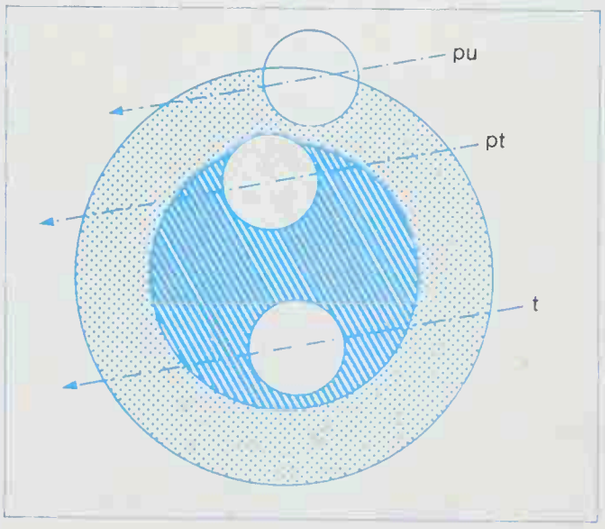
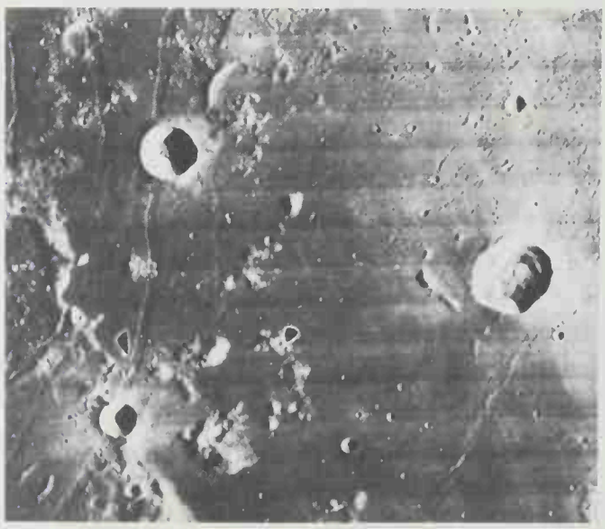
When the Moon is full the bright ray craters, especially Tycho, Copernicus and Kepler, can be seen to best advantage.

and are consequently able to construct even more accurate light-curves of the changes which take place in the course of an eclipse.

Photography of lunar eclipses is a fascinating exercise and it is not particularly difficult to obtain a good record of the whole event. Colour photographs will provide at least some indication of the intensity of the colour present in the umbra, but it must be borne in mind that the colour bias of photographic film varies slightly from one brand to another, and in any case depends upon the length of the exposure, so it may not be a truly accurate record. In general, the fairly long exposures required, even with fast films (black and white or colour) during the mid-eclipse phases, do not allow photographs to be used for 'scientific' purposes. It is still worth attempting to take them, especially if some form of driven mount is available.





Far left:
Lunar eclipses may be total (t), partial (pt) or penumbral (pu), the latter usually being far too faint to be observed without special equipment.

Observing conditions, whether from Earth or as in this case, from one of the Lunar Orbiters, are usually best when the area is close to the terminator, which divides light and dark portions of the Moon.