

DIO

Archimedes

as

Astronomer

2200^y Old Sunsize-Disguise
— Fractions Mask Degrees

Hipparchos

Faked 179° True-Elongation
–381/12/12 Lunar Eclipse

His 2 Indoor –157 Solstices

Most Accurate Solstices of
Antiquity: Kallippos –329

Hipparchos –145 & –134

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“News”: One-Syllable Word for “Propaganda”. Three PerfectgameStreaks.

TV 'news is setting new records in shamelessness, adhering to propagandists' 1st Commandment: don't over-lie, but selectively censor truths upsetting to moguls. (Like establishment goons who honor *DIO*'s reliability&impact by religiously serial-deleting from Wikipedia our otherwise-unanswerable exposés of archons: www.dioi.org/dec.htm#wdpq.)

[A] Don't do Neighborhood Watch in an electionyear. Energize-the-base, anyone?

The latest is a first, a network's persistent agitprop-fabrication of a mythical event: the Sanford FL “murder” by punched-bloody neighborhood-watcher George Zimmerman,¹ of tall black bully Trayvon Martin, canonized by Ed Schultz of NBC (the Obama network)² as our era's symbol of the civil-rights movement! NBC pundit dished the very idea GZ had wounds; Dembo Larry O'Donnell stooped to GrassyKnollesque paranoia on videos of GZ's head, diverting from THE uncited crucial-test datum: besides the fatal bullet, *there are no serious wounds on Martin*. Plainly the case's resolution. Except: no one mentioned it. Week after week. How DO the nets do it? Like a pitcher tossing a perfectgame shutout everyday for months. . . . Dave Barry asks the purpose of gov't. His tart answer: to Tax.

DIO asks [www.dioi.org/pre.htm]: What is the purpose of US newsmedia? Answer: BIAS.

[B] “Operation Iranian Freedom”? Santayanan WMD&OilCartel-Altruism Replay?

The most conspicuous aspect of the war-cry to raid Iran is the unobviousness of media-alerts on the plain parallel to the 2003 pseudo-preemptive raid of Iraq on equally shaky & convenient intel on supposed WMDs. (Maybe much-fed via Iran's secret service, to sucker Divine-Flounder legacy-prez Shrubya into offing Iran's top local enemy.) If Iran is building a military-nuke at all, it's not for starting a suicidal war but rather as a mutual-blackmail defense against getting attacked, the very tactic the US&Russia have carried on for years. Why is an ever-more-oil-addicted world trying to add Iran-grab to Iraq-grab? Because Iraq & Iran are the world's biggest oil puddles (besides stoner-age ally Saudi Arabia)? No, it's Nationbuilding. (Which if it westernizes 7x10⁹ souls' lifestyles, quickburns all Earth's oil.)

[C] Another Perfect-Game Skein. Marlowe→Shakespeare Shutout in World Press.

The zany film *Anonymous* got 1 thing right: actor-loanshark Shakespeare didn't write plays. The 2011 October spate of pans of the film raised a parallel joke-question: did one hand write them all?! Were **all** reviewers for the usual establishment-servile forums really as innocent of the truth as the public they so crucially&leaklessly keep in like darkness? The evidence that Christopher Marlowe wrote Shakespeare's plays is so simple as to be reduceable to a single paragraph (*DIO 18 §A3*). Will's front is tied with F.Cook's N.Pole-prank as the most transparent hoax DR ever looked into. Which is why the Stratfordian myth cannot survive unless the wider public is NEVER informed of said evidence. Luckily, our echohead-press' Oct shutout shows it's fully&foully up-to its Horatius@Bridge rôle.

¹ Even after bail-hearing disaster, NBC national news (4/23) still painted GZ as liar. Uncited clues to the truth: Which party pre-called the cops? Which had bloody beating-marks? Fearing cred-damage, the nets are presumably influencing GZ (Fuhrmanesque book-deal?) to help equi-blur the unequal truth. (Whyelse suddenly switch to a lawyer related to CNN, one of the nets lynching him for weeks? Will Martin's autopsy be hid as long as Skip Gates' full police-tape?) GZ rightly profile-spotted one whose reaction to neighborhoodwatch's chief was: aiding the robust local burglar-guild by assaulting him. (Has any newsman cared aloud about the potential future beating-victims spared by this “tragedy”?)

² Racecard-pros got a national-TV freehand for weeks, *even while* anyone pro-GZ was accused of the sin of trying-the-case-in-public! It doesn't get more perverse. Or more insulting to black IQ. Lies that GZ “hunted” TM as a “coon” were repeatedly broadcast as-fact. MSNBC&CNN promoted confused testimony and bozo “Voice Experts”, even doctoring a GZ-tape, all to inflame mass racial paranoia (to Dembos' November profit) by airing black-racist dream-come-true “proof” of The Ultimate Evil: *racial profiling*. (DR has had his papers checked in Europe twice and seen many other such profilings. It helps maintain the good life there, at rare&minor inconvenience compared to that caused by massive criminality.) But to TV 'snews, bruised feelings from profiling are of greater and far more frequent hysterical concern than racial inequities in trifles like theft, drugs, poverty, bastardy, illiteracy, murder.

This *DIO* is dedicated to the ever-treasured memory of Charlie Kowal (1940-2011) — irreproducible genius, celestial&historical discoverer, brave&principled friend.

‡1 Archimedes' Hidden Measure in Degrees — Sunsize Disguise: His Solar Diameter

Hellenistic Astronomers' High-Empiricism Confirmed by Accurate Solar Brackets Babylonian Degree-Measure Already Greek-Adopted by 3rd Century BC

A Summary

DIO has recently discovered that Archimedes' *Sandreckoner* estimate of the Sun's diameter — which has the surface look of a crude, pedant-conventional unit-fraction range — was in truth a professional-level empirical measure, expressed instead in the sexagesimal convention of 3rd century BC astronomers: 30' ± 3'. Accurate. And couched within reasonably-cautious — and correct — uncertainty-limits. Ultimate resolution below at §E.

B Did 3rd Century BC Greek Scientists Use Degrees? Dating Strabo's Nile Map

B1 In recent years, the superficially ambiguous evidence regarding when the Hellenistic astronomical tradition adopted Babylon's sexagesimal measurement of angles in degrees, arcmin, etc, has led several able, prominent scholars (including sometime-Princetintutees) to doubt or cite doubt that 3rd century BC Greek astronomers used degrees (Dicks 1966 n.15; Jones 1991M n.5; Goldstein & Bowen 1991 pp.103-105; van Brummelen 2009 p.33 n.2).

B2 By contrast, *DIO* has repeatedly pointed out (e.g., Rawlins 1991W fn 53, Rawlins 1994L fn 41, & Rawlins 2008R fn 24) the probability of degrees' use by said astronomers.

B3 But, ironically, DR's own Rawlins 1982N paper perhaps added to the confusion since it showed that the Eratosthenes Nile Map relayed by Strabo 17.1.2 used (instead of degrees) successive halvings¹ of circle-fractions. The exact date of the map is not known; however, the map obviously (Rawlins 2008Q eq.11) post-dates the Alexandria Lighthouse — and pre-dates the end of Eratosthenes' career. Which sandwiches the map into the period c.270-200 BC, dating it for the 1st time. The Nile Map's unit was a Pharos-based (Rawlins 2008Q) Earth-radius probably due to the Alexandria Lighthouse's architect, Sostratos:

$$\text{Sostratos Earth circumference } C_S = 256000 \text{ stades} \quad (1)$$

which is 19% too high — but for Pharos-based Earth-measure, *we expect 20% excess due to air's bending of horizontal light-rays (to a curvature equal to 1/6 of that of the Earth's surface)*, so the tight match evidences high precision (half-percent: *ibid* §I3) empirical measurement by Greek scientists (*ibid* §K4), Details at *op cit*.

¹ The Nile Map is based upon successive halvings of 7° 1/2. Note parallel at ‡3 fn 16.

B4 Eq.1's C_S was ultimately adopted by Eratosthenes but manipulated to (Strabo 2.5.7):

$$\text{Eratosthenes Earth circumference } C_E = 252000 \text{ stades} \quad (2)$$

— the canonical “Eratosthenes” circumference, his slight alteration (less than 2%) perhaps effected to arrange an even multiple of 360, so that for Eratosthenes

$$1^\circ = 700 \text{ stades} \quad (3)$$

suggestive² of Greek scientists' adoption of the degree at least by the mid-3rd century BC.

C Earlier Evidence

C1 When we began looking for evidence bearing on the era when Greeks started precisely measuring celestial coordinates in degrees, the earliest datable clue encountered was Ptolemy's collection of 18 stellar declinations — 12 by Timocharis & 6 by Aristyllos — observed in Alexandria c.300 BC & c.260 BC, resp (Rawlins 1994L Table 3) and all expressed in degrees at *Almajest* 7.3. Particularly striking is the uniform rounding by Aristyllos of all six of his star declinations to $1^\circ/4$ precision: a conscientiously cautious practice — perhaps intended to avoid erroneously reporting slightly discrepant empirical results, but which may (Standish 1997 DR Comm. §G12) have cost him discovery of precession, an honor which (Rawlins 1999 §D5) should instead go to his contemporary, Aristarchos. The obvious question regarding Aristyllos: if his declinations were originally reported in some other measure than degrees, how likely is it that, after hypothetical subsequent transformation (into the degree-values reported by Ptolemy at *Almajest* 7.3), all six data would³ end up exhibiting consistency with quarter-degree rounding?

² Early Greeks divided Earth-circumference C into 60 parts (Strabo 2.5.7 & Neugebauer 1975 p.590 n.2), not 360, nor the public-treatise custom of quadrant-unit-fractions (Aristarchos&Archimedes: *idem* or our eq.6). [Note added 2014/4/29&2017/7/1:] So **was the stade defined sexagesimally?** Like our nautical mile ($C/21600$)? Or the meter ($C/[4 \times 10^7]$)? Greeks expressed fractions sexagesimally. Was the formerly-unsteady, locally-varying stade imperially regularized c.300 BC as $1/60^{\text{th}}$ of $1/60^{\text{th}}$ of 1^C ? Above-**attested** $1^C/60$: cascade's *determinant step 1*. Our proposed **integral unit-fraction** in modern sexagesimal notation: 1 stade \equiv PRECISELY $0^C;00,00,01$ (thus $1^\circ \equiv 600$ stades). At Egypt, latitudinal Earth-curvature's $C = 39,900 \text{ km}$: $C/60^3 = 184.7 \text{ m} \doteq$ standard Alexandrian 185 m stade, independently-validated at Rawlins 2008Q §K2. Pharos shows the early Ptolemaic empire's enthusiasm for vast projects. Did an ordmag-1000-mile version of the unsubtle but low-systematic-error Kleo-Method (Rawlins 2008Q §A4; *Geogr.Dir.* 1.3.2-3), and/or a royal surveyors' project, find the equivalent of correct $C = 39900000 \text{ m}$, thus 1 stade $\equiv C/216000 = 185 \text{ m}$, well before Sostratos and Eratosthenes got clever with measurement by the Pharos' flame? See www.dioi.org/cot.htm#csqm.

³ We can test independently whether Aristyllos (c.260 BC) used 60^{th} (fn 2) instead of 360^{th} of a circle for his share of the only 18 Greek declinations surviving from the 3rd century BC: those 6 in the north quarter of the sky. Try his ζ UMa declination, where *Almajest* 7.3 reports $\delta = 67^\circ 1/4$, which — in circle- 60^{th} — exactly translates to $11^\circ 5/24$ (not credible) or $11^\circ 12' 1/2$ (too precise, compared to the simplicity of $67^\circ 1/4$). Testing instead $11^\circ 12'$ & $11^\circ 13'$, we find that they would result in $67^\circ 1/5$ (or $1/6$) & $67^\circ 1/3$, respectively — not $67^\circ 1/4$. So this star alone eliminates the theory that Aristyllos used degree- 60^{th} . Goldstein & Bowen 1991 pp.103-105 suggest he could have used two-degree “cubits” or degrees — or half-degree “points” or half-degree “Moon-breadths”. But the differences between these measures are too trivial to regard as generic. Also: [a] two-degree cubits (*ibid* p.104) would require overprecise $13 \frac{1}{2}$ & $16 \frac{1}{2}$ for Archimedes' solar brackets; and even more unlikely: $33 \frac{5}{8}$ for Aristyllos' ζ UMa declination. [b] Ancient mention of points is later than of degrees. [c] As for Moon-breadths ($1^\circ/2$): these were just visual yard-sticks for eyeball-observers who lacked the ringed astrolabe — irrelevant to Aristyllos' transit-instrument observations. Further: Moon-breadths are also Sun-breadths. Wouldn't it seem a mite superfluous for Archimedes to announce that he had empirically measured the Sun's width to be one Sun-width? (And: how do you call a quantity equal to itself plus-or-minus 10%?)

C2 The next point coming to our attention (noted at Rawlins 2008R fn 24) was Aristarchos' record: his $1/720$ of a circle for solar-diameter (eq.7; Rawlins 2008R eq.3), which is $1^\circ/2$; his empirical estimate (his Hypothesis 4) that half-Moon elongation was $1/30$ of a RtAng from quadrature (*ibid* eq.4 or Heath 1913 pp.352-353), which is 3° ; and Ptolemy's mention (*Almajest* 4.2) that in the Aristarchos luni-solar scheme (Rawlins 2002A), the saros' excess over 18^y was $10^\circ 2/3$ — that is, 32° excess for the 54^y exeligmos — an integrality which led to *DIO*'s reconstruction (*idem*) of the origin of Aristarchos' monthlength:

$$M_A = 29^d 31' 50'' 08''' 20'''' = 765433^d / 25920 = 765433^h / 1080 \quad (4)$$

(falsely labelled by hist.astron's political-centrists the “Babylonian” month though unattested in Babylon before c.200 BC), based upon the 4267-month eclipse-cycle (as correctly reported by Ptolemy at *Almajest* 4.2), a value accurate to a fraction of a timesec then and now. (For other viewpoints, see, e.g., Swerdlow 1980 & Engelson 2006A.) That's one part in several million, and it's based upon degrees not only in the expressions for saros & exeligmos but — as pointed out to DR by John Britton and John Steele — in the key rounding (Rawlins 2008Q §A8) that produces the precise degree-expression of Aristarchos' monthlength in its original form:

$$M_A = 29^d 191^\circ 00' 50'' \quad (5)$$

which later became equivalently expressed in the sexagesimal format (eq.4) we know from *Almajest* 4.2.

D Archimedes the Astronomer

D1 Archimedes is not usually seen as astronomer but as combo of mathematician and arms-designer. Yet the latter career could hardly have occurred without a scientist's knowledge, drive, and thought-habits.

D2 *Almajest* 3.1 quotes Hipparchos' testimony that he & Archimedes observed solstices to an accuracy no worse than $1^d/4$, so we know that Archimedes had 1sthand outdoor experience in solar work.

D3 His measure of the Sun's diameter (to be analysed in what follows) gives flesh to that supposition, as well as providing a prime example of ancient scientific writers using circle-fractions for publication of empirical data actually measured in degrees, a more familiar example of which is Eratosthenes' description of the Earth's obliquity as $11/83$ of a semi-circle, when (*Almajest* 1.12) $23^\circ 51' 1/4 \pm 1' 1/4$ was the actual (precise but inaccurate: Rawlins 1982G eq.9) mean measurement by asymmetric (unfortunately) gnomon.

D4 Archimedes' report (Archimedes p.224) is that the Sun's angular diameter d_\odot is between $1/200^{\text{th}}$ and $1/164^{\text{th}}$ of a quadrant — a right angle or 90° . Which can be expressed thusly:

$$\text{Archimedes: } \text{RtAng}/200 < d_\odot < \text{RtAng}/164 \quad (6)$$

What can a description of such oddity (§E1) be telling⁴ us?

⁴However, one must be taught BY evidence rather than teaching TO it. E.g., Shapiro 1975 p.77 long ago realized that exact conversion of Archimedes' brackets equalled $27'$ & $32' 56''$. But he then spurned the discovery-opportunity here by neglecting to ponder: [a] the latter angle's glaring nearness to $33'$, [b] the pair-average's nearness to Aristarchos' $1^\circ/2$ (reported by Archimedes in the same opus under examination), or [c] the wisdom of computing to 4 places using a 3 significant-digit number! (The same naïvete affected even Delambre 1817 [1:104], but that was back in an era when scientists were insensitive to significant-digits.) So Shapiro didn't calculate in reverse by simply (§E1) hypothesizing & checking to see whether $5400'/33'$ rounded to 164 or to a different integer. He instead swiftly concluded by just echoing establishment dogma:

“the degree was, of course, not a unit used by Archimedes”.

(If anyone among our readers knows of an earlier analyst who realized the sexagesimal truth behind Archimedes' solar brackets, please inform us so that we may add a citation here in this issue's next printing.)

E Archimedes' RtAngle-Unit-Fractions: His Solar Diameter Solved

E1 Since Archimedes' predecessors, Aristarchos (c.280 BC) & Aristyllos (c.260 BC), & likely Timocharis (c.290 BC) measured astronomical angles in degrees (see fn 3 & Rawlins 2008R fn 24), let us investigate eq.6 by the hypothesis that it expresses an empirical range, originally in degrees. Archimedes is our sole reliable witness to Aristarchos' solar diameter d_{\odot} , making it $1/720^{\text{th}}$ of a circle or a half-degree (§C2; Archimedes p.223):

$$\text{Aristarchos: } d_{\odot} = 30' \quad (7)$$

In eq.6, the number 164 is peculiar (prime factors: 2 & 2 & 41, which lead nowhere), so we are inspired to dig beneath the surface. Noting additionally that 200 and 164 differ by c.20%, we try the following hypothesis for explaining eq.6:

$$\text{Archimedes: } d_{\odot} = 30' \pm 10\% = 30' \pm 3' \quad \text{or} \quad 27' < d_{\odot} < 33' \quad (8)$$

To test for confirmation we convert eq.8 into not only circle-fraction format (§D3) but specifically into satisfaction of another ancient schoolbook convention, *unit-fractions* (inverse-integers — as displayed in eq.6); we find the unit-fractions' denominators by dividing $27'$ & $33'$ successively into $\text{RtAng} = 5400'$, yielding 200 & $163\frac{7}{11}$, resp, which (after integralization of the latter) produces:

$$\text{Archimedes: } \text{RtAng}/200 < d_{\odot} < \text{RtAng}/164 \quad (9)$$

— the very Archimedes bracket-expression (eq.6) we'd set out to trace the origin of. Being the least ambiguous of all entries in the list of evidences for 3rd century BC use of degrees, our finding now takes its place at the head of the list. And, with respect to Archimedes-as-astronomer (§D), eq.8 is absolutely accurate: the Sun never strayed outside limits $31'-33'$, so not only was his solar diameter correct but his brackets were judiciously applied.

E2 From fn 2, eq.8, & Rawlins 2008R fn 24, we see that, starting from dividing Earth C into 60 parts c.300 BC, Greek science transitioned to degrees early in the 3rd century BC.

