

# ΠΡΑΚΤΙΚΑ ΤΗΣ ΑΚΑΔΗΜΙΑΣ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

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ΣΥΝΕΔΡΙΑ ΤΗΣ 4ΗΣ ΙΟΥΝΙΟΥ 1964

ΠΡΟΕΔΡΙΑ ΙΩΑΝΝ. ΞΑΝΘΑΚΗ

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ΠΡΑΞΕΙΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΠΟΦΑΣΕΙΣ ΤΗΣ ΑΚΑΔΗΜΙΑΣ

ΕΚΛΟΓΗ ΞΕΝΩΝ ΕΤΑΙΡΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΑΝΤΕΠΙΣΤΕΛΛΟΝΤΩΝ ΜΕΛΩΝ

Ὁ Πρόεδρος ἀνακοινοῖ τὴν δημοσίευσιν εἰς τὴν Ἐφημερίδα τῆς Κυβερνήσεως τοῦ Βασ. Δ/τος ἐκλογῆς α) ξένων ἐταίρων τῶν κ. κ. **H. Stille, Oth. Kühn, P. Montel.** β) ἀντεπιστελλόντων μελῶν τῶν κ. κ. **Octave Merlier, Br. Lavagnini, Arm. Delatte, P. von der Mühl, B. Schweitzer.**

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ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΕΙΣ ΜΕΛΩΝ

ΑΣΤΡΟΝΟΜΙΑ.— **A Study of the Sunspot magnetic field Strengths,**  
*by John Xanthakis\**. (Research and Computing Center, Academy of Athens).

It is well known, that the total sunspot magnetic field strengths vary during each sunspot cycle in the same general way, as the other characteristics of solar activity (relative sunspot numbers, areas of the sunspots, faculae etc.). It is accepted today, that the variation of the total sunspot magnetic field strengths follows in general the variation of the areas of the whole spots or the umbrae. On the other hand, it has been shown already, that the main part of the variation of the annual values of most of the characteristics of solar activity can be satisfactorily expressed as function of the corresponding time of rise expressed in solar rotations, in months or in years (Xanthakis

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\* ΙΩ. ΞΑΝΘΑΚΗ, Ἐναλυτικὴ ἔκφρασις τῆς μεγίστης ἐντάσεως τοῦ μαγνητικοῦ πεδίου τῶν ἠλιακῶν κηλίδων.

1962). These results led us to investigate, whether similar relations between the total sunspot magnetic field strengths and the time of rise of the corresponding sunspot cycle could be found.

The simplest approach would be to examine to this purpose the daily values of the quantity  $\Sigma h$ , where  $h$  is the strength of the magnetic field of each sunspot visible on the solar disc during the corresponding day. In this way, the same sunspots contributing to the determination of the relative sunspot number  $R$  as well as of the total sunspot area  $A$ , would also contribute to the determination of the corresponding value of the quantity  $\Sigma h$ .

This approach, however, cannot be followed at present, as no long series of observations of the values of  $h$  is yet available. On the other hand, exists already the long series of the values of  $H$  i.e. the maximum values of the magnetic field strengths observed for each group of sunspots during each passage of it over the visible solar disc, published by the Mount Wilson Observatory. Contrary to  $\Sigma h$ , the values of  $\Sigma H$  do not correspond precisely to the corresponding values of  $R$  or  $A$ , as in the determination of the values of  $R$  and  $A$  contribute every isolated sunspot or group of sunspots during all days of its visibility on the solar disc, while for the determination of  $\Sigma H$  each group of sunspots contributes only once during the time interval of each passage of it over the visible solar hemisphere. Nevertheless, and because of the fact, that the quantity  $\Sigma H$  could also be finally proven to have an important physical significance, it seemed worthwhile to examine whether  $\Sigma H$  too, which in the following will be designated as «the sum of the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups observed during a certain interval of time», could be correlated to the corresponding value of the time of rise.

To this purpose, let us call  $\Sigma H_N$ ,  $\Sigma H_S$ , and  $\Sigma H$  the sums of the values of  $H$  corresponding to the sunspot groups observed each year on the northern and the southern solar hemisphere as well as on the entire solar disc respectively, expressed in units of 100 gauss, i.e.  $\Sigma H = \Sigma H_N + \Sigma H_S$ . The numerical values of  $\Sigma H_N$ ,  $\Sigma H_S$  and  $\Sigma H$ , which have been kindly communicated to the author by Miss Barbara Bell of the Harvard College Observatory, are given in the second, third and fourth column of Table I. The values given in parentheses correspond to the sunspots belonging to a new sunspot cycle. The fifth column of Table I gives the current number  $N$  of the successive sunspot cycles and the sixth, seventh and eighth columns give respectively

the times of rise  $T_N$ ,  $T_S$ , and  $T$  corresponding to the northern and southern solar hemisphere and the entire solar disc. The maxima of the values of  $\Sigma H_N$ ,  $\Sigma H_S$  and  $\Sigma H$  do not always coincide with the maxima of the corresponding values of the sunspot areas. In cycle No 19, for example, the maximum of  $\Sigma H$  took place during the year 1958, while the maximum of the corresponding value for the sunspot areas occurred one year earlier (1957). For this reason the times of rise  $T_N$ ,  $T_S$  and  $T$  corresponding to the values of  $\Sigma H_N$ ,  $\Sigma H_S$  and  $\Sigma H$  do not always coincide with the values of the corresponding quantities for the sunspot areas. As we are interested in making comparisons between the values of  $\Sigma H_N$ ,  $\Sigma H_S$  and  $\Sigma H$  and the corresponding values of the sunspot areas, however, we will use in the case of the quantities  $\Sigma H_N$ ,  $\Sigma H_S$  and  $\Sigma H$  too the values  $T_N$ ,  $T_S$  and  $T$  of the time of rise referred to the sunspot areas, which are given in the sixth, seventh and eighth column of Table I.

