Union College Spring 2016

Astronomy 50

**Makeup Lab: Astrometry of Asteroids**

Other important bodies in our Solar System, in addition to the Sun, planets, and moons, are the asteroids. How do we know about the orbits of these bodies? This lab is a demonstration of astronomical observations of asteroids.

Open the application for the CLEA lab “Astronomy of Asteroids” and follow the instructions in the “Student Manual.” Only do Parts I-IV (i.e. don’t do part V). The following is a list of typos and the corrections in the manual.

-page 21, in step *l*, “step m” should be changed to “step k”

and “step h” should be changed to “step f”

-page 24, in the box in step 3a, block out both sets of parentheses and write the RA in seconds and Dec in arcseconds.

-page 25, top line, “step d” should be changed to “step c”

the equation in step 4 is confusing the way it is written. This is a multiplication and a division, i.e.:

“Distance to the Asteroid = 206265 x (baseline distance / parallax angle)”

Fill in all the blanks and diagrams and turn in these pages for your report.