

# glueing together the Universe

multidimensional data exploration

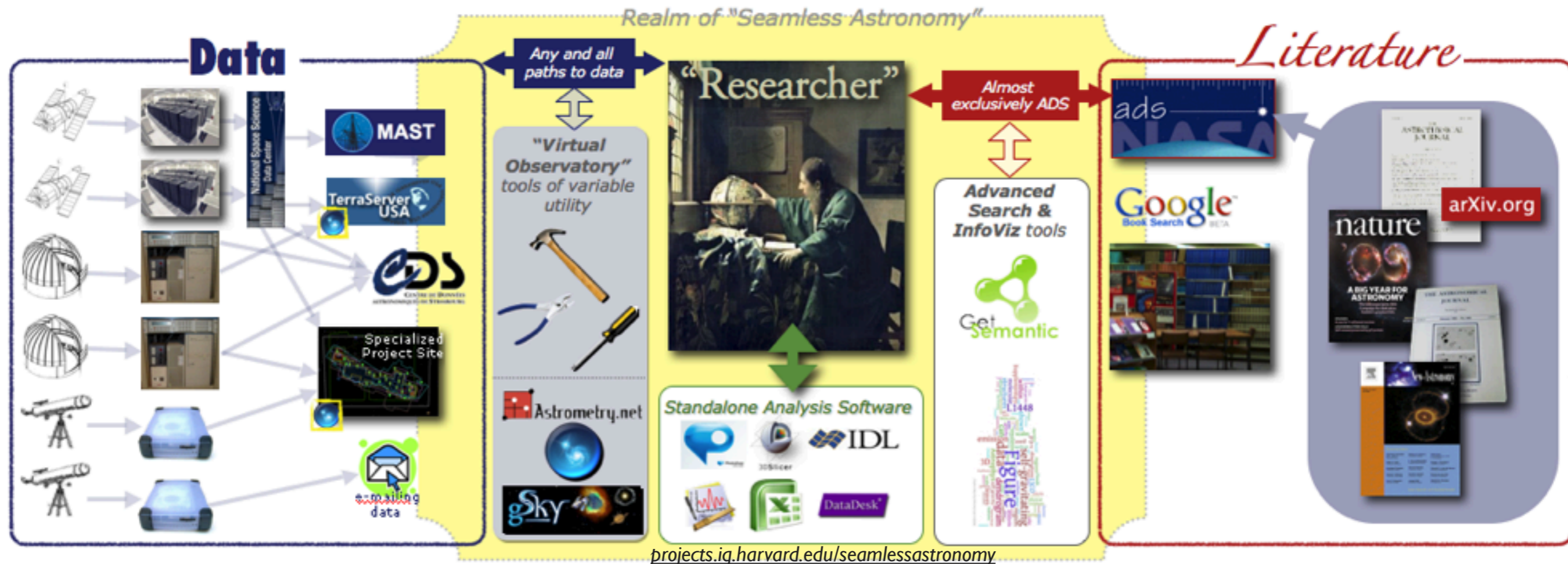
and the Earth





# SEAMLESS ASTRONOMY

Linking scientific data, publications, and communities



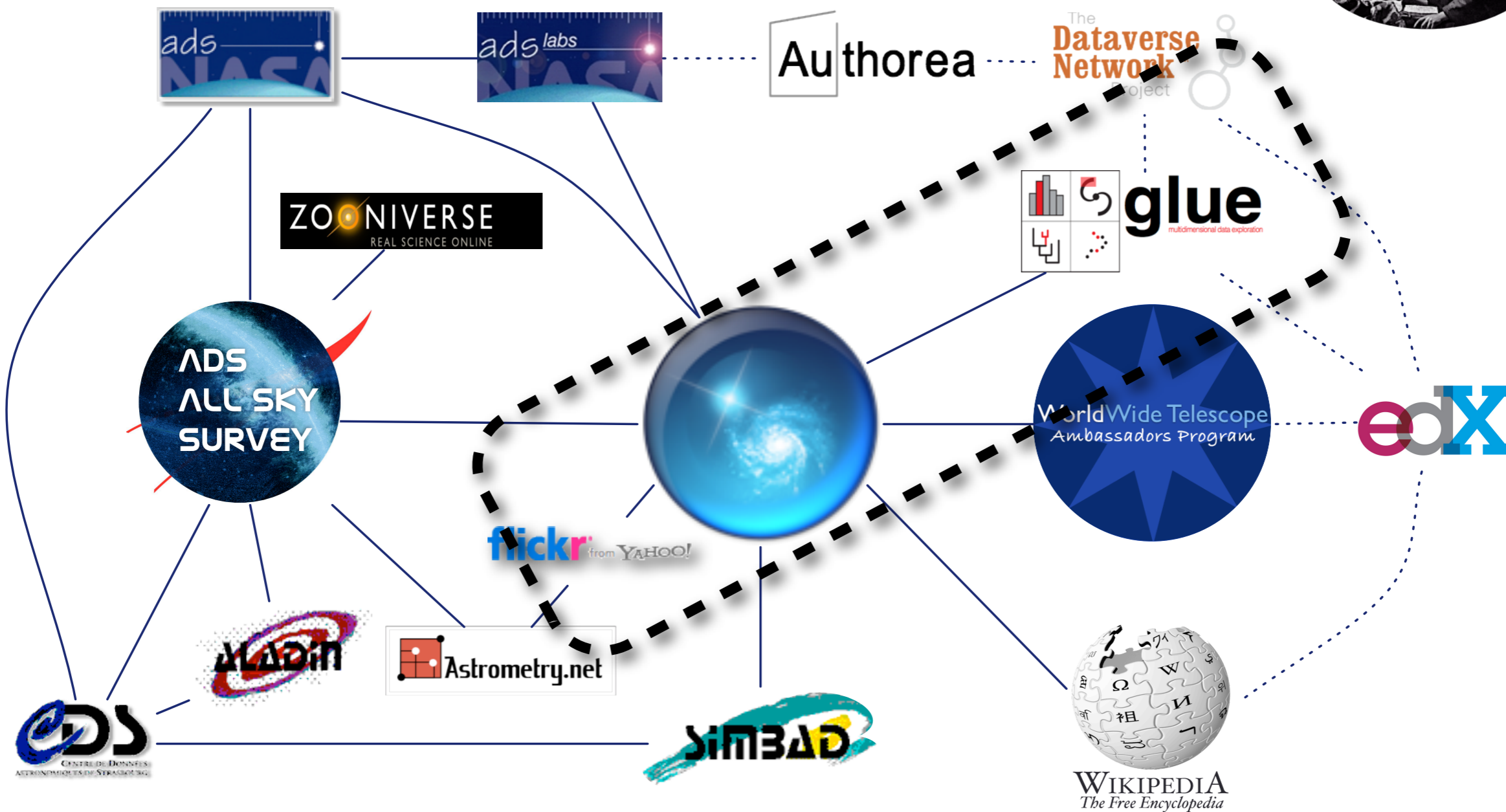
Alberto Accomazzi, Christopher Beaumont, Douglas Burke, Raffaele D'Abrusco, Rahul Davé, Christopher Erdmann, Pepi Fabbiano, Alyssa Goodman, Edwin Henneken, Jay Luker, Gus Muench, Michael Kurtz, Max Lu, Victoria Mittelbach, Alberto Pepe, Arnold Rots, Patricia Udomprasert (Harvard-Smithsonian CfA); Mercé Crosas (Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science); Christine Borgman (UCLA); Jonathan Fay & Curtis Wong (Microsoft Research); Alberto Conti (Space Telescope Science Institute)





# SEAMLESS ASTRONOMY

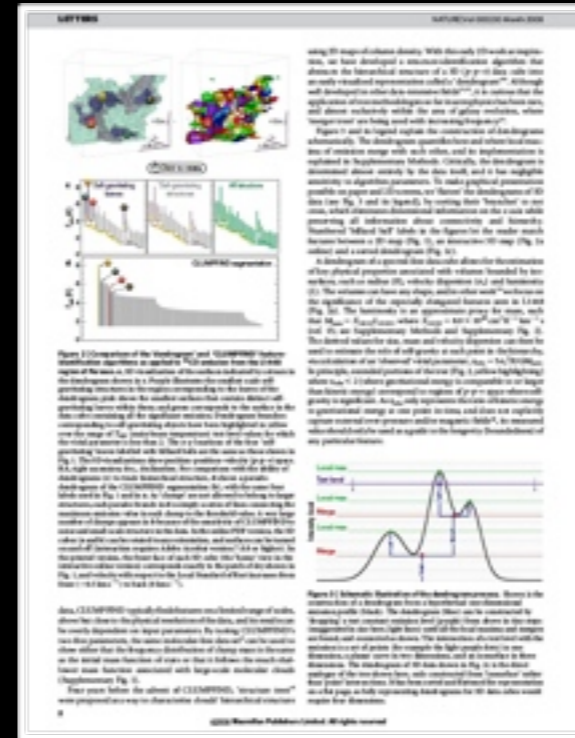
Linking scientific data, publications, and communities



<https://www.cfa.harvard.edu/~agoodman/seamless/>



# Evolution since the Revolution



1665

..230 yr..

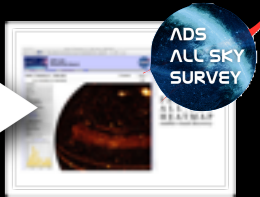
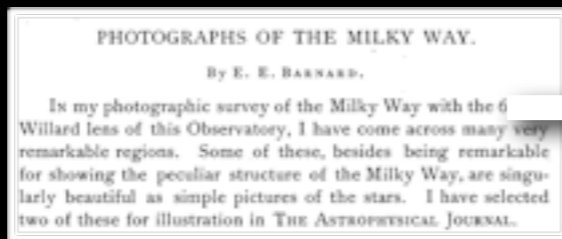
1895

...114 yr..

2009

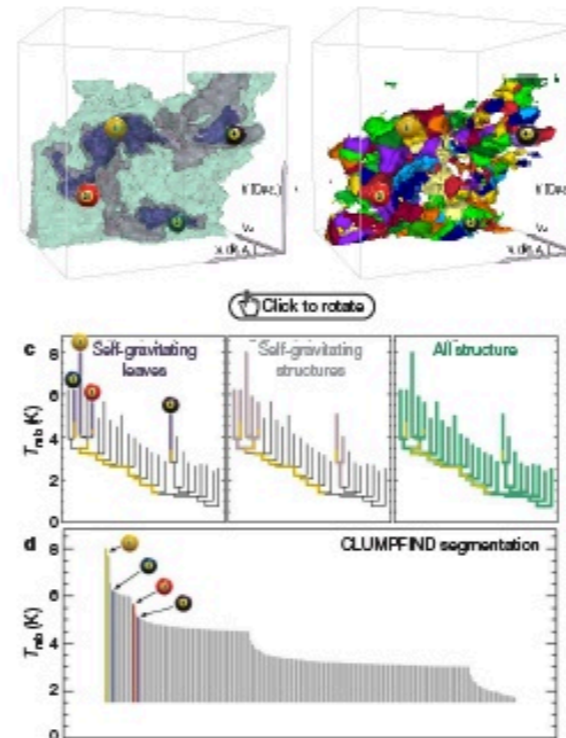
...4 yr..

2013





# 3D PDF



**Figure 2** | Comparison of the 'dendrogram' and 'CLUMPFIND' feature-identification algorithms as applied to  $^{13}\text{CO}$  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  $T_{\text{mb}}$  (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 ( $-0.5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ) to back ( $8 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ).

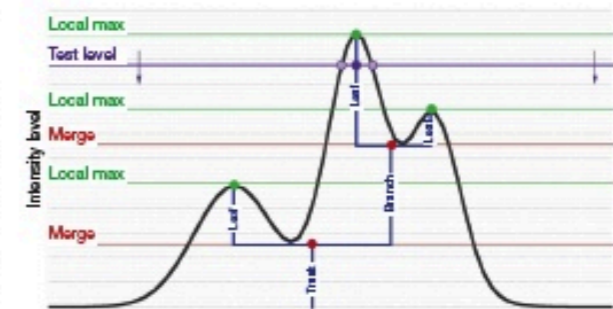
data, CLUMPFIND typically finds features on a limited range of scales, above but close to the physical resolution of the data, and its results can be overly dependent on input parameters. By tuning CLUMPFIND's two free parameters, the same molecular-line data set<sup>8</sup> can be used to show either 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'<sup>9</sup> 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'<sup>10</sup>. Although well developed in other data-intensive fields<sup>11,12</sup>, 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<sup>13</sup>.

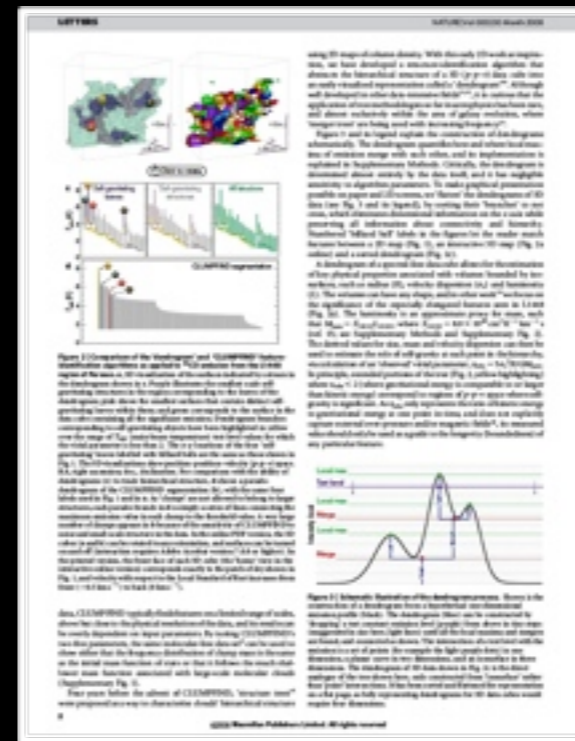
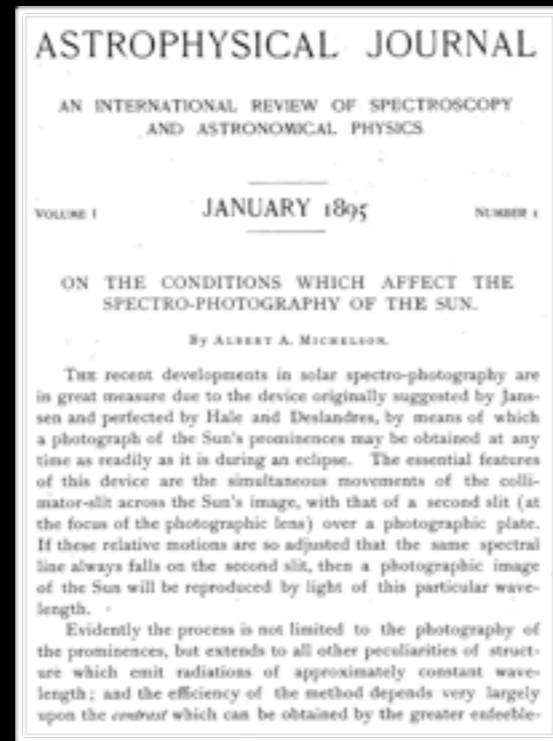
Figure 3 and its legend explain the construction of dendrograms schematically. The dendrogram quantifies how and where local maxima of emission merge with each other, and its implementation is explained in Supplementary Methods. Critically, the dendrogram is determined almost entirely by the data itself, 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 ( $\sigma_v$ ) and luminosity ( $L$ ). The volumes can have any shape, and in other work<sup>14</sup> 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  $M_{\text{lum}} = X_{13\text{CO}} L_{13\text{CO}}$ , where  $X_{13\text{CO}} = 8.0 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-1} \text{ km}^{-1} \text{ s}$  (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,  $\alpha_{\text{obs}} = 5\sigma_v^2 R / GM_{\text{lum}}$ . In principle, extended portions of the tree (Fig. 2, yellow highlighting) where  $\alpha_{\text{obs}} < 2$  (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  $\alpha_{\text{obs}}$  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<sup>16</sup>, 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.

