

## INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION COMMISSION 26

## (DOUBLE STARS)

## INFORMATION CIRCULAR No. 155 (FEBRUARY 2005)

## NEW ORBITS

ADS $\alpha$ 2000 $\delta$	Name n	P a	T i	e $\omega$	$\Omega$ (2000) Last ob.	2005 2006	Author(s)
434 00318+5431	STT 12 0°6711	536 <sup>y</sup> 47 1"165	2012.09 75°8	0.816 260°5	17°4 2004.928	201°2 0"281 203.0 0.255	LING et al. (*)
873 01040+3528	HO 213 0.7200	500. 0.354	1995.82 33.2	0.156 353.2	111.7 2001.8505	113.7 0.299 114.5 0.299	DOCOBO & LING
1769 02193+5338	A 1274 0.2807	1282.73 0.825	1697.16 66.9	0.732 116.2	9.4 1991.25	283.5 0.450 283.8 0.451	MANTE
3228 04275+1113	BU 1186 2.2417	160.59 0.401	2005.80 118.6	0.740 27.3	5.4 1996.869	0.7 0.105 348.9 0.093	OLEVIC & CVETKOVIC
04422+2257	McA 16 Aa 7.6913	46.81 0.249	2025.11 132.3	0.324 126.8	12.2 1998.775	41.1 0.287 37.5 0.291	OLEVIC & CVETKOVIC
4392 05484+2052	STT 118 AB 0.6507	553.27 0.713	1797.06 90.4	0.062 124.0	136.7 1991.25	312.9 0.078 312.5 0.070	OLEVIC & CVETKOVIC
06425+6612	MLR 318 1.0088	356.86 0.998	2160.55 94.1	0.577 352.6	128.7 1995.19	308.7 1.555 308.7 1.553	OLEVIC & CVETKOVIC
07269+2015	CHR 26 25.5900	14.07 0.067	1984.65 57.9	0.208 135.0	1.3 1995.9215	320.9 0.056 336.7 0.067	MANTE
7456 09371+1614	STF 1372 0.9704	371. 0.645	1993.50 80.4	0.696 113.4	64.9 2003.59	245.4 0.267 246.0 0.275	ALZNER
12446-5717	FIN 65 2.9537	121.88 0.295	2063.64 109.1	0.561 109.7	68.1 1993.0930	107.1 0.222 105.7 0.227	MANTE
8727 12597-0349	CHR 39 Aa 45.2261	7.96 0.077	1995.79 6.1	0.392 149.7	46.2 1996.1840	298.1 0.071 335.1 0.092	MANTE

**NEW ORBITS (continuation)**

<b>ADS</b> $\alpha$ <b>2000</b> $\delta$	<b>Name</b> <b>n</b>	<b>P</b> <b>a</b>	<b>T</b> <b>i</b>	<b>e</b> $\omega$	$\Omega$ (2000) <b>Last ob.</b>	<b>2005</b> <b>2006</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>
15234-5919	HJ 4757 0.7086	508.06 1.009	2048.97 150.0	0.259 91.2	40.5 1996.16	5.1 0.769 4.1 0.765	LING et al. (*)
15416+1941	9744 HU 580 16.3785	21.98 0.209	2007.22 83.8	0.093 260.4	69.8 2000.5185	254.5 0.155 259.0 0.107	DOCOBO & LING
17104-1544	10374 BU 1118 AB 4.1040	87.72 1.384	2024.81 95.3	0.947 274.9	39.0 2002.443	238.5 0.574 237.8 0.579	DOCOBO & LING
19411+1349	KUI 93 5.8328	61.72 0.129	2023.11 65.4	0.966 314.7	153.8 2001.731	314.6 0.183 314.9 0.180	DOCOBO & LING
20320+2548	13964 STF 2695 1.3383	269. 0.773	2016.37 84.1	0.431 174.1	77.4 2004.16	251.3 0.330 251.9 0.344	ALZNER
22550+5132	16368 HU 785 1.3492	266.82 0.285	2125.41 109.8	0.269 108.6	87.7 1991.25	119.0 0.205 118.2 0.208	OLEVIC & CVETKOVIC
23393+4543	16904 CHR 149 Aa 16.1915	22.23 0.040	1999.03 150.0	0.228 205.7	63.8 1999.821	93.4 0.042 81.5 0.045	OLEVIC & CVETKOVIC

