

WorldWide Telescope in “Real” Research and Education

*Alyssa Goodman, Gus Muench, Alberto Pepe, and Patricia Udomprasert
(Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics)
and Jonathan Fay and Curtis Wong (Microsoft Research)*

Jim Gray (& Alex Szalay) had it right (in 2004)

The World Wide Telescope an Archetype for Online-Science

Jim Gray (Microsoft)

Alex Szalay (Johns Hopkins University)

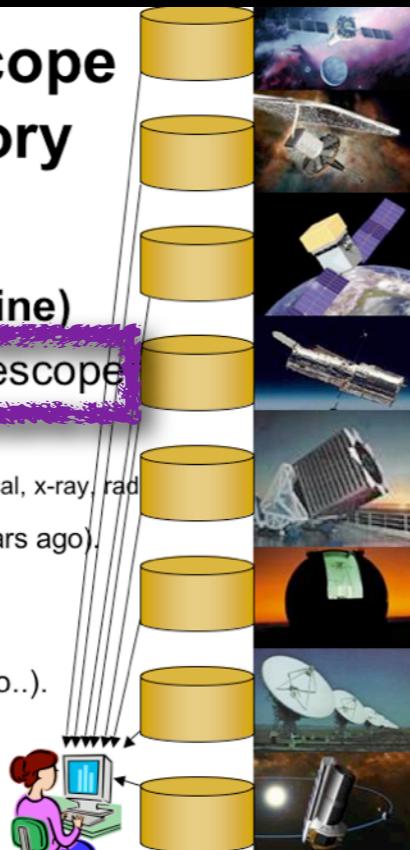
Microsoft Academic Days in Silicon Valley

<http://research.microsoft.com/~gray/talks>

World Wide Telescope Virtual Observatory

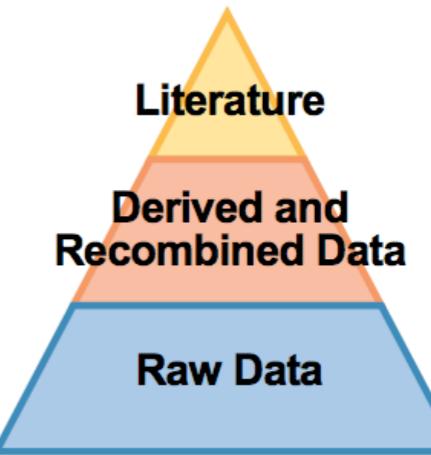
<http://www.ivoa.net/>

- Premise:
Most data is (or could be online)
- The Internet is the world's best telescope
 - It has data on every part of the sky
 - In every measured spectral band: optical, x-ray, radio
 - As deep as the best instruments (2 years ago).
 - It is up when you are up.
The “seeing” is always great
(no working at night, no clouds no moons no...).
 - It's a smart telescope:
links objects and data to literature on them.

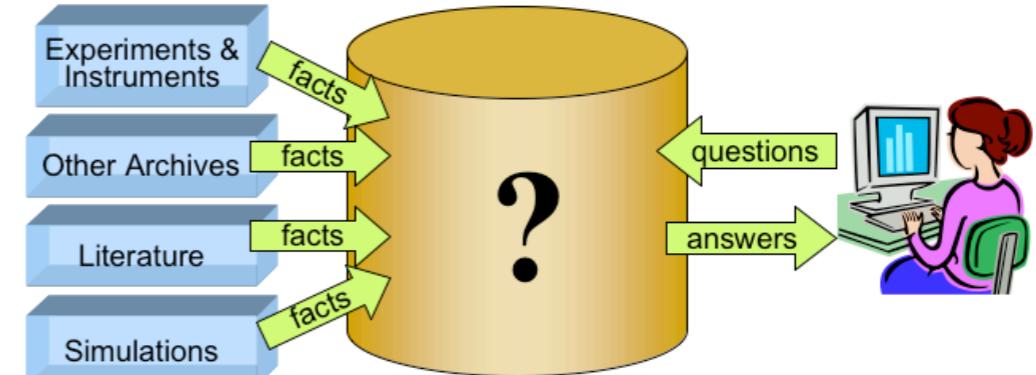


All Scientific Data Online

- Many disciplines overlap and use data from other sciences
- Internet can unify all literature and data
- Go from literature to computation to data back to literature
- Information at your fingertips for everyone-everywhere
- Increase Scientific Information Velocity
- Huge increase in Science Productivity



The Big Picture



The Big Problems

- Data ingest
- Managing a petabyte
- Common schema
- How to organize it?
- How to reorganize it
- How to coexist with others
- Query and Vis tools
- Support/training
- Performance
 - Execute queries in a minute
 - Batch query scheduling

