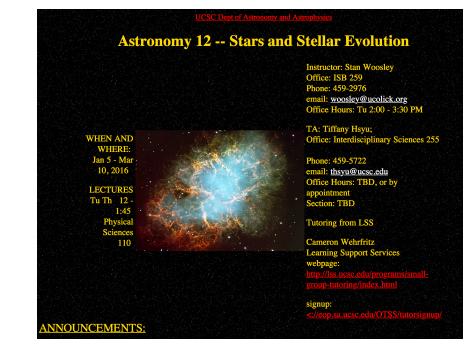
Astronomy 12

Stars, Stellar Evolution, and High Energy Astrophysics

http://www.ucolick.org/~woosley/

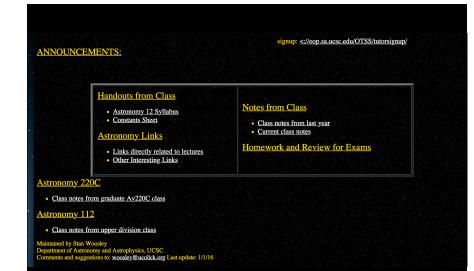
- Winter 2016
- Physical Sciences 110
- Stan Woosley



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PHYSICAL CONSTANTS			
	Speed of light	с	$2.99792 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm s}^{-1}$
	Constant of gravitation	G	$6.672 \times 10^{-8} \text{ dyne } \text{cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-2}$
	Planck's constant	h	6.626×10^{-27} erg s
	Boltzmann's constant	k	$1.381 \times 10^{-16} \text{ erg } (\deg \text{ K})^{-1}$
	Mass hydrogen atom	\mathbf{m}_{H}	1.673×10^{-24} g
	Avogadro's number	N_A	$6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ g}^{-1}$
	Mass electron	\mathbf{m}_{e}	9.1095×10^{-28} g
	Charge on the electron	е	4.803×10^{-10} electrostatic units
	Stefan-Boltzmann radiation constant	σ	$5.670 \times 10^{-5} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ (deg K)}^{-1}$
	Radiation energy density constant	$a = 4\sigma/c$	$7.56 \times 10^{-15} \text{ erg } \text{cm}^{-3} (\text{deg K})^{-4}$
	Constant in Wien's Law	$\lambda_{\rm max} T$	$0.28979 \text{ cm} (\text{deg K})^{-1}$
	Electron volt	eV	1.6022×10^{-12} erg
	Million electron volts	MeV	10^6 eV
	Angstrom	Α	10^{-8} cm
	1 Megaton of TNT	MT	$4.2 \times 10^{22} \text{ erg}$

-4

The Nature of Science

Astronomy 12 Links

General Links

Textbook site http://www.astronomynotes.com/ http://www.freebookcentre.net/Physics/Astronomy-Booksbownload.html http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/www_info/webstars.html http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/solects http://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/solectes/

http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html

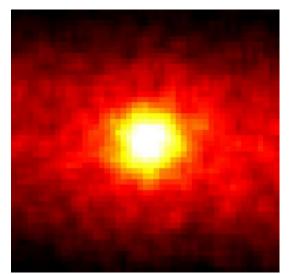
Los of background material for our class textbook An excellent hypertext astronomy textbook Many free online astronomy texts. Gateway to all sorts of astronomical images and resources

Science Section of "Imagine the Universe". Mostly high energy astrophysics Astronomy Picture of the Day

• Science is most successful at addressing the "how" of the universe, not so much its purpose.

- Science endeavors to understand the universe with a minimal set of assumptions physical laws, fundamental particles, fundamental forces, initial conditions, and mathematics.
- .*In most cases science is tested against observations and its ability to correctly predict outcomes, though sometimes our ability to observe is limited and we must rely on mathematical theory.*

The Sun - 1999 (First picture in neutrinos)



This "picture" was taken using data from the Kamiokande 2 neutrino observatory. It contains data from 504 nights (and days) of observation. The observatory is about a mile underground.

Each pixel is about a degree and the whole frame is 90° x 90°.



The Nature of Astronomy

- The scientific study of objects beyond earth (here with emphasis on stars)
- A progress report. Our views of the cosmos change daily (but the new theories often include the old ones as subsets)
- The cosmos itself changes; all of its constituents are evolving.
- A novel aspect of astronomy is its ability to carry out direct studies of the past
- Interesting experiments are set up for us, but we have no control over them. Everyone is an observer!

