Lightcurves: observations and models

Binaries in Roche-Lobes











close to contact



contact (W UMa)



GG Lup -- detached



Colour Changes

14750 K + 11000 K

KV Vel -- Heating Effects



sdO(75,000 K) + KV (3500 K)

SX Aur -- almost contact



Ellipsoidal variations Partial eclipses





Binary Stars and Accretion Disks

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Stars touch --> no clear start / end of eclipses

Asymmetry --> starspots



Total or Annular secondary eclipse

Asymmetric primary eclipse

XY UMa - RS CVn



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Binary Stars and Accretion Disks

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OY Car -- dwarf nova in quiescence

K,M star --> accretion disc --> white dwarf





Wolf-Rayet Winds



WR+O binary



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Testing Stellar Evolution Theory

Detached Binaries



Detached Binaries



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Detached O-star binaries

2 stars have same age

tests stellar evolution theory



Harries, Hilditch 1997

AS 4024





Sub-giant secondary (lower mass) is more evolved than primary

caused by mass transfer



Energy exchange thru the neck

Radii and Luminosity higher for given mass than on main sequence.

Active Chromosphere binaries



