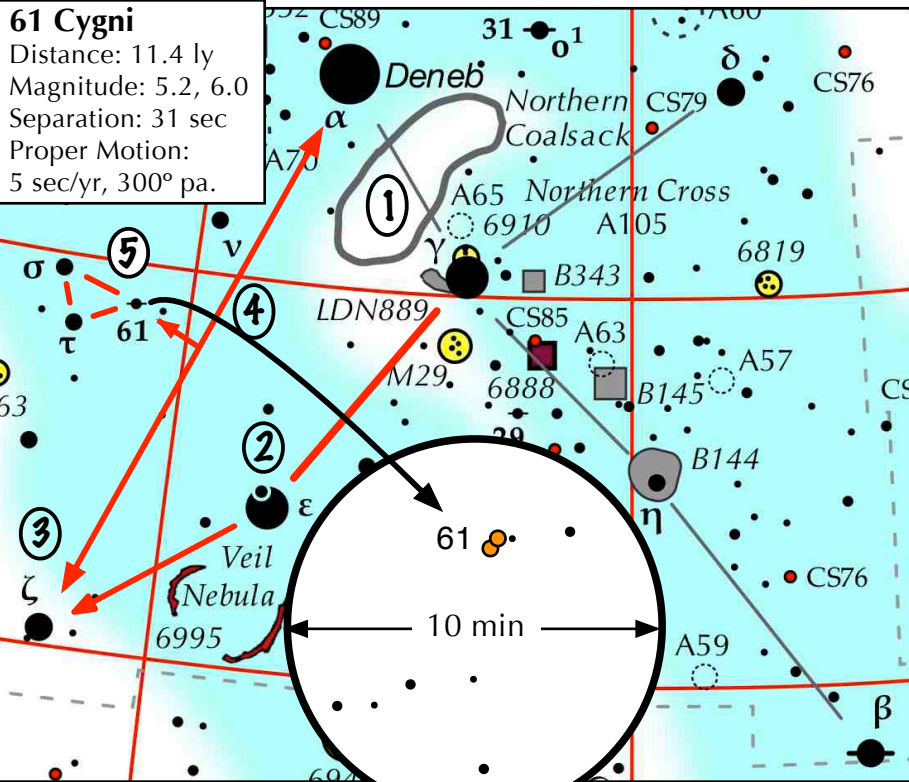


Deep Sky Object of the Month: 61 Cygni, a fast moving double star

61 Cygni

Distance: 11.4 ly
Magnitude: 5.2, 6.0
Separation: 31 sec
Proper Motion:
5 sec/yr, 300° pa.



September 9:30 p.m.

To find 61 Cygni by Triangulation:

1. Locate Cygnus, which lies nearly overhead.
2. Find Epsilon on the southeast tip of the cross-bar.
3. Continue southeast to Zeta, slightly dimmer than Epsilon.
4. Draw a line between Deneb and Zeta.
5. About half way between them and to the east is 61 Cygni. It forms the western vertex of a right triangle with the brighter Tau and Sigma Cygni.

Imager's Challenge:

1. Image 61 Cygni. Try to capture stars down to 12 magnitude.
2. Next year, image it again.
3. Notice the movement of 61 Cyg. In 2018, it will be more in alignment with the two dim stars directly to its west.