

# IVOA Exec Meeting: TM126

23 April 2025, 13:00 UTC

Virtual Meeting



Notes: MH

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Updated:

Distribution to [exec@ivoa.net](mailto:exec@ivoa.net)

## Present (18)

Initials	Name	Institution	Email Address
AN	Ada Nebot	OV-France	ada.nebot@astro.unistra.fr
AM	Areg Mickaelian	ArVO	aregmick@yahoo.com
CA	Christophe Arviset	ESA	christophe.arviset@esa.int
CC	Chenzhou Cui	China-VO	ccz@bao.ac.cn
ES	Enrique Solano	SVO	esm@cab.inta-csic.es
FC	Francesca Civano	CSP Chair	fcivano@cfa.harvard.edu
JJ	JJ Kavelaars	CVO, Exec Vice Chair	jj.kavelaars@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca
JS	Jesus Salgado	SKAO	jesus.salgado@skao.int
MA	Mark Allen	Euro_VO	mark.allen@astro.unistra.fr
MD	Markus Demleitner	GAVO (alternate)	msdemlei@ari.uni-heidelberg.de
MH	Marcy Harbut	USVOA/NAVO, Exec Secretary	mharbut@ipac.caltech.edu
MM	Marco Molinaro	VObs.it & TCG Chair	marco.molinaro@inaf.it
OM	Oleg Malkov	RVO	malkov@inasan.ru
PF	Giuseppina Fabbiano	USVAO/SAO	gfabbiano@cfa.harvard.edu
SO	Simon O'Toole	ASVO, Exec Chair	simon.otoole@mq.edu.au
TD	Tom Donaldson	TCG Vice Chair	tdonaldson@stsci.edu
YG	Yan Grange	NLVO	grange@astron.nl
YS	Yuki Shirasaki	JVO	yuji.shirasaki@nao.ac.jp

## Glossary

Acronym	Institution Name	Institution Website
ArVO	Armenian Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://www.aras.am//Arvo/arvo.htm">https://www.aras.am//Arvo/arvo.htm</a>
AstroGrid	UK VO initiative	<a href="http://www.astrogrid.org">http://www.astrogrid.org</a>
ASVO	Australian Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://asvo.org.au/">https://asvo.org.au/</a>
BRAVO	Brazil Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://bravo.iag.usp.br/">http://bravo.iag.usp.br/</a>
China-VO	Chinese Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.china-vo.org">http://www.china-vo.org</a>

Acronym	Institution Name	Institution Website
ChiVO	Chile Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://chivo.cl/">https://chivo.cl/</a>
CSP	Standing Committee of Science Priorities	<a href="https://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaSciencePriorities">https://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaSciencePriorities</a>
CVO	Canadian Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://www.cadc-ccda.hia-ihc.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/">https://www.cadc-ccda.hia-ihc.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cvo/</a>
ESA	European Space Agency	<a href="https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/esdc">https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/esdc</a>
Euro-VO	European Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.euro-vo.org">http://www.euro-vo.org</a>
GAVO	German Astrophysical Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://www.g-vo.org/">https://www.g-vo.org/</a>
IVOA	International Virtual Observatory Alliance	<a href="http://www.ivoa.net">http://www.ivoa.net</a>
JVO	Japanese Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html">http://jvo.nao.ac.jp/index-e.html</a>
KazVO	Kazakhstan Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://fai.kz/">https://fai.kz/</a>
NLVO	Netherlands Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://www.virtualobservatory.nl/">https://www.virtualobservatory.nl/</a>
NOVA	Argentina Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://nova.conicet.gov.ar">https://nova.conicet.gov.ar</a>
OV-France	VO-France	<a href="https://asov.obspm.fr/">https://asov.obspm.fr/</a>
RVO	Russian Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.inasan.ru/organizational-activity/rvo/rvo/">http://www.inasan.ru/organizational-activity/rvo/rvo/</a>
SA3 (or SA <sup>3</sup> )	South Africa Astroinformatics Alliance	<a href="https://sa3.ac.za/">https://sa3.ac.za/</a>
SKAO	Square Kilometre Array Observatory	<a href="https://www.skao.int/">https://www.skao.int/</a>
SVO	Spanish Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://svo.cab.inta-csic.es/main/index.php">https://svo.cab.inta-csic.es/main/index.php</a>
TCG	Technical Coordination Group	<a href="https://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaTCG">https://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaTCG</a>
UkrVO	Ukraine Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://www.ukr-vo.org/">http://www.ukr-vo.org/</a>
USVOA/NAVO	US Virtual Observatory Alliance	<a href="http://usvoa.cfa.harvard.edu">http://usvoa.cfa.harvard.edu</a>
VO-India	Indian Virtual Observatory	<a href="http://voi.iucaa.in/voi/">http://voi.iucaa.in/voi/</a>
VObs.it	The Italian Virtual Observatory	<a href="https://vobs.it">https://vobs.it</a>

