

# *Implementing a Real-Time VOEvents Network*

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Department**



# Outline

- \* Example (==plug):

  - Time-domain enabled by Existing Network

- \* Technical (Abstract)

  - ◎ A Simple VOEvent Network:

    - Interplay between

    - Provider/Listening Agents & Aggregators

  - ◎ Building towards a Complex Network:

    - Meta-Aggregation, De-centralization, &  
self-organization → emergence

- \* Proposed Benchmarks

<http://pairitel.org>

**PAIRITEL**  
PETERS AUTOMATED  
INFRARED IMAGING TELESCOPE

1.3m, dedicated robotic  
telescope

*Burst-to-image time = ~1-2 min*

*2 Dichroics (=3 filters):  
J (1.25  $\mu\text{m}$ ), H (1.65  $\mu\text{m}$ ), Ks (2.16  $\mu\text{m}$ )*

PI: JSB

Automation Team:

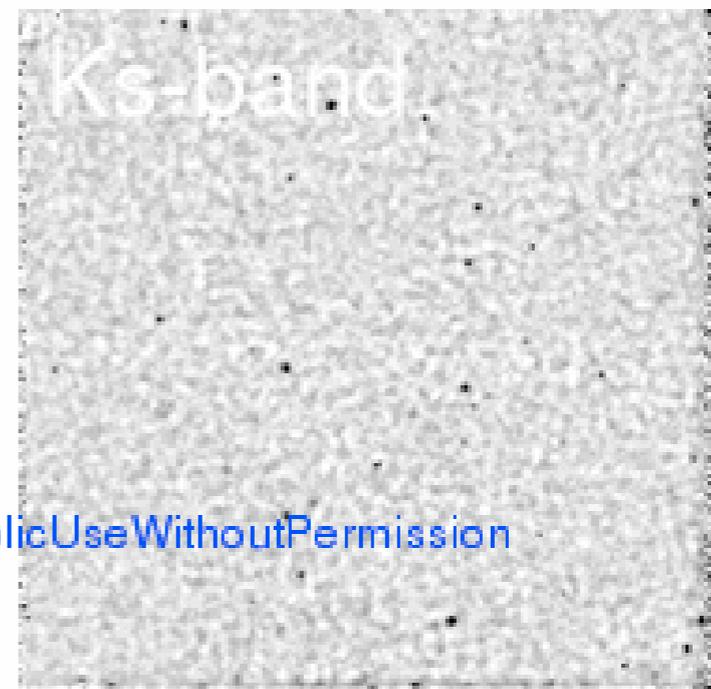
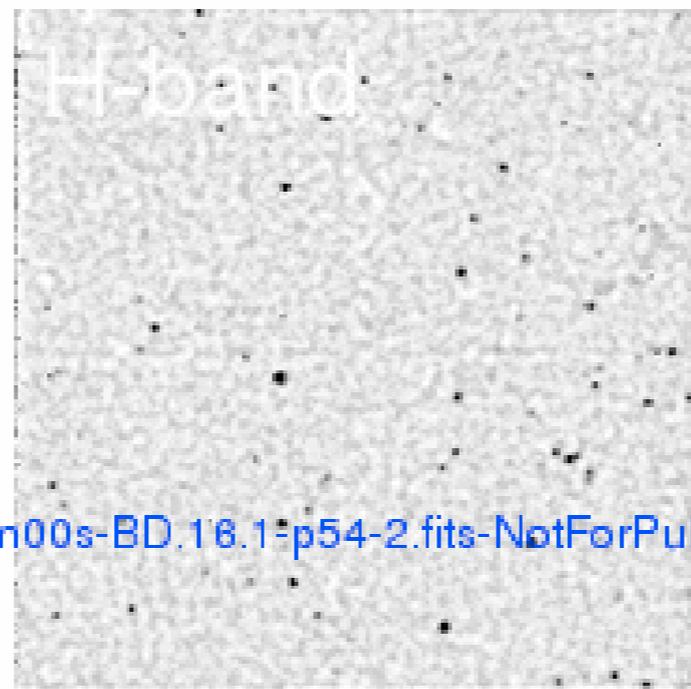
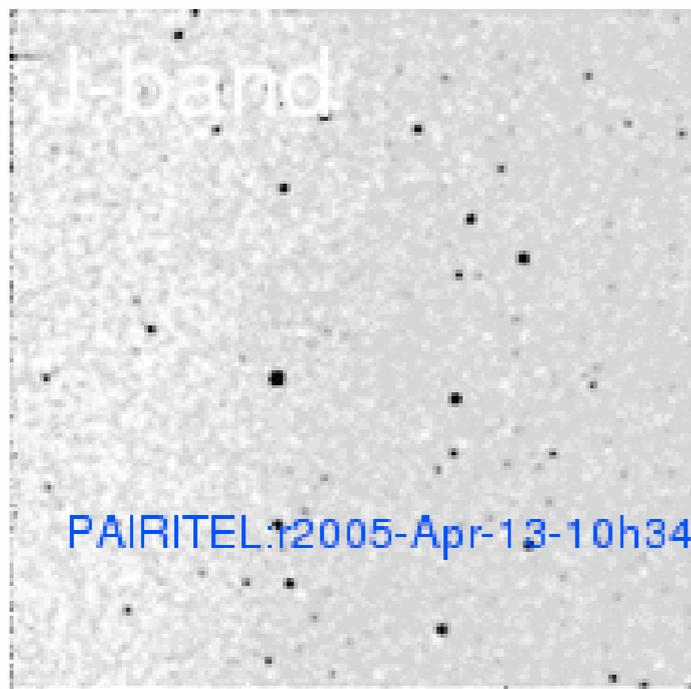
C. Blake (CfA), D. Starr (Gemini), A. Szentgyorgyi, E. Falco (CfA),  
M. Skrutskie (U. Virginia)

## PAIRITEL Status at 2005-04-13 21:12:57.59 UT

<i>dspace</i> <b>RUNNING</b>	<i>disk.space</i> <b>LOW</b>	<i>pointing</i> <b>OFF</b>	<i>dome.dimmer</i> <b>CLOSED</b>	<i>light</i> <b>OFF</b>	<i>user-system</i> <b>SUSPEND</b>
<i>netstat</i> <b>LOCAL-UP__UNKNOWN</b>	<i>tel</i> <b>ONLINE</b>	<i>dome</i> <b>OK</b>	<i>user-weather</i> <b>CLEAR</b>	<i>weather</i> <b>GOOD</b>	<i>irc</i> <b>UP</b>
<i>dome.dimmer-comm</i> <b>UP</b>	<i>mirror</i> <b>CLOSED</b>	<i>master</i> <b>RUNNING</b>	<i>daynight</i> <b>DAY</b>	<i>obs</i> <b>SUSPENDED</b>	<i>dome-floor</i> <b>CLEAR</b>
<i>telescope</i> <b>STABLE</b>					
<i>operations history</i>	$\alpha$ :03:18:01.11 $\delta$ :+31:40:52.3 <b>LST</b> :03:18:01 <b>HA</b> :+00:00:16 <b>UTC</b> :21:12:56 <b>seef</b> :1.0	<i>Recent Image:</i> r2005-Apr-13-10h34m00s-BD.16.1-p54-2.fits		<i>Age (h:m:s):</i> 10:38:32.641307	



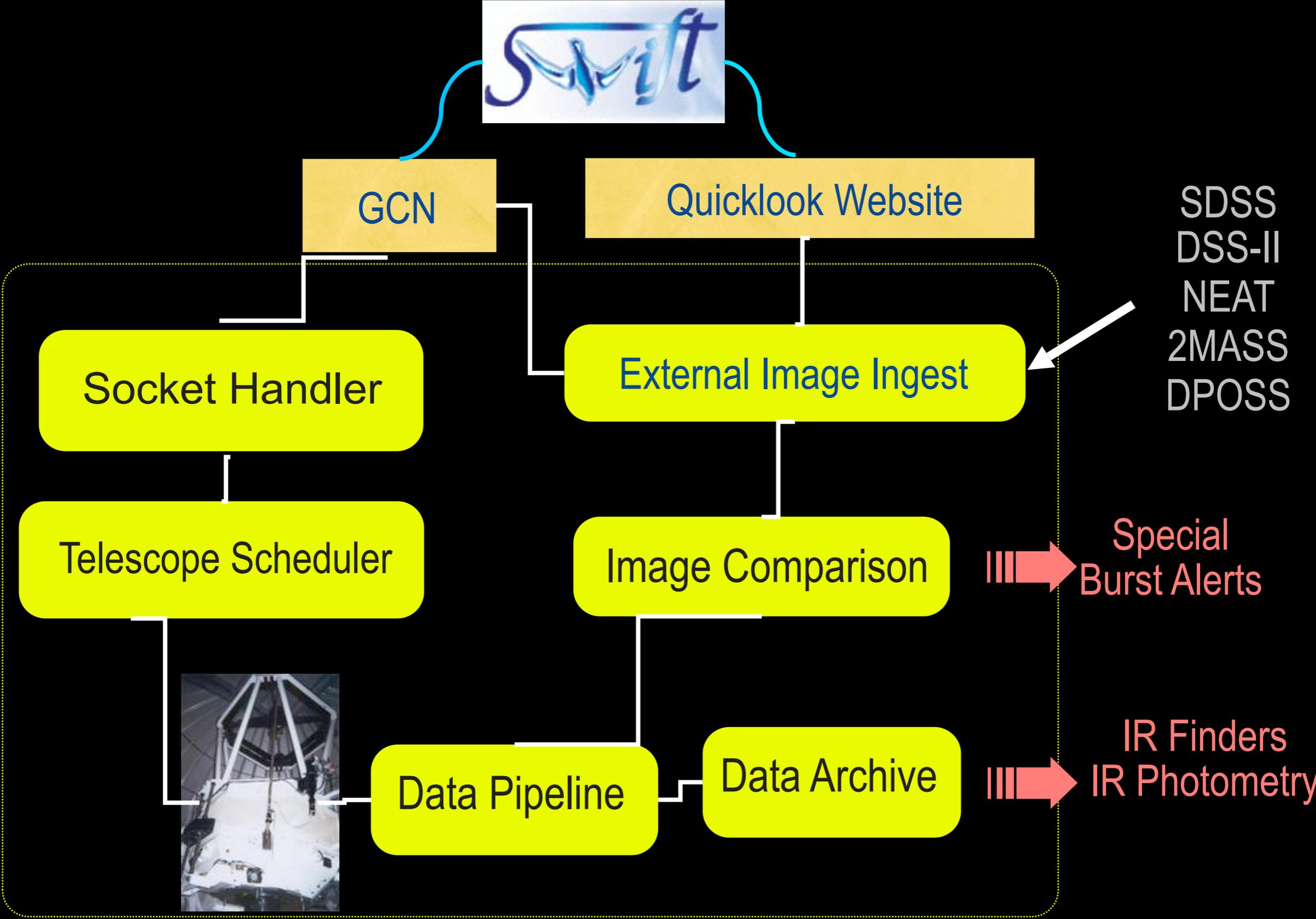
http://pteld.sao.arizona.edu - Mozilla Firefox



