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NEW PHOTOELECTRIC OBSERVATIONS OF THE DELTA SCUTI STAR HD 73576 (KW 207)

The δ Scuti star HD 73576 (KW 207), belonging to the Praesepe cluster, was observed during one night only by M.Breger (Astrophys.J. 162, 597, 1970). The same author (Astrophys. J. 176, 373, 1972) assigns it a tentative period of $0^d.071$.

We have performed photoelectric observations of this star through B filter during four nights at the beginning of 1977, using the 102-cm reflector of the Merate Observatory. The comparison star, whose constancy we have verified, was HD 73619 (KW 229): it does not vary to an extent of greater than $0^m.003$.

The resulting light curves ($m_c - m_v$) for the first three nights (J.D. 43168, ...173 and ...174) are shown in Fig.1,whereas Fig.2 shows the curve relative to the last night (J.D.43203).

The observed trend of Fig.1 is not significantly different from a simple sinusoid. This fact is confirmed by a spectral analysis with Vanicek's method (Astrophys.Space Sci. 12,10,1971), which also gives, for the period, the value of $0^d.0534$.

It is apparent in the last night the situation is at all different. The analysis gives a non-monochromatic periodogram, with the main peak at $0^d.059$. Another, much less marked peak corresponds to a period of $0^d.068$, and there is perhaps another one at about $0^d.051$. The $0^d.0534$ component seems to be disappeared.

Anyway there is no evidence for the Breger's period.It is our intention to continue with the observations.

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Fig. 1

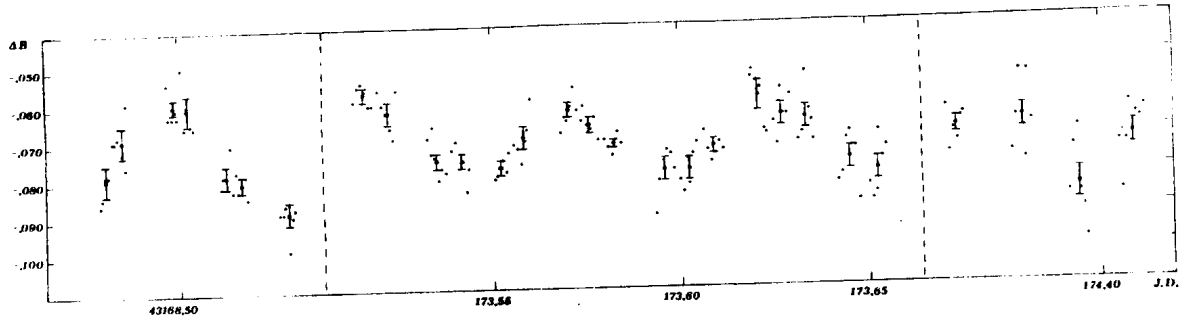
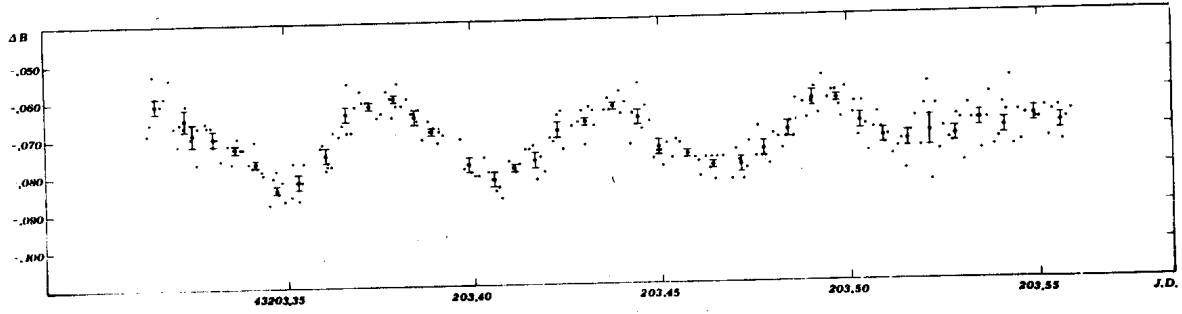


Fig. 2



• Single measurement.

I Average of a group of points and standard error.