



The WFCAM Science Archive

Nigel Hambly, Mike Read, Eckhard Sutorius, Ross Collins, Nick Cross, Johann Bryant, Bob Mann, Peredur Williams, Andy Lawrence

Wide Field Astronomy Unit, IfA, University of Edinburgh

(work carried out as part of the VISTA Data Flow System, or VDFS, e-Science project)

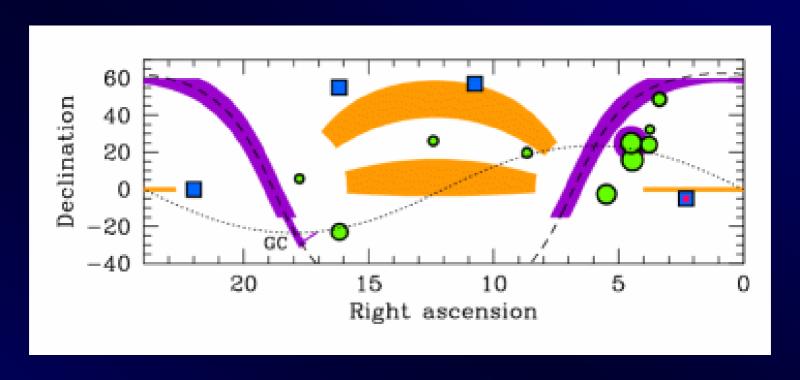
http://surveys.roe.ac.uk/wsa/pre

The need for a science archive

New survey science requires a new solution to the data management problem: the science archive.

- a science archive is more than a simple repository of of data (e.g. CDS, LEDAS etc.)
 - flexible querying
 - science driven data products
- a science archive is a system that enables science exploitation of large-scale surveys
 - data volume: SSS => WFCAM => VISTA ~1TB ~10s TB ~100s TB
 - (re)calibration issues: centralised, controlled releases
 - supports diverse usage modes

The new generation of IR surveys: e.g. UKIDSS



• [LAS:	4000	sq.	deg.	to	K=18.4
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• GPS: 1800	19.0
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•	GCS: 1400	18.7

• DXS: 35 21.0

• UDS: 0.8 23.0

Science Archive hardware



- designed and set up a stable, scalable HW platform
- economical RAID array maintenance in-house
- modular design (ease of maintenance & expansion)

Science Archive software



- Python/C/C++/Java
 - platform independent
 - syntactically clear
 - multilayered; clean interfaces
- off-the-shelf components
 - Python middleware (mxODBC, SOAPy, ...)
 - HTM spatial indexing
- scalable solutions
 - non-intensive work in Python
 - drop into C/C++ for intensive processing, e.g. bulk ingest
- CVS
 - version control
 - disciplined development
- RDBMS: Microsoft SQL Server

Protection of proprietary rights

- ESO has 18 month proprietary rights on UKIDSS data
- To gain access to UKIDSS data in the science archive you need to be registered (non-proprietary data can be accessed by anyone of course)
- Users are organised into "community" groups & vetting of new users is delegated to the community contacts
- Home-grown system is now in place to implement this
 - "UKIDSS testers" is a community of ~36
- Ultimately, AstroGRID community software will be deployed to aid integration into the VO



Science Archive **WSA Home Data Overview** Schema browser Data access

Login Archive Listing Getimage Region Menu query Freeform SQL Cookbook Q&A Glossarv Release History Downtime Links

Credits

WSA - WFCAM Science Archive

The WFCAM Science Archive (WSA) holds the image and catalogue data products generated by the Wide Field Camera (WFCAM) on UKIRT. The primary contents of the archive will originate from the UKIRT InfraRed Deep Sky Surveys (UKIDSS): Large Area Survey, Galactic Plane Survey, Galactic Clusters Survey, Deep Extragalactic Survey and the Ultra Deep Survey.

Following WFCAM commissioning, survey data will be released in phases, firstly to the UKIDSS community and then to the public (see data policy).



Picture: Early Commissioning - Central region of a full tile, showing dramatic clouds of gas and dust illuminated by stars in the southern half of the Orion nebula. This is an image at three infrared wavelengths (red represents narrow-band emission from molecular hydrogen gas at 2.12 microns, green represents K-band emission at 2.2 microns, and blue represents J-band emission at 1.25 microns).

Credit: Joint Astronomy Centre. Data processing by Dr Chris Davis and Dr Watson Varricatt.

