

# **The Digital Universe Definitions**

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# Chapter 1

## The Digital Universe Definitions

### 1.1 Definitions

Definitions are available in the following two categories:

- Astronomy
- Computers

### 1.2 Astronomical Terminology

- A.U.
- aberration
- absolute zero
- aether
- albedo
- altitude
- analemma
- annual
- angstrom
- apparent position
- aphelion
- apogee
- areographic
- asterism
- asteroid
- astronomical unit
- atomic time
- autumnal equinox
- azimuth
- Bayer designation
- belt
- binary star
- black hole
- blink comparator
- celestial equator
- celestial poles
- celestial sphere
- Centaur

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Cepheid  
chromosphere  
circumpolar  
cluster  
cluster, globular  
cluster, open (galactic)  
comet  
conjunction  
conjunction, inferior  
conjunction, superior  
constellation  
contact  
convection  
convection zone  
core  
corona  
cosmology  
counterglow  
crescent  
declination  
deep sky  
diurnal  
doppler shift  
dynamical time  
earthshine  
eclipse, annular  
eclipse, lunar  
eclipse, partial  
eclipse, solar  
eclipse, total  
ecliptic  
ecliptic coordinate system  
ecliptic latitude  
ecliptic longitude  
eccentricity  
ejecta blanket  
elongation  
ephemeris  
ephemeris time  
epoch  
escape velocity  
equation of time  
equatorial coordinate system  
filament  
fireball  
fission  
Flamsteed number  
flare  
fusion  
galactic coordinate system  
galactic latitude  
galactic longitude  
galaxy  
galaxy, Seyfert  
gas giant planet  
gegenschein  
geocentric

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gibbous  
graben  
granulation  
GST  
H-R diagram  
heliocentric  
heliographic  
heliopause  
horizon coordinate system  
hour angle  
Hubble's Law  
hydrogen-alpha line  
IAU  
IC object  
inclination  
Julian Date  
kelvin  
Kuiper Belt  
leap second  
leap year  
libration  
light year  
limb  
limb darkening  
local time  
LST  
LT  
magnitude  
magnitude, absolute  
magnitude, apparent  
magnitude, B-V  
magnitude, limiting  
magnitude, visual  
meridian  
messier object  
meteor  
meteor shower  
meteorite  
meteoroid  
Milky Way  
minor planet  
nadir  
naked eye  
nebula  
nebula, emission  
nebula, absorption  
nebula, planetary  
nebula, reflection  
neutron star  
NGC object  
nova  
nova, recurrent  
nutation  
oblate  
obliquity  
occultation  
Oort cloud

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opposition  
orbital elements  
parallax  
parallax, geocentric or diurnal  
parallax, heliocentric or annual  
parsec  
penumbra  
perigee  
perihelion  
perturbation  
phase angle  
photosphere  
position angle  
precession  
prominence  
proper motion  
pulsar  
quadrature  
quasar  
radiant  
radiative zone  
reflecting telescope  
refracting telescope  
refraction  
retrograde  
revolution  
right ascension  
rotation  
rotation, differential  
Saros  
selenographic  
semidiameter  
semimajor axis  
Seyfert galaxy  
sidereal  
sidereal time  
solstice  
spectrum  
spectral classification  
spicule  
sunspot  
supernova  
synodic  
System I  
System II  
System III  
syzygy  
TAI  
TD  
TDB  
TDT  
terminator  
terrestrial planet  
topocentric  
transit  
twilight  
umbra

---

universal time (UT)  
UT0  
UT1  
UTC  
variable star  
variable, Algol systems  
variable, Beta Canis Majoris  
variable, Beta Lyrae  
variable, Cepheids  
variable, Cluster  
variable, Dwarf Cepheids  
variable, Dwarf Eclipsing  
variable, Dwarf Novae  
variable, Ellipsoidal  
variable, Flare stars  
variable, Irregular  
variable, Long period  
variable, Lyrid systems  
variable, Nova-like stars  
variable, R Corona Borealis  
variable, Recurrent Novae  
variable, RR Lyrae  
variable, RV Tauri  
variable, Semi-regular  
variable, SS Cygni  
vernal equinox  
white dwarf  
year, anomalistic  
year, Besselian (tropical)  
year, eclipse  
year, Gaussian  
year, Gregorian  
year, Julian  
year, sidereal  
zenith  
ZHR  
zodiac  
zodiacal light  
zone

## 1.3 Computer Terminology

gadget  
hypertext  
radio button

## 1.4 Aberration

This information is not provided with the demonstration version of "The Digital Universe". Please consult Ordering The Digital Universe for more information on how to obtain a registered version.

