What's Up?

October 1–31, 2024

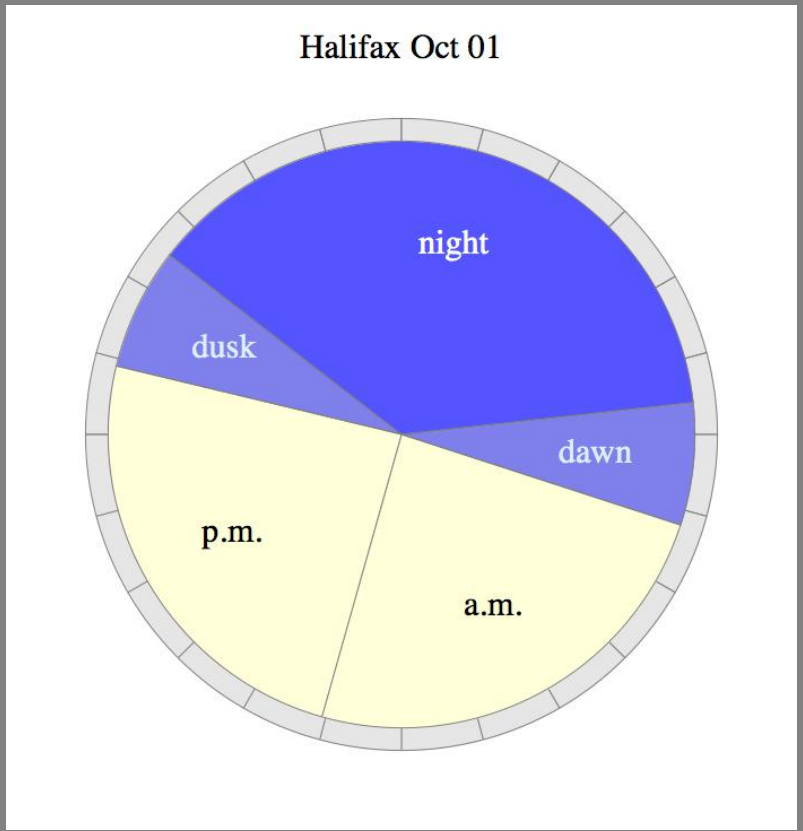
Made with the 2024 RASC Observer's Handbook, 2024
Night Sky Almanac, Sky Safari®, and Stellarium®

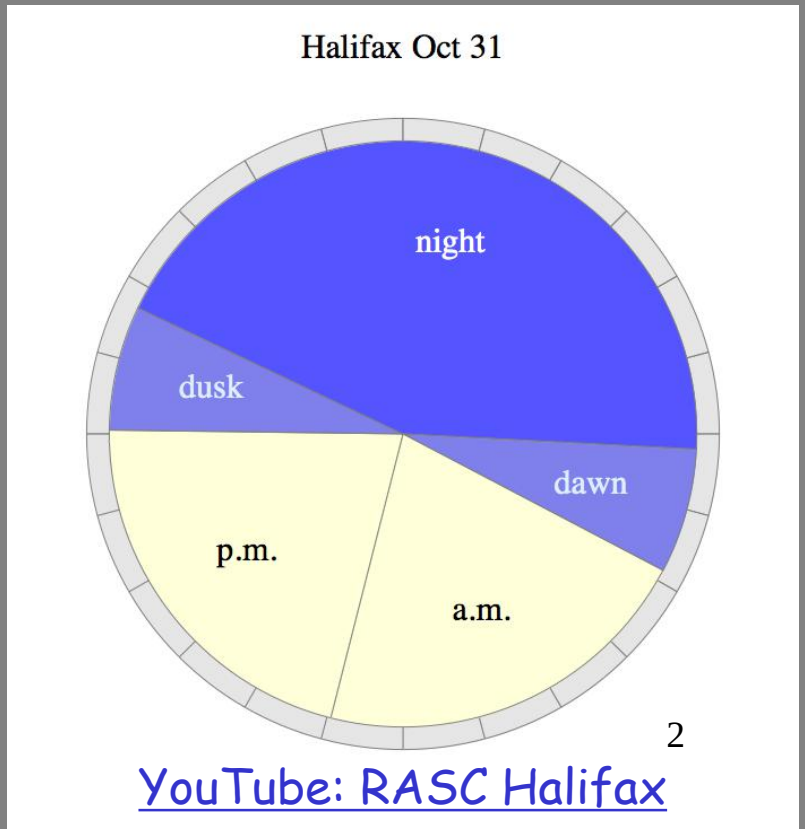
photo: David Hoskin

The Sun This Month

Today's Solar Activity

Date	Sunset	Dusk End	Darkness	Dawn Start	Sunrise	"Noon"	Sunlight	Max Altitude
Oct 1	6:53 p.m.	8:30 p.m.	9.1 h	5:35 a.m.	7:12 a.m.	1:03 p.m.	11.7 h	42º
Oct 31	6:03 p.m.	7:42 p.m.	10.5 h	6:12 a.m.	7:511 a.m.	12:57 p.m.	10.2 h	31º