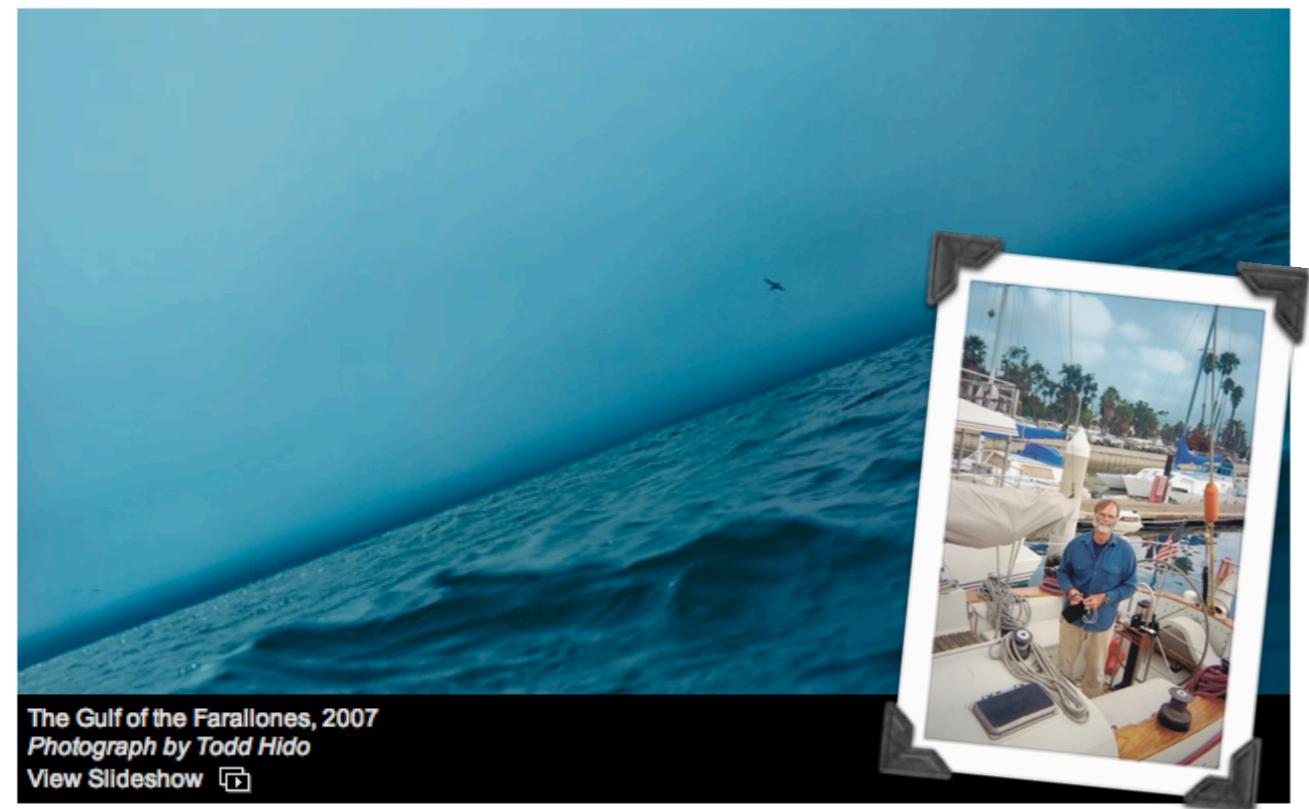
2007

WIRED MAGAZINE: ISSUE 15.08

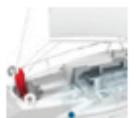
TECH BIZ : PEOPLE 

Inside the High Tech Hunt for a Missing Silicon Valley Legend

Steve Silberman  07.24.07



FEATURE



Anatomy of an Accident



Lost at Sea

It looked like a fine day for a sail. On Sunday, January 28, 2007, Microsoft researcher Jim Gray woke up on his boat, a red 40-foot fiberglass cruiser called *Tenacious*. The water in Gashouse Cove, a cozy marina in San Francisco Bay, was nearly flat. The 63-year-old programmer phoned his wife, Donna Carnes, who was on an annual vacation with friends in Wisconsin. He said he was heading out to the Farallon Islands, a wildlife refuge 27 miles offshore, to scatter the ashes of his mother, Ann, who died in October.

2008

STAR DOME Yo

Astronomy

The world's best-selling astronomy magazine

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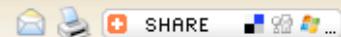
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PRESS RELEASES



How Microsoft's WorldWide Telescope will change the world

Commentary

By David J. Eicher — Published: May 13, 2008

A century ago, young people grew up in lockstep with nature, mostly in rural settings with the smell of the countryside around them and the twinkle of countless stars above. Now, young Americans largely are separated from nature and science, often bound by cities or otherwise light-polluted skies that inhibit them from appreciating the universe that surrounds them. The electric excitement of youth turns not to reality, but to the artificial worlds of the Internet and video games.

The result is an American science education crisis. Job growth, economic power, technology, and world leadership in innovation all rest squarely on science and engineering. Other nations have surpassed the United States in inspiring schoolchildren to care about science, by presenting science and engineering as meaningful, exciting career choices for high school and college students.

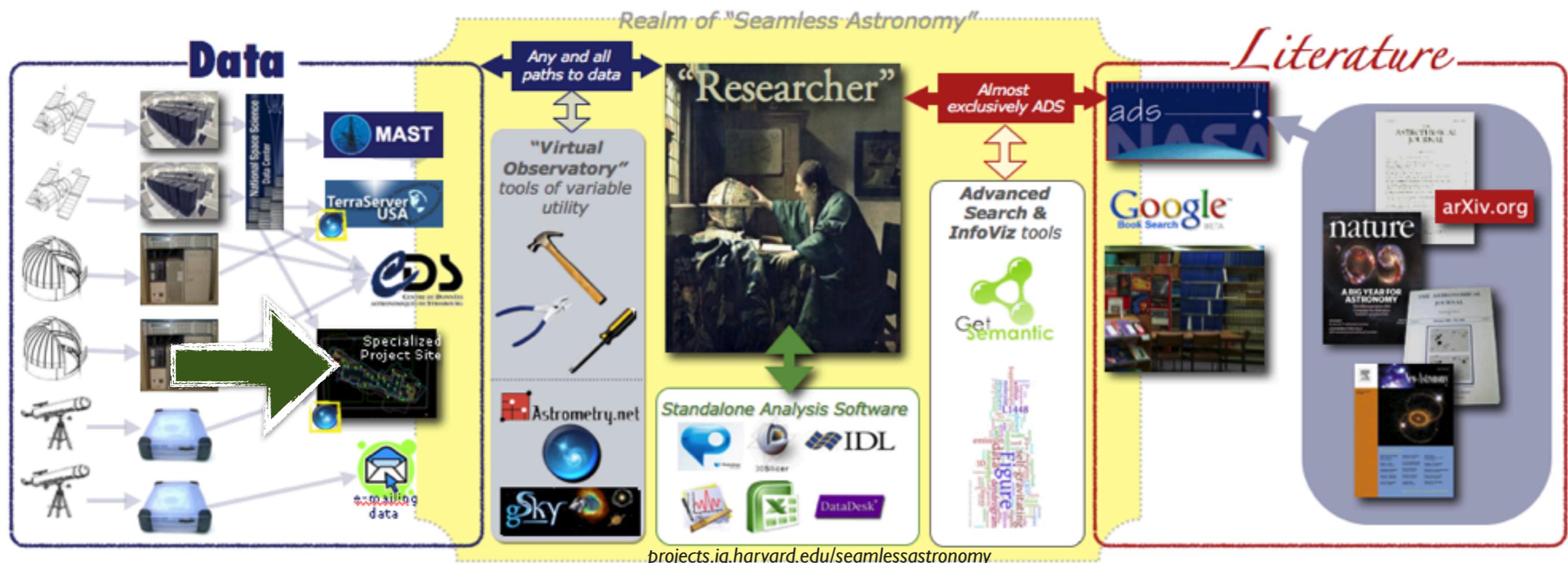
Key facts about WorldWide Telescope:

- WorldWide Telescope is a free, public, beta program
- Download the program at www.WorldWideTelescope.org
- WWT runs only on Windows-equipped computers
- Astronomy magazine is one of the first communities within WorldWide Telescope

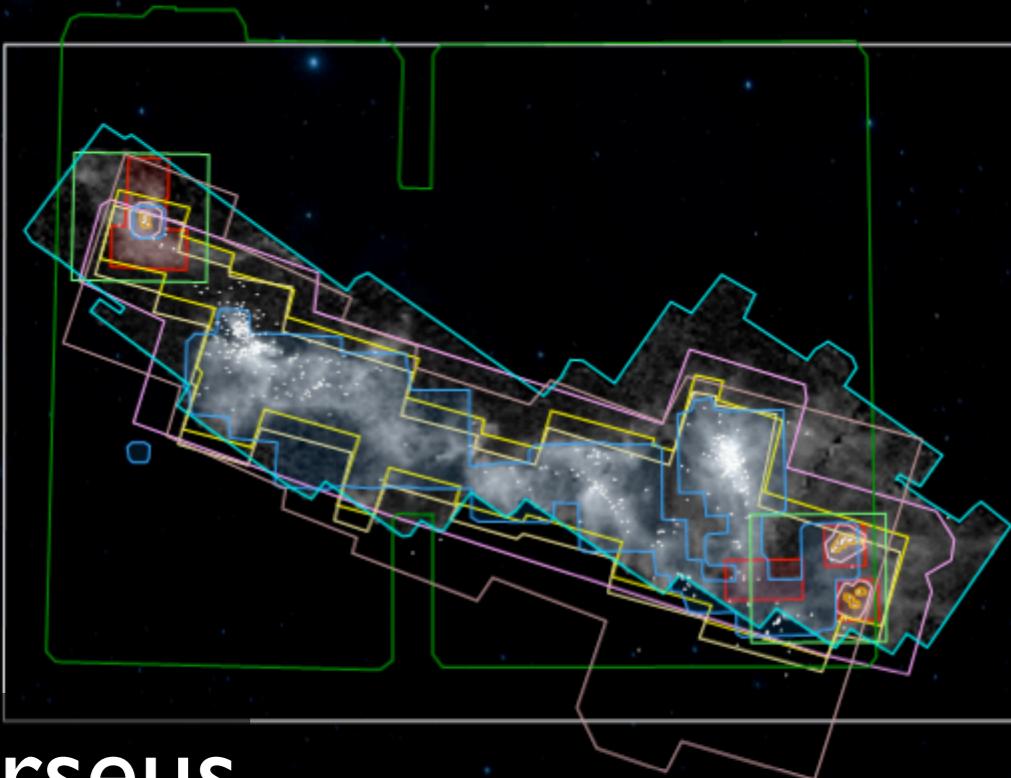
Research

COMPLETE • SAMP • ADS Labs & All Sky Survey

WWT as part of “Seamless Astronomy”