The data given in Table I show, that the values  $(\Sigma H_m)_N$ ,  $(\Sigma H_m)_S$  and  $(\Sigma H_m)$  of  $\Sigma H_N$ ,  $\Sigma H_S$  and  $\Sigma H$  corresponding to the years 1917, 1928, 1937, 1947 and 1957 during which the maxima of the sunspot areas occurred, can be satisfactorily expressed as functions of the corresponding times of rise  $T_N$ ,  $T_S$  or  $T$  expressed in years with the help of the relations:

$$(1) \quad (\Sigma H_m)_N = a \{ b(b-1) + b(T_0 - T_N) \} - b T_0 (T_0 - T_N)^2 \sin N \frac{2\pi}{8}$$

$$(2) \quad (\Sigma H_m)_S = a \{ b(b-1) + b(T_0 - T_S) \}$$

$$(3) \quad (\Sigma H_m) = a \{ a + b(T_0 - T) \} - 10 a \sin N \frac{2\pi}{4}$$

where  $N=1,2,3... 18,19$  the current number of the successive sunspot cycles and

$$a = 70, b = 6 \text{ and } T_0 = 7.$$

$$\text{or } T_0 = 7, b = (T_0 - 1), a = 10 T_0$$

Relations (1), (2) and (3), which are given with due caution, because they are based on a limited number of cycles (cycles No 15-19), show, that the values of the annual sums  $\Sigma H$  corresponding to the years of the maximum sunspot areas vary from cycle to cycle of solar activity in a different way for the northern and the southern solar hemisphere and the entire solar disc. From relation (2) we see, in fact, that for the southern solar hemisphere the relation between the values of  $(\Sigma H_m)_S$  and the corresponding time of rise  $T_S$  is linear. For the northern solar hemisphere on the contrary a periodic term with a period equal to 8 solar cycles is added, the amplitude of which depends on the time of rise  $T_N$ . Finally, for the entire solar disc we have

TABLE I

Annual sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups observed on the northern and the southern solar hemisphere and the entire solar disc during the years 1917 - 1958 (in units of 100 gauss). Mount Wilson observations.

(1) Year	(2) Northern ( $\Sigma H$ ) <sub>N</sub>	(3) Southern ( $\Sigma H$ ) <sub>S</sub>	(4) Total ( $\Sigma H$ )	(5) N	(6) T <sub>N</sub>	(7) T <sub>S</sub>	(8) Time of rise in years T
1917	3650	3116	6766	15	3.9	4.1	4.2
18	3034	2875	5909	(1913-1923)			
19	2025	2630	4655				
20	1317	1298	2615				
21	1000	833	1833				
22	577	(5) 344	921	(5)			
23	156	(69) 109	265	(172)			
24	115	(819) 235	350	(819)			
25	1950	1325	3275				
26	2024	2070	4094				
27	1695	2666	4361				
28	2401	2507	4908				
29	2382	2320	4702	16	6.3	5.3	6.8
30	1536	1166	2702	(1924-1933)			
31	939	498	1437				
32	531	370	901				
33	365	(9) 23	388	(13)			
34	151	(210) 18	169	(594)			
35	38	(1080) 1498	(38) 2576				
36	1728	2239	3967				
37	3190	2485	5675	17	3.4	6.0	3.6
38	2371	2639	5010	(1934-1944)			
39	2168	2491	4659				
40	1590	2109	3699				
41	1320	998	2318				
42	995	863	1858				
43	726	216	942	(48)			
44	52	(206) 76	(318) 524	(128)			
45	620	45	(1294) 1914	(45)			
46	2191	2160	4351				
47	2997	3487	6484	18	3.2	3.3	3.2
48	3048	3149	6197	(1945-1954)			
49	3608	2816	6424				
50	2563	1754	4317				
51	1632	1303	2935				
52	801	889	1690				
53	524	280	804				
54	38	(139) 48	(133) 272	(86)			
55	1324	4	(772) 2096	(4)			
56	3373	2	(2998) 6371	(2)			
57	3343	3857	7200	19	3.3	3.3	3.3
58	4068	3666	7714	(1955-			

again a periodic term with a period equal to 4 sunspot cycles, the amplitude of which is now constant and equal to  $10a = 700$  units. From relations (1), (2) and (3) we also see, that the maxima of the quantities  $\Sigma H_N$ ,  $\Sigma H_S$  and  $\Sigma H$  vary from cycle to cycle of solar activity in a different way, than the maxima of the sunspot areas, which are related to the time of rise with second degree relations (Xanthakis, 1962).

Table II gives the observed values of  $(\Sigma H_m)_N$ ,  $(\Sigma H_m)_S$  and  $(\Sigma H_m)$  as well as the values of these quantities computed with the help of relations (1), (2) and (3).

