HTTP Status Code 451 for Legally Withheld Content: Hackathon Overview and Human Rights Considerations



Outline

451

- Last weekend's hackathon overview
 - Awarded Best New Work
- Introduction to HTTP 451 status code
- Hackathon implementations
- Implementation Report Draft
- HRC RFC7725 Draft
- Future Plans
- Discussion

Hackathon overview

Team

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Brief introduction to HTTP 451

HTTP 451



- Access to resource denied because of legal demand
- Blocking server might not be origin server
- Response should include details of legal demand

Purpose



- Making Internet censorship more transparent
- Reporting and tracking censorship easier
- Previously used status code 403 was not applicable

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к запрашиваемому ресурсу ограничен по решению органов государственной власти.												
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Дрступ огранячен по решению суда или по иным основаниям, установленным законодательство Российской Федерации.												
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Hackathon implementations

Implementations



Block Crawler

- Node-based asynchronous recursing web crawler
- Recognizes 451 status and metadata, reports to collector

• WordPress Plugin

- Plugin for WordPress CMS
- Allows a site operator to block content using 451 for specific countries & context

Block Collector

- Reporting endpoint
- Accepts 451 status reports from crawlers, browser plugin, and wp-plugin

Browser Extension

- Chrome extension (portable)
- Recognizes 451 status, displays info, report to collector

• Alternative Crawler

- Python desktop app
- Records status, 451 or otherwise

Screenshot: Block Crawler



\$ node index.js ---mode reddit http://redditlist.com/nsfw

{"date":"2017-07-16T11:45:41.273Z","creator":"block-crawler","version":"0.1","u
rl":"<u>http://reddit.com/r/twinks</u>","status":451,"statusText":"Unavailable For
Legal Reasons","blockedBy":{"rel":"blocked-by","url":"<u>https://reddit.com</u>"}}

{"date":"2017-07-16T11:45:56.535Z","creator":"block-crawler","version":"0.1","u
rl":"<u>http://reddit.com/r/gaypornhunters</u>","status":451,"statusText":"Unavailable
For Legal
Reasons","blockedBy":{"rel":"blocked-by","url":"<u>https://reddit.com</u>"}}

{"date":"2017-07-16T11:46:25.706Z","creator":"block-crawler","version":"0.1","u
rl":"<u>http://reddit.com/r/gayporn</u>","status":451,"statusText":"Unavailable For
Legal Reasons","blockedBy":{"rel":"blocked-by","url":"<u>https://reddit.com</u>"}}

Screenshot: WordPress plugin

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Configure blocking / Error 451

✓ If you have to enable blocking of this content, please check the box.

Add comma-separated list of country codes where this page shall be blocked. When left empty, the content shall be blocked from all locations.

AU, DE, FR, CZ, US

Please specify the URL of the authority has requested the block.

http://example.com

You may optionally specify a description so that visitors know why the page is blocked. This is blocked because we are the gov

Settings Error Code 451

Reporting Settings

If you wish to report censorship instances to a public collector please add the URL here.

Example: https://registry.wirecdn.com/report

Enabling this will send the following information to the collector:

- Site Home URL

- Date and time
- Blocked URL
- Description of blocking (If provided)
- URL of Authority requesting the blocking (If provided)
- List of Countries where Content is Blocked

Reporting URL

https://registry.wirecdn.com/report

Enable client side verification. (Allow users to self-report ves over-censorship.)

