DCON (Distributed Conferencing) BOF @ IETF 82

Chairs:

Simon Pietro Romano & Brian Rosen
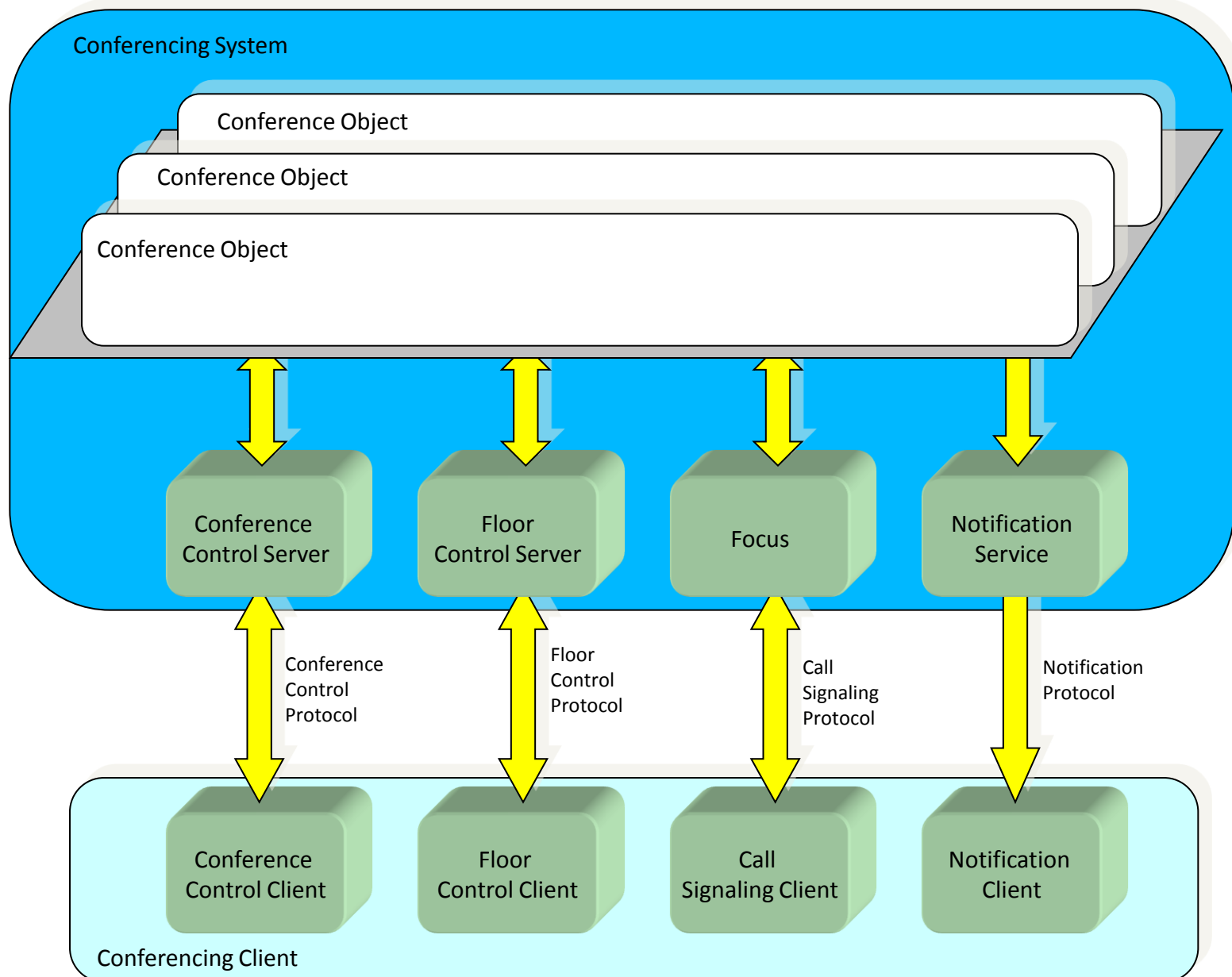
Taipei, Taiwan, November 14, 2011

BOF agenda

- Brief introduction about the problem space and scope limitations
  - Simon Romano
- DCON feasibility analysis: preliminary results from the field
  - Lorenzo Miniero
- Charter review:
  - Clarifying questions on charter text
  - Discussion of scope, deliverables, and timelines
  - Call for volunteers for specific work items
  - Charter hum

The BOF in a nutshell

- Develop a standard solution for scalable conferencing over the Internet
- Define a standard suite of protocols for distributed conferencing
  - drawing inspiration from the work carried out in XCON
- DCON core idea:
  - A distributed conference can be setup by appropriately orchestrating the operation of a number of XCON focus elements
  - Each XCON focus manages a certain number of participants
    - interaction between each participant and the corresponding conference focus will be entirely based on the standard XCON framework
    - inter-focus interaction will be defined by this WG

Background: XCON

Distributed Conferencing (DCON)

- The real problem that needs solving:
  - Standard XCON model
    - Poorly scalable
    - Limited capabilities
    - Single point of failure
- The envisaged potential solution
  - Orchestrating the operation of a set of XCON focus elements
  - Two-layers network topology
    - Intra-focus communications follow XCON rules
    - Inter-focus communication based on an overlay network interconnecting the involved foci
- Is the solution achievable?
  - We believe it is…see next presentation about results of a feasibility analysis

DCON requirements

- Focus discovery
- Spreading of conference events
- Setup and management of distributed conferences
- Transparent dispatching of natively centralized protocols (e.g. BFCP) among the involved conferencing islands
- Management of the media layer
  - E.g. distributed mixing…