

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

Number 3395

Konkoly Observatory
Budapest
13 November 1989
HU ISSN 0374 - 0676

NEW FLARE STAR IN PISCES

During examination of a U. K. Schmidt Telescope (UKST) plate for minor planets, the outburst of a new flare star was found (Fig. 1). The plate, (J13150) was tracked on the expected motion of comet P/Brorsen-Metcalf, (see Table 1), and the star was already fading rapidly at the start of the exposure. During the first 20 minutes of the exposure, the star faded around 1.5 mags, slowing to around 0.5 mags during the later 40 minutes. At the end of the exposure it was still about one magnitude above minimum. The position has been measured from from a UKST equatorial J survey plate (see Table 2 and Fig. 2). The author thanks the Anglo-Australian Observatory for access to the UKST plate archives, measuring machine and computing facilities.

Table 1, plate details

Plate: J13150
Date : 1989 June 13
Start: 18h 34m 31s UT
End : 19h 34m 31s UT
Notes: tracked on expected motion
of comet P/Brorsen-Metcalf.

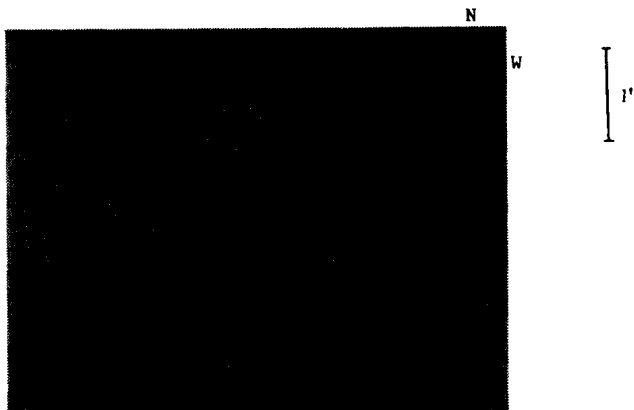


Figure 1

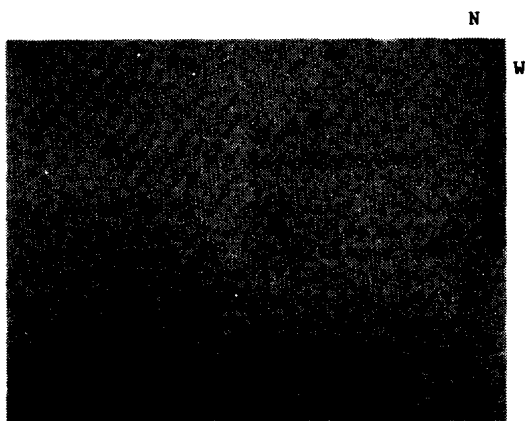


Figure 2

Table 2, star details

(1950) R.A. 22h 59m 28s.49 +/- 0".4
(1950) Dec. -02d 27' 48".7 +/- 0".4
Based on 10 Perth 70 stars, Epoch 1982.8
Range <18 - 21 mj

ROBERT H. MCNAUGHT
U. K. Earth Satellite Research
Unit,
Siding Spring Observatory
Coonabarabran, N.S.W. 2357
Australia