



MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

MAST User Survey 2012

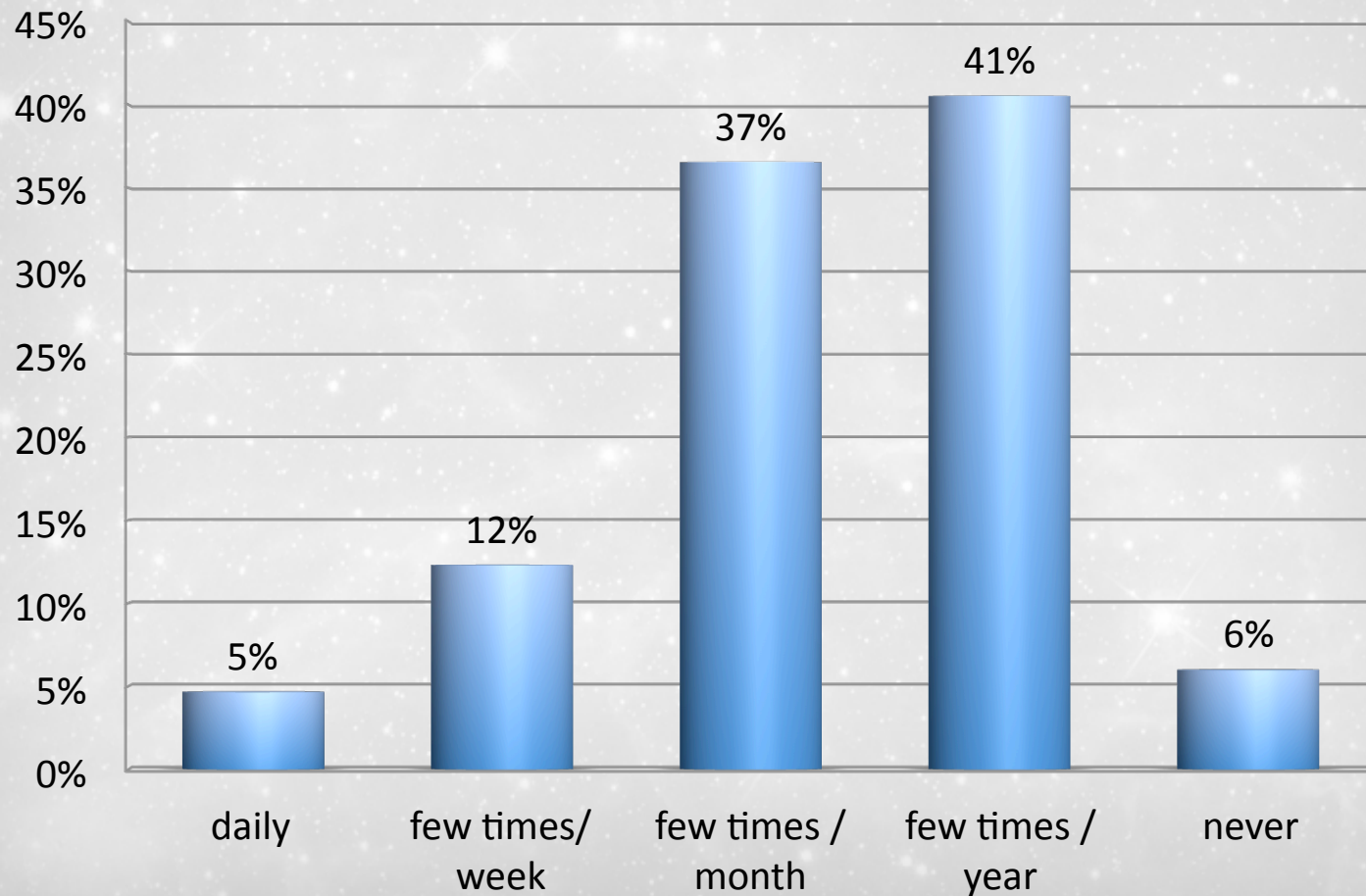


MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

1. How often have you used MAST in the past 12 months?

301 responses



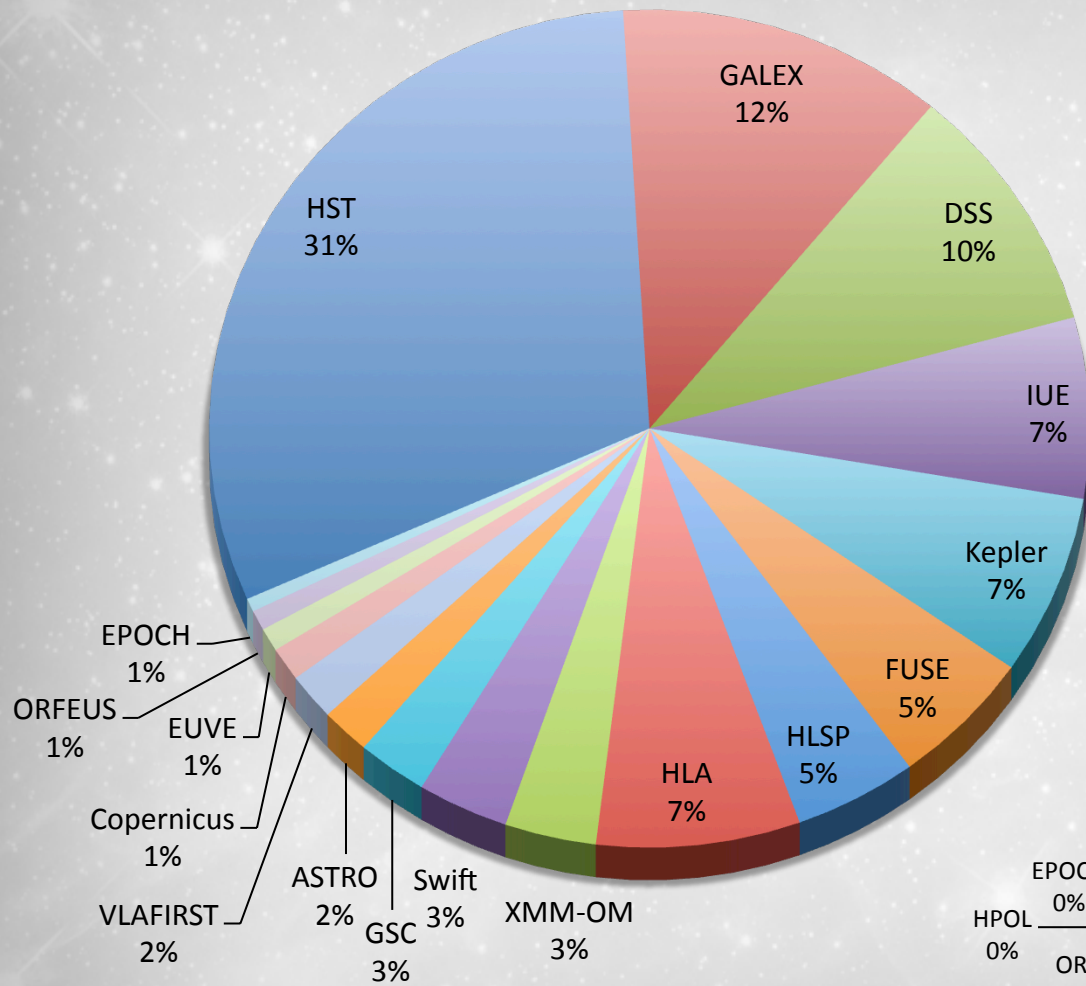


MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

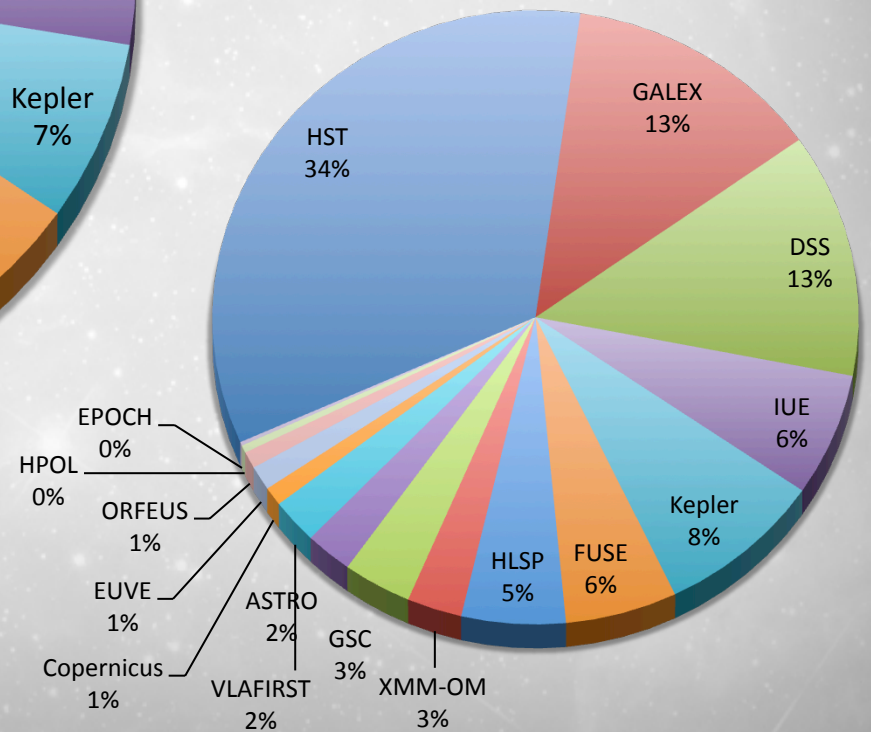