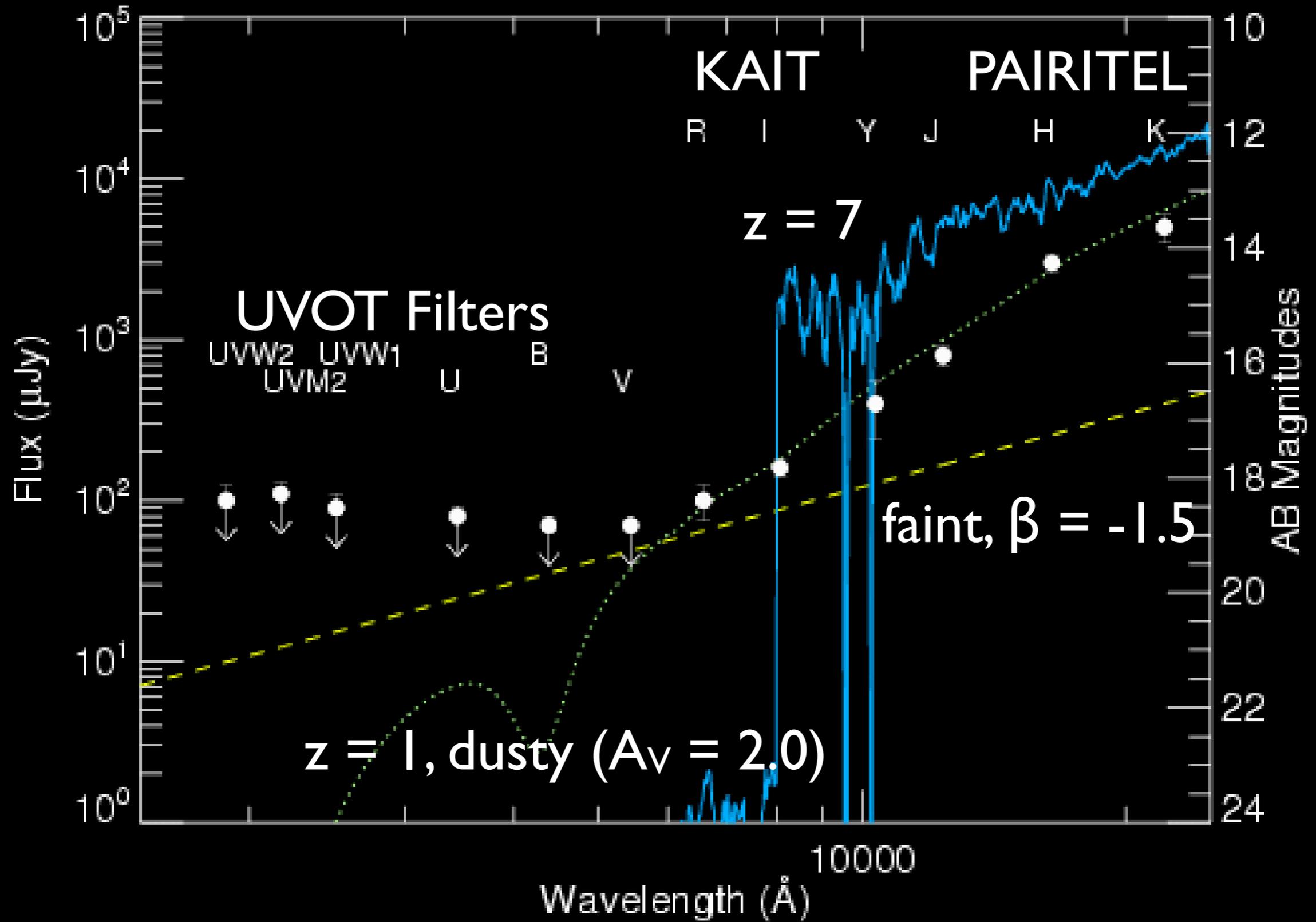
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<http://status.pairitel.org>

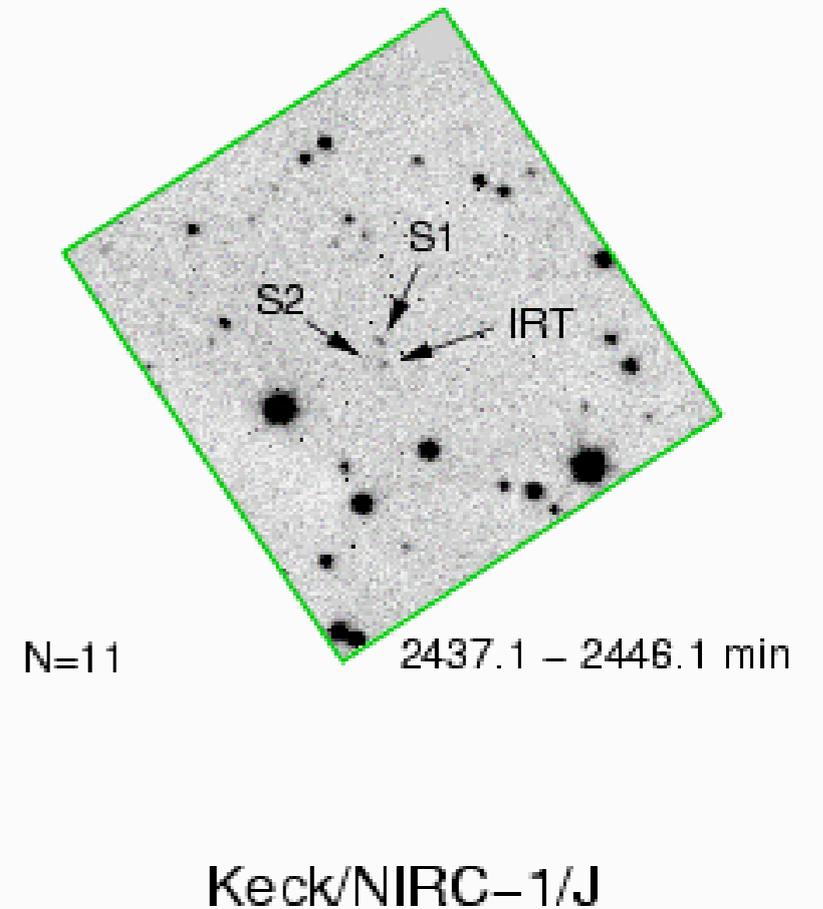
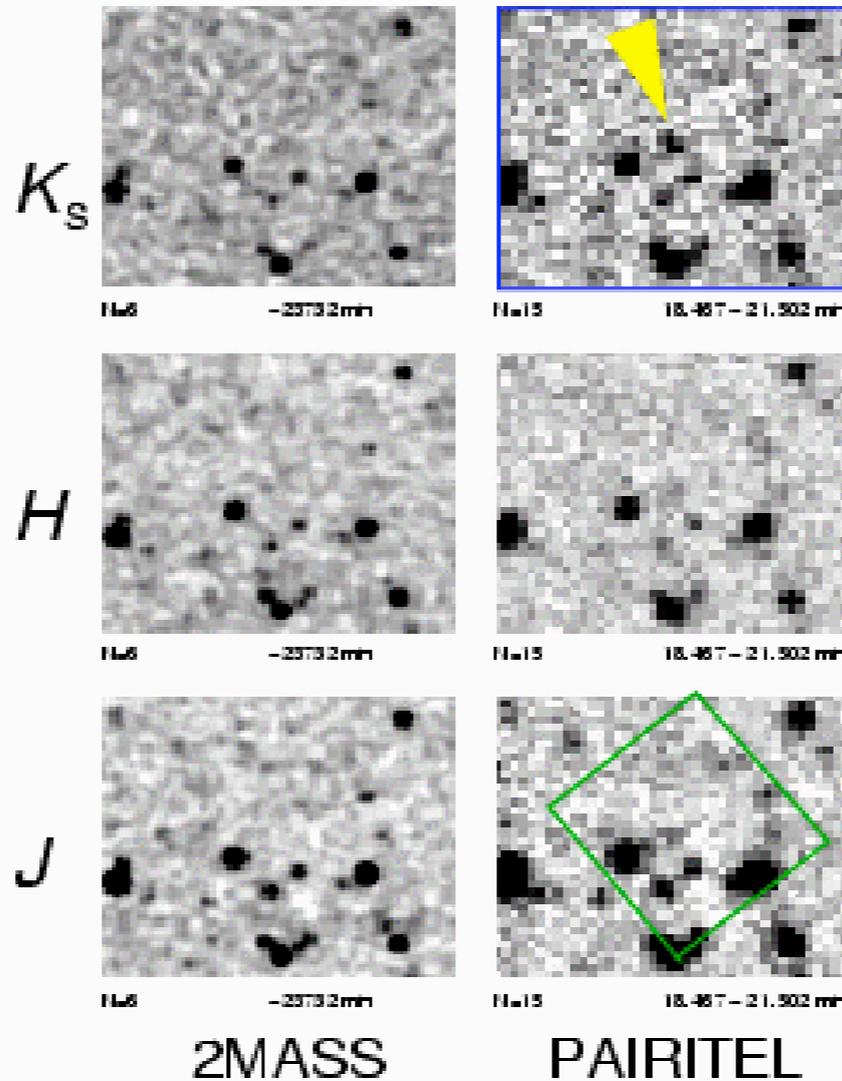
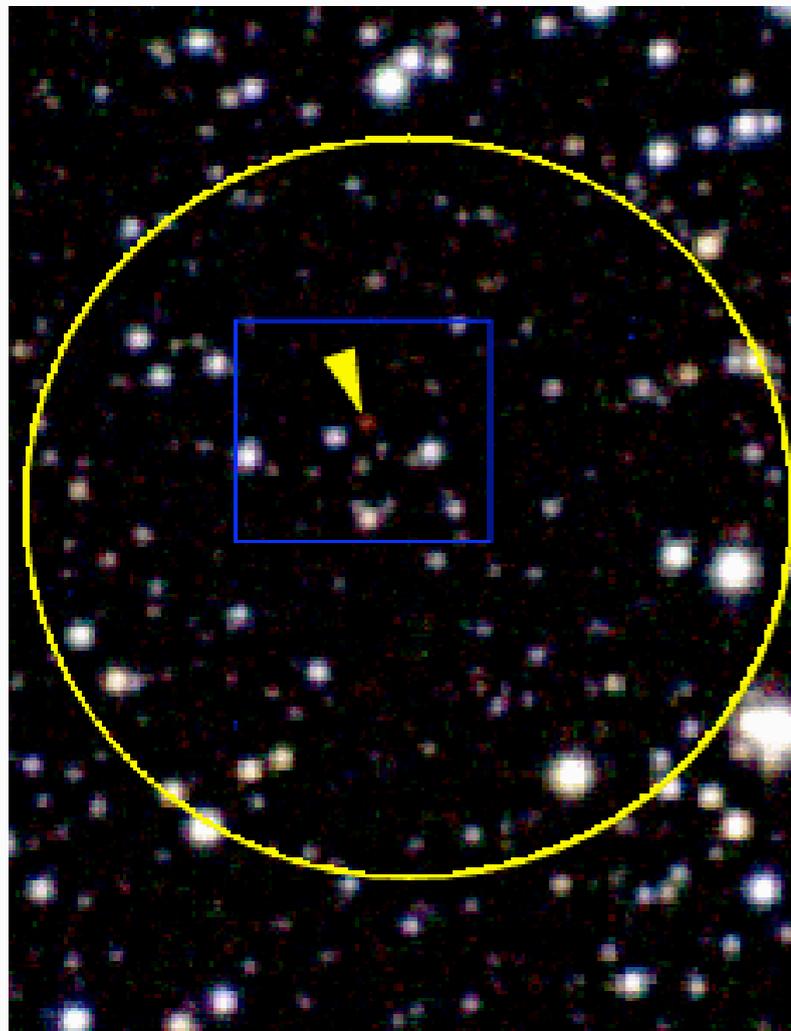
# Intimate Connection with Swift



