Operations Miscellanea

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12 October 2019

`$Id: ops-misc.tex,v 1.4 2019/10/12 08:31:20 mbt Exp $`

Ops in the IVOA

Operational feedback to standards development

- Any input now?
- Discuss on ops mailing list/slack
- Or feed back as members of other WGs

VO Health Monitoring

Ops IG monitors some things:

- Weather reports: SCS, SIA, SSA, TAP(etc), HiPS?
- Availability of validators

What's missing?

- Other services: VOEvent, DataLink
- Are searchable registries and RofR up?
- Is www.ivoa.net up?
- Are all the accepted RECs/Schemata/Errata/RFCs up-to-date and available?
- Are relevant non-standard infrastructure services up? (SIMBAD, VizieR, GloTS, ...)
- Have services incorrectly dropped out of searchable registries?

Who should be checking these?

- Specific service owners
- Centralised scripts under Ops IG?
- Some items responsibilities of other bodies (Registry WG, ivoadoc)

Wholesale 3xx Redirects

HTTP 3xx redirects sometimes used for all paths on a site

- Why?
  - ▷ Geographical redirection/load-balancing
  - ▷ Protocol change
    - ○ HTTP→HTTPS can work, though not supported out of the box by Java
    - ○ HTTPS→HTTP *shouldn't* work, security implications

- 3xx works for GET not POST
  - ▷ Generally OK for GET-based protocols like SCS, SIA, SSA but not TAP/async
  - ▷ 302 handled differently by different browsers
  - ▷ 307 might work, but abuses idempotent POST semantics and may require re-POST of uploaded data (inefficient)
  - ▷ Details documented in RFC2616, obsoleted by RFC7231 (some relevant changes)

- Conclusions
  - ▷ Best avoided for TAP
  - ▷ 302 for `/capabilities` file may do the job
    - ○ This should work for TAP 1.1-style capabilities handling (supporting authenticated services; read capabilities file first)
    - ○ Compatible with future, but not current, TOPCAT versions

Science Platform Operations

Science platforms becoming more prominent in and out of VO

- What are operational issues?
- Is this Ops IG business?
- Can science platforms be centrally monitored?
- ... or just provide a forum for discussion of issues?
- Do we need new standards for code-close-to-data functionality?