

ASTR120 Challenge Problem #1 – (Hamilton)
Optional, due before Midterm #1

In this challenge problem you will work out how large a shadow moons in our Solar System cast on their parent planets.

- a) Draw an accurate picture and use algebra and geometry to determine the size of the shadow cast by a moon on its parent planet. Assume that the moon is spherical and that all orbits are circular. Type your equation into the planetary calculator at <http://janus.astro.umd.edu/astro/calculators/scalc.html> and produce a table of shadow sizes. Which moons cast the largest shadows?
- b) How big is the Earth's shadow cast on the Moon? Rewrite your answer in terms of both Earth and Moon radii.