COMMISSION 27 OF THE I. A. U.
INFORMATION BULLETIN ON VARIABLE STARS
Number 3283

Konkoly Observatory
Budapest
12 January 1989
HU ISSN 0374-0676

MORE ABOUT KX TrA = Cn 1-2 = PK 326-10°1 = He 2-177*

Recently Feibelman (1988) and Allen (1988) commented on the identification and possible outburst properties of the symbiotic star KX TrA. I like to add that it is also listed and (properly) identified in the *Reference Catalogue and Atlas of Galactic Novae* (Duerbeck 1987); it was included because Carlson and Henize (1974) classified it as a slow nova from its spectral appearance, which showed some resemblance to RR Tel. A light curve of the object for the years 1890-1975 was given by Liller (1974). Any major outbursts during this time interval can be excluded.

KX TrA was observed, in 1986, with the B&C Cassegrain spectrograph and IDS detector at the ESO 1.52 m-telescope (Fig. 1). I tend to compare its spectrum with RT Ser, as it appeared in 1986 (Fig. 2), except that in the latter object the [O III] lines are essentially absent. Comparing

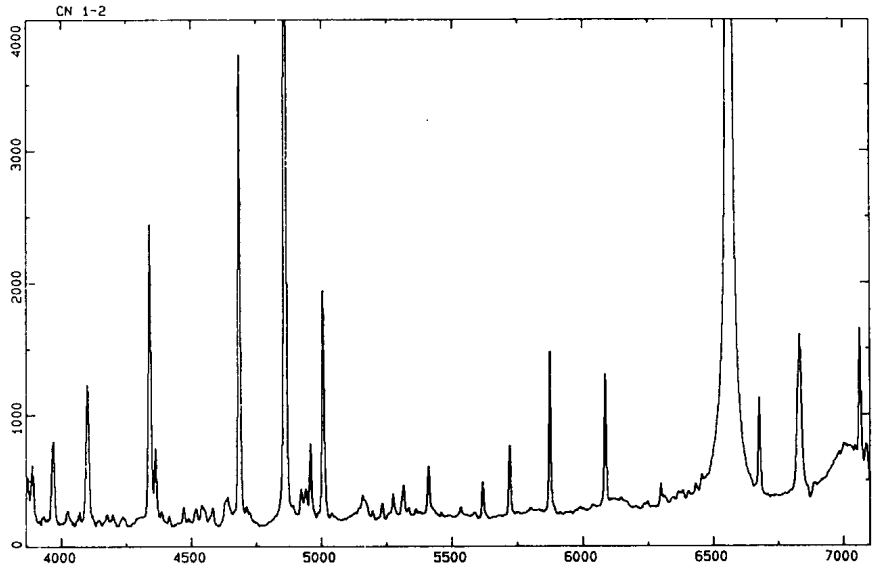

Fig. 1 The spectrum of KX TrA

*Based on observations collected at the European Southern Observatory, La Silla, Chile

Allen's (1984) spectrum of KX TrA in 1978 with that in 1986, a noticeable relative increase in the strength of He I 4686 is found. It should be noted that the [Ca VII] 561.6, 493.9 lines are relatively strong in both stars. RT Ser also qualifies as a star with a normal M-type companion (Kenyon 1986), a property considered by Allen to be possibly significant for a comparison.

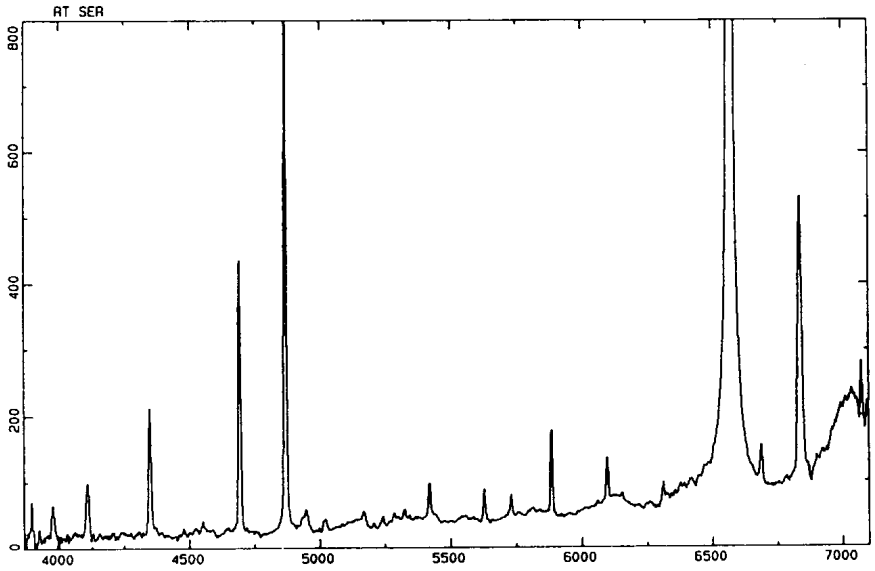

Fig. 2 The spectrum of RT Ser

HILMAR W. DUERBECK
Astronomisches Institut
der Universität Münster
Wilhelm-Klemm-Str. 10
D-4400 Münster, F. R. Germany

References:

Allen, D., 1984, *Proc. Astr. Soc. Australia*, **5(3)**, 369.
Allen, D., 1988, *Inf. Bull. Var. Stars* 3255.
Carlson, E.E., Henize, K.G., 1974, *Astrophys. J.* **188**, L47.
Duerbeck, H.W., 1987, *Space Sci. Rev.* **45**, 1.
Feibelman, W.A., 1988, *Inf. Bull. Var. Stars* 3231.
Kenyon, S.J., 1986, *The Symbiotic Stars*, Cambridge University Press.
Liller, W., 1974, *Astrophys. J.* **192**, L89.