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TOWARDS UNDERSTANDING THE B[E] PHENOMENON: VI. NATURE AND SPECTRAL VARIATIONS OF HD 85567.

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ABSTRACT

We report the results of high-resolution ($R \sim 80,000$) spectroscopic observations of the emission-line object HD 85567, which has been classified as a FS CMa type object or a pre-main-sequence star. The main goal is to put more constraints on the object's fundamental parameters as well as on its nature and evolutionary state. Absorption lines in the spectrum of HD 85567 were found similar to those of mid B-type dwarfs and correspond to the following fundamental parameters: $T_{\text{eff}} = 15000 \pm 500$ K, $v \sin i = 31 \pm 3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, $\log g \sim 4.0$. The interstellar extinction, $A_V = 0.50 \pm 0.02$ mag, was measured using the strengths of some diffuse interstellar bands. We also obtained $UBV(RI)_c$ images of a $10' \times 10'$ region around the object. Photometry of projectionally close stars was used to derive an interstellar extinction law in this direction and resulted in a distance of 1300 ± 100 pc to the object and a luminosity of $\log L/L_{\odot} = 3.3 \pm 0.2$. We found no significant radial velocity variations of the absorption lines in the spectra of HD 85567 obtained during two month-long periods of time in 2012 and 2015. Our analysis of the spectroscopic and photometric data available for the star led us to a conclusion that it cannot be a pre-main-sequence Herbig Ae/Be star. We argue that the circumstellar gas and dust were produced during the object's evolution as most likely a binary system, which contains an undetected secondary component and is unlikely to be a merger product.

Subject headings: Stars: emission-line, Be; (Stars:) binaries: spectroscopic; Stars: individual: HD 85567

1. INTRODUCTION

The B[e] phenomenon is defined as the presence of forbidden line emission (in addition to permitted line emission) and infrared (IR) excess due to circumstellar dust in the spectra of B-type stars. It was discovered by Allen & Swings (1976) and is observed in stars with a wide range of masses and evolutionary states. Despite a strong progress in understanding of these complex objects, many of them are still poorly studied. In particular, half of the objects from the initial list of 65 Galactic stars that show the B[e] phenomenon were not identified as members of any group with known evolutionary state. These objects were called unclassified by Lamers et al. (1998).

¹ This paper is partly based on observations obtained at the 1.5 m telescope of the Cerro Tololo Interamerican Observatory under CNTAC proposal 2012A-016.

Miroshnichenko (2007) suggested that most unclassified objects were neither pre-main-sequence Herbig Ae/Be (HAeBe) stars nor supergiants but rather binary systems and separated them into a new group of FS CMa type objects. Limitation of the mass range and evolutionary states for the group was based on the strength of the emission-line spectra and shape of the IR excess radiation (lack of far-IR emission). Miroshnichenko et al. (2007) expanded the FS CMa group with 10 newly discovered objects found in the *IRAS* database by cross-identification with catalogs of optical positions. Miroshnichenko et al. (2011) reported ~ 20 more candidates found in the NOMAD catalog (Zacharias et al. 2005) using optical and near-IR photometric criteria. Although the range of possible interpretations for the group objects properties was limited, binarity has been detected only in $\sim 30\%$ of the group members. At the same time, information about some group objects is not

detailed enough that allows different researchers reach contradictory conclusions on their nature and evolutionary state.

This paper is devoted to a study of HD 85567, a bright ($V \sim 8.6$ mag) star that is located in the southern hemisphere in the Carina constellation. Its emission-line spectrum was first reported by Henize (1976). The star was included in a catalog of Be stars by Jaschek & Egret (1982). Hu & Zhou (1990) and Oudmaijer et al. (1992) reported a strong IR excess detected from the star by *IRAS*. Thé et al. (1994) included HD 85567 in their catalog of HAeBe candidate stars. Lamers et al. (1998) in their classification of B[e]-type stars also suggested that HD 85567 was a HAeBe star. This conclusion was adopted in a number of other studies (e.g., van den Ancker et al. 1998).

Nevertheless, Miroschnichenko et al. (2001) showed that this star exhibited a much weaker far-IR excess compared to genuine HAeBe stars. Additionally these authors speculated that it was a binary system because of a complex structure of the Balmer line profiles and a large difference between radial velocities (RV) of absorption and emission in its spectrum. A few years later Baines et al. (2006) detected signs of the object's binarity by spectro-astrometry. Miroschnichenko (2007) included it into the FS CMa group. However, recent studies kept considering HD 85567 a pre-main-sequence star (e.g., Vieira et al. 2003; Verhoeff et al. 2012; Ilee et al. 2014; Fairlamb et al. 2015). Moreover the interferometric observations of Wheelwright et al. (2013) did not detect any binary signature, although they did not exclude the possibility that a faint companion could still escape detection. These authors concluded that HD 85567 is a young stellar object with an optically-thick gaseous disk within a larger dusty disk that is being photo-evaporated from the outer edge. Therefore there are two conflicting opinions on the object's nature and evolutionary state.

Table 1
Fundamental parameters of HD 85567 from the literature

SpT	T_{eff}	D, kpc	$\log L/L_{\odot}$	A_V	Ref.
B2	19000	1.5 ± 0.5	4.0 ± 0.3	1.25	1
B2	22000	1.5	4.66	2.23	2
B5	15200	≥ 0.48	≥ 2.54	0.71	3
B2	22000	1.5 ± 0.5	4.17 ± 0.16	1.1 ± 0.1	4
	13000 ± 500	$0.9^{+0.2}_{-0.1}$	$3.13^{+0.46}_{-0.45}$	$0.89^{+0.03}_{-0.02}$	5
B4-5	15000 ± 500	1.3 ± 0.1	3.3 ± 0.2	0.50 ± 0.02	6

Column information: (1) – spectral type, (2) – effective temperature in degrees Kelvin, (3) – distance in kiloparsecs, (4) – logarithm of the luminosity in solar units, (5) – visual interstellar extinction, and (6) – reference.

References: 1 – Miroschnichenko et al. (2001), 2 – Manoj et al. (2006), 3 – Martin-Zaidi et al. (2008), 4 – Verhoeff et al. (2012), 5 – Fairlamb et al. (2015), 6 – this paper.

Fundamental parameters of HD 85567 found in the literature are summarized in Table 1. We note here that the distance quoted by van den Ancker et al. (1998) came from the original version of the *HIPPARCOS* catalog of parallaxes (1.00 ± 0.69 , ESA 1997). All the other distances shown in Table 1 refer to Miroschnichenko et al.

(2001). The updated *HIPPARCOS* parallax (0.47 ± 0.51 , van Leeuwen 2007) gives an unreliable distance.

In this paper we use multicolor photometry of stars in the vicinity of HD 85567 and its high-resolution spectra to refine its fundamental parameters and re-investigate its nature and evolutionary state. The observations are described in Sect. 2, analysis of the spectrum and the radial velocity curve is presented in Sect. 3, suggestions about the system's nature are discussed in Sect. 4, and conclusions are summarized in Sect. 5.

2. OBSERVATIONS

Optical high-resolution spectroscopic observations of HD 85567 were obtained between March 3 and April 5, 2012 (5 spectra) and between April 18 and May 23, 2015 (10 spectra) at a 1.5 m telescope of CTIO with the HIRON spectrograph (Tokovinin et al. 2013) using an image slicer. The MJD of all spectroscopic observations presented in Table 4. The spectral resolving power was $R = 80,000$. The 2012 spectra were obtained in a spectral range of 4000–9000 Å, and the 2015 spectra were obtained in a spectral range of 4500–9000 Å. All the spectra were obtained with an exposure time of ~ 1200 s. Both data sets are characterized by an average signal-to-noise ratio of ~ 100 . Data reduction was done with a pipeline² using standard IRAF³ tasks and included bias subtraction, flat-fielding, extracting one-dimensional spectra, normalizing each order to the continuum, wavelength calibration using a Th-Ar lamp exposures, and correcting wavelengths for the Earth translational motion. An example of our spectrum of HD 85567 with a representative set of spectral lines is presented in Fig. 1.

