

Assassinating ASASSN: Supernovae Identification Using ATLAS Data

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Using current data collection and reduction techniques, we plan to identify SN faster and fainter than the All-Sky Automated Survey for Supernovae (ASASSN) team is able to. We expect to identify all supernovae (SNe), with $m > 17.5$ and declinations above -30° , before ASASSN is able to.

17.5 (0.5mag) –OR– 18 (1mag) fainter...which is it?
not emphasis on Type Ia supernovae

1. INTRODUCTION

Supernovae (SN) identification using data collected by ATLAS.

fix biblio style / numbering Look at previous JT paper to see if:
numbers inside mathmode: -30° , -30°
abbreviations in abstract: ... (ASASSN), or is just ASASSN good

check plurality throughout paper, SN or SNe

2. ASASSN DATA

- Where'd it come from
- ASASSN specs

The All-Sky Automated Survey for Supernovae (ASASSN) group collects data using two 14 *cm* telescopes. Each night these two telescopes are able to cover roughly 20,000 *deg*² and reach 17th magnitude. **reword**

The first telescope is located on Haleakala and began collecting data December 2013. In July 2015 a second telescope became operational at the LCOGT Cerro Tololo station. **Cite using footnote.**

Fix citations: ASASSN data¹ or use diff cite method

Shappee et al.¹

Shappee et al.¹

...Should be “Shappee et al. (2014)”

[REBIN MJD DATA FOR PEAK BRIGHTNESS DATE NOT DISCOVERY DATE]
Need to reference Figure 1 –OR– Figures 1a and 1b

3. ATLAS PATHFINDER 2 OBSERVATIONS

- ATLAS specs

- how data was collected
- how *.diff.fz is made - subtract wallpaper from reduced data
- how *.ddt is made
- what is starrat

4. PROCEDURE

1. find asn SN in atlas data
2. use asn SN to restrict ATLAS classification variables
3. manually inspect results for SN classification

want to make input sections subsections under this section?

5. EXPECTED OBSERVATIONS

Rename section

Necessary to define MJD?

With a declination (dec) limit of approximately -30° , 100 SN were not expected to be present in the ATLAS data. ASASSN reported the discovery of another 165 SN before ATLAS began collecting data. These two sets do not exist independent of one another. After applying dec and MJD based restrictions and accounting for overlaps between these groups, 161 SN remained from the initial 385 reported by ASASSN. Another 65 SN peaked before ATLAS was truly operational, leaving 96 as potential candidates. All 96 of these objects were found in the ATLAS data, resulting in a 100% completion rate. **CHECK VALIDITY OF THIS**

The 65 SN that peaked before ATLAS was truly operational can be further broken down as follows. Reported peak brightnesses occurring on or before 57364 accounts for 14 SN. During this time the ATLAS reduction process was still being refined, making any reduced data unreliable. Another 50 SN fell

