



Next Generation Session Announcements:

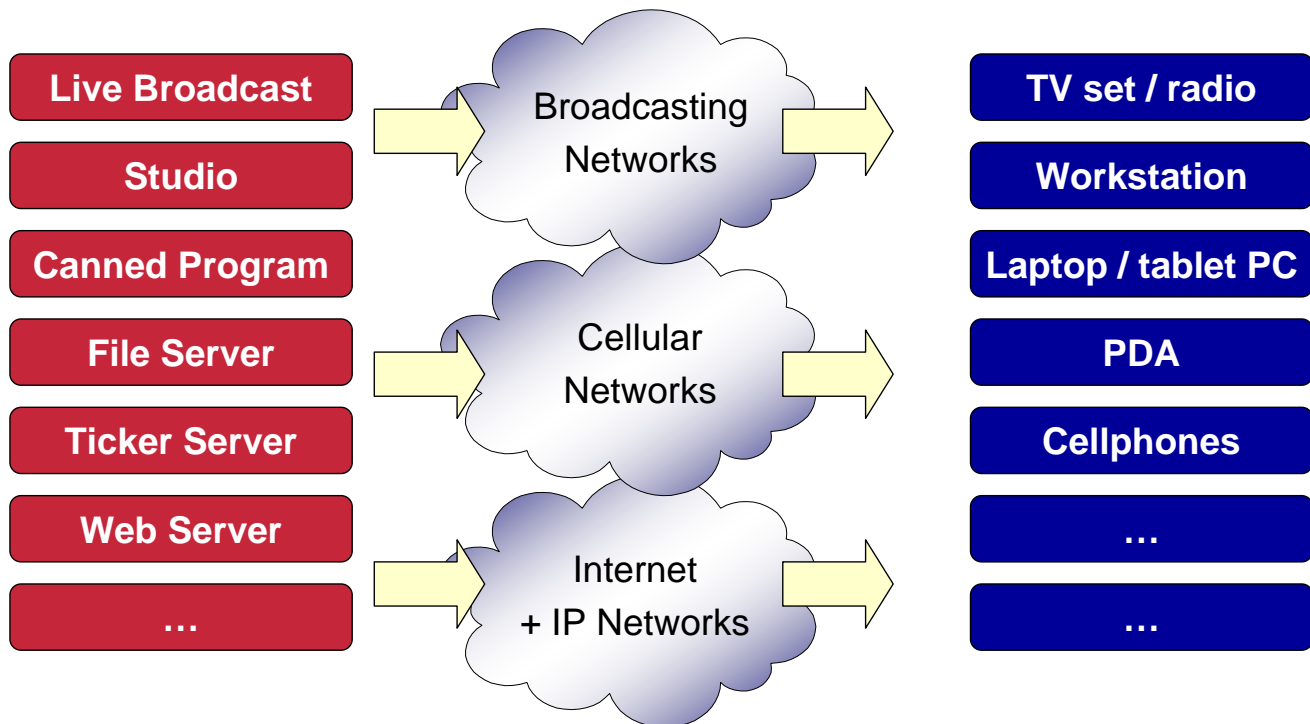
## Internet Media Guides (IMGs)



## Observations

- ▶ SAP/SDP tied to IP-Multicast-based session model
- ▶ Only one distribution scheme: announcement
- ▶ Only one type of service: convey multimedia session information
  
- ▶ (Global) IP-Multicast has not prevailed as a distribution platform
- ▶ SAP rather experimental
- ▶ Was often used for debugging Mbone connectivity
  
- ▶ Summary
  - SAP/SDP too limited
  - Not appropriate as a general solution for distributing session information
  - Traditionally linked to IP-only (and Multicast-only)

# Background: Ubiquitous Information Access



## “Classic” Broadcasting & Internet Multimedia

- ▶ Broadcasting has been a different world  
(including customer expectations, philosophy)
  - Encodings
    - Audio/Video largely compatible (but different quality expectations)
    - Image/text formats/HTML vs. Videotex, MHP, specific markups, tables
  - Data transmission
    - IP + UDP/TCP + RTP/... vs. MPEG multiplex (or even analog)
  - Addressing
    - IP addresses + ports vs. frequency/channel, PID, satellite position, pol., ...
  - Interaction & control
    - RTSP, HTTP, SIP, ... vs. MHP
- ▶ But there is a migration towards IP in various areas
  - Content providers, transmission technologies, consumer equipment



# Platform/Network-Independent Content Provision

- ▶ The same content shall be available via different networks
  - Preferably without repeated authoring
- ▶ “Content” used in a broad sense
  - Original media: Audio / video broadcasts, web pages, files, news feeds, ...
  - Supplementary information: background, statistics, subtitles, ads, ...
- ▶ Content needs to be globally (or regionally) identifiable
- ▶ Content needs to be found
  - Descriptive metadata
  - Availability (scheduling) metadata
- ▶ Alternate access methods must be possible
  - Network + network-specific address



## Internet Media Guides (IMG)

Definition of an IMG (from MMUSIC Charter)

### Content:

- ▶ A **collection of multimedia session descriptions**
- ▶ Expressed using SDP, SDPng or other metadata formats
- ▶ It is used to describe a collection of multimedia sessions (e.g. television programme schedules).

### Distribution:

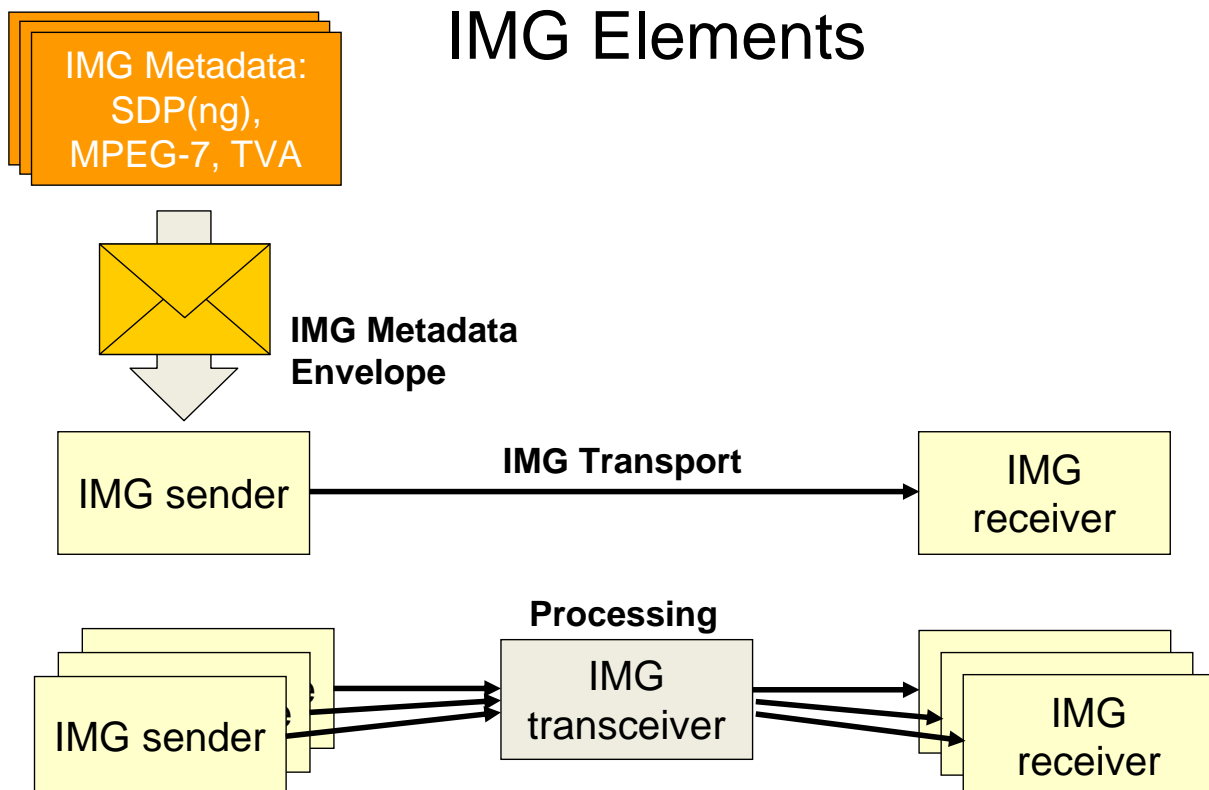
- ▶ The IMG must be **delivered to a potentially large audience (push or pull)**, who use it to join a subset of the sessions described, and who may need to be **notified of changes** to the IMG.