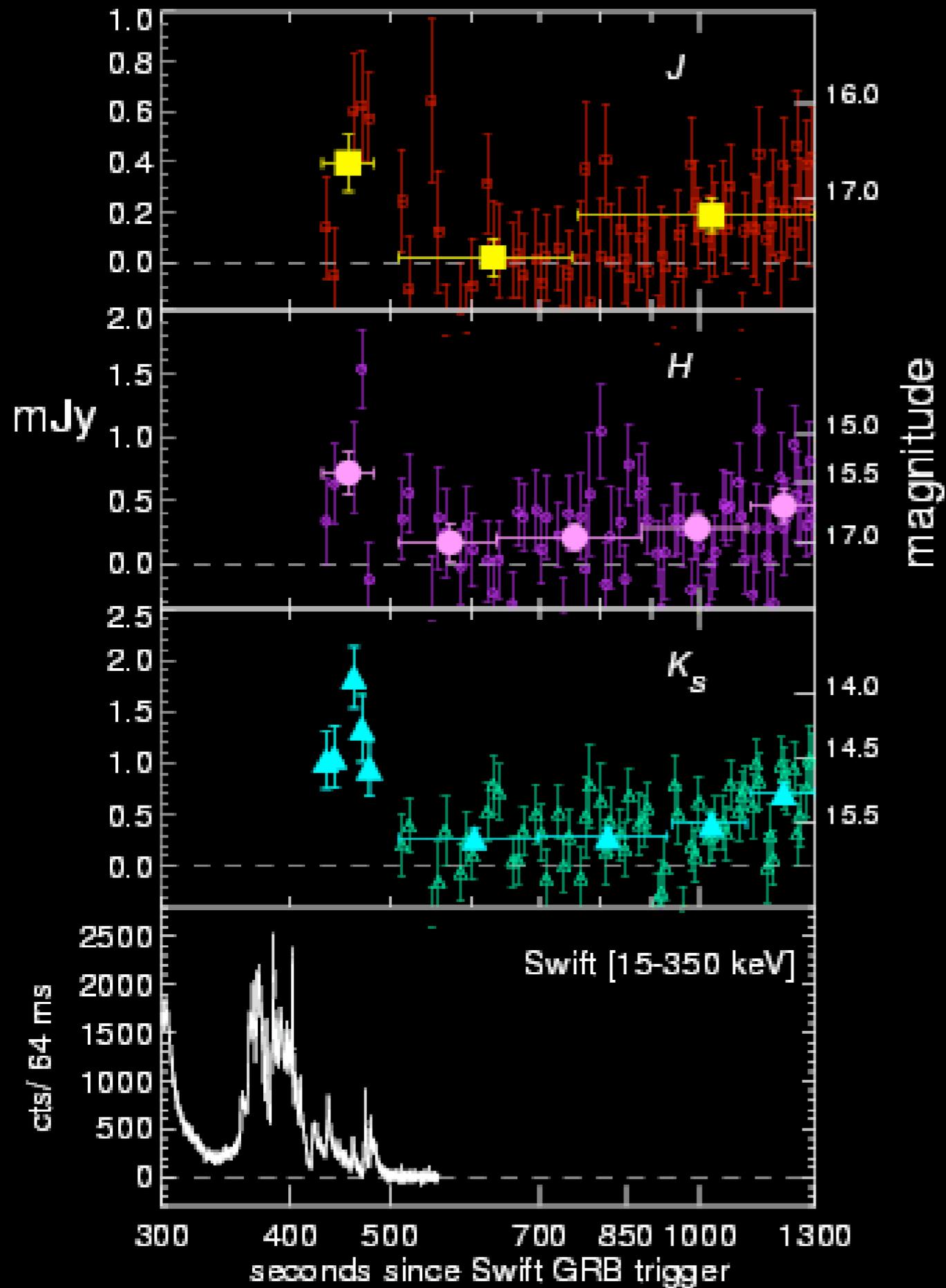
# Now building RT photometric redshift estimator



# Discovery of the First Swift Afterglow: GRB 041219a



Location 0.2 deg off Galactic Plane:  $A(V) \approx 5$  mag



## GRB 041219a:

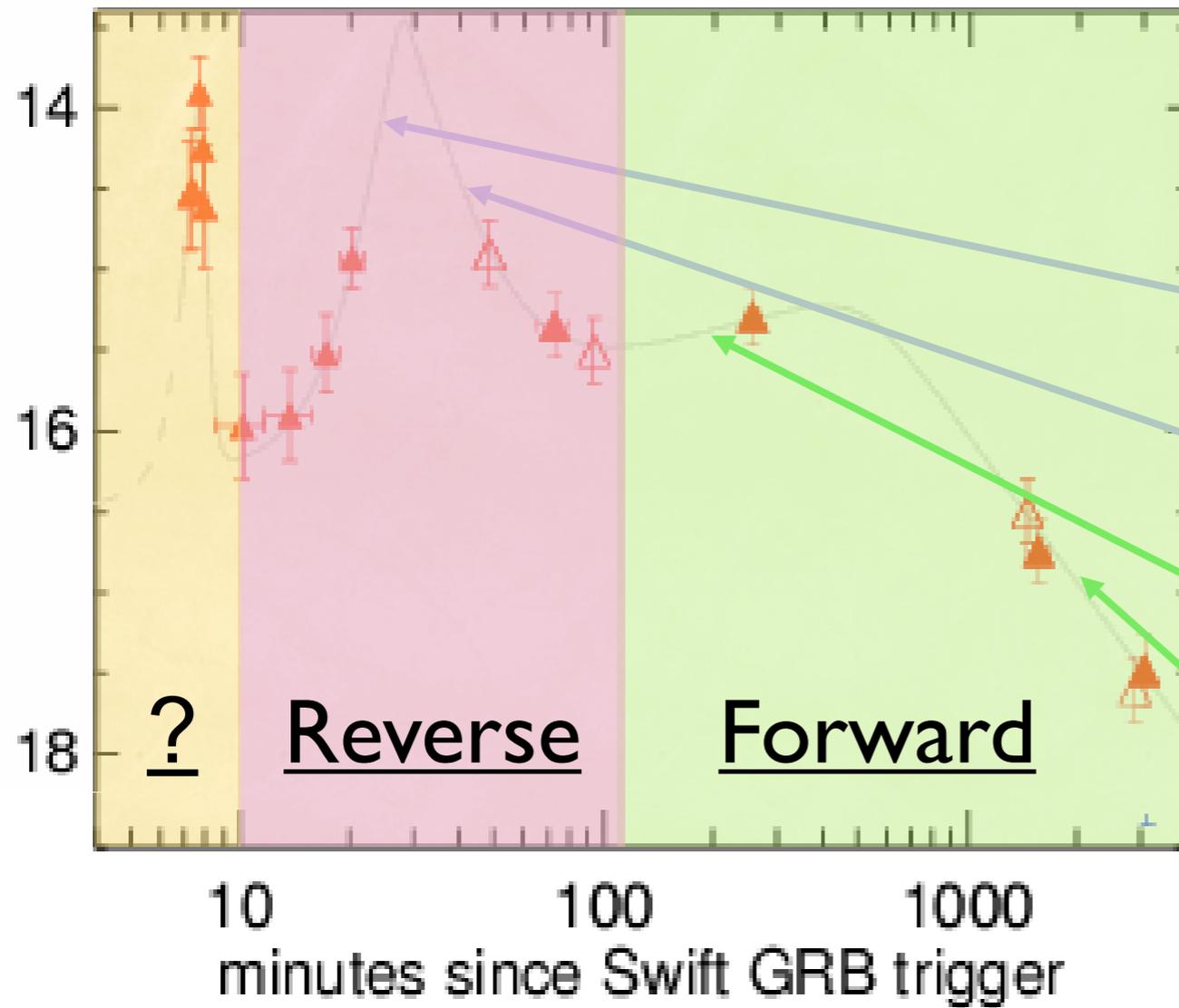
*7.2 min* after the burst trigger, while the burst was still occurring

First contemporaneous IR transient

*Only the 3rd burst that Swift had localized on-board*

Blake et al. 2005 (Nature; in press)

# Fitting 041219 Light Curve with Reverse/Forward Shocks



Consistent Value:  
 $p \approx 2.2$   
(electron spectral index)

