Astronomical Data and Information Visualization

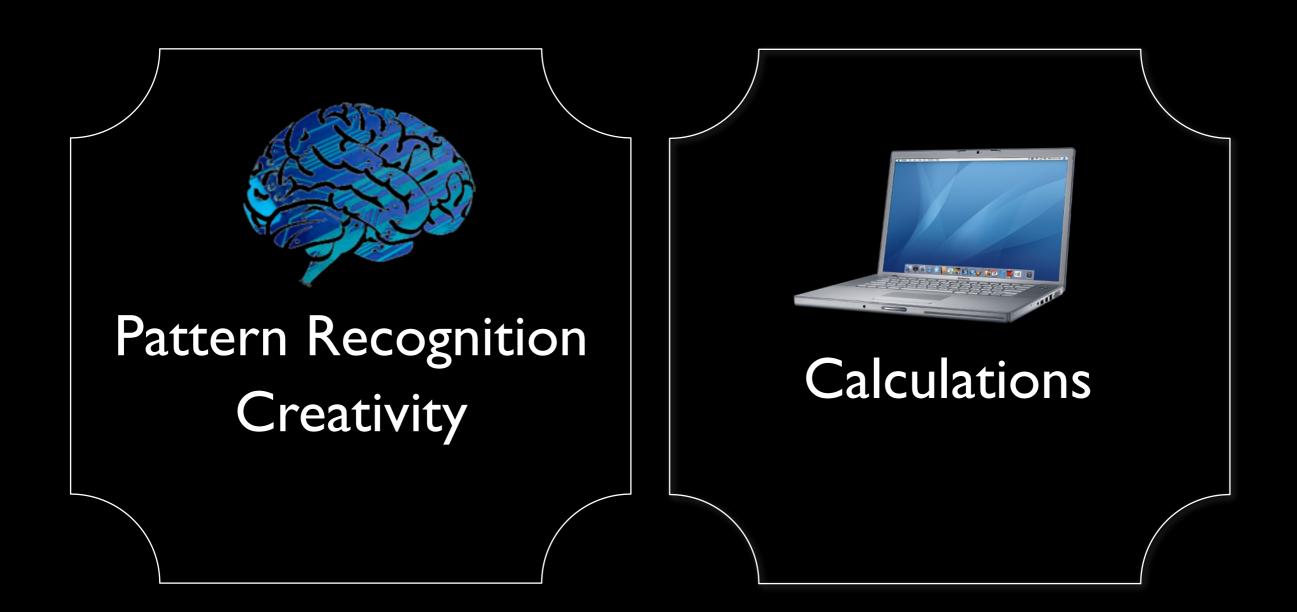
Alyssa A. Goodman

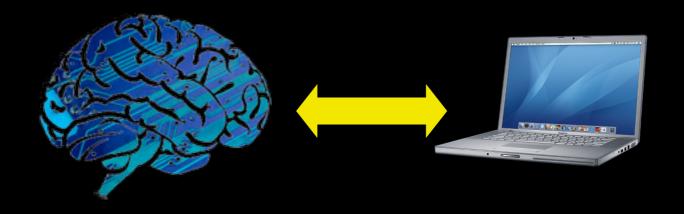
Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics
Initiative in Innovative Computing at Harvard

WGBH Scholar-in-Residence



Relative Strengths





Data Reduction

Data Display

Context (e.g. journals + online data)

Simulation Design

Statistics Design

Data Exploration (Visualization)



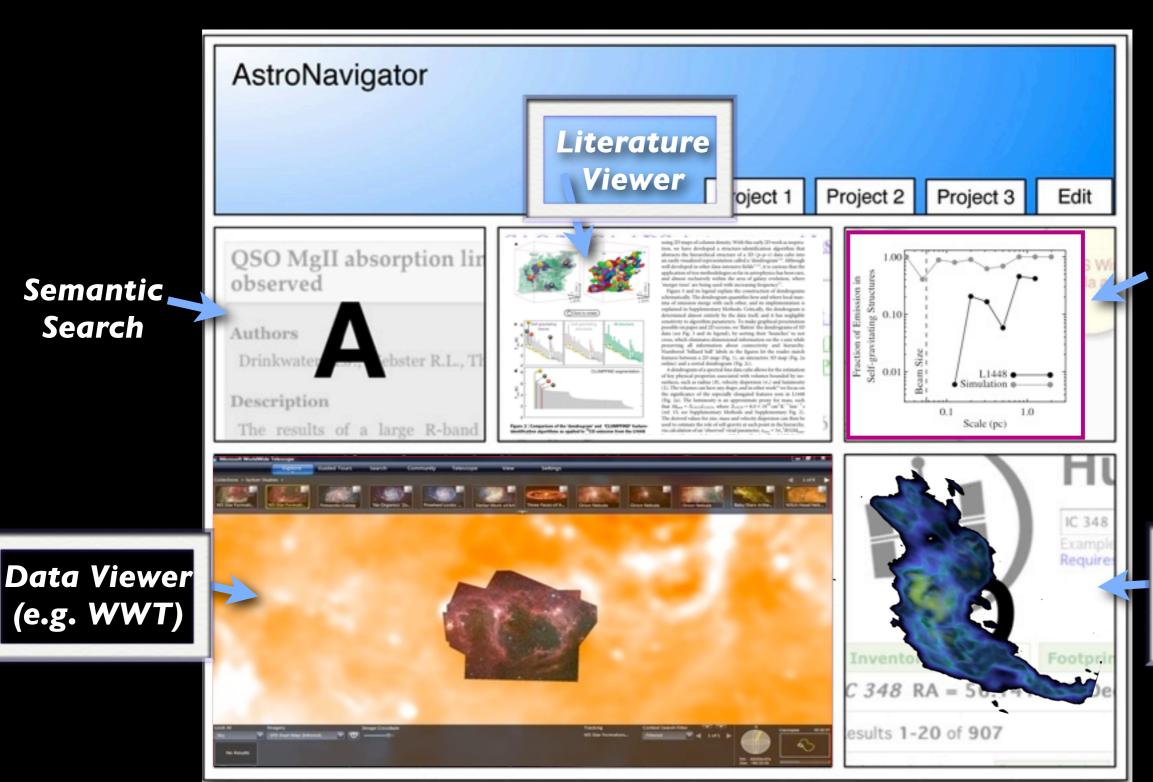
Seamless Astronomy

www.cfa.harvard.edu/~agoodman and worldwidetelescope.org



"Seamless Astronomy" is collaboration amongst many researchers at CfA, MSR, Princeton, STScI, NYU, RPI, and UCLA, and it is supported by NASA, NSF and Microsoft External Research.

