

HW 2, #2

Distance to the Pleiades has been measured by parallax  
 $d = 136 \text{ pc}$

Using provided Gaia photometry, we can make a color-mag diagram (see "mystery-a.png"). At  $(BP-RP) = +1.0$ , the main sequence has

$$m_G = 11.2$$

Plotting data from the mystery cluster on the same diagram (see "mystery-b.png") shows that at this same color, the mystery's main-sequence has apparent mag

$$m_G(\text{mystery}) = +15.4$$

Thus, the offset is

$$\Delta m = 15.4 - 11.2 = 4.2 \text{ mag}$$

$$\text{So } (m-M)_{\text{mystery}} = (m-M)_{\text{pleiades}} + 4.2$$

$$\text{But } (m-M)_{\text{pleiades}} = 5 \log(136 \text{ pc}) - 5 = 5.67$$

$$\rightarrow (m-M)_{\text{mystery}} = 5.67 + 4.2 = 9.87$$

$$\rightarrow d_{\text{mystery}} = 10^{0.2 \times [(m-M) + 5]}$$

$$= 941 \text{ pc}$$

p2

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Complications: both clusters are reddened by dust in space.

Using

$$A_G = 1.86 (BP - RP)$$

we can compute

| cluster  | $E(BP - RP)$ | $A_G$ |
|----------|--------------|-------|
| Pleiades | +0.08        | +0.15 |
| mystery  | +0.42        | +0.78 |

See corrected color-magnitude diagram "mystery-c.png".  
In this diagram, the vertical offset between the clusters is

$$\Delta m = +5.1 \text{ mag}$$

So distance to mystery cluster is

$$d_{\text{mystery}} = 10^{0.2 [(5.67 + 5.1) + 5]}$$

$$= 1430 \text{ pc}$$