Outreach and User Support

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ADS Users Group Meeting - 11/28/2018

Outreach

From the 2017 ADSUG report:

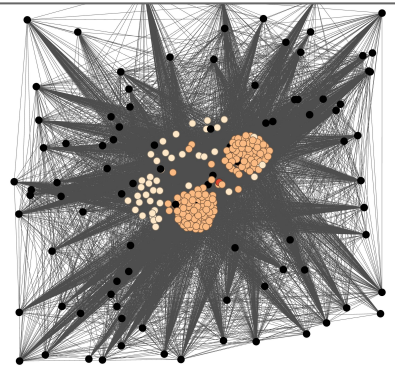
“The ADS groups has grown in size, and it may be possible to entertain new relationships and activities. As a form of public service, ADS could host a ‘hack day’ or sponsor an intern program.”

First-ever ADS hackathon

- Held at the CfA on May 22, 2018
- 20 registered participants (7 non-CfA)
- Participation from ASCL, Chandra archives, STScI, NED, CfA library

Conference workshops & hack days

AAS 231 - winter 2018



Hack day project:
Who is astronomy's
Kevin Bacon?

Event Title: Collaboration and Hacking Space
Event Notes: This event is a co-working space intended for use by collaborative projects. Contributors and developers from the Astropy Project and the Astrophysical Data System (ADS) are planning to sprint on projects and other projects are welcome to use the space

AAS 232 - summer 2018

Advanced Searching in the New ADS: On the Web and Using the API

Sunday, 6 January | 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Organizer: Kelly Lockhart, Astrophysics Data System, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

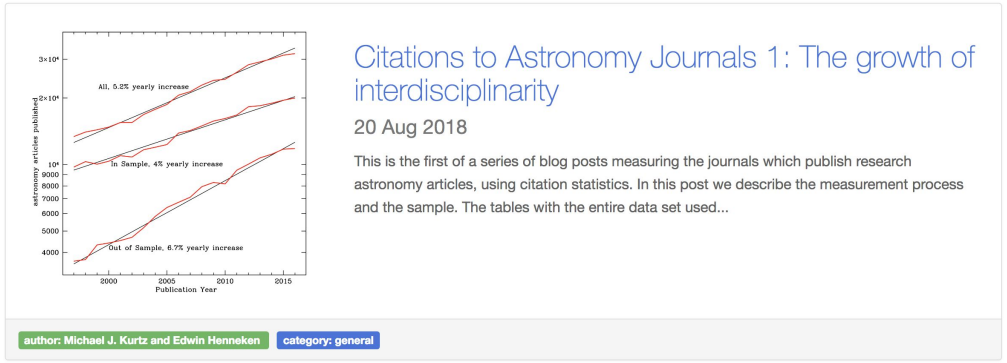
No Fee

The new ADS interface has been the official face of the Astrophysics Data System for nearly a year. While it supports the same types of searches that could be done in the Classic system, it's also capable of a whole lot more. Join us to learn about features in the web interface of the new ADS. We'll also show you how to use the API programmatically, using command line tools and Python scripts. Completion of

