YSOVAR: SIX PRE-MAIN-SEQUENCE ECLIPSING BINARIES IN THE ORION NEBULA CLUSTER


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ABSTRACT

Eclipsing binaries (EBs) provide critical laboratories for empirically testing predictions of theoretical models of stellar structure and evolution. Pre-main-sequence (PMS) EBs are particularly valuable, both due to their rarity and the highly dynamic nature of PMS evolution, such that a dense grid of PMS EBs is required to properly calibrate theoretical PMS models. Analyzing multi-epoch, multi-color light curves for ~2400 candidate Orion Nebula Cluster (ONC) members from our Warm Spitzer Exploration Science Program YSOVAR, we have identified 12 stars whose light curves show eclipse features. Four of these 12 EBs are previously known. Supplementing our light curves with follow-up optical and near-infrared spectroscopy, we establish two of the candidates as likely field EBs lying behind the ONC. We confirm the remaining six candidate systems, however, as newly identified ONC PMS EBs. These systems increase the number of known PMS EBs by over 50% and include the highest mass (θ 1 Ori E, for which we provide a complete set of well-determined parameters including component masses of 2.807 and 2.797 M ⊙) and longest-period (ISOY J053505.71−052354.1, P ~ 20 days) PMS EBs currently known. In two cases (θ 1 Ori E and ISOY J053526.88−044730.7), enough photometric and spectroscopic data exist to attempt an orbit solution and derive the system parameters. For the remaining systems, we combine our data with literature information to provide a preliminary characterization sufficient to guide follow-up investigations of these rare, benchmark systems.

Key words: binaries: eclipsing – open clusters and associations: individual (Orion) – stars: pre-main sequence – stars: variables: general

Online-only material: color figures, machine-readable tables

1. INTRODUCTION

The Orion Nebula Cluster (ONC) contains several thousand members, and since it is nearby, it provides an excellent empirical laboratory to study the physical properties of pre-main-sequence (PMS) stars and brown dwarfs. The ONC is particularly useful for comparison of the observed luminosities and effective temperatures of PMS stars to theoretical model predictions (Hillenbrand 1997; Da Rio et al. 2010). Such comparisons can, in theory, allow an estimate of the masses of individual stars as well as both the mean age and the age spread for the stars in a cluster. For such estimates to be meaningful, however, the theoretical tracks and isochrones must be vetted against observations to ensure that they are well calibrated. Empirical measurements of the masses, radii, and temperatures of stars, over a range of masses, are necessary for understanding stellar evolution and for deriving well-calibrated theoretical models.

The most rigorous means to measure precise stellar properties are via identification and characterization of PMS eclipsing binary (EB) stars because, through a complete analysis of spectroscopy and photometry of these systems, the individual masses, radii, temperatures, and absolute luminosities of the two stars can be accurately derived. However, the identification of such systems is difficult due to the need for monitoring observations and the fact that the system must have an inclination close to 90° to be detected. The paucity of known PMS EBs has meant that the theoretical models lack rigorous empirical confirmation, and thus that masses derived from those

21 Hubble Fellow.
tracks have significant systematic uncertainties associated with them (Hillenbrand & White 2004). The situation has begun to change recently with the advent of sensitive wide-field cameras, robotic telescopes, and automated photometry pipelines, allowing deep, wide, long-duration time series monitoring programs to be conducted. These programs have now led to the identification of seven low-mass PMS EBs with individual masses lower than 1.5 $M_\odot$; RXJ 0529.4+0041A (Covino et al. 2000), V1174 Ori (Stassun et al. 2004), 2MJ0535−05 (Stassun et al. 2006, 2007), JW 380 (Irwin et al. 2007), Par 1802 (Cargile et al. 2008; Stassun et al. 2008), ASAS J0528+03 (Stempels et al. 2008), and MML 53 (Hebb et al. 2010, 2011). These systems have components ranging in mass from 0.036 $M_\odot$ (2MJ0535−05B) to 1.38 $M_\odot$ (ASAS J0528+03A). All but ASAS J0528+03, MML 53, and RXJ 0529.4+0041 are associated with the ONC. There are just another four EB systems where either only the secondary is on the PMS or both components are more massive PMS stars: EK Cep (Popper 1987), TY CrA (Casey et al. 1998), RS Cha (Alejean et al. 2005, 2007), and perhaps also V578 Mon (Garcia et al. 2011) although its components are B-type stars that may already be on the main sequence. The masses of a handful PMS low-mass stars have been measured using other methods (see Hillenbrand & White 2004, Boden et al. 2005, Simon et al. 2000, and Tognelli et al. 2011 for a summary on dynamical mass determination and calibration of PMS tracks).

Despite the recent discoveries, it is still important to search for additional PMS EBs. Main-sequence solar-type stars are well described by state-of-the-art stellar evolution models (i.e., observations agree well with theoretical isochrones); however, recent measurements of the stellar properties of low-mass dwarfs and young PMS stars remain problematic for the existing models. Recent work has suggested that in addition to mass and age, other parameters, such as magnetic field strength or rotation, may be necessary to fully characterize young, low-mass stars. Magnetic fields in young, rapidly rotating low-mass stars are thought to inhibit convection and thereby cause those stars to have larger radii and cooler temperatures than would otherwise be the case (Morales et al. 2010; Macdonald & Mullan 2010). This effect has been invoked to explain the properties of the 1 Myr old brown dwarf EB in Orion (2MJ0535−05) where the more massive component is unexpectedly cooler than its companion (Reiners et al. 2007; Chabrier et al. 2007; Stassun et al. 2007; Mohanty et al. 2010). The effects of magnetic fields on stellar structure are not included in the models and are not completely understood (Chabrier et al. 2007). Most PMS EBs discovered to date have short enough orbital periods that their components are expected to have their rotation periods tidally locked to the orbital period. Therefore, they are likely to be rapidly rotating and have strong magnetic fields, and hence have inflated radii (see Kraus et al. 2011). Identification of PMS EBs with longer periods, where tidal locking is not expected, could offer a direct test of the proposed link between magnetic fields, rotation, and radii. Moreover, 2MJ0535−05 remains the only known brown dwarf EB.

In this paper, we report the identification and initial characterization of six new PMS EB candidates in the ONC, discovered as part of the YSOVAR (Young Stellar Object VARIability) Spitzer Exploration Science program (Morales-Calderón et al. 2011). These systems have been overlooked in the past probably because the area surrounding the Trapezium stars is filled with bright nebulosity, making the optical photometry very unreliable, but also because the cadence and duration of observations in some previous studies were not ideal. Details of the discovery observations are reported in Section 2. Follow-up observations are presented in Sections 3 and 4. In Section 5, we provide a description of the available data and preliminary analysis for the six PMS EBs, based in most cases upon the light curves, in order to provide a basic initial characterization. Two additional systems are likely field star EBs lying behind the ONC and are described in the Appendix.

