

# SAMP4IDL

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# Motivations

- IDL is widely used in the astronomy community, but is somewhat isolated from the VO world
- SAMP4IDL
  - Attempt to enable SAMP features in IDL scripts
    - In “pure” IDL (**no** Java Bridge)
    - Compatible with GDL (IDL open source clone)
  - Use VO tools from IDL as helper applications
  - Bring astronomers to the VO through IDL

# API overview

- *register/unregister*
- *find application* by name/by supported mtype
- shortcut functions to send notifications for most common mtypes:
  - `image.load.fits`
  - `table.load.votable`
  - `spectrum.load.ssa-generic`
  - `table.select.rowList`
  - `coord.pointAt.sky`

# SAMP4IDL status



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- The good news
  - It works !!



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- The not so good news
  - GDL does not support IDLnetURL --> has to use *wget* system call for XML-RPC communications



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- The “bad” news

- Limited to SAMP *notifications*
- No asynchronous calls, no callable client (would require a XML-RPC *server*)
- XML-RPC parsing is currently done by hand (a real pain)

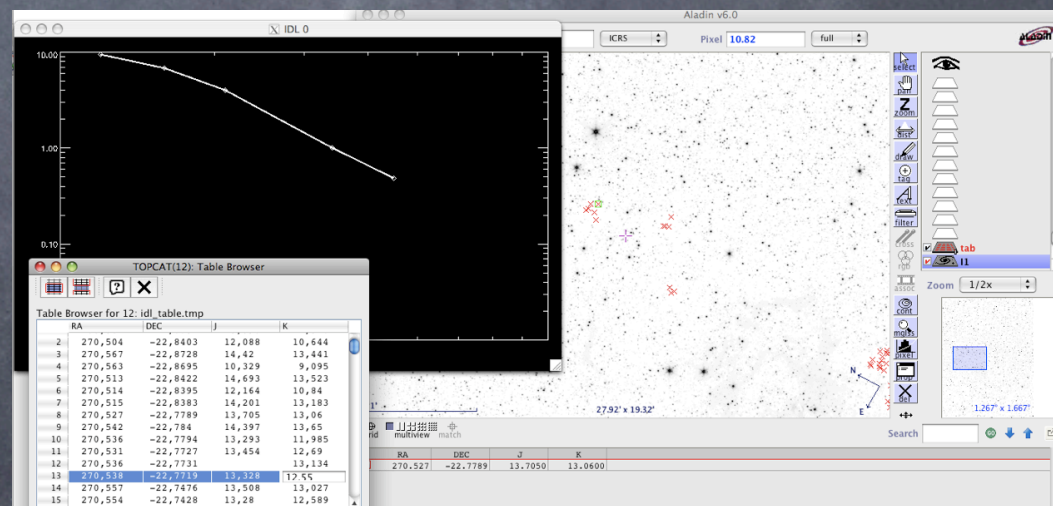


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# Demo

- Simple examples
  - Sending an image
  - Sending a catalogue
- Laurent Cambresy (CDS) beta tested this API for its own needs
  - Simple visualization in Aladin from an IDL application





# Perspectives

- Work in progress ...
  - Refactoring needed
    - Make XML-RPC manipulation more generic
    - Make code more object oriented
    - Documentation and examples currently missing
  - First beta version end of May
  - Contact : *thomas.boch at astro.unistra.fr*



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