

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION COMMISSION 26

(DOUBLE STARS)

INFORMATION CIRCULAR No. 159 (JUNE 2006)

NEW ORBITS

ADS α 2000 δ	Name n	P a	T i	e ω	Ω (2000) Last ob.	2006 2007	Author(s)
243 00182+7257	A 803 1.4538	247 ^y 63 0 ^{''} 367	2053.72 68°6	0.392 243°0	151°2 1998.6650	306°4 0 ^{''} 254 307.4 0.256	NOVAKOVIC
- 00568+6022	BAG 10 Aa 74.2421	4.85 0.032	2003.50 47.6	0.224 104.4	329.9 1998.7770	265.4 0.028 316.5 0.034	DOCOBO & ANDRADE
805 00583+2124	BU 302 1.0845	331.97 0.651	2017.54 48.1	0.665 252.2	17.2 1999.892	200.1 0.290 203.0 0.279	CVETKOVIC
832 01011+6022	A 926 1.4174	253.99 0.318	2131.63 32.3	0.388 85.7	74.2 1998.666	340.2 0.373 341.0 0.373	CVETKOVIC
828 01014+1155	BU 867 1.5010	239.84 0.745	2000.55 102.6	0.222 160.8	173.4 2001.769	354.7 0.579 354.2 0.582	CVETKOVIC
974 01112+4113	A 655 2.3515	153.09 0.338	2040.77 53.1	0.185 290.5	157.5 1995.771	342.0 0.339 343.4 0.335	CVETKOVIC
- 01361-2954	HJ 3447 0.2394	1503.58 3.155	2039.79 55.6	0.604 140.2	69.6 2001.8840	179.3 0.801 181.0 0.803	NOVAKOVIC
1345 01424-0645	A 1 0.5320	676.7 0.989	1885.32 44.1	0.719 303.0	163.1 2006.091	250.4 0.836 250.7 0.839	SCARDIA et al. (*)
1503 01532+1526	BU 260 0.3867	931.05 1.303	2804.38 71.8	0.262 119.9	73.0 1998.9640	259.3 1.099 259.5 1.098	NOVAKOVIC
1938 02333+5219	STT 42 AB 1.2092	297.72 0.295	1985.66 80.3	0.353 222.4	96.1 1996.6913	26.7 0.038 37.2 0.042	NOVAKOVIC
2204 02563+7253	STF 312 AB 0.1767	2037.66 3.880	2137.36 59.8	0.506 115.6	14.5 2003.9400	42.6 1.901 42.9 1.888	NOVAKOVIC

NEW ORBITS (continuation)

ADS α 2000 δ	Name n	P a	T i	e ω	Ω (2000) Last ob.	2006 2007	Author(s)
3589 05003+3924	STT 92 AB 0.2253	1598.04 5.379	3242.73 56.1	0.536 333.4	155.4 2002.9770	280.6 4.048 280.8 4.060	NOVAKOVIC
4078 05289-0318	DA 6 0.6000	600. 0.553	1996.40 44.9	0.740 186.0	59.7 1997.1310	287.1 0.138 291.7 0.138	LING
6526 08017-0836	A 1580 1.4102	255.28 0.318	2013.03 56.5	0.232 202.9	104.6 1996.181	288.2 0.245 289.5 0.243	CVETKOVIC
7730 10205+0626	STF 1426 AB 0.5440	661.8 0.800	1674.23 47.2	0.189 22.8	114.0 2006.308	310.2 0.911 310.5 0.910	SCARDIA et al. (*)
8555 12274-2843	B 228 8.1026	44.43 0.178	1952.41 65.4	0.659 166.9	137.3 2001.0801	112.2 0.160 115.0 0.177	RICA
8630 12417-0127	STF 1670 AB 2.1289	169.10 3.644	2005.51 149.1	0.883 256.7	37.1 2006.427	103.5 0.406 59.5 0.658	DOCOBO & TAMAZIAN
8630 12417-0127	STF 1670 AB 2.1289	169.10 3.643	2005.51 149.4	0.882 255.0	35.3 2006.450	104.3 0.409 60.0 0.657	SCARDIA et al. (*)
10374 17104-1544	BU 1118 AB 4.1105	87.58 1.396	2024.68 95.2	0.950 274.8	38.9 2006.420	237.8 0.571 237.1 0.575	DOCOBO & LING
10795 17471+1742	STF 2215 0.3388	1062.47 0.838	2066.49 132.2	0.397 270.6	105.5 2002.509	254.1 0.484 253.5 0.480	CVETKOVIC
11010 18025+4414	BU1127AaB 1.32931	270.82 0.732	2102.72 150.9	0.365 239.1	142.5 2000.540	57.3 0.822 56.4 0.819	CVETKOVIC
13665 20182+2912	A 1205 0.7759	464. 1.54	1969.67 100.1	0.877 251.4	105.8 2001.53	98.5 1.02 98.4 1.03	RICA
15300 21459+1153	A 1223 AB 8.1651	44.09 0.123	1972.72 159.0	0.322 155.4	15.2 1998.679	344.9 0.131 338.2 0.125	RICA
15902 22241-0450	BU 172 AB 2.4177	148.9 0.406	1987.64 162.2	0.706 274.1	91.8 2004.721	48.1 0.370 46.2 0.382	DOCOBO & LING

