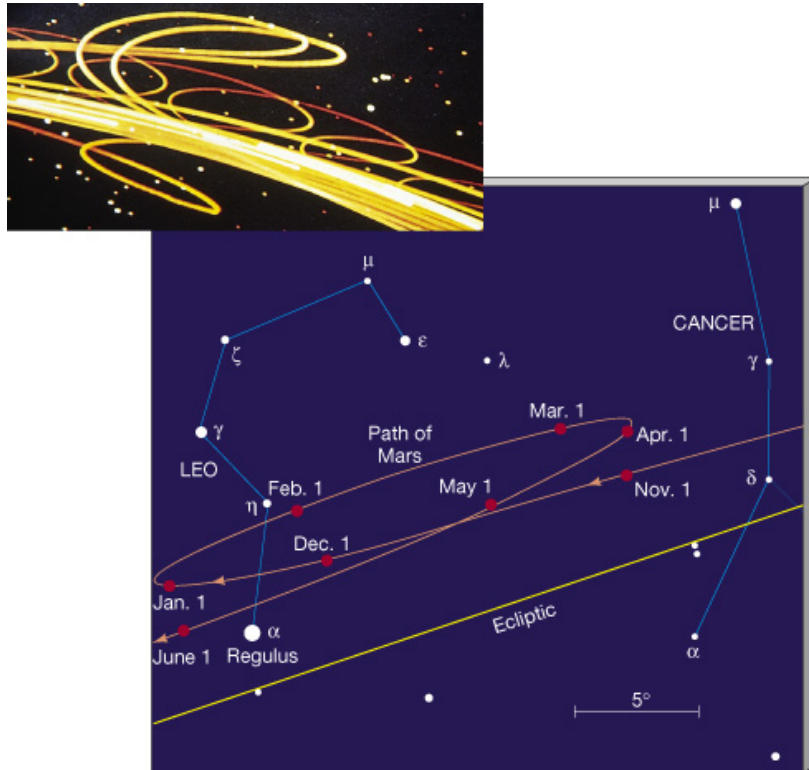


Astronomy (PY 101)

NAME _____

Laboratory 2: Retrograde Motion of Mars

Once every 686 days (or 1.88 years), Mars initiates its retrograde motion in the sky. This retrograde motion lasts only a few months after which Mars resumes its west-to-east course. The figure below shows Mars undergoing retrograde motion near the Ecliptic line.



Retrograde Motion of Mars in 2005-2006

The Data Table below shows the predicted position of Mars from August 2, 2005, to February 8, 2006, taken at ten-day intervals.

Date (mmdd)	RightAscension (hh.mm)	Declination (+dd.mm)
0802	02.12	09.9
0812	02.47	11.7
0822	02.78	13.1
0901	03.03	14.4
0911	03.25	15.3
0921	03.38	16.0
1001	03.43	16.5
1011	03.38	16.6
1021	03.23	16.5
1031	03.02	16.2
1110	02.76	15.7
1120	02.55	15.3
1130	02.42	15.1
1210	02.37	15.3
1220	02.40	15.8
1230	02.52	16.5
0109	02.70	17.5
0119	02.93	18.6
0129	03.20	19.7
0208	03.52	20.9

Using this data and the graph paper provided, plot the position of Mars (Declination versus Right Ascension) as a function of time.

