# Session Initiation Protocol

SIP protocol and its extensions
SIP Service Architecture
SIP in 3G

A lot of this material is based on proposals => may change quickly

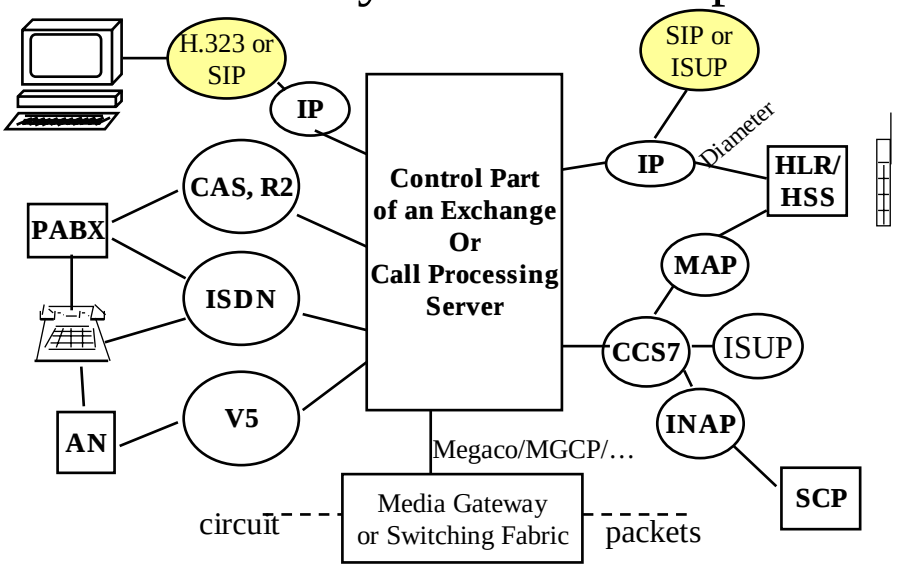


# Sources

IETF:
- RFC 3261: SIP: Session Initiation Protocol
- RFC 3262: Reliability of Provisional Responses in SIP (PRACK)
- RFC 3265: SIP Specific Event Notification
- RFC 3311: SIP UPDATE method
- RFC 3398: ISUP to SIP mapping
- RFC 3428: SIP Extension for Instant Messaging
- RFC 2327: SDP: Session Description Protocol
- RFC 3264: An Offer/Answer Model with Session Description Protocol (SDP)

3G Release 5:
- 3GPP TS 24.228 v5.2.0 (2002-09) Signaling flows for the IP MM call control based on SIP and SDP; stage 3 (Release 5)
- 3GPP TS 24.229 v5.3.0 (2002-12) IP multimedia call control protocol based on SIP and SDP, Stage 3 (Release 5)
- 3GPP TS 29.228 v5.1.0 (2002-09) IMS Cx and Dx interfaces, Signaling flows and message contents; (Release 5)
- Etc…

# Summary of course scope






# SIP Requirements and fundamentals

- Part of IETF toolkit
  - Reusing other protocols & mechanisms: HTTP, etc.
  - Flexible
  - Extensible
- Moves intelligence to End System entities
  - End-to-end protocol
- Interoperability
- Scalability (although some state in network)
- Service creation easy
- URLs and Addresses are reused
- Same routing as SMTP
- Reuses infrastructure (all applications will use SIP entities for different services)

# SIP overview

- Simplicity
  - Ascii based - simple tools for development
  - Lower call setup time than in H.323
  - basic protocol + extensions structure adopted
- Caller preferences, Ability to support many media types
- Runs over UDP or TCP (or SCTP)
- Used between both service and call control entities
- Has been adopted for 3G IP Multimedia signaling
- Originally subscriber signaling, proposed also as network to network signaling
- A lot of development during the last 3…4 years!



# SIP Implementation Status of 11/2003

There are several single-operator single-vendor islands offering SIP services, but

The inter-operator or multi-vendor solutions are still very rare, and need to be designed case by case.

This despite the Interoperability Bakeoffs organised by vendors!

# SigComp allows cmpression of Signaling Messages

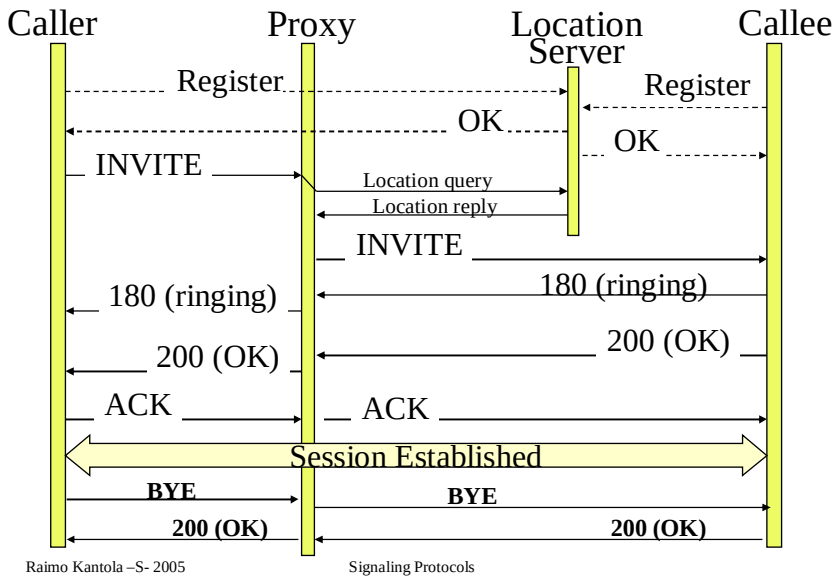
- RFC 3320 and RFC 3321 specify a layer between the signaling transport and the signaling application
- Uses Global and User Specific Dictionaries to store state data over many SIP sessions
- Overall Compression/decompression architecture is based on a bytecode driven Universal Decompression Virtual Machine
  - Bytecode can be sent in SigComp messages by the Compressior
  - leaves a lot of detail for the implementor



# Sip Entities

- User Agents
  - Can act as client and as server
- Servers:
  - Redirect Servers
    - Send back alternative location of the user (similar as HTTP servers)
  - Proxy servers
    - Act on behalf of client (forwards requests)
    - Forking proxies
  - Registrars
    - Accepts registrations and maps public SIP URIs to user locations.
  - Location Servers (not part of SIP architecture)
    - Gives back location of user (received from registrars)
    - E.g. HSS in 3GPP IMS architecture
    - Protocol between Location server and SIP server not defined by SIP specs (e.g. LDAP)

