

Homework #1: due in lecture today

Recitations: begin this Friday

Help Room: soon will be set - see course website

Last time: Finding your way in the sky (and on Earth)

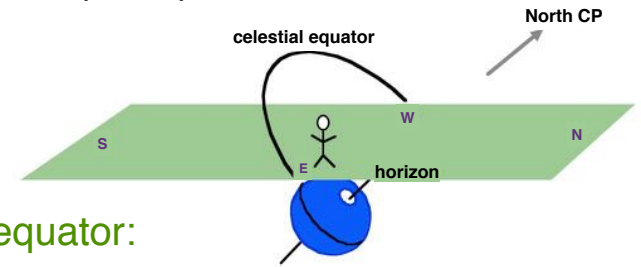
- The Celestial Sphere, link with terrestrial coordinates
- Horizon (local) System
  - altitude (horizon to zenith) and azimuth (East from due North)
- Celestial (Equatorial) coordinate system fixed to the stars

Today's themes: Motions of the Sun & the Seasons

- Finding the celestial pole and equator from anywhere
- Diurnal motions; the sidereal day and circumpolar regions
- The Motion of the Sun
  - the solar day (4 minutes longer than the sidereal day)
- The Ecliptic
  - inclination of the ecliptic = 23.5 degrees to celestial equator
- The Seasons

Finding the Celestial Pole and Equator in your sky

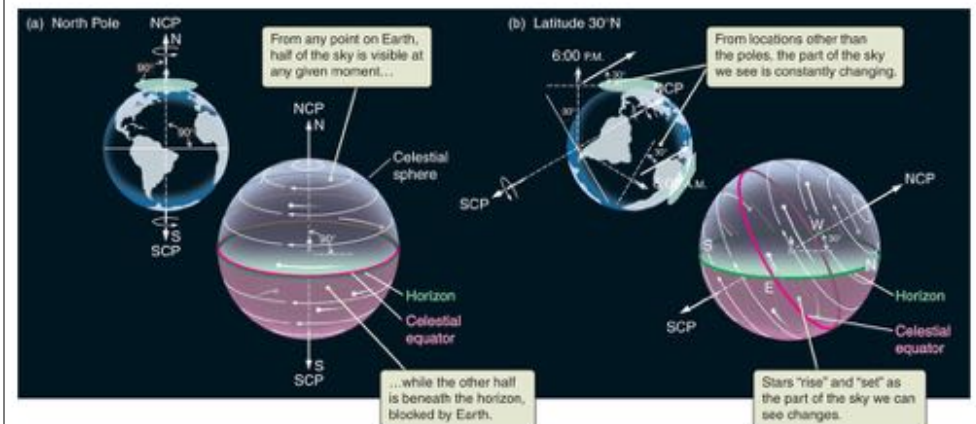
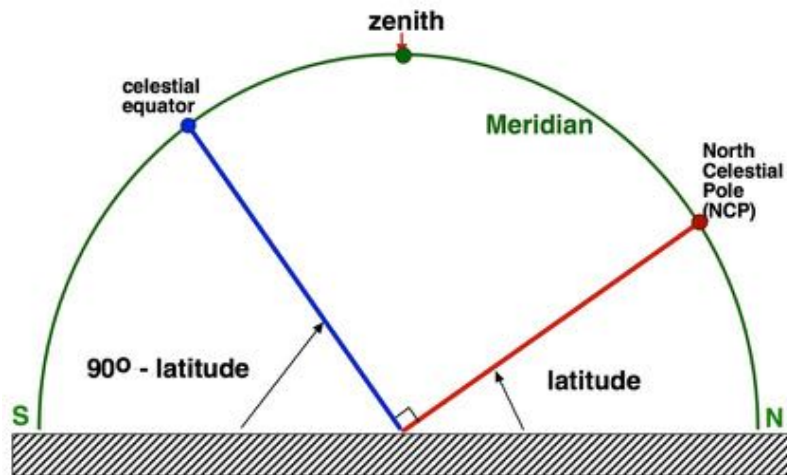
At other (middle) latitude:



- Celestial equator:
  - tilted down from zenith by an angle equal to latitude
  - West through meridian to East
- Celestial poles:
  - due North (azimuth=0)
  - altitude equal to the latitude of the observer

Some stars rise and set, others circle the pole (circumpolar) and others are never seen

