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The IVOA in 2007: Assessment and Future Roadmap

IVOA Technical Coordination Group

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Abstract:

This document is the result of a study by the IVOA Technical Coordination Group with the intention of coordinating the IVOA Working Groups and Interest Groups. Specific objectives are:

- Building a roadmap for the IVOA that is a union of roadmaps for the Working Groups and Interest Groups.
- Ensuring productive crosstalk of the WG/IG so that workpackages cover relevant ground, but also do not overlap.
- Evaluating dependencies of one WG/IG on another and minimizing impact.
- Attaching milestones to the WG/IG roadmaps, representing planned achievements and target dates.
- Ensuring an effective evaluation of proposed standards during the RFC period.
- Providing a continuous reporting checkpoint to the IVOA Executive Committee on roadmap status.

1. Progress since Interop 2006

In the last year, there has been considerable progress in IVOA. The Registry infrastructure is now essentially complete, and full implementation by the global VO registries is imminent. The DAL group has completed the Spectral Access protocol (SSAP) specification, as well as great progress with related protocols. The Characterization data model has been completed. The ADQL-SkyNode paradigm has been restructured into a three layered architecture, where a clear separation has been done between the Language (ADQL), the Protocol (TAP) and eventual Services (e.g. Crossmatch). On the desktop, users of astronomical software are able to work easily with remote services, as well as local applications working together through standards such as SAMP (Simple Application Messaging Protocol, evolved from PLASTIC). The promise of VOspace is that storage will no longer be tied to a specific physical data location. Some national projects offer registration and certificates so that a small number of authentication credentials will have wide applicability without continual memorizing and typing of passwords. Several standards have been ratified by the IVOA Exec, including VOResource (registry record), Identifier structure for VO resources, VOEvent (for notices of transients), and a new set of UCD words. At the Interop in Beijing (May 2007), a number of blockages were removed on several major standards: Spectrum Data Model and Access Protocol, Characterisation, and Space Time Coordinates. We expect these to pass to Recommendation in a short time.

2. IVOA Methods of Work

IVOA interoperability advances through a balanced combination of "bottom-up" and "top-down" development. Bottom-up means developing standards that address current and imminent needs characterized by science-based use cases; top-down means maintaining a vision and overall roadmap of where development is going and what capabilities need to be enabled in the future. Bottom-up developers can keep the top-down model in mind so allow future enhancements without designing and implementing the entire model. This balance goes on at both the executive level and the level of individual working groups.

The IVOA long-term vision is built by a sequence of short-term, incremental deliverables. Standards are sized so that they can be developed, on average, in one year (from internal WD to Recommendation). IVOA needs interoperability, but this does not imply homogeneity of the VO. In particular, projects need the ability to innovate and deliver added value that addresses the specific needs for their own community of users. We are vigilant in seeking out areas where projects are working on the same capabilities, and we evaluate whether interoperability is improved by collaborating on a common solution.

We note that Working Groups establish focus teams to develop a particular standard. We note that Working Group chairs and vice-chairs work together to share administrative load.

3. Working Group Chair Responsibilities

- Each WG must have a clear Roadmap in a standard form - with planned achievements versus target dates (i.e. milestones).
- WGs should pay close attention to the top-level Technical Milestones, making sure each relevant milestone is inside the WG roadmap.
- There should be a checkpoint of progress at each Interop Meeting (spring and autumn).
- For each checkpoint, the WG chair should provide (i) a very short text report (1-2 paras) (ii) a progress statement on each element of their roadmap.
- The above reports will be requested by the TCG chair 2 weeks in advance from the IVOA.

In addition to the above responsibilities the WG Chair is also responsible for active comment (1-3 paragraphs) on each request for comment (RFC) that has been issued by another Working Group.

4. Interest Group Chair Responsibilities

- WGs require more effort than IGs. Reporting by IGs should be relatively low key and informal. This informality is a key distinction between WGs and IGs. WGs need to deliver a sequence of products in the form of standards documents.
- IGs should provide verbal reports at each Interop meeting.
- The Interop organising committee should request these several weeks before the Interop Meeting.

5. Roadmaps for the Future

The current roadmap situation (May 07) is summarized in Table 1, the Working Groups and Interest Groups, and Table 2, the proposed roadmap for each WG/IG. Since one of the main objectives of the IVOA is production of standards documents, the status of these documents is called out in terms of what type of document is being produced and the stage it has reached in that production.

