THE OBSERVATORY

GENERAL INDEX

TO

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1971–2000

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INTRODUCTION

This *General Index*, covering Volumes 91–120 (1971–2000), is the third to be published in the 127-year history of *The Observatory Magazine*; earlier general indices were compiled for Volumes 1–75 and 76–90 by Mr. E. G. Martin (retired from the Royal Greenwich Observatory) and published in 1959 and 1975, respectively. Thus this is the first to be produced without the embrace of the Royal Observatory, where, of course, the *Magazine* was founded in 1877. The previous general indices each carried a very brief résumé of the *Magazine*'s history, but that luxury has been dispensed with on this occasion since a full account is now available elsewhere[1].

The approach to this *General Index* has been somewhat different from that undoubtedly taken by Mr. Martin; we now have at our disposal a range of technological facilities scarcely imaginable just 30 years ago. This led us to adopt the (as it turned out, rather fanciful) notion of simply merging the 30 years of annual indices — utilizing the last few years' indices, which were available directly on-line, and scanning in the earlier ones. This task was bravely undertaken by Robert Argyle who thus committed himself to hours of tedium at the computer terminal. Of course, the principal problem has been the oft-mentioned "editorial kaleidoscope", which has led to a succession of annual-index compilers each taking a subtly different view as to what should be included and what omitted, especially with respect to the *Subject Index*, although it is also fair to remember that astronomy is very prone to fashion, rendering the 'hot' topics of the 1970s somewhat 'old hat' by the 1990s. Notwithstanding these difficulties, three merged indices were ultimately produced, yielding a draft *General Index* resembling in format the familiar annual indices. At that point Mr. Argyle was allowed to take a well-earned rest!

The next task was to check all entries against what actually appeared in the *Magazine*, and to ensure some measure of consistency across the years. This I undertook, taking the bound volumes of *The Observatory* as my constant companion for several months. Completing the *Review Index* turned out to be a fairly straightforward exercise since the book reviews constitute a reasonably self-contained section of the publication. The only departures from some of the earlier annual indices have been to relegate correspondence relating to reviews to the *Subject Index* (although retaining cross references), to list all announcements of paperback publications of books previously reviewed as hardbacks, and generally to restrict the credited authorship of a few of the more recent historical works to the original authors, expunging reference to translators and editors.

The *Author Index* proved only slightly more troublesome, mainly in the arena of meeting reports: where a paper was presented by one person on behalf of one or more others (perhaps including the speaker), only the speaker is included in the index. In the case of speakers at RAS Ordinary (A & G) meetings who did not provide a summary (and for whom no extensive summary was provided by the Editors), I have been forgiving and they are generally included in the list of authors, particularly where there is reported some worthwhile debate after the talk. However, I have not been as kind as the compiler of the annual index for 1973 who generously included in the list of authors those who had merely asked questions at RAS meetings; they have been expunged!

The *Subject Index* was an altogether different story. Here categories came and went with time, and so did what was worthy of inclusion (*e.g.*, the RAS President's mention of deceased Fellows and Associates as an entry under 'Obituary Notices' — deemed by me not to be); and, of course, every indexer's

problem of under which and in just how many categories to list a multi-faceted paper. Naturally, regular features, such as *Correspondence*, *Notes from Observatories*, and recently *Thesis Abstracts*, have all their contributions listed there and also under a heading appropriate to their subject matter (albeit 'Miscellaneous' in quite a few cases, primarily to avoid an excessive number of categories with very few entries).

Notes were for many years to be found towards the back of each issue as a repository for all manner of news items, personal notes, obituary notices, *etc*., *etc*. The last of these (in the period covered by this *General Index*) appeared in 1983, probably as a result of more expeditious methods of communicating such information. However, an experimental reintroduction of *Notes* featured in the first issue of 2004, offering a 'stop press'-type opportunity for the inclusion of late-breaking news.

Papers are listed under the category of their main topic, *e.g*., 'Galaxies', and perhaps under another, *e.g*., 'Radio Astronomy', if deemed appropriate. Because of the strong bias of contributions in *The Observatory* towards stellar astronomy, several categories relating to 'stars' appear, and readers should hunt among all of them for items of interest. Perhaps an 'Object Index' would have been useful but we have (lazily perhaps) shied away from that undertaking. As an aid in seeking out the most suitable categories in which to begin a search, a list of categories is given ahead of the *Subject Index*. Note that several sub-categories have been grouped under 'Astrophysics', the intention being to gather together a number of rather general (particularly theory-based) items.

In a similar way, a number of sub-categories are collected under the banner of the Royal Astronomical Society, with which the *Magazine* has had such a long association. All of the Ordinary Meetings in London have been reported in the *Magazine* together with those that have occurred 'out of town' in recent years as part of the National Astronomy Meetings. Quite a number of the RAS Specialist Discussion Meetings have also been recorded, although some reports now appear in *Astronomy & Geophysics*, the RAS's 'house' journal. The form these reports has taken has changed across the years, from narrative records through collections of abstracts to summaries produced by the meeting organizers. As a result, the way that individual contributions have been included in this *Index* has also changed: only where those contributions were easily identifiable have they been listed. The same is true of the reports of other meetings, especially of the Herstmonceux Conferences.

Finally, with an eye to the future, when readers may wish to consult past copies of *The Observatory* for research purposes, especially research of an historical nature, we have provided a list of acronyms and abbreviations appearing in the *Magazine* during the time span covered by this *Index*; the probable issue when the term first appeared is also given. Its compilation has not been easy, as often, particularly in meeting reports, they have not always been defined on first use. And yet their proliferation, especially in connection with instrumentation and space astronomy, has been widespread. Thanks are due to several authors who were contacted by email and invited to dredge their deepest memories for acronyms they used many years ago; and also to Professor Ian Howarth and Dr. Paul O'Brien, who both (having been Editors) searched their memories too in this good cause. Even so, one or two have escaped definition and are marked by '(?)'. (One or two more, being defined in a particular paper and only used there, have been omitted.) This list also includes a few names which have been presented in the *Magazine* in capital letters but which appear not to be acronyms.

In the same vein, a list of bibliographic abbreviations has also been included

for the benefit of those unfamiliar with the terse — but very convenient — forms used in journal references for many years by this *Magazine* (and, more recently, by other journals).

Following the completion of this second draft of the General Index, the third member of the present editorial team, Stephen Fossey, has been turned loose to use his eye for detail to ensure a good measure of consistency throughout and to check for those errors that are all too easy to overlook when being too close to the subject for too long. He is also the man to make it available electronically on the *Magazine*'s web site (http://www.ulo.ucl.ac.uk/obsmag/). Thus the present work is very much a team effort.

Finally, the Editors want to thank the Royal Astronomical Society for partial financial support for this venture. — DAVID STICKLAND.

Reference

(1) D. J. Stickland, in A. Heck (ed.), *Organizations and Strategies in Astronomy, Volume 4* (Kluwer, Dordrecht), 2003, p. 205.

AUTHOR INDEX

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SUBJECT-INDEX CATEGORIES

SUBJECT INDEX

REVIEW INDEX

Acronyms found in *The Observatory*, Volumes 91–120

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
2MASS	2-Micron All-Sky Survey	1994 Dec
2ASE	American Science & Engineering (2nd cat. of satellite obs.)	1972 Dec
2dF	2-degree Field Spectrograph (on *AAT*)	1995 Oct
2dFGRS	2dF Galaxy Redshift Survey	2000 Apr
3C	Third Cambridge Catalogue (of radio sources)	1971 Feb
3CR	Third Cambridge Catalogue, Revised (*MN*, **68**, 163, 1962)	1974 Apr
3U	Third Uhuru Catalogue	1974 Dec
4C	Fourth Cambridge Catalogue (of radio sources)	1971 Oct
5C	Fifth Cambridge Catalogue (of radio sources)	1971 Apr
AAAS	American Association for the Advancement of Science	1975 Apr
AAE	Association for Astronomy Education	1999 Apr
AAO	Anglo-Australian Observatory	1977 Apr
AAS	American Astronomical Society	1991 Dec
AAT	Anglo-Australian Telescope	1971 Jun
AAVSO	American Association of Variable Star Observers	1977 Feb
ABRC	Advisory Board for the Research Councils	1978 Jun
AC	Astrographic Catalogue	1980 Apr
ACBAR	Arcminute Cosmology Bolometer Array Receiver	2000 Aug
ACE	Advanced Composition Explorer	2000 Feb
ACIAAT	Advisory Committee for Instrumentation at the AAT	1989 Aug
ACO	Abell, Corwin & Olowin catalogue of rich clusters of galaxies (*ApJS*, **70**, 1, 1989)	1996 Dec
ACOST	Advisory Committee on Science and Technology	1993 Feb
ACRS	Astrographic Catalogue Reference Stars	1997 Apr
ACSIS	Auto-Correlation Spectrometer and Imaging System (on *JCMT*)	2000 Dec
AD	Anno Domini	1987 Oct
ADAF	Advection-dominated accretion flow	1998 Oct
ADAM	Astronomical Data Acquisition Monitor (for *Starlink*)	1991 Dec
ADASS	Astronomical Data Analysis Software and Systems	1996 Jun
ADC	Atmospheric dispersion compensator	1989 Apr
ADH	Armagh Dunsink Harvard (telescope)	1971 Oct
ADIOS	Adiabatic Inflow-Outflow Solution (for accretion discs)	2000 Feb
ADONIS	Adaptive Optics Near-Infrared System (ESO)	2000 Feb
ADS	Aitken Double Star catalogue	1977 Feb
ADS	Astrophysics Data System	1995 Feb
AERE	Atomic Energy Research Establishment	1971 Oct
AEST	Australian Eastern Standard Time	1990 Dec
AFCRL	Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratory (US)	1973 Feb
AFGL	Air Force Geophysics Laboratory (survey)	1982 Aug
AGAPE	Andromeda Galaxy Amplified Pixel Experiment (microlensing)	1998 Oct
AGB	Asymptotic giant branch	1984 Dec
AGK3	Astronomisches Gesellschaft Katalog 3	1971 Feb
AGM	Annual general meeting	1987 Oct
AGN	Active galactic nucleus/nuclei	1987 Apr
AGU	American Geophysical Union	1993 Oct
AIC	Accretion-induced collapse	1995 Aug
AIM	Astrometric Interferometry Mission	1992 Apr
ALADIN	CDS interactive sky atlas (not an acronym)	1999 Oct
ALCoRs	Astronomical lighting control regions	1997 Feb
ALH	Allan Hills (Antarctic meteorite location)	1997 Aug
ALI	Accelerated lambda iteration	1992 Jun
ALMA	Atacama Large Millimetre Array	2000 Oct
ALSEP	Apollo Lunar Surface Experiment Package	1983 Aug
AM	Adhesion model	1996 Feb
AML	Angular-momentum loss	1983 Dec
AMO	Atomic, molecular and optical (physics)	1997 Aug
AMPTE	Active Magnetospheric Particle Tracer Explorers	1985 Jun
ANN	Artificial neural network	1996 Apr
ANS	Astronomical Netherlands Satellite	1984 Oct

