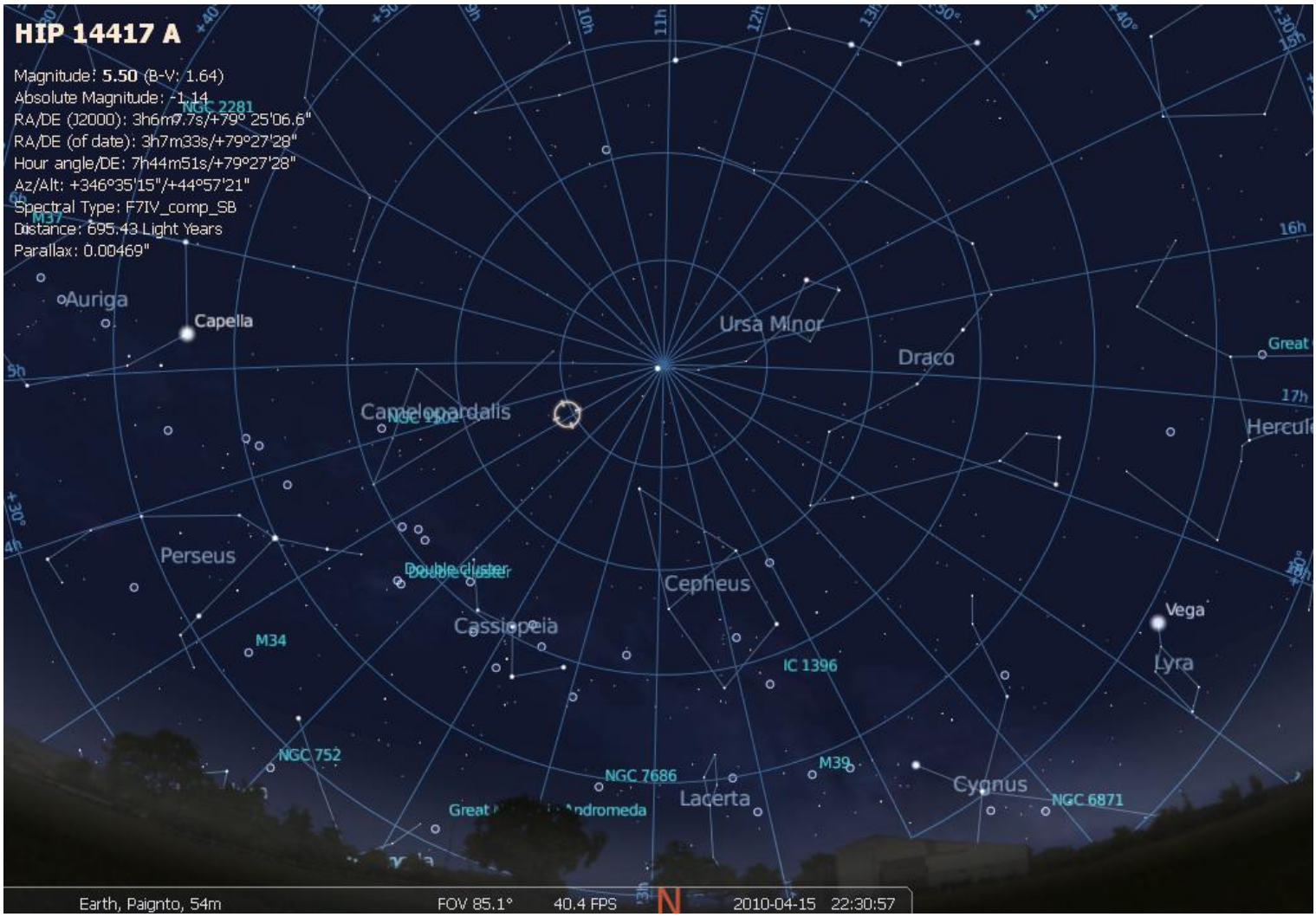
April 10 Sky notes

Based on sky visible at 10:30pm 15th April

View of Sky facing North on April 15th 2010 (85deg Field of View)