Seamless Astronomy

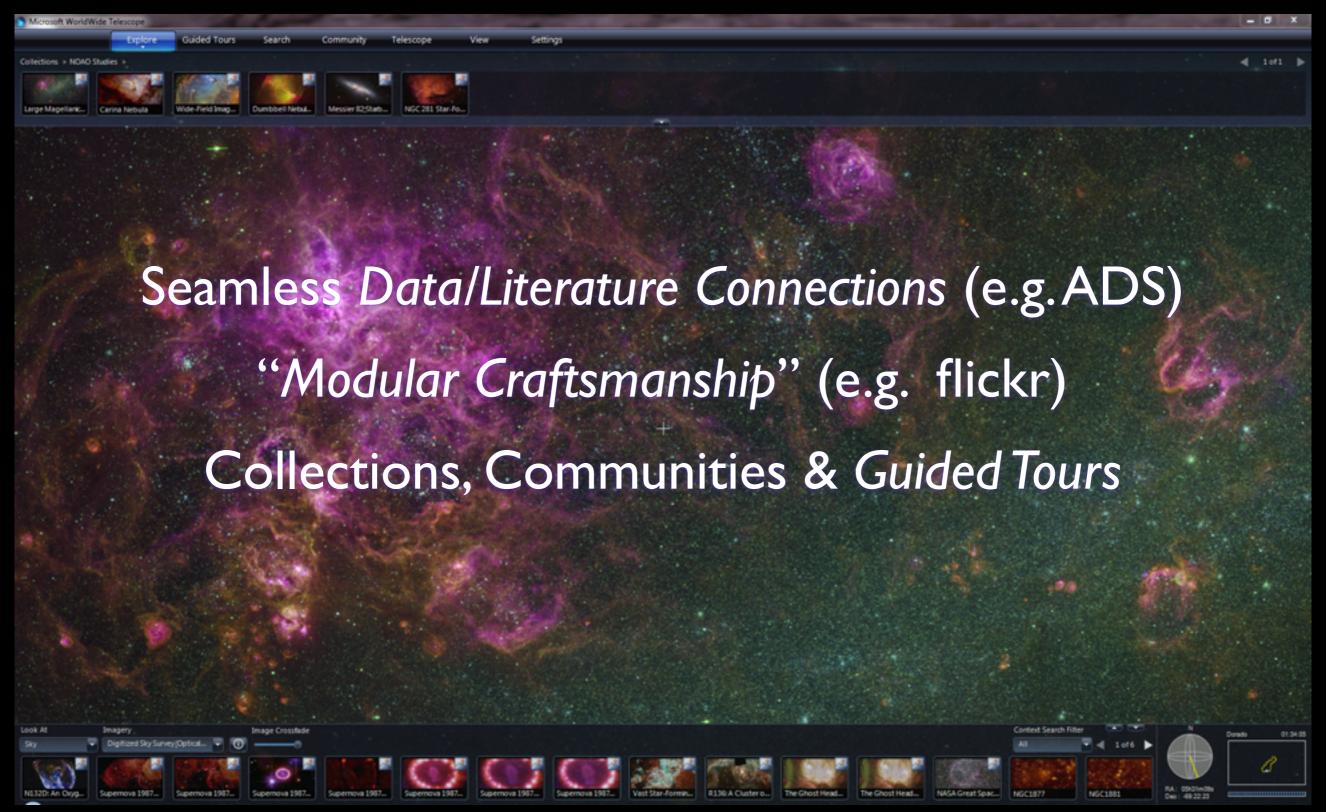


Isifo-bizsfor Asodytics Results

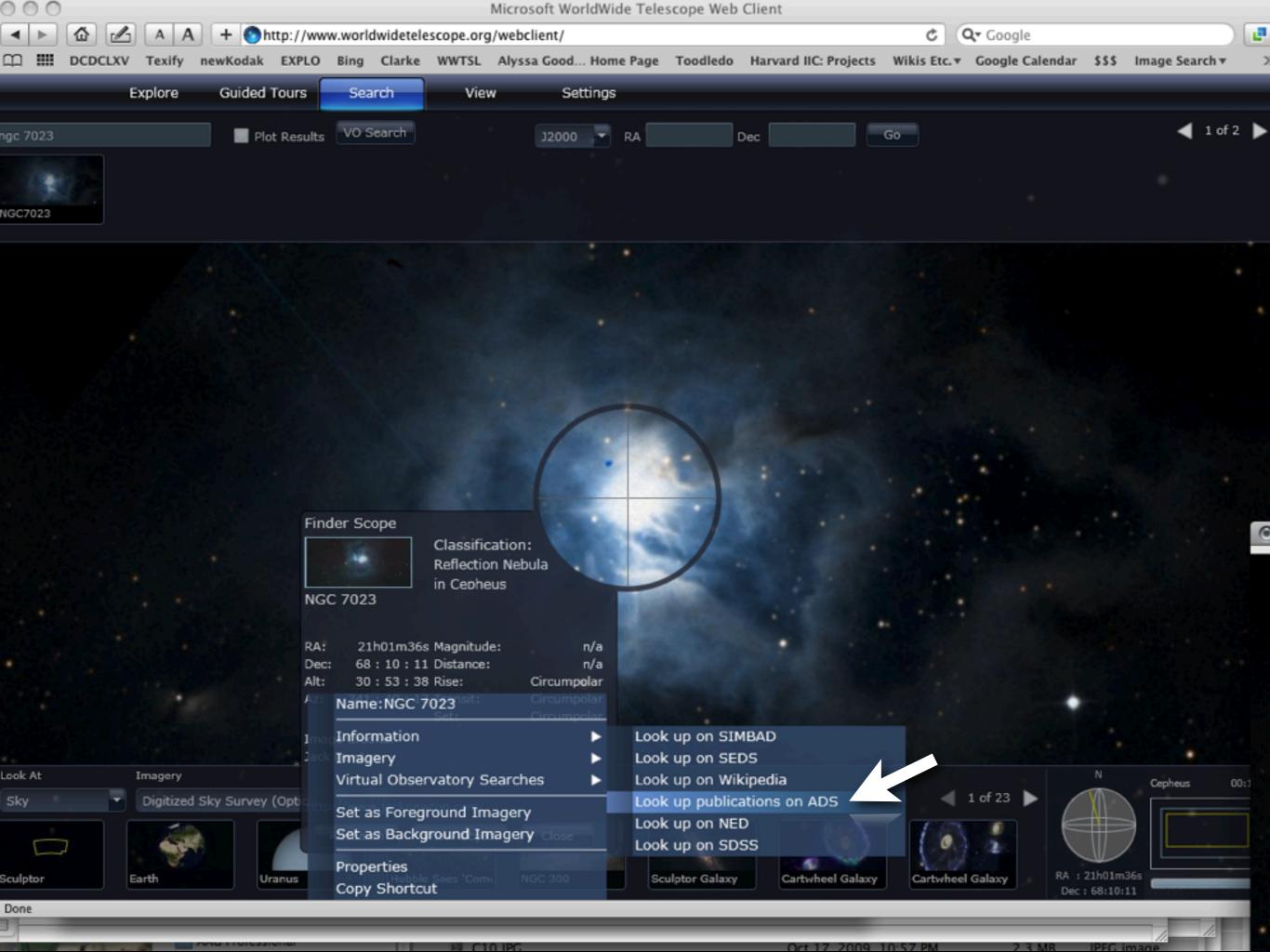
> ArdDive Bicoverer.

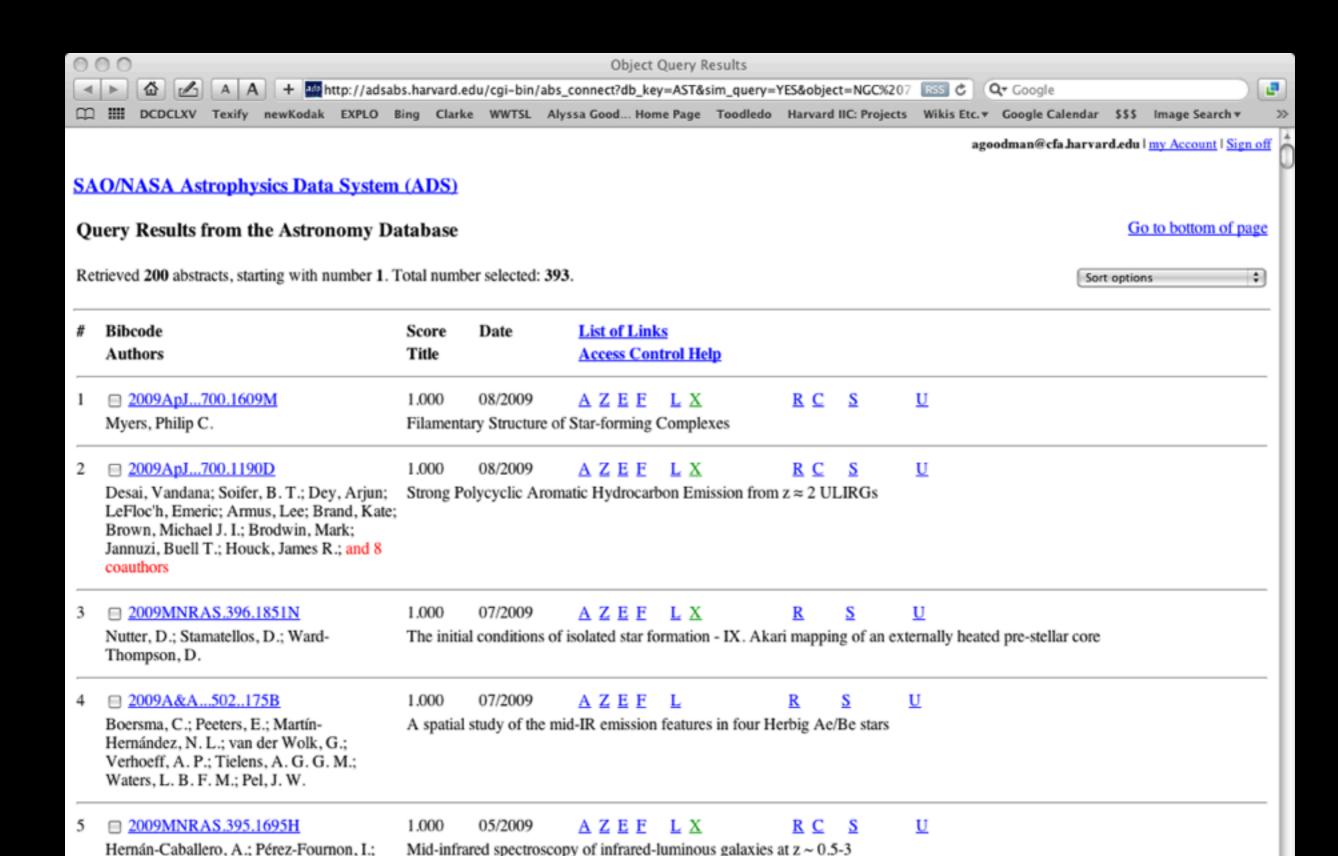
Mockup based on work of Eli Bressert, excerpted from NASA AISRP proposal by Goodman, Muench, Christian, Conti, Kurtz, Burke, Accomazzi, McGuinness, Hendler & Wong, 2008

