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Location Conveyance for the Session Initiation Protocol

Abstract

This document defines an extension to the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) to convey geographic location information from one SIP entity to another SIP entity. The SIP extension covers end-to-end conveyance as well as location-based routing, where SIP intermediaries make routing decisions based upon the location of the Location Target.

Status of This Memo

This is an Internet Standards Track document.

This document is a product of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). It represents the consensus of the IETF community. It has received public review and has been approved for publication by the Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG). Further information on Internet Standards is available in Section 2 of RFC 5741.

Information about the current status of this document, any errata, and how to provide feedback on it may be obtained at http://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc6442.

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1. Introduction

Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) [RFC3261] creates, modifies and terminates multimedia sessions. SIP carries certain information related to a session while establishing or maintaining calls. This document defines how SIP conveys geographic location information of a Target to a Location Recipient (LR). SIP acts as a Using Protocol of location information, as defined in RFC 3693.

In order to convey location information, this document specifies three new SIP header fields, Geolocation, Geolocation-Routing, and Geolocation-Error, which carry a reference to a Location Object (LO), grant permission to route a SIP request based on the location-value and provide error notifications specific to location errors, respectively. The Location Object (LO) may appear in a MIME body attached to the SIP request, or it may be a remote resource in the network.

A Target is an entity whose location is being conveyed, per RFC 3693. Thus, a Target could be a SIP user agent (UA), some other IP device (a router or a PC) that does not have a SIP stack, a non-IP device (a person or a black phone), or even a non-communications device (a building or store front). In no way does this document assume that the SIP user agent client that sends a request containing a location object is necessarily the Target. The location of a Target conveyed within SIP typically corresponds to that of a device controlled by the Target, for example, a mobile phone, but such devices can be separated from their owners, and moreover, in some cases, the user agent may not know its own location.

In the SIP context, a location recipient will most likely be a SIP UA, but due to the mediated nature of SIP architectures, location information conveyed by a single SIP request may have multiple recipients, as any SIP proxy server in the signaling path that inspects the location of the Target must also be considered a Location Recipient. In presence-like architectures, an intermediary that receives publications of location information and distributes them to watchers acts as a Location Server per RFC 3693. This location conveyance mechanism can also be used to deliver URIs pointing to such Location Servers where prospective Location Recipients can request Location Objects.

2. Conventions and Terminology Used in This Document

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119]. Furthermore, this document uses numerous terms defined in [RFC3693], including: Location Object, Location Recipient, Location Server, Target, Rule Maker, and Using Protocol.

3. Overview of SIP Location Conveyance

An operational overview of SIP location conveyance can be shown in four basic diagrams, with most applications falling under one of the following basic use cases. Each is separated into its own subsection here in Section 3.

Each diagram has Alice and Bob as UAs. Alice is the Target, and Bob is an LR. A SIP intermediary appears in some of the diagrams. Any SIP entity that receives and inspects location information is an LR; therefore, in any of the diagrams, the SIP intermediary that receives a SIP request is potentially an LR -- though that does not mean such an intermediary necessarily has to route the SIP request based on the location information. In some use cases, location information passes through the LS on the right of each diagram.

3.1. Location Conveyed by Value

We start with the simplest diagram of Location Conveyance, Alice to Bob, where no other Layer 7 entities are involved.

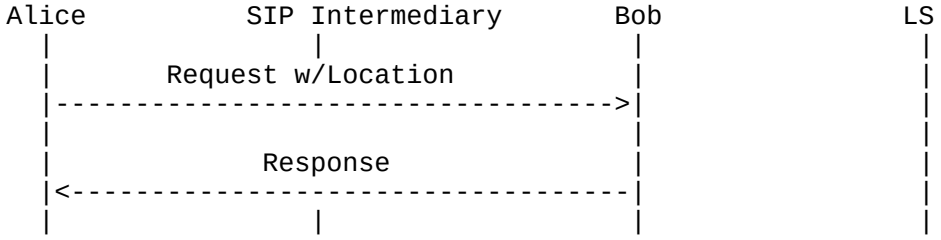

Figure 1. Location Conveyed by Value

In Figure 1, Alice is both the Target and the LS that is conveying her location directly to Bob, who acts as an LR. This conveyance is point-to-point: it does not pass through any SIP-layer intermediary. A Location Object appears by-value in the initial SIP request as a MIME body, and Bob responds to that SIP request as appropriate. There is a 'Bad Location Information' response code introduced within this document to specifically inform Alice if she conveys bad

location to Bob (e.g., Bob "cannot parse the location provided", or "there is not enough location information to determine where Alice is").

3.2. Location Conveyed as a Location URI

Here we make Figure 1 a little more complicated by showing a diagram of indirect Location Conveyance from Alice to Bob, where Bob's entity has to retrieve the location object from a third party server.

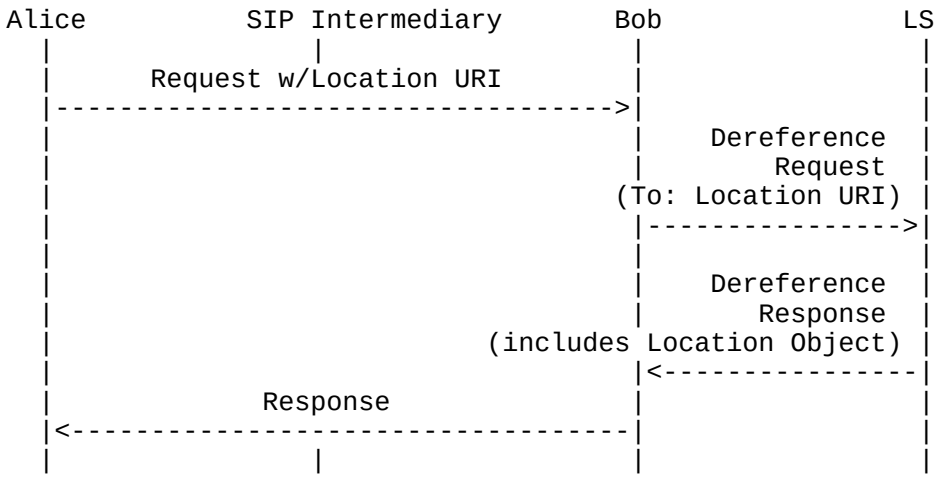

Figure 2. Location Conveyed as a Location URI

In Figure 2, location is conveyed indirectly, via a Location URI carried in the SIP request (more of those details later). If Alice sends Bob this Location URI, Bob will need to dereference the URI -- analogous to Content Indirection [RFC4483] -- in order to request the location information. In general, the LS provides the location value to Bob instead of Alice directly for conveyance to Bob. From a user interface perspective, Bob the user won't know that this information was gathered from an LS indirectly rather than culled from the SIP request; practically, this does not impact the operation of location-based applications.