Nov 26
2012

2. Which missions did you access?

2012



2011

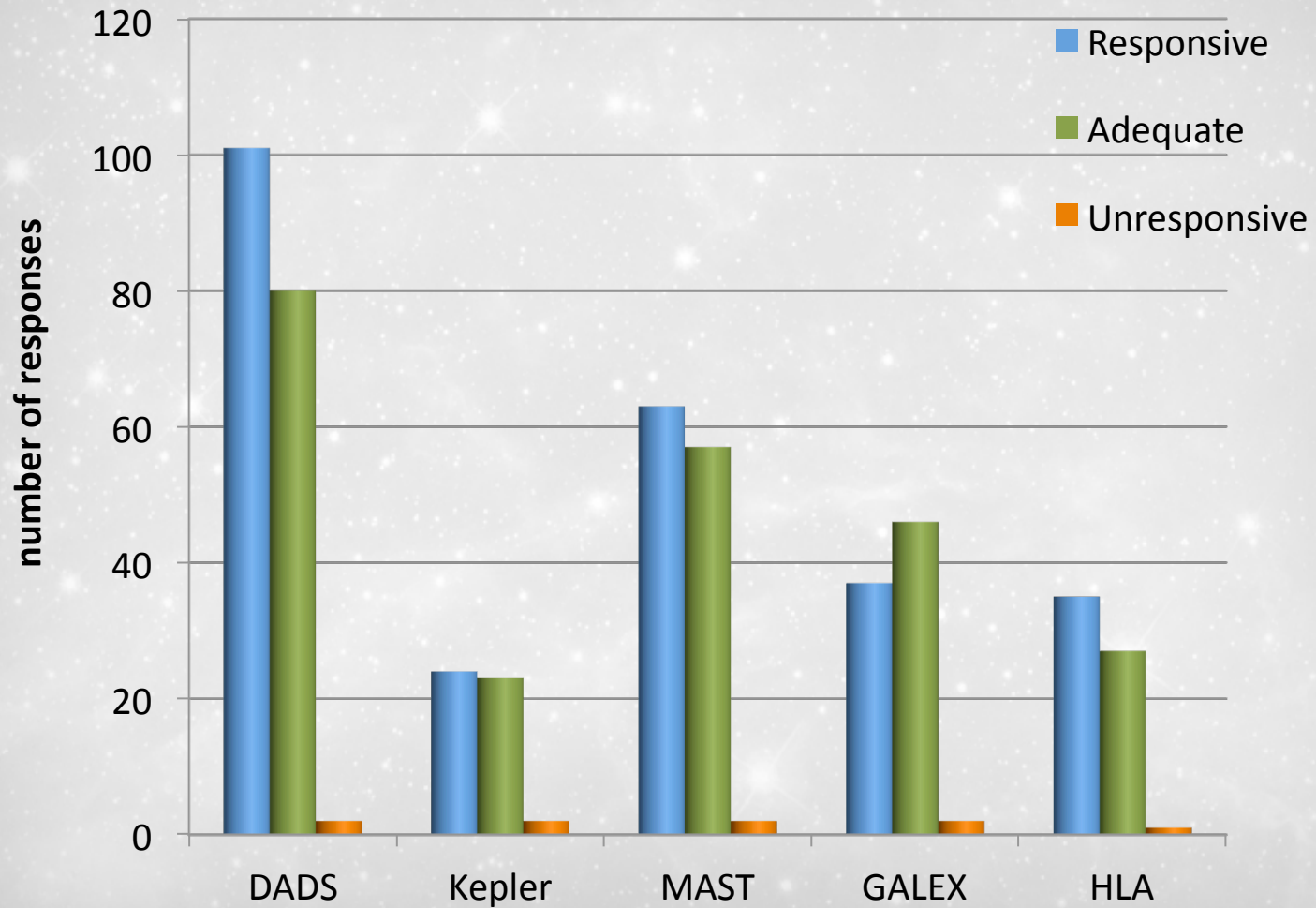




MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

3. If you retrieved data from MAST in the last 6 months, what did you think of the performance?





MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

Q3 – some of the comments received:

