

COMMISSION 27 OF THE I. A. U.
INFORMATION BULLETIN ON VARIABLE STARS

NUMBER 396

Konkoly Observatory
Budapest
1969 October 29

RADIAL VELOCITY OBSERVATIONS OF THE
ECLIPSING SYSTEM HD 128661

The star HD 128661 was announced as a probable eclipsing variable in Information Bulletin No. 314 by G.JACKISCH who observed what appeared to be a minimum at JD 2438906.455. In Information Bulletin No.365 A.J.Harris recorded observations of another minimum at JD 2440362.907. The star is listed as a spectroscopic binary in Wilson's General Catalogue of Radial Velocities, but no orbit has been published.

We have obtained 20 spectrograms of HD 128661 with a dispersion of 12 A/mm between JD 2440260 and JD 2440353. The velocities from these plates indicate that the period is very close to $3^d.33$, the range being about 150 km/sec. It seems almost certain from these observations that the number of cycles between the two minima referred to above is 437 and that the period is therefore $3^d.33284$. (In view of the fact that we see no sign of a second component in our spectra it appears likely that both Jackisch and Harris have observed the primary minimum. The uncertainty as to whether Jackisch's published time of minimum is geocentric or heliocentric is not significant in our determination of the period.)

There is evidence in our velocity curve of orbital eccentricity such that the secondary minimum should follow the primary by $1^m.51$.

October 20, 1969.

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