

# DIONYSIUS EXIGUUS. LIBER DE PASCHATE SIVE CYCLUS PASCHALIS

CYCLUS DECENNOVENNALIS DIONYSII

NINETEEN YEAR CYCLE OF DIONYSIUS

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The following translation is as literal as I could do it in order to reflect the style and diction of the original. Subsequent comments contain a translation of the calendrical content into modern algebraic notation. The Latin text has been transcribed and edited by Rodolphe Audette <http://hermes.ulaval.ca/~sitrau/calgreg/denys.html>. I have profited from the learned comments and helpful suggestions by Joe Kress, A R Tom Peters, and Robert H van Gent. Any typos in the Latin text and errors in the translation and the comments are mine. [<http://the-light.com/cal/DionysiusArgumenta.txt>]

**Incipit cyclus decemnovennalis, quem Graeci Enneakaidecaeterida vocant, constitutus a sanctis Patribus, in quo quartas decimas paschales omni tempore sine ulla reperia falsitate; tantum memineris annis singulis, qui cyclus lunae et qui decemnovennalis existat. In praesenti namque tertia indictio est, consulatu Probi junioris, tertius decimus circulus decemnovennalis, decimus lunaris est.**

The nineteen year cycle begins, which the Greek call Enneakaidecaeterida (nineteen yearly), established by the holy [Church] Fathers, in which you shall find fourteen paschal[ moon]s each time without error; you shall just bear in mind, in each of the years, which cycle of the moon and which nineteen year [cycle] prevails. In the present [year], in the consulship of Probus Junior, it is the thirteenth of the nineteen year cycle, and the tenth lunar one.

ANNI DIOCLE TIANI	quae sint indictiones	epactae, id est adjectiones lunae	concurrentes dies	quotus sit lunae circulus	quae sit luna XIII paschalis	dies Dominicae festivitatis	quota sit luna ipsius diei dominici
YARS OF DIOCLETIAN	What are the indictions	epacts, ie increments of the moon	concurrent days	which is the circle of the moon	date of day 14 of the paschal moon	day of the Sunday festival	which is the day of the moon on this Sunday
CCXXVIII 229 (513)	vi	nulla	i	xvii	non.Apr. Apr 05	vii id.Apr. Apr 07	xvi
CCXXX 230 (514)	vii	xi	ii	xviii	viii k.Apr. Mar 25	iii k.Apr. Mar 30	xviii
CCXXXI 231 (515)	viii	xxii	iii	xviiii	id. Apr. Apr 13	xiii k.Maii Apr 19	xx

<b>CCXXXII</b> 232 (516)	viii	iii	v	i	<b>non.Apr.</b> Apr 02	<b>iii non.Apr.</b> Apr 03	xv
<b>CCXXXIII</b> 233 (517)	x	xiii	vi	ii	<b>xi k.Apr.</b> Mar 22	<b>vii k.Apr.</b> Mar 26	xviii
<b>CCXXXIII</b> 234 (518)	xi	xxv	vi	iii	<b>iiii id.Apr.</b> Apr 10	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	xviii
<b>CCXXXV</b> 235 (519)	xii	vi	i	iiii	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 30	<b>ii k.Apr.</b> Mar 31	xv *
<b>CCXXXVI</b> 236 (520)	xiii	xvii	iii	v	<b>xiii k.Maii</b> Apr 18*	<b>xiii k.Maii</b> Apr 19	xv ogd. *
<b>CCXXXVII</b> 237 (521)	xiii	xxviii	iiii	vi	<b>vii id.Apr.</b> Apr 07	<b>iii id.Apr.</b> Apr 11	xviii
<b>CCXXXVIII</b> 238 (522)	xv	viii	v	vii	<b>vi k.Apr.</b> Mar 27	<b>iii non.Apr.</b> Apr 03	xxi *
<b>CCXXXVIII</b> 239 (523)	i	xx	vi	viii	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	<b>xvi k.Maii</b> Apr 16	xv *
<b>CCXL</b> 240 (524)	ii	i	i	viii	<b>ii non.Apr.</b> Apr 04	<b>vii id.Apr.</b> Apr 07	xvii
<b>CCXLI</b> 241 (525)	iii	xii	ii	x	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 24	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 30	xx
<b>CCXLII</b> 242 (526)	iiii	xxiii	iii	xi	<b>ii id.Apr.</b> Apr 12	<b>xiii k.Maii</b> Apr 19	xxi *
<b>CCXLIII</b> 243 (527)	v	iiii	iiii	xii	<b>k.Apr.</b> Apr 01	<b>ii non.Apr.</b> Apr 04	xvii
<b>CCXLIII</b> 244 (528)	vi	xv	vi	xiii	<b>xii k.Apr.</b> Mar 21*	<b>vii k.Apr.</b> Mar 26	xviii
<b>CCXLV</b> 245 (529)	vii	xxvi	vii	xiii	<b>v id.Apr.</b> Apr 09	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	xx
<b>CCXLVI</b> 246 (530)	viii	vii	i	xv	<b>iiii k.Apr.</b> Mar 29	<b>ii k.Apr.</b> Mar 31	xvi
<b>CCXLVII</b> 247 (531)	viii	xviii	ii	xvi	<b>xv k.Maii</b> Apr 17	<b>xii k.Maii</b> Apr 20	xvii hend.

<b>ANNI DOMINI NOSTRI JESU CHRISTI</b>	<b>quae sint indictiones</b>	<b>epactae, id est adjectiones lunae</b>	<b>concurrentes dies</b>	<b>quotus sit lunae circulus</b>	<b>quae sit luna XIII paschalis</b>	<b>dies Dominicae festivitatis</b>	<b>quota sit luna ipsius diei dominici</b>
YARS OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST	What are the indictions	epacts, ie increments of the moon	concurrent days	which is the circle of the moon	date of day 14 of the paschal moon	day of the Sunday festival	which is the day of the moon on this Sunday
<b>B DXXXII</b> 0532	<b>x</b>	<b>nulla</b>	<b>iiii</b>	<b>xvii</b>	<b>non.Apr.</b> Apr 05	<b>iii id.Apr.</b> Apr 11	<b>xx</b>
<b>DXXXIII</b> 0533	<b>xi</b>	<b>xi</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>xviii</b>	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 25	<b>vi k.Apr.</b> Mar 27	<b>xvi</b>
<b>DXXXIIII</b> 0534	<b>xii</b>	<b>xxii</b>	<b>vi</b>	<b>xviii</b>	<b>id.Apr.</b> Apr 13	<b>xvi k.Maii</b> Apr 16	<b>xvii</b>
<b>DXXXV</b> 0535	<b>xiii</b>	<b>iii</b>	<b>vii</b>	<b>i</b>	<b>iiii non.Apr.</b> Apr 02	<b>vi id.Apr.</b> Apr 08	<b>xx</b>
<b>B DXXXVI</b> 0536	<b>xiiii</b>	<b>xiiii</b>	<b>ii</b>	<b>ii</b>	<b>xi k.Apr.</b> Mar 22	<b>x k.Apr.</b> Mar 23	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DXXXVII</b> 0537	<b>xv</b>	<b>xxv</b>	<b>iii</b>	<b>iii</b>	<b>iiii id.Apr.</b> Apr 10	<b>ii id.Apr.</b> Apr 12	<b>xvi</b>
<b>DXXXVIII</b> 0538	<b>i</b>	<b>vi</b>	<b>iiii</b>	<b>iiii</b>	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 30	<b>ii non.Apr.</b> Apr 04	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DXXXVIII</b> 0539	<b>ii</b>	<b>xvii</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>xiiii k.Maii</b> Apr 18*	<b>viii k.Maii</b> Apr 24	<b>xx ogd.</b>
<b>B DXL</b> 0540	<b>iii</b>	<b>xxviii</b>	<b>vii</b>	<b>vi</b>	<b>vii id.Apr.</b> Apr 07	<b>vi id.Apr.</b> Apr 08	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DXLI</b> 0541	<b>iiii</b>	<b>viii</b>	<b>i</b>	<b>vii</b>	<b>vi k.Apr.</b> Mar 27	<b>ii k.Apr.</b> Mar 31	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DXLII</b> 0542	<b>v</b>	<b>xx</b>	<b>ii</b>	<b>viii</b>	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	<b>xii k.Maii</b> Apr 20	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DXLIII</b> 0543	<b>vi</b>	<b>i</b>	<b>iii</b>	<b>viii</b>	<b>ii non.Apr.</b> Apr 04	<b>non.Apr.</b> Apr 05	<b>xv</b> *
<b>B DXLIIII</b> 0544	<b>vii</b>	<b>xii</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 24	<b>vi k.Apr.</b> Mar 27	<b>xvii</b>

