

Big Data Era in Sky and Earth Observation



-  Croatia
-  Spain
-  Hungary
-  Serbia
-  Greece
-  Bulgaria
-  Czech Republic
-  United Kingdom
-  Switzerland
-  Slovenia
-  Italy
-  Germany
-  France
-  Israel
-  United States
-  Canada

Main Proposer: dr.Dejan Vinkovic (dejan@iszd.hr)

Acronym: BIG-SKY-EARTH

TDP Proposal Reference oc-2013-2-17289

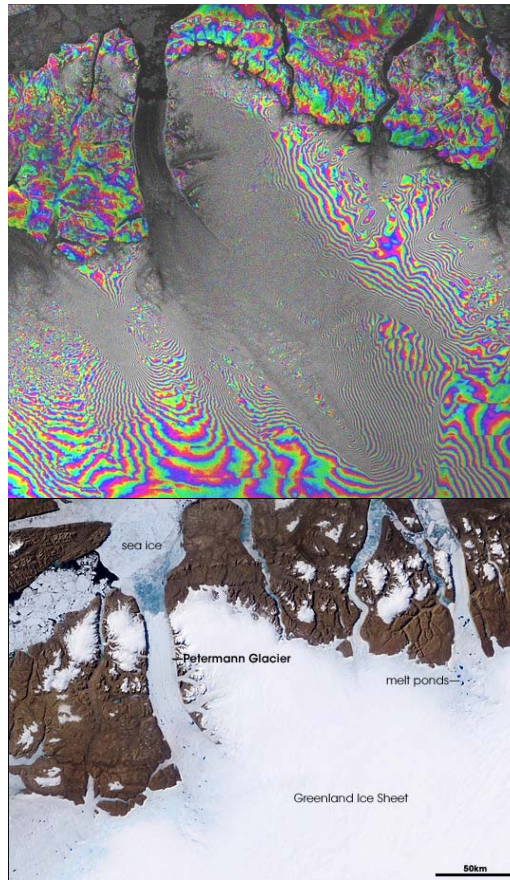
Impact of BIGSKYEARTH

- **We want to set the ground for a long-term networking across the earth-space domain**
- **We want to help European researchers to use the best available tools to deliver cutting edge science in the Big Data era**



The era of Big Data has arrived!

Example: images + time =
surface movements



sentinel-1A

Launch date: 3. April 2014

up to **2.4 TB/day** of imaging radar data
for **7 years** (fully open and free data
access policy)

Applications: Oceans and ice, Changing
lands, Emergency response

First in a constellation:

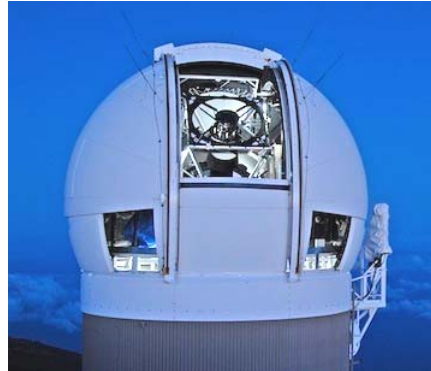
1A/B/C, 2A/B/C, 3A/B/C, 4A/B, 5P/A/B,

...

Part of the **European Earth Observation Programme Copernicus**: the most ambitious Earth
observation programme to date: 30 satellites: peta-bytes now: zetta-bytes in a decade



The era of Big Data has arrived!



Pan-STARRS (NEO defence)
>100 TB of data



LOFAR (radio telescope):
1 petabyte per year

GAIA space telescope

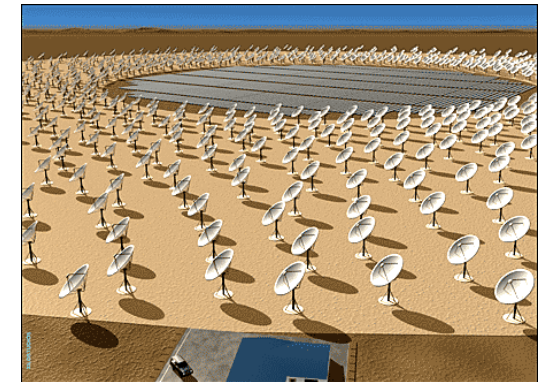
Launch date: 12. December 2013

1PB of data after **5 years** (40 million observations a day!) (free data catalogue access policy)

