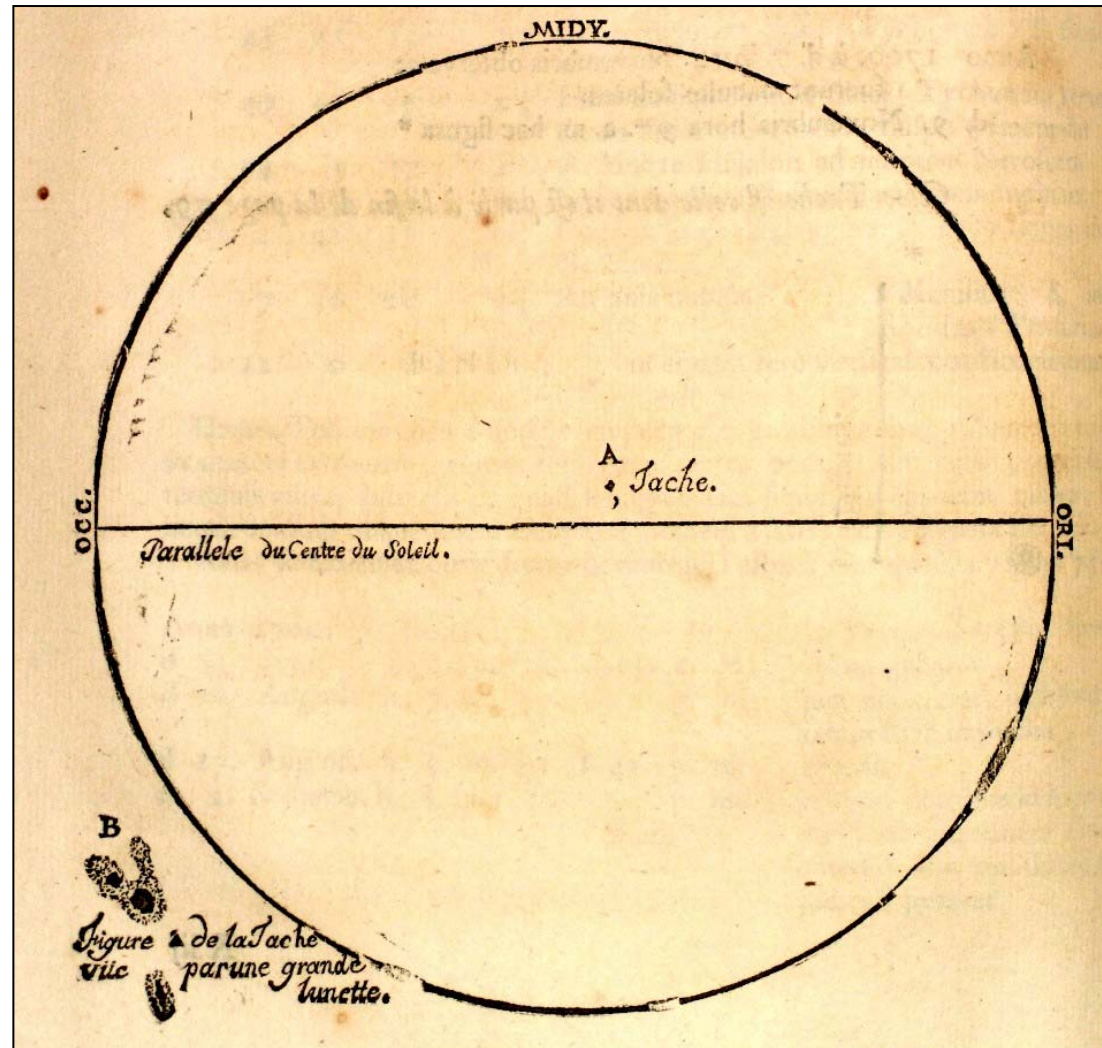


Historical Sunspot Database

J. M. Vaquero, Universidad de Extremadura, Spain



Sunspot observed
by Cassini and
Maraldi from
Montpellier (29
March 1701)

OUTLINE

1. How can we construct a **new version** of SSN?
2. Sunspot database **now**
3. **Some examples** of additions or corrections.
 - The onset of the Maunder Minimum
 - Drawings by Staudacher (Rainer Arlt)
 - Madrid SSN
4. **Quality control**
5. Leif's **breakpoints**
6. Some **proposals**

Addenda: **Annual Averages** of SSN!!!

1. How can we construct a new version of SSN?

I. Improve the database with old and new observations

- I. Pending tasks (Hoyt & Schatten, 1998)
- II. Rediscovering “lost” records

II. Develop a new methodology to reduce all observations

- I. Computing classical calibration constants (k)
- II. New statistical techniques

III. Check our series using different tools

- I. Geomagnetic records (c. 1835) and other proxies
- II. Statistical techniques

IV. Publish and maintenance of data

2. Sunspot database now

International Sunspot Number

Group Sunspot Number

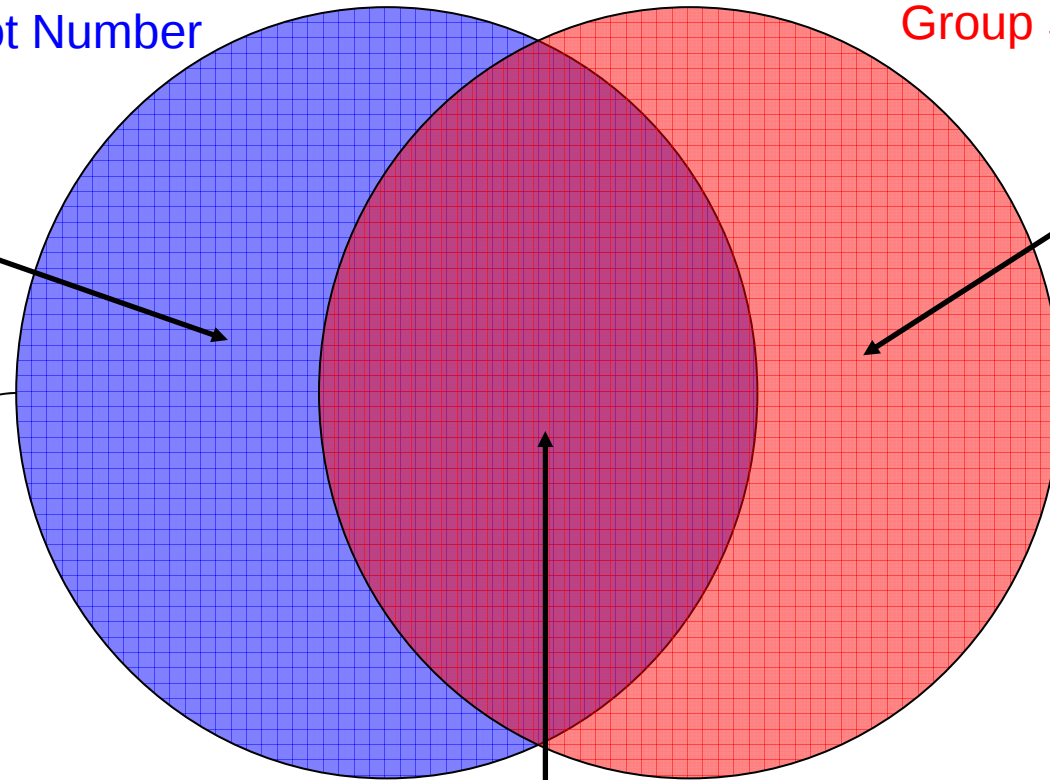
Observations
compiled by
ROB.

Observations
compiled by
Hoyt and
Schatten.

Observations published by Wolf and
his successors in the Zürich journal
(1858-1947) first called “Mitteilungen
über der Sonnenflecken” and later
“Astronomische Mitteilungen”. 224 503
observations from 306 observers.

