



CASSIS - Standards and Interoperability in Solar System Science

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There is an increasing desire to address science problems that span many disciplines; in heliophysics this includes solar and heliospheric physics, planetary science, and magnetospheric and ionospheric physics. However, differences in the way that data are stored and used by the communities involved are inhibiting our ability to do this type of science.

We examine virtual observatories and data archives that are available in heliophysics and related disciplines, compare their capabilities and look at where their strengths and weaknesses lie. We identify some of the steps that are needed to improve interoperability between the VO initiatives and propose that discussions under the auspices of CASSIS could help us globally to move towards this overall objective.

The Coordination Action for the integration of Solar System Infrastructure and Science, CASSIS, is funded under Capacities specific programme of the European Commission' Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) and has the objective of exploring ways to improve interoperability for all aspects of Solar System Science. CASSIS grew out of the HELIO, Europlanet RI and SOTERIA projects and also includes other key partners, including NASA, ESA, and NOAA. We welcome participation by other interested organisations.