

Minutes of EURO-VO SAC #1, Garching, 27-28 April 2006

1. The meeting was opened by Peter Quinn welcoming the EURO-VO SAC and presenting the VO concept in general and the EURO-VO project in this context.
2. The terms of reference for SAC were presented. There were no comments by the members.
3. The Science Reference Mission (SRM) from the EURO-VO predecessor Astrophysical Virtual Observatory was presented. The possibilities to use the science cases from the SRM in the EURO-VO SAC work were discussed.
4. The three parts of EURO-VO: Technology Centre, Data Centre Alliance, and Facility Centre were introduced to the SAC. SAC expressed its wish to get a better understanding of the EURO-VO plans for the coming years.
5. The VO presence in meetings and workshops were presented to the SAC.
6. The EURO-VO participants gave a demonstration of the current VO capabilities and tools to the SAC.
7. In the open discussion of EURO-VO SAC role the following conclusions were reached.
 - a) SAC cannot be effective if the work is limited to the SAC meetings only. One way to make progress in between meetings is to have sub-groups addressing specific topics. Two sub-groups were formed. One sub-group addressing the VO tools (Rob Kennicutt, Paolo Giommi, Evelyne Roueff, and Caroline Soubiran) and another one for EURO-VO SAC goals (Dave DeYoung, Andrew Jaffe, Robert Laing).
 - b) SAC took an action to compile a list of archives considered essential in the VO context. The list is as follows:

ESO (especially VLT [especially large programmes in VLT] and WFI also very desirable NTT and 3.6m)
ISO
XMM (especially nearby sources, spectra and light curves)
UKIDSS
ESO VISTA
ESO VST
DSS
Sloan
HST
Gemini
Chandra
2MASS
Spitzer
UKIRT WFCAM
INT WFCAM
GALEX
VLA
IRAS
CFHT MegaPrime
Rosat (PSPC point source catalogue and all sky survey)

Tartarus (X-ray spectra from ASCA)
Telescopio Nazionale Galileo
FK*
Hipparcos
Tycho
USNO catalogues (especially UCAC and USNO-B)
Subaru (especially SuprimeCam)
WHT
AAT (especially 2dF)
FUSE
IUE
EUVE
JCMT (especially SCUBA)
Integral
ASTRO-F (Akari)
MERLIN
IRAM

c) SAC discussed the ways to interact with the community in order to feed back the community view of VO. SAC members expressed to be willing to be contacted by their respective communities for VO related matters. It was agreed that the EURO-VO web-pages could contain a statement encouraging community to contact SAC members. In addition the info how to contact must be made available. Another way to advertise EURO-VO is to write an article in a suitable newsletter (ESO messenger, ESA Newsletter, EAS Newsletter). Finally, SAC wants to recommend EURO-VO project to organise a small call for proposals. The purpose would be to have a real science case done to the end in order to see how the system performs. SAC recognised that this call would need to be limited to areas where EURO-VO is considered most advanced and also a limitation should be set to the character of proposals in such a way that the selected projects truly advance the EURO-VO project. SAC also recommends to scope the call for proposals in such a way that the effort needed by EURO-VO participants is not excessive. SAC volunteers to do the science evaluation of the proposal in case the EURO-VO project follows the recommendation to organise a call for proposals.

8. The SAC decided to have the next meeting 22 November 2006 in Frascati.