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Stream: Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)  
RFC: [9661](#)  
Category: Standards Track  
Published: August 2024  
ISSN: 2070-1721  
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# RFC 9661

## The JSON Meta Application Protocol (JMAP) for Sieve Scripts

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### Abstract

This document specifies a data model for managing Sieve scripts on a server using the JSON Meta Application Protocol (JMAP). Clients can use this protocol to efficiently search, access, organize, and validate Sieve scripts.

### Status of This Memo

This is an Internet Standards Track document.

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## 1. Introduction

The [JSON Meta Application Protocol \(JMAP\)](#) [RFC8620] is a generic protocol for synchronizing data, such as mail, calendars, or contacts, between a client and a server. It is optimized for mobile and web environments, and it aims to provide a consistent interface to different data types.

This specification defines a data model for managing [Sieve scripts](#) [RFC5228] on a server using JMAP. The data model is designed to allow a server to provide consistent access to the same scripts via [ManageSieve](#) [RFC5804] as well as JMAP.

### 1.1. Notational Conventions

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in BCP 14 [RFC2119] [RFC8174] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

Type signatures, examples, and property descriptions in this document follow the conventions established in [Section 1.1](#) of [RFC8620]. This document also uses data types and terminology established in [Sections 1.2 through 1.6](#) of [RFC8620].

The term "SieveScript" (with this specific capitalization) is used to refer to the data type defined in this document and instances of the data types defined in [RFC8620]. Servers **MUST** support all properties specified for the data type defined in this document.

For brevity, JMAP API examples (see [Section 3](#) of [RFC8620]) only show the "methodCalls" property of the Request object and the "methodResponses" property of the Response object. All other examples are shown using the [HTTP/1.1 protocol](#) [RFC9112].

### 1.2. Addition to the Capabilities Object

The capabilities object is returned as part of the JMAP Session object; see [RFC8620], [Section 2](#). This document defines one additional capability URI.

#### 1.2.1. urn:ietf:params:jmap:sieve

The urn:ietf:params:jmap:sieve URI represents support for the SieveScript data type and associated API methods. The value of this property in the JMAP Session capabilities property is an object that **MUST** contain the following information on server capabilities:

**implementation:** String

The name and version of the Sieve implementation.

The value of this property in an account's `accountCapabilities` property is an object that **MUST** contain the following information on per-account server capabilities:

**maxSizeScriptName:** `UnsignedInt`

The maximum length, in octets, allowed for the name of a SieveScript. For compatibility with ManageSieve, this **MUST** be at least 512 (up to 128 Unicode characters).

**maxSizeScript:** `UnsignedInt|null`

The maximum size (in octets) of a Sieve script the server is willing to store for the user, or `null` for no limit.

**maxNumberScripts:** `UnsignedInt|null`

The maximum number of Sieve scripts the server is willing to store for the user, or `null` for no limit.

**maxNumberRedirects:** `UnsignedInt|null`

The maximum number of Sieve "redirect" actions a script can perform during a single evaluation, or `null` for no limit. Note that this is different from the total number of "redirect" actions a script can contain.

**sieveExtensions:** `String[]`

A list of case-sensitive Sieve capability strings (as listed in the Sieve "require" action; see [RFC5228](#), [Section 3.2](#)) indicating the extensions supported by the Sieve engine.

**notificationMethods:** `String[]|null`

A list of [URI schema parts](#) [RFC3986](#) for notification methods supported by the Sieve "enotify" extension [RFC5435](#), or `null` if the extension is not supported by the Sieve engine.

**externalLists:** `String[]|null`

A list of [URI schema parts](#) [RFC3986](#) for externally stored list types supported by the Sieve "extlists" extension [RFC6134](#), or `null` if the extension is not supported by the Sieve engine.