In Table 2, documents that are in progress or in the future are labeled by their status in the IVOA document sequence:

- **inWG**: Preparation within WG, meaning that a draft is being circulated among a subset (or all) of the WG, and that action is on the WG chair to ensure progress
- **WD**: A Working Draft is available on the IVOA Documents page, at level 1,0 or greater.
- **PR**: The chair of the Working Group has notified the Technical Coordination Group and the IVOA Document Coordinator, and a 4-week comment period has started, with proper instructions for how to comment. This cycle can happen several times. Preferably, the Working Group should be able to demonstrate two interoperable implementations of each feature to be considered as a PR.
- **REC**: The Executive Committee of the IVOA has moved this to a Recommendation.

In addition to the above document categories, working groups or other groups can also submit a **Note**, which is not an explicit part of the standards process, but helps to make on going work visible and bring up new ideas.

6. Leading Issues

(1) Registry Graininess

The issue of registry graininess has been an on-going issue throughout the development of the registry framework. The so-called “fine-grained registry” approach encourages capturing detailed, possibly dynamic metadata into the registry. The motivation for this is not just to enable sophisticated resource discovery and also as an aid to automated planning for and execution of service-driven applications. In contrast, the “coarse-grained registry” approach prefers a registry that restricts its self to more general metadata with the expectation that more detailed information would be accessed directly from the service. The major concern about fine-grained information is one of registry metadata curation: detailed metadata is more likely to be either incorrect or not provided at all. This concern applies especially to metadata that is available directly from the resource (e.g. table metadata); without a tight coupling between the registry and services, it’s possible for the metadata in the registry to become out of sync or out of date with respect to the resource. This adds to the already large curation costs registries are faced with to ensure that the quality of the metadata in the registry is sufficiently good so that registries are practically useful. Today, we are beginning to see applications being built around fine-grained metadata in a registry, though we have not yet effectively addressed the curation issues. The fact that all metadata are shared across all registries via the harvesting stream, every registry must deal at some level with the associated curation costs regardless of whether it wishes to support fine-grained applications.

Recommendation: Since the current registry upgrade is a necessary step prior to putting into place more effective curation practices, we recommend that the upgrade be completed as soon as possible and at the highest priorities. Further changes in the relevant standards that could delay the completion of the upgrade should be avoided.

Recommendation: Curation practices aimed at improving metadata quality are needed to catch up with desire to develop applications based on fine-grained registries. After the upgrade is complete, we recommend shifting greater focus putting such practices into place, including effective use of automated validation of resource metadata and the standard services they describe.

Recommendation: Extension schemas that are expected to be widely supported across all VO registries must be put through the IVOA standardization process. Projects that wish to introduce extensions that are intended only for local support should consult with the Registry Working Group (RWG) regarding possible impact on all registries. Documentation in the form of a IVOA Note or, at least, RWG wiki page is recommended.

Recommendation: After the completion of the upgrade, the Registry WG and Grid/web service WG should develop mechanisms for harvesting more of the fine-grained metadata directly from services (through the VO Standard Interface (VOSI) specification), and for reducing the metadata that gets shared on the harvesting stream. A registry will then have greater control over how much information it manages within the context of its store.

(2) GetCapabilities method for Services

Another driver for making more detailed information available from the service directly has been pursued by the DAL WG: they wish to make the next generation of services more self-describing, independent of the registry. In particular, if the service can reveal its capabilities and behaviors directly, then service clients can directly negotiate with the service. It is expected that such information might often be generated either transparently or dynamically by the service implementation, and (therefore) it will be more up-to-date than the registry. The proposed way of getting this information to clients is via a *getCapabilities* method. There is still considerable discussion going on regarding the details of exactly what information is returned and in what form which has been holding up the advancement of critical service specifications (SSA, TAP). Further complicating the discussion is issue of registry graininess and how registries should get this information -- see (1) above.

Recommendation: In an effort to allow critical specifications to go forward, first-generation techniques for accessing service behaviors from the services should be adopted for current protocols, and the *getCapabilities* method should be spun off and incorporated into the VO Standard Interfaces (VOSI) specification. This will allow client development based on *getCapabilities* to go forward without holding back first implementations of SSA and TAP.

(3) Dependencies in IVOA Recommendations

There are some examples appearing of IVOA standards proceeding to Recommendation, that depend on IVOA documents that are not Recommendations. One of the first was VOEvent, with dependency on STC (not a Rec as of writing, May 2007). Other places where dependency could occur are UCD versioning, the VODataService (not a Rec) and VO Support Interfaces.

