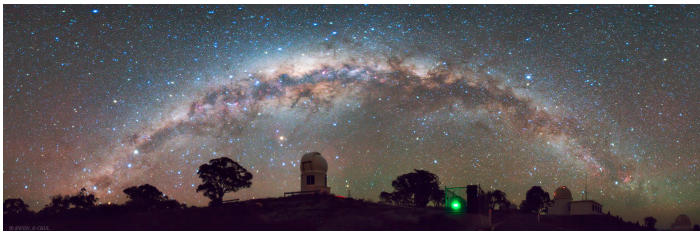


The QUBRICS database for machine learning: architecture and performance.

Giorgio Calderone (INAF-OATs)

QUBRICS collaboration:

*Konstantina Boutsia, Stefano Cristiani, Guido Cupani,
Andrea Grazian, Francesco Guarneri, Luciano Nicastro, Matteo Porru, ...*

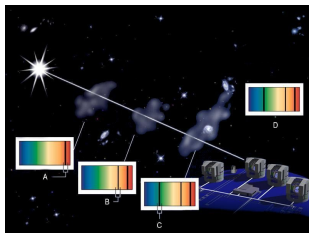


The QUBRICS Project

*QUasars as BRight beacons
for Cosmology in the
Southern hemisphere*

Purpose:

- Collect photometric datasets in the Southern Hemisphere;
- Use machine learning to select new, bright, high- z ($z > 2.5$) QSOs candidates;
- Spectroscopic follow-up, confirm classification and redshift;
- ⇒ exploit acquired knowledge!

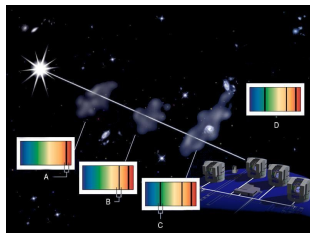


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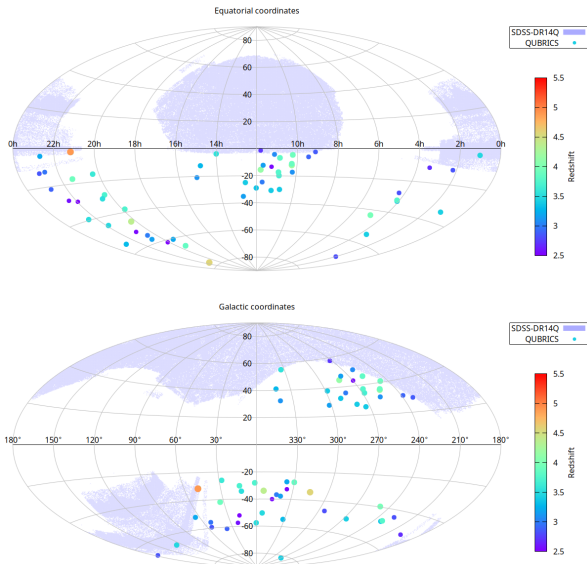
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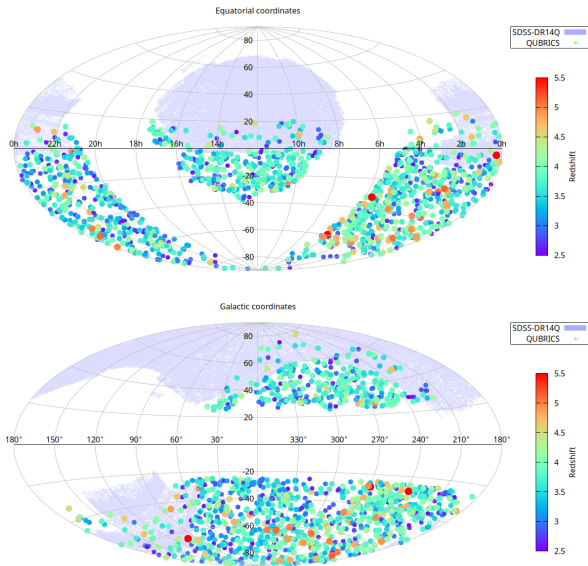


