

Heber Curtis - Harlow Shapley 1920 Debate



Shapley



Curtis

- Sun not @ center of MW
- Galaxy larger than thought from Cepheid Observations
- "Spiral Nebulae" are within the MW
- Interstellar absorption not important for distances

- Sun close to center of MW
- Cepheids not reliable distance indicator
- "Spiral Nebulae" are external galaxies
- Interstellar absorption not important for distances

Galaxy Structure

Three major components:

- (1) Bulge central stellar (mainly older stars)
- (2) Disk flat rotating of stars & gas
- (3) Halo nearly spherical of stars, DM dominated



















