

Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H Series Switches

Performance Evaluation and Feature Validation

Executive Summary

Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H series switches are full-featured fixed switches with 10GbE downlink ports and 100GbE uplink ports. They are ideal for enterprise campuses, higher education institutions, governments, and telecommunication service providers.

Tolly engineers evaluated Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H series switches' performance and validated their features. Built upon Huawei's high performance Versatile Routing Platform (VRP) software, CloudEngine S6730-H series switches natively support WLAN Access Controller functionalities to manage up to 1,024 WLAN Access Points (APs) for convergence of wired and wireless networks. The CloudEngine S6730-H can be configured locally or work in cloud-managed mode to be managed by Huawei Agile Controller. CloudEngine S6730-H series switches also support numerous security features and can interoperate with Huawei Cybersecurity Intelligence System (CIS) for Encrypted Communications Analytics (ECA) and network-wide threat deception.

The Bottom Line

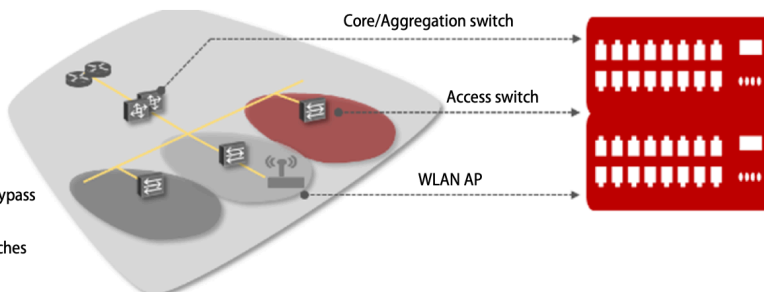
Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H Series Switches:

- 1 Support integrated wireless access controller functionality, allowing each switch to manage up to 1,024 WLAN APs
- 2 Support Huawei's Super Virtual Fabric (SVF) technology, which virtualizes core/aggregation devices (parent) and access devices (clients) into one logical device for easier management. SVF clients can include two layers of access switches (ASes) and one layer of WLAN APs, with ASes supporting stacked devices
- 3 Support VXLAN fabric with the BGP-EVPN control plane and distributed anycast gateways; support automated deployment of the VXLAN fabric using Huawei Agile Controller

Huawei Super Virtual Fabric (SVF)

Typical Campus Network

- Layered tree architecture
- Horizontal stacking of core/aggregation devices
- WLAN ACs connect to core/aggregation devices in bypass mode
- High quantities of access switches



Converged Campus Network

- Cloud architecture, on-demand expansion
- Campus network virtualized into **one** device
- Access switch = WLAN AP
- Aggregation switch = WLAN AC

1. **Simplified Management:** The entire network is virtualized into one device. Huawei eSight, a unified network management platform, only needs to manage one network element, supporting plug-and-play.
2. **Centralized Control:** ACL, QoS, and user security policies are centrally controlled by the core device.
3. **Reduced Investment:** Low-specification fixed switches can be used as access devices, reducing the overall investment on devices.

Source: Tolly, July 2019

Figure 1



Test Results

Tolly engineers tested functions and performance of Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H series switches (hereinafter referred to as the S6730-H switch). Test results apply to both Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H models including CloudEngine S6730-H48X6C and CloudEngine S6730-H24X6C. For summary of the test cases, refer to Table 2 and Table 3 on pages 7 and 8. Test results are as follows.

Port Capability

Port Performance

The 10GbE SFP+ ports and 100GbE QSFP28 ports on the S6730-H switch support line-rate forwarding of traffic with different frame sizes, as described in Table 1.

Device Capacity

MAC Table Capacity

The S6730-H switch supports 384K (393,216) MAC addresses in its MAC table. Tolly engineers verified that the switch forwarded traffic matching all entries in the MAC table, without frame loss or broadcasts occurring.

ARP Table Capacity

The S6730-H switch supports 140K entries in its ARP table. Tolly engineers verified that the switch forwarded traffic matching all entries in its ARP table, without any packet loss.

Routing Table/FIB Capacity

The S6730-H switch supports 256K (262,143) IPv4 routes in both its IPv4 routing table and FIBv4 table. Tolly engineers verified that the switch forwarded traffic matching all routing entries in the FIBv4 table, without any packet loss.

The S6730-H switch supports 80K IPv6 routes in both its IPv6 routing table and FIBv6 table. Tolly engineers verified that the switch forwarded traffic matching all routing entries in the FIBv6 table, without any packet loss.

Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd.

