IVOA Full Meeting: FM34

8 Nov 2009: 16.00 – 18.40 Garching Time (CET)

Notes: FP (with FG)

Original: 10 Nov 2009
Modified: 18 Feb 2010

distribution to exec@ivoa.net

Present:

Christophe Arviset <Christophe.Arviset@esa.int>	CA	Euro-VO/ESA - *TCG*
Alex Carciofi <alexcarciofi@gmail.com>	ACC	BRAVO
Fernando Comeron <fcomeron@eso.org>	FC	Euro-VO/ESO
Dave De Young <deyoung@noao.edu>	DDY	NVO
Pepi Fabbiano <pepi@head.cfa.harvard.edu>	PF	NVO
Françoise Genova <genova@astro.u-strasbg.fr>	FG	F-VO
Andrew Lawrence <al@roe.ac.uk>	AL	AstroGrid
Areg Mickaelian <aregmick@ars.am>	AM	ArVO
Masatoshi Ohishi <masatoshi.ohishi@nao.ac.jp>	MO	JVO
Paolo Padovani <ppadovan@eso.org>	PP	Euro-VO/ESO
Fabio Pasian <pasian@ts.astro.it>	FP	VObs.it
David Schade <David.Schade@nrc.ca>	DS	CVO
Joachim Wambsganss <jkw@ari.uni-heidelberg.de>	JW	GAVO

TCG, WG and IG Chairs:

Sébastien Derriere	SD	F-VO - *Semantics*
Séverin Gaudet	SG	CVO - *TCG*
Claudio Gheller	CG	VObs.it - *Theory*
Matthew Graham	MG	NVO - *GWS*
Norman Gray	NG	AstroGrid
Mireille Louys	ML	F-VO - *DM*
Tom McGlynn	TMG	NVO - *Applications*
Keith Noddle	NG	AstroGrid - *TAP*
François Ochsenbein	FO	F-VO - *VOTable*
Ray Plante	RP	NVO - *Registry*
Bruno Rino	BR	ESO - *Document Coordinator*
Anita Richards	AR	AstroGrid

Apologies:

Chenzhou Cui <ccz@bao.ac.cn>	CC	China-VO
Reinaldo De Carvalho <rrdecarvalho2008@gmail.com>	RDC	BRAVO
Bob Hanisch <hanisch@stsci.edu>	BH	NVO
Ajit Kembhavi <akk@iucaa.ernet.in>	AK	India-VO
Oleg Malkov <malkov@inasan.ru>	OM	RVO
Enrique Solano <esm@laeff.inta.es>	ESo	SVO

Nic Walton <naw@ast.cam.ac.uk>   NW   AstroGrid
Pedro Osuna   PO   Euro-VO/ESA - *VOQL*
Rob Seaman   RS   NVO -*VOEvent*

There was no representation from the Aus-VO or Korea-VO projects – both currently inactive.

Glossary:
ArVO - Armenian VO   http://www.aras.am/arvo.htm
AstroGrid - UK VO initiative   http://www.astrogrid.org
Aus-VO - Australian Virtual Observatory   http://www.aus-vo.org
BRAVO - Brazil Virtual Observatory   http://www.lna.br/bravo/
China-VO - Chinese Virtual Observatory   http://www.china-vo.org
CVO - Canadian Virtual Observatory   http://www1.cadc-ccda.hia-iha.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/
Euro-VO European Virtual Observatory   http://www.euro-vo.org
F-VO - VO-France   http://www.france-vo.org
GAVO - German Virtual Observatory   http://www.g-vo.org
HVO - Hungarian Virtual Observatory   http://hvo.elte.hu
VO-India - Indian Virtual Observatory   http://vo.iucaa.ernet.in/~voi/
VObs.it - The Italian Virtual Observatory   http://vobs.astro.it/
JVO - Japanese Virtual Observatory   http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html
KVO - Korean Virtual Observatory   http://kvo.kao.re.kr
NVO - National Virtual Observatory (USA)   http://www.us-vo.org
RVO - Russian Virtual Observatory   http://www.inasan.rssi.ru/eng/rvo/
SVO - Spanish Virtual Observatory   http://svo.laeff.inta.es
IVOA - International Virtual Observatory Alliance   http://www.ivoa.net

