



Applications WG session 2  
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# multiplicity and recursiveness in VOTable

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**INAF**  
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- custom discovery service for galactic astrophysics archive
  - mostly driven by velocity data cubes
  - multiple collections (“surveys”)
    - and sub-collections
      - “sub-surveys” (species and transition :: observable spectral band)
    - galactic coordinates
- currently porting to SIAP/DAP
  - obscure metadata driven (done)
    - dedicated client
      - query/response specific features
        - based on scientific users’ requirements
      - moving towards VO interfaces

# custom - overview

name	species	transition
Mopra GPS	12CO	1-0
Mopra GPS	13CO	1-0
Mopra GPS	C17O	1-0
CHIMPS	C18O	3-2
CHAMP	HCO+	1-0
HOPS	H2O	6-1_6_5-2-3
HOPS	NH3	1-1_1-1
HOPS	NH3	2-2_2-2
MALT90	13CO	1-0
MALT90	N2H+	1-0
MALT90	13CS	2-1
MALT90	H	41a
MALT90	CH3CN	51-41
MALT90	HC3N	10-9
MALT90	13C34S	2-1
MALT90	HNC	1-0
MALT90	HC13CCN	10-9_9-8
MALT90	HCO+	1-0
MALT90	HCN	1-0
MALT90	HNCO	413-312
MALT90	HNCO	404-303
MALT90	C2H	1-0_3/2-1/2_2-1
MALT90	HN13C	1-0
MALT90	SiO	2-1
MALT90	H13CO+	1-0
ThrUMMS	12CO	1-0
ThrUMMS	13CO	1-0
ThrUMMS	C18O	1-0
ThrUMMS	CN	1-2-3_0-1-2
NANTEN GPS	12CO	1-0
OGS	12CO	1-0
OGS	13CO	1-0
COHRS	12CO	3-2
VGPS	HI	21 cm
CGPS	HI	21 cm
SGPS	HI	21 cm

subsurvey  
(sub-)collection



The 3 values actually  
compose the obs\_collection  
values in the obscore table

survey/collection



- Galactic coordinates apart, besides VO standardisation, the dedicated client is used to consume (sub-)survey grouped responses.
- Is it possible to keep this behaviour in VOTables?
  - actually, the client already parses XML responses similar to VOTables
- We are trying to investigate multiple VOTable responses based on
  - VOTable §3.6
    - The RESOURCE is *recursive* ...
    - The main component of a RESOURCE is typically *one or more TABLE* elements ...
- How does the client asks a specific one, if we serve multiple?
  - ... so far we are hacking `RESPONSEFORMAT=application/x-votable+xml;mode={...}`

## 1 RESOURCE – 1 TABLE

```
▼<VOTABLE version="1.4">
  ▼<RESOURCE>
    ▼<TABLE nrows="15">
      ▼<PARAM datatype="int" name="subsurveyCount" value="14">
        <DESCRIPTION>Count of subsurveys with found datacube(s)</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      ▼<PARAM datatype="int" name="datacubeCount" value="15">
        <DESCRIPTION>Count of all datacubes from VLKB-search</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      ▼<FIELD arraysize="*" datatype="char" name="dataprodut_type">
        <DESCRIPTION>Dataproduct Type (image|cube)</DESCRIPTION>
      </FIELD>
```

standard ObsTAP response

RESOURCE

TABLEs

1 RESOURCE – 1 TABLE

```
▼<VOTABLE version="1.4">
  ▼<RESOURCE>
    ▶<TABLE nrows="2">
      ...
    </TABLE>
    ▶<TABLE nrows="1">
      ...
    </TABLE>
    ▶<TABLE nrows="1">
      ...
    </TABLE>
    ▶<TABLE nrows="1">
      ...
    </TABLE>
    ▶<TABLE nrows="1">
      ...
    </TABLE>
    ▶<TABLE nrows="1">
      ...
    </TABLE>
    ▶<TABLE nrows="1">
      ...
    </TABLE>
    ▶<TABLE nrows="1">
      ...
    </TABLE>
    ▼<TABLE nrows="1">
      <DESCRIPTION> Exeter-FCRAO Outer Galaxy Survey (Brunt et al. 2017) </DESCRIPTION>
      ▼<PARAM datatype="int" name="subsurveyCount" value="14">
        <DESCRIPTION>Count of subsurveys with found datacube(s)</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
    </TABLE>
  </RESOURCE>
</VOTABLE>
```