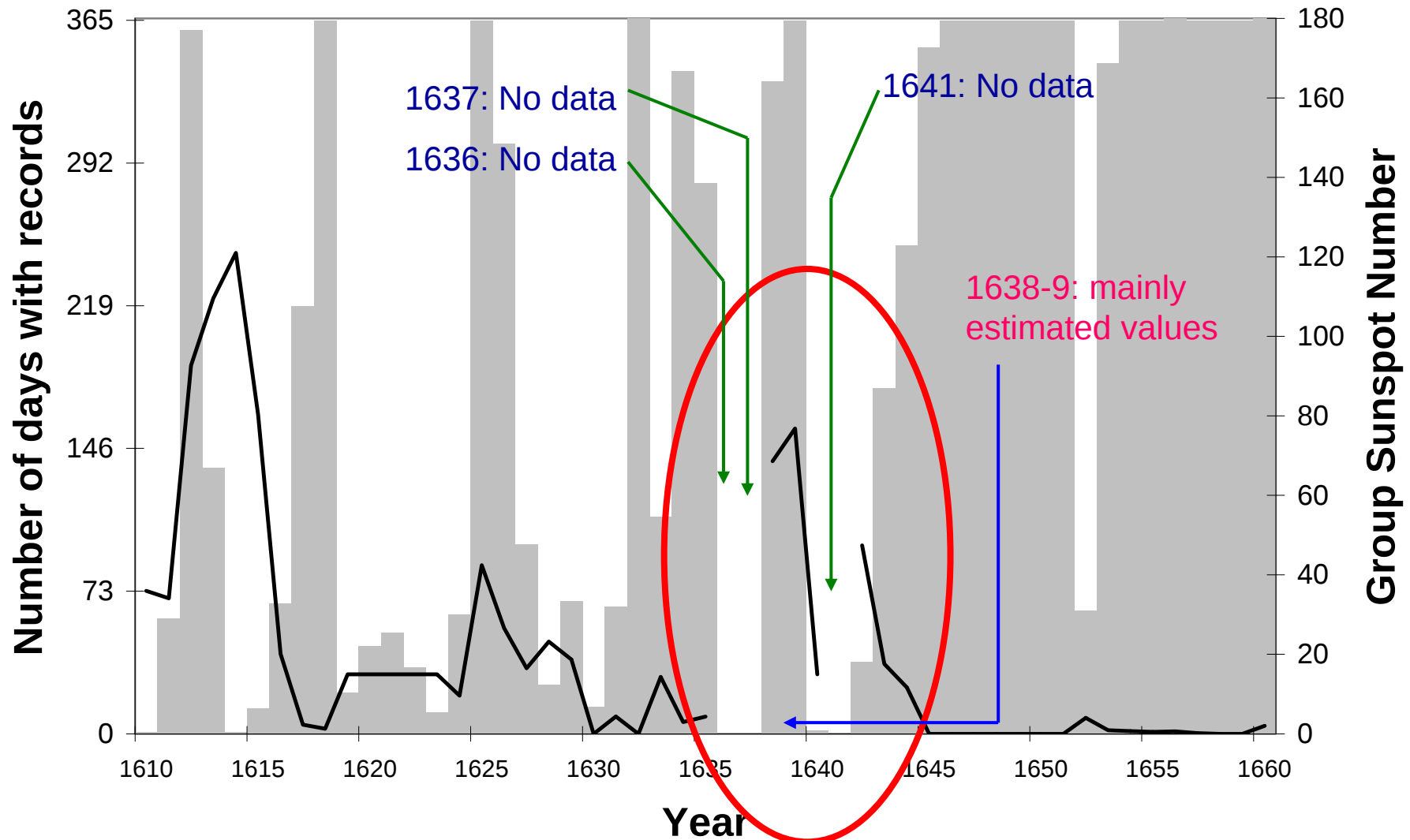
R_Z

R_G



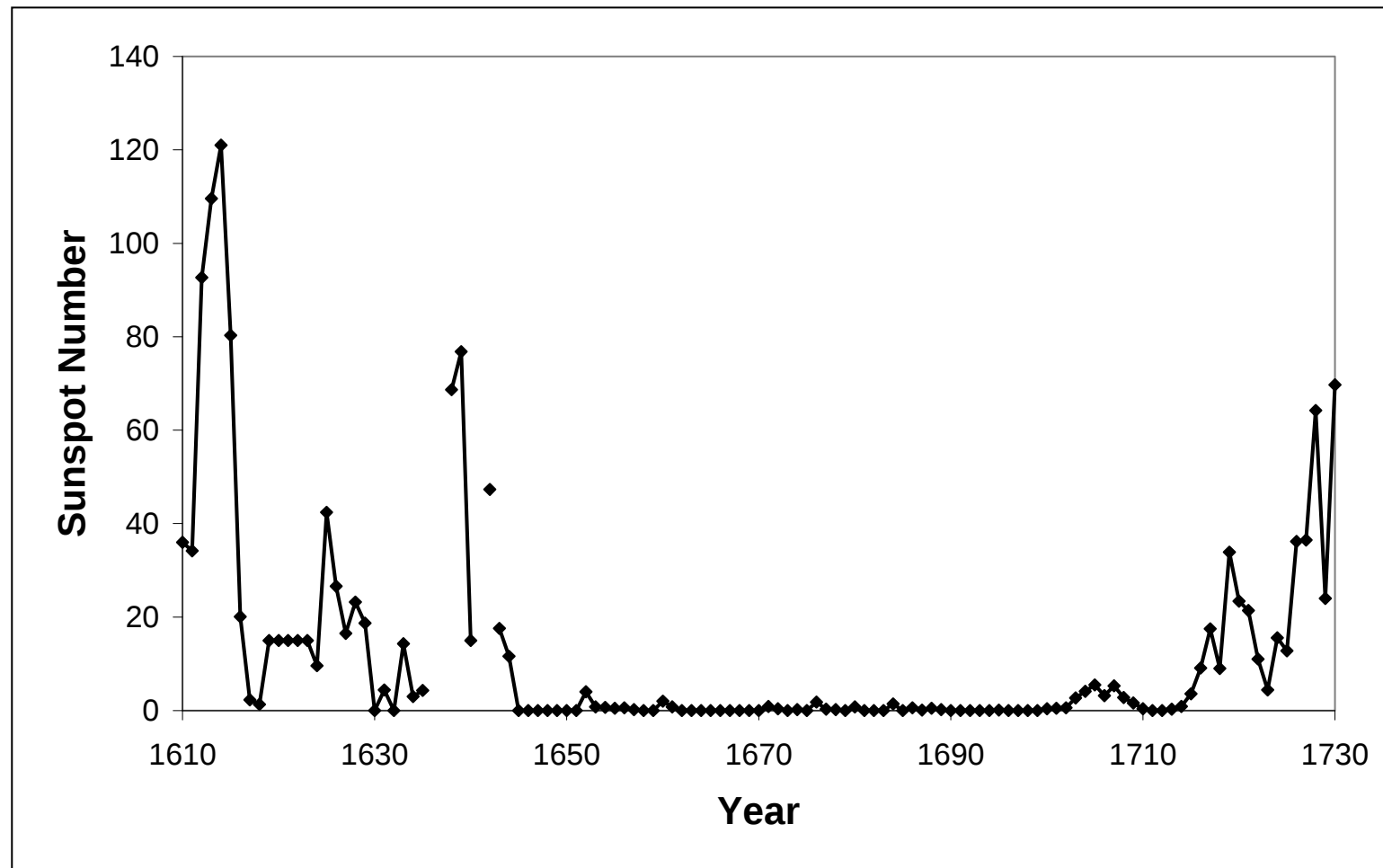
3. Some examples of addition or corrections

3.1. The onset of the Maunder Minimum



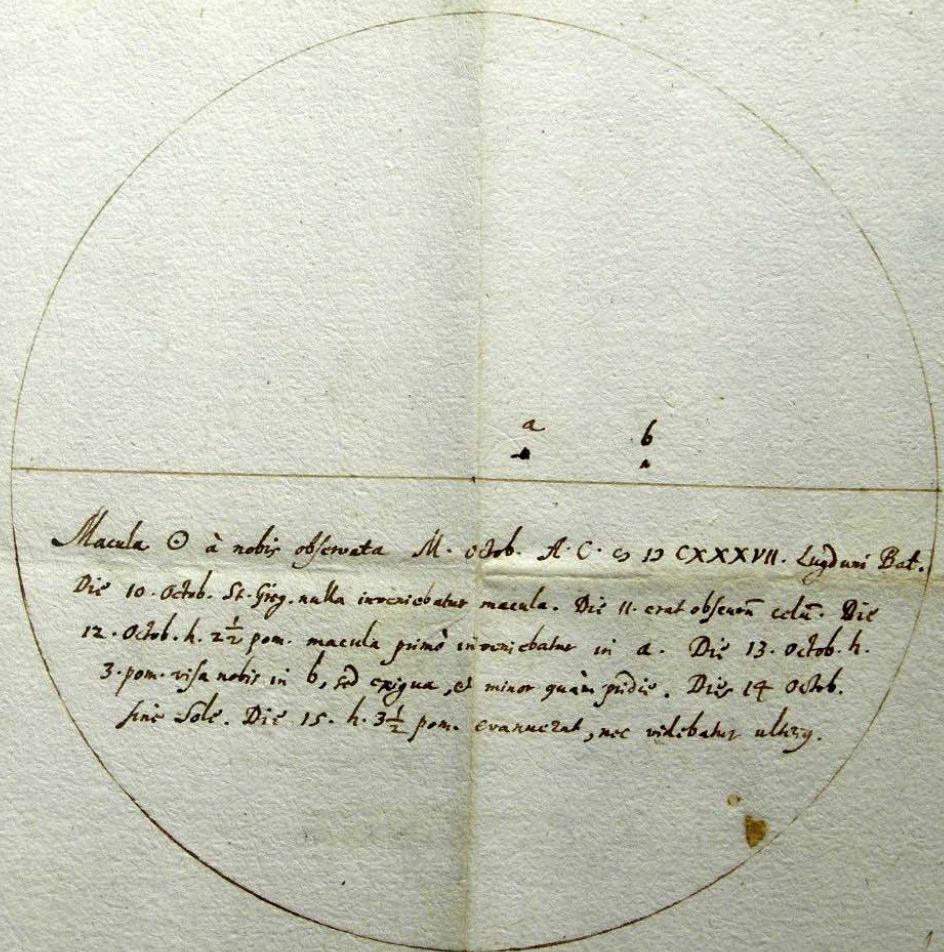
Accepted general scenario for Maunder Minimum (Usoskin, 2008):

- (1) transition from the normal activity to the deep minimum was sudden,
- (2) a 22-year cycle was dominant in sunspot, and
- (3) the recovery of the sunspot activity from the deep minimum to normal activity was gradual.



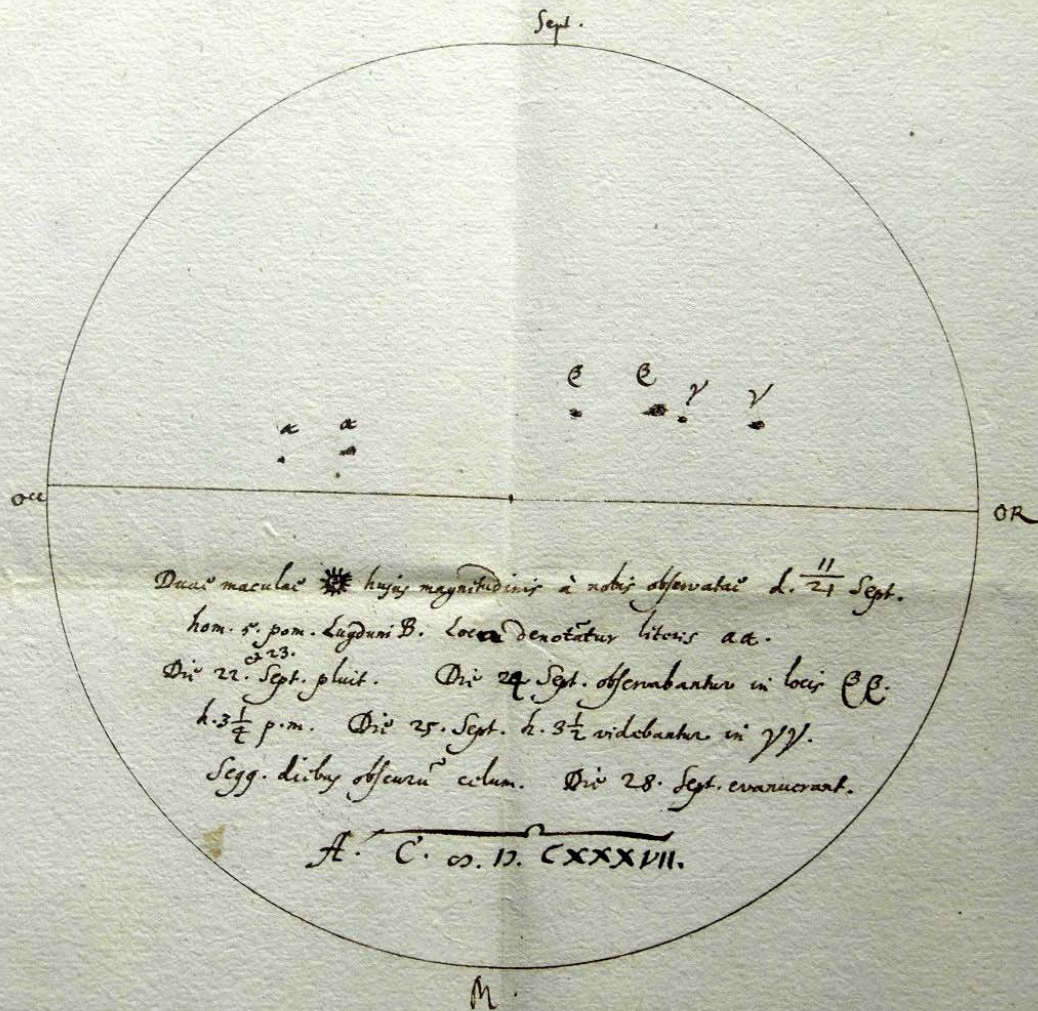
(1) We have added the **Marcgraf sunspot records**

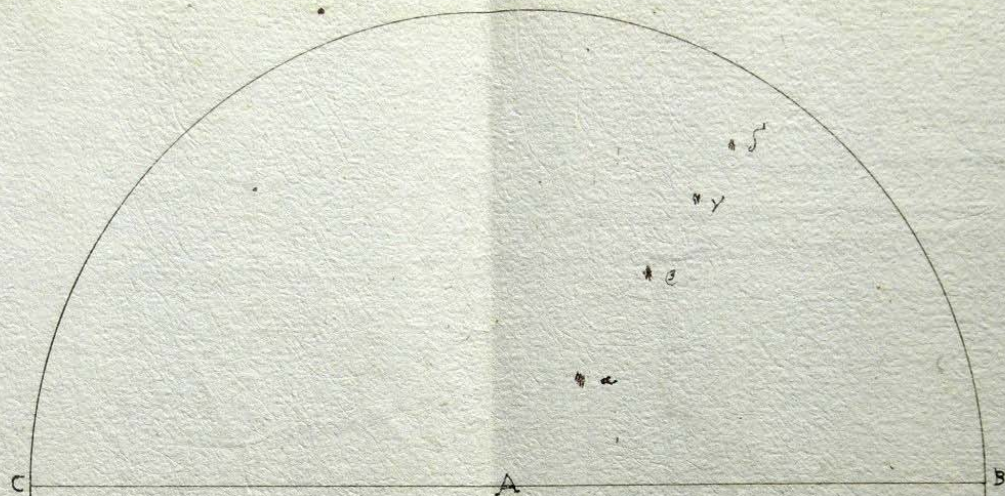




Macula ☉ à nobis observata M. Octob. A.C. 613 CXXXVII. Lugduni Bat.
 Die 10. Octob. St. Greg. nulla inveniebatur macula. Die 11. erat obscura celsa. Die
 12. Octob. h. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ pom. macula primò inveniebatur in a. Die 13. Octob. h.
 3. pom. visa nobis in b, sed exigua, et minor quàm p̄dicta. Die 14. Octob.
 finis Solis. Die 15. h. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ pom. evanuerat, nec videbatur ulterius.

