

This is a follow-up to my March 15 report, and Ali AbuTaha's comments of March 29. The latter report references the difference between the eccentric anomaly and true anomaly, and also the use of  $2e$  in the equation for the actual sun's longitude, measured along the ecliptic as<sup>1</sup>

$$L_{\text{sun}} = L_{\text{mean}} + 1.915^\circ \sin M_E + 0.020^\circ \sin 2 M_E \quad (6.30)$$

This is where the **eccentricity** of the earth's is used. The first coefficient is  $2e$  ( $180^\circ/\pi$ ), and the second is  $(5/4) e^2$  ( $180^\circ/\pi$ ). Your March 29 report is correct in focusing in on the difference between anomalies (angles) and on the "2e" factor. The objective of this report is to clarify these concepts.

The equation above includes an approximation for the solution of Kepler's equation. It does not imply a solution for an eccentricity of  $2e$ , where the earth's orbit eccentricity ( $e = 0.016711$ ). As was suggested in that paper, the approximation can be checked by calculating  $M_E$  from  $L_{\text{sun}}$ ; this is shown in the enclosed spreadsheet. The equations to do this were in the first report, and are listed below. The true anomaly  $v$ , the tangent of the eccentric anomaly  $\tan E$ , and the mean anomaly  $M_E$ , are

$$v = M_E + L_{\text{sun}} - L_{\text{mean}}$$

$$\tan E = [(1 - e^2) \sin v] / (\cos v + e) \quad (\text{Fig. 6.24})$$

$$M_E = E - e \sin E \quad (6.43)$$

If  $M_E$  doesn't come out right, then  $L_{\text{sun}}$  has to be adjusted until it does. The last equation is the famous Kepler's equation, which has to be solved numerically, or approximated by other methods (such as a series expansion). Comparing column d on p. 4 with column q on p. 5,  $M_E$  does come out the same for the accuracy calculated. Note there is no "2e" in any of the above, exact, equations.

#### First Table, Columns a-i (p. 4)

This is almost the same as the table in the March 15 report. The dates chosen for calculation have been changed so that the mean anomaly  $M$  runs from 0 to  $360^\circ$ . Note that the last increment is only five days, instead of the usual ten.

The mean longitude  $L_{\text{mean}}$  and the true longitude  $L_{\text{sun}}$  (both measured along the ecliptic) are similar to the mean anomaly and

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<sup>1</sup> Equation numbers refer to W. L. Morgan and G. D. Gordon, **Handbook of Communications Satellites**, Wiley, 1989, pp. 799-809.

true anomaly. However, they are measured from the First Point of Aries rather than from perigee, so their zero occurs around Mar 23, instead of Jan 3. This explains the first equation above, since  $L_{\text{sun}} - L_{\text{mean}} = v - M_E$ . As explained in the first report, the anomaly is obtained by plotting column g vs. column i.

Second Table, Columns j-q (p. 5)

The first three columns (j, k, l) are the true anomaly, eccentric anomaly, and mean anomaly. These are calculated with the three equations on the previous page. The angles are expressed in radians rather than degrees, to emphasize the relation with orbit eccentricity. Note that all three start at zero (perigee), reach  $\pi$  radians around July 7 (apogee), and then reach  $2\pi$  at the following Jan 3 (perigee). At these actual points these values are 0,  $\pi$ , and  $2\pi$ , and are identical to each other. Around perigee the true anomaly changes faster than the other two, and the mean anomaly is the slowest. Around apogee the opposite is true.

The next three columns (m, n, o) show differences between the various anomalies (angles). The differences ( $v - E$ ) and ( $E - M$ ) are almost identical, and vary sinusoidal to  $\pm e$ , or a total variation of  $2e$ . This means that the eccentric anomaly  $E$  is halfway between the true anomaly  $v$  and the mean anomaly  $M$ .

The most important part of the table (column o) is the difference between the true anomaly and the mean anomaly, that is, ( $v - M$ ). This also varies sinusoidal, but at twice the amplitude. It varies  $\pm 2e$ , or a total variation of  $4e$ . Measured along the ecliptic, the actual sun can get  $2e$  radians ahead or behind the mean sun. With a mean earth-sun distance of 150 million km (or 150 gigameters), the actual sun distance along the ecliptic varies by  $\pm 5$  million km (for  $e = 0.016711$ ).

