



P2Pvidchatxplatxamwebrtc

CREATE YOUR OWN “HANGSKYPETIME”

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Historic Issues

- Server in the middle required
- Network topology sensitivity
- Proprietary
- Closed
- Browser plugin required

Primer

WebRTC is a free open project that provides browser and mobile application Real-Time Communication capabilities via simple APIs.

WebRTC

<http://webrtc.org/>

Real-Time Communication

- Peer-to-peer with server relay fallback
- Negotiates paths through network topologies
- Plugin free
- Standard protocols
- Multiple implementations
- Encryption mandatory

Support

Supported Browsers & Platforms

Chrome



Firefox



Opera



Android

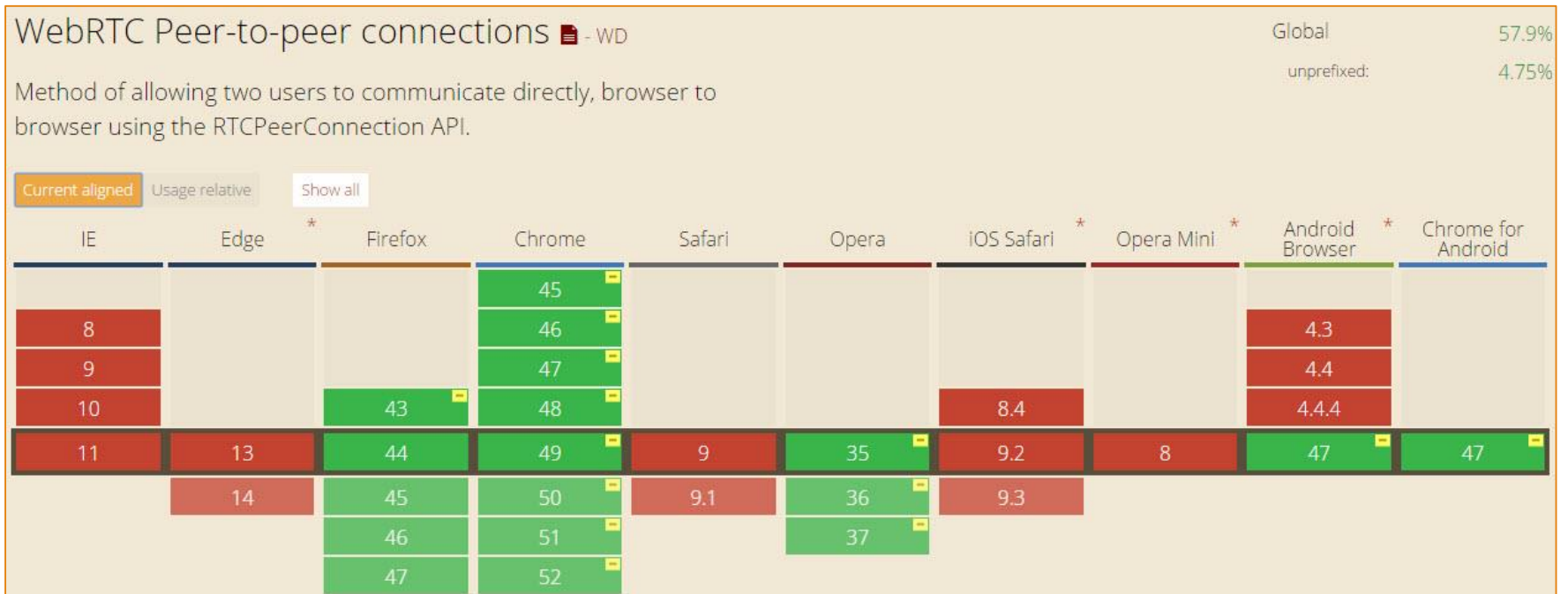


iOS



Browser Support

From caniuse.com:



Standard Status

W3C standard

“Working Draft”

- ...but it has all the momentum and most support

CU-RTC-Web was a competing MS standard

- Dead: [Contributed to W3C](#) fall of 2012

ORTC is a more recent MS-inspired W3C project

- Builds on / has mandated compatibility with WebRTC
- As of March 2016 still only supported in MS Edge