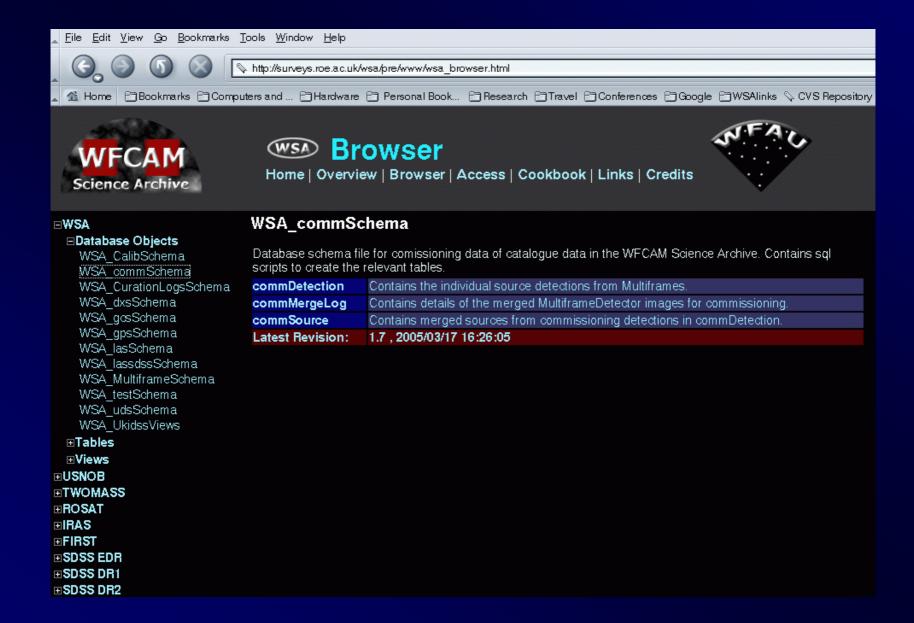
ROE

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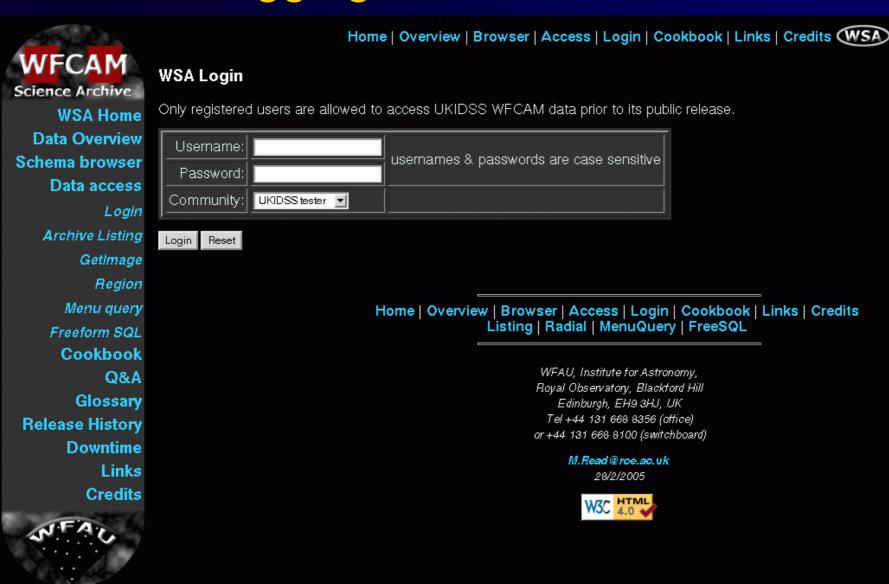
> WFAU, Institute for Astronomy, Royal Observatory, Blackford Hill Edinburgh, EH9 3HJ, UK Tel +44 131 668 8356 (office) or +44 131 668 8100 (switchboard)