<b>DXLV</b> 0545	viii	xxiii	vi	xi	<b>ii id.Apr.</b> Apr 12	<b>xvi k.Maii</b> Apr 16	<b>xxiii</b>
<b>DXLVI</b> 0546	viii	iiii	vii	xii	<b>k.Apr.</b> Apr 01	<b>vi id.Apr.</b> Apr 08	<b>xxi</b> *
<b>DXLVII</b> 0547	x	xv	i	xiii	<b>xii k.Apr.</b> Mar 21*	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 24	<b>xvii</b>
<b>B DXLVIII</b> 0548	xi	xxvi	iii	xiiii	<b>v id.Apr.</b> Apr 09	<b>ii id.Apr.</b> Apr 12	<b>xvii</b>
<b>DXLVIII</b> 0549	xii	vii	iiii	xv	<b>iiii k.Apr.</b> Mar 29	<b>ii non.Apr.</b> Apr 04	<b>xx</b>
<b>DL</b> 0550	xiii	xviii	v	xvi	<b>xv k.Maii</b> Apr 17	<b>viii k.Maii</b> Apr 24	<b>xxi hend.</b> *
<b>DLI</b> 0551	xiiii	nulla	vi	xvii	<b>non.Apr.</b> Apr 05	<b>v id.Apr.</b> Apr 09	<b>xviii</b>
<b>B DLII</b> 0552	xv	xi	i	xviii	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 25	<b>ii k.Apr.</b> Mar 31	<b>xx</b>
<b>DLIII</b> 0553	i	xxii	ii	xviii	<b>id.Apr.</b> Apr 13	<b>xii k.Maii</b> Apr 20	<b>xxi</b> *
<b>DLIII</b> 0554	ii	iii	iii	i	<b>iiii non.Apr.</b> Apr 02	<b>non.Apr.</b> Apr 05	<b>xvii</b>
<b>DLV</b> 0555	iii	xiiii	iiii	ii	<b>xi k.Apr.</b> Mar 22	<b>v k.Apr.</b> Mar 28	<b>xx</b>
<b>B DLVI</b> 0556	iiii	xxv	vi	iii	<b>iiii id.Apr.</b> Apr 10	<b>xvi k.Maii</b> Apr 16	<b>xx</b>
<b>DLVII</b> 0557	v	vi	vii	iiii	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 30	<b>k.Apr.</b> Apr 01	<b>xvi</b>
<b>DLVIII</b> 0558	vi	xvii	i	v	<b>xiii k.Maii</b> Apr 18*	<b>xi k.Maii</b> Apr 21	<b>xvii ogd.</b>
<b>DLVIII</b> 0559	vii	xxviii	ii	vi	<b>vii id.Apr.</b> Apr 07	<b>id.Apr.</b> Apr 13	<b>xx</b>
<b>B DLX</b> 0560	viii	viii	iiii	vii	<b>vi k.Apr.</b> Mar 27	<b>v k.Apr.</b> Mar 28	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DLXI</b> 0561	viii	xx	v	viii	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	<b>xv k.Maii</b> Apr 17	<b>xvi</b>

<b>DLXII</b> 0562	x	i	vi	viii	<b>ii non.Apr.</b> Apr 04	<b>v id.Apr.</b> Apr 09	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DLXIII</b> 0563	xi	xii	vii	x	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 24	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 25	<b>xv</b> *
<b>B DLXIII</b> 0564	xii	xxiii	ii	xi	<b>ii id.Apr.</b> Apr 12	<b>id.Apr.</b> Apr 13	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DLXV</b> 0565	xiii	iiii	iii	xii	<b>k.Apr.</b> Apr 01	<b>non.Apr.</b> Apr 05	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DLXVI</b> 0566	xiiii	xv	iiii	xiii	<b>xii k.Apr.</b> Mar 21*	<b>v k.Apr.</b> Mar 28	<b>xxi</b> *
<b>DLXVII</b> 0567	xv	xxvi	v	xiiii	<b>v id.Apr.</b> Apr 09	<b>iiii id.Apr.</b> Apr 10	<b>xv</b> *
<b>B DLXVIII</b> 0568	i	vii	vii	xv	<b>iiii k.Apr.</b> Mar 29	<b>k.Apr.</b> Apr 01	<b>xii</b>
<b>DLXVIII</b> 0569	ii	xviii	i	xvi	<b>xv k.Maii</b> Apr 17	<b>xi k.Maii</b> Apr 21	<b>xviii hend.</b>
<b>DLXX</b> 0570	iii	nulla	ii	xvii	<b>non.Apr.</b> Apr 05	<b>viii id.Apr.</b> Apr 06	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DLXXI</b> 0571	iiii	xi	iii	xviii	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 25	<b>iiii k.Apr.</b> Mar 29	<b>xviii</b>
<b>B DLXXII</b> 0572	v	xxii	v	xviii	<b>id.Apr.</b> Apr 13	<b>xv k.Maii</b> Apr 17	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DLXXIII</b> 0573	vi	iii	vi	i	<b>iiii non.Apr.</b> Apr 02	<b>v id.Apr.</b> Apr 09	<b>xxi</b> *
<b>DLXXIII</b> 0574	vii	xiiii	vii	ii	<b>xi k.Apr.</b> Mar 22	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 25	<b>xvii</b>
<b>DLXXV</b> 0575	viii	xxv	i	iii	<b>iiii id.Apr.</b> Apr 10	<b>xviii k.Maii</b> Apr 14	<b>xviii</b>
<b>B DLXXVI</b> 0576	viiii	vi	iii	iiii	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 30	<b>non.Apr.</b> Apr 05	<b>xx</b>
<b>DLXXVII</b> 0577	x	xvii	iiii	v	<b>xiiii k.Maii</b> Apr 18*	<b>vii k.Maii</b> Apr 25*	<b>xxi ogd.</b> *
<b>DLXXVIII</b> 0578	xi	xxviii	v	vi	<b>vii id.Apr.</b> Apr 07	<b>iiii id.Apr</b> Apr 10	<b>xvii</b>

<b>DLXXVIII</b> 0579	xii	viii	vi	vii	<b>vi k.Apr.</b> Mar 27	<b>iii non.Apr.</b> Apr 02	<b>xx</b>
<b>B DLXXX</b> 0580	xiii	xx	i	viii	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	<b>xi k.Maii</b> Apr 21	<b>xx</b>
<b>DLXXXI</b> 0581	xiiii	i	ii	viii	<b>ii non.Apr.</b> Apr 04	<b>viii id.Apr.</b> Apr 06	<b>xvi</b>
<b>DLXXXII</b> 0582	xv	xii	iii	x	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 24	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 29	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DLXXXIII</b> 0583	i	xxiii	iiii	xi	<b>ii id.Apr.</b> Apr 12	<b>xiii k.Maii</b> Apr 18	<b>xx</b>
<b>B DLXXXIIII</b> 0584	ii	iiii	vi	xii	<b>k.Apr.</b> Apr 01	<b>iii non.Apr.</b> Apr 02	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DLXXXV</b> 0585	iii	xv	vii	xiii	<b>xii k.Apr.</b> Mar 21*	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 25	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DLXXXVI</b> 0586	iiii	xxvi	i	xiiii	<b>v id.Apr.</b> Apr 09	<b>xviii k.Maii</b> Apr 14	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DLXXXVII</b> 0587	v	vii	ii	xv	<b>iiii k.Apr.</b> Mar 29	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 30	<b>xv</b> *
<b>B DLXXXVIII</b> 0588	vi	xviii	iiii	xvi	<b>xv k.Maii</b> Apr 17	<b>xiii k.Maii</b> Apr 18	<b>xv hend.</b> *
<b>DLXXXVIII</b> 0589	vii	nulla	v	xvii	<b>non.Apr.</b> Apr 05	<b>iii id.Apr.</b> Apr 10	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DXC</b> 0590	viii	xi	vi	xviii	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 25	<b>vii k.Apr.</b> Mar 26	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DXCI</b> 0591	viiii	xxii	vii	xviii	<b>id.Apr.</b> Apr 13	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	<b>xvi</b>
<b>B DXCII</b> 0592	x	iii	ii	i	<b>iii non.Apr.</b> Apr 02	<b>viii id.Apr.</b> Apr 06	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DXCIII</b> 0593	xi	xiiii	iii	ii	<b>xi k.Apr.</b> Mar 22	<b>iiii k.Apr.</b> Mar 29	<b>xxi</b> *
<b>DXCIII</b> 0594	xii	xxv	iiii	iii	<b>iiii id.Apr.</b> Apr 10	<b>iii id.Apr.</b> Apr 11	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DXCV</b> 0595	xiii	vi	v	iiii	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 30	<b>iii non.Apr.</b> Apr 03	<b>xviii</b>

