

Operations IG Closing Summary

IVOA INTEROP MEETING
GÖRLITZ, GERMANY
NOVEMBER 2025

Chair: Steve Groom (Caltech/IPAC)
Vice-Chair: Tamara Civera (CEFCA)

Operations IG Closing, Görlitz, 14 November 2025

Ops Session

Session #6: Saturday 15 November, 11:00-12:30 CET (UT+1)

- Improving data access services in the VO - Henrik Norman
- IRSA VO Accomplishments in 2025 and what's next – Anastasia Laity
- ESDC Statistics and LLM Crawlers – Rach Bhatawdekar / Deborah Baines
- Managing Automated Access: Experience from OAJ – Tamara Civera
- Managing Intense Web Activities – Gilles Landais
- Discussion

Ops Session

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- Discussion topic ideas:
 - Dealing with bots and AI-related traffic against VO services
 - Mandatory authentication: What it means for VO services
 - Providing VO services for cloud-hosted data
 - Others?

Summary

- Validators and compliance report
 - Compliance mostly quite good, steadily improving
 - Doing more followup with providers to correct deficiencies, with good response
 - Providers appreciate the feedback!
 - Many fixes have been implemented, or expected soon
- Cloud data&compute
 - Major astronomy datasets, analysis, moving into the cloud
 - Not hypothetical - happening now

Summary

- Bots and crawlers
 - Providers reporting increasing load and disruption on their services from automated clients: programmatic science usage, also AI/scrapers
 - Providers need to manage load/DOS, ensuring fair access for science users
 - Some sort of mandatory authentication seen by several as inevitable, to help them block problematic usage
 - **How to introduce authentication with minimal disruption to the community?**
 - Federated auth – avoid lots of separate logins
 - OAuth2/OIDC seems a good basis
 - ORCID? GitHub?
 - *Looking forward to more collaboration on this*
- *Go Together ==> Go Far*