

**How long does it take light to travel from the Moon to the Earth, a distance of 384,000km?**

time = distance/speed (note the units work out to be units of time)

$$= 384,000\text{km}/300,000 \text{ km/sec}$$

$$= 384/300 \text{ seconds}$$

**A source emits infrared radiation at a wavelength of  $1060 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$ . What is the frequency of this radiation?**

$$\text{frequency} = \text{speed}/\text{wavelength} = (300,000\text{km/sec} \times 1000\text{m}/1\text{km}) / (1060 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m})$$

$$= (3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}) / (1060 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m})$$

$$= 3/1060 \times 10^{17} \text{ 1/s}$$

**The reason we experience different seasons is:**

The Earth's orbit around the Sun is an ellipse so sometimes we are closer to the Sun (summer in Santa Cruz) and sometimes further from the Sun (winter in Santa Cruz)

The Earth spins on its axis

The spin axis of the Earth around its center is tilted with respect to the orbital axis of the Earth around the Sun

The gravitation attraction of the moon changes throughout the year

**What color would a yellow banana slug appear if it is illuminated with white light?**

Yellow

**Suppose the particles in the Earth's atmosphere scattered red light effectively, but not blue light. Which of the following would be true, which false?**

The daylight sky looking away from the Sun would be black

The Sun would appear bluer than it does with our current atmosphere

The Greenhouse effect would no longer act to heat the Earth's atmosphere

At sunset the Sun's apparent color would be no different than the noontime Sun

**For a 2900K object, at what wavelength is the peak of the Plank radiation curve?  $\lambda_{\text{max}}(\text{cm}) = 0.29/2900$**

At what time does the new moon rise? Draw a figure to demonstrate your answer.

at Sunrise



Suppose you have a solid gold sphere and a solid silver sphere each at a temperature of 3000K. Label the following statements True(T) or False(F).

- X \_\_\_ The two spheres would have identical spectra
- \_\_\_ Both spheres would show identical absorption-line spectra
- \_\_\_ Both spheres would show continuous spectra with the silver sphere spectrum peaking at a shorter wavelength
- \_\_\_ The spheres would show different absorption-line spectra

Star A has twice the trigonometric parallax and twice the luminosity of Star B (assume no dust toward either star).

a) What is the relative distance of the two stars?

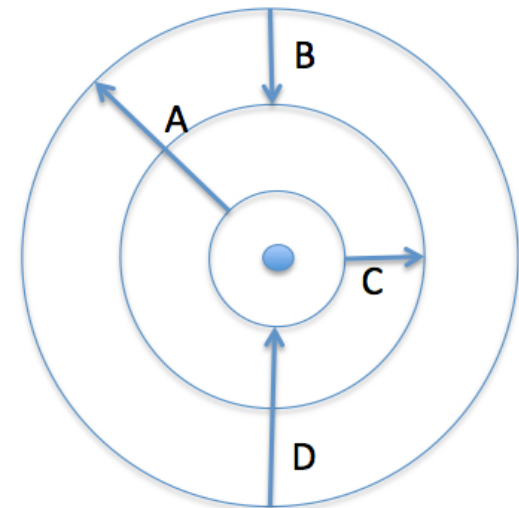
Star A is at  $\frac{1}{2}$  the distance of Star B

b) What is the relative brightness of the two stars?

Star B will be  $(\frac{1}{2})^2 = \frac{1}{4}$  as bright because it is twice as far away and it will be  $\frac{1}{2}$  as bright because it is half the luminosity so in total it will be  $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{8}$  as bright as Star A

Based on the schematic diagram below of the allowed energy levels in an atom:

- A,C \_\_\_ Which transition(s) correspond(s) to the absorption of a photo?
- B \_\_\_ Which transition corresponds to the lowest energy photon emitted?
- D \_\_\_ Which transition corresponds to the shortest wavelength photon emitted?
- B \_\_\_ Which transition corresponds to the lowest frequency photon emitted?



1. The Sun will eventually become which of the following (you can select more than one with a check mark)?

a neutron star

a  $0.6M_{\text{Sun}}$  main-sequence star

a SNII

a white dwarf

2. In the fusion of three helium<sup>4</sup> nuclei into a carbon<sup>12</sup> nucleus,  $1.3 \times 10^{-28}$  grams of matter is converted into energy. How much energy (in ergs) does this amount of matter produce?

$$E=mc^2=1.3 \times 10^{-28} \text{ g} \times (3 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm/sec})^2 = (1.3 \times 3^2) \times 10^{(-28+20)}=(1.3 \times 9) \times 10^{-8} \text{ ergs}$$

3. What element would result from adding 10 neutrons to  ${}^{56}_{26}\text{Fe}$  and then having 2 of the neutrons “ $\beta$ -decay” (that is, eject an electron each)? Give the full designation including element name, number of protons and total number of nucleons in the nucleus.