# Basic SIP call setup and release






# ”Basic call” Example

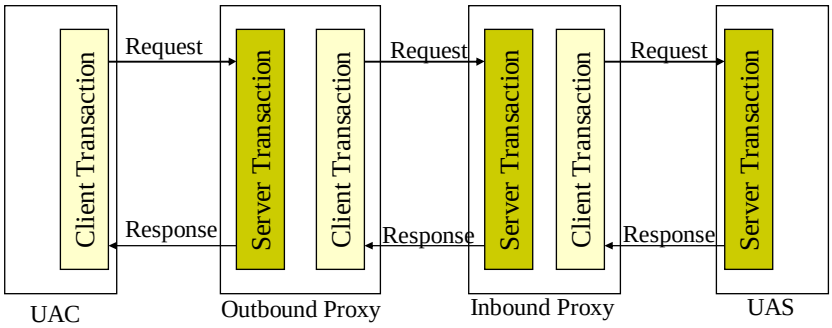
- Caller sends INVITE
- Callee can accept, reject, forward the call
- If the callee accepts the call: responds with an optional provisional (1xx), and a final (≥200) response
- The caller confirms final response via ACK
- Conversation
- Caller or callee sends BYE
- BYE is acknowledged by 200 OK
- Low call setup times, post dial delay: 1.5 RTT !

## SIP messages have headers and a body

- Headers carry control information and are processed e.g. by Proxies
- Body can be e.g. SDP – session description protocol
  - end-to-end information (cmp H.245) describing session requirements e.g. coding methods, etc
- Message delivery is transaction oriented= have request + reply: e.g INVITE+200 OK

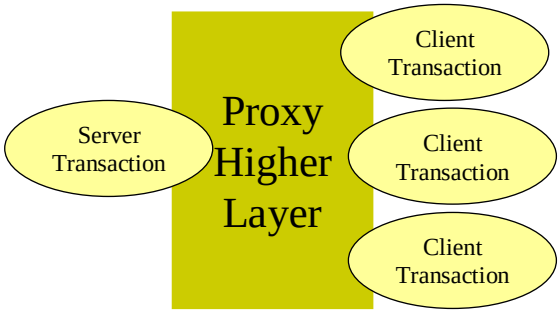


## User Agent is split into User Agent Client (UAC) and User Agent Server(UAS)




- All Communication follows this transaction model, except 2xx and ACK.
- Server transactions filter incoming requests, absorbing retransmissions
- Only UAS can generate 2xx and only UAC can generate ACK (to success).

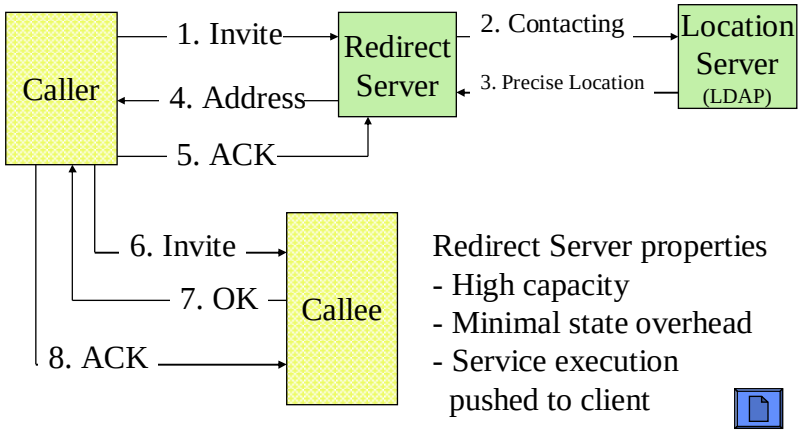
# A Stateful Proxy can fork a transaction




*Forking = multicast of INVITEs to N addresses*



# Redirect Server pushes processing to clients




Redirect Server properties
- High capacity
- Minimal state overhead
- Service execution pushed to client

17.3.04

# Stateful Proxy vs Stateless Proxy

- Maintains call context
- Replicates UAS/UAC to process requests and responses
- Call state and transaction state can be maintained
- Forking proxies require state
- TCP proxies must be stateful for reliability
- Enhanced services require state
- Can collect charging info

- No call context
- Response is not based on UA replication
- Provides client anonymity
- Restricted gateway access
- High processing capacity
- Easier to replicate than the stateful proxy
- Also semi-stateful is possible

*UA = User Agent, UAC = UA Client*
*UAS = UA Server*



# Full list of SIP methods

| | |
|---|---|
| ACK | Acknowledges the establisment of a session |
| BYE | Terminates a session |
| CANCEL | Cancels a pending request |
| INFO | Transports PSTN telephony signaling |
| INVITE | Establishes a session |
| NOTIFY | Notifies a User Agent of a particular event |
| OPTIONS | Queries a server about its capabilities |
| PRACK | Acknowledges a provisional response |
| PUBLISH | Uploads information to a server |
| REGISTER | Maps a public URI with the current location of the user |
| SUBSCRIBE | Requests to be notified about a particular event |
| UPDATE | Modifies some characteristic of a session |
| MESSAGE | Carries an instant message |
| REFER | Instructs a server to send a request |

Blue methods are candidates for AS processing
includes both the base protocol and current(2004) extensions

# Notes on SIP methods: INVITE

- Requests users to participate in a session. Body contains description of the session. If someone wants to modify the parameters of the session, he/she must re-INVITE carrying the modified parameters.
- One or more Provisional and one Final response are expected.



# Notes on SIP methods: ACK

- Acknowledges the Final Response to INVITE even if INVITE was cancelled → result is 3-way handshake: INVITE-final-resp – ACK.
- Proxies can only ACK non-successful Final Resp.
- Purpose:
  - Let's the server know that session establishment was successful.
  - Forking may result in many final responses. Sending ACKs to every destination that sent a final response is essential to ensure working over UDP.
  - Allows sending INVITEs without session description. In this case the description is postponed to ACK.
- Has the same Cseq as the INVITE it acknowledges (see later for SIP headers).

## Notes on SIP methods: CANCEL

- Purpose: to cancel pending transactions. Will be ignored by completed transactions = final response already sent.
  - useful for forking proxies. If one destination answered, the forking proxy can cancel all other pending INVITEs.
- Has the same Cseq as the request it calcels (see later for SIP headers).



