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Web-based approach to Data Management

Web-based services make astronomical data, such as images and object catalogs, easily queryable and accessible via a browser or script.

Nowadays the size of the data underlying these services does not impose any restriction on their usability. Relational or schema-less database management systems can be employed to manage both data and metadata. Furthermore, web tools can also include interactive graphs that allow intuitive use even by inexperienced users. Finally, software maintenance is centralized and no installation is required.

Despite astronomical web tools becoming more and more common and effective, the INAF community is apparently little involved in this kind of activity.

In the hope of increasing interest, I will briefly show some examples of web-based data management as part of projects in which I and INAF colleagues are involved.

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