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**Multiplexing Scheme Updates for Secure Real-time Transport Protocol
(SRTP) Extension for Datagram Transport Layer Security (DTLS)
draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-04**

Abstract

This document defines how Datagram Transport Layer Security (DTLS), Real-time Transport Protocol (RTP), Real-time Transport Control Protocol (RTCP), Session Traversal Utilities for NAT (STUN), and Traversal Using Relays around NAT (TURN) packets are multiplexed on a single receiving socket. It overrides the guidance from SRTP Extension for DTLS [[RFC5764](#)], which suffered from three issues described and fixed in this document.

Status of This Memo

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[1.](#) Introduction

[Section 5.1.2](#) of Secure Real-time Transport Protocol (SRTP) Extension for DTLS [[RFC5764](#)] defines a scheme for a Real-time Transport Protocol (RTP) [[RFC3550](#)] receiver to demultiplex Datagram Transport Layer Security (DTLS) [[RFC6347](#)], Session Traversal Utilities for NAT (STUN) [[RFC5389](#)] and Secure Real-time Transport Protocol (SRTP)/Secure Real-time Transport Control Protocol (SRTCP) [[RFC3711](#)]

packets that are arriving on the RTP port. Unfortunately, this demultiplexing scheme has created problematic issues:

1. It implicitly allocated codepoints for new STUN methods without an IANA registry reflecting these new allocations.
2. It implicitly allocated codepoints for new Transport Layer Security (TLS) ContentTypes without an IANA registry reflecting these new allocations.
3. It did not take into account the fact that the Traversal Using Relays around NAT (TURN) usage of STUN can create TURN channels that also need to be demultiplexed with the other packet types explicitly mentioned in [Section 5.1.2 of RFC 5764](#).

Having overlapping ranges between different IANA registries becomes an issue when a new codepoint is allocated in one of these registries without carefully analyzing the impact it could have on the other registries when that codepoint is demultiplexed. Even if a codepoint is not initially thought to be useful in an [RFC 5764](#) implementation, the respective IANA registry expert should at least raise a flag when the allocated codepoint irrevocably prevents multiplexing.

The first goal of this document is to make sure that future allocations in any of the affected protocols are done with the full knowledge of their impact on multiplexing. This is achieved by modifying the IANA registries with instructions for coordination between the protocols at risk.

A second goal is to permit the addition of new protocols to the list of existing multiplexed protocols in a manner that does not break existing implementations.

The flaws in the demultiplexing scheme were unavoidably inherited by other documents, such as [\[RFC7345\]](#) and [\[I-D.ietf-mmusic-sdp-bundle-negotiation\]](#). So in addition, these and any other affected documents will need to be corrected with the updates this document provides.

2. Implicit Allocation of Codepoints for New STUN Methods

The demultiplexing scheme in [\[RFC5764\]](#) states that the receiver can identify the packet type by looking at the first byte. If the value of this first byte is 0 or 1, the packet is identified to be STUN. The problem that arises as a result of this implicit allocation is that this restricts the codepoints for STUN methods (as described in [Section 18.1 of \[RFC5389\]](#)) to values between 0x000 and 0x07F, which in turn reduces the number of possible STUN method codepoints

assigned by IETF Review (i.e., the range from (0x000 - 0x7FF) from 2048 to only 128 and eliminating the possibility of having STUN method codepoints assigned by Designated Expert (i.e., the range 0x800 - 0xFFFF).

To preserve the Designated Expert range, this document allocates the value 2 and 3 to also identify STUN methods.

The IANA Registry for STUN methods is modified to mark the codepoints from 0x100 to 0xFFFF as Reserved. These codepoints can still be allocated, but require IETF Review with a document that will properly evaluate the risk of an assignment overlapping with other registries.

