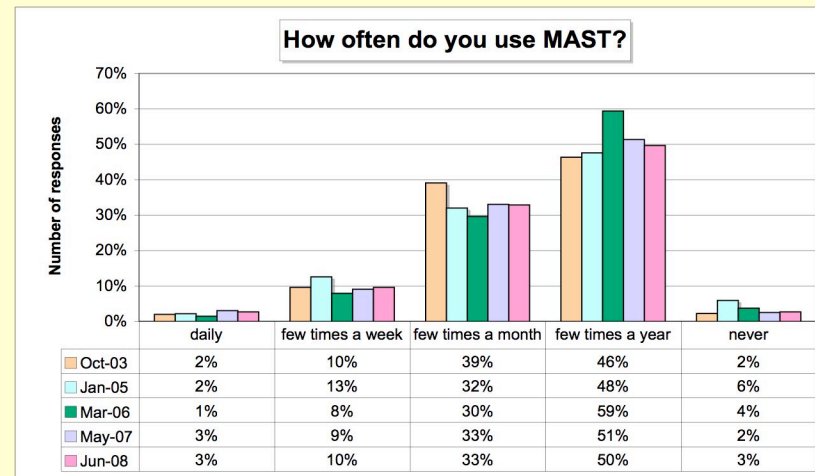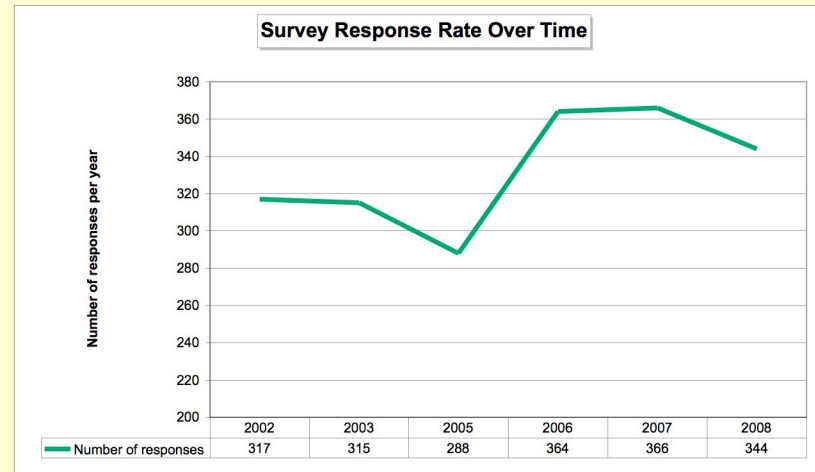# 2008 Survey Results

- **Deployed May 28 - June 30**

- **244 responses (-22 from last year)**

- **2285 email invitations sent**

    - **registered users who have retrieved data in the past 2 years**

    - **GALEX CasJobs list**

    - **archive newsletter list**

    - **STScI sci-tech mailing list**

- **Results will be placed online**

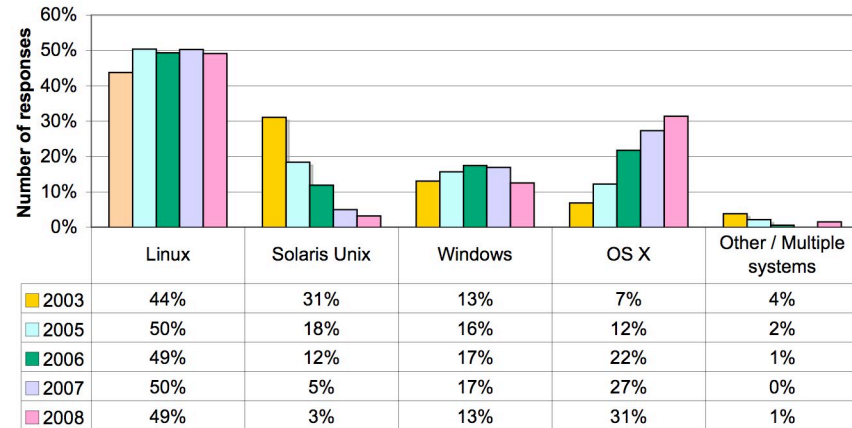- **Half of our users use MAST a few times a year**

Survey Response Rate Over Time

Number of responses	2002	2003	2005	2006	2007	2008
	317	315	288	364	366	344

How often do you use MAST?

