

SIPPING WG  
Internet-Draft  
Intended status: Informational  
Expires: April 14, 2008

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**Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) Torture Test Messages for Internet  
Protocol Version 6 (IPv6)  
draft-ietf-sipping-ipv6-torture-tests-04**

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Abstract

This document provides examples of Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) test messages designed to exercise and "torture" the code of an IPv6-enabled SIP implementation.

This work is being discussed on the [sipping@ietf.org](mailto:sipping@ietf.org) mailing list.

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## 1. Overview

This document is informational, and is NOT NORMATIVE on any aspect of SIP.

This document contains test messages based on the current version (2.0) of the Session Initiation Protocol as defined in [\[RFC3261\]](#).

This document is expected to be used as a companion document to the more general SIP torture test document [\[RFC4475\]](#), which does not include specific tests for IPv6 network identifiers.

This document does not attempt to catalog every way to make an invalid message, nor does it attempt to be comprehensive in exploring unusual, but valid, messages. Instead, it tries to focus on areas that may cause interoperability problems in IPv6 deployments.

## 2. Document conventions

This document contains many examples of SIP messages with IPv6 network identifiers. The appendix contains an encoded binary form containing the bit-exact representation of all the messages and the script needed to decode them into separate files.

The IPv6 addresses used in this document correspond to the 2001:DB8::/32 address prefix reserved for documentation [\[RFC3489\]](#). Likewise, the IPv4 addresses used in this document correspond to the 192.0.2.0/24 address block as described in [\[RFC3330\]](#).

Although SIP is a text-based protocol, some of these examples cannot be unambiguously rendered without additional markup due to the constraints placed on the formatting of RFCs. This document uses the <allOneLine/> markup convention established in [\[RFC4475\]](#) to avoid ambiguity and meet the Internet-Draft layout requirements. For the sake of completeness, the text defining this markup from [Section 2.1 of \[RFC4475\]](#) is reproduced in its entirety below:

"Several of these examples contain unfolded lines longer than 72 characters. These are captured between <allOneLine/> tags. The single unfolded line is reconstructed by directly concatenating all lines appearing between the tags (discarding any line feeds or carriage returns). There will be no whitespace at the end of lines. Any whitespace appearing at a fold-point will appear at the beginning of a line.

"The following represent the same string of bits:



Header-name: first value, reallylongsecondvalue, third value

```
<allOneLine>
Header-name: first value,
  reallylongsecondvalue
, third value
</allOneLine>
```

```
<allOneLine>
Header-name: first value,
  reallylong
second
value,
  third value
</allOneLine>
```

"Note that this is NOT SIP header-line folding, where different strings of bits have equivalent meaning."

### **3. SIP and IPv6 network configuration**

System-level issues like deploying a dual-stack proxy server, populating DNS with A and AAAA Resource Records (RRs), zero-configuration discovery of outbound proxies for IPv4 and IPv6 networks, when should a dual-stack proxy Record-Route itself, and media issues also play a major part in the transition to IPv6. This document does not, however, address these issues. Instead, a companion document [[ID.sip-trans](#)] provides more guidance on these issues.

### **4. Parser torture tests**

The test messages are organized into several sections. Some stress only a SIP parser and others stress both the parser and the application above it. Some messages are valid, and some are not. Each example clearly calls out what makes any invalid messages incorrect.

Please refer to the complete Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF) in [[RFC3261](#)] on representing IPv6 references in SIP messages. IPv6 references are delimited by a "[" and "]". When an IPv6 reference is part of a SIP Uniform Resource Identifier (URI), [RFC3261](#) mandates that the "IPv6reference" production rule be used to recognize tokens that comprise an IPv6 reference. More specifically, the ABNF states:



```
SIP-URI      = "sip:" [ userinfo ] hostport
               uri-parameters [ headers ]
hostport     = host [ ":" port ]
host         = hostname / IPv4address / IPv6reference
IPv4address  = 1*3DIGIT "." 1*3DIGIT "." 1*3DIGIT "." 1*3DIGIT
IPv6reference = "[" IPv6address "]"
IPv6address  = hexpart [ ":" IPv4address ]
hexpart      = hexseq / hexseq "::" [ hexseq ] / "::" [ hexseq ]
hexseq       = hex4 *( ":" hex4 )
hex4         = 1*4HEXDIG
```

#### **4.1. Valid SIP message with an IPv6 reference**

The request below is well-formatted according to the grammar in [\[RFC3261\]](#). An IPv6 reference appears in the Request-URI (R-URI), Via header field, and Contact header field.