For comparison, the variation in radial distance ( $r/a - 1$ ) is listed in column p. This is calculated from

$$r = p/(1 + e \cos v)$$

$$r/a - 1 = (1 - e^2)/(1 + e \cos v) - 1$$

where  $r$  is the earth-sun distance,  $p = a(1 - e^2)$  is the parameter,  $e$  the eccentricity, and  $v$  the true anomaly. Note that this varies sinusoidally by  $\pm e$  around the mean, or  $\pm 2.5$  million km.

The variation along the orbit of the actual sun around the mean sun is twice the radial variation. This factor of two is independent of the eccentricity of the orbit. The actual sun moves in an ellipse around the mean sun, with the major axis equal to twice the minor axis.

I hope this helps in understanding the factors of  $e$  and  $2e$ .

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
ANALEMMA				GDGordon				
d	Date	L mean	M	L sun	alph	decl	GHA	4*long
(day)		(deg)	(deg)	(deg)	(deg)	(deg)	(deg)	(deg)(min)
-2189	03-Jan	282.88	0.049	282.88	-76.01	-22.815	282.88	4.464
-2179	13-Jan	292.73	9.905	293.07	-65.10	-21.467	292.73	8.671
-2169	23-Jan	302.59	19.761	303.25	-54.45	-19.430	302.59	11.837
-2159	02-Feb	312.45	29.617	313.41	-44.12	-16.796	312.45	13.718
-2149	12-Feb	322.30	39.473	323.54	-34.13	-13.673	322.30	14.251
-2139	22-Feb	332.16	49.329	333.63	-24.46	-10.175	332.16	13.534
-2129	04-Mar	342.02	59.185	343.68	-15.04	-6.418	342.02	11.781
-2119	14-Mar	351.87	69.041	353.67	-5.81	-2.512	351.87	9.278
-2109	24-Mar	1.73	78.897	3.62	3.32	1.438	1.73	6.355
-2099	03-Apr	11.59	88.753	13.50	12.42	5.329	11.59	3.348
-2089	13-Apr	21.44	98.609	23.33	21.59	9.063	21.44	0.584
-2079	23-Apr	31.30	108.465	33.10	30.89	12.547	31.30	-1.650
-2069	03-May	41.16	118.321	42.82	40.38	15.687	41.16	-3.121
-2059	13-May	51.01	128.177	52.50	50.09	18.395	51.01	-3.686
-2049	23-May	60.87	138.033	62.13	60.04	20.587	60.87	-3.309
-2039	02-Jun	70.72	147.889	71.72	70.20	22.192	70.73	-2.084
-2029	12-Jun	80.58	157.745	81.29	80.52	23.153	80.58	-0.234
-2019	22-Jun	90.44	167.601	90.84	90.92	23.436	90.44	1.912
-2009	02-Jul	100.29	177.457	100.38	101.29	23.033	100.29	3.973
-1999	12-Jul	110.15	187.313	109.91	111.54	21.962	110.15	5.574
-1989	22-Jul	120.01	197.169	119.45	121.61	20.265	120.01	6.416
-1979	01-Aug	129.86	207.025	129.01	131.44	18.004	129.86	6.312
-1969	11-Aug	139.72	216.881	138.59	141.02	15.254	139.72	5.205
-1959	21-Aug	149.58	226.737	148.20	150.37	12.099	149.58	3.164
-1949	31-Aug	159.43	236.593	157.85	159.52	8.624	159.43	0.358
-1939	10-Sep	169.29	246.449	167.55	168.55	4.920	169.29	-2.968
-1929	20-Sep	179.15	256.305	177.29	177.52	1.076	179.15	-6.515
-1919	30-Sep	189.00	266.161	187.09	-173.49	-2.816	189.00	-9.954
-1909	10-Oct	198.86	276.017	196.95	-164.38	-6.660	198.86	-12.946
-1899	20-Oct	208.72	285.873	206.86	-155.07	-10.354	208.72	-15.162
-1889	30-Oct	218.57	295.729	216.83	-145.51	-13.795	218.57	-16.310
-1879	09-Nov	228.43	305.585	226.85	-135.61	-16.871	228.43	-16.170
-1869	19-Nov	238.29	315.441	236.92	-125.37	-19.469	238.29	-14.632
-1859	29-Nov	248.14	325.297	247.03	-114.79	-21.484	248.14	-11.740
-1849	09-Dec	258.00	335.153	257.18	-103.93	-22.821	258.00	-7.721
-1839	19-Dec	267.85	345.009	267.35	-92.89	-23.412	267.85	-2.975
-1829	29-Dec	277.71	354.865	277.54	-81.80	-23.225	277.71	1.974
-1824	03-Jan	282.64	359.793	282.63	-76.27	-22.839	282.64	4.350

