



RI031675

EuroVO-DCA

The European Virtual Observatory Data Centre Alliance

COORDINATION ACTION

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMUNICATION NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

D10 - Euro-VO Theory Workshop

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MPG

Final version

Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

The "**Euro-VO Theory Workshop**" was held at the Max-Planck-Institut für extraterrestrische Physik (MPE) in Garching near Munich, Germany, on April 7-9, 2008.

The workshop initial date was January 2008. As indicated in the First Periodic Activity Report, it was decided to postpone it to April 2008. The proposal for this shift was made together with WP5, as it was planned to have the two Workshops back-to-back in the same place (some overlap in attendance between the two and this co-organisation have saved in expenses and organisational effort). One reason for the postponement from the side of WP4 was the timing of developments in the IVOA, which are fundamental to EuroVO-DCA efforts. By the end of 2007 several projects both in Europe and overseas, prepared prototype implementations of the SNAP standards. It was of great interest to share the first experiences of this new set of protocols with the scientists attending the Workshop and to gather their feedback. January 2008 (the Workshop initial date) was too early for that. Also, the results of the EuroVO-DCA Census questionnaires were needed to invite people and to define the programme at best.

Here is an extract from the announcement describing the motivation for the workshop:

"The Virtual Observatory is an international astronomical community-based initiative. It aims to allow global electronic access to the available astronomical data archives of space and ground-based observatories, as well as simulation databases. It also aims to enable data analysis techniques through a coordinating entity that will provide common standards, wide-network bandwidth, and state-of-the-art analysis tools. VO efforts have mainly concentrated on observational data archives and services, but recently results from theoretical research have started attracting more attention. The main goal of this workshop was to outline needs and challenges that theoretical astrophysics will be facing in the coming years, and to identify how the unique capabilities intrinsic to the Virtual Observatory concept can meet them."

To achieve its goals, the workshop targeted two main audiences:

- The first is the community of theoreticians who wish to take the initial steps necessary to publish their results online, making them accessible to the world-wide community, or who want to make available on-the-fly services to extract or analyze theoretical data.
- The second audience comprises users of such published data sets and services. This includes other theoreticians, but a particular goal is to support observers who seek theoretical data and/or on-line services to make possible detailed comparisons with their observational results.

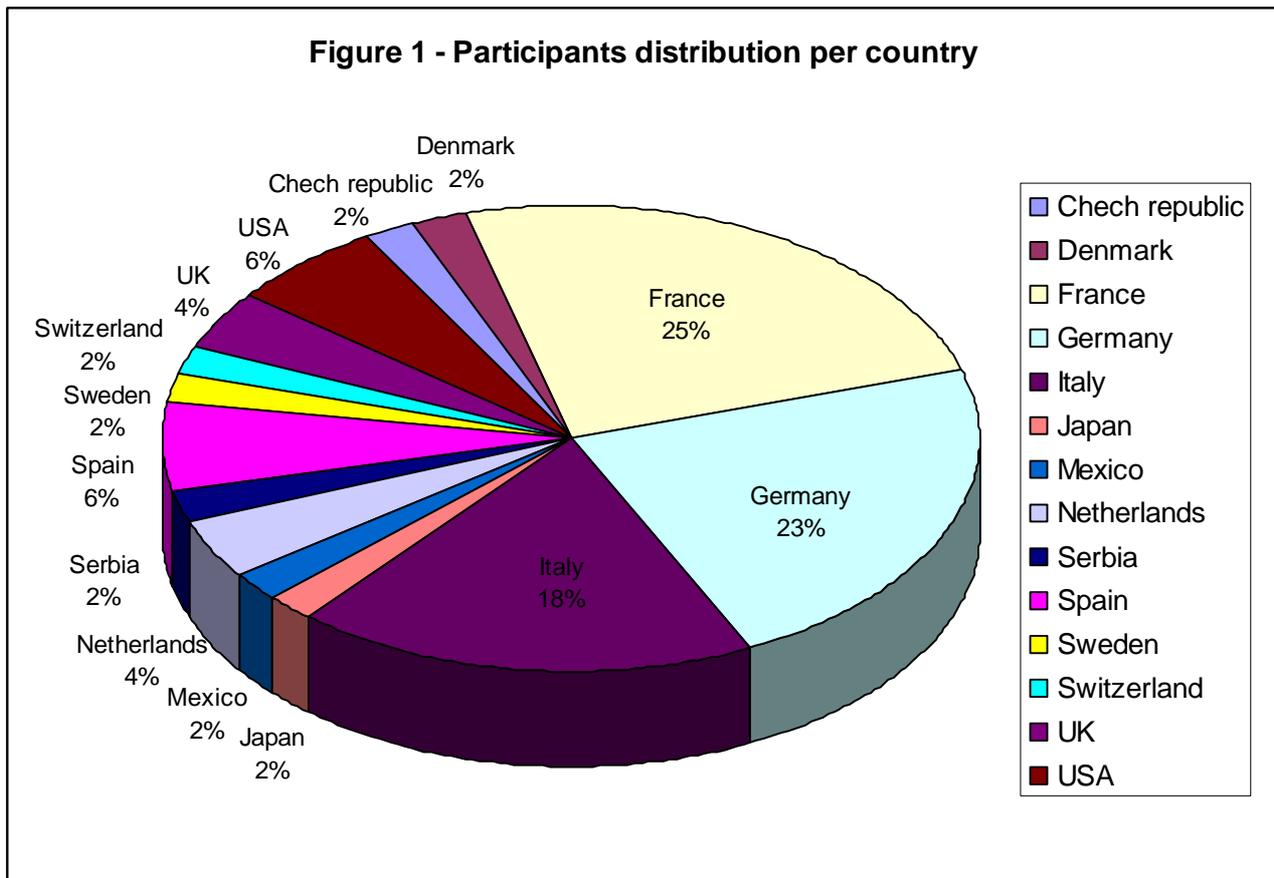
The Workshop Topics were 3+1D simulations, micro-simulations, theory-theory interoperability, theory-observational interface and computational infrastructure. All sessions were followed by discussions.