In addition, this document also updates the IANA registry such that the STUN method codepoints assigned in the 0x080-0x0FF range are also assigned via Designated Expert. The proposed changes to the STUN Method Registry are:

OLD:

0x000-0x7FF	IETF Review
0x800-0xFFFF	Designated Expert

NEW:

0x000-0x07F	IETF Review
0x080-0x0FF	Designated Expert
0x100-0xFFFF	Reserved

3. Implicit Allocation of New Codepoints for TLS ContentTypes

The demultiplexing scheme in [\[RFC5764\]](#) dictates that if the value of the first byte is between 20 and 63 (inclusive), then the packet is identified to be DTLS. The problem that arises is that this restricts the TLS ContentType codepoints (as defined in [Section 12 of \[RFC5246\]](#)) to this range, and by extension implicitly allocates ContentType codepoints 0 to 19 and 64 to 255. With respect to TLS packet identification, this document simply explicitly reserves the codepoints from 0 to 19 and from 64 to 255. These codepoints can still be allocated, but require Standards Action with a document that will properly evaluate the risk of an assignment overlapping with other registries. The proposed changes to the TLS ContentTypes Registry are:

OLD:


```

0-19    Unassigned
20      change_cipher_spec
21      alert
22      handshake
23      application_data
24      heartbeat
25-255  Unassigned

```

NEW:

```

0-19    Reserved (Requires coordination, see RFCXXXX)
20      change_cipher_spec
21      alert
22      handshake
23      application_data
24      heartbeat
25-63   Unassigned
64-255  Reserved (Requires coordination, see RFCXXXX)

```

4. Multiplexing of TURN Channels

When used with ICE [[RFC5245](#)], an [RFC 5764](#) implementation can receive packets on the same socket from three different paths, as shown in Figure 1:

1. Directly from the source
2. Through a NAT
3. Relayed by a TURN server

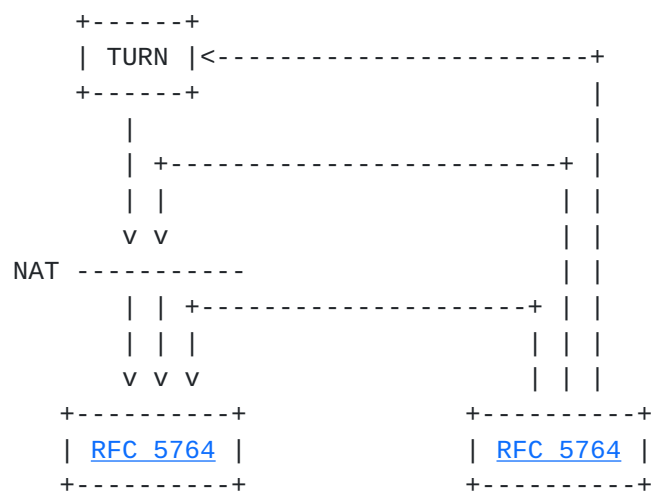


Figure 1: Packet Reception by an [RFC 5764](#) Implementation

Even if the ICE algorithm succeeded in selecting a non-relayed path, it is still possible to receive data from the TURN server. For instance, when ICE is used with aggressive nomination the media path can quickly change until it stabilizes. Also, freeing ICE candidates is optional, so the TURN server can restart forwarding STUN connectivity checks during an ICE restart.

TURN channels are an optimization where data packets are exchanged with a 4-byte prefix, instead of the standard 36-byte STUN overhead (see [Section 2.5 of \[RFC5766\]](#)). The problem is that the [RFC 5764](#) demultiplexing scheme does not define what to do with packets received over a TURN channel since these packets will start with a first byte whose value will be between 64 and 127 (inclusive). If the TURN server was instructed to send data over a TURN channel, then the current [RFC 5764](#) demultiplexing scheme will reject these packets. Current implementations violate [RFC 5764](#) for values 64 to 127 (inclusive) and they instead parse packets with such values as TURN.

In order to prevent future documents from assigning values from the unused range to a new protocol, this document modifies the [RFC 5764](#) demultiplexing algorithm to properly account for TURN channels by allocating the values from 64 to 79 for this purpose.

5. Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [\[RFC2119\]](#) when they appear in ALL CAPS. When these words are not in ALL CAPS (such as "must" or "Must"), they have their usual English meanings, and are not to be interpreted as [RFC 2119](#) key words.

