Synchronization Operations for Disconnected IMAP4 Clients

rfc4549-bis

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Background

• RFC 4549 published in June 2006

• Number of typical messages in a mailbox has increased

  • It is common to have INBOXes, from which no mail is ever deleted or moved to an Archive

  • Most users don’t access messages beyond last week, unless doing searches for old discussions

  • Many clients can’t display more than 10,000 messages. So for a 100,000 message mailbox, no point in fetching anything about the first 90,000 messages
FETCH 1:* (FLAGS) is considered harmful

- Use smaller range, if information about some messages is going to be discarded anyway

- Also use CONDSTORE/QRESYNC extensions when available
Next steps

• Review the current RFC, more things might be out of date
  • Might want to do IMAP4rev1 and IMAP4rev2 variants?
• Write a draft