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Subject: Re: Julian Day Question

Posted by [Mike Wallace](#) on Fri, 26 May 2006 05:27:52 GMT

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- > Anyone have any ideas about this? Is a Julian Day number
- > a "standard" in the sense that OpenGL is a standard?

Julian Day is simply the number of days past 12 noon UTC on January 1, 4713 BC. Nothing more. Nothing less. However I have seen people use the term "Julian Day" for a quantity that is not actually a Julian Day, but something derived from a Julian Day. There are Modified Julian Days and Truncated Julian Days and Reduced Julian Days among many others. There's also a Julian Year, but despite the name it has absolutely no relationship to Julian Days.

I will say that the IDL Julian Day routines give me what I expect to see. Perhaps the others are just variations.

-Mike

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