### 1.2.2. Example

This example JMAP Session object shows a user that has access to their own Sieve scripts with support for a few Sieve extensions:

```
{
  "capabilities": {
    "urn:ietf:params:jmap:core": {
      ...
    },
    "urn:ietf:params:jmap:mail": {},
    "urn:ietf:params:jmap:quota": {},
    "urn:ietf:params:jmap:blob": {},
    "urn:ietf:params:jmap:sieve": {
      "implementation": "ACME Email Filtering"
    },
    "urn:ietf:params:jmap:vacationresponse": {},
    ...
  },
  "accounts": {
    "ken": {
      "name": "ken@example.com",
      "isPersonal": true,
      "isReadOnly": false,
      "accountCapabilities": {
        "urn:ietf:params:jmap:core": {},
        "urn:ietf:params:jmap:quota": {},
        "urn:ietf:params:jmap:mail": {
          ...
        },
        "urn:ietf:params:jmap:blob": {
          "supportedTypeNames": [
            "Email",
            "SieveScript",
            ...
          ],
          ...
        },
        "urn:ietf:params:jmap:sieve": {
          "maxSizeScriptName": 512,
          "maxSizeScript": 65536,
          "maxNumberScripts": 5,
          "maxNumberRedirects": null,
          "sieveExtensions": [
            "fileinto",
            "imap4flags",
            "enotify",
            ...
          ],
          "notificationMethods": [
            "mailto"
          ],
          "externalLists": null,
        },
        "urn:ietf:params:jmap:vacationresponse": {},
        ...
      },
      ...
    },
    ...
  },
  "primaryAccounts": {
    "urn:ietf:params:jmap:mail": "ken",
  }
}
```

```
    "urn:ietf:params:jmap:sieve": "ken",
    "urn:ietf:params:jmap:vacationresponse": "ken",
    ...
  },
  "username": "ken@example.com",
  "apiUrl": "/jmap/",
  "downloadUrl":
    "/jmap/download/{accountId}/{blobId}/{name}?accept={type}",
  "uploadUrl": "/jmap/upload/{accountId}/",
  ...
}
```

## 2. Sieve Scripts

A **SieveScript** object represents a single [Sieve script \[RFC5228\]](#) for filtering email messages at the time of final delivery.

### 2.1. Sieve Script Properties

A **SieveScript** object has the following properties:

**id:** Id (immutable; server-set)

The id of the script.

**name:** String|null (optional; default is server dependent)

User-visible name for the SieveScript. If non-null, this **MUST** be a [Net-Unicode string \[RFC5198\]](#) of at least 1 character in length, subject to the maximum size given in the capability object.

For compatibility with ManageSieve, servers **MUST** reject names that contain any of the following Unicode characters: U+0000-U+001F, U+007F-U+009F, U+2028, or U+2029.

Servers **MAY** reject names that violate server policy (e.g., names containing a slash (/)).

The name **MUST** be unique among all SieveScripts within an account.

**blobId:** Id

The id of the blob containing the raw octets of the script.

**isActive:** Boolean (server-set; default: false)

Indicator that the SieveScript is actively filtering incoming messages.

A user may have at most one active script. The [SieveScript/set method \(Section 2.4\)](#) is used for changing the active script or disabling Sieve processing.

## 2.2. Sieve Script Content

A script **MUST** be [UTF-8 content](#) [RFC3629] of at least 1 character in length, subject to the syntax of [Sieve](#) [RFC5228]. A script **MUST NOT** contain any "require" statement(s) mentioning Sieve capability strings not present in the [capability object](#) (Section 1.2.1). Note that if the Sieve "[ihave](#)" [capability string](#) [RFC5463] is present in the capability object, the script **MAY** mention unrecognized/unsupported extensions in the "ihave" test.

Script content is treated as a binary blob and uploaded/downloaded via the mechanisms provided in Sections 6.1 and 6.2 of [RFC8620], respectively, and/or via the JMAP Blob management methods provided in Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of [RFC9404], respectively.

Downloading script content via the JMAP `downloadUrl` or the `Blob/get` method provides functionality equivalent to that of the `GETSCRIPT` command defined in [RFC5804].