A simplified picture - the meridian diagram



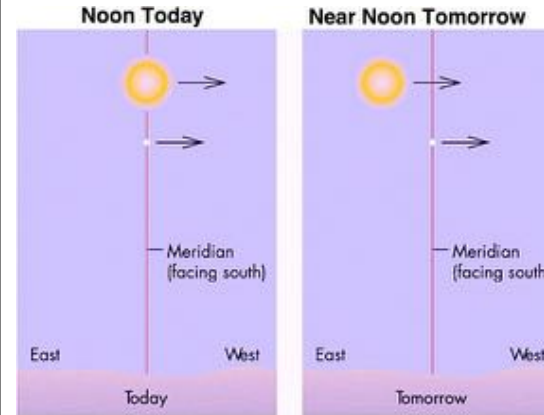
## The Motion(s) of the Sun

- follows **westward motion** of the sky, PLUS
- slower, **eastward motion** with respect to the stars
  - **caused by** the motion of the Earth around the Sun



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Complete circle in one **YEAR**  
 $0.986^\circ$  per day ( $= 360^\circ/365.26$ )

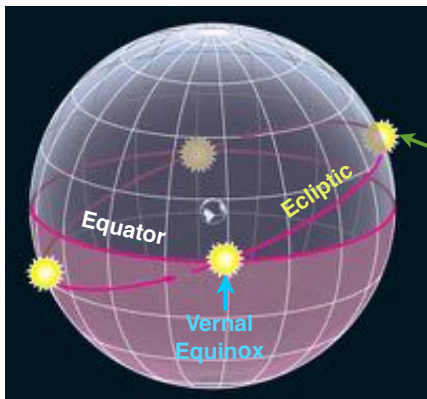
**Solar day**

4 minutes **longer** than sidereal day

Solar time = "ordinary" time

## The Ecliptic

- apparent path of the Sun around the celestial sphere
- **inclination**: tilted **23.5 degrees** to celestial equator
- Equinoxes: two crossing points (dec.= 0 degrees)
  - **vernal** equinox: RA= 0 h (Sun position ~ March 21)
  - **autumnal** " : RA=12 h (Sun on ~September 21)



