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**RTP Control Protocol (RTCP) Extended Report (XR) Blocks for Summary
Statistics Metrics Reporting
draft-ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-summary-stat-03**

Abstract

This document defines three RTP Control Protocol (RTCP) Extended Report (XR) Blocks and associated SDP parameters that allow the reporting of loss, duplication and discard summary statistics metrics in a range of RTP applications.

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Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Terminology	3
2.1.	Standards Language	3
3.	Transport Related End System Metrics	4
3.1.	Burst/Gap Loss Summary Statistics Block	4
3.1.1.	Report Block Structure	4
3.1.2.	Definition of Fields in Loss Summary Statistics Block	4
3.2.	Burst/Gap Discard Summary Statistics Block	6
3.2.1.	Report Block Structure	7
3.2.2.	Definition of Fields in Burst/Gap Discard Summary Statistics Block	7
4.	Application Level Metrics	8
4.1.	Frame Impairment Statistics Summary Block	8
4.1.1.	Report Block Structure	9
4.1.2.	Definition of Fields in Frame Impairment Summary Statistics Block	9
5.	SDP Signaling	11
5.1.	SDP rtcp-xr-attrib Attribute Extension	11
5.2.	Offer/Answer Usage	11
6.	IANA Considerations	11
6.1.	New RTCP XR Block Type values	11
6.2.	New RTCP XR SDP Parameters	12
6.3.	Contact information for registrations	12
7.	Security Considerations	12
8.	Acknowledgements	12
9.	References	13
9.1.	Normative References	13
9.2.	Informative References	13
Appendix A.	Change Log	14
A.1.	draft-ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-summary-stat-02	14
A.2.	draft-ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-summary-stat-01	14
	Authors' Addresses	14

1. Introduction

This draft defines three new block types to augment those defined in Freidman, et al. [[RFC3611](#)] for use in a range of RTP applications.

The first two block types support the reporting of burst gap loss/discard summary statistics including packet loss/discard proportion, mean and variance and belong to the class of transport-related end system metrics defined in Wu, Hunt & Arden [[RFC6792](#)]. These two blocks are intended to be used in conjunction with information from the Burst Gap Loss metric block or Burst Gap Discard metric block, and on which these two block therefore depend. The metrics in the Burst Gap Loss block or Burst Gap Discard metric block can be used independently of the metrics defined in the first two blocks, however. These two blocks reflect transient IP problems that affect user experience and can be used to influence sender strategies to mitigate the problem.

To form an accurate assessment of users' quality of experience, it is therefore necessary to know not just overall rates of packet loss/discard, but also which frame types were affected. The third block supports the reporting of detailed statistics for each frame type, including the number of frames received, lost and discarded of each frame type in the Group of Pictures (GOP) and additional data allowing the calculation of statistical parameters (e.g., the proportion of each frame type impaired by packet loss and discard). The metrics defined in this block belong to the class of application layer metrics defined in Wu, Hunt & Arden [[RFC6792](#)].

2. Terminology

2.1. Standards Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC 2119](#) [[RFC2119](#)].

In addition, the following terms are defined:

Picture Type

Picture Types used in the different video algorithms are composed of the Key frame and Derived frames. The Key frame is also called a reference frame and used as a reference for predicting other pictures. It is coded without prediction from other pictures. Derived frames are derived from a Key frame using a prediction algorithm.

3. Transport Related End System Metrics

3.1. Burst/Gap Loss Summary Statistics Block

The metrics described here are intended to be used as described in this section, in conjunction with information from the Measurement Information block [[RFC6776](#)] (which MUST be present in the same RTCP packet as the Burst/Gap Loss block) and also with the metric "cumulative number of packets lost" provided in standard RTCP [[RFC3550](#)].

These metrics provide information relevant to statistical parameters, including burst loss rate, gap loss rate, burst duration mean, burst duration variance and are calculated using burst gap loss metrics defined in [[I-D.ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-burst-gap-loss](#)] and other information which is sent together with this report block.

3.1.1. Report Block Structure

0								1								2								3							
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1
BT=BGLSS								I		Reserved								block length													
SSRC of Source																															
Burst Loss Rate																Gap Loss Rate															
Burst duration Mean																Burst duration Variance															

3.1.2. Definition of Fields in Loss Summary Statistics Block

Block Type (BT): 8 bits

Burst/Gap Loss Summary Statistics Block is identified by the constant <BGLSS>.

Interval Metric flag (I): 2 bits

This field is used to indicate whether the Burst/Gap Loss Summary Statistics metrics are Sampled, Interval or Cumulative metrics:

I=10: Interval Duration - the reported value applies to the most recent measurement interval duration between successive metrics reports.