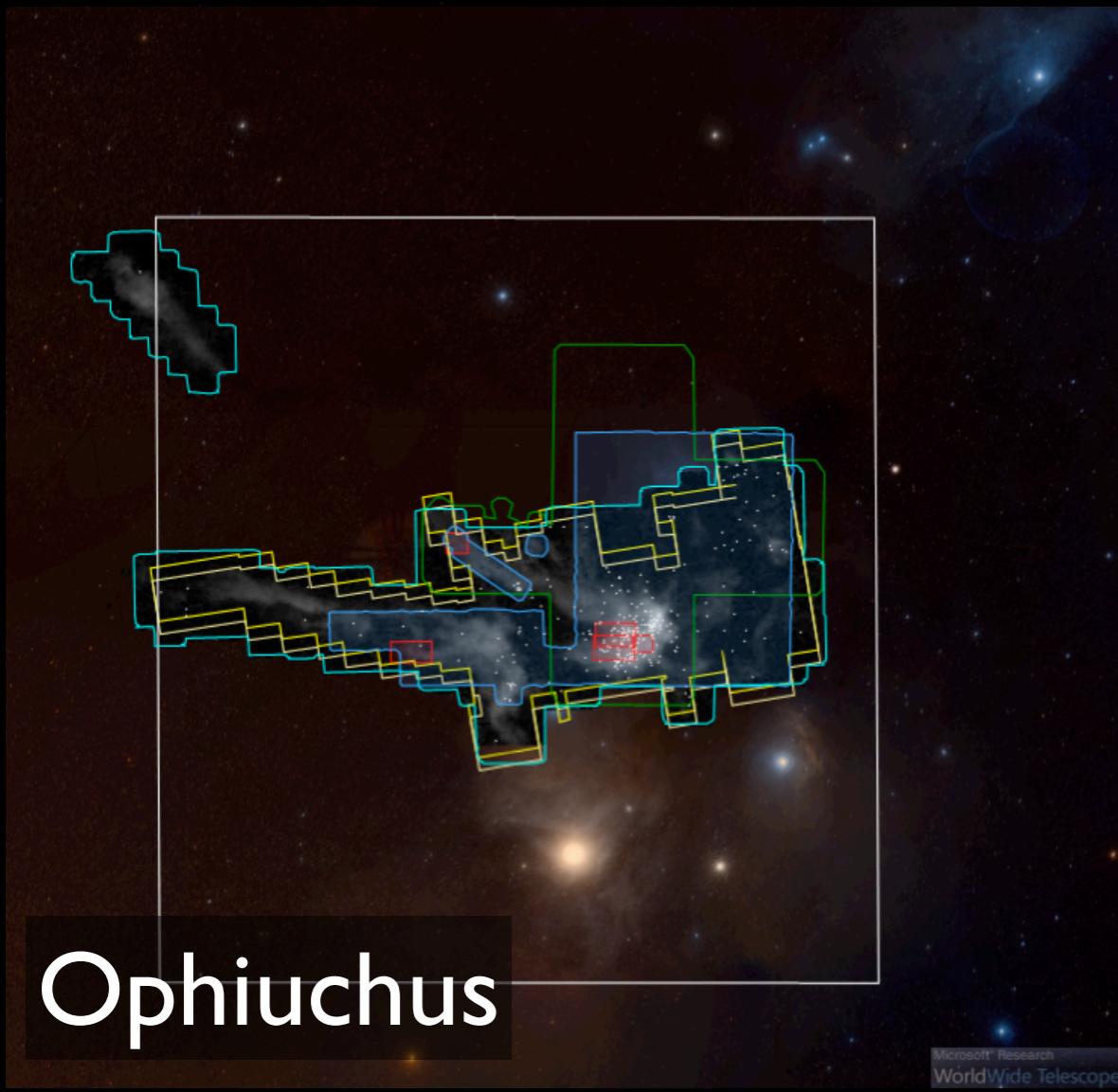
Alberto Accomazzi, Douglas Burke, Raffaele D'Abrusco, Rahul Davé, Alyssa Goodman, Christopher Erdmann, Pepi Fabbiano, Jay Luker, Gus Muench, Michael Kurtz & Alberto Pepe, Arnold Rots (Harvard-Smithsonian CfA); Eli Bressert (U. Exeter); Tim Clark (Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School); Mercé Crosas (Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science; Chris Borgman (UCLA); Alberto Conti (STScI); Jonathan Fay & Curtis Wong (Microsoft Research)



Perseus



Serpens



Ophiuchus

COMPLETE

The COordinated Molecular Probe Line Extinction Thermal Emission Survey of Star-Forming Regions

www.cfa.harvard.edu/COMPLETE

tinyurl.com/completepapers

Literature



AstroBetter

Blogs, Wikis, etc.

Data



“Registries”



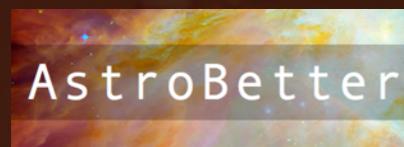
DataScope

Disclaimer: This slide shows key excerpts from within the astronomy community & excludes more general s/w that is used, such as Papers, Zotero, Mendeley, EndNote, graphing & statistics packages, data handling software, search engines, etc.

Literature



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia



Blogs, Wikis, etc.

"Seamless Astronomy" (Tools)



WorldWide Telescope



TOPCAT



ds9



"Registries"



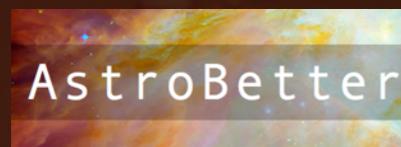
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Literature

