

## DNS Queries over CoAP (DoC)

draft-lenders-dns-over-coap

(<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-lenders-dns-over-coap/>)

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# Outline

Introduction

Update since `interim-2021-core-12`

Preliminary evaluation

Discussion

- A new Content-Format

- Caching and Max-Age vs. DNS TTL

- Do we need to account for OBSERVE/Server Push?

- How abstract should the draft be?

## Attack Scenario



**Countermeasure:** Encrypt name resolution triggered by IoT devices

# Possible solutions

Possible solutions:

DNS over HTTPS  
(RFC 8484)

DNS over TLS  
(RFC 7858)

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DNS over QUIC  
(dprive draft)

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DNS over HTTPS  
(RFC 8484)

DNS over TLS  
(RFC 7858)

DNS over QUIC  
(dprive draft)

DNS over DTLS  
(RFC 8094)

# Possible solutions

Possible solutions:

~~DNS over HTTP (RFC 8470)~~  
~~DNS over TLS (RFC 7858)~~

TCP conflicts with resource constraints

DNS over QUIC  
(dprive draft)

DNS over DTLS  
(RFC 8094)

# Possible solutions

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## Our proposal: DNS over CoAP

- **Encrypted communication** based on DTLS or OSCORE
- **Block-wise message transfer** to overcome Path MTU problem
- **Share system resources** with CoAP applications
  - Same socket and buffers can be used
  - Re-use of the CoAP retransmission mechanism

~~DNS over  
(RFC)~~

~~Problem vs  
layer PDUs~~

```
        - FETCH coaps://[2001:db8::1]/
        /
        CoAP request
+-----+ [DNS query] +-----+ DNS query +-----+
| DoC   |----->| DoC   |.....>| DNS   |
| Client|<-----| Server|<.....| Server|
+-----+ CoAP response +-----+ DNS response +-----+
        [DNS response]
```

## What happened since `interim-2021-core-12`

### `draft-lenders-dns-over-coap-02`

- Remove GET and POST method specification
- Add note on ETag and response codes
- Clarify why DoQ conflicts with constrained IoT scenarios
- Clarify Content-Format / Accept handling

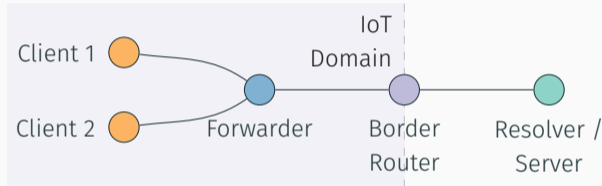
### `draft-lenders-dns-over-coap-03`

- Clarify server selection to be out-of-band
- Define "core.dns" resource type
- Add considerations on message manipulation for DoC servers
- Update considerations on unencrypted use

## Evaluation: Setup

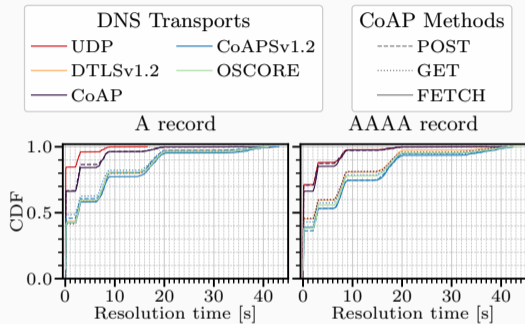
**Name properties:** Based on empirically measured data from IoT devices

**Testbed experiments:**

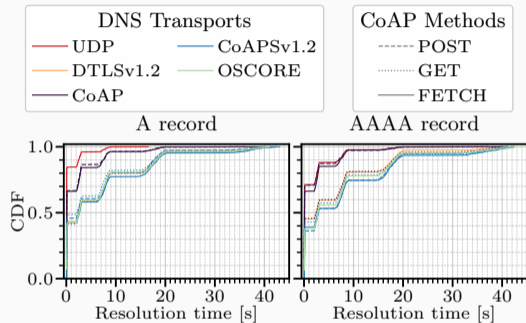


- Clients query 50 A or AAAA records for names of length 24 chars via DNS over UDP / DTLSv1.2 / CoAP (unencrypted) / CoAPsv1.2 / OSCORE
- Poisson distribution:  $\lambda = 5$  queries / sec (ignoring **NSTART=1** requirements)
- 10 runs on IoT-nodes (incl. BR): Cortex-M3 with IEEE 802.15.4 radio

# Experiment: Resolution time

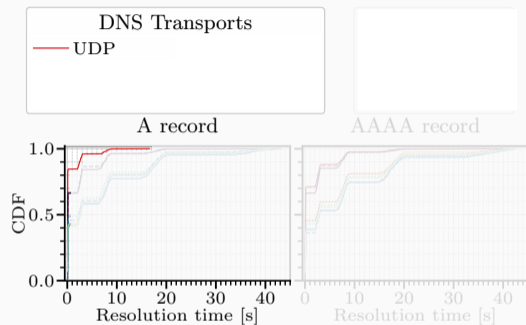


# Experiment: Resolution time



Clear performance  
groupings visible

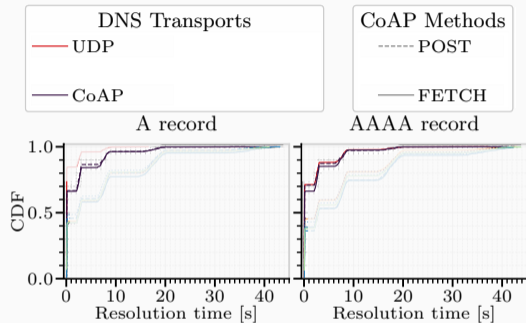
# Experiment: Resolution time



Group 1

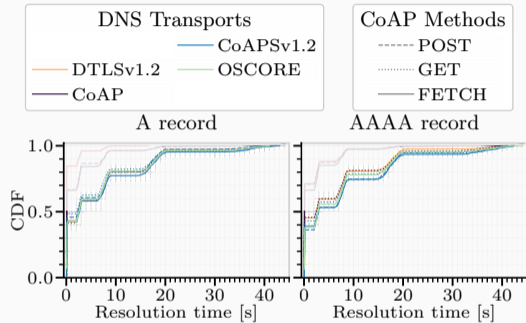


# Experiment: Resolution time & packet sizes



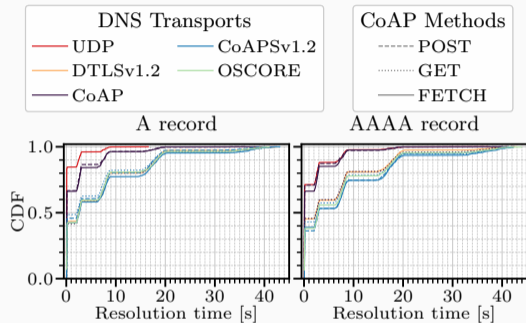
Group 2

# Experiment: Resolution time & packet sizes



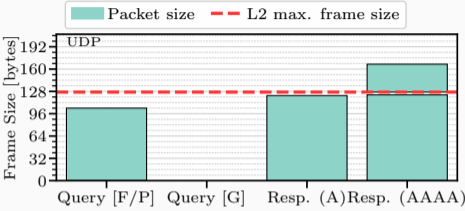
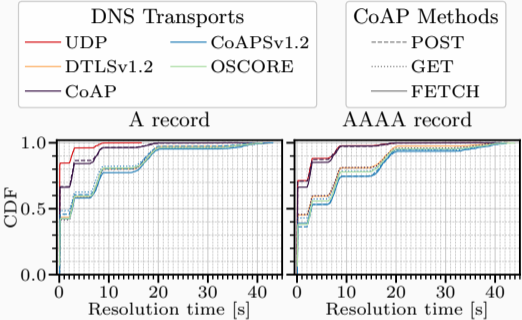
Group 3