"WorldWide Telescope": a UIS from Microsoft Research [UIS=Universe Information System]

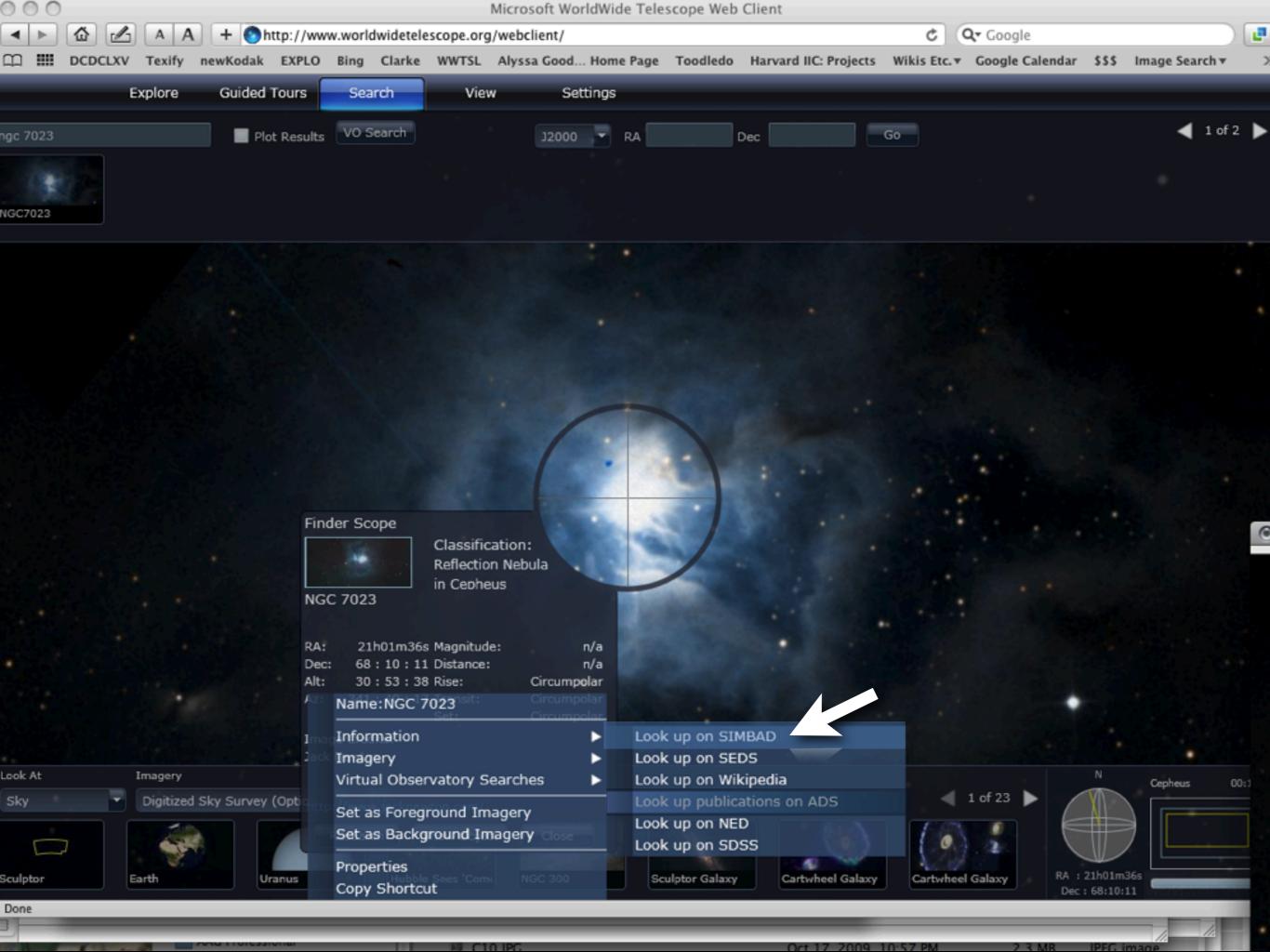


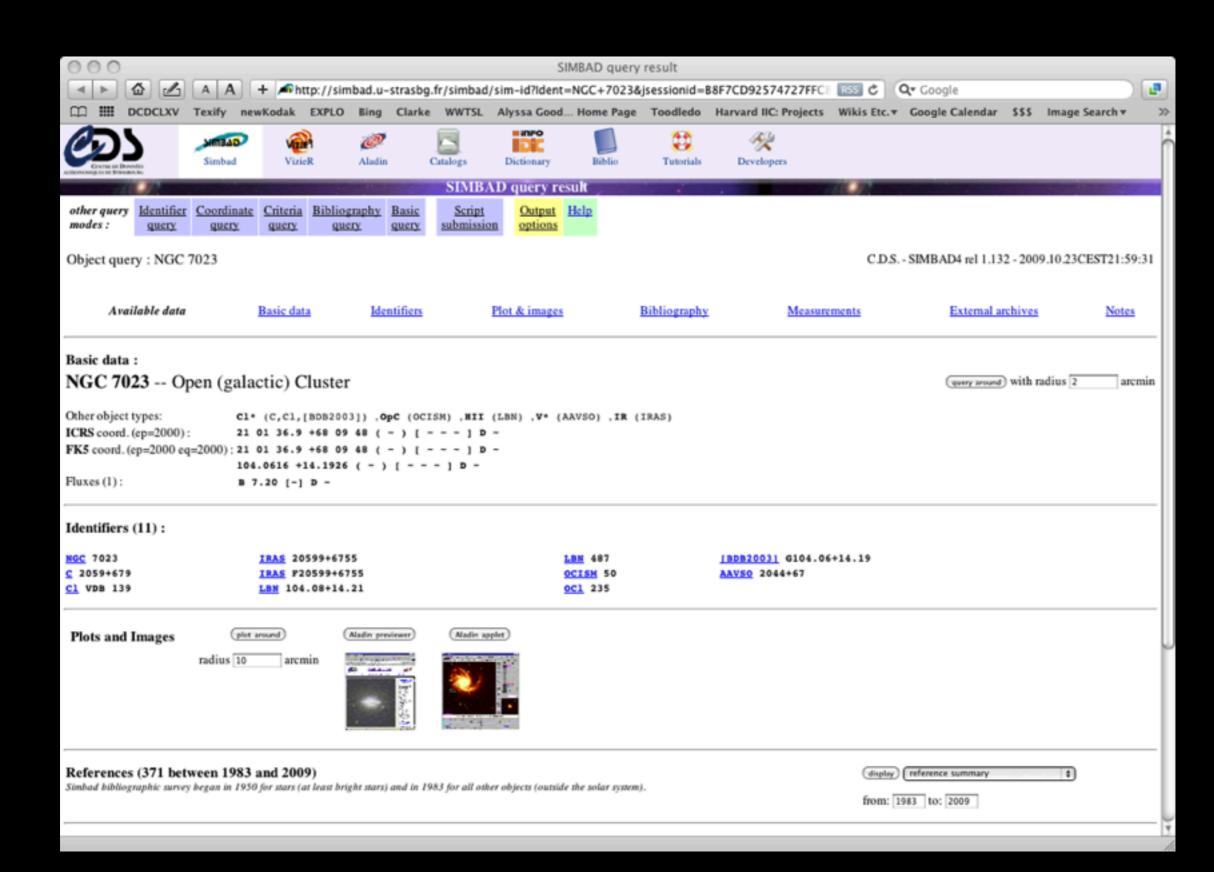


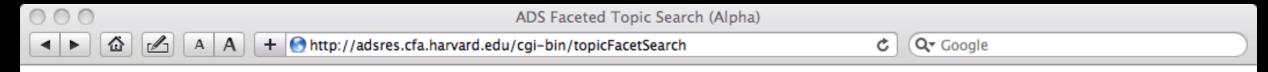


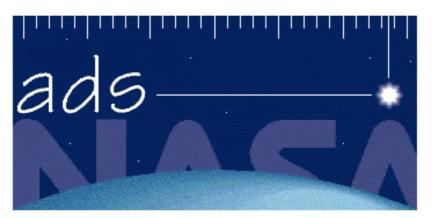


Hatziminaoglou, E.; Afonso-Luis, A.; Rowan-Robinson, M.; Rigopoulou, D.; Farrah, D.; Lonsdale, C. J.; Babbedge, T.;

