

## THE OVERCONTACT BINARY V563 LYRAE

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### ABSTRACT

Radial velocity (RV) and light curve (LC) data for the overcontact binary V563 Lyr have been obtained and analysed with the 2003 version of the Wilson-Devinney (WD) code with results  $K_1 = 147.4 \pm 2.1$  km/s,  $K_2 = 247.2 \pm 1.1$  km/s,  $RV_\gamma = 22.5 \pm 1.5$  km/s,  $q_{\text{sp}} = 0.596 \pm 0.008$ ,  $M_1 = 2.49(4)M_\odot$ ,  $M_2 = 1.45(4)M_\odot$ ,  $R_1 = 2.23(2)R_\odot$ ,  $R_2 = 1.81(2)R_\odot$ . A third component was identified, with radial velocity  $RV_3 = 18.8 \pm 6.7$  km/s. Inserting the derived parameters of the eclipsing pair into a Log (L)-Log ( $T_{\text{eff}}$ ) plot for each star using data from Yakut and Eggleton (2005) suggested that both stars are over-luminous and evolved to, and perhaps past, the terminal age main sequence (TAMS). The companion (star 3) has a spectral type of  $A0 \pm 1$  spectral subclass but cannot be gravitationally bound to the eclipsing pair, as its flux would dominate that of the pair, which was not observed. The companion must lie at some other distance.

### RESUMEN

Presentamos curvas de velocidad radial (RV) y de luz (LC) para la binaria en sobrecontacto V563 Lyr, y se analizan con la versión 2003 del código Wilson-Devinney (WD). Los resultado son:  $K_1 = 147.4 \pm 2.1$  km/s,  $K_2 = 247.2 \pm 1.1$  km/s,  $RV_\gamma = 22.5 \pm 1.5$  km/s,  $q_{\text{sp}} = 0.596 \pm 0.008$ ,  $M_1 = 2.49(4)M_\odot$ ,  $M_2 = 1.45(4)M_\odot$ ,  $R_1 = 2.23(2)R_\odot$ ,  $R_2 = 1.81(2)R_\odot$ . Se identifica una tercera componente con velocidad radial  $RV_3 = 18.8 \pm 6.7$  km/s. Al insertar los parámetros del par eclipsante en un diagrama Log (L)-Log ( $T_{\text{eff}}$ ) para cada estrella usando los datos de Yakut y Eggleton (2005) se infiere que ambas estrellas son sobre-luminosas y han evolucionado hasta el punto terminal de la secuencia principal (TAMS), o más allá. La tercera estrella tiene un tipo espectral estimado de  $A0 \pm 1$ , pero no puede estar ligada gravitatoriamente al par eclipsante, pues su flujo dominaría al del par, lo cual no se observa. La tercera estrella tiene que estar a mayor distancia.

*Key Words:* binaries: close — stars: individual: V563 Lyrae — stars: variables: RR Lyrae — techniques: spectroscopic

### 1. INTRODUCTION

V563 Lyr (BD+40 3480, NSV 11321, NSVS 5499431, TYC 3122-495-1) was discovered by Hoffmeister (1965) as one of his many variables. It was later listed in the NSVS (Kukarkin & Kholopov 1982). There were 44 visual minimum estimates performed between 1995 to 1997 (Beltraminelli and Dalmazio 1999), and Beltraminelli et al. (1999) then obtained three new photoelectric

minimum timings, thereby refining the period. The latter also obtained photoelectric observations in  $B$  and  $V$ ; displayed the light curves in  $V$  and  $B - V$ , and concluded that the system was a contact binary belonging to the W UMa type. Based on the  $B - V$  colour index, they estimated the spectral type to be F5.

After that there were many eclipsing timings reported in the literature, and Akerlof et al. (2001) indicated that the system was part of the ROTSE survey (Akerlof et al. 2000).

V563 Lyr was included in the multi-paper DDO radial velocity studies (Pribulla et al. 2009). However, they noted difficulty owing to the system's faintness (10.96 to 11.47 magnitudes in  $V$ ) which re-

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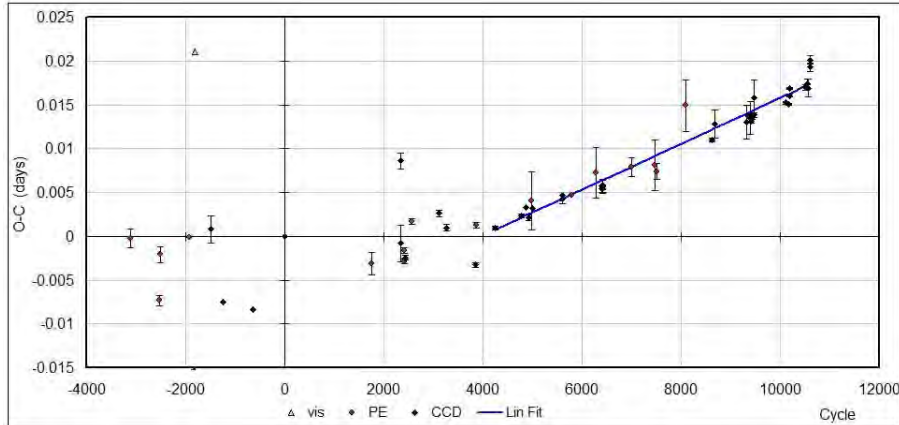


Fig. 1. The eclipse timing difference (O–C) plot for V563 Lyr. Open (yellow in the online version) triangle – visual; open (red) circle – photoelectric; black diamond – CCD. The elements used for phasing were [24 52500.2746, 0.5776412]. The data range is from 1997 to 2018. The colour figure can be viewed online.

sulted in “noisy spectra”. Further, they were able to obtain spectra at only the first quadrature (with a single exception); hence a spectroscopic mass ratio was not determinable. However, they did identify a third component in the spectra with velocity  $RV_3 \approx 14$  km/s and ‘roughly’ estimated a mass ratio of 0.37. They also noted that the  $J - K$  index (0.216) was more indicative of a spectral type F2-3 and that the (anomalously higher)  $B - V$  index of 0.456 was likely due to interstellar extinction.

As there is no report of a Roche-based study involving both photometric and spectroscopic observation in the literature, this study was undertaken.

## 2. PERIOD VARIATION

An eclipse timing difference (O–C) plot is reproduced in Figure 1. The reader will notice a large scatter in the timings from cycle -4000 (1997) to 4000 (2008) which is puzzling, as all the timings but one are either photoelectric (PE) or CCD. After 2008, the period appears to be constant, but at a higher value. A few of the data points with errors  $> 0.005$  days have been removed at the request of the referee.

The weighted least-squares best fit for the data after cycle 4000 yielded the following elements in equation 1, used for all phasing.

$$JDMinI(hel) = 2458629.64273(1) + 0.57764384(11) \cdot E. \quad (1)$$

An Excel worksheet containing all available timing data is available online at Nelson (2019 and 2020a).

