

## Determination of the Elements of the Sun's Spin.

by

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Since the discovery of sun-spots by Fabricius and Galileo, the elements of the rotation of the sun, that is, the position of the sun's axis and its period of rotation, have been determined by many astronomers. These results are tabulated in Houzeau's *Vade-Mecum de l'Astronomie*<sup>(1)</sup>, and differ greatly with the different observers. The various values of the inclination of the sun's equator to the ecliptic lie between  $6^{\circ}\frac{1}{2}$  and  $8^{\circ}$ , and those of the longitude of the node between  $60^{\circ}$  and  $80^{\circ}$ . The two most reliable results were obtained by Mr. Carrington and Dr. Spörer respectively, more than twenty years ago. Recently Dr. Wilsing has determined the elements from the periods of rotation of a single spot. If  $I$  is the inclination of the equator of the sun to the ecliptic, and  $N$ , the longitude of the ascending node, the results obtained by these three authorities are as follows:—

Authorities.	$N.$	$I.$	Epoch.
Carrington <sup>(2)</sup> .	$73^{\circ} 40'$	$7^{\circ} 15'$	1850
Spörer <sup>(3)</sup> .	$74^{\circ}, 523$	$6^{\circ} 58'$	1861
Wilsing <sup>(4)</sup> .	$75^{\circ}, 78$	$7^{\circ}, 16$	1882,0

(1) Houzeau, *Vade-Mecum de l'Astronomie*. § 162 Rotation pp. 411.

(2) Carrington, *Observations of the spots on the sun from 1853 to 1861* pp. 244.

(3) Spörer, *Beobachtungen der Sonnenflecken zu Anclam* (1874).

(4) Wilsing, *Neue Bestimmung der Rotationsclemente der Sonne 1884*. Astr. Nach. Bd. 107 pp. 277.

The great discrepancies are apparent at a glance. To find the corrections to the assumed values of Prof. Spörer, I took his valuable observations of sun-spots from 1861 to 1884, and selected the spots where motions were pretty regular, since it is clear that for such a determination the duration of the appearance of the spots should be long, and the proper motion regular and small. The number of groups of selected spots amounted to 933, of which the number of regular spots is great for the time of sun-spot maximum.

### Method of Reduction.

The formulae obtained by differentiating the fundamental equations giving the heliographic longitude and latitude of a sun-spot are too complex to be used for the reduction of the materials of many observations. I have adopted instead the method due to Carrington, in which, since the error arising from the assumed position of the pole of the sun is obviously felt chiefly in latitude, and not much in longitude, the variation in latitude only is considered. Consider the celestial sphere, the centre of the sun being the centre of the sphere.

Let  $K$  be the pole of the ecliptic.

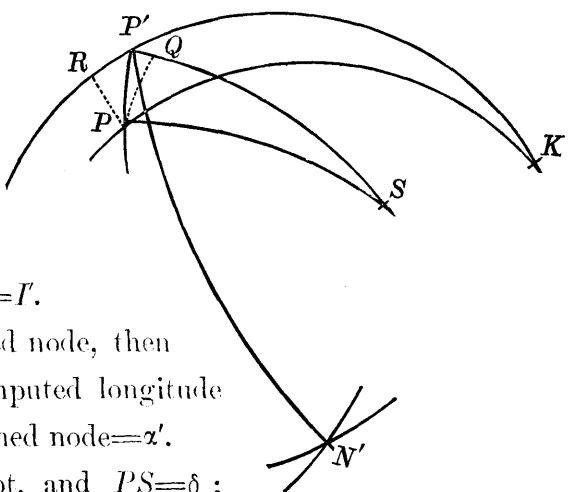
Let  $P$  be the sun's true pole.

Let  $P'$  be the sun's assumed pole.

Let  $PK=I$  and  $P'K=I'$ .

Let  $N'$  be the assumed node, then the angle  $N'P'S$ =the computed longitude of the spot from the assumed node= $\alpha'$ .

Let  $S$  be a sun-spot, and  $PS=\delta$ ;  $P'S=\delta'$ .



Then considering the nearly right angled triangle  $PQP'$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\delta' - \delta &= P'Q = PP' \cos (\angle PP'N + \angle N'P'S) \\ &= PP' \cos PP'N \cos \alpha' - PP' \sin PP'N \sin \alpha' \\ \therefore \delta' - \delta &= X \cos \alpha' - Y \sin \alpha'\end{aligned}$$

if we assume

$$X = PP' \cos PP'N, Y = PP' \sin PP'N.$$

If  $X$  and  $Y$  can be found from a series, or from many combined series of observations, then

$$PP' = \sqrt{X^2 + Y^2}, \quad \tan PP'N = \frac{Y}{X}.$$

But

$$\begin{aligned}X &= PP' \cos PP'N = PR = (N - N') \sin I \\ Y &= PP' \sin PP'N = P'R = I - I'\end{aligned}$$

Hence we have the following formulæ giving the true elements

$$\begin{aligned}I &= I' + Y \\ N &= N' + P, \operatorname{cosec} I.\end{aligned}$$

The above treatment gives  $\delta' - \delta = X \cos \alpha' - Y \sin \alpha'$  as the equations of conditions to find  $X$  and  $Y$ . It is a tremendous piece of work to apply this equation to each individual set of observations of spots. Hence it is necessary to consider in what way these quantities  $X$  and  $Y$  can most advantageously be found from the whole accumulated mass of observations. Since each series of observations yields a certain number of observed values of  $\delta'$  corresponding to observed values of  $\alpha'$ , we may assume the following series of equations.