## 2.3. SieveScript/get

This is a standard `/get` method as described in [RFC8620], Section 5.1. The `ids` argument may be `null` to fetch all scripts at once.

This method provides functionality equivalent to that of the `LISTSCRIPTS` command defined in [RFC5804].



### 2.3.1. Examples

List all scripts:

```
[
  ["SieveScript/get", {
    "accountId": "ken"
  }, "0"]
]

[
  [
    "SieveScript/get",
    {
      "state": "1634915373.240633104-120",
      "list": [
        {
          "id": "2d647053-dded-418d-917a-63eda3ac8f7b",
          "name": "test1",
          "isActive": true,
          "blobId": "S7"
        }
      ],
      "notFound": [],
      "accountId": "ken"
    },
    "0"
  ]
]
```

Download the script content via the JMAP `downloadUrl` as advertised in the example in [Section 1.2.2](#):

```
GET /jmap/download/ken/S7/test1.siv?accept=application/sieve HTTP/1.1
Host: jmap.example.com
Authorization: Basic a2VuOnBhc3N3b3Jk

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Fri, 22 Oct 2021 15:27:38 GMT
Content-Type: application/sieve; charset=utf-8
Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="test1.siv"
Content-Length: 49

require ["fileinto"];
fileinto "INBOX.target";
```

Fetch script properties and content in a single JMAP API request using the [JMAP Blob management extension \[RFC9404\]](#):

```
[
  [ "SieveScript/get", {
    "accountId": "ken",
    "ids": [ "2d647053-dded-418d-917a-63eda3ac8f7b" ]
  }, "0" ],
  [ "Blob/get", {
    "accountId": "ken",
    "#ids": {
      "resultOf": "0",
      "name": "SieveScript/get",
      "path": "/list/*/blobId"
    }
  }, "1" ]
]

[
  [
    [ "SieveScript/get",
      {
        "state": "1634915373.240633104-120",
        "list": [
          {
            "id": "2d647053-dded-418d-917a-63eda3ac8f7b",
            "name": "test1",
            "isActive": true,
            "blobId": "S7"
          }
        ],
        "notFound": [],
        "accountId": "ken"
      },
      "0"
    ],
    [
      [ "Blob/get",
        {
          "list": [
            {
              "id": "S7",
              "data:asText":
                "require [\"fileinto\"];\\r\\nfileinto \"INBOX.target\";\\r\\n",
              "size": 49
            }
          ],
          "notFound": [],
          "accountId": "ken"
        },
        "1"
      ]
    ]
  ]
]
```

## 2.4. SieveScript/set

This is a standard "/set" method as described in [RFC8620], Section 5.3, but with the following additional optional request arguments:

### **onSuccessActivateScript:** Id

The id of the SieveScript to activate if and only if all of the creations, modifications, and destructions (if any) succeed. (For references to SieveScript creations, this is equivalent to a creation-reference, so the id will be the creation id prefixed with a "#".) The currently active SieveScript (if any) will be deactivated before activating the specified SieveScript.

If omitted, or if the id is either invalid or nonexistent, it **MUST** be ignored, and the currently active SieveScript (if any) will remain as such.

The id of any activated SieveScript **MUST** be reported in either the "created" or "updated" argument in the response as appropriate, including a value of "true" for the "isActive" property. The id of any deactivated SieveScript **MUST** be reported in the "updated" argument in the response, including a value of "false" for the "isActive" property.

### **onSuccessDeactivateScript:** Boolean

If true, the currently active SieveScript (if any) will be deactivated if and only if all of the creations, modifications, and destructions (if any) succeed. If false or omitted, the currently active SieveScript (if any) will remain as such.

The id of any deactivated SieveScript **MUST** be reported in the "updated" argument in the response, including a value of "false" for the "isActive" property.

If both the **onSuccessActivateScript** and **onSuccessDeactivateScript** arguments are present in the request, then **onSuccessDeactivateScript** **MUST** be processed first. If neither argument is present in the request, the currently active SieveScript (if any) will remain as such.

