

AIDA Fourth Technology Forum

-WP6 Reports

WP6: Reprise

- Evolution of VObs interoperability standards
- Joint Research Activity (JRA)
- UEDIN
- Investigate compliance testing of Euro-VO Registered resources
- Co-ordinate and document prototypes and standards
- Cover standards not addressed in WP7 (Data Access Layer, Data Models and VOQL)

WP6: Objectives

- To decide what technical standards and protocols are required for Euro-VO
- To bring forward these requirements to the IVOA
- To develop drafts of these standards
- To develop prototype software implementing the draft standards
- To make all possible effort to conclude international agreement on the necessary standards
- To ensure that deployments within Euro-VO are compatible with IVOA standards.

WP6: Description of work

- Formulation of requirements and the technical plan. This takes input from other parts of Euro-VO, and formulates a plan which is used by all other parts, especially WP7-JRA2 and WP8-JRA3
- Participation in IVOA Working Groups. This includes coordinating our plan with the IVOA roadmap; producing draft standards; attending IVOA meetings and telecons; and reporting of IVOA progress to Euro-VO
- Development of software prototypes. Draft standards will be tested by developing and deploying software prototypes which implement those standards (e.g. tools, dataset access). We will also develop recommendations for Euro-VO partners on construction of actual working infrastructure components which are compliant with VO standards

WP6: Deliverables

- D6.1 (Month 15 - April 2009, UEDIN and other WP6 participants): WP6-JRA1 intermediate report and associated prototypes
- D6.2 (Month 27 - April 2010, UEDIN and other WP6 participants): WP6-JRA1 final report and associated prototypes

WP6: Work Teams

- Applications
- G&WS
- Resource Registry
- Semantics
- VO Event
- VOTable
- Theory
- OGF Astro-RG
- Data Curation & Preservation

Applications

- SAMP
 - SAMP v1.11 formally accepted as IVOA Recommendation 21 April 2009
 - New spectrum.load MType defined and agreed
 - New SAMP functionality in public releases of non-AIDA tools:
 - DS9
 - Microsoft WWT

Applications

- SAMP
 - New SAMP functionality in public releases from AIDA partners (in some cases these were previously in experimental/beta releases):
 - Aladin
 - GAIA
 - JSky/JSkyCat
 - SPLAT
 - VODesktop
 - VOSpec
 - VirGO

Applications

- SAMP summary:
 - Transition from PLASTIC to SAMP has gone well
 - Pretty much all the important tools that used to talk PLASTIC, now talk SAMP
 - Some new non-PLASTIC tools now on board as well (significantly ds9)
 - Pretty much all messaging that could be done in PLASTIC, can now be done (better) in SAMP
 - SAMP been used from various languages, tools, platforms; no serious problems with the standard have been encountered
 - PLASTIC use expected to become moribund
 - Is SAMP this being used for real work by astronomers? Not much data. (any information or anecdotes appreciated)

G&WS

- Security

- Continued good progress within security:

- New draft of the credential delegation protocol

- <http://www.ivoa.net/Documents/CredentialDelegation/>

- This protocol allows:

- Provides a mechanism for the user to upload a "proxy" of the certificate to the server.

- Therefore services can act on behalf of a user when they are not physically connected to the network

G&WS

- VOSI

- A new draft of the IVOA Support Interfaces (VOSI) standard has been produced:
 - <http://www.ivoa.net/Documents/latest/VOSI.html>
- Crucially, the new version of the standard defines provision of metadata to describe tabular data that is common in astronomical catalogues

G&WS

- VOSpace
 - Latest AstroGrid release in August 2009 contains a fully compliant VOSpace 1.1 service
 - <http://www.ivoa.net/Documents/cover/VOSpace-20090505.html>
 - <http://deploy.astrogrid.org>
 - The draft of the next generation of the VOSpace specification, VOSpace 2.0 has been produced
 - <http://www.ivoa.net/Documents/latest/VOSpace.html>
 - New version of the standard uses the REST rather than SOAP based web services for service control.

Registry

- Progress to date
 - Documents and schemas:
 - Registry Interfaces v1.0 (22/05/09) - still in PR / TCG RFC
 - VODataService v1.1 (03/09/09) - enters PR and RFC review
 - VOStandard v0.3 (08/05/09) - internal WD / needed by VOspace
 - VOApplication v0.9 (21/05/09) - internal WD
 - New SLAP extension schema v0.1 (10/09/09) announced
 - SCS, SIAP and SSAP extension schema in use, doc needed
 - TAP extension schema and document next in line

Registry

- Progress to date (cont)
 - Innovations, Curation Tools:
 - ADQL/x search interoperability issues
 - Future innovations in prototype :
 - Query : TAP-like, XQuery, astroBrowse, semantics
 - Result : VOTable response, result tree view
 - Revamp of RofR web page underway
 - Various curation tools efforts (see WP3)

Semantics

- Semantics : Vocabularies and Ontologies
- SKOS is a W3C Recommendation since 18/08/2009
- IVOA Vocabularies document 1.18 finishing IVOA process for Recommendation (goal 05/10/2009)
- Technical Note on Object Types ontology (see IVOA documents)
- New vocabularies implementation will stem once we have the Vocabularies Recommendation

Theory

- See talk from Patrizia

Data Curation & Preservation

- No significant changes since last Tech Forum, remaining:
 - Low volume activity
 - Mostly a watching brief
 - Plan to be ready to respond as appropriate
 - No explicit plans at the moment

VOTable / VOEvent / OGF Astro-RG

- Work Team Coordinator position still vacant
- Still need to *develop and publish plan*
- Becoming more urgent