# Experiment: Resolution time & packet sizes

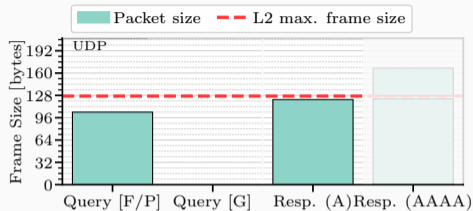
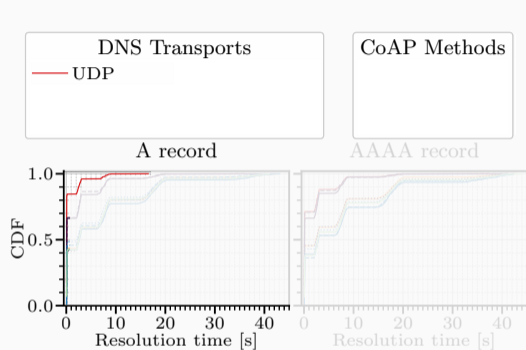


Where do performance groups come from?

# Experiment: Resolution time & packet sizes



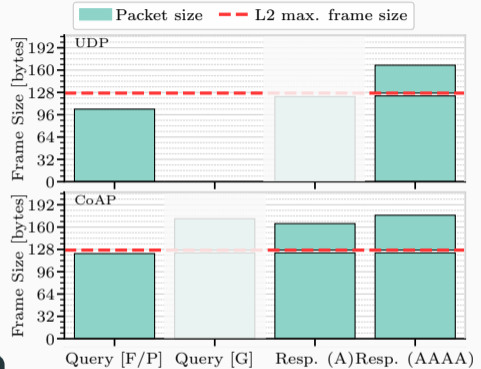
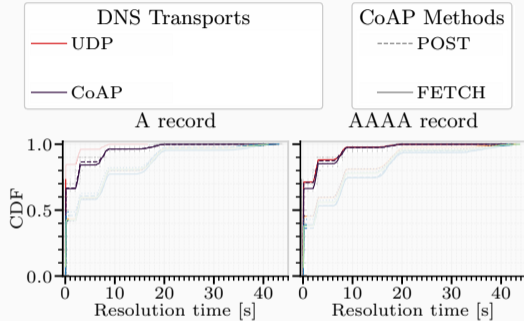
# Experiment: Resolution time & packet sizes



Group 1

No message fragmentation

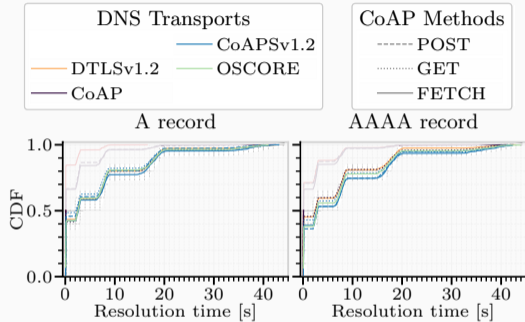
# Experiment: Resolution time & packet sizes



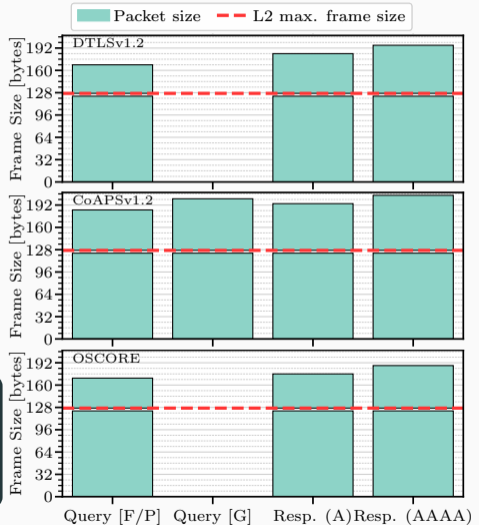
## Group 2

Query unfragmented  
Response fragmented

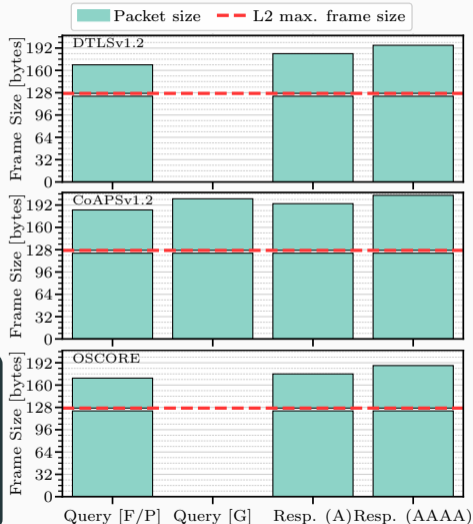
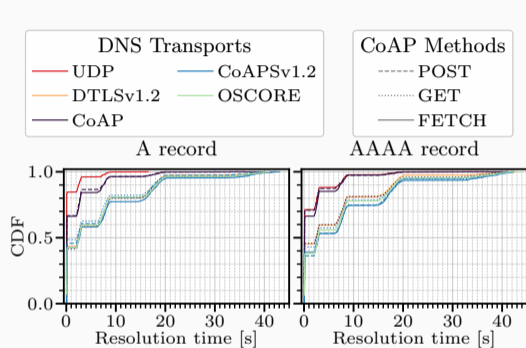
# Experiment: Resolution time & packet sizes



**Group 3**  
Both messages fragmented



# Experiment: Resolution time & packet sizes



⇒ Fragmentation has larger impact on performance compared to transport or CoAP method



# A New Content-Format: Numerical analysis

## Problem:

Realistic query and response sizes lead to fragmentation, using OSCORE & 802.15.4

Name length = 2 chars  
(min)

Name length = 24 chars  
(median)