Agenda:
   1. Roll Call and Agenda - FP
   2. Minutes of TM 33
   3. Review of Action Items - FP
   4. TCG status - CA
   5. Reports by WGs - WG Chairs
   6. Standards documents and process - BR + discussion
   7. Prioritisation path - DDY + all
   8. AOB
   9. Review of New Action Items

A. Appendices - reports from the VO projects, WGs and IGs - see the wiki at:
http://www.ivoa.net/cgi-bin/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM34

NEXT MEETING: *Wednesday 11th November 2009 at 12.30 CET*

1. Roll Call and Agenda Items
The participants - as listed above - introduced themselves, with apologies noted.
The meeting Agenda was **AGREED**, with two discussion points inserted under item 8 (AOB):
        8a. IVOA Web site

8b. expiring WG chairs and Exec secretary

2. Previous minutes.
Notes from telecon meeting 20090219 are available at:
http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaRepMin/ivoa-tm33-20090923.pdf
These minutes were **AGREED**, with minor typo noted

3. Review of Actions and their current status

ACTION FM32S-4.1: DDY (with **CA, PP, DS**) to prepare a written draft recommendation on the prioritisation path for the IVOA, to be submitted to Exec.
CLOSED.

ACTION FM32S-4.2: DS to prepare and send some basic use cases for the VO.
CLOSED.

ACTION FM32S-5.2: ALL to send in confidence to FP names for Chairs of the VOQL and Registry WGs.
ONGOING: decision due at the 11 Nov 2009 Exec (FM34S).

ACTION FM32S-7.1: DDY to prepare a report to Exec on the meeting of the Liaison Committee.
CLOSED.

ACTION FM32S-7.2: DDY to pursue contacts with the US Solar and Solar-Terrestrial communities.
CLOSED: DDY reported during the meeting. VXO STP covers most activities on US side: aiming at getting data models in place and willing to come to Victoria for the May Interop to bring a greater understanding of each other's needs and stands. Bob Bentley of HELIO (EU programme) has a talk at the Garching Interop. An official channel is ICSU Committee with MO, Peter Fox, Bob Chen (Vice-President of CODATA). Some projects already use IVOA standards: need to exchange info at the technical level through IVOA WGs.

ACTION FM32S-7.3: FP to poll the Exec on the opportunity of creating a new class of group (Liaison Group) in charge of contacts with communities interested in sharing experiences with the IVOA.
ONGOING: decision on opportunity to create Liaison Groups deferred to after Liaison Committee meeting on 11 Nov 2009.

ACTION TM33-6.2 FP to contact Mark Allen re the issue of the next IVOA Newsletter (hopefully before end 2009)
CLOSED.

ACTION TM33-7 ALL: to review the v0.9 draft of the roadmap document before 29 Sep 2009.
CLOSED. Document approved by Exec.

ACTION TM33-10: FP: to ask MO to look at possible options for an Interop in November 2010 in Kyoto, Osaka or Tokyo?
CLOSED: Meeting will be as originally planned Dec 2010 in Nara.

ACTION TM33-11: FP: Invite the TCG to the Nov 8 2009 (16.00 CEST) Exec meeting.
CLOSED.

ACTION TM33-12: FP: to ask the IVOA doc coordinator (Bruno Rino) to refresh the IVOA main page to reflect the current membership and more generally current status of the IVOA.

ONGOING: current membership updated; possible new structure to be discussed during FM34S following AL's proposal

Long-term ACTION FM34-3: Liaison Committee to keep track of coordination with neighbouring communities at the official level (through ICSU) and at the technical level (with involvement of WGs).

4. TCG status
CA reported that many standards are at the final levels of approval, either ending RFC or waiting TCG approval before final submission to Exec. The science session will have impact on the TCG. Prioritization, implicit up to now, will be explicitly included in next year's roadmap. A key point refers to scheduling: different WGs have different schedules.
Interdependencies among WGs is also an important issue: it is necessary to identify the topics which are of interest to more than a WG, and to find a mechanism to get relevant people from relevant WGs to work on topics of common interest.
After discussion, it was **AGREED** that the TCG coordination tasks shall cover these aspects.
Several means were suggested to catch WG interdependencies and overlaps (TCG telecons and face-to-face meetings, description and relations of standards in document introduction, wider use of the Wiki pages).
ACTION FM34-4: CA: together with the TCG, update the IVOA architecture diagram: that will help determining the interdependencies amongst existing and planned IVOA standards as well as facilitating the required non technical pre-amble in the document for all IVOA Standards.

