OCCULTATIONS BY CENTAURS, TNOS, AND SPECIAL MAIN-BELT ASTEROIDS DURING THE REST OF 2023 AND BY TROJAN ASTEROIDS IN 2023 & EARLY 2024

For the IOTA meeting by zoom, July 15, 2023

David W. Dunham



IOTA Observations of Occultations by Comets







On 2022 Dec. 4, a first occ'n of a 15th-mag. star by SW-1 was observed at SOAR in Chile, allowing Lucky Star to update the orbit accurately. On 2022 Dec. 19, IOTA observers worked with Lucky Star & others to record the 1st multi-chord occultation by 29P/Schwassman-Wachmann 1 (SW1). IOTA observed at least 2 more SW1 events, on 2022 Dec 29 in NM and 2023 May 7 in the UK. But for the best info. about SW1 occultations, see Buie et al.'s ACM 2023 E-Poster #2445.

Other observed occultations by SW-1

Vadim Nikitin recorded the 2022 Dec. 29th Event near Roswell, NM and Richard Nugent saw it in cen. Texas, but wasn't able to record it.



Figure 1: Sky-plane profile of SW1 from PO20230128. Blue lines show detections, red are negative, and gray are for no data. The formal elliptical fit is shown. The earlier successful events allowed Marc Buie at SwRI to mount a multi-station mobile effort with **RECON** systems in eastern Washington for the 2023 Jan. 28th event, left, from his ACM 2023 abstract, but it was not included in his ePoster so this should not be shared until it is published. Note that this was just a week before the huge Polymele effort in Kansas on 2023 Feb. 4 UT.

Occultations by Distant Objects, rest of 2023 in North America



Occultations by Distant Objects, rest of 2023 in North America

Date	•	τ	J.T.	Diam	Dur.	Star	Mag	Eln	:	Star	d	Path		Planet	Moo	on		R.J	A. (J200)0)	Dec	2.
m	d	h	m	km	sec	mag	Drop	o					No	Name	Dist	ill	h	m	s	0	۲	"
Jul	31	9	25	188	5.5s	14.6	4.6	34	UCAC4	653-044855		LA-KY	54598	Bienor	164	97	6	42	17.421	40	26	37.59
Sep	28	7	11	364	63.5s	13.5	7.5	92	UCAC4	607-028826		FL-ON	19521	Chaos	103	98	6	9	56.940	31	21	23.25
Nov	21	5	18	1577	72.8s	11.8	2.2	172	TYC 12	236-00841-1		NL-CA		Titania	72	59	3	12	17.324	17	32	27.04
Nov	23	0	25	139	4.9s	14.8	4.2	38	UCAC4	373-131780	s	FL-low		Weywot	87	78	18	29	5.730	-15	24	54.02
Nov	23	0	32	1095	37.9s	14.8	4.2	38	UCAC4	373-131780	s	TX-GA	50000	Quaoar	87	78	18	29	5.730	-15	24	54.02
Nov	25	3	55	5150	367s	14.4	0.01	88	UCAC4	386-150960		wNAm		Titan	64	94	22	12	47.559	-12	50	56.62
Nov	26	7	43	76	3.2s	14.7	3.5	112	UCAC4	695-050057		CA-NS	468861	2013 LU28	3 78	99	9	24	15.663	48	54	52.09
Dec	30	0	9	76	2.0s	15.8	2.3	141	UCAC4	703-049020		Berm	468861	2013 LU28	3 29	91	8	59	57.152	50	30	12.43

