

A Short History of SIP

marcus evans SIP Conference
Geneva, Switzerland

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31 May 2001

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Overview

- IETF Multimedia Conferencing
- Key Features
- SIP Evolution
- SIPit: Interoperability Events
- Working Group(s) and Tasks
- Conclusion

IETF Conferencing

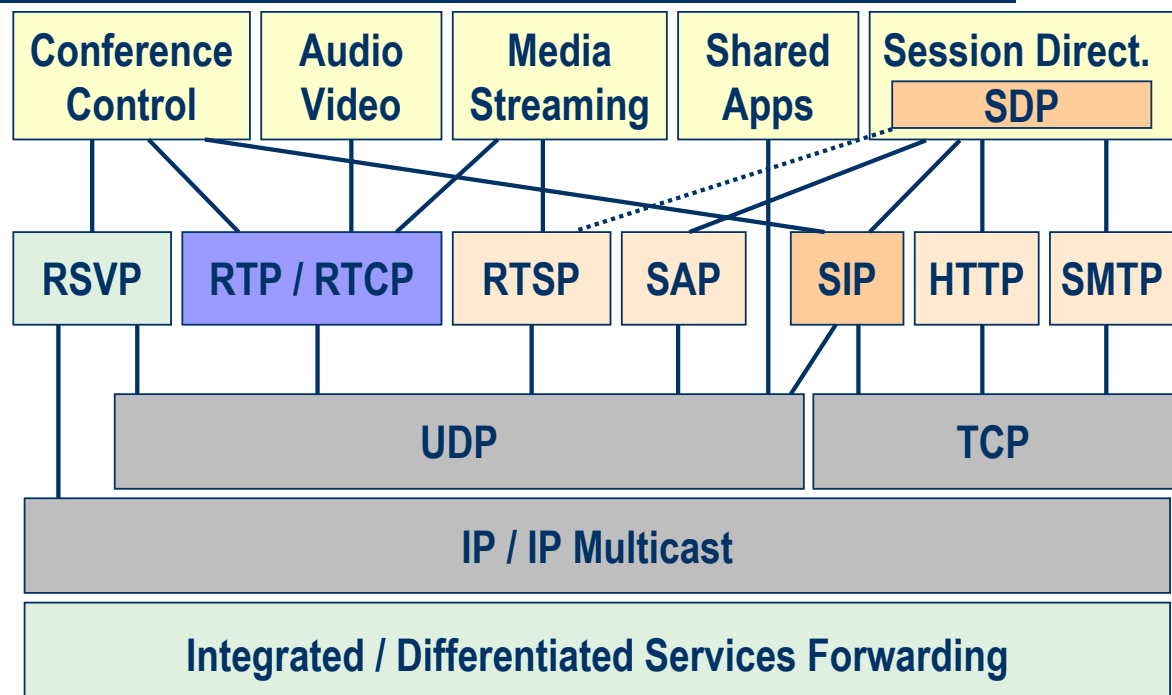
- Packet multimedia experiments since 1980s
 - Audio/video tools + protocols for A/V over IP
 - Conference announcement and control protocols
- First IETF Audiocast (1992)
- Since then: IETF sessions on the Mbone
 - Audio + video (+ sometimes slides)
- Other uses of Mbone conferencing
 - Lectures, seminars, project meetings, ...
 - Broadcasting NASA missions, concerts, ...

