ORBITAL SOLUTIONS FOR TWO YOUNG, LOW-MASS SPECTROSCOPIC BINARIES IN OPHIUCHUS

V. Rosero, L. Prato, L. H. Wasserman, and B. Rodgers

1 Lowell Observatory, 1400 West Mars Hill Road, Flagstaff, AZ 86001, USA; viviana@lowell.edu, lprato@lowell.edu, lhw@lowell.edu
2 Gemini Observatory, Gemini South, AURA/Chile, P.O. Box 26732, Tucson, AZ 85726, USA; brodgers@gemini.edu

ABSTRACT

We report the orbital parameters for ROXR1 14 and RX J1622.7−2325Nw, two young, low-mass, and double-lined spectroscopic binaries recently discovered in the Ophiuchus star-forming region. Accurate orbital solutions were determined from over a dozen high-resolution spectra taken with the Keck II and Gemini South telescopes. These objects are T Tauri stars with mass ratios close to unity and periods of ∼5 and ∼3 days, respectively. In particular, RX J1622.7−2325Nw shows a non-circularized orbit with an eccentricity of 0.30, higher than any other short-period pre-main-sequence (PMS) spectroscopic binary known to date. We speculate that the orbit of RX J1622.7−2325Nw has not yet circularized because of the perturbing action of a ∼1″ companion, itself a close visual pair. A comparison of known young spectroscopic binaries (SBs) and main-sequence (MS) SBs in the eccentricity–period plane shows an indistinguishable distribution of the two populations, implying that orbital circularization occurs in the first 1 Myr of a star’s lifetime. With the results presented in this paper we increase by ∼4% the small sample of PMS spectroscopic binary stars with known orbital elements.

Key words: binaries: spectroscopic – stars: individual (T Tauri) – techniques: radial velocities

1. INTRODUCTION

T Tauri stars (TTS) are very young (1 to 10 Myr), low-mass pre-main-sequence (PMS) stars. Low-mass stars are the most abundant stellar objects in the Galaxy (e.g., Bean et al. 2006); therefore it is important to understand their formation and evolution. Among young stars spectroscopic binaries (SBs) are important for the information that they potentially provide for the study of stellar parameters, such as the possibility to make dynamical measurements of mass ratios and eventually the masses of the components (Prato et al. 2002a). The mass and chemical composition of a star at birth determines its entire evolution. Accurate determination of PMS stellar masses is extremely important for refining the current young star theoretical models, which are not well calibrated by empirical data (Hillenbrand & White 2004). Therefore, the study of low-mass T Tauri SBs is crucial for understanding star formation.

Despite their importance, only a few young, low-mass SBs are well studied. Melo et al. (2001) and Prato et al. (2002b) presented compilations of ∼49 systems with known orbital elements. This sample has increased by fewer than 10 objects in the last decade. The small number of known PMS SBs is in part attributable to their location in obscured and distant star-forming regions: it can be an arduous task to measure precise radial velocities for these low-mass stars with the traditional approach of spectroscopy in visible light. Furthermore, low-mass T Tauri stars generally emit most of their energy at wavelengths >1 μm and thus the most efficient way to observe them is with large-aperture telescopes in the infrared (IR; Prato 2007). This has only become possible in the last decade.

ROXR1 14 and RX J1622.7−2325Nw are PMS double-lined spectroscopic binary (SB2) stars, located in Ophiuchus, originally identified in a survey of T Tauri M stars (Prato 2007). Results presented here are from the analysis of over a dozen spectra for each object obtained with high-resolution IR spectrographs. In this paper, we report on the measurement of radial velocities using two-dimensional cross-correlation in order to calculate the periods and orbital parameters of these PMS binary systems. Therefore, we increase by two objects the sample of PMS SBs with well-determined parameters.

The layout of the paper is as follows. In Section 2, we present the observations and data reduction procedure. In Section 3, we provide the radial velocity (RV) calculations. Results for both objects are presented in Section 4. A discussion appears in Section 5 and a summary in Section 6.