I=11: Cumulative Duration - the reported value applies to the accumulation period characteristic of cumulative measurements.
I=01: Sampled Value - the reported value is a sampled instantaneous value.

Reserved: 6 bits

This field is reserved for future definition. In the absence of such a definition, the bits in this field MUST be set to zero and SHOULD be ignored by the receiver (See [RFC6709 section 4.2](#)).

Block Length: 16 bits

The constant 3, in accordance with the definition of this field in [Section 3 of RFC 3611](#) [[RFC3611](#)].

SSRC of Source: 32 bits

As defined in [Section 4.1 of RFC3611](#) [[RFC3611](#)].

Burst Loss Rate: 16 bits

The fraction of packets lost during bursts since the beginning of reception, expressed as a fixed point number with the binary point at the left edge of the field. This value is calculated by dividing Packets Loss in Bursts by Total Packets expected in Bursts as follows:

$$\text{Packets Loss in Bursts} / \text{Total Packets expected in Bursts}$$

Gap Loss Rate: 16 bits

The fraction of packets lost during gaps since the beginning of reception expressed as a fixed point number with the binary point at the left edge of the field. This value is calculated by dividing the difference between number of packets lost and Packets lost in Bursts by the difference between Packets Expected and Total Packets expected in Bursts as follows:

$$(\text{number of packets lost} - \text{Packets Lost in Bursts}) / (\text{Packets Expected} - \text{Total Packets expected in Bursts})$$

where "number of packets lost" is obtained from standard RTCP [[RFC3550](#)] and Packets Expected is calculated as the difference between "extended last sequence number" and "extended first sequence number" (Interval or Cumulative) provided in the Measurement Identity and Information block [[RFC6776](#)].

Note that if the metric is to be calculated on an Interval basis, a difference must be taken between the current and preceding values of "cumulative number of packets lost" in RTCP, to obtain the "number of packets lost" for the reporting interval.

Burst Duration Mean:16bits

The mean burst duration is obtained as the quotient:

$$\text{mean} = \text{Sum of Burst Durations} / \text{Number of Bursts}$$

where "Sum of Burst Durations" and "Number of Bursts" is obtained from the RTCP XR Burst/Gap Loss Block [\[I-D.ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-burst-gap-loss\]](#).

Burst Duration Variance:16bits

The variance of the burst duration is obtained using the standard result:

$$\text{var} = (\text{Sum of Squares of Burst Durations} - \text{Number of Bursts} * \text{mean}^2) / (\text{Number of Bursts} - 1)$$

where "Sum of Squares of Burst Durations" and "Number of Bursts" is obtained from the RTCP XR Burst/Gap Loss Block [\[I-D.ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-burst-gap-loss\]](#).

3.2. Burst/Gap Discard Summary Statistics Block

The metrics described here are intended to be used as described in this section, in conjunction with information from the Measurement Identity block [\[RFC6776\]](#) (which MUST be present in the same RTCP packet as the Burst/Gap Discard Summary Statistics block) and also with the metric "number of packets discarded" provided in the RTCP XR Discard Block [\[I-D.ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-discard\]](#). The RTCP XR Discard Block SHOULD be sent if the Burst/Gap Discard Summary Statistics block is sent, but the converse does not apply.

These metrics provide information relevant to statistical parameters, including burst discard rate, gap discard rate and are calculated using burst gap loss metrics defined in [\[I-D.ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-burst-gap-discard\]](#) and other information which is sent together with this report block.

The constant 2, in accordance with the definition of this field in [Section 3 of RFC 3611](#) [RFC3611].

SSRC of Source: 32 bits

As defined in [Section 4.1 of RFC3611](#) [[RFC3611](#)].

Burst Discard Rate: 16 bits

The fraction of packets discarded during bursts since the beginning of reception, expressed as a fixed point number with the binary point at the left edge of the field. This value is calculated by dividing Packets Discarded in Bursts by Total Packets expected in Bursts as follows:

$$\text{Packets Discarded in Bursts} / \text{Total Packets expected in Bursts}$$

Gap Discard Rate: 16 bits

The fraction of packets discarded during gaps since the beginning of reception expressed as a fixed point number with the binary point at the left edge of the field. This value is calculated by dividing the difference between number of packets discarded and Packets Discarded in Bursts by the difference between Packets Expected and Total Packets expected in Bursts as follows:

$$(\text{number of packets discarded} - \text{Packets Discarded in Bursts}) / (\text{Packets Expected} - \text{Total Packets expected in Bursts})$$

where "number of packets discarded" is obtained from the RTCP XR Discard Count Block [[I-D.ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-discard](#)] and filled with the total number of packets discarded due to both early and late arrival(DT=3) and Packets Expected is calculated as the difference between "extended last sequence number" and "extended first sequence number" (Interval or Cumulative) provided in the Measurement Information block [[RFC6776](#)]. In order for the Burst/Gap Discard Summary Statistics Block to be meaningful a single instance of the Discard Count block with DT=3 and a single instance of the Burst Gap Discard Block MUST be included in the same RTCP compound packet as the Burst/Gap Discard Summary Statistics Block.