## Agenda

1. Roll call and agenda
2. Review and approval of [TM125 Minutes](#)
3. Review of [Exec Actions for TM126](#)
4. Future Interop meetings
  - o Northern Spring 2025 – Maryland, USA
  - o Northern Fall 2025 – Görlitz (ADASS dates: 9-13 November 2025, Interop held after ADASS)
5. Project Reports [significant events only]
6. Overall TCG Status [standing Item]
7. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [standing item]
  - o VOResource-1.2 (final approval after last quick changes: final PR available [here](#))
8. CSP Status [standing item]
9. IVOA Website [standing item]
  - o Draft new website: <https://webtest.ivoa.info/>
  - o GitHub Repository: <https://github.com/ivoa/ivoa-web>
  - o To report bugs and request changes: <https://github.com/ivoa/ivoa-web/issues>
10. Report on the IAU General Assembly/Working Group

11. Date of next Exec meeting
12. AOB
13. Review of new action items

**Next Exec Meeting:** 4 p.m. EDT / 20:00 UTC on Sunday, June 1, 2025 (hybrid)

## Discussion

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1. Roll Call and Agenda
  - The names of the attendees are recorded.
  - Regrets: Bruce Berriman (USVOA/NAVO, IAU-VO Liaison), Encarni Romero Colmenero (SA<sup>3</sup>), Joachim Wambsganss (GAVO), JJ Kavelaars (CVO, Exec Vice Chair)
2. Review and Approval of TM125 Minutes
  - The minutes are approved.
3. Review of Exec Actions for TM126
  - **TM124.3:** MM to ask GWS Chair and VC to update the charter to reflect the name change and statement of purpose (as needed). **DONE/CLOSED**
    - **Feb. 24 Update:** MM said the charter update is waiting on a decision to make all WG charters more formalized. MM doesn't want to stress out the groups. SO said it would be good to have the charters look more consistent and standardized, but this isn't a time sensitive task.
    - **April 23 Update:** This action is better phrased as GWS to DSP due to name change. Still in progress. MM wonders if the charter has been changed yet; it was discussed in Malta. There was a request to have it as a note, but it may not need to be a formal document. Open to suggestions. SO said a simple note might suffice—something brief to record the change and rationale, which is that the technology changed so the name reflects that. MM requests this action closed.
  - **TM125.1:** BB will investigate how we can best attend/represent IVOA at this meeting and MA will talk to Françoise about her past and current involvement with Data Week. SO will reach out to some members on the Data Week LOC. **IN PROGRESS**
    - While BB is a member of the CDIF working group, nothing much seems to be happening yet. As a result, he has not been able to address the issue of how IVOA can be best represented at the Data Week meeting, but it remains on his To Do list (TM 125.1).
    - International Data Week (13-16 October 2025, Brisbane): <https://idw2025.org/>
      - SO: The abstract deadline has closed but the poster deadline is still active. He hasn't had a chance to reach out to LOC. It's a little bit harder because it's multiple meetings. Australia is thinking of sending some people, but the budget is very tight.