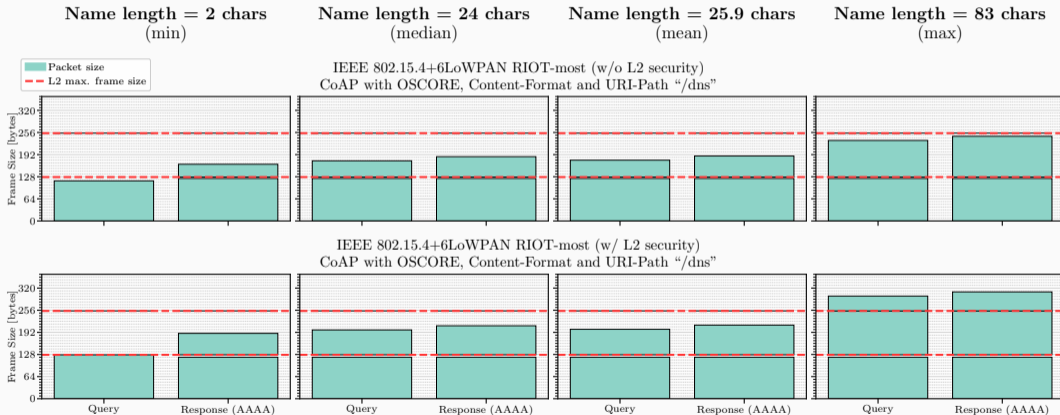
Name length = 25.9 chars  
(mean)

Name length = 83 chars  
(max)

# A New Content-Format: Numerical analysis

## Problem:

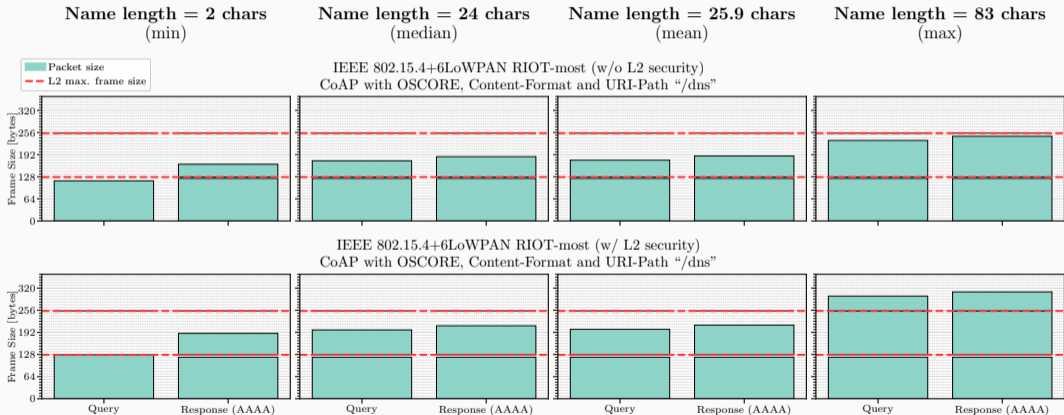
Realistic query and response sizes lead to fragmentation, using OSCORE & 802.15.4



# A New Content-Format: Numerical analysis

## Problem:

Realistic query and response sizes lead to fragmentation, using OSCORE & 802.15.4



⇒ Reduce packet size via compression

# A New Content-Format: Some ideas

**Goal:** Reduce packet size

**Idea:**

- Omit authority and additional sections in DNS responses
- Question section always size 1: omit QDCount field
- Make class and type optional (imply IN/AAAA)
- Self-delimiting numeric values for classes, types, counts, TTLs, etc?
- Question section optional in responses?

**Two Options:**

- Question section CBOR-array, Answer section: CBOR-array of arrays?
- “remote getaddrbyname()” (i.e. query name (maybe type?), expect address as response)?

Discuss in separate draft?

## Discussion: Caching and Max-Age vs. DNS TTL

**Problem:** CoAP Max-Age and DNS TTL may get out of sync at caching proxy

**Option 1** (PR#17): Do it like DoH but

*Server:*

Max-Age = min(TTLs)

*Client:*

$TTL_{new} = TTL_{old} - (\min(TTLs) - \text{Max-Age})$

**Option 2** (PR#19): Do it like DoH but

*Server:*

Max-Age = min(TTLs)

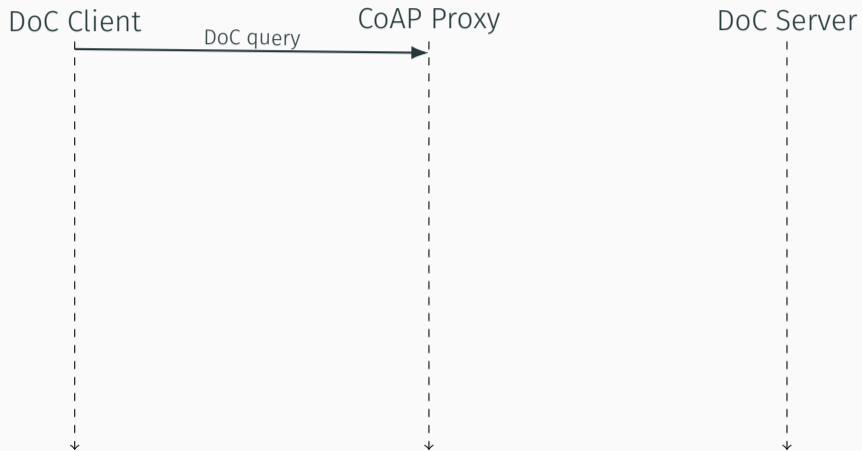
$TTL_{new} = TTL_{old} - \min(TTLs)$

*Client:*

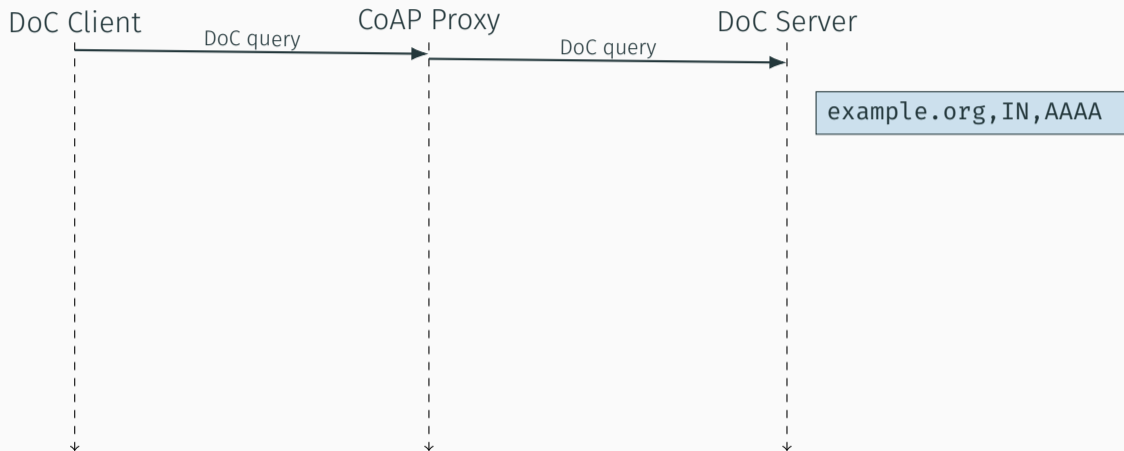
$TTL_{new} = TTL_{old} + \text{Max-Age}$