## 3. SPECTROSCOPIC OBSERVATIONS

This observer obtained in 2016, 2018, 2019, and 2020 a total of 20 medium-resolution ( $R \approx 10\,000$ ) spectra at the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory (DAO) in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada using the 1.83-m Plaskett telescope. Windows software *RaVeRe*, written by the author and available at (Nelson 2013, Nelson 2020a), was used for reduction. The radial velocities (RVs) were determined by the broadening functions (BF) routine (Ruciński 1992, 2004; Nelson 2010) as implemented in the Windows-based software *Broad* (Nelson 2013, 2020a). See Nelson (2020b) for further details. The elements used for all the phasing are given in equation 1 above.

A log of observations and the derived heliocentric radial velocities ( $RV_{1,2,3}$ ) is presented in Table 1.

The calibrated one-dimensional spectra, sorted by phase, are presented in Figure 2.

As noted above, RV determination was by the broadening function method due to Rucinski. In most previous light curve modelling papers by this author (for example, Nelson 2017, Nelson 2020b), broadening functions were also used, and radial velocities extracted by smoothing the broadening function to remove noise, then centroiding the peaks that ensued. In the case of V563 Lyr, smoothing the peaks and centroiding is not appropriate owing to the likely presence of a third star, whose peak is obvious in the broadening functions, and which would contaminate the broadening functions from the other stars.

To disentangle the components, Gaussian profile curve fitting was developed in Excel (and later added to software *Broad*). The Gaussian profile for each of

TABLE 1  
LOG OF DAO OBSERVATIONS AND RESULTS

DAO Image #	Mid-Time (HJD-2400000)	Exposure (sec)	Phase at Mid-exp	$RV_1$ (hel) (km/s)	$RV_2$ (hel) (km/s)	$RV_3$ (hel) (km/s)
20-19141	59090.7	3000	0.159	-127.0 (3.7)	238.1 (3.6)	6.1 (3.2)
20-19449	59098.8	3000	0.162	-107.4 (7.2)	240.0 (5.1)	16.7 (3.6)
18-5459	58241	2750*	0.170	-97.7 (3.8)	229.7 (3.6)	27.9 (3.2)
19-16500	58737.8	3000	0.181	-111.0 (8.3)	238.4 (8.1)	17.0 (7.6)
20-19574	59101.7	3000	0.182	-118.0 (3.6)	256.1 (3.2)	13.8 (4.0)
16-9400	57647.8	3600	0.218	-131.3 (5.5)	265.5 (4.1)	11.6 (2.1)
20-19396	59097.7	3000	0.274	-113.5 (3.8)	265.6 (8.9)	17.7 (3.4)
16-9347	57646.7	3600	0.288	-129.1 (3.8)	269.6 (3.9)	11.9 (1.6)
18-5305	58233	3000	0.309	-130.2 (7.7)	267.6 (2.4)	8.1 (4.8)
20-19583	59101.8	3000	0.342	-97.6 (4.2)	249.7 (5.7)	24.2 (3.4)
16-9365	57646.9	3600	0.647	159.1 (3.9)	-181.7 (3.3)	23.6 (4.8)
18-5384	58234.9	3000	0.651	144.0 (3.3)	-190.8 (4.0)	15.1 (3.8)
18-5489	58241.9	1798*	0.704	150.0 (2.3)	-216.1 (3.3)	17.6 (3.6)
16-9299	57645.8	3600	0.717	155.1 (3.1)	-212.7 (5.1)	21.8 (3.5)
16-9473	57652.7	3600	0.728	169.6 (6.1)	-220.0 (4.2)	29.6 (5.2)
20-19485	59099.7	3000	0.742	159.3 (6.5)	-217.5 (7.3)	25.8 (4.4)
18-5495	58241.9	3000	0.799	156.1 (4.8)	-206.9 (3.4)	22.3 (5.4)
20-19487	59099.7	3000	0.803	164.4 (7.3)	-199.4 (3.1)	27.6 (4.4)
20-19050	59088.8	3000	0.810	147.5 (6.7)	-192.7 (2.0)	22.7 (4.0)
19-16544	58745.6	2400	0.815	147.6 (9.0)	-192.5 (9.4)	14.6 (9.1)

\* Clouds caused the exposure to be terminated early.

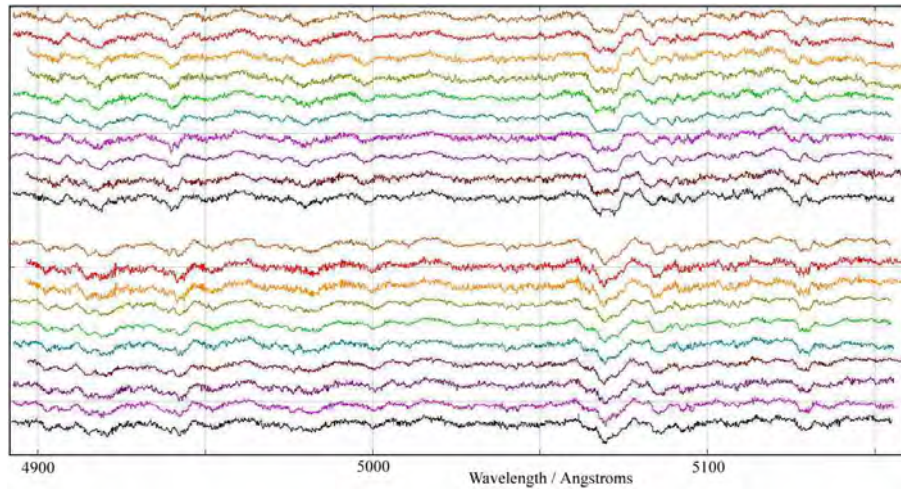


Fig. 2. V563 Lyr spectra, offset for clarity. The vertical scale is arbitrary. The phases (from top to bottom) correspond to those in Table 1, top to bottom. The colour figure can be viewed online.

the three stars required three parameters: central velocity  $v_0$ , amplitude  $A$ , and ‘width’  $w$  (the actual full width at half maximum of the Gaussian profile being  $2 \cdot w \cdot \ln\{2^{1/2}\}$ ). The modified form of the stan-

dard Gaussian function is given in equation 2 (where  $i$  denotes the star index number  $i = 1-3$ ).

