

Invited lecture

ON SOME BAMBERG WIDE-FIELD PLATE CATALOGUES RECENTLY INCORPORATED INTO WFPDB

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We present the incorporation of some Bamberg wide-field plate catalogues in the Wide-Field Plate Database (WFPDB), recently prepared in the framework of a project for astronomical photographic plate preservation funded by the German Science Foundation. These catalogues include 8400 plates obtained with two Tessar cameras (with WFPDB identifier BAM003 and BAM009A), a Xenon camera (BAM006), a Vierlinser camera (BAM008), an Ernostar camera (BAM009B), and a Dogmar camera (BAM011) in the period 1931 – 1963. The plate observations aimed at investigations of variable stars in the Northern sky. Some of the cameras were first mounted on an astrograph in Bamberg in preparation for and for testing of the Bamberg large-scale project for variable star research in the Southern sky in the period 1963 – 1976, mostly from Boyden and Mount John observatories.

The WFPDB data format puts requirements on content and data structure in the WFPDB. Therefore the original data of these Bamberg plate catalogues were converted to the needed data format by the WFPDB software tools for time and coordinates conversions.

Currently information on about 30 Bamberg plate archives done in the frameworks of the Bamberg Northern Sky Survey and Bamberg Southern Sky Survey can be found in the WFPDB, containing 34500 wide-field photographic astronomical plates.