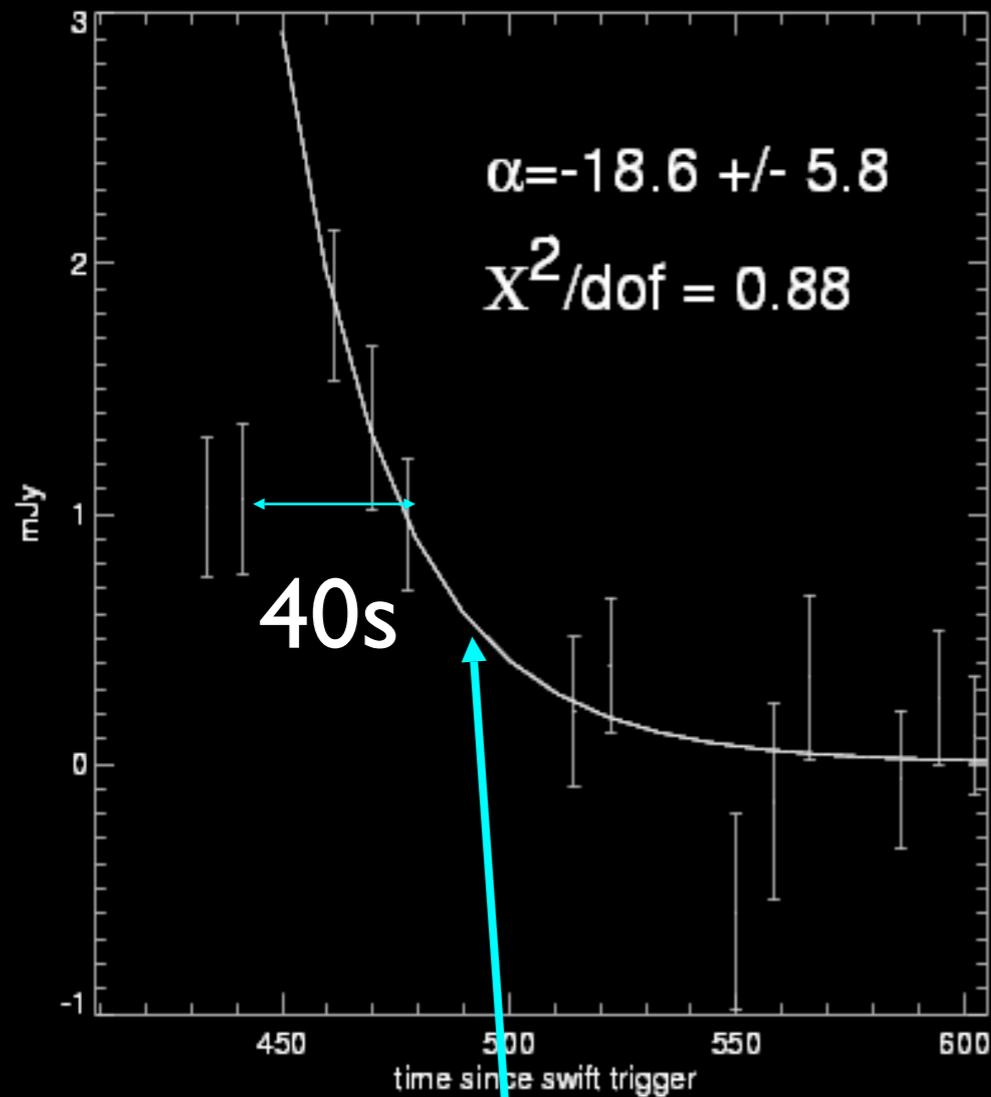
$$\alpha = 6.1 \pm 2.9$$

$$\alpha = -3.4 \pm 2.8$$

$$\alpha = 0.3 \pm 0.1$$

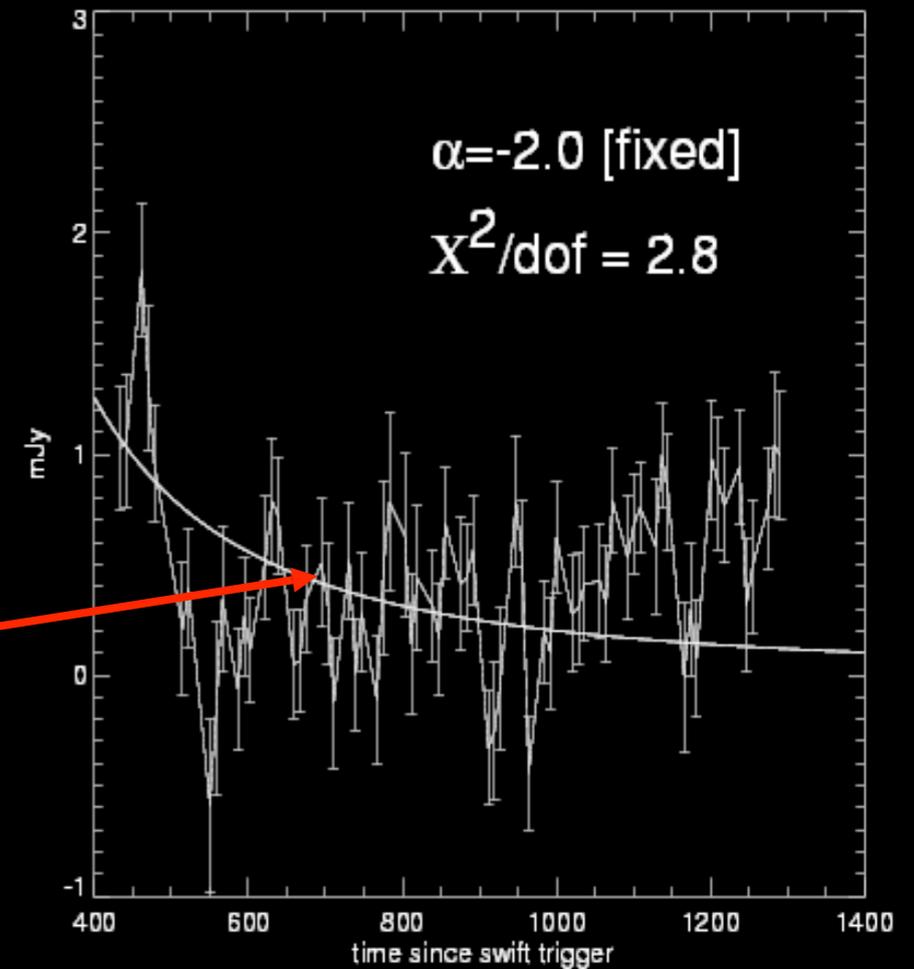
$$\alpha = -1.2 \pm 0.1$$

# What is the origin of the IR Flash?

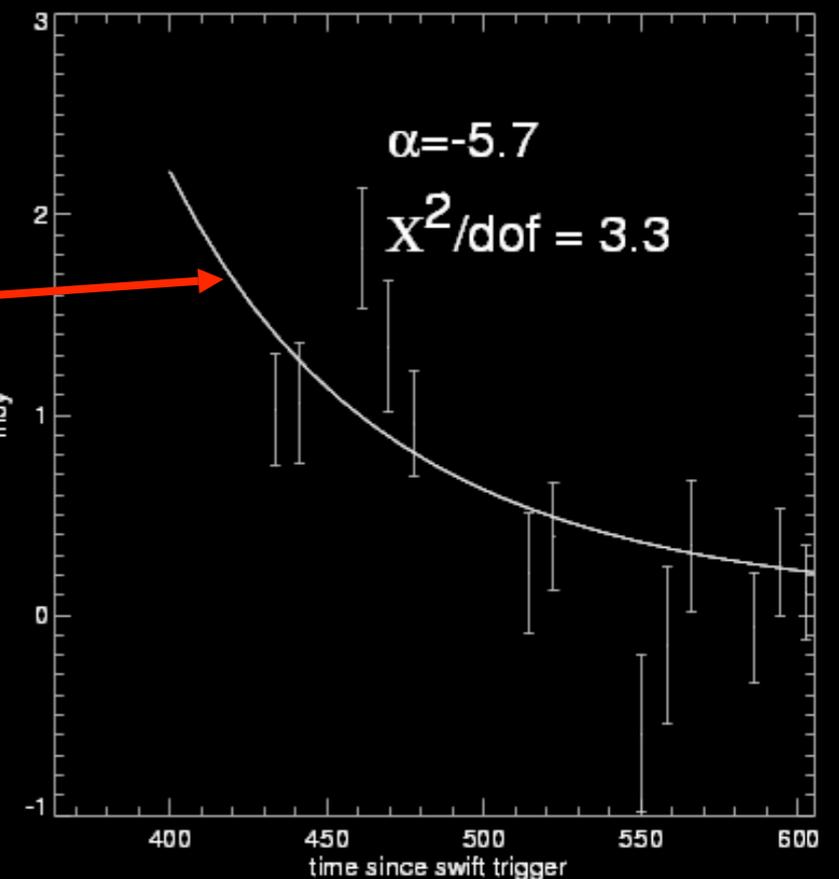


Very rapid rise and fall,  
FWHM ~ 40 sec

Simple  
reverse shock  
does not fit  
(wind ISM  
yields  $t^{-3}$ )



Single  
power-law  
is not a good fit



PAIRITEL is Transient Target Starved:

I want to trigger off of non-GRBs

I do not want to add triggers by hand

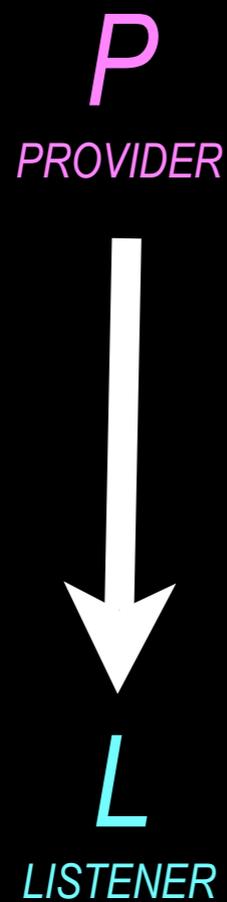
I do not want to write new code to add every new type of trigger

I want VOEvent Providers and I want to broadcast to the

VOEvents Network

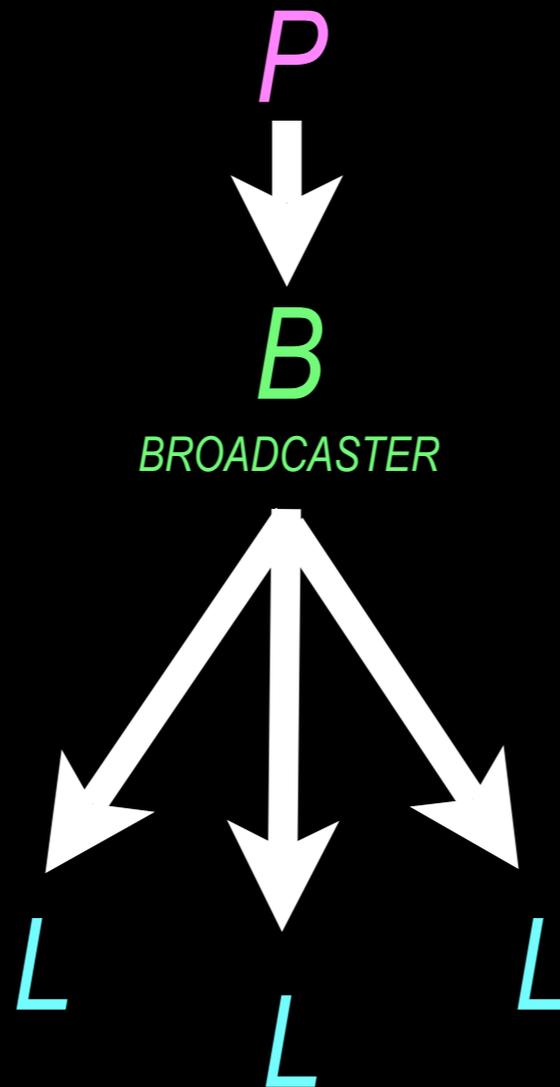
# Existing Networks: Building Blocks of VOEvent Networks

