

New Member Summary

October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009

Annual: 129

Sustaining: 6

Limited income: 8

Honorary: 2

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Members from US: 106

Members from abroad: 37

(from 14 countries)

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New Members - Fall: 73

New Members - Spring: 70

Total New Members FY 2008/2009: 143

In Memoriam

Members, Observers, Colleagues

Paolo Maffei

Catania Observatory Director

IR pioneer, popularization of Astronomy



Thomas Bruce Tregaskis (TBX)

Astronomical Society of Victoria president

AAVSO observer since 1949

James Molnar (MOL)

chemist

Over 27,000 observations between
1966-2004

In Memoriam

Members, Observers, Colleagues

Richard Wend (WC)

Racine, WI (Milwaukee Astron. Soc.)

Member 6 decades, Director Award

Julias H. Cahn

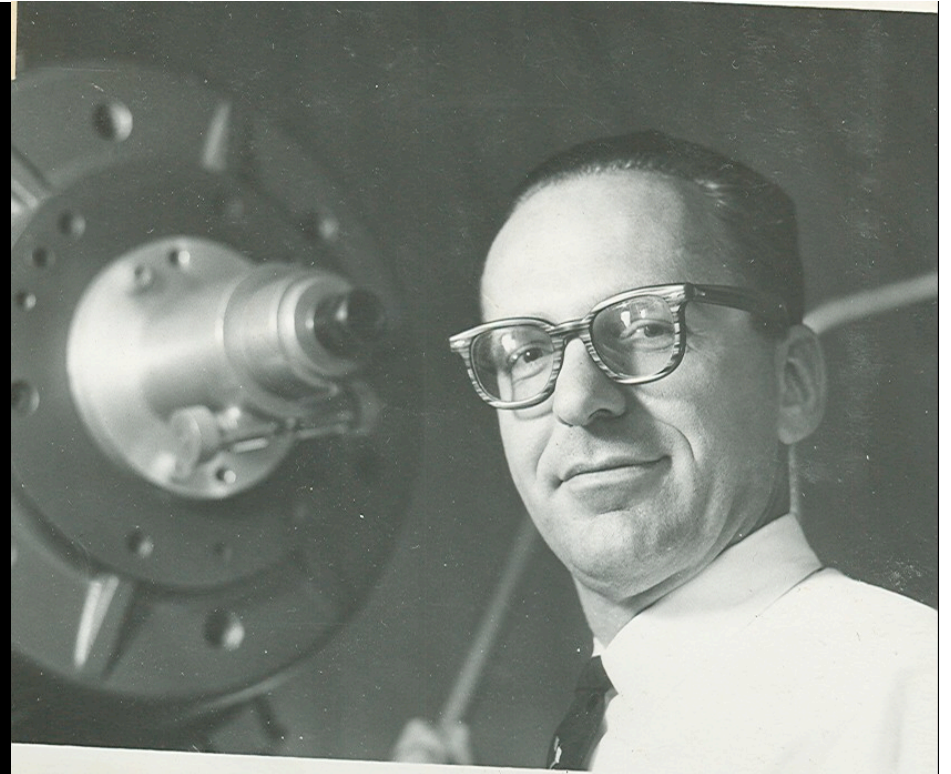
Astronomer, Univ. Illinois
AAVSO member since 1991

Pulsating stars

Patrick David Collins (CPV)

Systems administrator/banking

AAVSO member since 2007



Hugh C. Maddocks (MDH)

Professional book indexer

AAVSO member since 1989

Upcoming Meetings

- April 15-18, 2010: Valle Grande, Mendoza, Argentina
- September 2010: CS/CAS San Fran
- October 2010: Boston (HQ)
- May 21-26, 2011: Boston (AAS)
- October 2011: Boston (HQ)
- May 2012: SAS/Big Bear?