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IETF Conferencing Architecture

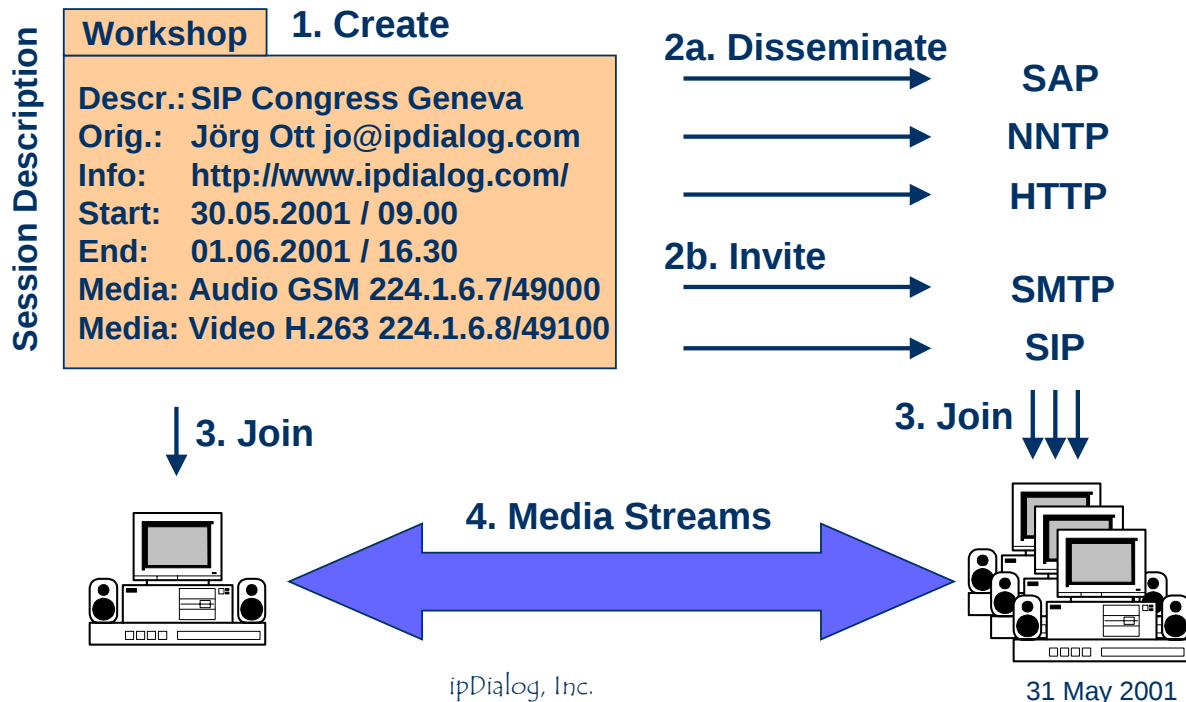


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IETF Conferencing Model



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SIP Functionality over Time...

- Origin: MMUSIC
Multiparty Multimedia Session Control
- From Invitation... to initiation, modification, and termination
- From Multiparty... to point-to-point-focused
- From Multimedia... to voice-centric

The latter is not SIP — but it is the way SIP is looked at today in many cases.