Occultations by Trojan Asteroids during 2023 in North America

Upcoming Lucy events underlined in red, bright Hektor event in green



Occultations by Trojan Asteroids during 2023 in North America

2023 OCCULTATIONS BY TROJAN ASTEROIDS

				RA (2000) Dec	Dur.	ļ:
Date UT	Occulting Body	Star	Mag.	hms °′′	′ ∆Mag. s	Path
Jan. 10 01:50	15094 Polymele	UCAC4 630-037427	12.8	06 53 22.1 +35 52 5	58 5.6 1.3	BS-Mex
Feb. 2 06:26	11351 Leucus	UCAC4 535-023400	14.0	06 05 56.5 +16 59 5	4.1 3.7	NS-AK
Feb. 4 01:43	15094 Polymele	UCAC4 631-037227	13.3	06 38 54.7 +36 01 2	7 5.5 2.0	NS-NM
Jul. 1 06:03	2241 Alcathous	UCAC4 464-127791	11.2	21 44 08.5 +02 40 0	08 5.0 11.6	MA-BC
Jul. 21 07:06	1173 Anchises	UCAC4 364-177314	12.9	20 12 04.4 -17 20 5	6 2.4 7.5	ON-BC
Aug.12 11:41	624 Hektor	UCAC4 627-040447	9.6	07 34 34.7 +35 18 5	58 5.7 4.8 I	Baja-NM
Sep. 9 11:09	11351 Leucus	UCAC4 509-045671	13.2	08 23 22.7 +11 43 (6 5.6 1.0	Baja-TX
Nov. 1 00:15	1173 Anchises	UCAC4 364-176248	12.9	20 02 18.5 -17 12 2	23 3.4 5.7	AR-NL
Nov. 28 06:32	11351 Leucus	UCAC4 483-047928	13.5	08 58 22.4 +06 33 3	5 5.1 5.5	QC-NL
Dec. 16 11:26	911 Agamemnon	UCAC4 642-044054	13.2	08 29 48.3 +38 16 0	6 2.2 13.3	TX-OR
Dec. 27 06:39	21900 Orus	UCAC4 541-037650	13.5	07 05 38.8 +18 05 0	05 3.4 3.0	ON-BC

Lucy Target Occultations, Early 2024 from https://lucy.swri.edu/occ/predictions.html







The Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) is also interested in occultations by other Jupiter Trojan asteroids, to extend the science that will be obtained by NASA's Lucy mission.

Discovery and confirmation of the satellite of (4337) Arecibo, 2021

Discovery by Peter Nosworthy & Dave Gault, May 19, west of Sydney, NSW, Australia Confirmation by Richard Nolthenius and Kirk Bender, June 9, central California, USA



Diagram by Dave Herald using the Occult4 program. For more, including the videos, please visit <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_Cc5Or1FFw</u>. Gaia confirmed the duplicity from the small wobble of the center of figure, finding a period of 1.3 days. On 2022 May 16, Nosworthy and Gault found from another occultation that (172376) 2002 YE25 is likely a binary with ~3-km objects about 15 km apart; see

http://hazelbrookobservatory.com/ye25/#:~:text=Introduction,is%20probably%20two%20smaller%20objects.

The best occultations of stars by Special Main-Belt Asteroids in North America during 2023



From the RASC Observer's Handbook and https://occultations.org/publications/rasc/2023/nam23MBspecialoccs.pdf.

Table of information for events on the map on the previous slide.