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Tested July 2019

VLAN Capacity

The S6730-H switch supports 4,094 VLANs.

ACL Capacity

The S6730-H switch supports 6K ACL rules. Tolly engineers verified that all ACL rules worked properly to match traffic and perform configured actions (e.g. deny).

NetStream Capacity

The S6730-H switch can monitor statistics of up to 1M flows (with different sources and destinations) using the NetStream feature.

Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H Series Switch Performance (% of Line-rate)
(as reported by Spirent TestCenter)

Frame Size (Bytes)	64	128	256	512	1024	1280	1518
10GbE Ports	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
100GbE Ports	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Notes: 100% line rate bidirectional traffic between two ports (“10GbE to 10GbE” or “100GbE to 100GbE”) was used with zero frame loss. The CloudEngine S6730-H48X6C model was used as the device under test.

Source: Tolly, July 2019

Table 1



Loop-free/Ring Protocols

STP/RSTP/MSTP

The S6730-H switch supports the Spanning Tree Protocol (STP), Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol (RSTP), and Multiple Spanning Tree Protocol (MSTP).

ERPS

The S6730-H switch supports the Ethernet Ring Protection Switching (ERPS) protocol with less than 50ms failover time.

SEP

The S6730-H switch supports the Smart Ethernet Protection (SEP) protocol with less than 50ms failover time.

RRPP

The S6730-H switch supports the Rapid Ring Protection Protocol (RRPP) with less than 50ms failover time and less than 2.5ms fallback time.

Routing Protocols

The S6730-H switch supports IPv4 routing protocols such as RIP, OSPF, IS-IS, and BGP, as well as IPv6 routing protocols such as RIPng, OSPFv3, IS-IS for IPv6, and BGP4+.

VXLAN

Virtual Extensible LAN (VXLAN) is a major overlay network technology. VXLAN is used to build a Unified Virtual Fabric (UVF), which allows multiple service networks or tenant networks (virtual networks - VNs) to be deployed on the same physical network. The VNs are isolated from each other, implementing "one network for multiple purposes". This enables data transmission for

different services or customers, while reducing network provisioning costs and improving network resource utilization.

Basic VXLAN Functions

The S6730-H switch supports the following basic VXLAN functions: virtual network (VN) creation, VN isolation, and Layer 2 (same bridge domain and network segment) and Layer 3 (different bridge domains and network segments) connectivity in the same VN.

BGP-EVPN Control Plane

The S6730-H switch uses BGP-EVPN as the control plane of the VXLAN overlay network and supports distributed anycast gateways.

Automated Configuration

Huawei Agile Controller's Web GUI supports VXLAN-based fabric creation and configuration. Once the fabric creation is submitted, switch configurations are generated and deployed to S6730-H switches in an automated way.

VXLAN Resource Capacity

The S6730-H switch supports 16,000 IPv4 VXLAN tunnels or 4,000 IPv6 VXLAN tunnels. It supports 4,095 bridge domains in default mode or 16,000 bridge domains in super mode.

Cloud Management

The S6730-H switch support both local- and cloud-managed mode, ensuring smooth evolution and protecting customers' investments. In cloud-managed mode, the S6730-H switch is configured, monitored, and inspected on a cloud management platform, reducing onsite deployment and operations & maintenance (O&M) manpower, as well as network OPEX.

Tolly engineers verified that the S6730-H switch was able to be cloud-managed by Huawei Agile Controller using the NETCONF protocol.

iPCA

Huawei's Packet Conservation Algorithm for Internet (iPCA) technology implements accurate packet loss monitoring and fast fault location on IP networks by coloring real service packets and monitoring packet quantities.

iPCA supports device-level, link-level and network-level packet loss measurement. Network-level packet loss measurement can be performed in an end-to-end, hop-by-hop, or regional manner.

Tolly engineers verified that the S6730-H switch supported all iPCA functions.

BFD

Bidirectional Forwarding Detection (BFD) can be used to quickly detect connectivity failures and trigger rapid traffic failover with technologies such as routing protocols.

3.3ms BFD Interval

The S6730-H switch can send BFD packets with 3.3ms intervals. The interval time is adjustable.

BFD for OSPF/BGP/VRRP

The S6730-H switch supports rapid OSPF/BGP route convergence and VRRP master node failover triggered by BFD forwarding path failure detection. The failover time of OSPF/BGP/VRRP with BFD was less than 50ms.



Security

Certain types of protocol packets including ARP requests, ICMP, DHCP Discover, etc. are sent to a switch's CPU for processing. It's critical that the switch provides certain attack defense features to prevent CPU overload.