The example given in this section is only illustrative, not normative. In particular, applications can choose to dereference a location URI at any time, possibly several times, or potentially not at all. Applications receiving a Location URI in a SIP transaction need to be mindful of timers used by different transactions. In particular, if the means of dereferencing the Location URI might take longer than the SIP transaction timeout (Timer C for INVITE

transactions, Timer F for non-INVITE transactions), then it needs to rely on mechanisms other than the transaction's response code to convey location errors, if returning such errors are necessary.

3.3. Location Conveyed though a SIP Intermediary

In Figure 3, we introduce the idea of a SIP intermediary into the example to illustrate the role of proxying in the location architecture. This intermediary can be a SIP proxy or it can be a back-to-back user agent (B2BUA). In this message flow, the SIP intermediary could act as an LR, in addition to Bob. The primary use case for intermediaries consuming location information is location-based routing. In this case, the intermediary chooses a next hop for the SIP request by consulting a specialized location service that selects forwarding destinations based on the geographical location information contained in the SIP request.

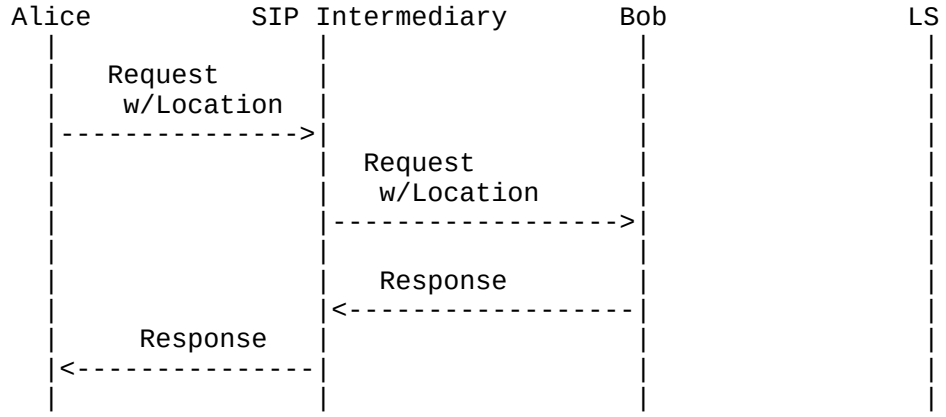

Figure 3. Location Conveyed though a SIP Intermediary

However, the most common case will be one in which the SIP intermediary receives a request with location information (conveyed either by-value or by-reference) and does not know or care about Alice's location, or support this extension, and merely passes it on to Bob. In this case, the intermediary does not act as a Location Recipient. When the intermediary is not an LR, this use case is the same as the one described in Section 3.1.

Note that an intermediary does not have to perform location-based routing in order to be a Location Recipient. It could be the case that a SIP intermediary that does not perform location-based routing does care when Alice includes her location; for example, it could care that the location information is complete or that it correctly identifies where Alice is. The best example of this is

intermediaries that verify location information for emergency calling, but it could also be for any location based routing, e.g., contacting your favorite local pizza delivery service, making sure that organization has Alice's proper location in the initial SIP request.

There is another scenario in which the SIP intermediary cares about location and is not an LR, one in which the intermediary inserts another location of the Target, Alice in this case, into the request, and forwards it. This secondary insertion is generally not advisable because downstream SIP entities will not be given any guidance about which location to believe is better, more reliable, less prone to error, more granular, worse than the other location or just plain wrong.

This document takes a "you break it, you bought it" approach to dealing with second locations placed into a SIP request by an intermediary entity. That entity becomes completely responsible for all location within that SIP request (more on this in Section 4).

3.4. SIP Intermediary Replacing Bad Location

If the SIP intermediary rejects the message due to unsuitable location information, the SIP response will indicate there was 'Bad Location Information' in the SIP request and provide a location-specific error code indicating what Alice needs to do to send an acceptable request (see Figure 4 for this scenario).

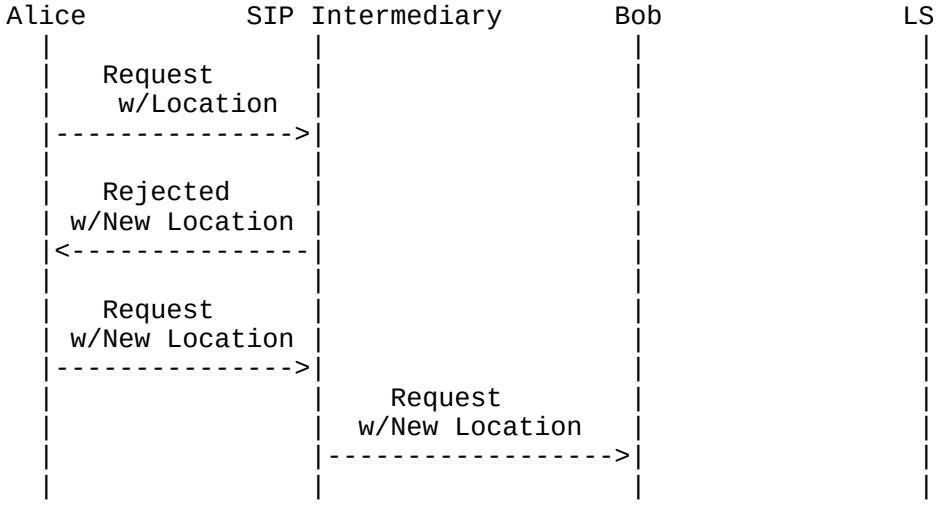

Figure 4. SIP Intermediary Replacing Bad Location

In this last use case, the SIP intermediary wishes to include a Location Object indicating where it understands Alice to be. Thus, it needs to inform her user agent of what location it will include in any subsequent SIP request that contains her location. In this case, the intermediary can reject Alice's request and, through the SIP response, convey to her the best way to repair the request in order for the intermediary to accept it.

