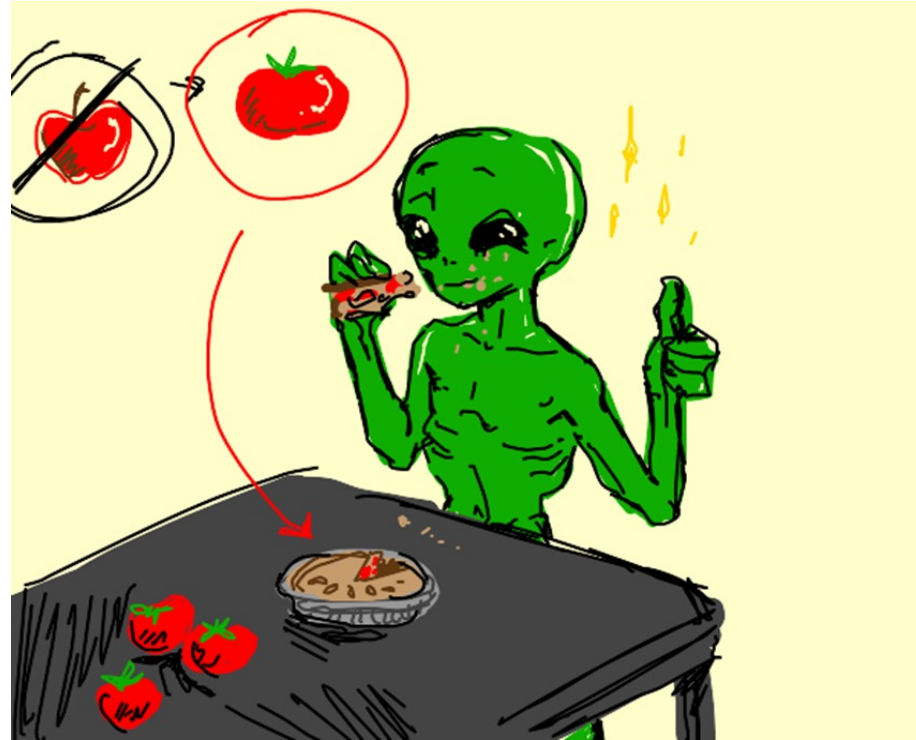


# When is Pi Day on Mars?



Bob Huxley

# UNESCO Day of Mathematics: March 14

- Why?
- Earth year of 365 days
- Calendar subdivided into 12 months
- Month  $\approx$  orbital period of only natural satellite

	<b>Earth</b>	<b>Mars</b>
Year / Mir	365/366 days	668/669 sols
Start date	1 January 1	11 April 1955
Month	29.5 days (synodic)	0.31 sols (Phobos) 1.23 sols (Deimos)

# $\pi$ and the Martian calendar

- Sol 14 of Mir 3 ( $\approx$  29 January 1959)
- Sol 314 of each Mir
- Mir 36 started on 26 December 2022
- Sol 314 starts on 13 November 2023 – TOMORROW!

BUT ...

- Martians have four digits per hand
- On Mars,  $\pi = 3.1103755242\dots$  (Base 8)
- Sol 311 was last Friday