TABLE II

Cycle No	Year of maximum	$(\Sigma H_m)_N$			$(\Sigma H_m)_S$			$(\Sigma H_m)$		
		Obs.	Comp.	O-C	Obs.	Comp.	O-C	Obs.	Comp.	O-C
15	1917	3650	3688	- 38	3116	3318	-202	6766	6776	-10
16	1928	2401	2396	+ 5	2666	2814	-148	4908	4984	-76
17	1937	3190	3227	- 37	2639	2520	+119	5675	5628	+47
18	1947	2997	3110	-113	3487	3654	-167	6484	6496	-12
19	1957	3343	3206	+137	3857	3654	+203	7200	7154	+46

*The annual values of the sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths.*

The main part of the variation of the annual values of the sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths within each sunspot cycle can be satisfactorily expressed, as in the case of the sunspot areas, as a function of the corresponding time of rise with the help of the following relations:

$$(4) \quad \Sigma H_N \approx (\Sigma H_m)_N \cos^2 k \frac{\pi}{2\Omega_{1,2}}$$

$$(5) \quad \Sigma H_S \approx (\Sigma H_m)_S \cos^2 k \frac{\pi}{2\Omega_{1,2}}$$

$$(6) \quad \Sigma H \approx (\Sigma H_m) \cos^2 k \frac{\pi}{2\Omega_{1,2}}$$

where  $k=0$  for the year of maximum solar activity and  $k=1, 2, 3, \dots$  for the first, second, third, ... year before or after the year of maximum. The parameter  $\Omega_{1,2}$  is related to the time of rise  $T$  with the relation  $\Omega_1=T$  for the years preceding the sunspot maximum and  $\Omega_2=11-T$  for the years following the maximum.

A study of the differences between the observed values of  $\Sigma H_N$ ,  $\Sigma H_S$  and  $\Sigma H$  and the values of these quantities computed with the help of the relations (4), (5) and (6) shows, on the other hand, that these differences present, as in the case of other characteristics of solar activity studied so far (relative sunspot numbers, numbers of sunspot groups and areas of the sunspots and the faculae), a periodic variation with semi-periods equal to 2, 3, 6 and 8 years. Moreover the amplitudes of these periodic terms, which will be represented by  $G_{1,2}^N$ ,  $G_{1,2}^S$  and  $G_{1,2}$  for the northern and the southern solar hemisphere and the entire solar disc respectively, change from cycle to cycle of solar activity also in a periodic way. If we represent by  $G_1$ ,  $G_2$  the values of  $G_{1,2}$  corresponding to the ascending and the descending branch of solar activity respectively, then the values of these quantities for the cycles with even or odd current number are given respectively by the following relations:

a) Cycles with even current number N

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_1^N &= -4f a_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{2} - 2f b_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{4} & G_2^N &= 4f b_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{6} \\
 (7) \quad G_1^S &= -4f b_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{2} & G_2^S &= -10f a_2 \sin k \frac{\pi}{8} \\
 G_1 &= -4f b_3 \sin k \frac{\pi}{2} & G_2 &= 2fa_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{2} + 4fb_1 \sin (k-1) \frac{\pi}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

b) Cycles with odd current number N

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_1^N &= 6f B \sin k \frac{\pi}{3} & G_2^N &= -6fa_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{4} \\
 (8) \quad G_1^S &= 2f a_2 \sin k \frac{\pi}{4} & G_2^S &= 4f b_0 \sin k \frac{\pi}{6} \\
 G_1 &= 4f b_0 \cos k \pi & G_2 &= 8f b_2 \sin k \frac{\pi}{8}
 \end{aligned}$$

where,

$$f = ab = 420$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_1 &= \cos N \frac{2\pi}{8} & b_0 &= \sin N \frac{2\pi}{4} & b_2 &= \sin (N-1) \frac{2\pi}{8} \\
 (9) \quad a_2 &= \cos (N-1/2) \frac{2\pi}{8} & b_1 &= \sin N \frac{2\pi}{8} & b_3 &= \sin (N+1/2) \frac{2\pi}{8} \\
 B &= \sin^2 (N-1) \frac{2\pi}{8} - \sin (N+1) \frac{2\pi}{8}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the annual values of the sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups observed during the years 1917-1958, for which observational data are available, can be satisfactorily expressed as functions of the corresponding time of rise ( $T_N$ ,  $T_S$  or  $T$ ) with the help of the relations:

$$(10) \quad \begin{aligned} \Sigma H_N &= \left\{ (\Sigma H_m)_N + G_{1,2}^N \right\} \cos^2 k \frac{\pi}{2\Omega_{1,2}^N} \\ \Sigma H_S &= \left\{ (\Sigma H_m)_S + G_{1,2}^S \right\} \cos^2 k \frac{\pi}{2\Omega_{1,2}^S} \\ \Sigma H &= \left\{ (\Sigma H_m) + G_{1,2} \right\} \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{2\Omega_{1,2}} \end{aligned}$$

In Fig. 1 the continuous lines represent the observed values of the annual sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups observed during the years 1917-1958 (a) on the northern (above) and the southern (below) solar hemisphere and (b) on the entire solar disc, and the dashed lines the values of these quantities computed with the help of the relations (10). As the values of the time of rise  $T_N$ ,  $T_S$  and  $T$  corresponding to the sunspot areas are known also for the cycles No 12-14, for which no observational data concerning the maximum magnetic field strengths are available, we have computed for these cycles too, as well as for the remaining part of the current cycle (1958-1964) the annual values of the sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths corresponding to the northern and the southern solar hemisphere and the entire solar disc with the help of the relations (10) and the values found are given in Fig. 1 by dashed lines. The precision of the analytical expression given by relations (10) computed with the help of the formula  $\left(1 - \frac{\sigma}{\Sigma H}\right) 100\%$  is respectively equal to

88% for the northern solar hemisphere  
 87% » » southern » »  
 92% » » entire solar disc.

