

Annotations in CDS services

Web 2.0 in a data center

Sébastien Derriere
Brice Gassmann
Thomas Boch

The context

- CDS
 - (meta)data provider
 - curation
 - homogenization
- Interaction with users
 - FTP
 - email



Web 2.0 experiment

- Euro-VO AIDA project



- Assessment of Web 2.0 usage in a data center
- Definition (extract from the official documentation)
 - *The annotations service allows the users to make comments and notify errors on the data available through CDS services.*
- <http://cdsannotations.u-strasbg.fr/doc>

Web 2.0 experiment

- Let users provide contents in the services
 - users have knowledge, and validate data!
 - add annotations to existing data
- No prior moderation
- Change in paradigm !
 - how will users behave?
 - how to avoid “YouTube comments” syndrome?

YouTube comments

- Some random video about Galileo

[datzfast](#)

2 months ago

see, you just proved time and space are not warped.

[datzfast](#)

2 months ago

science is just as stupid, it places earth at the exact center of the universe 13.5 billion lightyears across in every direction.
thats religion if there ever was religion.

[Danerd9](#)

3 months ago

church failed. who's perfect now?

[tate386](#)

4 months ago

actually its capernicuses system

 Reply

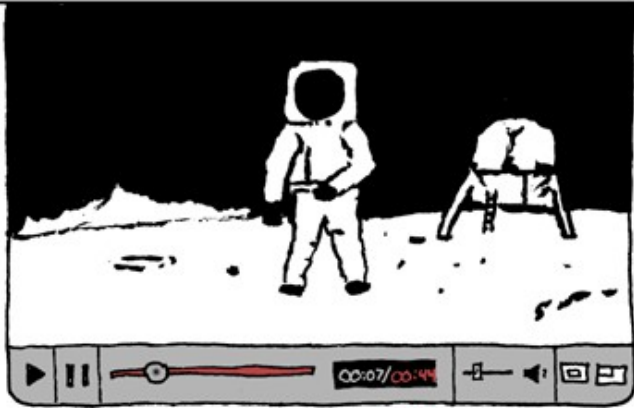


[JaceMullen](#)

6 months ago

had to watch this for school.... interesting and makes a person more intelligent

THE INTERNET HAS ALWAYS HAD LOUD DUMB PEOPLE, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING QUITE AS BAD AS THE PEOPLE WHO COMMENT ON YOUTUBE VIDEOS.



COMMENTS & RESPONSES

ROCKKIR (48 MINUTES AGO)

THIS IS SO OBVIOUSLY FAKED ITS UNBELIEVABLE, WHY R PEOPLE SO GULLIBLE??? MORONS

(REPLY)(MARK AS SPAM)

BIGMIKE133 (35 MINUTES AGO)

I'VE SEEN THE SPACE SHUTTLE ASS HOLE IT DEFINITELY LANDED ON THE MOON DO SOME RESEARCH...

(REPLY)(MARK AS SPAM)

GUNFISTOLMAN (22 MINUTES AGO)

IF IT WAS REAL WHY IS THEIR GRAVITY? AMERICANS R FUCKEN SHEEP

(REPLY)(MARK AS SPAM)

CRACKMONKEY74 (17 MINUTES AGO)

U DONT THINK WE WENT TO THE MOON WHY NOT TELL LOUIS ARMSTRONG TO HIS FACE

(REPLY)(MARK AS SPAM)

SIMPLEPLAN2009 (5 MINUTES AGO)

IT WAS A SOUNDSTAGE ON MARS

Do we really want to turn our data portals into this ?

Implementation

- User authentication
 - users register to the **CDS login service**
- J2EE Web Application hosted on Tomcat
 - MySQL database
 - JDBC
 - Java servlet, JSP
 - Rich user interface: HTML + **AJAX** + Dojo (Javascript framework)

Implementation

- REST Web Service
 - Commands: addAnnotation, getAnnotations, getNbAnnotations, ...
 - Content negociation
 - XML or JSON
 - Logical URLs (better than physical !)

