

Physical quantity

- ❖ Any measurable quantity is called physical quantity.
- ❖ Physical quantity is of two types
 - (1) fundamental quantity
 - (2) derived quantity



Fundamental quantity

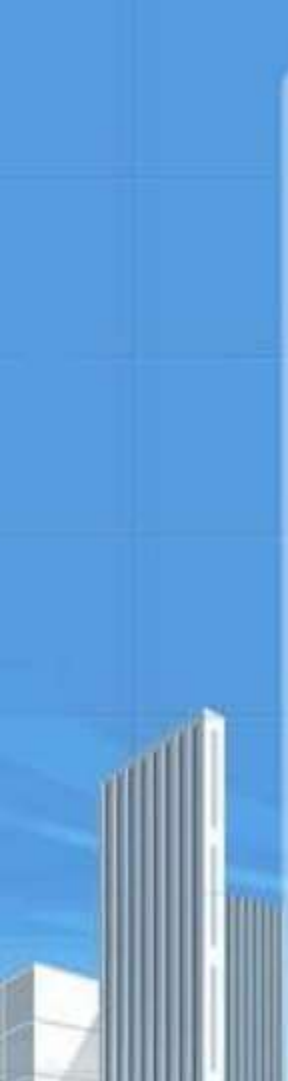
- ❖ It is a physical quantity which does not depend upon other physical quantities.
- ❖ Example : length , mass , time etc...

Derived quantity

- ❖ It is a physical quantity which depend upon other physical quantities.
- ❖ Example : speed , area , velocity etc...

SI UNITS

- ✓ CGS SYSTEM –CENTIMETRE, GRAM AND SECOND.
- ✓ FPS SYSTEM –FOOT, POUND AND SECOND.
- ✓ MKS SYSTEM –METRE,KILOGRAM AND SECOND.
- SI units – systeme internationale d' units .
- It is the standard scheme of weights and measure.



Base units	SI units	Symbol
Length	metre	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	s
Temperature	kelvin	K
Electric current	ampere	A
Amount of substance	mole	mol

