Stringprep Revision Problem Statement

draft-blanchet-precis-problem-statement-00

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Rationale for the document

- Establish the rationale for the revision of stringprep
- List how current stringprep profiles are done
- Compare with new IDNAbis algorithm
- Identify possible ways to revise stringprep.
Introduction Section

- Gives the context of why stringprep
- Lists the stringprep profiles
- Tells that idna (therefore nameprep, one of the stringprep profiles) was revised to use a new algorithm for idnabis.
Usage and Issues of Stringprep

- In essence, tries to capture what was presented during newprep Anaheim BOF, such as:
  - Lists how stringprep profiles are defined and used
  - Lists current shortcomings of stringprep and requirements for new revision:
    - Bound to Unicode 3.2
    - Want to be independent of Unicode version: Unicode agile
    - Need better Bidirectional support
    - If revised, backward compatibility is high priority
    - Same identifiers are passed in different protocols, so need to be consistent across multiple profiles.
Usage and Issues of Stringprep

- Noted that stringprep profiles are using NFKC and IDNAbis is using NFC
- Stringprep profiles usage are for different kind of strings: usernames, identifiers, etc.

Considerations for Stringprep replacement

- Directions are proposed:
  - Stringprep replacement should be designed
  - Similar approach to IDNAbis, enabling Unicode agility
  - Stringprep profile protocols have similar uses of strings. Possible small set of string classes can be defined.
Conclusion and Next Steps

• Aim to describe the Precis problem statement
• A lot of content based on newprep Anaheim BOF presentations and discussions
• Proposes directions for new revision

• Proposed next steps in no specific order:
  • Find a co-editor
  • Augment the content
  • Adopt as Precis Working Group document
Questions?

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