

# VOAlerts : VO-enabled data service discovery



## Abstract

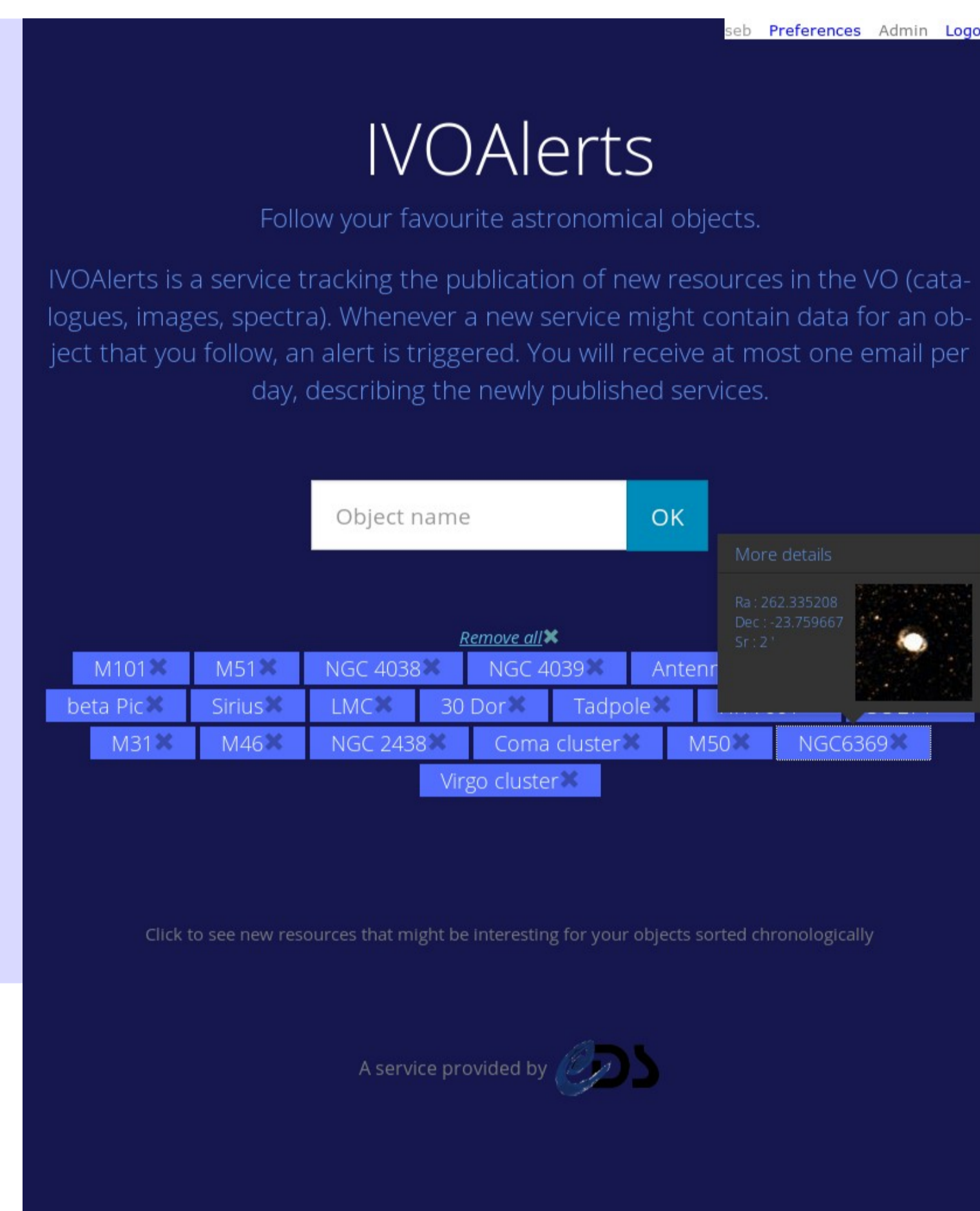
The number of astronomical data services is increasing at an accelerating pace, and it can be difficult for astronomers to cope with this data avalanche. With the Virtual Observatory project, new data services can be registered in a Registry, but astronomers still have to pull information from the Registry to discover newly published services. Moreover, in order to discover what data (images, catalogues, spectra) are available for their favorite sky target, astronomers have to query each service to see if they are relevant or not.

We present a newly developed service dubbed VOAlerts to help astronomers discover relevant data services. The scientists simply subscribe to the service, and provide a list of sky targets they are interested in. VOAlerts takes care of monitoring the VO Registry for newly published services. For each new service, VOAlerts tests if it contains data around the followed targets, and sends summary notifications to the astronomer with details on how to retrieve the relevant data.

Sébastien DERRIERE  
sebastien.derriere@astro.unistra.fr  
Thomas BOCH  
Loïc GASIOROWSKI

## 1. List of targets to follow

Scientists simply add in this web form the targets of interest. This uses the generic CDS login to identify users, and the Sesame name resolver and SIMBAD for identifying targets.



## 2. Registry monitoring

New resources are harvested from the registry (through OAI-PMH), and systematically tested around all target objects (with the appropriate protocol : ConeSearch, SIA, SSA). The resulting list of targets/matching resources is stored.



	M50	M31	NGC6369	...
ivo://service.net/sia	ok	ok	-	
ivo://auth2/voportal	-	ok	ok	
ivo://vo.org/Cone	ok	ok	ok	
...				

## 3. Alerts

Email details are sent to registered users. They can also view a timeline of newly published relevant resources, and access the corresponding data.

