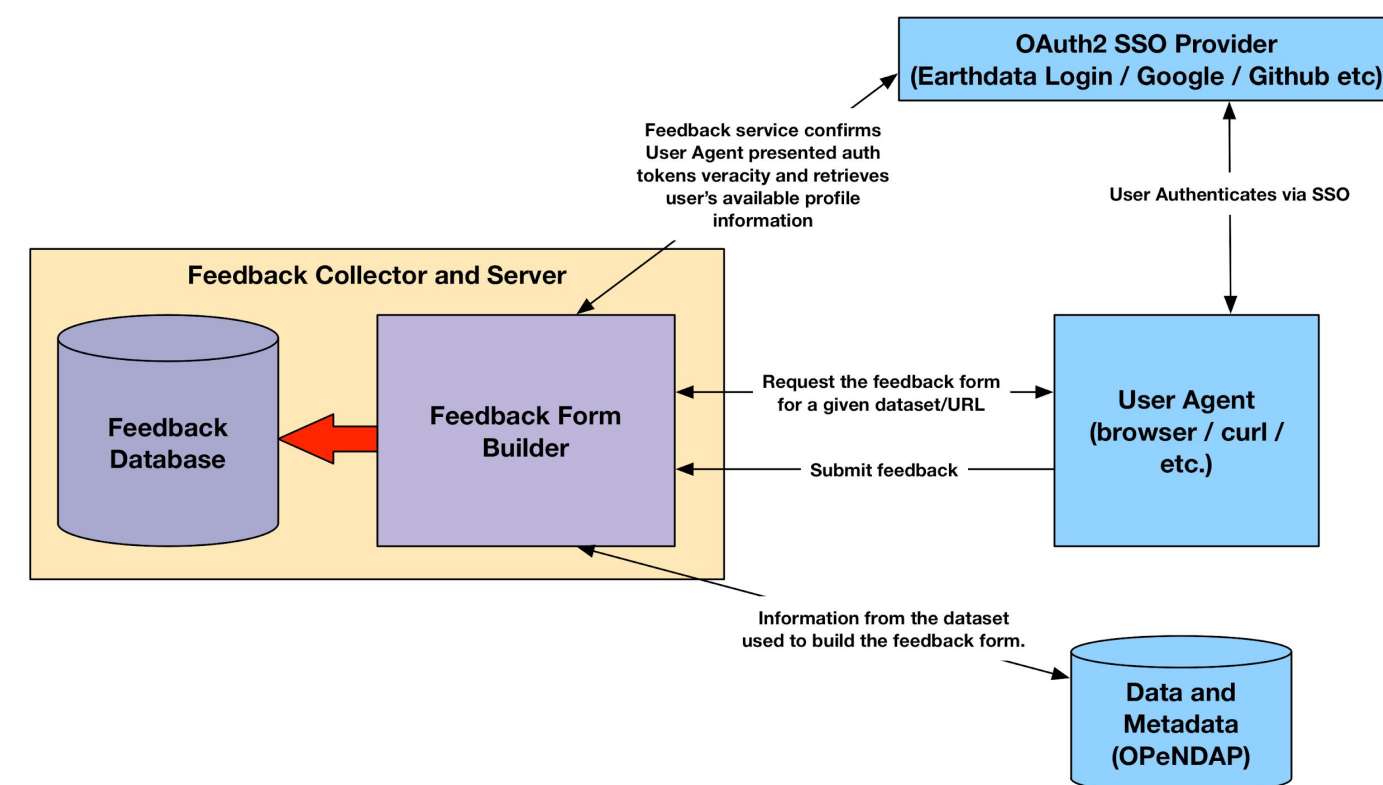# Data Use Feedback

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The Idea

OPeNDAP has developed a proof-of-concept system that people can use to provide feedback on scientific datasets. This system is coupled with OPeNDAP compatible data servers, although it has been implemented as a stand alone system and is neither dependent on any particular OPeNDAP server nor is the *concept* dependent on OPeNDAP itself. The system could be extended to work with data accessible using a variety of online access protocols so long as sufficient understandable metadata for the datasets is also available online.

The Data User Feedback interface is built using metadata from the dataset.