In spite of these high values of the precision, one should consider relations (1)-(3) and (10) and especially their extrapolation in the past and future (descending branch of the cycle No 19) with due caution, because of the limited number of sunspot cycles used for their deduction. The limited observational data concerning the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups available today, do not allow us also to verify the cyclic

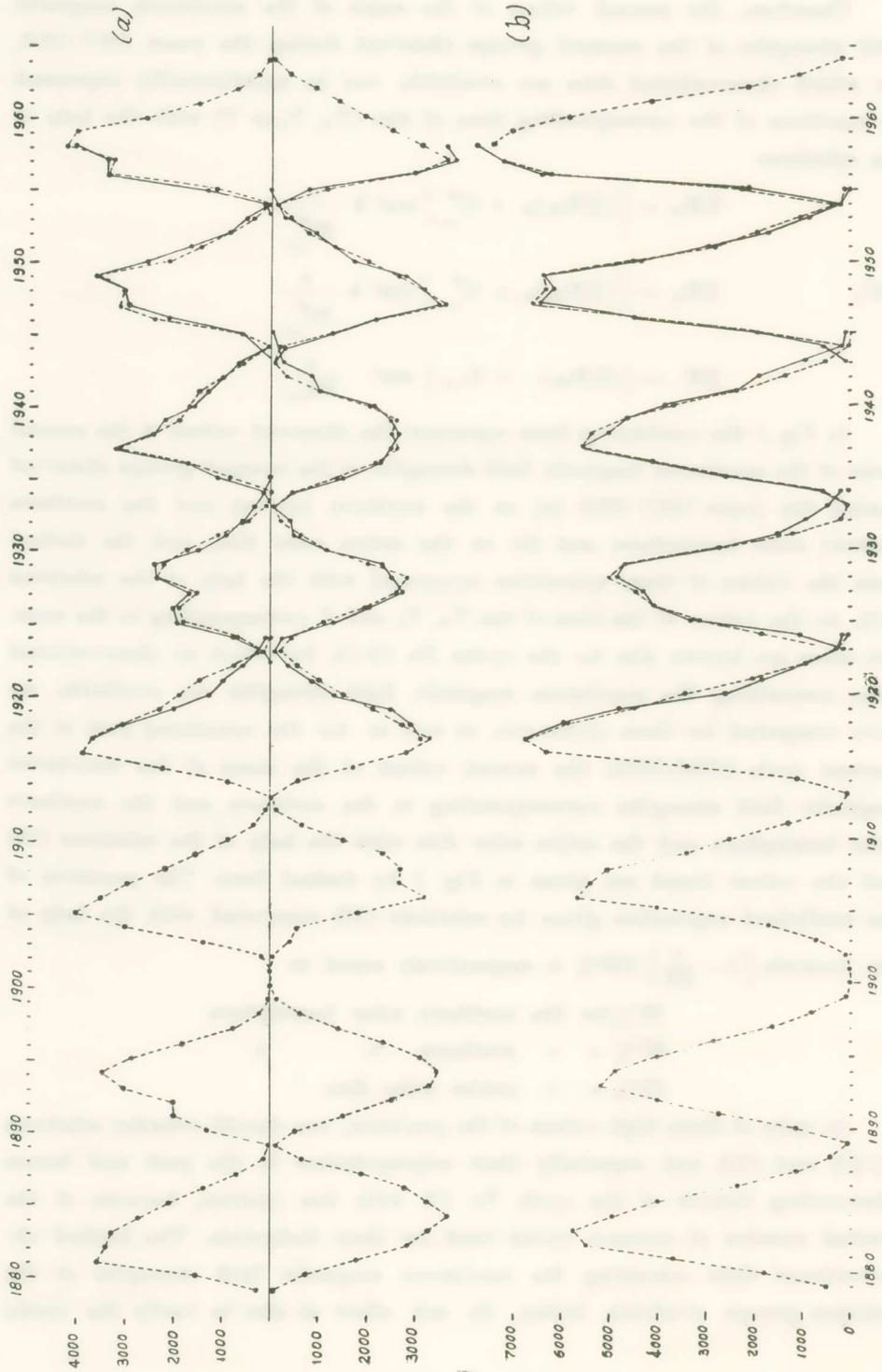


Fig. 1.

variation of the coefficients of the relations (7) and (8). There are, however, as we shall see in the following sections, some indirect indications about that.

