# ANCIENT ASTRONOMY 6

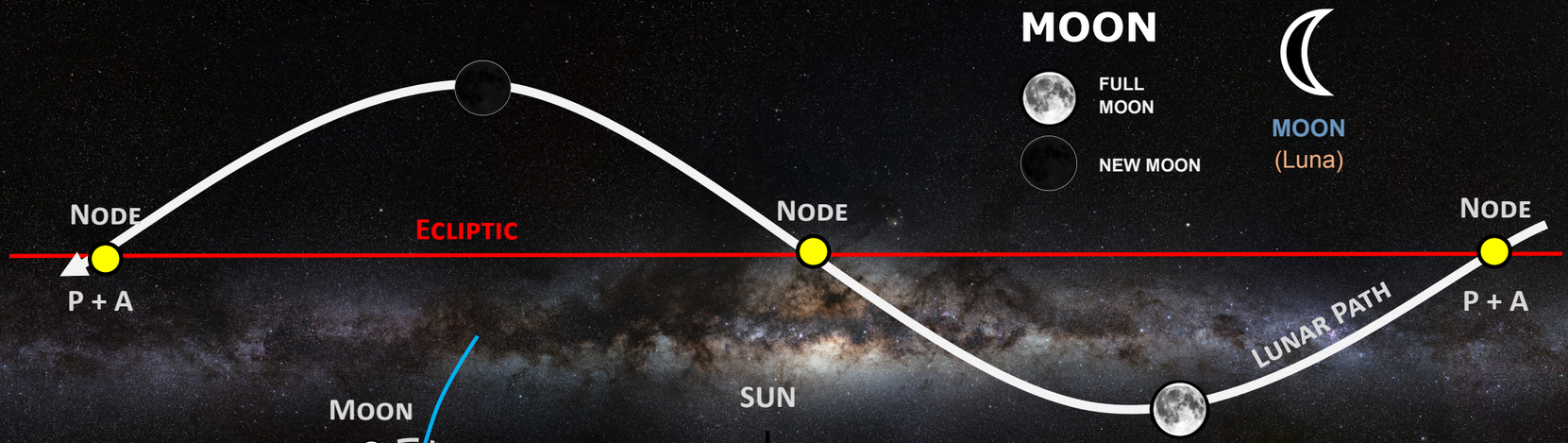
The purpose of this illustration is to consider what are Lunar Months. For reference, the prior illustration to this online video series are noted with the depiction of the various positions of the Ecliptic, the Polar North, the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer, etc. These areas from a side view correspond to the areas above and below the Equator to delineate the 'Water's Above' and the 'Dragon's Head' along with its counterpart of the 'Water's Below' and the 'Dragon's Tail'. In this depiction, the Ecliptic Line is straighten-out, the chart will illustrate the path of the Moon around the spherical Earth. The first type of Lunar Month is called the Draconic consisting of 27.2 days from Node to Node on the Ecliptic Line depiction. The Node is the point in which the Moon crosses over and descends on the Ecliptic Line, then ascends alone the Sine Wave pattern to cross over the Node on the Ecliptic Line. In this Sine Wave pattern, the Moon then descends to end at the terminal Node at the Ecliptic Lines.

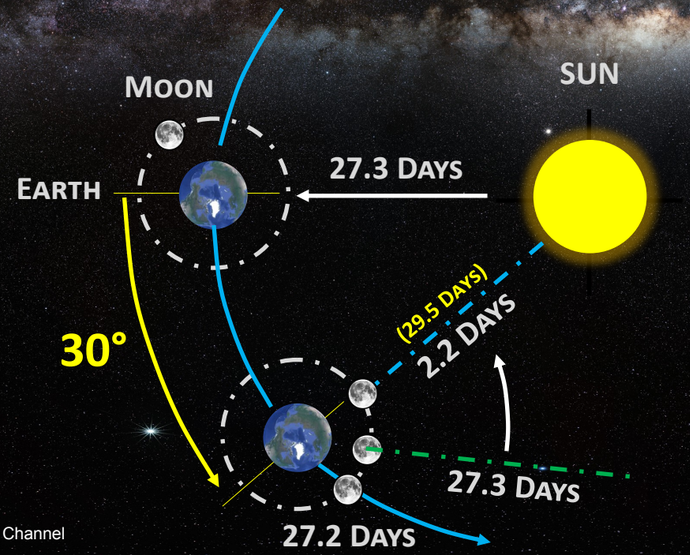
## THE BASIC FEATURES OF THE LUNAR MONTHS

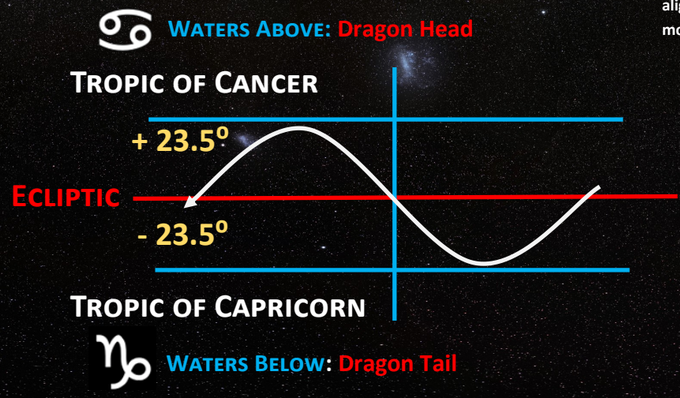
**1) DRACONIC**
**27.2 Days**
Node to Node

**2) SIDEREAL**
**27.3 Days**
Star to Star

**3) SYNODIC**
**29.5 Days**
New Moon to New Moon




The 2nd type of Lunar Month is called Sidereal Month with 27.3 days or 1/5 of a day longer from Star to Star. The Sidereal Month is the time and place it takes for the Moon to revolve around the Earth to the exact prior position. The 3rd type of Lunar Month is called a Synodic Month with 29.5 days from New Moon to New Moon. A good question many ask is why is the Sidereal Lunar Month shorter than a Synodic Lunar Month.

The difference in days comes about in that as the Moon is rotating around the Earth, the Earth is likewise rotating around the Sun. Approximately one full revolution of the Moon around the Earth takes the Earth forward about 30 degrees in an arc around the Sun. When this occurs, due to the angle, to have the Earth with the Sidereal Moon align from Star to Star, a New Moon requires 2.2 more days to compensate the difference.

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