

NAME

ip-monitor, rtmon - state monitoring

SYNOPSIS

ip [*ip-OPTIONS*] **monitor** [**all** | *OBJECT-LIST*] [**file** *FILENAME*]

DESCRIPTION

The **ip** utility can monitor the state of devices, addresses and routes continuously. This option has a slightly different format. Namely, the **monitor** command is the first in the command line and then the object list follows:

ip monitor[**all** | *OBJECT-LIST*] [**file** *FILENAME*]

OBJECT-LIST is the list of object types that we want to monitor. It may contain **link**, **address**, **route**, **mroute**, **prefix**, **neigh** and **netconf**. If **nofile** argument is given, **ip** opens RTNETLINK, listens on it and dumps state changes in the format described in previous sections.

If the **file** option is given, the program does not listen on RTNETLINK, but opens the given file, and dumps its contents. The file should contain RTNETLINK messages saved in binary format. Such a file can be generated with the **rtmon** utility. This utility has a command line syntax similar to **ip monitor**. Ideally, **rtmon** should be started before the first network configuration command is issued. F.e. if you insert:

```
rtmon file /var/log/rtmon.log
```

in a startup script, you will be able to view the full history later.

Nevertheless, it is possible to start **rtmon** at any time. It prepends the history with the state snapshot dumped at the moment of starting.

SEE ALSO

[ip\(8\)](#)

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