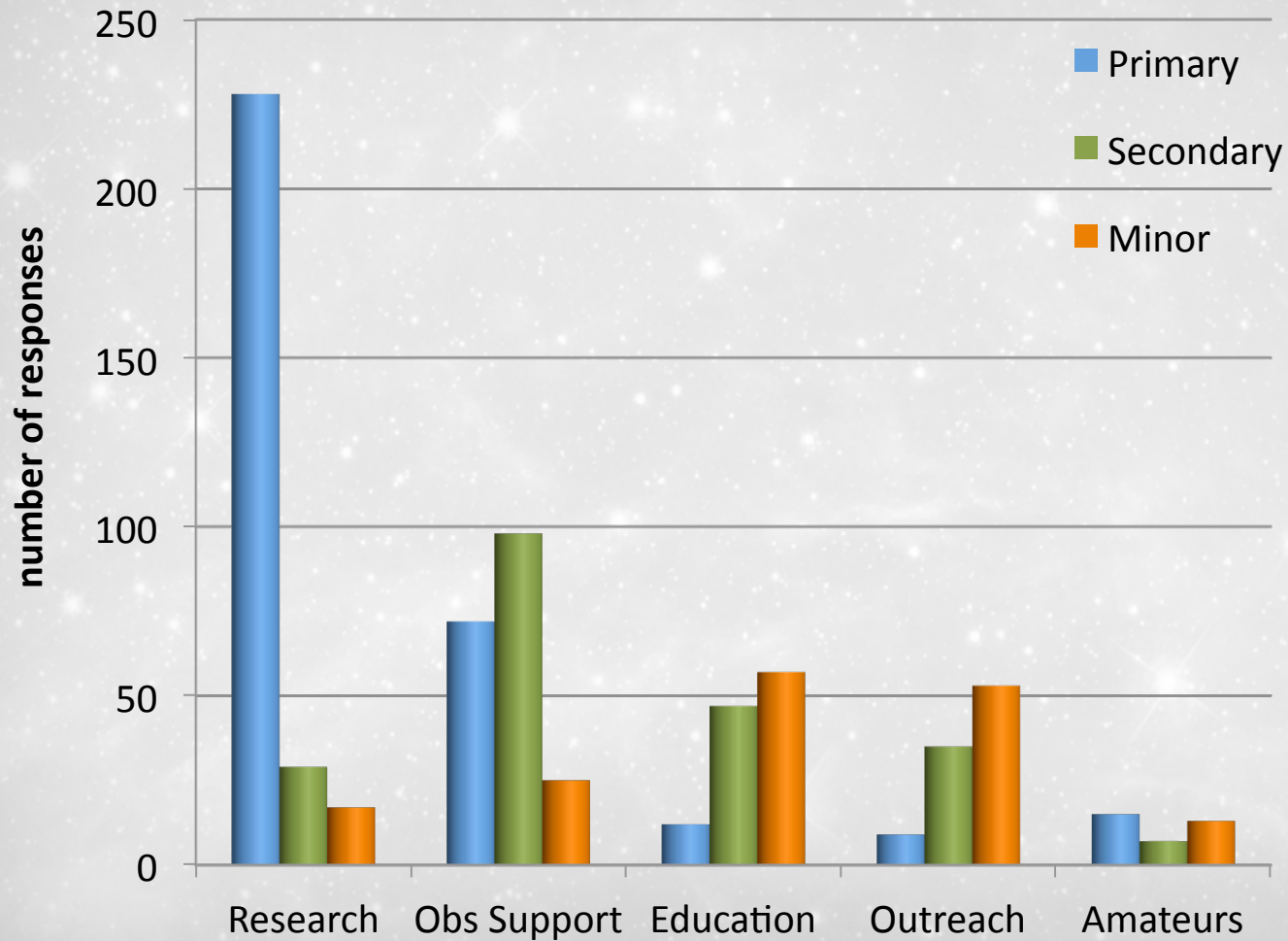
- There was a period a few months ago when it would take about a day to retrieve data from MAST, but it has returned to normal.
- The interface is very old and oriented to one data set at a time... painful. One cannot make general queries like ' find all the HST UV spectra of a set of cataclysmic variables'
- Please, implement `sftp' for the STAGE disk. Those of us behind firewalls have hard time retrieving data through `ftp'