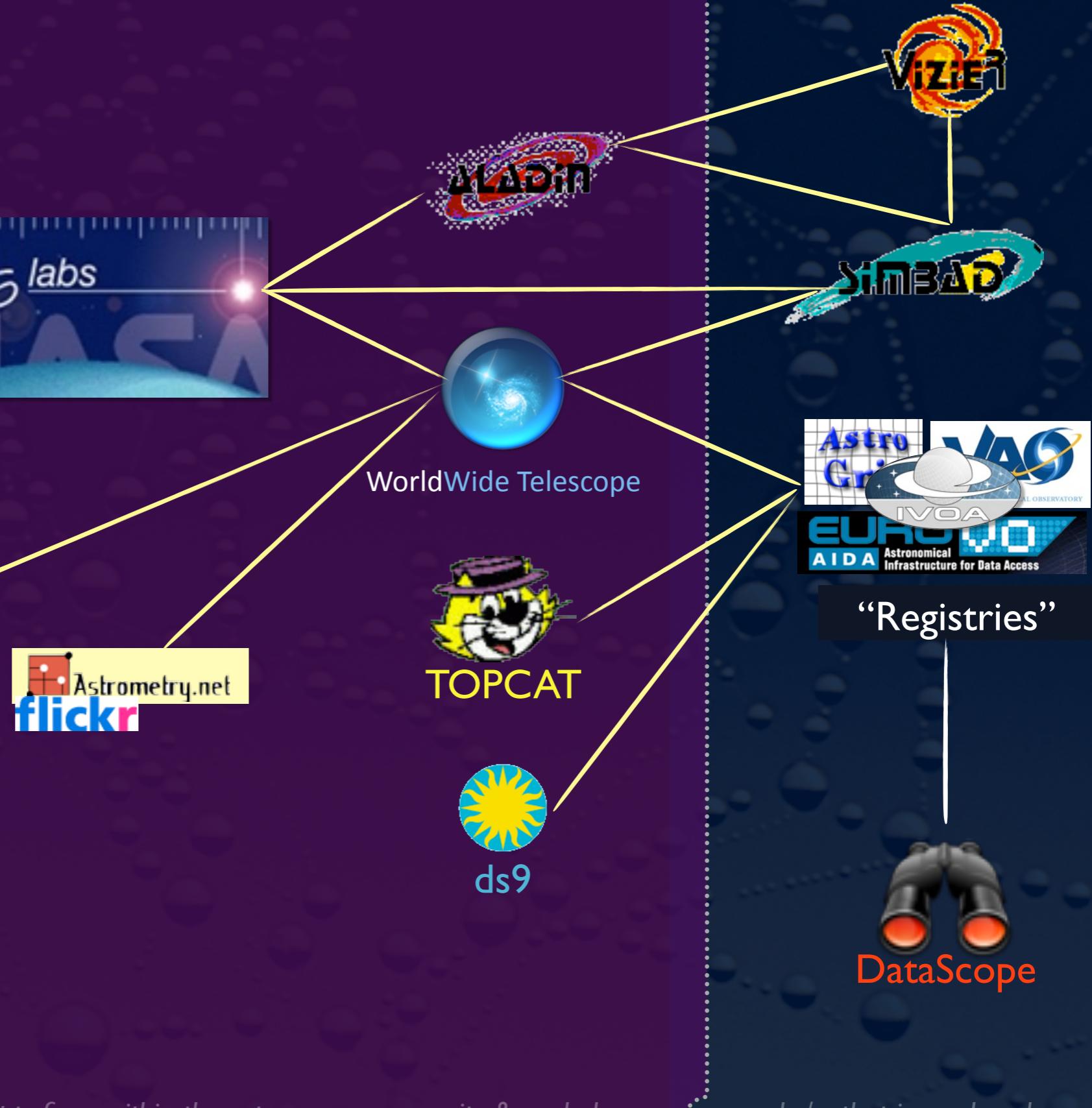


WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia



Blogs, Wikis, etc.

"Seamless Astronomy" (Tools)



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Data

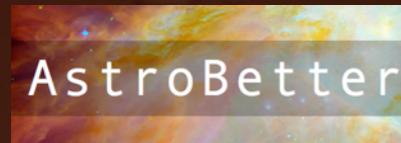
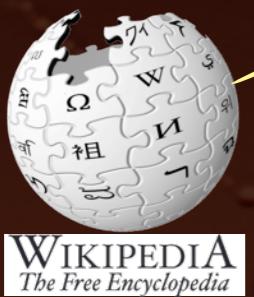


“Registries”



DataScope

Literature



Blogs, Wikis, etc.

"Seamless Astronomy" (Tools)



Data



"Registries"

