OPTICAL AND X-RAY STUDIES OF CHROMOSPHERICALLY ACTIVE STARS:
FR CANCRI, HD 95559, AND LO PEGASI

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ABSTRACT

We present a multiwavelength study of three chromospherically active stars, namely, FR Cnc (BD +16°1753), HD 95559, and LO Peg (BD +22°4409), including newly obtained optical photometry and low-resolution optical spectroscopy for FR Cnc, as well as archival IR and X-ray observations. The BVR photometry carried out from 2001 to 2004 has found significant photometric variability to be present in all three stars. For FR Cnc, a photometric period of 0.8267 ± 0.0004 days has been established. The strong variation in the phase and amplitude of the FR Cnc light curves when folded on this period implies the presence of evolving and migrating spots or spot groups on its surface. Two independent spots with migration periods of 0.97 and 0.93 yr, respectively, are inferred. The photometry of HD 95559 suggests the formation of a spot (group) during the interval of our observations. We infer the existence of two independent spots or groups in the photosphere of LO Peg, one of which has a migration period of 1.12 yr. The optical spectroscopy of FR Cnc carried out during 2002–2003 reveals the presence of strong and variable Ca ii H and K, Hβ, and Hα emission features indicative of a high level of chromospheric activity. The value of 5.3 for the ratio of the excess emission in Hα to Hβ, E(Hα)/E(Hβ), suggests that the chromospheric emission may arise from an extended off-limb region. We have searched for the presence of color excesses in the near-IR JHK bands of these stars using Two Micron All Sky Survey data, but none of them appear to have any significant color excess. We have also analyzed archival X-ray observations of HD 95559 and LO Peg carried out with the ROSAT observatory. The best-fit models to their X-ray spectra imply the presence of two coronal plasma components of differing temperatures and with subsolar metal abundances. The inferred emission measures and temperatures of these systems are similar to those found for other active dwarf stars. The kinematics of FR Cnc suggest that it is a very young (35–55 Myr) main-sequence star and a possible member of the IC 2391 supercluster. LO Peg also has young disk-type kinematics and has been previously suggested to be a member of the 100 Myr old Local Association (Pleiades moving group). The kinematics of HD 95559 indicate it is a possible member of the 600 Myr old Hyades supercluster.

Key words: binaries: general — stars: activity — stars: individual (FR Cancri, LO Pegasi, HD 95559) — X-rays: stars

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that they are the remnants of coalesced binaries being the most widely accepted. As a group, the late spectral type BY Draconis stars tend to more often exhibit Hα emission and more frequent flaring activity than the RS CVn systems, but this is probably mostly due to the greater contrast of their chromospheric emission lines with their weaker photospheric emission. Both RS CVn systems and BY Draconis binaries typically rotate synchronously with their orbital period, but there are more than 40 known systems (Glebockij & Stawickowski 1997) that are known to rotate asynchronously, e.g., the prototype K3.5 V+K3.5 V binary system BY Dra, which has a rotational period of 3.84 days and an orbital period of 5.98 days.

The soft (0.1–2.0 keV) X-ray luminosities (L_X) of RS CVn systems are generally in the range of 10^{29}–10^{32} ergs s^{-1} (Dempsey et al. 1989), while BY Draconis stars tend to have \( L_X \approx 10^{28}–10^{30} \) ergs s^{-1} (Dempsey et al. 1993). In either case the values of \( L_X \) for these stars are \( \approx 10^2–10^4 \) times the X-ray luminosity of the quiet Sun. The radio luminosity (\( L_{\text{radio}} \)) of RS CVn systems ranges from 10^{14} to 10^{17} ergs s^{-1} Hz^{-1} (Morris & Mutel 1988; Drake et al. 1989), while for the BY Draconis types it is typically 10^{12}–10^{15} ergs s^{-1} Hz^{-1} (Callaull et al. 1988; Güdel et al. 1993), much more than the quiet-Sun value of \( 3 \times 10^{10} \) ergs s^{-1} Hz^{-1} in both cases. In this paper we present a detailed investigation based on extensive optical observations and archival X-ray data of three chromospherically active stars selected on the basis of their strong X-ray and radio fluxes. These stars are FR Cnc, HD 95559, and LO Peg.

The star BD +16 1753 (MCC 527) first came to be noticed as a potential active star when it was identified as the likely optical counterpart of a soft X-ray source in the Einstein Slew Survey, 1ES 0829+15.9, with an observed X-ray flux of \( \approx 10^{-11} \) ergs cm^{-2} s^{-1} (Elvis et al. 1992; Schachter et al. 1996). This X-ray source was rediscovered in the ROSAT All-Sky Survey (RASS) at a somewhat weaker (but more statistically significant) level of \( 2 \times 10^{-12} \) ergs cm^{-2} s^{-1} and dubbed 1RXS J083230.9+154940 in the RASS Bright Source Catalogue (Voigt et al. 1999). In the photometric notes annex of the Hipparcos catalog (Perryman et al. 1997), it was regarded as an unsolved variable star and given the name FR Cnc. It was recently classified as a BY Draconis type in the 74th Special Name-list of Variable Stars (Kazarovets et al. 1999). The implied X-ray luminosity of \( (2–12) \times 10^{29} \) ergs s^{-1} and ratio of X-ray to bolometric luminosity \( f_X/f_{\text{bol}} \geq 10^{-3} \) both show that FR Cnc has an active corona at or near the saturation limit of \( f_X/f_{\text{bol}} \approx 10^{-3} \) (Schachter et al. 1996). Recently, Uşeng et al. (2002) have given two measurements of the radial velocity of FR Cnc (see Table 6) that differ by only the order of the measurement error, and the authors thus conclude that it is not a binary system. A preliminary report on FR Cnc based on a limited subset of the data was presented by Pandey et al. (2002).

