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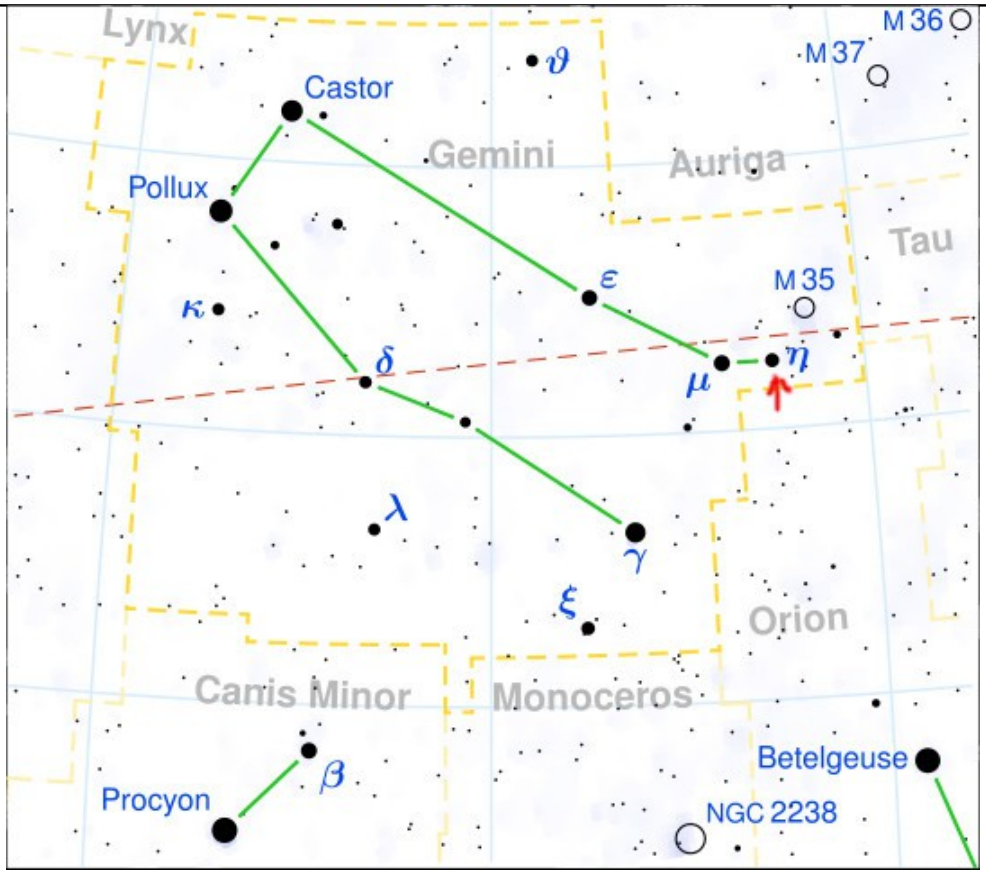
Propus



Quick Facts:

Distance: 400 light-years

Constellation: Gemini

A pairing of red giant and yellow giant stars. The red giant primary has a companion star that is only detectable through study of the radial motion of the red giant via spectroscopy. So Propus is a visual binary and physical trinary star. Also called Eta Geminorum.

Find it: Look about midway between Castor and Betelgeuse for a pair of 3rd magnitude stars. Propus is the westermost. GOTO: DOUBLE STARS.

Image: Torsten Bronger. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen