

REDUCTION OF SCHMIDT PHOTOGRAPHS WITH THE AID OF REFERENCE MARKS ON THE CURVED PLATE

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Abstract. A method is proposed for improving the astrometric accuracy obtainable from curved-field Schmidt plates. A réseau of small crosses in a 10 mm-spaced rectangular grid is imposed on the plate while still curved in its holder. The réseau is calibrated by photography of a field of reference stars with known positions. The method eliminates the troublesome errors arising from uncertainty in the nature of deformation of the curved plates.

DISCUSSION

Dieckvoss: The whole field of the Bergedorf Schmidt cannot be used. I recommend a device such as Prof. Lacroute's for studying the irregular bending effects.

Lacroute: I, too, would like to try to improve it by using marks.