HD 95559 (BD +23°2287) has recently been shown to be a double-lined spectroscopic binary with an orbital period of 1.5260 days. With a photometric period of 1.5264 days, it is tightly synchronized to the orbital motion (Fekel & Henry 2000). Previous reports that this system has a 2.9 day photometric period (Jeffries et al. 1994a; Strassmeier et al. 2000) appear to have been the results of the detection of the 1 day alias of the 1.526 day orbital period. HD 95559 is a pair of K1 V stars with a Li-based age younger than the Hyades cluster. Fekel & Henry (2000) conclude that optical variability in this system is due to the rotational modulation of the star spots and thus identify it as belonging to the (binary) BY Draconis type.

LO Peg (BD +22°4409) is a single young K5 V–K7 V type star and is a member of the Local Association (Jeffries & Jewell 1993; Montes et al. 2001). It is an active star showing strong Hα and Ca ii H and K emission lines (Jeffries et al. 1994b). Jeffries et al. (1994b) proposed six probable rotational periods and stated that the periods of 0.3841 and 0.42375 days are more likely. Subsequently, Robb & Cardinal (1995) eliminated completely the possibility of the 0.38417 day period. Evidence of an intense downflow of material and optical flaring on LO Peg have been presented by Eibe et al. (1999). Recently, Zuckerman et al. (2004) have identified LO Peg as a member of a group of \( \approx 50 \) Myr old stars that partially surround the Sun.

The paper is organized as follows: In § 2 we describe the primary observational data sets that we have analyzed and the methods of data reduction. The optical light curve and the period analysis of the star FR Cnc are discussed in § 3. In § 4 we present the folded light and color curves of all three stars and provide an interpretation for the drift in phase of their wave minima. In § 5 we discuss the low-resolution optical spectra of FR Cnc that we have obtained. The ROSAT X-ray spectra of the stars HD 95559 and LO Peg are discussed in § 6, and § 7 contains a comparison of their X-ray properties with other similar stars. The physical parameters, \( JHK \) photometry, and kinematics of the stars FR Cnc, HD 95559, and LO Peg are described in §§ 8, 9, and 10, respectively, while we present our conclusions in § 11.

2. OBSERVATIONS AND DATA REDUCTIONS

2.1. Optical Photometry

FR Cnc, HD 95559, and LO Peg were observed in Johnson \( B \) and \( V \) and Cousins \( R \) filters from 2001 to 2004 at the State Observatory of Naini Tal (now renamed as the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences). The observations were made with the 104 cm Sampurnanand Telescope (SNT), to which a 2K × 2K CCD (field of view \( \approx 13' \times 13' \)) in the years 2001–2003 and a 1K × 1K CCD (field of view \( \approx 6' \times 6' \)) for 2003–2004 was attached. A log of the observations is given in Table 1. A number of CCD frames were taken on each night, with exposure times ranging from 10 to 120 s depending on the seeing conditions and the filter used. Several bias and twilight flat frames were taken during the observing runs. Bias subtraction, flat-fielding, and aperture photometry were performed using IRAF. For each star, differential photometry in the sense of subtracting the comparison from the variable was done, as all the program, comparison, and check stars were in the same CCD frame.

\( UBVRI \) observations of FR Cnc along with that of the Landolt (1992) standard SA 98 region were obtained on 2004 February 22 for photometric calibration. The average magnitudes of FR Cnc in the \( UBVRI \) filters were 12.19 ± 0.02, 11.34 ± 0.01, 10.24 ± 0.01, 9.567 ± 0.009, and 8.89 ± 0.006, respectively. The present photometry is well matched to the Weis (1993) photometry. LO Peg was also observed for photometric calibration using PG 2213–006 standard fields (Landolt 1992) on 2002 October 3 in the \( B, V, R, \) and \( I \) bands. The corresponding average magnitudes were 9.86 ± 0.01, 8.82 ± 0.01, 8.22 ± 0.01, and 7.78 ± 0.01, respectively.

2.2. Optical Spectroscopy

Spectroscopic observations were carried out on 2002 November 15 and 2003 January 20–24 at the Vainu Bappu Observatory, Kavalur, with the OMR spectrograph fed by the 234 cm Vainu Bappu Telescope (VBT). The data were acquired with a 1K × 1K CCD camera of 24 \( \mu \)m square pixel size, covering a
range of ~1200 Å and having a dispersion of 1.25 Å pixel\(^{-1}\). A signal-to-noise ratio between 20 and 30 was achieved. During these observations we took 10 spectra of FR Cnc in the H\(_\alpha\) region, 6 in the H\(\beta\) region, and 5 in the Ca \(\alpha\) H and K region. A total of 21 spectra were thus taken. HD 26795, a K3 V type star, was observed as the standard.

The spectra have been extracted using the standard reduction procedures in the IRAF packages (bias subtraction, flat-fielding, extraction of the spectrum, and wavelength calibration using arc lamps). The spectral resolution was determined by using emission lines of arc lamps taken on the same nights. Spectral resolution (\(\delta \lambda\)) of 2.7 Å at 6300 Å and 3.7 Å at 4000 Å was achieved. All the spectra were normalized to the continuum, and equivalent widths for emission lines were computed using the IRAF task \textit{splot}. The errors in the measurements of the equivalent widths of the H\(\alpha\), H\(\beta\), and Ca \(\alpha\) H and K lines were computed by measuring the equivalent widths of four moderate absorption features at 6494, 6163, 6122, and 6103 Å in each spectrum. The standard deviation for each absorption feature was computed from the 10 spectra available. The mean of the standard deviations thus obtained was 0.04 Å and was taken as the error in the measurement of the equivalent widths of all the absorption, as well as of the emission-line features (see also Padmakar et al. 2000).

