

Re: Stars visible with naked eye

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- *From:* pausch@xxxxxxx (Paul Schlyter)
 - *Date:* Thu, 21 Feb 2008 10:42:33 GMT
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In article <fpj7o5\$lj7\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, Landy <noone@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

"Landy" <noone@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:fpj2ea\\$67\\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:fpj2ea$67$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

"p4o2" <p4o2@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:417f851d-7763-4e45-a47a-ffebdb779d1e@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

How many of the stars visible with the naked eye are in our milky way?
I think maybe they all are?

Ah, no. Our own Sun would become invisible to the naked eye at about 20–30 light years distance. I would imagine we'd be lucky to see 1% of them.

cheers
Bill

Just realized I misread the question. I thought I was answering "are all the stars in the milky way visible to the naked eye"

I misread the question too..... :-O

Almost all naked-eye stars are within our own galaxy. I know of only two exceptions:

S Andromedae – that star was a supernova within M31 (the Andromeda galaxy) which briefly reached magnitude 6 in 1885. Nobody is known to actually have seen it with the naked eye, but it was briefly bright enough to reach naked-eye visibility.

SN 1987A – this was another supernova, this time in the Large Magellanic Cloud. It peaked at magnitude 3, and was seen with the naked eye by

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many people.

So, apart from occasional supernovae in the most nearby galaxies, all naked-eye stars reside in our own galaxy.

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