

# Real-time Protocol

## Outline

RTP

RTCP

Readings 5.4

Why? - New Apps, New Protocols

# Why RTP ?







- Real-time means strong requirements for ‘timely’ delivery
- Internet - Not originally designed for Real-time
- Experiments as early as 1981

# Real-time Requirements



- Synchronization of multimedia audio/video
- Allow similar apps to interoperate, e.g., 2 different conferencing apps
  - Need same encoding, compression, etc.
- Provide way for sender to tell receiver what scheme to use for voice, video, etc.
- Determine timing relationship among received data: jitter, timestamping
- Indicate packet loss - no recovery as in TCP
  - Allows sender to adjust to packet loss
- Indicate frame boundary
  - Application specific, e.g., talkspurt in audio
- Identity of senders beyond IP address
- Be efficient - short header
  - allows fast audio packet processing

<input type="checkbox"/> bruce davie	<input type="checkbox"/> listen	<input type="checkbox"/> talk
<input type="checkbox"/> Christopher J. Teng (Princet		
<input type="checkbox"/> Desktop Video Lab		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellery D. Coleman		
<input type="checkbox"/> Enefesdi Bhootparamdi		
<input type="checkbox"/> George Phillips		
<input type="checkbox"/> Gil Travish		
<input type="checkbox"/> Hiroaki IKEDA		
<input type="checkbox"/> Jay Dombrowski		
<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Van Norman (UCLA)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Keep Audio	
LBL Visual Audio Tool v4.0b2		
<input type="button" value="Menu"/> <input type="button" value="Help"/> <input type="button" value="Quit"/>		

# Multimedia Apps



- Video, Audio, Data
- Interactive or Streaming
- Interactive
  - Vat - audio conferencing
  - IP Telephone
- Streaming
  - Real Audio
  - Video

# RTP Details



RTP - Real-time Transport Protocol

multimedia data

- maintain the quality of traffic for real-time apps

RTCP - Real-time Transport Control Protocol

- periodically send control info between end points  
about data flow behaviors

- Not used to set up or manage connections

- Not used to directly control the way data is exchanged

Use consecutive ports, RTP on even port

- server ports assigned, 5004 and 5005

# ALF - Application Level Framing



New Applications, New Requirements, & Old Protocols

Application 'best' understands its needs

e.g., how to recover frames

e.g., how to segment data for transmission, etc.

# RTP Stack



- Rides on UDP
- UDP provides minimal functionality
  - Ports & port demultiplexing
- Transport on a Transport
  - Each provides support for other
  - Think of transport ‘extension headers’

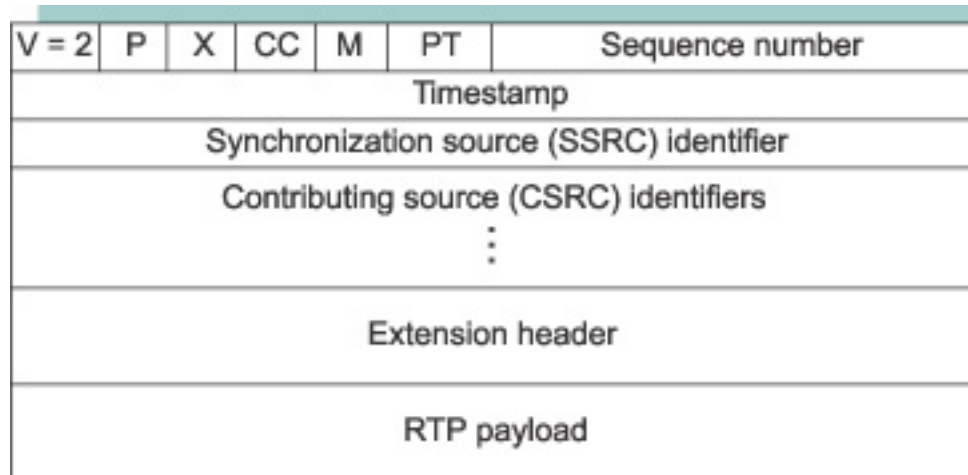


# Application on RTP

- Changing applications
- Application Classes
  - Profiles: provides info on understanding of RTP fields
  - Formats: how data following RTP header is to be interpreted, e.g., sequence of bytes or MPEG video

