

Datalink discussions

F.Bonnarel, CDS
and the DAL working group

Datalink: what is it for?

- Datalink describes links towards data or services for datasets
- Use case 1 : additional formats
- Use case 2 : dataset previews
- Use case 3 : subsets in complex datasets
- Use case 4 : link to metadata, related datasets
- Use case 5 : link to VO services
- ---> see next talks
- Summary of a couple (3) of issues discussed so far.

ISSUES

1: static versus dynamic

- Static or dynamic links
 - After discussion on the mailing list quasi consensus for dynamic links
 - New problem (common to VO services use case and complex dataset use case at least)
 - Little syntax for navigation in complex dataset (May 2012 draft) apparently ruled out
 - Query Parameter based dynamic services
 - Who defines the parameters : the service (eg SIA AccessData) not DataLink
 - How are the parameters described : proposal by Laurent, other proposal by Markus . As response to a query without parameters
 - Who defines this description. DataLink ?

ISSUES

2. service versus method

- Registered service or method added to already existing DAL service (SIA, SSA, TAP, ObstAp, etc...) ??
- Answer : probably both, depending on the nature of the dataset ID
 - If the ID is an internal ID, Datalink should stay attached to the service.
 - URL given (as a PARAMETER ?) in the query response.
 - Or concatenation of the two responses (DAL extension mechanism)
 - If the ID is an IVOA PublisherDID, Datalink MAY be a registered service

ISSUES

3.Link description

- Link description in the Datalink response
- PublisherDID (or internal ID) and Access (like in SSA and ObsCore, made of reference, format, and size) seem mandatory
- How many fields to describe the nature of the link ?
May draft tells 2:
 - A semantic tag (preview, calibration data, additional format, etc...)
 - An « access type » tag : html page, data retrieval, ssa, sia, etc...)
 - Is that enough ? Too much ?