

The Future of AGN Variability Studies

M. J. Graham

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, USA
email: mjg@caltech.edu

Abstract. AGNs are an inherently variable population but the physical mechanisms behind optical variability remain poorly constrained or not well understood. The advent of large archival collections of astronomical time series together with new analysis techniques is now driving systematic explorations of these phenomena. They reveal both population behaviours and individual extreme sources. This talk reviewed how the Catalina Real-time Transient Survey is transforming our knowledge of AGN behaviour, mentioning in particular the new CRTS Southern Sky Quasar Catalogue (which covers $-70 < \text{Dec} < 0$ down to $V \sim 19$), and the potential of the Zwicky Transient Facility for further discoveries.

Keywords. Galaxies: active, surveys