NAT, SIP, SDP, STUN, TURN, ICE

NAT: Network Address Translation

SIP: Session Initialization Protocol

SDP: Session Description Protocol

WebRTC

STUN: Session Traversal Utilities for NAT

TURN: Traversal Using Relays around NAT

ICE: Interactive Connectivity Establishment

Cheat Sheet

Network Negotiation

Data Relay

SDP+STUN+TURN

Nice summary explanation: <http://www.eyeball.com/standards/stun-turn-ice/>

Signaling



The process of coordinating communication

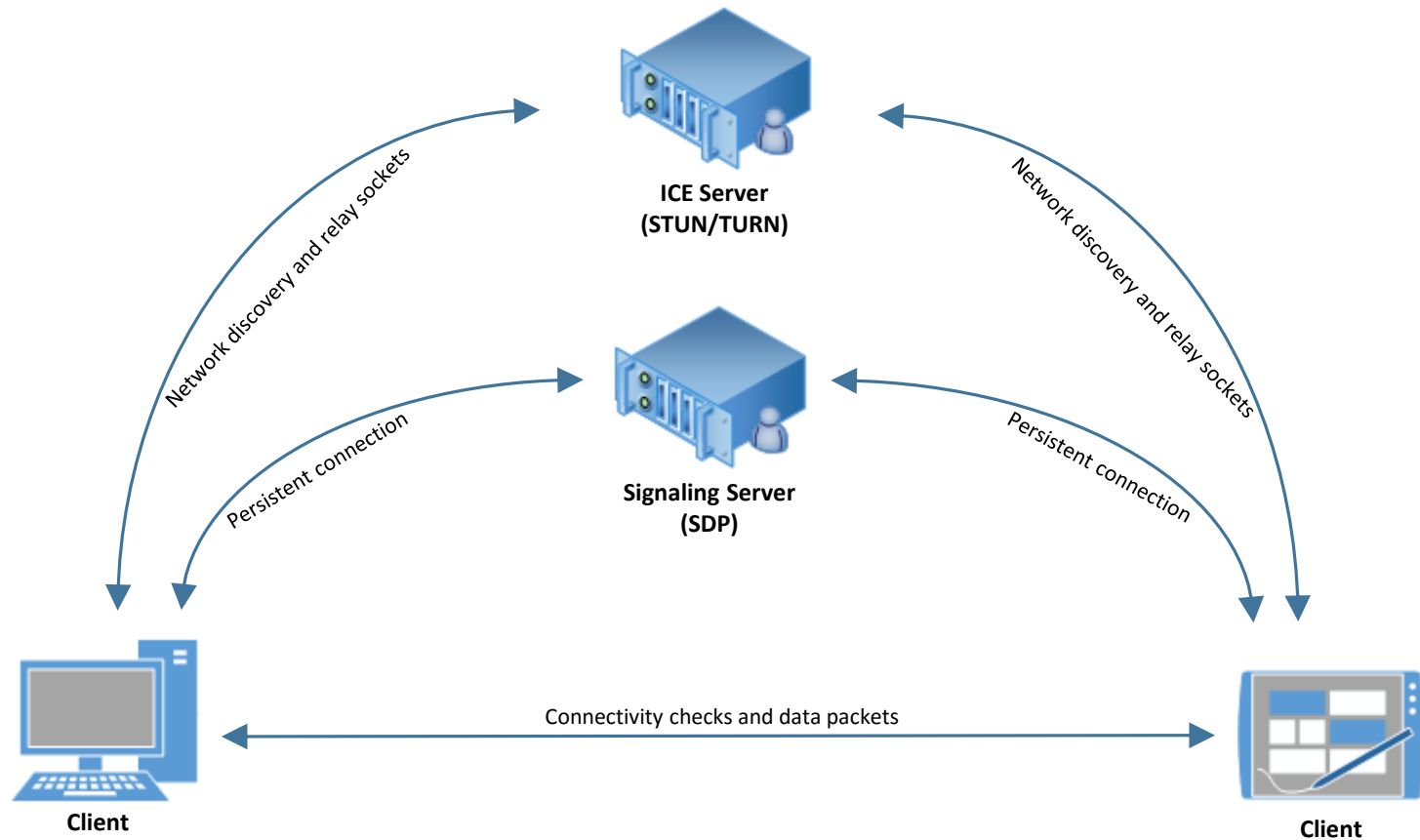
Clients need to exchange information:

- Session control messages used to open or close communication
- Error messages
- Media metadata such as codecs and codec settings, bandwidth and media types
- Key data, used to establish secure connections
- Network data (i.e. host's external IP address, port, etc.)

