

SPECTROSCOPIC OBSERVATIONS OF COMET AUSTIN 1984I¹B.H. Foing², M. Festou³, S. Char⁴

ABSTRACT. The comet Austin (1984I) discovered on July 8, 1984 was observed at the European Southern Observatory on July 25.97UT (0.50m reflector and Stromgren photometer), and July 27.96UT (1.5m reflector, Boller & Chivens spectrograph and Image Dissector Scanner in the spectral range 500-730 nm). Several spectra along the solar-antisolar axis have been taken, showing the spatial extension of the species C_2 , NH_2 , NaI , H_2O^+ , $O I$ lines. The central diffuse condensation of FWHM 25'', the spatial behaviour of the previous species and the additional emitting features included in the photometric Stromgren bands are discussed.

1. Based on observations obtained at the European Southern Observatory, Cerro La Silla, Chile.
2. Bernard H. Foing: European Southern Observatory ESO La Silla, Casilla 19001, Santiago 19, Chile.
3. Michel Festou: Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris, 98 Bis Boulevard Arago, Paris 14E, France.
4. Sergio Char: La Serena, Chile.