# Evolution since the Revolution



1665

..230 yr..

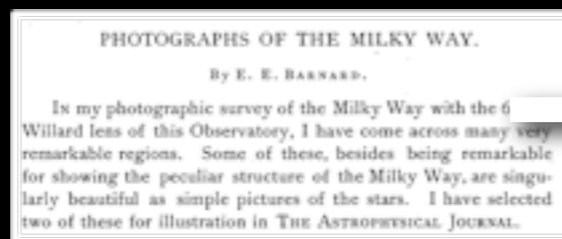
1895

...114 yr..

2009

...4 yr..

2013



[demo flickr-WWT]



Explore Guided Tours Search Community Telescope View Settings **Gluing Together the Universe...** Sign In

Run Time 21:56

Earth and Sun 0:10.0 → Seattle 0:07.0 → zoom to MSR 0:04.0 → sit in Seattle 20:00.0 → Seattle, Earth 0:05.0 → Seattle to Cambri... 0:04.0 → Above Cambridge 0:16.0 → Sit at CIA 20:00.0

Tour Properties Save Music Browse... Show Safe Area Dome Text Shapes Picture Voiceover: Browse...

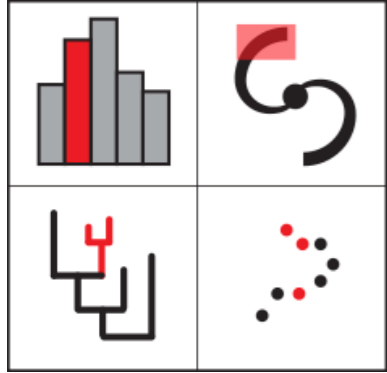


The WorldWide Telescope+WorldWide Telescope Ambassadors Collaborations

[Demo]





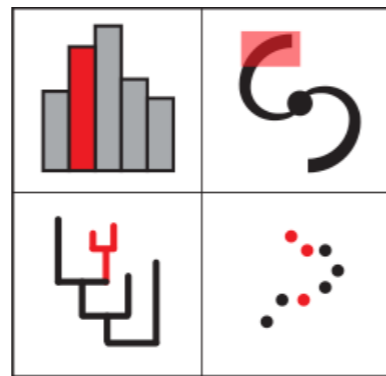


# glueing together the Universe

multidimensional data exploration

and the  
Earth





**glue**  
multidimensional data exploration



# The AstroMed Story



Themes	TED Conferences	TED
Speakers	TEDx Events	TED
Talks	TED Prize	
Translations	TED Fellows	

## TED Fellows The TED Fellows Directory > Michelle Borkin 2009



Michelle Borkin is now a SEAS PhD Student, advised by Profs. Alyssa Goodman (Astronomy) and Hanspeter Pfister (SEAS), and IIC +AstroMed became the bases for the Viz-e-Lab



## 2011 Visual Business Intelligence

A blog by Stephen Few

Home About Consulting Workshops Courses Examples Library **Blog** Discuss

### VisWeek 2011 – Award-Worthy Visualization Research

On Tuesday in this blog I expressed my frustration with VisWeek's information visualization research awards process. I don't want to leave you with the impression, however, that the state of information visualization research is bleak. Each year at VisWeek I find a few gems produced by thoughtful, well-trained information visualization researchers. They identified potentially worthy pursuits and did well-designed research that produced useful results. While puzzling over the criteria that the judges must have used when selecting this year's best paper, I spent a few minutes considering the criteria that I would use were I a judge, and came up with the following list with points totaling to 100:

Effectiveness (It does what it's supposed to do and does it well.) — 30 points

Usefulness (What it does addresses real needs in the world.) — 30 points

10 points

ses.) — 10 points

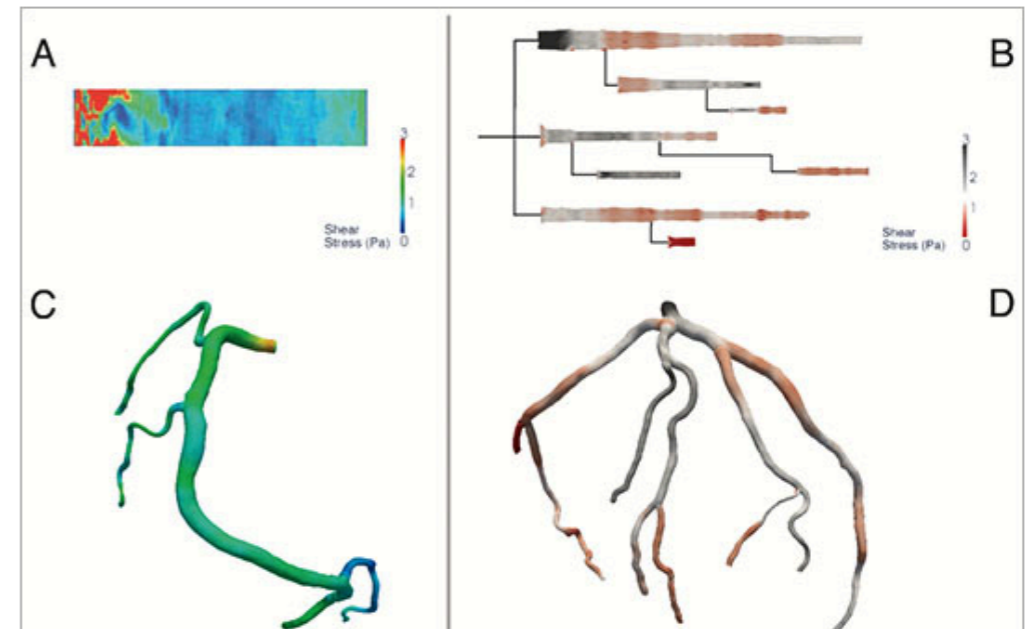
ew way.) — 10 points

e.) — 10 points

to some degree, but this gives you an idea of the importance of each.

e by its elegance and exceptional usefulness Harvard University's School of Engineering and

Applied Sciences titled "Evaluations of Artery Visualizations for Heart Disease Diagnosis."



TEDGlobal 2009

## AstroMed09

The Inaugural Sydney International Workshop on Synergies in Astronomy and Medicine

14–16 December, 2009  
The University of Sydney

### Bio

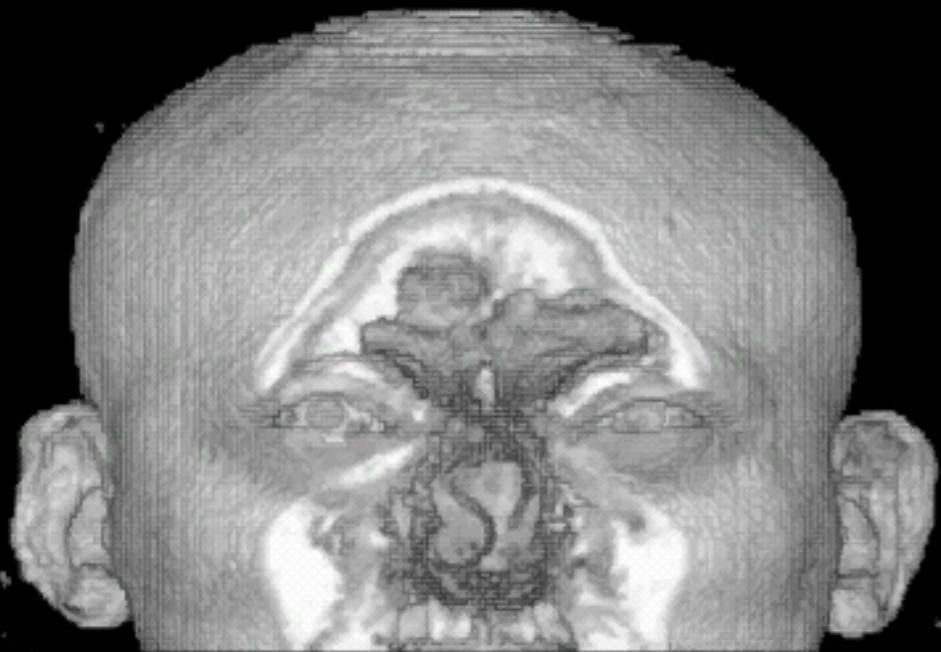
Michelle Borkin interdisciplinary and image analysis. She wrote her work on the application of astronomical data as part of the "AstroMed" Harvard's Initiative works with the development of tools to improve their effectiveness in multiple

serting a stent

to prevent a heart attack:

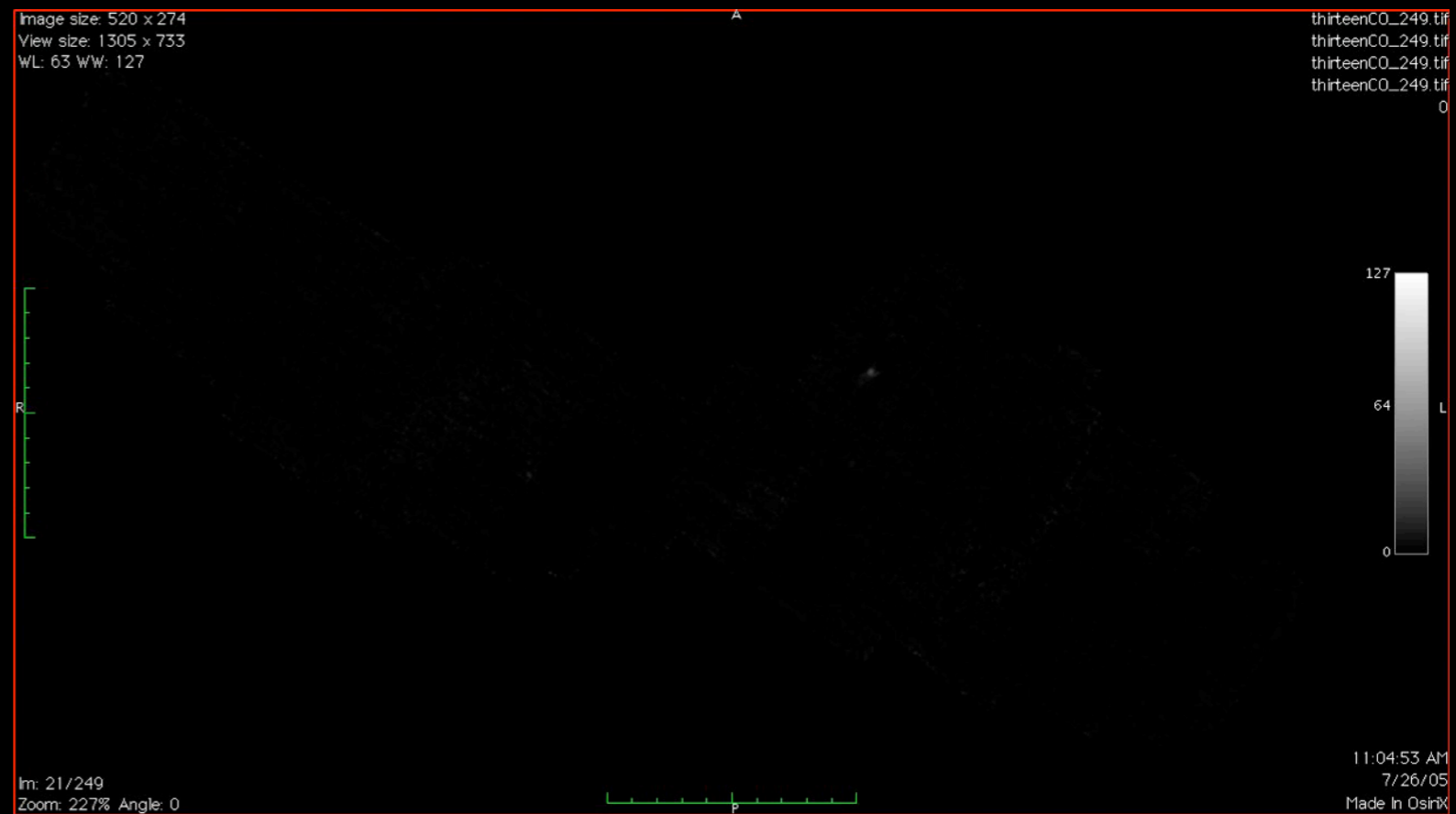
# “Astronomical Medicine”

“KEITH”



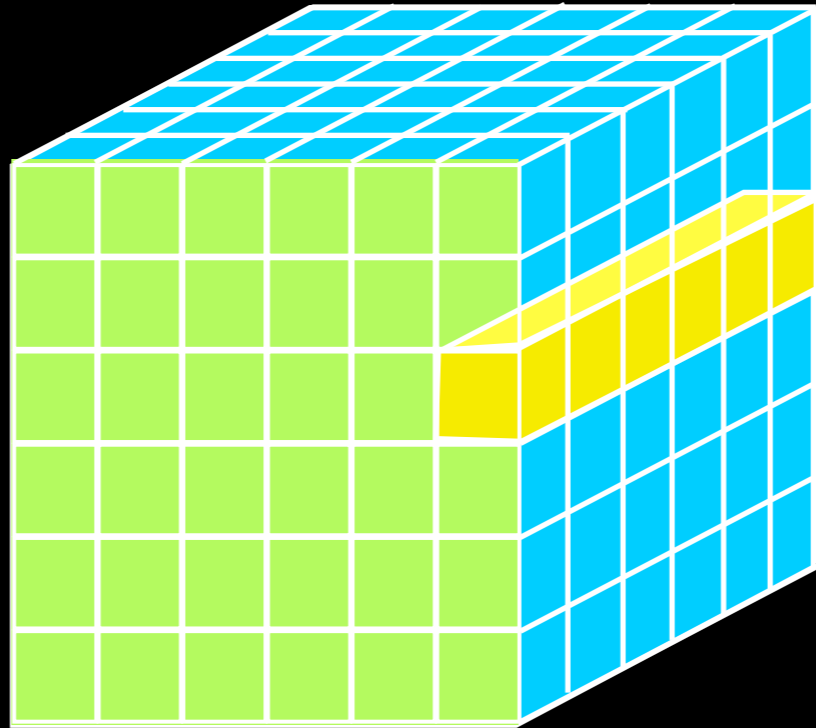
“z” is depth into head

“PERSEUS”