## Notes on SIP methods: REGISTER

- Purpose: to register the user's current location.
- A user can be registered in several locations at the same time. Forking is used to find out where the user wants to answer the session invitation.
- A user can register from anywhere to his registrar → provides mobility.

# Notes on SIP methods: OPTIONS

- UA can query a server: which
  - methods and
  - extensions and
  - which session description protocols it supports.
  - which encoding for message bodies the server understands (e.g. compression to save bw).



# Some SIP issues

- Parties can release the "call session" but since they have obtained each others IP-addresses, they can continue sending media streams to each other!!
- How to push INVITE to B-party, if B-party does not have a permanent IP address which is most often the case!

} Integration of Proxy with Firewall and NAT

- Response messages (e.g. 180) are not reliably delivered. This may cause tear down of the call if it was initiated from ISDN

PRACK method

- If BYE is lost, Proxy does not know that call has ended

KeepAlive = re-INVITE mechanism

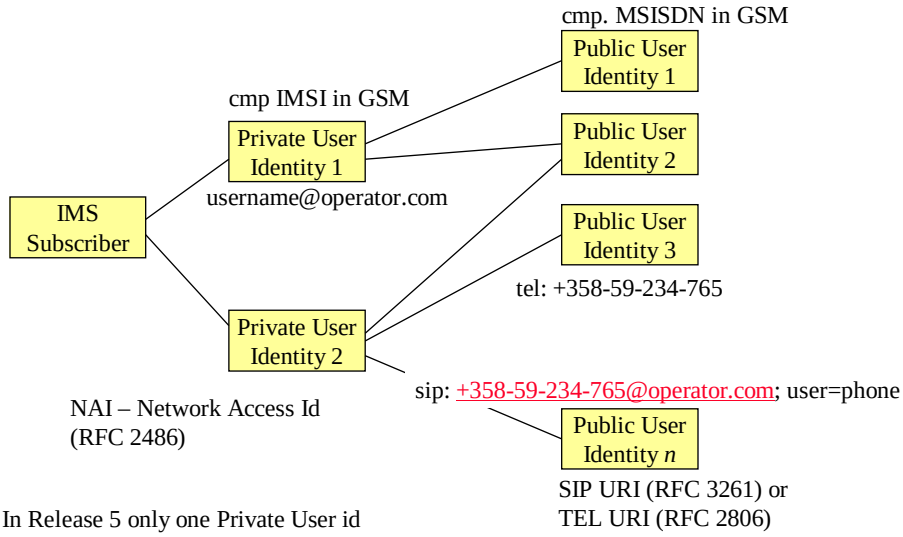
- Ascii coding increases the signaling overhead in Radio access

# Identification of users

- **sip:user@host[parameters][headers]**
- SIP URIs are like URLs, with prefix sip: which gives schema
  - sip:joe.smith@hut.fi
  - sip:joe.smith@hut.fi?subject=Protocol
  - sip:sales@hotel.xy;geo.position:=48.54_-123.84_120
- Address must include host, other parameters are optional (username, port, etc…)
- Email-addresses can be reused
- "Click-to-call" on web-pages, MM messages, etc… are easily implemented

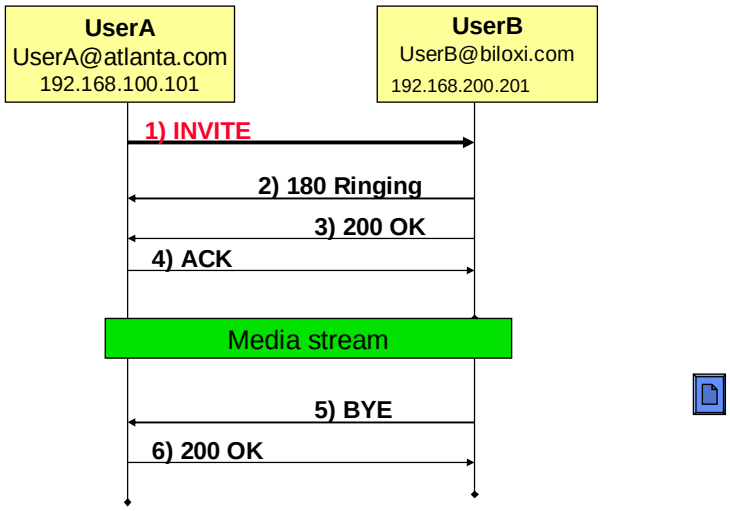


# Identification of users in 3G IMS in R6




In Release 5 only one Private User id

# ”Basic Call” call flow



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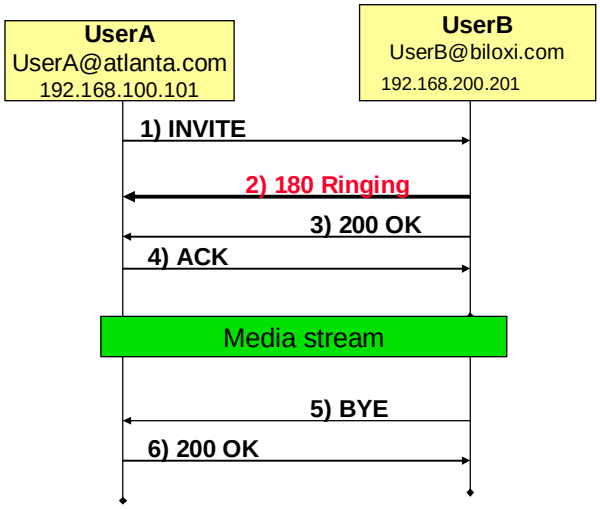