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‡2

Ancient Solstices

Ancient Solstice-Determiners' Delicate Voyage 'Twixt Random Error's Scylla and Systematic's Charybdis

Tihon Finds Hipparchos' –157/6/26 18th Solstice Its Significance and Neat Surprise-Solution

New Light on Hipparchos' Calendar, Solar Elements, & Year-Length

A Summary & Unwelcome Shock-Confirmation of *DIO* Prescience

In 2010, Anne Tihon (www.springer.com/us/book/9789048127870) meticulously analysed a recently recognized papyrus (*P.Fouad* 267A, fortunately recommended to her expert examination by Jean-Luc Fournet) bearing Hipparchos' –157/6/26 Summer Solstice, his hitherto-unknown 500^y solar longitude tables (one of them Kallippic), a new precession rate for the tropical points, also a new ancient yearlength which D.Duke soon correctly reasoned was based on comparison to Meton's –431 S.Solstice. Below, we show how ancient solstices were determined outdoors — as well as detailing the problems Hellenistic scientists had to balance, to achieve an accurate estimate of a solstice's hour. We also examine why the best ancient scientists preferred solstices to equinoxes as bedrocks for their calendars; and we consider the newly-available –157 solstice's implications for dating some of Hipparchos' astronomy. Curiously, no commentator on the papyrus' –157 solstice has yet remarked that the 1st and only prior paper to propose Hipparchos sought a –157 solstice & used Kallippic mean solar motion is Rawlins 1991W (§K). Do non-citers believe *DIO* happened only by blind luck to improbably [a] hit upon the now-papyrus-confirmed date of Hipparchos' 1st try at a solstice, and [b] induce his Kallippic solar speed?!

B Journal for the History of Astronomy Biggies' 4 Solstice Adventures Sending History-of-Astron's MacArthur Genius Up to 9th Grade

The laugh-crying need for a competent article on mathematical and historical matters regarding ancient solstices may perhaps be brought home to the reader by a swift foray here into the wisdom on the subject that's been emanating from academe's two most highly-placed and expensive Experts¹ in the field of ancient astronomy. [It would not be necessary to highlight the weird stuff that follows here, except that — typically for cohesive, wagon-circling cults — despite years of opportunity (and *DIO* nudges), the perps *have not retracted on-the-record a single one of the strange-science adventures we enumerate below.*]

B1 A.Jones, sometime Princetintutee, now at NYU's hugely endowed Inst. for the Study of the Ancient World, Boardmember-for-Life at history of astronomy's "premier" (Schaefer 2002 p.40) *Journal for the History of Astronomy* (& *JHA*'s discoverer of the Winter Equinox: Jones 1991H p.119), has added to *JHA*'s rep (www.dioi.org/jha.htm#kqlz) for meticulous refereeing by rejecting in its pages the reliable standard ancient method (*Almagest* 1.12) for finding latitude&obliquity via solstices, using equinoxes instead: Jones 2002E, a paper taken rather too seriously by PU's history of early trig, van Brummelen 2009, p.65 n.76, though with fair citation of *DIO* 4.2 p.56's [or Rawlins 2009S p.20's] stark

¹Despite their here-appreciated screwball gags, each of our roastees has made solid contributions to knowledge, as seen at, e.g., §B4, *DIO* 4.3 ‡13 §D8, *DIO* 11.2 cover [owed to Duke&Jones], *DIO* 12 ‡2.

Table 1. (Unlike Jones, who persists in nonciting this Diller-DR table's *perfect* data-fit, to fake Jones 2002E's viability, not even producing his own table! *Do not miss fn 10 below.*)
B2 Noel Swerdlow (Yale, UChi, CalTech), History-of-astronomy's MacArthur-Genius & *Journal for the History of Astronomy* Boardmember-for-Life, has, like *JHA* Assoc.Ed. J.Evans 1998 p.206, spent decades misunderstanding the 9th-grade-level method used by ancients to measure solstices, an achievement recognized by DR at R.Newton 1991 fn 20:

One of the more amusing moments in [HamSwerdlow 1981], which RRN is too polite to note, is [HamSwerdlow 1981]'s sarcastic mock astonishment while commenting upon a key RRN discrimination: "most remarkable of all, that solstices could be observed with more accuracy than equinoxes." That RRN is correct (in the very judgement which *HS* attack as "remarkable" folly) is obvious to any unprejudiced scientist familiar with the instrumental problems involved. (See the lucid discussion at R.Newton 1977 pp.81-82 [or §G1 here].) . . . all known ancient astronomical-observer-calendarists (excluding [indoor] Ptolemy . . .) depended primarily upon solstices for gauging the year's length: Meton, Euktemon, Kallippos, Aristarchos, Hipparchos. (Hipparchos observed numerous equinoxes [§O]; but even *his* year-lengths were based upon solstices: see, e.g., [Rawlins 1991H] eq.8 [& below eqs.32&34].) However, Swerdlow, an historian [then] with the official rank of professor [at U.Chicago's Astron.Dep't] cannot understand this elementary point: during a gloriously delirious passage (p.527) in his prominent 1979 attack on Newton (in *American Scholar* [Phi Beta Kappa!] 48:523 . . .), Swerdlow argues:

At the time of the solstice, the meridian altitude of the sun changes by less than fourteen seconds of arc per day, and measuring this quantity, let alone any fraction of it, was obviously ridiculous.

The only ridiculous aspect of this astounding piece of reasoning is that a member of *the University of Chicago's Dep't of Astronomy* should so conspicuously exhibit his touching innocence of the implications of 1st-year calculus and of the standard technique known² as "equal altitudes". It is easy to see that Hist.sci archon Swerdlow's reasoning is essentially equivalent to insisting that the time a vertically oscillating body reaches maximum altitude cannot be determined since at that moment it lacks vertical motion!

Or, to reduce this to around junior-high: our nay-jerk R.Newton-hater (*DIO* 1.1 ‡3 §§D2-D3) is essentially claiming that if you toss a ball upwards at t_1 and catch it at t_2 , it is "ridiculous" to suppose that its height maxed at $(t_2 + t_1)/2$.

B3 Far from admitting his elementary misunderstanding, invincibly-ineducable Swerdlow keeps promoting the same reasoning's validity a decade later,³ in the very *Journal for the History of Astronomy* paper (Swerdlow 1989 p.36) which got him his MacArthur!

² The Bowditch *American Practical Navigator* 1981 ed. 2:799 defines equal altitudes thusly: "Two altitudes numerically the same. The expression applies particularly to the practice, essentially obsolete, of determining the instant of local apparent noon by observing the altitude of the sun a short time before it reaches the meridian and again at the same altitude after transit, the time of local apparent noon being midway between the times of the two observations, if the second is corrected as necessary for the run of the ship. [*DIO*: And solar δ -shift.] Also called DOUBLE ALTITUDES." See fn 6 here.

³ Rawlins 2002V fn 20: "In this MacArthur-grant-subsidized paper (published by Gingerich's *JHA*), [Swerdlow 1989 p.36] . . . alibis that since (near maximum) Venus' elongation changes merely $1^\circ/12$ in 6^d, 'in no way could Ptolemy estimate the time' of greatest [maximum] elongation more accurately. (Gingerich 2002's incomparable p.72 goes even further into legalblindnessland, claiming that *one-degree*-accuracy in observation 'is what Ptolemy typically worked with' — a sleight which neatly confounds ordmag 0°.1 ancient observational accuracy [§B4 & Rawlins 2009E] with the ordmag 1°

Such obstinate-incredible semi-numerate escapades by ultra-archons, serve the useful purpose (additionally to funnybone-exercise) of measuring the hist.astron community's relative skills at science vs six-figure-profitable careerist politics. See similarly at Rawlins 2009S. Dozens more such Premier-journal larfs are chronicled at www.dioi.org/jha.htm#lmv1.

B4 [Section added 2012/12/29.] *JHA*'s 2008 Aug Pb paper Duke 2008W is yet another snooze-refereed solstice-study, claiming Greek solar-declination δ data had *random* error of standard deviation $\sigma_\delta = 15'$ (vs actual c.1': eq.14, below), citing irrelevant (*DIO* 16 ‡3 fn 36) Greek star $\sigma_\delta = 10'$ (vs real median 5': *DIO* 4.1 ‡3 Table 3), & speculating Greeks found solstices via vast melds of motley-weight equal-altitude pairs with ere&aft intervals d ranging from 20^d to 55^d; result unquantified beyond meld's $\sigma_{SS} = 5^h$. But ancient Greek $d = 55^d$ would cause S.Solstice systematic error -8^h . If σ_δ really were 15' (nearly the span from solar center to limb!), random error would've been half a day for $d = 55^d$ and *over a day* for $d = 20^d$. Actual Greek solstices' errors: 1^h-3^h (§§H-J & Table 3). Hipparchos' Rhodos 147-128BC equinox data (excellent list Duke 2008W Table 1): *systematic* δ error $+6'.5 \pm 0'.4$ [pioneer John Britton 1967 p.24 got 7'; R.Newton 1977 p.78 same] (7^h-), accounted-for (within c.1') by $+4'$ correction to noon altitude h for his fantasy 7' solar parallax (Swerdlow's neat discovery: Rawlins 1991W fn 280), plus non-correction for sunlight's 0'.7 atmospheric refraction, plus transit-circle 1'1/3 mis-set via refracted polestar-light ($\sigma \doteq 1'$, like Hipparchos' geographical latitude σ from stellar δ data: Rawlins 1994L Table 3); *random* error $\sigma_\delta = 1'3/4$, near-same as rms 1'.7 scatter from 1/4-day rounding (constraining raw empirical random error to c.1'). Rounding cardinal-point solar data thusly was calendaric-tradition and-or Aristyllan-modest overcaution (§1 §C1; *Alm* 3.1) against being responsible for unreliable data. (Note: Hipparchos' 162-158BC equinoxes' systematic error may've been mostly from asymmetric gnomon.)

C Precisely Fixed Ancient Solstices

C1 Given the hist.astron center's continuing problems in the area of solstices (e.g., Rawlins 2009S §F3), it will help if we cite (and later list: Table 3) what we have hitherto possessed of outdoor ancient solstices where *the hour not merely the date is known*. After discounting those (Table 1) truncated to day-epoch — Meton's (−431) & Aristarchos' (−279) — and the faked solst (Table 2) of Ptolemy (+140), we find that we have only two so far, and those only by modern reconstruction, not direct attestation. The −329 S.Solstice launching Kallippos' famous calendar is reconstructable by realizing (§J4; Rawlins 1985H) that his pioneering yearlength (nearly 3 centuries before Julius Caesar's Sosigenes),

$$Y_K = 365^d 1/4 \quad (1)$$

arose from his comparison of his own S.Solstice observation to Meton's famous Athens −431/6/27 S.Solstice, which was typically (for calendarists) truncated to the beginning (sunset for Athens) *of the 24^h period containing the event*. So just add 102 Y_K or 37255^d 1/2 to the start of the Metonic calendar to find the solstitial moment of the Kallippic calendar's start:

$$-431/6/27 \ 3/4 + 102Y_K = -329/6/28 \ 1/4. \quad (2)$$

Similarly, starting with Babylonian Astronomical Cuneiform Text 210 (BM55555), whose Greek-based year-length is

$$Y_{U-M} = 365^d 14' 44'' 51''' \doteq 365^d 73/297, \quad (3)$$

enormity of the most delicious Ptolemy fudge.) We have already previously ([R.Newton 1991] fn 20) dealt with the tragic pre-highschool mentalblindnessland adventure of Swerdlow 1979 pp.526-527 (in the journal of PhiBetaKappa!), regarding estimation of maxima-times (solstices in that case), so I won't reprise the pathetic details here merely because he later repeated the folly under the MacArthur Foundation's aegis. But . . . none of this excuses inaccuracies of several weeks in Venus observations, leading to *dishonestly-reported* 'observational' [V elongations] which are off by way over a degree."

Table 1: Ancient Observers' Day-Epoch-Truncated Solstices

Solstice Observer	Truncated Time	Real Time	Error
Meton	-431/6/27 3/4	6/28 11 ^h	-17 ^h
Aristarchos	-279/6/26 1/2	6/27 06 ^h	-18 ^h

we know from Rawlins 1991H that Hipparchos' 135BC solstice (which he used to found his final "UH" solar orbit: *ibid* §C) occurred 297 of ACT 210's years Y_{U-M} or 108478^d (§P6 below) after Meton's Solstice as misunderstood by Hipparchos. (Who interpreted Meton's start-of-day as dawn instead of Athenian sunset. Perhaps just to find or force a fit to the overlong Metonic lunisolar scheme? See below at §§P4-P5 & §Q1.) Rawlins 1991H eq.6:

$$-431/6/27 1/4 + 297Y_{U-M} = -134/6/26 1/4 = \text{dawn}. \quad (4)$$

(Zzzzz-reffed *JHA* 39:286 Table 1 crucially [‡3 fn 8] misclaims *Almajest* 3.1 makes it noon.)

C2 Incredibly, Kallippos' and Hipparchos' reliable, precious, professionally-observed solstices' precise hours have never previously been brought together — much less deservedly highlighted at last by exclusive tabulation. We will do the honors below (Table 3), after discovering a hitherto-unknown addition (eq.27) to the list.

D Hellenistic Astronomers' Outdoor Empiricism

The two accurate solstices cited (eqs.2&4) add to the accumulated evidence that Greek astronomers were anything but the dreamy, data-inventing critters that certain truly dreamy historians imagine. See, e.g., our comments (at Rawlins 2008R §A) on Muffia god-pop O.Neugebauer's strange vision. Other evidences of Greek empiricism's accuracy & primacy (Rawlins 2008Q §K4 & n.9) include the half-percent precision of Greeks' basis-measure for finding the Earth's radius (‡1 §B3) — and more spectacularly their three lunar periods (‡3 fn 27; www.dioi.org/thr.htm), *each accurate to 1 part in ordmag a million or more*.

E Truncated Solstices

We list all extant day-start-truncated solstices (§§C1-C2&E1-E3) in Table 1.

E1 Meton's calendar started on -431/6/27 3/4 since Athens' day began at sunset. As late as a century after, Kallippos knew the original Meton calendar epoch and (eq.2) founded his year-length upon it — though (§§C1&P4) Hipparchos later misconstrued Meton's S.Solstice by -12^h, making its error -29^h, which caused (along with eq.31) huge systematic errors in later astronomers' yearlength estimates (§Q1; Rawlins 1999 §B6).

E2 Aristarchos' -279 S.Solstice (notably nextdoor to the -279/6/30 total lunar eclipse, & exactly 2 Kallippic cycles after Meton's S.Solst) may've helped retro-firmup establishment of heliocentrists' epoch -284 Dionysios calendar, 1st reliably reconstructed by Böckh 1863 & van der Waerden 1984-5. (The Dionysios calendar generically differed little from Kallippos', maybe adding embedment of Aristarchos' Great Year: Rawlins 2002A §A4.)

E3 Aristarchos' S.Solstice is reconstructable from Hipparchos' -134 solstice, combined with the *Almajest* 3.1-attested interval. (See Rawlins 1991H eq.8.) Thus, in Table 1, each of the truncated solstices was later used by Hipparchos to find the length of the year, where the truncations contributed to results that were seriously too long — but (§P7) just about right for matching Metonic preconception: below eqs.32&34.

F Equal-Altitudes: How the Ancients Determined Solstices

F1 As noted at §B2, *DIO* has for decades asserted (against Muffia-MacArthur genius-dum) that ancient solstices were observed via Equal-Altitudes. Understanding the method shouldn't challenge a high-schooler.

F2 Starting d days before the Solstice, as the Sun transits (culminates) at Local Apparent Noon (LAN), the observing astronomer records in degrees and arcminutes⁴ the altitude h of the Sun's center (preferably just a few degrees below the h_{SS} of eventual solstitial culmination). This noon will be called t_1 . By obvious symmetry, the LAN Sun's altitude will be back near⁵ h at d days after Solstice, LAN-culminating at a time which will be called t_2 . The midpoint between the two times is then taken as the Solstice-hour t_{SS} :

$$t_{SS} = \frac{t_1 + t_2}{2} \quad (5)$$

And the relation of d to the two times is obviously

$$d = \frac{t_2 - t_1}{2} \quad (6)$$

(We will return to discussing d at §G3.)

F3 The method is attractively⁶ simple. But the Equal-Altitudes Method is subject to small errors (to be quantified below: §§H-I), which had to be carefully accounted for, by any ancient scientist intending to acquire maximally accurate naked-eye results using it.

G Solstice-Observation Technique: Going Beyond Naïve Eq.5

G1 The great accuracy-advantage of solstices vs equinoxes is this: if there is uncertainty in adopted solar parallax, atmospheric refraction, the transit-instrument's mounting or secular settling or arc-ruling-uniformity, then an equinox-timing is corrupted (§B4) by each's systematic error. But not a solstice, since all these errors' effects on t_1 & t_2 are nearly the same while of opposite sign, thus leaving eq.5 unaffected. Yet solstitial determination has its own problems, which are [a] lesser, but [b] serious and (except for random-error problems, which are smaller with equinoxes) completely different from the traditional bothers for equinox-observations.

G2 If the Sun's motion were uniform, it is obvious from symmetry that LAN solar altitudes h_1 & h_2 measured at respective times t_1 & t_2 with an instrument set at constant solar altitude h so that

$$h_2 = h_1 \quad (7)$$

would ensure that the corresponding solar longitudes are each at the same angular distance S from the S.Solst point:

$$90^\circ - \phi_1 = \phi_2 - 90^\circ = S \quad (8)$$

Assuming symmetry, the average of the two times of eq.5 would be exactly the sought quantity: the time t_{SS} of the S.Solst.

⁴The ultimate new proof, that Hellenistic scientists had adopted Babylon's sexagesimal measure for angles as early as the 3rd century BC, is found here at ‡1: Archimedes' masked solar diameter brackets.

⁵Astronomers will see that we are merely using h to measure solar declination δ , in order to find two times on either side of Solstice when δ is the same. Generally, finding the exact time t_2 when the 2nd estimate of δ exactly matches (that which occurred at t_1) will require interpolation — since only by rare luck does the post-Solstice h_2 match the earlier noon h_1 almost exactly at noon.

⁶Our present annual version of the technique has a diurnal parallel (fn 2) often used by pre-GPS-era explorers. (Among others: the Isaac Hayes & Rob't Peary expeditions.) Secondary-school classes teach an analogous method for finding when a thrown ball reaches maximum height: §B2

G3 What very slightly but aggravatingly upsets the ideal eq.5 situation is the Earth's elliptical orbit. The vital elements were in -157 and thereabouts:

$$\text{Apogee } A = 66^\circ.1 \quad \text{eccentricity } e = 0.0176 \quad (9)$$

The non-uniform solar motion entailed by the asymmetry⁷ of the Sun's elliptic motion causes a *systematic error* that becomes quadratically **larger** (eq.13), the larger the number of days d on either side of the Solstice one chooses to take observations at — even while the process' *random error* becomes **smaller** for greater d (eq.18). So picking the ideal d is a delicate choice (§J), whose pitfalls we now examine. [Note: Many equations to follow here are approximations — though marked as equalities if the roughness is slight.]

