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# **Appendix A:**

# **JADE** Architecture Overview

## A.1 Introduction

This appendix gives an architectural overview of the JADE platform as retrieved from the <u>http://jade.tilab.com/</u> website.

## A.2 JADE Architecture Overview

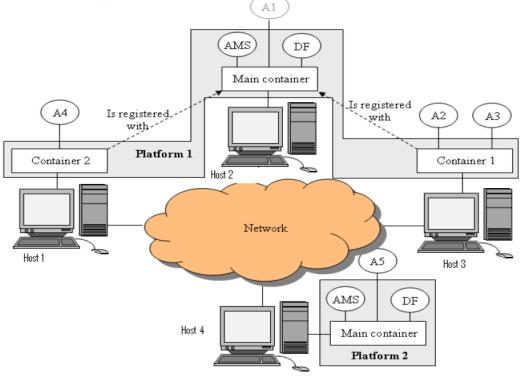
This provides an overview of the JADE Architecture introducing the notions of

- Agent
- Container
- Platform

•

- Main Container University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
  - AMS and DP) Electronic Theses & Dissertations





The figure represents the main JADE architectural elements. An application based on JADE is made of a set of components called *Agents* each one having a unique name. Agents execute tasks and interact by exchanging messages. Agents live on top of a *Platform* that provides them with basic services such as message delivery. A platform is composed of one or more *Containers*. Containers can be executed on different hosts thus achieving a distributed platform. Each container can contain zero or more agents.

For instance, with reference to the picture, container "Container 1" in host *Host 3* contains agents A2 and A3. Even if in some particular scenarios this is not always the case, you can think of a Container as a JVM (so, 1 JVM ==> 1 container ==> 0 or many agents). A special container called *Main Container* exists in the platform.

The main container is itself a container and can therefore contain agents, but differs from other containers as

1. It must be the first container to start in the platform and all other containers register to it at bootstrap time.

University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. 2. It includes two special agents: the AMS that represents the authority in the platform and is the only agent able to perform platform management actions such as starting and killing agents or shutting down the whole platform (normal agents can request such actions to the AMS). The DF that provides the Yellow Pages service where agents can publish the services they provide and find other agents providing the services they need.

It should be noticed that if another main container is started, as in host *Host 4*, this constitutes a new platform.

#### Agent communication

Agents can communicate transparently regardless of whether they live in the same container (e.g. A2 and A3), in different containers (in the same or in different hosts) belonging to the same platform (e.g. A1 and A2) or in different platforms (e.g. A1 and A5). Communication is based on an asynchronous message passing paradigm.

Message format is defined by the ACL language defined by FIPA, an international organization that issued a set of specifications for agent interoperability. An ACL Message contains a number of fields including

- the sender
- the receiver(s)
- the communicative act (also called performative) that represents the intention of the sender of the message. For instance when an agent sends an INFORM message it wishes the receiver(s) to become aware about a fact (e.g. (INFORM "today it's raining")). When an agent sends a REQUEST message it wishes the receiver(s) to perform an action. FIPA defined 22 communicative acts, each one with a well defined semantics, that ACL gurus assert can cover more than 95% of all possible situations. Fortunately in 99% of the cases we don't need to care about the formal semantics behind Communicative acts and we just use them for their intuitive meaning.
- the content i.e. the actual information conveyed by the message (the fact the receiver should become aware of in case of an INFORM incessage, the action that the receiver is expected to perform in case of a REQUEST message)

# **Appendix B:**

# List of simulated users and their routes

## **B.1** Introduction

This appendix gives the list of users and their routes that were simulated to evaluate the system functionality.

## **B.2** List of addresses used to simulateuser routes

The below address list taken from a listing of schools in the Western Province of Sri Lanka was used to generate the route list for simulated users. This list was chosen because it gives a well-distributed list of addresses in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. Therefore it can be effectively used to simulate a rideshare system in the Western

Province.