Overriding location information provided by the user requires a deployment where an intermediary necessarily knows better than an end user -- after all, it could be that Alice has an on-board GPS, and the SIP intermediary only knows her nearest cell tower. Which is more accurate location information? Currently, there is no way to tell which entity is more accurate or which is wrong, for that matter. This document will not specify how to indicate which location is more accurate than another.

As an aside, it is not envisioned that any SIP-based emergency services request (i.e., IP-911 or 112 type of call attempt) will receive a corrective 'Bad Location Information' response from an intermediary. Most likely, in that scenario, the SIP intermediary would act as a B2BUA and insert into the request by-value any appropriate location information for the benefit of Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) call centers to expedite call reception by the emergency services personnel; thereby, minimizing any delay in call establishment time. The implementation of these specialized deployments is, however, outside the scope of this document.

4. SIP Extensions for Geolocation Conveyance

The following sections detail the extensions to SIP for location conveyance.

4.1. The Geolocation Header Field

This document defines "Geolocation" as a new SIP header field registered by IANA, with the following ABNF [RFC5234]:

```
message-header    =/ Geolocation-header
                     ; (message-header from RFC 3261)
Geolocation-header = "Geolocation" HCOLON locationValue
                     *( COMMA locationValue )
locationValue      = LAQUOT locationURI RAQUOT
                     *(SEMI geoloc-param)
locationURI        = sip-URI / sips-URI / pres-URI
                       / http-URI / https-URI
                       / cid-url ; (from RFC 2392)
                       / absoluteURI ; (from RFC 3261)
```

```
geoloc-param       = generic-param ; (from RFC 3261)
```

HCOLON, COMMA, LAQUOT, RAQUOT, and SEMI are defined in [RFC3261].

sip-URI, sips-URI, and absoluteURI are defined according to [RFC3261].

The pres-URI is defined in [RFC3859].

http-URI and https-URI are defined according to [RFC2616] and [RFC2818], respectively.

The cid-url is defined in [RFC2392] to locate message body parts. This URI type is present in a SIP request when location is conveyed as a MIME body in the SIP message.

GEO-URIs [RFC5870] are not appropriate for usage in the SIP Geolocation header because it does not include retention and re-transmission flags as part of the location information. Other URI schemes used in the location URI MUST be reviewed against the criteria in [RFC3693] for a Using Protocol. Section 4.6 discusses how URI schemes are communicated using this SIP extension and what to do if a URI scheme is received that cannot be supported.

The generic-param in the definition of locationValue is included as a mechanism for future extensions that might require parameters. This document defines no parameters for use with locationValue. If a Geolocation header field is received that contains generic-params, each parameter SHOULD be ignored, and SHOULD NOT be removed when forwarding the locationValue. If a need arises to define parameters for use with locationValue, a revision/extension to this document is required.

The Geolocation header field MUST have at least one locationValue. A SIP intermediary SHOULD NOT add location to a SIP request that already contains location. This will quite often lead to confusion within LRs. However, if a SIP intermediary adds location, even if location was not previously present in a SIP request, that SIP intermediary is fully responsible for addressing the concerns of any 424 (Bad Location Information) SIP response it receives about this location addition and MUST NOT pass on (upstream) the 424 response. A SIP intermediary that adds a locationValue MUST position the new locationValue as the last locationValue within the Geolocation header field of the SIP request.

This document defines the Geolocation header field as valid in the following SIP requests:

INVITE [RFC3261]	REGISTER [RFC3261]
OPTIONS [RFC3261]	BYE [RFC3261]
UPDATE [RFC3311]	INFO [RFC6086]
MESSAGE [RFC3428]	REFER [RFC3515]
SUBSCRIBE [RFC3265]	NOTIFY [RFC3265]
PUBLISH [RFC3903]	

The Geolocation header field MAY be included in any one of the above listed requests by a UA and a 424 response to any one of the requests sent above. Fully appreciating the caveats/warnings mentioned above, a SIP intermediary MAY add the Geolocation header field.

A SIP intermediary MAY add a Geolocation header field if one is not present -- for example, when a user agent does not support the Geolocation mechanism but their outbound proxy does and knows the Target's location, or any of a number of other use cases (see Section 3).

The Geolocation header field MAY be present in a SIP request or response without the presence of a Geolocation-Routing header (defined in Section 4.2). As stated in Section 4.2, the default value of Geolocation-Routing header-value is "no", meaning SIP intermediaries MUST NOT view (i.e., process, inspect, or actively dereference) any direct or indirect location within this SIP message. This is for at least two fundamental reasons:

1) to make the possibility of retention of the Target's location moot (because it was not viewed in the first place); and

2) to prevent a different treatment of this SIP request based on the contents of the Location Information in the SIP request.

Any locationValue MUST be related to the original Target. This is equally true for the location information in a SIP response, i.e., from a SIP intermediary back to the Target as explained in Section 3.4. SIP intermediaries SHOULD NOT modify or delete any existing locationValue(s). A use case in which this would not apply would be where the SIP intermediary is an anonymizer. The problem with this scenario is that the geolocation included by the Target then becomes useless for the purpose or service for which they wanted to use (include) it. For example, 911/emergency calling or finding the nearest (towing company/pizza delivery/dry cleaning) service(s) will not yield intended results if the Location Information were to be modified or deleted from the SIP request.

4.2. The Geolocation-Routing Header Field

This document defines "Geolocation-Routing" as a new SIP header field registered by IANA, with the following ABNF [RFC5234]:

```
message-header    =/ Georouting-header
                     ; (message-header from RFC 3261)
Georouting-header  = "Geolocation-Routing" HCOLON
                     ( "yes" / "no" / generic-value )
generic-value      = generic-param;  (from RFC 3261)
```

HCOLON is defined in [RFC3261].

The only defined values for the Geolocation-Routing header field are "yes" or "no". When the value is "yes", the locationValue can be used for routing decisions along the downstream signaling path by intermediaries. Values other than "yes" or "no" are permitted for future extensions. Implementations not aware of an extension MUST treat any other received value the same as "no".

If no Geolocation-Routing header field is present in a SIP request, a SIP intermediary MAY insert this header. Without knowledge from a Rule Maker, the SIP intermediary inserting this header-value SHOULD NOT set the value to "yes", as this may be more permissive than the originating party intends. An easy way around this is to have the Target always insert this header-value as "no".