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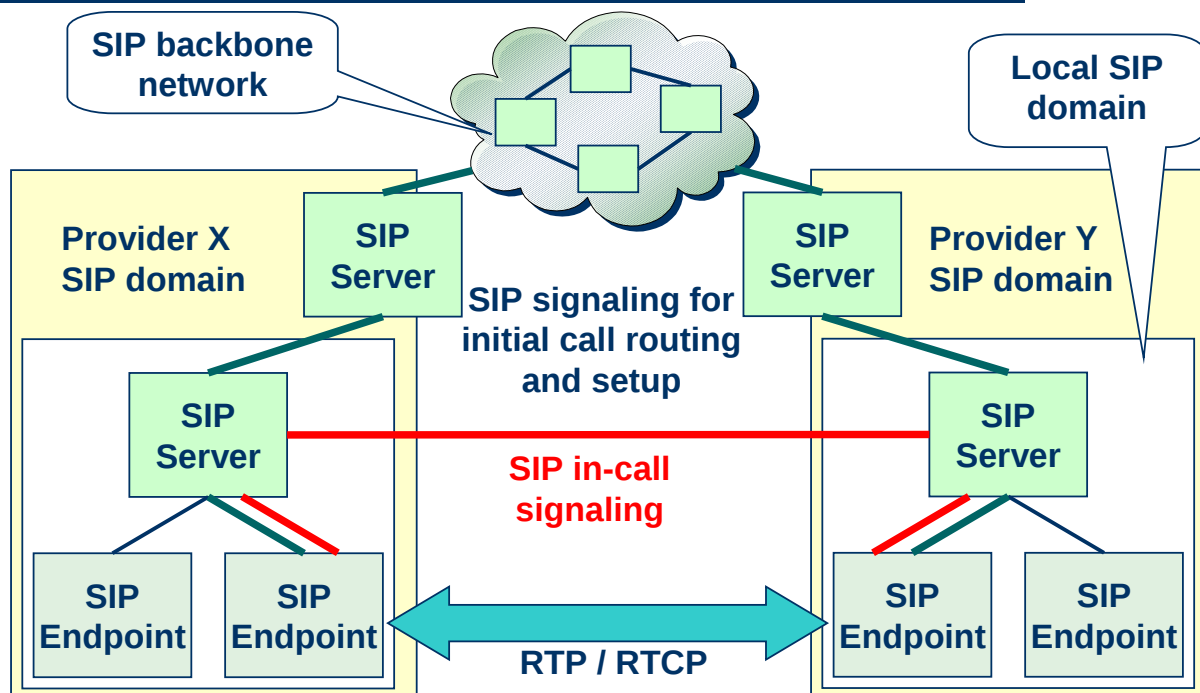
SIP Key Features...

Learning from and using other Internet protocols

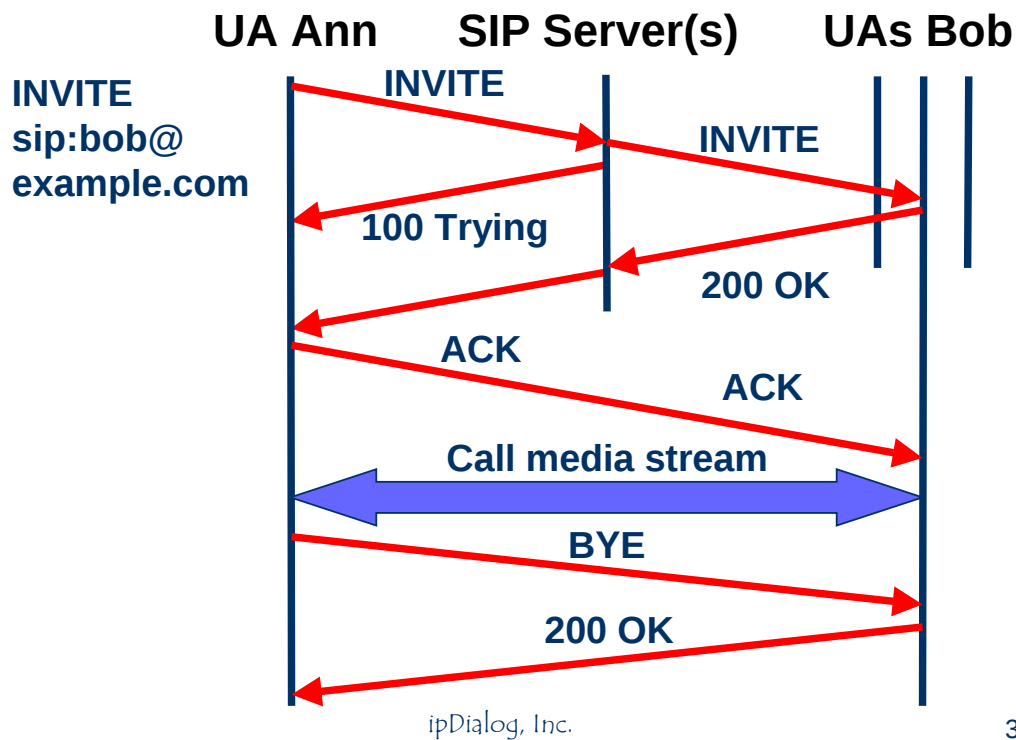
- Clean, flexible, distributed architecture
- URL addressing scheme
- Well-defined logical functions
- User location, forking, redirection
- Media and session independent
- Text-based protocol syntax

Openness: support from a broad community...