Director's Report

November 7, 2009

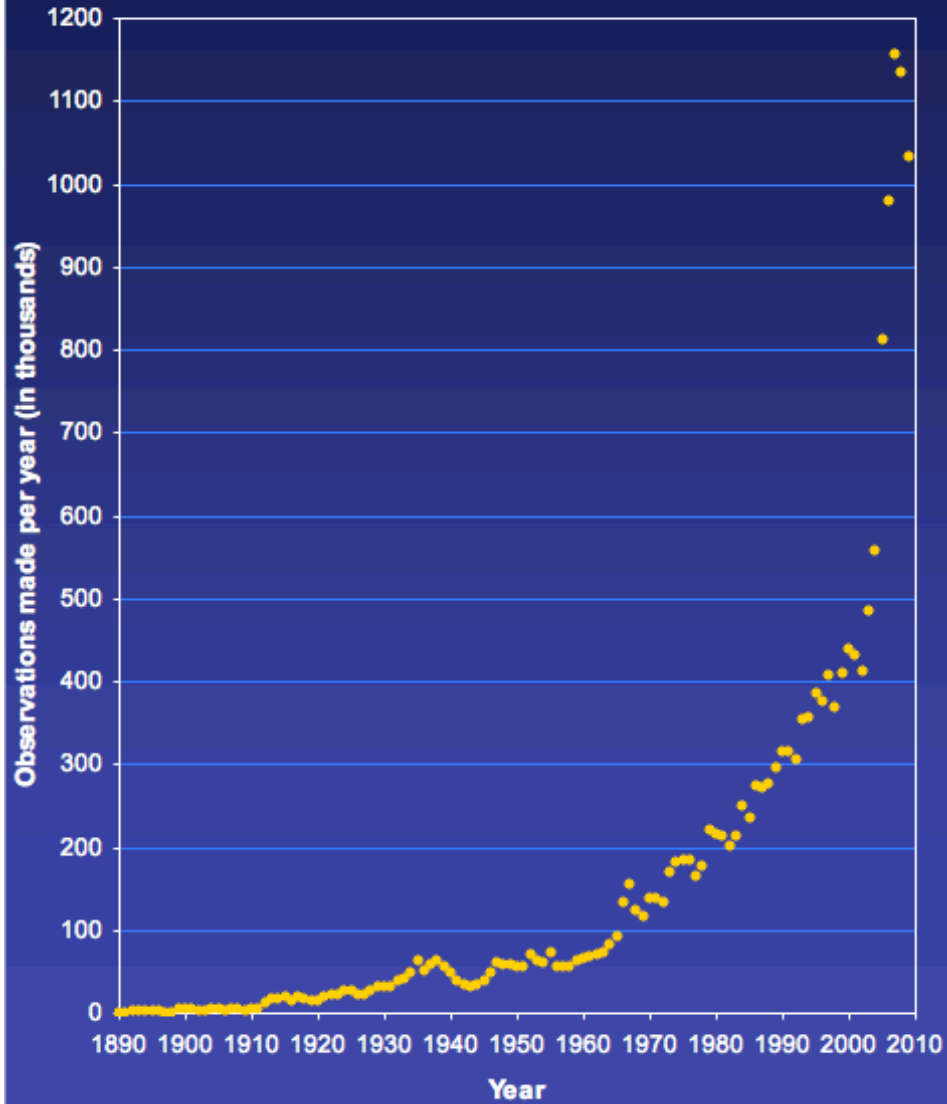


Arne Henden
Director, AAVSO
arne@aavso.org

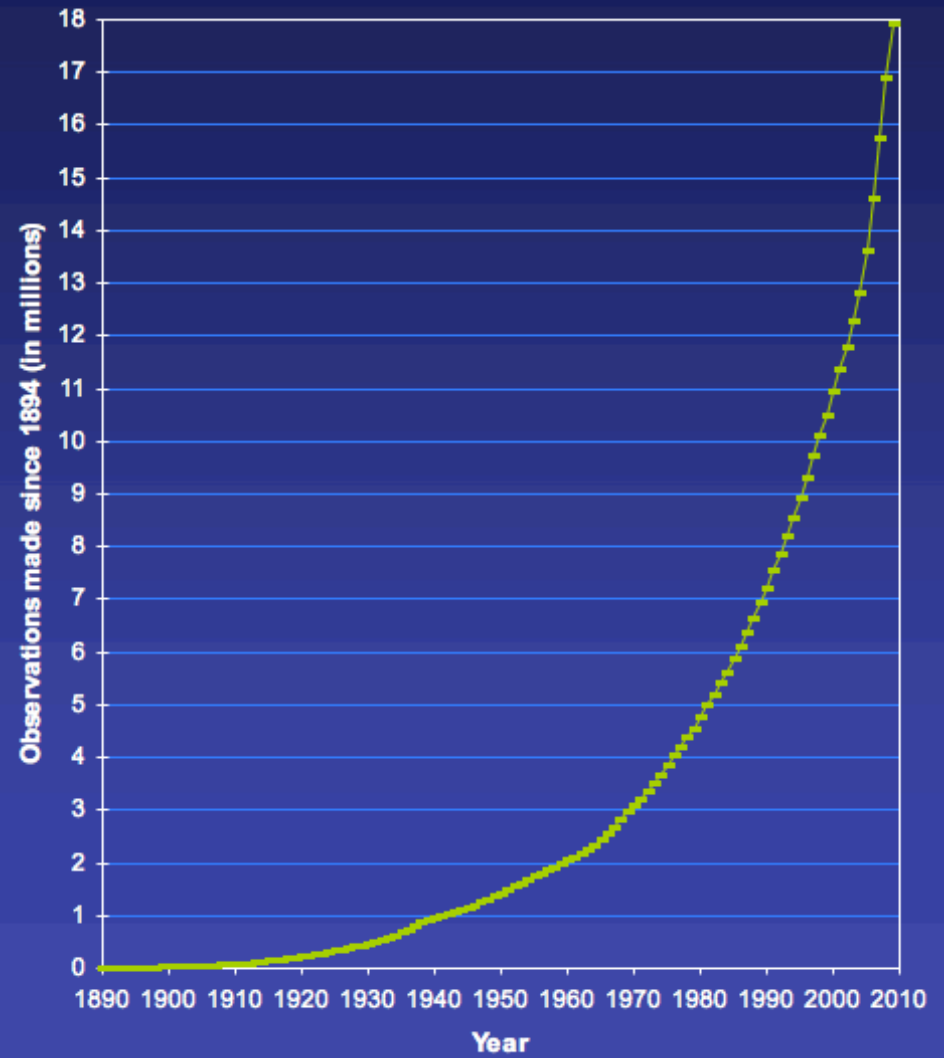


Megasteps

AAVSO Annual Observations
1890 - 2009



Megasteps of the AAVSO
1890 - 2009



Publications

- 4 issues of JAAVSO
- LPV Bulletin 72 (2009)
- 19 Alert Notices and 44 Special Notices
- 3 newsletters, solar bulletin, annual rep