### 2.3. \textit{X-Ray}

The stars HD 95559 and LO Peg were observed serendipitously in pointed observations of the \textit{ROSAT} PSPC. This instrument had an energy range of 0.1–2.4 keV with a rather low spectral resolution (\(\Delta E/E \approx 0.42\) at 1 keV). A full description of the X-ray telescope and detectors can be found in Trümper (1983) and Pfeffermann et al. (1987). The \textit{ROSAT} X-ray data for these two stars were obtained from the High Energy Astrophysics Science Archive Research Center (HEASARC). The \textit{ROSAT} observational parameters are given in Table 2. LO Peg was observed on two occasions, the first on 1993 November 11–13 and the second a month later on 1993 December 7–8, while the HD 95559 observation consisted of two short exposures in 1993 June separated by a week. (FR Cnc was not observed in any of the pointings made by \textit{ROSAT}, but it was, however, detected in the RASS phase, as has already been mentioned in § 1.) HD 95559 and LO Peg were offset from the center of the PSPC field by 38.4 and 0.31, respectively. Spectra of both stars were accumulated from on-source counts obtained from circular regions on the sky centered on the X-ray peaks. The background was accumulated from several neighboring regions at nearly the same offset as the source.

### 3. LIGHT CURVES AND PERIOD ANALYSIS OF FR CNC

#### 3.1. Present Light Curve

We obtained nine light curves, with each light curve corresponding to an observational run that was nearly continuous. Figure 1 shows the light curves of FR Cnc for each epoch. The mean epochs of the light curves, observed maxima (\(\Delta V_{\text{max}}\)) and minima (\(\Delta V_{\text{min}}\)) in the \(V\) band, peak-to-peak amplitudes (\(\Delta V = \Delta V_{\text{max}} - \Delta V_{\text{min}}\)), and phase minima (\(\theta_{\text{min}}\)) are listed in Table 3.

The quantity \(\theta_{\text{min}}\) was determined by a linear least-squares fitting of the second-order polynomial at the minimum of each light curve. It appears that the shapes and the amplitudes of the light curves were changing during the observing season.

During the observing season 2001–2003 for the star FR Cnc, the comparison and check stars were TYC 1392 2110 1 (written as S1 below) and USNO-A2.0 1050-0576589 (C below), respectively. BD +16°1751 (S2 below), of spectral type G0, was taken as the comparison star during the observing season 2003–2004. The difference between the mean of (S2 – C) and the mean of (S1 – C) in each \(BVR\) filter was added to the \(BVR\) data of the 2003–2004 season before plotting. No significant light variation was detected between the different measures of comparison and check stars (\(\Delta V_{\text{C}}\); see the bottom plots in each panel of Fig. 3), indicating that the comparison stars were constant.

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**TABLE 1**

| Object       | Nights | Duration of Observations | Instrument                      | Telescope |
|--------------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| FR Cnc       | 43     | 2001 Feb–2003 Jan        | 2K × 2K CCD                     | SNT       |
| FR Cnc       | 10     | 2003 Dec–2004 Jan        | 1K × 1K CCD                     | SNT       |
| FR Cnc       | 70     | 1990 Mar–1992 Nov        | ...                             | Hipparcos |
| HD 95559     | 11     | 2001 Feb–2001 Apr        | 2K × 2K CCD                     | SNT       |
| LO Peg       | 7      | 2001 Oct–2002 Oct        | 2K × 2K CCD                     | SNT       |

**TABLE 2**

| Source       | Observation ID | Duration of Observations | Exposure (s) | Count Rate (counts s\(^{-1}\)) | Offset (arcmin) |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| HD 95559     | rp200987n00    | 1993 Jun 2–9             | 4874         | 0.62 ± 0.02                   | 38.4           |
| LO Peg       | rp201753n00    | 1993 Nov 11–13           | 5968         | 1.07 ± 0.01                   | 0.31           |
| LO Peg       | rp201753a01    | 1993 Dec 7–8             | 14012        | 1.02 ± 0.01                   | 0.31           |
during those observations. The nightly mean of the standard deviation (σ) of different measures of the comparison and check stars in the B, V, and R filters was 0.007, 0.007, and 0.008 mag, respectively. Similarly, σ determined for Δ(B − V), and Δ(V − R), was 0.006 and 0.01 mag, respectively.

Large gaps in the data set led to complications in the interpretation of the power density spectrum, as the true frequencies of the source were further modulated by the irregular and infrequent sampling defined by the window function of the data. Therefore, the calculation of the dirty power density spectrum from the light curve was followed by deconvolution of the window function from the data using the one-dimensional CLEAN (Roberts et al. 1987) algorithm in Starlink’s PERIOD package, where we have assumed a quasi-sinusoidal light curve. The power spectrum picks out the rotation period despite the noise and the fact that the light curve is not exactly sinusoidal (Bailer-Jones & Mundt 2001). The uncertainty in the period determination is set by the finite resolution of the power spectrum. This is determined as \( P^2/(2\pi t_{\text{max}}) \), where \( P \) is the period and \( t_{\text{max}} \) is the duration of the observation (Roberts et al. 1987). The CLEANed power spectra presented here were obtained after 100 iterations with a loop gain of 0.1. Data for each epoch were analyzed separately for the periodicity by using the CLEAN algorithm. Inset in each panel of Figure 1 is the corresponding CLEANed power spectrum. The

**Fig. 1.** Light curves and corresponding CLEANed power density spectra (insets) of FR Cnc at different epochs. The epoch is mentioned at the top of each panel, and the period is written at the top of each inset. Panel j shows the Hipparcos light curve along with its power spectrum.
The period is found to be constant, within the uncertainty, for each epoch. The entire data set was also analyzed as a whole using the CLEAN algorithm to improve the period determination. Figure 2 (top) shows the discrete power spectra, with the corresponding window and CLEANed power spectra shown in the middle and bottom panels. The highest peak in the CLEANed power spectrum corresponds to a period of 0.8267 ± 0.0004 days.

