

Halley's First Name: Edmond or Edmund

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Abstract. Around 1986, when comet 1P/Halley last returned to the inner solar system, the vast majority used the spelling "Edmond" for the first name of the astronomer who, over 300 years ago, found this body to be a "periodic" and "permanent" member of the solar system. In Halley's published works he used "Edmond" as his first name only three times, in comparison to using "Edmund" 22 times. We suggest that a less-dogmatic approach to first-name spelling be taken at the next apparition.

Introduction

England's famous second Astronomer Royal, and the discoverer of cometary periodicity, was Dr. E. Halley [1656-1742; M.A., LL.D., D.C.L., Oxon; Fellow of the Royal Society (F.R.S.)]. But how do you spell Halley's first name? There are two approaches.

First, we can just do what the United States' Library of Congress tells us to do. This august institution quite correctly insists on names being spelled properly. It also favors the approach, where possible, of only spelling a name in one way. In a letter dated 1928 January 31, they write: "The Library of Congress will adopt the spelling Edmond in the heading of entries under Halley, and when reprinting cards as occasion arises, the name in headings and notes will appear in that form. In titles and quoted notes, the name will be spelled as found." This ruling is quoted by Eugene F. McPike, who was a distant relative of Halley (see McPike 1928). Ironically, McPike himself spelled his own name "McPike" in *Notes and Queries* publications and "MacPike" on the title page of his 1937 book. (We will use the latter spelling in what follows.)

The "Edmond" ruling has been followed slavishly by modern biographers. If we turn to biographies and bibliographies, MacPike (1937), Armitage (1966), Ronan (1969), Freitag (1984) and Cook (1998) all use "Edmond", mostly without question.

MacPike underlines the problem. In the first two chapters of his book titled *Correspondence and Papers of Edmond Halley*, he quotes the eulogies of Martin Folkes (1690-1754), an antiquary and one-time president of the Royal Society, and Jean-Jacques D'Ortous De Mairan (1678-1771), a French natural philosopher and one-time editor of *Journal des Sçavans*. The first sentences read "Edmund the son of Mr. Edmund Halley, Citizen of London, was born on the 29th of October 1656, at Haggerston in the Parish of St. Leonard Shoreditch, in the Suburbs of the Town" (Folkes), and "Edmond Halley, fils d'Edmond Halley, citoyen de Londres, d'une famille honnête, mais peu favorisée de la fortune, naquit dans un fauxbourg de cette Capitale le 8 Novembre 1656" (De Mairan). Note that the English used the Julian calendar at that time, while the French used the Gregorian calendar (thus the new-style date given by De Mairan).

This general confusion was not uncommon at the time. Spelling was a less-regulated art, and many names were spelled in a multitude of ways.

A second approach to the Edmond/Edmund dichotomy might be to approach the writings of the man himself and see how often he used each form of his first name. This again can be done in two ways. We can give each reference equal weight. Or we can follow McPike (1928) and bias our conclusion by dividing the writings into those important documents in which the author wished to be formal and precise (such as his will), and less-important jottings (such as general letters). This latter approach is rather subjective. Is, for example, Halley's will more important than his most famous book? In the will he wrote: "In the name of God, I Edmond Halley, Doctor of Laws and Astronomer in the royal Observatory in Greenwich park being in good health of body, as well as of perfect and sound mind and memory, considering the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the time of it ... Signed: Edmond Halley. Dated 18th June, 1736" [see MacPike (1937), p. 254; and *The Genealogist* (new series, 1908-1909) 25, 10]. In the English version of his great work *Astronomiae Cometicæ Synopsis* (1705), the name on the frontispiece is boldly printed as "Edmund Halley" (see Figure 1).

