

IVOA Exec Telecon Meeting: TM47

13 December 2012: 17:00- 18:25 CET

Notes: MA

Original: 17 December 2012

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distribution to exec@ivoa.net

Present:

Mark Allen	<mark.allen@astro.unistra.fr>	MA	Secretary
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Joachim Wambsganss	<jkw@ari.uni-heidelberg.de>	JW	GAVO

Apologies:

Andy Lawrence	<al@roe.ac.uk>	AL	AstroGrid
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Glossary:

ArVO - Armenian VO	http://www.aras.am/Arvo/arvo.htm
AstroGrid - UK VO initiative	http://www.astrogrid.org
Aus-VO - Australian Virtual Observatory	http://aus-vo.org.au/
BRAVO - Brazil Virtual Observatory	http://www.lna.br/bravo/
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>
VAO - Virtual Astronomical Observatory (USA) <http://www.us-vo.org>
RVO - Russian Virtual Observatory <http://www.inasan.rssi.ru/eng/rvo/>
SVO - Spanish Virtual Observatory <http://svo.cab.inta-csic.es>
UKR-VO - Ukraine Virtual Observatory <http://www.ukr-vo.org/>
IVOA - International Virtual Observatory Alliance <http://www.ivoa.net>

Agenda:

1. Roll Call and Agenda (MA)
2. Minutes of FM46 and FM46S
3. Review of Actions (MA)
4. Project Reports - Significant Events Only
5. Report of the TCG status (SG)
6. Approval of new IVOA Recommendations [Standing Item]
7. VAO Board Meeting and its impact on VAO priorities (BH)
8. Education IG Chair and Vice Chair
9. Data Curation and Preservation IG Deputy Chair
10. May 2013 Interop meeting
11. Date of next meeting
12. AOB
13. Summary of Actions (MA)

A. Appendices - reports from VO projects, WGs and IGs, see the wiki at:

<http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingTM47>

NEXT TELECON MEETING: Wednesday, 13 February 2013, 1600 UT

1. Roll call and Agenda

The participants names were recorded. The item on 'VAO Board meeting and its impact on VAO priorities' was moved to earlier in the agenda because of BH time constraints.

2. Minutes of FM46 and FM46S

The minutes of FM46 and FM46S were accepted.

3. Review of Actions

ACTION FM46S-1 AK to call for nomination for chair and vice chair positions for EduIG
CLOSED - done

ACTION FM46S-2 MG to draft a charter for TD IG.
ONGOING

ACTION FM46S-3 AK to ask George Djorgovski to be the chair of KDD IG
CLOSED - done

ACTION FM46S-4 BH to compose discussion questions for session on future of IVOA
CLOSED - done

ACTION FM46S-5 ALL/BH discuss Oct 2013 interop location at Future of IVOA session
CLOSED - done

ACTION FM46S-6 AK to send a letter to ICSU to formalize membership of IVOA in WDS
ONGOING - AK is discussing the draft with FG and with ICSU. Final version is expected to be sent soon.

4. Project Reports

Project reports for Euro-VO, VO France, VObs.it, Japan-VO and SVO appear on the meeting wiki page (<http://wiki.ivoa.net/twiki/bin/view/IVOA/IvoaExecMeetingTM47>)

DS reported that CADM has been working for about 1 year on projects relevant to radio astronomy. For example they have some ALMA data in their archive where it is described by the Common Archive Observation Model. They have prototype 'data link' services that can provide cut-outs along various data axes.

FG reported that the Research Data Alliance (RDA, <http://rd-alliance.org>) had another meeting last week. She proposed to give a talk about governance along the lines of 'Lessons learnt from building the IVOA' at the kick-off meeting which will be held in Sweden in March. It would be appropriate for IVOA to show up in RDA, and it could contribute to technical topics such as registries. RDA is important for the EC, NSF and Australian and Canadian members. IVOA is seen as a good example of a data infrastructure that works. FG and CDS has a connection with RDA via the iCORDI project.

AK described an astronomy workshop held in Calcutta which provided a first introduction to astronomy and included use of VO. More such events are expected.

5. TCG Status

SG reported on the TCG status. The TCG had a telecon on Dec 12 and the minutes will soon be posted.

There are 4 standards currently in review. These are:

* Simple DAL Registry Extensions

* Photometry Data Model - last minute comments were received on this document. They were considered minor changes and this is to be re-submitted for TCG review.

* Units - This document is undergoing readability improvements and will soon go to TCG review.

* VOSpace - the TCG approval of this document is long over due and comments from the TCG have been requested for this week.

A 'tiger team' was formed to discuss utypes. They are looking at the whole picture of where they come from and how they are being used. The tiger team has had 8 telecons so far. SG indicated that some issues have been raised about the scope of this effort. The first deliverable from this team on the current usages of utypes is expected at the end of January 2013.

A discussion was held where some members of the exec expressed concerns about the utypes effort, and that the scope needs to be appropriate to the current needs of the IVOA. MG indicated that he as TCG vice-chair and tiger team member is working to avoid creep of the requirements, and that progress was on track.

6. Approval of new IVOA Recommendations [Standing Item]

No recommendations for approval at this meeting

7. VAO Board Meeting and its impact on VAO priorities (BH)

BH reported that the VAO Board has met and has set the priorities for the next 2 years. A major element of the strategy is to develop support for data cubes across a number of different areas of astronomy. Relevant areas mentioned include Radio astronomy where use of ALMA data is increasing, also Optical and IR integral field data. BH indicated that this appears to be along similar lines to the priorities set by the IVOA CSP. BH suggested that the main impact of this would be to implement SIAP version 2. Other details were mentioned in BH email to exec (Dec 13).

