

THE IUE SPECTRUM OF AX MONOCEROTIS

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RESUMEN. Imágenes de AX Monocerotis obtenidas en alta dispersión con el satélite ultravioleta IUE, en una sola fase del ciclo orbital, han sido analizadas desde el punto de vista del espectro continuo así como del espectro de líneas. El continuo corresponde al de la componente temprana del sistema. Se da una lista de identificaciones del espectro de líneas y se propone un modelo para la envoltura extendida.

ABSTRACT. High dispersion IUE images of AX Monocerotis, secured at one single phase of the orbital cycle, were analyzed for the continuous as well as for the line spectrum. The continuum corresponds to that of the early type component of the system. A list of line identification is given and a model is proposed for the extended envelope.

I. INTRODUCTION

AX Monocerotis [HD 45910 = BD + 5°1267 = SAO 113974; $\alpha = 6^{\text{h}} 27^{\text{m}} 52^{\text{s}}$, $\delta = +5^{\circ}54'11$ (1950.0); $V = 6.59-6.88$ mag.] is a binary system with a B3nn and a K0 III components, the orbital period being 232.5 days, and the rotational velocity of the early-type star, 345 km/s (Cowley 1964). According to Cowley's orbital elements, periastron passage occurs a few hundredths of the period after the quadrature at which the late-type component, in its orbital motion, reaches the maximum velocity of recession.

The photographic spectrum can be described as displaying (cf. Cowley 1964)

- a) lines of the two stellar components;
- b) P Cygni profiles in H (and occasionally in He I), the absorption being variable & from time to time becoming double or multiple, the velocities being of the order of -150 and -250 km/s, respectively.
- c) on rare occasions, weak absorptions of Ni II 4067 and Fe II 4233 with the same displacements as the H lines;
- d) weak, hazy emission of Fe II;
- e) occasional, faint [Fe II] (essentially 4244) emission, varying from hazy to reasonably sharp, the average velocity being +1.4 km/s;
- f) structure in the resonance lines of Ca II and Na I: an interstellar feature, one or more components with the same displacements as the H P Cygni absorptions, and a shell component [cf. g)];
- g) a shell-like spectrum displaying Mg I, Mg II, Si I, Si II, Sc II, Ti II, Cr II, Fe I, Fe II and Ni II, which is present from some 7 weeks before to a few weeks after the conjunction at which the B star is behind; the velocities are of recession, before conjunction, and of approach, after conjunction.

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The shell lines have been interpreted as being produced by an eclipse of the B star by an extended atmosphere around the K component, and by the presence of a gaseous stream from the latter object towards the early-type companion.

When the shell spectrum is present, the hazy Fe II emission appears as double because of the absorption effect of the corresponding Fe II shell line, thus suggesting that the Fe II emission arises in a region around the B star or between the two components of the system.

Struve (1943), the Burbidges (1954) and Cowley (1964) have called attention to the fact that sometimes the violet H ϵ absorption is suppressed, with no reasonable explanation so far offered.

Cowley's derived orbital elements are

$$\begin{aligned} K_K &= 51.5 \text{ km/s} \\ \gamma &= + 6.5 \text{ km/s} \\ e &= 0.02 \\ a \sin i &= 1.64 \times 10^8 \text{ km} \\ f(M) &= 3 M_{\odot} \end{aligned}$$

From the velocities derived from the lines of the early-type component it would appear that the masses should be $8.6 M_{\odot}$ for the B component and $3.4 M_{\odot}$ for the K companion, if an inclination of 65° is adopted. If these were the values of the masses, the separation of the components would be of the order of $300 R_{\odot}$.

AX Mon has been found to have intrinsic polarization (cf. Serkowski 1970, Pfeiffer and Koch 1977). The object was not detected as a radio source at 10.6 GHz (Woodsworth and Hughes 1977) and is not known to be an X-ray source either.

AX Mon was considered by Swings (1970) as a symbiotic-related star. In fact, we are dealing here with a *combination spectrum*—an early-type object, although not a dwarf, and a late-type giant, although earlier than M— and an orbital period similar to those one finds among symbiotic binaries. The study of AX Mon, therefore, could throw light on the evolutionary history of symbiotic stars. As a consequence, one of us (J.S.) included this binary in his observing program of symbiotic stars with the IUE satellite, in January, 1979. The high dispersion images that were obtained are listed in Table 1; they were secured with large aperture from the NASA IUE ground observatory at the Goddard Space Flight Center, in Greenbelt, Maryland, U.S.A. Unfortunately, there are no observations in other wavelength ranges simultaneous or contemporaneous with our IUE observations.

TABLE 1

IUE IMAGES OF AX MONOCEROTIS

Image*	U.T. of Start of Exposure	Exposure Time			Phase**
	Year Day Hour Minutes	(Minutes)			(P)
SWP 3374	1979 1 21 12	65			0.095
LWR 3353	1979 1 22 24	20			0.095

* SWP: short wavelength prime camera; range: 1165–2126 Å

LWR: long wavelength redundant camera; range: 1845–3230 Å

** The phases were computed from the expression

$$2,433,390.8 + 232.5 \text{ days}$$

given by Cowley (1964) for the time of periastron passage.

If we take as origin the conjunction at which the K component is in front, the phase of the two images is 0.38 P.

II. THE CONTINUUM SPECTRUM

In a previous paper (Sahade, Brandi and Fontenla 1984) on the IUE observations of symbiotic objects, we have reported on the fitting with Kurucz's (1979) LTE model atmosphere

calculations of the ultraviolet continuum of AX Mon, calibrated, in absolute flux units, with the use of the method suggested by Cassatella *et al.* (1981). The fitting was good for $T_e=20000^\circ\text{K}$ and $\log g \sim 2.5$. The temperature is what we would have for spectral type around B2, and the gravity value would suggest that we are dealing with a giant object. Therefore, the fitting with Kurucz's models would describe the ultraviolet continuum of AX Mon as that of a B2 (or B3) III object, in coincidence with the listing of the star by Batten, Fletcher and Mann (1978), but at variance with the suggestion from the photographic spectrum that we are dealing with a main sequence star (Struve 1943).

III. THE LINE SPECTRUM

The ultraviolet line spectrum of AX Mon is essentially one of absorption features, except in the case of the resonance lines of Mg II at 2800 Å which display a P Cygni profile. Table 2 lists the identifications made.