2. DISCOVERY LIGHT CURVES: THE 2009 CAMPAIGN

2.1. Spitzer Observations in 2009

As part of the Spitzer Exploration Science program YSOVAR, we used about 250 hr of warm Spitzer Space Telescope (Werner et al. 2004) observing time to monitor ~0.9 deg$^2$ of the ONC with the Infrared Array Camera (IRAC; Fazio et al. 2004) at 3.6 and 4.5 $\mu$m in the fall of 2009. The observed area was broken into five segments (five astronomical observation requests or AORs) with a central region of ~20’ × 25’ and four flanking fields. The central part was observed in full array mode with 1.2 s exposure time at 20 dithering positions to avoid saturation by the bright nebulosity around the Trapezium stars. The remaining four segments of the map were observed in High Dynamic Range mode with exposure times of 10.4 and 0.4 s, at four dithering positions. These observations were taken for 40 days in the fall of 2009, with ~2 epochs each day. We used the IDL package Cluster Grinder (Gutermuth et al. 2009) which, starting from the basic-calibrated data (BCD) released by the Spitzer Science Center, builds the combined mosaic for each AOR at each epoch and performs aperture photometry on the mosaics. Because we dithered while mapping and then extracted the photometry from the mosaiced image, each star at each epoch will have contributions to its image from 4 to as many as 80 BCDs; the time and magnitudes we report for each epoch correspond to the average for all of those frames.

From these data, we constructed light curves for ~10,000 point sources in our FOV. About 2400 of these stars were identified as probable ONC members, including ~1400 stars with probable mid-IR excesses (S. T. Megeath et al. 2012, in preparation) and ~1000 additional stars identified in the literature as probable ONC members from X-ray, proper motion, radial velocity (RV), and variability studies (Parenago 1954; Jones & Walker 1988; McNamara 1976; Tian et al. 1996; Tobin et al. 2009; Carpenter et al. 2001; Getman et al. 2005), but lacking IR excess significant enough to be included in the Megeath et al. catalog of YSO candidates. Most of these latter stars should be weak-lined T Tauris (WTTs), though some may be sources with excesses that escaped previous detection. While our primary goal was to use these data to investigate the structure of the inner disk and time-variable accretion in YSOs with circumstellar disks, these observations also provided a treasure of data on all types of PMS variability. Further discussion of this data set and initial results can be found in Morales-Calderón et al. (2011). In order to search for eclipsing systems, we first ran a Box-Least-Squares (BLSs; Kovács et al. 2002) periodogram on all 2400 of these sources and then automatically scanned the folded light curves looking for the signature of detached EBs—short-duration flux dips that are present and similar in both IRAC channels and light curves that are otherwise approximately constant. In addition, we also visually inspected the light curves, searching for signatures that our code could have missed. We also examined in a similar fashion the light curves of the ~1000
anonymous stars in our catalog brighter than $[4.5] = 13.5$ mag (which corresponds to the quiescent magnitude of our faintest EB candidate).

From this process, we identified 12 EB candidates. Four of them, 2MASS 05352184−0546085 (Stassun et al. 2006), V1174 Ori (Stassun et al. 2004), Parenago 1872 (Cargile et al. 2008; Stassun et al. 2008), and JW 380 (Irwin et al. 2007), are already known PMS EBs. Another six systems are newly identified ONC PMS EBs—including $\theta^1$ Ori E, a known PMS spectroscopic binary (Costero et al. 2006; Herbig & Griffin 2006), which was flagged as potentially eclipsing, but no confirmatory photometry had been obtained until now—and are shown in detail in the following sections. The remaining two sources are not known Orion members from the literature and, based on our analysis of the available data, we believe they are likely to be background stars, though still EBs (see Appendices A.1 and A.2). All but one (ISOY J05345.31−045413.0, hereafter ISOY J0534) of the new PMS EBs seem to have no detectable IR excess and they are likely to be WTTs.

We used implementation of the BLS period-finding algorithm available at the NExScI Website (http://exoplanetarchive.ipac.caltech.edu) to determine if the flux dips in each light curve are indeed periodic and to identify the best period. In some cases, when we had several bandpasses or epochs well separated in time we tweaked the obtained period by hand to obtain a more accurate one consistent with all epochs and bandpasses. For the four previously known systems, our derived periods agree, within errors, with the published period. Our new PMS EB candidates are listed in Table 1. The first column of Table 1 displays the name of the source which is formed by an acronym (ISOY: Initial Spitzer Orion YSO) followed by the coordinates of the source. For the sake of simplicity we will use reduced names (i.e., ISOY JHHMM-DDMM) throughout the text and figures except for ISOY J053515.76−052309.9, for which we will use its most common name in the literature: $\theta^1$ Ori E. The remaining columns in Table 1 show available broadband photometry, spectral types, and periods. Finding charts from the Spitzer 4.5 $\mu$m images for our six PMS EBs are provided in Figure 1.

2.2. Ground-based Observations in 2009

To complement our Spitzer data, we obtained contemporaneous $I_c$ and $J$ photometry, usually for smaller areas within the Spitzer mosaic. The main source of $J$-band monitoring data was the United Kingdom Infrared Telescope Wide Field Camera (UKIRT/WFCAM). For the $I_c$ band, the New Mexico State University/Apache Point Observatory (NMSU/APO) 1 m telescope and NasaCam at the 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ m telescope at Lowell Observatory contributed the bulk of the monitoring data. We performed differential aperture photometry on the ground-based data. In each data set, for each object, an artificial reference level was created by selecting 30 nearby isolated stars; we iteratively eliminated those with larger photometric scatter or evidence of variability. Zero points for the photometry were established by reference to data for non-variable stars in our FOV from the Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) Point Source Catalog (Cutri et al. 2003). For $I_c$, the New Mexico State University/Apache Point Observatory (NMSU/APO) 1 m telescope and NasaCam at the 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ m telescope at Lowell Observatory contributed the bulk of the monitoring data. We performed differential aperture photometry on the ground-based data. In each data set, for each object, an artificial reference level was created by selecting 30 nearby isolated stars; we iteratively eliminated those with larger photometric scatter or evidence of variability. Zero points for the photometry were established by reference to data for non-variable stars in our FOV from the Two Micron All Sky Survey (2MASS) Point Source Catalog (Cutri et al. 2003) for $J$, and by reference to data in Hillenbrand (1997) for $I_c$.

All of the 2009 time series data are publicly available through the YSOVAR database (http://ysovar.ipac.caltech.edu/). The 2009 light curves for the six new PMS EBs are shown in Figure 2. Where we have photometry at the right epoch, the ground-based data corroborate the Spitzer eclipses.


To confirm the identification of the new EBs and to refine measurements of their orbital periods and eclipse shapes, we obtained additional photometry in 2010 and 2011. These observations are described in the next sections and summarized in Table 2.

