IVOA Full Meeting 13: FM13
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SDSC – San Diego, USA

09 Jan 2005: 10.30 – 16.30 PST

Notes: NAW   orig   12 Jan 2005
                                                  v0.2   10 Mar 2005
                                    added NVO rep v0.3   18 May 2005

Present:

Christophe Arviset   <Christophe.Arviset@esa.int>   CA   ESA (tel)
Francoise Genova   <genova@astro.u-strasbg.fr>   FG   F-VO
Dave De Young   <deyoung@noao.edu>   DY   NVO
Bob Hanisch   <hanisch@stsci.edu>   BH   NVO
Andrew Lawrence   <al@roe.ac.uk>   AL   AstroGrid
Tony Linde   <ael@star.le.ac.uk>   TL   AstroGrid (tel)
Reagan Moore   <morre@sdsc.edu>   RM   NVO
Francois Ochsenbein   <francois@astro.u-strasbg.fr>   FO   F-VO
Masatoshi Ohishi   <masatoshi.ohishi@nao.ac.jp>   MO   JVO
Paolo Padovani   <paolo.padovani@eso.org>   PP   AVO
Peter Quinn   <pjq@eso.org>   PQ   AVO
Ethan Schreier   <schreier@stsci.edu>   ES   NVO (from 2pm)
Doug Tody   <dtody@nrao.edu>   DT   NVO
Nic Walton   <naw@ast.cam.ac.uk>   NW   AstroGrid
Roy Williams   <roy@cacr.caltech.edu>   RW   NVO

Apologies:

David Barnes   <dbarnes@physics.unimelb.edu.au> DB   Aus-VO
Chenzhou Cui   <ccz@bao.ac.cn>   CC   China-VO
Markus Dolensky   <mdolensk@eso.org>   MD   AVO
Ajit Khembavi   <akk@iucaa.ernet.in>   AK   I-VO
Oleg Malkov   <malkov@inasan.ru>   OM   RVO
Fabio Pasian   <pasian@ts.astro.it>   FP   DRACO
Wolfgang Voges   <wvoges@mpe.mpg.de>   VW   GAVO
David Schade   <David.Schade@nrc.ca>   DS   CVO
Enrique Solano   <Enrique.Solano@esa.int>   ESo   SVO

Glossary

AstroGrid – UK VO initiative   www.astrogrid.org
Aus-VO – Australian Virtual Observatory   www.aus-vo.org
AVO – Astrophysical Virtual Observatory   www.euro-vo.org
AVO – AVO Science Working Group
CDS – Centre de Donnes Astronomiques de Strasbourg www.cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr
China-VO – Chinese Virtual Observatory   www.china-vo.org
CVO – Canadian Virtual Observatory
DRACO – The Italian Datagrid for Research in
        Astrophysics and Coordination with the
        Virtual Observatory
F-VO – French VO
GAVO – German Virtual Observatory   www.g-vo.org
GSC – UK Grid Steering Committee
VO-India – Indian Virtual Observatory
JVO – Japanese Virtual Observatory   jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html
KVO – Korean Virtual Observatory   kvo.kao.re.kr
NVO – National Virtual Observatory   www.us-vo.org
PDS – AAS Division of Planetary Sciences
RVO – Russian Virtual Observatory   www.inasan.rssi.ru/eng/rvo/
SVO – Spanish Virtual Observatory   www.laeff.esa.es/svo/

IVOA – International Virtual Observatory Alliance

Agenda:

1. Roll Call
2. Minutes of TM12
3. Review of open action items from previous meetings and their new
   status
4. Reports from VO projects
5. Status of January demos
6. Review and update of Working Roadmap (AL)
7. Working Group changes
7.1 progress implementing new VOEvent WG (Roy W)
7.2 new chair for UCD WG
7.3 charter for curation and preservation IG
8. IAU Symposium proposal (AL)
9. IVOA Strategy (PQ)
10. Types of membership (Dave De Y)
11. IVOA Calendar
11.1 check and update
11.2 Kyoto preparations (MO)
11.3 proposals received for Interop 2006 (summary from AL)
12. AOB
13. New (at end of list) and Outstanding Action Item Review
A. Appendices – reports from the VOprojects.

1. Roll Call

The participants – as listed above – introduced themselves.