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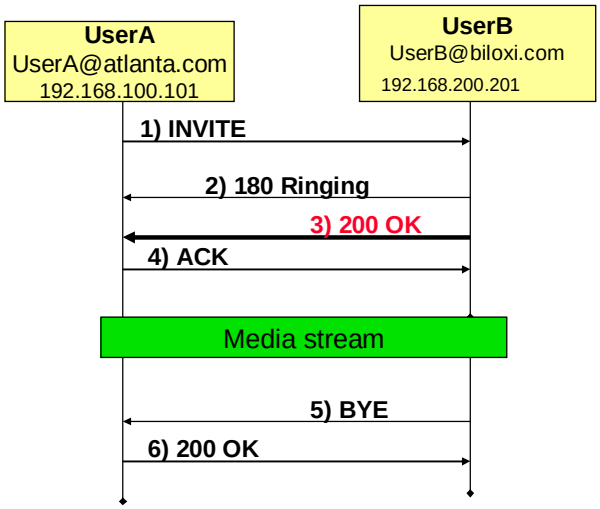
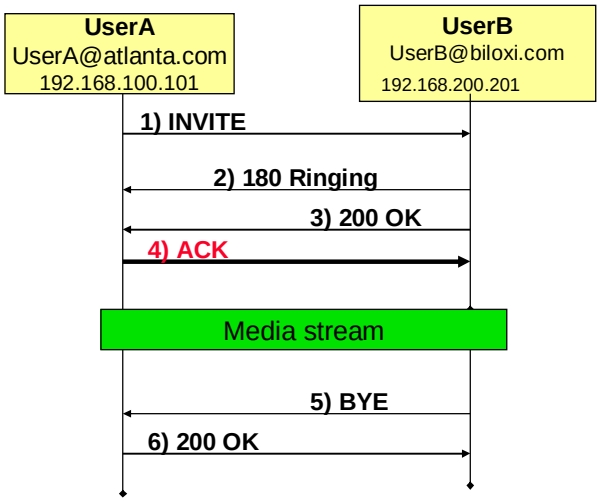
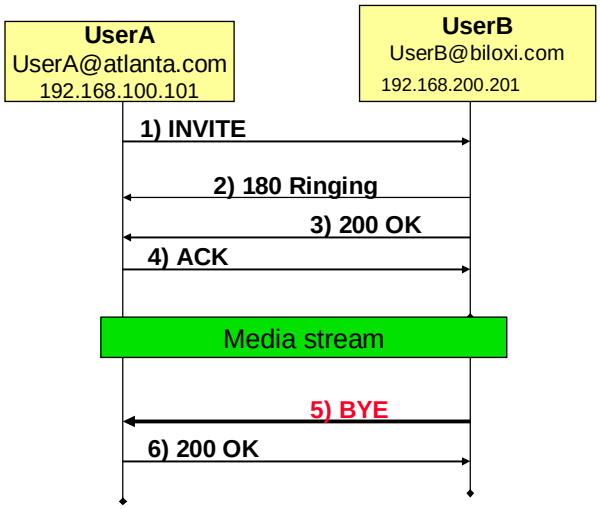





# ”Basic Call” call flow

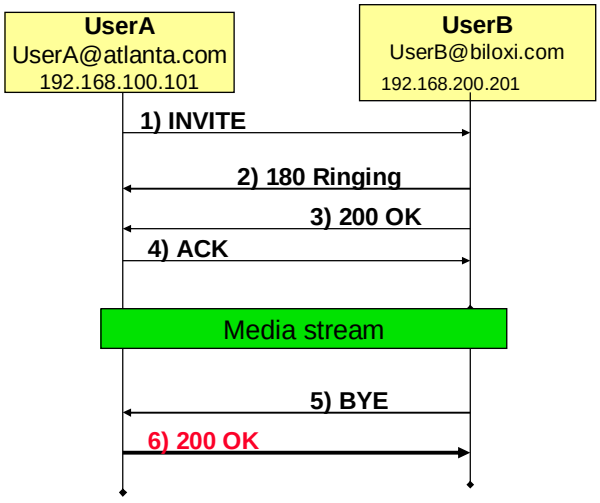


# ”Basic Call” call flow






# ”Basic Call” call flow



# Requests invoke SIP methods

- SIP methods are invoked on servers when requests arrive:
  - A REGISTER request sends location information of users to Registrars, registers with the location service
  - An INVITE request invites a user to participate in a session or conference
    - The message body contains a description of the session (usually SDP)
  - ACK requests are used to confirm responses for INVITE, for reliable message exchanges
  - CANCEL requests cancel the pending request of the session
  - BYE requests are used to terminate active sessions
    - Any party of the session can send it
  - OPTIONS requests are used to query information about servers' capabilities
  - PRACK requests are used to confirm provisional responses

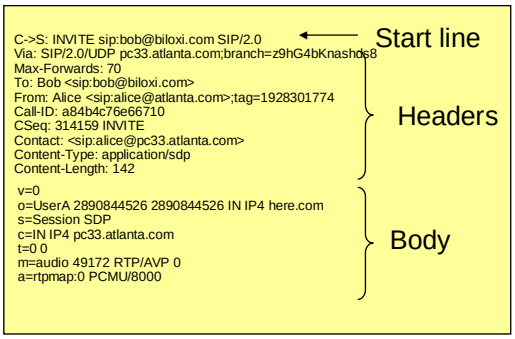


# SIP responses are classified by first digit

- HTTP look-alike
- Hierarchically organized three digit codes: status code - text associated with the code
- Provisional and final responses:
  - 1xx responses are informational messages e.g., 180 Ringing
  - 2xx response shows a successful transaction e.g., 200 OK
  - 3xx responses are redirect messages e.g., 301 Moved Permanently
  - 4xx responses indicate errors in requests e.g., 400 Bad Request
  - 5xx responses indicate server errors e.g., 500 Version not supported
  - 6xx responses indicate global failures e.g., 600 Busy everywhere

# SIP Message Format

- START-LINE
  - SIP version used
  - In requests: address and method used
  - In responses: status code
- HEADERS
  - Information about call
- BODY (payload)
  - Usually SDP message




A Request line contains the Request URI = the name of the user that is the destination. This request URI is used for SIP routing.



# To and From header fields

- **To: specifies the logical call destination**
- **From: specifies the logical call source**
- **Present in all SIP messages**

```
INVITE sip:bob@biloxi.com SIP/2.0
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP pc33.atlanta.com;branch=z9hG4bKnashds8
Max-Forwards: 70
To: Bob <sip:bob@biloxi.com>
From: Alice <sip:alice@atlanta.com>;tag=1928301774
Call-ID: a84b4c76e66710
CSeq: 314159 INVITE
Contact: <sip:alice@pc33.atlanta.com>
Content-Type: application/sdp
Content-Length: 142
```

NB: In IMS To and From header field are end to end information and not used nor asserted by the network. Instead the P-CSCF inserts the P-Asserted-Identity header field into the SIP messages indicating the network asserted identity of the originator of the call