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_a' - \delta &= X \cos a - Y \sin a \\ \delta_b' - \delta &= X \cos b - Y \sin b \\ \delta_c' - \delta &= X \cos c - Y \sin c \\ \dots & \\ \dots &\end{aligned}$$

By successive subtractions, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_b' - \delta_a' &= X (\cos b - \cos a) - Y (\sin b - \sin a) \\ \delta_c' - \delta_b' &= X (\cos c - \cos b) - Y (\sin c - \sin b) \\ \dots &\end{aligned}$$

as the equations of condition to determine  $X$  and  $Y$ ;  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ ,..... the computed longitudes of the spots from the assumed node being known. Also by interpolating other values of  $\delta'$  for previously selected values of  $\alpha'$  at equal intervals, we simplify the calculation exceedingly. I have found the variations of latitude per 10 degrees of longitude by simply dividing the variation of latitudes by the difference of longitude. For example, for the solar spot No. 44, which appeared in March 1882 (see page 282 of Publicationen des Astrophysikalischen Observatorium zu Potsdam Nr. 17) we find

$\alpha'$ .	$90^\circ - \delta'$ .	Variations of $90^\circ - \delta'$ per $10^\circ$ of $\alpha'$ .
135	-0.32	- 5
150	-0.40	- 6
163	-0.48	+ 7
178	-0.36	- 2
192	-0.39	+ 1
206	-0.37	0
222	-0.37	-15
236	-0.58	-11
250	-0.75	- 4
264	-0.80	-10
277	-0.93	

Thus  $-0^\circ.05$ ,  $-0^\circ.06$ ,.....are considered to be the variations of latitude between longitudes  $140^\circ$  and  $150^\circ$ ,  $150^\circ$  and  $160^\circ$ ,..... respectively. This method of approximation will be sufficient for the majority of the observations. Having found the variations of latitude per  $10^\circ$  of longitude, we then tabulate them in the following form.

No. ....	$130^\circ$	$140^\circ$	$150^\circ$	$160^\circ$	$170^\circ$	$180^\circ$	$190^\circ$	$200^\circ$	$210^\circ$	$220^\circ$	.....
44.....		-5	-6	+7	+7	+7	-2	+1	+1		.....

I shall not reproduce all the numerical values obtained in this way for the whole interval of nearly 24 years. As an example, I shall give the complete method of reduction for the year 1884. In discussing in this way Spörer's observations, I shall of course adhere to the numbering of the different groups he has given. Table I. contains the number of each Potsdam group and the variation of latitudes per  $10^{\circ}$  of longitude, the same result being represented in a somewhat altered form in Table II. on separate sheet.

**Table I.**  
1884.

Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
272	42° +11.4	+25		240	— 9°.2			137° —17.4	—13		
	58 +11.8	+29		136	— 9.3	0		152 —17.6	—8		
	72 +12.2	— 6		151	— 9.3	— 8		165 —17.7			
	88 +12.1			164	— 9.4	— 6	35a	99 +10.7	+2		
16a	109 +12.3	+ 8		180	— 9.5	+ 4		142 +10.8	+26		
	122 +12.4	+ 7		193	— 9.45	0		157 +11.2			
	179 +12.8			207	— 9.45	— 2	35b	97 + 9.8	—2		
28	132 — 8.4	0		235	— 9.5	+10		140 + 9.7	—20		
	147 — 8.4	0		264	— 9.2			155 + 9.4	—25		
	175 — 8.4	—24	32a	109 + 6.05	—18			167 + 9.1			
	192 — 8.8	+14		128 + 6.4	+21		37	66 + 9.5	—16		
	206 — 8.6	— 7		142 + 6.7	+13			110 + 8.8	0		
	221 — 8.7			157 + 6.9	0			124 + 8.8	—23		
(53)	84 — 9.1	+ 3		170 + 6.9	+ 7			137 + 8.5	— 5		
	113 — 9.0	0		198 + 7.1	—20			195 + 8.2	—15		
	141 — 9.0	— 7		213 + 6.8				208 + 8.0	0		
	155 — 9.1	+ 7	33a	65 —16.6	0			224 + 8.0			
	169 — 9.0	0		80 —16.6	—13	40	75 +12.9	+20			
	198 — 9.0	—20		107 —16.95	—21			90 +13.2	0		
	213 — 9.3	+ 4		123 —17.3	— 7			102 +13.2	— 4		

Table I.—Continued.

1884.

Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
	159°	+13.0			192°	+12.4	-14		143°	+ 7.8	+13
38	91	+13.8	+43	206	+12.2	-21		158	+ 8.0	+ 7	
	105	+14.4	-25	234	+11.6			186	+ 8.2	+21	
	117	+14.1	+ 2	47a	77	+ 8.2	- 6	200	+ 8.5	+ 7	
	(175	+14.7			108	+ 8.0	+ 7		242	+ 8.8	
	(174	+13.3	-15		122	+ 7.9	-13	58	93	- 6.4	+ 6
	(188	+14.5			137	+ 7.7	- 7		109	- 6.3	-14
	(188	+13.1	0		166	+ 7.5	-11		151	- 6.9	
	(203	+14.5			194	+ 7.2	-13	60	121	+12.6	+48
	(203	+13.1	+10		209	+ 7.0	0		162	+12.8	-16
	232	+14.1			223	+ 7.0			193	+12.3	- 9
41	97	-24.0	+14	47b	163	+ 8.0	-10		248	+11.8	
	111	-23.8	- 8		192	+ 8.3	-14	63	130	+10.7	- 7
	123	-23.9	0		206	+ 8.1			160	+10.5	- 2
	178	-23.9	0	49	88	- 9.7	- 8		218	+10.4	- 8
	192	-23.9	- 7		101	- 9.8	-20		230	+10.3	
	207	-24.0	-14		116	-10.1	0	66a	140	+10.6	- 8
	234	-24.4			145	-10.1	- 3		152	+10.5	- 2
64	110	-25.7	-27		174	-10.2	+ 7		193	+10.4	+15
	140	-26.5	+ 4		188	-10.1	0		209	+10.6	
	195	-26.3	-13		202	-10.1		72	138	- 7.6	+ 8
	208	-26.5	- 9	55a	123	+14.9	+ 6		151	- 7.5	+ 5
	250	-26.9	- 8		139	+15.0	-35		194	- 7.3	+ 7
	263	-22.0			170	+13.9	-31		209	- 7.2	- 8
44	121	+11.8	0		186	+13.4	-32		222	- 7.3	0
	134	+11.8	+20		214	+12.3	+13		237	- 7.3	
	149	+12.1	+10		229	+12.5		73	95	-16.0	+ 2
	178	+12.4	0	56	113	+ 7.9	- 3		139	-15.9	- 8

Table I.—Continued.

