

# SKUA – persisting and sharing annotations

(with a little bit of semantics)

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JISC



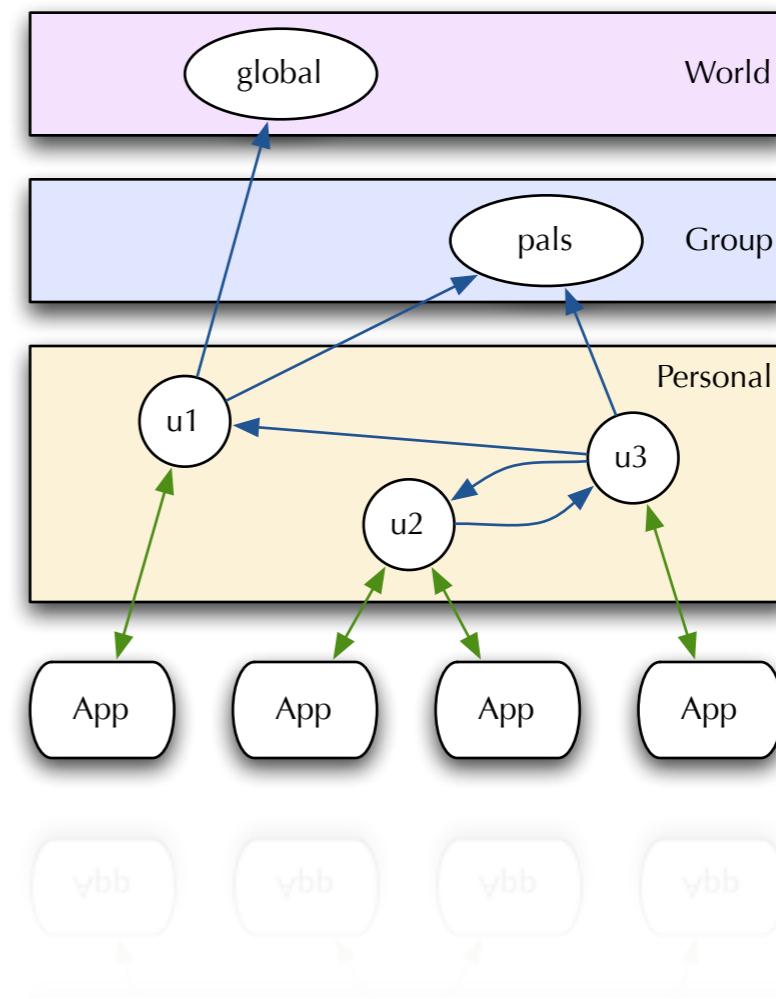
University of  
Leicester



# SKUA

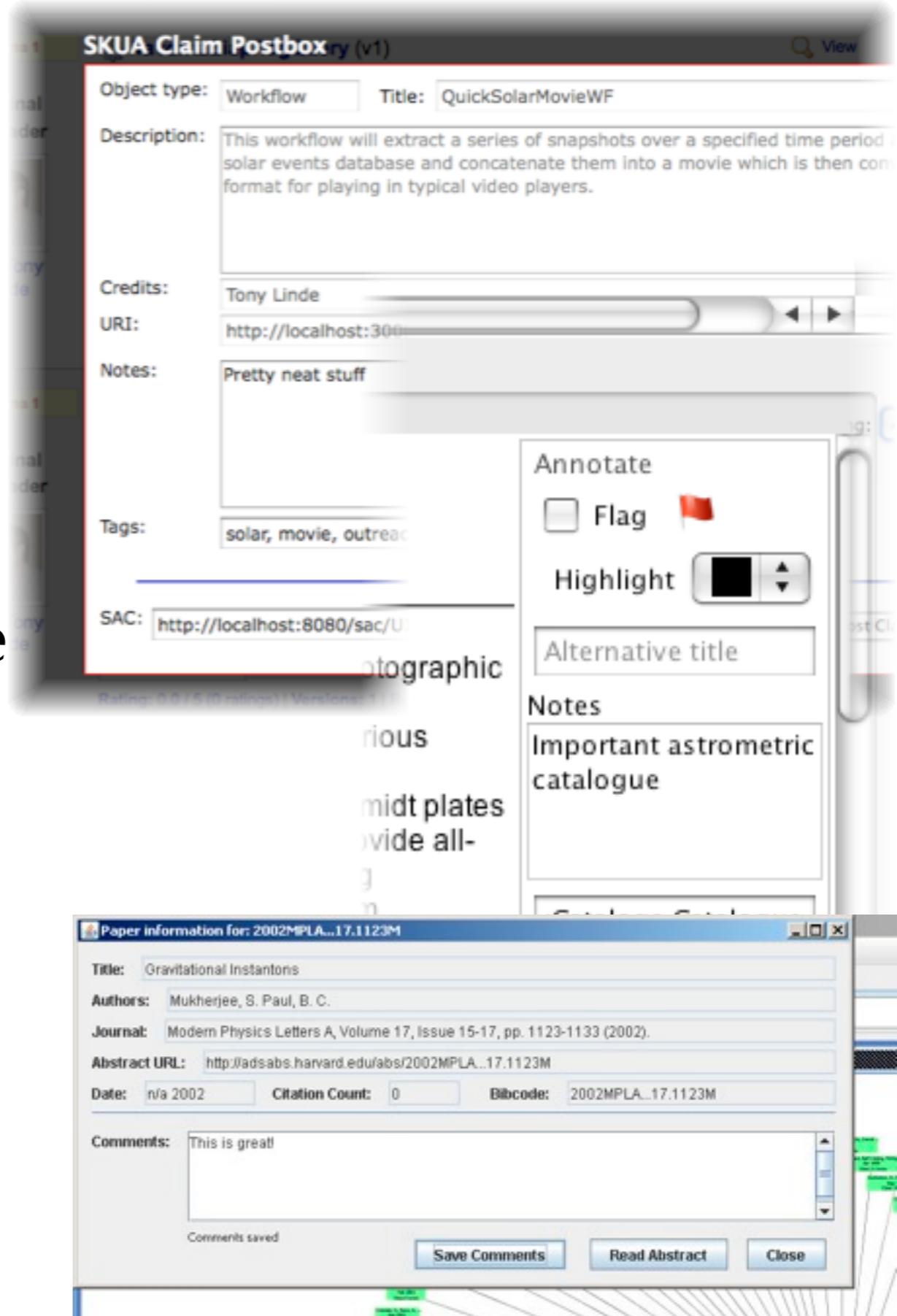
Storing and sharing  
annotations, with lightweight  
semantics.

Simple interface – REST  
+queries: it's easy to retrofit  
semantics.



# Apps

- ❖ Spacebook stores its state in SKUA.
- ❖ VOExplorer can store and retrieve annotations using SKUA, and an in-development version can query these.
- ❖ PaperScope will shortly be able to store comments using SKUA.



# skua assertions

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- | 'bookmark this resource'
- | 'paper X is rubbish'
- | 'I think object X is a quasar'

# voexplorer

VO Explorer – Cone search examples

Contents of Cone search examples – 5 resources

Filter result:

Flag...	Title	Capability	Valida...	Date	Tags
	2MASS All-Sky Extended Source Catalog	Green		2008-04-07	
	2MASS All-Sky Point Source Catalog	Green		2008-04-07	aakeys:Surveys
	IRAS Point Source Catalog, Version 2.0	Green	Blue	2008-10-03	
	Third Reference Catalog of Bright Galaxies	Green	Blue	2008-10-03	
	USNO-B1 Catalogue			2007-04-11	aakeys:Ephemerides

**Information** **Table Metadata**

## USNO-B1 Catalogue

Short Name USNO-B1 ID ivo://fs.usno/cat/usnob  
Type CatalogService Created 2005-03-29T20:18:15 Updated 2007-04-11T08:52:38