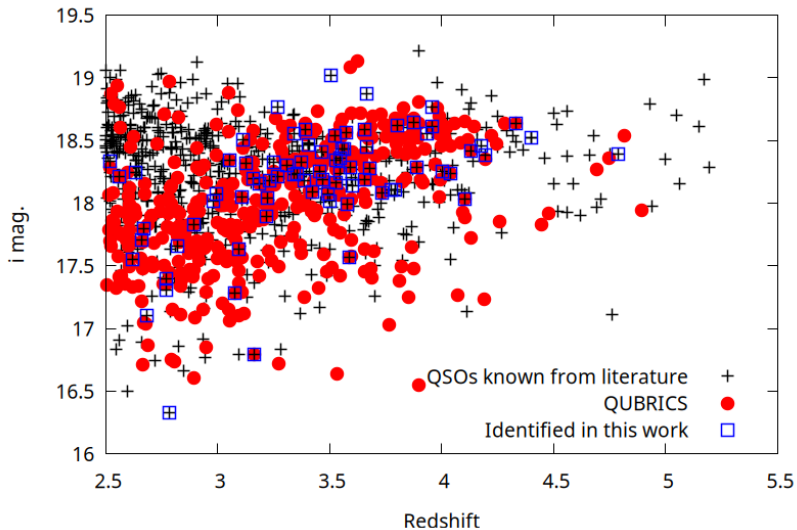
Papers:

Calderone+19, Boutsia+20, Boutsia+21,
Guarneri+21, Cupani+21, Grazian+21,
Guarneri+22, Cristiani+23, Grazian+23,
Calderone+24, Grazian+24,
More in preparation...

QUBRICS QSOs ($z > 2.5$) in 2019



QUBRICS QSOs ($z > 2.5$) in 2025

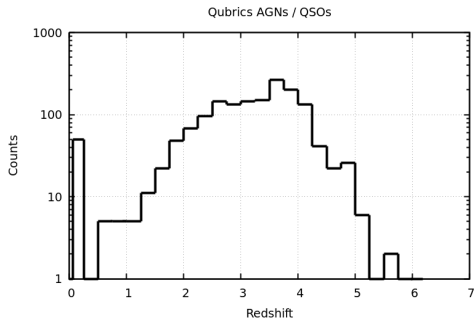
QUBRICS QSOs vs mag. in *i* band

Calderone et al., 2024

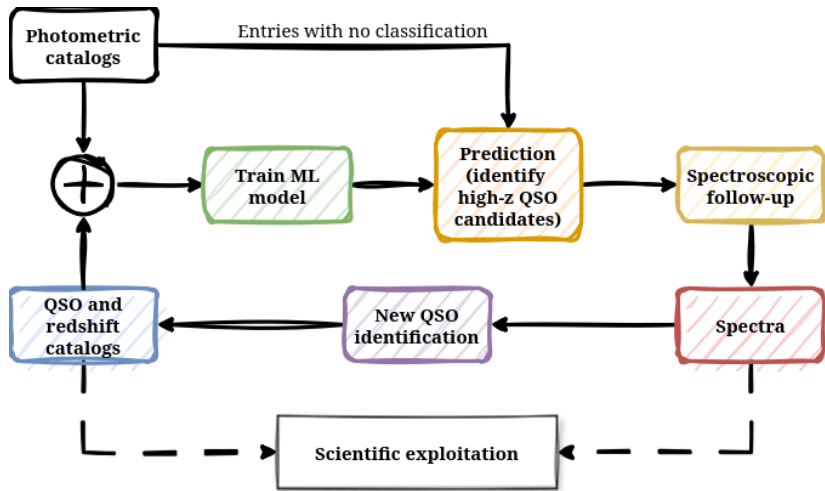
QUBRICS statistics in 2025

Observations:

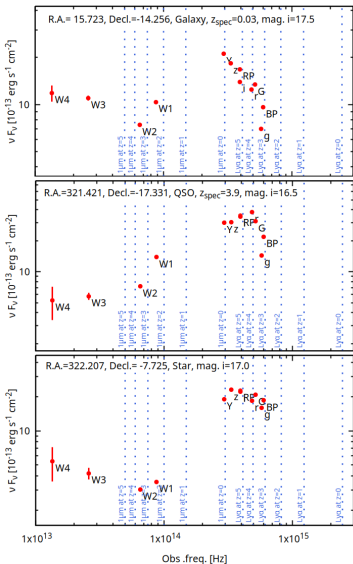
- Candidates observed: 2019;
 - good quality: 1764;
 - Stars: 76;
 - Galaxies: 38;
 - bad quality: 255.
- QSOs: 1585 (93%);
 - $z > 2.0$: 1438 (84%);
 - $z > 2.5$: 1274 (75%);
 - $z > 3.0$: 992 (58%);
 - $z > 4.0$: 228 (13%)
- Max. redshift: 5.768.



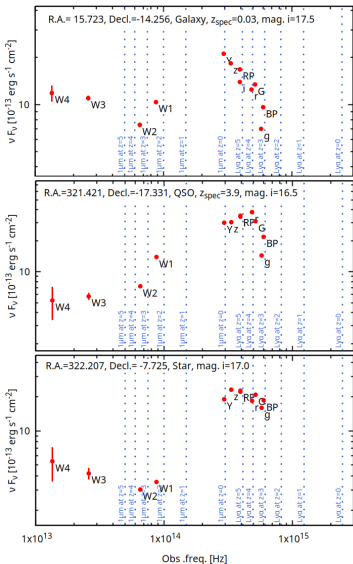
QUBRICS self-feeding



How data looks like?

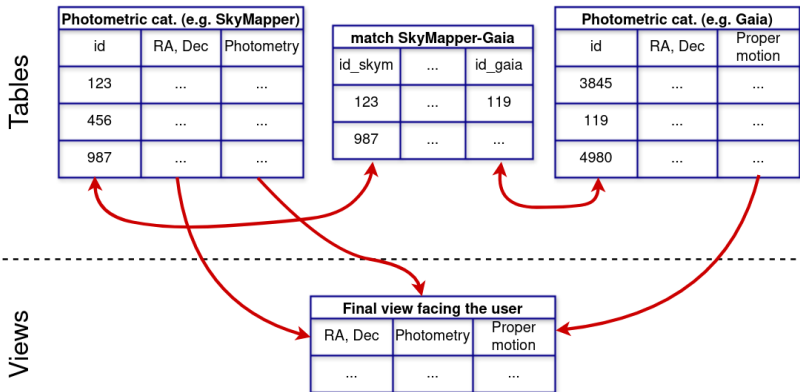


How data looks like?



- Disk usage \sim 4TB;
- Single workstation with 8 CPU, 64GB RAM;
- MariaDB database;
- Less than 10 persons involved (+occasional contributors)
- \Rightarrow **“Small data” project.**

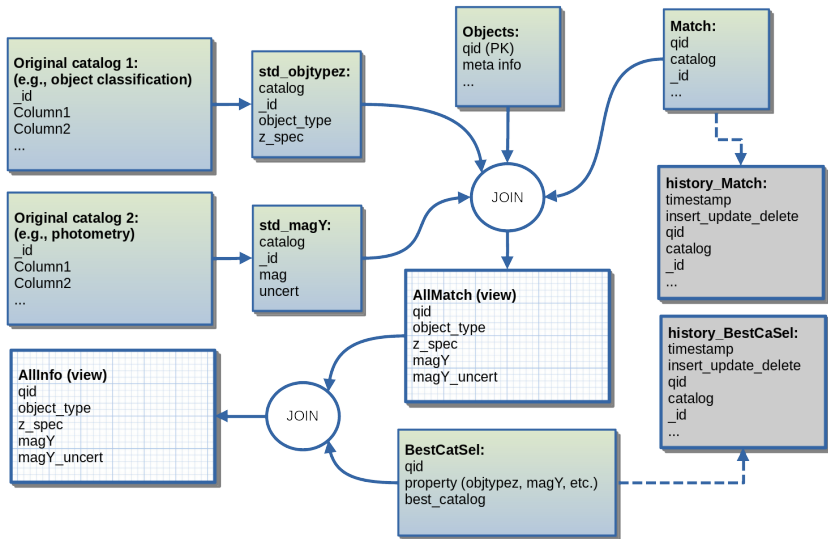
Relational DB, inner joins



- Original catalogs are not modified;
- “Matching” tables contain matching entries among two tables;

- User make queries on a “view”;
- **It is always possible to trace back entries to their original catalogs;**

QUBRICS Database



QUBRICS Database

DB Content:

- Photometric: Gaia DR3, PanSTARRS1 DR2, DES DR2, SkyMapper DR4, AllWise and CatWISE, SDSS DR16Q, etc. ;
- Several QSO and inactive galaxies catalogs;
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Performance

- Select data for a single QSO: ~ 1 ms;
- Query entire table containing coordinates, classifications and redshifts (8×10^5 rows) of known QSOs: ~ 14 s;
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Features:

- All tables have indices on their primary keys, as well as on coordinates: access time do not depends on table size;
- Main table modification histories are recorded;
- DB coherence ensured by triggers.