CPU Attack Defense

Two functions of CPU Attack Defense were verified on the S6730-H switch by Tolly engineers.

Blacklist - Administrators can create a blacklist by defining an ACL. Then the switch discards any protocol packets matching the ACL rules.

CPCAR - Control Plane Committed Access Rate (CPCAR) limits the rate of protocol packets sent to the control plane. The switch can limit the traffic rate based on either the protocol type or ACL.

Attack Source Tracing

Three functions of Attack Source Tracing were verified on the S6730-H switch by Tolly engineers.

Whitelist - The switch does not trace the source of users in the whitelist, ensuring that valid protocol packets from users in the whitelist can be sent to the CPU for processing.

Attack source tracing - Administrators can set the threshold and sampling ratio for attack source tracing. When the number of protocol packets sent from an attack source in a specified period exceeds the threshold, the switch traces and logs the attack source to notify the administrator and perform attack source punishment.

Attack source punishment - Administrators can configure attack source punishment to

discard or shut down the interface when an attack source is traced.

MFF

MAC-forced Forwarding (MFF) isolates user devices in a broadcast domain at Layer 2. MFF ensures that all traffic, including traffic in the same VLAN, is sent to the gateway, so that the gateway can monitor data traffic and prevent malicious attacks between users. The S6730-H switch supports MFF.

IPSG

IP Source Guard is a security feature that restricts IP traffic on untrusted Layer 2 ports by filtering traffic based on the DHCP user-bind table (static or created by DHCP snooping).

After the IP or MAC address of a host was manually changed to not match the DHCP user-bind table, Tolly engineers verified that the host's IP traffic was all discarded by the S6730-H switch.

DAI

The S6730-H switch supports Dynamic ARP Inspection (DAI). ARP packets have to match the DHCP user-bind table (static or created by DHCP snooping) on IP, MAC, VLAN and interface to be forwarded.

DHCPv6 Snooping

The S6730-H switch supports the DHCPv6 snooping feature to make sure that only the DHCPv6 server connected to the trusted ports can distribute IPv6 addresses. It also creates the DHCP user-bind table to record the mapping of each client's IPv6 address, MAC addresses, VLAN and port.

ND Snooping

Neighbor Discovery (ND) snooping is a security feature of IPv6 ND and applies to Layer 2 networks. It creates the ND

snooping user-bind table to record the mapping of source IPv6 addresses, MAC addresses, VLANs, and inbound ports of Neighbor Solicitation (NS) packets from IPv6 hosts. Tolly engineers verified that the S6730-H switch supported ND snooping.

SAVI

With the Source Address Validation Improvements (SAVI) feature, the S6730-H switch is able to check the validity of the source addresses in the Neighbor Discovery (ND) packets, DHCPv6 packets, and IPv6 data packets. The S6730-H switch is able to filter out invalid packets based on the user-bind table. The user-bind table is generated by ND snooping and DHCPv6 snooping. To check the validity of the source addresses in IPv6 data packets, the IP source guard feature needs to be enabled.

PPPoE+

PPPoE+, also called PPPoE Intermediate Agent is deployed on the switch that is located between the PPPoE client and the PPPoE server. It binds the user authentication information with the interface information to provide security for PPPoE access.

Tolly engineers verified that the S6730-H switch supported PPPoE+.



Secure Boot

Secure boot is the cornerstone of a secure system and secure storage. It ensures that the program to be run at each boot stage is a trusted one that has not been modified. Huawei uses the secure CPU, eFuse, and other security measures to ensure the boot security of the system. Starting from the hardware trust anchor, Huawei validates each step in the boot process. The system cannot boot if any boot step fails the validation process. Tolly engineers verified that a modified or forged digital signature image file cannot boot the system. The S6730-H switch reported a CRC error or signature error based on the modification type.

ECA

An increasing number of malware activities use encryption technologies to cover up malware transmission commands, control activities, or data breaches. Huawei's Encrypted Communication Analytics (ECA) technology extracts characteristics of encrypted traffic without decrypting the encrypted traffic, and reports the characteristics to Huawei Cybersecurity Intelligence System (CIS), a big data analytics system. Leveraging AI algorithms, the CIS classifies and identifies normal and malicious encrypted traffic.

Tolly engineers verified that the S6730-H switch supported the ECA function.

