

The NVO Data Discovery Portal

Tom McGlynn
NASA/GSFC



Purpose of the Portal

- Get to science right away without worrying about protocols and such.
- Quick and convenient
- Integrate Web and CLI analysis

Issues

- Complexity of the VO
- Different kinds of questions users have

Our solution:

- Make the portal a suite of interacting services rather than a single monolithic task.



What's New

- Subsume the portal into the NVO home page
- Emphasize help functionality
- Scrub for clarity and consistency
- Establish automated regression tests
- Released: February



NVO Home page



Welcome to the US National Virtual Observatory - SeaMonkey

NVO
NATIONAL VIRTUAL OBSERVATORY
...the Universe at your fingertips

Welcome to the New NVO Home Page! We welcome your **feedback** on the new site.

Discover, retrieve, and analyze astronomical data from archives and data centers around the world.

Need help? Not sure how to start?
[» Getting Started with NVO](#)

Collect all data at a given position.
[» DataScope](#)

Count matches between catalog entries and given positions.
[» Inventory](#)

Query databases and cross-match object lists
[» Open SkyQuery](#)

Find data collections and catalogs by searching their descriptions.
[» Directory](#)

Integrate data from multiple positions and datasets.
[» VIM](#)

Query the VO from the command line.
[» VO-CLI](#)

Convert text tables to the VOTable format used by VO applications.
[» Table Tools](#)

Do more with NVO.
[» Data Analysis & More](#)

what is the nvo
[faq](#)
[the nvo book](#)
[behind the scenes](#)
[documents](#)

What's New?