The Workshop Agenda is available at: <http://www.si.inaf.it/eurovow2008/agenda.htm>. An alternative version is available from the Euro-VO DCA TWiki: <http://cds.u-strasbg.fr/twikiDCA/bin/view/EuroVODCA/WCAWP4Workshop>. The session headings link to pages describing the sessions. The slides used by the presenters can be found there. We plan to publish proceedings from the workshop, using an offer to do so for free by Memorie della Società Astronomica Italiana – Supplementi (<http://sait.oats.inaf.it/Supplementi.htm>).

The announcement was sent to national astronomical institutes and to various astronomy and VO mailing lists. A total of 49 participants attended to the Workshop, distributed as follows:

Czech Republic	:	1	The Netherlands	:	2
Denmark	:	1	Serbia	:	1
France	:	12	Spain	:	3
Germany	:	11	Sweden	:	1
Italy	:	9	Switzerland	:	1
Japan	:	1	UK	:	2
Mexico	:	1	USA	:	3

Figure 1 - Participants distribution per country



We invited a number of speakers from the different partner countries and from outside the EU with special requests to discuss their work and their ideas about the relevance of the VO and for the VO. We wanted especially to hear from scientists, more than from people already active in VO (IVOA and Euro-VO) activities. These speakers were completely funded from Euro-VO DCA money allocated for this goal to the DCA partners and to the chair person of WP4.

The invited speakers were:

- Mark ALLEN (CDS)
- Emmanuel BERTIN (IAP)
- Stefano BORGANI (Univ. Trieste)
- Santi CASSISI (INAF)
- Stephane CHARLOT (IAP)
- Francoise GENOVA (CDS)
- Ilian ILIEV (Univ. Zuerich)
- Guinevere KAUFFMANN (MPA)
- Franck LEPETIT (Obs. De Paris)
- Marco SPAANS (Univ. Groningen)
- Ben PANTER (ROE)
- Carlos RODRIGO (LAEFF)
- Maurizio SALARIS (JMU Liverpool)
- Luis Manuel SARRO (LAEFF)
- Joop SCHAYE (Univ. Leiden)
- Volker SPRINGEL (MPA)
- Matthias STEINMETZ (AIP)
- Peter TEUBEN (Univ. Maryland)
- Rick WAGNER (UC San Diego)
- Herve Wozniak (Univ. Lyon)

We also had some slots available for presentations by non-invited participants:

- Qi GUO (MPA)
- Paula JOFRE PFEIL (MPA)
- Patrick HENNEBELLE (Obs. De Paris)
- Christophe MORISSET (Instituto de Astonomia - Mexico)
- Patrizia MANZATO (INAF)

Concertation aspects:

- With other VO projects and the International Virtual Observatory Alliance (IVOA): D. DE YOUNG (IVOA Chair); M. OHISHI (Japan VO and IVOA Astro-RG Interest Group – relations with OGF); colleagues from the US-VO project (Peter TEUBEN and Rick WAGNER), who gave invited presentations; The Chair of the IVOA Data Model Working Group, Mireille LOUYS, attended the meeting and discussed the Theory Data Model with participants. Mark ALLEN as chair of IVOA Applications Working Group, Gerard LEMSON as chair of the IVOA theory Interest Group and Matias STEINMETZ (PI of the German AstroGrid-D project) also participated to the Workshop.
- Other international participants: Ilian ILIEV (Switzerland) and Christophe MORRISSET (Mexico).
- The FP7-funded METAFOR Project was invited, but unfortunately unable to participate.