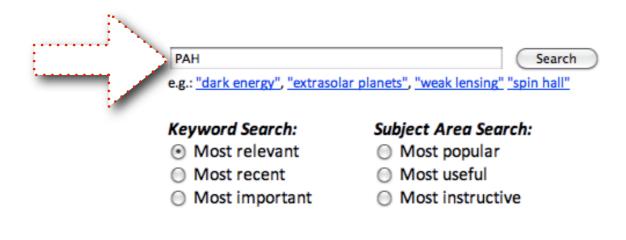






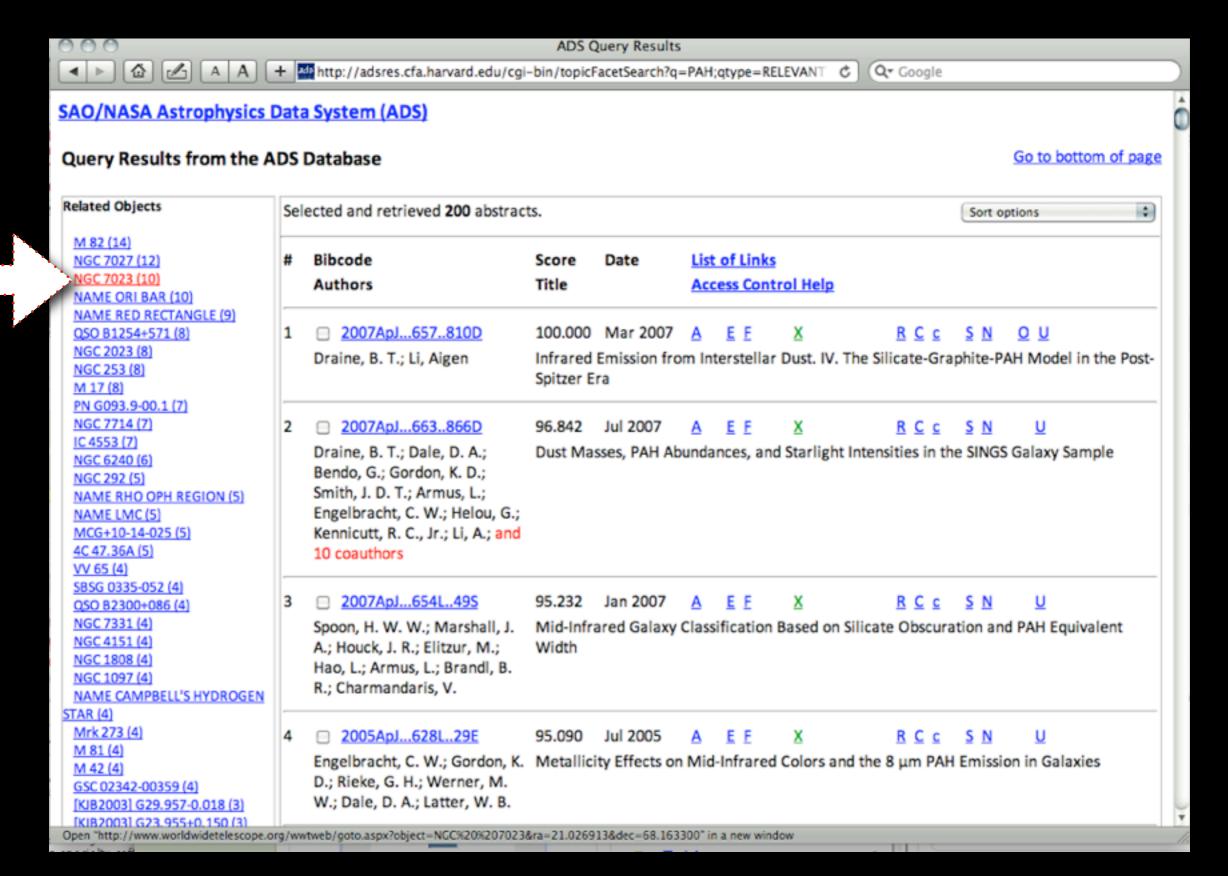


ADS Faceted Topic Search (alpha)



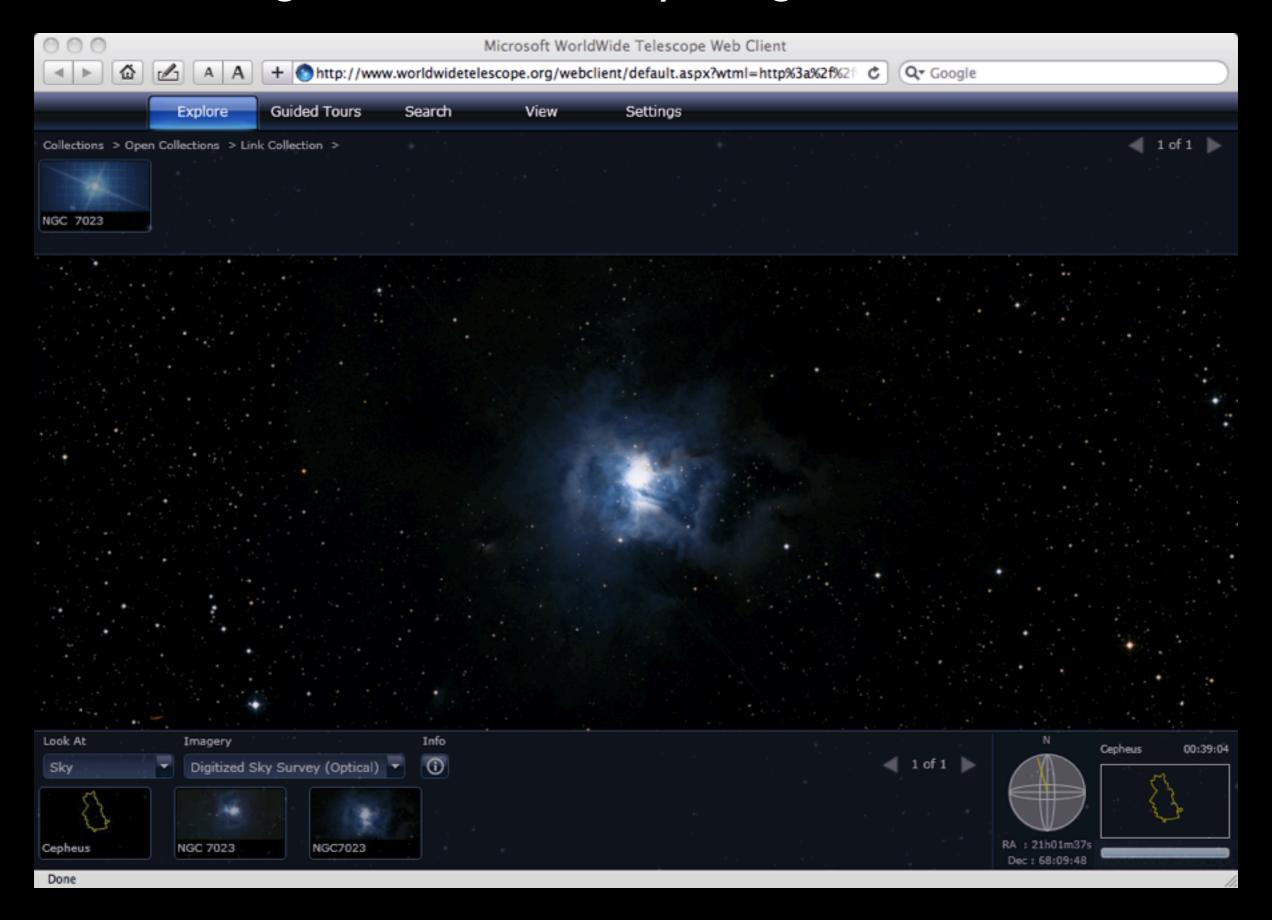
"alpha" Faceted Topic Search in ADS (courtesy of Michael Kurtz & Alberto Accomazzi)