2. Previous minutes.

Notes from meeting 2004-11-22 – at
http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaRepMin/ivoa-tm12-20041122.pdf –
AGREED

3. Review of open action items from previous meetings and their new
   status

3.1 Status of Actions

BH: expressed a concern about the number of actions that were remaining
open for considerable periods of time.

AGREED: Assign a completion date for each action.

AGREED: Each WG/IG should provide a status report for each InterOp and
each Exec meeting – thus four per year. These reports do not need to
be extensive, but should provide an update on key activities.

ACTION: FM13-3.1 AL: Before Next Telecon: bring forward proposed
procedure for WG/IG and project reporting.

3.2 Review of Open Actions

ACTION FM4-7.3.2 DS/PQ: produce a position paper on issues related to
data quality and data provenance.

CLOSED: PQ noted that the issue is now a wider one of VO Compliance.

BH: The NVO external advisory committee has suggested that a scheme
should be developed to enforce data standards for data made available
to the VO. The NVO project though believe data provenance is more
important, to allow users to make informed decisions on their use of
data.

Thus, it would be helpful to have a IVOA position stated on this.

It was noted that issues of compliance, provenance, preservation, data
quality, are each significant issues.

ACTION: FM13-3.2A FG/BH/PQ: Kyoto Interop: Organise a session (BOF) at
Kyoto to generate an IVOA position paper on data quality and necessary
level of compliance.

ACTION FM9-3.2A Doug Tody: progress the DAL SSA std to v0.9 (thus
implementable) by 1 Apr 2004.

CLOSED: Status of standards will in future appear in WG reports.

ACTION: FM9-3.3A JM: v0.9 DM std is required by 1 May 2004

CLOSED: Status of standards will in future appear in WG reports.

ACTION FM11-2.4 DS to produce a write up CVO experience of placing a
SIAP access on top of the CVO archive data sets.

CLOSED: DT reported that the CVO experience had been reported through
the DAL-WG.

ACTION FM11-3.1.1 NW/MO/RM/GR to bring a position paper on workflow
(covering script-ability and compose ability) to the Jan 2005 IVOA Exec
meeting. Canvas also Thomas Boch at CDS.

CLOSED: NW reported that a session (BOF) to discuss Workflow would be
organised for the Kyoto May 05 Interop.

ACTION: FM13-3.2B NW: Kyoto Interop: Organise a session (BOF) at Kyoto
to discuss Workflow issues.

ACTION FM11-4 Roy Williams: to work with the 'architecture group' to
produce a publication, based on the architecture document, that
describes the make up of the VO for a wider audience.

CLOSED: This action not now required, however ...

In discussion it was AGREED that there is a need for a paper
describing 'What is the VO' – aimed at a working astronomy
audience. This relates to the general front page http://www.ivoa.net
content.

ACTION: FM13-3.2C AL/BH/DY/PQ by Kyoto Interop: Generate material
describing 'What is a VO' aimed at an astronomy end user readership.

ACTION FM11-5.2A PQ/AL/BH/MO to issue the 2005-2007 milestones based
on the above list for comment.

It was noted that the IVOA produces standards that allow VO projects
to create operational VO's. The roadmap should clearly show what VO

functionality will be possible (based on IVOA stds) and when.

ONGOING: Close out date Kyoto InterOp May 2005: The external roadmap
has been updated in draft from – see attached paper 6. Comments
invited from the Exec by end Jan 2005.

ACTION FM11-5.2B PQ/NW – add in milestones explicitly reference to
IVOA standards being designed to enable large scale manipulations (so
numbers, size of data, resources). This should be a key indicator back
from the implementations.

CLOSED: These technical milestones should appear in the integrated
technical roadmap

ACTION FM13-3.2D AL: end Jan 2005: Ask the doc coord to rename
http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaRoadmap to 'Technical
Milestones'.

ACTION FM11-7.2: PQ – prepare a draft document that defines the
strategic overview of IVOA activities covering the medium term (3-6
yrs) based on the agreed positions in FM11-7.2. Input invited.

CLOSED: see agenda discussion and new actions

ACTION TM12-3 Tony Linde: call a telecon of registry leaders to
resolve this issue ASAP (BH, MD, etc). Probably need to be using
v0.10.