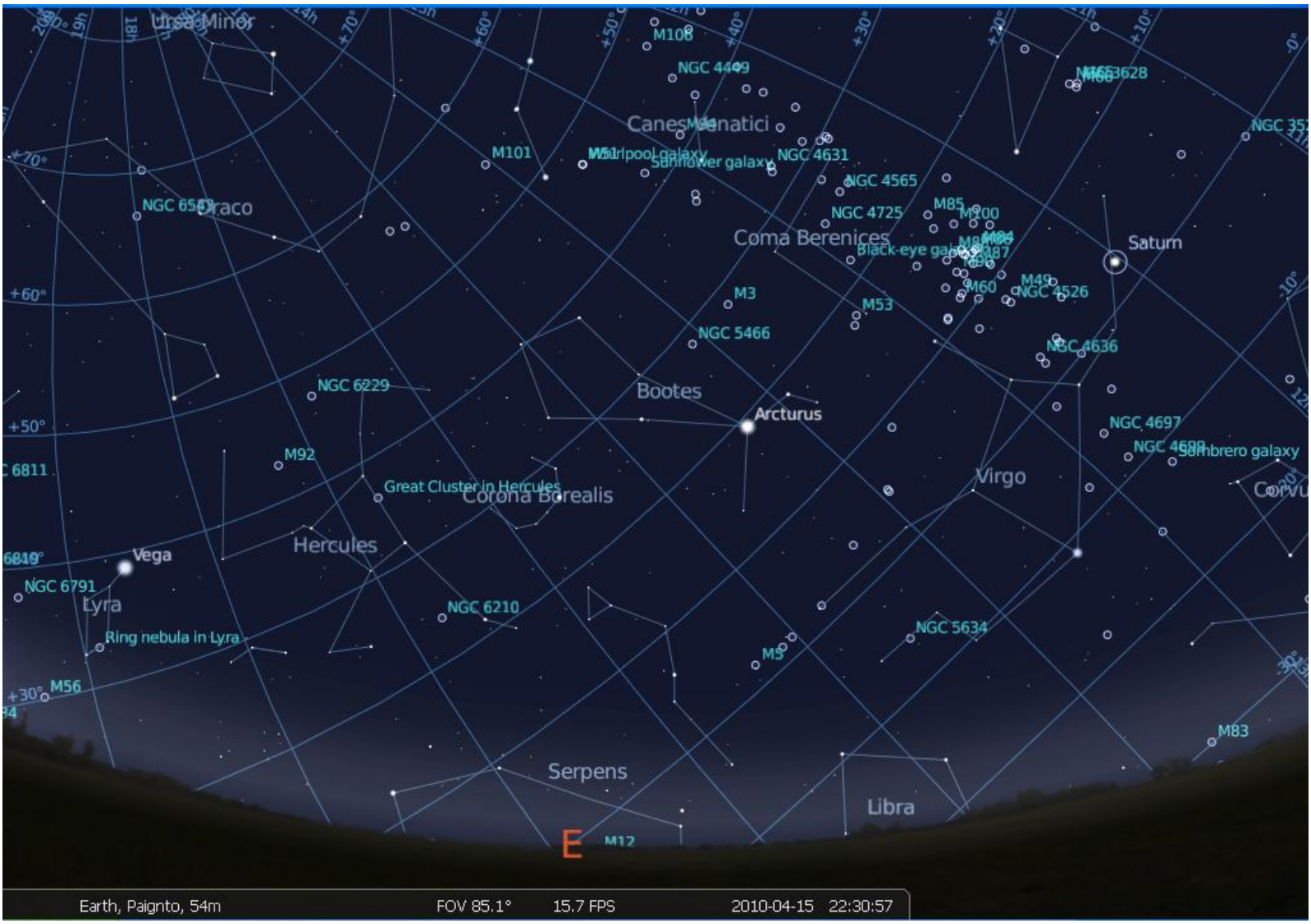
Cygnus – visible on low on NE horizon (bright star Deneb)

Cepheus – faint constellation below Polaris

Draco – faint constellation between Ursa Major & Ursa Minor

Cassiopeia/ Perseus – low on NE horizon

View of Sky facing East on April 15th 2010 (22:30pm) (85deg Field of View)