When this Geolocation-Routing header-value is set to "no", this means no locationValue (inserted by the originating User Agent Client (UAC) or any intermediary along the signaling path) can be used by any SIP intermediary to make routing decisions. Intermediaries that attempt to use the location information for routing purposes in spite of this counter indication could end up routing the request improperly as a result. Section 4.4 gives the details on what a routing intermediary does if it determines it needs to use the location in the SIP request in order to process the message further. The practical implication is that when the Geolocation-Routing header-value is set to "no", if a cid:url is present in the SIP request, intermediaries MUST NOT view the location (because it is not for intermediaries to consider when processing the request); if a location URI is present, intermediaries MUST NOT dereference it. UAs are allowed to view location in the SIP request even when the Geolocation-Routing header-value is set to "no". An LR MUST by default consider the Geolocation-Routing header-value as set to "no", with no exceptions, unless the header field value is set to "yes".

A Geolocation-Routing header-value that is set to "no" has no special security properties. At most, it is a request for behavior within SIP intermediaries. That said, if the Geolocation-Routing header-value is set to "no", SIP intermediaries are still to process the SIP request and send it further downstream within the signaling path if there are no errors present in this SIP request.

The Geolocation-Routing header field satisfies the recommendations made in Section 3.5 of RFC 5606 [RFC5606] regarding indication of permission to use location-based routing in SIP.

SIP implementations are advised to pay special attention to the policy elements for location retransmission and retention described in RFC 4119.

The Geolocation-Routing header field cannot appear without a header-value in a SIP request or response (i.e., a null value is not allowed). The absence of a Geolocation-Routing header-value in a SIP request is always the same as the following header field:

```
Geolocation-Routing: no
```

The Geolocation-Routing header field MAY be present without a Geolocation header field in the same SIP request. This concept is further explored in Section 4.2.1.

4.2.1. Explaining Geolocation-Routing Header-Value States

The Geolocation header field contains a Target’s location, and it MUST NOT be present if there is no location information in this SIP request. The location information is contained in one or more locationValues. These locationValues MAY be contained in a single Geolocation header field or distributed among multiple Geolocation header fields. (See Section 7.3.1 of RFC 3261.)

The Geolocation-Routing header field indicates whether or not SIP intermediaries can view and then route this SIP request based on the included (directly or indirectly) location information. The Geolocation-Routing header field MUST NOT appear more than once in any SIP request, and MUST NOT lack a header-value. The default or implied policy of a SIP request that does not have a Geolocation-Routing header field is the same as if one were present and the header-value were set to "no".

There are only three possible states regarding the Geolocation-Routing header field:

- "no"
- "yes"
- no header-field present in this SIP request

The expected results in each state are as follows:

If the Geolocation-Routing	Only possible interpretations:
"no"	SIP intermediaries MUST NOT process included geolocation information within this SIP request. SIP intermediaries inserting a locationValue into a Geolocation header field (whether adding to an existing header-value or inserting the Geolocation header field for the first time) MUST NOT modify or delete the received "no" header-value.
"yes"	SIP intermediaries can process included geolocation information within this SIP request and can change the policy to "no" for intermediaries further downstream.
Geolocation-Routing absent	If a Geolocation header field exists (meaning a locationValue is already present), a SIP intermediary MUST interpret the lack of a Geolocation-Routing header field as if there were one present and the header-value is set to "no". If there is no Geolocation header field in this SIP request, the default Geolocation-Routing is open and can be set by a SIP intermediary or not at all.

4.3. 424 (Bad Location Information) Response Code

This SIP extension creates a new location-specific response code, defined as follows:

424 (Bad Location Information)

The 424 (Bad Location Information) response code is a rejection of the request due to its location contents, indicating location information that was malformed or not satisfactory for the recipient's purpose or could not be dereferenced.

A SIP intermediary can also reject a location it receives from a Target when it understands the Target to be in a different location. The proper handling of this scenario, described in Section 3.4, is for the SIP intermediary to include the proper location in the 424 response. This SHOULD be included in the response as a MIME message body (i.e., a location value) rather than as a URI; however, in cases where the intermediary is willing to share location with recipients but not with a user agent, a reference might be necessary.

As mentioned in Section 3.4, it might be the case that the intermediary does not want to chance providing less accurate location information than the user agent; thus, it will compose its understanding of where the user agent is in a separate <geopriv> element of the same Presence Information Data Format Location Object (PIDF-LO) [RFC4119] message body in the SIP response (which also contains the Target's version of where it is). Therefore, both locations are included -- each with different <method> elements. The proper reaction of the user agent is to generate a new SIP request that includes this composed location object, and send it towards the original LR. SIP intermediaries can verify that subsequent requests properly insert the suggested location information before forwarding said requests.

SIP intermediaries that are forwarding (as opposed to generating) a 424 response MUST NOT add, modify, or delete any location appearing in that response. This specifically applies to intermediaries that are between the 424 response generator and the original UAC. Geolocation and Geolocation-Error header fields and PIDF-LO body parts MUST remain unchanged, never added to or deleted.

Section 4.4 describes a Geolocation-Error header field to provide more detail about what was wrong with the location information in the request. This header field MUST be included in the 424 response.

It is only appropriate to generate a 424 response when the responding entity needs a locationValue and there are no values in the request that are usable by the responder, or when the responder has additional location information to provide. The latter case is shown in Figure 4 of Section 3.4. There, a SIP intermediary is informing the upstream UA which location to include in the next SIP request.

A 424 response MUST NOT be sent in response to a request that lacks a Geolocation header entirely, as the user agent in that case may not support this extension at all. If a SIP intermediary inserted a locationValue into a SIP request where one was not previously present, it MUST take any and all responsibility for the corrective action if it receives a 424 response to a SIP request it sent.

A 424 (Bad Location Information) response is a final response within a transaction and MUST NOT terminate an existing dialog.

4.4. The Geolocation-Error Header Field

As discussed in Section 4.3, more granular error notifications specific to location errors within a received request are required if the location inserting entity is to know what was wrong within the original request. The Geolocation-Error header field is used for this purpose.

The Geolocation-Error header field is used to convey location-specific errors within a response. The Geolocation-Error header field has the following ABNF [RFC5234]:

```
message-header           =/ Geolocation-Error
                            ; (message-header from RFC 3261)
Geolocation-Error        =  "Geolocation-Error" HCOLON
                            locationErrorValue
locationErrorValue       =  location-error-code
                             *(SEMI location-error-params)
location-error-code      =  1*3DIGIT
location-error-params    =  location-error-code-text
                            / generic-param ; from RFC 3261
location-error-code-text =  "code" EQUAL quoted-string
                            ; from RFC 3261
```

HCOLON, SEMI, and EQUAL are defined in [RFC3261]. DIGIT is defined in [RFC5234].

