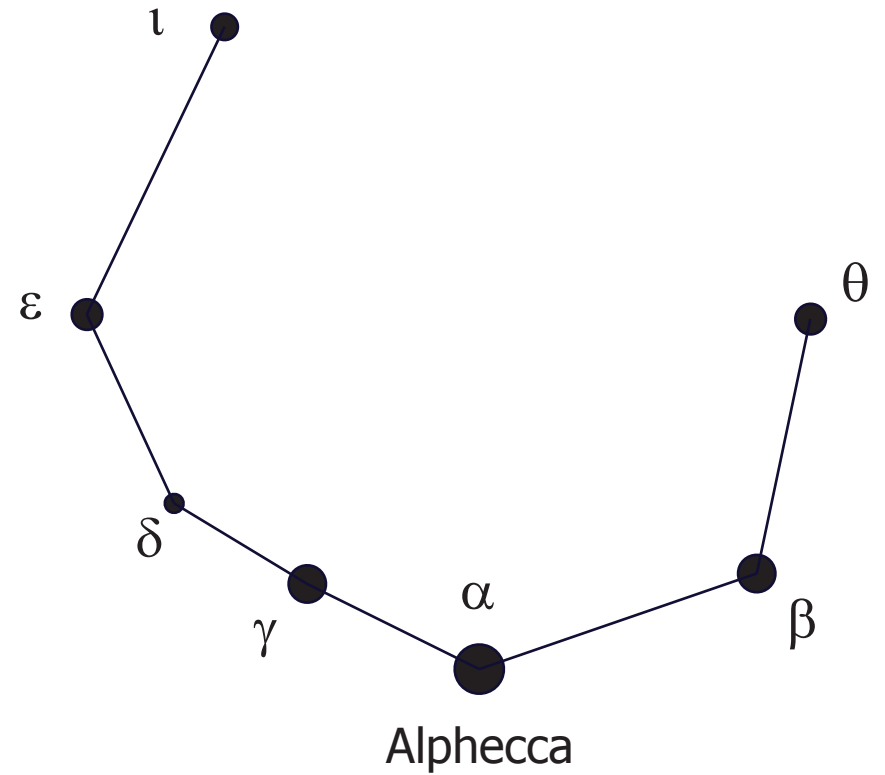
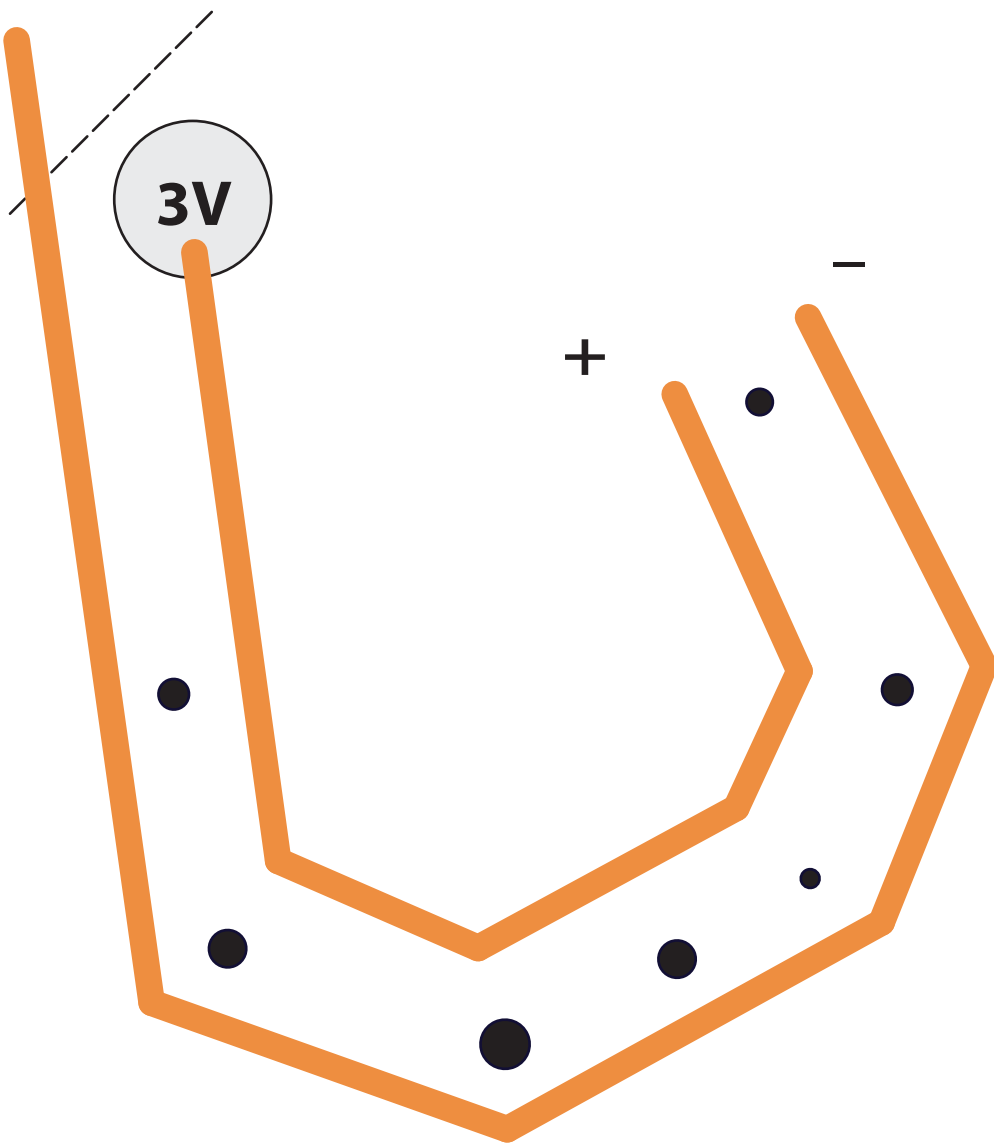