TABLE 2
ULTRAVIOLET LINES IN THE SPECTRUM OF AX MON

λ obs. (Å)	FWHM (Å)	IDENTIFICATIONS				λ obs. (Å)	FWHM (Å)	IDENTIFICATIONS								
		ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (Å)	INT:			ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (Å)	INT:					
1188.9	}	Si III	5	1190.42	100	1275.0	}	Fe II	9	1275.80	400					
1189.4		Si III	1	1190.17	200	1275.4		}	Cl	7	1277.282	700				
1189.8						1277.2					1277.245	300				
1190.45	0.1	Si III	1	1190.17	200			Cl	7	1277.55	1000					
1190.55	0.1	Si III	5	1190.42	100			Cl	7	1277.72	250					
1192.5	}	Si III	5	1193.289	200	1277.35	}	Cl	5	1279.89	250					
		Si III	1	1194.02	400	1280.0				1280.25	0.1	Cl	5	1280.33	700	
1193.5		Si III	5	1194.500	250	1281.9					Ti III	2	1282.48	125		
		Si III	1	1194.02	400	1283.65		Ni III	1	1284.327	25					
				94.40	300	1285.8	0.9	Ti III	2	1286.365	700					
1196.0	}	Si III	5	1197.394	100	1288.65	0.6	Ti III	2	1289.30	500					
1196.6									1290.9	0.9	Ti III	2	1291.62	450		
1197.0											Fe II	9	1291.714	600		
1200.0	4.0	Si III	1	1200.97	400			Fe II	9	1291.618	300					
				01.71	200			Ti III	2	1293.23	400					
				02.10	50			Fe II	9	1293.661	200					
		Ni	1	1199.549	1000	1292.7	0.5	Ti III	2	1294.70	600					
				1200.224	950			Fe II	9	1295.88	400					
				.711	700	1293.9	1.4	Ti III	1	1296.088	400					
1226.4		Si III	8.02	1227.604	100	1295.8	1.3	Ti III	1	1298.66	1000					
1228.0		Si III	8.01	1228.746	150			Ti III	1	1298.97	800					
1228.8		Si III	8.01	1229.388	200	1298.0		Ti III	1	1298.66	1000					
1229.9	}	Ni III		1231.041	100	1298.8	1	Ti III	1	1298.66	1000					
1230.3									1301.2	2.2	O I	2	1302.17	1000		
1232.5										1302.3		O I	2	1302.17	1000	
1235.5						1303.08		O I	2	1304.86	600					
1238.8	2.5	NV	1	1238.821	1000			Si III	3	1304.37	100					
1242.8	1.3	NV	1	1242.804	800			Si III	3	1304.37	100					
1247.5		Si III	8	1246.738	100	1304.45:		Si III	3	1306.03	200					
1249.2	}	Si III	13.05	1250.09	150	1305.15		O I	2	1309.28	200					
1249.6									1250.09	100	1307.85	}	Si III	3	1309.28	200
1250.0									1250.50	300	1308.2					
1250.7	0.2	Si II	1	1250.50	300	1308.6										
1252.4	}	Si II	1	1253.79	500	1310.0		P II	2	1310.70	600					
1252.9									1312.5		?					
1253.3									1315.75	}	1.2	Ni III	10	1317.220	500	
1253.9	0.2	Si II	1	1253.79	500	1316.4										
1259.0	2.4	Si II	4	1260.42	500	1316.8										
		Si II	1	1259.53	500	1317.35	0.1	Ni III	10	1317.220	500					
		Fe II	9	1260.542	400	1318.45		Ni	12	1318.998	150					
1260.55	0.4	Si II	4	1260.42	500	1318.85		Ni	12	1319.005	80					
		Fe II	9	1260.542	400	1319.25		Ni	12	1319.676	250					
1263.3	}	Si II	4	1264.74	1000	1323.7		C II	11	1323.95	450					
1263.7									1265.00	100		C II	11	1323.9	300	
1264.35											1327.0		Ti III	4	1327.59	550
1266.6	}	Fe II	9	1267.43	500	1328.95	0.15	Cl	4	1329.10	200					
1266.95											Cl	4	1329.09	150		
1267.7											1329.2	0.15	Cl	4	1329.58	600
1268.4						1334.0	3.0	C II	1	1335.71	1000					
1268.7								C II	1	1334.53	800					
1271.5	1.5	Fe II	9	1272.0	500			C II	1	1335.66	100					
				1272.64	300			P III	1	1334.87	650					

TABLE 2 (continued)

λ obs. (A)	FWHM (A)	IDENTIFICATIONS				λ obs. (A)	FWHM (A)	IDENTIFICATIONS			
		ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (A)	INT.			ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (A)	INT.
1335.8	0.2	CII	1	1335.71	1000	1498.0		TiIII	3	1498.70	600
1343.7		PIII	1	1344.34	1000	1498.75		TiIII	7	1499.173	300
1346.4		PIII	1	1344.90	650	1499.6		NiII	7	1500.651	200
1347.35		SiII	7	1346.873	100	1501.4		PIII	6	1501.55	700
1347.85		SiII	7	1348.54	100			PIII	6	1302.27	1000
1348.15						1503.5		TiIII	6	1502.311	200
1349.5		SiII	7	1350.057	150			PIII	6	1504.72	900
1352.2		SiII	7	1352.635	100	1504.4		TiIII		1504.621	120
1353.15		SiII	7	1353.718	100	1509.6		FeIII	85	1505.166	650
1358.45		?						NiII	6	1510.859	75
1360.45		FeII		1361.372	85	1510.0					
1360.95		SiIII	46	1361.597	160	1510.4					
1362.5		NiII		1361.885	50	1525.15	1.5	SiII	2	1526.71	500
1363.6		SiIII	38	1363.459	140	1525.6					
1364.0		FeII	103	1364.575	240	1526.05					
1366.0						1526.8	0.3	SiII	2	1526.71	500
1367.5		SiIII	46	1367.049	140	1532.3	1.7	SiII	2	1533.43	1000
1368.8	0.8	FeII		1368.098	50	1537.5		FeIII	84	1538.632	650
1369.3		NiII	8	1370.136	500	1538.1		FeIII	84	1539.128	550
1369.5								84	1539.480	300	
1370.2	0.15	NiII	8	1370.136	500	1549.7	6.1	CIV	1	1548.19	1000
1371.85		FeII	85.07	1372.292	6 J	1558.1		CIV	1	1550.77	950
1373.3		NiII	9	1374.075	150	1558.55		FeII	45	1559.084	400
1374.2		FeII		1375.172	200			FeII	46	1558.542	200
1374.7						1560.5		FeII	46	1558.690	200
1378.9		PIII	7	1379.87	500			CI	3	1560.68	500
1380.15		PIII	7	1380.46	1000	1560.9		CI	3	1560.71	200
1380.55		PIII	7	1381.11	1000	1561.5		CI	3	1561.44	1000
1380.85		PIII	7	1381.63	800	1561.9		FeII	68.01	1562.270	4 J
1393.6	4.1	NiII	8	1381.295	200	1562.8					
1398.3		SiIV	1	1393.76	1000	1563.2		FeII	45	1563.79	500
1402.6	3.7	NiII	8	1399.026	80	1565.8		FeII	44	1566.82	400
1405.1		SiIV	1	1402.77	800	1566.35					
1407.9		?				1568.6		FeII	44	1569.67	240
1409.8		FeII		1408.478	80	1569.2		FeII	45	1570.25	400
1409.8		NiII		1411.071	100	1569.7					
1410.25						1573.4		FeII	44	1574.77	400
1410.6						1573.8		FeII	45	1574.93	400
1412.1		FeII	60	1413.699	70	1576.4		FeII	45	1577.166	20
1412.4		FeII	46.07	1412.867	8 J	1576.7					
1413.7		FeII	47	1412.842	8 J	1577.6		FeII	68.01	1578.219	2 J
1415.0		?				1577.8					
1416.9	1.7	NiII		1416.06	12	1579.6		FeII	44	1580.625	500
1419.8		NiII		1415.73	20	1580.0					
1420.7		FeII	143	1417.744	400	1584.0		FeII	44	1584.95	300
1421.2		TiIII		1420.036	300	1584.4					
1421.7		TiIII		1420.440	280	1585.5		FeII		1585.985	30
1423.7		TiIII		1421.631	280	1587.2		FeII	44	1588.286	200
1429.85		TiIII		1421.767	250	1587.5					
1430.5		TiIII		1422.405	650	1597.7		ScIII	1	1598.002	160
1434.3		FeII	47	1424.716	70	1601.4		FeIII	119	1602.00	300
1446.0	4.0	FeII	47	1424.047	50	1602.0		ScIII	1	1603.064	360
1453.3		TiIII	5	1424.140	300	1604.8		NiII		1605.910	60
1454.0		FeII		1430.780	200	1605.3		FeIII		1606.014	200
1454.4		FeII		1430.895	120	1606.6		FeIII	118	1607.723	600
1455.9		FeII	47	1434.996	70	1607.35	1.1	FeII	8	1608.456	700
1464.13		?				1607.85					
1464.5		TiIII	5	1455.19	1000	1608.6	0.2	FeII		1608.456	700
1466.4		NiII	7	1454.852	200	1610.0		FeII	43	1610.923	300
1466.6						1611.9				1610.933	300
1466.85		NiII		1456.913	16	1612.2		FeII	43	1612.81	400
1468.0		FeII	193	1465.043	400	1613.5				1614.911	90
1485.6		NiII	6	1467.762	100	1614.0		NiII		1615.459	120
1491.85						1614.4					
1492.05		NiII	6	1467.762	100	1615.8		NiII		1617.088	50
1493.9		NiII	6	1467.762	100	1616.2		NiII		1617.144	40
1494.3		FeIII	85	1486.265	450	1616.8		NiII		1617.299	40
		NI	4	1492.64	620	1617.5		FeII	8	1618.47	500
		NI	4	1492.82	100	1617.9					
		FeIII	85	1493.640	600	1620.7	1.0	FeII	8	1621.685	600
		NI	4	1494.68	400	1621.1					
		FeII	316.04	1494.776	3 J	1622.15		FeII	43	1623.091	160
		FeIII		1495.210	70	1622.5					
		NiII		1495.383	40	1623.7		FeIII		1624.206	150

