

- How did we get here ?
- What did we achieve ?
- Whats next ?

How did we get here ?

History

- 2002 Phase A study
 - proposal : six years to VO ?
- 2003-4 Phase B development
- 2005-7 Phase C/D construction
 - prototype system releases
- 2008-9 Operations
 - Full Release April 2008

Crisis

- 2007 : UK astro funding crisis
 - Everything reviewed
 - AstroGrid in the at risk category
- 2008 : early finish of AstroGrid confirmed
 - complete by June 2009
- Prioritised completion
 - IVOA and Euro-VO commitments
 - complete and robustify current components
 - technical documentation
 - software component release for data centres and tools writers
(cf preliminary developer.astrogrid.org web site)

Response

- VO is not going away
- VO is highlighted in Astronet
- Need for Data Infrastructure understood...
- .. but needs clearer focus on facility needs

- new proposal under development
 - cross fingers ...

What did we achieve ?

Global VO accomplishments

- Creation of IVOA : standards
 - AstroGrid a founding member
- Working, shared Registries of Resources
- First tools that implement these standards
- Interoperability of tools
- Visibility and importance of data management

AstroGrid accomplishments

- Coherent and consistent technical architecture
- Toolkit for data publishers (DSA)
- Publication method for parameter apps (CEA)
- Virtual storage for users (VO Workspace)
- Middleware for tools to consume services (AR)
- API for tools writers (AR and script bindings)
- Complete working system for science

Released to users April 2008

- **AstroGrid Desktop Suite**
 - VODesktop 1.2.0; Topcat 3.3; Astrogrid Python 1.02
- **Links to other VO tools**
 - Aladin; SPLAT-VO; VOSpec
- **Working Services**
 - Registry; VOSpace; Community
- **Worldwide Data Services**
 - 8500 resources

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where to get it

- www.astrogrid.org
 - download and run
 - platform independent Java
 - documentation online and pdf
 - helpdesk

AstroGrid : Home

HOME INSTALL HELP SUPPORT

Welcome to AstroGrid

AstroGrid is the doorway to the Virtual Observatory (VO). We provide a suite of desktop applications to enable astronomers to explore and bookmark resources from around the world, find data, store and share files in VOSpace, query databases, plot and manipulate tables, cross-match catalogues, and build and run scripts to automate sequences of tasks. Tools from other Euro-VO projects inter-operate with AstroGrid software, so you can also view and analyse images and spectra located in the VO.

These web pages hold our software for downloading, as well as links to other people's software. They also provide the help documentation, and other support material such as FAQs and the Helpdesk ticket system.




Our new software (V2008.1) is released on April 1st 2008. Previous releases will still be available for some time : see [previous releases](#).

GETTING STARTED

Read a little [about the Virtual Observatory](#)
Read a little [about the AstroGrid Desktop suite](#).
Go to the [Install area](#) and download the software.
Have a look at the documentation in the [Help area](#).
Start trying it out !

Acknowledging AstroGrid. If you make use of the AstroGrid system or tools, we would be grateful if you could acknowledge this use in any resulting publications. You could use these words: 'This research has made use of data obtained using, or software provided by, the UK's AstroGrid Virtual Observatory Project, which is funded by the Science & Technology Facilities Council and through the EU's Framework 6 of any data discovered or accessed through AstroGrid should of course be mentioned as noted by the data providers.'

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	VO Desktop jar file	Version 2008.1.beta3 19.5MB	This is the core application, and contains several tools : VOExplorer, Astroscope/Helioscope, File Explorer, Task Runner, and Query Builder. It also loads the necessary background software - Astro Runtime and PLASTIC. Read Release Notes
	TOPCAT jar file	Version 3.2 14.5MB	With TOPCAT you can manipulate tables and make plots; crossmatch catalogues; and many more related tasks. Read Release Notes
	AstroGrid Python egg file	Version 1.0.1 0.6MB	With AstroGrid Python you can call VO services inside your own scripts. Requires Astro Runtime to be running, which comes with VO Desktop.

