Independent Discovery of an Apparent Nova in M81

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on 20 Feb 2017; 13:31 UT

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Subjects: Optical, Nova, Transient

The M81 nova monitoring collaboration reports the independent discovery of an apparent nova in M81 on a co-added 5400-s unfiltered CCD frame taken on 2017 Feb. 19.962 UT with the 0.65-m telescope at Ondrejov (OND). The candidate was already faintly visible on a stack of 20x200s R filter CCD images obtained with the 0.80-m telescope Joan Oro (TJO) on Feb. 18.021 UT.

The object designated PNV J09553619+6906210 was first announced and designated AT2017axz by F. Castellani et al. (see here) and is located at R.A. = 9h55m36s.19, Decl. = +69°06'21".0 (equinox 2000.0), which is 16.2" east and 145.9" north of the center of M81 (see link to discovery image below).

Here we list the observing dates and corresponding photometry:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date [UT]</th>
<th>Mag</th>
<th>Err</th>
<th>Filter</th>
<th>Telescope</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017-02-15.155</td>
<td>&lt;21.8</td>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>OND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-02-18.021</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>TJO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-02-19.962</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>OND</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The OND 0.65-m is a reflecting telescope at the Ondrejov observatory operated jointly by the Astronomical Institute of ASCR and the Astronomical Institute of the Charles University of Prague, Czech Republic. It uses a Moravian Instruments G2-3200 CCD camera (with a Kodak KAF-3200ME sensor and standard BVRI photometric filters) mounted at the prime focus. The TJO is a 80-cm Ritchey-Chretien F/9.6 telescope at the Observatori Astronomic del Montsec, owned by the Catalan Government and operated by the Institut d'Estudis Espacials de Catalunya, Spain. It uses a Finger Lakes PL4240-1-BI CCD Camera with a Class 1 Basic Broadband coated 2k x 2k chip with 13.5 microns square pixels. The unfiltered OND data was calibrated using photometric standards from the M81 globular cluster catalogue of Perelmuter & Racine, 1995. The TJO photometry is based on the SDSS DR7 photometry catalogue.

Discovery image

[ Telegram Index ]

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