AAS 233 - winter 2019

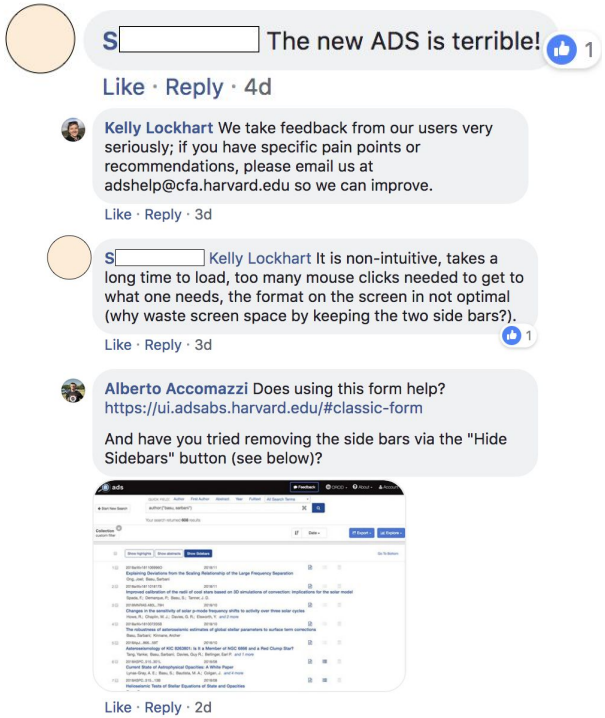
ADS blog and AstroBetter blogs

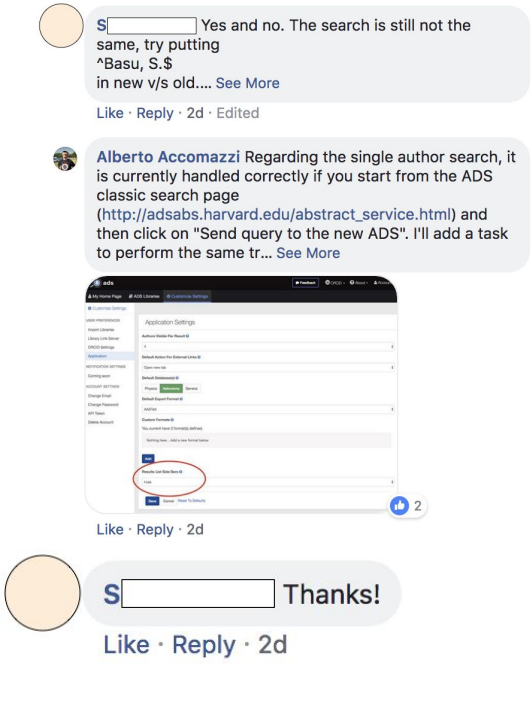
- ADS blog: 10 posts since November 2017
  - ~11,000 unique pageviews
- AstroBetter blog: 3 posts/cross-posts since November 2017



Other outreach

- Local events
  - Seamless Demofest
  - ADS tutorials for summer student researchers, CfA committee
- Social media
  - Twitter
  - Astronomers group on Facebook





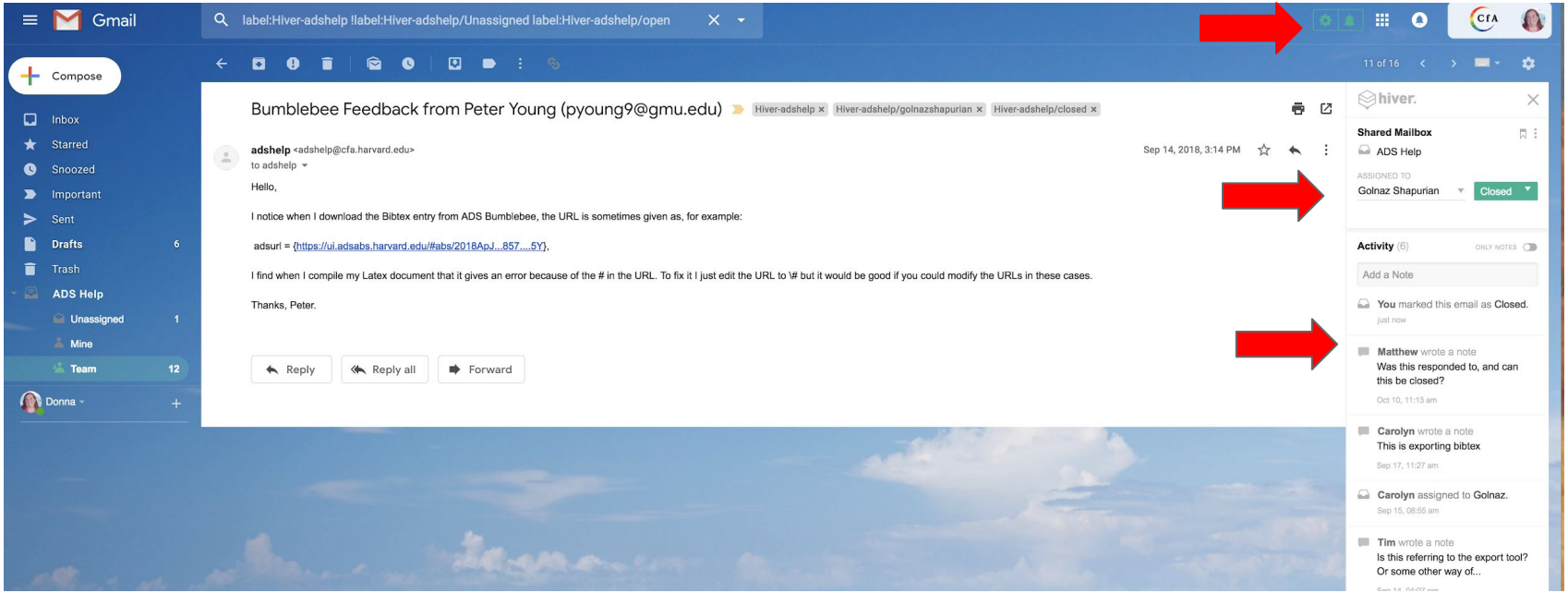
Potential future outreach

- Online Slack/chat channel for users
  - Searchable knowledge base
  - Pro: users helping users
  - Con: one more communications channel to maintain
- ADS Ambassadors program
  - Potential participants: power users and librarians
  - Role: to answer questions and offer training locally
  - Training: with us at AAS or online

