



DM Implementation Requirements

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The USVOA is recognized by the American Astronomical Society (AAS) as a Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Working Group on Astronomical Software (WGAS).

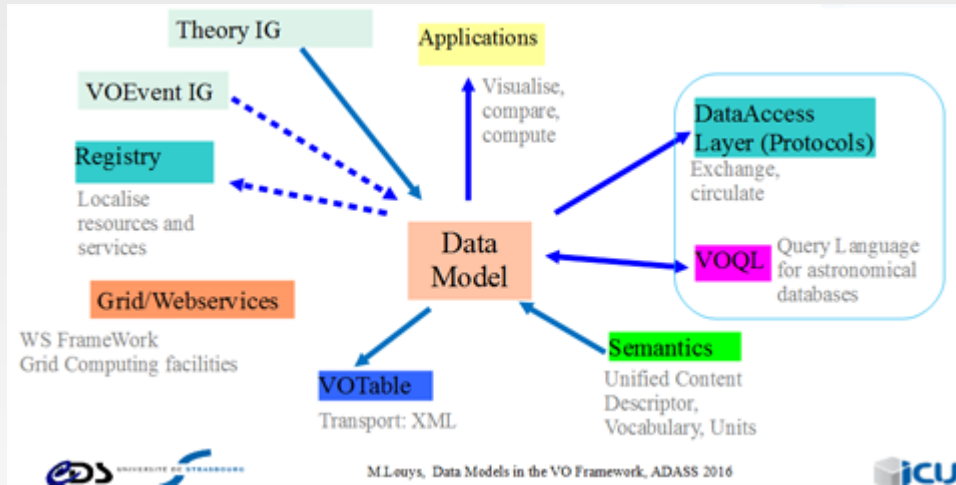
Document Standards

+ General standard

- demonstrate two interoperable implementations of each feature
- validation tools should be available

* We want to keep in theme with these requirements

DM standards



A data model is used BY access protocols, applications, and serialization standards to inform their design and facilitate interoperability.

A Science use case typically involves implementing several of these aspects.

To require a data model standard to have the entire science use case implemented is too dissociated from the model itself.

Example

- + As an extreme (hypothetical) example:
 - image cutout use case requires Matrix transform
 - We decide to generate a Transform model.
 - The Transform model gets a requirement to support Matrix transform, with details about size/shape etc.
 - That model is written (about 15min later)
 - working group consensus is reached

- + This model should be able to go forward without waiting for two institutions to implement:
 - access protocol
 - cutout service
 - data serialization of cutout image
 - visualization application consuming the image

Risk

As use cases are implemented, they may discover missing and/or incorrect requirements

- minimized if accompanied by real world examples

Initial Proposal

Initial Proposal:

- If described using VO-DML, model must be validated
- Serialization (XML/VOTable) of instance, which can be validated
- X Does not guarantee usability by software unless we have a vetted serialization standard.
- X May not apply to 'real world' data

Response themes

+ From email thread started in Stellenbosch

- DM is designed "to meet requirements expressed in formalized use-cases, to be valid, it must meet these requirements"
- Serialization should be validated.. constraints, datatypes and vocabulary
- Serializations should work on 'real data'
- In lieu of serialization standard, having an application consume instances independently serialized according to some agreed form.
- Without serialization standard, cannot have automated validation, so must 'work around' it..
- generate serialization which is validated 'by hand' to show that it represents the model content.
- Serialization alone will not guarantee usability, should be a service or application using serialized instance

Proposal

We have to ensure that the model:

- is valid (eg: vo-dml validation)
- covers its requirements
- is serializable (can define instances)
- is usable by software (clients)
- * by someone other than the modeler(s)

By providing:

- serialization that touches each entity of the model, possibly fake
- real world serialization(s) covering the use cases the model is designed to fulfill
- client software which can read the serialization and demonstrate it can 'understand' the contents

Discussion

Discussion:

- Agreement on proposal?
- 'sample' serializations by modeler? (~unit test)
- real world serializations by external participants?
- what format?
 - wait for serialization standard (vo-dml:Mapping)?
 - XML
- what client software?
 - 'dmlist' utility?
 - validator?
- Apps group involvement?