2. OBSERVATIONS AND DATA REDUCTION

Spectra of the target stars were taken with the NIRSPEC and Phoenix spectrometers on Keck II and Gemini South, respectively. The spectral range of Phoenix is smaller than that of NIRSPEC; however, its resolution is ∼2 times greater. The two instruments provided similar precision for the RV measurements presented here because these properties, in conjunction with the higher signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) of the NIRSPEC data, tended to cancel out. Basic target star properties are listed in Table 1 and the UT date of observation and instrument used appear in the last column of Tables 2 and 3. Adaptive optics (AO) images were also taken of both target systems with the NIRC2 camera on the Keck II telescope.

2.1. NIRSPEC

2.1.1. Observations

From UT 2002 March to 2009 July observations were taken in different epochs using NIRSPEC, the facility high-resolution, near-IR spectograph located at the Keck II telescope on Mauna Kea (McLean et al. 1998, 2000). The spectroscopic detector in this cryogenic, cross-dispersed instrument is an Aladdin InSb 1024 × 1024 array. We observed with a 0.′′288 slit, yielding resolution $R = 30,000$. In our $H$-band setting, $\lambda = 1.555 \mu m$ appears in the center of the middle order (order 49). This order is advantageous because it is effectively devoid of atmospheric absorption lines, allowing for the analysis of
data without the need for division of the spectra by a telluric standard star spectrum, thus optimizing the S/N. Also, there are numerous, strong OH night sky emission lines spaced across this order (Rousselot et al. 2000), providing an excellent inherent wavelength calibration. We used these lines to determine the dispersion solution. Of the 10 OH lines shown in Rousselot et al. (2000; Figure 16) that fall in order 49, two are close blends that NIRSPEC does not resolve. A well-resolved line at 1.5631443 μm produces a large residual, so we did not use this one either. We took at least four spectra of every target each night with the telescope nodded between two positions on the slit in an A-B-B-A nod sequence in order to compute the background sky subtraction. Typical exposure times were 5 minutes and the resulting S/N was usually >200.

2.1.2. Data Reduction

Data were reduced using the REDSPEC package. Ten dark frames were median filtered in order to get a master dark. The same procedure was used to get a master flat; the difference, flat — dark, was used for subsequent analysis. High-resolution NIRSPEC H-band observations cover 9 orders; however, only the order centered on 1.555 μm was isolated for the reduction and analysis. Additive terms such as sky background were eliminated with a pair subtraction of our observing pattern, i.e., A — B. This difference was then divided by the dark subtracted flat. REDSPEC then spatially and spectrally rectified and calibrated the resulting difference. Both positive and negative spectra were extracted. These sometimes contain residual OH night sky lines; by subtracting the negative from the positive extracted spectra and dividing by 2, these spectra were averaged and the OH residuals eliminated. Lastly, the resulting spectrum was normalized and divided by a second-order polynomial fit to the continuum to flatten the final product. All spectra were corrected for heliocentric motion using the SkyCalc software package.5

2.2. Phoenix

2.2.1. Observations

From UT 2008 March to 2008 June, high-resolution IR spectra were obtained on the 8.1 m Gemini South Telescope with the cryogenic Phoenix echelle spectrograph in queue mode (OS-2008A-Q-7). With the 0′′.34 slit, the resolution was R = 50,000 (Hinkle et al. 2003). The Phoenix detector is an Aladdin 512 × 1024 InSb array. Utilizing queue observing allowed us to obtain several observations over just a few months. We observed in the H band from 1.552–1.559 μm, a subset of the wavelength range covered by NIRSPEC. Because Phoenix is not a cross-dispersed instrument it provides only a single order. Four spectra for every target were taken with an A-B-B-A nod sequence in order to compute the background sky subtraction. Typical exposure times were 4 minutes and the resulting S/N was usually >130.