<http://cdsannotations.u-strasbg.fr/annotations/last>

<http://cdsannotations.u-strasbg.fr/annotations/simbadObject/650221>

Application to SIMBAD service

- Annotation service independent from SIMBAD
- Link is made through the internal identifier of a SIMBAD object

Annotations :

Annotations allow a user to add a note or report an error concerning the astronomical object and its data. It requires registration to post a note. See [description](#) .

[display existing annotations \(4\)](#)

[add an annotation to this object](#)

[report an error concerning the data of this object](#)

Interaction with users

- Users : username & real name
- Create, edit and reply to annotations
- Rich content
 - Lists, Bold, italic and underlined text
 - Simple HTTP link
 - Dedicated links : SIMBAD, VizieR, bibcode
 - on-the-fly validation !

Write an annotation about V* V407 Cyg object

➔ [View object in Simbad](#) 

List  Link  Preview

|

5000 character(s) remaining

► **Moderation text:**

5000 character(s) remaining

- Notify the SIMBAD team about an error on this object
- Make my annotation visible to CDS team only

Post my annotation

Cancel

 Note that you will be able to edit your annotation during 24 hours.

Moderation & administration

- Moderation
 - A moderator can add a message directly in an annotation, but visually apart from the original content created by the user
- Administration
 - Manage annotations (delete, moderate, change status, view stats,...)
 - Manage users (visualize the list, edit their role, status,...)

Examples

D_Jack_MacConnell (Jack MacConnell) on 2010-06-07 at 16:15



EM* VES 723 object - view in  · [annotations](#)


The spectral type A2 V, given in the HBHA reference for 6211-50, is incorrect and is for the star [GSC 04037-02221](#). The sp. type for VES 723 = HBHA 6211-50 is unknown and should be left blank.

Priv. communication from L. Kohoutek, 4 June 2010



Basic data for both stars are more consistent with this, so the correction has been done. However it would be good to know how this could happen because both stars are separated by about 1.5'.

Edited by Cilou (Cecile Loup) on 2010-06-09 15:59


CCDM J16555-0820AB object - view in  • [annotations](#)

GI 644/Wolf 630 actually is part of a [quintuple system](#), not just a triple one:

- the [brighter component](#) of the 1.7 yr visual binary mentioned in the current notes is a spectroscopic binary with $P=2.96$ days
- [vB8](#) is a common proper motion companion, in addition to [GI 643](#)

[Segransan et al, 2000 Astronomy and Astrophysics, v.364, p.665-673](#) probably contains the best orbital elements for the inner triple, but the system has been known as quintuple for longer.

Also, Wolf 630 is the center/namesake of a putative stellar moving group. Whether that kinematic grouping is, or is not, the physical remnant of an open cluster remains undecided, as far as I know.

 Simbad has been updated as follow. A new object, "NAME GJ 644/643 system", has been created in order to describe the whole system, with hierarchical links towards the 3 main components : GJ 644, GJ 643, and GJ 644 C (=VB 8). GJ 644 has hierarchical links towards GJ 644 A and GJ 644 B. GJ 643 has hierarchical links towards GJ 643 A and GJ 643 B. Essential notes have been removed as they are replaced by hierarchical links. All the spectral types have been revised. The main object type of GJ 644, GJ 644 B, and GJ 643, has been changed into spectroscopic binary (SB*; previous main object types still appear in the list of secondary types).

To get a quick view on the whole system, set up your Output options in order to visualize hierarchical links in both list and object display; then make a Coordinate query centered at 16 55 28.75 -08 20 10.8 with a search radius of 3.9'.

