Seamless Astronomy

Alyssa A. Goodman
Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

with Alberto **Accomazzi**, Rahul **Davé**,
Gus **Muench** & Michael **Kurtz** (Harvard-Smithsonian CfA);
Tim **Clark** (Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School);
Jonathan **Fay** & Curtis **Wong** (Microsoft Research)
+extended & upcoming collaboration with Chris Borgman & Alberto Pepe* (UCLA);
Doug Burke; Sarah Block, Pepi Fabbiano, et al. (CfA); E. Bressert (U. Exeter);
J. Hendler & D. McGuinness (RPI); A. Conti & C. Christian (STScI); A. Connolly et al. (U. Washington)

What can today's Astronomer's "Research" look like?

http://www.cfa.harvard.edu/~agoodman/

Publishing

Data | Simulation

VIRTUAL ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY

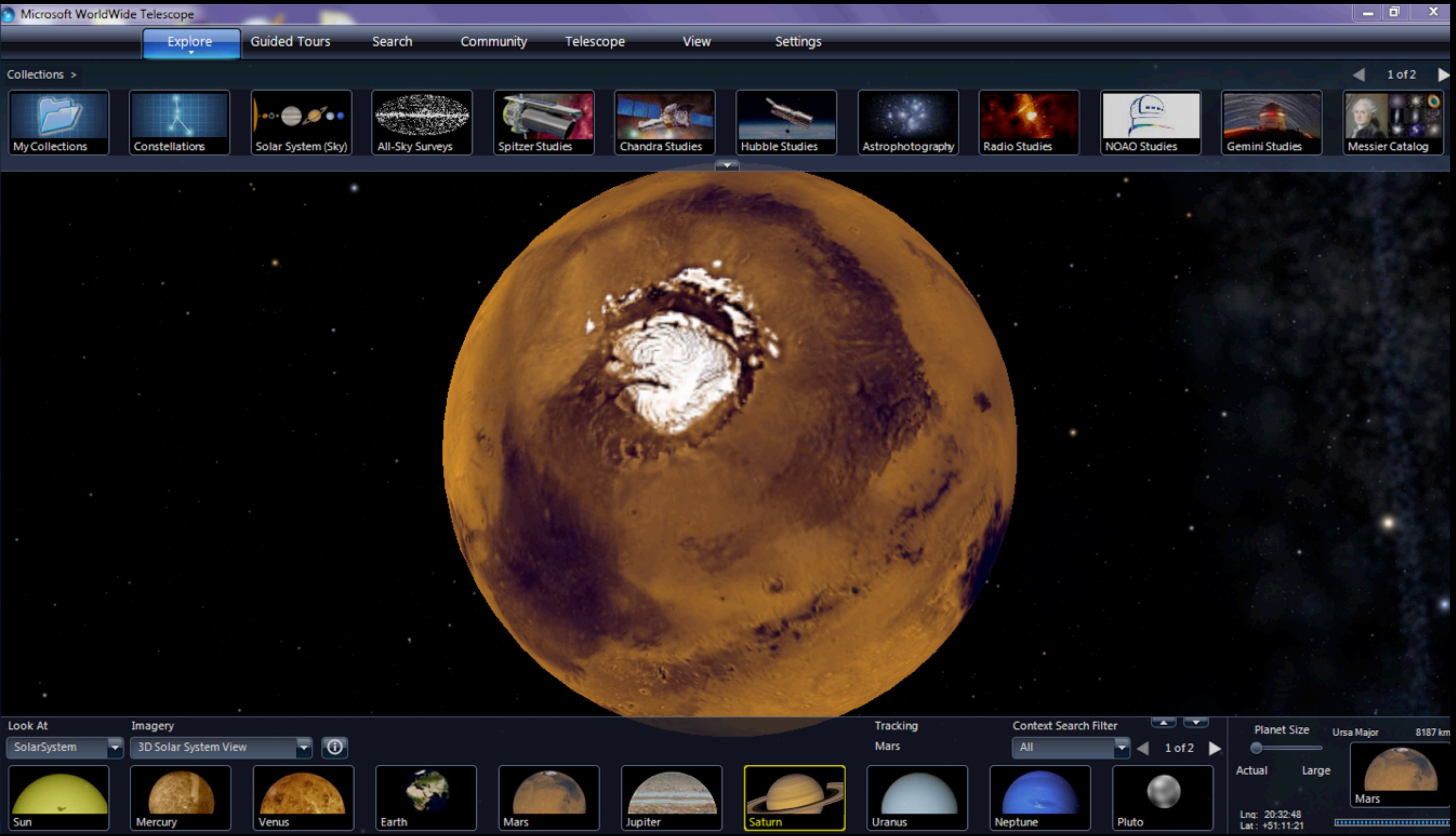
PDF 3D Adobe

WorldWide Telescope

e-Science Tools | Viz

"Why is one polar ice cap on Mars bigger than the other?"

– Clarke Middle School 6th Grader



Huh?

myexperiment

Taverna

zotero

Leveraging the long tail of scholarship.

Tripit

Seems familiar...

KAYAK

Everyone knows...

f

iGoogle

hulu

BOXEE

Microsoft® Research WorldWide Telescope

3500 years of Observing

Stonehenge, 1500 BC

Ptolemy in Alexandria, 100 AD

Observatory Tower, Lincolnshire, UK, c. 1300

Galileo, 1600

The "Scientific Revolution"

Reber's Radio Telescope, 1937

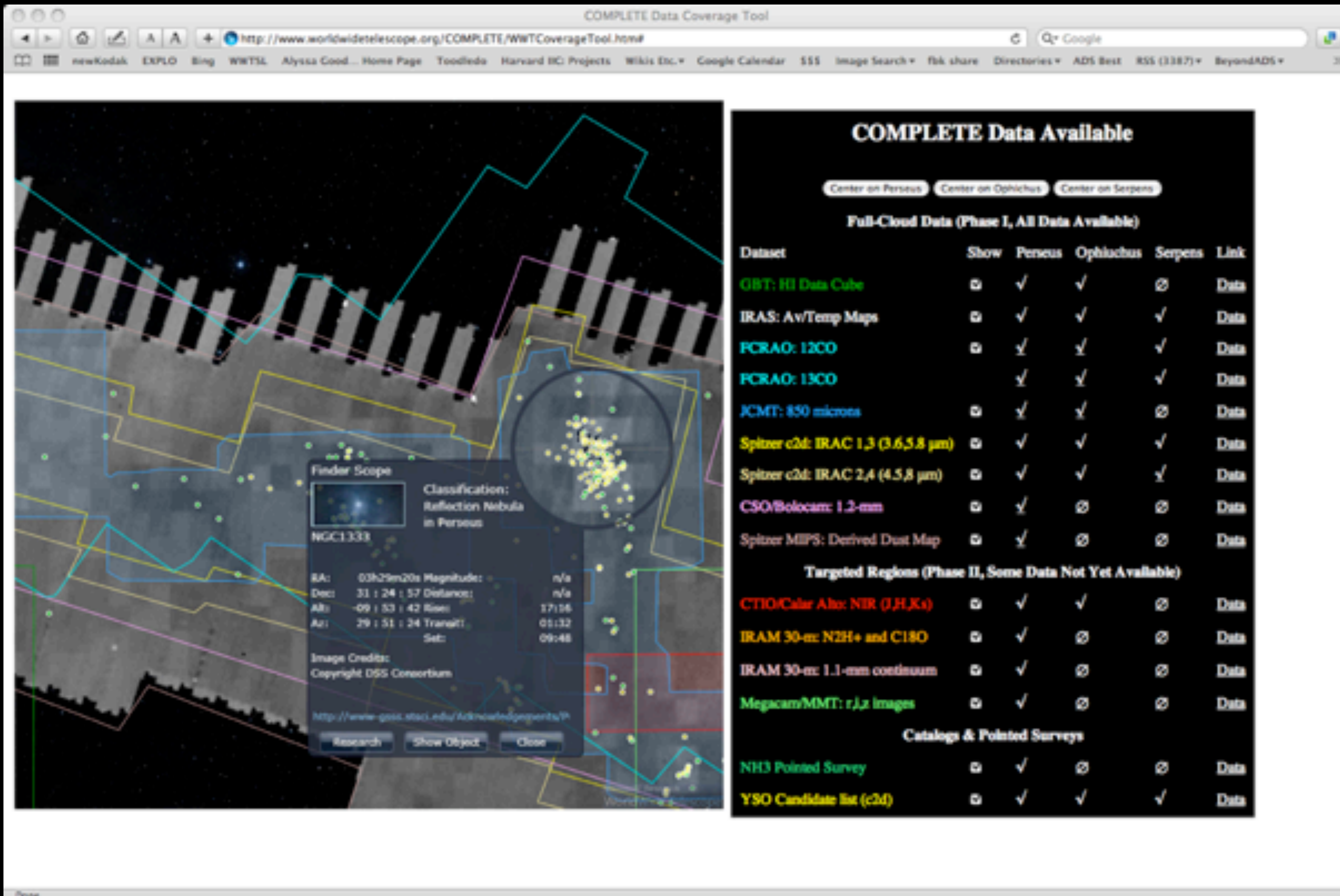
NASA/Explorer 7 (Space-based Observing) 1959

"The Internet"

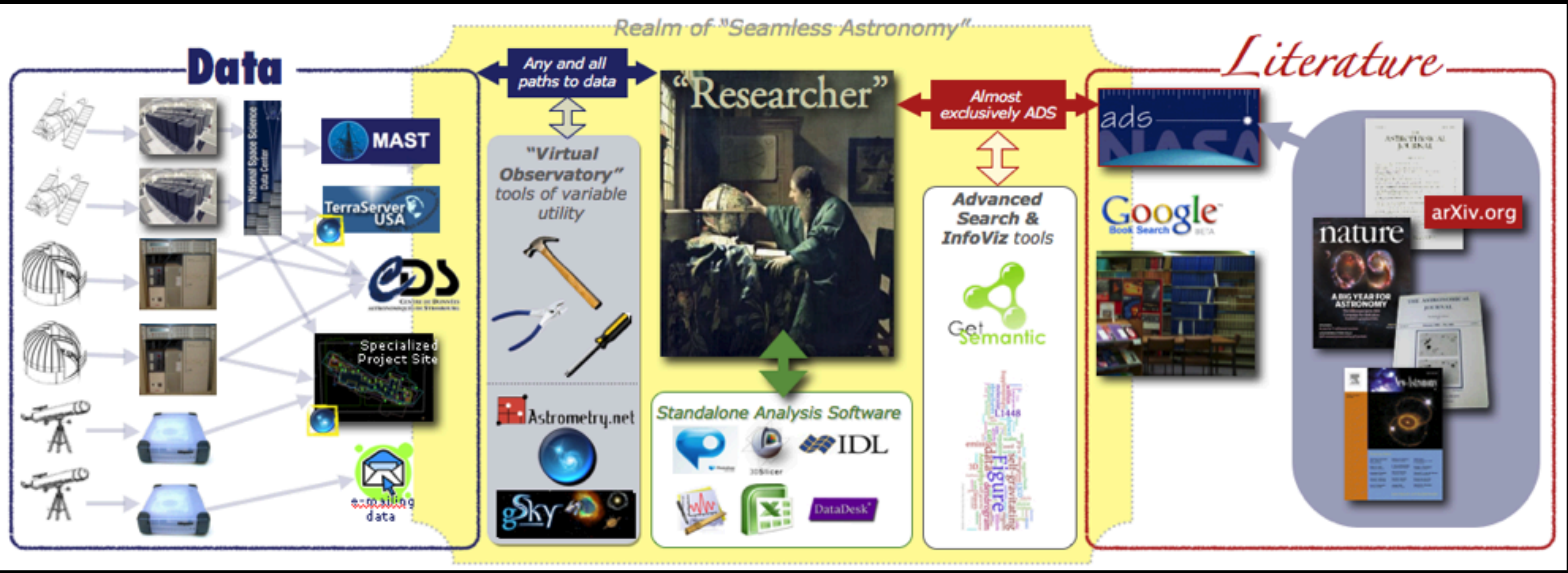
Long-distance remote-control/ "robotic" telescopes 1990s

"Virtual Observatories" 21st century

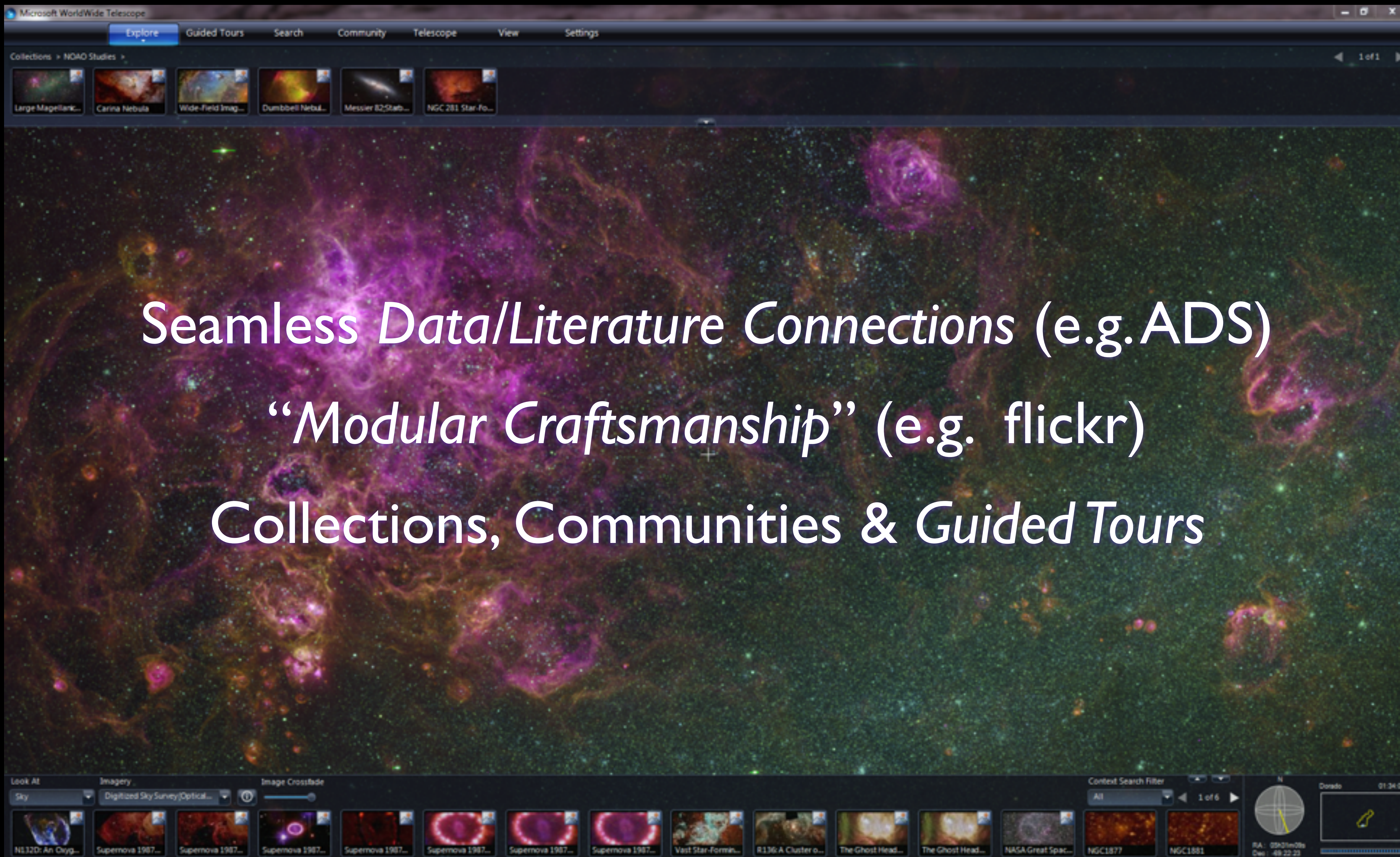
“Virtual” observing



Realm of Seamless Astronomy



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



Seamless *Data/Literature Connections* (e.g. ADS)

"*Modular Craftsmanship*" (e.g. flickr)

Collections, Communities & *Guided Tours*

Created by Curtis Wong and Jonathan Fay at MSR; AG is "Academic Partner" on the WWT Project

The (US) Backstory

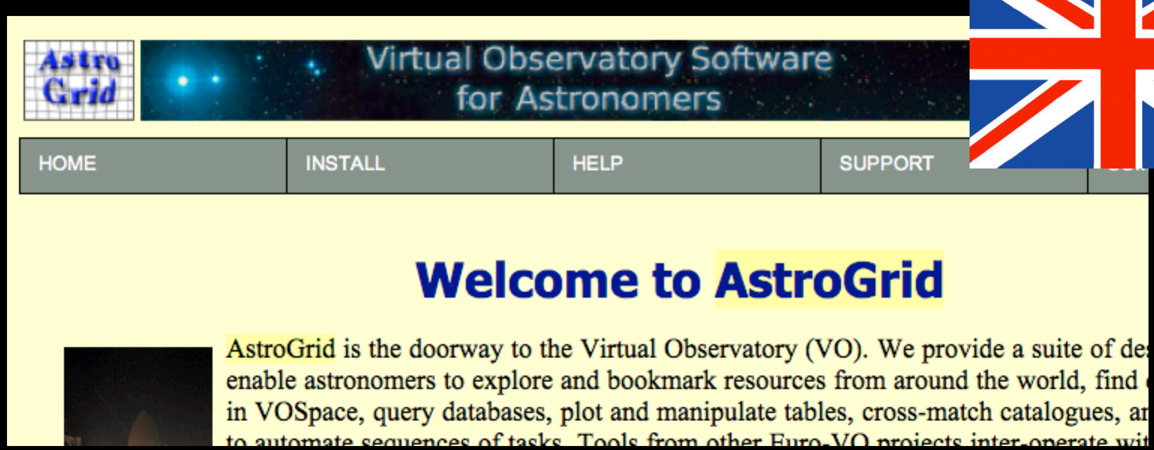
2001 ················ 2008 (2010)

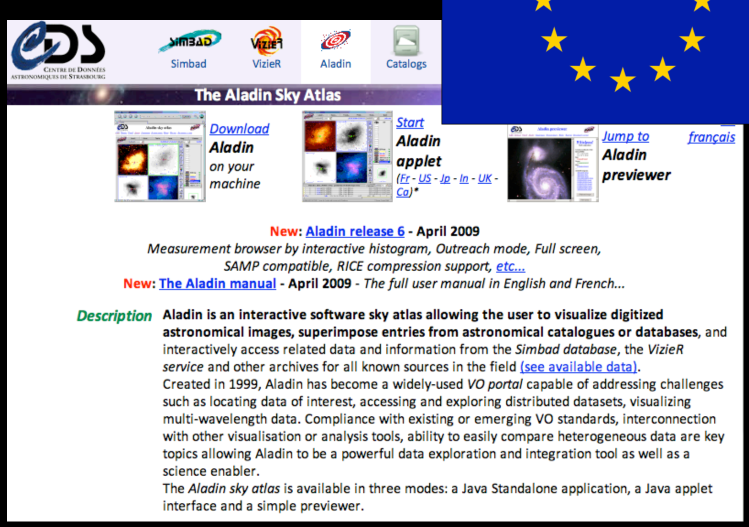
2001 ··············· 2008 (2010)

. . . the Universe at your fingertips

VIRTUAL ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY

and meanwhile...





