

Infrastructure Independent Conferencing

Alexander Knauf

alexander.knauf@haw-hamburg.de

AG Inet
Dept. Informatik
HAW Hamburg
Germany





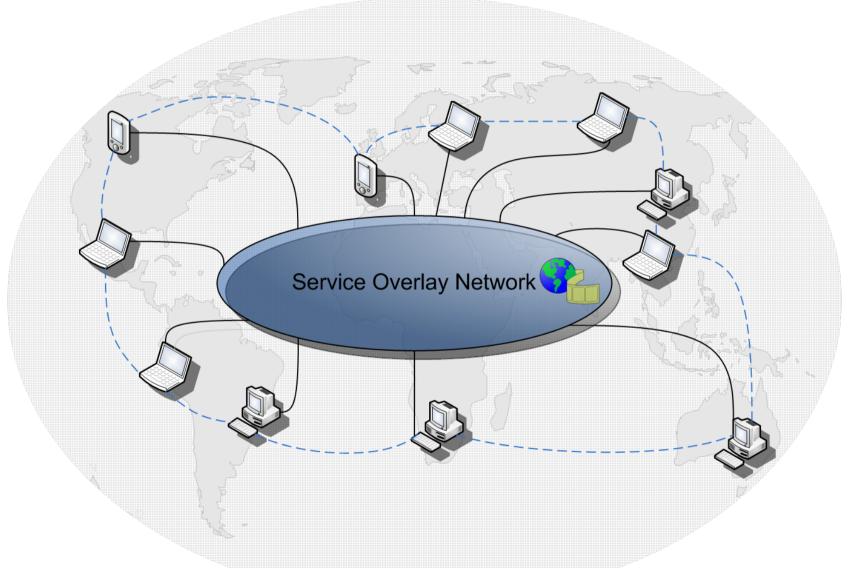
Outline

- Vision
- Overview SIP & Conferencing
- Distributing the Conference
- P2P Overlay Virtualization
- Mixing and Meshes
- Summary





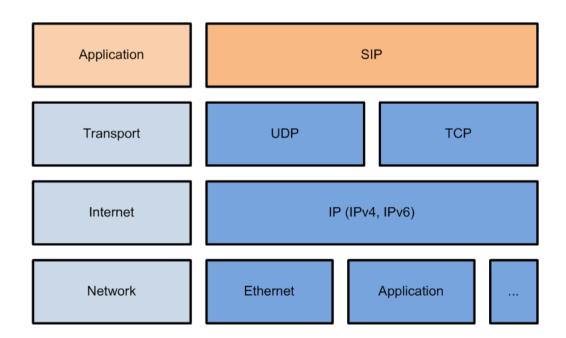
Infrastructure Independent Conferencing





Session Initiation Protocol Overview

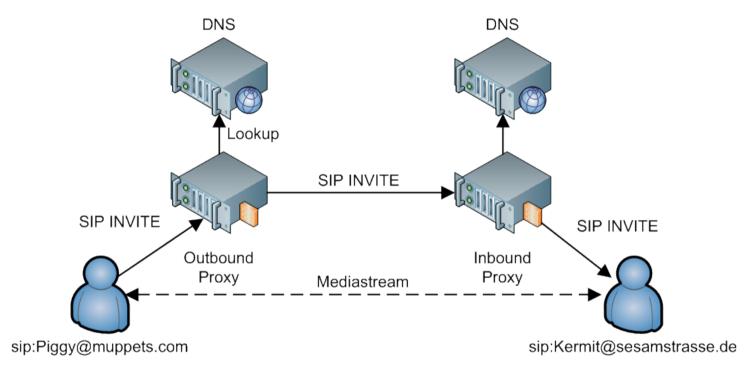
- Application-Layer protocol for signaling (RFC 3261)
- Creating, modifying and terminate sessions
- Usage: Internet Telephony, Multimedia Conferences
- Carries session description information







Session Initiation Protocol Architecture



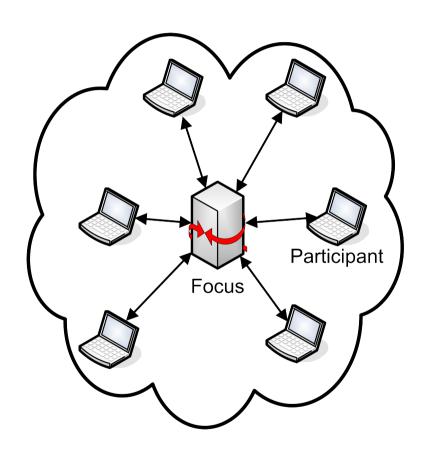
- SIP Trapezoid: Client (User Agent) connected to proxies
- Each user agent identified by SIP URI
- SIP Session establishment via INVITE request
- After parameter-negotiation → Multimedia session





