

IVOA Exec Meeting: TM123



10 September 2024, 20:00 UTC

Virtual Meeting

Notes: MH

Original: 28 October 2024—Initial Draft

Updated:

Distribution to exec@ivoa.net

Present (14)

Initials	Name	Institution	Email Address
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BB	Bruce Berriman	USVOA/NAVO	gbb@ipac.caltech.edu
CA	Christophe Arviset	ESA	christophe.arviset@esa.int
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CO	Chingis Omarov	KazVO	chingis.omarov@gmail.com
EC	Encarni Romero Colmenero	SA ³	erc@sao.ac.za
FC	Francesca Civano	CSP Chair	fcivano@cfa.harvard.edu
JE	Janet Evans	USVOA/NAVO, P3T Liaison	janet@cfa.harvard.edu
JJ	JJ Kavelaars	CVO, Exec Vice-Chair	jj.kavelaars@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca
MH	Marcy Harbut	USVOA/NAVO, Exec Secretary	mharbut@ipac.caltech.edu
MM	Marco Molinaro	VObs.it & TCG Chair	marco.molinaro@inaf.it
PF	Giuseppina Fabbiano	USVAO/SAO	gfabbiano@cfa.harvard.edu
RN	Robert Nikutta	USVOA/OIR	robert.nikutta@noirlab.edu
SO	Simon O'Toole	ASVO, Exec Chair	simon.otoole@mq.edu.au
TD	Tom Donaldson	TCG Vice Chair	tdonaldson@stsci.edu
YG	Yan Grange	NLVO	grange@astron.nl

Glossary

Acronym	Institution Name	Institution Website
ArVO	Armenian Virtual Observatory	https://www.aras.am//Arvo/arvo.htm
AstroGrid	UK VO initiative	http://www.astrogrid.org
ASVO	Australian Virtual Observatory	https://asvo.org.au/
BRAVO	Brazil Virtual Observatory	http://bravo.iag.usp.br/
China-VO	Chinese Virtual Observatory	http://www.china-vo.org
ChiVO	Chile Virtual Observatory	https://chivo.cl/
CSP	Standing Committee of Science Priorities	https://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaSciencePriorities

Acronym	Institution Name	Institution Website
CVO	Canadian Virtual Observatory	https://www.cadc-ccda.hia-ihp.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/
ESA	European Space Agency	https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/esdc
Euro-VO	European Virtual Observatory	http://www.euro-vo.org
GAVO	German Astrophysical Virtual Observatory	https://www.g-vo.org/
IVOA	International Virtual Observatory Alliance	http://www.ivoa.net
JVO	Japanese Virtual Observatory	http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html
KazVO	Kazakhstan Virtual Observatory	https://fai.kz/
NLVO	Netherlands Virtual Observatory	https://www.virtualobservatory.nl/
NOVA	Argentina Virtual Observatory	https://nova.conicet.gov.ar
OV-France	VO-France	http://www.france-vo.org
RVO	Russian Virtual Observatory	http://www.inasan.ru/organizational-activity/rvo/rvo/
SA3 (or SA ³)	South Africa Astroinformatics Alliance	https://sa3.ac.za/
SKAO	Square Kilometre Array Observatory	https://www.skao.int/
SVO	Spanish Virtual Observatory	https://svo.cab.inta-csic.es/main/index.php
TCG	Technical Coordination Group	https://wiki.ivoa.net/wiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaTCG
UkrVO	Ukraine Virtual Observatory	http://www.ukr-vo.org/
USVOA/NAVO	US Virtual Observatory Alliance	http://usvoa.cfa.harvard.edu
VO-India	Indian Virtual Observatory	http://voi.iucaa.in/voi/
VObs.it	The Italian Virtual Observatory	https://vobs.it

Agenda

1. Roll call and agenda
 - Regrets: Antonio Chrysostomou (SKAO), Mark Allen (Euro_VO), Joachim Wambsganss (GAVO), Ajit Kembhavi (VO-India), Oleg Malkov (RVO), Patricia Whitelock (SA³; EC attended on their behalf)
2. Review and approval of TM122 Minutes
3. Review of Exec Actions for TM123
4. CODATA Outreach
5. Report on the IAU General Assembly
6. Project Reports [significant events only]
7. Overall TCG Status [standing Item]
8. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [standing item]
9. P3T Report
10. CSP Status [standing item]
11. IVOA Website [standing item]
 - Draft new website: <https://webtest.ivoa.info/>
 - GitHub Repository: <https://github.com/ivoa/ivoa-web>
 - To report bugs and request changes: <https://github.com/ivoa/ivoa-web/issues>
12. Future Interop meetings
 - Northern Fall 2024: Malta - Week of November 10 (ADASS Nov. 10-14)
 - Summary of costs and contributions from partner organizations

- Northern Spring 2025
- 13. Date of next Exec meeting
- 14. AOB
- 15. Review of new action items

Next Exec Meeting: Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 16:30 CET (Valletta, Malta local time) / [15:30 UTC](#)

