YANG Conformance Issues

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Agenda

- Issues with NETCONF advertisement of YANG modules
- Possible Solutions

Issue 1: Multiple Purposes

- Set of module capabilities from server used to uniquely identify the set of YANG modules used by the server (all main modules + all imports)
- Set of module capabilities from server used to identify the set of "base" conformance levels implemented by the server
 - Just importing a module should not imply conformance to the base level!

Issue 2: Not all imports are equal

- Importing a module to reuse its top-level metadata should be separate from importing its objects or top-level groupings
 - typedef
 - identity
 - extension
 - feature (for if-feature-stmt)

Issue 3: Not all augments equal

- What does it mean wrt/ conformance to "implement" a non-presence container?
 - Augmenting an NP-container should not carry any conformance requirements from siblings of the augmenting node
- The augmenting module may only require a subset of the base to provide a complete API
 - Server wants to claim conformance to the augmenting module, not the complete base implied by conformance to the augmented module

Issue 4: Need to support < base

- Even if a server does not fully support a module it needs to be advertised to complete the module set
 - module deviations are not widely used, and this may be too complicated in some cases

A1: Just Don't Advertise Imports

- If the module set advertised by the server is incomplete, the client only has a module name, and perhaps a revision date to find an import.
 - The only globally unique string is the module namespace, which is only present in the capability URI
 - Import-by-revision not widely used so revision likely unknown without module capability URI

A2: Just use NETCONF Monitoring

- The /netconf-state/schemas/schema list has this information
 - The client should be able to identify the content supported before using it
 - This module is optional-to-implement so the client cannot rely on it
 - Retrieval of the schema list could be fully or partially blocked due to access control
 - Not sure if this is a feature or a bug

A3: Extend the Module URI

- Add a new boolean parameter to the YANG module capability URI
 - conform=true|false
 - type : boolean (default true)
 - If 'true' then the server is claiming conformance to the module (per RFC 6020 rules)
 - If 'fase' the server is not claiming any conformance to the module (features and deviations are not expected in the URI)
- Backward compatibility is an issue, but...
 - server consistency and accuracy are important