

IVOA Full Meeting: FM25

27 September 2007: 16.45 - 19.00 GMT @ IoA, Cambridge

Notes: NAW

orig 27 Sep 2007

revised : 1 Oct 2007

Present:

Executive or Representatives:

Christophe Arviset	<Christophe.Arviset@esa.int>	CA	Euro-VO/ESA
Istvan Csabai	<csabai@gawain.elte.hu>	IC	HVO
Dave De Young	<deyoung@noao.edu>	DY	NVO
Pepi Fabbiano	<pepi@head.cfa.harvard.edu>	PF	NVO
Severin Gaudet	<Severin.Gaudet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca>	SG	CVO
Francoise Genova	<genova@astro.u-strasbg.fr>	FG	F-VO
Bob Hanisch	<hanisch@stsci.edu>	BH	NVO
Andrew Lawrence	<al@roe.ac.uk>	AL	AstroGrid
Oleg Malkov	<malkov@inasan.ru>	OM	RVO
Masatoshi Ohishi	<masatoshi.ohishi@nao.ac.jp>	MO	JVO
Paolo Padovani	<ppadovan@eso.org>	PP	Euro-VO/ESO
Fabio Pasian	<pasian@ts.astro.it>	FP	VObs.it
Enrique Solano	<Enrique.Solano@esa.int>	ESo	SVO
Alex Szalay	<szalay@jhu.edu>	AS	NVO
Nic Walton	<naw@ast.cam.ac.uk>	NW	AstroGrid
Roy Williams	<roy@cacr.caltech.edu>	RW	NVO
Wolfgang Voges	<wvoges@mpe.mpg.de>	WV	GAVO

In attendance:

Apologies:

Chenzhou Cui	<ccz@bao.ac.cn>	CC	China-VO
Areg Mickaelian	<aregmick@apaven.am>	AM	ArVO
Ajit Khembavi	<akk@iucaa.ernet.in>	AK	India-VO
David Schade	<David.Schade@nrc.ca>	DS	CVO

There was no representation from the Aus-VO or Korea-VO projects.

Glossary

ArVO - Armenian VO

<http://www.aras.am/arvo.htm>

AstroGrid - UK VO initiative	http://www.astrogrid.org
Aus-VO - Australian Virtual Observatory	http://www.aus-vo.org
China-VO - Chinese Virtual Observatory	http://www.china-vo.org
CVO - Canadian Virtual Observatory	http://www1.cadc-ccda.hia-ihp.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/
Euro-VO European Virtual Observatory	http://www.euro-vo.org
F-VO - VO-France	http://www.france-vo.org
GAVO - German Virtual Observatory	http://www.g-vo.org
HVO - Hungarian Virtual Observatory	http://hvo.elte.hu
VO-India - Indian Virtual Observatory	http://vo.iucaa.ernet.in/~voi/
VObs.it - The Italian Virtual Observatory	http://vobs.astro.it/
JVO - Japanese Virtual Observatory	http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html
KVO - Korean Virtual Observatory	http://kvo.kao.re.kr
NVO - National Virtual Observatory (USA)	http://www.us-vo.org
RVO - Russian Virtual Observatory	http://www.inasan.rssi.ru/eng/rvo/
SVO - Spanish Virtual Observatory	http://www.laeff.esa.es/svo/
IVOA - International Virtual Observatory Alliance	http://www.ivoa.net

Agenda:

1. Roll Call and Agenda
2. Minutes of TM24
3. Review of Actions
4. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [Standing Item]
5. Working Groups and Interest Groups
 - Clarification/Modification of the Standardization process (BH) Process and checklist as discussed in June
 - Revival of Standards and Process WG (FG, BH)
 - Policy Discussion of WG Transitions to Maintenance Mode (DD)
6. Status of the Assessment Working Group (DD)
7. Discussion of Google Sky, the VO, and the IVOA (BH)
8. IVOA and the next IAU GA (MO, RW)
9. Discussion of Possible New IVOA Members (FG, RW)
10. Support of VO Training Programs (BH)
11. Status of preparation for spring 2008 Interop (FP)
12. Status and venue for the fall 2008 Interop (BH)
13. Date and venue of the next Exec meeting
14. AOB
15. Summary of Actions

A. Appendices - reports from the VO projects - see the wiki at
<http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM25>

NEXT MEETING:

1. Roll Call

The participants - as listed above - introduced themselves, with apologies noted.

