

Introducing: Inmail & Mailmute

Bounce processing for Drupal 8
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E-mail headers

```
Return-Path: <arild@klavaro.se>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Received: by 10.194.153.164 with HTTP;  
    Tue, 4 Nov 2014 07:01:16 -0800 (PST)  
X-Originating-IP: [83.150.36.145]  
Date: Tue, 4 Nov 2014 16:01:16 +0100  
Message-ID: <CAFZOsfm0fFqo+S-r+vHpZqQohnO9@mail.gmail.com>  
Subject: I made a mail  
From: Arild Matsson <arild@klavaro.se>  
To: hopelesscowsalad@hotmail.com  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
```

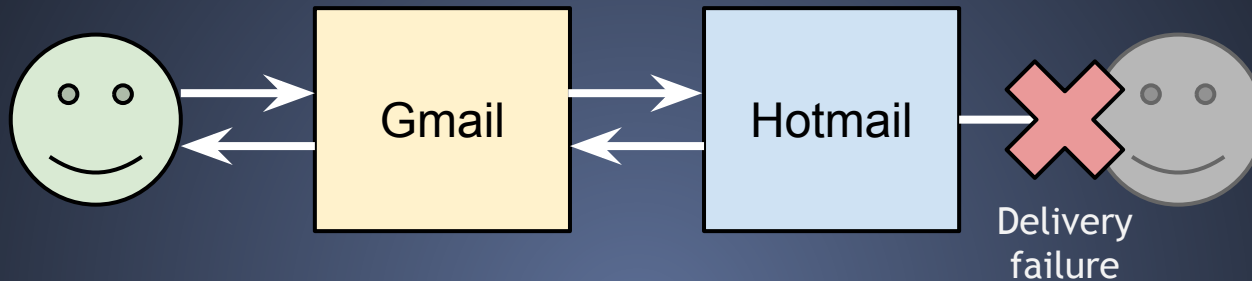
Hello World!

How are you doing?

Cheers

-- Arild

Bounce messages



Delivery to the following recipient failed permanently:

`hopelesscowsalad@hotmail.com`

Technical details of permanent failure:

Google tried to deliver your message, but it was rejected by the server for the recipient domain hotmail.com by mx3.hotmail.com. [65.54.188.126].

The error that the other server returned was:

550 Requested action not taken: mailbox unavailable

Problem

1. User email out-of-date
2. Mail is *bouncing*
3. No keeping track of the bounces

⇒ Website keeps sending

⇒ Less delivery rate

⇒ Spam reputation

"Anything above 10% [...] will raise red flags with your ISP"

<http://www.activecampaign.com/sender-reputation/>

"keep your bounce rate as low as possible (less than 2%)"

<https://www.mailjet.com/support/what-is-an-acceptable-bounce-rate,76.htm>

Solution strategy

1. Define a Return-Path mailbox
2. Fetch messages
3. Detect a bounce
4. Set a flag on the user
5. Suppress further sending

