

# MAVIS Daemon

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## 1 Introduction

In conjunction with the **remote** module, this daemon allows extending MAVIS (modular attribute-value interchange system) functionality over the network, using UDP packets for communication with clients and/or other MAVIS daemons.

### 1.1 Download

Source and documentation are available from <https://www.pro-bono-publico.de/projects/>.

## 2 Command line syntax

Command line syntax is:

```
mavisd [ -P ] [ -d level ] configuration-file [ id ]
```

The path to the configuration file is the only command line argument mandatory. *id* defaults to `tac_plus` and may be used to select a non-default section of the configuration file.

The `-P` option enables *config parse mode*. Keep this one in mind; it is imperative that the configuration file supplied is syntactically correct, as the daemon won't start if there are any parsing errors at start-up.

The `-d` switch enables debugging. You most likely don't want to use this. Read the source if you need to.

## 3 Event mechanism selection

Several level-triggered event mechanisms are supported. By default, the one best suited for your operating system will be used. However, you may set the environment variable `IO_POLL_MECHANISM` to select a specific one.

The following event mechanisms are supported (in order of preference):

- port (Sun Solaris 10 and higher only, `IO_POLL_MECHANISM=32`)
- kqueue (\*BSD and Darwin only, `IO_POLL_MECHANISM=1`)
- /dev/poll (Sun Solaris only, `IO_POLL_MECHANISM=2`)
- epoll (Linux only, `IO_POLL_MECHANISM=4`)
- poll (`IO_POLL_MECHANISM=8`)
- select (`IO_POLL_MECHANISM=16`)

## 4 Configuration file syntax

A typical **mavisd** configuration file consists of a single *id* section:

```
section = mavisd { ... }
```

Default section ID is `mavisd`, but that a different ID may be selected via the command line.

Configuration directives are:

- `( permit | deny ) [ not ] CIDR`  
Accept or reject requests from specific IP address ranges. This directive may appear multiple times. Matches are tried in order. IPv6 ACLs are supported. Default is to accept everything.

Example:

---

```
permit 127.0.0.1/8
permit accept ::1
deny not 192.168.0.0/16
permit 192.168.0.5/32
```

- `background = (yes | no)`

If set, the daemon will release its controlling terminal on startup and fork itself to the background (default: no).

- `listen = { ... }`

The `listen` directive specifies where to listen for incoming queries. Acceptable connection endpoints are both IPv4/IPv6 based UDP and UNIX datagram sockets.

For IP sockets, the following options are available:

- `port = UDPPort`  
Specifies an UDP port to listen for incoming queries.
- `address = IPAddress`  
Specify an IP address to bind to (optional, default: all local IP addresses).

UNIX sockets support these directives:

- `path = UnixPath`  
Path to an UNIX domain socket.
- `userid = UserID`  
User ID for socket creation.
- `groupid = GroupID`  
Group ID for socket creation
- `mode = Mode`  
Permissions for socket creation.

Communication via PF\_UNIX sockets may only work if the host system supports anonymous binds for that protocol family. This works for Linux, which supports an abstract namespace which is independent of the file system, but, e.g., not for Sun Solaris.

Options common to both variants are:

- `blowfish key = Key`  
Specifies a key for over-the-wire encryption (optional).
- `blowfish keyfile = KeyFile`  
Specifies a file to read the a key from (optional).

The `listen` directive may be used multiple times and is mandatory.

- `mavis module = module { ... }`

Load MAVIS module *module*. See the MAVIS documentation for configuration guidance.

- `mavis path = path`

Add *path* to the search-path for MAVIS modules.

Magic cookie substitution applies. The available conversions are:

- `%o` - run-time OS type
- `%O` - compile-time OS type

- `pidfile = file`

The daemons process id will be written to *file* (default: unset).

---

- `stat period = seconds`

This enables periodic statistics logging to *syslogd* (default: disabled). The logged line starts with `STAT:` and is followed by a series of *key=value* pairs:

- `Q=count` - number of queries since start-up
- `A=count` - number of queries answered since start-up
- `R=count` - number of queries rejected since start-up
- `X=count` - number of queries expired since start-up
- `E=count` - number of queries failed since start-up
- `T=seconds` - number of seconds since start-up
- `q=count` - number of queries in last period
- `a=count` - number of queries answered in last period
- `r=count` - number of queries rejected in last period
- `x=count` - number of queries expired in last period
- `e=count` - number of queries failed in last period
- `t=seconds` - length of last period
- `B=count` - maximum number of queries in backlog since start-up
- `b=count` - maximum number of queries in backlog in last period

Modules may log additional information, e.g.:

- `F=count` - number of childs forked since start-up
- `I=count` - number of answers received since start-up
- `O=count` - number of queries sent since start-up
- `f=count` - number of childs forked in last period
- `i=count` - number of answers received in last period
- `o=count` - number of queries sent in last period

