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The Virtual Heliospheric Observatory: A data provider's perspective

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Currently, space physicists are faced with a bewildering array of heliospheric missions, experiments, and data sets available at archives distributed around the world. Daunting even for those most familiar with the field, physicists in other concentrations (solar physics, magnetospheric physics, etc.) find locating the heliospheric data that they need extremely challenging if not impossible. The Virtual Heliospheric Observatory (VHO) works to solve this problem by providing an Application Programming Interface (API) and web portal that integrates these data sets to find the highest quality data for a given task. The VHO requires a minimum set of metadata from each participating data provider. I discuss the experience of one such data provider and the benefits provided to users of my data.