First Results from the DECam Ecliptic Exploration Project (DEEP)

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The first round of DEEP papers is accepted!

- DEEP I: Survey description (Trilling et al., in press)
- DEEP II: Observing strategy and design (Trujillo et al., in press)
- DEEP III: Survey Characterization and Simulation (Bernardinelli et al., in press)
- DEEP IV: TNO lightcurve characterization (Strauss et al., in press)
- DEEP V: Absolute Magnitude Distribution (Napier et al., in press)
- DEEP VI: Multi-epoch detections (Smotherman et al., in press)

Introduction

DEEP IV (Lightcurves)

DEEP V (shift-and-stack)

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Introduction

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The DECam Ecliptic Exploration Project

- Instrument: Dark Energy Camera (DECam)
- Total sky coverage: >130 square degrees
- Long sequences of short exposures:
 - 100 exposures over ~4 hours
 - Fast cadence photometry for lightcurves
 - Digital tracking for sub-threshold TNOs



DEEP VI (Multi-year orbits)

DEEP V (shift-and-stack)

Introduction

DEEP IV (Lightcurves)

Streaks are detected in transient source catalogs with a straight-line Hough transform



A list of candidate TNOs is produced with a rate of motion cutoff



TNO candidates are visually verified with thumbnail animations



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DEEP IV (Lightcurves)

DEEP V (shift-and-stack)

The DEEP partial lightcurve amplitude distribution is similar to the literature

8 30 7 25 6 20 5 number Number 12 4 3 10 2 5 1 0 0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 10 12 max - min amplitude

DEEP amplitude distribution

From Thirouin & Sheppard (2019)



Introduction

DEEP IV (Lightcurves)

DEEP V (shift-and-stack)

DEEP lightcurves consistent with elongated population



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Digital tracking permits sub-threshold detection



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DEEP V (shift-and-stack)

Tracking to unphysical rates reveals the kuiper belt



DEEP TNO H distribution is consistent with literature



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Orbits are fit for multi-epoch TNOs



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We have lots more data left to process!



Introduction

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