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
ANSI	American National Standards Institute	1993 Aug
ANTARES	Astronomy with a Neutrino Telescope and Abyss Environmental Research	1998 Dec
ANU	Australian National University	1977 Apr
AO	Arecibo Observatory catalogue of occultations	1981 Oct
AO	Adaptive optics	1996 Dec
APGC	Astronomy Policy and Grants Committee	1974 Dec
APM	Automatic Plate-measuring Machine	1986 Feb
APS	American Physical Society	1997 Jun
APS(B)	Astronomy and Planetary Science (Board)	1988 Jun
APT	Automatic photoelectric telescope	1990 Oct
APT	Asia-Pacific Telescope	1998 Jun
APXS	Alpha Proton X-ray Spectrometer	1998 Jun
AQ	Astrophysical Quantities (by C W Allen, Athlone Press)	1973 Feb
AQ4	Allen's Astrophysical Quantities, 4th Edition	2000 Oct
AQD	Automatic quasar detection	1997 Dec
ARC	Astrophysical Research Consortium	1995 Dec
ARGS	Advanced Raster Graphics System	1987 Apr
ARISE	Advanced Radio Interferometry between Space and Earth (JPL)	1998 Jun
ARM	Anhysteretic remanent magnetization	1991 Jun
ART	Algebraic reconstruction technique	1977 Jun
ARW	Advanced Research Workshop (NATO)	1995 Apr
ASCA	Advanced Satellite for Cosmology and Astrophysics	1994 Aug
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange	1991 Apr
ASGI	Astronomical Science Group of Ireland	1999 Aug
ASI	Astronomical Society of India	1973 Oct
ASI	Advanced Study Institute (NATO)	1988 Jun
ASI	Agency for Space Research (Italy)	1993 Oct
ASM	All Sky Monitor	1998 Oct
ASP	Astronomical Society of the Pacific	1994 Oct
ASPA	All-Sky Patrol Astrophysics	1999 Oct
ASR(B)	Astronomy Space and Radio (Board) (of SRC)	1974 Dec
ASS	Axisymmetric spiral	1992 Jun
AS&E	American Science & Engineering	1974 Aug
ATAC	Australian Time Allocation Committee	1987 Dec
ATC	Airy Transit Circle	1971 Aug
ATC	Astronomy Technology Centre (also UKATC)	1998 Dec
ATLAS	AAO Tunable Littrow Articulated Spectrograph	2000 Apr
ATM	Apollo Telescope Mount	1976 Oct
ATNF	Australia Telescope National Facility	1998 Dec
ATS	Applications Technology Satellite	1992 Dec
ATSR	Along-Track Scanning Radiometer	1995 Jun
AU	Astronomical Unit	1976 Apr
AURA	Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (US)	1981 Oct
AUT	Association of University Teachers	1994 Aug
AUTOFIB2	Automatic Fibre Optic Positioner (on *WHT*)	2000 Apr
AWM	Albert, White & Morgan catalogue (*ApJ*, **211**, 309, 1977)	1995 Aug
AWRE	Atomic Weapons Research Establishment	1993 Oct
AXAF	Advanced X-ray Astrophysics Facility	1989 Apr
A&G	Acquisition and guiding	1990 Jun
A&G	Astronomy & Geophysics	1997 Oct
ApF	Astrophysical Formulae (by K. R. Lang, Springer)	2000 Apr
B^{2}FH	Burbidge, Burbidge, Fowler & Hoyle (*Rev Mod Phys*, **29**, 547, 1957)	1976 Jun
BAA	British Astronomical Association	1975 Oct
BAAS	British Association for the Advancement of Science	1990 Dec
BAL	Broad absorption line	1998 Dec
BARS	Barred and ringed spirals	2000 Apr
BAS	British Antarctic Survey	1978 Jun
BATSE	Burst and Transient Source Experiment (on *CGRO*)	1993 Feb
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation	1973 Oct
BBD	Bivariate brightness distribution	2000 Apr
BBGKY	Bogolyubov, Born, Green, Kirkwood, and Yvon (cosmological hierarchy equations)	1996 Feb

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
BBN	Big-Bang nucleosynthesis	1994 Oct
BBXRT	Broad Band X-ray Telescope	1996 Jun
BC	Bolometric correction	1985 Jun
BC	British Columbia (Canada)	1985 Jun
BC	Before Christ	1987 Oct
BCD	Barbier Chalonge Divan (classification method)	1982 Oct
BCD	Blue compact dwarf galaxy	1995 Oct
BCS	Bragg Crystal Spectrometer (on *Yohkoh*)	1993 Jun
BCS	Brightest Cluster Survey (from *ROSAT* All Sky Survey)	1996 Dec
BD	Bonner Durchmusterung	1974 Feb
BD	Brown dwarf	1994 Dec
BDS	Burnham Double Star catalogue	1987 Feb
BEAST	Background Emission Anisotropy Scanning Telescope	2000 Aug
BGS	British Geological Survey	1994 Aug
BH	Black holes	1997 Aug
BHB	Blue horizontal branch	1993 Aug
BHC	Black-hole candidate	1997 Oct
BIH	Bureau International de l'Heure	1971 Aug
BIMA	Berkeley Illinois Maryland Association (interferometer)	1998 Apr
BIRPS	British Institutions' Reflection Profiling Syndicate	1982 Oct
BLR	Broad-line region	1987 Aug
BLRG	Broad-lined radio galaxy	1999 Jun
BMEWS	Ballistic Missile Early Warning System	1987 Aug
BN	Becklin-Neugebauer	1992 Dec
BNCSR	British National Committee for Space Research	1993 Oct
BNSC	British National Space Centre	1987 Apr
BOOMERanG	Balloon Observation of Millimetric Extragalactic Radiation and Geophysics	2000 Aug
BP	Before present	1995 Feb
BR	B & R QSO survey (of *UKST* plates by *APM*)	1995 Oct
BSC	Bright Star Catalogue	2000 Jun
BSG	Blue supergiant	1992 Jun
BSS	Bisymmetric spiral	1992 Jun
BST	British Summer Time	1999 Jun
BSVRP	British Seismic Verification Research Project	1989 Apr
BUSS	Balloon Ultraviolet Stellar Spectrometer	1988 Dec
BiSON	Birmingham Solar Oscillations Network	1996 Feb
CAD	Computer-aided design	1990 Jun
CAICYT	Centro Argentino de Informacion Cientifica y Tecnologica	1988 Dec
CAIN	Camera Infrarojo	2000 Apr
CAM	Camera (on *ISO*)	1996 Dec
CAMAC	Computer Automated Measurement and Control	1971 Jun
CAMC	Carlsberg Automatic Meridian Circle	1987 Jun
CAPES	Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (Brazil)	1975 Oct
CAPS	Cassini Plasma Spectrometer	1999 Feb
CASLEO	Complejo Astronomico El Leoncito	1992 Apr
CAT	Cosmic Anisotropy Telescope	1995 Aug
CATC	Carlsberg Automatic Transit Circle	1982 Feb
CAV NTSC	(Video format) National Television Standards Committee	1994 Aug
CBE	Commander of the (Order of the) British Empire	1975 Feb
CBI	Cosmic Background Imager	2000 Aug
CBR	Cosmic background radiation	1990 Jun
CCD	Charge-coupled device	1979 Apr
CCDM	Catalogue of the Components of Double and Multiple Stars	1989 Dec
CCE	Charge-Composition Explorer	1985 Jun
CCF	Cross-correlation function	1998 Feb
CCI	Comite Cientifico Internacional	1990 Apr
CCP	Collaborative Computational Project	1993 Feb
CD	Cordoba Durchmusterung	1974 Jun
CD	Compact disk	1992 Jun
CDA	Cosmic Dust-impact Analyser (on *Cassini*)	1999 Feb
CDC	Control Data Corporation	1972 Aug

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
CDF	Cumulative distribution function	1993 Apr
CDM	Cold dark matter	1990 Jun
CDS	Centre de Données astronomiques de Strasbourg	1990 Dec
CDS	Coronal Diagnostic Spectrometer	1992 Feb
CE	Common envelope	1997 Dec
CELIAS	Charge Element and Isotope Analysis System	1996 Dec
CEPPAD	Comprehensive Energetic Particle Pitch Angle Distribution (on *POLAR*)	1996 Jun
CERGA	Centre de Recherche en Géodynamique et Astrométrie	1983 Oct
CERN	Centre Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire	1973 Feb
CFA	Center for Astrophysics (Harvard)	1982 Aug
CFC	Chlorofluorocarbon	1993 Jun
CFD	Computational fluid dynamics	1990 Oct
CFHT	Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope	1994 Oct
CGRO	Compton Gamma Ray Observatory	1983 Aug
CGS4	Cooled Grating Spectrometer 4	1993 Feb
cgs	Centimetre, gramme, second system of units	1991 Oct
CHAMP	Challenging Minisatellite Payload (small satellite mission)	2000 Dec
CHARA	Center for High Angular Resolution Astronomy	1995 Aug
CHASE	Coronal Helium Abundance Spacelab Experiment	1986 Apr
CHIANTI	Atomic database (not acronym)	2000 Aug
CI	Colour index	1978 Feb
CI	Configuration interaction	1992 Feb
CID	Charge-injection device	1982 Apr
CIE	Commission Internationale de l'Eclairage	1997 Feb
CIR	Co-rotating interaction region	1981 Dec
CIRS	Composite Infrared Spectrometer (on *Cassini*)	1999 Feb
CIRSI	Cambridge InfraRed Survey Instrument	1999 Aug
CIT	California Institute of Technology	1974 Aug
CITA	Canadian Institute of Theoretical Astrophysics	1992 Jun
CLASS	Cosmic Lens All-Sky Survey	1997 Aug
CLBS	Conference Liaison & Business Services (Guernsey)	2000 Apr
CLEA	Contemporary Laboratory Experiences in Astronomy	1998 Dec
CLFST	Cambridge Low-Frequency Synthesis Telescope	1998 Dec
CLI	Command-line interface	1995 Oct
CMA	Channel-Multiplier Array (on *EXOSAT*)	1986 Feb
CMB	Cosmic microwave background	1987 Aug
CMBR	Cosmic microwave background radiation	1997 Dec
CMC	Constant-mean-curvature	2000 Jun
CMD	Colour–magnitude diagram	1995 Dec
CME	Coronal mass ejection	1997 Jun
CMEU	Taxonomic classification of asteroid (*Icarus*, **35**, 315, 1978)	1986 Aug
CMHAS	Crayford Manor House Astronomical Society	1996 Dec
CMI	Cyclotron maser instability	1995 Apr
CML	Central-meridian longitude	1995 Apr
CMP	Central meridian passage	1971 Dec
CMU	Central Michigan University	1996 Dec
CNES	Centre National d'Études Spatiales	1992 Aug
CNPq	Conselho Nacional de Pesquisas (Brazil)	1973 Oct
CNR	National Research Council (Italy)	1993 Oct
CNRS	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (France)	1973 Apr
COAST	Cambridge Optical Aperture Synthesis Telescope	1995 Jun
COB	Cryogenic Optical Bench (for *Gemini*)	1995 Dec
COBE	Cosmic Background Explorer satellite	1991 Feb
COBRAS	Cosmic Background Radiation Anisotropy Satellite	1995 Aug
COHSI	Cambridge OH Suppression Instrument	1999 Oct
COMPTEL	Imaging Compton Telescope (on *CGRO*)	1994 Feb
CONICET	Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas	1975 Oct
CONICOR	Consejo de Investigaciones Científicas y Tecnológicas de la Provincia de Córdoba	1988 Oct
CORAVEL	Correlation of Radial Velocities	1982 Dec
COROT	Convection Rotation and Planetary Transits	1996 Apr
COS-B	ESA Cosmic Ray Satellite (gamma-ray observatory)	1974 Dec
COSMIC	Carnegie Observatories Spectroscopic Multislit and Imaging Camera	1998 Jun

