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THE FAR ULTRAVIOLET SPECTRUM OF THE
BINARY SYSTEM EPSILON AURIGAE

Far ultraviolet observations (1250-2000 Å) of the eclipsing binary Epsilon Aur have been made on April 19, 1978 in the low resolution mode (RP=7 Å) with the International Ultraviolet Explorer by M. Hack and P.L. Selvelli. The flux observed at λ 1320 is roughly estimated about 100 times higher and at λ 1500 about 10 times higher than that expected from the FO Ia star. These results indicate the presence of a hot companion of visual magnitude about 10 or 11. The presence of a hot companion was predicted by Hack (1961) for explaining the characteristics of the observed "shell" spectrum during the eclipse of 1955-1957 (Hack, 1959) and attributing the eclipse of the primary to electron scattering from the shell or ring surrounding the hot companion.

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References:

Hack, M. 1959, *Astroph.J.* 129, 291

Hack, M. 1961, *Mem.Soc.Astron.It.* 32, 351

Editor's note: This paper came to the editor's hand on May 15, 1978. According to an agreement among NASA SRC and ESA users, however, any data collected with IUE satellite should not have been published before the publication of the results of the science commissioning phase.