

The normal table has been extended from  $g = 4$  cm to  $g = 2\frac{1}{2}$  cm in a graphical way. Next, in order to verify Prof. HERTZSPRUNG's suggestion regarding the relative linearity of the  $(m, g)$  relations derived from different plates, seventeen least squares solutions were made of the form:

$$m = a + bm_{pr},$$

where  $m$  and  $m_{pr}$  correspond to the same reading.

The residuals of these solutions are given in Table 2 on the  $m_{pr}$  scale. The columns give in order: the weight used in the solutions, the reading and further the residuals. It is possible that the small deviations from linearity, which are occasionally shown by the values in the same column, are not real and are due to the uncertainty of the determination of the  $(m, g)$  relations.

### Photographic observations of VV Puppis, by *A. J. Wesselink*.

The plate material used for the present investigation of this interesting short period variable star has been the same as that used by VAN GENT in his discovery paper<sup>1)</sup>. Whereas his results were obtained from estimates with an enlarging eyepiece, a somewhat greater accuracy is obtained here from measures with the Schilt photometer.

Three comparison stars have been used: A, B and C.

Table 1 contains information concerning their designation and magnitudes.

TABLE 1.

designation			brightness	
this paper	B.A.N. No. 214	B.A.N. No. 285	this paper	B.A.N. No. 285
A	—	—	$-\overset{m}{.85}$	$-\overset{m}{.85}$
B	a	2	$-\overset{m}{.03}$	$14.35$
C	b	4	$+\overset{m}{.87}$	$15.20$

The star A precedes the variable by  $1^h 21^m$  in  $\alpha \cos \delta$  and is  $94''$  north of it (compare the chart of the surroundings in B.A.N. No. 214).

The galvanometer readings were converted into provisional magnitudes  $m_{pr}$ , by the aid of a normal table as described in the foregoing article. The fourth column of Table 1 shows the mean provisional magnitudes of the comparison stars, their mean value being chosen as zero point. Their scale is in provisional magnitudes of the normal table and corresponds to the mean gradation of the plates. The fifth column of Table 1 shows the magnitudes on the international scale according to MAYALL<sup>2)</sup>. The two scales are almost equal and the system of column 4 has been adopted.

Then for each plate the magnitude of the variable was computed with the formula:

$$m(\text{VV Pup}) = f \times \{m_{pr}(\text{VV Pup}) - \frac{1}{3} \Sigma m_{pr}\}.$$

The factor  $f$  was computed from the formula:

$f = \frac{\Sigma n^2}{\Sigma m n}$  based on least squares. Herein  $n$  stands for the value given in the fourth column of Table 1;  $m = m_{pr} - \frac{1}{3} \Sigma m_{pr}$ ;  $\Sigma m = 0$ .

The sums refer to the comparison stars.

Phases were computed by means of the formula:

$$\text{Phase} = 14^d \cdot 33758 (\text{J.D. hel. G.M.A.T.} - 2420000).$$

The reciprocal period used corresponds to the value of the period given by OOSTERHOFF<sup>3)</sup>.

The columns of Table 2 show for the individual observations: the J.D., the brightness of the variable in the system of the fourth column of Table 1, and the phase.

On the assumption that the uncertainties in the measures of the comparison stars are equal, the mean error due to a single comparison star has been calculated from the residuals in the least squares solutions made in determining the gradation factor  $f$ . So the square of the mean error due to a single comparison star as derived from 240 plates was found to be  $m^2 \cdot 00690 = (\pm m \cdot 083)^2$ .

If the measures of the variable are assumed to be of the same accuracy as those of any of the comparison stars, we find for the square of the mean error of one determination of magnitude of the variable:

$$\frac{4}{3} \times m^2 \cdot 00690 = m^2 \cdot 00920 = (\pm m \cdot 096)^2.$$

Half the mean square value of the magnitude differences of observations following each other in phase is found to be  $m^2 \cdot 0743$ . The difference  $m^2 \cdot 0743 - m^2 \cdot 0092 = m^2 \cdot 0651 = (\pm m \cdot 255)^2$  may be taken as a measure of the irregularities in the light changes during the time covered by the observations.

