



## Sources of Documentation

Everyone says they want it.  
Some people actually use it (if they can find it).  
Nobody likes to write it.

- Archive documentation

We have control of this type of documentation, but it is hard to keep it up to date. Sometimes users can't find it.

- Documentation about missions, instruments, pipeline, and data:

We are dependent upon project for this type of documentation. Often it's written during the mission lifetimes, maintained by the project, with links from the archive site. (Notification to MAST of docs changed at the project site is rare.)

- Small missions have not posted public documentation. (Mining exercise.)



### Archive Documentation

**Archive Status** **HST Search Form** **(Help)**

Standard Form File Upload Form

Search Reset Clear Form

Target Name Resolver Radius (arcmin)  
 Right Ascension Declination Equinox  
 J2000

Imagers Spectrographs Other  
 ALL NONE ALL NONE ALL NONE

STIS  STIS  FGS  Start Time  Exp Time  Proposal ID  Release Date   
 NICMOS  NICMOS  HSP  Dataset  Filters/Gratings  Obset ID  Archive Date   
 WFPC2  GHRS  Target Descrip  Apertures  Observations  Science  Calibration  
 FOC  FOC  PI Last Name   
 ACS  ACS  User-specified field 1  Field Descriptions  User-specified field 2  Field Descriptions   
 COS  COS  Dataset  Dataset   
 WFC3  WFC3

<http://archive.stsci.edu/help/packbook.html>

#### User Specified Search Field

You may now search on any columns in the mission database. Select the field you wish to search on and type in the qualification. NOTE! that if you choose a field in BOTH the form and in the User Option field, then you may not get results or the result you expect.

In the table below is a list of all the column names available for search. Where reasonable a range or set of valid values is listed. Additional useful notes are included. If you click on the field name, a more detailed description of the data will be found.

The web interface searches the science table. Some documentation for this table is found in the archive hand book [Table B.15](#). The column label is used in the search forms and search results. The column name needs to be specified for GET requests.

Column Name	Column Label	Data Type	Valid Values	Notes	UCDs
sci_acc	AEC	Character	C, S	Observation type C-Calibration, S-Science. The default is 'S'. If being accessed as a GET request or a web service and you would like both S and C, specify sci_acc=C,S	OBS_TYPE
sci_apert_1234	Apertures	Character	Examples for WFPC2: PC1, WF2, WF3, WF4, WFALL. Examples for ACS: WFC, HRC, SBC. Examples for STIS: TSMAMA, SPCCD, F25QTZ, SOCORON. Examples for NICMOS: NIC1, NIC2-FIX, NIC2-CORON1	Aperture configuration See <a href="#">a completion list</a>	INST_APERT
sci_archive_class	Archive Class	Character	AST, CAL	Data file classification	ID_DATASET
sci_archive_date	Archive Date	Date	range Dec 23, 1993 - present	Date data written to hard media	TIME_DATE
sci_asn_id	Asn ID	Character		Same as dataset name where it exists	ID_IDENTIFIER
sci_bandwidth	Bandwidth	Float	ACS: 0 - 2103.3271 WFPC2: 21.0 - 5365 STIS: -1934 - 9020.0 NICMOS: 0.0 - 3318 GHRS: 450 - 1000 FOS: 450 - 7350 WFPC: 20 - 4000 FOC: 208 - 2726 Angstroms	Bandwidth of the data or RMS bandwidth of the photomode (NICMOS) or filter plus detector (ACS)	INST_BAND_PASS
sci_broad_category	Broad Category	Character	over 286 combinations e.g. CLUSTER OF GALAXIES/GALAXY, SOLAR SYSTEM, STELLAR CLUSTER, STARB, TAURI STAR	Target classification Use with wild card e.g. *TOWARF NOVA*	CLASS_OBJECT
sci_costar_deploy	COSTAR	Character	F, T	indicates if COSTAR was deployed	INST_SETUP
sci_central_wavelength	Central Wavelength	Float	Range 0.0 - 23968.977 Angstroms	central wavelength	SPEC_WAVELENGTH_CENTRAL
sci_data_set_name	Dataset	Character	9 character name e.g. JBA7JCAQ_04140Q020	Data set name First character indicates instrument In ACS, NICMOS, OS-STIS: U=WFC2, W=WFC, X=FOC, Y=FOS, Z=GHRS	ID_MAIN
ra	RA(J2000)	Float	range -90 to 360 deg	Right Ascension (J2000)	POS_EQ_RA_MAIN
dec	Dec(J2000)	Float	Range -90 to +90 deg	Declination (J2000)	POS_EQ_DEC_MAIN
sci_ra_v1	ra_V1(J2000)	Float	range -90 to 360 deg	RA at V1 position	POS_EQ_RA

Variety of types of documentation for use of archive services e.g. tutorials, handbooks, movies, help pages, FAQs, and files that accompany data.

We do find it a challenge to keep these totally up-to-date.



## **Types of Project Supplied Documentation (not applicable or not provided by all missions)**

- Archive guidelines
  - [http://archive.stsci.edu/mast\\_guidelines.html](http://archive.stsci.edu/mast_guidelines.html)
  - [http://archive.stsci.edu/hlsp/hlsp\\_guidelines.html](http://archive.stsci.edu/hlsp/hlsp_guidelines.html)
- Types of documentation
  - Product / Table / Field / Keyword definitions with delivery methods/timelines
  - Instrument and Data Properties Documentation
  - Processing pipeline
  - Data / delivered products
  - GO office documentation (if applicable)
- Some documentation is under copyright protection (SPIE papers etc.)



**MAST** Multimission Archive at Space Telescope

MAST Users Group – July 9, 2009

# Discussion