

Central Lancashire Online Knowledge (CLoK)

Title	Erratum: The helium abundance in the ejecta of U Scorpii
Type	Article
URL	https://clok.uclan.ac.uk/id/eprint/4725/
DOI	https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2966.2011.19803.x
Date	2012
Citation	Maxwell, M. P., Rushton, M. T., Darnley, M. J., Worters, H. L., Bode, M. F.,
	Evans, A., Eyres, S. P. S., Kouwenhoven, M. B. N., Walter, F. M. et al (2012)
	Erratum: The helium abundance in the ejecta of U Scorpii. Monthly Notices
	of the Royal Astronomical Society, 419 (2). pp. 1465-1471. ISSN 00358711
Creators	Maxwell, M. P., Rushton, M. T., Darnley, M. J., Worters, H. L., Bode, M. F.,
	Evans, A., Eyres, S. P. S., Kouwenhoven, M. B. N., Walter, F. M. and Hassall,
	B. J. M.

It is advisable to refer to the publisher's version if you intend to cite from the work. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2966.2011.19803.x

For information about Research at UCLan please go to http://www.uclan.ac.uk/research/

All outputs in CLoK are protected by Intellectual Property Rights law, including Copyright law. Copyright, IPR and Moral Rights for the works on this site are retained by the individual authors and/or other copyright owners. Terms and conditions for use of this material are defined in the http://clok.uclan.ac.uk/policies/

Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. 419, 1465-1471 (2012)



The helium abundance in the ejecta of U Scorpii

M. P. Maxwell, ^{1*} M. T. Rushton, ¹ M. J. Darnley, ² H. L. Worters, ³ M. F. Bode, ² A. Evans, ⁴ S. P. S. Eyres, ¹ M. B. N. Kouwenhoven, ⁵ F. M. Walter ⁶ and B. J. M. Hassall ¹

Accepted 2011 September 9. Received 2011 September 9; in original form 2011 June 1

ABSTRACT

U Scorpii (U Sco) is a recurrent nova which has been observed in outburst on 10 occasions, most recently in 2010. We present near-infrared (near-IR) and optical spectroscopy of the 2010 outburst of U Sco. The reddening of U Sco is found to be $E(B-V)=0.14\pm0.12$, consistent with previous determinations, from simultaneous optical and near-IR observations. The spectra show the evolution of the linewidths and profiles to be consistent with previous outbursts. Velocities are found to be up to $14\,000\,\mathrm{km\,s^{-1}}$ in broad components and up to $1800\,\mathrm{km\,s^{-1}}$ in narrow-line components, which become visible around day 8 due to changes in the optical depth. From the spectra we derive a helium abundance of $N(\mathrm{He})/N(\mathrm{H})=0.073\pm0.031$ from the most reliable lines available; this is lower than most other estimates and indicates that the secondary is not helium-rich, as previous studies have suggested.

Key words: stars: individual: U Sco – novae, cataclysmic variables – infrared: stars.

1 INTRODUCTION

U Scorpii (U Sco) is a recurrent nova which has undergone recorded outbursts in 1863, 1906, 1917, 1936, 1945, 1969, 1979, 1987 and 1999 (Schaefer 2010) before a further outburst peaked on 2010 January 28.19 \pm 0.17 UT (Schaefer et al. 2010). The mean recurrence time is 10.3 years (Schaefer 2010). U Sco is an eclipsing binary with an orbital inclination of ~82° (Thoroughgood et al. 2001) and is semi-detached with an orbital period of \simeq 1.23 days (Schaefer & Ringwald 1995). U Sco consists of a white dwarf (WD) primary and a probable subgiant secondary with a spectral type in the range from K2 (Anupama & Dewangan 2000) to G0 (Hanes 1985), with the WD having a mass close to the Chandrasekhar limit (\simeq 1.37 M $_{\odot}$) (Thoroughgood et al. 2001). The system is at a distance of 12 \pm 2 kpc and is far out of the Galactic plane at a height of ~4.5 kpc (Schaefer 2010).

