

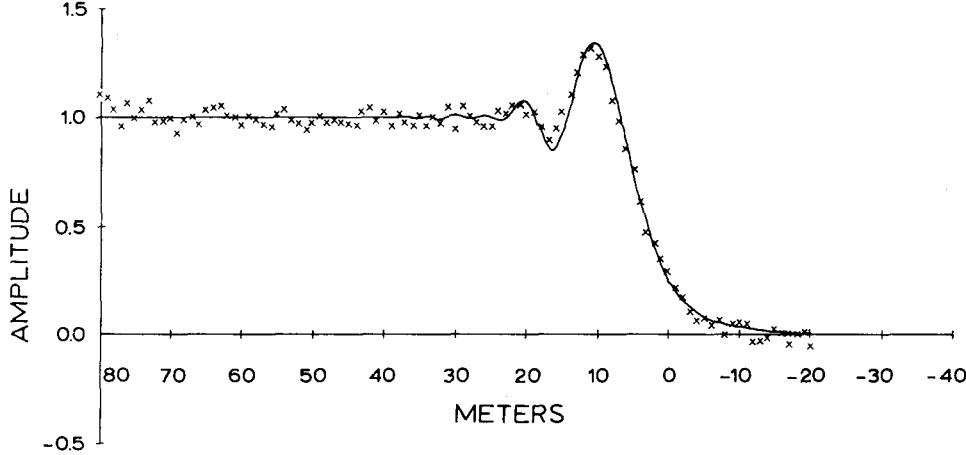
# CLOSING REMARKS

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Several things are clear from this Joint Discussion. Interest in this type of work is wide and could be wider. The subject touches on an immense range of topics from geodesy and celestial mechanics to astrophysics. Observations at different observatories do not conflict with each other, but rather reinforce one another. This is true of timings, but still more true of observations of binary stars and of stars with perceptible angular diameters. There is no real difficulty in identifying as double a wide pair with

DATE 15 MAR 70	RUN 1401	SAO NUMBER 77509	BD NUMBER +28 0878	HD NUMBER 38233	MAG 8.6	SP TYPE B9	INSTRUMENT MCD 36	OBSERVER REN. DSE	FILTER CLEAR	APERTURE 8 SEC ARC
CHANNELS 400	MS/CH 2	CLOCK START 2 37 0	CHNL COUNT 27414	WW OFFSET 5.2	ZERO CHNL 213	PHENOM DISAPPEAR				
173	165	173	165	163	169	165	162	165	161	162
159	169	173	169	164	160	171	158	152	169	171
166	162	171	175	163	163	154	155	157	161	162
174	171	174	170	155	165	153	153	163	154	148
165	168	162	171	163	168	155	161	161	156	157
161	172	164	167	161	160	166	157	159	165	161
165	165	174	153	172	166	165	165	154	156	162
160	169	166	153	160	161	169	159	158	161	166
173	177	157	171	160	159	161	170	163	163	162
167	168	155	160	155	152	163	163	162	161	161
178	168	158	154	158	155	170	156	165	176	153
176	170	159	166	171	172	173	163	163	153	161
159	169	174	162	169	164	164	160	160	170	155
165	174	174	163	166	161	147	156	162	161	173
173	191	168	166	165	160	163	172	154	155	165
149	164	166	158	162	166	171	165	169	163	161
168	168	166	160	172	164	161	160	168	157	158
176	177	152	151	177	167	162	160	151	158	157
177	177	167	154	172	149	156	159	158	163	151
173	171	166	154	162	145	161	166	174	166	169



RMS OF NOISE 0.0394	TIME OF OCCULTATION 2 37 54.6773	PREDICTED RATE 0.1567 M/MS	DERIVED RATE 0.1398 M/MS	SLOPE -1.6
RMS OF FIT 0.0370				
BKGND 50.8	SIGNAL 111.7	25 PC CHNL 323.7	SPEC TEMP 16920	DIST (KM) 392791
			MSA/M 0.5251	LUNAR DIR 96.1

Fig. 1.

a separation of the order of 0".01. Duplicate observations from different places are necessary if we are to infer the conventional parameters of position angle and separation for a given pair. Duplicate observations are still more essential in cases explainable as close pairs with separations less than 0".01.

We do not in any sense wish to usurp the function of the Nautical Almanac Offices, and we, for our part, will continue to send timings to them. My colleagues have computer programs which, with slight and, hopefully, temporary reservations, will determine times from traces automatically.

However, because of the desirability of correlating traces of occultations of the same star obtained at different observatories, we are going to offer to establish a data center for results of this type. We offer to reduce traces sent to us and to return to the observer a fiche of the type shown in Figure 1 which records the observation and analysis in standard form. We do not intend to publish other people's observations. We will, however, try to correlate duplicate or repeat observations and make them available for study when enough material has been accumulated. We hope that our colleagues will take advantage of this.

To conclude, we should remember that although timing accuracy now achieved may surpass that level which is at present realistic in the light of our knowledge of the lunar limb, this will not be so in the future, and present results will have an archival value to future astronomers.