TABLE 2 (continued)

IDENTIFICATIONS					IDENTIFICATIONS														
λ obs. (A)	FWHM (A)	ELEMENT	MULT.	λ Lab. (A)	INT.	λ obs. (A)	FWHM (A)	ELEMENT	MULT.	λ Lab. (A)	INT.								
1624.5	1.0	FeII	43	1625.520	400	1715.4	1.2	NiIII	16	1715.303	650								
1624.9		FeII	8	1625.909	300	1716.0		FeII	39	1716.577	40								
1625.3		AlII	9	1625.627	150	1717.2		FeII	38	1718.123	40								
1628.1		FeII	8	1629.154	600	1717.5													
1628.5		FeII	8	1631.12	600	1718.6		NiIII	16	1719.458	500								
1630.1						FeII		38	1720.621	400									
1630.45		FeII	43	1632.667	20	1719.4		FeII	84	1720.042	200								
1631.5						NiIII		17	1632.166	100	1719.6	AlII	6	1721.27	900				
1631.8						NiII		17	1632.171	30	1720.1	AlII	6	1721.24	500				
1632.0						FeII		43	1633.908	300	1720.4	CII:	14.02	1721.68	200				
1632.8	FeII	8	1634.345	400	1722.0	FeIII	6	1722.837	250										
1633.4										AlII	6	1724.98	900						
1633.7	FeII	68	1635.398	700	1724.1	FeII	37	1724.95	500										
1634.4										FeII	39	1724.966	160						
1634.8										FeII	39	1724.854	160						
1635.15										FeII	38	1726.391	240						
1635.7	FeII	42	1637.397	300	1725.3	FeII	110	1731.038	200										
1636.4										NiII	1637.589	300	1725.75						
1636.9										NiII	1637.439	100	1730.0						
1638.35										FeII	8	1639.403	600	1730.4					
1638.85	FeII	43	1640.150	240	1737.1	NiIII	15	1738.252	500										
1639.5										FeII	68	1641.76	500	1737.8	NiIII	28	1738.785	300	
1640.6										FeII	42	1643.576	300	1740.1	NiII	5	1741.547	1000	
1641.1																			FeII
1642.6	FeII	68	1647.159	500	1741.7	NiII	5	1741.547	1000										
1643.0										NiIII	15	1747.011	550						
1645.2										FeII	68	1649.572	400	1746.2	NiIII	15	1747.011	550	
1645.6										FeII	68	1649.426	300	1746.7	NiII	5	1748.285	500	
1646.1	FeII	68	1649.572	400	1750.4	NiII	4	1751.911	300										
1646.6										FeII	42	1649.426	300	1747.2					
1648.5										FeII	68	1654.105	100	1747.7	NiII	4	1751.911	300	
1649.0										FeII	42	1654.476	100	1750.7					
1653.5	FeII	42	1656.27	350	1751.2	NiII	4	1754.808	50										
1653.9										Cl	2	1656.93	300	1752.0	NiII	4	1754.808	50	
1656.4										Cl	2	1657.01	1000	1753.7	AlII	5	1760.10	350	
1657.1										Cl	2	1657.38	300	1759.3	FeII	100	1760.415	400	
1657.6	FeII	40	1659.487	400	1760.2	FeII	101	1761.379	500										
1658.2										AlII	5	1761.98	300						
1658.9										AlII	5	1763.95	700						
1660.6										AlII	5	1763.87	500						
1662.1	FeII	41	1661.347	5 J	1764.0	NiIII	14	1764.688	800										
1662.6										FeII	40	1663.221	300	1765.0	AlII	5	1765.82	300	
1662.6										AlII	2	1670.787	1000	1766.9	AlII	5	1767.73	400	
1669.5																			FeII
1670.9	FeII	40	1670.787	1000	1769.0	NiIII	14	1769.643	1000										
1672.4										FeII	102	1673.462	300	1769.3	FeIII	14	1770.247	200	
1672.9										FeII	40	1674.716	80	1770.35	FeIII	14	1770.554	400	
1673.8																			FeII
1674.1	FeII	41	1676.853	20	1771.5	FeII	99	1772.509	300										
1676.0										FeII	102	1679.381	300	1771.85					
1678.3										NiII	3	1773.949	25	1772.8	NiIII	27	1773.788	40	
1678.7																			NiIII
1680.5	FeII	40.01	1681.111	1 J	1775.1	FeIII	14	1776.068	400										
1685.4										FeII	40	1686.455	160	1780.6	FeII	67	1781.702	40	
1685.9										NiIII	25	1687.897	400	1782.2	NiIII	14	1782.747	60	
1687.3																			NiIII
1691.9	FeII	38	1695.036	150	1784.6	FeII	191	1786.74	800										
1694.2										FeII	85	1699.193	40	1785.75					
1695.65										FeII	38	1602.045	500	1787.0	FeII	191	1788.07	700	
1696.15										FeII	85	1699.193	40	1786.15	NiII	5	1788.485	100	
1698.0	FeII	38	1703.408	25	1787.4	NiIII	14	1791.644	200										
1700.9	NiIII	16	1703.467	50	1792.3	FeII	99	1793.367	200										
1701.45										NiII	5	1703.408	25	1792.7	NiIII	14	1794.904	200	
1702.3																			FeII
1702.6										SiII	1	1808.01	150						
1702.9	NiII	4	1709.598	200	1806.0	SiII	1	1808.01	150										
1703.6										FeII	84	1709.670	300	1806.8					
1706.8										NiIII	16	1709.901	800	1807.2	0.25	SiII	1	1808.01	150
1707.6										NiII	4	1709.598	200	1808.2	FeIII	1	1811.924	200	
1708.0	FeII	84	1715.503	240	1811.2	NiII	24	1812.065	30										
1708.6										1810.9									
1709.05										1811.4									
1709.8										1811.4									