This method provides functionality equivalent to that of the PUTSCRIPT, DELETESCRIPT, RENAMESCRIPT, and SETACTIVE commands defined in [RFC5804].

Script content must first be uploaded as per Section 2.2 prior to referencing it in a SieveScript/set call.

If the SieveScript cannot be created or updated because it would result in two SieveScripts with the same name, the server **MUST** reject the request with an "alreadyExists" SetError. An "existingId" property of type "Id" **MUST** be included on the SetError object with the id of the existing SieveScript.

If the SieveScript cannot be created or updated because its size exceeds the "maxSizeScript" limit, the server **MUST** reject the request with a "tooLarge" SetError.

If the SieveScript cannot be created because it would exceed the "maxNumberScripts" limit or would exceed a server-imposed storage limit, the server **MUST** reject the request with an "overQuota" SetError.

The active SieveScript **MUST NOT** be destroyed unless it is first deactivated in a separate SieveScript/set method call.

The following extra SetError types are defined:

For "create" and "update":

**invalidSieve:** The SieveScript content violates the [Sieve grammar \[RFC5228\]](#), and/or one or more extensions mentioned in the script's "require" statement(s) are not supported by the Sieve interpreter. The *description* property on the SetError object **SHOULD** contain a specific error message giving at least the line number of the first error.

For "destroy":

**sieveIsActive:** The SieveScript is active.

#### 2.4.1. Examples

Upload a script requiring the Imap4Flags Extension [\[RFC5232\]](#) using the JMAP uploadUrl as advertised in the example in [Section 1.2.2](#):

```
POST /jmap/upload/ken/ HTTP/1.1
Host: jmap.example.com
Authorization: Basic a2VuOnBhc3N3b3Jk
Content-Type: application/sieve
Content-Length: 98

require "imapflags";

if address :is ["To", "Cc"] "jmap@ietf.org" {
  setflag "\\Flagged";
}

HTTP/1.1 201 Created
Date: Thu, 10 Dec 2020 17:14:31 GMT
Content-Type: application/json; charset=utf-8
Content-Length: 171

{
  "accountId": "ken",
  "blobId": "Gabcc83e44a6e19991c4568d0b94e1767c83dd123",
  "type": "application/sieve"
  "size": 98
}
```

Create and activate a script using the uploaded blob. Note that the response shows that an existing active script has been deactivated in lieu of the newly created script being activated.

```
[
  [ "SieveScript/set", {
    "accountId": "ken",
    "create": {
      "A": {
        "name": null,
        "blobId": "Gabcc83e44a6e19991c4568d0b94e1767c83dd123"
      }
    },
    "onSuccessActivateScript": "#A"
  }, "0" ]
]

[
  [
    [ "SieveScript/set",
      {
        "oldState": "1603741717.50737918-4096",
        "newState": "1603741751.227268529-4096",
        "created": {
          "A": {
            "id": "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54",
            "name": "ken-20201210T171432-0",
            "blobId": "Sdd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54",
            "isActive": true
          }
        }
      },
      "updated": {
        "8abd6f4a-bcb4d-87650-3fcd": {
          "isActive": false
        }
      },
      "destroyed": null,
      "notCreated": null,
      "notUpdated": null,
      "notDestroyed": null,
      "accountId": "ken"
    },
    "0"
  ]
]
```