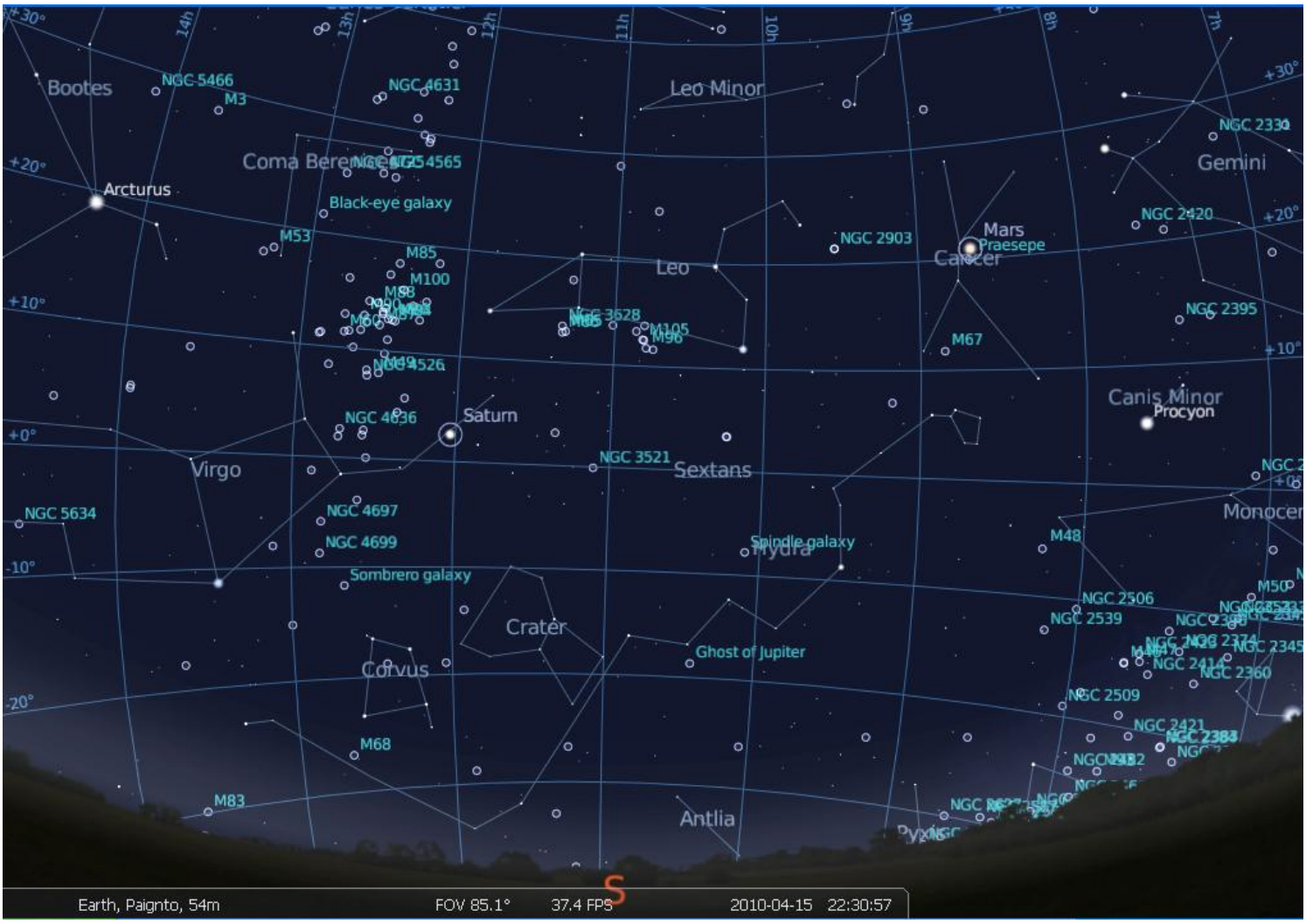
Lyra – low on NE horizon (bright star Vega)

Hercules – Keystone – asterism – Great Globular cluster M13

Bootes – due East -Bright star Arcturus — globular cluster M3

Canes Venatici – Virgo – region of realm of galaxies

View of Sky facing South on April 15th 2010 (85deg Field of View)

