NEW ORBITS

ADS RA 2000 DEC	Name n (deg)	P (yr) a (")	T i (deg)	e w (deg)	W(2000) Last ob.	2007 2008	Author
450	A 111 AB	21.38	1947.17	0.020	104.5	156.7 0.156	BRENDLEY
00321-0511	16.8382	0.172	150.0	18.7	1994.7083	139.5 0.161	& HARTKOPF
504	A 914	467.	1905.32	0.107	35.3	24.2 0.436	LING
00366+5609	0.7709	0.468	118.2	291.9	2005.034	23.8 0.435	
865	MLR 87	55.97	2020.45	0.513	139.7	29.0 0.240	BRENDLEY
01036+6341	6.4320	0.238	145.1	246.4	2003.9517	24.4 0.233	& MASON
1538	STF 186	165.72	1892.28	0.726	219.7	65.0 0.906	BRENDLEY
01559+0151	2.1723	0.986	72.4	40.2	2006.9180	65.6 0.888	& MASON
3032	A 469	124.87	1968.61	0.885	236.8	320.3 1.723	BRENDLEY
04093-0756	2.8830	2.435	65.5	277.0	1996.8984	321.4 1.736	& MASON
-	CHR 17	13.93	1995.87	0.600	125.3	290.7 0.168	CVETKOVIC
04340+1510	25.8455	0.150	45.4	297.9	2001.7531	304.7 0.135	
3389	A 1014	74.83	1969.67	0.465	111.9	10.2 0.349	BRENDLEY
04430+5712	4.8109	0.244	13.0	78.8	1999.8859	12.3 0.348	& HARTKOPF
-	BTZ 1Aa	18.75	1992.57	0.297	120.9	265.0 0.040	CVETKOVIC
06290+2013	19.1992	0.081	72.9	228.4	1997.1366	281.9 0.053	
5625	A 2681	208.33	1938.47	0.793	118.2	329.9 0.442	BRENDLEY
06575+0253	1.7280	0.273	119.4	339.1	1997.2000	329.6 0.445	& MASON
6796	HU 856	80.35	1949.90	0.589	185.5	299.7 0.231	BRENDLEY
08254+3723	4.4804	0.201	36.2	263.6	2004.2017	302.0 0.228	& HARTKOPF
7555	AC 5 AB	77.82	1957.65	0.736	194.7	53.1 0.585	BRENDLEY
09525-0806	4.6261	0.397	141.1	303.3	2006.3199	51.9 0.582	& HARTKOPF
7952	A 2373	100.26	1980.77	0.816	130.3	227.7 0.188	BRENDLEY
10520+1606	3.5907	0.172	135.5	101.6	1993.9260	226.5 0.191	& HARTKOPF
8231	STF1555 AB	916.	2024.45	0.664	150.0	148.8 0.699	DOCOBO
11363+2747	0.3930	1.935	85.7	26.8	2005.357	149.0 0.698	& LING
9019	STF1781	261.6	1975.93	0.638	0.5	187.3 0.867	ALZNER
13461+0507	1.3762	0.998	42.1	68.9	2006.32	188.3 0.882	
9343	STF1865	122.98	1898.50	0.985	5.9	296.2 0.609	ALZNER
14411+1344	2.9273	0.892	125.0	249.4	2007.39	295.6 0.584	
9343	STF1865	125.24	1898.58	0.980	176.5	296.9 0.65	SCARDIA
14411+1344	2.8745	0.825	126.0	61.8	2006.448	296.3 0.63	et al. (*)
9909	STF1998 AB	45.90	1997.22	0.744	25.3	347.3 0.793	DOCOBO
16044-1122	7.8431	0.654	34.5	163.8	2006.427	350.0 0.841	& LING
-	LAB 4	14.65	1975.44	0.029	194.6	20.3 0.099	BRENDLEY
16341+4226	24.5734	0.113	101.2	94.3	1995.4421	15.1 0.112	& HARTKOPF
10188	D 15	120.05	1895.02	0.418	145.6	52.9 0.312	ALZNER
16439+4329	2.9988	0.975	118.2	149.7	2007.54	40.2 0.311	
10340	A 1146	133.81	2024.05	0.055	117.6	110.8 0.346	BRENDLEY
17036+6948	2.6906	0.411	102.0	80.3	2004.2017	110.0 0.336	& MASON
10916	BU 1299 AB	227.7	1957.09	0.712	170.0	93.3 0.288	DOCOBO
17575+1058	1.5809	0.410	58.2	126.0	1999.7251	350.0 0.841	& LING
14238	BU 64 AB	2559.04	1951.41	0.805	159.3	352.5 0.658	BRENDLEY
20450+1244	0.1407	2.677	75.1	138.6	2001.7311	352.8 0.657	& HARTKOPF
-	KUI 103	29.47	2007.41	0.759	164.3	211.8 0.169	DOCOBO
21000+4004	12.2158	0.614	19.5	99.2	1999.690	330.0 0.197	& LING
16131	HO 479	180.56	2010.00	0.506	95.5	60.8 0.258	BRENDLEY
22385+0218	1.9938	0.724	119.5	75.4	1998.6630	53.4 0.233	& MASON
16365	BU 178	96.48	1933.83	0.643	142.9	322.8 0.632	BRENDLEY
22552-0459	3.7313	0.481	85.7	328.3	2001.8728	323.0 0.618	& MASON
16373	HU 987	396.08	1917.63	0.415	247.2	80.1 1.060	BRENDLEY
22557+1547	0.9089	1.034	119.4	28.1	2006.5890	79.7 1.069	& HARTKOPF
16428	STT 483	249.1	2021.76	0.391	23.4	355.9 0.468	ALZNER
22592+1144	1.4452	0.710	25.6	19.3	2006.770	358.7 0.464	

