



Contribution ID: 87

Type: **Oral**

Optical polarimetry of cataclysmic variables

Monday, 29 August 2022 15:50 (30 minutes)

This talk presents a revision of the literature relative to optical polarimetric measurements of cataclysmic variables (CVs). It is briefly introduced this kind of objects and the historical relevance of the detection of circular polarization in magnetic CVs. It is then discussed how polarization can be used to estimate important properties of those objects as the white-dwarf magnetic field, mass accretion rate, and white-dwarf mass. Some available instruments for this research are enumerated.

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Session Classification: Polarization and stars