TABLE 2 (continued)

λ obs. (A)	I D E N T I F I C A T I O N S					λ obs. (A)	I D E N T I F I C A T I O N S				
	FWHM (A)	ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (A)	INT.		FWHM (A)	ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (A)	INT.
1814.85	1.9	SiIII	1	1816.93	200	1950.0	FeIII	68	1951.007	800	
1815.6									1951.318	200	
1816.1						1952.0	FeIII	68	1953.322	900	
1821.2		FeII	66	1822.150	20	1962.3	FeII	170	1963.110	500	
1821.5						1963.5	FeIII	82	1964.169	550	
1822.0		NiIII	20	1823.061	800				1964.776	550	
1829.7	FeIII	117	1830.623	200				1964.019	300		
		NiIII	20	1830.006	400			1964.260	450		
				1830.075	200		FeII	61	1964.342	240	
1831.0		?				1964.2	FeIII	170	1964.342	240	
1832.9	FeIII		1834.096	70	1975.3	1.4	FeIII	106	1965.309	550	
1834.5	FeII	98	1835.874	300	1977.6		FeIII	54	1976.126	550	
1834.9					1979.3		FeIII	54	1978.417	250	
1837.5	FeIII	117	1838.309	450	1981.4		FeIII	54	1980.392	150	
1840.5	FeII	65	1841.701	200	1992.3		FeIII	54	1982.076	400	
1840.9							FeIII	50	1993.262	450	
1842.9	FeIII	117	1843.502	150	1993.2		ScIII	4	1993.886	180	
1844.3	FeIII	117	1845.304	300	1994.0		FeIII	50	1994.073	900	
			1845.521	450			FeII	228	1994.857	400	
1845.9	FeII	98	1846.573	240			FeIII	50	1995.266	450	
1846.5	NiIII	19	1847.275	650	1995.5		FeIII	50	1995.563	800	
1853.6	AlIII	1	1854.716	1000	1998.8		FeII	187	1996.420	800	
	FeIII	63	1854.826	600	1999.6		FeII	186	1999.430	200	
			1854.975	300	2000.3		FeIII	55	1999.462	150	
	NiIII	19	1854.149	800	2003.4		FeIII	55	2001.167	25	
1855.9	FeIII	63	1856.690	450	2005.0		NiII	33	2004.266	50	
1857.4	FeIII	63	1858.542	300	2006.3		FeIII	55	2006.265	25	
1859.1	FeIII	63	1859.955	200			FeIII	55	2007.845	90	
	FeII	65	1859.741	300			FeII	83	2007.452	150	
	FeII	97	1860.055	400	2007.6		FeIII	55	2007.013	120	
1861.5	AlIII	1	1862.790	600			FeII	83	2008.469	40	
	AlII	4	1862.311	1000					2008.358		
1862.6	AlIII	1	1862.790	600	2024.8	1.5	ZnII	1	2008.090		
1864.1	FeII	126	1864.743	400			MgI	2	2025.486	300	
1865.5	FeIII	52	1866.305	600	2026.3		FeII	186	2025.824	35	
			1866.554	300	2026.6				2027.778	50	
1869	FeIII	52	1869.828	650	2028.6		FeII	93	2029.182	80	
1870.3	FeIII	52	1871.152	600	2029.1						
1871.7	FeIII		1872.214	400	2031.9		FeII	94	2032.407	250	
	FeIII		1872.52	250	2032.3						
1881.35	FeIII	62	1882.047	650	2036.2		?				
1883.8	FeIII	96	1885.125	600	2055.7		FeIII	71	2056.145	120	
	FeIII	62	1884.596	550	2061.0		ZnII	1	2062.003	300	
1885.8	FeIII	52	1886.757	800			CrII	1	2061.54	175	
1886.4	FeIII	52	1887.471	550			FeIII	48	2061.552	250	
	FeIII	53	1887.197	550	2062.4		ZnII	1	2062.003	300	
1889.6	FeIII	52	1890.669	900	2062.85		FeII	92	2063.672	250	
1891.1	FeIII	96	1892.247	300	2067.25	2.7	FeIII	48	2068.243	350	
			1892.073	300	2089.5	1.7	FeIII	67	2090.139	350	
	FeIII	52	1892.140	300	2090.8		FeIII	77	2091.312	120	
1894.0	FeIII	34	1895.46	1000	2092.9		FeII	290	2093.711	50	
	FeII	124	1895.675	200	2093.25						
1896.0	FeIII	83	1896.803	600	2097.0	2.1	FeIII	67	2098.149	570	
1898.1	FeIII	96	1899.318	300				66	2098.361	350	
1906.9	FeIII	83	1907.577	650			FeII	120	2098.176	250	
			1907.741	250	2160.3		NiII	14	2061.217	80	
1909.7	FeIII	57	1910.401	400	2164.3		NiII	13	2165.55	320	
1912.7	FeIII	57	1913.622	250	2168.0		NiII	13	2169.096	440	
	FeIII	34	1914.056	1000	2173.5		FeIII	70	2174.658	570	
1916.7	FeIII	101	1917.453	600			NiII	14	2174.666	440	
		95	1917.351	550	2176.25		NiII	40	2177.086	220	
		108	1917.087	150					2177.361	200	
	FeII	96	1917.337	300	2179.3		NiII	40	2180.473	280	
1917.4	FeIII	108	1918.480	450			FeIII	70	2180.410	350	
		57	1918.284	450	2183.5		NiII	13	2184.60	280	
1919.0	FeIII	95	1920.186	250	2200.2		NiII	13	2201.409	240	
1921.9	FeIII	51	1922.79	1000	2205.5		NiII	13	2206.715	620	
		95	1923.003	450	2209.0		NiII	13	2210.382	180	
	FeII	138	1922.797	400	2215.0		NiII	12	2216.482	800	
1924.7	FeII	123	1925.983	400	2219.3		NiII	28	2220.402	280	
1936.3	1.8	FeIII	51	1937.34	950	2221.6	NiII	12	2222.957	300	
		FeII	96	1936.799	400	2243.2	?				
1938.2	FeIII	106	1938.901	650	2252.5		NiII	12	2253.848	220	
1939.25	FeIII	61	1940.018	550	2263.5		NiII	12	2264.461	320	
1940.7	FeIII	79	1941.633	200	2268.7		NiII	12	2270.214	440	
1942.5	FeIII	51	1943.48	950	2269.5						
1944.4	FeIII	61	1945.342	800	2275.0		NiII	39	2275.684	180	

TABLE 2 (continued)