Update the script content using the [JMAP Blob management extension \[RFC9404\]](#):

```

{
  [
    ["Blob/upload", {
      "accountId": "ken",
      "create": {
        "B": {
          "data": [ {
            "data:asText":
              "redirect \"ken@example.com\"\\r\\n;"
          } ],
          "type": "application/sieve"
        }
      }, "1"],
    ["SieveScript/set", {
      "accountId": "ken",
      "update": { "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54": {
        "blobId": "#B"
      }
    }, "2"]
  ]
  [
    [
      ["Blob/upload",
        {
          "oldState": null,
          "newState": "1603741700.309607123-0128",
          "created": {
            "B": {
              "id": "G969c83e44a6e10871c4568d0b94e1767c83ddeae",
              "blobId": "G969c83e44a6e10871c4568d0b94e1767c83ddeae",
              "type": "application/sieve",
              "size": 29
            }
          },
          "notCreated": null,
          "accountId": "ken"
        },
        "1"
      ],
      ["SieveScript/set",
        {
          "oldState": "1603741751.227268529-4096",
          "newState": "1603742603.309607868-4096",
          "created": null,
          "updated": {
            "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54": null
          },
          "destroyed": null,
          "notCreated": null,
          "notUpdated": null,
          "notDestroyed": null,
          "accountId": "ken"
        },
        "2"
      ]
    ]
  ]
}

```

```
    "2"  
  ]  
]
```

Update the script name, and deactivate it:

```
[  
  ["SieveScript/set", {  
    "accountId": "ken",  
    "update": { "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54": {  
      "name": "myscript"  
    }  
  },  
  "onSuccessDeactivateScript": true  
}, "3"]  
]  
  
[  
  [  
    "SieveScript/set",  
    {  
      "oldState": "1603742603.309607868-4096",  
      "newState": "1603742967.852315428-4096",  
      "created": null,  
      "updated": {  
        "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54": {  
          "isActive": false  
        }  
      },  
      "destroyed": null,  
      "notCreated": null,  
      "notUpdated": null,  
      "notDestroyed": null,  
      "accountId": "ken"  
    },  
    "3"  
  ]  
]
```



Reactivate the script:

```
[
  ["SieveScript/set", {
    "accountId": "ken",
    "onSuccessActivateScript": "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54"
  }, "4"]
]

[
  [
    "SieveScript/set",
    {
      "oldState": "1603742967.852315428-4096",
      "newState": "1603744460.316617118-4096",
      "created": null,
      "updated": {
        "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54": {
          "isActive": true
        }
      },
      "destroyed": null,
      "notCreated": null,
      "notUpdated": null,
      "notDestroyed": null,
      "accountId": "ken"
    },
    "4"
  ]
]
```

Deactivate and destroy the active script:

```
[
  [ "SieveScript/set", {
    "accountId": "ken",
    "onSuccessDeactivateScript": true
  }, "5"],
  [ "SieveScript/set", {
    "accountId": "ken",
    "destroy": [ "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54" ]
  }, "6" ]
]

[
  [
    [ "SieveScript/set",
      {
        "oldState": "1603744460.316617118-4096",
        "newState": "1603744637.575375572-4096",
        "created": null,
        "updated": {
          "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54": {
            "isActive": false
          }
        },
        "destroyed": null,
        "notCreated": null,
        "notUpdated": null,
        "notDestroyed": null,
        "accountId": "ken"
      },
      "5"
    ],
    [
      [ "SieveScript/set",
        {
          "oldState": "1603744637.575375572-4096",
          "newState": "1603744637.854390875-4096",
          "created": null,
          "updated": null,
          "destroyed": [
            "dd1b164f-8cdc-448c-9f54"
          ],
          "notCreated": null,
          "notUpdated": null,
          "notDestroyed": null,
          "accountId": "ken"
        },
        "6"
      ]
    ]
  ]
]
```

## 2.5. SieveScript/query

This is a standard `/query` method as described in [RFC8620], Section 5.5. A *FilterCondition* object has the following properties, either of which may be omitted:

**name:** String

The SieveScript `"name"` property contains the given string.

**isActive:** Boolean

The `"isActive"` property of the SieveScript must be identical to the value given to match the condition.

The following SieveScript properties **MUST** be supported for sorting:

- **name**
- **isActive**

## 2.6. SieveScript/validate

This method is used by the client to verify Sieve script validity without storing the script on the server.

The method takes the following arguments:

**accountId:** Id

The id of the account to use.

**blobId:** Id

The id of the blob containing the raw octets of the script to validate, subject to the same requirements in Section 2.