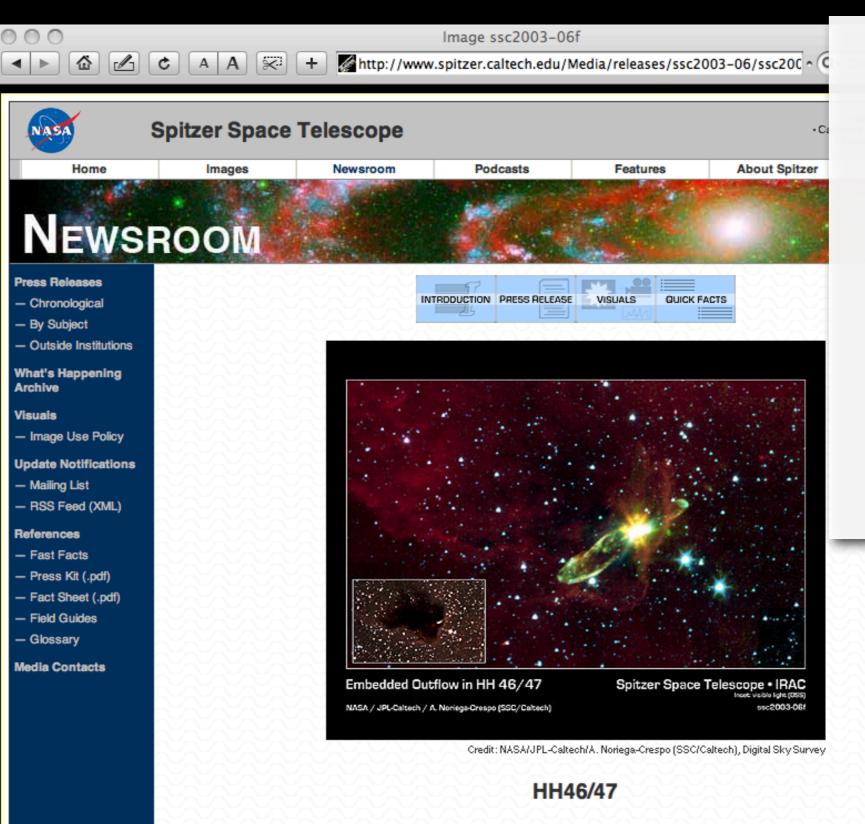
ADS Home | Abstract Search | Help



list of objects with links to WWT browser (thanks to ADS team & Jonathan Fay)

And now we got to NGC 7023 by using the literature as a filter.





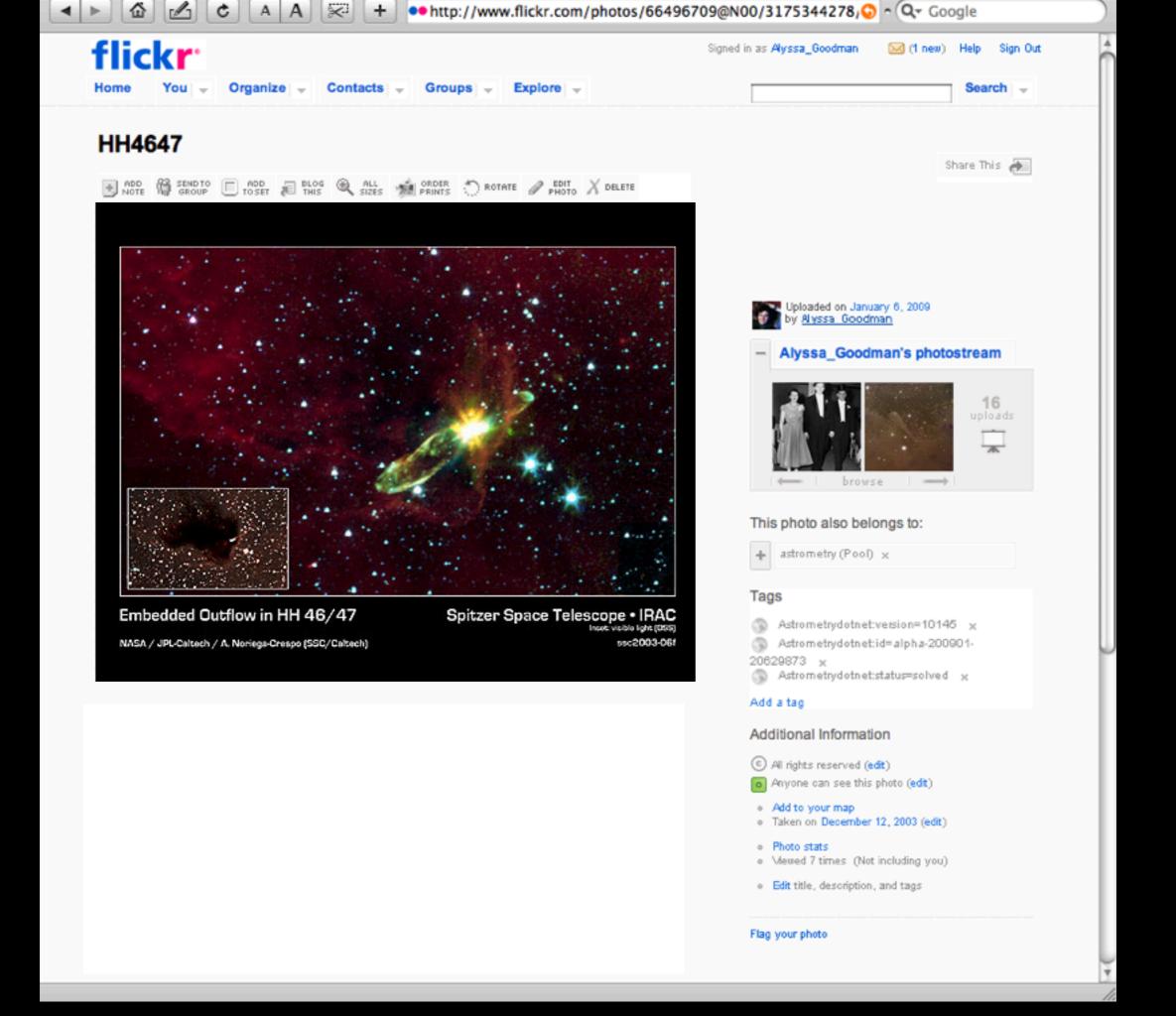
Seamlessness through...

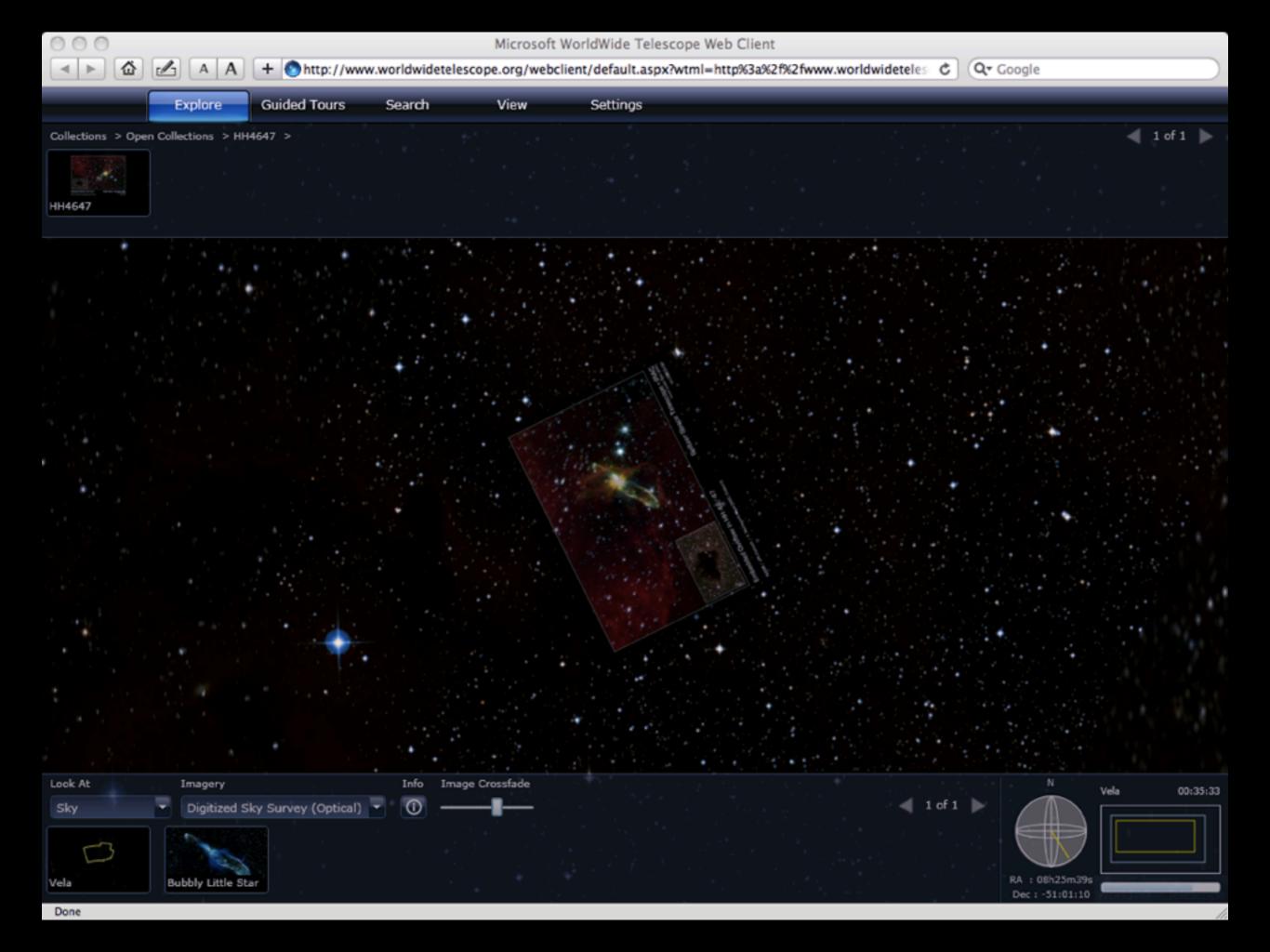
flickr + astrometry.net + WWT!?

