

Optical Monitoring of 3C 390.3 in 1995¹

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Abstract. We present light curves obtained during a seven-month monitoring campaign on 3C 390.3. The source steadily increased by about 0.5 mag from 1995 July to October.

In 1995, we monitored 3C 390.3 from March 6 to October 24 with the 1.56-m telescope and the Series 200 CCD camera system. The size of CCD is 1024×1024 pixel² and the pixel scale is $0''.25$ per pixel. Observations were obtained in *V*, *R*, and *I* filters.

The data were processed with the IRAF software package. The comparison star used is star 'A' from Penston, Penston, & Sandage (1971). Figure 1 shows the light curves we measured in *V*, *R*, and *I*. The relative magnitudes given for *R* and *I* are the differences between 3C 390.3 and comparison star 'A'. The light curves show that 3C 390.3 was very faint in the spring of 1995. The gap in the light curve is due to the rainy season in June, when no observational data were obtained. The brightness of 3C 390.3 increased steadily by about 0.5 mag from July to October.

References

Penston, M. J., Penston, M. V., & Sandage, A. R. 1971, *PASP*, 83, 783.

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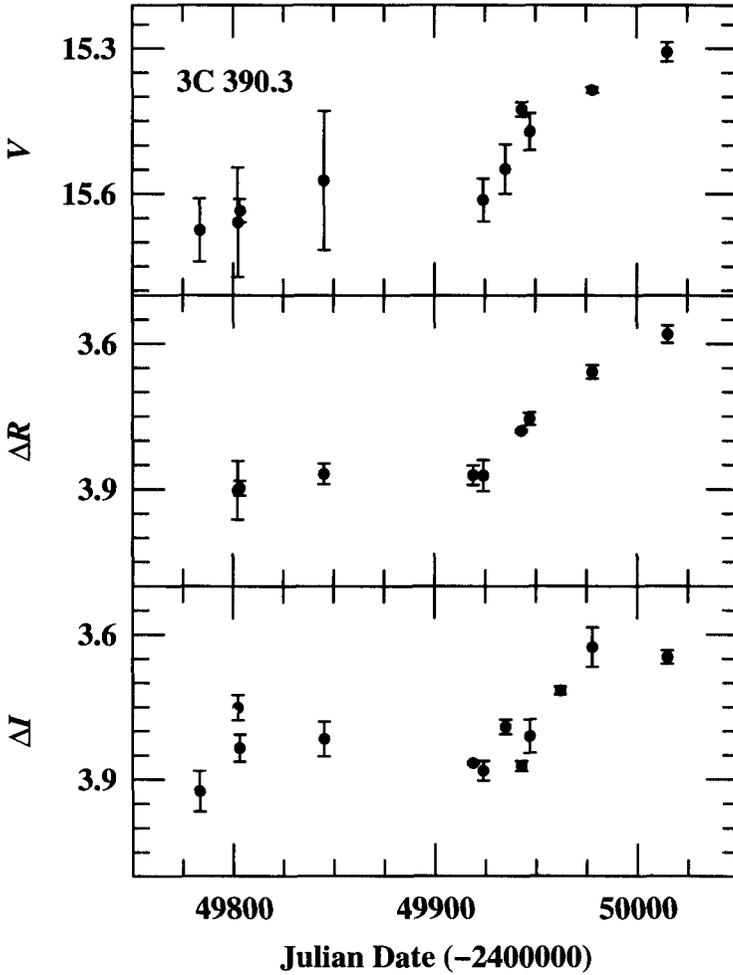


Figure 1. Light curves of 3C 390.3 in V , R , and I . The R and I magnitudes are given relative to comparison star 'A' from Penston, Penston, & Sandage (1971), and the V magnitudes are calibrated assuming $V = 11.71$ mag for star 'A'.