## To Frame the World—19 Sept

- Kepler found orbit of Mars relative to earth's orbit.
- Goal was to measure the absolute distance (in miles or km) of the solar system
- Cassini & Richer 1672



Giovanni Domenico Cassini, (1625 - 1712) engraving by N. Dupuis www.sil.si.edu/digitalcollections/hst/scientific-identity/fullsize/Sil.14-C1-18a.jpg







## Difficulties

- Small angles are hard to measure
  - Naked eye 0.03 deg
  - Telescope used under ideal conditions: 0.1 arcsec=0.00003 deg
  - Modern telescope with modern detector: 0.0000003 deg
  - Moon
    - Angle=baseline/distance=1000km/400,000km
    - $=1/400=(180/\pi)/400=1/7$  degree
  - Mars
    - Angle=baseline/distance=1000km/80,000,000km
    - =1/80,000=(180/ $\pi$ )/80,000=0.0007 degree using Hellespont& Alexandria
- Need a reference nearby in the sky
  - Measuring with a reference on the ground is impossible.

## Cassini & Richer 1672

- Angle=baseline/distance
- What baseline should C&R use to measure distance to Mars?



## Cassini & Richer 1672 • Angle=baseline/distance • What baseline should C&R use to measure distance to Mars? • Cayenne-Paris baseline is 7000km. - Angle=baseline/distance=7000 km/80,000,000km $=9\times10^{-5}$ rad $=5\times10^{-3}$ degree =18arcsec - Shift is 18 times width of the star with modern telescope Mars Mars & star from Paris from Cayenne