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
COSMOS	Coordinate, Size, Magnitude, Orientation and Shape (measuring machine)	1975 Jun
COSPAR	Committee on Space Research	1973 Apr
COST	Cooperation in Science and Technology	1993 Apr
COSTAR	Corrective Optics Space Telescope Axial Replacement (on *HST*)	1993 Aug
COSTEP	Comprehensive SupraThermal and Energetic Particle Analyzer	1996 Dec
COTES	Conventional Terrestrial Reference System	1987 Jun
CP	Chemically peculiar (star)	1982 Aug
CP	Charge conjugation times parity	1991 Apr
CPC	Cape Photographic Catalogue	1972 Dec
CPD	Cape Photographic Durchmusterung	1973 Oct
CPU	Central processing unit	1978 Jun
CRAF	Cometary Rendezvous Asteroid Flyby	1990 Jun
CRL	Cambridge Research Laboratories (IR source catalogue)	1976 Feb
CRN	Canopy Research Network	1994 Jun
CRRES	Combined Release and Radiation Effects Satellite	1998 Jun
CRSS	Cambridge–Cambridge ROSAT Serendipity Survey	1996 Feb
CS	Conformal superspace	2000 Jun
CSE	Certificate of Secondary Education	1982 Feb
CSE	Circumstellar envelope	1986 Oct
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (South Africa)	1973 Apr
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	1974 Jun
CSM	Carlos Sanchez Magro telescope (now CST)	1990 Apr
CSM	Circumstellar medium	2000 Jun
CSNSM	Centre de Spectrométrie Nucléaire et de Spectrométrie de Masse	1977 Oct
CSO	Caltech Submillimetre Observatory	1993 Jun
CSR	Comprehensive Spending Review	1998 Dec
CSS	Compact steep-spectrum radio sources	1997 Aug
CST	Carlos Sanchez Telescope	1988 Dec
CSWA	Committee on the Status of Women in Astronomy	1999 Dec
CTA	CalTech observations, List A (*PASP*, **72**, 237, 1960)	1972 Aug
CTB	CalTech radio survey, List B	1971 Jun
CTBT	Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty	1989 Apr
CTIM	Coupled thermosphere-ionosphere model	1997 Dec
CTIO	Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory	1978 Apr
CTT	Classical T Tauri stars	1995 Dec
CUL	Cambridge University Library	1989 Dec
CUP	Cambridge University Press	1971 Dec
CUPRI	Cornell University Portable Radar Interferometer	1998 Aug
CUTLASS	Collaborative, UK, Twin Located, Auroral Sounding System	1994 Aug
CV	Cordoba Variable	1971 Jun
CV	Cataclysmic variable	1988 Jun
CVF	Circular variable filter	1980 Dec
C&EE	ESO programme to support astronomers in Central and Eastern European countries	1996 Oct
CoD	Cordoba Durchmusterung	1974 Jun
D-CIXS	Demonstration of a Compact Imaging X-ray Spectrometer	2000 Jun
DAM	Decametre-wave radiation	1995 Apr
DAMTP	Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics (Cambridge)	1986 Oct
DAO	Dominion Astrophysical Observatory	1975 Apr
DARN	Dual Auroral Radar Network	1994 Aug
DARS	Durham–AAO Redshift Survey	1994 Aug
DASI	Degree Angular Scale Interferometer	2000 Aug
DC	Direct current	1971 Oct
DDO	David Dunlap Observatory	1971 Dec
DEC	Digital Equipment Corporation	1989 Oct
DEM	Differential emission measure	2000 Aug
DENI	Department of Education for Northern Ireland	1997 Aug
DENIS	Deep Near-Infrared Survey	1995 Dec
DES	Department for Education and Science	1974 Dec
DFT	Discrete Fourier transform	1998 Jun
DHM	Durham observation (Shanks *et al.*, *Nature*, **303**, 156, 1983)	1984 Oct

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
DIAS	Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies	1998 Jun
DIB	Diffuse interstellar band	1994 Jun
DIPSO	DIPSO Isn't Portable Software	1988 Oct
DIRBE	Diffuse InfraRed Background Experiment	1998 Dec
DISR	Descent Imager Spectral Radiometer (on *Huygens*)	1999 Feb
DIY	Do-it-yourself	1989 Oct
DLR	Deutsches Zentrum für Luft-und-Raumfahrt	1999 Oct
DM	Dispersion measure	1992 Jun
DM	Deutsch Mark	1975 Apr
DMR	Differential Microwave Radiometer	1995 Aug
DMSA	Double and Multiple Star Annex (of the *Hipparcos Catalogue*)	2000 Jun
DMSP	Defense Meteorological Satellite Program	1993 Dec
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid	1975 Feb
DOGS	Dwingeloo Obscured Galaxy Survey	1995 Aug
DOTS	Doppler Tomography of Stellar surfaces (software)	1998 Apr
DOY	Day of year	1992 Oct
DQE	Detector quantum efficiency	1978 Dec
DR	Downes & Rinehart obs. of Cyg X region (*ApJ*, **144**, 937, 1966)	1973 Oct
DRA	Defence Research Agency	1994 Aug
DRAL	Daresbury & Rutherford Appleton Laboratory	1995 Oct
DS	Drilling catalogue (*ApJ*, **270**, L13, 1983)	1988 Jun
DSAZ	Deutsche-Spanische Astronomische Zentrum (Calar Alto)	1993 Feb
DSIR	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	1986 Aug
DSMP	Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (should have been DMSP)	1999 Apr
DSN	Deep Space Network	1992 Aug
DSP	Defense Support Program	1986 Apr
DSS	Palomar Digitized Sky Survey	1999 Apr
DTI	Department of Trade and Industry	1974 Dec
DTL	Diffraction to Littrow	1984 Feb
DUO	Disk Unseen Objects	1996 Oct
EAS	Extensive Air Shower Array	1987 Dec
EAS	European Astronomical Society	1995 Feb
ECA	Earth-crossing asteroids	1998 Aug
Echidna	Multifibre positioner unit (not acronym)	2000 Apr
ECR	Electron count rates	1992 Oct
ECS	External Compton scattering	1999 Jun
EEC	European Economic Community	1989 Dec
EET	Designator for meteorites from Elephant Moraine area (Antarctica)	1997 Aug
EFOSC	ESO Faint Object Spectrograph and Camera	1988 Oct
EGRET	Energetic Gamma Ray Experiment Telescope	1993 Aug
EIC	East India Company	1993 Jun
EISCAT	European Incoherent Scatter radar facility	1974 Dec
EIT	Extreme-ultraviolet Imaging Telescope	1996 Dec
ELAIS	European Large Area ISO Survey	2000 Apr
ELS	Electron Spectrometer (on *Cassini*)	1999 Feb
ELT	Extra (or Extremely) Large Telescope	2000 Dec
EM	Emission measure	1995 Jun
EMI	Electrical and Music Industries	1971 Jun
EMP	Electromagnetic pulse	1984 Apr
EMSS	Extended Medium Sensitivity Survey (on *Einstein*)	1995 Dec
ENACS	ESO Nearby Abell Cluster Survey	1996 Dec
ENLR	Extended narrow-line region	1990 Apr
ENO	European Northern Observatory	1992 Dec
EOS	Earth Observing System	1994 Aug
EPIC	European Photon Imaging Cameras	1998 Dec
EPR	Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen (paradox)	1986 Jun
ERBE	Earth Radiation Budget Experiment	1992 Apr
ERNE	Energetic and Relativistic Nuclei and Electron experiment	1996 Dec
EROS	Experience pour la Recherche d'Objets Sombres	1994 Dec
ERS	Earth Resources Satellite	1988 Feb
ES	Explanatory Supplement (to the *Astronomical Almanac*)	1993 Jun
ESA	European Space Agency	1978 Oct
EASAMS	Elliot Automation Space and Advanced Military Systems Ltd	1978 Oct

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
ESIS	Enhanced Student Information System	1996 Oct
ESLAB	European Space Research Laboratory	1987 Feb
ESO	European Southern Observatory	1971 Jun
ESR	EISCAT Svalbard Radar	1998 Aug
ESRO	European Space Research Organization	1972 Jun
EST	Eastern Standard Time	1991 Oct
ESTEC	European Space Research and Technology Centre	1983 Apr
ET	Ephemeris time	1979 Jun
ETI	Extra-terrestrial intelligence	1993 Dec
ETOL	European Test and Operating Language	1997 Apr
EUV	Extreme ultraviolet	1974 Jun
EUVE	Extreme Ultra-Violet Explorer	1991 Feb
EVLA	Enhanced Very Large Array	2000 Dec
EVN	European VLBI Network	1988 Jun
EW	Equivalent width	1991 Oct
EXO	European X-ray Observatory	1974 Dec
EXO	EXOSAT source	1986 Feb
EXOSAT	European X-ray Observatory Satellite	1974 Dec
EuReCa	European Retrievable Carrier mission	1996 Aug
FAMT	(=FAME) Full-sky Astrometric Mapping Explorer	1998 Oct
FAPESP	Fundaçao de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de Sao Paulo	1973 Oct
FAR	Fund for Astrophysical Research	1988 Oct
FAST	Fundamental Astronomy by Space Techniques (consortium)	1988 Dec
FAST	Five-hundred-metre Aperture Spherical Telescope	1998 Oct
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation (US)	1979 Apr
FCCC	Framework Convention on Climate Change	1996 Apr
FCRAO	Five College Radio Astronomy Observatory	1984 Jun
FELIX	Free-orbit Experiment with Laser-Interferometry X-rays	2000 Jun
FES	Fine Error Sensor (on *IUE*)	1985 Jun
FET	Field-effect transistor	1973 Feb
FFT	Fast Fourier transform	1998 Jun
FGS	Fine Guidance System (on *HST*)	1997 Apr
FIFE	First ISLSCP Field Experiment	1995 Oct
FIGARO	Data reduction system (not acronym)	1989 Aug
FIGS	Fabry-Perot Infrared Grating Spectrometer (on *AAT*)	1987 Dec
FIP	First ionization potential	1995 Jun
FIR	Far infrared	1995 Aug
FIRAS	Far Infrared Absolute Spectrophotometer	1995 Aug
FIRS	Far Infrared Spectrograph	1995 Aug
FIRST	Far Infrared and Submillimetre Telescope	1997 Feb
FITS	Flexible Image Transport System	1998 Aug
FIU	Florida International University	1998 Oct
FK4	Fundamental Katalog 4	1971 Feb
FK5	Fundamental Katalog 5	1974 Dec
FLAIR	Fibre-Linked Array Image Reformatter (on *UKST*)	1991 Aug
FLAP	Flexible learning approach to physics	1998 Dec
FLRW	Friedman-Lemaître-Robertson-Walker model	1985 Oct
FLS	Fornax-Leo-Sculptor	1982 Oct
FM	Frequency modulation	1991 Apr
FMOS	Fibre Multi-Object Spectrograph	2000 Dec
FOC	Faint-object camera	1993 Aug
FORS	Faint-object red spectrograph	1987 Dec
FOS	Faint-object spectrograph	1990 Jun
FOSC	Faint Object Spectroscopic Camera (Wise Obs.)	1999 Apr
FR	Fanaroff & Riley	1996 Aug
FRG	Federal Republic of Germany	1976 Jun
FRS	Fellow of the Royal Society	1972 Feb
FSU	Former Soviet Union	1998 Aug
FT	Faulkes Telescope	1999 Aug
FTE	Flux-transfer event	1991 Dec
FTL	Faster-than-light	1999 Apr
FUSE	Far Ultraviolet Spectroscopic Explorer	1990 Jun
FWHM	Full width at half maximum	1975 Oct

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
GAD	Geocentric axial dipole	1995 Dec
GAIA	Global Astrometric Interferometer for Astrophysics	1998 Aug
GALAXY	General-purpose Automatic Luminosity And X-Y (measuring machine)	1971 Oct
GALLEX	Gallium Experiment (neutrino detector)	1992 Dec
GB(S)	Gamma-ray burst source	1988 Apr
GBFC	Ground-Based Facilities Committee	1997 Oct
GBHC	Galactic black-hole candidate	1998 Dec
GBP	Ground-Based Plan	2000 Dec
GC	General Catalogue	1973 Apr
GCM	General circulation model	1995 Oct
GCMS	Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer (on *Huygens*)	1999 Feb
GCR	Galactic cosmic rays	1971 Oct
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education	1991 Feb
GCVS	General Catalogue of Variable Stars	1974 Apr
GD	Giclas Dwarf survey	1996 Feb
GDR	German Democratic Republic	1984 Feb
GEC	General Electric Corporation	1983 Oct
GEMS	Glassy with embedded metal and sulphides	1997 Apr
GEO	Geosynchronous Earth Orbit	1999 Apr
GEODSS	Ground-based Electro-Optic Deep Space Surveillance	1983 Oct
GEOS	Geodynamics Experimental Ocean Satellite	1974 Dec
GEOS	Groupe Européen d'Observation Stellaire	1989 Dec
GGD	Gyulbudaghian, Glushkov & Denisyuk catalogue of HH objects (*ApJ*, **224**, L137, 1978)	1986 Jun
GGS	Global Geospace Science	1996 Jun
GHRIL	Ground-based High Resolution Imaging Laboratory (on *WHT*)	1993 Feb
GHRS	Goddard High-Resolution Spectrograph	1993 Aug
GIFS	Geomagnetic Information and Forecast Service	1991 Aug
GIGOLO	Global Information on Gravity Over Land and Ocean	1993 Apr
GIN	Geomagnetic Information Node	1994 Aug
GIS	Gas Imaging Spectrometer	1998 Dec
GIS2	Gas Imaging Spectrometer 2 (on *ASCA*)	1996 Aug
GJI	Geophysical Journal International	1997 Jun
GL	Gun-laying radar	1986 Aug
GL	Geophysics Lab survey of infrared stellar sources	1996 Feb
GLONASS	Global Navigation Satellite System	1994 Oct
GMAT	Greenwich Mean Astronomical Time	1990 Dec
GMC	Giant molecular cloud	1981 Jun
GMOS	Gemini Multiple-Object Spectrograph	1995 Dec
GMRT	Giant Metre-Wavelength Radio Telescope	1990
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time	1984 Oct
GNAT	Global Network of Automatic Telescopes	2000 Oct
GNP	Gross national product	1992 Feb
GOES	Geostationary Operational Environment Satellites	1991 Aug
GOLF	Global Oscillations at Low Frequencies	1996 Dec
GOME	Global Ozone Monitoring Experiment	1997 Aug
GONG	Global Oscillations Network Group	1994 Oct
GPO	General Post Office	1974 Jun
GPS	Global Positioning System	1994 Oct
GR	General Relativity	1975 Apr
GRAPE	Gravity Pipe (computer system)	1997 Apr
GRASP	Gamma-Ray Astronomy with Spectroscopy and Positioning	1990 Jun
GRB	Gamma-ray burster	2000 Dec
GRO	Gamma Ray Observatory	1983 Aug
GRP	Glass-reinforced plastic	1989 Oct
GRS	Great Red Spot (Jupiter)	1976 Feb
GS	Gas Scintillation (proportional counter, on *EXOSAT*)	1986 Feb
GSC	Gemini Science Committee	1995 Dec
GSC	Guide Star Catalogue	1996 Jun
GSFC	Goddard Space Flight Center	1992 Aug
GTS	Greenwich Time Service	1971 Aug
GUT	Grand unified theory	1985 Jun
GWU	George Washington University	1998 Oct