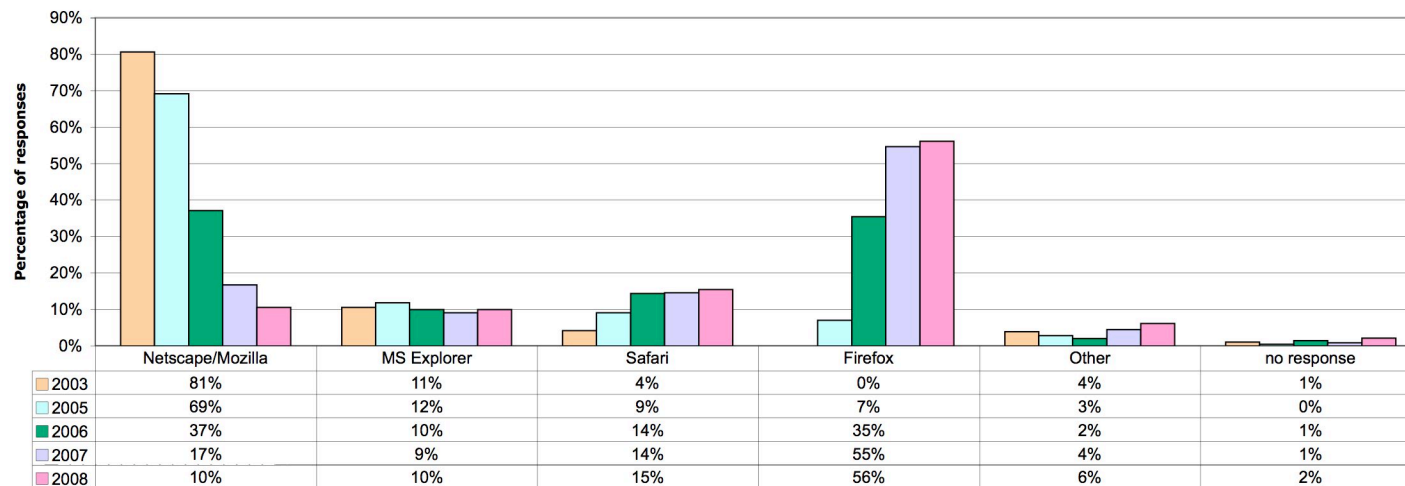|	daily	few times a week	few times a month	few times a year	never
Oct-03	2%	10%	39%	46%	2%
Jan-05	2%	13%	32%	48%	6%
Mar-06	1%	8%	30%	59%	4%
May-07	3%	9%	33%	51%	2%
Jun-08	3%	10%	33%	50%	3%

Infrastructure

- **Linux / Firefox top lists**

- **Linux ~ 50% for past several years**

- **Rise of OS X correlated with decline of Solaris**

Which operating system do you use?

	Linux	Solaris Unix	Windows	OS X	Other / Multiple systems
2003	44%	31%	13%	7%	4%
2005	50%	18%	16%	12%	2%
2006	49%	12%	17%	22%	1%
2007	50%	5%	17%	27%	0%
2008	49%	3%	13%	31%	1%

What browser do you primarily use?

	Netscape/Mozilla	MS Explorer	Safari	Firefox	Other	no response
2003	81%	11%	4%	0%	4%	1%
2005	69%	12%	9%	7%	3%	0%
2006	37%	10%	14%	35%	2%	1%
2007	17%	9%	14%	55%	4%	1%
2008	10%	10%	15%	56%	6%	2%

