

The Astronomer

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COMET MACHHOLZ (1985e)

Further to the discovery announcement on EWC 74, Green telexes the following preliminary orbital elements for this new comet:

T=1985 June 28.76ET

w= 274.16

J_e 194.96 (1950)

i= 16.22

q= 0.1069AU

Ephemeris and magnitude predictions by Hurst: (Positions for 1950)

June 5	1 ^h 45 ^m 8 ^s	+19° 07'	Earth	1.176	Sun	0.816	Elong	43°	m1	7.4
7	2 01.8	+20 02		1.144		0.765		41		7.1
9	2 19.1	+20 53		1.117		0.712		39		6.7
11	2 37.7	+21 41		1.093		0.658		37		6.3
13	2 57.6	+22 24		1.075		0.603		34		5.9
15	3 18.9	+22 58		1.061		0.545		31		5.4
17	3 41.5	+23 24		1.054		0.484		27		4.9
19	4 05.5	+23 38		1.054		0.421		24		4.3
21	4 30.7	+23 39		1.060		0.355		20		3.6

Predictions are very uncertain. Comet is badly placed but observations are urgently required.

Guy M Hurst.