Starrfield (2008) interprets the outbursts as being due to a thermonuclear runaway (TNR) on the surface of the WD. The TNR occurs when the temperature and density at the base of the layer accreted from the secondary reach critical values of $\simeq 10^8$ K and $\simeq 10^{19}$ N m⁻², respectively (Starrfield 2008). The recurrence timescale is consistent with the nova outburst models of Yaron et al.

(2005). The energy released from the hydrogen burning is sufficient to allow heavier elements to undergo nuclear fusion. This continues until the energy generation is limited by the long, temperature independent half-lives of some isotopes involved in the CNO cycle such as ¹⁴O and ¹³N.

The 2010 outburst was anticipated by Schaefer (2004) who planned a multiwavelength observing programme ahead of time; this resulted in the 2010 outburst of U Sco having the best temporal coverage of any nova event so far. This led to the discovery of new phenomena such as aperiodic dips in the light curve and flares (Pagnotta et al. 2011; Schaefer 2011). The apparent onset of optical flickering on day 8 of the outburst (Worters et al. 2010) has been identified as an example of such a flare. The spectral evolution between outbursts is consistent, as is the photometric evolution. Baneriee et al. (2010) present near-infrared (near-IR) spectra of the outburst which show broad HI, HeI, HeII and OI emission lines. The H_I lines give an upper limit on the ejected mass of 9.71 \pm $9.29 \times 10^{-5} \,\mathrm{M}_{\odot}$ (Banerjee et al. 2010). The helium abundance, N(He)/N(H), of U Sco is highly uncertain (Diaz et al. 2010) with estimates ranging from 0.16 (Iijima 2002) to 4.5 (Evans et al. 2001). An accurate determination of the helium abundance in U Sco is necessary as some studies have suggested that, unlike classical novae, the WD is accreting helium-rich material from the secondary star. As a result, the physics of the TNR has been modified by Starrfield et al. (1988) for the case of U Sco. To explain the presence in the

¹Jeremiah Horrocks Institute, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, PR1 2HE

²Astrophysics Research Institute, Liverpool John Moores University, Birkenhead, CH41 1LD

³South African Astronomical Observatory, PO Box 9, 7935 Observatory, South Africa

⁴Astrophysics Group, Keele University, Keele, Staffordshire, ST5 5BG

⁵ Kayli Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Peking University, Yi He Yuan Lu 5, Haidian Qu, Beijing 100871, China

⁶Department of Physics and Astronomy, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY 11794-3800, USA

^{*}E-mail: mpmaxwell@uclan.ac.uk

system of a helium-rich donor star, Hachisu et al. (1999) proposed an evolutionary sequence in which a helium-rich primary filled its Roche lobe and transferred material to the secondary in the post-common envelope phase. However, Truran et al. (1988) showed that a bright nova outburst is only possible on a 1.38 solar mass WD if H/He \leq 1. This agrees with evolutionary calculations by Sarna, Ergma & Gerskevits (2006), who concluded that any helium enrichment is from the WD.

Here we present near-IR and optical spectroscopy of the latest outburst obtained at the New Technology Telescope (NTT), Liverpool Telescope (LT; Steele et al. 2004), Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory (CTIO) and South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO) from which we derive the reddening, helium abundance and broad- and narrow-component linewidths.

2 OBSERVATIONS

We take the observed maximum at 2010 January 28.19 to be day 0 of the outburst and all epochs are relative to this time. Near-IR spectroscopy of U Sco was obtained on days 5.41 and 9.43 at the NTT using the Son Of ISAAC spectrograph. The spectral resolution is $\sim\!1000$. For more details see Banerjee et al. (2010). An optical spectrum was also obtained on day 9.43 using the Cassegrain spectrograph on the 1.5-m SMARTS Telescope at CTIO at a resolution of $\sim\!1500$. Optical spectra were obtained from 1.93 to 11.93 days after outburst using the Cassegrain spectrograph on the SAAO 1.9-m telescope with a spectral resolution of $\sim\!1000$. Optical spectra

Table 1. Observing log.