### 3.2. Hipparcos Light Curve

The light curve based on the Hipparcos photometric data is shown in Figure 1j. The total number of measurements with Hipparcos was 70 during 3 yr (1990 March–1992 November) of observations. We have also analyzed the Hipparcos data using the same algorithm as used for our photometric data. The CLEANed power spectrum is shown in the inset of Figure 1j. The highest peak here corresponds to a period of 0.815 ± 0.002 days, which is close to the period determined from the present data.

### 4. Folded Light and Color Curves

#### 4.1. FR Cnc

The data were folded using a period of 0.8267 days and an arbitrary epoch of JD = 2,451,943.180. Figure 3 shows plots of $\Delta V_c$, $\Delta B$, $\Delta V$, $\Delta R$, $\Delta (B-V)$, and $\Delta (V-R)$ as functions of phase at different epochs. The mean epoch is mentioned at the top of each panel of Figure 3. As can be seen from Figure 3, the

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**TABLE 3**

Photometry of FR Cnc, HD 95559, and LO Peg

| Phase Minima | Amplitude $A_{\text{max}}$ | $A_{\text{min}}$ | $A_{\text{min}}$ | $A_{\text{min}}$ |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| FR Cnc       |                          |               |                |                |
| 51,984.75    | 0.106                    | -0.716        | -0.610         | 0.33           |
| 52,245.50    | 0.063                    | -0.670        | -0.670         | 0.29           |
| 52,267.00    | 0.108                    | -0.683        | -0.575         | 0.27           |
| 52,308.75    | 0.100                    | -0.697        | -0.597         | 0.23           |
| 52,598.00    | 0.153                    | -0.725        | -0.572         | 0.44           |
| 52,626.25    | 0.158*                   | -0.738        | -0.580         |                |
| 52,643.75    | 0.128*                   | -0.728        | -0.600         | 0.39           |
| 52,992.00    | 0.210                    | -0.721        | -0.511         | 0.25           |
| 53,022.25    | 0.181*                   | -0.736        | -0.555         | 0.21           |
| HD 95559     |                          |               |                |                |
| 51,945.40    | 0.051                    | -0.435        | -0.384         | 0.00           |
| 52,003.80    | 0.076                    | -0.405        | -0.481         | 0.00           |
| LO Peg       |                          |               |                |                |
| 52,190.80    | 0.081                    | -0.438        | -0.402         | 0.50           |
| 52,548.00    | 0.050                    | -0.495        | -0.445         | 0.66           |

* Because certain phases were not covered fully during these observations, minima and/or maxima at these epochs could not be determined accurately.
phase coverage is fair to reasonably good in most of the light curves.

The value of $\Delta V_{\text{max}}$ was nearly constant during most of the epochs, indicating that the brightness of the unspotted photosphere was constant from epoch to epoch. During epoch b it went to its minimum value. A smaller variation ($\Delta V = 0.063 \text{ mag}$) during this epoch was probably associated with a continuous reduction of the spot coverage. The light curve during epoch b has two maxima, whereas during epoch c it has one flat maximum and one minimum, indicating the formation of a new group of spots that further separate into two groups of spots during epochs d and e. An increase in the amplitude by 0.05 mag during epoch e indicates an increase in the spot coverage on the surface of the star that remained constant during epoch f. However, the poor phase coverage during epochs f, g, and i does not allow us to follow this progress of spots properly. The activity level in our observation became very high during epoch h, in which the amplitude of variation became 0.21 mag and appeared to remain the same during epoch i. Variable sizes of the spot (or group of spots) are indicated by the variable depth of the light minimum in the light curves. The minimum of the light changed by 0.1 mag from epoch a to h (see Table 3).

When comparing the light curves of FR Cnc from epoch a to i, a shift in the phase of the minimum and a variable amplitude are quite evident. Such cycle-to-cycle variations of both the amplitude and phase of the minimum have been seen for some rapidly rotating stars such as LO Peg (Dal & Tas 2003), Speedy Mic (Barnes et al. 2001), AB Dor (Bos 1994; Donati & Collier Cameron 1997), and PZ Tel (Innis et al. 1990).

Variation in the color of the star is correlated with its magnitude, i.e., the star becomes redder when fainter and bluer when brighter, supporting the starspot hypothesis. The significance of correlation has been calculated by determining the linear correlation coefficient $r$ between the magnitude and the colors. The value of $r$ between $V$ and $(B - V)$, $V$ and $(V - R)$, and $(B - V)$ and $(V - R)$ was found to be 0.11, 0.35, and 0.581 with the corresponding probability of no correlation being 0.00181, $1.51 \times 10^{-25}$, and 0, respectively.

### 4.1.1. Phase of the Light Minimum

The phase minimum of light ($\theta_{\text{min}}$) for the nine light curves in the $V$ band were plotted against the mean epoch listed in Table 3 and are shown in Figure 4 (left). To illustrate the spot motions over several longitudinal cycles, we define the longitude as $\lambda = n \times 360^\circ + \theta_{\text{min}} + n \times 1$, where $n$ is the cycle number. The phases of the light minima directly indicate the mean longitude of the dominant groups of the spots. The presence of two spots is clearly established by two well-separated straight lines. The spots are closer to each other during epoch g, with a longitudinal separation of $\sim 83^\circ$. Both spots are visible during all epochs except epoch e. The poor phase coverage during epoch f prevented us from establishing the presence of the second spot. It is interesting to see the variable separation of the two spots. This could be due to the different latitudinal positions of the two spots and the presence of differential rotation in the star. Because of differential rotation, spots at different latitudes would give rise to a different migration rate for the associated $\theta_{\text{min}}$ (Raveendran & Mohin 1995).