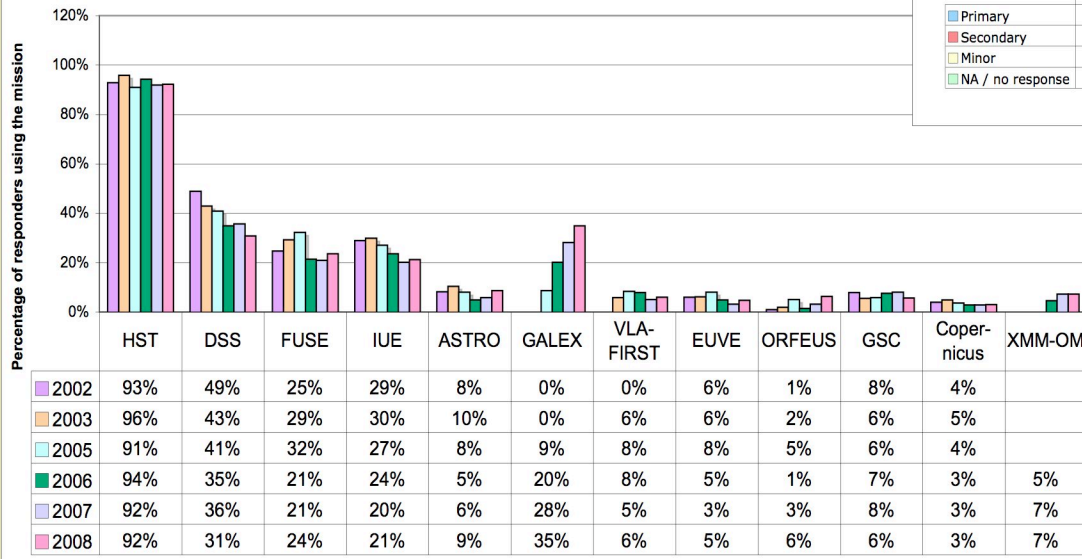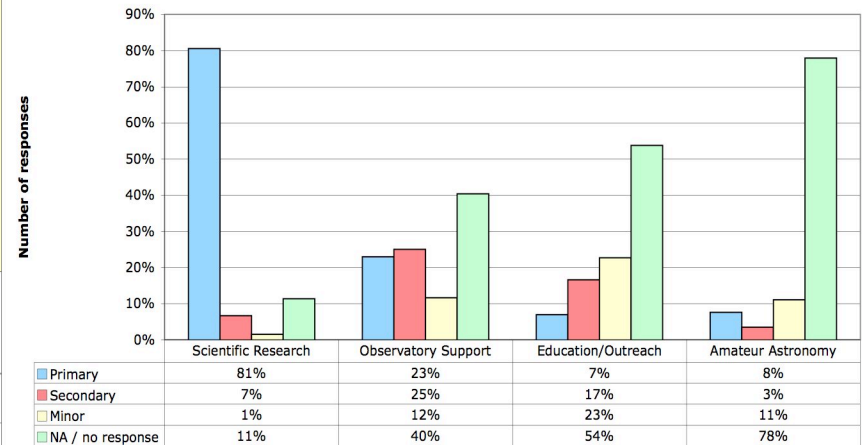# Missions Used and Why

- As one might expect HST on top; GALEX use growing as more data becomes available.

- DSS seriously under sampled

Fraction of MAST use for these activities
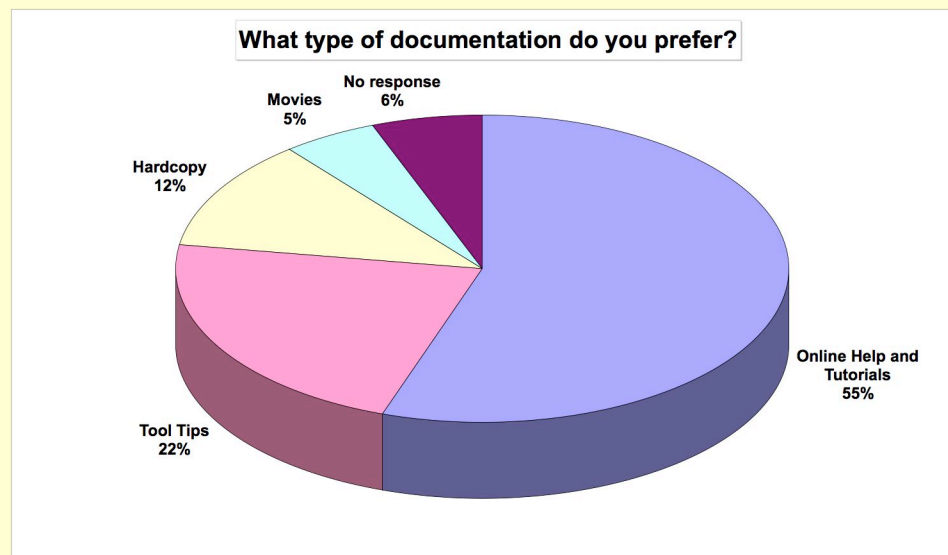
	Scientific Research	Observatory Support	Education/Outreach	Amateur Astronomy
Primary	81%	23%	7%	8%
Secondary	7%	25%	17%	3%
Minor	1%	12%	23%	11%
NA / no response	11%	40%	54%	78%

What missions did you access?