# IMG $\approx$ EPG

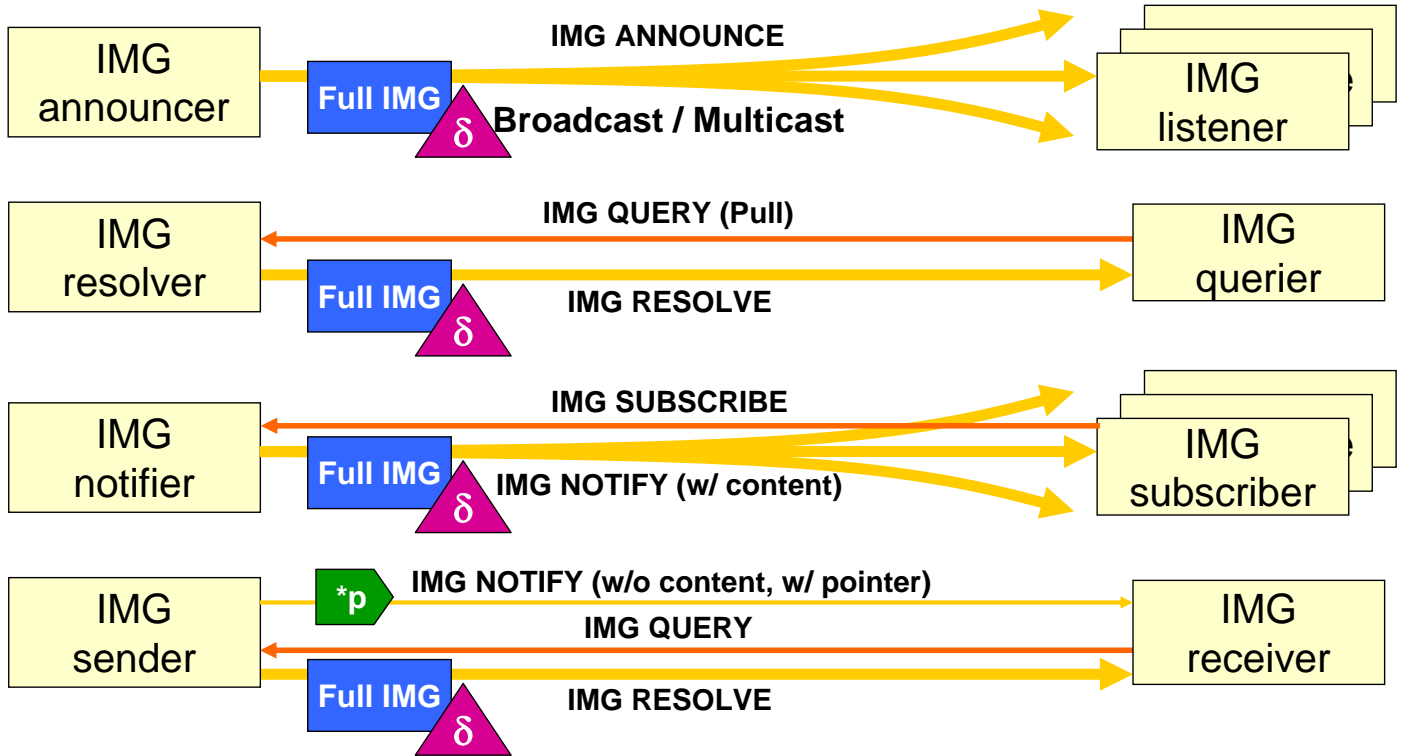
- ▶ Generalized for arbitrary...
  - Types of media
  - Types of sessions and interactions: services!
  - Classes of devices
- ▶ Plurality of access methods
  - Physical delivery
  - (Reliable) Broadcast / multicast (push)
  - Interactive retrieval (pull)
  - Provision of full IMGs and of deltas
  - Notification about changes
- ▶ Network-independent
  - For the delivery of IMGs
  - For the (request and) transmission of actual media in sessions

The same IMGs should be usable everywhere.

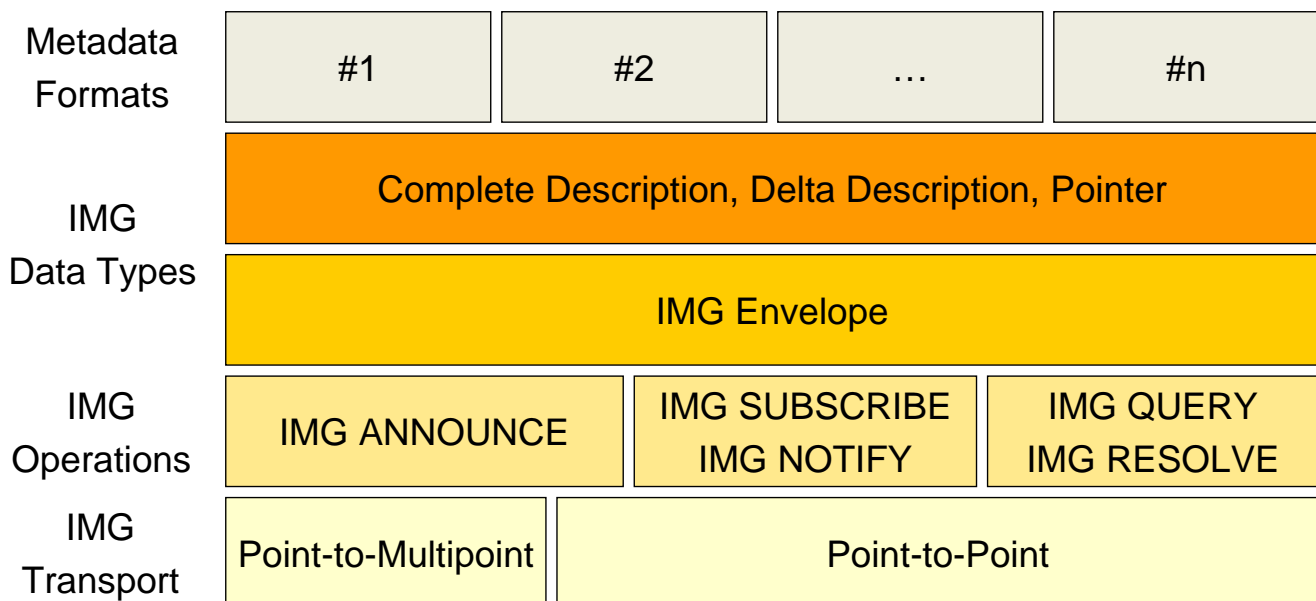
## IMG Elements



# IMG Delivery Models / Operations



# IMG Architecture





# IMG Envelope: Security Requirements

- ▶ Authentication + Integrity validation of contained metadata
  - Must work for complete and delta information
  - Must work across IMG transceivers
    - Aggregation, splitting, filtering of pieces of metadata
- ▶ Privacy
  - Must be able to protect (parts of) contained metadata
    - User protection + access control
  - Enable (limited) IMG transceiver functionality
- ▶ Interdependency with metadata formats
  - What to expect from metadata?
  - Granularity of embedded metadata objects
  - DRM? → metadata formats



# IMG Envelope

- ▶ Container for metadata
  - Complete, delta, pointers
  - Independent of metadata
  - Likely to become some kind of wrapper mechanism
  - Metadata itself defined by other bodies
- ▶ Generic management information
  - Identification + version + validity information
  - Content-Type: to identify metadata format
  - Support for security?
    - authentication + integrity information
    - Privacy of content

**MIME vs. XML**

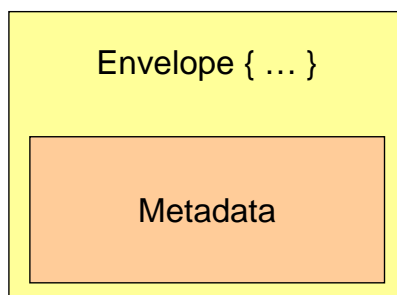
## Envelope Features (1)

- ▶ Container for metadata (independent of these)
  - Complete, delta, pointers
  - Metadata itself defined by other bodies
- ▶ Version number
  - Determine the most recent (i.e., valid) copy
  - Referenced as basis for delta encoding
- ▶ Validity time
  - Period: from, to
- ▶ Metadata URI
  - Identifies the metadata element contained in the envelope
  - Helps to deal with fragments
- ▶ Content-Type
  - Defines the type of metadata contents

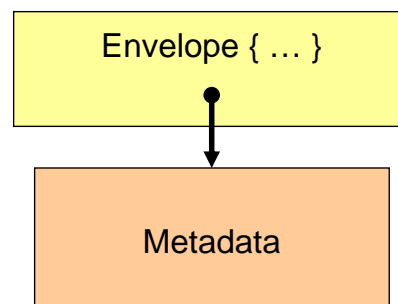
## Envelope Features (2)

- ▶ Support for digital signatures (on parts of the envelope)
- ▶ Support for encryption
  - Only partly specified so far
  - May use S/MIME
- ▶ Metadata contents:

Inline



External (via pointer)





