

GPM1 - a catalog of absolute proper motions of stars with respect to galaxies

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Abstract. The description of the first version of the General Compiled Catalogue of Absolute Proper Motions (GPM1)¹ for a sample of HIPPARCOS stars, derived with respect to galaxies within the plan called Catalogue of Faint Stars (KSZ, Deutch 1952), is presented. The principal aim of the GPM1 construction was to provide absolute proper motions of stars to determine the rotation of the HIPPARCOS system. The GPM1 catalogue contains 977 HIPPARCOS Input Catalogue stars with V magnitudes $5^m - 11^m$ in 180 fields north of -25 degrees of declination. The accuracy of the proper motions is 8 mas/yr (milliarcseconds per year). Comparison of proper motions of GPM1 with those of the PPM and ACRS was performed and analyzed with respect to systematic errors caused by spurious rotation of the FK5 system. The standard errors show that the rotation may be determined with an accuracy better than 1 mas/yr.

Key words: astrometry — reference systems

1. Introduction

The system determined from the observations carried out by the ESA satellite HIPPARCOS provides an exclusively precise catalogue. However, the highly accurate HIPPARCOS reference frame needs a link to an inertial coordinate system. There are some methods for the link of the HIPPARCOS data using ground based observations. One of them deals with the use of absolute proper motion of stars determined with respect to galaxies by means of photographic astrometry. Preliminary results have shown that this method is competitive with other more expensive techniques (Yatsenko et al. 1987).

Proper motion programmes that may be used for the link are in progress at several observatories (Lick,

U.S.A.; Hamburg, Bonn and Potsdam, Germany; Kiev, Ukraine). The Kiev part is based on the application of absolute proper motions of stars obtained from photographic observations on the programmes called Catalogue of Faint Stars (KSZ, Deutch 1952) and Study of the Main Meridional Section of the Galaxy (MEGA, Kharchenko 1987). The present paper is devoted to the description of the new version of the compiled catalogue performed within the KSZ programme.

2. The proper motion material

The original KSZ plan of photography of selected sky fields with galaxies involves 205 areas north of -25 degrees of declination. The programme was proposed for several observatories of the former Soviet Union, China, Rumania and Spain. There are some resulting individual catalogues of absolute proper motions of stars compiled at five observatories (Kiev, Pulkovo, Moscow, Tashkent and Shanghai) according to the cooperative programme KSZ. The ultimate goal is to combine available catalogues in General Proper Motion catalog (GPM). At present, the compilation of the GPM catalog of stars referred to galaxies is under work at Main Astronomical Observatory in Kiev. A preliminary compiled catalogue of similar kind has been constructed at this observatory by Rybka (1990). The GPM catalog will be an updated version based on more comprehensive data from individual catalogues and will consist of two parts. At present, the first part of the GPM catalogue (GPM1) has been completed for the brighter stars common with the HIPPARCOS Input Catalogue (HIC). The second part will contain all remaining stars with limiting photographic magnitude 15.5^m . Some information about the photographic observations used for deriving the proper motions is given in Table 1. The observations have been carried out by means of normal (Pulkovo, Tashkent) and long-focus (Kiev, Moscow, Shanghai) astrophotographs.

Proper motions have been determined from plate measurements. To derive them, 1 to 5 pairs of plates with epoch differences from 20 to 40 years were used. As a

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¹ Catalog is only available in electronic form at the CDS via anonymous ftp cdsarc.u-strasbg.fr or ftp 130.79.128.5.

rule, 40 – 90 faint anonymous stars in the magnitude range $13^m - 15^m$ were selected as reference stars to obtain relative proper motions. The relative proper motions were then transformed to an absolute reference frame using galaxies in each field of sky. Practically, the zero-point calibrations were simply equal and opposite to the mean relative proper motions of several galaxies. The list of centre coordinates of 157 areas with galaxies in the Northern hemisphere (Deutch et al. 1955) and 46 areas in the Southern one (Fatchichin et al. 1959) was compiled at Pulkovo and Tashkent observatories. It contains all available galaxies in KSZ fields. The galaxies were checked to be suitable for precise measurements in terms of 10 number scale.

