PHYS178 – Assignment.
Due: Monday 3rd November 2008

This assignment contributes 2% to your final grade. Please write brief answers directly on the sheet in the spaces provided (and on the back if necessary). The assignment should be turned into the PHYS178 assignment box on level 2 of E7A.

1.What do you think is the most important power of a telescope and why?

2. Outline some of the major observational difficulties that need to be overcome in detecting extra-solar planets.

3. Select one of the current established techniques that have been used to find extra-solar planets and briefly describe how it works.

4. Several hundred extra-solar planets have now been discovered but the planets and planetary systems exhibit a surprising range of properties. Briefly detail some of these `surprises'.