See also Fraknoi, Morrison and Wolff *Prologue*

"Astrophysics"

The universe obeys physical laws and those laws do not vary with space or time

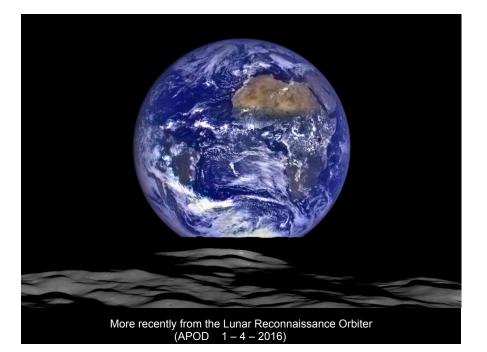
It is best understood on the basis of physical "models" and mathematics

"Spaceship Earth"



From Apollo 11 1969

Our location in the Universe



The Earth as a planet

- $M_{earth} = 5.997 \text{ x } 10^{27} \text{ gm} \qquad (3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M}_{\odot})$
- $R_{earth} = 6.378 \text{ x } 10^8 \text{ cm}$
- Age ~ 4.54 billion years (U,Th dating close to age of sun)
- Orbit sun = 1.496 x 10¹³ cm (~average distance) = AU (93 million miles) [prior to 1976 was semi-major axis; now radius of circular orbit with the equivalent period]
- Period around the sun = 365.242199... days (Julian year = 365.25 days; 86,400 s; exactly)
- Average density = 5.52 gm/cm^3

 $\rho \approx \left(\frac{M}{4/3\pi r^3}\right)$

aside – leap year

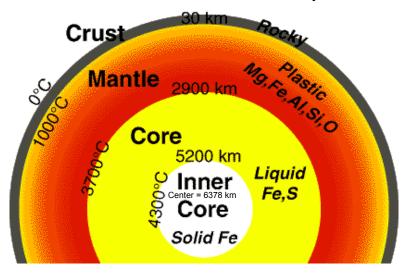
Every year that is divisible by 4

but not years divisible by 100 unless they are divisible by 400

e.g., 2100 will not be a leap year 2000 was a leap year

After 8000 years this system will be off by a day

The Earth in Greater Depth

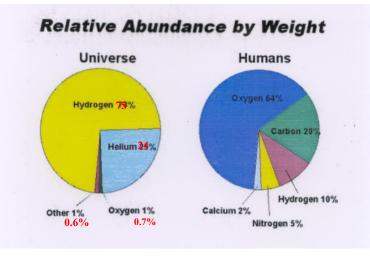


densest planet in the solar system, barely beats Mercury

or a big, rusty, sandy rock....

34.6%	Fe
29.5%	0
15.2%	Si
12.7%	Mg
2.4%	Ni
1.9%	S

In contrast to



Where did these elements come from?

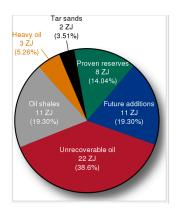
The Sun

The only star we can study in great detail

Mass = 1.989×10^{33} gm; about 300,000 Earth masses Radius = 6.96×10^5 km; almost 100 Earth radii Average density 1.41 gm/cm³ (central density 100 x greater) Age = 4.56×10^9 years Luminosity = 3.90×10^{33} erg/s 1.37 x 106 erg cm⁻² s⁻¹ (world's armament in 10⁻⁵ seconds) at earth Central temperature = 15.7 million K K = C + 273Photospheric temperature about 5700 K Rotation period 24.47 days at the equator slower near poles Initial composition (by mass) 74.9% H 23.8% He, 1.3% C, N, O, Fe, Si, etc (like "universe")

A typical star. A little on the heavy side.

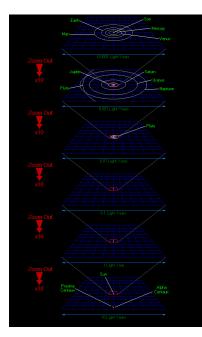
This rusty sandy rock orbits the nearest star, the sun....



Worlds total energy reserves 57 ZetaJoules = 57 x 10^{21} joules = 5.7 x 10^{29} erg

 $L_{\odot} = 3.9 \times 10^{33} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$

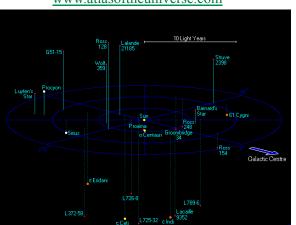
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World energy resources



The figure at the left shows the effect of zooming out in distance from our solar system by a total factor of $100,000 (10^5)$.

