

POSITIONS OF MINOR PLANETS AND COMETS OBTAINED AT THE CHORZOW OBSERVATORY IN 1977-2004

Ireneusz Włodarczyk, Jacek Szczepanik, Stefan Janta, Jerzy Kuczynski, Marek Szczepanski, Tadeusz
Firszt

Chorzow Astronomical Observatory of the Chorzow Planetarium

The biggest and the oldest planetarium in Poland was founded in 1955 to commemorate a great Polish astronomer – Nicolaus Copernicus.



Fig1.jpg



Fig2.jpg



Fig3.jpg

Time is measured by the big sun-dial which is situated in the planetarium yard.

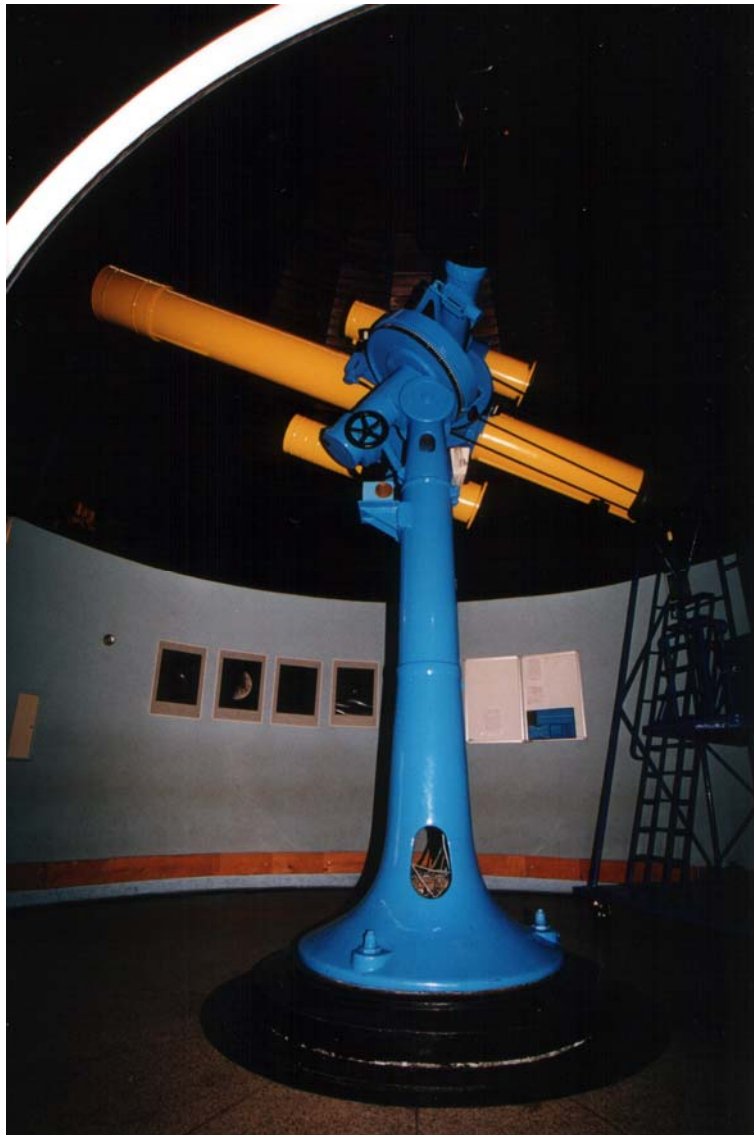


Fig4.jpg

The regular astrometric observations of minor planets and comets in Astronomical Observatory of the Chorzow Planetarium (MPC code 553) have been carried out since 1977. The photographic observations were obtained with Zeiss-camera 0.2m f/5 attached to the refractor 0.3m f/15 [Fig4]. Till 1997 year 927 observations were made on ORWO ZU-21 plates 16 x 16 cm, measured using Zeiss Ascorecord machine. On every plate 8 to 15 reference stars were chosen. The coordinates and proper motions of these stars were taken from the SAO Catalogue for the epoch 1950.0. For the reduction the Turner method with complete second order polynomial was performed. From 1998 observations were made using CCD SBIG ST-8 camera.

