Concluding Thoughts and Provocations

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Has the VO Concept Outlived its Usefulness?

• Since its inception ~ 10 years ago, we have gone through ~7 cycles of the Moore’s law
  – The technology landscape is very different now
  – We are entering the Petascale regime
• After ~ 10 years, still no significant, VO-enabled discoveries!
  🌟 Community needs to see some significant science results, and soon
• The VO projects seem to be largely stuck in the “super data center” regime, and are staffed accordingly
  – So far little effort and expertise in data mining and knowledge extraction tools, etc.
• VO should be an engine of innovation, not lost in a software management bureaucracy and data infrastructure work
• Astroinformatics: a mechanism to engage a broader community

What Comes Beyond VO?
A powerful, expandable, web-based user-friendly data mining service for astronomy

Brought to you by:

Currently at: http://voneural.na.infn.it

... and donated to VO
The 10 Goals for the Next Year
(Suggested by A. Szalay, inspired by J. Gray)

What interesting, useful things can we accomplish over the next 12 mos. or so? **Suggest your ideas now, and/or in the blog.** For example:

1. A user-friendly data mining service
2. An electronic exchange forum for educational materials, experiences, etc., in the arena of e-science & astroinformatics
3. A user-friendly visualization package/service for exploration of highly-dimensional data sets
4. Hold the first entirely virtual conference or workshop in this arena
5. Establish a fully electronic, novel format, peer-reviewed journal for data, archives, algorithms, and other astroinformatics tools and methods

… etc., etc.
Please join us next year for

AstroInformatics 2011

Amalfi coast, Italy, summer 2011