Solution strategy, generalized

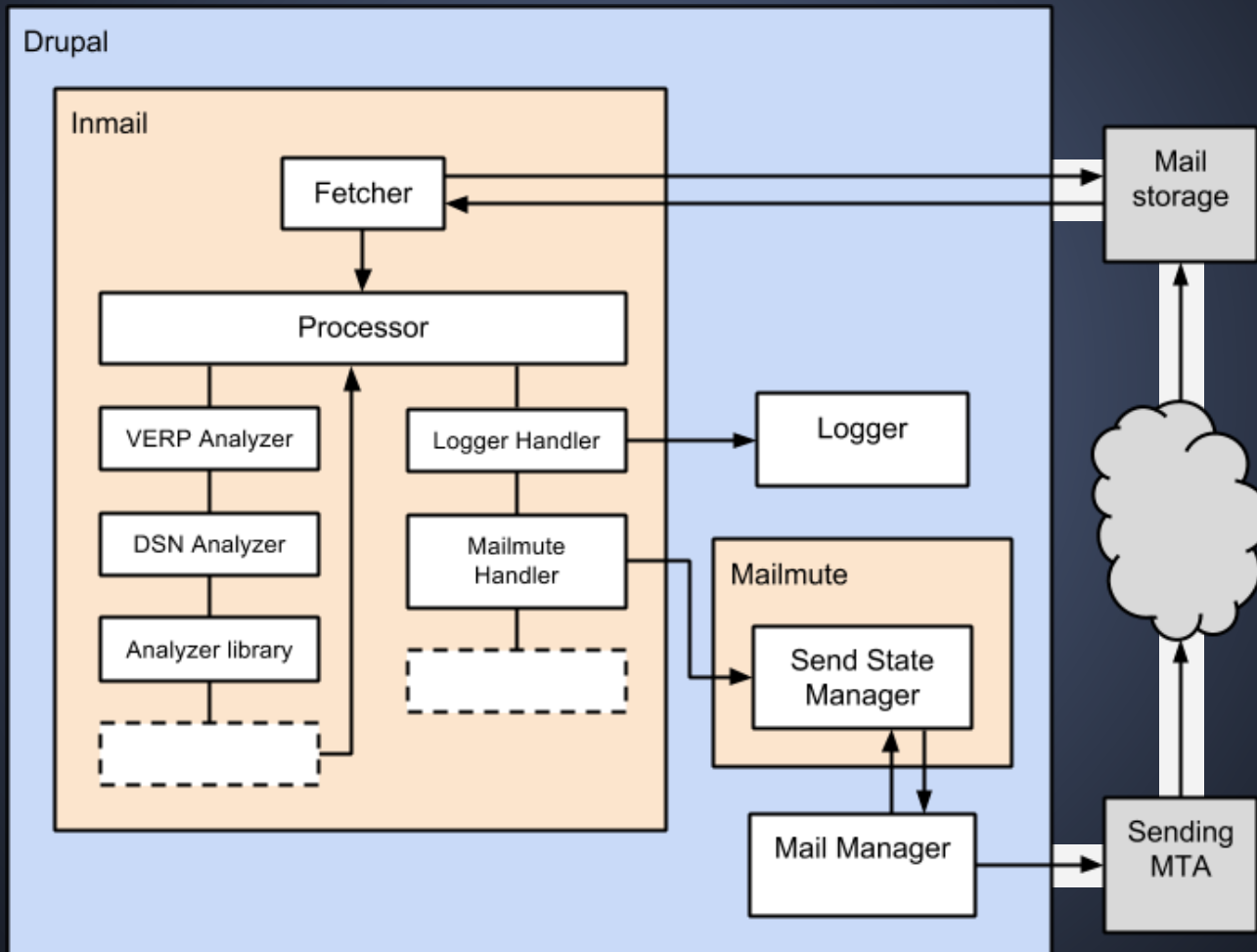
1. Fetch each message
2. Run *analyzers* on it, retrieve a *result*
3. Run *handlers* with the result