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
GX	Galactic X-ray source	1972 Dec
HAC	Hydrogenated amorphous carbon	1984 Jun
HAC	Harvard Announcement Card	1987 Dec
HALCA	Highly Advanced Laboratory for Communications and Astronomy	1998 Jun
HARP	Heterodyne Array Receiver Programme	2000 Dec
HASI	Huygens Atmospheric Structure Instrument	1999 Feb
HB	Horizontal branch	1978 Feb
HCG	Hickson Compact Group (*ApJ*, **255**, 382, 1982)	1995 Aug
HCM	Hierarchical clustering and merging	2000 Apr
HD(E)	Henry Draper (catalogue) and Extension	1971 Feb
HDF	Hubble Deep Field	1999 Jun
HDM	Hot dark matter	1996 Jun
HEAO-A	High-Energy Astrophysical Observatory — A	1974 Dec
HEAO-B	High-Energy Astrophysical Observatory — B	1977 Jun
HEASARC	High Energy Astrophysics Science Archive Research Center	1996 Oct
HEFCE	Higher Education Funding Council for England	2000 Apr
HEGRA	High Energy Gamma Ray Astronomy (experiment)	1998 Dec
HEI	Higher-education institute	1992 Dec
HEO	High Earth orbit	1997 Oct
HESS	High-Energy Stereoscopic System	1999 Jun
HETE	High-Energy Transient Explorer	1992 Dec
HEXTE	High Energy X-ray Timing Experiment	1998 Oct
HFC	Hydrofluorocarbon	1996 Jun
HFF	Hubble Flanking Fields	2000 Jun
HFI	High Frequency Instrument (on *Planck*)	2000 Oct
HH	Herbig-Haro (objects)	1981 Dec
HIA	Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics	2000 Dec
HIC	Hipparcos Input Catalogue	1993 Aug
HIFI	Heterodyne Instrument for FIRST	2000 Oct
HIP	Hipparcos Catalogue	2000 Jun
HIPPARCOS	High Precision Parallax Collecting Satellite	1981 Oct
HIRes	High-resolution (data from *IRAS*)	1998 Jun
HIRES	High Resolution Echelle Spectrometer (for *Keck*)	1999 Oct
HISS	Hi-Speed Scanner	1999 Oct
HJD	Heliocentric Julian Date	1974 Apr
HMJD	Heliocentric Modified Julian Date	1995 Feb
HMNAO	Her Majesty's Nautical Almanac Office	1972 Apr
HMS	Her (His) Majesty's Ship	1989 Jun
HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationery Office	1974 Jun
HMXB	High-mass X-ray binary	1995 Aug
HOM	Hectometre-wave radiation	1995 Apr
HP	Hewlett Packard	1976 Dec
HPBW	Half-power band width	1991 Apr
HPS	High-pressure sodium (lamp)	1997 Aug
HR	Harvard Revised (catalogue of bright stars)	1971 Feb
HR	Hertzsprung-Russell (diagram)	1979 Aug
HRH	His (Her) Royal Highness	1985 Apr
HRI	High-Resolution Imager (on *Einstein*)	1980 Apr
HRMS	High Resolution Microwave Survey	1995 Jun
HROS	High Resolution Optical Spectrometers/Spectrograph	1995 Oct
HRTS	High Resolution Telescope and Spectrograph	1986 Apr
HST	Hubble Space Telescope	1988 Jun
HTML	HyperText Markup Language	1998 Aug
HUT	Hopkins Ultraviolet Telescope	1994 Aug
HV	Harvard Variable	1971 Jun
HVC	High-velocity cloud	2000 Apr
HXIS	Hard X-ray Imaging Spectrometer (on *SMM*)	1982 Aug
HXT	Hard X-ray Telescope (on *Yohkoh*)	1993 Jun
HZ	Humason & Zwicky faint blue stars (*ApJ*, **105**, 85, 1947)	1976 Aug
IAC	Instituto Astrofísica de Canarias	1992 Feb
IAG	International Association of Geodesy	1982 Aug
IAGA	International Association for Geomagnetism and Aeronomy	1987 Jun

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
IAPPP	International Amateur-Professional Photoelectric Photometry	1982 Dec
IAT	International Atomic Time	1974 Aug
IAU	International Astronomical Union	1971 Feb
IBM	International Business Machines	1974 Aug
IBS	Ion Beam Spectrometer (on *Cassini*)	1999 Feb
IC	Index Catalogue	1971 Apr
ICE	International Cometary Explorer	1986 Apr
ICF	Ionization correction factor	1979 Dec
ICL	International Computers Limited	1990 Jun
ICM	Intracluster medium	1991 Apr
ICO	International Commission for Optics	1991 Oct
ICRS	International Celestial Reference System	1997 Aug
ICST(M)	Imperial College of Science and Technology (and Medicine)	1982 Jun
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions	1987 Jun
IDA	International Dark Sky Association	1997 Feb
IDL	Interactive Data Language	1994 Dec
IDP	Interplanetary dust particle	1999 Dec
IDS	Index Catalogue of Double Stars (USNO)	1977 Oct
IDS	Image-dissector scanner	2000 Apr
IDSA	International Dark Sky Association	1997 Aug
IDSCS	Initial Defense Satellite Communications System	1986 Apr
IDT	Image-dissector tube	1988 Dec
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers	1996 Oct
IERS	International Earth Rotation Service	1997 Oct
IES	Imaging Electron Sensor	1996 Jun
IfA	Institute for Astronomy (Edinburgh)	1998 Jun
IFS	Integral field spectroscopy	2000 Feb
IGM	Intergalactic medium/matter	1984 Dec
IGPP	Institute of Geophysics & Planetary Physics (San Diego)	1999 Feb
IGRF	International Geomagnetic Reference Field	1991 Aug
IGS	Institute of Geological Sciences	1978 Jun
IGY	International Geophysical Year	1978 Jun
IHW	International Halley Watch	1984 Dec
IIDS	Intensified image-dissector scanner	1985 Aug
IKI	Soviet Space Research Institute	1997 Feb
ILE	Institution of Lighting Engineers (UK)	1997 Feb
IMAGE	Imager for Magnetopause-to-Aurora Global Exploration	1998 Jun
IMEWS	Integrated Missile Early Warning Satellites	1986 Apr
IMF	Initial mass function	1977 Oct
IMF	Interplanetary magnetic field	1986 Apr
IMP	Imager for Mars Pathfinder	1997 Jun
IMS	International Magnetospheric Study	1978 Jun
IMS	Ion Mass Spectrometer (on *Cassini*)	1999 Feb
INAG	Institut National d'Astronomie et de Geophysique (France)	1973 Dec
INCA	Input Catalogue Consortium (for *Hipparcos*)	1993 Aug
INES	IUE Newly-Extracted Spectra	2000 Apr
INFN	National Institute for Nuclear Physics (Italy)	1993 Oct
ING	Isaac Newton Group	1994 Jun
INGRID	Isaac Newton Group Red Imaging Device	1999 Aug
INT	Isaac Newton Telescope	1971 Oct
INTEGRAL	International Gamma-Ray Astrophysical Laboratory	1990 Jun
INTELSAT	International Telecommunications Satellite	1974 Oct
IoA	Institute of Astronomy (Cambridge)	1980 Oct
IOP	Institute of Physics	1993 Jun
IOPP	Institute of Physics Publishing	1997 Oct
IOS	Institute of Oceanographic Sciences	1978 Jun
IOTA	International Occultation Timing Association	1989 Dec
IPAC	Infrared Processing and Analysis Center	1993 Feb
IPC	Imaging Proportional Counter (on *Einstein*)	1980 Apr
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	1996 Apr
IPCS	Image Photon Counting System	1977 Jun
IPG	Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris	1996 Oct
IPHIR	Internal Planetary Helioseismology by Irradiance measurements	1994 Jun
IPIPS	Interplanetary Image Processing System	1981 Jun

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
IPM	Interplanetary medium	1991 Dec
IPP	International Planetary Patrol	1976 Feb
IPS	Interplanetary scintillation	1997 Aug
IQSY	International Quiet Sun Years	1987 Jun
IRAF	Image Reduction and Analysis Facility	1989 Aug
IRAM	Institut de Radioastronomie Millimétrique	1991 Dec
IRAS	InfraRed Astronomical Satellite	1978 Apr
IRC	Infra-red catalogue (Two-micron sky survey)	1972 Apr
IRCAM	InfraRed Camera (on *UKIRT*)	1989 Apr
IRE	Institute of Radio Engineers	1998 Aug
IRF	Instrumental response function	1987 Aug
IRFC	Infrared Flux Collector (Tenerife)	1981 Aug
IRIS	International Research on the Inside of the Sun	1996 Apr
IRIS	Infrared Imaging Spectrometer	2000 Apr
IRM	Ion Release Module	1985 Jun
IRON	The Iron Project (not acronym)	1998 Apr
IRPS	Infrared Photometer-Spectrometer	1994 Oct
IRR	Infrared to radio flux ratio	1998 Dec
IRS	Infrared Source	1973 Oct
IRT	Infrared triplet (Ca II)	1996 Aug
IRTF	InfraRed Telescope Facility	1986 Jun
IRTS	InfraRed Telescope in Space	1999 Feb
ISBN	International Standard Book Number	1992 Feb
ISDN	Integrated Services Digital Network	1996 Dec
ISEE-3	International Sun-Earth Explorer	1981 Dec
ISIS	Intermediate-dispersion Spectroscopic and Imaging System	1990 Jun
ISLSCP	International Satellite Land Surface Climatology Project	1995 Oct
ISM	Interstellar medium	1984 Apr
ISO	Infrared Space Observatory	1988 Aug
ISO	International Standards Organization (film speed rating)	1988 Dec
ISO	International Standards Organization	1998 Aug
ISOCAM	ISO Camera	1994 Dec
ISOGAL	7–15 micron ISOCAM survey	1998 Apr
ISOPHOT	ISO Photometer (see PHT)	2000 Apr
ISP	Interstellar polarization	1996 Apr
ISR	Incoherent scatter radar	1998 Aug
ISS	Imaging Science Subsystem (on *Cassini*)	1999 Feb
ISS	International Space Station	2000 Apr
ISSI	International Space Science Institute	1997 Aug
ISTP	International Solar Terrestrial Programme	1996 Jun
ITF	Intensity-transfer function	1987 Aug
ITS	Image-tube spectrograph	1989 Dec
ITT	Technology company (?)	1973 Aug
ITU	International Telecommunications Union	1993 Aug
IUE	International Ultraviolet Explorer	1974 Dec
IUEDR	IUE Data Reduction software	1991 Aug
IUGG	International Union of Geophysics and Geodesy	1992 Dec
IUHPS	International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science	1975 Feb
IVS	International VLBI Satellite	1990 Jun
JAC	Joint Astronomy Centre (Hilo)	1995 Dec
JANAF	Thermochemical data tables (NIST)	1995 Dec
JANET	Joint Academic Network	1985 Aug
JCMT	James Clerk Maxwell Telescope	1988 Jun
JD	Julian Date	1974 Apr
JEAP	Joint European Amateur Photometer	1995 Apr
JET-X	Joint European Telescope for X-ray Astronomy	1989 Apr
JIF	Joint Infrastructure Fund	2000 Apr
JILA	Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics (US)	1971 Oct
JIVE	Joint Institute for VLBI in Europe	1997 Oct
JKT	Jacobus Kapteyn Telescope	1986 Apr
JOSO	Joint Organisation for Solar Observations	1998 Oct
JPEC	Joint Permanent Eclipse Committee (of RS & RAS)	1979 Aug
JPEG	Joint Photographic Experts Group (and their standard image format)	1998 Aug