Message Details: ipv6-good

```
REGISTER sip:[2001:db8::10] SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@example.com
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=81x2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [2001:db8::9:1];branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Call-ID: SSG9559905523997077@hlau_4100
Max-Forwards: 70
Contact: "Caller" <sip:caller@[2001:db8::1]>
CSeq: 98176 REGISTER
Content-Length: 0
```

#### **4.2. Invalid SIP message with an IPv6 reference**

The request below is not well-formatted according to the grammar in [\[RFC3261\]](#). The IPv6 reference in the R-URI does not contain the mandated delimiters for an IPv6 reference ("[" and "]").

A SIP implementation receiving this request should respond with a 400 Bad Request error.

Message Details: ipv6-bad





```
REGISTER sip:2001:db8::10 SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@example.com
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=81x2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [2001:db8::9:1];branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Call-ID: SSG9559905523997077@hlau_4100
Max-Forwards: 70
Contact: "Caller" <sip:caller@[2001:db8::1]>
CSeq: 98176 REGISTER
Content-Length: 0
```

#### **4.3. Port ambiguous in a SIP URI**

IPv6 uses the colon to delimit octets. This may lead to ambiguity if the port number on which to contact a SIP server is inadvertently conflated with the IPv6 reference. Consider the REGISTER request below. The sender of the request intended to specify a port number (5070) to contact a server, but inadvertently, inserts the port number inside the closing "]" of the IPv6 reference. Unfortunately, since the IPv6 address in the R-URI is compressed, the intended port number becomes the last octet of the reference.

From a parsing perspective, the request below is well-formed. However, from a semantic point of view, it will not yield the desired result. Implementations must ensure that when a raw IPv6 address appears in a SIP URI, then a port number, if required, appears outside the closing "]" delimiting the IPv6 reference. Raw IPv6 addresses can appear in the "sent-by" production rule of the Via header field, the Contact header field, the Route and Record-Route headers, among other headers. Implementers are urged to consult the ABNF in [[RFC3261](#)] for a complete list of fields where a SIP URI can appear.

Message Details: port-ambiguous

```
REGISTER sip:[2001:db8::10:5070] SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@example.com
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=81x2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [2001:db8::9:1];branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Call-ID: SSG9559905523997077@hlau_4100
Contact: "Caller" <sip:caller@[2001:db8::1]>
Max-Forwards: 70
CSeq: 98176 REGISTER
Content-Length: 0
```



#### **4.4. Port unambiguous in a SIP URI**

In contrast to the example in [Section 4.3](#), the following REGISTER request leaves no ambiguity whatsoever on where the IPv6 address ends and the port number begins. This REGISTER request is well formatted per the grammar in [\[RFC3261\]](#).

Message Details: port-unambiguous

```
REGISTER sip:[2001:db8::10]:5070 SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@example.com
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=81x2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [2001:db8::9:1];branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Call-ID: SSG9559905523997077@hlau_4100
Contact: "Caller" <sip:caller@[2001:db8::1]>
Max-Forwards: 70
CSeq: 98176 REGISTER
Content-Length: 0
```

#### **4.5. IPv6 reference delimiters in Via header**

IPv6 references can also appear in Via header fields; more specifically in the "sent-by" production rule and the "via-received" production rule. In the "sent-by" production rule, the sequence of octets comprising the IPv6 address is defined to appear as an "IPv6reference" non-terminal, thereby mandating the "[" and "]" delimiters. However, this is not the case for the "via-received" non-terminal. The "via-received" production rule is defined thusly:

```
via-received = "received" EQUAL (IPv4address / IPv6address)
```

The "IPv6address" non-terminal is defined not to include the delimiting "[" and "]". This has lead to the situation documented during the 18th SIP Interoperability Event [\[Email-SIPit\]](#):

Those testing IPv6 made different assumptions about enclosing literal v6 addresses in Vias in []. By the end of the event, most implementations were accepting either. Its about 50/50 on what gets sent.