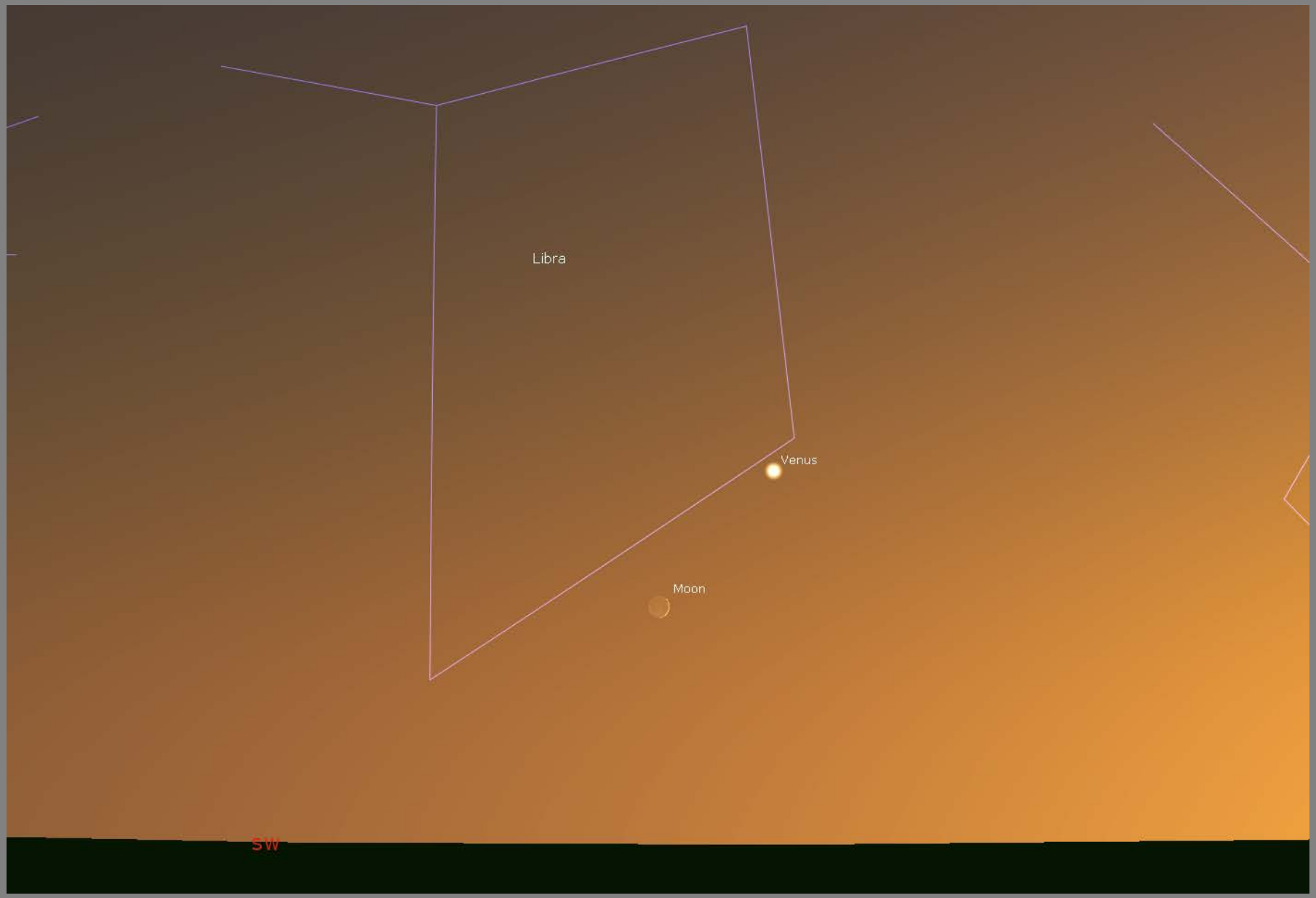




YouTube: RASC Halifax

The Moon This Month

Date (AST)	Phase	English	Mi'kmaq
Oct 2	*New Moon*	Animal Fattening	Wikewiku's
Oct 2	Moon at apogee (406,500 km)		
Oct 5	Moon near Venus		
Oct 10	*First Quarter*		
Oct 14	Moon near Saturn		
Oct 16	Moon at perigee (357,200 km)		
Oct 17	*Full Moon*		
Oct 21	Orionid Meteor Shower Peak		
Oct 23	Moon near Mars		
Oct 24	*Last Quarter*		
Oct 29	Moon at apogee (406,200 km)		

