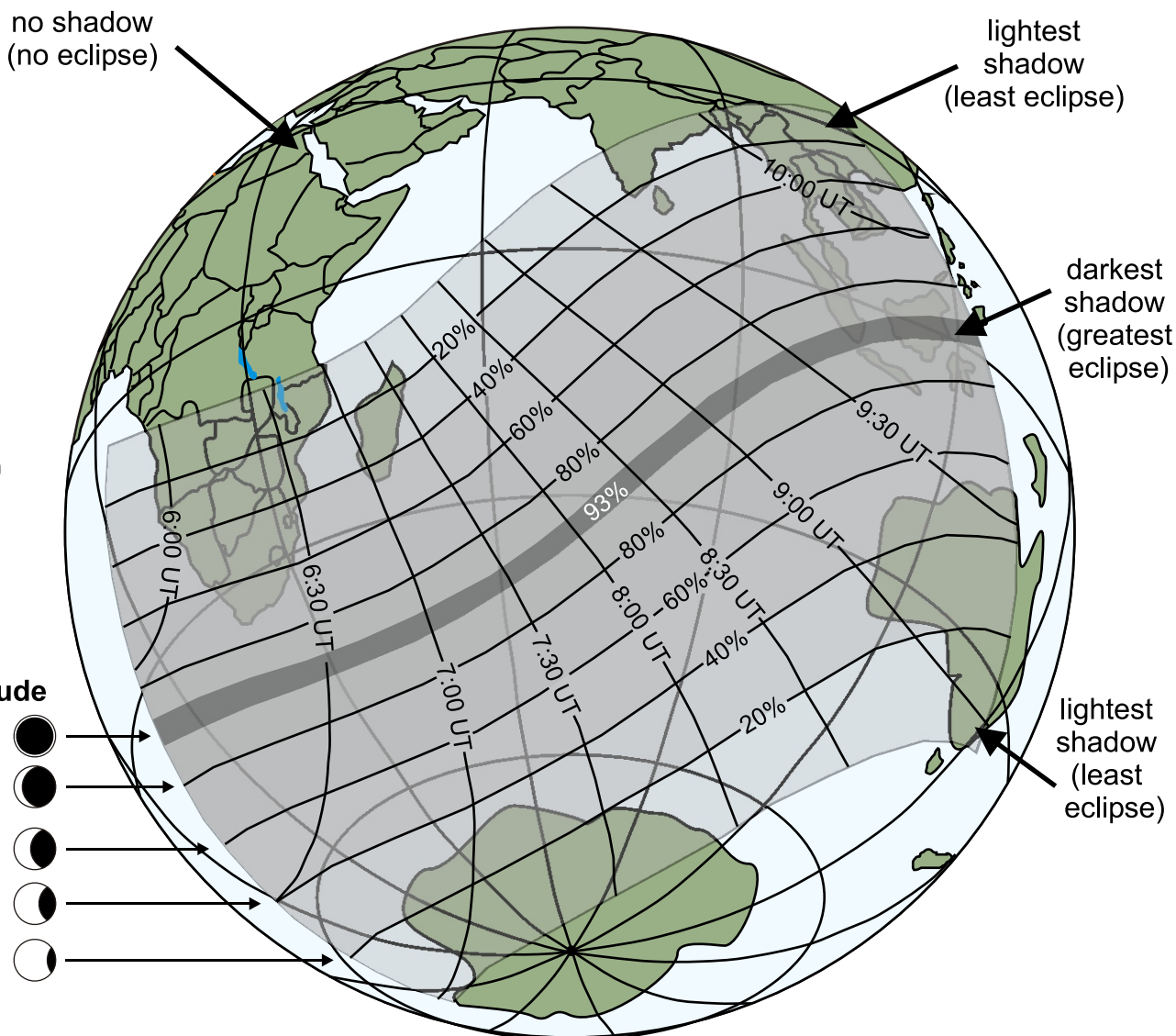


PARTIAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

2009 JAN 26TH

Monday Morning

Path of the Moon's shadow

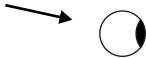


Eclipse **magnitude** is the fraction of the Sun's diameter that is covered by the Moon.

Eclipse **obscuration** is the fraction of the Sun's area that is covered by the Moon.

Eclipse *magnitude* is easier to use for drawing eclipse diagrams.

Eclipse *obscuration* is more realistic: would you call this a 10% eclipse or a 20% eclipse?



Universal Time (UT) is an international timescale - it is used by astronomers and other people who need to share information across time-zones. It is the time at the Greenwich Meridian (longitude zero).

The Earth spins from west to east - anti-clockwise as viewed from above the north pole. So the Sun rises earlier for countries east of Greenwich. These countries (Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia) are "ahead of Universal Time". The Americas are "behind UT".

South Africa is two hours ahead of UT - we will see the eclipse at about 8:15am South African Time.

Western Australia is seven hours ahead of UT - they will see eclipse at about 4:15pm Australian Western Time.

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