



Trinity College Dublin
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I-LOFAR

Our Moon



Our Moon

- x400 smaller in diameter than the Sun
- x400 closer to Earth than the Sun
- We only see one face
- Earth's only natural satellite
- Gravity is only about 17% as strong as gravity on Earth.





Does the Moon rotate like Earth?

If we only see one face of the Moon, is it rotating on its axis whilst orbiting the Earth?

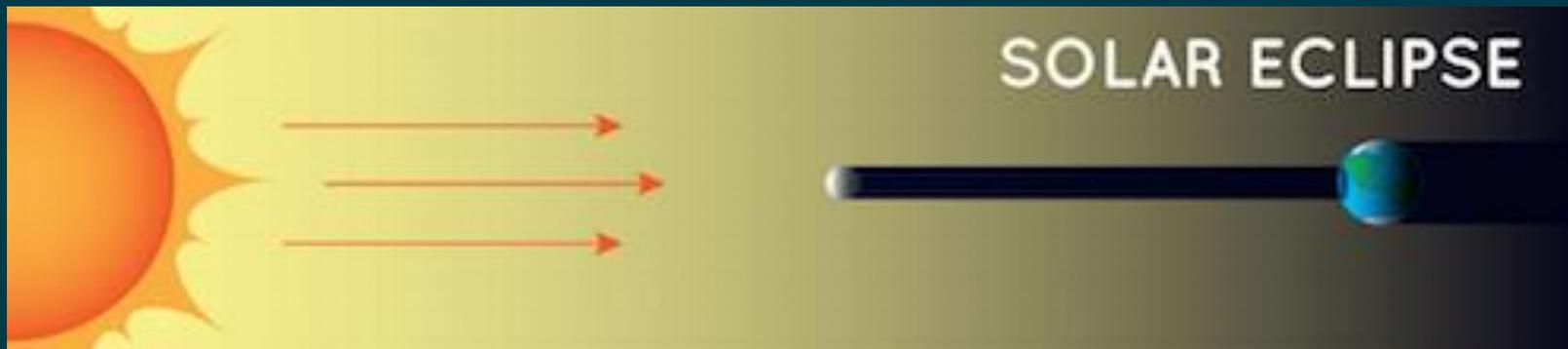
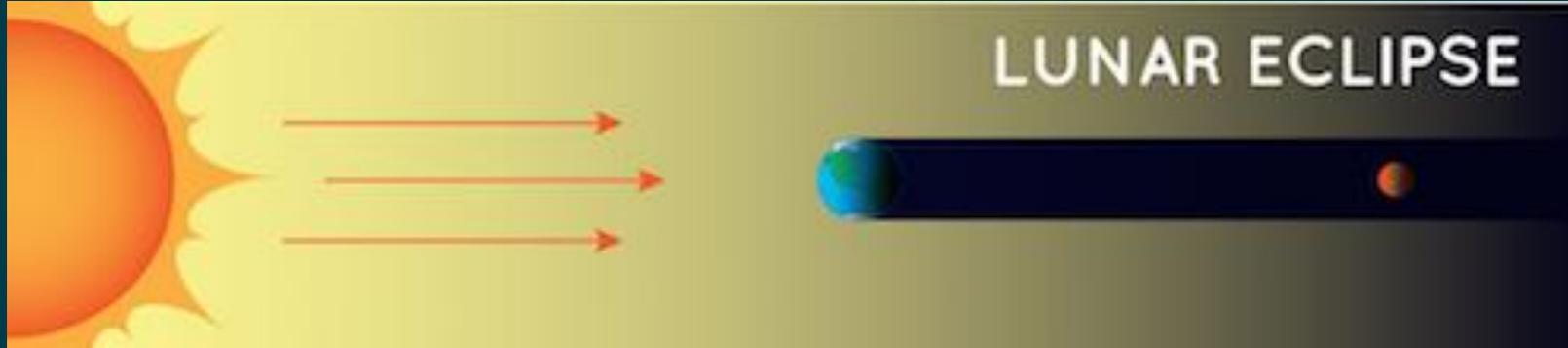


Phases

The moon's different shapes come from the way the Sun illuminates the Moon, and how much of that illumination we can see from Earth



Eclipses – spot the difference



Craters

Why has the Moon so many craters in comparison to Earth?

- Lack of atmosphere – break up asteroids
- Lack of erosion
- Lack of plate tectonics
- Lack of volcanic activity