NVO Newsletter Issue 003: March 2009

NVO in the News: SPIE Newsroom

NVO in the News: Boulder Daily Camera

Hot-wiring the Transient Universe 2: Real-Time Astronomy

Semantic Astronomy Workshop Call for Papers

News Archives

NVO News Feed

Community

Subscribe to the NVO Mailing List

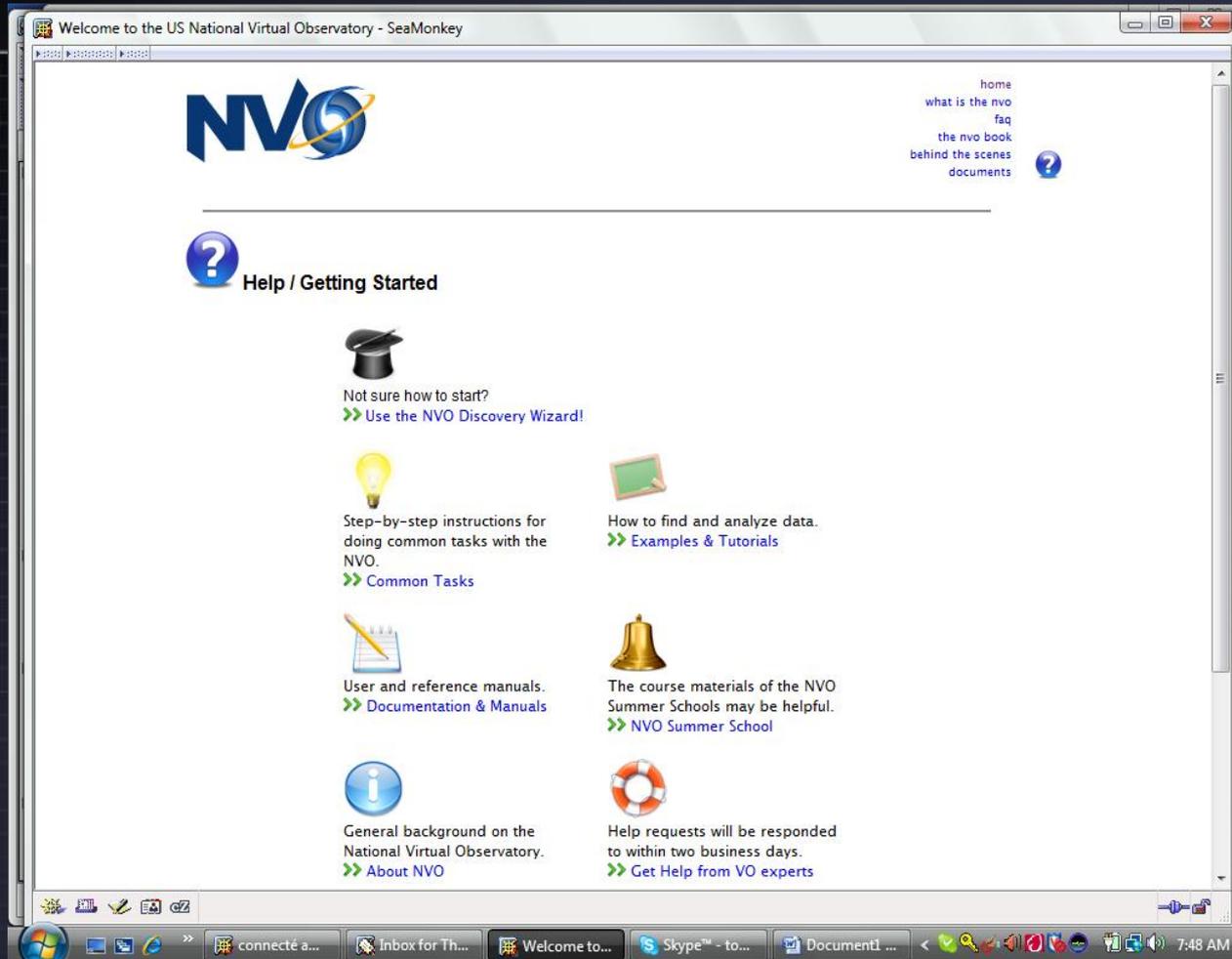
Restricted to NVO Development team

connecté a... | Inbox for Th... | Welcome to... | Skype™ - to... | Document1 ... | 7:47 AM

Subsume the portal into the NVO Home page



Service guides



Welcome to the US National Virtual Observatory - SeaMonkey

NVO

home
what is the nvo
faq
the nvo book
behind the scenes
documents ?