Applications: 3D catalogue of ~1 billion astronomical objects



Large Synoptic Survey Telescope:
30TB of imaging data each night



Square Kilometre Array:
1.5 exabytes per year



The Virtual Observatory (VO): provides standards describing all astronomical resources worldwide and supports standardized discovery and access to these collections

Shared challenges: data tsunami

ESA's
G-POD

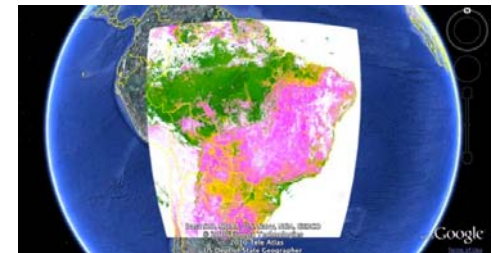


Digital curation and data access

- store, maintain & preserve huge amounts of data
- large **multidimensional & highly interrelated** datasets = paradigm change: **push the computing to the data**

Visualization

- visualizing large quantities of data with: low signal-to-noise ratio, high dynamic range, multidimensional parameter space, multi-layered time-dependent, ...



Google Earth Engine

Adaptation to new high performance computing (HPC) technologies

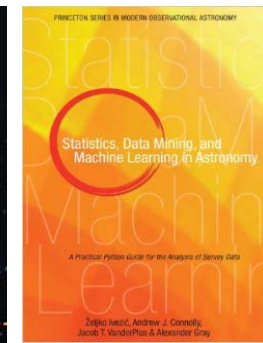
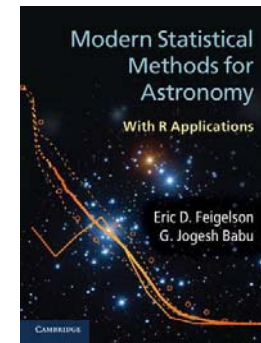
- heterogeneous supercomputing environments
- new programming techniques for GPUs and cloud computing



GPUs as numerical co-processors

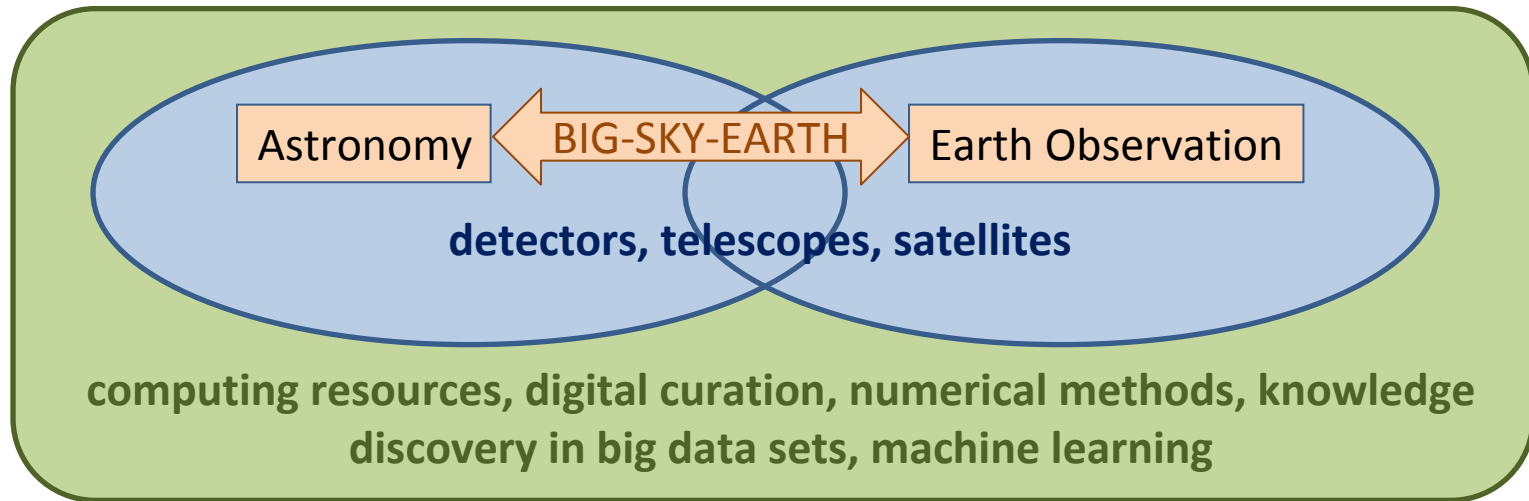
Training of a new generation of scientists

