

TCP User Timeout Option

draft-ietf-tcpm-tcp-uto-01

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Overview and History

- peers exchange local, per-connection user timeouts through advisory TCP option and adapt local user timeout accordingly
- motivation
 - longer UTO: tolerate longer disconnections
 - shorter UTO: less TCP state at busy servers
- TCP mod, not policy for picking user timeouts
- adopted as WG item in Washington, DC

Changes in -01

- corrected description of RFC793 and RFC1122 user timeout mechanism
- add “don’t care” UTO value
- simplifications
 - no distinction between operating during 3WHS and later
 - can use UTO even if not negotiated during 3WHS
 - UTO exchange is always unreliable

Things Pending for -02

- originally, only app controlled the UTO
- current mechanism treats app and peer requests to change the UTO identical
- changes semantics: peer can override the app! probably not what we want to allow
- proposal: only process peer requests as long as the app has not set the local UTO
- addition: after the app has, signal incoming peer UTOs to the app