JP2 The ASTRA spectrophotometer: A July 2004 Progress Report

S. J. Adelman¹, A. F. Gulliver² and B. Smalley³

- ¹ Department of Physics, The Citadel, 171 Moultrie Street, Charleston, SC 24909, USA
- ² Department of Physics & Astronomy, Brandon University, Brandon, MB R7A 6A9, Canada
- ³ Astrophysics Group, School of Chemistry & Physics, Keele University, Straffordshire ST5 5BG, UK

A cross-dispersed spectrophotometer with a CCD detector and its automated 0.5-m telescope at the Fairborn Observatory, Washington Camp, AZ, should begin scientific observations by the end of 2004. The Citadel ASTRA (Automated Spectrophotometric Telescope Research Associates) Telescope will be able to observe Vega the primary standard, make rapid measurements of the naked-eye stars, use 10 min/hour to obtain photometric measurements of the nightly extinction, and obtain high quality observations of V= 10.5 mag. stars in an hour. The approximate wavelength range is $\lambda\lambda 3300$ -9000 with a resolution of 14 Å in first and 7 Å in second order. At end of the photometric calibration process, filter photometric magnitudes and indices will be calculated in part for use as quality checks. Some A star related applications and opportunities for collaboration are discussed. This work is supported by NSF grant AST-0115612 to The Citadel.