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LIGHTCURVE INVERSION FOR 38 LEDA

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We present shape and spin axis model for main-belt asteroid 38 Leda. The model was obtained with lightcurve inversion process, using combined dense photometric data from apparitions in 1979, 1995, 2000, 2008, 2009-10, 2011, 2012 and sparse data from USNO Flagstaff. Analysis of the resulting data found a sidereal period $P = 12.836164 \pm 0.000016$ h and two possible pole solution at ($\lambda = 160^\circ$, $\beta = -17^\circ$) and ($\lambda = 343^\circ$, $\beta = -6^\circ$), with an error of ± 10 degrees. From sparse data from the USNO Flagstaff station we find $H = 8.61 \pm 0.04$, $G = 0.09 \pm 0.04$.

The main-belt asteroid 38 Leda has been observed in last four consecutive apparitions by Frederick Pilcher, with a variety of phase angles and phase angle bisectors. To improve the coverage at various aspect angles, we found in the literature further observations, whose lightcurves were downloaded from the Asteroid Photometric Catalogue (APC) by Lagerkvist et al. (2001) at website: <http://asteroid.astro.helsinki.fi/apc>. The observational circumstances for the seven apparitions are reported in Table I.

The data from two of the three sessions of Wang and Shi (2002) were reconstructed by Frederick Pilcher, starting from the published lightcurves, following the failed attempt to contact via email the authors.

To improve the solution we have also used sparse data from USNO Flagstaff Station, as has been shown by Kaasalainen (2004), Ďurech et al. (2009). Sparse data were taken from the AstDys website (<http://hamilton.dm.unipi.it/astdys/index.php/>) for a total of 211 data points. Figures 1, 2 and 3 shows respectively PAB Longitude/Latitude distribution for dense/sparse data and phase curve for the sparse data.

Lightcurve inversion process were performed using MPO LCInvert v.11.0.0.2. Software (Bdw Publishing), which implement algorithms and code provided by Mikko Kaasalainen and Josef Ďurech. For guidelines and a description of the modeling process see LCInvert Operating Instructions manual and Warner et al. (2008).

Data Analysis

All data from thirty dense lightcurves and one sparse dataset were imported in *LCInvert* for analysis, assigning them a different weighting factor, from 1.0 for best data to 0.3 for sparse data.

In the inversion process the first step is to find an accurate sidereal rotational period. We have started the period search centered on the average of the synodic periods found in the previously published works. The search process found a isolated sidereal period of 12.83611412 h with lower chi-square value (Figure 4).

For pole search we have started using the "Medium" search option (312 fixed pole position with 15° longitude-latitude steps) and the previously found sidereal period set to "float". The "dark facet" weighting factor was increased from 0.1 (default) to 0.5 to keep the dark facet area below 1% of total area. The number of iterations of processing was increased from 50 (default) to 75 for best convergence.

Data analysis shows two lower chi-square solutions differing by 180° , centered at ($\lambda = 165^\circ$, $\beta = -15^\circ$) and ($\lambda = 345^\circ$, $\beta = -15^\circ$), see Figure 5 for log(chi-square) values distribution. These values were then refined by running again the pole search using the "Fine" option with the previous period/longitude/latitude set to "float" (49 fixed pole steps with 10° longitude-latitude pairs). The two best solutions are reported in Table II with an averaged sidereal period obtained from the two values found in the pole search process. Typical errors in the pole solution are ± 10 degrees and the uncertainty in period has been evaluated as a rotational error of 10° over the total time-span of the observations.

We prefer the first solution as it has a stronger convergence, small chi-square and RMS values. We have a better lightcurve fit removing the sparse data from the generation of the shape model. The sparse data instead have been much useful to constrain the period and spin axis search. Figure 6 shows the shape model with first solution and Figure 7 shows the good agreement between the model (black line) and observed lightcurves (red points). The second shape solution is very similar to the first and has not been reported.

The model and the data will be stored in Database of Asteroid Models from Inversion Techniques (DAMIT, Ďurech 2012).

