Photometric Analysis of Shape-Model Generated Lightcurves of Selected Main-belt Asteroids

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Overview of Marciniak+2012

- 1. observed 8 main-belt asteroids
- 199 new lightcurves (Poznań Astronomical Observatory, 1997-2011)
- 3. obtained asteroid shape models and spin states via the convex lightcurve inversion method
- 4. create an online service for the comparison of asteroid shape models

Motivation and Background

- 1. determine basic physical characteristics of an asteroid (i.e. shape and spin)
- 2. then we can better understand the nature of individual objects as well as the whole asteroid population
- 3. So, how do we determine these basic physical characteristics?

Lightcurve Inversion Method

Ingredients:

- 1. need several lightcurves from a span of phase angles
- 2. observations need to span several different apparitions

Lightcurve Inversion Method

Kaasalainen et al. 2001









<u>76 Freia</u> D=168[km], a=3.41[AU], e=0.163, i=2.12°



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76 Freia D=2454442.6883 λ = 1



Summary

- 1. lightcurve inversion is a powerful method for determining physical characteristics of asteroids
 - observations match range of phase angles and epochs

2. ISAM is incredibly useful for the comparison of asteroid shape models