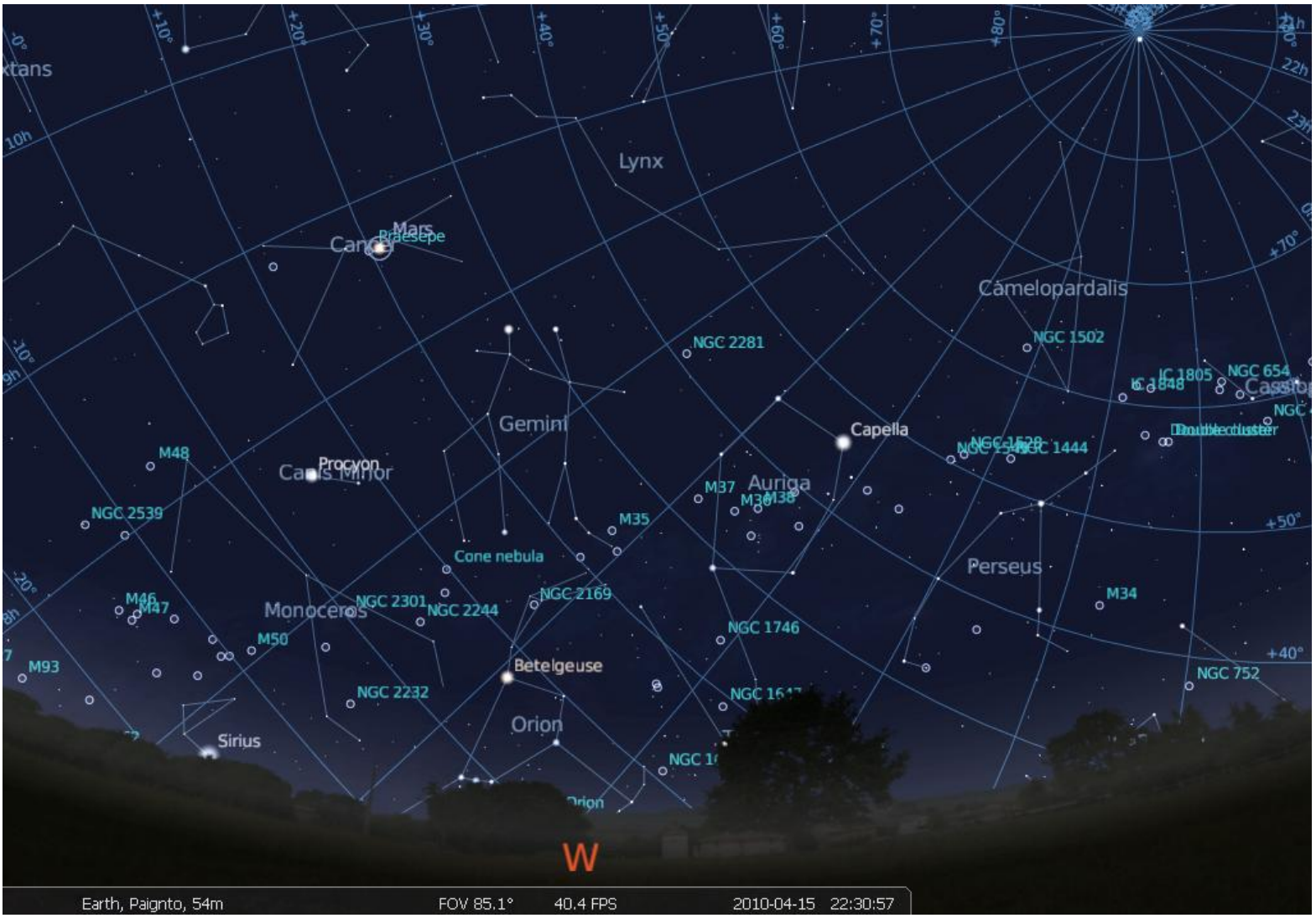


Virgo – prominent in SE - - realm of galaxies - Saturn

Leo –almost due south - Leo Triplet galaxies (M65/M66) – bright galaxy NGC2903

Cancer – open cluster M44(Praesepe) / M67 - Mars

View of Sky facing West on April 15th 2010 (80deg Field of View)