Discussion

1. Roll Call and Agenda
 - The names of the attendees are recorded.
2. Review and Approval of TM122 Minutes
 - The minutes are approved.
3. Review of Exec Actions for TM123
 - **TM120.1:** SO will request a deadline extension for the SPIE poster and manuscript **DONE**; he'll also send the abstract to Exec.
 - **TM120.2:** CA to investigate if registry statistics per country could be reported for planning at the Spring 2025 Interop at UMD in College Park, Maryland (USA). **IN PROGRESS**
 - CA reports that this is being worked on within the Euro-VO Registry.
 - **TM122.1:** MA will contact people from I-HOW Initiative in person at the IAU General Assembly. **IN PROGRESS**
 - Update from MA submitted by email: "The action about meeting I-How people at the IAU meeting didn't work out because they did not attend."
 - **TM122.2:** BB will look for a replacement for SG the IVOA-IAU WG. **DONE**
 - BB has invited Priya Hassan from Hyderabad. She is very active in the education community and a big advocate of the VO, having led several sessions. She has accepted and Exec has expressed its approval.
 - **TM122.3:** BB to follow-up with Giulia and cc: MM about adding Liaison WG back to IVOA Twiki. **DONE**
 - **TM122.4:** MM will forward email from the WG to OM regarding astronnet.ru publishing registry issue. **DONE**
 - Registry was contacted and they asked for more time; will circle back in November around Interop.
 - **TM122.5:** SO to investigate meeting rooms at Malta. **DONE**
 - Simon got a response. The large room holds 150 people. Three other large rooms were included in the quote with capacities of 50, 30, and 30. The quote

has been reduced considerably, which makes the total cost of meeting around €9,500. He will send around the spreadsheet with updated numbers. We still need to work out how the payment is made. MM has made some progress on that we'll address later in this meeting.

- 122.6: MH will set up Doodle poll for weeks of Sept. 9 and Sept. 16 at 20:00 UTC.
DONE

4. CODATA Outreach

- Some email discussion about CODATA and the possible connections between the two organizations.
- BB was elected by Diana to participate. Not much has happened. BB did get asked by Gabriel Giovannini to work out a strategy. It's all very nebulous right now. It has been noted that astronomy is the one field that doesn't have much representation.
- Their meetings are all held virtually.
- Is there value in making this connection?
 - CODATA appears to be similar to IVOA. BB said when he gave a quick overview of IVOA and FAIR principles, the audience was interested in the details. There is value there, but maybe more in extending our credibility with the rest of the international community than anything substantively technical.
- SO: The more people who recognize the amazing work done by the IVOA would be good, particularly when trying to prevent re-inventing the wheel.
- BB: IVOA can also learn from them.
- PF: Thought the IVOA was in touch with CODATA in the past. Good idea to re-establish this connection.
 - BB concurs. We should maintain continuity if we are going to do this.
 - SO: There is always the risk that if a single person is the point of contact and they leave, we lose that connection. If we make these conditions, we need some redundancy.
 - BB recommends having a second person who is also involved, preferably in a very different time zone than North America because the meetings are held at an unfeasible hour (~5 a.m.).
- CA attended one of the events and it wasn't the best use of his time. There was not much in common with other attendees.
- CC suggests giving talks about the IVOA at the International Data Week. It's a good opportunity for outreach. SO said there is an Australian contingent going to IDA (<https://eds.ukri.org/events/international-data-week-idw2025>). The next International Data Week (IDW2025) will be held in the vibrant city of Brisbane, Australia, 13-16 October 2025.

5. Report on the IAU General Assembly

- BB participated and coordinated with MA and it went very well. MA gave a session on HIPS and the VO, BB presented on FAIR, and there was other VO representation as well.
- We got points for not having it full of people representing the VAO; they want full engagement.
- BB's talk went very well; some interest in connecting international databases of international archives. Bruce is writing up the proceedings now.
- There was another session attended by 35 African astronomers that was purely in person for early-career scientists.
- MA and PW said the workshop went very well. Probably would be useful to ask MA for a report or outcomes from that meeting.
 - Encarni also attended and said it went really well. The IVOA sessions were good with lots of audience interest. Very positive, well done.
 - SO said he's heard positive feedback; one participant from Cape Town said it was the best meeting she's attended.
 - BB said the virtual streams worked very well, no tech glitches, etc. Everyone who was involved in the organization did an excellent job.
 - Encarni said there were a few glitches, but overall it went very well.

6. Project Reports [Significant Events Only]

- **ASVO:** The Australian Government is putting a significant focus on what it calls "National Digital Research Infrastructure," with \$850M AUD on the table to support it over the next 3-4 years. We have started the (convoluted) process to access some of these funds and are hopeful that we can at least double the research infrastructure spending in astronomy.
- **CVO:** We are continuing to progress on a draft standard for CAOM with the expectation of presenting it at Interop in November. The draft is currently with the data modelling working group. We recently began work on an extension to TAP / ADQL to enable features requested by LSST so that TAP can provide the functions needed for the Rubin user community.
 - CVO will present an introduction (over breakfast) of our work on IVOA to the World Data Systems Science Committee at their annual meeting here in Victoria next month (Oct. 16 & 17).