The response has the following arguments:

**accountId:** Id

The id of the account used for this call.

**error:** SetError|null

An `"invalidSieve"` SetError object if the script content is invalid (see Section 2.4), or null if the script content is valid.

This method provides functionality equivalent to that of the CHECKSCRIPT command defined in [RFC5804].

Script content must first be uploaded as per [Section 2.2](#) prior to referencing it in a SieveScript/validate call.

### 3. Quotas

Servers **SHOULD** impose quotas on Sieve scripts to prevent malicious users from exceeding available storage. Administration of such quotas is outside of the scope of this specification; however, [RFC9425] defines a data model for users to obtain quota details over JMAP.

The mechanism for handling SieveScript requests that would place a user over a quota setting is discussed in [Section 2.4](#).

### 4. Compatibility with JMAP Vacation Response

[Section 8](#) of [RFC8621] defines a VacationResponse object to represent an autoresponder to incoming email messages. Servers that implement the VacationResponse as a Sieve script that resides among other user scripts are subject to the following requirements:

- **MUST** allow the VacationResponse Sieve script to be fetched by the [SieveScript/get method](#) ([Section 2.3](#)).
- **MUST** allow the VacationResponse Sieve script to be activated or deactivated via the "onSuccessActivateScript" argument to the [SieveScript/set method](#) ([Section 2.4](#)).
- **MUST NOT** allow the VacationResponse Sieve script to be destroyed or have its content updated by the [SieveScript/set method](#) ([Section 2.4](#)). Any such request **MUST** be rejected with a "forbidden" SetError. A "description" property **MAY** be present with an explanation that the script can only be modified by a VacationResponse/set method.

### 5. Security Considerations

All security considerations discussed in [JMAP](#) [RFC8620] and [Sieve](#) [RFC5228] apply to this specification.

Additionally, implementations **MUST** treat Sieve script content as untrusted data. As such, script parsers **MUST** fail gracefully in the face of syntactically invalid or malicious content and **MUST** be prepared to deal with resource exhaustion (e.g., allocation of enormous strings, lists, or command blocks).

### 6. IANA Considerations

#### 6.1. JMAP Capability Registration for "sieve"

IANA has registered the "sieve" in the "JMAP Capabilities" registry as follows:

Capability Name: urn:ietf:params:jmap:sieve

Reference: RFC 9661

Intended Use: common

Change Controller: IETF

Security and Privacy Considerations: RFC 9661, [Section 5](#)

## 6.2. JMAP Data Type Registration for "SieveScript"

IANA has registered the "SieveScript" in the "JMAP Data Types" registry as follows:

Type Name: SieveScript

Can Reference Blobs: Yes

Can Use for State Change: Yes

Capability: urn:ietf:params:jmap:sieve

Reference: RFC 9661

## 6.3. JMAP Error Codes Registry

IANA has registered the following two new error codes in the "JMAP Error Codes" registry, as defined in [[RFC8620](#)].

### 6.3.1. invalidSieve

JMAP Error Code: invalidSieve

Intended Use: common

Change Controller: IETF

Reference: RFC 9661, [Section 2.4](#)

Description: The SieveScript violates the [Sieve grammar](#) [[RFC5228](#)], and/or one or more extensions mentioned in the script's "require" statement(s) are not supported by the Sieve interpreter.

### 6.3.2. sieveIsActive

JMAP Error Code: sieveIsActive

Intended Use: common

Change Controller: IETF

Reference: RFC 9661, [Section 2.4](#)

Description: The client tried to destroy the active SieveScript.

## 7. References

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## Acknowledgments

The concepts in this document are based largely on those in [RFC5804]. The author would like to thank the authors of that document for providing both inspiration and some borrowed text for this document.

The author would also like to thank the following individuals for contributing their ideas and support for writing this specification: Joris Baum, Mauro De Gennaro, Bron Gondwana, Neil Jenkins, Alexey Melnikov, and Ricardo Signes.

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