The irregularity of the light variation was first mentioned by H. L. ALDEN<sup>4)</sup>. From observations made at Mt. Wilson P. TH. OOSTERHOFF (loc. cit.) found that the light changes are irregular. According to him the epochs of the maxima follow a linear ephemeris surprisingly well. He further finds a secular change of the mean brightness.

<sup>1)</sup> B.A.N. No. 214, 93, 1931.

<sup>2)</sup> P.A.S.P. 43, 305.

<sup>3)</sup> B.A.N. No. 285, 45, 1936.

<sup>4)</sup> *Astronomical Journal* 41, 89, 1931; 42, 121, 1933.

TABLE 2.

J.D. hel. G.M.A.T. —2420000	bright- ness	phase	J.D. hel. G.M.A.T. —2420000	bright- ness	phase	J.D. hel. G.M.A.T. —2420000	bright- ness	phase	J.D. hel. G.M.A.T. —2420000	bright- ness	phase
d 5507'6121	m — '09	'829	d 5653'2781	m + '10	'327	d 5971'3911	m + '39	'298	d 6042'3860	m + '08	'193
24'5945	— '10	'316	3430	— '02	'258	4'129	+ '55	'610	4079	— '42	'507
61'5086	— '04	'574	3647	+ '26	'569	4805	+ '12	'579	63'2829	+ '60	'804
5307	+ '18	'891	3863	+ '31	'878	72'3171	+ '18	'574	3047	+ '34	'116
62'5257	+ '10	'157	4086	+ '51	'198	3392	+ '61	'891	64'3514	+ '21	'123
64'5044	— '44	'527	4303	+ '12	'509	4064	+ '70	'855	3732	— '25	'436
5262	+ '10	'840	4512	+ '21	'809	73'4404	+ '54	'670	65'3175	+ '53	'975
68'4948	— '09	'740	54'3205	+ '34	'273	4623	+ '57	'994	67'3205	+ '62	'693
5170	+ '01	'058	3422	+ '27	'584	5724	+ '38	'572	83'2432	+ '99	'986
70'4507	+ '26	'783	55'3749	+ '16	'390	74'3484	+ '62	'698	84'2259	+ '71	'076
4736	+ '16	'111	4556	+ '96	'547	3702	+ '68	'011	85'2141	+ '40	'244
5613'3667	+ '45	'094	4991	+ '03	'171	4370	+ '78	'968	2359	+ '17	'557
3896	— '33	'422	5207	+ '01	'480	4592	+ '11	'287	86'2133	+ '05	'570
14'5067	— '20	'439	73'2943	+ '18	'311	96'2833	+ '23	'192	2355	+ '69	'888
5289	+ '32	'757	78'2565	+ '30	'457	3051	— '02	'504	87'2268	+ '40	'101
15'3544	+ '27	'593	2787	+ '35	'775	97'2695	— '13	'331	2486	— '39	'414
3761	+ '34	'904	83'2669	+ '20	'294	2937	+ '68	'678	89'2665	+ '12	'346
41'4403	+ '48	'602	84'2384	+ '25	'223	4021	+ '15	'232	2887	+ '74	'664
4624	+ '37	'918	2603	+ '52	'534	4239	+ '12	'545	91'2561	+ '60	'872
43'4687	+ '48	'684	85'3260	+ '83	'816	98'3693	+ '66	'100	2779	+ '18	'184
4909	+ '38	'002	3482	+ '58	'135	3911	— '11	'412	92'2779	+ '07	'522
44'2769	— '19	'272	87'3028	+ '06	'159	6000'3818	+ '88	'954	93'2609	+ '11	'616
2991	+ '04	'590	3253	+ '45	'481	4036	+ '24	'267	2827	+ '58	'928
3213	+ '39	'908	5704'2824	+ '56	'605	02'4764	+ '71	'986	94'2494	+ '71	'788
4071	+ '05	'138	3260	+ '19	'230	05'3703	— '20	'477	2712	+ '76	'101
4290	— '25	'452	05'2935	+ '67	'102	07'2692	+ '79	'703	97'2504	+ '50	'815
4975	— '36	'434	3151	+ '44	'415	2910	+ '81	'015	2722	+ '81	'128
45'2583	+ '68	'342	06'2837	+ '58	'299	09'4674	+ '26	'220	99'2593	+ '30	'618
