

Virtual Update Notes February 17 & 18, 2009 - Data Access Server (DAS)



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Fri, 02/20/2009 - 12:20pm — sremillard

Data Access Server (DAS)

Participants:

Tuesday (2/17): Mark Servilla (LNO; moderator), Duane Costa (LNO; co-moderator), Corinna Gries (CAP), Hap Garritt (PIE), Wade Sheldon (GCE), Theresa Valentine (AND), John Campbell (HBR), Karen Baker (PAL), Mason Kortz (CCE)

Wednesday (2/18): Mark Servilla (LNO; moderator), Duane Costa (LNO; co-moderator), Suzanne Remillard (AND), Don Henshaw (AND), John Porter (VCR), Kristin Vanderbilt (SEV), Emery Boose (HFR), Jason Downing (BNZ), Barbara Benson (NTL), Dave Balsinger (NTL), Margaret O'Brien (SBC), Eda Melendez (LUQ), Jonathan Walsh (BES), James Brunt (LNO)

Tuesday Notes (provided by Duane Costa):

Wade – Link to EML in email message sends raw XML. Perhaps should bring up EML in web browser as HTML. Scientists don't find raw XML useful.

Wade – I will submit Bugzilla bug to change EML link in email message so that it returns HTML rather than XML.

Corinna – At CAP we store GIS data in ZIP file. Will this work?

Mark – It should work if the MIME type is set correctly.

Wade – Most browsers will recognize file extension as a ZIP file and handle it appropriately.

Hap – We have different kinds of project data, some of it is non-LTER. Some have metadata embedded in it.

Mark – Jim Laundre is dealing with similar issue.

Wade – If there's no corresponding EML, then DAS won't support it. You would need to build a parallel system, but doing so is optional.

John Campbell – Users might be confused by login at LTER Data Catalog. We may need a more generic login page.

Mark – We will be considering the need for this. Please submit Bugzilla entry.

Corinna – Will the DAS support EML 2.1, especially with its change in the 'access' element?

Mark – Yes, it should not be affected by the change; the parsing of EML by DAS is not dependent on the 'access' element.

Duane – As far as we know, there should not be a problem but we will still need to test. Metacat 1.9 is still under testing. Metacat 1.9 is the version that will support EML 2.1.

Mark – How does DAS parse the EML document?

Duane – The entire EML document is read from Metacat, and then XPath is used to retrieve the responsible party ('creator', 'contact', and 'metadataProvider') elements as well as the 'objectName' element.

Wednesday Notes:

IM VTC 2009-02-18 - Data Access Server (John Porter)

1. Resolving DimDim Issues

a. Update

- i. Investigating as tool for sharing files and presentations
- ii. Also has CHAT window
- iii. Up to 20 people are free
- iv. Can have conference call (for call-in fee)
- v. Send feedback to James Brunt

b. about DimDim

- i. upload PPT file
 - ii. need to register to hold a meeting, but not to participate
 - iii. tedious to put in email addresses
 - iv. is open source, so you can use most of it without them
 - v. as long as we knew meeting name, you can connect even without their invite, so can use local emailer
 - vi. seems to work OK with Linux except for desktop sharing
2. In attendance
- See list above.
3. Issues
- a. If use cookies, how is purpose for download changed
- i. Can be done by changing user info
 - ii. but a user unlikely to change intended use, so first use would stand
 - iii. we will look at this
 - iv. Could we have quick drop down list - e.g. education, student class - general categories
 - 1. as a case-by case
 - v. could get additional feedback via email address of data contact in email sent to user
- b. What will be stored when Kepler hits the server?
- i. can only capture time and IP address
 - ii. also what dataset accessed
- c. GCE and ARC are using now will update after a few months of testing with them
- d. Issue of security of data
- i. Could restrict to subdomain
 - ii. Could also encode security in tail end of URL
- e. Using object name and table name - they are not always the same

- i. first look at object name
 - ii. then look for entity name (mandatory, 0 to many)
 - 1. we assume 1:1 relationship
 - iii. then generate random file name
- f. other types of things?
- i. assumes digital object as serial object
 - 1. can't handle interfaces or directories
 - ii. You don't need to have everything in data access server
- g. Are large data objects a problem
- i. No, we don't think so...
 - ii. we transfer on MIME types
- h. EML allows more than one URL?
- i. one might be static
- ii. another might allow filtering and sorting
- 1. provides additional functionality
- iii. But EML allows Only ONE URL element under online
- 1. might be able to do in distribution
 - 2. multiple for each datatable subtree?
 - 3. one URL per data table
- iv. If could use multiple distribution nodes with multiple tags... that would be new practice
- 1. have to be in different places
 - 2. could have multiple physical trees each with its own distribution
- v. Great topic for Best Practices user group...
- i. Citations
- i. specific citations for each dataset, accession codes etc. doesn't fit citation mode here
 - ii. Lots of ways of citing datasets - have in metacat...
 - iii. need to make use of revision number

- iv. can insert into email if one already exists
 - v. is a generalized data citation in data access policy. . . .
 - vi. also opportunity to do DOIs
 - 1. does metacat support LSID?
 - 2. but they may be losing support. . . .
4. Next steps
- a. keep beta static for 3-4 months
 - b. reevaluate in July
 - c. can start working with other sites immediately, but don't want TOO many right now
 - i. want 1:1 relationship
- d. Critical EML elements?
- i. Responsible parties
 - ii. under physical subtree
 - 1. want object name
 - 2. also entity name
 - 3. need multiple physical trees to have multiple object names
 - iii. also look at documents posted on server
5. Duane's feedback
- a. Exciting project
 - b. network-wide impact
 - c. use of EML!
6. Thanks
- a. send suggestions to Mark and Duane
 - b. trying out DimDim
 - c. Thanks to Mark by Group
 - Virtual Updates [1]

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