The B[e] Star CI Cam in the Optical Range

Anatoly Miroshnichenko

Dept. of Physics & Astronomy, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, USA

- E.A. Barsukova (Special Astrophys. Obs., Russian Acad. Sci. SAO RAS)
- V.P. Goranskij (Sternberg Astron. Inst., Moscow State Univ. & SAO RAS)
- S.V. Zharikov (Inst. Astronomy, Univ. Nacional Autónoma de México) A.N. Burenkov (SAO RAS)
- L. Iliev (Inst. of Astronomy & National Astron. Obs., Bulgaria)
- N. Manset (CFHT Corp., HI, USA)
- Metlova, N.V. (Sternberg Astron. Inst., Moscow State Univ.)
- Moiseeva, A.V. (SAO RAS)
- Nedialkov, P. (Dept.Astron., Faculty of Physics, Univ. St. Kliment Ohridsky, Bulgaria)
- Semenko, E.A. (National Astron. Research Inst. of Thailand & SAO RAS)
- Stoyanov, K.A. (Inst. of Astronomy & National Astron. Obs., Bulgaria)
- Yakunin, I.A. (Sternberg Astron. Inst., Moscow State Univ. & St.Petersburg St. Univ.)

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Spectrum from the Three College Observatory, 0.81-m telescope, R ~12,000





Groups of Emission-Line Stars

Be stars - phenomenon/evolutionary stage – 1866 T Tau stars – pre-main-sequence low-mass stars – 1945 Herbig Ae/Be – pre-main-sequence intermediate-mass – 1960 Luminous Blue Variables – evolutionary stage of very massive stars – 1970's

Vega-type – main-sequence stars with debris protostellar envelopes – 1984

Proto-Planetary Nebulae – transition objects/late evolutionary stage of low-mass stars – 1988

B[e] stars – phenomenon in a wide variety of objects – 1976

The B[e] Phenomenon

Discovery – Allen & Swings(1976, A&A, 47, 293)

- 65 B-type stars (out of 700) with forbidden line emission ([Fe II], [O I], [O III]) and IR excess at λ =2 µm
- Five groups of B[e] stars: supergiant B[e], pre-mainsequence B[e], compact Planetary Nebulae B[e], symbiotic B[e], and unclassified B[e]
- Key features: large envelopes/disks + circumstellar dust
- 32 unclassified B[e] no absorption lines detected → no distance OR mixture of features from different groups
 Most of these became FS CMa objects (Miroshnichenko 2007) + ~50 newly found (Miroshnichenko et al. 2011, Kuratova et al. 2017)

IRAS color-color diagram



FS CMa stars
 ∆ - Herbig Ae/Be
 ○ - Vega-type
 × - symbiotic stars

Dusty envelopes of FS CMa stars are compact

Strong Line Emission



Average Hα EW is an order of magnitude stronger than in Be stars

~100 times higher mass loss rates than typical for dwarf B and Be stars are required to explain these emission-line strenghts

Typical Spectra of unclB[e] Objects



Dust Properties: Spitzer Data

Miroshnichenko et al. (2011, IAU Symposium 272, p.412)



MWC 728 – B6 Ve + G8 III binary system

AS 78 – B[e] object with P Cyg type line profiles

CI Cam – Brief History of Studies

- 1933 discovery as an emission-line star in the Mount Wilson spectroscopic survey (MWC 84, Merrill & Burwell)
- 1971 discovery of a strong IR excess (Allen, Swings)
- 1976 selection to the first list of peculiar Be or B[e] stars by Allen & Swings
- 1995 erroneous identification of absorption lines of a cool companion (Miroshnichenko)
- 1998 multiwavelength outburst on March 31/April 1
- 2002 discovery of the 19.41-day period in photometric and spectroscopic data (Goranskij, Barsukova, et al.)
- 2008 discovery of pulsations (Barsukova, Goranskij, ATel#1381)

CI Cam = MWC 84



 $Lx \sim 10^{33}$ erg/s – quiescence, $\sim 10^{37}$ erg/s - outburst

CI Cam = MWC 84



01/27/1998

04/04/1998 3 days after the outburst

02/06/2000 from Hynes et al. (2002) 12

CI Cam – Outburst Interpretation

Thermonuclear runaway on a <u>white dwarf</u> surface – Orlandini et al. (2000, A&A, 356, 163)

Brief burst of supercritical accretion onto a <u>neutron star</u> or a black hole – Hynes et al. (2002, A&A, 392, 991)

Passage of a black hole through a dense disk of the B[e] supergiant causing an instability in a compact disk of a <u>black hole</u> – Robinson et al. (2002, ApJ, 565, 1169)

Binarity Signatures: Variable Lines



From Barsukova et al. (2007), Astronomer's Telegram, No. 1036



-34 -36 [N II]

-40

45

-50

-55

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CI Cam – Fe II Emission Lines



CFHT spectrum (R ~ 65,000) taken on 2018/11/20

CI Cam – X-ray



From Russell et al. (2006) MNRAS, 371, 1334

Fit obtained for low-mass black hole X-ray binaries

<u>CI Cam – Distance Problem</u>



CI Cam: Photometric Variations





CI Cam: Pulsations and Orbit





CI Cam: Pulsations and Orbit



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Pulsations and Physical Parameters



 $Q = P \sqrt{\rho}$

Q – pulsation constant P – pulsation period ρ – average density

 $\rho = M/(4/3\pi R^3)$ M = (4/3 πR^3) (Q/P)²

 $Q_{1H} = 0.0272$ (for the first overtone)

3 Pup: Single–Line Binary



Orbital period: 137.3±0.1 days, $K_1 = 5.0\pm0.8$ km/s, e = 0.05±0.05, $f(M_2) = 1.8 \ 10^{-3} M_0$ Initial masses: $M_1 = 3.6 \ M_0 \qquad M_2 = 6.0 \ M_0$ Current masses: $M_1 = 8.8 \ M_0 \qquad M_2 = 0.8 \ M_0$ Miroshnichenko et al. (2020, ApJ, 897, id. 48)

FS CMa objects on HR diagram



FS CMa Type Binary Model



Nature of FS CMa Stars

Single stars?

- Too high mass loss rates for objects with nearly MS luminosity (>10⁻⁷ M_{\odot} yr⁻¹ for 3 10 M_{\odot})
- Results of a merger? No obvious events in ~100 years.
- **Interacting (post mass transfer) binaries?** Can explain the presence of abundant circumstellar matter! (e.g., models by Wellstein, Langer, & Braun 2001; van Rensbergen 2006, 2008, 2011; Deschamps et al. 2015): the gainer cannot take the entire mass, transferred from the donor.

Conclusions on CI Cam

- Optical brightness measured since the outburst in 1998 and slowly increases with time.
- Rapid variability of the He II 4686 Å line was detected.
- The line forms in the material located around a faint secondary on an elliptical orbit with an eccentricity of 0.43 0.49.
- Radial pulsations of the primary companion in the first overtone are detected and allowed to constrain the spectral type at B0 B2 III and mass at 12-22 M_{II} .
- If the secondary is a white/helium dwarf with a mass < 1 $M_{I_{a}}$ then the mass function limits the primary to M <12 $M_{I_{a}}$ and R<8.3 $R_{I_{a}}$
- Overall our results are consistent with a conclusion that CI Cam can be a member of the FS CMa objects group.
- Tertiary component has been suspected in the system.