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RESEARCH CENTER FOR ASTRONOMY AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS
1968

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ASTRONOMICAL INSTITUTE NATIONAL OBSERVATORY OF ATHENS

ANNUAL REPORT 1967

The activities of the Astronomical Institute of the National Observatory of Athens and the Pentele Astronomical Station may be summarised as follows:

Staff. Prof. Kotsakis attended the meetings of the IAU General Assembly in Prague (August 1967).

Dr. Macris attended the annual assembly of the Società Astron. Italiana, in October 1967 and presented a paper: «The Flare and the Active Filament on 20 March, 1966».

He also worked at Arcetri on a flare—photometry program.

Dr. S. Svolopoulos, Chief assistant, resigned this post. He was appointed full professor of Astronomy at the University of Ioannina.

Mr. C. Banos, having obtained educational leave, worked for three months, in November, December 1967 and January 1968, at the New Mexico State University Observatory, on the invitation by Dr. B. Smith, Director of that establishment. He carried out a program of photography of planets, Venus, Mars, and Saturn and more particularly of Jupiter on various wave lengths ranging from the IR to the UV. He also obtained 750 microphotometric tracings of Jupiter for the purpose of studying the Red Spot. He like-wise visited the Lowell, Sacramento Peak, and Naval Observatories.

Mr. Th. Prokakis went in February to Freiburg and Anacapri with a IAU grant to examine photographs, obtained, in Greece, of the solar eclipse of May 20, 1966.

Equipment and Installations. The Razdow solar telescope, which has been installed in the small dome of the old building, was brought into commission under the direct supervision of Messrs. G. Banos and Th. Prokakis. Apart from its visual use this instrument registers photographically all chromospheric events on H α and takes photographs in quick succession. Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratories (AFCL) have, by contract with this Observatory, rendered possible the assignment of special technical personnel (Ch. Lemontzoglou, P. Lathouris and J.

Zacharopoulos) for the functioning of this instrument and the processing of the films.

The heliograph, which is in commission on a contract between the AFCRL and Dr. C. Macris, has been used regularly in the course of the year. The K filter was attached to this instrument. Assistants are Mr. A. Tsopanoglou and P. Topitzis.

Time Service. Normal routine Service was carried out by C. Banos, Th. Prokakis and D. Elias in Athens proper, and by Dr C. Chassapis at Pentele: 280 signals were registered by Mr. D. Elias.

Observations. 1) Sun. Photospheric observations were carried out by Mr. D. Elias and the group of American observers of the AWS under Major Mc Cright. These observations cover 347 days.

Chromospheric observations were carried out by G. Banos, Th. Prokakis and the AWS group working under Dr. C. Macris.

Dr. C. Macris continued his chromospheric observations with the treble heliograph. About 20.000 pictures were secured during 1967. Continuous photographic monitoring permitted to register every single center of chromospheric activity from May 18 until August 19. Mr. D. Elias made 1,204 sightings for checking seeing conditions in daytime.

2) Planets. Mr. C. Banos pursued observations of major planets with the Newall telescope at the Pentele Station. He obtained 960 photographs of Jupiter, 720 of Mars and 160 of Saturn.

3) Comets. Comet Tuttle (1967 a) was observed by Mr. D. Elias and Dr. C. Chassapis.

4) Stars. Prof. Kotsakis and assistant Mr. P. Laskaridis, of the University of Athens, made photoelectric observations of short-period variables with the 40 cm equatorial.

Dr. C. Chassapis and Mr. D. Elias continued variable star observations. Mr. Elias observed occultations of stars by the Moon, the Nova Hercules 1967 and meteors.

5) Earth Satellites. Mr. D. Elias made 2,000 observations of earth satellites.

Research Program. Prof. Kotsakis pursued the study of the restricted three-body problem in three dimensional space. A paper entitled «Dispersion of Fragments in the Three Dimensional Restricted Three-body Problem» was sent for publication to the Zeitschrift für Astrophysik.

Dr. C. Macris pursued his research on the dynamical phenomena and the flares in the chromosphere.

Dr. C. Chassapis began computing the light-curve of the variable 184433 BLG 2.

Mr. G. Banos has completed a paper, «Contribution to the study

of turbulence in the solar Photosphere», which was submitted to the University of Athens as PhD thesis.

Mr. C. Banos has begun a photometric study of the jovian Red Spot on various wave lengths.

Mr. Th. Prokakis has studied solar active centers.

