

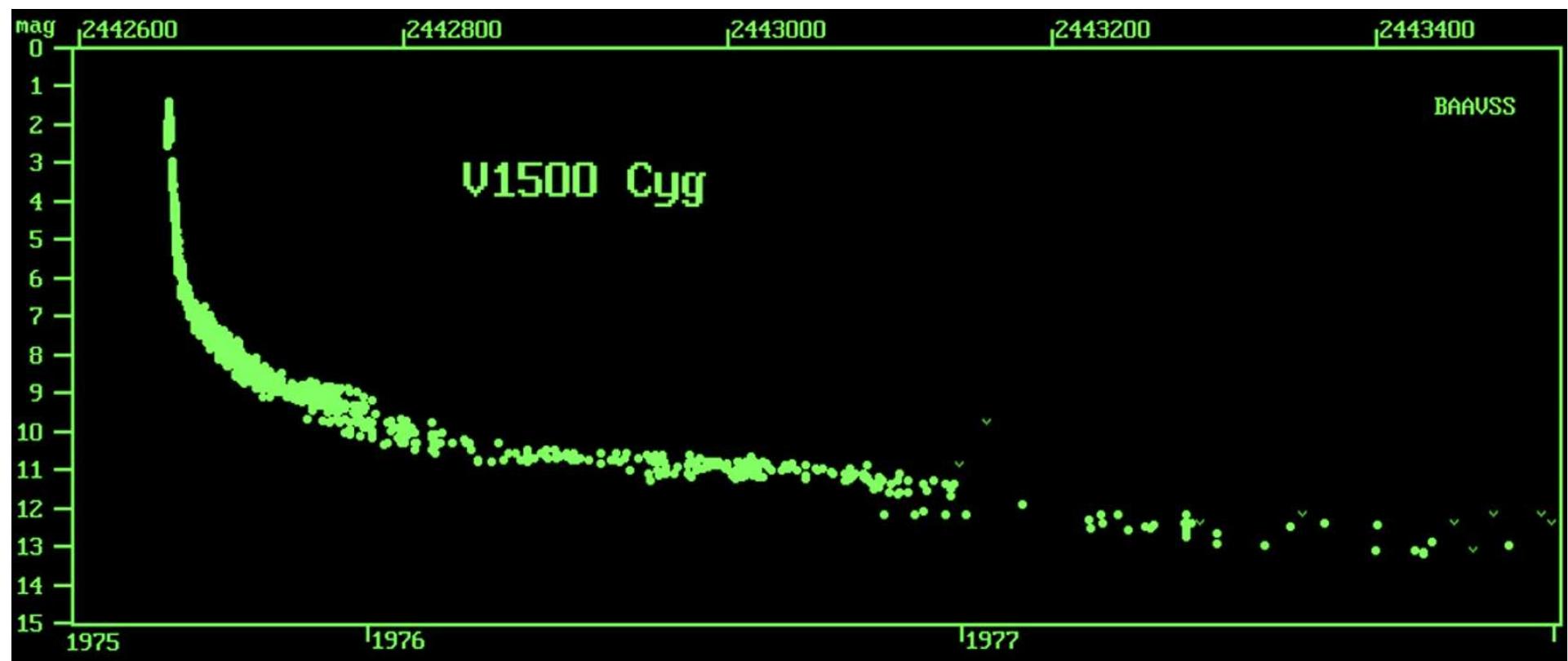
Over 1,200 people had their eyes measured to create this graph of pupil diameter versus age. Clearly, the conventional wisdom that the human eye opens to 7 millimeters in darkness is only a very rough average even for young people. Over age 50, a more realistic average is 5 mm. Which of these points would represent you? From a study by I. E. Loewenfeld published in *Night Vision* (National Academy Press, 1987).

APERTURE (D)	mm & LIMITING Mag .	mv = $2 + 5 \log D$	mag. at 90% efficiency
30mm		9.4	8.5
50mm		10.5	9.4
70mm		11.2	10.1
80mm		11.5	10.3
100mm		12.0	10.8
125mm		12.5	11.2
152mm		12.9	11.6

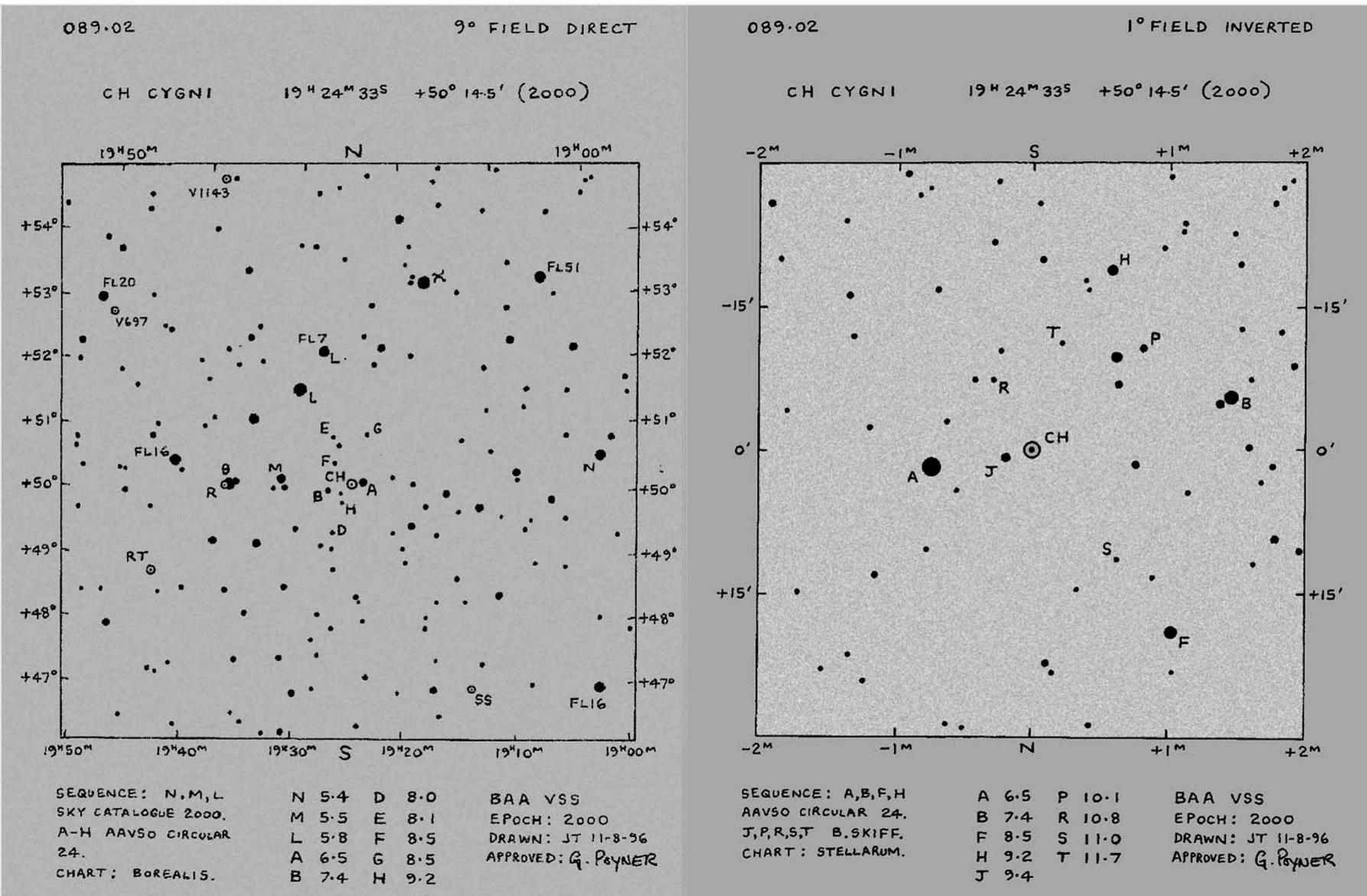




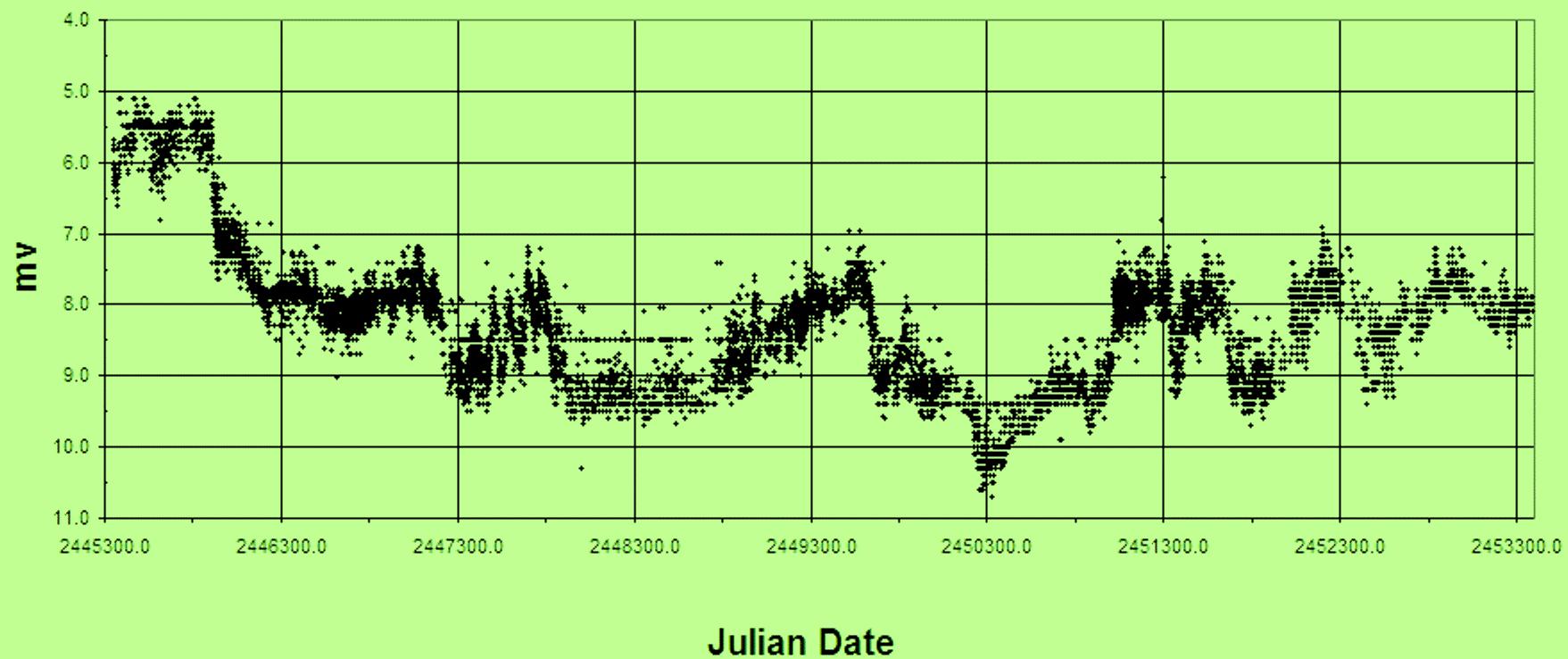
John Harrison
the inventor of the
marine chronometer which
first allowed the location of
longitude at sea by
mechanical means, was
baptised in Wragby parish
in 1693 and spent his
childhood here in Foulby.
He died in 1776.



