

Taxonomy of extrasolar systems

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Introduction

We present the guidelines for an extrasolar system taxonomy. When working with an extra-solar planet database, it is very useful to have a taxonomy scale (classification). The taxonomy has to be easily interpreted and present the most relevant information about extrasolar systems. We propose the extrasolar system taxonomy scale with five parameters.

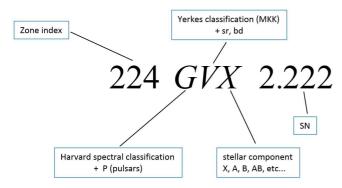


Figure 1. Schematic explanation – a definition of the taxanomy of extrasolar systems for the Solar system.

Zone index ZI

We can divide the area around stars into three main parts - the hot zone, the habitable zone and the cold zone. This index describes the number of exoplanets in each zone. That's why we determine the weight $s_1 = 100$ for hot zone, $s_2 = 10$ for the conservative habitable zone and $s_3 = 1$ for the cold zone. We can calculate the Zone index ZI in the form

$$ZI = \sum_{j=1}^{3} s_j k_j,$$

where k_1 is the number of exoplanets in hot zone, k_2 the number of exoplanets in conservative habitable zone, k_3 the number of exoplanets in cold zone. For example, the Solar System has the Zone index ZI = 224 and 55 Cancri system has Zone index ZI = 311.

Spectral classes of extrasolar systems

The mother stars of extrasolar planets are spectral classes O, B, A, F, G, K, M and pulsars. The $second\ parameter$ concerns Harvard spectral classification and shows e.g. the colour and temperature of the mother star. For example, for the Sun it is G, for 55 CnC it is K and for pulsar it is P.

Dynamical classes of extrasolar systems

For the origin of a planetary system, the size of the mother star is very important. The *third parameter* is a value from Yerkers spectral classification (MKK system), which describes the size of the mother star (e.g. *III* are giants, *IV* are subgiants, *V* - main-sequence stars).

Stellar components in extrasolar system

It is fundamentally important to establish if the mother star is a single star or if it is a member of a binary or multiple stellar system. This would greatly influence the origin of a given planetary system. *The fourth parameter* is the symbol of the stellar component (A,B,C ...). For a single star we used *X* and for circumbinary systems we use its symbol (*AB*, *BC*, etc.).

System number SN

We can classify exoplanets according to their mass and radius. Most of the mass boundaries were selected for physical reasons but they are not hard-limits and could be refined. A simpler solution is to apply a mass code that defines a physically motivated mass range. The one mass order could have physical sense for change the physical properties of planets and exoplanets.

Table 1. Description of the proposed classification of planets based on the mass.

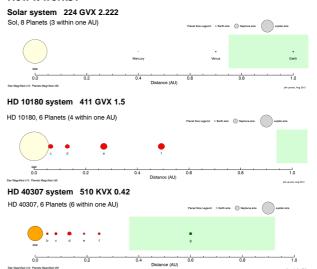
Class	Mass (Jupiter Units $M_{\rm J}$)	Mass [kg]	w_i
С	≤ 0.00015	$\le 3 \times 10^{23}$	0.00001
M	0.00015 - 0.0015	3×10^{23} - 3×10^{24}	0.0001
E	0.0015 - 0.015	3×10^{24} - 3×10^{25}	0.001
N	0.015 - 0.15	3×10^{25} - 3×10^{26}	0.01
J	0.15 - 1.5	3×10^{26} - 3×10^{27}	1
S	1.5 - 12	3×10^{27} - 2.3×10^{28}	10
D	≥ 12	$\geq 2.3 \times 10^{28}$	1221

We can calculate the system number SN in the form

$$SN = \sum_{i=1}^{6} w_i n_i$$

where n_1 is the number of exoplanets in S class, n_2 the number of exoplanets in J class, n_3 the number of exoplanets in N class, n_4 the number of exoplanets for E class, n_5 the number of exoplanets in M class and n_6 the number of exoplanets in C class and real weights w_i . For example, the Solar System has SN = 2.222 and 55 CnC has SN = 13.1.

How it works?



Conclusions

We have endeavored to build a taxonomy scale for extrasolar systems. This taxonomy could be used as a quick and easy mechanism to determine the main attributes for an extrasolar system and allows for a quick and clear comparison of large numbers of extrasolar systems.

This work was supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic in Project No. LO1206 and by Internal Grant of Palacky University (IGA_PrF_2017_002).