The mechanism used for signaling is not covered by the WebRTC standards

<http://www.html5rocks.com/en/tutorials/webrtc/infrastructure/> has a good explanation of signaling

Network Diagram



CODECS

Encoder/decoders for data transmitted (audio/video/other)

Audio: G.711, G.722, iLBC, iSAC

Video: VP8

<https://webrtc.org/faq/#what-codecs-are-supported-in-webrtc>

Where to find ICE

There are some public STUN and TURN servers*

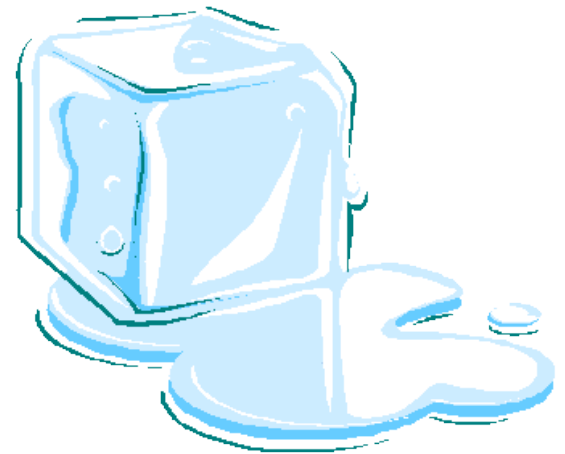
- See this gist for a list: <https://gist.github.com/yetithefoot/7592580>

Open source

- Coturn: <https://github.com/coturn/coturn>
- PJSIP: <http://www.pjsip.org/>

Vendors

- Search for “WebRTC platform”
- Can be \$\$\$ if using 3rd party servers



IceLink



<http://www.frozenmountain.com/>

Both client and server components for WebRTC

“Libraries for darn near every platform”

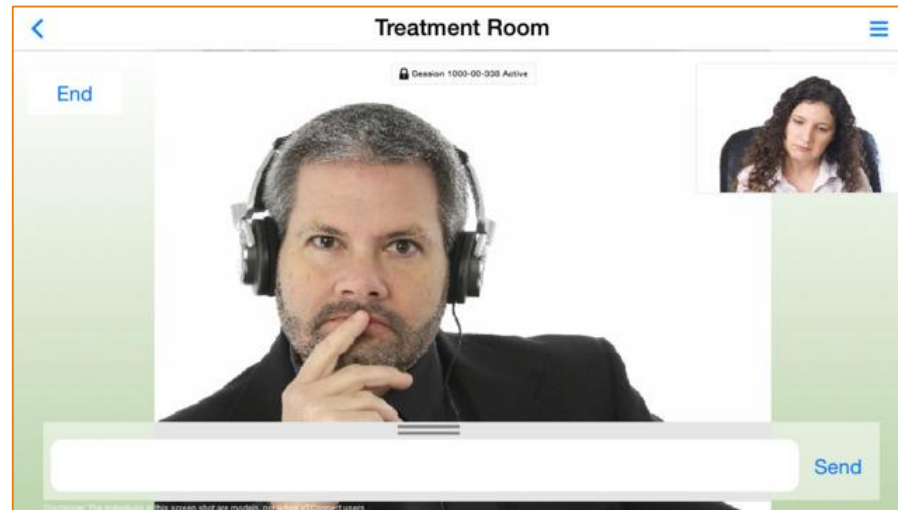
Easy-to-use sister product WebSync for signaling, or can bring your own

Also provides VP8 and Opus codec implementations

Free community edition (WAN links limited to 30 seconds)



