
        priority: 20,
        match_field: :apn,
        match_regex: "^ims",
        upf_pool: [
          %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.2.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 80}
        ],
        # P-CSCF Discovery FQDN (see Configuration Guide for more UPF selection rules)
        p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org",
        # Static fallback (see PCO Configuration Guide)
        pco: %{
          p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100", "10.101.2.101"]
        }
      }
    ]
  }
```

See Configuration Guide for complete UPF selection rule configuration and PCO Configuration for static P-CSCF fallback options.

Access Monitoring

1. Start OmniPGW
2. Navigate to **Web UI → P-CSCF Monitor** (https://localhost:8086/pcscf_monitor)
3. View real-time resolution status and discovered IPs

Configuration

Global P-CSCF Discovery Settings

Configure the DNS server used for P-CSCF discovery in the PCO section:

```
pco: %{
  # DNS server for P-CSCF discovery (separate from DNS given to UE)
  p_cscf_discovery_dns_server: "10.179.2.177",

  # Enable P-CSCF DNS discovery feature
  p_cscf_discovery_enabled: true,

  # Timeout for DNS SRV queries (milliseconds)
  p_cscf_discovery_timeout_ms: 5000,

  # Static P-CSCF addresses (global fallback)
  p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.146"]
}
```

Per-Rule P-CSCF FQDNs

Each UPF selection rule can specify its own P-CSCF discovery FQDN:

```
upf_selection: %{
  rules: [
    # IMS Traffic - IMS-specific P-CSCF
    %{
      name: "IMS Traffic",
      match_field: :apn,
      match_regex: "^ims",
      upf_pool: [...],
      p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.ims.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org",
      pco: %{
        p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100"]  # Fallback
      }
    },

    # Enterprise - Enterprise-specific P-CSCF
    %{
      name: "Enterprise Traffic",
      match_field: :apn,
      match_regex: "^enterprise",
      upf_pool: [...],
      p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.enterprise.example.com",
      pco: %{
        p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["192.168.1.50"]  # Fallback
      }
    },

    # Internet - No P-CSCF discovery (uses global config)
```

```
    %{
      name: "Internet Traffic",
      match_field: :apn,
      match_regex: "^internet",
      upf_pool: [...]
      # No p_cscf_discovery_fqdn - uses global PCO config
    }
  ]
}
```

How It Works

Startup Process

1. **Application Starts**

   ○ P-CSCF Monitor GenServer initializes
   ○ Config parser extracts all unique P-CSCF FQDNs from UPF selection rules

2. **FQDN Registration**

   ○ Each unique FQDN is registered with the monitor
   ○ Monitor performs initial DNS SRV query for each FQDN
   ○ **SIP OPTIONS Health Check** (in parallel for all discovered servers):
     ■ Try TCP first (SIP/2.0/TCP on port 5060)
     ■ If TCP fails, fall back to UDP (SIP/2.0/UDP on port 5060)
     ■ Mark each server as :up (responds) or :down (no response/timeout)
   ○ Results (IPs, health status, or errors) are cached with timestamps

3. **Periodic Monitoring** (Every 60 seconds)

   ○ Monitor refreshes all FQDNs
   ○ DNS queries run in background without blocking
   ○ For each discovered server:
     ■ Send SIP OPTIONS via TCP (timeout: 5 seconds)
     ■ If TCP fails, try UDP (timeout: 5 seconds)
     ■ Update health status based on response
   ○ Cache is updated with latest DNS results and health status

Session Creation Flow

DNS Query Process

The monitor uses **DNS SRV records** for direct P-CSCF discovery:

1. **SRV Query**: Query SRV records at _sip._tcp.{fqdn}
2. **Priority Sorting**: Sort by priority and weight
3. **Target Extraction**: Extract target hostnames from SRV records
4. **Hostname Resolution**: Resolve target hostnames to IP addresses (A/AAAA records)
5. **Caching**: Cache resolved IPs with status and timestamp

P-CSCF Address Selection Precedence

When both FQDN and static PCO are configured on a rule, FQDN takes precedence:
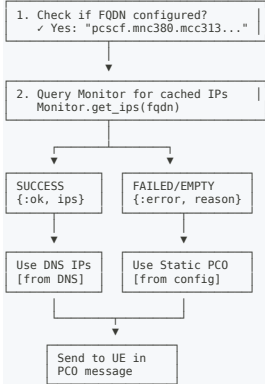
```
%{
  name: "IMS Traffic",
  p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org",  # ← Tried FIRST
  pco: %{
    p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100", "10.101.2.101"]   # ← Fallback
  }
}
```

Selection Logic:

Condition	P-CSCF Source	IPs Used	Log Message
FQDN resolves successfully	DNS Discovery (Monitor)	Discovered IPs from DNS	"Using P-CSCF addresses from FQDN pcscf.example.com"
FQDN fails to resolve	Rule PCO Override	Static IPs from pco.p_cscf_ipv4_address_list	"Failed to get P-CSCF IPs from FQDN..., falling back to static config"
FQDN returns empty list	Rule PCO Override	Static IPs from pco.p_cscf_ipv4_address_list	Fallback triggered
Monitor unavailable	Rule PCO Override	Static IPs from pco.p_cscf_ipv4_address_list	Error triggers fallback
No FQDN configured	Rule PCO Override or Global	Static IPs from rule or global config	Uses static config directly

Example Flow:

```
Session Creation for IMS Traffic Rule:

┌─────────────────────────────────┐
│ 1. Check if FQDN configured?    │
│    ✓ Yes: "pcscf.mnc380.mcc313..." │
└─────────────────────────────────┘
                │
                ▼
┌─────────────────────────────────┐
│ 2. Query Monitor for cached IPs │
│    Monitor.get_ips(fqdn)        │
└─────────────────────────────────┘
          │             │
          ▼             ▼
┌───────────────┐  ┌───────────────┐
│ SUCCESS       │  │ FAILED/EMPTY  │
│ {:ok, ips}    │  │ {:error, reason} │
└───────────────┘  └───────────────┘
          │             │
          ▼             ▼
┌───────────────┐  ┌───────────────┐
│ Use DNS IPs   │  │ Use Static PCO │
│ [from DNS]    │  │ [from config] │
└───────────────┘  └───────────────┘
          │             │
          ▼
┌───────────────┐
│ Send to UE in │
│ PCO message   │
└───────────────┘
```

Real-World Scenarios:

Scenario 1: DNS Discovery Works ◇

```
Config:
  p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.ims.example.com"
  pco.p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100"]

DNS Result: [10.101.2.150, 10.101.2.151]
UE Receives: [10.101.2.150, 10.101.2.151] ← From DNS
Note: Static PCO is ignored when DNS succeeds
```

Scenario 2: DNS Fails, Graceful Fallback △

```
Config:
  p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.ims.example.com"
  pco.p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100"]

DNS Result: ERROR :no_naptr_records
UE Receives: [10.101.2.100] ← From static PCO
Note: Session succeeds despite DNS failure
```

Scenario 3: No FQDN Configured

```
Config:
  # No p_cscf_discovery_fqdn
  pco.p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["192.168.1.50"]

UE Receives: [192.168.1.50] ← From static PCO
```

```
Note: DNS discovery not attempted
```

Why This Design?

1. **Prefer Dynamic**: DNS provides flexibility, load balancing, and location-aware routing
2. **Ensure Reliability**: Static fallback ensures sessions never fail due to DNS issues
3. **Zero Manual Intervention**: Automatic failover without operator involvement
4. **Production Safe**: Best of both worlds - agility with stability

Recommendation: Always configure both FQDN and static PCO for production deployments:

```
# ✓ RECOMMENDED: Dynamic with fallback
%{
  p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.ims.example.com",  # Preferred
  pco: %{
    p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100"]    # Safety net
  }
}

# ⚠ RISKY: Dynamic only (falls back to global PCO)
%{
  p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.ims.example.com"
  # No rule-specific fallback!
}

# ✓ VALID: Static only (no DNS overhead)
%{
  pco: %{
    p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["192.168.1.50"]
  }
}
```

Web UI Monitoring

P-CSCF Monitor Page

Access the monitoring interface at: `https://localhost:8086/pcscf_monitor`

Features:

- **Overview Statistics**
  - Total FQDNs monitored
  - Successfully resolved FQDNs
  - Failed resolutions
  - Total discovered P-CSCF IPs

- **FQDN Table**
  - FQDN being monitored
  - Resolution status (✓ Resolved / ✗ Failed / ◇ Pending)
  - Number of discovered IPs
  - List of resolved IP addresses (with expandable server details)
  - Last update timestamp
  - Manual refresh button per FQDN
  - **Health Status**: Each discovered server shows:
    - IP address and port
    - Hostname (from DNS SRV target)
    - Real-time health indicator (✓ Up / ✗ Down)

- **Refresh Controls**
  - **Refresh All** button: Trigger immediate re-query of all FQDNs
  - **Per-FQDN Refresh**: Refresh individual FQDNs on demand
  - Auto-refresh: Page updates every 5 seconds

- **Monitoring Metrics Dashboard**
  - **Total FQDNs**: Number of unique FQDNs registered for monitoring
  - **Successfully Resolved**: FQDNs that successfully resolved via DNS
  - **Failed DNS Resolutions**: FQDNs that failed to resolve
  - **Total P-CSCF Servers**: Total number of servers discovered across all FQDNs
  - **✓ Healthy (SIP OPTIONS UP)**: Servers responding to SIP OPTIONS health checks
  - **✗ Unhealthy (SIP OPTIONS DOWN)**: Servers not responding to SIP OPTIONS
  - **DNS Success Rate**: Percentage of successful DNS resolutions
  - **Health Check Interval**: Frequency of SIP OPTIONS health checks (60s, 5s timeout)

The metrics dashboard provides real-time visibility into both DNS resolution health and P-CSCF server availability via SIP OPTIONS.

UPF Selection Page Integration

The UPF Selection page (`/upf_selection`) displays P-CSCF discovery status for each rule:

```
◇ IMS Traffic (Priority 20)
  Match: APN matching ^ims
  Pool: UPF-IMS-Primary (10.100.2.21:8805)
```

```
◇ P-CSCF Discovery
    FQDN: pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org
    Status: ✓ Resolved (2 IPs)
    Resolved IPs: 10.101.2.100, 10.101.2.101

⊙ PCO Overrides
    Primary DNS: 10.103.2.195
    P-CSCF (static fallback): 10.101.2.100, 10.101.2.101
```

Metrics and Observability

Prometheus Metrics

The P-CSCF monitoring system exposes metrics via Prometheus (port 42069 by default):

Gauge Metrics

```
# FQDN-level metrics
pcscf_fqdns_total                  # Total number of monitored FQDNs
pcscf_fqdns_resolved               # Successfully resolved FQDNs (DNS succeeded)
pcscf_fqdns_failed                 # Failed FQDN resolutions (DNS failed)

# Server-level metrics (aggregate)
pcscf_servers_total                # Total P-CSCF servers discovered via DNS SRV
pcscf_servers_healthy              # Servers responding to SIP OPTIONS (aggregate)
pcscf_servers_unhealthy            # Servers not responding to SIP OPTIONS (aggregate)

# Server-level metrics (per-FQDN with label)
pcscf_servers_healthy{fqdn="..."}     # Healthy servers for specific FQDN
pcscf_servers_unhealthy{fqdn="..."}   # Unhealthy servers for specific FQDN
```

Health Check Details:

- healthy: Server responded to SIP OPTIONS ping (TCP or UDP)
- unhealthy: Server failed to respond to SIP OPTIONS (5s timeout per transport)

Metric Examples

DNS Resolution Metrics:

```
# Query successfully resolved FQDNs
pcscf_fqdns_resolved

# Calculate DNS success rate
(pcscf_fqdns_resolved / pcscf_fqdns_total) * 100

# Total discovered servers
pcscf_servers_total
```

SIP OPTIONS Health Metrics:

```
# Total healthy servers across all FQDNs
pcscf_servers_healthy

# Total unhealthy servers
pcscf_servers_unhealthy

# Calculate health check success rate
(pcscf_servers_healthy / pcscf_servers_total) * 100

# Healthy servers for a specific FQDN
pcscf_servers_healthy{fqdn="pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org"}