(see GitHub-Issue #5)

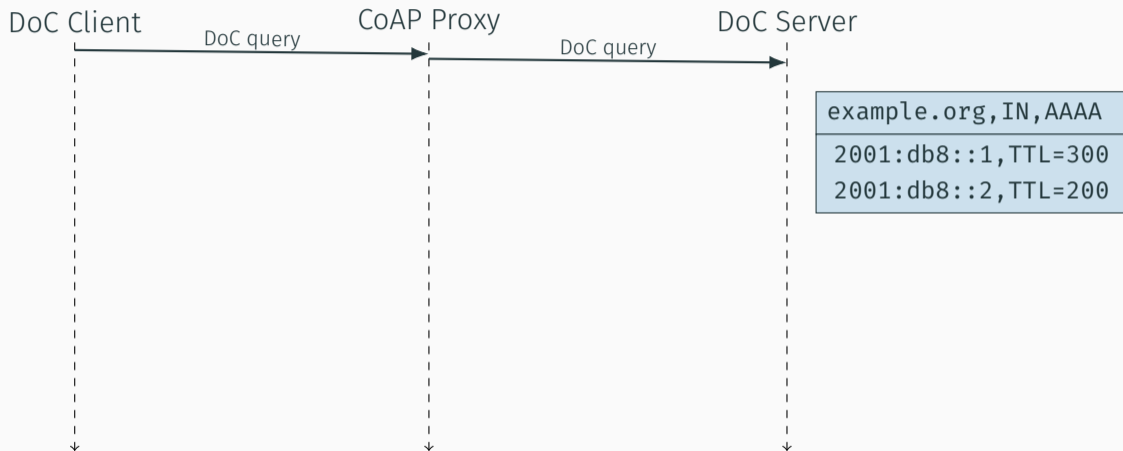
## Caching and Max-Age vs DNS TTL (Option 1, DoH-like)



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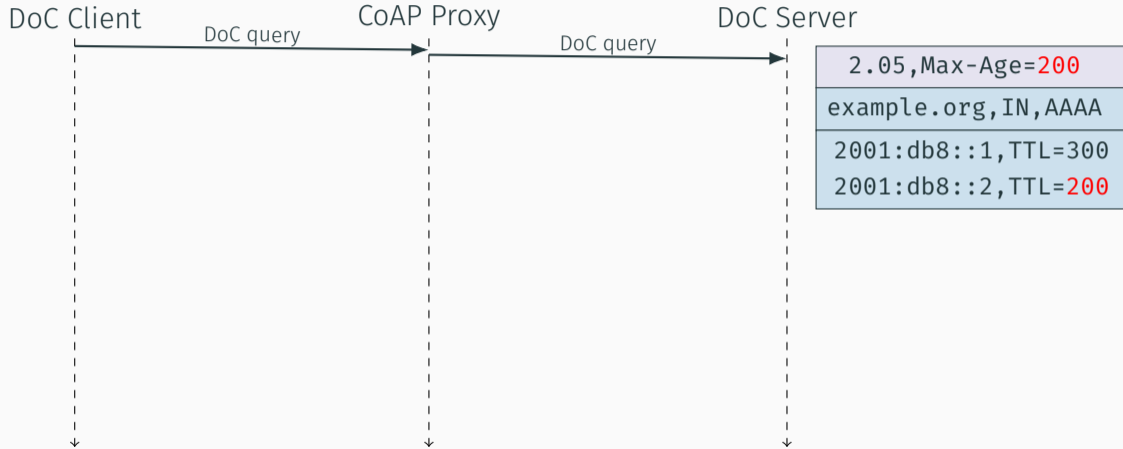


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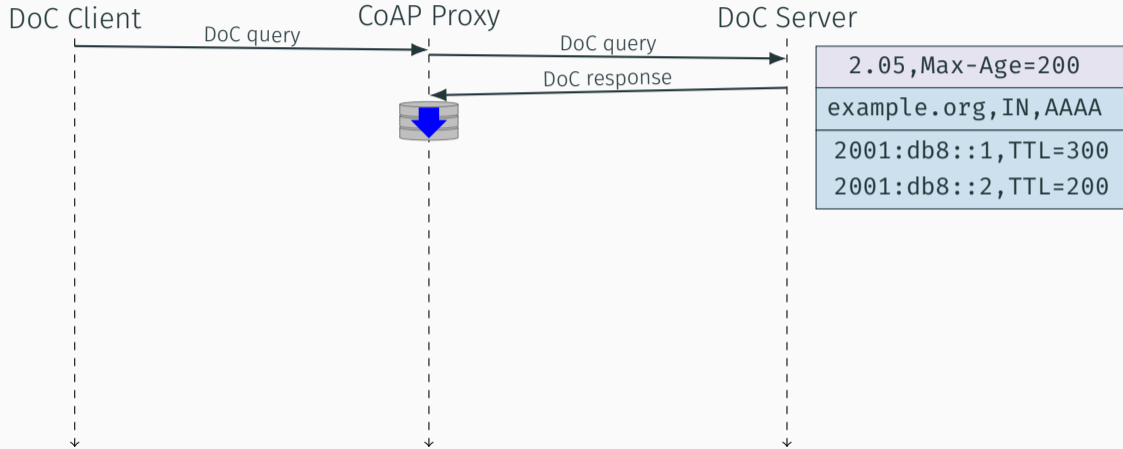




