



π IN THE SKY⁵

Can you solve the case of this topsy-turvy visitor from another solar system?
A slice of pi will help you reveal this mystery like a NASA space explorer.

Explore the full NASA Pi Day Challenge at:
jpl.nasa.gov/edu/nasapidaychallenge

ASTEROID ACE

Asteroid 'Oumuamua is a uniquely-shaped interstellar object discovered in October 2017. It's the first visitor from outside our solar system to be detected. Preliminary analyses indicate that 'Oumuamua is quite elongated, about 10 times as long as it is wide. It was first detected after it had passed Earth at a high speed on its journey out of our solar system, traveling at about 85,700 miles per hour.

So scientists could make detailed observations of the interstellar visitor before it sped too far away, they had to quickly re-plan their schedules. By monitoring how the brightness of the asteroid fluctuated as it spun on its axis, scientists estimate that 'Oumuamua rotates once every 7.3 hours.

Given these findings, what's the angular rotation rate of asteroid 'Oumuamua in rad/s?

How does this compare with Earth's rotation rate?

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