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PHOTOMETRY OF HD 193793

Williams, Stewart, Beattie, and Lee (1977) have recently drawn attention to the Wolf-Rayet star HD 193793. Their photometry in the J, H, K, and L bands has indicated that the star has brightened by about two magnitudes in the near-infrared, and they suggest that an optically thick dust shell has formed around the star. If this were so it should also be apparent in the visible spectral region, and since Demers and Fernie (1964) had earlier obtained UBV photometry of the star, it seemed worthwhile to repeat this photometry now.

UBVRI observations were obtained on the night of October 17/18, 1977 (JD 244 3434.575) with the 0.6-metre telescope of the David Dunlap Observatory. The results, together with the earlier photometry are as follows:

	<u>1977</u>	<u>1964</u>
V:	6.87	6.86
U-B:	-0.29	-0.31
B-V:	0.41	0.42
V-R:	0.54	-
V-I:	0.81	-

Although the present observations were made on only one night, they are thought to be accurate to about 0.01 or 0.02 mag. In any case, the differences between the present and earlier observations are not significant and do not support the suggestion of an optically thick dust shell.

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References:

Demers, S. and Fernie, J.D. 1964, P.A.S.P. 76, 350
Williams, P.M., Stewart, M.J., Beattie, D.H., and Lee, T.J. 1977
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