Browsing & following

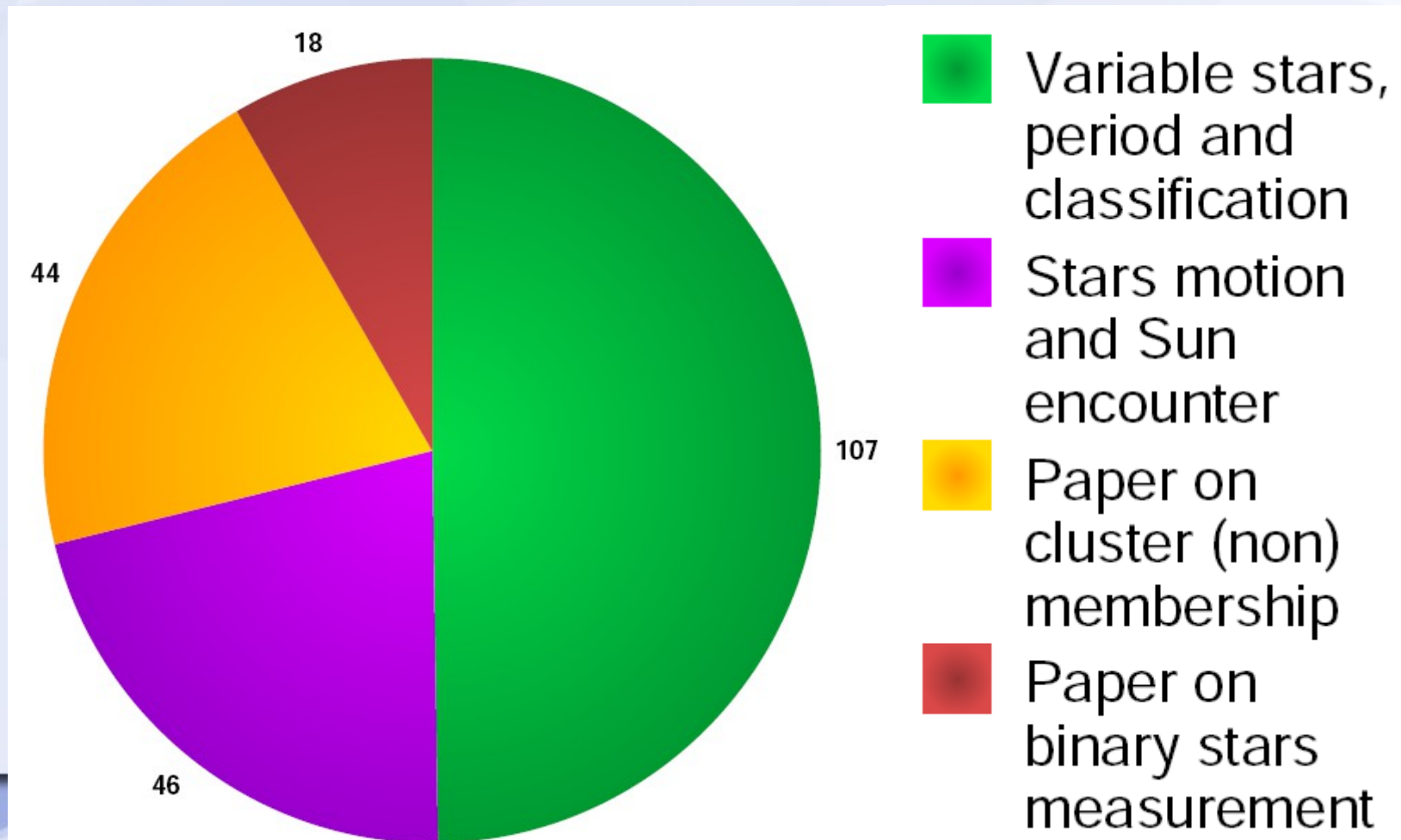
- Search by keyword, sort by date
- Referencing by search engines
 - `<noscript>` tag added on html pages, containing annotations content (because robots can't read javascript generated content)
- Follow annotations (by object, by user or by date)
 - E-mail alert system
 - RSS flux

