

Skyscapes, Cosmology and Archaeology

Week 3 Hands-On Exercise

What is the altitude of the celestial poles?

Use your hands (and the appropriate conversion table), a clinometer or a smartphone app to measure the altitude of Polaris (if you are in the northern hemisphere) or the celestial pole (if in the southern hemisphere).

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Week 3 Hands-On Exercise

What is the altitude of the celestial poles?

First things first: how to find the celestial poles

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Week 3 Hands-On Exercise

What is the altitude of the celestial poles?

How to find the north celestial pole

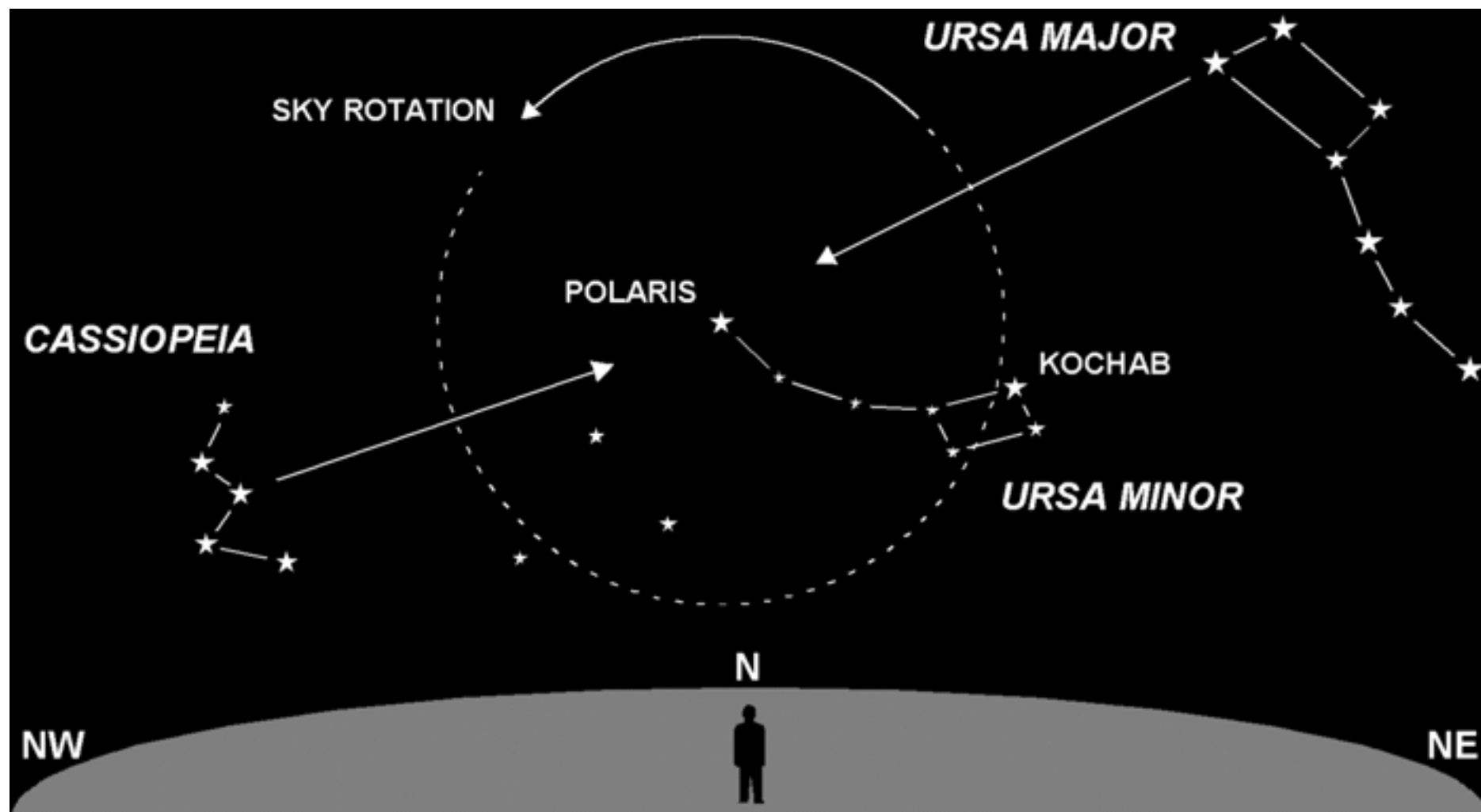


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Week 3 Hands-On Exercise

What is the altitude of the celestial poles?