Sample SIP System Architecture



A Simple SIP Call



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Timeline: 1996

Initial Internet Drafts:

Session Invitation Protocol (SIP) – M. Handley, E. Schooler

Simple Conference Invitation Protocol (SCIP) – H. Schulzrinne

SIP: Setup +
Caps Negotiation

SCIP: Setup + Caps
Modify + Terminate

Presentations
at 35th IETF,
Los Angeles

Merged Draft:
SIP -01

Main Features set:
TCP/UDP, Forking,
Redirection, addrs
INVITE,CAPABILITY
From: To: Path:

22 Feb 1996

4-8 Mar 1996

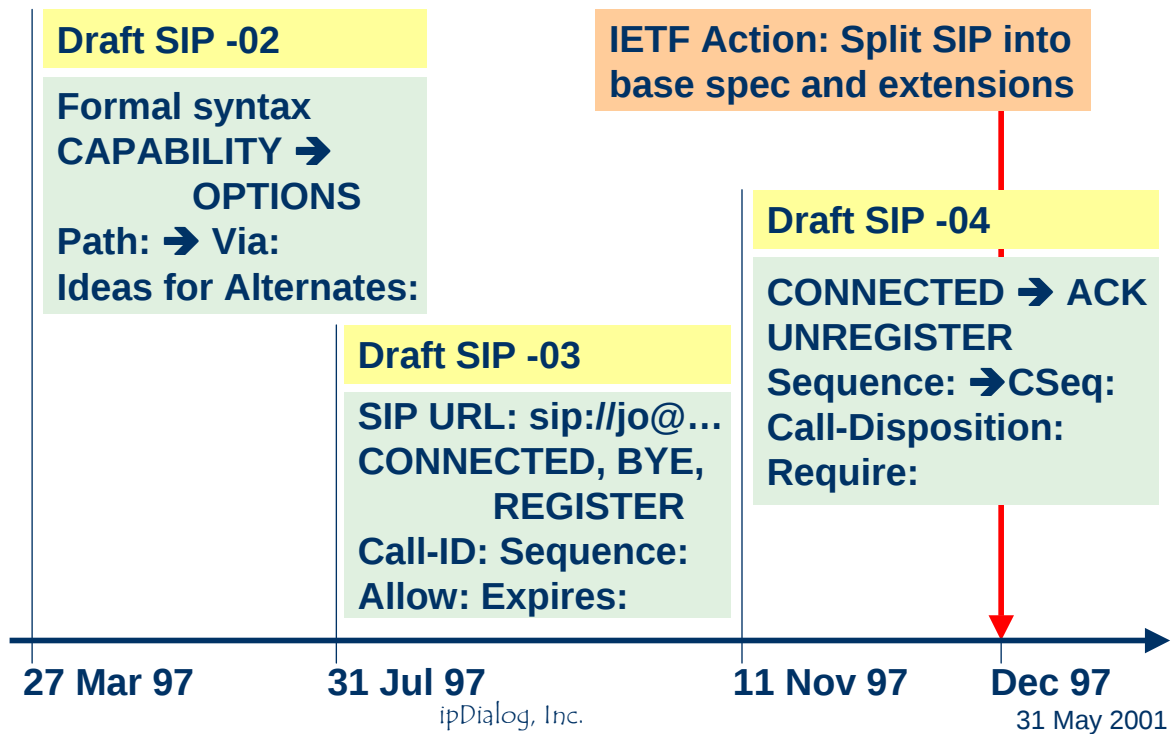
2 Dec 1996

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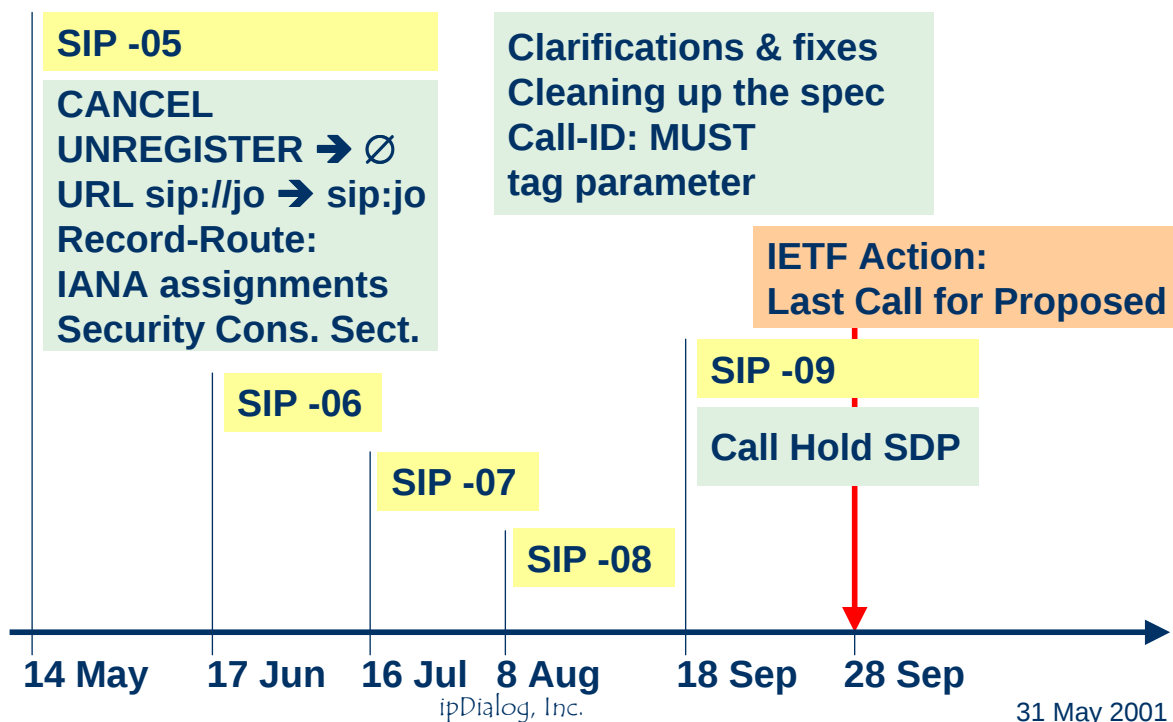
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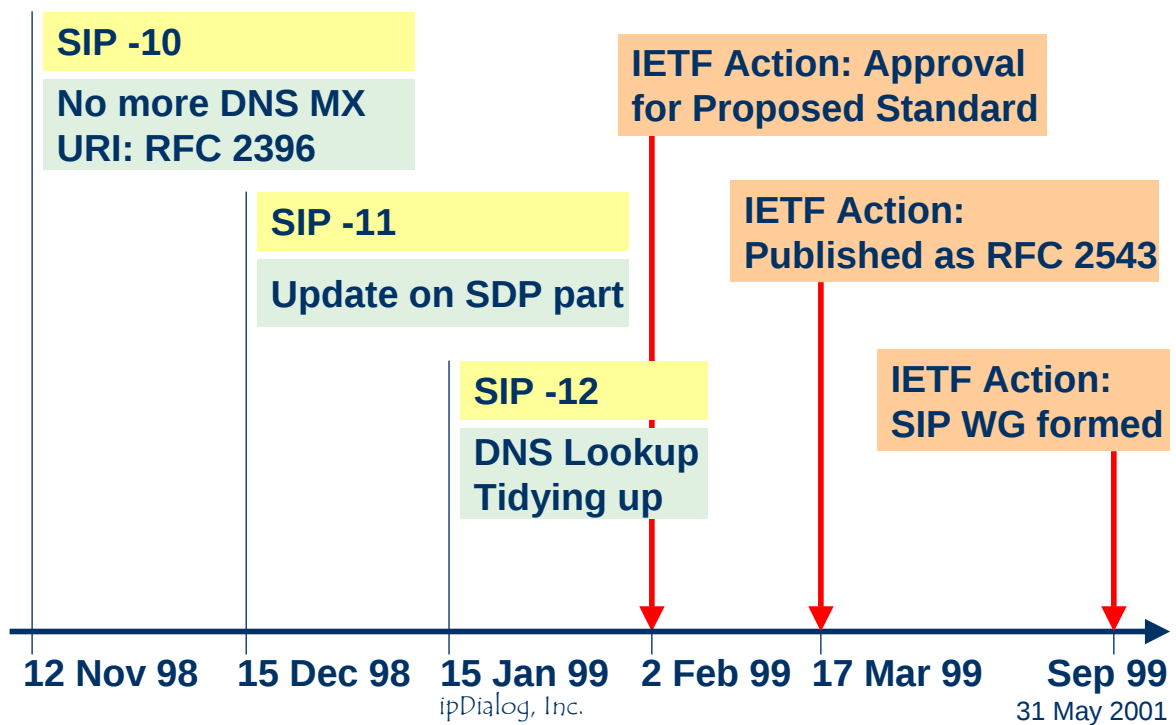
Timeline: 1997