<b>B DXCVI</b> 0596	xiiii	xvii	vii	v	xiiii k.Maii Apr 18*	x k.Maii Apr 22	xviii ogd.
<b>DXCVII</b> 0597	xv	xxviii	i	vi	vii id.Apr. Apr 07	xviii k.Maii Apr 14	xxi *
<b>DXCVIII</b> 0598	i	viii	ii	vii	vi k.Apr. Mar 27	iii k.Apr. Mar 30	xvii
<b>DXCVIII</b> 0599	ii	xx	iii	viii	xvii k.Maii Apr 15	xiii k.Maii Apr 19	xviii
<b>B DC</b> 0600	iii	i	v	viii	ii non.Apr. Apr 04	iiii id.Apr. Apr 10	xx
<b>DCI</b> 0601	iiii	xii	vi	x	viii k.Apr. Mar 24	vii k.Apr. Mar 26	xvi
<b>DCII</b> 0602	v	xxiii	vii	xi	ii id.Apr. Apr 12	xvii k.Maii Apr 15	xvii
<b>DCIII</b> 0603	vi	iiii	i	xii	k.Apr. Apr 01	vii id.Apr. Apr 07	xx
<b>B DCIII</b> 0604	vii	xv	iii	xiii	xii k.Apr. Mar 21*	xi k.Apr. Mar 22*	xv *
<b>DCV</b> 0605	viii	xxvi	iiii	xiiii	v id.Apr. Apr 09	iii id.Apr. Apr 11	xvi
<b>DCVI</b> 0606	viii	vii	v	xv	iiii k.Apr. Mar 29	iii non.Apr. Apr 03	xviii
<b>DCVII</b> 0607	x	xviii	vi	xvi	xv k.Maii Apr 17	viii k.Maii Apr 23	xx hend.
<b>B DCVIII</b> 0608	xi	nulla	i	xvii	non.Apr. Apr 05	vii id.Apr. Apr 07	xvi
<b>DCVIII</b> 0609	xii	xi	ii	xviii	viii k.Apr. Mar 25	iii k.Apr. Mar 30	xviii
<b>DCX</b> 0610	xiii	xxii	iii	xviii	id.Apr. Apr 13	xiii k.Maii Apr 19	xx
<b>DCXI</b> 0611	xiiii	iii	iiii	i	iiii non.Apr. Apr 02	ii non.Apr. Apr 04	xvi
<b>B DCXII</b> 0612	xv	xiiii	vi	ii	xi k.Apr. Mar 22	vii k.Apr. Mar 26	xviii

<b>DCXIII</b> 0613	<b>i</b>	<b>xxv</b>	<b>vii</b>	<b>iii</b>	<b>iiii id.Apr.</b> Apr 10	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DCXIII</b> 0614	<b>ii</b>	<b>vi</b>	<b>i</b>	<b>iiii</b>	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 30	<b>ii k.Apr.</b> Mar 31	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DCXV</b> 0615	<b>iii</b>	<b>xvii</b>	<b>ii</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>xiii k.Maii</b> Apr 18*	<b>xii k.Maii</b> Apr 20	<b>xvi ogd.</b>
<b>B DCXVI</b> 0616	<b>iiii</b>	<b>xxviii</b>	<b>iiii</b>	<b>vi</b>	<b>vii id.Apr.</b> Apr 07	<b>iii id.Apr.</b> Apr 11	<b>xviii</b>
<b>DCXVII</b> 0617	<b>v</b>	<b>viii</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>vii</b>	<b>vi k.Apr.</b> Mar 27	<b>iii non.Apr.</b> Apr 03	<b>xxi</b> *
<b>DCXVIII</b> 0618	<b>vi</b>	<b>xx</b>	<b>vi</b>	<b>viii</b>	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	<b>xvi k.Maii</b> Apr 16	<b>xv</b> *
<b>DCXVIII</b> 0619	<b>vii</b>	<b>i</b>	<b>vii</b>	<b>viii</b>	<b>ii non.Apr.</b> Apr 04	<b>vi id.Apr.</b> Apr 08	<b>xviii</b>
<b>B DCXX</b> 0620	<b>viii</b>	<b>xii</b>	<b>ii</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>viii k.Apr.</b> Mar 24	<b>iii k.Apr.</b> Mar 30	<b>xx</b>
<b>DCXXI</b> 0621	<b>viii</b>	<b>xxiii</b>	<b>iii</b>	<b>xi</b>	<b>ii id.Apr.</b> Apr 12	<b>xiii k.Maii</b> Apr 19	<b>xxi</b> *
<b>DCXXII</b> 0622	<b>x</b>	<b>iiii</b>	<b>iiii</b>	<b>xii</b>	<b>k.Apr.</b> Apr 01	<b>ii non.Apr.</b> Apr 04	<b>xvii</b>
<b>DCXXIII</b> 0623	<b>xi</b>	<b>xv</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>xiii</b>	<b>xii k.Apr.</b> Mar 21*	<b>vi k.Apr.</b> Mar 27	<b>xx</b>
<b>B DCXXIII</b> 0624	<b>xii</b>	<b>xxvi</b>	<b>vii</b>	<b>xiiii</b>	<b>v id.Apr.</b> Apr 09	<b>xvii k.Maii</b> Apr 15	<b>xx</b>
<b>DCXXV</b> 0625	<b>xiii</b>	<b>vii</b>	<b>i</b>	<b>xv</b>	<b>iiii k.Apr.</b> Mar 29	<b>ii k.Apr.</b> Mar 31	<b>xvi</b>
<b>DCXXVI</b> 0626	<b>xiiii</b>	<b>xviii</b>	<b>ii</b>	<b>xvi</b>	<b>xv k.Maii</b> Apr 17	<b>xii k.Maii</b> Apr 20	<b>xvii hend.</b>

The leftmost column in this table gives a year number pertaining to the feast of Easter described in each line, and to the indiction:

column 1 =(in the second part of the table:) the year number  $Y$  of the incarnation =(in the first part of the table:) the Diocletian year number  $D = Y - 284$

Column 1 has the prefix "B" (for bissextum) if  $Y \bmod 4 = D \bmod 4 = 0$ .



The other columns are all related to  $Y$ , as follows:

column 2 =  $1 + (2 + Y) \bmod 15$  (see [Argumentum 2]) column 3 =  $((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30$  (see [Argumentum 3]) column 4 =  $1 + (3 + \text{floor}(Y * 5/4)) \bmod 7$  (see [Argumentum 4]) column 5 =  $1 + (Y - 3) \bmod 19$  (see [Argumentum 6]) column 6 = March 21 +  $(15 - 11 * (Y \bmod 19)) \bmod 30$  d (see [Argumentum 14])

Column 8 has the postfix "ogd." (for ogdoadas) if  $Y \bmod 19 = 8 - 1$  and the postfix "hend." (for hendeka) if  $Y \bmod 19 = 11 + 8 - 1$ .

We have indicated extreme values in columns 6, 7, 8 with asterisks.

## ARGUMENTA PASCHALIA

Incipiunt argumenta de titulis paschalibus  gyptiorum investigata solertia ut praesentes indicent.	This begins the argumenta on the determination of Easter by the Egyptians, carefully investigated as shown in the following.
<p><u>Argumentum primum. De annis Christi.</u></p> <p>Si nosse vis quotus sit annus ab incarnatione Domini nostri Jesu Christi, computa quindecies XXXIV, fiunt DX; iis semper adde XII regulares, fiunt DXXII; adde etiam indictionem anni cujus volueris, ut puta, tertiam, consulatu Probi junioris, fiunt simul anni DXXV. Isti sunt anni ab incarnatione Domini.</p>	<p><u>First Argumentum. On the years of Christ.</u></p> <p>If you want to find out which year it is since the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, compute fifteen times 34, yielding 510; to these always add the correction 12, yielding 522; also add the indiction of the year you want, say, in the consulship of Probus Junior, the third, yielding 525 years altogether. These are the years since the incarnation of the Lord.</p>

That the year numbers  $Y$  employed here agree with the usual Julian year numbers  $J$  is shown by the formulae for the indiction in [Argumentum 2] (using  $Y \bmod 15$ ), for the epacts in [Argumenta 3 and 11] (using  $Y \bmod 19$ ), and for the day of the week in [Argumentum 4] (using  $Y \bmod 28$ ).

It is not clear from the text, however, when the years of the incarnation are supposed to begin. The formulae imply that  $Y$  and  $J$  agree on January 01 ([Argumentum 12]), on the leap day ([Argumentum 8]), and around Easter; and [Argumentum 2] suggests that  $Y$  and  $J$  agree until September 01. The year 0001 of the era of Diocletianus, which Dionysius wants to replace with era domini, is usually taken to start at the sunset epoch Julian date( 0284, August, 28.75 ).

Some of the assertions on the birthday of Jesus in [Argumentum 15] below would render "anni ab incarnatione Domini" a misnomer.

<p><u>Argumentum II. De indictione.</u></p> <p>Si vis scire quota est indictio, ut puta, consulatu Probi junioris, sume</p>	<p><u>Argumentum 2.</u></p> <p>On the indiction. If you want to know which indiction it is, say in the consulship</p>
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**annos ab incarnatione Domini nostri Jesu Christi DXXV. His semper adjice III, fiunt DXXVIII. Hos partire per XV, remanent III. Tertia est indictio. Si vero nihil remanserit, decima quinta indictio est.**

of Probus Junior, then add the years since the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, 525. To this always add 3, yielding 528. Divide these by 15, 3 are left over. It is the third indiction. But if nothing would be left over then it is the fifteenth indiction.

