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| Use Case ID | searchRecords |
| Description | Search records via a web interface or a web service. The result is a formatted set of record abstracts (identifiers of records + a limited set of attributes), not actual records. |
| Actors | Registry User or Client System, Registry System |
| Assumptions | 1. The Registry User has discovered the registry system’s web interface, or, alternatively, the Client System has obtained a URI handle to the Registry System. 2. The Registry User is accessing the Registry System through a web browser that supports the technology used by the Registry System’s web interface, or, alternatively, the Client System knows the URI naming pattern used to invoke the registry services. 3. The Registry User (or the Client System) knows the query language that is used for searching the Registry System, and has some familiarity with the data in the collection. |
| Pre-conditions | The query statement is valid. |
| Primary functional path | 1. Search the Registry for all records that match the query statement. The query is defined by a text string, which is made up of one or more search elements. The following search types are possible:  * Simple search (free text string). * Advanced search. This should include at least the following search methods:   1. search by format name and/or extension   2. search by software name and/or vendor   3. search by identifier (e.g. UDFR, PRONOM, MIME type).  1. Format the result set using a default schema, or as requested by the Registry User or the Client System. 2. Return the formatted result set. |
| Primary result | A set (possibly empty if the query returned no matches) of formatted abstracts of records. For each record in the set, the abstract contains its known identifiers and some unique and relevant identifying attributes. At the very least, the result should contain the unique identifiers that would be needed to retrieve (display, export) the actual (full) records. |
| Post-conditions | True |
| Exceptional path | The Registry System will return an error if the pre-conditions are not met or a system error occurs. |
| Issues | The output of this use case is identical to the output that is produced by the ‘browseRecords’ use case. |