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PHOTOELECTRIC ECLIPSE TIMINGS FOR AI Dra, SV Cam AND W UMa

Eclipses of these three binary stars were recorded with the 31 cm reflector at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Maryland, during 1977 and 1978. The commercially manufactured photoelectric unit contains a 1P21 photomultiplier tube, and B and V filters.

AI Dra was observed 18 times in each of the filters on May 27/28, 1977. Minimum light was found to occur at 02:58:15 UT in V, and 02:58:00 in B. These times correspond to JD hel. 2443291.6253 in V, and 2443291.6251 in B.

SV Cam was observed 23 times in the V passband during its eclipse on April 29/30, 1977. The eclipse light curve appears asymmetrical, with the descending branch being steeper than the ascending branch. See Figure 1. This asymmetry made determination of the time of minimum light slightly ambiguous. Data points near the bottom of the eclipse light curve point to a minimum at 02:15:30 UT, while data points 0.4 magnitudes above minimum light result in a time 7.5 minutes later. The average of these times corresponds to JD hel. 2443263.5948.

W UMa was observed 12 times on March 5/6, 1978. Minimum light is found to have occurred at 01:42:15 UT ($\pm$ 1 minute), which corresponds to JD hel. 2443573.5746.

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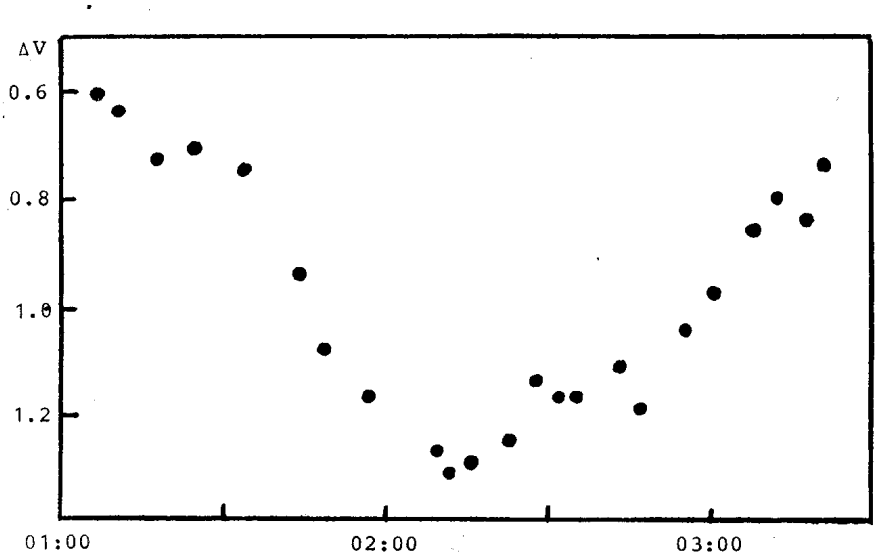

The V passband light curve of SV Cam. Notice that the brightness falls faster than it rises. Asymmetries have been seen in the light curve of this star for many years. The comparison star was SAO 001047.