1884.

Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
	152	-16.0	- 7	75b	122	+14.8	0		179	+ 7.9	- 3
	196	-16.3	-19		165	+14.8	- 6		208	+ 7.8	
	212	-16.6	- 8		182	+14.7	0	107	137	+ 8.2	-20
	224	-16.7	-10		193	+14.7			147	+ 8.4	0
	253	-17.0	75		117	+15.3	+ 7		161	+ 8.4	0
98	133	-17.3	0		159	+15.6	-12		219	+ 8.4	-20
	148	-17.3	0		176	+15.4	0		234	+ 8.1	-36
	162	-17.3	-14		188	+15.4	-13		262	+ 8.0	
	176	-17.5	+ 7		203	+15.0		87	119	- 7.6	-24
	190	-17.4	+29		202	+15.4			148	- 8.3	-14
	204	-17.0	+25		217	+15.1	+ 7		177	- 8.8	+ 1
	228	-16.4	-13		216	+15.5			269	- 8.7	
	233	-16.6	+21		231	+15.9	+ 7	112	152	- 8.9	0
	247	-16.3			230	+15.4			165	- 8.9	+ 7
74b	189	-14.25	+16	78	141	-13.0	0		180	- 8.8	+ 2
	205	-14.0	0		152	-13.0	+13		208	- 8.75	
	218	-14.0			168	-12.8	0	91a	219	- 8.9	+28
74e	181	-12.1	- 7		181	-12.8	- 7		233	- 8.5	-19
	196	-12.2	-13		196	-12.9			249	- 8.8	- 7
	208	-12.35	-10	79	116	+12.6	+ 7		264	- 8.9	-36
	223	-12.5	+ 7		131	+12.7	+15		278	- 9.4	-13
	237	-12.4	0		144	+12.9	+ 7		293	- 9.6	
	252	-12.4			159	+13.0	+23	93	141	- 8.7	0
75a	122	+13.6	- 7		172	+13.3			155	- 8.7	- 7
	165	+13.3	+ 6	80	107	+ 7.6	- 7		170	- 8.8	+ 7
	182	+13.4	- 8		122	+ 7.5	+15		184	- 8.6	
	194	+13.3	-10		135	+ 7.7	+10		185	- 8.7	-14
	223	+13.0			164	+ 8.0	- 7		199	- 8.9	- 7

Table I.—Continued.

1884.

Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
	213	— 9.0	— 7		221	— 12.8	0		289	— 13.8	0
	228	— 9.1	6		231	— 12.8	0		303	— 13.8	+ 7
	243	— 9.1	— 15		246	— 12.8	— 9		317	— 13.7	— 6
	256	— 9.3	+ 43		289	— 13.2	— 15		333	— 13.8	+ 7
	270	— 8.7	0		302	— 13.4			348	— 13.7	
	289	— 8.7		101	182	— 19.6	— 42	118a	219	— 9.3	— 21
96b	222	— 11.1	— 5		196	— 20.1	— 35		233	— 9.6	— 29
	241	— 11.2	— 60		213	— 20.7	— 50		247	— 10.0	— 14
	251	— 11.8	— 15		223	— 21.2	+ 7		278	— 10.2	+ 8
	264	— 12.0			237	— 21.1			290	— 10.1	— 11
86c	220	— 11.8	0	113a	155	— 9.9	+ 13		308	— 10.3	
	238	— 11.8	— 55		171	— 9.7	+ 21	119b	225	— 14.6	— 24
	249	— 12.4	+ 29		199	— 9.1	0		237	— 14.89	— 5
	263	— 12.0			273	— 9.1	— 10		281	— 15.1	— 4
97	145	— 14.1	— 21		313	— 9.5			309	— 15.2	+ 7
	159	— 14.4	— 33	116	208	— 13.5	— 19		323	— 15.1	
	174	— 14.9	— 21		249	— 14.3	0	125a	251	+ 8.8	+ 13
	188	— 15.2	+ 7		263	— 14.3	— 13		266	+ 9.0	0
	202	— 15.1	+ 14		278	— 14.5	— 10		282	+ 9.0	0
	216	— 14.9			309	— 14.8	+ 36		295	+ 9.0	— 13
98b	186	— 19.2	+ 40		320	— 14.4			310	+ 8.8	+ 7
	201	— 18.6	+ 11	138	191	— 14.6	+ 7		324	+ 8.9	
	220	— 18.4	— 20		205	— 14.5	+ 19	125b	261	+ 7.5	— 7
	230	— 18.6	— 43		221	— 14.2	0		289	+ 7.3	— 14
	244	— 19.2			233	— 14.2	+ 14		303	+ 7.1	
99b	175	— 12.4	0		247	— 14.0	+ 14	127	177	+ 12.6	— 17
	189	— 12.4	0		261	— 13.8	0		194	+ 12.3	+ 18
	203	— 12.4	— 22		275	— 13.8	0		205	+ 12.5	+ 14

**Table I.**—*Continued.*

1884.

