

SRP transport problems

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SRP is (almost) published, but...

We've run into some issues

- First big customer of SRP is Thread, which is a constrained network
- SRP packets are pretty big, and are sent over UDP (oops)
 - This means they can't be segmented, and large packets are way less reliable
- IoT networks are steady state: SRP registrations often happen because something changed
 - Synchronization events produce thundering herds of SRP registrations
 - This leads to immediate congestion collapse, which takes a while to recover from

How to improve things

- Packet size
 - 6lowpan-style compression: get rid of redundant data, make fields smaller.
 - Assume registrar has key when that's likely
 - Can we send partial HMAC hashes?
- Transport
 - Send an initial very small probe with hashes of intended registrations
 - SRP registrar can reply with a schedule: don't respond for N milliseconds
 - SRP registrar can indicate whether any of its hashes match hashes sent by requester

Status of this work

- Lots of hot air
- No implementations yet