

Homework 1

AAS Scavenger Hunt

During Week 2 of class, the [AAS 241](#) meeting will be held here in Seattle. I encourage you all to attend and participate in this major conference, and there will be no lectures or office hours held this week. Instead we will use this meeting to our advantage, and you will go on a galactic astronomy scavenger hunt!

(Note: attending AAS 241 is not mandatory, and this can be fully completed using the arXiv)

Part 1

(5pts)

Find a presentation (AAS talk, poster, plenary - or NEW paper published on arXiv this week) related to “Galactic Astronomy”. This is to be broadly interpreted, but if you’re having difficulty finding something relevant look for words like *Gaia*, *cartography*, *milky way substructure*, *streams*, *galactic structure*, *APOGEE*...

Since many people might identify the same talk, I suggest trying to snag a couple different presentations so we can have a more varied discussion next week.

Take a picture, screenshot, drawing, or some other method to capture this and send it to me via Slack or Email.

Bonus Finds

- Can you spot Jim during the meeting? Say hello!
- Get free food at the Opening Reception
- Get free food at the (many) evening Town Halls
 - double bonus for hitting up multiple Town Halls for more variety!
- Find a model of JWST and take a selfie in the hexagonal mirrors
- Take a group photo in front of the big AAS sign
- Go to a plenary talk... there’s a TON of amazing speakers this year, including: Jessie Christiansen, Chanda Prescod-Weinstein, Dan Foreman-Mackey...
 - Especially go to the Gaia plenary talk on Thursday afternoon!
- Get a bunch of free stuff from the poster hall - what was your favorite swag?

Part 2

(5pts)

The following week (Jan 17), we will go around the room and debrief, sharing our findings. If you would like to show any pictures, send me a PDF or powerpoint slide before class! Be sure to report the title and authors of the presentation you saw, and why you think it is interesting and related to Galactic Astronomy. This isn’t a full-on Journal Club style report, we’ll keep it light. My *hope* is that we cover most every area of the course with the many presentations we report on.