

Quality assurance in the ingestion of data into the CDS VizieR catalogue and data services

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What is VizieR?

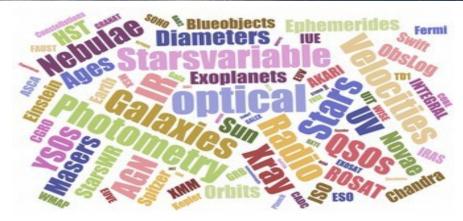


Vizier gives a unified access to a very large collection of astronomical catalogues

- Provides a free access to public catalogues
- Long term preservation

The content origin

- Tables from papers published in the major astronomical journals
- Reference catalogues & surveys
 e.g. Gaia, PanSTARRS, SDSS, WISE ...
- Logs of observations and incremental datasets updated periodically





VizieR in numbers

~17,900 catalogues, ~39,000 tables

Associated data:

~500 cat. having spectra ~200 cat. having images ~1,200 cat. having time-series

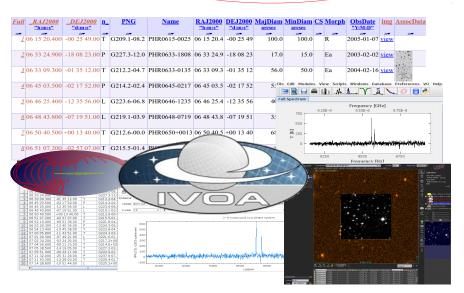
What is Data curation in VizieR?



A dedicated expertise relying on humans and dedicated software

- Collect useful data with scientific interest
- Data control : check input and verification
- Package data into catalogue with all metadata
- Provide data in conformance with the FAIR principle

A data quality resulting from processes not fully automatable. It has a cost!



VizieR Worflows



2 types of workflows

- Initiated by the CDS
- Initiated by authors

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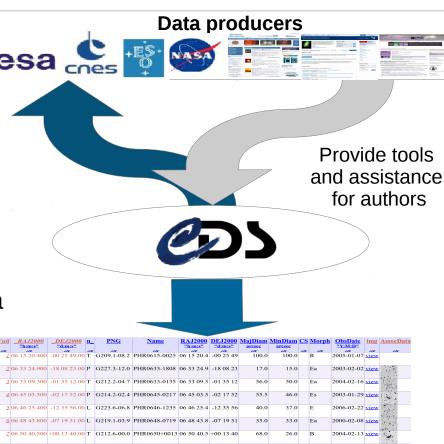
Get/put data

Assign metadata:
 ReadMe file / FITS metadata

Data control

Complete metadata

- Push into VizieR



Data control



VizieR data control combines data consistency & data quality

Software checking

- tables consistency with ReadMe and article
- FITS consistency (e.g.: Saada,..)

- Astronomers validate each catalogue
- Validate data selection
- Check & confirm errors
- Added scientific expertise

Data Control

Scientific validation

CDS Documentalist checking

- Select data
- Complete upload reference table, positions or other useful data missing
- Error detection : target names, units, positions, value discrepancies ...
- Contact authors in case of incomplete upload or suspicious values

Verification
leading to corrections
can reach up to 30% of the
processed catalogues

Package data with metadata



Basic metadata

Columns description, abstract, type, units, ...

Identifiers: 2009A&A...501..539U





Rich metadata

Assign metadata in conformance with standards

Tables : UCD (VO) (2002)

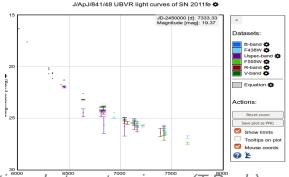
FITS: ObsCoreDM (VO) (2016)



- Assign reusable metadata
 - gather columns by subject: e.g. positions with epoch system, errors, proper motions ...
 - Filter description (2011)
 - Time description (VO) (2018)

The added values

- Add positions from target name
- Operation on tables: join, links ...
- Add visualisation and customization



Curation challenge



A challenge for Data Centers to face the increasing volume in input and quality in output