The Geolocation-Error header field MUST contain only one locationErrorValue to indicate what was wrong with the locationValue the Location Recipient determined was bad. The locationErrorValue contains a 3-digit error code indicating what was wrong with the

location in the request. This error code has a corresponding quoted error text string that is human understandable. The text string is OPTIONAL, but RECOMMENDED for human readability, similar to the string phrase used for SIP response codes. That said, the strings are complete enough for rendering to the user, if so desired. The strings in this document are recommendations, and are not standardized -- meaning an operator can change the strings -- but MUST NOT change the meaning of the error code. Similar to how RFC 3261 specifies, there MUST NOT be more than one string per error code.

The Geolocation-Error header field MAY be included in any response to one of the SIP Methods mentioned in Section 4.1, so long as a locationValue was in the request part of the same transaction. For example, Alice includes her location in an INVITE to Bob. Bob can accept this INVITE, thus creating a dialog, even though his UA determined the location contained in the INVITE was bad. Bob merely includes a Geolocation-Error header value in the 200 OK response to the INVITE informing Alice the INVITE was accepted but the location provided was bad.

If, on the other hand, Bob cannot accept Alice’s INVITE without a suitable location, a 424 (Bad Location Information) response is sent. This message flow is shown in Figures 1, 2, or 3 in Sections 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3, respectively.

If Alice is deliberately leaving location information out of the LO because she does not want Bob to have this additional information, implementations should be aware that Bob could repeatedly error in order to receive more location information about Alice in a subsequent SIP request. Implementations MUST be on guard for this, by not allowing continually more information to be revealed unless it is clear that any LR is permitted by Alice to know all that Alice knows about her location. A limit on the number of such rejections to learn more location information SHOULD be configurable, with a RECOMMENDED maximum of three times for each related transaction.

A SIP intermediary that requires Alice’s location in order to properly process Alice’s INVITE also sends a 424 response with a Geolocation-Error code. This message flow is shown in Figure 4 of Section 3.4.

If more than one locationValue is present in a SIP request and at least one locationValue is determined to be valid by the LR, the location in that SIP request MUST be considered good as far as location is concerned, and no Geolocation-Error is to be sent.

Here is an initial list of location-based error code ranges for any SIP response, including provisional responses (other than 100 Trying) and the new 424 (Bad Location Information) response. These error codes are divided into three categories, based on how the response receiver should react to these errors. There MUST be no more than one Geolocation-Error code in a SIP response, regardless of how many locationValues there are in the correlating SIP request. When more than one locationValue is present in a SIP request, this mechanism provides no indication to which one the Geolocation-Error code corresponds. If multiple errors are present, the LR applies local policy to select one.

- 1XX errors mean the LR cannot process the location within the request:

  A non-exclusive list of reasons for returning a 1XX is as follows:

  - the location was not present or could not be found in the SIP request,

  - there was not enough location information to determine where the Target was,

  - the location information was corrupted or known to be inaccurate.

- 2XX errors mean some specific permission is necessary to process the included location information.

- 3XX errors mean there was trouble dereferencing the Location URI sent.

Dereference attempts to the same request SHOULD be limited to 10 attempts within a few minutes. This number SHOULD be configurable, but result in a Geolocation-Error: 300 error once reached.

It should be noted that for non-INVITE transactions, the SIP response will likely be sent before the dereference response has been received. This document does not alter that SIP protocol reality. This means the receiver of any non-INVITE response to a request containing location SHOULD NOT consider a 200 OK response to mean the act of dereferencing has concluded and the dereferencer (i.e., the LR) has successfully received and parsed the PIDF-LO for errors and found none. The end of Section 3.2 discusses how transaction timing considerations lead to this requirement.

Additionally, if an LR cannot or chooses not to process location from a SIP request, a 500 (Server Internal Error) SHOULD be used with or without a configurable Retry-After header field. There is no special location error code for what already exists within SIP today.

Within each of these ranges, there is a top-level error as follows:

Geolocation-Error: 100 ; code="Cannot Process Location"

Geolocation-Error: 200 ; code="Permission To Use Location Information"

Geolocation-Error: 300 ; code="Dereference Failure"

If an error recipient cannot process a specific error code (such as the 201 or 202 below), perhaps because it does not understand that specific error code, the error recipient SHOULD process the error code as if it originally were a top-level error code where the X in X00 matches the specific error code. If the error recipient cannot process a non-100 error code, for whatever reason, then the error code 100 MUST be processed.

There are two specific Geolocation-Error codes necessary to include in this document, both have to do with permissions necessary to process the SIP request; they are

Geolocation-Error: 201 ; code="Permission To Retransmit Location Information to a Third Party"

This location error is specific to having the PIDF-LO [RFC4119] <retransmission-allowed> element set to "no". This location error is stating it requires permission (i.e., PIDF-LO <retransmission-allowed> element set to "yes") to process this SIP request further. If the LS sending the location information does not want to give this permission, it will not change this permission in a new request. If the LS wants this message processed with the <retransmission-allowed> element set to "yes", it MUST choose another logical path (if one exists) for this SIP request.

Geolocation-Error: 202 ; code="Permission to Route based on Location Information"

This location error is specific to having the Geolocation-Routing header value set to "no". This location error is stating it requires permission (i.e., the Geolocation-Routing header value set to "yes") to process this SIP request further. If the LS sending the location information does not want to give this permission, it will not change this permission in a new request. If the LS wants this message

processed with the <retransmission-allowed> element set to "yes", it MUST choose another logical path (if one exists) for this SIP request.

4.5. Location URIs in Message Bodies

In the case where an LR sends a 424 response and wishes to communicate suitable location-by-reference rather than location-by-value, the 424 response MUST include a content-indirection body per RFC 4483.

4.6. Location Profile Negotiation

The following is part of the discussion started in Section 3, Figure 2, which introduced the concept of sending location indirectly.

If a location URI is included in a SIP request, the sending user agent MUST also include a Supported header field indicating which location profiles it supports. Two option tags for location profiles are defined by this document: "geolocation-sip" and "geolocation-http". Future specifications MAY define further location profiles per the IANA policy described in Section 8.3.