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A:A7: -2189
A:B7: (D2) [W7] 36526+A7
A:C7: (F2) [W8] @MOD(280.46+0.9856474*A7,360)+360
A:D7: (F3) [W8] @MOD(357.528+0.9856003*A7,360)+360
A:E7: (F2) [W8] +C7+1.915*@SIN(D7*@PI/180)+0.02*@SIN(2*D7*@PI/180)
A:F7: (F2) @ATAN2(@COS(@PI*E7/180),@COS(@PI*23.439/180))*@SIN(@PI*E7/180))*(180/PI)
A:G7: (F3) [W8] (180/@PI)*@ATAN(@TAN(@PI*23.439/180))*@SIN(@PI*F7/180)
A:H7: (F2) [W7] @MOD(100.4602346+0.985647348*(A7-0.5)+15.041068*12,360)+360
A:I7: (F3) [W8] @IF(F7-H7<-180,F7-H7+360,F7-H7)*4

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j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q
True Anomaly v (rad)	Eccentric Anomaly E (rad)	Mean Anomaly M (rad)	ANALEMMA. v - E (rad)	ECC = 0.016711 E - M (rad)	v - M (rad)	r/a - 1	GDGordon M (deg)
0.0009	0.0009	0.0009	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	-0.0167	0.049
0.1787	0.1758	0.1729	0.0029	0.0029	0.0059	-0.0165	9.905
0.3564	0.3506	0.3449	0.0058	0.0057	0.0115	-0.0157	19.761
0.5337	0.5253	0.5169	0.0084	0.0084	0.0168	-0.0145	29.617
0.7105	0.6997	0.6889	0.0108	0.0108	0.0216	-0.0128	39.473
0.8866	0.8738	0.8610	0.0129	0.0128	0.0257	-0.0107	49.329
1.0620	1.0474	1.0330	0.0145	0.0145	0.0290	-0.0084	59.185
1.2364	1.2207	1.2050	0.0157	0.0157	0.0314	-0.0057	69.041
1.4099	1.3935	1.3770	0.0165	0.0164	0.0329	-0.0029	78.897
1.5825	1.5657	1.5490	0.0167	0.0167	0.0334	-0.0001	88.753
1.7540	1.7375	1.7211	0.0165	0.0165	0.0329	0.0028	98.609
1.9246	1.9088	1.8931	0.0157	0.0158	0.0315	0.0055	108.465
2.0942	2.0797	2.0651	0.0145	0.0146	0.0291	0.0081	118.321
2.2630	2.2501	2.2371	0.0129	0.0130	0.0259	0.0105	128.177
2.4311	2.4202	2.4091	0.0110	0.0110	0.0220	0.0125	138.033
2.5986	2.5899	2.5811	0.0087	0.0088	0.0175	0.0142	147.889
2.7656	2.7594	2.7532	0.0062	0.0062	0.0124	0.0155	157.745
2.9322	2.9287	2.9252	0.0035	0.0035	0.0070	0.0163	167.601
3.0987	3.0979	3.0972	0.0007	0.0007	0.0015	0.0167	177.457
-3.0181	-3.0160	-3.0140	-0.0021	-0.0021	-0.0042	0.0166	187.313
-2.8516	-2.8468	-2.8419	-0.0048	-0.0049	-0.0097	0.0160	197.169
-2.6848	-2.6774	-2.6699	-0.0074	-0.0075	-0.0149	0.0149	207.025
-2.5176	-2.5078	-2.4979	-0.0098	-0.0099	-0.0197	0.0135	216.881
-2.3499	-2.3379	-2.3259	-0.0120	-0.0120	-0.0240	0.0116	226.737
-2.1814	-2.1677	-2.1539	-0.0138	-0.0138	-0.0276	0.0094	236.593
-2.0122	-1.9971	-1.9818	-0.0152	-0.0152	-0.0304	0.0069	246.449
-1.8421	-1.8260	-1.8098	-0.0161	-0.0162	-0.0323	0.0042	256.305
-1.6711	-1.6545	-1.6378	-0.0166	-0.0167	-0.0333	0.0014	266.161
-1.4991	-1.4824	-1.4658	-0.0167	-0.0166	-0.0333	-0.0015	276.017
-1.3261	-1.3099	-1.2938	-0.0162	-0.0161	-0.0323	-0.0043	285.873
-1.1521	-1.1369	-1.1217	-0.0152	-0.0152	-0.0304	-0.0070	295.729
-0.9772	-0.9634	-0.9497	-0.0138	-0.0137	-0.0275	-0.0095	305.585
-0.8015	-0.7896	-0.7777	-0.0119	-0.0119	-0.0238	-0.0118	315.441
-0.6250	-0.6153	-0.6057	-0.0097	-0.0096	-0.0194	-0.0136	325.297
-0.4480	-0.4408	-0.4337	-0.0072	-0.0071	-0.0143	-0.0151	335.153
-0.2705	-0.2660	-0.2616	-0.0044	-0.0044	-0.0088	-0.0161	345.009
-0.0927	-0.0911	-0.0896	-0.0015	-0.0015	-0.0031	-0.0166	354.865
-0.0037	-0.0037	-0.0036	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0167	359.793

