

Data providers technical feedback

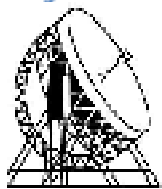
DCA WP 3.2 (LU) Report May 2007
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& Jonathan Tedds (LU)

- **Terms of reference**
- **Activities up to 1st PCT meeting**
 - **Thurs Session 1**
- **Plans**
 - **Thurs Session 3**



The University of Manchester
Jodrell Bank
Observatory

MANCHESTER
1824



Astro
Grid

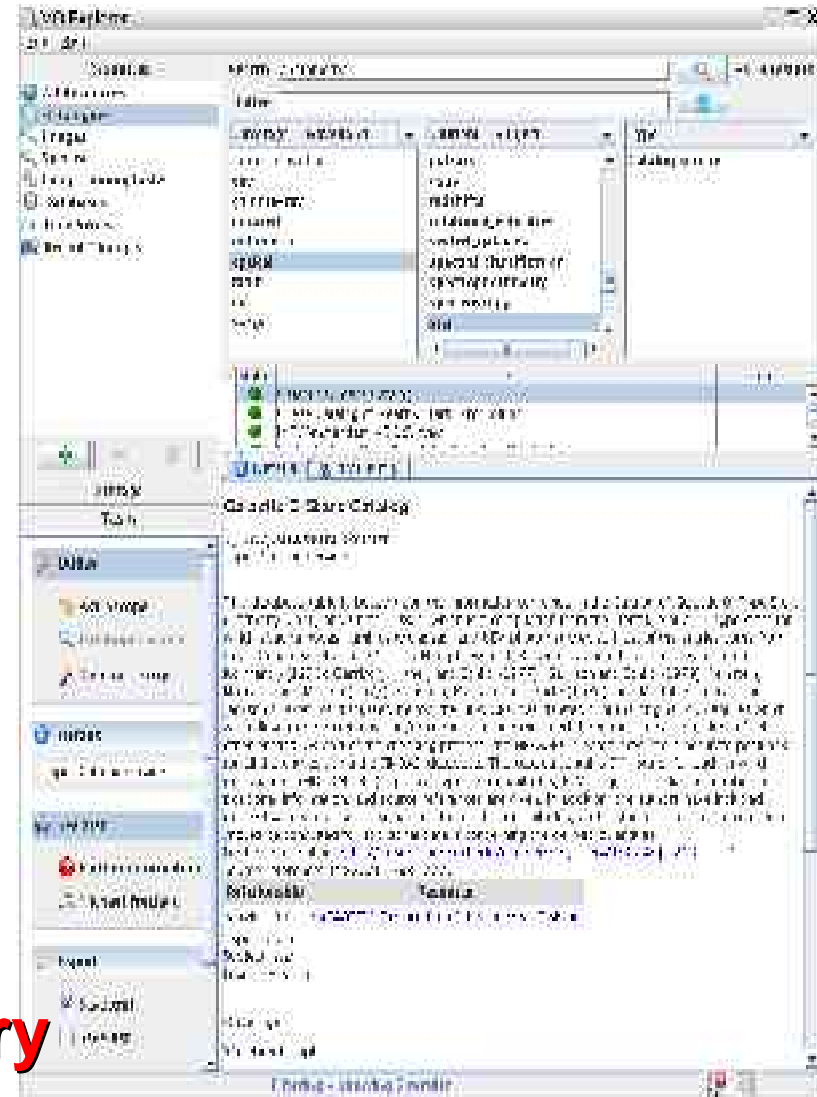


WP 3.2 Terms of Reference

- **Feedback from data providers**
 - Have they tried to publish to VO?
 - If so, did it meet their expectations?
 - If not, why not?
- **Investigate relevant use and development of:**
 - VO infrastructure
 - including packages like CEA; standards like Registry
 - Tools and supporting data
 - indispensable for obtaining usable data
 - useful in probable science cases employing the data
- **In order to**
 - Facilitate the publication of data and tools
 - Allow users to find the data and relevant tools
 - Make them easy to use

Issues arising from AstroGrid and VOTech science data requirements

- **Data at arbitrary positions**
 - Most large-area surveys now available
 - Developing solutions for query e.g. 10^5 objects against 10^9
 - More, reliable data access
 - Better coverage info for large sparse surveys
 - temporal, spectral spatial
 - STILTS temporal conversions
- Managing searches: VOExplorer
- **Only as good as the Registry**



Science data cont.