*The asymmetry of the values of the sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths between the two solar hemispheres.*

Both relations (1) and (2), which give the values of the annual sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups observed during the years of maximum of the sunspot areas, as well as relations (4) and (5) which give the values of these quantities for the successive years of each sunspot cycle show, that the values of these sums vary in a different way on the two solar hemispheres. We thus have an asymmetry in the distribution of the sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths over the two solar hemispheres, which can be expressed with the help of the quantity:

$$Q_H = \frac{\Sigma H_N - \Sigma H_S}{\Sigma H_N + \Sigma H_S}$$

We are going to show, that this asymmetry  $Q_H$  can also be expressed as a function of the time of rise and the periodic terms  $G_{1,2}^N$ ,  $G_{1,2}^S$ . In fact, as the differences  $T - T_N$ ,  $T - T_S$  are generally small, we can put in a first approximation

$$\cos^2 k \frac{\pi}{2\Omega_{1,2}^N} \cong \cos^2 k \frac{\pi}{2\Omega_{1,2}^S} \cong \cos^2 k \frac{\pi}{2\Omega_{1,2}}$$

Then relations (10) give:

$$(11) \quad Q_H = \frac{(\Sigma H_m)_N - (\Sigma H_m)_S}{(\Sigma H_m)_N + (\Sigma H_m)_S} + \frac{G_{1,2}^N - G_{1,2}^S}{(\Sigma H_m)_N + (\Sigma H_m)_S}$$

From relations (1) and (2) we have:

$$(\Sigma H_m)_N - (\Sigma H_m)_S = 2f (T_S - T_N) - 10^{-1} \cdot 2f (T_0 - T_N)^2 b_1$$

$$(\Sigma H_m)_N + (\Sigma H_m)_S = 10 \cdot 2f + 2f (T_S + T_N) - 10^{-2} \cdot 2f (T_0 - T_N)^2 b_1$$

Also relations (7) and (8) give:

a) for the cycles with even current number  $N$

$$G_1^N - G_1^S = -2f \left\{ 2(a_1 - b_1) \sin k \frac{\pi}{2} + b_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{4} \right\}$$

$$G_2^N - G_2^S = 2f \left\{ 2b_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{6} + 5a_2 \sin k \frac{\pi}{8} \right\}$$

b) for the cycles with odd current number N

$$G_1^N - G_1^S = 2f \left\{ 3B \sin k \frac{\pi}{3} - a_2 \sin k \frac{\pi}{4} \right\}$$

$$G_2^N - G_2^S = -2f \left\{ 3a_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{4} + 2b_0 \sin k \frac{\pi}{6} \right\}$$

Relation (11) can thus be written:

a) for the cycles with even current number N

$$Q_H = \frac{A}{C} - \frac{10}{C} g_1 \quad \text{before the maximum} \quad (12)$$

$$Q_H = \frac{A}{C} + \frac{10}{C} g_2 \quad \text{after the maximum}$$

b) for the cycles with odd current number N

$$Q_H = \frac{A}{C} + \frac{10}{C} g_1' \quad \text{before the maximum} \quad (13)$$

$$Q_H = \frac{A}{C} - \frac{10}{C} g_2' \quad \text{after } \gg \gg$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 10 (T_S - T_N) - (T_O - T_N)^2 \cdot b_1 \\ C &\cong 100 + 10 (T_S + T_N) \\ g_1 &= 2 (a_1 - b_1) \sin k \frac{\pi}{2} + b_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{4} \\ g_2 &= 2 b_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{6} + 5 a_2 \sin k \frac{\pi}{8} \\ g_1' &= 3 B_0 \sin k \frac{\pi}{3} - a_2 \sin k \frac{\pi}{4} \\ g_2' &= 3 a_1 \sin k \frac{\pi}{4} + 2 b_0 \sin k \frac{\pi}{6} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

and  $a_1, a_2, b_0, b_1, b_2$  and  $B$  are given by relations (9).

The sum  $T_S + T_N$  is always contained between 6 and 12 years i.e.

$$6 \leq T_S + T_N < 12$$

Therefore the quantity  $B = 100 + 10 (T_S + T_N)$  can be replaced by a mean value, so that we can put in a first approximation:

$$\frac{10}{C} \cong 0,055$$

$$\frac{A}{C} = 0,055 \left\{ (T_S - T_N) - 10^{-1} (T_O - T_N)^2 b_1 \right\}$$

In this way relations (12) and (13) can now be written in the following way:

a) for the cycles with even current number N

$$Q_H = 0,055 \{ (T_S - T_N) - 10^{-1} (T_O - T_N)^2 b_1 - g_1 \} \text{ before the maximum} \quad (10)$$

$$Q_H = 0,055 \{ (T_S - T_N) - 10^{-1} (T_O - T_N)^2 b_1 + g_2 \} \text{ after } \gg \gg$$

b) for the cycles with odd current number N

$$Q_H = 0,055 \{ (T_S - T_N) - 10^{-1} (T_O - T_N)^2 b_1 - g_1' \} \text{ before the maximum} \quad (16)$$

$$Q_H = 0,055 \{ (T_S - T_N) - 10^{-1} (T_O - T_N)^2 b_1 - g_2' \} \text{ after } \gg \gg$$

Relations (15) and (16) show, that during the year of maximum solar activity when  $g_1 = g_2 = g_1' = g_2' = 0$  the asymmetry  $Q_H$  depends on the difference  $T_S - T_N$  of the values of the time of rise corresponding to the two solar hemispheres as well as on the periodic term

$$10^{-1} (T_O - T_N)^2 b_1 = 10^{-1} (T_O - T_N)^2 \sin N \frac{2\pi}{8}$$

with a period equal to 8 sunspot cycles, which is the same with the periodic term appearing in relation (1). During the years preceding or following the year of maximum solar activity, on the contrary, i.e. during the ascending or the descending branch of the solar activity curve, the asymmetry  $Q_H$  depends also on the periodic terms  $g_{1,2}$  and  $g'_{1,2}$  (relations 14), the graphical representation of which is given in Fig. 2.