Corona Borealis



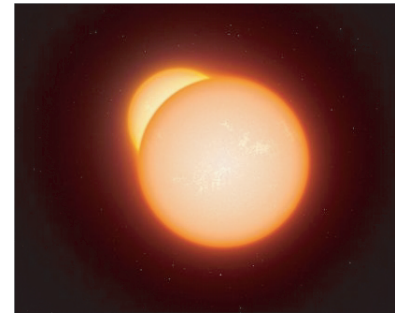
PLAY  INAF



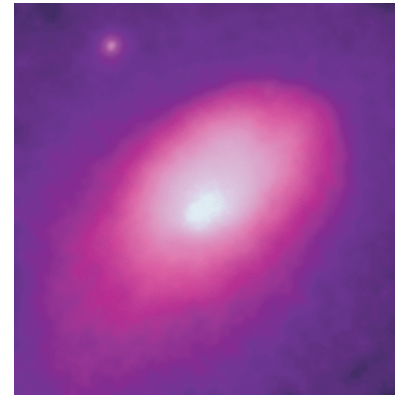


Corona Borealis is a small constellation of the Northern Hemisphere, whose main stars form a semicircle, which reminds us of a crown. It can be observed both in Spring and in Summer: from the Northern Hemisphere it becomes visible to the east in the evening sky by the end of February, and is high in the sky in the months of May and June, while during the Summer it declines towards the west, until, by the end of October, it cannot be observed anymore. Its main star is **Alphecca** (α Corone Borealis), a white star which is 75 light-years far.

The most important objects of the sky



Alphecca, also known as **Gemma**, is the main star of this constellation. In fact, it is an eclipsing binary system, in which a smaller star, similar to the Sun, passes in front of the brighter star every 17.4 days. In the picture on the left, you can see an artistic representation of a stellar system of this kind.



The constellation does not contain any remarkable object of the deep sky: galaxies in this sky region are all very far away and weak. In the south-western area of the constellation, there is a well-known galaxy cluster, known as **Abell 2065** (on the left, it is visible in the X-rays), which contains about 400 galaxies, and is 930 millions light-years far away from the Earth.

Planetary Systems

Extrasolar planets have been confirmed in five stellar systems of this constellation, some of which orbit in the habitable area of their star.