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V 1251 CYGNI - UNSUCCESSFUL SEARCH FOR ADDITIONAL ERUPTIONS

Moriyama and Schmeer (1991) announced a new eruption of V 1251 Cyg in October 1991, and Kato (1991) afterwards reported on the development of superhumps.

On 536 suitable Sonneberg Sky Patrol plates taken in the years 1941 to 1990 mainly by H. Huth and B. Fuhrmann, no further eruption could be detected with the exception of the October 1963 outburst of Weber (1966), which was confirmed by two of my observations. Only plates are counted which at least reach magnitude $13^m.3$ (pg) in Weber's system (comparison star c).

We conclude that this is one of the rare SU Ursae Majoris stars with time intervals of several years between successive superoutbursts (= outbursts with superhumps). "Normal" maxima, which usually are of remarkably smaller amplitude, could be easily hidden below the threshold of our plates. However, the object might also behave like WZ Sge, where normal eruptions are obviously missing at all.

On the POSS charts a small triangle of $18^m.5$ stars, the southwestern of them is bluish, lies at the position. If one of these objects is the cataclysmic variable, then the observed amplitude of about 6 mag of the supermaxima as well as the superhump period of $0^d.076$ leads to a cycle length of roughly three years (see the relationships given by Bräuer and Richter (1989)). Therefore, both thoroughly watching the locality by visual or CCD patrol techniques to possibly reveal normal eruptions and the search for the genuine low state object would be promising tasks.

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