# Call-ID and CSeq header fields

- **Call-ID: It helps to uniquely identify a particular SIP dialog or registration**
  - It helps to match requests and responses
  - It helps to detect duplicated messages
- **CSeq: It is a number that uniquely identifies the transaction in a call**
- **Present in all SIP messages**

```
INVITE sip:bob@biloxi.com SIP/2.0
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP pc33.atlanta.com;branch=z9hG4bKnashds8
Max-Forwards: 70
To: Bob <sip:bob@biloxi.com>
From: Alice <sip:alice@atlanta.com>;tag=1928301774
Call-ID: a84b4c76e66710
CSeq: 314159 INVITE
Contact: <sip:alice@pc33.atlanta.com>
Content-Type: application/sdp
Content-Length: 142
```



# Content-Type and Content-Length header fields

- **Content-Type: It describes the media type of the message body**
- **Content-Length: The number of octets in the message <u>body</u>**
  - It is mandatory in all SIP messages.

```
INVITE sip:bob@biloxi.com SIP/2.0
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP pc33.atlanta.com;branch=z9hG4bKnashds8
Max-Forwards: 70
To: Bob <sip:bob@biloxi.com>
From: Alice <sip:alice@atlanta.com>;tag=1928301774
Call-ID: a84b4c76e66710
CSeq: 314159 INVITE
Contact: <sip:alice@pc33.atlanta.com>
Content-Type: application/sdp
Content-Length: 142
```

# Max-Forwards

- **Max-Forwards field must be used with any SIP method**
- **It limits the number for proxies or gateways on the way of SIP message to the destination.**

```
INVITE sip:bob@biloxi.com SIP/2.0
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP pc33.atlanta.com;branch=z9hG4bKnashds8
Max-Forwards: 70
To: Bob <sip:bob@biloxi.com>
From: Alice <sip:alice@atlanta.com>;tag=1928301774
Call-ID: a84b4c76e66710
CSeq: 314159 INVITE
Contact: <sip:alice@pc33.atlanta.com>
Content-Type: application/sdp
Content-Length: 142
```



# VIA header indicates path taken by the request so far

- **Branch parameter is used to detect loops**
- **Contains transport protocol, client's host name and possibly port number, and can contain other parameters**

```
INVITE sip:bob@192.0.2.4 SIP/2.0
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP server10.biloxi.com;branch=z9hG4bK4b43c2ff8.1
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP bigbox3.site3.atlanta.com;branch=z9hG4bK77ef4c2312983.1
 ;received=192.0.2.2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP pc33.atlanta.com;branch=z9hG4bKnashds8
 ;received=192.0.2.1
Max-Forwards: 68
To: Bob <sip:bob@biloxi.com>
From: Alice <sip:alice@atlanta.com>;tag=1928301774
Call-ID: a84b4c76e66710
CSeq: 314159 INVITE
Contact: <sip:alice@pc33.atlanta.com>
Content-Type: application/sdp
Content-Length: 142
```

# Record-route and Route

- **Record-Route: header is added by proxy, when proxy wants to stay in the route of all sip messaging**
- **Route is added by User Agent Client, after response came, with all Record-route headers in it (then UAC knows which relays want to stay on the signaling path)**
- **NOT the same as Via: headers**

```
INVITE sip:callee@u2.domain.com SIP/2.0
Contact: sip:caller@u1.example.com
Record-Route: <sip:p2.domain.com;lr>
Record-Route: <sip:p1.example.com;lr>
```

Inserted by proxies p1.example.com and p2.example.com.

```
BYE sip:callee@u2.domain.com SIP/2.0
Route: <sip:p1.example.com;lr>,<sip:p2.domain.com;lr>
```

UA can specify through which proxies this message must go



# SIP Extensions

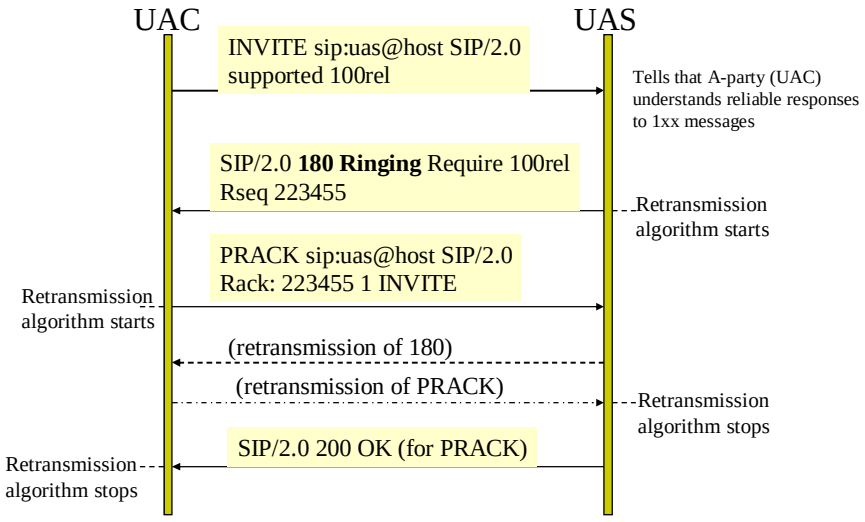
- Needed to satisfy additional requirements
- Must conform to design rules
- SIP is not intended to solve every problem (another protocol might be used instead)

# Feature Negotiation (OPTIONS)

- *Supported* features can be specified in request and response
  - **Supported** UAC and UAS tell features they support
- *Required* features can be specified in request and response
  - **Require** UAC tells UAS about required options
  - **Proxy-Require** required options for proxy/redirect servers
  - Many extensions use Require and Proxy-Require to specify their support
- New methods can be added without changing the protocol
  - server can respond with **405 Not Supported**
  - returns list of supported methods in **Allow** header
  - client can ask which methods are supported using OPTIONS



