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NEW BRIGHT VARIABLE STAR

Recently I discovered with Dr. Helmut Abt a new variable star of visual magnitude 5.86. The star is HR 7484 (HD 185912, BD+54° 2193, Boss 5026, GC 27206), and has been known to be a double-line spectroscopic binary since Harper's work on it in 1919 (Ap. J. 51, 187, 1920). Observations of the star with a photoelectrically equipped 16" reflecting telescope on Kitt Peak revealed that the star is also an eclipsing binary demonstrating two eclipses, which seem to be nearly the same depth, some 0.2 magnitude.

We have almost completed a new velocity curve obtained with the Kitt Peak 84" telescope and coudé spectrograph, and these modern observations with those of Harper in 1919 have yielded a more accurate period of 7.64074 days. The system seems to be a rather eccentric one with the secondary eclipse occurring at phase 0.74, and both components are of spectral type F5V. The final orbital elements based on our new velocity curve will be calculated when we have obtained a few remaining observations.

In addition we have almost completed a three-color UBV light curve of the eclipses, which we hope to use with the velocity curve to determine absolute dimensions of the system.

Kitt Peak National Observatory
March 11, 1966.

MICHAEL S. SNOWDEN

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