3.1. Spitzer Observations in 2010 and 2011

Four of our new PMS EB candidates, $\theta^1$ Ori E, ISOY J0535−0525, ISOY J0535−0523, and ISOY J0535−0522, are located within 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ of $\theta^1$ Ori C, the brightest star in the Trapezium cluster. These stars were observed in IRAC full-frame mapping mode with a frametime of 2 s and 20 small dithers, at a cadence

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Most Common Name</th>
<th>$V$ (mag)</th>
<th>$I_c$ (mag)</th>
<th>$J$ (mag)</th>
<th>$H$ (mag)</th>
<th>$K_s$ (mag)</th>
<th>$[3.6]$ (mag)</th>
<th>$[4.5]$ (mag)</th>
<th>$[5.8]$ (mag)</th>
<th>$[8.0]$ (mag)</th>
<th>Spt</th>
<th>Period (days)</th>
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<td>[RRS2004] NOFF W015</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
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<td>11.29</td>
<td>10.52</td>
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<td>9.26</td>
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<td>8.41</td>
<td>8.37</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>...</td>
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<td>13.20</td>
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<td>&lt;G</td>
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</table>

Notes.

a Names are composed of an acronym, ISOY (Initial Spitzer Orion YSO), followed by the coordinates of the source.

b Most common names from the literature searchable in SIMBAD database: [H97b], Hillenbrand (1997); JW, Jones & Walker (1988); [RRS2004], Ramírez et al. (2004), Parenago: Parenago (1954).

c From Rebull (2001).

d From Hillenbrand (1997).

e From Carpenter et al. (2001).


From Costero et al. (2006).

From this work.

Probable field EBs.
Figure 1. Finding charts from the Spitzer 4.5 μm images for each of our six PMS EBs ordered by right ascension. The size of each image stamp is 3′ × 3′. Note that the intensity scale varies from one image to the next.

of seven to eight times per day, for the period 2010 November 19–29. Another two systems, ISOY J0535−0447 and ISOY J0536−0500, were observed for just two days in November (November 20–22) 2010 at the same cadence, but with a 12 s frametime and four small dithers. The observations were designed to detect at least one eclipse (either primary or secondary) in each system. In addition, sparser data (∼8 epochs in 30 days) was also obtained for all of our EB candidates in Fall 2010 with the same setup as in the 2009 mapping observations (same spatial coverage and integration times). Finally, in 2011 November we obtained three observations per day for ISOY J0536−0500 and ISOY J0534−0454 for about 20 days with a 12 s frametime and four dithers at each epoch. The IRAC light curves for 2010 and 2011 were extracted in the same way as for the 2009 data. Figure 3 shows these light curves for the six PMS EBs.

For ISOY J0535−0447, we also obtained ∼10 hr of IRAC staring mode observations at [4.5] on 2011 April 27, scheduled to cover the secondary eclipse of ISOY J0535−0447. In this case we simply stared at the target object, with no dithering, in order to provide more accurate relative photometry. A total of 2713 consecutive frames of data with 10.4 s integration time were taken. The integration time was selected so that the number of electrons would be high; however, to make sure that the target would not saturate, we placed it in the center of four pixels. For the light curve extraction of these data, we performed aperture photometry on the corrected BCDs (cBCDs) supplied by the Spitzer Science Center. The cBCDs are calibrated frames with empirical corrections for artifacts due to bright sources. However, instrumental effects such as the pixel phase effect can still remain (Morales-Calderón et al. 2006; Cody & Hillenbrand 2011). We inspected our light-curve searching for signs of this instrumental signature (flux strongly correlated with sub-pixel position) but, if present, its effect on the light curve is negligible compared to the amplitude of the observed variations.
3.2. Ground-based Observations in 2010 and 2011

As in 2009, we also obtained contemporaneous $I_c$ and $J$ photometry in 2010 and 2011. The data were obtained from the UKIRT/WFCAM, the NMSU/APO 1 m telescope, the Wide Field Imager on the 2.2 m telescope at La Silla Observatory, and the 40” telescope at the United States Naval Observatory (USNO) Flagstaff Station. The $J$-band UKIRT mosaic covers the whole area observed by Spitzer, and we obtained one observation per night for about 30 days in the fall of 2010 (between October 29 and December 15). For 10 of those nights two observations per night were obtained. APO, WFI, and USNO data were obtained for the Trapezium area with a cadence of once a night between October 7 and December 14 for APO, between November 21 and November 28 for WFI, and for several hours a night for 34 nights between October 30 and December 28 for USNO. Finally, the largest effort was performed on the northern area where ISOY J0535−0522, ISOY J0535−0447, and ISOY J0535−0449 are located. We used the USNO 40” telescope to monitor a ∼23′ × 23′ region for several hours per night for 38 nights in 2010 and 35 nights in 2011 (a total of 15,137 frames were obtained). The light curves were extracted in a similar fashion as for the 2009 data.

The light curves for our six PMS EBs with the follow-up photometry from 2010 and 2011 can be seen in Figures 3 and 4. All the YSOVAR time series photometry at all available bandpasses for the six PMS EBs can be found in Tables 6–11.

4. SPECTROSCOPIC FOLLOW-UP

4.1. Low-resolution Spectroscopy

We obtained moderate-resolution near-infrared spectra of three of our PMS EB candidates using Triplespec at the Palomar 5 m telescope (Wilson et al. 2004; Herter et al. 2008). Triplespec covers the wavelength range from 1 to 2.45 $\mu$m simultaneously at a spectral resolution of ∼2700. The entrance slit is 1 × 30 arcsec and the spectrum is spread over five orders. Observations were obtained at two slit positions, using a standard ABA nod sequence. Spectra of ISOY J0535−0447, ISOY J0535−0522, and ISOY J0535−0523 with total exposure times of 720, 720, and 1200 s, respectively, were obtained on 2011 September 20 and 21; another 720 s spectrum of ISOY J0535−0447 was obtained on 2010 November 27 with the same setup. We obtained similar spectra for ISOY J0535−0454 and ISOY J0536−0500 using the TripleSpec spectrograph mounted on the APO ARC3.5 telescope (Wilson et al. 2004). APO TripleSpec instrument is a twin of Palomar TripleSpec and thus covers the same wavelength range (1−2.45 $\mu$m) at similar resolution. Both sources were observed on 2011 October 30 at two slit positions.
and with a total exposure time of 5280 s. The 1 × 45 arcsec slit was used yielding a resolution of ~2300.

