Big Data & Open Data Workshop, 7-8 May 2014

Big Data in the astronomical community

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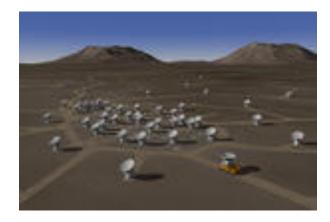














"Astronomical data"?

- Observations from ground- and space based telescopes (in general competitive calls for proposals)
- Sky surveys (homogeneous data set with up to billions of objects, measurements, images, spectra)
- Modelling results
- Data from publications
- Value-added data bases, which gather homogenized information in particular from publication
 - e.g. SIMBAD, names and papers where the object is cited:
 - 7 500 000 objects, 18 500 000 object names, 300 000 references, begun ~1970



- At the core of astronomy scientific needs
 - Multi-wavelengths, multi-technique astronomy
 - Comparison of theoretical models with observations
 - Time variability
 - Etc.
- An example at the "political" level and in practice
 - A new paradigm on how science is done: we have a practical experience
 - Knowledge of how to share data and how to establish interoperability at the international level



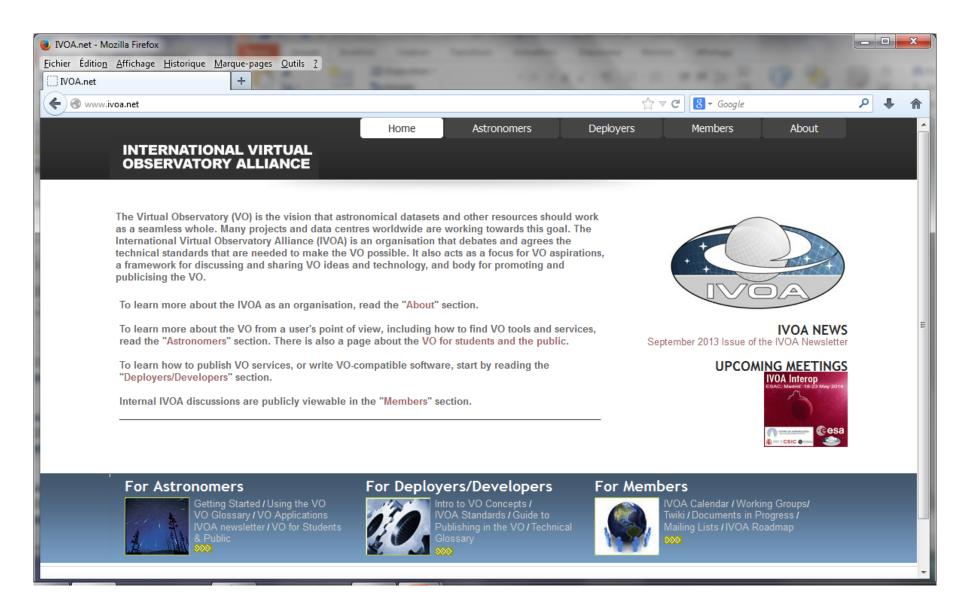
- Change of paradigm done: astronomers use remote distributed data in their everyday work
- Many more papers from data retrieved from archives than from original observations (IUE - 1995, HST, ...)
- Why and how?
 - A common data format since the 70s (FITS)
 - Strong tradition of international collaboration
 - Open data (in general after a proprietary period)
 - Driven by community needs (on-line observation archives, on-line services)



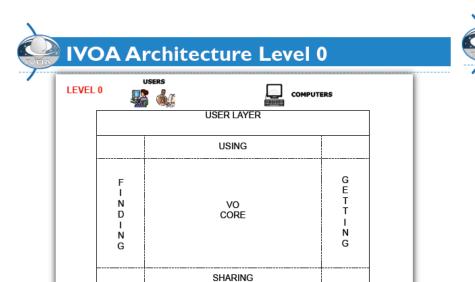
- Networking of on-line resources from 1993-4 (added-value services, journals, archives)
- Seamless access to on-line data (~2000)
 The astronomical Virtual Observatory
- The VO framework: standards and data access tools – discover, access, use data
- Standards defined by the International Virtual Observatory Alliance (IVOA)
 - Procedure inspired from W3C
 - When possible generic elements (OAI-PMH, SKOS/RDF)







