

A unified astronomy thesaurus

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- Journal keywords (90s–present): 374 items, 13 top concepts, loose hierarchy
- PACS (AIP): 589 astro terms, 6 top, 4 levels
- IAU thesaurus (1993): 2551 terms, 274 top, comprehensive, rarely used
- IVOA thesaurus (mid-2000s): Rick Hessman's updating of IAU93

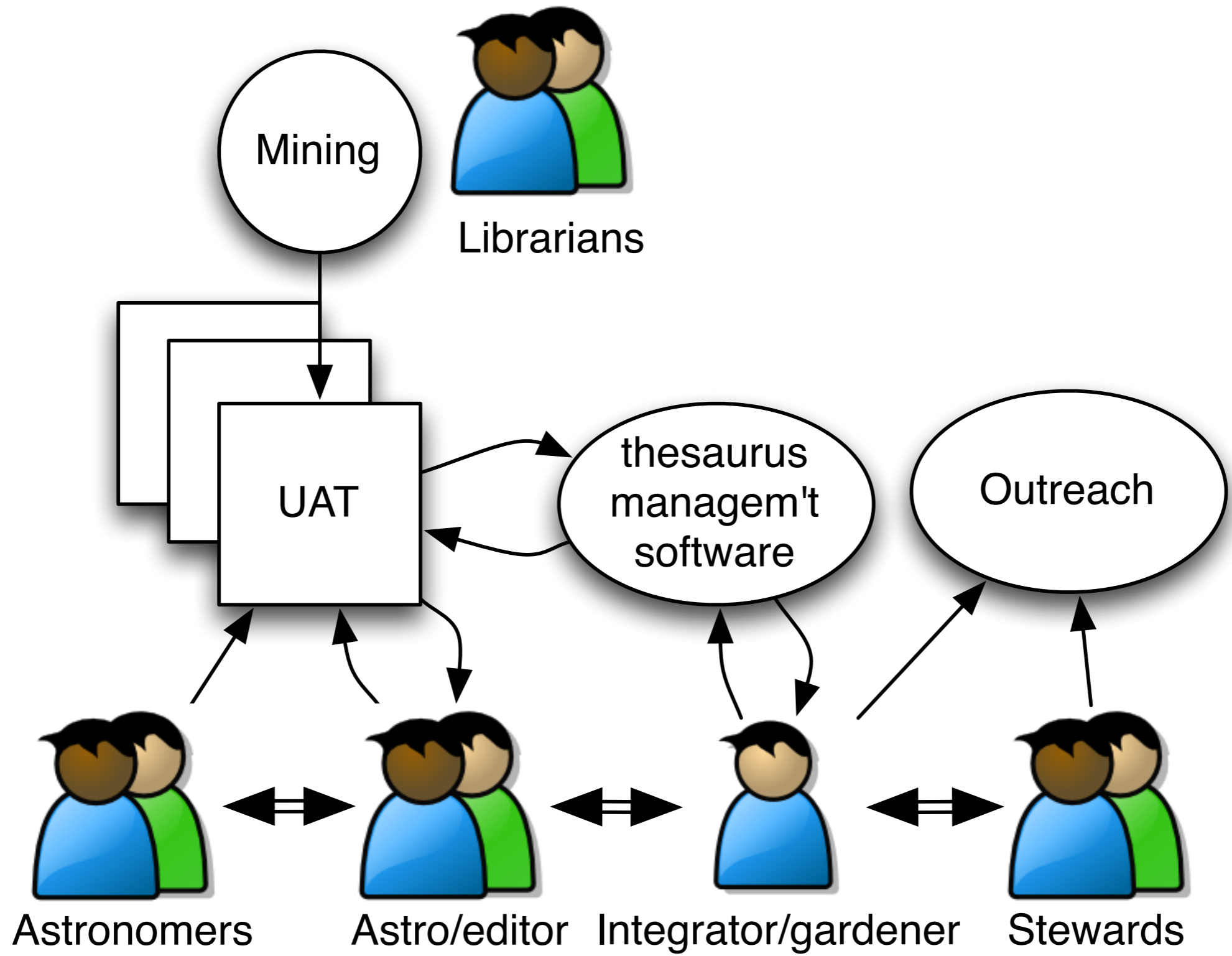
- AIP and IOP separately (it turned out) commissioning updated all-physics thesauri
- ...which incorporated the existing astro thesauri
- Merged, and the astro portions donated to AAS
- AAS has released (January 2013) an early draft, and is thinking about process
- IAU Commission 5 has nodded its blessing

- 2305 terms, 15 top, 224 related, majority 2–4 levels down
- Open: CC-BY-SA
- Interoperable: SKOS, but other formats as appropriate
- Community-supported: publishers, learned societies, and, we hope, the community at large

- A consistent keyword system covering all publishers represented in ADS
- Text-mining ADS's full-text, building on thesaurus concepts
- Semantic query expansion
- Intelligent faceted filtering
- Recommendations and notifications

use-cases for publishers

- Pass good metadata to ADS; helps discoverability
- Enhance end-user experience in a publisher-agnostic way
- Richer links to datasets
- Experiment with thesauri; think about ontology possibilities
- Create links to grants and funders (eg FundRef)



<http://astrothesaurus.org>

<https://groups.google.com/d/forum/uat-users>