

**ΑΡΙΣΤΟΤΕΛΕΙΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ**  
**ΤΜΗΜΑ ΦΥΣΙΚΗΣ**

**ΣΕΜΙΝΑΡΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΤΟΜΕΑ ΑΣΤΡΟΦΥΣΙΚΗΣ, ΑΣΤΡΟΝΟΜΙΑΣ  
ΚΑΙ ΜΗΧΑΝΙΚΗΣ**

**Θέμα: The Calendar and Games Dial on the Antikythera Mechanism: New Findings**

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**Τόπος:** Αίθουσα Διαλέξεων, Κεντρική Βιβλιοθήκη, ΑΠΘ

**Ωρα:** 13:00

#### Περίληψη

In 1901, Greek sponge divers recovered from a shipwreck of \*circa\* 65 BCE a remarkable bronze device with gears now known to the world as the Antikythera Mechanism. Recently, a group of researchers known as the Antikythera Mechanism Research Project has examined this badly corroded and brittle device with modern technologies that have revealed that the back of the device housed a Saros eclipse-prediction dial, as well as a Greek lunisolar calendar that was regulated according to the 235 months of the Metonic cycle and probably also the 76 years of the Callippic cycle. Furthermore, another dial was revealed to indicate the years in which some of the more important Panhellenic athletic games fell, including the famous Olympic games. The authors who published these results (Freeth, Jones et al. \*Nature\* 2008), argued that the lunisolar calendar belonged to Corinth or one of its colonies, including Syracuse, or a city of Epirus, and that this lunisolar calendar commenced one month after the autumnal equinox, or roughly October. This talk will demonstrate that the calendar is indeed that of Corinth or one of its colonies in NW Greece or the cities of Epirus (which, it will be argued adopted the Corinthian calendar \*en masse\* probably from Ambrakia), but that it cannot be that of Syracuse. It will also argue that the calendar cannot belong to Kerkyra or cities probably founded by Kerkyra, including Bouthrotos and Apollonia.

In addition, it will be argued that the calendar's starting season should be backed up one or two months to begin around August or September, rather than October. It will also discuss the names of the months as well as reveal the heretofore unidentified game in year 4 on the Games Dial and offer a new explanation of the four divisions of the Games Dial. All these new findings will have a significant impact on calibrating the starting time of the mechanism, and thus the date of the world's oldest known analogue computer.