iftop

Oct 2019

Iftop measures the data flowing through individual socket connections, and it works in a manner that is different from Nload. Iftop uses the pcap library to capture the packets moving in and out of the network adapter, and then sums up the size and count to find the total bandwidth under use.

Although iftop reports the bandwidth used by individual connections, it cannot report the process name/id involved in the particular socket connection. But being based on the pcap library, iftop is able to filter the traffic and report bandwidth usage over selected host connections as specified by the filter.

Install iftop on CentOS/RHEL/Red Hat/Fedora Linux

```
yum install iftop -y
```

Using iftop

From the command line, simply enter:

```
iftop -n
```

The -n option prevents iftop from resolving ip addresses to hostname, which causes additional network traffic of its own.

By default, iftop runs on the first listed interface, you can specify the interface you wish to monitor by using the following:

```
iftop -i eth3 -n
```

The above command will run iftop and monitor traffic on interface eth3. See below for an example iftop output.

```
                   12.5Kb              25.0Kb              37.5Kb              50.0Kb              62.5Kb
└──────────────────┴───────────────────┴───────────────────┴───────────────────┴───────────────────┘
eri-4e-962953                     => 10.14.2.54                          4.99Kb  17.5Kb  17.5Kb
                                  <=                                     2.97Kb  3.15Kb  3.15Kb
eri-4e-962953                     => 10.43.30.13                         2.46Kb  3.65Kb  3.65Kb
                                  <=                                     4.12Kb  5.52Kb  5.52Kb
eri-4e-962953                     => 10.43.30.12                         1.89Kb  2.08Kb  2.08Kb
                                  <=                                     3.18Kb  1.87Kb  1.87Kb
eri-4e-962953                     => 10.43.30.1                             0b   1.73Kb  1.73Kb
                                  <=                                        0b   1.37Kb  1.37Kb
eri-4e-962953                     => ttvadc02.tandbergtv.com                0b   0.99Kb  0.99Kb
                                  <=                                        0b   1.29Kb  1.29Kb
255.255.255.255                   => 0.0.0.0                                0b      0b      0b
                                  <=                                        0b    922b    922b


─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────
TX:             cum:   32.4KB   peak:   57.6Kb                  rates:   9.34Kb  26.0Kb  26.0Kb
RX:                    17.6KB           23.5Kb                           10.3Kb  14.1Kb  14.1Kb
TOTAL:                 50.1KB           81.1Kb                           19.6Kb  40.0Kb  40.0Kb
```