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FIPA Query Interaction Protocol Specification
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Foreword

The Foundation for Intelligent Physical Agents (FIPA) is an international organization that is dedicated to promoting the industry of intelligent agents by openly developing specifications supporting interoperability among agents and agent-based applications. This occurs through open collaboration among its member organizations, which are companies and universities that are active in the field of agents. FIPA makes the results of its activities available to all interested parties and intends to contribute its results to the appropriate formal standards bodies.

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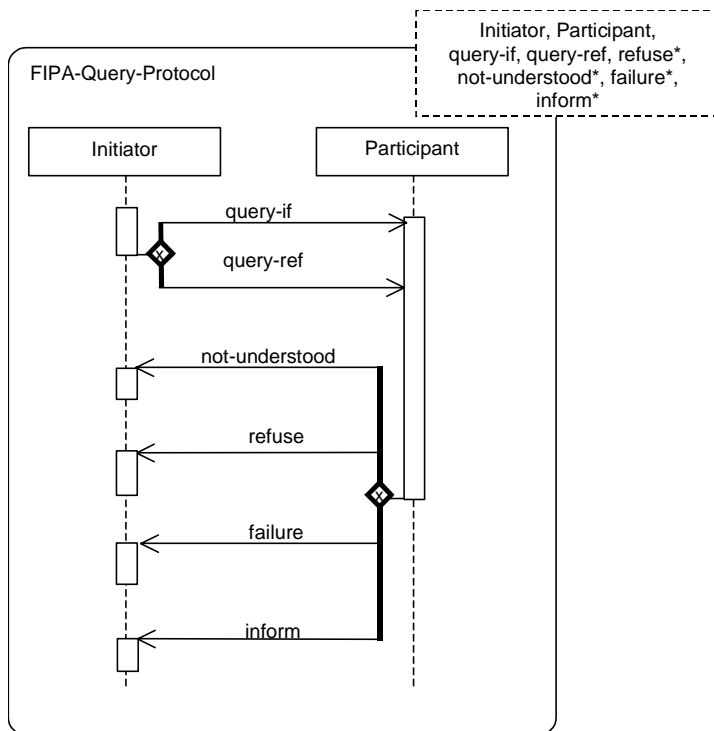
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1 FIPA Query Interaction Protocol

In the FIPA Query Interaction Protocol (IP), the receiving agent is requested to perform some kind of *inform* action (see [FIPA00037]). Requesting to *inform* is a query, and there are two query-acts: *query-if* (see [FIPA00037]) and *query-ref* (see [FIPA00037]) and either act may be used to initiate this protocol. In either case, an *inform* is used in response, although the content of the *inform* given in response to a *query-ref* would be a referring expression.

The representation of this IP is given in *Figure 1*.

Figure 1: FIPA Query Interaction Protocol

1.1 Exceptions to Interaction Protocol Flow

This IP is a pattern for a simple interaction type. Elaboration on this pattern will almost certainly be necessary in order to specify all cases that might occur in an actual agent interaction. Real world issues of cancelling actions, asynchrony, abnormal or unexpected IP termination, nested IPs, and the like, are explicitly not addressed here.

59 **2   References**   2

60   [FIPA00037]   FIPA Communicative Act Library Specification. Foundation for Intelligent Physical Agents, 2000.
61   `http://www.fipa.org/specs/fipa00037/`