# Alert on all servers down
pcscf_servers_healthy == 0 AND pcscf_servers_total > 0
```

Example Prometheus Alerts:

```yaml
# Alert when all P-CSCF servers are down
- alert: AllPCSCFServersDown
  expr: pcscf_servers_healthy == 0 AND pcscf_servers_total > 0
  for: 5m
  labels:
    severity: critical
  annotations:
    summary: "All P-CSCF servers are unhealthy"
    description: "{{ $value }} healthy servers (0) - all failed SIP OPTIONS checks"

# Alert when more than 50% servers are down
- alert: MajorityPCSCFServersDown
  expr: (pcscf_servers_healthy / pcscf_servers_total) < 0.5
  for: 5m
  labels:
    severity: warning
  annotations:
    summary: "Majority of P-CSCF servers are unhealthy"
    description: "Only {{ $value }}% of servers are responding to SIP OPTIONS"

# Alert on DNS resolution failures
- alert: PCSCFDNSResolutionFailed
  expr: pcscf_fqdns_failed > 0
  for: 5m
  labels:
    severity: warning
  annotations:
    summary: "P-CSCF DNS resolution failures"
    description: "{{ $value }} FQDN(s) failing to resolve"
```

Logging

The monitor logs key events:

```
[info] P-CSCF Monitor started
[info] Registering 2 unique P-CSCF FQDNs for monitoring: ["pcscf.ims.example.com", "pcscf.enterprise.example.com"]
[info] P-CSCF Monitor: Registering FQDN pcscf.ims.example.com
[debug] P-CSCF Monitor: Successfully resolved pcscf.ims.example.com to 2 IPs
[warning] P-CSCF Monitor: Failed to resolve pcscf.enterprise.example.com: :nxdomain
[debug] Using P-CSCF addresses from FQDN pcscf.ims.example.com: [{10, 101, 2, 100}, {10, 101, 2, 101}]
```

Fallback Strategy

The system uses a **three-tier fallback strategy** for maximum reliability:

Tier 1: DNS Discovery (Preferred)

```
p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.ims.example.com"
```

- Monitor queries DNS and caches resolved IPs
- Session uses cached IPs if available
- **Advantage**: Dynamic, load-balanced, location-aware

Tier 2: Rule-Specific Static PCO (Fallback)

```
pco: %{
  p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100", "10.101.2.101"]
}
```

- Used if DNS discovery fails or returns no IPs
- Rule-specific static configuration
- **Advantage**: Rule-specific fallback, predictable

Tier 3: Global PCO Configuration (Last Resort)

```
# Global pco config
pco: %{
  p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.146"]
}
```

- Used if no rule-specific config and DNS fails
- Global default P-CSCF addresses
- **Advantage**: Always available, prevents session failure

Fallback Logic Example

```
Session matches "IMS Traffic" rule:

1. Try DNS discovery for "pcscf.ims.example.com"
   ├─ Success → Use [10.101.2.100, 10.101.2.101] ✓
   └─ Failed → Try next tier

2. Try rule's PCO override
   ├─ Configured → Use [10.101.2.100, 10.101.2.101] ✓
   └─ Not configured → Try next tier

3. Use global PCO config
   └─ Use [10.101.2.146] ✓ (Always succeeds)
```

DNS Configuration

DNS Server Setup

Configure DNS server with SRV and A/AAAA records for P-CSCF discovery:

```
; SRV records for P-CSCF (_sip._tcp prefix is queried automatically)
_sip._tcp.pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org. IN SRV 10 50 5060 pcscf1.example.com.
_sip._tcp.pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org. IN SRV 20 50 5060 pcscf2.example.com.

; A records
pcscf1.example.com. IN A 10.101.2.100
pcscf2.example.com. IN A 10.101.2.101
```

Important: OmniPGW automatically prepends `_sip._tcp.` to the configured FQDN. If you configure `p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org"`, the system will query `_sip._tcp.pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org`.

SRV Record Format

SRV records follow this format:

```
_service._proto.domain. IN SRV priority weight port target.
```

- **Priority**: Lower values have higher priority (10 before 20)
- **Weight**: For load balancing among same priority (higher = more traffic)
- **Port**: SIP port (typically 5060 for TCP, 5060 for UDP)
- **Target**: Hostname to resolve to IP address

Testing DNS Configuration

```
# Query SRV records (note the _sip._tcp prefix)
dig SRV _sip._tcp.pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org @10.179.2.177

# Expected output:
# _sip._tcp.pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org. 300 IN SRV 10 50 5060 pcscf1.example.com.

# Resolve P-CSCF hostname to IP
dig A pcscf1.example.com @10.179.2.177

# Expected output:
# pcscf1.example.com. 300 IN A 10.101.2.100
```

Troubleshooting

Issue: FQDN Shows "Failed" Status

Symptoms:

- Web UI shows ✗ Failed status
- Error: `:nxdomain`, `:timeout`, or `:no_naptr_records`

Possible Causes:

1. DNS server not reachable
2. FQDN does not exist in DNS
3. No NAPTR records configured
4. DNS server timeout

Resolution:

```
# 1. Test DNS server connectivity
ping 10.179.2.177

# 2. Test NAPTR query manually
dig NAPTR pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org @10.179.2.177

# 3. Check OmniPGW logs
grep "P-CSCF" /var/log/pgw_c.log

# 4. Verify configuration
grep "p_cscf_discovery_dns_server" config/runtime.exs

# 5. Manual refresh in web UI
# Click "Refresh" button next to failed FQDN
```

Issue: No IPs Returned

Symptoms:

- Web UI shows "0 IPs"
- Status may be ✓ Resolved or ✗ Failed

Possible Causes:

1. NAPTR records exist but replacement FQDNs don't resolve
2. Service field doesn't match IMS/SIP pattern
3. A/AAAA records missing

Resolution:

```
# Check NAPTR record service field
dig NAPTR pcscf.example.com @10.179.2.177

# Ensure service contains "SIP" or "IMS":
# CORRECT: "SIP+D2U", "x-3gpp-ims:sip"
# WRONG: "HTTP", "FTP"

# Check A/AAAA records exist
dig pcscf1.example.com A @10.179.2.177
```

Issue: Sessions Use Wrong P-CSCF

Symptoms:

- UE receives unexpected P-CSCF addresses
- Static fallback used instead of discovered IPs

Possible Causes:

1. DNS discovery failed but fallback is working
2. Rule matching incorrect
3. FQDN not registered

Resolution:

```
# 1. Check P-CSCF Monitor page
# Verify FQDN is registered and resolved

# 2. Check session logs
grep "Using P-CSCF addresses from FQDN" /var/log/pgw_c.log

# 3. Check UPF Selection page
# Verify rule shows correct FQDN and status

# 4. Test rule matching
# Create session with specific APN and verify which rule matches
```

Issue: High DNS Query Latency

Symptoms:

- Slow session creation
- Metrics show high `pcscf_discovery_query_duration_seconds`

Possible Causes:

1. DNS server performance issues
2. Network latency to DNS server
3. Timeout too high

Resolution:

```
# Reduce query timeout
pco: %{
  p_cscf_discovery_timeout_ms: 2000  # Reduce from 5000ms
}

# Consider using closer DNS server
pco: %{
  p_cscf_discovery_dns_server: "10.0.0.10"  # Local DNS
}
```

Best Practices

1. DNS Server Selection

Use Dedicated DNS Server

```
pco: %{
  # Dedicated DNS for P-CSCF discovery (not the same as UE DNS)
  p_cscf_discovery_dns_server: "10.179.2.177",

  # UE DNS servers (given to mobile devices)
  primary_dns_server_address: "8.8.8.8",
  secondary_dns_server_address: "8.8.4.4"
}
```

Why?

- Separate concerns: UE DNS vs. internal IMS DNS
- Different access policies and security
- Independent scaling and reliability

2. Always Configure Static Fallback

```
%{
  p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.ims.example.com",  # Preferred
  pco: %{
    p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100"]  # Required fallback
  }
}
```

Why?

- Ensures sessions succeed even if DNS fails
- Graceful degradation
- Meets SLA requirements

3. Use Specific FQDNs per Traffic Type

```
rules: [
  # IMS
  %{
    name: "IMS",
    match_regex: "^ims",
    p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.ims.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org"
  },

  # Enterprise
  %{
    name: "Enterprise",
    match_regex: "^enterprise",
    p_cscf_discovery_fqdn: "pcscf.enterprise.example.com"
  }
]
```

Why?

- Different P-CSCF pools per service
- Better load distribution
- Service-specific routing

4. Monitor DNS Query Performance

```
# Alert on high P-CSCF query latency
alert: HighPCSCFQueryLatency
expr: histogram_quantile(0.95, pcscf_discovery_query_duration_seconds_bucket) > 2
for: 5m
labels:
  severity: warning
annotations:
  summary: "P-CSCF DNS queries are slow (p95 > 2s)"
```

5. Regular DNS Health Checks

- **Web UI**: Check P-CSCF Monitor page daily
- **Metrics**: Monitor `pcscf_monitor_fqdns_failed` metric
- **Logs**: Watch for DNS errors
- **Testing**: Periodically verify DNS records exist

6. Configure Appropriate Timeout

```
# Production: Balance reliability vs. latency
pco: %{
  p_cscf_discovery_timeout_ms: 5000  # 5 seconds
}

# High-performance: Favor speed, rely on fallback
pco: %{
  p_cscf_discovery_timeout_ms: 2000  # 2 seconds
}
```

7. Use DNS Redundancy

Configure primary and secondary DNS:

```
# Primary P-CSCF DNS
pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org. IN NAPTR 10 50 "s" "SIP+D2U" "" _sip._udp.pcscf1.example.com.

# Secondary P-CSCF DNS
pcscf.mnc380.mcc313.3gppnetwork.org. IN NAPTR 20 50 "s" "SIP+D2U" "" _sip._udp.pcscf2.example.com.
```

Related Documentation

- **PCO Configuration** - Protocol Configuration Options, DNS and P-CSCF settings
- **Configuration Guide** - Complete OmniPGW configuration reference
- **Monitoring** - Metrics, logging, and observability
- **Session Management** - Session lifecycle and PCO delivery
- **PFCP Interface** - User Plane Function communication

Back to Main Documentation

OmniPGW P-CSCF Monitoring - *by Omnitouch Network Services*

PFCP/Sxb Interface Documentation

Packet Forwarding Control Protocol - PGW-C to PGW-U Communication

---

Table of Contents

Overview

The **Sxb interface** uses the **PFCP (Packet Forwarding Control Protocol)** for communication between the PGW-C (control plane) and PGW-U (user plane). This separation allows:

- **Control Plane (PGW-C)** - Handles signaling, session management, policy decisions
- **User Plane (PGW-U)** - Handles actual packet forwarding at high speed

PFCP Architecture

Protocol Basics

PFCP Version

PGW-C implements **PFCP Version 1** (3GPP TS 29.244).

Transport

- **Protocol:** UDP
- **Default Port:** 8805
- **Message Format:** Binary encoded using PFCP specification

Node ID Types

PFCP peers are identified by Node ID, which can be:

- **IPv4 Address** - Most common

- **IPv6 Address**
- **FQDN** (Fully Qualified Domain Name)

PFCP Association Management

Before session management can occur, a PFCP **association** must be established between PGW-C and PGW-U.

Association Setup Flow

Peer State Management

Each PFCP peer maintains state:

Field	Description
is_associated	Boolean indicating association status
remote_node_id	Peer's Node ID (IP or FQDN)
remote_ip_address	IP address for communication
remote_port	UDP port (default 8805)
heartbeat_period_ms	Heartbeat interval in milliseconds
missed_heartbeats_consecutive	Count of missed heartbeats
up_function_features	Supported user plane features
up_recovery_time_stamp	Peer's recovery timestamp

Heartbeat Mechanism

Purpose: Detect peer failures and maintain association liveness

Configuration:

```
# In config/runtime.exs
sxb: %{
  local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20"
},
upf_selection: %{
  fallback_pool: [
    %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.0.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 100}
  ]
}
# All UPFs are automatically registered with 5-second heartbeats
```

Failure Detection:

- Each missed heartbeat increments `missed_heartbeats_consecutive`
- Typically configured to fail after 3 consecutive misses
- Failed association prevents new sessions to that peer

PFCP Session Management

PFCP sessions are created for each UE PDN connection to program forwarding rules in the user plane.

Session Lifecycle

Session Establishment

When: UE attaches and creates a PDN connection

PGW-C sends to PGW-U:

Session Establishment Request containing:

- **SEID** (Session Endpoint ID) - Unique session identifier
- **Node ID** - PGW-C's Node ID
- **F-SEID** - Fully Qualified SEID (includes IP + SEID)
- **PDRs** - Packet Detection Rules (typically 2: uplink + downlink)
- **FARs** - Forwarding Action Rules (typically 2: uplink + downlink)
- **QERs** - QoS Enforcement Rules (bitrate limits)
- **BAR** - Buffering Action Rule (for downlink buffering)

PGW-U responds:

Session Establishment Response containing:

- **Cause** - Success or failure reason
- **F-SEID** - PGW-U's session endpoint
- **Created PDRs** - Acknowledgment of created rules
- **F-TEID** - Fully Qualified TEID for S5/S8 interface

Session Modification

When: QoS changes, policy updates, or bearer modifications occur

Modification can include:

- Adding new PDRs, FARs, QERs
- Removing existing rules
- Updating rule parameters

Session Deletion

When: UE detaches or PDN connection is terminated

Process:

1. PGW-C sends Session Deletion Request with SEID
2. PGW-U removes all rules and releases resources
3. PGW-U responds with Session Deletion Response

Packet Processing Rules

PFCP uses a set of rules to define how the user plane processes packets.

Rule Architecture

PDR (Packet Detection Rule)

Purpose: Identify which packets this rule applies to

Typical PGW-C Configuration:

PDR #1 - Downlink:

```
PDR ID: 1
Precedence: 100
PDI (Packet Detection Information):
  - Source Interface: CORE (Internet side)
  - UE IP Address: 100.64.1.42/32
FAR ID: 1 (associated forwarding rule)
```

PDR #2 - Uplink:

```
PDR ID: 2
Precedence: 100
PDI (Packet Detection Information):
  - Source Interface: ACCESS (SGW side)
  - F-TEID: <S5/S8 tunnel endpoint>
FAR ID: 2 (associated forwarding rule)
QER ID: 1 (QoS enforcement)
```

Key PDR Fields:

- **PDR ID** - Unique rule identifier (per session)
- **Precedence** - Rule matching priority (higher = more specific)
- **PDI** - Matching criteria (interface, IP, TEID, etc.)
- **Outer Header Removal** - Strip GTP-U header on ingress
- **FAR ID** - Associated forwarding action
- **QER ID** - Associated QoS enforcement (optional)

FAR (Forwarding Action Rule)

Purpose: Define what to do with matched packets

FAR #1 - Downlink (Internet → UE):

```
FAR ID: 1
Apply Action: FORWARD
Forwarding Parameters:
  - Destination Interface: ACCESS (to SGW)
  - Outer Header Creation: GTP-U/UDP/IPv4
  - Remote F-TEID: <SGW S5/S8 tunnel endpoint>
```

FAR #2 - Uplink (UE → Internet):

```
FAR ID: 2
Apply Action: FORWARD
Forwarding Parameters:
  - Destination Interface: CORE (to Internet)
  - (No outer header - plain IP forwarding)
```

Key FAR Fields:

- **FAR ID** - Unique rule identifier
- **Apply Action** - FORWARD, DROP, BUFFER, NOTIFY
- **Forwarding Parameters:**
    - Destination interface (ACCESS/CORE)
    - Outer Header Creation (add GTP-U tunnel)
    - Network Instance (VRF/routing table)

QER (QoS Enforcement Rule)

Purpose: Enforce bitrate limits and QoS parameters. QERs can also track usage for online charging quota management (see [Diameter Gy Interface](#) for credit control).

Example QER:

```
QER ID: 1
Gate Status: OPEN
Maximum Bitrate:
  - Uplink: 100 Mbps
  - Downlink: 50 Mbps
Guaranteed Bitrate: (optional, for GBR bearers)
  - Uplink: 10 Mbps
  - Downlink: 10 Mbps
```

Key QER Fields:

- **QER ID** - Unique rule identifier
- **Gate Status** - OPEN (allow) or CLOSED (block)
- **MBR** - Maximum Bitrate (uplink/downlink)
- **GBR** - Guaranteed Bitrate (for dedicated bearers)
- **QCI** - QoS Class Identifier (affects scheduling)

BAR (Buffering Action Rule)

Purpose: Control downlink packet buffering when UE is idle

Example BAR:

```
BAR ID: 1
Downlink Data Notification Delay: 100ms
Suggested Buffering Packets Count: 10
```

Used for: Idle mode DRX (Discontinuous Reception) optimization

---

Configuration

Basic Sxb Configuration

Edit config/runtime.exs:

```
config :pgw_c,
  sxb: %{
    # Local IP address for PFCP communication
```

```
    local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20",

    # Optional: Override default port (8805)
    local_port: 8805
  },

  # UPF Selection - All UPFs defined here are automatically registered
  upf_selection: %{
    fallback_pool: [
      %{
        # PGW-U IP address
        remote_ip_address: "10.0.0.21",

        # PFCP port (default: 8805)
        remote_port: 8805,

        # Weight for load balancing (100 = normal, 0 = standby)
        weight: 100
      }
    ]
  }
```

Multiple PGW-U Peers

For load balancing or redundancy:

```
config :pgw_c,
  sxb: %{
    local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20"
  },
  upf_selection: %{
    fallback_pool: [
      %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.1.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 50},  # 50%
traffic
      %{remote_ip_address: "10.0.2.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 50}   # 50%
traffic
    ]
  }
# Both UPFs automatically registered with 5-second heartbeats
```

UPF Selection Configuration

PGW-C uses a **three-tier UPF selection system** with priority-based rules:

1. **Static Rules** (Highest Priority) - Match based on session attributes
2. **DNS-Based Selection** (Medium Priority) - Location-aware routing via DNS NAPTR
   queries
3. **Fallback Pool** (Lowest Priority) - Default UPF pool when no rules match

Complete UPF Selection Example

```
config :pgw_c,
  # PFCP Interface
  sxb: %{
    local_ip_address: "10.0.0.20"
  },
```

```
# UPF Selection: All UPFs defined here are automatically registered
upf_selection: %{
  # ========================================================================
  # DNS-Based Selection (Location-Aware Routing)
  # ========================================================================
  # Queries DNS using User Location Information (ULI)
  # Provides dynamic UPF selection based on cell location
  dns_enabled: false,
  dns_query_priority: [:ecgi, :tai, :rai, :sai, :cgi],
  dns_suffix: "epc.3gppnetwork.org",
  dns_timeout_ms: 5000,

  # ========================================================================
  # Static Selection Rules (Evaluated by Priority)
  # ========================================================================
  # Rules are checked from highest to lowest priority
  # First matching rule determines the UPF pool
  rules: [
    # Rule 1: IMS Traffic - Highest Priority
    %{
      name: "IMS Traffic",
      priority: 20,
      match_field: :apn,
      match_regex: "^ims",
      upf_pool: [
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.2.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 80},
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.2.22", remote_port: 8805, weight: 20}
      ],
      # Optional: PCO overrides for this rule
      pco: %{
        p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100", "10.101.2.101"]
      }
    },

    # Rule 2: Enterprise APN - High Priority
    %{
      name: "Enterprise Traffic",
      priority: 15,
      match_field: :apn,
      match_regex: "^(enterprise|corporate)\.apn",
      upf_pool: [
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.3.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 100}
      ],
      pco: %{
        primary_dns_server_address: "192.168.1.10",
        secondary_dns_server_address: "192.168.1.11",
        ipv4_link_mtu_size: 1500
      }
    },

    # Rule 3: Roaming Subscribers - Medium Priority
    %{
      name: "Roaming Subscribers",
      priority: 10,
      match_field: :serving_network_plmn_id,
```

```
      match_regex: "^(310|311|312|313)",  # US networks
      upf_pool: [
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.4.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 100}
      ]
    },

    # Rule 4: Internet Traffic - Lower Priority
    %{
      name: "Internet Traffic",
      priority: 5,
      match_field: :apn,
      match_regex: "^internet",
      upf_pool: [
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 33},
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.22", remote_port: 8805, weight: 33},
        %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.23", remote_port: 8805, weight: 34}
      ]
    }
  ],

  # ========================================================================
  # Fallback Pool (Last Resort)
  # ========================================================================
  # Used when no rules match and DNS selection fails or is disabled
  fallback_pool: [
    %{remote_ip_address: "127.0.0.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 100}
  ]
}
```

Supported Match Fields

Match Field	Description	Example Value
:imsi	International Mobile Subscriber Identity	"310260123456789"
:apn	Access Point Name	"internet", "ims"
:serving_network_plmn_id	Serving network PLMN (MCC+MNC)	"310260" (US carrier)
:sgw_ip_address	SGW IP address (string format)	"10.0.1.50"
:uli_tai_plmn_id	Tracking Area PLMN ID	"310260"
:uli_ecgi_plmn_id	E-UTRAN Cell PLMN ID	"310260"

UPF Pool and Load Balancing

Each rule can specify a **UPF pool** with weighted random selection:

```
upf_pool: [
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.21", remote_port: 8805, weight: 50},
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.22", remote_port: 8805, weight: 30},
  %{remote_ip_address: "10.100.1.23", remote_port: 8805, weight: 20}
]
```

How Weighted Selection Works:

1. Calculate total weight: 50 + 30 + 20 = 100
2. Generate random number: 0.0 to 100.0
3. Select UPF based on cumulative weight ranges:
   - 0-50: UPF-1 (50% chance)

- 50-80: UPF-2 (30% chance)
- 80-100: UPF-3 (20% chance)

Use Cases:

- **Equal distribution:** All weights equal (33, 33, 34)
- **Primary/backup:** High weight primary (80), low weight backup (20)
- **Capacity-based:** Weight proportional to UPF capacity

PCO Overrides

Rules can override PCO (Protocol Configuration Options) values:

```
%{
  name: "IMS Traffic",
  match_field: :apn,
  match_regex: "^ims",
  upf_pool: [...],
  pco: %{
    # Override only specific fields
    p_cscf_ipv4_address_list: ["10.101.2.100", "10.101.2.101"],
    # Other fields use defaults from main pco config
  }
}
```

Available PCO Override Fields:

- primary_dns_server_address
- secondary_dns_server_address
- primary_nbns_server_address
- secondary_nbns_server_address
- p_cscf_ipv4_address_list
- ipv4_link_mtu_size

DNS-Based Selection

When enabled, PGW-C performs DNS NAPTR queries based on User Location Information:

```
upf_selection: %{
  dns_enabled: true,
  dns_query_priority: [:ecgi, :tai, :rai, :sai, :cgi],
  dns_suffix: "epc.3gppnetwork.org",
  dns_timeout_ms: 5000
}
```

Query Priority:

1. **ECGI** (E-UTRAN Cell Global Identifier) - Most specific
2. **TAI** (Tracking Area Identity) - Cell area
3. **RAI** (Routing Area Identity) - 3G/2G area
4. **SAI** (Service Area Identity) - 3G service area
5. **CGI** (Cell Global Identity) - 2G cell

Example DNS Query:

```
# For ECGI query:
```

```
eci-1a2b3c.ecgi.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org

# For TAI query:
tac-lb64.tac-hb00.tac.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org
```

DNS Selection Process:

1. Try queries in priority order (ECGI first, then TAI, etc.)
2. If DNS returns candidates, use first result (dynamically registered if needed)
3. Select returned UPF
4. If no DNS match or DNS disabled, fall through to fallback pool

See [DNS-based UPF Selection](#) for detailed information.

DNS-based UPF Selection

Overview

DNS-based UPF selection provides **location-aware routing** by performing DNS NAPTR queries using User Location Information (ULI) from the UE's current cell.

3GPP Reference: TS 23.003 - DNS procedures for UPF discovery

Benefits:

- Automatic UPF selection based on geographic location
- No manual rule configuration per cell
- Dynamic adaptation to network topology changes
- Reduces backhaul by routing to nearest UPF

How It Works

Configuration