H Charybdis

H1 An equation for the asymmetry-caused longitudinal systematic error q , of an Equal-Altitudes-obtained t_{SS} , may not have been previously published; so we have derived (and have substituted eq.9 values into) the following simple formula for q as a function of S , the number of longitude-degrees on either side of the solstice one chooses to start & finish at:

$$q = \frac{\pi e \cos A}{3} S^2 = 0'.0075 S^2 \quad (10)$$

with q in arc-minutes and (again) S in degrees.

H2 We all know the Sun moves about $1^\circ/\text{day}$, so obviously S is nearly equal to d — near enough for the difference to be largely ignorable here. Nonetheless, we supply useful approximations, relating q to the asymmetry-caused solstice-error H in hours, for solar motion near a Summer Solstice during Hipparchos' era,

$$H = \frac{24 \cdot 365^d \cdot 2425}{60 \cdot 360^\circ} q / (1 - 2e \sin A) = 0.42q \quad (11)$$

and relating S to d :

$$d = \frac{365^d \cdot 2425}{360^\circ} S / (1 - 2e \sin A) = 1.05S \quad (12)$$

H3 Combining eqs.10-12 yields our ultimate desired simple practical formula (valid for the range of d that knowledgeable ancients would wish to use) expressing systematic error in hours H as a function of the Equal-Altitudes symmetric (ere&aft) interval d in days:

$$H = \frac{-0.0075 \cdot 0.42}{1.05^2} d^2 = -0.0029d^2 \quad (13)$$

where the minus-sign reflects that for -157 the error of the Equal-Altitudes Method will cause naïvely (eq.5) deduced t_{SS} to be too-early by H hours.

I Scylla

We now turn from systematic error to *random error*.

I1 If solar altitude h could be measured perfectly, the foregoing Charybdis section would be a complete error analysis. But the measure of S is from visual determination of altitude h , which can be measured to no better than $1/10000$ of a radian (Rawlins 2002B eq.1), called here the Optimal standard-deviation σ_{Opt} for human vision — and contrasted with widely-assumed Ordinary visual discrimination (oft apt in-practice: §B4), $\sigma_{\text{Ord}} \doteq 1'$:

$$\text{Optimal Discrim } \sigma_{\text{Opt}} \doteq 1/10000 \text{ radian} \doteq 1'/3 \quad \text{Ordinary Discrim } \sigma_{\text{Ord}} \doteq 1' \quad (14)$$

Eq.14 causes an uncertainty (σ_{SS}) in an Equal-Altitudes-determined S.Solst time t_{SS} which requires statistical evaluation. So, to find an accurate t_{SS} , we initially need to know how strongly h -uncertainty produces uncertainty in hours of solar motion.

⁷Things were easy in 1245AD, when the solar apogee arrived at longitude 90° . Had this obtained in Hipparchos' era, our entire discussion of asymmetry here would be superfluous.

I2 Since LAN solar h and solar declination δ virtually differ by a constant, we start by gauging the statistical relation of longitude ϕ 's uncertainty σ_ϕ to h 's uncertainty σ_h :

$$\frac{\sigma_h}{\sigma_\phi} = \frac{\Delta h}{\Delta \phi} \doteq \frac{\Delta \delta}{\Delta \phi} = \tan \epsilon \sin S \doteq \frac{\pi \cdot \tan \epsilon}{180} S \quad (15)$$

(σ_ϕ & σ_h in arcmin), where obliquity ϵ was $23^\circ.7$ in Hipparchos' era. Also (a statistical parallel to eq.11), we find the effect of σ_ϕ upon observed t_{SS} 's uncertainty σ_{SS} (in hours):

$$\frac{\sigma_{SS}}{\sigma_\phi} = 0.42/\sqrt{2} \quad (16)$$

where the $\sqrt{2}$ reflects t_{SS} 's dependence (eq.5) upon not one but two h measures, averaged.

I3 Combining eqs.15, 16, & 12 establishes standard-deviation ratios:

$$\sigma_{SS} = \frac{0.42}{\sqrt{2} \tan \epsilon \sin S} \sigma_h \doteq \frac{180 \cdot 0.42}{S \pi \sqrt{2} \tan \epsilon} \sigma_h \doteq \frac{39}{S} \sigma_h = \frac{41}{d} \sigma_h \quad (17)$$

We note that when $S = 0$ (the Swerdlow-Moment: §B2), uncertainty (σ_{SS}) in an Equal-Altitude-Method-obtained S.Solst-time is infinite — as it obviously should be.

I4 To evaluate t_{SS} 's uncertainty σ_{SS} as a function of d for Optimal and Ordinary visual discrimination, we exploit eq.17 by substituting into it eq.14's respective values for σ_h :

$$\text{Optimal } \sigma_{\text{Opt SS}} \doteq \frac{14}{d} \quad \text{Ordinary } \sigma_{\text{Ord SS}} \doteq \frac{41}{d} \quad (18)$$

I5 The above considerations show that accuracy to well within the ancient-cited (*Almagest* 3.1) allowance of 6^h error was possible, so it should be no surprise that all three of the firm outdoor solstices of Table 3 are accurate within the uncertainty-estimates of the present section: after all, for accurate data correctly rounded to 6^h precision, the implicit error-range is $\pm 3^h$.

J Balance

J1 We next weigh the tricky choice an ancient solstice-observer had to face. If chosen d is too small, he is prey to the quirky Scylla of corruption of his project by random error of indeterminate size and even sign. But if the ancient astronomer over-counters that danger by opting for too-large d , he leans too near Charybdis' transverse swirl and thus intolerable systematic negative error. (Hartner 1977 & Thurston 2001 cite pre-telescopic observers' d ranging from 45^d [eq.13: $-1^d/4$ syst.error] to 8^d [$1^d/4$ random error for Ordinary eq.18, 2^h for Optimal].) To estimate an ideal Balanced interval d_{BAL} , we can combine eqs.13&18 to ensure that H and σ_{SS} are about the same size:

$$\text{Optimal } d_{\text{BAL}} = \sqrt[3]{14/0.0029} \doteq 17^d \quad \text{Ordinary } d_{\text{BAL}} = \sqrt[3]{41/0.0029} \doteq 24^d \quad (19)$$

But we must not forget that: [1] The two errors (eqs.13&18) are of quite different type. [2] An ancient scientist would instinctively sense eq.18. [3] There is no evidence that any ancient knew of eq.13; and, if he had, he'd have compensated, either by correcting for it (thus positive errors in Table 3?) or suppressing its effect through modest-sized d .

J2 Eq.19 indicates that 20^d is about the best choice for d . Substituting into eq.18:

$$\text{Optimal } \sigma_{SS} \doteq 0^h.7 \quad \text{Ordinary } \sigma_{SS} \doteq 2^h \quad (20)$$

Neither creates a problem. And eq.13 gives for $d = 20^d$ a systematic error:

$$H \doteq -1^h 1/6 \quad (21)$$

Virtually negligible, and of course (since we listened to eq.19) roughly equal to the random errors of eq.20. The net accuracy indicated by the combined effect of eqs.13&18 is easily within — indeed, a good deal better than — the $1^d/4$ outer error-possibility (§I5) cited by Hipparchos. This gives us confidence that the three firm solstices of Table 3 are validly non-accidental in their nearness to reality.

J3 Kallippos' non-trivial positive error (+3^h) has the wrong sign (§H3) for serious systematic error, so he may have used $d \doteq 10^d$ when measuring the -329 S.Solst, leaving him open to ordmag 1^h of random error. But it is hard to tell, since 1^d/4 rounding obscured the exact hour measured. It was natural for Kallippos to round thusly since Greek calendars always started on a quarter-day mark. This particular observation was superlatively calendaric, in that the S.Solst occurred closer to the New Moon (within ordmag 1^h) than any S.Solst for ordmag a century, which is presumably why Kallippos chose this moment to launch his famous *luni-solar* calendar. Also, the most recent eclipse (exceptionally cited by Pliny 2.72 & GD 1.4.2) visible to Kallippos was the $-330/9/20$ Gaugamela (Arbela) eclipse, the fame of which he — as Alexander's astronomer — may have enhanced.

J4 The time-interval, between Meton's truncated (Table 1) -431 dusk S.Solst and Kallippos' dawn S.Solstice turned out to be exactly divisible by $365^d 1/4$ (eq.2). Thus, Kallippos' calendar — evidently due to a truncation that caused a huge -17^h error (Table 1) in the earlier datum! — became the earliest known to have used the $365^d 1/4$ year (eq.1). And, again, Kallippos was the 1st astronomical calendarist to (crucially) start a still-extant calendar without rounding his contemporary founding-S.Solst to conventional day-epoch (which we know he didn't do, because the day interval from Meton's day-epoch isn't integral: §C1), properly starting it instead at what he estimated to be the nearest quarter-day point, 6^h in the morn, his decision reinforced by that hour's proximity to an extremely rare close-confluence (§J3) of S.Solstice & New Moon (the latter nearer dawn than midnight).

[Greeks defining New Moon by true-longitudinal syzygy, rather than following Babylon's crude First-Visibility definition, indicates who was ahead in math astronomy by 330 BC.]

J5 The error of Hipparchos' -134 S.Solst (eq.4) is trivially negative (Table 3), as it should be; though, again, 1^d/4 rounding muddies our evaluation. Regardless, we can say that Hipparchos achieved the most⁸ accurate of all surviving ancient solstices. (Unless we count the phantom solstice of $-157/6/26$: §M4 & Table 2.)

K Hipparchos' $-157/6/28$ Dawn Summer Solstice

K1 Around -157 , Hipparchos was using past records of eclipse-times to build his famous 600^y eclipse canon (§M2; Rawlins 1991W §M7), a list which included Hipparchos-computed solar longitudes ϕ for each eclipse's historically known time. Later, these ϕ were brought in when he analysed eclipse-trios. In Rawlins 1991W §K9, we found that his math-analysis of eclipse-Trio B (‡3 fn 5) used ϕ computed (for each eclipse-time) from what we dubbed his "EH Orbit" (founded -157), which was afflicted with terrible apogee $A = 44^\circ$ & eccentricity $e = 3^p 1/4$, due to his taking (Rawlins 1991W §K8) EH's S.Solst from Kallippos' $-329/6/28$ -epoch calendar, which had accumulated an error of over 1^d in the 172^y interim, because of its over-long year-length (eq.1). From eqs.1&2 (see Tables 2&3):

$$\text{EH Summer Solst} = -329/6/28 \ 1/4 + 172 \cdot 365^d 1/4 = -157/6/28 \ 1/4 \quad (22)$$

K2 Relative to the present analysis, the key point to notice is this: *Hipparchos in -157 would not have computed a solstice from a predecessor's calendar unless he didn't yet know how to observe a solstice reliably.* (The poetic irony here is that before his career was done, Hipparchos left us [§J5] THE most accurate solstice that survives from antiquity, the error in which is merely about an hour. See Table 3.)

K3 But if the young Hipparchos needed to resort to an earlier astronomer's calendar to obtain his $-157/6/28$ dawn solstice (eq.22, used for constructing his EH solar orbit of -157 : §K1 or Rawlins 1991W §§K8-K9), then where did his newly discovered (§A) $-157/6/26$ solstice come from? And when? Rigid impediment to casual thinking hereabouts: his calculational use of the EH orbit's tables as late as -145 (Frankensteinorbit: Rawlins 1991W §M5) shows that the 6/26 replacement-improvement *was not adopted immediately.*

⁸ Again: this may be due to the actual -134 S.Solst being accidentally closer to a quarter-day mark than those of -329 & -145 . See fn 22.

K4 Duke's idea (people.sc.fsu.edu/~dduke/Duke-Neugebauer-2.pdf) that the $-157/6/26$ solstice was empirically determined to have occurred at 21^h, seems to be based upon his perceptive recognition of Meton's fingerprint: multiplying the papyrus' stated yearlength

$$Y_p = 365^d 1/4 - 1/309 = 365^d .24676 \quad (23)$$

times the 274^y gap since Meton, and adding the product to Meton's S.Solst, as misunderstood by Hipparchos & Ptolemy (§C1), produces:

$$\text{S.Solst} = -431/6/27 \ 1/4 + 274 \cdot Y_p = -157/6/26 \ 20^h 43^m \doteq -157/6/26 \ 21^h \quad (24)$$

But: [a] All known Hipparchos cardinal point data are rounded to the quarter-day. [b] In reverse, eq.24's 21^h time produces yearlength about $365^d 1/4 - 1^d/313$, not $1^d/309$, and so doesn't solve eq.23's origin. [c] In -157 , Hipparchos wasn't yet (§L4) sky-observing at a level likely to find an accurate solstice such as that proposed. [d] The papyrus says that the $-157/6/26$ solstice occurred at an unknown number of hours of the *day* not night.

K5 Potential resolution: if the papyrus said "12 hours of the day" (18^h or 6 PM), that would make the gap from Meton ($-431/6/27 \ 1/4$) to Hipparchos ($-157/6/26 \ 3/4$) equal to $100077^d 1/2$. But the ancient scholar who computed eq.23 could have accounted for seasonal hours' solstitial day-lengthening in Athens' 14^h 3/4 klima:

$$Y_s = (100077^d + 14^h 3/4)/274 \doteq 365^d 1/4 - 1/309 \quad (25)$$

If the 14^h 2/3 klima had been used, the remainder would have been $-1^d/308$. That this may have been the original calculation is suggested by the *P.Fouad 267A* left column's remainder (as found from directly checking Tihon 2010 p.2's left column calculations): $-3^d/308$ (the value used at Tihon 2010 p.7).

L When Was the $-157/6/26 \ 3/4$ Solstice Observed?

L1 The seemingly odd title of this section is not meant facetiously. (Though it puts one in mind of humor at the level of what-was-the-color-of-George-Washington's-white-horse?) It is deliberate — because we are faced with a weird contradiction, *two different dates for the same event*, the -157 S.Solst: $-157/6/28 \ 1/4$ (§L2) vs $-157/6/26 \ 3/4$ (papyrus: §K5).

L2 Rawlins 1991W⁹ (see §K1 above) has shown that Hipparchos' eclipse-trios A&B cannot closely enough fit *Almajest* 4.11's intervals for a solar eccentricity less than 3^p. And Trio B can't fit an apogee A above 50°. (Both limits are grossly discrepant vs the standard *Almajest* PH orbit's $e = 2^p 1/2$, $A = 65^\circ$.) Rawlins 1991W found that this clash is neatly accounted-for by a huge error (over 1^d!) in solstice — and that the EH orbit satisfying¹⁰ this glaring oddity is also consistent (like no later A.Eqx) with the quite erroneous -157

⁹Parts of Rawlins 1991W are written in an anti-tyrannical spirit which is bound to offend anyone unfamiliar with the cult that has for decades financially puppetized most of the history of ancient astronomy community, to its tragic cost in competence, refereeing, neutrality, and most importantly: valid history. If the History of Science Society can (fn 10) wince and stomach DR's idiosyncratic writing style, *in order to get at the truth* of Hipparchos' early observations & lunisolar elements, then fair-minded individual investigators ought to be able to manage same — for *P.Fouad 267A* will never be understood if Rawlins 1991W is discounted.

¹⁰ Having *once* (DIO 11.2 cover) been righter than *one* part of *one* (non-DIO) DR paper, bloodtasting Jones&Duke have for 10^y been on a knowledge-subtractive mission to trash (in unrefereed forums) as many DIO discoveries as possible by *altering or condemning each's data-base* (i.e., attacking Strabo, *Almajest*, etc, since DR's invulnerable math keeps leaving no other choice for fanatics kill-bent on denigration) *while for all 6 cases nonciting the very (reffed) DIO papers targeted*. Similar 7th case: Rawlins 2009S fn 54. Excepting one klima (*ibid* eq.3), the 6 data-sets DR used were standard. **Until DR solved them.** [1] Duke 2005T pp.170f nakedly (‡3 §§K1&K4) alters numbers to rig matches to *Almajest* 4.11 data which Rawlins 1991W had matched tamlessly. [2] The 14 Strabo klimata data, *perfectly-fit honestly* by Diller-DR (Rawlins 2009S Table 2), destroyer Jones 2002E alters by 100 stades but, *uniquely for this controversy, displays no table*: such would show his insane (Rawlins 2009S §B6 & fn 55) theories don't fit *even his own judged versions of the data*. [3] Via cont'd fractions, Rawlins

Autumn Equinox (off by 11^h, nearly half a day!) reported at *Almajest* 3.1 and is consistent with a –157 solstice at 6/28 1/4 (§L1; Table 2), exactly¹¹ where the Kallippic calendar has it. EH was used by Hipparchos until his adoption (–145) of the later-canonical PH orbit.

L3 If the papyrus' –157/6/26 solstice were actually determined in –157, it is bizarre that its adoption and use (in founding the PH orbit) would have been delayed until 12^y later, when Rawlins 1991W §M shows we have a very lucky glimpse of the time (–145) when Hipparchos semi-transitioned into his upcoming full adoption of PH. NB: Rawlins 1991W §M6 *must be read with care to appreciate the non-random nature of the element-mix creating Trio A's Frankenstein orbit* (half its elements are EH; the other half, PH) — and *the obvious explanation of this striking bifurcation*: Hipparchos of course temporarily retained the tabular EH elements (*since PH tables would take awhile to create*) while swiftly adopting non-tabular PH elements, as carefully explained at *idem* — thus showing that when in –145 computing eclipse Trio A, Hipparchos *was in mid-transition from EH to PH*.