University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Electronic Theses & Dissertations

- 1. Maligakanda road, Cotombo 1001000 ac. 1k
- 2. PADOGA ROAD, KOTTE 10100
- 3. AdikaramMawatha, Kotte 10010
- 4. Baseline Road, Dematagoda, Colombo-9 00900
- 5. wp/ja/mahamathayvidyalaya, Athurugiriya 12010
- 6. Hokandara South, Hokandara 10118
- 7. AnandaRajakarunaMawatha, Colombo 10 01000
- 8. Kularathnamawatha, Colombo 10 0015
- 9. High Level Rd,, Nugegoda, 01
- 10. Katubedda, Moratuwa
- 11. Bope, Padukka
- 12. Buddhagosha M.V., Kalubowila 12056
- 13. Highlevel Road, Maharagama 10400
- 14. Bomiriya National School, Colombo
- 15. Boralesgamuwa M.V, Boralesgamuwa 10290
- 16. Station Road, Mount Lavinia
- 17. DanisterdeSilvaMawatha, Colombo 08 00025

- 18. 155, Bandaranayeke Mawatha,, Colombo-12 0094
- 19. Auburn Place, Dehiwala
- 20. Templer\'s Road, Mount Lavinia 0094
- 21. Godagama Road, Athurugiriya 90018
- 22. ., Piliyandala 10129
- 23. Kynsey road, Colombo 08
- 24. 62, Gregory\'s Road,, Colombo 07
- 25. Moratuwa, Moratuwa
- 26. Brahmanagama, Pannipitiya
- 27. No 34, Mallay Street, Colombo 02
- 28. DarmapalaMawatha, Dehiwala 011
- 29. SriJayawardhanapuraMawatha, Borella 00800
- 30. Kesbewa, Piliyandala
- 31. Diyagama, Kiriwattuduwa. 10208
- 32. Park Road, Colombo 05
- 33. DharmapalaVidyalaya, Pannipitiya
- 34. Hotel Road Mount Lavinia of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
- 35. wasala road, colombo Electronic Theses & Dissertations
- 36. Temple Road, Maradana 01000.mrt.ac.lk
- 37. habarakada, homagama
- 38. 45, <u>Husseiniya</u>, <u>Colombo</u> 12 3012
- 39. Dam Street, Colombo 12
- 40. Court Road, Homagama
- 41. Athurugiriya RD, Homagama 10200
- 42. Salamulla, Kolonnawa 10600
- 43. 207/1, DharmapalaMawatha, Colombo 7 00700
- 44. Ministry of Education, Pelawatta
- 45. Ministry of Education, Pelawatta
- 46. Jalthara. Hanwella, Hanwella 1224
- 47. School Lane, Nawala, Rajagiriya, Colombo 011
- 48. 166, Dematagoda Road,, Colombo 09 011
- 49. Kosgama
- 50. kosgama, kosgama 00255
- 51. MahaVidyalaMawatha, Colombo 13 01300

- 52. Hokandara Road, Pannipitiya 10230
- 53. Mulleriyawa New town
- 54. Kandawala Road, Ratmalana
- 55. Horana Road, Kottawa, Pannioitiya
- 56. Hena Road, Mount Lavinia 10370
- 57. Havelock Town, Colombo 05
- 58. No. 724, Galle Road, Colombo 03
- 59. Thalangama North, Bathtaramulla 10120
- 60. Madiwela, Kotte
- 61. magammana, Homagama
- 62. Foster Lane, Colombo
- 63. Pepiliyana Road, Nugegoda 24250
- 64. Gammana Road, Maharagama
- 65. Bokundara, Piliyandala
- 66. Makuluduwa, Piliyandala
- 67. New Kandy Road, Malabe 094
- 68. Horana Road Mattegoda, Paninipitiya, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
- 69. Mawathgana, Homagama 10220 Theses & Dissertations
- 70. Mayadunna M.V., Hanvella.lib.mrt.ac.lk
- 71. Padukka Road, Meegoda 10504
- 72. Meegoda, 10504
- 73. Meethotamulla Road, Kolonnawa
- 74. Kensington gardens, Colombo 04,, Colombo 0004
- 75. New Kandy Rd,, Malabe
- 76. Siridammamawatha, Colombo
- 77. Hiripitiya, Pannipitiya 10230
- 78. stanleythilakaratna mw, nugegoda
- 79. High Level Road, Maharagama
- 80. Isurupaya, Battaramulla
- 81. SiriPiyararhana Central College, Padukka
- 82. Pahathgama, Hanwella
- 83. Madapatha, Piliyandala
- 84. Pinnawala, Waga, Padukka
- 85. WP/HO/Pitipanam.v. Pitpana North, Homagama