Mr. D. Elias worked on correlations between flares and SEA on 27 Kc/s and has studied the variations of the solar diameter by the Schömberg method.

Visits. Several Schools of Athens and from various parts of this country have visited this Observatory in the course of 1967.

Publications 1) G. Banos : L' Eruption d'Importance 2, du 4 Octobre 1965, Solar Physics, 1, 397, 1967.

2) C. Chassapis: Greek Astronomy and the Orpheic Hymns of the second millenium B.C., PhD thesis, Athens 1967.

3) C. Chassapis: Observations d'Etoiles Variables, Journal des Observateurs, 50,374, 1967.

4) D. P. Elias: Observations d'Etoiles Variables, Journal des Observateurs, 50, 381, 1967.

5) D. Kotsakis: Introduction to Astrophysics, Part I, Solar System.

6) D. Kotsakis: The Sundial of Andronicos of Kyrrhos, Bulletin of the Geographical Service of the Army, II Semester, 1967.

7) D. Kotsakis: Observations d'Etoiles Variables, Journal des Observateurs, 50, 389, 1967.

8) D. Kotsakis and P. Laskaridis: Photoelectric measurements of the sky brilliance in Athens and Pentele, Year Book of Scientific Research of the University of Athens.

9) C. Macris: On a Difference of the Chromospheric Background Intensity between the Equatorial and Polar Regions of the Sun, Solar Physics, 1, 101, 1967.

10) C. Macris: The Solar Service of the National Observatory of Athens, Solar Physics, 2, 125, 1967.

11) C. Macris and Th. Prokakis: Study of an Active Region of the Sun during three Rotation Periods. Presented at the Symposium of the IAU, Budapest, September 1967.

The Director
Professor D. Kotsakis

**RESEARCH CENTER
FOR ASTRONOMY AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS
ACADEMY OF ATHENS
ANNUAL REPORT 1967**

Staff. Professor L. N. Mavridis continued offering his services as scientific collaborator of the Center jointly with his duties as Chairman of the Department of Geodetic Astronomy, University of Thessaloniki. Mr. P.G. Alexiou continued working as Research Assistant of the Center until January 31, 1967, on a grant of the Royal Hellenic Research Foundation. With his death, on February 28, 1967, the Center lost one of its most devoted and promising scientific collaborators. Mr. C.P. Poulakos continued working as Research Assistant of the Center during the entire year on a grant of the Royal Hellenic Research Foundation. Mr. G. Vassiloglou continued working until January 31, 1967 as Research Assistant of the Center on a grant covered from funds made available through the Scientific Affairs Division, North Atlantic Treaty Organization. From the same funds were covered also the grants of Mr. S. Psomas, graduate in Physics, who worked as scientific collaborator of the Center from April 1 to October 8, 1967 and Miss A. Gouva, who worked as technical assistant in the Center from October 1 to December 31, 1967.

Equipment. One calculating machine Diehl Transmatic S was acquired.

Research Programs. The following research programs were carried out during 1967:

1) Statistical Study of Solar Activity (Professor J. Xanthakis). The analytical study of the variation of the different indices of solar activity within each sunspot cycle and from cycle to cycle, reported last year, was continued. The results of these investigations were included in the papers: a) J. Xanthakis, The Different Indices of Solar Activity and the Time of Rise. In J. Xanthakis (Editor) «Solar Physics», John Wiley and Sons Ltd., pp. 157-227, 1967 and b) J. Xanthakis, Probable Values of the Time of Rise for the Forthcoming Sunspot Cycles. Nature, Vol. 215, pp. 1046-1048, 1967.

2) Investigation of Problems of Star Formation (Professors J. Xanthakis and L. N. Mavridis in collaboration with Professor B. Ström-gren). The survey of the stars with ultraviolet excess, contained in an area of 2.000 square degrees in high galactic latitudes reported last year was continued.

3) Distribution of the M—,S—and C—Type Stars in Selected Areas of the Milky Way (Professor L. N. Mavridis). The photographic photometry of the M—,S—and C—Type stars found in the six areas centered on the galactic clusters NGC 129, NGC 188, NGC 752, NGC 7789, NGC 7790 and M 25 was continued.

Publications. The following publications appeared in 1967:

Contributions from the Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics, Academy of Athens, Series I (Astronomy):

No. 19: J. Xanthakis, The Different Indices of Solar Activity and the Time of Rise. In J. Xanthakis (Editor) «Solar Physics», John Wiley and Sons Ltd., pp. 157-227, 1967.