The spectra were reduced using a custom version of the IDL-based SpeXTool reduction package (Cushing et al. 2004), as modified to process data obtained by the Palomar and APO TripleSpec instruments. Sky subtraction was performed by differencing spectral frames obtained with the target at the A and B slit positions; visual inspection of the sky-subtracted frames identified apparent sky line artifacts in the sky-subtracted two-dimensional spectra for ISOY J0535−0523, ISOY J0534−0449, ISOY J0535−0447, and ISOY J0535−0522, which can be easily seen in the JHK-band region of the spectra is shown in Figure 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Data Sourcea</th>
<th>Band</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>No. of Epochs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>ISOY J053454.31−045413.0</td>
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<td>[3.6], [4.5]</td>
<td>2009 Oct 23–2011 Nov 30</td>
<td>162, 162</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>J</td>
<td>2009 Oct 20–2010 Dec 15</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>z&lt;</td>
<td>2010 Nov 21–2010 Nov 29</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ic</td>
<td>2009 Oct 24–2009 Dec 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Ic</td>
<td>2010 Oct 30–2010 Dec 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISOY J053518.03−052205.4</td>
<td>Spitzer/IRAC</td>
<td>[3.6], [4.5]</td>
<td>2009 Oct 23–2010 Dec 9</td>
<td>166, 137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>2010 Nov 21–2010 Nov 28</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ic</td>
<td>2009 Oct 20–2010 Dec 15</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>z&lt;</td>
<td>2010 Oct 29–2011 Feb 25</td>
<td>1427^c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ic</td>
<td>1995 Dec 10–1997 Feb 3</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISOY J053446.01−044922.1^b</td>
<td>Spitzer/IRAC</td>
<td>[3.6], [4.5]</td>
<td>2009 Oct 23–2010 Dec 9</td>
<td>92, 92</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ic</td>
<td>2009 Oct 20–2010 Dec 15</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>z&lt;</td>
<td>2010 Oct 29–2011 Feb 25</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ic</td>
<td>1995 Dec 10–1997 Feb 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ic</td>
<td>1994 Dec 13–1994 Dec 22</td>
<td>126</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISOY J053605.95−050041.2^c</td>
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<td>[3.6], [4.5]</td>
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<td>178, 178</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ic</td>
<td>2009 Oct 20–2010 Dec 15</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ic</td>
<td>1994 Dec 13–1994 Dec 22</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Notes.

a R01: Rebull (2001); SMMV: Stassun et al. (1999); MP: Monitor project, J. M. Irwin & S. Hodgkin 2011, private communication.
b Probable field EBs.
c The USNO data for ISOY J0535−0447 were binned every 9 data points yielding a total of 1624 data points.

4.2. High-resolution Spectroscopy

On 2010 December 13, we obtained single-epoch high-resolution spectra for ISOY J0535−0447, ISOY J0535−0522, and ISOY J0535−0523, using the High Resolution Echelle Spectrometer (HIRES; Vogt et al. 1994) at the Keck I telescope. In all cases we used the red cross-disperser and a 0′′.8 width slit providing a resolution of $R = \lambda / \Delta \lambda = 50,000$ and covering the wavelength range from 4310 to 8360 Å. The exposure times were 120, 300, and 600 s, respectively. In addition, for ISOY J0535−0447, we took an extra epoch on 2011 March 15 and on 2011 December 10 we took single epoch spectra for ISOY J0535−0525 and ISOY J0534−0449 with exposure times of 900 and 1800, respectively, keeping the same setup.

Data reduction was performed with “MAKEE” (MAuna Kea Echelle Extraction), the standard data reduction package for the HIRES instrument which, starting from the raw images, produces wavelength-calibrated spectra. A section of the spectra, showing the lithium absorption, for the four PMS EBs observed with HIRES can be seen in Figure 6.
Figure 3. Light curves for the six new Orion PMS EBs discovered by the YSOVAR program from the follow-up observations in 2010 and 2011. The symbols are (●): [3.6]; (○): [4.5]; (+): J (UKIRT); and (+): L (APO). [3.6] and [4.5] mag have been plotted in the right and left vertical axes, respectively. L and J light curves, if present, have been shifted in the y-axis to match the mean IRAC values. Mean colors are stated in each panel. Note that the x-axis is different depending on the available data.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

For ISOY J0535−0522, ISOY J0535−0525, and ISOY J0534−0454 we also obtained spectra with the NIRSPEC infrared echelle spectrograph (McLean et al. 1998, 2000) at Keck II on November 11, 2012 January 11, and 2012 January 15, respectively. We used the H band, centered at 1.555 μm, with the 0′288 × 24″ slit, yielding a resolution of ∼30,000. The total integration time was 8–16 minutes. Data reduction was accomplished with the REDSPEC package. Additional details are provided in Prato (2007).

For ISOY J0535−0447, we have tried to obtain enough data to attempt to derive an orbit solution. For this purpose, we obtained one additional high-resolution spectrum using the echelle spectrograph at the Mayall 4 m telescope at Kitt Peak National Observatory (KPNO) on September 24, and four epochs between 2010 November 22 and 2011 February 5 with NIRSPEC/Keck II. Mayall 4 m observations were obtained using the Echelle spectrograph with the “long red” camera, to cover 4540–7620 Å at an average resolution of 32,000. We obtained two exposures of 900 s each. A standard echelle-data reduction was applied. This includes background subtraction, cosmic-hit removal, flat-fielding, and wavelength calibration.

NIRSPEC observations were obtained using the setup described above and total integration times were six to eight minutes. We measured heliocentric radial velocities by cross correlation of the target spectrum with those of standard stars of similar spectral type using several orders. The accuracy of the radial velocities is 0.9–2 km s$^{-1}$, as measured by spectra of bright F and G stars of known RV obtained on the same nights as the targets’ spectra. The derived RV measurements from each spectroscopic observation are listed in Table 3. ISOY J0535−0525 and ISOY

---

Table 3

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>HJD</th>
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<th>eRV (km s$^{-1}$)</th>
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<td>30.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>ECHL/KPNO4m</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
<td>NIRSPEC/Keck II</td>
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<tr>
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<td>NIRSPEC/Keck II</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
<td>NIRSPEC/Keck II</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
<td>NIRSPEC/Keck II</td>
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<td>2455597.9375</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
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<td>2455635.726</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>HIRES/Keck I</td>
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</table>

Note. $^a$ This epoch was not used for the fit.
Figure 4. Follow-up IRAC [4.5] staring mode light curve for ISOY J0535−0447 obtained on 2011 April 27 showing the secondary eclipse.

Figure 5. TripleSpec $K$-band spectra for ISOY J0536−0500, ISOY J0535−0447, ISOY J0535−0522, ISOY J0534−0454, and ISOY J0535−0523 from top to bottom. The spectra have been normalized and offset in the y-axis for clarity. The derived spectral types for each source are shown. The Bracket gamma and 2.12 $\mu$m H$_2$ lines in the spectrum of ISOY J0535−0522 and ISOY J0535−0523, respectively, are likely due to nebular emission.

J0534−0454 showed clear double lines in their spectra. Both the $H$ band and the optical spectrum of ISOY J0535−0522 are suggestive of a blend of two spectra but additional observations will be required to confirm the presence of double lines. None of the spectra of ISOY J0535−0447 showed double lines (see Section 5.2 for further discussion).

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To put our EB systems into context we show in Figure 7 a $J$ versus $J$−[3.6] color–magnitude diagram showing the location of the new PMS EBs (blue circles) and the previously known ones (red squares) together with known Orion members (gray circles). The position of the two suspected field EBs is also shown with green triangles. A 1 Myr isochrone is plotted as a solid line. $\theta^1$ Ori E is not shown due to the lack of $J$-band data.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.) Including well-sampled light curves at multiple wavelengths and RV measurements, we attempt to measure the component stellar masses, radii, temperatures, and other parameters. For most sources we have only the YSOVAR light curves, and data based on colors and/or spectral types, so our derived properties are fairly rudimentary. We present these preliminary analyses to guide follow-up investigations of these rare, benchmark systems.

