

## **ABSTRACT**

**THESIS:** Investigation of outburst characteristics in dwarf novae binary star systems.

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Dwarf novae are a type of binary star system that consists of a cool red dwarf, as well as a white dwarf with an accretion disk. Occasionally the disk will get significantly brighter for a few days in an event called an outburst. On February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2002 one such system, CN Orionis, was experiencing such an outburst. The goal of this research was to determine some important characteristics of CN Orionis during its outburst. This thesis will present the light output, temperature, and the area of the accretion disk of CN Orionis.