$$G_i(v) = A_i \cdot \exp\{-(v - v_{0,i})^2/w_i^2\}. \quad (2)$$

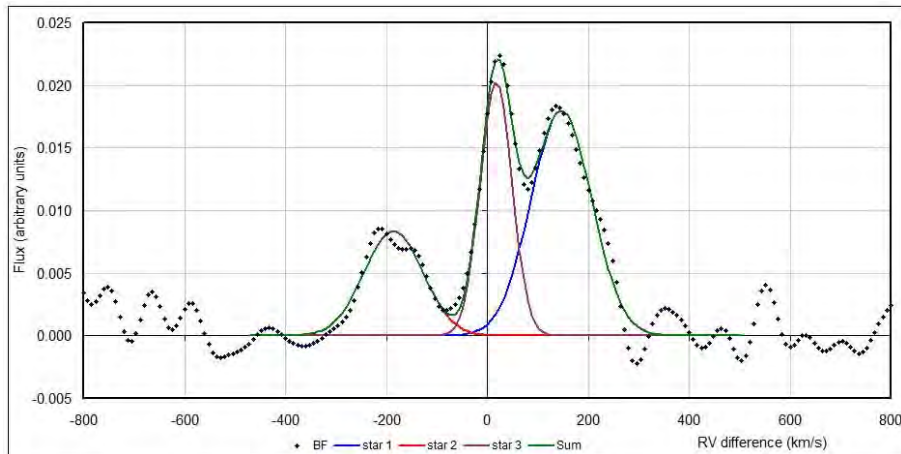


Fig. 3. Broadening function for V563 Lyr at phase 0.654 and the fitted Gaussian profiles. The standard spectrum is 18-5223 (HD 126053) and the program spectrum, 18-5384. The colour figure can be viewed online.

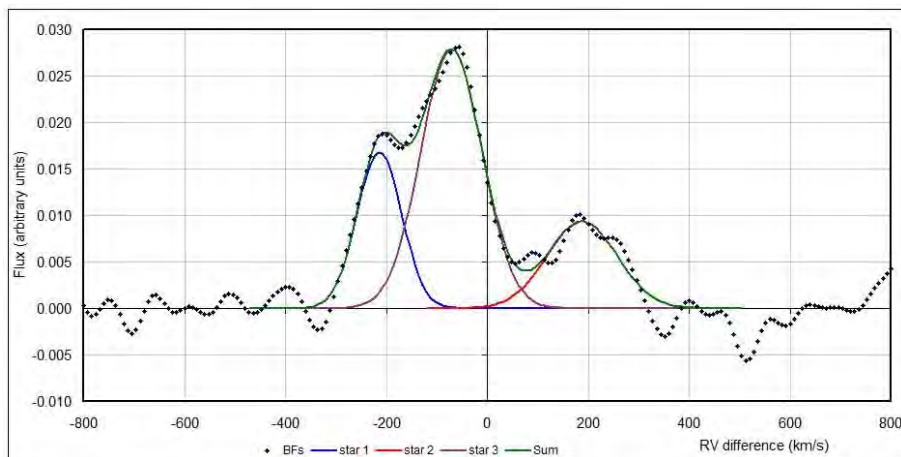


Fig. 4. Broadening function for V563 Lyr at phase 0.311 and the fitted Gaussian profiles. The standard spectrum is 18-5178 (HD 114762) and the program spectrum, 18-5305. (This corresponds to the third data line in Table 2). The colour figure can be viewed online.

The sum of the three functions was then taken as the theoretical curve, labelled in Figures 3-5 as ‘sum’, and the observed BF values, displayed as dots. The individual Gaussian components are also displayed. The sum of the differences squared (between the observed and theoretical values) was then optimized by adjusting the nine parameters. In Excel, the ‘Solver’ facility (which uses the Generalized Reduced Gradient code) was used, whereas software *Broad* uses the Levenberg-Marquardt (L-M) algorithm. (The former method is quite stable and almost always finds a solution, but may not be a relevant one, depending on the initial parameters, whereas the second requires a more critical choice to avoid crashes.). To avoid nonsensical results, care was taken to cut off

computation at certain lower and upper velocities. These cutoff values were usually set manually at the points where the observed BFs would first cross the  $x$ -axis (or nearly so) upon descent from the central peaks. (For example, in Figure 3, the lower limit was  $-220$  and the upper,  $+260$  km/s.). The results were found to be very insensitive to the choice of cutoff values, and any differences that resulted (typically 1 or 2 km/s) were well within error limits.

Note that, in Figure 3, the BF for the particular combination of comparison and program spectra, at phase 0.654, shows a clear separation of peaks. Note also the slight ‘peak pulling’ on the profile for Star 1 (on the right) due to the presence of the third

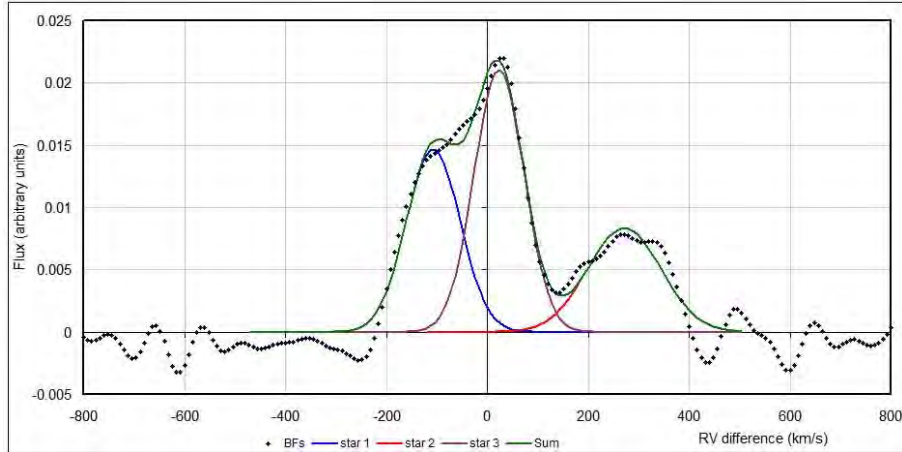


Fig. 5. Broadening function for V563 Lyr at phase 0.311 and the fitted Gaussian profiles. The standard spectrum is 18-5258 (HD 187691) and the program spectrum, 18-5305. (This corresponds to the sixth data line in Table 2). The colour figure can be viewed online.

star. Had the peak centroiding method been used, a distorted value for  $RV_1$  would have ensued.

In view of the relatively long exposures relative to the period, a phase smearing correction was applied in each case. For details of, and a mathematical justification for, this procedure, the reader should consult Alton et al. (2020).

Figures 4 and 5 display the situation for the previous night when the opposite phases were experienced. Both are for the same program spectrum but use two different comparison spectra. For Figure 4, peak centroiding could again have been used, but again with peak pulling for Star 1.

In Figure 5 a different comparison spectrum was used but this time there is no definite peak for Star 1. One might wonder about the validity of the profiling method in this case. To compare results, we present in Table 2 the data for the one target spectrum and all seven different comparisons for that reduction.

The means and standard deviations for  $RV_1$ ,  $RV_2$ , and  $RV_3$  in this table are  $-127.2$  (7.7),  $261.3$  (2.4),  $11.1$  (2.2) km/s, respectively. Note the very small scatter in  $RV_2$  and  $RV_3$ . The scatter in  $RV_1$  is, in the experience of this observer, not excessive, but clearly the proximity of the stronger and sharper BF due to Star 3 complicates matters.