Spot	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
	219	+12.7	— 7		319	— 6.3	0		231	— 2.0	— 14
	234	+12.6	+ 7		333	— 6.3	0		245	— 2.2	— 20
	249	+12.5			347	— 6.3	0		260	— 2.5	— 5
130a	232	+ 7.7	— 14		351	— 6.3	— 18		279	— 2.6	— 9
	246	+ 7.5	— 7		2	— 6.5			290	— 2.7	+ 8
	260	+ 7.4		171	213	— 7.3	0		303	— 2.6	+ 7
130b	250	+ 6.4	0		227	— 7.3	— 7		318	— 2.5	
	260	+ 6.4	— 7		241	— 7.4	0	149	188	— 9.2	— 23
	275	+ 6.3			255	— 7.4	+ 7		201	— 9.5	+ 7
134	169	— 7.2	— 17		269	— 7.3	— 10		215	— 9.4	+ 7
	184	— 7.45	— 3		298	— 7.6	0		229	— 9.3	— 14
	199	— 7.5	0		312	— 7.6	+ 7		243	— 9.5	0
	212	— 7.5	0		326	— 7.5	+ 29		257	— 9.5	— 7
	227	— 7.5	— 7		343	— 7.0	+ 18		271	— 9.6	0
	241	— 7.6	— 7		354	— 6.8	+ 7		285	— 9.6	+ 7
	255	— 7.7	— 4		8	— 6.7	+ 21		300	— 9.5	— 14
	282	— 7.8	+ 7		22	— 6.4			314	— 9.7	+ 13
	296	— 7.7	— 19	137	203	— 1.6	— 7		329	— 9.5	+ 13
	312	— 8.0	— 15		217	— 1.7	0		342	— 9.3	
	325	— 8.2	— 14		234	— 1.7	— 23	159	196	— 8.0	— 7
	339	— 8.4	— 8		247	— 2.0	— 21		210	— 8.1	— 5
	342	— 8.5			261	— 2.3	— 29		229	— 8.2	0
152	192	— 7.5	+ 20		275	— 2.7	— 20		240	— 8.2	0
	207	— 7.2	+ 13		290	— 3.0	— 21		254	— 8.2	0
	222	— 7.0	+ 5		304	— 3.3	— 14		269	— 8.2	+ 14
	292	— 6.7	+ 17		318	— 3.5	+ 13		343	— 8.0	— 9
	304	— 6.3	0		333	— 3.3			354	— 8.1	— 14
	304	— 6.3	0	156	219	— 2.0	0		8	— 8.3	

Table I.—Continued.

1884.

Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
141	179° +18.4	-23		260° -15.6	+ 7	147	186° -15.6	+ 14			
	192 +18.1	0		274 -15.5	-14		200 -15.4	-24			
	207 +18.1	0		288 -15.7	+ 20		217 -15.8	- 4			
	220 +18.1	0		303 -15.4	-17		242 -15.9	+ 7			
	234 +18.1	-13		320 -15.7	- 8		256 -15.8	0			
	249 +17.9	-14		345 -15.9			270 -15.8	-12			
	263 +17.7	-14	143a	186 -11.6	-20		287 -16.0	+13			
	277 +17.5	-38		201 -11.9	-14		302 -15.8				
	290 +17.0	0		215 -12.0	0	146	192 + 8.3	+14			
	305 +17.0	+ 6		228 -12.0	+ 6		206 + 8.5	-24			
	322 +17.1			244 -11.9	0		223 + 8.1	+ 4			
142a	241 +14.8	- 6		258 -11.9	+ 7		249 + 8.2	-14			
	257 +14.1	+31		273 -11.8	-15		263 + 8.0	- 7			
	273 +14.6	0		286 -12.0	- 7		277 + 7.9	0			
	286 +14.6	-13		301 -12.1	-12		293 + 7.9	-13			
	301 +14.4	0		318 -12.3	0		308 + 7.7				
	318 +14.4	-14		344 -12.3		166	215 + 9.3	-20			
	344 +14.0	144a	179 -24.1	-40		230 + 9.0	-25				
142b	237 +15.7	0		194 -24.7	+31		246 + 8.6	-17			
	250 +15.7	+27		207 -24.3	0		258 + 8.4				
	265 +16.1	+ 8		221 -24.3	-25		277 + 8.2	0			
	278 +16.2	0		237 -24.7			286 + 8.2	-13			
	293 +16.2	144b	184 -24.3	+14		301 + 8.0	0				
143	188 -15.2	-20		198 -24.1	+ 8		316 + 8.0	+ 8			
	203 -15.5	+ 7		211 -24.0	-20		329 + 8.1	+ 7			
	217 -15.4	+ 7		226 -24.3	+ 8		343 + 8.2				
	231 -15.3	-20		239 -24.2	+ 7	148a	189 -15.7	- 6			
	246 -15.6	0		254 -24.1			207 -15.8	+ 4			

Table I.—*Continued.*

1884.

Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
	233	-15.7	0		261	+ 9.7	$\pm$ 0		344	+15.0	
	247	-15.7	- 7		273	+ 9.7	-13	173	219	+ 8.1	- 8
	262	-15.8	0		289	+ 9.5	-23		231	+ 8.0	+13
	278	-15.8	0		302	+ 9.2			246	+ 8.2	- 8
	293	-15.8	165	213	-12.3	-19			259	+ 8.1	0
155a	297	+ 9.7	- 8		229	-12.6	-13		288	+ 8.1	0
	310	+ 9.6	- 6		245	-12.8	+17		302	+ 8.1	
	326	+ 9.5			257	-12.6	-11	174a	339	+10.8	+13
155b	282	+11.3	0		276	-12.8	-33		354	+11.0	+50
	293	+11.3	-19		285	-13.1	+ 7		8	+11.7	- 7
	309	+11.0			300	-13.0	-13		23	+11.6	
157	216	+ 6.5	+ 9		315	-13.2	- 8	174	244	+10.4	-14
	227	+ 6.6	-13		328	-13.3	- 6		258	+10.2	+19
	242	+ 6.4	-20		344	-13.4	-17		274	+10.5	0
	257	+ 6.1	0		356	-13.6			283	+10.5	
	275	+ 6.1	-27	165b	222	-13.5	-12	176	235	+ 8.0	+17
	286	+ 5.8	-14		239	-13.7	-42		247	+ 8.2	+ 7
	300	+ 5.6	+13		251	-14.2	0		262	+ 8.3	- 7
	315	+ 5.8			270	-14.2	-22		277	+ 8.2	-13
160b	201	+14.3	+ 7		279	-14.4			292	+ 8.0	0
	215	+14.4	0	168a	227	+12.1	-14		306	+ 8.0	+53
	231	+14.4			241	+11.9	+21		321	+ 8.8	
164	333	+ 9.2	+28		260	+12.3	0	177	235	- 5.8	-20
	347	+ 9.6	+43		270	+12.3	-18		250	- 6.1	-11
	1	+10.2	+13		287	+12.0	+53		268	- 6.3	-18
	16	+10.4			302	+12.8	+ 7		279	- 6.5	-14
180	232	+10.2	- 7		316	+12.9	- 7		293	- 6.7	+13
	247	+10.1	-29		331	+12.8	+15		308	- 6.5	-15

Table I.—Continued.

