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NOTE ON THE INTERMEDIATE POLAR RE 0751+14

The intermediate polar RE 0751+14 was first found as an extreme-ultraviolet source in the ROSAT UK Wide Field Camera all-sky survey (Mason et al., 1992). Andronov (1993) studied 24 Sternberg/Crimean archival plates and detected a brightness variation between 13^m65 and 14^m17 pg.

Several types of large scale photometric behaviour are present among the one dozen known intermediate polars and DQ Herculis stars, where the magnetic white dwarf primaries are spinning faster than the orbital period of the pair. I therefore checked the location of the object on several hundred Sonneberg sky patrol plates taken between 1956 and 1992 mainly by H. Huth and B. Fuhrmann. None of the 493 exposures of a threshold of 12^m5 pg and deeper showed any eruption of the kind of EX Hya. Moreover, on those numerous patrol plates which reach 14^m5 the image of the star is always visible and is varying between 13^m8 and 14^m2 . The same is true for 41 exposures with a limiting magnitude of 15^m0 or better, taken with a 14 cm astrograph between 1929 and 1931 and scatteredly during the sixties. This confirms, on a much larger basis, the findings of Andronov (1993), whose comparison stars were used in the present investigation. The result is in agreement with those authors who separate EX Hya from the bulk of intermediate polars (e.g. Vogt, 1992).

It cannot be completely excluded, however, that (contrary to outbursts) depressions of the brightness (short ones, or longer lasting low states) might have happened undetected within the time interval spanned by our material.

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