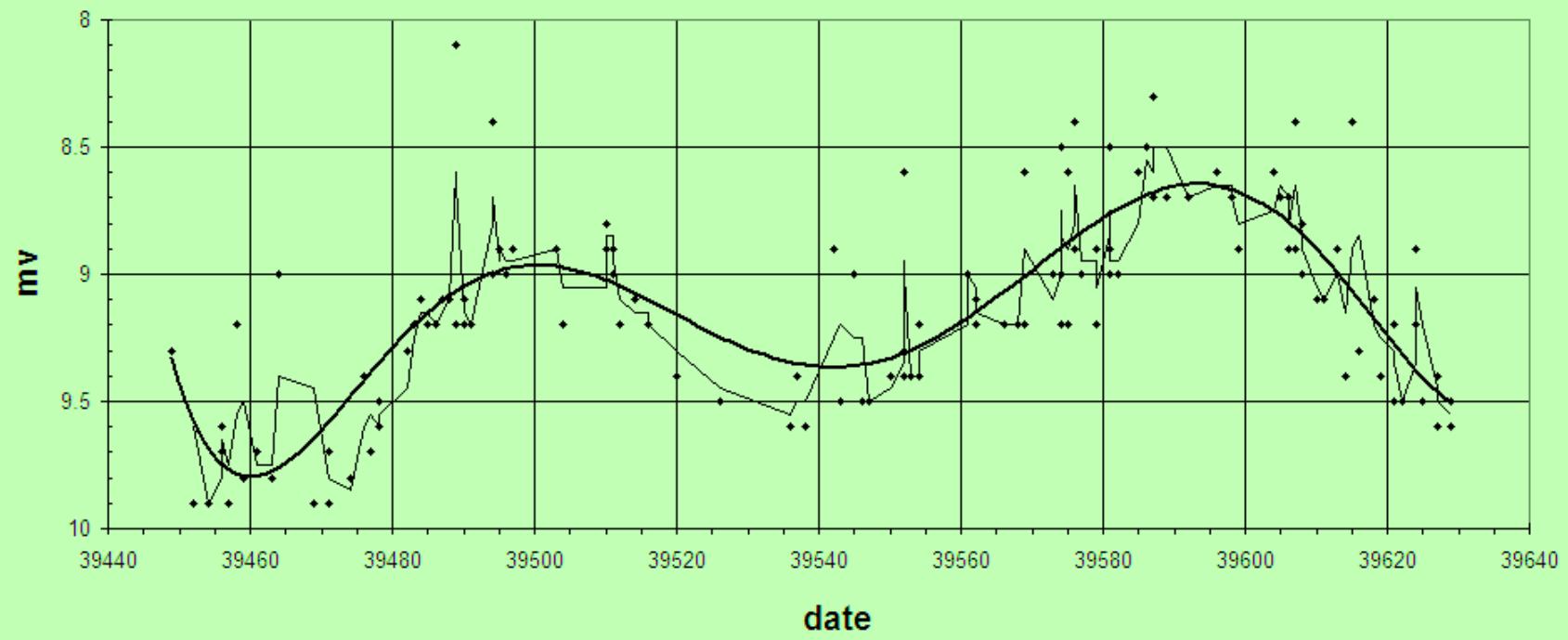




CH Cygni (1982 to 2004) BAAVSS



CH Cyg 2008a VSS P=93:d



The BINOCULAR PROGRAMME

Variable Star types / nos.

<i>SR (all types)</i>	84	(SR 8, SRA 5, SRB 58, SRC 8, SRD 5)
<i>L</i>	16	
<i>LC+E</i>	1	
<i>M</i>	1	
<i>RV</i>	3	
<i>ZAND</i>	1	
<i>INA</i>	1	
<i>GCAS</i>	2	
<i>ZAND+SR</i>	2	
<i>SDOR</i>	1	
<i>GCAS+X</i>	1	
<i>NC</i>	1	

<i>star</i>	<i>RA (2000)</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Range</i>	<i>Period(d)</i>	<i>Chart</i>
<i>XX Cam</i>	04 09	+53 22	<i>RCB</i>	7.3-9.7		068.01
<i>V CVn</i>	13 20	+45 32	<i>SRA</i>	6.5-8.6	192	214.01
<i>rho Cas</i>	23 54	+57 29	<i>SRD</i>	4.1-6.2	320	064.01
<i>TT Cyg</i>	19 41	+32 37	<i>SRB</i>	7.4-8.7	118	227.01
<i>P Cyg</i>	20 18	+38 02	<i>SDOR</i>	3 - 6		1972Jul29
<i>UW Dra</i>	17 58	+54 40	<i>LB</i>	7 - 8.2		1974Jul27
<i>SX Her</i>	16 08	+24 55	<i>SRD</i>	8 - 9.2	103	113.01
<i>AC Her</i>	18 30	+21 52	<i>RVA</i>	6.8-9.0	75	048.03
<i>g Her</i>	16 29	+41 53	<i>SRB</i>	4.3-6.3	89	224.01
<i>X Oph</i>	18 38	+08 50	<i>M</i>	5.7-7.9	91	029.03
<i>AG Peg</i>	21 51	+12 38	<i>NC</i>	6.0-9.4		094.01

TESTS for BINOCULARS

MECHANICAL: hinge movement, barrel rattling, smooth focussing (central or eyepiece), position of mounting thread.

CONDITION: dirt, mildew. **Strap:** discard plastic carrying strap.

COATINGS: check if coloured reflections and not white on objectives and eyepieces, if 'filmy' or grey

EXIT PUPILS: check if round with no grey edges, and if no internal parts visible

DISTORTIONS: check star 'shape' when moved to near edge of field; 'line' distortions – if straight, strongly bent or coloured.

BIN LIST (mdt)		real field	2 + 5logD(mm)	at 85% effic.
	exit pupil (mm)	degrees	limiting mag	limiting mag.
8 x 21	2.6	7	8.6	7.3
7 x 35	5	9.2	9.7	8.3
8 x 40	5	6.5	10	8.5
8 x 42	5.2	6.3	10.1	8.5
10 x 50	5	6.5	10.5	8.9
15 x 63	4.2	3.7	11	9.3
16 x 70	4.3	5	11.2	9.5

HOW TO IMPROVE VISUAL (VARIABLE STAR) OBSERVATIONS

Avoid:

- CLOUDCOVER, MISIDENTIFICATION, DATE/TIME MISTAKES,
- TRANSCRIBING AN INCORRECT RECORD,
- BIAS (!),
- PRE-CONCEIVED VALUES OF COMPARISON STAR MAGNITUDES,
- VERY LOW ALTITUDE OBJECTS (EXCEPT E.G. NOVAE, SUPERNOVAE),
- STEPPING ON PETS, HEDGEHOG, 'LIVE' ELECTRICS, OPENING FRIDGE DOOR (UNLESS ASTRONOMY FRIENDLY LIT),
- DROPPING IMPORTANT THINGS (FLASK OF WARM SOUP, KENDAL MINT CAKE, CHOCOLATE)

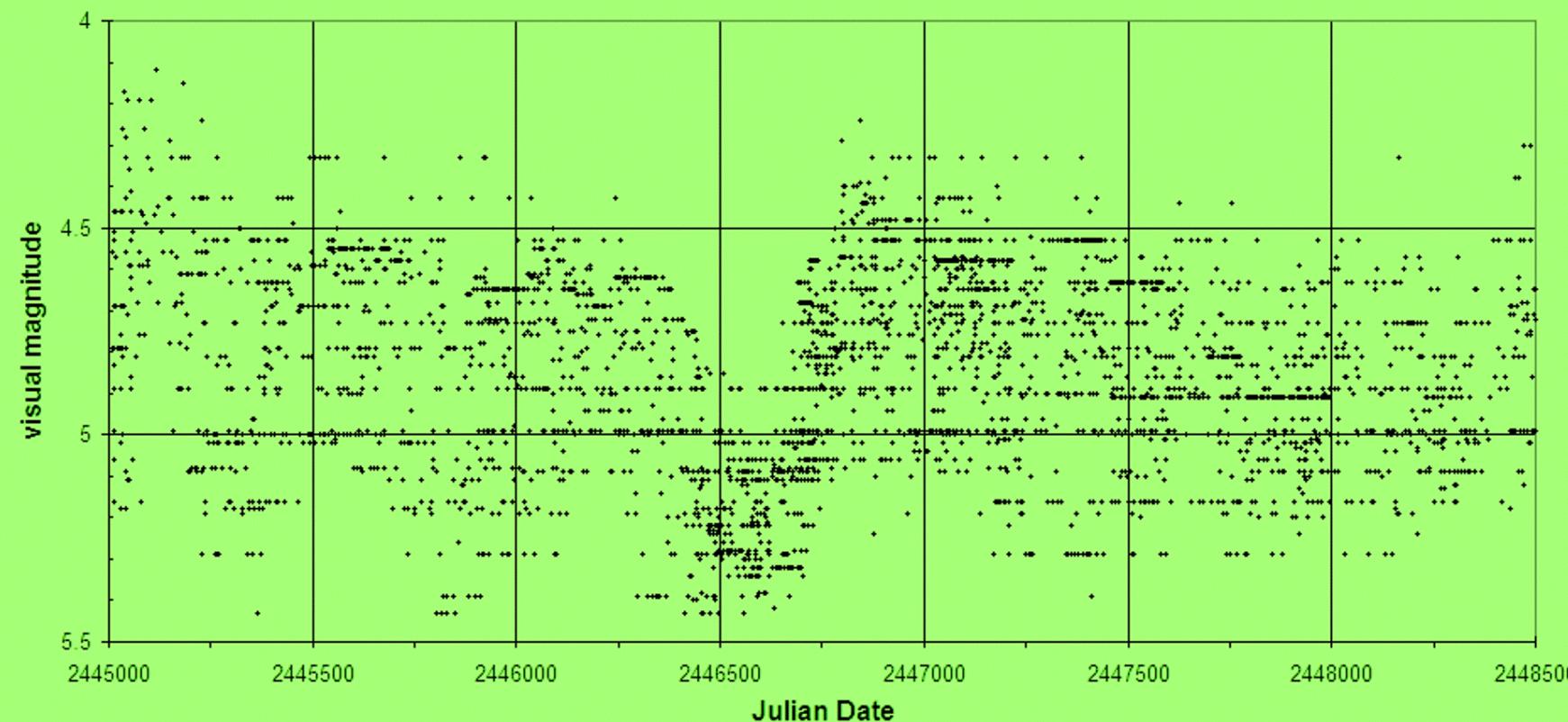
Select and use: (IF POSSIBLE)