Day	Wavelength range (Å)	Facility
1.93	3500–7250	SAAO
4.93	3500-7250	SAAO
5.41	9950-24000	NTT
5.93	3500-7250	SAAO
6.81	3900-5200, 5700-7900	LT
7.81	3900-5200, 5700-7900	LT
7.93	3500-7250	SAAO
8.81	3900-5200, 5700-7900	LT
8.93	3500-7250	SAAO
9.43	4000-4800, 9950-24 000	CTIO, NTT
9.93	3500-7250	SAAO
10.93	3500-7250	SAAO
11.81	3900-5200, 5700-7900	LT
11.93	3500-7250	SAAO
12.81	3900–5200, 5700–7900	LT

were also obtained from 6.81 to 12.81 days after outburst using the FRODOSpec (Morales-Rueda et al. 2004) spectrograph at LT at a resolution of \sim 5400. An observing log is given in Table 1.

3 RESULTS

Figs 1 and 2 show the dereddened optical spectra of U Sco covering most of the first 13 days of the outburst. The strong emission lines are due to H I, He I, N III and, at later times, He II. The He I lines fade

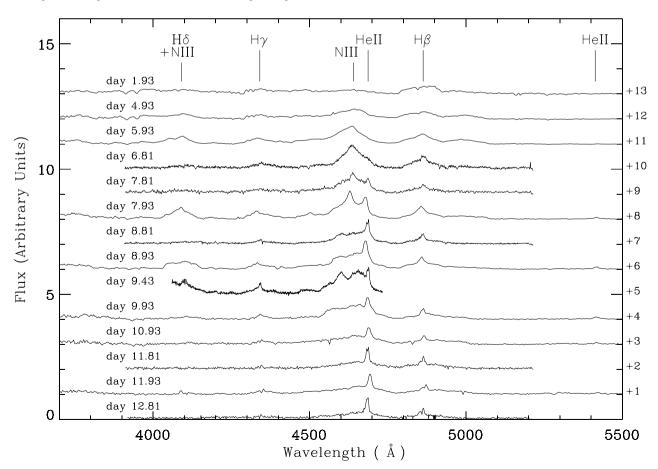


Figure 1. Spectra of U Sco taken from day 1.93 to 12.81 at LT (days ending .81), CTIO (day 9.43) and SAAO (days ending 0.93). The spectra are offset as indicated and the flux is in arbitrary units. LT spectra are smoothed with a Gaussian profile.

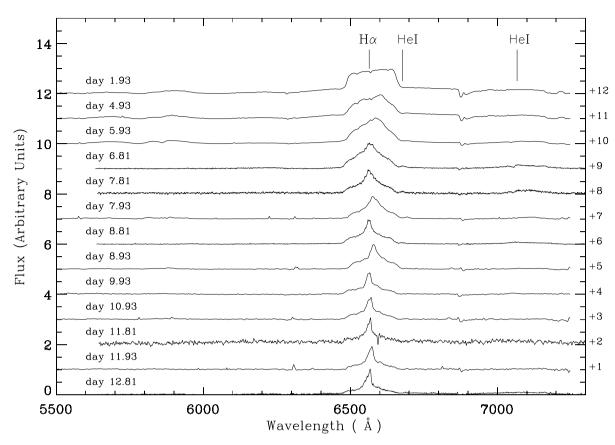


Figure 2. Spectra of U Sco taken from day 1.93 to 12.81 at LT (days ending 0.81) and SAAO (days ending 0.93). The spectra are offset as indicated and the flux is in arbitrary units. LT spectra are smoothed with a Gaussian profile.

as the He II lines develop and are no longer detectable by day 11.81. N III and H γ also fade and are very weak or undetectable by this time. H δ and He II 4686 Å are both blended with N III. Figs 3 and 4 show near-IR spectra of U Sco; they show the Paschen series of hydrogen in emission along with O I, He I and He II emission lines. Paschen γ and Paschen δ are blended with He I and He II, respectively. Fig. 3 also shows a spectrum from the outburst in 1999 taken at a similar time after maximum to the first of our NTT spectra; the spectra are very similar with the same emission features present and similar relative line strengths.

3.1 Linewidths and flux ratios

Here we measure the FWZI of each line present in our spectra. Some lines also show narrow components; in these cases we also measure the full width at half-maximum (FWHM) of that component. The contribution of instrumental resolution was not found to be significant. Velocities and the associated errors were measured by fitting Gaussian profiles and visual inspection of where the emission meets the continuum. The H α velocity is consistent with previous outbursts at similar times (Iijima 2002) at 8000–9000 km s⁻¹. The width of each line can be seen in Tables 2–4 and can be seen to be changing with time; however, the profile of the lines is changing rapidly as can be seen in Figs 1 and 2. Tables 3 and 4 show the evolution of the narrow components of H α and H β . Such high-velocity outflows (\simeq 10 000 km s⁻¹) were also seen in early (\le 5 days) spectra of the 2010 outburst of U Sco (Banerjee et al. 2010).

Line fluxes were measured by fitting Gaussian profiles to the lines with a least-squares fit and can be seen in Table 5. Multiple profiles

were used in some cases; an example fit can be seen in Fig. 5. These fluxes were then ratioed and compared to theoretical values from Hummer & Storey (1987). From these ratios the abundance of species A to species B can be found using the following equation:

$$\frac{F_A}{F_B} = \frac{\lambda_A}{\lambda_B} \times \frac{N_A}{N_B} \times \frac{\alpha_B}{\alpha_A},\tag{1}$$

where F is the measured dereddened flux, N is the abundance by number and α is the recombination coefficient from Hummer & Storey (1987) for species A and B, respectively. We assume that the sources of H I, He I and He II emission are co-extensive.

This process was repeated for each available He I (for He⁺) and He II (for He⁺⁺) to hydrogen line ratio. Since our spectra show both ionized states of helium in emission, the total abundance can be directly measured instead of using the Saha equation to predict the abundance of one species from the other.

3.2 Reddening

Several studies (Barlow et al. 1981; Burstein & Heiles 1982; Amôres & Lépine 2005) as well as the dust maps of Schlegel, Finkbeiner & Davis (1998) have shown the reddening of U Sco to be in the range E(B-V)=0.09-0.36. The ratios of line fluxes were estimated and compared to the theoretical values derived from Hummer & Storey (1987). We use the optical spectra taken on day 8.81 at LT and day 9.43 at CTIO (Figs 1 and 2), and the IR spectrum taken on day 9.43 at NTT (Fig. 4) to estimate the reddening, as by this time the flux ratios are converging on case B values. We use the extinction law and assumption of R=3.1 of Howarth (1983). Using the ratios $H\beta/Pa\epsilon$, $H\beta/Pa\beta$, $H\gamma/Pa\epsilon$ and $H\gamma/Pa\beta$, the reddening was found

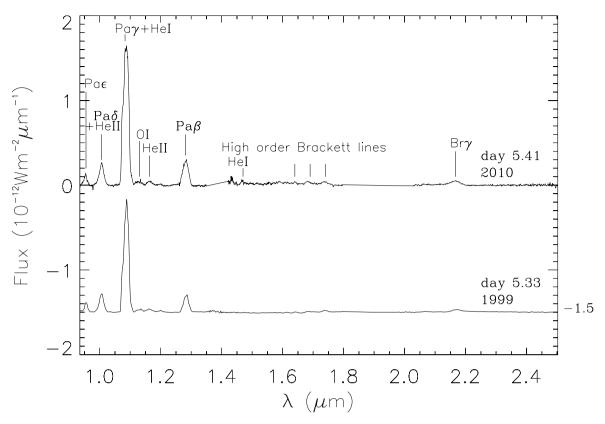


Figure 3. Top: IR spectrum of U Sco taken at the NTT on day 5.41 of 2010 outburst. Bottom: IR spectrum of U Sco taken at the NTT 5.33 days after the maximum of the 1999 outburst from Evans et al. (2001), offset as indicated on the right-hand side.

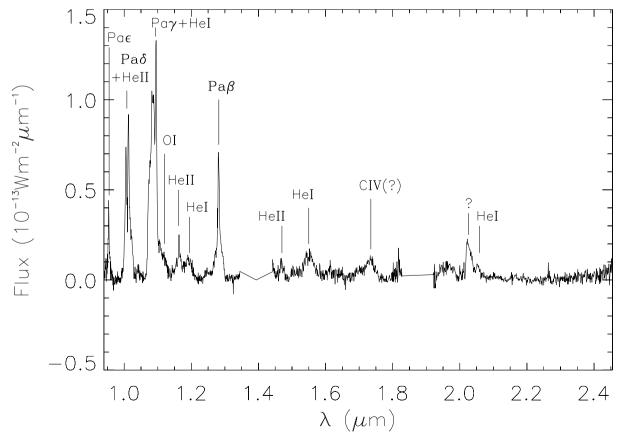


Figure 4. IR spectrum of U Sco taken at the NTT on day 9.43 of 2010 outburst.

Table 2. Broad-component linewidths (FWZI, km s⁻¹) from LT (days ending 0.81) and SAAO (days ending 0.93).

	Нγ	N 111 4616 Å	Не II 4686 Å	$_{ m Heta}$	Ηα	He i 6678 Å	He i 7065 Å
1.93	_	_	_	8000 ± 2000	10000 ± 1000	_	_
4.93	_	_	_	9000 ± 2000	9000 ± 1000	_	_
5.93	12000 ± 2000	_	_	12000 ± 2000	9000 ± 1000	_	_
6.81	9000 ± 3000	8000 ± 2000	6000 ± 2000	9000 ± 2000	8000 ± 1000	2000 ± 500	13000 ± 3000
7.81	_	8000 ± 1000	6000 ± 2000	9000 ± 2000	8000 ± 1000	1000 ± 500	10000 ± 2000
7.93	10000 ± 2000	_	6000 ± 3000	9000 ± 2000	9000 ± 1000	_	_
8.81	8000 ± 2000	12000 ± 2000	4000 ± 2000	8000 ± 2000	8000 ± 500	1500 ± 250	12000 ± 2000
8.93	9000 ± 2000	_	6000 ± 2000	9000 ± 1000	9000 ± 1000	_	_
9.93	4000 ± 1000	_	4000 ± 1000	3000 ± 1000	9000 ± 2000	_	_
10.93	4000 ± 1000	_	2000 ± 500	3000 ± 1000	9000 ± 1000	_	_
11.81	_	_	1500 ± 500	2000 ± 1000	8000 ± 2000	_	_
11.93	4000 ± 1000	_	2000 ± 500	2000 ± 500	9000 ± 1000	_	_
12.81	-	_	1200 ± 250	1500 ± 500	8000 ± 1000	-	_

Table 3. Narrow-component linewidths (FWHM, km s⁻¹) from LT data.

Day	6.81	7.81	8.81	11.81	12.81
Ηβ Ηα	$1001.95 \pm 72.36 1071.35 \pm 50.0$	836.21 ± 131.3 1146.4 ± 46.77	953.53 ± 41.62 849.94 ± 23.94	882.85 ± 61.97 753.96 ± 57.1	$1234.63 \pm 85.49 \\ 1380.0 \pm 41.95$

Table 4. Narrow-component linewidths (FWHM, ${\rm km\,s^{-1}}$) from SAAO data.

Day	1.93	4.93	5.93	7.93	8.93	9.93	10.93	11.93
$H\beta$	_	_	_	1782.15 ± 106.9	1318.17 ± 108.8	975.48 ± 71.76	764.72 ± 53.5	1192.30 ± 80.41
$H\alpha$	_	_	-	1413.54 ± 68.99	876.78 ± 40.20	778.07 ± 32.47	841.79 ± 30.53	882.26 ± 36.28

Table 5. Dereddened line fluxes. Fluxes and errors are relative to H β on that date for optical data and Pa β for near-IR data.