Recommendation: The rules for IVOA standards should have a rule that a Rec cannot in principle be dependent on non-Recs.

(4) Footprints in the Registry

It would be very useful for some registry records to contain a footprint specification, so that machines can decide if a given point or region intersects the coverage of a dataset or service. Currently the registry record can contain either (de facto) free text, or a full STC (Space Time Coordinates) record.

Recommendation: The registry WG should allow and encourage multiple ways to specify footprint, including: free text; STC, a restricted subset of STC (eg BOX, CIRCLE), pointers to footprint services, and ways by which footprints can be created by probing a service directly.

(5) Registry Harvesting and concatenated XML

A problem has emerged in the last year concerning the XML documents that registries exchange in the process of harvesting each other, and this is blocking the progress to Recommendation of the VOResource standard. A set of these documents (instances of VOResource) is handled by the registry with the (false) assumption that a concatenation of valid XML documents is also valid. The problem is with the ID construct in XML, which states that such ID values must be unique. In particular, the STC schema uses these IDs to identify coordinate systems for spatial coverage, although we should say this is a general XML problem, not specific to STC. A user might write

ID="UTC-FK5-GEO" href="ivo://STCLib/CoordSys#UTC-FK5-GEO" meaning the ID value can be used as an abbreviation of the referent (href value). However, if the same abbreviation is declared elsewhere in the document, the XML rules make it invalid, hence the problem with concatenating documents that all use the same coordinate system. A solution is emerging based on the following agreements (a) the ID value can and will be changed arbitrarily in an XML document without changing the essential information, and (b) this is easier to do if all ID values are easy to find in the XML; therefore (c) parsing software for the XML document must make decisions based on the referent value, not the ID value, and (d) the referent of the ID must be well-defined and stable, so that parsing software can recognize it.

Recommendation: IVOA standards should try to avoid use of the ID/IDREF mechanism, unless they have good reason to believe that conforming document instances are unlikely ever to be concatenated.

Recommendation: The IVOA registry group should develop a general approach for recognizing this pattern and handling such documents in the registry.

(6) SOAP and REST

In the IVOA, the term "web service" generally implies either SOAP or GET/POST/REST type service protocol. The latter are simpler to understand and implement and the software is much less complex and bug-infested, and therefore preferable for simple services; however, in some cases the extra sophistication of SOAP makes it optimal. A significant advantage for SOAP

services is that it is easy to create a formal interface document (WSDL), whereas this is more difficult for GET/POST/REST services (done by hand).

Recommendation: The Grid/Web Services WG should create a study to understand where SOAP is sufficiently advantageous and where the easier GET/POST/REST can do the job just as well. The Grid/Web Services group should re-examine the utility of the "VO WS Basic Profile" document in the light of the results of the study.

(7) Asynchronous services

As the VO concept matures, asynchronous services are emerging, where the response to a request is not the answer, but rather a way to check on the running service, which will eventually produce the answer. There is already deployment of asynchronous services (UK-VO, US-VO, France-VO, Euro-VO), and standards are converging. The GWS-WG proposal (called UWS) has the paradigm *Initialize job / Upload input / Receive quote / Run job / Poll status / Fetch results*; and the DAL proposal integrates asynchrony with astronomical services through the *stageData / getData / AccessReference* attributes of the S*AP protocols. The Table Access Protocol (TAP) protocol (see (12)) is being developed with an asynchronous capability.

Recommendation: Implementors of asynchronous services should utilize the UWS pattern. The DAL *stageData* protocol should be implemented using the UWS pattern. The TAP should base its asynchronous operations on UWS.

(8) Data Models and *utypes*

The concept of "*uType*" was defined in the IVOA as a response to the fuzzy nature of the UCD descriptor: if a quantity has a *uType*, then it must be part of a specific data model. Proper *utypes* would allow queries to be built independent of the underlying database structure ("where STC.coords.FK5.RA between 300 and 302"), and would provide a strong framework for parameter-based queries ("http://.....? STC.coords.FK5.RA = 300 &..."). However, many of the data models in use in the IVOA have XML representation only, and do not have representation as a hierarchy of *uType* values. We note that the syntax of *utypes* is not well defined in the IVOA, and also that in simple cases the *uType* can be cleanly derived from the Xpath representation of an XML element, so this should be a straightforward matter.

