

By the regularity of their motions, the four major moons of Jupiter provided important evidence for universal laws governing the motions of celestial bodies (this is the icy, cratercovered Callisto).

Fig. 2·10
Terms describing the relative positions of the Earth and other planets. For this purpose the Earth may be considered as stationary.

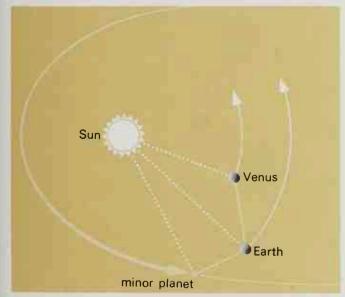


Fig. 2-11 above: Determination of the astronomical unit. Determination of the Earth-Venus or Earth-planetoid distance by radar, allows the Earth-Sun distance (which cannot be directly measured) to be calculated by simple trigonometry, as all the angles in the triangle are already known.

