

Canadian Virtual Observatory  
Status Report to IVOA meeting January 29, 2004  
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The Sloan Digital Sky Survey Data Release 1 was delivered by sneakernet to CVO in November and the data were transferred to SQL server running on a local machine. The process of transferring the SDSS tables to DB2 has proven to be challenging and informative in terms of database functionality. The transfer to DB2 is expected to be completed in February 2004. At that point data engineering will begin with input from SDSS with the goal of transforming SDSS quantities into the CVO generic data model for querying. An investigation is being done to determine the feasibility of transforming between data models on the fly as opposed to storing transformed values. This work is important in the context of the general problem of data access when non-standard data models are in use.

A project has been undertaken between CVO and the Human-Computer Interaction group in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Victoria. The purpose of the project is to do work flow analysis and task analysis and to use the results to improve ways of accessing VO databases. During the Spring semester a class of 60 undergraduate students are using the CVO Prototype as a case study in developing improved user interfaces.

CADC and ST-ECF staff visited STScI in December to continue planning the production of advanced data products which will be important components of VO. These include a second generation of WFPC2 Associations Stacks and products from the Advanced Camera for Surveys.

Ingestion of ROSAT RASS and pointed-observation catalogues continues in collaboration with the German VO (GAVO). Final work on ingestion of 2QZ source catalogues into the CVO Prototype is nearing completion. Other data content that is under consideration or in the planning stages includes the 2dF Galaxy Redshift Survey, the 6dF survey and 2MASS.