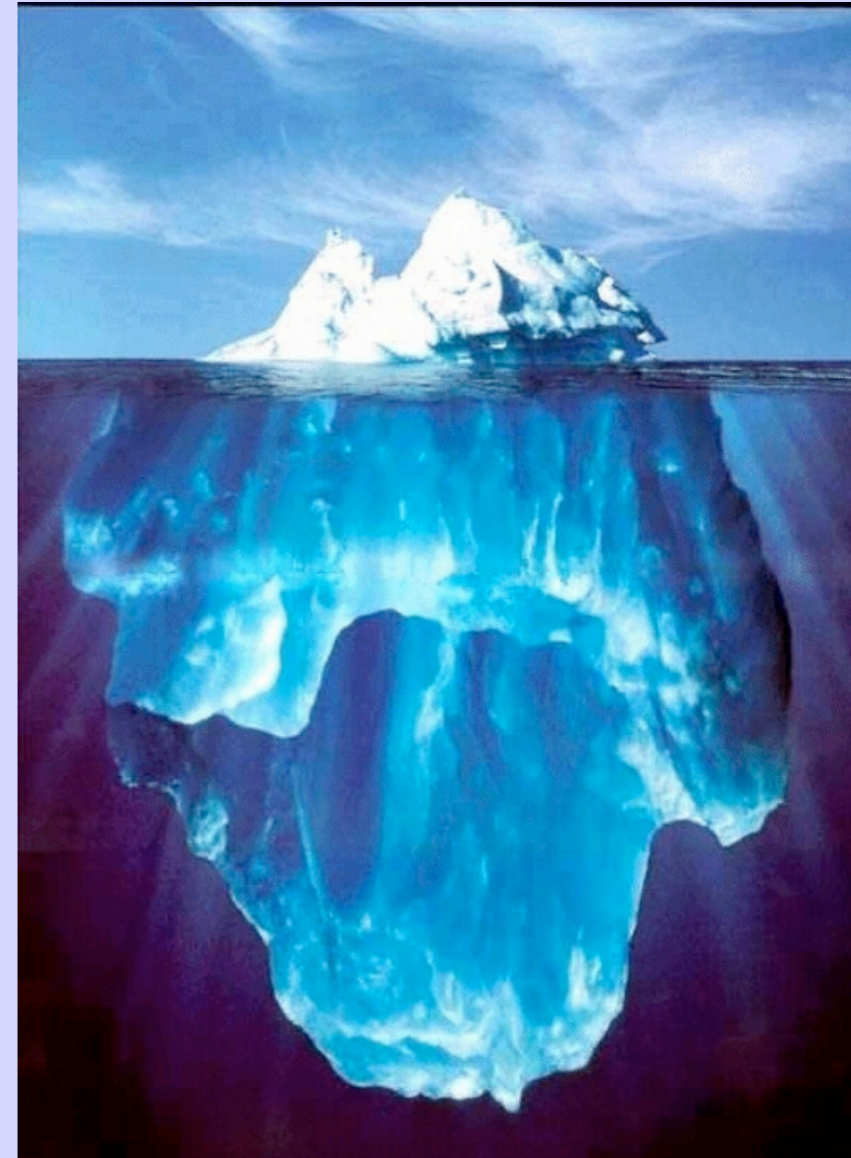
2015 downloads
300 *active* users
2 registry queries per minute

what can you do with AstroGrid ?

- Search registry for resources
- Bookmark and organise resources
- Search resources for data
- Load data straight into applications
- Analyse tables, images, spectra
- Cross match catalogues
- Save and load from VOSpace
- Run remote applications
- Automate tasks with scripting

The iceberg

- Above the water :
user applications
- Below the water :
AstroGrid services
- The water :
world data services



What's next ?

The Euro-VO approach

- Three arms :
 - VO Facility centre (VOFC)
 - Data Centre Alliance (DCA)
 - VO Technology Centre (VOTC)
- UK aims :
 - act as lead partner for VOTC
 - ==> VOTC:UK

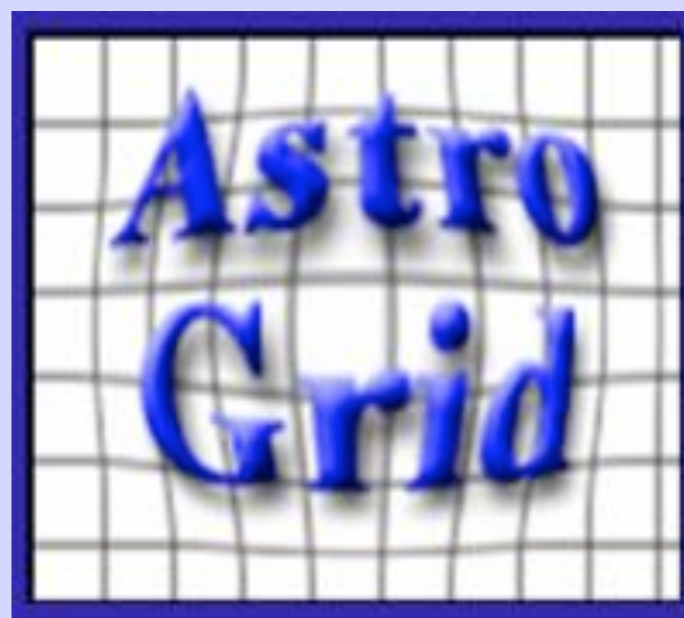
Customer Focus

- Astronomer approach :
 - VO customers are the astronomers
 - web pages, tools and everything underneath
- Facility approach :
 - VO customers are the *facilities** - shared services, toolkits, standards
 - Astronomers are the customers of the facilities
 - The VO is a hypercube with many points of entry
- Developer approach :
 - VO customers are tools developers : middleware, API
 - Astronomers are the customers of the tools writers
- Combined Technology approach :
 - customers are facilities, developers, other VO projects
 - ==> VOTC: UK

* "facility" = facility, mission, data centre, or VO portal

Goodbye and Hello...

Goodbye



Hello

VO Technology Centre : UK



FIN