**Multiple Star Orbits**

Stars also orbit each other in binary and multiple star systems. Review the multiple star orbits at the website <http://www.atlasoftheuniverse.com/orbits.html>.

Then explore the orbital parameters (semi-major axis and eccentricity) of several nearby binary star systems, available on the website <http://www.solstation.com/orbits.htm>. Good examples are Alpha Centauri AB, Sirius AB, 61 Cygni AB, and 36 Ophiuchi AB.

What values of eccentricity are typical for binary star systems? Are circular orbits common or rare?

**Part 8: Beyond the Solar System –** Gravity dominates not only the planets of the Solar System, but