In this section, we combine Spitzer light curve data with follow-up ground-based photometry and RV measurements, as well as data from the literature, to perform an initial analysis of the physical parameters for each of the six PMS EBs discovered in the YSOVAR program. In cases where we have the most data, we attempt to measure the component stellar masses, radii, temperatures, and other parameters. For most sources we have only the YSOVAR light curves, and data based on colors and/or spectral types, so our derived properties are fairly rudimentary. We present these preliminary analyses to guide follow-up investigations of these rare, benchmark systems. For the remaining two EB systems, our analysis of the available data suggests that while eclipsing, the systems are not young members of Orion. We summarize the properties of these two systems in the Appendix.
51. \( \theta^1 \) Ori E

\( \theta^1 \) Ori E, the “fifth” member of the Orion Trapezium, is a known double-lined spectroscopic binary (SB2; Herbig & Griffin 2006; Costero et al. 2006, 2008). Costero et al. (2008) found that the two stars have nearly identical spectra, with spectral types of G0 IV–G5 III (with a most likely spectral type of G2 IV). Strong Li \( \lambda 6708 \) absorption and moderate Ca \( \Pi \) K emission are observed, confirming the PMS status of the binary and, hence, its membership in the ONC. Given the likely large stellar radii and relatively tight orbit of the binary, it has been suspected that \( \theta^1 \) Ori E might undergo eclipses (Herbig & Griffin 2006). However, its proximity to the brighter Trapezium star \( \theta^1 \) Ori A has in the past made it difficult to obtain reliable photometry. The high spatial resolution and improved brightness contrast in the infrared afforded by \textit{Spitzer} make an investigation of the EB nature of \( \theta^1 \) Ori E possible for the first time.

We show in Figures 2 and 3 (middle right panels) the \textit{Spitzer} light curves obtained by us for \( \theta^1 \) Ori E in 2009 and 2010, respectively. Both light curves show periodic eclipses in both the [3.6] and [4.5] IRAC bands, showing for the first time that \( \theta^1 \) Ori E is indeed an EB. The eclipses are quite shallow, indicating that this is a grazing eclipse.

In addition to the eclipses, there are indications of variations in the overall flux of the system. The median level of the \textit{Spitzer} light curves is \( \sim 64 \) mmag fainter in 2009 compared to 2010, whereas the [4.5] flux observed by us in 2010 is the same as was observed by S. T. Megeath et al. (2012, in preparation) in 2004. We have explored the possibility that this small change in brightness is due to the photometry being affected by the bright nebulosity surrounding the Trapezium stars by checking the light curves of nearby sources. None of them showed a similar change in flux from one season to the next and thus we believe that the brightness change observed is real. Indeed, \( \theta^1 \) Ori E has also been reported to exhibit intrinsic variation in previous studies at X-ray and radio wavelengths. Ku et al. (1982) noted that the X-ray flux fluctuated on a timescale of a few ks, and the nearly continuous X-ray light curve spanning 13 days obtained in 2003 by the Chandra Orion Ultradeep Project (COUP; Stelzer et al. 2005) showed a gradual 20% brightening of the star followed by an abrupt spike at about twice the original brightness. The star was also detected in Very Large Array observations at 2 and 6 cm by Fell et al. (1993a, 1993b), during which variations of \( \sim 50% \) in radio flux were seen. These X-ray and radio variations may not be surprising given the SB2 nature of the system; however, the cause of the infrared variations remains unclear. The most likely cause of these intrinsic flux variations is stellar activity (star spots, flares, other coronal structures). Here, we simply note their existence and adjust the 2009 IRAC light curve to match the continuum flux of the 2010 data in order to permit an initial modeling of the infrared light curves. The time series data are provided in Table 6.

We combine these light curve data with the radial velocities measured by Costero et al. (2008) to produce a complete analysis of the binary. We used the Wilson & Devinney package (1971, updated 2005; hereafter WD) as implemented in the PHOEBE code by Prsa & Zwitter (2005). The code uses Kurucz stellar atmosphere models to represent the underlying stellar fluxes across the bandpasses, as well as the empirical limb darkening laws of van Hamme (1993). The radial velocities and light curve data are fit simultaneously and self-consistently. The WD code does not include filter profiles or limb darkening coefficients for the IRAC bandpasses, so for this initial modeling, we approximated the [3.6] bandpass with the Johnson \( L \) bandpass and the [4.5] bandpass with the Johnson \( M \) bandpass. Strictly speaking, these differences between the bandpasses used for the observations and for the modeling introduce a systematic error in the model fluxes, but these differences should be small given the approximate similarity and broadband nature of the bandpasses, as well as the survey-grade quality of the light curves used here. The orbital period and time of periastron passage for the system were held fixed at the values previously determined by Costero et al. (2008).

The IRAC light curve fits resulting from our WD modeling are shown in Figure 8, and the derived system parameters are summarized in Table 4. The precision and limited wavelength coverage of our light curve data do not permit highly precise determination of the stellar radii or temperatures; however, we are able to provide constraints on the sum of the stellar radii and on the ratio of the components’ effective temperatures. These parameters and the system inclination show some degeneracy (Figure 9), which we incorporate into our parameter uncertainties in Table 4. The mass ratio of the system is extremely well determined from the excellent quality RV data of Costero et al. (2008), for which we find \( q = 0.9965 \pm 0.0065 \); the two stars are of very nearly identical mass. The system inclination is now also very well constrained from our light curve fits (\( i \sim 74^\circ \)), and thus we are able to report individual masses for \( \theta^1 \) Ori E of \( M_1 = 2.807 \, M_\odot \) and \( M_2 = 2.797 \, M_\odot \), accurate to \( \sim 2\% \). It is thus the highest-mass EB yet discovered with clear PMS nature.

The temperature ratio that we determine for \( \theta^1 \) Ori E is \( T_2/T_1 = 1.12 \pm 0.08 \). This is roughly consistent with the
expectation of identical temperatures if the stars are of truly identical mass; however, the measured mass ratio also allows for a small mass difference which would then also accommodate a small temperature difference. Higher precision light curves over a larger range of wavelengths will be required to more firmly pin down the temperature ratio. The inferred temperature ratio is also modestly dependent upon the adopted absolute temperatures of the stars. Here, we have assumed \( T_1 = 6000 \text{ K} \) based on the reported spectral type, but this too needs to be improved.

The sum of the radii that we measure is \( R_1 + R_2 = 12.5 \pm 0.6 \, R_\odot \). It is premature to attempt a detailed comparison to the predictions of PMS stellar evolution models; however, these radii appear to be broadly consistent with expectations. For example, the model isochrones of Siess et al. (2000) predict a radius sum of 11.1–14.5 \( R_\odot \) for ages in the range of 0.3–2 Myr.