“z” is line-of-sight velocity

*(This kind of “series of 2D slices view” is known in the Viz as “the grand tour”)*



## GENERALLY

**1D:** Columns = “Spectra”, “SEDs” or “Time Series”

**2D:** Faces or Slices = “Images”

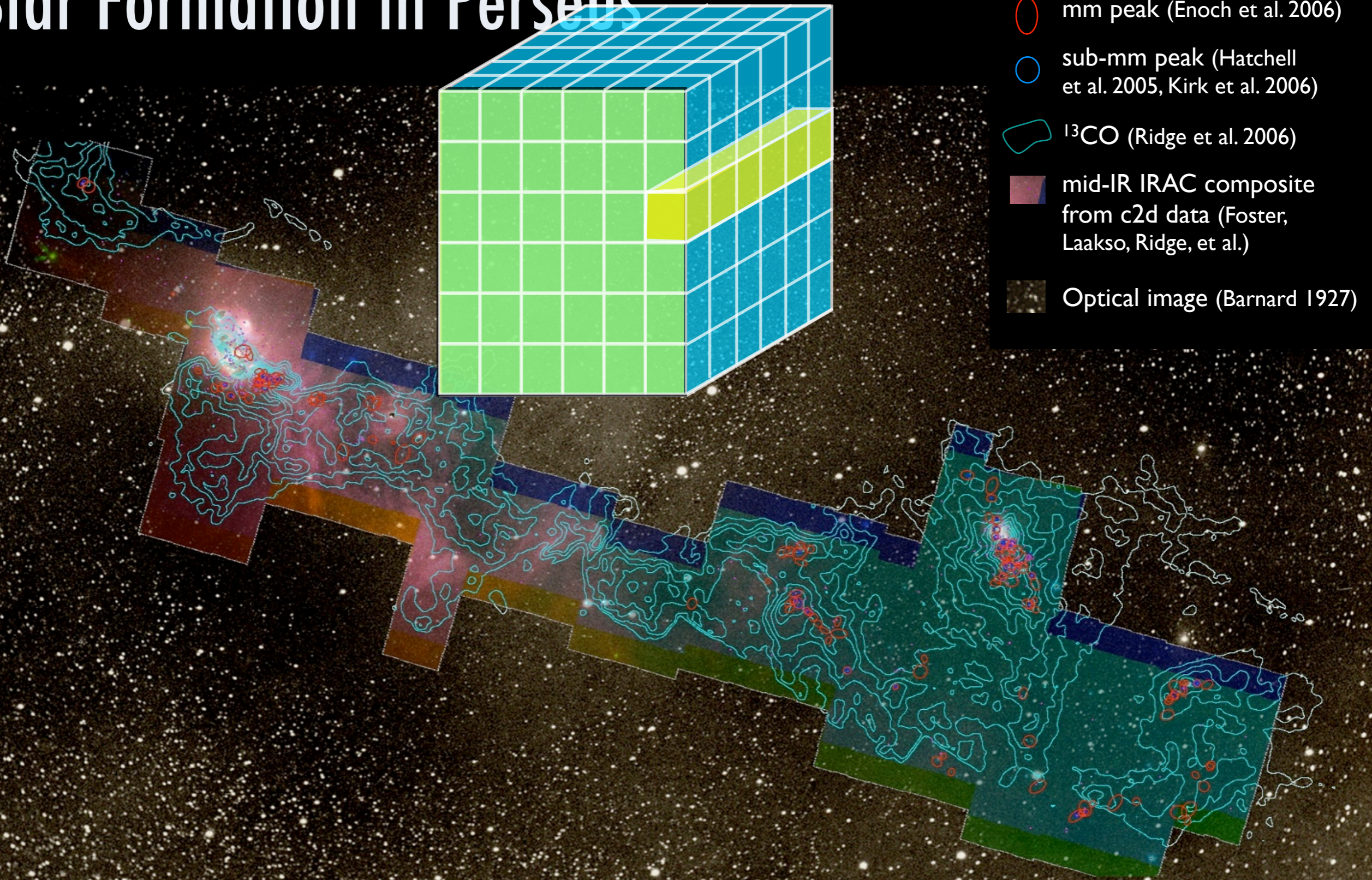
**3D:** Volumes = “3D Renderings”, “2D Movies”

**4D:** Time Series of Volumes = “3D Movies”



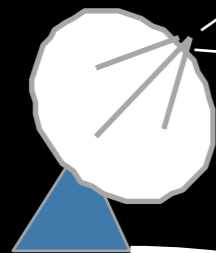
# Star Formation in Perseus

COMPLETE

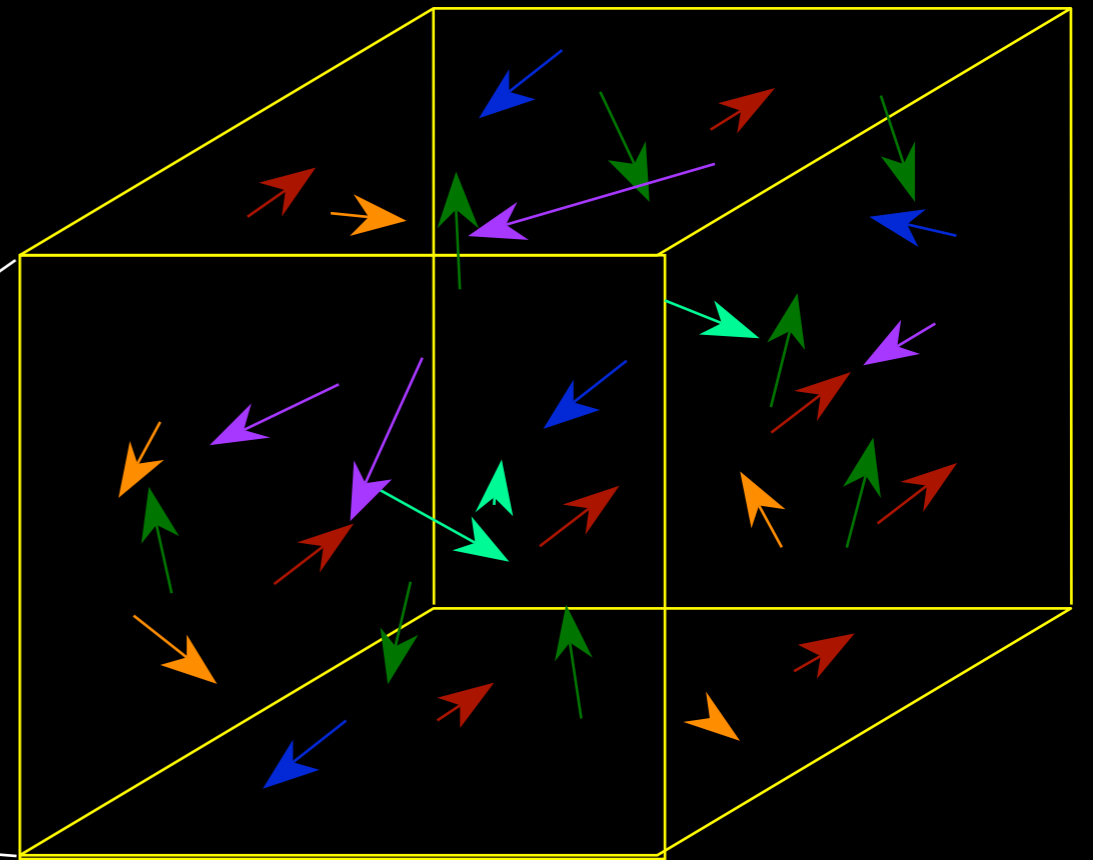




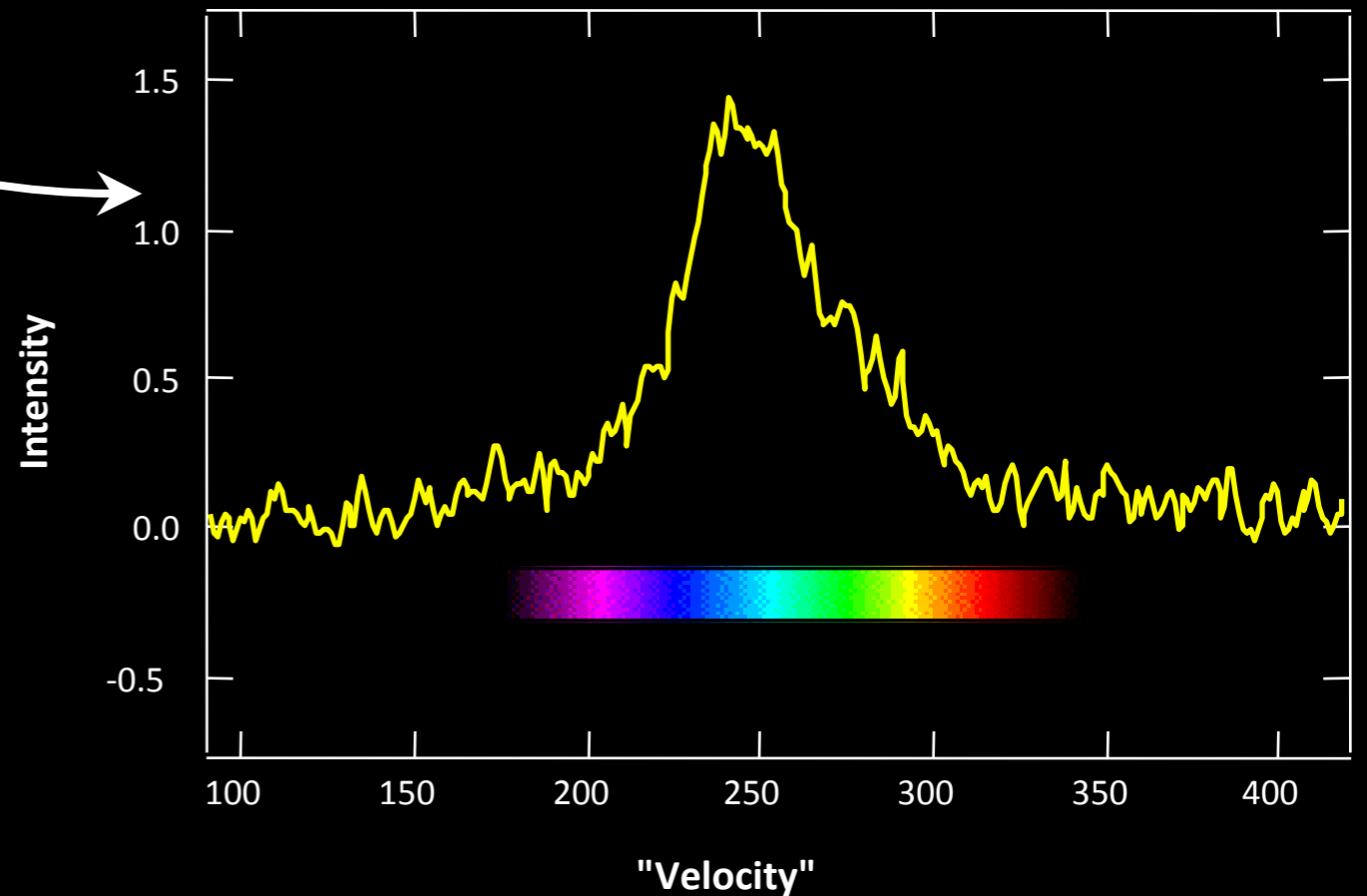
# Velocity from Spectroscopy



Telescope +  
Spectrometer



Observed Spectrum

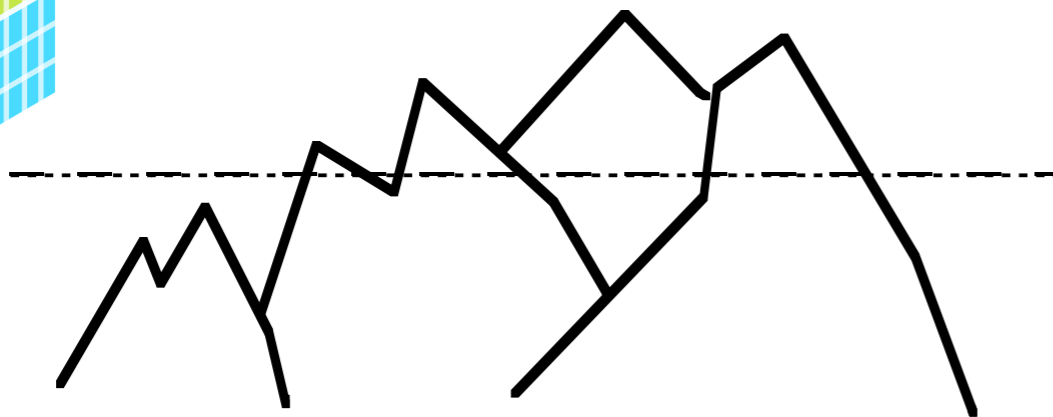
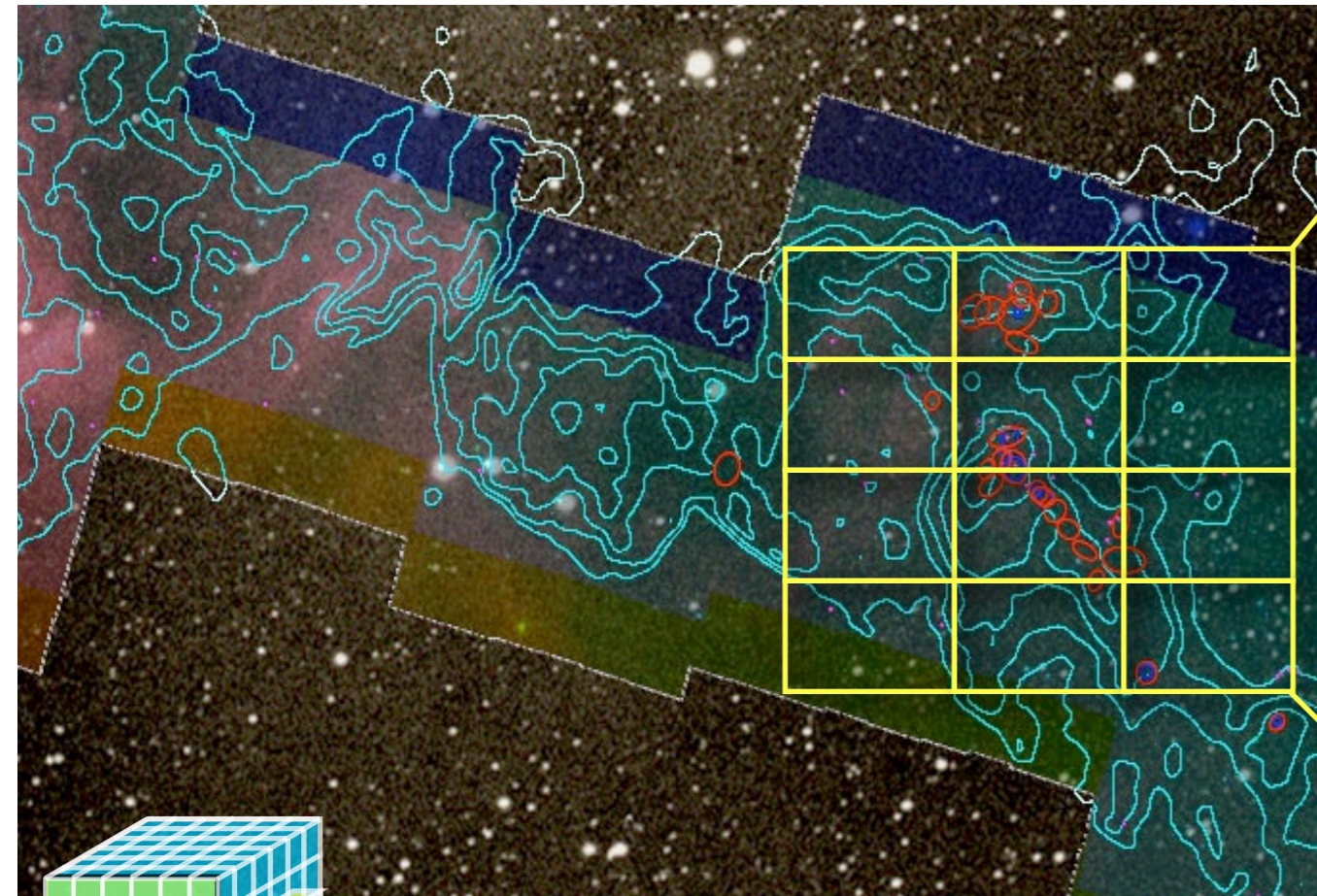
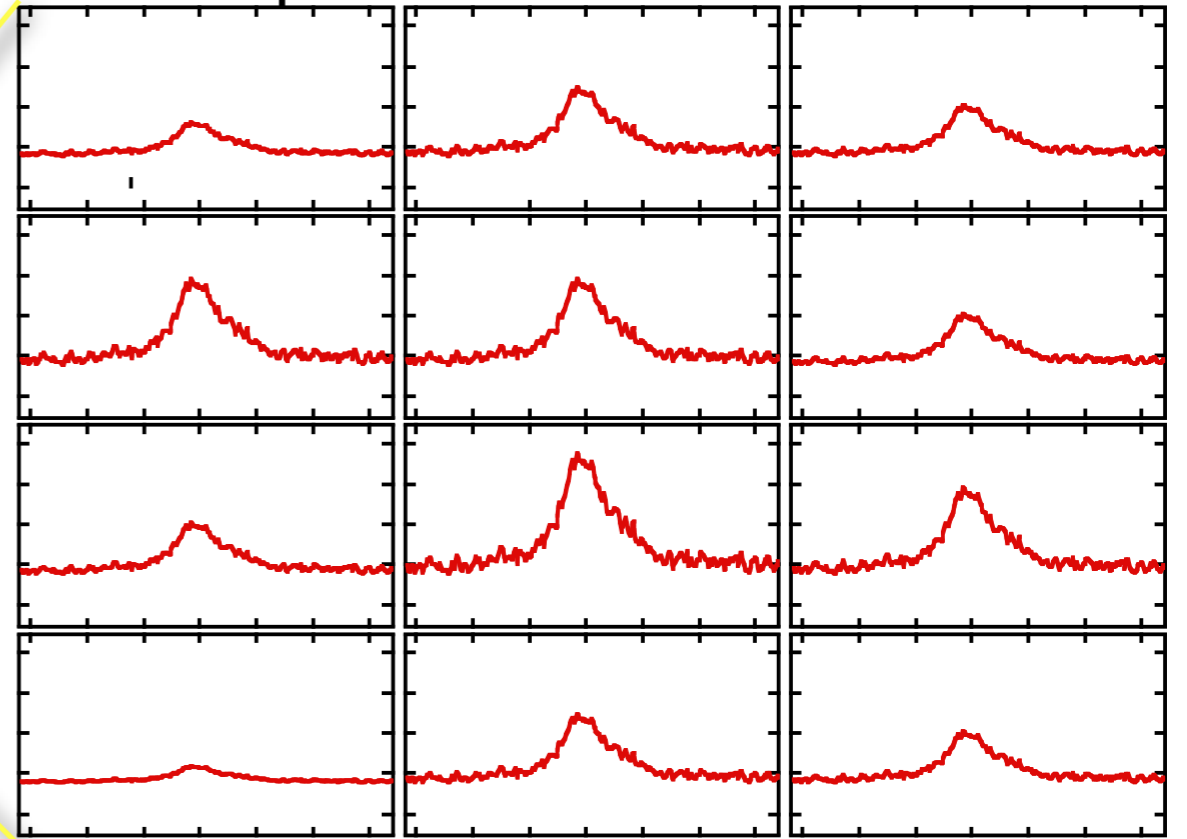


All thanks to **Doppler**



# Spectral-Line Mapping

Spectral Line Observations



Mountain Range



No loss of information








Loss of 1 dimension

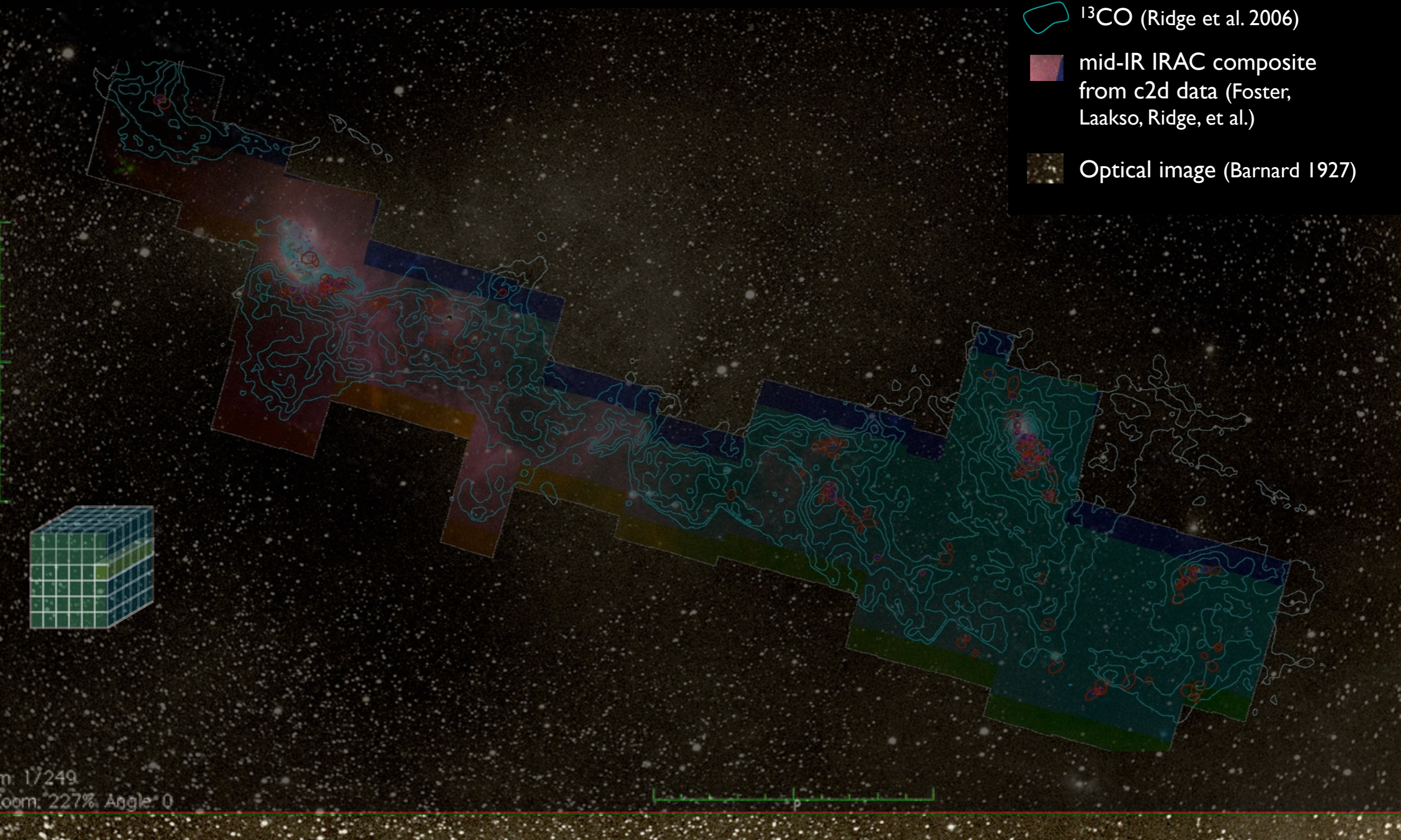




# COMPLETE Perseus

Image size: 1305 x 733  
VL: 63 WW: 127

-  mm peak (Enoch et al. 2006)
-  sub-mm peak (Hatchell et al. 2005, Kirk et al. 2006)
-   $^{13}\text{CO}$  (Ridge et al. 2006)
-  mid-IR IRAC composite from c2d data (Foster, Laakso, Ridge, et al.)
-  Optical image (Barnard 1927)

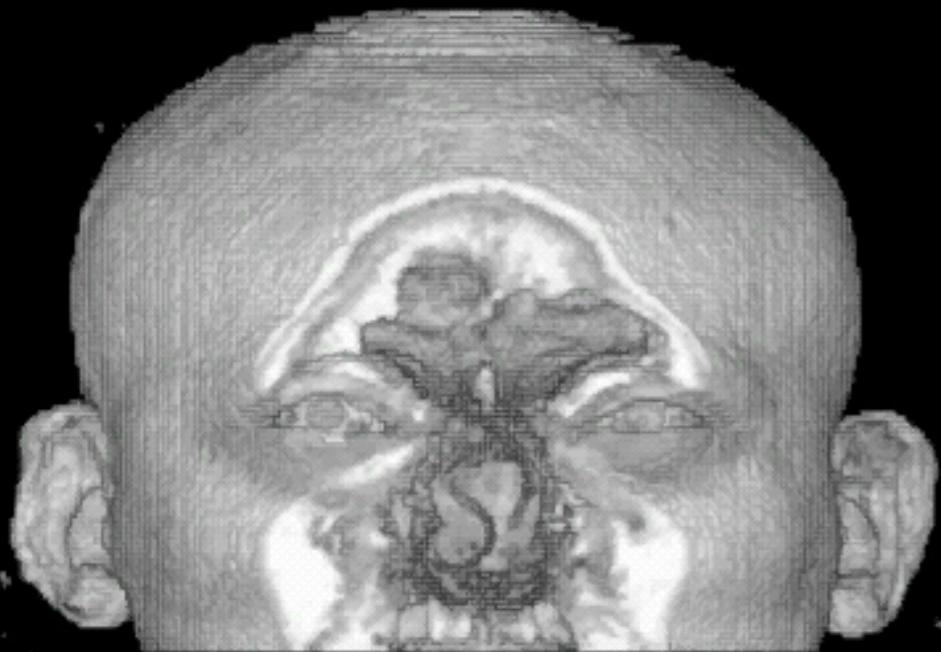


m: 17249  
Zoom: 227% Angle: 0



# "Astronomical Medicine"

"KEITH"



"PERSEUS"



"z" is depth into head

"z" is line-of-sight velocity

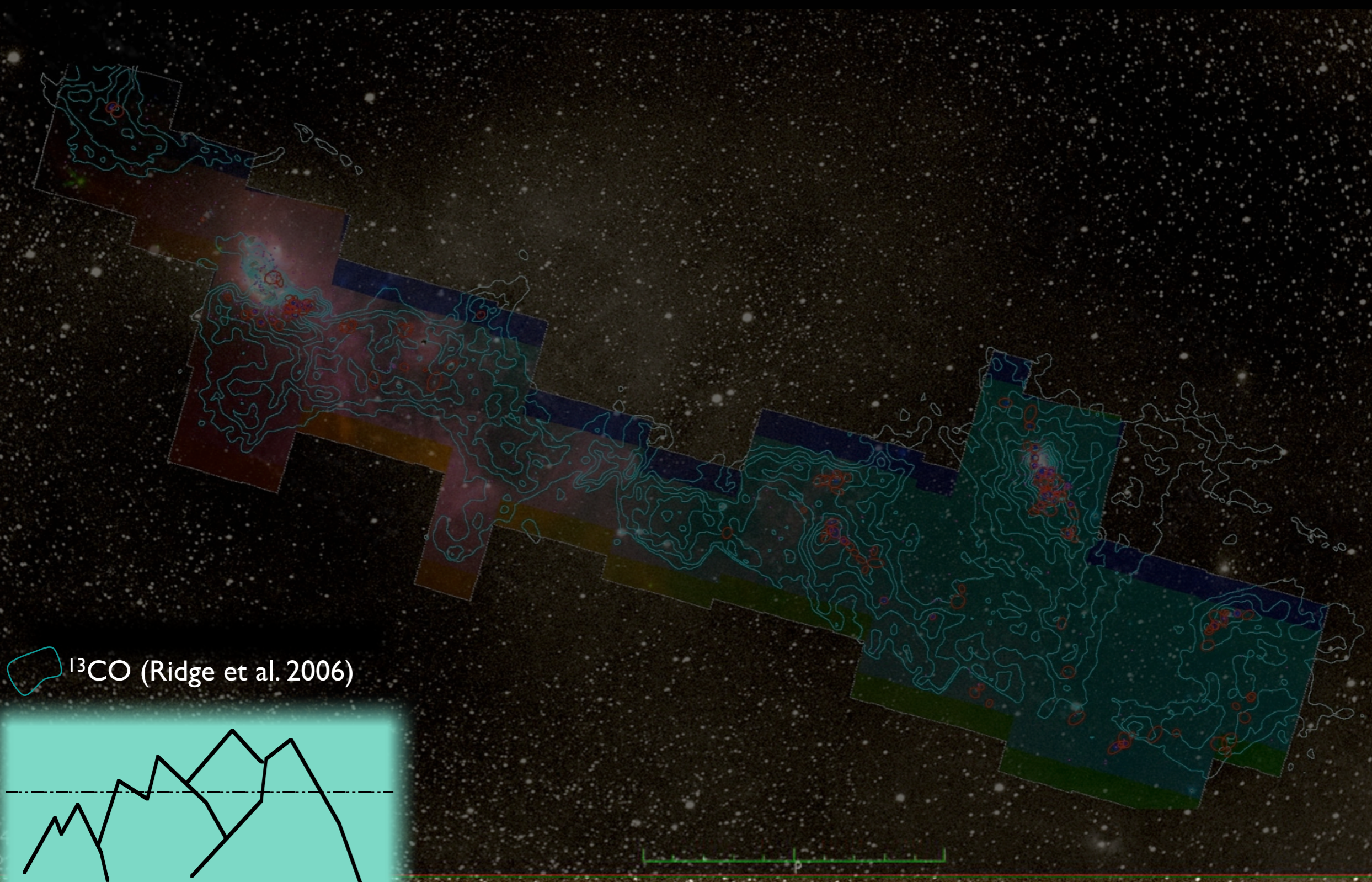
<http://am.iic.harvard.edu/>



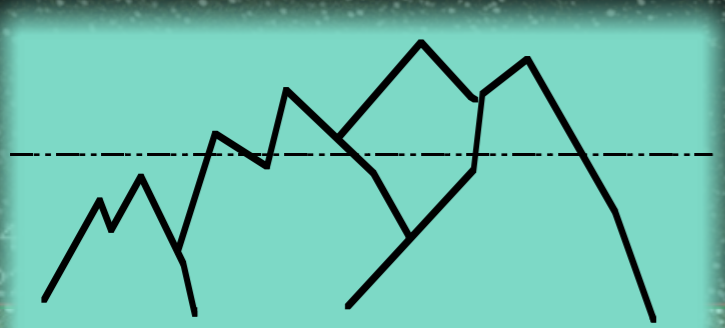


Image size: 520 x 274  
View size: 1305 x 733  
VL: 63 WW: 127

# COMPLETE Perseus



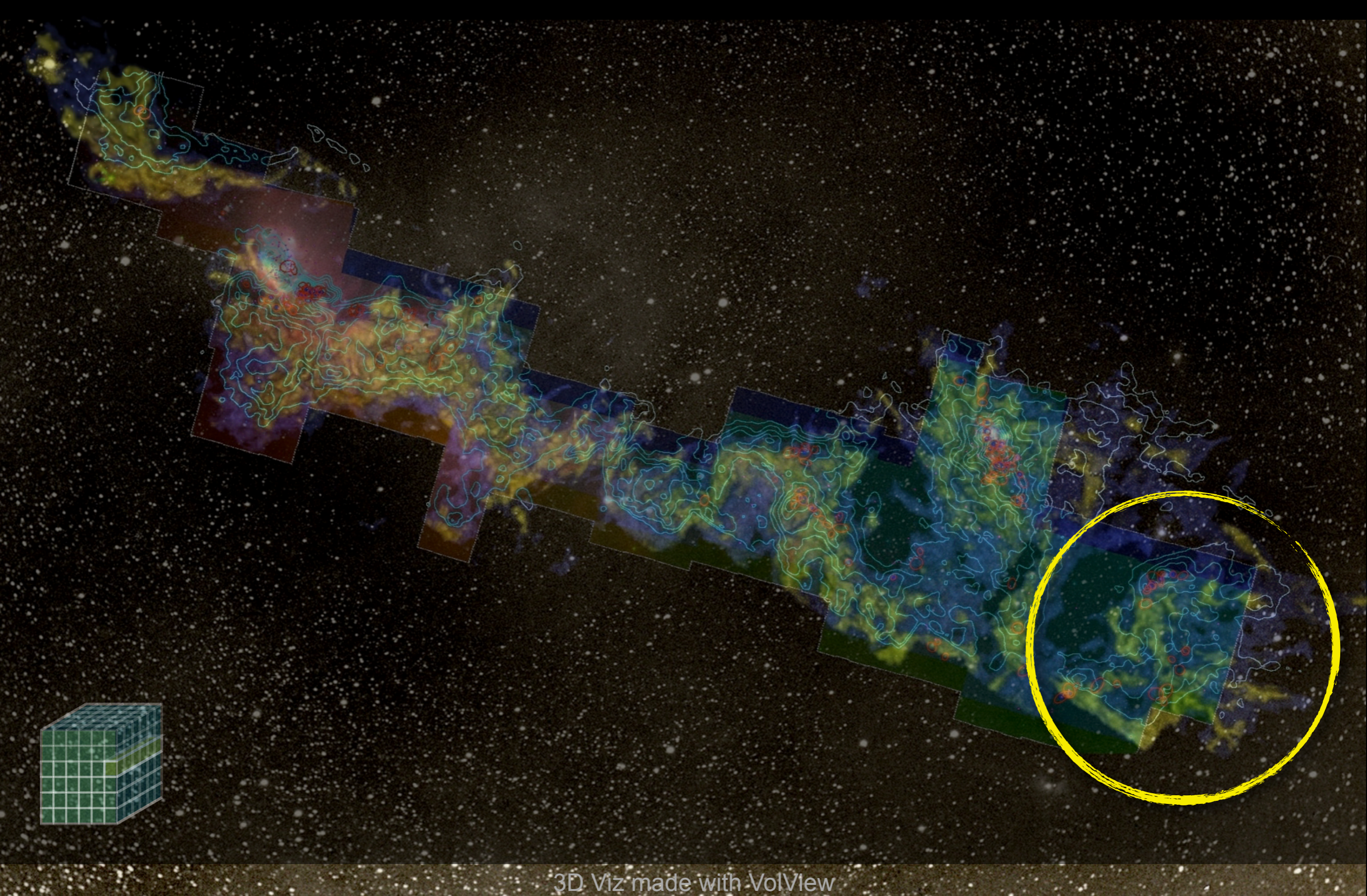
  $^{13}\text{CO}$  (Ridge et al. 2006)



Mountain Range

m: 1724  
oom: 2

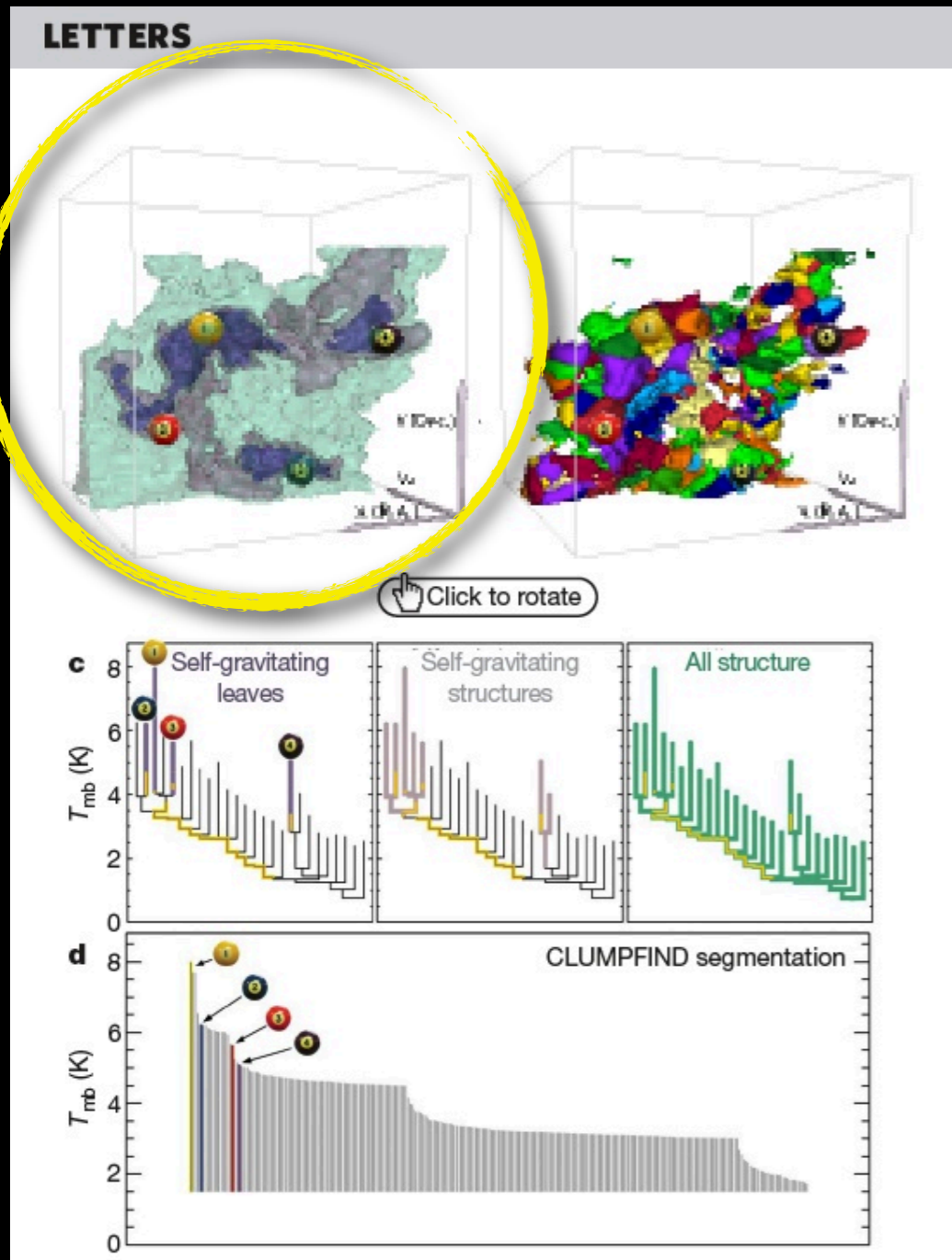




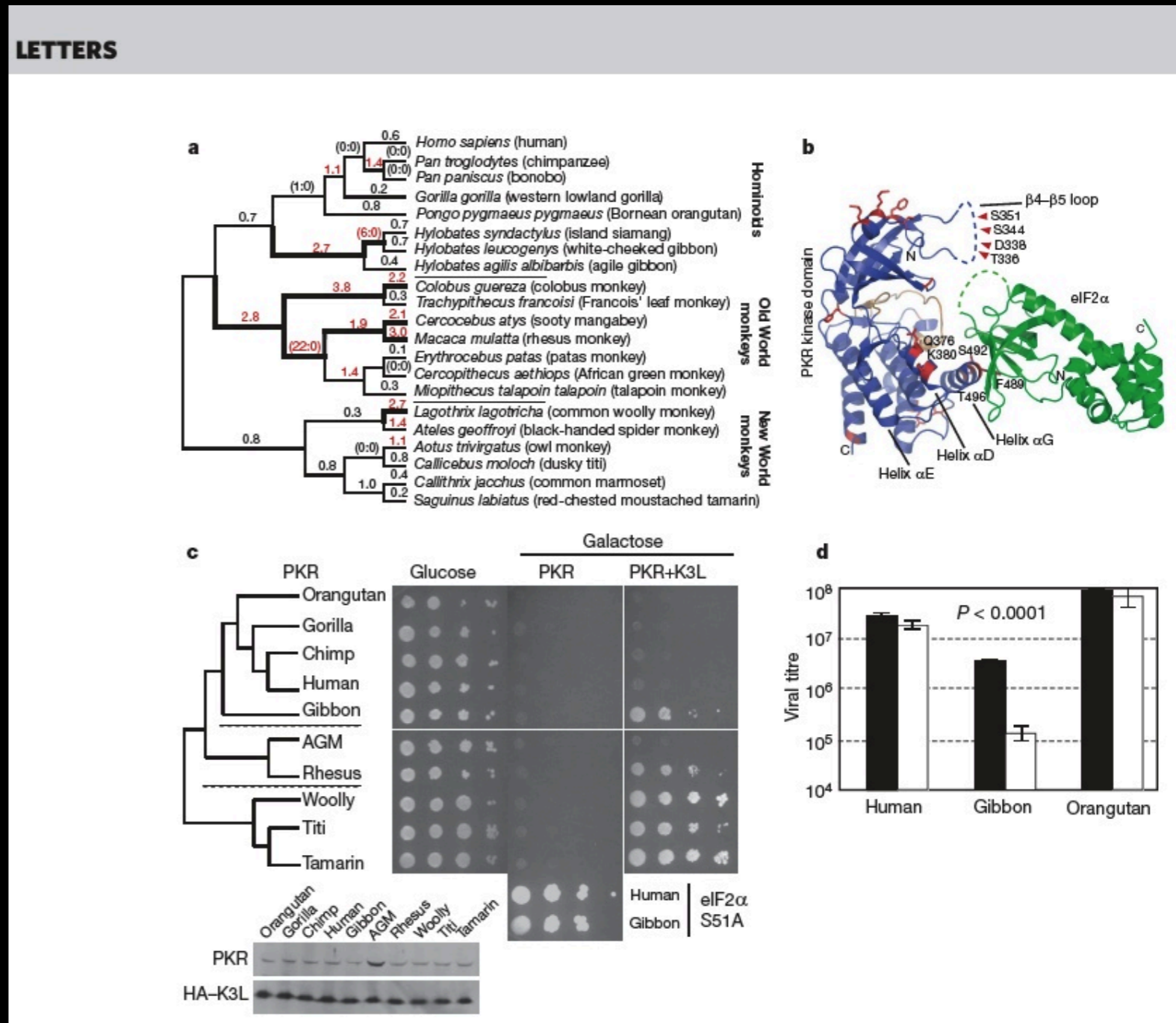
3D Viz made with VolView



# "High-dimensional" or "Multivariate" Data (Astronomy=Biology)

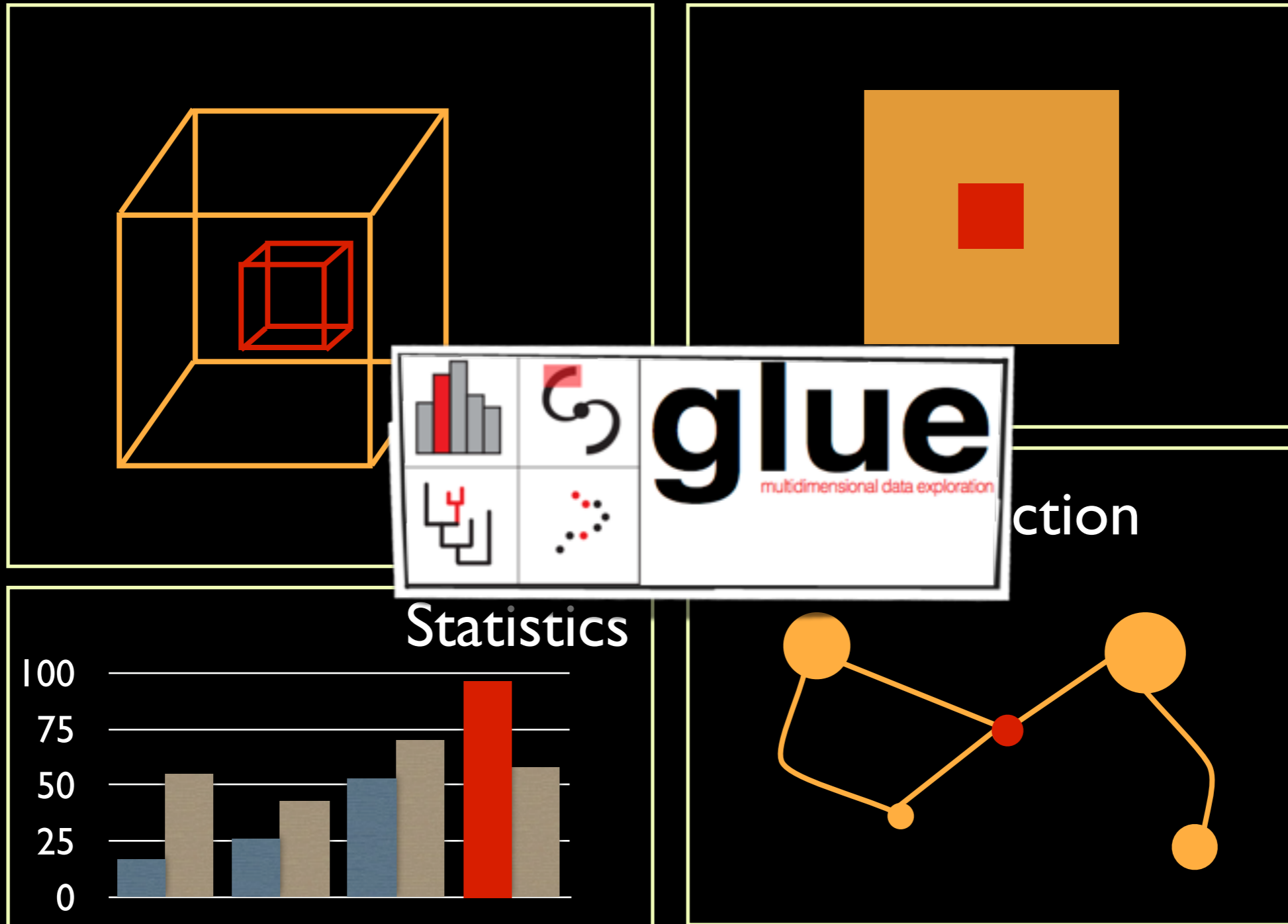


Goodman et al. *Nature*, 2009



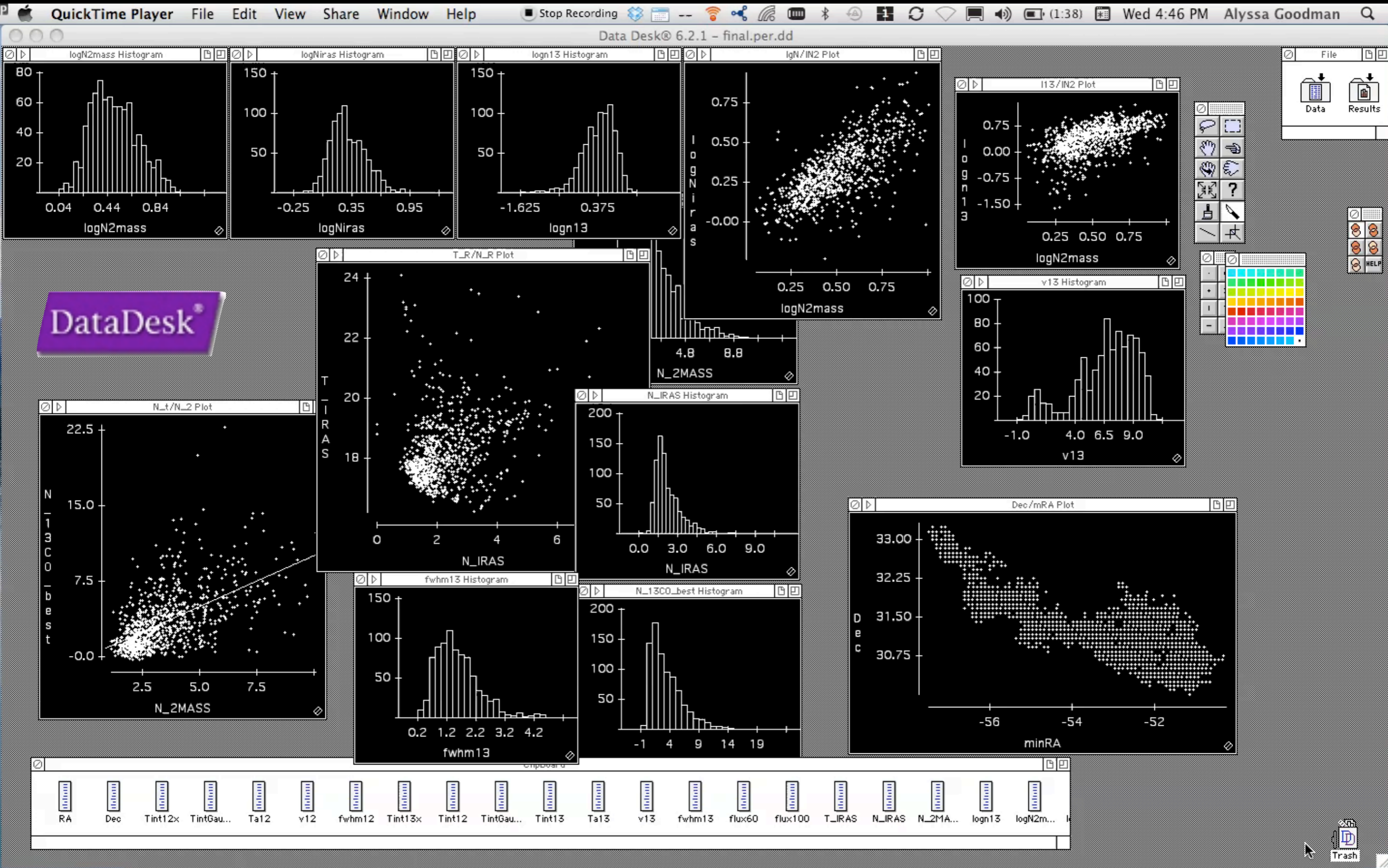
Elde et al. *Nature*, 2008

# "Linked Views"





# "Linked Views": DataDesk (est. 1986)



# John Tukey's "Four Essentials" (c.1972)

Picturing

Rotation

Isolation

Masking

*Selection*

and these *"need to work together"*  
in a *"dynamic display"*

Brushing

Linking

## Results...

1. for immediate **insight**
2. as visual source of **ideas** for statistical algorithms (...relation to SVM)

## Warning

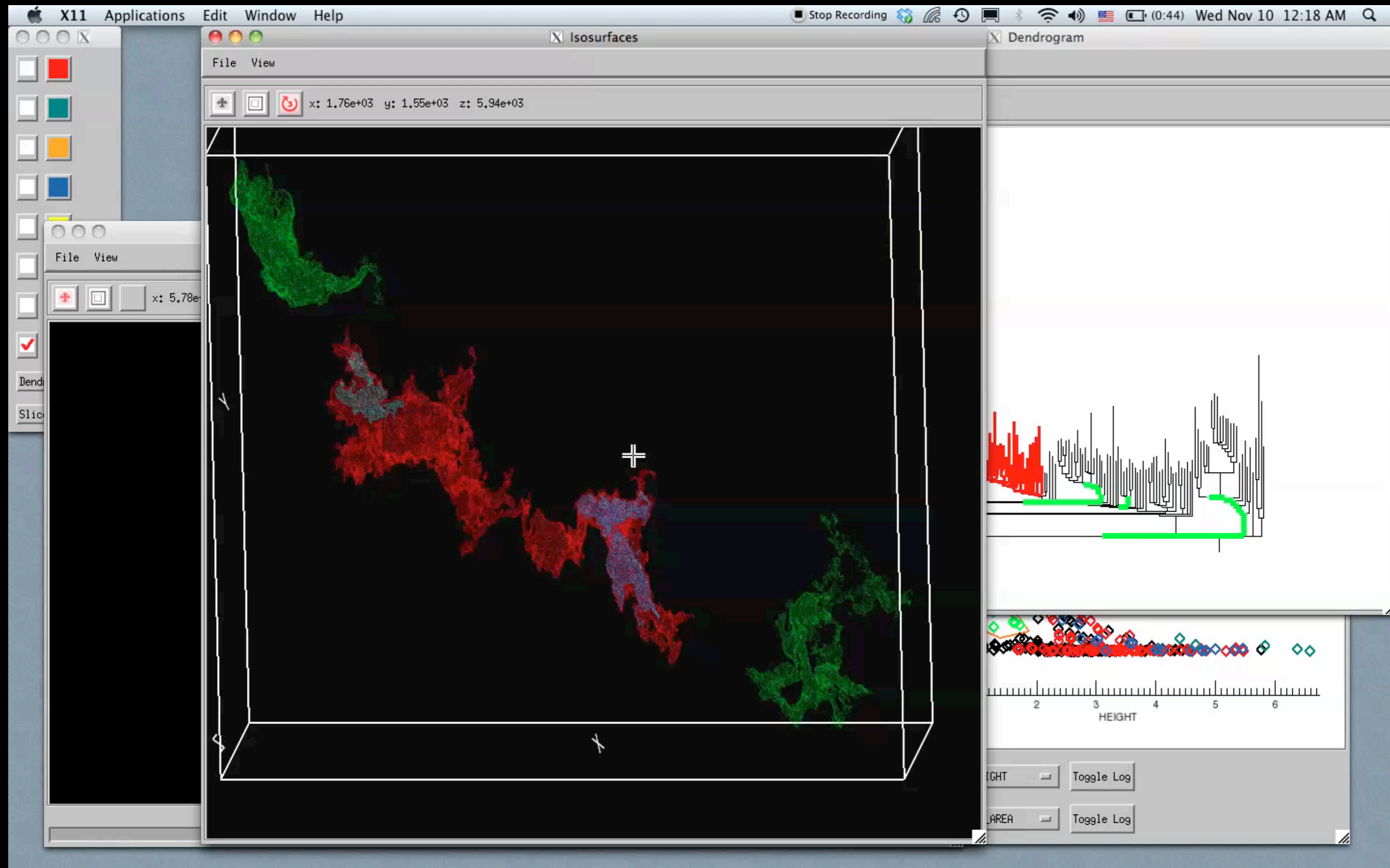
*"details of control can make or break such a system"*

Watch the PRIM-9 video at: <http://stat-graphics.org/movies/prim9.html>





# Exemplar: Linked Dendrogram Views in IDL



*Video & implementation: Christopher Beaumont, CfA/UHawaii;  
inspired by AstroMed work of Douglas Alan, Michelle Borkin, AG, Michael Halle, Erik Rosolowsky*



# JOHN TUKEY'S LEGACY



PRIM-9

PRIM-H

DataDesk®

XGobi

GGobi

RGGobi



1970

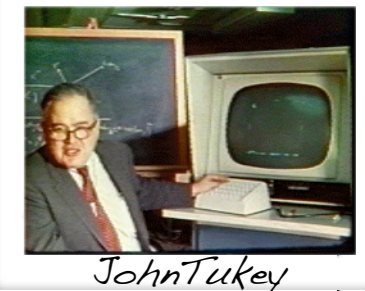
1980

1990

2000

2010





## Principles of high-dimensional data visualization in astronomy

A.A. Goodman\*

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, MA, USA

Received 2012 May 3, accepted 2012 May 4

Published online 2012 Jun 15

**Key words** cosmology: large-scale structure – ISM: clouds – methods: data analysis – techniques: image processing – techniques: radial velocities

Astronomical researchers often think of analysis and visualization as separate tasks. In the case of high-dimensional data sets, though, interactive *exploratory data visualization* can give far more insight than an approach where data processing and statistical analysis are followed, rather than accompanied, by visualization. This paper attempts to chart a course toward “linked view” systems, where multiple views of high-dimensional data sets update live as a researcher selects, highlights, or otherwise manipulates, one of several open views. For example, imagine a researcher looking at a 3D volume visualization of simulated or observed data, and simultaneously viewing statistical displays of the data set’s properties (such as an  $x$ - $y$  plot of temperature vs. velocity, or a histogram of vorticities). Then, imagine that when the researcher selects an interesting group of points in any one of these displays, that the same points become a highlighted subset in all other open displays. Selections can be graphical or algorithmic, and they can be combined, and saved. For tabular (ASCII) data, this kind of analysis has long been possible, even though it has been under-used in astronomy. The bigger issue for astronomy and other “high-dimensional” fields, though, is that no extant system allows for full integration of images and data cubes within a linked-view environment. The paper concludes its history and analysis of the present situation with suggestions that look toward cooperatively-developed open-source modular software as a way to create an evolving, flexible, high-dimensional, linked-view visualization environment useful in astrophysical research.