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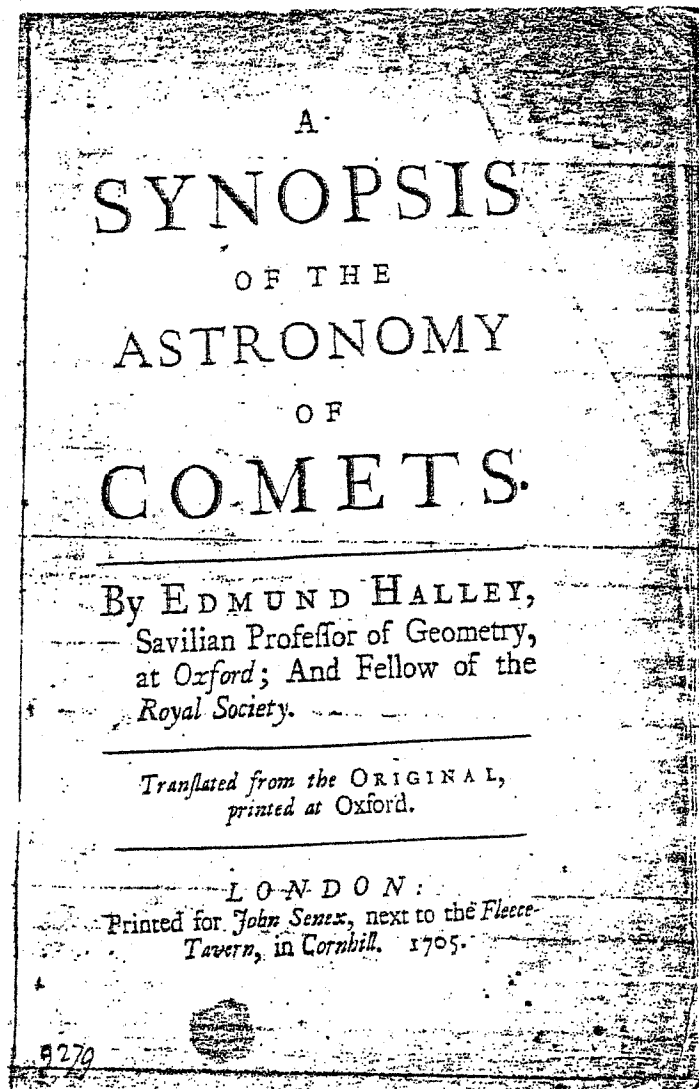


Figure 1. The title page of the original English-language version of Halley's *Synopsis* (1705).

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The Usage of Halley's First Name During His Lifetime

Two problems arise here, the first due to Halley writing in both English and Latin, and the second caused by his common use of abbreviations. When the Royal Society of London inscribed their portraits (so they would not lose sight as to who they were of!), the Thomas Murray painting of the young Halley had "EDMUNDUS HALLEIUS LL. D. GEOM. PROF. SAVIL. & R. S. SECRET" painted in gold across the top; the G. Vertue engraving of the Richard Phillips portrait was inscribed "EDMUNDUS HALLEIUS R.S.S. Astronomus Regius et Geometriæ Professor Savilianus"; and the Jacques Antoine Dassier medal was engraved "EDMUNDUS HALLEY" (see Hughes 1984). When Halley was buried in the church-yard of St. Margaret, Lee (southeast London), his two surviving daughters had the gravestone inscribed "Sub hoc marmore Placide requeiescit, cum uxore carissima, EDMUNDUS HALLEIUS, LL. D. Astronomorium sui seculi facile princeps".

Let us go back to Halley's published work. We will concentrate on the papers published in the *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society. Halley had a life-long association with this society, being elected as a Fellow in 1678 (when he was 22). When he acted as the Clerk (appointed on 1686 January 27), he became personally responsible for editing and publishing *Phil. Trans.*, a job he undertook until 1699. One would therefore expect his name to be recorded "correctly" in this period. When he worked as Clerk to the Society, he was not a Fellow. Halley was re-elected as a F.R.S. in 1700, and elected Honorary Secretary in 1713, following Hans Sloane (Halley resigned as Secretary in 1721).

In Table 1, we list the ways in which the Halley's name is given immediately after the titles of these papers. There were a few idiosyncrasies. For example, in 1683, he was referred to as "That Ingenious Astronomer Mr. Edmund Halley". In 1684, the writer of *Phil. Trans.* 14, 677, was "the Learned Edmund Halley Fellow of the Royal Society". The title "Dr." was included infrequently, after 1714. Halley had been awarded and Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) degree by Oxford

Table 1. The name used by Halley on his papers in *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* [given below as PT volume, pages] and in some other publications (the originals were consulted in each case)

