

# MW-GAIA: BRINGING THE MILKY WAY TO SCHOOLS 2021

JUNE  
2-4  
2021

## TOPICS COVERED

- The Milky Way as a Galaxy: the science and research background
- Dissemination of the GAIA science
- Bringing the research closer to the public
- Teaching the Milky Way in schools
- How to make teaching and science communication more inclusive

Deadline for abstract submission: 14 May 2021

Deadline for registrations: 1 June 2021



COST is supported by the  
EU Framework Programme  
Horizon 2020

COST ACTION CA-18104 HOSTED BY  
INSTITUTO DE ASTROFÍSICA E CIÊNCIAS DO ESPAÇO (PORTO, PT)  
VILNIUS UNIVERSITY (VILNIUS, LT)

## Poster 13

### ORGANIZERS



Vilnius  
University

## Agop Uzunbohosyan<sup>1</sup>, Ivanka Stateva<sup>2</sup>

1 Astronomical observatory – Kardzhali, Bulgaria

2 Institute of Astronomy and NAO, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria

### Summer school of astronomy - Beli brezi: 50 years of experience

We want to present our Summer school of astronomy for students of astronomy and young amateur astronomers. It has started during the summer of 1970 in the site called Belite Brezi (White Birches), about 300km south-east from the capital Sofia, as a practise of the students from Sofia University. Year after year not only students from University but also young amateur astronomers from all over Bulgaria and abroad have come to the school. At the present days the school is equipped with a few 15 inches and 10 inches telescopes, CCD cameras and DLSR cameras, Lhires spectrograph. By using this equipment the participants can observe variable stars, globular clusters, nebulae, meteors etc. They make photometrical and spectroscopical observations, process the data, analyze them and at the end of the school present their results. During the day the participants listen lectures from professional astronomers, participate practical classes. For the several years the summer school has been organised by Astronomical club Vega under the financial support of America for Bulgaria Foundation.



# Summer school of Astronomy and Astrophysics – Beli brezi 50 years of experience

Astronomical club - Vega

Agop Uzunbohosyan – Astronomical observatory – Kardzhali, Bulgaria  
Ivanka Stateva – Institute of Astronomy and NAO, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria

The school was launched in July 1970 at the Beli Brezi mountain resort in the south eastern region of Bulgaria, Rodopa mountain as an opportunity to observe the Perseid meteor showers. Participants were post-graduates and their advisors from Sofia University's Department of Astronomy and students from high schools from Sofia and Kardzhali.



Rodopa mountain



The hut - our headquarter



Observational spot in the 1970's ...



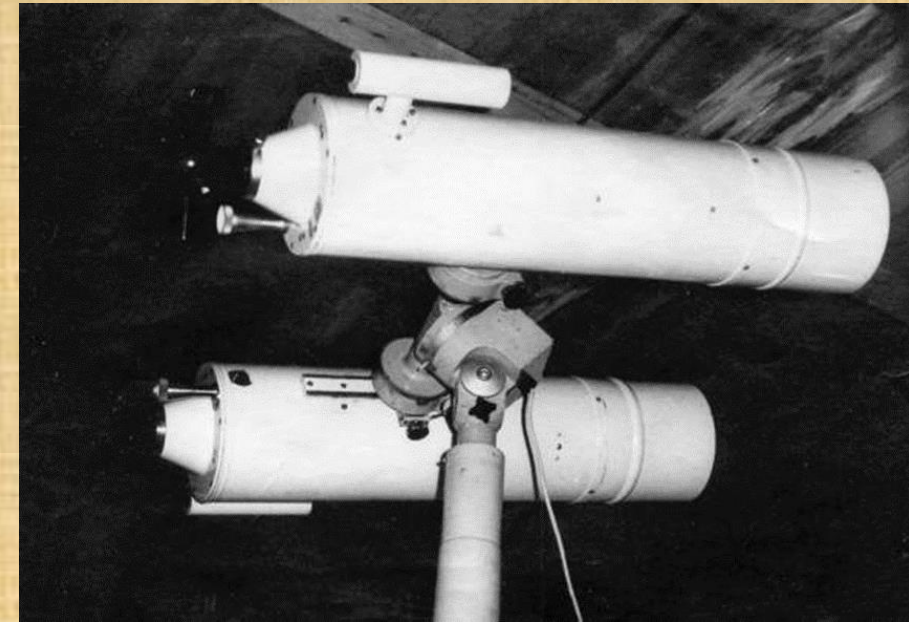
... and now

During the day we listen lectures from professional astronomers, make practical classes, playing sports, go hiking in the mountains.