One analyzer for detecting bounces

One handler for setting the mute flag

A mail alter hook for suppressing muted users

Architecture overview



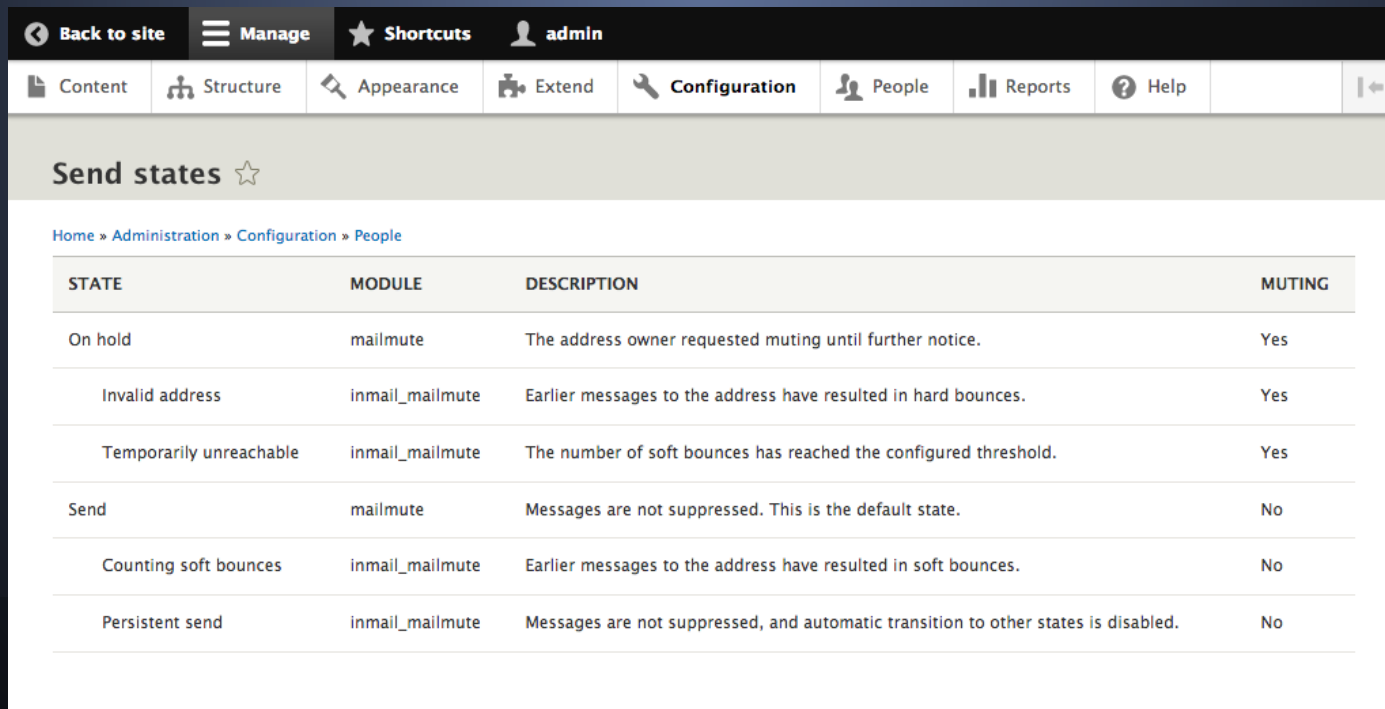
Mailmute

Ingredients:

1. A per-user *send state*
2. A mail alter hook

Mailmute: Send state

- Plugins
- Hierarchically ordered
- May be muting



Back to site Manage Shortcuts admin

Content Structure Appearance Extend Configuration People Reports Help

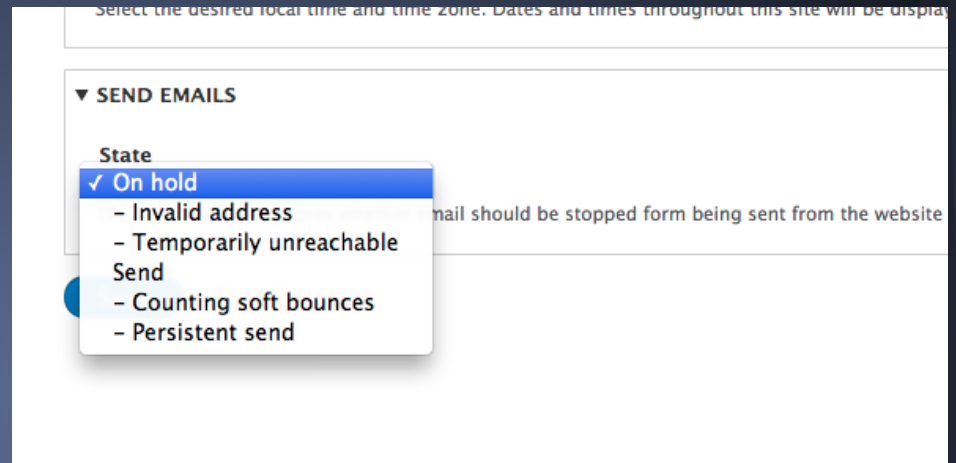
Send states ☆

Home » Administration » Configuration » People

STATE	MODULE	DESCRIPTION	MUTING
On hold	mailmute	The address owner requested muting until further notice.	Yes
Invalid address	inmail_mailmute	Earlier messages to the address have resulted in hard bounces.	Yes
Temporarily unreachable	inmail_mailmute	The number of soft bounces has reached the configured threshold.	Yes
Send	mailmute	Messages are not suppressed. This is the default state.	No
Counting soft bounces	inmail_mailmute	Earlier messages to the address have resulted in soft bounces.	No
Persistent send	inmail_mailmute	Messages are not suppressed, and automatic transition to other states is disabled.	No

