

MAINTENANCE OF ICRF: COMPLEX OPTICAL OBJECTS

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Abstract. Heretofore, double and multiple stars have presented a tolerable but manageable problem in most astrometric programs. However, the drive to ever greater precision, with detections in the milli-to-micro arcsecond range of these complex objects, over a wide range of wavelengths, presents new and as yet unsolved problems in both the astrometry and photometry of such systems.

This discussion is aimed at a better delineation of the implications of the problem.