Threat Deception

The S6730-H supports the threat deception function. With this function enabled, a switch functions as a sensor, detects threats such as IP address scanning on a network, and diverts the threat traffic to the honeypot for further checks. The honeypot performs in-depth interaction with the initiator of the threat traffic, records various

application-layer attack methods of the initiator, and reports security logs to the CIS for analysis. If the CIS determines that the suspicious traffic is an attack, it generates an alarm and provides handling suggestions. After an administrator acknowledges the alarm, the CIS delivers a policy to the switch through Huawei's Agile Controller to process the security event, ensuring security of the campus network.

Tolly engineers verified the following types of proactive defense using threat deception technology:

- When an attacker pinged a nonexistent IP address (one not used by any device), the S6730-H switch redirected the ping request to Huawei CIS. The CIS responded to the ping request by simulating the endpoint and recorded the attack event.
- When an attacker attempted to access an HTTP page with a nonexistent IP address, the S6730-H switch redirected the access request to Huawei CIS. The CIS responded to the request by simulating the corresponding web server and recorded the attack event.

Authentication

802.1X/MAC/Web Portal Authentication

The S6730-H switch can work as the authentication policy enforcement point to implement 802.1X authentication, MAC authentication, and web portal authentication for users. The S6730-H switch can support up to 10,000 concurrent online users.

Free Mobility

The S6730-H switch supports free mobility based on user control list (UCL) groups. With a UCL group, an administrator can create an ACL rule, "rule 1 deny IP source UCL-group name Test destination [File Server's IP address]", to dynamically prevent users in the "Test" UCL group from accessing the file server. Each user is granted the same network access permission regardless of whether the user is a wired or wireless user, where the user logs in, and which IP address the user obtains.



Device Management

Zero Touch Provisioning (ZTP)

The S6730-H switch can work with Huawei eSight Unified Management System, to implement zero touch provisioning (ZTP).

The out-of-box S6730-H switch also supports plug-and-play with Huawei Agile Controller.

Super Virtual Fabric (SVF)

On a traditional campus network, a large number of access devices are widely distributed and have similar configurations. If these devices are configured and managed via traditional methods, a large amount of work is repeated. Huawei's SVF technology virtualizes core/aggregation devices and access devices (including access switches for wired access and WLAN APs for wireless access) into one logical device. The

SVF parent (core/aggregation device) manages and configures SVF clients (access devices), simplifying network management and configuration.

An SVF system's clients support two layers of Access Switches (ASes) and one layer of WLAN APs, with ASes supporting stacked devices.

Tolly engineers verified that the S6730-H switch was able to function as a parent or AS in an SVF system.

Intelligent Upgrade

The S6730-H switch can be connected to Huawei Online Upgrade Platform (HOUP) to implement intelligent upgrade.

WLAN

The S6730-H switch supports integrated wireless access controller functionality to manage up to 1,024 WLAN APs.

Test Methodology

Capacity

In the capacity test, each item was tested independently.

Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H Series Switches



CloudEngine S6730-H24X6C



CloudEngine S6730-H48X6C

Source: Tolly, July 2019

Figure 2



Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H Series Switches Tolly Verified Features - Part 1 of 2

Interface Capability		Routing Protocol	
✓	10GbE Ports Port-to-port Line-rate Forwarding (64- to 1518-Byte RFC2544 standard frame sizes)	✓	RIP / OSPF / IS-IS / BGP
✓	100GbE Ports Port-to-port Line-rate Forwarding (64- to 1518-Byte RFC2544 standard frame sizes)	✓	RIPng / OSPFv3 / IS-IS for IPv6 / BGP4+
Device Capacity		VXLAN	
✓	MAC table: 384K MAC addresses	✓	Basic VXLAN functions: Virtual Network (VN) isolation, Layer 2 and Layer 3 connectivity in a VN
✓	ARP table: 140K entries	✓	BGP EVPN control plane and distributed anycast gateways
✓	Routing table: 256K IPv4 routes 80K IPv6 routes	✓	VXLAN configuration automation using Huawei Agile Controller
✓	FIB: 256K IPv4 forwarding entries 80K IPv6 forwarding entries	✓	Bridge Domain Capacity: Default mode - 4,095 BDs Super mode - 16,000 BDs
✓	VLAN: 4,094 VLANs	✓	VXLAN Tunnels: 16,000 IPv4 tunnels 4,000 IPv6 tunnels
✓	ACL: 6K ACL rules	Cloud-managed Mode	
✓	NetStream: Monitoring 1M traffic flows	✓	Managed by cloud management platforms (e.g. Huawei Agile Controller in public or private cloud) via NETCONF
Loop-free/Ring Protocol		iPCA	
✓	STP/RSTP/MSTP	✓	Huawei Packet Conservation Algorithm for Internet (iPCA) Device-level, link-level and network-level packet loss monitoring without traffic overhead
✓	Ethernet Ring Protection Switching (ERPS) with less than 50ms failover convergence time	BFD	
✓	Smart Ethernet Protection (SEP) with less than 50ms failover convergence time	✓	Sending BFD packets with 3.3ms intervals
✓	Rapid Ring Protection Protocol (RRPP) with less than 50ms failover convergence time and 2.5ms fallback convergence time	✓	BFD for OSPF: less than 50ms failover time
		✓	BFD for BGP: less than 50ms failover time
		✓	BFD for VRRP: less than 50ms failover time