Parallax method

Viewpoint A



Object



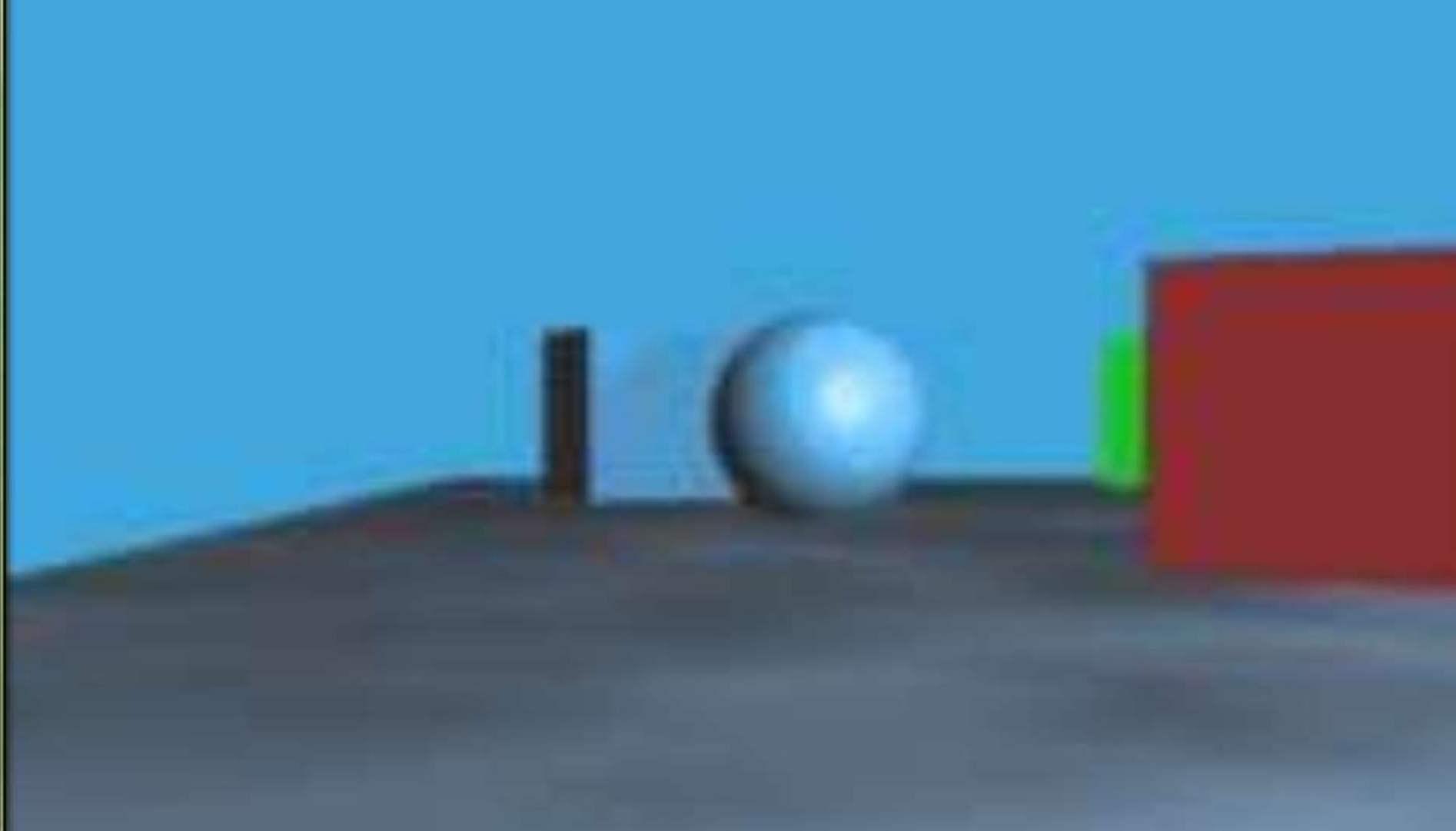
Viewpoint B



Distant background

Parallax is a displacement or difference in the apparent position of an object viewed along two different lines of sight, and is measured by the angle or semi-angle of inclination between those two lines.^{[1][2]} The term is derived from the Greek παράλλαξις (parallaxis), meaning "alteration". Nearby objects have a larger parallax than more distant objects when observed from different positions, so parallax can be used to determine distances.

Astronomers use the principle of parallax to measure distances to the closer stars. Here, the term "parallax" is the semi-angle of inclination between two sight-lines to the star, as observed when the Earth is on opposite sides of the sun in its orbit.^[3] These distances form the lowest rung of what is called "the cosmic distance ladder", the first in a



scopes, binoculars, microscopes, and twin-lens reflex cameras that view objects from slightly different angles. Many animals, including humans, have two eyes with overlapping visual fields that use parallax to gain depth perception; this