```
config :pgw_c,
  upf_selection: %{
    # Enable DNS-based selection
    dns_enabled: true,

    # Query priority: try ECGI first, then TAI, then RAI, etc.
    dns_query_priority: [:ecgi, :tai, :rai, :sai, :cgi],

    # DNS suffix for queries
    dns_suffix: "epc.3gppnetwork.org",

    # DNS query timeout
    dns_timeout_ms: 5000,

    # Static rules still take precedence over DNS
    rules: [...],

    # Fallback if DNS fails
    fallback_pool: [...]
  }
```

DNS Query Formats

DNS queries are built using User Location Information (ULI) from the GTP-C message:

1. ECGI (E-UTRAN Cell Global Identifier)

Most specific - LTE cell-level routing

Format:

```
eci-<HEX-ECI>.ecgi.epc.mnc<MNC>.mcc<MCC>.<dns_suffix>
```

Example:

```
# Cell ID: 0x1A2B3C (1,715,004 decimal)
# PLMN: MCC=999, MNC=999
eci-1a2b3c.ecgi.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org
```

When Used: LTE (4G) networks

2. TAI (Tracking Area Identity)

Cell area - Multiple cells in same tracking area

Format:

```
tac-lb<LB>.tac-hb<HB>.tac.epc.mnc<MNC>.mcc<MCC>.<dns_suffix>
```

Example:

```
# TAC: 0x0064 (100 decimal)
# Low byte: 0x64, High byte: 0x00
tac-lb64.tac-hb00.tac.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org
```

When Used: LTE (4G) tracking areas

3. RAI (Routing Area Identity)

3G/2G routing area

Format:

```
rac<RAC>.lac-lb<LB>.lac-hb<HB>.lac.rai.mnc<MNC>.mcc<MCC>.<dns_suffix>
```

Example:

```
# RAC: 0x0A (10 decimal)
# LAC: 0x1234 (4660 decimal)
rac0a.lac-lb34.lac-hb12.lac.rai.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org
```

When Used: 3G/2G UMTS/GPRS networks

4. SAI (Service Area Identity)

3G service area

Format:

```
sac<SAC>.lac-lb<LB>.lac-hb<HB>.lac.sai.mnc<MNC>.mcc<MCC>.<dns_suffix>
```

Example:

```
# SAC: 0x0001
# LAC: 0x1234
sac0001.lac-lb34.lac-hb12.lac.sai.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org
```

When Used: 3G UMTS service areas

5. CGI (Cell Global Identity)

2G cell-level

Format:

```
ci<CI>.lac-lb<LB>.lac-hb<HB>.lac.cgi.mnc<MNC>.mcc<MCC>.<dns_suffix>
```

Example:

```
# CI: 0x5678
# LAC: 0x1234
ci5678.lac-lb34.lac-hb12.lac.cgi.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org
```

When Used: 2G GSM cells

DNS Response Processing

NAPTR Record Format:

DNS returns NAPTR records pointing to UPF IP addresses:

```
eci-1a2b3c.ecgi.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org.
  IN NAPTR 10 50 "a" "x-3gpp-upf:x-s5-gtp:x-s8-gtp" ""
upf1.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org.

upf1.epc.mnc999.mcc999.3gppnetwork.org.
  IN A 10.100.1.21
```

PGW-C Processing:

1. Parse NAPTR records to extract UPF IP addresses
2. Select first candidate from DNS response
3. Dynamically register if not already configured (or implement load-based selection)

Example:

```
DNS returns: [10.100.1.21, 10.100.5.99, 10.200.3.50]

Selected:    10.100.1.21 (first candidate)
Action:      Register dynamically if not in upf_selection
```

Selection Priority Example

Use Cases

1. Geographic Load Balancing

Scenario: Operator has UPFs in multiple cities

DNS Configuration:

```
# Chicago cell
eci-aaa.ecgi.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org → UPF-Chicago (10.1.1.21)

# New York cell
eci-bbb.ecgi.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org → UPF-NewYork (10.2.1.21)

# Los Angeles cell
eci-ccc.ecgi.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org → UPF-LosAngeles (10.3.1.21)
```

Benefit: Users automatically routed to nearest UPF, reducing latency and backhaul

2. Edge Computing

Scenario: MEC (Multi-access Edge Computing) UPFs deployed at cell sites

DNS Configuration:

```
# Each cell points to local edge UPF
eci-*.ecgi.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org → Local Edge UPF
```

Benefit: Ultra-low latency for edge applications

3. Dynamic Network Topology

Scenario: UPF addresses change due to upgrades or maintenance

Benefit: Update DNS records without changing PGW-C configuration

Troubleshooting DNS Selection

DNS Query Failures

Symptoms:

- Log: "DNS UPF selection failed: :nxdomain"
- Sessions fall back to fallback pool

Possible Causes:

1. DNS server not configured correctly
2. DNS zone not populated for cell IDs
3. ULI not present in GTP-C message

Resolution:

```
# Test DNS query manually
dig eci-1a2b3c.ecgi.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org NAPTR

# Check PGW-C logs for DNS queries
grep "DNS UPF selection: querying" /var/log/pgw_c.log

# Verify ULI present in session
# Check "uli" field in session state
```

DNS Returns Unknown UPF

Behavior:

- DNS returns a candidate UPF not in `upf_selection`
- System automatically attempts dynamic registration
- If PFCP association succeeds, UPF is used for the session
- If PFCP association fails, falls back to fallback pool

Example:

```
DNS returns: [10.99.1.50]
upf_selection: [10.100.1.21, 10.100.1.22]

Action: Dynamically register 10.99.1.50
  - Send PFCP Association Setup
  - If success: Use for session
  - If timeout: Fall back to fallback pool
```

Resolution Options:

1. Pre-configure in `upf_selection` for immediate monitoring:

```
upf_selection: %{
  fallback_pool: [
    %{remote_ip_address: "10.99.1.50", remote_port: 8805, weight: 100}
  ]
}
```

2. Update DNS to return pre-configured UPF IPs

3. Allow dynamic registration (recommended for MEC/edge scenarios)

Query Timeout

Symptoms:

- Log: "DNS UPF selection: query timeout"
- Sessions take longer to establish

Resolution:

```
upf_selection: %{
  dns_timeout_ms: 10000  # Increase timeout to 10 seconds
}
```

Monitoring DNS Selection

Metrics:

```
# DNS query success rate
rate(upf_selection_dns_success_total[5m]) /
rate(upf_selection_dns_attempts_total[5m])

# DNS query latency
histogram_quantile(0.95, rate(upf_selection_dns_duration_seconds_bucket[5m]))

# Fallback usage (indicates DNS issues)
rate(upf_selection_fallback_used_total[5m])
```

Logs:

```
[debug] DNS UPF selection: querying
eci-1a2b3c.ecgi.epc.mnc999.mcc999.epc.3gppnetwork.org
[debug] DNS UPF selection: got 2 candidates from DNS
[info]  DNS UPF selection: selected 10.100.1.21
```

Message Flows

Complete Session Establishment Flow

Session Modification Flow

Heartbeat Failure Recovery

Troubleshooting

Common Issues

1. Association Setup Fails

Symptoms:

- Log message: "PFCP Association Setup failed"
- No response to Association Setup Request

Possible Causes:

- PGW-U not reachable (network issue)
- PGW-U not running
- Firewall blocking UDP port 8805
- Incorrect `remote_ip_address` in configuration

Resolution:

```
# Test connectivity
ping <pgw_u_ip_address>
```

```
# Test UDP port
nc -u -v <pgw_u_ip_address> 8805

# Check firewall
iptables -L -n | grep 8805
```

2. Heartbeats Failing

Symptoms:

- Log: "Consecutive heartbeat failures: 3"
- Association marked as down

Possible Causes:

- Network latency or packet loss
- PGW-U overloaded
- Heartbeat interval too aggressive

Resolution:

```
# Note: Heartbeat period is fixed at 5 seconds
# To reduce network load, adjust the failure threshold in code:
# lib/core/pfcp_node/impl/peer.ex - function is_peer_healthy?/1
# Change: state.missed_heartbeats_consecutive < 3
# To:     state.missed_heartbeats_consecutive < 5 (more tolerant)
```

3. Session Establishment Fails

Symptoms:

- Create Session Response with error cause
- Log: "PFCP Session Establishment failed"

Possible Causes:

- No PGW-U peers available
- PGW-U resource exhaustion
- Invalid rule configuration

Check:

1. Verify at least one peer has `is_associated = true`
2. Check PGW-U logs for errors
3. Verify SEID uniqueness

4. Duplicate SEID Errors

Symptoms:

- Session Establishment Response: Cause "Session context not found"

Cause:

- SEID collision (very rare)
- PGW-U restart without PGW-C awareness

Resolution:

- Restart PFCP association (triggers new recovery timestamp)
- PGW-C will detect PGW-U restart and clean up old sessions

Monitoring PFCP Health

Metrics to Monitor:

```
# PFCP peer association status
pfcp_peer_associated{peer="PGW-U Primary"} 1

# Active PFCP sessions
seid_registry_count 150

# PFCP message rates
rate(sxb_inbound_messages_total[5m])

# PFCP errors
rate(sxb_inbound_errors_total[5m])

# Heartbeat failures
pfcp_consecutive_heartbeat_failures{peer="PGW-U Primary"} 0
```

Alert Examples:

```
# Alert on association down
- alert: PFCPAssociationDown
  expr: pfcp_peer_associated == 0
  for: 1m
  annotations:
    summary: "PFCP peer {{ $labels.peer }} is down"

# Alert on high session establishment failures
- alert: PFCPSessionEstablishmentFailureHigh
  expr:
rate(sxb_inbound_errors_total{message_type="session_establishment_response"}[5m])
> 0.1
  for: 5m
  annotations:
    summary: "High PFCP session establishment failure rate"
```

Web UI - PFCP Monitoring

OmniPGW provides two Web UI pages for monitoring PFCP/Sxb operations in real-time.

UPF/PFCP Peer Status Page

Access: `http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/upf_status`

Purpose: Monitor PFCP association status with all configured PGW-U peers

Features:

1. Peer Status Overview

- **Associated Count** - Number of peers with active PFCP association
- **Not Associated Count** - Number of peers down or not connected
- Auto-refreshes every 2 seconds

2. Per-Peer Information For each configured PGW-U peer:

- **Peer Name** - Friendly name from configuration
- **IP Address** - Remote PGW-U IP
- **Association Status** - Associated (green) or Not Associated (red)
- **Node ID** - PFCP Node identifier
- **Recovery Timestamp** - Last restart time of peer
- **Heartbeat Period** - Configured heartbeat interval
- **Consecutive Missed Heartbeats** - Current failure count
- **UP Function Features** - Capabilities advertised by PGW-U

3. Expandable Details Click any peer to see:

- Full peer configuration
- UP function features bitmap
- Association timestamps
- Complete peer state

PFCP Sessions Page

Access: `http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/pfcp_sessions`

Purpose: View active PFCP sessions between OmniPGW and PGW-U

Features:

1. Active Session Count

- Total number of active PFCP sessions
- Updates in real-time

2. Session Information For each PFCP session:

- **Session Key** - Internal registry key
- **Process ID** - Session process identifier
- **IMSI** - Associated subscriber (if available)
- **Status** - Session state

3. Full Session State Expandable view showing:

- Complete PFCP session context
- PDRs, FARs, QERs, BARs (forwarding rules)
- F-SEIDs (session endpoint identifiers)
- PGW-U peer association

Operational Use Cases

Monitor PFCP Association Health:

```
1. Open UPF Status page
```

```
2. Verify all peers show "Associated"
3. Check missed heartbeat count = 0
4. If peer shows "Not Associated":
   - Check peer IP reachability
   - Verify peer is running
   - Check firewall (UDP 8805)
```

Troubleshoot Session Establishment Failures:

```
1. User session fails to establish
2. Check PGW Sessions page - session exists?
3. Check PFCP Sessions page - PFCP session created?
4. If no PFCP session:
   - Check UPF Status - is any peer associated?
   - Check logs for PFCP errors
5. If PFCP session exists:
   - Inspect PDRs/FARs to verify rules programmed
   - Issue is likely downstream (PGW-U or network)
```

Verify Peer Load Distribution:

