

NOAO Portal Sky  
(<http://portal-nvo.noao.edu/>)  
requires Mozilla 1.7+

>sky< time xmatch siap query cart log in persistence: on

**Description**

Welcome to the NOAO-Sky view.

Click & Hold to pan around the sky.

Zoom into regions on the sky.

Double-click for a list of data at mouse.

Add images to a cart for analysis & download.

Switch to NOAO-Time to see when images were observed.

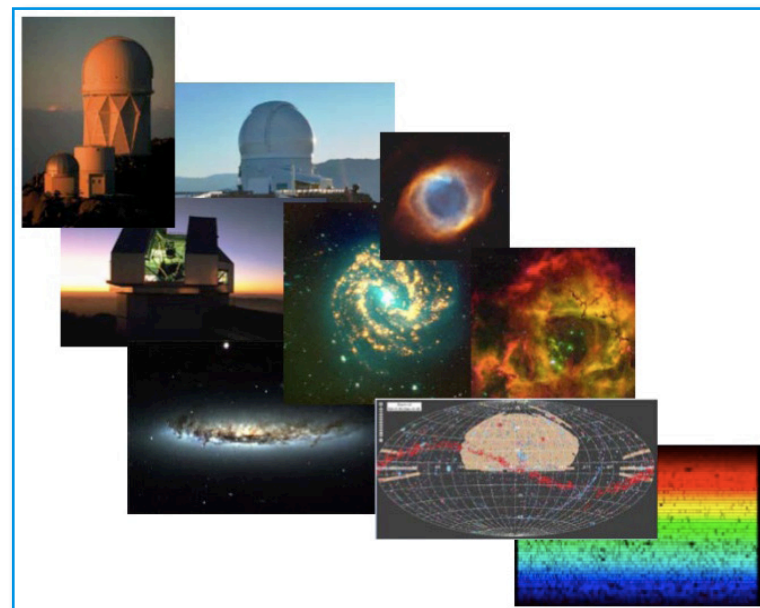
Or, click on any of the bars below for more actions.

Add a Marker and Crossmatch

Zoom to Object, Region or Sky Coordinate

Display and Search by Archive

# NOAO Science Archive



## Contact Information for the NOAO Science Archive

Science Data Management Group

Email: [vohelp@noao.edu](mailto:vohelp@noao.edu)

URL: [www.noao.edu/sdm/archives.php](http://www.noao.edu/sdm/archives.php)

<http://archive.noao.edu>



December 2009





NOAO collects a large quantity and variety of scientific data products from a large number of instruments on several telescopes. The NOAO Survey Archive (NSA) contains data products that were generated by NOAO Survey PI teams; it can be accessed through its custom Web interface at <http://archive.noao.edu>. The main NOAO Science Archive (Archive), contains all raw data, and calibrated data products for select instruments as produced by NOAO pipelines. The Archive is accessed through a Virtual Observatory (VO) compatible portal. The NOAO VO Portal can also access all Survey Archive data products.

## Data Use Policy

The applicable proprietary period for science data depends upon the policy of the host observatory, and may be different under some circumstances. The default period for observing programs obtained through the NOAO time allocation process is 18 months from the calendar date of the exposure, except for programs granted “survey” status for which the proprietary period is usually less.



## Obtaining Data From The Portal

- A Web-based user interface designed to be compatible with the VO.
- Access public data from 8 different VO archives.
- Find and access your NOAO proprietary data with just a Proposal ID.
- Use the shopping cart to stage data for download to your local machine.
- Access the NOAO VO Portal at <http://portal-nvo.noao.edu> (retrieving proprietary data requires login).

## Change to FITS format in the NOAO Archive

Starting with the 2010A observing semester, all newly archived raw and pipeline reduced FITS data files will be stored in the tile compressed fpack format. Such files are significantly smaller, image headers remain readable, and pixels can be randomly accessed. Support for this format is now available in the IRAF fitsutil package from <http://iraf.noao.edu/extern.html>. The CFITSIO library has been able to read and write tile compressed FITS files for several years. Standalone fpack and funpack tools are available for popular operating systems from <http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/fitsio/fpack>.

## Documentation

The NOAO Data Handbook<sup>1</sup> describes:

- What data products are available in the Science Archive
- How to register with the Archive and how to query and retrieve your data through the VO Portal
- The pipeline processed data products from the Mosaic and NEWFIRM cameras.

Download a copy of the handbook at:

<http://www.noao.edu/sdm/archives.php>

A Guide to NEWFIRM Data Reduction with IRAF

- Is available at: <http://www.noao.edu/ets/newfirm>
- The NFEXTERN IRAF package is available at: <http://iraf.noao.edu/extern.html>

<sup>1</sup>Shaw,R.A., ed. 2009, NOAO Data Handbook (Version1.1; Tucson: National Optical Astronomy Observatory)