

Annual report to the ASSA AGM - August 2023

Dave Blane – (Caretaker) Photometry and Spectroscopy Section

As far as can be ascertained Percy Jacobs is the only amateur involved in spectroscopy in South Africa at present and his report is included below.

Section Report – Amateur Spectroscopy – 2022 / 2023

By Percy Jacobs – ASSA Pretoria Centre

With reference to this section, unfortunately, not much growth. As far as I'm aware, I am the only active Amateur Spectroscopist, within South Africa, actively taking and submitting spectra to the AAVSO database or any of the other active database that is available for spectra submission from Amateurs.

To date, I have submitted 535 published observations, with 1930 downloads in total, with an average of 3.6 downloads per observation. The AAVSO Spectroscopy Section has grown to 11 337 observations by 75 observers. This is data from when the AAVSO Spectroscopy Section was created in Nov 2018.

I was invited to give a presentation to the ASSA Johannesburg Centre, in April 2023 on Spectroscopy, Equipment and current active projects.

I have had the following short Publications published in MNRAS

Vol 81 – Dec 2022 - Spectroscopy – Double Star Albireo – page 241

Vol 81 – Dec 2022 - Reflectance Spectroscopy of Planetary Atmospheres - page 243

There were two queries regarding the interest in getting started in spectroscopy. Details on how to get started, equipment options, what amateur web links to follow, and what books to purchase, were provided.