39. 8. 40.
 N. de la Roche
 M. de la Roche





Placula Olis observata à die 9. in 12 Junij, Sc. Greg.

ubi a. notat locū ejus ad 9 Junij $\frac{3}{4}$ p.m.

B ad 10. Jun. h. 6. γ ad 11. Jun. h. $\frac{1}{2}$.

et δ ad 12. Jun. h. eadem

observatum. Diu 13. Junij

circa idem tempus quum

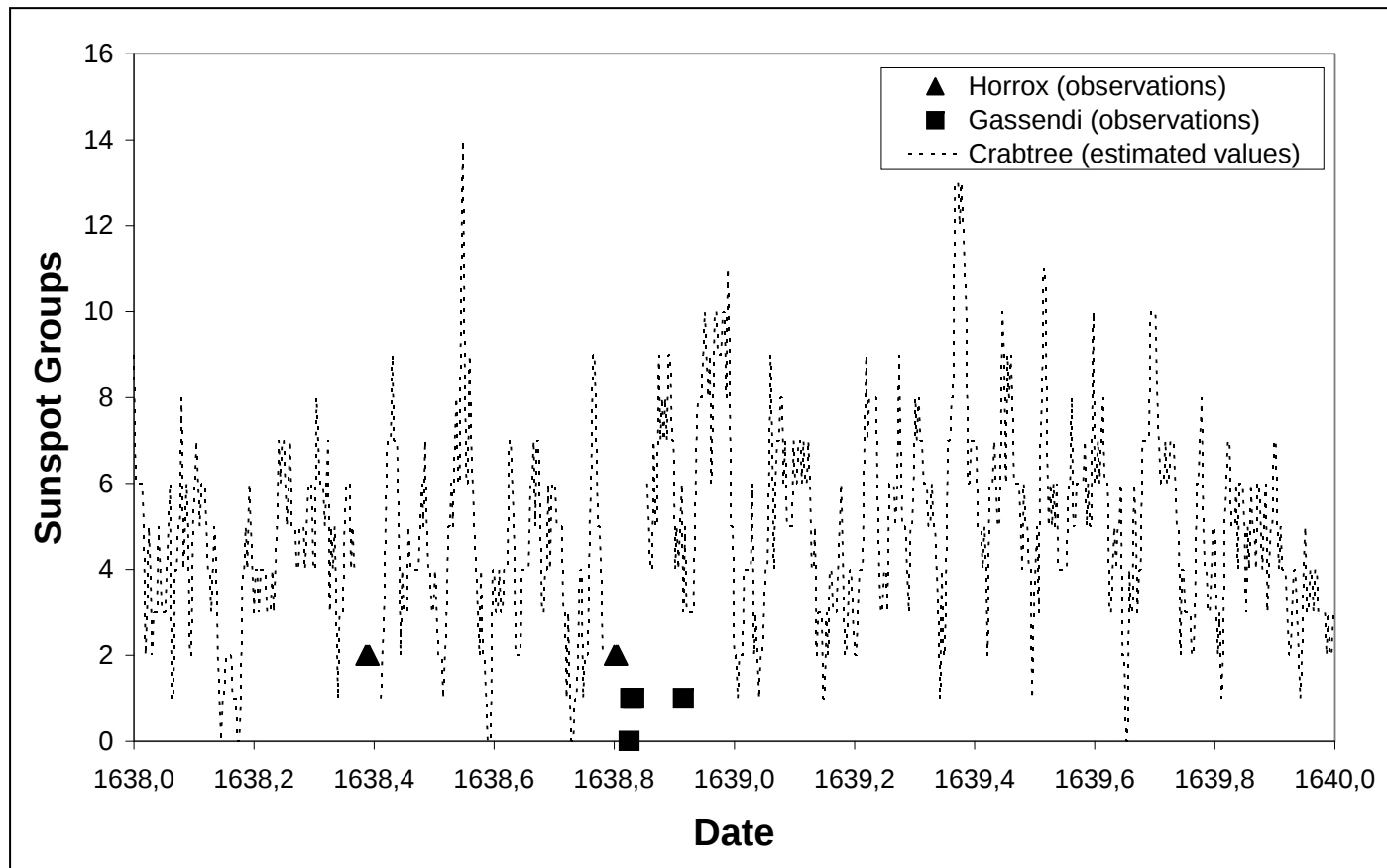
quidam ab nobis

evanuerat.

ANNO - M D CXXXVII. Lips. Batoni

(2) We have **eliminated the estimated** (not observed) values from Crabtree's comments (1638-1639).

Hoyt and Schatten (1998) wrote in their Bibliography: “According to a letter by Crabtree the average number of spot groups seen in 1638 and 1639 were 4–5 per day. The database has Greenwich fill values to give 4–5 groups per day. This substitution technique was used to simplify the analysis. This is the only place in the entire database where we do this type of substitution”.



Vaquero (2007), Adv Spa Res

(3) We have corrected the dates and the numbers of sunspot groups of Horrox observations in HS98 (from Julian calendar to Gregorian Calendar).

JEREMIÆ HORROCCII,
LIVERPOLIENSIS ANGLI, ex Palatinatu
LANCASTRIÆ,
OPERA POSTHUMA;

viz.
Astronomia Kepleriana, defensa & promota,
Excerpta ex Epistolis ad Crabtræum suum.
Observationum Cœlestium Catalogus,
Lunæ Theoria nova.

Accedunt
GUILLIELMI CRABTRÆI, Mancestriensis,
Observationes Cœlestes.

In calce adjiciuntur
JOHANNIS FLAMSTEDII, Derbienfis,
De Temporis Æquatione Diatriba.
Numeri ad Lunæ Theoriam Horroccianam.



LONDINI,
Typis GULIELMI GODDID, Impensis J. MARTYN Regalis
Societatis Typographi, ad insignē Campanæ in Cosmatorio
D. Pauli, Anno Domini M. D. C. LXXIII.

Et Observationes cœlestes. 309

putaveris te alterum ad Septentrionem, alterum ad Austrum conspexisse.

Maii 22, h. 3. P. Radios Solares intromisi per Tubum Opticum in cameram obscuratam, (densis tenebris non opus est:) atque in limbo orientali, prope viam regiam (ut puto,) vidi duas nigras maculas. Major distabat à Solis margine min. 3'. Maculæ diametrum longior erat quasi min. 30", brevior quasi min. 20", eratque in forma Ovali.

Maii 23, h. 3. P. Major duarum absuit à margine min. 1, 20".

Maii 24, h. 3. P. absuit min. 0, 25"; jamque facta erat minor quam reliqua, quæ à margine distabat min. 1'.

In magna distantia erant hæ maculæ colore cæruleo, cum rubro misto. Et circa Solis discum erat circulus cæruleus, inter exteriorem rubrum, & viridem interiorem, sicut in Iride; sed pro varia vitri positione subinde variabantur hi colores.

Esset macula illa, si rotunda, Venere major, possitque Cometæ instar esse. Si à Sole projiceretur quantum inde Terra distat, adinstar stellæ appareret, nisi forsan à Terrâ nimis distaret.

Post illos tres dies maculas nullas vidi. Tempus est ut reverterentur eadem, sed nubes impediunt observationem.

Est autem Tubus hic meus ex vulgaribus unus, pretii 2s. 6d, contuli tamen cum duobus aut tribus aliis, quos mutuo habui, sed meo (quantum ego judico) inferioribus.

Hunc modum existimo egregium fore ad observandas Eclipses. Admittit enim discum Solarem tantæ magnitudinis in parva distantia, ut ferè minuta secunda possis observare; atque lucem ab umbrâ accuratè distinguit, si ad justam longitudinem educatur.

Stellas fixas dum contueor, nihil video aliud quam radios undecunq; emissos, pro vario vitri positione situs mutantes.

Mars videtur ejusdem quasi magnitudinis cum Jove: *Keplerus* tamen & *Lansbergius* multo majorem faciunt.

Si Mars sit Terrâ major, oportet Solis parallaxin multò minorem esse quam vult *Keplerus*.

Ex Epist. Julii 25. 1638, Toxtethæ.

Postquam te viderim, nihil à te accepi, necdum ad te scripsi quicquam.

Lingmontanus tandem nactus sum. Habet ille multas observationes Planetarum omnium, præsertim in oppositione Solis, sed breviter describas.

(4) We have **eliminated one spurious** observation by Gassendi on 1 Dec 1638.

P E T R I
GASSENDI
DINIENSIS
ECCLESIAE PRÆPOSITI
ET IN ACADEMIA PARIENSI
MATHESEOS
REGII PROFESSORIS
ASTRONOMICA,
VIDELICET

- Institutio Astronomica cum Oratione Inaugurali.
- Observationes Cælestes.
- Mercurius in Sole visus & Venus inuisa.
- Nouem Stellæ circa Iouem visæ.
- Solstitialis altitudo Massiliensis.

TOMVS QVARTVS.
CVM INDICIBVS NECESSARIIS.



L V G D V N I,
Sumptibus LAVRENTII ANISSON.
& IOANNIS BAPTISTÆ DEVENET.
M. DC. LVIII.
CVM PRIVILEGIO REGIS.