```
1. With multiple PGW-U peers configured
2. Check PFCP Sessions page
3. Verify sessions distributed across peers
4. Identify if one peer has disproportionate load
```

Detect Peer Failures:

- Quick glance at UPF Status page
- Red "Not Associated" badge immediately visible
- Missed heartbeat counter shows degradation before total failure
- Set up monitoring alerts based on Web UI data

Advantages:

- **Real-time monitoring** - No need to query metrics or SSH
- **Visual status** - Color-coded associated/not associated
- **Peer health trends** - Missed heartbeat count shows early warning
- **Session-level inspection** - See exact PDRs/FARs/QERs programmed
- **No tools required** - Just a web browser

Related Documentation

Configuration

- **Configuration Guide** - UPF selection, health monitoring, PFCP configuration
- **Session Management** - PDN session lifecycle, bearer establishment
- **QoS & Bearer Management** - Detailed QoS configuration, QER programming

Charging and Monitoring

- **Diameter Gx Interface** - PCC rules that drive PFCP QoS enforcement
- **Diameter Gy Interface** - Online charging quota management via URRs
- **Data CDR Format** - CDR generation from PFCP usage reports

- **Monitoring Guide** - PFCP metrics, session tracking, UPF health alerts

Network Interfaces

- **S5/S8 Interface** - Control plane bearer management
- **UE IP Allocation** - UE address assignment via PFCP

Back to Operations Guide

S5/S8 Interface Documentation

GTP-C Communication with SGW-C

OmniPGW by Omnitouch Network Services

Overview

The **S5/S8 interface** connects OmniPGW to the SGW-C (Serving Gateway Control plane) using the **GTP-C v2** (GPRS Tunnelling Protocol - Control plane) protocol. This interface handles session management signaling between the gateways.

Protocol Details

GTP-C Version 2

- **Protocol:** GTP-C v2 (3GPP TS 29.274)
- **Transport:** UDP
- **Port:** 2123 (standard)
- **Interface Type:** Control Plane

TEID (Tunnel Endpoint Identifier)

Each session has a unique **TEID** for routing messages:

- **Local TEID** - Allocated by OmniPGW for incoming messages
- **Remote TEID** - Allocated by SGW-C for outgoing messages

```
Message Flow:
  SGW-C → OmniPGW: Destination TEID = OmniPGW's Local TEID
  OmniPGW → SGW-C: Destination TEID = SGW-C's Remote TEID
```

Configuration

Basic Configuration

```
# config/runtime.exs
config :pgw_c,
  s5s8: %{
    # Local IPv4 address for S5/S8 interface
    local_ipv4_address: "10.0.0.20",

    # Optional: Local IPv6 address
    local_ipv6_address: nil,

    # Optional: Override default port
    local_port: 2123
  }
```

Network Requirements

Firewall Rules:

```
# Allow GTP-C from SGW-C network
iptables -A INPUT -p udp --dport 2123 -s <sgw_network>/24 -j ACCEPT
```

```
# Allow outbound GTP-C to SGW-C
iptables -A OUTPUT -p udp --dport 2123 -d <sgw_network>/24 -j ACCEPT
```

Routing:

```
# Ensure route to SGW-C network
ip route add <sgw_network>/24 via <gateway_ip> dev eth0
```

Message Types

The S5/S8 interface handles GTP-C signaling for PDN session management. For detailed session lifecycle and state management, see [Session Management Guide](#).

Session Management

Create Session Request

Direction: SGW-C → OmniPGW

Purpose: Establish a new PDN connection

Key IEs (Information Elements):

IE Name	Type	Description
IMSI	Identity	International Mobile Subscriber Identity
MSISDN	Identity	Mobile phone number
APN	String	Access Point Name (e.g., "internet")
RAT Type	Enum	Radio Access Technology (EUTRAN)
Bearer Context	Grouped	Default bearer information
UE Time Zone	Timestamp	UE's timezone
ULI	Grouped	User Location Information (TAI, ECGI)
Serving Network	PLMN	MCC/MNC of serving network

Example:

```
Create Session Request
├── IMSI: 310260123456789
├── MSISDN: 14155551234
├── APN: internet
├── RAT Type: EUTRAN (6)
├── Bearer Context
│   ├── EBI: 5
│   ├── Bearer QoS (QCI 9, ARP, bitrates)
│   └── S5/S8 F-TEID (SGW-U tunnel endpoint)
└── ULI
    ├── TAI: MCC 310, MNC 260, TAC 12345
    └── ECGI: MCC 310, MNC 260, ECI 67890
```

Create Session Response

Direction: OmniPGW → SGW-C

Purpose: Acknowledge session creation

Key IEs:

IE Name	Type	Description
Cause	Result	Success or error code
Bearer Context	Grouped	Bearer information
PDN Address Allocation	IP	Allocated UE IP address (see [UE IP Allocation](#))
APN Restriction	Enum	APN usage restrictions

IE Name	Type	Description
PCO	Options	Protocol Configuration Options (see [PCO Configuration](#))

Success Response:

```
Create Session Response
├── Cause: Request accepted (16)
├── PDN Address Allocation
│   └── IPv4: 100.64.1.42
├── Bearer Context
│   ├── EBI: 5
│   ├── Cause: Request accepted
│   └── S5/S8 F-TEID (PGW-U tunnel endpoint from PFCP)
├── APN Restriction: Public-1 (1)
└── PCO
    ├── DNS Server: 8.8.8.8
    ├── DNS Server: 8.8.4.4
    └── Link MTU: 1400
```

Delete Session Request

Direction: SGW-C → OmniPGW

Purpose: Terminate PDN connection

Key IEs:

IE Name	Description
EBI	EPS Bearer ID to delete
Linked EBI	Related bearer (optional)

Delete Session Response

Direction: OmniPGW → SGW-C

Purpose: Acknowledge session deletion

Key IEs:

IE Name	Description
Cause	Success or error code

Bearer Management

Create Bearer Request

Direction: OmniPGW → SGW-C

Purpose: Create dedicated bearer (initiated by PCRF policy)

Triggered by:

- PCRF sends new PCC rule requiring dedicated bearer
- OmniPGW requests SGW-C to establish bearer

Delete Bearer Request

Direction: OmniPGW → SGW-C or SGW-C → OmniPGW

Purpose: Delete dedicated bearer

Scenarios:

- **PGW-initiated:** PCRF policy change removes dedicated bearer
- **SGW-initiated:** Radio resource release

Message Flows

Session Establishment

Session Termination

Cause Codes

Success

Code	Name	Description
16	Request accepted	Successful operation

Errors (Permanent Failures)

Code	Name	When Used
65	User Unknown	PCRF rejected (IMSI not found)
66	No resources available	IP pool exhausted
93	Service not supported	Invalid APN
94	Semantic error in TFT	Invalid traffic flow template

Errors (Transient Failures)

Code	Name	When Used
72	Remote peer not responding	PCRF/PGW-U timeout
73	Collision with network initiated request	Simultaneous operations

---

Monitoring

S5/S8 Metrics

```
# Message counters
s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="create_session_request"}
s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="delete_session_request"}

# Error counters
s5s8_inbound_errors_total

# Message handling latency
s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket

# Active TEIDs
teid_registry_count
```

Useful Queries

Session Creation Rate:

```
rate(s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="create_session_request"}[5m])
```

Error Rate:

```
rate(s5s8_inbound_errors_total[5m])
```

Latency (p95):

```
histogram_quantile(0.95,

rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket{request_message_type="create_session_request"}[5m])
)
```

Troubleshooting

Issue: No Response from OmniPGW

Symptoms:

- SGW-C sends Create Session Request
- No response received
- Timeout at SGW-C

Causes:

1. Network connectivity issue
2. OmniPGW not listening on configured IP
3. Firewall blocking UDP 2123
4. Wrong TEID in request

Debug:

```
# Check OmniPGW is listening
netstat -ulnp | grep 2123

# Check for incoming packets
tcpdump -i any -n port 2123

# Verify configuration
grep "local_ipv4_address" config/runtime.exs

# Check firewall
iptables -L -n | grep 2123
```

Issue: Session Creation Fails

Symptoms:

- Create Session Response with error cause
- Session not established

Common Causes:

```
Cause 65 (User Unknown):
  → PCRF rejected subscriber
  → Check IMSI in HSS/SPR

Cause 66 (No resources):
  → IP pool exhausted
  → Check: curl http://pgw:9090/metrics | grep address_registry_count
  → Expand IP pool

Cause 72 (Remote peer not responding):
  → PCRF timeout or PGW-U down
  → Check Gx connectivity
  → Check PFCP association
```

Issue: TEID Collision

Symptoms:

- Message routed to wrong session
- Unexpected behavior

Cause:

- TEID reused before cleanup
- Bug in TEID allocation

Resolution:

- Ensure unique TEID allocation
- Check TEID registry for leaks

Best Practices

Network Design

1. **Dedicated Network Interface**

    - Use separate VLAN for S5/S8
    - Isolate from management traffic

2. **MTU Optimization**

    - Ensure MTU supports GTP headers
    - Minimum MTU: 1500 bytes (1464 payload + 36 GTP)

3. **Redundancy**

    - Multiple OmniPGW instances
    - DNS-based load balancing from SGW-C

Performance

1. **UDP Buffer Sizes**

    - Increase socket buffers for high load
    - Typical: 4-8 MB per socket

2. **Connection Limits**

    - Plan for expected session count
    - Monitor TEID registry count

Security

1. **IP Filtering**

    - Only allow GTP-C from known SGW-C IPs
    - Use iptables or network ACLs

2. **Message Validation**

    - OmniPGW validates all incoming messages
    - Rejects malformed GTP-C packets

Related Documentation

Core Functions

- **[Configuration Guide](#)** - S5/S8 interface configuration, local IP setup
- **[Session Management](#)** - PDN session lifecycle, bearer establishment

- **UE IP Allocation** - IP address delivery via Create Session Response
- **PCO Configuration** - PCO parameters in GTP-C messages

Related Interfaces

- **PFCP Interface** - User plane coordination with S5/S8 control plane
- **Diameter Gx Interface** - Policy integration with bearer setup
- **Diameter Gy Interface** - Charging integration with bearer management

Operations

- **Monitoring Guide** - S5/S8 GTP-C metrics, message tracking
- **Data CDR Format** - CDR generation from GTP-C sessions

Back to Operations Guide

OmniPGW S5/S8 Interface - *by Omnitouch Network Services*

Session Management Guide

PDN Connection Lifecycle and Operations

OmniPGW by Omnitouch Network Services

Overview

A **PDN (Packet Data Network) Session** represents a UE's data connection through OmniPGW. Each session coordinates multiple interfaces and resources to enable data connectivity.

Session Components

Session Identifiers

Each session has multiple identifiers for different interfaces:

Identifier	Interface	Purpose
TEID	S5/S8 (GTP-C)	Tunnel Endpoint ID for SGW-C communication
SEID	Sxb (PFCP)	Session Endpoint ID for PGW-U communication
Session-ID	Gx (Diameter)	Diameter session for PCRF communication
Charging-ID	Accounting	Unique ID for billing/charging

Session Data

Session Creation

Call Flow

Steps

1. Receive Create Session Request (S5/S8)

Session creation is initiated via GTP-C signaling on the S5/S8 interface. See <u>S5/S8 Interface</u> for complete GTP-C protocol details and message formats.

Input:

- IMSI, MSISDN, IMEI
- APN (e.g., "internet")
- RAT Type (EUTRAN)
- UE Location (TAI, ECGI)
- Bearer Context (QoS, F-TEID)

2. Resource Allocation

