

COMMISSION 27 OF THE I. A. U.  
INFORMATION BULLETIN ON VARIABLE STARS  
Number 1858

Konkoly Observatory  
Budapest  
1980 October 24  
HU ISSN 0374-0676

THE SPECTRUM OF R SEXTANTIS

R Sex (HD 84127=BD -7°2873) was noted as variable between 9.7 and 10.6 pg at Harvard some 85 years ago, but in recent years its variability has been questioned and it is considered as "constant?" in the GCVS. The Henry Draper Catalogue classifies it as Mb, but apparently no other spectroscopic observations exist. On two blue objective-prism plates taken for the Michigan Southern Hemisphere Spectral Survey made available to the writer through the kindness of Dr. N.Houk, R Sex appears as an M5 star with hydrogen emission:

| Date           | Spectrum   |
|----------------|--|
| March 13, 1970 | H $\gamma$ rather weak, H $\delta$ considerably stronger than H $\gamma$ |
| March 1, 1971  | H $\gamma$ and H $\delta$ equal and moderately weak                      |

In view of its spectral type, the presence of emission, and its evident spectral variability, it seems very likely that R Sex does indeed deserve its variable star designation.

WILLIAM P. BIDELMAN  
Warner and Swasey Observatory  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106