Time Domain Interest Group Breakout Session

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Topics

- Review of current/proposed TDIG documentation
  - VOEvent Transport Protocol
  - VOEventContainer
  - VOEvent Registry Extension
  - SimpleTimeSeries

- Blue Skies discussion
  - "Heavyweight" events
  - "Lightweight" serialization
  - Security

VOEvent Transport Protocol

- Overview of protocol; see my talk yesterday

- The aim here is to clarify and clean up an existing IVOA note by Denny & Allan

- The protocol is intentionally "lowest common denominator": some projects will have special requirements, and we do not attempt to meet them all here.

  - Bulk transport particularly an issue for LSST, maybe others

- Current draft at http://tinyurl.com/20130513vtp.

- Aim for submission as an IVOA standard within months.

VOEventContainer

- Proposal by Mike Fitzpatrick for a structure which bundles multiple events together with supporting data (images, etc).

- This addresses bulk transport use cases & bundling "heavyweight" data like cut-out images with the events.

- Agreement that a container of some kind is needed/useful. Technical discussion of implementation to be continued on TDIG mailing list.

VOEvent Registry Extension

- Summary of current situation by Matthew Graham

- Adding VOEvent servers/streams/etc to the IVOA "yellow pages"

- Some minor issues remain to be addressed with current draft: Matthew will start a discussion on the TDIG mailing list.

- Aiming for submission to standardization process within months.

SimpleTimeSeries

- Summary by Matthew Graham

- The comprehensive IVOA time series data model is slow to materialize

- Proposal to adopt the dotastro.org SimpleTimeSeries as an IVOA note giving it "official" VO sanction

- Matthew will raise any remaining issues on TDIG mailing list

Security

- By which we mean authentication of events: are you sure this event is really from LSST (or wherever)?

- Agreed that authentication of subscribers is not a major issue for now.

- Consensus that adding the facility to cryptographically sign events would address most practical use cases: regard eg transport layer security as an internal matter for projects.

- Signing XML is awkward: the two existing proposals are workable but complicated. Which brings us to…

Alternative serializations

- XML is not universally popular

- Various groups have requested eg JSON representations of events as an alternative

  - Note this is not a formal request from LSST!

- An "intrinsically canonical" format would solve a lot of the complexity around event signatures and security

- I will raise this on the TDIG mailing list