= 2·3.76 h. The two representations of the light curve are thus based on statistically independent data. Their shape and the occurrence of some repeating features is striking. Especially the dip near maximum, not explicitly mentioned by Pedersen et al., is well represented in their phase diagram.

Apart from these slow variations two bursts were detected. In Figure 3a and b their position is indicated by arrows. The burst light curves with high time resolution are superposed for comparison in Figure 5. The scales are the same in both cases, but the zeropoints were shifted to separate UBVRI. The data were smoothed by a recursive low-pass filter. Burst 1, observed during the first night, is less intense and has a slower onset than burst 2, which has a rise time of less than two seconds. This limits the extension of the visible emitting area to about $6 \cdot 10^{10}$ cm. In colour B (highest count-rates) a double-peak structure is shown for burst 2 with a separation of about 3 seconds. Similar features were found by Sztajno et al. 1985 in the X-ray band. The colours of the optical bursts are consistent with a very hot source. Cooling effects during descent are indi-

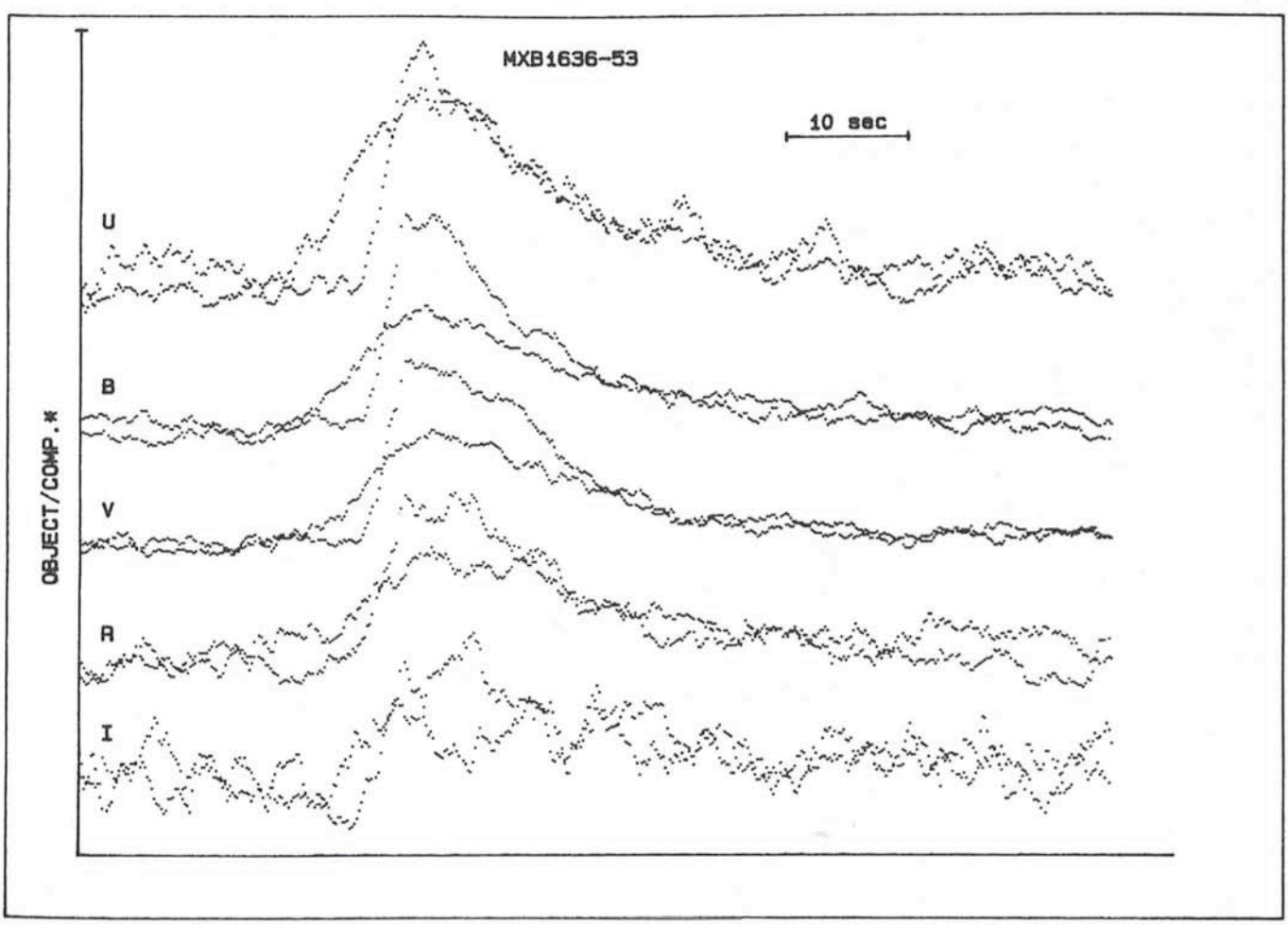

Figure 5: *The two observed bursts superposed to demonstrate similarities and differences (1 point ≙ 320 msec). Burst 1, observed during the first night is less intense and has a slower onset than burst 2. The curves were smoothed (FWHM = 50 points) in order to reduce the noise.*