Recommendation: A subcommittee of the IVOA, consisting of the relevant persons across the various WGs (at least DM, UCD, VOQL) should review the situation of *utypes* within IVOA. The syntax of *uType* and its namespaces should be well-defined. Just as with UCDs, there should be services to find relevant data models and their *utypes* from search words, and there should be services to trace a given *uType* back to its precise meaning.

(9) Space-Time Coordinates

This large and comprehensive working draft has become a de facto standard in the IVOA through multiple implementations, and yet it is not yet a Recommendation. The IVOA should take firm action on this matter to resolve the status of STC. While there are several software packages that use STC, none of them exercises *every* part of the proposed standard. Further, there is often complaint from implementers about the complexity of STC -- countered by the contention that astronomical coordinate systems are complex by nature. What astronomers want in this area is **both** assurance that full rigor and precise coordinates are available in the IVOA; **and** the release from complexity when that full rigor is not deemed necessary by the astronomer.

Recommendation: In addition to STC, there must be a simpler system for everyday use, with mappings to full STC well-defined. It is a matter of defaults. For example if the information in the simple system is just RA and Dec numbers, this can map to the FK5 system with reference point at the barycenter of the solar system and the epoch 2000.0. Regions that are disks and RA/Dec intervals should be expressible in just a few characters. Alternate syntaxes should not only provide a straightforward way for a client to recognize its use, but also recognize its mapping into full STC.

Recommendation: Applications and standards should clearly describe the subset of STC that they are using, for example the Registry uses CIRCLE and BOX; VOEvent uses longitude, latitude, and error radius. This will allow consumers to build applications against these common subsets. However STC beyond this should be recognized and either be fully used or fail gracefully.

(10) Table Access Protocol

The TAP is under development by an IVOA subcommittee. The TCG expects that it will specify how an ADQL (or optionally an SQL) query can be submitted to a service for processing. The response will be in VOTable format.

Recommendation: The TAP should build on existing IVOA standards. Initial versions of the protocol should state clearly what it will eventually define, but mandate the minimum necessary to ensure a public release of the protocol is achieved without delay..

(11) Multiple Data Access

A principle justification of the VO itself is to encourage statistical studies of populations of astronomical objects, as well as the more traditional single object study. The IVOA should encourage this through multi-point protocols, bulk data access, and scalability of services to the grid.

Recommendation: Data access protocols should be re-considered in terms of their ability to handle multiple requests and bulk data. The Cone and SIA services, in particular, do not handle multiple requests.

(12) VO interoperability with popular software

Most astronomers do most of their work with software packages like IDL, IRAF, DS9, MIDAS, SExtractor, etc. It is highly desirable that these be interoperable with the VO framework through use of VO services and desktop messaging.

Recommendation: The VO national projects and Applications WG should assess VO interoperability with these popular astronomy software packages and environments.

(13) Bundling of VO software

Bundling of astronomy software such as the Scisoft and ex-Starlink collections provides a convenient way of distributing many packages at once to ease the burden of installation. Bundled distributions of VO software would assist in up-take of VO tools, and we note that Scisoft VII will contain a selection of VO software.

Recommendation: The list of VO Applications maintained on the (publicly editable) Apps WG wiki pages serve as a place for Applications to be visible for parties compiling collections of VO tools.

(14) Interoperable Security: Security and authentication is being implemented in several new efforts. The Astrogrid (UK-VO) project has built a sophisticated workflow system for asynchronous computations and is adding authentication; a complementary project from the US NVO project is exploring the idea of “graduated security” for giving community access to high-performance computing. While the IVOA has a mature Single-signon standard for security, using X.509 certificates, there has been little discussion of which VO projects are issuing certificates and the levels of authentication taking place, and which VO projects will accept certificates from which other projects.

Recommendation: The Grid-Web Services WG should create a listing of certificate authorities in the national projects, how to get a certificate from each, what can be done with the certificate, and compliance to accreditation guidelines (eg PMA¹).

¹ <http://www.gridpma.org/>

Recommendation: VO organizations should encourage their users to obtain certificates from PMA-accredited Certificate Authorities where possible, or, failing this, from properly accredited certificate authorities inside the VObs movement.

Recommendation: Service providers in the VO should be encouraged to accept by default only certificates from PMA-accredited certificate authorities and certificate authorities accredited within the VO movement. They may choose also to accept "weak certificates" for cases where the providers deem this to be sufficiently safe.

Recommendation: The IVOA should choose a set of guidelines for VO-accredited certificate authorities, basing the guidelines on those for the PMA-accredited authorities.