+

IVOA

RVO

Astro Grid

Aus-VO

VObs.it

vo-i

CVO

SVO
Spanish Virtual Observatory

BRAVO

NVO
NATIONAL VIRTUAL OBSERVATORY

IVOA

ArVO
Armenian Virtual Observatory

China-VO

EURO VO

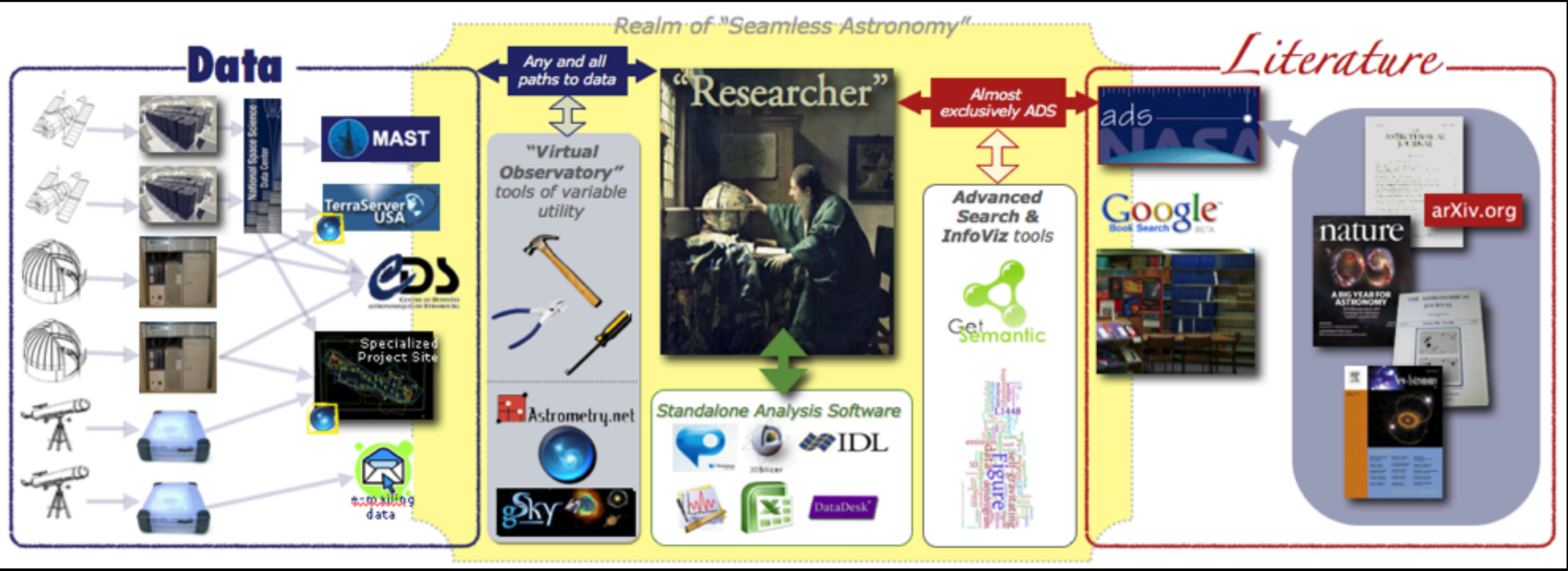
JVO

HVO
Hungarian Virtual Observatory

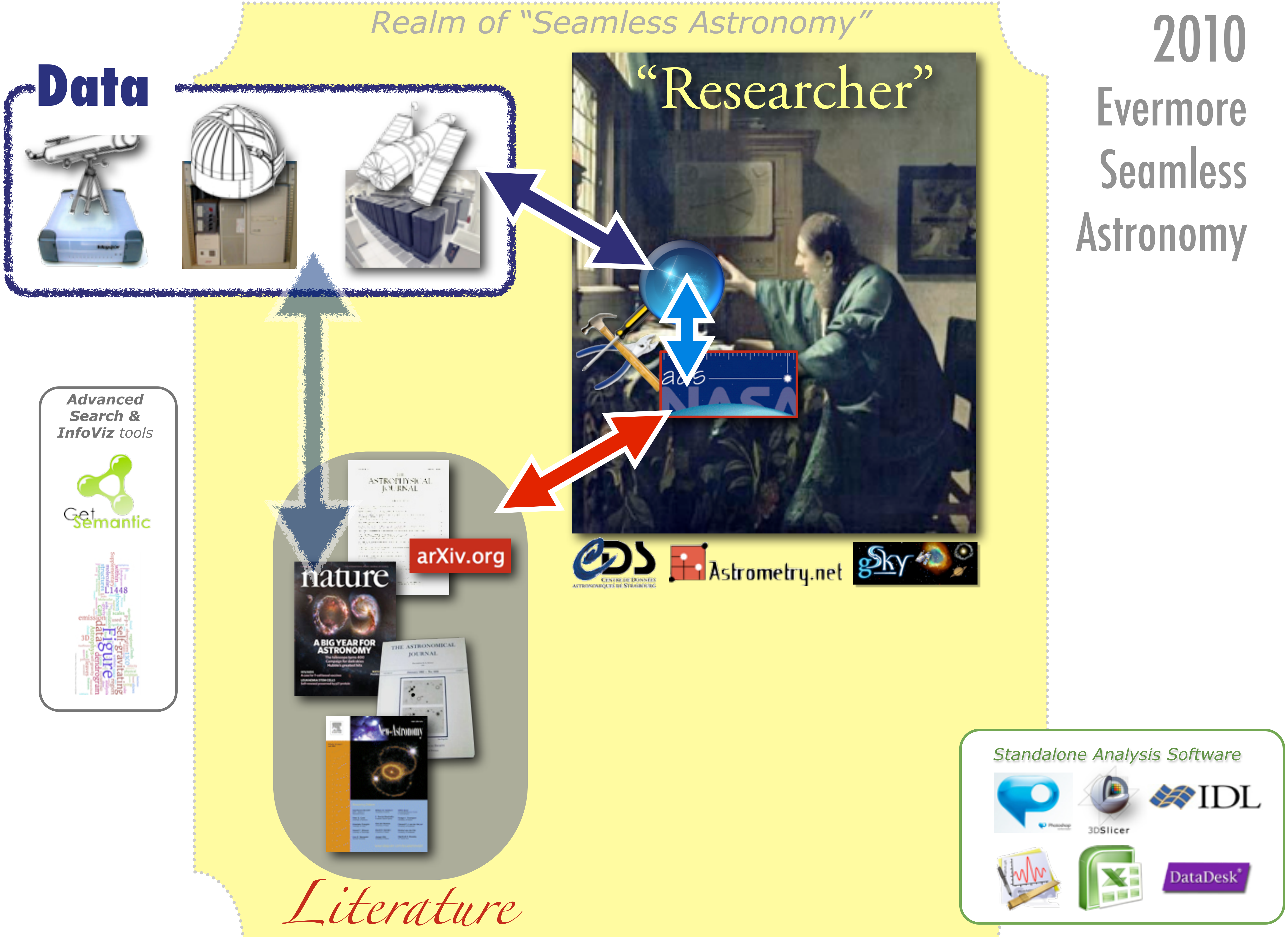
GERMAN ASTROPHYSICAL
GAVO
VIRTUAL OBSERVATORY

VO France

Seamless Astronomy



But, that was 2009...


Realm of "Seamless Astronomy"
2010
Evermore
Seamless
Astronomy
Data
"Researcher"
Advanced Search & InfoViz tools
GetSemantic
Literature
arXiv.org
nature
A BIG YEAR FOR ASTRONOMY
THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL
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gSky
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This simple argument, first made at the 2009 WWT session at American Astronomical Society Meeting, seems to be working...

"Astronomy research tools should work as seamlessly as travel research tools."

"Astronomy research tools should work as seamlessly as travel research tools."

When the concept of a **"Virtual Observatory" (VO)** was first discussed by future-looking astronomers in the mid-1990s, all thoughts were about **distributed data** and a **common system** to access it. But, information access on today's web primarily works in the **reverse**: **distributed tools** accessing **common data centers**. Capability and ease-of-use improvements to the web typically now come in the form of **nesting, aggregating or connecting tools.** Think **kayak.com**, iGoogle, or Bing Maps. In the "Seamless Astronomy" view to be discussed, today's "VO" should be thought of as the **ever-improving set** of **data archives, tools, interconnections,** and **standards** that strive to make astronomical research as "seamless" as travel research. The good news is that the cutting-edge of the astronomical research environment is moving rapidly in this seamless direction. The most savvy institutions are beginning to realize that the original VO model of data distributed on thousands of individual researchers' desktop hard drives is not a sustainable model, and that they need to offer **data hosting, archiving, and stewardship** services the way libraries offer such services for printed matter. **Software tools** are becoming much more **interoperable** thanks to protocols for message-passing such as "**SAMP**." And, the improved speed of **web applications** is to some extent removing platform-dependence as an obstacle to programmers and users alike. The bad news is that **most astronomers are largely unaware** of the tools that this new nirvana offers, and instead still conduct online research in the same way they did a decade ago. In this talk, I will focus in particular on how our recent work on connecting Microsoft's **WorldWide Telescope** program to other commonly-used astronomical research tools--most notably literature searching tools--has made the astronomical research environment more seamless. More generally, I will emphasize and demonstrate that an **ever-increasing diversity of tools** allow researchers to carry out a particular research task, so that the **important research** for the future lies in figuring out **how to make the tools, their interconnections, and their connections to data and literature resources useful and well-known to the astronomical community.**

(Abstract of the *Evermore Seamless Astronomy* presentation by A. Goodman at the Microsoft External Research Symposium, April 2010.)

From: Abstract Service <ads@cfa.harvard.edu>
Subject: **myADS Notification (Astronomy database)**
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Astronomy database

ADS Main Queries

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What's new

Current Tables of Contents

Astronomical Journal
Astronomy & Astrophysics
Astronomy & Astrophysics Supplements
Astrophysical Journal

GOODMAN, ALYSSA - Citations: 3310 (total 4002)

2010NewA...15..444K: Karatas,+: New intrinsic-colour calibration for uvby-beta photometry
2010MNRAS.403.1054D: Dabringhausen,+: Mass loss and expansion of ultra compact dwarf galaxies through gas expu[lsion and] stellar evolution for top-heavy ste[llar] mass functions
2010ApJ...713..269F: Federrath,+: Collapse and Accretion in Turbul[ent] Clouds: Implementation and Com[parison of] Sink Particles in AMR and SPH
2010ApJ...712.1403P: Pech,+: C[...] a Recent Bipolar Ejection in the [...] Hierarchical Multiple System IRA[S] 2422
2010ApJ...712.1137K: Kauffman[n]

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2010A&A...511A..90B: Breddels,+: Distance determination for RAVE stars using stellar

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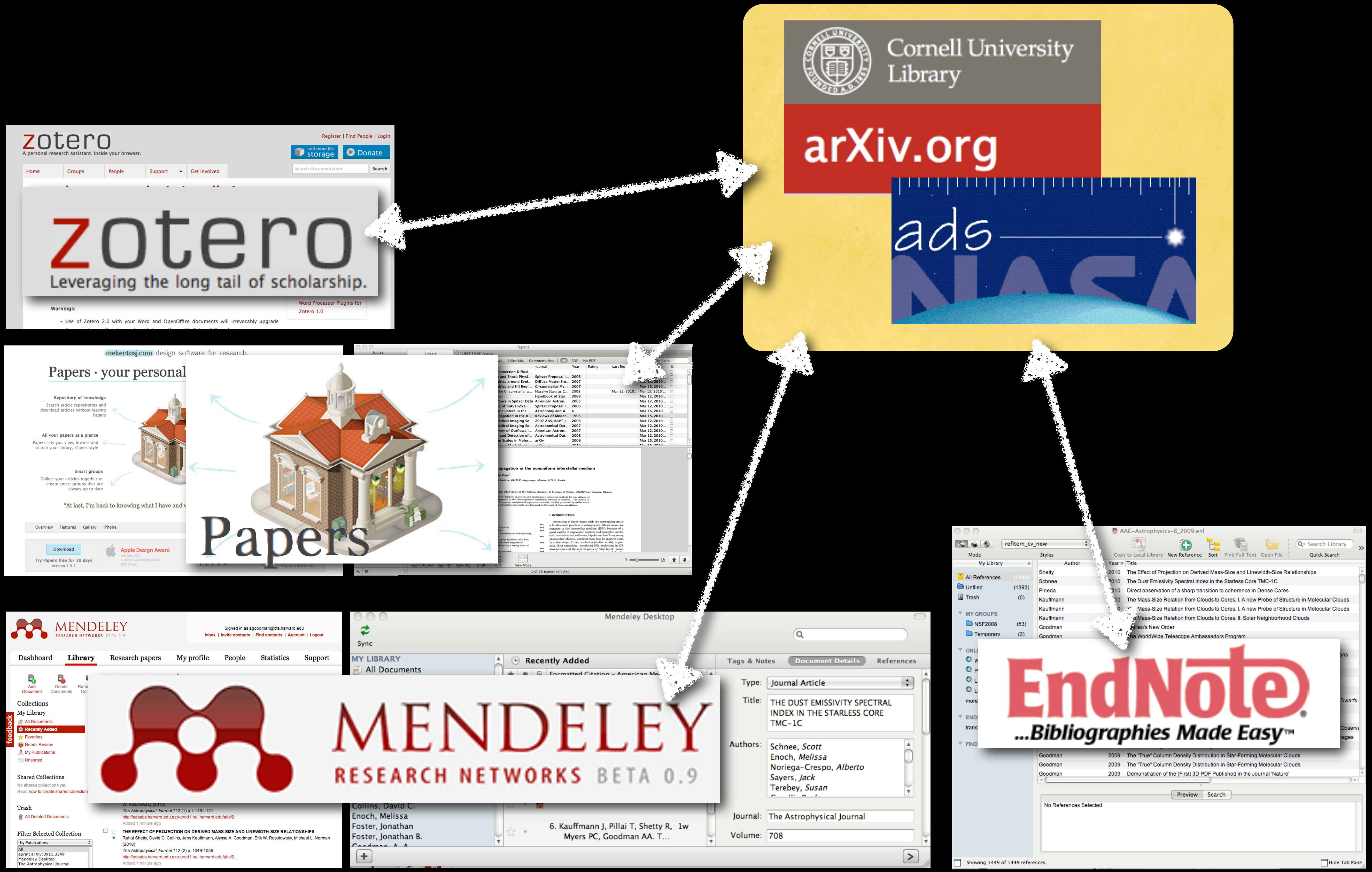
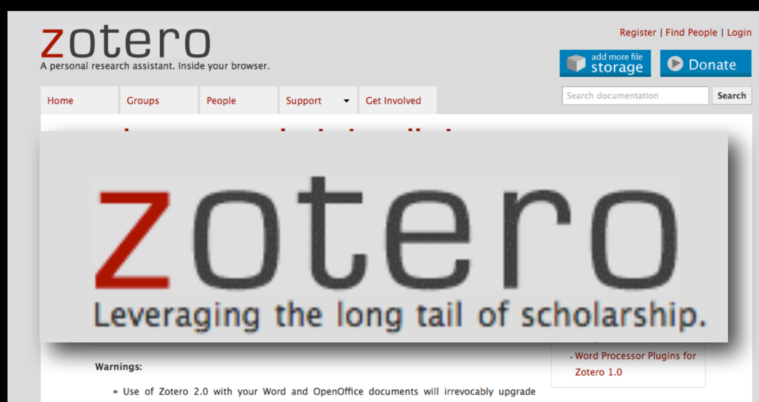
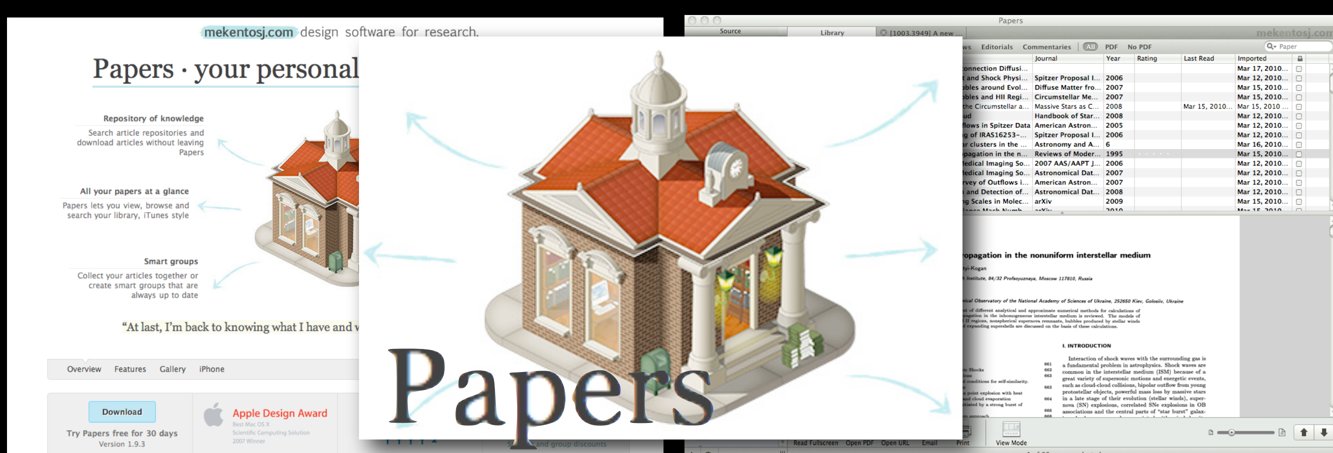
Astronomers can see parallels...

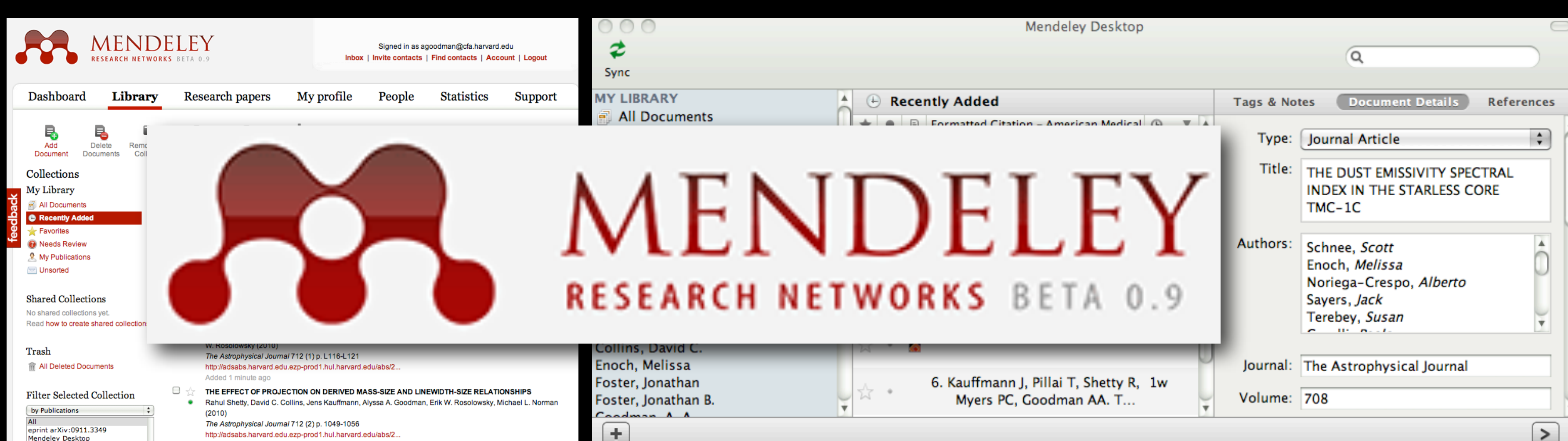
Literature Handling: *Diverse Apps, Common Data*

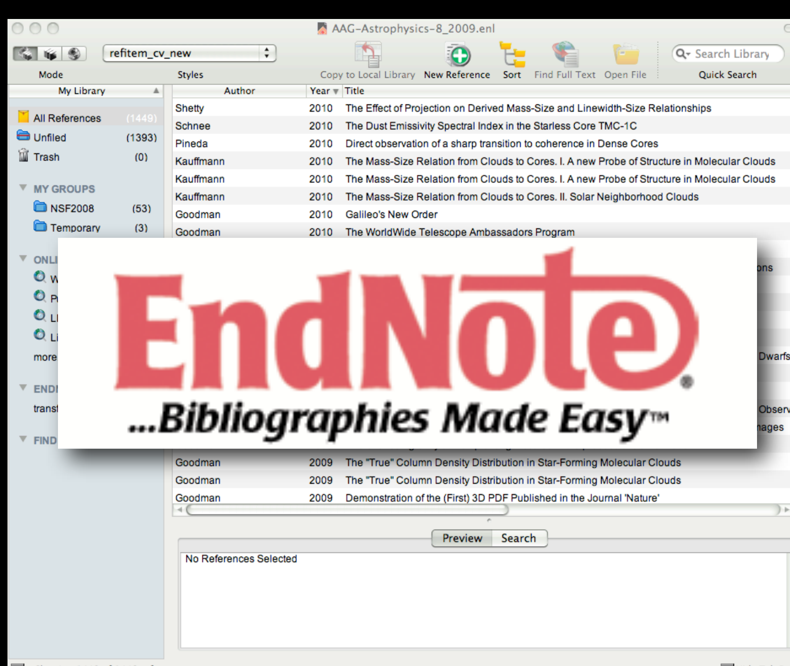


What fraction of astronomy researchers know about these tools?