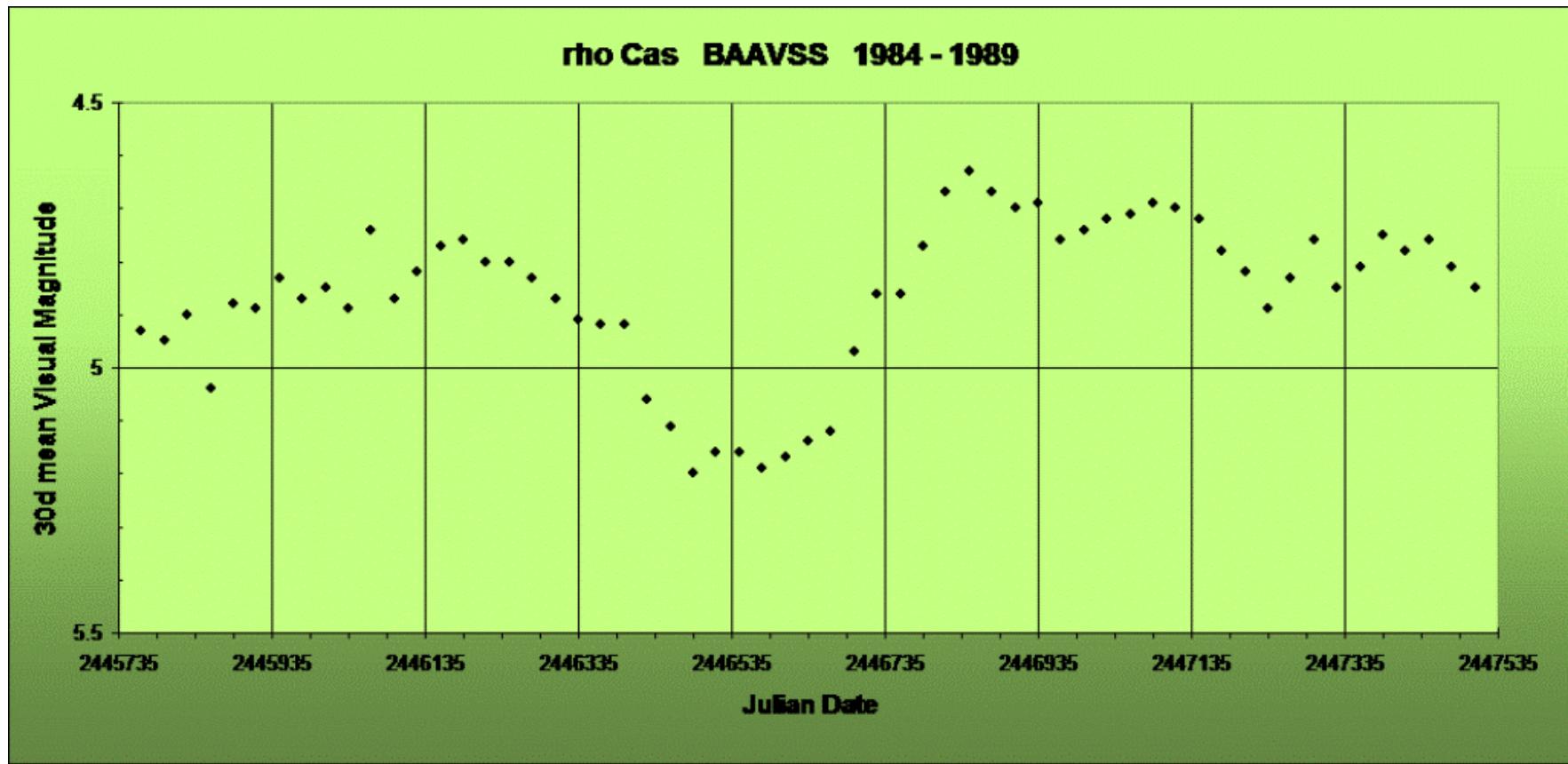
- BEST QUALITY AND STATE OF OPTICS
- SAME OPTICAL SYSTEM FOR THE PHASE OF THAT OBJECT
- OBJECTS NOT NEAR LIMIT OF OBSERVATION
- COMPARISONS OF SIMILAR COLOUR AND THOSE THAT ARE CLOSE TO VARIABLE IN DISTANCE ALSO A SMALL BRIGHTNESS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM
- CHECK THE OPTIMUM LINE OF P.A. JOINING VARIABLE AND COMPARISON(S).
- A CONSISTENT METHOD OF LIGHT ESTIMATION
- AN AMOUNT OF TIME FOR DARK ADAPTATION
- A COMFORTABLE POSTURE AND WARM CLOTHING (OBVIOUS?)
- THE 'FRAME OF MIND': I.E. NO HURRYING, ENOUGH DOWN-TIME AFTER A TRAUMATIC DAY, USE ANGER-MANAGEMENT METHODS IN CASE OF LOCAL (NEIGHBOURHOOD) CIRCUMSTANCES. I.E. THEIR HOUSE AND GARDEN LIGHTING POLICY MAY WELL BE DIFFERENT FROM THE OBSERVER!

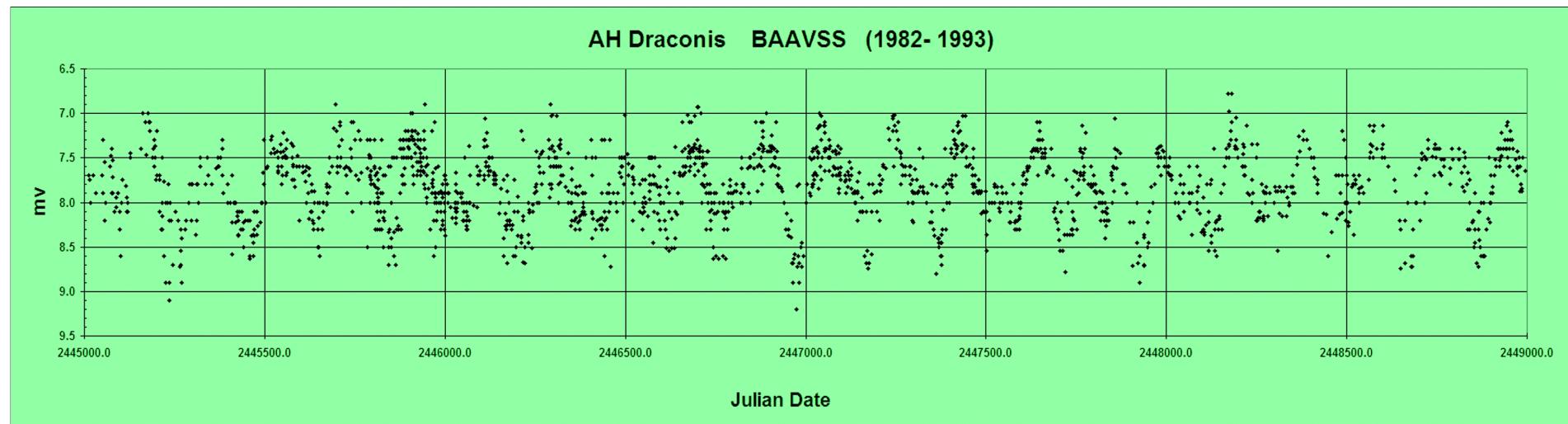


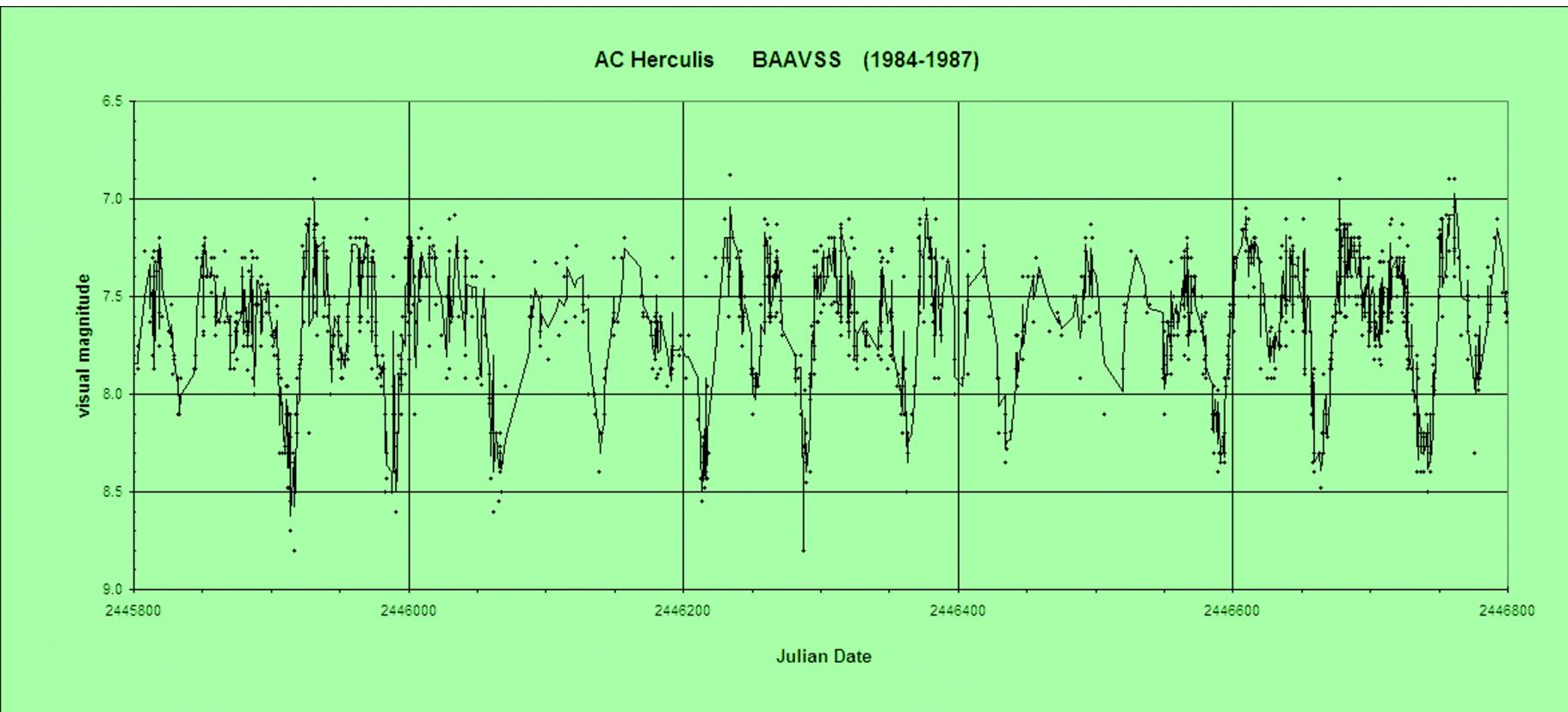
Now, if I can
just find that
20th mag quasar