**Solstices:**  
 Extremes in solar declination

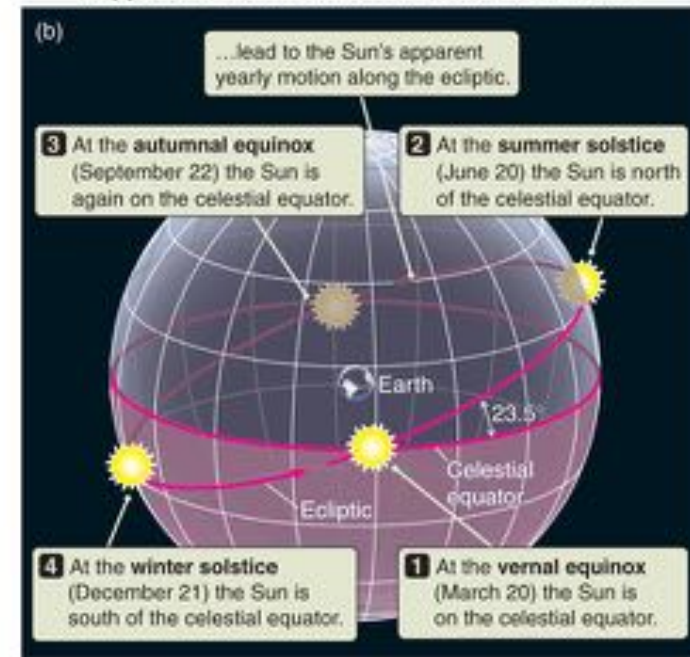
**Summer Solstice (June 21)**

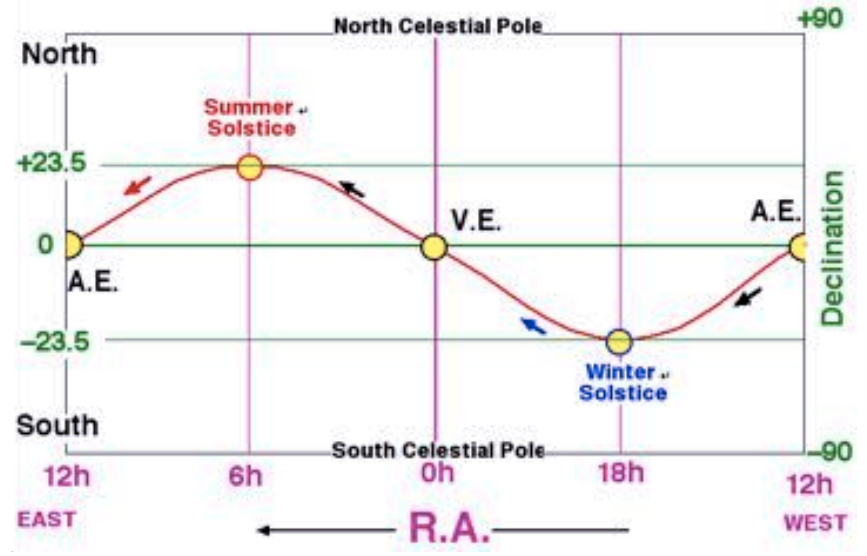
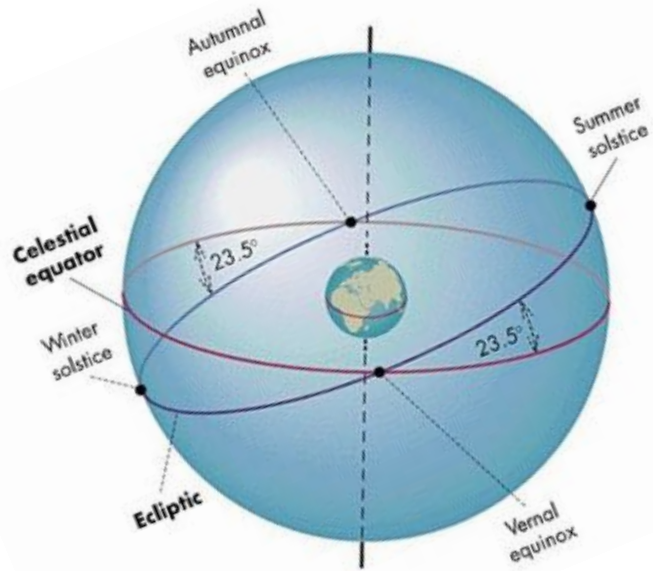
R.A. = 6 h  
 dec. = + 23.5 (N)

**Winter Solstice (Dec 21)**

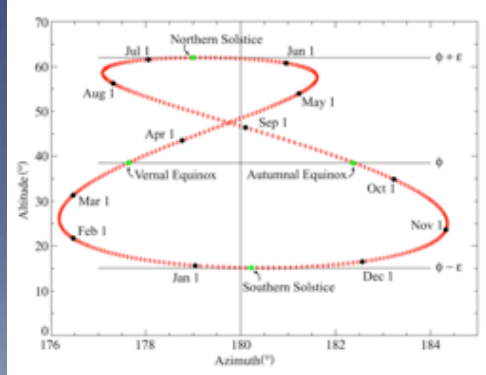
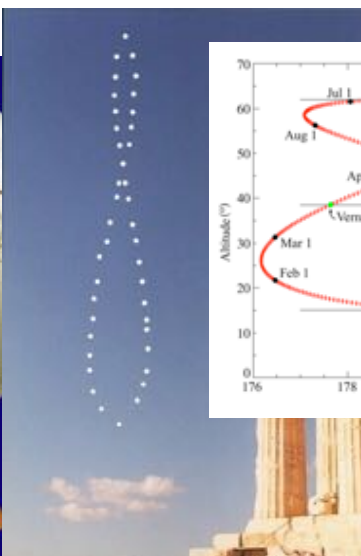
R.A. = 18 h  
 dec. = - 23.5 (S)

## Apparent motion of the Sun seen from Earth





# Seasonal change in solar declination: the analemma



## Telltale Sun & Shadow Astronomy & the

Sun and shadow have finally pinpointed a moment of history and ruled out the widely accepted scenario for an iconic photograph.

**VJ Day** — Victory over Japan Day, August 14, 1945 — marked the end of World War II. As rumors of Japan's surrender spread, Americans poured into the streets. Amid the celebration in New York's Times Square, Alfred Eisenstaedt captured one of the iconic images of the 20th century when he shot four photographs in quick succession of a sailor kissing a woman in white. Victor Jorgensen, standing just a few feet away, photographed the same kissing pair at the moment of Eisenstaedt's second frame.