process is known as stereopsis. In computer vision the effect is used for computer stereo vision, and there is a device called a parallax rangefinder that uses it to find range, and in some variations also altitude to a target. A simple everyday example of parallax can be seen in the dashboard of motor vehicles that use a needle-

Visual perception

This image demonstrates *parallax*. The sun is visible above the streetlight. The reflection in the water is a virtual image of the Sun and the streetlight. The location of the virtual image is below the surface of the water, offering a different vantage point of the streetlight, which appears to be shifted relative to the more distant Sun.

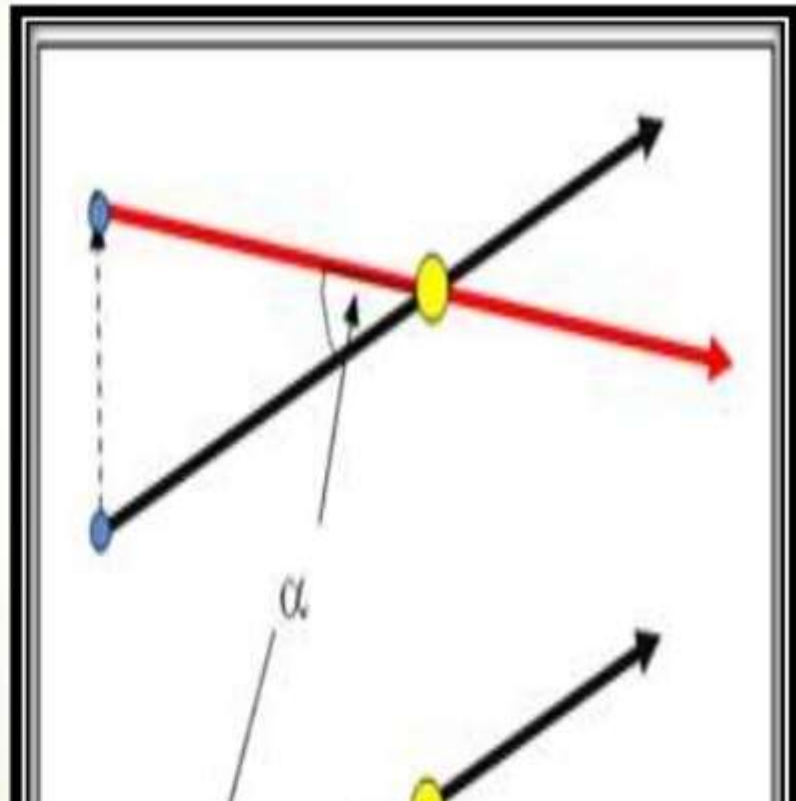
As the eyes of humans and other animals are in different positions on the head, they present different views simultaneously. This is the basis of stereopsis, the process which the brain exploits the parallax due to the different views from the eye to gain depth perception and estimate distances to objects.^[4] Animals also use *motion parallax*, in which the animals (or just the head) move to gain different

