The Australian Virtual Observatory

Aus-VO: Progress and goals



Andrew Hopkins University of Sydney

Aus-VO organisations

Partner Institutes:

- CSIRO Australian Telescope National Facility
- The University of Melbourne
- The University of Sydney
- Swinburne University of Technology
- Anglo-Australian Observatory
- The University of Queensland
- Monash University
- The University of New South Wales
- Victorian Partnership for Advanced Computing
- ANU Mount Stromlo Observatory & Supercomputing Facility
 Collaborators:
- CSIRO Mathematical and Information Sciences
- Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing



APAC Astronomy Grid

Funded by the Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing (APAC) National Facility

APAC National Facility seeking continued funding support next year: Astronomy white paper for inclusion in proposal coordinated by Rachel Webster

Active members & partners are:

- Melbourne and Swinburne
- UNSW and Sydney
- ANU

Project Leader: David Barnes



APAC Grid: Infrastructure

Data grids

- data store
- data access protocols
- authentication & authorisation
- network facilities
 - Compute grids
- workflow
- job configuration, submission & monitoring
- code-to-data paradigms

Aus-VO: Proposed Goals (2002-2004)

Bring legacy astronomy archives on-line

Ensure future project compliance

Provide access to archived realizations of simulations (a VO-theory portal)

Describe all data fully, and support a small and well-chosen set of interoperability protocols

Develop tools and interfaces to find, acquire, process and visualize data

Build national grid infrastructure to host the data, tools and interfaces

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Aus-VO: Archives

Common format on-line archive projects:

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- ATCA archive (Australia Telescope Co all observations since 1988, circa 1.5 Tl separate observing projects! Substantia describing data with metadata.
- MACHO, RAVE, Pulsar timing archives, Gemini archive, SkyMapper, and more still to come!



e):

The Australia Telescope Online Archive

Consists of:

- All ATCA data since 1990, totalling 1.9 Tb, covering over 1000 projects
- Data reduction pipeline for 'quick and dirty' images
- Remote visualisation system for image display

People:

 Peter Lamb, Tara Murphy, Anil Chandra, Praveena Tokachichu, Chris Owen http://atoa.atnf.csiro.au/



Aus-VO: Problems

What do we do?

- Vast extent of infrastructure and technology to develop
- Very limited number of Australian researchers
- Contact between astronomers and IT/grid experts still limited to senior personnel

Who does it?

- PhD students and postdocs have limited science outcomes, has impact on future employment prospects
- Senior researchers have teaching/grant-writing/research commitments of their own
- How can we contribute?
- Develop modular webservice tools, to be incorporated in existing environments (such as AstroGrid)
- Careful selection of services allows immediate scientific results, as well as resource for subsequent services



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There are just six steps to getting your source cat: f you are interested in testing out this service.



Data reduction pipelines for:

- Molonglo Observatory Synthesis Telescope
- AT Compact Array archive
- Gemini, for Australian-used instruments
 Portal for theoretical astrophysics jobs:
- configuration and execution
- monitoring
- result retrieval and initial analysis and display

Aus-VO: Links

- Aus-VO:
- **ATNF VO projects:**
- RVS:
- ATOA: atoa.atnf.csiro.au/
- Pipeline:

Skycat: services.ausvo.org/skycat/ Macho data portal: wwwmacho.anu.edu.au/Data/MachoData.html