The following relation was fitted to the data by the method of least squares:

$$\theta_{\text{min}} = \omega(t - t_0) + \theta_0,$$

where $\omega = 2\pi/P$ is the angular velocity of the spot or the rate of phase shift (deg day$^{-1}$), $P$ is the corresponding period in days, $t$ is the time in days, $t_0$ is the reference time, and $\theta_0$ is the reference spot longitude in degrees. Applying the above relation, the rate of phase shift for spots A and B is determined to be $1^\circ 02 \pm 0^\circ 02 \text{ day}^{-1}$ and $1^\circ 06 \pm 0^\circ 02 \text{ day}^{-1}$, respectively. The corresponding migration period for spots A and B is found to be $0.97 \pm 0.03$ and $0.93 \pm 0.02$ yr, respectively. These migration periods, being so close to each other, indicate that the spots that are located at different longitudes rotate with almost the same angular velocity. It thus appears that the observed phase minima of FR Cnc are well arranged in two permanent strips with approximately the same slope (i.e., same migration period), which can be interpreted as two long-lived active longitudes.

### 4.2. HD 95559

Stars HD 95467 and BD +33°2294 were observed for the differential photometry of the program star HD 95559. The data were folded using the following ephemeris for HD 95559:

$$JD = 2,450,359.094 + 1.52599775E,$$

where the epoch corresponds to a time when the more massive star is in front of the less massive star and the period is the spectroscopic orbital period (Fekel & Henry 2000). Variations in the $BVR$ magnitude and colors of the program star with respect to the comparison star are shown in Figure 5. The nightly mean $\sigma$ of the different measures of the comparison and check stars was determined to be 0.006 in each $B$ and $V$ filter and 0.007 in the $R$ filter. The comparison star was constant during the observations, as shown in the bottom plots in each panel of Figure 5. We have divided our observations into two epochs, namely, epoch a (2001 February 3–5) and epoch b (2001 March 31–April 7). The amplitudes and phases of the minima for mean epochs of the observations of this star are shown in Table 3.

It is interesting to examine the light curves of HD 95559 during the observing season of 2001. During epoch a the light curve...
During epoch b that flat-topped maximum develops into a minimum at a phase of 0.5. At the same time, the amplitude of the variation increases by 0.025 mag. The position of the minimum during epoch a, however, does not change from the phase 0.0. This directly indicates the formation of a new group of spots at phase 0.5. Light curves of HD 95559 during the observing season 1995–1997 had only one minimum and a sharp maximum (Fekel & Henry 2000).

It appears that the colors remain nearly constant during our observations in HD 95559. A larger amount of scatter is, however, seen during epoch b. This may be due to the formation of the new group of spots on the surface of the active star. The lack of a brightness-color relation may be due to the presence of bright
faculae or plages, such as regions accompanied by dark spots in either or both components of this binary system.

4.3. LO Peg

Photometric data of LO Peg were folded using the following ephemeris as given by Dal & Tas (2003):

\[
\text{HJD} = 2,448,869.93 + 0.42375E.
\]

The folded light curves are shown in Figure 6. The observations, separated by a year, were divided into two different epochs, namely, epochs a and b. Epoch a has observations from 2001 September 28 to October 15, and epoch b has observations from 2002 September 28 to October 3. The epoch b observations partly coincide with one set of observations (2002 October 1–31) of Dal & Tas (2003). Table 3 shows the parameters determined from the light curves of LO Peg. The phase minimum computed from our photometry at epoch b differs by 0.26 from that of Dal & Tas.
This may be due to the larger span of their observations, as the phase minimum changed significantly within a couple of rotational periods, probably as a result of a change in the spot configuration. As in the case of FR Cnc, no two light curves of LO Peg are similar in shape, size, or amplitude, which is seen quite commonly in the BY Draconis type of star.

A plot of the phase minima as a function of the mean epoch of the observations of LO Peg is shown in Figure 4. The filled circles represent the observations made by Dal & Tas (2003), and the triangles represent our observations. Two large groups of spots are clearly seen. We have fitted equation (1) with the linear least-squares method for the spot group A and have computed the rate of phase shift. The open circle in Figure 4 was not used in the fitting. The rate of the phase shift for the spot group A was determined to be $0.85 \pm 0.03$ day$^{-1}$. The corresponding migration period is $1.12 \pm 0.05$ yr.

From Figure 6 it is clear that the color curves are strongly correlated with light curves, i.e., bluer at light maximum and redder at light minimum. This indicates that the variability is due to the dark spots present on the surface of the star.
Fig. 5.—$V_c$, $B$, $V$, and $R$ light curves and $(B - V)$ and $(V - R)$ color curves of HD 95559, folded using a period of 1.52599775 days and shown for two different epochs. The epoch (JD = 2,400,000.0 +) is marked at the top of each panel. The bottom plot in each panel represents the differences between the comparison star (HD 95467) and the check star (BD +33° 2294).

Fig. 6.—$V_c$, $B$, $V$, and $R$ light curves and $(B - V)$ and $(V - R)$ color curves of LO Peg, folded using a period of 0.42375 days and shown for two different epochs. The epoch marked at the top of each panel is JD = 2,400,000.0 +. The bottom plot in each panel represents the differences between the comparison star (BD +22° 4405) and the check star (USNO-B1.0 1133-0542608).
We have also checked whether the comparison star (BD +22°4405) is variable. Star TYC 2188 1288 1 was used as a check star. The \( \sigma \) was computed between the different measures of the comparison and check stars. The nightly means of \( \sigma \) were 0.010, 0.009, and 0.007 in the \( B, V \), and \( R \) filters, respectively. The bottom plots in each panel of Figure 6 show the different measures of the comparison and check stars and indicate that the comparison stars were indeed constant during the observations.

