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IVOA Pune Ashish Mahabal (with Matthew Graham's slides modified)



Transient astronomy

- A field endorsed by the Astro2010 Decadal Survey
- Has a burgeoning multi-wavelength multi-level community
 - CRTS, PTF, Pan-STARRs, Fermi/SWIFT, MOA/OGLE, IAUT/CBAT/ATEL, AAVSO, GAIA, LOFAR, SkyMapper, LIGO, LSST, A(SKA)P, ...



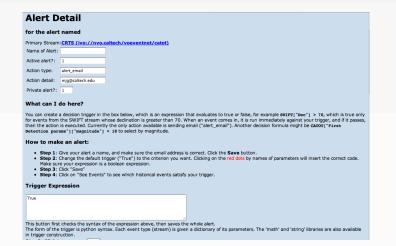
- Already embracing VO technologies (VOEvent)
 - > 47000 VOEvents sent to date (including ~26000 from CRTS)
 - 46 mentions in literature since 2005 (44 for IRAF over same initial period)
- Wants robust and reliable tools for production, subscription, and discovery leveraging VAO capabilities
 - LSST will produce ~10⁷ events per night (~50000 / 120 s.)
 - SKA will detect 1 core-collapse SNe / s over the sky
- Great potential for EPO



SkyAlert (http://www.skyalert.org)

- Excellent prototype of requested brokering service
- Users use a Web interface to define tasks that are performed when an appropriate event is received
 - messaging, archive retrieval, computation, etc.
- Community user base (currently ~300 subscribers)
 Independent funding to 2012



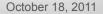




Ensuring interoperability

- Current event infrastructure is an ad hoc arrangement mixing unwritten agreements, ideology and hacks that works
- Need to formalize:
 - VOEvent infrastructure metadata descriptions
 - VOEvent transport protocol(s)
 - Infrastructure components particularly repository and inter -repository communication
 - Event/portfolio access protocol
 - Portfolio







Proposed: VAO Transient Facility

- "Keep it simple":
 - Notifications just report the basics and use references for anything else
 - Transport speed and scalability are concerns but Jabber/XMPP is OK for general use
 - Querying just RA, Dec + time
- "Let the computer do the work":
 - Subscription Python-like expression syntax (a la SkyAlert)
 - Annotation user-provided plugins for sophisticated event reponses





Roadmap

- VOEventRegExt (end of 2011)
- SEAP + repository definition (spring 2012)
 - Two tier approach:
 - Simple cone search-like (RA, Dec, time)
 - Full VOEvent data model (Who, What, WhereWhen, How, Why)
- Transport protocols (2012)
 - IVOA Recommendation on use of Jabber and TCPV definition (currently a Note)
- Event portfolios (2012/13)
 - Tied to DAL DataLink?
- External science drivers:
 - LSST 2012 Data Challenge (30% data rate test)
 - GAIA 2013 Real Event Challenge