*For year number Y this gives  $\text{indiction}(Y) = 1 + (2 + Y) \bmod 15$  as is confirmed by the second column in the table above. This is in fact the cycle of indiction number for Julian year Y from January 01 until that number changes later in the year (on September 01 or some time later).*

#### **Argumentum III. De epactis.**

**Si vis cognoscere quot sint epactae, id est adjectiones lunares, sume annos ab incarnatione Domini nostri Jesu Christi, quot fuerint DXXV. Hos partire per XIX, remanent XII. Per XI multiplica, fiunt CXXXII. Hos item partire per XXX, remanent XII. Duodecim sunt adjectiones lunares.**

#### **Argumentum 3. On the epacts.**

If you want to learn the number of epacts, that is, of the lunar increments, then add the years since the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, of which 525 have passed. Divide those by 19, 12 are left over. Multiply by 11, yielding 132. And then divide those by 30, 12 are left over. Twelve is the lunar increment.

*For year number Y this is meant to describe the formula  $\text{epacts}(Y) = ((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30$  (where both modulo operations can yield zero) as is confirmed by the third column in the table above. Since Y is integral, this is the same as  $\text{epacts}(Y) = \text{floor}(Y * (235/19) * 30) \bmod 30$  which shows that the formula uses the Metonic value of (calendar year)/(synodic month)  $\approx 235/19 \approx (365.25 \text{ d}) / (29.53085 \text{ d})$ . This estimate of the synodic month exceeds modern estimates by only 1 d in about 300 years.*

*The formula for the epacts does in fact extend the epacts given for the Diocletian year numbers  $D = Y - 284$  in the table above. Note that  $(Y - D) \bmod 19 = 18$ , which makes the formula for Y somewhat simpler to express verbally than that for D (because no "regulares" are needed): epacts for Diocletian year number(D) =  $((D - 1) \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30$ .*

*The formula for the epacts remains the same if the year number Y is replaced by the year number  $S = Y + 38$  since the Spanish era (this count may have been known to Dionysius).*

#### **Argumentum IV. De concurrentibus.**

**Si vis scire adjectiones solis, id est concurrentes septimanae dies, sume annos ab incarnatione Domini quot fuerint, ut puta DXXV; per indictionem tertiam et annorum qui fuerint quartam partem semper adjice, id est, nunc CXXXI, qui simul fiunt DCLVI. His adde IV, fiunt DCLX. Hos partire per VII, remanent II. Duae sunt epactae solis, id est concurrentes septimanae dies, per suprascriptam indictionem, consulatu Probi junioris.**

#### **Argumentum 4. On the concurrents.**

If you want to know the solar increments, that is the concurrent days of the week, add the years since the incarnation of the Lord that have passed, say 525; for the third indiction and the years that have passed until then always add the fourth part, which is now 131, these yield 656 altogether. To these add 4, yielding 660. Divide those by 7, 2 are left over. Two are the epacts of the sun, that is, the concurrent days of the week, for the indiction described above, in the consulship of Probus Junior.

For year number  $Y$ , this is intended to give  $\text{concurrentes}(Y) = 1 + (3 + Y + \text{floor}(Y/4)) \bmod 7$  as is confirmed by column four of the table above.

With the numbering of [Argumentum 12] for the days of the week (but with 7 instead of 0 for Saturday), this amounts to  $\text{concurrentes}(Y) = \text{day of the week}(\text{Julian date}(Y, \text{March}, 24))$  which agrees with the concurrents for year number  $Y$  as defined by Bede about 200 years later.

<b>Argumentum V. De cyclo decemnovennali.</b> <b>Si vis scire quotus sit annus circuli X et IX annorum, sume annos Domini, ut puta, DXXV, et unum semper adjice, fiunt DXXVI. Hos partire per X et IX, remanent XIII. Tertius decimus est annus cycli decemnovennalis. Quod si nihil remanserit, IX decima est.</b>	<b>Argumentum 5. On the cycle of nineteen years.</b> If you want to know which year it is in the circle of 10 plus 9 years, add the years of the Lord, say 525, and always add one, yielding 526. Divide those by 10 plus 9, 13 are left over. The year is the thirteenth in the nineteen year cycle. If nothing would be left over, it is the 9teenth.
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Thus, for year number  $Y$ ,  $\text{cycle of nineteen years}(Y) = 1 + (Y \bmod 19)$ , which is also known as the *Numerus Aureus* of the year. It is used only in [Argumentum 14].

<b>Argumentum VI. De cyclo lunari.</b> <b>Si vis scire quotus cyclus lunae est, qui decemnovennali circulo continetur, sume annos Domini, ut puta, DXXV, et subtrahe semper II, et remanent DXXIII. Hos partire per X et IX, remanent X. Decimus cyclus lunae est decemnovennalis circuli. Quoties autem nihil remanet, nonus decimus est.</b>	<b>Argumentum 6. On the lunar cycle.</b> If you want to know which cycle of the moon it is, that is contained in the nineteen year circle, add the years of the Lord, say 525, and always subtract 2, and 523 are left over. Divide those by 10 plus 9, 10 are left over. It is the tenth lunar cycle in the nineteen year circle. And whenever nothing is left over, it is the nineteenth.
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Thus, for year number  $Y$ ,  $\text{lunar cycle}(Y) = 1 + (Y - 3) \bmod 19$ , which is also known as the *Jewish lunar cycle number machzor*. Besides  $(Y \bmod 19)$  as used in [Argumentum 3] and the "cycle of nineteen years" of [Argumentum 5], it is the third function essentially equivalent to  $(Y \bmod 19)$ . It is used only in [Argumentum 13] to compute a kind of *Alexandrian epacts*.

<b>Argumentum VII. De luna decima quarta in mense Martio.</b> <b>Si vis nosse quibus annis decemnovennalis circuli Martio mense, XIV luna paschalis incurrat: anno II, V, VII, X, XIII, XVI, XVIII, hos suprascriptos VII annos in Martio mense reperies; residuos vero XII, secundum regulam subter annexam, Aprili mense indubitanter calculabis.</b>	<b>Argumentum 7. On the fourteenth moon in the month of March.</b> If you want to find out in which years of the nineteen year circle the 14th paschal moon occurs in the month of March: in the year 2, 5, 7, 10, 13, 16, 18, in these 7 years above you shall see it in the month of March; but in the remaining 12 you will calculate it without doubt in the month of April, according to the rule appended below.
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These are in fact all the numbers  $Y$  of years in which the age of the moon computed with the rule in [Argumentum 9] is 14 on some day from March 21 to March 31 (with  $(Y + 9) \bmod 19 \bmod 8 \bmod 3 = 0$ ). The referenced rule probably is the one in [Argumentum 9] for April.

<b>Argumentum VIII. De bissexto.</b> <b>Si vis scire quando bissextus dies sit, sume annos Domini, ut puta</b>	<b>Argumentum 8. On the leap day.</b> If you want to know when the leap day is, add the years of the Lord, say 525.
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<b>DXXV. Partire hos per IV. Si nihil remanserit, bissextus est. Si I aut II, vel III, remanent, bissextus non est.</b>	Divide those by 4. If nothing should be left over, there is a leap day. If 1 or 2 or 3 are left over, there is no leap day.
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*This says that  $Y$  is the number of a leap year iff  $Y \bmod 4 = 0$ .*

<b>Ne tibi forsitan aliqua caligo erroris occurrat, per omnem computum per quem ducis, si nihil superfuert, eundem computum esse per quem ducis agnosce, ut puta, si per X et IX ducis, et nihil superfuert, XIX esse; si per XV, quindecimum, et, si per VII, septimum.</b>	So that any unclarity does not possibly lead you into error, for all divisions you do, if nothing is left over, you should consider this computation to yield that by which you divide, thus for instance, if you divide by 10 plus 9, and nothing would remain, you should consider it to be 19; if by 15, then fifteen, and if by 7, then seven.
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*This rule says that the remainder of  $(A)$  upon division by  $(B) = 1 + (A - 1) \bmod B$  rather than just  $A \bmod B$ . This rule, however, is not always applied: (a) The remainder operations by 19 and by 30 in [Argumentum 3] and [Argumentum 11] must yield 0, so that, for  $Y \bmod 19 = 0$ , the epact is 0 (as asserted in [Argumentum 14] and the table above) and not 29; (b) in [Argumentum 12], the remainder upon division by 7 can be "nihil".*