5. CHROMOSPHERIC EMISSION LINES OF FR CNC

In late-type dwarfs, \( H\alpha \) emission is a good indicator of chromospheric activity. It has been suggested that the detection of \( H\alpha \) emission above the continuum or even a filled-in emission region is indicative of a K–M dwarf is a BY Draconis variable (Bopp et al. 1981). The spectrum of FR Cnc in the \( H\alpha \) region is shown in Figure 7. The spectrum of HD 26794 (\( V = 8.81 \) mag and spectral type K3 V) is also shown in Figure 7 for comparison. \( H\alpha \) is in emission at all phases in FR Cnc. The measured equivalent widths of the \( H\alpha \) emission feature and the corresponding JDS and phases of FR Cnc are listed in Table 4. The phase is determined using a photometric period of 0.8267 days and an epoch of JD = 2,451,943,190 for phase 0. The equivalent width is seen to vary from 1.2 to 1.8 \( \AA \). Such a significant change in the \( H\alpha \) profiles and the equivalent width on a timescale as short as a few hours has also been reported for the active K5 V star LO Peg (Jeffries et al. 1994b).

\( H\beta \) emission in late-type stars is another indicator of enhanced chromospheric activity. Figure 8 shows the spectra of FR Cnc and the comparison star HD 26794 in the \( H\beta \) region. \( H\beta \) is seen clearly in emission, while it is in absorption in the comparison star. The ratio of excess emission \( E_{H\alpha}/E_{H\beta} \) with the correction given by Hall & Ramey (1992) was also calculated for FR Cnc as

\[
\frac{E_{H\alpha}}{E_{H\beta}} = \frac{EW(H\alpha)}{EW(H\beta)} \times 0.2444 \times 2.512(8-R).
\]

This yields a value of 5.34 for the mean values of the equivalent widths of \( H\alpha \) and \( H\beta \). According to Hall & Ramey (1992), values of \( E_{H\alpha}/E_{H\beta} > 3 \) are indicative of the line emission likely arising from an extended region viewed off the limb, perhaps a stellar prominence.

Figure 9 shows a comparison of the spectrum of FR Cnc with that of HD 26794 in the region near the \( Ca\,II\,H \) and \( K \) lines. One can see that these lines have strong central emission components in the spectra of FR Cnc because of its active chromosphere. The spectrum of the \( Ca\,II\,H \) and \( K \) region taken on 2002 November 15
response matrices based on the available off-axis calibration of the PSPC and using the appropriate ancillary response files. We used the XSPEC (ver. 11.2) spectral analysis package to fit the data with the spectral model for thermal equilibrium plasma known as the Mewe-Kaastra-Liedahl (MEKAL) model (Liedahl et al. 1995; Mewe et al. 1995). The background-subtracted X-ray spectra were fitted with one-temperature (1T) and two-temperature (2T) plasma models assuming the solar photospheric abundances given in Anders & Grevesse (1989) and allowing the abundance of every element other than H to vary by a common factor relative to their solar (photospheric) values. In each of the above models we assumed that interstellar absorption follows the absorption cross sections given by Morrison & McCammon (1983), and we allowed the total intervening hydrogen column density $N_H$ to vary freely. We have also fitted the X-ray spectra with the 1T and 2T collisional plasma model APEC (Smith et al. 2001). The fitted parameters using these models were similar to those determined using the MEKAL model. For the star LO Peg there were two data sets corresponding to two observations. The spectrum was accumulated from each data set and fitted using the above-mentioned models individually, as well as jointly. The best-fit parameters were determined using the $\chi^2$ minimization technique. These parameters were found to be similar in either case. Table 5 summarizes the best-fit values obtained for the various parameters along with the minimum $\chi^2/\nu$ (where $\nu$ is degrees of freedom) and the 90% confidence error bars estimated from the minimum $\chi^2 + 2.71$.

Single-temperature MEKAL models with abundances fixed to the solar values gave an unacceptably high value of $\chi^2/\nu$ for both HD 95559 and LO Peg. However, 1T MEKAL models with abundances < 0.02 times the solar abundances and with plasma temperatures in the range of 0.63–0.77 keV were found acceptable for HD 95559 but not for LO Peg. Two-temperature plasma models with the abundances fixed to the solar value were not found to be acceptable for either star. Acceptable MEKAL 2T fits were achieved when the abundances were allowed to depart from the solar values for both stars. The best-fit 2T plasma models with subsolar abundances along with the significances of the residuals in terms of their ratio for both HD 95559 and LO Peg are shown in the left and right panels of Figure 10. For HD 95559 an acceptable fit was obtained for abundances that were only $0.25^{+0.3}_{-0.2}$ times the solar values and with plasma components at temperatures of 0.45 and 1.27 keV. In the case of LO Peg the best-fit plasma temperatures were $0.30^{+0.04}_{-0.05}$ and $1.0^{+0.1}_{-0.2}$ keV,
with abundances that were only <0.15 times the solar values for both plasma components.

7. X-RAY AND RADIO PROPERTIES: COMPARISON WITH SIMILAR SYSTEMS

A sample of 35 BY Draconis systems were studied spectroscopically with ROSAT by Dempsey et al. (1997), assuming that their coronae had solar abundances. The average value of the low-temperature ($kT_1$) and high-temperature ($kT_2$) components for these BY Draconis systems is 0.19 ± 0.03 and 1.31 ± 0.04 keV, respectively. The value of $kT_1$ derived using subsolar abundances for both HD 95559 and LO Peg (see Table 5) is found to be more than the mean value of the BY Draconis systems. Please note that the value of $kT_1$ derived using solar abundances (see Table 5) is found to be consistent with that of the average value for the other BY Draconis systems in Dempsey et al. (1997). However, a 2T plasma model using solar abundances failed to fit data with a high signal-to-noise ratio and gave an unacceptably high value of $\chi^2_2$ for both stars. The values of $kT_2$ are, however, consistent with those of the other BY Draconis systems. The average volume emission measures $EM_1$ and $EM_2$ for the BY Draconis systems in Dempsey et al. (1997) are 1.4 ± 0.4 × 10^{52} and 7.6 ± 2.9 × 10^{52} cm$^{-3}$, respectively. The volume emission measure $EM_1$ for the star HD 95559 is found to be ~7 times more than the average value for BY Draconis systems. However, the value of $EM_1$ for LO Peg is consistent with that of the BY Draconis systems. The value of $EM_2$ of the star HD 95559 using subsolar abundances is consistent with that of the other BY Draconis systems. However, the value of $EM_2$ for LO Peg is ~2–3 times less than the average value of the other BY Draconis systems.

