


## Solar Eclipses

## The Sun

- 1.4 million km wide
- Distance = $\mathbf{1 5 0}$ million km +- $1.5 \%$
- 30' $-31^{\prime}$ wide in sky



## Moon Facts

- $\sim 1 / 4$ diameter of Earth
- Perigee: 356,000 km
- Apogee: 407,000 km
- 33.5'-29.5' wide
- Sidereal month $=27.3$ d
- Synodic month $=29.5 \mathbf{d}$



## Why does the Moon have phases?



Moon at Perigee and Apogee


## Eclipses - Moon \& Sun

- Sun \& Moon about same size in the sky
- Moon's inclination $5^{\circ}$
- Orbit wobbles with 18.6 year period; eclipse period few weeks earlier each year
- Eclipses occur if Moon near ecliptic when Full (lunar) or New (solar)


## Solar Eclipses

- Types: partial, annular, total, hybrid
- Only a narrow path ( $\mathbf{1 0 0} \mathbf{- 2 0 0} \mathbf{~ k m}$ ) along Earth
- Next partial eclipse here: August 21, 2017 (~50\%)
- Next total eclipse here: April 8, 2024



## Lunar Months - Eclipse Patterns

- Synodic (S) (new-new): 29.530589 d
- Draconic (N) (node-node): 27.212221 d
- Anomalistic (P) (perigee-perigee): 27.554550 d
- 223 S = 6585.3213 d
- $242 \mathrm{~N}=6585.3575 \mathrm{~d}$
- 239 P = $6585.5375 \mathbf{d}$
- Saros: 18 years, 10.3213 or 11.3213 days
- Exeligmos: 3 Saros periods ( 54 years, 32-33 d)
(Ref: RASC Observer's Handbook, R. Bishop)



## Aug 21 2017



## Aug 11 1999



July 20 1963


## April 8 2024

Thousand Year Canon of Solar Eclipses
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## March 7

1970


## Last

 totality in NB(east coast)

## July 10 1972