**Kiss After 7:03 p.m.?**  
After rumors and false alarms throughout the day, radio networks carried a brief statement from the White House at 7:00 p.m., and by 7:03 p.m. the rotating electric sign on the Times building displayed the long-awaited word: "OFFICIAL \*\*\* TRUMAN ANNOUNCES JAPANESE SURRENDER \*\*\*". The current Wikipedia page assumes that the Kiss followed shortly thereafter: "Eisenstaedt was photographing a spontaneous event that occurred in Times Square as the announcement of the end of the war on Japan was made by U.S. President Harry S. Truman at seven o'clock."  
Nine days later in 2015, a front-page New York Times story on the VJ Day anniversary expressed the same opinion: "For decades, the world has believed that the photographs were taken after — perhaps just seconds after — President Truman's announcement at 7:03 p.m."

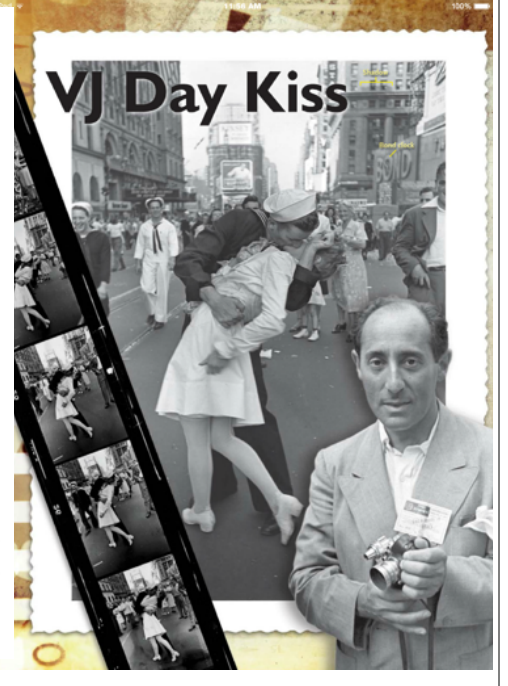
**Kiss Near 6 p.m.?**  
However, that same anniversary story went on to propose a scenario with an earlier time. The reporter interviewed Clara Bullard, who identified herself as a figure in the background of the Jorgensen photograph. She gave an account of witnessing the famous Kiss and contradicted the conventional wisdom by implying that the event occurred not after 7:03 p.m. but instead "earlier — before the war was officially over."

Bullard, after leaving Times Square on VJ Day, spent a few minutes walking to 9th Avenue. She estimated that it then took two more hours to reach her home town of New Canaan, Connecticut, by bus and train. She noted that dusk was setting and the streetlights were just coming on as she walked the final blocks near her home.

I have astronomy first orders. For New Canaan, we calculate that sunset fell at 7:54 p.m. that day and the end of civil twilight followed at 8:24 p.m., expressed in Eastern Star Time, equivalent to modern daylight saving time. We can be certain that this is the correct time system in use because the New York Times that day listed Manhattan sunset at 7:54 p.m.

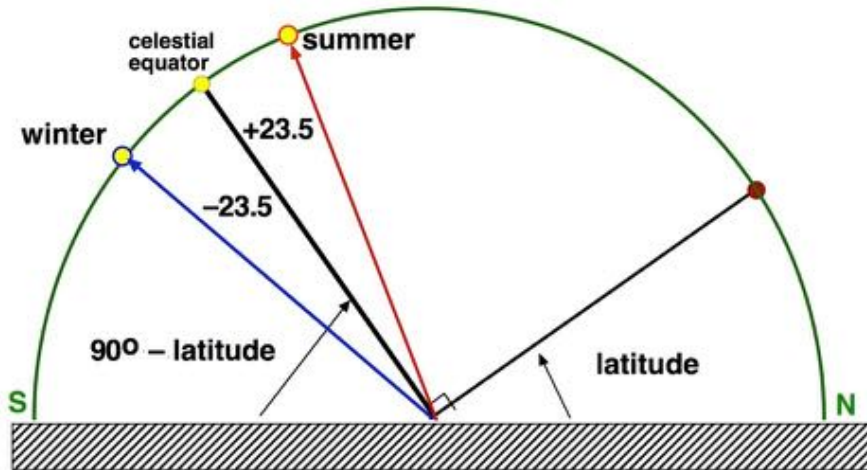
**THE KISS** Any collection of the 20th century's iconic images is likely to include this 1/6 exposure photo taken by Alfred Eisenstaedt in New York's Times Square on the day World War II ended. The shadow on the Lower Building (bottom) allows us to determine that he clicked the shutter at 5:51 p.m. An archival contact sheet (top) chronologically rolls off film shows the four film shots to be negatives #24-27. The numbers are another smoking gun: the white sailor #24-27 are Eisenstaedt's Press At Last images, which shadow read to have been taken around 5 p.m. — long after the 7 p.m. claim for the Kiss.