How to find the north celestial pole

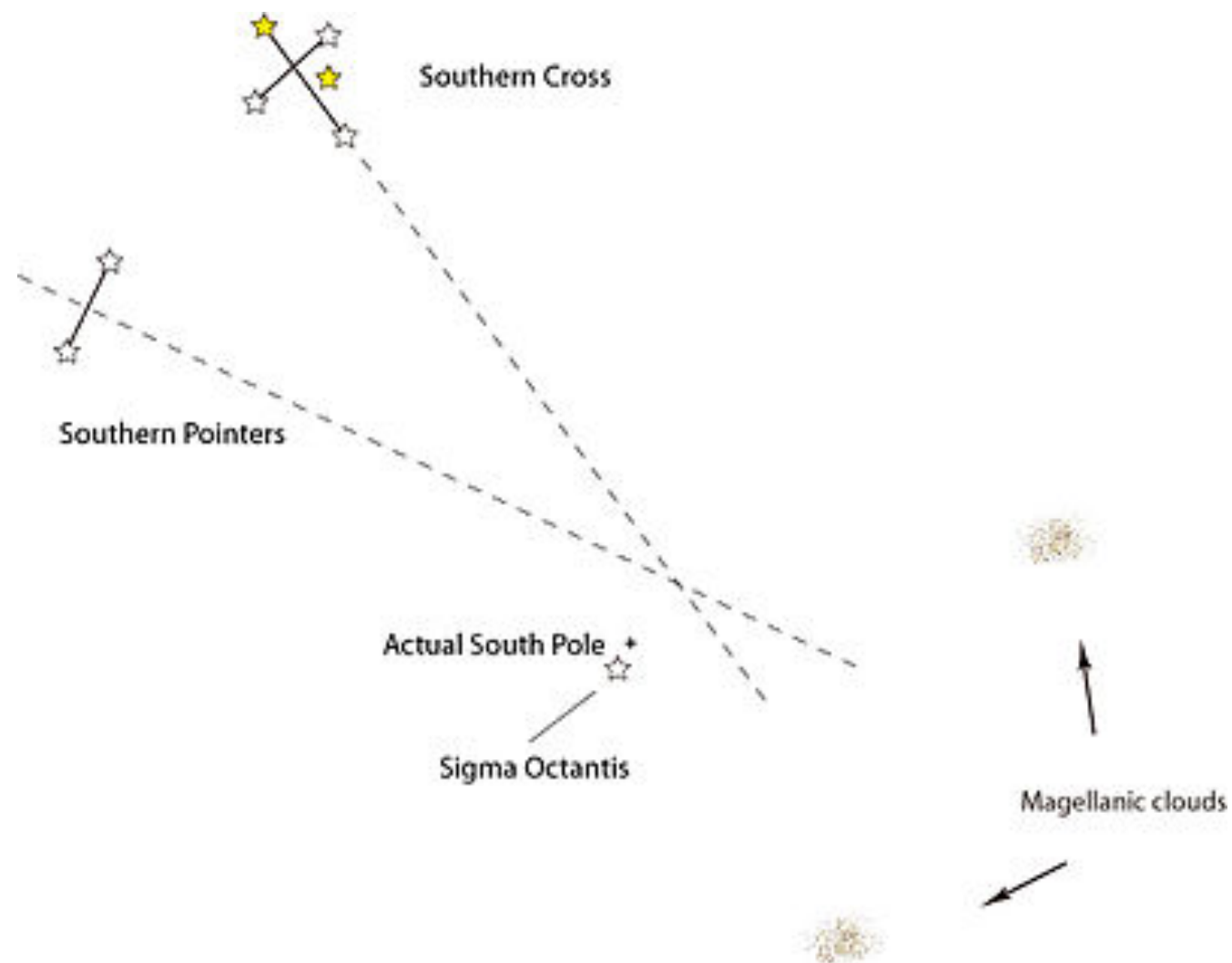


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Week 3 Hands-On Exercise

What is the altitude of the celestial poles?

