

**2016 IAO observational round – question sheet**

**Duration: 40 min (tasks 8-11) + 6 min (task 12)**

**Task 8.** Using the starchart (**Fig.1**) answer the following questions:

**8.1.** What is the ecliptic latitude of the galactic center?

Answer:  $\beta =$  \_\_\_\_\_ deg (1 pt)

**8.2.** The positions of four objects from the Messier catalog are indicated using Latin letters. Which are these objects?

A: M\_\_\_\_\_ B: M\_\_\_\_\_ C: M\_\_\_\_\_ D: M\_\_\_\_\_ (2 pts)

**Task 9.** All eight stars brighter than 2 mag have been erased from the map (**Fig.2**).

**9.1.** Fill in their positions and names (e.g. Deneb or  $\alpha$  Cyg) back on the map. (4 pts)

**9.2.** Which constellation is exactly in the southwestern (SW) corner of the map? Write its standard three-letter Latin designation.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_ (1 pt)

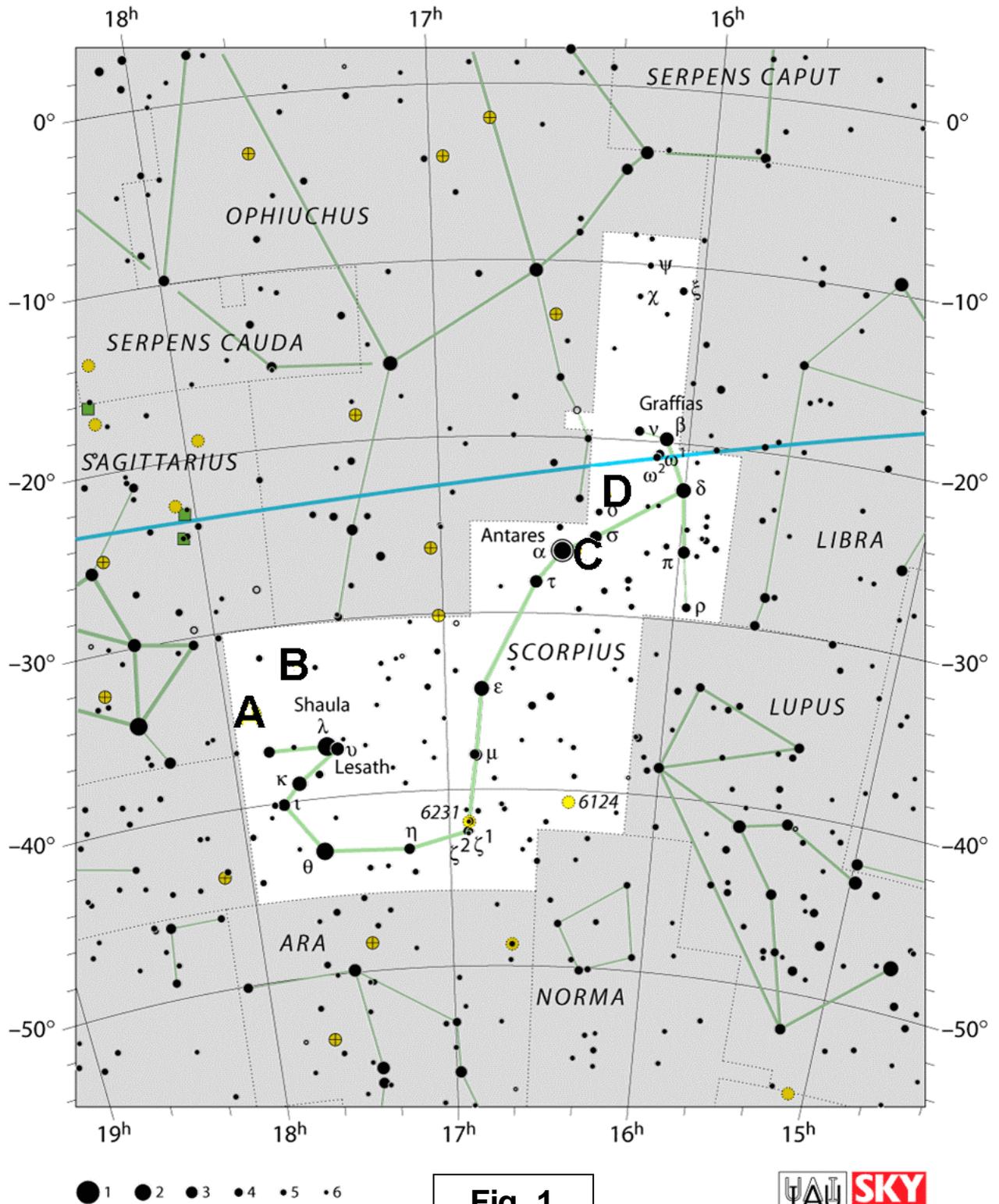
**Task 10.** The diagram (**Fig.3**) shows how the altitude of three stars above the horizon changes during a night near the winter solstice as observed from the Rozhen observatory ( $41^{\circ}41'N$ ,  $24^{\circ}44'E$ ). The one-digit numbers on the chart are the numbers of the stars, while the two-digit numbers are angular distances from the moon in degrees.