**THE PHOTOGRAPHER** This on-the-spot snapshot of Alfred Eisenstaedt was taken by William Thomas, another 1/6 photograph also assigned to cover the VJ Day celebration in Times Square.

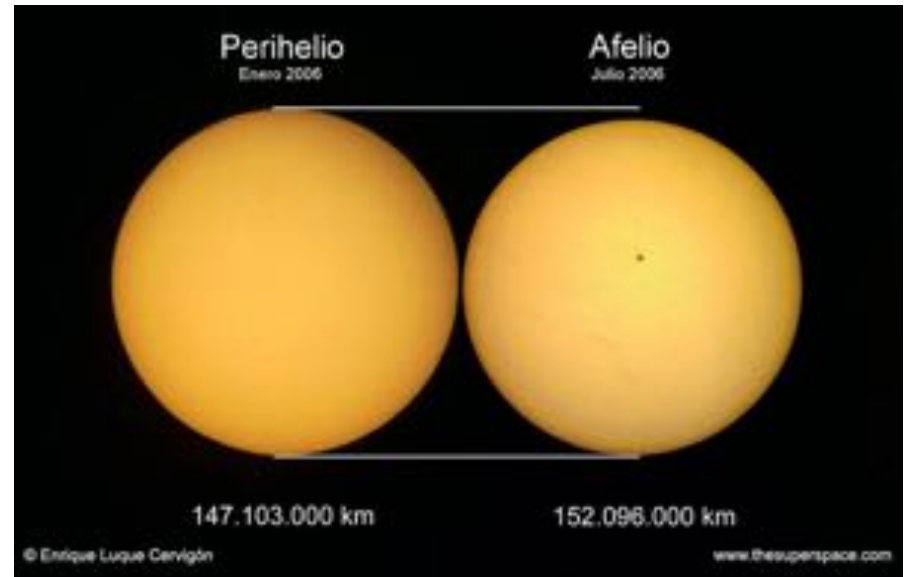


# The Seasons

The Sun at local noon: altitude via meridian diagram



<http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/ap070709.html>



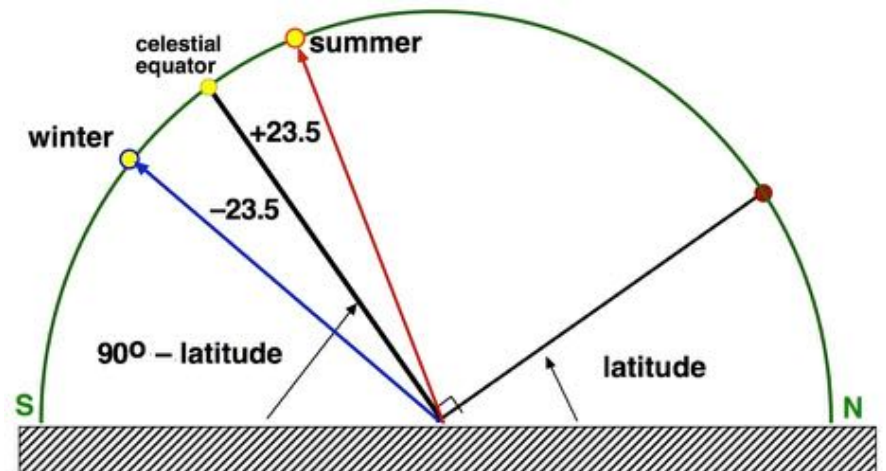
near Madrid, Iowa  
Latitude 42:00 North  
July 4, 2012  
Summer



