

# Digital Data in Astronomy

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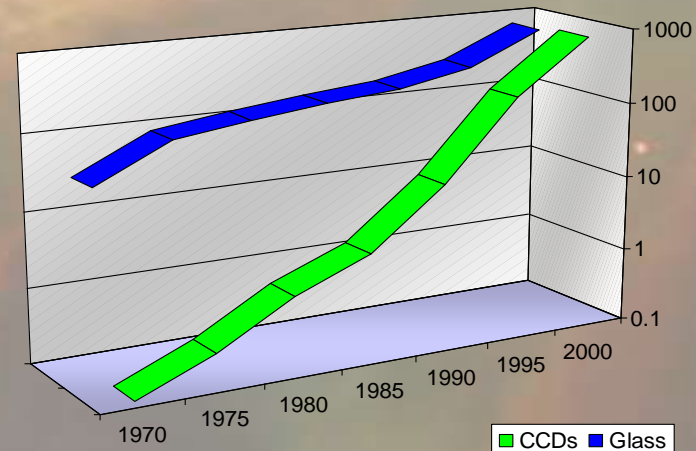
*Ethan Vishniac (McMaster)*

*Ray Plante (UIUC)*

# Data/Information in Astronomy

- Basic data
  - digital images, spectra, time series, catalogs, tables
- Simulations
  - models (results, computer codes, computational services)
  - virtual observations
- Analysis and interpretation
  - journals, e-preprints
  - reprocessed and enhanced data
- ~several PB worldwide, with 1-2 year doubling rate

*not discoverable  
through text-based  
search engines*



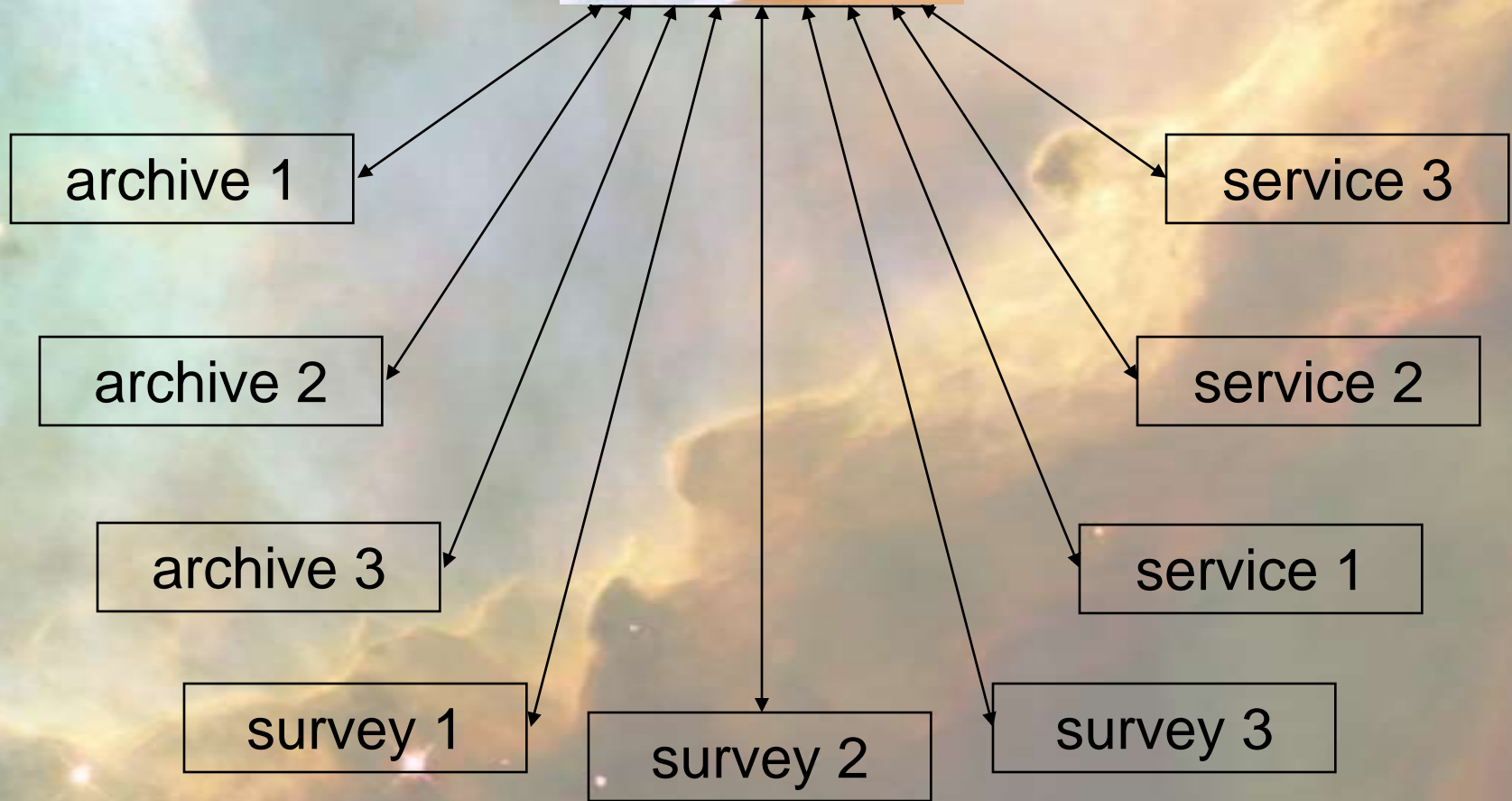
# Astronomical Data and the Virtual Observatory

- The VO provides standard protocols for obtaining data from *distributed collections*.
  - Metadata about collections, stored in *registries*, based on Dublin Core, shared/coordinated through OAI-PMH
  - Metadata about data objects (catalogs, images, spectra, theoretical models and simulations)
  - Metadata about applications, libraries, computational resources
- The VO is NOT a centralized repository.
- The Virtual Observatory enables research by greatly enhancing access to data and computing resources. The VO makes it easy to locate, retrieve, and analyze data from archives and catalogs worldwide.