Data Server Modified To Support Feedback
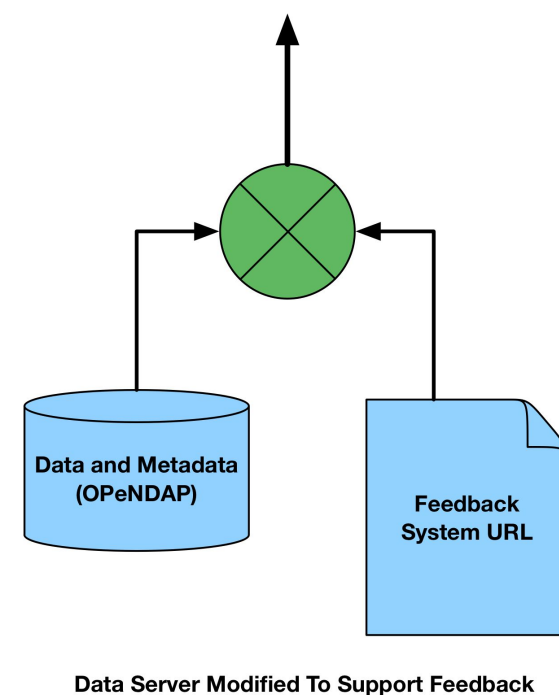
Data servers are modified to include the URL to the Feedback system.

An Interface

Welcome to the
ESIP Dataset User Feedback Service

dataset: **fnoc1.nc**

Submit Comment(s)

Dataset URL: http://test.opendap.org:80/opendap/data/nc/fnoc1.nc

Dataset Feedback: These data appear to contain an excellent example of a warm core ring; some of the metadata appear to be incorrect. **A**

Global Attributes
+ NC_GLOBAL
+ DODS_EXTRA

Variables
- u[time_a= 0 ..15] [lat= 0 ..16] [lon= 0 ..20] (Type is Int16) **B**
  + attributes
- v[time_a= 0 ..15] [lat= 0 ..16] [lon= 0 ..20] (Type is Int16)
  - attributes
    - **units:** meter per second — *This is not a CF compatible units expression* **C**
    - **long_name:** Vector wind northward component
    - **missing_value:** -32767
    - **scale_factor:** 0.005
    - **DODS_Name:** VWind
- lat[lat= 0 ..16] (Type is Float32) — *This variable is missing the CF standard_name field*
  - attributes
    - **units:** degree North — *This is not a CF compatible units expression*
- lon[lon= 0 ..20] (Type is Float32)
  + attributes
- time[time= 0 ..15] (Type is Float32)
  + attributes

DUF development sponsored by ESIP

DUF (0.1)
Documentation

The form provides a user interface with fields to comment on the entire dataset (**A**), individual variables (**B**) and also individual metadata attributes (**C**). In this way the feedback comments can be unambiguously associated with particular components of the dataset without requiring the user to do that work, allowing them to focus on expressing their thoughts.

The Feedback system can be incorporated into a number of user Interfaces.
- **Web interfaces bundled with data server can provide 'Feedback' buttons;**
- **Users can access the Feedback URL using Python, Matlab, ...; and**
- **Standalone software can be modified to work with the system.**

