

ASTRONOMICAL DISTANCES

<i>Object</i>	<i>Distance</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Moon	380,000 km	
Sun	150,000,000 km = 1 AU	
Saturn	9.5 AU	Most distant planet seen by the ancients
Neptune	30.1 AU	Currently most distant planet from the Sun
Voyager 1	9 light hours	2 nd most distant spacecraft
α Centauri	280,000 AU = 1.3 pc	Closest star system to our own
Sirius	2.7 pc	The Dog Star, brightest star in the sky
Vega	8 pc	
Betelgeuse	150 pc	Red Supergiant, due to supernova anytime now
Polaris	250 pc	Supergiant
Deneb	430 pc	Supergiant
Orion Nebula	500 pc	Closest region of active star formation
M13	7 kpc	Globular cluster in Hercules
Center of the Milky Way	8 kpc	Found in Sagittarius
Andromeda Galaxy	600 kpc	Most distant object visible to the naked eye

$$1 \text{ AU} = 150,000,000 \text{ km}$$

$$1 \text{ pc} = 206,000 \text{ AU}$$

$$1 \text{ kpc} = 1,000 \text{ pc}$$