Content Type catalog Subject astrometric catalogue, optical astronomy, finding charts, photographic images Level secondary education, community college, university, research, amateur  
USNO-B is an all-sky catalog that presents positions, proper motions, magnitudes in various optical passbands, and star/galaxy estimators for 1,042,618,261 objects derived from 3,643,201,733 separate observations. The data were obtained from scans of 7435 Schmidt plates taken for the various sky surveys during the last 50 years. USNO-B1.0 is believed to provide all-sky coverage, completeness down to V=21, 0.2" astrometric accuracy at J2000, 0.3 mag photometric accuracy in up to five colors, and 85% accuracy for distinguishing stars from nonstellar objects. A brief discussion of various issues is given here, but the actual data are available from the US Naval Observatory Web site and others. [Further Information...](#)

Annotate  
 Flag   
Highlight   
Alternative title  
Notes  
Important astrometric catalogue  
Catalogs Catalogue

Source Reference 2003AJ....125..984M  
Waveband Coverage optical

Help   

norman gray

# voexplorer annotations

- VOExplorer already has an annotation interface, which saves to a local file
- ... and can now save to a SKUA node
- ... and read from your own and your friends' SKUA nodes



# skua assertions

---

```
@base <http://blah/my-sac>.  
@prefix s: <http://myskua.org/claimtypes/1.0/>.  
@prefix dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>.  
@prefix aa: <http://www.ivoa.net/rdf/Vocabularies/AAkeys>.  
<#b1>  
  a s:bookmark;  
  s:ref [  
    a s:resource;  
    s:url <ivo://fs.usno/cat/usnob>;  
    dc:title "USNO-B";  
    s:extended "The USNO-B catalogue"  
  ];  
  s:tag "catalogues";  
  s:subject aa:Ephemerides;  
  s:time "2009-05-21T18:11:58Z".
```

## (...or in RDF/XML)

---

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<rdf:RDF xmlns:aa="http://www.ivoa.net/rdf/Vocabularies/AAkeys"
           xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
           xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
           xmlns:s="http://myskua.org/claimtypes/1.0/"
           xml:base="urn:example.org">
  <s:bookmark rdf:about="http://blah/my-sac#b1">
    <s:ref>
      <s:resource>
        <s:extended>The USNO-B catalogue</s:extended>
        <s:url rdf:resource="ivo://fs.usno/cat/usnob"/>
        <dc:title>USNO-B</dc:title>
      </s:resource>
    </s:ref>
    <s:subject
      rdf:resource="http://www.ivoa.net/rdf/Vocabularies/AAkeysEphemerides"/>
    <s:tag>catalogues</s:tag>
    <s:time>2009-05-21T18:11:58Z</s:time>
  </s:bookmark>
</rdf:RDF>
```

# query using vocabulary relations

SPARQL query:

```
prefix skua: <http://myskua.org/claimtypes/1.0#>
prefix aa: <http://www.ivoa.net/rdf/Vocabularies/AAkeys#>
prefix skos: <http://www.w3.org/2008/05/skos#>

SELECT ?uri ?kw
WHERE {
  ?claim skua:ref [ skua:uri ?uri ].
  ?claim skua:keyword ?kw.
  ?kw skos:broader aa:AstrometryAndCelestialMechanics.
}
```

Response:

```
% curl --data-binary @get-astrometry.rq \
  -H content-type:application/sparql-query -H accept:text/csv \
  http://localhost:8080/qsac/sac/desktop-sac
uri,kw
ivo://fs.usno/cat/usnob,http://www.ivoa.net/rdf/Vocabularies/AAkeys#Ephemerides
%
```

## ease of use

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- | You don't have to have drunk the SemWeb kool-aid to fill in a string template for some Turtle assertions
- | Nor do you have to know lots of theory to use a SPARQL template
- | And every scripting language can do HTTP

- Version 0.4 available from <http://skua.googlecode.com>
- Documentation is at <http://myskua.org/doc/qsac/>
- Persistence and delegation are available now
- Authentication and authorization are coming soon
- People: Norman Gray and Tony Linde (Leicester, UK)  
and Kona Andrews (ROE, UK)

**SKUA**  
myskua.org  
skua.googlecode.com  
nxg.me.uk/norman

