

A LARGE TIMING DISCONTINUITY IN THE VELA PULSAR, JULY 1985

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A pulsar-monitoring programme has been running at Hartebeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory over the last three years, at 2.32 and (during the last year) at 1.67 GHz. Twenty pulsars are observed once or twice a fortnight, and PSRs 1641-45 and 0833-45 (the Vela pulsar) daily.

One result from this program is observations of a large timing discontinuity in PSR 0833-45, in July 1985. Preliminary analysis yields the following parameters for this event:

$$\Delta P / P = -1.593 \pm .001 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\Delta \dot{P} / \dot{P} = 5.0 \pm .1 \times 10^{-3}$$