# Without VO



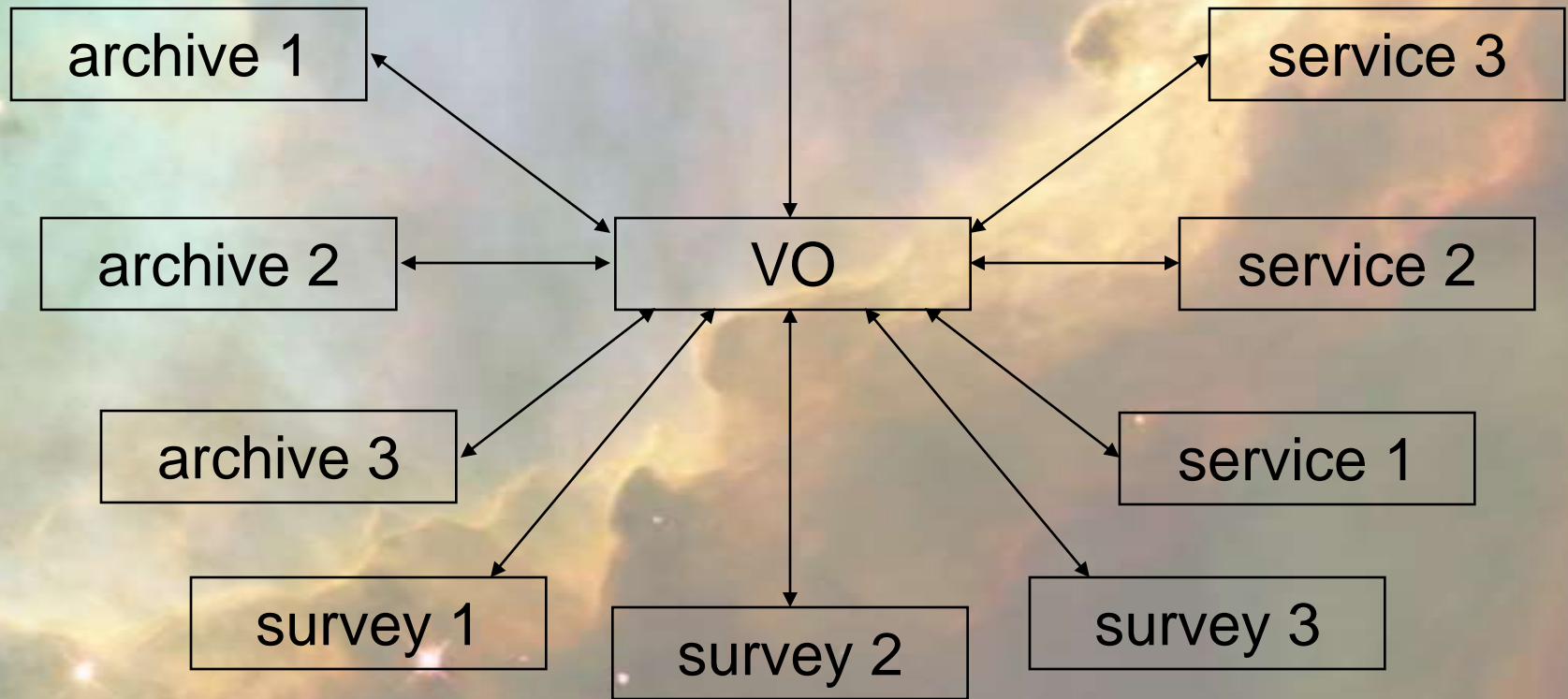
$n$  services,  
 $n$  interfaces



# With VO



$n$  services,  
“1” interface



# The Key to the VO: Interoperability

- Metadata standards
- Data discovery
- Data requests
- Data delivery
- Database queries
- Distributed applications; web services
- Distributed storage; replication
- Authentication and authorization

Data from NASA missions and most major observatories is archived and accessible, but we have a major gap...

# The Data Preservation Problem

- Research communities publish peer-reviewed journal papers that describe highly processed data.
- Text and graphics are now being preserved, but the digital data behind the graphics are “homeless”
- The research cannot be verified and the results cannot be easily compared to other data in order to broaden impact.
- Public funds invested in scientific research do not have maximum return on investment. Essential legacy datasets are being lost.

# Approach

- Integrate digital data management into the publication process (data capture, review, metadata tagging and validation, storage).
- Exploit emerging information technology standards for managing distributed data collections, including digital journals.
- Provide multiple access methods to digital data to maximize visibility and re-use.
- Build on information management and curation experience in the university libraries and their institutional commitments for long-term preservation.



# Astronomy Digital Image Library

## Depositing Images into the Library

Contributions to the Library are made in the form of *projects*, or collections centered around a scientific publication. A deposit contains:

- One or more **Images stored in the FITS format**.
- A **Submission Form** filled out via our Web HTML form.
- Optional number of **supplementary data files**.

Contributions can be made by following these steps:

- [Assemble FITS images and related information](#)
- [Fill out a Submission Description Form](#).
- [Send the files to the Library via Anonymous FTP](#).
- [Notify the Library of your deposit by email](#)

When we receive your email, we will load your deposit into the Library, making it available to all users. At that time, we will send back to you by email a project [codename](#) which will allow you to access your deposit without having to search the database.

Take a few minutes to look over the Project and Preview Pages to make sure your deposit was processed correctly. You can send your questions and comments to [adil@ncsa.uiuc.edu](mailto:adil@ncsa.uiuc.edu).

We greatly appreciate your participation in this project!

Click on highlighted words for [help](#) on that section of form.

50 matching  starting with #

**Position:** *Note: consider using the Survey Filter below with position searches*

**Right Ascension:**  **Declination:**   
(HH:mm:ss.SS[.], HH:mm:ss.SS]) (DD:mm:ss.SS[.], DD:mm:ss.SS])

**Epoch:**

**Frequency:**

Any Frequency  
 Search by **Waveband:**

Radio  Infrared  Optical  Ultraviolet  X-ray  Gamma

Search by **Frequency Range:**   
 Units:

**Rest Frequency:**  Units:

**Species:**  ([List of species in database](#))

**Object:**

**Object Name:**  (one per line)  
**Object Type:**  (one per line)  
**Survey Filter:** (select from menu)

[List of names](#)

[List of types](#)

Use [NED object name resolution](#)  
 Use [SIMBAD object name resolution](#)

**Image Origin and Related Science:**

**Authors:**  (one per line)  
**Title words:**  (any format)  
**Telescopes:**  (one per line)

[List of telescopes](#)

ADIL  
query

Click on highlighted words for [help](#) on that section of form.

Return  matching  starting with #

**Position:** *Note: consider using the Survey Filter below with position searches*

**Right Ascension:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Declination:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(HH:MM:SS.SS[ , HH:MM:SS.SS]) (DD:MM:SS.SS[ , DD:MM:SS.SS])  
**Epoch:**

**Frequency:**

Any Frequency  
 Search by **Waveband:**

Radio
  Infrared
  Optical
  Ultraviolet
  X-ray
  Gamma

Search by **Frequency Range:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Units:   
**Rest Frequency:** \_\_\_\_\_ Units:   
**Species:** \_\_\_\_\_ ([List of species in database](#))

**Object:**

**Object Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ (one per line)  
[List of names](#)

**Object Type:** \_\_\_\_\_ (one per line)  
[List of types](#)

**Survey Filter:** \_\_\_\_\_ (select from menu)

Use [NED object name resolution](#)  
 Use [SIMBAD object name resolution](#)

**Image Origin and Related Science:**

**Authors:** \_\_\_\_\_ (one per line)

**Title words:** \_\_\_\_\_ (any format)

**Telescopes:** \_\_\_\_\_ (one per line)  
[List of telescopes](#)

ADIL query

ADIL is great, but...