### 5.2. ISOY J0535—0447

ISOY J0535—0447 is a known proper-motion member of the ONC (Tian et al. 1996), and our own spectroscopy shows strong lithium absorption (see Figure 6), further confirming ISOY J0535—0447 as a PMS member of the ONC. From our TripleSpec data (see Figure 5) we derive a spectral type of K0–K2 and extinction of \( A_V = 1.5–2 \) based on a comparison to SpeX dwarfs (Rayner et al. 1989). Our HIRES spectrum yields a spectral type of K1 (±1 subtype) based on comparison with dwarf standards. This star has also been included in previous variability surveys of the ONC, but has not heretofore been identified as an EB. Neither the near-IR variability survey of Carpenter et al. (2001) nor the Chandra X-ray variability survey of Ramírez et al. (2004) found ISOY J0535—0447 to be photometrically variable. Similarly, Tobin et al. (2009) did not flag this star in their RV survey for SBs in the ONC.

That the EB nature of this star was previously missed both photometrically and spectroscopically is likely due to a confluence of several factors: the orbital period is very close to an integer number of days (\( P \approx 3.9 \text{ days} \), see below), the optical eclipses are relatively shallow (see Figure 3, lower right panel), the secondary eclipse is extremely shallow and only readily detectable in the IRAC bands, and the optical spectrum does not reveal a secondary spectrum but instead appears as a single star of spectral type \( \sim K1 \).

The secondary eclipses in this system are sufficiently shallow that from our discovery Spitzer light curves it was not immediately evident whether secondary eclipses were present at all. In addition, our intensive follow-up light curves from the ground in \( I_c \) band, which are of excellent precision, exhibit out-of-eclipse variations whose amplitude is larger than the secondary eclipse and which vary with a period slightly different from the orbital period (see below), making ready identification of the secondary eclipse difficult. Therefore we obtained a follow-up IRAC light curve at the expected secondary eclipse time (see Figure 4) definitively proving the existence of a faint secondary star, and providing a very strong constraint for the modeling of the system, which we now describe.

The most comprehensive light curve data were obtained with the USNO 40” telescope at the \( I_c \) band, with high cadence sampling over several hours per night on about 70 nights in 2010 and 2011. Given the strong out-of-eclipse variations present in the \( I_c \)-band data, which might dominate over the eclipse signal with Fourier based period-search methods, we determined the eclipse period using a BLS period-finding algorithm and then we manually adjusted the resultant best period by combining the data from the different bandpasses and adding the monitoring data from Rebull (2001). We determine the following system

![Figure 9](image-url)

**Figure 9.** Dependence of the radii (left) and the temperature ratio (right) on the inclination for \( \theta^1 \) Ori E showing the degeneracy of the fitting process. The results of our fit are marked with a dot and the contours represent 1\( \sigma \), 2\( \sigma \), and 3\( \sigma \) confidence levels. Inclination and combined radius are highly degenerated; inclination and temperature ratio are less so, but also provide weaker constraints.

(A color version of this figure is available in the online journal.)

**Table 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<td>Period</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>( HJD_0 )</td>
<td>2453285.9828 ( \text{days} )</td>
</tr>
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<td>( a \sin i )</td>
<td>33.046 ± 0.106 ( R_\odot )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( i )</td>
<td>73.7 ± 0.9 deg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( a )</td>
<td>34.430 ± 0.193 ( R_\odot )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( q = M_2/M_1 )</td>
<td>0.9965 ± 0.0065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( M_1 )</td>
<td>2.807 ± 0.048 ( M_\odot )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( M_2 )</td>
<td>2.797 ± 0.048 ( M_\odot )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( T_2/T_1 )</td>
<td>1.12 ± 0.08 ( b )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( R_1+R_2 )</td>
<td>12.5 ± 0.6 ( R_\odot )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes.**

- \( a \) Costero et al. (2008).
- \( b \) Assumed \( T_1 = 6000 \text{ K} \) based on spectral type.

\( \sigma \) ISOY J0535—0447 is a known proper-motion member of the ONC (Tian et al. 1996), and our own spectroscopy shows strong lithium absorption (see Figure 6), further confirming ISOY J0535—0447 as a PMS member of the ONC. From our TripleSpec data (see Figure 5) we derive a spectral type of K0–K2 and extinction of \( A_V = 1.5–2 \) based on a comparison to
Table 5
Orbital Parameters of ISOY J0535—0447

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<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>88.8 ± 0.9 deg</td>
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<tr>
<td>a</td>
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<td>R&lt;sub&gt;1&lt;/sub&gt; + R&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>2.87 ± 0.03 R&lt;sub&gt;☉&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Notes.

<sup>a</sup> The semimajor axis was fixed, and therefore the mass ratio and the individual masses are estimated.

<sup>b</sup> T<sub>1</sub> = 5150 was adopted from K0 spectral type.


As mentioned, the I<sub>c</sub>-band light curve exhibits a strong periodic modulation superposed on the eclipses. In addition, a flare is visible around HJD 2455502 (day 375 in Figure 3). These features strongly indicate the presence of spots on the primary star modulated on its rotation period (the secondary is very likely too faint to produce such a strong spot modulation signal). We find this spot modulation to have a period slightly longer than the EB period (4.001 days versus 3.906 days), indicating a modest departure from full synchronization of the system, and which produces the stroboscopic effect that causes the apparent secular departure from full synchronization of the system, and which may be some small errors in the assumed extinction-corrected colors of the components in this system.

We have used the few available RV measurements, together with the light curve data, for a first attempt to obtain the physical parameters of the system. The photometric times of minima indicated no sign of orbital eccentricity, which is expected for a short-period binary such as this, so we assumed circular orbits in the light curve analysis. In addition, since we only have RV measurements for the primary, we had to make one more
assumption for the orbital solution. Thus, we adopted a total mass of ∼0.9 M⊙ (by fixing the semimajor axis, a = 10 R⊙) and then fitted for the mass ratio and the center-of-mass velocity. In Table 5 we present the orbital parameters of ISOY J0535−0447 resulting from our best orbit solution and display this solution along with the RV measurements in Figures 10 and 11. Note that our derived center-of-mass velocity for ISOY J0535−0447 of γ = 30.4 km s⁻¹ is slightly larger than the currently accepted ONC systemic cluster velocity of 25 ± 2 km s⁻¹ (Sicilia-Aguilar et al. 2005). The presence of spots on the stellar surfaces can also introduce distortions that affect the observed radial velocities; however, Stassun et al. (2004) found that the spot effect on the RVs is ∼1 km s⁻¹ and probably negligible for our data.

With estimated masses for the system components of 0.83 M⊙ and 0.05 M⊙, the secondary seems to be in the brown dwarf regime, filling an important gap in the current census of PMS EBs. Note however that this is a preliminary result; the inferred temperature of the secondary is slightly warmer than what would be expected for a brown dwarf. We have an ongoing study of this system to further characterize the physical properties of the components of ISOY J0535−0447 and measure their masses more accurately.

5.3. ISOY J0535−0522

ISOY J0535−0522 is located at about 1° northeast of the Trapezium. It has been included in several previous studies, but it is in a very complicated region with bright structured nebulosity which has probably prevented its identification as an EB before. ISOY J0535−0522 was detected as an X-ray source and hence confirmed as a probable member of the ONC by COUP (Getman et al. 2005). It was also included in the near-IR variability study performed by Carpenter et al. (2001) where it was not found to be variable; however, it was flagged as a possible flaring star by Feigelson et al. (2002) in their study of X-ray-emitting young stars in the Orion Nebula.