(15) Units: Most scientific quantities carry units, and data returned from IVOA services should also carry explicit unit information when not clear implicitly. Units should follow the IAU recommendation², and/or the VOTable recommendation³. When a user makes a query based on a quantity, units can either be user-defined or fixed. In the former case, the user has the freedom to express the quantity in arbitrary units (eg. *calories per square furlong per hour!*), or an enumerated choice (eg. *Angstroms OR nanometers*). In the case of fixed units, the data model of the query is bound to specific units (eg *all angles must be in decimal degrees*).

Recommendation: A study by the Data Model Working Group of how units are used in IVOA views and services, where it would be appropriate to simply fix the units, and where it is necessary to allow freedom of choice, distinguishing between unit choice in the user interface and in the back-end services. In the latter case, the report should also recommend on how unit conversion is implemented: who is responsible and the nature of the software.

(16) IVOA Newsletter

Recommendation: The global VO community would be well-served by an IVOA newsletter, including announcements from national projects and working groups, events, press coverage of VO issues, etc.

² Recommendations Concerning Units, <http://www.iau.org/Units.234.0.html>

³ <http://cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr/devcorner.gml>

Table 1: IVOA Working Groups and Interest Groups

Working/Int. Group	Chair and vice-Chair	Current priorities
Applications	WG Mark Allen Mark Taylor	Various application news. Application messaging standards.
Data Access Layer (DAL)	WG Keith Noddle Markus Dolensky	Spectral Energy Distribution (with DM). Simple Spectral Access, Level 2 Image Access (datacube), Characterisation, Table Access Protocol (with VOQL)
Data Curation and Preservation (DCP)	IG Bob Hanisch	Metadata formats and methods. Evaluating Preservation environments (eg Dspace, Fedora).
Data Models (DM)	WG Mireille Louys Anita Richards	Spectrum DM and Spectral Energy Distribution (with DAL); Characterization (of observations); Space-Time coordinates (STC); Spectral line (atomic line)
Event	WG Roy Williams Rob Seaman	Production implementations and community partnerships. Prototyping new features. Event transport. Event Semantics WD 1.1 and schema. Registry extensions for publisher and repository.
Grid-Web Services (GWS)	WG Matthew Graham	Security, trust, single sign-on. VOSpace. Asynchronous services. Support interfaces for services: metadata extraction, availability reporting, service logging.
Query Language (VOQL)	WG Pedro Osuna Yuji Shirasaki	Astronomical Data Query Language (ADQL) Table Access Protocol (with DAL) Integration with DAL
Registry	WG Ray Plante Aurelien Stebe	Resource Metadata, semantics and schema. Service Interfaces. Extension Schemas. Registry of registries Registering general services and applications. Query languages for the registry.
Semantics/UCD	WG Andrea Preite-Martinez Sebastien Derriere	Updating and agreeing UCD list. Workflow for changes to list. Role of ontology. Standard vocab for Process/Objects
Systems Architecture & Technical Coordination (TCG)	Roy Williams Christophe Arviset	VO Architecture. Technical Coordination Group: overlap, dependencies, RFC process.
Table	WG Francois Ochsenbein	Parsers, implementations and bug fixes.
Theory	IG Gerard Lemson Herve Wozniak	Data Modelling and Formats (Lemson et al); Access Protocol – N-body and mesh simulations Semantics and UCDs for Theory (Shaw et al).

Table2: **IVOA WG Roadmap May 2007**

The ten standards in bold text are those intended to complete the PR process before the Interop in September 2007.