Commentarij. 417

¶ circiter medium vltipata, & Procyon 3500—800. hoc est
 ♀ & Arcturus 3500—3200. hoc est 17. grad. 2. min.
 D 11 27. Manè, cùm die superiore ab antelucano vsque tempore in ipsam vsque no-
 tem nihil visæ, superfuere deinde nobis, quæ Famulo licet ad S. Vincenrium progressu vi.
 sis à 4. matutina quibuldam nubium hiaibus: & Agarrato tamen Cælo Aquis Sextis fortio,
 distiterunt inter se
 ♀ & Spica 1700—1982. hoc est 31. grad. 51. min. idque hora 6.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—1714. hoc est 30. grad. 2. min.
 ♀ & ♀ 2000—1714. hoc est 1. grad. 33. min.
 ♀ & Arcturus 1700—3510. hoc est 40. grad. min. 15.
 D 11 29. Manè, nihil visum Aquis-Sextis (vi neque etiam die superiore tam Aquis-
 Sextis, quàm Dinix) Famulo autem ad Sanctum Vincenrium, distiterunt Cælo satis
 pulcro
 ♀ & Spica 1000—3150. hoc est 18. grad. min. 47. Alta ♀ 6. grad. 50. min.
 Arcturus & Spica 1700—2420. hoc est 32. grad. min. 53.
 ♀ & ♀ 1500—2960. hoc est 1. grad. 48. min.
 ♀ & ♀ 3200—3050. hoc est 0. grad. min. 53. forte—3500. hoc est 1. grad. min. 1. Alta ♀
 3. grad. 40. min.
 ♀ (opinor non ♀) & ♀ 1500—1740. hoc est 3. grad. min. 51.
 ♀ & ♀ iterum 3500—3310. hoc est 0. grad. min. 51. Resultat hanc distantiam optime acceptam.
 D 11 30. Manè, Agarrato, Aquis-Sextis, distiterunt inter se
 ♀ & Aultra laux 3500—3510. hoc est 12. grad. min. 38. Audita iam fuerat hora 6.
 ♀ & laux eadem 3500—3510. hoc est 8. grad. 47. min.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—2471. hoc est 14. grad. 6. min.
 ♀ & laux Borei 3500—1796. hoc est 11. grad. min. 7.
 ♀ & ♀ 2000—1595. hoc est 5. grad. min. 53.
 ♀ & ♀ 2000—1595. hoc est 1. grad. 17. min.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—1569. hoc est 30. grad. 13. min.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—1872. hoc est 31. grad. min. 54.
 ♀ & ♀ 2000—1690. hoc est 1. grad. 43. min.
 Eodem Manè, Famulo ad S. Vincenrium, distiterunt inter se
 Lances 3500—1770. (forte pro 1707.) hoc est 9. grad. 15. min.
 Spica 1700 & laux Aultra 1000—1770. (forte pro 1707.) hoc est 21. grad. 21. min.
 Spica 1700 & Arcturus 3500—2430. hoc est 32. grad. 56. min.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—1900. hoc est 30. grad. 1. min. Altitudo Arcturi 45. grad. 15. min.
 ♀ & ♀ 3500—3104. hoc est 2. grad. min. 2.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—2280. (opinor pro 280.) hoc est 31. grad. 8. min.
 ♀ & ♀ 1500—2780. hoc est 3. grad. min. 47.
 ♀ & ♀ 3500—3101. hoc est 2. grad. 1. min. Alta ♀ 8. grad. 0. min.
 ♀ & ♀ iterum 3500—1700. hoc est 3. grad. min. 51.
 MENSE DECEMBER, Die 1. Manè (fuerat Die 1. Cælum vtroque obductum)
 distiterunt Agarrato Aquis-Sextis
 ♀ & ♀ 3500—3400. hoc est 2. grad. min. 31. Sic-ne?
 ♀ & laux Aultra 3500—2910. hoc est 15. grad. min. 38.
 ♀ & laux Borei ipsi perpendicularis 1900—1565. hoc est 13. grad. min. 31.
 ♀ & ♀ 1900—2980. hoc est 4. grad. min. 41.
 ♀ & ♀ 3500—3049. hoc est 4. grad. 21. min.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—2000. hoc est 32. grad. 17. min.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—1960. hoc est 32. grad. 14. min.
 Eodem Manè Famulo ad S. Vincenrium, distiterunt inter se
 Lances Libræ 3500—1834. hoc est 8. grad. 54. min. Debut 9. grad. min. 8. An alia Stella.
 Spica 1700 & Arcturus 3500—2420. hoc est 32. grad. min. 53.
 ♀ & ♀ 3500—3410. hoc est 0. grad. min. 17. Altitudo Arcturi 49. grad. 0. min.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—2330. hoc est 32. grad. min. 24. Alta ♀ 6. grad. 0. min.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—2360. hoc est 32. grad. min. 34. Alta ♀ 9. grad. 5. min.
 ♀ & ♀ 3500—2790. hoc est 3. grad. 41. min.
 ♀ & ♀ 3500—2260. hoc est 3. grad. min. 51.
 ♀ & ♀ iterum 3500—3410. hoc est 0. grad. min. 17.
 D 11 4. Manè (fuerat Cælum superiore obductum) distiterunt Agarrato Aquis-Sextis Co-
 ro vigente, & filio paracuro
 ♀ & Aultra laux 3500—4320. hoc est 18. grad. 43. min.
 ♀ & Borei laux 3500—832. hoc est 16. grad. 11. min.
 ♀ & margo ♀ Borei, vicinique 3500—3145. hoc est 3. grad. 11. min.
 ♀ & ♀ 1900—2559. hoc est 4. grad. min. 49.
 ♀ & Spica 1700—2242. hoc est 13. grad. min. 56.
 ♀ & ♀ 3500—3432. hoc est 2. grad. min. 21. Meo manè hoc non vacavit. Et de hac ♀ ap-
 paritione tantum.
 Gassendi Observationes. DD d D 11

(5) We have changed the **record by Rheita** [1642].

O C V L V S
ENOCH ET ELIÆ

S I V E
RADIVS SIDEREOMYSTICVS
P A R S P R I M A

A V T H O R E
R. P. F. ANTONIO MARIA
SCHYRLEO DE RHEITA

ORD. CAPVCINORVM CONCIONAT. ET
PROVINCIAE AVSTRIÆ AC BOHEMIÆ
QVONDAM PRÆLECTORE

*Opus Philosophis, Astronomis, & rerum celestium aquis as-
masoribus non tam utile quàm iucundum.*

Quo omnium Planetarum veri motus, stationes, & retrocessiones, sine
vllis epicyclis & æquantibus, tam in Theoria Tychonica, quàm Copernicana compendiosissimè & iucundissimè demonstrantur exhibentur-
que. Hypothesis Tychonis quoad absolutam veritatem stabilitur ac fa-
cilior ipsâ Copernicanâ redditur, reformatur, & ad simplicissimam nor-
mam & formam reducitur.

HISCE ACCESSERVNT

*Notæ harmonicae determinationes molium & proportionum Planetarum ad invicem. Item plurimæ
aliæ novitates celo ab Auctore deductæ. Probabilissima causa fluxus & refluxus Oceani. Ratio
brevis conficiendi Telescopium astronomicum. Et vltimò Planetologium mechanicum & novum,
quo paucissimis rotis veri omnium Planetarum motus iucundè exhiberi queunt.*

Quia delectasti me Domine in factura tuarum: & in operibus manuum tuarum exultabo. Ps. 91.

A N T V E R P I Æ,
Ex Officina Typographica HIERONYMI VERDVSSII.
M. DC. XLV.

Cum Gratia & Privilegio.

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LIBER QVARTVS.

& Sol morbo illo palloris, & sæculum tristiori caligne laborarint. Idem sub Constantino Principe, & Irene contigisse ferunt circa annum Christi 797. Quorum tempore per 17. integros dies, adeò nusquam visus est Sol, adeò tenues radios telluri immisit, vt mundo aut omnino abreptus, aut certè radijs & gratissimâ luce spoliatus exutusque crederetur. Enimverò in vastissimo tunc oceano oberantes, neque cursum suum per tenebras dirigere, neque telluri insistentes ceptum iter & negotiationes humanas prosequi poterunt.

Iterum Anno 1547. per totam vastissimam Europæ plagam, Solis radij sanguineo colore adeò deliti videbantur trium dierum spatio; vt mundo vicinum iam quasi inciperent prænuntiare diem. Denique tempore, quo Rudolphus II. Augustus ex humanis abreptus fuerat, Solem per plures dies, suâ tristissima facie & luce obfuscata ingentem terricolis denuò metum & horrorem inculsisse ferunt.

*Quidam
Solem si-
militer
moniti
Ethiopia pu-
tant.*

Horum igitur solarium prodigiorum merito causam indagare liceat. Aliqui putant Solem instar alterius montis Ethnæ, aut Vesuvij recrementa sua in extimam superficiem proficere, & veluti pluviâ fauillarum inde adeò conspergi & vndique circumdari, vt mundo inde quasi eripiaturs dies, splendore omni Solis intercepto, donec eru-

stante flammâ agmen illud fauillarum ab extima superficie dispergatur, aut fauillæ depascantur. Quæ sententia, si Solis ignis supponatur alimento & pabulo foueri, fortè aliquid probabilitaris obtineret. Quod si verò Sol, velut purissimum elementum & impermixtus ignis, pabulo nullo indigeat, sed diuinæ potentia, voluntatis & conseruationis vis ei vtiq; vt conseruetur sufficiat, non video vnde Soli illa recrementa, & vitrina materia provenire queat.

Fortè haud etiam ineptè talium accidentium ratio assignari posset; scilicet si dicamus Soli frequentem illum luorem & pallorem, ex macularum, seu stellarum solarium nimium quâdoque concurrentiū agmine contingere. Adeò enim quandoque discus solaris dictis stellis & maculis scatet, vt mirum haud sit eius inde lumen notabilissimè hebetari debilitari-
que.

Certè quod iam diximus, propria experientia Coloniae Anno 1642. experti sumus: dum ingentem stellarum solarium turmam maiorum & minorum per 14. dies & ultra sibi iniucem continuâ serie succedentium cum stupore, solarium discum adeò occupare vidimus, vt lux eius, maximè media, & intensissima, haud leuiter illis fuerit hebetata. Nam tubo optimo, in medio solaris disci globum perfectissimè rotundum, subni-

CAPVT SECVNDVM.

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subnigrum, pugni magnitudinem quali excedentem conspeximus, idque directissimo aspectu; qui & per octiduum Solis haud exiguam portionem eclipsavit: maximalque aëri turbationes, vt potè ventos, imbres, & frigora in medio lunij artulit: prout crebris observationibus iam à multis annis com-
pertum habemus: scilicet ferè semper aëris insigniores, & magis notabiles mutationes ex dictarum stellarum solarium discum subeuntium agmine contingere & euenire.

*Macula
in Sole
astronoma-
rum
signum.*

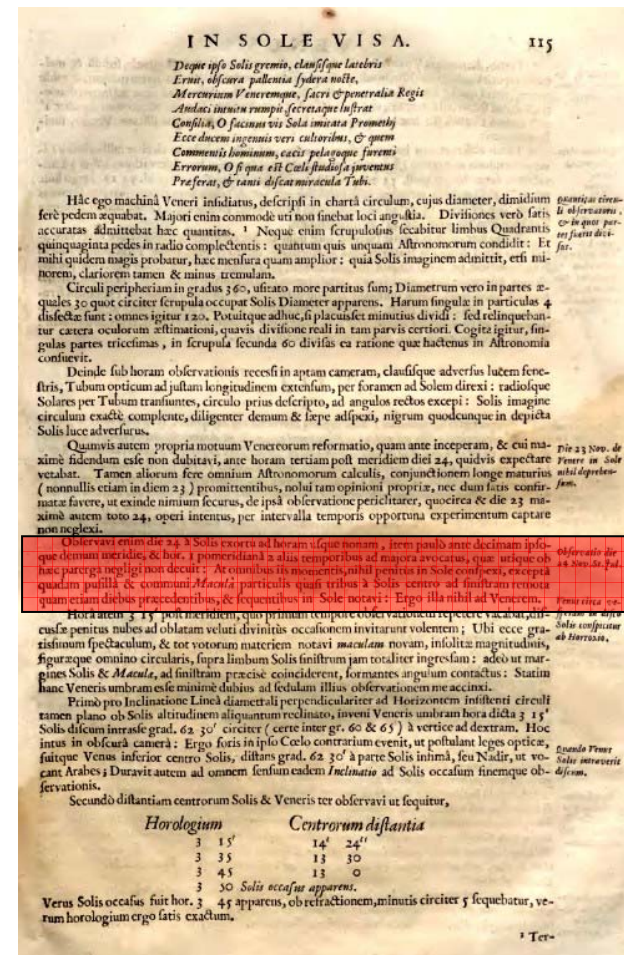
Et profecto periculum est, maculas illas penitiori obrutu directè per optimum & longiorem tubum astronomicum, (qui totum simul solarium discum discoperiat exhibeatque) conspectas, aliam quàm circularissimam & rotundam figuram ostendere, vt frequenter experti sumus. Itaque toties semper solares eclipses contingere necesse est, quoties stellæ dictæ Solem subeunt; subeunt autem frequentissimè; ergo multò frequentiores & plures contingunt nobis solares eclipses, quàm vulgus arbitraturs. Sed quis obsecro talium eclipsium arcanos respectu telluris nostræ effectus hæcenus penetrauit? vt quid ergo paupelli illi deceptores Astrologi, ex astris de futuris contingentibus diuinare non erubescunt, cum multa præsentia in astris ignorent sidera & ita cæcis & falsis suis prognosticis procedant,
Pars I.

ac si dicta astra aut penitus in rerum natura non essent; aut sine influxu essent.