ISOY J0535−0522 was classified as a late K or early M star by Luhman et al. (2000); however, our TSpec data (see K band in Figure 5) are very similar to that of ISOY J0535−0447, but with higher extinction (A_v = 11.5−12), suggesting a spectral type near K0. The hydrogen lines appear contaminated by nebular emission and without those lines a K3 spectral type cannot be ruled out. A spectral type of K0–K3 and large A_v are more consistent with the location of the system in a color–magnitude diagram (see Figure 7) than the previously reported spectral type. A Keck/HIRES single epoch spectrum yields a spectral type of K0 ± 2 subtypes and shows CaI core emission in the triplet lines and lithium absorption (see Figure 6), both features confirming its PMS status. Both the NIRSPEC and HIRES spectra of ISOY J0535−0522 are suggestive of the SB2 nature of the system (see the HIRES spectrum in Figure 6) and the IRAC [3.6] and [4.5], and Ic-band light curves from 2010 confirm the eclipses discovered in 2009.

The light curves of this EB candidate are presented in Figures 2 and 3 (lower left panels) for the 2009 and 2010 observing runs, respectively, and the time series are available in Table 8. The 2009 light curves show a trend in the [4.5] data between HJD 2455147 and 2455152 (between days 20 and 25 in Figure 2) and between HJD 2455157 and 2455161 (between days 30 and 34 in Figure 3) that is not followed by the [3.6] data and we believe is not real. Those data points were excluded from the following analysis. The 2010 data did not show similar artifacts but did show an ascending trend that lasted for all of the 2010 period. Again, the [3.6] data did not show the same behavior and, given that the nebulosity is brightest at [4.5], we believe that our photometry was affected by it. We corrected the 2010 IRAC [4.5] time series by subtracting a linear fit to the whole raw light curve in 2010 (the light curve shown in Figure 3 as well as the time series provided in Table 8 are already corrected from that effect).
The light curves include over 10 clearly discernible eclipses which have allowed us to perform a periodogram analysis using the BLS period-finding algorithm. The resulting ephemeris is

\[
\text{HJD}_0 = 2455128.79 \quad P = 5.6175 \pm 0.0015 \text{ days.}
\]

Using these parameters, we present the folded light curves in Figure 12. A rough comparison of the primary and secondary eclipse depths yields a temperature ratio of \( T_2 / T_1 \sim 0.94 \) that, assuming a temperature of 5250 K for the K0 primary (based on the PMS temperature scale of Kenyon & Hartmann 1995), produces a temperature of \( \sim 4935 \) K for the secondary, which would then be a K2 star.

5.4. ISOY J0535—0523

ISOY J0535—0523 was labeled as a proper motion member of the ONC by Jones & Walker (1988) and it is located close to the Trapezium stars as well (<3’ to the west of the Trapezium). It has been labeled as non-variable by both Carpenter et al. (2001) and Feigelson et al. (2002). In 1994, Stassun et al. (1999) performed an \( I_c \)-band monitoring of the ONC; a similar study was performed by the Monitor Project during 2004–2006 (Irwin et al. 2007)—neither group identified the star as being an EB.

A spectral type of M4.5 has been previously reported (Hillenbrand 1997) and our TSpec data (see Figure 5) show that it is indeed a mid-M star, M5–M5.5, with \( A_v = 1.5 \) based on a comparison of steam bands to members of TWA and Taurus. This is in agreement with the location of ISOY J0535—0523 in the color–magnitude diagram showed in Figure 7. Our single epoch HIRES spectrum yields a spectral type of M6 \( \pm 1 \) subtype and shows lithium absorption as can be seen in Figure 6. The spectrum does not show obvious double lines.

The light curves for 2009 and 2010 are shown in Figures 2 and 3 where a handful of eclipses are noticeable. We have added the data set from Stassun et al. (1999) and the Monitor Project to our \( I_c \)-band observations in order to use the long time baseline to improve the accuracy of our period analysis. From these light curves we have derived a tentative ephemeris as

\[
\text{HJD}_0 = 2455136.7 \quad \text{Period} = 20.485 \pm 0.5 \text{ days.}
\]
However, among all the data, only one eclipse was well mapped. This and the fact that the eccentricity is not exactly zero makes it more difficult to pin down the period. Thus, we provide above the most likely period and note that the error in the period determination for this source is larger than for the other systems.

The folded light curve is provided in Figure 13. The Monitor Project \(I\)-band data (from 2004) confirm the eclipse signatures seen in our data, however there is some disagreement with the \(I\)-band data from Stassun et al. (1999) (at phase \(\sim -0.4\)) probably due to a small error in the period accumulated over the years. Due to the scattering of the photometry in the eclipses, it is not straightforward to determine which one is the primary or the secondary and thus an estimation of the temperature ratio is not possible.

ISOY J0535–0523 has a period far longer than any of the known PMS EBs and is much longer than the expected rotational period. It may thus be the only known EB that is probably not spun up by tidal effects. If dynamo activity increases the radii of most EB stars, ISOY 0535–0523 could be the only system known whose components’ radii are not inflated by these tidal effects, thus allowing its properties to be better compared to the current generation of theoretical models, providing a direct test of the link between magnetic fields, rotation, and radii.

Performing this test will require an RV solution in order to fully characterize the system.

5.5. ISOY J0534–0454

ISOY J0534–0454 is cataloged as having a disk based on its mid-IR excess (S. T. Megeath et al. 2012, in preparation). Its spectral energy distribution can be seen in Figure 14. ISOY J0534–0454 is the only EB candidate that we found among the disked objects. It has been labeled as non-variable both by Carpenter et al. (2001) and Ramirez et al. (2004).

ISOY J0534–0454 is heavily extincted and so we lack optical photometry. Our TSpect data indicate a mid-M spectral type, which is consistent with its location on a \(J\) versus \(J-[3.6]\) color–magnitude diagram (see Figure 7) assuming high extinction. The Keck/NIRSPEC data show double lines in the spectrum indicating that the system is an SB2. The light curve of ISOY J0534–0454 in 2009 (see Figure 2) shows a handful of eclipse features clearly seen at least at IRAC wavelengths (which has a higher cadence than the J UKIRT data). For this system, we do not have high cadence observations in 2010 (Figure 3) and the lower cadence data (\(\sim\)12 data points in 40 days) does not show any indication of the presence of an eclipse. However, the Spitzer data from 2011, where a few eclipses are present, further confirm the EB nature of the system and yield the ephemeris as

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{HJD}_0 &= 2555127.56 \\
\text{Period} &= 5.1993 \pm 0.0004 \text{ days}
\end{align*}
\]

The folded light curve using that period can be seen in Figure 15. We note that the light curve is remarkably clean despite the presence of a disk. ISOY J0534–0454 seems to be a system with \(e \sim 0\) and with two similar components with \(T_2/T_1 \sim 0.96\) based on the eclipse depth. Assuming a temperature of 3125 K for an M5 primary using the Luhman (1999) temperature scale for young M stars yields a temperature of \(\sim 2990\) K for the secondary, and thus an M6 star. The secondary may then be a
brown dwarf given its spectral type (the known brown dwarf EB in Orion is an M6.5).