User support

- Email support
- Video
- Help pages/API Jupyter notebooks
- Soliciting feedback via a usability study and survey

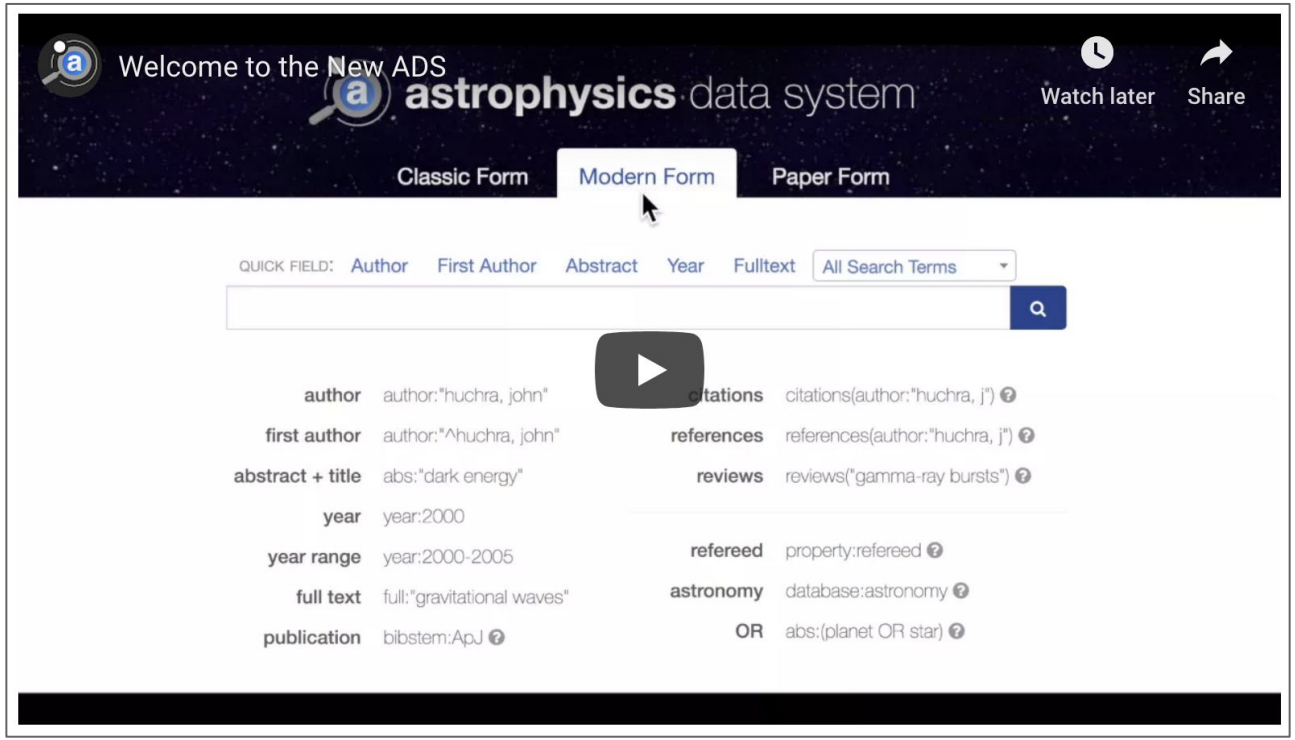
Hiver



- To reduce duplication of effort
- To develop a knowledge base of answers
- To share responsibility for follow-up
- To continue to offer efficient response time