Table 1. Information about observations

Observatory	Zones degrees	Latitude degrees	Focus, m	Number of fields
Pulkovo	+90÷-5	+60	3.5	89
Tashkent	+90÷-25	+41	3.5	157
Kiev	+90÷-15	+50	5.5	136
Moscow	+90÷-10	+55	6.4	10
Shanghai	+90÷-25	+31	6.9	8

The proper motion data were extracted from nearly 30 publications issued since 1952. The complete list of initial catalogues, explanation of their abbreviations, bibliographic references and some statistics are being prepared by Rybka (1995) for publication. Finally, about 80000 stars from ten individual catalogues have been included in the database. It consists of 185 fields with 550 galaxies nearly uniformly distributed over the sky north of declination -25 degrees outside the Milky Way. The size of each field is nearly 1.5 square degrees. Complete verification of the data, both manually and by computer, has been performed.

3. Representation of systematic differences and construction of common system

The construction of the proper motion system of the compiled catalogue was carried out in the usual way. Systematic differences needed for this purpose have been derived through pair-wise comparison of individual catalogues. Preliminary, magnitude dependent errors of proper motions were redetermined for each initial catalogue. Usual statistical methods were applied to this purpose. In such case systematic differences do not depend on brightness of stars and become less than 3 mas/yr.

The investigation of systematic differences has been performed by the analytic method developed at

Heidelberg (Schwan 1988). The systematic relations between catalogues were represented by a series development using orthogonal functions. The orthogonal functions adopted in this work are the products of Legendre polynomials, Hermite polynomials and Fourier terms. Using the transformed declination this type of functions is the most suited for modelling the systematic differences between catalogues under consideration. Only the significant terms of the series development were actually used. The F-test with the level of five percent was used for this purpose. The analysis shows that systematic differences between catalogues depend on right ascension and declination and do not depend on magnitude. The significant terms and their rms errors were applied for deriving a common system of proper motions. In order to do it we were guided by the idea that the weighted mean system is the most reliable one. The weights of catalogues have been assigned according to their consistency with the mean system. The proper motions of initial catalogues have been reduced to the adopted system by applying quite small corrections, with values less than 4 mas/yr.

After the proper motion differences had been corrected for the systematic part, we investigated the random errors in each initial catalogue. It was found that the mean errors are different for individual catalogues with values between 4 and 12 mas/yr. The weighted mean proper motions were calculated for common stars using the weights assigned to each catalogue as the inverse square of the random errors.

4. HIC stars in GPM1

Using the results of the above analysis, the compiled catalogue of absolute proper motions for a sample of HIPPARCOS stars was derived from individual catalogues. The sample includes all available HIPPARCOS stars in the selected sky fields with galaxies. The compiled catalogue comprises absolute proper motions for 977 stars in 180 areas north of -25 degrees of declination. The mean square error is 8 mas/yr on average. The standard errors differ from one star to another one depending on the number and quality of individual catalogues. They have been computed and presented for each star. For a single GPM1 field the absolute zero-point error of linking proper motions to the galaxies is 3 mas/yr on average. The error of such a kind depends on the number and compactness of the galaxies available in each field. This information may be found elsewhere (Deutch 1955; Fatchikhin 1959). In addition to absolute proper motions and their mean errors, the catalogue gives the following data for each star: right ascension, declination, epoch for position, V -magnitude and number, copied from HIC. The stars were also identified with the objects of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory Star Catalogue (SAO) list. Positions are given for equator and equinox J2000.0 on the system of FK5. They were presented to

