

Cosmic Times 1955 Glossary

Archimedes

An ancient Greek physicist and mathematician. His discovery of how to determine the volume of an irregular solid by water displacement is his most famous principle – Archimedes' Principle.

Copernicus

A Polish astronomer, born in the 15th century, who challenged the existing views by suggesting that the sun was the center of the solar system and the universe instead of Earth.

cubit

An ancient measure of length equal to the distance between the elbow and the fingertips or approximately 18 inches.

fusion

Joining together – used in atomic science to indicate the joining of particles in a nucleus.

luminosity

Brightness or energy output of a star. The luminosity of a star depends on BOTH its temperature (hotter stars give out more energy) -- and its radius (surface area increases as radius increases).

magnitudes

The star magnitude measures the intensity of the brightness of stars. The lower the number, the brighter the star; the higher the magnitude, the dimmer the star

Megahertz

One million hertz where each hertz is one vibration per second. This is the frequency of the radio wave.

neutron

An uncharged particle in the nucleus of an atom

Newton

Physicist known for Three Laws of Motion, Law of Universal Gravitation and invention of calculus.

Pravda

A newspaper in former the Soviet Union

pulsation

A regular variation of light intensity of a star.

Pythagoras

Ancient Greek mathematician and philosopher best know for the Pythagorean Theorem for right triangles.

red shift

A consequence of the Doppler Effect where all the spectral lines are moved to longer (redder) wavelengths when the source is moving away from the receiver.

spectrum

The distribution of energy, especially visible light, emitted by a radiant source, such as a star arranged in order of wavelengths or the graphic or photographic representation of such a distribution.