IDENTIFICATIONS					IDENTIFICATIONS							
λ obs. (A)	FWHM (A)	ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (A)	INT.	λ obs. (A)	FWHM (A)	ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (A)	INT.	
2277.6		NiII	22	2278.770	280	2460.3		FeII	209	2461.860	100	
2286.0		NiII	38	2287.648	220	2461.1						
			22	2287.089	180	2462.5		FeII	208	2463.292	50	
2295.5		NiII	21	2296.552	200	2463.5		FeII	208	2464.009	40	
2297.5		NiII	21	2298.270	180	2464.25		FeII:	148	2465.199	10	
2298.9		NiII	27	2299.651	140	2465.2		FeII	208	2465.912	50	
2301.9		NiII	11	2302.996	320	2466.0		FeII	179	2466.819	60	
			59	2302.479	140	2471.6		NiII	19	2473.148	100	
2307.7		NiII	50	2308.518	120	2472.2						
2311.4		NiII	58	2312.916	140	2478.7		FeII	179	2480.115	285	
2314.4		NiII	11	2316.039	320	2479.4						
2318.0		NiII	37	2319.750	220	2480.9		FeII	207	2482.657	100	
2326.0		FeIII	121	2326.948	250							
2331.4		FeII	3	2332.80	170	2481.45						
2333.1		NiII	20	2334.524	220	2482.8		NiII	61	2484.204	140	
2336.7		FeII	3	2338.007	140	2483.4						
2337.8						2485.05		FeII	208	2486.343	220	
2340.0		NiII	50	2341.202	220	2485.55						
2342.0		FeII	3	2343.494	240	2488.5		FeII	331	2490.706	100	
2343.4		FeII	3	2344.281	125	2489.2						
2343.8						2490.05		FeII	207	2491.396	100	
2347.0		FeII	36	2348.113	140	2490.6						
			3	2348.299	155	2491.7		FeII	161	2493.262	220	
2350.5		FeII:	379	2351.666	15	2492.4						
2353.6		FeII:	165	2354.477	50	2497.25		FeII	161	2498.897	450	
2358.4		FeII	3	2359.118	140	2498.05						
			165	2359.111	285	2502.2		FeII	161	2503.560	110	
			379	2359.118	140	2503.0						
2359.0		FeII	35	2359.997	125	2505.0		NiII	48	2505.843	120	
2359.4			36	2360.293	110	2509.4		NiII	18	2510.871	220	
2363.4		FeII	3	2364.826	140			FeII	161	2511.761	110	
2364.0						2510.1						
2372.2		FeII	2	2373.735	125	2510.9						
2373.0						2513.75		NiII	61	2514.627	140	
2374.0		NiII	21	2375.418	320	2514.9		?				
2378.4		FeII	3	2380.762	110	2515.2		TiIII	7	2516.053	1000	
2379.3						2515.65		?				
2380.5		FeII	2	2382.03	320	2516.5		FeII	147	2517.131	50	
2381.3									207	2517.211	20	
2382.3		?				2518.25		FeII	268	2519.046	60	
2387.0		FeII	2	2388.63	170	2520.4		FeII	268	2521.092	40	
2387.7						2521.1			330	2521.816	30	
2393.6	2.7	FeII	2	2395.63	320	2523.6		FeII	159	2525.388	140	
2394.7						2524.5		NiII	61	2525.296	180	
2397.7	1.5	FeII	2	2399.241	170	2528.0		FeII	177	2529.549	155	
2398.5						2528.7						
2403.4		FeII	2	2404.88	280	2532.0		FeII		2533.627	110	
2405.0		FeII	2	2406.660	155	2532.8						
2405.9						2535.1		FeII	159	2536.803	140	
2409.4		FeII	2	2410.52	170	2536.1						
2411.95		FeII	2	2413.310	125	2537.2		FeII	158	2538.799	100	
2412.6						2538.1				2538.909	100	
2414.9		NiII	20	2416.134	440	2544.4				2538.993	125	
2422.3		FeII	301	2423.210	40	2545.0		NiII	18	2545.903	140	
2427.6		FeII	300	2428.364	110	2548.0		FeII	145	2548.74	100	
2428.5		FeII	180	2430.078	110	2554.0		NiII	62	2554.988	140	
2429.3						2556.25		ZnII:	3	2557.947	1000	
2431.0		FeII	180	2432.262	80	2558.9		NiII	62	2560.156	120	
2431.5			164	2433.495	70	2561.0		FeII	64	2562.54	200	
2432.1		NiII	19	2433.556	100	2561.7						
2433.3		FeII	321	2434.729	50	2562.6		FeII	2563.47		140	
2434.1			375	2434.822	50	2565.4		FeII	64	2566.91	60	
			180	2434.951	50	2566.1						
2436.4		NiII	19	2437.892	220	2567.8		?				
		FeII	375	2437.632	200	2569.3		?				
2437.5		FeII	209	2439.302	125	2570.0		?				
2438.6						2572.8		FeII	144	2574.362	125	
2443.8		FeII	375	2444.274	100	2573.55						
			148	2444.515	100	2575.25		MnII:	1	2576.105	1000	
2449.4		FeII	375	2450.134	50	2577.1		FeII	64	2477.92	60	
			300	2450.205	25	2580.95		FeII	64	2582.580	100	
2453.2		FeII	2453.935		250	2581.8						
2453.9						2584.2		1.7	FeII	1	2585.876	750
2457.3		FeII	209	2458.784	125	2585.0						
2458.1						2586.2		0.5	FeII	1	2585.876	750

TABLE 2 (continued)