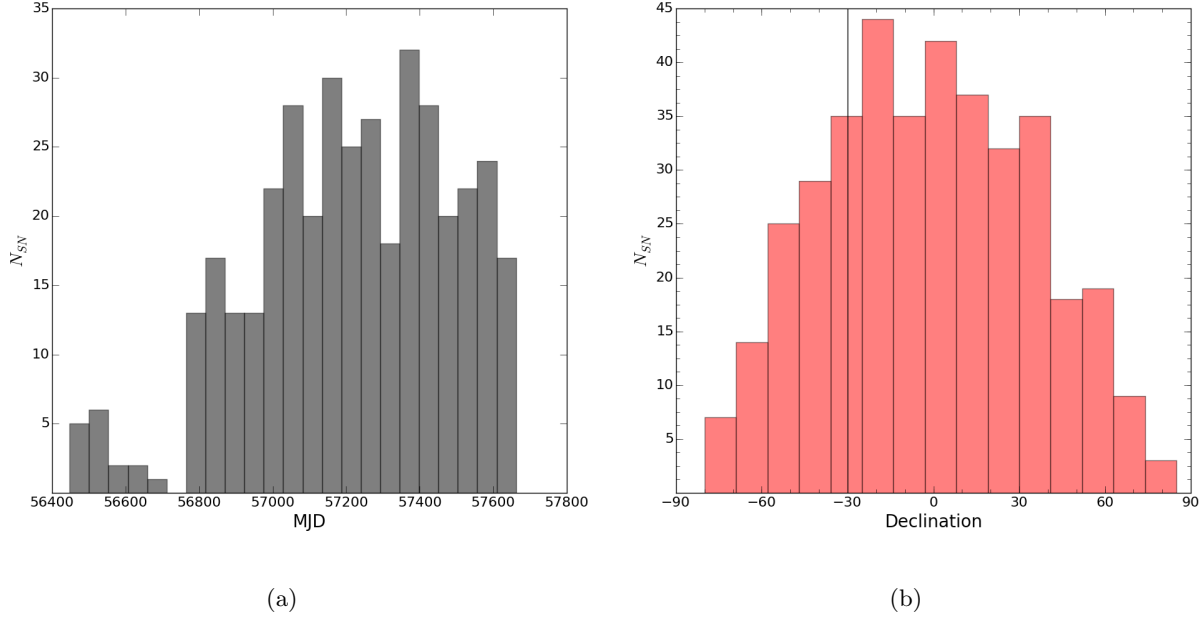


Figure 1: *SN discovered by the ASASSN project. Panel ‘(a)’ shows ASASSN SN discovery dates. Panel ‘(b)’ is ASASSN data, binned by dec. The vertical line at -30° indicates the lower limit on ATLAS observations.*

in regions that had no overlap with ATLAS observations due to the pattern in which data was collected. The final case was a Type II supernova (SNII). SNIIs are notoriously short lived; making it likely that ATLAS observed this region of the sky in the time surrounding the explosion, but not during the event.

6. FAILED MATCHES

Remove subsection headings?

We expect to see 96 of the ASASSN SN in ATLAS observations. This presents us with 850 overlap opportunities, using a ± 10 day window. Of these, 694 observations were recorded and properly reduced.

Why these matches failed can be broken up into four categories – no match, no difference image, no ddt file, or no match within an existing ddt file. These cases are discussed in sections 6.1–6.4.

§ 6.1–§ 6.4

Why these matches failed can be broken up into four categories, each of which is discussed in the subsections below.

6.1. No match

A total of 25 expected observations lack any matches with ATLAS data. These failed matches

do not fall within the ± 10 day window used.

6.2. No diff file

Missing difference images account for 49 of the expected 850 observations. Matches that were missing difference images can be attributed to an error in the ATLAS pipeline. An error during differencing caused a break in the pipeline and no further images to be generated for that night. Such an error will be corrected once the data is re-reduced.

6.3. No ddt file

For matches that were completely missing a ddt file, ddt files were missing for the entire night. This accounts for 15 failed matches and will be corrected by the next round of differencing.

6.4. No ddt Match

Of the total 850 expected matches, 67 do not show up in existing ddt files.

Nature constantly plays a role in collecting astronomical data. When observations are made at the beginning or end of a night, ambient light levels rise and sky background fluctuations. 3 of the 67 missing ddt lines can be attributed to poor

observation conditions, brought on by clouds and increased levels of sky background.

Errors during the image differencing process led to the loss of 8 expected overlaps. Older differencing techniques caused entire portions of images to be lost, accounting for 3 failed matches.

There were 6 cases where bright host galaxies caused the SN to become extremely faint in the difference image. Outdated differencing procedures lead to less uniform backgrounds, making it harder to identify faint objects. **reword?** While performing photometric calculations, the ATLAS pipeline failed to trigger on these 6 faint objects.

There are various reason why the PSF across an image may vary. Here, the major contributors are high levels of sky background and optical issues inherent to the ATLAS system. If not properly corrected for, such issues cause observed objects to become distorted. Distortion can cause sharp edges to become fuzzy, resulting in the ATLAS pipeline failing to trigger on such objects. This accounts for 3 of the missing matches. Objects that were only in reduced images, but not in differenced images account for 26 of the matches missing from the ddt files. Such instances arise when the object is fully subtracted during differencing, due to it existing in the wallpaper. As the wallpaper is an ongoing project, corrected future versions will not cause this issue. **[WORDING]**

There were 17 cases in which the SN was not detecting in either the reduced or differenced image, indicating poor astrometry. Another possible explanation is bad photometry. If photometry is the issue, the SN explosions must have occurred outside the nominal ± 10 day window.