2023 OCCULTATIONS BY SPECIAL MAIN-BELT ASTEROIDS

						RA (2000)) Dec		Dur.	
Date	UT	Occulting Body	Star		Mag.	h m s	0 1 11	∆Mag.	S	Path
Feb. 9	06:08	957 Camelia	UCAC4	425-048350	13.3	08 39 41.6	-05 05 33	3 1.2	6.5	BS-CA
Feb. 11	10:40	957 Camelia	UCAC4	426-047968	13.7	08 37 57.0	-04 56 29	0.9	6.6	IL-OR
Feb. 22	01:30	4552 Nabelek	TYC	1247-00212-1	12.8	03 36 01.0	+21 44 22	2 5.8	0.3	KS-DE
Feb. 27	12:44	33074 1997 WP21	UCAC4	340-175407	12.6	18 55 07.6	-22 08 29	6.4	0.6	CA-NM
Mar. 18	01:00	Alexhelios	TYC	0634-00190-1	10.7	02 19 49.1	+10 35 22	2 1.5	0.20	FL-BS
Mar. 18	01:00	216 Kleopatra	TYC	0634-00190-1	10.7	02 19 49.1	+10 35 22	2 1.5	2.9	LA-FL
Apr. 5	00:48	216 Kleopatra	UCAC4	514-004708	12.4	02 57 59.8	+12 41 49	0.5	2.7	VA-NC
Apr. 5	00:48	Alexhelios	UCAC4	514-004708	12.4	02 57 59.8	+12 41 49	0.5	0.19	NY-LI
Apr. 6	09:11	234 Barbara	UCAC4	415-122294	13.9	19 19 54.0	-07 00 60	0.6	2.0	AB-ON
Apr. 28	09:17	172376 2002 YE25	UCAC4	432-115773	12.1	22 14 10.4	-03 41 46	8.8	0.12	CO-MI
Jun. 11	05:53	16 Psyche	UCAC4	391-062150	13.6	14 50 37.7	-11 56 48	0.1	28.3	NC-OR
Jul. 20	10:04	253 Mathilde	UCAC4	531-006629	13.1	03 35 31.9	+16 08 10) 2.1	1.8	CA-MT
Jul. 25	07:00	234 Barbara	UCAC4	416-141013	11.9	20 14 26.2	-06 57 13	0.3	5.6	NB-Mex
Jul. 28	02:52	52246 Donaldjohansc	n TYC	5234-00643-1	11.5	22 48 20.6	-01 08 58	8.3	0.6	DZ-FL
Aug.16	02:49	1723762002 YE25	UCAC4	488-143179	13.0	22 39 09.8	+07 32 19	6.5	0.3	NJ-NM
Aug.21	05:16	234 Barbara	TYC	5750-00865-1	10.7	19 58 20.0	-14 41 46	5 0 .9	5.9	ON-Mex
Aug.27	06:23	52246 Donaldjohansor	UCAC4	438-122513	12.3	22 25 23.5	-02 35 50) <u>6.7</u>	0.3	SK-BC
Aug.27	07:01	319 Leona	UCAC4	525-012493	13.8	05 21 37.5	+14 51 37	2.0	2.2	TX-NC
Sep. 10	08:59	216 Kleopatra	UCAC4	497-050188	13.1	08 21 04.9	+09 15 05	5 0.4	3.2	IA-ME
Oct. 12	01:09	513 Centesima	TYC	5749-00630-1	8.2	20 21 10.9	-11 45 55	6.6	4.8	Mex
Oct. 12	07:20	4337 Arecibo	UCAC4	537-005401	12.6	03 05 18.8	+17 22 48	5.3	1.7	BS-Mex
Oct. 29	23:51	4337 Arecibo	UCAC4	534-004986	11.7	02 53 22.8	+16 40 34	5.8	1.3	QC-MI
Nov. 9	08:59	Alexhelios	UCAC4	451-048971	12.7	09 38 44.5	+00 07 14	0.6	0.4	SK-NS
Nov. 9	08:59	216 Kleopatra	UCAC4	451-048971	12.7	09 38 44.5	+00 07 14	4 0.6	5.9	QC-NL









https://lesia.obspm.fr/lucky-star/occ.php?p=122624





468861 2013 LU28 occults UCAC4 690-050703 on 2023 Aug 18 from 22h 18m to 22h 22m U

Star: (Dia < 0.1 mas) Mv 13.2; Mb 13.5; Mr 12.7 RA = 9 21 51.8236 (astrometric) Dec = 47 56 21.994 [of Date: 9 23 25, 47 50 27] Prediction of 2023 Jul 15.2 Reliable 1.0 (good). Durations: Max = 4.1 secs 1km = 0.054 secs, 1mas = 0.38 secs Mag Drop: 5.2 [99%]v, 5.3 [99%]r Sun : Dist = 36° Moon: Dist = 52°, illum = 6% Error 45.3 x 21.3 mas in PA 48° Asteroid: Mag = 18.4 Dia = 76 ±7km, 11 mas Parallax = 0.905" Hourly dRA = 0.765s dDec = -5.62" JPL#28:INTG:2023-Apr-26, Known errors