- 56 published papers by staff
- 45 papers using AAVSO data and help

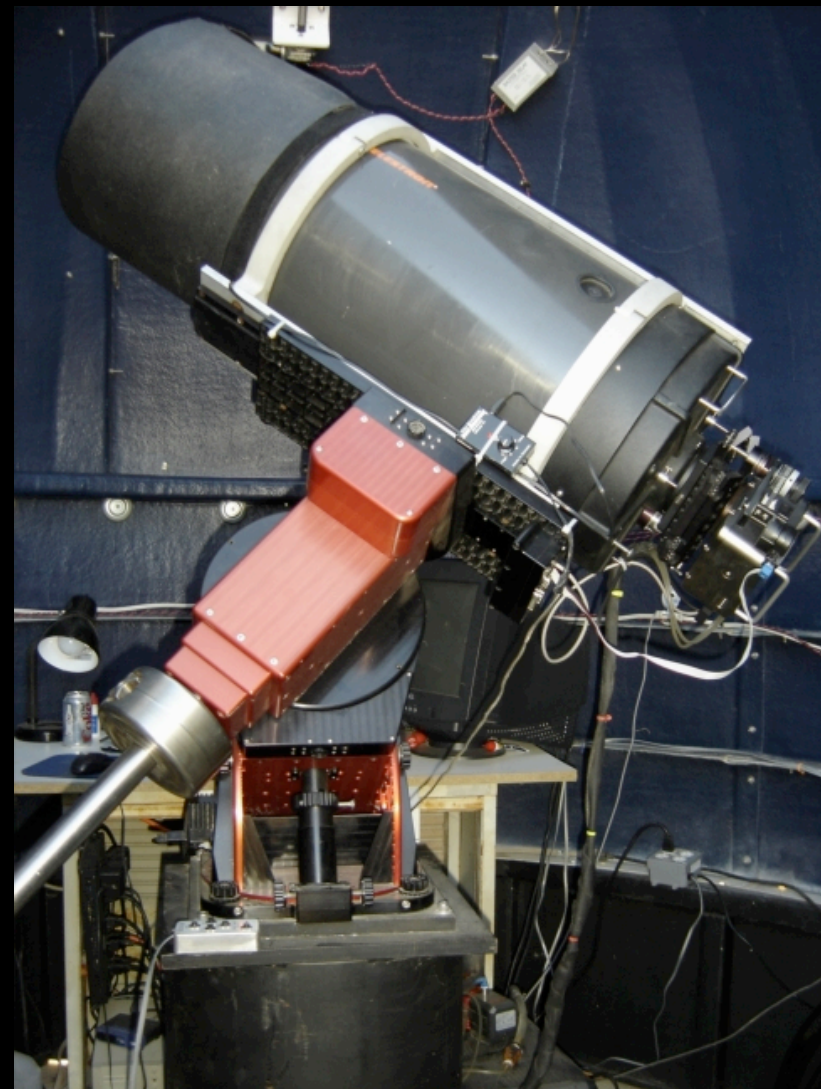
AAVSOnet

- 5 telescopes operational
- 2 more before end of year
- 2 more next year
- 2 possible “adjunct” systems
- Fully funded through grants and donations. Major software donations by Doug George (MaximDL) and Bob Denny (ACP, ACP Scheduler)
- A membership benefit