- Data capture and curation is separate from manuscript processing
- Data access is not integrated into the journals

# Storyboard

The Astrophysical Journal, 644:759-768, 2006 June 20  
© 2006. The American Astronomical Society. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

## Evolution of the Color-Magnitude Relation in High-Redshift Clusters: Early-Type Galaxies in the Lynx Supercluster at $z \sim 1.26$

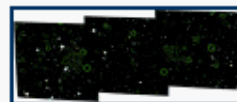
Simona Mei,<sup>1</sup> Brad P. Holden,<sup>2</sup> John P. Blakeslee,<sup>1,3</sup> Piero Rosati,<sup>4</sup> Marc Postman,<sup>1,5</sup>  
Myungkook J. Jee,<sup>1</sup> Alessandro Rettura,<sup>4,6</sup> Marco Sirianni,<sup>5</sup> Ricardo Demarco,<sup>1</sup> Holland C. Ford,<sup>1</sup>  
Marijn Franx,<sup>7</sup> Nicole Homeier,<sup>1</sup> and Garth D. Illingworth<sup>2</sup>

Received 2005 October 10; accepted 2006 February 24

### ABSTRACT

Color-magnitude relations (CMRs) have been derived in two high-redshift clusters, RX J0849+4452 and RX J0848+4453 (with redshifts of  $z = 1.26$  and  $1.27$ , respectively), that lie in the highest redshift cluster superstructure known today, the Lynx Supercluster. The CMR was determined from ACS imaging in the WFC F775W ( $\lambda_{775}$ ) and F850LP ( $\lambda_{850}$ ) filters combined with ground-based spectroscopy. Early-type cluster candidates have been identified according to the Postman et al.

Stanford et al. (2001). Recently, deep, panoramic multicolor ( $I_{844}$  and  $I_{775}$  bands) imaging around these two central clusters identified seven galaxy groups (Nakata et al. 2005) with photometric redshift  $z_{\text{phot}} \sim 1.26$ . This makes the Lynx region a unique laboratory, being the only supercluster observed at such a high redshift today, and for this reason, one of the best regions at  $z > 1$  in which we can study properties of evolving galaxies within a structure that is still assembling, and in different environments.



(51 kB)

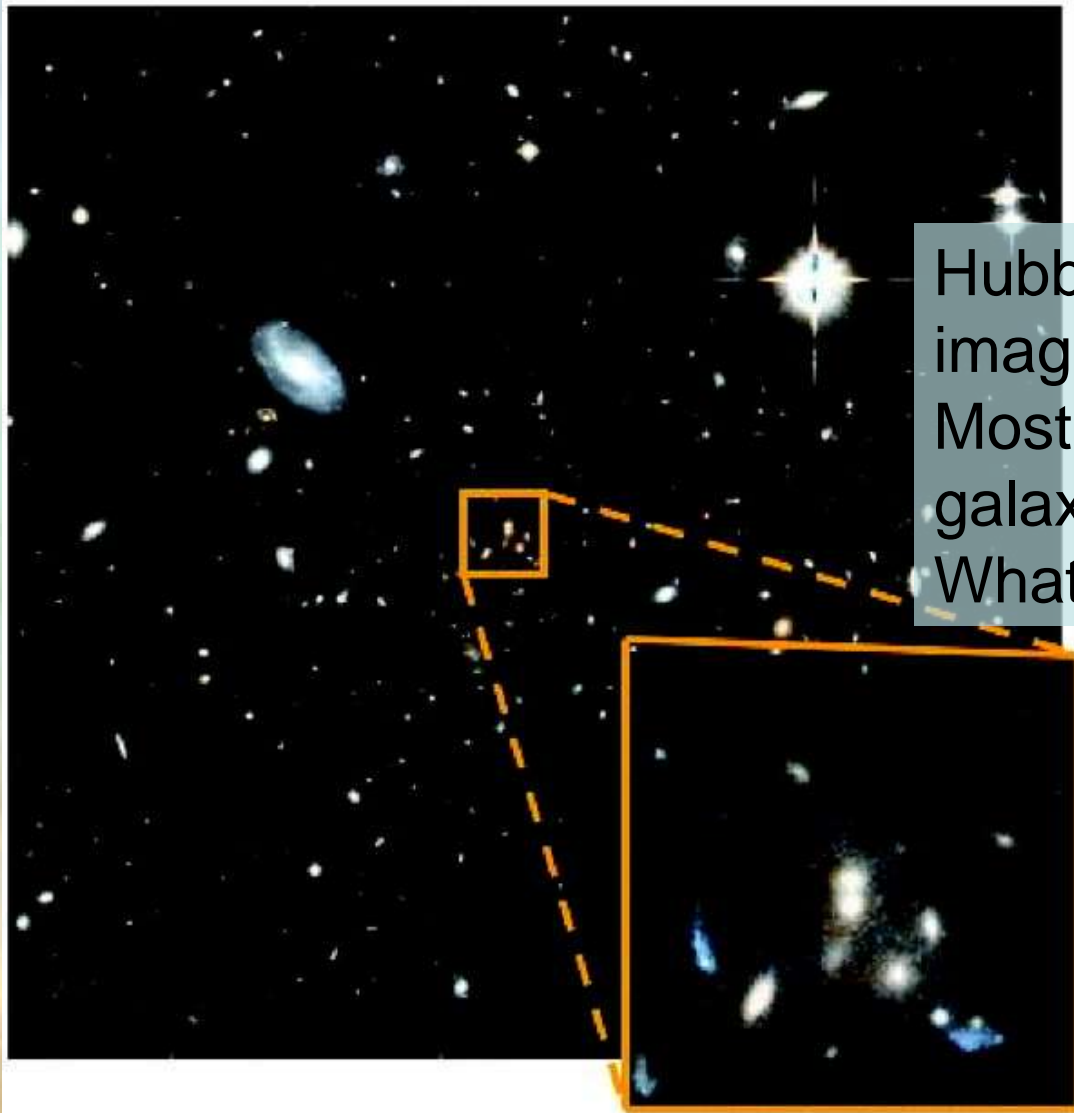
**Fig. 1** *Chandra* X-ray contours overlaid on the ACS color composite image for Lynx E [on the left] and Lynx W [on the right]. The contours are adaptively smoothed with a minimum significance of  $3\sigma$ . We refined the alignment of the *Chandra* image with respect to the ACS using the X-ray point sources.



(49 kB)

