NED (NASA/IPAC Extragalactic Database)

Address:
NED c/o IPAC
MS 100-22
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena CA 91125
USA

Email: ned@ipac.caltech.edu

Phone: (818) 584-2903

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 January 1991 version of NED provides positions, names, and basic data for 132,000 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 browse abstracts of recent articles of extragalactic interest from five major journals (*A & A, AJ ApJ, MNRAS, PASP,* their Letters and Supplements), and to view the contents of several major catalogs. Future releases will provide data from the current literature and from catalogs, and tools for searching the abstract database by content.

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 or SPAN, provided you have a VT100 terminal or VT100 emulation software.

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

From a node on SPAN, use the command: **set host IPAC** (The absolute SPAN address is **5.857**.)

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.

Who Can Use the Resource/Restrictions

Available at no charge to the international astronomical community.

Miscellaneous Information

This work is carried out by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Astrophysics Division, Science Operations Branch).

George Helou (818) 584-2928
Barry Madore (818) 584-2912
Marion Schmitz (818) 584-2994
Harold Corwin (818) 584-2937