Timeline: 1998

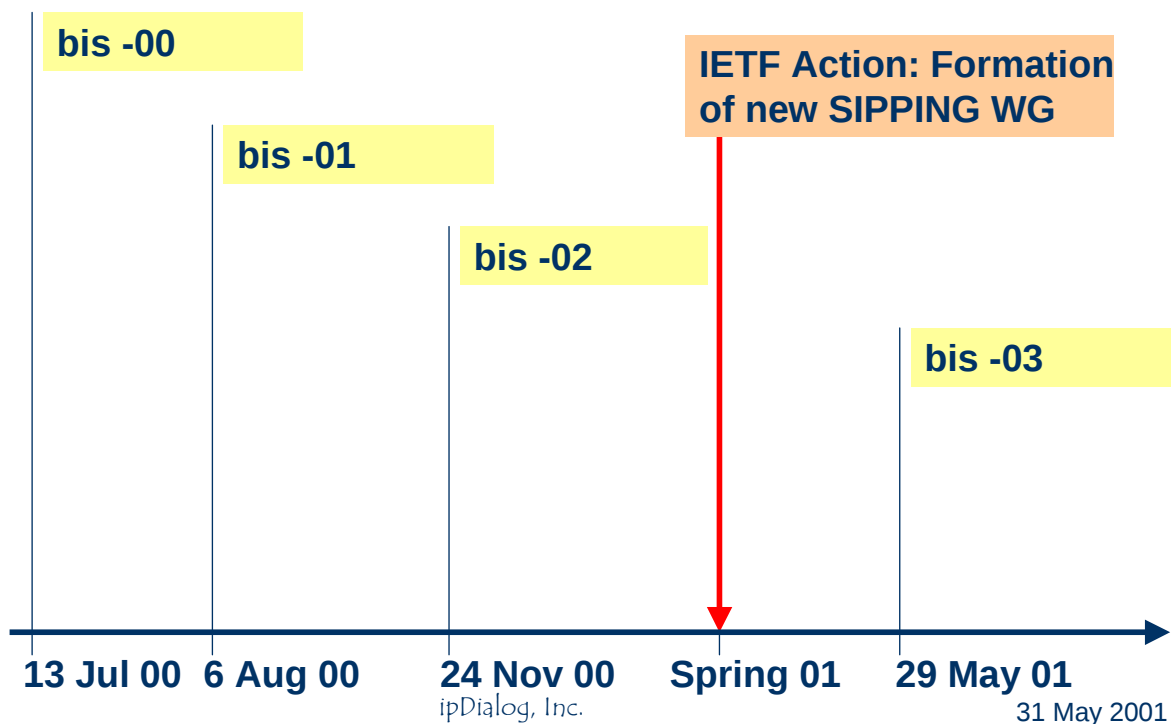


Timeline: 1998/99



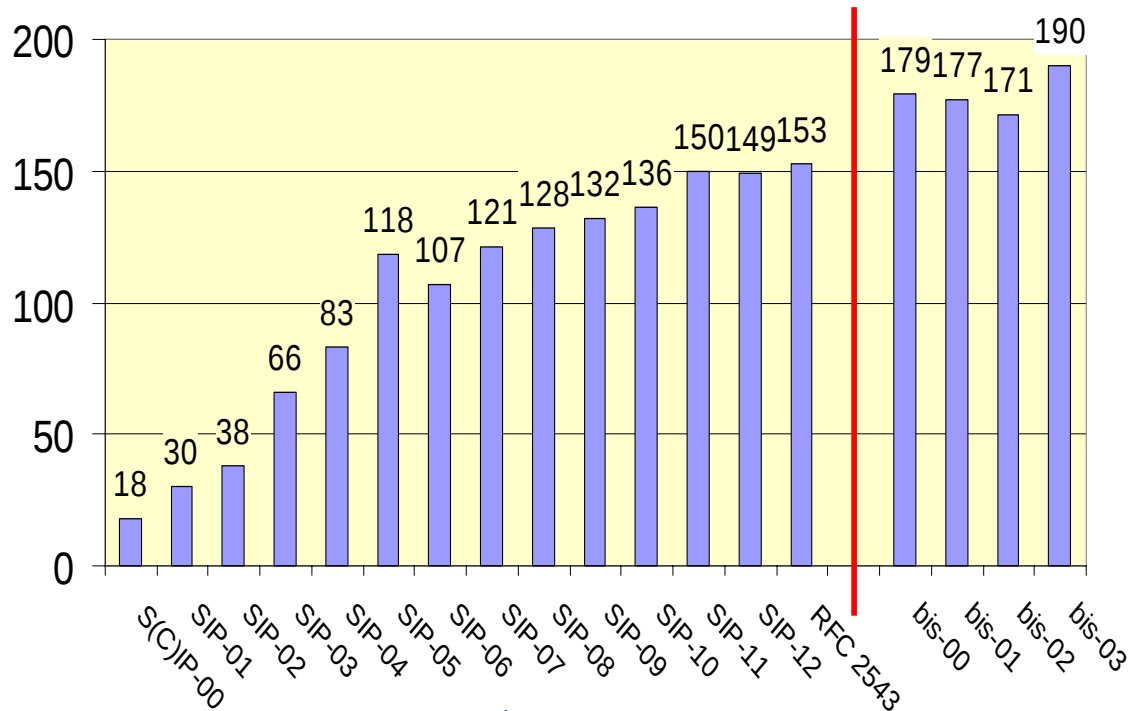
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Timeline: 2000/01



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“Weight” of SIP Base Spec



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SIP Functionality and Services

- Set up, modify, and terminate media sessions
- Registration, user location, mobility
- Hooks for policing (and user control/preferences)
- Web and media integration
- Flexible service creation platform — end-to-end
- Telephony, PBX functions, ...

Has been / will be covered in other talks!

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What comprises SIP today?

RFC 2327: Session Description Protocol (SDP)
RFC 2543: Session Initiation Protocol + bis-03
RFC 2824: Call Processing Language
RFC 2976: The SIP INFO Method
RFC 3050: SIP CGI
RFC 3087: SIP Request-URIs for Service Control

SIP Guidelines

SIP Call Flows

Session Timer

Reliable provisional responses

Third Party Call Control

State Cookies

SIP MIB

SIP DHCP Option

SIP Server Location

Caller preferences

Server Features

Call Framework + Transfer

SIP-T work

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SIP Interoperability Tests

- Term “Bake-off” banned because of lawsuit
- “Definition” of a SiPit event:
 - Informal gathering of engineers
 - To test interoperability and robustness
 - Of products and prototypes
 - With on-site debugging
- Goals: improve implementations and specs

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SIP Interoperability Tests

- Tests
 - Peer to peer and in groups
- Test classification
 - Basic and Intermediate SIP capabilities for UAs
 - Advanced SIP capabilities for Proxies
 - Test scenarios
- Preparation
 - Documentation: Torture tests, call flows
 - Tools: Free / cheap implementations, servers, ...

