

WoT Directory API

Registration, Notification, Error Responses

Farshid Tavakolizadeh (Fraunhofer)

2020-10-20 WoT Online F2F

Outline



- API Overview
- Registration API
- Notification API
- Error Responses

Directory API Overview



Registration

- Management (CRUD) of Thing Descriptions
- CRUD spec in First Public Working Draft (FPWD)

Notification

- Registration events
- Spec in FPWD

Search

- Syntactic and semantic search
- Spec in FPWD
- More in the next presentation

Management

- · Administration (server, security config)
- To be specified. Should this even be in the spec?

API is defined in a Thing Description and supporting text.

Registration API



RESTful Create, retrieve, update, and delete (CRUD) operations:

/td

- POST a TD
 - Create an Anonymous TD -> Response header provides a system-generated identifier (i.e. UUID v4)

/td/{id}

- GET a TD
 - Retrieve a TD with the given identifier
- PUT a TD
 - Create/Update a TD with the given identifier -> Response status is 201 Created/204 No Content
- PATCH a TD
 - Update a Partial TD or whole TD with the given identifier
- DELETE a TD
 - Delete a TD with the given identifier

Registration API (cont'd)

Beyond FPWD

RESTful Listing (CRUDL):

/td

- Get TDs
 - Get a list of all TDs
 - Requires pagination/streaming to reduce server and client load
 - Pagination: limit total TDs per page
 - How to deal with a single, large TD?
 - Replace large TDs with TD links? Inconsistent results, but easy to process if links have a specific @type.
 - List only links to TDs? Too much overhead to query every TD separately.
 - Erase the problem: prevent creation of TDs that are larger than a configurable value?
 - Give control to client to choose (Full TDs|TD Links). Server can reject the request if it doesn't want to return a list that is too big.
 - Streaming: next slide

Related Issues:

Handle huge set of Thing Descriptions: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/16
Add links section to directory information model: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/34



```
TD Link:

{

    "@context":"...",

    "@type":"Link",

    "title":"Title of linked TD",

    "security":"...",

    "securityDefinitions":"...",

    "links":[

    {

        "rel":"furtherExploration",

        "href":"/td/1234",

        "type":"application/td+json"

    }

]

}
```

Registration API (cont'd)



Beyond FPWD

RESTful Listing (CRUDL):

/td

- Get TDs
 - Get a list of all TDs
 - Requires pagination/streaming to reduce server and client load
 - Streaming
 - Revisit this in the follow-up discovery versions?
 - gRPC/HTTP2 (not just good for TD stream fetch, but also request/response and notifications)
 - Defining the protobuf message for TD may be challenging

Related Issues:

Handle huge set of Thing Descriptions: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/16
Add links section to directory information model: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/34

Notification API



TD change events. Based on Server-Sent Events (SSE)*

Features:

- Re-connecting clients can continue from the last received event (part of SSE)
- Client-side event filtering (part of SSE)
- Server-side filtering
- TD change diffs

Related issues:

Decide how to securely do notifications from a Directory: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/42
Directories should notify subscribers when a TD is updated: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/42

^{*} Server-Sent Events (SSE): https://www.w3.org/TR/eventsource/

Notification API (cont'd)



Event Types:

• created_td, updated_td, deleted_td

Event Filtering:

- /events -> all events
- /events?type=created_td&type=deleted_td -> all create and delete events
- /events?type=updated_td&td_id=urn:example:1234 -> updates on TD with urn:example:1234 ID
- [Optional] /events?**jsonpath**=\$[?(@.title=~/.*Temperature Sensor/) -> updates on TDs with title ending with Temperature Sensor

Related issues:

Decide how to securely do notifications from a Directory: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/42
Directories should notify subscribers when a TD is updated: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/42

Notification API (cont'd)



Event Data:

- JSON Object
- td_id set to TD identifier
- [Optional] When /events?include_changes=true
 - created td event: created td set to the new TD
 - updated_td event: td_updates set to TD diffs

Related issues:

Decide how to securely do notifications from a Directory: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/42
Directories should notify subscribers when a TD is updated: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/42

Error Responses



Based on Problem Details*

For now, type is omitted (defaults to about:blank)

Suggestion:

Globally defined, protocol-agnostic WoT error types

```
{
  "type":"https://w3c.org/wot/invalid_td",
  "title":"Invalid Registration",
  "status":400,
  "detail":"Validation against JSONSchema detected one or more errors",
  "instance":"/error/123e4567-e89b-12d3-a456-426655440000",
  "validation-errors":[
      "(root): security is required",
      "properties.lightInformation.properties.state.properties.lastupdated.type:
    properties.lightInformation.properties.state.properties.lastupdated.type must
    be one of the following: \"boolean\", \"integer\", \"number\", \"string\",
      \"object\", \"array\", \"null\""
    ]
}
```

Related Issues:

Define error responses: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/44

Error conditions for form requests: https://github.com/w3c/wot-thing-description/issues/303

Error Handling: https://github.com/w3c/wot-scripting-api/issues/200

^{*} Problem Details: https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7807

Other Open Issues



- Identifier of TD in directory
- Using OAuth scopes for fine-grained access control
 - E.g. allow updates but prevent creation (same HTTP path and method)
- Equivalent OpenAPI spec: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/82
- Anonymous TD Deduplication: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/48
- Define directory vocab: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/54
- Out-of-band information: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/30
- TTL Usercase: https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues/18

And many more https://github.com/w3c/wot-discovery/issues



Thank you for listening

WoT Discovery Draft

https://w3c.github.io/wot-discovery

Fraunhofer FIT

https://www.fit.fraunhofer.de/en.html

Contact: Farshid Tavakolizadeh <firstname.lastname@fit.fraunhofer.de>