	Нβ	Нγ	Paβ	Pa€	He i 6678 Å	Не 11 4686 Å	Не II 5411 Å	Неп 1.163 µm
8.81	1 ± 0.01	1.02 ± 0.03	_	_	0.007 ± 0.001	_	_	_
9.43	_	_	1 ± 0.04	0.45 ± 0.02	_	_	_	0.18 ± 0.01
9.93	1 ± 0.04	0.29 ± 0.02	_	-	-	0.34 ± 0.02	0.074 ± 0.010	_
10.93	1 ± 0.02	0.12 ± 0.01	-	_	_	0.19 ± 0.01	0.022 ± 0.002	_
11.93	1 ± 0.03	0.25 ± 0.04	_	-	_	0.28 ± 0.03	0.036 ± 0.006	_

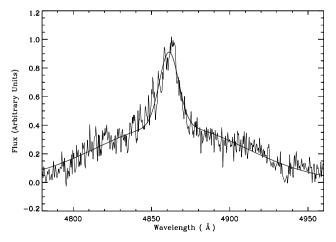


Figure 5. Fit of H β using a pair of Gaussian profiles.

to be in the range E(B-V) = 0.0–0.29 with a mean of $E(B-V) = 0.14 \pm 0.12$, consistent with the previous studies. Although U Sco is at a distance of 12 kpc, low reddening is consistent with both the line of sight leaving the plane of the galaxy and the system

being at a height of $z=4.5\,\mathrm{kpc}$ above the galactic plane (Schaefer 2010). For the spectra used in this work we adopt E(B-V)=0.2 as a good compromise between our own value and previous estimates.

3.3 Helium abundance

The helium abundance of U Sco was calculated using H_I, He_I and He_{II} recombination lines. We use the line fluxes on days 8.81 (LT), 9.93–11.93 (SAAO) and 9.43 (NTT) to estimate the helium abundance, as by this time the line ratios are converging on case B values. The large $\text{H}\alpha/\text{H}\beta$ ratio throughout the time coverage we have available shows that H α should not be used in our abundance analysis due to optical depth effects.

Abundance analyses of helium are complicated by the metastability of the lowest triplet level of He 1, 2^3 S, which can cause some lines to become optically thick. Furthermore, collisional excitations from this level enhance triplet lines. The collisional contributions are 56 per cent for 5876 Å, 78 per cent for 7065 Å and 72 per cent for 1.083 μ m using relations from Kingdon & Ferland (1995) and Peimbert & Torres-Peimbert (1987) at a temperature of 2 \times 10⁴ K at the high density limit. The contribution is lower in the singlet lines,

Table 6. Helium abundances.

Helium line	Derived abundance
He I 6678 Å	0.012 ± 0.015
He II 4686 Å	0.047 ± 0.011
He II 5411 Å	0.076 ± 0.023
He II 1.163 μm	0.061 ± 0.010

although collisions from the 2^1S level must be taken into account. The ratio of 7065/4471 is an optical depth indicator (Osterbrock & Ferland 2006) and this ratio (1.31) is inconsistent with the case B value (\sim 0.5), further evidence that the 7065 Å line is unsuitable for this analysis. In our abundance analysis we consider the singlet He I line at 6678 Å for which the collisional contribution is 27 per cent using equation 12 of Kingdon & Ferland (1995) at a temperature of 2×10^4 K. At temperatures of 10^4 and 3×10^4 the collisional contributions for this line are 7 per cent and 36 per cent, respectively. We also use He II lines at 4687 Å (LT and SAAO), 5411 Å (SAAO) and 1.163 µm (NTT).

Following Evans et al. (2001) we estimate the electron density using Paschen and Brackett series H I lines from our near-IR spectra (Figs 4 and 5) using the equation

$$F(H) = \frac{\epsilon \phi N_{\rm e}^2}{\alpha} \times \frac{V^3 t^3}{3D^2},\tag{2}$$