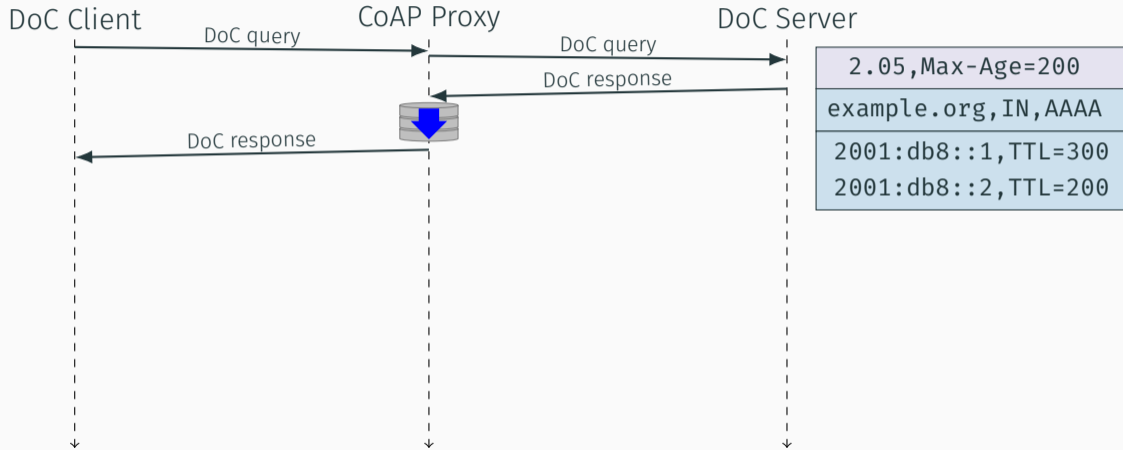
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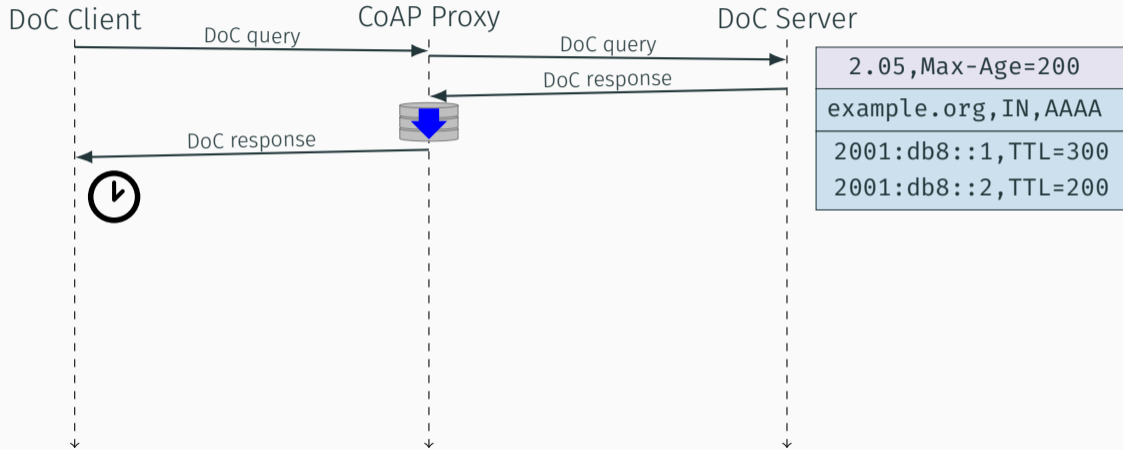
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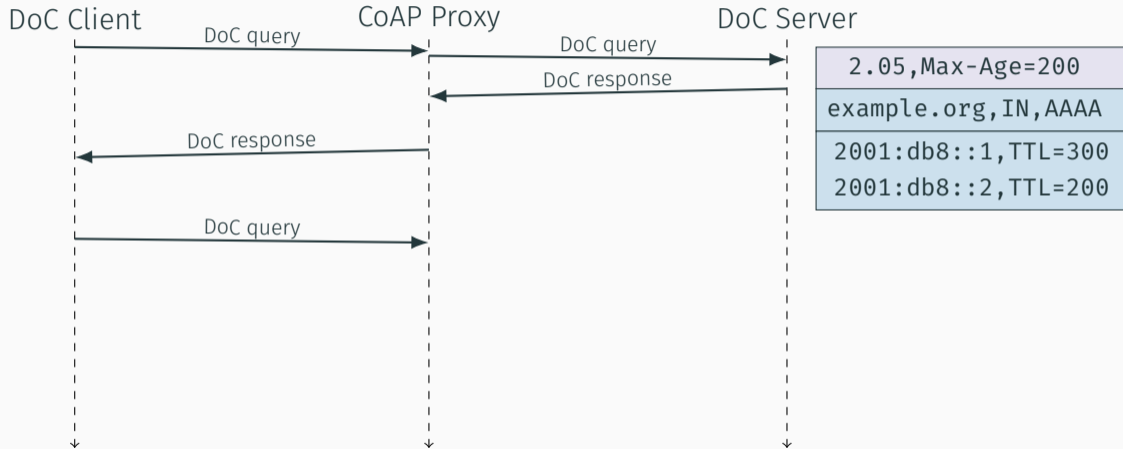
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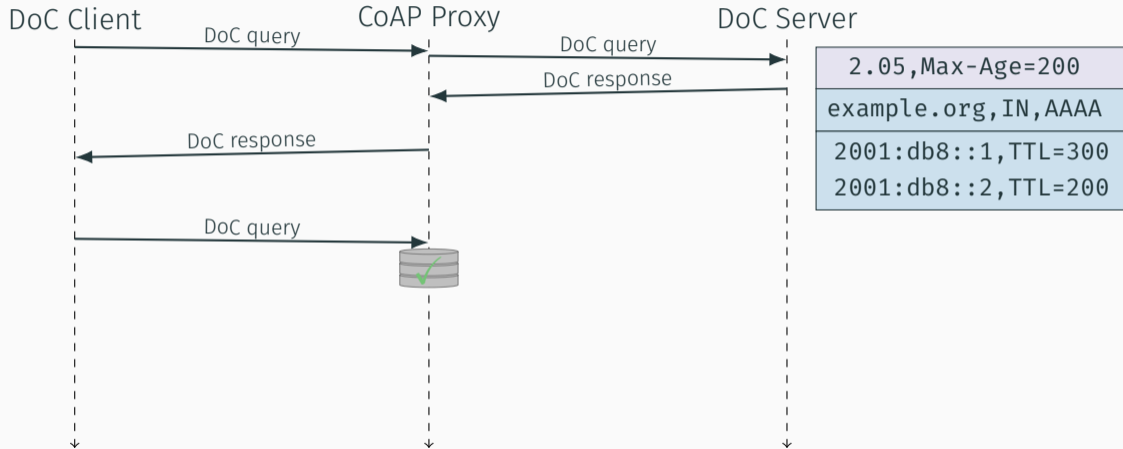
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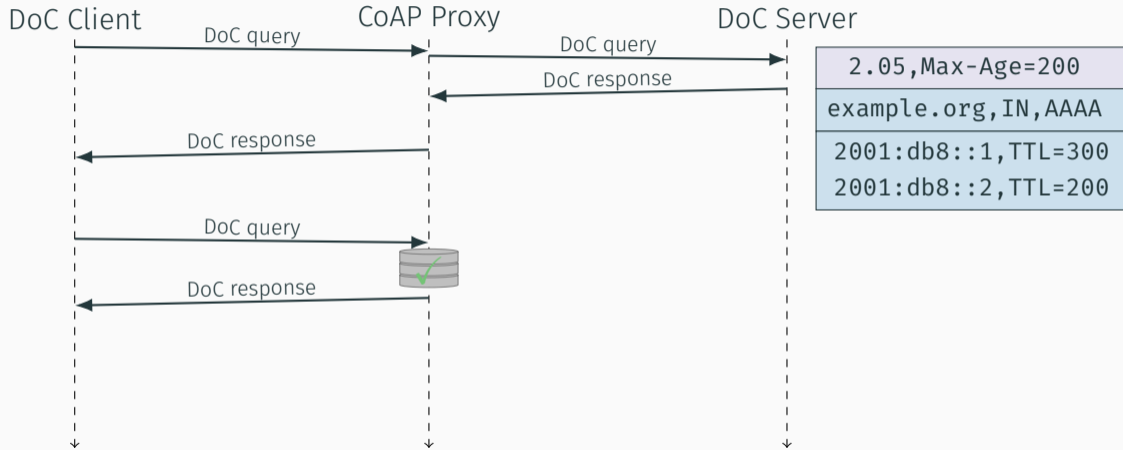
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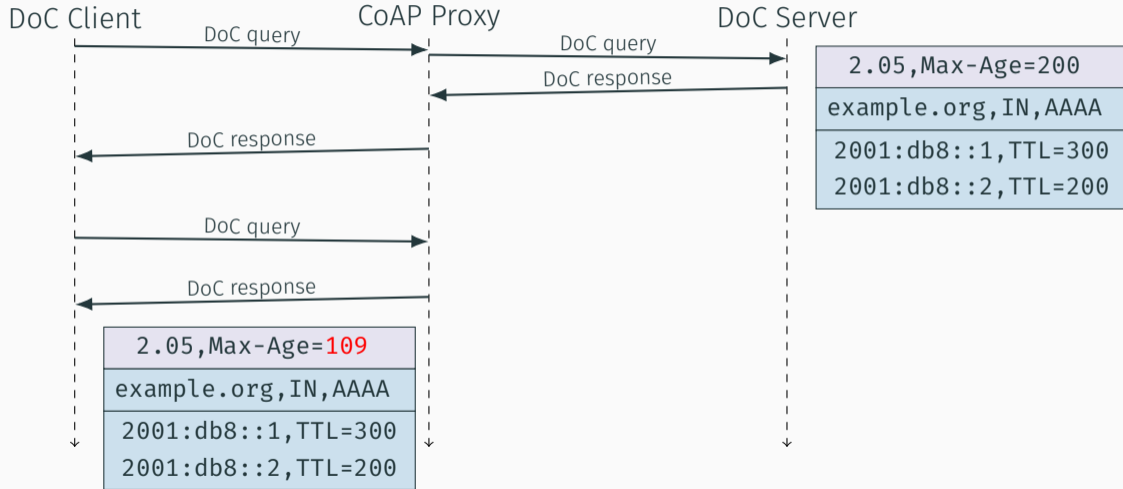
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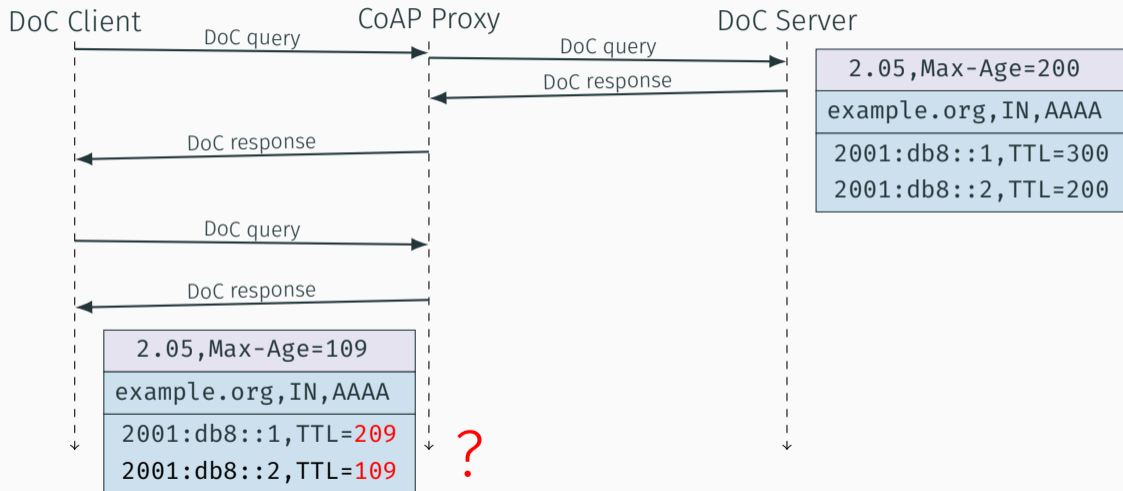