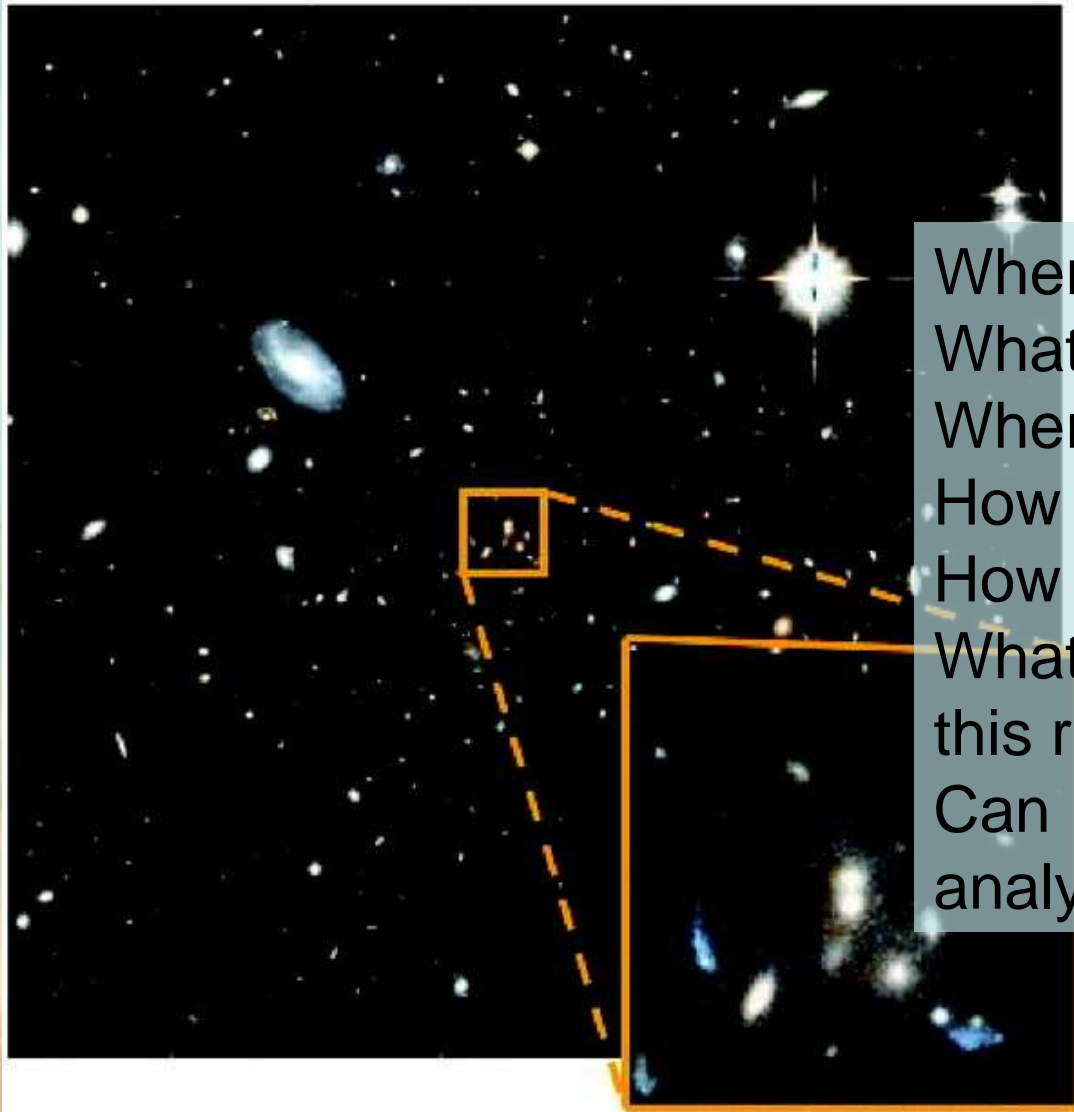
**Fig. 2** Lynx E ACS image (scale is  $1' \times 1'$ ). The central ongoing merger is magnified to also show a gravitational arc and its likely counterimage.

# Storyboard



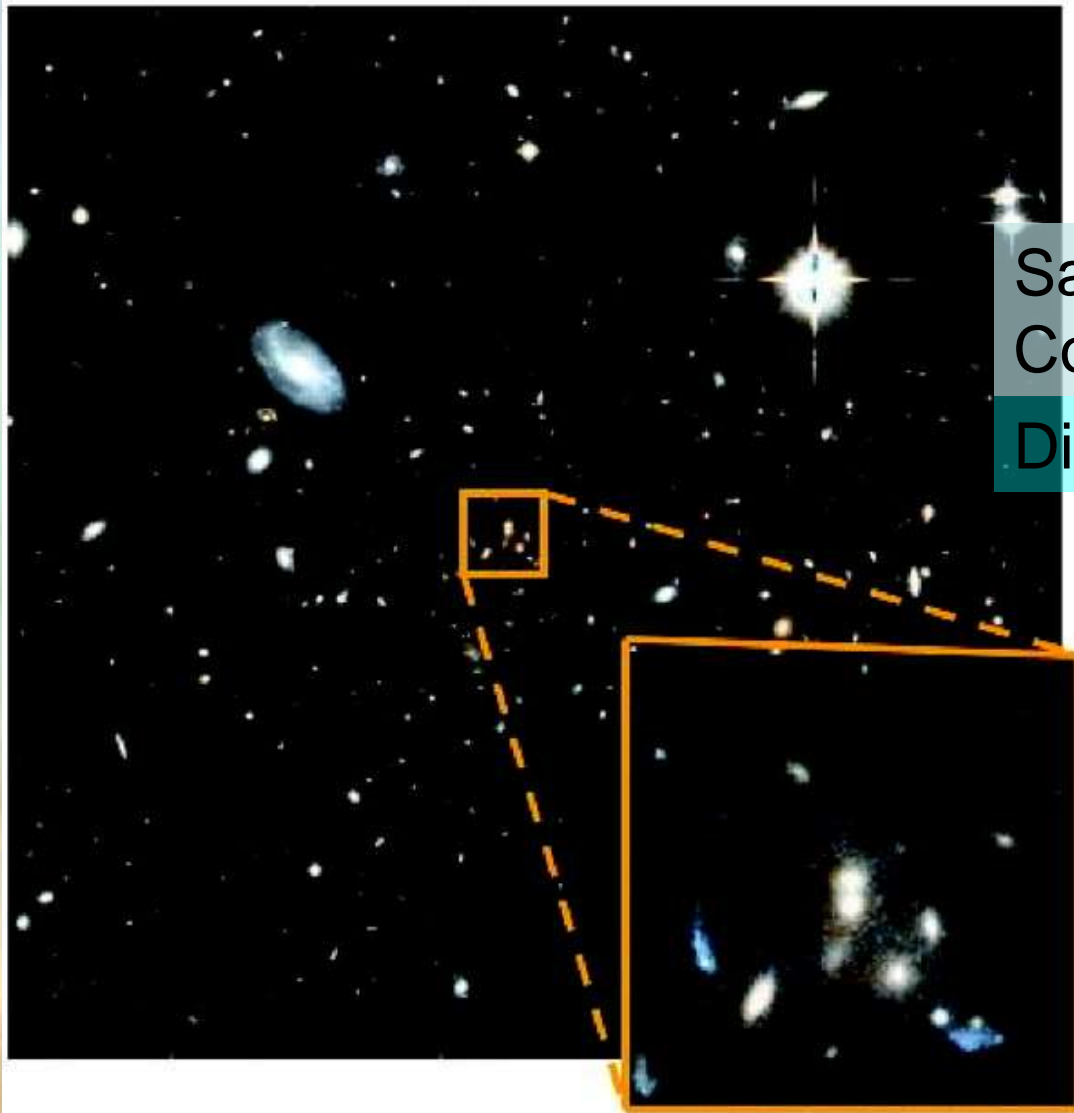
Hubble Space Telescope image.  
Most distant cluster of galaxies known.  
What more can I find out?

# Storyboard



Where is this?  
What is the image scale?  
Where is north?  
How bright is the star?  
How bright is the galaxy?  
What else is known about this region?  
Can I trust the data analysis in this paper?