λ obs. (A)	IDENTIFICATIONS					λ obs. (A)	IDENTIFICATIONS																												
	FWHM (A)	ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (A)	INT.		FWHM (A)	ELEMENT	MULT.	λ lab. (A)	INT.																								
2590.0 } 2590.8 } 2592.3 } 2592.9 } 2594.15 } 2597.5 }	2.7	FeII	64	2591.54	450	2751.6 } 2752.5 } 2754.0 } 2754.8 } 2760.25 } 2761.0 }	FeII	235	2753.287	80	2765.8 } 2766.6 }																								
2599.75 } 2605.2 } 2605.2 } 2606.0 } 2610.1 } 2611.0 } 2612.5 } 2613.05 } 2616.0 } 2616.85 } 2619.85 } 2620.9 } 2620.85 } 2623.9 } 2624.75 } 2626.6 } 2627.45 } 2629.5 } 2630.4 } 2663.0 } 2663.9 } 2665.0 } 2665.8 } 2683.15 } 2683.9 } 2691.0 } 2691.85 }		0.5	FeII	1	2599.395	870						2767.5 } 2768.3 } 2777.3 } 2777.75 } 2778.4 }	FeII	62	2755.73	280	2782.0 } 2782.7 }																		
2700.6 } 2702.3 } 2703.2 } 2705.0 } 2705.6 } 2710.25 } 2711.0 } 2712.75 } 2713.6 } 2715.45 }			1.8	FeII	1	2598.37						870						2789.4 } 2793.3 } 2795.9 } 2800.5 } 2803.1 } 2830.0 }	FeII	63	2761.812	125	2834.4 } 2839.0 } 2839.7 }												
2718.2 } 2723.25 } 2724.0 } 2725.85 } 2726.7 } 2729.2 } 2729.9 } 2735.25 } 2736.15 } 2737.9 } 2738.2 }				1.8	FeII	1						2599.395						870						2841.9 } 2842.4 } 2842.7 }	FeII	234	2767.50	750	2847.15 } 2847.7 }						
2741.45 } 2742.35 } 2744.9 } 2745.6 } 2746.1 } 2747.3 } 2748.4 }					1.8	FeII						1						2607.09						750						2848.2 } 2849.0 } 2850.7 } 2852.5 } 2854.7 } 2857.5 }	FeII	234	2767.500	750	2858.0 } 2858.6 }
						1.3						FeII						1						2611.87						240					
	3.0						FeII	1	2613.82	750	2864.2 } 2864.4 }	MgII						1						2795.523						400					
		0.6					FeII	1	2617.62	650	2866.1 } 2866.8 }		MgII	1	2795.523	400	2879.8 } 2893.65 }																		
			3.0				FeII	1	2620.41	12	2867.2 } 2879.1 }								MgII	1	2802.698	300	2894.8 } 2924.8 }												
				0.5			FeII	1	2621.669	40	2867.2 } 2879.1 }														MgII	1	2802.698	300	2925.7 } 2927.4 }						
					0.3		FeII	1	2621.67	40	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																				MgII	1	2802.698	300	2927.4 } 2935.2 }
						0.3	FeII	1	2625.667	140	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																								
	0.3						FeII	1	2628.293	125	2867.2 } 2879.1 }	MgII						1						2802.698						300					
		0.3					FeII	1	2631.322	155	2867.2 } 2879.1 }		MgII	1	2802.698	300	2946.7 } 2952.0 }																		
			0.3				FeII	1	2631.047	155	2867.2 } 2879.1 }								MgII	1	2802.698	300	2952.0 } 2952.9 }												
				0.3			CrII	8	2663.42	75	2867.2 } 2879.1 }														MgII	1	2802.698	300	2952.9 } 2963.4 }						
					0.3		CrII	8	2666.02	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																				MgII	1	2802.698	300	2963.4 } 2968.9 }
						0.3	CrII	8	2684.754	220	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																								
	0.3						CrII	8	2692.11	25	2867.2 } 2879.1 }	MgII						1						2802.698						300					
		0.3					CrII	8	2701.13	220	2867.2 } 2879.1 }		MgII	1	2802.698	300	2983.9 } 3000.85 }																		
			0.3				CrII	8	2703.988	60	2867.2 } 2879.1 }								MgII	1	2802.698	300	3000.85 } 3001.7 }												
				0.3			CrII	8	2706.566	220	2867.2 } 2879.1 }														MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }						
					0.3		CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																				MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }
						0.3	CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																								
	0.3						CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }	MgII						1						2802.698						300					
		0.3					CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }		MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }																		
			0.3				CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }								MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }												
				0.3			CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }														MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }						
					0.3		CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																				MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }
						0.3	CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																								
	0.3						CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }	MgII						1						2802.698						300					
		0.3					CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }		MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }																		
			0.3				CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }								MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }												
				0.3			CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }														MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }						
					0.3		CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																				MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }
						0.3	CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																								
	0.3						CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }	MgII						1						2802.698						300					
		0.3					CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }		MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }																		
			0.3				CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }								MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }												
				0.3			CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }														MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }						
					0.3		CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																				MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }
						0.3	CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																								
	0.3						CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }	MgII						1						2802.698						300					
		0.3					CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }		MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }																		
			0.3				CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }								MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }												
				0.3			CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }														MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }						
					0.3		CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																				MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }
						0.3	CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }																								
	0.3						CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }	MgII						1						2802.698						300					
		0.3					CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }		MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }																		
			0.3				CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }								MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }												
				0.3			CrII	7	2712.30	80	2867.2 } 2879.1 }														MgII	1	2802.698	300	3001.7 }						
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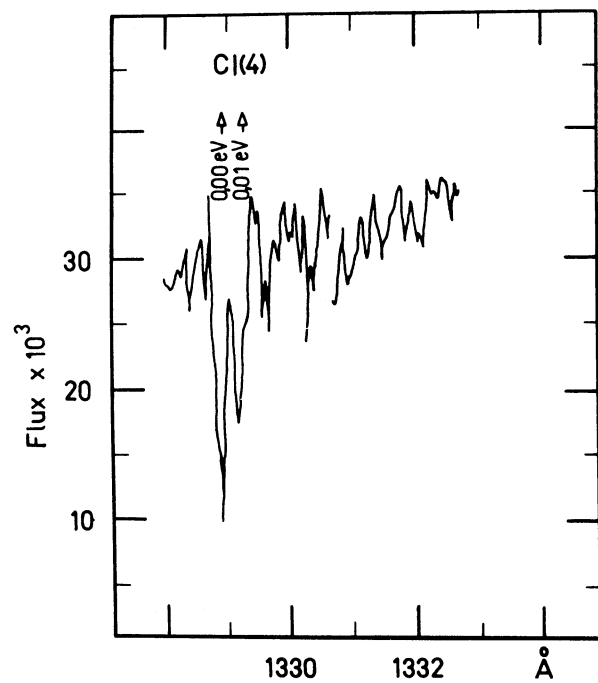
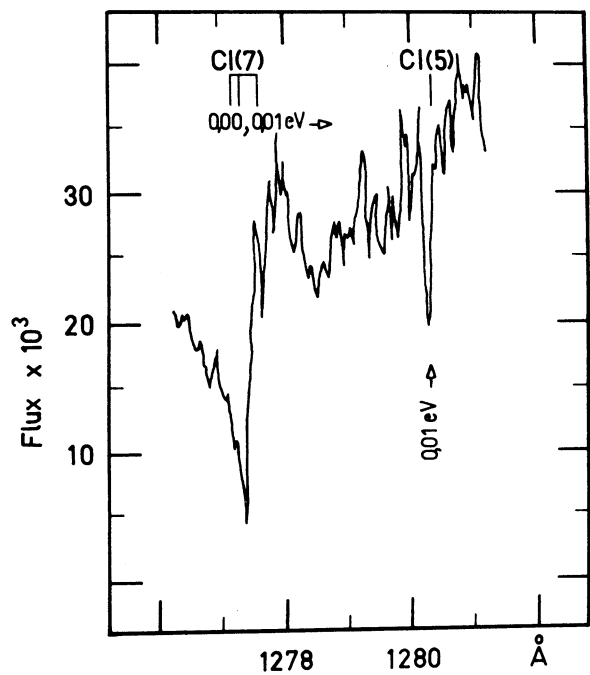


Fig. 1. The resonance lines of C I.

absorption (FWHM $\sim 3\text{\AA}$) being displaced by about -230 km/s. Actually, this absorption is very broad and we may be dealing with at least 2 components with velocities of approximately -300 and -175 km/s, respectively, values which in view of the uncertainties involved, could be considered similar to those from the absorption components in the photographic region. In addition, there is a sharp absorption at about $+40$ km/s. Subordinate lines of Mg II would seem to display two relatively broad absorption components. Figure 2 shows the resonance lines of Mg II.