1884.

Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
	321°	- 6.7	+ 12	324°	+ 5.2	- 8		343°	+ 4.8	+ 7	
	338	- 6.5	- 33	336	+ 5.1	- 14		357	+ 4.9	- 14	
	350	- 6.9	- 13	350	+ 4.9	- 13		11	+ 4.7		
	5	- 7.1	- 13	6	+ 5.1		194d	313	+ 6.7	+ 29	
	20	- 7.3	+ 21	188a	284	+ 3.2	- 6	328	+ 7.0	- 23	
	34	- 7.0		316	+ 3.0	- 11		341	+ 6.7	+ 31	
178a	300	- 2.7	- 14	334	+ 2.8	- 25		354	+ 7.1	- 36	
	314	- 2.9	+ 12	346	+ 2.5	- 29		8	+ 6.6	+ 39	
	331	- 2.7	- 14	360	+ 2.1	0		26	+ 7.3	+ 4	
	345	- 2.9	- 20	16	+ 2.1	0		52	+ 7.4		
	360	- 3.2	- 13	45	+ 2.1		196	253	- 6.4	- 7	
	16	- 3.4	+ 14	188b	277	+ 3.9	- 7	268	- 6.5	- 7	
	30	- 3.2		305	+ 3.7	- 11		282	- 6.6	- 18	
199	264	- 3.0	- 8	323	+ 3.5	0		299	- 6.9	- 15	
	290	- 3.2	- 6	335	+ 3.5	- 29		312	- 7.1		
	307	- 3.1	0	349	+ 3.1	- 6	197	354	- 5.9	0	
	317	- 3.1	+ 7	5	+ 3.0	+ 11		270	- 5.9	+ 8	
	331	- 3.0	+ 7	33	+ 3.3			282	- 5.8	- 14	
	346	- 3.1	0	194a	317	+ 4.8	+ 33	296	- 6.0	+ 14	
	3	- 3.1	- 9	335	+ 5.4	- 29		310	- 5.8	- 5	
	14	- 3.2	+ 7	349	+ 5.0	+ 46		329	- 5.9	+ 5	
	29	- 3.1	+ 7	2	+ 5.6			351	- 5.8	0	
	43	- 3.0	+ 7	194a'	18	+ 5.2	- 6	12	- 5.8	+ 10	
	57	- 2.9		36	+ 5.1	+ 12		22	- 5.7	- 7	
186a	355	- 11.8	+ 7	62	+ 5.4			36	- 5.8	+ 7	
	9	- 11.7	+ 18	194c	299	+ 5.2	- 7	51	- 5.7	0	
	26	- 11.4		314	+ 5.1	0		66	- 5.7		
188c	307	+ 4.9	+ 18	330	+ 5.1	- 23	203	321	+ 3.5	+ 13	

Table I.—*Continued.*

1884.

Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
	336° + 3.7		+ 14		52° + 17.3	+ 6	229	213° - 3.9		+ 19	
	350 + 3.9		+ 8		68 + 17.4	+ 58		329 - 3.6		- 11	
	3 + 4.0				80 + 18.1			357 - 3.9			
207b	11 + 14.8	- 21	217	336 - 22.9	- 12	223	290 + 4.7		+ 6		
	25 + 14.5	+ 13		2 - 23.2	- 8		307 + 4.8		- 18		
	40 + 14.7	0		15 - 23.3	- 15		318 + 4.6		- 15		
	56 + 14.7			28 - 23.5	+ 18		331 + 4.4		0		
207a	333 + 15.0	+ 5		45 - 23.2	+ 30		347 + 4.4		- 14		
	16 + 15.2	- 21		55 - 22.9	- 7		1 + 4.2		- 7		
	30 + 14.9	+ 20		69 - 23.0	+ 21		16 + 4.3		- 14		
	45 + 15.2	- 20		83 - 22.7			58 + 3.7		- 6		
	60 + 14.9	+ 7	219a	352 + 13.4	+ 25		75 + 3.6				
	74 + 15.0			12 + 13.9	- 8	228a	329 - 8.0		+ 25		
	285 + 14.6	+ 7		24 + 13.8	- 44		349 - 7.5		+ 32		
	299 + 14.7	- 13		42 + 13.0	- 17		17 - 6.6		0		
	314 + 14.5	- 4		54 + 12.8	+ 7		34 - 6.6		+ 12		
	359 + 14.3	0		68 + 12.9	+ 13		51 - 6.4		- 42		
	13 + 14.3	+ 19		83 + 13.1	+ 14		63 - 6.9		- 15		
	39 + 14.8	+ 19		97 + 13.3			90 - 7.3		- 7		
	55 + 15.1	+ 13	222a	289 + 5.1	0		105 - 7.4				
	71 + 15.3	0		316 + 5.1	0	229	313 - 3.9		+ 19		
	83 + 15.3			332 + 5.1	- 4		329 - 3.6		- 11		
227b	282 + 16.2	+ 7		0 + 5.6	0		357 - 3.9				
	296 + 16.3	0		11 + 5.0	- 14	230	307 - 12.8		- 13		
	311 + 16.3	+ 5		25 + 4.8	+ 7		322 - 13.0		- 29		
	353 + 16.5	+ 6		40 + 4.9	- 7		339 - 13.5		0		
	10 + 16.6	+ 15		54 + 4.8	0		351 - 13.5		- 11		
	36 + 17.0	+ 19		68 + 4.8			18 - 13.8		0		

Table I.—Continued.