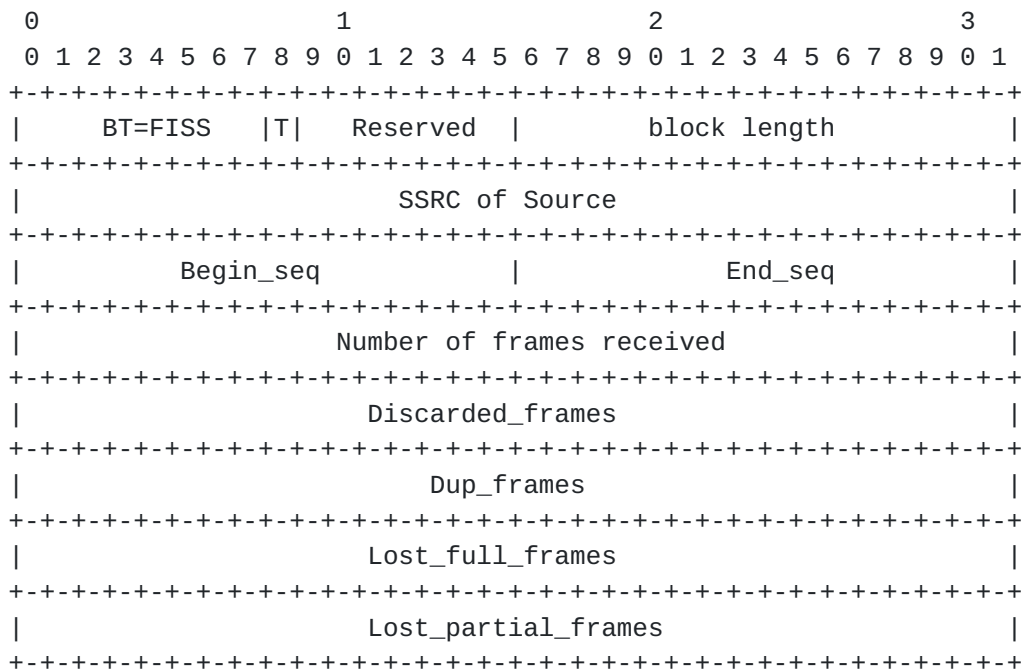
[4.](#) Application Level Metrics

[4.1.](#) Frame Impairment Statistics Summary Block

This block reports statistics on which frame type were affected beyond the information carried in the Statistics Summary Report Block RTCP packet specified in the [section 4.6 of RFC 3611](#) [[RFC3611](#)]. Information is recorded about the number of frames received, lost

frames, duplicated frames and lost partial frames. Such information can be useful for network management and video quality monitoring.

4.1.1. Report Block Structure



4.1.2. Definition of Fields in Frame Impairment Summary Statistics Block

Block type (BT): 8 bits

Frame Impairment Statistics Summary Block is identified by the constant <FISS>.

Picture type indicator (T): 1 bit

This field is used to indicate the frame type to be reported. The bit is set to 0 if the lost_full_frames, lost_partial_frames and dup_frames fields contain Key frame (reference frame) counts or 1 if they contain Derivation frame counts. Note that if both the Key frame and Derivation frame report are sent, they should be sent in the same RTCP compound packet using two Frame Impairment Summary Statistics Blocks.

Reserved: 7 bits

This field is reserved for future definition. In the absence of such a definition, the bits in this field MUST be set to zero and SHOULD be ignored by the receiver.

Block Length: 16 bits

The constant 7, in accordance with the definition of this field in [Section 3 of RFC 3611](#) [[RFC3611](#)].

SSRC of Source: 32 bits

As defined in [Section 4.1 of RFC3611](#) [[RFC3611](#)].

Begin_seq: 16 bits

As defined in [Section 4.1 of RFC 3611](#) [[RFC3611](#)].

end_seq: 16 bits

As defined in [Section 4.1 of RFC 3611](#) [[RFC3611](#)].

Number of frames received: 32 bits

A count of the number of frames received in the above sequence number interval, estimated if necessary. If no frames have been received then this count SHALL be set to zero.

Number of discarded frames (discarded_frames): 32 bits

Number of frames discarded in the above sequence number interval.