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
JPL	Jet Propulsion Laboratory (Pasadena)	1978 Jun
JSC	Johnson Space Center	1977 Feb
JSC	Joint Steering Committee (La Palma)	1996 Jun
JVAS	Jodrell-VLA Astrometric Survey	1997 Aug
JWKB	Jeffreys-Wentzel-Kramers-Brillouin (wave propagation)	1984 Jun
K/T	Cretaceous/Tertiary	1997 Feb
KAM	Kolmogorov-Arnold-Moser (theorem for chaos)	2000 Oct
KAO	Kuiper Airborne Observatory	1989 Dec
KARST	Kilometre Array Radio Synthesis Telescope	1998 Oct
KBO	Kuiper Belt object	2000 Oct
KCB	Knight Commander of the (Order of the) Bath	2000 Feb
KL	Kleinman-Low (nebula)	1975 Oct
KOM	Kilometre-wave radiation (prefix b-broad, n-narrow)	1995 Apr
KPD	Kitt Peak, Downes cat. of white dwarfs (*ApJS*, **61**, 569, 1986)	1987 Apr
KPNO	Kitt Peak National Observatory	1977 Feb
KREEP	Potassium, rare-earth elements, phosphorus (describes lunar soils)	1983 Aug
KRISP	Kenya Rift International Seismic Project	1993 Oct
LAC	Large-area proportional-counter array (on *Astro-C* = *Ginga*)	1987 Apr
LACE	Lunar Atmospheric Composition Experiment (on Apollo)	1983 Aug
LAG	Lovers of active galaxies	1990 Apr
LAGEOS	Laser Geodynamics Satellite	1994 Oct
LAMOST	Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fiber Spectroscopic Telescope	1998 Feb
LAS	Large Astronomical Satellite	1978 Oct
LASCO	Large Angle Spectrometric Coronagraph	1996 Dec
LBV	Luminous blue variable	1991 Feb
LD	Limb-darkened disc	1996 Aug
LDEF	Long Duration Exposure Facility	1991 Jun
LDS	Luyten Double Star catalogue	1984 Apr
LDSS	Low-dispersion survey spectrograph	1985 Aug
LE	Low energy (on *EXOSAT*)	1986 Feb
LED	Light-emitting diode	1989 Oct
LEDA	Lyon-Meudon extragalactic database	1995 Dec
LEO	Low-Earth-Orbit telecommunications satellite	1999 Apr
LEP	Large Electron–Positron Collider	1992 Jun
LF	Luminosity Function (lists by McCluskey *et al.*)	1976 Feb
LFT	Luyten 'Five Tenths' catalogue ($\mu > 0''.5$ per year)	1990 Aug
LG	Local Group	1995 Oct
LGM	Little Green Men (first pulsar catalogue)	1989 Dec
LHC	Large Hadron Collider	1995 Dec
LHS	Luyten Half-Second catalogue ($\mu > 0''.5$ per year)	2000 Dec
LIC	Local interstellar cloud	1994 Dec
LIGO	Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory	1996 Aug
LINEAR	Lincoln Near Earth Asteroid Research	1998 Aug
LINER	Low-ionization nuclear emission-line region	1997 Feb
LIRTS	Large InfraRed Telescope in Space	1978 Apr
LISA	Laser Interferometer Space Antenna	1994 Oct
LISM	Local interstellar medium	1992 Oct
LJMU	Liverpool John Moores University	1996 Dec
LMA	Large Millimetre Array	1998 Dec
LMC	Large Magellanic Cloud	1971 Jun
LMO	Low-mass object	1994 Dec
LMS	London Mathematical Society	1994 Aug
LMSA	Large Millimetre and Submillimetre Array	1998 Dec
LMT	Local Mean Time	1981 Feb
LMXB	Low-mass X-ray binary	1989 Aug
LOA	Large Optical Array	1998 Dec
LOSVD	Line-of-sight velocity distribution	2000 Apr
LPL	Lunar and Planetary Laboratory	1992 Aug
LPS	Low-pressure sodium (lamp)	1997 Aug
LRL	Lawrence Radiation Laboratory (Livermore)	1975 Jun
LRS	Low-Resolution Spectrometer (on *ISO*)	1995 Feb
LSA	Large Southern Array	1998 Dec

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
LSBG	Low-surface-brightness galaxy	1994 Aug
LSD	Lysergic acid diethylamide	1992 Apr
LSE	Luminous Stars Catalogue Extension	1998 Feb
LSI	Large-scale integrated circuit	1972 Aug
LSI	Luminous Stars Catalogue I	1995 Dec
LSR	Local standard of rest	1981 Aug
LSS	Luminous Southern Star Catalogue (Stephenson & Sanduleak)	1988 Jun
LSS	Last scattering surface	2000 Oct
LST	Large Space Telescope	1974 Oct
LT	Liverpool Telescope	1996 Dec
LT	Large Radio Telescope (China)	1998 Oct
LT	Lovell Telescope	2000 Dec
LTE	Local thermodynamic equilibrium	1971 Oct
LTP	Large Telescope Panel	1991 Feb
LTP	Last thermal pulse	1999 Apr
LTSR	Long Term Science Review	2000 Dec
LTT	Luyten 'Two-Tenths' catalogue of proper motions ($\mu > 0''.18$ per year)	1986 Dec
LTUP	Large Telescope Users Panel	1973 Apr
LW	Long wavelength	1991 Oct
LWP(R)	Long Wavelength Prime (Redundant) camera (on *IUE*)	1984 Feb
LWS	Long Wavelength Spectrometer (on *ISO*)	1996 Dec
MA	Master of Arts	1999 Aug
MACHO	Massive astronomical compact halo object	1994 Aug
MAMA	Multianode microchannel array	1984 Aug
MAP	Micro Abrasion Foil Package	1991 Jun
MAP	Microwave Anisotropy Probe	1996 Dec
MARCS	Model Atmospheres with Radiation and Convection Scheme	1998 Aug
MARTINI	Multi-Aperture Real-Time Image Normalization Instrument	1994 Aug
MAT	Microwave Anisotropy Telescope	2000 Aug
MAU	Million accounting units (ESA)	1997 Feb
MAXIMA	Millimeter Anisotropy Experiment Imaging Array	2000 Aug
MBE	Member of the (Order of the) British Empire	2000 Dec
MBR	Microwave background radiation	1996 Dec
MBX	MIT X-ray burst source	1994 Dec
MCV	Magnetic cataclysmic variable	1999 Dec
MCW	Morgan, Code & Whitford catalogue (*ApJS*, **2**, 41, 1955)	1973 Feb
MDI	Michelson Doppler Imager	1996 Dec
MDM	Mixed dark matter	1997 Dec
MDS	Medium-deep survey (on *HST*)	1993 Aug
ME	Medium energy (on *EXOSAT*)	1986 Feb
MEM	Maximum-entropy method	1980 Apr
MEMS	Micro-electro-mechanical systems	1999 Apr
MEO	Medium-Earth-Orbit telecoms satellite	1999 Apr
MERIT	Monitor Earth Rotation and Intercompare Techniques	1980 Aug
MERLIN	Multi-Element Radio Linked Interferometer Network	1982 Aug
MHD	Magnetohydrodynamics	1975 Aug
MICHELLE	Mid-infrared spectrometer and imager (not acronym)	2000 Dec
MIDAS	Missile Detection and Alarm System (US satellite)	1986 Apr
MIDAS	Munich Image Data Analysis System	1989 Aug
MIGO	Matter-wave Interferometric Gravitational-wave Observatory	1996 Aug
MIMIC	VAX station display system	1990 Jun
MINT	Millimetre Interferometer (CMB experiment)	2000 Aug
MIST	Magnetosphere Ionosphere and Solar-Terrestrial (physics)	1981 Apr
MIT	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	1971 Jun
MJD	Modified Julian Day	1975 Feb
MJUO	Mount John University Observatory (New Zealand)	1992 Aug
MK(K)	Morgan Keenan (Kellman) (classification system)	1971 Feb
MKSA	SI system of units (Metre, Kilogramme, Second, Ampere)	1991 Feb
MKW	Morgan, Kayser & White galaxy cat. (*ApJ*, **199**, 545, 1975)	1985 Dec
MMA	Millimetre Array	1998 Dec
MMR	Mean-motion resonance	2000 Apr
MMT	Multi(ple)-Mirror Telescope	1981 Oct
MMX	Multi-Media Extension (for computers)	1997 Dec

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
MOP	Microwave Observing Project (SETI)	1992 Aug
MORO	Moon Orbiting Observatory	1997 Feb
MOSAIC	Camera (on *WHT*) (not acronym)	2000 Dec
MOSFET	Metal oxide semiconductor field-effect transistor	1983 Oct
MOST	Molonglo Observatory Synthesis Telescope	1991 Apr
MOU	Memorandum of understanding	2000 Dec
MP	Member of Parliament	1986 Aug
MP	Modular Photometer	2000 Feb
MPC	Monitor Proportional Counter (on *Einstein*)	1996 Aug
MPC	Minor Planet Center	1999 Oct
MPE	MPE instrument (on *ROSAT*)	1988 Jun
MPE	Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics	1996 Dec
MPI	Max Planck Institute (Germany)	1979 Aug
MPIA	Max Planck Institut für Astronomie	1992 Dec
MPIAe	Max Planck Institut für Aeronomie	2000 Jun
MPIfR	Max Planck Institut für Radioastronomie	1991 Apr
MPIK	Max Planck Institut für Kernphysik	1999 Apr
MRAO	Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory	1971 Oct
MRC	Molonglo Reference Catalogue of radio sources	1991 Apr
MRC	Medical Research Council	1998 Oct
MS	Main sequence	1995 Aug
MS-DOS	Microsoft Disk Operating System	1989 Oct
MSA	Millennium Star Atlas	1999 Apr
MSF	Atomic time signal from Rugby	1983 Jun
MSH	Mills, Slee & Hill catalogue (*Aust J Phys*, **11**, 360, 1958; **13**, 676, 1960; **14**, 497, 1961)	1972 Aug
MSI	Medium-scale integrated circuit	1972 Aug
MSP	Millisecond pulsar	2000 Apr
MSSL	Mullard Space Science Laboratory	1972 Dec
MSSSO	Mount Stromlo & Siding Spring Observatory	1998 Feb
MST	Mesosphere, stratosphere, and troposphere (radar)	1989 Dec
MST	Minimal spanning tree	1997 Dec
MSW	Mikheyev-Smirnov-Wolfenstein (model for neutrino oscillations)	1990 Jun
MSX	Midcourse Space Experiment	2000 Jun
MT	Magnetotelluric	2000 Jun
MTF	Modulation-transfer function	1979 Jun
MTRLI	Multi-Telescope Radio-Linked Interferometer (Jodrell Bank)	1981 Apr
MUPUS	Multi-Purpose Sensors for Surface and Sub-Surface Science (on *Rosetta*)	1999 Feb
MVS	Mixed-variable symplectic	2000 Apr
MWBR	Microwave background radiation	1989 Apr
MWO	Mount Wilson Observatory	2000 Oct
MX	MIT/OSO7 catalogue of X-ray sources (*ApJS*, **39**, 573, 1979)	1976 Aug
MXRP	A VLSI chip (on *Cluster*)	1996 Jun
NAE	Nuclear Astrophysics Explorer	1990 Jun
NAG	Numerical Algorithms Group	1993 Aug
NAM	National Astronomy Meeting	1992 Dec
NAO	Nautical Almanac Office (see also HMNAO)	1999 Aug
NAOMI	Nasmyth Adaptive Optics for Multi-Purpose Instrumentation (on *WHT*)	2000 Apr
NAS	National Academy of Sciences (US)	1997 Jun
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration (US)	1972 Apr
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization	1972 Aug
NBC	National Broadcasting Corporation	1995 Oct
NBS	National Bureau of Standards (US)	1971 Dec
NDA	Nançay Decametre Array	1996 Aug
NDAC	Northern Data Analysis Consortium	1988 Dec
NEA	Near-Earth asteroid	1999 Oct
NEAB	Northern Examinations and Assessment Board	1997 Feb
NEAT	Near-Earth Asteroid Tracking	1998 Aug
NED	NASA Extragalactic Database	1995 Feb
NELG	Narrow emission-line galaxies	1998 Dec