VTConnect



Public Sites

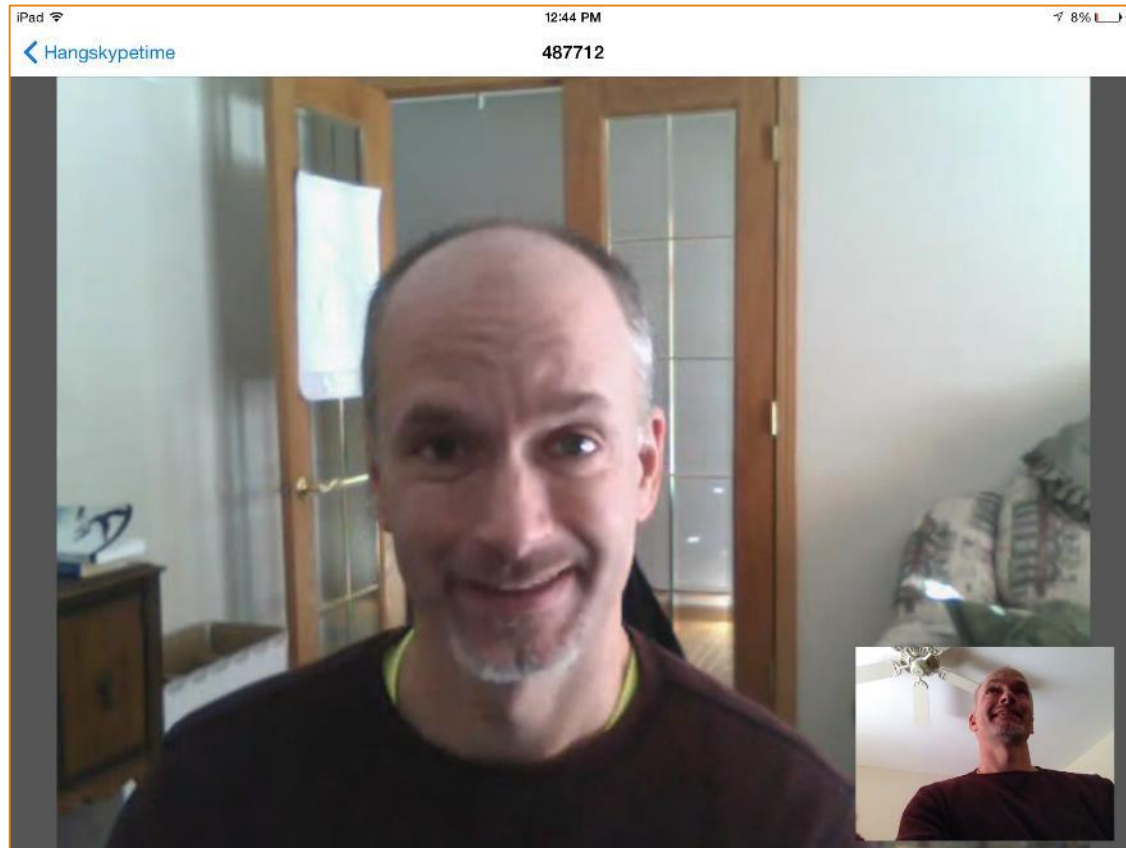
<https://apprtc.appspot.com/>

Google Sponsored / Powered by Google App Engine

<https://demo.icelink.fm/>

Frozen Mountain product demo

Hangskypetime



Code Talking Points

Xamarin Forms

- Shared Project (not a PCL)

XAML Binding

Behavior

- ...MaxLength

Views, ViewModels

Frozen Mountain

- Community Edition
- Drop-in code from examples

DI-capable Platform Services

- ...Toast

Limited conditional code /
platform-specific code

Lessons Learned

Using 3rd party servers was going to be expensive

- ...so went self-hosted with Frozen Mountain

Not all services offer BAA agreements for HIPAA compliance (if required)

Frozen Mountain has evolved and improved steadily

SignalR works as a signaling technology but...

- It doesn't guarantee order of delivery...
- ...so additional queuing logic is needed

Azure

- Public static IP's for ICE servers needs to be configured
 - The first 5 are free with paid accounts
 - <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/documentation/articles/virtual-network-ip-addresses-overview-arm/>
 - <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/documentation/articles/virtual-network-deploy-static-pip-arm-portal/>

Geolocation of servers should be considered for hosting

- To reduce latency multiple geolocations were used

Things to Think On

WebRTC – de facto standard

Cross-platform

- Browsers & JavaScript
- Xamarin & C#/F#

Vendor assists

- Frozen Mountain & others

Client Components

- Codecs

Server Components

- ICE and Signaling
- Public v. private
- Self-hosted v. hosted service

Wrap



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