



# **Move logical interfaces (LIFs)**

Active IQ Unified Manager 9.7

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# Move logical interfaces (LIFs)

Moving logical interfaces (LIFs) to a less busy port can help improve load balancing, assist with maintenance operations and performance tuning, and reduce indirect access.

Indirect access can reduce system efficiency. It occurs when a volume workload is using different nodes for network processing and data processing. To reduce indirect access, you can rearrange LIFs, which involves moving LIFs to use the same node for network processing and data processing. You can configure load balancing to have ONTAP automatically move busy LIFs to a different port or you can move a LIF manually.

Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve load balancing.</li><li>• Reduce indirect access.</li></ul>	
Considerations	
	When moving a LIF connected to CIFS shares, clients accessing the CIFS shares are disconnected. Any read or write requests to the CIFS shares are disrupted.

You use the ONTAP commands to configure load balancing. For more information, see the ONTAP networking documentation.

You use ONTAP System Manager and the ONTAP CLI commands to move LIFs manually.

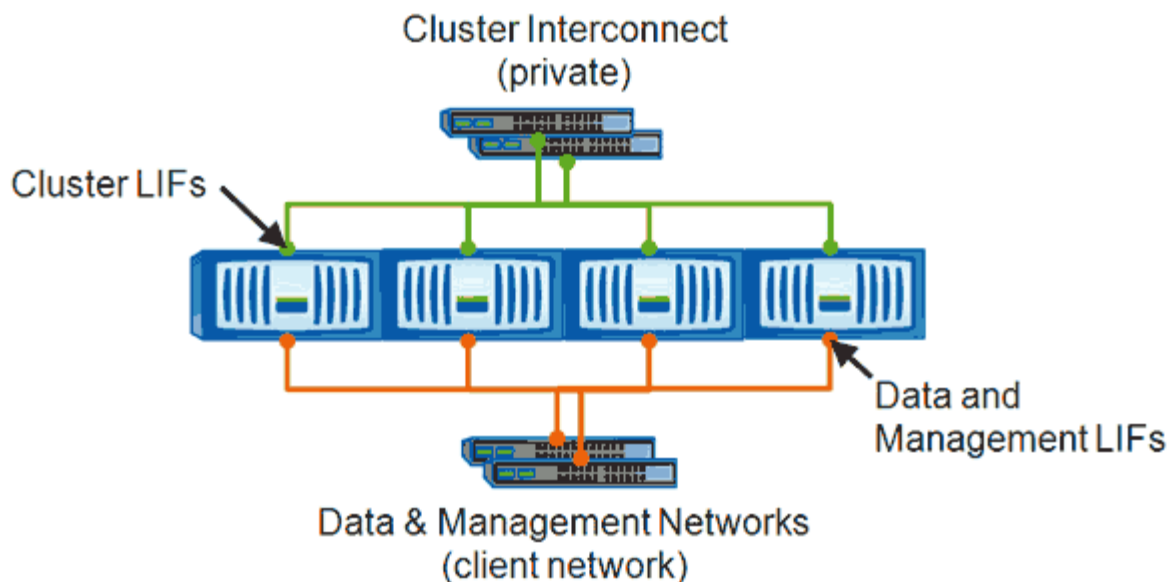
## Moving LIFs manually

Storage virtual machines (SVMs) contain data volumes and one or more logical interfaces (LIFs) through which the SVM provides data to the clients. You can move data LIFs from one physical port to another within the same SVM. You might want to do this to improve load balancing or assist with maintenance operations and performance tuning.

### About this task

The following types of LIFs exist:

- Data LIFs: Associated with an SVM and used for communicating with clients.
- Cluster Management LIFs: Used for managing nodes, SVMs, and the cluster itself.
- Cluster LIFs: Used for intracluster traffic.
- Intercluster LIFs: Used for communication between clusters.
- Intracluster LIFs: Used for communication between HA pairs.
- SVM Management LIFs: Data LIFs associated with an SVM and used for managing that SVM.