2023 Aug. 21, back to Salina, KS for the Barbara Occultation?





Lucy mission main-belt target









From https://lesia.obspm.fr/lucky-star/occ.php?p=124402

Chaos, GaiaDR3+pmGaiaDR3, NIMAv10 updated: 2023-03-29 by Lucky Star Offset: 0.0mas 0.0mas 2023 Sept. 28 Chaos -1 yyyy mm dd hh:mm:ss.s RA star J2000 DE star J2000 C/A P/A vel Delta 2023-09-28 07:14:48.1 06 09 56.9405 +31 21 23.245 0.165 303.39 5.73 41.0980 12.1 11.1 8.8

My path for this is wrong; here's the correct one from Lucky Star



One of the lowest-numbered unobserved (by occultations) asteroids









50000 Weywot #1 occults UCAC4	373-131780 on 2023 Nov 23	from 0h 26m to 0h 33m UT
Star: (Dia < 0.1 mas)	Durations: Max = 4.9 secs	Asteroid:
Mv 14.7; Mb 16.4; Mr 13.5	1km = 0.035 secs, 1mas = 1.1 secs	Mag = 18.9
RA = 18 29 5.7300 (astrometric)	Mag Drop: 4.2 [98%]v, 5.0 [99%]r	$Dia = 140 \pm 20 \text{km}, 4 \text{ mas}$
Dec = -15 24 54.019	Sun : Dist = 37°	Parallax = 0.202"
[of Date: 18 30 26, -15 24 0]	Moon: Dist = 87°, illum = 78%	Hourly dRA = 0.228s
Prediction of 2022 Aug 14.8	Error 9.3 x 5.3 mas in PA 87°	dDec = -0.10"
Reliable 0.9 (good),	JPL#43:2022-Aug-09 Binary solution :	1 : Kepler, Known errors + binary orbit

1 moon. {Weywot} 81km at 13800km, Period 12.260days Orbit@Miriade



50000 Quaoar occults UCAC4	373-131780 on 2023 Nov 23 from	Oh 26m to Oh 34m UT
Star: (Dia < 0.1 mas)	Durations: Max = 37.9 secs	Asteroid:
Mv 14.7; Mb 16.4; Mr 13.5	1km = 0.035 secs, 1mas = 1.1 secs	Mag = 18.9
RA = 18 29 5.7300 (astrometric)	Mag Drop: 4.2 [98%]v, 5.0 [99%]r	Dia = 1096 ±7km, 35 mas
Dec = -15 24 54.019	Sun : Dist = 37°	Parallax = 0.202"
[of Date: 18 30 26, -15 24 0]	Moon: Dist = 87°, illum = 78%	Hourly dRA = 0.228s
Prediction of 2022 Aug 14.8	Error 9.3 x 5.3 mas in PA 87°	dDec = -0.10"
Reliable 0.9 (good),		JPL#43:2022-Aug-09, Known errors

1 moon. {Weywot} 81km at 13800km, Period 12.260days Orbit@Miriade







2013LU28, GaiaDR3+pmGaiaDR3, NIMAv6 updated: 2023-03-27 by Lucky Star



From Lucky Star (errors better), but my path for this is similar









Best 2023 Lunar Grazing Occultations, from RASC Handbook and https://occultations.org/publications/rasc/2023/nam23grazes.pdf

(E. Riedel and D. Dunham)



