NED – NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database

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Description

The NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database (NED) is an ongoing project to organize a broad range of published extragalactic data into a computer-based central archive designed for fast and flexible query via electronic networks.

The June 1992 version of NED provides positions, names, and basic data for more than 200,000 extragalactic objects, as well as related bibliographic references and notes from catalogs and other publications. It forwards to the user, upon request, files containing the data retrieved during a session. It also allows users to view the contents of some major catalogs and to browse the abstracts of recent articles of extragalactic interest from several major journals (including A&A, AJ, ApJ, IAU Circulars, MNRAS, PASP, their Letters and Supplements). The current release also introduces the capability of searches filtered by object types (e.g. find galaxies only, or exclude infrared sources), and provides the first phase of detailed data collection from catalogs and the literature.

NED is an object-oriented database, meaning that all information is organized around a master list of astronomical objects (such as galaxies, groups of galaxies, quasars and radio sources) obtained from detailed cross-identifications among some thirty major catalogs. Additional catalogs are being folded in continually. Objects can be selected by name (a high-level name interpreter is built into the interface), or by vicinity, either to a named object, or to a position on the sky.

Network Access

You may access the NED service over Internet, provided you have a VT100 terminal or VT100 emulation software.

On Internet, a connection to IPAC may be set up with the command: *telnet ned.ipac.caltech.edu*

Once you are connected to IPAC and prompted for a login, respond with: *NED*

No password is needed. From this point, the system is self-documenting, especially through the Help utilities and the *control-h* key sequence. First-time users may want to read the Tutorial in the first screen presented by the interface.

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Who Can Use the Resource

Available at no charge to the international astronomical community.

Miscellaneous

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