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## 1.5 Absolute Zero

This information is not provided with the demonstration version of "The Digital Universe". Please consult Ordering The Digital Universe for more information on how to obtain a registered version.

## 1.6 Æther

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## 1.7 Albedo

This information is not provided with the demonstration version of "The Digital Universe". Please consult Ordering The Digital Universe for more information on how to obtain a registered version.

## 1.8 Altitude

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## 1.9 Analemma

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## 1.10 Annual

This information is not provided with the demonstration version of "The Digital Universe". Please consult Ordering The Digital Universe for more information on how to obtain a registered version.

## 1.11 Angstrom

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## 1.12 Apparent Position

This information is not provided with the demonstration version of "The Digital Universe". Please consult Ordering The Digital Universe for more information on how to obtain a registered version.

## 1.13 Aphelion

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## 1.14 Apogee

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## 1.15 Areographic

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## 1.16 Asterism

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## 1.17 Asteroid

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## 1.18 Astronomical Unit

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## 1.19 Autumnal Equinox

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## 1.20 Azimuth

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## 1.21 Bayer designation

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## 1.22 Belt

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## 1.23 Binary Star

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## 1.24 Black Hole

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## 1.25 Blink Comparator

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## 1.26 Celestial Equator

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## 1.27 Celestial Poles

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## 1.28 Celestial Sphere

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## 1.29 Centaurs

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## 1.30 Chromosphere

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## 1.31 Globular Cluster

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## 1.32 Open Cluster

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### 1.33 Comet

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### 1.34 Conjunction

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### 1.35 Inferior Conjunction

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### 1.36 Superior Conjunction

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### 1.37 Constellation

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### 1.38 Contact

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### 1.39 Convection

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## 1.40 Convection Zone

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## 1.41 Core

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## 1.42 Corona

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## 1.43 Cosmology

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## 1.44 Crescent

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## 1.45 Declination

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## 1.46 Deep Sky

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## 1.47 Diurnal

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## 1.48 Doppler Shift

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## 1.49 Earthshine

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## 1.50 Eclipse, Annular

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## 1.51 Eclipse, Lunar

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## 1.52 Eclipse, Partial

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## 1.53 Eclipse, Solar

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## 1.54 Eclipse, Total

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## 1.55 Ecliptic

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## 1.56 Ecliptic Coordinates

This information is not provided with the demonstration version of "The Digital Universe". Please consult Ordering The Digital Universe for more information on how to obtain a registered version.

## 1.57 Ecliptic Latitude

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## 1.58 Ecliptic Longitude

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## 1.59 Eccentricity

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## 1.60 Ejecta Blanket

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## 1.61 Elongation

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## 1.62 Ephemeris

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## 1.63 Ephemeris Time (ET)

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## 1.64 Epoch

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## 1.65 Escape velocity

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## 1.66 Equation of Time

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## 1.67 Equatorial Coordinates

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## 1.68 Fireball

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## 1.69 Fission

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## 1.70 Flamsteed number

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## 1.71 Solar Flares

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## 1.72 Fusion

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## 1.73 Galactic Coordinates

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## 1.74 Galactic Latitude

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## 1.75 Galactic Longitude

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## 1.76 Galaxy

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## 1.77 Seyfert Galaxy

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## 1.78 Gas Giant Planet

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## 1.79 Gegenschein, or Counter glow

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## 1.80 Geocentric

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## 1.81 Gibbous

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## 1.82 Graben

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## 1.83 Granulation

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## 1.84 Heliocentric

This information is not provided with the demonstration version of "The Digital Universe". Please consult Ordering The Digital Universe for more information on how to obtain a registered version.