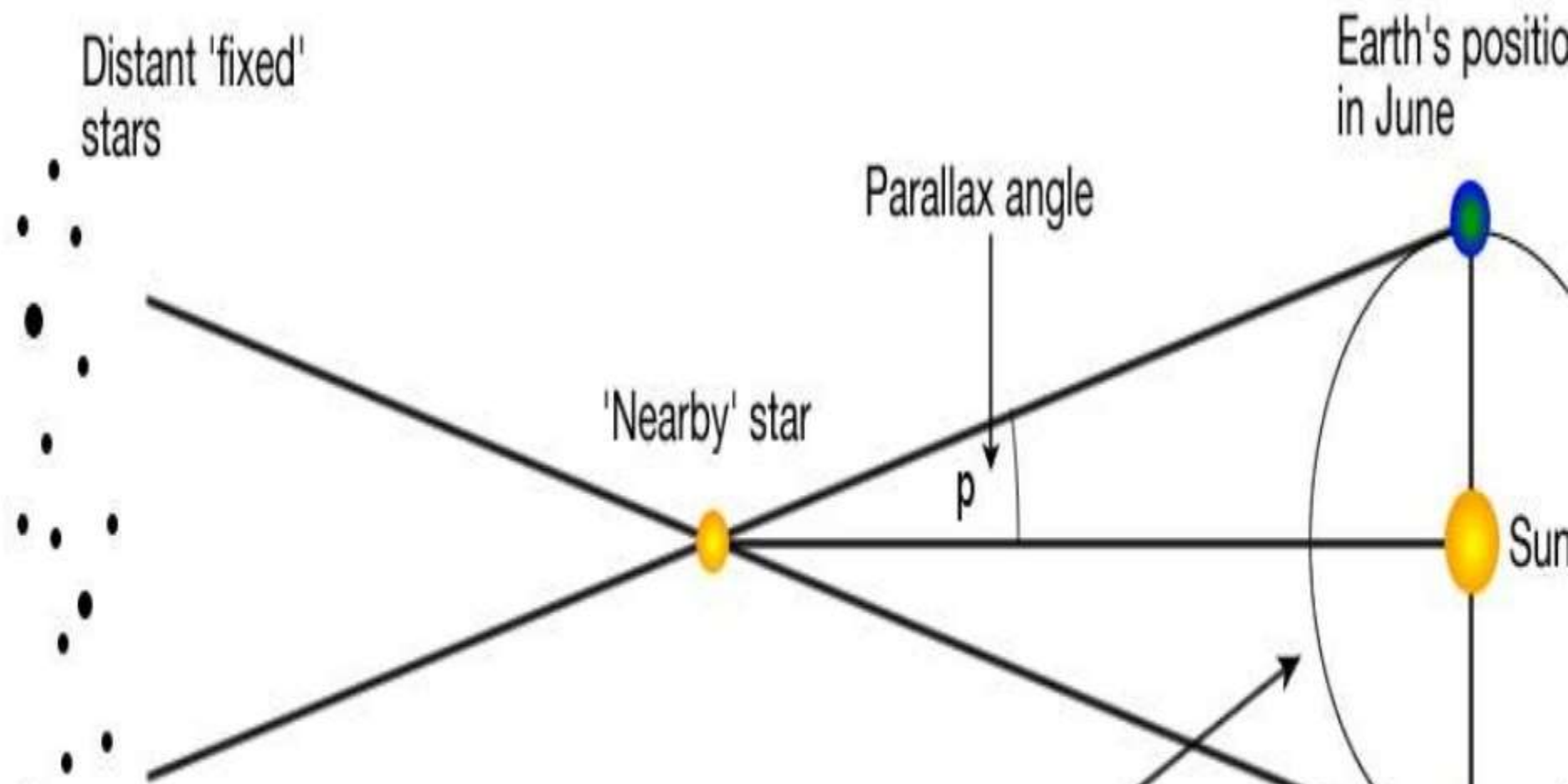


Parallax in astronomy

is an angle subtended by a line
t. In the upper diagram the earth
bit sweeps the parallax angle
d on the sun. The lower diagram
equal angle swept by the sun in
ic model. A similar diagram can
for a star except that the angle
x would be minuscule.

arises due to change in
occurring due to motion of the





Stellar parallax

Stellar parallax created by the relative motion between the Earth and a star can be seen, in the Copernican model, as arising from the orbit of the Earth around the Sun: the star only *appears* to move relative to more distant objects in the sky. In a geostatic model, the movement of the star would have to be taken as *real* with the star oscillating across the sky with respect to the background stars.

Stellar parallax is most often measured using **annual parallax**, defined as the difference in position of a star as seen from the Earth and Sun, i. e. the angle subtended at a star by the mean radius of the Earth's orbit around the Sun. The parsec (3.26 light-years) is defined as the distance for which the annual parallax is 1 arcsecond. Annual parallax is normally measured by observing the position of a star at different times of the year as the Earth moves through its orbit. Measurement of annual

Stellar reflex motion on sky

Earth orbit
about Sun




measure. The nearest star to the Sun (and thus the star with the largest parallax), [Proxima Centauri](#), has a parallax of 0.7687 ± 0.0003 arcsec.^[8] This angle is approximately that subtended by an object 2 centimeters in diameter located kilometers away.

2014).^[9]

The fact that stellar parallax was so small that it was unobservable at the time used as the main scientific argument against [heliocentrism](#) during the early modern age. It is clear from [Euclid's geometry](#) that the effect would be undetectable if the stars were far enough away, but for various reasons such gigantic distances involved seemed entirely implausible: it was one of [Tycho](#)'s principal objections to [Copernican heliocentrism](#) that in order for it to be compatible with the lack of observable stellar parallax, there would have to be an enormous and unlikely void between the orbit of Saturn and the eighth sphere (the fixed stars).^[10]

In 1989, the satellite [Hipparcos](#) was launched primarily for obtaining improved parallaxes and [proper motions](#) for over 100,000 nearby stars, increasing the reach of the method tenfold. Even so, Hipparcos is only able to measure parallax angles for stars up to about 1,600 [light-years](#) away, a little more than one percent of the diameter of the [Milky Way Galaxy](#). The [European Space Agency's Gaia mission](#).