46'2639	+ '37	'760	3277	+ '51	'930	4892	— '27	'532	6101'2786	— '08	'570
2857	+ '36	'073	07'2788	+ '15	'566	10'4016	+ '18	'614	02'2436	— '02	'406
3871	+ '04	'527	09'2324	+ '18	'576	4726	+ '48	'632	2774	+ '39	'890
4089	+ '41	'839	13'2371	+ '68	'994	12'4148	— '16	'478	15'1944	+ '56	'089
4848	+ '40	'928	2589	+ '29	'307	4366	+ '56	'791	2162	— '28	'401
5069	+ '20	'244	14'2121	+ '90	'973	13'3570	+ '86	'987	17'1937	+ '83	'754
5824	— '32	'327	2340	+ '33	'287	5132	+ '13	'227	2165	+ '40	'081
49'2601	+ '40	'719	15'2990	+ '25	'557	14'2646	+ '73	'000	6241'5823	— '24	'186
2826	+ '41	'041	17'2529	+ '49	'571	3605	+ '06	'375	6045	— '09	'504
3046	+ '26	'357	2747	+ '80	'883	3823	+ '90	'687	48'5467	+ '75	'038
3453	+ '62	'940	19'2482	+ '48	'179	4266	+ '13	'323	5692	+ '24	'361
3671	+ '08	'253	2701	+ '21	'493	4485	+ '78	'637	49'5461	— '34	'367
50'3228	+ '70	'955	34'2780	+ '23	'670	4703	+ '17	'949	5679	+ '71	'680
3450	+ '05	'273	2998	+ '46	'982	4921	+ '32	'262	64'4881	+ '38	'599
4139	+ '25	'261	41'2327	+ '85	'383	5143	+ '21	'580	5099	+ '09	'912
4357	— '01	'574	58'1859	+ '66	'451	5364	+ '77	'897	65'5277	— '41	'505
5036	+ '18	'547	2077	+ '90	'764	15'4364	+ '76	'801	5495	+ '80	'817
51'2578	— '36	'361	5893'5076	+ '60	'637	4582	+ '36	'113	66'5295	+ '83	'868
4517	+ '17	'141	5915'4616	— '12	'404	28'3092	— '19	'365	5514	+ '11	'182
52'2626	+ '64	'767	4838	+ '62	'722	3310	+ '64	'678	5543	+ '40	'899
3059	— '15	'388	22'4748	+ '78	'956	29'3881	+ '96	'834	5763	+ '29	'214
3276	+ '58	'699	4968	+ '45	'272	4491	+ '60	'709	69'4862	+ '16	'260
3492	+ '46	'009	23'4386	+ '05	'775	30'3005	+ '73	'916	5532	— '06	'221
3709	+ '18	'320	4604	+ '67	'087	3223	+ '12	'228	5751	— '39	'535
3925	+ '35	'630	43'4439	+ '60	'602	36'2545	— '05	'282	70'5130	+ '73	'982
4147	+ '30	'950	4660	+ '10	'919	2761	+ '04	'591	5348	+ '04	'294
4366	— '36	'262	50'3920	+ '63	'212	38'3965	+ '76	'993	73'5217	+ '29	'119
4583	+ '28	'573	4138	+ '37	'534	4183	— '02	'305	5435	— '37	'432
4801	+ '56	'886	68'3313	— '32	'427	39'2915	+ '51	'825	76'4583	+ '96	'223
5017	+ '32	'195	3535	+ '76	'746	3133	+ '31	'138	4805	— '32	'541
5234	+ '05	'506	69'3556	+ '52	'113	40'4505	— '39	'442	77'4858	+ '56	'955
53'2564	+ '70	'016	3778	+ '13	'432	4723	+ '64	'755	5074	— '15	'265

The magnitudes given in this paper are values integrated over .3 of the period, which is a considerable fraction. They are therefore of little value for the study of the forms of the individual light cycles. Some valuable information may however be

obtained with regard to the secular change in the mean brightness as mentioned by OOSTERHOFF (loc. cit.). Therefore the observations were arranged according to phase and a mean lightcurve was constructed. In Figure 1 the differences in magnitude