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Year	#LCs	Data Points	PA°	PABL°	PABB°	Ref.
1979	2	13	5/4	188	-9	(1)
1995	3	109	10	27/28	9	(2)
2000	2	47	17/14	89/90	5	(3)
2008	8	1551	9/14	329	4/5	(4)
2009-10	3	971	11/14	78/80	6/4	(5)
2011	5	1205	14/4	211	-9	(6)
2012	7	1206	12/5	290	-2/-1	(7)

Table I. Observational circumstances for 38 Leda over seven apparitions, a total of 30 lightcurves were used for lightcurve inversion analysis. Where: PA, PABL and PABB are respectively the phase angle, phase angle bisector longitude and latitude. References: (1) Harris and Young (1989), (2) Denchev, Magnusson and Donchev (1998), (3) Wang and Shi (2002), (4) Pilcher (2009), (5) Pilcher (2010), (6) Pilcher (2011), (7) Pilcher (2013).

λ°	β°	Sidereal Period(h)	ChiSq	RMS
160	-17	12.836164 ± 0.000016	1.5420	0.0170
343	-6		1.5668	0.0172

Table II. The two best spin axis solutions for 38 Leda. The sidereal period was the average of the two solutions found in the pole search process.

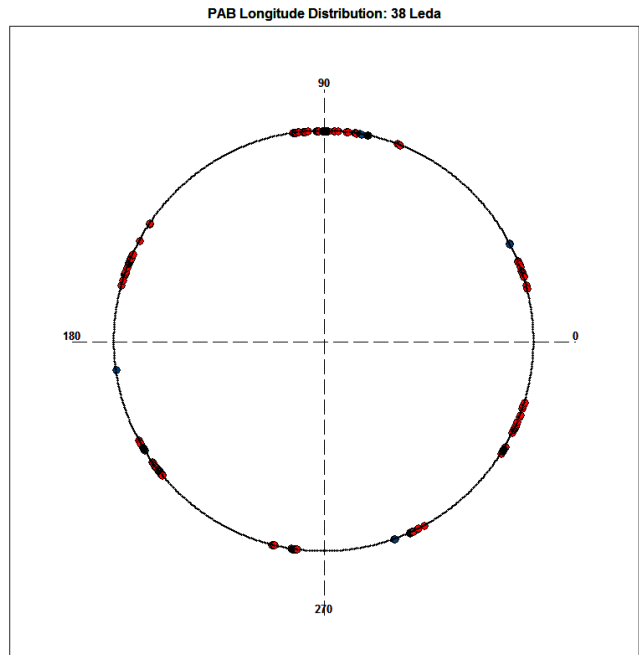


Figure 1. PAB Longitude distribution of the data used for lightcurve inversion model. Dense data in blue and sparse data in red.

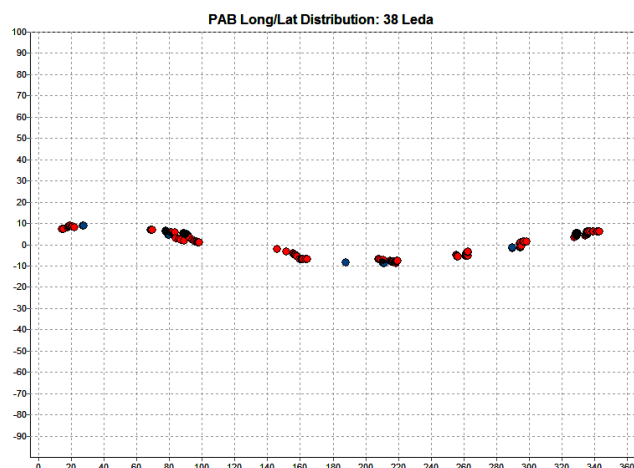


Figure 2. PAB Latitude distribution of the data used for lightcurve inversion model. Dense data in blue and sparse data in red.

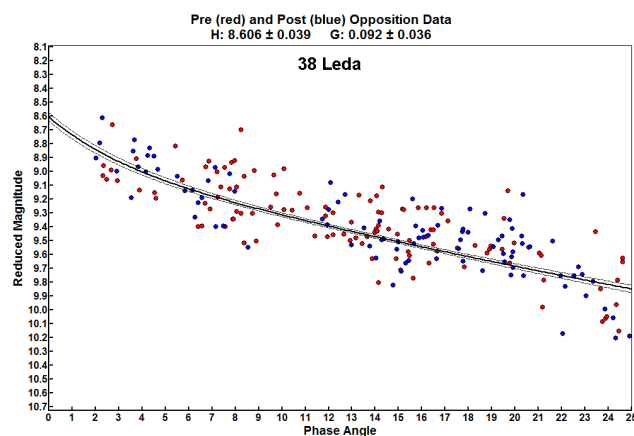


Figure 3. Visual reduced magnitude vs phase angle for sparse data from USNO Flagstaff Station.