Christchurch, New Zealand  
Latitude 43:32 South  
July 5, 2003  
Winter

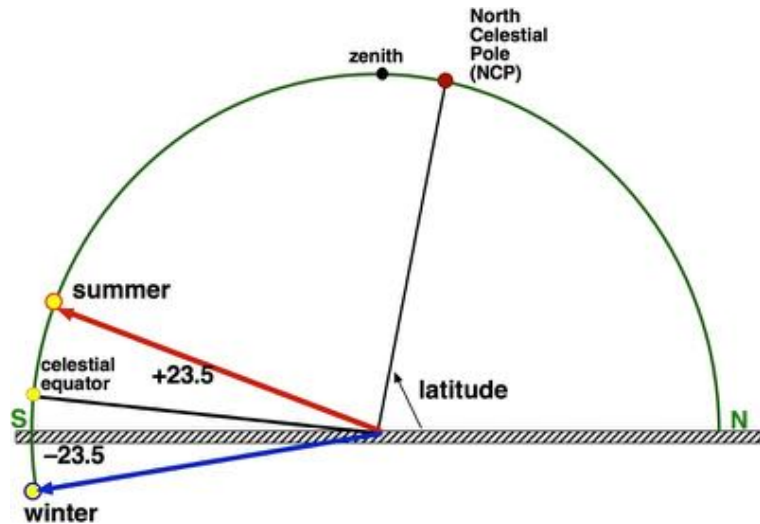
# The Seasons

The Sun at local noon: altitude via meridian diagram



# The Seasons

The Sun at local noon: **altitude via meridian diagram**  
 far-northern latitude



## The Angle of sunlight and the temperature of the Earth:

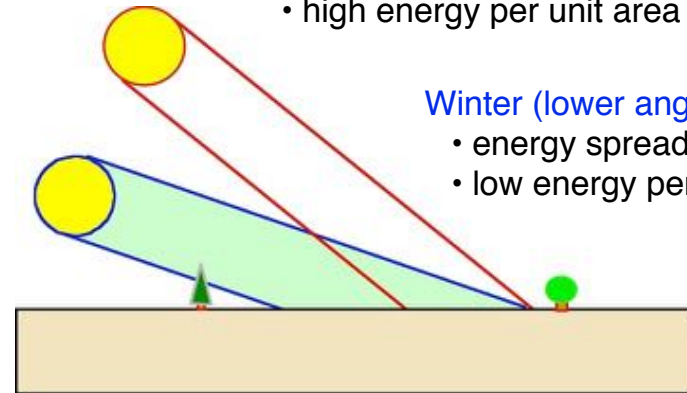
Constant flux of solar energy comes from the Sun

**Summer (higher angle):**

- energy concentrated on small area
- high energy per unit area

**Winter (lower angle):**

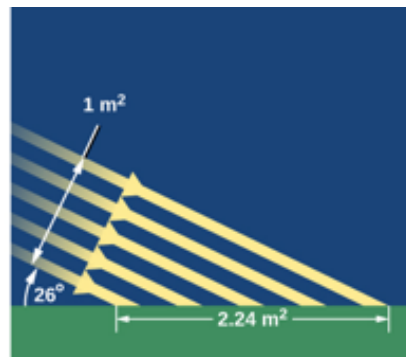
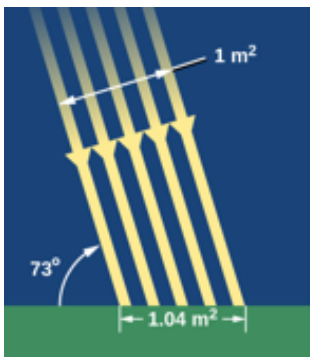
- energy spread over large area
- low energy per unit area



First day of summer

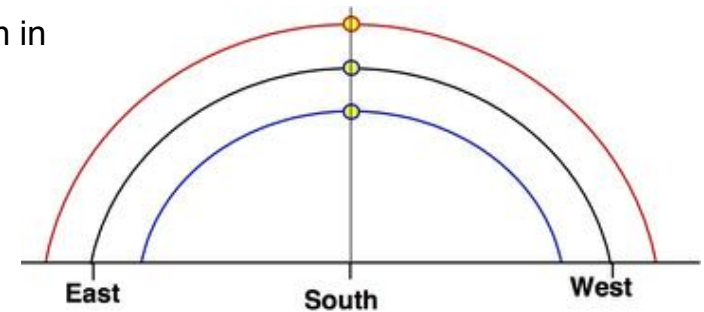


First day of winter

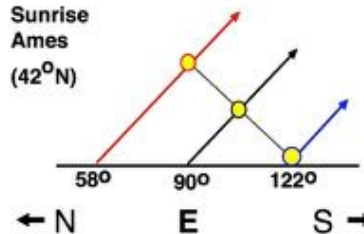


## ... in the Northern hemisphere ...

Arc of the Sun in  
**summer**  
 spring/fall  
**winter**



Sunrise  
 Ames  
 (42°N)



- Sun rises in
  - **NE in summer**
  - **due E in spring/fall**
  - **SE in Winter**

• Sun rises 3 hours earlier in the summer than winter