**MAST
Users
Group
Meeting**

**Nov 26
2012**

4. Please rank your MAST usage that is related to the following activities:

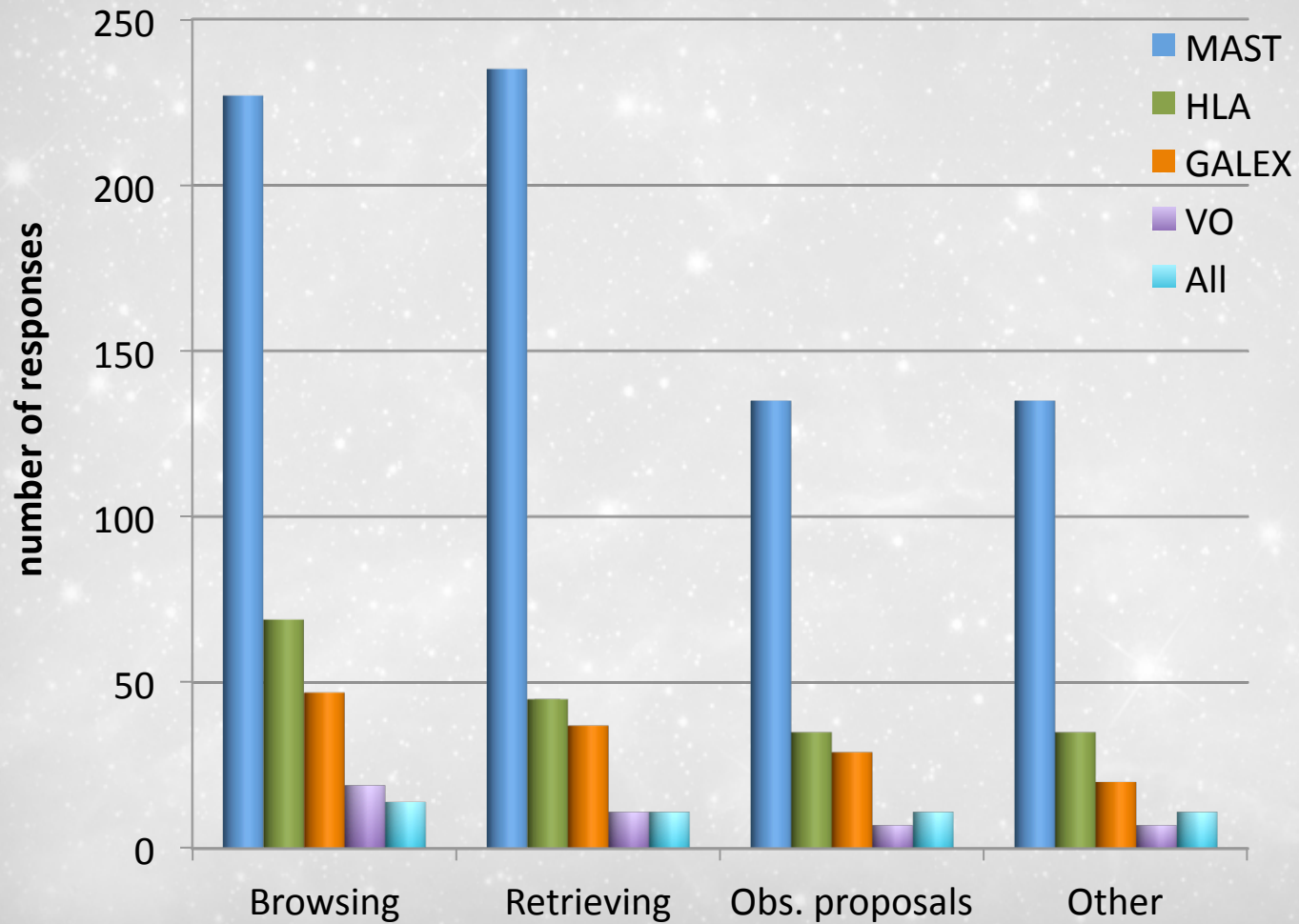




**MAST
Users
Group
Meeting**

**Nov 26
2012**

5. Which MAST interfaces do you commonly use?



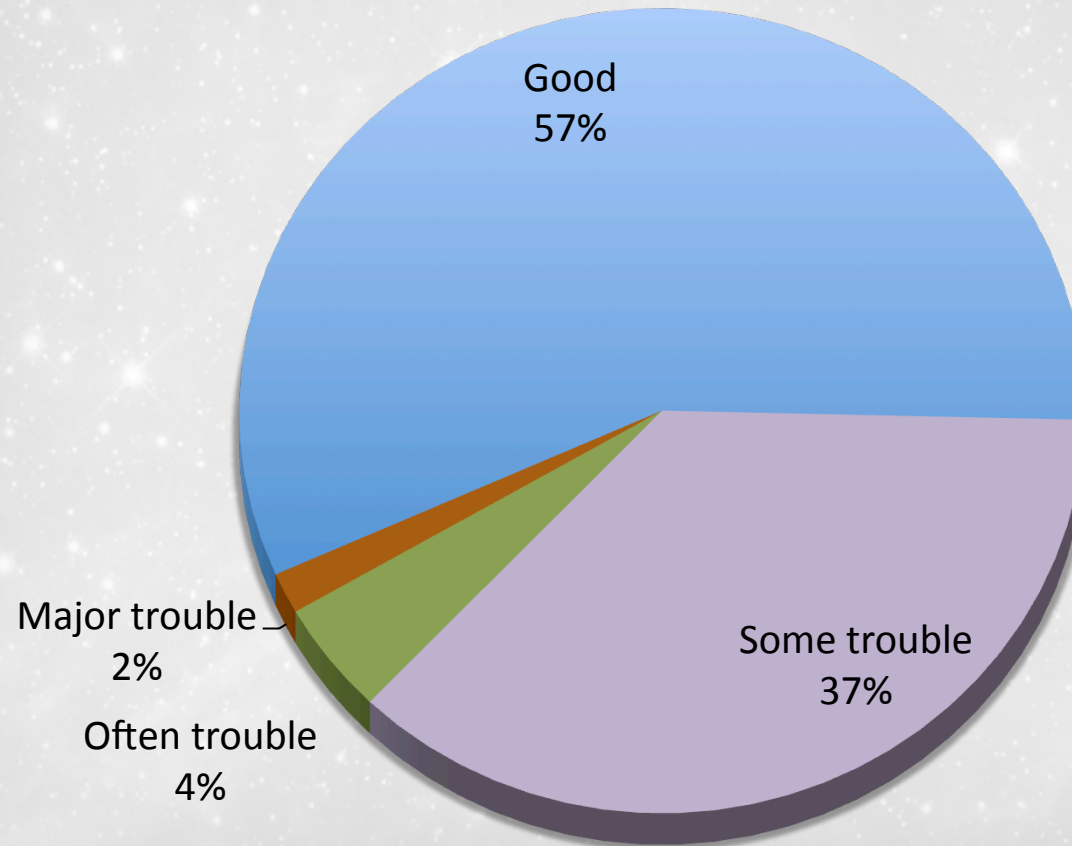


MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

6. Please describe your experience with MAST documentation

242 responses





MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

Q6 – some of the comments received:

- A little clearer method to the handbooks would be nice. Perhaps a way to search the text of these within MAST, rather than having to go to Google.
- A central repository webpage with all documentation and a clear link to such a page would be immensely useful.
- I haven't looked for MAST documentation. However, while using HLA, I have frequently wondered about things such as what syntax to use to better filter things and had a hard time finding such information.
- In general the interfaces are obvious enough so I don't need to look for documentation.