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
NELPAG	New England Light Pollution Advisory Group	1997 Aug
NEO	Near-Earth object	1999 Oct
NERC	Natural Environment Research Council	1974 Dec
NFRA	Netherlands Foundation for Research in Astronomy	1995 Aug
NGC	New General Catalogue	1971 Feb
NGS	Natural Guide Star system (on *Gemini*)	1995 Dec
NGST	Next Generation Space Telescope	1998 Oct
NHM	Natural History Museum	1999 Dec
NHO	Northern Hemisphere Observatory	1974 Dec
NIC	Near Infrared Camera (on *HST*)	1995 Feb
NICMOS	Near-Infrared Camera and Multi-Object Spectrograph (on *HST*)	1998 Jun
NIMBUS	Satellite name (not acronym)	1974 Dec
NIMS	Navy Ionospheric Monitoring System	1999 Aug
NIMS	Near Infrared Mapping Spectrometer (on *Galileo*)	1994 Jun
NIS	Normal Incidence Spectrometer (on *SOHO CDS*)	2000 Aug
NIST	National Institute for Standards and Technology (US)	2000 Oct
NIXT	Normal Incidence X-ray Telescope	1992 Feb
NJL	Niss, Jorgensen & Laustsen (for ω Cen) (*A&AS*, **32**, 387, 1978)	1989 Jun
NLS	Narrow-line Seyfert	1996 Aug
NLTE	Non-local thermodynamic equilibrium	1984 Oct
NLXG	Narrow-emission-line X-ray luminous galaxies	1996 Feb
NML	Neugebauer-Martz-Leighton catalogue of IR sources	1971 Oct
NMM	National Maritime Museum (UK)	1974 Dec
NOAO	National Optical Astronomy Observatories (US)	1988 Jun
NORSAR	Norwegian seismic research foundation	1999 Jun
NOT	Nordic Optical Telescope	1990 Apr
NP	NRAO pulsar	1973 Oct
NPOI	Navy Prototype Optical Interferometer	1998 Dec
NSP	Night-sky photometer	1982 Dec
NRAL	National Radio Astronomy Laboratory (UK)	1992 Dec
NRAO	National Radio Astronomy Observatory (US)	1972 Aug
NRC	National Research Council (Canada)	1979 Aug
NRDC	National Resources Defense Council (US)	1989 Apr
NRL	Naval Research Laboratory (US)	1972 Dec
NRM	Natural remanent magnetization	1991 Jun
NRPB	National Radiological Protection Board (UK)	1993 Oct
NSBF	National Scientific Balloon Facility (US)	2000 Oct
NSERC	National Science and Engineering Research Council (Canada)	1982 Aug
NSF	National Science Foundation (US)	1974 Jun
NSI	Near-stellar image	1994 Jun
NSV	Newly Suspected Variable	1991 Jun
NSW	New South Wales	1991 Aug
NSZ	Non-sterile zone	1996 Dec
NTT	New Technology Telescope	1981 Oct
NURO	National Undergraduate Research Observatory (US)	1996 Dec
NUT	Newman, Tamburino & Unti metric (*J.Math.Phys*, **4**, 915, 1963)	1999 Aug
NVSS	NRAO VLA Sky Survey	1998 Dec
NYAC	New York Astronomical Consortium	1993 Aug
NZST	New Zealand Standard Time	1973 Feb
OAO-C	Orbiting Astronomical Observatory — C (*Copernicus*)	1974 Feb
OASES	Ocean Acoustics & Seismic Exploration Synthesis	1998 Oct
OASIS	Optical Adaptive System for Imaging Spectroscopy	2000 Dec
OBC	On-board computer	1997 Aug
OBE	Order of the British Empire	1976 Oct
OCA	Observatoire Côte d'Azur	1999 Oct
OCIW	Observatories of the Carnegie Institution of Washington	1997 Dec
ODE	Ordinary differential equation	1995 Oct
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development	1994 Aug
OED	Oxford English Dictionary	1981 Aug
OGLE	Optical Gravitational Lensing Experiment	1994 Dec
OGO	Orbiting Geophysical Observatory	1971 Apr
OHP	Observatoire de Haute-Provence	1975 Oct

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
OIM	A PPARC review team (?)	1995 Dec
OJ	Ohio survey of North Galactic Polar Region (*AJ*, **72**, 536, 1967; **80**, 759, 1975)	1973 Aug
OMC	Orion Molecular Cloud	1975 Oct
ONS	Old, isolated neutron stars	1995 Dec
OP	Opacity Project	1992 Jun
OPAL	An opacity project at Livermore Lab.	1992 Jun
ORAC	Observatory Reduction and Acquisition Control	2000 Apr
OS	Ordnance Survey	1971 Aug
OSO	Orbiting Solar Observatory	1975 Aug
OSSE	Oriented Scintillation Spectrometer Experiment	1994 Feb
OST	Office of Science and Technology	1995 Dec
OTAC	Observation Time Allocation Committee (for *ISO*)	1996 Dec
OTF	Optical transfer function	1972 Dec
OUP	Oxford University Press	1991 Jun
OVV	Optically violent variable	1975 Aug
OWL	Overwhelmingly Large Telescope	2000 Dec
PA	Position angle	1991 Aug
PACC	Professional-Amateur Co-ordinating Committee	1989 Feb
PACS	Photometer Array Camera and Spectrometer	2000 Oct
PAH	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon	1987 Aug
PASSCAL	Program for the Array Seismic Studies of the Continental Lithosphere	1996 Jun
PATT	Panel for the Allocation of Telescope Time	1977 Jun
PBFD	Poisson-Boltzmann-Fermi-Dirac equation	1999 Aug
PBL	Planetary boundary layer	1989 Aug
PC	Personal computer	1986 Aug
PCA	Photon-counting array	1990 Dec
PCA	Principal component analysis	1997 Aug
PCO	Polar Cap Observatory	1998 Aug
PD	Potsdam Durchmusterung	1984 Apr
PDF	Probability distribution function	1993 Apr
PDF	Portable Document Format	1999 Feb
PDM	Phase dispersion minimization	1989 Jun
PDR	Photon-dominated region	1993 Aug
PDRA	Post-doctoral research assistant	1988 Jun
PDS	Photometric Data Systems	1976 Jun
PDS	Power density spectrum	1997 Oct
PEP	Photoelectric photometry	1992 Aug
PEPSIOS	Poly Ethalon Pressure Swept Interferometric Optical Spectrometer	1972 Oct
PFUEI	Prime Focus Universal Extragalactic Instrument	1983 Oct
PG	Palomar Green survey	1986 Apr
PHA	Potentially hazardous asteroid	1999 Oct
PHL	Palomar-Haro-Luyten cat. of blue stellar objects	1971 Dec
PHT	Photopolarimeter (on *ISO*)	1996 Dec
PI	Principal investigator	1981 Apr
PILOT	Panel on Instrumentation for Large Optical Telescopes	1971 Jun
PIPSS	PPARC Industrial Programme Support Scheme	1995 Dec
PKS	Parkes (radio source catalogue)	1971 Dec
PL	Period–luminosity relationship	1988 Aug
PLA	Period–luminosity–amplitude relationship	1987 Jun
PLANET	Probing Lensing Anomalies Network	1999 Oct
PLC	Period–luminosity–colour relationship	1987 Jun
PMS	Pre-main sequence	1996 Feb
PMSE	Polar mesospheric summer echoes	1997 Dec
PMT	Photomultiplier tube	1995 Apr
PN	Planetary nebula	1992 Aug
POINTS	Precision Optical Interferometry in Space	1991 Feb
POLAR	Magnetosphere research satellite (not acronym)	1998 Jun
POM	Polyoxymethylene	1993 Aug
POSS	Palomar Observatory Sky Survey	1971 Dec
PP	Proton-proton fusion reaction	1995 Dec
PPARC	Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council	1994 Aug

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
PPM	Position and Proper Motion catalogue	1989 Dec
PPN	Parameterized Post-Newtonian formalism	1997 Dec
PRA	Planetary Radio Astronomy experiment (on *Voyager*)	1995 Apr
PRD	Partial re-distribution	1993 Feb
PREM	Preliminary Reference Earth Model	1991 Dec
PRISMA	Probing the Rotation and Interior of Stars: Microvariability and Activity	1993 Feb
PRO	Public relations officer	1991 Dec
PSAB	Particles, Space and Astronomy Board	1994 Oct
PSC(z)	IRAS Point Source Catalogue (complete z sample)	1998 Jun
PSF	Point-spread function	1979 Jun
PSPC	Position Sensitive Proportional Counter (on *XRT*)	1991 Dec
PSR	Parkes Selected Region (radio source catalogue)	1972 Aug
PSS	Packet switched services	1985 Aug
PSS	Palomar Sky Survey	1990 Apr
PSTF	Projected symmetric and trace-free (tensor method)	1994 Dec
PTFE	Polytetrafluoroethylene	1989 Oct
PUS(T)	Public understanding of science (and technology)	1995 Dec
PVC	Poly-vinyl chloride	1989 Oct
PVO	Pioneer Venus Orbiter	1985 Oct
PZT	Photographic Zenith Tube	1971 Aug
QCOD	QMC, Cambridge, Oxford, Durham survey	1994 Aug
QDOT	QMW, Durham, Oxford and Toronto survey team	1992 Jun
QE	Quantum efficiency	1982 Apr
QED	Quantum electrodynamics	1997 Jun
QFT	Quantum field theory	1997 Dec
QM(W)C	Queen Mary (and Westfield) College (University of London)	1973 Oct
QPO	Quasi-periodic oscillation	1987 Apr
QSO	Quasi-stellar object	1971 Feb
QSSC	Quasi-steady-state cosmology	2000 Dec
QUARRY	Quabbin Array (mm-wave array receiver)	1995 Dec
QUASAT	Quasar Satellite	1990 Jun
QUB	Queen's University, Belfast	1996 Oct
RA	Right ascension	1971 Feb
RAE	Royal Aircraft Establishment	1978 Oct
RAF	Royal Air Force	1988 Apr
RAL	Rutherford Appleton Laboratory	1982 Aug
RAM	Random-access memory	1989 Oct
RAS	Royal Astronomical Society	1971 Feb
RASC	Royal Astronomical Society of Canada	1990 Dec
RATAN	Radio Astronomical Telescope Academy Nauk	1994 Oct
RCA	Radio Corporation of America	1973 Feb
RCB	R Coronae Borealis star	1989 Jun
RCW	Rodgers, Campbell & Whiteoak catalogue of Hα emission (*MNRAS*, **121**, 103, 1960)	1974 Feb
RE	ROSAT EUV source (*MNRAS*, **260**, 77, 1993)	1994 Oct
REOSC	Optics divison of French company SAGEM	1995 Dec
RFC	Royal Fine Arts Commission	1999 Aug
RGO	Royal Greenwich Observatory	1971 Oct
RHS	Right-hand side	1988 Oct
RIAP	Research Institute on Anomalous Phenomena (Ukraine)	1994 Aug
RIXOS	ROSAT International X-ray/Optical Survey	1996 Dec
RM	Rotation measure	1992 Jun
RMC	Rotation Modulation Collimator (on *Ariel V*)	1976 Apr
RMT	Revised Multiplet Table	1971 Jun
RN	Royal Navy	1974 Jun
RNA	Ribonucleic acid	1990 Feb
RNO	Red nebulous object catalogue (*AJ*, **85**, 29, 1980)	1986 Jun
ROA	Royal Observatory Annals	1989 Jun
ROE	Royal Observatory Edinburgh	1973 Apr
ROG	Royal Observatory Greenwich	2000 Apr
ROM	Read-only memory	1992 Jun