# Reliable Provisional response in SIP

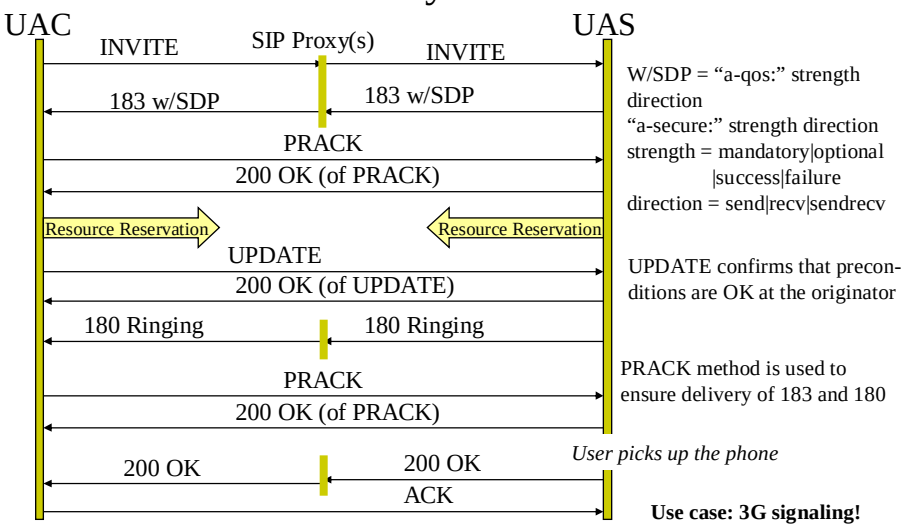


# QoS support - UPDATE

- Usage rule for 183-Session-Progress
  - If “a=qos” appeared in SDP, UAS sends 183 with “Session: qos” and SDP
- Additional Method - UPDATE
  - If “a=qos” appeared in SDP with “confirm” attribute, UAS/UAC sends UPDATE with success/failure status of each precondition.
  - 200 OK must acknowledge the UPDATE message
  - user B does not need to be prompted
- Additional Status Response - 580 Precondition Failure
  - If a mandatory precondition can’t be met, UAS terminates INVITE with this status response

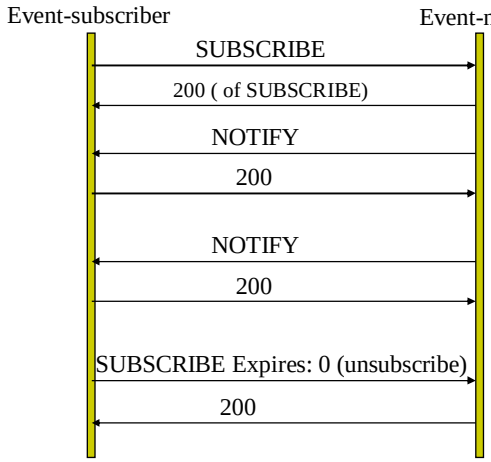


# Phone should not ring before QoS and Security are OK




SDP = Session Description Protocol (carried in SIP message body)

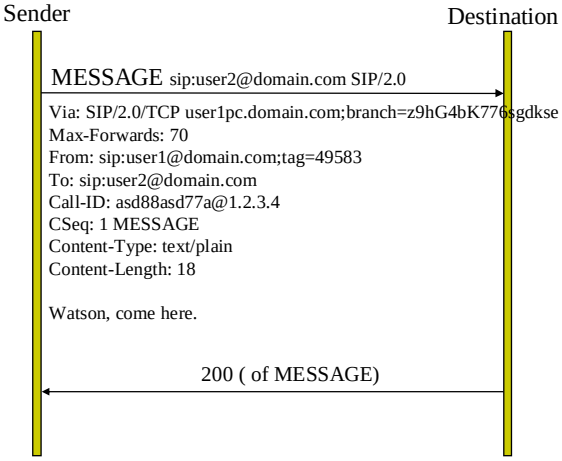
# SIP event notifications tell about remote significant events to the local party




Use cases: automatic call-back, automatic buddy lists, message waiting indication,
User's own registration status and "IN triggering".



# SIP MESSAGE provides Instant Messaging capability in Pager mode




Note:
-body is MIME or S/MIME
- there is no dialog!

Use example:
-maps to SMS in GSM

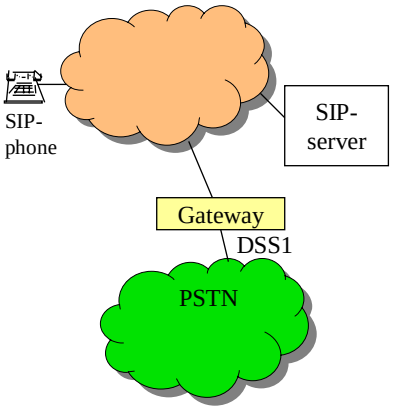
Issue:
- authentication of sender and charging! Must use Proper security features

# More SIP extensions

- MESSAGE
  - For instant messaging
- INFO
  - To transport mid-session information (very useful in SIP-PSTN gateways to carry all PSTN messages across SIP domains such that do not easily map to any other known SIP message)
- Automatic configuration
  - DHCP or Service Location Protocol (SLP)
- Caller Preferences
  - New headers: Accept-Contact, Reject-Contact, Request-Disposition (e.g. to express a preference for contacting the user at “fixed”, “business” connection).
- REFER
  - For session transfer (Refer-To: and Referred-By: )
- …



# Deployment example: Elisa’s experimental service for BB customers

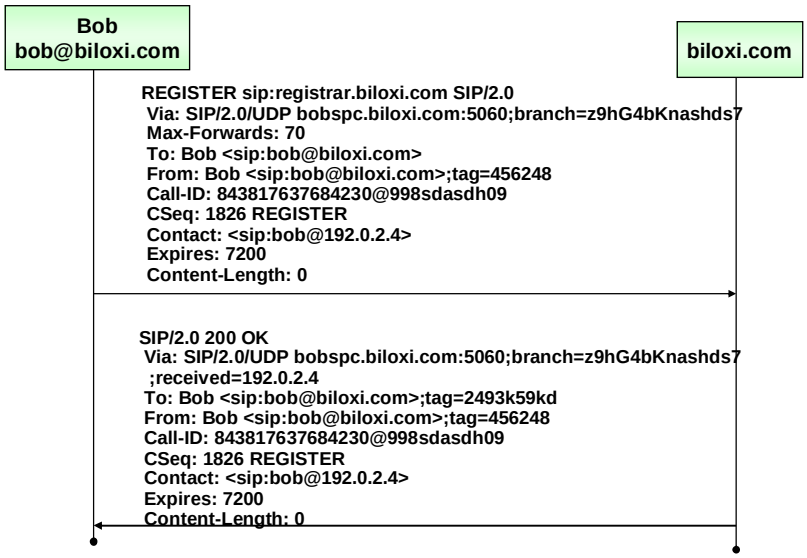



- SIP –server recognizes a numbering block, connects calls directly from IP-phone to IP-phone n the block
- Calls to all other numbers are routed to the gateway
- = SIP-server+Gateway are like a PBX