6. [RFC 5764](#) Updates

This document updates the text in [Section 5.1.2 of \[RFC5764\]](#) as follows:

OLD TEXT

The process for demultiplexing a packet is as follows. The receiver looks at the first byte of the packet. If the value of this byte is 0 or 1, then the packet is STUN. If the value is in between 128 and 191 (inclusive), then the packet is RTP (or RTCP, if both RTCP and RTP are being multiplexed over the same destination port). If the value is between 20 and 63 (inclusive), the packet is DTLS. This process is summarized in Figure 3.

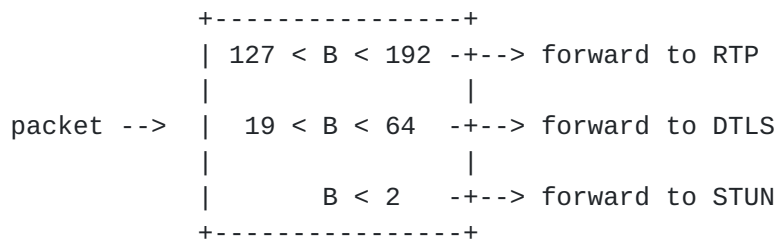


Figure 3: The DTLS-SRTP receiver's packet demultiplexing algorithm.
Here the field B denotes the leading byte of the packet.

END OLD TEXT

NEW TEXT

The process for demultiplexing a packet is as follows. The receiver looks at the first byte of the packet. If the value of this byte is in between 0 and 3 (inclusive), then the packet is STUN. Then if the value is between 20 and 63 (inclusive), the packet is DTLS. Then if the value is between 64 and 79 (inclusive), the packet is TURN Channel. Then if the value is in between 128 and 191 (inclusive), then the packet is RTP (or RTCP, if both RTCP and RTP are being multiplexed over the same destination port). Else if the value does not match any known range then the packet MUST be dropped and an alert MAY be logged. This process is summarized in Figure 3.

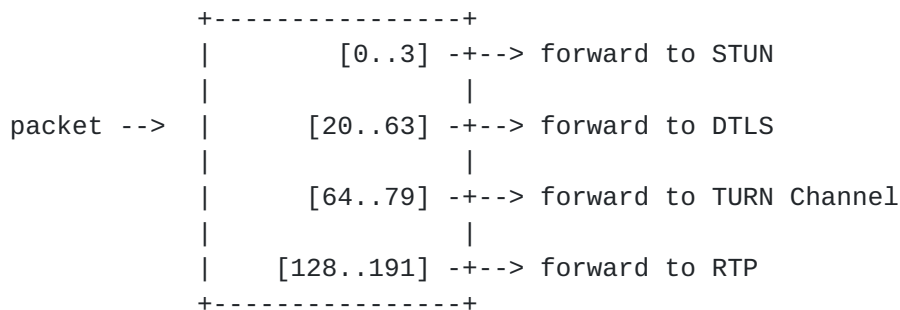


Figure 3: The DTLS-SRTP receiver's packet demultiplexing algorithm.

END NEW TEXT

7. Implementation Status

[[Note to RFC Editor: Please remove this section and the reference to [RFC6982](#) before publication.]]

This section records the status of known implementations of the protocol defined by this specification at the time of posting of this Internet-Draft, and is based on a proposal described in [RFC6982](#).

The description of implementations in this section is intended to assist the IETF in its decision processes in progressing drafts to RFCs. Please note that the listing of any individual implementation here does not imply endorsement by the IETF. Furthermore, no effort has been spent to verify the information presented here that was supplied by IETF contributors. This is not intended as, and must not be construed to be, a catalog of available implementations or their features. Readers are advised to note that other implementations may exist.

According to [[RFC6982](#)], "this will allow reviewers and working groups to assign due consideration to documents that have the benefit of running code, which may serve as evidence of valuable experimentation and feedback that have made the implemented protocols more mature. It is up to the individual working groups to use this information as they see fit".

Note that there is currently no implementation declared in this section, but the intent is to add [RFC 6982](#) templates here from implementers that support the modifications in this document.

8. Security Considerations

This document updates existing IANA registries, adds a new range for TURN channels in the demuxing algorithm, and mandates an ascending order for testing the ranges in the demuxing algorithm.