(\*) LING, PRIETO and MAGDALENA

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## NOTE

Dear colleagues,

William H. Hartkopf (President of the IAU Comm. 26 and Webmaster of the webpage) and we ourselves have delivery problems with the e-mail addresses for the following Commission members:

- John L. Hershey *hershey@stsci.edu*
- Bambang Hidayat *bhidaya@imb.net* or *bhidayat99@hotmail.com*
- Pavel Kroupa *pavel@astrophysik.uni-kiel.de* or *pavel@ita.uni-heidelberg.de*
- Claude Meyer *meyer@obs-azur.fr*
- Joseph I. Smak *jis@alfa.camk.edu.pl* or *jis@camk.edu.pl*
- Wean-Shun Tsay *tsay@virgo.phy.ncu.edu.tw*

So we ask anyone who knows the current e-mail addresses of these members to please get in touch with us.

Thanks in anticipation.

The Editors.

## A MODEL OF THE ORIENTATION OF THE ORBITAL PLANES OF THE VISUAL DOUBLE STARS.

A research made at the Observatoire Royal de Belgique some thirty-five years ago by J. Dommagnet and O. Nys, has shown some specific space organisation of the orbital planes of the visual double stars on the contrary of what was thought since more than a century. A tri-dimensional model based on 70 stars showed this organisation very clearly especially in the Sun's environment. Twenty years later a second research (1982-1987) concerning 145 stars, confirmed this result which was observed with more precision on a second model that was exhibited, during the IAU Colloquium n° 97 "Wide components in double and multiple stars" held at Brussels in 1987. (See: *Astrophysics and Space Science*, 142, 1988, pp. 171-176). A short presentation of this model has recently been given in the *Bulletin de la Commission des Etoiles doubles de la Société Astronomique de France*, n° 42 of march 2004, pp. 13-14 and an historical synthesis of the various researches made on this subject since 1838 by J. H. MÄDLER will appear in *Ciel et Terre* n° 121, 1, 2005. On these occasions and on that of a few talks on the subject, it was decided to transfer this model from the Observatoire Royal de Belgique to the Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur, France where it will be preserved. In the framework of the project "Muséal", near to the historical refractors of the Nice Observatory, this model will be integrated in the presentation devoted to the double star researches.

J. Dommagnet.

**GEOFFREY G. DOUGLASS (1942 - 2005)**

We have the sad duty to report the passing of longtime Commission 26 member Geoffrey G. Douglass, who died 15 February 2005 after a long illness.

Geoff worked at the U.S. Naval Observatory for over 30 years, until his retirement in January 1999. Much of his work involved observations of visual double stars, from collaborating on the photographic program in the late 1960's to development of the USNO's speckle interferometry program throughout the 1990's. A brief summary of his work can be found at <http://ad.usno.navy.mil/wds/history/douglass.html>.

Geoff collaborated with Charles Worley from 1968 until Charles' death in December 1997, writing much of the double star software and assisting in the production of the observatory's double star catalogs. It was often joked that the "W" and "D" in the WDS (officially the "Washington Double Star" catalog) really stood for "Worley" and "Douglass".

During his last year at the observatory he oversaw the publication of over 10,000 speckle observations, and guided the recently hired Brian Mason (Charles' replacement) in the management of the double star program. He continued to have an interest in the activities at the USNO even during his long hospitalization, and was regularly sought out for his knowledge on instrumentation and earlier observations.

Those of you who knew Geoff also knew he battled illness for many years. He was a symbol of the worthiness of organ donation, living for some two decades following a kidney transplant, before succumbing to complications following kidney failure.

Geoff is survived by his wife Doris, with whom he shared a love of cats and classical music, as well as passionate religious beliefs. He will be sorely missed by his many friends and colleagues.

William Hartkopf and Brian Mason.  
U.S. Naval Observatory.

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The deadline for contributions to Information Circular No. 156 is:

June 15th 2005

**J. A. Docobo** (oadoco@usc.es)

**J. F. Ling** (oafana@usc.es)

Tel. +34 981592747

Fax: +34 981597054

Observatorio Astronómico R. M. Aller

P. O. Box 197

<http://www.usc.es/astro>

Universidade de Santiago de Compostela

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