Also, remember the annular solar eclipse of 2023 October 14

Date	Object	ZC/SAO d		m	%sl	L	W.U.T.		Lo.	La.
	Name						h	m		
Jan. 24	ψ ³ Aqr	ZC 3428	Α	5.0	13 +	S	22	12.6	-78	45
Jan. 31	Mars			-0.3	74+	Ν	4	38.8	-130	35
Feb. 13	ι Librae	ZC 2172	Ζ	4.5	54-	S	8	32.0	-112	36
Feb. 16		ZC 2645		6.2	21-	S	10	56.5	-90	39
Feb. 17		ZC 2831		6.0	12-	S	10	58.5	-85	30
Feb. 24		ZC 226	Y	6.5	17 +	S	0	35.7	-98	36
Feb. 24		SAO 1099	90	7.0	18 +	S	1	13.2	-109	42
Feb. 25	29 Arietis	ZC 374	V	6.0	29 +	S	5	44.4	-130	38
Mar. 15		ZC 2586	Κ	6.0	46-	S	11	20.7	-120	45
Mar. 25	ρ Arietis	ZC 433		5.6	13 +	Ν	2	32.4	-122	44
Mar. 26		ZC 566		6.0	21 +	Ν	2	41.1	-102	55
Mar. 29	49 Aur	ZC 1008		5.3	49+	Ν	2	32.7	-122	35
Apr. 23	62 Tauri	ZC 652	Y	6.3	10 +	Ν	3	11.9	-92	55
May 22	136 Tauri	ZC 890	V	4.6	6+	Ν	2	35.4	-114	35
May 23		ZC 1035	Х	6.7	11 +	Ν	0	59.0	-84	37
Jun. 5		ZC 2617	Κ	4.5	98-	Ν	11	34.5	-130	40
Jul. 22		ZC 1625	Y	5.8	16 +	Ν	3	30.7	-118	41
Aug. 4	ψ ¹ Aqr	ZC 3419	Α	4.2	91-	Ν	4	56.4	-115	42
Aug. 13	1.	ZC 1108	V	7.0	8-	Ν	9	22.5	-103	47
Aug. 25	Antares	ZC 2366	0	1.1	57+	S	1	52.5	-130	37
Oct. 8	υ ¹ Cancri	ZC 1274	Κ	5.7	34-	Ν	7	2.7	-99	40
Oct. 21	59 Sgr	ZC 2912		4.5	48+	S	23	42.5	-94	25
Nov. 8		ZC 1648		6.9	23-	S	9	9.1	-102	54
Dec. 15		ZC 2831		6.0	5+	S	0	51.1	-110	23
Dec. 16	33 Cap	ZC 3130		5.4	19+	S	23	24.5	-89	21
Dec. 19	ψ ¹ Aqr	ZC 3419	Α	4.2	40+	S	0	7.8	-113	41
Dec. 19	27 Psc	ZC 3526	Α	4.9	50 +	S	20	18.1	-59	45

Best 2023 Lunar Grazing Occultations, from RASC Handbook and

https://occultatio ns.org/publicati ons/rasc/2023/n am23grazes.pdf (E. Riedel and D. Dunham)

Conclusions

- Information about the sizes, shapes, rings, satellites, and even atmospheres of Kuiper Belt objects, Centaurs, Trojans, and other asteroids is proportional to the number of stations that can be deployed for occultations by them
- We encourage as many others as possible to time occultations by NEA's, TNO's and by other asteroids (and sometimes comets) from their observatories
- We want others to learn to make the necessary mobile observations, including the multi-station techniques pioneered by IOTA, to observe NEA and other occultations, to support planetary defense and asteroid science.

Please visit <u>https://occultations.org/publications/rasc/2023/ACM2023.htm</u> to get this presentation, and for links to IOTA's, and other's, Web sites that have predictions and much other information that will allow you, and others at your institution, to take part in this exciting field of astronomy. Contact: <u>dunham@starpower.net</u>; cell +1-301-526-5590 and local IOTA member Bruce Hohenstein, BHolenstein@gravic.com.