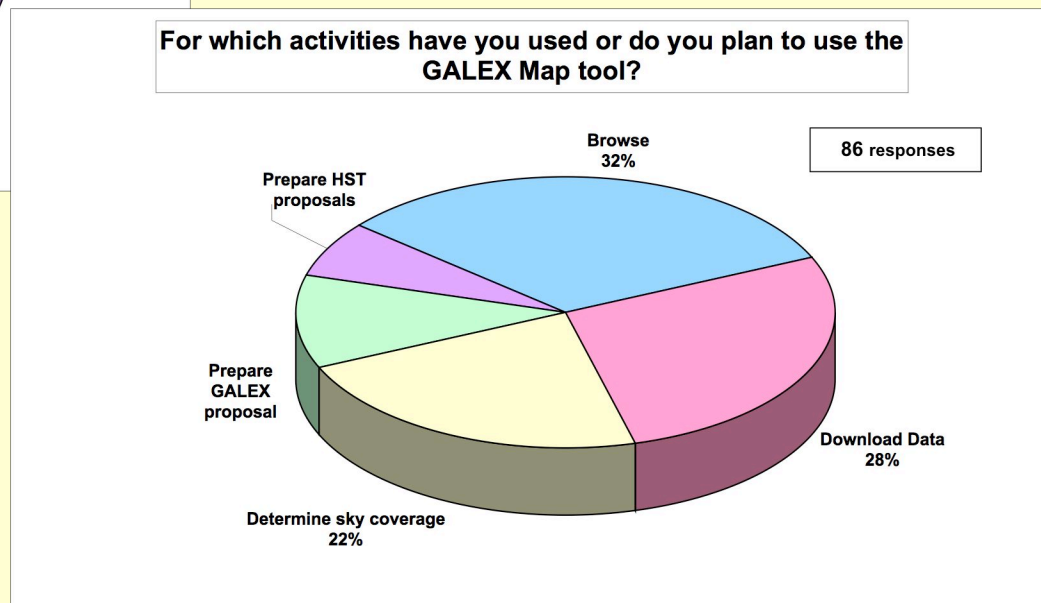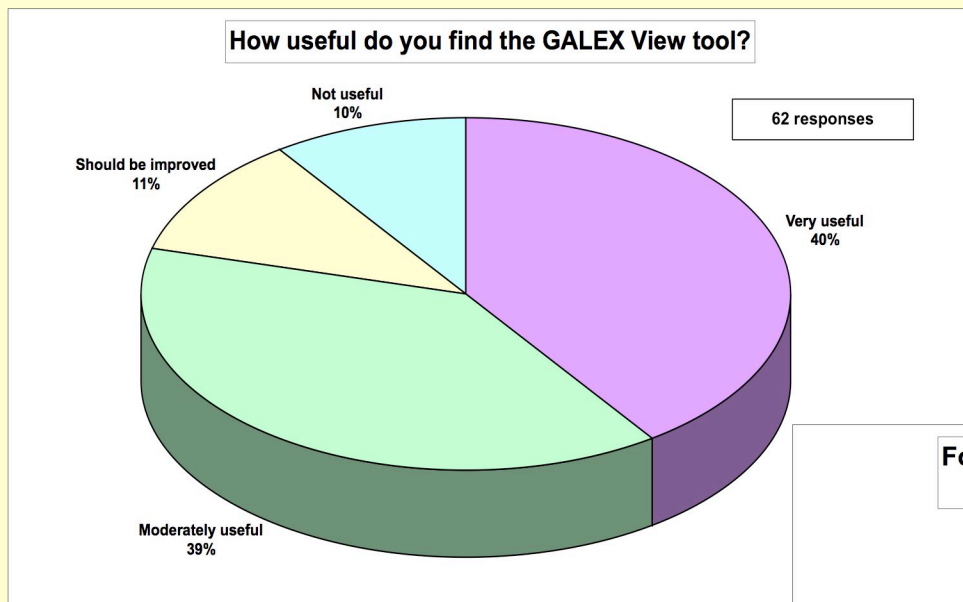|	HST	DSS	FUSE	IUE	ASTRO	GALEX	VLA-FIRST	EUVE	ORFEUS	GSC	Coper-nicus	XMM-OM
2002	93%	49%	25%	29%	8%	0%	0%	6%	1%	8%	4%	
2003	96%	43%	29%	30%	10%	0%	6%	6%	2%	6%	5%	
2005	91%	41%	32%	27%	8%	9%	8%	8%	5%	6%	4%	
2006	94%	35%	21%	24%	5%	20%	8%	5%	1%	7%	3%	5%
2007	92%	36%	21%	20%	6%	28%	5%	3%	3%	8%	3%	7%
2008	92%	31%	24%	21%	9%	35%	6%	5%	6%	6%	3%	7%