No. 20: J. Xanthakis, Probable Values of the Time of Rise for the Forthcoming Sunspot Cycles. Nature Vol. 215, pp. 1046-1048, 1967.

Also the volume «Solar Physics» containing the Proceedings of the Advanced Study Institute on «Solar Physics» held under the Auspices of the NATO Science Committee in Lagonissi near Athens, Greece, September 12 - 26, 1965 and edited by J. Xanthakis, was published in 1967 by John Wiley and Sons Ltd.

Miscellaneous. Professor J. Xanthakis was the head of the Greek delegation in the XIIIth General Assembly of the International Astronomical Union held in Prague, August 22-31, 1967. The same meeting was also attended by Mr. C.P. Poulakos. Professor J. Xanthakis attended also the International Astronomical Union Symposium No. 35 on the «Structure and Development of Solar Active Regions» held in Budapest, September 4-8, 1967.

The Superintendent of the Center
Professor J. Xanthakis

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY
UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

ANNUAL REPORT 1967

Staff. Assistant professor Dr. S. Svolopoulos has been elected full professor of Astronomy in the School of Physics and Mathematics the newly founded University of Ioannina and has assumed his duties as from March 1967.

The staff of this Department comprises Professor Kotsakis who is Head of the Department, the Chief Assistant Dr. Gr. Antonacopoulos and the assistants Messrs P. Lascaridis, E. Sarris and M. Zikidis. A proposal was submitted for filling the vacancy left by the withdrawal of Mr. Frangakis. Mr. Lambridis, B.Sc. has been appointed as extra assistant in replacement of Mr. C. Akrivos.

Teaching. Prof. Kotsakis has held a course of Astrophysics and Mathematical Astronomy to the fourth year students in Physics and Mathematics.

Assist. prof. Svolopoulos has lectured on special subjects of Astrophysics.

The same students have followed courses of Practical Astronomy in this Department and at the Observatory of Athens and at the Station of Pentele. Training was the responsibility of Assistants Antonacopoulos, Laskaridis, Sarris, and Zikidis. A total of 183 students of Physics and 290 of Mathematics attended these courses.

Equipment. The following instruments have been purchased by this Department:

- 1) A measuring microscope for measuring plates. Constructor Carl Zeiss Jena.
- 2) An electric typewriter I.B.M. model 715 equipped with Greek, Latin and mathematical keyboards.
- 3) A marine chronometer by Ulysse Nardin, model 10151.
- 4) An equatorial drive and a sidereal clock, model HPT U/22, C. Zeiss, Jena.
- 5) A solar camera, 9X12, by Jenoptic, Jena.

Meetings. Prof. Kotsakis attended the IAU 13th General Assembly in Prague (August 20-30) as a representative of the University of Athens.

Research. Prof. Kotsakis investigated the three dimensional three-body problem. A paper under the title «The Dispersion of Fragments in the Three Dimensional Restricted Three—Body Problem» is under publication in the Zeitschrift für Astrophysik.

2) Prof. Kotsakis and Mr. Lascaridis have worked on the theoretical aspect of observations made in Athens and Pentele of the distribution of sky brilliance. Results will be published in the University Year Book of 1968.

3) They have likewise examined star-extinction problems useful for photoelectric observations of variable stars in Athens and Pentele.

4) Prof. Kotsakis and Mr. Laskaridis have made photoelectric observations of short-period variables. The photoelectric photometer attached to the 40 cm Doridis equatorial was used.

5) Dr. Antonacopoulos investigated orbits in connection with the restricted three-body problem.

6) Dr. Antonacopoulos and Mr. Sarris have measured double-stars with the Lyot micrometer of the Athens Observatory.

7) Mr. Lascaridis worked on the data of the solar eclipse of May 20, 1966. and published his results.

8) Dr. Antonacopoulos has obtained a one-year training leave effective as from August 15, 1967. He used it to work at the University of Liverpool on subjects related to Dynamical Astronomy.

9) Mr. Sarris and Mr. Zikidis have studied theoretical aspects of Celestial Mechanics.

10) Mr. Zikidis has studied the theory of certain problems related to the geometry of solar eclipses.

Publications. 1) D. Kotsakis: Introduction to Astrophysics Part I. Solar System.

2) D. Kotsakis. The Sun dials of Andronikos of Kyrrhos, reprinted from the Bulletin of the Geographical Service of the Army. 2nd Sem. 1967 No 92.