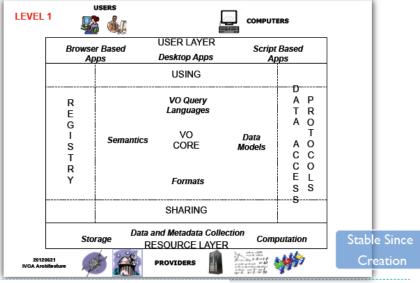




RESOURCE LAYER

PROVIDERS





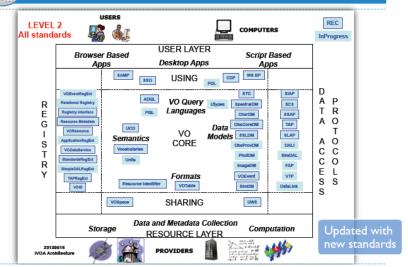
Séverin Gaudet - 7

State of TCG 2013-09-26

IVOA Architecture Level 2

Stable Since

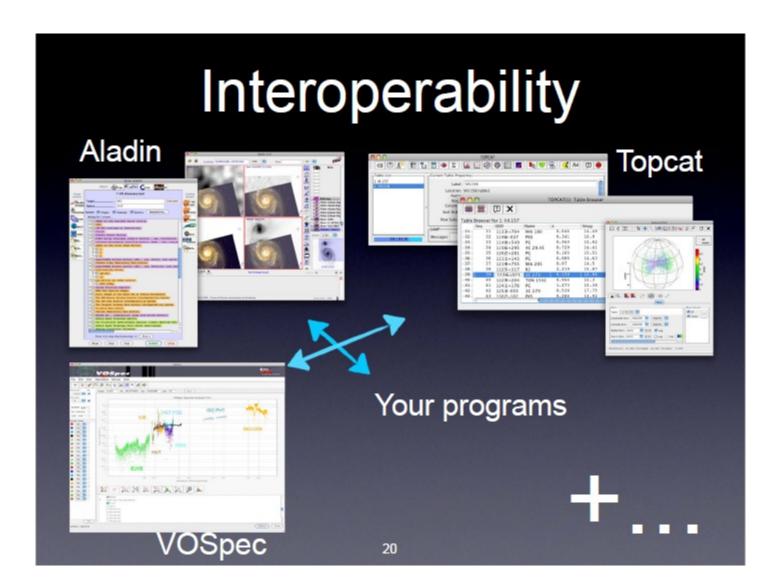
Creation





- No central point, a multi-polar world, a global endeavour
- "Open" and inclusive model
 - A thin interoperability layer on top of the data holdings
 - Anyone can register a data service or build a tool (more than 100 "authorities" with a registered service)
- The VO is invisible but used because people use the services and the tools!
- Key for success: seamless access to data AND interoperable tools

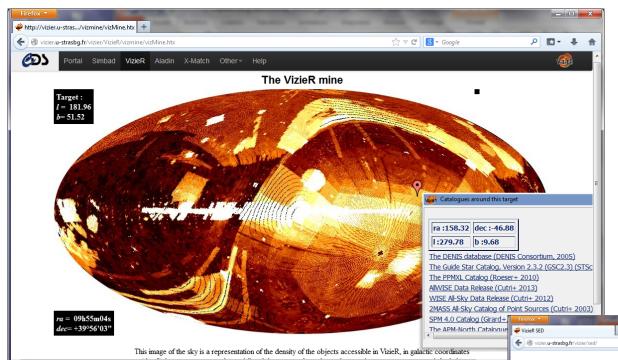






- Observatory archives + disciplinary data centres
- Also data from publications
 - Agreement between CDS and the journals (started in 1993)
 - tabular data from publications (also images, spectra, time series)
 - together with catalogues from sky surveys, space missions (up to 2 billion rows)
 - 12 000 "catalogues"
 - Metadata describing the content



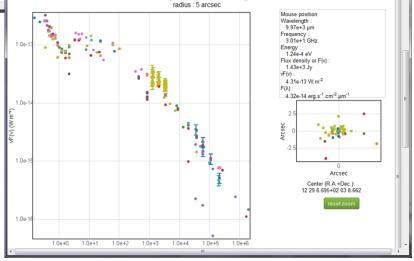


Data validated by a publication Fully discoverable and usable

☆ ▼ C 8 - Google

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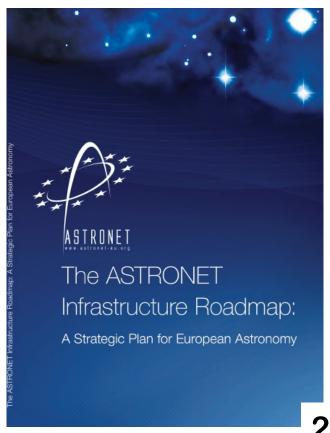
"Photometry viewer": Spectral points extracted from the collection

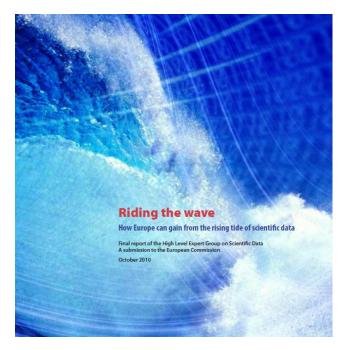


3C 273 (12 29 6.695+02 03 8.662).



Data is one of the infrastructures of the discipline





2010