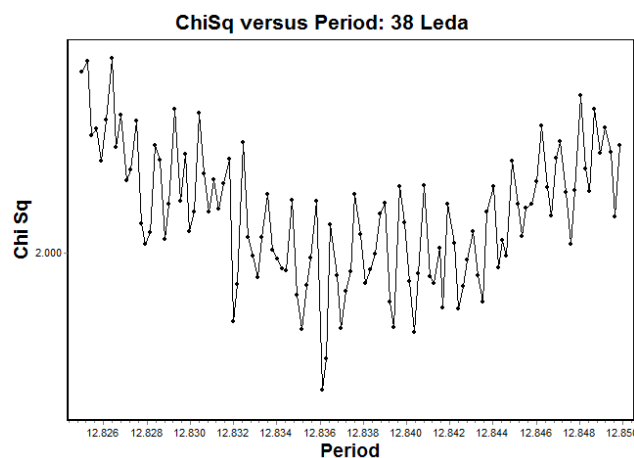


Figure 4. The period search plot from LCInvert shows an isolated minimum at 12.83611412 h.

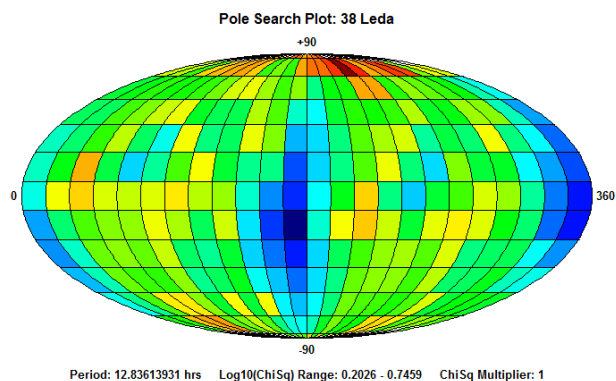


Figure 5. Pole Search Plot of $\log(\text{ChiSq})$ values, where dark blue identify lower ChiSq values and Dark red underlying the worst solutions.

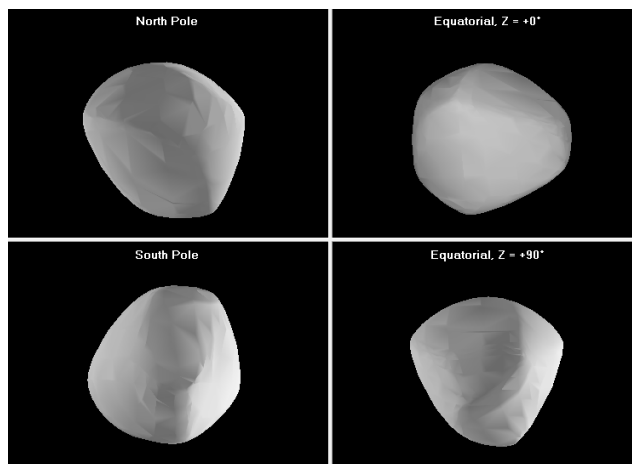


Figure 6. The shape model for 38 Leda ($\lambda = 160^\circ$, $\beta = -17^\circ$).

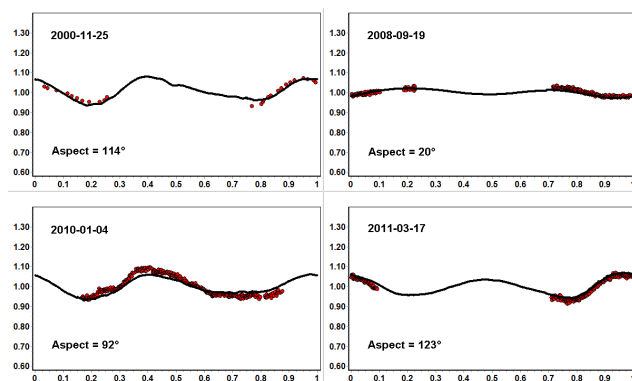


Figure 7. Comparison of model lightcurve (black line) versus a sample of four observed lightcurves (red points).