where F is the flux of a hydrogen line, ϵ is the case B emissivity from Hummer & Storey (1987), α is the number of electrons per hydrogen, ϕ is the volume filling factor, N_e is the electron density, V is the velocity, D is the distance and t is the time since maximum in days. We follow Evans et al. (2001) by assuming $\alpha = 1, \phi = 0.01$ and D = 12 kpc. Our results are consistent with those of Evans et al. (2001) at similar times; therefore, we adopt their values of electron density of 10¹⁰ cm⁻³ for data taken before day 9.43 and 10⁹ cm⁻³ for data taken at later times. The recombination coefficients are relatively insensitive to temperature; we assume $T_{\rm e} = 20\,000\,{\rm K}$. We derive $N(\text{He}^+)/N(\text{H}^+) = 0.012 \pm 0.015$ and $N(\text{He}^{++})/N(\text{H}^+) =$ 0.061 ± 0.010 from the data obtained at LT, NTT and CTIO using the He I line at 6678 Å and the He II line at 1.163 µm. From the SAAO data we derive $N(\text{He}^{++})/N(\text{H}^{+}) = 0.047 \pm 0.011$ using the He II line at 4686 Å and $N(\text{He}^{++})/N(\text{H}^{+}) = 0.076 \pm 0.023$ using the line at 5411 Å. These results are summarized in Table 6.

4 DISCUSSION

The helium abundance in U Sco has been the subject of many studies which have resulted in a wide range of values from 0.16 to 4.5 (Barlow et al. 1981; Anupama & Dewangan 2000; Evans et al. 2001; Iijima 2002). We find the abundance to be N(He)/N(H) = 0.073 ± 0.031 , lower than that found by Iijima (2002), Barlow et al. (1981), Anupama & Dewangan (2000) and Evans et al. (2001). A high helium abundance would suggest that the secondary in U Sco is a highly evolved star; however, the value derived here is close to the solar value N(He)/N(H) = 0.085 (Asplund et al. 2009). Our estimate suggests that assumptions about the helium-rich nature of the secondary are unfounded and that the secondary did not accrete helium-rich material significantly in the post common envelope phase (Hachisu et al. 1999). In the evolutionary calculations of Sarna et al. (2006), U Sco is best represented by their sequence B, with a hydrogen-rich secondary. For our helium abundance analysis we have considered the data (≥day 8) and the lines for which we can be confident that case B recombination applies. Other estimates have been larger than our value, especially those based only

on the He II lines. These large abundances result from the use of the Saha equation, which is highly sensitive to the assumed electron temperature. However, we use both He I and He II lines in our analysis, avoiding the use of the equation to derive the total helium abundance. The temperature dependencies in this analysis are in the recombination coefficients, which are relatively insensitive to the value chosen, and in the collisional correction for He I lines. Using a range of lines from days 8.81 and 9.43 and a range of recombination coefficients we determine several He⁺⁺/He⁺ ratios, each of which suggests electron temperatures of $2.3-2.4\times10^4$ K; therefore, we use recombination coefficients for the closest temperature from Hummer & Storey (1987) of $T_{\rm e}=2\times10^4$ K.

The hydrogen line profiles have broad and narrow components. The narrow components become prominent around day 8 and arise from slow moving material at speeds of $\sim 1000 \, \mathrm{km \, s^{-1}}$. The broad components are composed of material travelling at velocities of up to $\sim 10\,000\,\mathrm{km\,s^{-1}}$. The rise in the strength of the narrow components could be explained by optical depth effects. The ejecta begin to become optically thin around day 8; before this time slower moving material would be concealed by the shell of optically thick fast moving material. As the faster moving material expands and becomes optically thin, the flux from the slow moving material becomes visible. He II lines also begin to dominate the helium emission around day 8; however, this is most likely due to photo-ionization of helium rather than an optical depth effect. The measured linewidths are generally higher for the SAAO data than for near-simultaneous LT data; possible reasons for this are the difference in resolution and signal-to-noise issues. There also appears to be clear structure to the $H\beta$ line in the LT spectra which is not present in the SAAO spectra. A possible source of the narrow components is an inclination effect; since U Sco is a high inclination system most of the velocity is in the plane of the sky; therefore, we may be observing a small radial component. This is consistent with the asymmetric ejecta models of Drake & Orlando (2010). Data over a longer time range and with better orbital phase coverage are required to explore this further.