L4 We note further that –157 seems (Rawlins 1991W fn 195) to have been before Hipparchos' gained the scientific skills that later added to astronomy — and made him justly famous. Rawlins 1991W §§K2-3 noted several symptoms of this, wondering whether before –161 he was yet even using vertical instruments. (Perhaps a mere gnomon from –161 through –157, given his Autumn Equinoxes' huge¹² errors during these years: fn 12.) E.g., the *GD* latitudes of the sites near his Bithynian origins, Nicaea & Byzantion, latitudes which are too high by 1°1/2 & 2°, resp: astonishingly large errors — impossible for the transit instrument Hipparchos used from –146 on. (Rawlins 1991W considers the possibility they arose not from vertical instruments such as the transit circle but from use of horizon phenomena such as orive amplitudes.) These latitudes almost certainly came to Ptolemy from Hipparchos of Nicaea, who thus could not have been doing serious astronomy ere departing Bithynia (perhaps after –157) for Rhodos ultimately, around –146. Again: if Hipparchos in –157 was fully conversant with instrumental astronomy, why did he need to indoor-obtain a –157 solst from Kallippos' calendar and use it for years¹³ to compute

1999 eqs.3&9 connected Vat. gr. 381's Aristarchan entry to 152^y, while [4] Rawlins 2002A eqs.12&13 connected Vat. gr. 191's Aristarchan entry to 4868^y, both known Aristarchan intervals. Jones 2010A (p.21 & n.27) reacts by forgery, deleting all accents so no solution is possible (sterility) & non-cites DR in each case, though Jones read *DIO* 9.1 on 1999/7/14. [5] Rawlins 1991H & [6] Rawlins 1991W undeniably-accurately recovered 3 Hipparchan orbits' elements from *Almajest* data; so, incredibly, Duke 2008W complains (§3 fn 8) that if he fudges the *Almajest* input data (as in [1] above) the fixed results are too darned sensitive to his re-writes of the *Almajest*! I.e., he couldn't (§N3) find non-*DIO* elements satisfying the *Almajest* 5.3&5 & *Almajest* 4.11 data WITH 1^d/4-rounded times for cardinal-point ϕ , as valid Hipparchan orbits must, and as the UH, PH, & EH orbits all do. (On the evidence of §3 fn 22, one knows Duke rummaged hard to find such.) More sterility. Comments: [a] Don't Duke-Jones know data-tampering is improper? [b] Ever heard of a *single* other case of data-trashing to refute heresy? Much less SEVEN cases, all aimed at the same #1 *JHA*-hate-object? Rawlins 1991W's *double* EH orbit inductions (Trio A & Trio B each lead us to EH) were math-checked & backed by Britton, Thurston 2002S pp.66-67 (Hist.Sci.Soc.) & Curtis Wilson (letter 1994/12/29). One would never know from *JHA*-HAD (JHAD) noncitation that world-class experts encouraged EH. The shocking & unique intercultural implication of eq.4 has long been displayed at the British Museum and accepted by, e.g., Dicks 1994 fn 37, Britton, Thurston 2002S p.62, even (non-*JHA*) Jones 2005 pp.23-24. Outside low-end JHAD, Duke 2008W Table 1 is alone in rejecting eq.4, mis-stating *Almajest* 3.1 contradicts it.

¹¹This is not an *ad hoc* adjustment: Rawlins 1985H's novel finding that Kallippos' calendar-founding solstice was at dawn (–329/6/28 1/4) occurred 6^y before discovery of the EH orbit using it. Just one more of the many vindications (<http://www.dioi.org/vin.htm>) of *DIO* findings which keep exasperating our toadily-awesome phalanx of maid-boy *DIO*-assassin-wannabees.

¹²If the large errors in Hipparchos' –161 to –157 A.Equinoxes were steady, an accurate solstice could still have been obtained (§G1). But the errors' sheer size (half a day!) and the proximity of their mean (12') to the 16' error characteristic of an asymmetric gnomon, suggest sufficient crudity as to cast doubt on whether Hipparchos could have gotten accurate outdoor results at this early time.

¹³No Hipparchos orbit until PH is compatible with a S.Solst at the papyrus' day&hour, 6/26 3/4. **But the PH orbit could not exist until the –145 A.Eq., one of its three required empirical bases.** So the

Table 2: Ancient Astronomers' Indoor-Calculated Solstices

Solstice Calculator	Computed Time	Real Time	Error
Hipparchos	–157/6/26 3/4	6/26 18 ^h	+00 ^h
Hipparchos	–157/6/28 1/4	6/26 18 ^h	+36 ^h
Ptolemy	140/6/25 1/12	6/23 14 ^h	+36 ^h

eclipses such as Trio B? We note in passing the obvious: during this 12^y period, –145 hadn't occurred yet. And the most natural adoption-time for the –157/6/26 solstice would be –145, when we know from §L3 that the 6/28-solst-based EH orbit was beginning to be replaced by the 6/26-solst-based PH solar orbit (later taken over whole by Ptolemy), computed from –145 cardinal-point data. (PH's constants $A = 65^\circ$ and $\epsilon_0 = 227^\circ 2/3$ debut in the Frankenstein orbit which solves eclipse Trio A: Rawlins 1991W §M4.)

L5 We then notice that the 6/28 1/4 solstices of –145 and –157 *are Kallippically compatible* — i.e., since the 12^y gap between them was divisible by 4, the hour of day of each *must be identical in the Kallippic calendar* which Hipparchos used for eclipse calculations until after –145 (and would differ by less than an hour according to eq.23).

L6 As seen at Rawlins 1991W §§K4&8, Hipparchos was in –157 searching for a S.Solst not by outdoor observation but by indoor calculation. Which tells us that he at this time didn't know how to measure a solstice, nor even how to choose an expert who did. Perhaps it was just convenient (§3 fn 6) to stick with the increasingly inaccurate Kallippic calendar, revered as that (too)long-standard among astrologers, most of whom ignore the outdoor sky, Hipparchos later becoming the 1st known major exception. This discussion occasions our tabulation (Table 2) of the indoor solstices we have from antiquity, including Ptolemy's well-known 140 AD fraud at *Almajest* 3.1. (The papyrus' Hipparchos solstice is only technically an indoor observation, as noted at fn 17. The accuracy of its outdoor procreator [–145/6/26 3/4 solst: §M4] transferred faithfully to the –157/6/26 3/4 extrapolation.)

M Solving the –157 Double Solstice Mystery

M1 The ultimate implication of the foregoing is weird but simultaneously satisfies the various¹⁴ above-enumerated evidential features: following Hipparchos' outdoor capture of the –145/6/26 3/4 solstice, the papyrus' –157/6/26 3/4 solst was extrapolated from it. As already noted (eq.1) *the two hours were identical* in the Kallippic calendar, which Hipparchos was still using (§L3) as late as his Trio A analysis of –145. Moreover Tihon 2010 (p.2) found that (along with parallel columns for sidereal & “tropical” longitudes) *the papyrus' ephemeris retains a Kallippically-computed column of solar longitudes* (at quarter-century intervals) — startlingly consistent with Rawlins 1991W §K's proposals that [i] EH's mean solar motion was Kallippic and [ii] EH's –157 S.Solst was taken from

6/26 18^h solst time 1st appeared (in this triplet of bases) at –145, not –157. (Indeed, shifting *only* S.Solst [to 6/26 3/4] makes $e \doteq 2^p/2$, contra Trio A: §N1.) It's this point, shown by Hipparchos' 12^y research-advance from EH to PH (*PH orbit's 1st glimmer* appears in the Frankenstein EH-PH meld), which discourages an otherwise attractive compromise theory: that both –157 solstices (6/26 3/4 & 6/28 1/4) were adopted in –157 by Hipparchos and used for separate astrological traditions (as indeed happened after –145), represented simultaneously by the middle and right columns of *P.Fouad* 267A.

¹⁴Tihon 2010 p.7 proves col.3 used –1^d/309. Col.3's –657-epoch table was completed (–145) *before* computation of his eventual PH *f*-table (still incomplete when Trio A calculated then), which rounded to –1^d/300 and used ϵ_0 exactly fitting *Alm* 3.2 (§N1 item [5]) via the same PH yearlength. Did early Hipparchos use (§M2) common epoch Phil 1 (–323) for astronomy while adopting epoch –657 for his astrological manual? — only later finally expanding back 600^y (to Nab 1, –746) PH's *f*-table, which effectively went back 1200^y to about –1350 for early eclipses: www.dioi.org/thr.htm#rbkv.

the Kallippic calendar. Tihon discovered from the papyrus that its practical epoch¹⁵ was $-657/2/4$ (Nabonassar 90 Thoth 1) and that it ran 500^E (Egyptian years of 365^d each) and (like Ptolemy's *Handy Tables & Almajest* 6.3) at 25^E per line. Given the papyrus-astrologer's addition of 9^h of motion to an integral number of days from epoch, we know (since his horoscope is for the 9^h hour of the night) he took the $-657/2/4$ epoch to be 18^h .

M2 From these findings (and the papyrus' reference to "nativity" as its calculational purpose), we can reason that Hipparchos had published an internationally popular astrological manual in -157 with a purely Kallippic table for mean solar longitude, going 500^E into the past and probably 100^E more into the future — 600^E in all, presumably the earliest possible basis for Pliny 2.53's reference to Hipparchos' 600^y of calculations. The curious failure of the papyrus' (pre-*Almajest*) astrologer to cite any work later than -157 may indicate that Hipparchos' mature researches were more scientific than popular and were primarily intended for an astronomical not astrological audience. (Financed by selling horoscopes & manuals for? And-or gov't support?) When in -145 he realized how wrong the EH orbit's solstice was, he appended at least the column of mean solar longitudes based upon Metonic Y_p (eq.23). Possibly he also update-shifted the Kallippic table's mean-longitude-at-epoch ϵ_0 but not if (as is likely) he wished to keep it consistent with Kallippos' $-329/6/28$ 1/4 S.Solst. If he preserved the Kallippic ϵ_0 , we may compute it by working backwards from Kallippos' epoch (eq.2), specifically from mean solar longitude $f = 92^\circ 14'$ (when, by EH's $e\&A$, true solar longitude $\phi = 90^\circ$) at $-329/6/28$ 1/4. Result: the papyrus' middle (Kallippic) column's mean-longitude-at-epoch for $-657/2/4$ 18^h (§M1) was $\epsilon_0 = 310^\circ 48'$ ($310^\circ 49'$ for seasonal hours), not as round as §N1's 228° . (Suggesting Phil 1 priority?)

M3 *P.Fouad* 267A bears 3 columns of computed ϕ : [1] left,¹⁶ [2] Kallippic or "mean" (middle), and [3] Metonic "tropical" (right). To find ϵ_0 for the papyrus' Metonic column (PH but for different yearlength: eq.23) we revolve back from $f = 91^\circ 01'$ ($\phi = 90^\circ$ by PH $e\&A$), for the 182767^d from $-157/6/26$ 3/4 to $-657/2/4$ 3/4, arriving at $\epsilon_0 = 309^\circ 28'$ ($309^\circ 22'$ for seasonal hours, which agrees with the f found from the *Almajest* 3.2 table for Nab 90 Thoth 1 at 18 equinoctial hours, possibly relating to the origin of that table's ϵ_0).

M4 Finally, in answer to this section's semi-facetious titular question: the " $-157/6/26$ " solstice was truly¹⁷ outdoor-observed by Hipparchos at $-145/6/26$ 3/4 and then — to replace his erroneous indoor $-157/6/28$ 1/4 solstice — he Kallippically-reconstituted¹⁸ it back at $-157/6/26$ 3/4, with but minuscule error (§L5; Table 2) as he was fully aware. So, was Pliny 2.27 wrong in claiming that not even god can change the past?

N Statistical Impregnability of the $-157/6/28$ 1/4 Solstice's Adoption

N1 To understand what *DIO* has accomplished here regarding Hipparchan solar theory, let us catalog the **FIVE types of fits simultaneously achieved** by Rawlins 1991W §§K&M: [1] The -157 EH orbit fits the usual three cardinal positions, which are either attested directly as Hipparchos' (-157 A.Eqx) or extrapolatable Hipparchos-cited data (-145 V.Eqx)

¹⁵*Almajest* 3.1 shows that Hipparchos' solar observations were dated according to the number of years after "the death of Alexander" or equivalently epoch Phil 1, the ascension of Philip III: §O3.

¹⁶The $365^d/4 + 1/102$ 2/3 yearlength was much closer to the actual anomalistic year than the sidereal. The left column's yearlength is consistent with the $-7^\circ/1/2$ remainder in the ancients' key 345^y equation (Rawlins 1996C §C), used in *Almajest* 4.2 to find ‡1 eq.4. Whether the left column's f are equating (Tihon 2010 p.6) with respect to the stars or to the solar apsidal line is not made explicit.

¹⁷The $-157/6/26$ 3/4 solstice is not at all a fabrication. Hipparchos knew that extrapolating the $-145/6/26$ 3/4 solstice to produce it would yield a datum differing but ordmag 1^h from the truth if his -145 observation was accurate. Hipparchos no more thought of extrapolation-reconstructing it as dishonest than he thought it a trick to find a solst by eq.5's interpolation. Neither resulting datum is a direct observation, but the procedure is scientifically proper and justifiable in both cases.

¹⁸One may hypothesize the reverse: indoor -145 solst reconstituted from outdoor -157 solst. But (aside from the question [§L4] of Hipparchos' instrumental sophistication at -157) this leaves no answer as to why he waited 12^y before adopting the $-157/6/26$ 18^h solst to found his PH tables.

or taken exactly from a famous calendar repeatedly used by Hipparchos (-157 S.Solst).

[2] A valid Hipparchos orbit must (within $c.1'$) place the solar true longitude ϕ at 00° for V.Eqx, at 90° for S.Solst, at 180° for A.Eqx — *all at the quarter-day precision Hipparchos always uses* (*Almajest* 3.1). For EH this key feature is guaranteed by the previous point, and the Kallippic calendar's repetitiousness. The PH orbit is already known (Neugebauer 1975 p.58) to satisfy such a condition. See the statistical exploitation of this point at §N3.

[3] For each trio, the proposed orbit must fit *Almajest* 4.11's true longitude ϕ -intervals:

The EH orbit (Rawlins 1991W §K) fits both Trio B intervals within ordmag $1'$.

The EH-PH-meld Frankenstein orbit (*ibid* §M) fits both Trio A intervals within ordmag $1'$.

[4] The solar mean motion must be reasonable, not conjured-up at convenience. Trios A&B both fit the already famous Kallippic solar motion. Additionally, thanks to Anne Tihon, we now have (for the 1st time) *direct* evidence that Hipparchos used Kallippic motion (it's right on *P.Fouad* 267A's middle column), as earlier hypothesized at Rawlins 1991W §§K&M.

[5] Each ϵ_0 must be convincing. For Kallippic solar speed, Trio B's strikingly integral Phil 1 ϵ_0 ($228^\circ 00'$) exactly fits the Kallippic calendar's founding S.Solst, $-329/6/28$ 1/4. The Frankenstein orbit's $\epsilon_0 = 227^\circ 2/3$ exactly fits (via PH's $365^d/4 - 1^d/300$) the Nab 1 Thoth 1 $\epsilon_0 = 330^\circ 3/4$ of the standard *Almajest* 3.2 solar mean motion table built upon the PH orbit which supplies the *constants*-half of the Frankenstein orbit's elements ($A = 65^\circ$ & $\epsilon_0 = 227^\circ 2/3$), the other half being the *tabular* elements of the EH orbit ($e = 3^p/4$ & yearlength $365^d/4$), a rational sequence explained here at §L3 & ‡3 §E3.

N2 In the effectively unrefereed¹⁹ *JHA*, one of its board members volunteers to be the sole critic publicly rejecting the EH orbit, contending (fn 10) that *DIO*'s analysis has not established unique multi-fits. *He can prove his contention anytime by coming up with alternate orbits (distinct from ours) which also neatly satisfy §N1's five conditions.*

N3 A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Dumpster. Our cynosure Muffia's wisdom has decreed (‡3 fn 8) that anything gotten from the allegedly loose *Almajest* 4.11 eclipse trio-intervals is worthless. When crazy Rawlins 1991W claimed *previously unheard-of* Hipparchan use of [1] a -157 S.Solst & [2] Kallippic solar motion, could be extracted from the eclipse intervals, all right-thinking JHADists knew better: just throw out all that *DIO* junk. But then, over 10^y later, a funny thing happened: the miraculous, 1-in-a-million finding of an ancient papyrus on the subject. And — (*don't tell anybody*) you know what it said? *It testified that Hipparchos had used [1] a -157 Summer Solst & [2] Kallippic solar motion.*

N4 Even funnier: an unbigoted community wouldn't need papyrus-confirmation. Check the several speed-bumps that should've slowed *JHA* ere reaching the Orwellian dumpster it would burn vital research in: [a] The coincidence that *both* Worthless trios happened to mutually confirm Hipparchos' use of Kallippic motion. [b] The *a priori* improbability of so many fits *accidentally* flowing from Rawlins 1992W §K's simple premises is obvious. [c] Contra *JHA* (§N2), Rawlins 1991W fn 209 showed *Almajest* 4.11's intervals set narrow limits on elements. [d] If *JHA* is right, then the fact, that our EH orbit (math-consistent with *Almajest* 4.11's data) fits on-the-nose all 3 quarter-day cardinal-points (§N2 condition [2]), *is just pure-coincidental luck.* How lucky? All Rawlins 1991W's EH cardinal points occur within $\pm 20^m$ (solar motion under $1'$) of a quarter-day marker (00^h , 06^h , 12^h , or 18^h): $\phi = 00^\circ$ at $-157/3/24$ 11:41, 90° at $-157/6/28$ 6:06, 180° at $-157/9/27$ 11:42. The probability of 3 such close hits is 1 in nearly 8000. (Note: the universally-accepted *Almajest* PH orbit fits much less well [than EH]: V.Eqx at $-145/3/24$ 5:13; or 5:26, for $A = 65^\circ$.)

N5 Two factors establishing the inescapability of the $6/26$ 3/4 S.Solst's -145 origin: [1] Until -145 Hipparchos was demonstrably (§L3) using the EH orbit and thus the foundational Kallippic $6/28$ 1/4 S.Solstice consistent with it — *but not at all with 6/26 3/4.* [2] He in -145 alters *all 3 cardinal points* to make PH: V.Eqx by $-1^d/4$, S.Solst by $-1^d/2$, A.Eqx by $-1^d/4$, both equinoxes previously unheard-of thus pinning the PH orbit to -145 .

¹⁹See www.dioi.org/jha.htm#pdf. *JHA* Pb (!) paper Duke 2008W displays not only the mistake just analysed but 3 others equally obvious to nonzombie refereeing: 2 at §B4 & 1 more at fn 10's final line.

O Recovering Hipparchos' Lost –145 Solstice

O1 From –145 to –134, Hipparchos' mainstay solar orbit was PH, later appropriated (essentially unaltered) by Ptolemy (*Almajest* 3.2&6), standard among astrologers for centuries, cited as "perfect" by Julian the Apostate (1:429), 500' later, though by then differing from reality by 2^d or 2°! Rawlins 1991H §§C-D showed that in –134 Hipparchos abandoned PH and adopted the superior UH Orbit. But the question that has never previously been answered (or even asked) is: whence came the S.Solst needed for the PH Orbit?

O2 Opening clue: there are only two years during which the *Almajest* 3.1 list of Hipparchos' cardinal-point observations provides both equinoxes (which were customarily used [as at *Almajest* 3.4] — along with a solstice — for founding an orbit): –145 and –142. But the latter is ruled out by its Autumn Equinox' discord with the PH Orbit. So we should look carefully at –145 as the chief suspect for the year when the PH Orbit was established.

