

Other explanations of the difference between the observed and computed parallaxes suggest themselves. The first is that in choosing stars with large proper motions we have selected stars whose mean angle of inclination to the line of sight is larger than the law of random motion would make it. If this is true the present results would be explained. The operation of this factor would affect relations connecting parallax and proper motions in general, for such relations are derived from stars with large proper motions. Another explanation might be that the stellar system as a whole is rotating, a phenomenon which would affect the proper motions and not the radial velocities. However this latter explanation seems very improbable, as the major part of any rotational effect in proper motions must be eliminated by solutions for the position of the vernal equinox. There remains the possibility that the stars employed contain an unusual number of negative parallaxes.

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