Interop Events

1	Apr 1999	Columbia University	16
2	Aug 1999	Pulver.com	15
3	Dec 1999	Ericsson	26
4	Apr 2000	3Com	36
5	Aug 2000	Pulver.com	44
6	Dec 2000	Sylantro/Sun	57
7	Mar 2001	ETSI	58
8	Aug 2001	Ubiquity	
9	Dec 2001	Nuera	

“Newer” Aspects for SIP

- (SIP for Telephony Interworking: SIP-T)
 - SIP for Mobility (3G)
 - SIP for QoS and Billing
 - Tough in the end-to-end world (“what to bill for?”)
 - SIP and Firewalls
 - SIP and Conferencing?
-
- SIP for Instant Messaging, Personal Presence
 - Proposal: SIP for Appliances?

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SIP for Conferencing...?

- Multimedia Capability Signaling
 - SDPng development
- Multiparty Conferencing
 - Invitation to Mbone
 - Initiation, meeting termination
 - Distribution of participant information
 - An
- SIP for Conference Management?

YES

YES

NO

LIMITED INTEREST

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SIP Working Group(s)

- MMUSIC
 - Developed SIP from Feb 1996 to Feb 1999
 - Still takes care of SDP and SDPng
- SIP
 - Initiated in Oslo (Sep 1999) for “load balancing”
 - Look after the base spec + core protocol extensions
- SIPPING
 - About to be approved by the IESG
 - Work on applications of SIP
 - and possibly feed requirements to SIP WG

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SIP WG

- RFC 2543 bis
- SIP Call Control
- Caller preferences, server features
- Reliable provisional responses
- Session timers
- SIP MIB
- State Cookies
- Security and Privacy
- SIP Events
- NAT-friendly SIP

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SIPPING WG (Draft Stage)

- SIP for Telephony (SIP-T)
- SIP Support for Hearing Impaired Users
- H.323 Interworking
- 3G Networks
- SIP Usage Guidelines
- Multiparty Conferencing
- SIP Application Components
- Call Control, Message Waiting, ...
- Living w/ MIME, DNS, DHCP, ENUM, ...
- ...

SIP-related Groups

- PINT: origin of SUBSCRIBE/NOTIFY
- IPTEL: CPL and TRIP
- SIMPLE: SIP for Presence
- SPIRITS: SIP as “transport” mechanism
- PacketCable DCS
- 3GPP, 3GPP2
 - Using SIP for the next generation wireless networks
- ETSI Tiphon, IMTC: H.323 Interworking, Tests
- SIP Forum

Important: Keeping SIP “Clean”

- “Trendy” standards attract many contributors
 - well, sometimes too many contributors...
- Difficult to maintain architectural integrity
 - explosion of functions, fields, uses, interpretations, ...
- Sheer volume of contributions hard to co-ordinate
- When SIP is no longer used as SIP...
 - “We use SIP - but with the following changes...”
 - “SIP for everything - just because it’s there...”
- Risks for durability and future evolution

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Conclusion

- SIP has changed and expanded quite a bit
- Managed to keep its architectural integrity

Key components:

- Internet-style protocol for the Internet
- Developed and reviewed in an open process

But:

- Don’t SIP everything!

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Further Information

www.ietf.org/html.charters/sip-charter.html

www.softarmor.com/sipwg

www.cs.columbia.edu/~hgs/sip

www.cs.columbia.edu/~hgs/sip/sipit