10 n addition gives  ${}^{66}\text{Fe}_{26}$  ; 2 beta decays converts two n to  $p^+$  so end up with  ${}^{66}\text{Ni}_{28}$

4. Which of the following statements are true (T) and which false (F) regarding the formation of elements heavier than iron (Fe)?

Most are made by the addition of neutrons to existing nuclei

Most are made by the fusion of lighter elements with Fe

Most are made by the S-process and R-process

Most are made by fission reactions involving Uranium and other rare-earth elements

5. Label the following True (T) or False (F)

Stars with less mass than the Sun have lower temperatures in their cores

The reason main-sequence stars do not collapse due to gravity is the thermal pressure of the gases they are composed of

The fuel that provides the energy source for main-sequence stars is mass

A star that is not in hydrostatic equilibrium will react by changing its radius

6. How much mass does the Sun lose per day in producing its luminosity?

$$\text{Mass/second: } m=L/c^2=(4 \times 10^{33} \text{ ergs/sec})/(3 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm/sec})^2=4/9 \times 10^{13} \text{ grams/sec}$$

$$=4/9 \times 10^{13} \text{ g/s} \times 60 \text{ s/minute} \times 60 \text{ m/hour} \times 24 \text{ hr/day}$$

7. Which of the following are part of the scenario for SNI?

Mass transfer from a close companion onto a white dwarf.

A star with 8 or more times the mass of the Sun produces elements up through Uranium then explodes.

The collapse of a white dwarf whose mass exceeds  $1.4M_{\odot}$ .

The Fe core of a massive star reaches the Chandrasekar limit.

8. For the standard model of a SN II that results from core-collapse of a massive star, which of the following are predicted? (indicate with check marks)

a debris cloud expanding at 10,000 - 20,000km/sec

a debris cloud enriched in elements up to Fe

a rapidly-spinning neutron star

association with star formation regions

9. Given that hydrogen fusion produces  $10^{18}$  ergs per gram of hydrogen (make sure you put the right units in the answer):

A. How much energy can the Sun produce with the  $2 \times 10^{32}$  grams of hydrogen in the core region where it is hot enough for fusion?

$$2 \times 10^{32} \text{ grams} \times 10^{18} \text{ ergs/gram} = 2 \times 10^{50} \text{ ergs}$$

B. How long could the Sun produce energy via this mechanism at its luminosity of  $4 \times 10^{33}$  ergs/second?

$$(2 \times 10^{50} \text{ ergs})/(4 \times 10^{33} \text{ ergs/second}) = 0.5 \times 10^{17} \text{ seconds}$$

10. Calculate the spin rate of a neutron star assuming it forms from the collapse of the Fe core of a 25 solar mass star. The original core was spinning at 1 revolution per day and had a radius of 500,000km. The final radius of the neutron star is 10km.

**1. Which of the following are predictions of Special or General Relativity?**

If you are in a spaceship moving at 0.9 the speed of light and shine a flashlight in the direction of travel, you will measure the speed of the light beam to be  $c$  ( $3 \times 10^8$  m/sec).

Mass creates “warps” in the space-time fabric of the universe

Time reverses as an object approaches the speed of light

The clock in a spaceship traveling at a high velocity with respect to the Earth will run more slowly than a clock on Earth

**2. Which of the following are observed galaxy types (select with an X)?**

dwarf galaxies with mass less than 1/100 that of the Galaxy

giant elliptical galaxies composed of old stars

galaxies dominated by supernovae resulting in significantly higher abundances of elements

galaxies with bright emission at their cores from supermassive black holes accreting matter

**3. If the Sun could be compressed to a small enough radius, it would become a black hole. What is that critical radius in km?**

$$V_{\text{escape}} = \text{SQRT}(2 \times M \times G / R)$$

$$R_{\text{sch}} = (2 \times M \times G) / c^2$$

$$R_{\text{sch}} = (2 \times 2 \times 10^{30} \times 6.673 \times 10^{-11}) / (3 \times 10^8)^2 \quad (\text{all meters, kg and seconds})$$

**4. Which of the following are observations that have led us to believe there is a supermassive black hole at the center of the Galaxy?**

the complete lack of electromagnetic radiation in the central parsec of the Galaxy

orbits of stars near the center of the Galaxy

the regular disappearance of stars near the center of the Galaxy

the orbits of stars beyond the Sun in the Galaxy are much higher than expected

5. Which of the following are True (T) and which False (F) in describing an event horizon?

- It is the distance from a singularity where the escape velocity is the speed of light
- It is the extent of the gravitational influence of a black hole
- Only black holes that are  $10M_{\text{Sun}}$  or larger have an event horizon
- The size of the event horizon of a black hole increases as mass is added to the black hole

6. Which of the following are components of the Milky Way Galaxy?

- Rotating, flattened disk containing stars, gas and dust
- $4 \times 10^6 M_{\text{Sun}}$  Black Hole at the center
- Extended, low-density spherical halo with stars and globular clusters
- A dark matter halo

7. What is the evidence for a dark matter component of the Galaxy?

- Planets in the outer solar system orbit the Sun at larger and larger speeds
- gravitational lens experiments have demonstrated a population of black holes in the Galactic bulge
- the "rotation curve" of the Galaxy is flat: stars in the outer parts of the Galactic disk orbit faster than expected based on the stars and gas seen inside their orbits
- Galaxies at increasing distances have larger recessional velocities

8. Which of the following statements are true (T) and which false (F) regarding the era of nucleosynthesis in first 30 seconds of the Big Bang?