## Peer-to-Peer



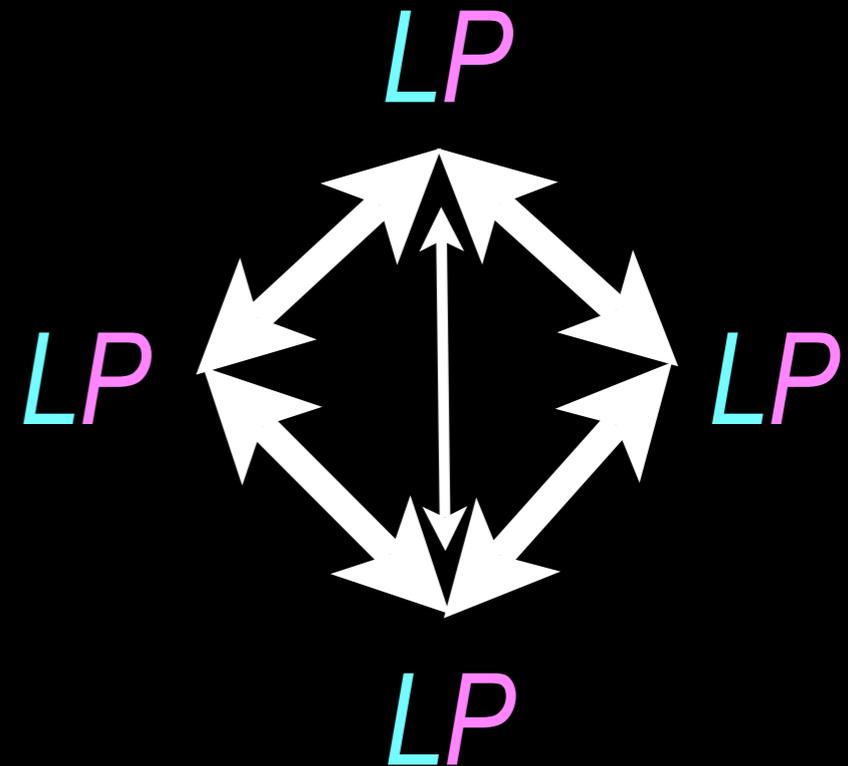
QUEST SNe

## Broadcast



GCN, SNEWS

## Intranets



RAPTOR

# Properties of a VOEvent Network

## Real-Time

all central nodes (B) **must** receive, process, transmit *rapidly*  
ideally, all end-points (P, L) **should** create & act rapidly

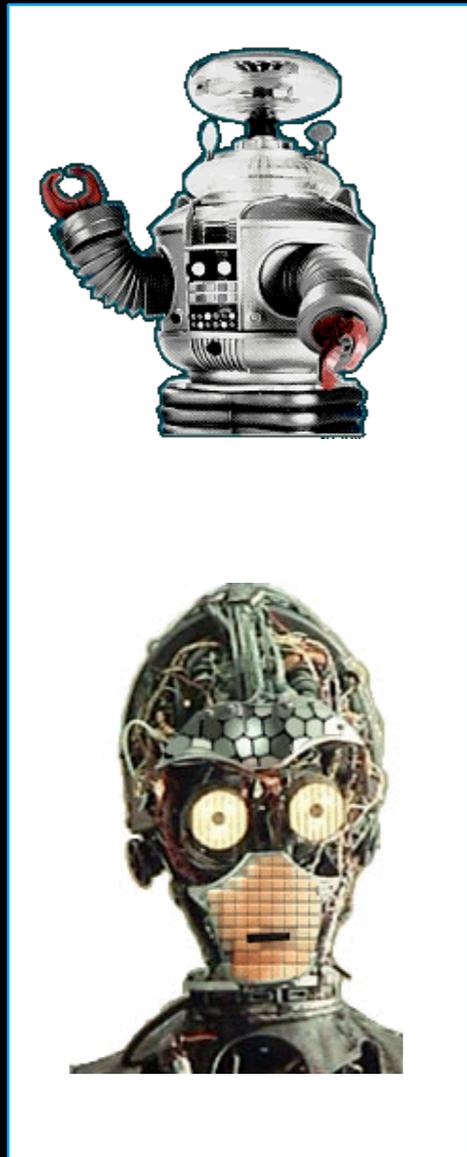
## Human-free Feedback

Ls - Ps should react/respond using B intermediaries

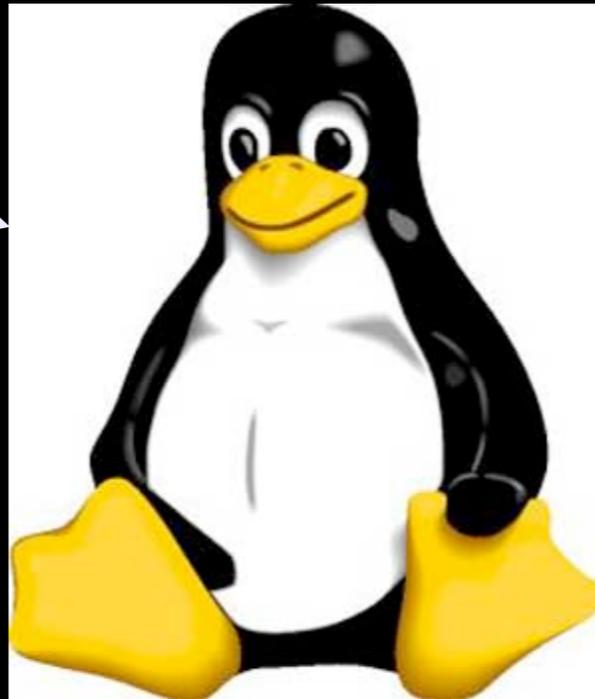
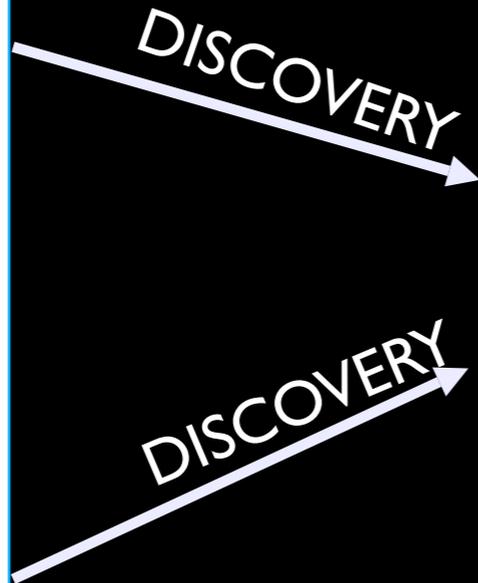
## Robust Against Single-point Failures

Ls should reply on  $> 1$  set of P to generate targets  
B intermediaries

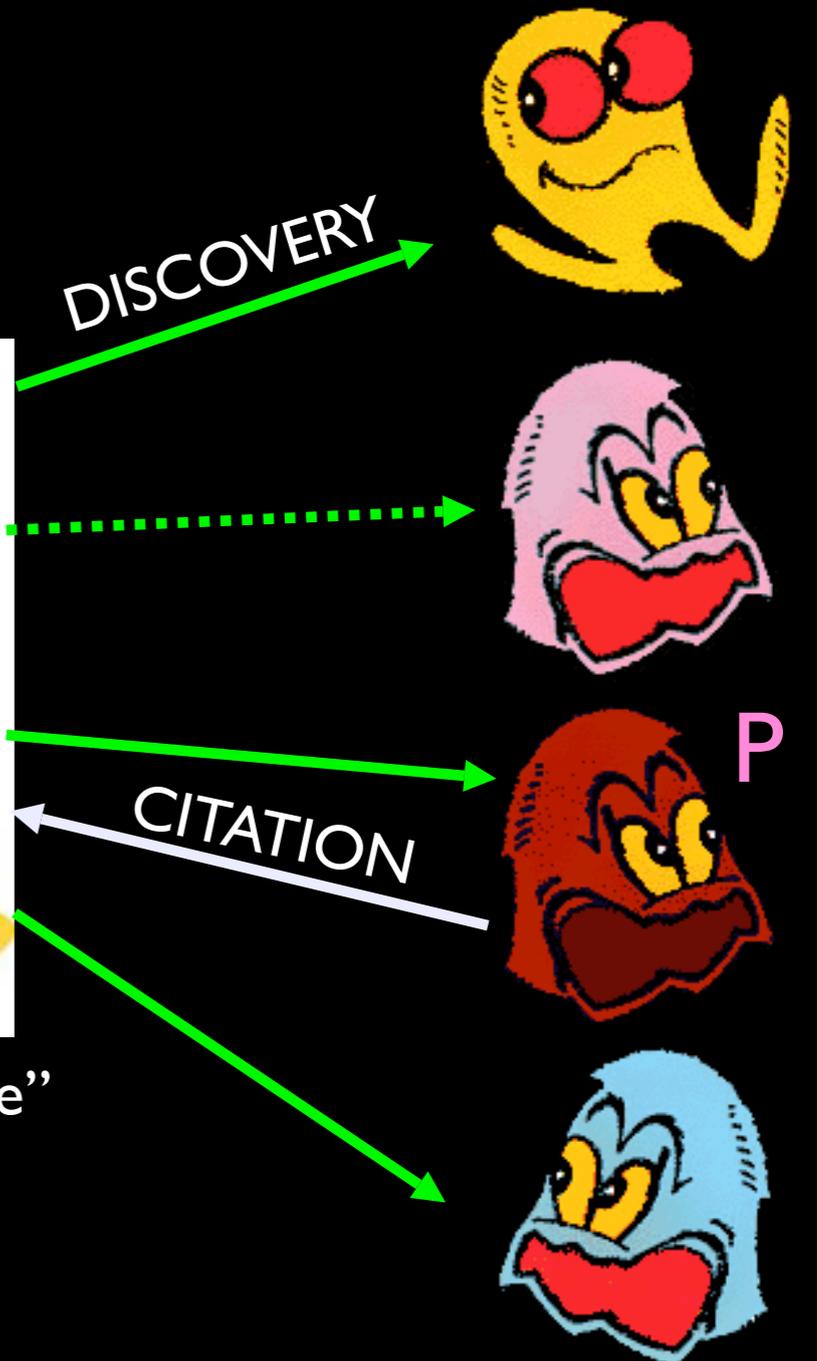
# Architecture of a Simple VOEvents Network