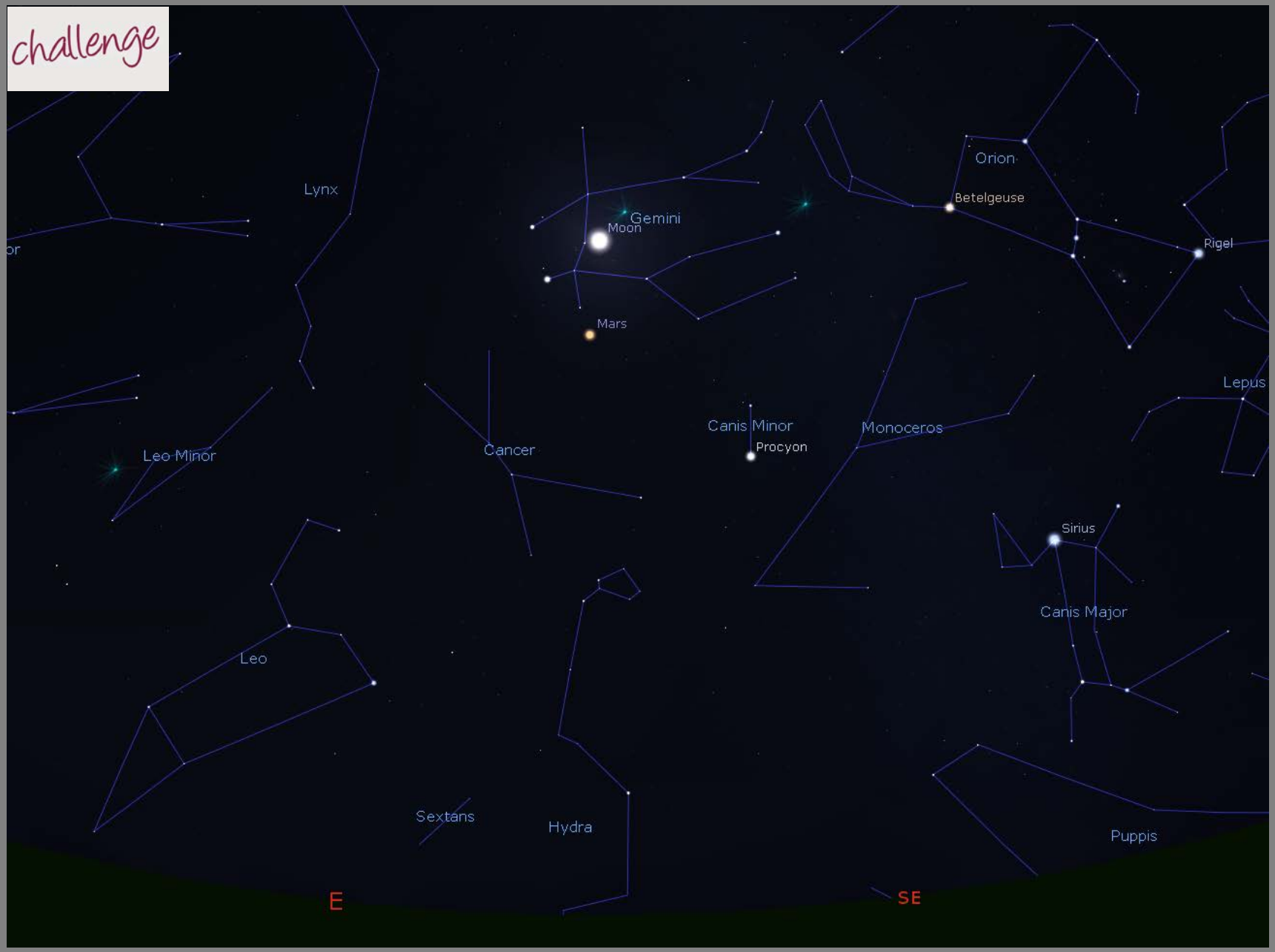


Waxing crescent Moon near Venus, Oct 5 @ 7:00 p.m.