The reader will also note that, between Figure 4 and 5, the widths of the Gaussian functions for  $RV_3$  are significantly different. This is somewhat troubling, as the heights and widths of the broadening peaks should reflect some physical values. The differences are likely due to the same errors in the Gaussian fitting approach—which rightly ought to be

TABLE 2  
THE BF PROFILE-FITTING RESULTS FOR  
PROGRAM SPECTRUM 18-5305\*

Std	RV std	$RV_1$ (Hel)	$RV_2$ (Hel)	$RV_3$ (Hel)
File#	name	km/s	km/s	km/s
18-5167	HD 089449	-125.2	263.6	9.9
18-5172	HD 102870	-130.6	263.9	10.2
18-5178	HD 114762	-141.8	263.4	9.2
18-5184	HD 140913	-121.4	261.3	14.3
18-5233	HD 126053	-122.3	260.1	12.2
18-5258	HD 187691	-119.1	259.0	13.6
18-5261	HD 154417	-129.7	257.9	8.6

\*Converted to heliocentric RVs. The last column contains the RVs for the putative companion star. (See later discussion).

investigated thoroughly—but which would be better suited to a separate paper. In any case, the results seem reasonable.

Our mean value for  $RV_3$  (for this target spectrum) is virtually consistent with the value ( $\approx 14$  km/s, no error estimate) provided by Pribulla et al. (2009).

In § 5, we will need the ratio of the flux from Star 3 compared to the total flux (at phases 0.25 and 0.75). As the BF process is linear (Rucinski, undated private communication), we may obtain an estimate of the flux from a given component by taking the area under its Gaussian profile, which is proportional to amplitude  $A_i$  times width  $w_i$  as defined in equation 2; thus we have flux  $F_i = k \cdot A_i \cdot w_i$  where  $k$  is a constant that drops out when ratios are



TABLE 3  
THE VARIABLE, COMPARISON AND CHECK STARS FOR V563 LYR PHOTOMETRIC OBSERVATIONS

Object	TYC/GSC	RA (J2000)	Dec (J2000)	Spec.	$V$ (mag)*	$(B-V)$ (mag)*
Variable	3122-495-1	18:45:06.6	+40:11:11.5	F5	11.112 (20)	0.282 (20)
Comparison	3122-1487	18:44:53.5	+40:10:03.5	—	11.944 (20)	1.147 (20)
Check	3122-2865	18:45:16.7	+40:12:26.9	—	12.128 (20)	0.749 (20)

\*The APASS catalogue provided no error estimates, so 0.020 mag was assumed (in view of the faintness of the stars).

taken. The fraction of the flux contributed by the third star is then  $F_3 / (F_1 + F_2 + F_3) = 0.29$  (7) in this case, averaged over the entire dataset (the figure in brackets is the standard deviation in units of the last digit). This value will be compared with the results from the photometric analysis which, of necessity, involves third light. The relevant photometric pass-band would be  $V$ , as it most closely approximates the wavelength range over which the spectra were taken.

The derived (heliocentric) RV values are listed in Table 1 along with the error estimate for each, the latter being the standard deviation of values from the different comparisons as presented above. The overall (i.e., through all phases) heliocentric radial velocity of the third star was  $RV_3 = 18.8 \pm 6.7$  km/s. This is compatible with the centre of mass  $RV_\gamma$  of the eclipsing pair (see later discussion).

#### 4. PHOTOMETRIC OBSERVATIONS

Photometric observations were carried out at Desert Blooms Observatory in 2019 (April-May). Obtained were a total of 742, 743, and 744 observations in  $B$ ,  $V$ , and  $I_c$  respectively. The telescope is a 40 cm Schmidt-Cassegrain optical assembly operating at  $f/6.8$ ; data acquisition was by a QSI 683 CCD camera (see Nelson 2020b for more details).

In Table 3, the coordinates for the stars of interest are presented, taken from the Tycho-2 Catalogue (Høg et al. 2000). The magnitudes are taken from the AAVSO Photometric All-Sky Survey (APASS, DR9; Henden et al. 2009). The colour index of the comparison was higher than one would like; however, most of the possible candidates in the field had similar values. The star chosen for the comparison had the advantage of close proximity and being close in brightness to the program star. (But see § 7 for a further discussion of comparison selection.) For all the runs, the difference  $C - K$  was observed to be constant to within  $\approx 0.01$  magnitude, with no systematic variation.

As described in Nelson (2020b), automatic focusing was required to accommodate the large swings in temperature throughout each night.

The usual bias and dark subtraction, and flat fielding, as well as aperture photometry was accomplished with MIRA (by Mirametrics).

#### 5. LIGHT CURVE ANALYSIS

Curve fitting was undertaken with the 2003 version of the Wilson-Devinney (WD) light curve and radial velocity analysis program with the Kurucz atmospheres (Wilson and Devinney 1971, Wilson 1990, Kurucz 1993, Kallrath et al. 1998, Kallrath & Milone 2009) as implemented in the Windows front-end software `WDwint56c` (Nelson 2013). RV and light curve data from the this paper were used in a simultaneous fit.

As mentioned above, the classification of Beltraminelli et al. (1999) was F5. Also, the 2MASS catalogue (Skrutskie et al. 2006) yielded values  $J = 10.286$  (26) and  $H = 10.120$  (31) so then  $J - H = 0.166$  (40). Reference to interpolated tables from Cox (2000) as augmented with infrared data from Mihalas and Binney (1981) confirmed the designation. The tables of Pecaut and Mamajek (2013) yielded a temperature  $T = 6510$  (120) K, and a  $\log g = 4.355$  (8) (cgs) where the errors correspond to the differences over one spectral subclass. An interpolation program by Terrell (1994, available from Nelson 2013) gave the Van Hamme (1993) limb darkening values; and finally, a logarithmic (LD=2) law for the limb darkening coefficients was selected, appropriate for temperatures  $< 8500$  K (ibid). The limb darkening coefficients are listed below in Table 4. Values for the gravity darkening exponent  $g = 0.32$  and albedo  $A = 0.5$  were chosen, appropriate for convective stars (Lucy 1967 and Ruciński 1969, respectively).