Documentation

- PDF files requested in a couple of comments - now planned
- Screenshots - now planned
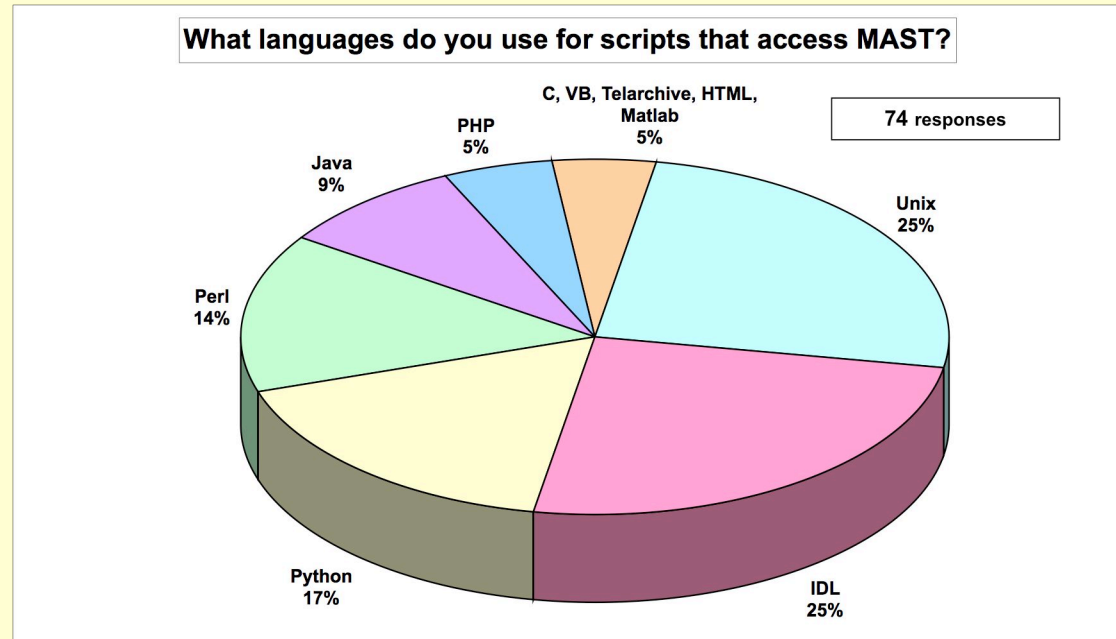- Forum / Wiki - previous surveys also - implemented

What type of documentation do you prefer?

Movies 5%

No response 6%

Hardcopy 12%

Online Help and Tutorials 55%

Tool Tips 22%

GALEX MAP / GalexView

How useful do you find the GALEX View tool?

62 responses

- Not useful 10%
- Should be improved 11%
- Very useful 40%
- Moderately useful 39%

For which activities have you used or do you plan to use the GALEX Map tool?