# Envelope Encoding: XML vs. MIME

- ▶ Present focus: XML (also used by 3GPP MBMS)
- ▶ Example (with SDP as metadata)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
  <metadataEnvelope
    xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="envelope.xsd"
    metadataURI="http://www.example.com/img001/session001.sdp"
    version="1"
    validFrom="2003-12-17T09:30:47-05:00"
    validUntil="2003-12-17T09:30:47-05:00"
    contentType="application/sdp">
    <metadataFragment>
      v=0
      o=jo 2890844526 2890842807 IN IP4 10.33.57.27
      s=SDP Seminar
      c=IN IP4 224.2.17.12/127
      t=2873397496 2873404696
      a=recvonly
      m=audio 49170 RTP/AVP 0
      m=video 51372 RTP/AVP 31
    </metadataFragment>
  </metadataEnvelope>
```



## IMG Metadata

- ▶ Past focus on traditional contents
  - Conveying plain TV-schedules
  - Streaming in 3GPP Release 6
- ▶ Broadening the scope
  - Cover services in a more general fashion
  - Provide region/location information
  - Support personalized inquiries
  - Address issues of cost
    - Make offers automatically comparable
- ▶ Technical level: enable service discovery (and location)
- ▶ Business level: support adequate service selection





# IMG URN

- ▶ IMGs need to be identified globally
  - In particular, across different networks and providers
- ▶ Motivates the use of IMG URNs
- ▶ Format
  - urn:img: ProviderId : Dateld : IMGResourceId [: FragmentId]
  - ProviderId: domain name
  - Dateld: Point in time when the domain name was owned by the entity
  - IMGResourceId: provider-selected string
  - FragmentId: some identifier for a piece of an IMG
- ▶ Examples
  - urn:img:example.org:20051021:my-img
  - urn:img:example.org:20051021:my-img:subset
- ▶ Mapping to URIs (e.g., HTTP, SIP) to be defined



# IMG Transports

- ▶ Need to provide mechanisms for IMG Operations
- ▶ ANNOUNCE
  - Reliable multicast transport protocol: FLUTE + MUPPET
- ▶ SUBSCRIBE / NOTIFY
  - Session Initiation Protocol (SIP): Extensions for Subscription/Notification
- ▶ QUERY / RESOLVE
  - HTTP
- ▶ Identify IMGs properly across protocols: IMG URN (yet tbd.)
  - Mappings to individual protocols for actual processing



# IMG ANNOUNCE: Reliable Multicast

- ▶ Layered Coding Transport (LCT)
  - Single sender multicast transport
  - Defines single or multi-object delivery across an LCT session
    - Provides identifiers for objects (TOI)
    - Provides session identification (TSI)
  - LCT session comprises a group of channels
    - Each identified by the respective (multicast) transport address
- ▶ Forward Error Correction (FEC)
  - General container for various FEC schemes
  - Allows to identify payload + provides in-band signaling of FEC parameters
- ▶ Asynchronous Layered Coding (ALC)
  - Simple combination of LCT and FEC



# IMG ANNOUNCE: FLUTE Basics

- ▶ File Delivery over Unidirectional Transport
- ▶ Uses ALC (= LCT + FEC)
  - Fixed parameter sets for the protocol instantiation
- ▶ Specifies semantics of objects
  - Files
  - File Delivery Table (FDT)
- ▶ FDT
  - XML-based format to carry file attributes (name, location, size, etc.)
    - Carried as Transport Object ID = 0
  - Transmitted in a carousel style together with files



## IMG ANNOUNCE: FLUTE FDT

- ▶ XML-based structured information
- ▶ Example

