

What are the computational and data sciences?

Science



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(1) A set of facts



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(2) Something that professional scientists do

(3) The underlying Truth about the Universe











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- Scientific "Facts"





• What is a scientist?

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- Do you need a PhD?





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- What is a scientist?
- Do you need a PhD?
- There are countless examples of amateur scientists playing a role in discovery
- Being scientific **does not** require becoming a member of a professional society

Citizen Scientists Discover Yellow "Space Balls"

April 9, 2015: Citizen scientists scanning images from NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope, an orbiting infra-red observatory, recently stumbled upon a new class of curiosities that had gone largely unrecognized before: yellow balls.

"The volunteers started chatting about the vellow balls they kept seeing in the images of our galaxy, and this brought the features to our attention," said Grace Wolf-Chase of the Adler Planetarium in Chicago.



A new ScienceCast video examines "yellow balls" and their role in star formation. Play it

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Molina, Rachel. "15 Citizen Scientists Discover Yellow 'Space Balls." NASA Science, 9 Apr. 2015, https://science.nasa.gov/sciencenews/science-at-nasa/2015/09apr_yellowballs.



The underlying Truth about the Universe



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The underlying Truth about the Universe

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- The predictive tools of science, models and simulations, are used to *represent* the world to the best of our current knowledge

• Science

a study that uses the scientific method

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• Natural science

The branch of science concerned with the description, prediction, and understanding of natural phenomena, based on empirical evidence from observation and experimentation. Mechanisms such as peer review and repeatability of findings are used to try to ensure the validity of scientific advances.

— Wikipedia

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- A hypothesis should be testable by anyone, regardless of time, place, culture, etc. Anyone can double check an experiment!

Credits

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Acknowledgments

Content adapted from the Lecture 1: The Computational and Data Sciences slides by John Wallin.