# Storyboard



Save file  
Copy to my VOSpace  
Display and compare

Others:



### VO discovery tool ?

Target

Radius

Servers  Images  Catalogs  Spectra

- SDSS
- Simbad
- Aladin
- Chandra X-Ray Observatory Data Archive
- SIAP service for the INT wide-field survey
- SIAP service for the INT wide-field survey
- Digitized Sky Survey: Version 1
- ROSAT PSPC Pointed Observations Mosaic
- XMM-Newton Archive Interoperability System
- 2MASS All-Sky Quicklook Image Service
- The IRAS Sky Survey Atlas
- NRAO VLA Sky Survey at 1.4 GHz
- Faint Images of the Radio Sky at Twenty-centimeters
- The NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database Image Data Atlas
- MITVLA Gravitational Lens Snapshot Survey
- VizieR
- NOMAD Catalogue
- SkyView Virtual Observatory
- CADC/JCMT SIA service
- CADC/HSTCA SIA service
- CADC/CFHT SIA service
- Advanced Camera for Surveys
- Near Infrared Camera and Multi Object Spectrograph
- Wide Field Planetary Camera 2
- Two Micron All Sky Survey (H-Band)
- CADC/HST SIA service
- NED
- 4850 MHz Survey/GB6
- Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph
- Hubble Space Telescope
- FIRST
- SIAP Service Hubble Space Telescope preview images
- NVSS
- IRAS Sky Survey Atlas: 100 micron
- ROSAT All-Sky X-ray Survey 1.5 keV
- Westerbourg Northern Sky Survey
- Sloan Digitized Sky Survey(DR2)
- MAST

Press it to stop the discovery processing =>

### Catalogs

- All VizieR
- Surveys
- Missions
- SIMBAD
- NED
- SkyBot
- Others..

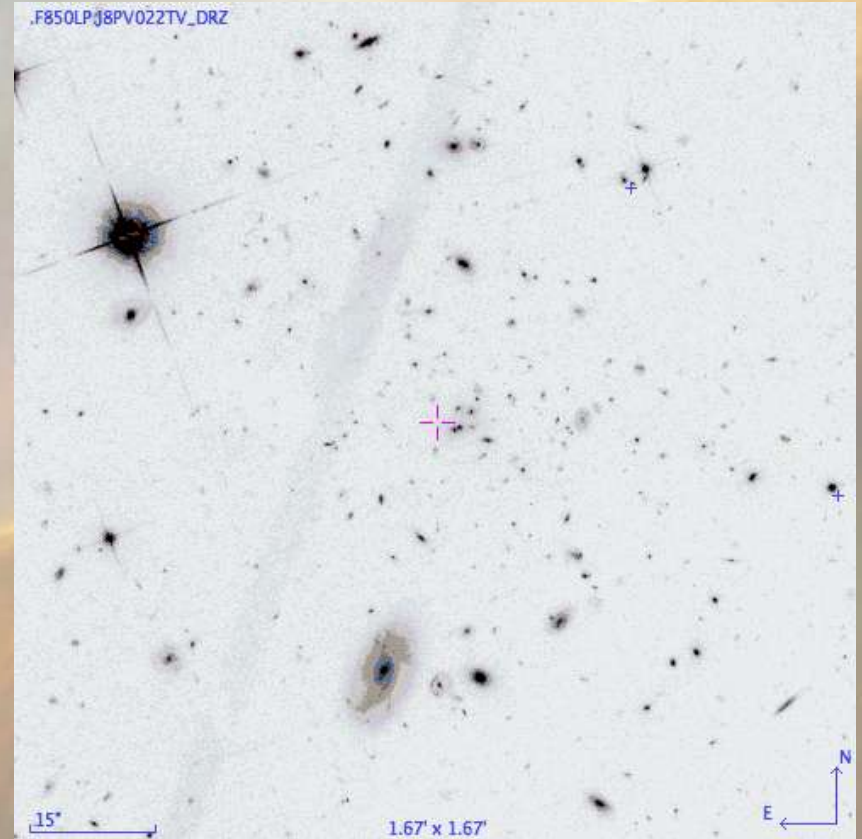
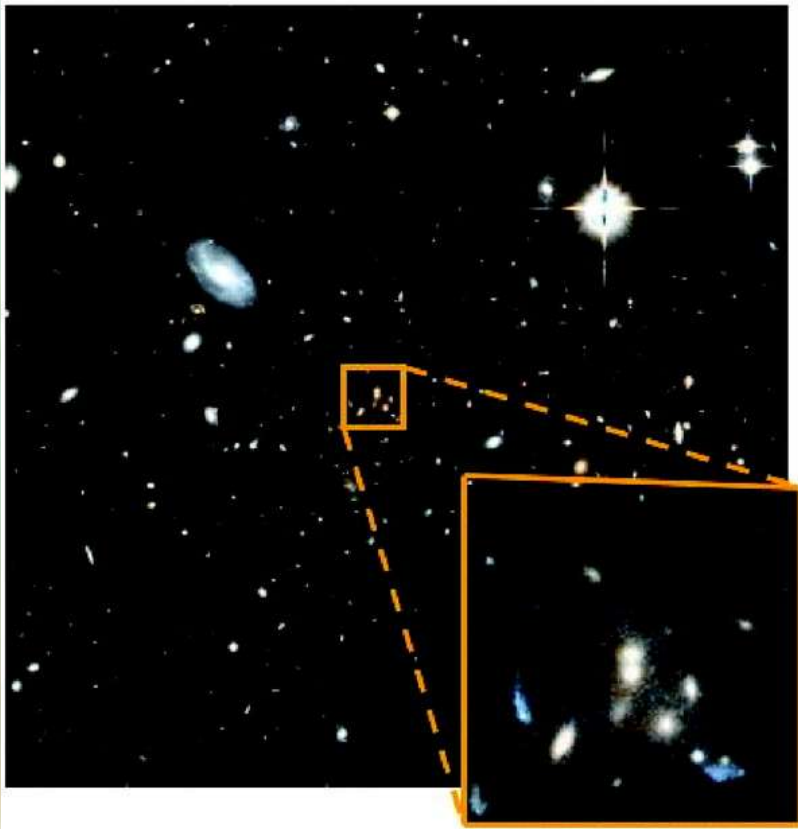


