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VARIABLE STARS IN THE GLOBULAR CLUSTER NGC 5286

NGC 5286 is a globular cluster of the southern hemisphere whose coordinates are A.R.=13^h43^m.0; Dec.=-51°07'.

During several years 31 plates in B (103a-O+GG 13) and 30 plates in V (103a-D+GG11) were taken with the 1.54 m telescope of the Astrophysical Station of Bosque Alegre, Córdoba, Argentina.

Eight variable stars had been discovered (C.R.Fourcade and J.R.Laborde, 1966, "Atlas y Catálogo de Estrellas Variables en Cúmulos Globulares al Sur de -29°") to which 5 new ones have recently been added by the authors.

In this paper 6 of these stars were studied in blue and their periods were determined up to four exact decimals. All the variables are of RR Lyrae type and their light curves are shown in Figure 1.

Simultaneously with the study of the variables, C.R.Fourcade, J.R.Laborde and J.C.Arias, 1975 established a colour-magnitude diagram of the globular cluster NGC 5286, which has not yet been published.

Figure 2 shows the mean magnitudes of the variables in both B and V colours. As it was expected, all these variables are within the RR Lyrae gap.

Due to the morphological characteristics of the colour-magnitude diagram (diagram representative of Halo clusters) it is expected that NGC 5286 contains more variables than those discovered up to now. The authors will continue their search of variables in this cluster.

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FIGURE 1

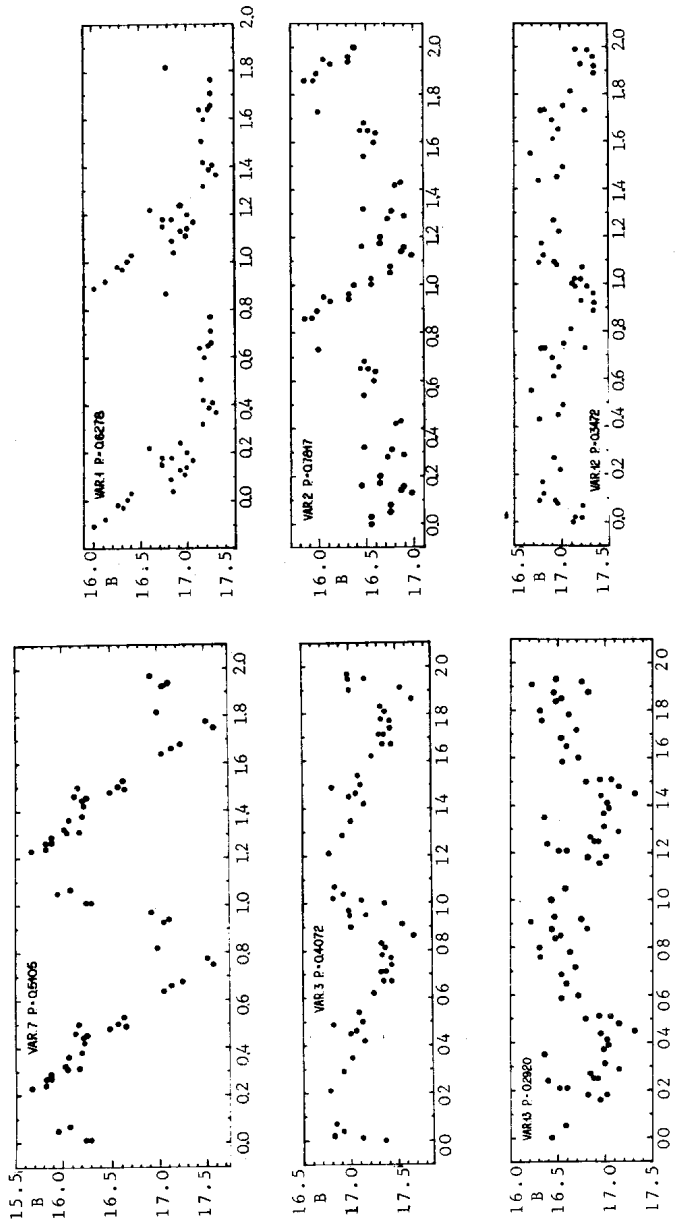


FIGURE 2