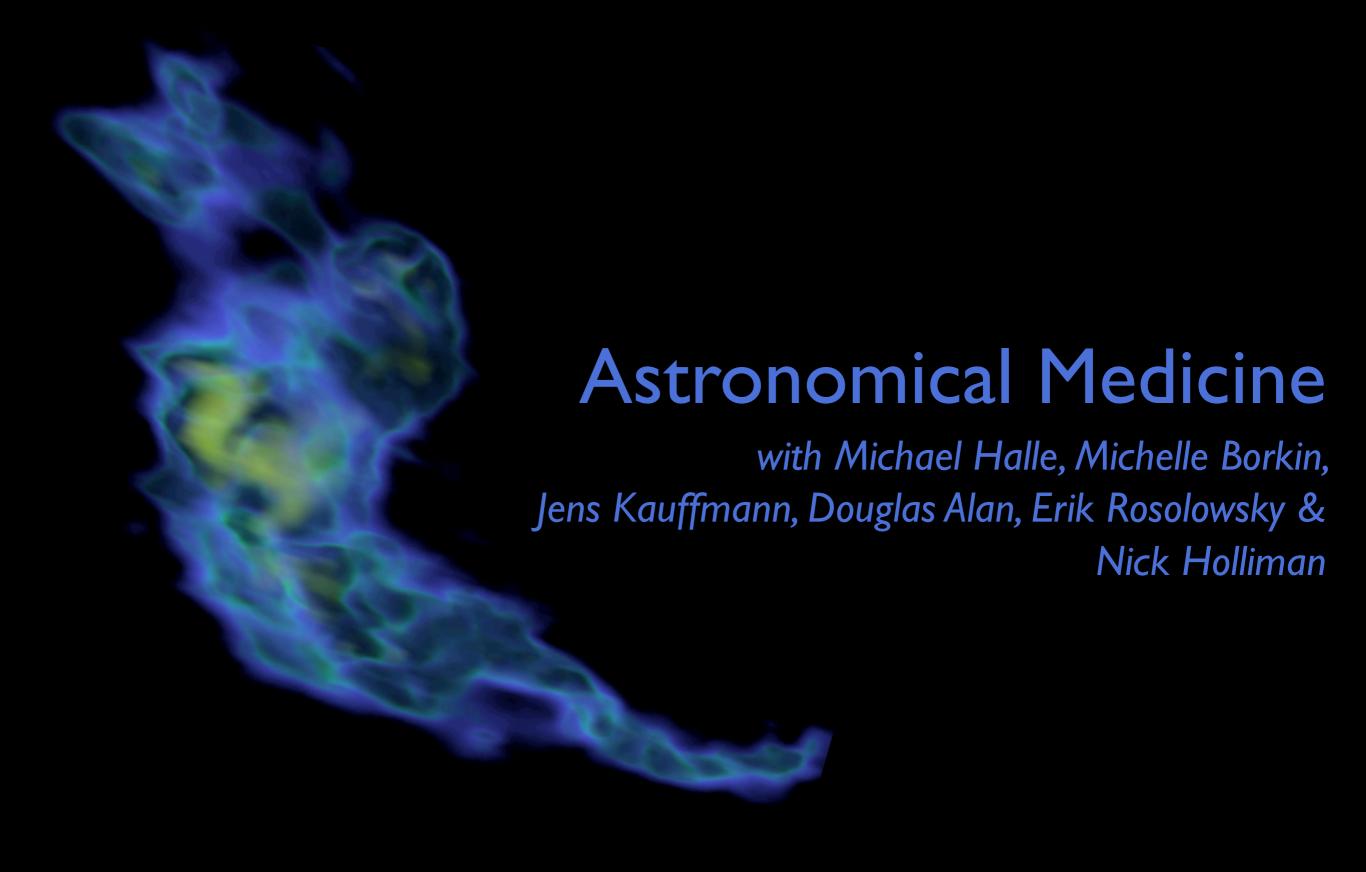
This image from NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope transforms a dark cloud into a silky translucent veil, revealing the molecular outflow from an otherwise hidden newborn star. Using near-infrared light, Spitzer pierces through the dark cloud to detect the embedded outflow in an object called HH 46/47. Herbig-Haro (HH) objects are bright, nebulous regions of gas and dust that are usually buried within dark clouds. They are formed when supersonic gas ejected from a forming protostar, or embryonic star, interacts with the surrounding interstellar medium. These young stars are often detected only in the infrared.

The Spitzer image was obtained with the infrared array camera. Emission at 3.6 microns is shown as blue, emission from 4.5 and 5.8 microns has been combined as green, and 8.0 micron emission is depicted as red.

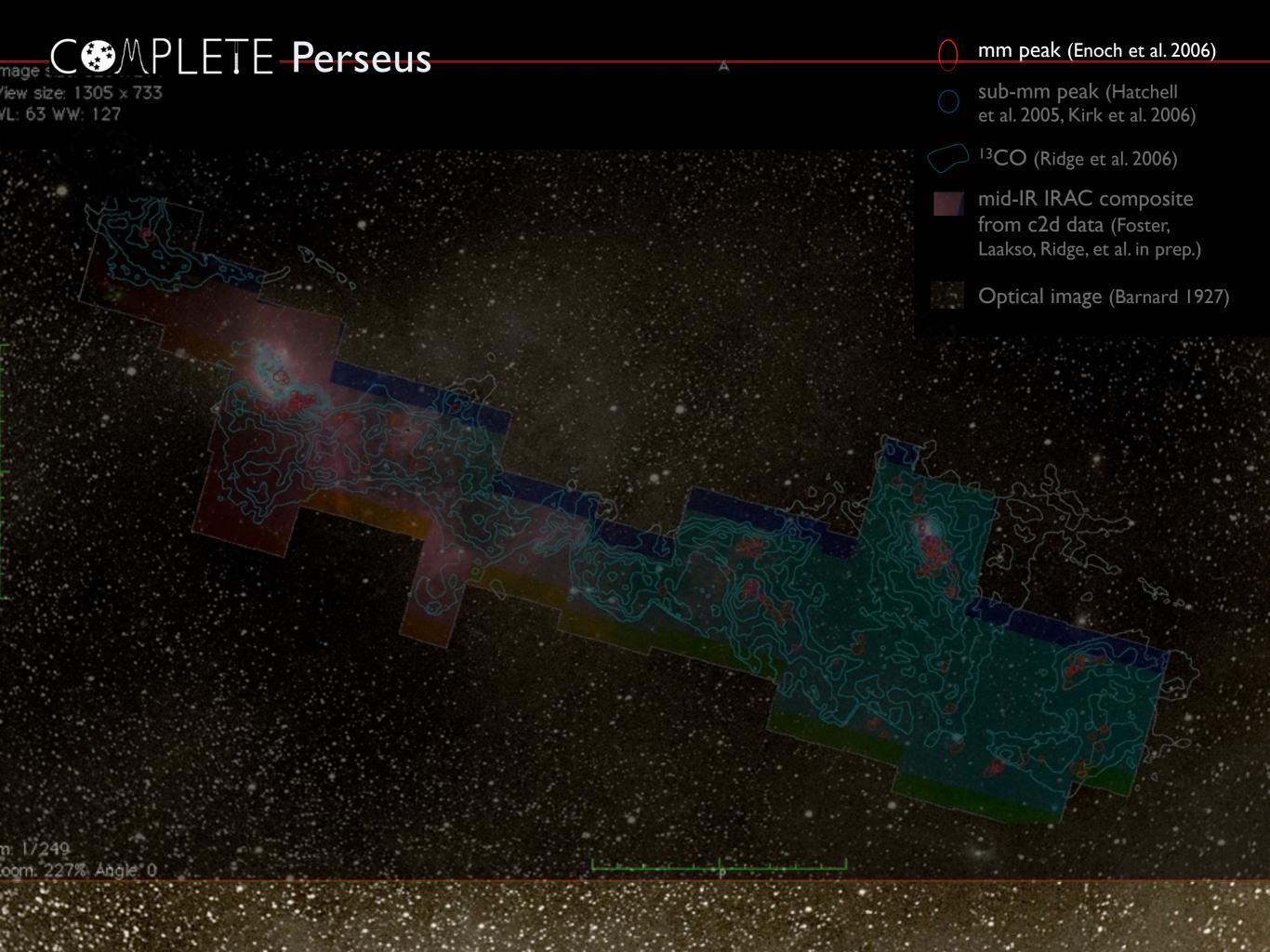
ILL 46/47 is a striking example of a law many protector disating a jet and exacting a bigolar ar two sided outflow. The control