Usage statistics

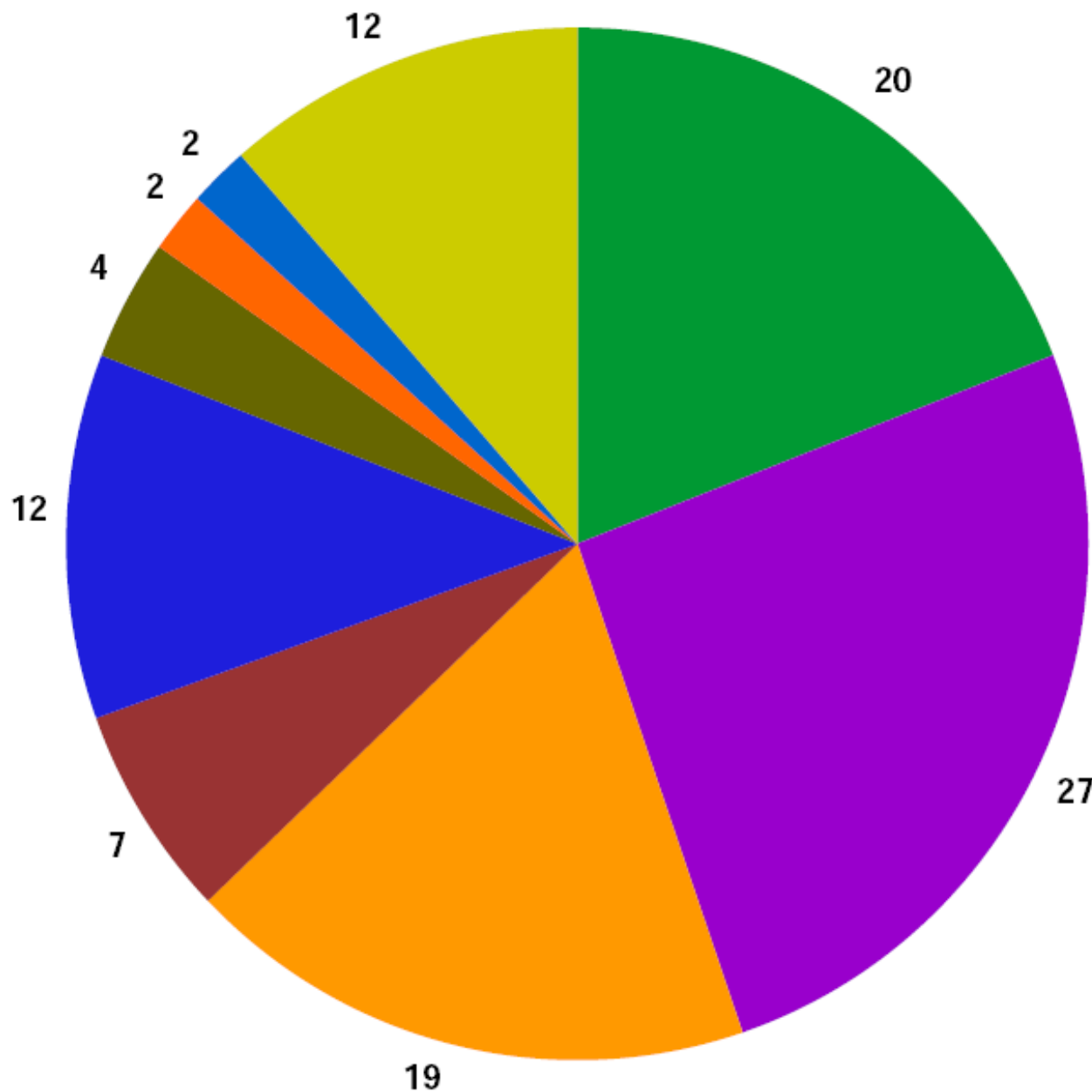
- Statistics after ~100 days
 - 73 users have subscribed
 - 57 users have posted at least one annotation
 - 333 annotations have been posted
 - 296 different SIMBAD objects
 - 27 private
 - 89 error notifications
 - ~8000 pages viewed
 - 0 spam !!!

2 user profiles

- 4 « power users » writing 218/333 annotations
- “regular users”



Types of annotations



Assessment

- Do people use annotations ? How ?
 - alternate/complement to email
 - public tracking of error notifications
- How does this impact a data center ?
 - workload for monitoring
 - trust of information (up/down vote?)
- Prof. astronomers, amateurs, public
 - scalability when pros are only the *statistical tail* of users ?

Perspectives

- Will astronomers/others play the game ?
 - it takes time to share knowledge or to notify errors
 - visibility? reward? altruism?
- Links in annotations
 - data linking
 - across data centers or services
- Interpret semantic contents of annotations
 - really not easy !