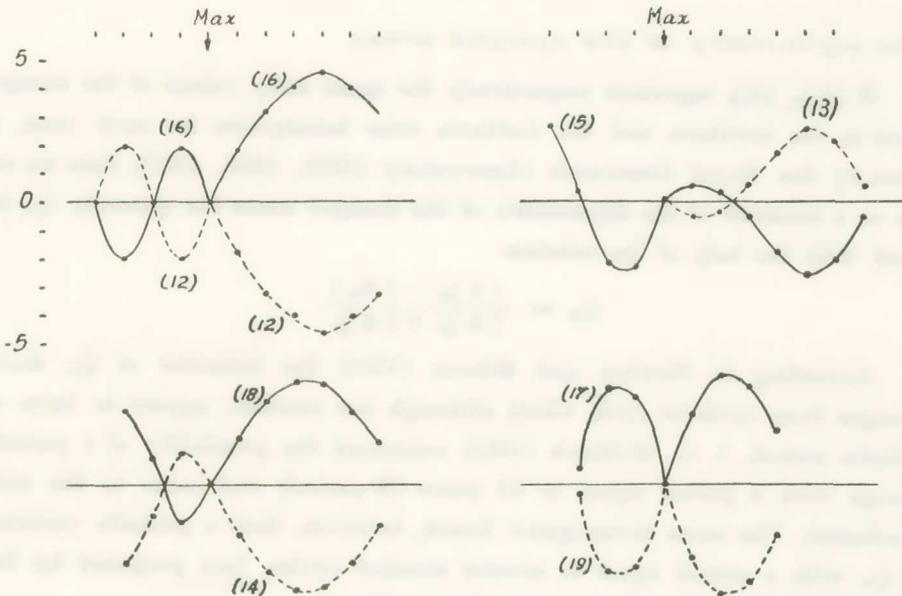


Fig. 2.

From Fig. 2 we see, that during the ascending and the descending branch of the solar activity curve we should have an inversion of the asymmetry  $Q_H$  between the even sunspot cycles No 12, 16 and 14, 18 as well as between the odd cycles 13 15 and 17 19. The observational data concerning the maximum magnetic field strength of the sunspot groups now available, are unfortunately restricted to the time interval contained between the maximum of the sunspot cycle No 15 (1917) and the maximum of the cycle No 19 (1957), and for this reason they do not allow us to verify the inversion of the asymmetry of the values of the annual sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups described above. There are, however, some indirect indications about the reality of this phenomenon based upon the study of the asymmetry of the sunspot areas, which we are going to discuss below.

In the left part of the Fig. 3a and 3b the dashed lines represent the values of the asymmetry  $Q_H$  computed with the help of the relations (15) and (16) while the small circles give the values of this quantity found on the basis of the Mount Wilson observations for the years 1917-1958. From these figures we see, that the agreement between the observed and the computed values of the asymmetry  $Q_H$  for the years 1917-1958 (cycles No 15-19) is fairly satisfactory.

#### *The asymmetry of the sunspot areas.*

If  $[A]_N$ ,  $[A]_S$  represent respectively the mean daily values of the sunspot areas in the northern and the southern solar hemisphere for each year, as given by the Royal Greenwich Observatory (1955, 1956, 1957), then we can use as a measure of the asymmetry of the sunspot areas the quantity  $Q_A$  defined with the help of the relation

$$Q_A = \frac{[A]_N - [A]_S}{[A]_N + [A]_S}$$

According to Newton and Milsom (1955) the behavior of  $Q_A$  shows changes from cycle to cycle which although not random, appear to have no definite period. J. G. Wolbach (1962) examined the possibility of a periodic change with a period equal to 10 years (B-period) and came to the same conclusion. The same investigator found, however, that a periodic variation of  $Q_A$  with a period equal to several sunspot cycles, first proposed by Bell (1959, 1962) seemed to be statistically significant.

