Exploting the HASH planetary nebulae research platform

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Abstract

The powerful new HASH (Hong-Kong/ AAO/ Strasbourg H-alpha) Planetary Nebulae research platform incorporates not only the recent major carefully evaluated and verified PN discoveries from the MASH, IPHAS and DSH surveys but also includes the re-measured and re-evaluated contents of the previous Acker and Perek-Kohoutek compilaitons and other more minor catalogues. These have all been federated into a single reliable on-line SQL database currently under active curation. This HASH research platform, provides the latest information for all known Galactic, LMC and SMC PNe where we have i) reliably removed PN mimics and false ID's that have biased previous studies; ii) provided more accurate positions, sizes, morphologies, multi-wavelength imagery and spectroscopy; iii) provided active links to CDS/Vizier (for the archival history of each object) and other valuable links to external data. With the HASH interface, users can sift, select, browse, collate, investigate, download and visualise the entire currently known Galactic PNe diversity. A few examples of the power of HASH to assist in PNe scentific investigations related to studies of shaping and binarity are presented.

Keywords: planetary nebulae, characterisation, population, diagnostics, general properties

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