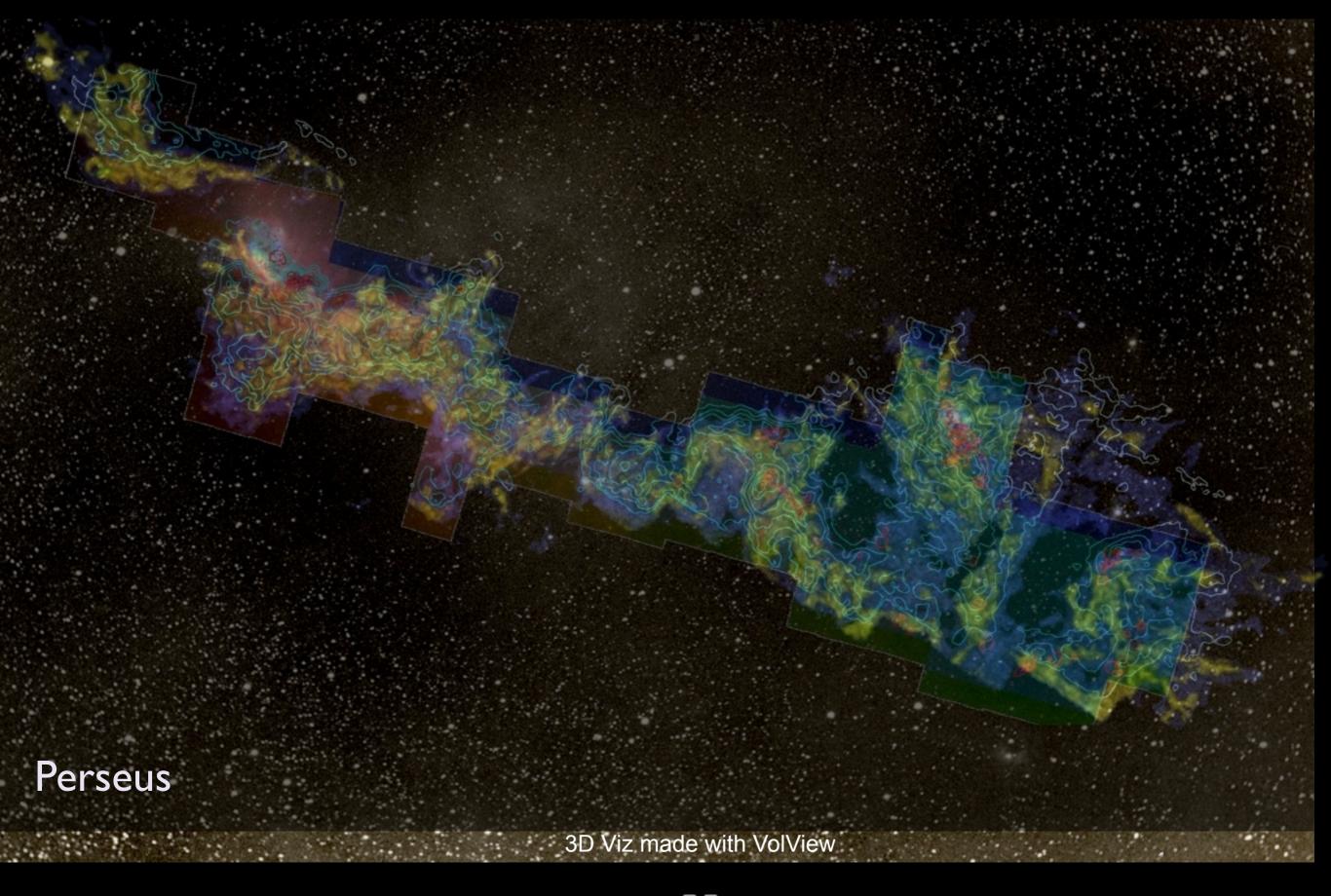
















3D PDF (demo)

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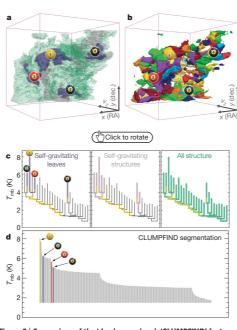


Figure 2 | Comparison of the 'dendrogram' and 'CLUMPFIND' featureidentification algorithms as applied to ¹³CO emission from the L1448 region of Perseus. a, 3D visualization of the surfaces indicated by colours in the dendrogram shown in c. Purple illustrates the smallest scale selfgravitating structures in the region corresponding to the leaves of the dendrogram; pink shows the smallest surfaces that contain distinct selfgravitating leaves within them; and green corresponds to the surface in the data cube containing all the significant emission. Dendrogram branches corresponding to self-gravitating objects have been highlighted in yellow over the range of $T_{\rm mb}$ (main-beam temperature) test-level values for which the virial parameter is less than 2. The x-y locations of the four 'selfgravitating' leaves labelled with billiard balls are the same as those shown in Fig. 1. The 3D visualizations show position–position–velocity $(p-p-\nu)$ space. RA, right ascension; dec., declination. For comparison with the ability of dendrograms (c) to track hierarchical structure, d shows a pseudodendrogram of the CLUMPFIND segmentation (\boldsymbol{b}), with the same four labels used in Fig. 1 and in a. As 'clumps' are not allowed to belong to larger structures, each pseudo-branch in d is simply a series of lines connecting the maximum emission value in each clump to the threshold value. A very large number of clumps appears in b because of the sensitivity of CLUMPFIND to noise and small-scale structure in the data. In the online PDF version, the 3D cubes (a and b) can be rotated to any orientation, and surfaces can be turned on and off (interaction requires Adobe Acrobat version 7.0.8 or higher). In the printed version, the front face of each 3D cube (the 'home' view in the nteractive online version) corresponds exactly to the patch of sky shown in Fig. 1, and velocity with respect to the Local Standard of Rest increases from front (-0.5 km s⁻¹) to back (8 km s⁻¹)

data, CLUMPFIND typically finds features on a limited range of scales, above but close to the physical resolution of the data, and its results can be overly dependent on input parameters. By tuning CLUMPFIND's two free parameters, the same molecular-line data set⁸ can be used to show either that the frequency distribution of clump mass is the same as the initial mass function of stars or that it follows the much shallower mass function associated with large-scale molecular clouds (Supplementary Fig. 1).

Four years before the advent of CLUMPFIND, 'structure trees'9 were proposed as a way to characterize clouds' hierarchical structure

using 2D maps of column density. With this early 2D work as inspiration, we have developed a structure-identification algorithm that abstracts the hierarchical structure of a 3D $(p-p-\nu)$ data cube into an easily visualized representation called a 'dendrogram' 10. Although well developed in other data-intensive fields ^{11,12}, it is curious that the application of tree methodologies so far in astrophysics has been rare, and almost exclusively within the area of galaxy evolution, where 'merger trees' are being used with increasing frequency 13.