X-ray flux measurements exist for a sample of 248 chromospherically active binary systems (CABSs; Strassmeier et al. 1993). On the basis of SIMBAD spectral classification and the catalog of CABSs, we have divided the sample into 101 dwarfs, 65 subgiants, and 82 giants and computed the average X-ray luminosity. For the sample of 101 dwarfs the average and the median X-ray luminosity (log $L_X$) are 29.6 ± 0.7 and 29.63 ergs s$^{-1}$, respectively. The inferred log $L_X$ for HD 95559, LO Peg, and FR Cnc is 30.3, 29.7, and 29.4–30.1, respectively, where $L_X$ is in units of ergs s$^{-1}$, which are all close to the average value for active dwarf systems. The average and median X-ray luminosity for the 65 subgiants and the 82 giant active systems are found to be 30.8 ± 0.5 and 30.83, and 30.7 ± 0.7 and 30.8 ergs s$^{-1}$, respectively. This indicates that the evolved systems (subgiants and giants) are more X-ray luminous than the dwarf systems, as expected, since these stars have larger surface areas from which to radiate X-rays. Radio flux measurements exist for a sample of 226 CABSs (82 dwarfs, 64 subgiants, and 80 giants). The average and median log $L_{rad}$ for a sample of 82 dwarfs are 14.8 ± 0.7 and 14.9 ergs s$^{-1}$ Hz$^{-1}$, respectively. LO Peg has been detected as a radio source of (3.6 ± 0.5) × 10^{-6} ergs cm$^{-2}$ s$^{-1}$ Hz$^{-1}$ (Condon et al. 1998). However, FR Cnc and HD 95559 do not have any radio observations. Using a distance of 25.1 pc, the radio luminosity (log $L_{rad}$) of LO Peg is found to be 15.43 ergs s$^{-1}$ Hz$^{-1}$, which is again close to the typical value for BY Draconis systems.

8. SPECTRAL TYPE, TEMPERATURE, AND OTHER PHYSICAL PARAMETERS

The value of the total Galactic reddening $E(B - V)$ in the direction of FR Cnc is estimated from Schlegel et al. (1998) to be 0.03 mag. However, given that the Hipparcos parallax of this star implies a distance of only 33 pc, it is likely that its light suffers little if any reddening, and for the remaining discussion,
we assume $E(B-V) = 0.00$ mag. Using the Hipparcos parallax of $30.24 \pm 2.03$ mas and the value of $V = 10.24$ mag from our photometry, the absolute magnitude $M_V$ of FR Cnc is $7.64$ mag. (The Hipparcos $V$-band measurements and the $V$ magnitude of Weis [1993] lead to similar values of $M_V = 7.7$ and $7.5$ mag, respectively.) This value is consistent with a luminosity class V for this star. The color $(B-V)$ of FR Cnc derived from our photometry is $1.11 \pm 0.02$, compared to the redder but much lower precision value of $1.62 \pm 0.20$ given in the Hipparcos catalog. The 1.11 value of $(B-V)$ is best matched with a spectral class of K5 V. While this is three subclasses earlier than the spectral class K8 given in the Hipparcos catalog, the latter appears to be derived from a fairly crude spectral classification by Vysotsky (1956), and thus the difference is likely not significant.

We have determined the spectral energy distribution (SED) of FR Cnc, HD 95559, and LO Peg using broadband $UBVRI$ (present photometry and literature) and the Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) $JHK$ (Cutri et al. 2003) fluxes. We have assumed negligible reddening for each star. The observed SEDs of FR Cnc, HD 95559, and LO Peg are shown along with the synthetic SEDs (R. L. Kurucz 1993, private communication). The synthetic SEDs are predicted from the intrinsic properties of the stars. The model SEDs are shown in Figure 11.

The values of $T_{\text{eff}}$ and log $g$ that best match the observed SED are $4250 \pm 250$ K and $4.5 \pm 0.5$, respectively, and are consistent with the previously inferred K5 V spectral type for FR Cnc. The SED of HD 95559 (Fig. 11, squares) is well matched with the synthetic SED for a K1 V type star. This indicates that HD 95559 is a K1 V type star, as concluded by Fekel & Henry (2000). The SED of the star LO Peg is represented by filled triangles. Observations of LO Peg by Jeffries et al. (1994b) showed it to be a single K5–K7 dwarf, while Bowyer et al. (1996) had reported it to be a K8 type star. From the present photometry the absolute magnitude ($M_V = 6.8$) and color $(B-V = 1.04)$ of the star LO Peg are consistent with a spectral type of K3 V. It is also clear from Figure 11 that the synthetic SED of a K3 V ($T_{\text{eff}} = 4750 \pm 250$ K; log $g = 4.5$) type star is well matched with the SED of LO Peg.

Using the Hipparcos parallax, the inferred $T_{\text{eff}}$ and log $g$ values, and various relations given in Landolt-Borstein (Schaifers & Voigt 1982), we have determined values of $M/M_\odot$, $R/R_\odot$, and $L/L_\odot$ for FR Cnc, HD 95559, and LO Peg. These well-determined parameters along with $M_V$ and $M_{\text{bol}}$ are given in Table 6.