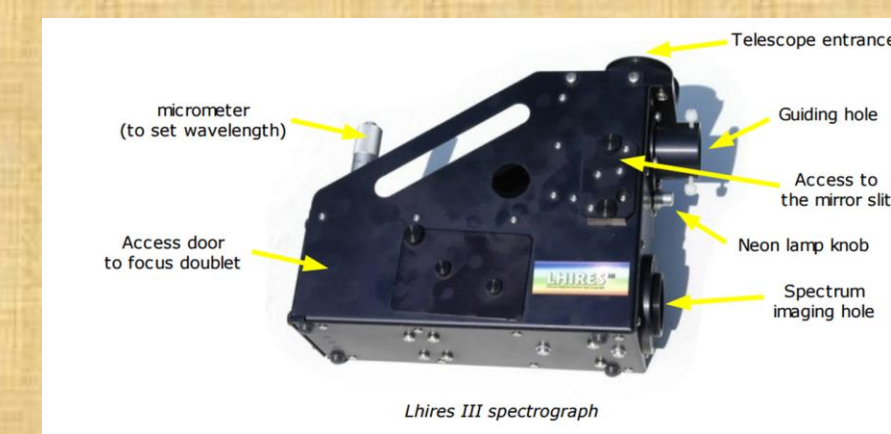
During the nights we observe meteors, variable stars, galaxies, nebulae...

And the whole time we enjoy the stay there!