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39 papers

P=1.14x10^{-2}

[34] arXiv:1003.4900 [pdf]

Star-forming gas in young clusters

Philip C. Myers

Comments: To appear in Astrophysical Journal, May 2010

Subjects: Galaxy Astrophysics (astro-ph.GA)

Initial conditions for star formation in clusters are estimated for protostars whose masses follow the initial mass function (IMF) from 0.05 to 10 solar masses. Star-forming infall is assumed equally likely to stop at any moment, due to gas dispersal dominated by stellar feedback. For spherical infall, the typical initial condensation must have a steep density gradient, as in low-mass cores, surrounded by a shallower gradient, as in the clumps around cores. These properties match observed column densities in cluster-forming regions when the mean infall stopping time is 0.05 Myr and the accretion efficiency is 0.5. The infall duration increases with final protostar mass, from 0.01 to 0.3 Myr, and the mass accretion rate increases from 3 to 300 x 10^(-6) solar masses/yr. The typical spherical accretion luminosity is ~5 solar luminosities, reducing the luminosity problem to a factor ~3. The initial condensation density gradient changes from steep to shallow at radius 0.04 pc, enclosing 0.9 solar masses, with mean column density 2 x 10^(22) cm^(-2), and with effective central temperature 16 K. These initial conditions are denser and warmer than those for isolated star formation.

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SAO/NASA Astrophysics Data System (ADS)

Query Results from the ADS Database

Related Objects

NAME LMC (26)
NGC 292 (15)
SN 1987A (13)
M 31 (9)
NGC 7293 (6)
NGC 6888 (6)
NGC 6543 (6)
M 33 (6)
HIP 54283 (6)
HIP 33165 (6)
VV 344a (5)
V* eta Car (5)
V* CW Leo (5)
NGC 7027 (5)
SNR G111.7-02.1 (4)
NGC 6826 (4)
NGC 2438 (4)
NAME BUTTERFLY NEBULA (4)
MCG+12-08-033 (4)
GSC 06253-02182 (4)
WR 147 (3)
V* V1302 Aql (3)
V* V1042 Cyg (3)
SNR J052501-693842 (3)
PN G208.5+33.2 (3)
NOVA Aql 1919 (3)
NGC 7009 (3)
NGC 6537 (3)
NGC 3132 (3)
NGC 2440 (3)
NGC 2359 (3)
NGC 891 (3)
NAME MAGELLANIC CLOUDS (3)
NAME LOCAL GROUP (3)
NAME HOMUNCULUS NEBULA (3)
NAME FROSTY LEONIS NEBULA (3)

Selected and retrieved **200** abstracts.

#	Bibcode / Authors	Score / Title	Date	List of L... / Access ...
1	1995RvMP...67..661B Bisnovatyi-Kogan, G. S.; Silich, S. A.	19.000 Shock-wave propagation in the ...	Jul 1995	A E
2	1999NewAR..43...31F Frank, A.	18.000 Bipolar outflows and the evolution of stars	May 1999	A E
3	2007ARA&A..45..177C Crowther, Paul A.	13.000 Physical Properties of Wolf-Rayet Stars	Sep 2007	A E F X R C c S U
4	2002ARA&A..40..439B Balick, Bruce; Frank, Adam	13.000 Shapes and Shaping of Planetary Nebulae	n/a 2002	A E F R C c S U
5	2008A&ARv..16..209P Puls, Joachim; Vink, Jorick S.; Najarro, Francisco	12.000 Mass loss from hot massive stars	Dec 2008	A E X R C c U
6	2005ApJ...631..435R Ramirez-Ruiz, Enrico; García-Segura, Guillermo; Salmonson, Jay D.; Pérez-Rendón, Brenda	12.000 The State of the Circumstellar Medium Surrounding Gamma-Ray Burst Sources and Its Effect on the Afterglow Appearance	Sep 2005	A E F X R C c S U
7	1992ARA&A..30..235C Chiosi, Cesare; Bertelli, Gianpaolo; Bressan, Alessandro	12.000 New developments in understanding the HR di...	n/a 1992	A G T R C c S U

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Enter one or more keywords on your subject of interest, sit back and relax.

winds and shells from stars [Search]

e.g.: "dark energy", "extrasolar planets", "weak lensing" "spin hall"

Keyword Search:
- Most relevant
- Most recent
- Most important

Subject Area Search:
- Most popular
- Most useful
- Most instructive

ADS Home | Abstract Search | Help

This page generated using ADS faceted Search, as developed by Michael Kurtz, Alberto Accomazzi & Jonathan Fay


Explore
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ngc 7023
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VO Search
J2000
RA
Dec
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1 of 2
NGC7023
Finder Scope
Classification:
Reflection Nebula
in Cepheus
NGC 7023
RA: 21h01m36s
Dec: 68 : 10 : 11
Alt: 30 : 55 : 38
Az: 341 : 36 : 56
Magnitude: n/a
Distance: n/a
Rise: Circumpolar
Transit: Circumpolar
Set: Circumpolar
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Sculptor Galaxy
Cartwheel Galaxy
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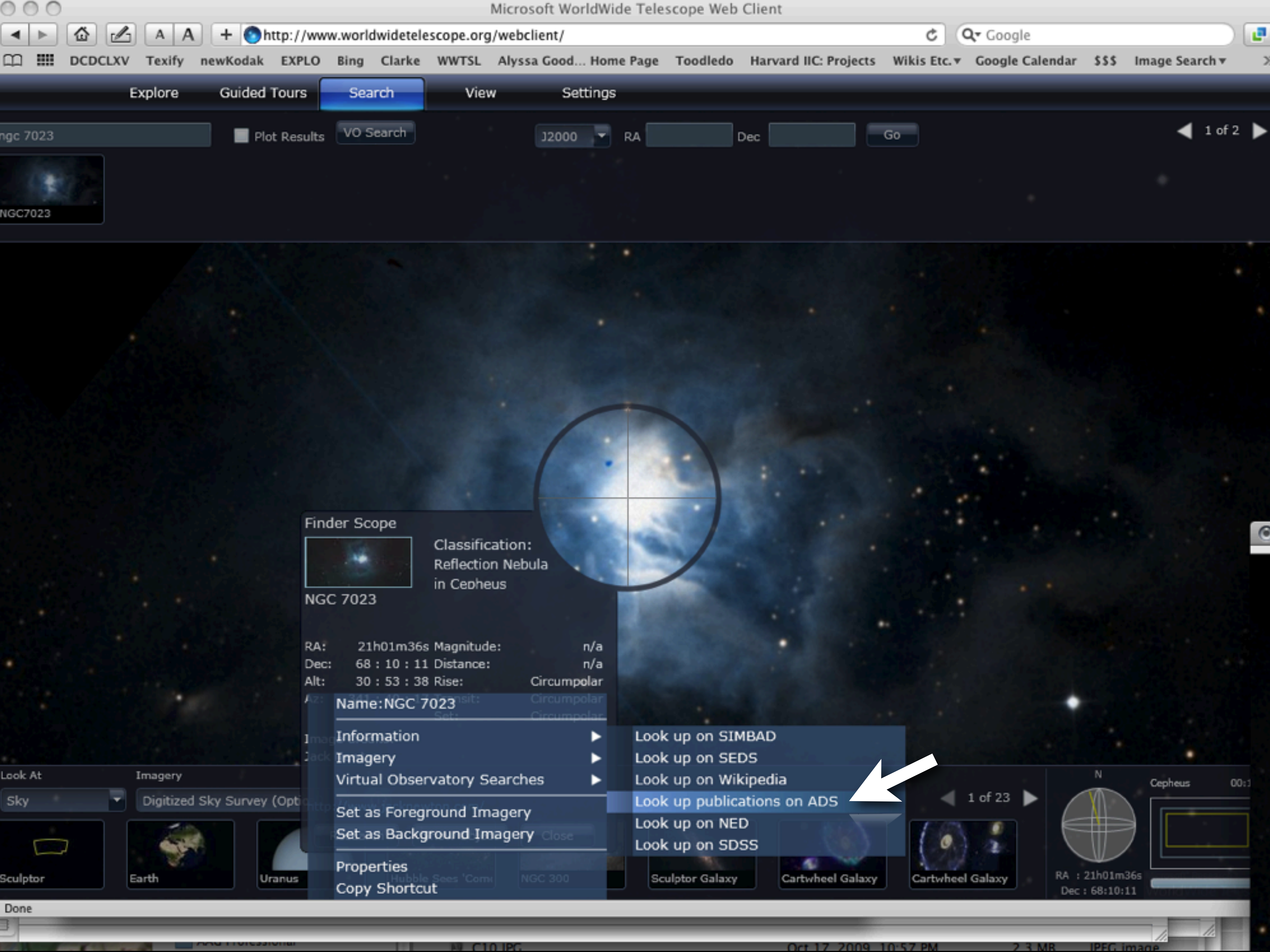
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NGC7023
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Classification:
Reflection Nebula
in Cepheus
NGC 7023
RA: 21h01m36s Magnitude: n/a
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Alt: 30 : 53 : 38 Rise: Circumpolar
Name:NGC 7023
Information
Imagery
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1 of 23
Cepheus
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Done

Object Query Results

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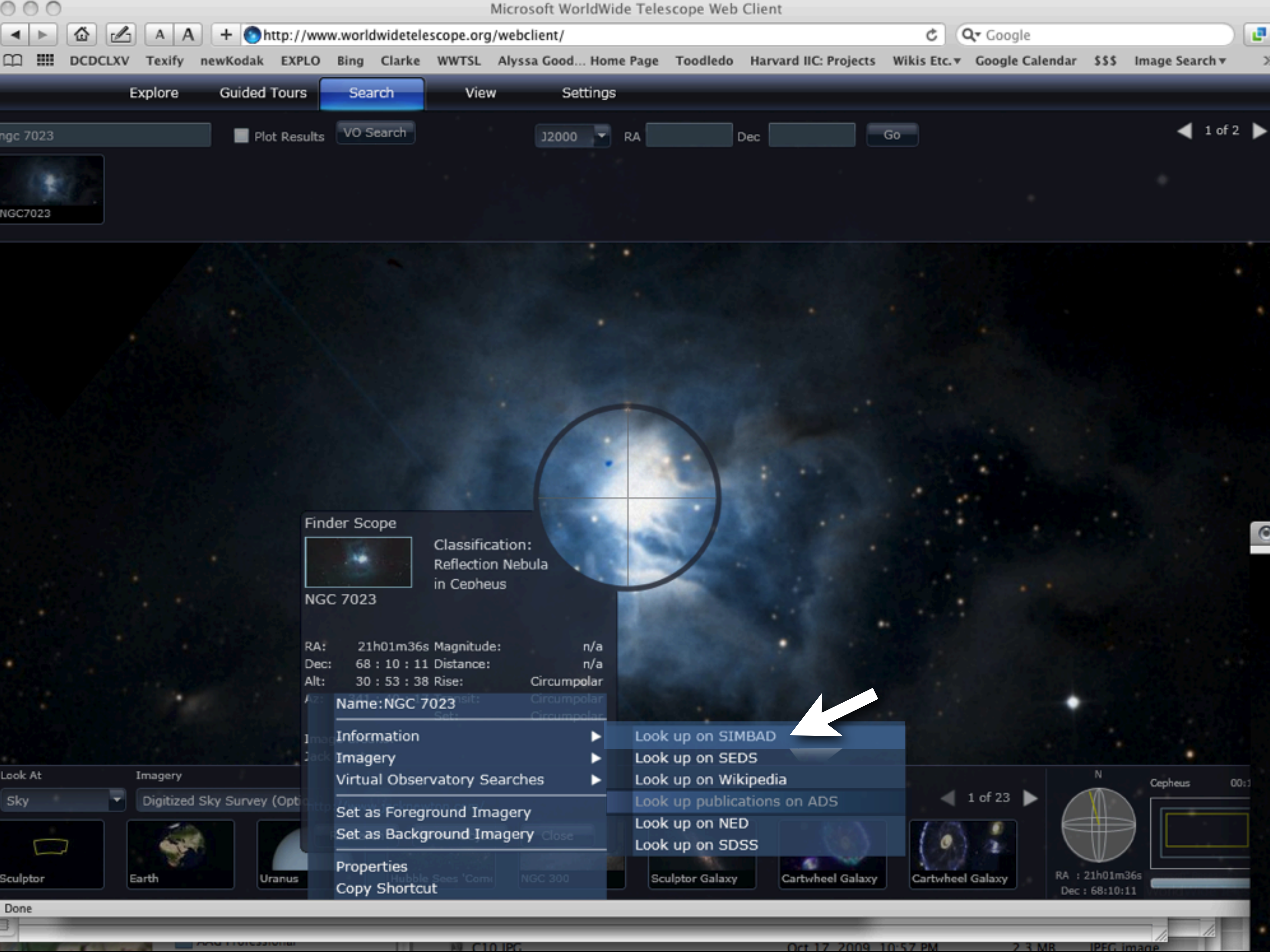
Go to bottom of page

Retrieved **200** abstracts, starting with number **1**. Total number selected: **393**.

Sort options

#	Bibcode / Authors	Score / Title	Date	List of Links / Access Control Help
1	2009ApJ...700.1609M Myers, Philip C.	1.000 Filamentary Structure of Star-forming Complexes	08/2009	A Z E F L X R C S U
2	2009ApJ...700.1190D Desai, Vandana; Soifer, B. T.; Dey, Arjun; LeFloc'h, Emeric; Armus, Lee; Brand, Kate; Brown, Michael J. I.; Brodwin, Mark; Jannuzi, Buell T.; Houck, James R.; and 8 coauthors	1.000 Strong Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon Emission from z ≈ 2 ULIRGs	08/2009	A Z E F L X R C S U
3	2009MNRAS.396.1851N Nutter, D.; Stamatellos, D.; Ward-Thompson, D.	1.000 The initial conditions of isolated star formation - IX. Akari mapping of an externally heated pre-stellar core	07/2009	A Z E F L X R S U
4	2009A&A...502..175B Boersma, C.; Peeters, E.; Martín-Hernández, N. L.; van der Wolk, G.; Verhoeff, A. P.; Tielens, A. G. G. M.; Waters, L. B. F. M.; Pel, J. W.	1.000 A spatial study of the mid-IR emission features in four Herbig Ae/Be stars	07/2009	A Z E F L R S U
5	2009MNRAS.395.1695H Hernán-Caballero, A.; Pérez-Fournon, I.; Hatziminaoglou, E.; Afonso-Luis, A.; Rowan-Robinson, M.; Rigopoulou, D.; Farrah, D.; Lonsdale, C. J.; Babbedge, T.;	1.000 Mid-infrared spectroscopy of infrared-luminous galaxies at z ~ 0.5-3	05/2009	A Z E F L X R C S U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RA: 21h01m36s Magnitude: n/a
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1 of 23
Sculptor
Earth
Uranus
Sculptor Galaxy
Cartwheel Galaxy
Cartwheel Galaxy
Cepheus
RA : 21h01m36s
Dec : 68:10:11
Done

SIMBAD query result

http://simbad.u-strasbg.fr/simbad/sim-id?Ident=NGC+7023&jsessionid=B8F7CD92574727FFC

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Simbad VizieR Aladin Catalogs Dictionary Biblio Tutorials Developers

SIMBAD query result

other query modes : Identifier query | Coordinate query | Criteria query | Bibliography query | Basic query | Script submission | Output options | Help

Object query : NGC 7023

C.D.S. - SIMBAD4 rel 1.132 - 2009.10.23CEST21:59:31

Available data Basic data | Identifiers | Plot & images | Bibliography | Measurements | External archives | Notes

Basic data :

NGC 7023 -- Open (galactic) Cluster

query around with radius 2 arcmin

Other object types:	Cl* (C,Cl,[BDB2003]) ,OpC (OCISM) ,HII (LBN) ,V* (AAVSO) ,IR (IRAS)
ICRS coord. (ep=2000) :	21 01 36.9 +68 09 48 (-) [- - -] D -
FK5 coord. (ep=2000 eq=2000) :	21 01 36.9 +68 09 48 (-) [- - -] D -
	104.0616 +14.1926 (-) [- - -] D -
Fluxes (1) :	B 7.20 [-] D -

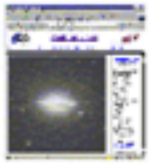
Identifiers (11) :

NGC 7023	IRAS 20599+6755	LBN 487	[BDB2003] G104.06+14.19
C 2059+679	IRAS F20599+6755	OCISM 50	AAVSO 2044+67
Cl VDB 139	LBN 104.08+14.21	OCl 235	

