

## U.S. HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE PUBLICATION 249

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These tables tabulate the values of hour angle and azimuth for six selected stars for integral degrees of local hour angle of Aries and for integral degrees of latitude from pole to pole. The principal difference between HO 249 and other recent tables is that the former uses the local hour angle of Aries, or local Sideral Time, instead of the meridian angle of the body, and azimuth has replaced the azimuth angle. The arrangement of the tables also differs somewhat due to the fact that the six selected stars change with latitude and hour angle.

Since HO 249 makes no provision for solutions of sun, moon, or planet observations, it is necessary to have at hand another method or methods to make up this deficiency. Also unlike such tables as HO 214, HO 249 must be recomputed every few years to allow for the precession of the equinoxes.

In principle HO 249 provides a short simple solution, but obviously the serious limitation is the fact that only six stars are tabulated for any instance of time and for any given latitude. Furthermore the required corrections due to annual changes in the position of the stars is a serious drawback. There are two wrinkles, however, which may be used to simplify the methods given in HO 249. First, the almanac may be replaced by one sheet giving on one side the daily values for 0 hours G.C.T., the local Hour Angle of Aries, and on the reverse side the G.C.T. correction for hours, minutes, and seconds. The daily tabulation plus the correction gives the local hour angle of Aries for direct entry in the HO 249, and this without reference to the Nautical Almanac or to the Air Almanac. (See Sheet A) Fig. 1.

Second, the "Adjustment of the longitude for the precession of equinoxes" given on the front inside cover page as an annual correction, may be replaced by an annual altitude correction for each star. This correction varies in amount from 0 to about 0'8 a day and the correction might be either plus or minus. Since the correction is given in terms of altitude, it is very easily applied direct to the sextant, when the observation is made. This would be much more simple than applying it to the longitude before plotting and since the changes in star positions are uniform over a period of years, these corrections may be used for ten or twenty years without inaccuracy.

Figure 1 shows a portion of the two pages of corrections which may be used to replace the almanac when using HO 249.

Figure 2 shows a portion of the page from the Star Altitude Curves giving the annual altitude corrections as they are applied when using the Star Altitude Curves. Since the tabulated values of HO 249 are identical with the plotted values of the Star Altitude Curves, the annual altitude correction may be used the same way. In fact it appears desirable to have the annual altitude correction printed directly at the head of the tables in HO 249 for each star.

In fact HO 249 might be considered the tabulated values from points on the Star Altitude Curves, the principal difference being that six instead of three stars are used. While six stars have a certain advantage over three stars, it must be remembered that in either case the method must be considered "a fair weather method" with both HO 249 and the Star Altitude Curves suffering this deficiency and requiring supplementary methods for use with the sun, moon, planets, and stars. A short, compact accurate and universal method, such as the *Line of Position Book* or the *New Line of Position Tables* should be used to supplement HO 249 or the Star Altitude Curves.

As it stands, HO 249 is proving a very popular method and this popularity should be still further increased by providing for each star the correct annual altitude correction, and for some users a separate sheet showing the Hour Angle of Aries would be a convenience.