Figure 3 and its legend explain the construction of dendrograms schematically. The dendrogram quantifies how and where local maxima of emission merge with each other, and its implementation is explained in Supplementary Methods. Critically, the dendrogram is determined almost entirely by the data itself, and it has negligible sensitivity to algorithm parameters. To make graphical presentation possible on paper and 2D screens, we 'flatten' the dendrograms of 3D data (see Fig. 3 and its legend), by sorting their 'branches' to not cross, which eliminates dimensional information on the x axis while preserving all information about connectivity and hierarchy. Numbered 'billiard ball' labels in the figures let the reader match features between a 2D map (Fig. 1), an interactive 3D map (Fig. 2a online) and a sorted dendrogram (Fig. 2c).

A dendrogram of a spectral-line data cube allows for the estimation of key physical properties associated with volumes bounded by isosurfaces, such as radius (R), velocity dispersion (σ_{ν}) and luminosity (L). The volumes can have any shape, and in other work14 we focus on the significance of the especially elongated features seen in L1448 (Fig. 2a). The luminosity is an approximate proxy for mass, such that $M_{\text{lum}} = X_{13\text{CO}} L_{13\text{CO}}$, where $X_{13\text{CO}} = 8.0 \times 10^{20} \,\text{cm}^2 \,\text{K}^{-1} \,\text{km}^{-1} \,\text{s}$ (ref. 15; see Supplementary Methods and Supplementary Fig. 2). The derived values for size, mass and velocity dispersion can then be used to estimate the role of self-gravity at each point in the hierarchy, via calculation of an 'observed' virial parameter, $\alpha_{obs} = 5\sigma_v^2 R/GM_{lum}$. In principle, extended portions of the tree (Fig. 2, yellow highlighting) where $\alpha_{obs} < 2$ (where gravitational energy is comparable to or larger than kinetic energy) correspond to regions of $p-p-\nu$ space where selfgravity is significant. As α_{obs} only represents the ratio of kinetic energy to gravitational energy at one point in time, and does not explicitly capture external over-pressure and/or magnetic fields16, its measured value should only be used as a guide to the longevity (boundedness) of any particular feature.

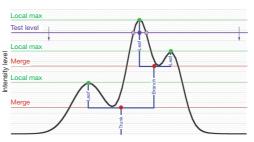
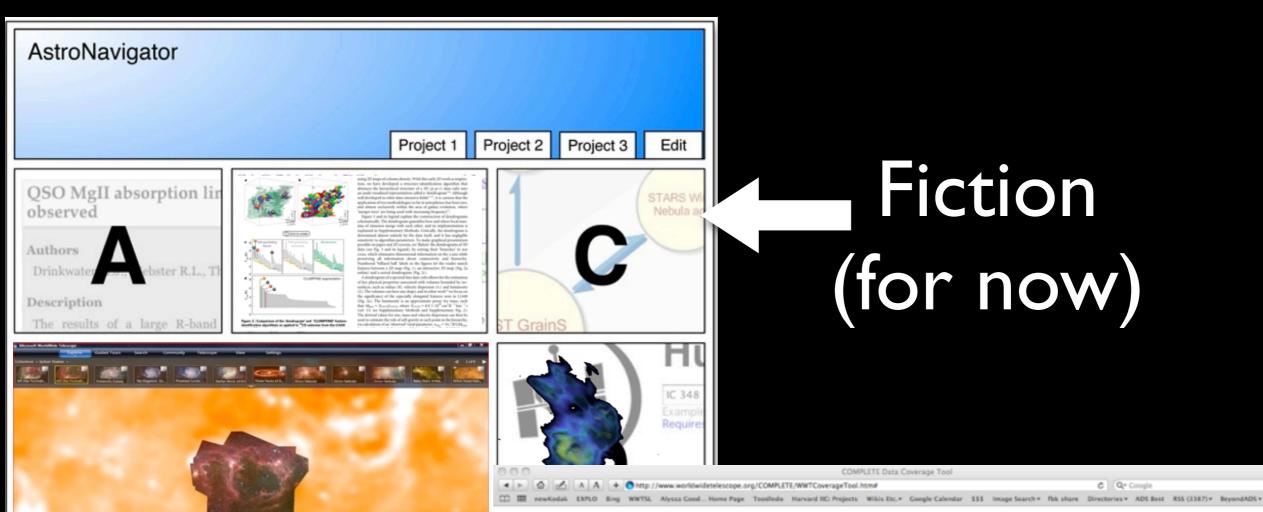


Figure 3 | Schematic illustration of the dendrogram process. Shown is the construction of a dendrogram from a hypothetical one-dimensional emission profile (black). The dendrogram (blue) can be constructed by 'dropping' a test constant emission level (purple) from above in tiny steps (exaggerated in size here, light lines) until all the local maxima and mergers are found, and connected as shown. The intersection of a test level with the emission is a set of points (for example the light purple dots) in one dimension, a planar curve in two dimensions, and an isosurface in three dimensions. The dendrogram of 3D data shown in Fig. 2c is the direct analogue of the tree shown here, only constructed from 'isosurface' rather than 'point' intersections. It has been sorted and flattened for representation on a flat page, as fully representing dendrograms for 3D data cubes would require four dimensions.

4

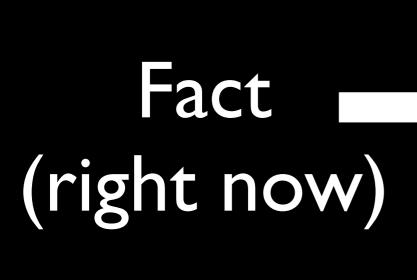


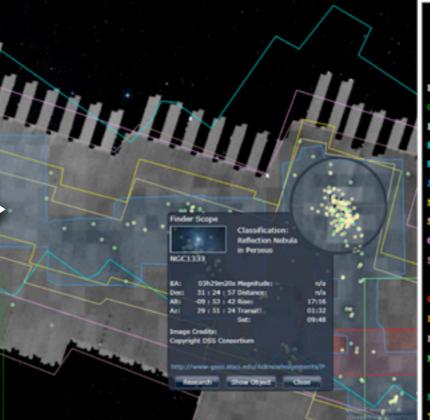


Fiction (for now)

COMPLETE Data Coverage Tool







COMPLETE Data Available									
Center on Perseus Center on Ophichus Center on Serpens									
Full-Cloud Data (Phase I, All Data Available)									
Dataset	Show	Perseus	Ophiuchus	Serpens	Link				
GBT: HI Data Cube	0	√	✓	Ø	Data				
IRAS: Av/Temp Maps	0	√	✓	✓	Data				
PCRAO: 1200	0	√	¥	✓	Data				
FCRA0: 13CO		√	√	√	Data				
JCMT: 850 microns	ø	₹	√	Ø	Data				
Spitzer c2d: IRAC 1,3 (3.6,5.8 µm)	ø	√	✓	√	Data				
Spitzer c2d: IRAC 2,4 (4.5,8 µm)	0	√	√	√	Data				
CSO/Bolocam: 1.2-mm	ø	₹	Ø	Ø	Data				
Spitzer MIPS: Derived Dust Map	ø	₹	Ø	Ø	Data				
Targeted Regions (Phase II, Some Data Not Yet Available)									
CTIO/Calar Alto: NIR (J,H,Ks)	ø	√	√	Ø	Data				
IRAM 30-m: N2H+ and C18O	0	√	Ø	Ø	Data				
IRAM 30-m: 1.1-mm continuum	0	√	Ø	Ø	Data				
Megacam/MMT: r,i,z images	o o	√	Ø	Ø	Data				
Catalogs & Pointed Surveys									
NH3 Pointed Survey		√	Ø	Ø	Data				
YSO Candidate list (c2d)	ø	√	√	✓	Data				

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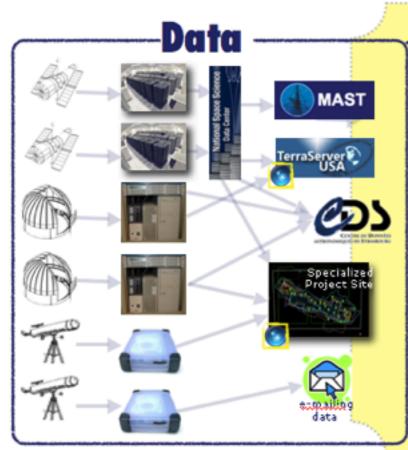
Astronomical Data and Information Visualization

Organization, Anarchy, or Organized Anarchy?

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Realm of Seamle Astronomy





