

Prof. A. Lawrence
University of Edinburgh,

6 February 2009

Dear Andy,

Herschel-HerMES / VOTC:UK

This letter is to confirm our proposed agreements on collaboration between Herschel HerMES data centres and VOTC:UK. The Herschel multi-tiered extragalactic survey HerMES is the largest project being carried out by Herschel. It observes many famous extragalactic survey fields with complex data requirements. Three HerMES data centres are based in the UK, SCAT (which is responsible for the source catalogues and detection maps from the SPIRE instrument) and SPCAT & XID which are responsible for the cross identifications between SPIRE and PACS data and with multi-wavelength data from other surveys.

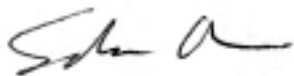
As discussed with you, Nic Walton and Keith Noddle we would like to collaborate on two main aspects.

- (1) Working to publish Herschel-HerMES SCAT databases through your DSA software, as a TAP/ADQL service. SCAT would be responsible for the database but VOTC:UK would help us configure and deploy this. VOTC:UK would interact with Dave Clements (Imperial) --- SCAT data centre manager, Lingyu Wang and Anthony Smith (Sussex) --- SCAT pipeline developers and Albert Asawaroengchai (Sussex) --- Sussex computer system manager.
- (2) Working with Herschel-HerMES SCAT SPCAT/XID in setting up a dedicated Herschel-HerMES community, including private VOSpace, and a mixture of public and private resources. This will enable the HerMES community to easily assemble, assimilate and exploit complex multi-wavelength data from a wide range of sources. This will enable quick exploitation and enhanced legacy value for the whole of HerMES. Some aspects of this are quick and easy, and others are at the forefront of VO development, so will produce VO benefits others will see later. VOTC:UK would interact with Isaac Roseboom (Sussex) --- SPCAT/XID data centre manager and pipeline developer and Albert Asawaroengchai (Sussex) --- Sussex computer system manager.

Much of this work would be directly transferable to other Herschel projects from UK, e.g. Herschel-ATLAS.

These aspects will be developed at a meeting to be held at Sussex in April/May.

Yours,



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