Table 2. Example of the GPM1 catalogue

GPM1	KSZ or NGC	HIC	V	α_{J2000}	δ_{J2000}	Ep	$\mu_\alpha \cos \delta$	μ_δ	σ_μ	SAO
256	46	43086	9.145	084633.266	+184539.14		-30.8	-7.7	7.0	98114
257	46	43199	10.500	084801.773	+184037.65	87	-39.8	-7.9	5.6	
258	48	43311	8.390	084923.825	+504026.05		-30.3	+19.5	7.0	27006
259	48	43339	9.100	084945.142	+512914.18		+0.6	-28.6	7.0	
260	46	43540	8.500	085203.537	+185339.03		-16.1	-18.1	10.4	98182
261	46	43564	8.498	085219.993	+192102.45		-25.0	+5.7	10.4	98186
262	48	43632	9.300	085308.762	+502242.12		-9.5	+3.5	7.0	27029
263	49	43945	10.100	085702.663	+025427.14		+2.0	+7.6	8.9	117289
264	48	43962	7.200	085711.731	+504430.32		-33.5	-29.3	7.0	27058
265	49	43966	6.950	085713.635	+023129.39		-44.9	+7.1	8.9	117292
266	49	44016	9.100	085748.684	+032607.81		-17.3	-20.2	8.9	117306
267	48	44023	8.770	085755.518	+510913.34		+31.3	+7.8	7.0	27060
268	48	44032	8.877	085758.934	+512547.83		+90.0	-130.1	7.0	27062
269	48	44073	8.494	085842.272	+520011.80		-1.6	-12.3	7.0	27066
270	49	44105	7.992	085859.324	+033921.89		-12.6	+2.2	8.9	117318
271	48	44144	8.600	085924.637	+511025.11		-47.9	-12.9	7.0	27072
272	48	44252	8.570	090044.383	+505543.94		-8.4	-17.3	7.0	27082
273	49	44363	8.100	090204.730	+031647.11		-18.7	-12.7	8.9	117364
274	53	44758	8.500	090719.478	+451032.82		-88.3	-50.3	10.4	42700
275	172	44860	7.291	090825.225	-150841.22		-508.2	-198.9	6.7	154939
276	173	44881	8.800	090841.247	-235304.40		-31.9	-1.8	10.4	177019
277	53	44913	8.800	090900.420	+440311.35		-36.9	+4.5	10.4	42719
278	53	44947	10.600	090921.978	+444417.34		-2.8	-14.4	10.4	
279	172	45039	7.814	091024.810	-145400.60		-8.0	-20.4	6.7	154973
280	172	45102	8.000	091117.800	-145651.50		-14.0	-41.4	6.7	154982
281	53	45160	8.500	091200.697	+453032.72		+41.1	-2.0	10.4	42738
282	53	45224	8.563	091258.210	+453930.53		-3.8	+0.7	10.4	42747
283	173	45245	7.700	091320.734	-243735.76		-5.5	-25.8	10.4	177126
284	53	45294	10.100	091349.485	+444324.47		-11.2	-29.4	10.4	
285	53	45348	9.300	091427.590	+445247.70		-18.3	-15.8	10.4	42761
286	53	45360	9.100	091436.414	+452559.88		+19.4	-72.7	10.4	42764
287	173	45364	8.838	091441.696	-235704.43		-12.8	-25.1	10.4	177161
288	53	45401	9.000	091508.048	+440259.12		+28.9	-286.2	10.4	42766
289	53	45447	9.500	091543.832	+451737.75	87	-16.1	-53.9	10.4	
290	53	45450	9.400	091546.202	+441523.35		+14.3	-10.5	10.4	42770

identify the GPM1 stars with those from other catalogues. The data file is sorted by J 2000.0 right ascensions.

A sample page from the GPM1 catalogue is given in Table 2. A brief description of the columns of Table 2 follows:

Column 1: GPM1 running number.

Column 2: Region number. Numbers from 1 to 205 are given according to the KSZ plan, numbers larger than 205 are NGC numbers of centre galaxies.

Column 3: HIC number.

Column 4: V magnitude, copied from HIC.

