PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY CLASSIFICATION SCHEME—1988

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The most recent version of the astronomy and astrophysics sections of the Physics and Astronomy Classification Scheme—1988 (PACS) is presented. Copies of the PACS are available upon request from the American Institute of Physics.

The PACS Categories are used to:

1. Order articles in abstract journals.
2. Order articles in preparation of the table of contents for some journals.
3. Prepare annual subject indices for some journals.
4. Assign referees by some journal editors.
5. Improve the relevance of articles retrieved from computerized databases.
6. Order books in some scientific publisher's catalogs.

A sample of PACS—1988 is given below to illustrate the hierarchical nature of PACS subject categories. Recent additions to the PACS include 3rd level headings for the properties of planets, planetary satellites and galaxies. An alphabetical index is included in the PACS booklet which directs the user to the appropriate PACS term.

Because the American Institute of Physics is constantly updating and revising PACS, suggestions for modifications are encouraged from the library professionals and the astronomical community.

Please send any suggestions to the PACS editor, American Institute of Physics, 500 Sunnyside Blvd., Woodbury, New York 11797.

PACS HIERARCHY ILLUSTRATION

1st-level heading → **90. GEOPHYSICS, ASTRONOMY, AND ASTROPHYSICS**

98. Stellar systems; galactic and extragalactic objects and systems; the Universe ← 2nd-level heading

3rd-level heading without subheadings → **98.10.+z Stellar dynamics**

98.20.−d Stellar clusters and associations

3rd-level heading with subheadings → 98.20.Ch Associations of stars (OB, T, etc.)

98.20.Ej Open clusters

98.20.Hn Globular clusters

4th-level headings

check character

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