3) D. Kotsakis: Stellar parallaxes and distances. Bulletin of the Geogr. Serv. of the Army, I. Sem. 1967.

4) D. Kotsakis and P. Laskaridis: Photoelectric Measurements of the Sky brilliance in Athens and Pentele, Greece. Reprint from the Scientific Publications of the University of Athens, 1967.

5) M. Zikidis. Calculation of the rate of coverage of the solar disk as function of time during solar eclipses. Publications of the Laboratory of Astronomy, No 23, Series 1, 1967.

6) P. Laskaridis: Photoelectric Measurements of the Zenith Light during the annular solar eclipse of May 20, 1966. Reprinted from the Bulletin of the Geogr. Service of the Army, II Sem. No 92, 1967.

The Head of the Department
Professor D. Kotsakis

ASTRONOMICAL DEPARTMENT
UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI

ANNUAL REPORT 1967

Staff. Dr. G. Contopoulos worked as a Senior Research Associate at the Institute for Space Studies in New York from June 26 to August 13, 1967. He was elected Associate of the Royal Astronomical Society of London in May 10, 1967.

During the 13th Meeting of the International Astronomical Union in Prague Dr. Contopoulos was elected President of Commission 33 (Structure and Dynamics of the Galactic System).

Dr. G. Bozis was appointed Chief Assistant in February 1967.

Dr. Bozis and Dr. Hadjidemetriou worked at the University of Manchester from July 19 to August 19, 1967. They were elected members of the IAU during the Prague Meeting.

Dr. M. Moutsoulas received his Ph. D. degree from the University of Manchester in June 1967. He was appointed Lecturer at the same University and he resigned from our Department in September 1967.

Mr. S. Arsenis resigned in August 1967.

Two students, Mr. A. Pavliotis and Mr. G. Kolovos, worked as volunteer assistants in our Department.

Scientific work during 1967: 1) Dr. Contopoulos worked on the following subjects:

a) The three-body problem in the post-Newtonian approximation of General Relativity.

b) Finding the periodic orbits and their stability in various dynamical fields by the use of the third integral. A paper on this subject will appear in the near future. A second paper is now prepared.

c) The evolution of the arms of a spiral galaxy (with Dr. Barbanis).

d) Study of the properties of invariant curves in two dimensional potentials, jointly with Dr. Hadjidemetriou. A paper on this subject will appear soon in the Astronomical Journal.

2) Dr. Barbanis studied the changes of plane galactic orbits under the influence of a rotating spiral field. A paper under the title «Plane

Galactic Orbits in a Spiral Field» was accepted for publication in the Astrophysical Journal. Further he found evidence of the existence of a new integral in a logarithmic spiral field. A paper on this subject is under preparation.

3) Dr. Bozis studied the figure eight periodic orbits of the restricted three-body problem. There are two families of periodic orbits containing figure eight orbits namely the families j and k. These families can be generated by collision periodic orbits. Dr. Bozis found all collision periodic orbits of the j and k type for various values of the mass-ratio. He then proved that for certain values of the mass-ratio there exist more than one distinct families j and k, containing figure eight orbits, simple periodic orbits around both primaries and double figure eight orbits looping around both primaries. A paper under the title «Families of figure eight periodic orbits of the restricted three-body problem» will be submitted for publication in the Astronomical Journal.

4) Dr. Hadjidemetriou worked on the following subjects:

a) The two-body problem with repeated mass-ejections. A paper on this subject will appear in the near future.

b) The problem of mass-exchange in close binary systems. A paper on this subject is now being prepared.

c) Stability of symmetric periodic orbits in some two dimensional potentials. A paper on this subject was published in the Astronomical Journal.

5) Mr. Papageorgiou continued his daily solar observations both of the photosphere and the chromosphere. He was helped in his work by Mr. Kolovos. The observations cover 330 days and the total patrol time amounts to 960 hours. Monthly reports were sent to various International Centers.

Publications. «Contributions from the Astronomical Department of the University of Thessaloniki».

No 30. G. Contopoulos and S. Chandrasekhar: «On a Post-Galilean Transformation Appropriate to the Post-Newtonian Theory of Einstein, Infeld and Hoffman», Proceedings of the Royal Society A **298**, 123, 1967.

No 31. G. Contopoulos: «Resonance Phenomena and the Non-Applicability of the «Third» Integral, Bulletin Astronomique **2**, Fascicule 1, 223, 1967.

No 32. G. Contopoulos: «Stellar Orbits and the Stability of Spiral Structure», Colloque International d'Astrophysique, Liège **41**, 213, 1967.