- `syslog((ident = Ident)|(level = Level)|(facility = Facility))`

Selects *syslog ident*, *level* and *facility*. Defaults to:

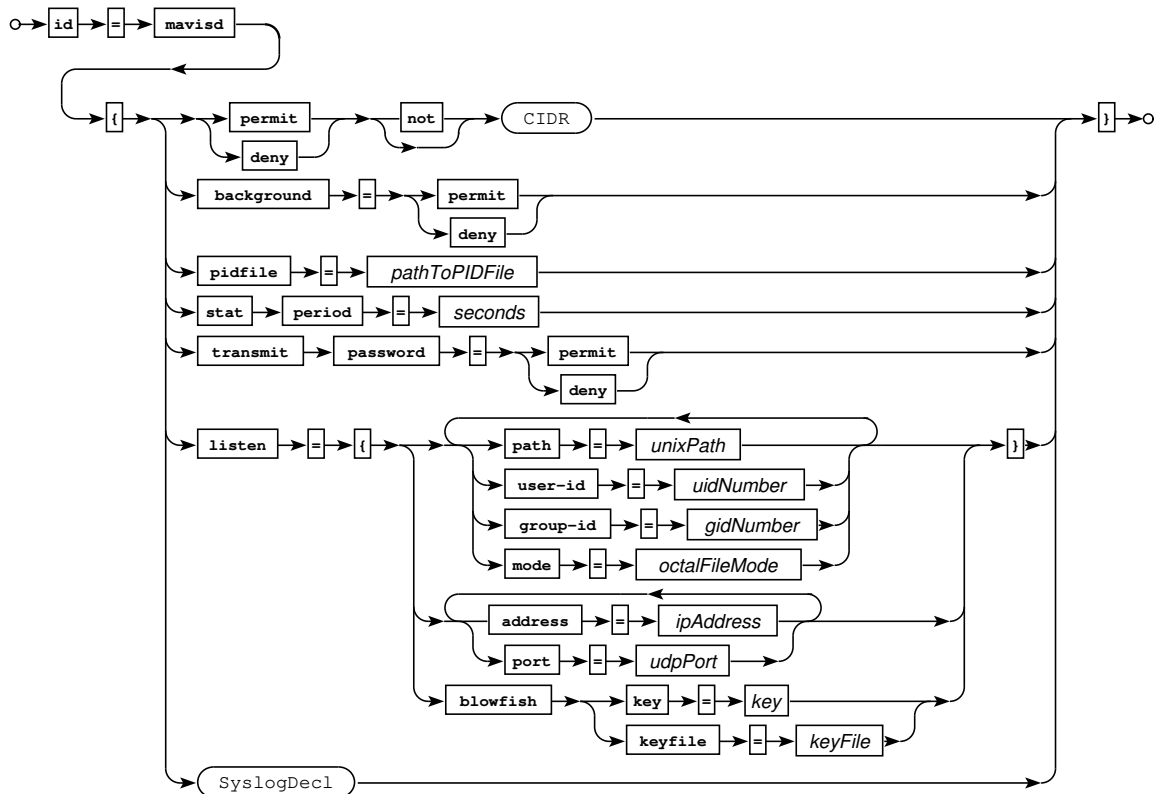
```
syslog ident = program-name
syslog facility = UUCP
syslog level = INFO
```

- `transmit password = (yes|no)`

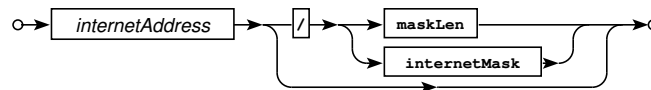
Allow transmission of cleartext password in responses (default: no).

---

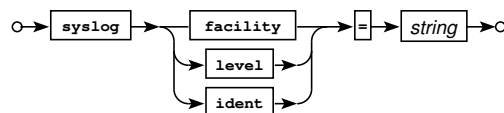
## 4.1 Railroad Diagrams



Railroad diagram: TcprelayConfig



Railroad diagram: CIDR



Railroad diagram: SyslogDecl

## 5 Sample configuration

```

module-path /some/where/lib/mavis

module-add log

module-add limit
module-conf limit blacklist count 5 time 60
module-conf limit ipreg time 60

module-add auth

module-add cache
module-conf cache expire * 60

```

```
module-add external id whatever
module-conf ext1 program /where/ever/script.pl

bind address 127.0.0.1 port 9001
```

## 6 Copyrights and Acknowledgements

Please see the source for copyright and licensing information of individual files.

- **The Blowfish algorithm:**

This software uses Bruce Schneier's Blowfish algorithm.

- **Portions of the parsing code are taken from Cisco's tac\_plus developers kit which is distributed under the following license:**

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