



EGSO - A Tool for the Solar Community

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The European Grid of Solar Observations (EGSO) is a virtual observatory for solar and heliospheric physics established under a grant from the EC's Fifth Framework Programme (FP5).

EGSO allows users to identify observations that match search criteria based on time or on the occurrence of events, features or phenomena. Currently more than 50 instrument from over 20 observatories are available through EGSO. Access to these data is possible through both Web and applications programming interfaces (API) - the latter is supported by an extensive set of software provided for the SolarSoft analysis environment.

The project has created a number of innovative catalogues that can be accessed through Web Service interfaces or through the Web. These are used as components in the EGSO search engine but can also be accessed directly by other organisations.

EGSO was constructed by a team that involved twelve institutions from five countries. The project works closely with virtual observatories in related disciplines and represents a valuable resource for the solar community.

We will describe the growing capabilities of EGSO and report on its current status. If network access permits it, some of EGSO's