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12.15 MINUTE LIGHT VARIATIONS IN PRZYBYLSKI'S STAR,
HD101065

Light variations of amplitude 0.01 to 0.02 mag and period 12.15 minutes have been discovered in the magnetic Holmium star, HD101065.

Observations have been made on 23/24 Apr, 09/10, 13/14, 14/15, and 15/16 May 1978 using the People's Photometer attached to the 0.5 m telescope of the South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO). Figure 1 shows the observations made on 15/16 May 1978 through a Johnson B filter. Each point represents the extinction corrected magnitude of HD101065 computed from the sum of two 10 second integrations. The slow drift in mean light level is due to change in sky transparency during the observing run.

HD101066 was monitored as a comparison star for 15 minute periods at the beginning and end of each observing run and shows no variations. In addition, observations through a Johnson U filter were obtained by Dr. Gary Wegner simultaneously with the observations shown in figure 1 using the St. Andrews Photometer attached to the SAAO 1 meter telescope. Those U observations also show the 12.15 minute light variability.

A program of monitoring this star photoelectrically is presently in progress. Simultaneous light and radial velocity observations are planned using the People's Photometer on the SAAO 0.5 m telescope and the Speedometer on the 1.88 m SAAO telescope.

D. W. KURTZ
Department of Astronomy
University of Cape Town

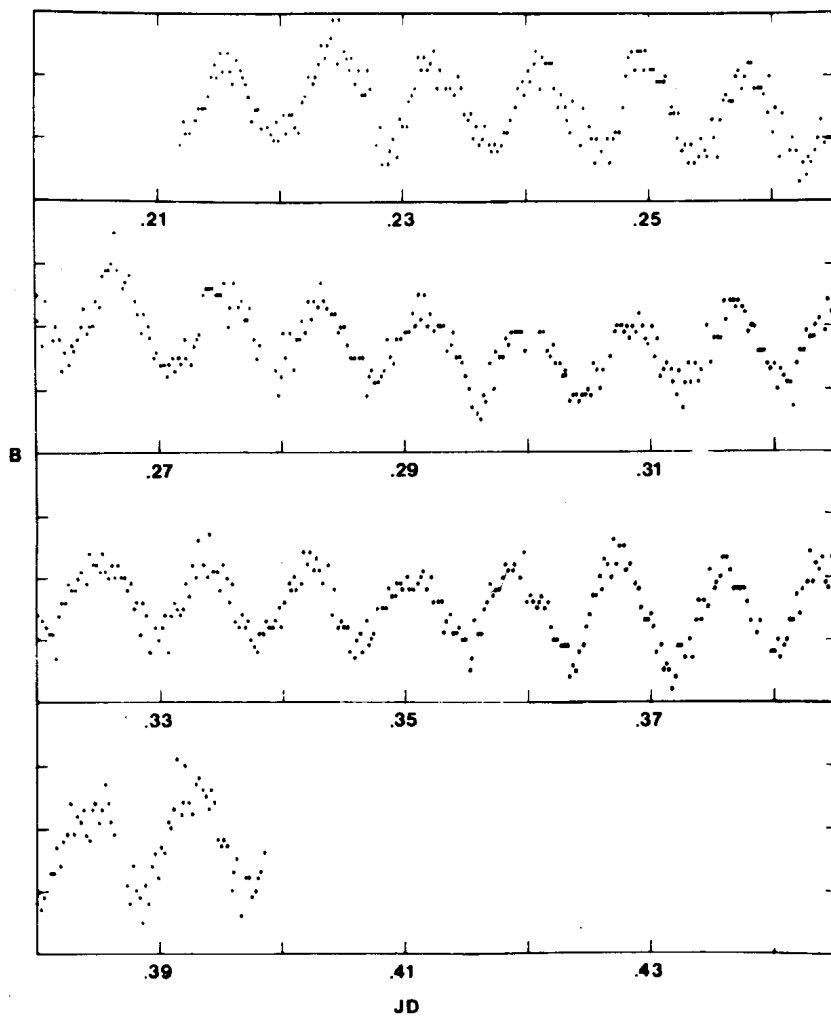


Figure 1

The light curve of HD101065 for 15/16 May 1978. The abscissa is Julian Date - 2443644. The ordinate is the magnitude in Johnson B with tick marks every 0.01 mag. The light curve is continuous from left to right and top to bottom with .005 day overlap from box to box.