The final group of matches missing from the ddt files comes from an issue with the array dimensionality. Each image is saved as a matrix. The software that determines the correspondence between pixel coordinates and each objects RA, dec assumes the captured image fully extended to the edges of the matrix. In practice, the edges of some collected data are not completely filled. **When these unfilled frames overlap with consecutive images, the objects lie where they are expected.** Not every image fully extends to the intended edges. For this isolated case, the image data ends above the bottom edge of the array. Although the object is expected to be there, it does not exist on this particular image.

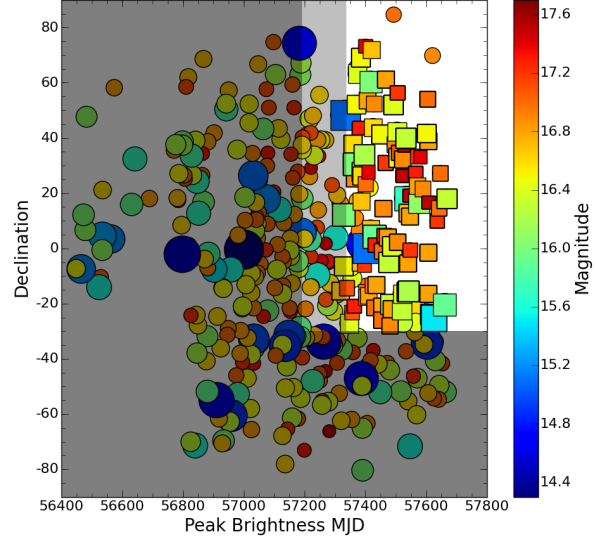


Figure 2: *ASASSN SN that do not have matches in ATLAS data are represented by circles. Squares show SN that were found in ATLAS observations. Regions that have a lower chance of containing SN have been covered in gray. Dark gray regions eliminate objects below the ATLAS observation limit of -30° and those discovered before ATLAS was operational. Like the color, point-size represents magnitude.*

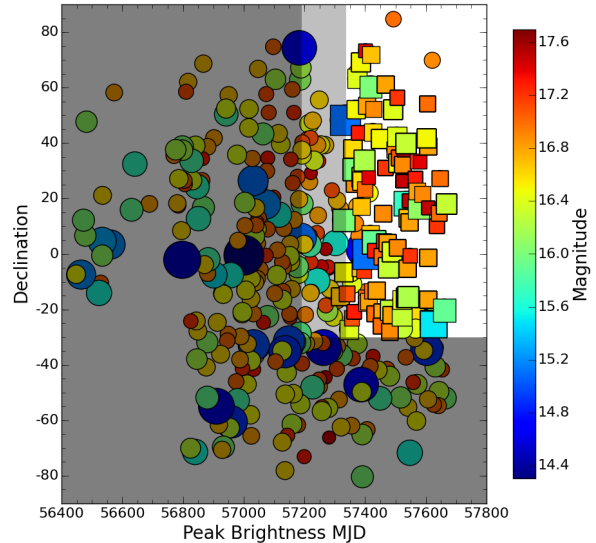


Figure 3: **cbar(shrink=0.9)** choose this one or full-size cbar

Figures 2 and 3 show the same thing – choose whichever colorbar looks better

7. SN IDENTIFICATION

How ASASSN SN help identify those in ATLAS data.

8. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. what restrictions we intend to place on things like starat
- 2.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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¹ B. J. Shappee, J. L. Prieto, D. Grupe, C. S. Kochanek, K. Z. Stanek, G. De Rosa, S. Mathur, Y. Zu, B. M.

Peterson, R. W. Pogge, et al., *Astrophys. J.* **788**, 48 (2014), 1310.2241.