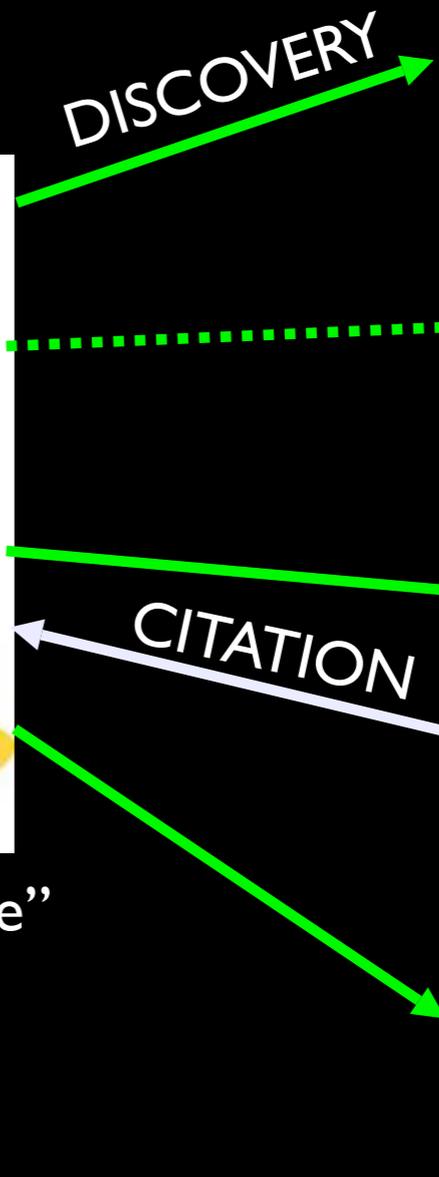
VOEvent Providers



"Transient Service Node"  
Broadcaster

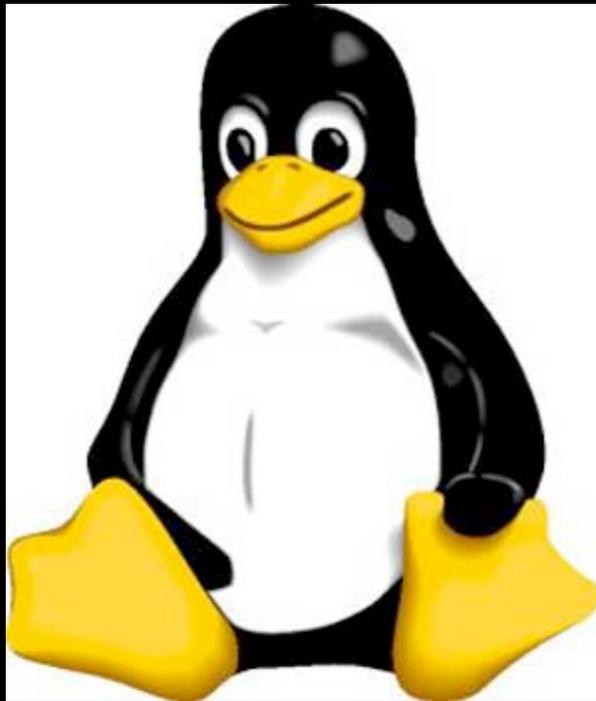


"Follow-up Agents"  
Listeners



# Broadcasters → Aggregators/Harvester

*Pushers, Pullers & Enablers of Poly-Directional flow*



“Transient Service Node”

## Reliability

- Maintain database of VOEvents that pass through
- Enforce validation against current schema
- High duty cycle up-time

## Persistence

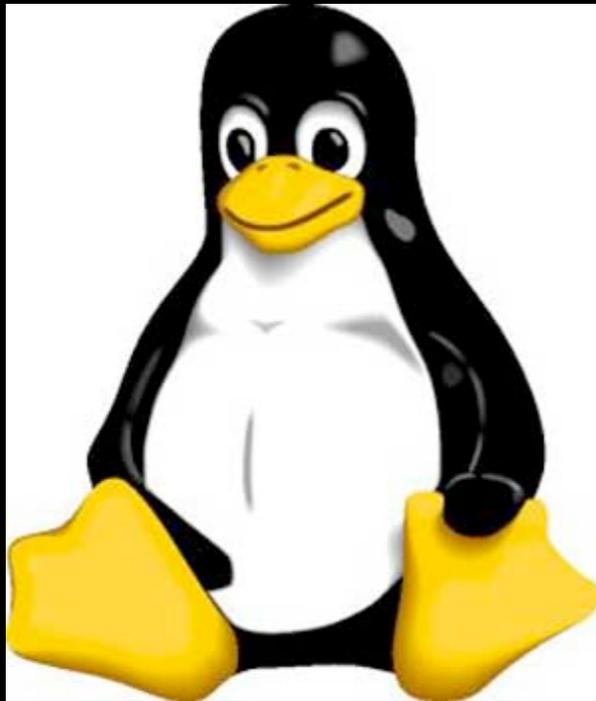
(as the VOEvent Schema change):

- Provide Transparent Translations between Schema version

# Broadcasters → Aggregators/Harvester

*Pushers, Pullers & Enablers of Poly-Directional flow*

## Usability



“Transient Service Node”

### *Subscription*

- Keep persistent (ADQL) queries for subscribed follow-up agents & push out (e.g., SOAP TCP/IP) new transients based on those queries

### *Open Interfaces*

- (Pull) Web- & batch-based queries  
*e.g., target starved grad student @ telescope*
- (Push) RSS feeds, TCP/IP broadcasts, etc.

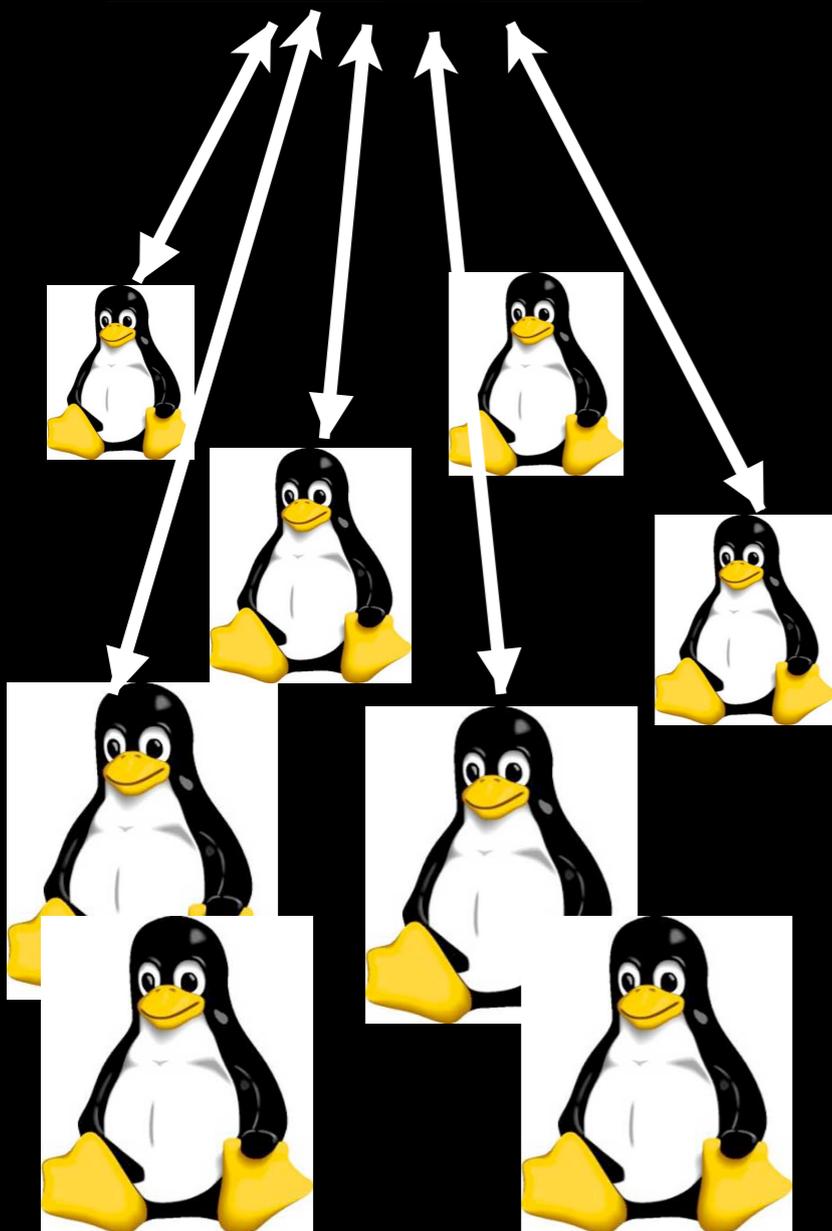
# Role of Meta-Aggregators of VOEvents



Maintain superset of VOEvents  
from child aggregators

Provide the Same Interfacing  
as a simple aggregator  
→ structured/nested networking

Provide Probabilistic Estimates  
for potential subscribers  
*e.g., with query such-and-such  
you will be expected to receive  
1250 alerts per night*



# Types of Meta-Aggregators of VOEvents



- \* Simple Logic:

determining

$$\text{ivo}_1 == \text{ivo}_2$$

(e.g., XRB050406 == VelaX-1)