CLOSED: TL reported that the AVO demo would use Registry v0.10, AG
would provide both v0.9 and v0.10 interfaces for Jan 2005.

ACTION TM12-4A AL: draft proposal distributed to the Symposium
organising committee, and cc'd to the IVOA Exec, for last comments.

CLOSED: Proposal sent to the IAU, 3 Jan 2005.

ACTION TM12-4B BH, PQ, AL: send letters to Catherine Cesarsky and Ron
Ekkers noting that this proposal is to be submitted as a Symposium.

CLOSED: All IVOA Exec members are encouraged to informally highlight
the importance of the 2006 IAU Symposium to IAU opinion formers
(e.g. Division Chairs).

ACTION TM12-5A AL: Recommend initiation of the VOEvent-WG – Marco
Leoni to set up mailing list, forum etc. Charter to be uploaded to the
IVOA web site. Chair to be decide upon, report plus workplan to the
IVOA Exec in Jan 2005.

CLOSED: VOEvent materials being uploaded to wiki. Workplan and WG
activities to be provided in future WG/IG reports to the Exec.

ACTION TM12-5B DY: Contact US VSO as to the status of this group.

CLOSED: DdY reported that the VSO have been contacted and made aware
of the IVOA.

ACTION TM12-6A AL/MO/DY/PQ/BH/NW: bring forward possible definitions
of new classes of membership – associate, partner membership etc.

CLOSED: Agenda item at Jan 2005 Exec meeting – see section 10.

ACTION TM12-6B AL: Contact Areg Mickaelian ArVO that a decision on
this will be taken after the IVOA Jan 2005.

CLOSED: AL has contacted Mickaelian. (In latter discussion, see
section 10. it was AGREED that the ArVO would be invited to
participate in the IVOA).

ACTION FM12-8 AL: Contact VO projects as to possibilities for a
financial support package for attendees (at Kyoto interop).

CLOSED: It was agreed that we would invite expressions for travel
support to attend the Interop.

ACTION FM13-3.2E AL/MO – send out statement email to IVOA re
possibility of financial support at Kyoto Interop. This would request
that attendees could request financial support from the IVOA.

ACTION FM12-8.5 AL: issue a call for InterOp, VO workshop
possibilities in 2006.

CLOSED: status update at Jan 2005 Exec meeting – see item 11.3

4. Reports from the VO Projects

4.1 AVO

PQ: AVO project closed formally 31 Oct 2004 – it was a phase A
programme leading to Euro-VO.

The AVO will disappear to be replaced by the Euro-VO in the next few
months. Euro-VO will have a strong input from ESA. Martin Kessler will
represent ESA within the Euro-VO.

The Euro-VO is three stranded, VOTC (technology), VOFC (facility), DCA
(data centre alliance).

VOTECH is the first major part of Euro-VO/VOTC – a technology
development programme – 50%EU funded, 50% funded by the VOTECH
partners. 3.3M euros over the next three years. see
http://www.eurovotech.org

The kickoff meeting was held at the IoA, Cambridge 18+19 Nov 2004. see
http://eurovotech.org/twiki/bin/view/VOTech/VOTechKickoff for agenda
and online presentations.

AL/PQ/FG will be meeting the EU late Jan 2005 to discuss and explore
further EU FP6 funding shortly.

The DCA met in Paris in Dec 2004. Initial activities of this were
mapped out.

Thee will be a technical meeting in June 2005 organised at ESO aimed
at describing how data can be made available within the VO – see
http://www.euro-vo.org.

Within ESO there has recently been the creation of a new VO-Systems
department, headed by Padovani. This will be the ESO interface to the
DCA.

Jan 25+26 2005 is the date for the final AVO demo, to be held at ESAC, Vilspa, Spain. At this meeting it will be announced that the ESO archive will be opened to the world as of 1 Apr 2005.

4.2 China   [update: see appendix]

4.3 India-VO

No report received.

4.4 CVO

No report received.

4.5 DRACO

No report received.

4.6 F-VO

FG: Recent meeting of the F-VO science steering committee. Actions for 2005, include a Apr 4-6, 2005 at IAP, VO-F kickoff meeting. (VO projects are invited to attend, but meeting working language will be French). 7 Apr 2005 will see a one day technical day as a follow up to the previous VO-F technical workshop.