Date	Name	Publication	Subject matter
1676	Edmundo Hally Jnr.	PT 11, 683-686	orbium planetarum
1676	Mr Hally	PT 11, 724	occultation of Mars
1677	Edmund	PT 11, 687-688	sunspots, (with Flamsteed)
1679	Edmundus Halleius	Catalogues stellarum australium	
1683	Mr Edmund Halley	PT 13, 82-88	satellite of Saturn
1683	Mr Ed. Halley	PT 13, 208-221	variation of magnetic compass
1684	Edmund Halley	PT 14, 677-688	tides at Tonqueen
1686	E. Halley	PT 16, 3-21	gravity and heavy bodies
1686	Edm. Halley	PT 16, 104-116	mercury in barometers
1686	E. Halley	PT 16, 153-168	trade winds and monsoons
1687	Edm. Halley	PT 16, 335-343	problematum solidorum
1687	E. Halley	PT 16, 366-370	vapour from sea -- sun warmth
1687	E. Halley	PT 16, 387-402	aequationibus biquadraticis
1691	E. Halley	PT 17, 468-473	circulation of sea
1691	E. Halley	PT 17, 495-501	Julius Ceasar's visit
1691	E. Halley	PT 17, 511-522	conjunctione inferiorum planetarum
1691	E. Halley	PT 17, 535-540	Naturalis Historiae Plinii
1691	E. Halley	PT 17, 540-542	thickness of gold
1691	E. Halley	PT 17, 556-558	species of Infinite Quantities
1692	Edm. Halley	PT 17, 563-578	variation of magnetical needle
1693	Mr E. Halley	PT 17, 596-610	mortality of mankind
1693	Mr Edm. Halley	PT 17, 650-653	expansion of fluids
1693	Edmond Halley	PT 17, 654-656	Breslaw births and funerals
1693	E. Halley	PT 17, 878-885	heat of sun
1693	Edm. Halley	PT 17, 913-921	Albatenii Observationes
1693	E. Halley	PT 17, 960-969	modern algebra optick glasses
1693	E. Halley	PT 17, 998-999	nature of light
1694	Edm. Halley	PT 18, 136-148	aequationum quarumcumque
1694	Edm Halley	PT 18, 183-190	evaporation of water
1695	E. Halley	PT 19, 12-18	sun's tropical signs
1695	E. Halley	PT 19, 58-67	logarithms
1695	E. Halley	PT 19, 68-72	gunnery
1695	E. Halley	PT 19, 160-175	city of Palmyra
1696	E. Halley	PT 19, 202-214	logarithmic tangents
1696	Mr Halley	PT 19, 316-318	Chester roman altar
1697	Mr Edmund Halley	PT 19, 445-457	theory of tides
1697	Mr Halley	PT 19, 570-572	extraordinary hail
1697	Mr Halley	PT 19, 582-584	Torricellian experiment, Snowdon
1697	Mr Halley	PT 19, 784	eclipse of Moon
1698	E. Halley	PT 20, 193-196	Iris at Chester
1700	Edm Halley	PT 22, 714-725	arcu coelesti
1701	E. Halley	PT 22, 791-794	Hooke's marine barometer
1702	E. Halley	PT 23, 1702-1703	parahelia and mock-suns
1705	Edmund Halley	A Synopsis of the Astronomy of Comets	
1706	Edmundi Halley	Apollonii Pergaei de Sectione Rationis	
1710	Edmundus Halleius	Apollonii Pergaei Conicorum	
1714	Dr Edmund Halley	PT 29, 159-164	extraordinary meteors
1714	E. Halley	PT 29, 165-168	longitude of Magellan Streights
1715	Dr Edmund Halley	PT 29, 314-316	eclipse of sun, 22 April
1715	Edmund Halley	PT 29, 296-300	saltiness of the ocean
1715	Edmund Halley	Senex eclipse map, 1715 April 22	
1716	Dr Edmund Halley	Observations of the planets	
1716	Edmund Halley	PT 29, 406-428	lights in the air
1716	Edm. Halleio	PT 29, 454-464	solis parallaxis Veneris
1716	Edm. Halley	PT 29, 466-468	Venus this summer
1716	Edm. Halley	PT 29, 492-499	living under water
1717	Edm. Halley	PT 29, 721-723	June telescopic comet
1717	Edmund Halley	PT 29, 736-738	change in latitudes of stars
1719	Edm. Halley	PT 29, 978-990	March 19th meteor
1719	E. Halley	PT 29, 992-994	lunar eclipse, Cape of Good Hope
1719	Dr Edmond Halley	PT 29, 1099-1100	London aurora borealis

Table 1. (cont.)