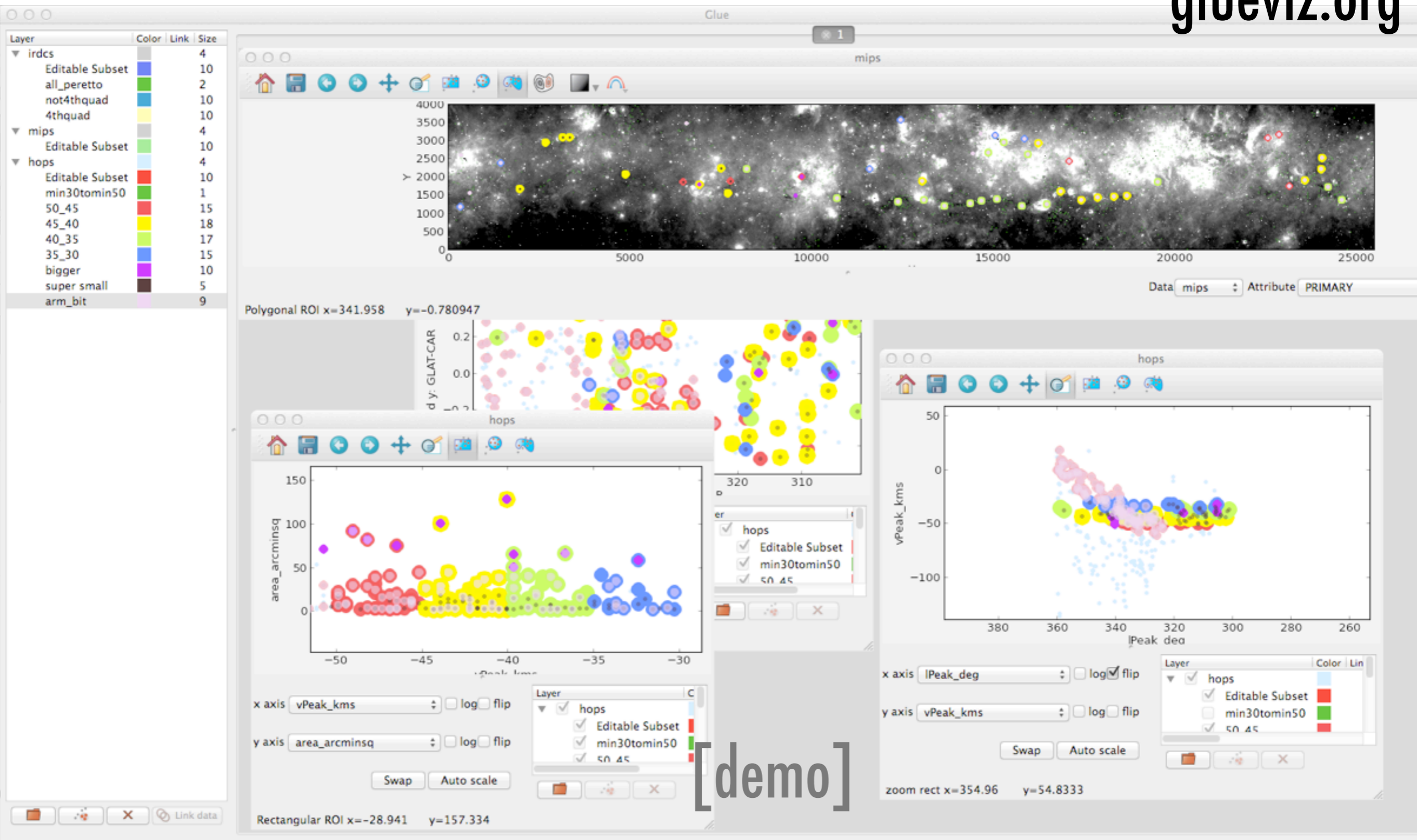




*[Beaumont elevator slides]*

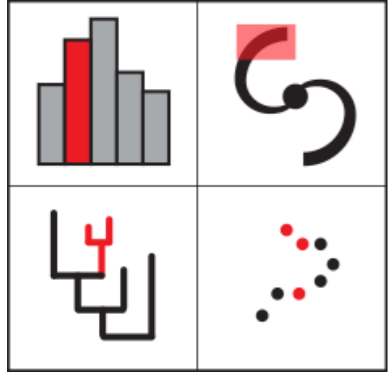
**glueviz.org**





[demo]





# glueing together the Universe

multidimensional data exploration

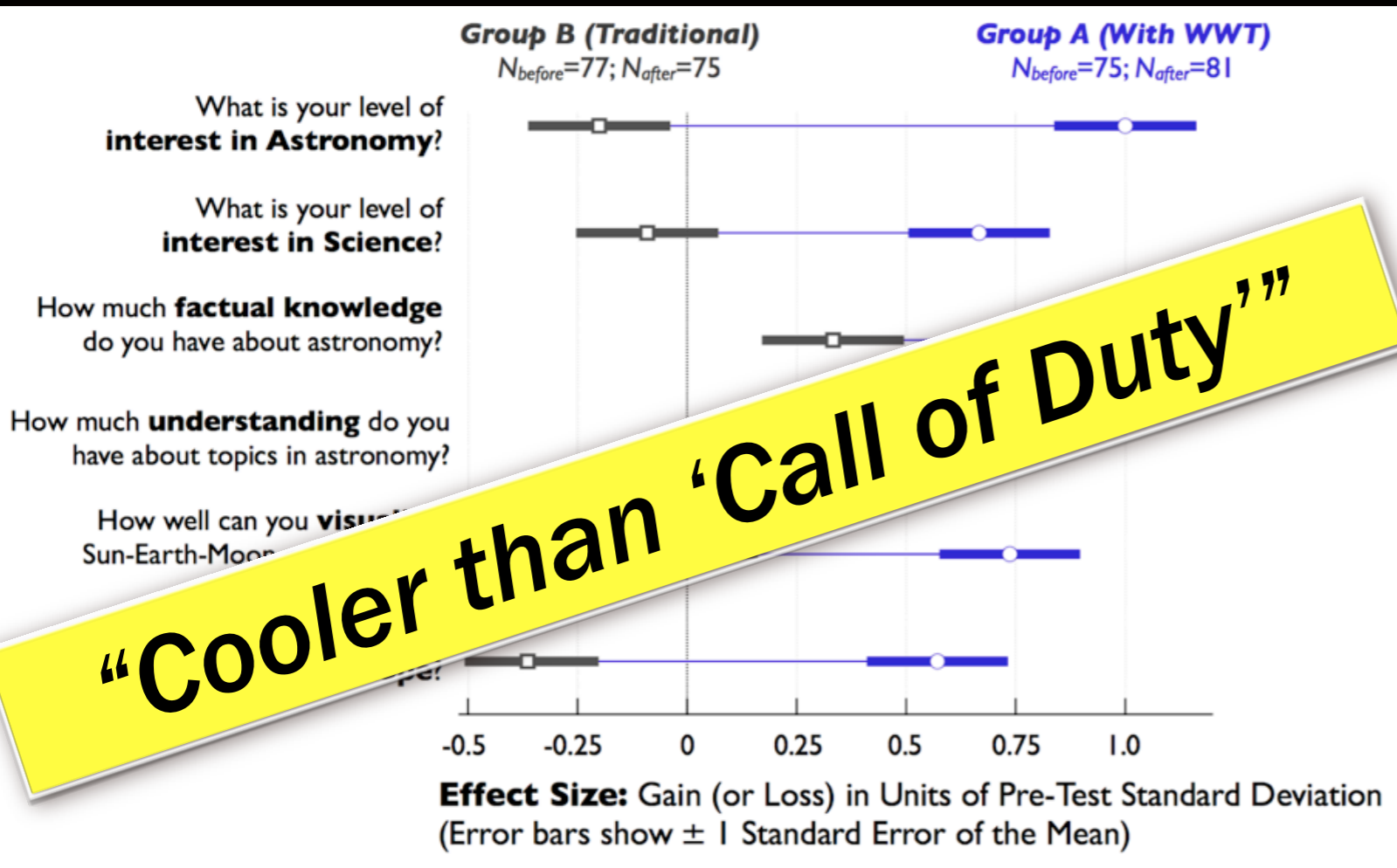
and the  
Earth



[worldwidetelescope.org](http://worldwidetelescope.org)

[glueviz.org](http://glueviz.org)

# WWT Ambassadors



# WWT in Higher Ed



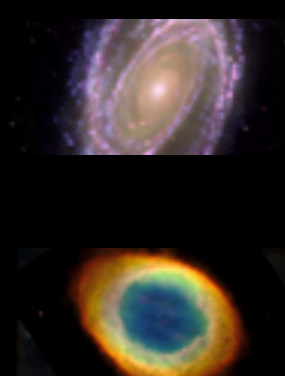
## WWT in Research

COMPLETE

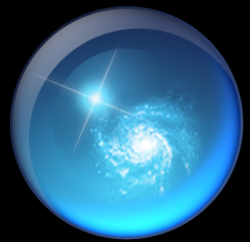
POWERED BY THE **Dataverse Network** PROJECT



“Tours”







# Microsoft® Research WorldWide Telescope

[worldwidetelescope.org](http://worldwidetelescope.org)

The screenshot shows the main interface of WorldWide Telescope. At the top, there are navigation tabs: **Explore** (selected), **Guided Tours**, **Search**, **View**, and **Settings**. Below these are several thumbnail images representing different astronomical data sets: **Digitized Sky Survey**, **VLSS: VLA Low-frequency Sky Survey**, **WMAP ILC 5-Year Cosmic Microwave Background**, **SFD Dust Map (Infrared)**, **IRIS: Improved Resolution**, **2MASS: Two Micron All Sky Survey**, and **Hydrogen Alpha Filter**. A central 3D view shows a starry field with a circular **Finder Scope** overlaid on a bright object. A **Context Bar** at the bottom displays a list of objects of interest, including **NGC221** and **M31**. A **Context Globe** on the right shows the current field of view on a celestial sphere. A **Finder Scope** window is open, showing details for **NGC224**, a **Spiral Galaxy in Andromeda**. The window includes a small image of the galaxy, its classification, and coordinates: **RA: 00h42m42s**, **Magnitude:**, **Dec: 41 : 16 : 00**, **Distance:**, **Alt: 70 : 06 : 26**, **Rise:**, **Az: 275 : 42 : 17**, **Transit:**, and **Set: 00:35**. Below the coordinates are **Image Credits** and buttons for **Research**, **Show Object**, and **Close**. At the bottom center, there is a small image of a telescope.

Seamlessly explore imagery from the best ground and space-based telescopes in the world

Expert led tours of the Universe

Control time to study how the night sky changes

View and compare images from across the electromagnetic spectrum

Much more than "just" the sky at night! 3D features can take you to other planets, stars & galaxies.

Finder Scope links to Wikipedia, publications, and data, so you can learn more

Context bar shows items of interest in current field of view

Context globe shows where you're looking.

# Viz-e-Lab

Projects  
2011



collaborators/contacts at CfA

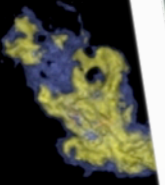
**Seamless Astronomy:** Alyssa Goodman    **Online Astronomy Group, CfA Data Archives:** Gus Muench    **ADS Group:** Alberto Accomazzi  
**WorldWide Telescope Ambassadors:** Pat Udomprasert    **High-Dimensional Data Visualization & Interactions:** Michelle Borkin  
**Wolbach Library Lab at CfA :** Christopher Erdmann    **VAO at CfA:** Pepi Fabbiano    **Social Networks in Sciences:** Alberto Pepe  
**Questions about using the Viz-e-Lab?** Contact Sarah Block, 5-7331, [sblock@cfa.harvard.edu](mailto:sblock@cfa.harvard.edu)