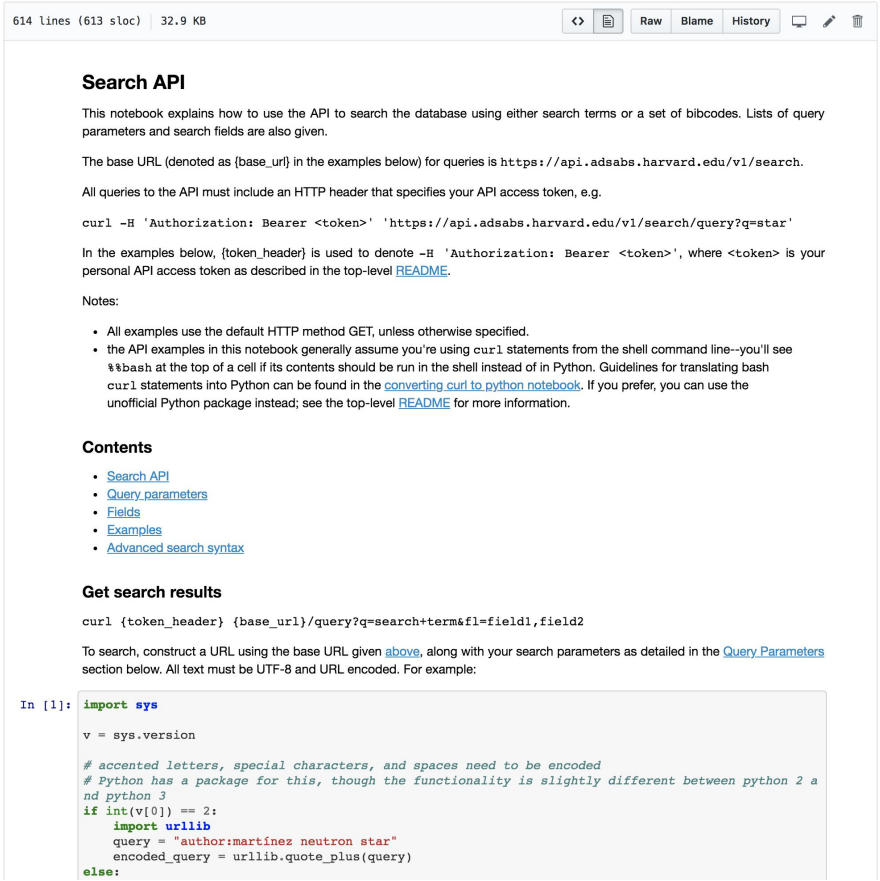
Introduction to New ADS video

- http://adsabs.github.io/help/
  - >100 views



API Jupyter notebooks

- Available on Github
  https://github.com/adsabs/adsabs-dev-api
- Bibliographic research
  http://adsabs.github.io/blog/concepts-at-work



614 lines (613 sloc) | 32.9 KB

Raw | Blame | History

Search API

This notebook explains how to use the API to search the database using either search terms or a set of bibcodes. Lists of query parameters and search fields are also given.

The base URL (denoted as {base_url} in the examples below) for queries is `https://api.adsabs.harvard.edu/v1/search`.

All queries to the API must include an HTTP header that specifies your API access token, e.g.

```
curl -H 'Authorization: Bearer <token>' 'https://api.adsabs.harvard.edu/v1/search/query?q=star'
```

In the examples below, {token_header} is used to denote `-H 'Authorization: Bearer <token>'`, where `<token>` is your personal API access token as described in the top-level README.

Notes:

- All examples use the default HTTP method GET, unless otherwise specified.
- the API examples in this notebook generally assume you're using `curl` statements from the shell command line--you'll see `%%bash` at the top of a cell if its contents should be run in the shell instead of in Python. Guidelines for translating bash `curl` statements into Python can be found in the converting curl to python notebook. If you prefer, you can use the unofficial Python package instead; see the top-level README for more information.

Contents

- Search API
- Query parameters
- Fields
- Examples
- Advanced search syntax

Get search results

```
curl {token_header} {base_url}/query?q=search+term&fl=field1,field2
```

To search, construct a URL using the base URL given above, along with your search parameters as detailed in the Query Parameters section below. All text must be UTF-8 and URL encoded. For example:

In [1]:

```
import sys

v = sys.version

# accented letters, special characters, and spaces need to be encoded
# Python has a package for this, though the functionality is slightly different between python 2 a
nd python 3
if int(v[0]) == 2:
    import urllib
    query = "author:martínez neutron star"
    encoded_query = urllib.quote_plus(query)
else:
```

Usability study and survey

- Study: in progress
  - Grad UI/UX class at Simmons University
  - In-depth usability study of 4 ADS users
- Survey
  - Too many volunteers for usability study! Sent remaining 33 volunteers a survey, replies from 15
  - Initial results:
    - Users who are exclusively using new ADS are happy
    - Some users made feature suggestions
    - Many would prefer faster loading speed
  - *“I already feel like a kid in a candy store!”*
  - *“Keep doing what you're doing, and thank you thank you thank you!”*
  - *“The new site is beautiful and I love the attention given to various statistical metrics. Thank you!”*