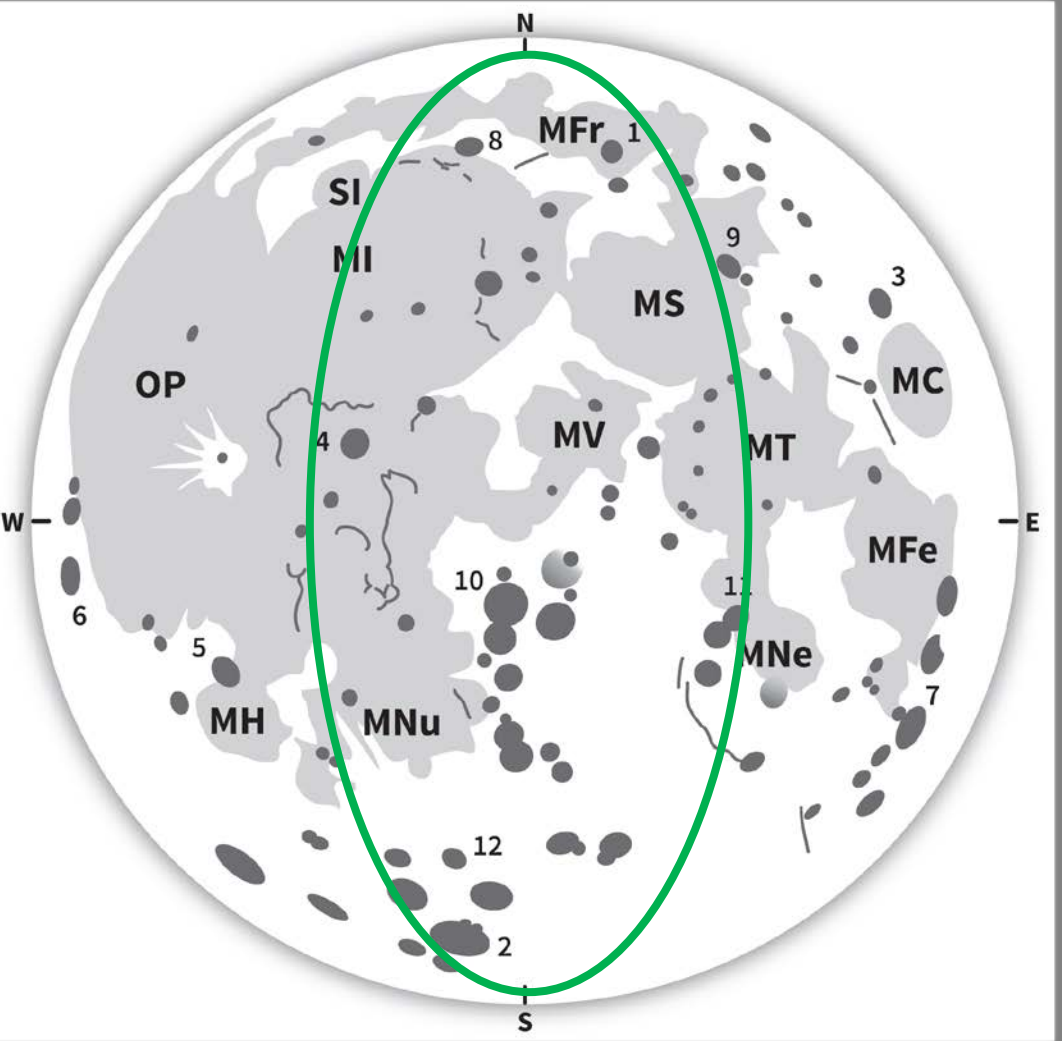
Waxing gibbous Moon near Saturn, Oct 14 @ 10:00 p.m.

7x50 binoculars (FOV 7.1°)

challenge



Waning gibbous Moon near Mars, Oct 23 @ 4:00 a.m.



MARE

MC: Mare Crisium

MFe: Mare Fecunditatis

MFr: Mare Frigoris

MH: Mare Humorum

SI: Sinus Iridum

MI: Mare Imbrium

MNe: Mare Nectaris

MNu: Mare Nubium

MS: Mare Serenitatis

MT: Mare Tranquillitatis

MV: Mare Vaporum

OP: Oceanus Procellarum

CRATERS

1. Aristoteles
2. Clavius
3. Cleomedes
4. Copernicus
5. Gassendi
6. Grimaldi
7. Petavius
8. Plato
9. Posidonius
10. Ptolomaeus
11. Theophilus
12. Tycho

