

An Astronomical Deep Space Search Engine



Michael Kurtz

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Astronomer and Senior Computer Scientist, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory

CURRENT RESEARCH

Increase the efficiency of research through intelligent access to information

Modern information technologies are transforming the way we think in a manner similar to, but much faster than, the invention of the printing press and the formation of large library collections did 500 years ago. We are just at the beginning of this revolution; what we do now could have lasting and profound effects on the future of our species. The research of Dr. Michael Kurtz, of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, is centered on inventing and implementing methods to facilitate the efficient interaction of human scientists with our rapidly growing collective knowledge, particularly in the domains of astronomy and physics. As the developer of one of the first scientific search engines to ever be developed, the SAO/NASA Astrophysics Data System (ADS) [<http://adsabs.harvard.edu/>], and as an observational cosmologist, Dr. Kurtz has a remarkable history for innovative and relevant research. Dr. Kurtz continues to develop the ADS, which has become the largest digital library portal for astronomers and physicists in existence and is used each day by researchers all over the world. For three decades, he has been looking into ways to understand the huge corpus of digital text we possess, with an increase in funding, Dr. Kurtz hopes to more quickly and effectively design helpful tools for researchers.

Due to the connection with ADS, Dr. Kurtz's research has the ability to directly influence the daily research behavior of more than 50,000 scientists and will effect a few hundred thousand other researchers. In addition to his individual research, Dr. Kurtz is also committed to the dissemination of other important ideas. As the moderator for the Astrophysical Instruments and Methods section of arXiv, Dr....

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AFFILIATION



Harvard University

EDUCATION

- B.S., in Physics, 1977
San Francisco State University
- Ph.D., in Physics, 1982
Dartmouth College

AWARDS

- van Biesbroeck Prize
- ISI Citation Research Award
- Fellow, Astrophysics division
- Fellow, Computer, Communications, and Information Science section
- Founding member; Board of Advisors

RESEARCH AREAS

Technology, Informational Sciences / Internet, IOT, Devices, Data, Space

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Michael Kurtz, of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, as he looks to understand the corpus of information we possess. Your donations will support the necessary \$300K per year required for personnel, equipment, travel, and overhead. In choosing to support his research, you will play a role in advancing one of the most important tools astronomers use each day.