Source: Tolly, July 2019

Table 2



Huawei CloudEngine S6730-H Series Switches Tolly Verified Features - Part 2 of 2

Security	Authentication (as the Network Access Control - NAC Policy Enforcement Point)
<p>✓ CPU defend policy - CPCAR Device level rate limit for traffic of certain protocols (e.g. ICMP, ARP, etc.) to protect the CPU</p>	<p>✓ 802.1X authentication</p>
<p>✓ CPU defend policy - blacklist Device level blacklist to block known attackers</p>	<p>✓ MAC authentication</p>
<p>✓ Attack source tracing Interface level feature. Identify the attacker and respond with certain actions (interface error down, alarm, etc.)</p>	<p>✓ Web authentication (portal authentication)</p>
<p>✓ MAC-Forced Forwarding (MFF) Layer 2 isolation. All Layer 2 communications have to go through the gateway</p>	<p>✓ 10,000 concurrent authenticated users</p>
<p>✓ Dynamic ARP Inspection (DAI) Prevent man-in-the-middle attacks and theft on authorized users' information. The device validates ARP packets' source IP, source MAC, VLAN ID and interface with the binding table (static or DHCP snooping)</p>	<p>✓ Free Mobility with consistent user access experience regardless of the user location</p>
<p>✓ IP Source Guard (IPSG) Prevent IP address spoofing attacks (unauthorized hosts access and attack the network with forged IP addresses). The device validates IP packets' source IP, source MAC, VLAN ID and interface with the binding table (static or DHCP snooping)</p>	<p>Device Management</p>
<p>✓ DHCPv6 snooping Trusted port for the DHCPv6 server; Binding table creation</p>	<p>✓ Zero Touch Provisioning (ZTP) with Huawei eSight Unified Management System as the remote client</p>
<p>✓ ND snooping Trusted port for ND; Binding table creation</p>	<p>✓ Plug-and-play with Huawei Agile Controller</p>
<p>✓ Source Address Validation Improvements (SAVI) Validate DHCPv6, ND and IPv6 packets with the binding table</p>	<p>✓ Super Virtual Fabric (SVF) Parent node or Access Switch (AS) role</p>
<p>✓ PPPoE+ (PPPoE Intermediate Agent) Add the PPPoE client-side interface information to the PPPoE packets for the BRAS to distinguish between end hosts</p>	<p>✓ Intelligent upgrade with the Huawei Online Upgrade Platform (HOUP)</p>
<p>✓ Secure boot CRC check, signature check and other methods to ensure the switch boots from a legit image</p>	<p>WLAN</p>
<p>✓ Encrypted Communication Analysis (ECA) Report the attack to Huawei Cybersecurity Intelligence System (CIS). Perform the action assigned in CIS (via Huawei Agile Controller in the middle)</p>	<p>✓ Native wireless access controller functionality to manage up to 1,024 Huawei WLAN Access Points (APs)</p>
<p>✓ Threat deception Route ping sweep and other IP/port scanning traffic to CIS. Perform the action assigned in CIS (via Huawei Agile Controller in the middle)</p>	

Source: Tolly, July 2019

Table 3





About Tolly

The Tolly Group companies have been delivering world-class ICT services for 30 years. Tolly is a leading global provider of third-party validation services for vendors of ICT products, components and services.

You can reach the company by E-mail at sales@tolly.com, or by telephone at +1 561.391.5610.

Visit Tolly on the Internet at: <http://www.tolly.com>

Test Equipment Summary

Vendor	Product	Web
Huawei	CloudEngine S6730-H48X6C VRP software, Version 5.170 (S6730 V200R019C00SPC200)	 HUAWEI https://e.huawei.com
Spirent	TestCenter	 spirent™ Promise. Assured. https://www.spirent.com

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