Scicat – Proposal / beamtime

The problem

The problem is that SciCat frontend assumes that information in an instance of the ProposalClass describes a proposal. For example, the SciCat proposalID field (in ProposalClass and Dataset) is shown to the user as the Proposal ID in SciCat front-end; however, the DESY SciCat instance, this proposalId field contains the DESY beamtime ID. This confuses users.

In addition, we may wish to store proposal-related information. Already, we need to store the DESY proposal ID and we may wish to store other metadata in the future (title, abstract, etc). The current solution is to store the DESY proposal ID in the Dataset scientificMetadata, but this has the disadvantage of being non-standard and denormalising the data (i.e., store the same information multiple times).

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Propositions

0. Current workaround

- beamtimeId==Scicat_ProposalId

- DOOR_Proposal_Id in Scientific Metadata

1. Change Label in FE

- Make FE labels configurable

- Use appropriate label for beamtime, beamline etc.

2. Update SciCat data model

- Update MeasurementPeriodClass

- Add ID, references to datasets, additional metadata like ownershop

3. Update Proposal Class

- Add optional proposal.type: string

- Add optional proposal.relationship: dict

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Solutions proposed by Max Novelli / Scicat project

0. Keep current workaround with modifications

- Use Scicat proposal Id == door_proposal_id.door_beamtime_id

- Add door_proposal_id,door_beamtime_id to each dataset

- **No additional resources or implementations needed**
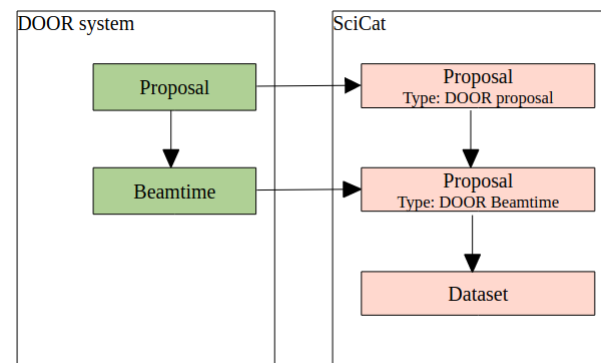
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Solutions proposed by Max Novelli / Scicat project

3. Update Proposal Class – LONG TERM

✖ Type (string): type of proposal

✖ Relationships (list of relationships): relation to other proposals (e.g. parent)

✖ Properties (object): unconstrained list of user defined properties.

Implementation Plan

- Implement solution 1

- Get SciCat into production at DESY.

- allocate the required resources to help the SciCat collaboration in implementing the features included in solution 2 and work to release them officially in SciCat BE v4.

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Solutions proposed by Max Novelli / Scicat project

1. Configurable frontend labels – VERY LONG TERM

- ✗ Is on the agenda and makes sense (e.g. localization)

Implementation Plan

- Create github issue

- Wait for current release is completed

- Seek for resources

- Plan, design, implement

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Summary

- Use door_proposal_id.door_beamtime_id for the time being

- Get someone to do the work to update proposal class

- Wait for update of the "language" model, be very patient

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- DESY issues will remain weak without SciCat in production