Gemini - bright stars Castor and Pollux

Auriga / Perseus - low on western horizon

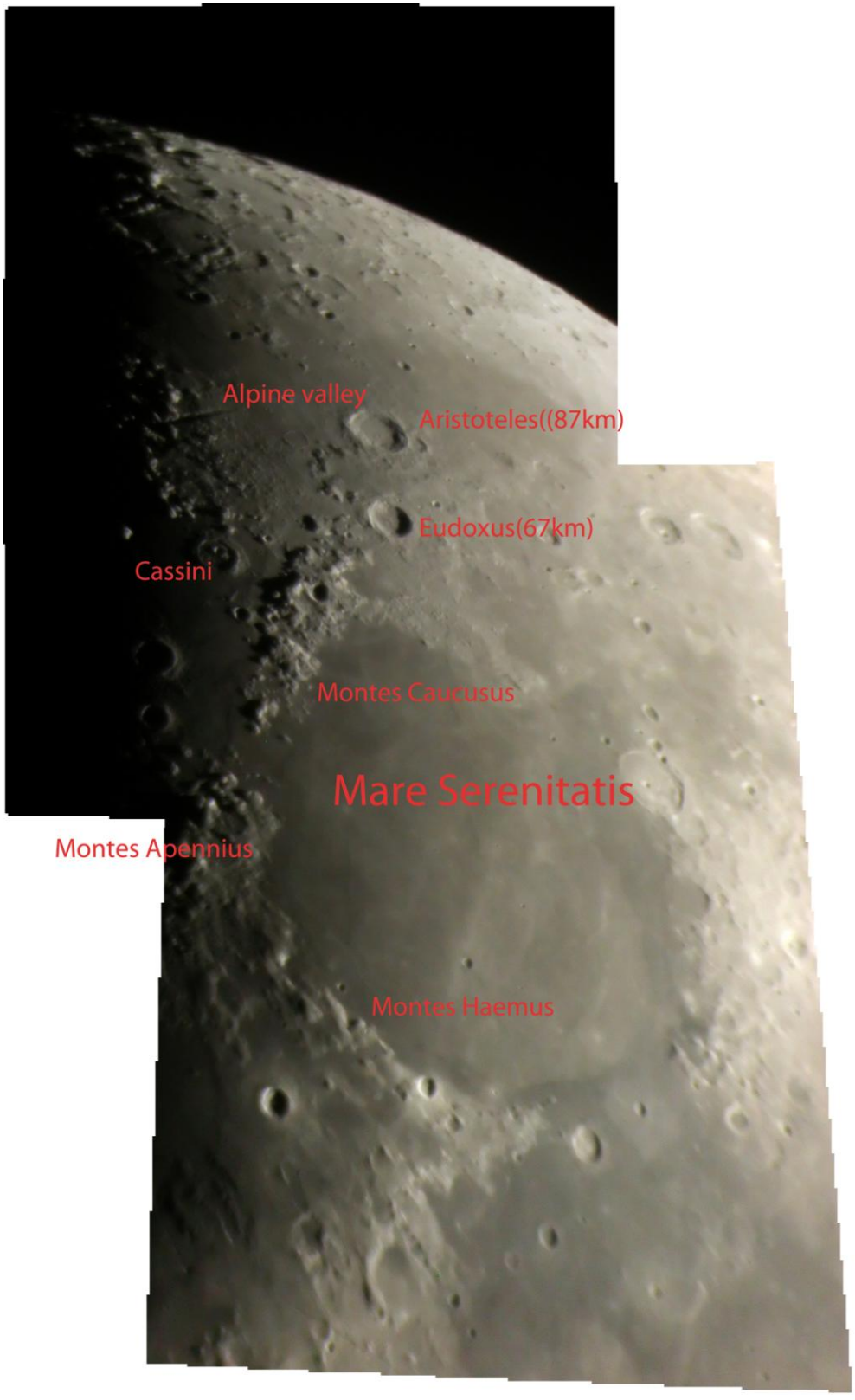
Orion – setting in west