Sonoita Research Observatory

60 miles SE of Tucson

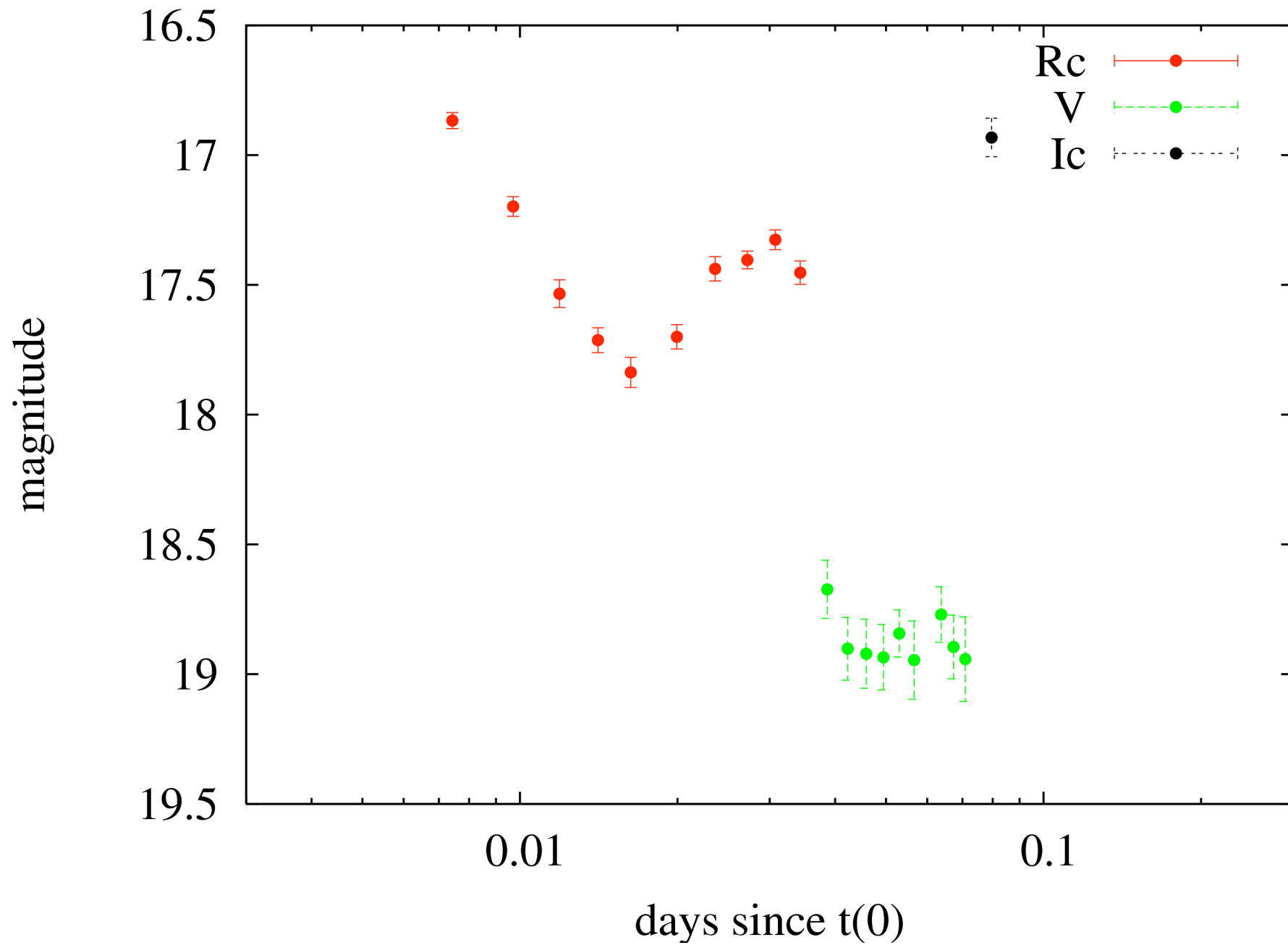
Operational since 2004



Recent SRO results

- VOEvent triggers; imaged GRB090418A, GRB091024
- BVRI multi-night calibration of 422K stars
- Light curves of several binary asteroids
- Publications on V371 Per and CX Cep
- 40 proposals for use, pro/am
- Testing of 50cm replacement/addition

GRB091024/SRO



Wright28

- Original Paul Wright C11+CGE system
- ST-7XME with 10-position filter wheel
- Filters donated by G. Walker
- Site, operations donated by T. Krajci
- Used primarily for time-series work
- Recent project for Jim Bedient and high-school student Benjamin Lane for science-fair (WW Tri)

Wright28



Wright30

- Meade 12" LX200 classic
- Modified by Krajci - carbon fiber tube
- ST9XME, filter wheel, BVRI donated Josch Hambsch; site, operations donated by Tom Krajci
- Collaborative projects with Thom Gandet and Mike Sitko (Magellan) underway; TT Ari time series, etc.