```
<FDT-Payload Expires="<date>" complete="true">
  <File
    Content-Location=
    TOI=
    Content-Length=
    Transfer-Length=
    Content-Type=
    Content-Encoding=
    Content-MD5=
    ... plus some FEC stuff ... >
  <File ...>
  ...
</FDT-Payload>
```



## IMG ANNOUNCE: MUPPET

- ▶ Specific usage of FLUTE for carrying IMG envelopes
- ▶ Defines various lower layer parameters
- ▶ Defines usage of multiple layers



## IMG QUERY / RESOLVE

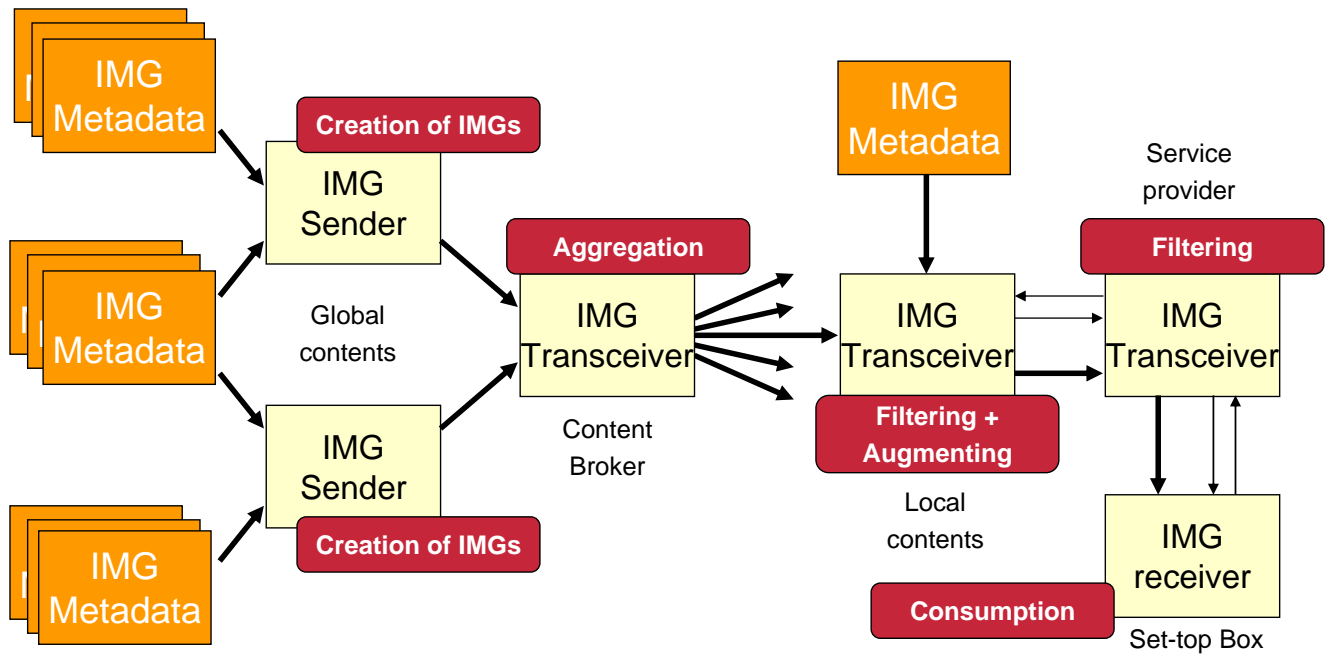
- ▶ “Naturally” maps to HTTP GET + 200 OK
- ▶ HTTP URI: `http://<hostname>/<resource>?param1&param2&...`
  - Parameters identify IMG version
    - type: full or delta IMG, pointer
    - version requested
    - diffVersion: base for delta IMG
- ▶ Querier response format selection
  - Accept: `application/img-envelope+xml`
    - Provide IMG in envelope format
  - Accept: `text/plain, text/html`
    - Provide a human-readable description of an IMG as optional fallback
  - Allow for directly returning the plain metadata without envelope?
- ▶ 200 OK carries response in body
- ▶ HTTP headers used accordingly



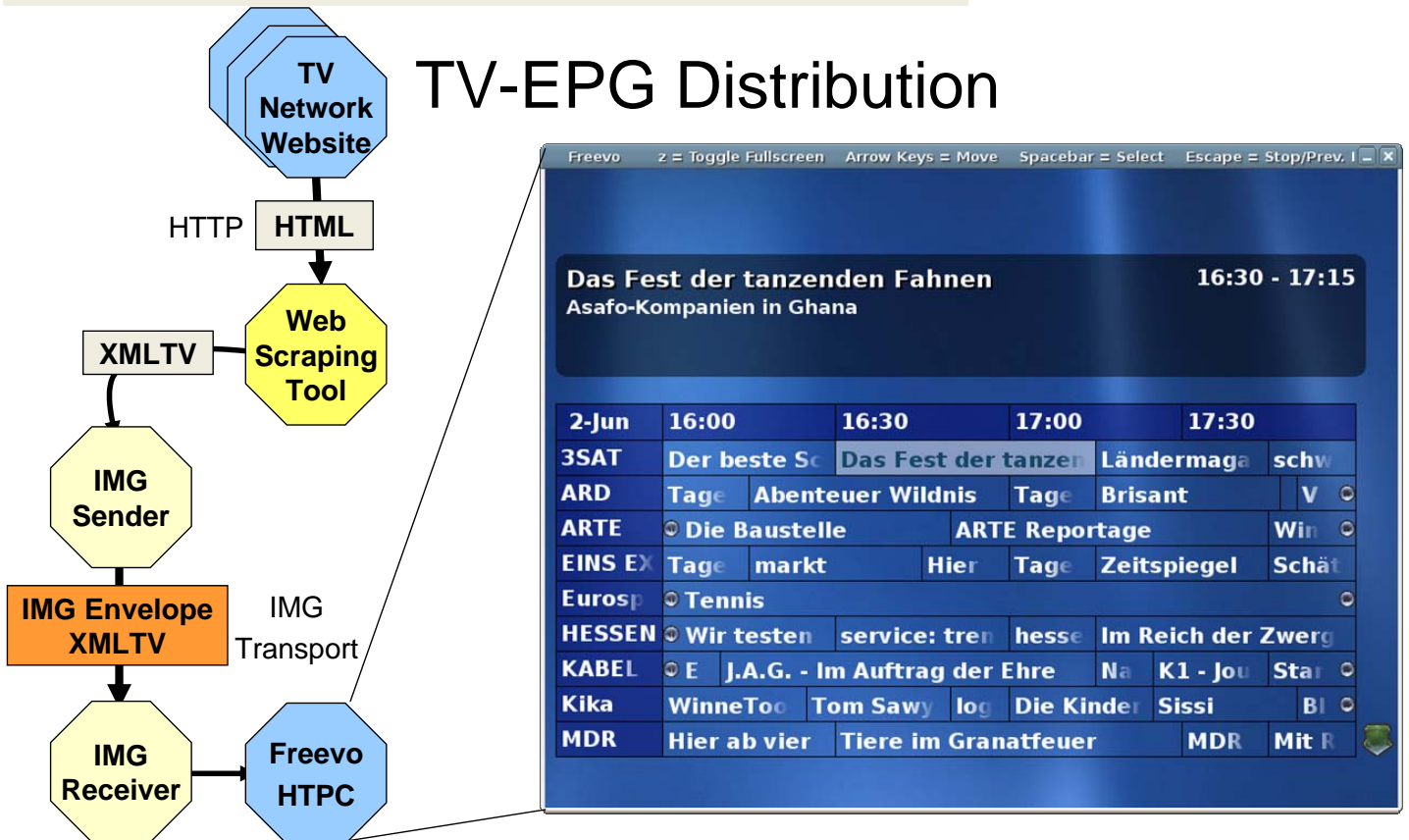
## IMG SUBSCRIBE / NOTIFY

- ▶ Based upon the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)
  - Particularly its SUBSCRIBE / NOTIFY mechanism
  - Details to be discussed
- ▶ SUBSCRIBE / NOTIFY
  - Register interest in (part of) an IMG
  - Receive an immediate response and updates upon changes
  - Soft-state based: subscription times out and needs refreshing
- ▶ IMG usage of SIP SUBSCRIBE / NOTIFY
  - Define SIP event package: `img`
  - Presently suggests a MIME-based IMG envelope
    - Natural choice for SIP
  - Content-Type:, Content-Location:
  - Content-ID: `major.minor`, Expires: `valid-until`

# Regionalization & Personalization with IMGs



# TV-EPG Distribution





## IMGs: “Final” Remarks

- ▶ In use in 3GPP MBMS
- ▶ Stalled in the IETF
  
- ▶ TV industry going various other ways
  - Specific EPGs in DVB
  - TV Anytime forum
  - Web/RSS-based program pages of TV magazines and broadcasters
  - Open source platforms use yet other formats
  - XMLTV



## Media Streaming in the Internet

- ▶ Introduction to Media Streaming
- ▶ Real-time Streaming Protocol (RTSP)
- ▶ HTTP-based Streaming



# Real-time Media Streaming

Retrieving content from a source where

- ▶ the content is continuous in nature (e.g. audio, video),
- ▶ the content is (potentially) presented to the user before it has been downloaded entirely, and
- ▶ there is no human-to-human interaction involved (i.e. latencies are acceptable to a certain degree).

Contrast: interactive, interpersonal communications



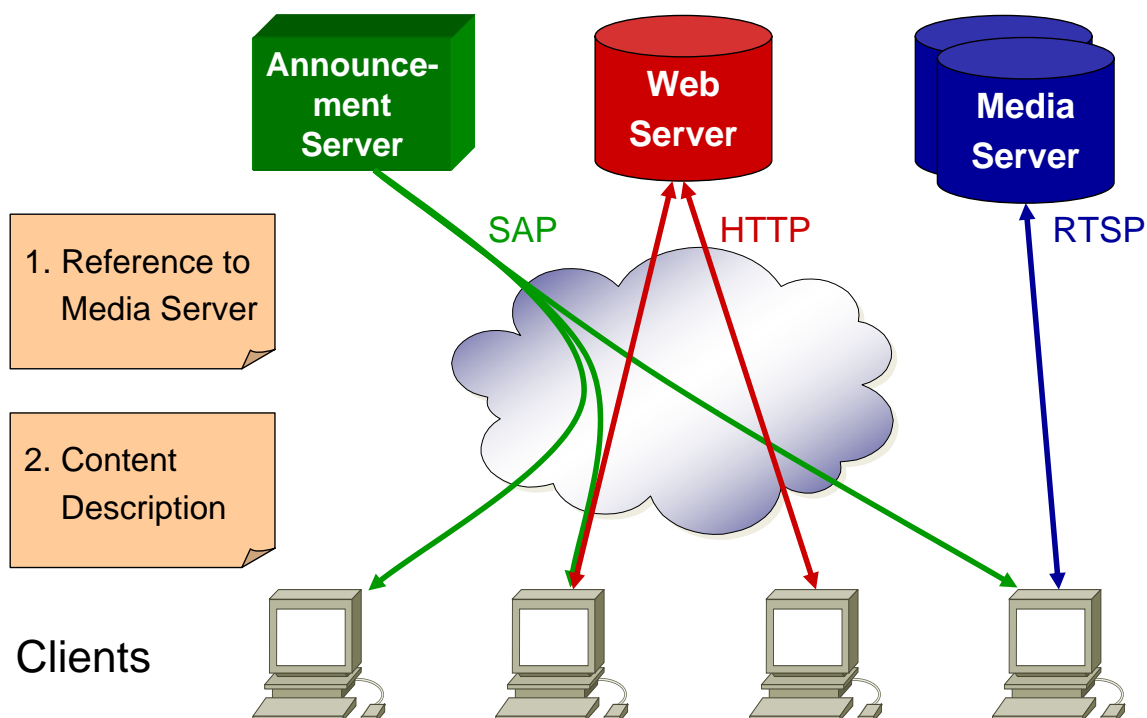
# Two Types of Streaming

- ▶ Broadcast streaming (non-interactive)
  - Sender transmits media stream according to its own schedule
  - Receivers “tune into a media stream” of interested
  - Receivers have no means to influence the transmission
  - Suitable for multicast / broadcast networks
- ▶ Interactive streaming
  - Sender provides media stream to receivers “on demand”
  - Receivers may start / stop transmission
  - Receivers may invoke further operations
    - Fast forward, search, play offset, ...
  - Suitable for P2P sessions or coordinated small groups

# Architectural Components

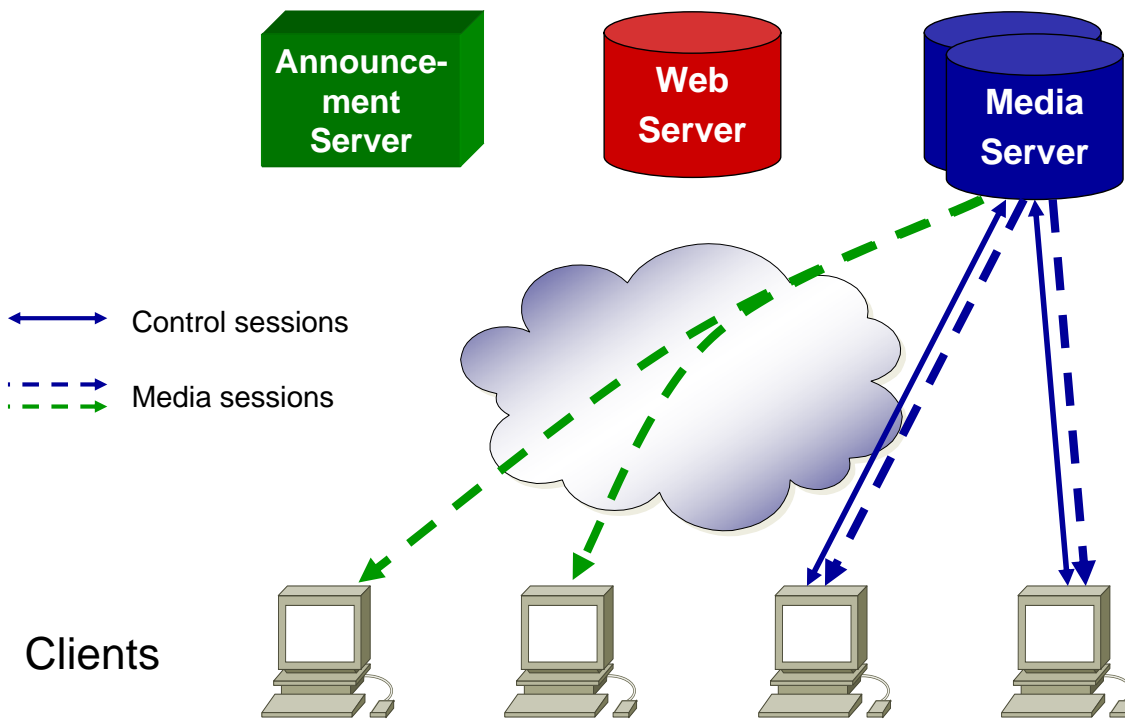
- ▶ Content Description
  - Describe type of content, format, access methods, ...
  - SDP, SDPng, ...
- ▶ Content Description Delivery / Access Protocol
  - Delivers Content Description
  - HTTP, SMTP, NNTP, SAP, ...
- ▶ Content Access (= Media Streaming) Protocol
  - Initiates, controls, and terminates media streams
  - RTSP, proprietary protocols, ...
- ▶ Content Delivery (= Media Transport) Protocol
  - Carries the actual content
  - RTP/RTCP, proprietary protocols, ...

# Conceptual Overview





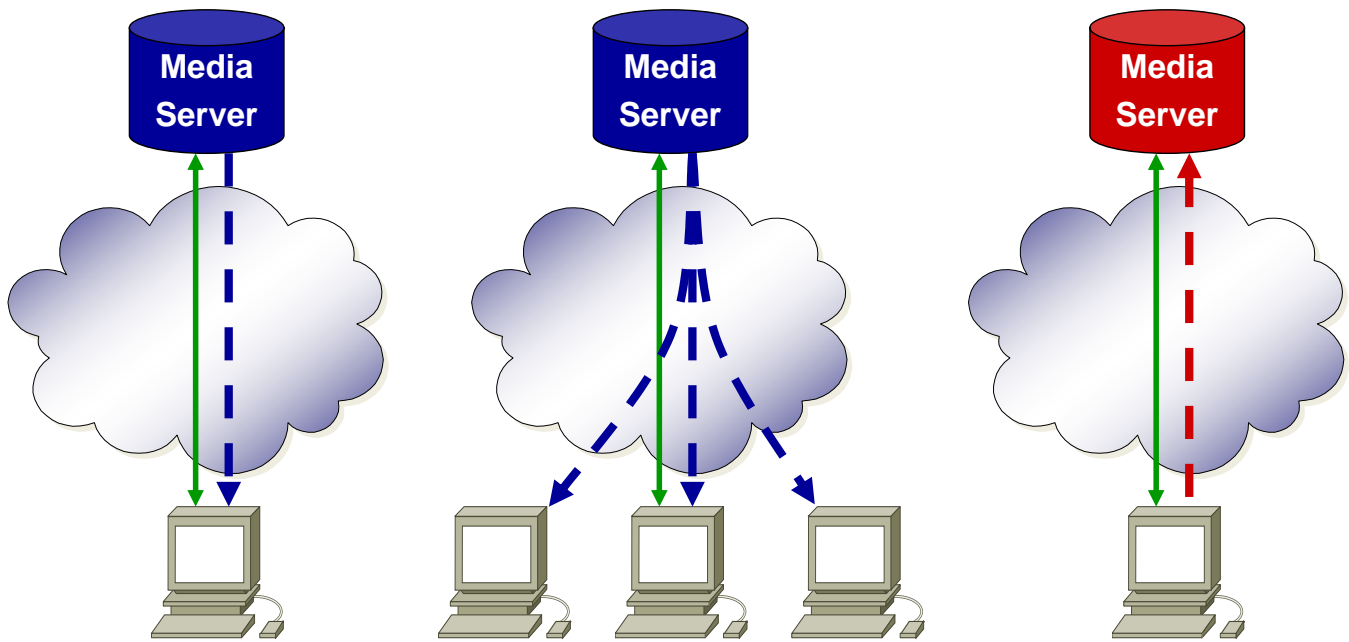
## Conceptual Overview



## Real-Time Streaming Protocol (RTSP)

- ▶ RFC 2326 (“buggy”, “underspecified”)
- ▶ draft-ietf-mmusic-rfc2326bis-13.txt
  
- ▶ Interactive streaming control in the Internet
  - Media servers provide media streams to users on demand
  - Content described by presentation descriptions
- ▶ “Network Remote Control” of a media server
  - PLAY [and RECORD]
  - Numerous options for media control
    - PAUSE, faster / slower playback, selection of ranges from a stream, ...

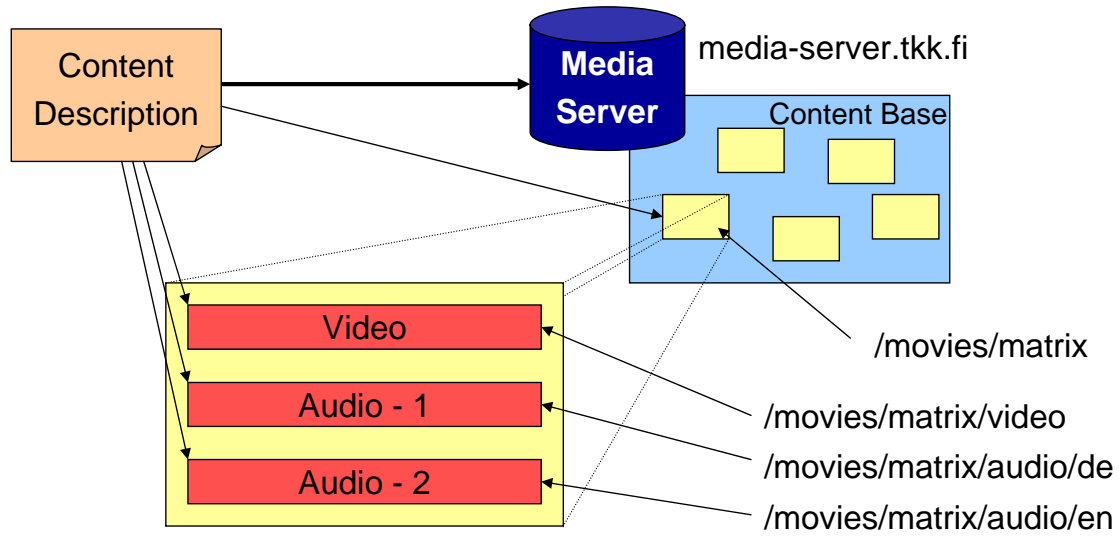