- \* “DNS” for VOEvents

- \* Complex Logic:

providing prioritized & probability weighted target lists

e.g. Bill’s Fantabulous Supernova List

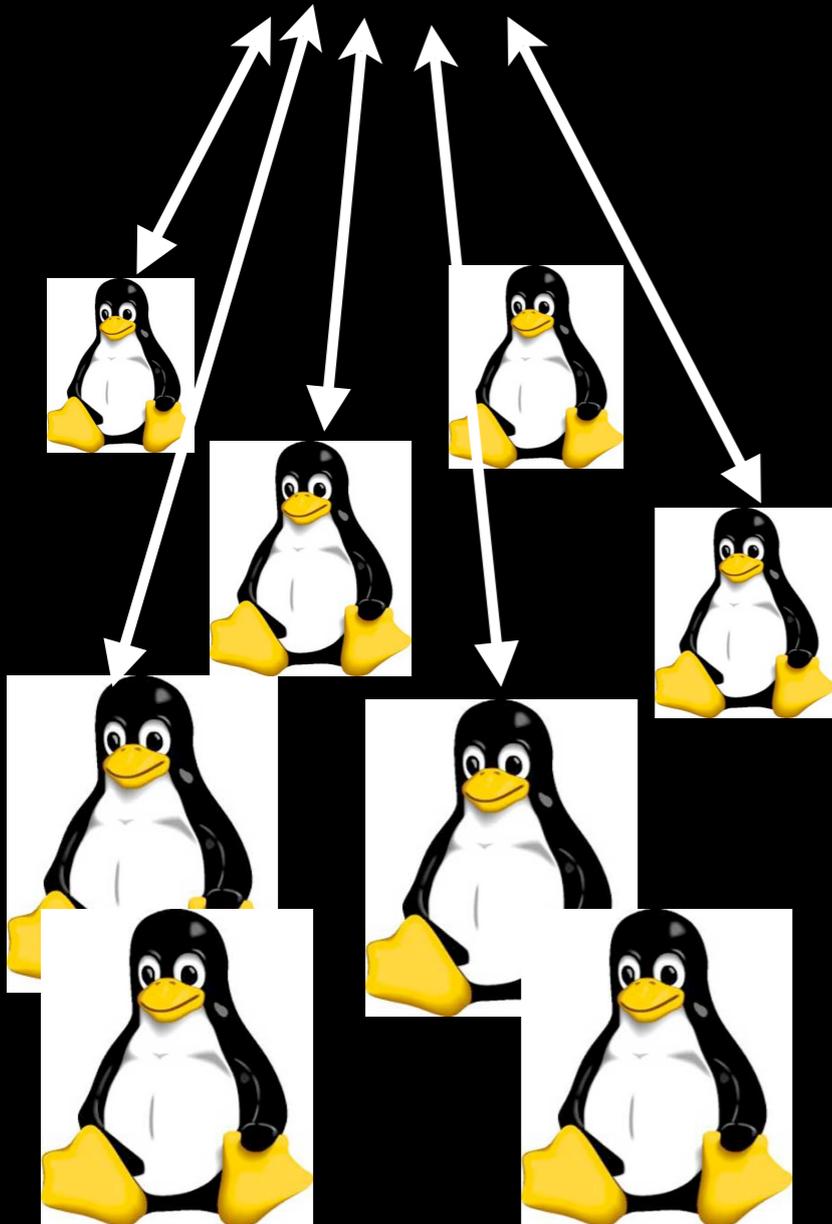
“Aggregator of World’s Top SN Providers”

- \* External Source Parsers:

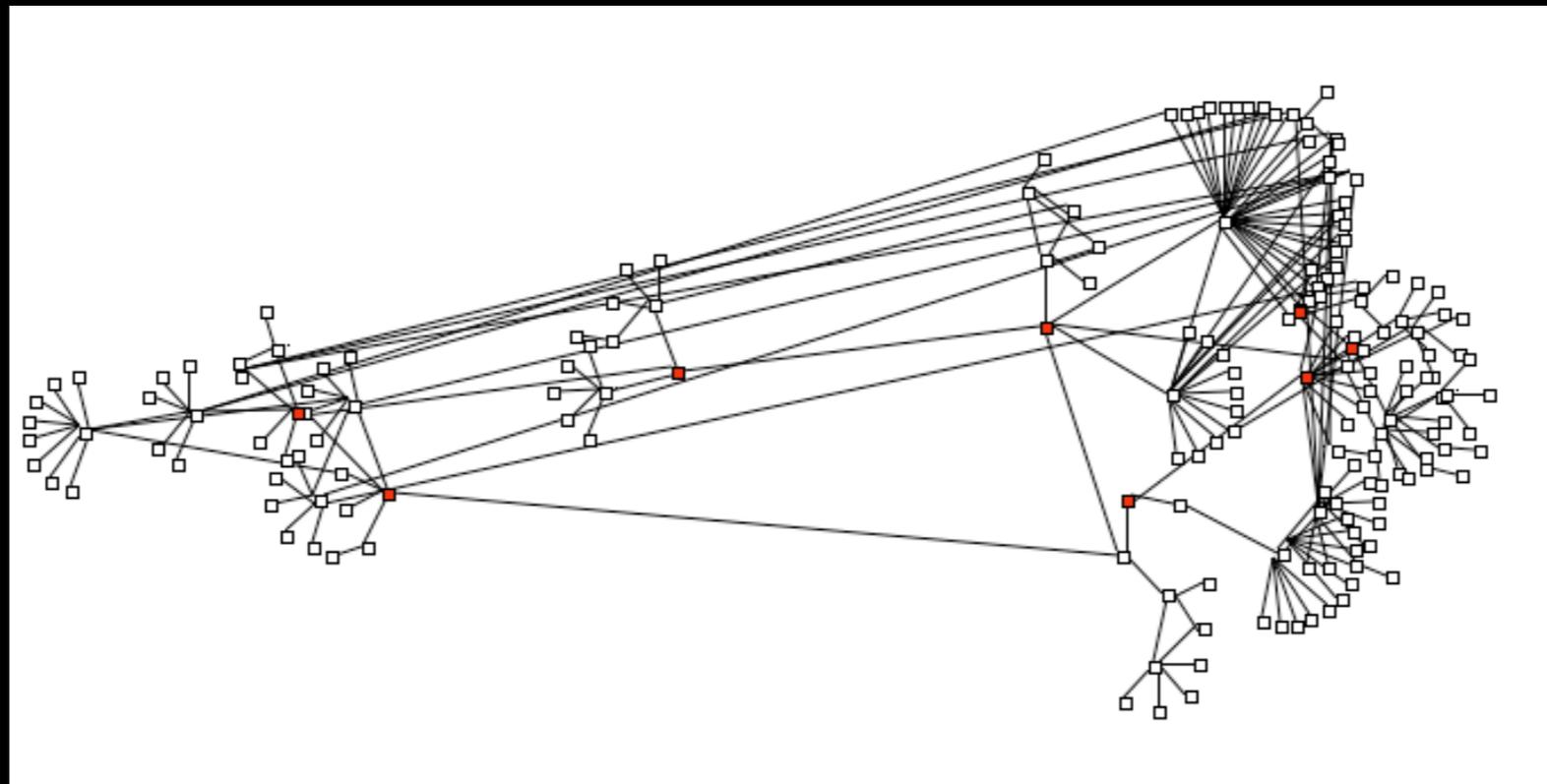
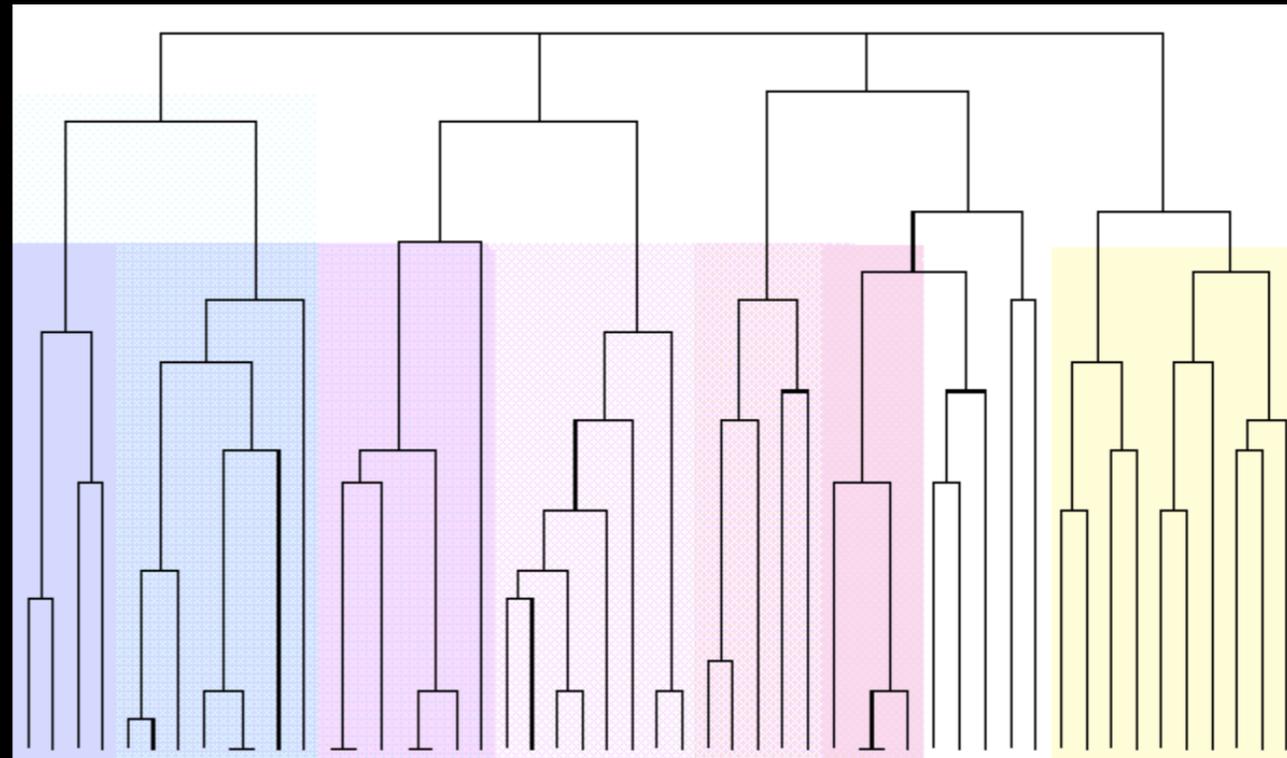
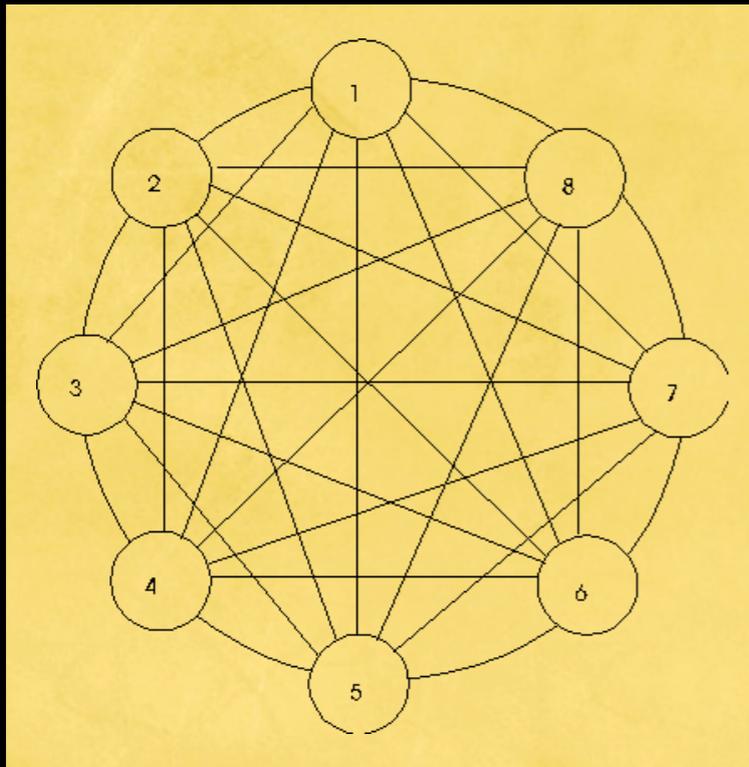
Archive comparators