At this scale the next star system over, alpha-centauri, becomes visible.

Most of the universe, even within galaxies, is empty. Between galaxies it is emptier still.



12.5 ly www.atlasoftheuniverse.com

> circles indicate plane of Milky Way galaxy

Some specific nearby stars:

- The sun a typical yellow dwarf star. Type G2 with 8 planets
- Proxima Centauri closest of the triplet of stars loosely known as "alpha-Centauri" Proxima Centauri is a faint red star that orbits Alpha-Centauri A and B with a period of about one million years. Proxima Centauri is 4.22 light years from the Earth (now) and about 0.24 light years from Alpha-Centauri A and B.
- *Alpha-Centauri A and B* a double star system with a period of about 80 years. Component A is a near twin of the sun (Type G2). Component B is a little fainter and orange. Alpha-Centauri A and B are 4.39 light years from the Earth. *May* have planets.
- Barnards star highest proper motion of all stars. 5.9 light years away. 1/7 Msun. It moves 0.29 degrees per century. In another 8000 years Barnard's star will be the closest star to us (3.8 ly in 11700 AD). M star, faint, red, about 11 Gyr old. No big planets.
- Lalande 21185 One of the brightest red dwarfs in the sky but still requires binoculars to see it. In 1996 a couple of Jupiter sized planets were discovered here
- *Epsilon Eridani* 10.5 light years away. Searched for life by radio searches in the 1960's. May have a Jupiter sized planet orbiting at a distance of 3.4 AU. Young star (1Gyr?). K2
- *Procyon A,B* 11.41 light years away. Another multiple star system. 8th brightest star in the sky has a white dwarf companion
- *Sirius A,B* At a distance of 8.60 light years Sirius A is the brightest star in the sky. Sirius B is a white dwarf

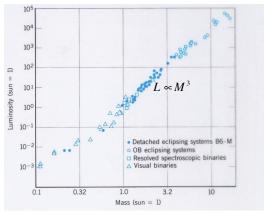
The nearest (24) stars within 12.5 light years of the earth. The closest star system – Alpha Centauri – is about 7000 times the radius of Pluto's orbit. 270,000 times the radius of the Earth's orbit,

Brightest stars		Nearest Stars		
	Apparent magnitude	Star name	distance (ly)	
Sun	-26.8	Sun	-	
Sirius	-1.46	Proxima Centauri	4.2	
Canopus	-0.72	Alpha Centauri AF	3 4.3	
Arcturus	-0.04	Barnards stars	6.0	
Alpha Centauri	-0.01	Wolf 359	7.7	
Vega	0.00	BD 36+2147	8.2	
Capella	0.08	Luyten 726-8AB	8.4	
Rigel	0.12	Sirius A B	8.6	
Procyon	0.38	Ross 154	9.4	
Betelgeuse	0.41	Ross 248	10.4	

most nearby stars are too faint to see without a telescope

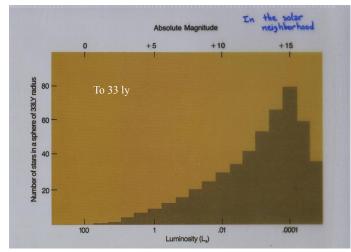
Masses and luminosities

In binary star systems we can determine the mass of the star. For stars thar are spectroscopically "main sequence" the star's luminosity is correlated with its mass.



e.g., 10 solar masses is between 10³ and 10⁴ times more luminous than the sun. 0.1 solar masses is down by 10³

In a volume limited sample – counting all stars...



Most stars are less luminous than the sun, only a few are brighter.

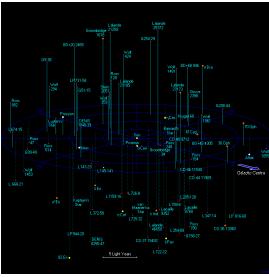
To summarize:

- There are many more faint stars than bright ones
- Faint stars also have low mass
- Low mass stars live a long time

The converse is also true:

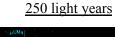
- Bright (high luminosity) stars are rare
- Bright stars are more massive (exception red giants)
- Massive stars have short lives

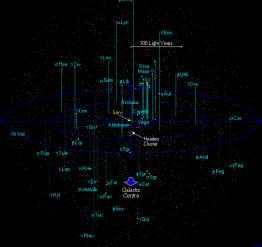
20 light years - 78 systems - 109 stars



isotropic distribution

50 ly ~2000 stars





Starting to see some preference for Galactic plane for distances beyond this.