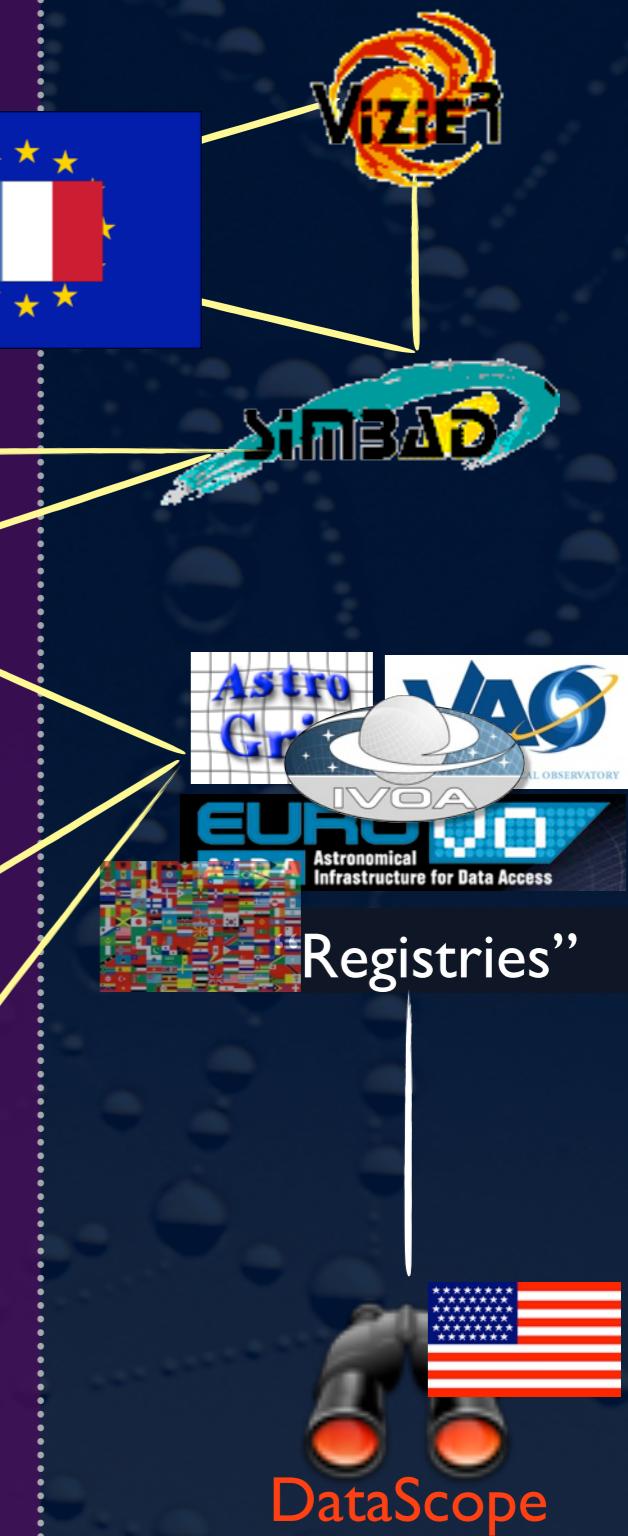


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Literature

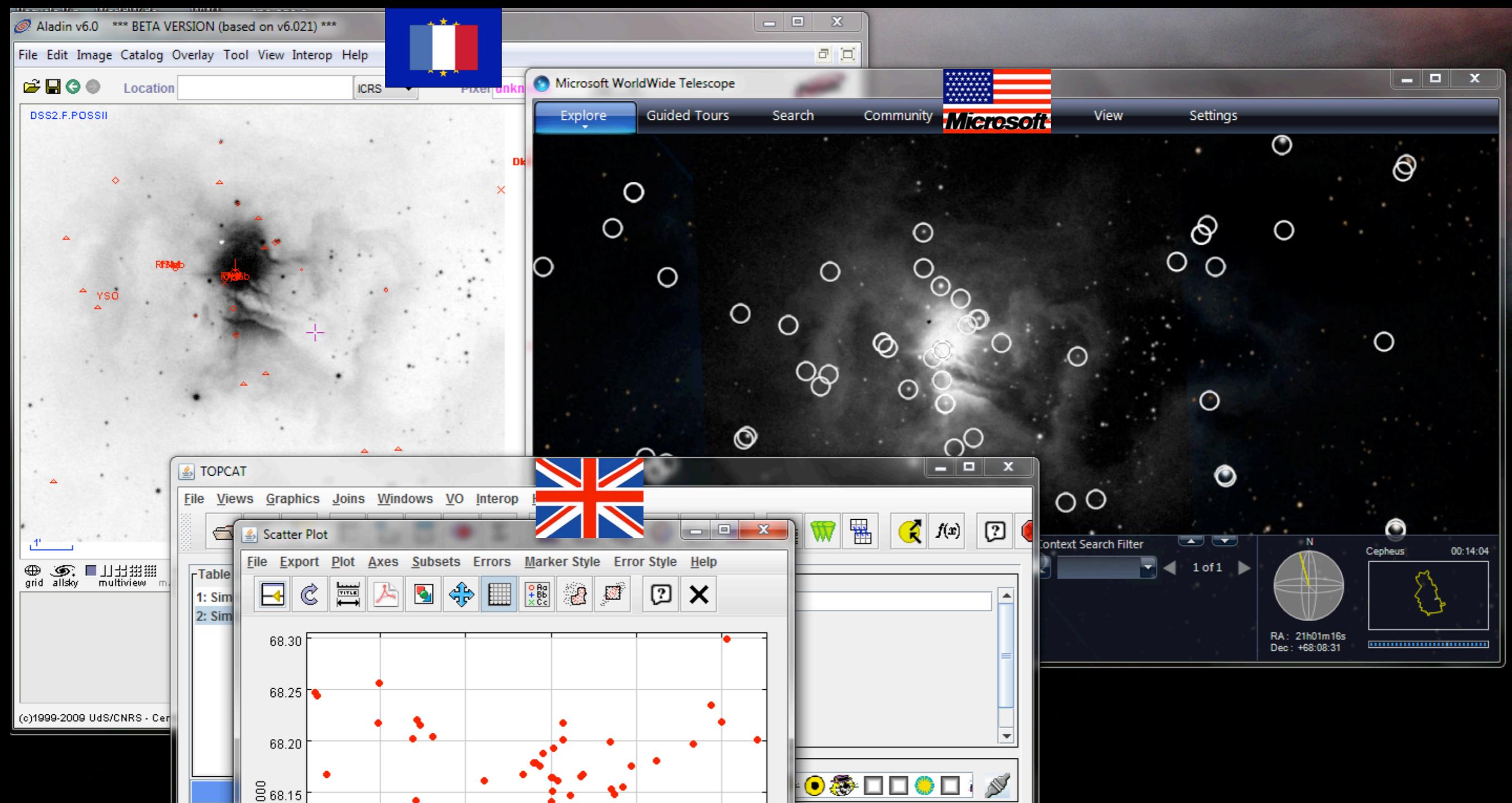
"Seamless Astronomy" (Tools)

Data



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SAMP (Simple Application Messaging Protocol)

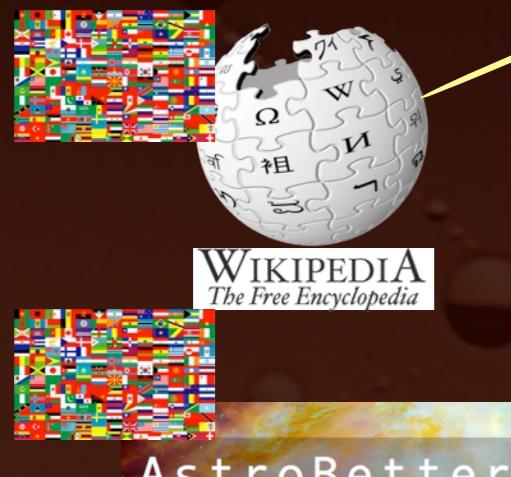


[link to I2/2010 IVOA recommendation](#)

Literature

"Seamless Astronomy" (Tools)

Data



Blogs, Wikis, etc.

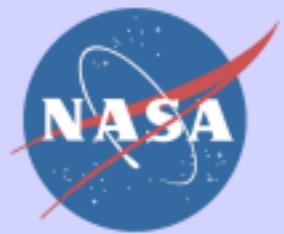


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ADS Labs/Seamless Astronomy Core Collaboration

A. Accomazzi, A. Goodman, M. Kurtz, R. Davé, J. Luker, G. Muench, A. Pepe



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- [Uitenbroek, H \(4\)](#)
- [Amano, T \(2\)](#)
- [Angel, J \(2\)](#)
- [Asensio Ramos, A \(2\)](#)
- [Balasubramaniam, K \(2\)](#)

**Keywords****Archives****Missions****SIMBAD Objects**

- [Other object \(3\)](#)
- [Star \(3\)](#)
- [Nebula \(1\)](#)

 NGC 7027 (1)

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- [World Wide Telescope](#)
- [Aladin applet](#)

Vizier Tables**Refereed status****Dates**

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The Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, Volume 112, Issue 773, pp. 873-924. Jul 2000



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NGC 7027



WorldWide Telescope

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*“shift-click”
on object*

Finder Scope



NGC7027

Classification:
Planetary Nebula
in Cygnus

RA: 21h07m01s Magnitude: 10.5
Dec: 42 : 14 : 10 Distance: n/a
Alt: -02 : 33 : 41 Rise: 23:50
Az: 342 : 18 : 46 Transit: 09:40
Set: 19:35

Image Credits:
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Imagery

Sky

Digitized Sky Survey (Color)