How to find the south celestial pole

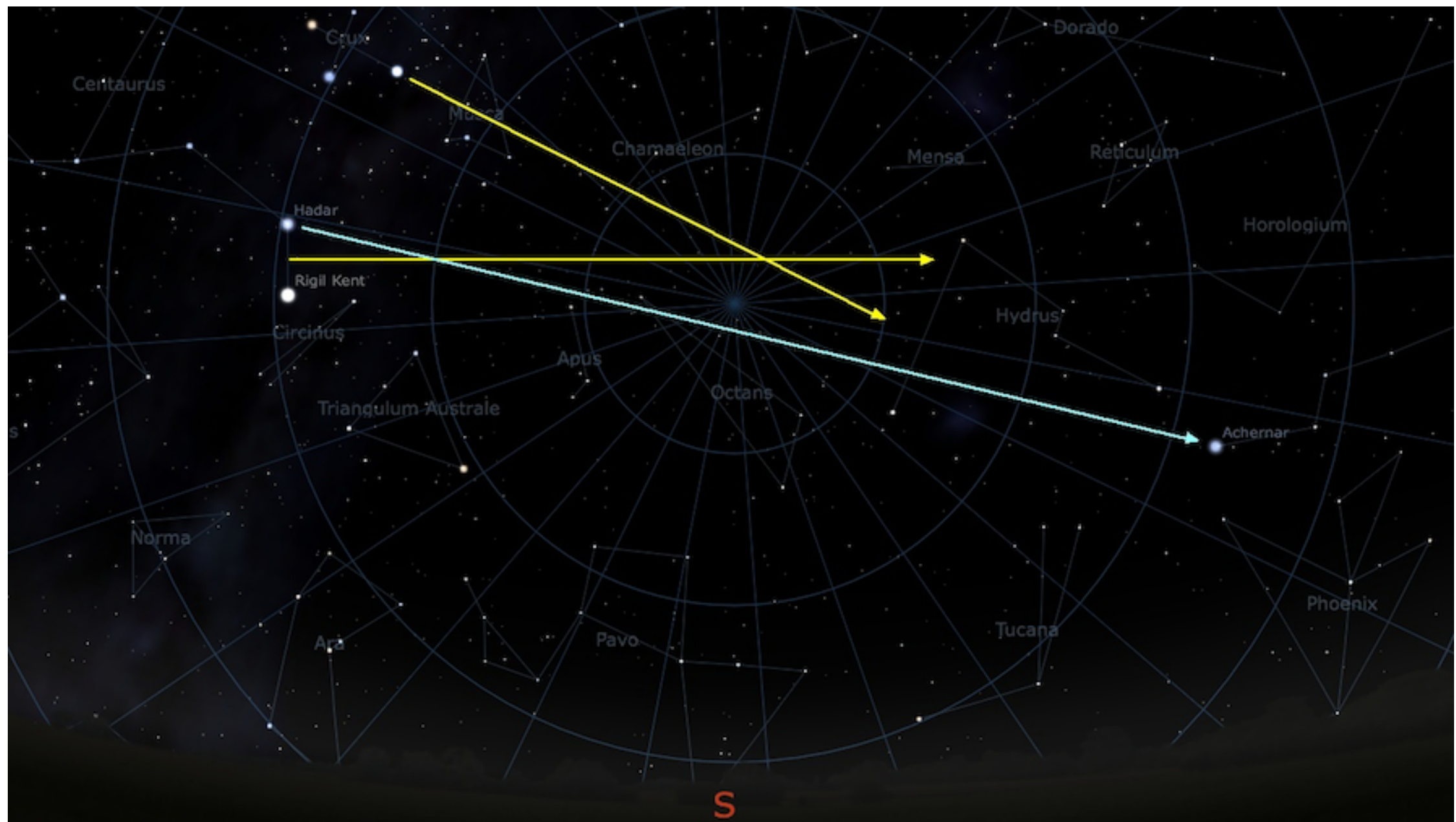


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Week 3 Hands-On Exercise

What is the altitude of the celestial poles?