Number for isotropic distribution and constant density

$n \propto d^3$

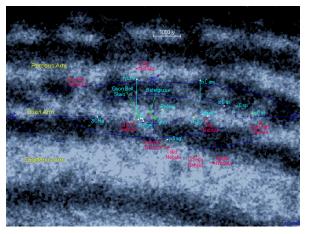
About 250,000 stars lie within 250 light years of the Earth. Beyond this distance it becomes difficult to see all the stars in the plane of the Milky Way Galaxy because of the presence of dust.

Only the 1500 most luminous of these stars are plotted. Most of these are visible to the unaided eye.

Note the presence of the Hyades cluster.

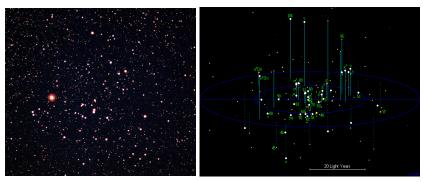
< 1500 stars are visible to the unaided eye. More often it's a few hundred.

5000 light year view – Galactic spiral arm structure is becoming apparent. The sun is on the "Orion Arm" a lesser arm of the Milky Way compared e.g., to the Sagitarius Arm. There is also a lot of gas and dust.



Betelgeuse 650 ly; Orion 1350 ly

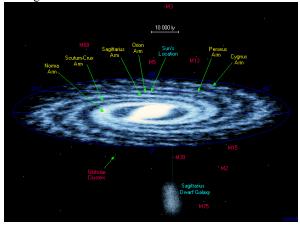
The Hyades Open cluster of stars (151 light years)



The bright red star Aldebaran is not in the Hyades

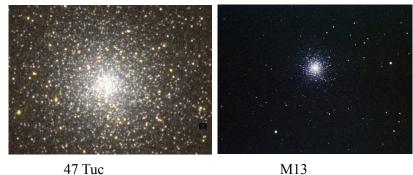
This cluster of stars is only about 625 million years old and is in the process of coming apart. Stars like this are born together from a giant cloud of molecular gas, most of which is blown away by the young stars. About 200 stars are catalogued at <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_stars_in_Hyades</u>

The entire visible galaxy is about 80,000 light years across. Note orbiting galaxy and globular clusters



http://www.atlasoftheuniverse.com/galaxy.html

Globular Clusters

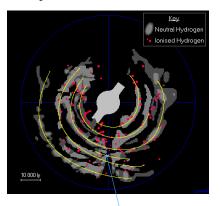


47 Tuc

Second brightest globular cluster (behind Omega Cen). There are about 200 globular clusters altogether. This one is near the direction of the SMC in the sky and about 20,000 ly distant. Lots of red giants visible here.

This globular cluster in Hercules is 22,000 ly distant and contains $10^5 - 10^6$ stars. Age \sim 12 to 14 billion years. It is about 150 light years across.

The clearest experimental evidence for spiral structure in our own galaxy comes from radio observations. The galaxy is transparent in the 21 cm line of atomic H.

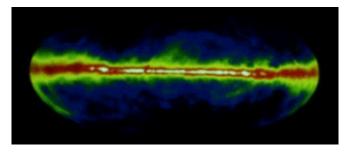


the sun

Radio View of the Milky Way

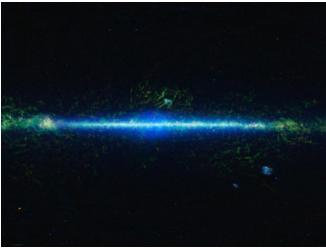
Interstellar dust does not absorb radio waves

We can observe any direction throughout the Milky Way at radio waves



Radio map at a wavelength of 21 cm, tracing neutral hydrogen

http://www.geekosystem.com/wise-all-sky-atlas/



Released 2012. Wide Field Infra-Red Survey Explorer (WISE) composite photograph of the entire sky. Over 500 million individual stars catalogued, though not with great precision.



Aside: In AD 150 Ptolemy in his Almagest catalogued 1,022 of the brightest stars.

