

The Dominion Astrophysical Observatory Spectroscopic Plate and Science Archives

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Digitizing DAO Heritage Photographic Spectra

The DAO's photographic Archive - one of the largest in North America - contains almost exclusively Cassegrain or coudé spectra. As the principal focus of the DAO in the past was binary systems, the 16,800 plates from the 1.2-m telescope (dating back to 1962) and the 93,000 or so from the 1.8-m telescope (commencing in 1918) include substantially long runs of a large number of RV variables and other objects that manifest variability. The very great majority of the plates have never been digitized so as to yield an electronic transform of their spectroscopic information, and many will only have been measured for velocity, or studied in a semi-qualitative way. We have commenced a programme to digitize them with the DAO's in-house PDS. The PDS has been upgraded so as to mesh well with the software routines that now pipeline the data. Scanning is being prioritized according to (a) demand, (b) data quality (e.g. all of the 1.2-m long-camera plates, regardless) and (c) the likelihood that an observation has the potential to return new science. The output spectra are fully calibrated in wavelength and in direct intensity, and can be downloaded in FITS format through a web site hosted by the CADC.

<http://www.cadc.hia.nrc.gc.ca/dao/pa.html>

Search by target name or coordinates and constrain your queries by telescope, date, dispersion, etc.

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DAO Spectroscopic Plate Archive Query
Enter your desired qualifiers in the fields below and click the Search button.

Retrieval Options:
Order by: UT Date (increasing) Return: 200 rows

Observation Constraints:
☒ Target Name: (e.g. SMC4010) Search Box (00 30 00)
☒ RA (J2000): (e.g. for a range, -20 45 00, -24 45 00)
☒ DEC (J2000): (e.g. dao_p122_012345)
☒ File ID: (e.g. 10 Jun 1985, 10 Jun 1987)
☒ UT Date/Time: (e.g. < 1 Jan 2011)
☒ Release Date: (e.g. < 1 Jan 2011)

Instrument Constraints:
☒ Telescope: Any
☒ Dispersion (Å/mm): Any
☒ Central Wavelength (Å): (provide a range such as 4500, 5000 or > 6000)

Search Display All Reset