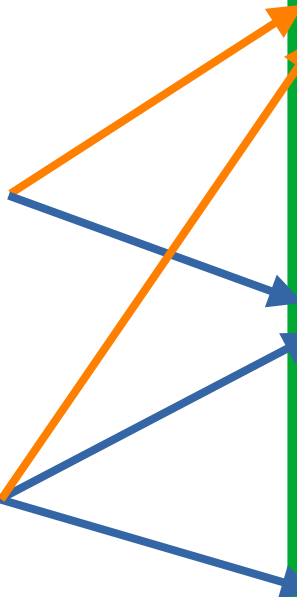
RESOURCES

TABLES

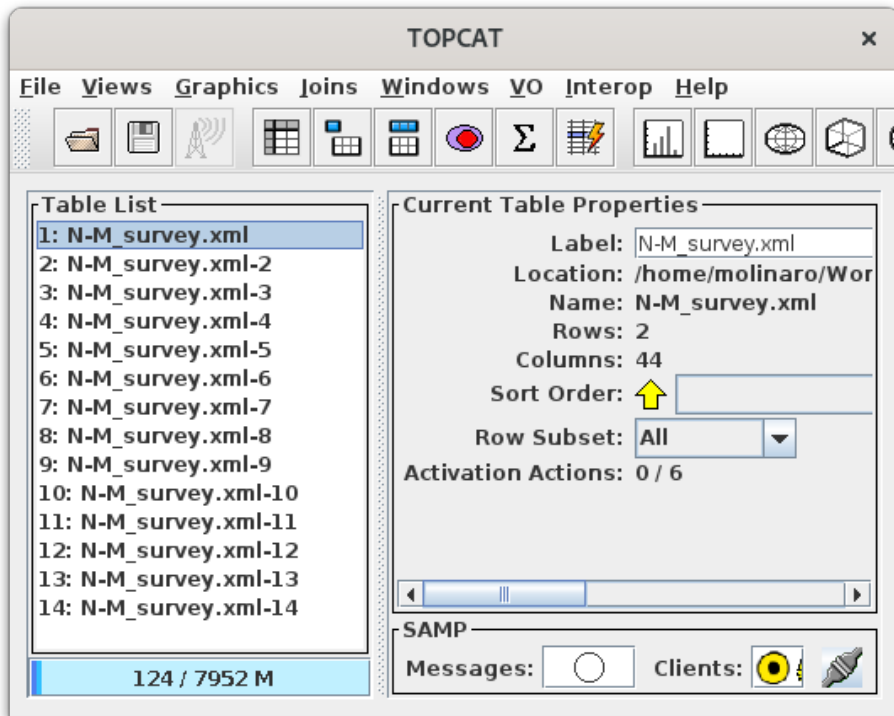
N RESOURCES, M TABLES

```

<VOTABLE version="1.4">
  <RESOURCE>
    <DESCRIPTION> CGPS </DESCRIPTION>
    <TABLE nrows="2">
      <DESCRIPTION> DRAO HI Canadian Galactic Plane Survey (Taylor et al. 1999, PASA 15, 56) </DESCRIPTION>
      <PARAM datatype="int" name="datacubeCount" value="2">
        <DESCRIPTION>Count of all datacubes from VLKB-search</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      <PARAM arraysize="7" datatype="char" name="velocity_unit" value="m.s**1">
        <DESCRIPTION>Unit of velocity in FITS header</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      <PARAM arraysize="4" datatype="char" name="survey" value="CGPS">
        <DESCRIPTION>Survey name</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      <PARAM arraysize="2" datatype="char" name="species" value="HI">
        <DESCRIPTION>Species</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      <PARAM arraysize="5" datatype="char" name="transition" value="21 cm">
        <DESCRIPTION>Transition</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
    </TABLE>
  </RESOURCE>
  <RESOURCE>
    <DESCRIPTION> OGS </DESCRIPTION>
    <TABLE nrows="1">
      <DESCRIPTION> Exeter-FCRAO Outer Galaxy Survey (Brunt et al. 2017) </DESCRIPTION>
      <PARAM datatype="int" name="datacubeCount" value="1">
        <DESCRIPTION>Count of all datacubes from VLKB-search</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      <PARAM arraysize="7" datatype="char" name="velocity_unit" value="m.s**1">
        <DESCRIPTION>Unit of velocity in FITS header</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      <PARAM arraysize="3" datatype="char" name="survey" value="OGS">
        <DESCRIPTION>Survey name</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      <PARAM arraysize="4" datatype="char" name="species" value="12CO">
        <DESCRIPTION>Species</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
      <PARAM arraysize="3" datatype="char" name="transition" value="1-0">
        <DESCRIPTION>Transition</DESCRIPTION>
      </PARAM>
    </TABLE>
  <TABLE nrows="1">
    <DESCRIPTION> Exeter-FCRAO Outer Galaxy Survey (Brunt et al. 2017) </DESCRIPTION>
    <PARAM datatype="int" name="datacubeCount" value="1">
      <DESCRIPTION>Count of all datacubes from VLKB-search</DESCRIPTION>
    </PARAM>
    <PARAM arraysize="7" datatype="char" name="velocity_unit" value="m.s**1">
      <DESCRIPTION>Unit of velocity in FITS header</DESCRIPTION>
    </PARAM>
    <PARAM arraysize="3" datatype="char" name="survey" value="OGS">
      <DESCRIPTION>Survey name</DESCRIPTION>
    </PARAM>
    <PARAM arraysize="4" datatype="char" name="species" value="13CO">
      <DESCRIPTION>Species</DESCRIPTION>
    </PARAM>
    <PARAM arraysize="3" datatype="char" name="transition" value="1-0">
      <DESCRIPTION>Transition</DESCRIPTION>
    </PARAM>
  </TABLE>
</RESOURCE>
</VOTABLE>
  
