Today

- Doppler Effect
- Telescopes
- Solar System Overview

Next time

• Homework 3 Due



The Doppler Effect

train moving to right



b For a moving train, the sound you hear depends on whether the train is moving toward you or away from you.

Doppler Effect for Light

- Motion away -> redshift
- Motion towards -> blueshift

wavelength
shift
$$\widehat{\ } \Delta \lambda = \frac{\lambda_{obs} - \lambda_{em}}{\lambda_{em}} = \frac{v}{c} \underbrace{\ }_{obs} \frac{v}{c}$$
 speed
wavelength $\widehat{\ } \lambda = \frac{v}{c} \underbrace{\ }_{of \ light}$

Measuring the Shift



• We generally measure the Doppler effect from shifts in the wavelengths of spectral lines.

<u>Spectrum</u>



Doppler shift tells us ONLY about the part of an object's motion toward or away from us (along our line of sight).



Telescopes

- Telescopes collect more light than our eyes ⇒ lightcollecting area
- Telescopes can see more detail than our eyes ⇒
 angular resolution (magnification)
- Telescopes/instruments can record light more sensitively than our eyes, and detect electromagnetic radiation that is invisible to our eyes (e.g., infrared, ultraviolet)

Bigger is better

1. Larger light-collecting area

can see fainter things

2. Better angular resolution

can see smaller things

Bigger is better

For a telescope with mirror of diameter D,

can see fainter: $b^{-1} \propto D^2$

with higher resolution:

 $heta \propto rac{\lambda}{D}$

Basic Telescope Design

• Refracting: lenses







Yerkes 1-m refractor

Basic Telescope Design

- Reflecting: mirrors
- Most research telescopes today are reflectors





Gemini North 8-m

Advantages of telescopes in space



Hubble

Chandra

Observing problems due to Earth's atmosphere

1. Light Pollution



2. Atmospheric Turbulence causes *twinkling* \Rightarrow blurs images (called "seeing" by astronomers).



Star viewed with ground-based telescope

View from Hubble Space Telescope 3. Atmosphere absorbs most of EM spectrum, including all UV and X ray and most infrared.



Telescopes in space solve all 3 problems.



Contents of the Solar System

Gas Giants

- The Sun
- Major Planets
 - Terrestrial: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars
 - Jovian planets: Jupiter, Saturn
 - Ice Giants: Uranus, Neptune
- Moons
- Dwarf Planet
 - KBOs: Pluto, Quaoar, Eris, Sedna...
- Asteroids
- Comets
 - misc. dust, meteoroids, solar wind particles...

Layout of the Solar System





Most asteroids orbit in the "asteroid belt" between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter





Kuiper Belt

The orange track represents a typical KBO orbit. Pluto's orbit is represented by the yellow ring.

Oort Cloud

http://popperfont.net/2012/11/13/the-ultimate-solar-system-animated-gif/

There are eight major planets with nearly circular orbits.

The planets all orbit in the same direction in nearly the same plane.

Consequently, they appear along the ecliptic plane in the sky.

Motion of Large Bodies

- All large bodies in the solar system orbit in the same direction and in nearly the same plane.
- Most also rotate in that direction.

- "prograde"

- Dwarf planets are smaller than the major planets and some have quite elliptical orbits.
- Most dwarf planets & asteroids also revolve prograde.
- Comets have highly elliptical orbits; often highly inclined from the planetary plane.

A Closer Look at the Contents

Gas Giants

- The Sun
- Major Planets
 - Terrestrial: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars
 - Jovian planets: Jupiter, Saturn
 - Ice Giants: Uranus, Neptune
- Moons
- Dwarf Planet
 - KBOs: Pluto, Quaoar, Eris, Sedna...
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• The Sun

- Over 99.9% of solar system's mass
- Made mostly of H/He gas (plasma)
- Converts 4 million tons of mass into energy each second

Mercury

- Made of metal and rock; large iron core
- Desolate, cratered; long, tall, steep cliffs
- Very hot, very cold: 425°C (day), –170°C (night)

3:2 spin-orbit coupling

Venus

- Nearly identical in size to Earth; surface hidden by clouds
- Hellish conditions due to an extreme greenhouse effect
- Even hotter than Mercury: 470°C, day and night

Earth

- An oasis of life
- The only surface liquid water in the solar system
- A surprisingly large moon

Except for Saturn's moon Titan

Mars

- Looks almost Earth-like, but don't go without a spacesuit!
- Giant volcanoes, a huge canyon, polar caps, more
- Water flowed in distant past; could there have been life?

Mars

• Curiosity rover landed in August 2012.

1 Friction slows spacecraft as it enters Mars atmosphere.

2 Parachute slows spacecraft to about 350 km/hr.

3 Rockets slow spacecraft to halt; "sky crane" tether lowers rover to surface.

4 Tether released, the rocket heads off to crash a safe distance away.

As it flew overhead, the *Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter* took this photo of the spacecraft with its parachute deployed.

http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/video/details.php?id=1001

Jupiter

- Much farther from Sun than inner
 planets
- Mostly H/He; no solid surface
- 300 times more massive than Earth
- Many moons, rings

Saturn

- Giant and gaseous like Jupiter
- Spectacular rings
- Many moons, including cloudy Titan

Uranus

- Smaller than Jupiter/Saturn; much larger than Earth
- Made of H/He gas and hydrogen compounds (H₂O, NH₃, CH₄)
- Extreme axis tilt
- Moons and rings

Neptune

- Similar to Uranus (except for axis tilt)
- Many moons (including Triton)

Dwarf Planets: Pluto, Eris, and more

- Much smaller than major planets
- Icy, comet-like composition
- Pluto's main moon (Charon) is of similar size