While it would be beneficial if the same non-terminal ("IPv6reference") was used for both the "sent-by" and "via-received" production rules, there has not been a consensus in the working group to that effect. Thus, the best that can be suggested is that implementations must follow the Robustness Principle [\[RFC1122\]](#) and be liberal in accepting a "received" parameter with or without the delimiting "[" and "]" tokens. When sending a request,



implementations must not put the delimiting "[" and "]" tokens.

The two test cases below are designed to stress this behavior. A SIP implementation receiving either of these messages must parse them successfully.

The request below contains an IPv6 address in the Via "received" parameter. The IPv6 address is delimited by "[" and "]". Even though this is not a valid request based on a strict interpretation of the grammar in [\[RFC3261\]](#), robust implementations must nonetheless be able to parse the topmost Via header field and continue processing the request.

Message Details: via-received-param-with-delim

```
BYE sip:[2001:db8::10] SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@example.com;tag=bd76ya
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=81x2
<allOneLine>
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [2001:db8::9:1];received=[2001:db8::9:255];
branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
</allOneLine>
Call-ID: SSG9559905523997077@hlau_4100
Max-Forwards: 70
CSeq: 321 BYE
Content-Length: 0
```

The OPTIONS request below contains an IPv6 address in the Via "received" parameter without the adjoining "[" and "]". This request is valid according to the grammar in [\[RFC3261\]](#).

Message Details: via-received-param-no-delim

```
OPTIONS sip:[2001:db8::10] SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@example.com
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=81x2
<allOneLine>
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [2001:db8::9:1];received=2001:db8::9:255;
branch=z9hG4bKas3
</allOneLine>
Call-ID: SSG95523997077@hlau_4100
Max-Forwards: 70
Contact: "Caller" <sip:caller@[2001:db8::9:1]>
CSeq: 921 OPTIONS
Content-Length: 0
```



#### **4.6. SIP request with IPv6 addresses in Session Description Protocol (SDP) body**

This request below is valid and well-formed according to the grammar in [RFC3261]. Note that the IPv6 addresses in the SDP [RFC4566] body do not have the delimiting "[" and "]".

Message Details: ipv6-in-sdp

```
INVITE sip:user@[2001:db8::10] SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@[2001:db8::10]
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=81x2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [2001:db8::20];branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Call-ID: SSG9559905523997077@hlau_4100
Contact: "Caller" <sip:caller@[2001:db8::20]>
CSeq: 8612 INVITE
Max-Forwards: 70
Content-Type: application/sdp
Content-Length: 268
```

```
v=0
o=assistant 971731711378798081 0 IN IP6 2001:db8::20
s=Live video feed for today's meeting
c=IN IP6 2001:db8::20
t=3338481189 3370017201
m=audio 6000 RTP/AVP 2
a=rtpmap:2 G726-32/8000
m=video 6024 RTP/AVP 107
a=rtpmap:107 H263-1998/90000
```

#### **4.7. Multiple IP addresses in SIP headers**

This request below is valid and well-formed according to the grammar in [RFC3261]. The Via list contains a mix of IPv4 addresses and IPv6 references.

Message Details: mult-ip-in-header





```
BYE sip:user@host.example.net SIP/2.0
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [2001:db8::9:1]:6050;branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP 192.0.2.1;branch=z9hG4bKjhja8781hjuij65144
<allOneLine>
Via: SIP/2.0/TCP [2001:db8::9:255];branch=z9hG4bK451jj;
received=192.0.2.200
</allOneLine>
Call-ID: 997077@lau_4100
Max-Forwards: 70
CSeq: 89187 BYE
To: sip:user@example.net;tag=9817--94
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=81x2
Content-Length: 0
```

#### **4.8. Multiple IP addresses in SDP**

The request below is valid and well-formed according to the grammar in [\[RFC3261\]](#). The SDP contains multiple media lines, and each media line is identified by a different network connection address.