# RTSP Scenarios



# Protocol Characteristics

- ▶ Borrows heavily from HTTP
  - Syntax, quite a bit of semantics, parts of the architecture
- ▶ Important differences
  - Servers may issue requests, too!
    - Symmetric communication
  - Servers are stateful
  - Different methods
  - Different headers
    - But many HTTP headers re-used
  - Entities (=request/response bodies) only describe content
  - Content itself (=media) is carried out of band
    - e.g. in RTP; also support for interleaving of media with RTSP connection
- ▶ Transport: TCP [or UDP]
  - Reliability handled at the RTSP level

# RTSP Components



**`rtsp://media-server.tkk.fi/movies/matrix/audio/en`**

# RTSP URIs

- ▶ Schemes:
  - `rtsp`: reliable, connection-oriented (TCP)
  - `rtspu`: potentially unreliable, connectionless (UDP)
  - `rtsp`s: secure, reliable, connection-oriented (TLS)
  
- ▶ General scheme:
  - `rtsp:// host / local identifier`
  
- ▶ Host
  - Should be DNS name
  - Support for IPv4; IPv6 now being added
  
- ▶ Local Identifier
  - Opaque; may be used for aggregate / non-aggregate control



# Time in RTSP

## ▶ SMPTE Timestamps

- SMPTE = Society of Motion Picture Television Engineers
- Measured in hours, minutes, seconds, frames, fractions (subframes)
  - 29.97 or 25 frames per second (default: 29.97)
- Human readable HHH:MM:SS:FF.ff 3:47:09:10.25

## ▶ Normal Play Time (NPT $\neq$ NTP)

- Relative to beginning of stream
- In seconds: SS.fff 10.74
- In human readable time: HHH:MM:SS.fff 3:47:09.314159

## ▶ Absolute Time

- Using ISO 8601 format
- 20021211T101435.89Z

## ▶ (RTP Media Time)

- Media-specific clock for the RTP timestamp
- Synchronized with absolute time via RTCP



# RTSP Sessions

- ▶ Shared state between RTSP client and server
- ▶ Establish by SETUP message
- ▶ Removed by TEARDOWN
  - Or due to some timeout
- ▶ Independent of underlying TCP connections
  - TCP connections may be closed and re-opened during a single RTSP session
- ▶ Typically bound to a single presentation
  - in case of SDP, valid for one SDP session (description)
- ▶ May contain several RTP sessions
  - e.g. one per media stream



## RTSP Request Message

SETUP rtsp://ms.tkk.fi/movies/matrix RTSP/1.0

CSeq: 302

Date: 10 Dec 2002 15:35:06 GMT

Session: 47112344

Transport: RTP/AVP;unicast;  
client\_port=4588-4589

<CRLF>

[Optional Message Body]



## RTSP Response Message

RTSP/1.0 200 OK

CSeq: 302

Date: 10 Dec 2002 15:35:07 GMT

Server: Matrix-Server 0.4.2

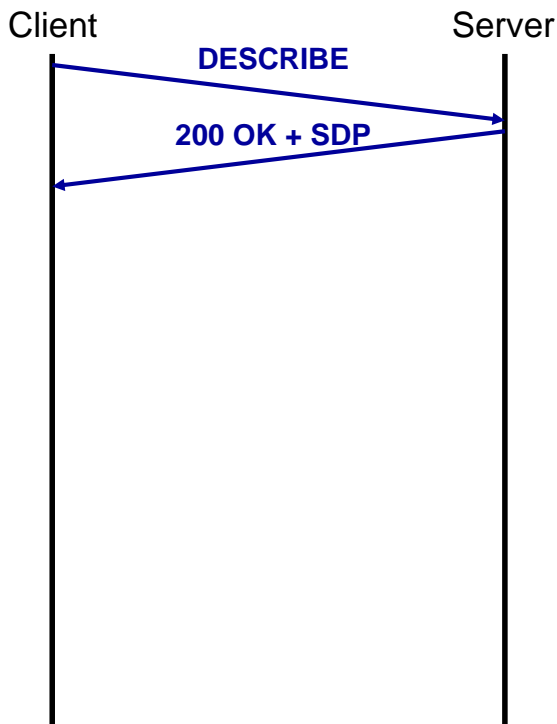
Session: 47112344

Transport: RTP/AVP;unicast;  
client\_port=4588-4589;server\_port=6256-6257

<CRLF>

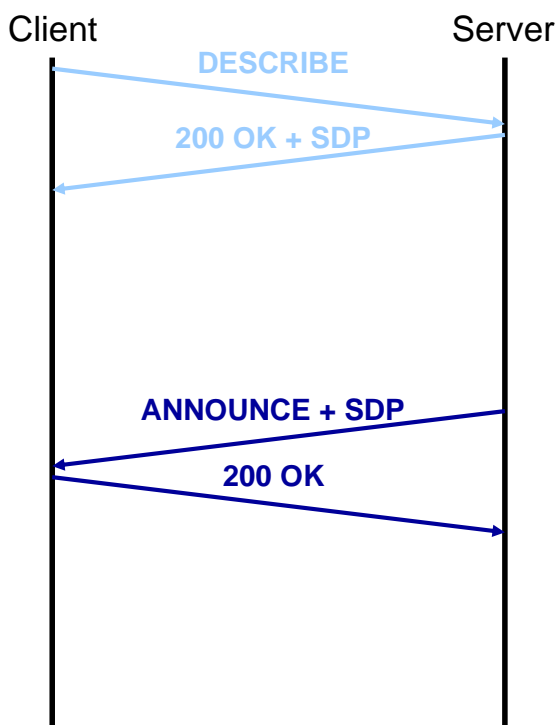
[Optional Message Body]

# RTSP Protocol Operation: DESCRIBE



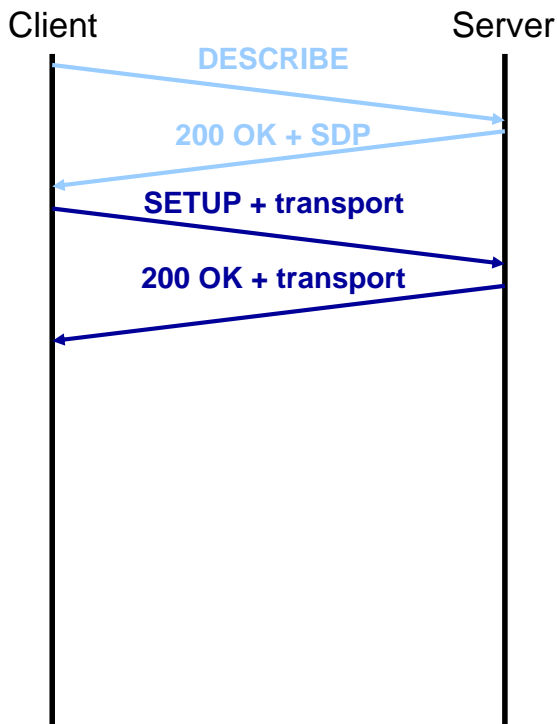
- ▶ Obtain presentation description from server
  - e.g. SDP
- ▶ Media initialization
  - Contains information about all embedded media streams
  - Support for aggregate / non-aggregate control
  - Allows a client to determine suitability of content
  - Choose encoding if possible
- ▶ Optional: description may be obtained out-of-band

# RTSP Protocol Operation: ANNOUNCE



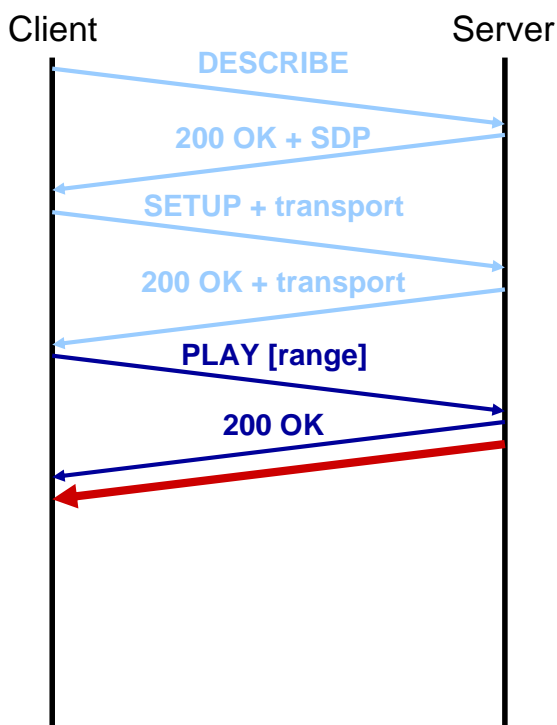
- ▶ Updates the presentation description actively from the server
  - e.g. add or remove media streams
- ▶ May be issued at any time

## RTSP Protocol Operation: SETUP



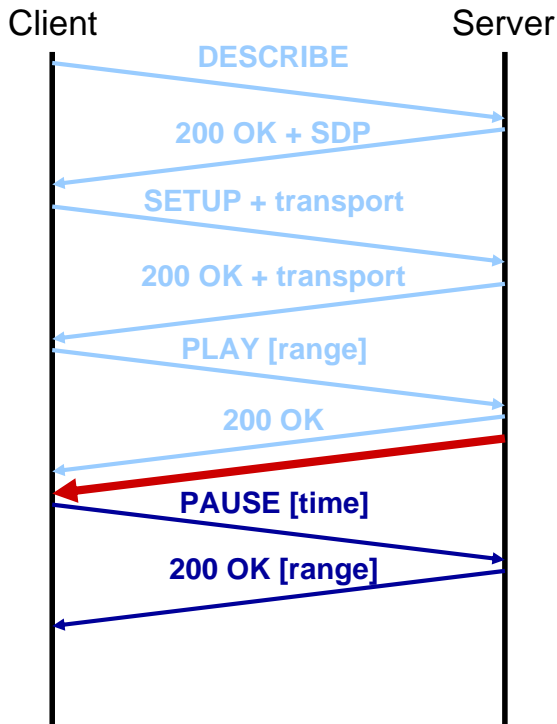
- ▶ Initiate an RTSP session
- ▶ Reserve resources at the server
  - Server may redirect to other servers (e.g. if busy)
- ▶ Convey transport parameters for media sessions
  - Negotiate transport protocol
  - e.g. RTP/UDP vs. tunneling
  - Enable firewalls to open holes

## RTSP Protocol Operation: PLAY



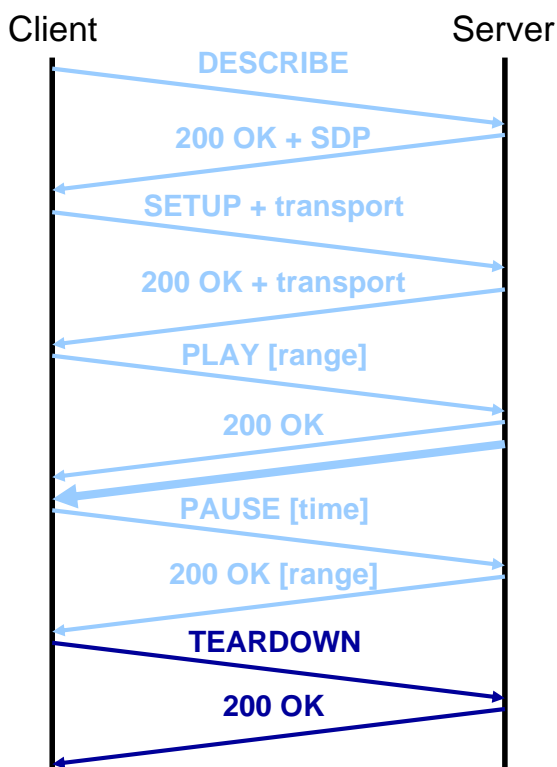
- ▶ Start streaming
- ▶ Allows to specify a variety of streaming operations
  - Range(s) to play
    - = seek operation
    - E.g. 10-20s; 30-45s; 60s-
  - Forward / backward
  - Speed
    - +3.0
    - -2.5

# RTSP Protocol Operation: PAUSE



- ▶ Interrupt streaming
  - But keep resources allocated
- ▶ May take effect
  - Immediately or
  - At a specified point in time
- ▶ PLAY may be used to resume streaming

# RTSP Protocol Operation: TEARDOWN



- ▶ Stop streaming
- ▶ Terminate RTSP session
  - Free resources
- ▶ Takes effect immediately





# RTSP Methods

- ▶ OPTIONS
- ▶ DESCRIBE, ANNOUNCE
- ▶ SETUP, TEARDOWN
- ▶ PLAY, PAUSE
- ▶ REDIRECT
