## COMMISSION 27 OF THE I. A. U. INFORMATION BULLETIN ON VARIABLE STARS

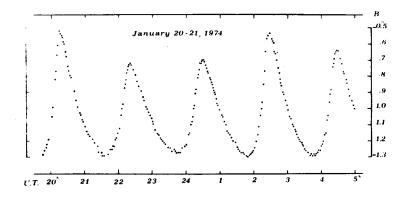
Number 923

Konkoly Observatory Budapest 1974 September 7

ON THE BEAT PERIOD OF AE UMa\*

AE Ursae Majoris has been found recently by V.P. Tsessevich(1) to be a dwarf Cepheid variable. Tsessevich noted also that the light curve varies strongly.

Some hundreds B and V photoelectric measures obtained at the Merate Observatory during the first months of 1974 give evidence of a beat phenomenon in the light curves. A nine hours observing run is reported in the figure. It appeared evident there was a remarkable variation in the light maxima, which can reach two tenths of magnitude from one maximum to the next. A preliminary analysis of our observations confirms the fundamental period given by Tsessevich:  $P_{O} = 0.0087017$  and displays a beat phenomenon whose period is approximately:  $P_{D} = 0.0294$ .



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Merate August 26, 1974.

- (1) Tsessevich V.P., 1973, Astron. Circ. 775.
- \* S. also B. Szeidl, IBVS 903, 1974.