```
- Allocate UE IP from APN pool
- Generate Charging ID
- Generate Gx Session-ID
- Allocate S5/S8 TEID
- Select PGW-U peer
```

3. Policy Request (Gx)

Request policy from PCRF:

- Send CCR-Initial
- Receive CCA-Initial with QoS and PCC rules

4. User Plane Setup (PFCP)

Program PGW-U with forwarding rules:

- Send Session Establishment Request
- Include PDRs, FARs, QERs, BAR
- Receive F-TEID for S5/S8 tunnel

5. Response to SGW-C

Send Create Session Response:

- UE IP Address
- S5/S8 F-TEID (from PGW-U)
- PCO (DNS, P-CSCF, MTU)
- Bearer Context

Session Modification

Triggers

Sessions can be modified due to:

- **QoS Changes** - PCRF updates bitrates
- **Bearer Operations** - Add/remove dedicated bearers
- **Handover** - SGW change
- **Policy Updates** - New PCC rules from PCRF

QoS Modification Flow

Session Deletion

Call Flow

Cleanup Process

Resources Released:

1. UE IP address → back to pool
2. TEID → removed from registry
3. SEID → removed from registry
4. Session-ID → removed from registry
5. Charging-ID → released
6. Session process terminated

Billing Records Generated:

- Final CDR (Charging Data Record) written for offline billing - See <u>Data CDR Format</u>

Session State

State Machine

Session Tracking

Registry Lookups:

```
By TEID (S5/S8):
  TEID 0x12345678 → Session PID

By SEID (Sxb):
  SEID 0xABCDEF → Session PID

By Session-ID (Gx):
```

```
  "pgw.example.com;123;456" → Session PID

By UE IP:
  100.64.1.42 → Session PID

By IMSI + EBI:
  "310260123456789" + EBI 5 → Session PID
```

Monitoring Sessions

Active Session Count

```
# Total active sessions
teid_registry_count

# PFCP sessions
seid_registry_count

# Gx sessions
session_id_registry_count
```

Session Metrics

```
# Session creation rate
rate(s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="create_session_request"}[5m])

# Session deletion rate
rate(s5s8_inbound_messages_total{message_type="delete_session_request"}[5m])

# Session creation latency (p95)
histogram_quantile(0.95,
  rate(s5s8_inbound_handling_duration_bucket{request_message_type="create_session_request"}[5m])
)
```

Common Issues

Session Creation Fails

Causes:

1. **IP Pool Exhausted** - No IPs available
2. **PCRF Unreachable** - Gx timeout
3. **PGW-U Down** - No PFCP peer available
4. **PCRF Rejection** - User unknown, not authorized

Debug:

```
# Check IP pool
curl http://pgw:9090/metrics | grep address_registry_count

# Check PCRF connectivity
# Check for Gx errors in logs

# Check PGW-U association
# Verify PFCP peer status
```

Session Stuck/Stale

Symptoms:

- Session not deleted properly
- Resources not released
- Registries show higher count than expected

Causes:

1. Delete Session Request not received
2. Session process crash without cleanup
3. Registry leak

Resolution:

```
# Restart OmniPGW (releases all sessions)
# Implement session timeout mechanism
```

UE Cannot Establish Session

Symptoms:

- UE attach fails
- Create Session Response with error cause

Common Causes & Responses:

Cause Value	Meaning	Action
User Unknown	PCRF rejected (IMSI not in database)	Provision subscriber
No Resources Available	IP pool exhausted	Expand IP pool
Remote Peer Not Responding	PCRF/PGW-U timeout	Check connectivity
Service Not Supported	Invalid APN	Configure APN pool

Best Practices

Session Limits

Configure appropriate capacity:

```
Expected concurrent users: 10,000
Session overhead per user: ~10KB RAM
Total RAM for sessions: ~100MB

Erlang VM settings:
  - Max processes: 262,144 (default)
  - Process heap size: Adjust based on load
```

Session Cleanup

Ensure proper cleanup:

1. Always respond to Delete Session Requests
2. Implement session timeout for stale sessions
3. Monitor registry counts for leaks

High Availability

Session Redundancy:

- Use stateless design (sessions tied to instance)
- Implement session database for HA (future)
- DNS/load balancer for failover

Session Data Elements

What Information Does a Session Store?

Each active PDN session maintains the following information:

UE Identification:

- IMSI: "310260123456789" (subscriber identity)
- MSISDN: "14155551234" (phone number)

- MEI/IMEI: Device identifier

PDN Connection Details:

- APN: "internet" (network name)
- UE IP Address: 100.64.1.42 (allocated IP)
- PDN Type: IPv4, IPv6, or IPv4v6

Session Identifiers:

- Charging ID: Unique billing identifier
- Default Bearer EBI: EPS Bearer Identifier (typically 5)

QoS Parameters:

- APN-AMBR: Aggregate Maximum Bit Rate
  - Uplink: 100 Mbps
  - Downlink: 50 Mbps

Forwarding Rules:

- PDRs (Packet Detection Rules): Match packets
- FARs (Forwarding Action Rules): Forward/drop actions
- QERs (QoS Enforcement Rules): Rate limiting
- BAR (Buffering Action Rule): Downlink buffering

Interface Context:

- S5/S8 State: Local/remote TEIDs, SGW-C address
- Sxb State: Local/remote SEIDs, PGW-U address
- Gx State: Diameter Session-ID, request counter

Web UI - Live Session Monitoring

OmniPGW includes a real-time **Web UI** for monitoring active sessions without needing to query metrics or logs.

UE Search & Deep Dive

Access: `http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/ue_search`

Purpose: Search for specific UE sessions and view detailed information

Features:

1. Search Functionality Search sessions by:

- **IMSI** (e.g., "310170123456789")
- **MSISDN** (phone number)
- **IP Address** (e.g., "100.64.1.42")

2. Search Options

- Dropdown selector to choose search type
- Real-time search with instant results
- Clear interface with search hints

3. Deep Dive Results Once found, displays comprehensive session information including:

- Full subscriber details
- All tunnel endpoints and identifiers
- QoS and bearer information
- Complete session state

Use Cases:

- Troubleshoot specific subscriber issues
- Verify session establishment
- Check assigned IP address
- Inspect session parameters

PGW Sessions Page

Access: `http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/pgw_sessions`

Purpose: Real-time view of all active PDN sessions

Features:

1. Session Overview

- Live session count (updates every 2 seconds)
- Grid view of all active sessions
- No refresh needed - auto-updates

2. Quick Session Information Visible for each session:

- **IMSI** - Subscriber identity

- **UE IP** - Allocated IP address
- **SGW TEID** - S5/S8 tunnel ID from SGW
- **PGW TEID** - S5/S8 tunnel ID from OmniPGW
- **APN** - Access Point Name

**3. Search Functionality** Search sessions by:

- IMSI (e.g., "310260")
- UE IP address (e.g., "100.64")
- MSISDN / phone number
- APN name

4. Expandable Details Click any session row to see complete details:

- Full subscriber information (IMSI, MSISDN, IMEI)
- Network context (RAT type, serving network MCC/MNC)
- QoS parameters (AMBR uplink/downlink in human-readable format)
- Tunnel identifiers (both TEIDs in hex format)
- Process ID for debugging
- Complete session state (raw data structure)

Network Topology View

Access: `http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/topology`
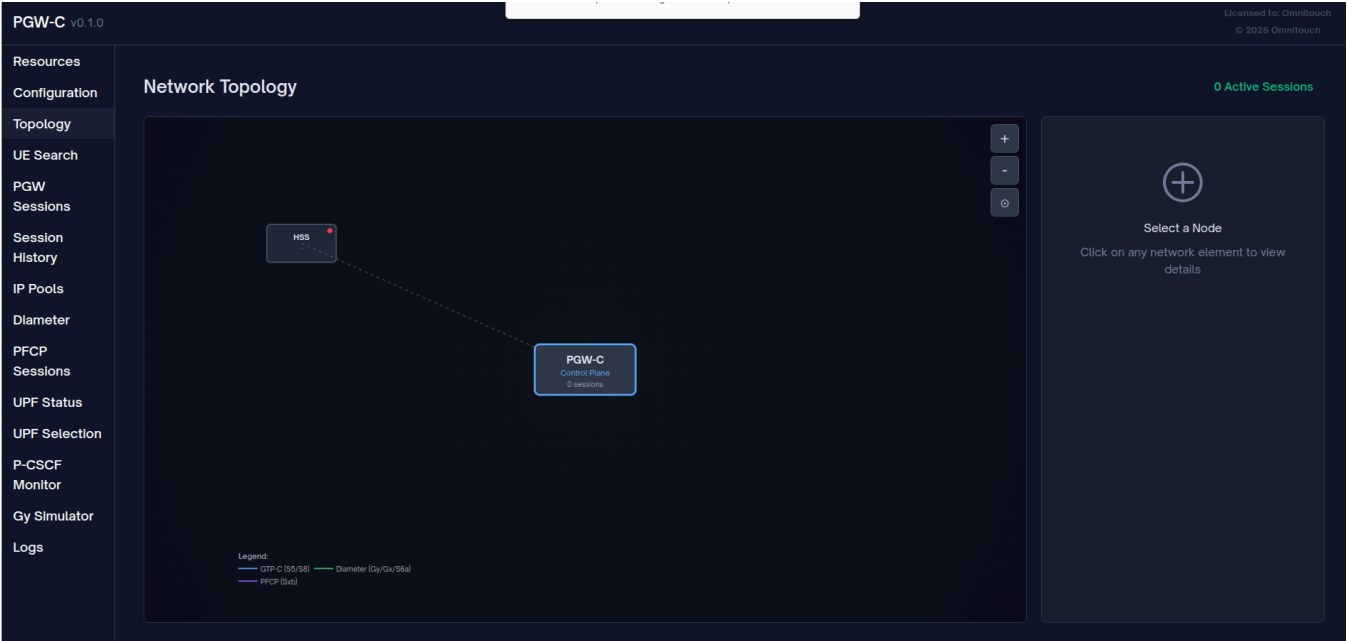
Purpose: Visual representation of network connections and active sessions

Features:

1. Topology Visualization

- Visual graph of network elements
- Shows PGW-C (Control Plane) node
- Connected HSS (Home Subscriber Server) peers
- Active session count display

2. Interactive Elements

- Zoom controls (+/-)
- Center view button
- Click nodes for details
- Shows connection status (green = active, red = down)
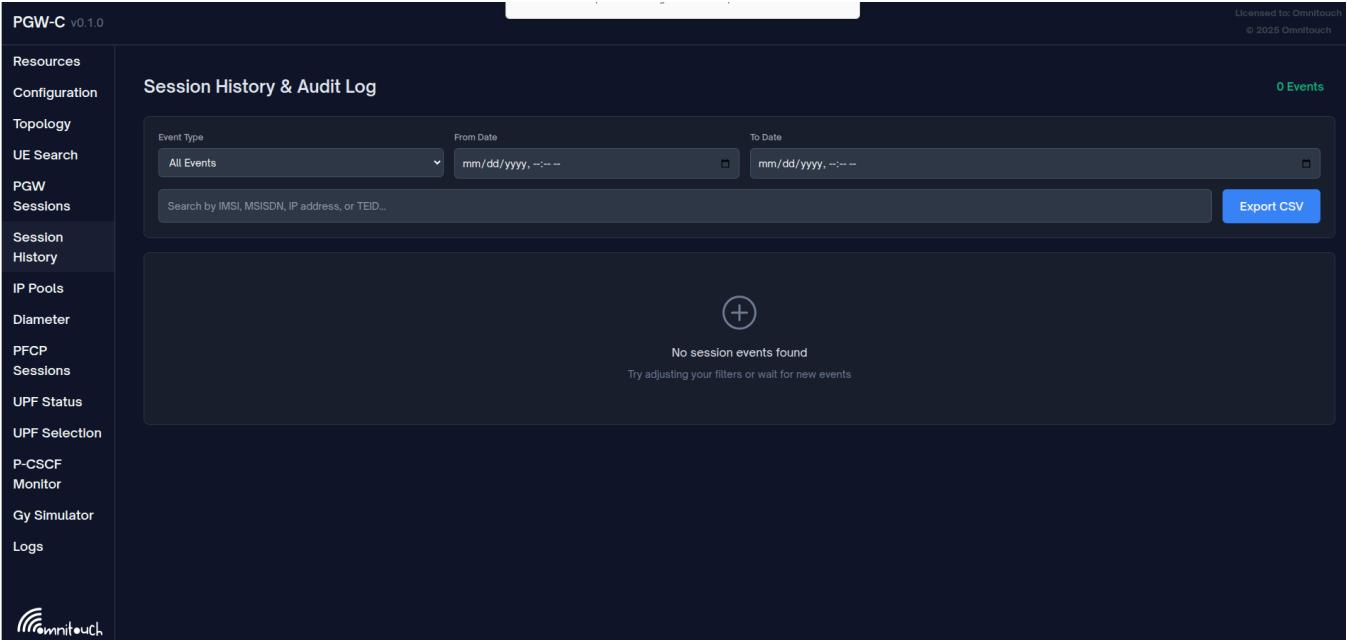
3. Session Count

- Real-time active session counter
- Updates automatically
- Visual indication of load

Use Cases:

- Understand network architecture at a glance
- Verify peer connections
- Monitor topology changes
- Quick network health check

Session History & Audit Log

Access: `http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/session_history`

Session History & Audit Log

0 Events

Resources
Configuration
Topology
UE Search
PGW Sessions
Session History
IP Pools
Diameter
PFCP Sessions
UPF Status
UPF Selection
P-CSCF Monitor
Gy Simulator
Logs

Event Type
All Events

From Date
mm/dd/yyyy, --:-- --

To Date
mm/dd/yyyy, --:-- --

Search by IMSI, MSISDN, IP address, or TEID...

Export CSV

⊕

No session events found

Try adjusting your filters or wait for new events

omnitouch

Purpose: Track historical session events and audit trail

Features:

1. Event Filtering

- Filter by event type (All Events, Session Created, Session Deleted, etc.)
- Date range selection (From Date / To Date)
- Search by IMSI, MSISDN, IP address, or TEID

2. Export Functionality

- Export to CSV for analysis
- Includes all filtered results
- Useful for compliance and reporting

3. Event Types Tracked

- Session creation events
- Session deletion events
- Modification events
- Error events

Use Cases:

- Audit trail for compliance
- Historical session analysis
- Troubleshoot past issues
- Generate usage reports
- Track session patterns over time

Operational Use Cases

Session Verification:

```
1. User reports connectivity issue
2. Search Web UI by IMSI or phone number
3. Verify session exists and UE has IP address
4. Check QoS values match subscriber plan
5. Verify tunnel endpoints are established
```

Capacity Monitoring:

- Glance at active session count
- Compare against licensed capacity
- Identify usage patterns by APN

Troubleshooting:

- Find specific session by any identifier
- Inspect full session state without SSH/IEx
- Verify SGW and PGW TEIDs match between systems
- Check AMBR values applied from PCRF

Advantages Over Metrics:

- See individual session details (metrics show aggregates)
- Search and filter capabilities
- Human-readable formatting (bandwidth in Mbps, not bps)
- Real-time state inspection
- No command-line access required

Related Documentation

Core Session Functions

- **PFCP Interface** - User plane session establishment, PDRs, FARs, QERs, URRs
- **UE IP Allocation** - IP address assignment, APN pool management
- **PCO Configuration** - DNS, P-CSCF, MTU parameters delivered to UE
- **Configuration Guide** - UPF selection, session establishment flows

Policy and Charging

- **Diameter Gx Interface** - PCRF policy control, PCC rules, QoS management
- **Diameter Gy Interface** - OCS online charging, quota tracking
- **Data CDR Format** - Offline charging records generation

Network Interfaces

- **S5/S8 Interface** - GTP-C protocol, SGW-C communication
- **QoS & Bearer Management** - Bearer QoS enforcement

Operations

- **Monitoring Guide** - Session metrics, active session tracking, alerts
- **P-CSCF Monitoring** - IMS session monitoring

OmniPGW Session Management - *by Omnitouch Network Services*

UE IP Pool Allocation Documentation

IP Address Management for Mobile Devices

Table of Contents

Overview

The PGW-C allocates IP addresses to UE (User Equipment) devices when they establish PDN (Packet Data Network) connections. This is a critical function that enables mobile devices to communicate with external networks.

Why IP Allocation Matters

Each UE receives a **unique IP address** from the PGW-C that:

- Identifies the device on the network
- Routes traffic to/from the device
- Enables charging and policy enforcement
- Persists for the duration of the PDN connection

Supported IP Versions

IP Version	Support	Description
IPv4	◇ Full	Standard IPv4 addresses
IPv6	◇ Full	IPv6 addresses and prefixes
IPv4v6	◇ Full	Dual-stack (both IPv4 and IPv6)

IP Allocation Concepts

PDN Type

When a UE requests a PDN connection, it specifies a **PDN Type**:

PDN Type	Description	Allocated Addresses
IPv4	IPv4-only connection	Single IPv4 address
IPv6	IPv6-only connection	IPv6 prefix (e.g., /64)
IPv4v6	Dual-stack connection	Both IPv4 address and IPv6 prefix

Allocation Methods

PGW-C supports two IP allocation methods:

1. Dynamic Allocation (Most Common):

- PGW-C selects IP from configured pool
- Random selection to avoid predictability
- Collision detection ensures uniqueness

2. Static Allocation:

- UE requests specific IP in GTP-C message
- PGW-C validates availability
- Useful for enterprise devices with fixed IPs

APN-Based Subnet Selection

Different **APNs (Access Point Names)** can use different IP pools:

Benefits:

- **Traffic Segregation** - Different APNs route to different networks
- **Policy Differentiation** - Apply different policies per APN
- **Capacity Planning** - Size pools based on expected usage
- **Billing** - Track usage by service type

Address Registry

The **Address Registry** tracks allocated IPs:

Function	Description
Registration	Maps UE IP → Session Process PID
Lookup	Find session by UE IP
Deregistration	Release IP when session ends
Collision Detection	Prevent duplicate allocations

Configuration

Basic Configuration

Edit `config/runtime.exs`:

```
config :pgw_c,
  ue: %{
    subnet_map: %{
      # APN "internet" uses two subnets
      "internet" => [
        "100.64.1.0/24",    # 254 usable IPs
        "100.64.2.0/24"     # 254 usable IPs
      ],

      # APN "ims" uses one subnet
      "ims" => [
        "100.64.10.0/24"
      ],

      # Default pool for unknown APNs
      default: [
        "42.42.42.0/24"
      ]
    }
  }
```

Subnet Notation

CIDR Notation: `<network>/<prefix_length>`

CIDR	Usable IPs	Example Range
/24	254	100.64.1.1 - 100.64.1.254
/23	510	100.64.0.1 - 100.64.1.254
/22	1022	100.64.0.1 - 100.64.3.254
/20	4094	100.64.0.1 - 100.64.15.254
/16	65534	100.64.0.1 - 100.64.255.254

Notes:

- Network address (e.g., 100.64.1.0) is not allocated
- Broadcast address (e.g., 100.64.1.255) is not allocated
- PGW-C allocates from `<network>` + 1 to `<broadcast>` - 1

Multiple Subnets per APN

Load Balancing Across Subnets:

```
config :pgw_c,
  ue: %{
    subnet_map: %{
      "internet" => [
        "100.64.1.0/24",
        "100.64.2.0/24",
        "100.64.3.0/24",
        "100.64.4.0/24"
      ]
    }
  }
```

Selection Method:

- PGW-C randomly selects one subnet from the list
- Provides basic load balancing
- Each session independently selects a subnet

Benefits:

- Distribute load across multiple subnets
- Easier capacity expansion (add new subnets)
- Flexibility for routing policies

Real-World Example

```
config :pgw_c,
  ue: %{
    subnet_map: %{
      # General internet access
      "internet" => [
        "100.64.0.0/20"      # 4094 IPs for general use
      ],

      # IMS (Voice over LTE)
      "ims" => [
        "100.64.16.0/22"     # 1022 IPs for IMS
      ],

      # Enterprise APN
      "enterprise.corp" => [
        "10.100.0.0/16"      # 65534 IPs for enterprise
      ],

      # IoT devices (low bitrate)
      "iot.m2m" => [
        "100.64.20.0/22"     # 1022 IPs for IoT
      ],

      # Default fallback
      default: [
        "42.42.42.0/24"      # 254 IPs for unknown APNs
      ]
    }
  }
```

IPv6 Configuration

```
config :pgw_c,
  ue: %{
    subnet_map: %{
      "internet" => [
        # IPv4 pools
        "100.64.1.0/24"
      ],
      "internet.ipv6" => [
        # IPv6 pools (prefix delegation)
        "2001:db8:1::/48"
      ],
      default: [
        "42.42.42.0/24"
      ]
    }
  }
```

IPv6 Prefix Delegation:

- UE typically receives a /64 prefix
- Allows UE to assign multiple IPs (e.g., for tethering)
- Example: UE receives `2001:db8:1:a::/64`

Dual-Stack (IPv4v6) Configuration

```
config :pgw_c,
  ue: %{
    subnet_map: %{
      "internet" => [
        "100.64.1.0/24",         # IPv4 pool
        "2001:db8:1::/48"        # IPv6 pool (will be used for IPv6 allocation)
      ]
    }
  }
```

Dual-Stack Allocation:

- UE requests PDN Type: IPv4v6
- PGW-C allocates both IPv4 address and IPv6 prefix
- Both addresses active simultaneously

Allocation Process

IP allocation occurs during session creation when PGW-C receives a Create Session Request via the S5/S8 interface. See for GTP-C message details and for session lifecycle.

Step-by-Step: Dynamic IPv4 Allocation

How It Works

Dynamic Allocation Process:

1. **Subnet Lookup:** System retrieves configured subnets for the requested APN
2. **Random Selection:** One subnet is randomly selected from the available list
3. **IP Generation:** A random IP is generated within the subnet range
4. **Uniqueness Check:** System verifies the IP hasn't been allocated
5. **Retry Logic:** If collision detected, retry up to 100 times with new random IP
6. **Registration:** Once unique IP found, it's registered to the session

Key Design Points:

- **Max 100 attempts:** Prevents infinite loops when pool is nearly exhausted
- **Random selection:** Avoids predictable IP assignment patterns for security
- **Atomic operations:** Process-based registry ensures no duplicate allocations
- **Fallback to default:** If APN not found in config, uses default pool

Collision Handling

Scenario: Two sessions try to allocate same IP simultaneously

How Collision Prevention Works:

- Registry processes requests one at a time (serialized)
- No race conditions possible

- First request to register an IP succeeds
- Subsequent requests for same IP are rejected
- Rejected sessions automatically retry with new random IP

Default Subnet Fallback

Scenario: UE requests unknown APN

Example Configuration:

```
# Config
subnet_map: %{
  "internet" => ["100.64.1.0/24"],
  default: ["42.42.42.0/24"]
}
```

Behavior:

- UE requests APN: "unknown.apn"
- System looks for "unknown.apn" in subnet_map
- Not found, so falls back to default pool
- Allocates IP from 42.42.42.0/24

Fallback Logic:

1. First, try to find APN-specific pool in configuration
2. If not found, use the `default` pool
3. If no default configured, allocation fails

Deallocation on Session Termination

Automatic Cleanup:

- When session process terminates, registry cleans up
- IP immediately available for new allocations
- No manual intervention required

Advanced Topics

Pool Exhaustion

Scenario: All IPs in pool are allocated

```
Pool: 100.64.1.0/24 (254 usable IPs)
Allocated: 254 IPs
New request arrives → Exhaustion
```

What Happens:

1. PGW-C attempts 100 random allocations
2. All attempts find IP already allocated
3. Returns: {:error, :ue_ip_address_allocation_failed}
4. Session establishment fails
5. SGW-C receives error response

Prevention:

```
# Monitor pool utilization
address_registry_count / total_pool_size > 0.8  # Alert at 80%

# Expand pool before exhaustion
"internet" => [
  "100.64.1.0/24",
  "100.64.2.0/24",  # Add additional subnet
  "100.64.3.0/24"
]
```

Static IP Allocation

Use Case: Enterprise device needs fixed IP

GTP-C Message Format:

```
Create Session Request
├── IMSI: 310260123456789
├── APN: enterprise.corp
├── PDN Address Allocation (IE)
│   └── PDN Type: IPv4
│       └── IPv4 Address: 10.100.0.50 ← UE requests specific IP
```

OmniPGW Processing:

1. **Extract Requested IP:** Parse PDN Address Allocation IE from request
2. **Validate IP:** Check if requested IP is in configured pool for this APN
3. **Check Availability:** Verify IP is not already allocated to another session
4. **Allocate or Reject:**
   - If available: Allocate requested IP to this session
   - If unavailable: Reject session with appropriate cause code

Possible Results:

- **Success:** UE receives exactly the IP address it requested
- **Failure (IP in use):** Session rejected - IP already allocated
- **Failure (IP not in pool):** Session rejected - IP not in configured range

IPv6 Prefix Delegation

UE requests IPv6:

```
Create Session Request
├── PDN Type: IPv6
```

PGW-C allocates /64 prefix:

```
Allocated Prefix: 2001:db8:1:a::/64

UE can use:
- 2001:db8:1:a::1
- 2001:db8:1:a::2
- ... (18 quintillion addresses)
```

Benefits:

- UE can assign multiple IPs (e.g., tethering)
- Supports SLAAC (Stateless Address Autoconfiguration)
- Eliminates NAT requirement

Dual-Stack Allocation

UE requests IPv4v6:

```
Create Session Request
├── PDN Type: IPv4v6
```

PGW-C allocates both:

```
IPv4: 100.64.1.42
IPv6: 2001:db8:1:a::/64
```

Traffic Handling:

- IPv4 traffic uses IPv4 address
- IPv6 traffic uses IPv6 prefix
- Both active simultaneously
- Separate GTP tunnels (or dual-stack tunnel)

Private vs. Public IP Addresses

Private IP Pools (RFC 1918):

```
# Not routable on public internet
subnet_map: %{
  "internet" => [
    "10.0.0.0/8",
    "172.16.0.0/12",
    "192.168.0.0/16"
  ]
}
```

Requires NAT at PGW-U to access internet

Public IP Pools:

```
# Routable public IPs (example only)
subnet_map: %{
  "internet" => [
    "203.0.113.0/24"  # Public IP block
  ]
}
```

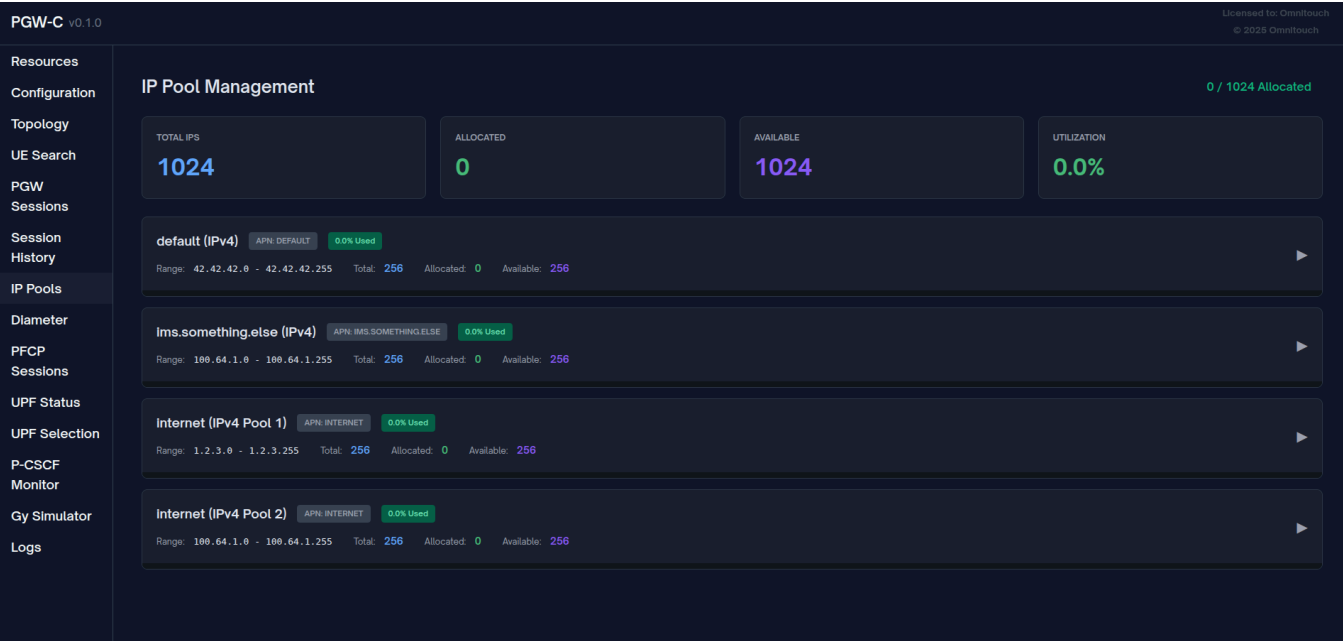**No NAT required** - direct internet routing

Recommendation:

- Use **private IPs (RFC 6598)**: 100.64.0.0/10 (Carrier-Grade NAT)
- Reserve public IPs for special services only

Monitoring

Web UI - IP Pool Management

OmniPGW provides a real-time web interface for monitoring IP pool allocation and utilization.

Access: `http://<omnipgw-ip>:<web-port>/ip_pools`

Features:

1. Pool Overview

- Total IPs across all pools
- Currently allocated addresses
- Available IPs remaining
- Real-time utilization percentage

2. Per-APN Pool Status Each configured pool displays:

- **Pool Name** - APN identifier (e.g., "default", "ims.something.else", "Internet")
- **APN Label** - Configured APN name badge
- **IP Range** - CIDR notation showing subnet range
- **Utilization** - Visual indicator showing percentage used
- **Allocation Stats:**
  - Total: Number of IPs in pool
  - Allocated: Currently assigned IPs
  - Available: Remaining IPs for allocation

3. Real-time Updates

- Auto-refresh every 2 seconds
- No page reload required
- Live utilization tracking

Use Cases:

- Quick capacity check before maintenance
- Identify pools approaching exhaustion
- Verify pool configuration
- Monitor allocation patterns by APN

Key Metrics

Address Registry Count:

```
# Current allocated IPs
address_registry_count

# Pool utilization (requires calculation)
address_registry_count / <total_pool_size> * 100
```

Example:

```
Pool: 100.64.1.0/24 (254 IPs)
Allocated: 150 IPs
```

```
Utilization: 150 / 254 = 59%
```

Alerts

```
# Alert on high pool utilization
- alert: UEIPPoolUtilizationHigh
  expr: address_registry_count > 200  # For /24 pool
  for: 10m
  annotations:
    summary: "UE IP pool utilization above 80%"
    description: "Current: {{ $value }} / 254 IPs allocated"

# Alert on pool exhaustion
- alert: UEIPPoolExhausted
  expr: address_registry_count >= 254  # For /24 pool
  for: 1m
  annotations:
    summary: "UE IP pool exhausted - no IPs available"

# Alert on allocation failures
- alert: UEIPAllocationFailures
  expr: rate(ue_ip_allocation_failures_total[5m]) > 0
  for: 5m
  annotations:
    summary: "UE IP allocation failures occurring"
```

Grafana Dashboard

Panel 1: IP Pool Utilization

```
# Gauge showing percentage
(address_registry_count / 254) * 100
```

Panel 2: Allocated IPs Over Time

```
# Time series
address_registry_count
```

Panel 3: Allocation Rate

```
# Rate of new allocations
rate(address_registry_count[5m])
```

Panel 4: Pool Exhaustion Risk

```
# Days until exhaustion (based on current rate)
(254 - address_registry_count) / rate(address_registry_count[1h])
```

Troubleshooting

Issue 1: Session Establishment Fails (No IP Available)

Symptoms:

- Create Session Response: Cause "Request rejected"
- Log: "UE IP address allocation failed"

Possible Causes:

1. **Pool Exhausted**

   ```
   # Check current allocation
   curl http://<pgw_c_ip>:42069/metrics | grep address_registry_count
   ```

2. **Configuration Error**

   ```
   # Verify subnet configuration
   config :pgw_c,
     ue: %{
       subnet_map: %{
         "internet" => [
           "100.64.1.0/24"  # Ensure valid CIDR
         ]
       }
     }
   ```

3. **APN Misconfiguration**

   ```
   # If APN not found, falls back to default
   # Ensure default pool exists
   subnet_map: %{
     default: ["42.42.42.0/24"]
   }
   ```

Resolution:

- **Expand pool:** Add more subnets
- **Cleanup stale sessions:** Restart PGW-C to release leaked IPs
- **Verify config:** Check runtime.exs for typos

Issue 2: IP Address Collision

Symptoms:

- Two UEs receive same IP (very rare)
- Routing issues

Cause:

- Bug in Address Registry (should not happen)

Debug:

```
# Check for duplicate IPs in logs
grep "already_registered" /var/log/pgw_c.log
```

Resolution:

- Should self-correct (second session retries)
- If persistent, report bug

Issue 3: Wrong IP Pool Used

Symptoms:

- UE receives IP from unexpected subnet
- APN "internet" gets IP from "ims" pool

Cause:

- Incorrect subnet_map configuration

Verify:

```
# Check exact APN string matching
subnet_map: %{
  "internet" => [...],   # Case-sensitive
  "Internet" => [...]    # Different APN!
}
```

Resolution:

- Ensure APN names match exactly (case-sensitive)
- Use default pool for catch-all

Issue 4: IPv6 Allocation Fails

Symptoms:

- UE requests IPv6, receives error

Possible Causes:

1. **No IPv6 pool configured**

```
# Missing IPv6 subnets
subnet_map: %{
  "internet" => [
    "100.64.1.0/24"  # Only IPv4
  ]
}
```

2. **Invalid IPv6 prefix**

```
# Too small prefix (should be /48 or larger)
"internet" => [
  "2001:db8::/128"  # Wrong - no room for allocation
]
```

Resolution:

```
# Add IPv6 pool
subnet_map: %{
  "internet" => [
    "100.64.1.0/24",
    "2001:db8:1::/48"  # IPv6 pool
  ]
}
```

Issue 5: High Pool Utilization

Symptoms:

- Nearing pool exhaustion
- `address_registry_count` approaching max

Proactive Measures:

1. **Add Subnets:**

```
"internet" => [
  "100.64.1.0/24",    # Existing
  "100.64.2.0/24",    # New subnet (adds 254 IPs)
  "100.64.3.0/24"     # New subnet (adds 254 IPs)
]
```

2. **Use Larger Subnets:**

```
# Replace /24 with /22
"internet" => [
  "100.64.0.0/22"  # 1022 usable IPs
]
```

3. **Session Cleanup:**

   - Monitor stale sessions
   - Ensure proper Delete Session Request handling

Best Practices

Capacity Planning

Calculate required pool size:

```
Expected concurrent users: 10,000
Peak concurrency: 30% (3,000 simultaneous sessions)
Growth buffer: 50%
Required IPs: 3,000 * 1.5 = 4,500 IPs

Subnet: /20 (4,094 usable IPs) - Too small
Subnet: /19 (8,190 usable IPs) - Sufficient
```

Subnet Selection

Recommended:

- Use `100.64.0.0/10` (RFC 6598 - Carrier-Grade NAT)
- Provides 4 million IPs
- Reserved for service provider NAT

Avoid:

- Public IPs (expensive, limited)
- Common private ranges that conflict with enterprise VPNs

Configuration Layout

```
config :pgw_c,
  ue: %{
    subnet_map: %{
      # Primary internet APN - large pool
      "internet" => [
        "100.64.0.0/18"  # 16,382 IPs
      ],

      # IMS - smaller dedicated pool
      "ims" => [
        "100.64.64.0/22"  # 1,022 IPs
      ],

      # Enterprise - medium pool
      "enterprise.corp" => [
        "100.64.68.0/22"  # 1,022 IPs
      ],

      # IoT - large pool for many devices
      "iot.m2m" => [
        "100.64.72.0/20"  # 4,094 IPs
      ],

      # Default - small fallback
      default: [
        "100.64.127.0/24"  # 254 IPs
      ]
    }
  }
```

Related Documentation

Configuration

- **Configuration Guide** - UE IP pool configuration, APN subnet mapping
- **PCO Configuration** - DNS, P-CSCF, MTU delivered with IP address
- **Session Management** - Session lifecycle, IP allocation during PDN setup
- **PFCP Interface** - UE address assignment via PFCP to UPF

Network Planning

- **S5/S8 Interface** - IP address delivery via GTP-C
- **Diameter Gx Interface** - Policy control for IP allocation

Operations

- **Monitoring Guide** - IP pool utilization metrics, allocation tracking
- **Data CDR Format** - UE IP addresses in CDRs for billing correlation