The "geolocation-sip" option tag signals support for acquiring location information via the presence event package of SIP [RFC3856]. A location recipient who supports this option can send a SUBSCRIBE request and parse a resulting NOTIFY containing a PIDF-LO object. The URI schemes supported by this option include "sip", "sips", and "pres".

The "geolocation-http" option tag signals support for acquiring location information via HTTP [RFC2616]. A location recipient who supports this option can request location with an HTTP GET and parse a resulting 200 response containing a PIDF-LO object. The URI schemes supported by this option include "http" and "https". A failure to parse the 200 response, for whatever reason, will return a "Dereference Failure" indication to the original location sending user agent to inform it that location was not delivered as intended.

If the location URI receiver does not understand the URI scheme sent to it, it will return an Unsupported header value of the option tag from the SIP request, and include the option tag of the preferred URI scheme in the response's Supported header field.

See [GEO-FILTERS] or [HELD-DEREF] for more details on dereferencing location information.

5. Geolocation Examples

5.1. Location-by-Value (in Coordinate Format)

This example shows an INVITE message with a coordinate location. In this example, the SIP request uses a sips-URI [RFC3261], meaning this message is protected using Transport Layer Security (TLS) on a hop-by-hop basis.

```
INVITE sips:bob@biloxi.example.com SIP/2.0
Via: SIPS/2.0/TLS pc33.atlanta.example.com;branch=z9hG4bK74bf9
Max-Forwards: 70
To: Bob <sips:bob@biloxi.example.com>
From: Alice <sips:alice@atlanta.example.com>;tag=9fxced76sl
Call-ID: 3848276298220188511@atlanta.example.com
Geolocation: <cid:target123@atlanta.example.com>
Geolocation-Routing: no
Accept: application/sdp, application/pidf+xml
CSeq: 31862 INVITE
Contact: <sips:alice@atlanta.example.com>
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary=boundary1
Content-Length: ...

--boundary1

Content-Type: application/sdp

...Session Description Protocol (SDP) goes here

--boundary1

Content-Type: application/pidf+xml
Content-ID: <target123@atlanta.example.com>
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
    <presence
       xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf"
       xmlns:gp="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf:geopriv10"
       xmlns:gbp="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf:geopriv10:basicPolicy"
       xmlns:cl="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf:geopriv10:civicAddr"
       xmlns:gml="http://www.opengis.net/gml"
       xmlns:dm="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf:data-model"
       entity="pres:alice@atlanta.example.com">
     <dm:device id="target123-1">
       <gp:geopriv>
         <gp:location-info>
           <gml:location>
             <gml:Point srsName="urn:ogc:def:crs:EPSG::4326">
               <gml:pos>32.86726 -97.16054</gml:pos>
```

```
              </gml:Point>
            </gml:location>
          </gp:location-info>
          <gp:usage-rules>
            <gbp:retransmission-allowed>false
            </gbp:retransmission-allowed>
            <gbp:retention-expiry>2010-11-14T20:00:00Z
            </gbp:retention-expiry>
          </gp:usage-rules>
          <gp:method>802.11</gp:method>
        </gp:geopriv>
        <dm:deviceID>mac:1234567890ab</dm:deviceID>
        <dm:timestamp>2010-11-04T20:57:29Z</dm:timestamp>
      </dm:device>
    </presence>
--boundary1--
```

The Geolocation header field from the above INVITE:

```
Geolocation: <cid:target123@atlanta.example.com>
```

... indicates the content-ID location [RFC2392] within the multipart message body of where location information is. The other message body part is SDP. The "cid:" eases message body parsing and disambiguates multiple parts of the same type.

If the Geolocation header field did not contain a "cid:" scheme, for example, it could look like this location URI:

```
Geolocation: <sips:target123@server5.atlanta.example.com>
```

... the existence of a non-"cid:" scheme indicates this is a location URI, to be dereferenced to learn the Target's location. Any node wanting to know where the target is located would subscribe to the SIP presence event package [RFC3856] at:

```
sips:target123@server5.atlanta.example.com
```

(see Figure 2 in Section 3.2 for this message flow).

5.2. Two Locations Composed in Same Location Object Example

This example shows the INVITE message after a SIP intermediary rejected the original INVITE (say, the one in Section 5.1). This INVITE contains the composed LO sent by the SIP intermediary that includes where the intermediary understands Alice to be. The rules of RFC 5491 [RFC5491] are followed in this construction.

This example is here, but ought not be taken as occurring very often. In fact, this example is believed to be a corner case of location conveyance applicability.

```
INVITE sips:bob@biloxi.example.com SIP/2.0
Via: SIPS/2.0/TLS pc33.atlanta.example.com;branch=z9hG4bK74bf0
Max-Forwards: 70
To: Bob <sips:bob@biloxi.example.com>
From: Alice <sips:alice@atlanta.example.com>;tag=9fxced76sl
Call-ID: 3848276298220188512@atlanta.example.com
Geolocation: <cid:target123@atlanta.example.com>
Geolocation-Routing: no
Accept: application/sdp, application/pidf+xml
CSeq: 31863 INVITE
Contact: <sips:alice@atlanta.example.com>
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary=boundary1
Content-Length: ...

--boundary1

Content-Type: application/sdp

...SDP goes here

--boundary1

Content-Type: application/pidf+xml
Content-ID: <target123@atlanta.example.com>
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
    <presence
       xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf"
       xmlns:gp="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf:geopriv10"
       xmlns:gbp="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf:geopriv10:basicPolicy"
       xmlns:dm="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf:data-model"
       xmlns:cl="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf:geopriv10:civicAddr"
       xmlns:gml="http://www.opengis.net/gml"
       entity="pres:alice@atlanta.example.com">
     <dm:device id="target123-1">
       <gp:geopriv>
         <gp:location-info>
           <gml:location>
             <gml:Point srsName="urn:ogc:def:crs:EPSG::4326">
               <gml:pos>32.86726 -97.16054</gml:pos>
             </gml:Point>
           </gml:location>
         </gp:location-info>
         <gp:usage-rules>
           <gbp:retransmission-allowed>false
```

```
              </gbp:retransmission-allowed>
             <gbp:retention-expiry>2010-11-14T20:00:00Z
              </gbp:retention-expiry>
            </gp:usage-rules>
            <gp:method>802.11</gp:method>
          </gp:geopriv>
          <dm:deviceID>mac:1234567890ab</dm:deviceID>
          <dm:timestamp>2010-11-04T20:57:29Z</dm:timestamp>
        </dm:device>
        <dm:person id="target123">
          <gp:geopriv>
            <gp:location-info>
              <cl:civicAddress>
                <cl:country>US</cl:country>
                <cl:A1>Texas</cl:A1>
                <cl:A3>Colleyville</cl:A3>
                <cl:RD>Treemont</cl:RD>
                <cl:STS>Circle</cl:STS>
                <cl:HNO>3913</cl:HNO>
                <cl:FLR>1</cl:FLR>
                <cl:NAM>Haley's Place</cl:NAM>
                <cl:PC>76034</cl:PC>
              </cl:civicAddress>
            </gp:location-info>
            <gp:usage-rules>
              <gbp:retransmission-allowed>false
              </gbp:retransmission-allowed>
              <gbp:retention-expiry>2010-11-14T20:00:00Z
              </gbp:retention-expiry>
            </gp:usage-rules>
            <gp:method>triangulation</gp:method>
          </gp:geopriv>
          <dm:timestamp>2010-11-04T12:28:04Z</dm:timestamp>
        </dm:person>
      </presence>
   --boundary1--
```