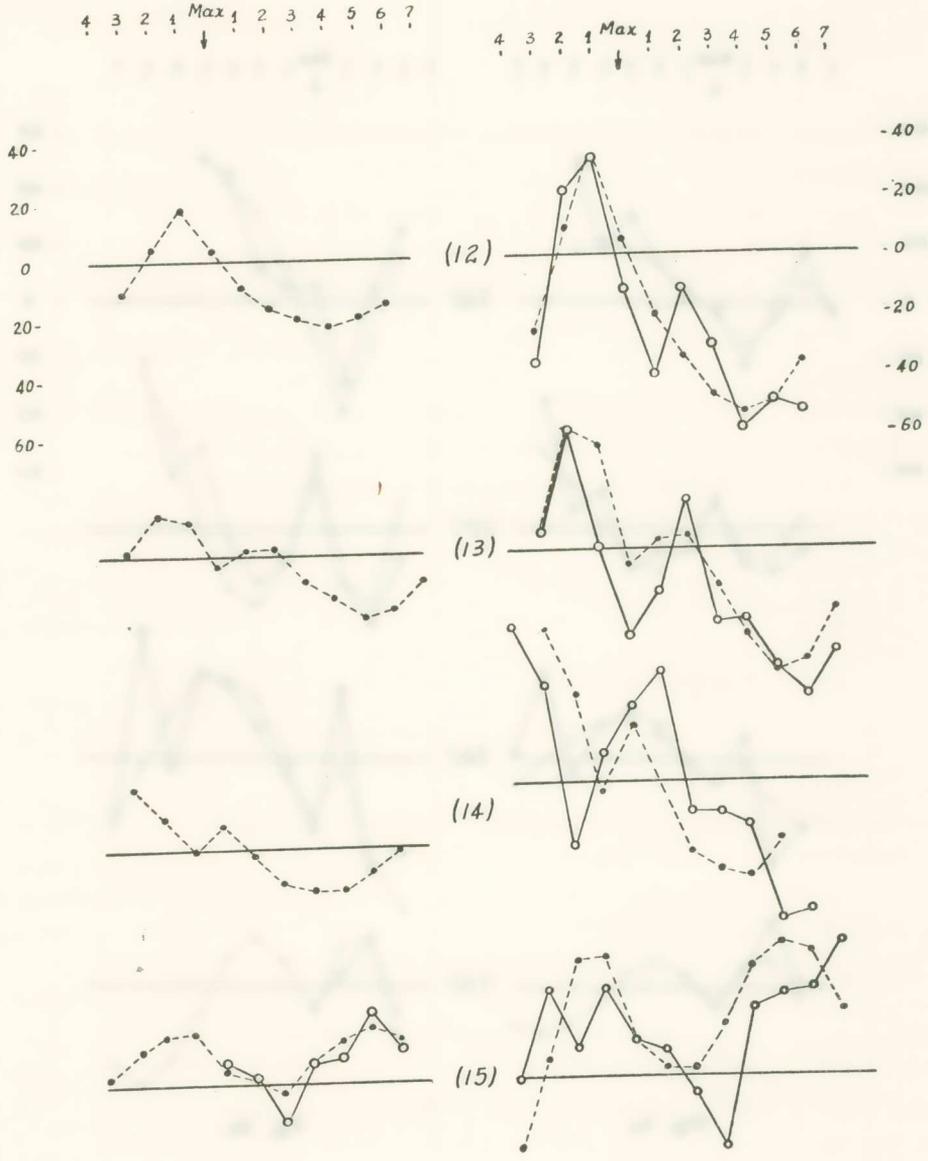


Fig. 3a.

Fig. 3b.

