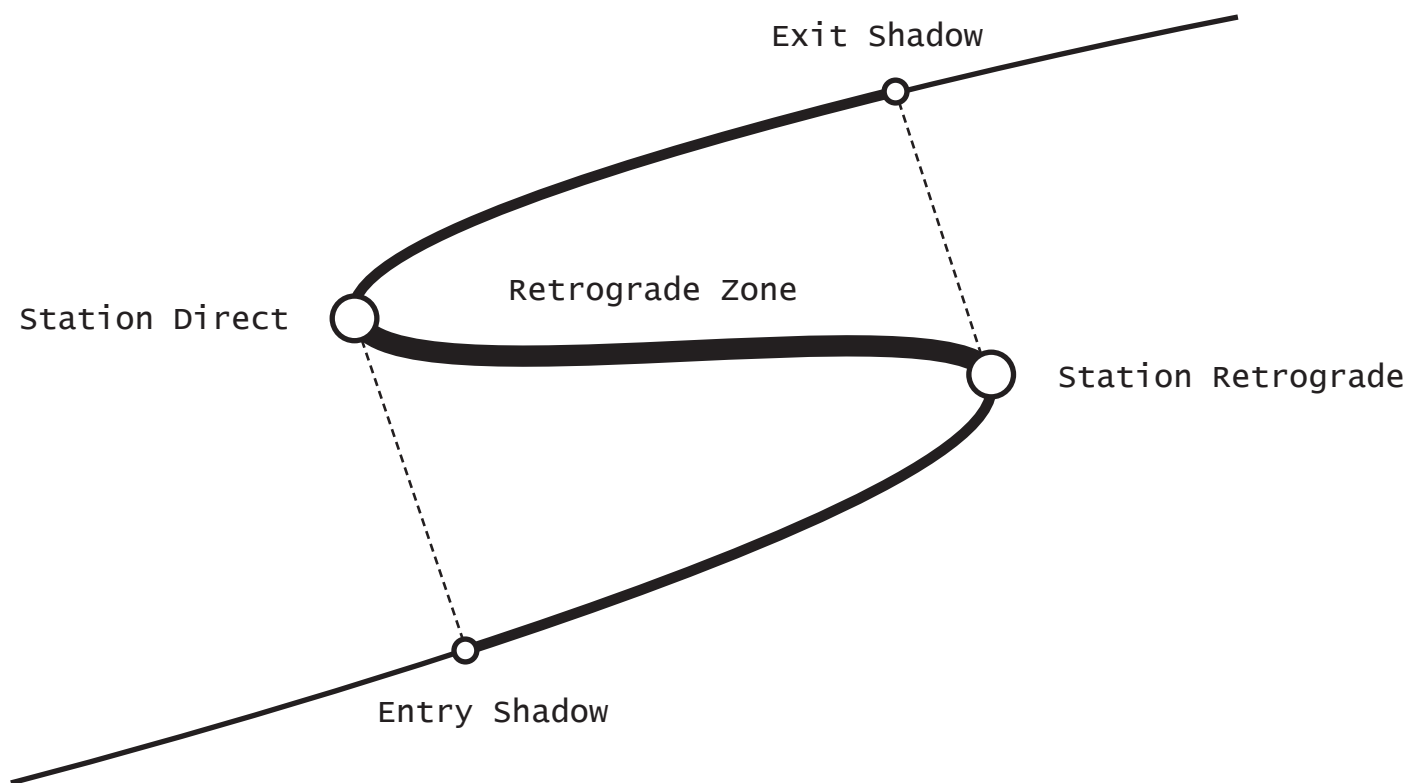


$R_x$  = Retrograde  
 $D$  = Direct  
 $S$  = Shadow

Entry Shadow	Retrograde Zone		Exit Shadow
$S$	$R_x$	$D$	$S$
FEB 2 28.2°♊	FEB 16 12.9°♋	MAR 9 28.2°♊	MAR 29 12.9°♋



When a planet goes retrograde, it appears to move backwards in the sky from our perspective on Earth. This is similar to passing a slower car on a freeway. As you pass it, the other car appears to move backwards. You're both traveling forward, just at different relative speeds.

On the approach to the retrograde, is the shadow period. The shadow is the portion of the sky that a planet will occupy inside the retrograde zone, while it's still moving forward. There is an entry shadow leading up to the retrograde, as well as an exit shadow after it's gone direct and moves forward again.