<b>Argumentum IX. De luna paschali mense Martio.</b> <b>Si vis cognoscere quota luna festi paschalis occurrat; si Martio mense Pascha celebratur, computa menses a Septembri usque ad Februarium, fiunt VI. His semper adjice regulares II, fiunt VIII; adde epactas, id est adjectiones lunares cujus volueris anni, ut puta, indictionis tertiae XII, fiunt XX; et diem mensis qua Pascha celebratur, id est Martii XXX, fiunt simul L. Deduc XXX, remanent XX; vicesima est in die resurrectionis Domini.</b>	<b>Argumentum 9. On the Easter moon in the month of March.</b> If you want to learn which moon it is on which the feast of Easter occurs; if Easter is celebrated in the month of March, compute the months from September to February, yielding 6. To this always add the correction 2, yielding 8; add the epacts, that is, the lunar increments of the year you want, say 12 for the third indiction, yielding 20; and the day of the month on which Easter is celebrated, that is March 30, yielding together 50. Deduct 30, 20 are left over; the twentieth [moon] is on the day of the resurrection of the Lord.
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*This amounts to age of the moon on( Julian date( $Y$ , March,  $D$ ) ) =  $((Y \bmod 19) * 11 + 6 + 2 + D) \bmod 30 = (\text{age of the moon on}(\text{Julian date}(\mathbf{Y}$ , March, 22)) -  $22 + D) \bmod 30$  if Easter is Julian date( $Y$ , March,  $D$ ). But of course it works for any day number  $D$  between 22 and 31, and for all year numbers  $Y$ , not just those of [Argumentum 7]. The year number for the example could be 0525.*

*In this calculation and the following one for dates in April, Dionysius suggests that the epacts for year  $Y$  not only give the age of the moon at March 22, as stated in [Argumentum 11], but also at some day around September of year  $(Y - 1)$ . Only late August and late September would work: Julian date( $Y$ , March, 22)  $\sim$  7 synodic month + Julian date( $Y - 1$ , August, 27.29 or 28.29)  $\sim$  6 synodic month + Julian date( $Y - 1$ , September, 25.82 or 26.82) (where the second day numbers are to be taken iff  $Y$  is divisible by 4).*

<b>Mense Aprili. -</b> <b>Si vero mense Aprili Pascha celebramus, computa menses a Septembri usque ad Martium, fiunt VII. His semper adjice II, fiunt IX. Adde</b>	In the month of April. - If however we celebrate Easter in the month of April, compute the months from September to March, yielding 7. To this always add 2, yielding 9. Add the lunar epacts of the year you want, say 23 for indiction 4,
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**epactas lunae anni cuius volueris, ut puta, indictionis IV, XXIII, qui fiunt XXXII, et diem mensis quo Pascha celebramus, id est Aprilis XIX, qui simul fiunt LI; deduc XXX, remanent XXI. Luna XXI est in die resurrectionis Domini.**

yielding 32, and the day of the month in which we celebrate Easter, that is April 19, which together yield 51; deduct 30, 21 are left over. The age of the moon is 21 on the day of the resurrection of the Lord.

*This amounts to the same formula as above for the remaining year numbers: age of the moon on( Julian date(Y, April, D) ) = ( age of the moon on( Julian date(Y, March, 22) ) + 9 + D )mod 30 Thus, the age of the moon is supposed to increase by 1 for each day throughout the 35 day interval from March 21 until April 25 in which these formulae are applicable; this agrees with columns 6 and 8 in the table above. The year number for the example could be 0526.*

**Si requiras a Septembri usque ad Decembrem, tres semper in his IV mensibus regulares adjicias: in bissexto autem solummodo anno duos regulares suprascriptis mensibus adnumerabis, et pro XXXI die, XXXII annis singulis Decembri mense assumes in fine.**

If you need it from September to December, you should always add the correction three in these 4 months: only in a leap year you also shall add the correction two for these months described above, and finally in non-leap years, for day 31 in the month of December you should assume 32.

*This is probably meant as a recipe similar to the two above for the age of the moon on( Julian date(Y, January, D) ) = ( (Y mod 19)\*11 + 4 + 3 + (1 or 2) + D )mod 30 where the "4" acts as the number of months from September to December, "3" is the the correction in every year, and the "(1 or 2)" comes either from the correction 2 for leap years, or, for non-leap years, it is an interpretation of the effect of assuming 32 days in December.*

*The interpretation above is consistent with [Argumentum 11] since: Julian date( Y, January, 00 ) ~ = Julian date( Y, March, 22 ) - 3 synodic month + (7.6 or 8.6) d (with 8.6 instead of 7.6 for leap year numbers Y).*

**Argumentum X. De die septimanae sanctae feria paschali.**

**Si vis cognoscere quotus dies septimanae est, sume dies a Januario usque ad mensem quem volueris, ut puta, ad XXX diem mensis Martii, fiunt LXXXIX. His adjicies semper unum, fiunt XC; et semper adde epactas solis, id est concurrentes septimanae dies cuius volueris anni, ut puta II, indictionis III, fiunt simul XCII. Hos partire per VII, remanet una: ipsa est dominica paschalis festi. Sic quamlibet diem a calendis Januarii usque ad XXXI diem mensis Decembris, quota feria fuerit, invenies computando, ut regularem unum et concurrentes, quae a Januario mense semper incipiunt, pariter assumes.**

**Argumentum 10. On the day of the holy week of the feast of Easter.**

If you want to learn which day of the week it is, add the days since January until the month you want, say until March 30, there are 89. To this always add one, yielding 90; and always add the solar epacts, that is, the concurrents of the seven day week for the year you want, say 2 for the indiction 3, yielding 92 altogether. Divide those by 7, one is left over: this is the Sunday of the feast of Easter. In this way, if you venture to compute which day of the week it is for any day from the first of January until the 31st of the month of December, you should equally assume the correction one and the concurrents which always begin in the month of January.

*The example date could be Julian date( 0525, March, 30 ), as can be seen from the table above. The example shows that the number of days from January to( Julian date( Y, January, 01 ) + D d ) is meant to be D + 1 rather than D ("Roman inclusive counting"). With the solar epacts of [Argumentum 4], the formula given amounts to day of the week number( Julian date( Y, January, 01 ) + D d ) = ( D + 1 + 1 + 4 + Y + floor(Y / 4) )mod 7 = ( D + (Y - 1) + floor(Y / 4) )mod 7 which agrees with the correct formula of [Argumentum 12] only if Y is not divisible by 4, and otherwise is one day ahead.*

<p><b><u>Argumentum XI. De luna citimi paschalis.</u></b>  <b>Si vis scire quota luna sit in XI calendas Aprilis, sume annos incarnationis Domini nostri Jesu Christi, ut puta, DCLXXV. Hos partire per [XIX, remanent X; et multiplica decem per] XI, fiunt CX. Partire tricesima, remanent XX: vicesima luna est in XI calendas Aprilis. Si autem VII, septima; si asse, prima.</b></p>	<p>Argumentum 11. On the moon closest to Easter. If you want to know which moon it is on March 22, add the years since the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, say 675. Divide those by [19, 10 are left over; and multiply ten by] 11, yielding 110. Divide by 30, 20 are left over: it is the twentieth day of the moon on March 22. And if 7 [is left over], then the seventh, if one, the first.</p>
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*Only with the suggested correction (and allowing for remainders of zero) this yields age of the moon in year( Y ) on March 22 =  $((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30$  which are the epacts of [Argumentum 3]. Thus, Dionysius Exiguus uses Julian date( Y, March, 22 ) as "sedes epactorum" (seating of the epacts).*

*Besides these so-called Dionysian epacts, several other epacts have been used in computus for the same or a different Easter date, such as the Alexandrian epacts  $(8 + (Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30$ , which, according to [Argumentum 13], would give the nominal age of the moon on the day preceding January 01.*

<p><b><u>Argumentum XII.</u></b>  <b>Si vis nosse diem calendarum Januarii, per singulos annos, quota sit feria, sume annos incarnationis Domini nostri Jesu Christi, ut puta, annos DCLXXV. Deduc assem, remanent DCLXXIV. Hos per quartam partem partiris, et quartam partem, quam partitus es, adjicies super DCLXXIV, fiunt simul DCCCXLII. Hos partiris per VII, remanent II. Secunda est dies calendarum Januarii. Si V, quinta feria; si asse, dominica; si nihil, sabbatum.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Argumentum 12.</u></b>          If you want to find out which day of the week it is on the first day of January, for non-leap years, then add the years since the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, say 675 years. Subtract one, 674 are left over. Divide those into the fourth part, and add the fourth part obtained by the division to 674, yielding 842 altogether. Divide those by 7, 2 are left over. It is Monday on the first of January. If 5 [are left over] then [it is] Thursday, if one, then Sunday; if nothing, Saturday.</p>
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*This amounts to day of the week number of year (Y) on January 01 =  $((Y - 1) + \text{floor}((Y - 1)/4)) \bmod 7$  with 0 for Saturday, which is in fact the number for day of the week (Julian date(Y, January, 01)). This is true for leap year numbers Y as well.*

<p><b><u>Argumentum XIII. De luna calendarum Januarii.</u></b>  <b>Si vis scire quota luna sit calendis Januarii, scito quotus lunaris cyclus sit, verbi gratia cyclus XV. Tene tibi unum, id est ipsas calendas Januarii, et duces quinquies quinquies decies: faciunt LXXV; quos adjicies super unum, et fiunt LXXVI. Item duces sexies decies quinquies, faciunt XC; quos adjicies super LXXVI, et sic summa numerorum CLXVI; in quibus partiris tricesima, remanent XVI. Sexta decima luna est calendis Januarii, et puncti XVI. Isto modo per XIX cyclos lunares computabis semper, et</b></p>	<p><b><u>Argumentum 13. On the age of the moon on the first of January.</u></b>          If you want to know which moon it is on January 01, knowing which lunar cycle it is, for instance cycle 15. Retain one, which is for the same January 01, and take five fifteen times: yielding 75; to which you always add one, thus yielding 76. Now take six fifteen times, making 90, which you add to 76, thus the sum of the numbers is 166; divide these into the thirtieth [part], 16 are left over. It is the sixteenth moon on January 01, and 16 puncti. In this way you can always compute for the 19 cycles of the moon, and you</p>
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**calendis Januarii, quota sit luna, absque errore reperies.**

will obtain without error the age of the moon on January 01.