No 33. G. Contopoulos: «Integrals of motion in the Three-Dimensional Restricted Three-Body Problem», Astronomical Journal **72**, 191, 1967.

No 34. B. Barbanis and K. Prendergast: «Gravitational Potential

of an Disk Spiral Galaxy», *Astronomical Journal* **72**, 215, 1967.

No 35. G. Contopoulos: «Integrals of Motion in the Elliptic Restricted Three-Body Problem», *Astronomical Journal* **72**, 669, 1967.

No 36. J. Hadjidemetriou: «Secular Variation of Mass and the Evolution of Binary Systems», *Advances in Astronomy and Astrophysics* **5**, 131, 1967.

No 37. G. Bozis: «The Applicability of a New Integral in the Restricted Three-Body Problem», *Astronomical Journal* **72**, 380, 1967.

No 38. G. Contopoulos: «Applications of the Third Integral in the Galaxy», *Lectures in Applied Mathematics*, Vol. 9 *Relativity Theory and Astrophysics*, 2. Galactic Structure 98, 1967.

No 39. J. Hadjidemetriou: «Some Properties of the Solution of the First-Order Variational Equations of the Restricted Three-Body Problem», *Astronomical Journal* **72**, 865, 1967.

Other Publications. B. Barbanis, G. Bozis, J. Hadjidemetriou: «Exercises in Astronomy» part III, *Introduction to Astrophysics*, (in greek).

Meetings. Dr. Contopoulos participated in the following meetings:

1) Summer Institute in Dynamical Astronomy, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, U.S.A., (July 9-13, 1967), where he gave four seminars on the stability of Galactic Orbits.

2) IAU Colloquium «Le Problème Gravitationnel des N-corps» Paris, France (August 15-21, 1967). Dr. Contopoulos was a member of the Organizing Committee. He presented preliminary results of his work with Dr. Barbanis on the evolution of a spiral galaxy and on a new integral in spiral galaxies.

3) General Assembly of the International Astronomical Union (Prague, August 21-31, 1967). Dr. Contopoulos was the chairman of a joint meeting of Commissions 33 and 34 on the theory of spiral structure.

Dr. Barbanis participated in the Paris Symposium and the General Assembly of the IAU.

Dr. Bozis, Dr. Hadjidemetriou, Mr. Papageorgiou and Miss Papanicolaou likewise attended the General Assembly of the IAU.

Lectures-Seminars. The courses and the seminars of the Astronomical Department continued as in previous years.

Dr. Contopoulos gave seminars at the Universities of Manchester and Geneva during the summer of 1967.

The Head of the Department
Prof. G. Contopoulos

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

ANNUAL REPORT 1967

Staff. This consists of the Chief Assistants Mr. G. Katsiaris and D. Vlachos both bachelors in Mathematics and Surveyors and Mr. D. Grechiotis who is a civil engineer and Surveyor and offers his services on a voluntary bases.

Equipment. The following items have been purchased from credits made available to this Department in 1967:

- 1) TEKTRONIX Type 564, Oscilloscope.
- 2) » Type 2B67 Time Base Unit.
- 3) » Type 3A1 Amplifier.
- 4) GENERAL RADIO CO., Type 1123-A, Dipical Synchronometer.

Teaching and Training. In 1966-67 Prof. Argyrakos, Head of the Department, held a course in General, Spherical, Practical, and Geodetic Astronomy assisted by his Chief Assistants G. Catsiaris and D. Vlachos. Seminars on specialised subjects were likewise held this year for senior undergraduates.

The courses and training were attended by 61+105 students of the third and fourth year of the School of Rural and Survey Engineers.

Lectures. Chief Assistant Mr. D. Vlachos gave a lecture at the Eugenidis Foundation «on Astronomy and Navigation». This lecture was held within the framework of the Nautical Week.

The Head of the Department
Prof. J. Argyrakos

DEPARTMENT OF GEODETIC ASTRONOMY
UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI
ANNUAL REPORT 1967

Staff. The staff of the Department on December 31, 1967 included the following scientists : 1) Professor L.N. Mavridis, Chairman, 2) Mr. P. L. Ivrisimtsis, Assistant, 3) Mr. A.C. Tsioumis, Assistant and 4) Mr. Th. P. Contoroupi, Assistant.