NEW ORBITS (continuation)

ADS α 2000 δ	Name n	P a	T i	e ω	Ω (2000) Last ob.	2006 2007	Author(s)
16886 23382+5514	A 1493 3.1579	114.0 0.156	2011.40 142.2	0.230 258.7	165.2 1996.5405	300.8 0.108 295.6 0.105	DOCOBO & LING

(*) SCARDIA, PRIEUR, PANSECCHI, ARGYLE & BASSO

COMMENTS ABOUT IAU SYMPOSIUM 240

At the occasion of the organization at Prague of this symposium, I feel necessary to recall that specialists of close double stars and wide ones met at many other important meetings (colloquia and symposia) well before. Each of them appeared more important than the previous ones in a logical increasing order and it is thus not surprising that the present one will be at the top. But only some of them could be considered as “corner stones”. I wish that the next Symposium will be one of these as was the first one of the series, as mentioned by Mirek PLAVEC in his talk at the 69th IAU Colloquium held at Bamberg in 1981 (Binary and Multiple Stars as Tracers of Stellar Evolution - Astrophysics and Space Science Library, 98, 1982, pp.119-122) by saying:

“By this format and title, this Colloquium resembles the Colloquium: On the Evolution of Double Stars, held at Brussels 15 years ago, in September 1966 (Dommagnet, 1967). That was a memorable colloquium, since the evolution in binary stars was, for the first time, the topic of a whole meeting. Since then, our field has expended tremendously. We held two large-scale Symposia discussing the evolution of close binaries only (Eggleton, Mitton and Whelan, 1976; Plavec, Popper and Ulrich, 1980) in addition to several other meetings in a slightly lower scale. After the most recent Symposium, held in Toronto in 1979, I concluded that in the future it would no longer be possible to cover adequately, in one full Symposium, the whole fields of close binaries.”

J. Dommagnet.

WULFF DIETER HEINTZ (1930 - 2006)

Once again I have the sad duty of noting the passing of a long-time member of Commission 26. Dr. Wulff Dieter Heintz died over the weekend of June 10/11, 2006, following a long battle with the illness.

Wulff Heintz was one of the giant figures in double star astronomy for many decades. As an observer of visual doubles he was second only to van den Bos in output, publishing nearly 20,000 means (based on some 54,000 measures, 47,500 by micrometry and 6,500 by photography) and discovering 918 new pairs over a career spanning half a century. He remains the largest contributor of “preferred” orbits to the Sixth Catalog of Visual Binary Stars; the (incomplete) database for that catalog includes an astounding 748 sets of his orbital elements. The Sixth Catalog itself is a direct descendant of the Fourth Orbit Catalog, published by Wulff and Charles Worley in 1983 and a standard reference for 17 years. Finally, Wulff’s book “Double Stars” (originally published in German under the title “Dopplesterne”) remains the bible for many of us in the field, 35 years after its publication.

Born in Wursburg, Germany, Wulff began his work in astrometry at the University of Munich, and began specializing in the field of double stars very early in his career; his first doublestar-related publication (fittingly, orbits of four visual binaries) was published in 1954. He joined the faculty of Swarthmore College (Swarthmore, Pennsylvania) in 1967, where he remained a popular lecturer and indefatigable observer until his retirement in 1998. Known for the utmost care in his observing and the sparest of prose in his writing, he remained active in astronomy even as an emeritus professor; the final publication bearing his name was a poster presented this past January at the American Astronomical Society meeting in Washington. His was truly a remarkable career.

I’m sure the thoughts of many of us will be with Wulff’s family.

William Hartkopf
U.S. Naval Observatory.

The deadline for contributions to Information Circular No. 160 is:

October 15th 2006

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