A:J7: (F4) (@IF(D7<180,D7,D7-360)+E7-C7)\*@PI/180  
A:K7: (F4) @ATAN2(@COS(J7)+\$O\$2,@SQRT(1-\$O\$2^2))\*@SIN(J7))  
A:L7: (F4) +K7-\$O\$2\*@SIN(K7)  
A:M7: (F4) +J7-K7  
A:N7: (F4) +K7-L7  
A:O7: (F4) +J7-L7  
A:P7: (F4) (1-\$O\$2^2)/(1+\$O\$2\*@COS(J7))-1  
A:Q7: (F3) @IF(L7>0,L7,L7+2\*@PI)\*180/@PI

COMMENTS (Part II) on  
The Cause of Gravity

Gary D. Gordon

April 6, 1994

Here are some comments on your responses, dated March 29 and March 31.

I was interested in your data on the accuracy of the Cavendish experiment. The results you quote show that the experiment is less accurate than what I had guessed. While you note a change, you didn't quote any temperature measurements. I would think a more quantitative measurement could be made by changing the room temperature and the entire apparatus. It should be possible to detect a 10% change due to a  $\Delta T = 7^\circ\text{C}$ , or at least a 20% change due to a  $\Delta T = 15^\circ\text{C}$ .

I think you are close to understanding the differences between the various calculations of the analemma. I hope the enclosed calculations (pp. 2-5) will help.

You discussed the difference between the satellite analemma and the Earth's analemma. An analemma can be drawn for any body orbiting around the earth. This is simply the declination (or latitude of subsatellite point) plotted against the difference between the true anomaly (actual position) and the mean anomaly. This difference is projected on the equatorial plane. This variable is the longitudinal difference between the actual satellite position and the mean position.

The uniqueness of the Earth's anomaly is that we are calculating the position of the sun in an earth-centered coordinate system. That is, we assume the sun is going around the earth. This is a useful assumption for a number of calculations.

The uniqueness of the geostationary satellite is that there is a point on earth equivalent to a mean position. Because the orbit period is the same as the earth's rotational motion, we can use the earth's surface to plot the analemma. Thus the trace of the subsatellite point on the earth is an analemma.

If the earth rotated once a year, then the sun would trace the earth's analemma on the earth. By plotting the position of the sub-solar point at 12:00 GMT every day, I slowed the earth's rotation as if I were illuminating it with a flash once a day. If we launched a satellite with an orbit period of one sidereal day, an inclination of  $23.5^\circ$ , and an eccentricity of 0.016711, the subsatellite point would trace a curve on the earth's surface identical to the earth's analemma.