Snooze via IMAP

hide this email until later

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2022-07

Message Snooze

rationale

- Snooze allows a message to be filed away for a preset period of time so that its presence in a message list will not distract the user.
- Messages can still be found and unsnoozed or re-snoozed.
- Messages are "awakened" by the server and put back in place.
- A newly-awakened message can be distinguished from a newly-delivered one.

Message Snooze

protocol interface

- UID SNOOZE uid until-time [(add-flags) [(remove -flags)]]
  - if currently selected mailbox is not \Snoozed mailbox
    - message is MOVE-d to the mailbox with the special use \Snoozed
    - the message's AWAKEN-TO data item is set to the currently selected mailboxid
    - the message's AWAKEN-FLAGS data item is set
    - the message's AWAKEN-AT data item is set
  - if currently selected mailbox is \Snoozed mailbox
    - the message's AWAKEN-FLAGS data item is updated
    - the message's AWAKEN-AT data item is updated

Message Snooze

protocol interface

- at AWAKEN-AT, the server:
  - moves the message to its AWAKEN-TO origin
  - if the AWAKEN-TO mailbox no longer exists, move to INBOX
  - updates the message flags as per AWAKEN-FLAGS

Message Snooze

protocol interface

- UID SNOOZE uid until-time
    - message is MOVE-d back to AWAKEN-TO mailbox
    - AWAKEN-AT is cleared
    - AWAKEN-FLAGS are cleared
        - (this one might be controversial! 😉)

Message Snooze

the \Snoozed mailbox

- the user may not move or append messages to this mailbox
- the user may not MOVE mail out of this mailbox
- the mailbox is created as needed (when SNOOZE occurs and \Snooze does not exist)

Message Snooze

for greater success

- Fastmail's existing implementation uses $new flag to indicate an awoken message that has not yet been re-seen.
- The SAVEDATE extension is convenient to determine when a message with $new was awoken.

Message Snooze

see also

- Sieve Email Filtering: Snooze Extension
  - draft-ietf-extra-sieve-snooze

IMAP Mailboxes as Labels

show me all this email's mailboxes

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2022-07

Labels: Get a Message's Labels

fetching mailbox list

- the server must implement RFC 8474, OBJECTID capability
- a new data item, MAILBOXIDS is added to messages
- MAILBOXIDS is a list of the mailbox ids of mailboxes in which this message appears
- MAILBOXIDS is read only, and is updated with COPY, MOVE, DELETE, &c.

Labels: Get a Message's Labels

fetching mailbox list

- complication: modseq when MAILBOXIDs change; example:
    - email E1 is in mailbox M1 as uid U1; in mailbox M2 as U2
    - both U1 and U2 have been cached along with the MAILBOXIDS data item
    - while M2 is selected, U2 is deleted and expunged
    - **this should change the MODSEQ of U1**

Labels: Set a Message's Labels

- nothing to it: DELETE (and expunge) from mailbox to remove label
- COPY to mailbox to add label
  - (we want COPY-IF-NOT-PRESENT)

Labels: Mailbox Color

- we define a metadata name for color, /shared/color
- color must be a css3 color name or #rrggbb color code
- a LIST extension is adopted for fetching metadata in LIST
- when bootstrapping a new client:
  - LIST, fetching color and mailboxid
  - SELECT INBOX, fetch mail with MAILBOXES
  - labels can be drawn