Increasing volume in input

→ more curation needed



Exigence of quality in output

→ more information to find

Data Producers
Space agencies,
Journals



- Control
- Format
- Meta-data
- Validation

Data Consumers
Astronomers,
softwares (VO), pipelines

Curation challenge: curation evolution

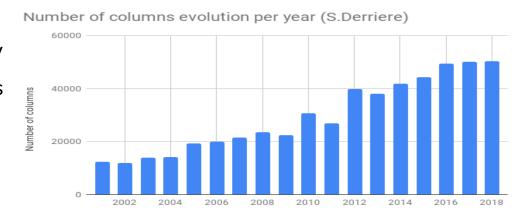


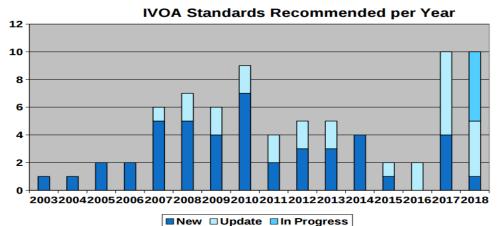
Increasing volume in input

- Number of articles/year published increased slowly
- Number of records increases (Gaia..) → large tables well integrated in workflow (T.boch & F.X.Pinneau)
- Number of tables per VizieR catalogue x3 since 2000
- Number of columns per table was ~12.8 in 2000 and ~17 in 2017

Evolution and new standards in the VO

>20 potentials additional metadata to assign





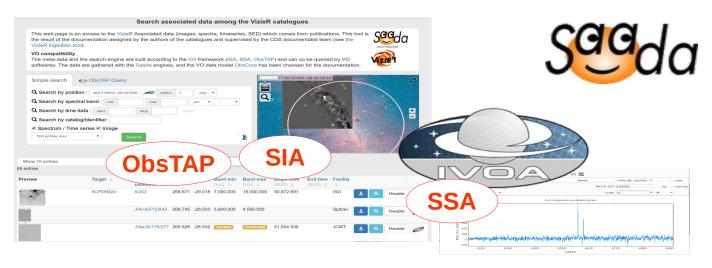
Interop May 2018 – closing session (M.Graham)

Lessons learned from associated data ingestion



VizieR provides access to spectra, images in FITS through the Virtual Observatory

- A new pipeline (2016) to map FITS header into the ObsCore Data-model of the Virtual Observatory
- Semi-automated process (Saada) to populate the metadata executed by CDS & authors
- An interactive web application dedicated for authors to give FITS metadata



ADASS - Quality assurance ingestion of data into the CDS VizieR catalogue and data services

Lessons learned from associated data ingestion

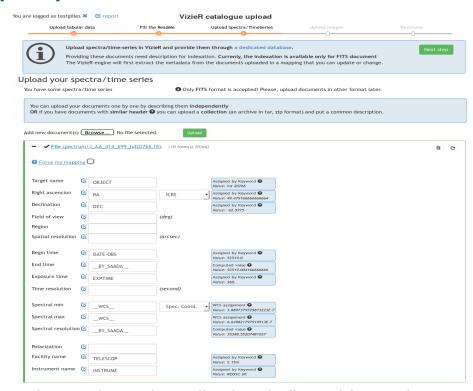


A new workflow which doesn't operate at full capacity

 FITS recommendations not systematically followed by authors (incomplete header, WCS ..)

→ need Human intervention

- An additional workload for CDS documentalists
 Increase curation time + new data-format to assimilate
- Authors contribution not yet optimal
 - 90% mapping resulting from automated process
 - 65% of correct mapping generated



interactive web application dedicated for authors

Anticipation and good initiative



Help metadata documentation (for CDS documentalists)

- Semi-automated process (e.g.: extract UCD, metadata for FITS ...)
- Tools, libraries, validators which generate data, as FITS, in conformance with the recommendation (WCS, FITS header..) are really appreciated!

Collaboration with editors and publishers facilitates the curation.

e.g.: XML format provided by publishers improves the workflow.

Authors need to be educated (communication effort is needed).

- The recent work engaged by NED to provide a "Best Practices document" is great (M.Schmitz)
- The pressure of the editors to ask authors for clean data is fundamental.
- VO school educates astronomers needed to understand why to provide metadata

Reference databases are useful

- The SVO (Spanish Virtual Observatory) filters database
- The ADS database with DOI, ORCID
- A reference database of telescopes and instruments is awaited! (E.Perret, Lisa 2017)

□ Thank you!





























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