```



# Client behaviour – TOPCAT



TOPCAT

File Views Graphics Joins Windows VO Interop Help


Table List

- 1: N-M\_survey.xml
- 2: N-M\_survey.xml-2
- 3: N-M\_survey.xml-3
- 4: N-M\_survey.xml-4
- 5: N-M\_survey.xml-5
- 6: N-M\_survey.xml-6
- 7: N-M\_survey.xml-7
- 8: N-M\_survey.xml-8
- 9: N-M\_survey.xml-9
- 10: N-M\_survey.xml-10
- 11: N-M\_survey.xml-11
- 12: N-M\_survey.xml-12
- 13: N-M\_survey.xml-13
- 14: N-M\_survey.xml-14

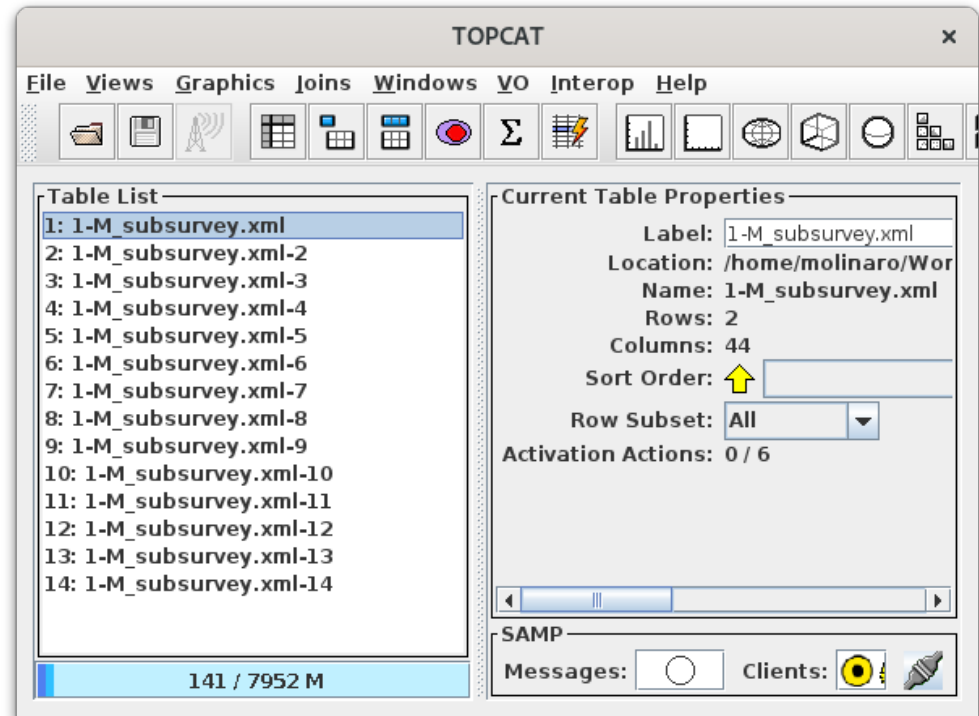
Current Table Properties

Label: N-M\_survey.xml  
Location: /home/molinaro/Wor  
Name: N-M\_survey.xml  
Rows: 2  
Columns: 44  
Sort Order: ↑  
Row Subset: All  
Activation Actions: 0 / 6