2.2.2. Data Reduction

The same reduction algorithms used on the NIRSPEC data and the procedure described in 2.1.2 were applied to the Phoenix

---

Table 1

Target Properties

|                | ROXR1 14 | RX J1622.7−2325Nw |
|----------------|----------|-------------------|
| R.A. (J2000.0) | 16 26 03.3 | 16 22 46.8        |
| Decl. (J2000.0)| −24 17 47 | −23 25 33         |
| Spectral type  | M1       | M1                |
| \(J\) (mag)    | 10.67 ± 0.02 | 9.81 ± 0.03      |
| \(H\) (mag)    | 9.58 ± 0.02 | 8.65 ± 0.03      |
| \(K\) (mag)    | 9.11 ± 0.02 | 9.03 ± 0.06      |
| \(EW_{\text{H}_\alpha}\) (Å)\(^\text{a}\) | 0.64 ± 0.02 | 0.65 ± 0.05      |
| \(v\sin i\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | 15 ± 3 | 25 ± 5           |

Notes. Units of right ascension are hours, minutes, and seconds, and units of declination are degrees, arcminutes, and arcseconds.

\(^{a}\) Includes light from close (0′′.1) binary ~1″ away, i.e., RXJ1622.7−2325Ne. K-band AO images allowed us to apportion the light between the Ne and Nw components. Therefore the \(K\) magnitude represents just the SB2.

\(^{b}\) Martin et al. (1998).

Table 2

ROXR1 14 Observations and Measured Velocities

| JD (2,450,000+) | \(v_1\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | \(\sigma_{v1}\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | \(v_2\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | \(\sigma_{v2}\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | Phase | UT Date and Instrument |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 2363.16         | 0.47                  | 1.125                 | −17.59               | 1.094                | 0.2783 | 2002 Mar 29\(^{a}\)   |
| 2449.90         | 32.51                 | 1.031                 | −50.31               | 1.027                | 0.4390 | 2002 Jun 24\(^{a}\)   |
| 2773.89         | −46.33                | 1.066                 | 30.07                | 1.064                | 0.0673 | 2003 May 14\(^{a}\)   |
| 3124.97         | 30.87                 | 1.053                 | −49.16               | 1.046                | 0.4305 | 2004 Apr 29\(^{a}\)   |
| 3424.18         | −8.27                 | 1.268                 | −8.34                | 1.259                | 0.7276 | 2005 Feb 22\(^{a}\)   |
| 4220.96         | −50.89                | 1.027                 | 35.97                | 1.015                | 0.9919 | 2007 Apr 30\(^{a}\)   |
| 4321.78         | 22.99                 | 1.089                 | −39.34               | 1.056                | 0.6137 | 2007 Aug 9\(^{a}\)    |
| 4546.81         | −47.52                | 1.015                 | 34.28                | 1.064                | 0.9453 | 2008 Mar 21\(^{b}\)   |
| 4599.66         | −23.58                | 1.103                 | 7.07                 | 1.142                | 0.1826 | 2008 May 13\(^{b}\)   |
| 4601.78         | 32.08                 | 1.041                 | −48.68               | 1.033                | 0.5532 | 2008 May 15\(^{b}\)   |
| 4609.55         | −45.18                | 1.030                 | 29.89                | 1.119                | 0.9112 | 2008 May 23\(^{b}\)   |
| 4630.55         | 28.36                 | 1.083                 | −44.98               | 1.019                | 0.5817 | 2008 Jun 13\(^{b}\)   |
| 4632.75         | −49.54                | 1.017                 | 35.41                | 1.036                | 0.9662 | 2008 Jun 15\(^{b}\)   |
| 4643.58         | −35.47                | 1.087                 | 22.46                | 1.055                | 0.8591 | 2008 Jun 26\(^{b}\)   |
| 4646.57         | 26.15                 | 1.100                 | −41.60               | 1.062                | 0.3817 | 2008 Jun 29\(^{b}\)   |
| 5039.84         | −38.08                | 1.060                 | 22.14                | 1.070                | 0.1190 | 2009 Jul 27\(^{a}\)   |

Notes. 

\(^{a}\) NIRSPEC.

\(^{b}\) Phoenix.

See http://www.2.keck.hawaii.edu/inst/nirspec/redspec.html.

