

NAME

ASTR109/PHYS109: 2008

HOMEWORK SHEET #7

Due 1.00 pm, Thursday 25thth September 2008

Bring to lecture or tutorial or leave with the Rosalie in room 705, Physics and Astronomy

1. Give a brief account of the following astronomers' work emphasizing what new understanding of the cosmos was possible because of their work; Kepler (~1600); Newton (~ 1680); Halley ~ 1680).
2. The fundamental distance in the Solar System is the average Sun-Earth distance called the Astronomical Unit (AU). Describe ONE way in which the AU was measured before about 1900.
3. Explain how stars called Cepheid variables can be used to measure distances within our Galaxy.