2. Previous minutes.

Notes from telecon meeting 20070712 are at <http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaRepMin/ivoa-tm24-20070712.pdf>.

The minutes were **AGREED**

2.1 Reports from VO projects and WG/IGs (to be uploaded to web page)

DY encouraged all to upload reports if not yet done. All reports at the wiki at <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingFM25>

3. Review of Actions and their current status

ACTION TM21-9B EXEC - suggestions to FG re possible venue/ form of a Oct 2008 meeting.

CLOSED: this will be in the USA - BH to update - see agenda item

ACTION TM22-6.3 RW - to discuss with the DM-WG the route forward with the STC std - and whether there is a place for a subset of STC for operational use in some cases.

CLOSED: RW to updated that the 'lite' version was no longer relevant - and that there was just the one STC std.

ACTION FM23-6B DY/FG will consult at the appropriate level with the appropriate Solar and Planetary projects and report back to the IVOA Exec

ONGOING: FG reported that there had been no progress on this action - which would now be handed over to DY.

ACTION FM23-11A FG: To consider this proposal in the context of the evolution of the Small Projects Meeting, and report back with a decision by July 2007 to MO.

CLOSED: BH to update on form of Autumn 2008 Interop.

ACTION FM23-S-1A: FG+DS, BH, DY, AL, AK, MO: check web site that goals and aims of the IVOA are clear enumerated

CLOSED: DY reported that the website revision/review was being looked at by the assessment group.

ACTION FM23-S-1C: DY+FG Investigate the possibility of 'News from the IVOA' to be issued after the Autumn interop.

CLOSED: DY+FG updated that he would issue a short summary of the Autumn interop activities. In the longer term the IVOA Assessment working group would address suggestions for how to implement a 'news from the ivoa' service.

ACTION TM24-1 FG: to check as to the status of VO-Korea

ONGOING: FG updated that DY would continue pursuing this action (FG noted that she had so far been unsuccessful in contacting Korea-VO representatives).

ACTION TM24-3A DY: add to the wiki the collated process for selection of chairs and vice-chairs.

CLOSED: see bottom of <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaRepMin>

ACTION TM24-3B RW: organise a telecon to discuss the role of the TCG

CLOSED: RW reported that the TCG was now meeting in regular telecons.

New ACTION FM25-3 RW/CA : proposal from the TCG would be brought forward to the Exec at the May 2008 InterOp.

ACTION TM24-4A RW/CA to generate an analysis of the three standards (STC V1.30, Spectrum DM 1.01, Cone search V1.0) and provide a recommendation to the IVOA Exec for approval or otherwise.

CLOSED: see discussion under agenda item. STC RFC at <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/STCMetadataRFC>, Spectrum DM RFC at <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/SpectrumDataModelRFC>, and Cone search RFC at <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/ConeSearchV10RFC>

ACTION TM24-4B RW/CA to formalise the process for TCG/Exec approval of standards and bring forward to the Exec for agreement at the next Exec meeting.

CLOSED: to be agreed at this meeting FM25. See agenda item 5a.

ACTION TM24-5 Exec: email DY if they wish to be part of the IVOA Exec strategy planning

group.

CLOSED: IVOA assessment working group formed.

ACTION TM24-6 MO: bring forward a revised Charter for the Astro-RG IG after discussing the interface with the GWS-WG with Matthew Graham.

ONGOING: MO noted that the discussion with GWS-WG was still underway.

ACTION TM24-7 RW/CA: submit a report, from the TCG, on the effectiveness of the standards process (<http://www.ivoa.net/Documents/#process>) to the Exec along with recommendations for possible improvements.

CLOSED: discussion item at this meeting.

4. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s)

DY reported that the set of eight standards are now formally **APPROVED** (seven were approved by the Exec by email in the period prior to this meeting, the SSA standard was approved during this meeting).

- SCS: Simple Cone Search: RFC at <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/ConeSearchV10RFC>
- Spectrum DM: <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/SpectrumDataModelRFC>
- STC - Space Time Coordinate: <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/STCMetadataRFC>
- CharDM - Characterization Data Model: <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/CharacterisationDataModelRFC>
- SSA - Simple Spectra Access: <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/SsaRFC>
- SSO - Single Sign On: <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/SsoRFC>
- VOspace: <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/VOSpaceRFC>
- VOResource: <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/VOResourceV102RFC>

The Exec thanked the WG members, Chairs, and TCG for the hard work carried out by them in developing these standards.