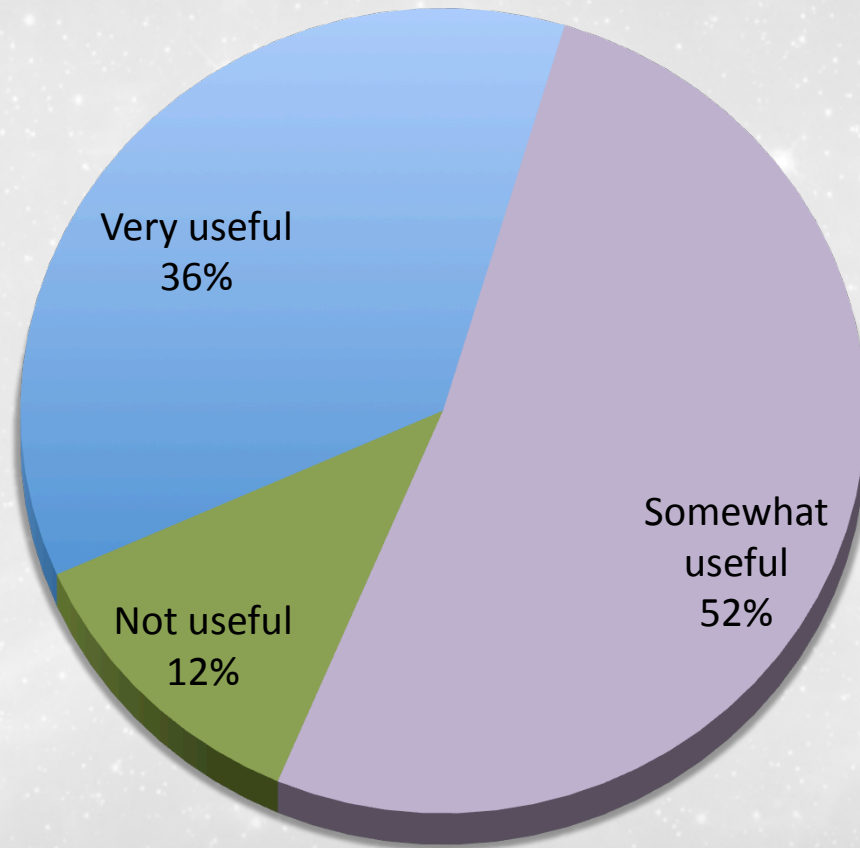


MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

7. MAST Portal: How useful would you find the MAST Data Discovery Portal for your research?

201 responses



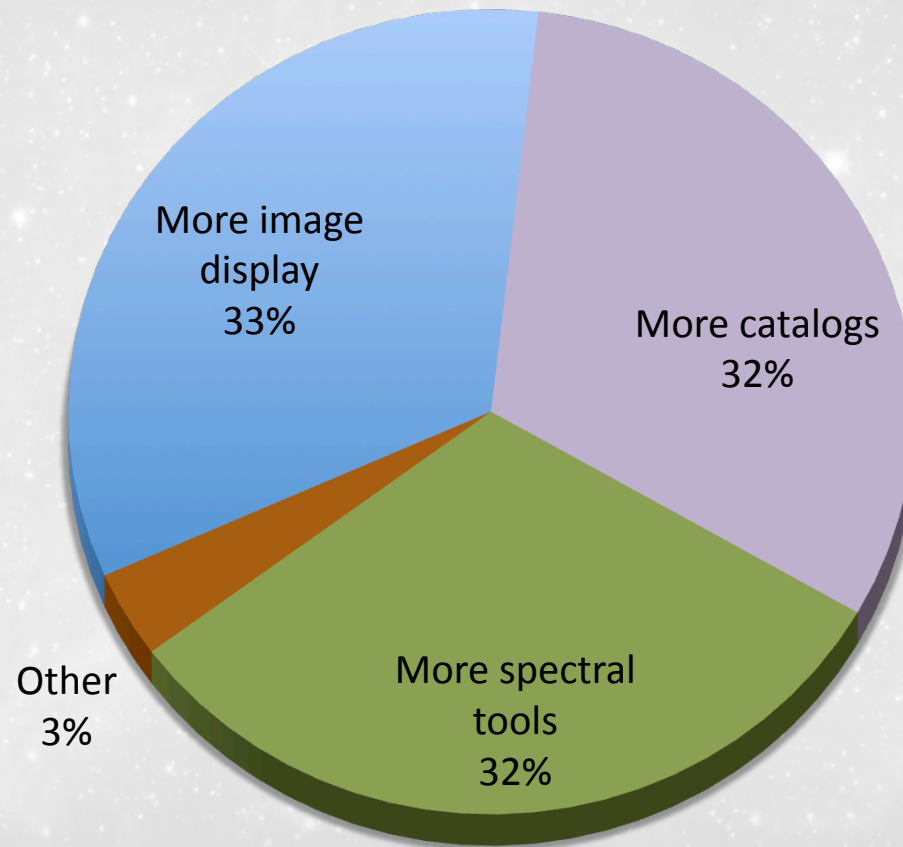


MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

7. MAST Portal: What additional features would you find useful for the MAST Data Discovery Portal?

257 responses





MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

- Yes, advanced spectroscopic tools are needed: for example the possibility to combine/overlap different datasets
- I know it is asking a lot at this early stage, but I do Solar System research, and there are very few features for making planetary science easier. This applies to almost every step in the process. I am very hopeful that the new Portal will more easily incorporate features for moving targets, even if they are only added later. If we can overlay star/galaxy catalogs we should be able to overlay ephemerides for every object in a moving target image (primary target and secondary objects, like nearby moons).
- This service is very slow and not intuitive
- This is awesome and extremely useful. 1) Filter/spectral element as a default column in the main table is a must 2) Scrolling the table frames via trackpad (mousewheel?) in both x and y directions (I typically use a mac laptop). Having to grab the very thin scrollbar thumbs in the table views is annoying. 3) WFC3 data doesn't appear to be in the database yet.

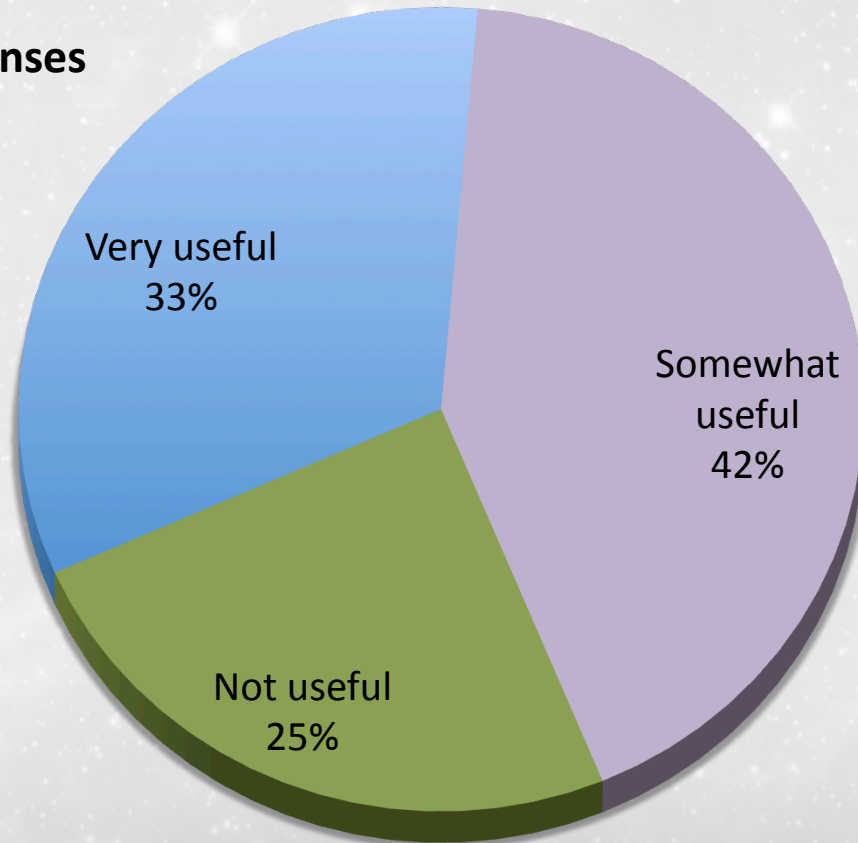


MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

8. We have recently provided access to the SWIFT UVOT - How useful would you find these data for your research?

236 responses

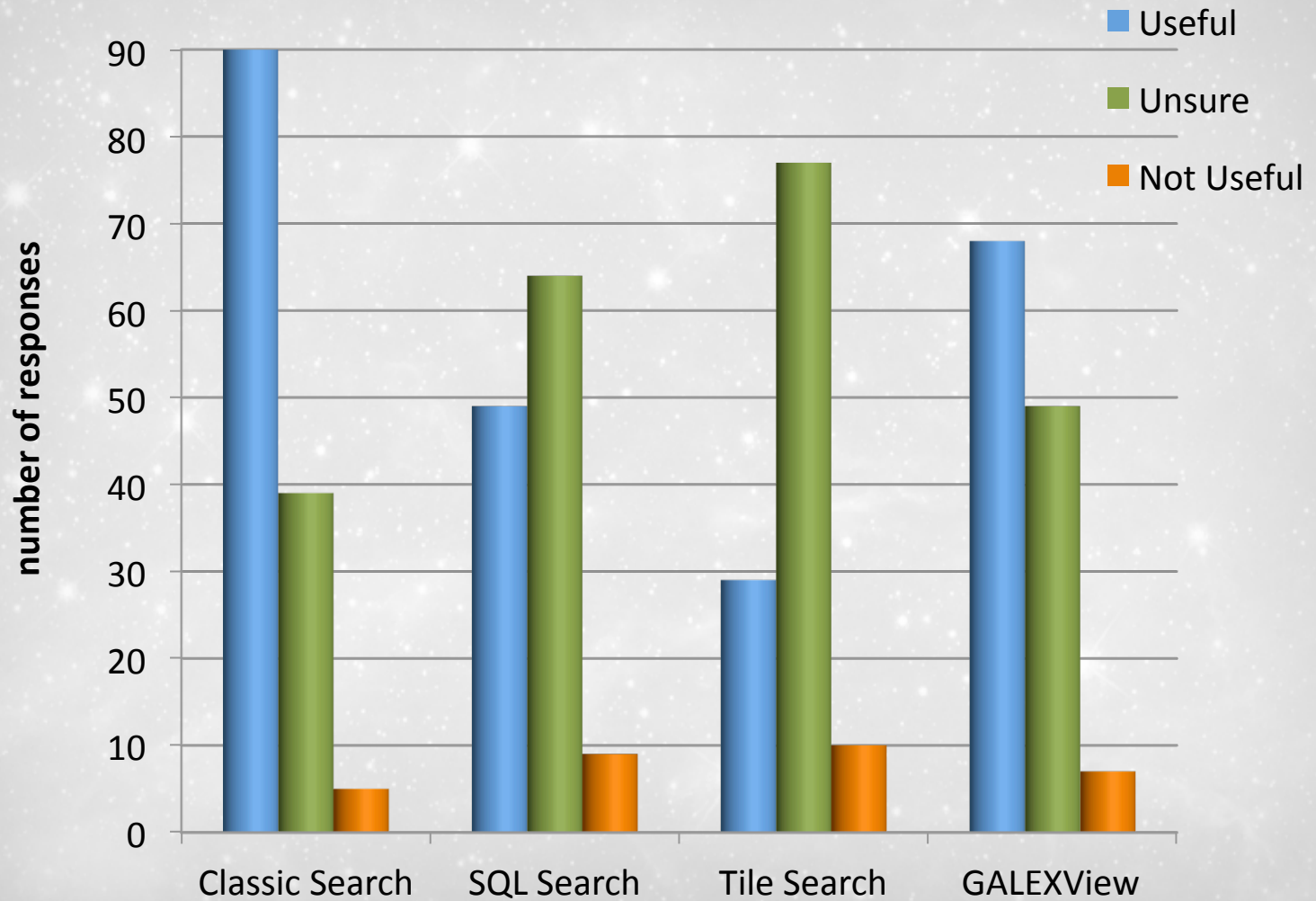




MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

9. Please rate the usefulness of the following GALEX tools:





MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

Q9 – some of the comments received:

- GALEXView should display NUV and FUV images separately (the combined image is not useful for research)
- Make it easier to tell how to download fits files, both raw and as coadds, in GALEXView
- I appreciate the possibility to retrieve list of objects around a LIST of positions, which I do nicely with CasJobs
- GALEXview is not intuitive. I think that the old (SDSS-like) navigator tool (that as far as I can tell you are not supporting anymore) was far better and simpler to use.
- GALEXView is great!



MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

10. As part of GALEX Close out activities.... Any items to be included?

- Preview of image files
- Easily viewed map of GALEX coverage
- The GALEX catalog should contain co-added fluxes for sources imaged multiple times, i.e. one unique match, not AIS/MIS/DIS separately. Aperture photometry based on optical catalogs of better resolution (e.g. SDSS) is superior to source finding on GALEX images.
- Final combined versions and sky background estimates are critical for my science
- Better description of the various fields in the scheme browser. Last time I searched for the scheme browser it took me 30 min to find it in your website... A page that describe how the data is archived so people interested in letting their machines retrieve the data can do it easily.
- Background characterization, including uncertainties; be sure to capture all uncertainties-catalog measurements alone are insufficient; capture methods for determining apertures of extended sources
- I am not happy with the GALEX photometry catalogs, so I would like software to allow more individualized photometry

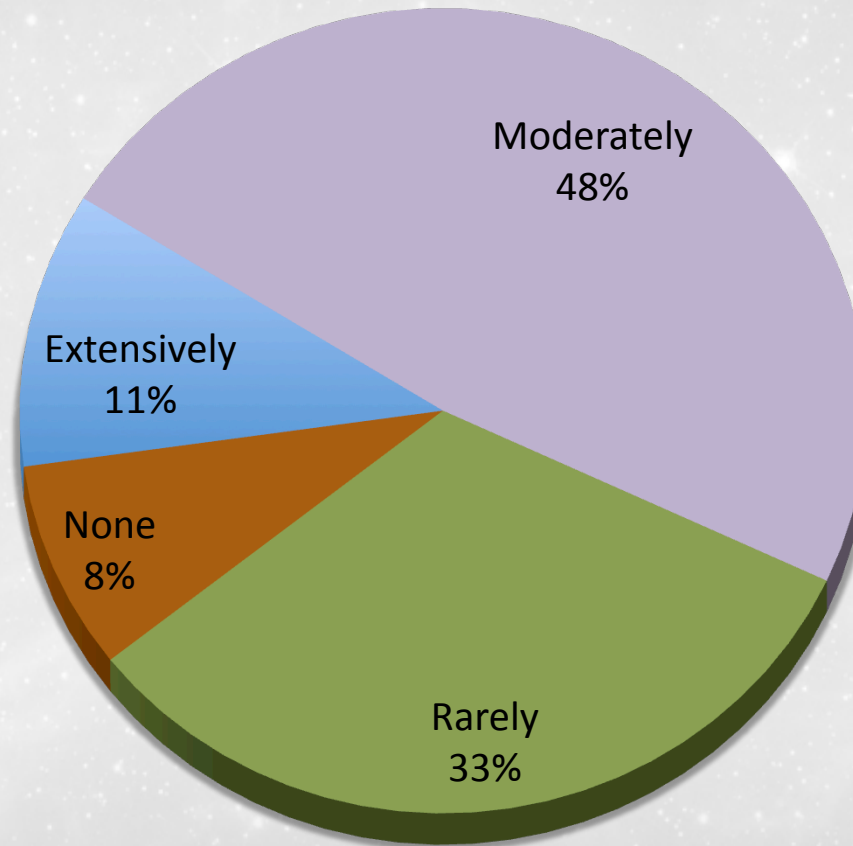


MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

11. Hubble Source Catalog: How frequently do you think you would use the HSC for your research?

