IMAP4 Response Code for

Command Progress Notifications

- IMAP search on very large folders and copy/move
- Users can be confused by lack of responses
- Clients often timeout if the server is silent for too long

IMAP4 Response Code for

Command Progress Notifications

- No formal way for clients to infer the server progress and communicate it to the user
- Proposal: a new Response Code to convey progress updates

IMAP4 Response Code for

Command Progress Notifications

`[INPROGRESS ("<CMDTAG>" <DONE> <GOAL>)]`

- `CMDTAG`: cmd-tag of the command sending updates
- `DONE`: the number of items (messages) processed so far
- `GOAL`: the total amount of items

IMAP4 Response Code for

Command Progress Notifications

Providing the raw count/goal enables the client to:

- Present the progress as percentage
- Consolidate progresses along multiple commands executing in parallel
- Project an ETA, or a rate of progress,
  based on the time the updates were received and the counts

IMAP4 Response Code for

Command Progress Notifications

Known Issues

- Cmd-tags containing ']' cannot be represented cleanly

Notes

- GOAL can be omitted if unknown, or expensive to compute beforehand
  In this client the client loses the ability to derive a completion ratio,
  but it can still infer progress rates.

5/5 - Marco Bettini, the Dovecot team, Open-XChange