HUNTING FOR ECLIPSING WHITE DWARF MAIN SEQUENCE BINARIES

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Eclipsing white dwarf main sequence binaries (WDMS) are going through a "*Renaissance*" period, after a recent study by Parsons et al. (2010) provided the first model-independent measurement of the mass and radius of a white dwarf (see also talk from S.Parsons). Apart from calibrating, and potentially improving, the WD mass-radius relations, this and similar measurements can be used to directly test the theoretical predictions for the WD mass distribution, which favour low mass white dwarfs as primaries in such systems. Up until a few years ago, the field suffered from (very) small number statistics, as only 7 systems were known, with the additional complication of being affected by observational biases. This has changed in recent years with large scale surveys, like the SDSS, coming on-line. To date, the number of eclipsing WDMS has almost been tripled. This talk will give an overview of a project aiming to identify new eclipsing WDMS from the SDSS. It will focus on the methodolody used to find such systems and the follow-up observations and report on the results obtained so far from 7 newly discovered systems.