SAMP

Messages:  Clients:  

124 / 7952 M



TOPCAT

File Views Graphics Joins Windows VO Interop Help


Table List

- 1: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml
- 2: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-2
- 3: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-3
- 4: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-4
- 5: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-5
- 6: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-6
- 7: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-7
- 8: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-8
- 9: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-9
- 10: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-10
- 11: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-11
- 12: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-12
- 13: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-13
- 14: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml-14

Current Table Properties

Label: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml  
Location: /home/molinaro/Wor  
Name: 1-M\_subsurvey.xml  
Rows: 2  
Columns: 44  
Sort Order: ↑  
Row Subset: All  
Activation Actions: 0 / 6

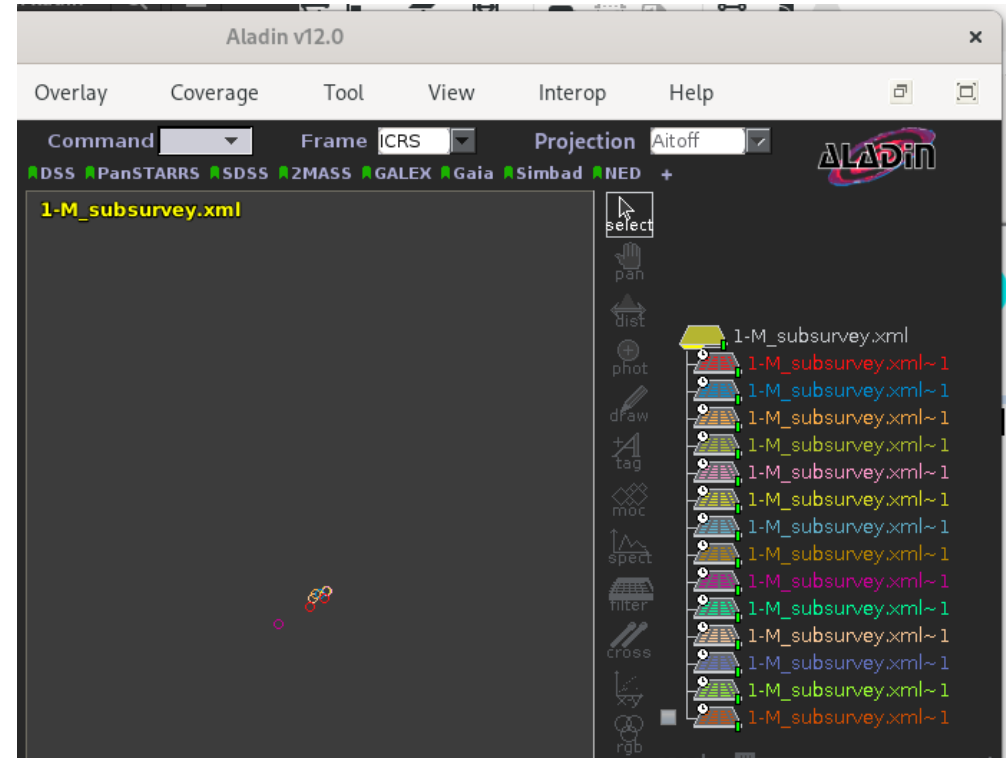
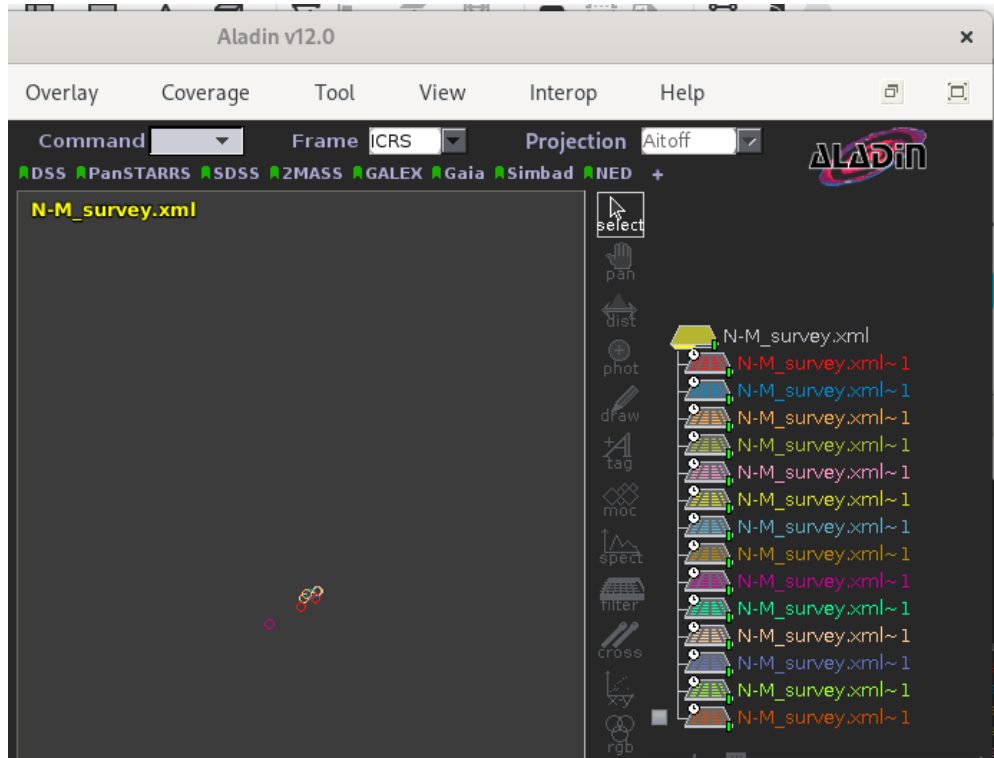
SAMP