6. Geopriv Privacy Considerations

Location information is considered by most to be highly sensitive information, requiring protection from eavesdropping and altering in transit. [RFC3693] originally articulated rules to be followed by any protocol wishing to be considered a "Using Protocol", specifying how a transport protocol meets those rules. [RFC6280] updates the guidance in RFC 3693 to include subsequently introduced entities and concepts in the geolocation architecture.

RFC 5606 explores the difficulties inherent in mapping the GEOPRIV architecture onto SIP elements. In particular, the difficulties of defining and identifying recipients of location information are given in that document, along with guidance in Section 3.3.2 on the use of location-by-reference mechanisms to preserve confidentiality of location information from unauthorized recipients.

In a SIP deployment, location information may be added by any of several elements, including the originating user agent or a proxy server. In all cases, the Rule Maker associated with that location information decides which entity adds location information and what access control rules apply. For example, a SIP user agent that does not support the Geolocation header may rely on a proxy server under the direction of the Rule Maker adding a Geolocation header with a reference to location information. The manner in which the Rule Maker operates on these devices is outside the scope of this document.

The manner in which SIP implementations honor the Rule Maker's stipulations for access control rules (including retention and retransmission) is application specific and not within the scope of SIP protocol operations. Entities in SIP networks that fulfill the architectural roles of the Location Server or Location Recipient treat the privacy rules associated with location information per the guidance in [RFC6280], Section 4.2.1. In particular, RFC 4119 (especially Section 2.2.2) gives guidance for handling access control rules; SIP implementations should furthermore consult the recommendations in RFC 5606.

7. Security Considerations

Conveyance of physical location of a UA raises privacy concerns, and depending on use, there probably will be authentication and integrity concerns. This document calls for conveyance to be accomplished through secure mechanisms, like Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (S/MIME) encrypting message bodies (although this is not widely deployed), TLS protecting the overall signaling or conveyance location-by-reference and requiring all entities that dereference location to authenticate themselves. In location-based routing cases, encrypting the location payload with an end-to-end mechanism such as S/MIME is problematic because one or more proxies on the path need the ability to read the location information to retarget the message to the appropriate new destination User Agent Server (UAS). Data can only be encrypted to a particular, anticipated target, and thus if multiple recipients need to inspect a piece of data, and those recipients cannot be predicted by the sender of data, encryption is not a very feasible choice. Securing the location hop-by-hop, using TLS, protects the message from eavesdropping and

modification in transit, but exposes the information to all proxies on the path as well as the endpoint. In most cases, the UA has no trust relationship with the proxy or proxies providing location-based routing services, so such end-to-middle solutions might not be appropriate either.

When location information is conveyed by reference, however, one can properly authenticate and authorize each entity that wishes to inspect location information. This does not require that the sender of data anticipate who will receive data, and it does permit multiple entities to receive it securely; however, it does not obviate the need for pre-association between the sender of data and any prospective recipients. Obviously, in some contexts, this pre-association cannot be presumed; when it is not, effectively unauthenticated access to location information MUST be permitted. In this case, choosing pseudorandom URIs for location-by-reference, coupled with path encryption like Session Initiation Protocol Secure (SIPS), can help to ensure that only entities on the SIP signaling path learn the URI, and thus restores rough parity with sending location-by-value.

Location information is especially sensitive when the identity of its Target is obvious. Note that there is the ability, according to [RFC3693], to have an anonymous identity for the Target's location. This is accomplished by the use of an unlinkable pseudonym in the "entity=" attribute of the <presence> element [RFC4479]. Though, this can be problematic for routing messages based on location (covered in [RFC4479]). Moreover, anyone fishing for information would correlate the identity at the SIP layer with that of the location information referenced by SIP signaling.

When a UA inserts location, the UA sets the policy on whether to reveal its location along the signaling path -- as discussed in Section 4, as well as flags in the PIDF-LO [RFC4119]. UAC implementations MUST make such capabilities conditional on explicit user permission, and MUST alert the user that location is being conveyed.

This SIP extension offers the default ability to require permission to process location while the SIP request is in transit. The default for this is set to "no". There is an error explicitly describing how an intermediary asks for permission to view the Target's location, plus a rule stating the user has to be made aware of this permission request.

There is no end-to-end integrity on any locationValue or locationErrorValue header field parameter (or middle-to-end if the value was inserted by a intermediary), so recipients of either header field need to implicitly trust the header field contents, and take whatever precautions each entity deems appropriate given this situation.

8. IANA Considerations

The following are the IANA considerations made by this SIP extension. Modifications and additions to all these registrations require a Standards Track RFC (Standards Action).

8.1. IANA Registration for the SIP Geolocation Header Field

The SIP Geolocation header field is created by this document, with its definition and rules in Section 4.1 of this document, and it has been added to the IANA sip-parameters registry as follows:

The Header Fields registry has been updated with:

Header Name	Compact	Reference
Geolocation		[RFC6442]

8.2. IANA Registration for the SIP Geolocation-Routing Header Field

The SIP Geolocation-Routing header field is created by this document, with its definition and rules in Section 4.2 of this document, and it has been added to the IANA sip-parameters registry as follows.