Message Details: mult-ip-in-sdp

```
INVITE sip:user@[2001:db8::10] SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@[2001:db8::10]
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=81x2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [2001:db8::9:1];branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Call-ID: SSG9559905523997077@hlau_4100
Contact: "Caller" <sip:caller@[2001:db8::9:1]>
Max-Forwards: 70
CSeq: 8912 INVITE
Content-Type: application/sdp
Content-Length: 181
```

```
v=0
o=bob 280744730 28977631 IN IP4 host.example.com
s=
t=0 0
m=audio 22334 RTP/AVP 0
c=IN IP4 192.0.2.1
m=video 6024 RTP/AVP 107
c=IN IP6 2001:db8::1
a=rtpmap:107 H263-1998/90000
```



#### [4.9.](#) IPv4-mapped IPv6 addresses

An IPv4-mapped IPv6 address is usually represented with the last 32-bits appearing as a dotted-decimal IPv4 address; e.g., ::ffff:192.0.2.1. A SIP implementation receiving a message that contains such a mapped address must be prepared to parse it successfully. An IPv4-mapped IPv6 address may appear in signaling, or the SDP carried by the signaling message, or in both. If a port number is part of the URI represented by the IPv4-mapped IPv6 address, then it must appear outside the delimiting "]" (cf. [Section 4.4](#)).

The message below is well-formed according to the grammar in [[RFC3261](#)]. The Via list contains two Via headers, both of which include an IPv4-mapped IPv6 address. An IPv4-mapped IPv6 address also appears in the Contact header and the SDP. The topmost Via header includes a port number that is appropriately delimited by "]".

Message Details: ipv4-mapped-ipv6

```
INVITE sip:user@example.com SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@example.com
From: sip:user@east.example.com;tag=81x2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [::ffff:192.0.2.10]:19823;branch=z9hG4bKbh19
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP [::ffff:192.0.2.2];branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Call-ID: SSG9559905523997077@hlau_4100
Contact: "T. desk phone" <sip:ted@[::ffff:192.0.2.2]>
CSeq: 612 INVITE
Max-Forwards: 70
Content-Type: application/sdp
Content-Length: 236

v=0
o=assistant 971731711378798081 0 IN IP6 ::ffff:192.0.2.2
s=Call me soon, please!
c=IN IP6 ::ffff:192.0.2.2
t=3338481189 3370017201
m=audio 6000 RTP/AVP 2
a=rtpmap:2 G726-32/8000
m=video 6024 RTP/AVP 107
a=rtpmap:107 H263-1998/90000
```

#### [4.10.](#) IPv6 reference bug in [RFC3261](#) ABNF

It is possible to follow the IPv6reference production rule of [RFC3261](#) ABNF -- the relevant portion of which is reproduced at the top of [Section 4](#) -- and arrive at the following construct:

```
[2001:db8:::192.0.2.1]
```



Note the extra colon before the IPv4 address in the above construct. The correct construct, of course, is:

```
[2001:db8::192.0.2.1]
```

The ABNF pertaining to IPv6 references in [RFC3261](#) was derived from [RFC 2373](#) [[RFC2373](#)], which has been obsoleted by [RFC 4291](#) [[RFC4291](#)]. The specific behavior of inserting an extra colon was inherited from [RFC 2373](#), and has been remedied in [RFC 4291](#). However, following the Robustness Principle [[RFC1122](#)], an implementation must tolerate both of the above constructs.

The message below includes an extra colon in the IPv6 reference. A SIP implementation receiving such a message may exhibit robustness by successfully parsing the IPv6 reference (it can choose to delete the extra colon when parsing the IPv6 reference.)

Message Details: ipv6-bug-abnf-3-colons

```
OPTIONS sip:user@[2001:db8::192.0.2.1] SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@[2001:db8::192.0.2.1]
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=810x2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP lab1.east.example.com;branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Call-ID: G9559905523997077@hlau_4100
CSeq: 689 OPTIONS
Max-Forwards: 70
Content-Length: 0
```

The next message has the correct syntax for the IPv6 reference in the R-URI.