86 responses

- Browse 32%
- Prepare HST proposals
- Prepare GALEX proposal
- Download Data 28%
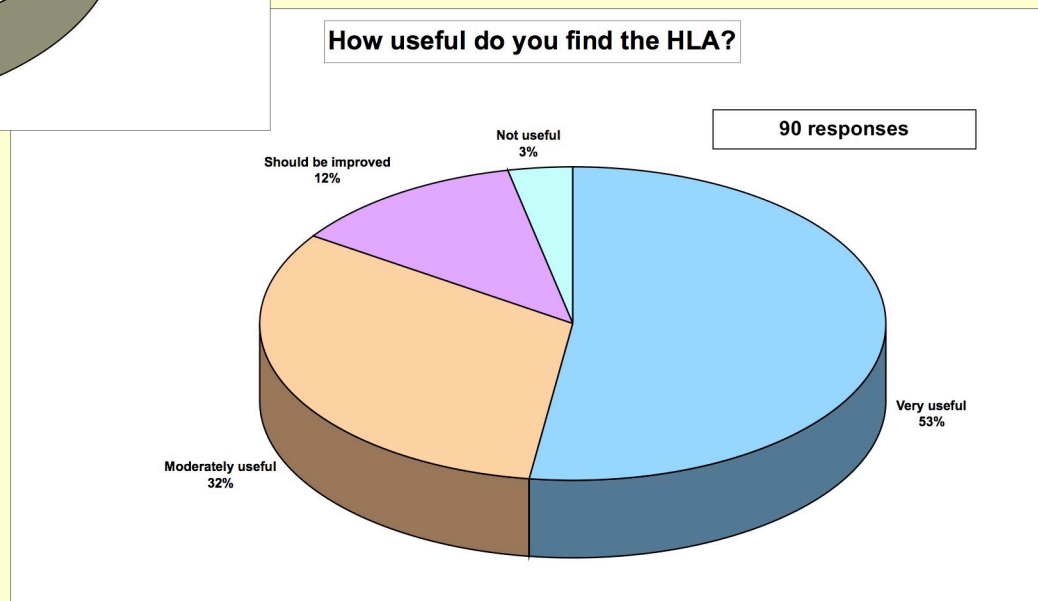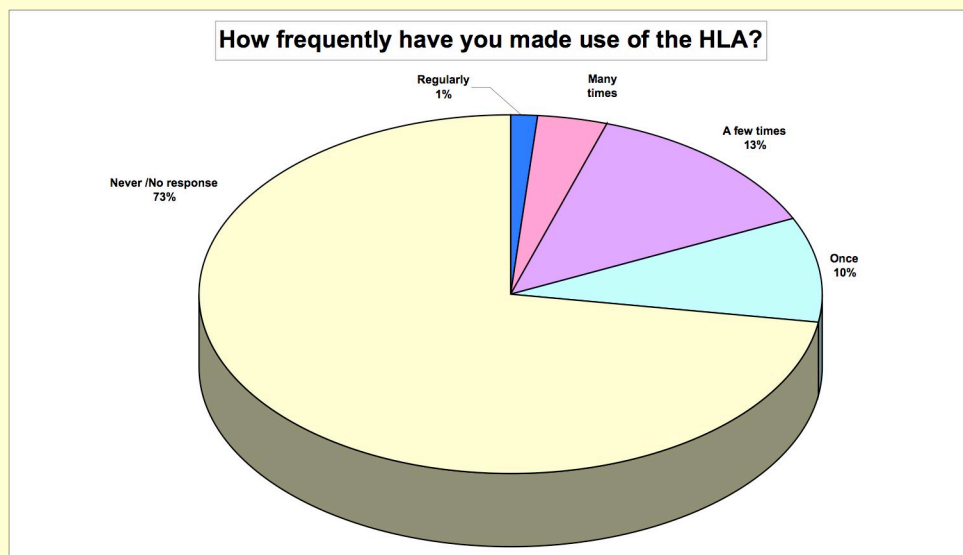- Determine sky coverage 22%

Scripts access to MAST

- About 25% of users responded to some part of this topic.

- We know a lot of the access to the DSS is through some type of scripting.

- Automated search and retrieval scripts most desired.