UBV(RI_c) data in the Johnson-Cousins photometric system of a $10' \times 10'$ field around HD 85567 and some projectionally close fields were obtained in February–April and November 2015 at three PROMPT robotic telescopes (Reichart et al. 2005) located at CTIO. The images were bias subtracted, flat fielded, and dark corrected. The brightness of the stars shown in Fig. 2 as well as of several stars from the other images was measured using IRAF task *imexamine* with apertures based on seeing (typical radius ~ 10 pixels or $\sim 6''$). Transformation coefficients between the instrumental and standard photometric system were determined from observations of several fields containing standard stars from Landolt (1992). The measurement results in the standard system are presented in Table 2.

3. DATA ANALYSIS

We determined both the absorption and emission lines RV by fitting the line profiles to a Gaussian. Particularly in the case of double and triple peaked emission lines each peak was fitted to a Gaussian. The emission peaks in the [O I] lines are so close together that we determined the RV by fitting the symmetric part of the line profile wings to a single Gaussian (see Table 4). The equivalent widths (EW) were measured by direct integration above the local continuum.

² <http://www.ctio.noao.edu/noao/sites/default/files/telescopes/smarts/tele15/chireduce.pdf>

³ IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, which is operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA) under a cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.

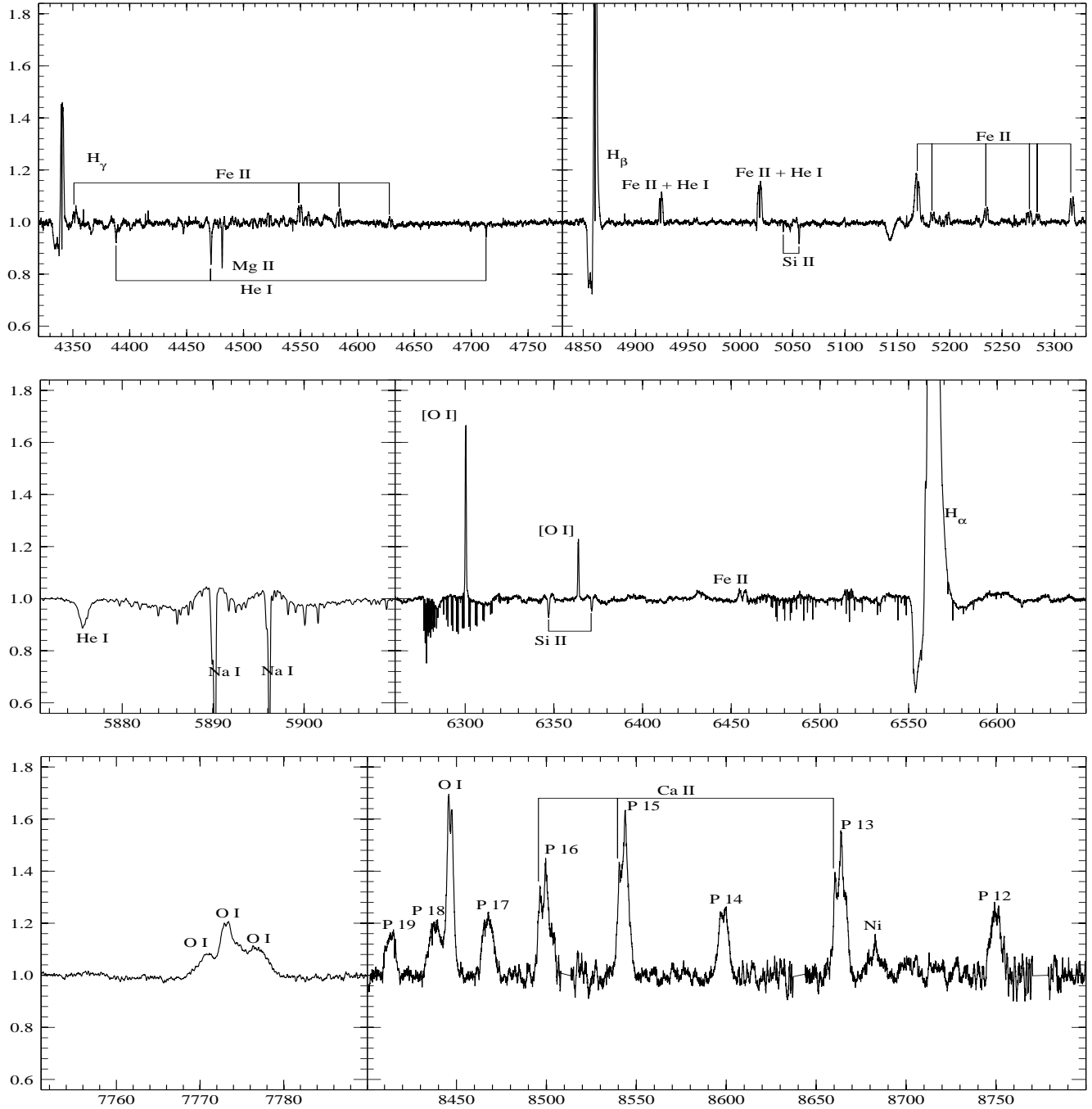


Figure 1. The most informative parts of a high-resolution HIRON spectrum of HD 85567 ($R = 80,000$). The intensity is normalized to the continuum, the wavelength scale is heliocentric.

3.1. Absorption lines

The spectrum of HD 85567 shows a number of absorption lines typical for a B-type star atmosphere as well as those originated in the interstellar and circumstellar medium. The former group includes the He I lines (4471, 4713, 5875, 6678 Å), Mg II 4481 Å, Si II (5041, 5056, 6347, 6371 Å). RVs of some of these lines are shown in Table 3. Their average value is $0.6 \pm 3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ except for the spectrum taken on 03/30/2012, which seems to be affected by slight wavelength calibration problems. The

scatter of the average RV is most likely due to a small number of detected absorption lines and contamination by the circumstellar material (see also Sect. 4.2.2 for a discussion of the orbital motion as a reason for the RV scatter). There is virtually no difference with the earlier result by Miroshnichenko et al. (2001), $0 \pm 2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ based on a single spectrum obtained in 2000.

The Mg II 4481 Å and Si II 6347 and 6371 Å lines have weak emission components (~ 0.01 – 0.02 of the local continuum intensity due to circumstellar contribution, see Fig. 1) that make the lines slightly weaker compared to

Table 2
Photometry of stars in the vicinity of HD 85567

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	9 49 58	-61 00 14	10.91	0.15	0.64	0.35	0.76	F5 III	0.45	0.5
2	9 50 09	-61 03 01	10.60	0.82	1.15	0.57	1.18	G5 III	0.50	0.7
3	9 51 08	-60 54 35	11.68	-	0.41	0.23	0.57	F2 IV	0.25	0.5
4	9 50 33	-60 57 32	13.82	0.44	0.89	0.46	1.09	G0 III	0.85	2.0
5	9 50 24	-60 59 08	12.53	1.10	1.29	0.62	1.31	G8 III	0.80	1.5
6	9 50 12	-60 59 23	12.29	2.55	1.65	0.87	1.81	-	-	-
7	9 50 04	-60 59 16	13.61	0.11	0.65	0.33	0.78	F5 IV	0.45	0.8
8	9 50 06	-60 58 28	14.07	0.30	0.74	0.42	0.88	F8 IV	0.45	0.8
9	9 50 09	-60 58 05	13.17	1.00	1.20	0.63	1.31	G5 III	1.05	1.7
10	9 50 06	-60 57 05	13.96	0.10	0.66	0.36	0.82	F2 III	0.85	1.8
11	9 50 14	-60 56 59	13.38	-	1.30	0.64	1.34	G5 III	0.85	2.0
12	9 50 21	-60 56 48	13.68	1.19	1.31	0.64	1.34	G8 III	0.95	2.3
13	9 50 45	-60 58 07	12.96	1.22	1.87	1.72	4.16	-	-	-
14	9 50 27	-60 55 21	13.26	0.10	0.39	0.21	0.51	F2 V	0.20	0.9

Column information: (1) – sequential number of a star in the vicinity of HD 85567, (2) – RAJ2000, (3) – DECJ2000 (4) – V , (5) – $U - B$, (6) – $B - V$, (7) – $V - R$, (8) – $V - I$, (9) – assigned MK type, (10) – A_V , (11) – distance D in kpc. The coordinates are taken from the NOMAD catalog (Zacharias et al. 2005). For determination of MK types see Sect. 3.4. Stars Nos. 6, 13 are very red and probably have late spectral types, so that luminosity type determination is uncertain.

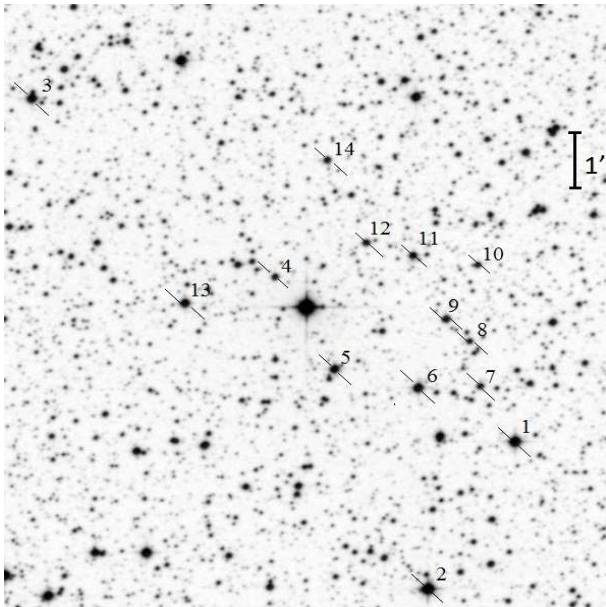


Figure 2. The $10' \times 10'$ field around HD 85567 from the Digital Sky Survey. The object is the brightest star in the middle of the field. Stars, whose brightness was measured and is presented in Table 2, are marked with numbers. The North direction is up, and East is to the left.

those of normal (with no line emission) stars. Therefore, EW of these lines may not be directly used as the effective temperature (T_{eff}) indicators for this object. However, EW ratios of various absorption lines are less affected by emission and work reasonably well for T_{eff} determination. Miroshnichenko et al. (2015) showed that the EW ratio of the He I 4471 Å and the Mg II 4481 Å is a good T_{eff} indicator for some Be stars and the FSCMA object MWC 728 (see their Fig. 3). This ratio in the spectrum of HD 85567 is equal to 1.3 ± 0.2 that corresponds to $T_{\text{eff}} = 13500 \pm 1000$ K and a spectral type B5 (Gray & Corbally 1994).

We also employed the EW ratio of the He I 4713 Å and the Si II 6347 Å lines and that of the He I 5875 Å and the Si II 6347 Å as additional T_{eff} indicators to verify the above result. We used spectra of normal B-type stars which were obtained at the 0.81 m telescope of the Three College Observatory of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with an échelle spectrograph that provides $R \sim 10,000$ and those obtained at the 1.93 m telescope of the Observatoire de Haute Provence with the spectrograph *ELODIE* ($R \sim 42000$, Moultaq et al. 2004). Using the relationships of the lines EW and T_{eff} shown in Fig. 3, we estimated the object's $T_{\text{eff}} = 15000 \pm 500$ K. Comparing spectra of MWC 728 (no Fe II lines in emission, $T_{\text{eff}} = 14000 \pm 1000$ K, Miroshnichenko et al. 2015) and HD 85567 and taking into account that the latter exhibits Fe II emission lines, we favor the higher T_{eff} for it. We determined a projected rotational velocity of $v \sin i = 31 \pm 3$ km s $^{-1}$ from profiles of the He I (4713, 5875, 6678 Å) and Si II (5056, 6347, 6371 Å) lines using Fourier transform. In Fig. 4 we compare the spectrum of HD 85567 with those of normal B-type stars having similar rotation velocities.

The latter group of absorption lines contains diffuse interstellar bands (DIBs), such as 5780, 5797, and 6613 Å, and the Na I D-lines at 5889 and 5895 Å. Each of the Na I D-lines exhibits two peaks ($V_{\text{blue}} = -2.0 \pm 0.6$ km s $^{-1}$, $V_{\text{red}} = 13.7 \pm 0.1$ km s $^{-1}$). The blue-shifted peak most likely forms in the circumstellar material. Miroshnichenko et al. (2001) determined the interstellar extinction for HD 85567 as $A_V \sim 0.5$ mag using the 5780 and 5797 Å DIB strengths. The DIB strengths in our new spectra are essentially the same. The average EW of the 5780 Å DIB is 0.08 Å that corresponds to $A_V = 0.50 \pm 0.02$ mag according to a calibration by Herbig (1993).

3.2. Emission lines

The emission-line spectrum is represented by hydrogen lines of the Balmer and Paschen series, Fe II lines, the

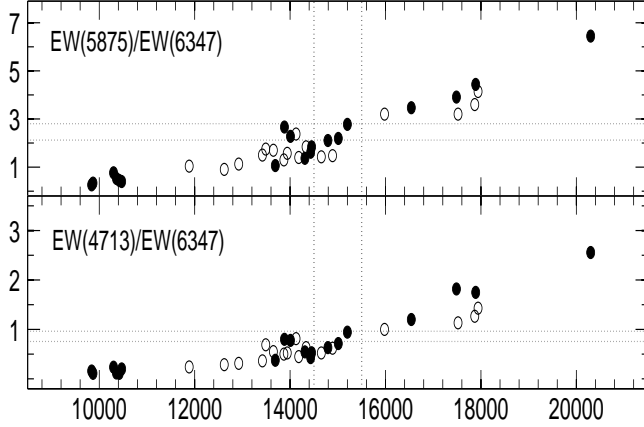


Figure 3. T_{eff} relationship with the EW ratio the He I 4713 Å and the Si II 6347 Å lines and EW ratio He I 5875 Å and the Si II 6347 Å lines. Circles represent data for normal B-type stars (filled – OHP, open – TCO). Temperature determination were collected from various papers (Zorec et al. 2009; Zorec & Royer 2012). The horizontal dashed lines show ranges of EW variations detected in the spectrum of HD 85567, and the vertical dashed lines show most likely boundaries of the T_{eff} for HD 85567.

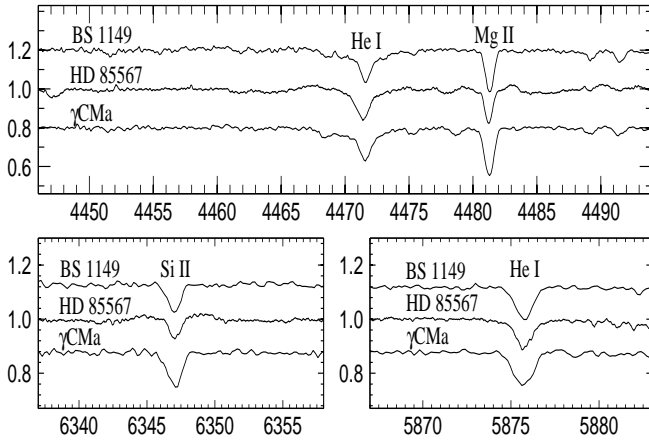


Figure 4. The He I (4471 and 5875 Å), the Mg II 4481 Å, and the Si II 6347 Å lines in the spectrum of HD 85567 taken on 2012 March 19 are shown in the middle of each panel. An *ELODIE* spectrum of BS 1149 ($T_{\text{eff}} = 14310$ K, $v \sin i = 33$ km s $^{-1}$) and a TCO spectrum of γ CMa ($T_{\text{eff}} = 13690$ K, $v \sin i = 25$ km s $^{-1}$) are shown for comparison. The heliocentric wavelengths are shown in Å, the intensity is normalized to the nearby continuum. The spectra are shifted by $0.1 I_{\text{cont}}$ with respect to each other for an easier comparison.