For year numbers  $Y$ , and with the lunar cycle  $L = 1 + (-3 + Y) \bmod 19$  from [Argumentum 6], this computation yields age of the moon on( Julian date(  $Y$ , January, 01 ) ) =  $(L*5 + 1 + L*6) \bmod 30 = (12 + ((-3 + Y) \bmod 19)*11) \bmod 30 = (\text{for } Y \bmod 19 \geq 3:) (9 + (Y \bmod 19)*11) \bmod 30$  up to to the puncti (to be discussed below).

Unless  $Y$  is divisible by 4, this agrees with the formula suggested at the end of [Argumentum 9].

**Dum autem veneris ad XVII cycli lunaris, et duxeris quinquies decies septies, super calendas Januarii, qui faciunt LXXXV, si partiris sexagesima, et adjicies ipsum assem, fiunt LXXXVI. Deinde ducis sexies decies septies, fiunt CII. Eos adjicies super LXXXVI, et fiunt CLXXXVIII. [Adjicies unum, fiunt CLXXXVIII.] Partire ibi tricesima, remanent IX. Nona luna est calendis Januarii, et puncti XXVI. Sic et in XVIII et XIX cyclo facies. A primo vero cyclo lunari, usque in sextum decimum, non partiris sexagesimam, ne in errorem incidas.**

As soon as you shall come to lunar cycle 17, then take five times seventeen, after January 01, which makes 85, if you divide into the sixtieth [part], and add the resulting one to it, this yields 86. Meanwhile take six times seventeen, yielding 102. Those add to 86, and it yields 188. [Add one, yielding 189]. Divide this by thirty, 9 are left over. It is the ninth moon on January 01, and 26 puncti. In this way you also compute in cycles 18 and 19. From the first lunar cycle until the sixteenth you do not divide by 60 so as not to make an error.

For the Julian year number  $Y$ , this computation is said to apply if  $L = 1 + (-3 + Y) \bmod 19$  is 17, 18, or 19, that is, if  $L = Y \bmod 19 + 17$ . With the addition of 1 as amended above in brackets, it yields age of the moon on( Julian date(  $Y$ , January, 01 ) ) =  $(L*5 + \text{floor}(L/12) + L*6 + 1) \bmod 30 = (\text{for } Y \bmod 19 < 3:) (9 + (Y \bmod 19)*11) \bmod 30$  resulting in the same formula as above for the remaining year numbers  $Y$ .

Apparently, a separate formula is given for  $17 \leq L \leq 19$  because of the term  $\text{floor}(L/12)$ . Of course,  $\text{floor}(L/17)$  would have worked for all  $L$ ; this would have required the remainder modulo 85 instead of modulo 60. With the 19 year cycle (as in [Argumentum 5]), a single (and simpler) formula would do.

The separate multiplication by 5 in both computations above is very likely due to a formula of the type fractional age of the moon on( Julian date(  $Y$ , January, 01 ) ) =  $(A + (Y - B)*30*235/19) \bmod 30 = (A + ((Y - B) \bmod 19)*(5*(1 + 1/95) + 6)) \bmod 30$  derived directly from the Metonic value for the synodic month. For integral  $B$  and suitable  $A$  it gives values for the age of the moon that are integral multiples of  $1/95$ . The number  $1/95$  is close to a  $1/96 = (1 \text{ punctus})/(1 d)$  (see [Argumentum 16]) which would explain the appearance of puncti in the age of the moon.

Unfortunately, the text is not explicit about the computation of the puncti, and the two examples leave many possibilities open, such as: age of the moon on( Julian date(  $Y$ , January, 01 ) ) in days and puncti =  $(11 + 42/96 + ((Y - 3) \bmod 19)*(5*(1 + 1/96) + 6)) \bmod 30$  or =  $(37/96 + ((Y - 2) \bmod 19)*(5*(1 + 1/96) + 6)) \bmod 30$  or =  $(19 + 32/96 + ((Y - 1) \bmod 19)*(5*(1 + 1/96) + 6)) \bmod 30$  And if we assume that the second example is meant to yield an age of the moon of 8 (rather than 9) plus 16 puncti, then we could have age of the moon on( Julian date(  $Y$ , January, 01 ) ) in days and puncti =  $(8 + 27/96 + (Y \bmod 19)*(5*(1 + 1/96) + 6)) \bmod 30$  In all these formulae, the age of the moon increases by  $11 + 5/96$  per year except for the "saltus" of  $11 + 6/96$  once every 19 years.

Thus, this Argumentum incompletely describes a kind of Alexandrian epacts that apparently already had been described more fully elsewhere; I do not know such a source, however.

<p><b><u>Argumentum XIV. Quota feria luna XIV incidat cycli decemnovennalis anno primo.</u></b>  <b>Incipit calculatio quomodo reperiri possit quota feria singularis anni decima quarta luna paschalis, id est primi circuli decemnovennalis.</b></p>	<p><b>Argumentum 14. On which day of the week the fourteenth moon falls in the first year of the nineteen year cycle.</b>  The calculation begins whereby one can find out on which day of the week the fourteenth paschal moon falls in a single year, this one being for the first circle of nineteen.</p>
<p><b>Anno primo, quia non habet epactas lunares, pro eo quod cum noni decimi inferioris anni XVIII, et suis XI epactis, addito etiam ab 'gyptiis die una, fiunt XXX, id est luna mensis unius integra, et nihil remanet de epactis, et quod in Aprili mense incidit eo anno luna paschalis XIV, tene regulares in eo semper XXXV, subtrahe XXX, id est ipsa luna integra, et remanent V. Quinto die a calendis, hoc est nonis Aprilis, occurrit luna paschalis XIV. Tene suprascriptos V, adde et concurrentes ejusdem anni IV, fiunt IX. Adde et regulares in eodem semper mense Aprili VII, fiunt XVI. Hos partire per VII, id est bis septeni XIV, remanent II. Secunda feria occurrit luna paschalis XIV, et dominicus festi paschalis dies luna XX.</b></p>	<p>In the first year, which does not have lunar epacts, because to those 18 from the previous nineteenth year, and its 11 epacts, one day is added by the Egyptians, yielding 30, that is one full lunar month, so that nothing remains from the epacts, and so that in this year the 14th paschal moon falls in the month of April, in this year always take the correction 35, subtract 30, that is this full month, and 5 remains. The 14th paschal moon occurs five days from the Kalends, which is April 05. Take the 5 from above, and add the concurrents 4 of this year, yielding 9. And always add to this the correction 7 in the month of April, yielding 16. Divide those by 7, that is, two times seven is 14, 2 are left over. On Monday occurs the 14th paschal moon, and the Sunday of the Easter holiday on the day of the 20th moon.</p>

*For Julian year number  $Y$ , the rule first given is meant to be day of the 14th paschal moon in year( $Y$ ) = April 35 - ( 16 + (-16 + ( $Y \bmod 19$ )\*11 ) $\bmod 30$  )  $d$  for the special case  $Y \bmod 19 = 0$ . For all integral  $Y$ , this is equal to March 21 + ( 15 - ( $Y \bmod 19$ )\*11 ) $\bmod 30$   $d$  which is in fact the first date  $\geq$  Julian date( $Y$ , March, 21 ) whose age of the moon is 14 according to [Argumentum 11], and using an increase in the age of the moon of 1  $\bmod 30$  per day. With the numbering of the days of the week as in [Argumentum 12], the second rule is: ( 35 - 16 - (-16 + ( $Y \bmod 19$ )\*11 ) $\bmod 30$  + day of the week( Julian date( $Y$ , March, 24 ) + 7) $\bmod 7$  = ( day of the week( Julian date( $Y$ , March, 24 ) - 3 + ( 15 - ( $Y \bmod 19$ )\*11 ) $\bmod 30$  ) $\bmod 7$  = day of the week( day of the 14th paschal moon in year( $Y$ ) ) The addition of 7 in this rule is of course unnecessary; it just ensures that  $X \bmod 7$  is never evaluated with  $X < 7$ .*