Hipparcos Space Astrometry Mission (1989 – 1993)

Catalogue of accurate distances (1 milli arc s angular resolution)

118,218 stars

Total stars observed (Tycho 2 Catalogue; 25 mas)

2,539,913 stars

Including 99% of all stars brighter than 11th magnitude



The center of our galaxy is towards the constellation Sagitarius



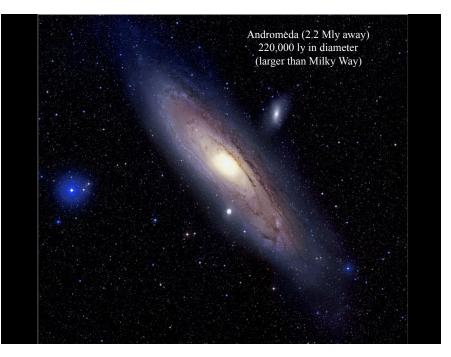
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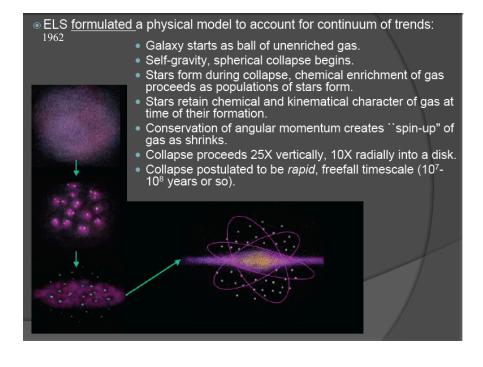
Infrared observation (2MASS) towards center of the Milky Way - dust glows in IR

Optical - M 6,7,18,21,23,24,24 = open clusters; M 16,17,20 = nebulae; M 9, 22,28,54,69,70 = globular clusters

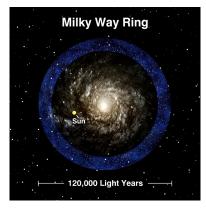
Perseus Orion Orion Undear bulge Thin layer of dust Carina Carina Ciobular clusters Other *spiral* galaxies are thought to look very similar to our own Milky Way.







Changes to the Traditional Theory

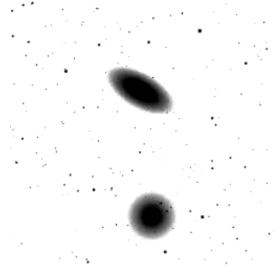


Sloan Digital Sky Survey (2003)

Ages of stellar "populations" may pose a problem to the traditional theory of the history of the Milky Way

Possible solution: Repeated accumulation of gas, possibly due to mergers with smaller galaxies

A ring of stars around the Milky Way may be the remnant of such a merger



About 3 billion years in the future, our galaxy and Andromeda will merge.

Calculation by John Dubinsky at CITA.

Galaxies collide



The Antenna Galaxy is not one but two galaxies in the process of merging.

New generations of stars are being born, even new globular clusters, in the blue regions. Note also the presence of a lot of dust. Besides spiral galaxies like Andromeda ... (2.5 Mly)



Similar to but somewhat larger and brighter than the Milky Way (has about 250 globular clusters and many orbiting dwarf ellipticals)

There are also Elliptical galaxies



For example, the massive elliptical galaxy M87 at the center of the Virgo cluster of galaxies.

Such galaxies are oval in shape, have no discernible spiral structure, and little gas or dust.

Reddish in color. Very few new stars being born.

Elliptical galaxies come in all sizes from just a little larger than globular clusters to 10 times the mass of the Milky Way.

The most common kind of galaxy nowadays are the dwarf ellipticals.

Gas used up long ago making stars or stripped by galactic collisions and encounters.



Irregular and other galaxies

The SMC contains several hundred million stars





Small Magellanic Cloud AAO ref UKS 17 AA

NGC 6822

AAO ref AAT 26

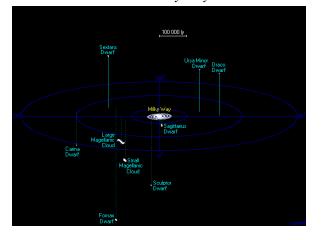
IC 5152 NGC AAO ref AAT 43

NGC 1313 starburst galaxy Large Magellanic Cloud AAO ref AAT 64 AAO ref UKS 14

> The LMC (157,000 ly) is the fourth largest galaxy in the local group and contains about 10 billion solar masses