5. Working Groups and Interest Groups

5.1 Clarification/Modification of the Standardization process (BH) Process and checklist as discussed in June 2007.

BH presented his review of the standards process - see

<http://www.ivoa.net/internal/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingTM25/PR-REC-Checklist2.doc>

In discussion a number of issues were addressed:

- The TCG needs to ensure that in the process of developing and progressing a standard, that there is a good range of technical expertise either developing or reviewing the standards.
- During the RFC period, WG chairs should be reminded to submit their comments in good time.

New ACTION FM25-5.1A: DY/RW: suggest the contents of an induction pack to be issued to incoming WG/ IG Chairs.

New ACTION FM25-5.1B: BH: bring forward revised standards promotion document.

5.2 Revival of Standards and Process WG

It was **AGREED** that the **Standards and Process sub committee** be formed - this would consist of BH, FG, CA. It was further **AGREED** that the term limit of membership would be **THREE** years. The S+P sub-committee would review and maintain the process procedures of the IVOA.

5.3 Policy Discussion of WG Transitions to Maintenance Mode

FG suggested the idea of switching the VOTable-WG to a maintenance mode.

New ACTION FM25-5.3 FG: ask the VOTable WG to comment on whether they wish to switch to a maintenance mode, and bring their views to the next Exec.

6. Status of the IVOA Assessment

DY noted that the Assessment Group was: Dave De Young, Francoise Genova, Bob Hanisch, Fabio Pasian, Masatoshi Ohishi, and Nic Walton.

DY reported that a first meeting was held at the ADASS in London (26 Sep 2007). DY will bring forward a report from the group to a future IVOA Exec.

7. Discussion of Google Sky, the VO, and the IVOA

BH noted the new possibilities offered by Google Sky. However, he cautioned that there is a risk that confusing information could be returned through Google Sky and its KML resources.

Should the IVOA offer suggestions on presentation of information such as errors etc in these KML resources.

It was **AGREED** that the issues around the development of Google Sky would be discussed at a future Exec meeting.

New ACTION TM25-7: RW/ BH: will report to the Exec at the Spring 2008 Interop meeting as to

the development of Google Sky and its possible impact on the IVOA activities.

8. IVOA and the next IAU GA

MO noted that Ray Norris was aiming to submit a full proposal for a symposium addressing 'improving the rate of discovery'. This 3.5 day symposium would take a wide view but would also have perhaps a 0.5 day element related to the emergence and potential of the VO to improve research outcomes.

It was **AGREED** that it would be useful to convene a one day meeting under the auspices of Commission 5 - Data and of its Virtual Observatory Working Group.

9. Discussion of Possible New IVOA Members

FG/ BH and PP reported that there are several new countries which are indicating a willingness to become more involved in IVOA activities.

These include:

- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- Chile
- Venezuela
- Argentina
- Mexico
- Czech Republic

DY noted that the Australian-VO is again active in IVOA activities.

10. Support of VO Training Programs

BH noted that he had recently been approached by a number of smaller countries to lecture on VO related activities.

FG noted that the Euro-VO have a funded programme to support the dissemination of VO techniques and standards in the wider community, mostly European, but also other countries with which there are links. Thus the Euro-VO is supporting a number of VO training activities in for instance Lithuania and India.

It was **AGREED** that the <http://www.ivoa.net> pages pointing to training materials of relevance to the VO community should be set up.

New ACTION FM25-10 BH/FG: set up a shell information page which Bruno Rino (doc coordinator) will implement - which will link to project training materials.

11. Status of preparation for spring 2008 Interop

FP reported that INAF will provide support for the spring 2008 meeting. The venue is likely to be in Trieste (a conference centre in the harbour). Full details will be available at <http://www.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/InterOpMay2008>

The dates are confirmed for the 18-23 May 2008.

12. Status and venue for the autumn 2008 Interop

BH reported that the autumn 2008 Interop will be organised by the STSci/JHU in Baltimore. Date to be decided - but no earlier than late Sep 2008.

13. Date and venue of the next Exec meeting

Telecon Thur 17 Jan 2008 at 16.00 GMT.

14. AOB

BH would like to discuss options for other VO related books.

15. Summary of Actions

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New ACTION FM25-5.1A: DY/RW: suggest the contents of an induction pack to be issued to incoming WG/ IG Chairs.

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Meeting Closed: 19.00 GMT