challenge

October 15-19

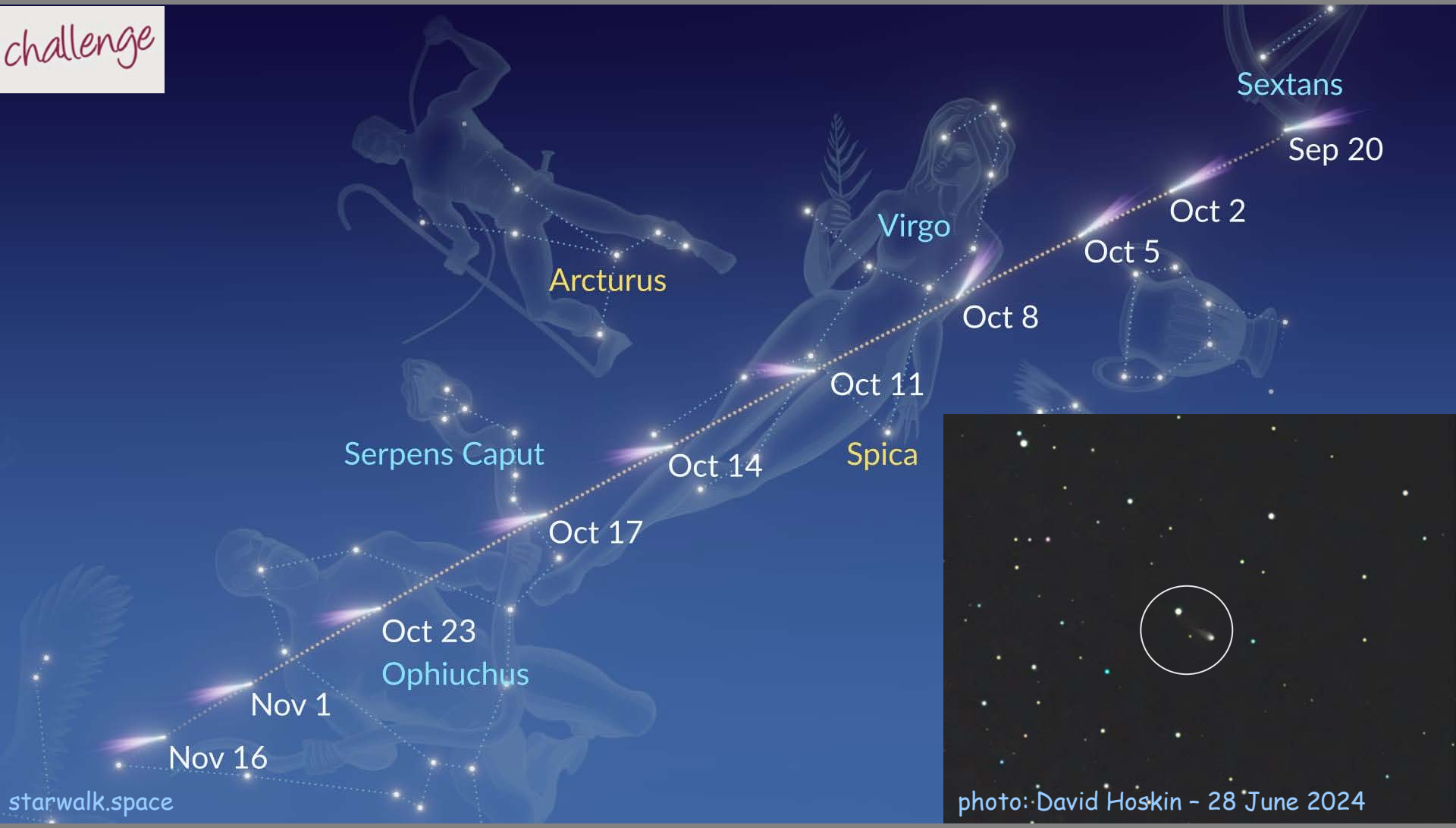
The Moon in

Explore the Universe

observe 3 of each in binoculars

Comet C/2023 A3 (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS)

challenge



Low in the west in the early evening after October 9

The Planets in October

Mercury-visible very low in the W (mag.- 0.5) after sunset until mid month

Venus -low in the SW (mag. -3.9) after sunset
-close to the waxing crescent Moon on 5 October

Mars -visible in Gemini (mag. 0.5) in the morning sky all month
-brightens as the month progresses to mag. 0.1
-near waning gibbous Moon on 23 October

Jupiter -prominent in Taurus (mag. -2.5), rising before midnight

Saturn -visible in Aquarius (mag. 0.7) for most of the night
-close to the waxing gibbous Moon on 14 October

Uranus -visible in Taurus (mag. 5.7) for most of the night

Neptune-visible for most of the night in Pisces (mag. 7.8)

Zodiacal Light

-pyramid of light in the western sky just after the end of twilight (February, March) or in the eastern sky just before the start of morning twilight (September, October)

- dust concentrated in the plane of the ecliptic and towards the Sun reflects sunlight

-best seen at a dark observing site on a moonless night when the ecliptic is at a high angle relative to the horizon (Oct 1-16 @ 5:30-6:00 a.m. recommended)

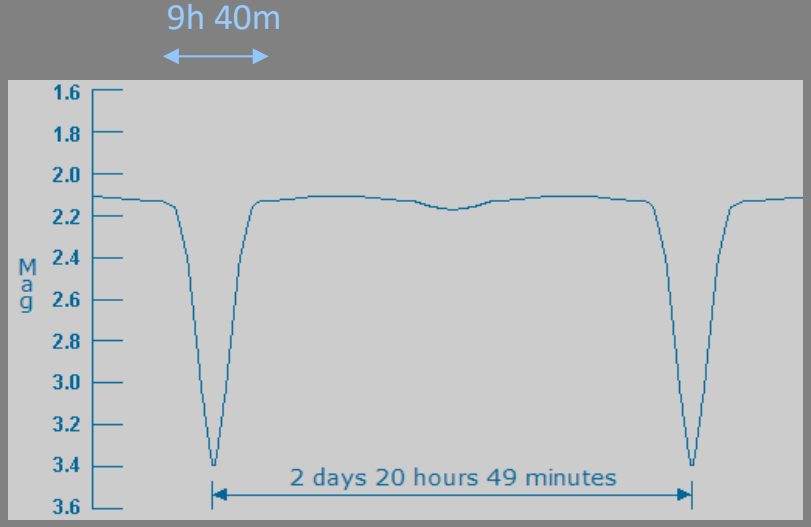
8 September 2021 @ 5:08 a.m., Chebucto Head