1) Andromeda 2) Milky Way 3) Triangulum Galaxy (M33) 4) LMC

The nearest members of the Local Group of Galaxies orbit our Milky Way

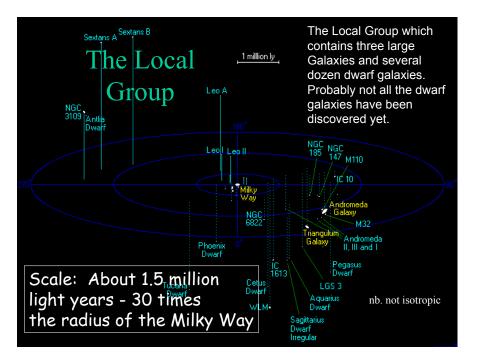


(500,000 ly)

Fornax dwarf galaxy 460,000 ly distant, discovered in 1938



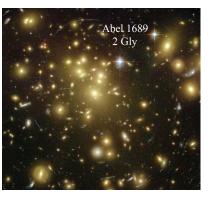
Like most dwarf galaxies it doesn't look very impressive. Contains only a few million stars. Orbited by six globular clusters



Clusters of Galaxies

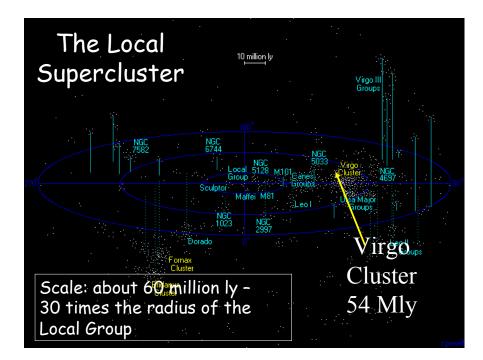
Rich clusters of galaxies

- thousands of galaxies
- concentrated toward the center
- more ellipticals
- hot gas
- lots of mergers

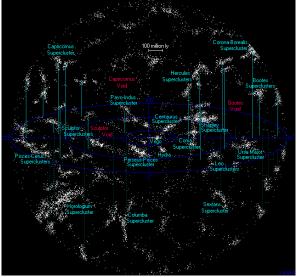


Poor clusters of galaxies

- just a few galaxies
- ragged shapes
- more spirals,
- fewer ellipticals



One Billion Light Years



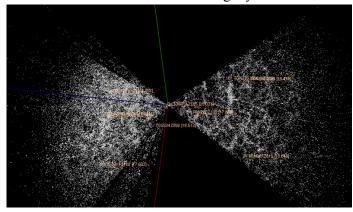
7% of the radius of the visible universe

80 superclusters 160,000 galaxy groups 3 million large galaxies 30 million dwarf galaxies 500 million billion stars

The nearest really large supercluster is in Centaurus. Virgo is small by comparison.

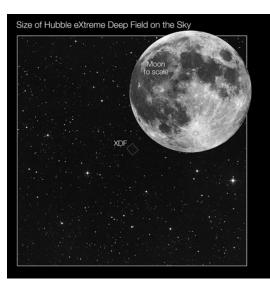
Structure starting to be filamentary with walls and voids.

2dF Galaxy Redshift Survey - AAT (2003) closest 3 billion light years



Survey obtained spectra for 232,155 galaxies over 272 nights of observation. 1500 square degrees. Did not sample the whole sky. On the whole the universe is *homogeneous and isotropic*. Note cellular structure.

http://www.mso.anu.edu.au/2dFGRS/

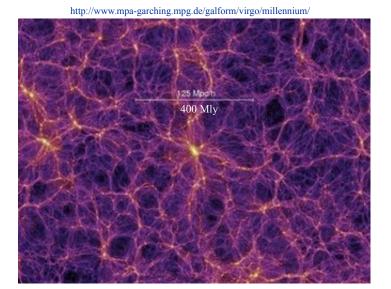


The Hubble eXtreme Deep Field photo made from a composite of 2000 images taken over a decade. Like a 23 day time exposure

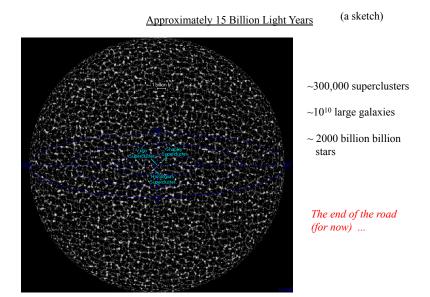
Shows a piece of the universe when it was "only" 400 million years old. 5500 galaxies

