rte_security: enabling IPsec hw acceleration

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Introduction

- Framework for management and provisioning of hardware acceleration of security protocols.
- Generic APIs to manage security sessions.
- Security acceleration functions are accessed through security instances which can be instantiated on any device type, current support security instances on Crypto and Ethernet devices.
- Rich capabilities discovery APIs
- Current only targets the support of IP Security (IPsec) protocol.
- Could support a wide variety of protocols/applications
  - Enterprise/SMB VPNs — IPsec
  - Wireless backhaul — IPsec, PDCP
  - Data-center — SSL
  - WLAN backhaul — CAPWAP/DTLS
  - Control-plane options for above — PKCS, RNG
Community Collaboration

- Collaborative work between Intel, Mellanox and NXP with contributions from:
  - Hemant Agrawal, Declan Doherty, Akhil Goyal, Radu Nicolau, Boris Pismenny, and Aviad Yehezkel.

- rte_security is now part of DPDK 17.11 as *Experimental* API
IO based acceleration performed on the physical interface as packet ingress/egress the system.

No packet headers modifications on the hardware, only encryption/decryption and authentication operations are preformed.

Hardware may support extra features like payload padding, setting of etc.
Lookaside Protocol Acceleration

- Lookaside acceleration model where packet is given to an accelerator for processing and then returned to the host after processing is complete.
- Security function is provided as an extension of a librte_cryptodev crypto PMD.
  - Security session is used in place of crypto session in crypto op when enqueuing and dequeuing packets to the crypto PMD.
- Supports full protocol (IPsec) processing on the accelerator. Including:
  - Add/remove protocol headers
  - Handling SA state information
Library Features

- Protocol agnostic session API for the management of protocol state on underlying hardware.
- Definitions of supported protocols, currently only IPsec, and the parameters for configuring the options. For IPsec this includes:
  - Acceleration type – inline crypto/lookaside protocol/inline protocol
  - Defining security association (SA) parameters such as Tunnel/Transport, ESP/AH, Ingress/Egress as well as associated crypto processing and key material
- Crypto operations are defined using primitives defined in librte_cryptodev limit any redefinition of parameters within DPDK.
- Capabilities APIs to allow dynamic discovery of a instances features.
Session Management

Session APIs support

- Create Session
  ```c
  struct rte_security_session *
  rte_security_session_create(uint16_t id,
                              struct rte_security_session_conf *conf,
                              struct rte_mempool *mp);
  ```

- Update

- Destroy

- Query (Get Stats)

```c
/**
  security session configuration parameters */
struct rte_security_session_conf config = {
  .action_type = RTE_SECURITY_ACTION_TYPE_INLINE_CRYPTO,
  /**< Type of action to be performed on the session */
  .protocol = RTE_SECURITY_PROTOCOL_IPSEC,
  /**< Security protocol to be configured */
  .ipsec = {
    .spi = /**< Security Protocol Index */,
    .salt = /**< Salt value */,
    .direction = RTE_SECURITY_IPSEC_SA_DIR_INGRESS,
    .proto = RTE_SECURITY_IPSEC_SA_PROTO_ESP,
    .mode = RTE_SECURITY_IPSEC_SA_MODE_TUNNEL
  },
  /**< Configuration parameters for security session */
  .crypto_xform = /**< crypto transforms*/
  /**< Security Session Crypto Transformations */
};
```
/** flow parameters */
attr->ingress = 1; /**< attr->egress = 1 */

pattern[0].type = RTE_FLOW_ITEM_TYPE_ETH;
pattern[1].type = RTE_FLOW_ITEM_TYPE_IPV4;
pattern[2].type = RTE_FLOW_ITEM_TYPE_ESP;
pattern[3].type = RTE_FLOW_ITEM_TYPE_END;

action[0].type = RTE_FLOW_ACTION_TYPE_SECURITY;
action[0].conf = sa->sec_session;
action[1].type = RTE_FLOW_ACTION_TYPE_PASSTHRU;
action[2].type = RTE_FLOW_ACTION_TYPE_END;
Summary

- Provides an abstraction for provisioning security hw accelerations, initially targeting IPsec.
- Can be used with ethdev and cryptodev
- `rte_security + rte_flow = powerful control plane`
- Agnostic API to allow applications to use different security accelerations.
- IPsec Security Gateway Sample application is available today using `rte_security` to support inline crypto (on Intel’s IXGBE NET PMD) and lookaside protocol acceleration (on NXP’s DPAA2 CRYPTO PMD).
  - Go try it out!
Future Work

- Further IPsec enablement
  - Further encapsulations
  - LSO + checksum
  - IPsec inline protocol offload
- Further protocol enablement
  - MACsec, PDCP, DTLS, etc would fit under this model.
- Software equivalent enablement
  - It could be possible to offer software equivalent processing under this API, may or may not be desirable depending on protocol and it’s processing overhead.
Questions?

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