## **B.3** List of simulated users and their routes

Using the above address list in a random pairing algorithm the below user route list was generated. This generated data was used to simulate a rideshare/carpool system. Results of the simulation were presented in the evaluation chapter.

| User | Route Start                                 | Route End                                   |
|------|---|---|
| 1    | Maligakanda road,, Colombo 10 01000         | Baseline Road, Dematagoda, Colombo-9 00900  |
| 2    | PADOGA ROAD, KOTTE 10100                    | Hokandara South, Hokandara 10118            |
| 3    | AdikaramMawatha, Kotte 10010                | Hokandara South, Hokandara 10118            |
| 4    | AdikaramMawatha, Kotte 10010                | AnandaRajakarunaMawatha, Colombo 10 01000   |
| 5    | Hokandara South, Hokandara 10118            | High Level Rd,, Nugegoda, 01                |
| 6    | Hokandara South, Hokandara 10118            | Katubedda, Moratuwa                         |
| 7    | AnandaRajakarunaMawatha, Colombo 10 01000   | Katubedda, Moratuwa                         |
| 8    | AnandaRajakarunaMawatha, Colombo 10 01000   | Pinnawala , Waga, Padukka                   |
| 9    | Kularathnanawatha, Colombet 80015 of Mora   | Pinnawala, Waga Pachikka                    |
| 10   | High Level Rd. Nugerote Otronic Theses      | High Leyel Road Maharagama                  |
| 11   | Katubedda, Moratuwawww.lib.mrt.ac.lk        | High Level Road, Maharagama                 |
| 12   | Katubedda, Moratuwa                         | Siridammamawatha, Colombo                   |
| 13   | Pinnawala , Waga, Padukka                   | Siridammamawatha, Colombo                   |
| 14   | Pinnawala , Waga, Padukka                   | Boralesgamuwa M.V, Boralesgamuwa 10290      |
| 15   | High Level Road, Maharagama                 | Station Road, Mount Lavinia                 |
| 16   | High Level Road, Maharagama                 | Danister de Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08 00025 |
| 17   | Siridammamawatha, Colombo                   | Danister de Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08 00025 |
| 18   | Siridammamawatha, Colombo                   | 155,Bandaranayeke Mawatha,, Colombo-12 0094 |
| 19   | Boralesgamuwa M.V, Boralesgamuwa 10290      | 155,Bandaranayeke Mawatha,, Colombo-12 0094 |
| 20   | Boralesgamuwa M.V, Boralesgamuwa 10290      | Auburn Place, Dehiwala                      |
| 21   | Danister de Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08 00025 | Templer\'s Road, Mount Lavinia 0094         |
| 22   | Danister de Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08 00025 | Athurugiriya RD, Homagama 10200             |
| 23   | 155,Bandaranayeke Mawatha,, Colombo-12 0094 | Athurugiriya RD, Homagama 10200             |
| 24   | 155,Bandaranayeke Mawatha,, Colombo-12 0094 | ., Piliyandala 10129                        |
| 25   | Auburn Place, Dehiwala                      | ., Piliyandala 10129                        |
| 26   | Auburn Place, Dehiwala                      | Kynsey road, Colombo 08                     |
| 27   | Templer\'s Road, Mount Lavinia 0094         | Kynsey road, Colombo 08                     |
| 28   | Templer\'s Road, Mount Lavinia 0094         | 62, Gregory\'s Road,, Colombo 07            |
|      |   |   |

