

1. Short answers

- a. (3 pts.) Knowing the orbital period of Jupiter, astronomers used Kepler's 3rd Law to find the size of Jupiter's orbit in AU. Cassini & Richter measured the AU.
- b. (3 pts.) Hertzsprung-Russell diagram. Discovery of white dwarfs. Discovery of giants. Discovery of the source of stars' energy. $E=mc^2$. Spectral classification.
- c. (1 pt.) Sirius B is a white dwarf. (2 pts.) Adams' key measurement was to find that the temperatures of Sirius A and B are about the same.

2. Hertzsprung-Russell diagram of the star cluster M15.

- a. (2 pts.) The absolute magnitude of the hottest main-sequence stars is 3.7.
- b. (3 pts.) Hotter main-sequence stars have become giants or finished burning fuel.
- c. (2 pts.) Stars with a color $B-V=0.6$ have differing sizes. (3 pts.) For a range of 5 magnitudes, the range in luminosity is 100 (two factors of 10). Since $L=T^4R^2$ (L is luminosity, T is temperature, and R is radius), the range in size is a factor of 10.
- d. (3 pts.) Pick a star with absolute magnitude 0. Its apparent magnitude is 15.2. Its flux is $15.2/2.5=6.08$ factors of 10 fainter than it would be at a distance of 10 pc, which is 1.2×10^6 . Since flux depends on $1/D^2$ (D is distance), its distance is $\sqrt{1.2 \times 10^6} = 1.1 \times 10^3$ farther than 10 pc or 1.1×10^4 pc.

3. Observations of the parallactic shift of a star.

- a. (3 pts.) The parallactic shift changes from -0.15 to +0.15 arcsec. The distance is $1/0.15 = 6.7$ pc.
- b. (1 pt.) The right ascension of the star is 0 hr. (2 pts.) The biggest parallactic shift occurs on 12/21 and 6/21. Therefore the right ascension could be 0 or 12 hr. If the right ascension is 12 hr, the shift on 6/21 is to the west. Therefore the right ascension is 0 hr.
- c. (3 pts.) The parallactic shifts are too small to measure directly. Measuring the shift between the star and a reference star is much more accurate.