

* NOVA *

N. 911 - 8 NOVEMBRE 2015

ASSOCIAZIONE ASTROFILI SEGUSINI

COMETA CATALINA (C/2013 US10)

Scoperta il 31 ottobre 2013, quando era di 19ª magnitudine, con un telescopio da 68 cm del Catalina Sky Survey (CSS) in Arizona, un progetto alla ricerca di asteroidi potenzialmente pericolosi per la Terra (NEO, Near Earth Object). All'inizio catalogata come asteroide, è stata successivamente identificata come cometa. Sarà al perielio il 15 novembre 2015 a 0.82307 UA (circa 123 milioni di chilometri) dal Sole, con una magnitudine stimata di circa 5, visibile nelle ore prima dell'alba. La cometa diventerà circumpolare a gennaio 2016.

Altri dati e cartine per l'osservazione su:

http://www.aerith.net/comet/catalog/2013US10/2013US10.html

http://www.heavens-above.com/comet.aspx?cid=C%2F2013%20US10&

http://www.skyandtelescope.com/astronomy-news/observing-news/bright-comet-prospects-2015012815/

Ed ecco le effemeridi, calcolate dal Jet Propulsion Laboratory per il nostro Grange Obs. dal 21 novembre al 31 dicembre del corrente anno.

JPL/HORIZONS Catalina (C/2013 US10)

Ephemeris / WWW_USER Fri Oct 30 04:16:45 2015 Pasadena, USA / Horizons

Target body name: Catalina (C/2013 US10) {source: JPL#53}
Center body name: Earth (399) {source: DE-0431LE-0431}
Center-site name: Grange Observatory, Bussoleno

Start time : A.D. 2015-Nov-21 05:00:00.0000 UT
Stop time : A.D. 2015-Dec-31 05:00:00.0000 UT
Step-size : 1440 minutes

Table with columns: Date (UT) HR:MN, R.A. (ICRP/J2000.0), DEC, Azi (a-appr), Elev, a-mass, mag_ex, T-mag, N-mag, delta, deldot, S-O-T /r. It contains a list of astronomical data points for the comet Catalina from November 2015 to December 2015.

Column meaning:

TIME

Prior to 1962, times are UT1. Dates thereafter are UTC. Any 'b' symbol in the 1st-column denotes a B.C. date. First-column blank (" ") denotes an A.D. date. Calendar dates prior to 1582-Oct-15 are in the Julian calendar system. Later calendar dates are in the Gregorian system.

Time tags refer to the same instant throughout the universe, regardless of where the observer is located.

The dynamical Coordinate Time scale is used internally. It is equivalent to the current IAU definition of "TDB". Conversion between CT and the selected non-uniform UT output scale has not been determined for UTC times after the next July or January 1st. The last known leap-second is used over any future interval.

NOTE: "n.a." in output means quantity "not available" at the print-time.

SOLAR PRESENCE (OBSERVING SITE)

Time tag is followed by a blank, then a solar-presence symbol:

'*' Daylight (refracted solar upper-limb on or above apparent horizon)
'C' Civil twilight/dawn
'N' Nautical twilight/dawn
'A' Astronomical twilight/dawn
' ' Night OR geocentric ephemeris

LUNAR PRESENCE (OBSERVING SITE)

The solar-presence symbol is immediately followed by a lunar-presence symbol:

'm' Refracted upper-limb of Moon on or above apparent horizon
' ' Refracted upper-limb of Moon below apparent horizon OR geocentric ephemeris

R.A._(ICRF/J2000.0)_DEC =

J2000.0 astrometric right ascension and declination of target center.
Adjusted for light-time. Units: HMS (HH MM SS.ff) and DMS (DD MM SS.f)

Azi_(a-appr)_Elev =

Airless apparent azimuth and elevation of target center. Adjusted for light-time, the gravitational deflection of light, stellar aberration, precession and nutation. Azimuth measured North(0) -> East(90) -> South(180) -> West(270) -> North(360). Elevation is with respect to plane perpendicular to local zenith direction. TOPOCENTRIC ONLY. Units: DEGREES

a-mass mag_ex=

RELATIVE optical airmass and visual magnitude extinction. Airmass is the ratio between the absolute optical airmass for the target's refracted CENTER point to the absolute optical airmass at zenith. Also output is the estimated visual magnitude extinction due to the atmosphere, as seen by the observer.

AVAILABLE ONLY FOR TOPOCENTRIC EARTH SITES WHEN THE TARGET IS ABOVE THE HORIZON
Units: None (airmass) and magnitudes (extinction).

T-mag N-mag =

Comet's approximate apparent visual total magnitude ("T-mag") and nuclear magnitude ("N-mag") by following standard IAU definitions:

T-mag = $M1 + 5 \cdot \log_{10}(\delta) + k1 \cdot \log_{10}(r)$
N-mag = $M2 + 5 \cdot \log_{10}(\delta) + k2 \cdot \log_{10}(r) + \text{phcof} \cdot \beta$
Units: MAGNITUDES

delta deldot =

Range ("delta") and range-rate ("delta-dot") of target center with respect to the observer at the instant light seen by the observer at print-time would have left the target center (print-time minus down-leg light-time); the distance traveled by a light ray emanating from the center of the target and recorded by the observer at print-time. "deldot" is a projection of the velocity vector along this ray, the light-time-corrected line-of-sight from the coordinate center, and indicates relative motion. A positive "deldot" means the target center is moving away from the observer (coordinate center). A negative "deldot" means the target center is moving toward the observer.
Units: AU and KM/S

S-O-T /r =

Sun-Observer-Target angle; target's apparent solar elongation seen from observer location at print-time. If negative, the target center is behind the Sun. Angular units: DEGREES.

The '/r' column indicates target apparent position relative to the Sun in the observer's sky, as described below:

For an observing location on the surface of a rotating body:

/T indicates target trails Sun (evening sky)
/L indicates target leads Sun (morning sky)

For an observing point not on a rotating body (such as a spacecraft):

/T indicates target trails Sun ($RA_{\text{target}} - RA_{\text{sun}} < 0$, 'west of Sun')
/L indicates target leads Sun ($RA_{\text{target}} - RA_{\text{sun}} > 0$, 'east of Sun')

NOTE: The S-O-T solar elongation angle is the minimum separation angle of the Sun and target in any direction. It does not indicate the separation in the leading or trailing directions.

Computations by ...

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