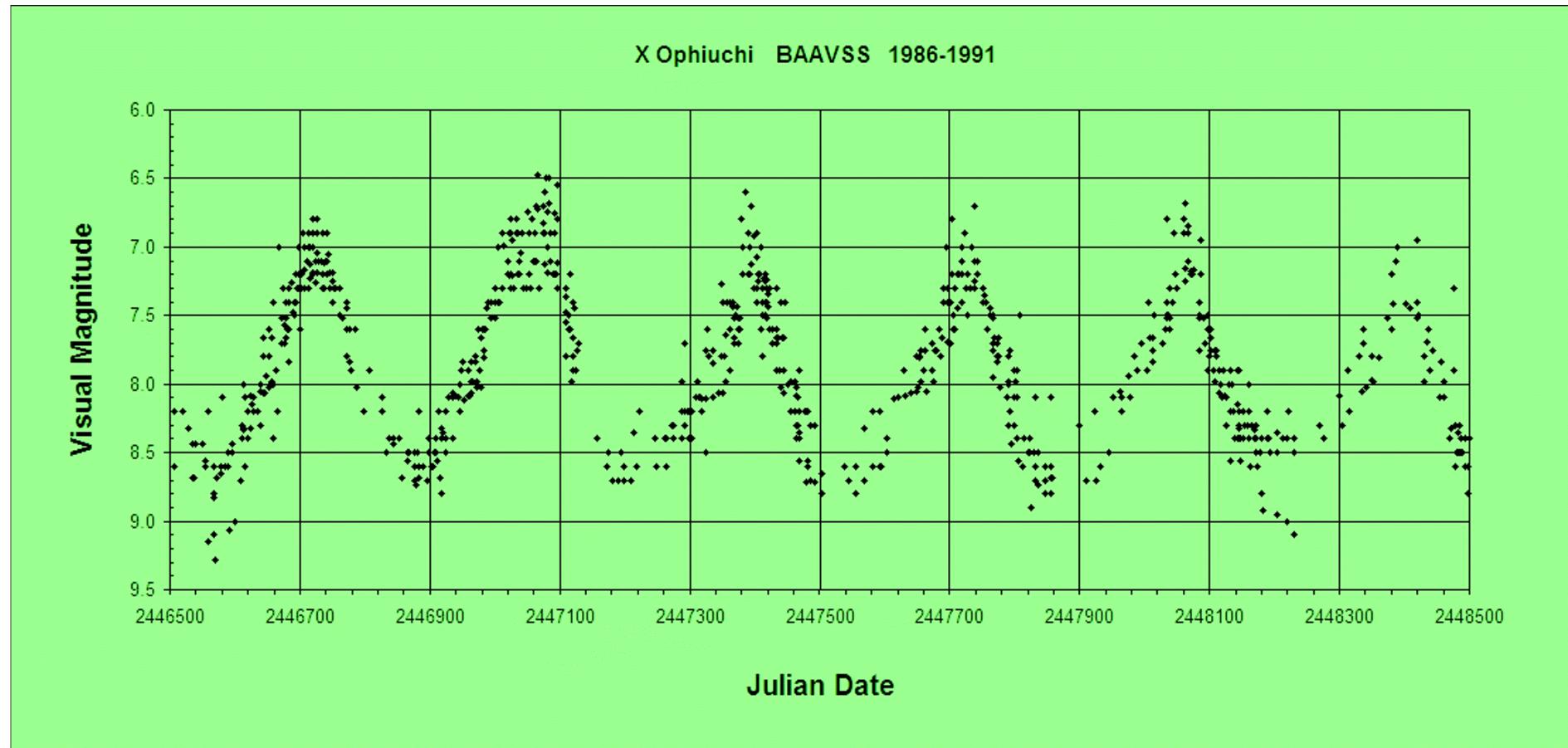
rho Cas BAAVSS 1982-1991

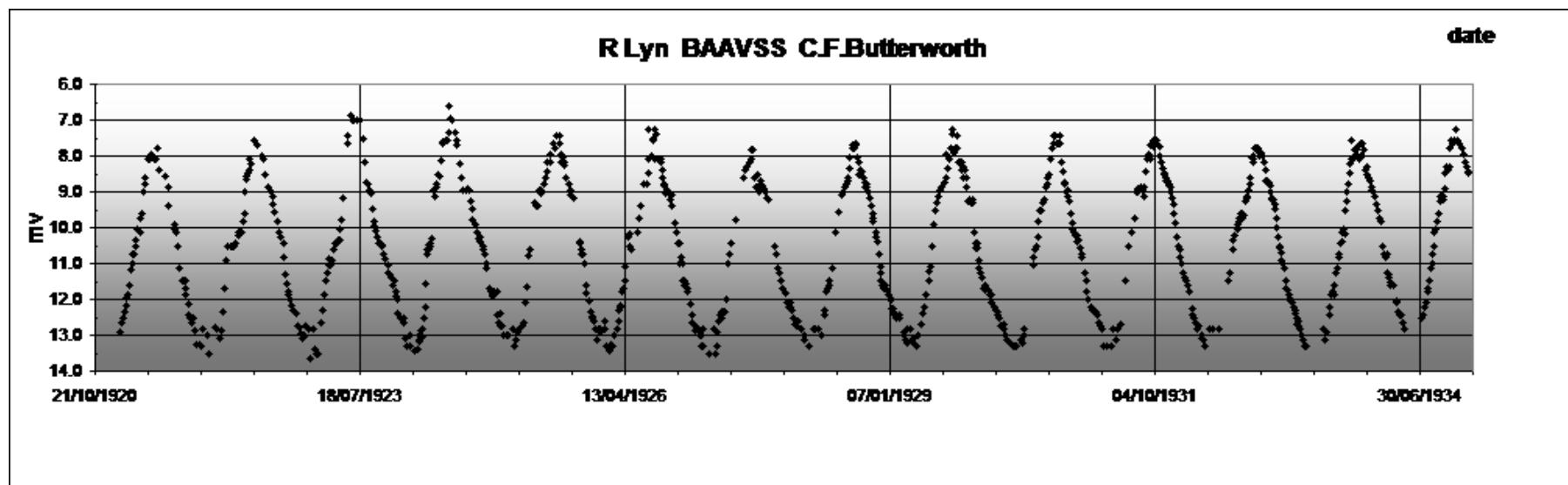




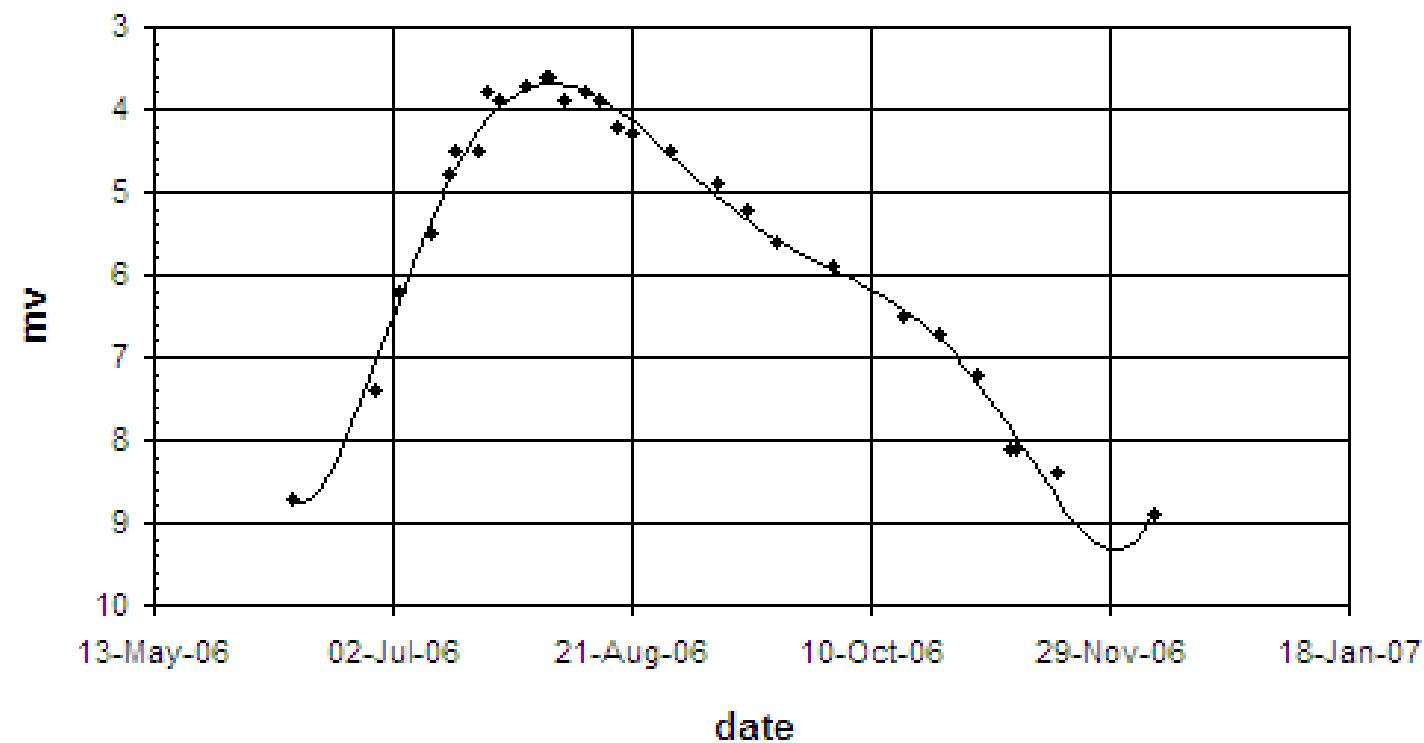


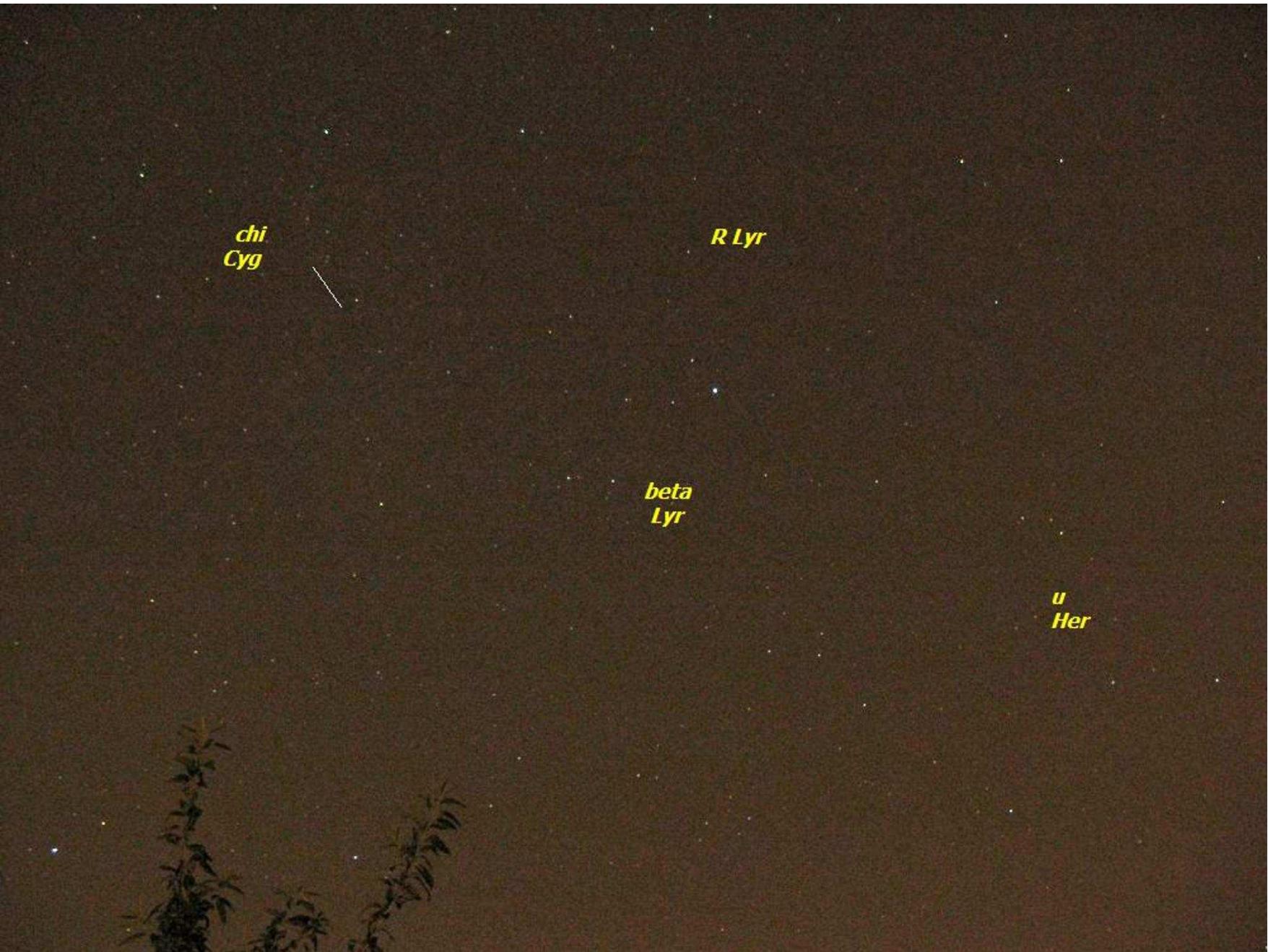