- 29 Athurugiriya RD, Homagama 10200
- 30 Athurugiriya RD, Homagama 10200
- 31 ., Piliyandala 10129
- 32 Kynsey road, Colombo 08
- 33 Kynsey road, Colombo 08
- 34 62, Gregory\'s Road,, Colombo 07
- 35 62, Gregory\'s Road,, Colombo 07
- 36 Moratuwa, Moratuwa
- 37 Moratuwa, Moratuwa
- 38 Brahmanagama, Pannipitiya
- 39 Brahmanagama, Pannipitiya
- 40 No 34, Mallay Street, Colombo 02
- 41 No 34, Mallay Street, Colombo 02
- 42 DarmapalaMawatha, Dehiwala 011
- 43 DarmapalaMawatha, Dehiwala 011
- 44 Sri JayawardhanapuraMawatha, Borella 00800
- 45 Sri JayawardhanapuraMawatha, Borella 00800
- 46 Kesbewa, Piliyandala University of Moratuwa, SII Lanka,
- 47 Kesbewar Piliyandala Electronic Theses & Dissertations
- 48 Diyagama, Kiriwattuduwa. 10208 Hotel Road, Mount Lavin
- www.lib.mrt.ac.lk
- 49 Diyagama, Kiriwattuduwa. 10208
- 50 Park Road, Colombo 05
- 51 Park Road, Colombo 05
- 52 DharmapalaVidyalaya, Pannipitiya
- 53 DharmapalaVidyalaya, Pannipitiya
- 54 Hotel Road, Mount Lavinia
- 55 Hotel Road, Mount Lavinia
- 56 wasala road, colombo 13
- 57 Temple Road, Maradana 01000
- 58 Temple Road, Maradana 01000
- 59 habarakada, homagama
- 60 habarakada, homagama
- 61 45, Husseiniya, Colombo 12 3012
- 62 45, Husseiniya, Colombo 12 3012
- 63 Dam Street, Colombo 12
- 64 Dam Street, Colombo 12
- 65 Court Road, Homagama

Moratuwa, Moratuwa Brahmanagama, Pannipitiya Brahmanagama, Pannipitiya No 34, Mallay Street, Colombo 02 No 34, Mallay Street, Colombo 02 DarmapalaMawatha, Dehiwala 011 DarmapalaMawatha, Dehiwala 011 Sri JayawardhanapuraMawatha, Borella 00800 Sri JayawardhanapuraMawatha, Borella 00800 Kesbewa, Piliyandala Kesbewa, Piliyandala Diyagama, Kiriwattuduwa. 10208 Diyagama, Kiriwattuduwa. 10208 Park Road, Colombo 05 Park Road, Colombo 05

62, Gregory\'s Road,, Colombo 07

DharmapalaVidyalaya, Pannipitiya

Hotel Road, Mount Lavinia wasala road, colombo 13 wasala road, colombo 13 Temple Road, Maradana 01000 Temple Road, Maradana 01000 habarakada, homagama habarakada, homagama 45, Husseiniya, Colombo 12 3012 Dam Street, Colombo 12 Dam Street, Colombo 12 Court Road, Homagama Court Road, Homagama Athurugiriya RD, Homagama 10200 Athurugiriya RD, Homagama 10200 Meethotamulla Road, Kolonnawa Meethotamulla Road, Kolonnawa 207/1, DharmapalaMawatha, Colombo 7 00700 207/1, DharmapalaMawatha, Colombo 7

