

PROBLEM SET # 0

Astro 512 – Spring 2017 Extragalactic Astronomy

PROBLEM 1: KEEPING IN TOUCH

A major goal of this class is to develop the habit of reading the current astronomical literature. The best way of doing this is to have the most recent titles and abstracts emailed to you, so that you can easily spot papers of interest. To this end please do the following:

- a) Go to the website of the Astrophysical Journal (+ Letters and Supplements) and Astronomical Journal, and sign up for a “Table of Content (TOC) Email Alert” (ApJ is at <http://iopscience.iop.org/0004-637X> and AJ at <http://iopscience.iop.org/1538-3881>, and the email alert link is on the right hand side of the banner). This service will email the table of contents to you every month. Alternatively, you can add all the journals to an RSS feed.
- b) Go to <http://www.wiley.com/bw/journal.asp?ref=0035-8711> and use the boxes on the left (“New Content Alerts”) to sign up for email table of contents for Monthly Notices (or an RSS feed). You will need to register as a user to do so.
- c) Go to <http://lanl.arXiv.org/help/subscribe> and subscribe to the email listing of the astro-ph preprint server. You may also access the same information by web (<http://xxx.lanl.gov/archive/astro-ph>), as long as you *swear* that you will check it daily (click on “Recent” for the past 5 days of listings). There is also an iPhone app to read the ArXiv, which is useful if you have a bus commute, but is also something you have to remember to check. If you’re on Twitter, there is an account that tweets all of the paper titles daily (@AstroPHY Papers). Another nice service is “arXiver”, which is a website that broadcasts the title and key figures (<https://arxiver.moonhats.com/>), making a nice little preview of what’s inside.
- d) There are additional tools discussed at <http://www.astrobetter.com/wiki/tiki-index.php?page=Astro-ph+Tools>. In particular, “myADS” is a useful service once you develop a more specific set of interests (i.e., you don’t want to miss a single paper about X-ray binaries).