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NEW MINIMUM OF X-RAY SOURCE KR AURIGAE

The variable KR Aur was discovered by Popova (1960). Photometric investigations (Popova 1965 a,b, 1975) showed that it was of unique type. This was confirmed by electrophotometric observations of Doroshenko and Terebizh (1978) and photometric study of Liller (1980). Recently KR Aur was recognized to be an X-ray source (Mufson, Wisniewski, McMillan, 1980).

Electrophotometric, spectroscopic and X-ray observations of KR Aur were obtained only during the period of maximum brightness. The last minimum occurred eight years ago.

The observations of KR Aur on the 2-meter telescope of Bulgarian National Astronomical Observatory in the night 28/29 December 1981 showed that a new minimum of KR Aur has occurred. The visual magnitude of the object was estimated to be $16^m.8 - 17^m.0$. One may expect that the duration of minimum brightness will be some months, or, may be, a year.

The observations, both spectroscopic and photometric, in minimum are urgently needed for understanding the nature of KR Aur.

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"7 November" str. 1, Sofia
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