February 12, 2009

Agenda

• Announce:
  – This class does not meet Tuesday
  – Test Next Thursday
  – Get online quizzes/work done by Thursday
• Project Ideas
• BH at center of galaxy
• Defense industry transference
• Review GRBs
• Solar Altitude Measurement
• Go over relativity activity
• Review
• Pulsar Activity
• Observe Sun ...go over telescope operation

Projects

• Present a (brief) Scientific Argument
• Defend it in the face of criticism from class
• Grades based, in part, on participation in arguing against others’
  • Part I:
    – Due 2/23 by Midnight EST
  • Topic
  • Likely position (or at least layout possible positions)
• Possible topics:
  – Global warming...man made? Result of the sun or other natural causes?
  – Extraterrestrial life...exist or not?
  – Continue human space exploration or just robots?
  – More funding for asteroid tracking?

Black Hole at the center of our galaxy

Defense Industry Transference

• Adaptive optics: spy satellites→telescopes
• Gamma ray detectors: nuke detection→GRBs
• Radio Observations: radar→CMB, radio galaxies
• Fusion modeling: nuke “testing”→Flash center

GRBs

• How first detected?
• Why so remarkable?
• What do we observe?
• How do we figure out where they are?
• Ultimately, we decide they happen where?
• What are they (what “causes” them)?
Take Solar Altitude Measurement

Pass Back and Discuss Relativity Activity