VO-F will be organising a science use cases workshop, autumn 2005 for 4 days in Obernai.

4.7 JVO

MO: After Nov 2004 IVOA telecon the JVO have harvested the NVO registry, but have failed to harvest the AstroGrid registry. The JVO will attempt this soon. AstroGrid have reported that they have harvest the JVO registry.

The JVO will be demonstrating the JVO prototype to their funding agency Weds 12 Jan 2005. By end March, the improved prototype will be shown at the Japanese Astronomical Society (28-30 Mar 2005). Science use cases will demonstrate the capability of the JVO prototype.

Members from JHU will be visiting JVO to discuss VOQL. FG visited JVO for one week at the end of 2004, a productive visit.

4.8 NVO   [update:see appendix]

BH: preparing for the science demo in January - ensuring that the apps shown to astronomers are intelligible to astronomers (remove VOspeak].

BH: NVO approach is to focus on tools rather than end to end science per se. Thus NVO are demonstrating science via a series of documents (written by an independent astronomer) which show how the tools can be used in action. This document will be available via www.us-vo.org.

BH: NVO will be presenting at the AAS this Thursday to the NVO oversight committee - IVOA Exec members are welcome to attend.

A NVO 'summer' school (Sept 2005) will be held (funds promised). This is likely to be of two weeks in length.

4.9 HVO   [update:see appendix]

AL: read through the attached report.

4.10 Korea VO

no report received.

4.11 Bulgaria

no report received.

It was noted that Bulgaria is not a member of the VO so reports will
not be noted in future.

4.12 RVO

no report received.

4.13 AstroGrid

AL: Current working system demonstrated at the Dec consortium meeting
– see
http://wiki.astrogrid.org/bin/view/Astrogrid/AstroGridProjectMeeting7.
A number of visitors from other VO projects attended. S/w has been
released as AG release 0.7 – see
http://software.astrogrid.org/downloaddocs/releases.html

AL reported that the second phase of AstroGrid has commenced, new
partners from Leeds/ Portsmouth/ Exeter/ Bristol.

AL: the project is currently accessing lessons learned from the
developments through the first phase of AG.

AL: AG spring school (sci/tech focus) in Cambridge 20–22 Apr 2005.

PQ: noted that he and TL had attended a PPARC organised review of
'applications'. Here they had to clarify that the VO projects are not
generally creating 'new' applications per se.

4.14 Australia-VO

no report received.

4.15 SVO

no report received.

5. Progress check for January demos

PP: reported on the AVO Jan demo. He noted that the AVO is science
driven, rather than the NVO tool driven approach. Two science cases
will be demonstrated in the Jan demo – full details at
http://www.euro-vo.org/twiki/bin/view/Avo/AvoDemo2005. A new science
discovery paper is to be published based on the results from the
stellar case – focused on the AGB-Post AGB transition.

There was interest in whether the AVO would be outputting SEDs in a
IVOA standard fashion.

BH: Gave a quick run through of the NVO demos which will be released
through the NVO web site at http://www.us-vo.org Mon 10 jan 2005.

6. Review and update of Working Roadmap (AL)

AL: reviewed the technical roadmap at
http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaRoadmap

6.1 Roadmap to January 2005 – status updates [...]

    * UCD 1+ : <nop>ProposedRecc to Recc : issue RFC : [RFC issued,
      comments being addressed]

    * IVOA identifiers : <nop>ProposedRecc to Recc : issue RFC : [RFC
      not yet issued]

    * SSA V0.9   (DM+UML+XML) : [2/3 complete, interface still in progress]

    * <nop>RegInterface 0.1 : [initiating]

    * VOResource 1.0 : [at 0.10]

    * <nop>SpaceTimeCoordinates 1.0 : WD to <nop>PropRecc to Recc
      (maybe January ?) : [new release issued Jan 2005 by A Rots]

    * VO <nop>SupportInterface 1.0 : WD0.2 to <nop>PropRecc to Recc
      (maybe January ?) : [a draft has been distributed, but not at
      Recc stage yet]

    * ADQL 1.0 : by December ? : [working doc at v0.9, early
      implementations in Jan 2005 project prototypes]