How to find the south celestial pole

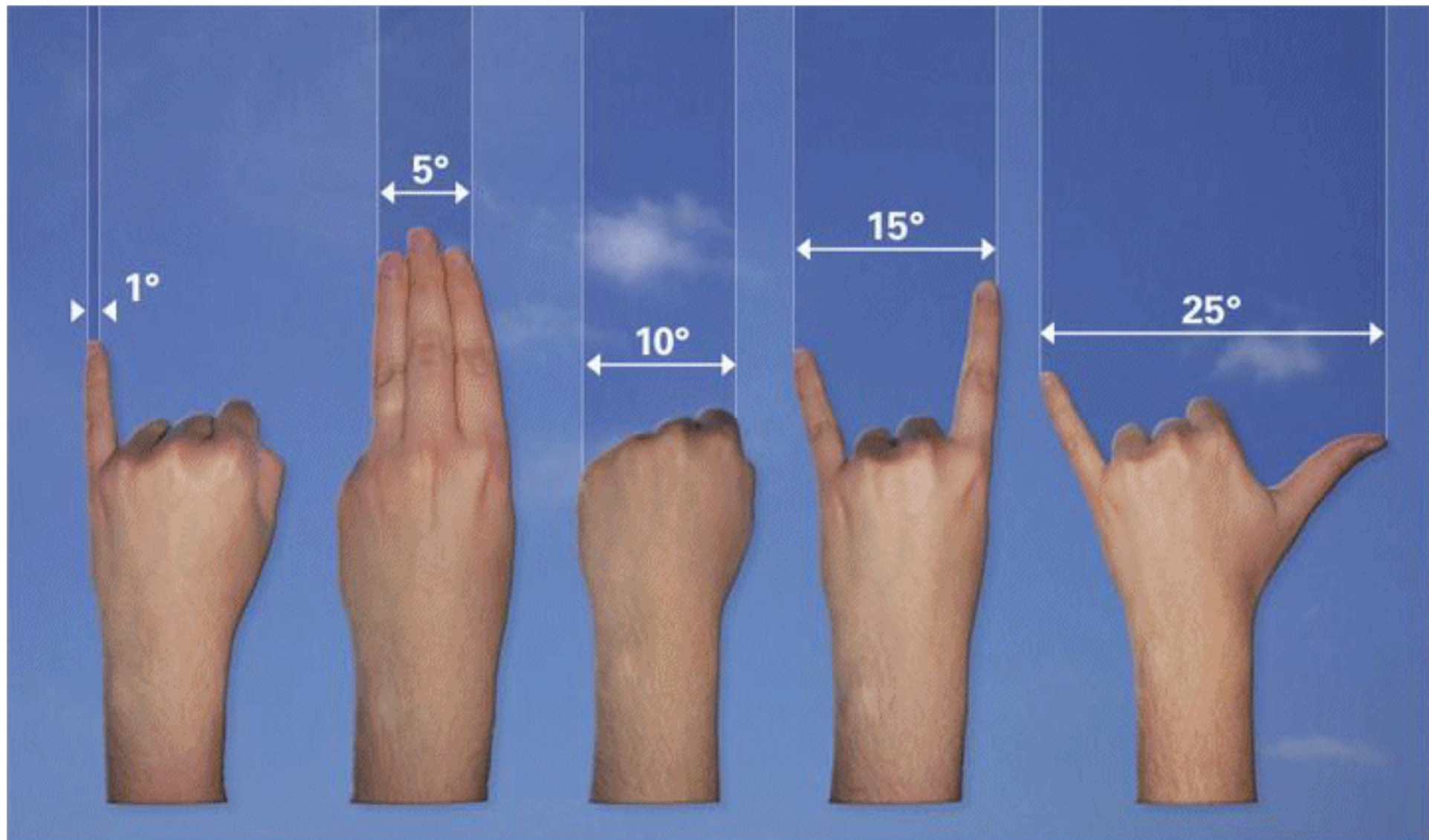


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Week 3 Hands-On Exercise

What is the altitude of the celestial poles?