5 CONCLUSION

We present optical and near-IR observations of the 2010 outburst of U Scorpii. We find the helium abundance of U Scorpii to be $N({\rm He})/N({\rm H}) = 0.073 \pm 0.031$. This estimate is lower than most previous studies and does not support their conclusions which suggest that the secondary in this system is helium-rich. The velocities seen in the 2010 outburst are consistent with those seen in previous outbursts, with some hydrogen and He II lines being seen to have both narrow and broad components in our later spectra. Further observations are planned to investigate the nature and metallicity of the secondary in this system.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Liverpool Telescope is operated on the island of La Palma by Liverpool John Moores University in the Spanish Observatorio del Roque de los Muchachos of the Instituto de Astrofisica de Canarias with financial support from the UK Science and Technology Facilities Council. M.B.N.K. was supported by the Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation through the IAU-PPGF fellowship, by the Peking University One Hundred Talent Fund (985), and by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (grants 11010237 and 11043007). This paper uses observations made at the South African

Astronomical Observatory (SAAO). The authors would like to thank the anonymous referee for their helpful comments.

REFERENCES

Amôres E. B., Lépine J. R. D., 2005, AJ, 130, 659

Anupama G. C., Dewangan G. C., 2000, AJ, 119, 1359

Asplund M., Grevesse N., Sauval A. J., Scott P., 2009, ARA&A, 47, 481

Banerjee D. P. K. et al., 2010, MNRAS, 408, L71

Barlow M. J. et al., 1981, MNRAS, 195, 61

Burstein D., Heiles C., 1982, AJ, 87, 1165

Diaz M. P., Williams R. E., Luna G. J., Moraes M., Takeda L., 2010, AJ, 140, 1860

Drake J. J., Orlando S., 2010, ApJ, 720, L195

Evans A., Krautter J., Vanzi L., Starrfield S., 2001, A&A, 378, 132

Hachisu I., Kato M., Nomoto K., Umeda H., 1999, ApJ, 519, 314

Hanes D. A., 1985, MNRAS, 213, 443

Howarth I. D., 1983, MNRAS, 203, 301

Hummer D. G., Storey P. J., 1987, MNRAS, 224, 801

Iijima T., 2002, AAP, 387, 1013

Kingdon J., Ferland G. J., 1995, ApJ, 442, 714

Morales-Rueda L., Carter D., Steele I. A., Charles P. A., Worswick S., 2004, Astron. Nachr., 325, 215

Osterbrock D. E., Ferland G. J., 2006, Astrophysics of Gaseous Nebulae and Active Galactic Nuclei 2nd edn. University Science Books, Sausalito, CA

Pagnotta A. S. et al., 2011, BAAS, 43, 338.14

Peimbert M., Torres-Peimbert S., 1987, Rev. Mex. Astron. Astrofis., 15, 117

Sarna M. J., Ergma E., Gerskevits J., 2006, Acta Astron., 56, 65

Schaefer B. E., 2004, IAU Circ., 8279, 3

Schaefer B. E., 2010, ApJS, 187, 275

Schaefer B. E., 2011, ApJ, in press (arXiv:1108.1215)

Schaefer B. E., Ringwald F. A., 1995, ApJ, 447, L45

Schaefer B. E., Harris B. G., Dvorak S., Templeton M., Linnolt M., 2010, IAU Circ., 9111, 1

Schlegel D. J., Finkbeiner D. P., Davis M., 1998, ApJ, 500, 525

Starrfield S., 2008, Classical Novae. Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge

Starrfield S. et al., 1988, in ESA Special Publication Vol. 281, Observations and Simulations of Recurrent Novae: U Sco and V394 CrA. ESA, Noordwijk, p. 167

Steele I. A. et al., 2004, in Oschmann J. M., Jr, ed., Proc. SPIE Conf. Ser. Vol. 5489, The Liverpool Telescope: Performance and First Results. p. 679

Thoroughgood T. D., Dhillon V. S., Littlefair S. P., Marsh T. R., Smith D. A., 2001, MNRAS, 327, 1323

Truran J. W., Livio M., Hayes J., Starrfield S., Sparks W. M., 1988, ApJ, 324, 345

Worters H. L., Eyres S. P. S., Rushton M. T., Schaefer B., 2010, IAU Circ., 9114

Yaron O., Prialnik D., Shara M. M., Kovetz A., 2005, ApJ, 623, 398

This paper has been typeset from a $T_EX/I - T_EX$ file prepared by the author.