    * SkyNode 1.0 : by December ? : [working doc at v0.9, early
      implementations in Jan 2005 project prototypes]

6.2 Roadmap for 2005

Events:

     * Jan 2005 submit final Prague IAU proposal : [Done]

     * Jan 2005 Coordinated complex demos – San Diego, ESAC : [noted
       use of cross project registries in the NVO demos]

     * Jan 2005 Exec Meeting : [Done]

     * May 16–20 2005 Interop Kyoto : {being organised}

     * Jul 2005 – Euro-VO tech workshop – Munich : {being organised}

     * Autumn 2005 – ADASS + IVOA InterOp Madrid, Spain : [being
       organised]

     * Jul 2005 compile Data Centre take-up statistics

Products:

     * SIA 1.1 update with DM new Recc (May)
     * SSA 1.0 new Recc (May)
     * SIA ADQL integration 2nd half of year
     * RegInterface 1.0 (May)
     * Some sort of Theory Services milestone (TBD)

        * Characterisation, Quantity and Catalog(ue) Data Models
        * various 1.x upgrades
        * VOW-WS to 1.0 to 1.0 ?
        * Single Sign On to 1.0 ?
        * Async activities to 1.0 ?
        * VOStore to 1.0 ?
        * VOEvents 1.0 ??

6.3 Longer term goals

Technical Progress

        * Work flow 1.0 (2006)
        * Semantics/Ontology 1.0 (2006)
        * Preservation 1.0 (2006)
        * VOSpace 1.0
        * Various 2.0s ....

Other activities

        * Aug 2006 - IAU Prague : VO Symposium
        * Aug 2006 Coordinated complex events
        * 2006,7,8 ...Data Centre take-up statistics
        * Jan 2006 Reference Implementations
        * Jul 2006 Implementations feedback
        * Aug 2006 Compile science impact statistics

[status updates 9 Jan 2005]

In discussion no changes were made to the long term goals. However,
comments welcome.

7. Working Group changes

7.1 progress implementing new VOEvent WG (Roy W)

RW has provided a report on the early activities of the VOEvent
group. See Appendix A7.1

7.2 new chair for UCD WG

It was AGREED that Andrea Preite Martinez would be invited to become
the new chair of the UCD WG (replacing Roy Williams who becomes Chair
of the VOEvent WG).

7.3 charter for curation and preservation IG

RM: gave an update of the IG charter. He noted that one current
challenge was to add interested members to the group.

The draft charter was AGREED (comments (to moore@sdsc.edu still
possible till end Jan 2005).

FG noted that there was significant overlap with IAU Commission 5
(data) activities. FG will explore the possibility to discuss data
curation with the IVOA/IAU. Also possible to disuss with the LISA
community (http://www.eso.org/gen-fac/libraries/lisa.html).

BH: editors of astronomy journals (AJ, A&A etc) should be informed and
invited to participate in the curation & preservation IG.

8. IAU Symposium proposal (AL)

AL: noted the interesting comments from Virginia Trimble that were
received concerning the symposium proposal. These comments were
addressed in the final proposal that was submitted to the IAU. The
wiki page for the conference - with proposal - is at
http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/VoscienceIAUPrague

It was noted that if the Symposium proposal were to be declined by the
IAU, then an alternative plan might be to organise a Symposium in the
autumn of 2006.

9. Types of membership (Dave De Y)

DY presented his first draft defining 'associate membership' to the
IVOA.

It was AGREED, that at this time there was NO pressing need to form a
class of 'Associate Membership'.

It was AGREED that there could be a class of 'Affiliated Projects'
which would allow participation of telescope and other mission
projects in the IVOA standards making process.

It was noted that the IVOA Exec is composed of representatives from
projects with one representing project per country VO or regionally
based VO project.

10. IVOA Strategy (PQ)

PQ: discussed his latest strategic plan paper (V2005.01.04) (tabled at
the meeting)

The meeting thanked PQ for the generation of a very clear
document. Comments were invited by end March 2005.

The general themes of the paper were strongly supported. Especially
the highlighting of the continuing need for the IVOA to support and
develop interoperability standards in the longer term.

It was AGREED that this document will form a valuable top level
working document for the IVOA. (Many elements could be used in the
public description of IVOA).

