

# Agent Communications Gap Analysis and Way Forward

Presenter:	Kehan Yao,	yaokehan@chinamobile.com
Co-Proponents:	Zaheduzzaman Sarker,	zaheduzzaman.sarker@nokia.com
	Lionel Morand,	lionel.morand@huawei.com
	Peng Liu,	liupengyjy@chinamobile.com
	Ye Zhou, ANP Open Source Community,	zynetsy1@gmail.com

# Purpose

- Derive **protocol requirements** by doing **gap analysis** for AI protocol(s) for cross-domain agent deployments for the Internet of Agents.
- Incorporate mobile networks dynamics and architecture requirements into protocol design considerations
  - **Cross-domain interaction**, network diversity, AI workload/collaboration, interoperability
  - Key agentic use cases in the following areas: Embodied AI collaboration, Massive IoT, Autonomous vehicles, QoS, etc.

# Outcomes

- Achieve consensus on AI protocol needs within IETF.
- Establish Working Streams:
  - **Prioritize Urgent Tasks:** Focus on the most critical workstreams first.
  - **Enable Parallel Progress:** Advance multiple key areas simultaneously.
- **Foster Early Synchronization:** Align efforts ( technical directions ) early with IETF and 3GPP.

# Technical summary overview

## Key Enablers

Digital Identity Management

Dynamic Group Communication

Interaction & Collaboration

## Underlying Protocol Requirements

### 1. Agent Identity, AuthN, and AuthZ

(Agent Identifier, user-binding, delegation AuthZ, etc.)

### 2. Agent Discovery

(Agent registration, skill description, etc.)

### 3. Session Management

(New session semantics, timeout, reconnection, etc.)

### 4. Multi-modal Data Transport

(Message ordering, message scheduling, etc.)

# IETF work analysis

## 1. Agent Identity, AuthN, and AuthZ

- **WIMSE/OAUTH Applicability**  
**(SEC, ART)**

## 2. Agent Discovery

- **Intra-domain**(covered by open source protocol)
- **Inter-domain**(DNSOP, INTAREA)  
**(OPS, INT, ART)**

## 3. Session Management

## 4. Multi-modal Data Transport

- **AIProto Strawman Charter -> Possibly New WG**  
(Deliverables should care more about cross-domain interactions and interoperable features, like:  
**UCs, Framework, Common Abstractions, etc)**
- **Current WGs: MoQ/webtransport/MASQUE/...**  
**(WIT, ART)**

# Work to date and future plans

- Side meetings happened in IETF123 and IETF124, Demos in IETF 125
  - Past side meetings materials:
    - <https://github.com/PL-IETF/AI-Agent-Communication-Networking>
- IETF work space analysis draft:
  - <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-yao-catalist-problem-space-analysis/>  
(Special thanks to Zahed, who is also a co-author now.)
- More on 6G relevance:
  - Use cases and Requirements, <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-stephan-ai-agent-6g/>
  - Framework, <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-zyyhl-agent-networks-framework/>
- The discussions happen in [agent2agent@ietf.org](mailto:agent2agent@ietf.org), the same as CATALIST
- There will be another side meeting just after the CATALIST BoF meeting:
  - March 18, 11:15-12:45 ( Asia/Shanghai ) · Hunan, more discussions on technical details of the gap analysis draft above
- Frame IETF's problem space better, gather more proponents, charter revision, formulate protocol design team?