The Average Delay of the Traditional *Molad* Moment Relative to the Mean Lunar Conjunction (Jerusalem Mean Solar Time)

The minimum delay corresponded to a meridian that was almost 4° E of Jerusalem at the *molad* of Tammuz 3607 (June 154 BC), in the era of the Maccabees of Judea and of the ancient Greek astronomer, Hipparchus of Rhodes (190-120 BC). Around 147 AD, Κλαύδιος Πτολεμαῖος (Ptolemy) of Alexandria published his voluminous treatise, *Almagest*, and gave the mean synodic month in sexagesimal as 29 days 31' 50'' 8''' 20'''' (exactly the same as the traditional Hebrew calendar *molad* interval), citing Hipparchus as his source.