

Facility Centre status

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Staffing

- ★ An operational organization, that provides the EURO-VO with a persistent, centralized registry for resources, standards and certification mechanisms as well as community support for VO technology take-up and scientific programs: the “**public face**” of the **EURO-VO**
- ★ A joint ESO/ESA activity, physically located at ESO
- ★ At present, resources provided by ESO & ESA at a “best-effort” level (< 2 FTE; no EU funding!) ⇒ only urgent things get done
- ★ As of Dec. 1 “EURO-VO FC Astronomer” @ ESO: Evanthia Hatziminaoglou (background: AGN, SWIRE, Herschel)



Activities

- EURO-VO mailing list
- “Astronomical Spectroscopy and Virtual Observatory”
Workshop
- Research initiative call and decision process
- Preparation for the VO session at the JENAM-2007



Web pages enhancement

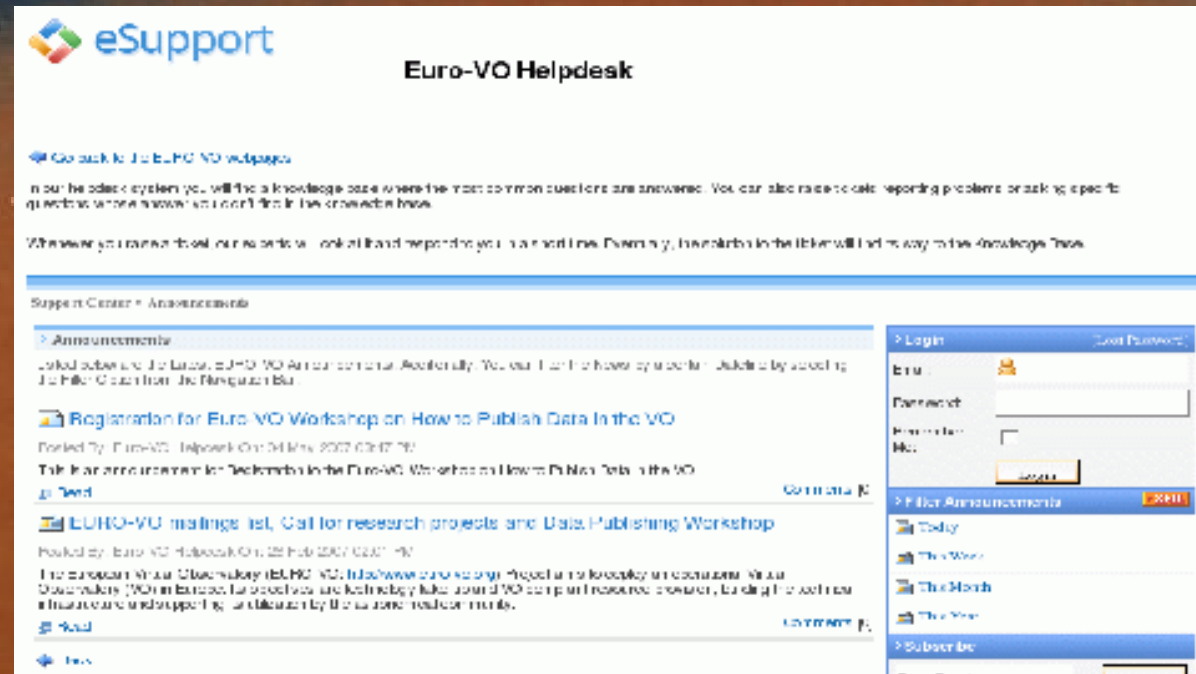
Feedback so far from 2 SAC members:

- F.Carrera (April 2, 2007)
 - Lost along the way – recovered today
- F.Kerber (April 27, 2007)
 - Mostly implemented
- A.Salama (June 14, 2007)
 - Under study



EURO-VO mailing list

- EURO-VO mailing list
- >400 subscribers as of June 8, 2007
- Two announcements so far:
 - “Astronomical Spectroscopy and Virtual Observatory” Workshop and research initiative
 - Data publishing workshop at ESAC, 25-29 June 2007 (*see Allen's talk*)



The screenshot shows the Euro-VO Helpdesk interface. At the top left is the eSupport logo. The main heading is "Euro-VO Helpdesk". Below this, there is a navigation bar with a link to "Go back to the Euro-VO webpages". The main content area displays a list of announcements. The first announcement is titled "Registration for Euro-VO Workshop on How to Publish Data in the VO" and is dated 04 June 2007. The second announcement is titled "EURO-VO mailing list, Call for research projects and Data Publishing Workshop" and is dated 29 June 2007. On the right side of the page, there is a "Login" section with fields for "Email" and "Password", and a "Filter Announcements" section with a "Filter" button.

<http://help.euro-vo.org/esupport/>

Research initiative

- “... proposals from teams aiming at carrying out astronomical projects driven by the Virtual Observatory concept, and making use of the Virtual Observatory tools and applications ...”
- EURO-VO support “in kind” (project tutoring)
- 9 science proposals submitted
- 3 deemed as scientifically acceptable by the SAC (plus 3 at a lower priority, if involving interesting technical challenges)
- Technical evaluation by CDS, ESA, ESO:
 - All 3 first priority proposals are feasible
 - None of the 3 second priority proposals is challenging enough to be worth being followed-up (although CDS may have some interest in some aspects of some of them)



Accepted proposals

- Accepted proposals:
 - Sauvage, “Dust evolution as a tracer of environmental changes”
 - Main EURO-VO contact point: Matteo Guainazzi
 - Franzetti, “Quantifying visible and hidden star-formation in galaxies”
 - Main EURO-VO contact point: Evanthia Hatziminaoglou
 - Dehraveng, “Triggered massive-star formation in the Galaxy”
 - Main EURO-VO contact point: Evanthia Hatziminaoglou (with CDS support)
- **Uneven start**
- Goal: to complete the project by the end of the year with a publication on a refereed journal