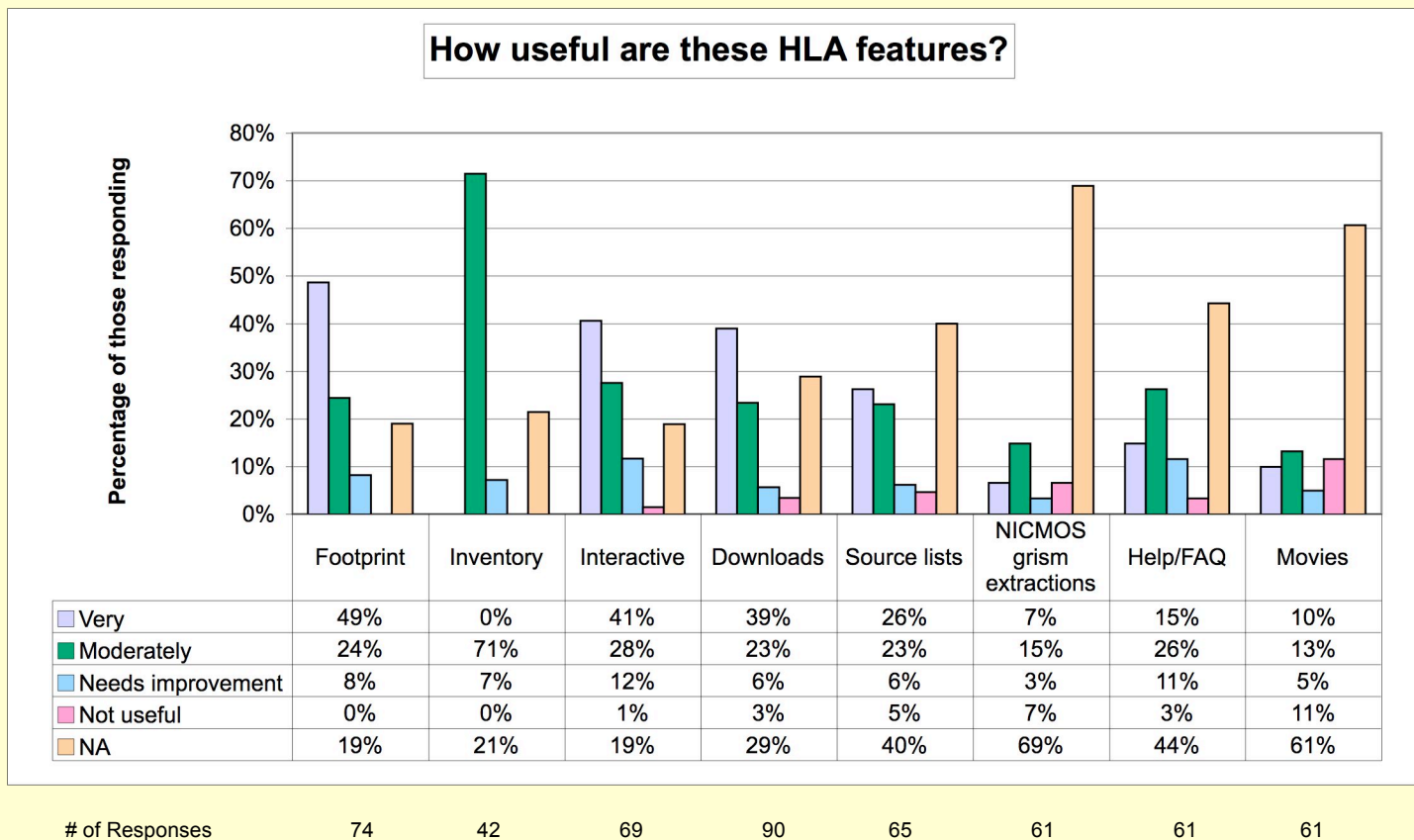- 3 simple examples showing a search online; DADS retrieval trickier.

What languages do you use for scripts that access MAST?

74 responses

- C, VB, Telarchive, HTML, Matlab 5%
- PHP 5%
- Java 9%
- Perl 14%
- Python 17%
- IDL 25%
- Unix 25%

HLA Survey Results

How frequently have you made use of the HLA?

Regularly
1%

Many times

A few times
13%

Never /No response
73%

Once
10%

How useful do you find the HLA?

90 responses

Not useful
3%

Should be improved
12%

Very useful
53%

Moderately useful
32%

HLA Features

How useful are these HLA features?

	Footprint	Inventory	Interactive	Downloads	Source lists	NICMOS grism extractions	Help/FAQ	Movies
Very	49%	0%	41%	39%	26%	7%	15%	10%
Moderately	24%	71%	28%	23%	23%	15%	26%	13%
Needs improvement	8%	7%	12%	6%	6%	3%	11%	5%
Not useful	0%	0%	1%	3%	5%	7%	3%	11%
NA	19%	21%	19%	29%	40%	69%	44%	61%