See http://www.dartmouth.edu/∼physics/faculty/skycalc/flyer.html.
Table 3
RX J1622.7−2325Nw Observations and Measured Velocities

| JD  | \(v_1\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | \(\sigma_{v_1}\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | \(v_2\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | \(\sigma_{v_2}\) (km s\(^{-1}\)) | Phase | UT Date and Instrument |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|---------------------|
| 2449.80 | -1.87 | 1.438 | -9.05 | 1.557 | 0.4095 | 2002 Jun 24\(^a\) |
| 2771.98 | 47.37 | 1.234 | -62.62 | 1.098 | 0.0341 | 2003 May 12\(^a\) |
| 2804.93 | 46.42 | 1.254 | -61.84 | 1.221 | 0.2227 | 2003 Jun 14\(^a\) |
| 3198.79 | 32.11 | 1.421 | -48.26 | 1.377 | 0.0089 | 2004 Jul 12\(^a\) |
| 3424.18 | -72.40 | 1.411 | 57.89 | 1.265 | 0.6897 | 2005 Feb 22\(^a\) |
| 4321.79 | 49.61 | 1.038 | -67.20 | 1.062 | 0.2585 | 2007 Aug 9\(^a\) |
| 4599.69 | 55.44 | 1.065 | -66.94 | 1.167 | 0.1879 | 2008 May 13\(^b\) |
| 4600.58 | -50.68 | 1.267 | 40.23 | 1.277 | 0.4647 | 2008 May 14\(^b\) |
| 4601.75 | -17.78 | 1.733 | 4.76 | 1.464 | 0.8249 | 2008 May 15\(^b\) |
| 4602.66 | 47.25 | 1.298 | -60.28 | 1.418 | 0.1074 | 2008 May 16\(^b\) |
| 4609.58 | 54.44 | 1.176 | -68.68 | 1.310 | 0.2480 | 2008 May 23\(^b\) |
| 4611.61 | 1.18 | 1.703 | -16.55 | 1.518 | 0.8748 | 2008 May 23\(^b\) |
| 5039.81 | -57.46 | 1.142 | -73.42 | 1.122 | 0.2807 | 2009 Jul 27\(^a\) |

Notes.
\(^a\) NIRSPEC.
\(^b\) Phoenix.

Figure 1. NIRSPEC and Phoenix spectra of the SB2 ROXR1 14. All spectra have been corrected for heliocentric motion, normalized to a continuum level of unity, and separated in the y-axis by an additive constant. In this type of young PMS star, absorption lines are generally due to Fe, Ti, Ni, Si, OH, and H\(_2\)O.

Figure 2. NIRSPEC and Phoenix spectra of the SB2 RX J1622.7−2325Nw. All spectra have been corrected for heliocentric motion, normalized to a continuum level of unity, and separated in the y-axis by an additive constant. In this type of young PMS star, absorption lines are generally due to Fe, Ti, Ni, Si, OH, and H\(_2\)O.

2.3. NIRC2

On UT 2005 February 25, AO images of both targets were obtained on the Keck II telescope with the NIRC2 facility near-IR camera and the \(K_{\text{cont}}\) filter. The NIRC2 detector is a 1024 × 1024 Aladdin-3 InSb array (Wizinowich et al. 2000); we used the narrow-field camera, with a plate scale of \(\sim 0\prime 01\). For each target we obtained one set of dithered images using a five-point pattern, integrating for 1 s at each position, with an offset 2\(\prime\). Pairs of images were subtracted from each other to remove sky background and visually examined for companion objects.
3. RADIAL VELOCITY CALCULATIONS

Radial velocities were determined, following Zucker & Mazeh (1994), from a two-dimensional cross-correlation algorithm developed at Lowell Observatory. The algorithm calculates the correlation of the target spectroscopic binary spectrum against combinations of two templates, thus identifying the radial velocities and approximate flux ratio, $\alpha$, of the primary and the secondary components ($\alpha$ is $\sim$0.90 for both of the systems analyzed in this paper). The rotational velocity, $v_{\sin i}$, was estimated by using a set of templates convolved with a nonlinear limb-darkened broadening kernel (Bender & Simon 2008) to produce a range of $v_{\sin i}$ values. We selected the $v_{\sin i}$ of the template yielding the maximum correlation. Different spectral type templates were also tested; however, as radial velocities are relatively insensitive to spectral type differences of one or two subclasses (Simon & Prato 2004) and because the components have mass ratios close to unity (see below), the spectral types appearing in Table 1 are those identified in Prato (2007).