There was some discussion as to whether or not, and at what level, the
IVOA would require a distinct funding line. PQ noted that IVOA
resources might be required to enable support of some key IVOA
activities such as training, documentation, sponsorship of standards
meetings.

ACTION FM13-10 PQ: May 2005 - bring forward a revised version of the
strategic plan paper for agreement in Kyoto.

11. IVOA Calendar

11.1 check and update

AL reviewed http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaEvents

A spring IVOA exec telecon is required - AGREED as mid April 13 2005
GMT 15.00.

ACTION FM13-11.1 NW: by end Jan 2005 - update page to reflect new

workshops, autumn interop dates etc.

11.2 Kyoto preparations (MO)

Detailed meeting pages, including finance support and registration to
be released by end Jan 2005. See link from
http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/InterOpMay2005

Issue of room booking (perhaps 20 double rooms, 60 single).

11.3 proposals received for Interop 2006 (summary from AL)

AL reviewed proposals.

- 2006 Canada (may interop) and Russia (small projects + autumn interop)

- 2007 China (may interop) and London (autumn after adass)

- 2008 Major VO meeting

12. AOB

BH: raised the issue of the process of promoting a document through the
IVOA.

ACTION FM13-12A BH/ Marco Leoni: End Feb 2005: Improve visibility of
document promotion process through the IVOA

ACTION FM13-12B AL: By Kyoto, May 2005: Upcoming changes may be needed
to replace/extend officer positions. Also, New deputy Chair required
as May 2005 see MO take over as IVOA Chair.

12.1 Next Telecon:

Next telecon is scheduled on April 13 2005 @15:00 GMT (= April 14,
00:00 JST)

13. New (at end of list) and Outstanding Action Item Review

ACTION FM11-5.2A PQ/AL/BH/MO to issue the 2005-2007 milestones based
on the above list for comment.

It was noted that the IVOA produces standards that allow VO projects
to create operational VO's. The roadmap should clearly show what VO
functionality will be possible and when.

OPEN: Close out date Kyoto InterOp May 2005: The external roadmap
has been updated in draft from - see attached paper 6. Comments
invited from the Exec by end Jan 2005.

----- NEW ACTIONS ----------

ACTION: FM13-3.1 AL: Before Next Telecon: bring forward procedure for
WG/IG and project reporting.

ACTION: FM13-3.2A FG/BH/PQ: Kyoto Interop: Organise a session (BOF) at
Kyoto to generate an IVOA position paper on data quality and necessary
level of compliance.

ACTION: FM13-3.2B NW: Kyoto Interop: Organise a session (BOF) at Kyoto
to discuss Workflow issues.

ACTION: FM13-3.2C AL/BH/DY/PQ by Kyoto Interop: Generate material
describing 'What is a VO' aimed at an astronomy end user readership.

ACTION FM13-3.2D AL: end Jan 2005: Ask the doc coord to rename
http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaRoadmap to technical
milestones.

ACTION FM13-3.2E AL/MO – send out statement email to IVOA re
possibility of financial support at Kyoto Interop. This would request
that attendees could request financial support from the IVOA.

ACTION FM13-10 PQ: May 2005 – bring forward a revised version of the
strategic plan paper for agreement in Kyoto.

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document promotion process through the IVOA

ACTION FM13-12B AL: By Kyoto, May 2005: Upcoming changes may be needed
to replace/extend officer positions. Also, New deputy Chair required
as May 2005 see MO take over as IVOA Chair.

PST 15:40 – Close of meeting

A. Appendices – reports from the VOprojects.

----------------- APPENDICES ---------------

A4.2 China-VO Report

From CC

'Since last exec telecon, there was mainly one progress from China-VO,
the third China-VO workshop.

The workshop was held in Wuhan, a central China city, from December 1 to
3. More then 40 persons attended the meeting, including 3
representatives from Taiwan. More then 20 talks covered VO overview,
Grid technology, VO related and potential related projects, VO education
and China-VO technic demonstration.

We spent a whole morning for discussion on the R&D strategies of the
China-VO. A direct harvest of the workshop is 12 (small) work groups
established on the meeting. They are: science WG, general WG, data and
data federation WG, Grid WG, data mining WG, visualization WG, data
access WG, high performance computing WG, Virtual Solar Observatory WG,
high-energy astrophysics WG, VO instrument WG, and education WG.