[O I] 6300 Å and 6364 Å lines, the O I 7772–7775 Å triplet, and the Ca II triplet 8498, 8542, and 8662 Å. The Fe II, [O I], and Paschen lines typically have double-peaked profiles. The Fe II lines peak at $I/I_{\text{cont}} \leq 1.2$ and show profile variations similar to those of the Balmer lines (see Fig. 5, 6, and 8). The Paschen lines peak at $I/I_{\text{cont}} \sim 1.2$ and are less variable. We measured EWs of the Fe II 5018 and 5317 Å lines ($\text{EW} = -0.54 \pm 0.03$ Å and -0.33 ± 0.02 Å, respectively) as well as the [O I] 6300, 6364 Å lines ($\text{EW} = -0.45 \pm 0.01$ Å and -0.17 ± 0.01 Å, respectively) and found them to show little variations. We did a similar analysis for the Paschen line P14, which

Table 3

RVs of some absorption lines in the spectra of HD 85567

date	Mg II 4481	He I 4713	He I 5875	Si II 6347	Si II 6371	He I 6678
03/03/2012	−0.4	6.3	3.1	2.0	−0.8	0.2
03/19/2012	0.4	1.3	4.6	−1.9	−2.8	−2.7
03/23/2012	0.0	0.9	4.1	0.5	0.8	−2.4
03/30/2012	−	−4.6	−10.7	−2.8	0.5	−0.6
04/05/2012	3.1	4.9	−0.9	1.6	2.2	−3.1
04/18/2015			3.6	0.2	0.5	2.2
04/20/2015			3.9	−0.5	2.8	0.1
04/23/2015			3.9	−0.6	1.9	−3.0
04/25/2015			4.1	−2.7	0.0	−0.3
04/27/2015			3.6	−1.4	0.3	0.0
04/29/2015			3.6	−2.2	1.9	0.7
05/01/2015			4.1	−1.4	1.3	−
05/02/2015			3.9	0.3	1.7	0.4
05/05/2015			4.6	−2.4	2.4	1.3
05/23/2015			3.9	0.0	1.1	−0.6
Average	−0.8	4.4	3.6	−0.6	1.0	−0.6
r.m.s.	1.2	2.3	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.3

Heliocentric RVs (in km s $^{-1}$) of some absorption lines in the spectrum of HD 85567. The last row shows r.m.s. standard deviations for the average RV values. The RVs measured in the spectrum taken on 03/30/2012 are excluded from averaging (see Sect. 4). The He I 4471 Å and the Mg II 4482 Å lines were out of the spectral range detected in 2015. The He I 6678 Å line in the spectrum taken on 05/01/2015 is too noisy for a reliable RV measurement.

Julian dates of the spectroscopic observations are shown in Table 4.

Rest wavelengths of the lines in this and other Tables were taken from Coluzzi (1993)

is not distorted by other lines (e.g., Ca II, see Fig. 1). It shows a stable weak emission component. The $\text{RV}_{\text{blue}} = -49.0 \pm 3.5$ km s $^{-1}$, $\text{RV}_{\text{red}} = 39.4 \pm 4.1$ km s $^{-1}$, and $\text{EW} = -1.69 \pm 0.06$ Å.

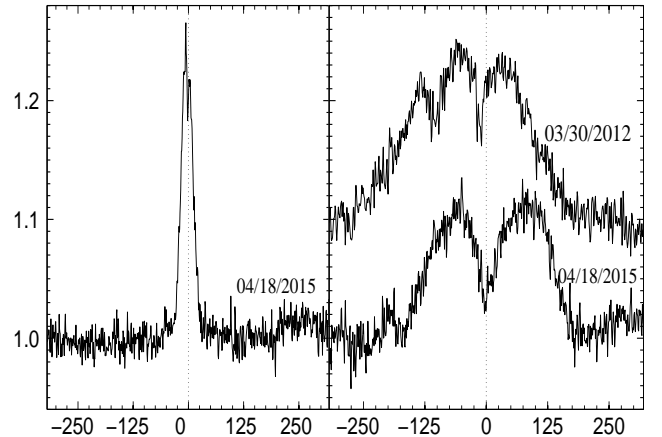


Figure 5. The [O I] 6364 Å (left panel) and the Fe II 5169 Å (right panel) emission lines in the spectrum of HD 85567. The right panel shows an example of the Fe II line profile variations. Both the intensity and radial velocity are in the same units as in Fig. 4.

The H α and H β lines show strong emission compo-

Table 4
RVs of some emission lines in the spectra of HD 85567

Date	MJD	Fe II _{blue} 5018	Fe II _{red} 5018	Fe II _{blue} 5169	Fe II _{red} 5169	Fe II _{blue} 5317	Fe II _{red} 5317	[O I] 6364	[O I] 6300
03/03/2012	5989.642	-50.5	63.0	-49.6	64.8	-64.4	58.6	0.3	-1.2
03/19/2012	6005.548	-57.4	61.0	-58.0	64.4	-69.4	57.0	0.5	-1.0
03/23/2012	6009.625	-59.8	63.4	-61.5	72.0	-67.7	62.6	0.0	-1.0
03/30/2012	6016.682	-59.2	64.6	-54.6	33.1	—	—	-0.5	-1.0
04/05/2012	6022.609	-59.8	61.6	-72.5	76.6	-78.4	57.6	0.5	-1.5
04/18/2015	7131.546	-65.2	69.3	-58.6	78.9	-68.8	64.9	-0.5	-1.9
04/20/2015	7133.589	-62.2	68.1	-62.1	81.8	-65.5	65.5	-0.5	-1.9
04/23/2015	7136.553	-67.0	59.8	-59.2	77.8	-65.5	59.2	-0.5	-1.9
04/25/2015	7138.621	-58.6	68.7	-55.1	76.0	-60.9	64.9	-0.5	-1.9
04/27/2015	7140.610	-56.2	72.9	-56.3	72.5	-71.7	60.4	-0.5	-2.9
04/29/2015	7142.619	-65.2	72.9	-66.7	84.2	-67.1	66.0	-0.5	-1.9
05/01/2015	7144.598	-60.4	68.1	-48.8	77.2	-69.4	67.7	-1.4	-2.4
05/02/2015	7145.577	-64.6	67.0	-64.4	82.4	-71.1	66.6	-0.5	-2.4
05/05/2015	7148.612	-63.4	74.7	-60.9	81.8	-69.4	64.9	-0.5	-1.9
05/23/2015	7166.499	-66.4	72.3	-61.5	76.0	-71.7	70.0	-0.5	-1.9

Column information: (1) – observing date, (2) – JD–2450000, (3)–(8) – heliocentric RVs of some Fe II lines in km s^{-1} , (9)–(10) heliocentric RVs of the [O I] line in km s^{-1} .

The 5169 Å line exhibits an additional blue-shifted emission peak at $\text{RV} = -132 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ in the spectrum taken on 03/30/2012 (see Fig. 5 and Sect. 4).

Rest wavelengths for the [O I] lines, 6300.33 and 6363.77 Å, were taken from the Atomic Line List by P. van Hoof available from <http://www.pa.uky.edu/~peter/newpage/>

nents, which are dominated by a double-peaked profile. Unlike the other lines with nearly equal peak strengths (including $\text{H}\gamma$), these two lines exhibit a stronger red-shifted emission peak. However, sometimes a third peak appears on their blue side and moves toward the double-peaked structure (see Fig. 6 for the $\text{H}\alpha$ line). Another feature of the Balmer line profiles is a blue-shifted absorption component which also varies in shape and position. Additionally, the Balmer lines occasionally exhibit more complicated profiles, such as a central peak in the $\text{H}\alpha$ line shown in Fig. 7. The $\text{H}\beta$ and $\text{H}\gamma$ line profiles are highly variable on a time scale of a few days (Fig. 8). The $\text{H}\alpha$ line profile looks less variable (Fig. 6), because the moving features are less noticeable against its stronger emission components.

RVs of some Fe II and [O I] lines are shown in Table 4. Parameters of the $\text{H}\alpha$, $\text{H}\beta$, and $\text{H}\gamma$ lines are presented in Tables 5, 6, and 7, respectively.

3.3. Brightness variations

Photometric observations of HD 85567 have been published in several papers. Klare & Neckel (1977), Schild, Garrison & Hiltner (1983), and Miroschnichenko et al. (2001) each presented two measurements of the optical brightness obtained in 1973–1975 ($V = 8.55 \text{ mag}$), 1968–1977 ($V = 8.58 \text{ mag}$), and 1997, respectively. de Winter et al. (2001) obtained 33 data points during two week-long periods in 1991 and 1992. The star was observed in the ASAS-3 survey in 2004–2010 (Pojmanski 2002). Our PROMPT data include six measurements of the optical brightness obtained in 2010–2015 ($V = 8.54 \pm 0.01 \text{ mag}$). The V -band light curve in the last 25 years (see Fig. 10) exhibits neither significant nor regular variations.

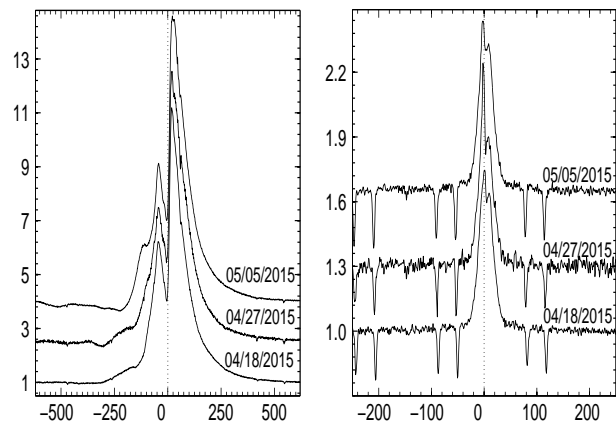


Figure 6. **Left panel:** Variations of the $\text{H}\alpha$ line in the spectrum of HD 85567. **Right panel:** Variations of the O I 6300 Å line in the spectrum of HD 85567. All the absorption lines shown in this panel are telluric. Both the intensity and radial velocity are in the same units as in Fig. 4.

3.4. Interstellar extinction law in the direction toward HD 85567

To determine the distance toward HD 85567, we constructed a relationship of the interstellar extinction with distance from the Sun in its direction (see Fig. 12). To do that, we collected published photometric data and MK types for hot stars in a region of $60'$ from the star position. Additionally, we measured brightness of some stars in a $10' \times 10'$ field around HD 85567 (see Fig. 2) using our $UBV(RI)_c$ data in the Johnson-Cousins photometric system obtained at PROMPT telescopes. We also added 2MASS JHK data (Cutri et al. 2003) to our optical photometry. We determined T_{eff} of these stars

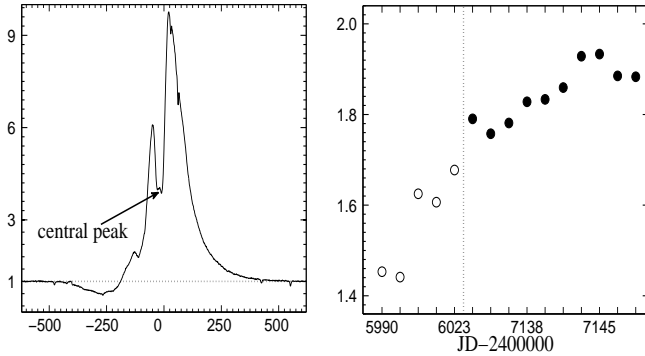


Figure 7. **Left panel:** The $H\alpha$ line profile in the spectrum of HD 85567 when a central peak is observed. Both the intensity and radial velocity are in the same units as in Fig. 5. **Right panel:** Temporal evolution of the intensity ratio of the red to the blue peak ($I_{\text{red}}/I_{\text{blue}}$) of the $H\alpha$ line in the spectrum of HD 85567. The data from 2012 are shown by open circles, and the data from 2015 are shown by filled circles.

Table 5
Parameters of the $H\alpha$ line in the spectra of HD 85567

Date	RV_{blue}	RV_{red}	I_{blue}	I_{red}	EW
03/03/2012	-50.7	23.3	6.4	9.3	-29.9
03/19/2012	-43.9	28.3	6.8	9.8	-33.1
03/23/2012	-41.1	26.5	6.4	10.4	-32.8
03/30/2012	-49.4	21.5	6.1	9.8	-29.0
04/05/2012	-45.3	24.7	6.2	10.4	-32.0
04/18/2015	-43.0	19.7	6.2	11.1	-31.5
04/20/2015	-43.4	18.7	6.6	11.6	-34.3
04/23/2015	-43.4	19.2	6.4	11.4	-35.0
04/25/2015	-43.0	19.2	6.4	11.7	-36.3
04/27/2015	-43.0	19.7	6.0	11.0	-34.0
04/29/2015	-43.0	20.1	6.4	11.9	-31.2
05/01/2015	-42.1	19.7	5.6	10.8	-31.9
05/02/2015	-42.5	20.1	6.0	11.6	-35.3
05/05/2015	-42.5	21.5	6.1	11.5	-35.2
05/23/2015	-39.3	20.1	6.0	11.3	-31.7

The observing date is shown in Col. 1. The heliocentric RVs or the blue (RV_{blue}), red (RV_{red}), emission peak are listed in Cols. 2 and 3 respectively; their intensities in continuum units are listed in Cols. 4 and 5; and EW 's of the line emission component are given in \AA in Col. 6.

by comparison with model SEDs from Kurucz (1998). The observed spectral energy distributions (SEDs) were de-reddened using a standard Galactic interstellar extinction law (Savage & Mathis 1979). Two examples of the SED fitting are shown in Fig. 11. Distances to the stars were determined using a MK type luminosity calibration from Straizys & Kuriliene (1981). The distance to HD 85567 was determined from a linear fit to the data shown in Fig. 12 using the value of the interstellar extinction from the 5780 \AA DIB EW (see Sect. 3.1). This result is in agreement with the RV of the absorption lines due to Galactic rotation (see discussion in Miroshnichenko et al. 2001).

4. DISCUSSION

4.1. Fundamental parameters

Table 6
Parameters of the $H\beta$ line in the spectra of HD 85567

Date	RV_{blue}	RV_{red}	RV_{add}	I_{blue}	I_{red}	I_{add}	EW
03/03/2012	-46.3	25.3		2.3	2.6		-4.4
03/19/2012	-40.1	29.6		2.3	2.5		-4.4
03/23/2012	-37.6	27.2		2.3	2.6		-4.2
03/30/2012	-53.1	13.0	-133.3	2.5	2.4	1.8	-4.5
04/05/2012	-58.0	33.3		2.1	2.5		-4.2
04/18/2015	-33.3	17.9		1.7	2.2		-2.8
04/20/2015	-33.3	16.7		2.0	2.5		-3.4
04/23/2015	-28.4	15.4	-71.0	1.7	2.4	1.6	-3.8
04/25/2015	-33.9	16.0	-96.9	1.9	2.6	1.5	-4.1
04/27/2015	-29.0	17.9	-92.0	1.7	2.5	1.4	-2.9
04/29/2015	-32.1	19.1	-91.3	1.7	2.5	1.4	-3.6
05/01/2015	-33.9	29.0	-103.7	1.6	2.3	1.4	-3.1
05/02/2015	-32.1	29.0	-102.4	1.7	2.7	1.4	-4.1
05/05/2015	-29.0	26.5	-108.6	1.4	2.5	1.34	-3.3
05/23/2015	-24.1	16.7		1.8	2.6		-3.4

The observing date is shown in Col. 1. The heliocentric RVs or the blue (RV_{blue}), red (RV_{red}), and an additional, blue-shifted (RV_{add}) emission peak are listed in Cols. 2-4, respectively; their intensities in continuum units are listed in Cols. 5-7; and the EW 's of the line emission component are given in \AA in Col. 8.

Table 7
Parameters of the $H\gamma$ line in the spectra of HD 85567

Date	RV_{blue}	RV_{red}	RV_{add}	I_{blue}	I_{red}	I_{add}
03/03/2012	-35.1	32.5		1.5	1.6	
03/19/2012	-33.2	32.5		1.5	1.5	
03/23/2012	-33.2	29.7		1.5	1.6	
03/30/2012	-51.1	15.9	-145.1	1.4	1.3	1.1
04/05/2012	-58.8	33.1		1.4	1.4	

The column information is the same as in Table 5, except for the EW which was not measured because of the line complicated profile (see Fig. 8).

It follows from analysis of the literature data (see Table 1) that fundamental parameters of HD 85567 are not well constrained. Most papers that mention HD 85567 usually use the values derived in previous studies. However, we suggest that choices for some of the parameters have not been sufficiently justified. For example, Miroshnichenko et al. (2001) favored a spectral type B2 but mentioned a discrepancy between the observed and theoretical absorption line profiles. Fundamental parameters are a very important factor for understanding the nature and evolutionary status of the star. Therefore, we attempted a new derivation using our more extended data set that includes multicolor photometry of HD 85567 and stars in its vicinity as well as our new high-resolution spectra.

Based on the results derived in Sect. 3.4, the most probable distance to HD 85567 is 1.3 ± 0.1 kpc (see Fig. 12). It is consistent with a negative result on the object's parallax derived by the *HIPPARCOS* mission (ESA 1997; van Leeuwen 2007). The value of $T_{\text{eff}} = 15000 \pm 500$ K corresponds to a spectral type B4/B5 (Sect. 3.1). This leads to a luminosity of $\log L/L_{\odot} = 3.4 \pm 0.1$ calcu-

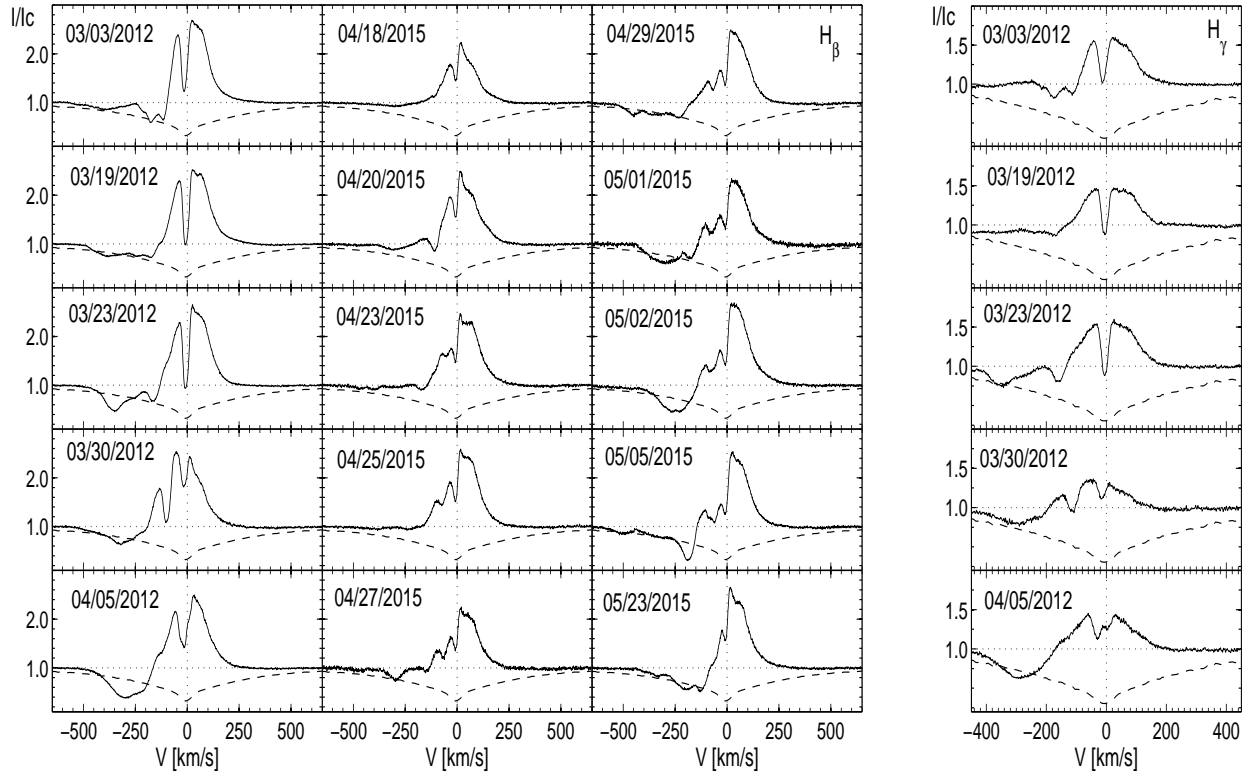


Figure 8. **Left panel:** Variations of the $H\beta$ line in the spectrum of HD 85567. Horizontal dotted lines show the continuum level across the line profiles, and vertical dotted lines show the systemic radial velocity. **Right panel:** Variations of the $H\gamma$ line in the spectrum of HD 85567. Dashed lines show an expected profile of a normal star atmosphere with $T_{\text{eff}} \sim 15000$ K, $\log g \sim 4.0$, and $v \sin i \sim 30$ km s^{-1} . We used the $H\beta$ and $H\gamma$ profiles of BS 1149 for this purpose. Both the intensity and radial velocity are in the same units as in Fig. 5.

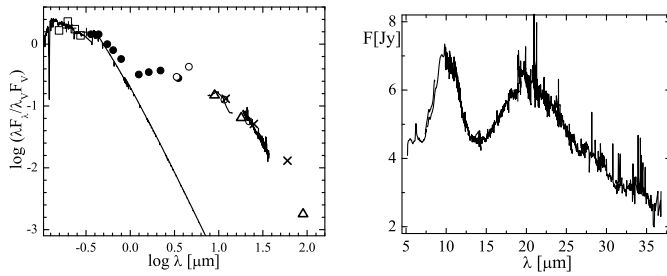


Figure 9. **Left panel:** Spectral energy distribution of HD 85567 from ground-based and space data. Symbols: pluses – TD1 satellite photometric data (Thompson et al. 1978), open squares – fluxes measured from the IUE spectrum LWP19729LL, filled circles – ground-based photometry (Miroshnichenko et al. 2001), open circles – WISE data, triangles – AKARI data, crosses – IRAS data, and short solid lines over the IR data points – parts of the Spitzer Space Observatory spectrum shown in the right panel. The interstellar extinction ($A_V = 0.50$ mag, see text) was removed using a wavelength dependence from Savage & Mathis (1979). The solid lines over the UV and visual region data represent a model atmosphere for $T_{\text{eff}} = 15000$ K and $\log g = 4.0$ (Kurucz 1998). **Right panel:** The Spitzer Space Observatory spectrum of HD 85567 first published by Juhász et al. (2010).

lated from the average observed visual magnitude $V = 8.55 \pm 0.05$ mag, interstellar extinction $A_V = 0.50 \pm 0.02$ mag, and a bolometric correction for the adopted T_{eff} , $BC(V) = -1.2$ mag (Miroshnichenko 1997).

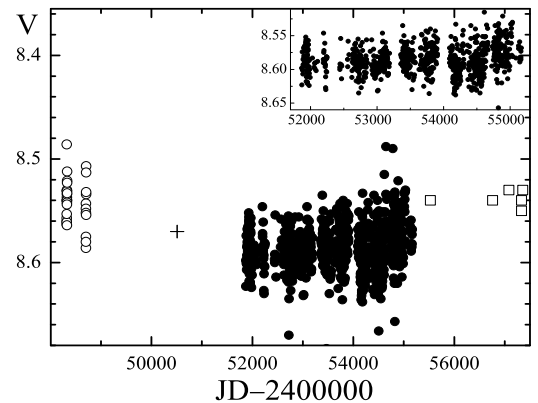


Figure 10. The V -band light curve of HD 85567. Open circles – data from de Winter et al. (2001), the plus – data from Miroshnichenko et al. (2001), filled circles – data from the ASAS-3 survey (Pojmanski 2002), and open squares – our PROMPT data. The inset shows ASAS-3 data only. Typical brightness measurement uncertainty is 0.02 mag.

This luminosity estimate does not take into account a possible contribution from the circumstellar disk, which manifests itself by the double-peaked emission-line pro-

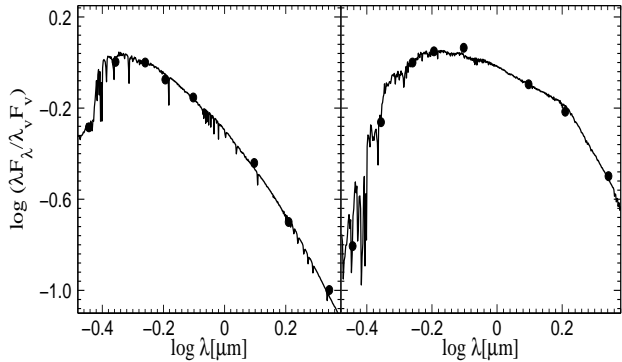


Figure 11. Left panel: A de-reddened SED for star No. 15 from Table 2. The photometric $UBV(RI_C)JHK$ data are shown by filled circles. The solid line represents the intrinsic SED for $T_{\text{eff}} = 7000$ K and $\log g = 4.0$ from Kurucz (1998). For the star's A_V see Table 2. **Right panel:** A de-reddened SED for star No. 2 from Table 2. The photometric $UBV(RI_C)HK$ data are shown by filled circles. The solid line represents the intrinsic SED for $T_{\text{eff}} = 5000$ K and $\log g = 3.0$ from Kurucz (1998).