Conferencing with SIP

- Commonly used multi-party model:
 - tightly coupled conference
- Central point of control called focus:
 - Conference-specific URI
 - e.g., sip:my-conf@domain.de
 - Negotiates media parameters
 - Provides dialogs
 - Media stream connectivity
 - Conference policy
 - Notification services

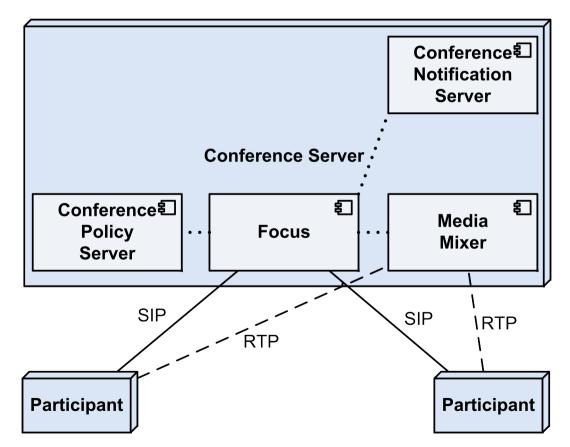






Centralized Conferencing

- Central point of control and media mixing
- Dedicated application server





Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg



Problem Statement

- Problem: Conference URI
 - Identifies multi-party session
 - Locates globally conference focus
 - Single point of failure
- Goal: Transparent focus distribution:
 - Identifier/locator split for the conference URI
 - Multiple peers act as focus
 - Identifier remains, routing distributed





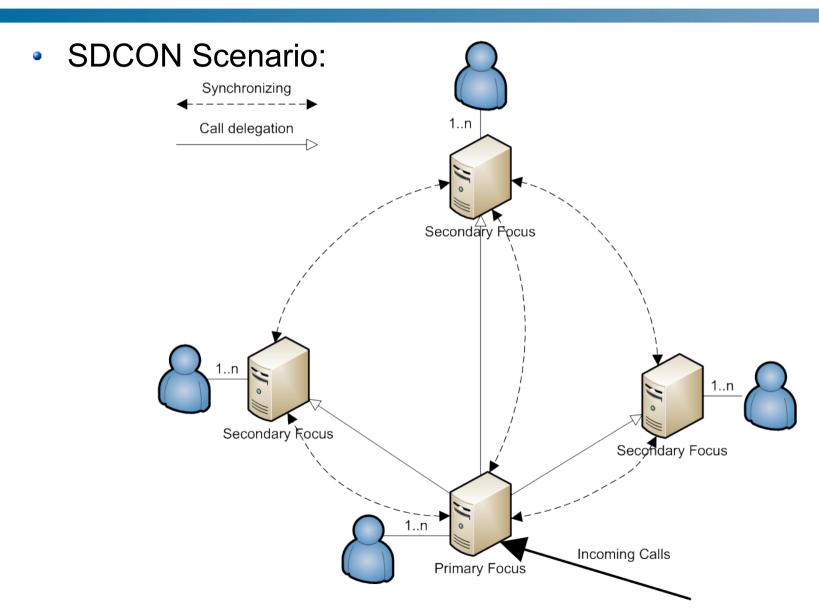
Scalable Distributed Conferencing (SDCON)

- Adaptively distributing conference control
 - Primary Focus → Conference initiator
 - Secondary Focus → Controller on demand
- Call delegation to remote focus
 - Balancing load among focus peers
- Extending conference event package
 - Consistent view to overall conference
- Focus Discovery
 - Detect secondary focus peers among participants