262 responses

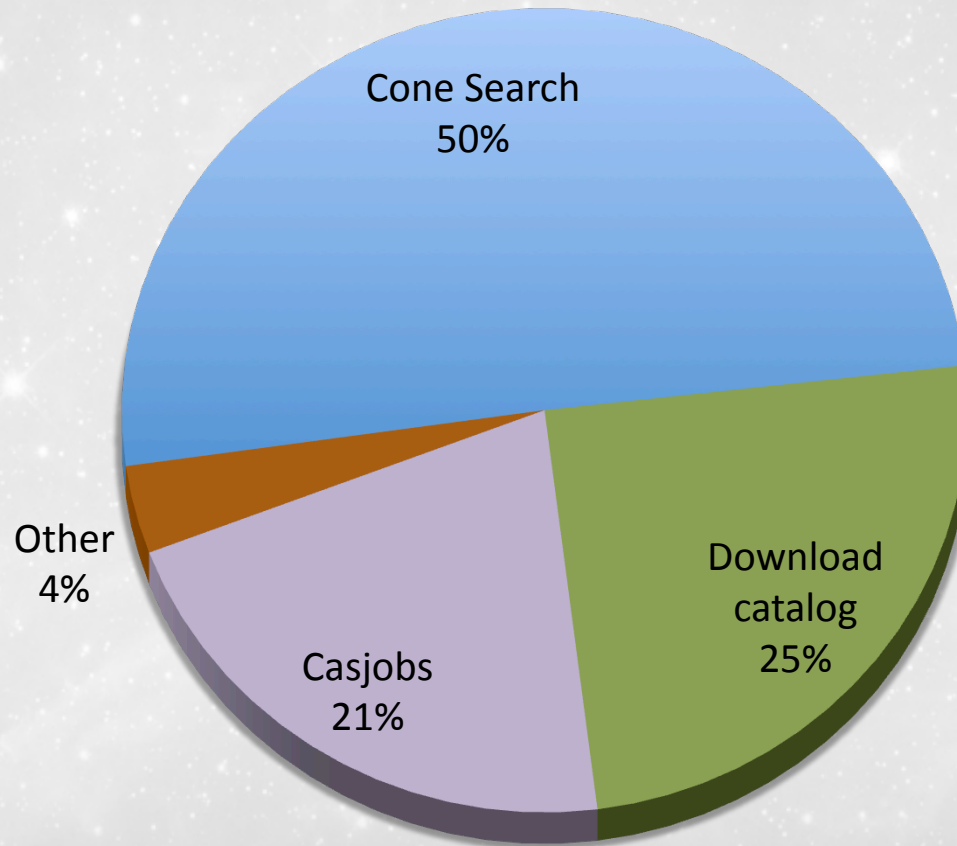




MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

11. Hubble Source Catalog: What modes might you want to use in interacting with this catalog?

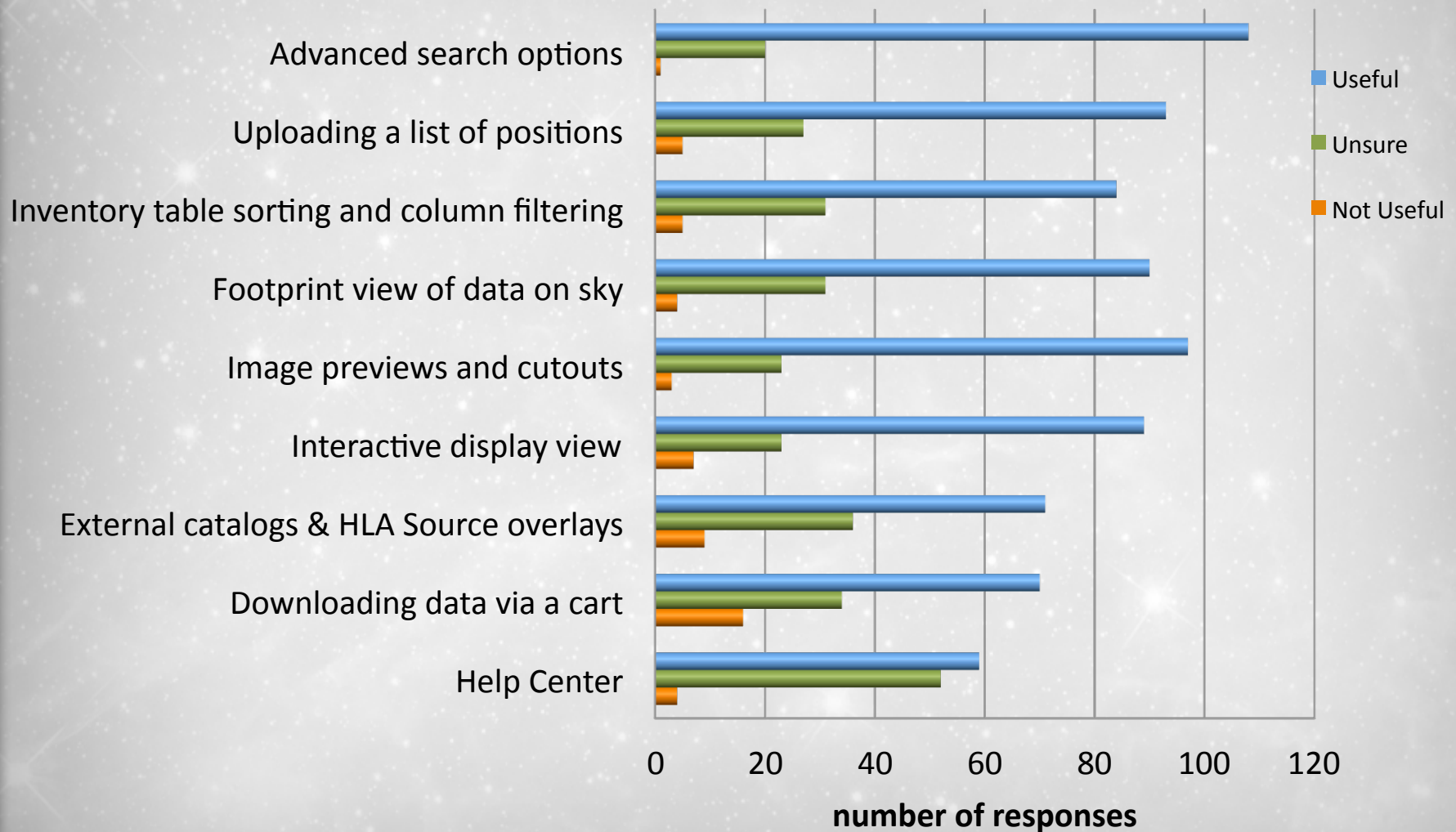




**MAST
Users
Group
Meeting**

**Nov 26
2012**

12. Please rate the usefulness of these HLA tools

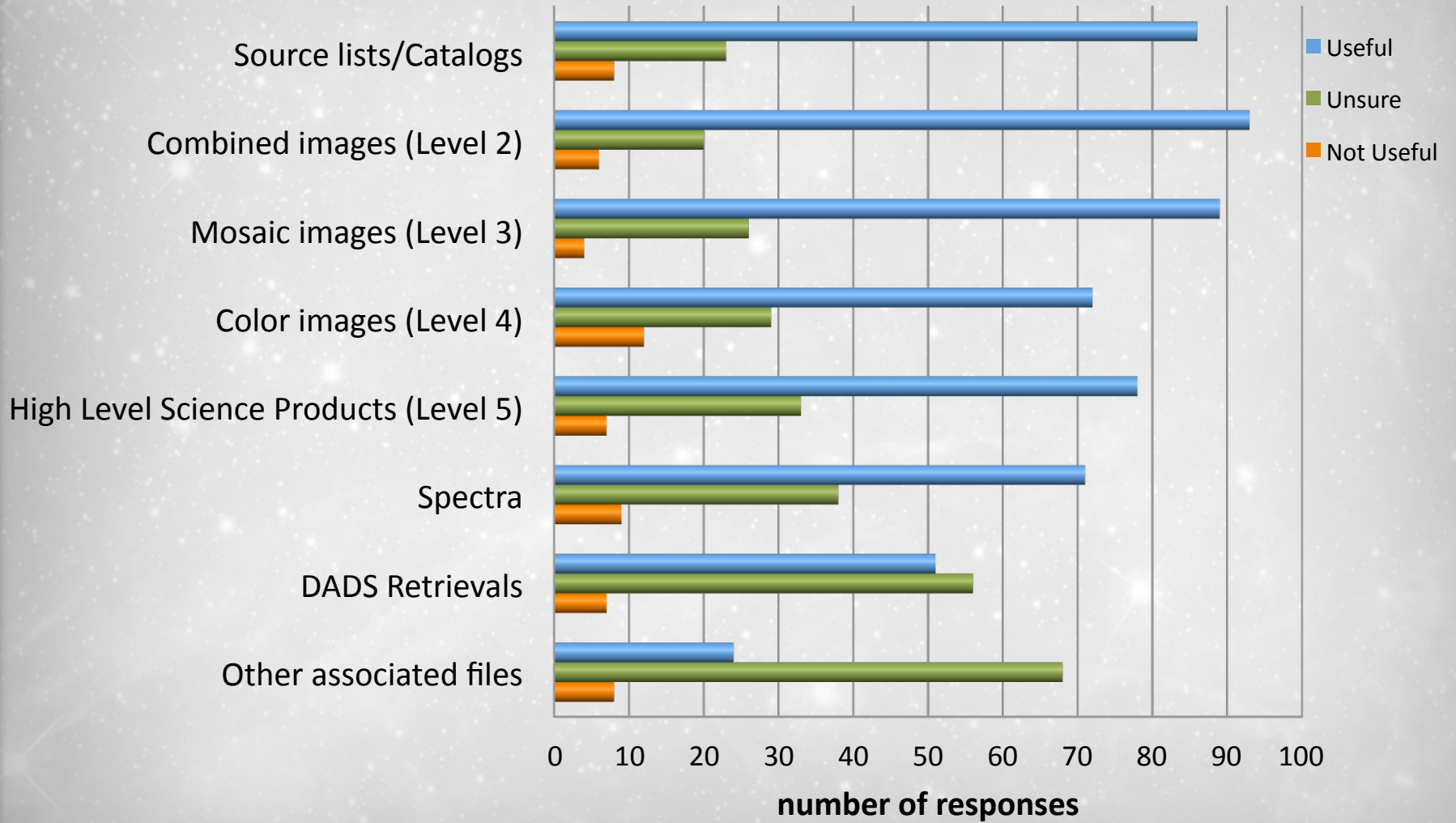




MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

13. Please rate the usefulness of the following HLA data products





Q13 – some of the comments received:

- The HLA is very important to my research, and usually performs well. I do wish, however, that the previews showed something like the eventual *_mos.fits file for download. Also, accessing via FTP was really a hassle, and I'd have preferred an SFTP option on the stage.
- I usually go to MAST to download the files I want (after browsing HLA).
- I rarely use Level 2 images, since most HST images are dithered and can be thus drizzled (with little effort) to provide better spatial sampling. Level 3 are useful since making my own mosaics is time-consuming. Level 4 are useful in the web view, for quickly finding objects by color (e.g. dropout galaxies). I don't believe I've ever seen anything with Level 5 data.