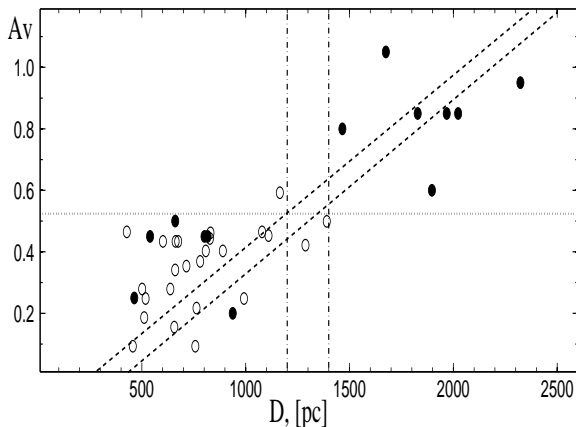


Figure 12. A distance dependence of the interstellar extinction toward HD 85567. Data for the stars marked in Fig. 2 are shown by filled circles and for stars from a $60'$ region around the object are shown by open circles. The diagonal dashed lines show a $1\text{-}\sigma$ deviation from the average interstellar extinction law in the area. Stars with more than a $3\text{-}\sigma$ deviation from the average relationship were removed from the fit. The vertical dashed lines show a range of the distance uncertainty derived for HD 85567 from the extinction law using the value of A_V found from the EW of the 5780 Å DIB shown by the horizontal dashed line (see Sect. 3.1).

files and strong IR excess. Since the absorption lines are not significantly weaker than those of normal stars with similar T_{eff} and the disk tilt angle ($i = 53^\circ$, Vural et al. 2014) is not very large, we adopt the disk contribution to the visual brightness of $\leq 20\%$. This estimate is consistent with the observed color-index $B - V \sim 0.1$ mag which is $\sim 10\%$ larger than the one expected from the interstellar extinction derived from the DIB strength.

With this correction, the luminosity of HD 85567 becomes $\log L/L_\odot = 3.3 \pm 0.2$. It is in agreement with that currently adopted for a single $\sim 6 M_\odot$ star near the end of the main-sequence evolutionary stage (Ekström et al. 2012, see Fig. 13). Finally, combining the disk tilt angle and $v \sin i = 31 \pm 3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ (see Sect. 3.1), a full rotational velocity of the star is $37 \pm 3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$. The fundamental parameters of HD 85567 are listed in Table 1.

4.2. Evolutionary state of the HD 85567

As mentioned in Sect. 1, there is a disagreement about the evolutionary state of HD 85567. Here we review several possibilities to re-analyze this subject.

4.2.1. Single star

If the star is currently single, then it could have been formed single or become a binary merger product. First, we review a suggestion that HD 85567 might be a HAeBe star initially proposed by Thé et al. (1994) and carried on in a number of later papers (e.g., Verhoeff et al. 2012; Wheelwright et al. 2013). This requires a comparison of the observed properties of HD 85567 with those of *bona fide* HAeBe stars. Verhoeff et al. (2012) presented SEDs of a group of HAeBe stars including HD 85567.

The main distinguishing feature of our star is a lack of the far-IR excess, which is represented by a sharply declining flux at wavelengths $\lambda > 10 \mu\text{m}$ (see Fig. 9). This feature is due to a lack of cold/distant dust in the circumstellar environments of HD 85567. Verhoeff et al. (2012) explain this feature by photo-evaporation of the circumstellar disk. Wheelwright et al. (2013) also argued that the absence of the far-IR excess suggested that HD 85567 is photo-evaporating its disk from outside. However the region of the sky around the star (see Fig. 2) contains no hot stars which could provide high-energy radiation to destroy the dust near it.

Also from a theoretical point of view, Gorti, Hollenbach, & Dullemond (2015) show that the inner disk is dispersed before the outer disk. Moreover, Gorti & Hollenbach (2009) show that photo-evaporation from the central star occurs from the disk surface (gas coupled with small dusty particles), where optical depth due to dust is of the order of unity and where FUV photons from the star begin to get attenuated, i.e. where $A_V = 0.1\text{--}0.5$ mag. This indicates that the dust should still remain in the outer disk. The photo-evaporation theory also suggests that the outer dusty disk may quickly evaporate at the latest stages of pre-main-sequence evolution. Nevertheless, the fundamental parameters of HD 85567 determined here are inconsistent with a those of HAeBe stars approaching the main-sequence (see Fig. 13). Additionally, a B5-type star may not be able to provide a high FUV flux sufficient for photo-evaporation to work efficiently.

Table 8

Comparison of fundamental parameters of HD 85567 under an assumption of a pre-main-sequence star

Mass M_\odot	$\log L$ L_\odot	$R_V=3.1$ D, pc	$R_V=5$ D, pc
3.6	2.31	342	325
4.0	2.60	473	449
5.0	2.92	690	655
6.0	3.16	909	862
7.0	3.36	1139	1080

Adopting that HD 85567 is a single HAeBe star, we determined the distance toward it assuming the luminosity found at the points of intersection with pre-main-sequence evolutionary tracks for different masses

(Tognelli et al. 2011) and T_{eff} determined by us (see Sect. 3.1 and Table 1). The results of these calculations are presented in Table 8. As shown in Fig. 13, HD 85567 gets further away from the ZAMS as the initial mass increases. This indicates that HD 85567 is not a HAeBe star for masses of $M \geq 6M_{\odot}$, because such a pre-main-sequence star should still reside within its parental cloud and therefore is invisible at this stage. A similar approach was adopted by Fairlamb et al. (2015), who determined an A_V of 0.89 ± 0.03 mag from the object's color-excess $E(B - V)$ based on the observed and intrinsic color-index $B - V$ (for $T_{\text{eff}} = 13000 \pm 500$ K they found from fitting a low-resolution optical spectrum of HD 85567 to model spectra of normal stars) and ignoring any circumstellar contribution to the optical continuum. These authors found a mass of $M = 6_{-1.8}^{+2.7} M_{\odot}$, which puts the star very close to the birthline for this mass range. However, one can see no nebulosity or a star-forming region in the vicinity of HD 85567 (e.g., see Fig. 2).

There remains a possibility that the star has a mass of $4 M_{\odot}$ and is about to start its main-sequence life. However it does not agree with the observational data (the distance derived from the interstellar extinction, see Sect. 4.1, and the absence of an obvious star forming region around the star). Therefore, we confirm an earlier suggestion by Miroshnichenko et al. (2001) that HD 85567 cannot be a HAeBe star.

The possibility that the star is currently at the main-sequence evolutionary stage is unlikely because its circumstellar matter then should have been produced by its own wind, which cannot explain the observed emission-line strengths. The theory of stellar evolution does not predict such a strong mass loss from a single, not rapidly rotating main-sequence star (e.g., Krťicka 2014, see also a discussion of this subject in Miroshnichenko (2007)). The possibility of a merger is more realistic but not easily verifiable. A merger is capable of producing large amounts of circumstellar matter, although there is no evidence for the merging process. It would have accompanied by a strong brightness increase, as it was observed in the binary merger of V 1309 Sgr (Tylenda et al. 2011). Since the object's light curve does not show any significant outbursts (see Fig. 10), such an event might have occurred over 40 years ago. The most important argument against this hypothesis is that a merger would increase the rotation rate of its product, while we observe a low rotation velocity (see Sect. 4.1).

4.2.2. Binary system

The second scenario assumes that the observed IR-excess arises as a consequence of a non-conservative mass-transfer in a close binary system. The circumstellar dust should exist in the circumbinary area, as the components in such systems are too close together to allow its existence around either star. Miroshnichenko et al. (2007) proposed this scenario to explain the presence of dust in FSCMa type objects. Evolution of intermediate-mass binary systems has been studied theoretically in several papers (e.g., van Rensbergen et al. 2008; Deschamps et al. 2015).

We did not find signs of a secondary component in the spectrum of HD 85567. However, this is not an ultimate proof that such a component does not ex-

ist. They are typically much ($\Delta V > 2$ mag) fainter than the primary B-type star in many classical Be stars and some FSCMa type objects. For example, Miroshnichenko et al. (2015) found a faint G8-type secondary the FSCMa type object MWC 728 that manifests itself by very weak ($< 5\%$ of the continuum intensity) absorption lines and is 6 times fainter in the V -band than the B5-type primary.

We can put some constraints on the mass of a hypothetical secondary in HD 85567 by evaluating the system mass function. Assuming that the observed variation of the individual absorption line RVs (1.3 km s^{-1} , see Table 3) is due to orbital motion and the orbital period is not very large (typically 1–2 months following the results for binary systems that undergo a strong mass-transfer, van Rensbergen et al. 2008), the mass function turns out to be $\leq 10^{-5} M_{\odot}$. Fourier analysis of the ASAS-3 data set (see Fig. 10) shows the only significant period at 180 days. It is most likely due to availability of the object in the sky. However, using this period in calculating the mass function changes the above value insignificantly.