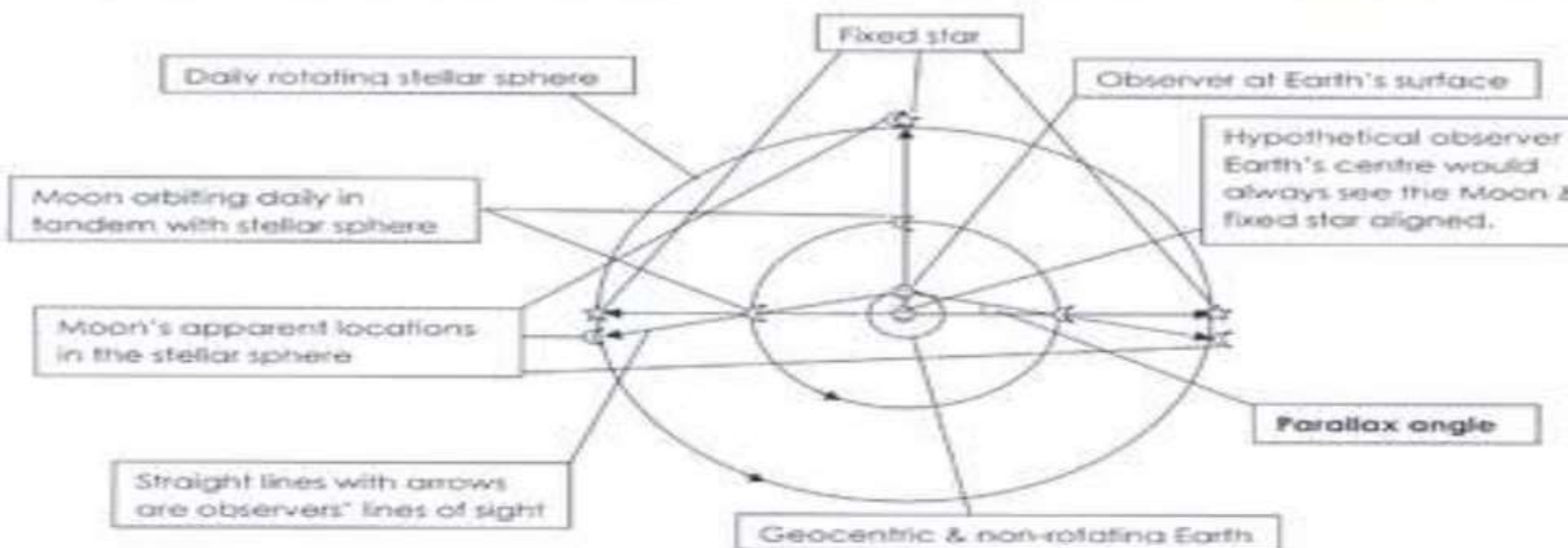




angles involved in these calculations are very small and thus difficult to measure. The nearest star to the Sun (and thus the star with the largest parallax), Proxima Centauri, has a parallax of 87 ± 0.0003 arcsec.^[8] This angle is approximately that subtended by an object 2 centimeters in diameter located 5.3 kilometers away.

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Daily lunar parallax for a fixed observer in the geostationary-geocentric planetary model



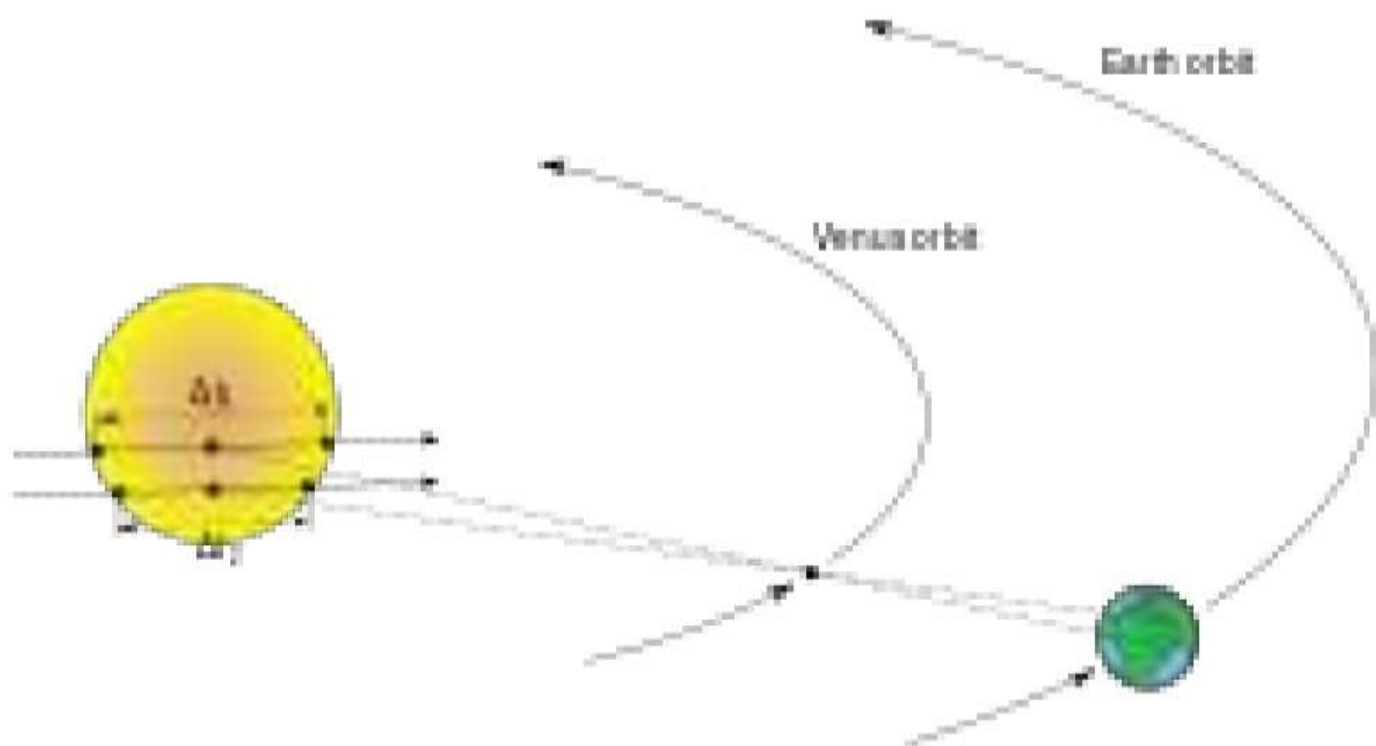
NB For the purpose of illustrating parallax, the lunar and stellar distances are not drawn to scale

