Teleconferencing in the ITU-T

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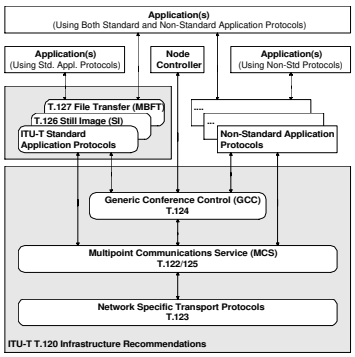
Work of Study Group VIII Question 10: T.120 series

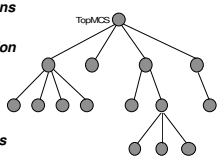
- **Short review of the architecture**
- **Conference control services**
- **Audio-visual control**
- **Application template**

T.120 Overview



Communication Infrastructure

- **Multipoint Communication Service (MCS)**
  - ***uses TCP-like point-to-point connections***
  - ***arranged in a tree structure***
  - ***root (Top MCS) used for synchronization***
- **Services provided**
  - ***grouping of transport connections***
    - **Domains**
  - ***multiplexing within a domain: channels***
    - **unicast, multicast, broadcast**
  - ***data transfer***
    - **single source or globally ordered**
  - ***other control / coordination functions***



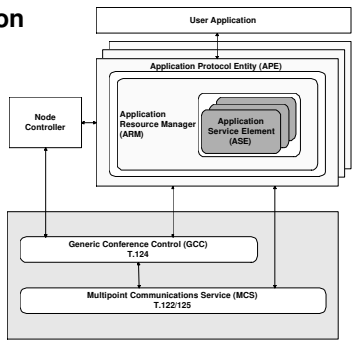
Conference Control

- **Services**
  - ***Conference creation, termination***
    - **open / closed conferences, meet-me / scheduled**
  - ***Dynamic membership management***
  - ***Conductorship management***
  - ***horizontal exchange of conference state information among hosts***
    - **initiation of state changes depends on permissions**
    - **includes GCC / MCS resources and application profiles**
  - ***simple vertical protocol***
    - **start / end of conference**
    - **registration and retrieval**

Audio-Visual Control

- **Devices**
  - ***identify sources and/or sinks (audio / video)***
  - ***specify capabilities (announced and retrieved through GCC)***
    - **(device type, device #, media type, controllable, remote op.s)**
- **Services**
  - ***routing control***
    - **who receives information from which sources**
  - ***floor control***
  - ***MCU configuration***
    - **mixing, switching, muting, speaker detection**
  - ***remote terminal control***
    - **select and control (e.g. zoom, level) information sources**

Application Template



Documents

- **Many recommendations are available electronically**
  - ***ITUDOC server***
  - ***home page***
    - **URL: gopher://info.itu.ch/**
  - ***T-series recommendations***
    - **gopher://info.itu.ch/11/1/.1/itudoc/public/gophertree/.1/.itu-t/.rec/.t**
  - ***currently only T.125 (MCS protocol) available***
- **most recommendations under development**
  - ***not officially available***
  - ***target for many draft recommendations: March 95***