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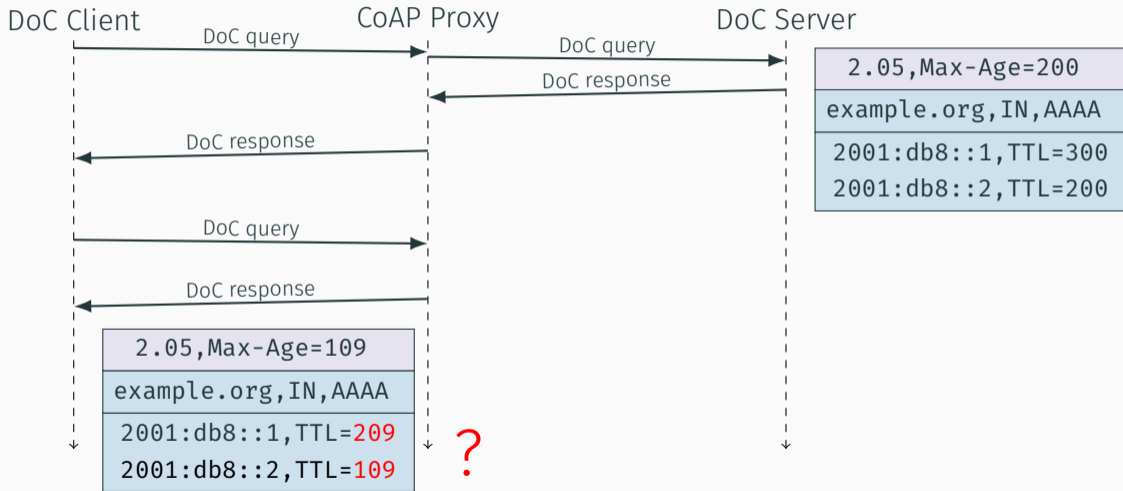




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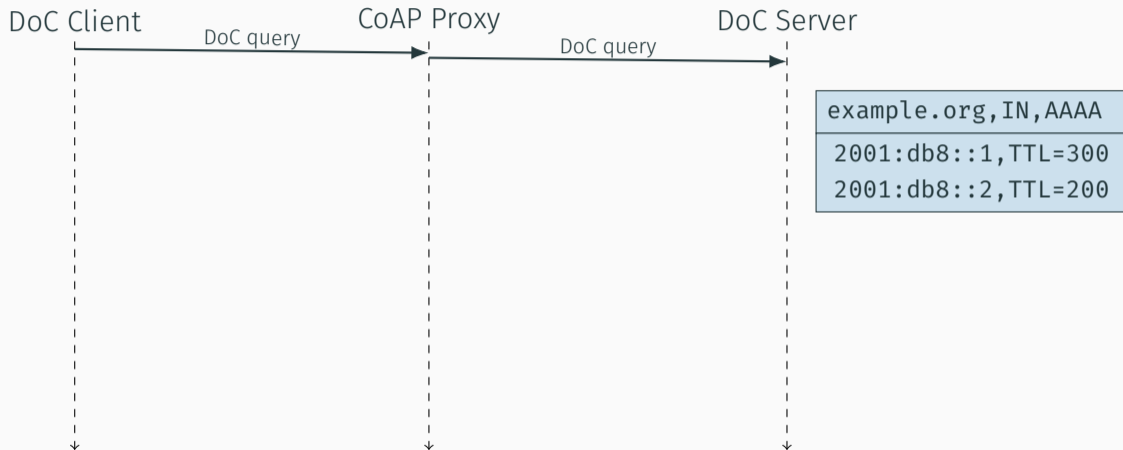