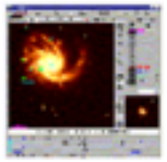
Plots and Images

plot around radius 10 arcmin

Aladin previewer



Aladin applet

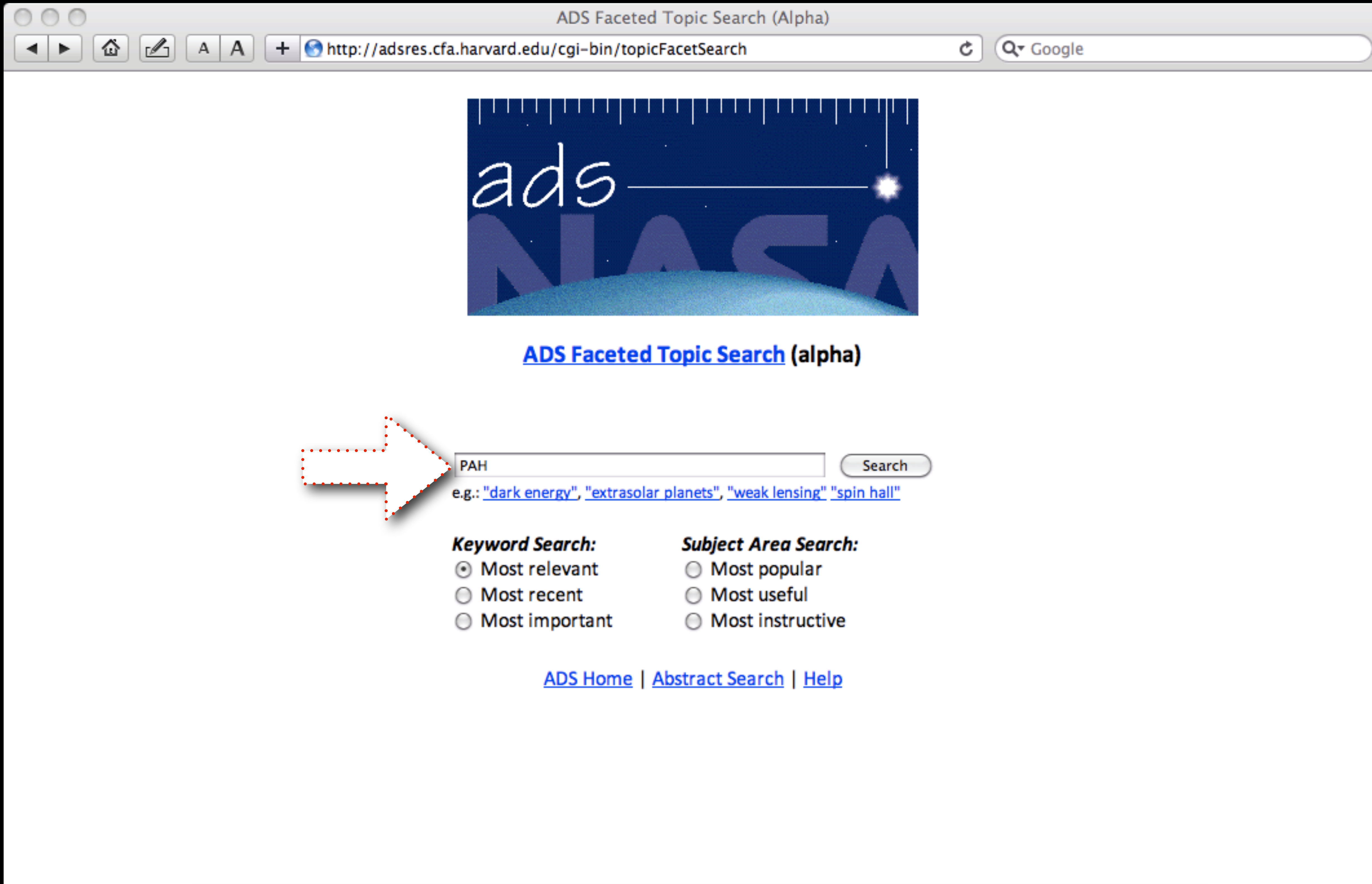


References (371 between 1983 and 2009)

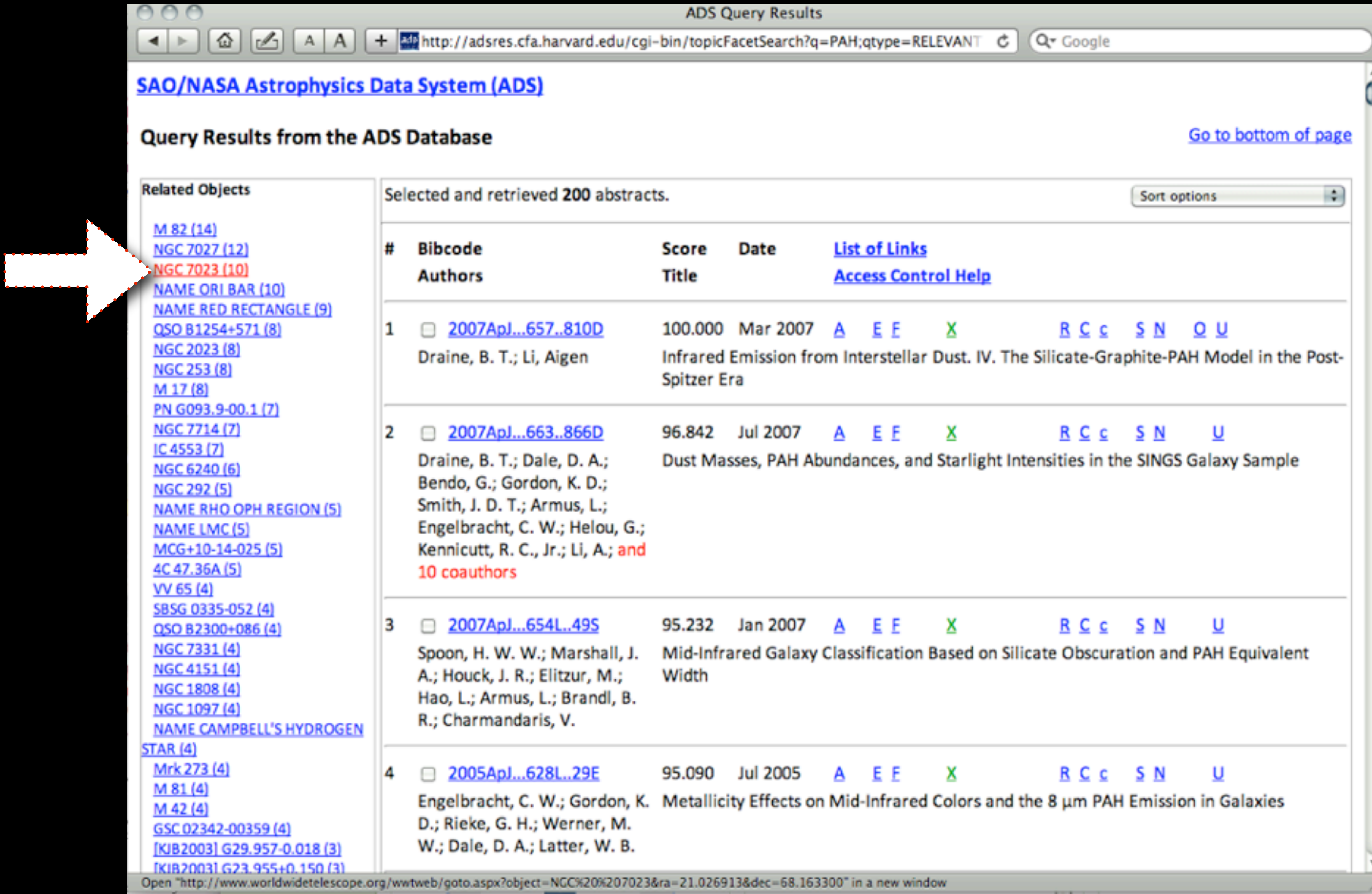
Simbad bibliographic survey began in 1950 for stars (at least bright stars) and in 1983 for all other objects (outside the solar system).

display reference summary

from: 1983 to: 2009

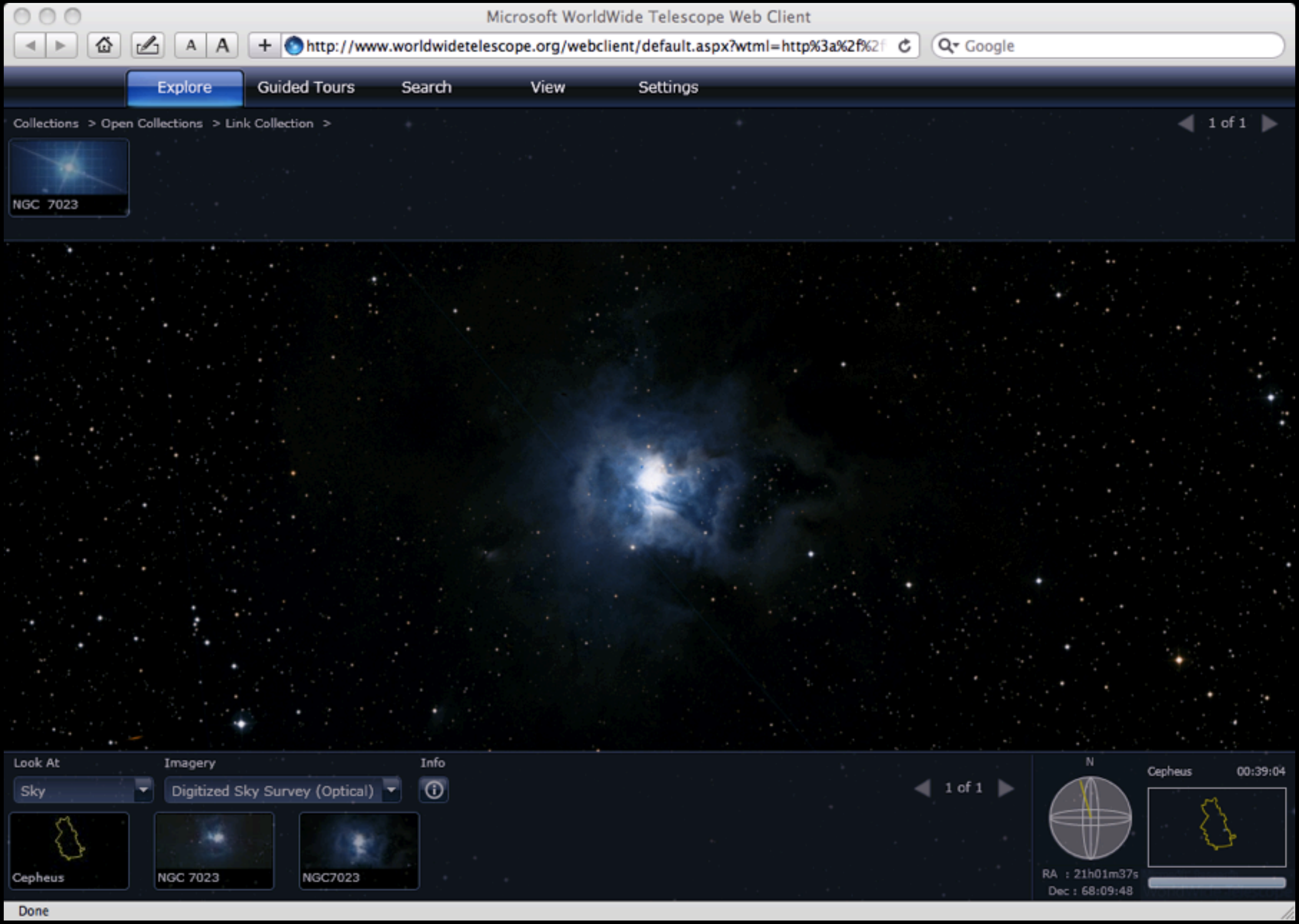


"alpha" Faceted Topic Search in ADS
(courtesy of Michael Kurtz & Alberto Accomazzi)



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.



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Alyssa_Goodman's photostream

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Tags

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Astrometrydotnet:status=solved

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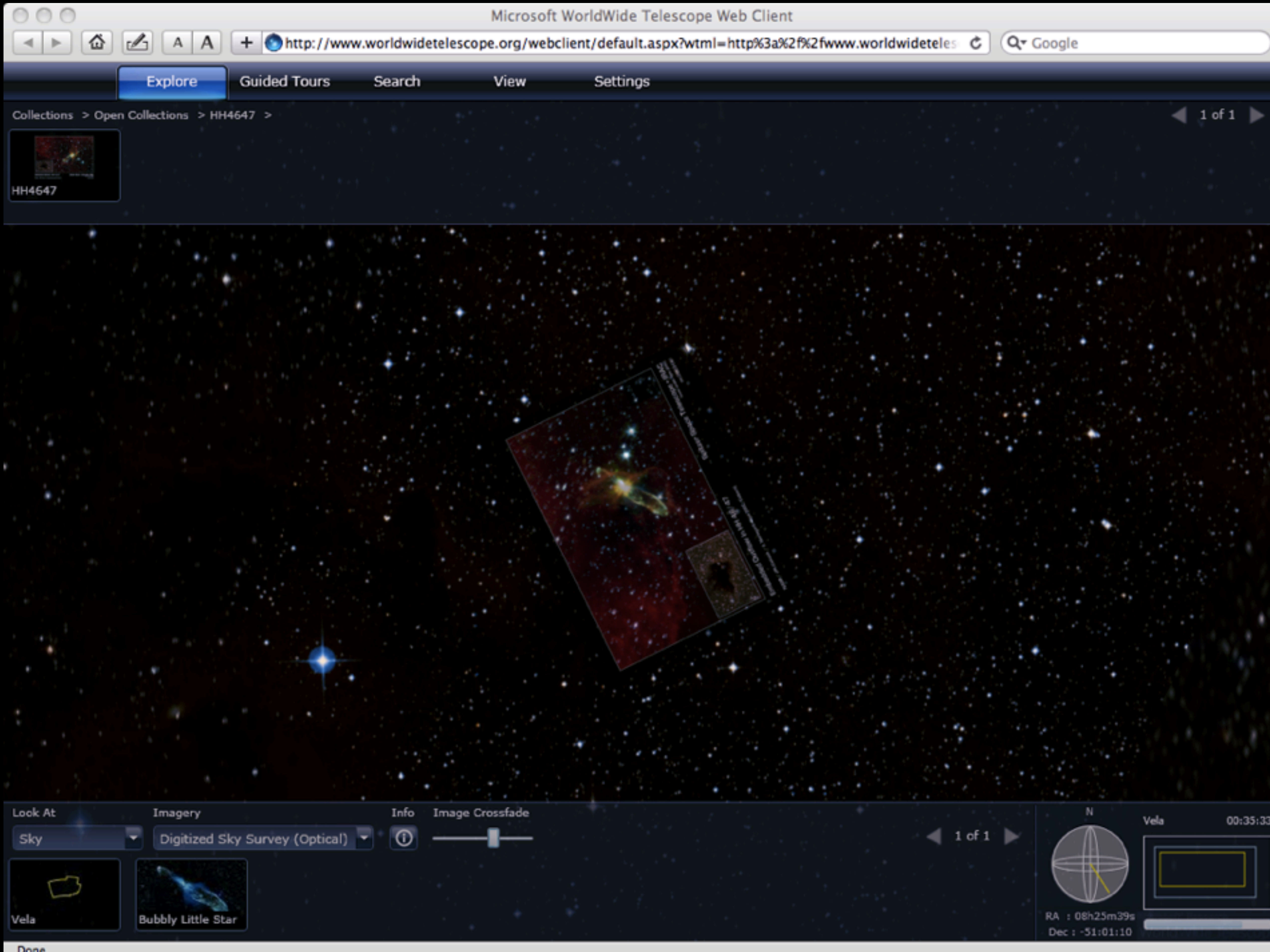
Microsoft WorldWide Telescope Web Client
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Info
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1 of 1
N
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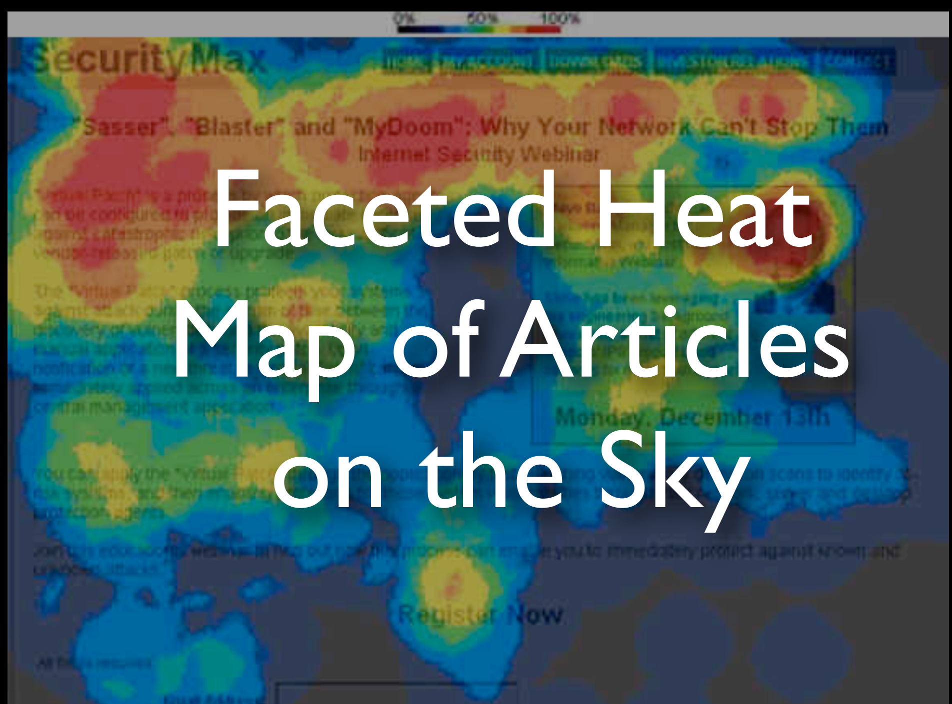
Vela
Bubbly Little Star
RA : 08h25m39s
Dec : -51:01:10
Done

Coming (Very) Soon...



[e.g. ADS-CDS-WWT]

The future is here... data *IN* articles

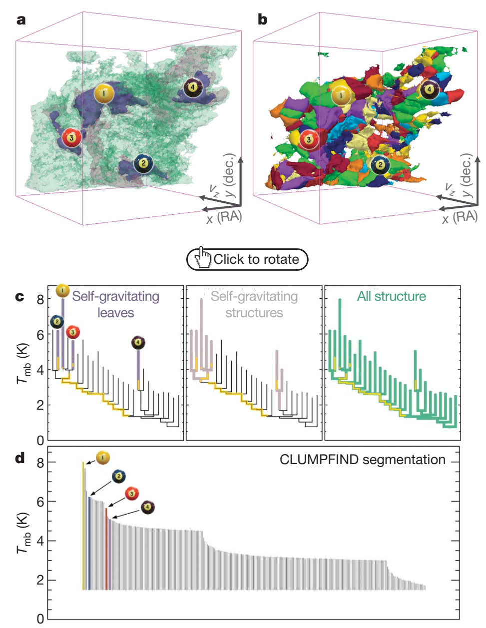


Figure 2 | Comparison of the 'dendrogram' and 'CLUMPFIND' feature-identification algorithms as applied to ^{13}CO emission from the L1448 region of Perseus. a, 3D visualization of the surfaces indicated by colours in the dendrogram shown in **c**. Purple illustrates the smallest scale self-gravitating structures in the region corresponding to the leaves of the dendrogram; pink shows the smallest surfaces that contain distinct self-gravitating 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_{mb} (main-beam temperature) test-level values for which the virial parameter is less than 2. The *x*–*y* locations of the four 'self-gravitating' leaves labelled with billiard balls are the same as those shown in Fig. 1. The 3D visualizations show position–position–velocity (*p*–*p*–*v*) space. RA, right ascension; dec., declination. For comparison with the ability of dendrograms (**c**) to track hierarchical structure, **d** shows a pseudo-dendrogram of the CLUMPFIND segmentation (**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 interactive 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 ($-0.5\ \mathrm{km\,s^{-1}}$) to back ($8\ \mathrm{km\,s^{-1}}$).

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 set[8] 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*–*v*) 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_v) and luminosity (L). The volumes can have any shape, and in other work[14] 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 $M_{\mathrm{lum}} = X_{13\mathrm{CO}} L_{13\mathrm{CO}}$, where $X_{13\mathrm{CO}} = 8.0 \times 10^{20}\ \mathrm{cm^2\,K^{-1}\,km^{-1}\,s}$ (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, $\alpha_{\mathrm{obs}} = 5\sigma_v^2 R/GM_{\mathrm{lum}}$. In principle, extended portions of the tree (Fig. 2, yellow highlighting) where $\alpha_{\mathrm{obs}} < 2$ (where gravitational energy is comparable to or larger than kinetic energy) correspond to regions of *p*–*p*–*v* space where self-gravity 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 fields[16], its measured value should only be used as a guide to the longevity (boundedness) of any particular feature.

