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CONFIRMATION OF Z Cir AS A MIRA VARIABLE

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The conclusion by van Hoof (1964) that Z Cir “is almost certainly an R Coronae Borealis star” was based on 326 photographic plates. He particularly noted “the existence of the long-living flat maximum which had been noticed earlier by the Harvard observers.”

Subsequently, Feast (1965) reported a spectrum typical of a Mira-type variable. In Figure 1 we show visual observations of Z Cir by AJ that confirm classification as a Mira, with a period of 386 days. The observations do not extend down to minimum light which, from other observations by other RASNZ observers, occurs at visual magnitude 14 to 14.5. The maxima, on the other hand, are well sampled here and show no sign of the flatness reported by van Hoof.

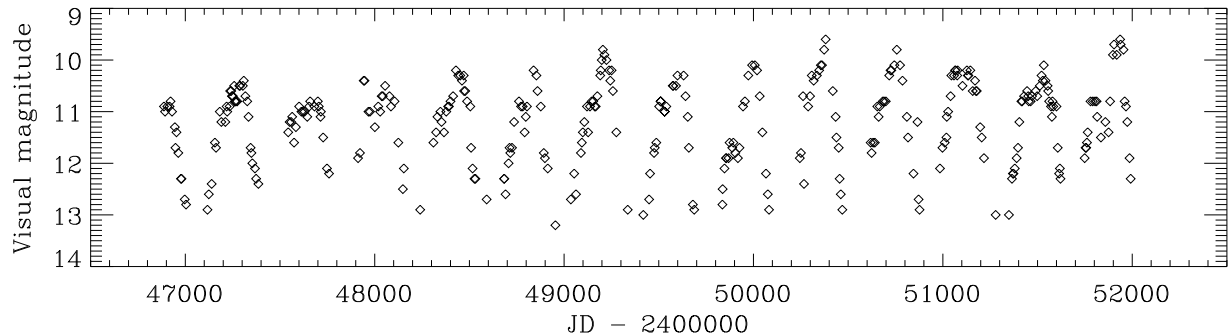


Figure 1. Visual light curve of Z Cir

References:

- Feast, M.W., 1965, *IBVS*, No. 87
van Hoof, A., 1964, *IBVS*, No. 41