**Note:** Networks are redundant

This workflow describes how to move data LIFs. This applies to NAS (NFS and CIFS) LIFs, but not to SAN (FC and iSCSI) LIFs.



When moving a LIF connected to CIFS shares, clients accessing the CIFS shares will be disconnected. Any read or write requests to the CIFS shares will be disrupted.



For information about how to move other types of LIFs, including details about moving LIFS connected CIFS shares, see the ONTAP networking documentation.

You can perform the following basic actions related to data LIFs:

- Display all the data LIFs.
- Identify the busiest LIFs.
- Identify the best node to accept a busy LIF.
- Modify the home port or node for a LIF to change its preferred location in the cluster.

You should move a LIF rather than migrate a LIF for a more lasting change. To return to the original home port, you should revert the LIF.

- Migrate a data LIF to another port for a temporary change that might be used if the home port or node has a problem or is undergoing scheduled maintenance.
- Revert a data LIF to its home port.

## Identifying the best node for a busy LIF using ONTAP System Manager

You can display information about all the ports in a cluster. You can view information such as the network port role (cluster, data, or node-management), link status, maximum transmission unit (MTU), speed setting and operational status, and the port's interface group, if applicable.

## Steps

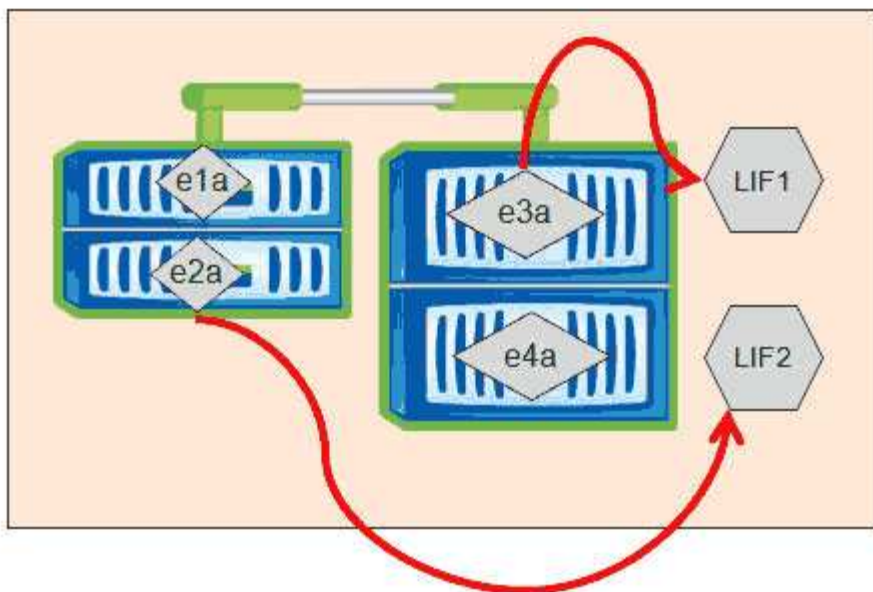
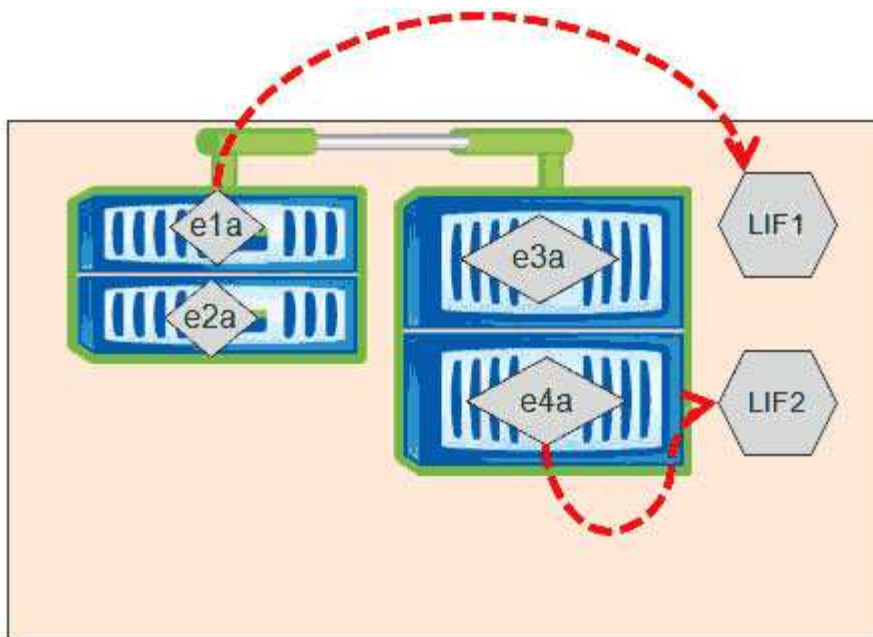
1. Open ONTAP System Manager.
2. From the **Home** tab, double-click the storage system.
3. In the navigation pane, expand the **Nodes** hierarchy.
4. To find the active connections on a node, in the navigation pane, select the icon for a node.
5. Click the name link of a node and then click **Configuration > Ports/Adapters**.
6. Note the highest client count by node.

