

A COMPARISON OF THE SOUTHERN OPTICAL AND RADIO ASTROMETRIC REFERENCE FRAMES

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ABSTRACT. A comparison of accurate optical and radio positions is presented for 25 southern compact radio objects. There is a systematic "S" shaped trend indicating a zonal bias in the Perth 70 optical catalogue.

COMPARISON OF OPTICAL AND RADIO POSITIONS

A comparison of optical (<200 mas: from Schmidt plates relative to Perth 70 Catalogue) and VLBI radio (<100 mas) positions (White *et al.*, 1990; Jauncey *et al.*, 1989; Harvey *et al.* (in press)) for 22 southern quasars, 1 compact radio galaxy and 2 radio stars shows a clear "S" shape indicating a zonal bias in the Perth 70 catalogue (Figure 1).

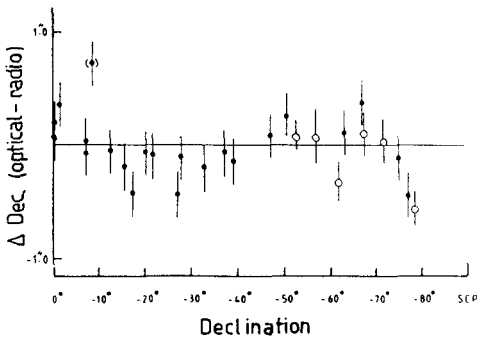


Figure 1. The difference in radio and optical declinations for 22 quasars, 1 compact radio galaxy and 2 radio stars. Further details will be presented by White *et al.* (in prep).

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