Wright30



Bright Star Monitor (BSM)

- 60mm Takahashi FS-60CB f/6.2 refractor with field flattener
- ST-8XME, CFW-9, BVRIC filters
- CGEM mount
- All items donated (SBIG, Henden, Bedient, Starkey, Welch)
- 1.5x2.2degree FOV
- 2nd magnitude saturation 0.3sec; work down to 11th magnitude S/N=100 in 2 minutes. Will monitor all variables brighter than 8th mag.
- Scintillation requires pipeline modification
- Working on low-cost alternative with John Cordiale (Adirondack Video Astronomy)

BSM-1



BSM-2



BSM-3



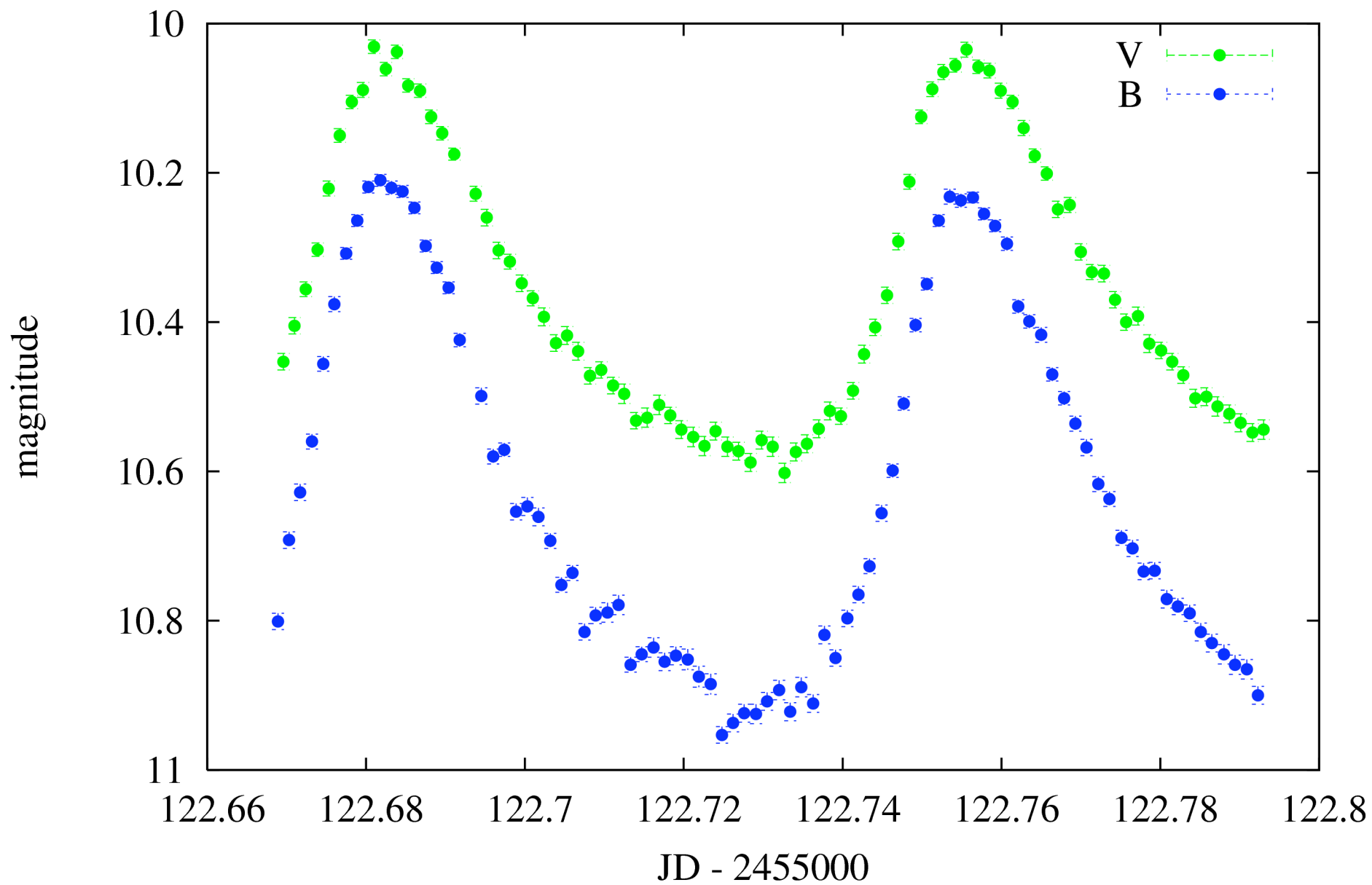
BSM-3



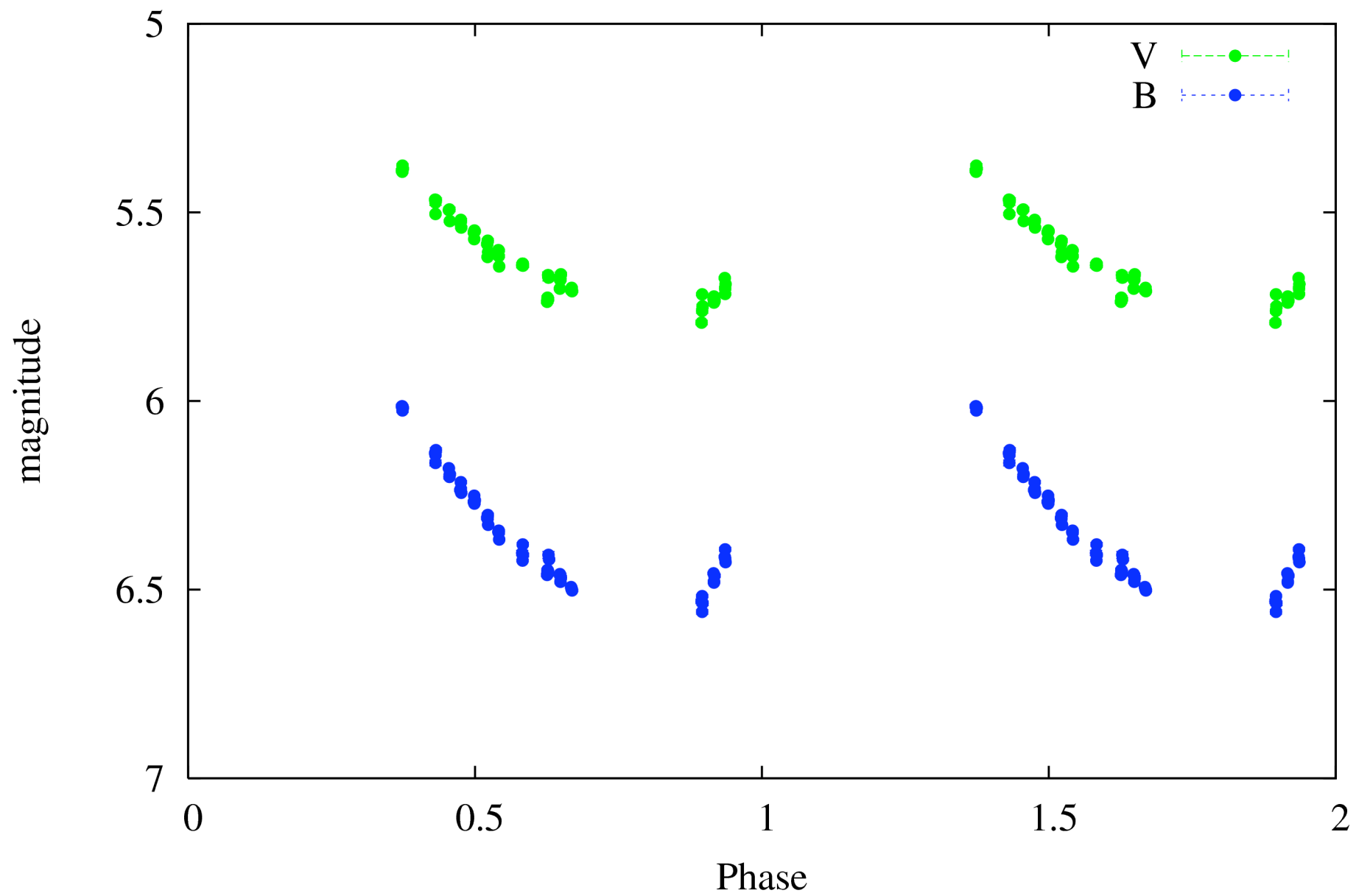
