VO implementation at Observatorio Astrofísico de Javalambre

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CEFCA and the OAJ

The Observatorio Astrofisico de Javalambre (OAJ, Teruel, Spain)

CEFCA is an institution of the Government of Aragón for research in *Astrophysics and Cosmology*, whose activities focus on the technological development and operation of the Observatorio Astrofísico de Javalambre (OAJ, Teruel, Spain) and on its scientific exploitation.

Telescopes and instrumentation at OAJ

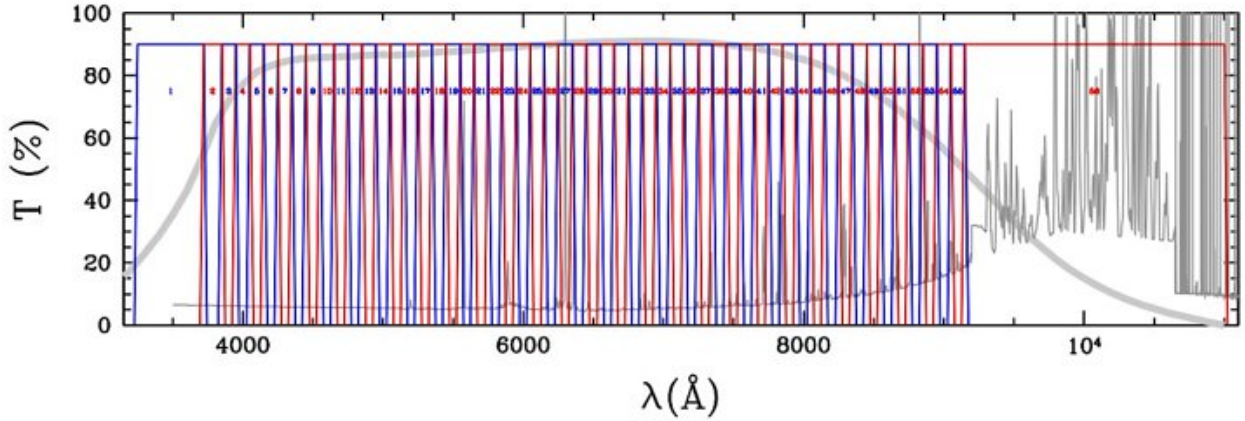
Two main telescopes with large fields of view (FoV) and image quality all over their entire FoVs:

- The 80cm Javalambre Auxiliary Survey Telescope, JAST/T80, with a FoV of **2 deg**.
- The 2.5m Javalambre Survey Telescope, JST/T250, a large-etendue telescope with a FoV of **3 deg** diameter.

The scientific instruments for the telescopes are:

- For the JAST/T80 a wide-field camera equipped with a **9.2k-by-9.2k** high efficiency CCD.
- JPCam is a wide field **14 CCD-mosaic** camera that for the JST/T250.