Cygnus



NGC7027

Research

Show Object

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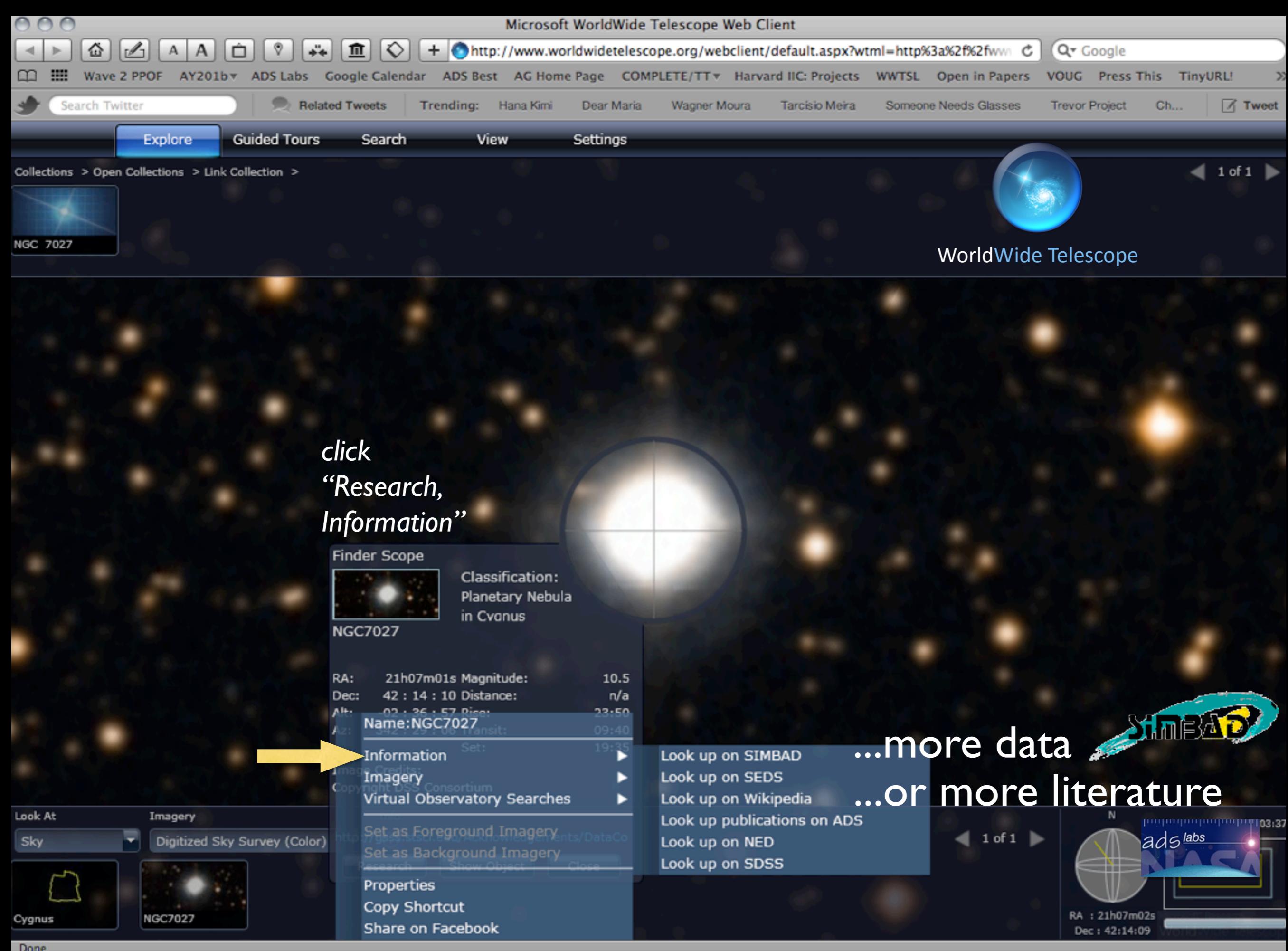


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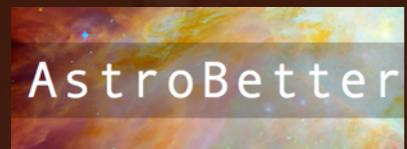
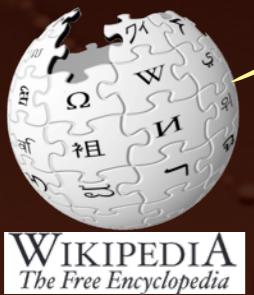
Cygnus

00:03:37

RA : 21h07m02s
Dec : 42:14:09



Literature



Blogs, Wikis, etc.

"Seamless Astronomy" (Tools)



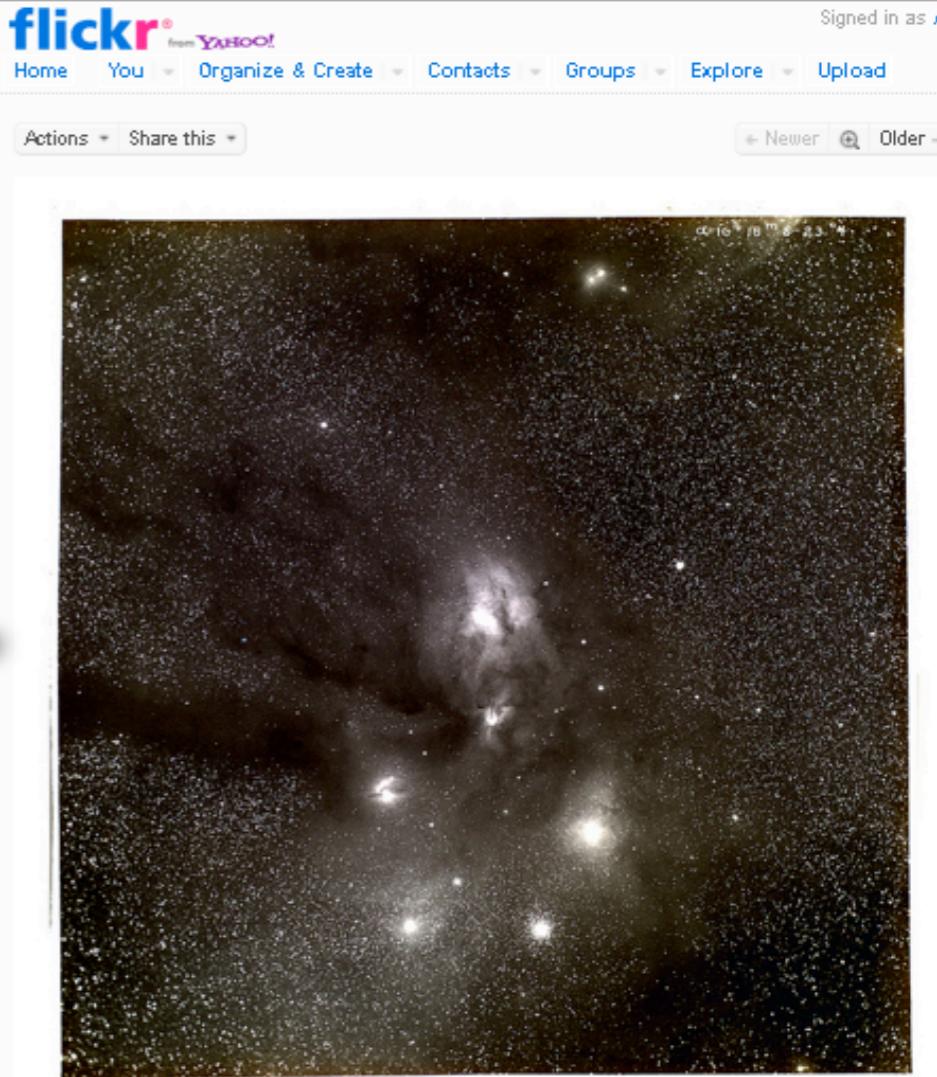
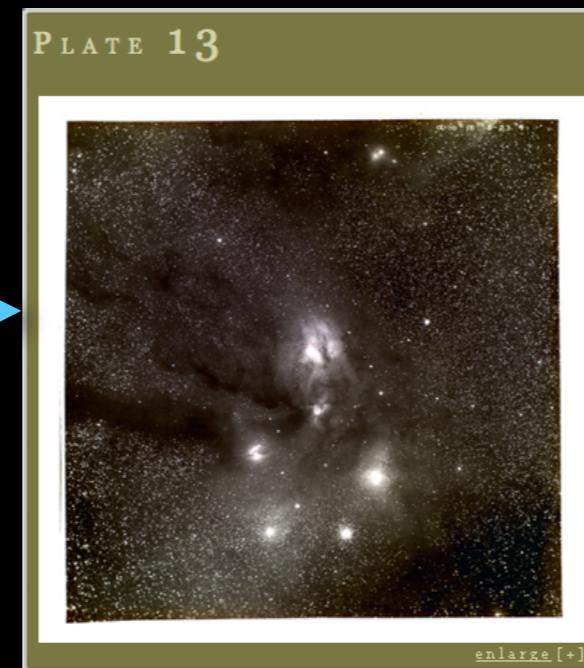
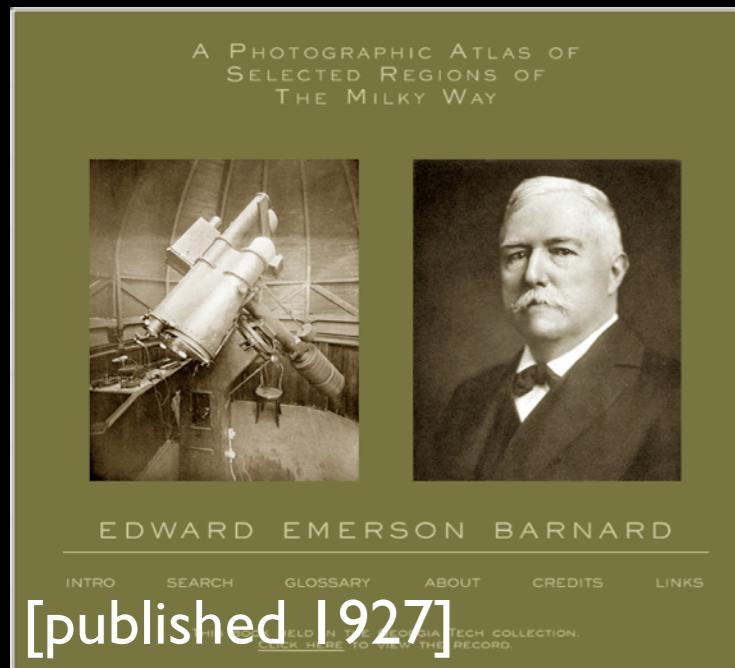
Data