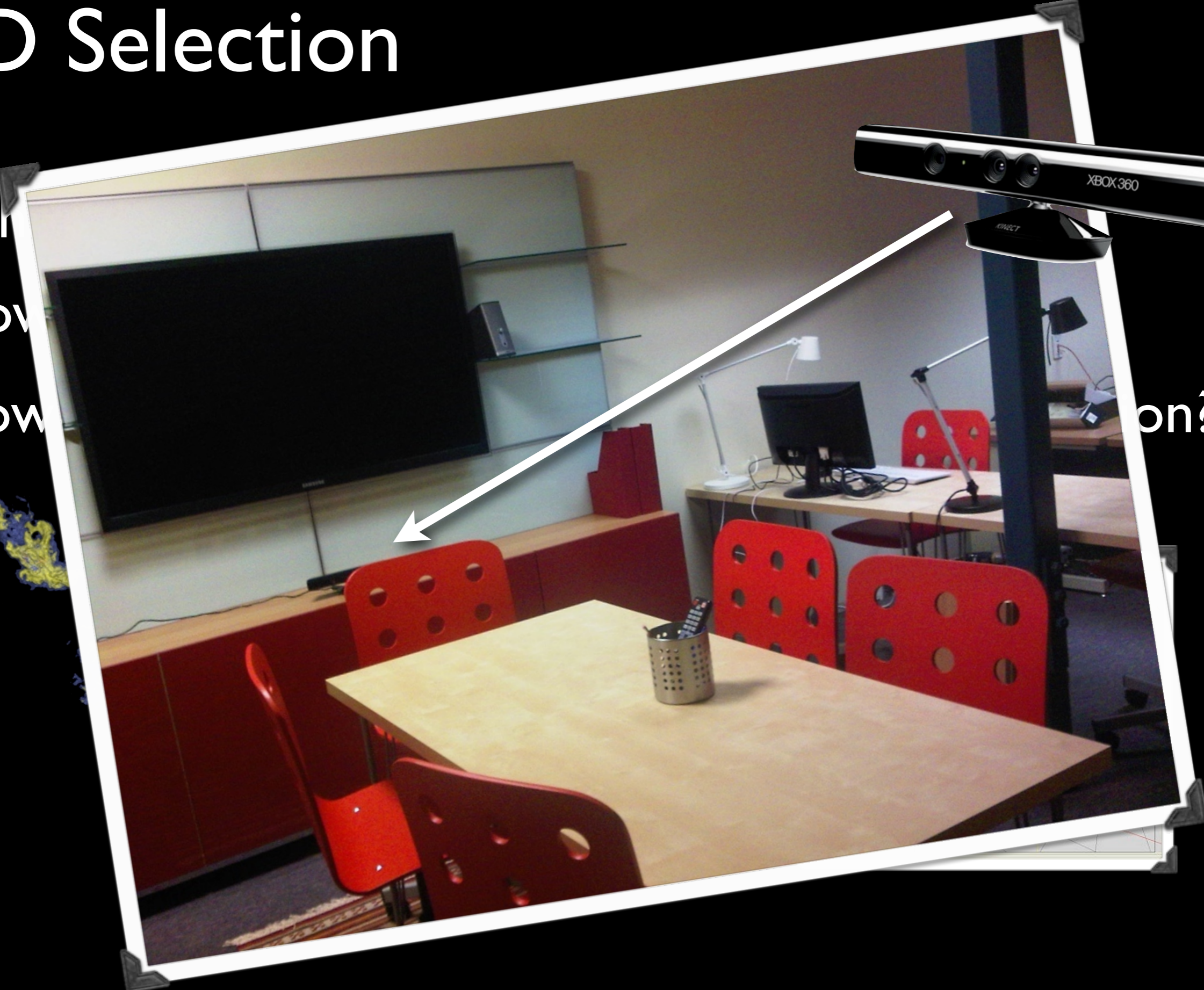


# 3D Selection

Why  
How  
How

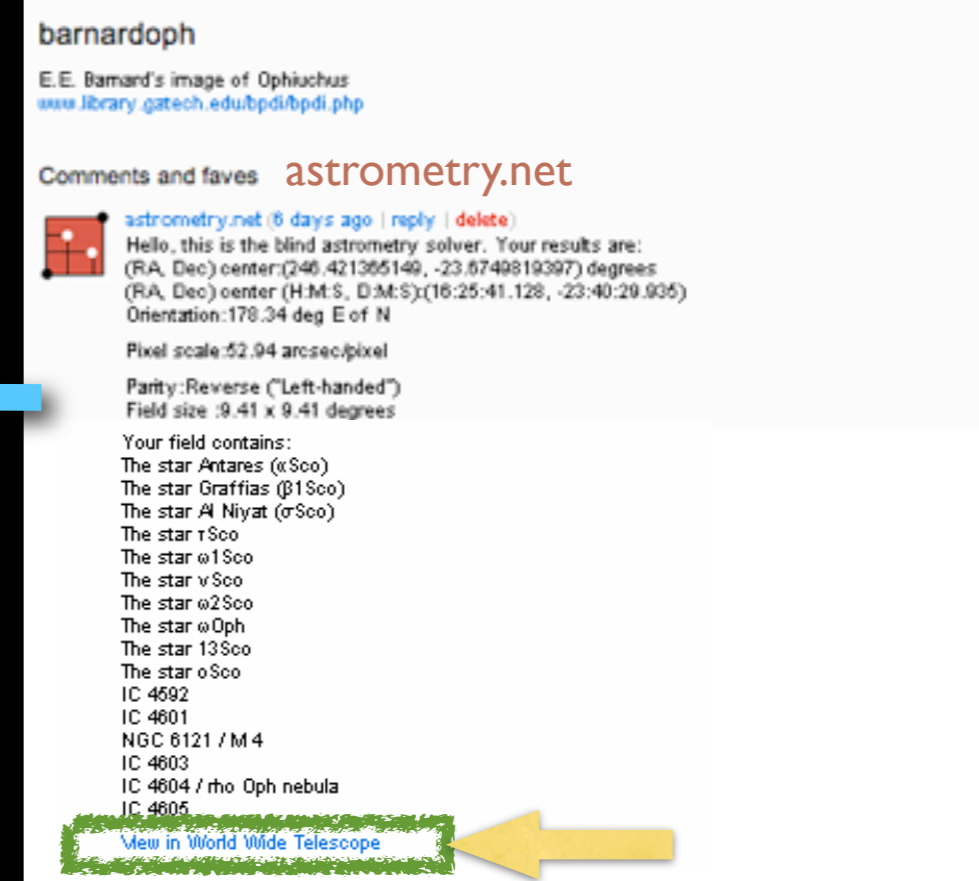
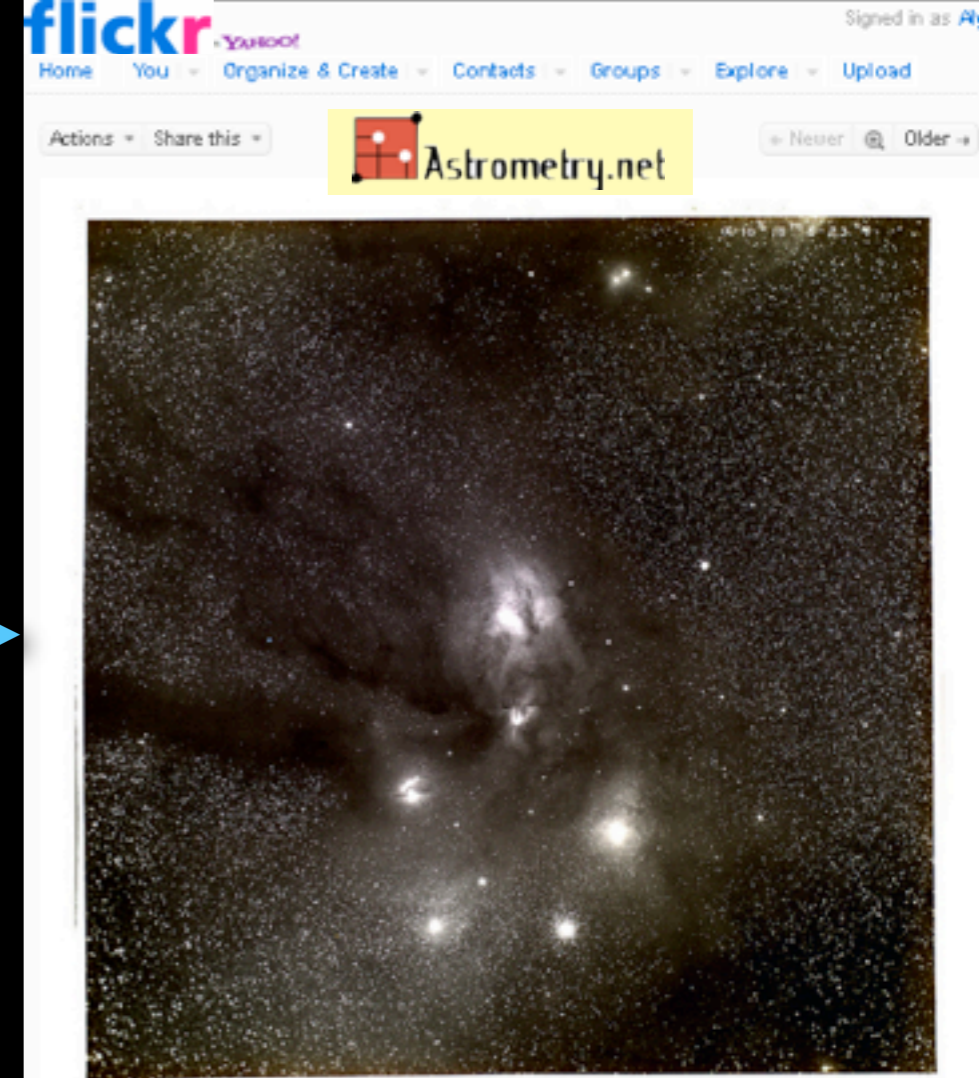
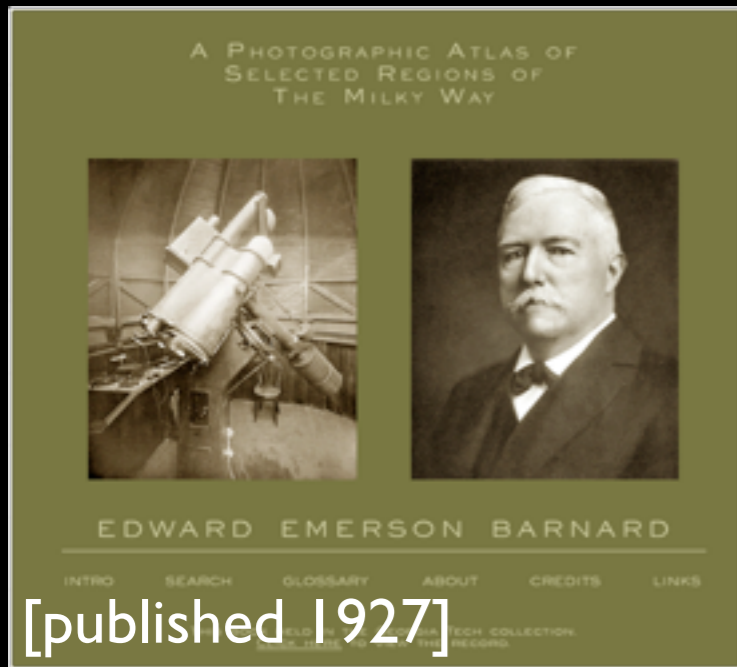


on?

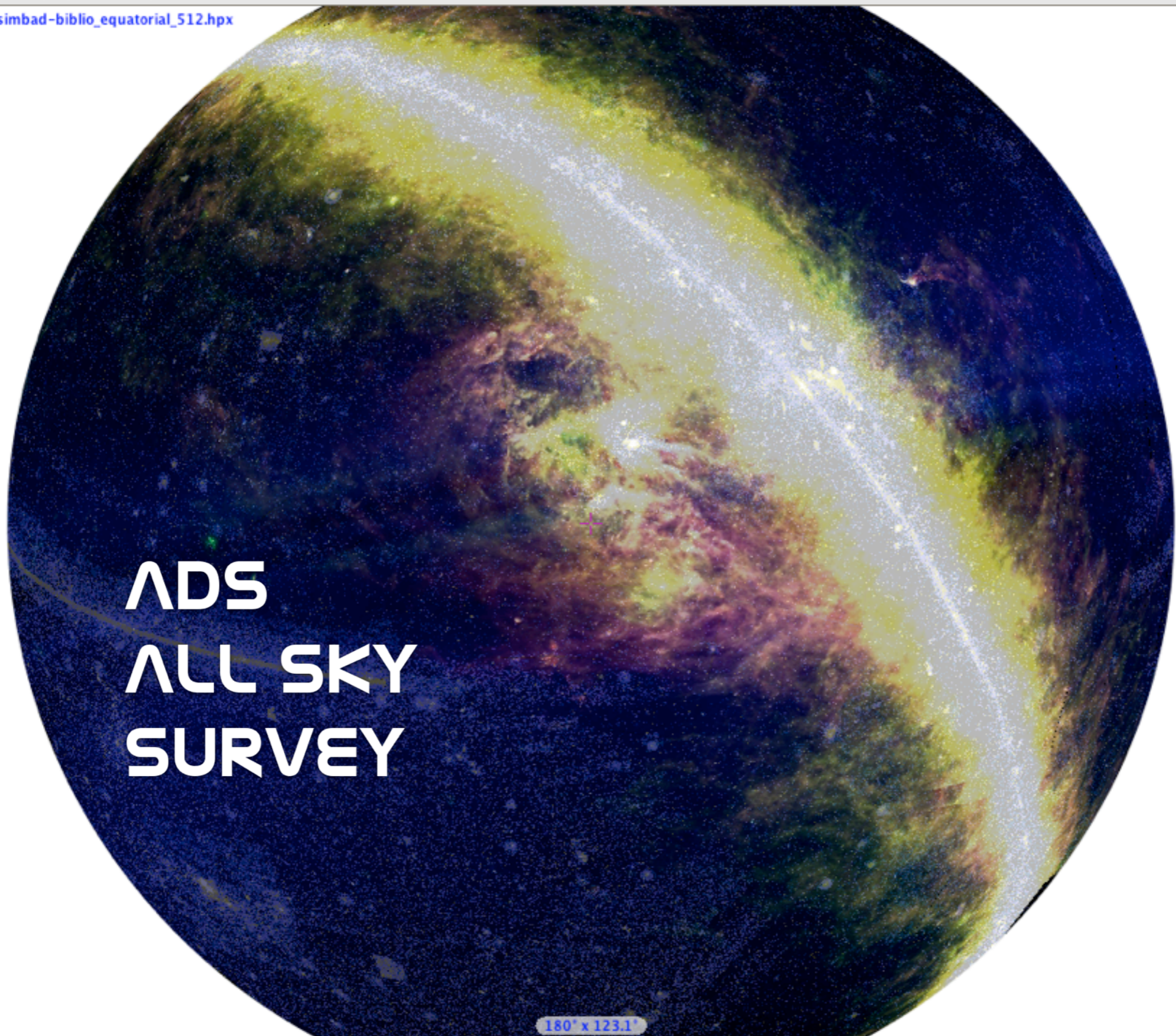




# Reviving "Dead" Data







# ADS ALL SKY SURVEY

180° x 123.1°

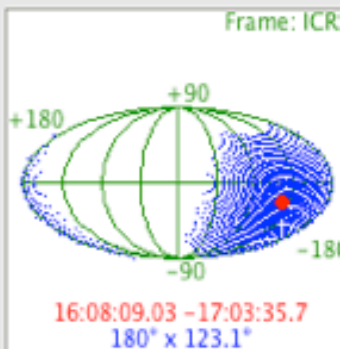
- select
- pan
- zoom
- dist
- phot
- draw
- tag
- filter
- cross
- rgb
- assoc
- crop
- cont
- mgls
- pixel
- prop
- del

IRAS-IRIS color

DSS colored

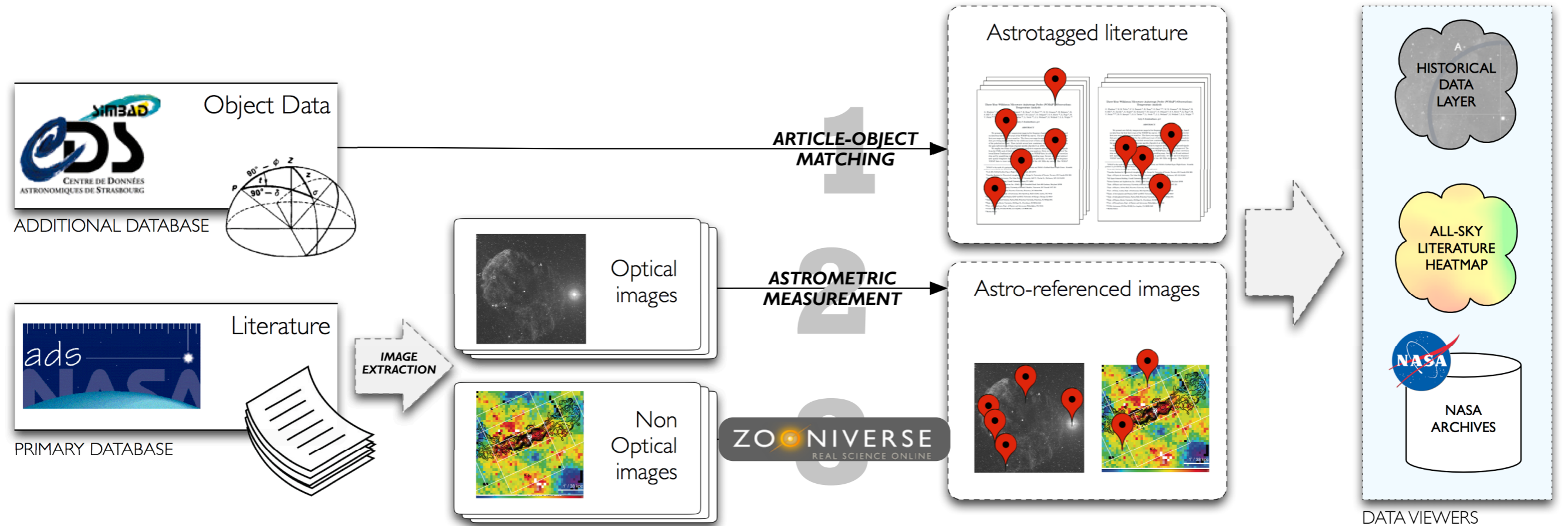
simbad-bibli

om 1/16x





# Seamless Astronomy: ADS All Sky Survey



slide courtesy of Alberto Pepe