
Subject: Re: Julian Day Question

Posted by news.qwest.net on Fri, 26 May 2006 16:53:11 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

> JULDAY(5,26,2006, 0,0,0)

> JULDAY(5,26,2006)

My 2cents, to quote buffy, "It doesn't matter".

I always start with a modern date string, then convert to JD to do all the processing, etc, and then convert back to strings for output/ plotting etc. What the dates convert to doesn't matter, as long as one is consistent (i always input hours minutes and seconds.)

It seems to me the "problem" is between an integer day, and a much more precise millisecond representation.

If someone asks what day number today is (of this month) people will say the 26th. No one will say the 26.4486th. However, if someone wants the exact time of this post, then you would say it was posted on May 26.4486th MT.

I do admit though, that knowing that the julian day is actually noon twelve hours earlier is a nice little secret to have.

Anyways, the conclusion should be:

always be consistent

(simply saying "be consistent" doesn't seem redundant enough)

Cheers,

bob

PS I'd put an `n_params()` check on the `julday` function wrapper if I were me (to ensure hours minutes and seconds were always passed).