## 1.85 Heliographic

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## 1.86 Heliopause

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## 1.87 Horizon Coordinate System

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## 1.88 Hour Angle

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## 1.89 Hubble's Law

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## 1.90 Hydrogen Alpha line

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## 1.91 IAU (International Astronomical Union)

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## 1.92 IC Objects

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## 1.93 Inclination

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## 1.94 Julian Date

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## 1.95 Kelvin

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## 1.96 Kuiper Belt

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## 1.97 Leap Second

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## 1.98 Leap Year

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## 1.99 Libration

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## 1.100 Light Year

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## 1.101 Limb

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## 1.102 Limb Darkening

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### **1.103 Magnitude**

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### **1.104 Absolute Magnitude**

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### **1.105 Apparent Magnitude**

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### **1.106 B-V Magnitude**

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### **1.107 Limiting Magnitude**

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### **1.108 Visual Magnitude**

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### **1.109 Meridian**

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### **1.110 Messier Objects**

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### **1.111 Meteor**

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### **1.112 Meteor Shower**

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### **1.113 Meteorite**

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### **1.114 Meteoroid**

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### **1.115 Milky Way**

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### **1.116 Nadir**

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### **1.117 Naked Eye**

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### **1.118 Nebula**

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### **1.119 Emission Nebula**

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### **1.120 Absorption Nebula**

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### **1.121 Planetary Nebula**

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### **1.122 Reflection Nebula**

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### **1.123 Neutron Star**

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### **1.124 NGC Objects**

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### **1.125 Nova**

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### **1.126 Nutation**

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### **1.127 Oblate**

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### **1.128 Obliquity**

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### **1.129 Occultation**

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### **1.130 Oort Cloud**

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### **1.131 Opposition**

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### **1.132 Orbital Elements**

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### **1.133 Parallax**

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### **1.134 Geocentric, or Diurnal Parallax**

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### **1.135 Heliocentric, or Annual Parallax**

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### **1.136 Parsec**

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### **1.137 Penumbra**

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### 1.138 Perigee

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### 1.139 Perihelion

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### 1.140 Perturbation

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### 1.141 Phase Angle

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### 1.142 Photosphere

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### 1.143 Position Angle

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### 1.144 Precession

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### **1.145 Prominences and Filaments**

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### **1.146 Proper Motion**

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### **1.147 Pulsar**

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### **1.148 Quadrature**

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### **1.149 Quasar**

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### **1.150 Radiant**

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### **1.151 Radiative Zone**

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### **1.152 Reflecting Telescope**

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### **1.153 Refracting Telescope**

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### **1.154 Refraction**

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### **1.155 Retrograde**

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### **1.156 Revolution**

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### **1.157 Right Ascension**

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### **1.158 Rotation**

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### **1.159 Differential Rotation**

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### **1.160 Saros**

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### **1.161 Selenographic**

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### **1.162 Semidiameter**

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### **1.163 Semimajor Axis**

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### **1.164 Sidereal**

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### **1.165 Solstice**

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## 1.166 Spectrum

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## 1.167 Spectral Classification

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## 1.168 Spicule

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## 1.169 Sunspot

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## 1.170 Supernova

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## 1.171 Synodic

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## 1.172 System I

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### **1.173 System II**

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### **1.174 System III**

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### **1.175 Syzygy**

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### **1.176 Terminator**

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### **1.177 Terrestrial Planet**

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### **1.178 Topocentric**

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### **1.179 Transit**

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### **1.180 Twilight**

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### **1.181 Umbra**

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### **1.182 Variable Star**

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### **1.183 Algol Systems**

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### **1.184 Beta Canis Majoris variable**

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### **1.185 Cepheids**

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### **1.186 Circumpolar**

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### **1.187 Cluster**

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### **1.188 Dwarf Cepheid variable**

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### **1.189 Dwarf Eclipsing variables**

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### **1.190 Dwarf Novae, or SS Cygni variables**

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### **1.191 Ellipsoidal variables**

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### **1.192 Flare Stars**

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### **1.193 Irregular variables**

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### **1.194 Long period variables**

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### **1.195 Lyrid systems, or Beta Lyrae variable stars**

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### **1.196 Nova-like stars**

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### **1.197 R Corona Borealis variables**

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### **1.198 Recurrent Nova**

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### **1.199 Cluster, or RR Lyrae variables**

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### **1.200 RV Tauri variable**

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### **1.201 Semi-regular variables**

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### **1.202 Vernal Equinox**

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### **1.203 White Dwarf**

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### **1.204 Anomalistic Year**

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### **1.205 Besselian (Tropical) Year**

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### **1.206 Eclipse Year**

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### **1.207 Gaussian Year**

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## 1.208 Gregorian Year

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## 1.209 Julian Year

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## 1.210 Sidereal Year

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## 1.211 Zenith

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## 1.212 ZHR (Zenithal Hourly Rate)

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## 1.213 Zodiac

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## 1.214 Zodiacal light

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## 1.215 Zone

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## 1.216 Gadgets & Requesters

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## 1.217 Hypertext

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## 1.218 Radio Button

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