An non insipientem medicum illum iudicares, qui aut ignoratis penitus, aut saltem non attentis interioribus humani corporis membris, eorumque in totum animale corpus naturali & necessario influxu; ex sola inferiorum quorundam inspectione patienti, longiorum, aut breviorum vitam præsumeret vaticinare, longiturnum morbum, fortunam & familia? Quâ ergo ratione dictorum Astrologorum, pleraque cæli nobilissima astra eorumque in inferiora influxus & energiam, aut omnino ignorantium, aut saltem vix vnam virtutum illorum cognoscendi turba cæco iudicio, & prognosticis suis fictis tantopere hodie mundum excæcare, hominesque inanibus ac mendacibus verbis cæco quasi verbere ferire non dubitat? Cumque semper æquiuocè mentiantur prognosticando; mirum non est ea quæ alias reuerâ casu tantum contingunt quandoque, etsi præter intentionem prognostificantium, accidere, sicque prædictionibus eorum à simplicioribus fidem haberi. Certè ipso statim fronte æquiuoco prædictionum suarum produnt, à quo talem diuinationem, scientiâ, aut verius insipientiam suam hauriant; scilicet non nisi ab illo, (puta diabolo) qui hoc ipsissimum modo quondam famulosum illud & no-

H h 2 tum

(6) We have **incorporated a sunspot record** by Horrox in 4 December 1639.



non neglexi.

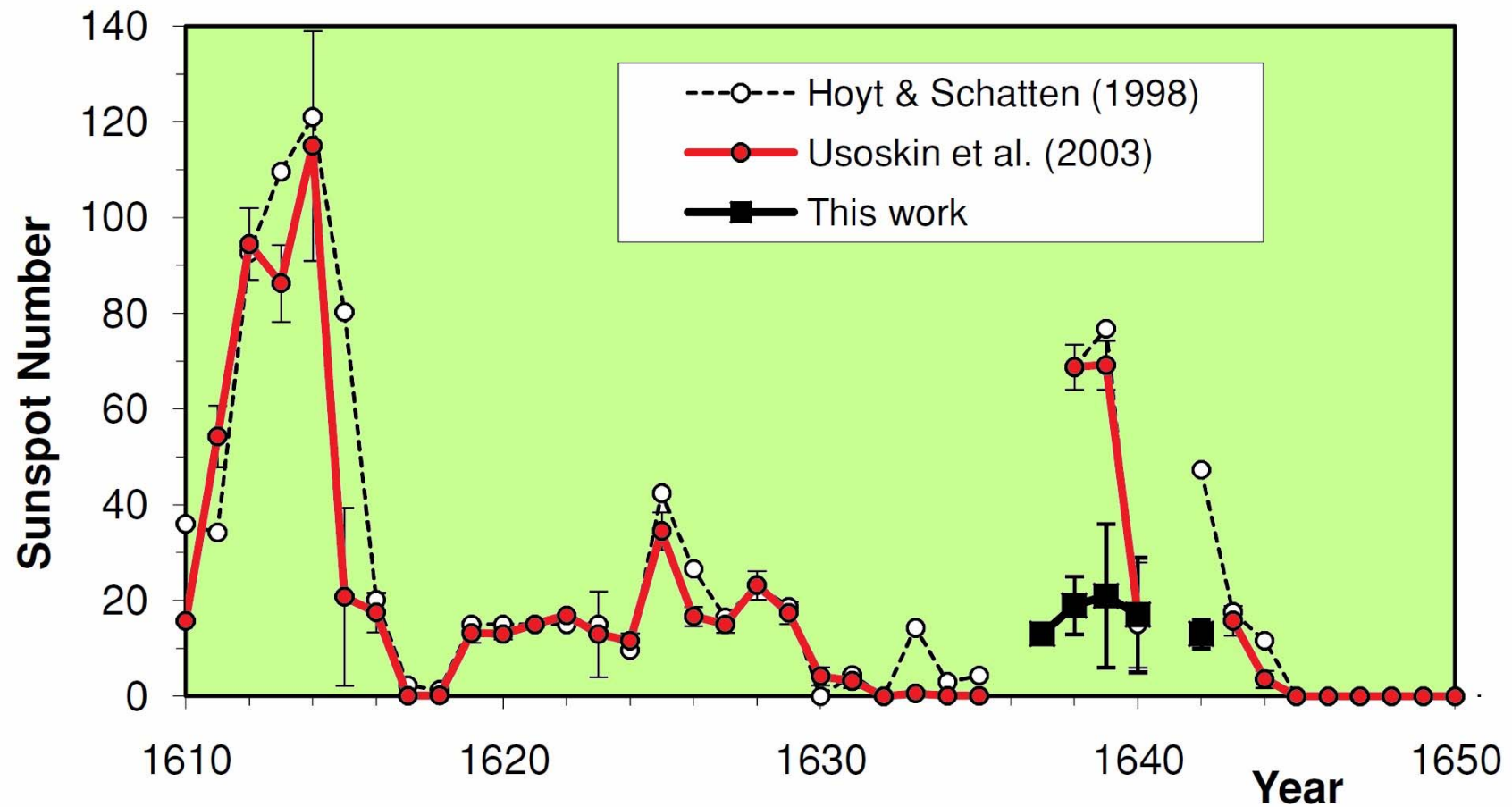
Observavi enim die 24 à Solis exortu ad horam usque nonam, item paulò ante decimam ipso-
 que demum meridie, & hor. 1 pomeridianâ & aliis temporibus ad majora avocatus, quæ utique ob
 hæc parerga negligi non decuit: At omnibus iis momentis, nihil penitus in Sole conspexi, exceptâ
 quadam pusillâ & communi Maculâ particulis quasi tribus à Solis centro ad sinistram remota
 quam etiam diebus præcedentibus, & sequentibus in Sole notavi: Ergo illa nihil ad Venerem.

Horâ autem 2 15' post meridiem, quo primum tempore observationem repetere vacabat, dis-

Observatio die
 24 Nov. St. Jul.

Venus circa ve-
 stram in disco

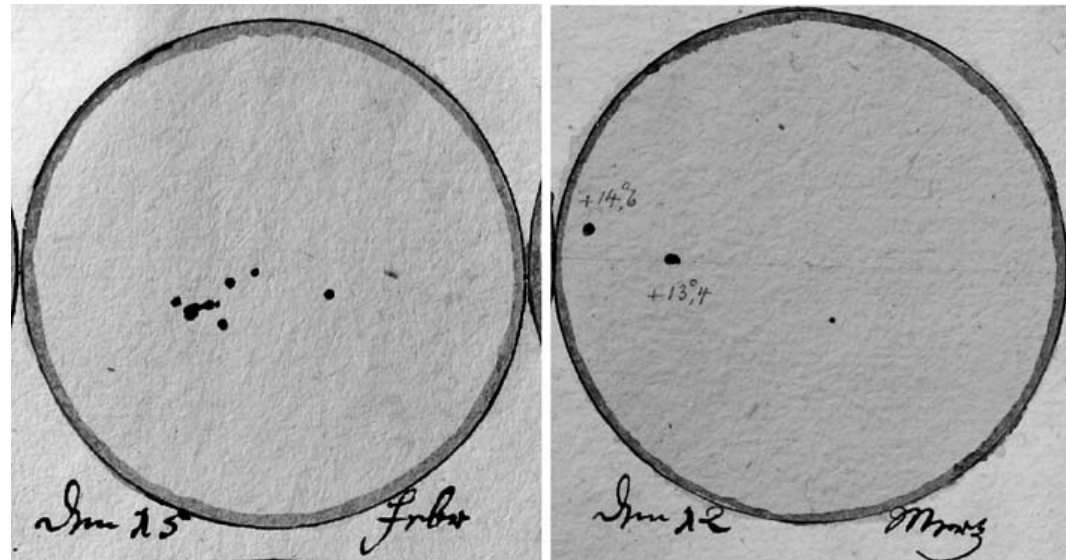
We can use a statistical procedure (Usoskin, Mursula & Kovaltsov, 2003) to reconstruct yearly group sunspot number from sparse daily observation.