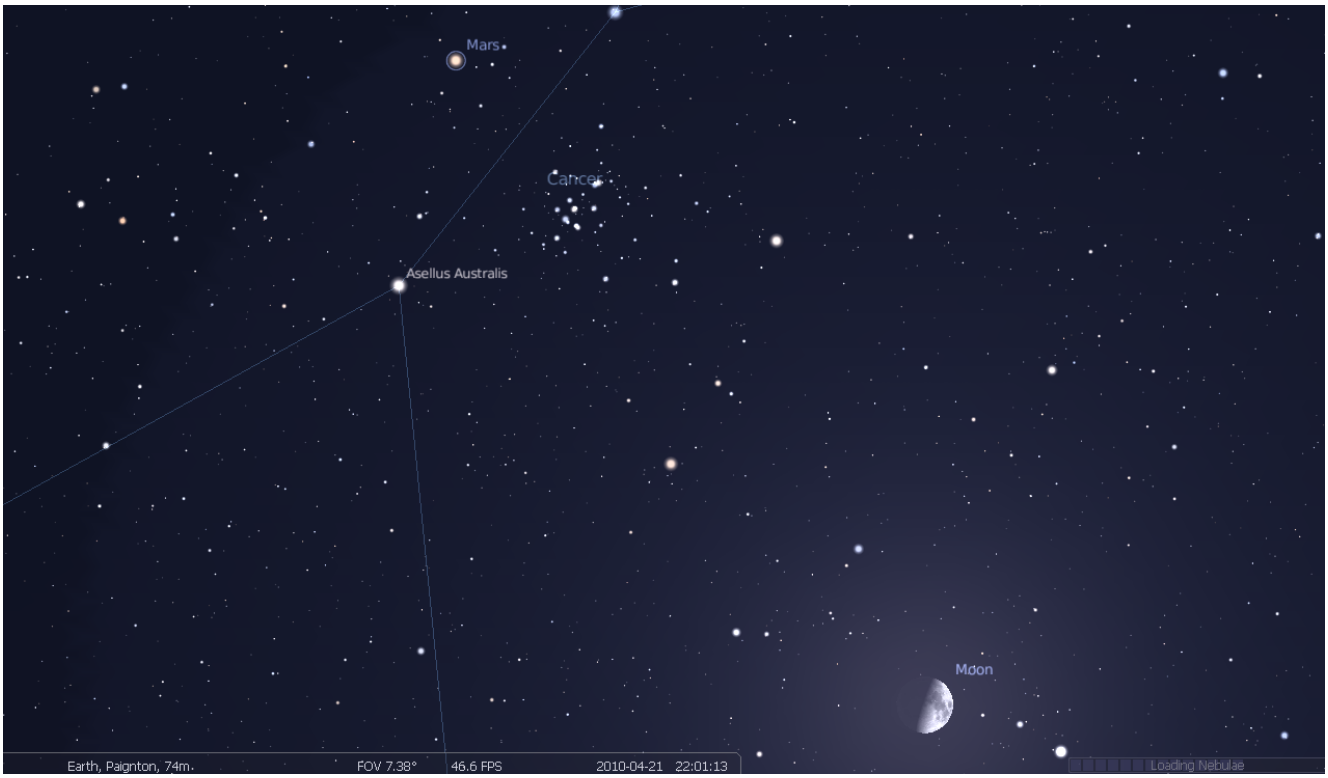
Moon :

Full Moon (Apr 1st), Last Quarter (Apr 6th), new moon (Apr14th) ,First Quarter (Apr 21st)