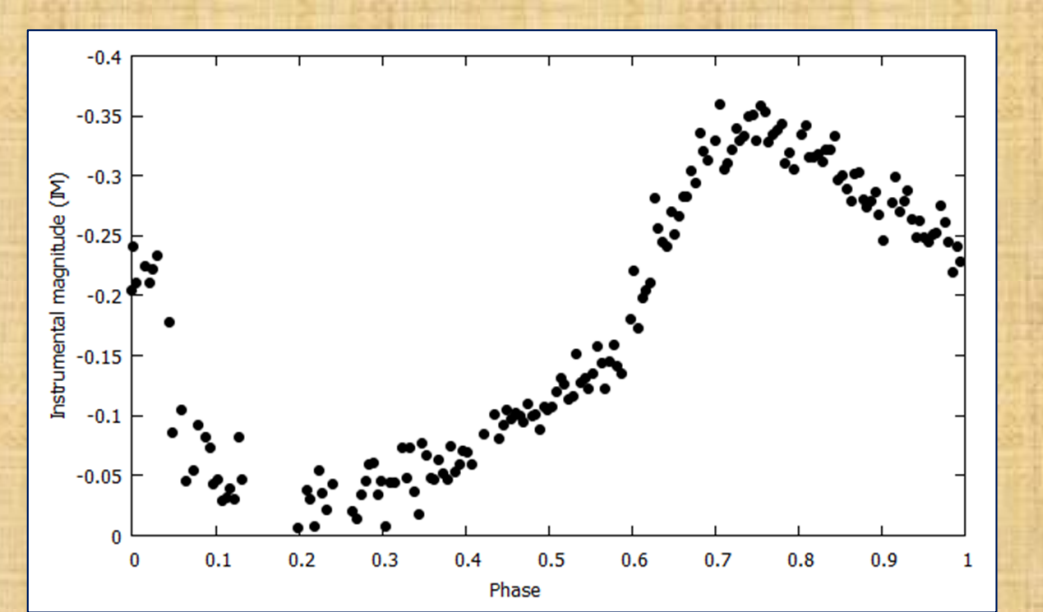
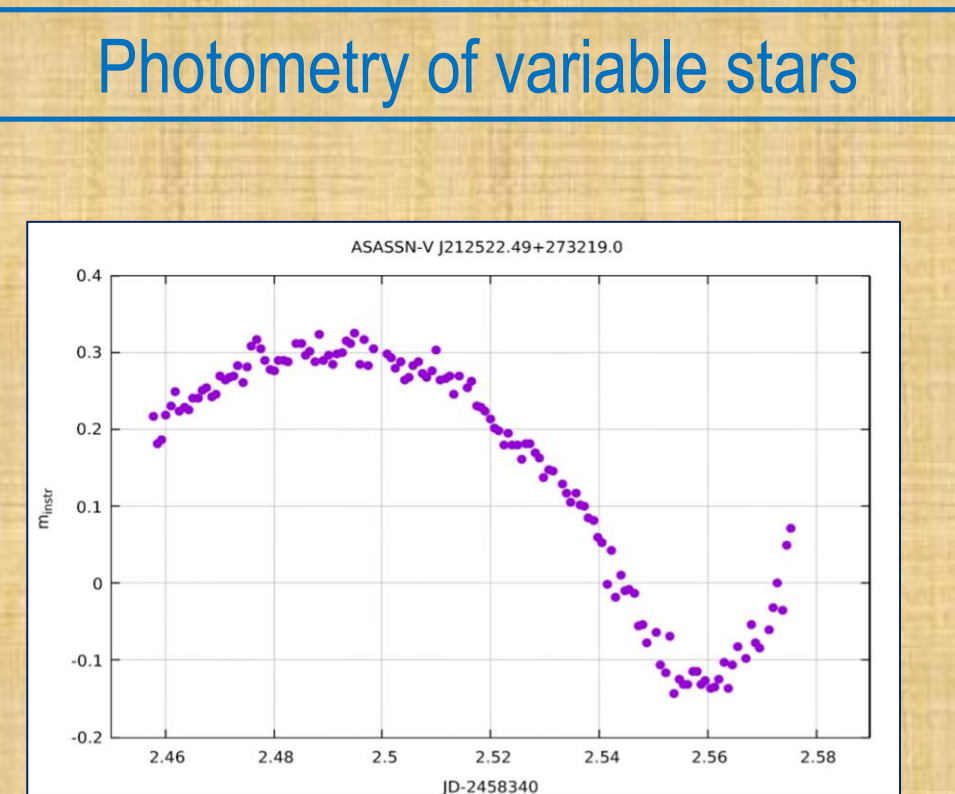
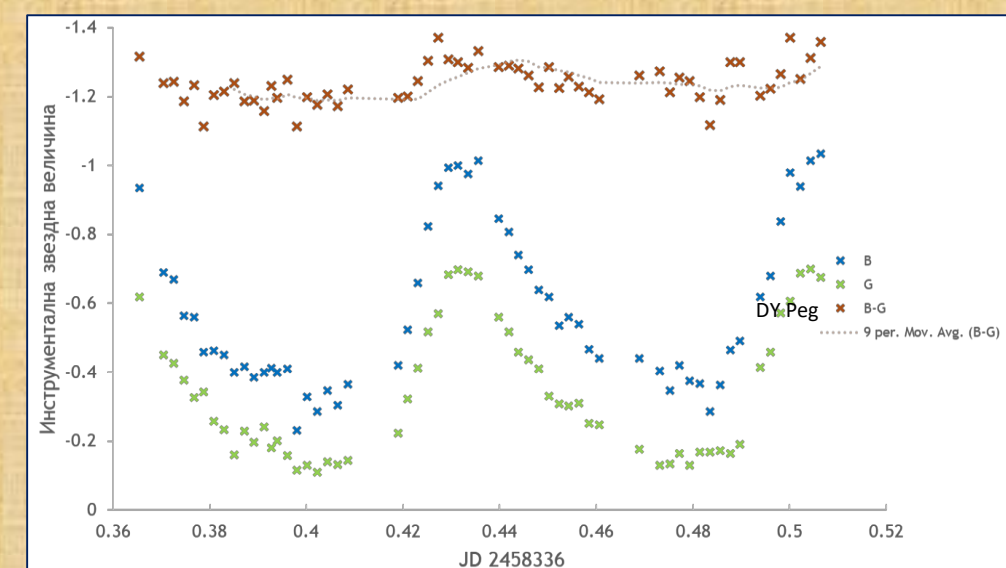
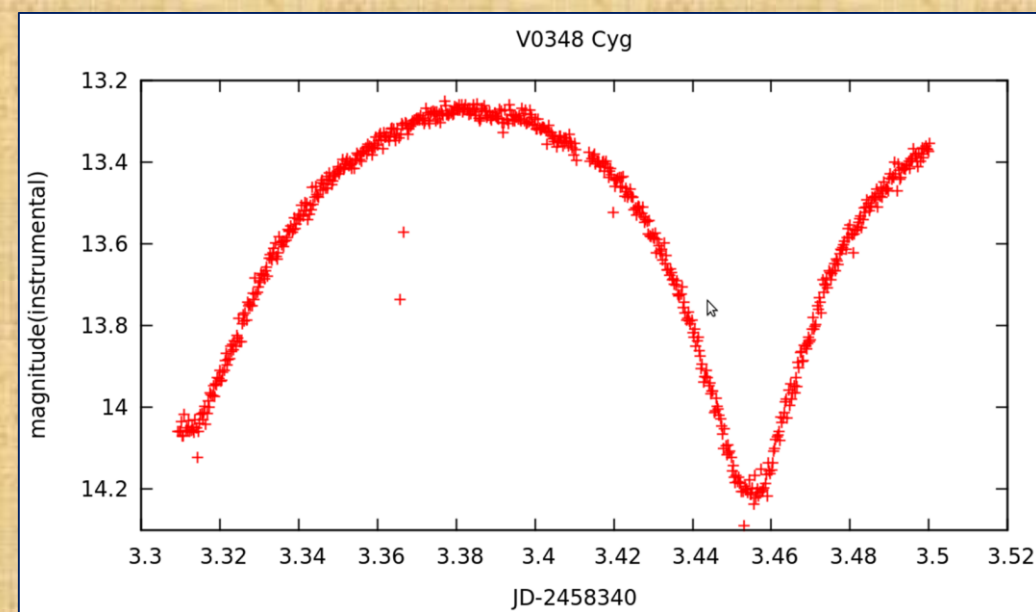
Now the participants are students from University and high schools from all over Bulgaria and abroad – USA, France, UK, Turkey...



Observational instruments at the beginning...



... and now



Photometry of variable stars

Astrophotography



Spectroscopy