*The first sentence describes the "saltus lunae" when the epacts increase by 12 rather than 11 from year ( $Y - 1$ ) to year  $Y$  with  $Y \bmod 19 = 0$ .*

<p><b>Anno secundo.</b>  <b>Item praefati circuli annus secundus, a quo sumunt exordium epactae XI. Incidit in eo anno luna paschalis XIV mense Martii. Tene XXXVI regulares in eo semper, subtrahe semper epactas XI, remanent XXV. Vicesimo quinto die a calendis Martii, quod est VIII calendas Aprilis, occurrit luna paschalis XIV. Tene suprascriptos XXV, adde concurrentes ejusdem anni V, fiunt XXX. Adde semper in fine hujus mensis regulares IV, hos partire per VII, id est septies quaterni XXVIII,</b></p>	<p>In the second year. Now to the second year of the above mentioned circle, for which the epacts add up to 11 to begin with. In this year, the 14th paschal moon occurs in the month of March. In this [month], always take the correction 36, always subtract the epacts 11, 25 are left over. The 14th paschal moon occurs twenty five days from the beginning of March, that is, on March 25. Take the 25 from above, add the concurrents 5 for this year, yielding 30. Finally always add the correction 4 for this month, divide those by 7, that is four times seven or 28, 6 remain. The 14th paschal moon occurs on Friday, and the Sunday of</p>
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<b>remanent VI. Sexta feria occurrit luna XIV paschalis, et dominicus festi paschalis dies luna XVI.</b>	the feast of Easter is the day of the 16th moon.
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*For Julian year number Y, the rule given first is day of the 14th paschal moon in year( Y ) = March 36 - ( (Y mod 19)\*11 ) mod 30 d and if the 14th moon is in March, then this is again equal to March 21 + ( 15 - (Y mod 19)\*11 ) mod 30 d because ( (Y mod 19)\*11 ) mod 30 <= 15 in this case (see [Argumentum 7]). The second rule also amounts to the same as above.*

<b>Anno tertio. - Item mense Aprili saepe dicti circuli primi anno tertio. Tene semper in eo mense imprimis regulares XXXV. Subtrahe epactas ejusdem anni XXII, remanent XIII. Tertio decimo die mensis, id est idibus Aprilis, occurrit luna paschalis XIV. Tene hos XIII, adde concurrentes VI, fiunt XIX. Adde in Aprili semper inferius regulares VII, fiunt XXVI. Hos partire per VII ter septeni, XXI, remanent quinque. Quinta feria erit decima quarta luna paschalis, et dominicus dies paschalis festi luna XVII.</b>	In the third year. In the third year of said first cycle, [the 14th moon occurs] also always in the month of April. For this month, always take first the correction 35. Subtract the epacts 22 of this year, 13 are left over. The 14th paschal moon occurs on the thirteenth day of the month, that is on April 13. Take those 13, add the concurrents 6, yielding 19. Then always add in April the correction 7, yielding 26. Divide those by 7, three times 7 [are] 21, five are left over. On Thursday was the fourteenth paschal moon, and the Sunday of the feast of Easter on the 17th moon.
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*These are the same rules as for the first year.*

<b>Ita singulis annis a primo usque ad nonagesimum quintum annum calculabis. Si quando mense Martio XIV luna paschalis incurrit, XXXVI regulares imprimis teneas, ex quibus epactas cujus volueris anni deducas, et concurrentes adjicias, et in fine: semper IV regulares augmentes. Aprili vero mense semper XXXV in capite tene, ex quibus, ut supradictas epactas, et adjectos ejusdem anni concurrentibus suis regulares in fine VII augmenta. Facilius namque et brevius omnia argumenta paschalia calculabis. Hoc tamen praeterea lectori sit cognitum, quoties in utrosque menses suprascriptos in prima regula contigerit, ut deductas epactas, amplius a XXX remaneant, dimitte XXX. Quod si unus aut duo, vel amplius superfuerint, tot dies ipsius mensis a calendis Januarii [? Aprilis] sit luna paschalis XIV. Quando autem (post) deductas epactas infra XXX [? XXI] ut puta XX, seu amplius minusve remanserit, quod semel in XIX annis accidere manifestum est, XXX die Aprilis erit luna paschalis XIV.</b>	In this way you calculate for each year from the first to the nineteenth year. When the 14th moon occurs in the month of March, then you first take the correction 36, from which you deduct the epacts of the year you want, and add the concurrents, and finally you always add the correction 4. But in April you keep 35 in mind, from which [you take] the epacts mentioned above, and finally add the correction 7 increased by the concurrents of the same year. Thus you will calculate all the argumenta for Easter more easily and faster. Above all, let the reader know that, whenever it happens that more than 30 are left over when the epacts are deducted for any of the months described above to which the first rule applies, then dismiss 30. When one or two or more are left over, then so many days from January 01 [? April 01] is the 14th paschal moon. And if less than 30 [? 21] should be left over (after) the epacts have been deducted, say 20, or more or less, which is bound to happen once in 19 years then the 14th paschal moon will be on the 30th day of April.
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*The first part repeats the rules which have already been applied in the preceding paragraphs to the cases where Y mod 19 is <= 2.*

The last portion of the text contains several errors and seems to deal with the case when the "first" formula  $\text{March } 36 - ((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30 d$  is applied when the 14th paschal moon is in April, in which case it yields a date after March 31 or (a wrong one) before March 21. Thus, if  $36 - ((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30$  is  $> 30$  then it is also  $> 31$  and the 14th paschal moon is on  $\text{April } 00 + (5 - ((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30) d$  rather than on  $\text{April } 00 + (6 - ((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30) d$  as asserted in the text. And if  $36 - ((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30$  is  $< 21$  then the 14th paschal moon is again in April. Note that the example where it is supposed that  $36 - ((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30$  equals 20 cannot occur (because  $((Y \bmod 19) * 11) \bmod 30$  is never 16 for integral  $Y$ ). The largest values  $< 21$  that can occur are 19 (for  $Y \bmod 19 = 7$ ) and 18 (for  $Y \bmod 19 = 18$ ). And, of course, a 14th paschal moon never is on April 30.

#### Argumentum XV. De die aequinoctii et solstitii.

**Qua die natus est Dominus Jesus Christus secundum carnem ex Maria Virgine in Bethlehem, in qua incipit crescere dies. Aequinoctium primum est in VIII calendas Aprilis, in qua aequatur dies cum nocte. Eodem die Gabriel nuntiat sanctae Mariae, dicens: Spiritus sanctus superveniet in te, et virtus altissimi obumbrabit te. Propterea quod ex te nascetur, vocabitur Filius Dei. In qua etiam passus est Christus secundum carnem. Solstitium secundum est VIII calendas Julii, quando etiam natus est sanctus Joannes Baptista ex quo incipit decrescere dies. Aequinoctium secundum est VIII calendas Octobris, in qua die conceptus est Joannes Baptista. Et hinc jam minor efficitur dies nocte, usque ad natalem Domini Salvatoris. Ex VIII calendas Aprilis et in VIII calendas Januarii, dies numerantur CCLXXI. Unde secundum numerum dierum conceptus est Christus Dominus noster in die dominica VIII calendas Aprilis, et natus est in III feria XIII calendas Januarii Christus Dominus noster. In die qua passus est, fiunt anni CXXXIII [? XXXIII] et menses III, qui sunt dies XII CCCCXIII. Unde secundum numerum dierum ejus stat cum III feria natum, et passum VI feria: natum VIII calendas Januarii, passum VIII calendas Aprilis. Ex quo baptizatus est Jesus Christus Dominus noster, fiunt anni II, et dies numerantur XC, qui fiunt DCCCXX, cum bissextis diebus suis, ac sic baptizatur VIII idus Januarii die, V feria, et passus est, ut superius dixi, VIII calendas Aprilis, VI feria. Cum bissextis diebus suis fiunt simul dies XII CCCCXV, et (ab) VIII idus Januarii in VIII calendas Aprilis dies XC.**

#### Argumentum 15. On the day of the equinox and the solstice.

The day on which the Lord Jesus Christ was born into flesh from the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem is the one on which the day begins to increase. The first equinox is on March 25, when day is equal with night. On this very day Gabriel announces to Holy Mary, saying: The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee. Therefore also that which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. [Luke 1.35, courtesy King James] Also on this day Christ has suffered in the flesh. The second solstice is on June 24, from which the day starts to decrease, and also when Saint John the Baptist was born. The second equinox is on September 24, on which day John the Baptist was conceived. And right from then on until the birth of the Lord and Saviour, the day becomes shorter than the night. From March 25 and until December 25, the days number 271. And that number of days after our Lord Christ was conceived on Sunday March 25, our Lord Christ was born on Tuesday December 20. On the day on which he has suffered death, 133 [? 33] years and 3 months have elapsed, which are 12 [thousand] 414 days. And that number of days after his birth took place on a Tuesday, he suffered death on a Friday: he was born on December 25 and suffered death on March 25. From when our Lord Jesus Christ was baptized, there were 2 years and the days numbered 90, yielding 820, with its leap days, and so he was baptized on the day January 06, a Thursday, and suffered death, as I said above, on March 25, a Friday. With its leap days this yields 12 [thousand] 415 days altogether, and 90 days (from) January 06 to March 25.

