

# Byte and Packet Congestion Notification

[draft-briscoe-tsvwg-byte-pkt-mark-00.txt](#)

**Bob Briscoe**, BT & UCL  
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# initial draft

- Byte and Packet Congestion Notification
  - **initial draft:** [draft-briscoe-tsvwg-byte-pkt-mark-00.txt](#)
  - **intended status:** informational
  - **immediate intent:** move to WG item

## exec summary

- adjust for bytes when transport reads NOT when network writes
    - i.e. byte-size of packets notifying congestion (whether dropped or ECN marked)
  - byte-mode packet drop (small pkt → lower drop prob)?
    - AQM / RED RFC2309 (sort-of) recommends it
    - propose 'SHOULD NOT' to avoid perverse incentive to create small packets
    - survey of >80 vendors (~20% responded): none implemented anyway
- 
- **NOTE:** only 'byte mode packet drop' deprecated
    - 'byte mode queue measurement' (often called just 'byte mode') is OK

# example: comparing each RED mode

## simple packet streams (no congestion response)

RED  
packet-mode  
packet drop

- same drop probability for any packet
- universally deployed
- propose: **SHOULD**

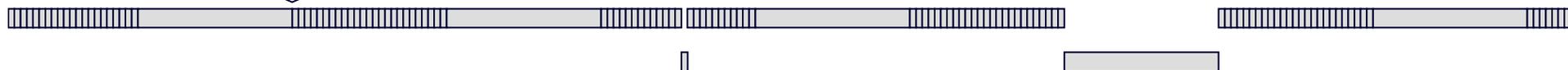
	1500B pkts	60B pkts
input	1Mbps	1Mbps
drop prob.	25%	25%
output	750kbps	750kbps



RED  
byte-mode  
packet drop

- lower drop probability for smaller packets
- 'RED' RFC2309 (sort of) recommends
- propose: **SHOULD NOT**

	1500B pkts	60B pkts
input	1Mbps	1Mbps
drop prob.	25%	1%
output	750kbps	990kbps



# layer to adjust rate for size of a dropped packet network or transport?

✗ network layer adjustment

✓ transport layer adjustment

transport congestion control	packet-mode packet drop	linear byte-mode packet drop	squared byte-mode packet drop
TCP [RFC2581] or TFRC [RFC3448]	$\frac{s}{\sqrt{p}}$	<del><math>\frac{s}{\sqrt{p \cdot s}} = \frac{\sqrt{s}}{\sqrt{p}}</math></del>	<del><math>\frac{s}{\sqrt{p \cdot s^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}}</math></del>
TFRC-SP [RFC4828]	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}}$	<del><math>\frac{1}{\sqrt{p \cdot s}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s} \sqrt{p}}</math></del>	<del><math>\frac{1}{\sqrt{p \cdot s^2}} = \frac{1}{s \sqrt{p}}</math></del>

flow bit rate per RTT in terms of  
 $s$  = packet size  
 $p$  = drop (or marking) rate prior to adjustment

# RED byte mode packet drop deployment survey

14	17%	not implemented
2	2%	not implemented probably (tbc)
0	0%	implemented
68	81%	no response (so far)
84	100%	companies/org's surveyed

- wide range of types of company
  - large L3 & L2 equipment vendors
  - wireless equipment vendors
  - firewall vendors
  - large software businesses with a small selection of networking products
- “no response” includes 10 open source (Linux/FreeBSD) institutions
  - quick look at one (Fedora): not implemented
- “not implemented” includes very large fraction of the market
  - e.g. Cisco, Alcatel-Lucent (two who have given permission to be identified)
- since 10-Nov-2004 implemented as default in ns2 simulator
  - **NOTE:** later ns2 simulations with mixed packet sizes may not be representative of real Internet

# why change advice now?

- DCCP
  - e.g. TFRC small packet variant experiment [RFC4828]
- PCN marking algorithm design
  - imminent (chartered)
- RED implementations; deployed & new
  - prevent giving perverse incentives to create small packets

## tsvwg WG item?

- no time for...
  - distinguishing byte-congestible & packet congestible (open research issue) – [see I-D](#)