  - May be used by a server to refer a client to a different location
- ▶ GET\_PARAMETER
  - Retrieve parameter value specified in the header (in the Session: context)
    - Returned in 200 OK response body as “Name: value” pairs
  - May be used for keep-alive purposes
- ▶ SET\_PARAMETER
  - Set value of parameter(s) per response body (“Name: value” pairs)
- ▶ [RECORD]
  - Record a media stream at a server
  - Underspecified, not really supported, now removed from base spec



# RTSP General Header Fields

(For reference only)

- ▶ Cache-Control:
- ▶ Connection:
- ▶ CSeq:
- ▶ Date:
- ▶ Timestamp:
- ▶ Via:



# RTSP Request Header Fields

(For reference only)

- ▶ **Accept:**, Accept-Encoding:, Accept-Language:
- ▶ Authorization:
- ▶ Bandwidth:
- ▶ Blocksize:
- ▶ From:
- ▶ If-Modified-Since:
- ▶ Require:, Proxy-Require:, Supported:
- ▶ Referer:
- ▶ Scale:, Speed:, Range:
- ▶ **Session:**
- ▶ **Transport:**
- ▶ User-Agent:



# Some Response Status Codes

- ▶ 100 Continue
- ▶ **200 OK** / 201 Created
- ▶ 300 Multiple Choices
- ▶ 301 Moved Permanently / 302 Moved Temporarily
- ▶ 304 Not Modified
- ▶ 305 Use Proxy
- ▶ 400 Bad Request
- ▶ 401 Unauthorized / 407 Proxy Authentication Required
- ▶ 403 Forbidden
- ▶ 404 Not Found
- ▶ 405 Method Not Allowed / 406 Not Acceptable / 408 Request Timeout
- ▶ 451 Parameter Not Understood
- ▶ 454 Session Not Found
- ▶ 455 Method not valid in this State / 457 Invalid Range
- ▶ 461 Unsupported Transport
- ▶ 500 Internal Server Error / 501 Not Implemented / 551 Option not Supported



# Response Header Fields

(For reference only)

- ▶ Accept-Ranges:
- ▶ Proxy-Authenticate: / WWW-Authenticate:
- ▶ Public:
- ▶ Location:
- ▶ Range: / Scale: / Speed:
- ▶ Retry-After:
- ▶ RTP-Info:
- ▶ Transport:
- ▶ Unsupported:
- ▶ Vary:
- ▶ Session:



# Entities

- ▶ Entities contained in RTSP messages are typically presentation descriptions
  - e.g. an SDP message  
(Content-Type: application/sdp)
  - Should always fully specify the media stream(s)
- ▶ Header fields:
  - Content-Length:, Content-Type:, Content-Encoding:, Content-Base:, Content-Location:, Content-Language:
  - Allow:
  - Last-Modified:, Expires:



# Interleaving

- ▶ RTSP should use RTP/UDP for media streaming
  - Not always feasible (e.g. firewall, see next slide)
  
- ▶ Interleaving of RTSP and media data
  - Escape binary data (“\$”)
  - Define multiple “channels”
  - Specify packet length in binary
  - Yields a four byte header:

\$	ch	length
----	----	--------

    - Interleaved with RTSP messages
    - Starts right after previous message
    - Length used to determine how many bytes to skip / pass

\$	ch	length
----	----	--------



# RTSP 2.0

- ▶ Presently under development (well advanced)
- ▶ draft-ietf-mmusic-rfc2326bis-13.txt
  
- ▶ Tons of editorial changes (readability, coherence, ...!)
- ▶ Better state machine descriptions
- ▶ Updated (more coherent) semantics for various header fields
  - Significant alignment with SIP based upon experience gained there
- ▶ RECORD disappeared from base spec
  - Was underspecified anyway
  
- ▶ Support for NAT traversal upcoming
  - draft-ietf-mmusic-rtsp-nat-04.txt



# Firewall Friendliness

- ▶ Several means to support RTSP across firewalls
  - Interleaving support
  - Transport: header indicates port numbers, IP addresses, ...
    - Firewall logic does not need to parse SDP format
  - SOCKS support
  
- ▶ Still may be insufficient
  - Firewalls may block RTSP in the first place
  - “Last resort”: HTTP tunneling
    - Really bad (dubious!)
    - Boils down to a competition between firewall vendors and application developers
    - Defeats the purpose of a firewall in the first place
  - Nevertheless: widely deployed (“HTTP streaming”)
    - Apple, Microsoft, ...



# RTSP: Implications for Session Descriptions

- ▶ Session Announcements (SAP)
  - Session Descriptions (SDP) specifies fixed parameter set
  - May be updated by the server later on
- ▶ HTTP-based retrieval of session information
  - SDP specifies fixed parameter set or alternatives
  - Client gets to choose one of these
- ▶ RTSP-based session initiation
  - SDP from server describes set of alternatives
  - Clients may choose which one to use
  - Both sides may update their offering / choice later
  
- ▶ Need for negotiating session parameters
  - Both side may provide suggestions, make choices, and update these
  - Particularly relevant for interactive communications