*This Argumentum does not concern the determination of Easter but certain ecclesiastical dates connected with the life of Jesus. Moreover, the numbers and dates in the text of this Argumentum are not consistent with the rest of the liber. They are even inconsistent among themselves, and there is no obvious reading that would make them consistent. In fact, the inconsistencies are so easy to spot that we may assume that the author of this Argumentum was not even concerned with chronological correctness nor consistency with the preceding Argumenta. The rest of this comment indicates some of the*

inconsistencies.

The date of birth of Jesus is given as December 25 several times, and once as December 20; there is also a reference to January 06 which is another popular date for nativity. The number of 271 days from conception to birth, as given in the text, would fit one of these, using "Roman inclusive counting": December 20 - preceding March 25 =  $270 d = 38*7 d + 4 d$  but it does not fit December 25. On the other hand, if conception is on March 25 and on a Sunday, and birth is on a Tuesday, then birth has to be on December 25.

The next time interval mentioned is given as 12 414 d and as 12 415 d. One has  $12\,414 d = 1773*7 d + 3 d = 34*365.25 d - 4.5 d = \text{Julian date}(Y + 34, \text{March}, 21) - \text{Julian date}(Y, \text{March}, 25)$  or  $= \text{Julian date}(Y + 34, \text{March}, 20) - \text{Julian date}(Y, \text{March}, 25)$  depending on whether  $\text{floor}(Y/2)$  is even or odd. This could be a miswritten value (some 4 d too small) for the time interval from conception to death, but it certainly is not any integral number of years plus 3 months as pretended. Assuming a different scribal error; it could also be meant as the time interval from birth to death:  $11\,414 d = 1630*7 d + 4 d = 31*365.25 d + 91.25 d = \text{Julian date}(Y + 32, \text{March}, 25) - \text{Julian date}(Y, \text{December}, 25)$  or  $= \text{Julian date}(Y + 32, \text{March}, 25) - \text{Julian date}(Y, \text{December}, 24)$  depending on whether Y is divisible by 4 or not. This can be said to be 32 years (but not 33 years) plus 3 months. If 11 413 d were actually meant ("Roman inclusive counting"), this would even be compatible with the days of the week Friday and Tuesday for death and birth (the other reading would not).

However, these days of the week are inconsistent with the numbering of years since the incarnation: the year numbers closest to 0 yielding a Sunday for March 25 are Julian date( -0003, March, 25 ) and Julian date( 0003, March, 25 ) as can be seen easily from the table above and also from [Argumentum 4]. (We use the astronomical numbering of years .., -0001, 0000, +0001,... for which the formula of [Argumentum 4] is always valid).

The next time interval mentioned is  $820 d = 117*7 d + 1 d = 2*365.25 d + 89.5 d = \text{Julian date}(Y + 3, \text{March}, 25) - \text{Julian date}(Y, \text{December}, 25)$  or  $= \text{Julian date}(Y + 3, \text{March}, 25) - \text{Julian date}(Y, \text{December}, 26)$  depending on whether or not Y is divisible by 4. While this could be considered as 2 years and 90 days "with its leap days", it is not consistent with the date January 06 for the baptism. 810 days would be consistent with that date but not with the day of the week Thursday for the baptism.

The last time interval mentioned is  $\text{Julian date}(Y, \text{March}, 25) - \text{Julian date}(Y, \text{January}, 06) = 79 d$  or  $= 78 d = 11*7 d + 1 d$  depending on whether Y is divisible by 4 or not; only in the latter case can the two dates be a Friday and a Thursday. This is incorrectly given as  $90 d = 12*7 d + 6 d$ , which happens to be  $\text{Julian date}(Y, \text{March}, 25) - \text{Julian date}(Y - 1, \text{December}, 25)$  unless Y is divisible by 4.

Using the Easter dates of the table above for year numbers around 0562 it is also easy to see that March 25 never was a Good Friday in the years with numbers around 0030; Julian date( 0034, March, 26 ) is the closest.

#### **Argumentum XVI. De ratione bissexti.**

**Bissextum non ob illum diem fieri, ut quidam putant, quo Josua oravit solem stare, credendum est: quia dies ille et fuit, et praeteriit. Sed ab hoc dicitur bissextus, quod in unumquemque mensem punctus unus accrescit. Punctus vero unus quarta pars horae est. IV vero puncti unam horam**

#### **Argumentum 16. On the rationale of the leap day.**

One must not believe what some people maintain, that the leap day has arisen from that day on which Joshua commanded the sun to stand still: that day has been and is long gone. But it is called leap day because it gains one punctus in each month. The punctus is indeed the fourth part of an hour. And

<p>faciunt; XII vero puncti III horas explicant. Ergo in VI annis ternae horae, quae sunt XII, diem faciunt I, qui addatur Februario, cum VI calendas Martii habuerit, ut in crastino sic habeat. Verbi causa, si hodie VI calendas Martii additur ille dies in IV anno expleto; nihilominus et crastino VI calendas Martii habeatur. Et ideo bissextus dicitur, quia bis VI calendas Martii habet Februarius.</p>	<p>4 puncti make one hour; and 12 puncti explain 3 hours. Hence in 4 years three hours each, which are 12, making 1 day which is added to February, so that when it is February 24, it is the same the next day. For instance, if today is February 24 and that day is added if 4 years are complete; then it will nevertheless be February 24 tomorrow. And it is called bisextile because February has two times the 6th of the calends of March.</p>
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*In this "explanation", a leap day accumulates from  $1/48$  d per month. Because 1 d is taken to be 12 h, the  $1/48$  d per month is taken to be  $1 \text{ punctus} = 1/4 \text{ h} = 1/96 \text{ d} = 1/48 * 12 \text{ h}$  per month.*

<p>Sex diebus fecit Deus mundum, septimo requievit. Ut ergo plenius intelligatur, computa quot horas habeat unus dies [? annus], et divides illas in VII partes, et quantus remanet, exinde sit bissextus. Primum computa dies CCC, quomodo horas habent, decies tricenteni sunt tria millia. Iterum facis: bis tricenteni, sexcenteni: fiunt in tricentis diebus horae III DC. Iterum facis: decies sexageni DC, et bis sexageni CXX. Fiunt ergo in sexagenis diebus horae DCXX [DCCXX]. Iterum facis: decies quini L, et bis quini X. Ecce habes in quinque diebus horas LX. Fiunt simul integro anno in diebus CCCLXV horae III CCCLXXX, et alias tantas in nocte, fiunt simul dierum et noctium totius anni VIII DCCLX horae. Divide in illas VII partes. Primum facis: septies milleni VII, remanent I DCCLX. Item facis: septies ducenti, fiunt I CCCC, remanent CCCLX. Item facis: septies quinquageni, fiunt CCCL, remanent X. Item facis: septies as VII, remanent III. Ista tres horae faciunt in IV annis diem.</p>	<p>In six days God created the world, on the seventh he rested. So that this can be more fully understood, compute the number of hours one day [? year] has, and divide those into 7 parts, and the leap day shall come from what is left over. First compute how many hours 300 days have, ten times three hundred are three thousand. Then do: two times three hundred, six hundred: yielding 3600 hours in three hundred days. Then do: ten times six [is] 60, and two times sixty [is] 120. Thus, this yields 620 [720] hours in sixty days. Then do: ten five times [is] 50, and two times five [is] 10. Thus you have 60 hours in five days. Together, a whole year in 365 days yields 4 [thousand] 380 hours, and as many also in the night, yielding with day and night together 8760 hours. Divide those into 7 parts. First do: seven times thousand [is] 7[000], 1 [thousand] 760 are left over. Then do: seven times two hundred yield 1400, 360 are left over. Then do: seven times fifty yield 350, 10 are left over. Then do: seven times one [is] 7, 3 are left over. These three hours make a day in 4 years.</p>
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*Here, a leap day accumulates from  $1/4$  d per year. And  $1/4$  d per year is "explained" with numerology:  $1/4$  d is taken to be 3 h (assuming that 1 d is 12 h) and explained as  $(365 \text{ d}) \bmod (7 \text{ h}) = (8760 \text{ h}) \bmod (7 \text{ h}) = 3 \text{ h}$  which is correct only if we assume that 1 d is 24 h.*