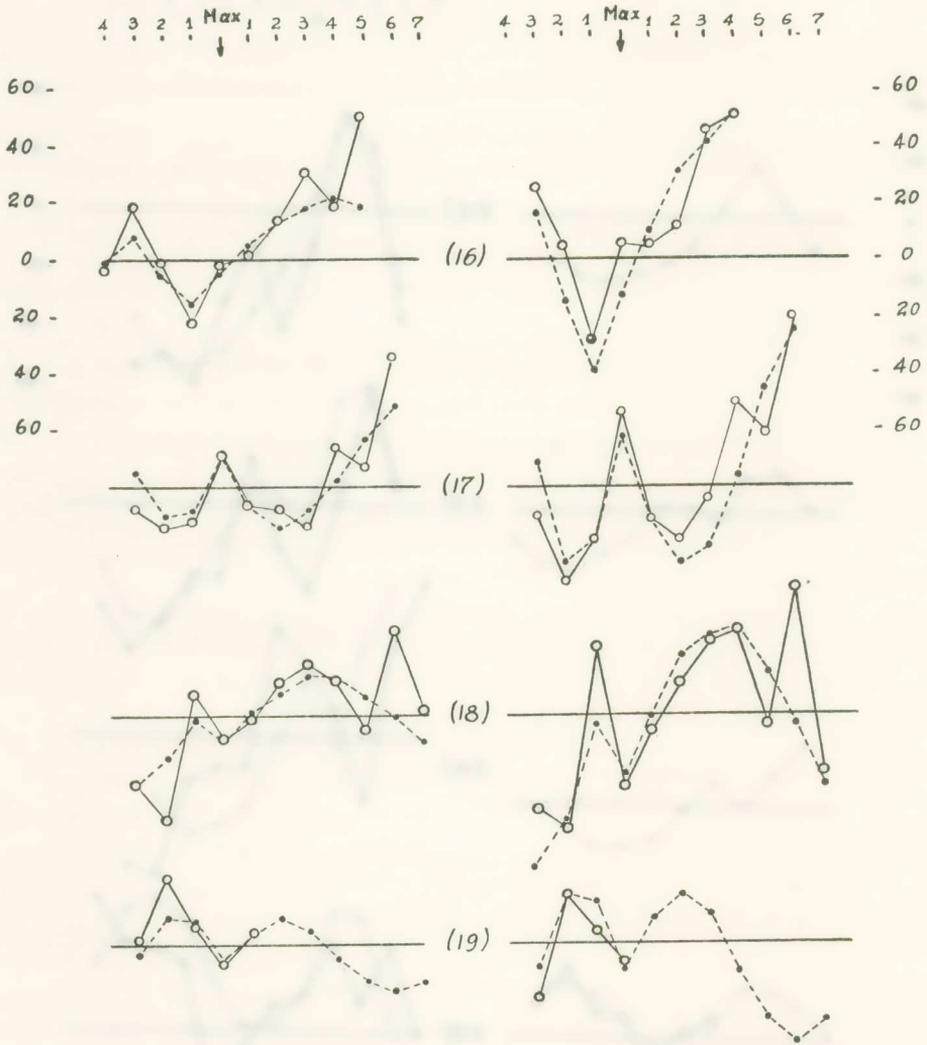


Fig. 3a.

Fig. 3b.

In previous papers (Xanthakis 1959, 1961) an effort has been made to show, that the values of the asymmetry  $Q_A$  corresponding to the cycles No 12-18 can be represented as functions of the time of rise and certain periodic terms with variable period and amplitude. A comparison of the variations of the asymmetry  $Q_H$  and the asymmetry  $Q_A$  shows now, that these two parameters change in the same general way in the cycles No 15-19, for which observational data for both of them are available, while during for the cycles No 12, 13 and 14, for which observational data for the sunspot areas but no data for the maximum values of the magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups are available, the asymmetry  $Q_A$  of the sunspot areas presents a variation which is analogous to the variation of the values of the asymmetry  $Q_H$  computed with the help of the relations (15) and (16). These results are also shown by Fig. 3a and 3b (right part), where the small circles which are connected by continuous lines represent the values of the asymmetry  $Q_A$  of the sunspot areas, as given by the observations of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, while the dots which are connected by the dashed lines give the values of the quantity  $2.2 Q_H$ , where  $Q_H$  represents the asymmetry of the annual sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups computed with the help of relations (15) and (16). From these figures we see, that the variation of the asymmetry of the sunspot areas  $Q_A$  during the sunspot cycles No 12-19 is analogous to the variation of the asymmetry  $Q_H$  of the annual sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups, so that we can put in a first approximation

$$Q_A = 2.2 Q_H$$

If we exclude the years 1889, 1912, 1913 and 1933 which correspond to the minima of solar activity, for all the remaining years the agreement between the observed values of  $Q_A$  and the values of this quantity given by the above relation is fairly satisfactory, the accuracy computed with the help of the formula  $(1 - \frac{\sigma}{Q_A}) 100\%$  being equal to 85%.

If we take into account, that according to Ringnes and Jensen (1960) there is a close relation between the strength of the magnetic field and the area of the sunspots, and if we further assume, that the variation of the asymmetry  $Q_H$  of the annual sums of the maximum magnetic field strengths of the sunspot groups is analogous to the variation of the asymmetry of the total sunspot magnetic field strengths i.e. the one computed with the help of

the sums  $\Sigma h$ , then it is reasonable to accept, that the observed asymmetry  $Q_A$  of the sunspot areas is the result of the asymmetry in the distribution of the total magnetic field strengths between the two solar hemispheres.

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## ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΙΣ

Εἰς τὴν παροῦσαν ἐργασίαν μελετῶνται αἱ ὑπὸ τῶν παρατηρήσεων τοῦ Ἀστεροσκοπεῖου τοῦ ἔρους Οὐίλσον παρεχόμεναι τιμαὶ τῶν ἄθροισμάτων  $\Sigma H_N$  καὶ  $\Sigma H_S$  ἔνθα  $H_N$  καὶ  $H_S$  παριστῶσι τὰς μεγίστας τιμὰς τῆς ἐντάσεως τοῦ μαγνητικοῦ πεδίου, αἱ ὁποῖαι παρετηρήθησαν δι' ἐκάστην ὁμάδα κηλίδων κειμένην ἀντιστοίχως ἐπὶ τοῦ βορείου ἢ τοῦ νοτίου ἡμισφαιρίου τοῦ Ἡλίου κατὰ τὴν διάρκειαν ἐκάστης διαβάσεώς της διὰ τοῦ ὀρατοῦ ἡμισφαιρίου τοῦ Ἡλίου.

Διὰ τὰς ποσότητας ταύτας παρέχονται ἀναλυτικαὶ ἐκφράσεις συναρτήσῃ τῶν χρόνων ἀνόδου  $T_N$  καὶ  $T_S$  τῶν ἀντιστοιχοῦντων εἰς τὰ ἐμβαδὰ τῶν ἡλιακῶν κηλίδων. Τῇ βοήθειᾳ τῶν ἀναλυτικῶν τούτων σχέσεων μελετᾶται ἐν συνεχείᾳ ἡ ἀσυμμετρία N - S τῆς ἐντάσεως τοῦ μαγνητικοῦ πεδίου τῶν κηλίδων, τῆς ὁποίας ἡ πορεία εὐρίσκειται ὅτι εἶναι ἀνάλογος πρὸς τὴν πορείαν τῆς ἀσυμμετρίας N - S τῶν ἐμβαδῶν τῶν κηλίδων διὰ τοὺς ὑπ' ἀριθμ. 12 - 19 κύκλους.