Similarly the sun & planets also show daily parallax

Change of Moon's apparent displacement from the fixed star over 12 hrs.

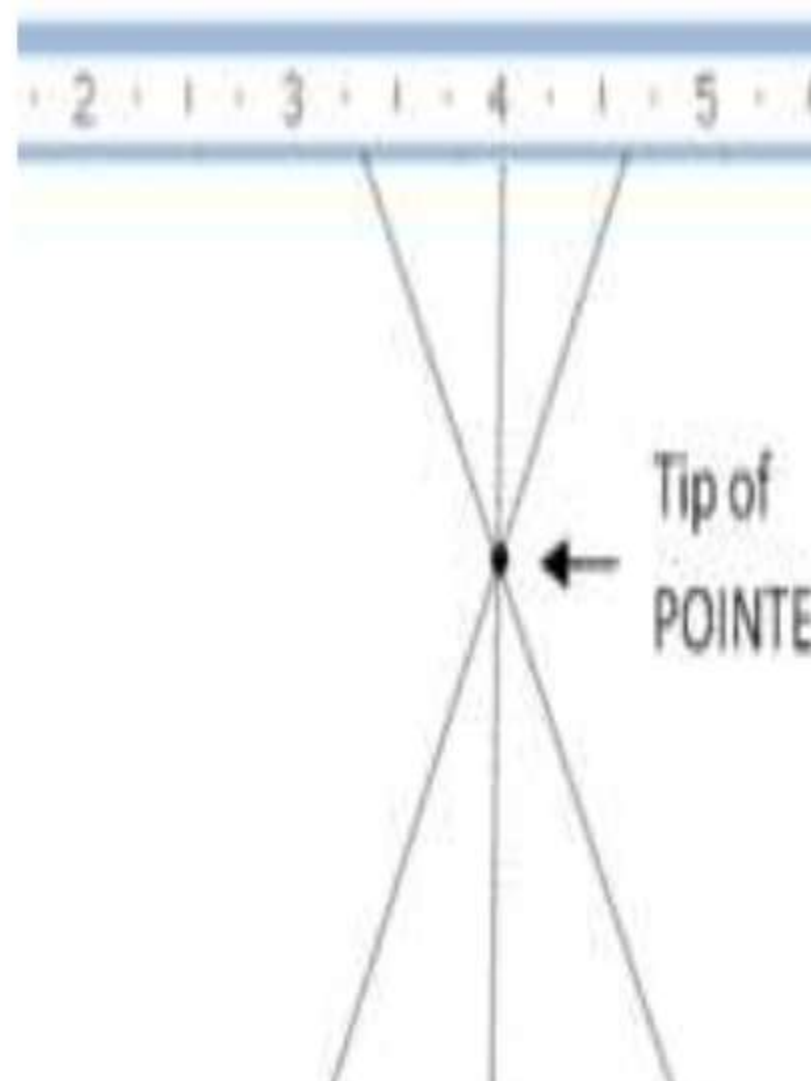
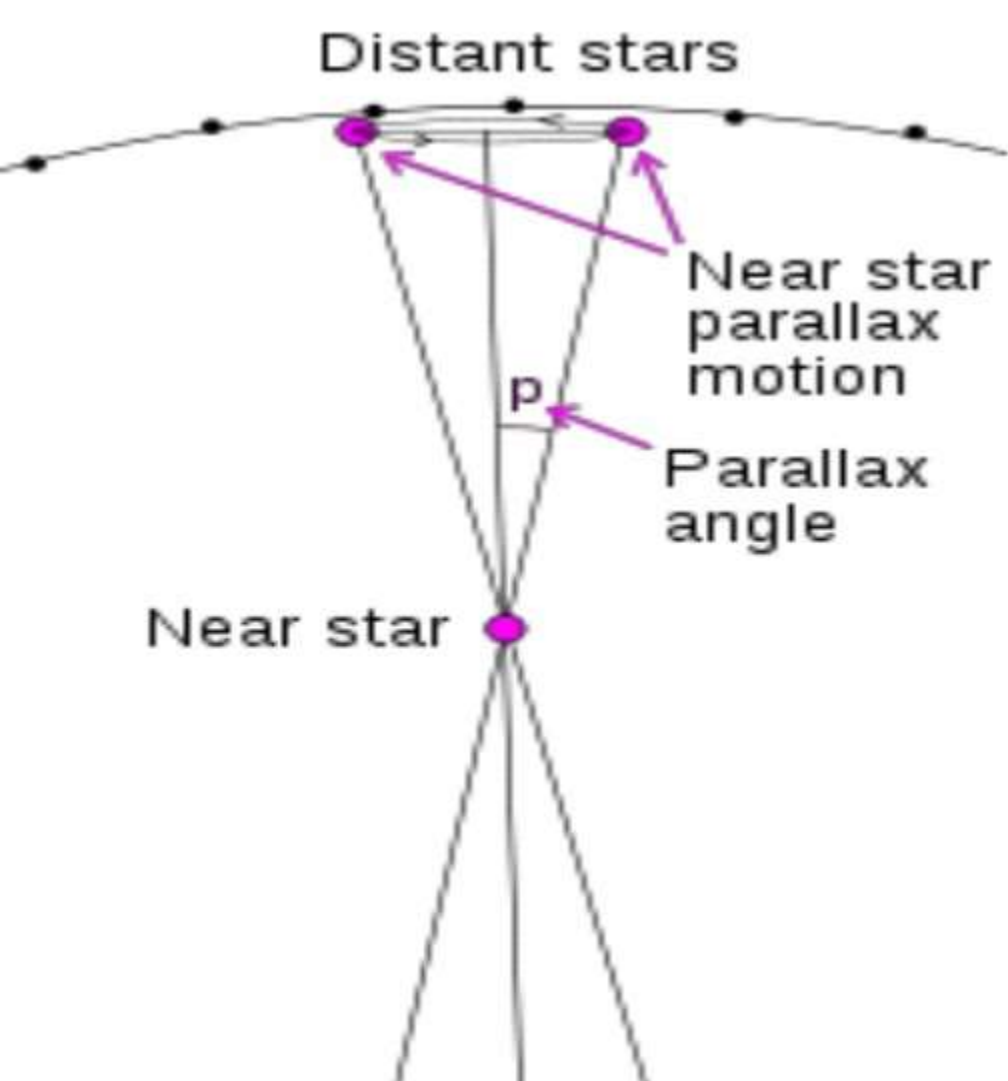
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The [European Space Agency's Gaia mission](#), launched in December 2013, will be able to measure parallax angles to an accuracy of 10 [microarcseconds](#), thus mapping nearby stars (and potentially planets) up to a distance of tens of thousands of light-years from Earth.^{[a][b]} In 2014, NASA astronomers reported that the [Hubble Space Telescope](#), by using [spatial scanning](#), can now precisely measure distances up to 10,000 light-years away, a ten-fold improvement over earlier measurements.^[a] ([related image](#))



