Interaction Protocols

Martin Thompson - @mjpt777
Code
Are protocols the most significant human discovery?
protocol
noun \ ˈprō-tə-kəl \
protocol
noun \ ˈprō-tə-kəl \ 

: a code prescribing strict adherence to correct etiquette and precedence

Source: http://www.merriam-webster.com/
Protocol
noun \ ˈprō-tə-ˌkōl \n
: a code prescribing strict adherence to correct etiquette and precedence

: a set of conventions governing the treatment and formatting of data in an electronic communications system

Source: http://www.merriam-webster.com/
Evolutionary Biology
Facial Expressions
Etiquette & Manners
Evolution of Communities

Hygiene $\iff$ Disease

Courtesy $\iff$ Society

Norms $\iff$ Trust
Rules of Engagement

“What is acceptable”

“Good conditions to succeed”

“Jus ad bellum, Jus ad bello”
Concurrent & Distributed Systems
How to Interact
IETF
(Internet Engineering Task Force)
Hyper Text Coffee Pot Control Protocol (HTCPCP/1.0)

Status of this Memo

This memo provides information for the Internet community. It does not specify an Internet standard of any kind. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

Copyright Notice

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Abstract

This document describes HTCPCP, a protocol for controlling, monitoring, and diagnosing coffee pots.
418

“I'm a teapot”
ON HOLY WARS AND A PLEA FOR PEACE

INTRODUCTION

This is an attempt to stop a war. I hope it is not too late and that somehow, magically perhaps, peace will prevail again.

The latecomers into the arena believe that the issue is: "What is the proper byte order in messages?".

The root of the conflict lies much deeper than that. It is the question of which bit should travel first, the bit from the little end of the word, or the bit from the big end of the word? The followers of the former approach are called the Little-Endians, and the followers of the latter are called the Big-Endians. The details of the holy war between the Little-Endians and the Big-Endians are documented in [6] and described, in brief, in the Appendix. I recommend that you read it at this point.
A Standard for the Transmission of IP Datagrams on Avian Carriers

Status of this Memo

This memo describes an experimental method for the encapsulation of IP datagrams in avian carriers. This specification is primarily useful in Metropolitan Area Networks. This is an experimental, not recommended standard. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

Overview and Rational

Avian carriers can provide high delay, low throughput, and low altitude service. The connection topology is limited to a single point-to-point path for each carrier, used with standard carriers, but many carriers can be used without significant interference with each other, outside of early spring. This is because of the 3D ether space available to the carriers, in contrast to the 1D ether used by IEEE802.3. The carriers have an intrinsic collision avoidance system, which increases availability. Unlike some network technologies, such as packet radio, communication is not limited to line-of-sight distance. Connection oriented service is available in some cities, usually based upon a central hub topology.
IP over Avian Carriers with Quality of Service

Status of this Memo

This memo defines an Experimental Protocol for the Internet community. It does not specify an Internet standard of any kind. Discussion and suggestions for improvement are requested. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

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Abstract

This memo amends RFC 1149, "A Standard for the Transmission of IP Datagrams on Avian Carriers", with Quality of Service information. This is an experimental, not recommended standard.

Overview and Rational

The following quality of service levels are available: Concorde, First, Business, and Coach. Concorde class offers expedited data delivery. One major benefit to using Avian Carriers is that this is the only networking technology that earns frequent flyer miles, plus the Concorde and First classes of service earn 50% bonus miles per packet. Ostriches are an alternate carrier that have much greater bulk transfer capability but provide slower delivery, and require the use of bridges between domains.
Adaptation of RFC 1149 for IPv6

Abstract

This document specifies a method for transmission of IPv6 datagrams over the same medium as specified for IPv4 datagrams in RFC 1149.

Status of This Memo

This document is not an Internet Standards Track specification; it is published for informational purposes.