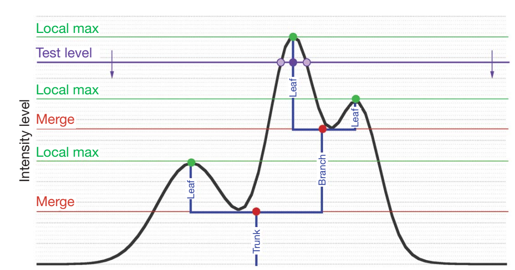


Figure 3 | Schematic illustration of the dendrogram process. Shown is the construction of a dendrogram from a hypothetical one-dimensional emission profile (black). The dendrogram (blue) can be constructed by 'dropping' a test constant emission level (purple) from above in tiny steps (exaggerated in 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.

Note: This work came from the "'AstroMed" project am.iic.harvard.edu

Goodman et al. *Nature*, 2009


Explore
Guided Tours
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Settings
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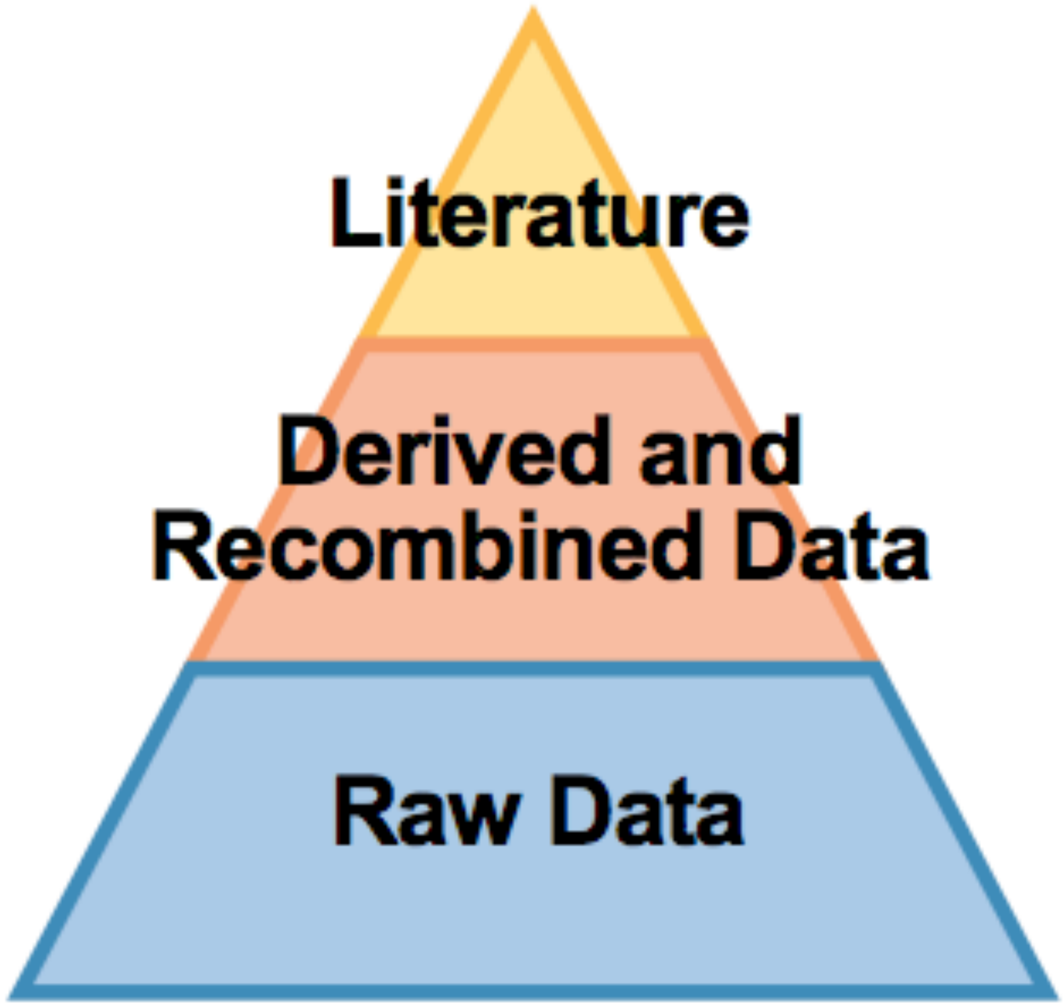
Carina Nebula
"Old Data"
astrometry.net/flickr/WWT
"New Data"
WWT/ADS/SIMBAD/VAO
WWT as API
"Your Data"
"My Data"
3D PDF
Imagery
Image Crossfade
Context Search Filter
All

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

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



How do we increase the fraction of astronomy researchers who know about these tools?

WIKIBOOKS
Open books for an open world

User Groups
(CfA now has one)

YouTube

+Suggestions?!

User Groups (CfA now has one)

WIKIBOOKS
Open books for an open world

ASTROBETTER
Tips and Tricks for Professional Astronomers

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CfA Virtual Observatory Users Group

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Discussion (Google Group)

Join the Discussion

Friends
- Astrobetter
- Astropython
- IVOA
- VAO

My recent activity

There are no recent activities.

6
days since
User Group Meeting

Home

VIRTUAL ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY

This website provides a platform for sharing resources, workflows, and basic organizational information about networked astronomy databases and tools. Its intended audience includes anyone performing astronomical research online. It originated from the activities of scientists at the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, MA.

By Virtual Observatory (VO), we mean all forms of network tools, databases and websites that are utilized for astronomical research.

By Users Group, we mean a group of individuals who meet approximately monthly to discuss their solutions and problems with doing their research online.

Messages

More on NSF data management... Since the ScienceInsider article, NSF has since issued a press release about requiring data management plans as part of all NSF funding proposals starting in October 2010:*"This is the ...*

Posted May 12, 2010 12:23 PM by August Muench

May 2010 Meeting reminder. This is a reminder that the next VO users group meeting is: Tomorrow, May 7th 10-11am Pratt Conference Room. Data "publishing" is the subject for our meeting and I ...

Posted May 6, 2010 1:41 PM by August Muench

NSF Guidelines on Data Access ScienceInsider reports that NSF is moving towards requiring that a data management plan to be submitted as part of future NSF grant applications. To quote:*NSF's current policy requires ...*

Posted May 6, 2010 1:23 PM by August Muench

May 2010 Meeting date/time Our next meeting will be 10-11am Friday May 7th in the Pratt Conference room (60 Garden Street). Our inaugural meeting touched on many topics from software to data archiving ...

Posted Apr 28, 2010 1:14 PM by August Muench

How do we increase the number of people who create and interlink new tools?

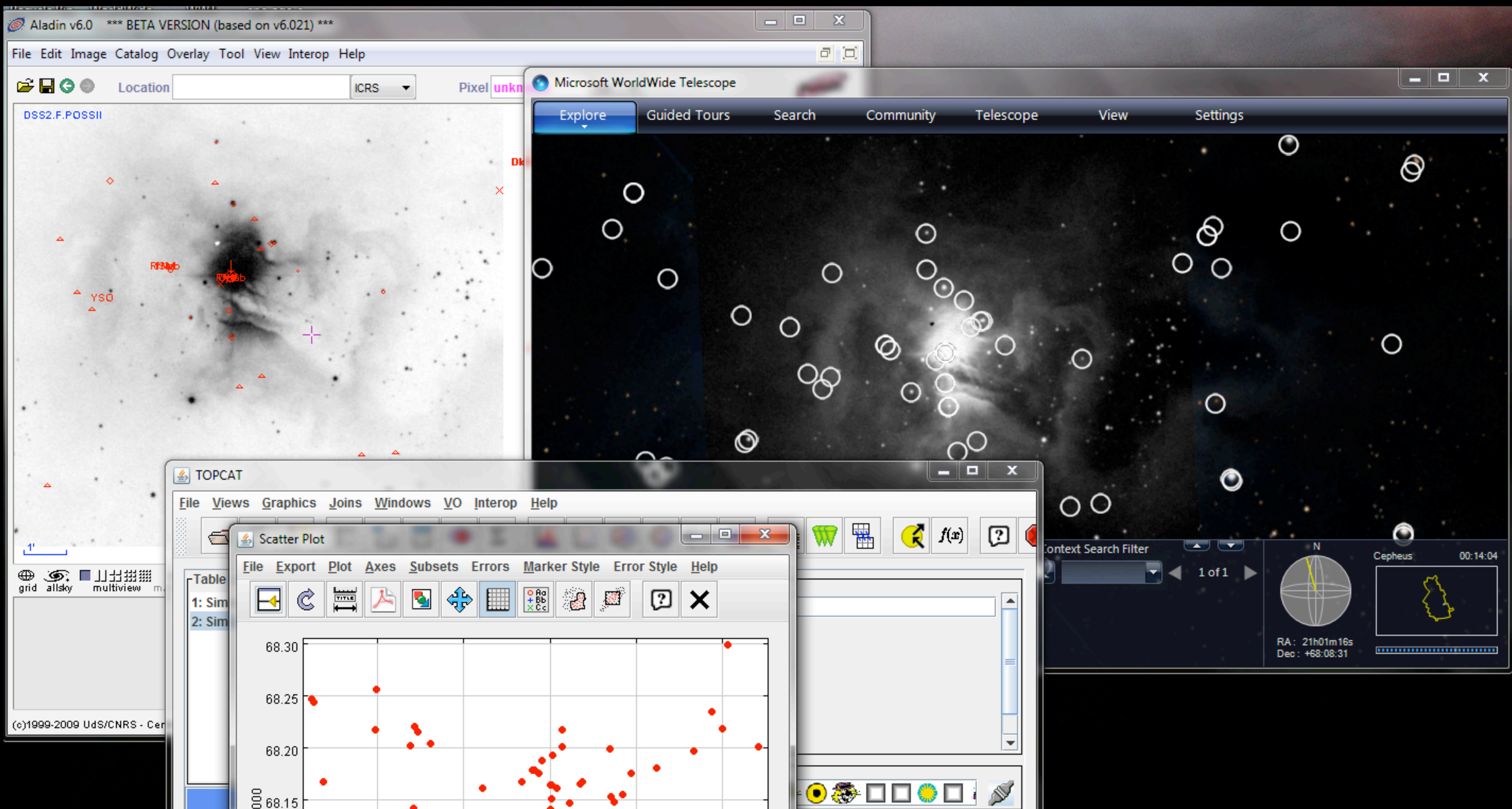
Kiva model proposed at MSR in semi-jest in 2009...

Now being implemented through VAO "Associates" and WWT Partners.

How do we organize such diverse tools, so as to make them interoperably useful?....

"SAMP" is a great technical start, but offers a very significant user interface challenge.

SAMP



Aladin v6.0 *** BETA VERSION (based on v6.021) ***
File Edit Image Catalog Overlay Tool View Interop Help
Location
ICRS
DSS2.F.POSSII
YSO
grid allsky multiview
(c)1999-2009 UdS/CNRS - Cer
Microsoft WorldWide Telescope
Explore Guided Tours Search Community Telescope View Settings
Context Search Filter
1 of 1
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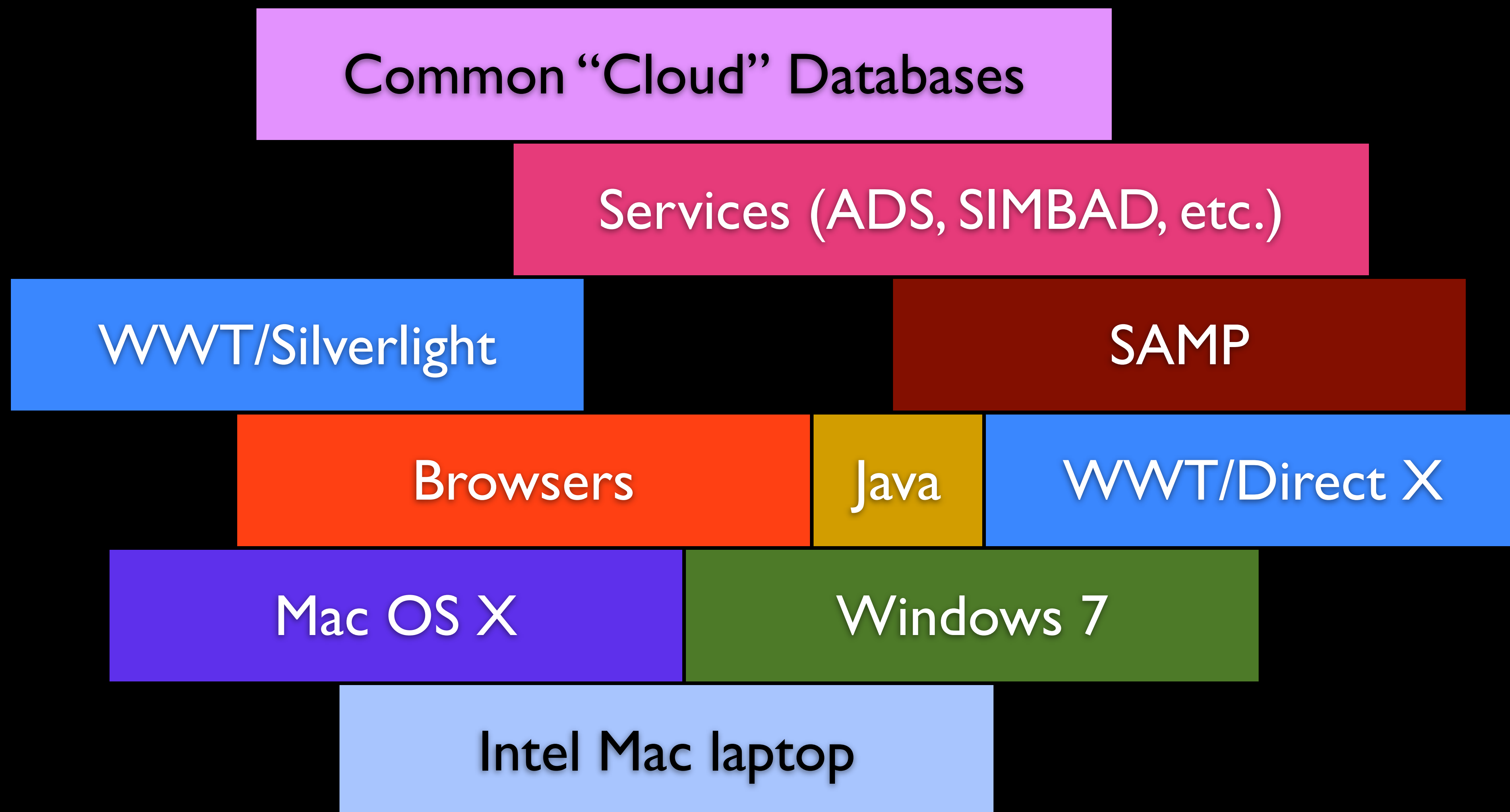
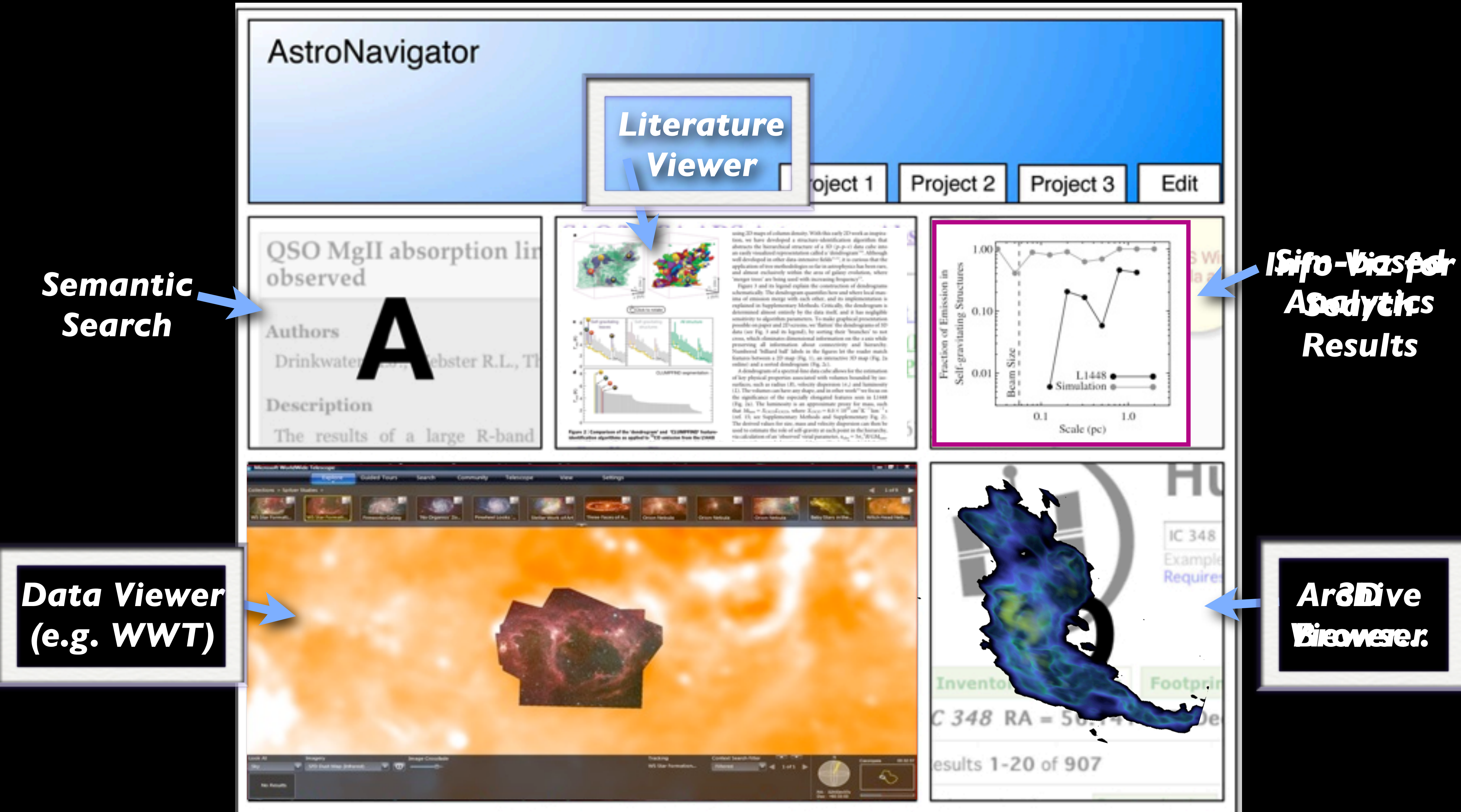
00:14:04
RA : 21h01m16s
Dec : +68:08:31
TOPCAT
File Views Graphics Joins Windows VO Interop Help
Scatter Plot
File Export Plot Axes Subsets Errors Marker Style Error Style Help
68.30
68.25
68.20
68.15

Think about the "modules" needed to make this work...but do the details matter, to your research, if the system works seamlessly?