O3 Presumably due to seasonally varying weather in Bithynia (which may explain why this dedicated empirical scientist went to the trouble of moving to famously clear-skied Rhodos), *Almajest* 3.1's collection of Hipparchan cardinal-point observations cites only Autumn²⁰ Equinoxes by Hipparchos before his Spring Equinox of –145/3/24 (*Almajest* 3.1), presumably not long after he arrived at Rhodos. (His 1st solar observation there was his –146/9/26 A.Eqx.) To quantify Hipparchos' –145 solstice, we check what the *Almajest* PH Orbit (epoch Philip 1 Thoth 1 = –323/11/12 Alexandria Apparent Noon; $A = 65^\circ 1/2$) gives for the solar true longitude ϕ_{AE} at the time of his –145/9/27 1/4 A.Eqx observation (*Almajest* 3.1); PH's mean anomaly then is $g = 116^\circ 2/3$, thus:

$$\phi_{AE} = 227^\circ 2/3 + \frac{360^\circ \cdot 64967^d 3/4}{Y_H} - \arctan \frac{\sin 116^\circ 2/3}{24 + \cos 116^\circ 2/3} = 180^\circ 00' 00'' \quad (26)$$

It appears²¹ that the PH solar mean-longitude-at-epoch $\epsilon_0 = 227^\circ 2/3$ was set by Hipparchos to ensure the exactitude of eq.26. All of which powerfully fingers –145 as the year the PH Orbit was launched. (Proposed on less evidence as early as Rawlins 1985H. And see Rawlins 1991W §M6, where it is also noted that –145 was a *regnal year*: Ptolemy VII Physkon's.) Since Hipparchos seems (but see fn 21) to have given priority to the A.Eqx, the roundings that occurred in establishing the neat *Almajest* PH elements slightly melted the connexions to both the V.Eqx (discrepancy +1'.9) & the S.Solst (discrepancy +0'.7). Nonetheless, it is obvious that –145 was the year of the 3 observations needed to found the PH Orbit (Rawlins 1991H §C8 or Rawlins 1991W §K10); which allows us to reconstruct the previously unknown real outdoor Hipparchos S.Solst that co-launched PH (and, as already seen at §M1, created the papyrus' –157 solst):

$$\text{Hipparchos Summer Solstice} = -145/6/26 \ 3/4 \text{ [evening]} \quad (27)$$

Adding this new find to those cited at §C2, we have three genuine outdoor ancient solstices: Again: none's hour is cited explicitly in extant material. All are *DIO* reconstructions.

O4 There is no proof in Table 3 that observational error exceeded even a fraction of an hour, since rounding to 1^d/4 precision could account for most of the O–C error.²²

²⁰Or did Hipparchos have an unusual calendaric interest in the Autumn Equinox, since it was near the Egyptian calendar's start (Thoth 1) in his era? During the year of his UH-founding –134 S.Solst (eq.4), his –134/9/24 A.Eqx occurred on Thoth 1 (Rawlins 1991H fn 14); and his UH solar mean longitude 180° occurred at 10^h on Thoth 1 during the UH orbit's –127/9/24 epoch-day (*ibid* eq.28).

²¹The astonishing precision of eq.26 is partly luck since 227° 2/3 rounded to arcmin (or degree-3rds) cannot ensure an A.Equinox perfect to the arcsec. Further, since the –145 S.Solst fits the PH Orbit to less than 1' (§O3), there is no way to be sure that the relative closeness of fits of S.Solst & A.Eqx (which appears to favor the latter as the prime cardinal point) is not just an accident of element-rounding. (Also: Hipparchos' year [eq.33] only slipped [for annual 1^d/4 AEs] by 12'' or 4^m.8 per year so eq.26's hit is almost as precise for years near –145.) I.e., 227° 2/3 may've been fitted to SS not AE.

²²To consider an extreme case: if a S.Solst that occurred at 14:00 were measured by the observer as having occurred at 15:01, which he accurately rounded to traditional 1^d/4 precision (i.e., to 18^h), an O–C error of merely 1^h would effectively quadruple, appearing to us to be a 4^h O–C error. See fn 8.

Table 3: Ancient Observers' Firm & Precise Outdoor Solstices

Solstice Observer	Observed Time	Real Time	O–C Error
Kallippos	–329/6/28 1/4	3 ^h	+3 ^h
Hipparchos	–145/6/26 3/4	16 ^h	+2 ^h
Hipparchos	–134/6/26 1/4	7 ^h	–1 ^h

O5 We have already (§D) considered how well the two previously-known real Greek solstices support *DIO*'s steady (from *DIO* 1.1 ‡1 fn 24) contention that ancient science was far more empirical and competent than longtime orthodoxy has recognized. The –145 S.Solst just adds further confirmation to what in a sane scholarly community would have long since been incorporated — to its intellectual (and reputational) profit.

P Anciently-Adopted Years' Origin & Hipparchos' Ingenious Cycle

P1 From his –145 V.Eqx, S.Solst, & A.Eqx, Hipparchos computed (method: *Almajest* 3.4; Rawlins 1991H §C) three of his new PH Orbit's elements: ϵ_0 , e , & A . But the 4th of the required 4 elements, the mean motion F , must depend in part upon earlier astronomers' observations. Except for hist.astron's dearest archons, scientific historians know how ancients estimated year-lengths: by comparing solstices centuries apart.

P2 In order to gauge ancient solstices' and year-lengths' accuracies, we need to know the actual values at that time. For Hipparchos' era, the true mean tropical²³ year was (Rawlins 1999 §C10) about 365^d.2425:

$$\text{Actual Hipparchos-Era Tropical Year-Length} \doteq 365^d.2425 = 365^d 1/4 - 3^d/400 \quad (28)$$

The foregoing rounding happens to be equal to Jesuit Christopher Clavius' Gregorian-rule year-length, established 17 centuries later (when the year was nearer 365^d.2423), and which we live-by today. (See puzzle at *DIO* 4.2 p.2, instantly solved by K.Pickering & R.Freitag.)

P3 And there is an extra factor which is oft-forgot, namely (fn 23): each of the four cardinal-points has its own year-length — generally differing from the others by a few ten-thousandths of a day. Both their relative proportions and their absolute lengths vary secularly. For the present discussion, we should know the Hipparchos-era S.Solst value:

$$\text{Actual Hipparchos-Era S.Solst Year-Length} = 365^d.2419 \quad (29)$$

To measure empirical error, compare ancient figures to eq.29; to measure vs mean year-length (which ancients thought they were determining), compare to eq.28.

P4 As soon as his –145 S.Solst measurement was in hand, Hipparchos returned to his earlier dabbling with Meton, which had led (§K5) to a yearlength tantalizingly close to compatibility with the Metonic definition of the year's length from his ratio (still used for modern Christians' Easter):

$$\text{Metonic Year } Y_M = 235 \text{ months}/19 \quad (30)$$

which (via ‡1 eq.4) requires

$$Y_{HM} = (235/19) \cdot 29^d 31' 50'' 08''' 20'''' \doteq 365^d 1/4 - 1^d/314.6837 \doteq 365^d.24682 \quad (31)$$

²³Technically, what has long been called a "tropical year" is a misnomer, since it refers to the sidereal year minus the effect of precession. But that standard figure — eq.28 — was not (§P3) the same as either of the two solstitial years: i.e., the mean Sun's returns to the Summer Tropic & Winter Tropic. Nor the same as the years measuring the mean Sun's returns to the Vernal & Autumnal Equinoxes. (You'll have to ask the esteemed *Journal for the History of Astronomy* about the Winter Equinoctial Year: §B1.) Note that in antiquity the average of the years of the S.Solst&W.Solst virtually equalled eq.28, as did the average of the V.Eqx&A.Eqx years.

and compared the -145 solstice-time with his hugely erroneous dawn-version (eq.4: error $-1^d.2$) of Meton's -431 time of solstice; concluding that the 286^y interval between the two solstices was $104460^d/2$, he calculated that the PH-minus-Meton year-length Y_{P-M} was less than Y_K (eq.1) by $1^d/286$:

$$Y_{P-M} = \frac{104460^d/2}{431 - 145} = Y_K - 1^d/286 \doteq 365^d.2465 \quad (32)$$

(Or the remainder would be about $-1^d/322$, if he accounted for seasonal hours.) Given the slight inexactitude of the input data & Meton's influence, any value near $-1^d/300$ would do; so Hipparchos devised his *astonishing Great Year vision with its 5-stage geometrically embedded integral-return cycles* ($304^y 1/4$, $608^y 1/2$, 1217^y , 2434^y , 4868^y), fully unfurled at Rawlins 2002A fnn 14, 16, 17. This Great Year determined his ultimate yearlength, Y_H :

$$Y_H = Y_K - \frac{1^d}{304 \cdot 1/4} = Y_K - \frac{16^d}{4868} \doteq 365^d.24671 \quad (33)$$

We note that period 304^y (which is exactly 4 Kallippic cycles and 16 Metonic cycles) is attested for Hipparchos by Censorinus (Heath 1913 p.297).

P5 But then, 11^y later, along came Hipparchos' -134 S.Solst, 5^h earlier than predicted by the PH orbit. (For potential effect, compare eq.35 to eq.32!) So did Hipparchos switch to a new year-length value? No — he instead (similarly to the conservatism of §M1) also chose (*Alm* 3.1) an *equally* PH-discordant (Rawlins 1991H §B5) prior S.Solst, that of Aristarchos of Samos (Table 1 above; Rawlins 1991H eq.8), $-279/6/26 \cdot 1/2$, such that the new equation paralleling eq.32 gives almost exactly the same (PH) result for mean motion F — but this time from finding that $52960^d/3/4$ in the 145^y Aristarchos \rightarrow Hipparchos interval yields:

$$Y_{H-A} = \frac{52960^d/3/4}{279 - 134} = Y_K - 1^d/290 \doteq 365^d.2466 \quad (34)$$

(Remainder is $-1^d/327$, if figuring with seasonal hours.) The intent to somehow preserve his original PH Orbit's year-length (eq.33) is obvious. This evaded (see similarly at ‡3 fn 6) recalculating-replacing all his PH solar mean motion tables, based on something like eq.33. (All these remainders were finally rounded to $-1^d/300$, which is the yearlength underlying *Almajest* 3.2's PH ϵ_0 and table of mean solar motion.)

P6 But an admirably independent party dissented from locked-in Metonic (eq.30) rigidity, as we know from Babylonian cuneiform text BM55555 (ACT 210, c.100 BC), the 1st Babylonian record probably based (Rawlins 1991H) upon Greek astronomers' work. (A text also containing the "Babylonian" month, likewise based on Greek research: Rawlins 2002A & Rawlins 2002U.) BM55555 bears a schismatic year-length (eq.3 & Rawlins 1991H §§A1-A2), which was anciently found (eq.4) by comparing Hipparchos' -134 solstice to Meton's solstice (instead of Aristarchos'), a 108478^d interval over 297^y (eq.3):

$$Y_{U-M} = \frac{108478^d}{431 - 134} = Y_K - \frac{1^d/4}{297} = Y_K - \frac{1^d}{237 \cdot 3/5} \doteq 365^d.2458 \quad (35)$$

— the most accurate (see §P7) of the poor (truncation-corrupted) anciently-adopted tropical year values that have come down to us. (Actual mean year-length then was $365^d.2425$: eq.28.) It is possible that Hipparchos flirted with using Y_{U-M} (or published it in one of his many lost works without using it any orbit that we have), but all extant records indicate that Hipparchos stuck with eq.33's remainder (or a close approximation thereto).

P7 After our extensive discussion (§§F-J) of how ancients found solstices, it is disappointing that [a] so few accurate ones survived for us, and [b] the calendaric intent was so consistently vitiated by truncation, which neatly (§E3) led to apparent repeated-confirmation of the delusion that Meton's seriously-inaccurate effective-equating of the tropical year with $235/19$ months (eq.30), was valid. We now list the above three ancient

year-length-estimates' errors vs the actual mean year (eq.28): $Y_{HM} +6^m.2$, $Y_H +6^m.0$,²⁴ $Y_{U-M} +4^m.7$. And vs S.Solst yr (eq.29): $Y_{HM} +7^m.1$, $Y_H +6^m.9$, $Y_{U-M} +5^m.6$.

P8 BM55555's yearlength Y_{U-M} (eq.3), while not close to the mark, is the best of a poor lot; but no known ancient year-length was within 4^m of being correct — this, while Aristarchos' sidereal year-length (Rawlins 1999 §§C8-C9 & Rawlins 2002A fn 15) was within a few timesecs of the truth. A factor that may relate (Rawlins 1999 §D3) to this contrast: the sidereal year is of no public interest, so for it there was no danger of a disaster equivalent to Meton's political marriage of lunar & solar priesthoods through a year-length where both parties shared in its eq.30 definition.

Q Preconception's Wages: Hipparchos Neglects Kallippos Solstice

Q1 The contention of Rawlins 1999 §D4 was that the tropical year-length estimates we have from antiquity (with the exception of eq.35) flock quite unrandomly around the artificial Metonic value of eq.31. These results vindicate Tobias Mayer's solution (modernly rediscovered by R.Mercier, K.Moesgaard, N.Swerdlow, & DR) of the source of the systematic error in the Hipparchos-Ptolemy solar tables, namely, the Hipparchos year mimicked the Metonic luni-solar yearlength: eq.31. So preconception from (evidently) near-universal belief in eq.31 caused Hipparchos to *miss the opportunity to acquire the 1st accurate tropical year-length*. Survey his career-long search for a trustworthy ancient-to-him solstitial anchor: [a] In -157 , he uses Kallippos' -329 Summer Solst to anchor EH. [b] While 12^y later adopting Meton's eq.30, he observes the -145 S.Solst but finds it won't work with Meton's own -431 S.Solst unless (§C1) Meton's "start of day" is (falsely: eq.2) taken to mean dawn, thus his -431 S.Solst anchors PH. [c] When, 11^y later, his new -135 S.Solst observation jars vis-à-vis the previous -145 one, he shifts anchor from Meton's -431 solst to Aristarchos' -279 solst for UH, in order to maintain (§Q1) his year-remainder at $c.-1^d/300$. [d] But for his ultimate anchor, Hipparchos never goes back to the only accurate solst of the now-known lot: Kallippos' *where he started* (item [a] above; or §K1). This takes us into the plainest proof of Metonic (§P6) preconception's grip here, as we pose a previously-unasked but obvious question: *why did Hipparchos never compare either of his outdoor solstices to Kallippos'* (or Archimedes'), whose S.Solst offered longer baselines than Aristarchos'. Had he done so for his 1st empirical solstice (-145), he'd have found (interval 184^y):

$$Y_{H1-K} = \frac{67204^d/2}{329 - 145} = Y_K - 3^d/368 \doteq 365^d.2418 \doteq 365^d/4 - 1^d/123 \quad (36)$$

and, for his 2nd empirical solstice (-134), using an interval of 195^y :

$$Y_{H2-K} = \frac{71222^d}{329 - 134} = Y_K - 7^d/780 \doteq 365^d.2410 \doteq 365^d/4 - 1^d/111 \quad (37)$$

These 2 potential (historically-unrealized) yearlengths' errors vs the real mean year (eq.28): $Y_{H1-K} -0^m.9$, $Y_{H2-K} -2^m.1$. And vs S.Solst yr (eq.29): $Y_{H1-K} -0^m.1$, $Y_{H2-K} -1^m.3$.

Q2 Despite solstices' failure to yield an accurate tropical year (due to truncations, prejudice for eq.31, not choosing Kallippos' solstice as earlier anchor), solstices nonetheless contributed to gradual improvement of the solar orbit, being (§G1) the most reliable of the 4 cardinal points. Whatever the quality of the calendaric uses made of them, the 3 recoverable outdoor ancient solstices (Table 3) were so conscientiously accomplished by the methods we discussed at the outset (culminating in §J), that all three are accurate within

²⁴The excess of the Hipparchos Metonic year (eq.33) over $365^d/4 - 3/400$ (eq.28) can be similarly shown to have been exactly $+6^m$: an hour every 10^y ! — thus mean error $-1^\circ.1$ by Ptolemy's time, the enormity of which 1st (Thurston 1998 §S2) gave away Ptolemy's having faked "observations" using such an obsolete sacred year-length as eq.33.

their quarter-day rounding — rounding which (§O4) has made it impossible to tell whether the pre-rounded values were more than trivially in error. As noted at §O5, this is yet another vindication for the high level of ancient Greek science, and for those who've defended it.

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‡3 Hipparchos' Fake –381/12/12 Mis-Eclipse His Eclipse Calculations Used Pairs — Not Threesomes Newly Confirmed By Resolving His One-Degree Fudge Hipparchan Computations' Mechanical Flawlessness Greek Invention of Order-of-Magnitude Estimation

A Summary

A1 Hipparchos' work with eclipse-trios (in the 140s BC) was mathematically analysed in 1991 by *DIO*, and all¹ 4 of the lunar-orbit elements (*Almajest* 4.11) Hipparchos had published were precisely elicited thereby at Rawlins 1991W [www.dioi.org/w13.pdf]: eqs.19-20&23-24, as generously pointed out in the History of Science Society's *Isis* during its coverage (Thurston 2002S) of *DIO*'s reconstructions. These 4 solutions transpired through far simpler analysis *and via more ancient-style round-number elements* than prominent prior work (§A2) that failed to reproduce the same 4 data.² Analysis' by-product: revelation that Greek science used order-of-magnitude. [DR thanks John Britton & the late Hugh Thurston for thoroughly and expertly verifying all of the mathematical steps of Rawlins 1991W.

Also special thanks to Dennis Duke for inspiring, vetting, and tolerating the present paper.]

A2 The 1991 matches are so unanswerably perfect that they have never even been cited by the history-of-astronomy political center, the esteemed "Muffia", which clings to its own goofy old theory (Toomer 1973), though it fits none of the 4 above-cited elements. (Unless one blatantly funnies input data: §K.) Nor does this cult-fave (§§C1, H2, I9&I10) theory explain Hipparchos' 1° data-fudge, a 2000^y old puzzle 1st solved here at §G1 by extension of the gratifyingly fruitful 1991 analysis, which also bears a glimmer of early heliocentrism.

A3 Below, we precisely solve (§§C2-G) both trios, achievable because *Hipparchos' calculations are always mechanically flawless* (a point helping place his observatory near Lindos: see *DIO* 7.1 †3 end-Note), our historically key hitherto-implicit finding (Rawlins 1991W, confirmed: Rawlins 2009S Table 2) — ever-denied (e.g., fn 22) by *DIO*-shunners, who can only promote their predictable (Rawlins 1991W §H2 [g]) desperately weird anti-*DIO* pseudo-discoveries by dreaming-up³ Hipparchos (fn 10) & Strabo (Rawlins 2009S §B6) math errors at will. (Details of 30^y-shun's tantrum-origin: see Rawlins 1991W §B.)

B Hipparchos' Data

B1 Our subject here will be two much-discussed ancient lunar eclipse trios: from 383-382 BC (observed in Babylon) and 201-200 BC (observed in Alexandria). The trios are today generally designated as "Trio A" & "Trio B", respectively. (All six dates listed at fn 5.) Both trios were mathematically analysed by Hipparchos c.150-145 BC, during his primitive attempts to improve knowledge of the Moon's nonuniform motion. The empirical data he started with were merely past reports of eclipses' times (& magnitudes & durations), for which he computed true longitudes of the Sun (thus Moon opposite) from his solar tables of the moment.⁴ Hipparchos' stated intervals are for two pair from each trio,⁵ as follows:

¹ The Hipparchan numbers to be (re)traced here are: 3144, 3122 1/2, 327 2/3, 247 1/2. Rawlins 1991W solved all four to precision given. The paper's calculated reconstructions are reprised below: 3144 (eq.5), 3122 1/2 (eq.6), 327'39" (arrowed A3-A2 at §G2), 247'30" (arrowed B2-B1 at §F2).