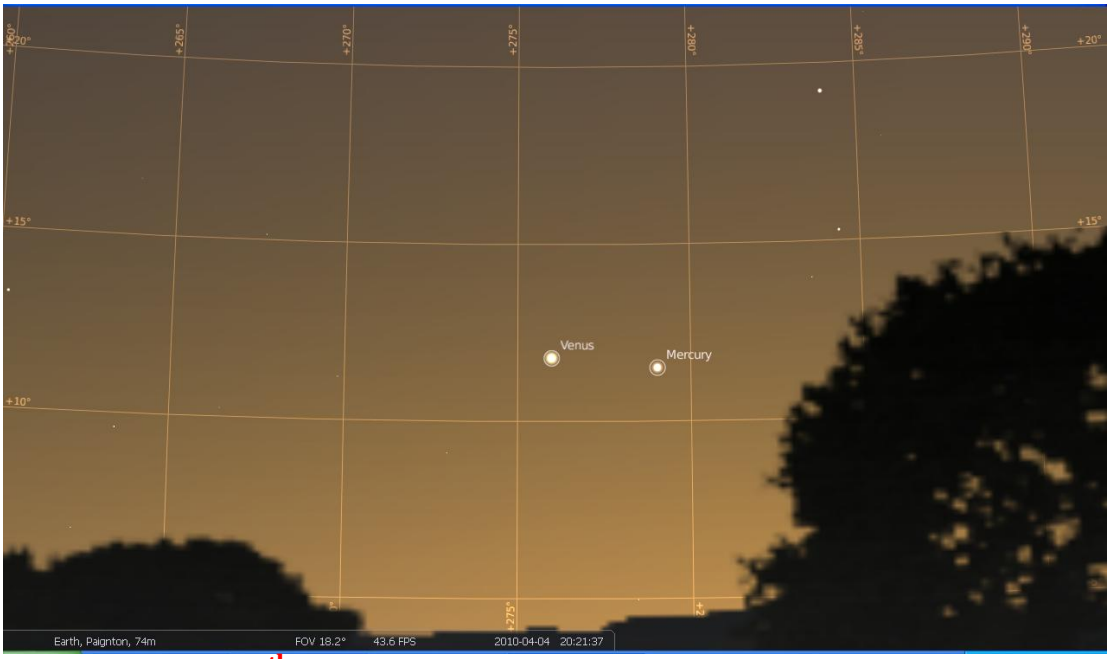
Moon- Mars-Praesepe (M44) ------ (April 21st)

View of Moon-Mars – Praesepe 10:00 (April 21st) ---------8 deg field of view





Mercury -------Best seen after sunset low in west :

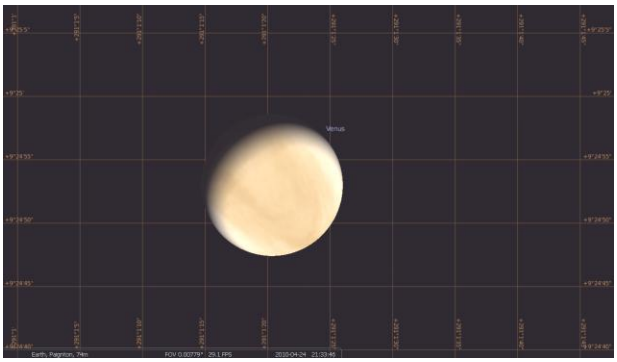


8:30 pm Apr 4th – due west – Mercury/Venus 3 deg apart – 6 deg altitude

Mercury – best time to see – Apr 1st – 8 deg altitude - magn -0.8

Venus – visible in Taurus in April – low in west (max altitude)

Good observing opportunity : Apr 24th (9:30pm altitude 10deg – near Pleiades)