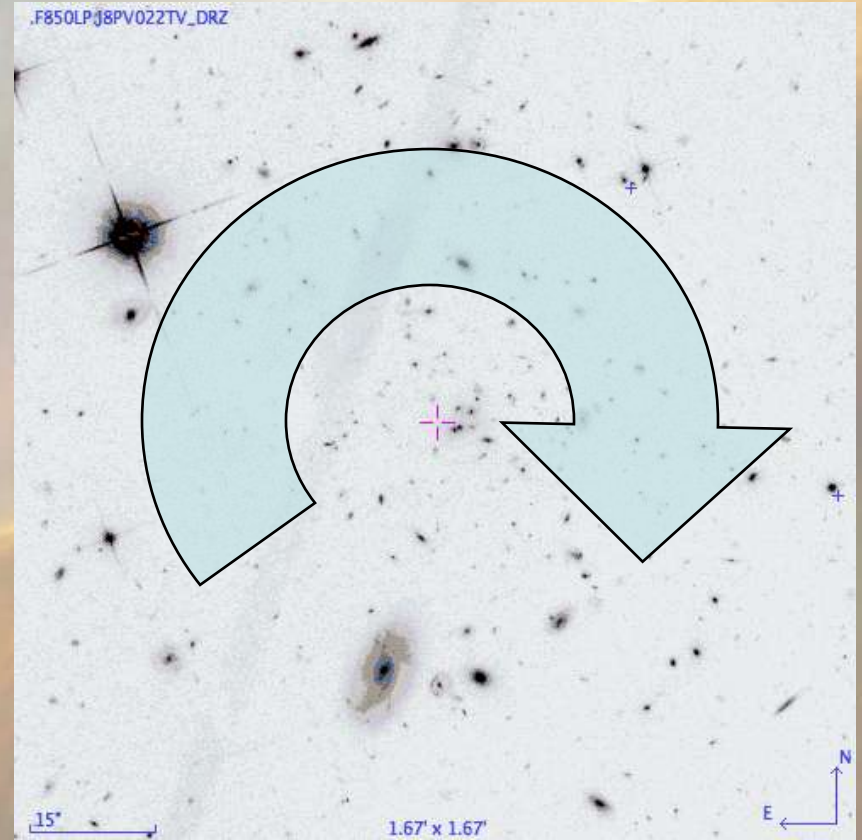
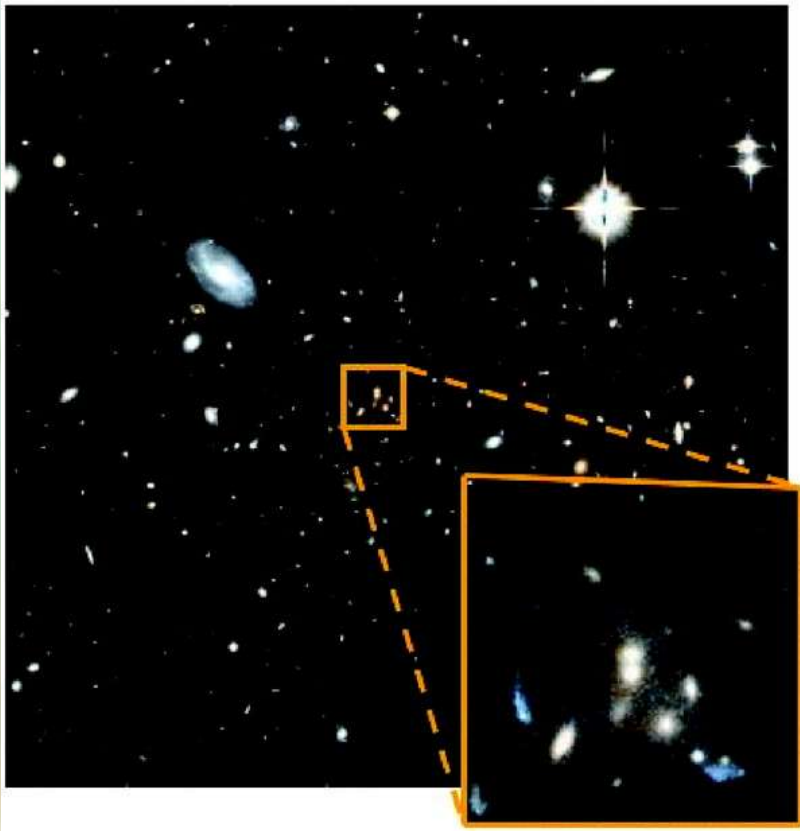


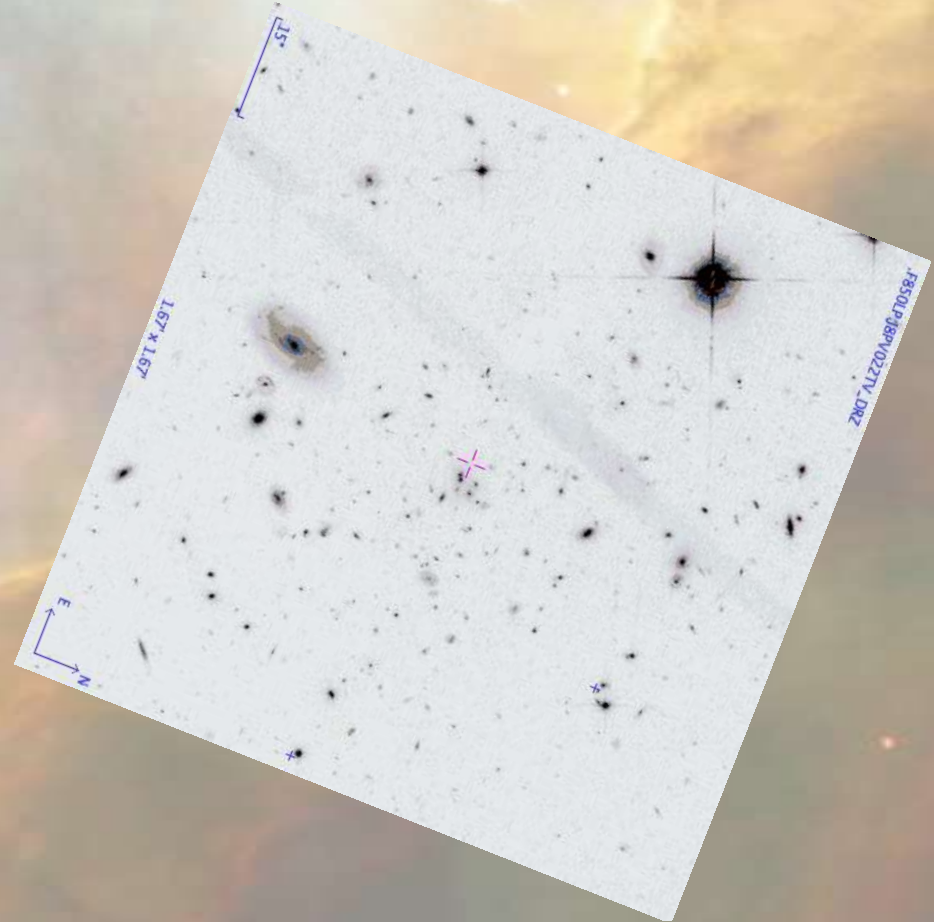
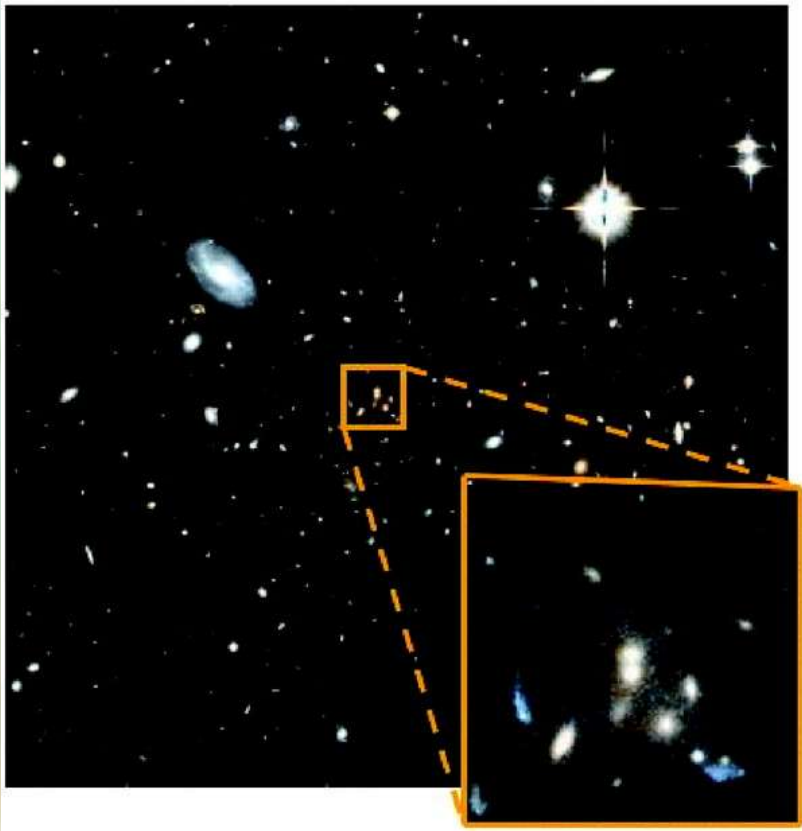