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“Seamless Astronomy”...

astrometry.net + flickr + WWT



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E.E. Barnard's image of Ophiuchus
www.library.gatech.edu/bpdi/bpdi.php

Comments and faves [astrometry.net](#)

 [astrometry.net](#) (8 days ago | reply | delete)
Hello, this is the blind astrometry solver. Your results are:
(RA, Dec) center:(240.421365140, -23.8749819397) degrees
(RA, Dec) center (H:M:S, D:M:S):(16:25:41.128, -23:40:29.935)
Orientation:178.34 deg E of N
Pixel scale:52.94 arcsec/pixel
Parity:Reverse ("Left-handed")
Field size :9.41 x 9.41 degrees
Your field contains:
The star Antares (α Sco)
The star Graffias (β1 Sco)
The star Al Niyat (σ Sco)
The star τ Sco
The star ω1 Sco
The star ν Sco
The star ω2 Sco
The star ω Oph
The star 13 Sco
The star ο Sco
IC 4592
IC 4801
NGC 6121 / M 4
IC 4803
IC 4804 / rho Oph nebula
IC 4805

[View in World Wide Telescope](#)

barnardoph

E.E. Barnard's image of Ophiuchus
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The star Antares (α Sco)
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The star Al Niyat (σ Sco)
The star τ Sco
The star ω1 Sco
The star ν Sco
The star ω2 Sco
The star ω Oph
The star 13 Sco
The star ο Sco
IC 4592
IC 4801
NGC 6121 / M 4
IC 4803
IC 4804 / rho Oph nebula
IC 4805

[View in World Wide Telescope](#)

Education

WWT Ambassadors



WWT Ambassadors: WorldWide Telescope For Interactive Learning

Alyssa Goodman

*Harvard University Professor of Astronomy,
Microsoft Academic Partner*

Pat Udomprasert

WWT Program Coordinator

Curtis Wong

Microsoft Research, WWT Creator

Stephen Strom

NOAO, WWT Tucson Site Advisor

Sarah Block

Web site development



Using WWT to give experts and learners access to the Universe



WWT Ambassadors Program Recruiting, Vetting, Coordination





About the WWT Telescope Ambassadors Program



WorldWide Telescope (WWT) is a rich visualization environment that functions as a virtual telescope, allowing anyone to make use of professional astronomical data to explore and understand the universe. As of early 2010, the new WWT Ambassadors Program is recruiting astronomically-literate volunteers, including retired scientists engineers—all of whom will be trained to be experts in using WWT as a teaching tool. Ambassadors will give volunteer presentations at public libraries, community centers, museums, and schools, demonstrating WWT's power to help laypeople visualize and understand our universe.

[Read more](#)

John Huchra's Universe

Submitted by patudom on Jan. 11

John Huchra, former president of the **American Astronomical Society**, passed away on October 8, 2010.

John's colleagues at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, in collaboration with the creators of WorldWide Telescope at Microsoft Research, have created a new, interactive, WWT Tour to honor John and his career. The Tour primarily focuses on John's quest to map the Universe in three dimensions. It is 12.5 minutes long.

The Tour is best experienced inside the WorldWide Telescope program itself. (**Note: You must have the version of WWT released on 1/13/2011 to view all of this Tour's content. You can download it from [here](#).**) As viewed within the WWT program, the Tour content is interactive, allowing users to pause and explore the parts of the Universe featured in the tour, explore web hyperlinks, and more. For those who do not have the desktop client, the Tour has been posted as a video as well.

[Video](#) (Interactive WWT features will be disabled)

John Huchra's Universe



Friends of John Huchra have released a new WWT Tour to honor John and his work. The Tour primarily focuses on John's quest to map the Universe in three dimensions. You can view the Tour [here](#).

Upcoming

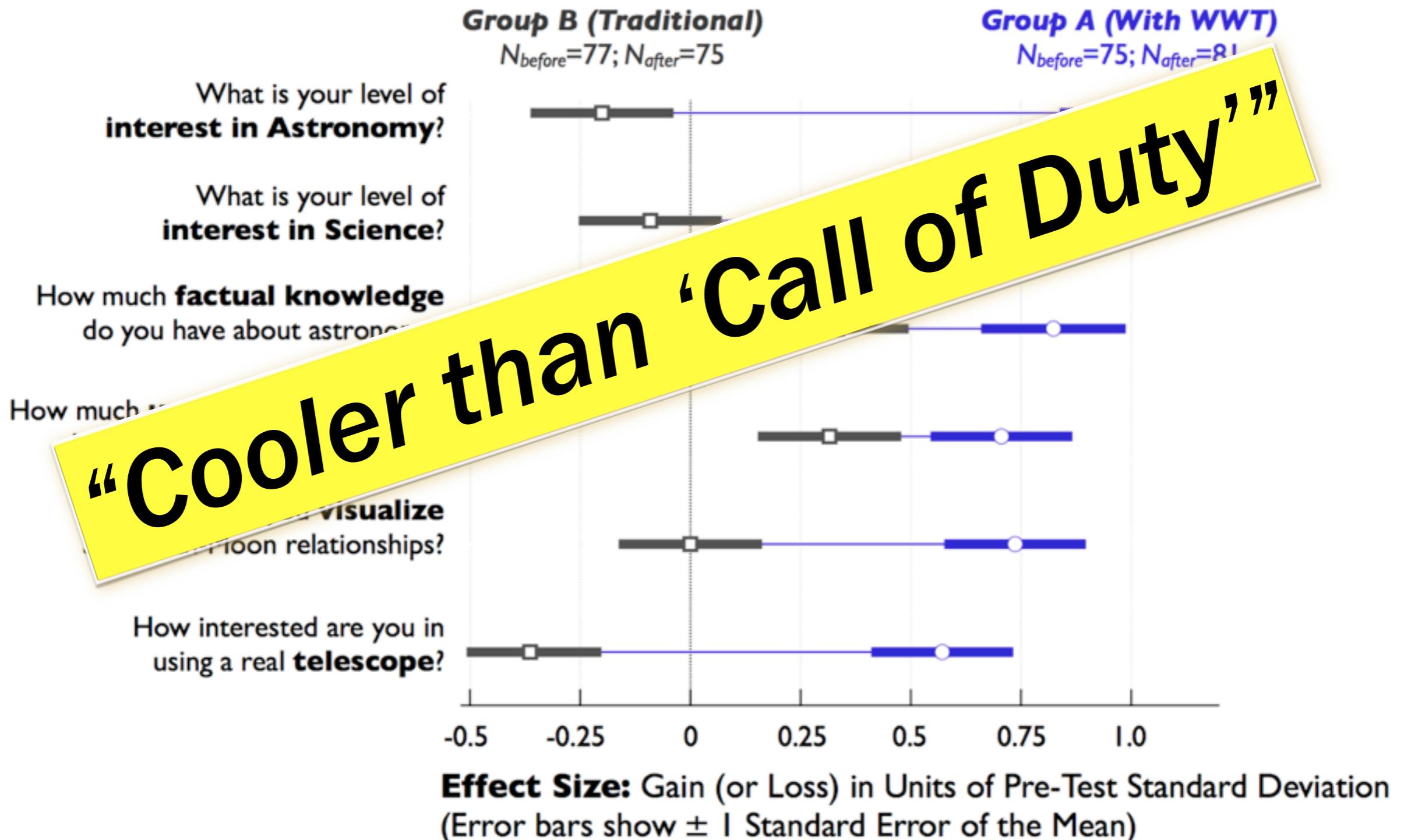
- Cyberlearning Tools for STEM Education Conference
Mar. 8 - Mar. 9
- Cambridge Science Festival
Apr. 30 - May. 10