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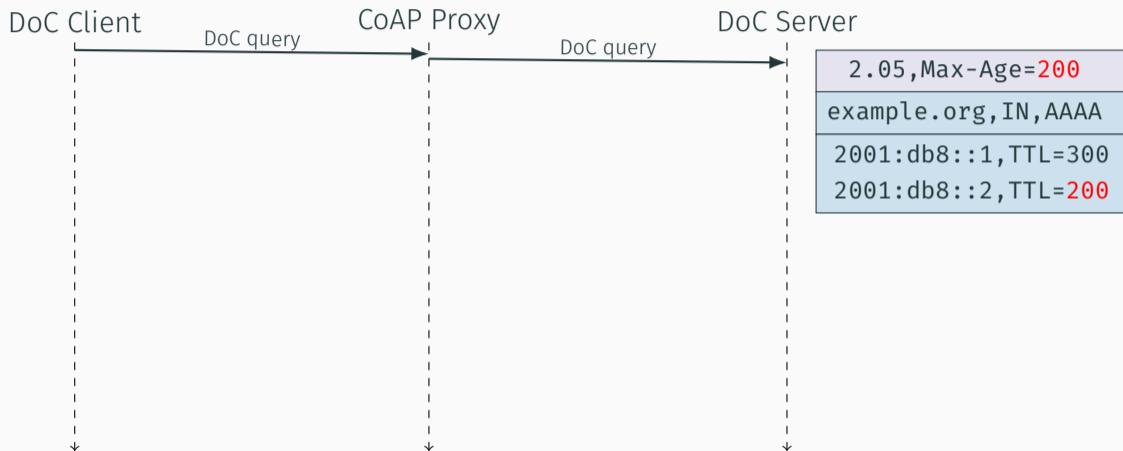


Mostly trying to stay compatible with DoH

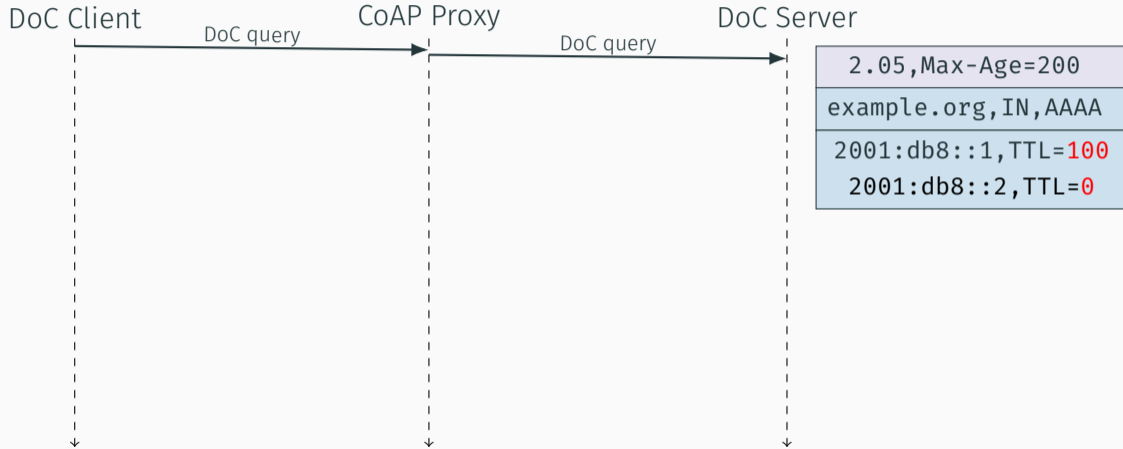
## Caching and Max-Age vs DNS TTL (Option 2, adapt TTLs)



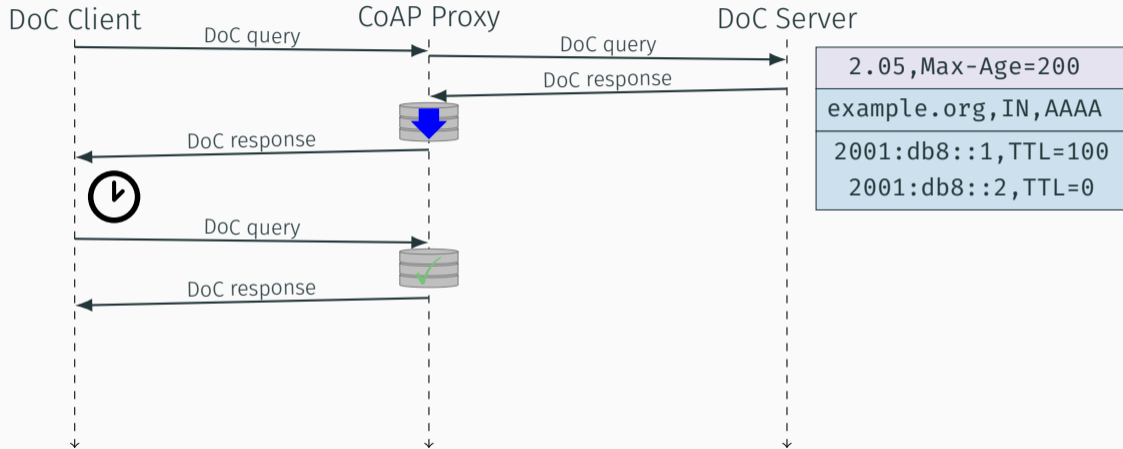
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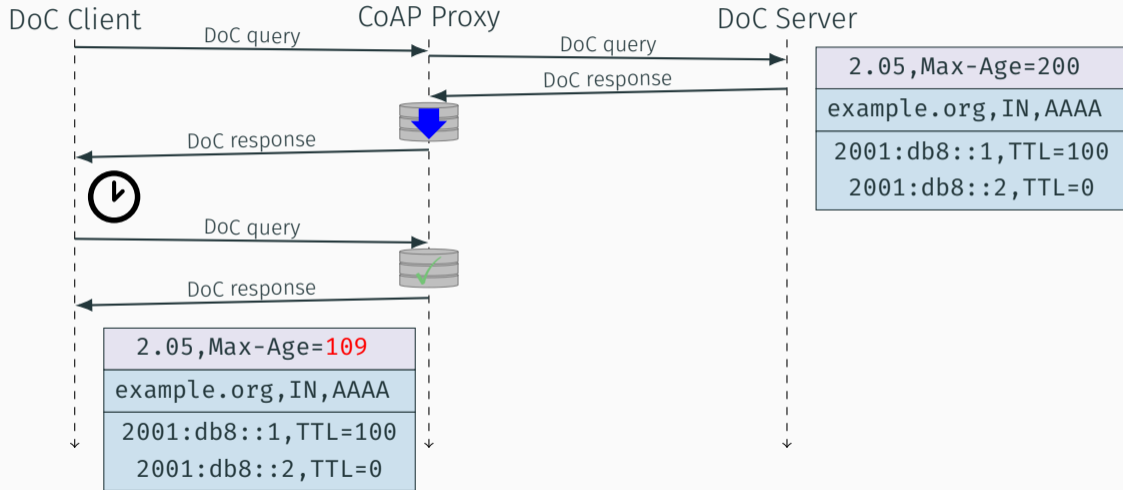
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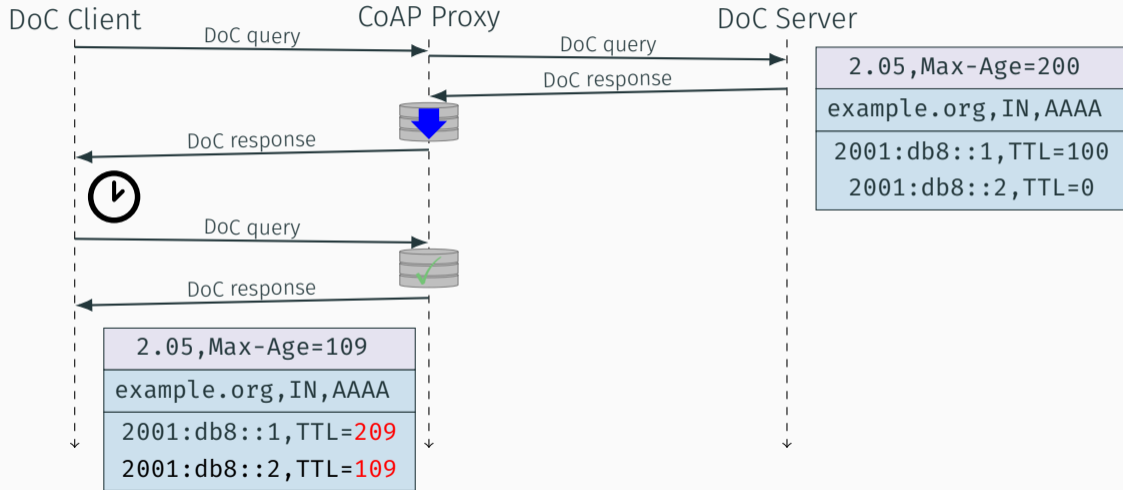
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# Caching and Max-Age vs DNS TTL (Option 2, adapt TTLs)