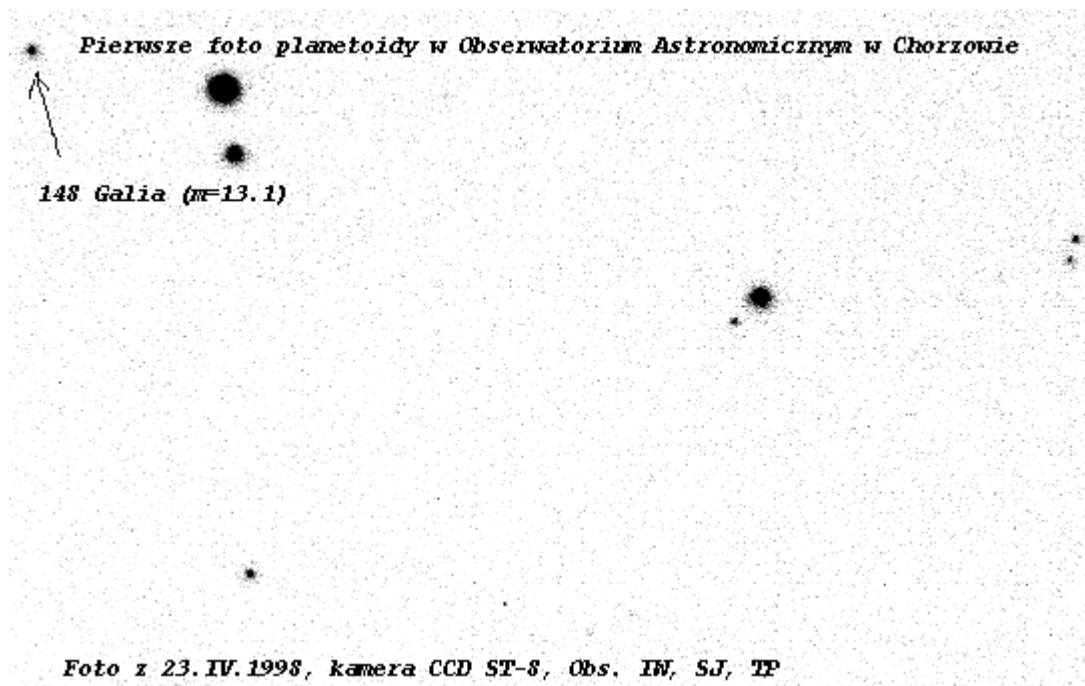


Fig5.gif

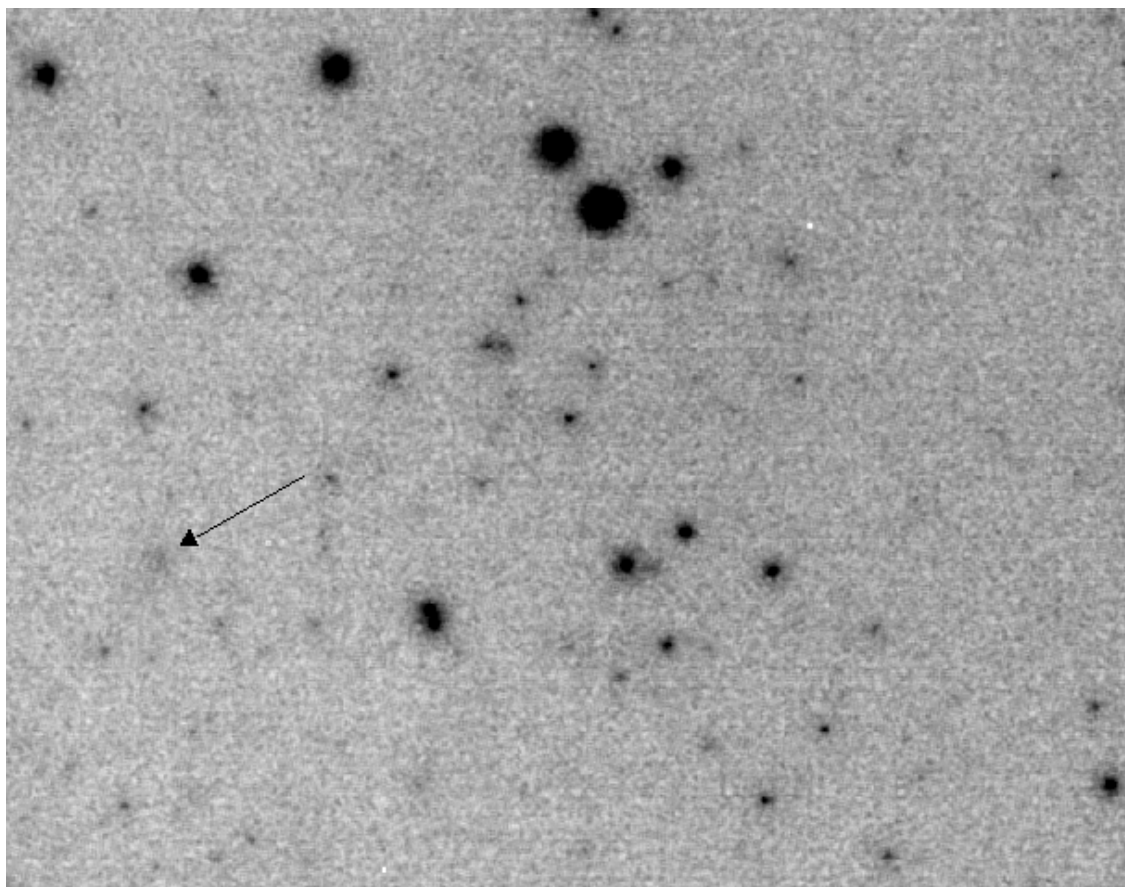


Fig6.gif

In 1998 we have published first astrometric observation of minor planet 148 Gallia [Fig5] and first astrometric observation of comet C/1998 M5 (LINEAR) [Fig6] in Poland using CCD camera (MPC 31 870, MPC 32 565). We use wonderful program Astrometrica from Herbert Raab.



Fig7.jpg

Now we are going to make our new 0.5-m reflector.