X-correlate with all ApJ papers

Value-added with meta perspective



# Topology of VOEvents Network



**Self-organization** refers to a process in which the internal organization of a system, normally an open system, increases automatically without being guided or managed by an outside source. Self-organizing systems typically (though not always) display **emergent properties**.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self-organisation>

## Self-Organization:

- \* Enabled by Meta-aggregators
- \* Events (+associated data) that are *important will persist, almost by definition*
- \* Events that are crap or hypotheses that are *wrong will be corrected*  
*^-self*

At 11:20 one morning not too long ago, an anonymous user replaced the entire Islam entry with a single scatological word. At 11:22, a user named Solitude reverted the entry. At 11:25, the anonymous user struck again, this time replacing the article with the phrase "u stink!" By 11:26, another user, reverted that change - and the vandal disappeared....Cases of mass deletions, a common form of **vandalism, were corrected in a median time of 2.8 minutes. When an obscenity accompanied the mass deletion, the median time dropped to 1.7 minutes.**

It turns out that Wikipedia has an **innate capacity to heal itself. As a result, woefully outnumbered vandals often give up and leave.**

Wired. March 2005

## Emergence:

There will be unforeseen uses (and abuses?) of the system, which we should embrace

# Foreseen Science MO with the Network

## Silent Follow-on

*Near-Earth asteroid study*

## Event driven

*Ad-hoc (Galactic supernovae)*

*Organized (GRBs)*

## Organized Campaigns

*World-wide transient surveys*

Do we need a new message Planned Campaign?

Not expecting substantially different science  
agendas

# Success will Depend on Agent Participation

Listener-only or Broadcast-only Network is useless

Multiple Providers w/ Redundancy

robustness against errors & weather  
for Listeners

Listeners Must Feedback

# Agents Working Outside the Spirit of the Network

## Event Teasters

People/groups/robotic Provide basic VOEvents, getting others to observe, but do not broadcast all the data that

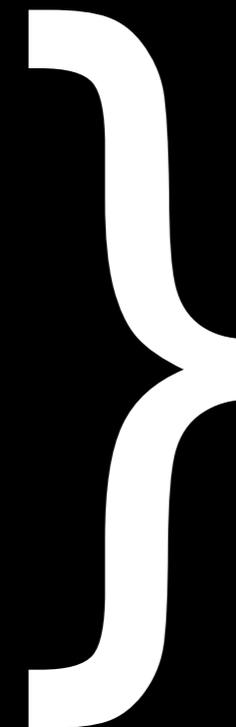
## Moochers

People/groups/robotic which Listen by never Provide

## Private Networks

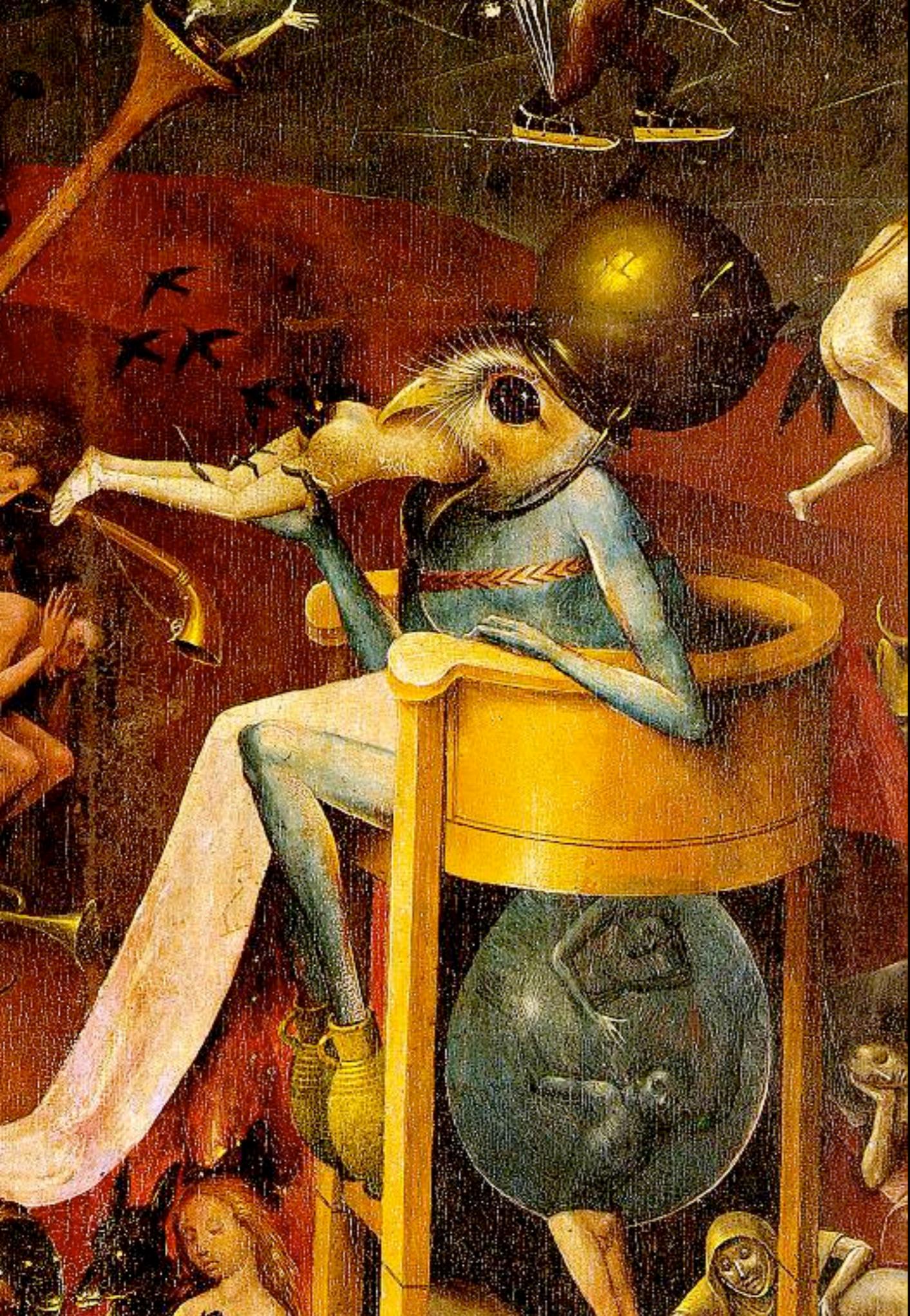
Evil shadow networks with Providers, Listeners, & Aggregators

*dont publish events, only papers*



Embrace them!



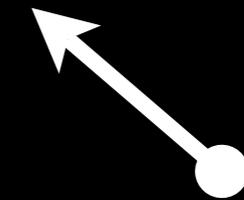


# Proposed Benchmarks

*in parallel with systematic schema blessings*

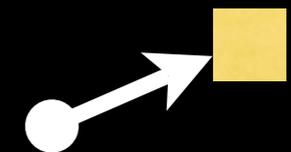
## Simplistic Uni-directional Transport

Provider supplies VOEvent to Listener who then reacts  
two physical sites, two un-connected groups



## Basic Aggregation of Single Provider

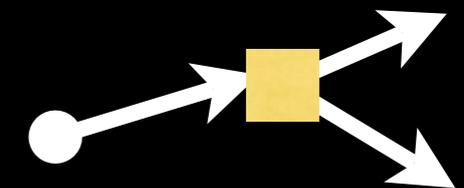
DB, web-interface with ADQL, implement a push technology



## First Simple Network

$\geq 1$  Provider, 1 Aggregator,  $> 1$  Listeners

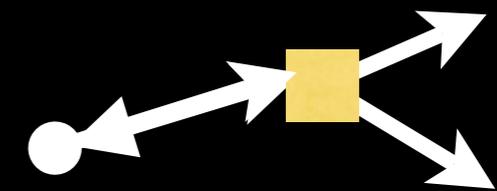
2005



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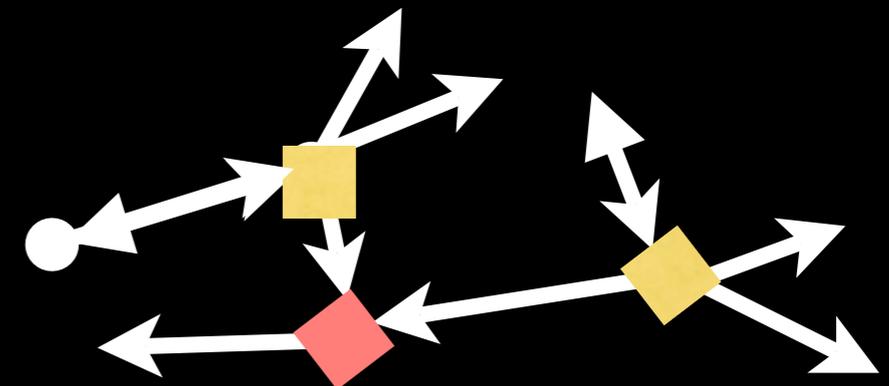
## Simple Network with Feedback

1 Provider, 1 Provider-Listener, 1 Aggregator,  $> 1$  Listeners



## Complex Network

$> 2$  Provider,  $> 1$  Provider-Listener, 2 Aggregator,  
Meta-Aggregator,  $> 2$  Listeners,  
1 Listener to only a Meta-Aggregator



# **Barriers to Entry are Too High that we MUST Implement Basic Nodes & Services**

*This is different philosophy than VO at large*

Identify Transport Protocols  
SOAP, TCP/IP, RSS2.0?

Determine DB representation of VOEvent Messages  
eXist, postgres?

Write Plug n' Play APIs and convince someone  
not in this room to use it



**I WANT YOU**

