Discoverability of SPARQL Endpoints in Linked Open Data

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“To make the data be effectively linked, someone who only has the URI of something must be able to find their way to the SPARQL endpoint.”


/.well-known/void strategy: [2]
- Try to retrieve a VoID description from http://foo.bar/.well-known/void

Link-to-void strategy: [2,3]
- Look for triples like
  foo:bar void:inDataset ?d . or
  foo:bar prv:containedBy ?d .

Repository strategy: [4]
- Look up URI host in datahub repository

Evaluation:
- performed on 10,000 random URIs from Billion Triple Challenge dataset
- two steps: retrieve endpoint and validate with ASK statement

Results:
- VoID and provenance are not widely adopted
- /.well-known/void is barely used at all
- only datahub repository provides reasonable recall

Further Findings:
- /.well-known/void is not used according to standards (possible reason: missing root rights)
- Moving datasets is tricky (all redirects in VoID descriptions need to be updated as well)

Prototype:
- Web service for resolving URIs to SPARQL endpoints:
  http://tinyurl.com/sparqlsenf