Equipment. The following equipment was acquired in 1967: 1) Three theodolites Wild T2, 2) One theodolite Wild T3, 3) One theodolite Wild T16, 4) One Gyro Attachment Wild GAK-1, 5) One Astronomy Data Acquisition System Hewlett Packard DYMEC 6694, 6) One Polar-Coordinator Ott 229, 7) One Orthogonal-Coordinator Ott 241, 8) One Precision- Pantograph Ott 100B, 9) Eight calculating machines Facit CM2-16, 10) Two air-conditionners Tecohnobel OOA/15.

Research Programs. The following research programs were carried out during 1967:

1) Photoelectric Photometry of Galactic Cepheids (Professor L. N. Mavridis partly in collaboration with Dr. K. Bahner). The study of the light variation of the anomalous cepheid TU Cas with the help of the recently developed new method, as well as the discussion of the photoelectric two-color observations of the remaining 17 galactic cepheids reported last year were continued. A new series of photoelectric-three-color observations of the same 18 galactic cepheids was initiated with the 38 cm. reflector of the Stefanion Astronomical Station.

2) Rotational Velocities of the Members of Selected Open Clusters. (Professor L.N. Mavridis in collaboration with Professor R. Kraft). The study of the rotational velocities of 50 stars in the area of the open cluster NGC 6633 reported last year was continued.

Also the following research programs were carried out during the same year in cooperation with the Research Center for Astronomy and Applied Mathematics, Academy of Athens, to the annual report of which we refer for details:

1) Investigation of Problems of Star Formation (Professor L.N. Mavridis in collaboration with Professors B. Strömgren and J. Xanthakis).

2) Distribution of the M-, S- and C- Type Stars in Selected Areas of the Milky Way (Professor L.N. Mavridis).

Publications. The following publication appeared in 1967: Contributions from the Department of Geodetic Astronomy, University of Thessaloniki: No. 1: L.N. Mavridis, The Distribution of the M-, S- and C-Type Stars in the Milky Way. M. Hack (Editor), Colloquium on Late-Type Stars. Proceedings of the Colloquium held in Trieste, June 13-17, 1966, pp. 420-446, 1967.

Teaching. Professor L.N. Mavridis gave during the academic year 1967-68 courses in General and Spherical Astronomy for the 3rd year undergraduates and in Geodetic Astronomy and Higher Geodesy for the 4th year undergraduates of the School of Technology, Division of Rural and Surveying Engineering of the University.

Visitors. Professor Hans Kienle former Director of the Landessternwarte, Heidelberg visited the Department and gave a colloquium lecture.

Miscellaneous. Professor L.N. Mavridis attended the following international scientific meetings: 1) the XIIIth General Assembly of the International Astronomical Union held in Prague, August 22-31, 1967 and 2) the International Astronomical Union Symposium No. 35 on the «Structure and Development of the Solar Active Regions», held in Budapest, September 4-8, 1967.

The Chairman of the Department
Professor L.N. Mavridis

DEPARTMENT OF ASTRONOMY
UNIVERSITY OF IOANNINA

ANNUAL REPORT 1967

A new Department of Astronomy has been founded in 1966 at the new University of Ioannina. Ioannina is a town in the Northwestern part of Greece at a distance of some 60 km from the Greek-Albanian border and about 400 km from Thessaloniki. The new University for the present is considered as a section of the University of Thessaloniki and consists of the Faculty of Philosophy and the Faculty of Mathematics. The first of these Faculties is functioning since 1964, while the second began operating in September 1966.

An Organizing Committee of Professors of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Thessaloniki was appointed to supervise the foundation of the new Faculty of Mathematics since its constitution in 1966. The chairman of the Organizing Committee is Dr. J. Anastassiadis, full professor of Analysis.

In February 6, 1967, Dr. S.N. Svolopoulos, formerly assistant professor of Astronomy at the University of Athens, was elected full professor of Astronomy and took charge of the newly founded Department of Astronomy in April 12, 1967.

The tasks in the new Department deal with the organizing and construction of a University Observatory and Laboratory for undergraduate as well as post-graduate work in Astronomy. A 25-inch reflector has been ordered, in January 1967, at «Astro - Mechanics», Inc., Austin, Texas U.S.A. The construction of this telescope has just been completed. Dr. H. Smith, Chairman of the Department of Astronomy in the University of Texas, was kind enough to follow the telescope's construction.

At the same time an effort has been made to find the most appropriate site for the erection of the Observatory.

The organization of a Laboratory to facilitate undergraduate teaching and the provision of an Astronomical Library are also under way.

The Head of the Department
Prof. S. N. Svolopoulos