

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

Number 3626

Konkoly Observatory
Budapest
18 June 1991

HU ISSN 0374 - 0676

DV DRACONIS - A LONG-CYCLE DWARF NOVA

DV Dra has been detected as a new cataclysmic variable by Pavlov and Shugarov (1985), who found one outburst on 80 exposures. To the knowledge of the present author no subsequent paper concerning the star has been published since then (see also Bibl. Cat. of Variable Stars, CDS Strasbourg).

As the star is situated in the Sonneberg 50/70/172 cm Schmidt camera field of AM Her, the light-curve of the discovery eruption of June 1984 could be investigated in some detail: The variable had been brighter than about $17^m.3$ for 28 days at least. Its maximum brightness on the plates was $15^m.0$ (1984 June 1.9 UT = J.D. 244 5853.4), its minimum fainter than 21^m (FOSS). Secondary fluctuations are indicated. All magnitudes are in the B range of the system of Tapia for AM Her (see Hudec and Meinunger 1977 or Liller 1977).

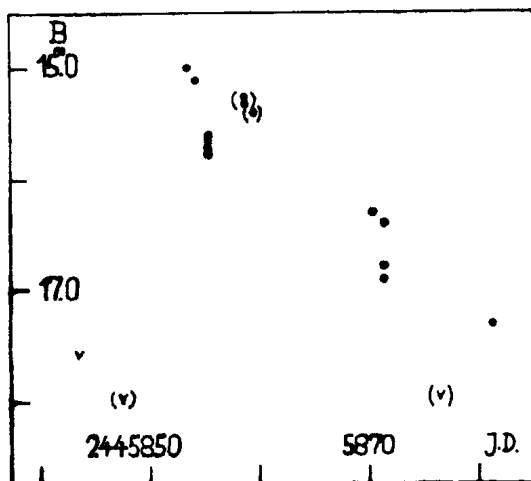


Figure 1

A search on 144 suitable plates of the 14/70 cm astrograph taken mainly by R. Brandt 1941 to 1969, and by A. Wicklein on 751 additional Schmidt photographs gained in general by W. Götz and K. Heiland in 417 nights of 1982 to 1990 did not reveal any further eruption. On the basis of the shape and the long duration of the outburst, of the scarcity of the eruptions and of the distance to the galactic plane, which would be $z = 0.3 \dots 1.7$ kpc (instead of more than 100 times that value in the case of the object's being a nova), we conclude that DV Dra is a long-cycle dwarf nova perhaps of the WZ Sagittae type.

Figure 1 shows all available observations of the outburst of June 1984. Brackets denote measurements of Pavlov and Shugarov (1985), and arrows indicate "Fainter-than" observations.

W. WENZEL
Sternwarte Sonneberg
Deutschland

References:

- Hudec, R., Meinunger, L., 1977, Mitt. Veränderl. Sterne 7,194
Liller, W., 1977, Sky Telesc. 53,351
Pavlov, M.W., Shugarov, S.Yu., 1985, Astron. Tsirk. No.1373,8