J-PLUS and J-PAS Surveys

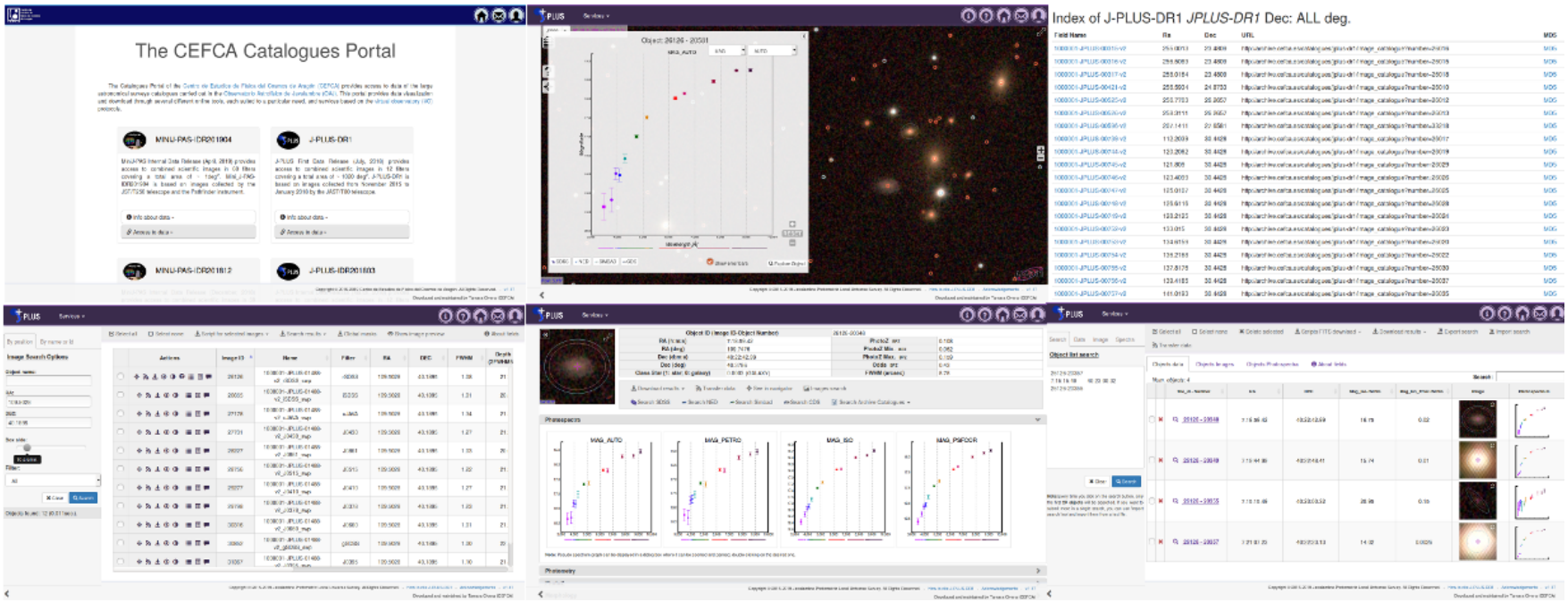


JPCam filter system

- Javalambre-Photometric Local Universe Survey, J-PLUS, is a photometric sky survey of 8500 deg^2, using a set of **12** broad, intermediate and narrow band filters. Designed to carry out the photometric calibration of J-PAS.
- Javalambre Physics of the Accelerating Universe Astrophysical Survey, J-PAS, is an unprecedented photometric sky survey of 8500 deg^2 in **59 colors**, using 54 narrow plus 5 broad bands.

Data Publication

Web Portal: Sky Navigator, Image Search, Cone Search, Object Visualization, Object List Search, MOC Download.



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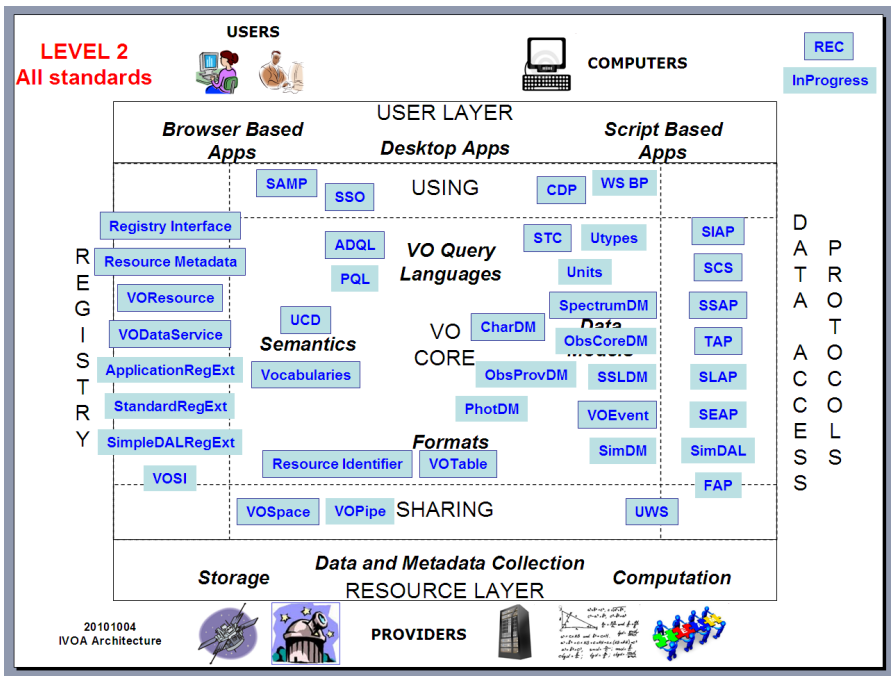
Choosing VO Services



- Simple Image Access: image search and download (full and *cutouts*).
- Simple Cone Search: catalogue object search.
- TAP: search images, catalogue objects, derived data (*photo-redshifts*, stellarity, ...). Describe data.
- SAMP: push data from our web portal.