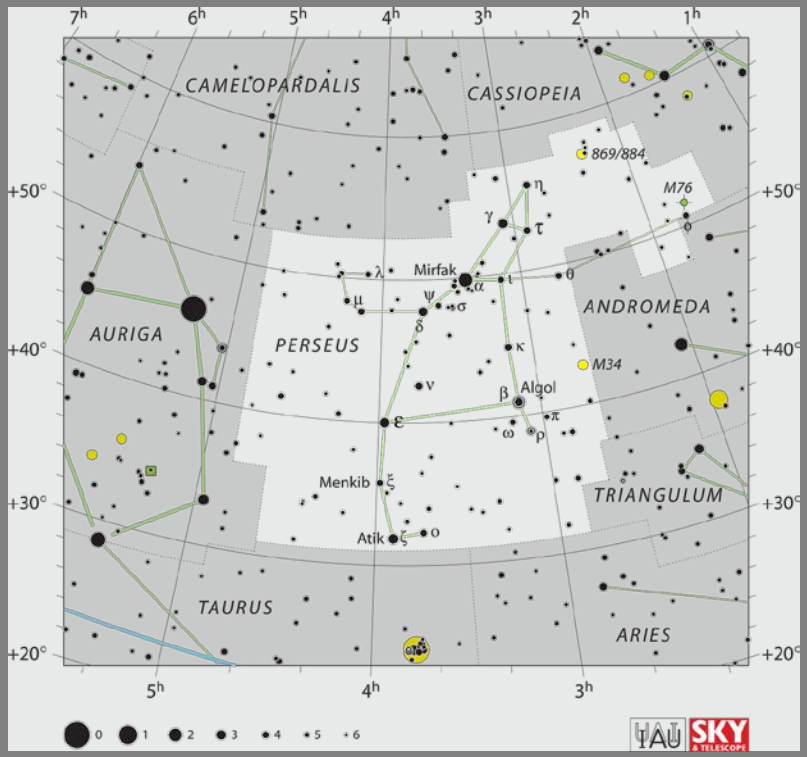
challenge

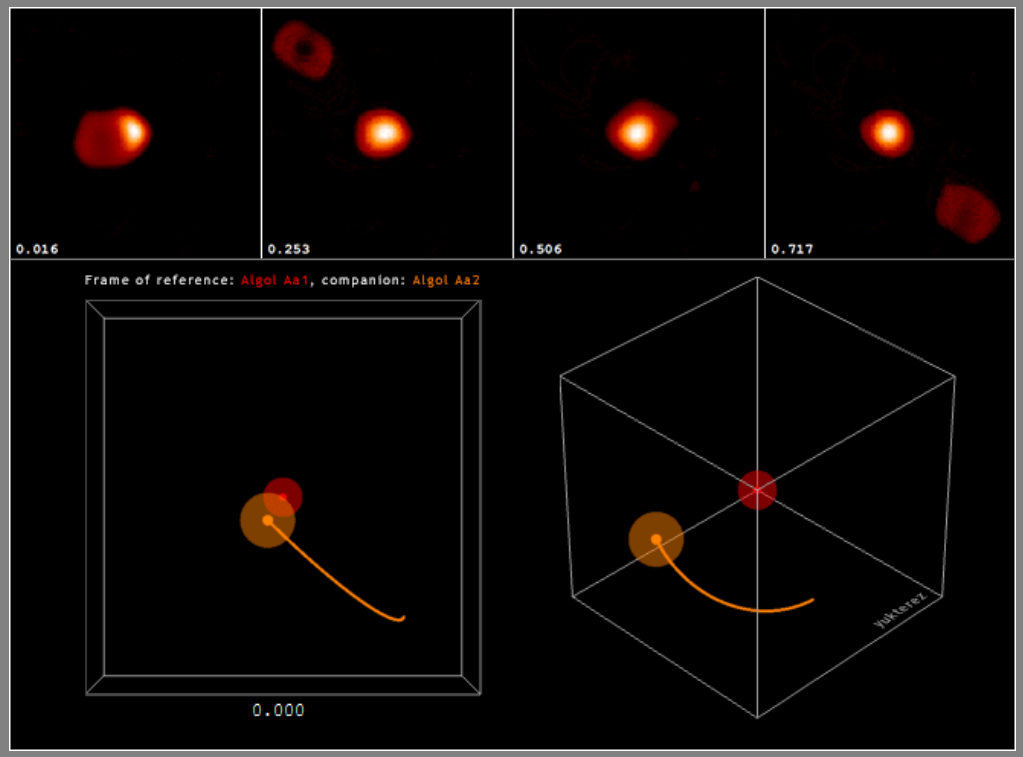
Algol (β Persei)

Oct 13 minimum 9:46 p.m. (mag. 3.2)