Date	Name	Publication	Subject matter
1720	Edmund Halley	PT 31, 1-4	parallax of Sirius
1720	Edmund Halley	PT 31, 22-24	infinity of fixed stars
1720	Edmund Halley	PT 31, 24-26	number and light of fixed stars
1720	Dr Edm. Halley	PT 31, 113-116	cross hairs in a telescope
1720	Edm. Halley	PT 31, 116-119	height of places
1721	Dr Edm. Halley	PT 31, 169-172	refraction of air
1721	Edmund Halley	PT 31, 209-211	places of planets
1721	Edmund Halley	PT 31, 211-212	observation of parhelion
1722	Edm. Halley	PT 32, 2-4	longitude of Buenos Aires
1722	Edmundo Halleio	Observatotio	Eclipsis Solaris
1723	Dr Halley	PT 32, 235-236	Moon eclipse June 18
1723	Dr Halley	PT 32, 237-238	longitude of Carthage
1724	Edmond Halley	PT 33, 118-125	universal deluge
1725	Edmund Halley	PT 33, 228-238	Mercury passing over Sun
1727	Dr Edmund Halley	PT 34, 205-210	Souciety against Newton
1727	Edmund Halley	PT 35, 296-300	Souciety against Newton
1728	Edm. Halley	PT 35, 388-389	observations at Vera Cruz
1731	Dr Edmund Halley	PT 37, 185-195	longitude at sea
1732	Edmund Halley	PT 37, 331-336	lat. and variat. onboard Hartford
1749	Edmundi Halleii	Tabulae Astronomicae	

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University in 1710 (he had been appointed Savilian Professor of Geometry in 1704). In his published works, Halley's surname was often followed (when appropriate) by "S. R. S."; "R. S. S."; "Reg. Soc. Secr."; "R. S. Secr."; "J. V. D. Savilian Professor of Geom. Oxon and Reg. Soc. Secr."; "LL. D., R. S. S."; "Astr Reg."; "Astronomer Royal, F. R. S.:", and "Regius Astronomer at Greenwich".

Table 1 contains 81 entries, fourteen being in Latin and sixty-seven in English. On his very first research paper, he was referred to as "Edmundo Hally Jnr."; Halley's father and son both had the same forename. Interestingly, in the earliest two entries, the word "Halley" was given as "Hally". This surely underlines the lack of regard for "correct" spelling in those days.

Initials predominate. In 24 out of the 81 entries, our author is referred to simply as "E. Halley", and in 18 out of 81 as "Edm." When the paper is in Latin, the author's name is often Latinized, too. There seems to be no fixed pattern here. The first name is rendered as "Edmundo", "Edmundi", and "Edmundus" — each occurring twice. As to the surname, we have "Halleio", "Halleii", and "Halleius", respectively. Latin experts will recognize the nominative, genitive, and ablative tenses — all of which could easily grace the title page of a publication. The forename in Latin is always spelled with a "u".

But we are interested in the first name. In Table 1, "Edmund" occurs 22 times — first in 1677 and last in 1732 — and "Edmond" appears only 3 times (1693, 1719, and 1724). The ratio 22 to 3 is impressive evidence in favor of Halley preferring the spelling "Edmund" to "Edmond" in his published work.

The statistics are different if we turn to Halley's letters. MacPike (1937) publishes 87 signed letters, following the original spelling. Again initials predominate, 56 being signed "Edm. Halley", thirteen signed "m: Halley", two signed "E. H", and one each of "E." and "Ed:" (note that both the full stop and the colon indicated an abbreviation in those days). In the letters, however, the Edmund/Edmond ratio is 4:11 and not 22:3. If we combine the two we get Edmund/Edmond = 26:14.

The Mystery

Considering the bias in favor of "Edmund" established in the previous section, we are confronted with three mysteries.

(a) Why was Eugene F. MacPike so much in favor of "Edmond"? His footnote (MacPike 1937, page 1) is emphatic: "The correct spelling of Dr. Halley's Christian name is 'Edmond', not 'Edmund'" [cf. *Notes and Queries* 155(1029), 24-25]. This is rather unusual because the martyred King of East Anglia, St. Edmund (ca. 840-870 AD) is most often spelled with a "u". Maybe MacPike was over-impressed by Halley's last will and testament.

(b) Why did the Library of Congress simply take MacPike's word for it? Surely they would have looked up the meaning of names, and realized that "Edmund" signified a "protector of prosperity", being derived from the Old English "ead" (fortune, riches, prosperity), and "mund" (protector); they should have also found out that "Edmond" is no more than the French form of "Edmund". Halley was as English as they come, and certainly not French!