**10.1.** What are the equatorial coordinates of the three stars?

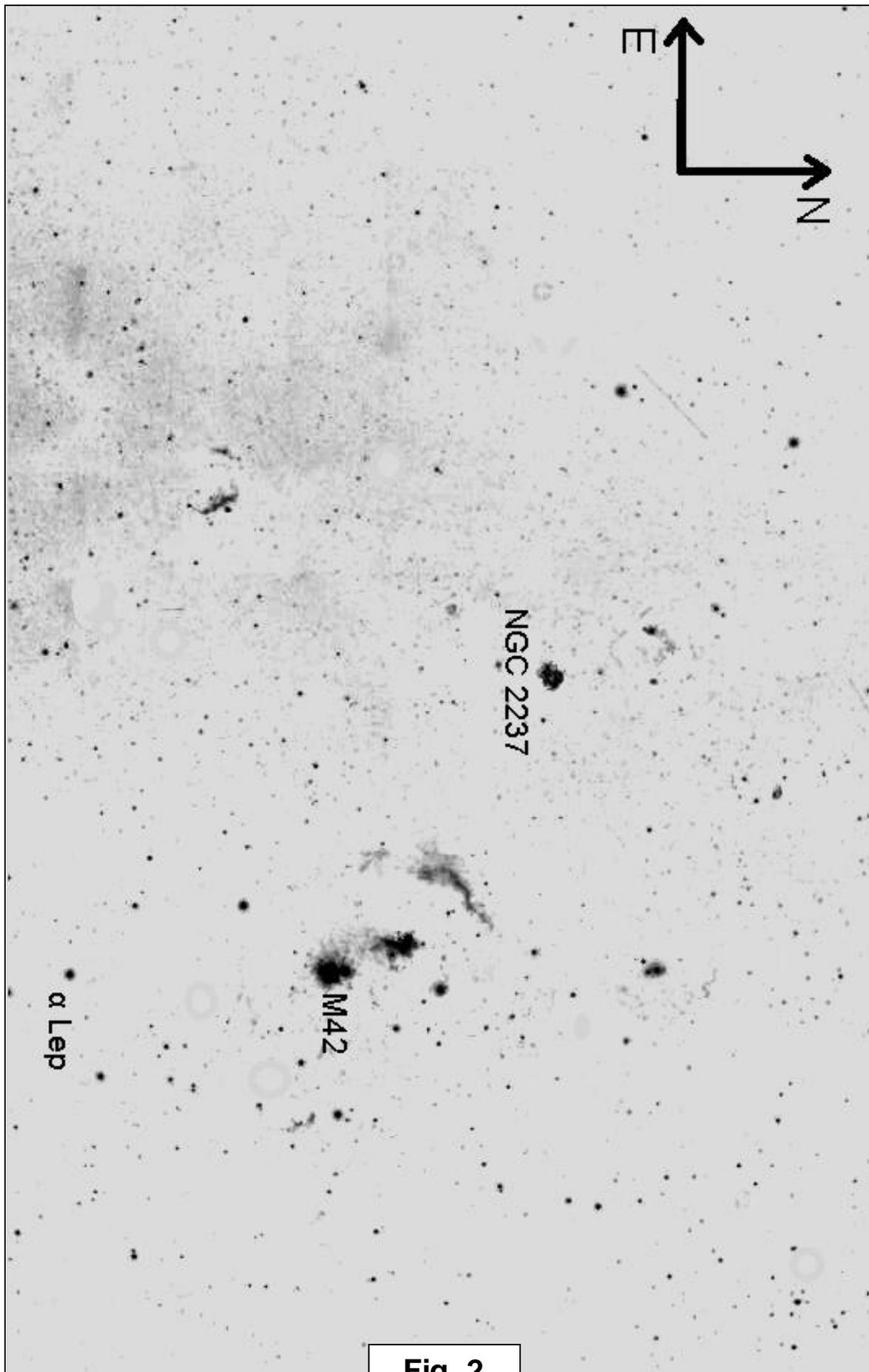
Star 1:  $\alpha =$  \_\_\_\_\_ h  $\delta =$  \_\_\_\_\_ deg  
Star 2:  $\alpha =$  \_\_\_\_\_ h  $\delta =$  \_\_\_\_\_ deg  
Star 3:  $\alpha =$  \_\_\_\_\_ h  $\delta =$  \_\_\_\_\_ deg 3 pts

