

# Making the case for authentication support in applications

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# The problem

- Promoting the use of VO-enabled applications in Canada is constrained by the lack of authentication support
- Specifically, many science teams use integrated CADDC/CANFAR resources and have authenticated access to:
  - TAP services:
    - Proprietary metadata in observation databases
    - User/project tables and catalogues
  - SIA/DataLink and VOspace services:
    - Proprietary files in telescope data collections
    - User/project files in a VOspace
  - Cutout services on both telescope and VOspace files

## Recent discussions

- March 2016
  - Experimentation with TOPCAT
- May 2016 InterOp joint GWS and Apps session
  - <http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/InterOpMay2016-GWS>

## Recent discussions

- From P. Dowler (May 2016 InterOp)
  - For DAL services, each capability has multiple endpoints with different authentication mechanism
    - capability – interface – securityMethod (VOResource / VOSI)
  - Use the common/standard endpoints for anonymous access
    - E.g. /tap/sync, /tap/async, /tap/tables
  - Use an alternate path for username+password
    - E.g. /tap/auth-sync, /tap/auth-async, /tap/auth-tables
  - Currently only change protocol to https for tls-with-cert; would prefer to use alternate path as well
    - E.g. /tap/x509-sync, /tap/x509-async, /tap/x509-tables
  - Then could provide http and/or https where applicable

## Recent discussions

- For GWS:
  - The standards already support authenticated access
  - Several examples of deployed services support authenticated access
- For DAL:
  - The standards already support authenticated access
  - Several examples of deployed services support authenticated access

## For application developers

UI approaches to presenting access choices?

Configuration of applications (e.g. .netrc)?

Feedback to DAL and GWS to make implementation easier?

Discussion