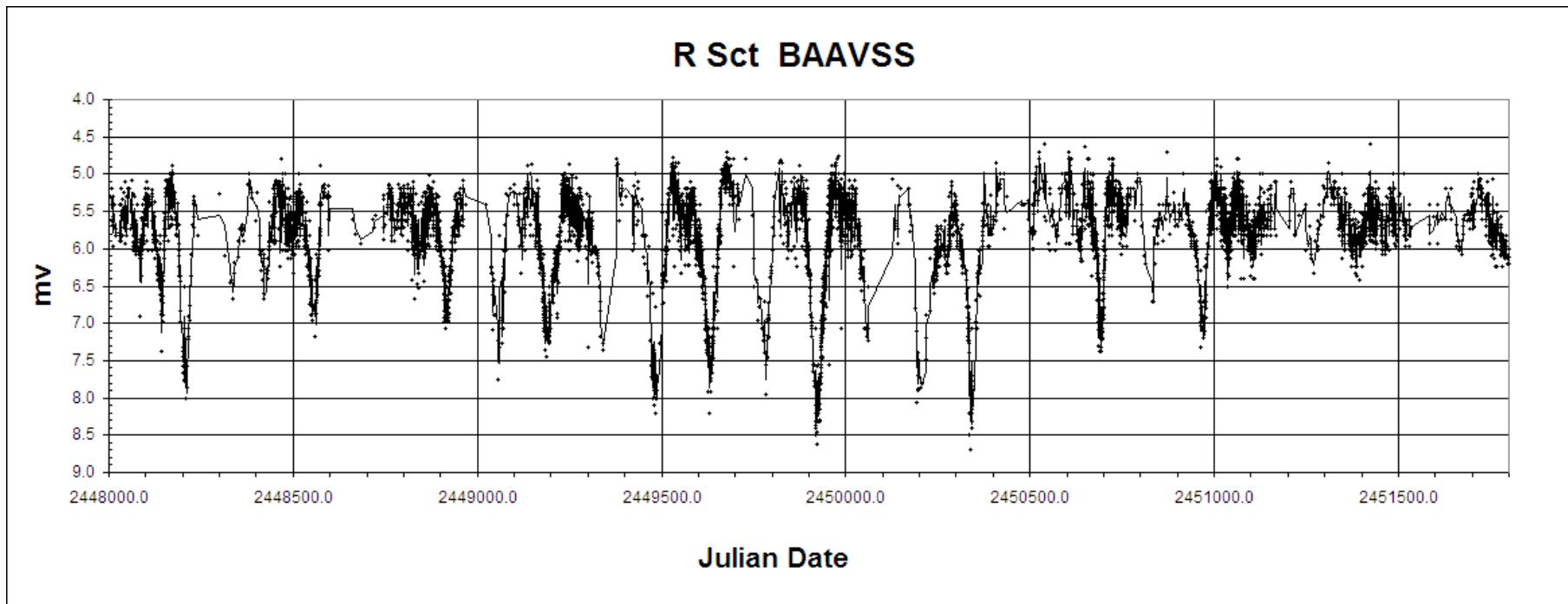


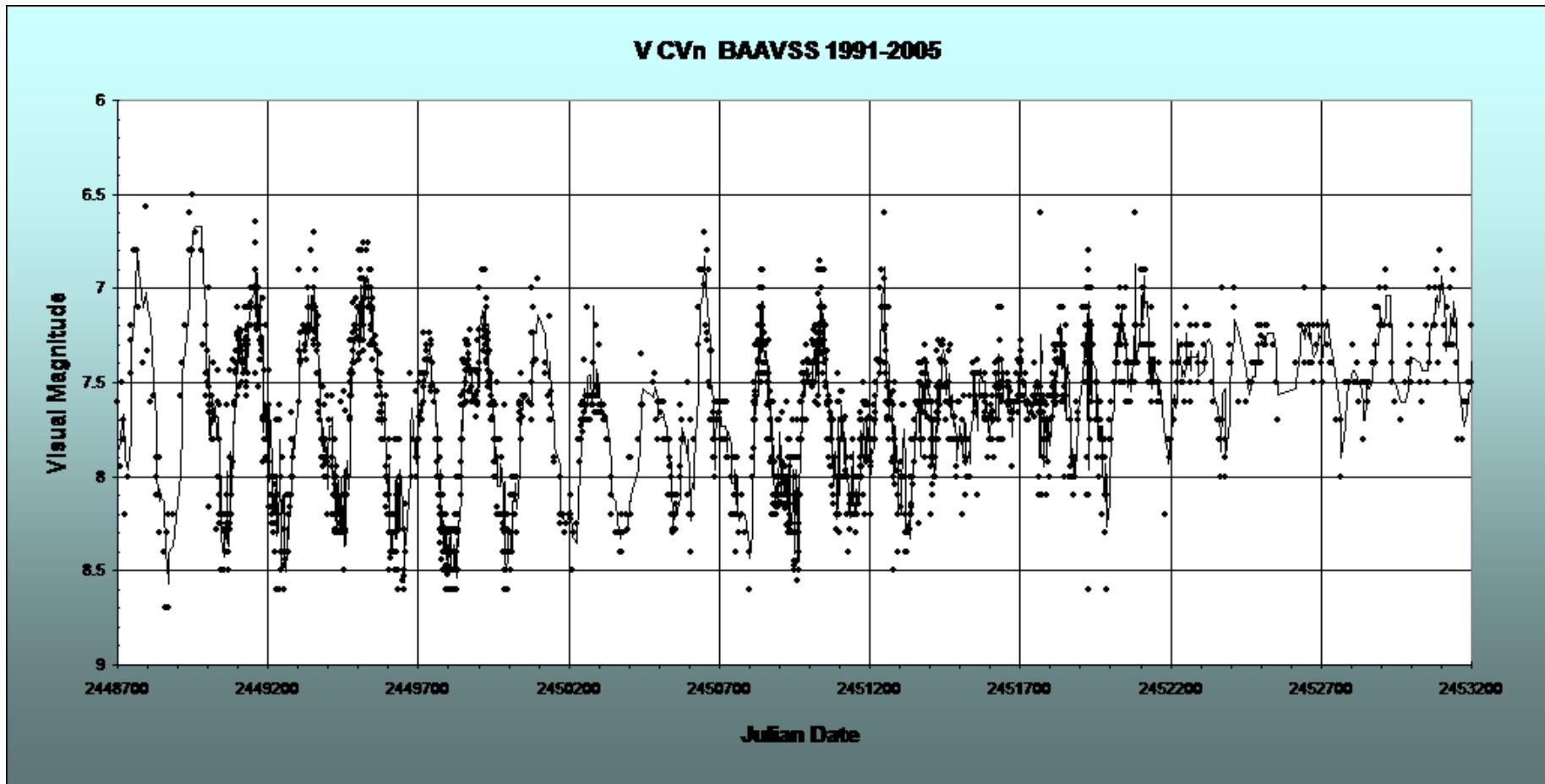


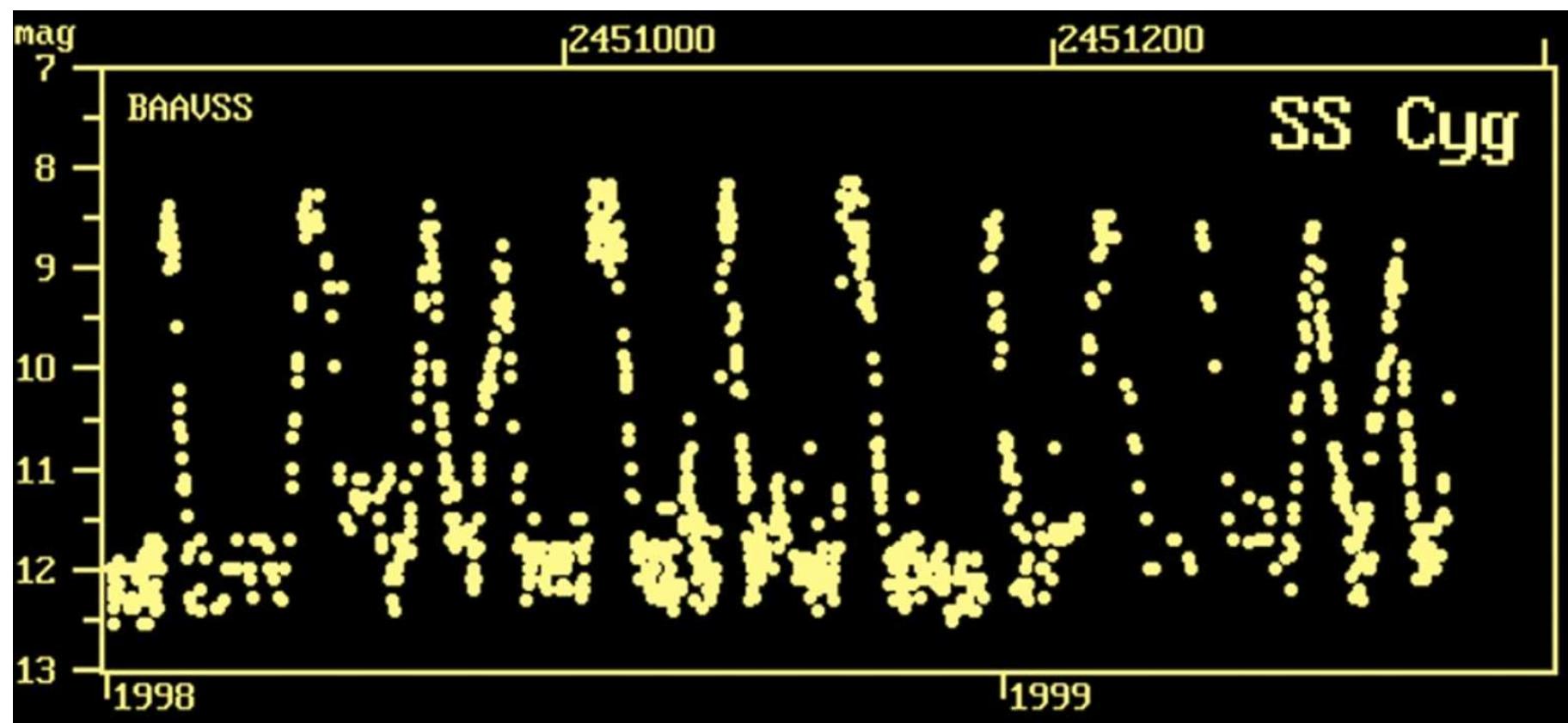
chi Cyg 2006 mdt