BSM-3



DY Peg



RT Aur



APASS

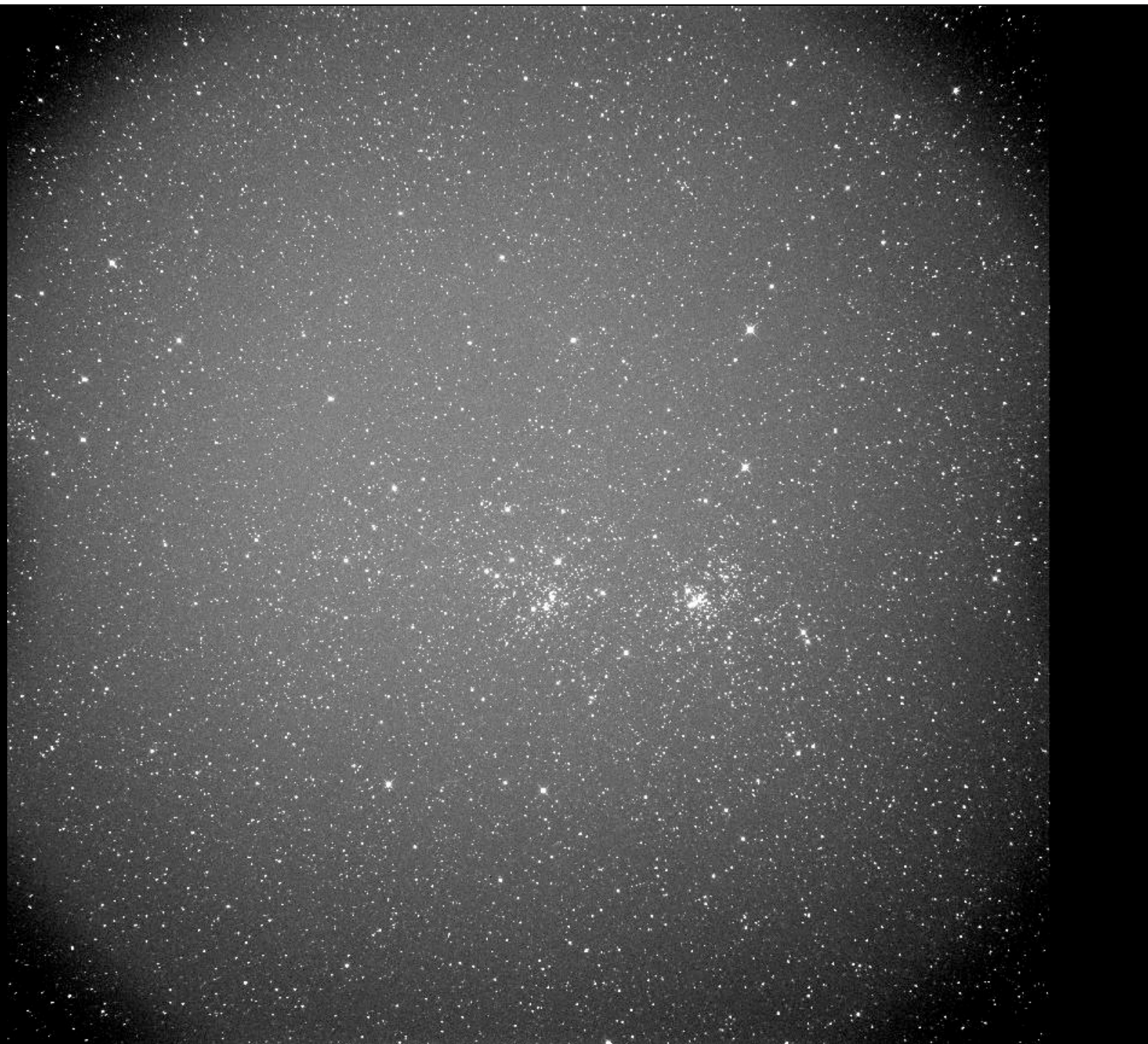
- AAVSO Photometric All-Sky Survey
- Twin 8-inch astrographs, 4kx4k CCDs
- Paramount ME on long-term loan from Software Bisque
- Located at Dark Ridge Observatory NM
- First light November 3, 2009