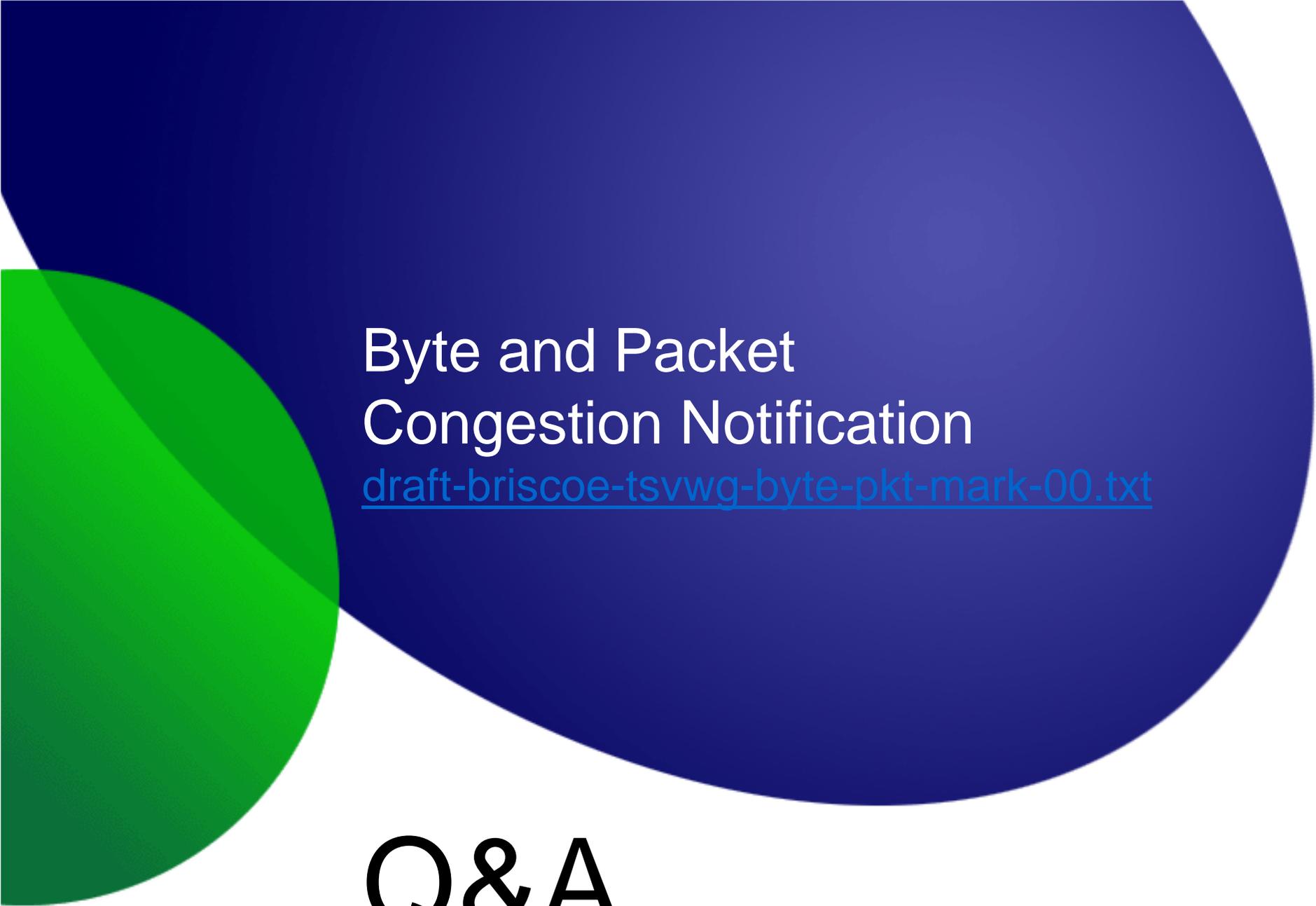
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**NOTE: don't turn off RED completely: favours small packets**

- at least as much as RED byte mode packet drop

**NOTE again: only byte mode packet drop deprecated**

- byte mode queue measurement (often called just 'byte mode') is OK



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## Q&A

# bit-congestible and packet-congestible

- bit-congestible resources
  - e.g. transmission links, buffer memory
- packet-congestible resources
  - e.g. route look-up, firewall
- focus on bit-congestible only
  - by design packet processors typically protected by bit-rate limits
- stages where byte-size might be relevant:
  1. measuring congestion (queue length in bytes or packets?)
  2. coding congestion (drop or ECN marking) into a packet
  3. decoding congestion from a packet
- #1 is well understood and orthogonal
- we'll focus on #2 vs. #3