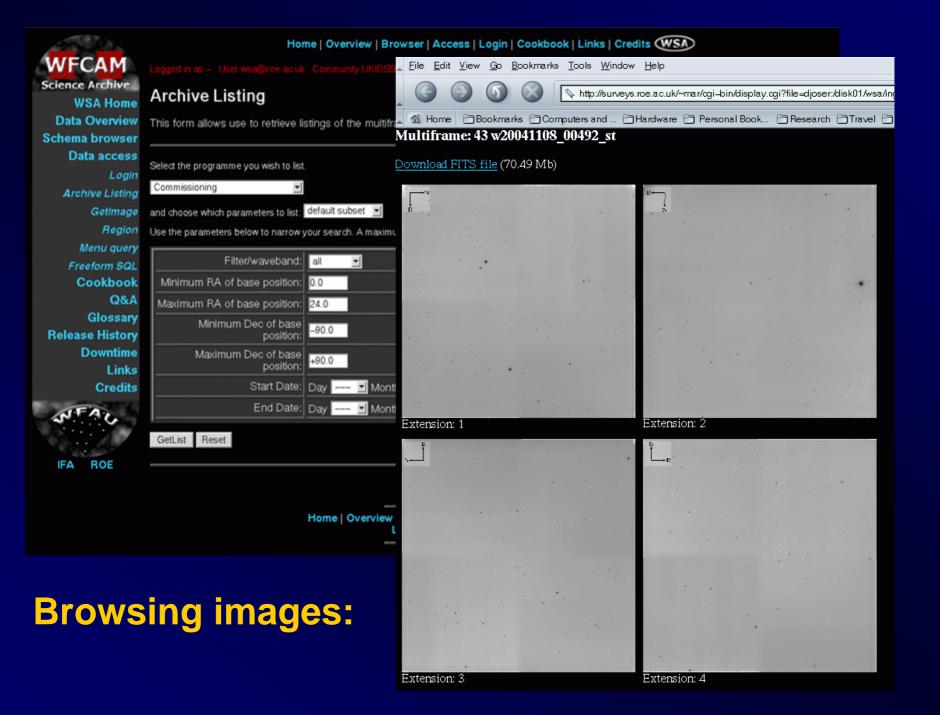
> > M.Read @ roe.ac.uk 21/2/2005

Online documentation



Logging in to the WSA:

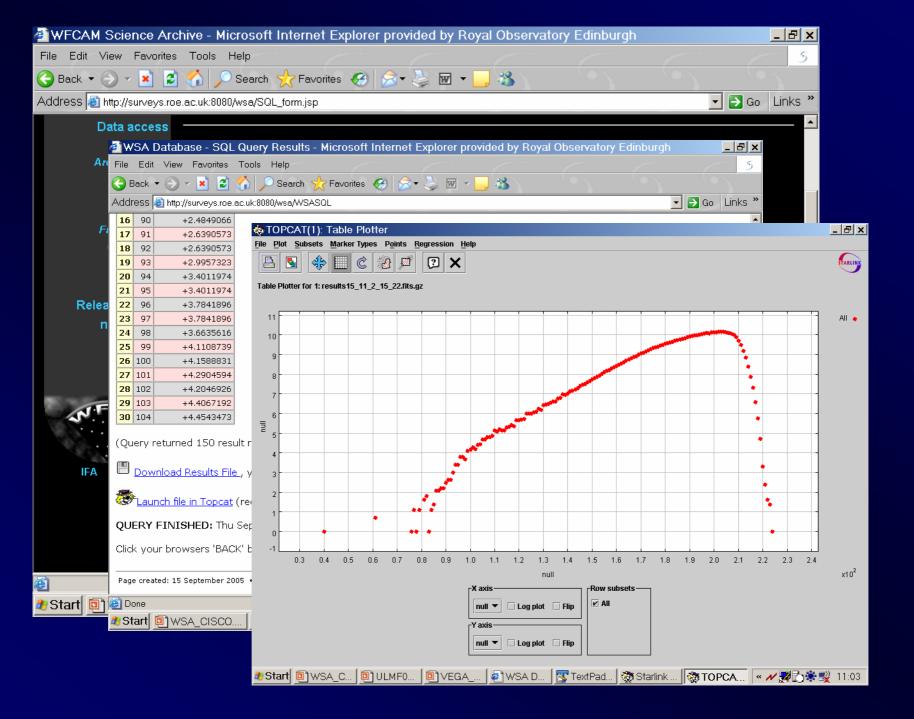




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Submit

reset form



Further information:

- WFCAM Science Archive URL: http://surveys.roe.ac.uk/wsa/pre
- When will data be released to the ESO community?
 - first data release anticipated around end of 2005
- UKIDSS home page (e.g. registration procedure): http://www.ukidss.org/
- Where can I learn more about SQL? http://surveys.roe.ac.uk/wsa/pre/sqlcookbook.html
- What about VISTA?
 - The same Science Archive system will be available for the VISTA public surveys