MA indicated that this was seen very positively from the CSP point of view, and that the momentum is building for IVOA effort in this area, and that a focus session on multi-dimensional data is being planned for the Heidelberg interop meeting.

FG and MO expressed support for this priority and for working on SIAP v2. DS agreed with the priority and indicated that the technical approach should be a matter for the TCG.

MO raised the issue of radio data formats and that the IVOA needs to discuss HDF5. FG indicated that this was also necessary with LOFAR using this format.

BH indicated that there was no prejudice towards any particular technical solution. CA suggested that this science priority should be discussed in the TCG.

FP indicated interest in ALMA in Italy and that it was discussed at their recent workshop in Rome.

It was **AGREED** that it was up to the TCG to clarify how to go about developing support for data cubes in IVOA standards. SG indicated that the current CSP use cases in this area were focused on Radio Astronomy.

ACTION TM47-1 MA to review the Multi-dimensional data use cases to include more general usage.

BH and GF indicated that X-ray data cubes, multi-dimensional data cubes for data mining and time series are also relevant.

MA indicated that following the approval of the new science priority areas (Time Domain and Multi-dimensional data) at the last interop meeting, the CSP has been discussing the idea of having half-day 'focus sessions' on these topics at the Heidelberg interop meeting. Relevant people from these scientific communities would be invited to the meeting, and sessions would be along the lines of 90 minute invited presentations, and 90 minute discussion sessions. Having a focus session on each topic would take up 1 day of the interop meeting.

There was some discussion about starting the work on this before the interop.

ACTION TM47-2 SG to coordinate the TCG to make an initial investigation of the CSP science priority cases.

MG indicated that it was important to coordinate planning for such sessions with the interop POC.

JL emphasized that it was important to organize this early to make sure invitees could put it on their schedules. There was some discussion of which day of the interop would be best for these sessions. JL proposed that specifying that the sessions would be held Tuesday-Thursday would be appropriate, and called for endorsement of the proposal for focus sessions.

It was **AGREED** that focus sessions in the areas of Multi-dimensional data, and Time Domain Astronomy would be included in the next interop.

BH described pre-planning for the September 2013 interop meeting to be held in Hawaii prior to, and at the same conference centre as the ADASS meeting. (See also BH email to exec Dec 13). BH clarified that double occupancy of rooms does not attract an additional charge. A \$40 extra charge is only for occupancy of 3 or more people in a single room. A standard double-double comes at the standard rate. The contract must be confirmed by Jan 4, 2013.

It was **AGREED** that the Sept 2013 interop would be in Hawaii.

BH indicated that it may be possible to arrange to distribute the charges into a registration fee and a reduced rate for the room if that was helpful for travel claims. BH will try to get the rate reduced. (update Dec 18 - room rate reduced to \$169)

8. Education IG Chair and Vice Chair

AK announced Massimo Ramella as Chair of the Education Interest Group, and Sudhanshu Barway as the Deputy Chair.

Projects were encouraged to participate in this IG. CC indicated that he is helping to set up a World Wide Telescope planetarium program for schools in China.

9. Data Curation and Preservation IG Deputy Chair

AK explained that Alberto Accomazzi has requested that there be a deputy chair for this IG as he is not able to attend all interop meetings. FG noted that a deputy was not necessary previously, but the topics for this group are showing up more and more.

ACTION TM47-3 AK to call for nominations for Deputy Chair of the Data Curation and Preservation Interest Group.

10. May 2013 Interop Meeting

JW reported that preparations are well on course. The meeting page is available including links to hotels with arrangements for reduced rates. It is expected that they are planning for ~100 participants at the meeting.

MG indicated that the interop POC would need to know of any intentions to invite speakers. JW said that they did not have a 'home agenda'.

The early planning of the meeting and the web pages are appreciated.

FG described the possibility of having some level of sponsorship for the interop meeting from iCORDI (<http://www.icordi.eu/Pages/Home.aspx>). iCORDI is concerned with relations between EC and NSF projects for generic infrastructure and interoperability between disciplines.

iCORDI supports RDA (Research Data Alliance) and is interested in how IVOA is evolving. They are willing to sponsor workshops. This would be at the level of supporting a few travels, and FG has asked if they could sponsor the coffee breaks. FG suggested that it may be relevant to invite a speaker from the Human Science to the meeting.

FP indicated that there is a desire to liaise with other disciplines, and that there is a IVOA Liaison group.

ACTION TM47-4 FG to follow-up on iCORDI participation in the Heidelberg interop meeting, and to interact with the POC on planning for the meeting.

11. Date of next telecon meeting

Wednesday, 13 February 2013.

12. AOB

None

13. Summary of Actions (MA)

New Actions:

ACTION TM47-1 MA to review the Multi-dimensional data use cases to include more general usage.

ACTION TM47-2 SG to coordinate the TCG to make an initial investigation of the CSP science priority cases.

ACTION TM47-3 AK to call for nominations for Deputy Chair of the Data Curation and Preservation Interest Group.

ACTION TM47-4 FG to follow-up on iCORDI participation in the Heidelberg interop meeting, and to interact with the POC on planning for the meeting.

Ongoing Actions:

ACTION FM46S-2 MG to draft a charter for TD IG.

ACTION FM46S-6 AK to send a letter to ICSU to formalize membership of IVOA in WDS