The current age is 13.8 billion years





Numerical simulation of cosmic structure "The millenium simulation project" http://www.mpa-garching.mpg.de/galform/virgo/millennium/



Scientific notation

$1 = 1.0 \times 10^{\circ}$	$0.10 = 1.0 \times 10^{-1}$
$10 = 1.0 \times 10^{1}$	$0.00000010 = 1.0 \times 10^{-7}$
$1,000,000 = 1.0 \times 10^{6}$	$0.00346 = 3.46 \times 10^{-3}$
$3,450,000 = 3.45 \times 10^{6}$	$0.002356347 \approx 2.36 \times 10^{-3}$

$$(1.0 \times 10^{-2})(2.0 \times 10^{4}) = 2.0 \times 10^{2} = 200$$

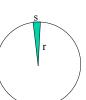
 $(1.0 \times 10^{-2})/(2.0 \times 10^{4}) = \frac{1}{2} \times 10^{-6} = 5.0 \times 10^{-7}$

In Ay12 (e.g. homework), use only the precision justified by the statement of the problem. The default is 3 figures of accuracy.

Appendix: Math and Constants

<u>Angular Measure</u> (used, e.g., for distance determination)

1 full circle = 360 degrees 1 degree = 60 arc minutes 1 arc minute = 60 arc seconds http://mintaka.sdsu.edu/GF/explain/atmos refr/angles.html



 2π radians = 360 degrees

A radian is the angle subtended by a length of arc

equal to the radius of the citcle

1 radian = $360/2\pi$ = 57.29.... degrees = 206,265 arc seconds

Length of arc, s, subtended by angle θ s = r θ if θ is measured in radians

Units

The basic units in Ay12 are cm, gm, and sec (with apologies to the physicists).

How many cm in a light year? 1 ly = c * 1 yr

 $c = 2.99 \times 10^5$ km s⁻¹ based on Julian year = 365.25 days (exactly) day = 24 hours km = 10^3 m hour = 60 minutes m = 10^2 cm

$$1 \quad \text{ly} = \text{c} \times 1 \text{ year}$$

$$\approx \left(\frac{2.99 \times 10^5 \text{ km}}{\text{s}}\right) (1 \text{ yr}) \left(\frac{10^3 \text{ m}}{\text{km}}\right) \left(\frac{10^2 \text{ cm}}{\text{m}}\right) \left(\frac{365 \text{ day}}{1 \text{ yr}}\right) \left(\frac{24 \text{ hr}}{1 \text{ day}}\right) \left(\frac{60 \text{ min}}{1 \text{ hr}}\right) \left(\frac{60 \text{ s}}{1 \text{ min}}\right)$$

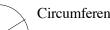
$$\approx 9.44 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}$$

Thumb at arm's length ~ 2 degrees Little finger at arm's length ~ 1 degree hand spread ~ 20 degrees Smallest angle with naked eye ~ 1 arc min Sun or moon ~ $\frac{1}{2}$ degree

HST ~ 0.4 milli-arc-seconds (0.01 pixel – for astrometry)

GAIA ~ $10 - 20 \mu as$ (1 foot at 2 million miles)

Spherical Geometry



Circumference of a circle = $2\pi r$

Surface area of a sphere = $4\pi r^2$

Volume of a sphere =
$$\frac{4}{3}\pi$$
 r³

Mass of a sphere with *constant density* ρ

$$\mathbf{M} = \left(\frac{4}{3}\pi \mathbf{r}^3\right)\boldsymbol{\rho}$$

To a good approximation stars are spheres

Mass of a sphere with radius r and constant density ρ (gm cm⁻³)

$$M = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \rho$$

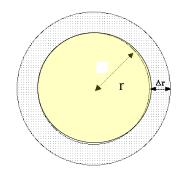
E.g., How much does a (spherical) asteroid with radius 5 km and density 5 gm cm⁻³ "weigh"?

$$M = \frac{4}{3}(3.14)(5 \times 10^{5} \text{ cm})^{3}(5 \frac{\text{gm}}{\text{cm}^{3}})$$
$$= (4.19)(125 \times 10^{15})(5) \text{ gm}$$
$$= 2.62 \times 10^{18} \text{ gm}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} x^{n} = n x^{n-1} \qquad \int x^{n} dx = \left(\frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}\right)$$
$$\frac{d}{d\theta} (\cos\theta) = -\sin\theta \qquad \frac{d}{d\theta} (\sin\theta) = \cos\theta$$
Binomial expansion theorem
$$(1 + \varepsilon)^{n} \approx (1 + n\varepsilon) \qquad if |\varepsilon| \ll 1$$
e.g. $(1 + 0.01)^{\frac{1}{2}} \approx 1.005$ (actually 1.0049876..)