Distance measurement

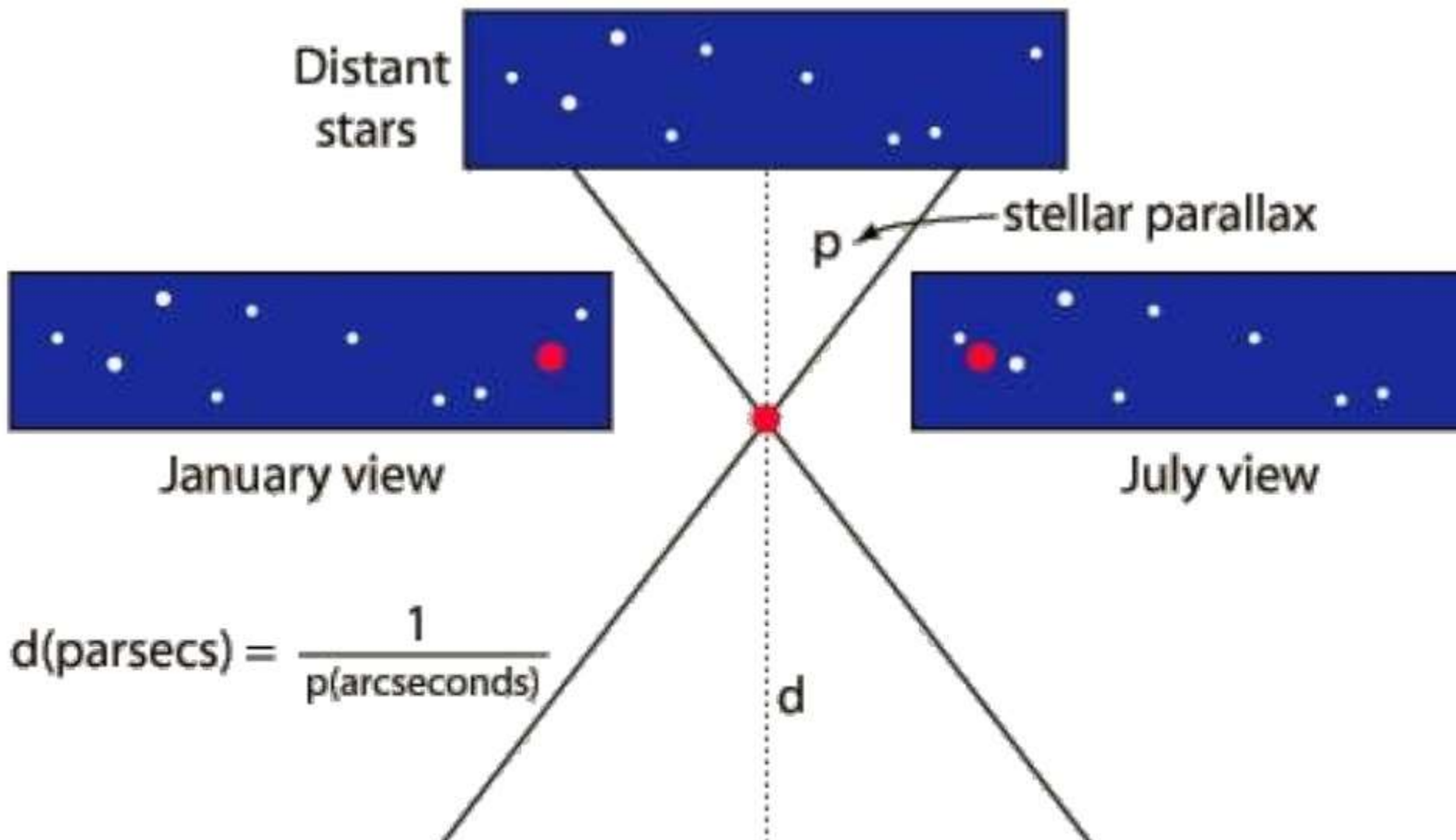
Distance measurement by parallax is a special case of the principle of [triangulation](#), which states that one can solve for all the sides and angles in a network of triangles if, in addition to the angles in the network, the length of at least one side has been measured. Thus, the careful measurement of the length of one baseline can fix the scale of an entire triangulation network. In parallax, the triangle is extremely long and narrow, and by measuring both its shortest side (the motion of the observer) and the small top angle (always less than 1 [arcsecond](#),^[6] leaving the other two close to 90 degrees), the length of the long sides (in practice considered to be equal)



Lunar parallax

Lunar parallax (often short for *lunar horizontal parallax* or *lunar equatorial horizontal parallax*), is a special case of (diagram) parallax: the Moon, being the nearest celestial body, has by far the largest maximum parallax of any celestial body, it can reach about 1 degree.

The diagram (above) for stellar parallax can illustrate lunar parallax as well, if the diagram is taken to be scaled right down and slightly modified. Instead of 'near star', read 'Moon', and instead of taking the circle at the bottom of the diagram to represent the size of the Earth's orbit around the Sun, take it to be the size of the Earth's globe, and of a circle around the Earth's surface. Then, the lunar (horizontal) parallax amounts to the difference in angular position, relative to the background of distant stars, of the Moon as seen from two different viewing positions on the Earth: one of the viewing positions is the place from which the Moon can be seen directly overhead at a given moment (that is, viewed along the vertical line in the diagram); and the other viewing position is a place from which the Moon can be seen on the horizon at the same moment (that is, viewed along one of the horizontal lines).





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