- **Flux (and bandpass) in physical units**
 - Raw opt/IR data need automatic processing and access to auxiliary data e.g. seeing conditions
 - ESO/VOTech
 - Convert magnitudes to physical units (some STILTS)
 - automate finding λ_{eff} , e.g. $V \Rightarrow$ wavelength
 - dereddening (VOSpec)
 - X-ray counts \Rightarrow flux (LEDAS, ESAC)
- **Radio data need imaging**
 - Other products e.g. VLA+MERLIN federation
- **Other vital tools**
 - Astrometry (interactive only in Aladin)
 - Fit data to models - YAFIT
 - Identify lines (interactive only in VOSpec)

Feedback from workshops

- **RadioNet/AstroGrid, Oxford December 2006**
 - Observatory archives
 - International (ALMA, EVN) as well as national
 - Other major surveys e.g. CORNISH, MMB
 - Data providers need to plan
 - who do you want to use your data and what do they want?
 - collaborations most effective e.g. ASTRON, S.A., NRAO
 - Remote, user-steered pipelines for friendly access
 - Archivists willing to learn quickly but need face-to-face
- **ESAC DCA Spectroscopy workshop**
 - Richards – radio spectra and cubes
 - Tedds – VO spectral apps (SPLAT, TOPCat/YAFit etc.)
 - invited Piskunov, PI for VALD (largest spectral line DB)
- **Authentication/records of access (AstroGrid)**
- **Single dish/(sub)mm feel neglected**

Census issues

- **Explosion of data availability in UK via DSAs**
 - CASU, JBO, LEDAS, MSSSL, RAL, ROE etc.
 - feedback to IST census recommendations
 - Solar/STP data
 - accessible versions of popular data e.g. *Spitzer*
 - catalogues and images (and Solar/STP)
 - <http://wiki.astrogrid.org/bin/view/Astrogrid/DataCentres>
 - also started link to RadioNet site info e.g. Efflesberg
- **IST recommendations good**
 - Additional comments based on feedback
 - allow relevant tools to be associated when finding data
 - observing logs are an important route to data
 - vital to make sure proper metadata are provided
 - metadatabase if possible (not just FITS headers)
 - make it obvious what standards, ucds etc. to use
 - No good if you can't find data!

WP3.2/LU (etc.) feedback plans

- **Experiences implementing data access standards**
 - Protocols e.g. SIAP
 - Registry and data models
 - Architectural components
 - Data access tools
- **'carrot' of support if data providers respond well**
- **Feedback from exchanges/site visits**
 - implementation experiences with publishing to VO
- **June DCA workshop**
 - Planning committee (JT/KEA)
 - detailed requirements from registrees (LU/ESAC/EuroVO)
 - collect feedback during/immediately after meeting

WP3.2/LU (etc.) feedback/related

- **Expand census**
 - Poll UK (JT/AMSR/AstroGrid)
 - Poll RadioNet institutes (AMSR/national partners)
 - Add explicit question “comments on VO standards”
- **Month~18 workshop in Leicester?**
 - Follow-up unmet needs
 - target non-observatory surveys/collaborations
 - requirements for tools (cf AstroGrid tools call)
- **Ongoing RadioNet and other collaborations**
 - Chase RadioNet institutes for census
 - Internet speeds
 - liaise with eVLBI (EXPRoS)
 - establish shortest effective routes to data

Feedback/questionnaires 2007

- **Element of Data Centre census**
 - Review responses on existing experiences with VO standards and architecture (*Richards, Tedds, Allen*)
- **DCA June workshop**
 - End May: review registrations & program, draw up questions, use at/after workshop (*Richards, Osuna, Tedds, Andrews*)
 - Get feedback from 'students' and from tutors
 - Achievements/criticisms of each session attended
 - Issues arising from implementation of VO standards
 - Other specific comments on usefulness/future needs
 - Early July: collate, report (*Richards, Tedds, Andrews*)
- **Site visits/exchanges**
 - From July: revise suitable questions (*Richards, Osuna*)
 - Brief all partners
 - Implement and collate responses