

VObs.it

Italian Virtual Observatory

From 2003 to 2005, the participation of Italy in the international VO activities has been delegated to a Ministry-funded project called DRACO (Italian Datagrid for Research in Astrophysics and Coordination with the virtual Observatory). In October 2005, a separate VO initiative (VObs.it) was established and funded by INAF (Italian National Institute for Astrophysics). The aim of this initiative is to coordinate within the unified VO approach the archives and databases developed by the Italian community. From time to time, VObs.it has obtained collaboration from several institutions outside INAF (ASI, CINECA, some Universities).



International Virtual Observatory Alliance

PARTICIPATION IN THE IVOA

VObs.it participates in many IVOA WGs and IGs: Chair of DAL and Vice-Chair of GWS. VObs.it hosts the IVOA internet domain, the mailing lists and the wiki. It also provides the IVOA Document Coordinator.

THEORY DATA IN THE VO

Italian Theoretical Virtual Observatory (ITVO): test project for the inclusion of theoretical data and related tools inside the VO. Integration of the BaSTI facility: stellar evolution models,.

DISSEMINATION TO ASTRONOMY PROFESSIONALS

Take-up of the VO within the scientific community, also within Euro-VO projects funded by the EU. Tutors at Euro-VO schools; specific activities for the Italian community (“VO-Days... in tour”).

DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING AND DATA

Interconnection of VO and computational infrastructures (grid and cloud): Grid Data Source Engine, FITS on the Grid, Grid-VO coordination, Cloud federation, Cloud-VO interoperability, Workflows.

VO APPLICATIONS

VisIVO (visualization and analysis of astrophysical 3D data), VO-Dance (creates services compliant with VO DAL standards), VOdka (agent which monitors the status of user services).

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND SCHOOLS

Services for higher education and outreach: dedicated simplified software and use cases. Specific VObs.it responsibilities in Euro-VO projects funded by the EU. VAPE (web app for VO publishing of educational data).



International Virtual Observatory Alliance

Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/CfA/R. Tullmann et al.; Optical: NASA/AURA/STScI