

Astro540 Homework 1

Problem 1

- total proper motion μ

$$\mu = \sqrt{\mu_\delta^2 + \cos^2 \delta \mu_\alpha^2}$$

- proper motion velocity component

$$v_\tau = \mu d = 0.376 \text{pc} \cdot 1.21'' \text{a}^{-1} = 2.16 \text{km} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

- total velocity

$$v = \sqrt{v_\tau^2 + v_r^2} = \sqrt{2.16^2 + 7.6^2} \text{km} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} = 7.9 \text{km} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

- when the object is closest to sun, the direction of its motion is perpendicular to the line connected it and the sun. Thus the distance is calculated as

$$d_0 = d \cdot \sin \theta = 0.376 \text{pc} \cdot \frac{v_\tau}{v} = 0.10 \text{pc}$$