**10.2.** How many days after the preceding new moon is this night?

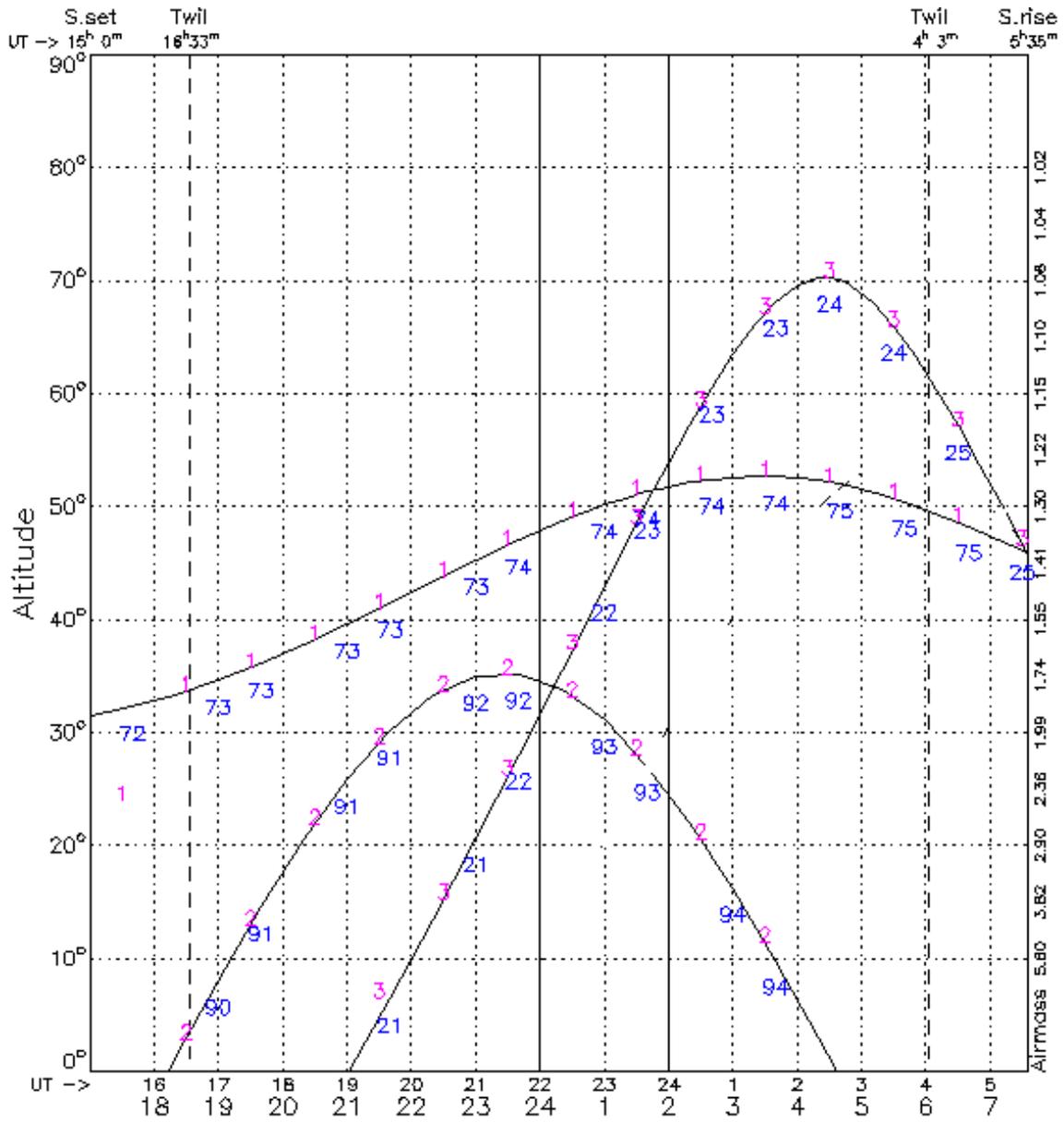
Answer:  $t =$  \_\_\_\_\_ d 2 pts



**Fig. 1**

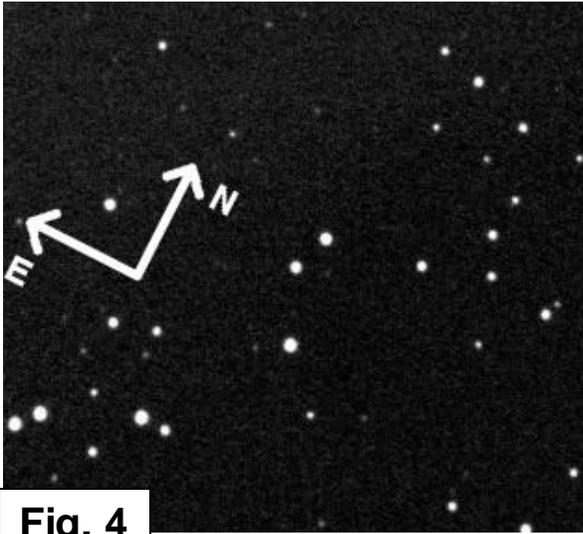


**Fig. 2**



**Fig. 3**

**Task 11.** This image of a field around a quasar is obtained with a 35-cm telescope.



**Fig. 4**

It is one of the following four quasars (on the finder charts on **Fig. 5**):

**11.1.** Which quasar is on the image? Identify the field and circle the correct answer.

*Answer:*      3C 66A / OJ 287 / 3C 454.3 / PKS 1510-08      1 pt

**11.2.** What changes have to be made in the equatorial coordinates of the telescope in order to put the quasar in the center of the field?

*Answer:*       $\Delta\alpha = \text{_____}''$      $\Delta\delta = \text{_____}''$       2 pts

**11.3.** Approximate distances to some field stars are indicated on the charts in parsecs. Estimate roughly the distance to the quasar:

*Answer:*  $d = \text{_____} pc$       1 pt

**Task 12.** The speed of the daily motion of stars due to the rotation of the Earth is artificially increased (*video clip*). What is the geographical latitude of the location of the observation that the software is simulating? North or south of the equator (underline the correct option)?