(*) SCARDIA, PRIEUR, PANSECCHI & ARGYLE

****

PIERRE BACCHUS (1923-2007)
An astronomer's life mainly devoted to double star astronomy

Pierre BACCHUS was born the 10th of July 1923 at M'ezi`eres (Ardennes), presently called Charleville-M'ezi`eres in France near the Belgian border. He very soon showed a great

interest for astronomy. During his school year 1941-1942, while studying at Lyc'ee Saint-Louis in Paris, one evening with two other students, he used a small astronomical telescope of his own to observe the satellites of Jupiter in a gymnasium of the lyc'ee.

At the entrance examinations of both the Ecole Normale Sup'erieure and Ecole Polytechnique, he was rated first for the written assignments and was admitted with a prominent rank in both schools.

He easily cleared his examinations step by step and at the summer 1946, Bacchus brilliantly passed the "agr'egation de physique". The subject of his thesis on the "sodium" of the nocturnal and crepuscular skies had been proposed by Alfred KASTLER. After a short stay in southern France, he went to astrometry on the advice of Andr'e DANJON and moved to the Observatoire de Strasbourg. There, he conceived very artful ocular equipment which, based on rotating spirals, permitted to measure simultaneously the angular separation and the position angle of a binary star. Unfortunately, the atmospheric turbulence blurs the images, whereas the considered equipment requires a perfect aiming on the star.

BACCHUS concluded that his instrument was thus not usable on the Earth surface. Around 1964, with Pierre LACROUTE, he had the idea to go to space for doing astrometry with a very high precision. The critical problem then became that of the quality of the catalogues. Moreover, the catalogues of the northern and southern hemispheres do not join up well because they were independently realized.

This idea gave rise to the conception of the Hipparcos satellite, essentially due to P. LACROUTE, but the ideas of P. BACCHUS were underlying. He was actively involved in the optical design of the satellite; his proposal to transfer of the classical corrections of the Schmidt lens to the complex mirror remains the most original one.

Concerning the visual double stars, he studied their observability conditions by Hipparcos and, from 1982 to 1990, he actively participated to the working group having in charge the double star data needed for the preparation of the Hipparcos Input Catalogue. At the end of the year 1985, he therefore started a verification project of the relative positions of binaries that might be observed by the satellite. He identified and measured systems on Schmidt photographic plates taken at the European Southern Observatory (ESO) and of which a copy was available at the Royal Observatory (Belgium) where he weekly went to collaborate with the team J. Dommanget/O. Nys. These data were needed for the Catalogue of the Components of Double and Multiple stars (CCDM) of J. Dommanget, coordinator of the double star working group, and his collaborator O. Nys.