9. 2MASS JHK PHOTOMETRY OF FR Cnc, HD 95559, AND LO PEG

One of the most remarkable properties sometimes attributed to chromospherically active stars is the evidence of IR excesses, which is related to the properties of diffuse circumstellar matter (Scaltriti et al. 1993). Assuming negligible reddening and the 2MASS JHK magnitudes (Cutri et al. 2003), we have determined the intrinsic $(J-K)_h$ and $(H-K)_h$ for FR Cnc, HD 95559, and LO Peg. The intrinsic $(J-K)_h$ and $(H-K)_h$ colors are 0.77 and 0.16 mag for a K5 V type star and 0.54 and 0.11 mag for a K1 V type star (Koornneef 1983).

The intrinsic $(J-K)_h$ and $(H-K)_h$ colors of FR Cnc are $0.74 \pm 0.03$ and $0.14 \pm 0.03$ mag, implying a color excess of $0.03 \pm 0.05$ and $0.02 \pm 0.03$ mag in $(J-K)$ and $(H-K)$ color, respectively. The intrinsic $(J-K)_h = 0.539 \pm 0.03$ and $(H-K)_h = 0.111 \pm 0.03$ colors of HD 95559 give a color excess of $0.00 \pm 0.03$ in each $(J-K)$ and $(H-K)$ color. Assuming LO Peg to be a K3 V spectral type star, $(H-K)_h = 0.69 \pm 0.03$ and $(J-K)_h = 0.14 \pm 0.03$. The color excess in LO Peg is $0.02 \pm 0.04$ and $0.00 \pm 0.03$ mag, respectively. The values of the color excess for each star are consistent with zero to within the uncertainties, indicating that all three stars have no significant color excess in the JHK bands, which is also supported from the matching of the model SEDs, as shown in Figure 11.

10. KINEMATICS

We have computed the Galactic space velocity components $(U,V,W)$ for the star FR Cnc from the proper motion and parallax measured by Hipparcos and the radial velocities measured by Upgren et al. (2002) as listed in Table 6. The resulting values and their associated errors are given in Table 7.

Table 6: Galactic Space-Velocity Components

| Star          | $R_V \pm \sigma_{R_V}$ | $U \pm \sigma_U$ | $V \pm \sigma_V$ | $W \pm \sigma_W$ | $V_{total} \pm \sigma_{V_{total}}$ |
|---------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| FR Cnc........| 27.0 ± 2.3             | −25.2 ± 1.7      | −23.4 ± 0.9      | −4.3 ± 1.4       | 34.7 ± 2.0                        |
| HD 95559.....| 24.0 ± 4.0             | −23.0 ± 3.1      | −22.2 ± 1.7      | −5.7 ± 2.2       | 32.5 ± 3.7                        |
| LO Peg.........| 3.81 ± 0.11            | −32.9 ± 0.4      | −10.9 ± 0.2      | −11.2 ± 0.1      | 36.4 ± 0.5                        |

*Note:* All units are km s$^{-1}$.
identified. The star LO Peg has also been identified as a young star previously: as a member of either the 100 Myr old Local Association (Montes et al. 2001) or the 50 Myr old AB Dor moving group (Zuckerman et al. 2004). We have also calculated the \((U, V, W)\) components for HD 95559 using the radial velocity 3.81 ± 0.11 km s\(^{-1}\) (Fekel & Henry 2000) and the parallax and proper motion given in the Hipparcos catalog. The \((U, V, W)\) components of this star (see Table 7) indicate that it is a possible member of the 600 Myr old Hyades supercluster, although, as already noted, its strong Li i absorption lines are more consistent with a Pleiades-type age of 100 Myr.

11. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The shape and amplitude of the photometric light curves of FR Cnc, HD 95559, and LO Peg are observed to be changing from one epoch to another. The change in the amplitude is mainly due to a change in the minimum of the light curve, and this may be due to a change in the spot coverage. This indicates the BY Draconis type of variability in these dwarf systems. In such late types of dwarfs, convection and rapid rotation generate a dynamo, resulting in starspot activity. Two groups of spots are identified for FR Cnc and LO Peg. The spots are found to migrate, and migration periods of 0.97 and 0.93 yr are determined from the 4 years of data. A migration period of 1.12 yr for one group of spots in LO Peg is also determined. A new group of spot formation in the star HD 95559 was seen during our observations. We determine the spectral types of FR Cnc and LO Peg to be K5 V and K3 V, respectively.

Long-term optical photometry of FR Cnc firmly establishes the rotation period of the star to be 0.8267 days. Variable H\(\alpha\), H\(\beta\), and Ca ii H and K emission in the spectra of FR Cnc indicate the presence of a heated atmosphere outside the photosphere. The chromospheric line emission seems to correlate with the photometric light curve, i.e., maximum at the light curve minimum or minimum at the light curve maximum. The excess emission-line ratio of FR Cnc implies that this emission likely arises from an extended region rather than from plages or prominences. The X-ray spectral parameters of HD 95559 and LO Peg are found to be consistent with those of other BY Draconis type systems.

The bulk of the optical, X-ray, and kinematic data indicate that these three stars are all active, young stars of 100 Myr or less, whose high activity levels are primarily due to their youth. HD 95559 is particularly interesting in that it is both young and a synchronized close binary system, whose current rapid rotation is expected to persist for many gigayears, and it is remarkably similar to another young synchronized binary system, V824 Ara (HD 155555; see, e.g., Strassmeier & Rice 2000). We believe that this study has reconfirmed that selecting stars by their high X-ray-to-optical flux ratios is an efficient way to identify young active stars in the solar neighborhood.

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