

Provenance for multi-messenger astronomy

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Provenance information in astronomy is important to enable scientists to trace back the origin of a dataset, a document or a device, learn about the people and organizations involved in a project and assess the quality as well as the usefulness of the dataset, document or device for their scientific work. Current efforts to model the Provenance information in Astronomy led to the development of tools, in particular in the context of the development of CTA (Cherenkov Telescope Array) and its python based Pipeline framework.

Astronomical observatory such as CTA are designed to produce data that will be publicly released to a large community of scientists, with strong requirements to ensure data quality, reliability and trustworthiness. Among those requirements, traceability and reproducibility of the data products have to be included early in the development of large projects. In the case of multi-messenger astronomy, the higher complexity of the data acquisition and processing reinforces the need of detailed provenance information.

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