Based on the shape of the light curve, Mode 3 (overcontact binary) was selected. Initially, convergence by the method of multiple subsets was reached

TABLE 4

LIMB DARKENING VALUES FROM VAN HAMME (1993) BASED ON SPECTRAL TYPE F5, F5-6 FOR STARS 1 AND 2 RESPECTIVELY\*

Band	Solution 1				Solution 2			
	x <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>2</sub>	y <sub>1</sub>	y <sub>2</sub>	x <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>2</sub>	y <sub>1</sub>	y <sub>2</sub>
<i>B</i>	0.806	0.813	0.233	0.213	0.835	0.841	0.153	0.129
<i>V</i>	0.710	0.723	0.275	0.269	0.756	0.767	0.240	0.223
<i>I<sub>c</sub></i>	0.553	0.567	0.276	0.271	0.601	0.612	0.254	0.242
Bol	0.639	0.640	0.241	0.234	0.646	0.648	0.214	0.203

\*The same coefficients are listed for Solution 2 (discussed later) where the estimated spectral types are G1 and G4.

in a relatively small number of iterations. The subsets were:  $(a, \Omega_1, L_1)$ ,  $(i, T_2, q)$ ,  $(T_2, \Omega_1)$ ,  $(T_2, q)$ , and  $(a, V_{\text{gam}}, \varphi)$ . In view of the fact that a companion was known to be present (from the spectra), it was appropriate to add third light (and also necessary to reach a solution). Therefore EL3 was a parameter, as was also a spot, added to Star 1. However, the correct choice of EL3 proved to be elusive, as the fit (as indicated by the sum of residuals squared) proved to be a weak function of the EL3 values selected, and differential corrections was unable to provide meaningful corrections. To overcome this problem, for each band, a value for EL3 was selected and the fit optimized by altering the other parameters (especially  $T_2$ ,  $q$ , and inclination  $i$ ). Next, a new value for EL3 was chosen and the fit optimized again. In this way, the optimum value of EL3 for that band was determined. The procedure was then applied to the remaining bands.

In the original solutions there was a problem (picked up the referee) in that the values of EL3 were inconsistent with the ratio of fluxes derived from the broadening functions (see § 3), being an order of magnitude too low. This was despite the fact that the solution minimized the residuals and appeared to give a good fit visually. Thereafter, higher values of flux quantity EL3, starting with  $\approx 0.2$  for each band, were used in renewed modelling, and a grid search was followed, as above, to find a solution. The final values were EL3 = 0.257 (3), 0.256 (3), 0.245 (3) for *B*, *V*, *I<sub>c</sub>* respectively. In determining the *luminosity*  $L_3$  of star 3, one needs to assume that it radiates isotropically. If that assumption is made, we may take  $L_3 = 4 \cdot \pi \cdot \text{EL3}$  (Wilson and van Hamme 2013). The values for third light (luminosity) ratio  $L_3/(L_1+L_2+L_3)$  are listed in Table 5 and repeated in Table 7 along with those for the other components.

Converting the EL3 (*B*) and EL3 (*V*) flux values to magnitudes and carrying through the errors

rigorously, we have  $B - V = -0.004 \pm 0.036$  mags. With the estimated  $B - V$  colour index of the third star at hand we have, using the tables of Pecaut and Mamajek (2013) we estimate the spectral type of Star 3 as  $A0 \pm 1$  spectral subclass. Note that the above derivation neglects interstellar absorption.

The above solution so achieved is presented in Table 5 as Solution 1.

Pribulla et al. (2009) estimated the luminosity ratio  $L_3/(L_1+L_2) = 0.15$  (presumably in the *V* band). Taking the value in Table 5 of  $L_3/(L_1+L_2+L_3)$  (*V*) = 0.271 (3) and using simple algebra we have  $L_3 / (L_1 + L_2) = 0.371$  (4). The cause of the discrepancy between the two corresponding values is not clear.

The light curves, computed light curves and the residuals in the sense data-computed are plotted in Figure 6.

Next, the radial velocity data and solutions are plotted, starting with the RVs from this paper, in Figure 7. A simple double-sine fit yields values  $K_1 = 147.4$  (2.1) km/s and  $K_2 = 247.1$  (1.1) km/s, and  $\text{RV}_\gamma = 22.5$  (1.5) km/s). The spectroscopic mass ratio is  $q_{sp} = M_2/M_1 = K_1/K_2 = 0.596$  (8). Note that the mass ratio in Table 5 derived from combined (RV + LC) fitting differs somewhat from the spectroscopic mass ratio calculated from the ratios  $K_1/K_2$ . This is normal; however, the former is considered more reliable as it is derived from all the data (Wilson 1990). In any case, the error bars virtually overlap.

A word about error estimation is appropriate here (all error values in this paper are one sigma). For the errors in  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ , the reader should consult Alton et al. (2020). For the individual RV data points in the present dataset, each RV is the mean of values obtained from eight different standards; the error estimate is simply the standard deviation of the group. Actual errors from systematic effects are obviously larger but not directly calculable. That is

TABLE 5

WILSON-DEVINNEY PARAMETERS FOR THE BEST-FIT SOLUTION FOR V563 LYR. SOLUTION 2 IS TO BE PREFERRED (SEE DISCUSSION)

WD Quantity	Sol'n 1	Sol'n 2	WD Quantity	Sol'n 1	Sol'n 2
Temperature $T_1$ (K)	6510*	5837*	$L_1/(L_1+L_2)$ ( $B$ )	0.634 (4)	0.646 (4)
Temperature $T_2$ (K)	6385 (7)	5689 (3)	$L_1/(L_1+L_2)$ ( $V$ )	0.628 (4)	0.637 (4)
$q = m_2/m_1$	0.583 (14)	0.563 (28)	$L_1/(L_1+L_2)$ ( $Ic$ )	0.622 (3)	0.629 (3)
Potential $\omega_1 = \omega_2$	2.797 (71)	2.797 (155)	$L_3/(L_1+L_2+L_3)$ ( $B$ )	0.276 (3)	0.276 (3)
Inclination $i$ (degrees)	79.2 (2)	78.2 (1.1)	$L_3/(L_1+L_2+L_3)$ ( $V$ )	0.271 (3)	0.271 (3)
Semi-maj. axis, $a$ ( $R_\odot$ )	4.61 (5)	4.61 (6)	$L_3/(L_1+L_2+L_3)$ ( $Ic$ )	0.259 (2)	0.259 (2)
Centre of mass $RV_\gamma$ (km/s)	26.6 (1.8)	26.6 (9)	$r_1$ (pole) (orbital radii)	0.442 (14)	0.442 (14)
Fill-out factor $f_1$	0.685 (32)	0.685 (32)	$r_1$ (side) (orbital radii)	0.478 (20)	0.478 (20)
Spot co-latitude (deg)	38 (2)	36 (2)	$r_1$ (back) (orbital radii)	0.531 (31)	0.531 (32)
Spot longitude (deg)	173 (1)	173 (1)	$r_2$ (pole) (orbital radii)	0.354 (15)	0.354 (16)
Spot radius (deg)	20.5 (2)	20.7 (5)	$r_2$ (side) (orbital radii)	0.378 (20)	0.378 (20)
Spot temp. factor	0.852 (1)	0.846 (1)	$r_2$ (back) (orbital radii)	0.454 (49)	0.454 (50)
$\Sigma\omega_{\text{res}}^2$	0.23058	0.24186	—	—	—

\*Held fixed.