Mailmute

Field widget on
user edit form



Notice when
attempting to mail a
"muted" user

Inmail

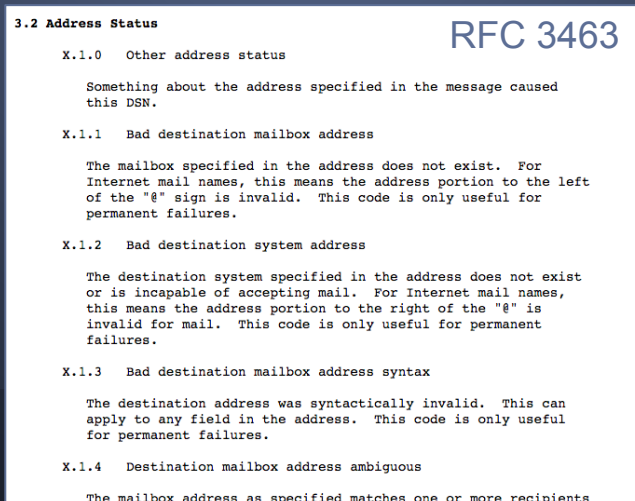
1. Fetch message
2. Parse message
3. Run each analyzer
 - a. Report results
4. Run each handler
 - a. Perform actions depending on the result object

Standard DSN Analyzer

Simple approach: follow a standard!

RFC 3463 + RFC 3464

1. Identifies a status code (e.g. 5.7.1)
2. Identifies the recipient
3. Extracts a "reason" message



External bounce libs

"There is probably a well-designed, frequently used, easily integrated library for this"

- **BounceHandler**

<https://github.com/Rambomst/PHP-Bounce-Handler>

- **PHPMailer-BMH**

<https://github.com/instaclick/PHPMailer-BMH>

To do: evaluate and decide

Mailmute handler

If the analyzers identified a bounce
Then set the send state to mute

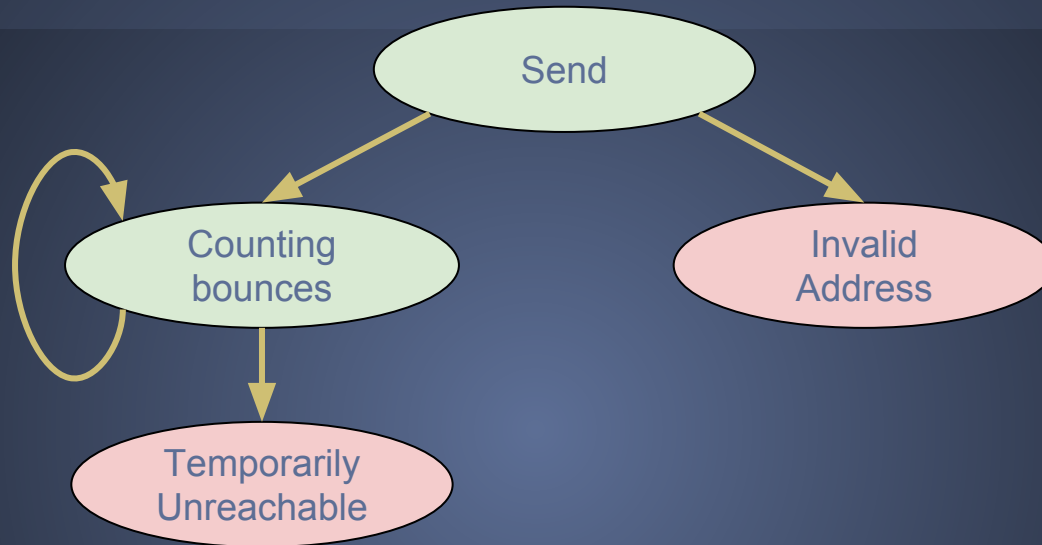
Introduce new send states

Soft bounce (4.x.x)

Hard bounce (5.x.x)

- Set to *Counting bounces*
- After 5 bounces, set to *Temporarily Unreachable*
- Set to *Invalid Address*

Bounce send states



Soft bounce (4.x.x)

Hard bounce (5.x.x)

- Set to *Counting bounces*
- After 5 bounces, set to *Temporarily Unreachable*
- Set to *Invalid Address*

Integration

MTA (Postfix) → Drush → Inmail

drush inmail-process

Postfix configuration

Roadmap

Get started ✓

Proof of concept ✓

Move to Drupal.org ✓

Get users

Deploy on a live website

Release 1.x

Current issues

- Stabilise API
- Moderation queue UI
- Improve logging
- Processing non-bounces

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