GENIUS Mid-Term Review: WP 440 (VO Tools and Services) UBR (University of Bristol)

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Context

- Table analysis software developed in Bristol:
 - TOPCAT: interactive GUI tool for analysis of tables/catalogues
 - STILTS: command-line/batch counterpart of TOPCAT
 - Capabilities: Data acquisition (including VO), visualisation, crossmatching, calculations, manipulation
 - Features: fast, large datasets, easy to use/install, open source
 - Leading science tools used in astronomy for catalogue work (thousands of users in Europe and worldwide)
- Gaia archive:
 - Key dataset expected to benefit all areas of astronomy

⇒ Requirement:

• Ensure seamless access to Gaia archive from these tools

Resources

ullet Effort: 3 months imes 1 FTE (MBT at UBR)

TOPCAT/Gaia Data Access Overview

Approach

- Use existing standard data access methods where applicable (don't reinvent the wheel)
- Make sure these function to allow optimal use of Gaia data from TOPCAT/STILTS

Specifics

- Use existing Table Access Protocol (TAP) client in TOPCAT for custom access to Gaia archive
- Develop new client for CDS X-Match Upload service for bulk positional crossmatches with local tables

TAP

Table Access Protocol

- Suite of protocols developed by IVOA (International Virtual Observatory Alliance)
- In wide use for (especially) large and complex astro catalogue holdings
- Allows remote execution of SQL-like queries
- Includes upload of local tables to remote (Gaia) database for, e.g., crossmatches

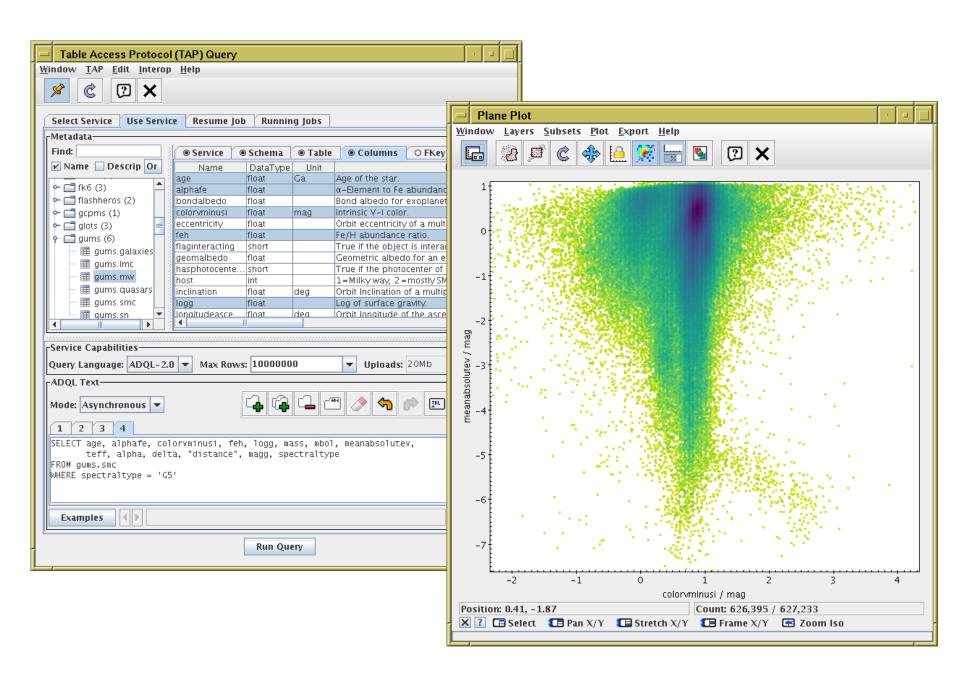
Implementation context

- TOPCAT has existing working TAP client
- ESAC will provide TAP+ interface to Gaia catalogue
- Gaia catalogue will also be available from other TAP services (CDS, ARI, AIP, ASDC, more?)

GENIUS work

- Ensure that TOPCAT client works well with GACS TAP+ implementation
- Work with GACS team to run service validators (developed at UBR) as part of service release/deployment cycle, identify and fix TAP bugs/issues
- Ensure that TOPCAT client works well with other Gaia-hosting TAP services





CDS X-Match

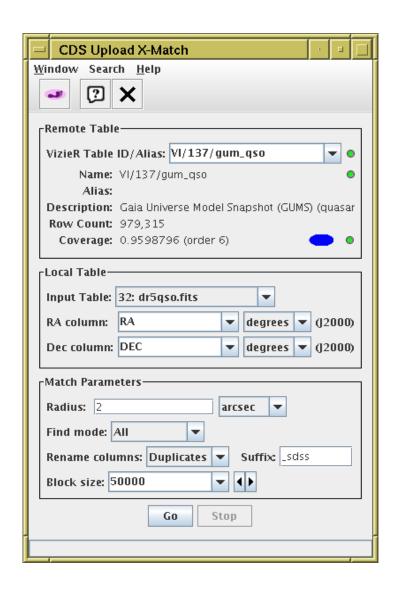
X-Match service deployed by Centre de Données de Strasbourg

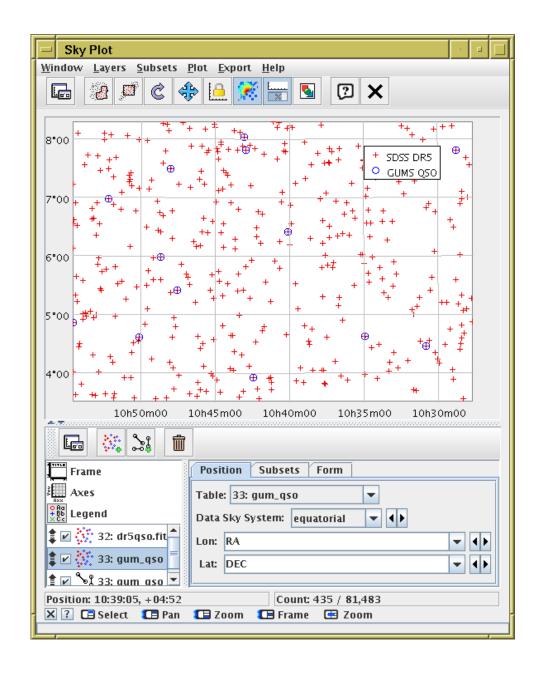
- ullet Performs very fast standard positional crossmatches between CDS table and user-uploaded tables ($\lesssim 1\,\mathrm{Mrow}$)
- CDS/VizieR will host Gaia catalogue

GENIUS work

- Develop TOPCAT/STILTS user interfaces to X-Match service
 - > this makes it easy to match local catalogues with Gaia observations
 - ▷ client-side chunking allows crossmatch of arbitrarily large tables (STILTS)
 - ▶ it will also benefit non-Gaia data users

CDS X-Match





Status

Current Status of planned work:

- ✓ TOPCAT TAP window → GACS: works with GUMS data
 (GACS v0.5, Dec 2014 makes routine use of taplint validation)
- ✓ TOPCAT CDS X-Match window, STILTS cdsskymatch command: works with GUMS data (TOPCAT v4.2/STILTS v2.5-3, July 2014)

Additional activities:

Miscellaneous support (answer technical queries) to GENIUS partners

Planned development work complete

• 3 months FTE expended

Some continuing travel until end of GENIUS project

- e.g. this GENIUS review
- keep in contact with GENIUS community to provide user support for this work,
 and inform future non-GENIUS work on TOPCAT