Japanese Virtual Observatory (JVO) Prototype 2

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We describe the architecture of the Japanese Virtual Observatory (JVO) prototype system version 2. JVO aims at seamless access to astronomical data archives stored in distributed data servers as well as data analysis environment. For this purpose, it is important to build a framework for access to remote servers, including remote procedure calls (RPCs) and data transfer. A data request for distributed database is written in the JVO Query Language. The JVO system parses the query language, decomposes it into individual remote procedures such as retrieval of catalog, image and spectrum and cross matching, and generate a work flow. Based on this work flow, remote procedures are called. For RPCs of JVO prototype system 1, we employed Globus toolkit 2 (GTK2). However, latency time of GTK2 RPCs was too long for successive short-time jobs. Therefore, we employ Globus toolkit 3 (GTK3) for JVO prototype system 2. As the result, we find that Grid Service in GTK3 improves performance of RPC. In addition to Grid Service, Reliable (RFT) is used for efficient data transfer. Astronomical data stored in distributed servers are discovered through a registry server which provides metadata discussed in the IVOA registry working group and is built using a XML database.