Application
RTP
UDP
IP
Subnet

# RTP Header



# RTP Header



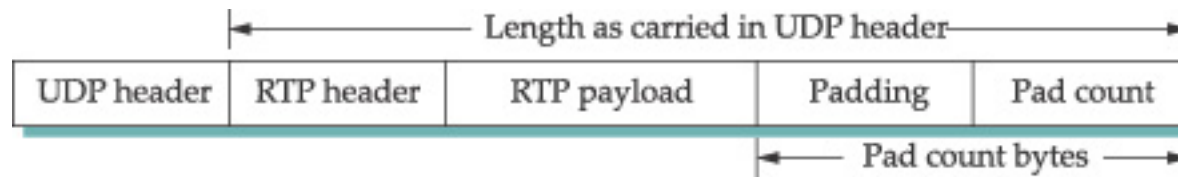
- First 12 bytes ALWAYS there
  - General app fields
- Optional header extensions
  - Specific app fields
- Version - 2 bits
- Padding - 1 bit
  - Padding count last byte of message
  - Message size known through UDP
  - No length in header
- Extensions - 1 bit
  - Yes or no
- Contributing sources - 4 bits
  - Count of the number of contributing sources
- Frame Mark - 1 bit
  - Yes/no, app specific
  - Provide synchronization events such as end of frame markers.
- Payload Field - 2 bits
  - App specific
  - Controls how the RTP header is used and therefore RTCP messages

# RTP Header



- Sequence # - 16 bits
  - Detect missing or misordered packets
  - Left to app to decide what to do
- Timestamp - 32 bits
  - Timestamp of 1st byte of payload data
  - Ticks, monotonically increasing
  - Difference between timestamps important, granularity for jitter issues
  - Left to app to use
- SSRC - Synchronization source - 32 bits
  - Identifies source of an RTP stream
  - E.g., Allows multiple camera streams, from same IP Address
- CSRC - Contributing Source Identifiers
  - Contributing source Ids
  - RTP stream mixer
  - Can take many streams & send as a single stream

# UDP/RTP Messages



# RTCP



- Control stream associated with data stream for a multimedia app.
- Feedback on performance of app and network
  - Rate-adaptive apps
  - Diagnose network
- Synchronize different media streams from a sender
  - Different streams may have different clocks
- Convey identity of a sender for display

# RTCP Messages



- Sender Reports
  - Enable active senders to report transmission and reception stats
- Receiver Reports
  - Receivers that are not senders use to report reception stats
- Source Descriptions
  - Carry CNAMEs and other sender description info
  - Mikeatcs.hmc.edu would be included with the SSRC
- Application Specific control packets
- Transmission
  - Several RTCP packets can be packed into UDP packet
  - Actually, at least 2 are always sent:
    - Report packet
    - Source description packet
- Traffic control
  - Mechanisms for participants to scale back reporting frequency
  - Lots of rules, but basically, keep RTCP at about 5% of RTP traffic

# RTCP Report Messages



- Sender Reports
  - Timestamp of time of day
  - RTP timestamp of report
  - Cumulative counts of packets and bytes sent since beginning
- Sender and Receiver Reports
  - Its SSRC
  - Fraction of data packets from this source lost since last report
  - Total number of packets lost since 1st transmission
  - Highest sequence number received from this source
  - Estimated interarrival jitter for the source
  - Last actual timestamp received via RTCP for this source
  - Delay since last sender report received via RTCP for this source
- Lots of catch all info, probably added for certain apps

# RTP & RTCP Summary



Trying to add transport functionality that is directed at a set of applications

At the same time trying to include all the specific info that any app within the set of applications may desire

BEEP is another such protocol

SCTP - Stream Control Transmission Protocol is another