- Only H, He and trace amounts of Be and Li were formed
- Elements through Fe were produced, but the energetic photon field disintegrated the heavy elements back to Hydrogen
- the Big Bang nucleosynthesis ended when the mean temperature of the Universe dropped below the critical value for the fusion of light elements
- Helium and anti-helium atoms were produced in equal numbers

9. Suppose Galaxy A is receding from the Earth at twice the rate of Galaxy B. Which galaxy is more distant and by what factor (half credit for the qualitative and half for the quantitative answer)?

Hubble's Law, velocity is proportional to distance: Galaxy A is twice the distance of Galaxy B

10. Calculate the escape velocity in meters/second from the surface of the Earth for a hydrogen atom with a mass of  $1.66 \times 10^{-27}$  kg.

$$V_{\text{escape}} = \text{SQRT}[(2 \times M_{\text{earth}} \times G)/R_{\text{Earth}}]$$



**1. Which of the following are true (T) and which false (F) regarding Dark Matter (DM) in the Universe?**

- DM is invoked to explain the orbits of the planets around the Sun
- DM is a necessary ingredient of models of the formation of large-scale structure in the Universe
- Most research points to DM being composed of mini Black Holes formed in the early Universe
- DM is invoked to explain how galaxies can be gravitationally bound in large clusters

**2. Which of the following statements are true (T) and which false (F) regarding the large scale distribution of galaxies in the Universe?**

- galaxies are randomly distributed in space
- galaxies are distributed in clusters and filaments with some regions devoid of galaxies
- galaxies are almost always seen in close groups in the process of merging
- galaxies are never seen in close proximity to one another because of the expansion of the Universe

**3. In the spectrum of a distant galaxy the absorption line of hydrogen that in the lab is at a wavelength of 656.3 nm is measured at 856.3 nm.**

- a. What is the redshift,  $z$ , of this galaxy?

$$z = (\lambda_0 - \lambda) / \lambda_0 = 200 / 656.3$$

- b. By what factor has the size of the Universe changed since the light left the galaxy?

$$\text{Scale factor} = 1 + z = 1 + 200 / 656.3$$

**4. Which of the following describe the “horizon problem” in cosmology?**

- the cosmic microwave background is at a uniform temperature over the entire sky yet regions separated by large angles would not have been in causal contact in a Universe that had expanded uniformly since the Big Bang
- we see the same galaxies looking directly forward and directly back because light is curved around the universe which confuses investigations of large-scale structure
- if the Universe was not spatially flat it would have collapsed back on itself
- because of the curvature of the Universe we can not see a large part of the observable Universe

**5. Which of the following are true (T) which false (F)?**

- the total star formation rate in the Universe has been relatively steady since about 1 billion years after the Big Bang
- Quasars were much more common in the period between 1 and 3 billion years after the Big Bang than before or after that time

**6. Which of the following is true of the Cosmic Microwave Background?**

- it originates from radiation that filled the Universe as it cooled to 3000K
- it is detected in the red and near-infrared part of the spectrum
- it is the underlying cause of the era of inflation
- it shows variations at the level of one part in 100,000

**7. The theory of cosmic inflation was originally motivated to understand why magnetic monopoles were so rare in the Universe. What other cosmological puzzles does inflation resolve?**

- That we appear to live in a spatially “flat” universe with  $\Omega_{total}=1.0$
- The energy released during the inflationary period that resulted in the formation of the light elements H, He and Li
- The growth of quantum fluctuations during inflation provided the small fluctuations in the cosmic microwave background that were the seeds of galaxy and structure formation
- Inflation allows us to understand what existed before the Big Bang

**8. Which of the following are true (T), which false (F)?**

- the merger rate of galaxies has been steadily increasing over time as the Universe expands
- Dark Matter is much more common in the Universe than the type of matter that makes up stars, planets and humans (baryonic matter)

**9. Which of the following are consistent with our best current knowledge of the future of the Universe?**

- the acceleration of the Hubble expansion will cause a re-heating of the Universe
- M31, the Andromeda Galaxy, will collide with the Milky Way Galaxy
- the fraction of mass in gas will decrease along with the overall star formation rate in the Universe
- the expansion of the Universe will be reversed by gravity due to normal and dark matter