These modifications do not introduce any specific security considerations beyond those detailed in [[RFC5764](#)].

9. IANA Considerations

9.1. STUN Methods

This specification contains the registration information for reserved STUN Methods codepoints, as explained in [Section 2](#) and in accordance with the procedures defined in [Section 18.1 of \[RFC5389\]](#).

Value: 0x100-0xFFF

Name: Reserved (MUST be allocated with IETF Review. For DTLS-SRTP multiplexing collision avoidance see RFC XXXX)

Reference: [RFC5764](#), RFCXXXX

This specification also reassigns the ranges in the STUN Methods Registry as follow:

Range: 0x000-0x07F

Registration Procedures: IETF Review

Range: 0x080-0x0FF

Registration Procedures: Designated Expert

9.2. TLS ContentType

This specification contains the registration information for reserved TLS ContentType codepoints, as explained in [Section 3](#) and in accordance with the procedures defined in [Section 12 of \[RFC5246\]](#).

Value: 0-19

Description: Reserved (MUST be allocated with Standards Action.
For DTLS-SRTP multiplexing collision avoidance see RFC XXXX)

DTLS-OK: N/A

Reference: [RFC5764](#), RFCXXXX

Value: 64-255

Description: Reserved (MUST be allocated with Standards Action.
For DTLS-SRTP multiplexing collision avoidance see RFC XXXX)

DTLS-OK: N/A

Reference: [RFC5764](#), RFCXXXX

9.3. TURN Channel Numbers

This specification contains the registration information for reserved TURN Channel Numbers codepoints, as explained in [Section 4](#) and in accordance with the procedures defined in [Section 18 of \[RFC5766\]](#).

Value: 0x5000-0xFFFF

Name: Reserved (For DTLS-SRTP multiplexing collision avoidance see RFC XXXX)

Reference: RFCXXXX

[RFC EDITOR NOTE: Please replace RFCXXXX with the RFC number of this document.]

10. Acknowledgements

The implicit STUN Method codepoint allocations problem was first reported by Martin Thomson in the RTCWEB mailing-list and discussed further with Magnus Westerlund.

Thanks to Simon Perreault, Colton Shields, Cullen Jennings, Colin Perkins, Magnus Westerlund, Paul Jones, Jonathan Lennox, Varun Singh and Justin Uberti for the comments, suggestions, and questions that helped improve this document.

11. References

11.1. Normative References

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"Negotiating Media Multiplexing Using the Session
Description Protocol (SDP)", [draft-ietf-mmusic-sdp-bundle-negotiation-23](#) (work in progress), July 2015.

Appendix A. Release notes

This section must be removed before publication as an RFC.

A.1. Modifications between [draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-04](#) and [draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-03](#)

- o Removed Section on "Demultiplexing Algorithm Test Order"
- o Split the Introduction into separate sections

A.2. Modifications between [draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-03](#) and [draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-02](#)

- o Revert to the [RFC 5389](#), as the stunbis reference was needed only for STUN over SCTP.

A.3. Modifications between [draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-02](#) and [draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-01](#)

- o Remove any discussion about SCTP until a consensus emerges in TRAM.

A.4. Modifications between [draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-01](#) and [draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-00](#)

- o Instead of allocating the values that are common on each registry, the specification now only reserves them, giving the possibility to allocate them in case muxing is irrelevant.
- o STUN range is now 0-3m with 2-3 being Designated Expert.
- o TLS ContentType 0-19 and 64-255 are now reserved.
- o Add SCTP over UDP value.
- o If an implementation uses the source IP address/port to separate TURN channels packets then the whole channel numbers are available.
- o If not the prefix is between 64 and 79.
- o First byte test order is now by incremental values, so failure is deterministic.
- o Redraw the demuxing diagram.

A.5. Modifications between [draft-ietf-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-00](#) and [draft-petithuguenin-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-02](#)

- o Adoption by WG.
- o Add reference to STUNbis.

A.6. Modifications between [draft-petithuguenin-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-00](#) and [draft-petithuguenin-avtcore-rfc5764-mux-fixes-01](#)

- o Change affiliation.

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