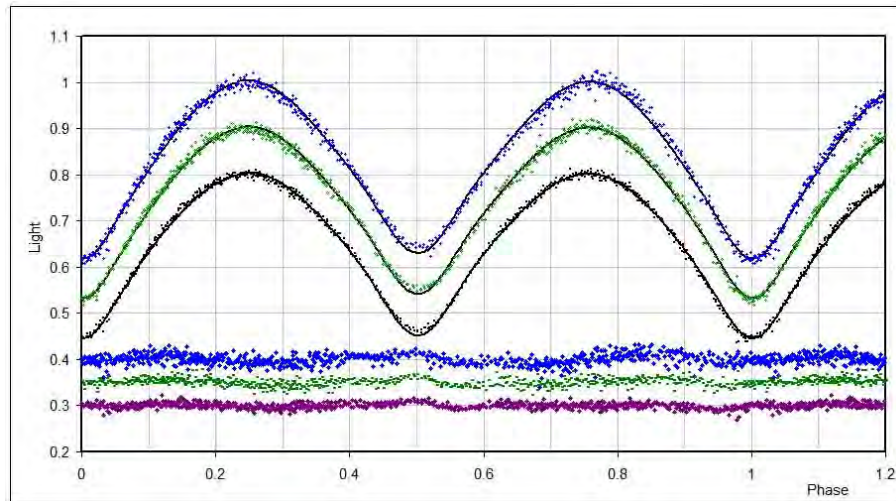


Fig. 6. V563 Lyr light curves and the WD results, separated by fixed offsets (0.1 light curve units). Plotted are, top to bottom:  $B$ ,  $V$ ,  $Ic$ . At the bottom of the figure, the differences in the sense observed-calculated; the order is the same as for the light curves. The colour figure can be viewed online.

why the sample standard deviation (i.e., sigma divided by root  $n$ ) is not used, as it would imply a greater precision than what is experienced.

The visual representation of Binary Maker 3 (Bradstreet 1993) is presented in Figure 8.

The WD output fundamental parameters and errors are listed in Table 6. Most of the errors are output or derived estimates from the WD routines. These are statistical errors and known to be smaller

than total errors because the latter contain systematic errors not readily available.

In the last few light curve modelling papers by this author, it has been the norm to use differential photometry, the Gaia distance (Luri et al 2018), the interstellar absorption  $A_v$ , and the bolometric corrections (BCs) to estimate the luminosities. This independent calculation of the latter serves as a check on the spectral type and hence the effective temper-



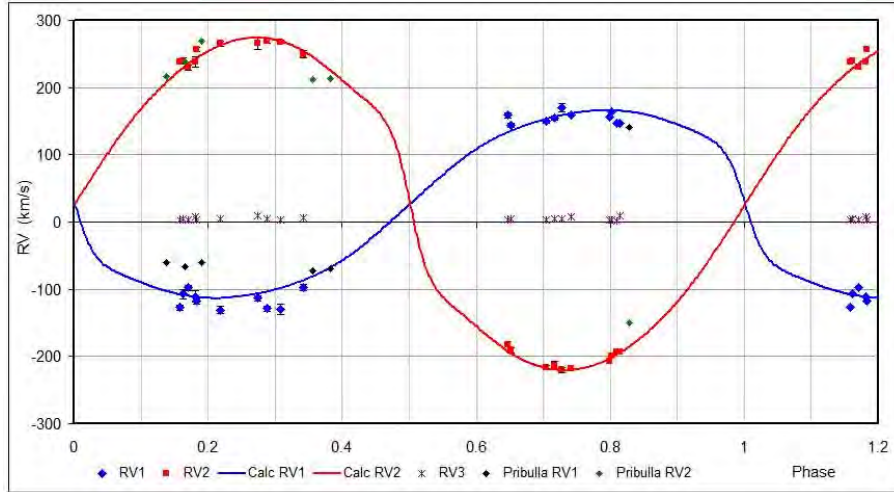


Fig. 7. V563 Lyr radial velocities and WD solution. The radial velocities of the third star appear near the  $x$ -axis. The  $RV_1$  and  $RV_2$  values from Pribulla et al. (2009) appear as the (black) and (green) diamonds, resp. From [ibid] there is a single point in the second half of the cycle. The colour figure can be viewed online.



Fig. 8. V563 Lyr three-dimensional representation from Binary Maker 3, at the phases indicated, and the surface potentials. The colour figure can be viewed online.

TABLE 6

V563 LYR FUNDAMENTAL PARAMETERS. SOLUTION 2 IS TO BE PREFERRED (SEE LATER DISCUSSION)

Quantity	Solution 1		Solution 2	
	Star 1	Star 2	Star 1	Star 2
Spectral type	F5	F5-6	G1	G4
Temperature, $T$ (K)	6510*	6385 (7)	5837*	5689 (3)
Mass, $(M/M_{\odot})$	2.49 (4)	1.45 (4)	2.49 (4)	1.45 (4)
Radius, $R$ ( $R_{\odot}$ )	2.23 (2)	1.81 (2)	2.23 (2)	1.81 (2)
$M$ bol (mags)	2.52 (3)	3.06 (3)	3.00 (3)	3.56 (3)
Log $g$ (cgs units)	4.14 (1)	4.08 (1)	4.14 (1)	4.08 (1)
Luminosity, $L$ ( $L/L_{\odot}$ )	7.73 (68)	4.70 (41)	4.97 (44)	2.96 (26)

ature of the more luminous component. We shall do so now. The calculation proceeds as follows:

Differential photometry at phases 0.23-0.27 and 0.73-0.77 (when both stars were visible broad-side) yielded the following instrumental differential magnitudes:  $\Delta b = b_{\text{var}} - b_{\text{comp}} = -1.800 \pm 0.001$  mag and  $\Delta v = v_{\text{var}} - v_{\text{comp}} = -0.995 \pm 0.006$  magnitudes.

The standard formulae for transformation from instrumental to Johnson magnitudes are given in equations 3 and 4 (Henden and Kaitchuk 1982):

$$V = v + \varepsilon(B - V) + \varsigma, \quad (3)$$

$$B - V = \mu(b - v) + \varsigma', \quad (4)$$

TABLE 7

RELATIVE LUMINOSITIES OF THE THREE COMPONENTS (ASSUMING A THIRD STAR, AND IF SO, THAT THE LATTER EMITS ISOTROPICALLY)

Band	$L_1 / (L_1+L_2+L_3)$	$L_2 / (L_1+L_2+L_3)$	$L_3 / (L_1+L_2+L_3)$
Blue, $B$	0.459 (3)	0.265 (1)	0.276 (3)
Visual, $V$	0.458 (2)	0.272 (1)	0.271 (3)
Infrared, $I_c$	0.461 (2)	0.280 (1)	0.259 (2)

where  $\varepsilon = -0.032 \pm 0.001$  and  $\mu = 1.086 \pm 0.010$  are the transformation coefficients for the camera + filter setup at DBO (Alton 2017). Operating differentially, the trailing constant  $\varsigma$  drops out, and substituting equation 4 into 3 (and simplifying some subscripts) we have equation 5:

$$\begin{aligned} V &= V_c + \Delta v + \varepsilon \Delta(B - V) = \\ &= V_c + \Delta v + \varepsilon \mu \Delta(b - v) = \\ &= V_c + \Delta v + \varepsilon \mu (\Delta b - \Delta v), \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where  $V_c = 11.944 \pm 0.020$  mags given in Table 3. Combining terms (with the errors added in quadrature) one obtains  $V = 10.977 \pm 0.012$  mags.