5. Reports by WGs
The WG and IG Chairs reported on the activity of their groups. MG filled in for RS in reporting the activities of VOEvent. WG and IG reports are posted on the meeting web page at
http://www.ivoa.net/cgi-bin/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM32
and their objectives for the meeting will be presented during the first plenary.
It was suggested to take advantage of the Interop meeting to have WG Chairs talking to each other to clarify possible issues on the standards in RFC, or else approving the documents.

6. Standards documents and process
BR, starting from BH's message to Exec making the case for the review process to be strengthened, reported on inconsistencies found in standards documents (Spectral DM + SSAP, both about 2 yrs old) while working on spectral services for the ESO archive. Most of the issues can be found even in the same document (SSA): tables overlap, inconsistencies in the cross-refs tables, summary (and lead to inconsistencies).
In the discussion, it was mentioned that the documents had been released before the TCG came to existence. Furthermore, due to the pressure to release SSAP implementations, it was a choice to leave inconsistencies. This shall be fixed before a new version of SSAP is released. The need to keep separate reference implementations, standards and validators.
It was **AGREED** that IVOA needs to have more consistent documents to have implementers; there is the need to find an equilibrium point between document terseness and the "good enough" philosophy necessary for quick release of the standards.
It was also **AGREED** that taking proper care of feedback from implementation is crucially important. Due to lack of time, BH's report was not discussed. It was **AGREED** that discussion on this agenda item shall continue during FM34S.

ACTION FM34-6a: CA: discuss with TCG how to deal with inconsistencies in documents, how to take care of implementers' feedback and how to keep track of implementations/validation.
ACTION FM34-6b: ALL: read BH's proposal on "Standards documents and process" for discussion at FM34S.

7. *Prioritisation path*
DDY summarised the report of the Prioritisation Committee for which an Exec endorsement is desired: 1. science requirements to be kept up front; 2. proper dissemination (schools, VO-days, etc); 3. a standing committee on Science Implementation (replacing Take-Up Committee); 4. modification on how we are doing business on take-up, more project-oriented.
DS mentioned the ObsDM/TAP project, decided at the Strasbourg Interop, as a good example of science focussed project which could be carried out (2 per year). This is now possible thanks to the background work which has been done by the WGs.
In the discussion, it was evidenced that this activity is complementary to WG activity, and that these "projects" shall driven by the awareness on the scientific needs of the community.
It was **AGREED** that discussion on this agenda item shall continue during FM34S.
ACTION FM34-7: ALL: read draft report from Prioritisation Committee and suggest changes for discussion and endorsement at FM34S.

8. AOB
a. IVOA Web site
ACTION FM34-8a: AL: distribute a written note on proposed changes to IVOA Web site
b. expiring WG chairs and Exec secretary
ACTION FM34-8b: ALL: send in confidence to FP names for the Exec Secretary

9. *Summary of New Actions*
Long-term ACTION FM34-3: Liaison Committee to keep track of coordination with neighbouring communities at the official level (through ICSU) and at the technical level (with involvement of WGs).
ACTION FM34-4: CA: together with the TCG, update the IVOA architecture diagram: that will help determining the interdependencies amongst existing and planned IVOA standards as well as facilitating the required non technical pre-amble in the document for all IVOA Standards.
ACTION FM34-6a: CA: discuss with TCG how to deal with inconsistencies in documents and how to take care of implementers' feedback and how to keep track of implementations/validation.
ACTION FM34-6b: ALL: read BH's proposal on Standards documents and process for discussion at FM34S.
ACTION FM34-7: ALL: read draft report from Prioritisation Committee and suggest changes for discussion and endorsement at FM34S.
ACTION FM34-8a: AL: distribute a written note on proposed changes to IVOA Web site
ACTION FM34-8b: ALL: send in confidence to FP names for the Exec Secretary