QUBRICS on TOCats

- Easy visualization of catalogs on the sky;
- Uses multi-depth indexing to **quickly** access catalogs with $\sim 10^8$ entries;
- Quick access to online services and private repository of spectra;
- \Rightarrow talk by L. Nicastro.

The screenshot displays the TOCats web interface. At the top, it shows the INAF logo and the title "TOCats - HIPS catalogues browser, V. 1.6 - Developed using DIF". The user is identified as "qumgr@qubrics". The interface includes a search bar with coordinates "79.797451 -11.767519" and a radius of "1474.81". The main visualization shows a star field with red circles representing objects. A text box at the bottom of the visualization states "2,496,876 objects in the field, 77 brightest shown". To the right, a table lists the RA, DEC, Mag, and Sep for the 77 brightest objects. Below the table, there are options for "Base image layer quick selection" and "Objects density map". At the bottom, there are "External links" and a "Share URL" section.

RA	DEC	Mag	Sep
77.933567	-22.578324	14.0001	657.23796
76.463839	-19.320359	14.0001	492.37191
78.388799	-19.020609	14.0001	442.73640
78.812559	-13.679023	14.0001	128.35945
64.876062	-15.908883	14.0001	903.76239
61.269498	-13.400868	14.0001	1089.12039
70.504351	-3.711084	14.0001	733.74561
66.613069	-4.106706	14.0001	907.80189
80.61454	-4.540338	14.0001	1218.21628
55.768002	-1.87764	14.0001	1547.80930

QUBRICS on TOCats

The screenshot displays the TOCats web interface with three main components:

- External Tools Panel:** A central window titled "External Tools" with a close button (X). It contains a grid of buttons for various astronomical tools:
 - Photometry plot, VizieR SpeCats
 - CDS portal, SIMBAD, VizieR
 - ESO Science Portal, ESA-Sky Portal, CADC CFHT
 - NED, DSS, SDSS X-id
 - SDSS img, Legacy Survey, WISE
 - PanSTARRS-1, SkyMapper, NVSS
 Below this grid is a "Custom tools" section with a "Reduced spectrum" button and a file path: "2019-09-NTT/night3/SWG136204383_spec01wflux.fits". To the right, there are options for "Std. files" (FITS, PNG) and a note "More to be added...".
- Observations Panel:** A panel on the right titled "Observations" with a close button (X). It displays metadata for a specific observation:
 - id: 332
 - target_qid: 862533
 - RAcd: 304.080058
 - DECcd: -27.556018
 - targetflag:
 - file: 2019-09-NTT/night3/SWG136204383_spec01wflux.fits
 - dateobs: 2019-09-21 00:00:00
 - facility: EFOSC
 - qflag: A
 - otypeid: 1
 - z_spec: 2.06207
 - notes:
- Spectral Plot:** A plot at the bottom right showing "Flux density" on the y-axis (ranging from 10000 to 40000) versus "Red frame wavelength [Å]" on the x-axis (ranging from 1200 to 3000). The plot shows a noisy spectrum with several vertical dashed lines indicating absorption features. The title of the plot is "862533 (A, QSO, z=2.061, EFOSC, SWG136204383_spec01wflux.fits)".

Summary

- The QUBRICS project already discovered more than 1000 QSO at $z > 2.5$ (and more than 200 at $z > 4$) at $Y \lesssim 19.5$;
 - Scientific exploitation: luminosity function, cosmological re-ionization, Sandage test, etc.;
- Several machine learning methods adopted: CCA, PRF, XGBoost;
- Dedicated method to deal with severely imbalanced datasets (Calderone+24);

- QUBRICS database is a key part in the project;
- Storage for machine learning project *may* be smaller than for instrumentation...
 - ...and typically has a clear "structure" (feature columns) \Rightarrow relational DB is the perfect tool!
- By using pre-matched tables (e.g. on coordinates), indices, views, etc. we built a highly responsive DB able to support all project activities;
- TOCats is the perfect companion for our DB, to quickly visualize literature data and prioritize observations;

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Summary

Future challenges:

- Add further photometric data to the NIR (e.g. VISTA, Euclid, etc.);
- Optimize ML selection;
- Probe redshifts up to $\sim 5.5 - 6$, with completeness $\gtrsim 90\%$;

QUBRICS activities range from technical topics, such as DB management and machine learning, to the science exploitation.

If you're interested in learning/collaborating, feel free to reach us. Students are very welcome! ;-)