“Astronomical Spectroscopy and VO” Workshop

(Joint effort of EURO-VO DCA and FC)

Goals:

- identify needs and challenges that astronomical spectroscopy will be facing in the next years
- identify how the VO can meet them
- bring together experts in different branches of astronomical spectroscopy and VO scientists and engineers
- Overall rationale: scientific needs to drive the technological development

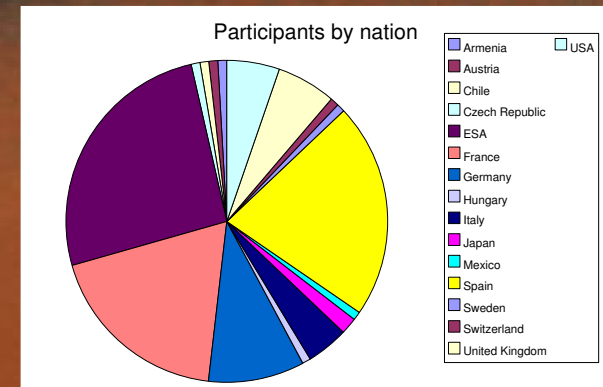
Topics:

- * Spectroscopic science: present and future needs
- * VO standards for the access of spectroscopic data
- * Spectral visualization and analysis tools in the VO context
- * Interface between spectroscopic data and laboratory databases
- * Photometry in the VO: a common approach to spectroscopy?



A successful workshop: quantitative assessment

- $\simeq 95$ participants (plus $\simeq 30$ from ESAC/LAEFF)
- 34 oral talks (6 invited)
- 23 posters
- 5 round table discussions
- Good SAC involvement:
 - 2 SAC members in the S&T Organizing Committee
 - Further 4 SAC members attended the Workshop
- Final outcome:
 - Proceedings under way ($\simeq 80\%$ of contributions collected)
 - “IVOA Note” being prepared
 - Proposal to hold a dedicated workshop on integration of and access to spectroscopic databases in the VO next year



Results

- There is a lot the VO can do for the (spectroscopy) astronomical community
- There is a lot the (spectroscopy) astronomical community can do to help the VO:
 - Scientific “requirements” for the further development of VO tools, VO standards (SED, characterization), and VO infrastructure (workflows)
 - Science cases to benchmark them
 - Community feed-back in the definition of VO standards
 - Definition of heritage tools which need to be made VO-compatible
 - Including VO in their everyday work
 - Advocating for proper scientific credit to data published into the VO

VO at the JENAM-2007

JENAM - 2007
Joint European and National Astronomy Meeting
Our Non-Stable Universe
20-25 August 2007, Yerevan, Armenia

EAS Symposia

- EAS S1: Extrasolar Planets
- EAS S2: Searching for Proto-Planets around Young Stars
- EAS S3: Violent Phenomena in Young Stars
- EAS S4: High-Energy Astrophysics: the keV-TeV Connection
- EAS S5: Activity in Galaxies
- EAS S6: Dynamics of Galaxies and Galaxies' Nuclei
- EAS S7: Cosmology: New Facts and New Problems**
- EAS S8: Science with Virtual Observatories

JENAM Special Sessions

- SPS1: Stellar Structure and Evolution
- SPS2: New Developments in Asteroseismology
- SPS3: Gravitational Wave Astrophysics
- SPS4: Astronomy from the Antarctic Plateau
- SPS5: Astronomy Education in Europe
- SPS6: Archaeoastronomy
- SPS7: Numerical Astrophysics

Organizers

- European Astronomical Society (EAS)
- Armenian Astronomical Society (ArAS)
- Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory (BAO)
- Yerevan State University (YSU)

Scientific Organizing Committee

- Harvey Butcher (Netherlands)
- Anatol Cherepashchuk (Russia)
- Thierry Courvoisier (Switzerland)
- Michel Dennefeld (France)
- Anne Dutrey (France)
- Haik Harutyunian (Armenia)
- Joachim Krautter (Co-Chair, Germany)
- Tigran Magakian (Armenia)
- Michel Mayor (Switzerland)
- Areg Mickaelian (Co-Chair, Armenia)
- Antonella Natta (Italy)
- Artashes Petrosian (Armenia)
- Ian Robson (UK)
- Yervant Terzian (USA)
- Yaroslav Yatskiv (Ukraine)

E-mail: jenam2007@aras.am; Webpage: <http://www.aras.am/JENAM-2007/index.htm>
Chairman of LOC: A.M. Mickaelian

EURO-VO preparation for JENAM-2007

- M. Allen, M. Guainazzi, E. Hatziminaoglou, P. Padovani, J. Tedds have tried to answer the following two questions:
 - Which science cases could EURO-VO present?
 - Which science cases can be used for a EURO-VO demo?
- Revision/update of the science cases from:
 - Old (A)VO demos
 - VOTech Science Reference Document (N. Walton with VOTech Science Team)
- Results:
 - The cases can be used for appealing demos, making use of the most recent tools and interoperability protocols
 - The EURO-VO project will have a booth
 - Talk by E.Hatziminaoglou



Issues with the JENAM-2007 session

- Filling the program of the VO session has not been an easy task
- Oral talks (lots of invited ones) will be mainly given by the “usual VO suspects”: Padovani, Lawrence, Voges, Ohishi, Allen, Chilingarian, Tedds ...
- Large presence of “local” presentations
- It seems that we have not reached a significantly larger community than at the Prague IAU