7. Overall TCG Status

- TCG met on 28.08 (20UTC), will meet on 27.09 (13UTC)
- Documents progress
 - RFC
 - RegTAP-1.2 - one missing comment & vote, otherwise ready for Exec submission
 - VOTable-1.5 - review progressing, TFC check at the next TCG vconf
 - other documents

- VOEvent-2.1 - missing a pull request before announcement of PR and RFC
 - UCDFList-1.6 - few terms suggestions to be checked before endorsement
 - ObsCore Extension for Radio Data 1.0 - looking after usage scenarios
 - VEPs & Errata status
 - SSA-1.1 Erratum 4 approved after checking Spectral DM alerted conflict
 - VEP-016 - final review and vote at next TCG
 - High Energy Data Note is progressing
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8. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [Standing Item]
 - None
-
9. P3T reported activities and status (JE)
 - Group met on Monday, Aug 26
 - Tasks are progressing; working toward prototypes with a goal to have them mature on the end of September time frame.
 - Four docs (IVOA Service Protocol, IVOA HTTP protocol, IVOA JSON serialization, IVOA Webservice Protocol) are in the works.
 - We plan to engage with existing clients before Malta. Plan will discuss at next meeting on Sept. 23, 2024.
 - Planning a plenary at November Interop.
 - Interop: November 2024 Interop overview and initial discussion
 - So far, a CSP/HEIG plenary request
 - WG/IG will start working plans
 - A draft (faked session) programme is already online
 - Proposal to think about organising splinters during ADASS XXXIV
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10. CSP Status
 - CSP met on September 5, 2024:
 - 10 attendees
 - Discussed overall plan for the CSP for the year: what are the science topic we need to focus and promote and bring forward to TCG?
 - large data access in the cloud
 - bulk spectra access and models
 - HEIG
 - Discussed Plenary Session at the Malta Fall Interop meeting
 - Science presentations from several high energy and TDAMM projects; 4 speakers are in the process of being invited; ask speakers to address IVOA topics if applicable to their mission/project covering alerts,

observing plans and coordination, data discovery and data access, data models. We could conclude the session with a pitch for the HE group to become an IVOA IG.

- Requested the plenary to the TCG (plenary granted) and asked for a plenary at the beginning of the meeting to promote discussion within the WG sessions.
- Two new members in the CSP: Judy Racusin (NASA, GSFC) and Minh Huyin (CSIRO)

11. IVOA Website

- MM: Only one person has signed up. This afternoon he had a video conference with Jeremy McCormick. We are a little behind schedule with the HTML pages to markdown. The goal is still to have the website ready for Interop and doing the switch at the event vs. before. MM asked Jeremy to give a talk on the web site effort; instead it may be a Q&A session to elicit feedback. During the discussion, they touched on opening the website for comments from the outside world (e.g., suggesting fixes, etc.), but someone would need to receive and coordinate the work. This isn't something for the IVOA Communications Coordinator.
- With the newsletter re-starting, they will focus on news and events on the main page that will be updated more frequently. This is a good topic for a future Exec meeting, perhaps at the in-person meeting in November.
- JE asked if MM has put out a call for volunteers. MM said they didn't get much response. JE suggests revisiting the announcement/invitation in Malta. MM said once the website is working it will be easier to discuss improvements.
- **Action: MH will include a newsletter discussion item on the Exec November meeting agenda.**

12. Future Interop meetings

- Northern Fall 2024: Malta— Week of Nov. 10 (ADASS Nov. 10-14)
 - Summary of costs and contributions from partner organizations: SO has the final number that he'll send to Exec after today's meeting. With the removal of one of the rooms, the cost has been brought down to almost 1,000 Euros, which brings us back into budget. The biggest challenge is to work out how to pay the organizers. They are very agreeable to the idea of adding extra funds at registration to cover Interop costs, but it's hard to get a response from the organizers.
 - **Action: SO will distribute updated summary of costs for November Interop.**
- Northern Spring 2025
 - We're pretty much locked into Maryland.
 - FC has been investigating but hasn't heard from Anne. TD hasn't heard anything since Sydney.
 - **Action: FC will send Anne an email and cc: SO to start the conversation.**

13. Date of next Exec meeting

- Have one more meeting before face-to-face in November?
- Next Exec meeting is Thursday, November 14, 2024, in Malta. Time TBD.

14. AOB

- None

15. Review of New Action Items

- **TM123.1:** MH: Include newsletter discussion item on the agenda for the November Exec meeting.
- **TM123.2:** SO: Distribute updated summary of costs for November Interop.
- **TM123.3:** FC: Send an email to Anne and cc: SO about Maryland Interop.
- **TM123.4:** SO: Reach out to Kai about Fall 2025 ADASS and whether IVOA is included.