- astroinformatics, geoinformatics, bioinformatics
- natural sciences + IT/CS = exploration with statistics



New books
and online
courses

Why COST Action?



The challenges are inherently global and transdisciplinary!

- boosting the communication within and between disciplines
- identify and cluster relevant common solutions
- go beyond individual or national projects
- diversify the pool of experts
- addressing and documenting various issues in Big Data science
- spread good practices between astro- and geo- communities
- build a joint agenda and training/education resources

Set the ground for a long-term networking!

Action objectives

Objective 4: Dissemination

e.g. online tools and training materials, workshops, different target groups

Objective 1: Framing the Joint Long-term Agenda

identify,
compare and
assess the
common
narrative,
methods,
techniques and
tools used in
astro-, geo and
computer
sciences

Objective 2: Incubation of New Knowledge

development of
solutions to the
challenges

e.g. Implementa-
tion of DBMS;
standardization of
data communica-
tion across
disciplines; joint
visualization tool
or joint education
materials

Objective 3: Defragmenta- tion of Existing Knowledge

use international
collaboration to
defragment and
systematize the
Big Data
knowledge

e.g. underlying
numerical
methods,
algorithms and
backend IT/CS
solutions



Management structure

WG1: Optimisation of database tools in astro- and geophysics contexts

(focused more on the back-end tools)

WG2: Data mining and machine learning in the petabyte era as frontiers in astronomy and Earth observation

(focused more on the front-end tools)

WG3: Education of a new generation of experts in knowledge extraction from massive datasets

WG4: Visualization of high dimensional data
(scientific & outreach)

Management Committee (MC)
(management and supervision)



National delegates



MC Chair & Vice-Chair



Technical Manager



Training, Dissemination and Liaison Manager



WG1,2,3,4 Scientific Chair and co-Chair



Inclusion manager

Industrial networking manager



Steering Committee

Implementation

We stand on the shoulders of:

- HPC infrastructure (adjunct to big astronomy or remote sensing facilities)
- FP6/7 (& H2020) astro-, geo- and HPC projects
- astro- & geo-informatics community
- IT/CS industry & SMEs

... and go a step beyond!








Example: industry (e.g. IBM, Google) is involved in collaboration with astronomy facilities to research extremely fast, but low-power exascale computer systems and data mining in PB databases