² Rawlins 1991W §P2: all 4 unaltered Muff-nonfits compared sidebyside with *DIO*'s 4 neat matches.

³ Sociological background to such's inevitability (*DIO* 4.3 †15 §G9): banishers are unwittingly *gambling* — risking their reputations irrevocably on the improvident demand that the pariah is *permanently valueless*. Since no blackballing archon can admit to jailing valid ideas, the exiled journal can't ever be credited for making a single discovery. So each time it does, its bet-redoubling shunners **must keep publicly faking its accumulating achievements' worthlessness** (welcome exception: †2 fn 10). See, e.g., *DIO* 4.2 †9 §T, *DIO* 6 †3 §B2.

⁴ Hipparchos' adopted solar orbit varied from time to time, as we saw at †2 §O.

⁵ In temporal order, we call Trio A's eclipses: A1 (–382/12/22-23), A2 (–381/6/18-19), A3 (–381/12/12-13). Trio B analogously: B1 (–200/9/22-23), B2 (–199/3/19-20), B3 (–199/9/11-12).

B2 The Trio A time-intervals and longitude-intervals (*Almajest* 4.11):

$$A2 - A1 : 177^d 13^h 3/4 \quad 173^\circ - 1^\circ/8 \quad A3 - A2 : 177^d 01^h 2/3 \quad 175^\circ + 1^\circ/8 \quad (1)$$

The Trio B time-intervals and longitude-intervals (*idem*):

$$B2 - B1 : 178^d 06^h \quad 180^\circ 20' \quad B3 - B2 : 176^d 01^h 1/3 \quad 168^\circ 33' \quad (2)$$

C Precisely Solving the Origin of Hipparchos' Lunar Distances

C1 *Almajest* 4.11 supplies Hipparchos' disparate results for lunar distance R and eccentricity e (or, equivalently,⁶ epicycle-radius r):

$$\text{Trio A :} \quad R = 3144 \quad e = 327 \ 2/3 \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Trio B :} \quad R = 3122 \ 1/2 \quad r = 247 \ 1/2 \quad (4)$$

For decades after Toomer 1973, two of these desiderata, the lunar-distances R (3144 & 3122 1/2) were held by the political center (traditionally overlapping the O.Neugebauer clan) to be by-products of elaborate calculations, *during* which the prime sought-numbers occur and are then frozen-in-midstream: i.e., *the very yardstick-radius of the lunar orbit* (R) is supposed to just fall out of the process on-the-fly (§§18-19 & §§112-113) — unheard-of in Greek (or any other) mathematical astronomy. Including Indian.

C2 Rawlins 1991W precisely reproduced the R values by showing both were instead *fixed at the outset*, finding 3144 by just applying simple trig to Aristarchan data (Hipparchos was partial to such: *ibid* fn 243 & §08): half-Moon elongation 87° (or 3° from quadrature: ‡1 §C2), and Sun at distance 1000 Earth-radii (§D). From *ibid* eq.23, we have:

$$R(\text{Trio A}) = 1000^\circ \cot 87^\circ = 1000^\circ \tan 3^\circ \doteq 52^\circ 24' 28'' \doteq 3144' \quad (5)$$

Perfect match to the attested value for Trio A's R (fn 1). Notice that this R has thus established a startling revelation: measuring the lunar distance in solar-based units is the mark of a heliocentrist. And recall that all input data in eq.5 came from Aristarchos, who was the public pioneer of heliocentrism. (See also fn 6.)

C3 True, eq.5 doesn't yield Trio B's $R = 3122 \ 1/2$. But instead of an impediment, this discord is about to be revealed as the clincher for eq.5's source.

C4 One of the commonest ancient and modern misreadings of Greek numbers is the confusion⁷ of sixtieths with fractions. Evidently Trio B's computer misread Trio A's $52^\circ 24'$ (eq.5) as $52^\circ 1/24$, thus (as 1st discerned at Rawlins 1991W eq.24)

$$R(\text{Trio B}) = 52^\circ 1/24 = 52^\circ 02' 1/2 = 3122' 1/2 \quad (6)$$

— the precise attested value for Trio B's R (eq.4; fn 1). This delightful confirmation of eq.5's heliocentrist revelation boosts our certitude that heliocentrism — lethally suppressed though it was (Rawlins 1991P) — carried on quietly in the astronomical community (as it did in 18th century France), even showing up in the work of geocentrist Hipparchos.

No absolute Hipparchan value of any's hour or longitude survive explicitly. (Strictly differences: *Almajest* 4.11.) But all of these dozen absolute data were precisely reconstructed at Rawlins 1991W §§M9-10 & L2-3.

⁶ Is it indicative that Hipparchos started with the eccentric lunar theory, rather parallel to the heliocentrists' model for planets, but later moved over to the epicyclic lunar theory, parallel to the geocentrists' model? Note it was the earlier (Trio A) computer who introduced (§C2) heliocentrist measure into determining R .

⁷For examples, see Rawlins 1991W §03. Also Rawlins 1994L ‡3 fn 39.

D Ordmag's Debut: Distance to the Sun

In the 2012 June *Astronomy* (p.31), Bill Andrews asks: when historically did the idea of using order-of-magnitude (ordmag) arise? The answer resides in our eq.5: Greeks pioneered adoption of order-of-magnitude, naturally resorting to powers of ten to gauge the too-uncertain-for-precision solar distance in Earth-radii. Remote from their subjects, astronomers were the inevitable inventors of ordmag. Sun-distance estimates by eminent ancient scientists follow (superscript e = Earth-radii). Eratosthenes: 100° (Rawlins 2008Q eq.12); early Aristarchos & mid-career Hipparchos: 1000° (Rawlins 2008R §D1; above eq.5); late Aristarchos, Archimedes, & Poseidonios: 10000° (Rawlins 2008R eqs.14-15).

E Exact Origins of Hipparchos' Eccentricity e & Epicycle-Radius r

E1 For each eclipse-pair, *Almajest* 4.11 provides two pair of data (already listed here at §B2): time-interval Δt in days and true longitude-interval $\Delta \phi$ in degrees; Δt is multiplied times mean lunar motion — namely, Kallippic solar motion (Rawlins 1991W §§K9&M4) plus long-canonical Aristarchan (Rawlins 2002A) synodic lunar motion (‡1 eqs.4&5) — which yields Δf , the mean lunar motion in degrees during the interval between the eclipse-pair. For any pair, non-uniform motion causes a gap between mean-longitude-difference Δf and the true-longitude difference $\Delta \phi$ — where, again: each $\Delta \phi$ is already supplied explicitly (§B2) at *Almajest* 4.11. (Though, Hipparchos had illegitimately [§G4] altered A3's longitude by -1° , as will be shown below: §G1.) This gap is labelled δ :

$$\delta = \Delta \phi - \Delta f \quad (7)$$

True longitude ϕ was computed in each case by Hipparchos from the solar orbit he had adopted at the time of the calculation. (These orbits' poorness created fateful errors in the ϕ values, which were to undo [§G1] the very Pair Method [§E7] Hipparchos used.)

E2 The longitudes ϕ in Hipparchos' famous catalog of 600^y of eclipses were presumably computed well before his trio-calculations. Said catalog was naturally compiled going backward in time, a judgement which becomes more than guesswork when we find that the -200 - 199 true longitudes ϕ were calculated from an inferior early "EH" solar orbit⁸ whose 4 elements are given at Rawlins 1991W §K9 (along with its empirical bases: *ibid* §§K4-K9), while the parallel -382 - 381 longitudes were found from a solar orbit that constituted a relic of the later transition from EH to his famous "PH" orbit (preserved at *Almajest* 3.1-7), which is why it bore elements from both EH & PH: a stitched-together element-mix quasi-facetiously called "Frankensteinorbit". (See Rawlins 1991W § M4-M5.)

E3 Determining chronological order (*ibid* §M5): the 2 elements of Frankensteinorbit drawn from PH (solar apogee-at-epoch & mean-longitude-at-epoch) were constants — thus available for immediate use — while the 2 elements drawn from EH (eccentricity & mean motion) required tables for usage, *which would take time to compile*, thus Hipparchos'

⁸ *JHA*'s 2008 August Pb paper rejects (‡2 fn 10) all of DR's 3 Hipparchos orbits (EH, Frankenstein, & [Rawlins 1991H] UH), deeming them "neither conclusive nor satisfying" since (emph added) "parameters deduced from trio analyses are very sensitive to small changes in the input data" (shouldn't that read "small errors"? — see ‡2 fn 10 items [4]-[5]), from Duke 2008W's unique delusion (‡1 §B4) that Greek solar data averaged 15' error. Only citation: a *JHA*-doctored note; see *DIO* 6 §§D1&H2 & fn 20. (*JHA* refereeing. Again.) But uncited Rawlins 1991W fn 205 explored this sensitivity, *thus DR didn't just compute orbit-elements from trio ϕ but the reverse: EH&UH were instead initially founded upon Hipparchan cardinal-point data (firm or reasonably reconstructed: ‡2 §K or Rawlins 1991W §K), then tested against extant trios' ϕ . Further testing found that a (correctly chronologically-ordered: §E3) meld of EH&PH fit Trio A's ϕ , thereby establishing Frankensteinorbit & dating it to the -145 S.Solst (‡2 §O1). Doubting UH requires rejecting ‡2 eqs.3-4. (Contra pp.23-24 of the very Jones 2005 paper cited by *JHA* 39:289 n.9.) UH — incl. above ‡2 eq.4 — solved five mysteries simultaneously (Rawlins 1991H): [a] why Aristarchos & Hipparchos solstices are (‡2 §C1) sole hourless *Almajest* 3.1 Sun data; [b] all 3 Trio C ϕ (*Almajest* 5.3&5); [c] 5'-PH-discrepant f of Trio C's 2nd ϕ ; [d] 0° .2 amplitude of AncStarCat zodiac stars' periodic error; [e] Moon-phase when AncStarCat fundamental stars observed. (Also, suggestive: Hipparchos' UH&AncStarCat -127 A.Eqx epoch follows Meton's S.Solst by $304^y 1/4$, *exactly* $1/16^{\text{th}}$ [Rawlins 2002A fn 17] of Hipparchos' 4868^y Great Year: ‡2 §P4.)*

continuing use of the old EH tables for a little while after establishing the PH Orbit. This situation is consistent (§E2) with the -382 - 381 longitudes (for the early eclipse catalog, long before the analyses of trios) being computed later than the -200 - 199 ones — presumably c. -145 , the time when (§2 §O3) he established the iconic (§2 §O1) PH Orbit.

E4 Continuing in Hipparchos' footsteps, we now compute (eq.7) the δ for all six eclipse-pairs. (Notice that for each trio, the sum of the three δ is zero.)

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{A2-A1} &= 172^\circ 53' - 179^\circ 46' 07'' = -6^\circ 53' 07'' \\ \delta_{A3-A2} &= 176^\circ 07' - 173^\circ 08' 04'' = +2^\circ 58' 56'' \\ \delta_{A1-A3} &= 11^\circ 00' - 7^\circ 05' 49'' = +3^\circ 54' 11'' \\ \delta_{B2-B1} &= 180^\circ 20' - 188^\circ 41' 24'' = -8^\circ 21' 24'' \\ \delta_{B3-B2} &= 168^\circ 33' - 159^\circ 46' 31'' = +8^\circ 46' 29'' \\ \delta_{B1-B3} &= 11^\circ 07' - 11^\circ 32' 05'' = -0^\circ 25' 05''\end{aligned}$$

E5 Via likely roundings, Rawlins 1991W (§§M9&L2) reconstructs Hipparchos' absolute times of the six eclipses. Hipparchos' mean anomaly for each eclipse was found through multiplying his traditional Aristarchan lunar mean anomalistic motion (*ibid* eqs.6-7: not quite the same as *Almajest* 4.7's) by the time since his theories' epoch (Phil 1 = $-323/11/12$: ‡2 §O3), and then adding the result to his equally Aristarchan lunar mean-anomaly-at-epoch $g_o = 82^\circ$ (Rawlins 1991W eq.9),⁹ which relates to apogee-at-epoch A_o thusly:

$$g_o = \epsilon_o - A_o = 178^\circ - 96^\circ = 82^\circ \quad (8)$$

E6 This produces the following mean anomalies:

$$\begin{aligned}g_{A1} &= 224^\circ 1/3 & g_{B1} &= 297^\circ \\ g_{A2} &= 24^\circ 1/3 & g_{B2} &= 105^\circ 5/6 \\ g_{A3} &= 177^\circ 44' & g_{B3} &= 246^\circ\end{aligned}$$

E7 Ere 1991, all presumed (from *Alm* 4.5) Hipparchos used eclipse-trios to find 3 unknowns simultaneously: e , g_o , & ϵ_o . Rawlins 1991W §§ N5f found he used not trios (which produce no matches: §A2) but eclipse-pairs (which do: §§F2&G2), thereby seeking only e , while appropriating g_o (see Rawlins 1991W §N10!) and ultimately it seems (§F4) ϵ_o from a prior astronomer: eq.8. [A paper (§K1) rejecting the Pair Method cites *Alm* 4.5's belief that Hipparchos' method is that of *Alm* 4.6&11, meanwhile accepting the paper's own 3438-base alteration of same.] To find e from an eclipse-pair, trigmaster Hipparchos used the pure-trig Pair Method (easier&clearer than Ptolemy's eclipse-trio Simultaneous Method [§I1], though inferior in result):¹⁰ for any eclipse-pair we specify their 2 mean anomalies g (already computed at §E6) as α & β and use them with δ (§E4) in the following 3-step trig procedure (perhaps unknown during the 21 centuries up to Rawlins 1991W §N13):¹¹

$$U = -[(\cos \alpha + \cos \beta) + \cot \delta (\sin \alpha - \sin \beta)]/2 \quad (9)$$

$$V = \cos(\alpha - \beta) + \cot \delta \sin(\alpha - \beta) \quad (10)$$

$$e \text{ or } r = R/(U + \sqrt{U^2 - V}) \quad (11)$$

⁹ Where $\epsilon_o = 178^\circ$ is Aristarchos' (later Hipparchos' & Ptolemy's) lunar mean-longitude-at-epoch; $g_o = 82^\circ$, his mean-anomaly-at-epoch; $A_o = 96^\circ$, his apogee-at-epoch (epoch = Phil 1: §E5).

¹⁰ The poorness of Hipparchos' results alone suggests a primitivity incongruent with the sophisticated Simultaneous Method. (And the inconsistent consistencies of the 60^p-based values of §F2 vs §G2 suggest worse.) As earlier realized by van der Waerden and shown at Rawlins 1991W (§S1) & Rawlins 2009E, Hipparchos wasn't an outstandingly able math-theoretician, though (contra Duke at §§K1&K4 & Jones at Rawlins 2009S §§G2-G3) *an unerringly reliable computer*: here & Rawlins 2009S Fig.1.

¹¹ This presumes that Hipparchos didn't solve pairs by trial. Note: all §E6's g are round fractions (suggesting that some eclipse-data might've been slightly adjusted), except for the near-perigee (thus very sensitive) A3 case, where 1-unknown math (via §F4's equation) upon pre-doctored A3 yields e both oversized & negative. (An alternate explanation for Hipparchos' fudging eclipse A3 by -1° .)

F Expanding Pair-Analysis

But we go beyond Rawlins 1991W §N14 by computing e (or r) for all 6 pair, thus adding 4 new data (not in *ibid*) that ultimately reveal (§§G1-G3) the cause of Hipparchos' fake.

F1 The three Trio A results for e , recalling R of eq.5 (& including 60^p-based values):

$$\begin{aligned}e_{A2-A1}/R_A &= 334' 18''/3144' = 6^p 23' \\ e_{A3-A2}/R_A &= 529' 06''/3144' = 10^p 06' \\ e_{A1-A3}/R_A &= 272' 04''/3144' = 5^p 12'\end{aligned}$$

F2 The three Trio B results for r , recalling R of eq.6:

$$\begin{aligned}r_{B2-B1}/R_B &= 247' 30''/3122' 30'' = 4^p 45' \leftarrow \\ r_{B3-B2}/R_B &= 248' 35''/3122' 30'' = 4^p 47' \\ r_{B1-B3}/R_B &= 261' 54''/3122' 30'' = 5^p 02'\end{aligned}$$

F3 For Trio B, it looked to Hipparchos like there was sufficient consistency to justify taking any of the values as a good approximation to r . (The consistency was at best luck,¹² given the poorness of the EH orbit producing input ϕ data.) He chose the top line (arrowed B2-B1) to publish as his r solution. It agrees perfectly with his attested Trio B r (eq.4).

F4 [Added 2012 September. Dennis Duke notes: for pre-fixed g_o & ϵ_o , e (or r) is findable from 1 eclipse. Equation: $-1/e = \cos g + \sin g / \tan(\phi - f)$; yet results don't recover attested e & r (§C1), while §§F2&G2 fit. But why did Hipparchos use the harder Pair Method? [a] He (& Rawlins 1991W §N12) knew it finds e (or r), pre-fixing only g_o but not yet $\epsilon_o = 178^\circ$ [fn 9; eq.8]. (**NB**: Ptolemy's precise-to-arcmin Ant 1 [137.547] solar&lunar ϵ_o descend from Phil 1 [-322.148] round ϵ_o [Rawlins 1991W eq.8].) [b] Results for pairs tend to be more consistent than for single eclipses. [c] A perigee eclipse (A3) isn't useless when paired. [d] Weather blocked most trios' full capture (thus Hipparchos' resort to 200BC & 382BC data?), so pair-analysis pre-fixing g_o (or ϵ_o) may have been common.]

G Hipparchos Fakes the Impossible for $-381/12/12$: A 179° True-Elongation Lunar Mid-Eclipse!

G1 But Hipparchos saw that Trio A's results (§F1) for lunar e were dreadfully inconsistent. (Mostly due to Babylonian observational time-errors [Rawlins 1991W fn 223] & to Frankensteinorbit's solar e being more than 50% higher than reality.) So he¹³ committed a crime against science: finding that altering ϕ_{A3} by -1° dramatically "saved" the situation (fn 11), he made the alteration, a sleight that changed the Trio A input data (from §E4) to:

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_{A2-A1} &= 172^\circ 53' - 179^\circ 46' 07'' = -6^\circ 53' 07'' \\ \delta_{A3-A2} &= 175^\circ 07' - 173^\circ 08' 04'' = +1^\circ 58' 56'' \\ \delta_{A1-A3} &= 12^\circ 00' - 7^\circ 05' 49'' = +4^\circ 54' 11''\end{aligned}$$

G2 Which converted the results of §F1 instead to:

$$\begin{aligned}e_{A2-A1}/R_A &= 334' 18''/3144' = 6^p 23' \\ e_{A3-A2}/R_A &= 327' 39''/3144' = 6^p 15' \leftarrow \\ e_{A1-A3}/R_A &= 336' 33''/3144' = 6^p 25'\end{aligned}$$

¹² The seeming good luck of Trio B's consistency was bad luck, since it deluded Hipparchos into expecting similar consistency for Trio A; so when it didn't happen, he made it happen: §§F3-G1.