1884.

Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.	Spot.	$\alpha'$	Lat.	Diff.
	32°	-13.8	+ 7	262a	33°	+ 7.6	0		94°	+ 3.3	+ 7
	46	-13.7	-13		62	+ 7.6	-17		108	+ 3.4	-7
	61	-13.9	-9		92	+ 7.1	-2		123	+ 3.3	+ 7
	105	-14.3			135	+ 7.0			138	+ 3.4	+ 30
231a	340	-13.8	+ 7	262b	60	+ 8.1	+ 6		148	+ 3.7	
	10	-13.6	+ 13		91	+ 8.3	+ 2	269	19	- 6.3	- 3
	26	-13.4	0		133	+ 8.4			48	- 6.4	+ 7
	41	-13.4	-7	265a	92	-15.1	+ 7		62	- 6.3	0
	56	-13.5	+ 14		106	-15.0	+ 8		77	- 6.3	0
	100	-12.9			119	-14.9	+ 6		91	- 6.3	
238 $\alpha$	4	+ 14.8	0		136	-14.8	0	270	13	+ 4.4	-13
	18	+ 14.8	+ 6		149	-14.8			28	+ 4.2	+ 7
	49	+ 15.0	- 4	266	43	+ 15.1	-18		42	+ 4.3	0
	77	+ 14.9	0		60	+ 14.8	-47		54	+ 4.3	+ 16
	88	+ 14.9			75	+ 14.1	+ 20		97	+ 5.0	
238 $\beta$	17	+ 14.3	-16		90	+ 14.4	-21	274	24	-12.5	+ 13
	48	+ 13.8	+ 18		119	+ 13.8	+ 7		55	-12.1	+ 6
	76	+ 14.3	0		134	+ 13.9	+ 33		87	-11.9	+ 6
	87	+ 14.3			149	+ 14.4			118	-11.7	+ 12
253a	1	+ 9.6		266b	41	+ 13.4	-53		135	-11.5	
	17	+ 9.8	+ 13		56	+ 12.6	-50	263	74	- 6.8	- 7
	30	+ 9.9	+ 8		70	+ 11.9	+ 7		117	- 7.1	0
	44	+ 10.1	+ 14		85	+ 12.0	+ 10		160	- 7.1	
	58	+ 10.3	+ 36		114	+ 12.3	+ 42	277	56	- 7.0	+ 5
	72	+ 10.8	+ 13		128	+ 12.9	-13		113	- 6.7	+ 8
	102	+ 11.2	+ 19		143	+ 12.7	- 6		184	- 6.1	
	118	+ 11.5	+ 8		159	+ 12.6					
	130	+ 11.6		268	65	+ 3.4	- 3				

Table II. gives, as final results, the total sums of the variations of latitude per 10 degrees of longitude and the corresponding total number in the year 1884. In like manner, similar sums were obtained for each year from 1861 to 1884. The results of the whole are tabulated in Table III.

In the last three rows of Table III., the results of 24 years are given, the last row giving the mean value of the variation of latitudes per 10 degrees of longitude. Supposing the weight of each column to be proportional to the total number in the corresponding column, multiply each of these mean values by its weight. Sum the whole, and divide by the sum of the weights. There results a mean excess of  $-0^{\circ}.00217$ , which would imply that on the whole there is an average tendency toward the equator of nearly 8" in the time during which the sun rotates through  $10^{\circ}$ . But considering the approximate character of the method of reduction and the probable effects of the errors of observations, we are, I think, justified in altogether neglecting this result.

To annihilate this equal departure on either side of zero, I have deducted this quantity  $-0^{\circ}.002$  from the mean values in each column.

So that we have finally the following data to find  $X$  and  $Y$ .

	$0^{\circ}$	$10^{\circ}$	$20^{\circ}$	$30^{\circ}$	$40^{\circ}$	$50^{\circ}$	$60^{\circ}$	$70^{\circ}$	$80^{\circ}$	$90^{\circ}$
Differences. ....	+ 1.4	+ 2.4	+ 3.7	+ 4.0	+ 4.5	+ 3.5	+ 3.1	+ 4.6	+ 2.8	
Weight. ....	272	261	245	238	236	223	208	201	190	
	$90^{\circ}$	$100^{\circ}$	$110^{\circ}$	$120^{\circ}$	$130^{\circ}$	$140^{\circ}$	$150^{\circ}$	$160^{\circ}$	$170^{\circ}$	$180^{\circ}$
Differences. ....	+ 2.2	+ 2.1	- 0.6	- 0.2	+ 3.1	+ 3.7	+ 0.5	- 1.4	+ 0.9	
Weight. ....	182	180	176	187	195	197	203	223	231	

	180°	190°	200°	210°	220°	230°	240°	250°	260°	270°
Differences.	-1.2	-0.3	-1.0	-1.1	-0.2	-1.4	-2.5	-3.2	-2.5	
Weight.	256	276	286	294	308	316	318	317	304	
	270°	280°	290°	300°	310°	320°	330°	340°	350°	360°
Differences.	-6.2	-4.8	-3.2	-2.1	-0.9	-1.6	-1.2	+1.3	+2.0	
Weight.	305	291	292	286	284	282	278	284	281	