Oct 14 maximum 2:14 a.m. (mag. 2.2)







astropical.space/algol.php

Halifax, NS 12 October 2024 @ 9:30 pm

Explore the Universe:

Autumn Constellations

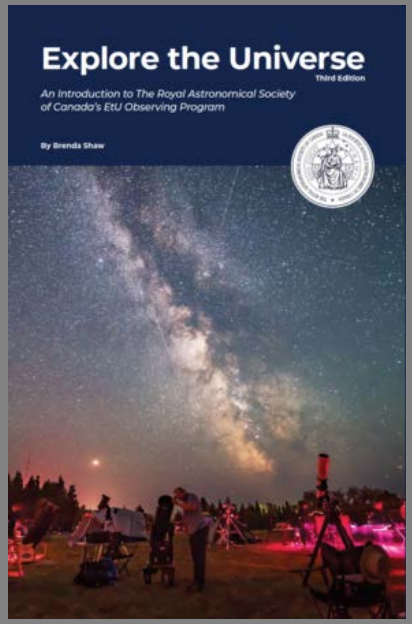
Pegasus

Andromeda

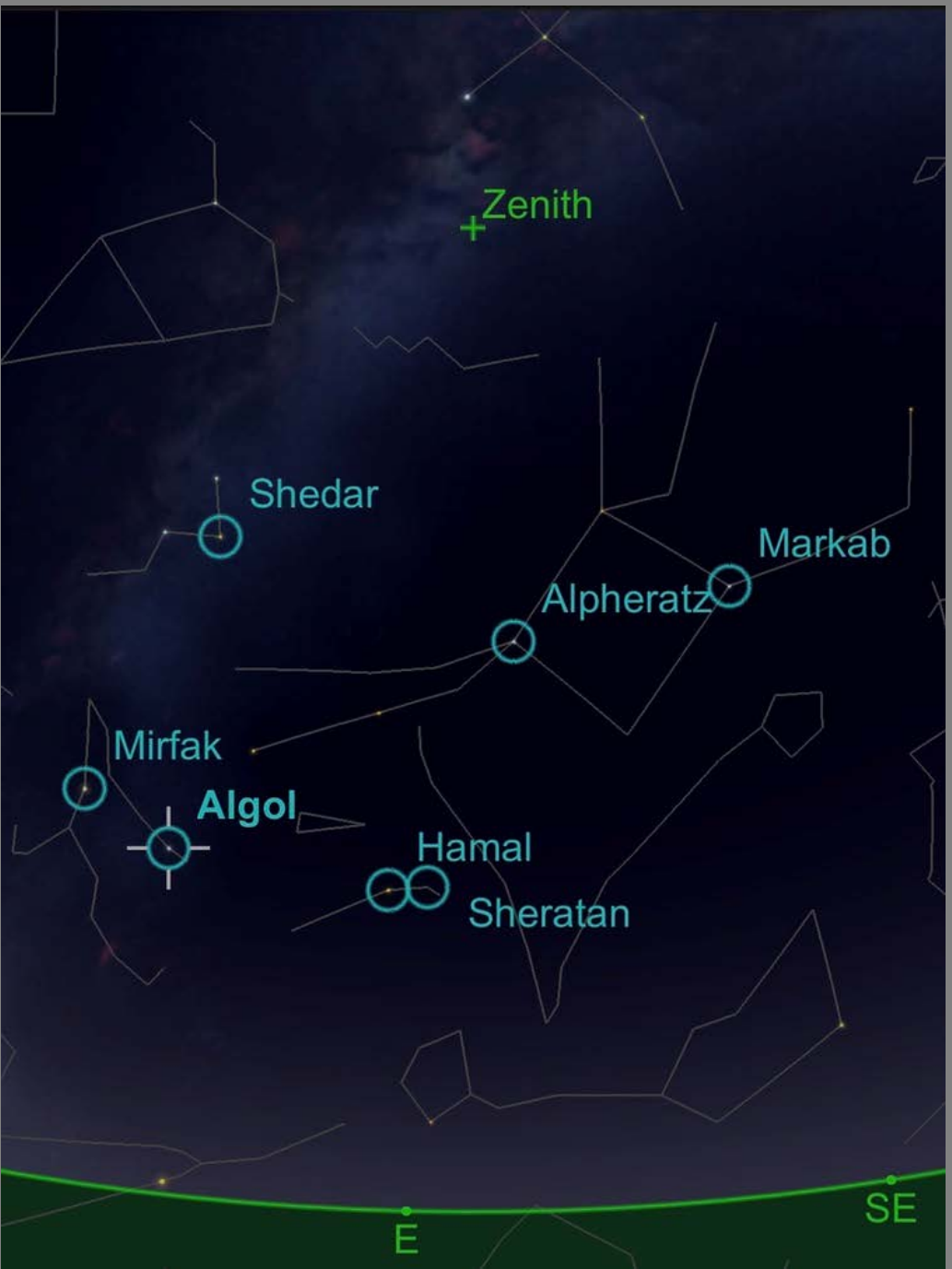
Cassiopeia

Perseus

Aries



Halifax, NS 12 October 2024 @ 9:30 pm



Explore the Universe:

Autumn Stars

Ranking:

#35 Mirfak (N)

Hamal (N)

Alpheratz (N)

Algol

Schedar (N)

Markab

Sheratan

N = Navigation

all good for Syn Scan alignment

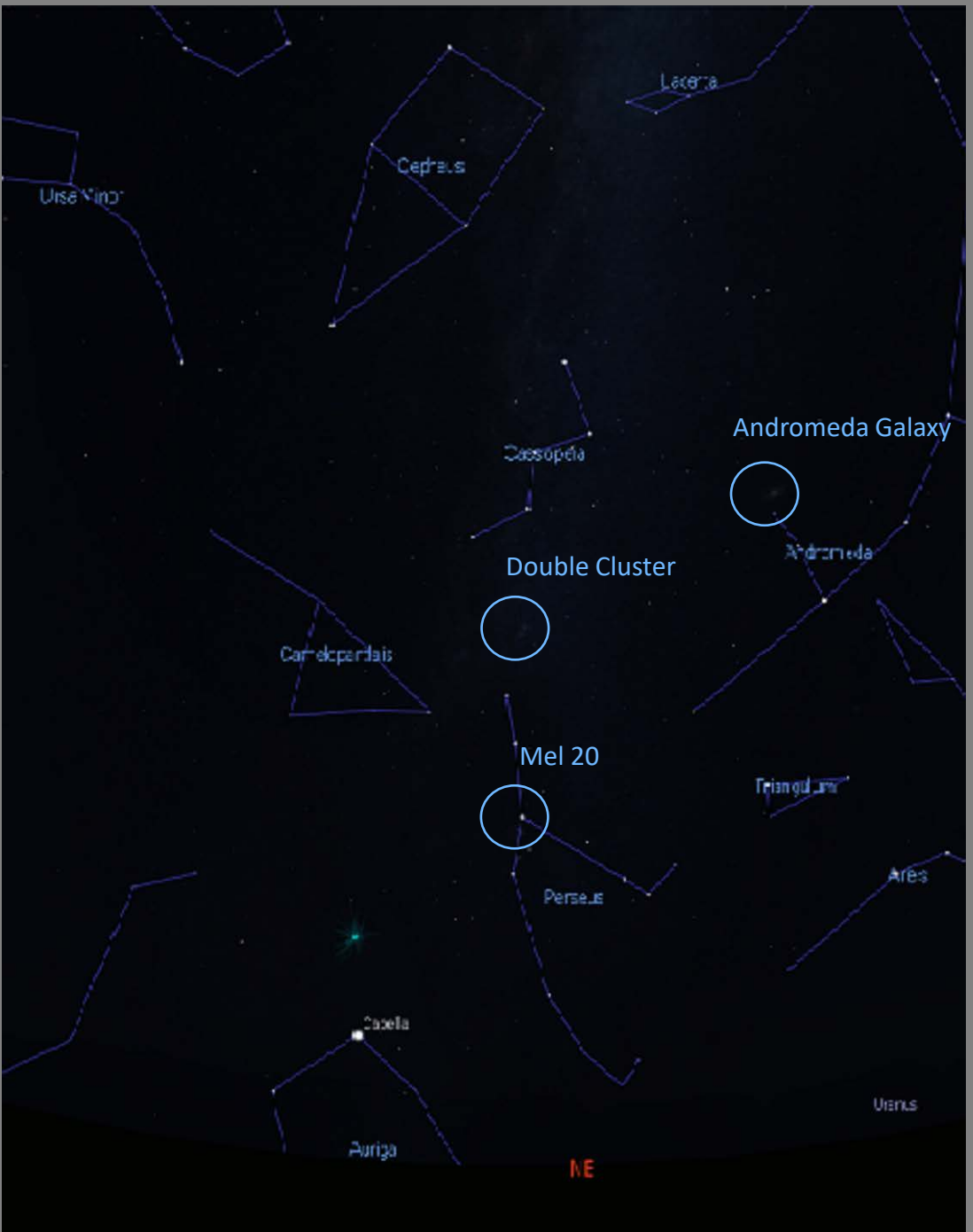
Halifax, NS 12 Oct 2024 @ 9:00 pm

Explore the Universe:
Autumn Deep-Sky Objects

Melotte 20 (Alpha Persei Cluster)

Open star cluster in Perseus

Mirfak is most luminous member



challenge

Halifax, NS 20 Oct 2024 @ 8:30 pm

Explore the Universe: Double Star

α1 & α2 Capricorni (4.4, 3.7, 378″)

Wide binocular optical double

α2 Cap (Algedi) is a yellow giant

α1 Cap (Prima Giedi) is a yellow supergiant

challenge

Questions?

observing@halifax.rasc.ca

photo: David Hoskin