The standard stars used as templates are well-known, main-sequence (MS) stars with a spectral type similar to that of the target. Although this is not ideal (for example, the surface gravities of young stars are generally lower than those of MS stars), it is nonetheless effective for cross-correlation because the line positions dominate the results (e.g., Schaefer et al. 2008). Parameters for the standard stars used as templates appear in Table 4. The template GL 763 (M0) yielded the best correlation for both of the components of ROXR1 14 with $v_{\sin i} = 15 \pm 3$ km s$^{-1}$. In contrast, for RX J1622.7–2325Nw, BS 8086 (K7) gave the best correlation for the primary component and GL 763 for the secondary, with $v_{\sin i} = 25 \pm 5$ km s$^{-1}$ for both. The systematic uncertainty in the radial velocities of the templates is $\pm1.0$ km s$^{-1}$, adopted from Prato et al. (2002b) and Steffen et al. (2001).

The component mass ratio impacts the uncertainties in the measured radial velocities; measurements of the secondary star RV in very small mass ratio systems can be challenging. In addition, the shape of the peak and therefore the uncertainties in the correlation depend strongly on the rotational velocities of the primary and secondary, i.e., $v_{\sin i}$. Following Kurtz et al. (1992), internal errors determined from the cross-correlation algorithm were calculated as a function of the FWHM of the correlation peak and the ratio of the correlation peak height to the amplitude of the antisymmetric noise. To determine the total uncertainty in each target RV measurement, we combined the internal errors in quadrature with the systematic uncertainty introduced by the templates, 1 km s$^{-1}$. Measured RVs of the primary, $v_1$, and the secondary, $v_2$, as well as their total uncertainties, $\sigma_{v_1}$ and $\sigma_{v_2}$, are reported in Tables 2 and 3.

4. RESULTS

The PMS double-lined SBs reported here were discovered by Prato (2007) during a survey of K7 and early M stars in search of young SBs. The survey targets were drawn from an X-ray-selected sample (Casanova et al. 1995; Martín et al. 1998) located in the $\rho$ Oph (L1688) molecular cloud. Both targets were classified as WTTS by Martín et al. (1998) using their spectral types and equivalent widths (EWs) of H$\alpha$ and Li I $\lambda 6708$ Å. These properties are listed in Table 1. Magnitudes were obtained from the Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) and EWs are from Martín et al. (1998).

For a preliminary result and consistency check, we derived mass ratios and center-of-mass velocities for the targets using the method of Wilson (1941). For the different epochs, we plot the radial velocities of the primary versus the secondary (Figures 3 and 4). From the linear fit, the negative of the slope gives the mass ratio, $q$. The center-of-mass velocity $\gamma$ is given by the $y$-intercept divided by $(1+q)$.

Initial guesses for the orbital solution of the SB2s were found using an amoeba search routine from Press et al. (1992). Actual orbital solutions for each target were determined with the Levenberg–Marquardt method (Press et al. 1992) through standard nonlinear least-squares techniques. In some cases, velocities for the primary and the secondary were switched, since the brightnesses of the component stars in the analyzed systems are nearly the same. In those situations, orbital fits were...
calculated again after reassigning velocities for the primary and the secondary. The orbital parameters obtained from the orbital fit solution are period, $P$, the projected semi-major axes of the components, $a_1 \sin i$ and $a_2 \sin i$, eccentricity, $e$, periastron angle, $\omega$, and time of periastron passage, $T$. Table 5 shows the orbital parameter values and the derived parameters such as the semi-amplitude of both components, $K_1$ and $K_2$, and the mass ratio, $q = K_1/K_2$. Uncertainties calculated by the Levenberg–Marquardt method are the formal errors from the nonlinear least-squares fitting.

