xAPI Profiles in the DoD: The Mix of the Ideal and Reality

Jonathan Poltrack
Veracity Technology Consultants, LLC
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The Mix of the Ideal and Reality
Presenters

Jonathan Poltrack
Co-Founder & Project Manager/Technical
Veracity Technology Consultants, LLC
jono@veracity.it

Shawn Miller
xAPI/ Adaptive Learning Program Manager
User Experience Directorate
Defense Acquisition University (DAU)
shawn.miller@dau.edu
And... DONE!
OK. So, it’s not so easy.

Your environment probably looks more like…
Need to Think About…

Blank Slate

Existing Environment
What does this have to do with xAPI Profiles?
Analytics - Top Down

Tracing learners’ activities inside packages

- Time on task within and across asset sub-components
- Patterns of choice for branching options

Activity across platforms

- Typical consumer pattern
- Who are returning consumers, how many, and what is their profile?
- Predictions on users to intervene early
Analytics - Bottom Up

The Environment

- Have LRPs using different account homePages
- Not tracking timestamp
- Products using non-standard (even incorrect) verbs

Finding the lowest common denominator

- What if there isn’t one?
Just update everything so it works! Easy!
Just update everything so it works! Easy!

Not always easy. Not always possible.
Meeting in the Middle

Some DAU-Specific Examples
Misaligned Actors

```json
{
    "name": "Bob Doe",
    "objectType": "Agent",
    "account": {
        "name": "012345678910",
        "homePage": "https://id.dau.edu"
    }
}

{
    "name": "Bob Doe",
    "objectType": "Agent",
    "account": {
        "name": "012345678910",
        "homePage": "https://proprietarylms.dau.edu"
    }
}
```
Proprietary LMS

Sort-of an LRS

Other Stuff

LRS

More Stuff

Dashboards
Lots of Verbs

"verb" : {
  "id": "http://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/completed",
  "display": {
    "en-US": "completed"
  }
}

"verb" : {
  "id": "https://adlnet.gov/expapi/verbs/terminated",
  "display": {
    "en-US": "terminated"
  }
}

... 

"result" : {
  "completion": true
}
}
And those are the easy ones

For example:

- Sending data to two endpoints (hard coded and launched credentials) with some duplicate data, but different actors
- No context for organization or usability
- Limited verbs accepted/allowed
- Different users account IDs and anonymized data
- Different semantics, same verb
- Missing events and statements from some, but not all, LRPs
- Existing, non-xAPI-enabled content (and lots of it)
- Cohesive user experience even though “stuff is everywhere”
- Building meaning into IRIs
- etc.
And those are the easy ones

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- Existing, non-xAPI-enabled content (and lots of it)
- Cohesive user experience even though “stuff is everywhere”
- Building meaning into IRIs (Please don’t do this! Makes dealing with big data hard!)
- etc.
Don’t get stuck!

- The 85% “good enough” solution can be very useful and is a good starting point.
- Striving for perfection, can get you nowhere quickly.
- Plan ahead
  - Data strategy and profiles
  - Analysis of existing components
- … and meet in the middle
Questions