(c) And why did the modern biographers Armitage (1966), Cook (1998), and Ronan (1969) slavishly follow suit, even though their erudition and thorough research should have easily revealed the 22:3 bias in favor of "Edmund" in his published works?

McPike (1928) states: "The truth of the matter seems clearly to be that whenever Halley wished to be strictly formal and precise, he used the spelling 'Edmond'". Witness, as one example out of several, Halley's will. Let us quote a contrary example. The first author of this paper (D.H.) remembers sitting in the library at Herstmonceux Castle, East Sussex, in the early 1980s, looking at the octavo college notebook (*MS RGO 2/5*) in which Halley had recorded his observations of "his" comet made when he saw it from Islington, London, in 1682 (see Hughes and Drummond 1984). On the vellum cover of this book (see Figure 2), Halley had written "Edmund Halley his Booke and he doth often in it Looke" (see also Eddington 1910). This rather contradicts Yeomans (1991), who added a footnote to his biographical overview: "Although Halley's first name is often given as Edmond, he always wrote it as Edmond."

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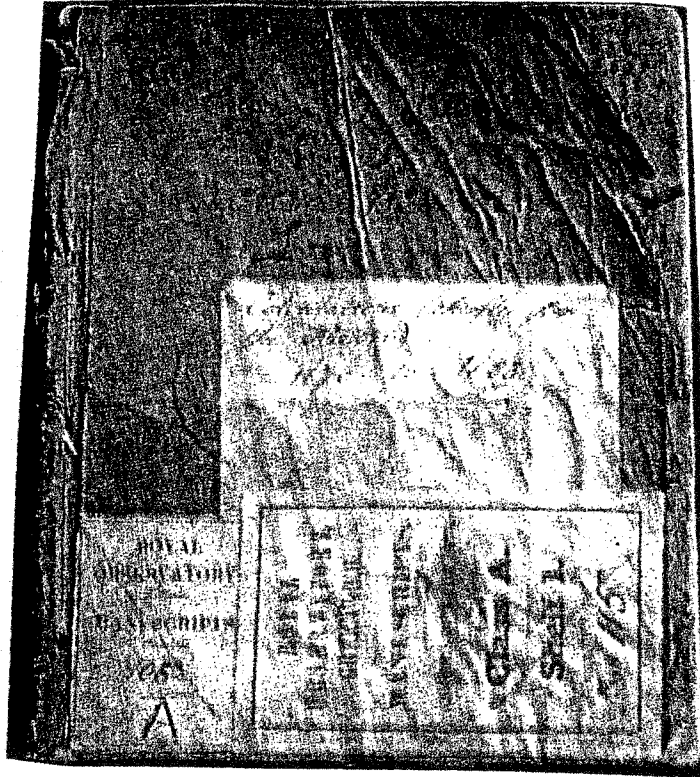


Figure 2. The vellum cover of Halley's observation notebook (see text above).

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Table 2. The name used by Halley on his letters, these all being taken from MacPike (1937):

Date	Name	Recipient of letter
1675	Edm.	Flamsteed
1677	Edmund	Sir Jonas Moore
1678	Edm.	Hevelius
1679	Edmond	Flamsteed
1679	Edmundus Hallejus	Hevelius
1679	Edm.	J. E. Olhoff
1679	Edmond	John Aubrey
1681	E. Halley	Hooke
1681	Edm. Halley	Hevelius
1682	Edmond Halley	Hevelius
1685	Edmundum Halley	Cassini
1686	Edmund Halley	a certain nobleman at Vienna
1686	Ed: Halley	Leeuwnhoek
1686	Edm. Halley	Wallis (July 9)

Table 2. (cont.)