Help / Getting Started

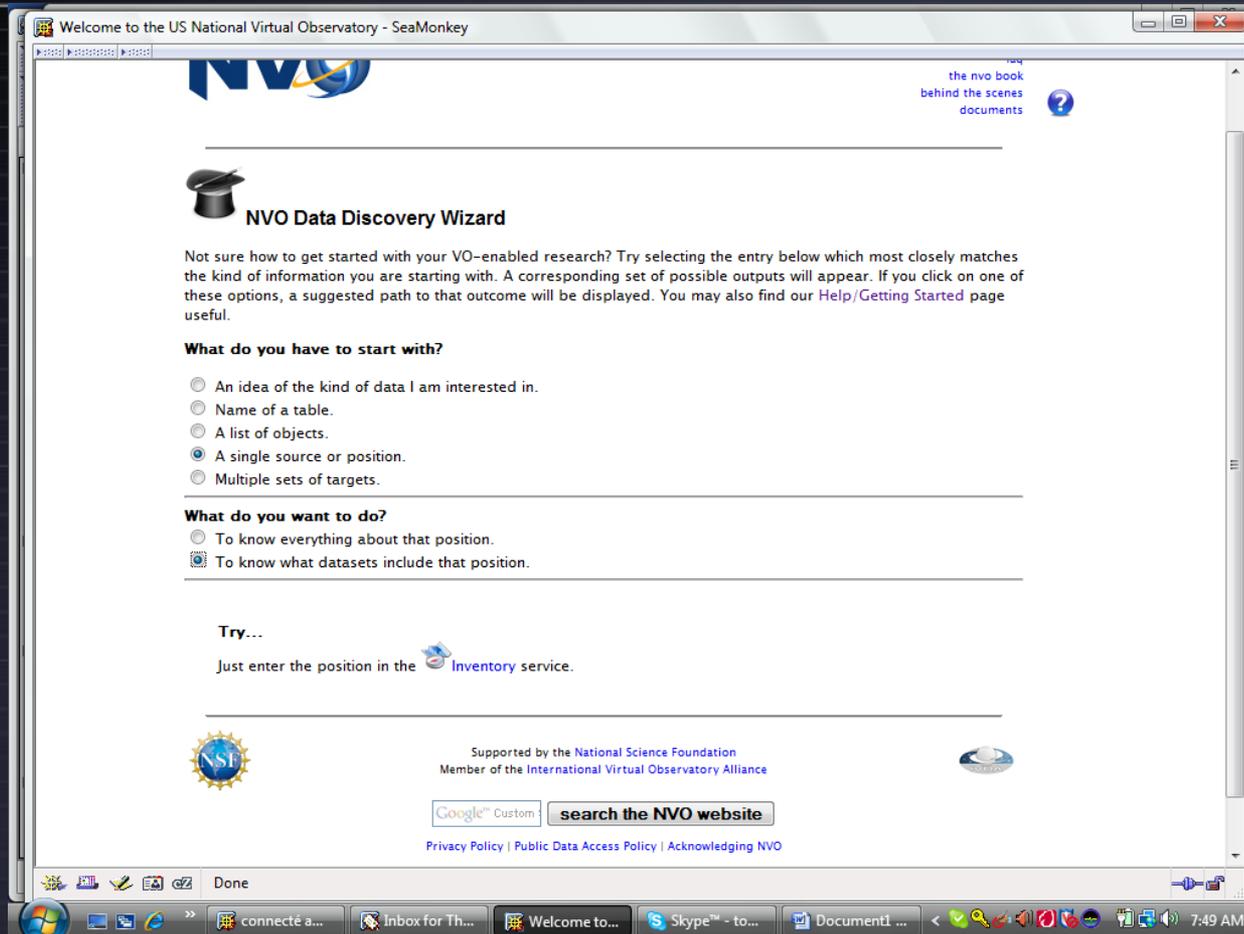
-  Not sure how to start?
[Use the NVO Discovery Wizard!](#)
-  Step-by-step instructions for doing common tasks with the NVO.
[Common Tasks](#)
-  User and reference manuals.
[Documentation & Manuals](#)
-  General background on the National Virtual Observatory.
[About NVO](#)
-  How to find and analyze data.
[Examples & Tutorials](#)
-  The course materials of the NVO Summer Schools may be helpful.
[NVO Summer School](#)
-  Help requests will be responded to within two business days.
[Get Help from VO experts](#)

connecté a... | Inbox for Th... | Welcome to... | Skype™ - to... | Document1 ... | 7:48 AM

Emphasize Help



Interactive help



Welcome to the US National Virtual Observatory - SeaMonkey

NVO

the nvo book
behind the scenes
documents

NVO Data Discovery Wizard

Not sure how to get started with your VO-enabled research? Try selecting the entry below which most closely matches the kind of information you are starting with. A corresponding set of possible outputs will appear. If you click on one of these options, a suggested path to that outcome will be displayed. You may also find our [Help/Getting Started](#) page useful.

What do you have to start with?

- An idea of the kind of data I am interested in.
- Name of a table.
- A list of objects.
- A single source or position.
- Multiple sets of targets.

What do you want to do?

- To know everything about that position.
- To know what datasets include that position.

Try...

Just enter the position in the [Inventory](#) service.

Supported by the [National Science Foundation](#)
Member of the [International Virtual Observatory Alliance](#)

Google™ Custom | [search the NVO website](#)

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Public Data Access Policy](#) | [Acknowledging NVO](#)

Done

connecté a... | Inbox for Th... | Welcome to... | Skype™ - to... | Document1 ... | 7:49 AM



Clarity and consistency

- NVO is many collaborating organizations
- Common look and feel
 - Title bars, descriptions
 - Icons
- Simpler vocabulary
 - TLA elimination
 - Registry -> Directory
- External reviews



Regression testing

- Hourly 'It's up' tests in NVO monitor tool.
- More sophisticated Selenium tests developed and run each day
 - Will replace simpler tests in automated procedures
 - Suggested at Baltimore IVOA