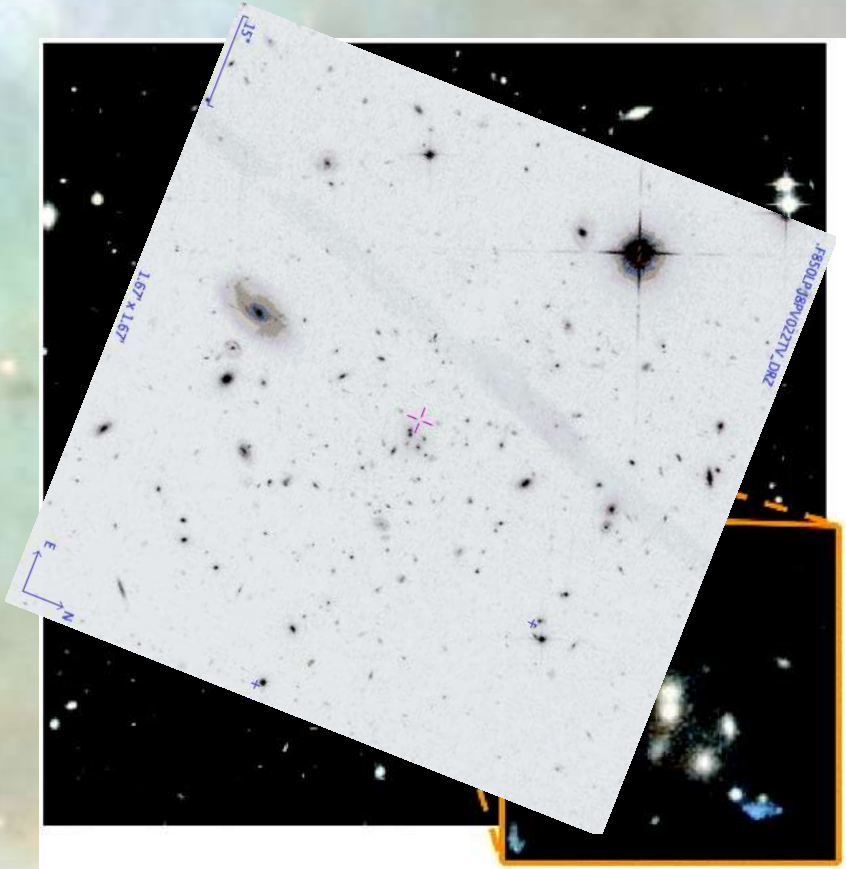
Journal...

Archive...









Is there any X-ray emission from this cluster of galaxies?

Aladin v3.6 multiview

Load... Save... Tools... Print... Help... Quit

Position J2000 Pixel 8 bits :015 G:015 B:000

RGB img

select  
dist  
draw  
tag  
text  
filter  
rgb  
blink  
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cont  
zoom  
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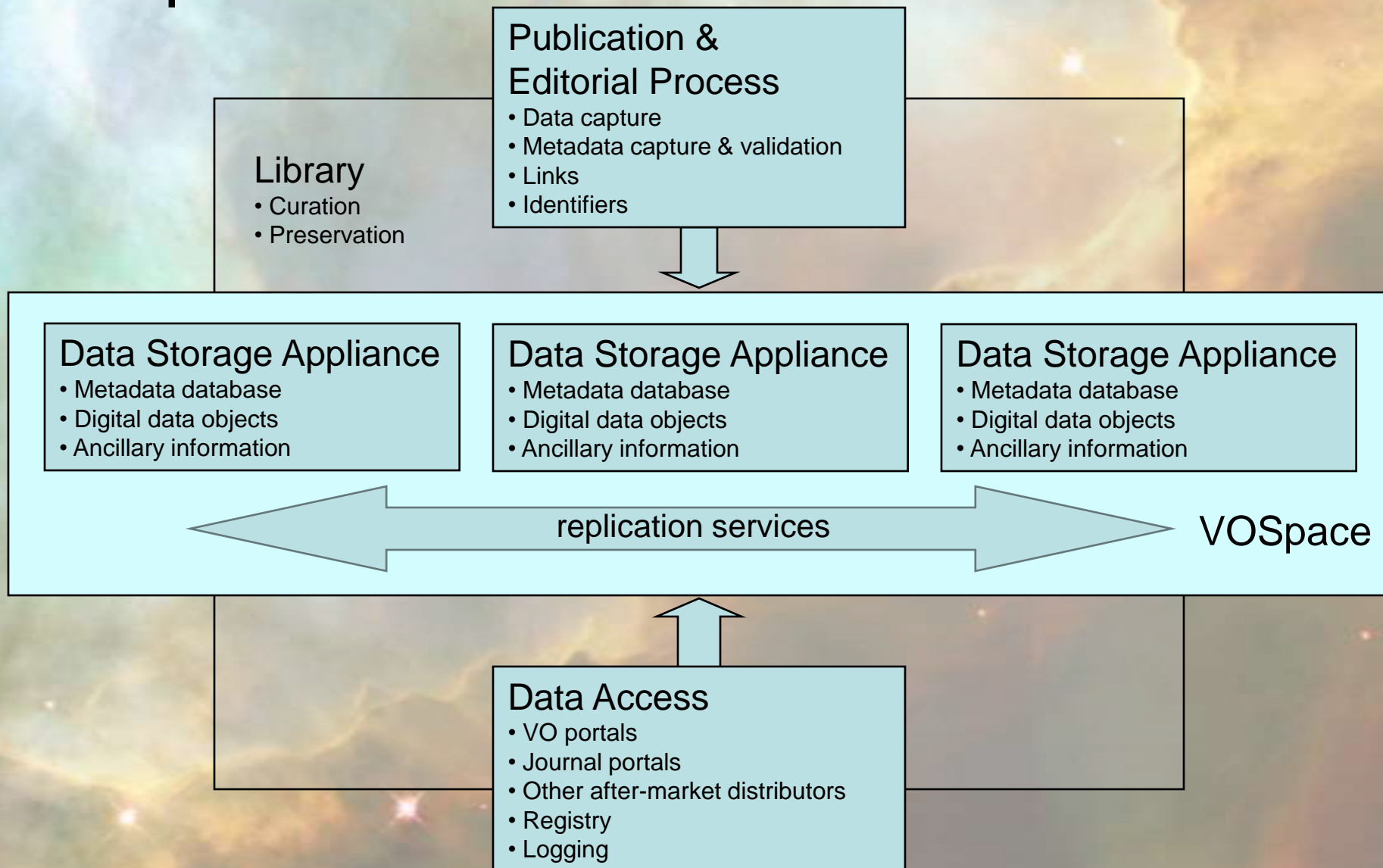
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.F606W.U6F  
.CL 0848.6+  
.F850LP.J8P  
.Sloan Digit