Date	Name	Recipient of letter
1686	Edm. Halley	Caswell
1686	Edm. Halley	Wallis (Nov. 13)
1686	E. H.	Hevelius
1686	Edmond Halley	Wallis (Dec. 11)
1687	Edm. Halley	Wallis (Jan. 1)
1687	Edm. Halley	Wallis (Feb. 15)
1687	Edm. Halley	Wallis (April 9)
1687	Edm. Halley	Hayley
1687	Edm. Halley	Wallis (June 25)
1687	Edmond Halley	King James II
1688	E. H.	Valvasor
1691	Edmund Halley	Abraham Hill
1694	Edmond Halley	Sloane
1695	Edmund Halley	Sharp
1695	Edm. Halley	Newton (Sept. 7)
1695	Edm. Halley	Newton (Sept. 28)
1695	Edm. Halley	Newton
1695	Edm. Halley	Newton (Oct. 15)
1695	Edm. Halley	Newton (Oct. 21)
1696	Edmond Halley	Sloane (Oct. 12)
1696	Edm. Halley	Sloane (Oct. 26)
1696	Edm. Halley	Sloane (Nov. 2)
1696	Edm. Halley	Sloane
1697	Edm. Halley	Sloane (April 5)
1697	Edm. Halley	Sloane (Oct. 25)
1698	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Nov. 1)
1698	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Nov. 4)
1698	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Nov. 29)
1698	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Dec. 19)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (April 4)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (June 23)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (June 29)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (July 4)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (July 8)
1699	Edmond Halley	J. Burchett (Aug. 23)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Sept. 4)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Sept. 12)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Sept. 21)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Sept. 26)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Sept. 27)
1699	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Oct. 28)
1700	Edmond Halley	J. Burchett (March 30)
1700	Edmond Halley	J. Burchett (July 8)
1700	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Aug. 27)
1700	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Sept. 2)
1700	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Sept. 7)
1700	Edm: Halley	Sloane (Oct. 26)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (April 23)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (April 26)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (April 29)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (May 31)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (June 4)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (June 11)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (June 18)

Table 2. (cont.)

Date	Name	Recipient of letter
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (July 29)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Aug. 23)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Sept. 13)
1701	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Oct. 2)
1702	Edm. Halley	Southwell
1702	Edm. Halley	J. Burchett (Feb. 18)
1702	Edm. Halley	Sharp
1705	Edm: Halley	Charlett
1706	Edm Halley	Hudson
1709	Edm: Halley	Gale
1710	Edm: Halley	Sloane
1711	Edm. Halley	Flamsteed
1712	Edm: Halley	Sloane
1715	Edm: Halley	Keill
1716	Edm: Halley	Flamsteed
1716	Edm. Halley	Pound
1721	Edm: Halley	Anstis
1722	Edmond Halley	Sloane
1725	Edm: Halley	Newton
1725	Edm: Halley	Newton
1727	Edm: Halley	Sloane
1729	Edm: Halley	Sloane

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Conclusion

Interest in Halley and the eponymous comet is somewhat spasmodic. The last apparition of the comet, in 1985-1986, saw a mass of publicity and a multitude of publications. All followed MacPike and used "Edmond" as the first name of Halley. In pre-MacPike days, many famous astronomy writers used "Edmund"; see, for example, Ball (1895), Berry (1898), Chambers (1910), Clerke (1885), Herschel (1871), and Proctor (1892). It was also "Edmund" in Poggendorf (1863) and in the esteemed 11th edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (1910-1911). None of these works hinted that there was any controversy. There was no discussion of "Edmund" verses "Edmond". The forename "Edmund" and its spelling was regarded, pre-MacPike, as being as certain as the spelling of forenames such as David (Gregory), James (Bradley), John (Flamsteed), and Isaac (Newton). In fact, some of the astronomical historians after MacPike continued on the "Edmund" tradition, including Pannekoek (1961) and Hoyle (1962).

Needless to say, Halley was not the only person to have his specific forename spelled two ways and many others enjoyed the Edmond/Edmund dichotomy. As the "o/u" is the second vowel in the word, it is not stressed and would have made little difference in the way the word was pronounced. This is unfortunate in the context of the present paper because, in those pre-dictionary days, words tended to be spelled following the way that they sounded.

Now the last thing we would wish to advocate is an about-face for 2061, the next apparition of Comet Halley. We do not support a dogmatic insistence on replacing the "o" of Edmond with the "u" of Edmund. But the ratio 22:3 is rather impressively in favor of Edmund. Might we suggest that our children and grandchildren simply recognize both forms, noting that — in the days when Halley lived — there was no rigid "correct" spelling, and that this particular astronomer seemed to prefer the "u" over the "o" in his published works.

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Tabulation of Comet Observations

Though we are planning to gradually phase out publication of tabulated observations in the printed *ICQ*, as discussed in the pages last year, the appearance of the spectacular comet C/2006 P1 (McNaught) in January suggests that we should hold off on this publication-policy change at least until after the data on this particular comet are published. The current thinking is that we may continue to publish (in print) most of those visual tabulated data that are promptly contributed, whereas “non-significant” visual data contributed more than six months after being made will simply be acknowledged in print by comet, observer, number, and span of observations (but made available on the *ICQ* website in electronic-only form); “non-significant” data are those where there are plenty of other available data already published (though unpublished observations made prior to ca. 1982 may also appear in print). Regarding CCD tabulated data, it is anticipated that perhaps one line per comet per observer per night will be printed (that being the magnitude measured with the largest photometric/software aperture) — at least for those data contributed within 6 months of being made — with the rest summarized as the visual data will be.