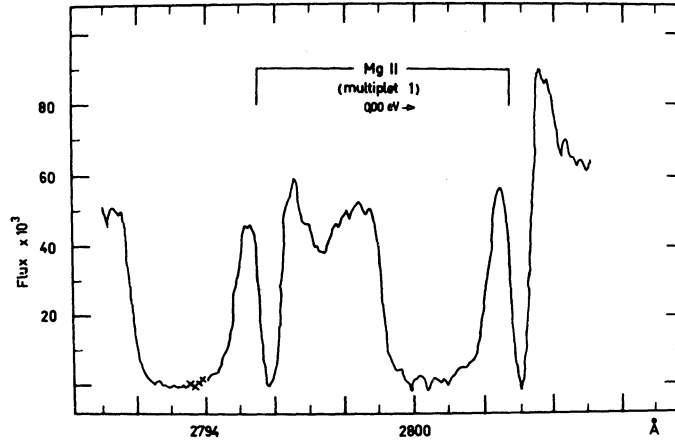


Fig. 2. The resonance lines of Mg II.

Al II: This ion displays a broad absorption feature (FWHM $\sim 1.2\text{\AA}$) at -120 km/s the lines arising from 0.00 eV level also display a sharp absorption at about $+20$ km/s.

Si II: Singly ionized silicon displays three components, a sharp one at about -300 km/s and two broad ones at -200 and at -120 km/s; the lines that arise from 0.00 eV level display, in addition, a sharp absorption at about $+30$ km/s (Fig. 3).

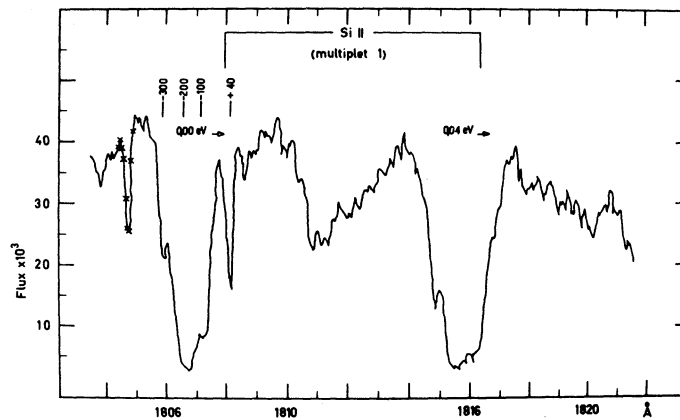


Fig. 3. The behaviour of Si II, multiplet 1.

S II: Singly ionized sulphur behaves like Si II.

Cr II: The lines of this ion are poorly defined; however, their behavior appears to be similar to that of Fe II.

Fe II: This ion displays two broad components at -200 and at -100 km/s; the lines arising from 0.00 eV level also display a sharp absorption at about $+35$ km/s (Fig. 4).

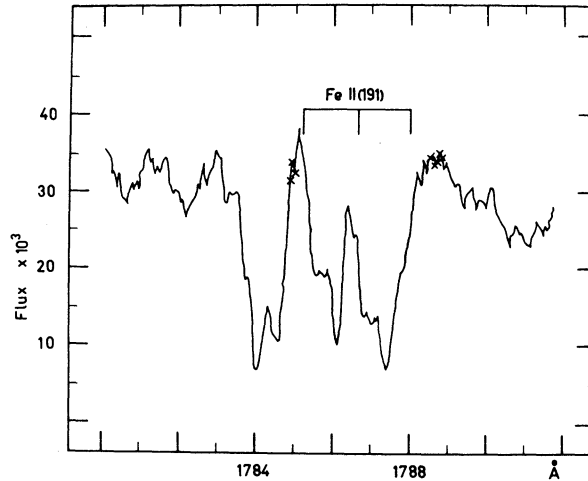


Fig. 4. Lines of Fe II.

Ni II: Singly ionized nickel displays three components, a sharp one at about -275 km/s and two broad ones at about -200 and -100 km/s, respectively; the resonance lines also display a sharp $+25$ km/s component (Fig. 5).

P III, Ti III, Fe III, Ni III: These ions display a single profile, with $\text{FWHM} \sim 1.4$ Å, at about -200 km/s (Fig. 6). Ti III from 0.00 eV level displays also a sharp component at about $+45$ km/s; we cannot tell whether the same is true with the P III lines that arise from 0.00 eV level because they coincide with the resonance lines (multiplet 1) of C II. Fe III and Ni III have no resonance lines in the IUE wavelength range.

N V, C IV: These two ions display the two resonance components of multiplet 1, with apparently the same structure as the resonance lines of Si IV.

Si IV: Triply ionized silicon displays the two resonance lines of multiplet 1 and each one seems to show two relatively broad components at -200 and at $+120$ km/s. The latter measurement depends on the interpretation of the overall profile and, therefore, it is uncertain however, the actual value would seem to be, in any case, positive, and, as a consequence, in Table 3 we have entered the velocity value of $+120$ km/s for such a component, the profile of which may be asymmetric towards the longer wavelengths (Fig. 7).

Table 3 presents a summary of the behavior, velocity-wise, of the different elements and ions.

IV. DISCUSSION

Our study of the two IUE images of AX Mon shows conclusively that there is no contribution to the UV spectrum from the K component of the system and that no photospheric lines of the B companion appear to be present. Therefore, the UV line spectrum arises exclusively in the extended envelope in which the system is embedded.

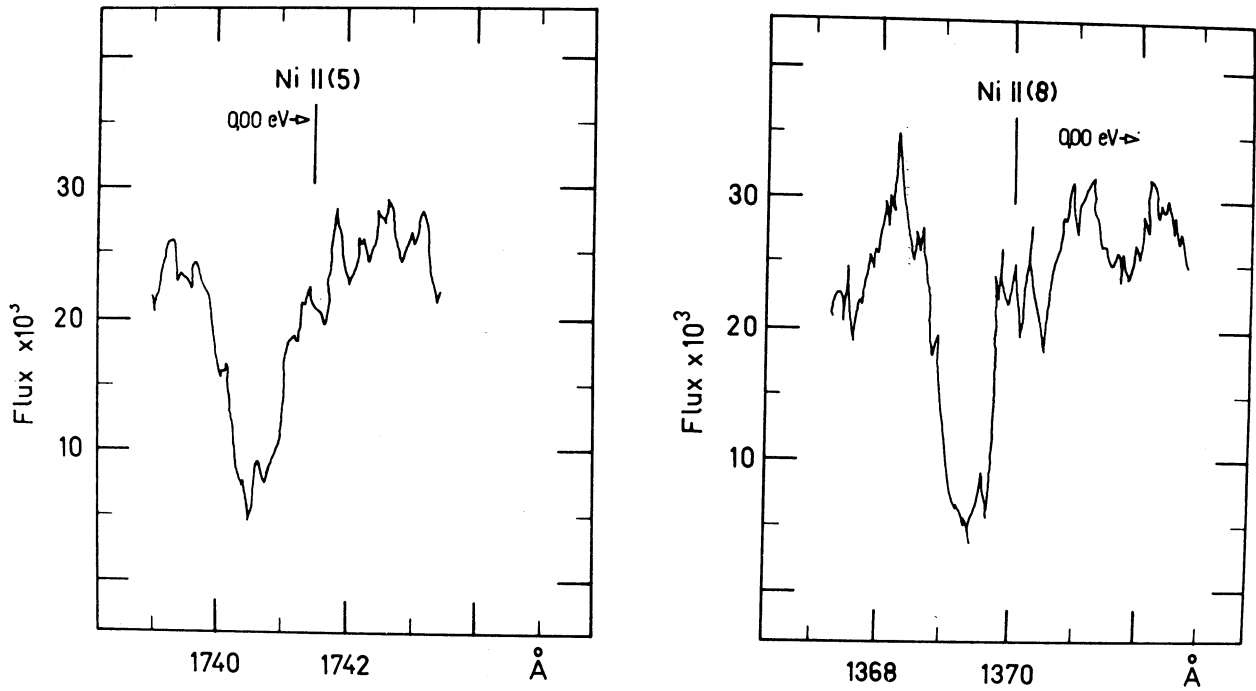


Fig. 5. The resonance lines of Ni II.