In 1961, Bacchus left Strasbourg for Lille where he was successor to Vladimir Kourganoff as professor of astronomy at the University and head of the laboratory of astronomy until his retirement in 1986.

A computer expert impassionate for the computer languages, in particular the Algol language, he was also creator and director of the "Laboratoire de calcul et d'informatique fondamentale de l'Universit'e de Lille".

In 1973, the Conseil International de la Langue Fran,caise launched the project of a "Vocabulaire d'Astronomie". A working group of European astronomers was created and Pierre BACCHUS was chosen for conducting its work. He supervised and realized the manuscript. Therefore he devised and implemented software which enabled to justify the text on the right side.

Pierre Bacchus was very much involved in the history of astronomy and was a member of the "Commission des cadrans solaires" of SAF (Soci'et'e Astronomique de France) some years after its foundation, Pierre Bacchus was one of the king-bolts of a team who published a voluminous work on the mottos of sundials.

At the meeting of the Commission des Etoiles Doubles of the SAF at Lille in august 1984, Fr'ed'eric Honnart invited Pierre Bacchus to become a member of this commission as a scientific councilor.

He proposed to its members to contribute to his verification project of 1985 of relative positions of the components of double stars and in 1986 and 1987, advised Pierre Durand in preparing various missions for this purpose at the observatories of Haute-Provence, Nice and Pic du Midi. Pierre Bacchus helped to the development of the double image micrometer conceived by Bernard Lyot, by investigating the birefringence of the spar plate, which is its fundamental optical component.

He actively participated to the meetings of the Commission which profited by his experience as a physicist, an astronomer and a mathematician. In particular, for modeling the spreading of the stellar images in the illumination map of the field of a visual double star, he suggested, to replace an empirical formula due to Otto Franz by a more representative and simpler one.

Till just before his death on May 28th, Pierre Bacchus actively participated to the working group on "radial velocities", raised up by Jean Dommanget a few years ago, with the aim to investigate the space orientation of the orbital planes of the orbital binaries, by the removal of the ambiguity on the direction of their ascending nodes. In the winter 2006-2007, he developed software in C-language of the type "data base steering" for collecting the useful observations to the program "radial velocities".

When he participated to seminaries or meetings, his comments were always given with ease, acumen, an acute sense of the progression in his statements, generally without notes. His friend's amateur astronomers and his students unanimously recognize his great teaching qualities.

The Commission des Etoiles Doubles has lost a kind and particularly shrewd counsellor, who brought very much during more than two decennaries, more particularly by the relevance of his remarks and commentaries on numerous talks given during the meetings.

One shall keep for a long time the memory of Pierre Bacchus, a man good and generous, endowed by a prodigious capacity of assimilation and of inventing, charming in his singularity.

Free translation by J. Dommanget and E. Souli'e of the paper "Hommage `a Pierre BACCCHUS" written by Jean Dommanget, Pierre Durand, Jean-Claude Pecker, Denis Savoie and Edgar Souli'e. (l'Astronomie, vol.121, p 466, 2007).

****

NOTE

Dr. Paul Couteau, Honorary Astronomer of the Observatoire de la C^ote d'Azur (Nice site) and past President of the IAU Commission 26 (1967- 1970), has received the "Prix Janssen 2007". This is the award of highest distinction granted by the Scientific Committee of the Soci'et'e Astronomique de France (SAF) honoring an astronomical career of exception.

The Janssen Prize 2007 was handed to Paul Couteau by Audouin Dollfus, Honorary Astronomer at the Observatoire de Paris (Meudon site), a specialist of planetary surfaces and the discoverer of Saturn's satellite Janus. The ceremony was held at the Observatoire Camille Flammarion located at Juvisy-su-Orge (Essonne, France) on Saturday 02 June 2007

Edgar Souli'e
President of SAF Double Stars Commission

****

The deadline for contributions to Information Circular No. 164 is:

February 15th 2008

J. A. Docobo (oadoco@usc.es)
J. F. Ling (oafana@usc.es)
Tel: +34 981592747
Fax: +34 981597054

Observatorio Astronomico "R. M. Aller"
P. O. Box 197
Universidade de Santiago de Compostela
SPAIN
http://www.usc.es/astro

ISSN: 1024-7769