multiview - RGB img

Zoom 1/4x

12 planes, 8 views, 694Mb

# Components



# A prototype project

- Implement end-to-end prototype using astronomy scholarly publications as a test-bed.
- Understand operational costs and develop long-term business plan for preservation of peer-reviewed journal content and associated supporting data.
- Develop associated policies affecting data accessibility (e.g., move toward requiring digital data availability as requirement for publication).
- Utilize commodity open-source technologies and partner with Virtual Observatory to maximize return on investment, flexibility, adaptability.
- Long-term: evaluate impact on citations and productivity resulting from having ready access to digital data.



# A prototype project

- Tasks (partners)
  - Metadata definition (VO, library)
  - Content management tool evaluation/selection (Fedora) (VO, library)
  - Physical storage and replication (VO, library, publisher)
  - Publication process revisions and testing (publisher, editorial staff)
  - Policy development (editorial staff, professional society)
  - Business model development (publisher, professional society)

# A prototype project

- Initial work underway
  - IMLS grant
  - Microsoft grant
  - NVO collaboration
- Hoping to do future work in context of NSF Datnet program
  - Pending support for Data Conservancy project led by S. Choudhury (JHU)

# Impact of digital data preservation

- Data re-use
- Increasing the discovery space
- Optimization of public investment in science
- Creation of a research legacy
- Integrity in scientific publication



# Good metadata

Title?	Galaxy Evolution Explorer		
Harvested From			
Shortname?	GALEX	Identifier?	ivo://archive.stsci.edu/siap/galex
ContactName?	Alberto Conti	ContactEmail?	archive@stsci.edu
Creator?	Chris Martin	Publisher?	Space Telescope Science Institute
Contributor?	California Institute of Technology	Subject?	Cosmology, Galaxies, Star Formation
ResourceType	SIAP		
Description?	The Galaxy Evolution Explorer (GALEX), a NASA Small Explorer mission, is performing the first all-sky, deep imaging and spectroscopic ultraviolet surveys in space. The prime goal of GALEX is to study star formation in galaxies and its evolution with time.		
Related Resources			
Type?	Archive	Instrument?	Far and Near Ultraviolet microchannel plates, grism spectrograph
Date?	11/22/2005 12:22:51 PM	Version?	V1.0
ReferenceURL?	<a href="http://galex.stsci.edu">http://galex.stsci.edu</a>	ServiceURL?	<a href="http://galex.stsci.edu/gxWS/SIAP/gxSIAP.aspx?">http://galex.stsci.edu/gxWS/SIAP/gxSIAP.aspx?</a>
CoverageSpatial?	circle (FK5, 0.0, 0.0, 180.0)	CoverageTemporal?	2003-04 to present
RegionOfRegard?	0	CoverageSpectral?	Ultraviolet
ContentLevel?	Research	Facility?	GALEX
ModificationDate	3/11/2006 6:43:25 PM	ValidationLevel	2
Interfaces			
Footprint	circle J2000 0.0 0.0 180.0		


## Simple Image Access

Format					
VOTableColumns					
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MaxRecords	0	MaxImageExtentLat	0	MaxImageExtentLong	0
MaxFileSize	0	MaxImageSizeLat	0	MaxImageSizeLong	0

# Pretty good metadata

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Shortname?	Markarian	Identifier?	ivo://nasa.heasarc/markarian										
ContactName?	Michael Preciado	ContactEmail?	preciado@milkyway.gsfc.n										
Creator?	Markarian, Lipovetskii, Stepanian	Publisher?	NASA/GSFC HEASARC										
Contributor?	NOT PROVIDED	Subject?	Galaxy										
ResourceType	CONE												
Description?	<p>This catalog contains machine-readable version of the lists "Galaxies with Ultraviolet Continuum" (MKU; Markarian 1967, 1969, 1969, Markarian and Lipovetskii 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1976a, 1976b, Markarian et al., 1977a, 1977b, 1979a, 1979b, 1979c, 1982).</p>												
Related Resources	<a href="#">service-for NASA/GSFC Exploration of the Universe Division ivo://nasa.heasarc/eud</a>												
Type?	Catalog	Instrument?	NOT PROVIDED										
Date?	5/25/2007 12:00:00 AM	Version?	NOT PROVIDED										
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CoverageSpatial?	All-sky<regionOfRegard xmlns="http://www.ivoa.net/xml/VODataSer	CoverageTemporal?	<startTime xmlns="http://www.ivoa.net/xml/VODataSer										
RegionOfRegard?	0.25	CoverageSpectral?	Optical										
ContentLevel?	Research	Facility?	NOT PROVIDED										
ModificationDate	5/25/2007 3:00:20 AM	ValidationLevel	2										
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Footprint													
ConeSearch													
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# Poor metadata

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Creator?	Guy Rixon	Publisher?	Cambridge Astronomical Survey Unit										
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RegionOfRegard?	0	CoverageSpectral?											
ContentLevel?		Facility?	NOT PROVIDED										
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Number	Type	QType	ResultType	AccessURL									
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Footprint													
<b>Simple Image Access</b>													
Format													
VOTableColumns													
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		MaxImageExtentLong	0										
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# Poor metadata

Title?	SIAP service for the INT wide-field survey												
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ContactName?	Guy Rixon	ContactEmail?	gtr@ast.cam.ac.uk										
Creator?	Guy Rixon	Publisher?	Cambridge Astronomical Survey Unit										
Contributor?	NOT PROVIDED	Subject?	SIAP										
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Related Resources													
Type?	Archive												
Date?	4/8/2005												
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RegionOfRegard?	0												
ContentLevel?	NOT PROVIDED												
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MaxRecords	5000	MaxImageExtentLat	0										
		MaxImageExtentLong	0										
MaxFileSize	0	MaxImageSizeLat	0										
		MaxImageSizeLong	0										

Currently have more than 10,000 resources like this needing metadata curation and service validation



# Metadata granularity

- Desire to capture “fine-grained” metadata
  - Rich data discovery
  - Automated workflow
  - Automated serialization, class construction
- But, is this feasible?
  - Astronomical databases can contain dozens of tables and thousands of attributes
  - They *should* be documented, but often are not
  - Dynamic access vs. cache

# Implications, challenges

- Fielded metadata is important for data discovery and access in disciplines whose content is not text-based
- Curation effort is substantial, requires domain expertise, and is ongoing
- Level of detail required is not yet clear
- Are ontologies necessary?
- New role: *data scientist*
  - IS + domain expertise
  - Supports data center and library