Secondly, how to measure with your hands

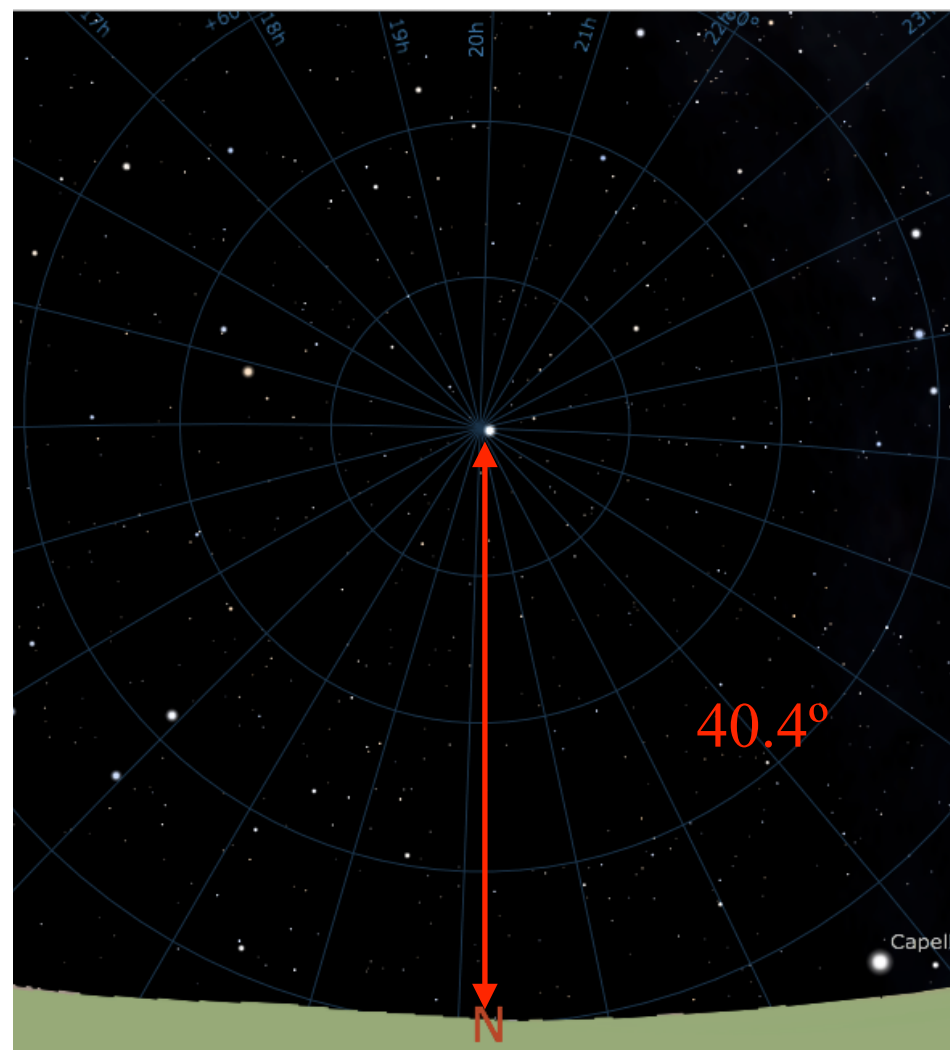


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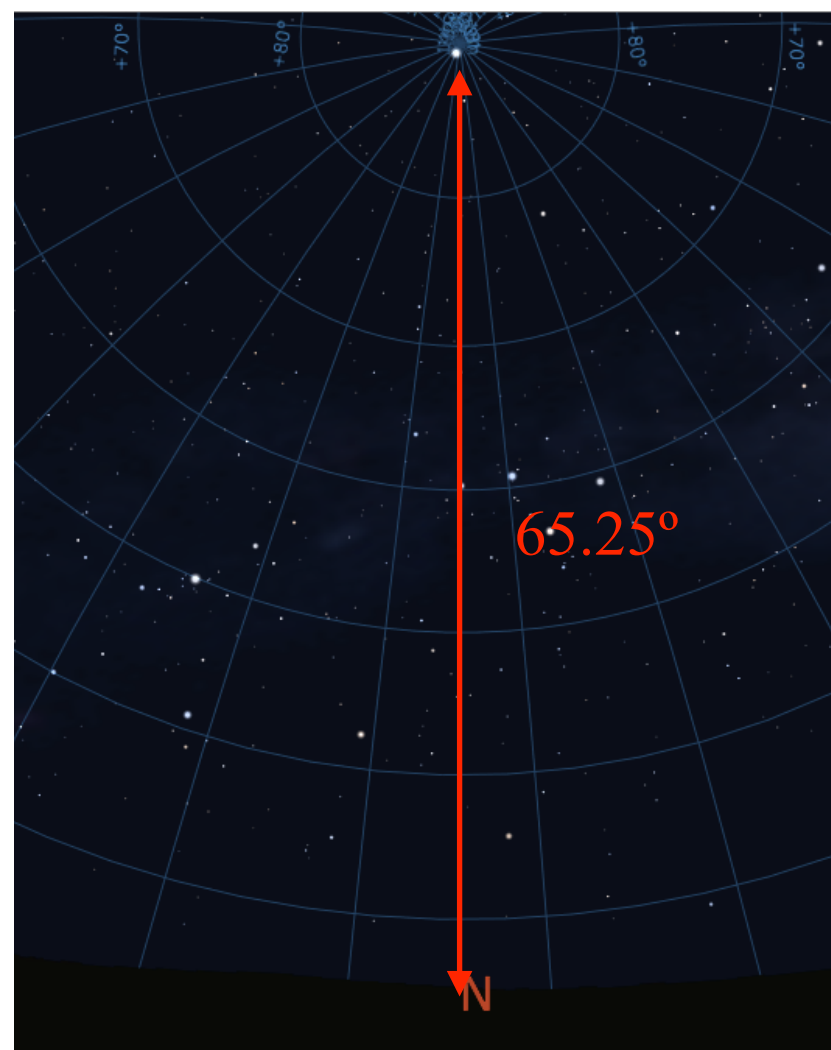
Week 3 Hands-On Exercise