- ▶ Generalized Offer/Answer model for SDP + negotiation with SDPng

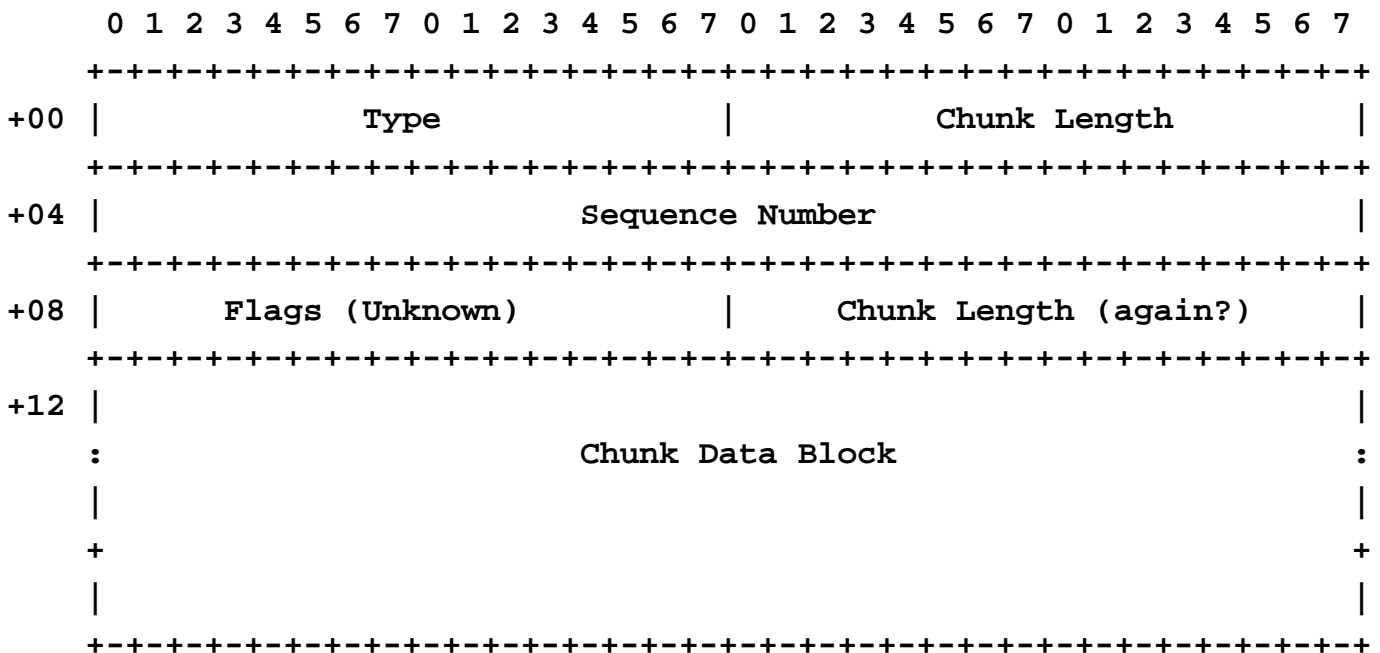


# “HTTP Streaming”

- ▶ Tunneling media and control in an HTTP connection
- ▶ Simplest case
  - Start replay before download is complete
  - No extensions needed
  - Mainly client-side operation
  - But: server needs to use appropriate media file format
- ▶ Alternative: add additional headers (MS)
  - Preserve packetization of media within a TCP connection



## Old(?) MS HTTP Streaming Format





## Sample Request Header (1/2)

GET test.asf HTTP/1.0

Accept: \*/\*

User-Agent: NSPlayer/4.1.0.3856

Host: media\_host

Pragma: no-cache,rate=1.000000,stream-time=0,stream-offset=0:0,  
request-context=1,max-duration=0

Pragma: xClientGUID={c77e7400-738a-11d2-9add-0020af0a3278}

Connection: Close



## Sample Request Header (2/2)

GET test.asf HTTP/1.0

Accept: \*/\*

User-Agent: NSPlayer/4.1.0.3856

Host: media\_host

Pragma: no-cache,rate=1.000000,stream-time=0,  
stream-offset=0:0,request-context=2,max-duration=40

Pragma: xPlayStrm=1

Pragma: xClientGUID={c77e7400-738a-11d2-9add-0020af0a3278}

Pragma: stream-switch-count=1

Pragma: stream-switch-entry=ffff:1:0

Connection: Close

# Sample Response Header

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Type: application/octet-stream

Server: Cougar 4.1.0.3920

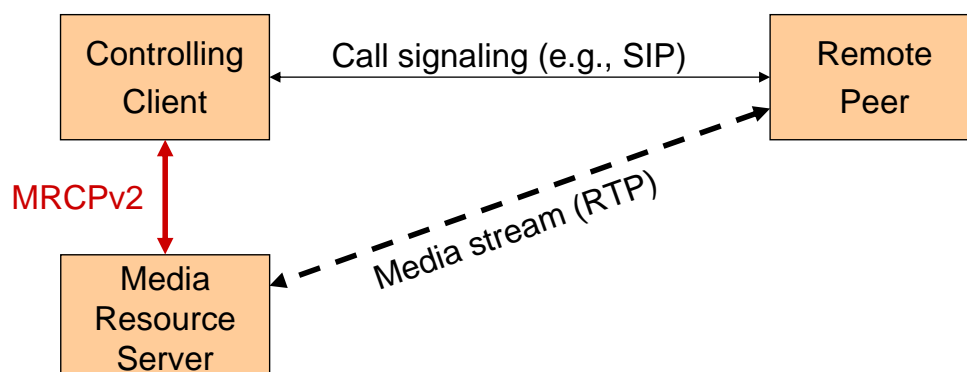
Cache-Control: no-cache

Pragma: no-cache

Pragma: features="broadcast"

# Media Resource Control Protocol (MRCPv2)

- ▶ Another protocol to control media resources
  - Based upon a proprietary version by Cisco et al. (MRCPv1, RFC 4443)
- ▶ Enable a client to task a third entity to perform on its behalf
  - Media stream generation (basic and advanced speech synthesis)
  - Media processing (recording, DTMF/speech recognition, speaker verification)







## MRCIPv2 Overview (1)

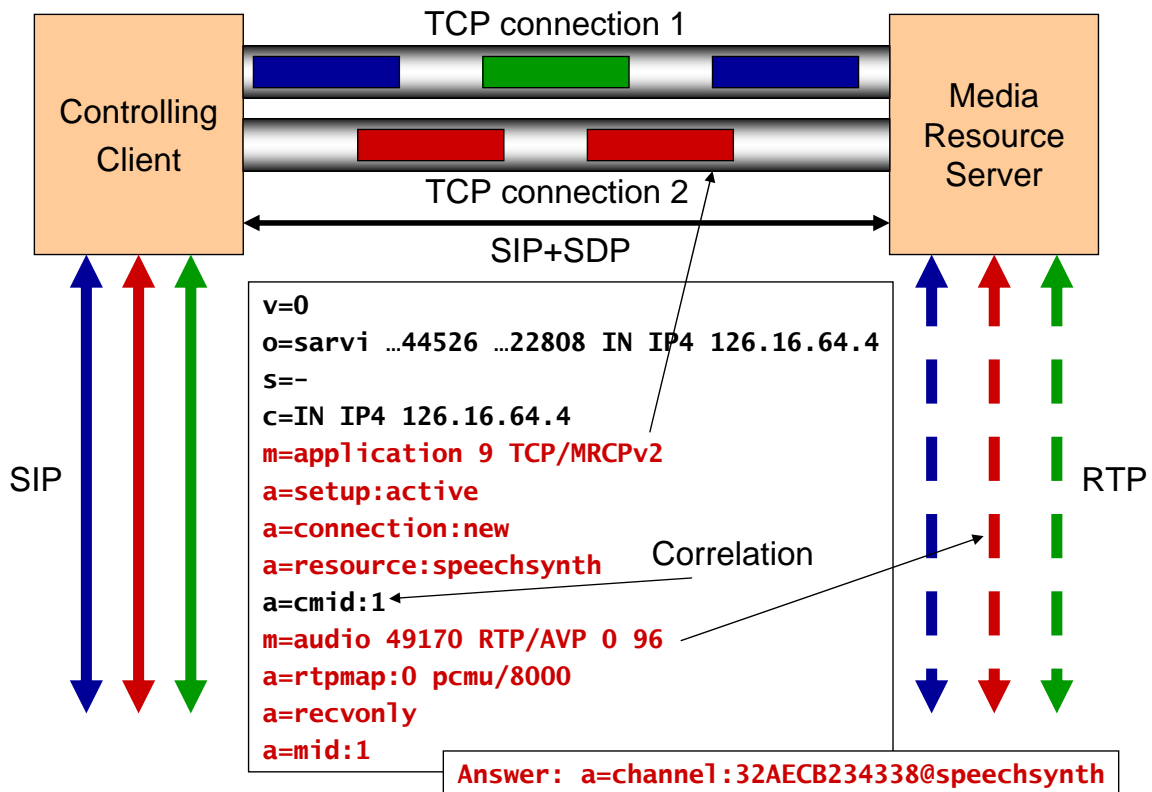
- ▶ MRCIPv2 defines a common framework for rather different application classes
- ▶ Commonalities
  - Media stream consumption or generation by a media resource server
  - Control of the media stream generation or processing by the client
  - Report on media stream contents, characteristics, and resource server status
- ▶ Text-based protocol
  - Start line + headers + message body
  - Borrows heavily from HTTP and RTSP
  - Yet, subtle differences (later)
  - Message bodies identified by entity headers (using MIME types, etc.)
- ▶ Symmetric operation
  - Both peers can initiate actions: Methods (client->server), Events (server->client)
  - Headers + contents to parameterize operations or deliver results



## MRCIPv2 Overview (2)

- ▶ Uses TCP as underlying transport (+ optional TLS)
  - Reliability required; limited real-time interaction requirements only (true?)
    - Or do we assume sufficiently well interconnected clients and media resources
  - One of more TCP connections multiplexed
    - Concept of logical channels
- ▶ Uses RTP for media streams
  - Explicit correlation to TCP control channels in SDP using new grouping
- ▶ Relies on SDP offer/answer (using SIP) for session setup
  - Connection-oriented media (TCP, TLS) as well as RTP sessions

## MRCP Overview (2)



## MRCP Packages

- ▶ Different command sets defined for different packets
  - Building upon a small common subset of protocol elements
  - Otherwise largely independent of one another
  - Methods and events, response codes
  - Header fields
  - Content types (references to externally defined content formats)
- ▶ One package type per application
  - Speech Recognition
  - DTMF Recognition
  - Basic synthesis
  - Speech synthesis
  - Speaker verification
  - Recording
- ▶ Highly specialized for the specific application domain
  - You wonder why all this stuff goes into a single spec



## Simple Example: Recording (1)

- ▶ **Methods**
  - RECORD — start recording
  - STOP — stop recording
  - START-INPUT-TIMERS — configuration
- ▶ **Events**
  - START-OF-INPUT — media stream recording has begun
  - RECORD-COMPLETE — recording done
- ▶ **Some useful headers**
  - Sensitivity-Level — for silence suppression
  - Media-Type — what to record
  - Record-URI — where to store recording
  - Trim-Length — limit length of recording
  - Capture-on-Speech — wait for speech
  - Various timeouts for input sensing, end of recording, ...
- ▶ **Message bodies**
  - Captured recording (unless stored at a URI)



## Simple Example: Recording (2)