5.6. ISOY J0535−0525

ISOY J0535−0525 was selected as a proper motion member of the ONC by Jones & Walker (1988). It has been labeled a long-term variable by Feigelson et al. (2002); Herbst et al. (2000) found that it was a periodic variable with a period of ∼5.7 days, which is consistent with our photometry. A wide range of spectral types are assigned to this target in the literature: M0.4, K4, and K7-M1 (Hillenbrand 1997), probably due to its location close to the Trapezium cluster and the variable extinction in the region. It was included on the RV survey for SBs in the ONC done by Tobin et al. (2009) where it was not flagged as a probable binary (V_{rad} = 22.9 ± 2.25). However, our high resolution spectra of this source show the presence of double lines and thus confirm its binary nature. Furthermore, the HIRES spectrum we obtained shows it to have a strong lithium absorption feature, confirming its youth (see Figure 6). Thus, we can classify it as a PMS EB.

However, only our 2009 IRAC data show evidence for this designation (see Figures 2 and 3). The 2009 IRAC light curve shows a well-defined approximately sinusoidal variation presumably reflective of rotational modulation of a spotted star. However, at two epochs—HJD 2455132 and 2455156 (days 5 and 29 in Figure 2)—the photometry of both IRAC channels show a 0.15 mag dip of duration less than one day. We do not have shorter-wavelength data at the times of these dips. If the dips are due to eclipses, and if no eclipses were missed in the IRAC data, then the period would be of the order of 24 days. There is another event at HJD 2455528 (day 401 in Figure 3) and several other single point deviants that we cannot confirm as eclipse features.

This could be another very useful PMS EB if its period were indeed confirmed to be ∼24 days, since it would then be the longest-period PMS EB known and could serve as an additional empirical test of PMS isochrones for objects that are not tidally locked to short rotation periods.

6. CONCLUSIONS

We have identified six new EB star systems that are believed to be members of the ONC and thus are PMS EBs. For one of them, θ^1 Ori E, we provide an orbital solution with a complete set of well-determined parameters. The masses derived for its components are 2.807 and 2.797 M_⊙ and thus θ^1 Ori E is the most massive EB known to date with clear PMS nature. For a second system, ISOY J0535−0447, we provide a preliminary orbital solution based on our light curves and available RV data. For the other four, we provide periods and relatively well-defined light curves, often based on multi-year data. One of these systems, ISOY J0535−0523, is the longest-period (P ∼ 20 days) PMS EB currently known. Such a long period suggests that the components will be less affected by tidal effects providing a direct test between magnetic fields, rotation, and radii. Another two systems seem to have secondary components in the brown dwarf domain providing, if confirmed, additional examples to the only one known PMS brown dwarf EB.

These systems increase the number of known PMS EBs by over 50%, and the unique properties of several of these systems ensure that they will offer the potential for considerably improving the empirical calibration of the PMS models for low-mass stars and brown dwarfs. However, additional observations are needed to fully characterize the systems, in particular high-resolution spectroscopy at several epochs is needed to derive the orbital parameters of these systems.

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Facilities: Spitzer (IRAC), USNO:41m, UKIRT, NMSU:1m, LO:0.8m, Hale, Keck:I, Keck:II, Mayall

APPENDIX

ADDITIONAL OBJECTS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST

We have identified two other objects which seem to be EBs, but where the data we collected suggest that the objects are not bona fide Orion members. We describe these two objects below.

A.1. ISOY J0536−0500

ISOY J0536−0500 has not been previously labeled as an ONC member. It is fainter than all previously known EBs and, because it is located further to the NE of the Trapezium, it has not been included in most of the studies of the region. Its brightness and colors are very similar to those of the known brown dwarf EB 2M0535−05 as is shown in Figure 7. Its position in the color–magnitude diagram indicated that ISOY J0536−0500 could comprise two substellar objects of even lower mass than those in 2M0535−05.

ISOY J0536−0500 light curves show several eclipses, both in IRAC [3.6] and [4.5], and J bands are clear. This source was also included in the I_σ-band monitoring of Stassun et al. (1999) and we have used their I_σ-band data to obtain a more accurate period. The timing analysis gives a period of 3.5705 days and the ephemeris we calculate is

$$\text{HJD}_0 = 2455128.74$$

Period = 3.570535 ± 0.00007 days.

The phased light curve based on these parameters can be seen in Figure 16. Again, the I_σ-band data from 1994 confirm the eclipse features.

The problem with this picture is that the near-IR spectrum which we obtained does not correspond to that of a late-type dwarf. Instead, the TSpec spectrum indicates the star is much hotter, with an inferred spectral type of G2 or earlier (see Figure 5). The broadband colors are inconsistent with this spectral type unless the star has a reddening of order A_{V} ∼ 6. The location of the star in a CMD (see Figure 7) is inconsistent
with this reddening unless the object is not a member of the ONC. Given the properties of this star, we suggest that it is a field EB located behind the Orion molecular cloud and seen through an edge of the cloud.

A.2. ISOY J0534−0449

ISOY J0534−0449 was identified by Stassun et al. (1999) as the fastest rotator in a study of the period distribution in the ONC (P = 0.27 days, Star 1161 of Stassun et al. 1999). Rebull (2001) photometrically monitored the outer ONC finding the same periodicity (Star 1450 in their study), and Carpenter et al. (2001) find our EB candidate periodic as well but with a period of 3.14 days (their cadence did not allow them to find shorter periods).

Figure 17 includes all the YSOVAR data from 2009 to 2011 plus the I-band monitoring data from Stassun et al. (1999) (obtained on 1994 December and Rebull 2001) (obtained between 1995 December and 1997 February) folded with a period of 0.5424. The light curve shape appears remarkably similar in all these data sets, spanning 17 years at multiple epochs.

Its published spectral type is K5 (Rebull 2001); however, its location in a J versus I−[3.6] diagram shows it to be much fainter than the other Orion members of similar spectral type—but not significantly reddened (see Figure 7). In addition, our single epoch HIRES spectrum shows that about the only feature visible is a fairly strong Hα absorption line instead of in emission as it would be expected for a young mid-K star. If it were a single, field rapid rotator, presumably the light variations would be due to large, non-axisymmetrically distributed spots.

Figure 16. Phased light curves for ISOY J0536−0500 folded with a period of 3.5705 days where all the data from 2009 and 2010 are plotted. The symbols are (●): [3.6] IRAC; (○): [4.5] IRAC; (+): J UKIRT; and (+): L USNO+SMMV+R01. [3.6], I, J, and L band light curves have been shifted in the y-axis to match the mean [4.5] value ([3.6]−[4.5]) = 0.02, J−[4.5] = 1.44, I−[4.5] = 3.81.

However, it seems very unlikely to us that such spots could yield such a stable light curve shape over such a long period. Instead, we believe the object is more likely to be a field contact binary composed of two ~G dwarfs.

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