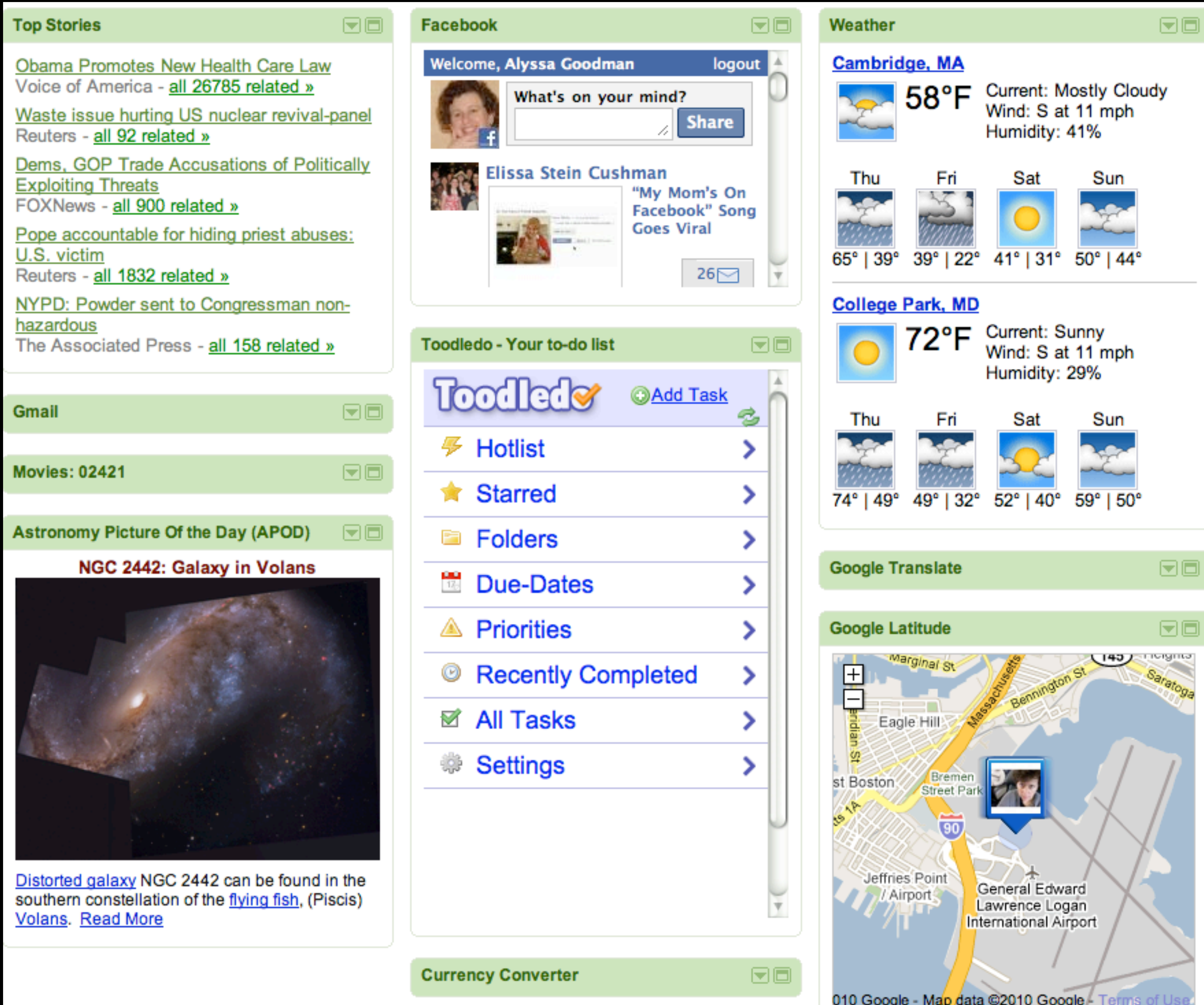


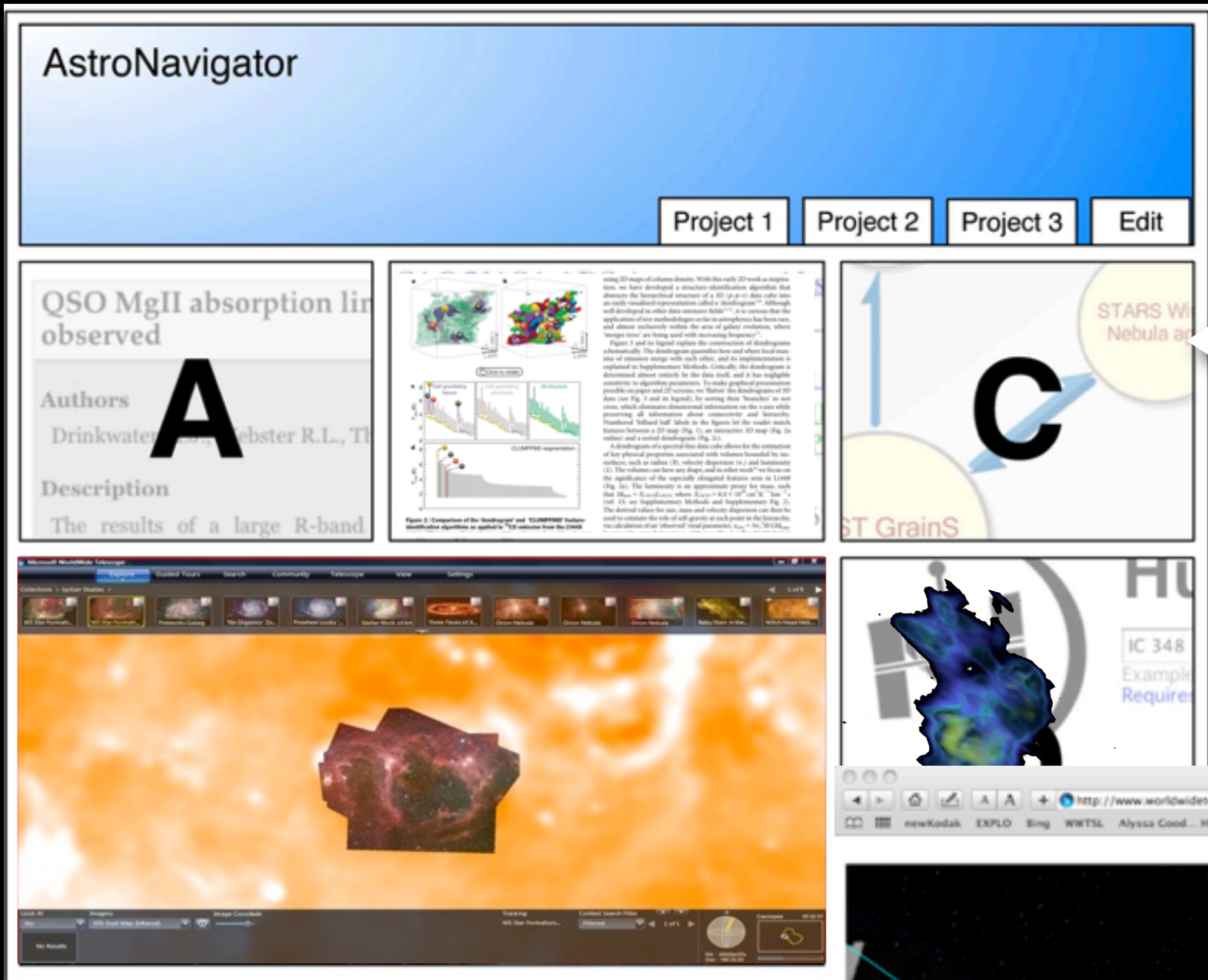
Seamless Astronomy



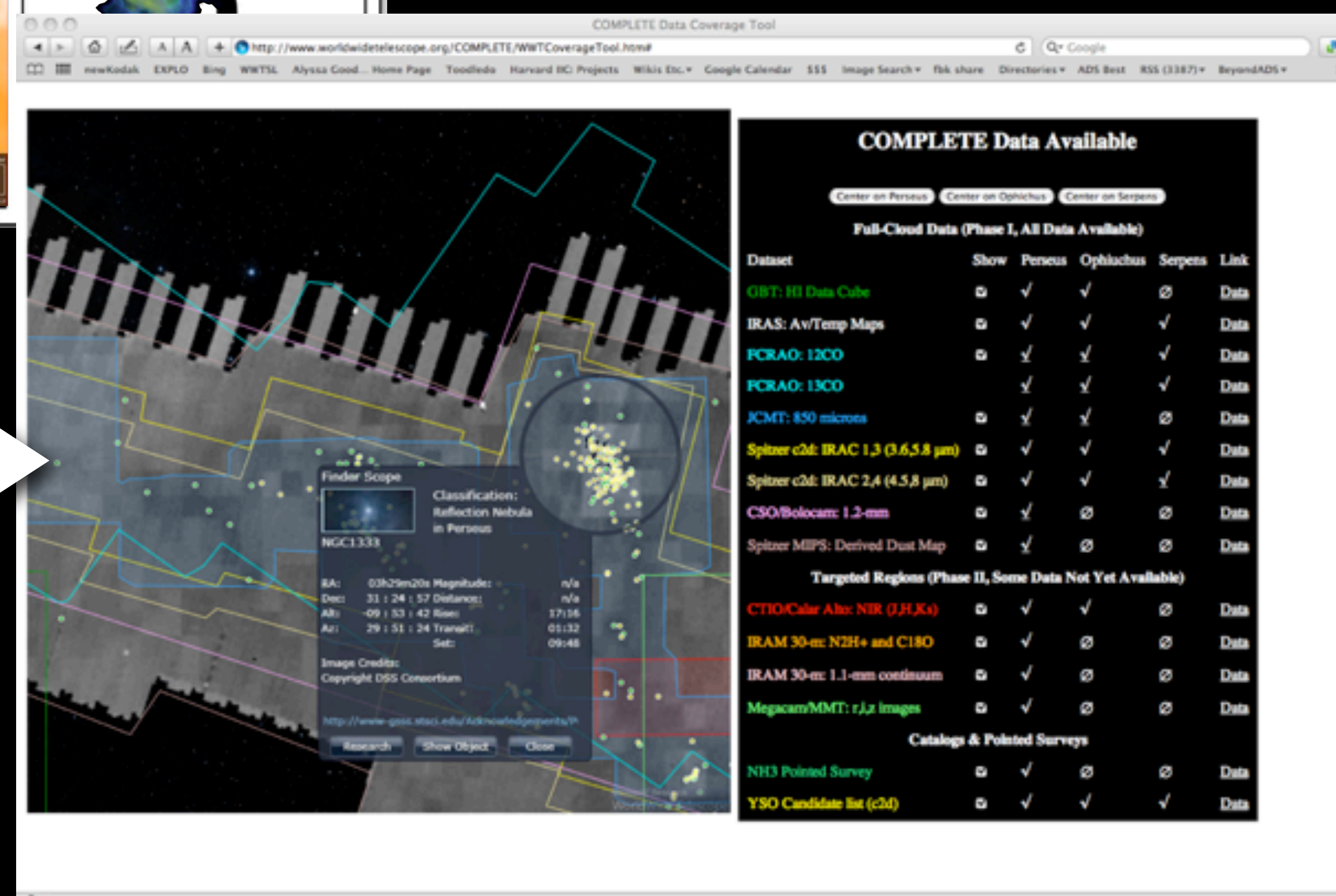
Mockup based on work of Eli Bressert, excerpted from NASA AISRP proposal by Goodman, Muench, Christian, Conti, Kurtz, Burke, Accomazzi, McGuinness, Hendler & Wong, 2008

iGoogle: "A Diversity of Tools"





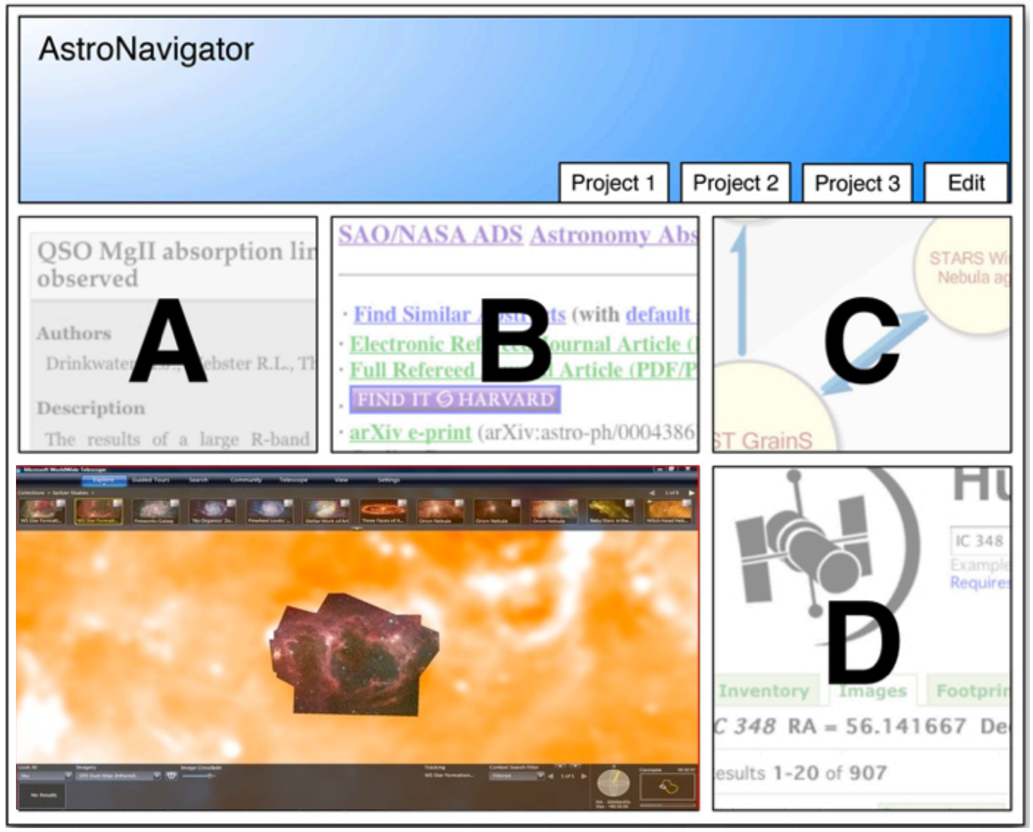
Fiction
(but soon fact!)



Fact
(right now)

Collaborative Astronomy at University of Washington

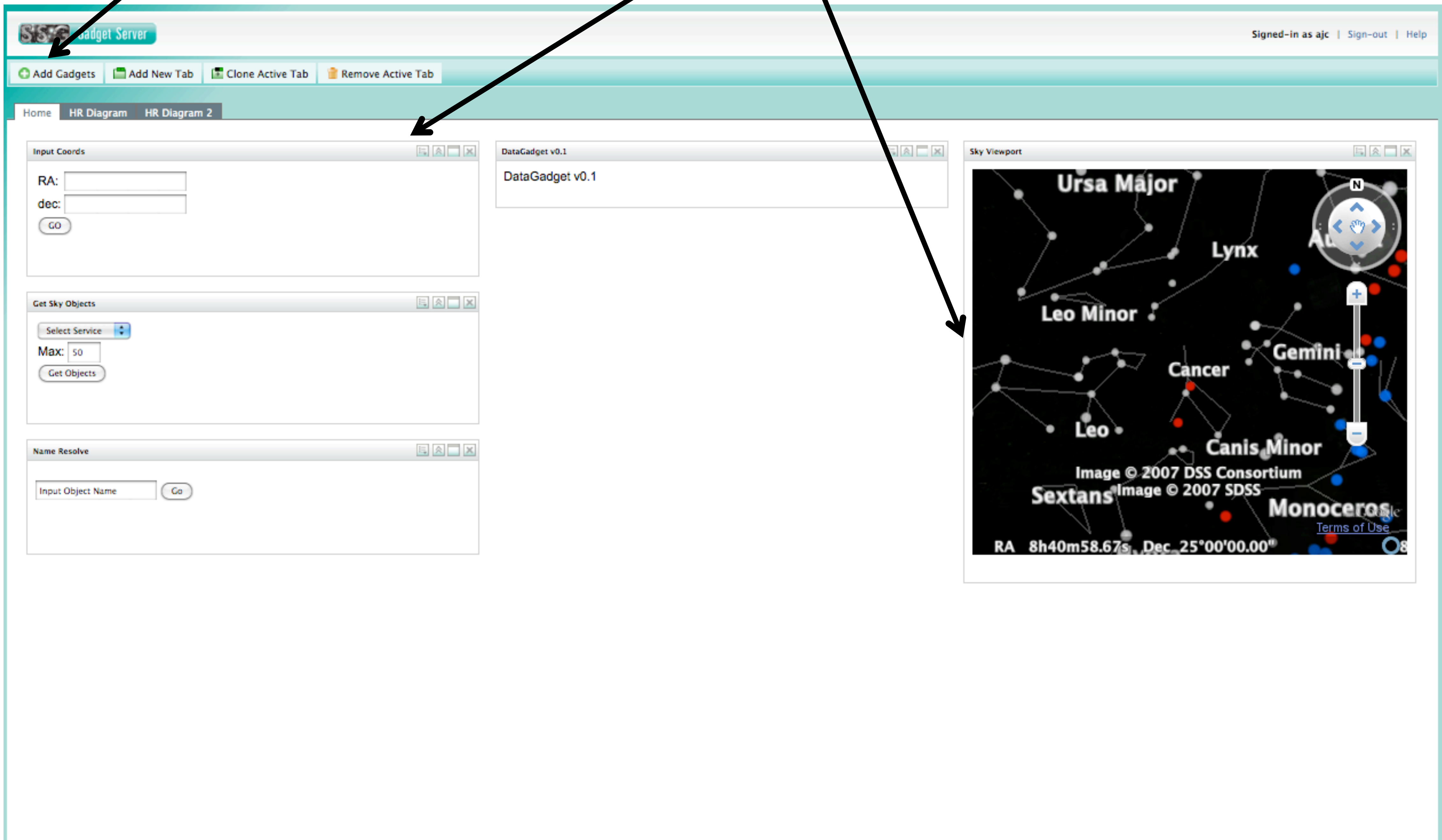
- **Research in a Browser**
  - **"iGoogle" for Astronomy**
    - Collections of simple atomic applications (gadgets)
    - Users choose the view they want
    - All gadgets can communicate with each other
  - **Customizable and sharable**
    - Users can build and share "mashups"
    - Widgets are simple to create
    - Widgets call virtual observatory resources
  - **Efficient**
    - Communication is within the browser (fast)
    - Built from javascript (standard)



Collaborative Astronomy (Connolly, Gibson, Krughoff, Sayers, Smith 2010)

