



# TCP's reaction to soft errors

(draft-gont-tcpm-tcp-soft-errors-02.txt)

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# Overview

- Original document proposed a workaround for long delays between connection-establishment attempts that may arise in a number of scenarios, based on changing TCP's reaction to soft errors when received in any of the non-synchronized states.
- The rationale was in D. D. Clark's "Fault Isolation and Recovery" (RFC 816):

*"In fact, error messages serve several important purposes. First, if they arrive in response to opening a new connection, they probably are caused by opening the connection improperly (e.g., to a non-existent address) rather than by a transient network failure."*

- This behaviour has been implemented in, at least, Linux, NetBSD, and Symbian. More conservative approaches implemented in FreeBSD and Microsoft Windows

# WG Consensus

- At IETF 62, there was consensus to take the draft as a WG document, for the Informational path.
- The draft should only document the behaviour, and **not** propose it.
- draft-gont-tcpm-tcp-soft-errors-02.txt is the result of those changes.
- RFC 2119 wording has been stripped.
- The draft now only describes the problem, the behaviour implemented in some operating systems, and analyzes the possible drawbacks. It does **not** propose it.

# Moving forward

- The Introduction should be tweaked a bit, to make it clear the draft only analyzes TCP's reaction to soft errors received during the connection-establishment phase.
- Some minor editorial changes proposed by Pekka Savola should be incorporated.
- The draft should be re-submitted as draft-ietf-tcpm-tcp-soft-errors-00.txt

**WG Last Call'ed after that?**

# Questions?

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