Altitude of celestial pole (north or south) is always the same as your latitude (north or south).

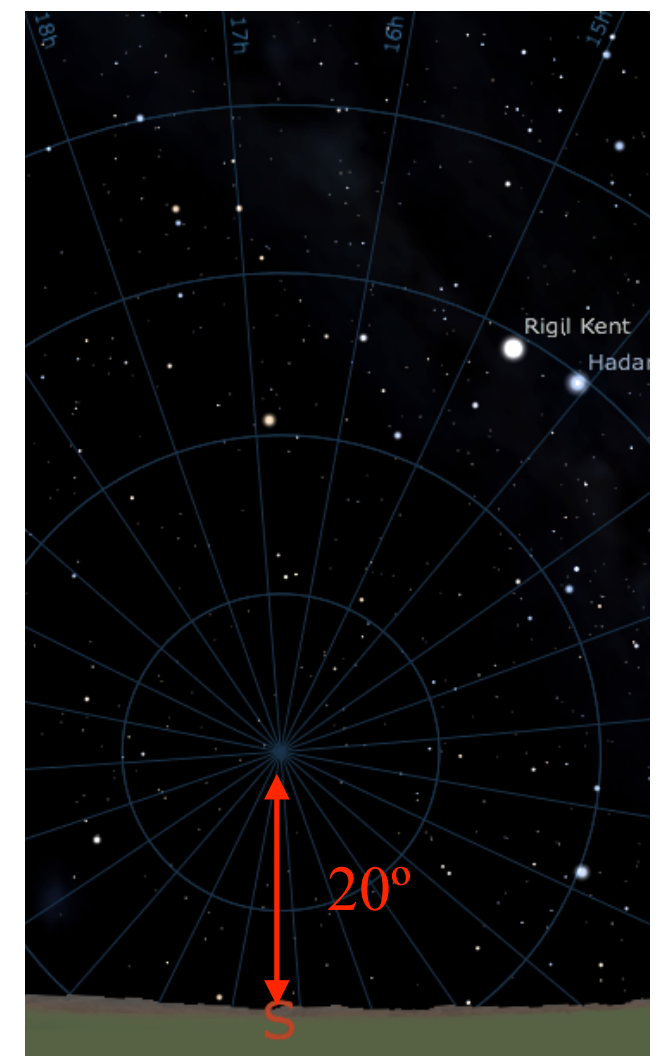
40.4° N latitude



65.25° N latitude



20° S latitude

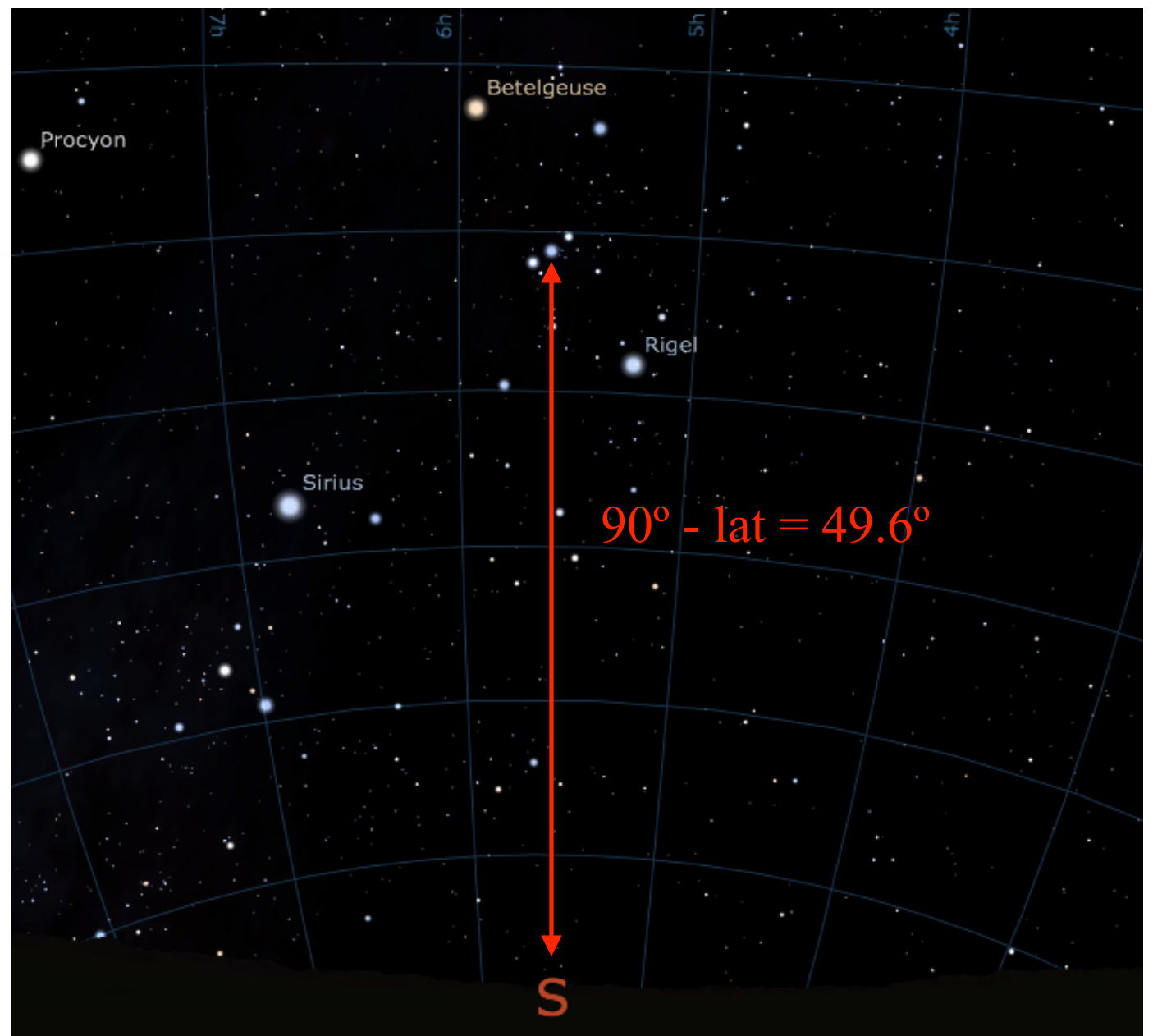


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Week 3 Hands-On Exercise

Altitude of Orion's belt when culminating (due south) is the same as your co-latitude, i.e. 90° minus your latitude
—> but this only works for the present day.

40.4° N latitude



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Week 4 Hands-On Exercise

Week 4

What is the orientation of your street?

Use a compass or a smartphone/tablet app to measure the orientation of your street.

Need 1 volunteer to talk in next week's seminar about this

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Thought of the Week

- This section includes a question for you to think about during your readings of the week.
- Share your thoughts on the facebook page.
- You might even find yourself taking notes that you can use for your essays.

Week 4

What concepts and tools are necessary for prehistoric people to align two poles to a celestial event?

Need 1 volunteer to talk in next week's seminar about this