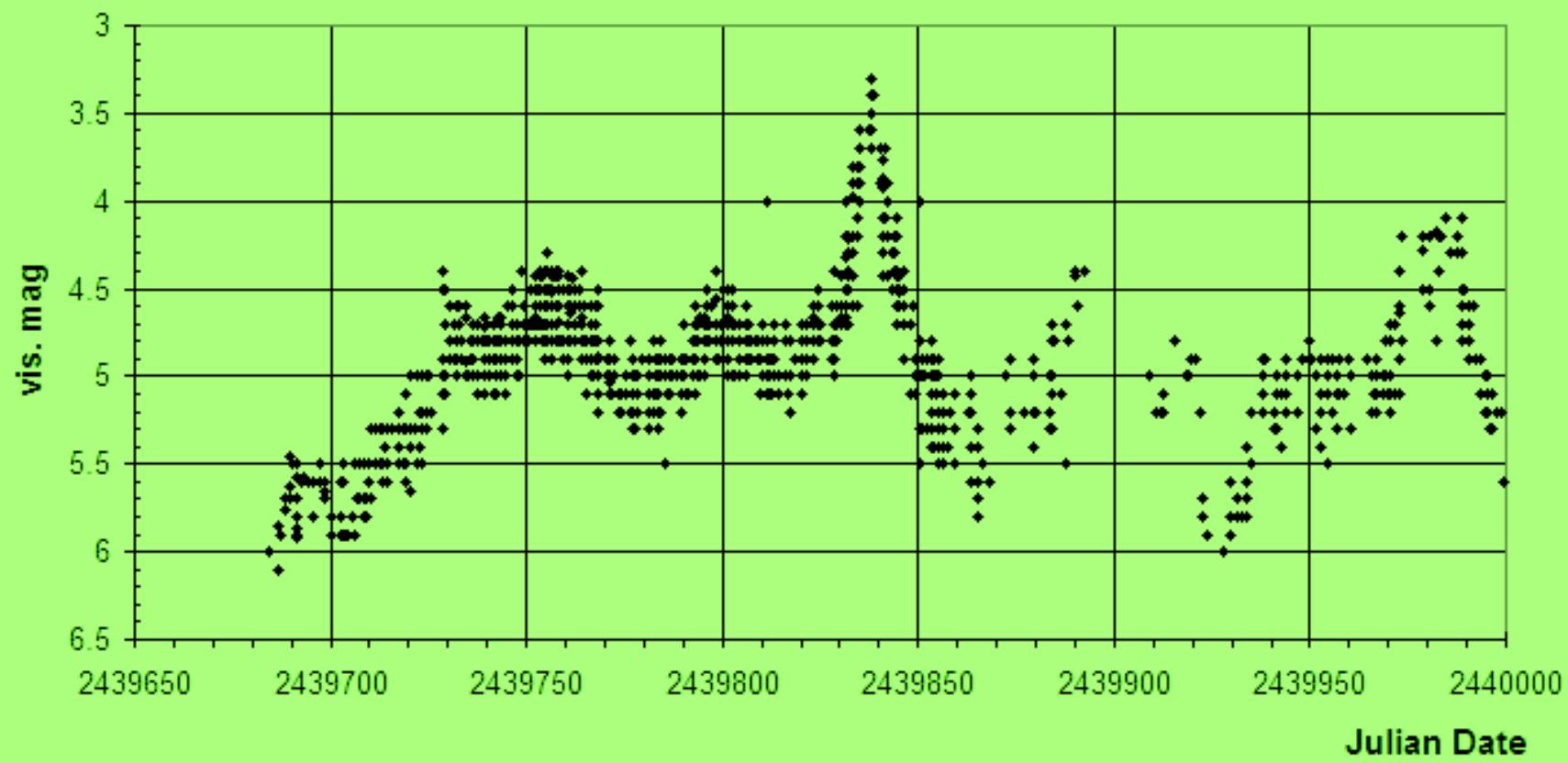




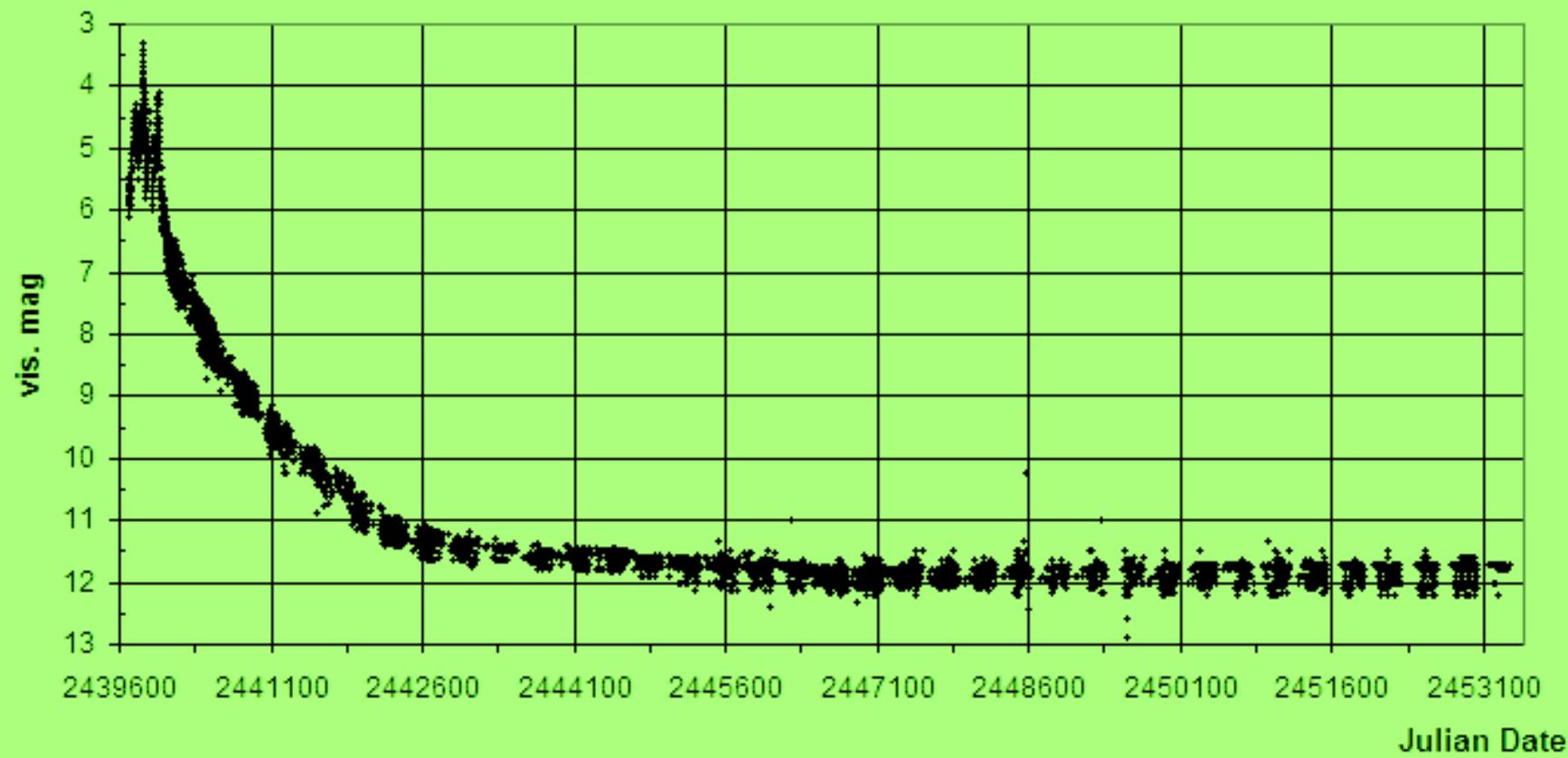




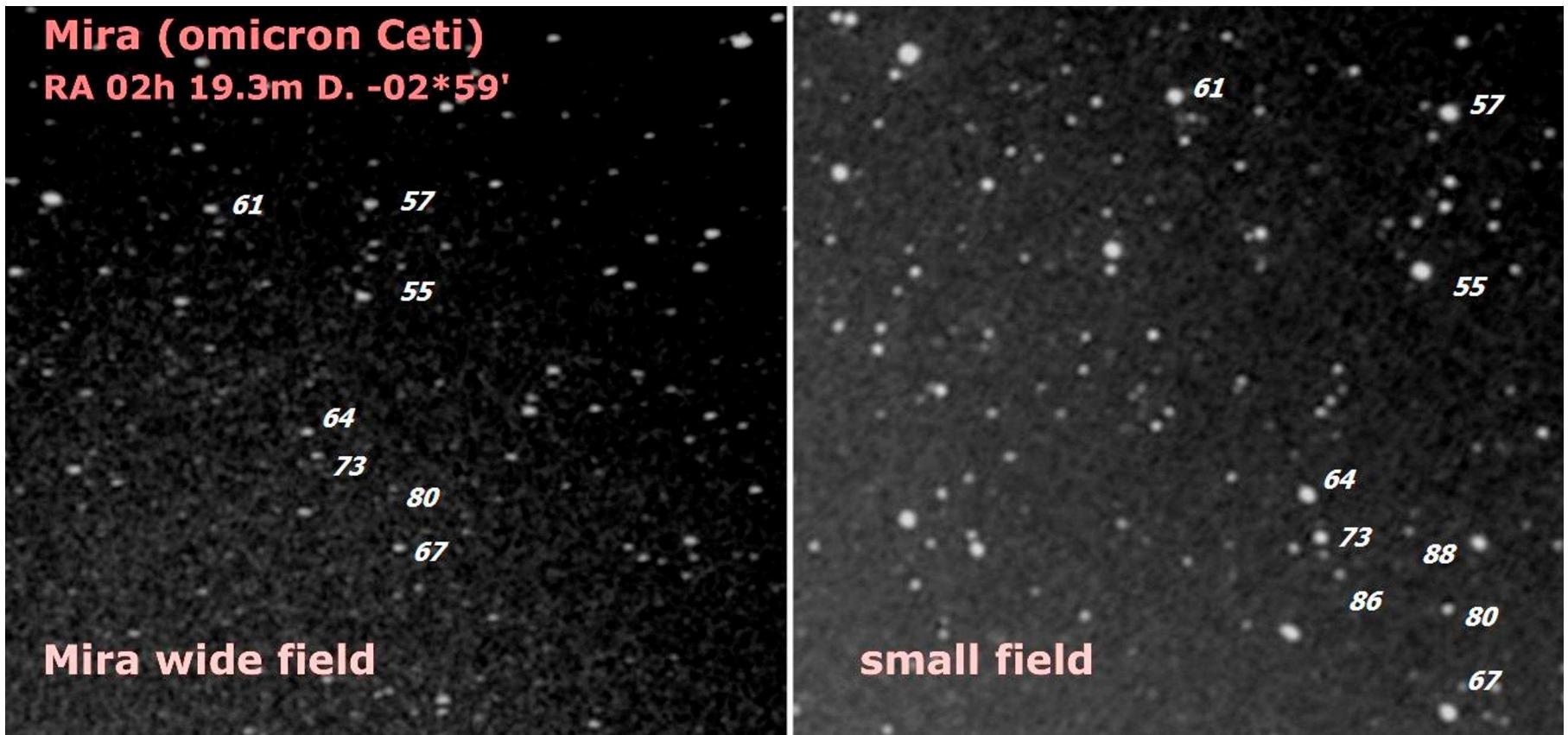
HR Delphini (Nova Delphini, 1967) BAAVSS 1967 Jul to 1968 May