Number of duplicate frames (dup_frames): 32 bits

Number of duplicate frames received in the above sequence number interval.

Number of full frames lost (lost_full_frames): 32 bits

If one frame is completely lost, this frame is regarded as one lost full frame. The lost_full_frames is equivalent to the number of full frames lost in the above sequence number interval.

Number of partial frames lost (lost_partial_frames): 32 bits

If one frame is partially lost, this frame is regarded as one lost fractional frame. The value of the lost_partial_frames field is equivalent to the number of partial frames lost in the above sequence number interval.

5. SDP Signaling

[RFC 3611](#) defines the use of SDP (Session Description Protocol) [[RFC4566](#)] for signaling the use of XR blocks. XR blocks MAY be used without prior signaling.

5.1. SDP rtcp-xr-attrib Attribute Extension

This section augments the SDP [[RFC4566](#)] attribute "rtcp-xr" defined in [Section 5.1 of RFC 3611](#) by providing three additional values of "xr-format" to signal the use of the report block defined in this document.

```
xr-format = / burst-gap-loss-stat
            / burst-gap-discard-stat
            / frame-impairment-stat
Burst-gap-loss-stat="burst gap loss summary statistics"
Burst-gap-discard-stat="burst gap discard summary statistics"
Frame-impairment-stat="frame impairment summary statistics"
```

5.2. Offer/Answer Usage

When SDP is used in offer-answer context, the SDP Offer/Answer usage defined in [Section 5.2 of RFC 3611](#) applies.

6. IANA Considerations

New block types for RTCP XR are subject to IANA registration. For general guidelines on IANA considerations for RTCP XR, refer to [RFC 3611](#).

6.1. New RTCP XR Block Type values

This document assigns three new block type value in the RTCP XR Block Type Registry:

Name: BGLSS
Long Name: Burst/Gap Loss Summsary Statistics Block
Value <BGLSS>
Reference: [Section 3.1](#)

Name: BGDSS
Long Name: Burst/Gap Discard Summary Statistics Block
Value <BGDSS>
Reference: [Section 3.2](#)

Name: FISS
Long Name: Frame Impairment Statistics Summary
Value <FISS>
Reference: [Section 4.1](#)

[6.2.](#) New RTCP XR SDP Parameters

This document also registers three new SDP [[RFC4566](#)] parameters for the "rtcp-xr" attribute in the RTCP XR SDP Parameters Registry:

```
* " burst-gap-loss-stat "  
* " burst-gap-discard-stat "  
* " frame-impairment-stat "
```

[6.3.](#) Contact information for registrations

The contact information for the registrations is:

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[7.](#) Security Considerations

The new RTCP XR report blocks proposed in this document introduces no new security considerations beyond those described in [RFC 3611](#).

[8.](#) Acknowledgements

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9. References

9.1. Normative References

- [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", [BCP 14](#), [RFC 2119](#), March 1997.
- [RFC3550] Schulzrinne, H., Casner, S., Frederick, R., and V. Jacobson, "RTP: A Transport Protocol for Real-Time Applications", STD 64, [RFC 3550](#), July 2003.
- [RFC3611] Friedman, T., Caceres, R., and A. Clark, "RTP Control Protocol Extended Reports (RTCP XR)", [RFC 3611](#), November 2003.
- [RFC4566] Handley, M., Jacobson, V., and C. Perkins, "SDP: Session Description Protocol", [RFC 4566](#), July 2006.

9.2. Informative References

- [I-D.ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-burst-gap-discard]
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[draft-ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-burst-gap-loss-04](#) (work in progress), October 2012.
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Clark, A., Zorn, G., and W. Wu, "RTP Control Protocol (RTCP) Extended Report (XR) Block for Discard Count metric Reporting", [draft-ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-discard-09](#) (work in progress), October 2012.
- [RFC6776] Wu, Q., "Measurement Identity and information Reporting using SDES item and XR Block", [RFC 6776](#), August 2012.
- [RFC6792] Hunt, G., Wu, Q., and P. Arden, "Monitoring Architectures for RTP", [RFC 6792](#), November 2012.

[Appendix A.](#) Change Log

Note to the RFC-Editor: please remove this section prior to publication as an RFC.

[A.1. draft-ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-summary-stat-02](#)

The following are the major changes compared to 01:

- o Modify texts to clarify the selection of discard count based on discard count metric block.

[A.2. draft-ietf-xrblock-rtcp-xr-summary-stat-01](#)

The following are the major changes compared to 00:

- o Outdated Reference update
- o Add text to clarify the selection of discard count based on discard count metric block.
- o Revise Interval metric flag definition for consistency.
- o SDP text restructure
- o Other editorial changes based on comments on the list.

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