|     |   | 00700  |
|-----|---|--|
| 66  | Court Road, Homagama                                      | Ministry of Education, Pelawatta                       |
| 67  | Athurugiriya RD, Homagama 10200                           | Ministry of Education, Pelawatta                       |
| 68  | habarakada, homagama                                      | Ministry of Education, Pelawatta                       |
| 69  | Meethotamulla Road, Kolonnawa                             | Ministry of Education, Pelawatta                       |
| 70  | Meethotamulla Road, Kolonnawa                             | Jalthara. Hanwella, Hanwella 1224                      |
| 71  | 207/1, DharmapalaMawatha, Colombo 7 00700                 | Jalthara. Hanwella, Hanwella 1224                      |
|     |   | School Lane, Nawala, Rajagiriya, Colombo               |
| 72  | 207/1, DharmapalaMawatha, Colombo 7 00700                 | 011  |
|     |   | School Lane, Nawala, Rajagiriya, Colombo               |
| 73  | Ministry of Education, Pelawatta                          | 011  |
| 74  | Ministry of Education, Pelawatta                          | 166, Dematagoda Road,, Colombo 09 011                  |
| 75  | Ministry of Education, Pelawatta                          | 166, Dematagoda Road,, Colombo 09 011                  |
| 76  | Ministry of Education, Pelawatta                          | Kosgama  |
| 77  | Jalthara. Hanwella, Hanwella 1224                         | Kosgama  |
| 78  | Jalthara. Hanwella, Hanwella 1224                         | kosgama, kosgama 00255                                 |
| 79  | School Lane, Nawala, Rajagiriya, Colombo 011              | kosgama, kosgama 00255                                 |
| 80  | School Lane, Nawala, Rajagiriya, Colombo 014              | MahaVidyalaMawatha, Colombo 13 01300                   |
| 81  | 166, Dematagoda Road, Colombo 09 044                      | MahaVidyalaMawatha, Colombo 13 01300<br>A DISSCILLIONS |
| 82  | 166, Dematagoda Road, Colombo 09 011<br>WWW.llb.mrt.ac.lk | Hokandara Road, Pannipitiya 10230                      |
| 83  | Kosgama   | Hokandara Road, Pannipitiya 10230                      |
| 84  | Kosgama   | Mulleriyawa New town                                   |
| 85  | kosgama, kosgama 00255                                    | Mulleriyawa New town                                   |
| 86  | kosgama, kosgama 00255                                    | Kandawala Road, Ratmalana                              |
| 87  | MahaVidyalaMawatha, Colombo 13 01300                      | Kandawala Road, Ratmalana                              |
| 88  | MahaVidyalaMawatha, Colombo 13 01300                      | Horana Road, Kottawa, Pannioitiya                      |
| 89  | Hokandara Road, Pannipitiya 10230                         | Horana Road, Kottawa, Pannioitiya                      |
| 90  | Hokandara Road, Pannipitiya 10230                         | Hena Road, Mount Lavinia 10370                         |
| 91  | Mulleriyawa New town                                      | Hena Road, Mount Lavinia 10370                         |
| 92  | Mulleriyawa New town                                      | Havelock Town, Colombo 05                              |
| 93  | Kandawala Road, Ratmalana                                 | Havelock Town, Colombo 05                              |
| 94  | Kandawala Road, Ratmalana                                 | No. 724, Galle Road, Colombo 03                        |
| 95  | Horana Road, Kottawa, Pannioitiya                         | No. 724, Galle Road, Colombo 03                        |
| 96  | Horana Road, Kottawa, Pannioitiya                         | Thalangama North, Bathtaramulla 10120                  |
| 97  | Hena Road, Mount Lavinia 10370                            | Thalangama North, Bathtaramulla 10120                  |
| 98  | Hena Road, Mount Lavinia 10370                            | Madiwela, Kotte  |
| 99  | Havelock Town, Colombo 05                                 | Madiwela, Kotte  |
| 100 | Havelock Town, Colombo 05                                 | magammana, Homagama                                    |

# **Appendix C:**

## **FIPA ACL Message Structure**

#### C.1 Introduction

This appendix gives a detailed description of the FIPA ACL message structure taken from the FIPA standard specification SC00061.

#### C.2 FIPA ACL Message Structure

A FIPA ACL message contains a set of one or more message parameters. Precisely which parameters are needed for effective agent communication will vary according to the situation; the only parameter that is mandatory in all ACL messages is the performative, although it is expected that most ACL messages will also contain sender, receiver and content parameters are according. Sri Lanka.

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If an agent does not recognize or libutable to brocess one or more of the parameters or parameter values, it can reply with the appropriate not-understood message.

Specific implementations are free to include user-defined message parameters other than the FIPA ACL message parameters specified in *Table 1*. The semantics of these user-defined parameters is not defined by FIPA, and FIPA compliance does not require any particular interpretation of these parameters. The prefatory string "X-" must be used for the names of these non-FIPA standard additional parameters.

Some parameters of the message might be omitted when their value can be deduced by the context of the conversation. However, FIPA does not specify any mechanism to handle such conditions, therefore those implementations that omit some message parameters are not guaranteed to interoperate with each other. The full set of FIPA ACL message parameters is shown in *Table 1* without regard to their specific encodings in an implementation. FIPA-approved encodings and parameter orderings for ACL messages are given in other specifications. Each ACL message representation specification contains precise syntax descriptions for ACL message encodings based on XML, text strings and several other schemes.