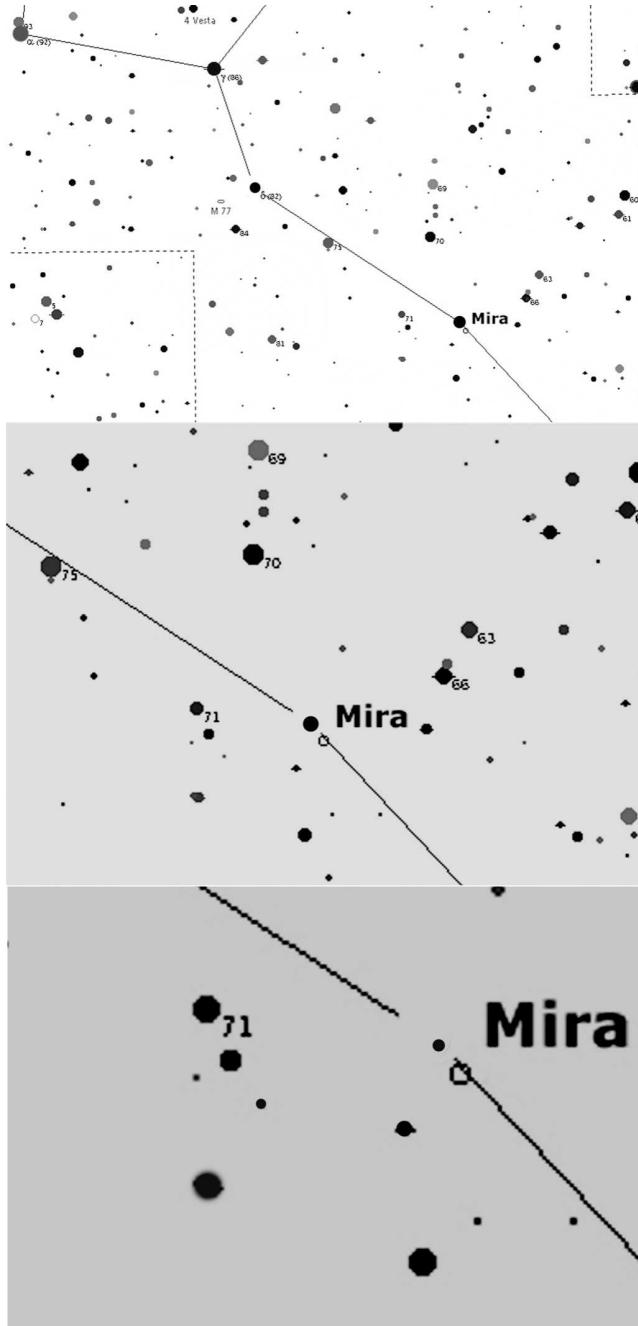


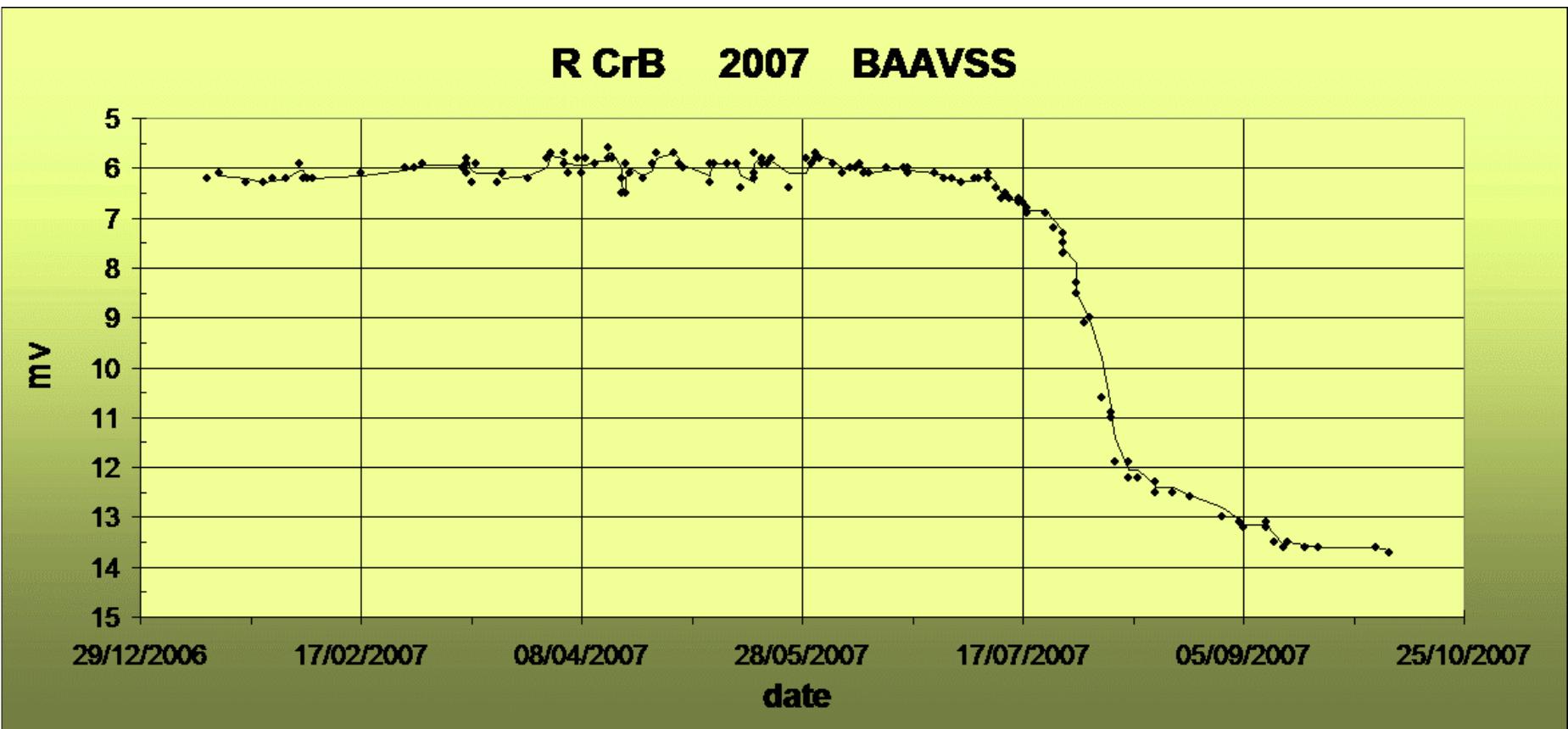
HR Delphini (Nova Delphini, 1967) BAA VSS





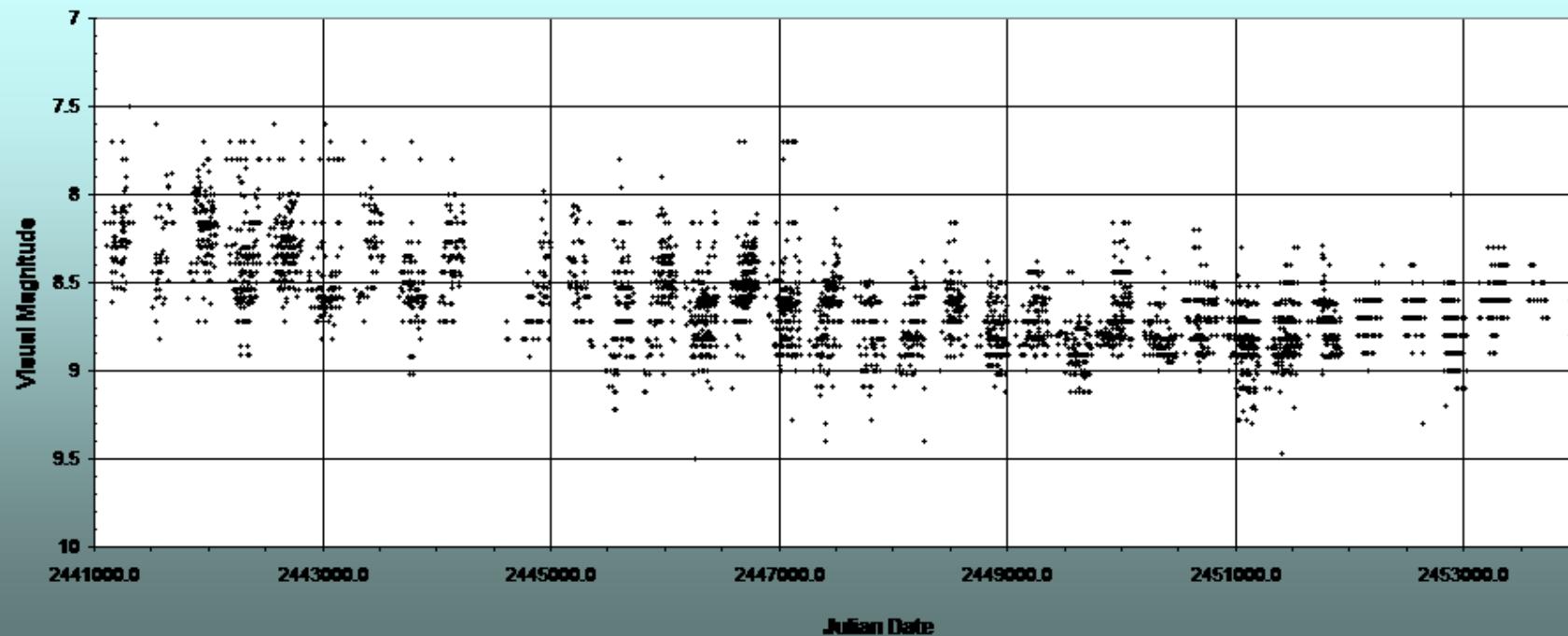






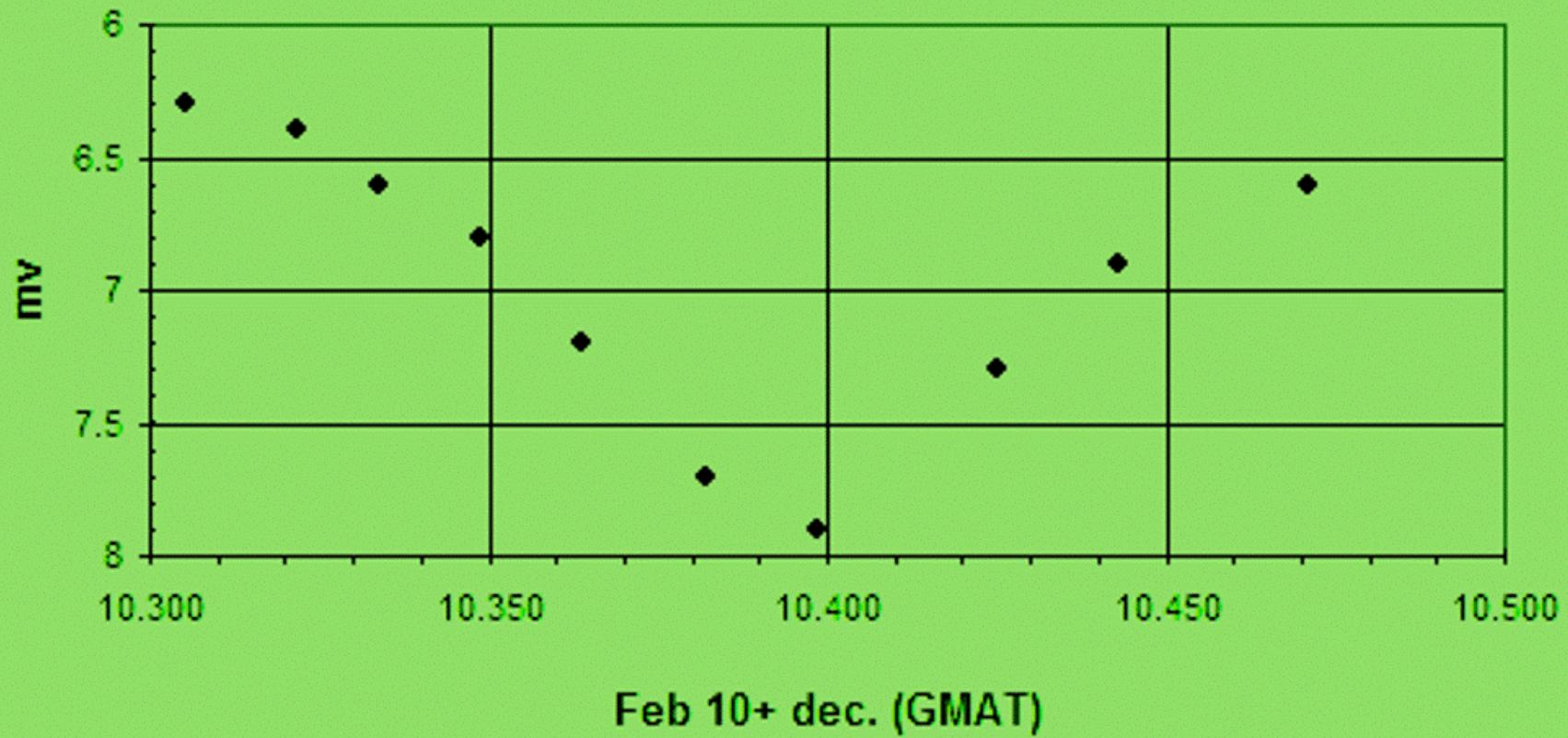


AG Pegasi BAAVSS 1971-2006

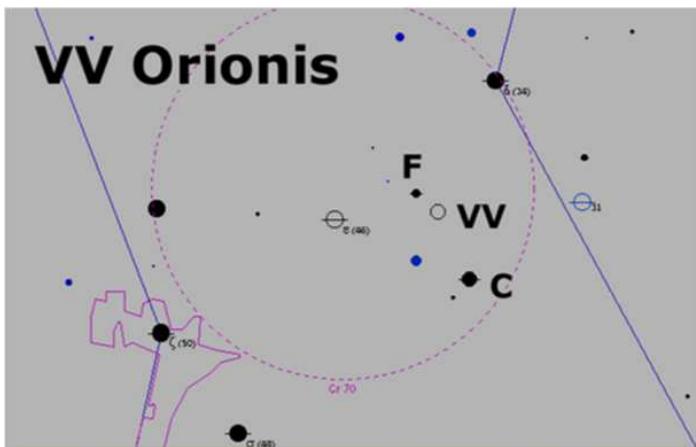




RZ Cas 2008 Feb 10 (mdt,10x50)