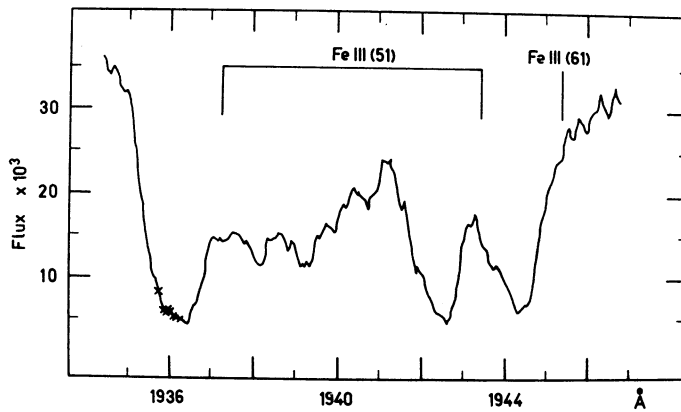


Fig. 6. Lines of Fe III.

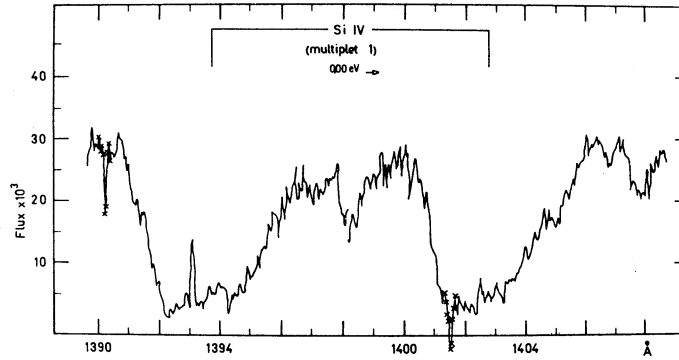


Fig. 7. The resonance lines of Si IV.

TABLE 3

VELOCITY BEHAVIOR OF SPECTRAL ABSORPTION LINES IN AX MONOCEROTIS

Element/Ion		Radial Velocity (in km/s)						
IUE	Photo-graphic	sharp comp.	Resonance Lines sharp components (0.00-0.01 eV)					
(H)	H*	-250	-150					
C I					0			
C IV					x		x	
N V					x		x	
O I					x:		x	
	Na I				x	x	+6? +23	
Mg II*					-250:	-150:	+40	
Al II			x				+40	
Si II		-300	-200	-100	-300	-200	-100	+40
Si IV						-200		+120
P III			-200					
S II		-300	-200	-100	-300	-200	-100	+40
	Ca II				<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>	+6? +24	
Ti III			-200					
Cr II			x	x				x
Fe II			-200	-100	-200	-100		+40
Fe III			-200					
Ni II		-250	-170	-100				+40
Ni III			-200					

* P Cygni profiles. The velocities correspond to the violet absorptions.
x indicates probably present.

Figures derived from the photographic region were taken from Cowley (1964).

What can we conclude from observations that correspond to only one phase in the orbital cycle, namely, about 0.38P, counted from the conjunction at which the K star is in front?

1. Non-Thermal Sources

In the first place, we note that in AX Mon, as it has been true in other binary systems (Sahade and Ferrer 1982, Sahade and Hernández 1984a, b) and in symbiotic objects (Sahade, Brandi and Fontenla 1984), the line spectrum corresponds to a large range in electron temperature and some of these temperatures, like those that are required for the formation of the resonance lines of N V, C IV and Si IV, cannot be accounted for by the radiation field of either component of the system. This would suggest, here again, the existence of non-thermal sources of energy in the system.

2. High Electron Temperature Regions

In the second place, we have the fact that the resonance lines of Si IV display two broad components, one that yields a velocity of about -200 km/s and a second one that suggests a positive velocity. The existence of two components with very different velocities suggest, in turn, that there should be two regions of high electron temperature in the extended envelope of AX Mon. Because of the derived velocity values and because in other systems like β Lyrae (Hack *et al.* 1976) and AU Monocerotis (Sahade and Ferrer 1982) a similar conclusion has already been reached, we would be inclined to expect that the longward-displaced component of Si IV arises close to the stars, perhaps in the region where the gaseous stream from the K component interacts with the gaseous formation around the B-type companion (cf. Lubow and Shu 1975, Shu 1976). The asymmetry of this component towards long wavelengths, interpreted as indicating acceleration (Ringuelet 1983), would be an additional argument in support of our suggested location of the corresponding region of high electron temperature.

As far as the shortward-displaced component, we would like to suggest, also similarly as it was concluded in the cases of β Lyr (Hack *et al.* 1976), AU Mon (Sahade and Ferrer 1982) and γ_1 Velorum (Sahade and Hernández 1984a), that the corresponding high electron temperature region should be located at a certain distance from the stars and be perhaps related to the dissipation of shock waves produced in the area where gaseous matter is lost to the system through one of the external Lagrangian points (cf. Florkowski 1980). If we resort to the nomenclature used for the Sun, we can call *transition regions* the temperature-rise zones in the extended envelope of AX Mon where electron temperature increases at least up to the value required by the resonance lines of N V.

What about the rest of the lines?

3. The Interstellar Lines

The undisplaced resonance lines of C I must be of interstellar origin and, therefore, should be placed together with the interstellar lines of Ca II and Na I observed in the photographic region, outside the proper domain of the system.

4. The Outermost Layers of the Extended Envelope

The sharp component displayed by the resonance lines, arising in the 0.00 eV level, of O I, C II, Mg II, Al II, Si II, S II, Cr II?, Fe II, Ni II and Ti III, characterized by velocities in the range $+20$ to $+40$ km/s, should form in the outermost layers of the extended envelope. This is confirmed by the fact that H column density for Fe II comes out to be 6×10^{19} cm $^{-2}$. However, the possibility exists that some of the lines that yield velocities of the order of $+20$ km/s, may be of interstellar origin.

5. The Cool Shell

Although we have no way, so far, of establishing a distance scale in the extended envelope of AX Mon we can still try to place the positions of the regions where other ultraviolet lines originate, relative to those we have already discussed.

The P Cygni profiles of H in the photographic region, of Mg II (1) in the ultraviolet, and the non-interstellar, non-shell-like lines of Ca II in the photographic region are normally considered to originate in the so-called *cool shell* (Doazan and Thomas 1982) where the temperature should be of the order of 10^3 and the electron density perhaps 10^4 or 10^5 cm $^{-3}$. In AX Mon we observe two components of the violet absorptions and the question arises as to whether both components originate in the *post-transition region*. This would be the simplest assumption and would imply that the smaller velocity component would form further out than the larger

in the present work. We are also very much indebted to Dr. George Wallerstein for useful comments.

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