

Asteroidal occultation observations from DINASTRO

Dinastro is an astronomy club, founded in 1995 by Jean Caquel.

During the 2000s, Dinastro members built an observatory in the village of Visker, located in the south-west of France, near Pic du Midi de Bigorre, in Hautes-Pyrénées.



The Visker observatory is equipped with a 12-inch aperture newtonian reflector on an equatorial mount, fully motorized.

For more than 12 years, club members have been using this telescope to observe the stellar occultations by asteroids.

For more information visit our website :



Scan me



Here is the list of the occultation observers, having operated in Dinastro:

- Jean Caquel
- Alexandre Cazaux
- Gérard Vaudescal
- Jean-Pierre Dupré
- Jean-Jacques Castellani
- Yves Argentin

Each year, about 30 occultation reports are sent from Dinastro to Planoccult network.

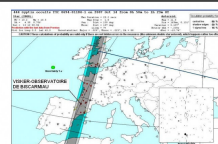
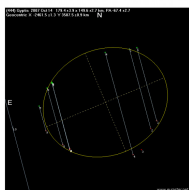
4 examples illustrating the evolution of the equipment used at Dinastro for occultations, in recent years

2007 Positive occultation by (444) Gyptis

Drift Scan with AUDINE camera and GPS+Eventade dating

The 4th chord of the opposite diagram corresponds to the observation from Visker.

Observers: J. Caquel and G. Vaudescal.



Prediction map with Occultwatcher.

Visibility area of the event.

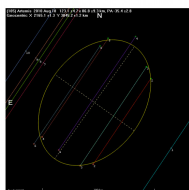
Driftscan acquisition with Audela software and reduction with Iris.

2010 Positive occultation by (105) Artemis

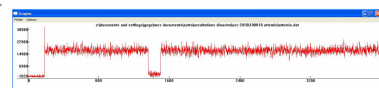
Drift Scan with AUDINE camera and GPS+Eventade dating

The 3rd chord of the opposite diagram corresponds to the observation from Visker.

Observers: G. Vaudescal, A. Cazaux and Y. Argentin.



Light curve :



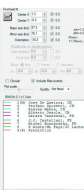
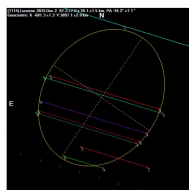
Driftscan acquisition with Audela software and reduction with Iris.

2015 Double positive occultation by (1114) Lorraine

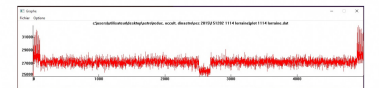
Winscan software with SBIG ST7 camera and FASTSCAN mode + GPS for dating

The 5th chord of the opposite diagram corresponds to the G. Vaudescal's observation from Visker.

The 6th chord corresponds to the JJ. Castellani's observation got with his personal telescope from Lourdes.



Light curve and Driftscan from Visker :



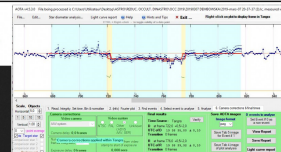
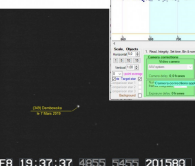
2019 Positive occultation by (349) Dembowska
Video recording with WATEC 910HX camera + IOTA VTI V3 and GPS for timing insertion

The 3rd chord of the opposite diagram corresponds to the G. Vaudescal and JP. Dupré's observation from Visker.

The 1st chord corresponds to a negative occultation result got by JJ. Castellani with his personal observatory (400 mm aperture reflector and WATEC 120N camera.)



Acquisition with Occurec software.



Reduction with Tangra and AOTA.