JSEP Overview

Justin Uberti IETF 82.5

Topics

- Status
- Why JSEP?
- Theory of Operation
- Example Call Setup
- Implementation Considerations
- Contrast between JSEP and ROAP

Status

- draft-uberti-rtcweb-jsep-00 posted last week
- -01 about to be posted; fixes several issues
 - Clarified what operations change state
 - Fixes asymmetry in original offer/subsequent offer call ordering
 - Associates candidates with proper m= lines
 - Knows the number of m= lines to gather for
 - Tells app when candidate gathering is complete, and provides getters for full lists of candidates
 - connect() renamed to startIce()
 - SDP_PRANSWER added to allow non-final answers

Goals

- Allow easy translation to common signaling protocols and architectures
- Support early transport negotiation
- Allow local description to be changed by app
- Change session parameters at any time
- Allow direct manipulation of session state
- Give app as much flexibility as possible, now and in the future

Non-goals

- Super-simple API
- Replace SDP
- Offer generation in JS (at least not right now)

Web App to Legacy Client



SIP In Browser



Web to Web



Conventional App Diagram



Differences in Signaling

Different signaling protocols have different features and mechanisms

- Candidate handling
- Glare handling/Tie breaking
- Adding or removing sources or sessions
- RTP Session updates

Core Problem

It's hard to have a generic signaling mechanism that can map faithfully to all signaling state mechanisms

Needs of the Media Layer

- Local format description
 - What I want/am going to do
- Remote format description
 - What the other side wants/is going to do
- Local/remote transport info
 - Where is media going to go, and how

Signaling is a mechanism to obtain this information

JSEP Key Concepts

- Signaling and transport are separated
- Signaling state moved into application code
- Media controlled via local and remote session descriptions (SDP blobs)
- The "how" of the signaling is left to the application; only the results of the signaling matter

JSEP App Diagram



Call Setup: Offer

pc = new PeerConnection(); pc.addStream(localStream, null); offer = pc.createOffer(null); pc.setLocalDescription(SDP_OFFER, offer); signalSocket.send(MakeInitiate(offer));

Call Setup: Offer



Call Setup: Starting ICE

Call Setup: Starting ICE



Call Setup: Answer

```
onmessage(accept);
answer = ParseAccept(accept);
pc.setRemoteDescription(ANSWER, answer);
onaddstream(remoteStream);
onopen();
```

Call Setup: Answer



Active Call



Call Update: Add Stream

```
pc.addStream(localStream2);
offer = pc.createOffer(null);
pc.setLocalDescription(SDP_OFFER, offer);
signalSocket.send(MakeUpdate(offer));
```

```
• • •
```

onmessage(accept);

```
answer = ParseAccept(accept);
```

pc.setRemoteDescription(SDP_ANSWER, answer);

Call Update: Glareless Add

pc.addStream(localStream2); offer = pc.createOffer(null); delta = Diff(pc.localDescription, offer2); pc.setLocalDescription(SDP_OFFER, offer2); signalSocket.send(MakeStreamAdd(delta));

onmessage(remoteDelta);

onmessage(ackOffer2);

pc.setRemoteDescription(SDP_ANSWER, MakeDesc(remoteDelta));

signalSocket.send(MakeAck(remoteOffer));

Call Update: Hold

offer = pc.createOffer(null);

offer = AppendSendOnly(offer);

pc.setLocalDescription(SDP_OFFER, offer);

signalSocket.send(MakeHold(offer));

Things You Can Do

- Send candidates as they are gathered
- Add/remove sources simultaneously
- Change session parameters at any time (with or without an O/A exchange)
- Control local session description that is generated and sent
- Rehydrate a session from stored state

Impl Considerations

New APIs: Creating SDP

createOffer(hints)

Creates a session description based on the current local media state; [hints] allows for some customization. Does not reserve resources, or change state.

createAnswer(offer, hints)

Like createOffer, but uses |offer| as input to create a compatible session description.

New APIs: Hints

Hints are shortcuts to allow customization of generated offers/answers

Example: Only have audio sources, but want to receive video from remote side; pass in MediaHints with has_video set to true to add a m=video section with no sources

New APIs: Applying SDP

setLocalDescription(type, desc)

Applies the local description, e.g. recv codecs, encryption keys. Changes state.

setRemoteDescription(type, desc)

Applies the remote description, e.g. send codecs, decryption keys.

Throws exception on invalid state or params

New APIs: ICE

IceCallback(media, transportInfo)

Callback function that receives transport information that needs to be signaled

processIceMessage(media, transportInfo) Invoked to handle received transport information

Message Formats

Session Descriptions Standard SDP

Transport Info a=ice-candidate lines a=ice-ufrag, password lines a=fingerprint (for DTLS) a=group (for BUNDLE)

Complexity

- JSEP does require more code (~60 lines for a basic example, w/o glare handling)
- But can be easily encapsulated within a JS library
- Moreover, this library can perform protocol translation too (e.g. convert to SIP, XMPP, or ROAP)
- Powerful API/JS libraries is consistent with overall web application trends (e.g. WebGL, IndexedDB)

JSEP vs ROAP

Key differences:

- Signaling mechanism lives in app/JS
- Early transport negotiation supported
- App has control over local description
- App can change session parameters at any time, without O/A if desired
- App can restore session from cached state
- More JS code, but under app control

Real-World Benefits

- Proven model; Hangouts now using a form of this API
- Early candidate gathering improves start time by over a second in >20% of calls
- Glare conditions become a non-issue for many apps
- Features can be added without new browser APIs (e.g. one-way video, hold, res change)
- Calls can persist across application upgrades

Questions?