SDCON Topology





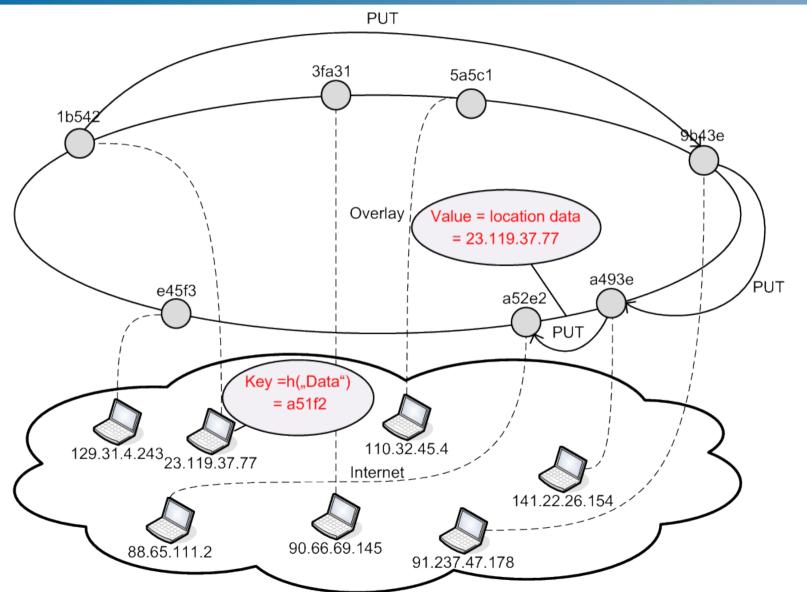
Structured P2P Overview

- Content and Nodes mapped into same flat address space
- Nodes responsible for subset of addresses (DHT)
- Overlay ID generated by hash-functions
 - E.g., hash("Data") \rightarrow a51f2 = key for data
 - Value stored at node responsible for this key
- Basic overlay operations:
 - Join → Join the overlay
 - Put → Add a resource
 - Get → Retrieve value
 - Leave → Exit the overlay





P2P Overlay Overview





Conference ID Virtualization

- Using Service Overlay Network
 - Lookup function for resolving SIP URIs
 - No dependency on proxy/registrar server
 - Storing Conference URI in Overlay:
 - Located by overlay instead of single focus
 - Multiple entry points to the conference
 - Potential Secondary Focus announce their capabilities
 - Accelerated focus discovery
 - Exploiting overlay proximity awareness
 - Optimized conference topology



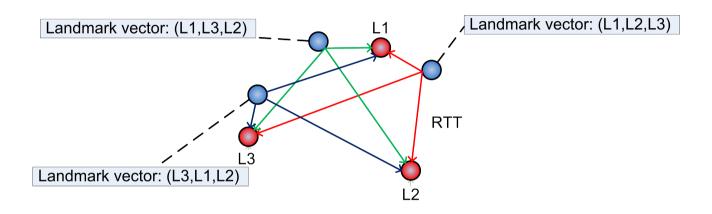


Virtualization of the Conference

- Virtualizating the conference
 - Conference URI stored in overlay
 - Indicating multiple entry points to the conference
 - Participant chooses entry point by proximity and capacity
- Improves resilience and durability for a conference
 - Compensation at focus departure
 - Conference continues while focus peers are available



Location-based Identifier, e.g., from Landmarking



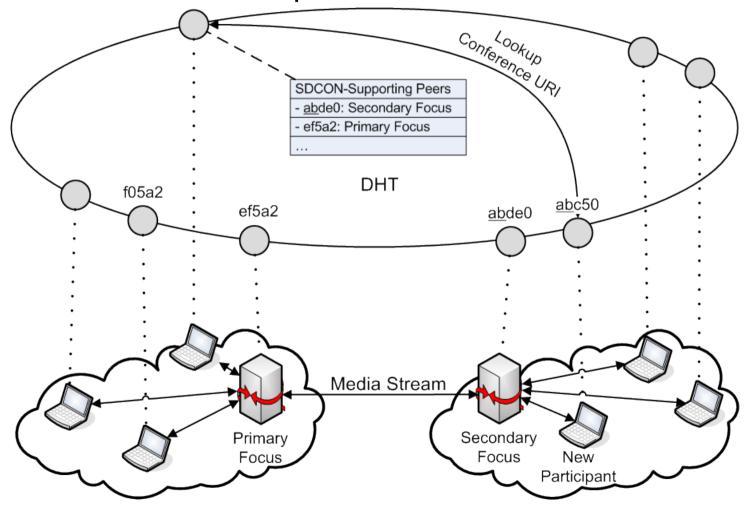
- Conference peers mutually estimate proximity from IDs
- Self-optimizing conference topology
 - Participants in dialog close to focus
 - Activate new focus peers near recently joined members





Proximity-aware Focus Selection

Virtual Conference Example:



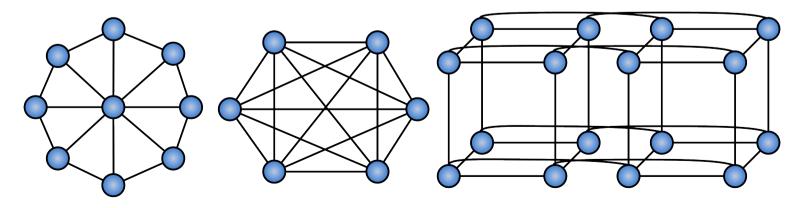


16



Media Mixing & Routes

- Media stream routes follow signaling routes
 - Optimizing bandwidth usage
 - Distributing computing effort
- Building inter-focus meshes
 - Short diameter, degree and symmetric





Summary

- Transparent focus Identifier/Locator split
- Independent of proxies/registrars
- Virtual conference among multiple focus peers
- Optimized conferencing topology by proximity awareness
- Distributed media mixing and efficient routes





Infrastructure Independent Conferencing

Thanks for your attention!

Questions?

