

How Resilient Are Our Resources?

Reflecting on the sustainability of astronomy's digital foundations

Our Science Depends on Shared Digital Infrastructure

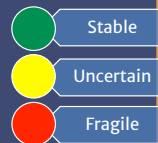
Astronomy depends on public digital resources—data archives, software repositories, computational infrastructures, and catalogs. Recent actions outside science have resulted in the loss of digital resources in other fields, and even astrophysics resources may face uncertain futures.

Three Core Questions

What public digital resources does your research most depend on?



How resilient are these resources to funding loss, policy change, or institutional reorganization?



What can the astronomy community do—individually and collectively—to ensure longevity of digital resources?



Ways to Strengthen Resilience

Conduct and Share Resilience Audits

Evaluate the sustainability of archives, databases, and codebases using transparent criteria—funding horizon, governance, redundancy, and preservation plans.



Establish a Community-Driven Preservation Network

Build partnerships among observatories, universities, libraries, data centers, and registries to mirror and safeguard holdings.



A LOCKSS (“Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe”) for Astronomy network could replicate holdings and ensure continuity of access—even in the face of political or financial disruption.



Contact and Support

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