Save Changes

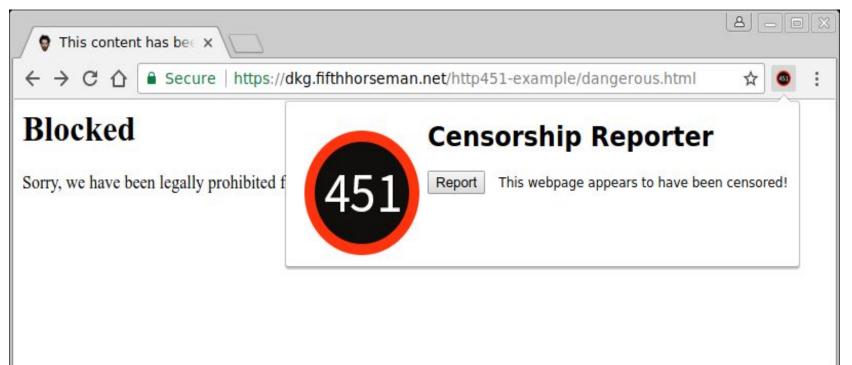
Screenshot: Block Collector



2017-07-16T11:08:09.169Z	Q		Report ID
	O http://reddit.com/r/gayporn	[object Object]	clW95tn6AkElad5Y 🕑
a 2017-07-16T11:07:38.598Z	Http://reddit.com/r/gaypornhunters	[object Object]	WknrP52HbXMghfyM 🕑
2017-07-16T11:07:23.781Z	O http://reddit.com/r/twinks	[object Object]	u117w5QcXomvjRbM 🖸
2017-07-16T11:02:38.491Z	http://httpstat.us/451	undefined	p03lkKcldqQm0hyD 🕑
🖬 2017-07-16T11:02:32.387Z	Ittp://httpstat.us/451	undefined	zbaC8zOiqLx7Erz3 🕑
2017-07-16T11:02:26.401Z	Http://httpstat.us/451	undefined	RxkPYO70NHgo6Brw
2017-07-16T08:21:12.419Z	O https://dkg.fifthhorseman.net/http451-example/dangerous.html	undefined	eNMPe5GaDqyj83f6 🕑
2017-07-16T08:20:14.239Z	Https://dkg.fifthhorseman.net/http451-example/dangerous.html	undefined	AqlW12yGs7TTxIUW 🕑
Sites impleme	-	Papart ID	
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Date URI	Blocked in	Report ID	
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Date URI	Blocked in	Report ID	
Sites impleme	nting 451		

Screenshot: Browser Plugin





Screenshot: Alternative Crawler



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2017-07-16 07:33:17 [451] DEBUG: Got link: https://www.reddit.com/r/ea2k cbb/comments/60752w/future ncaacollege hoops games/?ref=readnext 2017-07-16 07:33:17 [451] DEBUG: Got link: https://www.reddit.com/r/ea2k cbb/comments/5zfh5x/college hoops 2k7 rosters/?ref=readnext 2017-07-16 07:33:17 [451] DEBUG: Got link: https://www.reddit.com/r/ea2k cbb/comments/5yvftg/i_glitched_the_game_today/?ref=readnext 2017-07-16 07:33:17 [451] DEBUG: Got link: https://www.reddit.com/r/ea2k cbb/comments/5visen/open menu dadada dun dun/?ref=readnext 2017-07-16 07:33:17 [451] DEBUG: Got link: https://www.reddit.com/r/ea2k cbb/comments/5v972p/occasionally i like to play an open legacy where/?re f=readnext 2017-07-16 07:33:17 [451] DEBUG: Got link: https://www.reddit.com/user/j oetunnev03 2017-07-16 07:33:17 [451] DEBUG: Got link: https://www.reddit.com/r/ea2k cbb/comments/5plb47/ncaa 10 or 2k8/?sort=top

Implementation Report Draft

Implementation Report



- Stakeholders concerned with HTTP status code 451
- Current usage
- Potential impact
- Useful features of a reporting mechanism
- Current features of 451 and suggestions
- Case studies of blocking frameworks in different countries
 - Russia, Chile, India, Iran, USA

HRC RFC 7725 Draft

Human rights considerations for protocols

Connectivity Visibility in a browser Privacy **Content Agnosticism** Security Internationalization Censorship Resistance **Open Standards** Heterogeneity Support Anonymity Accessibility Localization Reliability Confidentiality Integrity Authenticity Adaptability Outcome transparency



Biggest HRC concerns



- Privacy?
- Anonymity?
- Censorship resistance?
- Security?
- Reliability?

Future Plans

Future Plans



- Submit implementation report draft
- Findings
- RFC7725bis
 - HRC component

Links



- Implementation Report draft
 - https://www.ietf.org/archive/id/draft-451-imp-report-00.txt
- HRC RFC 7725 draft
 - https://www.ietf.org/archive/id/draft-manyfolks-hrcrfc7725-00.txt
- GitHub repository for hackathon
 - https://github.com/451hackathon/
- Live demonstration and dashboard
 - https://netblocks.org/dashboard/

Discussion