Spring festival, the Chinese New Year, is on Feb 9. There will be no
major activities from China-VO before and some time after the New Year.'

A4.8 NVO Report

From BH

Significant NVO stuff since September 2004 (Pune Interop)

Much effort has been spent on preparation for the January 2005
software release at the San Diego AAS meeting. Five applications have
been prepared:

Registry portal
DataScope
Open SkyQuery
Spectrum Services
Web Enabled Source Identification with Cross-Matching

We also are publishing a document describing how data providers can
publish their data to the NVO.

We have had some transition pains in going from prototyping to a more
structured, controlled software system. Progress has been made, but
much remains unsettled. For example, we are trying to decide on a
project-wide code/document control system, e.g., cvs. There has been
much debate, but no closure. We have had cvs running for two years
and few people used it prior to the NVO Summer School.

We have completed the transition to the latest registry standards and
schema. Took 2-3X more effort than we thought. Some (not all) team
members still have concerns about the complexity of the RM schema and
their long-term maintainability.

We suggested a simple approach to registry curation at Pune – a
service exists, is compliant, is described adequately. Not yet
fleshed out or implemented.

We have started working on a logging/tracing system. We would assign
a RunID to events/processes, and follow the RunID through the system.
This would allow us to track usage and see who or what processes are
invoking NVO services. A specification is in draft form, but has not
yet been implemented beyond prototypes.

Ray Plante asked to be relieved of chairmanship duties for our
Metadata Working Group, and John Good (IPAC) has taken on this role.
We have also renamed the MWG to the Technical WG given that it has
really been covering all technical topics for the past two years.

NSF is likely to extend support to NVO at ~$500k level to foster
community involvement. The NVO project could issue small, no-overhead
grants for small research and development projects. Funding for the
NVO Summer School II has also been assured.

NSF/NASA working on joint funding program for NVO facility. A draft
AO is possible by spring 2005. We have started discussions within the
NVO team to plan our proposal strategy.

We are addressing various important committees-O/IR LRP, AAAC-in the
coming weeks.

A4.9 HVO Report

From Ivan Csabai

- ACTIVITIES

Last year the HVO team in collaboration with the JHU group of the NVO have
been concentrated on the improvements is the Spectrum Services for the VO

We improved the Spectrum Services by developing an advanced version of
the 'my spectra' feature, which now enables users to save their search
results to different folders for later processing. When executing a

search from the web site, a search target can be specified, so spectra
can be downloaded in standard formats such as VOTable or XML, or can be
saved to my spectra locally, or sent to a remote web service.

A preliminary version of the upcoming VO standard spectrum
representation schema is also implemented allowing users to extract data
in a well-documented format which supports describing quantities with
UCDs as well specifying units in a convenient way.

Our further projects include the developing of a cross-platform version
of the service with an install kit to enable users the set up their own
spectrum service to publish their own SED databases.

- PUBLIC OUTREACH
The Hungarian translation and mirror of the SDSS SkyServer have been set
up at http://skyserver.elte.hu.

- GRANTS
A national grant of 50k$ partly for the purposes of VO development have
been attained for 4 years.

A7.1 VOEvent Working Group report for IVOA exec 9 Jan 2005

Author: Roy Williams

(1) Defining semantics of discovery or followup message as "who, when,
where, what, how" -- analogous to IVOA "Resource and Metadata". Draft
is document in place,
http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaVOEvent/VOEvent-0.3.htm
Objective is to use schemas as building blocks -- IVOA resource, RTML,
etc...

(2) Twiki page is here
http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaVOEvent Mailing list
archive is here http://www.ivoa.net/forum/voevent/ (waiting for links
from IVOA front pages)

(3) Working to interoperate existing alert systems
-- IAU Bureau of Telegrams
-- Gamma-ray Burst Coordinate Network (GCN)
-- RTML - Remote Telescope Markup Language
-- Astronomer's Telegram
Question: What other alert systems are out there?

(4) Planning for a 2-day workshop in Pasadena in March or April. All
IVOA exec are invited. Dates still fluid.

(5) We need an ontology of event types: it would contain for example
Comets, Supernovae, Novae, Outbursts Of Unusual Variable Stars,
Features On Planetary Surfaces. How can we make this?