Max Media Source Count

Jonathan Lennox

draft-lennox-mmusic-sdp-max-sources-00.txt

The Problem
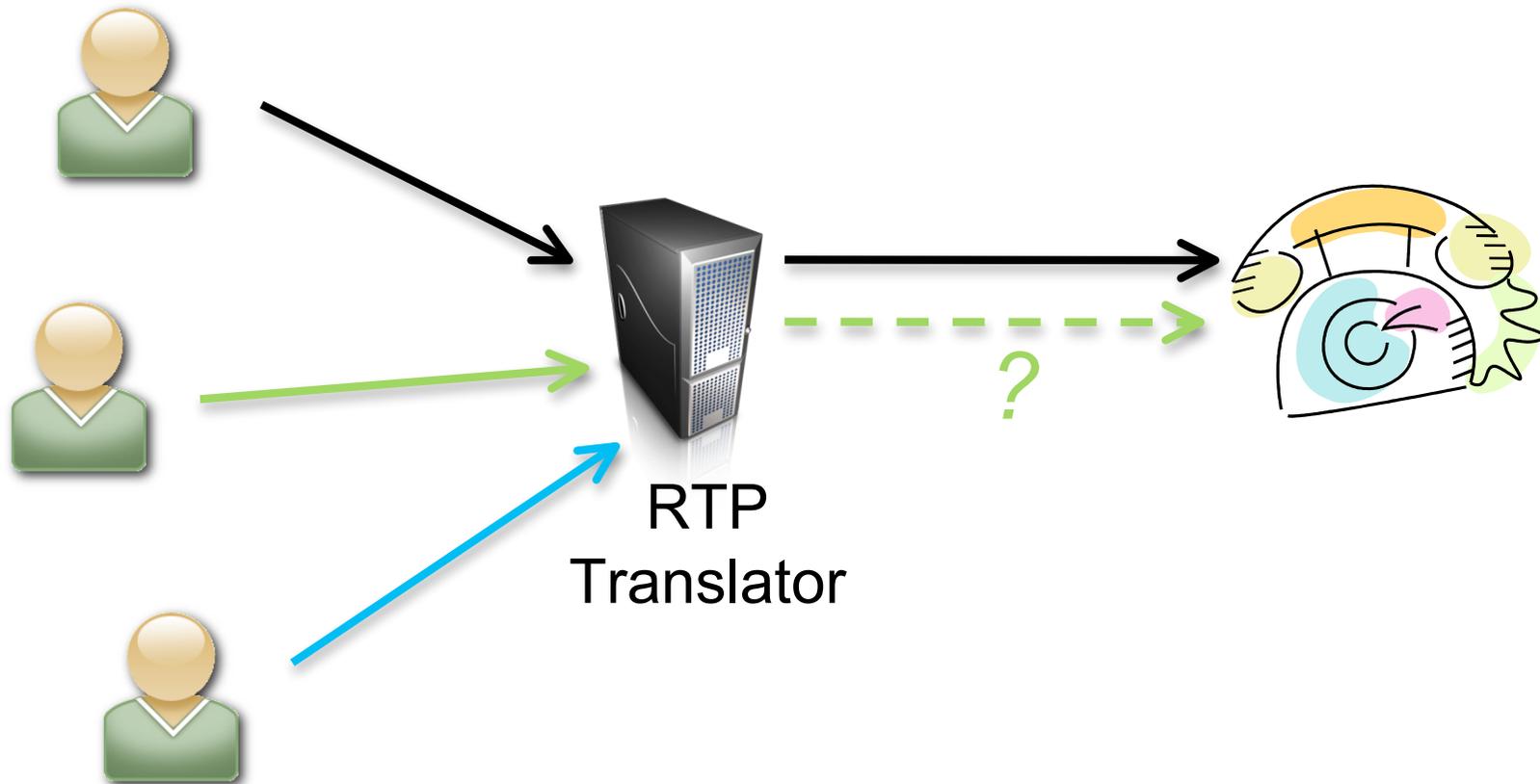
RTP Translator

Can an RTP Translator forward more than one RTP source of an RTP session?

The Problem (2)

- Many existing SIP endpoints won't do anything useful with multiple RTP sources in an RTP session.
  - Most will ignore all but one
  - Some will break badly!
- Even if an endpoint *can* do something useful with multiple sources, a translator doesn't know this.
- We'd like to know if we can actually rely on RTP's group-communications ability!

Solution

- New SDP attribute: `max-sources`
- SDP receiver specifies the maximum number of RTP sources it can usefully handle.
  - or "`unlimited`".
  - Not "`0`" – use "`a=sendonly`" instead.
- Translator must limit number of sources forwarded to this value.
- Only for offer/answer, not declarative SDP.
- Not used in any-source multicast sessions – need a translator to enforce the `max-sources` value.

Open issues

- Is there a need for values other than "1" and "unlimited"?

- Should the attribute be defined for declarative SDP?