DISCOVERY IS STILL HARD
GOSSIP IS STILL EASY

draft-hardie-p2psip-p2p-pointers-00.txt
Discovering P2P networks using only P2P tools is hard.

This draft puts forward 3 mechanisms that provide ways to share information about P2P networks using existing protocol contexts (web, email, other textual media).

- They can be combined
- They may end up being useful in different contexts
OVERLAY

- Allows you to get an object that tells you about the p2p network using existing URI schemes/attachments.
  - XML-based (using RelaxNG) with a single “availableOverlayDetails” container
  - Similar in some ways to the reload draft’s enrollments server XML format; with some work, they could converge.

- [http://introducer.example.net/](http://introducer.example.net/)
OVERLAY POINTER URI SCHEME

Provisional registration of a scheme “overlay” for pointers to overlay networks’ enrollement servers or introducers

- Notes the DHT types and available services in parameters
- overlay://
  enrollment.example.org/;otype=Pastry;service=mass-storage

- otypes are IANA registered; services are not
- currently looks for AAAA or A records
OVERLAY NODE POINTER URI

- This points to a particular node in an overlay or a resource at a particular node.
- The authority section of this URI scheme uses the “registered name” construct and the node identifiers of a specific overlay

  - overlay-node://22301203/?resource=example.iso

- Obviously, this is not useful without an established overlay context
EXAMPLE COMBINATIONS

- overlay-node: //22301203//;context="overlay://enrollment.example.org//;otype=pastry"\?resource=example.iso
- overlay-node: //22301203//;context="http://introducer.example.net/example.odd"?resource=service-instance

- You can use either pointer mechanisms to set context
- “service instances” relate to the services overlay parameters
WHAT NEXT?

- Do folks want to progress work on pointers in the working group?
  - How much specificity to reload, if so?
  - Should the next draft have all three mechanisms, if so?
- Are there other textual pointer mechanisms that need to be included?