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HD 56429: A DOUBLE-LINED Am ECLIPSING BINARY

In 1974 Markworth (IBVS No.921) recorded two photographic minima of HD 56429 (BV 1621 CMa), with the comment that it is probably an eclipsing variable. Spectrograms obtained at the Lick Observatory show this 8th magnitude A star to be a double-lined spectroscopic binary with slightly unequal components of early Am type. A period of approximately 4.80 days was estimated from the spectrograms.

Photoelectric uvby photometry with the Danish 50 cm telescope at Cerro La Silla, Chile, confirms the presence of eclipses at the predicted times. The eclipses are approximately 0.5 and 0.4 mag deep in all four colours, equally spaced, and of 0^d.35 duration. The period is close to 4^d.801.

Spectrographic and photometric observations are continuing for determination of orbital elements and absolute dimensions.

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