Refining Results with Filters

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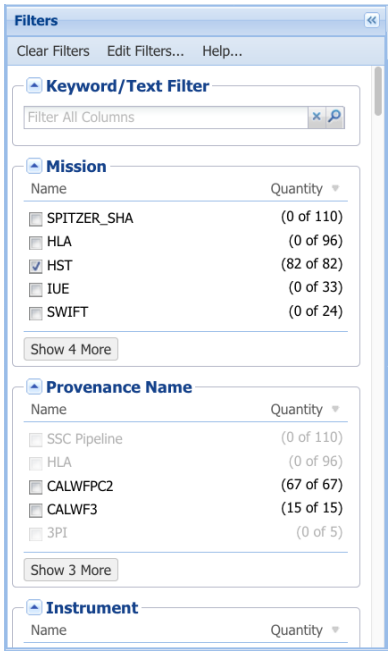
Filtering Results

After search results appear in the MAST Portal, it is possible to refine which results are displayed by applying filters. These are found in the Filters panel to the left of the search results table (as seen in the Field Guide to the Portal section). They are nearly identical to those available in the **Advanced Search** GUI. The main distinction is that filters applied during an advance search limit which results are *matched*, filters applied to the results table limit which results are *presented* in the table.



The Filters Panel enables users to add or remove additional filters to a set of search results.

Filters Panel

The **Filters Panel** enables a finer selection of matching observations using values or ranges of select metadata. This panel may be hidden by clicking the left double arrow  . Each filter can be hidden or unhidden by either clicking "*Edit Filters*" at the top, or clicking up/down arrows  next to each filter name.

Available Filters

Two filters available in addition to those found in Advanced Search include a Keyword/Text dialog, and a value slider for distance from the searched coordinates. A full list and descriptions for the overlapping filters can be found in the Advanced Search section.

The **Keyword/Text Filter** dialog near the top searches over all metadata values (including some values hidden from the user), and accepts case-insensitive regular expressions in Javascript format (see the w3schools definition of the RegExp object). For example:

- The expression `ngc` will match all records containing the string "ngc"
- The expression `ngc|m101` will find "ngc" or "m101"
- The expression `odk369fdq` will find this HST program identifier
- The expression `jw00797(011|-o011)` will match any Observation ID beginning with `jw00797` and continuing with either `011` or `-o011` followed by any other characters.

The **Distance Filter** will appear at the bottom of the Filters Panel for cone searches around given coordinates or target names. This can be used to set an upper and lower limit (in Arcseconds) to be used for the search radius around the central coordinates.

For Further Reading...

Related Topics

- Field Guide to the Portal
- Advanced Search
- Browsing Data

External References

- JavaScript RegEx reference