```
C->S: MRCP/2.0 386 RECORD 543257
      Channel-Identifier:32AECB23433802@recorder
      Record-URI:<file://mediaserver/recordings/myfile.wav>
      Capture-On-Speech:true
      Final-Silence:300
      Max-Time:6000

S->C: MRCP/2.0 48 456234 200 IN-PROGRESS
      Channel-Identifier:32AECB23433802@recorder

S->C: MRCP/2/0 49 START-OF-INPUT 456234 IN-PROGRESS
      Channel-Identifier:32AECB23433802@recorder

S->C: MRCP/2.0 54 RECORD-COMPLETE 456234 COMPLETE
      Channel-Identifier:32AECB23433802@recorder
      Completion-Cause:000 success-silence
      Record-URI:<file://mediaserver/recordings/myfile.wav>;
      size=242552;duration=25645
```



# More Media Control

- ▶ Media Gateway Control Protocol (MEGACOP)
  - Configuring (PSTN) media gateways for IP telephony
  - Controlling media resource functions in 3GPP
  
- ▶ Media Server Control Markup Language and Protocol
  - Controlling conference servers
  - Controlling Interactive Voice Response (IVR) systems
  
- ▶ MEDIACTL WG in the IETF (newly created last week)
  
- ▶ Lots of non-IETF work (e.g., W3C)
  
- ▶ Gains importance in the context of service creation for interpersonal communications (using SIP)