

University of Toronto
David Dunlap Observatory
Richmond Hill, Ontario
May 18, 1948

Dear Grote,

Your very interesting compilation of cosmic data at the recent NRL conference has convinced me that it is time to try to find a "radio galactic equator", and so we have embarked on some computations of that kind up here.

Your 160 mc. data seems best adapted for the purpose of any we had at hand, and at the moment, it looks like the plane of radio-emission in that frequency will be a small---but definite---amount different from the plane defined by various astronomical criteria of more traditional kind. The 480 mc. data gives something, but of course the unfortunate gap near galactic longitude 90° makes a direct numerical solution more difficult. On the other hand, the Hey, Parsons and Phillips data seems all hashed up; considering the very low frequency, the plane seems very ill-defined. I still feel that it is much better to publish the original observations, than mush them all up as they have done.

It occurred to me that your re-reduction of Jansky's original measures would be a worth-while addition, in that it will be very interesting to see whether the plane shifts with different frequencies, and I wondered whether the data was in such a position that you would care to (or be able to) turn loose of it in advance of publication. If so, we'd be most grateful, and would be happy to give full recognition, etc. By the way, you once mentioned that you might be able to let me have some of the 480 mc. data in numerical form. It, too, would be very useful in this work.

In case you don't yet have a copy, I thought I'd send you under separate cover, a copy of last spring's review article in the RASC Journal. I very much appreciated your letting me use the picture of your big dish; I feel that it added a lot, especially for the purely astronomical readers.

Very sincerely,

Ralph
Ralph E. Williamson