PROMPT - AN EFFECTIVE TOOL FOR STUDIES OF PULSATING STARS

B.N. Barlow¹, B.H. Dunlap¹, J.C. Clemens¹, D.E. Reichart², K. Ivarsen², A. LaCluyze², J. Haislip², M. Nysewander³

¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3255 ²SKYNET, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3255 ³Space Telescope Science Institute, 3700 San Martin Drive, Baltimore, MD, 21218

The Panchromatic Robotic Optical Monitoring and Polarimetry Telescopes (PROMPT) are a system of 0.41m telescopes at CTIO in Chile built primarily for rapid and simultaneous multi-wavelength observations of gamma-ray burst afterglows. When not observing gamma-ray bursts, PROMPT is an indispensable tool for studies of pulsating stars. To illustrate its effectiveness, we present the O-C diagram for the sdBV_r star CS 1246, including \dot{P} measurements and other intriguing results. The diagram was constructed from nearly 30,000 individual frames representing over 250 hours of time-series photometry.