The Header Fields registry has been updated with:

Header Name	Compact	Reference
Geolocation-Routing		[RFC6442]

8.3. IANA Registration for Location Profiles

This document defines two new SIP option tags: "geolocation-sip" and "geolocation-http" that have been added to the IANA sip-parameters Options Tags registry as follows.

Name	Description	Reference
geolocation-sip	The "geolocation-sip" option tag signals support for acquiring location information via the presence event package of SIP (RFC 3856). A location recipient who supports this option can send a SUBSCRIBE request and parse a resulting NOTIFY containing a PIDF-LO object. The URI schemes supported by this option include "sip", "sips", and "pres".	[RFC6442]
geolocation-http	The "geolocation-http" option tag signals support for acquiring location information via HTTP (RFC 2616). A location recipient who supports this option can request location with an HTTP GET and parse a resulting 200 response containing a PIDF-LO object. The URI schemes supported by this option include "http" and "https".	[RFC6442]

The names of profiles are SIP option tags, and the guidance in this document does not supersede the option tag assignment guidance in [RFC3261] (which requires a Standards Action for the assignment of a new option tag). However, this document does stipulate that option tags included to convey the name of a location profile per this definition MUST begin with the string "geolocation" followed by a dash. All such option tags should describe protocols used to acquire location by reference: these tags have no relevance to location carried in SIP requests by value, which use standard MIME typing and negotiation.

8.4. IANA Registration for 424 Response Code

In the SIP Response Codes registry, the following is added

Reference: RFC 6442
Response code: 424 (recommended number to assign)
Default reason phrase: Bad Location Information

Registry:

Response Code	Reference
Request Failure 4xx	
424 Bad Location Information	[RFC6442]

This SIP Response code is defined in Section 4.3 of this document.

8.5. IANA Registration of New Geolocation-Error Header Field

The SIP Geolocation-Error header field is created by this document, with its definition and rules in Section 4.4 of this document, to be added to the IANA sip-parameters registry with two actions

1. Update the Header Fields registry with:

Registry:

Header Name	Compact	Reference
Geolocation-Error		[RFC6442]

2. In the portion titled "Header Field Parameters and Parameter Values", add:

Header Field	Parameter Name	Predefined Values	Reference
Geolocation-Error	code	yes	[RFC6442]

8.6. IANA Registration for the SIP Geolocation-Error Codes

This document creates a new registry for SIP, called "Geolocation-Error Codes". Geolocation-Error codes provide reason for the error discovered by Location Recipients, categorized by action to be taken by error recipient. The initial values for this registry are shown below.

Registry Name: Geolocation-Error Codes
Reference: [RFC6442]
Registration Procedures: Specification Required

Code	Default Reason Phrase	Reference
100	"Cannot Process Location"	[RFC6442]
200	"Permission To Use Location Information"	[RFC6442]
201	"Permission To Retransmit Location Information to a Third Party"	[RFC6442]

202 "Permission to Route based on Location Information" [RFC6442]

300 "Dereference Failure" [RFC6442]

Details of these error codes are in Section 4.4 of this document.

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Appendix A. Requirements for SIP Location Conveyance

The following subsections address the requirements placed on the UAC, the UAS, as well as SIP proxies when conveying location. This text is from a draft version of the location conveyance requirements that has since evolved into this document (RFC 6442). It has been kept for historical reasons.

If a requirement is not obvious in intent, a motivational statement is included below it.

A.1. Requirements for a UAC Conveying Location

UAC-1 The SIP INVITE Method [RFC3261] must support location conveyance.

UAC-2 The SIP MESSAGE method [RFC3428] must support location conveyance.

UAC-3 SIP Requests within a dialog should support location conveyance.

UAC-4 Other SIP Requests may support location conveyance.

UAC-5 There must be one, mandatory-to-implement means of transmitting location confidentially.

Motivation:
To guarantee interoperability.

UAC-6 It must be possible for a UAC to update location conveyed at any time in a dialog, including during dialog establishment.

Motivation:
If a UAC has moved prior to the establishment of a dialog between UAs, the UAC must be able to send location information. If location has been conveyed, and the UA moves, the UAC must be able to update the location previously conveyed to other parties.

UAC-7 The privacy and security rules established within [RFC3693] that would categorize SIP as a 'Using Protocol' MUST be met.

UAC-8 The PIDF-LO [RFC4119] is a mandatory-to-implement format for location conveyance within SIP.

Motivation:
Interoperability with other IETF location protocols and Mechanisms.

UAC-9 There must be a mechanism for the UAC to request the UAS send its location.

UAC-9 has been DEPRECATED by the SIP WG, due to the many problems this requirement would have caused if implemented. The solution is for the above UAS to send a new request to the original UAC with the UAS's location.

UAC-10 There must be a mechanism to differentiate the ability of the UAC to convey location from the UACs lack of knowledge of its location.

Motivation:
Failure to receive location when it is expected can happen because the UAC does not implement this extension, or because the UAC implements the extension, but does not know where the Target is. This may be, for example, due to the failure of the access network to provide a location acquisition mechanism the UAC supports. These cases must be differentiated.

UAC-11 It must be possible to convey location to proxy servers along the path.

Motivation:
Location-based routing.

A.2. Requirements for a UAS Receiving Location

The following are the requirements for location conveyance by a UAS:

UAS-1 SIP Responses must support location conveyance.

The SIPCORE WG reached consensus that this be allowed, but not to communicate the UAS's location; rather for a SIP intermediary to inform the UAC which location to include in its next SIP request (as a matter of correcting what was originally sent by the UAC).

UAS-2 There must be a unique 4XX response informing the UAC it did not provide applicable location information.

In addition, requirements UAC-5, 6, 7, and 8 also apply to the UAS.

A.3. Requirements for SIP Proxies and Intermediaries

The following are the requirements for location conveyance by a SIP proxies and intermediaries:

Proxy-1 Proxy servers must be capable of adding a Location header field during processing of SIP requests.

Motivation:
Provide network assertion of location when UACs are unable to do so, or when network assertion is more reliable than UAC assertion of location

Note: Because UACs connected to SIP signaling networks can have widely varying access network arrangements, including VPN tunnels and roaming mechanisms, it can be difficult for a network to reliably know the location of the endpoint. Proxies SHOULD NOT assert location of an endpoint unless the SIP signaling network has reliable knowledge of the actual location of the Targets.

Proxy-2 There must be a unique 4XX response informing the UAC it did not provide applicable location information.

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