A FIPA ACL message corresponds to the abstract parameter message payload identified in the [FIPA00001].

| Parameter                     | Category of Parameters                            |
|-------------------------------|---|
| performative                  | Type of communicative acts                        |
| sender                        | Participant in communication                      |
| receiver                      | Participant in communication                      |
| reply-to (O) Electronic These | Participant in communication<br>s & Dissertations |
| content www.lib.mrt.ac.l      |   |
| language                      | Description of Content                            |
| encoding                      | Description of Content                            |
| ontology                      | Description of Content                            |
| protocol                      | Control of conversation                           |
| conversation-id               | Control of conversation                           |
| reply-with                    | Control of conversation                           |
| in-reply-to                   | Control of conversation                           |
| reply-by                      | Control of conversation                           |

The following terms are used to define the ontology and the abstract syntax of the FIPA ACL message structure:

- **Frame**. This is the mandatory name of this entity that must be used to represent each instance of this class.
- **Ontology**. This is the name of the ontology, whose domain of discourse includes their parameters described in the table.
- **Parameter**. This identifies each component within the frame. The type of the parameter is defined relative to a particular encoding. Encoding specifications for ACL messages are given in their respective specifications.
  - **Description**. This is a natural language description of the semantics of each parameter. Notes are included to clarify typical usage.

**Reserved Values**. This is a list of FIPA-defined constants associated with each parameter. This list is typically defined in the specification referenced.

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All of the FIPA message parameters share the frame and ontology shown in Table 2.

| Frame    | fipa-acl-message |
|----------|------------------|
| Ontology | fipa-acl         |

## **Type of Communicative Act**

#### Performative

| Parameter    | Description                                  | Reserved Values |
|--------------|--|-----------------|
| performative | Denotes the type of the communicative act of | See [FIPA00037] |
|              | the ACL message                              |                 |

**Notes:** The performative parameter is a required parameter of all ACL messages. Developers are encouraged to use the FIPA standard performatives (see [FIPA00037]) whenever possible.

#### **Participants in Communication**

#### Sender

| Parameter | Description                                    | Reserved Values |
|-----------|--|-----------------|
| sender    | Denotes the identity of the sender of the      |                 |
|           | message, that is, the name of the agent of the |                 |
|           | communicative act.                             |                 |

**Notes:** The sender parameter will be a parameter of most ACL messages. It is possible to omit the sender parameter if, for example, the agent sending the ACL message wishes to remain anonymous. The sender parameter refers to the agent which performs the communicative act giving rise to this ACL message.

# Receiver University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Electronic Theses & Dissertations

| Parameter | Descriptionw.lib.mrt.ac.lk                      | Reserved Values |
|-----------|---|-----------------|
| receiver  | Denotes the identity of the intended recipients |                 |
|           | of the message.                                 |                 |

**Notes:** Ordinarily, the receiver parameter will be a part of every ACL message. It is only permissible to omit the receiver parameter if the message recipient can be reliably inferred from context, or in special cases such as the embedded ACL message in proxy and propagate.

The receiver parameter may be a single agent name or a non-empty set of agent names. The latter corresponds to the situation where the message is multicast. Pragmatically, the semantics of this multicast is that the sender intends the message for each recipient of the CA encoded in the message. For example, if an agent performs an inform act with a set of three agents as receiver, it denotes that the sender intends each of these agents to come to believe the content of the message.

## **Reply To**

| Parameter | Description   | Reserved Values |
|-----------|---|-----------------|
| reply-to  | This parameter indicates that subsequent messages in this conversation thread are to be |                 |
|           | directed to the agent named in thereply-  |                 |
|           | to parameter, instead of to the agent named in<br>the senderparameter.                  |                 |

## Content of Message

## Content

| Parameter | Description  | <b>Reserved Values</b> |
|-----------|--|------------------------|
| content   | Denotes Unliversontent f Morthawmessage; a<br>meaning of the the object of Dissection<br>in meaning of the content of any ACL<br>message is intended to be interpreted by the<br>receiver of the message. This is particularly<br>relevant for instance when referring to<br>referential expressions, whose interpretation<br>might be different for the sender and the<br>receiver. |                        |

**Notes:** Most ACL messages require a content expression. Certain ACL message types, such as cancel, have an implicit content, especially in cases of using the conversation-id or in-reply-to parameters.

## **Description of Content**

## Language

| Parameter | Description                               | Reserved Values |
|-----------|---|-----------------|
| language  | Denotes the language in which the content | See [FIPA00007] |
|           | parameter is expressed.                   |                 |

**Notes:** The ACL content parameter is expressed in a formal language. This field may be omitted if the agent receiving the message can be assumed to know the language of the content expression.