Select Gadgets

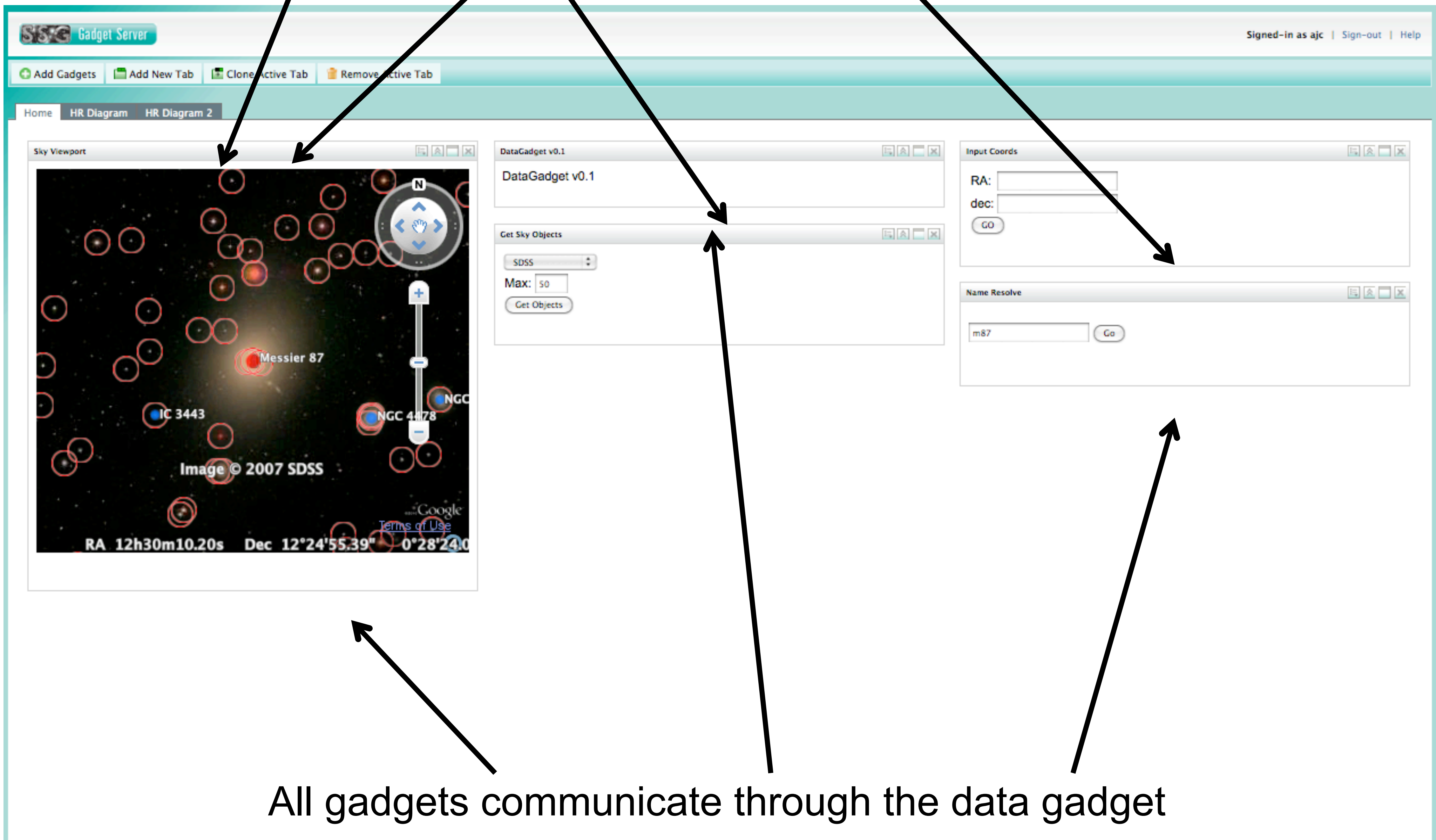
Rearrange based on your preference



Collaborative Astronomy (Connolly, Gibson, Krughoff, Sayers, Smith 2010)

Query the SDSS based on viewport and return the source overlaid on images

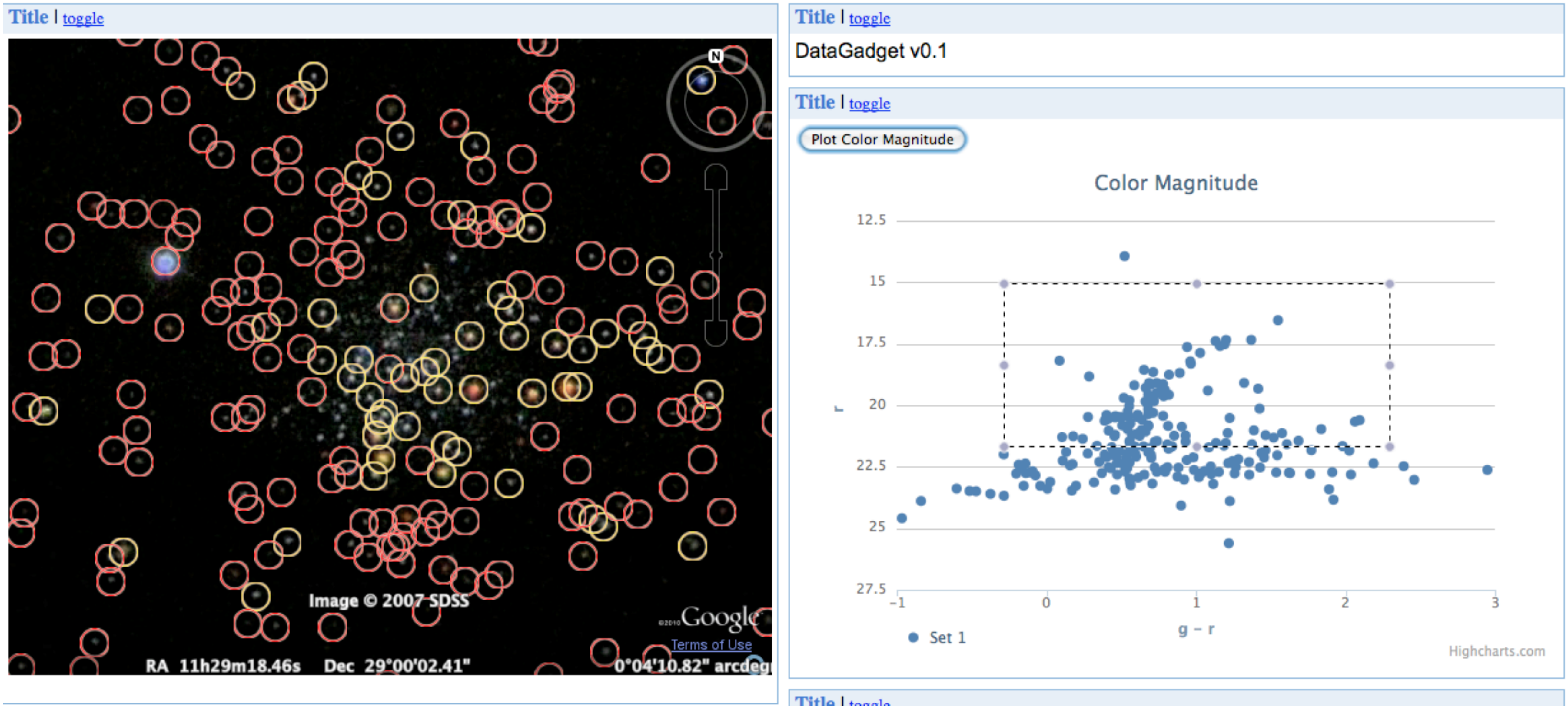
Name resolver and zoom to field



All gadgets communicate through the data gadget

Collaborative Astronomy (Connolly, Gibson, Krughoff, Sayers, Smith 2010)

Create, store and share multiple views of gadgets



Interaction allows selections to be shown on the viewport

Collaborative Astronomy (Connolly, Gibson, Krughoff, Sayers, Smith 2010)

WorldWide Telescope Ambassadors Program

Alyssa Goodman
Harvard University Professor of Astronomy,
WGBH Scholar-in-Residence, Microsoft Academic Partner

Pat Udomprasert
WWTA Program Coordinator

Annie Valva
WGBH Interactive, Director of Research & Development

Curtis Wong
Microsoft Research, WWT & More

WWT Ambassadors

Who?

Harvard/CfA, WGBH and Microsoft Research staff in collaboration with Volunteer Ambassadors

What?

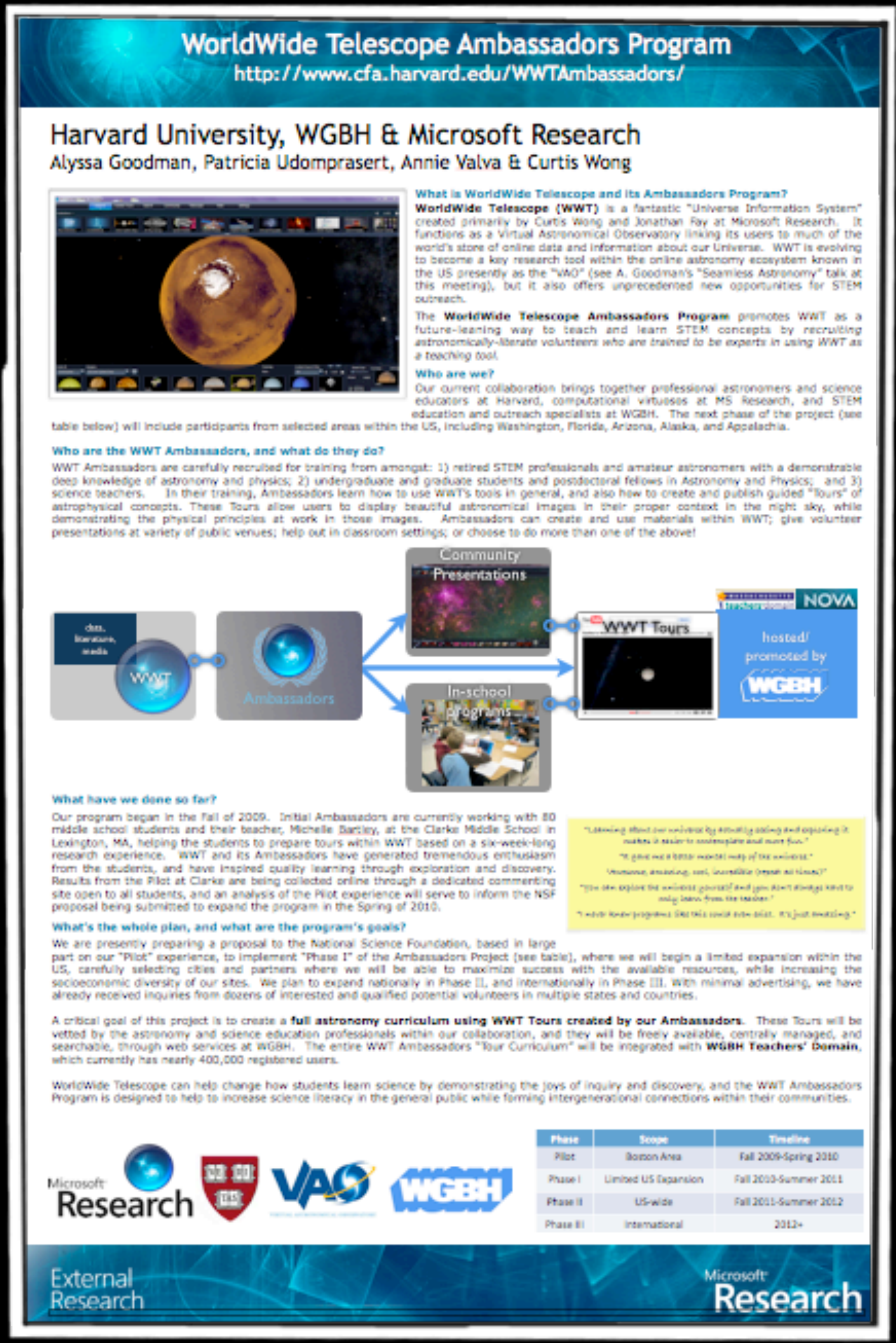
Future-leaning way to teach and learn STEM concepts

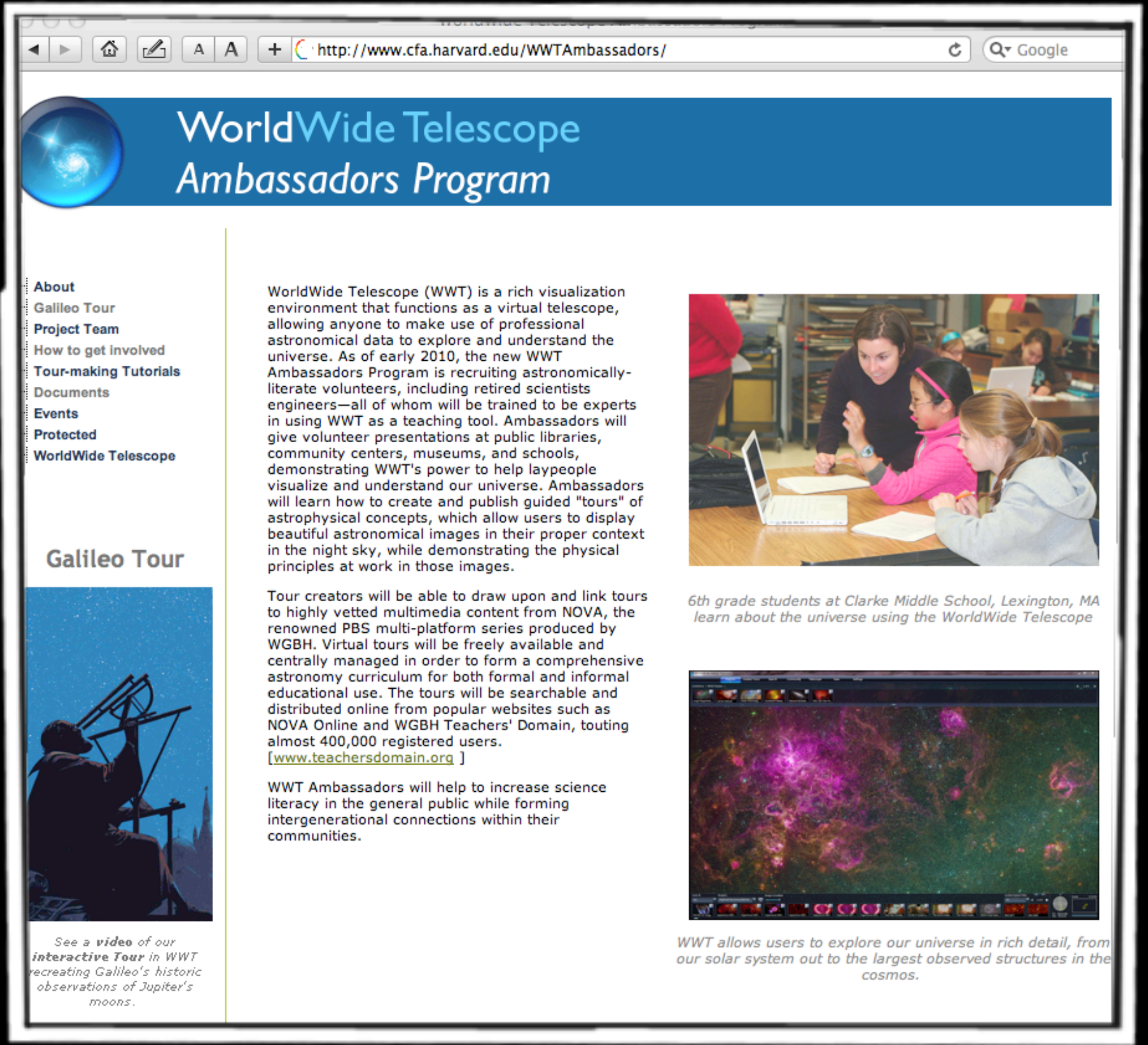
How?

Use new WWT platform to give experts and learners access to the Universe

Where?

Public spaces and schools in a variety of regions





www.cfa.harvard.edu/WWTAmbassadors/

How?

Using new WWT platform to give experts and learners access to the Universe

WWT Ambassadors Program

Recruiting, Vetting, Coordination

data, literature, media

WWT

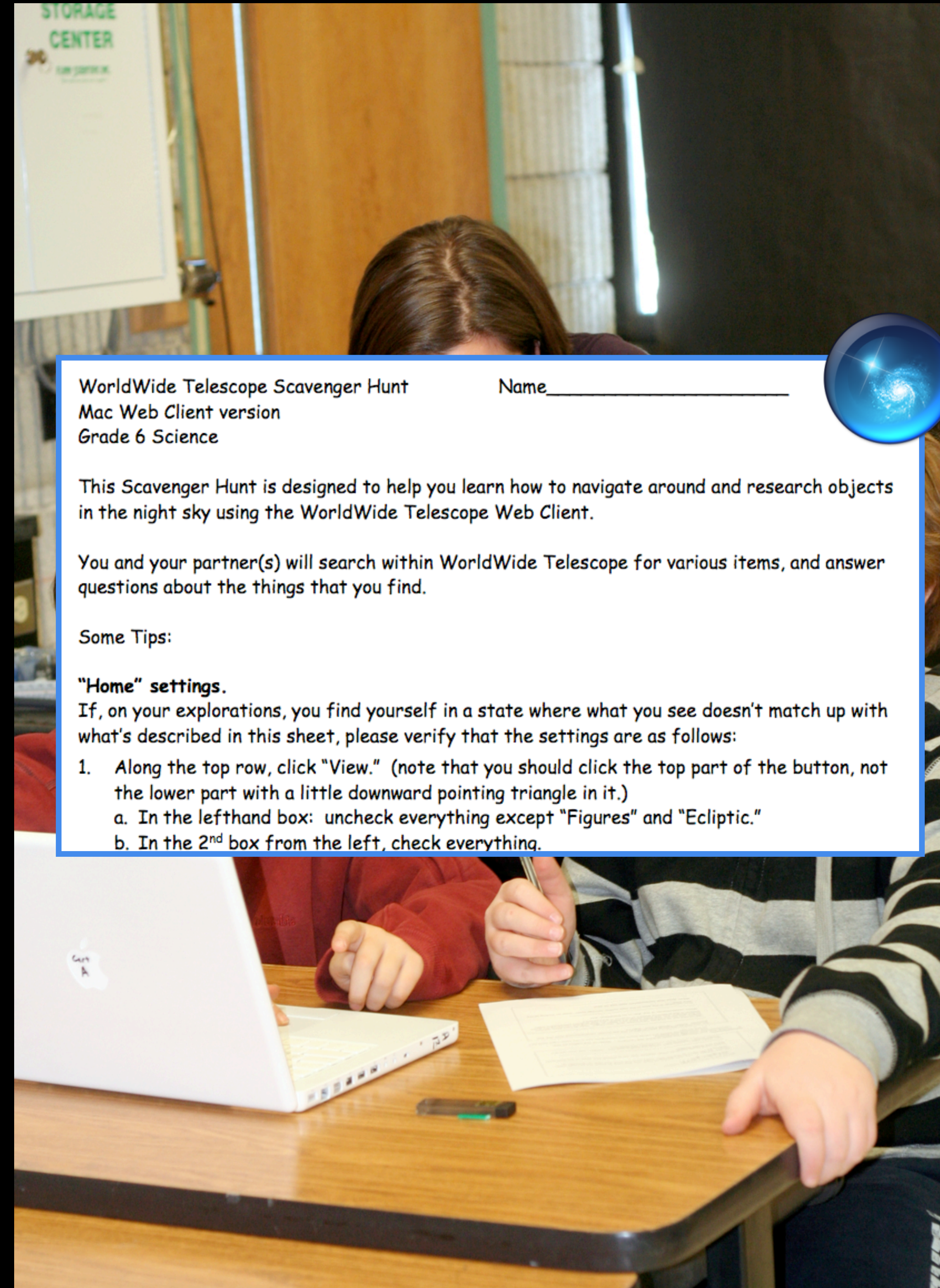
Ambassadors

Community Presentations

WWT Tours

hosted/ promoted by WGBH

In-school programs



WorldWide Telescope Scavenger Hunt Name_______________________
Mac Web Client version
Grade 6 Science

This Scavenger Hunt is designed to help you learn how to navigate around and research objects in the night sky using the WorldWide Telescope Web Client.

You and your partner(s) will search within WorldWide Telescope for various items, and answer questions about the things that you find.