From these we get the following 36 equations of condition,

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 (-015 X - 174 Y + 14 = 0) \times 2.72 & (+015 X + 174 Y - 12 = 0) \times 2.56 \\
 (-045 X - 168 Y + 24 = 0) \times 2.61 & (+045 X + 168 Y - 3 = 0) \times 2.76 \\
 (-074 X - 158 Y + 37 = 0) \times 2.45 & (+074 X + 158 Y - 10 = 0) \times 2.86 \\
 (-100 X - 143 Y + 40 = 0) \times 2.38 & (+100 X + 143 Y - 11 = 0) \times 2.94 \\
 (-123 X - 123 Y + 45 = 0) \times 2.36 & (+123 X + 123 Y - 2 = 0) \times 3.08 \\
 (-143 X - 100 Y + 35 = 0) \times 2.23 & (+143 X + 100 Y - 14 = 0) \times 3.16 \\
 (-158 X - 074 Y + 31 = 0) \times 2.08 & (+158 X + 074 Y - 25 = 0) \times 3.18 \\
 (-168 X - 045 Y + 46 = 0) \times 2.01 & (+168 X + 045 Y - 32 = 0) \times 3.17 \\
 (-174 X - 015 Y + 28 = 0) \times 1.90 & (+174 X + 015 Y - 25 = 0) \times 3.04 \\
 (-174 X + 015 Y + 22 = 0) \times 1.82 & (+174 X - 015 Y - 62 = 0) \times 3.05 \\
 (-168 X + 045 Y + 21 = 0) \times 1.89 & (+168 X + 045 Y - 48 = 0) \times 2.91 \\
 (-158 X + 074 Y - 6 = 0) \times 1.76 & (+158 X + 074 Y - 32 = 0) \times 2.92 \\
 (-143 X + 100 Y - 2 = 0) \times 1.87 & (+143 X + 100 Y - 21 = 0) \times 2.86 \\
 (-123 X + 123 Y + 31 = 0) \times 1.95 & (+123 X + 123 Y - 9 = 0) \times 2.84 \\
 (-100 X + 143 Y + 37 = 0) \times 1.97 & (+100 X + 143 Y - 16 = 0) \times 2.82 \\
 (-074 X + 158 Y + 5 = 0) \times 2.03 & (+074 X + 158 Y - 12 = 0) \times 2.78 \\
 (-045 X + 168 Y - 14 = 0) \times 2.23 & (+045 X + 168 Y + 13 = 0) \times 2.84 \\
 (-015 X + 174 Y + 9 = 0) \times 2.31 & (+015 X + 174 Y + 20 = 0) \times 3.81
 \end{array}$$

The solution of these 36 equations by means of the least squares gives

$$X = +0^\circ.18051 \quad Y = +0^\circ.03842$$

Hence

$$\delta' - \delta = +0^\circ.185 \cos(\alpha + 12^\circ.0)$$

Table II.

1884.

Table III.

Also

$$I = I' + Y = 6^\circ.968 + 0^\circ.038 = 6^\circ.996 = 7^\circ.006 \quad \text{for 1861}$$

$$N = N' + X \operatorname{cosec} I = 74^\circ.523 + 1^\circ.480 = 76^\circ.003$$

Here we see that the value of the node is larger than any of the values given at the beginning of the paper. The value of the inclination is nearly the same as that given by Spörer.

As a check on this result, I calculated the variations of latitudes at equal intervals of  $30^\circ$  degrees of longitude, by summing the three successive columns of the Table III. and dividing the results by the average number of spot occurrences. Also to see if there is a noticeable secular change in both node and inclination, I divided the interval of 24 years into three separate periods ; first, from 1861 to 1868 ; second, from 1869 to 1879 ; third, from 1880 to 1884. Separate reductions were made for these three distinct periods. The resulting differences of latitude and the number of spots are shown in Table IV.

Table IV.

	$0^\circ$	$30^\circ$	$60^\circ$	$90^\circ$	$120^\circ$	$150^\circ$	$180^\circ$	$210^\circ$	$240^\circ$	$270^\circ$	$300^\circ$	$330^\circ$	$360^\circ$
(A) 1861...1868	(Diff.) + 248	+ 383	+ 406	+ 75	+ 78	+ 85	- 326	- 151	- 485	- 424	- 30	+ 560	
	Nos. 46	42	39	31	28	37	54	56	57	53	50	48	
	Means. + 5,4	+ 9,1	+ 10,4	+ 2,4	+ 2,8	+ 2,3	- 6,0	- 2,7	- 8,5	- 8,0	- 6,0	+ 11,7	
	+ 4,6	+ 8,3	+ 9,6	+ 1,6	+ 2,0	+ 1,5	- 6,8	- 3,5	- 9,3	- 8,8	- 1,4	+ 10,9	
(B) 1869...1879	(Diff.) + 971	+ 1147	+ 989	+ 244	+ 17	- 521	- 287	- 560	- 1336	- 2194	- 766	+ 61	
	Nos. 89	76	63	61	67	78	95	116	124	116	101	95	
	Means. + 10,9	+ 15,1	+ 15,7	+ 4,0	+ 0,3	- 6,7	- 3,0	- 4,8	- 10,8	- 18,9	- 7,6	+ 0,6	
	+ 13,0	+ 17,2	+ 17,8	+ 6,1	+ 2,4	- 4,6	- 0,9	- 2,7	- 8,7	- 16,8	- 5,5	+ 2,7	
(C) 1880...1884	(Diff.) + 542	+ 1115	+ 594	+ 246	+ 1082	+ 307	- 232	- 295	- 913	- 1747	- 677	- 183	
	Nos. 125	114	98	88	97	104	124	134	131	127	133	138	
	Means. + 4,3	+ 9,8	+ 6,1	+ 2,8	+ 11,2	+ 3,0	- 1,9	- 2,2	- 7,0	- 13,8	- 5,1	- 1,3	
	+ 4,4	+ 9,9	+ 6,2	+ 2,9	+ 11,3	+ 3,1	- 1,8	- 2,1	- 6,9	- 13,7	- 5,0	- 1,2	
(D) 1881...1884	(Diff.) + 1761	+ 2645	+ 1989	+ 565	+ 1177	- 129	- 845	- 1006	- 2734	- 4365	- 1473	+ 438	
	Nos. 259	232	200	179	193	220	273	306	313	296	284	281	
	Means. + 6,8	+ 11,4	+ 9,9	+ 3,2	+ 6,1	- 0,6	- 3,1	- 3,3	- 8,7	- 14,7	- 5,2	+ 1,6	
	+ 7,5	+ 12,1	+ 10,6	+ 3,9	+ 6,8	+ 0,1	- 2,4	- 2,6	- 8,0	- 14,0	- 4,5	+ 2,3	

Table IV. gives the following four sets of equations of conditions deduced respectively from  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , and  $D$ , of that table. These four sets of equations I shall call  $A'$ ,  $B'$ ,  $C'$ , and  $D'$  respectively.

