Max Media Source Count

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draft-lennox-mmusic-sdp-max-sources-00.txt
The Problem

Can an RTP Translator forward more than one RTP source of an RTP session?
The Problem (2)

• Many existing SIP endpoints won’t do anything useful with multiple RTP sources in an RTP session.
  – Most will ignore all but one
  – Some will break badly!

• Even if an endpoint *can* do something useful with multiple sources, a translator doesn’t know this.

• We’d like to know if we can actually rely on RTP’s group-communications ability!
Solution

• New SDP attribute: \texttt{max-sources}
• SDP receiver specifies the maximum number of RTP sources it can usefully handle.
  – or “unlimited”.
  – Not “0” – use “a=sendonly” instead.
• Translator must limit number of sources forwarded to this value.
• Only for offer/answer, not declarative SDP.
• Not used in any-source multicast sessions – need a translator to enforce the \texttt{max-sources} value.
Open issues

• Is there a need for values other than “1” and “unlimited”?
• Should the attribute be defined for declarative SDP?