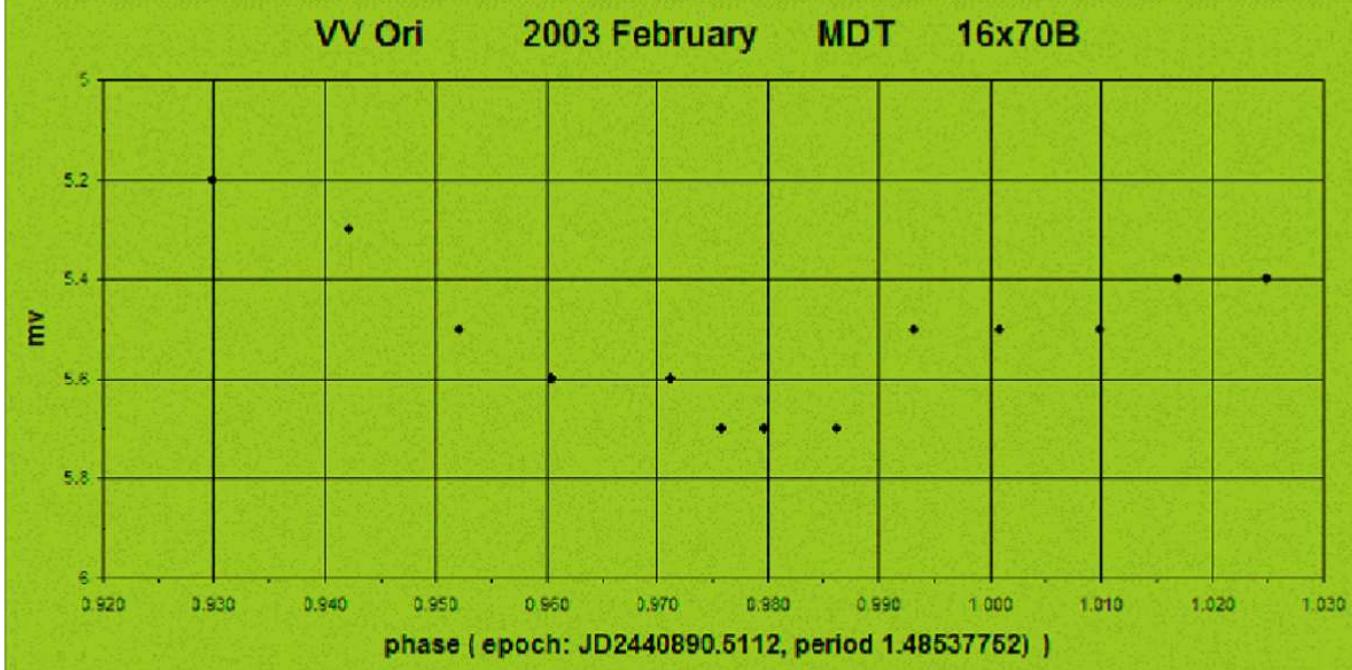
VV Ori RA 05h33.5m D.-01°09' (2000)
5.14-5.51-5.31p EB
2440890.5112, period 1.48537752d



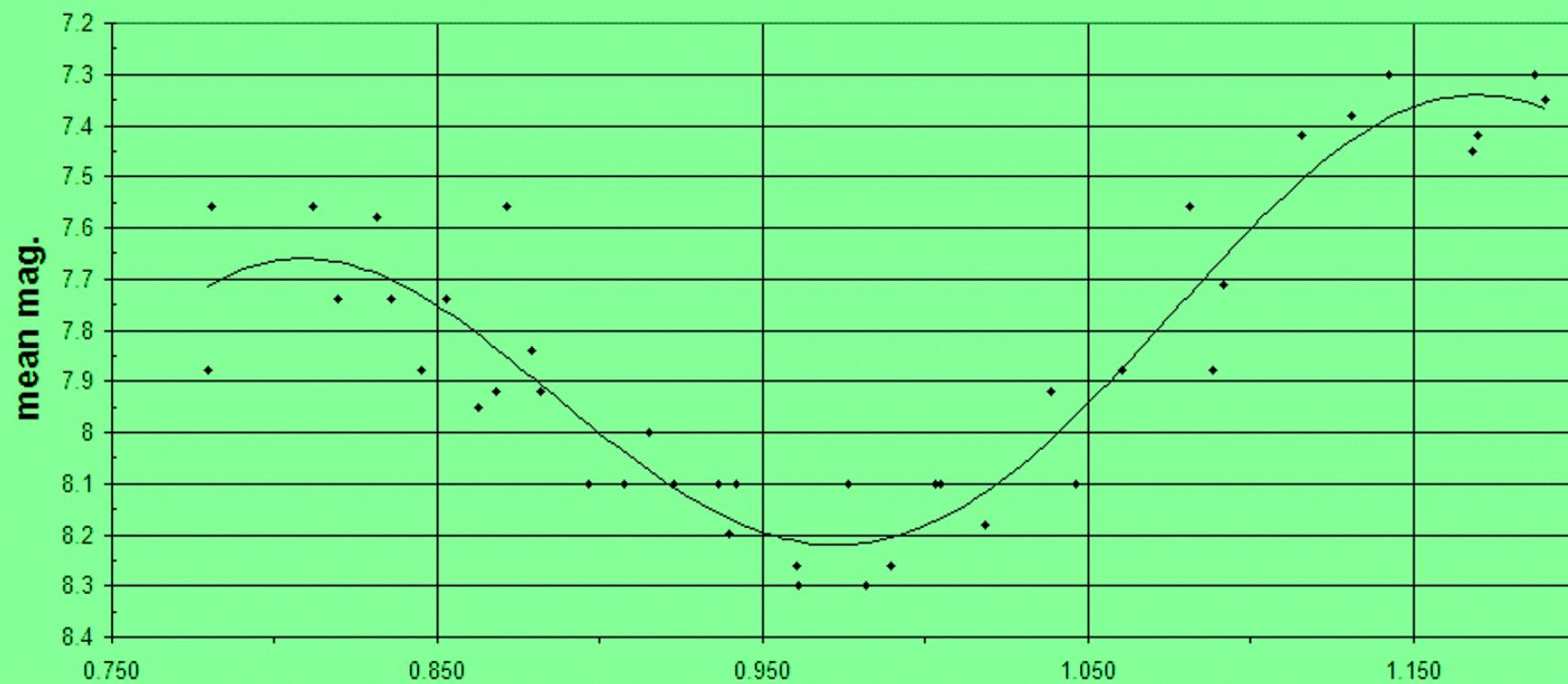
VV Orionis
Instr 2 = B70x16
MDT chart;
C= 5.3; F = 6.18 (Coeli Cat.)
GMAT
2003

Feb 16,0637 / C+1 / 5.2 / 2 / 2 /
0703 / =C / 5.3 / 2 / 2 /
0724 / C-2 / 5.5 / 2 / 2 /
0742 / C-3 / 5.6 / 2 / 2 /
0815 / C-4 / 5.7 / 3 / 2 /

Feb 19,0723 / C(3)V(5)F / 5.6 / 2 / 2 /
0741 / C(3)V(4)F / 5.7 / 2 / 2 /
0755 / C(4)V(5)F / 5.7 / 2 / 2 /
0810 / C-2 / 5.5 / 2 / 2 /
0826 / C-2 / 5.5 / 2 / 2 /
0846 / C-2 / 5.5 / 2 / 2 /
0900 / C-1 / 5.4 / 2 / 2 /
0917 / C-1 / 5.4 / 2 / 2 /

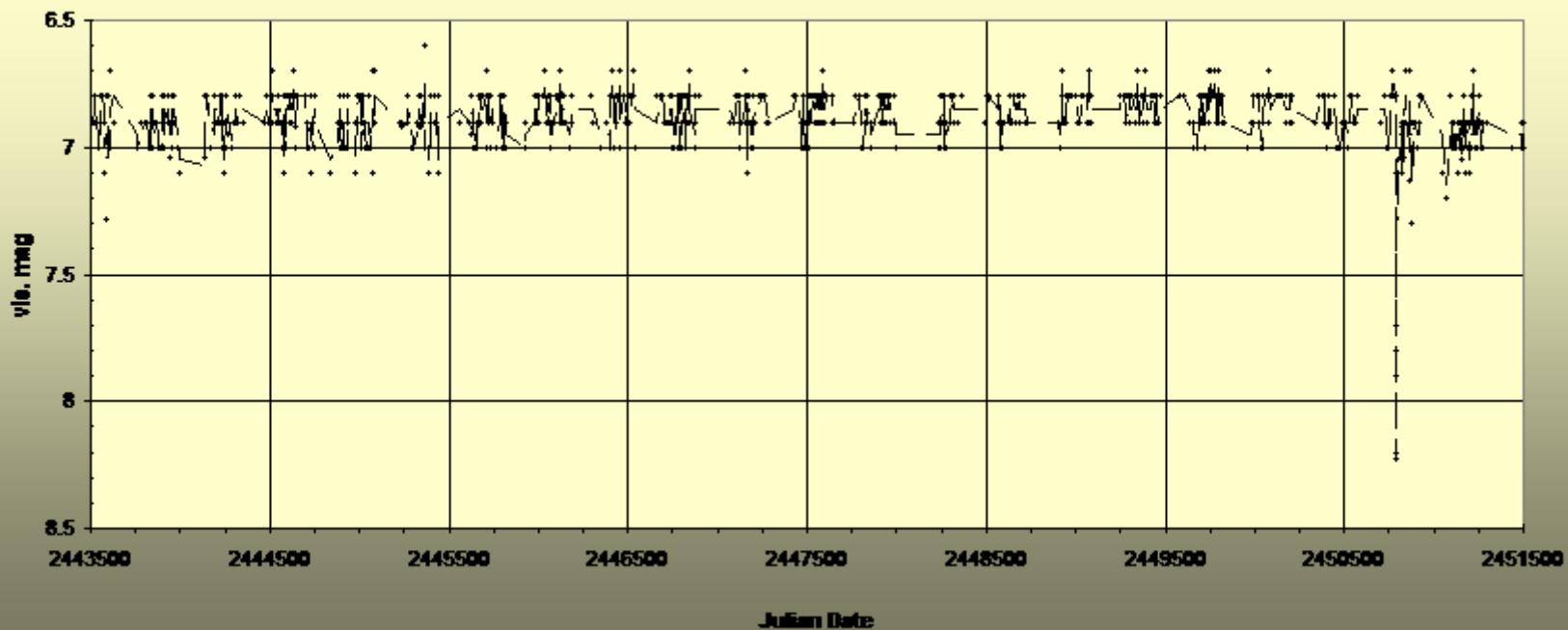


W UMa 2000 Feb-Mar MDT 60mm OG



Phase: [JD2449066.3955, period 0.33363574].
Min. observed at ph. 0.972d O-C= -0.028d

AB Aurigae 1976-1991 (mdt, 8x40B, 16x70B, 1048 ests.)



A photograph of a dark night sky filled with numerous stars of varying brightness. In the lower right foreground, there is a dark silhouette of a pair of binoculars mounted on a tripod, pointing upwards towards the stars.

Thank You for listening,

please dust off those binoculars