

The NASA/IPAC/NE_xSci Star And Exoplanet Database

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Abstract. The NASA/IPAC/NE_xSci Star and Exoplanet Database (NStED) is a general purpose stellar archive which supports NASA planet-finding and planet-characterization goals, stellar astrophysics, and the planning of NASA and other space missions. There are two principal components of NStED: a database of 140,000 nearby stars and exoplanet-hosting stars, and an archive dedicated to high precision photometric surveys for transiting exoplanets (NStED-ETSS). We present summaries of these components. The NStED stellar database currently serves published parameters for 140,000 stars. These parameters include coordinates, multiplicity, proper motion, parallax, spectral type, multiband photometry, radial velocity, metallicity, chromospheric and coronal activity index, rotation velocity/period, infrared excess. NStED-ETSS currently serves data from the TrES survey of the Kepler field as well as dedicated photometric surveys of four stellar clusters. NStED-ETSS aims to serve both the surveys and the broader astronomical community by archiving these data and making them available in a homogeneous format.

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INTRODUCTION

The NASA Star and Exoplanet Database (NStED) is dedicated to collecting and serving vital published data involved in the search for and study of extrasolar planets and their host stars.

NStED consists of two sets of services:

- The stellar and exoplanet services provide access to stellar parameters of potential exoplanet bearing stars along with exoplanet parameters, and
- The Exoplanet Transit Survey Service (ETSS) provides an interface dedicated to searches of exoplanet transit surveys.

Currently, all these services are accessible through simple web forms at the project

web page ¹. The following sections describe the important features of the stellar and ETSS services.

STELLAR SERVICES IN NSTED

The stellar services provided by NStED include the following:

- Access to data related to relatively bright nearby stars.
- The capability to display and visualize the properties of individual stars.
- The capability to perform complex searches on stellar and planetary parameters.
- Access to published images, spectra, and time series data related to the stars in the database.

Complementary to these services are the exoplanet services, which include the following:

- Access to general data and published parameters for the known exoplanets and host stars.
- Access to, and visualization of, photometric and radial velocity data related to the known exoplanets.

STELLAR CONTENT IN NSTED

NStED's stellar and exoplanet content is composed of published tabular data, derived and calculated quantities, and associated data including images, spectra, and time series. Some of data sets have been generously contributed by data providers, such as echelle spectra from the N2K consortium ([1]).

NStED's core set of stars is derived from the Hipparcos, Gliese-Jahreiss, and Washington Double Star catalogs. The total number of Hipparcos and Gliese-Jahreiss stars within NStED is approximately 140,000. A summary of the stellar parameters and data within NStED is shown in Table 1. NStED currently supports complex multi-faceted queries on approximately 75 astrophysical stellar and exoplanet parameters.

EXOPLANET CONTENT FOR NSTED

In order to facilitate future exoplanet studies, NStED maintains an up-to-date list of exoplanetary systems and associated stellar data by monitoring daily the literature and making weekly updates to the database. The predicted signatures of exoplanets are also calculated to aid users in selection of stars appropriate for planet searching and characterization. The exoplanet signature predictions include habitable zone sizes, astrometric and radial velocity wobbles, and transit depths. A summary of the exoplanet parameters and data in NStED is shown in Table 2.

¹ <http://nsted.ipac.caltech.edu>

TABLE 1. Summary of stellar content within NStED.

Published Parameters	Derived Parameters	Associated Data
Position, Distances	Temperature	Images
Kinematics	Luminosity	Spectra
Photometry, Colors	Radius	
Spectral Type	Mass	
Luminosity Class	LSR Space Motion	
Metallicity		
Rotation		
Activity Indicators		
Variability		
Multiplicity		

TABLE 2. Summary of exoplanet content within NStED.

Published Parameters	Predicted Parameters	Associated Data
Number of Planets	Habitable Zone	High Contrast Images
Planetary Mass	Astrometric Wobble	Lightcurves
Orbital Period	Radial Velocity Wobble	
Orbital semi-major axis	Earth V Magnitude	
Orbital Eccentricity	Earth 10 μ m flux density	
Link to entry in the Exoplanet Encyclopaedia		

SPECIFIC GOALS OF NSTED-ETSS

The purpose of NStED-ETSS is to make available to the astronomical community time-series light-curves of planet transit studies and other variability surveys in a homogeneous format, along with tools for data analysis and manipulation. The principal goals of NStED-ETSS include the following:

- Provide access to ancillary data for ground-based and space-based transit missions.
- Support optimization of algorithms for transit detection or variability classification on existing survey data sets; for instance, to enable the detection of planets previously missed in the original study.
- Extend the time baseline for transit studies by using data sets containing the same stars, leading to increased detection efficiency, results of increased statistical significance, enhanced potential to conduct transit timing studies, etc.
- Enable improved understanding of false positivies encountered in transit surveys.
- Provide access to a wealth of other astrophysical results and ancillary science not pursued in the original survey, such as studies of eclipsing binary and other variable stars or variability phenomena, stellar atmospheres (rotation, flares, spots, etc.), asteroseismology and intrinsic stellar variability, as well as serendipitous discoveries such as photometric behaviors of supernovae progenitors, etc.

ETSS HOLDINGS AND FUTURE DATA SETS

Here we summarize the data sets accessible through ETSS. All the data are organized in a common ASCII format for portability: a master file provides the basic properties of the data set and parameters describing the light curves; there is one light curve file for each star in the data set.

TrES-Lyr1, the TrES network planet transit survey of a field in Lyra, described in [2], contains $\sim 26,000$ stars with 15,500 observation epochs over 75 nights in the R and r filters. The data sets on the globular clusters (GCs) M10 and M12 contain 44,000 and 32,000 stars, respectively, with ~ 50 observational epochs in both V and I over a 500-night timespan ([3]). The data set on the GC NGC 3201 features $\sim 59,000$ stars with 120 epochs in each V and I over the course of 700 nights ([4, 5]). NGC 2301 is an open cluster and its data set contains 150 epochs in R on 4,000 stars over 14 nights ([6, 7]). The KELT-Praesepe data set [8, 9] contains light curves of 66,637 stars at R_K with 3,000 epochs over 73 nights

Data sets will be ingested in 2008 and 2009 include WASP0 (PI: S. R. Kane), VULCAN (PI: N. Batalha), BOKS (PIs: S. Howell & J. J. Feldmeier), EXPLORE/OC (PIs: K. von Braun & B. L. Lee), as well as future CoRoT fields, as NStED is collaborating with the CoRoT team to provide a NASA portal to the public CoRoT data [10].

Each featured data set has been graciously donated by the respective survey team. Astronomers wishing to donate data sets are invited to contact the NStED Help Desk ².

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² <http://nsted.ipac.caltech.edu/cgi-bin/Helpdesk/nph-genTicketForm>