S-88 – Comparative Studies of Ancient Chinese and Greek Astronomy

Ancient & Medieval Science

Organizers:
1) Sun Xiaochun, (University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China), xcsun@ucas.ac.cn
2) Efythymios Nicolaidis, (Institute for Neohellenic Research, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Greece), efnicol@eie.gr

Abstract:
This symposium is about ancient Greek and Chinese astronomy. The focus will be on the relationship between cosmological ideas, observations, and computational techniques in both traditions. The Greek astronomy arose from Babylonian antecedents and was developed into a tradition characteristic of geometrical models, culminating in Ptolemy’s almagest. Greek philosophical thought about universe, such as by Plato and Aristotle played an important role in the development of astronomy. The Chinese were good observers of celestial phenomena. They independently developed an arithmetical tradition of astronomical computation. Its connection with cosmological ideas was not as tight as that in Greek astronomy. The two traditions had encountered through various ways in pre-modern times, but still maintained their own characters. Speakers in this symposium will use original texts to compare cosmos, measurement, and computation in the two astronomical traditions.

Keywords: Ancient Greek and Chinese Astronomy – Comparative Studies – Astronomical instruments – Cosmological ideas – Computational Techniques.

Participants:
- Fotini Asimakopoulou
- GoEun Choi, GoEun Choi, Ki-Won Lee, Byeong-Hee Mihn, Youg Sook Ahn
- Kim Sang Hyuk, Kim Sang Hyuk, Mihn Byeong-Hee, Ham Seon Young
- Dirk L. Couprie
- Wang Guangchao
- Eun Hee Lee
- Mao Dan, JIANG Xiaoyuan
- Christopher Cullen
- Xiaochun Sun, Fan Yang
- Dmitri Panchenko
- Fung Kam Wing
- Liu Weimo