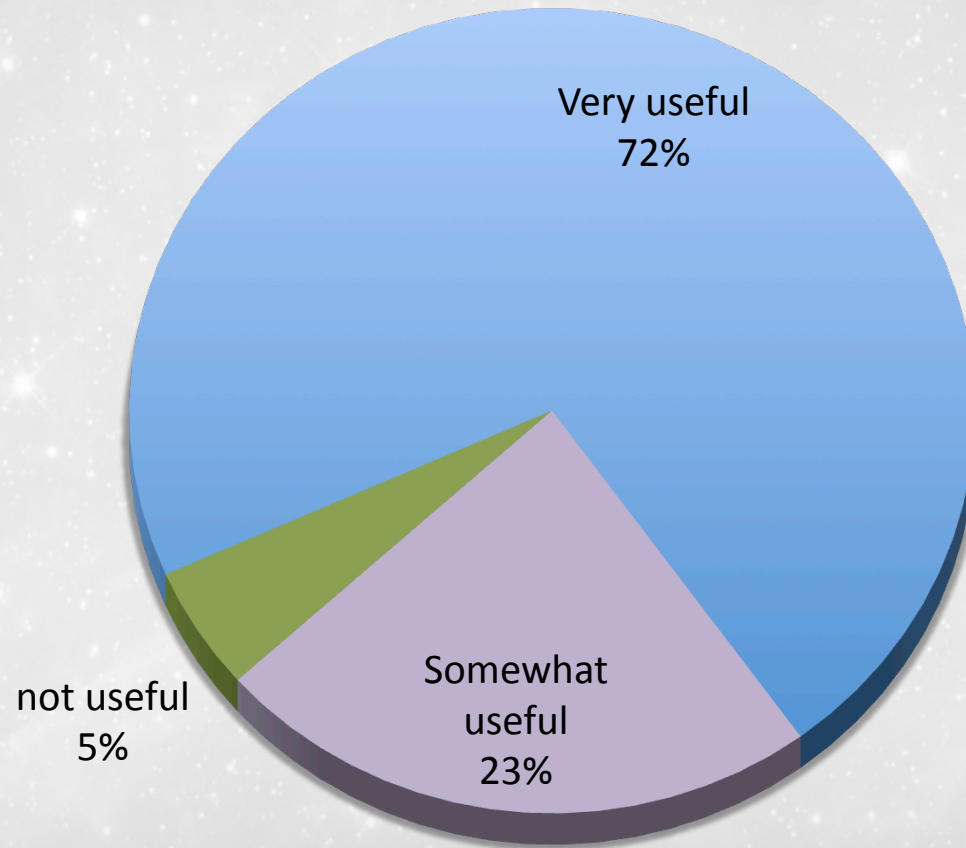


MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

14. If you have used Kepler, please rate your experience with the Kepler archive:

60 responses

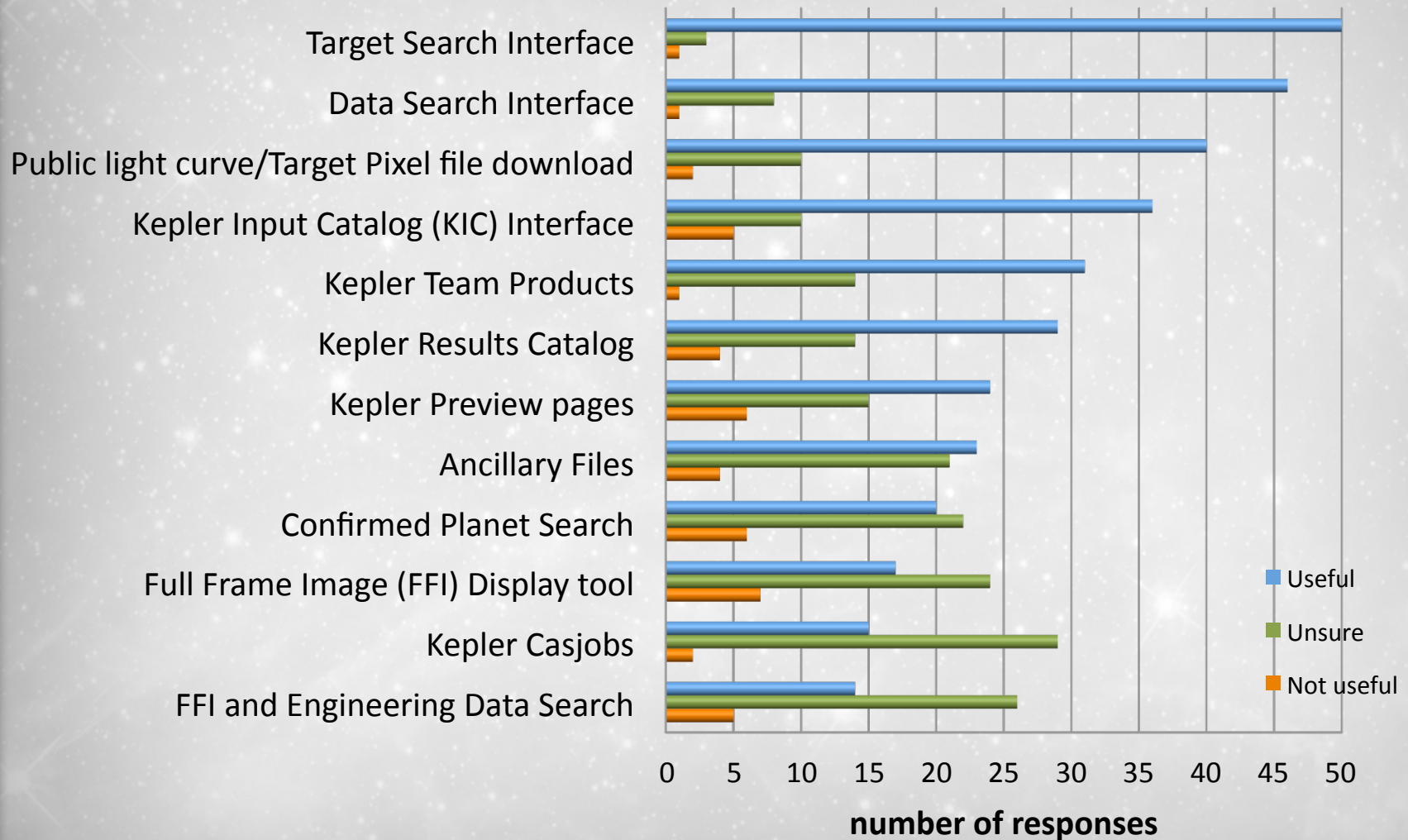




**MAST
Users
Group
Meeting**

**Nov 26
2012**

15. If you have used Kepler, please rate the usefulness of the following tools or datasets (sorted according to responses)





MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

Q14 & 15 – some of the comments received:

- Some things sorely need error bars. The contamination values for Kepler are almost useless. Generally speaking though, it's a great resource, and it is pretty easy access to the data itself.
- It would be nice if I could download Kepler data that were bundled differently than what is currently done. For instance, all KOIs over all quarters would be useful.
- Poor documentation.
- Very useful, but improved cross-matching between the KIC and UBV survey of Everett et al. is sorely needed.
- Ability to preview first few 'sample' lines of a fits binary file (e.g., Kepler light curves).



MAST
Users
Group
Meeting

Nov 26
2012

16. How important are the following current or planned features? (sorted according to responses)

