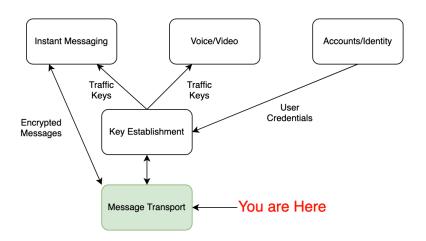
MIMI Transport Requirements

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Abstract Architecture



Protocol Breakdown



Question 1: How much are we defining?

- A full system obviously needs a client to-server protocol
 - Message protection and content need to be E2E
 - ... but message transport is not
- Most existing systems (XMPP, SIMPLE, etc. do it all)
- Is client ←→ server in scope?

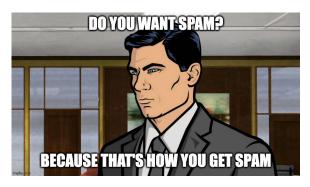
Naming and discovery

- Two main kinds of existing identifiers
 - System Specific (SSI). e.g., "1.650.555.1000 on WhatsApp" (or maybe mimi:16505551000@whatsapp.com)
 - System Independent (SII): e.g., 1.650.555.1000 or ekr
- In general, an SII isn't enough to automatically contact someone
 - You don't know what system they are on
 - ullet The same SII may appear on multiple systems (e.g., phone numbers on WhatsApp + iMessage)
- Discovery is the process of determining which system(s) an SII appears on

Question 2: Do we need to support discovery?

- Only solve for SSIs
- Solve for SSIs now and build discovery separately
- Integrate discovery and consent (SPIN, draft-rosenberg)
 - These designs assume that the SII is actually an SSI in some other system
 - What about systems that just use handles?

Consent



- No modern system allows Alice to just start messaging Bob
- She needs to get consent first
- Typically this consists of sending an *invite*
 - Bob has to accept before seeing Alice's messages

Question 3: What can happen before consent?

- Alice can't do anything until Bob consents
- Alice can get KeyPackages beforehand
 - Do we have to worry about exhaustion?
- Alice can send messages to Bob but they're quarantined until Bob accepts
 - Potential concerns about excess data on Bob's side

Messages and Channels

- (At least) three modalities
 - 1-1 messages
 - Group messages
 - Channels/rooms
- Some overlap between group messages and channels
- What about multiple group messages (or 1-1 messages) with the same membership?
 - This is handled inconsistently

Question 4: What models do we support?

- Everything's a group (this is what MLS thinks)
 - Is this rich enough? What about moderation, etc.?
- Channels are fundamentally different (XMPP, Slack, etc.)
 - And maybe we don't need group messages?