$A'$ .	$C'$ .
$(-134 X - 500 Y + 45 = 0)$ 1.15	$(-134 X - 500 Y + 44 = 0)$ 1.25
$(-366 X - 366 Y + 83 = 0)$ 1.05	$(-366 X - 366 Y + 99 = 0)$ 1.14
$(-500 X - 134 Y + 93 = 0)$ 0.98	$(-500 X - 134 Y + 62 = 0)$ .98
$(-500 X + 134 Y + 16 = 0)$ 0.78	$(-500 X + 134 Y + 29 = 0)$ .88
$(-366 X + 366 Y + 20 = 0)$ 0.70	$(-366 X + 366 Y + 113 = 0)$ .97
$(-134 X + 500 Y + 15 = 0)$ 0.93	$(-134 X + 500 Y + 31 = 0)$ 1.04
$(+134 X + 500 Y - 68 = 0)$ 1.35	$(+134 X + 500 Y - 18 = 0)$ 1.24
$(+366 X + 366 Y - 35 = 0)$ 1.40	$(+366 X + 366 Y + 21 = 0)$ 1.34
$(+500 X + 134 Y - 93 = 0)$ 1.43	$(+500 X + 134 Y - 69 = 0)$ 1.31
$(+500 X - 134 Y - 88 = 0)$ 1.33	$(+500 X - 134 Y - 137 = 0)$ 1.27
$(+366 X - 366 Y - 14 = 0)$ 1.25	$(+366 X - 366 Y - 50 = 0)$ 1.33
$(+134 X - 500 Y + 109 = 0)$ 1.20	$(+134 X - 500 Y - 12 = 0)$ 1.38
$B'$ .	$D'$ .
$(-134 X - 500 Y + 130 = 0)$ 1.11	$(-134 X - 500 Y + 75 = 0)$ 1.30
$(-366 X - 366 Y + 172 = 0)$ 0.95	$(-366 X - 366 Y + 121 = 0)$ 1.16
$(-500 X - 134 Y + 178 = 0)$ 0.79	$(-500 X - 134 Y + 106 = 0)$ 1.00
$(-500 X + 134 Y + 61 = 0)$ 0.76	$(-500 X + 134 Y + 39 = 0)$ 0.90
$(-366 X + 366 Y + 24 = 0)$ 0.84	$(-366 X + 366 Y + 68 = 0)$ 0.97
$(-134 X + 500 Y - 46 = 0)$ 0.88	$(-134 X + 500 Y + 1 = 0)$ 1.10
$(+134 X + 500 Y - 9 = 0)$ 1.19	$(+134 X + 500 Y - 24 = 0)$ 1.37
$(+366 X + 366 Y - 27 = 0)$ 1.45	$(+366 X + 366 Y - 26 = 0)$ 1.53
$(+500 X + 134 Y - 87 = 0)$ 1.55	$(+500 X + 134 Y - 80 = 0)$ 1.57
$(+500 X - 134 Y - 168 = 0)$ 1.45	$(+500 X - 134 Y - 140 = 0)$ 1.48
$(+366 X - 366 Y - 55 = 0)$ 1.26	$(+366 X - 366 Y - 45 = 0)$ 1.42
$(+134 X - 500 Y + 27 = 0)$ 1.19	$(+134 X - 500 Y + 23 = 0)$ 1.41

The set of equations ( $A'$ ) gives

" " " " ( $B'$ ) "

" " " " ( $C'$ ) "

" " " " ( $D'$ ) "

$$X = +0^\circ.1323 \quad Y = +0^\circ.077$$

$$X = +0^\circ.2134 \quad Y = +0^\circ.060$$

$$X = +0^\circ.1692 \quad Y = +0^\circ.004$$

$$X = +0^\circ.1792 \quad Y = +0^\circ.038$$

These give the following results :—

from $A'$	$N = 75^\circ.602$	$I = 7^\circ.045$
„ $B'$	$N = 76^\circ.379$	$I = 7^\circ.028$
„ $C'$	$N = 76^\circ.184$	$I = 6^\circ.964$
„ $D'$	$N = 75^\circ.992$	$I = 7^\circ.006$

It should be noticed that the values of the ascending node obtained from  $D'$  serves to check the previous determination. The difference amounts to almost forty seconds of arc which I do not consider too much for this kind of determination. A comparison of the values deduced from  $A'$ ,  $B'$ , and  $C'$ , seems to hint at a certain increase in the values of node in time. This was assumed by Spörer, but I do not insist on this point firmly. I also here notice that in his reduction of spot observations, Spörer has since 1880 applied a correction for refraction due to the sun's atmosphere ; so that the heliographic latitudes deduced are somewhat different. I have, however, used the deduced values of longitudes and latitudes without alteration, throughout the long series of 24 years.

The principal conclusion to be drawn from the present calculations is that the values of the ascending node of the sun's equator given by Carrington and Spörer are distinctly smaller than the values now deduced. Wilsing's values, however, resembles mine pretty closely. Finally I venture to propose the following elements for 1861.

$$\begin{aligned} I &= 7^\circ.006 \\ N &= 76^\circ.003 \end{aligned} \quad \text{for 1861}$$

In conclusion I desire to acknowledge my indebtedness to Prof. Terao, Director of the Tōkyō Astronomical Observatory for his kind and valuable suggestions.