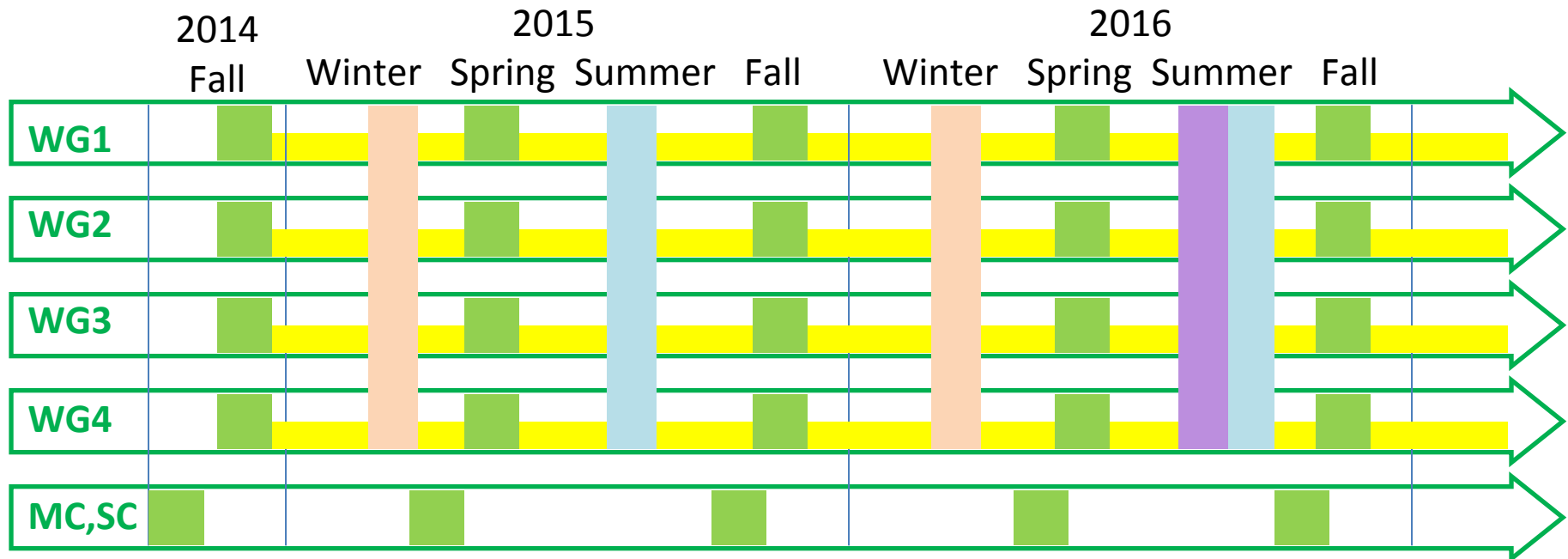
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... and go a step beyond!

-  WG & MC/SC meetings
-  Short-Term Scientific Missions, Joint Student Supervision, Website, etc.
-  Workshops
-  Training schools
-  Conference: "Big Data in the Earth and Space Sciences"



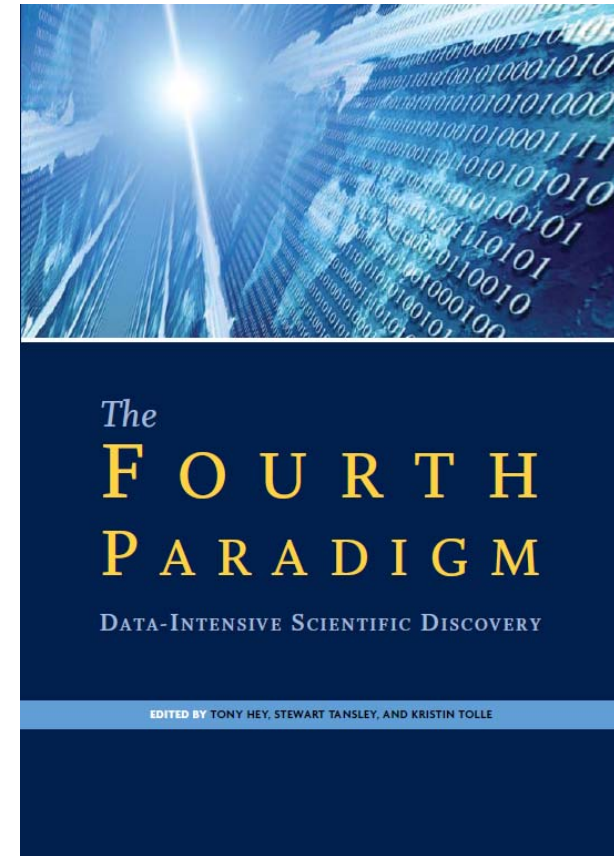
Impact

Big Data is not just bigger, it is different!

Success in research will depend on the ability to mine knowledge from that data.
And some of the most interesting science probably hasn't even been imagined!

Across the earth-space domains of Big Data:

- recognizing and documenting well defined common problems
- cultivating a community of practitioners who work together on sharing a common informatics techniques
- leveraging the best practices, methodologies, conceptual approaches and tools
- improved knowledge extraction from Big data (e.g. finding outliers, finding trends in multidimensional sets, ...)
- New up-to-date educational tools and materials



Big Data is the 4th paradigm in addition to theory, measurements, and modeling