



## About the AAVSO

The American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO) is an international nonprofit organization of citizen and professional astronomers interested in stars that change in brightness—variable stars.

From its earliest days in 1911, AAVSO members have included some of the most prolific astronomers of the 20th & 21st centuries.

### AAVSO Databases

**AAVSO International Database (AID):** The largest and most comprehensive digital variable star database in the world, with over 43 million variable star observations—a free resource for the entire scientific community

**Variable Star Index (VSX):** a collection of up-to-the-minute data on over 200,000,000 specific variable stars

**Spectroscopy Database:** spectroscopic observations of stars

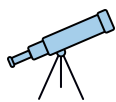
**Solar Database:** Sudden Ionospheric Disturbance (SID) Database, and data relating to sunspot observations

**Exoplanet Database:** long-term follow-up information on planets orbiting other stars

Community



Explore



Education



## Connect with the AAVSO

### Who are AAVSO Members?

- ★ A **citizen scientist**—contributes to science by acquiring data on variable objects and submitting them to our databases, or other activities, such as data mining.
- ★ An **educator or mentor**—teaches observing skills to fellow AAVSO observers, through instructing AAVSO CHOICE courses or being a mentor.
- ★ A **student**—is learning how to find a star, set up a telescope, observe, submit data, or is increasing their astronomy knowledge
- ★ A **professional astronomer**— uses AAVSO data and services to advance their research
- ★ An **AAVSO Ambassador**—a student or young professional representing AAVSO through astronomy education and activities

### Interested in becoming an ambassador?

- [www.aavso.org/ambassador-program](http://www.aavso.org/ambassador-program)
- Email [Lward@aavso.org](mailto:Lward@aavso.org)

\* \* \* \* \*

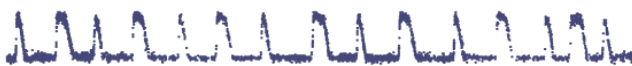
**You, your friends, and colleagues are also invited to join us for:**

### AAVSO's free-to-all 2021 Webinar Series!

Come to one or all! Most Saturdays of the year.

See the schedule and sign up:

<https://www.aavso.org/2021-webinars>



AAVSO can help YOU become a citizen astronomer!

**Discover the benefits of membership and join us!**

<https://www.aavso.org/join-aavso#benefits>

Benefits include being able to participate in our **mentor program**: beginners are paired with an experienced observer for guidance and techniques:

<https://www.aavso.org/mentor-program>

\* \* \* \* \*

### AAVSO Tools for Beginner Observers:

**Beginner Tutorials:** aimed at those with absolutely no experience, these introduce variable star science basics and then provide "challenges" for you to apply the concepts:  
<https://www.aavso.org/tutorials>

**AAVSO Online Forum:** talk to peers for advice: <https://www.aavso.org/forum>

**Observing Manuals:** each one is dedicated to a type of observing, including visual, CCD, DSLR, Spectroscopy, Solar, and more:  
<https://www.aavso.org/observing-manuals>

**CHOICE Courses:** peer-taught informal online observing courses:  
<https://www.aavso.org/choice-astronomy>

Let's connect and explore