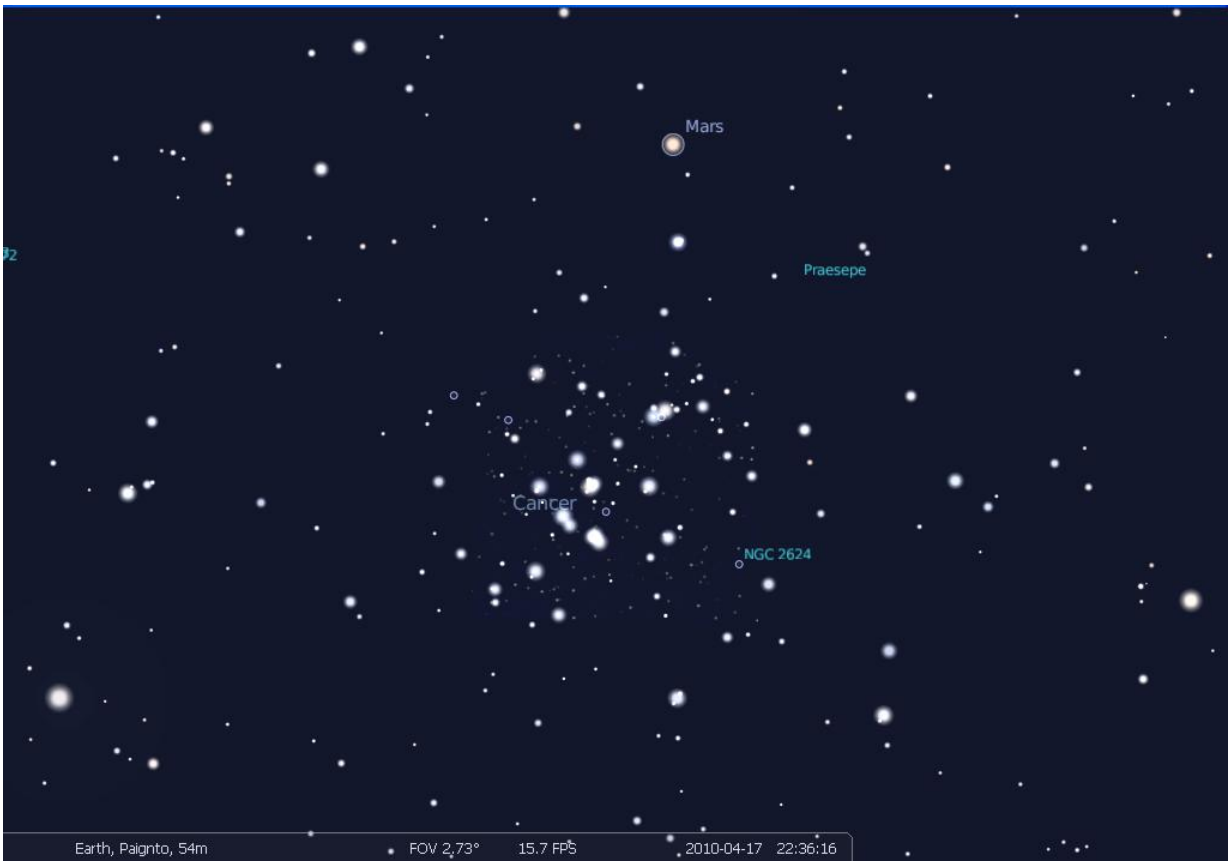


Venus – mag -3.8 (12 " diameter)

Mars

Mars – within Cancer in April –only 7" diameter – magnitude +0.2

Close to Praesepe (M44) on April 17th



Saturn - located in Virgo (magnitude +0.4)

Ring tilt only about 3- 4 deg

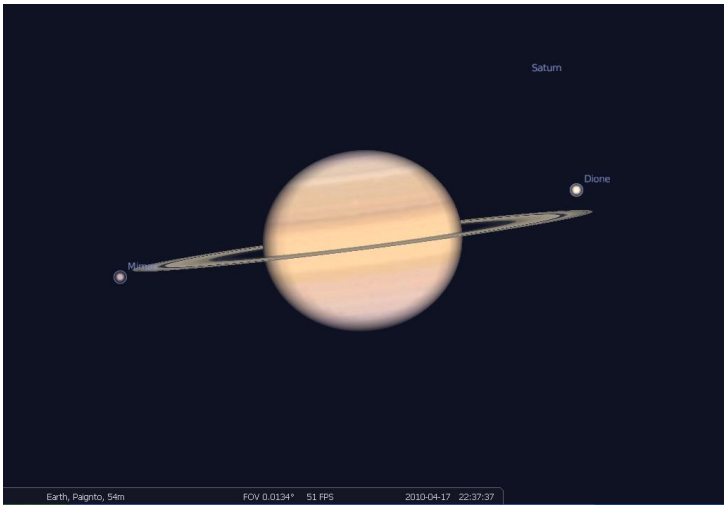


Image of Double Cluster (Mar 23rd 2010)