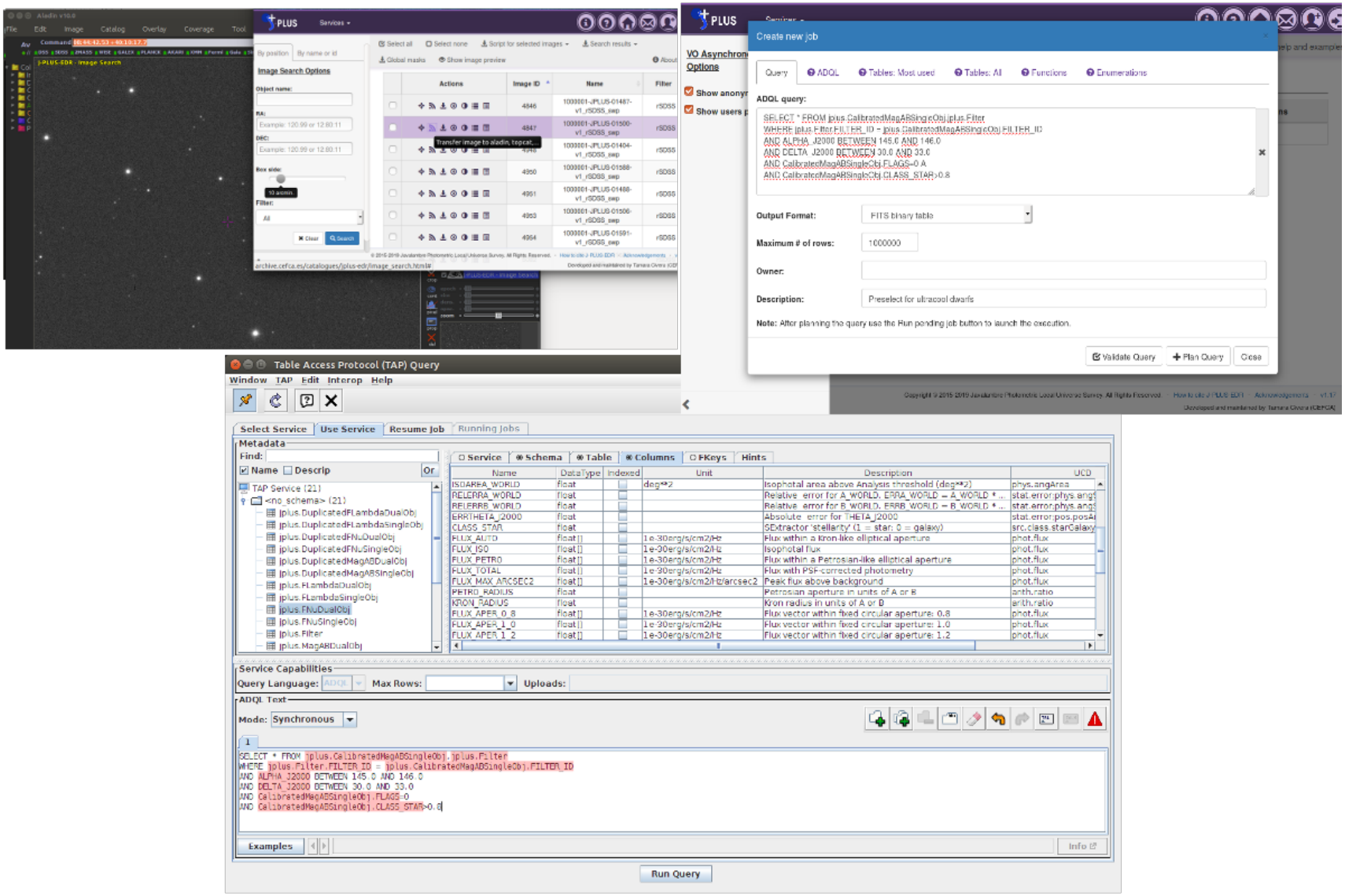
Implementation: The Data Layer

- We wanted a open source SQL database (*ADQL friendly*).
- J-PLUS and J-PAS Catalogue final data is expected to occupy several terabytes.
- With flux and error measures for about 16 apertures in 59 filters, just for photometry, we have 1888 columns of data in the object table.
- **PostgreSQL** has known support of big databases, support for custom functions, and *array types* (which simplify storing all filter flux data in one column).
- Spatial index in the database is very important, we opted to use **Healpix**.

Implementation: The Web Layer

- The **Python** programming language was in use in the house for the reduction pipelines, so we evaluated it for creating web applications.
- The Python WSGI specification, with a lot of implementations (Apache mod_wsgi, Unicorn, uWSGI, ...), supports web applications.
- A lot of frameworks (Pyramid, Flask, Django, ...) simplify development, easily map a Python function to a web URL, and access to web parameters.
- Large amount of libraries for astronomy, database access, and Healpix are available.

And some results ...



SAMP with Aladin. TAP web interface. TAP Topcat.

A few lessons learned

- TAP more difficult that we thought. The idea to pass directly queries to the database was not feasible, needed a SQL dialect translation. But good for security, limiting result size or add our extensions (*enumerations* to assign names to filter positions *'jplus::rSDSS'*).
- Also in TAP we found that implementing the geometric functions is very complex due to the rich functionality defined, so at the moment only partial support for that functions exists.
- IVOA centres on public data so access control is not standardised. We finally achieved to support authentication for some tools like Topcat using *Basic HTTP* authentication.

A few lessons learned (II)

- Performance is always something that at some point you have to improve.
- We initially implemented in Python the needed database functions for ADQL but later we moved to a C implementation because it is *ten* times faster.
- TAP queries can take some minutes to execute, so executing concurrently them is mandatory. Python *threads* have some blocking issues, fortunately Python *multiprocessing* package has a similar API.

Thank you!

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