

Prelab for Coordinate Systems

1. Define these 3 major coordinate systems used in astronomy: horizon, equatorial, and ecliptic. What defines the origins (zero points) for these coordinate systems? Are they static or do the coordinate systems move relative to astronomical objects? If they do, how fast?
2. Which is the most natural system to use for the casual observer? Why?
3. Which system uses time as an ordinate? Why?