

which diminishes the distance as much as possible)	-	-	6,767,216,000,000
One half the distance from Sirius to the Sun, or the depth of the solar and sircin system	-	-	3,385,885,000,000
Extent beyond the limits of the comet's aphelion	-	-	2,381,331,000,000
Which being divided by the distance of the comet's aphelion, gives about	-	-	742½

We can form another idea of our immense distance from Sirius, by recollecting that the sun's disk forms to our sight an angle of 32 minutes, whereas that of Sirius forms only that of a second; and Sirius being a sun like ours, which we shall suppose of equal magnitude, since there is no reason to conceive it larger or smaller, it would appear to us as large as the sun, if it were but a like distance. Taking therefore two numbers proportional to the square of 32 minutes, and to the square of a second, we shall have 3,686,4000 for the distance of the earth to Sirius, and one for its distance to the sun; and as this unit is equal to 33 millions of leagues, we see how many millions of leagues Sirius is distant from us, since we must multiply these 33 millions by 3,686,400; and if we divide the space between these two neighbouring suns, although at so great a distance, we shall see that the comets might be removed to a distance 1,800,000 times greater