*Answer:* \_\_\_\_\_ North/South      3 pts

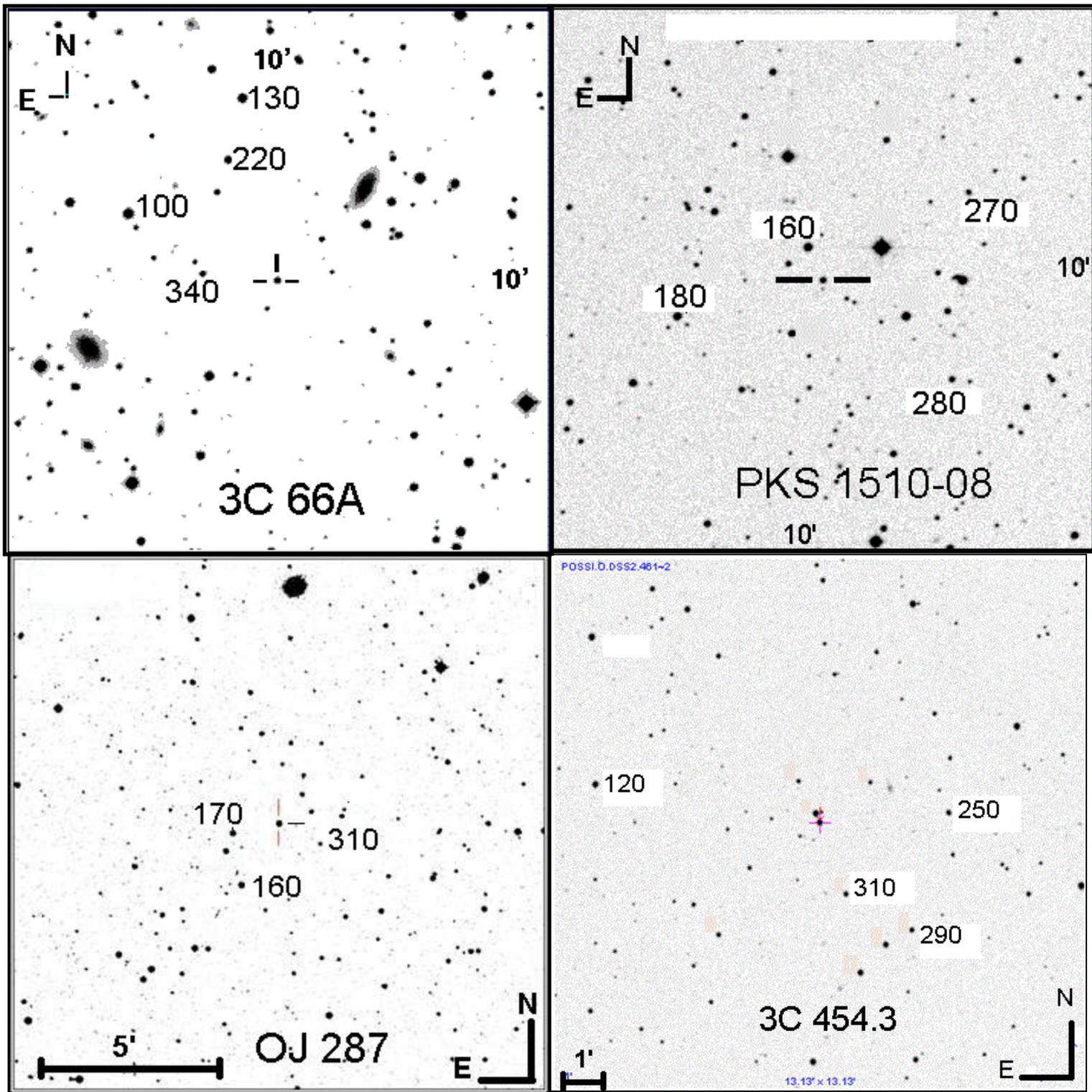


Fig. 5