4.1. ROXR1 14

ROXR1 14 is an SB2 with a period $P = 5.72$ days and an eccentricity $e = 0.020 \pm 0.007$. The RV curve as a function of the phase is shown in Figure 5. Column 1 in Table 5 shows the complete orbital parameter values for this object. The mass ratio derived from the semi-amplitude of the components’ velocities is $0.97 \pm 0.01$ and the center-of-mass velocity is $\gamma = -7.98 \pm 0.18$ km s$^{-1}$. These values are consistent with the ones derived from Figure 3 to within $\ll 1\sigma$.

4.2. RX J1622.7$-$2325Nw

RX J1622.7$-$2325Nw is the SB2 component of the hierarchical quadruple system identified by Prato (2007). The western component (NW), which is itself a visual binary (0.1′′; see Figure 6). The RV curve as a function of the phase is shown in Figure 7. Orbital parameters are shown in the second column of Table 5. From the orbital solution we found $q = 0.98 \pm 0.06$ and $\gamma = -6.75 \pm 1.09$ km s$^{-1}$, consistent with the values found in the Wilson plot shown in Figure 4. With a $P = 3.23$ days period and $e = 0.30 \pm 0.04$, RX J1622.7$-$2325Nw is the shortest-period high-eccentricity PMS SB known to date.

5. DISCUSSION

As expected, our result shows that stars with high projected rotational velocities, $\upsilon \sin i$, as is the case of RX J1622.7$-$2325Nw ($\upsilon \sin i = 25 \pm 5$ km s$^{-1}$), will have larger uncertainties in the measured RVs (Table 3, Columns 3 and 5).
compared with the smaller errors in the RVs of more slowly rotating stars such as ROXR1 14 (\(v \sin i = 15 \pm 3 \text{ km s}^{-1}\); Table 2, Columns 3 and 5). The reason for this is that the uncertainties in the RVs are related to the FWHM of the cross-correlation peak, which is wider for stars with larger \(v \sin i\).

Although the primary versus secondary RV plots (shown in Figures 3 and 4) present high correlations (99% for both of the target systems), this does not ensure accurate orbital fits: the RV versus phase solution for ROXR1 14 shows a much better fit than the solution for RX J1622.7–2325Nw (the \(\chi^2\) of the orbital solutions are 1.1 and 21.2, respectively). This is seen in Figures 5 and 7, where another parameter, the orbital phase, is also taken into account, introducing an additional factor. Thus, the uncertainty in the orbital period also comes into play. It is unclear why our orbital fit for RX J1622.7–2325Nw is significantly worse than that for ROXR1 14. Some data points differ from the solution by more than 10\(\sigma\). It is possible that another as yet undetected low-mass star exists in the system; however, after subtracting the orbital solution shown in Figure 7, no obvious periodic RV modulation was apparent in the residual.

An interesting result of our analysis is the high eccentricity found for the short-period SB2 RX J1622.7–2325Nw. The theory of tidal circularization introduced by Zahn & Bouchet (1989) predicts that low-mass stars have a cutoff circularization period, which for PMS stars is 7.56 days (Melo et al. 2001): systems with orbital periods less than 7.56 days are expected to have very low eccentricity. In Table 3 from Melo et al. (2001), it can be seen that in addition to RX J1622.7–2325Nw there are three PMS systems with orbital periods shorter than the cutoff circularization period with eccentric orbits (Figure 8). However, SB2 RX J1622.7–2325Nw has an even shorter period and higher eccentricity than these systems. Melo et al. (2001) comment that although currently there is no clear explanation for this behavior, there are some hypotheses that have been introduced in order to explain it. One is the existence of low-mass companions, in higher-order multiple systems, giving rise to perturbations in the orbit. The other potential explanation is the presence of perturbing circumbinary disks.

Given the indistinguishable distribution of the MS spectroscopic binary twin and non-twin populations compared to the PMS population shown in Figure 8, we do not believe that the existence of eccentric, short-period SBs is an age effect. Orbital circularization apparently at least begins for short-period systems early in a binary’s lifetime, likely in \(<1\) Myr. All the eccentric, short-period systems in Figure 8 should be studied further for the possible presence of tertiary components and/or disks.

