**Digitization of The Wide-Field Photographic Plate Archives  
at Bosscha Observatory**

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ABSTRACT

Bosscha Observatory has a collection of around 5000 wide-field photographic plates obtained with “Bima Sakti” Schmidt Telescope (D=50,8/71,1 cm, f/2.49) in 1961-1999. These plates are stored in dry cabinet as scientific heritage, yet its scientific value is not fully explored. It is limited only for specific purpose which underlies the observation. Considering its value and susceptibility of data loss due to the deterioration of the emulsion, data preservation through digitization is needed. A catalog of photographic plates was compiled from the observation logbook. This catalog is used to infer the tendency of astronomical research at the observatory and create metadata for future use of data archive. The plates are digitized using flatbed scanner Epson Perfection V800. This paper presents some of the activities carried out and results obtained so far, including samples of the scanned images. The astrometric and photometric accuracy of the scanned plates will be presented elsewhere.

*Keywords: Digitization; Photographic plates*