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
ROSAT	Röntgen Satellit	1982 Aug
ROTA	Review of Time Allocation panel	1993 Feb
ROY	A Russian multi-spacecraft mission	2000 Jun
RPCS	Reticon Photon Counting System	1983 Aug
RPM	Reduced proper motion	2000 Dec
RPWS	Radio and Plasma Wave Science (on *Cassini*)	1999 Feb
RQE	Readout quantum efficiency	1986 Apr
RRE	Radar Research Establishment (Malvern)	1971 Oct
RRS	Royal Research Ship	1982 Oct
RS	Royal Society	1988 Jun
RSG	Red supergiant	1994 Aug
RTC	Reversible Transit Circle	1971 Aug
RV	Radial velocity	1972 Aug
RXTE	Rossi X-ray Timing Explorer	1997 Aug
SAAM	Search for Alien Artifacts on the Moon	1993 Dec
SAAO	South African Astronomical Observatory	1975 Feb
SABRE	Sweden and Britain Radar Experiment	1988 Apr
SAE	Stamped and addressed envelope	1990 Jun
SAGE	Soviet-American Germanium Experiment	1992 Dec
SAGE	Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment	1994 Aug
SALT	Strategic Arms Limitation Talks	1988 Dec
SALT	Southern African Large Telescope	2000 Dec
SAM	Stratospheric Aerosol Measurement	1994 Aug
SAMBA	Satellite to Measure Background Anisotropies	1995 Aug
SAO	Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory	1972 Jun
SAP	Strong anthropic principle	1982 Apr
SAR	Synthetic aperture radar	2000 Oct
SAS	Small Astronomy Satellite	1975 Jun
SAX	Satellite per Astronomia X	1991 Feb
SB	Spectroscopic binary	1983 Jun
SBBN	Standard Big Bang nucleosynthesis	1998 Dec
SBIG	Santa Barbara Instrument Group	1996 Dec
SCAP	Standing Committee of Astronomy Professors	1998 Dec
SCLERA	Santa Catalina Laboratory for Experimental Relativity by Astrometry	1976 Jun
SCOPE	Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment	1987 Jun
SCOSTEP	Special Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics	1979 Apr
SCOT	Science Committee for Optical Telescopes	1981 Apr
SCUBA	Submillimetre Common User Bolometer Array	1995 Aug
SDAC	Solar Data Analysis Center (GSFC)	1995 Dec
SDI	Strategic Defense Initiative	1986 Jun
SEA	Sudden enhancement of atmospherics	1971 Dec
SEA	Small Earth-approaching asteroid	1997 Dec
SEB	South Equatorial Belt (on Jupiter)	1995 Aug
SEC	Secondary electron conduction	1978 Oct
SECIS	Solar Eclipse Coronal Imaging System	1999 Dec
SEI	Sobolev with exact integration	1994 Dec
SERC	Science and Engineering Research Council (UK)	1982 Feb
SERTS	Solar EUV Rocket Instrument and Spectrograph	1994 Aug
SETI	Search for extra-terrestrial intelligence	1983 Apr
SETT	Search for extra-terrestrial technology	1992 Aug
SFH	Star-formation history	2000 Apr
SFSU	San Francisco State University	2000 Feb
SGC	South Galactic Cap	2000 Dec
SGD	Solar-geophysical data	1996 Aug
SGP	South Galactic Pole	1974 Aug
SI	Système Internationale (for units)	1977 Feb
SID	Sudden ionospheric disturbance	1971 Dec
SIGMA	Système d'Imagene Gamma à Masque Aléatoire	1990 Jun
SIM	Space Interferometry Mission	1999 Jun
SIMBAD	Set of Identifications, Measurements and Bibliography for Astronomical Data	1989 Dec
SIPRI	Stockholm International Peace Research Institute	1986 Apr
SIRM	Saturation isothermal remanent magnetization	1991 Jun

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
SIRTF	Space Infrared Telescope Facility	1987 Jun
SIS	Superconductor-insulator-superconductor	1992 Feb
SISSA	Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati	1998 Oct
SJ	Society of Jesus (Jesuits)	1973 Jun
SKB	Slettebak, Keenan & Brundage catalogue (*AJ*, **74**, 373, 1969)	1977 Jun
SLR	Satellite laser ranger	1986 Aug
SLS	Stephenson & Sanduleak catalogue (*Publ. W. & S. Obs.*, **1**, 1971)	1977 Jun
SLUGS	SCUBA Local Universe and Galaxy Survey	2000 Apr
SMA	Submillimetre Array	2000 Dec
SMART	Small Missions for Advanced Research in Technology (ESA)	2000 Jun
SMBH	Super-massive black holes	1988 Dec
SMC	Small Magellanic Cloud	1971 Jun
SME	Solar Mesosphere Explorer	1986 Jun
SMEX	Small Explorer	1992 Dec
SMM	Solar Maximum Mission	1980 Apr
SN	Supernova	1971 Oct
SNC	Shergotty, Nakhla, Chassigny class of meteorite	1997 Jun
SNR	Supernova remnant	1975 Oct
SNU	Solar neutrino unit	1990 Jun
SOC	Self-organized criticality	2000 Apr
SODART	Soviet Danish Röntgen Telescope	1990 Jun
SOFIA	Stratospheric Observatory for Far-Infrared Astronomy	1992 Apr
SOHO	Solar and Heliospheric Observatory	1988 Jun
SOI	Solar Oscillation Investigation	1996 Dec
SOUP	Solar Optical Universal Polarimeter	1989 Feb
SPAN	Space Physics Analysis Network	1990 Dec
SPC	Science Policy Committee (ESA)	1997 Aug
SPGC	Space Policy and Grants Committee	1974 Dec
SPH	Smoothed particle hydrodynamics	1998 Apr
SPICA	System for Programmable Interactive Computer Analysis	1986 Feb
SPICE	Spectro-Photometric Infrared Celestial Explorer	1995 Dec
SPIE	Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers	1983 Dec
SPIRAL	Segmented Pupil/Image Reformatting Array Lenslets	2000 Feb
SPIRE	Spectral and Photometric Imaging Receiver	2000 Oct
SPIRIT-III	Spatial Infrared Imaging Telescope	2000 Jun
SPOT	Satellite Pour l'Observation de la Terre	1994 Aug
SRC	Science Research Council	1971 Feb
SRCBG	Second Reference Catalogue of Bright Galaxies	1988 Feb
SRS	Southern Reference Stars	1976 Dec
SS	Stephenson Sanduleak (see also SLS)	1980 Apr
SSAC	Space Science Advisory Committee (ESA)	1997 Feb
SSC	Synchrotron self-Compton	1989 Aug
SSC	XMM Science Survey Centre	1998 Dec
SSC	Superconducting Super Collider (US)	1998 Dec
SSD	Sub-solar disturbance	1977 Dec
SSM	Standard solar model	1997 Aug
SSP	Surface Science Package (on *Huygens*)	1999 Feb
SSR	A type of amplifier (?)	1975 Dec
ST	Small transit	1971 Aug
STARE	Scandinavian Twin Auroral Radar Experiment	1992 Dec
STARS	Asteroseismology satellite (ESA)	1994 Apr
STECF	Space Telescope European Coordinating Facility	1986 Feb
STEP	Satellite Test of the Equivalence Principle	1995 Dec
STEP	Solar-Terrestrial Energy Program	1992 Dec
STEREO	Solar Terrestrial Relations Observatory	2000 Aug
STIP	Study of Travelling Interplanetary Phenomena	1979 Apr
STIS	Space Telescope Imaging Spectrograph	1995 Feb
STOMP	Software Teaching of Modular Physics	1998 Dec
STP	Solar-terrestrial physics	1992 Dec
STS	Space Transportation System	1987 Apr
STScI	Space Telescope Science Institute	1991 Jun
STV	Small target visibility	1997 Feb
SUMER	Solar Ultraviolet Measurement of Emitted Radiation	1992 Feb
SUSI	Sydney University Stellar Interferometer	1995 Jun

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
SUSY	Super Symmetry	1999 Aug
SW	Short wavelength	1991 Oct
SW	Solar wind	1992 Oct
SWA	Solar Wind Analyser (on *AMPTE*)	1996 Aug
SWAN	Solar Wind Anisotropies (on *SOHO*)	1996 Dec
SWARM	A Russian multi-spacecraft mission	2000 Jun
SWE	Solar Wind Experiment (on *AMPTE*)	1996 Aug
SWICS	Solar Wind Ion Composition Spectrometer (on *Ulysses*)	1993 Jun
SWP(R)	Short Wavelength Prime (Redundant) camera (on *IUE*)	1984 Feb
SWS	Short Wavelength Spectrometer (on *ISO*)	1996 Dec
SXT	Soft-X-ray Telescope (on *Yohkoh*)	1993 Jun
SXT	Soft-X-ray transients	1995 Aug
StAP	St. Andrews Photometer	2000 Feb
TAC	Time Allocation Committee	1996 Dec
TAG	Time Allocation Group	1993 Feb
TAI	International Atomic Time	1979 Jun
TAMS	Terminal-age main sequence	1992 Oct
TARDIS	Time and Relative Dimensions In Space (from *Dr. Who*)	1997 Dec
TAU	Tel Aviv University satellite	1998 Apr
TAURUS	Taylor-Atherton Variable-resolution Radial Velocity System	1991 Feb
TC	Taurid Complex asteroids	1992 Jun
TC	Technical Commission (CIE)	1997 Feb
TD	Dynamical time	1979 Jun
TDAC	Tycho Data Analysis Consortium	1998 Jun
TDT	Terrestrial Dynamical Time	2000 Feb
TEC	Total electron content	1999 Aug
TEM	Transient electromagnetic	2000 Jun
TF	Tully-Fisher	1994 Aug
TGS	Transmission Grating Spectrometer (on *EXOSAT*)	1993 Feb
TGV	Train Grand Vitesse	1994 Dec
THEMIS	Thermal Emission Imaging System (for *Mars 2001 Odyssey* orbiter)	1999 Oct
TI	Threshold increment	1997 Feb
TID	Travelling ionospheric disturbance	1999 Aug
TIROS	Television and Infrared Observation Satellite	1985 Oct
TLP	Transient lunar phenomenon	1983 Aug
TMC	Taurus Molecular Cloud	1984 Jun
TMR	Training and Mobility of Researchers	2000 Dec
TNT	Tri-nitro toluene	1989 Apr
TOAD	Tremendous outburst amplitude dwarf nova	1999 Oct
TOE	Theory of Everything	1995 Jun
TOMS	Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer	1989 Apr
TOPS	Towards Other Planetary Systems	1993 Jun
TPF	Terrestrial Planet Finder	2000 Aug
TRACE	Transition Region and Coronal Explorer	1998 Oct
TRC	Tycho Reference Catalogue	2000 Jun
TRO	Thermal-relaxation-oscillation theory	1996 Apr
TTBT	Threshold Test Ban Treaty	1989 Apr
TTM	X-ray camera on Mir (= COMIS Coded Mask Imaging Spectrometer)	1988 Jun
TV	Television	1971 Jun
TZA	Truncated Zel'dovich approximation	1996 Feb
TopHat	Balloon-based CMB experiment	2000 Aug
UARS	Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite	1993 Feb
UCD	University College Dublin	1972 Dec
UCG	University College Galway	1999 Aug
UCL	University College London	1975 Apr
UCLA	University of California at Los Angeles	1986 Oct
UCLES	UCL Echelle Spectrograph	1994 Dec
UCLES	University of Cambridge Local Exams Syndicate	1997 Feb
UCSD	University of California at San Diego	1972 Dec
UCT	University of Cape Town	1996 Jun
UD	Uniform disc	1996 Aug
UES	Utrecht Echelle Spectrograph (on *WHT*)	2000 Apr