The latter result implies the following possibilities: (1) the secondary companion is not present (a merger has occurred which is unlikely, see Sect. 4.2.1), (2) it is present, but the orbit is very eccentric or the orbital period is larger than the time covered by our spectroscopic observations that prevented us from detecting any noticeable RV variations, or (3) the secondary companion is ~ 10 or more times fainter in the optical region than the primary. In the latter case, HD 85567 might be a system similar to MWC 728 (but with a larger components' mass ratio) or to CI Cam (the only known FSCMa type binary with a degenerate secondary component, Barsukova et al. 2006). Note that the secondary companion in CI Cam revealed itself by the presence of a weak He II 4686 Å line, which regularly moves in the spectrum with a period of 19^d41, and by an outburst in 1998, which was observed in from X-rays to radio waves. With different orbital parameters and undetected outbursts, a degenerate secondary component in HD 85567 may remain unrevealed. To the best of our knowledge, the object has not been detected in X-ray surveys.

No signs of a direct binary interaction have been detected in the properties of HD 85567. However, the presence of warm dust in its vicinity indicates that such an interaction might have taken place in the past. The 9.7- μm silicate feature in a Spitzer Space Observatory spectrum of HD 85567 is seen in emission (see Fig. 9) indicating that the dust is optically-thin. At the same time, the feature is broad that was interpreted by the presence of large grains of mostly olivine and pyroxene (see Verhoeff et al. 2012), implying that the dust has been exposed to the stellar radiation for some time. We also note that since the radiation from circumstellar dust dominates the object's SED at $\lambda = 2\mu\text{m}$ (see Fig. 9), both Wheelwright et al. (2013) and Vural et al. (2014) had a little chance to detect the possible secondary component in this spectral region.

4.3. Circumstellar environments

The emission-line profiles in the spectrum of HD 85567 described in Sect. 3.2 indicate that the circumstellar matter distribution is quite complicated. Most of the double-

peaked Fe II and hydrogen Paschen series lines exhibit nearly equal emission peak strengths, the [O I] lines show the blue-shifted peak slightly stronger than the red-shifted one, and the Balmer lines show the red-shifted peak stronger than the blue-shifted one. The latter also show blue-shifted absorption components and additional emission peaks, which appear near the line blue boundary (set by the absorption component at RVs of ~ -500 km s^{-1}) and travel toward the line center on time scale of days. The Fe II lines also show profile variations, which are reminiscent of those of the Balmer line profiles, while the Paschen line profiles are less variable. The emission peak separation is larger in the Fe II lines compared to that of the Paschen lines and to the [O I] lines (see Sect. 3.2 and Fig. 5).

These features suggest that the [O I] lines are formed further away from the star where the rotational velocity of the circumstellar material is much lower. The Fe II lines and the Balmer lines share a formation region near the star, and their profiles reflect the matter density variations there. A smaller peak separation in the Balmer lines is most likely due to a larger optical depth in them. The Paschen lines are formed in an intermediate region, where the matter density is lower and its variations produce a very small effect on the line profiles.

The double-peaked profiles with no additional features are typically explained by a disk-like matter distribution dominated by rotation. The Balmer line profiles can be understood in the framework of a qualitative model, such as that proposed by Miroshnichenko et al. (2015) for MWC 728. This object shows only a double-peaked structure of the Balmer lines with a stronger red-shifted emission peak and no blue-shifted absorption. The model assumes a noticeable contribution from a stellar wind responsible for depressing the blue-shifted emission peak. If the wind contribution is even stronger and its terminal velocity is larger than the most negative velocity of the double-peaked structure, a blue-shifted absorption component may show up in the line profile. However, this component was almost undetectable in a number of the spectra (e.g., 04/18/2015–04/27/2015, see left panel of Fig. 6 and Fig. 8).

The profile short-term variations may be due to ejection of a blob that propagates toward the observer with a gradually reducing velocity as it moves away from the star. Initially such a blob is dense and moves through the blue-shifted absorption. Later, when the blob becomes less dense, it appears as a traveling additional emission. A transition from absorption to emission was observed in our spectrum taken on 03/30/2012 (see an additional blue-shifted emission peak at $\text{RV} \sim -150$ km s^{-1} in Fig. 8). Using the star’s fundamental parameters (see Sect. 4.1) we determined its rotational period of $\sim 8^{\text{d}}.4$ and found that the Balmer line variability is not connected with rotation of the star.

Our spectra also show long-term emission-line profile variations. The red emission peak intensity of the $\text{H}\alpha$ line gradually increases over time, while the blue peak intensity slightly decreases (see Table 5 and right panel of Fig. 7). The relative increase of the red peak compared to the blue peak can be interpreted as a sign of an increasing amount of circumstellar gas in both the wind and disk regions. This suggestion can be further explored with

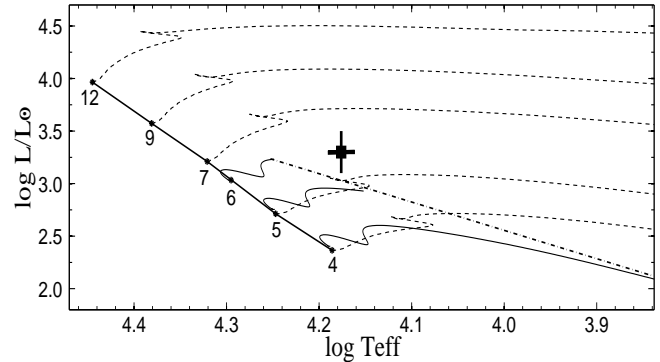


Figure 13. The Hertzsprung–Russell diagram showing evolutionary tracks of pre-main-sequence stars (4, 5, 6 M_{\odot}) from Tognelli et al. (2011) (thin solid lines) and rotating single stars (4, 5, 7, 9, 12 M_{\odot}) from Ekström et al. (2012) (dashed lines). The thick solid line represents the Zero-Age Main-Sequence (ZAMS), the dash-dotted line represents the birth-line for pre-main-sequence stars. ZAMS masses are indicated by numbers in solar units near corresponding tracks. The position of HD 85567 is indicated by a filled square using the fundamental parameters from Table 1.

line profile modeling, which is beyond the scope of this paper.

5. CONCLUSIONS

We presented the results of the high-resolution spectroscopic and multicolor photometric observations of the FS CMa type object HD 85567. The main results of our study of the object’s spectrum include detection of a fast variability of emission-line profiles on a timescale of days, refinement of the fundamental parameters of the underlying B-type star and the distance toward it (see Table 1), and finding that the absorption metallic lines (e.g., Mg II, Si II, see Table 3) show very small position variations. The latter exceeds the measurement uncertainty (~ 0.1 km s^{-1}) but does not seem to be explained by the orbital motion due to a small number of observations and possible contamination by the circumstellar material. We also found no support for the pre-main-sequence evolutionary state of HD 85567 as argued by Verhoeff et al. (2012) and Wheelwright et al. (2013). There is no evidence of a star-forming region in its vicinity, and its position on the Hertzsprung–Russell diagram combined with the circumstellar dust distribution are inconsistent with a young age.

At the same time, we found no compelling evidence for the object’s binarity. Its relatively strong emission-line spectrum and a large IR excess imply the presence of large amounts of circumstellar gas and dust that are not expected to exist around a nearly main-sequence single star of a relatively low mass ($\sim 6 M_{\odot}$). A secondary companion may be too faint for its signature to be detected in the optical spectrum or have an eccentric orbit, so that our observations did not cover orbital phases near a periastron. Even if it is a binary, no signs of an active mass transfer between the components have been found. Explanation of the shape of the silicate emission feature at $9.7\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ requires some processing time by stellar radiation, thus supporting not a recent dust formation.

HD 85567 is unlikely a result of a merger in a binary system. Its low rotation speed (~ 40 km s^{-1} , Sect. 4.1) would imply a significant angular momentum loss from

the system. If this is the case, the event should have had occurred long ago, as no variations of the optical brightness has been detected during the last ~ 40 years.

Further regular spectroscopic and photometric observations are needed to clarify the object's nature. High-resolution spectroscopy every few days during several observing seasons may solve the orbital motion problem and put more constraints on the circumstellar gas dynamics.

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