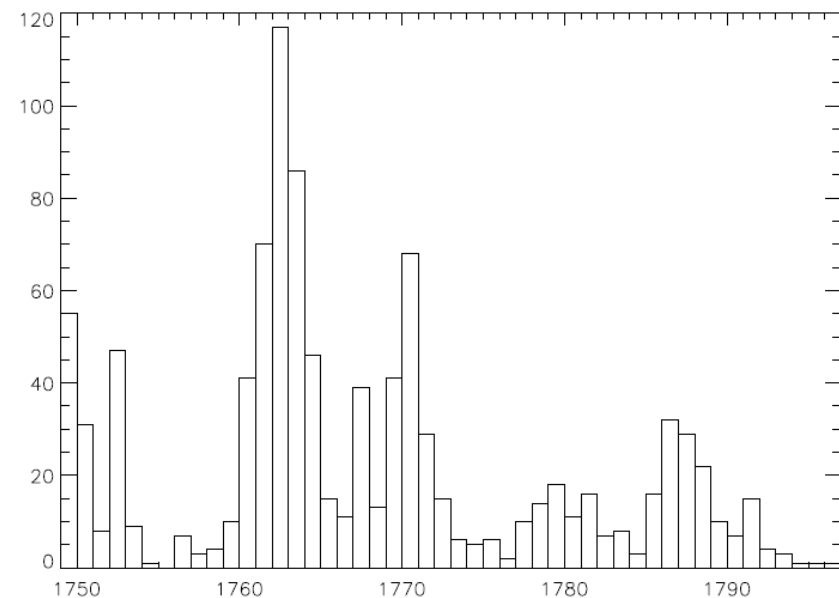
Vaquero et al. (2011), ApJ

3.2. Drawings by Staudacher (Rainer Arlt)

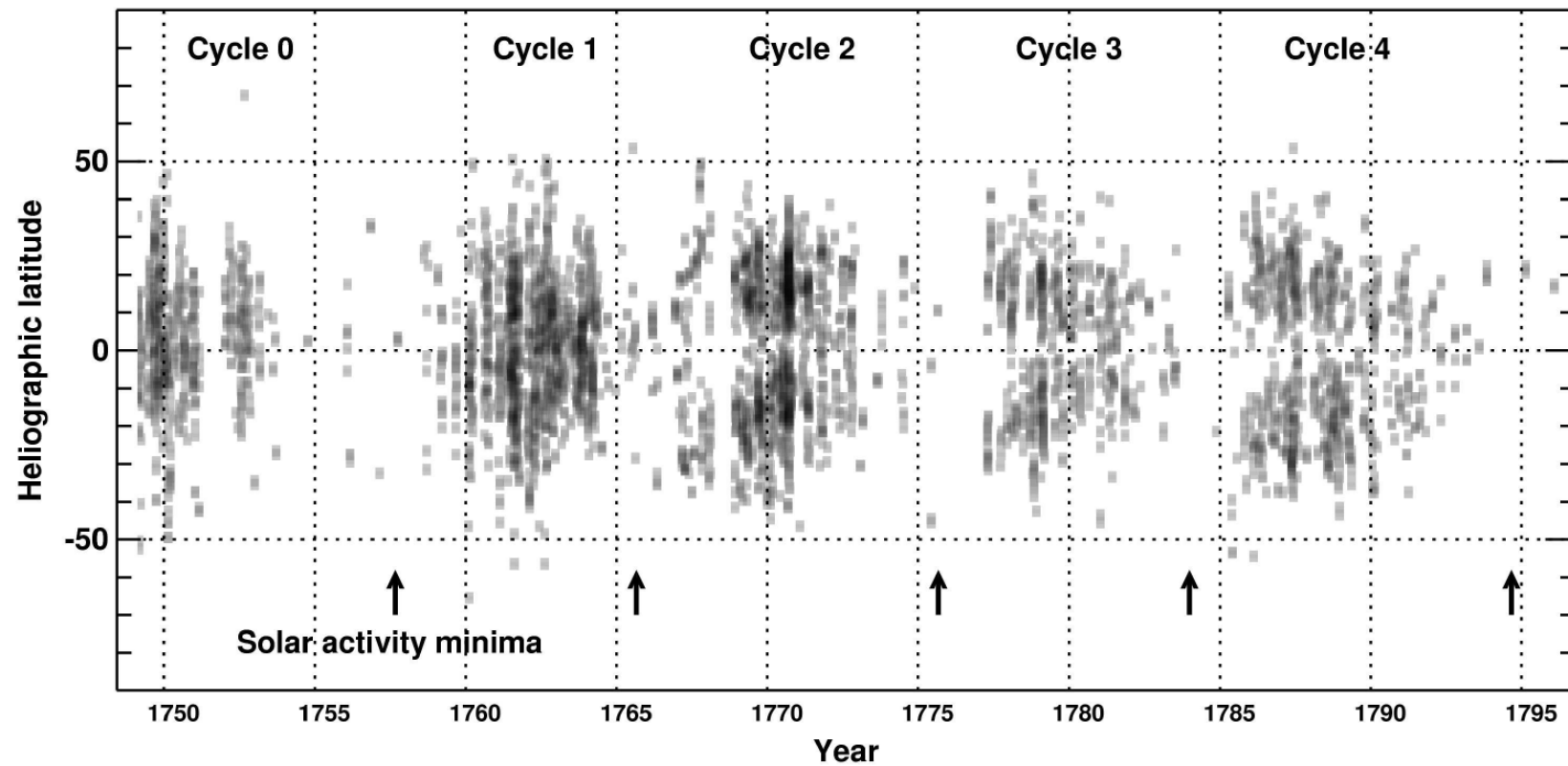
R. Arlt (2008) "Digitization of Sunspot Drawings by Staudacher in 1749 – 1796" *Solar Physics* 247, 399-410.



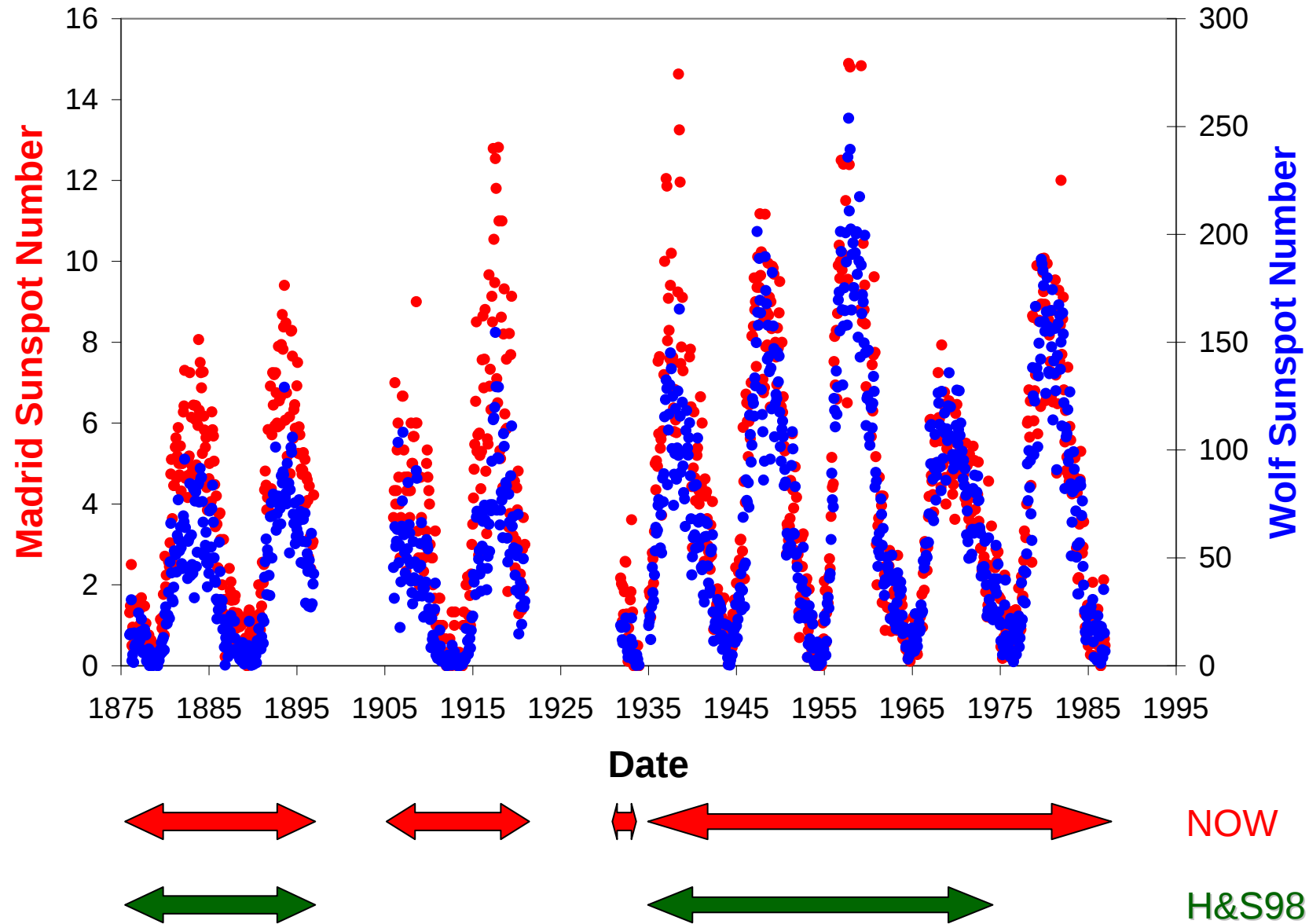
R. Arlt (2008) digitized original drawings by J.C. Staudacher made in the period of 1749 – 1796. Arlt also evaluated the usefulness of the drawings for the determination of sunspot positions for future studies.

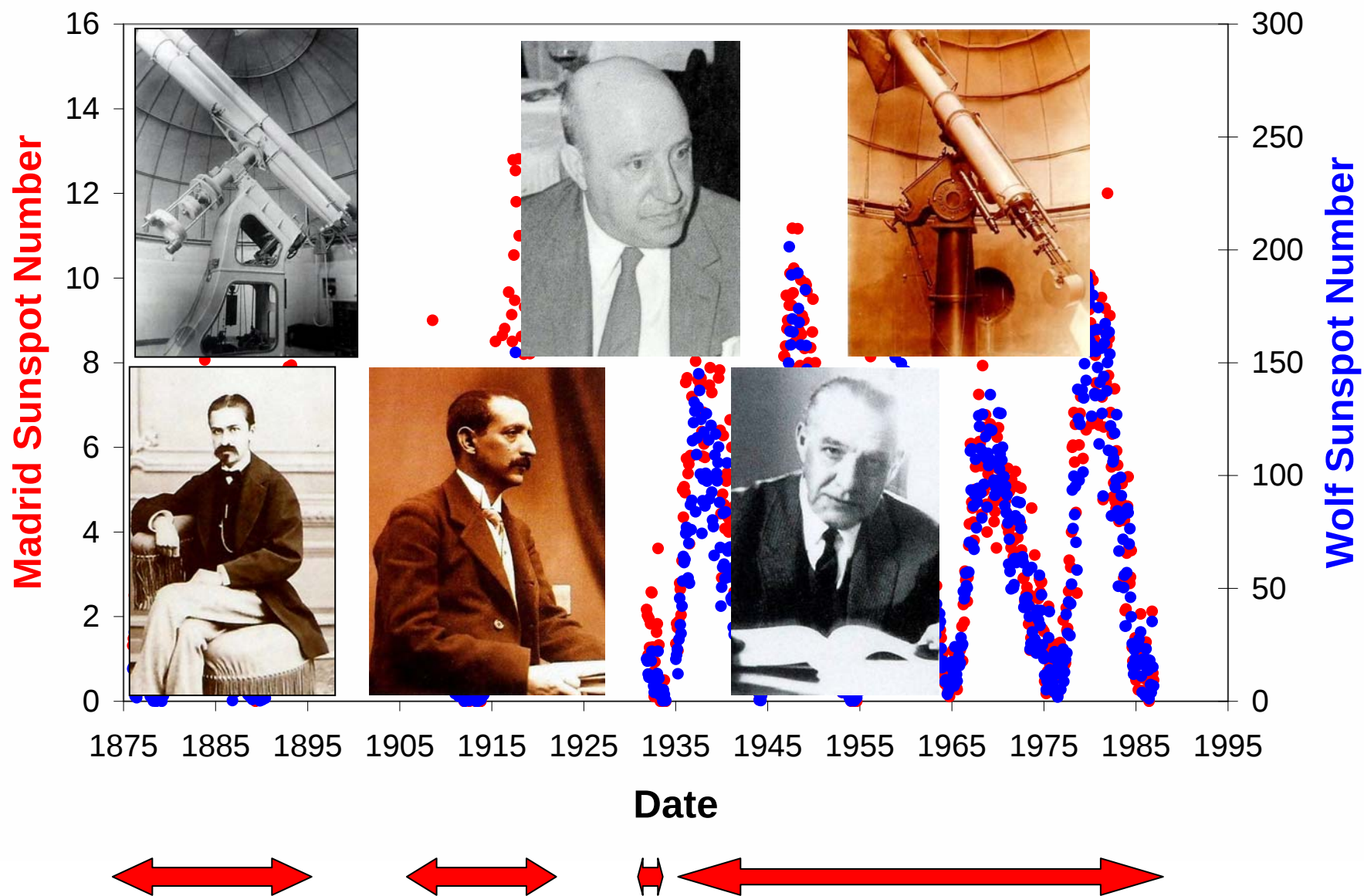


R. Arlt (2009) "The Butterfly Diagram in the Eighteenth Century" *Solar Physics* **255**(1), 143-153, DOI: 10.1007/s11207-008-9306-5