This is a contribution to the RFC Series, independently of any other RFC stream. The RFC Editor has chosen to publish this document at its discretion and makes no statement about its value for implementation or deployment. Documents approved for publication by the RFC Editor are not a candidate for any level of Internet Standard; see Section 2 of RFC 5741.
How should we document our protocols?
API vs Protocol
Open, *[Read | Write]*, Close
Open, *[Read | Write]*, Close

1. Open: ...
2. Read: ...
3. Write: ...
4. Close: ...
Think *events* and then consider: pre, post, and invariant conditions
“What can go wrong?”
Multicast Example
ACK / NAK Implosion
A Reliable Multicast Framework for Light-weight Sessions and Application Level Framing

Sally Floyd, Van Jacobson, Ching-Gung Liu, Steven McCanne, and Lixia Zhang


Abstract—This paper describes SRM (Scalable Reliable Multicast), a reliable multicast framework for light-weight sessions and application level framing. The algorithms of this framework are efficient, robust, and scale well to both very large networks and very large sessions. The SRM framework has been prototyped in wb, a distributed whiteboard application, which has been used on a global scale with sessions ranging from a few to a few hundred participants. The paper describes the principles that have guided the SRM design, including the IP multicast group delivery model, an end-to-end, receiver-based model of reliability, and the application level framing protocol model. As with unicast communications, the performance of a reliable multicast delivery algorithm depends on the underlying topology and operational environment. We investigate that dependence via analysis and simulation, and demonstrate an adaptive algorithm that uses the results of previous loss recovery events to adapt the control parameters used for future loss recovery. With the adaptive algorithm, our reliable multicast delivery algorithm provides good performance over a wide range of underlying topologies.

recognized. In 1990 Clark and Tennenhouse proposed a new protocol model called Application Level Framing (ALF) which explicitly includes an application's semantics in the design of that application's protocol [6]. ALF was later elaborated with a light-weight rendezvous mechanism based on the IP multicast distribution model, and with a notion of receiver-based adaptation for unreliable, real-time applications such as audio and video conferencing. The result, known as Light-Weight Sessions (LWS) [19], has been very successful in the design of wide-area, large-scale, conferencing applications. This paper further evolves the principles of ALF and LWS to add a framework for Scalable Reliable Multicast (SRM).

ALF says that the best way to meet diverse application re-
Optimal Multicast Feedback

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Abstract

We investigate the scalability of feedback in multicast communication and propose a new method of probabilistic feedback based on exponentially distributed timers. By analysis and simulation for up to $10^6$ receivers we show that feedback implosion is avoided with good latency performance obtained. The mechanism is robust against the loss of feedback messages and robust against homogeneous and heterogeneous delays. We apply the feedback mechanism to reliable multicast and compare it to existing timer-based feedback schemes. Our mechanism achieves lower NAK latency for the same performance in NAK suppression. It is scalable, the amount of state at every group member is independent of the number of receivers. No topological information of the network is used and data delivery is the only support required from the network. It adapts to the number of receivers and leads therefore to a constant performance for implosion avoidance and feedback latency.

The sender, wasted bandwidth, and high processing requirements. Feedback implosion imposes high requirements to the mechanism for feedback implosion avoidance. Several solutions exist for implosion avoidance based on hierarchies, timers, tokens and probing (see section 5 on related work).

Very little work [2, 3] was done on the analysis of timer-based schemes for multicast feedback. We give the analytical foundation of timer-based feedback, where the timer choice, the sender-receiver delays and the delays between receivers can be modeled by arbitrary distributions. The analysis allows to compute:

- The expected number $E(X)$ of FBM returned to the sender.
- The expected feedback delay $E(M)$ due to the timers.

