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VZ TELESCOPII

The star VZ Tel (α 1900 = $18^{\text{h}}11^{\text{m}}18^{\text{s}}$, δ 1900 = $-52^{\circ}08'7''$) was discovered as a variable by C. D. Boyd (Harv. Ann. 90, 243, 1939) and is classified as of type "RCrB ?" in the 1948-edition of Kukarkin and Parenago's GCVS and as of type "SR" in the 1958-edition of the same catalogue.

Estimates of the star have been made at the Astronomical Institute of the University of Louvain on 262 plates which have been taken in the course of the years 1960-66 with the 10"-Metcalf telescope of the Boyden Observatory, mainly by the senior writer.

The results of these estimates are given in graphical form in the Figure. The light variation which they reveal is neither that of a R CrB-type star, nor that of a RV-Tau star with its typical alternation of deep and undeep minima. A cycle with a single maximum and a single minimum but with a changing duration and amplitude is what appears to be present, so that the star should really be classified as a semi-regular variable.

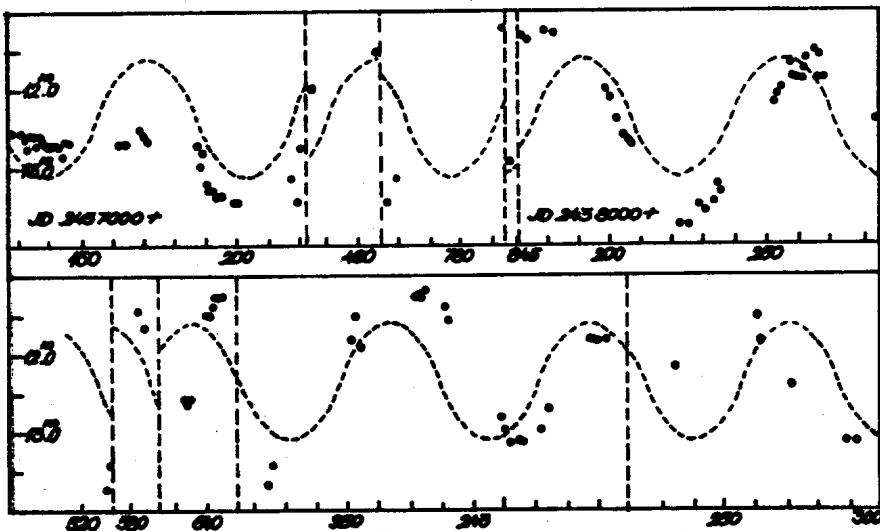


Table 1 summarizes the results of a least squares treatment applied to the epochs of observed maximum light, which yielded the ephemeris

$$\text{JD max} = 2438190 + 63^{\text{d}}66 \text{ E} \\ \quad \quad \quad \underline{+ 3.5} \quad \underline{+ .38}$$

With this ephemeris phases were computed for all the observations which were afterwards combined in a mean lightcurve. This curve is represented by the dashed line in the Figure. That its amplitude $\Delta m = 1^{\text{m}}5$ is definitely smaller than that of most of the individual cycles is of course mainly due to the to and fro shifts of the latter with respect to the mean cycle.

All magnitudes have been derived from star counts compared with the Tables in Groningen Publication No 43. The authors have no information about the colour or the spectral class of the variable.

Table 1.

JD max (Obs.)	E	O - C	JD max (Obs.)	E	O - C
2437180	0	+ 8.3 ^d	2438583	22	+10.7 ^d
486	5	- 4.0	645	23	+ 9.1
792	10	-16.4	965	28	+10.7
8178	16	-12.3	9020	29	+ 2.0
264	17	+10.0	255	33	-17.6

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