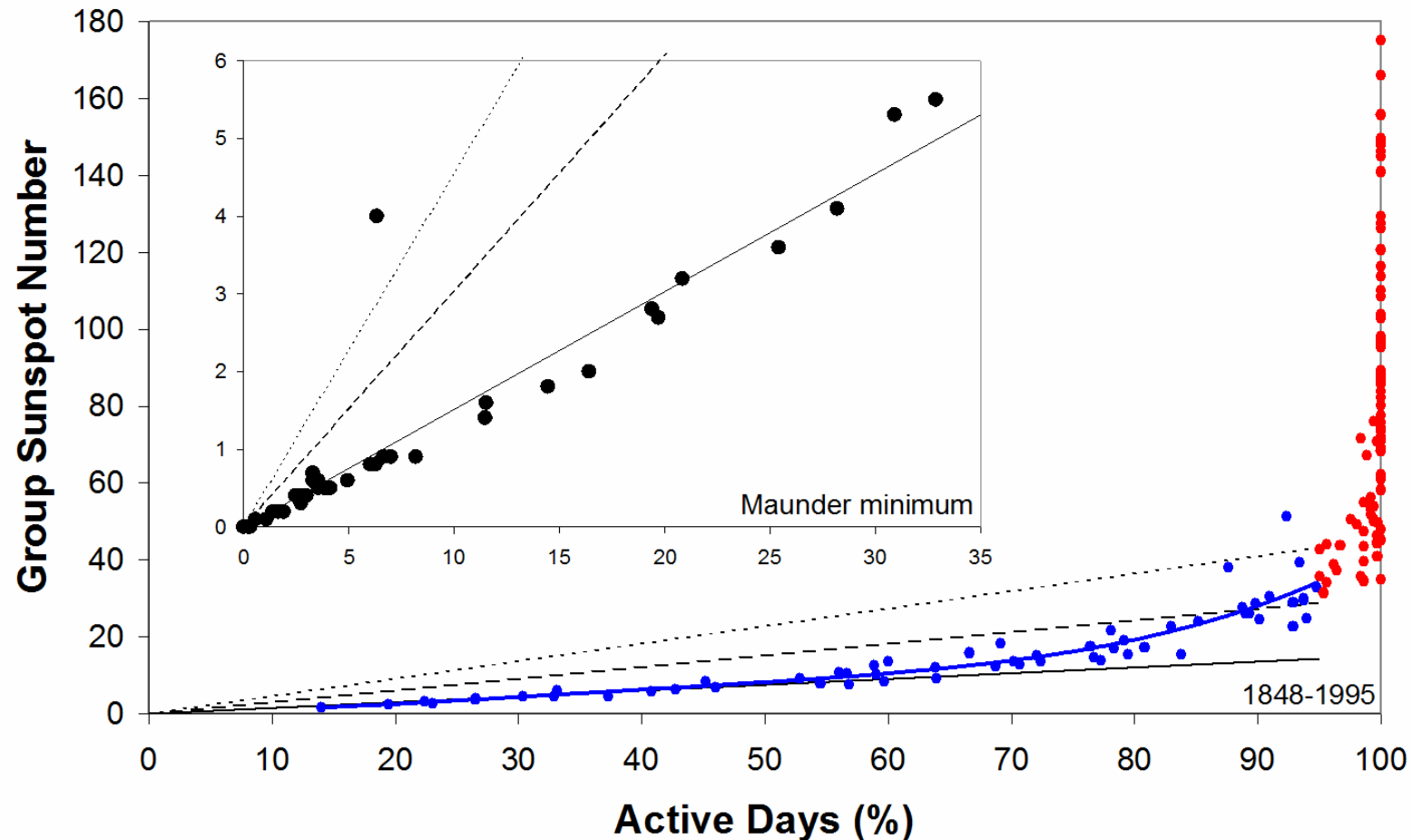


3.3. Madrid SSN: 110 years of solar observations

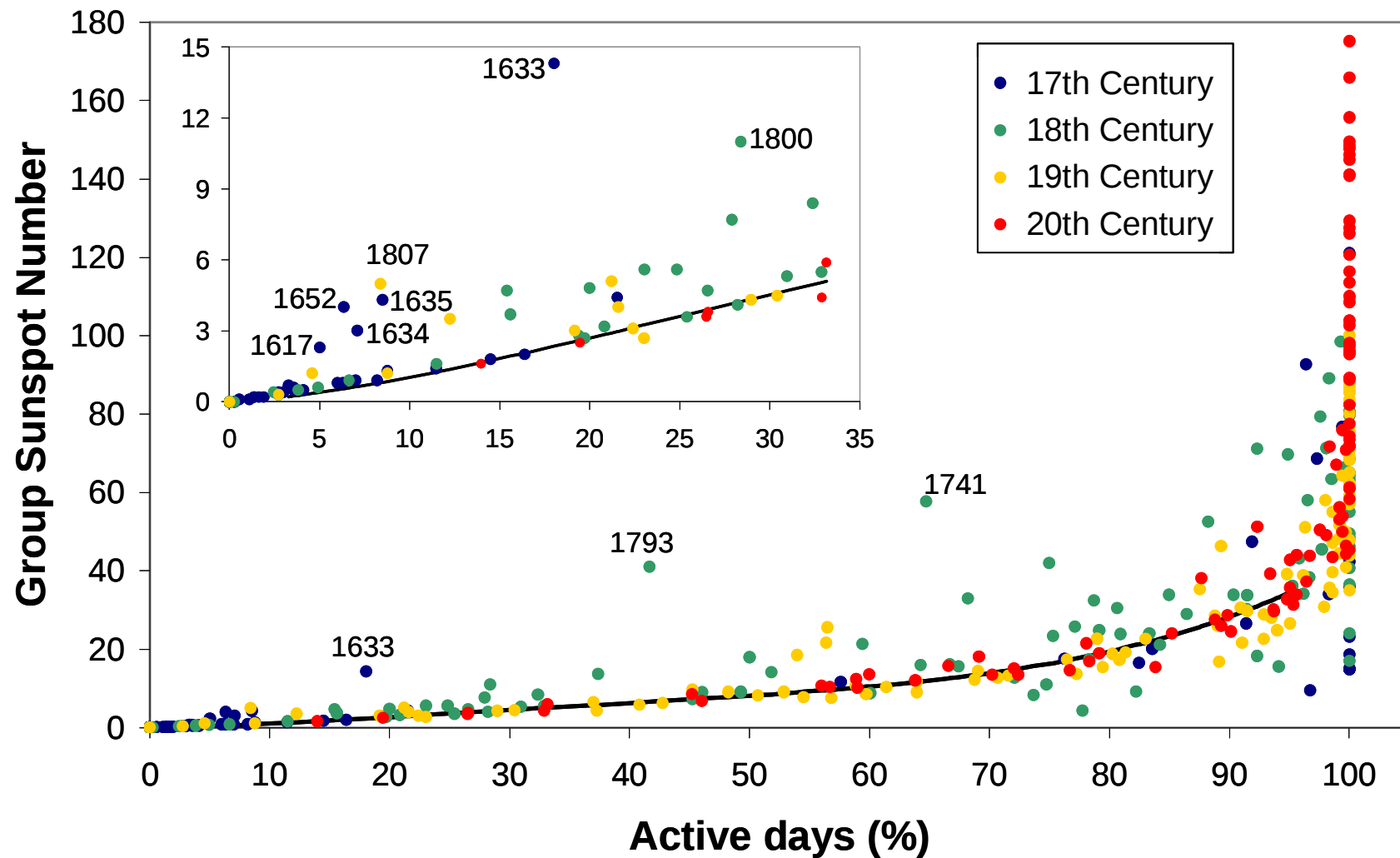




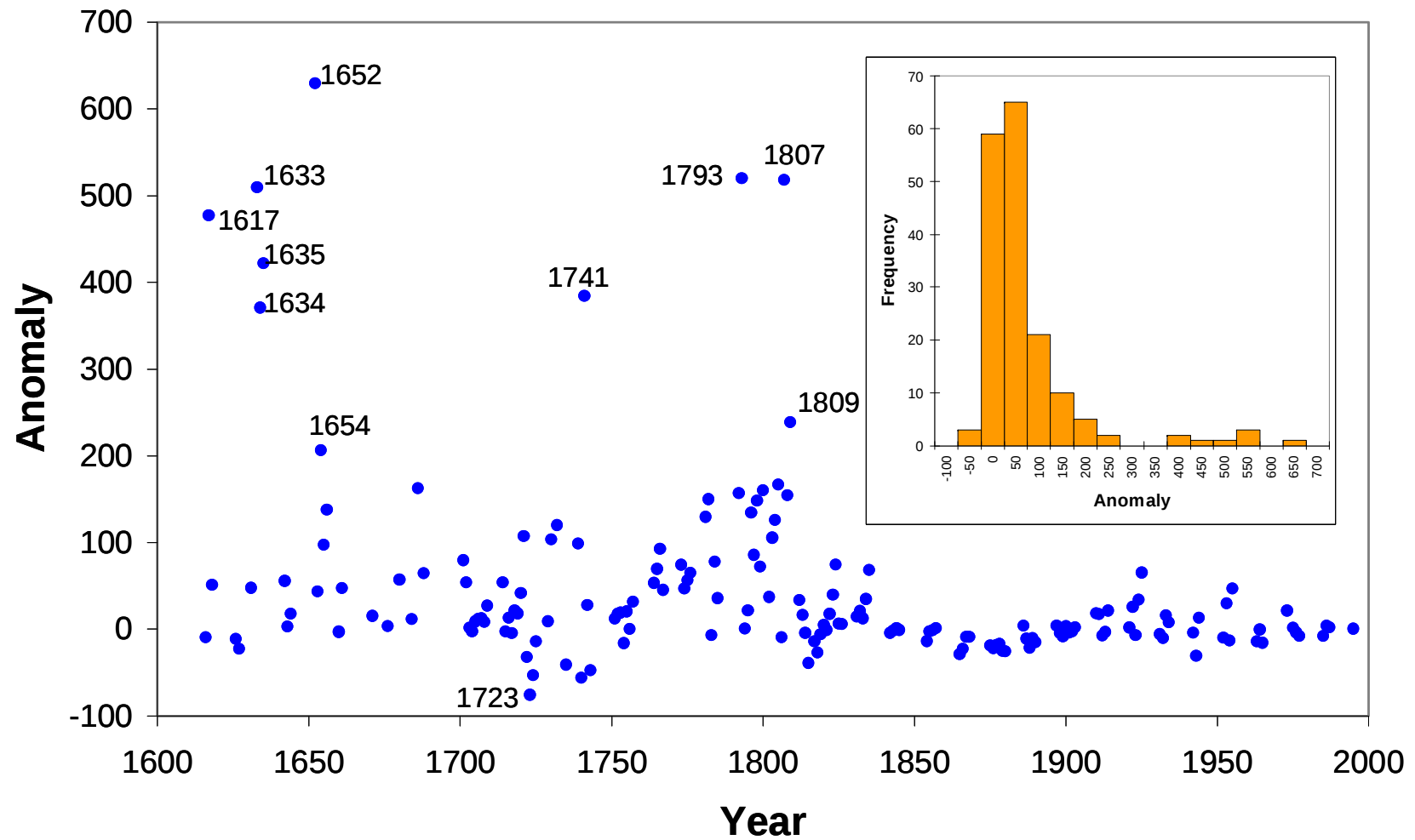
4. Quality Control: an example



Relationship between GSN and AD for 1848-1995 from Hoyt and Schatten (1998). Polynomial fit (order 4) is showed for AD<95% (blue line and points). Graphic inserted shows the same relationship during the Maunder minimum. Black lines represent the theoretical values for an average observer with 1 (continuous), 2 (dashed), and 3 (dotted) groups for each active day.