Message Details: ipv6-correct-abnf-2-colons

```
OPTIONS sip:user@[2001:db8::192.0.2.1] SIP/2.0
To: sip:user@[2001:db8::192.0.2.1]
From: sip:user@example.com;tag=810x2
Via: SIP/2.0/UDP lab1.east.example.com;branch=z9hG4bKas3-111
Call-ID: G9559905523997077@hlau_4100
CSeq: 689 OPTIONS
Max-Forwards: 70
Content-Length: 0
```

## **5. Security considerations**

This document presents examples of SIP messages with IPv6 references contained in the signaling headers and SDP payload. While this document may clarify the behavior of SIP elements processing a



message with IPv6 references, it does not normatively change the base SIP [[RFC3261](#)] specification in any way. Consequently, all security considerations in [[RFC3261](#)] apply.

Parsers must carefully consider edge conditions and malicious input as part of their design. Attacks on many Internet systems use crafted input to cause implementations to behave in undesirable ways. Many of the messages in this draft are designed to stress a parser implementation at points traditionally used for such attacks. This document does not, however, attempt to be comprehensive. It contains some common pitfalls that the authors have discovered while parsing IPv6 identifiers in SIP implementations.

## **6. IANA considerations**

This document does not contain any actions for IANA.

## **7. Acknowledgments**

The authors thank Jeroen van Bommel, Dennis Bijwaard, Gonzalo Camarillo, Bob Gilligan, Alan Jeffrey, Larry Kollasch, Erik Nordmark, Kumiko Ono, Pekka Pessi, Jon Peterson and other members of the SIP-related working groups for input provided during the construction of the document and discussion of the test cases.

A.B. Nataraju and A.C. Mahendran provided working group last call comments.

Mohamed Boucadair and Brian Carpenter suggested new test cases for inclusion in the document.

## **8. References**

### **8.1. Normative references**

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- [RFC3261] Rosenberg, J., Schulzrinne, H., Camarillo, G., Johnston, A., Peterson, J., Sparks, R., Handley, M., and E. Schooler, "SIP: Session Initiation Protocol", [RFC 3261](#), June 2002.
- [RFC3330] IANA, "Special-Use IPv4 Addresses", [RFC 3330](#), September 2002.





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## **[8.2. Informative references](#)**

- [RFC2373] Hinden, R. and S. Deering, "IP Version 6 Addressing Architecture", [RFC 2373](#), July 1998.
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- [Email-SIPit]  
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## **[Appendix A. Bit-exact archive of each test message](#)**

The following text block is an encoded, gzip compressed TAR archive of files that represent each of the example messages discussed in [Section 4](#).

To recover the compressed archive file intact, the text of this document may be passed as input to the following Perl script (the output should be redirected to a file or piped to "tar -xzfv -").



```
#!/usr/bin/perl
use strict;
my $bdata = "";
use MIME::Base64;
while(<>) {
    if (/-- BEGIN MESSAGE ARCHIVE --/ .. /-- END MESSAGE ARCHIVE --/) {
        if ( m/^\s*[\s]+$/ ) {
            $bdata = $bdata . $_;
        }
    }
}
print decode_base64($bdata);
```

Alternatively, the base-64 encoded block can be edited by hand to remove document structure lines and fed as input to any base-64 decoding utility.

#### [A.1.](#) Encoded reference messages



-- BEGIN MESSAGE ARCHIVE --

H4sICPujD0cAA21zZy50YXIA7Vpbc6M2GPUzv0Ldl74UWzckIHUnbXY39XS760ncz  
HQ6mY5sFBuvDRSwN+mvrwAb303c2GQ34byAjYSEpH0+i1Rv1E40CCnkEKorRJyl1+  
R2dk1RQ6oE4RhxRNT/CCHGa8bpu1arTaJYhKrJ6ef+3nJ+PJDhnufzD8ku+LidPB3  
qDTeYUn0sgkA6urpnx28DIggZpbvmHyF0F/NPWTl/FFFcg8fvviZe+fy3Pt600u9A  
5Ab2JJLhubwX42Ak6z1/DK5b7QauQ63j21sLa09Df7z8SERxfen5WSz6TRPdY+3GF  
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## Acknowledgment

Funding for the RFC Editor function is provided by the IETF Administrative Support Activity (IASA).