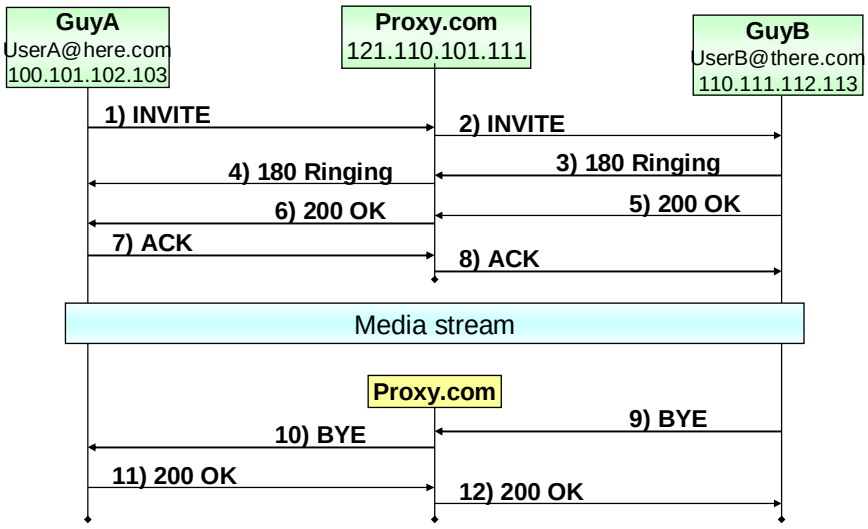
# Call Setup Examples based on Generic SIP