Relationship between GSN and AD for all available data from HS98. Black line is the polynomial fit of Figure 1. The inset presents an enlarged version but restricted to values $AD < 35\%$

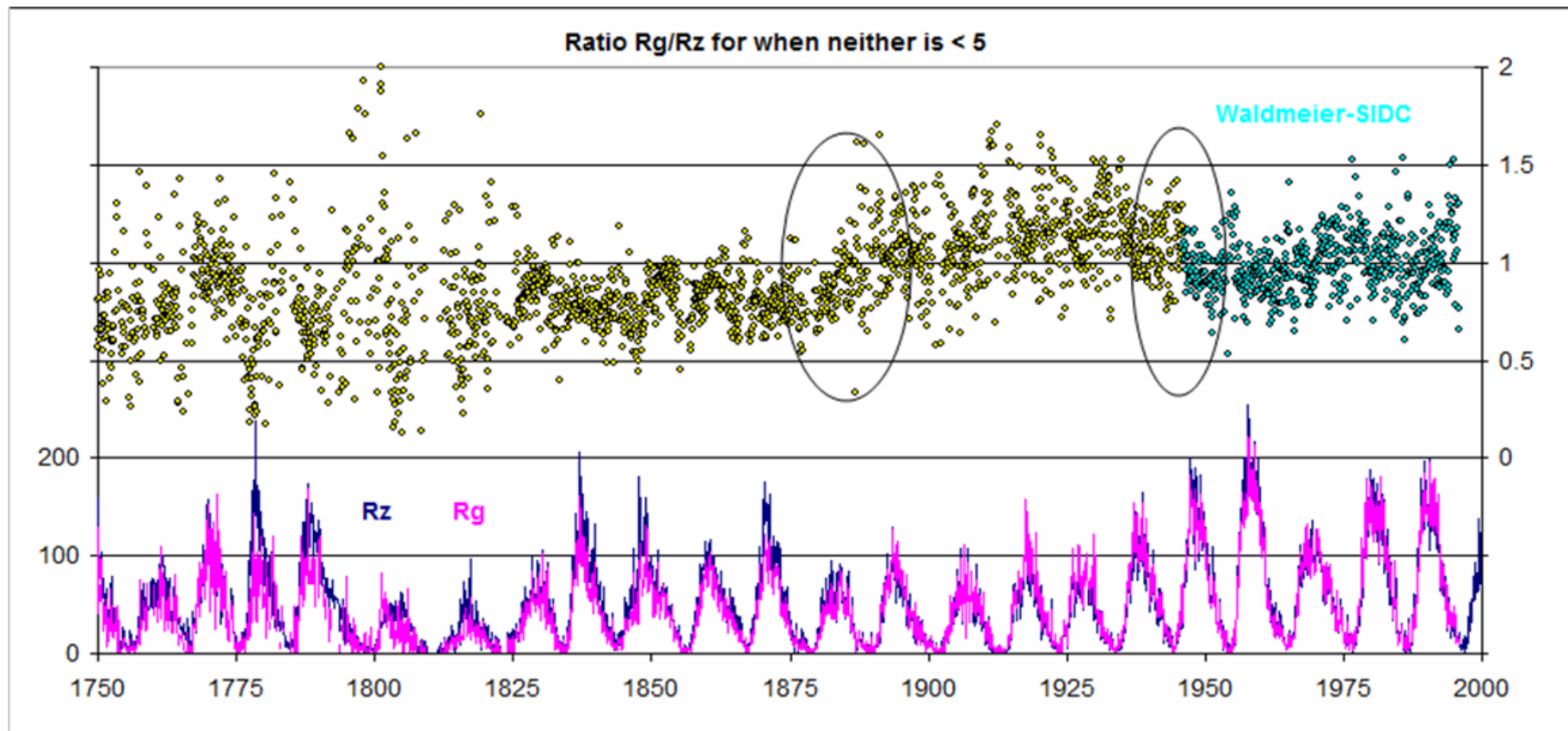


Anomaly values for GSN (blue dots). Graphic inserted shows the distribution of these values.

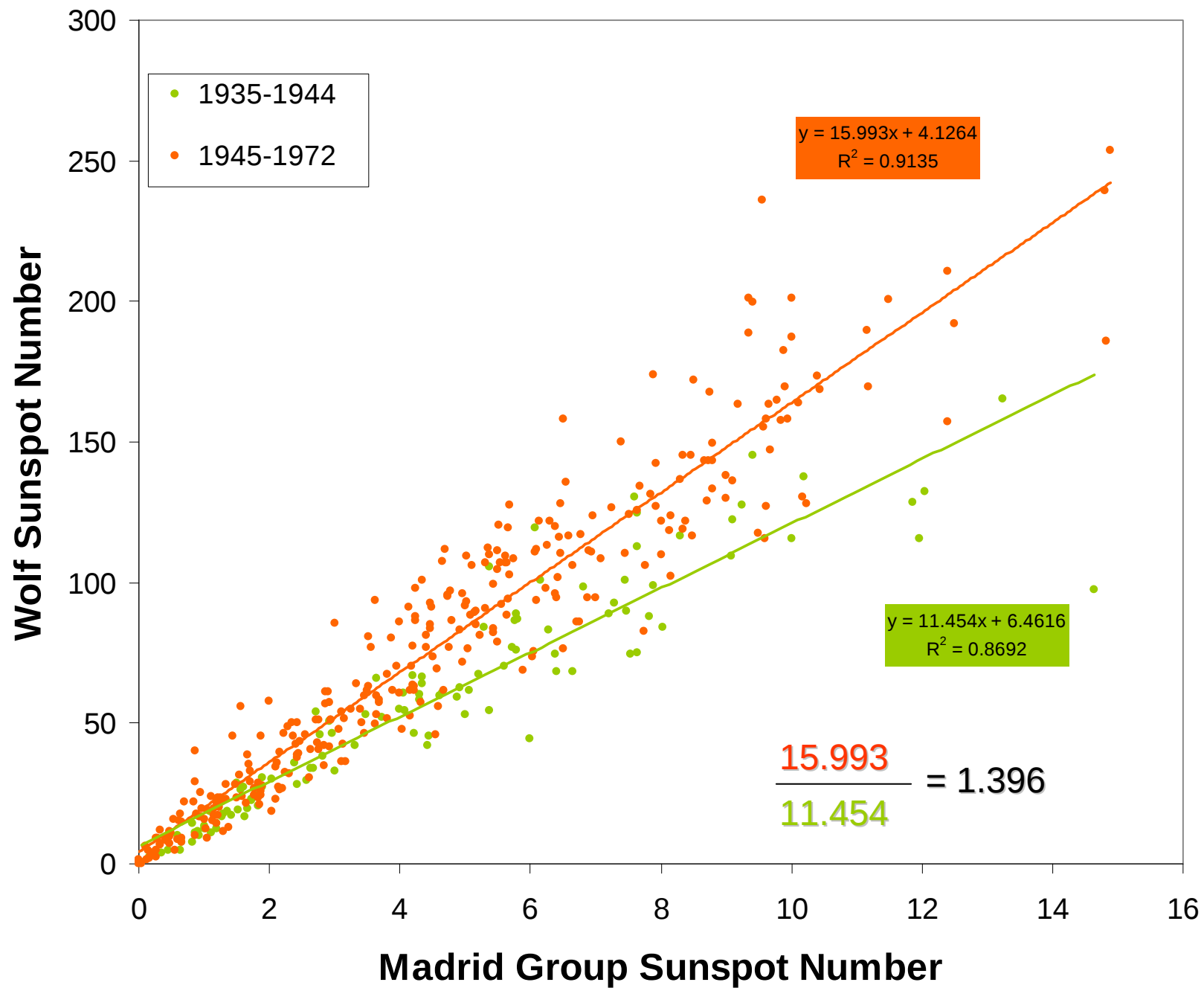
5. Leif's breakpoints

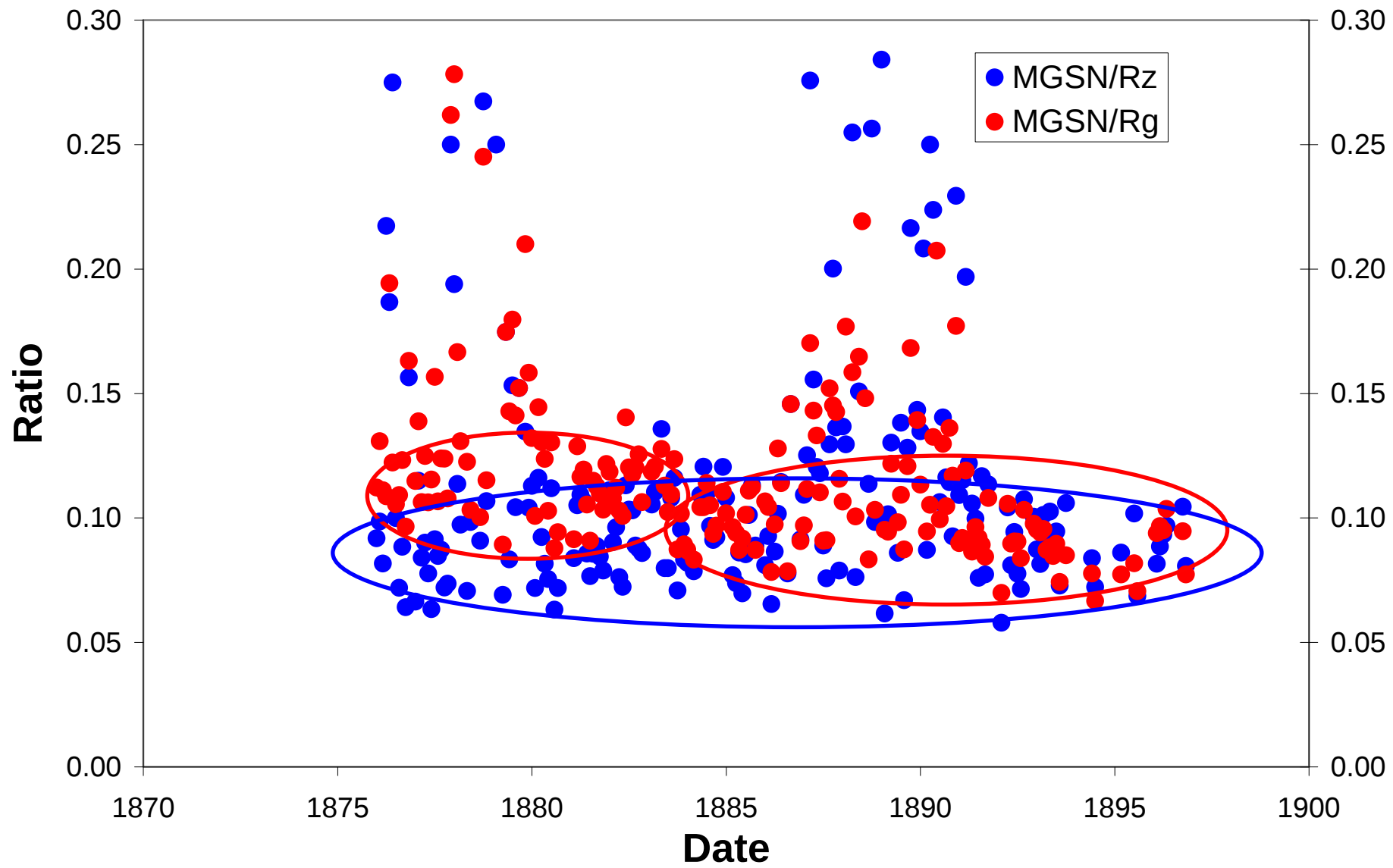
Cliver, Svalgaard & Schatten (2011)
IUGG XXV General Assembly, IAGA
Symposium A12.2

The Ratio Group/Zurich SSN has Two Significant Discontinuities



At ~1946 (After Max Waldmeier took over) and at ~1885





6. Some additional proposals

- ✓ We need a archive or library which preserve all the historical material related with sunspots records (originals [old books, journals or manuscripts], paper copies, photocopies, digital copies, etc.).
- ✓ I think that it is possible to construct a hemispheric sunspot number using old sunspot drawings prior to RGO epoch (Staudacher, Schwabe, Peters, de la Rue, Carrington, etc.).