For our particular case, we know already that RX J1622.7–2325Nw is one of the components of a hierarchical quadruple system (Prato 2007). The Ne component, itself a 0.1 binary, is located \(\sim 1''\) away. At the 120 pc distance to Ophiuchus (Loinard et al. 2008), this is equivalent to a projected separation of 120 AU. Thus one obvious mechanism for the high eccentricity in the RX J1622.7–2325Nw SB2 is the presence of this companion pair. Perturbation of the SB2 via the Kozai mechanism is possible if the outer orbit is highly inclined with respect to the SB2 orbit (Eggleton & Kiseleva-Eggleton 2001; Fabrycky & Tremaine 2007). Although we cannot prove that this is the case, given the minimum period of \(> 1000\) years implied by the separation, the Kozai effect is a well-known phenomenon and provides a likely explanation.

Cieza et al. (2007) studied a sample of \(\sim 230\) WTTS located in nearby star-forming regions with the Spitzer Space Telescope and observed both RX J1622.7–2325Nw and ROXR1 14. Using the IRAC (3.6 \(\mu\)m, 4.5 \(\mu\)m, 5.8 \(\mu\)m, and 8.0 \(\mu\)m bands) and MIPS (24 \(\mu\)m) instruments they searched for IR excesses around WTTS as an indicator of cool circumstellar dust disks in these systems. Results presented in Table 1 of Cieza et al. (2007) show no evidence for cool, dusty disks around our SB2 systems. Therefore, the presence of the Ne component at 120 AU away is probably the best explanation for the high eccentricity in the orbit of RX J1622.7–2325Nw. The perturbing action of a closer multiple component, as yet undetected, is also possible.

6. SUMMARY

We obtained high-resolution IR spectra, with the NIRSPEC and Phoenix spectrometers, of the PMS SB2s ROXR1 14 and RX J1622.7–2325Nw, located in Ophiuchus. Accurate orbital elements were calculated, using RVs derived from two-dimensional cross-correlation analysis, for both targets. Mass ratios of \(q = 0.97 \pm 0.01\) and \(q = 0.98 \pm 0.06\) and periods of 5.72 days and 3.23 days were determined for ROXR1 14 and RX J1622.7–2325Nw, respectively. The eccentricity of 0.30 \(\pm 0.04\) and a period shorter than the cutoff for circularization make RX J1622.7–2325Nw an interesting system: the highest eccentricity short-period PMS SB known to date. The most reliable explanation of its eccentric orbit may be potential perturbations caused by the 0.1 visual binary companion \(\sim 1''\) away, as RX J1622.7–2325Nw is a member of a hierarchical quadruple system. We have increased by 4% the sample of PMS SBs with known orbital elements, an important step on the way to refining the calibration of the current young star theoretical models.

V. R. thanks Lowell Observatory for the curricular practical training internship and the supportive environment provided. We thank H. Roe for obtaining the spectra taken in 2009 July, and
S. Porter for helpful discussions about the Kozai mechanism. We are grateful to the anonymous referee for a prompt and helpful report which improved the manuscript. Final stages of this research were supported by NSF grant AST-1009136 (to L.P.). This work made use of the SIMBAD reference database, the NASA Astrophysics Data System, and the data products from the Two Micron All Sky Survey, which is a joint project of the University of Massachusetts and the Infrared Processing and Analysis Center/California Institute of Technology, funded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation. Data presented herein were obtained at the W. M. Keck Observatory from telescope time allocated to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration through the agency’s scientific partnership with the California Institute of Technology and the University of California. The Observatory was made possible by the generous financial support of the W.M. Keck Foundation. We recognize and acknowledge the significant cultural role that the summit of Mauna Kea plays within the indigenous Hawaiian community. We are very grateful for the opportunity to conduct observations from this special mountain. The work done in this paper is also based on observations obtained in queue mode at the Gemini Observatory, and we appreciate the effort of Gemini science staff that made that possible. Gemini Observatory is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc., under a cooperative agreement with the NSF on behalf of the Gemini partnership: the NSF (US), STFC (UK), the NRC (Canada), CONICYT (Chile), ARC (Australia), MCT (Brazil), and MinCyT (Argentina).