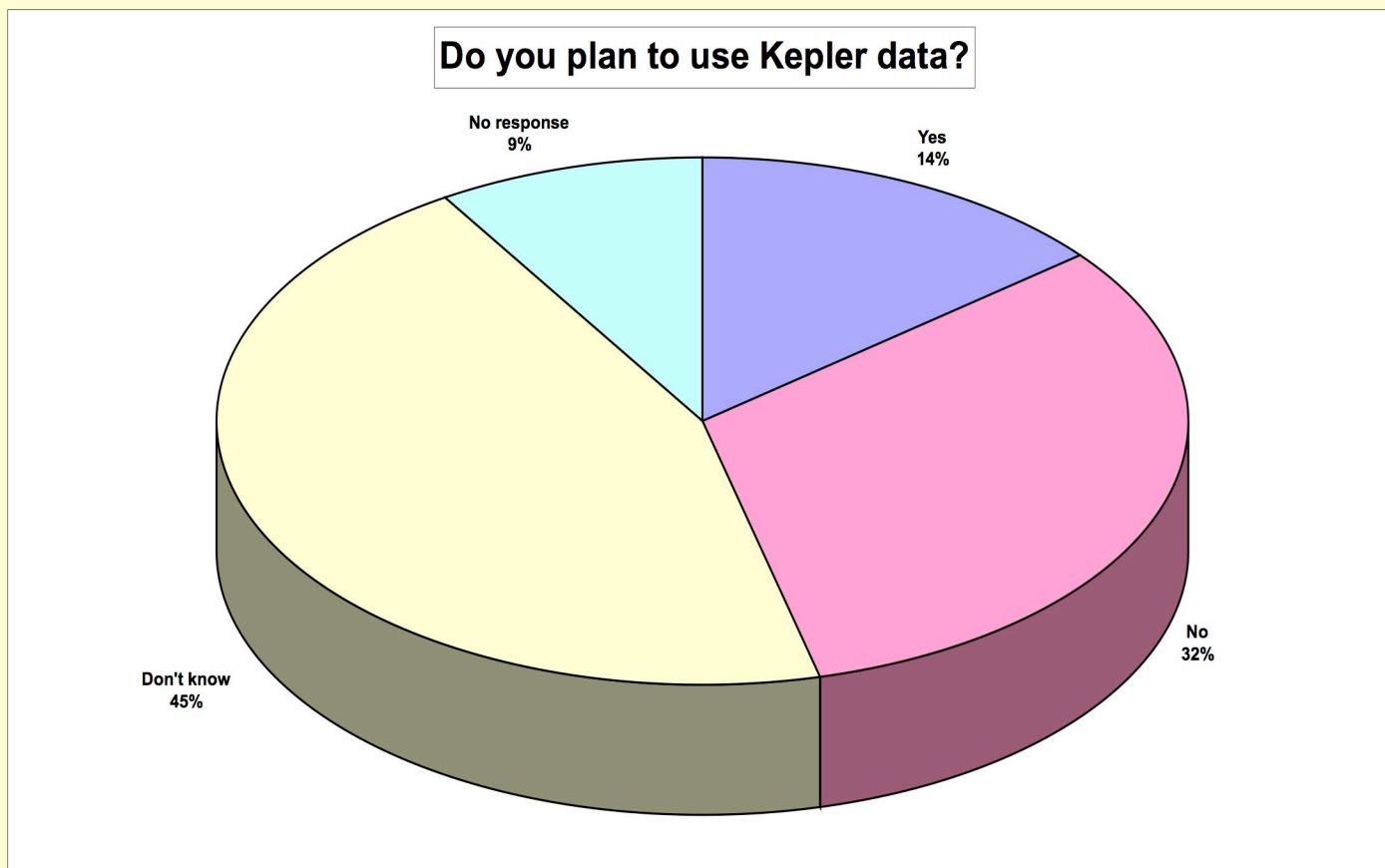| # of Responses | 74 | 42 | 69 | 90 | 65 | 61 | 61 | 61 |

Kepler

Do you plan to use Kepler data?

Ways to improve

- Resolver problems
  - Now caching
  - Accessing Sesame backup server
  - Hope for mirror

- Web access to HST instrument tables
  - Relatively small number of users - referred to StarView
  - StarView on the Web now starting development. Beta testing this fall, release one in time for servicing mission.

- Solar system
  - Looking at obtaining ephemeris to identify targets

- Searching HST data by object class
  - HLA team looking at ways to help identify target types using tools such as Apache Lucerne. Input data from such sources as journal tags, SIMBAD.
  - See ADASS report by Niall Gaffney.

More suggestions

- FGS
  - Just starting to look into the feasibility and scope of this effort.

- Forum / Wiki
  - Suggested in the past couple of surveys
  - Set up Forum, added link

- Previews
  - Aware of issues with HST previews - working on a time available basis
  - Some issues resolved (e.g. ACS data are no longer "black" box)
  - HST previews made at CADC
  - May use real STIS data for previews

- Search form
  - Implemented FUSE dataset name changes

- Other items?