CORRECTION TO BE ADDED TO TABULATED GREENWICH SIDEREAL TIME FOR ELAPSED GREENWICH CIVIL TIME

Min.	0 <sup>b</sup>	1 <sup>b</sup>	2 <sup>b</sup>	3 <sup>b</sup>	4 <sup>b</sup>	5 <sup>b</sup>	6 <sup>b</sup>	7 <sup>b</sup>	8 <sup>b</sup>	9 <sup>b</sup>	10 <sup>b</sup>	11 <sup>b</sup>	12 <sup>b</sup>	Min.	13 <sup>b</sup>	14 <sup>b</sup>	15 <sup>b</sup>	16 <sup>b</sup>	17 <sup>b</sup>	18 <sup>b</sup>	19 <sup>b</sup>	20 <sup>b</sup>	21 <sup>b</sup>	22 <sup>b</sup>	23 <sup>b</sup>	Sec.	Corr.
0	0 0	15 3	30 5	45 7	60 10	75 12	90 15	105 17	120 20	135 22	150 25	165 27	180 30	0	195 32	210 35	225 37	240 39	255 42	270 44	285 47	300 49	315 52	330 54	345 57	0	0
1	0 15	15 18	30 20	45 22	60 25	75 27	90 30	105 32	120 35	135 37	150 40	165 42	180 45	1	195 47	210 50	225 52	240 55	255 57	270 59	286 2	301 4	316 7	331 9	346 12	1	0
2	0 30	15 33	30 35	45 38	60 40	75 42	90 45	105 47	120 50	135 52	150 55	165 57	181 0	2	196 2	211 5	226 7	241 10	256 12	271 14	286 17	301 19	316 22	331 24	346 27	2	1
3	0 45	15 48	30 50	45 53	60 55	75 57	91 0	106 2	121 5	136 7	151 10	166 12	181 15	3	196 17	211 20	226 22	241 25	256 27	271 30	286 32	301 34	316 37	331 39	346 42	3	1
4	1 0	16 3	31 5	46 8	61 10	76 13	91 15	106 17	121 20	136 22	151 25	166 27	181 30	4	196 32	211 35	226 37	241 40	256 42	271 45	286 47	301 49	316 52	331 54	346 57	4	1
5	1 15	16 18	31 20	46 23	61 25	76 28	91 30	106 33	121 35	136 37	151 40	166 42	181 45	5	196 47	211 50	226 52	241 55	256 57	272 0	287 2	302 5	317 7	332 9	347 12	5	1
6	1 30	16 33	31 35	46 38	61 40	76 43	91 45	106 48	121 50	136 52	151 55	166 57	182 0	6	197 2	212 5	227 7	242 10	257 12	272 15	287 17	302 20	317 22	332 25	347 27	6	2
7	1 45	16 48	31 50	46 53	61 55	76 58	92 0	107 3	122 5	137 8	152 10	167 12	182 15	7	197 17	212 20	227 22	242 25	257 27	272 30	287 32	302 35	317 37	332 40	347 42	7	2
8	2 0	17 3	32 5	47 8	62 10	77 13	92 15	107 18	122 20	137 23	152 25	167 27	182 30	8	197 32	212 35	227 37	242 40	257 42	272 45	287 47	302 50	317 52	332 55	347 57	8	2
9	2 15	17 18	32 20	47 23	62 25	77 28	92 30	107 33	122 35	137 38	152 40	167 43	182 45	9	197 47	212 50	227 52	242 55	257 57	273 0	288 2	303 5	318 7	333 10	348 12	9	2
10	2 30	17 33	32 35	47 38	62 40	77 43	92 45	107 48	122 50	137 53	152 55	167 58	183 0	10	198 2	213 5	228 7	243 10	258 12	273 15	288 17	303 20	318 22	333 25	348 27	10	3
11	2 46	17 48	32 50	47 53	62 55	77 58	93 0	108 3	123 5	138 8	153 10	168 13	183 15	11	198 18	213 20	228 22	243 25	258 27	273 30	288 32	303 35	318 37	333 40	348 42	11	3
12	3 1	18 3	33 5	48 8	63 10	78 13	93 15	108 18	123 20	138 23	153 25	168 28	183 30	12	198 33	213 35	228 38	243 40	258 42	273 45	288 47	303 50	319 52	338 55	348 57	12	3
13	3 16	18 18	33 21	48 23	63 25	78 28	93 30	108 33	123 35	138 38	153 40	168 43	183 45	13	198 48	213 50	228 53	243 55	258 57	274 0	289 2	304 5	319 7	334 10	349 12	13	3
14	3 31	18 33	33 36	48 38	63 40	78 43	93 45	108 48	123 50	138 53	153 55	168 58	184 0	14	199 3	214 5	229 8	244 10	259 13	274 15	289 17	304 20	319 22	334 25	349 27	14	4
15	3 46	18 48	33 51	48 53	63 56	78 58	94 0	109 3	124 5	139 8	154 10	169 13	184 15	15	199 18	214 20	229 23	244 25	259 28	274 30	289 32	304 35	319 37	334 40	349 42	15	4
16	4 1	19 3	34 6	49 8	64 11	79 13	94 15	109 18	124 20	139 23	154 25	169 28	184 30	16	199 33	214 35	229 38	244 40	259 43	274 45	289 48	304 50	319 52	334 55	349 57	16	4
17	4 16	19 18	34 21	49 23	64 26	79 28	94 31	109 33	124 35	139 38	154 40	169 43	184 45	17	199 48	214 50	229 53	244 55	259 58	275 0	290 3	305 5	320 7	335 10	350 12	17	4
18	4 31	19 33	34 36	49 38	64 41	79 43	94 46	109 48	124 50	139 53	154 55	169 58	185 0	18	200 3	215 5	230 8	245 10	260 13	275 15	290 18	305 20	320 23	335 25	350 27	18	5
19	4 46	19 48	34 51	49 53	64 56	79 58	95 1	110 3	125 6	140 8	155 10	170 13	185 15	19	200 18	215 20	230 23	245 25	260 28	275 30	290 33	305 35	320 38	335 40	350 43	19	5
20	5 1	20 3	35 6	50 8	65 11	80 13	95 16	110 18	125 21	140 23	155 26	170 28	185 30	20	200 33	215 35	230 38	245 40	260 43	275 45	290 48	305 50	320 53	335 55	350 58	20	5
21	5 16	20 18	35 21	50 23	65 26	80 28	95 31	110 33	125 36	140 38	155 41	170 43	185 45	21	200 48	215 50	230 53	245 55	260 58	276 0	291 3	306 5	321 8	336 10	351 13	21	5
22	5 31	20 33	35 36	50 38	65 41	80 43	95 46	110 48	125 51	140 53	155 56	170 58	186 1	22	201 3	216 5	231 8	246 10	261 13	276 15	291 18	306 20	321 23	336 25	351 28	22	6
23	5 46	20 48	35 51	50 53	65 56	80 58	96 1	111 3	126 6	141 8	156 11	171 13	186 16	23	201 18	216 20	231 23	246 25	261 28	276 30	291 33	306 35	321 38	336 40	351 43	23	6
24	6 1	21 3	36 6	51 8	66 11	81 13	96 16	111 18	126 21	141 23	156 26	171 28	186 31	24	201 33	216 36	231 38	246 40	261 43	276 45	291 48	306 50	321 53	336 55	351 58	24	6
25	6 16	21 19	36 21	51 23	66 26	81 28	96 31	111 33	126 36	141 38	156 41	171 43	186 46	25	201 48	216 51	231 53	246 55	261 58	277 0	292 3	307 5	322 8	337 10	352 13	25	6
26	6 31	21 34	36 36	51 39	66 41	81 43	96 46	111 48	126 51	141 53	156 56	171 58	187 1	26	202 3	217 6	232 8	247 11	262 13	277 15	292 18	307 20	322 23				