Next, the presence of third light must be addressed. According to Wilson and van Hamme (2013), if one assumes that the third star emits light isotropically, one may write equation 6:

$$L = L_1 + L_2 + 4 \cdot \pi \cdot l_3 = L_1 + L_2 + L_3, \quad (6)$$

where  $l_3$  is the same as EL3 used in the WD code and used above. Note that Wilson and van Hamme point out that simply listing EL3, as what one might want to do, is meaningless unless one also specifies the  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  values. As a result, we list  $L_3/(L_1+L_2+L_3)$  in Table 7.

Using the computed luminosity ratios  $L_1/(L_1+L_2+L_3)$  and  $L_2/(L_1+L_2+L_3)$  for the  $V$  band, one finds the individual magnitudes  $V_1 = 11.825$  (21), and  $V_2 = 12.392$  (21) by using equation 7.

$$V_i = -2.5 \log[L_{iV}/(L_1 + L_2 + L_3)_V] + V \quad (7), \quad (7)$$

where  $i = 1, 2$ . Determination of the interstellar extinction was from the formulations of Amôres and Lepine (2005), and depending on the model, one obtains values of  $A_v = 0.275, 0.248,$  and  $0.124$  mags with a mean value of  $0.216$  (71) mags, where the error is the sample standard deviation of the three values.

Then, using the standard formula (equation 8) applied to each star we have equation 8:

$$M_{bol, i} = V_i - A_v + BC_i - 5 \log(r/10), \quad (8)$$

whence the individual values for each star are  $M_{bol,1} = 2.994(31)$  mags and  $M_{bol,2} = 3.556$  (37). Converted to luminosities using the standard formula and making use of the bolometric magnitude of the Sun as  $M_{bol,Sun} = 4.74$  mags (Cox 2000) we have the *photometric luminosities*  $L_1 = 5.0$  (1.3)  $L_\odot$  and  $L_2 = 3.0$  (9)  $L_\odot$  where the largest error source is from the Gaia distance. These values, are significantly lower than the WD output in Table 6.

Despite the rather large errors in the photometric luminosities, it seemed important to adjust the effective temperature  $T_1$ . This is especially true because the spectral classification of Beltraminelli et al. (1999) was based on the colour index ( $B - V$ ) and, as we have seen, the flux received is contaminated by the significant contribution of the hot third star (spectral type  $\approx A0$ ). Making use of the well-known black body law of equation 9

$$L \sim T^4 \cdot R^2, \quad (9)$$

we may write equation 10

$$T'_1 = T_1 \cdot (L'/L)^{1/4} = 6510 \cdot (5.0/7.73)^{1/4} = 5837 \text{ K}. \quad (10)$$

This is significantly lower than the original value and places the spectral type for Star 1 at  $\approx G1$ . Continuing on, and using this lower value for  $T_1$ , a revised solution was derived in a relatively few steps. The final value for  $T_2$  was 5689 K which would place the spectral type as  $\approx G4$ . The results are listed in Tables 5 and 6 as Solution 2.

## 6. EVOLUTIONARY STATUS

It is possible to investigate the evolutionary status of this system with the aid of data from Yakut and Eggleton (2005), who collected data for some 72 close binary systems for which reliable data existed. Types included were low-temperature over-contact binaries, near-contact binaries and detached

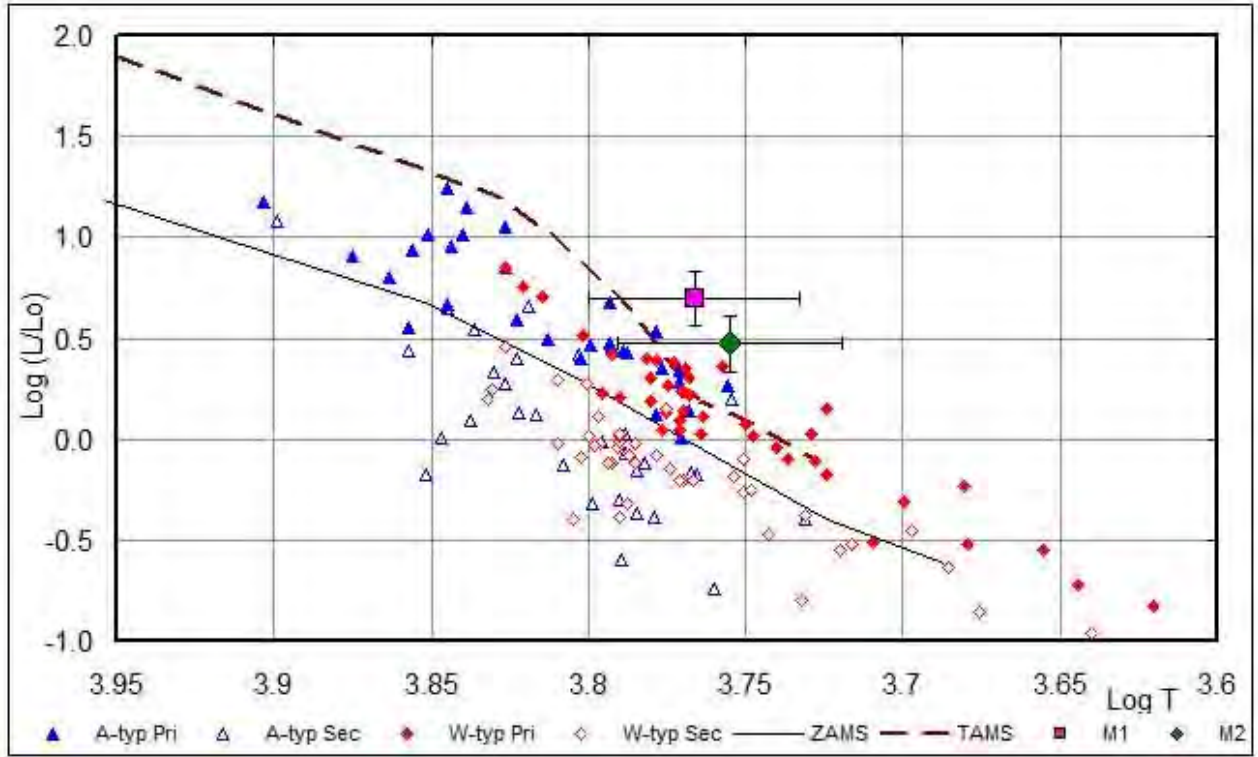


Fig. 9. Log  $L$  vs Log  $T$  plot for EW-type binaries from Yakut and Eggleton (2005). The ZAMS (solid line) and the TAMS are from the evolutionary tracks of the Geneva Group (Schaller et al. 1992) for  $Z = 0.02$  (solar). The results from Solution 2 have been added: the large square (pink in the online version) is for Star 1 while the large (green) diamond is for Star 2. The (half) width of each error bar is the standard deviation of the values for  $\log T_{1,2}$  and  $\log L_{1,2}$  from each solution. The colour figure can be viewed online.

close binaries. Figure 9 reproduces their plot of  $\log L$  vs  $\log T$ , with the zero-age main sequence (ZAMS) values for isolated stars from Cox (2000), and the terminal-age main sequence (TAMS) values from the evolutionary tracks of the Geneva Group (Schaller et al. 1992) for  $Z = 0.02$  (solar).