APASS-1



APASS
h/chi Per
10 sec
unfiltered





Lowell/Morgan
24-inch
telescope

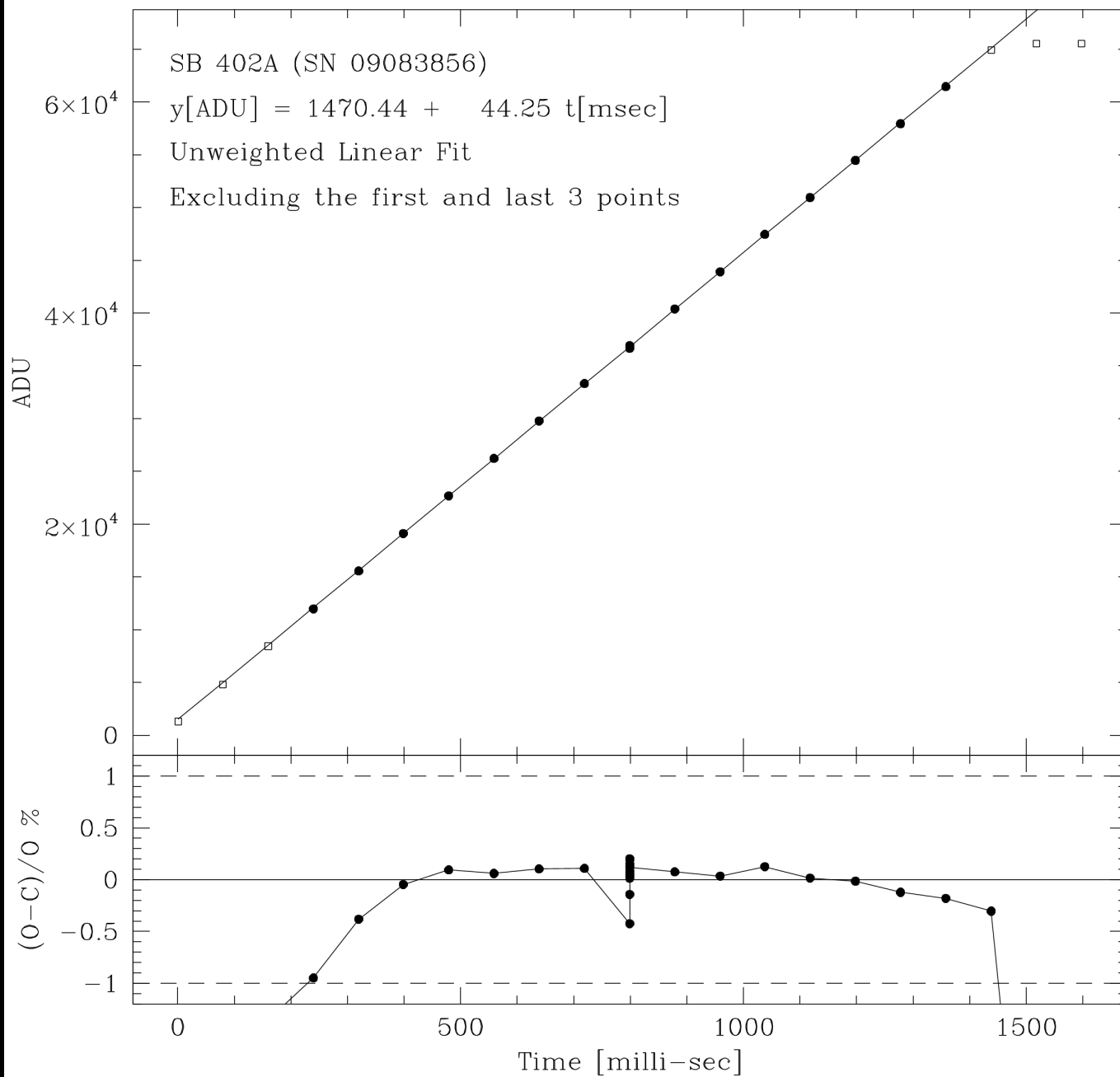
In Steele Visitor's
Center



Electronics/Optics Lab

- Testing of CCD cameras
- Cleaning of optical components
- Assembly of control modules
- No cost; all donated by Henden
- Acer netbook for control, along with Labjack
- LED linearity tester using Python
- Stephen Levine writing software and helping on the testing

ST-402 Tests



HQ news

- Removal of validation file underway
- Kate goes to Drupal school
- Hannah diCicco as summer assistant
- Eggen card scans completed and placed on-line (help from Stuart Goldman appreciated!)
- Organization affiliation added to AID
- Stephen Levine (USNO) joins for a year

HQ news - 2

- CCD cameras that have been donated by SBIG and Starkey are being distributed on long-term loan to observers
- IYA grant received; VSTAR developed
- AID split tables merged to prevent duplicates
- Photometric pipeline enhancements to support wide-field survey systems
- Many campaigns run in support of professional projects

Awards

- Solar Observer
 - Sunspot: Patrick Abbott, Harold Barnes
 - SID: Andy Clerkin, Peter King, Michael Hill, Roberto Battaiola, Jon Wallace, Lionel Loudet
- Other awards given out tonight

Summary

- In general, productive year, with major improvements to database and observer support
- Concern over economic environment will require belt-tightening
- Next year should be a good one!