¹³ Eq.6's miscue indicates that at least the R of Trio A & Trio B were computed by distinct members of a hitherto (fn 6) hypothetical Hipparchan stable. Note obvious parallel to the problems producing the few faked stars (Rawlins 1992T & Rawlins 1993D) of Tycho Brahe. (Known to have had a stable.)

Unfortunately, Hipparchos chose the 2nd solution (arrowed A3-A2) for publication, a solution *squarely based upon fabrication*. Its e (which of course would be rounded to $327^{\circ}2/3$) agrees with the attested Hipparchan value: eq.3. [Note added 2012/9/16. For both e & r , he picked the value *nearest a round fraction* ($327\ 2/3 = 6^p1/4$, $247\ 1/2 = 4^p3/4$): which backs DIO's theory (e.g., eq.8, fn 11, Rawlins 2002A §A6) that ancient astronomers preferred round numbers for elements. (And for observational data: R.Newton 1977 pp.250-254. Newton's discovery clinched by 30' endings: DIO 2.3 ‡8 fn 47 & Rawlins 1994L fn 5.)]

G3 Notice that we now not only have the why of fabrication but additionally have shown that it arises out of the theory that Hipparchos was mathematically investigating the lunar orbit via pairs not trios. The foregoing is therefore a surprise vindication — unanticipated in Rawlins 1991W — of *idem's* Pair-Method explanation of the curiously skimpy (& explicitly-in-pairs) early data which Hipparchos&Ptolemy left us via *Almajest* 4.11.

G4 Check the 179° difference between Hipparchos' pre-existing (eclipse-catalog: §E2) Frankenstein-orbit-computed solar $\phi_{A3} = 257^{\circ}7/8$ (Rawlins 1991W §M10) and the subsequently -1° -fudged lunar $\phi_{A3} = 76^{\circ}7/8$ (*ibid* §N15) — a forgery which naturally also shifted contingent δ_{A3-A2} & δ_{A1-A3} from their §E4 values to the 1° -altered values of §G1, which underlie §G2. [Hipparchos didn't recompute (§B1) his eclipse catalog's solar ϕ_{A3} (to check vs lunar ϕ_{A3}) or spot R 's §C4 devolution.] The 1° discrepancy has been known at least since R.Newton 1977 p.119's clear explanation of the joke solar-speed which non-correction entails. (See also Hugh Thurston 2002S p.67. Duke 2005T p.176-177 n.5 ignores R.Newton, DR, & Thurston, though doing so results in a wild solar-orbit eccentricity¹⁴ of over *thirteen percent* as 1st noted at Rawlins 1991W fn 162 [$e \doteq 8/60$], & [non-citationally] agreed to at Duke 2005T p.177 n.5.) But no one (incl. Rawlins 1991W) previously realized that the error was due to a deliberate shift — to forge an orbital fit. Frankensteinorbit (§E2) is obviously & variously superior (to a 13%-eccentric EH solar orbit!) — since its apogee-at-epoch A_o (PH) and eccentricity¹⁵ e (EH) are much nearer reality (e.g., eccentricity 5% vs then-actually 4%) than the 13%-eccentric monstrosity required if 1° -fudge isn't corrected-for. Concluding this section: We have established Hipparchos' adoption of a one-of-a-kind (and physically impossible) celestial configuration: a 179° difference of solar true longitude vs lunar true longitude for $-381/12/12$ mid-eclipse — adopted to paper over problems with his eclipse researches. In astronomers' terminology: a mid-eclipse Moon at 179° true elongation — Hipparchos' astonishing 1° fake, which has now (§G1) for the 1st time been fully solved, and thereby detected as fraud.

H Centrists & Rebels

H1 Several discussions of the Hipparchos trios have appeared in recent decades out of the history-of-astronomy center, e.g., Toomer 1973, Neugebauer 1975 pp.315-319, Jones 1991H, etc — along with two rebel studies, R.Newton 1977 p.115-129, and Rawlins 1991W. The former authors all take the data as entirely real; the latter dissent (in differing fashions).

H2 Contra Rawlins 1991W, centrist authors propose (or accept) that, for each trio, Hipparchos' analysis found unknowns *simultaneously* from his three time-data. It would indeed be possible thus to find three lunar-orbit unknowns; mean-longitude-at-epoch e_o (in degrees), mean-anomaly-at-epoch g_o (also in degrees); and eccentricity e (Trio A) or epicycle-radius r (Trio B), either expressed in 60^{ths} of a unit. But the centrist studies instead attempt to apply a newly (and wholly) invented Hunt&Freeze technique to go beyond what used to be the limit for three equations of condition, to try pulling from the data four unknowns — adding R to the hunt. (Though in their determination to conjure e [or r] and

¹⁴ Remember that what ancients (using adjusted circular orbits) called eccentricity was twice what moderns (using elliptical orbits) refer to by the same term. Rawlins 1991W fn 162 found that if eclipse A3's -1° fudge is not accounted-for (i.e., undone), the data are consistent with $e = 7^p46'$ or 12.9 percent ancient convention; 6.5 percent, modern.

¹⁵ Again (fn 14): these e values are ancient-convention. Modern equivalents would be half as large.

R from the process, they neglect g_o & e_o — omissions we have not repeated: Rawlins 1991W eq.9 & here at §J & eq.8.) Comments: [a] All such studies forget the possibility that Hipparchos cites trios not because of his math but simply because, at any given place on Earth, lunar eclipses can naturally occur in threes, during a brief period: less than a year. (Though: see Rawlins 1996C fn 103 for two unusual tightquads: $-831-830$ & $-720-719$.) [b] Simple pair-analysis produces perfect hits (Rawlins 1991W §P2) on the Hipparchan e & r ($327\ 2/3$ & $247\ 1/2$) sought for Trios A&B. (See arrowed data in §§G2&F2, resp.) Meanwhile — unless (§K1) the calculations are flagrantly fiddled to produce the desired result — none of the centrists' complex trio-math attempted solutions has ever reproduced either (much less both) of these same Hipparchan numbers.

H3 Nor has the untampered Toomer fallout-in-midmath (§I9) reverie hit upon either of Hipparchos' R values (3144 & $3122\ 1/2$), while Rawlins 1991W's eqs.23&24 showed that one line (here at eq.5) of Aristarchos-based trig leads to both, on-the-nose: above, §§C2-C4.

H4 But hist.astron's political center insists (§A2; Rawlins 1991W §§D4&H2) upon preferring (some variant of) its own cult's 4 decade-old solution. No hist.astron-centrist scholar has *ever* (e.g., fn 22) let its readers in on the fact that all 4 of these numbers were (above §H2 [b] & §H3) *precisely* matched by *ibid*. Compare to the *history of science* center — which a decade ago courageously defied the JHA-Muffia cult by disseminating Rawlins 1991W's results in the world's leading history of science journal, *Isis* (Thurston 2002S).

I Undead Fantasy: NonExistent 3438-Radius Greek Chord Table

I1 The impasse here is based on a fundamental Muffia misunderstanding that takes for granted (“virtually certain” [Duke 2005A p.5]) that Hipparchos' analyses of the 2 trios were by the elaborate method Ptolemy develops so ably at *Almajest* 4.6: from 3 eclipses' times, solve for 3 planar lunar orbital elements simultaneously, thus here the “Simultaneous Method” (§H2).

I2 Toomer 1973 claimed to have shown that Hipparchos used the Simultaneous Method, doing his trig by a chord table based upon circle-radius $R' = 3438$, which is the number of arcmin in a radian. Such tables were used the better part of a millennium later in India, which drew some astronomy from the Hellenistic tradition, thus the superficial [Greek army left India 325 BC, two centuries before Hipparchos] plausibility of the Muffia's refreshingly original idea. (An inspiration which must have greatly pleased Indian-astronomy specialist and fellow-BrownU scholar & mentor David Pingree.)

I3 But there is not-a-shred of direct evidence that Hipparchos ever used such an odd device as a 3438-based trig table. Thus, Toomeresque theorizing has managed to pioneer not-a-shredness-squared here vis-à-vis Greek astronomy: R being found on-the-fly (see below: §I9), plus an Indian trig table flourishing centuries before its earliest attestation. And the Muffia claims to detest speculation by outlanders.

I4 What drew Toomer into his theory was the crude proximity of 3438 to both Hipparchan lunar R values: 3144 & $3122\ 1/2$. When he applied the Simultaneous Method to Hipparchos' data (3 distinct ways [§I9] for each trio): during the cascading stages & mergings of the attempted 3438-based computational reconstruction, there inevitably appeared somewhere (anywhere would do) numbers that roughly approximated these two Hipparchan elements — though none came convincingly close to actually matching them.

I5 The most immediately obvious clue that Toomer — though admirably masterful at the geometry involved — is pursuing a chimera is: if ratio $247\ 1/2$ vs $3122\ 1/2$ had not been based upon a start-out presumption of lunar orbit-radius $3122\ 1/2$ (as shown above at eq.6) why would the ratio not be converted by Hipparchos to $99/1249$, just like the conversion (below) of eq.19 to eq.18? (Even the same conversion-factor: $5/2$.) This alone (and see analogously below at §§I11&K3) tells us that lunar-mean-distance radius $3122\ 1/2$ was adopted BEFORE not DURING Hipparchos' calculation — a priority which is consistent with all known Greek astronomical work. Further indication (as noted at Rawlins 1991W

fn 244): 3144 & 3122 1/2 are within 1% of each other — a central point *never even noticed* by those promoting disparate on-the-fly origins for these numbers, thereby implying the super-proximity is just an amazing accident, (§K3), instead of wondering whether it was symptomatic of a common origin, which has turned out to be the now-obvious truth (§C4).

I6 To effect his midstream-fallout version of the Simultaneous Method, Toomer follows the same calculation-procedure as *Almajest* 4.6. He starts by drawing a line from the Earth (point O in Toomer 1973's diagrams) through any one of the three eclipse positions (points M_i for i=1-to-3 or I-to-III, in his diagrams), calling B its other intersection-pt with the lunar orbit — and calling “s” the line-segment from O to B, a device that permits geometry to solve the problem. (In Duke 2005T's revisit of Toomer 1973, s is called *d*.)

I7 Toomer adds to the speculativeness of his conception by supposing that Hipparchos did not use the Greek chord (crd) table of *Almajest* 1.11, where values range from 0 to 120 (angles 0°-to-180°):

$$\text{Greek: } \text{crd } \alpha = 120 \sin(\alpha/2) \tag{12}$$

— but instead for each trig calculation took a number c.180/π times bigger:

$$\text{Indian: } \text{crd } \alpha = 6875 \sin(\alpha/2) \tag{13}$$

I.e., Indian tables' values range between 0 and 6875, being based upon a circle-radius of 3438 units.¹⁶ This ensures that each trig calculation is likely to produce numbers in the thousands. As each Toomer trio-calculation proceeds, one of these numbers of course may happen to hit near one of the two he's looking for (either will do). (If neither desideratum turns up, he can try the same calculation by drawing line s through either [§I6] of the other two eclipses of the trio and computing on that basis. [See Toomer 1973 p.27 n.14.] During each trio's Simultaneous Method analysis, R' = 3438 enters at step 3 due to the method's dropped-perpendicular ploy [*Alm* 4.6].) Let's watch it happen, starting with Trio A.

I8 Toomer 1973 pp.13-14 Trio A successive line-segments (units of s, except last line):

$$\frac{3110 \ 1/2}{6574}$$

$$\frac{5379}{3247}$$

$$\frac{5379 \cdot 6688}{3247 \cdot 2 \cdot 3438}$$

$$\frac{6268}{3438}$$

$$R = \frac{6268 \cdot 3438}{3438 \cdot 6688} = \frac{6268}{6688} = \frac{3134}{3344} \text{ [why not } = \frac{1567}{1672} \text{? — see §I10]}$$

$$\frac{3134 \cdot 6853}{3344 \cdot 3438}$$

$$R/e = \frac{3134}{338}$$

(Exact computation all the way through would instead produce 3135/335 = 627/67.)

I9 Given that Toomer calculated his method from three different starting points (Toomer 1973 p.27 n.14), it is no great shock that somewhere along the way a number (3134 at §I8's step 5) indeed pops up that's near one of the Trio A sought-for R (3144) or e (327 2/3). The only genuine surprise here occurs when Toomer supposes that Hipparchos would at this point suddenly and selectively preserve the number 3134 all the way to the end of the calculation. (One can understand Toomer freezing such a number, since nearby 3144 is one of his goals. But why would Hipparchos care about packing this value in ice?)

¹⁶ There being 21600 arcmin in a circle, the consistent radius is that number divided by 2π: slightly less than 3437 3/4, the number of arcmin in a radian. The Indian table proposed for Hipparchos (Toomer 1973 p.8, Duke 2005T p.175) is effectively the Ptolemy (*Almajest* 1.11) table at 7° 1/2 intervals (see also ‡1 fn 1) — with each Ptolemy chord-value enhanced by factor 180/π and integrally rounded (4-place precision). See Neugebauer 1975 pp.299-300, 319, 1116, & p.1132 Table 8.

I10 The point becomes particularly relevant when we notice that the §I8 line (step 5) which produces R = 3134/3344 (in units of s): came from dividing numerator 6268 & denominator 6688 each by 2. But: why not divide by 2 again?! [Duke 2005T p.171 passes over same point when p.170 line 6 conjures-up 3144.] Why doesn't Toomer simplify 6268/6688 to 1567/1672 instead of 3134/3344? (Previous line: exact calculation produces 6270/3438, so equitably dividing by common factors 2&3 produces 1045/573.) Not remarking the plain divisibility of 6268 & 6688 by 4, Toomer 1973 p.27 n.14 just says (emph added): “I suppose division by the common factor 2 here. It must have occurred at some stage in order to get Hipparchus' final result.” (Same circular reasoning below: §§I14&K1.) I.e., *prove Hipparchos used the 3-unknown method by assuming he did.*

I11 The foregoing §I10 failure-to-divide-by-2 revelation is just another example of an earlier point (§I5) regarding Trio B: the very r/R ratio being sought, (247 1/2)/(3122 1/2), would have immediately (after factors' division by 5/2) become 99/1249. Similarly for Trio A's r/R ratio: (327 2/3)/3144 → 983/9432. Why carry fractions in a fraction unless something fundamental is being held fixed? So it makes more sense to suppose that Hipparchos had adopted his R values (3144 & 3122 1/2) before his mathematical searches for e & r even started.

I12 Toomer 1973 pp.10-11 Trio B successive line-segments (units of s, except last line):

$$\frac{1000}{6669 \ 1/3}$$

$$\frac{1112 \ 1/2}{6750 \ 1/2}$$

$$\frac{2989 \cdot 1112 \ 1/2}{2 \cdot 3438 \cdot 6750 \ 1/2} = \frac{246 \ 1/3}{3438}$$

$$\frac{5 \ 1/3}{3438}$$

$$\frac{246 \ 1/3}{3438}$$

$$r = \frac{3438 \cdot 246 \ 1/3}{2989 \cdot 3438} = \frac{246 \ 1/3}{2989}$$

$$\frac{2372 \cdot 246 \ 1/3}{2989 \cdot 3438}$$

$$R/r = \frac{2913}{246 \ 1/3}$$

I13 When 246 1/3 (close to Hipparchos' r = 247 1/2) appears (in §I12's step 3), it is not multiplied or divided in the steps that follow, thereby ensuring its suspended-animation-survival for ultimate display in a ratio for comparison to Hipparchos'. So the near-grail of 246 1/3 is captured only due to the *choice* to set aside and retain 3438 in the 3rd line of the above, while simultaneously *merging* four other numbers:

$$\frac{2989 \cdot 1112 \ 1/2}{2 \cdot 6750 \ 1/2} = 246 \ 1/3 \tag{14}$$

(Exact calculation from the outset yields 2990 & r = 246 1/2, and R = 2918 or 3079; the former from a non-fudged diagram; the latter, from allowing Toomer's below [§I14] re-draw of it.) Toomer 1973 p.11 realizes that 2913 isn't near the desired R = 3122 1/2. So, does this show that that the theory is disconfirmed? No, it continues (Rawlins 1991W §P1) in high regard at hist.astron's political center.

I14 Undeterred by 2913's remoteness from 3122, Toomer&co have attempted to FORCE this by-now Muffia-sacred method to work. Toomer 1973 was first to do so, proposing (p.11) a weird error of method. (Which still failed to find good matches.) His reasoning: if the number doesn't match, “we must . . . suppose that [Hipparchus] made a mis-calculation.”

Toomer 1973 pp.11-12 reshuffles his diagram (admittedly falsely, supposing that Hipparchos made the same step inadvertently), and this time he gets $(3082\ 2/3)/(246\ 1/3)$. Remarkably, considering Toomer has still missed by c.40 units a mark $(3122\ 1/2)$ which Rawlins 1991W eq.24 was to hit *infinitely* more closely (above eq.6), Toomer concludes (emph added): “This is sufficiently close to Hipparchos’ ratio $[R/r = (3122\ 1/2)/(247\ 1/2)]$ to *prove* that Hipparchus did indeed use a chord table of the type [here] posited in computing it”.

I15 A few years later, the foregoing Trio B development collapsed when an input datum was found (Toomer 1984 p.215 n.75) to be based upon a false reading of mss. (Computation using the correct reading led to an r of about 231 [Duke 2005T gets 231.727: see below at §K6] instead of 246 1/3. So Toomer’s *proof* was a fantasy all along: *the imagined match was purely coincidental.*) To his credit, Toomer (at least temporarily) agreed that this correction “cast doubt” (*loc cit*) on his claim Hipparchos used a 3438-based chord table.

J Hipparchos’ Overconsistent g_o Reveals Aristarchos’ $A_o = 96^\circ$

No one pushing Hipparchos’ use of Ptolemy’s Simultaneous Method (3 unknowns: §I1) *uses it himself* to find mean-anomaly-at-epoch g_o . As Ptolemy always did (*Almajest* 4.6), though *Alm* 4.11 cites Hipparchos’ solution for *merely 1 unknown* for each trio, comparing his own lunar e (or r) to Hipparchos’ but *making no comparisons* for the other 2 orbital data his 3-unknown method could find: g_o & ϵ_o . (Telling all but Muffiosi that Hipparchos neither sought nor cited either.) Three-unknown-solving for g_o led DR to the entire trios-mystery’s solution (Rawlins 1991W §§N4&N10): Trio A’s $g_o \doteq 81^\circ.8$; Trio B’s, $82^\circ.6$. While quite inaccurate (real $g_o \doteq 87^\circ$; *Alm*’s, $85^\circ.3$), the g_o are near-equal (fn 9), shockingly so, given [i] g_o ’s sensitivity to input-data uncertainty, & [ii] the big disparities of Trio A’s e vs Trio B’s r , and of the trio-analyses’ underlying solar apogees (21° apart! *ibid* §§K9vs§M4). These clues plus Rawlins 1991W §N10 are what suggested (*ibid* §§N4-N11) that g_o was not sought by Hipparchos’ math but rather was from a predecessor and thus set at 82° , so $A_o = 96^\circ$ (*ibid* §N5 & eq.9; above eq.8) for both trios from the start. *Ibid* §§N4&N17 assign these (poor) values to Aristarchos. But Trio B’s date could indicate lunar specialist Apollonios.