Messages:  Clients:  

141 / 7952 M



# Client behaviour – Aladin



# Client behaviour – astropy/PyVO

```
votable_subs = parse("1-M_subsurvey.xml")
```

```
for resource in votable_subs.resources:  
    print("RESOURCE")  
    for table in resource.tables:  
        print("TABLE", table.nrows)
```

```
RESOURCE  
TABLE 2  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1
```

```
pyvo.dal.SIAResults(votable_subs)
```

```
<Table length=2>  
dataprodut_type calib_level ... m  
object          int32      ...  
-----  
cube            2 ...  
cube            2 ...
```

```
for resource in votable_surv.resources:  
    print("RESOURCE")  
    for table in resource.tables:  
        print("TABLE", table.nrows)
```

```
RESOURCE  
TABLE 2  
RESOURCE  
TABLE 1  
RESOURCE  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
RESOURCE  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
RESOURCE  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
RESOURCE  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1  
TABLE 1
```

```
pyvo.dal.SIAResults(votable_surv)
```

```
<Table length=2>  
dataprodut_type calib_level ... m  
object          int32      ...  
-----  
cube            2 ...  
cube            2 ...
```

## Converting to/from an `astropy.table.Table`

The VOTable standard does not map conceptually to an `astropy.table.Table`. However, a single table within the `VOTable` file may be converted to and from an `astropy.table.Table`:

`SIAResults` is essentially a wrapper around an Astropy `votable TableElement` instance where the columns contain the various metadata describing the images. One can access that VOTable directly via the `votable` attribute.

# Summary

- quite obvious client behaviour, peculiar use case
- too much flexibility in the standard?
- ... or lack of scope in the elements?
  - minor: client-server information exchange
- not really an issue in modeling the response content
  - more similar to normalising/denormalising a relational set
  - or hierarchically structuring a complex set of information
  - ... but maybe data models can cover also this

```
▼<VOTABLE version="1.4">  
  ▼<RESOURCE>  
    ▼<RESOURCE>  
      ▼<RESOURCE>  
        ▼<RESOURCE>  
          ▼<RESOURCE>  
            ▼<RESOURCE>  
              ▼<RESOURCE>  
                ▼<RESOURCE>  
                  ▼<RESOURCE>  
                    ▼<RESOURCE>  
                      <TABLE nRows="1"> ◀
```



Thanks!