## Changing home port and nodes for a LIF using ONTAP System Manager

You can change the preferred location of a LIF by modifying its home port and home node. This is a more lasting configuration than migrating a LIF, which is typically used to temporarily relocate a LIF to a different node during scheduled maintenance.

### About this task

The following image shows the original LIF home port and node and the home port and node after the change. The original LIF1 home port was changed from e1a to e3a and LIF2 was changed from e4a to e2a.



## Steps

1. Open ONTAP System Manager.
2. From the **Home** tab, double-click the storage system.
3. In the navigation pane, expand the **SVMs** hierarchy.
4. In the navigation pane, select the SVMs and click **Configuration > Network Interfaces**.
5. Select the LIF and click **Edit**.
6. In the **Edit Interface** dialog box, enter the home port and network address of the target port.

**Edit Interface - lif1**

Role: data

Status: Enabled

Protocol Access: cifs

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Home Port: nucleus-04:e0a

Network address: 199.99.999.99

Netmask: 255.255.255.0

Gateway (Optional): 199.99.999.99



In ONTAP 8.2.1, the Home Port field is disabled.

- Click **Save and Close**.

## Reverting a LIF to its home port using ONTAP System Manager
















You can revert a LIF from its current port to its home port after it fails over or is migrated to a different port either manually or automatically. You can do this using ONTAP System Manager.

### About this task

When creating a LIF, the administrator specifies a home port and home node to use as the preferred location of the LIF. If the home node is unavailable or the home port experiences a physical link outage, the LIF is automatically migrated to a new location. The new location is reported, in ONTAP System Manager for example, as the current port for the LIF. Unless the automatic revert option is enabled, the LIF will remain at this new location until it is reverted.

### Steps

- Open ONTAP System Manager.
- From the **Home** tab, double-click the storage system.
- In the navigation pane, expand the **Storage Virtual Machines** hierarchy.
- In the navigation pane, select the SVM and click **Configuration > Network Interfaces**.
- Look for data LIFs that display a house icon with a red cross mark, in the **Current Port** column, as in the following image.

 Create	 Edit	 Delete	 Status ▾	 Send to Home	 Refresh	
Interface...	Data Protocol Access	Management Acc...	IP Address...	Current Port	Operational ...	Administrative Status
nucleus-01...	nfs	No		 nucleus...	 Enabled	 Enabled
nucleus-01...	iscsi	No		 nucleus...	 Enabled	 Enabled
nucleus-01...	nfs,cifs,fcache	No		 nucleus...	 Enabled	 Enabled

6. Select the LIF and click **Send to Home**.

This option is enabled only when the selected interface is hosted on a non-home port and when the home port is available.



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