## Encoding

| Parameter  | Description                                  | <b>Reserved Values</b>  |
|------------|--|-------------------------|
| encoding   | Denotes the specific encoding of the c       | content See [FIPA00007] |
|            | Language expression. of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. |                         |
|            | (C) Electronic Theses & Dis                  | sertations              |
|            | www.lib.mrt.ac.lk                            |                         |
| Notes: The | content expression might be en               | coded in several ways.  |

**Notes:** The content expression might be encoded in several ways. The encoding parameter is optionally used to specify this encoding to the recipient agent. If the encoding parameter is not present, the encoding will be specified in the message envelope that encloses the ACL message.

## Ontology

| Parameter | Description                            | Reserved Values |
|-----------|--|-----------------|
| ontology  | Denotes the ontology(s) used to give a |                 |
|           | meaning to the symbols in the content  |                 |
|           | expression.                            |                 |

**Notes:** The ontology parameter is used in conjunction with the language parameter to support the interpretation of the content expression by the receiving agent. In many

situations, the ontology parameter will be commonly understood by the agent community and so this message parameter may be omitted.

## **Control of Conversation**

#### Protocol

| Parameter | Description                               | Reserved Values |
|-----------|---|-----------------|
| protocol  | Denotes the interaction protocol that the | See [FIPA00025] |
|           | sending agent is employing with this ACL  |                 |
|           | message.                                  |                 |

Notes: The protocol parameter defines the interaction protocol in which the ACL message is generated. This parameter is optional; however, developers are advised that employing ACL without the framework of an interaction protocol (and thus directly using the ACL semantics to control the agent's generation and interpretation of ACL messages) is an extremely ambitious undertakingy of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.

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Any ACL message that contains a non-null value for the protocol parameter is considered to belong to a conversation and it is required to respect the following rules:

- the initiator of the protocol must assign a non-null value to the conversationid parameter,
- all responses to the message, within the scope of the same interaction protocol, should contain the same value for the conversation-id parameter, and,
- the timeout value in the reply-by parameter must denote the latest time by which the sending agent would like to have received the next message in the protocol flow (not be confused with the latest time by which the interaction protocol should terminate).

## **Conversation Identifier**

| Parameter     | Description                                 | Reserved Values |
|---------------|---|-----------------|
| conversation- | Introduces an expression (a conversation    |                 |
| id            | identifier) which is used to identify the   |                 |
|               | ongoing sequence of communicative acts that |                 |
|               | together form a conversation.               |                 |

**Notes:** An agent may tag ACL messages with a conversation identifier to manage its communication strategies and activities. Typically this will allow an agent to identify individual conversations with multiple agents. It will also allow agents to reason across historical records of conversations.

It is required the usage of globally unique values for the conversation-id parameter in order to allow the participants to distinguish between several concurrent conversations. A simple mechanism to ensure unique ess is/the concatenation of the globally unique identifier of the sender agent to the sender agent agent

## **Reply With**

| Parameter  | Description                                    | Reserved Values |
|------------|--|-----------------|
| reply-with | Introduces an expression that will be used by  |                 |
|            | the responding agent to identify this message. |                 |

**Notes:** The reply-with parameter is designed to be used to follow a conversation thread in a situation where multiple dialogues occur simultaneously. For example, if agent *i* sends to agent *j* a message which contains:

reply-with *<expr>* 

Agent *j* will respond with a message containing:

in-reply-to <*expr*>

## In Reply To

| Parameter   | Description                                      | Reserved Values |
|-------------|--|-----------------|
| in-reply-to | Denotes an expression that references an         |                 |
|             | earlier action to which this message is a reply. |                 |

Notes: See notes for Section 2.5.3.

## **Reply By**

| Parameter | Description  | Reserved Values |
|-----------|--|-----------------|
| reply-by  | Penotes a time and/or date expression which<br>Electronic Theses & Dissertation<br>indicates the latest time by which the sending<br>www.lib.mrt.ac.lk<br>agent would like to receive a reply. | nika.<br>Dins   |

**Notes:** The time will be expressed according to the sender's view of the time on the sender's platform. The reply message can be identified in several ways: as the next sequential message in an interaction protocol, through the use of the reply-with parameter, through the use of a conversation-id and so forth. The way that the reply message is identified is determined by the agent implementer.