Column 5: The right ascension, α , is given for equinox J2000.0, in hours, minutes, and seconds, copied from HIC.

Column 6: The declination, δ , is given for equinox J2000.0, in degrees, minutes, and seconds, copied from HIC.

Column 7: The epoch for the position, Ep: blank for J2000.0; otherwise (Epoch-1900), copied from HIC.

Column 8: Absolute proper motion in right ascension, $\mu_\alpha \cos \delta$, is expressed in mas/yr.

Column 9: Absolute proper motion in declination, μ_δ , is expressed in mas/yr.

Column 10: Mean error of proper motion, σ_μ , is expressed in mas/yr.

Column 11: SAO number.

5. Comparison between the GPM1 and other catalogues

To test the validity of the new proper motions from the GPM1, we have carried out comparison with those from the PPM (Roeser & Bastian 1993) and ACRS (Corbin & Urban 1990), determined both on the FK5 system. It

also allows us to estimate the value of the angular vector velocity originating from spurious rotation of the FK5 system, because proper motions referred to galaxies are assumed to be in a nonrotating system. The proper motion differences PPM–GPM1, ACRS–GPM1 needed for this purpose have been computed for common stars. 837 stars are common with PPM and 743 with ACRS catalogues. The systematic relations between the above catalogues have been derived by least square fits using the known equations, see for instance (Brosche et al. 1995):

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\mu_\alpha \cos \delta &= -\omega_1 \cos \alpha \sin \delta - \omega_2 \sin \alpha \sin \delta + \omega_3 \cos \delta \\ \Delta\mu_\delta &= \omega_1 \sin \alpha - \omega_2 \cos \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Here α , δ are star equatorial coordinates, $\Delta\mu_\alpha \cos \delta$, $\Delta\mu_\delta$ are the proper motion differences between PPM (or ACRS) and GPM1 in right ascension and declination respectively, while ω_i are the components of the rotation vector. In the relations under consideration the two reference systems are assumed to differ by a rigid rotation, neglecting any kind of systematic errors that may be present in either system. The results that have been found from combined $\Delta\mu_\alpha \cos \delta$ and $\Delta\mu_\delta$ solution are given in Table 3, where ϵ denotes the standard errors of the unknowns ω_i .

Table 3. The components of rotation vector

Catalogue	$\omega_1 \pm \epsilon$ mas/yr	$\omega_2 \pm \epsilon$ mas/yr	$\omega_3 \pm \epsilon$ mas/yr
PPM-GPM1	$+1.5 \pm 0.8$	$+1.2 \pm 0.6$	-2.5 ± 0.6
ACRS-GPM1	$+1.2 \pm 0.8$	$+0.9 \pm 0.7$	-1.7 ± 0.6

Table 3 shows that we have significant values ω_i from the above solution. Therefore, considering that the accuracy of HIPPARCOS proper motions is higher than in the PPM or ACRS, the GPM1 contains a sufficient number of stars to yield statistically significant values of the rotation of the HIPPARCOS system.

6. Conclusions

The current phase of the GPM programme has now culminated in the GPM1 catalogue for a sample of HIPPARCOS stars. The GPM1 originates directly from

the data reduction of independent initial catalogues containing proper motions referred to galaxies. It may be expected that by combining stars into a compiled catalogue the accuracy of the absolute proper motions will be improved with regard to both random and systematic errors. The first application of the catalogue is the study of rotation of the FK5 system, as reported here. It has been based on a comparison with the PPM and ACRS proper motions. The investigation of proper motion differences PPM–GPM1 and ACRS–GPM1 has shown that the residual rotation of the FK5 system is less than 2 mas/yr. Thus it should be noted that the data from the GPM1 may be used for transferring the HIPPARCOS proper motions to an absolute reference frame. At present the final GPM catalogue is in preparation. It will include proper motions of over 60000 stars, covering the B -magnitude range $8^m - 15.5^m$.

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