

CoAP Transport Indication¹

`ietf-core-transport-indication-05`

Christian Amsüss, Martine Lenders

2024-03-20

CoRE at IETF 119 in Brisbane

¹Used to be Protocol Indication, document name was `transport-indication` already

Goals

- ① Enablement of transport discovery
 - ② No Aliasing
 - ③ Optimization (no cost per request)
 - ④ Proxy usability
 - ⑤ Proxy announcement
- Give way forward after `coap://` and `coap+tcp` diverged

Changes since IETF118

Why did coap:// and coap+tcp diverge? – rehash of IETF118

Ambiguous: `coap://[2001:db8::1]:1234/`
TCP port? UDP port?

Clarified: `coap+tcp://[2001:db8::1]:1234/`

Unambiguous:

- `coap://0123456789ab.ble.arpa/` (was `coap+ble://...`)
- `coap://ttyUSB0.dev.alt/` (was `coap+uart://ttyUSB0/`)

Criterion: `coap+foo` needed if the literal for of authority values are ambiguous with respect to transports. Or if the resolution process produces such values.

Changes since IETF118

- Guidance to new transports: `coap://`
 - ... and if is IP based, do SVCB as described in the appendix E.
 - ... and if you need that with IP literals, finish appendix F.
- Security guidance simplified
- Consistent talk of “transports”

IETF118 changes are applied.

Let's get this done...

Open question: Scope of has-proxy

“only through link relations”

- URIs regarded as opaque
- Relations are explicit
- Allows to exclude individual resources from transport indication ²
- Uses [RFC 6690](#) `rel=hosts` which is not very clear
- Hard to keep track of what works where

vs.

“Applies per Origin”

- HTTP's mechanism
- Simple
- Way shorter wording in terminology section

²No support adding transport indication for individual resources is planned

Open question: Self description style guide

e. g. after multicast discovery

“Explicitly using canonical names”

```
<coap://myhostname/foo>, . . . ,
```

```
<coap://[2001:db8::1]>;rel=has-unique-proxy;anchor="coap://myhostname"
```

vs.

“Relying on client to re-interpret the document after having parsed parts of it”

```
</foo>, . . . ,
```

```
<coap://[2001:db8::1]>;rel=has-unique-proxy;anchor="coap://myhostname"
```

... Or do we not care so much about [RFC 6690](#) anyway, because other formats would allow setting a base anyway?

Open question: Appendices

- Is alternative history fiction a thing here?
- (Where) should literals for service parameters (and other data from DNS) go?

Summary

Open questions:

- Decide “only through link relation” vs “always when Origin matches”
- Advertising self-proxies / importance of [RFC 6690](#)
- Fate of appendices

What else before this is done?

Interop?