Fun Facts:

**M38: STARFISH CLUSTER**

Computer Code: m38

* **Other Names:**
  + NGC 1912
* **Location:**
  + RA: 05h 29m 8s
  + Dec: 35⁰ 51’
* **Basics:**
  + Description: open cluster in Auriga
    - It is one of three Messier open clusters in the southern part of Auriga (along with M36 & M37)
  + Visual Magnitude: +6.40
  + Apparent Size: 20.0 arcminutes
  + Distance: 4,600 light years away
  + Diameter: 26.6 light years across
* **History:**
  + First discovered by 1654 by Giovanni Batista Hodierma, but his observations were largely unknown until 1984.
  + It was independently discovered by Guillaume Le Gentil in 1749.
* **Other Notes:**
  + Contains over 100 stars, many 9th magnitude or brighter.
  + The brightest stars form an asterism of the Greek letter Pi or a cross shape.
  + It is about the same age and size as nearby M37. It’s about 220 million years old.
  + The brightest star in this cluster is a yellow giant.