Calculus

ANGULAR MEASURE



Eg. Volume of a sphere

Area of a shell = $4 \pi r^2$

Thickness = $\Delta r \approx dr$

Add up a whole bunch of shells

$$\int_{0}^{r_0} 4\pi r^2 dr = \frac{4}{3}\pi r_0^3$$

 $\begin{array}{c} \pi = 3.14159...,\\ 2 \ \pi \ radians = \ 360^{o}\\ 1 \ radian = \ 57^{o}.296\\ 1 \ degree = \ 60^{\circ} = \ 60 \ arc \ min\\ 1 \ arc \ min = \ 60^{\circ} = \ 60 \ arc \ sec\\ 1 \ radian = \ 206265^{\circ}.806\\ Number \ of \ square \ degrees \ on \ sky = \ 41.252.961 \end{array}$

PHYSICAL CONSTANTS

Speed of light	с	$2.99792 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm s}^{-1}$
Constant of gravitation	G	6.672×10^{-8} dyne cm ² g ⁻²
Planck's constant	h	6.626×10^{-27} erg s
Boltzmann's constant	k	$1.381 \times 10^{-16} \text{ erg } (\text{deg K})^{-1}$
Mass hydrogen atom	m_H	1.673×10^{-24} g
Avogadro's number	N_A	$6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ g}^{-1}$
Mass electron	\mathbf{m}_{e}	9.1095×10^{-28} g
Charge on the electron	е	4.803×10^{-10} electrostatic units
Stefan-Boltzmann radiation constant	σ	$5.670 \times 10^{-5} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} (\text{deg K})^{-4}$
Radiation energy density constant	$a = 4\sigma/c$	$7.56 \times 10^{-15} \text{ erg } \text{cm}^{-3} (\text{deg K})^{-4}$
Constant in Wien's Law	$\lambda_{\rm max}$ T	0.28979 cm (deg K) ⁻¹
Electron volt	eV	$1.6022 \times 10^{-12} \text{ erg}$
Million electron volts	MeV	$10^{6} eV$
Angstrom	А	10^{-8} cm
1 Megaton of TNT	MT	4.2×10^{22} erg

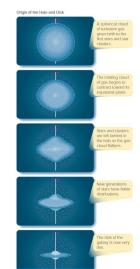
ASTRONOMICAL CONSTANTS

Astronomical Unit	AU	$1.495978707 \times 10^{13} ~{\rm cm}$
Parsec	\mathbf{pc}	206265 AU
		3.262 ly
		3.086×10^{18} cm
Light year	ly	9.4605×10^{17} cm
		6.324×10^4 AU
(siderial) year	yr	3.155815×10^7 s
Mass of Earth	M_E	5.977×10^{27} g
(Equatorial) radius of Earth	\mathbf{R}_{E}	6.378×10^8 cm
Mass of sun	${\rm M}_{\odot}$	1.989×10^{33} g
Radius of sun	$\rm R_{\odot}$	6.960×10^{10} cm
Luminosity of sun	L_{\odot}	$3.83 \times 10^{33} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$
Solar constant at Earth	\mathbf{S}	$1.37 \times 10^{6} \ {\rm erg} \ {\rm cm}^{-2} \ {\rm s}^{-1}$

MISCELLANEOUS

Area circle	$\mathbf{A} = \pi R^2$
Area of a sphere	$\mathbf{A} = 4\pi R^2$
Volume of a sphere	$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi R^{3}$
Latitude of Santa Cruz	36.9998 degrees N
Longitude of Santa Cruz	122.0624 degrees W
Temperature in K	Temperature in C + 273.15
Temperature in F	(Temperature in C)*9/5 + 32
5 magnitudes	factor of 100 in flux
For very small $\theta << 1$ radian	$\sin\theta\approx\tan\theta\approx\theta$

History of the Milky Way



The traditional theory:

Quasi-spherical gas cloud fragments into smaller pieces, forming the first, metal-poor stars (pop. II);

Rotating cloud collapses into a disk-like structure

Later populations of stars (pop. I) are restricted to the disk of the Galaxy

Eggen, Lyndon-Bell, and Sandage (1962)