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
UFC	University Funding Committee	1989 Dec
UFO	Unidentified flying object	1976 Jun
UFTI	UKIRT Fast-Track Imager	2000 Apr
UGC	University Grants Committee	1974 Dec
UGC	Uppsala General Catalogue of galaxies	1984 Apr
UHE	Ultra-high energy	1988 Apr
UHF	Ultra-high frequency	1981 Apr
UHRF	Ultra-High-Resolution Facility	1994 Dec
UHURU	Swahili for 'Freedom'; not an acronym	1972 Dec
UIR	Unidentified infrared bands	1987 Aug
UIST	UKIRT Imaging Spectrometer	2000 Apr
UK	United Kingdom	1971 Feb
UKATC	UK Astronomy Technology Centre	1996 Jun
UKC	University of Kent at Canterbury	1999 Feb
UKIRT	UK Infrared Telescope	1978 Jun
UKLT	United Kingdom Large Telescope	1990 Jun
UKMT	UK Millimetre-wave Telescope (=JCMT)	1982 Jun
UKS	UK Satellite (=AMPTE)	1985 Jun
UKST(U)	United Kingdom Schmidt Telescope (Unit)	1982 Feb
ULDA	Uniform Low Dispersion Archive	1991 Jun
ULE	Ultra-low expansion	1995 Dec
ULF	Ultra-low frequency	1982 Apr
ULIRG	Ultra-luminous infrared galaxy	1997 Oct
ULOR	Upward light output ratio	1997 Feb
ULTRADAS	'Ultra' Data Acquisition System (for ING)	2000 Apr
UM	University of Michigan list of emission-line objects	1995 Oct
UMIST	University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology	1972 Oct
UNAM	Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico	1995 Aug
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization	1971 Aug
UNIX	Computer operating system	1989 Aug
UPS	University Printing Services	1999 Dec
URAP	Unified Radio and Plasma experiment (on *Ulysses*)	1995 Apr
URCA	Process of energy removal by neutrinos (named after Urca casino in Rio de Janeiro)	1997 Oct
URL	Uniform Resource Locator	1996 Oct
URSI	Union Radio Scientifique Internationale	1973 Apr
US	United States	1971 Feb
USA	United States of America	1972 Jun
USAF	United States Air Force	1975 Oct
USGS	United States Geological Survey	1976 Dec
USNO	United States Naval Observatory	1979 Aug
USS	United States Ship	1983 Feb
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1971 Feb
UT	Universal Time	1971 Aug
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time	1974 Aug
UUC	University of Ulster at Coleraine	1998 Jun
UV	Ultraviolet	1971 Jun
UVAS	Ultraviolet Astronomical Satellite	1978 Oct
UVCS	Ultraviolet Coronagraph Spectrometer	1996 Dec
UVSP	Ultraviolet Spectrometer and Polarimeter	1998 Aug
UVX	Ultraviolet excess	1991 Aug
UoP	University of Pennsylvania	1991 Aug
VAT	Value Added Tax	1995 Aug
VDU	Visual display unit	1978 Jun
VERITAS	Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System	1999 Jun
VERTIC	Verification, Research, Training & Information Centre	1992 Dec
VGP	Virtual geomagnetic pole	1997 Aug
VHF	Very high frequency	1978 Oct
VILSPA	Villafranca del Castillo, Spain (ESA tracking station)	1984 Feb
VIP	Very important person	1994 Feb
VIRGO	Variability of (Solar) Irradiance and Gravity Oscillations	1996 Apr
VISTA	Visible and Infrared Survey Telescope for Astronomy	2000 Apr
VLA	Very Large Array (US)	1981 Jun

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
VLBA	Very Long Baseline Array	1996 Aug
VLBI	Very long-baseline interferometry	1973 Oct
VLF	Very low frequency	1990 Aug
VLSI	Very large scale integration (chip)	1996 Jun
VLT	Very Large Telescope	1988 Jun
VLTI	Very Large Telescope Interferometer	2000 Dec
VMO	Very massive object	1998 Dec
VMS	Virtual Memory System	1989 Aug
VSA	Very Small Array	1988 Jun
VSG	Very small grains	1987 Aug
VSOP	VLBI Space Observatory Programme	1998 Jun
VSS	Variable Star Section (BAA)	1992 Aug
VST	VLT Survey Telescope	2000 Oct
VUV	Visual and ultraviolet	1981 Apr
VVO	Van Vleck Observatory	1997 Feb
W	Westerhout radio continuum survey (*BAN*, **14**, 215, 1958)	1973 Oct
WAP	Weak anthropic principle	1982 Apr
WAM	Wave modelling	1993 Feb
WARPS	Wide-Angle ROSAT Pointed Survey	2000 Apr
WBS	Wide-Band Spectrometer (on *Yohkoh*)	1993 Jun
WCS	Wavelength coincidence statistics	1987 Oct
WD	White dwarf	1988 Apr
WD	Wilson-Devinney	2000 Apr
WDC	World Data Centre	1987 Jun
WDS	Washington Double Star catalogue	1997 Apr
WENSS	Westerbork Northern Sky Survey	1998 Dec
WET	Whole Earth Telescope	1992 Apr
WFC	Wide-Field Camera (on *ROSAT*)	1990 Jun
WFCAM	Wide-Field Camera	2000 Apr
WFPC	Wide-field/Planetary Camera (on *HST*)	1993 Aug
WG	Working Group	1997 Oct
WGS	World Geodetic System	1998 Apr
WHAM	Wisconsin H-alpha Mapper	2000 Apr
WHIRCAM	William Herschel Infrared Camera	1999 Aug
WHT	William Herschel Telescope	1988 Jun
WIMP	Weakly-interacting massive particle	1988 Dec
WIND	Solar wind spacecraft (not acronym)	2000 Jun
WINK	Eclipsing-binary light-curve analysis program	1994 Jun
WIRE	Wide-field Infrared Explorer	2000 Jun
WISP	Wide-field Imaging Survey Polarimeter	1992 Dec
WKB	Wentzel, Kramers & Brillouin (ionosphere theory)	1989 Oct
WOMBAT	Wavelength-Oriented Microwave Background Analysis Team	2000 Aug
WR	Wolf Rayet	1971 Feb
WRESAT	Weapons Research Establishment Satellite (Australia)	1995 Feb
WSRT	Westerbork Synthesis Radio Telescope	1974 Dec
WTT	Weak-lined T Tauri stars	1995 Dec
WUPPE	Wisconsin Ultaviolet Photo-Polarimeter Experiment	1992 Dec
WW	World War	1999 Dec
WWW	World Wide Web	1995 Feb
WYFFOS	Wide-Field Fibre-Optic Spectrograph (on *WHT*)	1996 Dec
XBACS	X-ray Brightest Abell-type Clusters (survey)	1996 Dec
XEUS	X-ray Evolving Universe Spectroscopy Mission	1997 Aug
XMM	X-ray Multi-Mirror Mission	1990 Jun
XRB	X-ray background	1990 Apr
XRB	X-ray binary	1995 Aug
XRT	X-Ray Telescope (on *ROSAT*)	1991 Dec
XUV	X-ray-ultraviolet	1972 Aug
YPC	Yale Parallax Catalogue	1997 Apr
YSO	Young stellar object	1986 Jun
ZAMS	Zero-age main sequence	1971 Apr

Acronym	*Meaning*	*First appearance*
ZAZRMS	Zero-age, zero-rotation main sequence	1987 Feb
ZHR	Zenithal hourly rate	1999 Dec
ZoA	Zone of Avoidance	1995 Oct

Bibliographical Acronyms and Abbreviations

Bib. abbr./acr.	*Full reference*	*First appearance*
A & A	Astronomy & Astrophysics	1974 Feb
AJ	Astronomical Journal	1971 Feb
AN	Astronomische Nachrichten	1972 Feb
Ann HCO	Annals of the Harvard College Observatory	1975 Jun
Ann Phys	Annals of Physics	1971 Aug
Ann d'Ap	Annales d'Astrophysique	1971 Feb
Ap Lett	Astrophysical Letters	1971 Feb
ApJ	Astrophysical Journal	1971 Feb
ApJ Suppl	Astrophysical Journal Supplement Series	1971 Feb
Ark Astr	Arkiv för Astronomie	1975 Aug
Astr Zh	Soviet Astronomical Journal	1976 Apr
Astron J USSR	Astronomical Journal of the USSR	1971 Apr
BAAS	Bulletin of the American Astronomical Society	1975 Aug
BAC(zech)	Bulletin of the Astronomical Institutes of Czechoslovakia	1977 Apr
BAN	Bulletin of the Astronomical Institutes of the Netherlands	1971 Feb
BGC	Reference Catalogue of Bright Galaxies	1975 Aug
BIS Journal	British Interplanetary Society Journal	1985 Dec
BSAF	Bulletin de la Société Astronomique de France	1987 Dec
BSI	Bibliographic Star Index	1984 Aug
Bol Ton Tac	Boletin Obs. Tonanzintla y Tacubaya	1971 Jun
CAA	Chinese Astronomy & Astrophysics	1984 Feb
CR (Acad Sci)	Comptes Rendus	1974 Feb
Can J Phys	Canadian Journal of Physics	1971 Feb
ERA Report	An electrical research report (?)	1975 Oct
Erg AN	Ergganzungshefte zu den Astronomische Nachrichten	1971 Jun
GCRV	General Catalogue of Stellar Radial Velocities	1984 Feb
HA	Harvard Annals	1975 Oct
IAUC	IAU Circular	1976 Oct
IBVS	Information Bulletin on Variable Stars	1972 Dec
Izv VUZ Fiz (USSR)	Izvestia Vysshikh Uchebn. Zavedenii Fiz.	1972 Aug
J Chem Phys	Journal of Chemical Physics	1971 Feb
J Obs	Journal de Observateurs	1974 Feb
JA&A	Journal of Astrophysics & Astronomy	1993 Feb
JBAA	Journal of the British Astronomical Association	1972 Apr
JBIS	Journal of the British Interplanetary Society	1995 Apr
JETP	Journal of Experimental & Theoretical Physics (Russian)	1980 Oct
JGR	Journal of Geophysical Research	1978 Aug
JOSA	Journal of the Optical Society of America	1974 Dec
JQSRT	Journal of Quantitative Spectroscopy and Radiative Transfer	1971 Feb
JRAS Can	Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada	1973 Feb
LOB	Lick Observatory Bulletin	1976 Oct
MGC	Morphological Catalogue of Galaxies (Moscow)	1974 Dec
MN(RAS)	Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society	1971 Feb
MNASSA	Monthly Notices of the Astronomical Society of South Africa	1971 Feb
Mem RAS	Memoirs of the Royal Astronomical Society	1971 Feb
Min Mag	Mineralogical Magazine	1971 Apr
Mitt Ver Sterne	Mitteilungen uber Verändliche Sterne	1975 Feb
ONRAS	Occasional Notes of the RAS	1975 Jun
P(ubl) DAO	Publications of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory	1972 Aug
PAAS	Publications of the American Astronomical Society	1986 Apr
PAS Japan	Publications of the Astronomical Society of Japan	1973 Feb
PASP	Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific	1971 Feb
PDDO	Publications of the David Dunlap Observatory	1975 Jun
PLO	Publications of the Lick Observatory	1976 Oct
POH-P	Publications of the Observatoire de Haute-Provence	1976 Apr
Phys Rev	Physical Review	1971 Jun
Proc ASA	Proceedings of the Astronomical Society of Australia	1971 Jun
Proc IRE	Proceedings of the Institute of Radio Engineers	1973 Feb
Proc Roy Soc	Proceedings of the Royal Society	1971 Aug
Publ ROE	Publications of the Royal Observatory Edinburgh	1971 Feb
Publ USNO	Publications of the United States Naval Observatory	1972 Aug
QJ(RAS)	Quarterly Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society	1971 Feb

Bib. abbr./acr.	*Full reference*	*First appearance*
R Obs Bull	Royal Observatory Bulletins	1972 Feb
RNGC	Revised New General Catalogue of Non-stellar Astronomical Objects	1992 Apr
ROA(nnals)	Royal Observatory Annals	1971 Jun
ROB	Royal Observatory Bulletins	1971 Feb
Rev Mod Phys	Reviews of Modern Physics	1971 Feb
S & T	Sky & Telescope	1975 Dec
Soviet AJ	Soviet Astronomical Journal	1971 Feb
Z f Ap	Zeitschrift für Astrophysik	1971 Apr

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