Workload mostly at server + less cache invalidation



## Section 5.3:

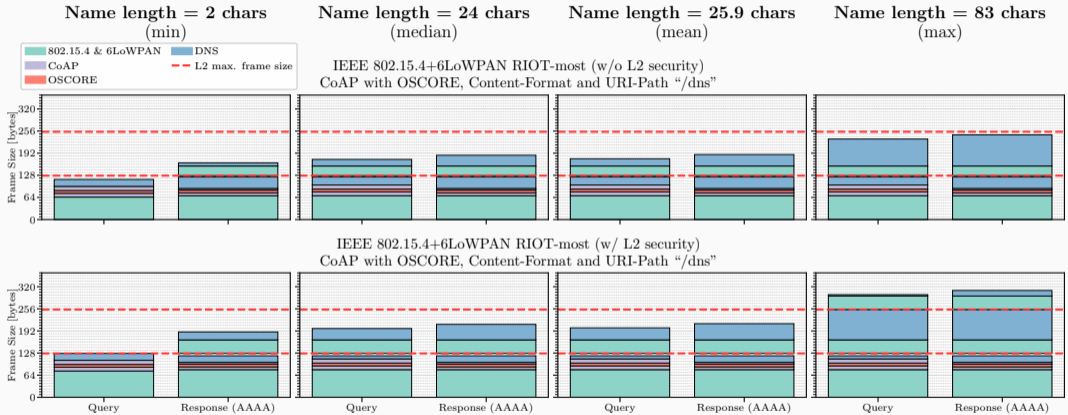
- RFC 8484 (DoH), section 4.3: considerations on HTTP/2 Server Push
  - Deliver potential next request (*e.g.*, website for queried domain name) to client together with DNS response
  - With CoRE: *e.g.*, deliver `.well-known/core` content of CoRE-RD?
  - Requires CoAP request info in notification for proper caching
- Other use case for OBSERVE: RFC 8490, DNS Stateful Operations?

Issue #18 by Klaus Hartke proposes

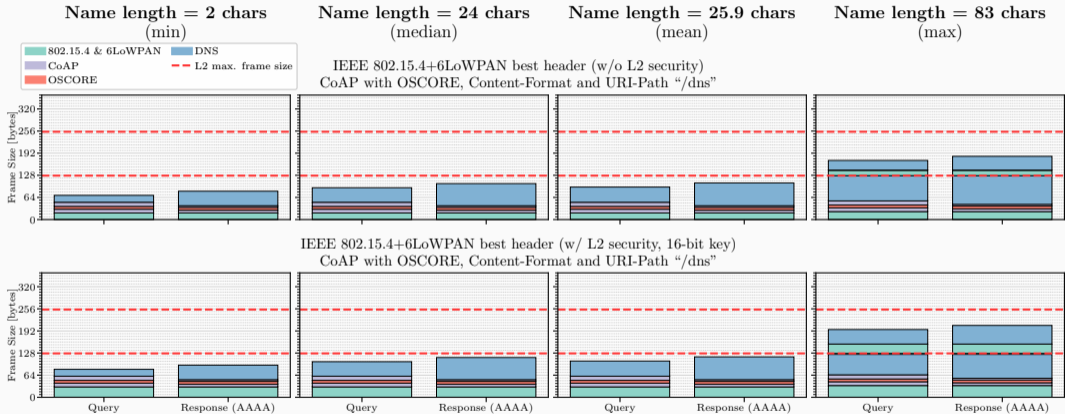
- Specify REST API to retrieve DNS information from CoAP server instead
- Leave protocol details to implementation

Backup slides

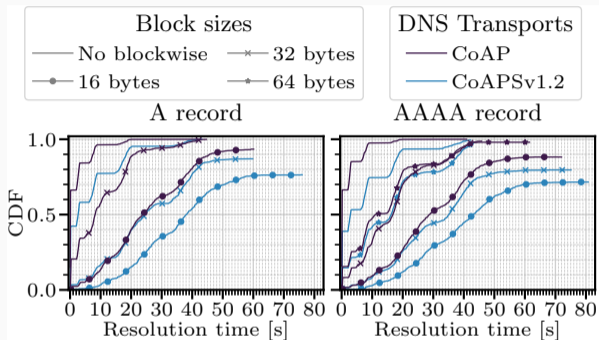
# Packet sizes by layer



# Packet sizes: Best case L2 headers



# Block-wise transfer



- RFC 7959 only
- Not yet looked into RFC 9177