Future Work
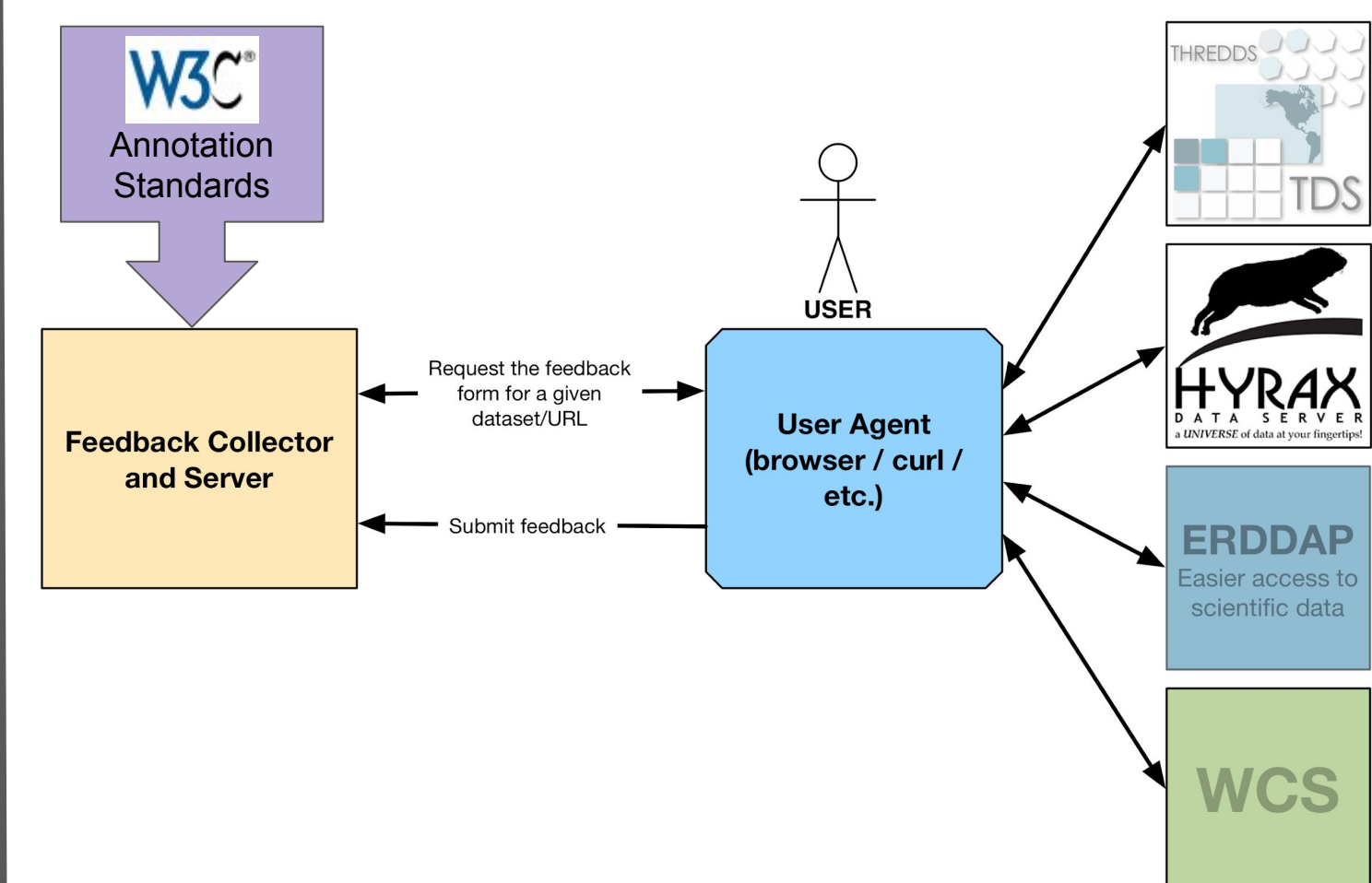
The Feedback system can be used by lots of different servers and can accommodate protocols besides OPeNDAP.
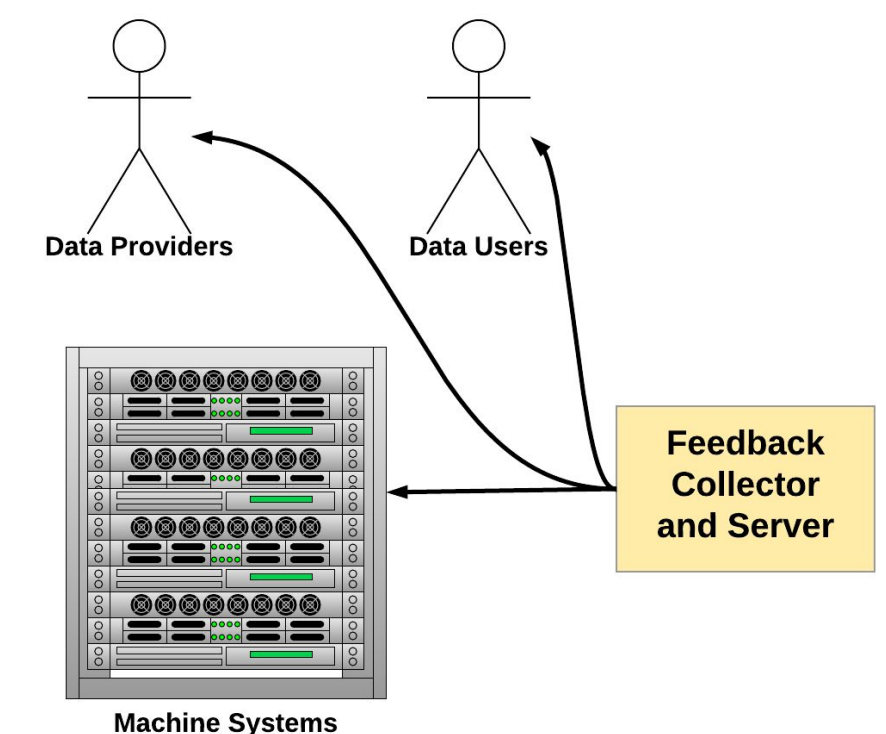
The feedback provided by people can be used in many ways.

How you can help: Work with us to continue this development. <support@opendap.org>

We see this project sharing much in common with both the DataONE and W3C annotation projects. Ideally we will find future alignment and synergy between the three.