This plot suggests both stars have evolved and might be past the TAMS. As a referee from a previous paper has noted, one should regard plots of this type with much caution, as we do not know the metallicity, and in any case there is a fairly large degree of uncertainty with the temperatures and luminosities for this system. The error bars hint at that uncertainty. What is needed is an analysis of a classification spectrum that would decompose the component spectra.

## 7. DISCUSSION

Further to the use of Gaussian profile fitting for extracting RVs from the broadening functions (rather than smoothing and peak centroiding), it has been found that, even for the detached peaks noted

in Nelson (202b), profile fitting gives more consistent results, and is now used on a regular basis by this observer for all RV determinations.

The matter of choice of the comparison star selection bears discussion. In light curve analyses, one rarely has the ideal comparison star which would be: (a) close in brightness, (b) close in spectral type, and (c) in close proximity in the image frame. If condition (a) is not followed and the stars are, say, more than a magnitude different in brightness, excessive shot noise will result because one of the stars will be underexposed. If condition (c) is not followed, less than ideal sky conditions may result in significant systematic deviations from the unaffected light curve from time to time, owing to significant variations in sky transparency over the sky area covered by the chip. For this observer, condition (b) is the one most readily relaxed. In answer to concerns by the referee of a previous paper regarding the choice of spectral type-matching of the comparison star, tests were rerun with a different comparison star considerably closer in colour; there were no sig-

nificant differences in the final parameters resulting from Wilson-Devinney modelling. Hence—within the limits of this test—the spectral-type matching of the comparison star would appear to be a non-issue.

Initial modelling runs of this system, as is so often the case for many overcontact systems, led to an early solution. However, the presence of spots and third light complicated matters (especially the latter), requiring many runs to achieve a convincing solution. Modelling with a bright spot at the back of Star 2 was attempted but gave poor results. The ready adoption of a solution that seemed to represent a minimum but for which there was an inconsistency between the strength of the third star BF and the weakness in the early adopted third star fluxes EL3 (for the phases 0.25 and 0.75) was problematic. Clearly the first solution was a local minimum; The takeaway from this is that modellers need to be aware that local minima exist and may not be represent consistency between all the observables. The lowest sum of residuals squared is not the only criterion.

The solution to the EL3 inconsistency was to start with some more realistic values (EL3 = 0.2) and do a grid search to find the optimum values; this was done and reasonable agreement between RV and photometric results was achieved. As noted above, the mean radial velocity (through all orbital phases of the eclipsing pair) of the putative third star ( $RV_3 = 18.8 \pm 6.7$  km/s) and that of the centre of mass for the eclipsing pair ( $RV_\gamma = 22.5 \pm 1.5$  km/s) are mutually consistent. At first glance, one might think that the third star would be in a mutual orbit with the eclipsing pair at inferior or superior conjunction, and therefore physically connected. However, based on the relative luminosities, it is likely a fairly early spectral type, estimated as A0  $\pm$  1 spectral subclass. Therefore its flux (were it at the same distance as the eclipsing pair, and a main-sequence type) would dominate that of the other two (G1 and G4). This was not observed. Therefore (Milone 2022) we are forced to the conclusion that the star is at a greater distance and therefore an accidental double. A high S/N classification spectrum at medium resolution might permit a disentangling of the spectral components which would settle the matter.

## 8. CONCLUSION

New radial velocity and photometric data for the overcontact binary V563 Lyr have been obtained and analysed with the 2003 version of the Wilson-Devinney code. Analysis of the radial velocity curves by fitting double sinusoidal curves yields values  $K_1 = 147.4 \pm 2.1$  km/s,  $K_2 = 247.2 \pm 1.1$  km/s,

$RV_\gamma = 22.5 \pm 1.5$  km/s, and  $q_{sp} = 0.596 \pm 0.008$ . A third component has been identified, with radial velocity  $RV_3 = 18.8 \pm 6.7$  km/s which is in agreement with the findings of Pribulla et al. (2009) who found  $RV_3 \approx 14$  km/s for the companion. Assuming an effective spectral type of F5, the following values for the masses, radii and luminosities of the eclipsing pair were obtained:  $M_1 = 2.49(4) M_\odot$ ,  $M_2 = 1.45(4) M_\odot$ ,  $R_1 = 2.23(2) R_\odot$ ,  $R_2 = 1.81(2) R_\odot$ ,  $L_1 = 7.7(7) L_\odot$ , and  $L_2 = 4.7(4) L_\odot$ . This has been labelled in Tables 5 and 6 as Solution 1.

However, a direct calculation of luminosities using photometry, the Gaia DR3 distance, the bolometric corrections, and estimated values for the interstellar extinction resulted in much lower luminosity values which were inconsistent with the values stated above (computed from WD modelling). As estimates of the spectral type of the companion were  $\approx$ A0 and the fact that its contribution to the overall flux were comparable to that of Star 2, that would imply that the spectral types of the eclipsing pair were much later than the F5 value of Beltraminelli et al. (1999) – that is, to make the average spectral type appear to be F5. An estimate of the corrected value for  $T_1$  (based on the black body law) was  $5837 \pm 333$  K, which would correspond to a spectral type of G1. Revised modelling with this lower  $T_1$  value resulted in the revised luminosities of the eclipsing pair:  $L_1 = 5.0$  (4) $L_\odot$ , and  $L_2 = 3.0$  (3) $L_\odot$ .

Inserting the derived parameters of the eclipsing pair into a  $\log(L) - \log(T_{eff})$  plot for each star using data from Yakut and Eggleton (2005) suggests that both stars are over-luminous and evolved to, and perhaps past, the terminal age main sequence.

The companion (Star 3) is estimated to have a spectral type A0  $\pm$  1 spectral subclass. If it were gravitationally bound, the flux from a main sequence A0 type would dominate the light curves and broadening functions, so that cannot be. Simple computations reveal that a white dwarf (WD) would contribute only a very small flux—too small for what was observed. In any case, the broadening functions from a WD would be much wider than what was observed (Milone 2022). Possibly, the companion could represent an optical double, and therefore be at any distance (Milone 2022).

A high S/N classification spectrum at medium resolution might permit a de-convolution of the spectral components which would settle the matter as to its nature.

It is a pleasure to thank the staff members at the DAO (David Bohlender, Dmitry Monen, and especially the late Les Saddlemyer) for their usual splen-

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