

of well observed white dwarfs contains no DC star brighter than $13^m.2$ visual. (Note that L 145-141 is number 38 in Greenstein's list.)

In the $(U-B, B-V)$ diagram, L 145-141 is brighter in $(U-B)$ by $0^m.15$ than the two colour relation for a black-body computed by Bonsack *et al.*⁷. The one other DC star in Greenstein's list with good photoelectric colours, W 156, has an excess of $0^m.20$ in $(U-B)$ with respect to the black-body line, whereas most of the DA type stars cluster about this line.

The good trigonometrical parallax gives L 145-141 an absolute visual magnitude $M_v = +13.01$ placing it about $0^m.5$ below the mean colour-magnitude relation determined by Greenstein for white dwarfs with good data⁶.

This star was observed during a programme of observations of southern stars of high proper motion being carried out by the author at the Radcliffe Observatory, Pretoria. The writer is indebted to the D.S.I.R. and to the Radcliffe Trustees for the opportunity to work in Pretoria and to Dr. O. J. Eggen of the Royal Greenwich Observatory for permitting the use of his photometer for the photoelectric observations.

1960 July 6.

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A PRELIMINARY NOTE ON THE LIGHT VARIATIONS IN TAU CYGNI

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Radial velocity variations having a period of $0^d.14$ have been reported for τ Cygni (F5) by Paraskevopoulos¹ and by Henroteau^{2, 3}. On four nights during the last four months the star was observed photoelectrically for light variations. Variations of about $0^m.02$ in yellow light and about $0^m.015$ in the blue were observed. Our observations are not sufficient to establish the period of variation though a certain amount of irregularity is suspected. Observations are being continued.

References

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