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CW UMa — A NEW FLARE STAR?

By chance the writer recently noted that the coordinates of the object No. 1710 in the Catalogue of Stars Suspected of Variability, which is designated CW Ursae Majoris in the 62nd Namelist of Variable Stars (I.B.V.S. No. 1248), agree very closely with those of the faint proper-motion star G 119-62 discovered at the Lowell Observatory (Lowell Obs. Bull. 6, 1, 1963). Luyten includes the latter object in his New Two-Tenths Catalogue, assigning to it a motion of 0".203/yr and a photographic magnitude of 12.8 . Positions for both objects are accurately known.

CW UMa was discovered to be a rapid, presumably RR Lyrae, variable by Neujmin (Var. Stars 4, 41, 1932 and Poulk. Circ. 4, 22, 1932) and confirmed as an RR Lyrae star of range 12.8 - 14.4 pg by Parenago (Var. Stars 4, 134, 1933), who however did not determine a period. To the writer's knowledge no further work has been done on the star.

Reference to a visual-region Warner and Swasey Observatory objective-prism plate reveals that the proper-motion star has, as expected, a spectral type of about M3; in view of its motion it is undoubtedly a dwarf. It appears very likely that this is in fact the variable CW UMa, though no chart exists for the latter object. It is probably significant that the photographic magnitude assigned at Lowell (14.6) is substantially fainter than that given by Luyten. In view of the object's photometric behavior and spectral type it seems probable that CW UMa will prove to be a flare star and it is thus recommended to observers.

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