

Name: _____

ASTR500: Mock Cumulative Exam Question #3
Two Stellar Components in the Halo of the Milky Way (Carollo et al. 2007)
17th February, 2009 – Maria Patterson

RR Lyrae stars were used in one study listed in Table 1 claiming a retrograde outer halo.

- (a) What is an RR Lyrae star, and why is it useful in this type of study?
- (b) How many suns would it take to equal the total luminosity of all the RR Lyrae stars used in that study? Take the absolute magnitude of an RR Lyrae to be 0.75.