Date	WG/IG	Standard	Status	Responsible
Oct-03	SD	IVOA Document Standards V1.0	REC	Hanisch
Aug-04	Table	VOTable V1.1	REC	Ochsenbein
Jun-06	Semantics	Maintenance of the list of UCD words	REC	Derriere, Preite Martinez
Mar-07	Registry	IVOA Identifiers V1.12	REC	Plante, Linde, Williams, Noddle
Mar-07	Registry	Resource Metadata for the Virtual Observatory V1.12	REC	Hanisch
Apr-07	Semantics	UCD1+ vocabulary V1.23	REC	Derriere, Preite Martinez
Oct-06	Event	VOEvent V1.1	REC	Williams, Seaman
Feb-07	DAL	Simple Cone Search V1.0	PR	Plante
Apr-07	DM	Space Time Coordinates-V1.3	PR	Rots
May-07	DAL	Simple Spectral Access V1.0	PR	Tody, Dolensky
May-07	DAL	SIA-Level2 (cubes etc)	inWG	Tody, Bonnarel
May-07	DAL	Table Access Protocol	inWG	Osuna, Tody
May-07	DM	Spectrum V1.0	PR	McDowell, Tody
May-07	Registry	Registry of Registries v1.00	Note	Plante
May-07	VOQL	Astronomical Data Query Language V1.5	WD	Osuna, Shirasaki
Aug-07	DAL	Simple Image Access V1.0	PR	Tody, Plante
Jun-07	DM	Characterisation V1.11	PR	Bonnarel, Louys
Jun-07	Registry	Outreach Imagery Metadata v1.0	WD	Hurt, ??
Jul-07	Apps	Application Messaging (SAMP)	Note	Allen, Fitzpatrick, Taylor, Taylor
Jul-07	GWS	VO Support Interfaces	WD	Rixon
Jul-07	GWS	VOSpace V1.0	PR	Graham, Harrison, Morris, Rixon
Jul-07	Registry	Registry Interfaces v1.01	WD	Benson, Plante
Jul-07	Registry	VOResource v1.00	PR	Plante
Jul-07	Registry	VODataService Extension Schema v1.00	WD	Plante
Jul-07	Registry	Outreach Imagery Metadata v1.0	PR	Hurt, Hanisch
Aug-07	DM	Atomic Line Lists-v1.0	WD	Dubernet, Osuna
Aug-07	GWS	Single Signon Authentication V1.0	PR	Rixon
Aug-07	Registry	VODataService v1.00 Extension Schema	PR	Plante
Aug-07	Registry	VOResource v1.00	REC	Plante
Aug-07	Registry	Outreach Imagery Metadata v1.0	REC	Hurt, Hanisch
Aug-07	Table	VOTable V1.2	REC	Ochsenbein
Sep-07	DAL	Spectral Line Access V1.0	PR	Salgado, Osuna
Oct-07	GWS	VOSpace V1.1	WD	Graham, Morris, Plante, Rixon
Sep-07	Registry	VODataService v1.00 Extension Schema	REC	Plante
Sep-07	Registry	Registry Interfaces v1.01	PR	Benson, Plante

Sep-07	Theory	Simple Numerical Access Data Model	Note	Lemson
Sep-07	Theory	Simple Numerical Access Protocol	Note	Lemson, Gheller
Sep-07	DAL	Simple Image Access V2.0	inWG	Tody, Bonnarel
Sep-07	Apps	Application Messaging (SAMP)	WD	Allen, Fitzpatrick, Taylor, Taylor
Sep-07	Table	STC in VOTable	Note	Rots, Ochsenbein, McDowell
Sep-07	VOQL	Table Access Protocol V0.1	WD	Osuna, Noddle
Oct-07	DM	Atomic Line Lists-v1.0	PR	Dubernet, Osuna
Oct-07	DM	Spectral Energy Density-V1.0	WD	McDowell, Tody
Oct-07	DM	Utypes for Data Models	Note	McDowell
Oct-07	GWS	VO Basic Profile V1.0	PR	Schaaf
Oct-07	DAL	Spectral Line Access V1.0	PR	Salgado, Osuna
Oct-07	DAL	Simple Spectral Access V1.1	PR	Tody, Dolensky
Oct-07	Registry	Registry Interfaces v1.01	REC	Benson, Plante
Oct-07	Registry	VOApplications Extension Schema v1.0	PR	Harrison
Oct-07	Registry	VOStandard Extension Schema v1.0	PR	Harrison
Oct-07	Semantics	Ontology of astronomical object types: A use-case	Note	Derriere, Preite Martinez, Richard
Nov-07	Registry	VOApplications Extension Schema v1.0	REC	Harrison
Nov-07	Registry	VOStandard Extension Schema v1.0	REC	Harrison
Apr-08	DAL	Simple Image Access V2.0	WD	Tody, Bonnarel
Jun-08	Event	VOEvent Registry Extension Schema	WD	Seaman, Graham
Jun-08	GWS	Single Signon Delegation Services V1.0	WD	Plante, Rixon and Taffioni
Jun-08	GWS	Single Signon Community Services V1.0	WD	Plante, Rixon and Taffioni
Jun-08	GWS	VOSpace V2.0	inWG	Graham, Morris, Plante, Rixon
Jun-08	GWS	Harvesting logging data	WD	Thakar
Jul-09	Registry	SIA Extended Resource Metadata	WD	
Jul-09	Registry	SCS Extended Resource Metadata	WD	