We propose a new probabilistic feedback method for multicast based on exponentially distributed timers and show by analysis and simulation for up to $10^6$ receivers that feedback implosion is avoided. We show the robustness of our mechanism to loss of...
Where should we focus?
Many Aspects to Consider

- Layering
- Versioning
- Encoding
- Addressing
- Error Handling
- Flow Control
- Congestion Control

- Feedback
- Sequencing
- Batching
- Sync/Async
- Validation
- Trust
- Privacy
Don’t use text codecs! Please use binary codecs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R</th>
<th>Frame Length</th>
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<th>R</th>
<th>Term Offset</th>
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<th>Version</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>Flags</th>
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<th>R</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Encoded Message</th>
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Versioning
Versioning/Identity

- Protocols: What conversation?
Versioning/Identity

- **Protocols**: What conversation?
- **Messages**: What encoding?
Versioning/Identity

- **Protocols**: What conversation?
- **Messages**: What encoding?
- **State**: What instance?
MPMC Queue

http://www.1024cores.net/
In Search of an Understandable Consensus Algorithm
(Extended Version)

Diego Ongaro and John Ousterhout
Stanford University

Abstract

Raft is a consensus algorithm for managing a replicated log. It produces a result equivalent to (multi-)Paxos, and it is as efficient as Paxos, but its structure is different from Paxos; this makes Raft more understandable than Paxos and also provides a better foundation for building practical systems. In order to enhance understandability, Raft separates the key elements of consensus, such as leader election, log replication, and safety, and it enforces a stronger degree of coherency to reduce the number of states that must be considered. Results from a user study demonstrate that Raft is easier for students to learn than Paxos. Raft also includes a new mechanism for changing the cluster membership, which uses overlapping majorities to guarantee safety.

state space reduction (relative to Paxos, Raft reduces the degree of nondeterminism and the ways servers can be inconsistent with each other). A user study with 43 students at two universities shows that Raft is significantly easier to understand than Paxos: after learning both algorithms, 33 of these students were able to answer questions about Raft better than questions about Paxos.

Raft is similar in many ways to existing consensus algorithms (most notably, Oki and Liskov's Viewstamped Replication [29, 22]), but it has several novel features:

- Strong leader: Raft uses a stronger form of leadership than other consensus algorithms. For example, log entries only flow from the leader to other servers. This simplifies the management of the replicated log and makes Raft easier to understand.
Sync vs Async
Synchronous
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What’s Happening?
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What's Happening?
But, but, synchronous is much easier...
...it’s all about feedback and managing state
Events model the real world, i.e. it’s distributed
When designing an API provide Async with an Sync wrapper if you must
RPC / HTTP / TCP
TCP $\rightarrow$ TCP Fast Open $\rightarrow$ QUIC

HTTP/1.1 $\rightarrow$ SPDY $\rightarrow$ HTTP/2

TLS 1.2 $\rightarrow$ TLS 1.3

Abstract

This document specifies version 1.3 of the Transport Layer Security (TLS) protocol. TLS allows client/server applications to communicate over the Internet in a way that is designed to prevent eavesdropping, tampering, and message forgery.

This document updates RFCs 5705 and 6066, and obsoletes RFCs 5077, 5246, and 6961. This document also specifies new requirements for TLS 1.2 implementations.
Batching
Etiquette of a request
100 GigE ?
Syscalls
Future of Syscalls

sndmmsg, rcvmmmsg()

Onload, VMA
DPDK, ef_vi, RDMA Verbs
Natural Batching & Mechanical Sympathy
ORMs vs SQL
Snake Oil Protocols
2PC / XA
Consensus on Transaction Commit

Jim Gray and Leslie Lamport
Microsoft Research

1 January 2004
revised 19 April 2004, 8 September 2005
“Two-Phase Commit is not fault tolerant because it uses a single coordinator whose failure can cause the protocol to block”
Protocols requiring arbitration
Guaranteed Delivery™
Applications should have feedback & recovery protocols
Protocol Layering

Depend on behaviour, not implementation
Wrapping up…
Are protocols the most significant human discovery?
Question, Hypothesis, Prediction, Experiment, Analysis
Why are protocols not studied and practiced more?
Your next project =>

1. Frameworks? ⊕ Protocols?
2. ...

Questions?

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https://github.com/real-logic/aeron

“A distributed system is one in which the failure of a computer you didn't even know existed can render your own computer unusable.”

- Leslie Lamport