

## 20 years of science with the Virtual Observatory: A story of success

**KEYWORDS:** Astronomical archives - Virtual Observatory – Big Data - Data mining - Hands-on tutorials - VC

**SUMMARY:** The Virtual Observatory (VO) is a well known and firmly established global collaboration, with capacity to provide smooth access to astronomical data and analysis tools, and whose ultimate goal is to better and more efficient science ("VO-science"). The Spanish Virtual Observatory, a project whose 20th anniversary is celebrating this year, has been playing a leadership position at international level in the field of VO-science. The purpose of this Special Session is to bring together the Spanish astronomical community around the major scientific research in this field. The Special Session is therefore conceived as a forum where the most successful use cases are shared, and also a site where the major challenges for the coming years may be identified. The lunch session includes a short hands-on VO session to introduce the most common VO tools.

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