Due to time constraints, much of the descriptive information for comets other than C/2006 P1 that were not contributed in the format that we used on these pages is being delayed for publication in the April issue. Furthermore, many additional January observations of C/2006 P1 will appear in the April 2007 issue; numerous sets of observations of this and other comets were held back here because they need more time-consuming editorial attention, in the interest of getting this issue to the printer. Also, it is anticipated that the April issue will be printed in color to permit some nice reproductions of images of comet C/2006 P1; donations from readers to help defray the extra printing costs would be much appreciated.

Bjoern H. Granslo, *ICQ* Observation Coordinator for Norway, makes the following very valid note regarding observations of comet C/2006 P1 when it was low in bright twilight in January: “It should be noted that it is not easy to account properly for the differences in [atmospheric] extinction and sky-background brightness between the [locations of the] comet and the comparison objects.” This comment was widely discussed amongst numerous experienced comet observers regarding this comet in January.

New references to the *ICQ* reference key: JH = Jet Propulsion Laboratory’s Horizons website (for planetary magnitudes [<http://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/horizons.cgi>]; LD = *Lietuvos Dangus 2007* (Vilnius, 2006), p. 171 (an annual Lithuanian publication); UV = UCAC2 astrometric star catalogue; magnitudes with uncertainty estimated as ± 0.3 , intended for identification only (bandpass spans V to R).

Descriptive Information, to complement the Tabulated Data (all times UT):

See the July 2001 issue (page 98) for explanations of the abbreviations used in the descriptive information.

◊ Comet 4P/Faye \Rightarrow 2006 Nov. 10.99: comp. stars have $V = 9.68$ ($B-V = +0.14$) and 10.24 (+0.78) [AMO01]. Nov. 10.99 and 14.98: comp. stars have $V = 9.68$ ($B-V = +0.14$) and 10.35 (+0.61) [AMO01]. Nov. 15.90: w/ 30-cm T (242 \times), stellar false nucleus of mag 13.0 [KAM01]. Nov. 15.95: comp. stars have $V = 9.68$ ($B-V = +0.14$) and 10.35 (+0.61) [AMO01]. Nov. 16.97: comp. stars have $V = 9.68$ ($B-V = +0.14$) and 10.16 (+0.98) [AMO01]. Nov. 27.99: w/ 30-cm T (75 \times), false nucleus less conspicuous; at 242 \times , stellar false nucleus of mag 13.0 [KAM01]. Dec. 14.95: w/ 30-cm T (75 \times), diffuse outer coma and considerably condensed inner coma; at 242 \times , stellar false nucleus of mag 14.0 [KAM01].

◊ Comet 29P/Schwassmann-Wachmann \Rightarrow 2006 Dec. 16.89: faint and very diffuse object [BOU]. 2007 Jan. 31.83: CCD images (presumably with a 20-cm T) show that comet appeared ≈ 2.5 -3.0 mag brighter than when last imaged on Jan. 23.8 UT (apparent outburst); his mag estimates gave the brightness as ~ 16.4 -16.8 on Jan. 23, and ~ 13.8 on Jan. 31 [J. P. Navarro Pina, Observatorio Astronomico ‘Vega del Thader’, El Palmar, Murcia, Spain].

◊ Comet 87P/Bus \Rightarrow 2006 Dec. 15.21, 20.21, and 22.16: CCD images w/ 45-cm $f/4.4$ L show mag of central cond. as 19.8-20.4 (ref presumably USNO-B1.0 stars, which were used for the astrometry) [G. Sostero and E. Guido, Remanzacco, Italy]. Dec. 22.2: co-adding of 70 unfiltered 120-sec CCD exposures reveals the presence of a compact coma almost 10'' in dia. and a narrow tail almost 15'' long toward p.a. 285° [G. Sostero and E. Guido, Remanzacco, Italy]. Dec. 22.22: 86 15-sec CCD exposures w/ 60-cm $f/4.6$ reflector show the comet exactly at predicted location; no obvious tail visible,