Clarke Middle School, Lexington, MA (WWT Ambassadors Pilot School)

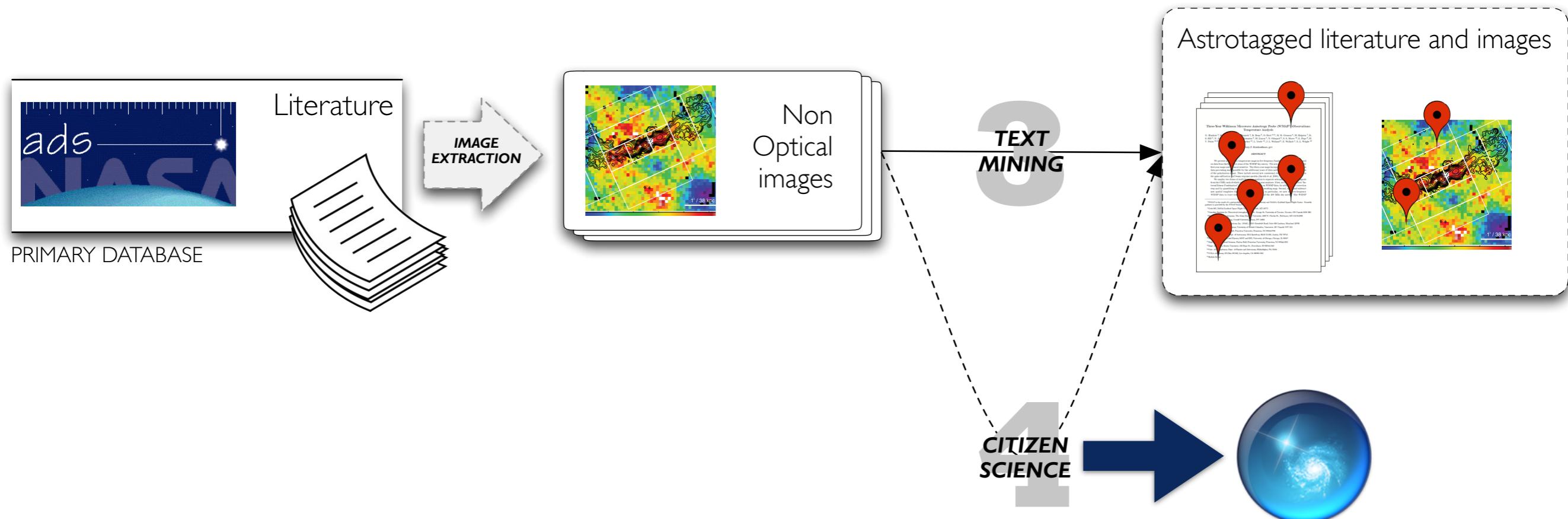
Gains in Student Interest and Understanding

(“Traditional Way” vs “WWT Way”)



Research+Education

Citizen Science in ADS All Sky Survey (Coming Soon...)



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Planet Hunters

Using public data from NASA's Kepler mission, we are looking for planets around other stars.

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Live Projects

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- [oldWeather](#)

The Milky Way Project

The Milky Way Project aims to sort and measure our galaxy, the Milky Way. Initially we're asking you to help us find and draw bubbles in beautiful infrared data from the Spitzer Space Telescope.

[JOIN IN](#)

Old Weather

Help scientists recover worldwide weather observations made by Royal Navy ships around the time of World War I.

[JOIN IN](#)

Moon Zoo

Explore the Moon in unprecedented detail using images from NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter.



EN · The Milky Way Project is part of the ZOONIVERSE

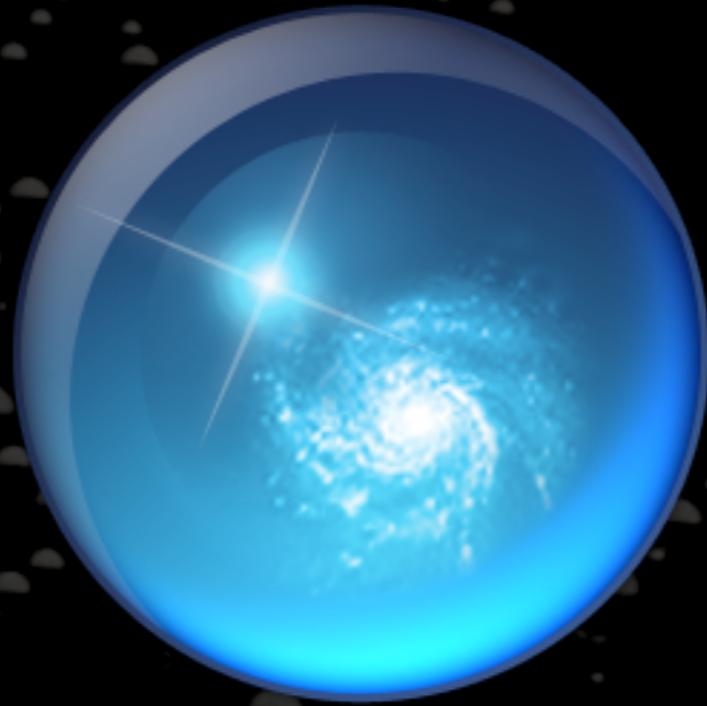
...just like SOLAR STORMWATCH

THE MILKY WAY PROJECT

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+
7
X
HIDE CURRENT
HIDE ALL
+
SUBMIT





WorldWide Telescope

in “Real” Research and Education

*Alyssa Goodman, Gus Muench, Alberto Pepe, and Patricia Udomprasert
(Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics)
and Jonathan Fay and Curtis Wong (Microsoft Research)*