# Registration example with SIP

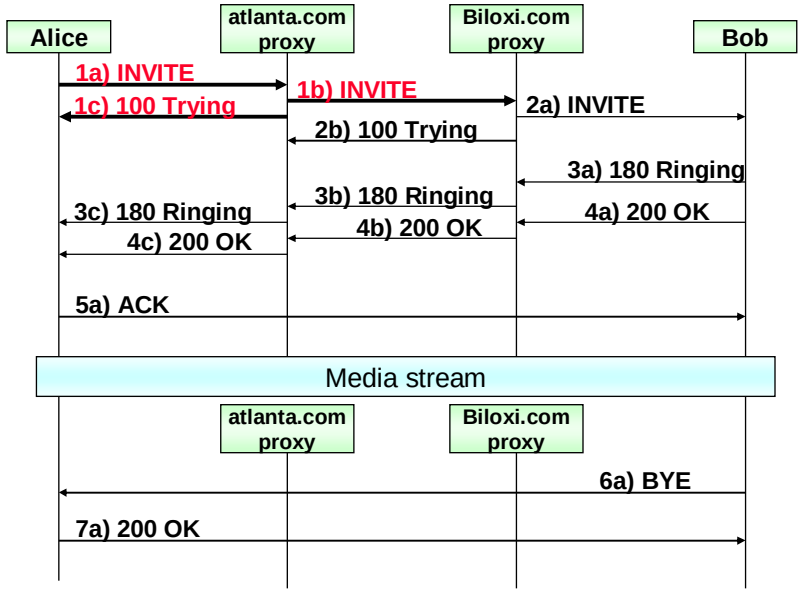


# Call Setup example with one proxy



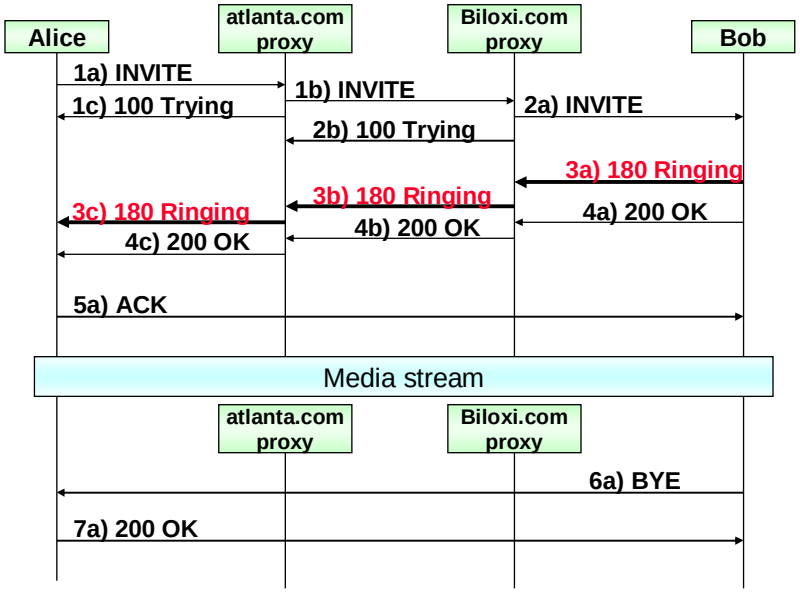



# Call Setup example with two proxies



# Call Setup example with two proxies

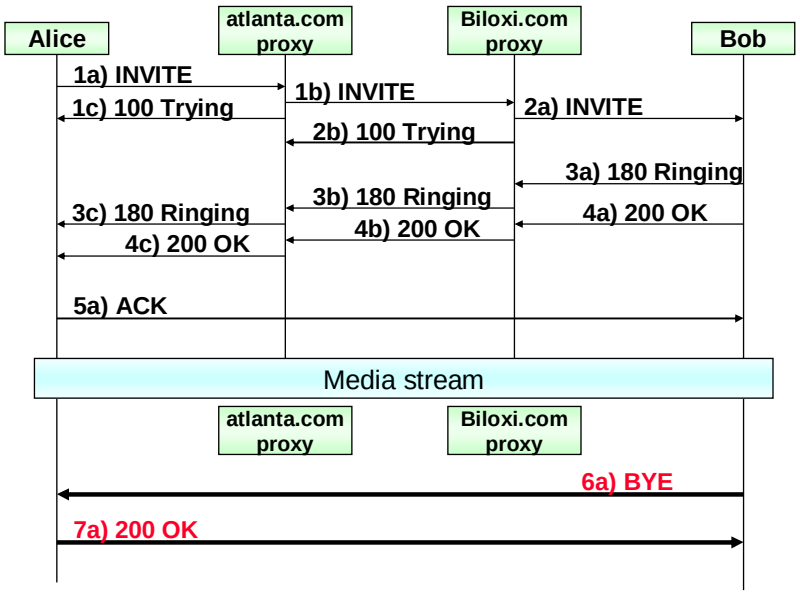
# Call Setup example with two proxies



# Call Setup example with two proxies

# Call Setup example with two proxies

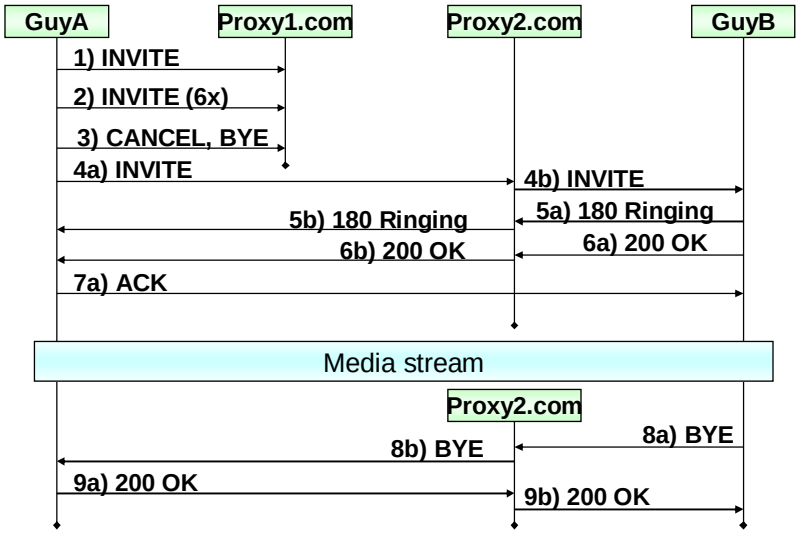
# Call Setup example with two proxies





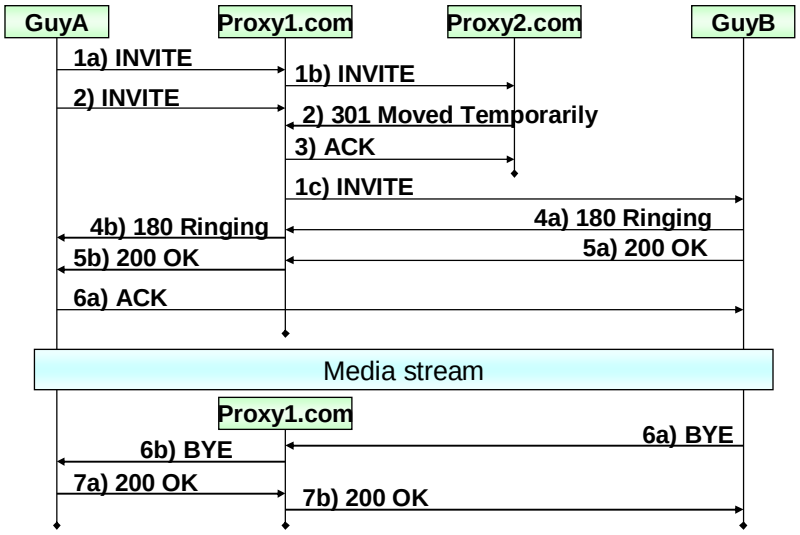

# Registration example with SIP authentication

# Call Setup example with a non-working proxy






# Call Setup example with a Redirect server

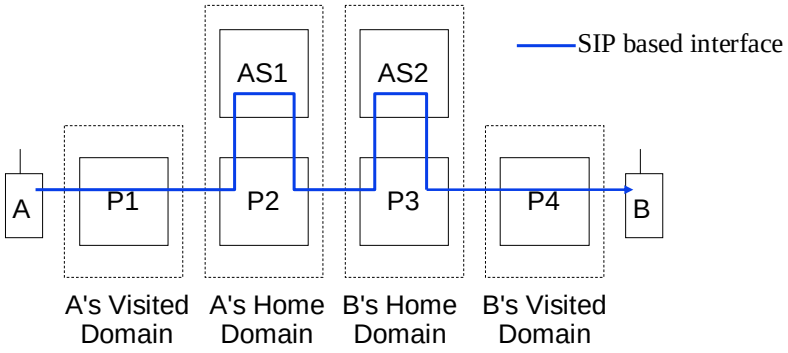


# Services use many protocols

- New services and more flexible service creation should differentiate IP Communications Network from PSTN
- Services should combine different forms of communication, thus multiple protocols are needed:
  - SIP for media sessions and session related services, subscriptions and notifications?, messaging?
  - HTTP for web and transactions
  - SMTP for e-mail
  - RTSP for media streaming
- The use of these protocols is orchestrated by the service logic: context is set up using SIP.



# Routing and Service Model in 3G




P1, P4: Outbound Proxies

P2, P3: Registrar Proxies

AS1, AS2: Application Servers

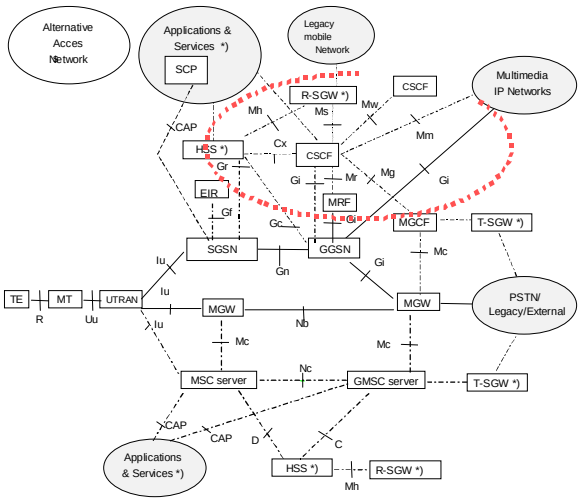
**NB: Also AS based on direct processing of call state: There is no Basic call state model like in IN**

# SIP Entities & Service Capabilities

- User Agent ( = UAC + UAS)
  - Can run services, such as forwarding, filtering etc.
  - Not always connected (out of coverage/battery etc.)
- Redirect Server
  - Can do services that require only Request-URI change, e.g. translation, parameter addition etc.
- Proxy Server
  - Can change certain headers and stay in the signaling path
  - Forking, actions based on responses
- Back-to-Back User Agent (=both ways User Agent)
  - Can e.g. issue requests to a call leg or modify SDP, generate ACK and 200OK, like UAC/UAS
  - In many cases necessary



# Application Server in 3G

- Fuzzy Definition but has SIP+ interface!
- Can be a Redirect or Proxy Server or Back-to-Back UA
- The key is that it should be *programmable*
  - Routing based on service logic: what to do when user not registered or busy
  - URI translation: Reachability chains
  - Interfaces to other protocols: HTTP, SMTP, RTSP etc.
- Can be single purpose boxes, or multi-purpose boxes, or controllers who orchestrate things

# 3GPP Network Model (preliminary: …