Some Tips:

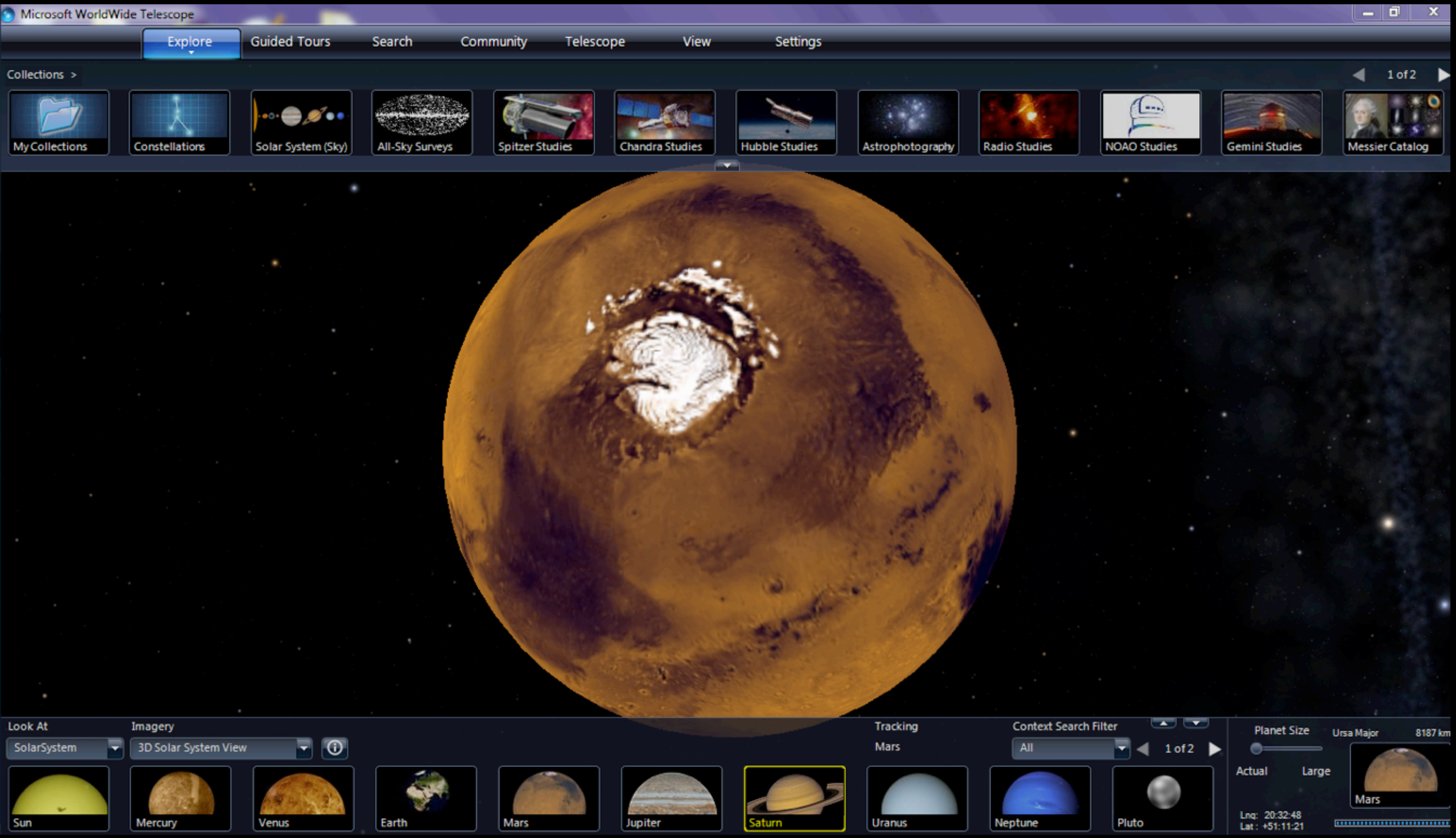
"Home" settings.
If, on your explorations, you find yourself in a state where what you see doesn't match up with what's described in this sheet, please verify that the settings are as follows:

1. Along the top row, click "View." (note that you should click the top part of the button, not the lower part with a little downward pointing triangle in it.)
   a. In the lefthand box: uncheck everything except "Figures" and "Ecliptic."
   b. In the 2nd box from the left, check everything.

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

“Why is one polar ice cap on Mars bigger than the other?”

– Clarke Middle School 6th Grader



Michelle Bartley interviews her 6th-grade science class about WWT
December 19, 2009

"I never knew programs like this could even exist. It's just amazing."
–Clarke Middle School 6th grade student

<u>More quotes from Clarke 6th Graders</u>

"Learning about our Universe by actually seeing and exploring it makes it easier to contemplate and more fun."

"You can explore the Universe yourself and you don't always have to only learn from the teacher."

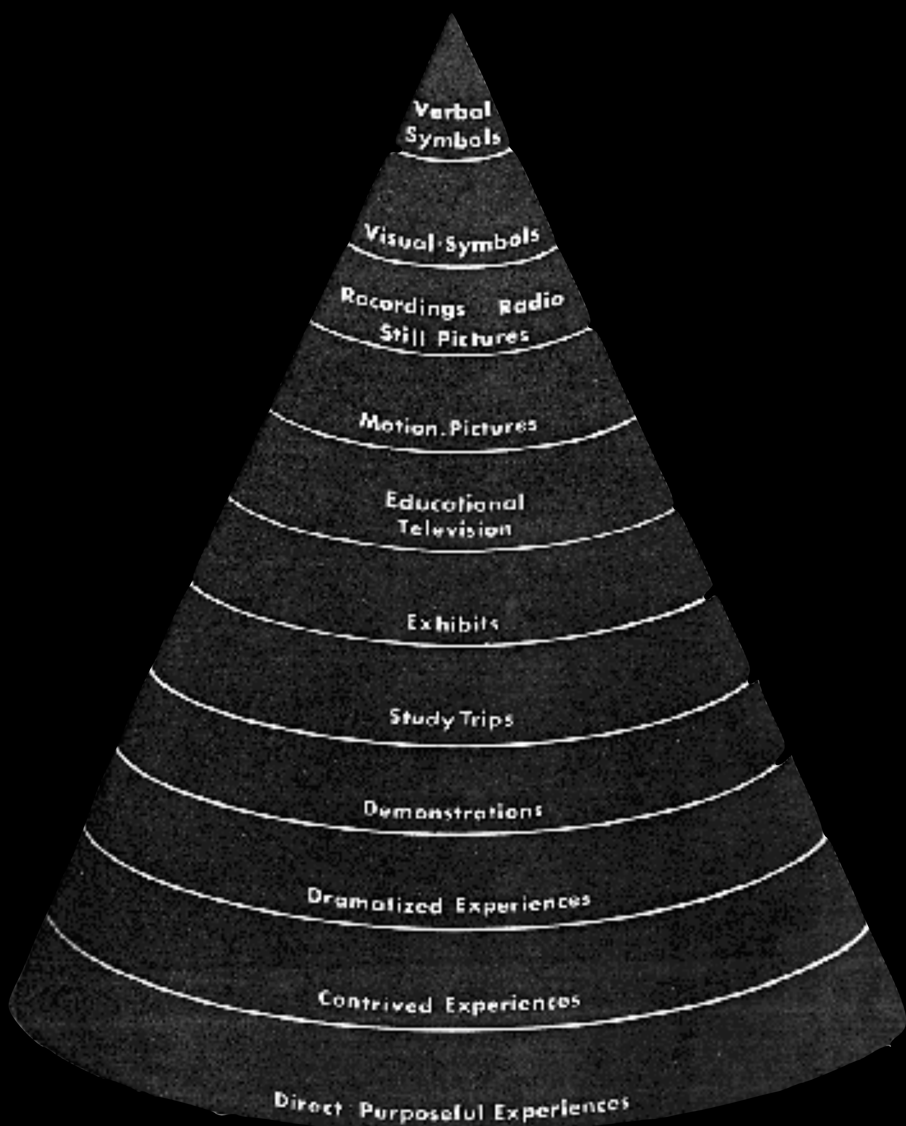
"It gave me a better mental map of the universe."

(And of the 72 surveys we've collected, 71 are positive toward WWT Ambassadors.)

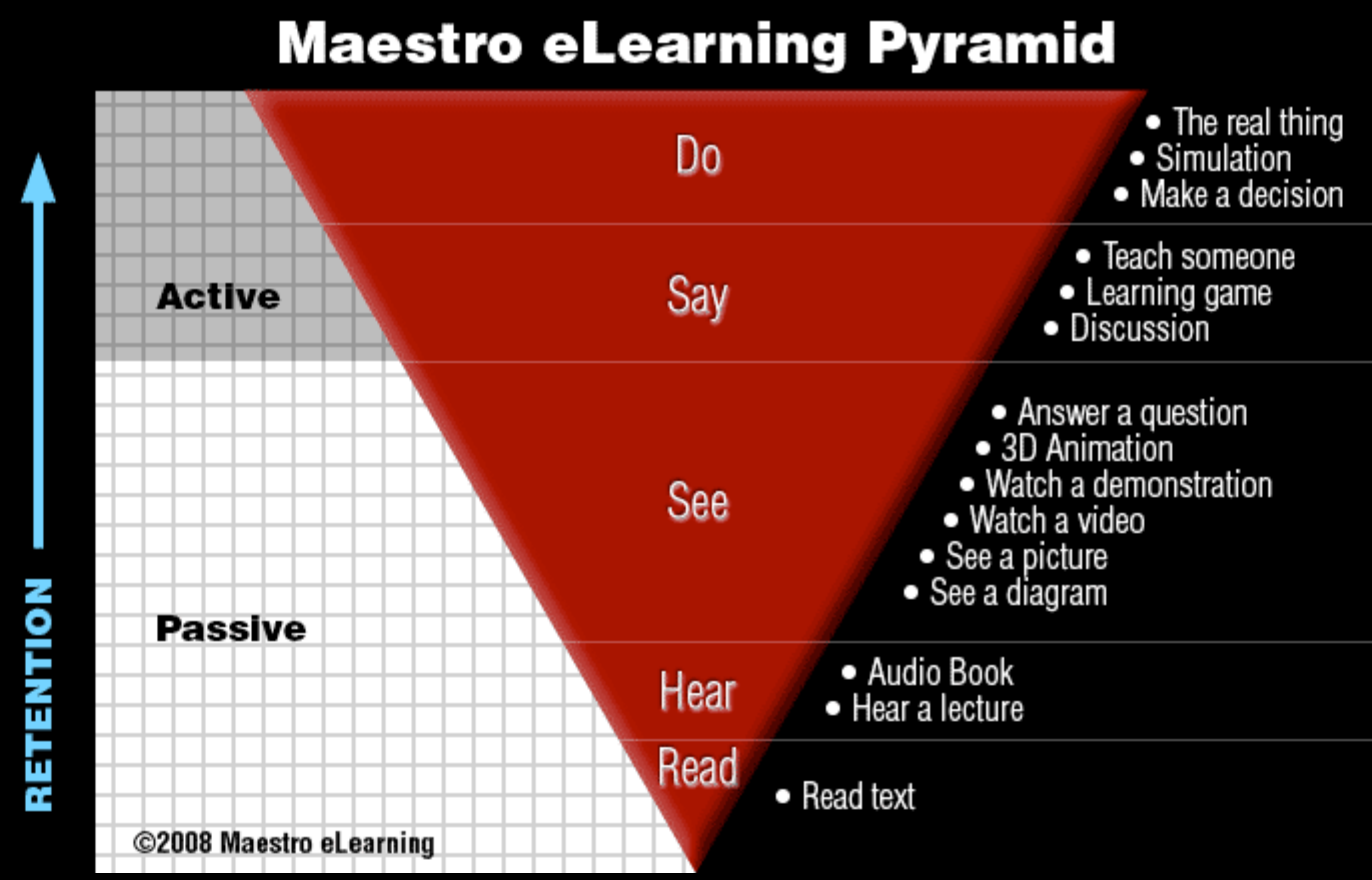
Why?

Increase STEM literacy in US now.

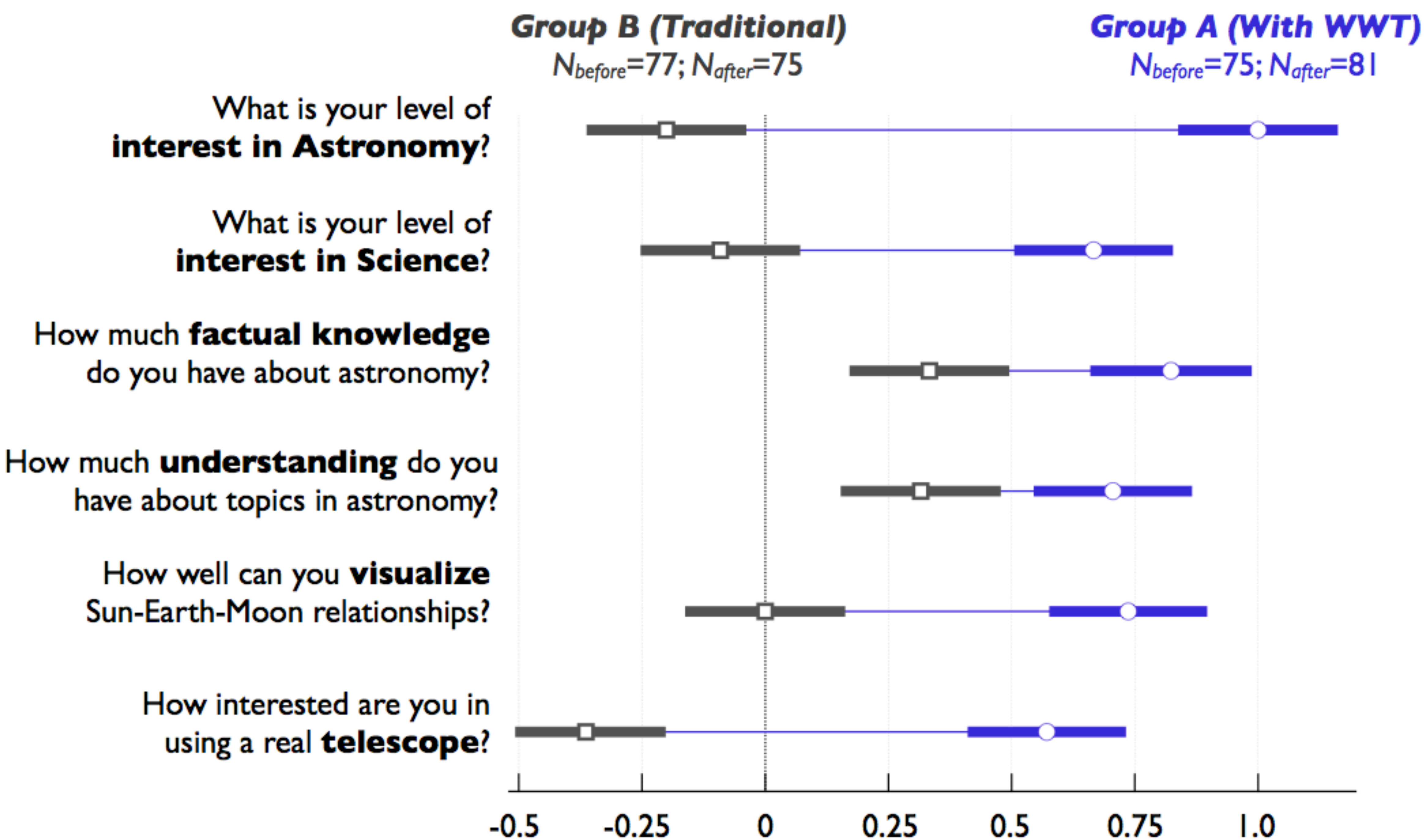
Demonstrate cyberlearning's value to the "Cone of Experience"



Edgar Dale, "Audio Visual Methods in Teaching", 1946-69



WWTA Pilot Results



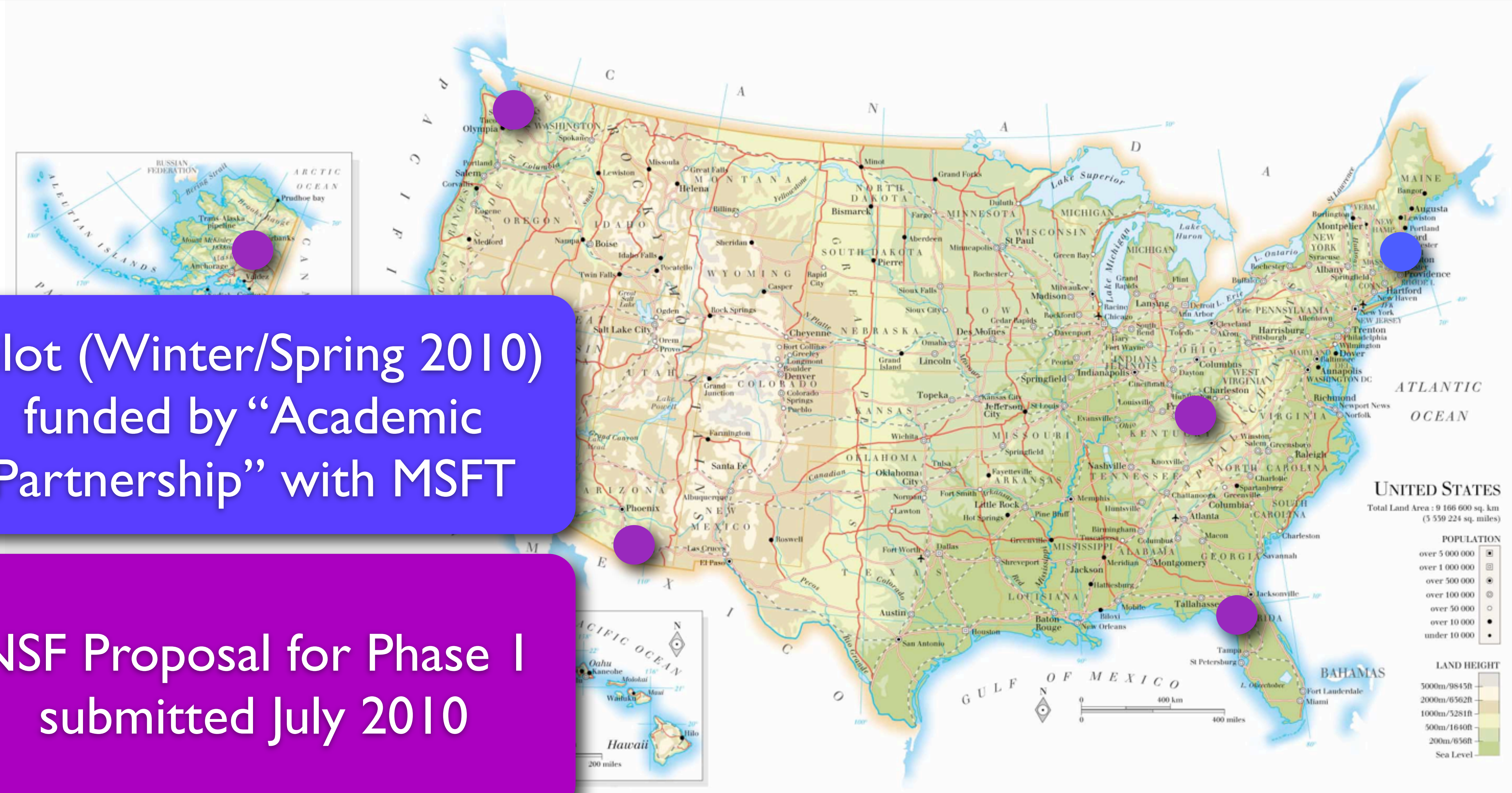
Effect Size: Gain (or Loss) in Units of Pre-Test Standard Deviation
(Error bars show ± 1 Standard Error of the Mean)

Where? ... and When?

Public spaces and schools in a variety of regions

Pilot ● *Boston Area*

Phase 1 candidates ● *Tucson, AZ; Seattle, WA; Appalachia; Gainesville, FL; Fairbanks, AK*



Pilot (Winter/Spring 2010) funded by "Academic Partnership" with MSFT

NSF Proposal for Phase 1 submitted July 2010

Phase II: US-wide; Phase III: International