

Concluding Remarks

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Chair, IVOA Executive Committee



Exec Meeting Highlights

- Status of Argentina, Brazil, and Australian VO
 - ✓ South America: ramping up!
 - ✓ Want to publish data in the VO, finding it difficult
 - lack of ONE entry point for data centres on IVOA pages
 - lack of “publishing package”
 - situation should improve with new IVOA Web pages
 - related to “Large projects and surveys and the IVOA”
 - ✓ Australia: no dedicated VO funding but all new big projects are planning VO compliancy from the start



Exec Meeting Highlights

- Expiring Terms for WG Chairs and vice Chairs
 - ✓ six WGs + TCG affected
 - ✓ thorough discussion on new names and possible extensions
 - ✓ criteria:
 - expertise!
 - geographical
 - political



Exec Meeting Highlights

- **Applications:** *Mark Taylor* (Chair), *Enrique Solano* (vice Chair)
[effective July 2011]
- **Data Model:** *Jesus Salgado* (Chair), *Omar Laurino* (vice Chair)
- **Grid and Web Services:** *Andreas Wicenec* (Chair), *André Schaaf*
(vice Chair)
- **Semantics:** 1-year extension to current Chair and vice Chair
(*Derrier, Gray*)
- **Theory:** 1-year extension to current Chair (*Wozniak*),
Franck Le Petit (vice Chair)
- **VOEvent:** *Matthew Graham* (Chair)
- **TCG:** 1-year extension to current Chair and vice Chair
(*Arviset, Gaudet*)



Exec Meeting Highlights

- Thanks to:
 - ✓ *Tom McGlynn* (Applications)
 - ✓ *Mireille Louys* (Data Model)
 - ✓ *Matthew Graham* and *Paul Harrison* (GWS)
 - ✓ *Claudio Gheller* (Theory)
 - ✓ *Rob Seaman* (VOEvent)
- And a special “Thank you” to *Dave De Young*!



Astronomical Data

Already many large-area surveys available: e.g., NVSS, FIRST, WENSS (radio); IRAS, 2MASS, DENIS, UKIDSS (IR); SDSS, 2dF (optical); GALEX (UV); ROSAT, XMM (X-ray); EGRET, *Fermi* (gamma-ray).

More to come (an incomplete list!):

- *Wide Field Infrared Explorer (WISE)*: ~ **500 million** near-IR sources, all-sky [now]
- *Visible and Infrared Survey Telescope for Astronomy (VISTA)*: ≈ **a few billion** near-IR sources, half-sky [now]
- *Low Frequency Array (LOFAR)*: ~ **50 million** radio sources, half-sky [now]
- *Panoramic Survey Telescope and Rapid Response System (PAN-STARRS)*: ≈ **20 billion** optical sources [now]



Astronomical Data

- *e-Rosita*: ~ **2 million** X-ray sources, all-sky [2012]
- *Square Kilometre Array (SKA) Pathfinders (EVLA, ASKAP, ATA, Meerkat, Apertif, ...)*: ≈ **100 million** radio sources each (half-sky) [2013 -]
- *Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST)*: ≈ **20 billion** optical sources [2018?] (catalogue: 300 Terabytes/year x 10)
- *SKA*: ≈ **2 billion** (?) radio sources (half-sky) [2020?]

Not yet approved:

- *Wide Field X-ray Telescope (WFXT)*: ~ **10 million** X-ray sources, all-sky
- *Euclid*: ~ **10 million** near-IR spectra, all-sky



Exec Meeting Highlights

- Large projects and surveys and the IVOA
- IVOA participation mutually beneficial:
 - ✓ projects have their needs/requests/wishes listened to
 - ✓ IVOA gets “real life”, practical cases
 - ✓ IVOA gets feedback on standards
- Is the IVOA doing enough to get all these new projects on board?
- Went through a list of large projects and surveys and assessed situation
- Identified potential contact persons/projects
- Will try to get at least some of these directly involved



Exec Meeting Highlights

- New IVOA Web pages: draft available at <http://www.cacr.caltech.edu/~sarah/websites/ivoa/>
- Everybody is invited to give comments and feedback (wiki page)



Exec Meeting Lowlights

- ESO and the VO:
 - ✓ increasing pressure on ESO budget:
 - expected approval of the European Extremely Large Telescope (E-ELT) construction
 - ramping-up of ALMA operations
 - continued operation of La Silla/Paranal facilities
 - current economic situation
 - ✓ activities to be limited to core business
 - ✓ re-direction of VO resources
- Termination of VO Project at ESO:
 - ✓ ESO out the EuroVO and IVOA at the end of 2011
- ESO remains committed to VO compliancy of its data holdings (from “active” to “passive” VO player)



This meeting

- Very proficuous*
- First ever “VO and outreach” session
- First CSP project (ObsCore) near completion
- Second one (SED builder) getting there (I hope ...)
- Many cross-WG sessions and discussions
- My (personal) feeling:
 - ✓ standards needed for most fundamental needs of astronomical community are *almost* done
 - ✓ next high level goal: get large projects and surveys *directly* involved in IVOA



* profitable; advantageous; useful (Webster's Dictionary)

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A “big picture” perspective

- Global economic situation still “not easy”
- IVOA has gone through some tough times but new members (and more likely to come)
- Current and especially future large surveys need interoperability: “VO publishing” should be made as easy as possible (new IVOA members as “test cases”)
- Very important to stay focused and tuned to the needs of the astronomical community at large (researchers and projects)



Next Interop

Pune, India, October 17 – 21, 2011



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- May 2012: USA (location still TBD)
- October/November 2012: Brazil (a beach close to São Paulo ...)



- Thanks to all of you, the Programme Organizing Committee and to the Local Organizing Committee, especially Peppe and Massimo:

Grazie mille per l'ottima organizzazione!