REFERENCES

Bean, J. L., Sneden, C., Hauschildt, P. H., Johns-Krull, C. M., & Benedict, G. F. 2006, ApJ, 652, 1604

Press, W. H., Teukolsky, S. A., Vetterling, W. T., & Flannery, B. P. 1992, Numerical Recipes in FORTRAN: The Art of Scientific Computing (2nd ed.; Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press).

Rousselot, P., Lidman, C., Cuby, J.-G., Moreels, G., & Monnet, G. 2000, A&A, 354, 1134

Schaefer, G. H., Simon, M., Prato, L., & Barman, T. 2008, AJ, 135, 1659

Simon, M., & Obbie, R. C. 2009, AJ, 137, 3442

Simon, M., & Prato, L. 2004, ApJ, 613, L69

Steffen, A., et al. 2001, AJ, 122, 997

Wilson, O. C. 1941, ApJ, 93, 29

Zahn, J.-P., & Bouchet, L. 1989, A&A, 223, 112

Zucker, S., & Mazeh, T. 1994, ApJ, 420, 806

Wizinowich, P. L., Acton, D. S., Lai, O., Gathright, J., Lupton, W., & Stomski, P. J. 2000, Proc. SPIE, 4007, 2

Rosero, L., et al. 2007, ApJ, 667, 308

Eggleton, P. P., & Kiseleva-Eggleton, L. 2001, ApJ, 562, 1012

Fabrycky, D., & Tremaine, S. 2007, ApJ, 669, 1298

Hillenbrand, L. A., & White, R. J. 2004, ApJ, 604, 741

Hinkle, K. H., et al. 2003, Proc. SPIE, 4834, 353

Kurtz, M. J., Mink, D. J., Wyatt, W. F., Fabricant, D. G., Torres, G., Kriss, G. A., & Tony, J. L. 1992, in ASP Conf. Ser. 25, Astronomical Data Analysis Software and Systems I, ed. D. M. Worrall, C. Biemesderfer, & J. Barnes (San Francisco, CA: ASP), 432

Loinard, L., Torres, R., Mioduszewski, A., & Rodríguez, L. 2008, ApJ, 675, L29

Martin, E. L., Montmerle, T., Gregorio-Hetem, J., & Casanova, S. 1998, MNRAS, 300, 733

McLean, I. S., Graham, J. R., Becklin, E. E., Figer, D. F., Larkin, J. E., Levenson, N. A., & Teplitz, H. I. 2000, Proc. SPIE, 4008, 1048

McLean, I. S., et al. 1998, Proc. SPIE, 3354, 566

Melo, C. H. F., Covino, E., Alcalá, J. M., & Torres, G. 2001, A&A, 378, 898

Prato, L. 2007, ApJ, 657, 338

Prato, L., Simon, M., Mazeh, T., McLean, I. S., Norman, D., & Zucker, S. 2002a, ApJ, 569, 863

Prato, L., Simon, M., Mazeh, T., Zucker, S., & McLean, I. S. 2002b, ApJ, 579, L99

Press, W. H., Teukolsky, S. A., Vetterling, W. T., & Flannery, B. P. 1992, Numerical Recipes in FORTRAN: The Art of Scientific Computing (2nd ed.; Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press).

Rousselot, P., Lidman, C., Cuby, J.-G., Moreels, G., & Monnet, G. 2000, A&A, 354, 1134

Schaefer, G. H., Simon, M., Prato, L., & Barman, T. 2008, AJ, 135, 1659

Simon, M., & Obbie, R. C. 2009, AJ, 137, 3442

Simon, M., & Prato, L. 2004, ApJ, 613, L69

Steffen, A., et al. 2001, AJ, 122, 997

Wilson, O. C. 1941, ApJ, 93, 29

Wizinowich, P. L., Acton, D. S., Lai, O., Gathright, J., Lupton, W., & Stomski, P. J. 2000, Proc. SPIE, 4007, 2

Zahn, J.-P., & Bouchet, L. 1989, A&A, 223, 112

Zucker, S., & Mazeh, T. 1994, ApJ, 420, 806