K Mythic-Centaurus Refereeing OKs Riggerous Mathematical Proof

K1 Nearly a third of a century after Toomer 1973, the journal *Centaurus*¹⁷ published Duke 2005T, which attempted to salvage Toomer’s theory by (for each trio, at a chosen step) changing one number to (*unlike above eq.5*→*eq.6*) an unrelated number, to MAKE said theory fit. For Trio A, presuming Hipparchos mis-computed ζ_3 (our $g_{A1} - g_{A3} + \delta_{A1-A3}$) as $51^\circ 19' 37''$ (though accurate Duke 2005T calculation would yield $51^\circ 30' 23''$) — openly stating no other justification but that this was necessary to get the Right Answer: Duke 2005T p.170. (Similar to Toomer: above at §I10.) Quoting *idem* on Trio A (emph added): “In order to get Hipparchus’ answer we have to invoke some amount of rounding and miscalculation, so the first step is to *adjust something so that the correct numerical value* for the ratio R/e [$3144/(327\ 2/3)$] is produced. One simple way to accomplish this, out of an infinitude¹⁸ of choices, is to assume that Hipparchus miscomputed [51;30.23 of *idem* p.169] as 51;19,37, but did everything else precisely. Then he would get” the Right

¹⁷ Even beyond *Centaurus*’ imperviousness to the (creditably undisguised) *ad-hokiness* of the proposed processes (esp. Trio B) — which led to *DIO* referee Hugh Thurston’s rejection of them — there are printing problems here (none of which affect Duke’s uniformly accurate calculations). These again (as we saw at R.Newton 1991 fn 7, Rawlins 1991W fn 126, Rawlins 1996C §B6) reveal hollow refereeing at *Centaurus*: [a] Nest of misprints in p.168’s last paragraph (e.g., for $\alpha_3 = 360^\circ - \alpha_1$ read $\alpha_3 = 360^\circ - \alpha_1 - \alpha_2$). [b] At p.169 line 5, sign-typo; line 6, read 3135 1/7 for 3155 1/7. [c] Sign-slips in formula for R , at pp.172&173. (Harmless: Duke uses correct sign in actual calculations.)

¹⁸ *Ibid* (pp.171&173) sees firm links between 3144&3438 and 247 1/2&3162; but each supposed link depends upon a specific choice of data-alteration among the cited infinitude of other possible options.

Answer¹⁹ by *Alm* 4.6’s method, there being “no question” (Duke 2008W p.286) he knew it. **K2** The one seeming “hit” here (presumably creating a sense of progress) is this: while Toomer 1973 p.15’s 3134/338 got neither the Hipparchan e/R ratio ($327\ 2/3$ vs 3144) *nor* either of its factors, Duke 2005T p.170 by contrast nearly achieves all *simultaneously* by discerning (§K1) that changing only ζ_3 and by JUST (fn 19) the Right amount produces 3144 3/8 and 327 5/7, where the latter figure is taken as roundable to 327 2/3. (Would’ve been rounded to 327 3/4? Problemlet fixed at fn 19.) Such a match would lead any curious, able scholar onward to follow-up-investigate what initially smells like a faint hope of success. But such simultaneity’s failure (§K4 below; Duke 2005T p.172) for Trio B suggests that Trio A’s match was just coincidence, a likelihood enhanced by the admittedly (§K1) huge range of options by which one may manipulate the Trio B numbers until finally (eq.15) getting lucky. And enhanced further by realization that an utterly different explanation (Rawlins 1991W) solves both trios exactly. Note the stark essential contrast between Duke 2005T and the present analysis: all DR solutions involve *ancient-typically round numbers, are independently²⁰ supported* and (unlike Duke 2005T p.172) *equitably consistent for both trios* (even the very same g_o & ϵ_o), *while Occamly forsaking adducement of convenient Hipparchan miscomputations*. Summarizing: Aristarchos’ famous 87° recovers $R = 3144$ (eq.5), which becomes 3122 1/2 (eq.6) via notoriously common misread (§C4); element-borrowing revealed by ultraclose g_o -agreement with 82° (§J; and see especially Rawlins 1991W §N10) for otherwise-jarring Trios A&B, *thereby ruling-out the 3-unknown Simultaneous Method*, which seeks g_o as an unknown.

K3 An extra problem with the entire initial presumption that Trio A’s 3144 & 327 2/3 materialized during a long mathematical juggle: were 3144 not fixed as R from the start, it would disappear through an obvious simplification; in a problem whose shaky input data (& discrepant $e&r$) would have suggested relative uncertainties of ordmag 10%, it would affect ratio R/r by barely 1 part in 1000 (ordmag 1/100th of ratio’s uncertainty) to just round e to 328, then remove the factor 8 from numerator & denominator, leaving the neat ratio 393/41. This point reminds us again (as at §I5) that the proposed Toomeresque-processes for the two trios involve (§I10) so many arbitrary choices and cancellations, that it would be remarkable if the two R values agreed to within 1% by the accident implicitly proposed.

K4 For Trio B, a plainly unrelated number is again substituted for another (8;44,08 for Duke 2005T’s $\delta_{B3-B2} = 8;46,28$), again of just the right size that ratio r/R comes out equal to Hipparchos’. But even this ploy won’t produce Hipparchos’ absolute values for r & R , as had been barely (fn 19) possible for Trio A; so, after this Trio B analysis gets as far as fixing the Right Ratio, a boldly arbitrary, Occam-defying *d-ex-machina* is brought in. A mere passing computation-facilitator (properly playing no rôle in final element-values of Ptolemy, Toomer 1973, or Duke 2005T’s Trio A, as noted: p.172), final-fiddle-factor d is now for Trio B *ad-hoc*-manipulated by just arbitrarily setting it at whatever (unattested) value neatly converts §K4-adjusted $r = 231\ 3/4$ into 247 1/2 (p.172 step 5): namely, 3162.

K5 This also forces R to come out 3122 1/2 (step 8), since fudgery of δ_{B3-B2} (at §K4) had already been precisely designed to guarantee the process’ issuance of the Right Ratio (12.616, as found unmanipulatively at Rawlins 1991W §N14); which, if simply multiplied times $r = 247\ 1/2$, produces the desired attested (eq.4) $R = 3122\ 1/2$. The astonishing²¹

¹⁹ Beyond the 51° integral part, there’s no resemblance between the former & latter (supposedly miscomputed) digits. (Thus the hemmed-in precision of the choice of substitute number is revealing: the only values that would produce a ratio roundable to 3144:327 2/3 are between 51;19,32 & 51;19,41. Actually, 50;19,33-36 would do better than Duke 2005T p.172’s 50;19,37, since r would be more convincingly roundable to 327 2/3 than is 327.719 [likely to be rounded to 327 3/4], which follows from 50;19,37.)

²⁰ E.g., Rawlins 1991W §§K4&L3; *DIO* 6 ‡3 §D6.

²¹ We are asked to accept that Hipparchos’ Trio B analysis specially used a π -value good to barely 2 decimal places — way worse than any known in competent antiquity (22/7, 377/120, Duke 2005T n.3, etc) — even in the very midst of the §I12 calculations, all of which are done to at least 4-place precision, *necessarily* using trig tables of like precision. See Toomer 1984 p.57 [n.68]; and note that

adducement of 3162 (yet-another goal-directed special assumption) is justified by some way-later (obviously not precision-addicted) Indian astrologers' use of $\sqrt{10} = 3.162$ for π . (Unheard-of for Greek astronomy; & extant Indian records nowhere exhibit $R' = 3162$.)

K6 In the step that produces r (§112 step 3), instead of following Toomer's arbitrarily freezing the numerator (231.727, after §115's correction) it's instead differently-arbitrarily treated: merged with its denominator (c.2960) and the result multiplied by $d = 3162$:

$$r = 1000 \cdot \sqrt{10} \cdot 231.727/2960.39 = 247.53 \doteq 247 \frac{1}{2} \quad (15)$$

The equation for R (Toomer 1984 p.11) then nearly becomes (Duke 2005T p.173):

$$R = \sqrt{3162^2 + [247 \frac{1}{2}]^2} - 3162 \cdot 106 \frac{1}{7} \doteq 3122 \frac{1}{2} \quad (16)$$

But eq.16 doesn't work as printed (at *ibid* p.173): $106 \frac{1}{7}$ is a harmless remnant resulting from one of a succession of shopping-trips²² seeking a way of fitting the calculation to Hipparchos' results. (Back when $d = 3438$ was tried-out before going for 3162.) Once we switch fully over to $d = 3162$, the intended equation (which Duke actually & correctly computed with) appears [though exact math all the way yields c.3122 2/3]:

$$R = \sqrt{3162^2 + [247 \frac{1}{2}]^2} - 3162 \cdot 97 \frac{2}{3} \doteq 3122 \frac{1}{2} \quad (17)$$

L Hipparchos in Toto

L1 *DIO* has defied 100^y of Experts' mis-ascribing to Babylon Hipparchos' amazingly accurate draconitic period-relation:

$$5458^u = 5923^w \quad [= 5849^v + 147^o] \quad (18)$$

(Where we've appended in brackets the seemingly hopeless anomalistic situation, for contrast with near half-integrality below at eq.19's *precise* resolution of the mystery of eq.18's origin. Superscripts: u = synodic months, v = anomalistic months, w = draconitic months.) Said consensus asserts that Babylonians used this equation c.200BC (long before Hipparchos), citing 6 cuneiform-text lunar data (Rawlins 2002H §D1) calculated for that time.

$R' = 3438$ is found by dividing a 4-place-accurate value for π into 10800.

²² Another symptom of the flexibility of the search for a path to a fit: *Centaurus* also missed two places where a choice for chord-table-radius R' was in-flux — thus left for later filling-in, but never got filled. At p.164, we read that Toomer's "hypothesis that Hipparchus had used a chord table of radius was correct". And at p.172: "following the same path as in Trio A using does not give". The omissions are again harmless, but together they show that not only did *Centaurus* check none of the math, it didn't even read the text. Worst: *Centaurus* didn't require citation of Rawlins 1991W, and-or its prominent summation by Thurston 2002S (nor did *JHA* for the Babylonianist-Muffiose paper Duke 2008W pp.290, 293, 294 & nn.22-23; on n.24, see *DIO* 6 ‡3 §§D&H2!), which had *historically* (*ibid* §D6) recovered all 4 Hipparchos numbers exactly; this, even though Duke 2005T was **born to bury Rawlins 1991W**. (Duke 2005T started a decade ago as an entry for *DIO*'s van der Waerden Award, which invites [www.dioi.org/pri.htm] such challenges.) But, without Duke 2005T's stimulus (plus Toomer 1973's & Jones 1991H's, earlier), DR probably wouldn't have ever discovered this paper's most startling new result (§G1), neatly consistent with the §E7 Pair Method hypothesis: that Hipparchos' school had — due to problems with said method — clumsily (Rawlins 1991W §N15) faked a 179° true-elongation lunar mid-eclipse. That the legendary "Father of Astronomy" was involved in fraud merely adds to the list of eminent figures whom *DIO* has investigated in connexion with such activity. E.g., Ptolemy (Pickering 2002A, Duke 2002C), Tycho Brahe (Rawlins 1992T), Marlowe-Shakespeare (www.dioi.org/sha.htm), A.Robertson (Standish 1997), Isaac Hayes (www.dioi.org/hay.htm), R.Peary (Christiansen 1997), R.Byrd (www.dioi.org/byf.htm). [Also: fake-refereeing at some extremely handsome journals, e.g., *Centaurus* (just above; or fn 17) and Lord Hoskin's shunloving (Rawlins 1991W §B3) *Journal for the History of Astronomy* (www.dioi.org/jha.htm#kqlz).] But most of these figures left more positive than negative legacies. Is there a correlation between [a] exaggerations too often attendant to fundraising needed for great deeds, & [b] sham that also-too-often attends moments of falling short of greatness?

L2 But (as noted at *idem*) there is a striking and **perfect** correlation here (which reminds us that ephemerides FOR a given year are frequently computed AT a quite different year): three of the six texts do indeed use eq.18 **but they are not dated on the clay** — while all three of the texts which ARE dated on-the-clay (dated as created c.200 BC) do NOT use eq.18. Ah, but there is a 7th text which is clay-dated — and uses eq.18. So that clinches it for the centrists? No — ITS date is well after Hipparchos. (Full discussion: Rawlins 2002H §D.) So the supposed impediment (to accepting *Almajest* 4.2&9's attribution of eq.18 to Hipparchos) actually just adds — 7-times-out-of-7 — to the pro-Hipparchos evidences. These evidences were already manifold, precise, and in some cases jaw-dropping. E.g., eq.18 can only be based on the standard Greek method of finding lunar motion (namely, eclipse-cycles) if an **apogee-perigee** eclipse-pair was used (Rawlins 2002H §B):

$$13645^u = 14807^w \frac{1}{2} = 14623^v \frac{1}{2} + 7^o \quad (19)$$

L3 Division by 5/2 (like §15) produced eq.18. Clincher: the only eclipse-analyst known to make the highly peculiar choice of apogee-perigee pair is Hipparchos. And he is attested (*Almajest* 6.9) as doing so using the very $-140/1/27$ perigee lunar eclipse which Rawlins 2002H showed would **precisely account for all eight digits** in eq.18 if Hipparchos compared it to a (since-lost) record of $-1244/11/13$'s apogee eclipse (instead of comparing it to the $-719/3/8-9$ apogee eclipse he used for his 1st try: *Almajest* 6.9). We know period-relation eq.18 is not from predecessors (as at §J) since he saw the -140 eclipse (*Almajest* 6.5&9). Rawlins 2002H §C provides a detailed survey of the **SIX-FOLD** array²³ of such testimonial, methodological, & quantitative verifications of Hipparchos' authorship of eq.18.

L4 Discovery of precession is commonly mis-attributed to Hipparchos, though it was undeniably (Rawlins 1999) known to Aristarchos over a century earlier. So eq.18 is easily Hipparchos' greatest scientific discovery. Rather than subtle math, finding eq.18 primarily required dedicated determination: laboriously filtering extremely ancient records (over 1000^y old to him — obviously part of "the series²⁴ brought over from Babylon": *Almajest* 4.11) added to Aristarchos-level (www.dioi.org/cot.htm#tqdr) fine judgement in eclipse-choice. The result was (& is) accurate to 1 part in ordmag *ten million*. And not by accident. So, when considering Hipparchos' lesser moments (due to the math limitations of himself & his colleagues, especially early on), we should keep in mind his marvelous eq.19→eq.18 advance of lunar theory,²⁵ a decade-old *DIO* discovery (Rawlins 2002H) still nowhere even understood (much less accepted) by hist.astron archondum, which gave up fighting us after instant-torpedo-reversal (§L2) produced only the dreary longterm downer²⁶

²³ Impervious to every item of this devastating series of childishly obvious indicia, our ever-ineducable *DIO*-denier klan instantly hurled its six-texts killer-wannabe torpedo (§L1) at *DIO*. When that shot just-as-instantly backfired (§L2), *DIO* was hugely & at-the-time-gratefully (Rawlins 2002H §D1) enlightened. But, again: Muffiosi learned nothing — and just skulkingly departed discussion *without a word on their latest ideakiller-dud*. It's so efficient&comforting — and so like C.Ptolemy — to know answers ahead of incoming evidences, regardless of blow after blow after blow after blow of such.

²⁴ The early eclipse records from Babylon may have been pretty dense at least in patches. How else explain that Hipparchos was able to search through and find a just-right match to establish eq.18?

²⁵ J.C.Adams' 1846 Neptune fiasco (Rawlins 1999N) was followed by redemption through his brilliant, ultimately fruitful pioneering discovery (Rawlins 1992W §I12) of lunar theory's discord with observation, due to Earth-spin acceleration, the prime research field of the eminent Johns Hopkins physicist R.Newton. This work eventually led him to expose Ptolemy's fraudulence (e.g., R.Newton 1977), triggering decades of ethically repulsive AmerAstronSoc-HAD-*JHA*-Muffia denigrations, non-citations, suppressions, & shunning of him, an academic obscenity now surviving by transference of target to DR. None of which appears to upset any of those vaunted watchdogs we keep hearing about, whenever archons try to convince Congress that academic misbehavior is of trifling dimensions.

²⁶ But the frustration-downer for seething semi-numerate archons is matched by a kinda-upper for *DIO*. We prefer & repeatedly invite communication and-or (www.dioi.org/deb.htm) debate even with the doltiest of the hist.astron field's archons. But, failing that, it is tragically entertaining to watch their political obsessions retard their own field's progress by barring valid scholarship — thereby (as we predicted two decades ago: Rawlins 1991W §P3) "betraying their very profession. Not every scholar's detractors are so obligingly cooperative in thus destroying their own intrinsic credibility."

of finding no *DIO* math error, alternate eclipses, or equally accurate methods that *could match DIO by eliciting all eight of Hipparchos' digits*. Exactly.²⁷ Again: née-jerk archons yet lack the sense&balance to gauge, face, or admit the obvious uniqueness of our solution to one of the key equations in all ancient astronomy. In other words: the usual.

L5 We remember also outdoor-Hipparchos' establishment of the earliest extant grand star catalog, a treasure stolen by indoor-Ptolemy, but lately restored to its rightful creator, through researches (R.Newton 1977, Rawlins 1982C, Graßhoff 1990, Rawlins 1994L, Pickering 2002A, Duke 2002C) none of which appeared in hist.astron's centrist & "premier" journals, who instead spat on the truth for decades (1975-2002), to the extent of scores of pages of reliably humorous pseudo-scholarship. (Highly admirable Muffia exception: Toomer's swift conversion by and publication of epochal Graßhoff 1990 via Springer.)

L6 The present article and the previous are our latest installments in *DIO's* ongoing (from *DIO 1.1* to date) expanded view of Hipparchos' evolution from amateur (c.–160) into a serious contributor (c.–130) to the growth of astronomy. Our journey has been, like his and his science's, a Niagara of surprises: the irresistible lure of the inductive journey.

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²⁷ This holds for all three of *DIO's* solutions of the origins of anciently-adopted lunar speed estimates: *twenty-four digits* in all, each reproduced exactly. Details: www.dioi.org/thr.htm & *DIO 16* p.2.

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Annals of Science (1996 July), reviewing *DIO* vol.3 (Tycho star catalog): "a thorough work extensive [least-squares] error analysis . . . demonstrates [Tycho star-position] accuracy . . . much better than is generally assumed excellent investigation".

British Society for the History of Mathematics (*Newsletter* 1993 Spring): "fearless [on] the operation of structures of [academic] power & influence . . . much recommended to [readers] bored with . . . the more prominent public journals, or open to the possibility of scholars being motivated by other considerations than the pursuit of objective truth."