- MA has looked at Data Week. MA and Françoise have been involved in various aspects. IVOA is put forward as a GORC (Global Open Research Commons) members.
- IAU is a member of CODATA. In the past, Françoise has represented them at the General Assembly and MA has subbed for her. He was really considering attending that meeting, but he now has a conflict. The intersection of CODATA and IVOA is through a working group called DRUM: Digital Representation of Units of Measurement. There are many intersections with IVOA—very diverse, interested in open science, interoperability, etc. Curious if BB has done anything with them.
- **TM125.2:** SO to reach out to the chairs of groups where extension of Chair and Vice Chair terms are possible, such as Registry and DCP Apps chair and VC. SO will reach out to Judy Racusin about Chair role with Time Domain IG. **DONE**
- **TM125.3:** SO to send out save-the-dates (June 2-6) for Northern Spring 2025 (Maryland, USA) and follow up with FC re: funding, etc. **DONE**
  - **Update:** FC sent out the save-the-date. Funding has been confirmed. See item 4 in these minutes for additional meeting planning discussion.
- **TM125.4:** MH to create a Doodle poll for week after Easter, with time alternating to 13:00 UTC. **DONE**

#### 4. Future Interop meetings

- Northern Spring 2025 – Maryland, USA  
(<https://wiki.ivoa.net/wiki/bin/view/IVOA/InterOpJune2025>)
  - Attendance and registration
    - FC reports 85 people registered with only 33 in person. Of those 33, only 13 are not from the US. Many in-person attendees are not regular IVOA participants and are attending because it's a local meeting. Only two Exec members are attending in person. LOC committed to registering 125 people, so this is a little disheartening. A bit confused on how to proceed.
    - LOC must sign the final portion of the contract with University of Maryland, who have been understanding that LOC is waiting for final attendance numbers (and this is only for attendance, not rentals or coffee, etc.). There will be penalties for not meeting the 50-person minimum for coffee, etc.
    - There are concerns about the risks of traveling to the US within the academic community. It's not just astronomers who are impacted.
    - MA said CDS was planning to send 6 people and now they will all be online. The reasons are completely outside of the IVOA.
    - Some discussion about possibly canceling the meeting, keeping it hybrid, or changing it to 100% remote.
      - JJ notes there are 35 IVOA regular attendees who haven't expressed their plans.
      - MM said there are some scheduling conflicts with SK Regional Center meetings happening the same week in Italy, which affects

5-10 people who would've attended. The hybrid model is very favorable for the Italians, so his preference is to keep the meeting hybrid. He notes that scheduling was very challenging when the meeting was 100% remote during Covid because there are so many time zones.

- PF: Most of the TCG is committed to attending in person.
- CC: China-VO planning to send three people in person. CC has a visa and intends to travel to Maryland; his two colleagues are still waiting on their visas.
- SO said the meeting's fate (canceling, staying hybrid, or going full remote) is a decision for FC and the LOC. He asked FC if there is a minimum attendance number where she would feel comfortable proceeding. FC said she will look at the actual number of IVOA participants who are registered, remove those who are not local or guests/friends of FC, and then negotiate the numbers down for catering, etc.
- Exec agrees to use local Maryland time for program scheduling, rather than scheduling in multiple time zones as they would for a fully remote event.
- AN suggests asking in-person registrants if they would change their attendance based on the registration list listing who is attending remote vs. in person.
- **Action:** FC to send a reminder to the list to convey urgency to register, and she will also email in-person attendees if their plans would change if the meeting was primarily virtual.
- Northern Fall 2025 – Görlitz, Germany (ADASS dates: 9-13 November 2025, Interop held after ADASS)
  - MD said the fall meeting is in good shape. We'll have a big room and a small one that are part of ADASS. "We're all green for Görlitz."

## 5. Project Reports [Significant Events Only]

- **OV-France**
  - AN said France VO held its annual meeting and semi-hackathon in Paris, 24-26 March. There were 48 people registered. The program and presentations can be found here: <https://asov.obspm.fr/journees-asov/>
  - AN said it was a very lively meeting followed by a hack with good implementations of datalink and such.
- **China-VO**
  - The National Astronomical Observatories, Chinese Academy of Sciences (NAOC) and Zhejiang Lab successfully hosted the "AI-Empowered Astronomy for Open Science" conference from 7-9 April 2025 in Hangzhou, China. The event convened global experts to explore AI-driven infrastructure for astronomical mega-projects, emphasising sustainable and equitable solutions to transform research, education, and outreach. Representatives from 6 VO projects,

including China-VO, [ArVO](#), BRAV, RVO, SA3 and VO-India gathered at the conferences. Talk topics from VO projects cover AI applications in Astronomy, LLM, AI-empowered Outreach and Education, etc. A BOF on Scientific Education was initiated and chaired by Chenzhou Cui. Topics related to VO training and IVOA liaison group are also discussed at the event.

