An Iterative Approach to Library Data Services in Astronomy

NEASIST | C. Erdmann | @libcce

History background

→ Learned how to program

→ Joined a dotcom

→ Data mining, data linking, faceting

→ Became data savvy

Being able to program has opened the door to

new possibilities for me in the library world.



http://i.livescience.com/images/i/000/027/364/i02/vlt-brunier-nuit-1600.jpg? 1337613157

European Southern Observatory (ESO)

- Multinational organization
- Headquarters in Munich
- Ground-based telescopes

Telescope Bibliography (telbib): workflow

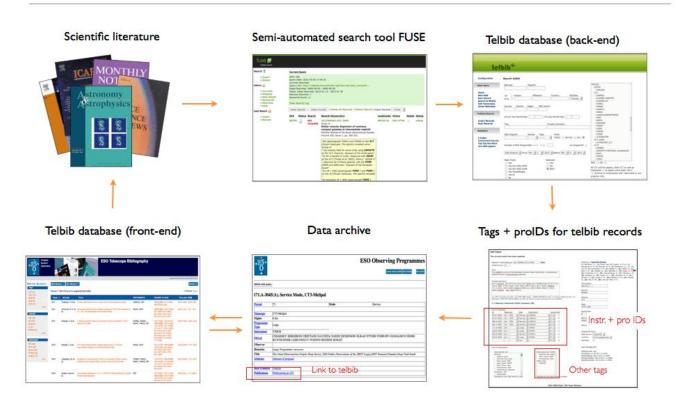
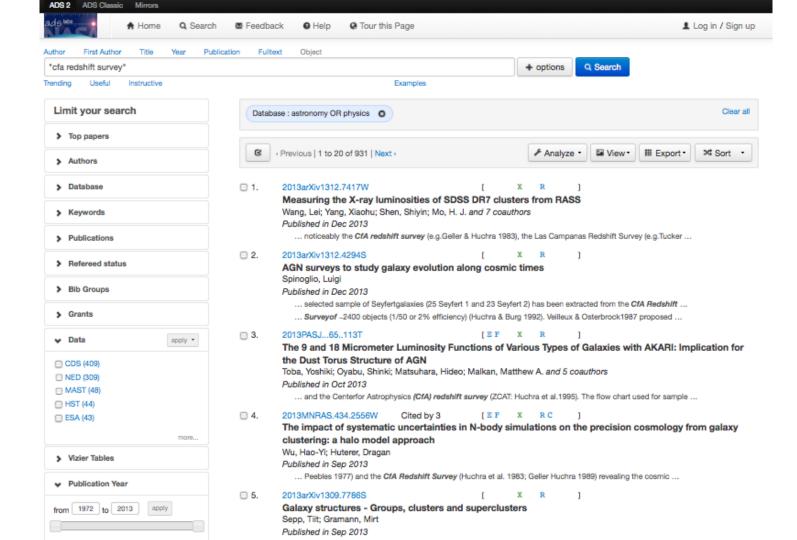


Image courtesy U. Grothkopf, ESO Library



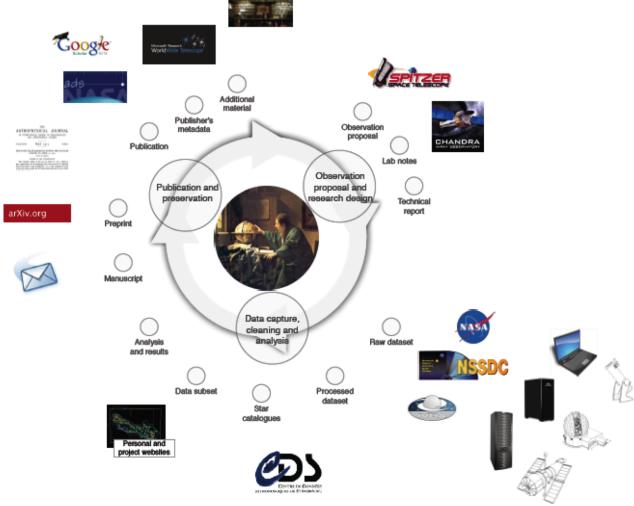


Image courtesy A. Pepe, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Center_for_Astrophysics_at_Harvard.jpg

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA)

- Collaboration between institutions
- Based in Cambridge, MA
- Multinational projects
- Global & space-based facilities

Administrative Services

Policies & Copyright Advice

DMPs & DMPTool

DM Training Programs

DM @ Harvard Site

Research Data Collaborative

DataCite

E-Science Institute

WH OSTP Response

Survey: Story of Your Data?

Publishing Research Material

- Zenodo
- Dataverse
- Figshare
- Datahub

Lessons Learned

Low Barrier

User Experience

Author Workflow Integration

Social & Sharing Aspect

Citation Ease

Permissions & Copyright

Paper <-> Data Linking

Selling the Service

Objective Advice

Visual Customization (APIs)

Metadata Customization

Traditional vs Data Savvy Approach

Repository-centric

Tracking Work

Curation Advice

Learning Curve

Versioning

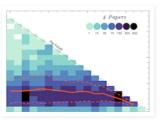
What If We Could Be More?

If We Assume

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The Pace of NSF Funded Research

Topics: academia, Astronomy, costs, statistics



Recently on Facebook I came across a note by Chris Erdmann that some handy folks at Harvard put together statistics on (nearly) every astronomy paper from 1995 to present that was funded through an NSF AST grant. This seemed like a really interesting dataset, especially for a young (read: financially uncertain) research such as myself.

So parsing through all 29,042 papers listed, here are two interesting things I've learned...

Could we be of more use to scientists?

Sympathize with their data needs and offer assistance?

Become data savvy?

Clear Need

"By 2018, the United States alone could face a **shortage** of 140,000 to 190,000 people with deep analytical skills as well as 1.5 million managers and analysts with the know-how to use the analysis of big data to make effective decisions."

"Online help-wanted ads for data analysis mavens have **shot up** 46% since April 2011, and 246% since April 2009, to over 31,000 openings now."

Data Scientist Training for Librarians (DST4L)

Major goals:

- Hands on experience w/ research data lifecycle
- Inform new forms of library (data) services
- Upgrade librarian knowledge & skills
- Create a community of continuous learning by doing
- Experience new style of working
- Change library mindset
- Explore other learning moments

Course Outline

Extract

Wrangle

Analyze

Visualize

Technologies

Command Line

Git (GitHub)

Excel

OpenRefine

Python

Software Carpentry

R (RStudio)

Tableau

SQL (SQLShare)

MongoDB

Data Repositories

D3

More about the Course

- 1 class/week 3-4 months
 - * 1 hands on session (projects)
- Lead organizer (context) w/ expert instructors
- Open notes, participants blog (experience)
- In-person, not virtual or recorded
- Some homework, final presentations

Response

Highlighted student comment:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U5ZYM085bNo&t=1m21s

...very helpful, preparing for long career, going to see it more and more, will keep using skills set, like doing it, fun problem solving...

It's Hard Work!



But worth it!

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	stellar physics O		
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- NASA ADS Visualization
- Unified Astronomy Thesaurus
- CfA Bibliography
- DOE Grants

How Do I Start?

Software Carpentry Workshop
Invite Local Experts
Tap Your Own Community

A Challenge

If you dislike change, you're going to dislike irrelevance even more.

-- Eric Shinseki

Questions?