- CC said many topics about the VO and IVOA were discussed. It was a good chance for us to meet each other.

- **VObs.it**

- Worked on IVOA web assets (maintenance & updates)
- INAF participation in a big nation-wide project is turning out to be a place where new standard implementations happened (trying to bring authors to showcase their work).
  - Under the same project, an activity started to identify metadata for simulation runs discovery: might have SimDM/SimDAL impact
- Just after the last Exec (late February/early March), the VO was the topic for a lively session discussion at an INAF workshop and for a dissemination of the ongoing work at an ASI workshop on future developments for space-based projects.

## 6. Overall TCG Status (MM)

- TCG met (vconf) twice since last Exec meeting
  - 11 March at 14:00 UTC
  - 7 April at 21:00 UTC
- Next vconf is planned for Tuesday, 6 May at 13:00 UTC
  - Main goal: interop schedule and preparation
- Activity on documents on track include:
  - VOResource-1.2 (Exec approval request)
  - VOEvent-2.1
  - [StandardsRegExt](#) -1.1
- Other documents activity:
  - Parquet in the VO - Note published
  - [ObsCore](#) & Extensions (porting to ivoatex plus Radio, HE, TD IGs documents)
- Recommendations discussion/activity highlights:
  - [ObsCore](#) revision and Extensions discussion is continuously moving on and will see a plenary in College Park.
  - Data Models modularity, levels/scope, and endorsement is an open discussion; another plenary planned for College Park.
  - An effort is starting to discuss and promote guidelines about transitioning major versions (of protocols) in the Registry, server-side and client-side perspectives. There will be a discussion session with examples report in College Park.
  - OPS IG / DAL / Apps are thinking about a convention to help provide common statistics on TAP (and other protocols) clients (agents) access.
  - Discussion is starting for a revision of the Documents Standard
- Other activities:
  - Web assets (web, docs, ...): looking forward to switching to the new website before College Park
  - GWS->DSP renaming ongoing, a few pages and links still need updating

- Interop preparation status:
  - Programme drafted, looking for further input
    - 10 (parallel slots) still available
  - Headcount nearly definitive: ~40% TCG in person
  - Looking forward to solving session chairs situation at the next TCG

#### 7. Approval of new IVOA Recommendation(s) [Standing Item]

- VOResource-1.2 (final approval after last quick changes: final PR available [here](#))
  - There was a clarification about the age of the IvA identifiers in specific points in the VR source, and some clarifications in the test with respect to datacite and other suggestions made on how to deal with this quickly without destroying the process. The document takes into account the last feedback with the agreement of the feedback providers.
  - No additional comments or questions.
  - SO asks why the changes came very very late. MM said the feedback came from someone who is VO aware and the feedback came late in the process.
  - Exec approves the proposed recommendation

#### 8. CSP Status

- Deferred (FC had to step out)

#### 9. IVOA Website

- Deferred

#### 10. Report on the IAU General Assembly/Working Group

- BB's updates (sent by email):
  - IAU – BB brought the Wiki page on the IAU up-to-date at <https://wiki.ivoa.net/wiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoalauLiaison>
  - It includes:
    - Summary of the IAU GA 2024 activities and links to presentations and papers
    - Summary of the IAU GA 2022 activities and links to presentations and papers
    - Annual Report on the Functional VO WG

#### 11. Date of next Exec meeting

- 4 p.m. EDT / 20:00 UTC on Sunday, June 1, 2025 (hybrid)

#### 12. AOB

- IVOA communication channels

- IVOA web assets organization and efforts
- Interest Groups scope

### 13. Review of New Action Items

- **TM126.1:** FC to send reminder to the Interop list and convey urgency, and also email all in-person attendees and ask if their plans will change if the meeting is primarily virtual.
- **TM126.2:** Include MM's bullet points from the AOB section in the next Exec agenda.