

CCD photometry, spin and shape models of five asteroids: 225, 360, 416, 516, and 1223

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Abstract. New CCD photometric observations for 225 Henrietta (1995), 360 Carlova (1996, 1997, 1998), 416 Vaticana (1995–96, 1998), 516 Amherstia (1995, 1996), and 1223 Neckar (1995–96) carried out at five observatories are presented. New synodical periods for two asteroids (225, 1223) have been obtained. Using all available lightcurves, the spin vectors, senses of rotation, and triaxial ellipsoid models of these five asteroids have been determined or refined.

Key words: techniques: photometric — minor planets: asteroids

1. Introduction

Photometric observations provide the most abundant data for determinations of rotational periods, orientations of spin vectors, and physical properties of surfaces of asteroids. The photometric database consists of the lightcurves of more than 700 asteroids, but spin vectors have been determined for only about 100 of them. Magnusson et al. (1989) provided a review of all techniques used in order to obtain poles and shapes of asteroids. One approach to obtain this information is to study the brightness variation of asteroids as they spin about their axes. Such a method, described by Michałowski (1993), has been used in the present work.

The present paper is a part of a programme devoted to enlarging the number of asteroids with known physical parameters. The new photometric observations presented here, combined with previously published ones,

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have been used to determine sidereal periods, coordinates of poles and triaxial ellipsoid models for the observed asteroids. These new models will be included into the existing database of spin parameters and used for statistical investigation of the evolution history of the asteroid main belt. The most extensive spin and shape database is the one compiled by Per Magnusson, which can be found in *The Small Bodies Node of the NASA Planetary Data System* (<http://pdssbn.astro.umd.edu/>).

2. Observations

Photometric observations of five asteroids from 31 nights during the years 1995–1998 were made at five observatories. The majority of data came from Ostrowik (Warsaw University Observatory, Poland) and Pic du Midi (France). During several nights, observations were also carried out at Château Renard (Astroqueyras Association, France), Rozhen (Institute of Astronomy, Bulgaria) and Borowiec (A. Mickiewicz University, Poland).

At Ostrowik, a 60-cm Cassegrain telescope, equipped with a TEK512 CB CCD camera, was used (Udalski & Pych 1992). CCD frames, collected through the *R* and *I* Cousins filters were reduced with standard *IRAF* procedures and the profile photometry was obtained with the Daophot-II package.

At Pic du Midi, the observing system consists of a 105-cm Cassegrain reflector, a Thomson 7863 CCD camera and an *R* filter. All reductions and the profile photometry were performed with the *ASTROL* package, developed at the Institut de Mécanique Céleste in Paris (Kryszczyńska et al. 1996).

On four nights in August 1995, the asteroid 225 Henrietta was also observed at Château Renard

Observatory in the French Alps. As the asteroid was very bright, all measurements were performed through the R filter with a small 19-cm telescope and a KAF-400 CCD camera. The magnitudes of the asteroid and comparison stars were determined by aperture photometry after the images were corrected for bias, dark and flat-field.

In March 1997, the asteroid 360 Carlova was observed at two observatories. A 60-cm Cassegrain telescope equipped with a single-channel photometer was used at the Rhozen Observatory (Bulgaria). A transformation to the UBV standard system has been carried out with standard algorithms (Denchev et al. 1998). One lightcurve of this object was obtained at Borowiec Station of the Poznan Observatory (Poland), with a 25-cm Newton reflector and a KAF-400 CCD camera. Due to the small aperture of the telescope, no filters were used. Corrections for bias, dark and flat-field were made with CCDOPS program (produced by a camera manufacturing company, SBIG). An aperture photometry was performed with the Daophot II package. After upgrading to the 40-cm Newton reflector, two asteroids (360 and 416) were observed at Borowiec in 1998. This time a Bessel R filter was used. A standard reduction of the CCD frames as well as the aperture photometry were performed with the STARLINK package.

From all the lightcurves, only the Rhozen photoelectric photometry data were transformed to the standard system as has been stated above. The rest of the observations have not been transformed, mainly because of non-photometric weather condition and/or because the observing systems were equipped with only one standard filter.

Table 1 contains the aspect data for the asteroids observed. The first column is the date of the observation referring to the mid-time of the observed lightcurve. The next two columns are the distances (in astronomical units) from the asteroid to the Sun and the Earth, respectively. Column 4 is the solar phase angle, and Cols. 5 and 6 give the J2000.0 ecliptic longitude (λ) and latitude (β), respectively, referring to the time in the first column. The names of the observatories are listed in the last column of the table.

The results of our observations are presented in Figs. 1–9 as composite lightcurves. They have been obtained with a procedure described in Magnusson & Lagerkvist (1990). The lightcurves have been composited with the synodical periods shown in the graphs. Points from different nights are marked with different symbols. The vertical position of each individual lightcurve is obtained to minimize the dispersion of data points relative to their neighbours. The abscissae are the rotational phases with the zero points corrected for light-time.

2.1. 225 Henrietta

The first photometric observations for this asteroid were reported by Weidenschilling et al. (1990). They observed

Table 1. Aspect data

Date (UT)	r (AU)	Δ (AU)	Phase angle ($^\circ$)	λ (J2000) ($^\circ$)	β ($^\circ$)	Obs.
225 Henrietta						
1995 08 03.0	2.624	1.935	19.24	6.61	14.63	ChR
1995 08 05.1	2.627	1.918	18.80	6.61	14.56	ChR
1995 08 26.0	2.667	1.775	12.74	4.91	13.46	ChR
1995 08 27.0	2.669	1.770	12.10	4.76	13.39	ChR
1995 10 23.9	2.796	1.934	12.02	353.93	6.12	Pic
1995 10 24.7	2.798	1.941	12.25	353.86	6.02	Ost
1995 10 25.8	2.800	1.954	12.58	353.76	5.85	Ost
360 Carlova						
1996 01 19.9	2.459	1.949	21.99	49.15	−13.01	Pic
1997 03 03.0	3.037	2.057	3.62	167.54	9.57	Roz
1997 03 04.0	3.039	2.058	3.45	167.32	9.61	Roz
1997 03 11.0	3.051	2.070	3.46	165.78	9.92	Bor25
1998 04 28.0	3.527	2.583	6.69	235.82	15.93	Bor40
1998 05 01.0	3.528	2.572	6.06	235.27	15.99	Bor40
1998 05 03.0	3.528	2.565	5.67	234.88	16.02	Bor40
416 Vaticana						
1995 10 20.1	3.056	2.076	4.01	21.24	−11.23	Pic
1995 10 22.1	3.060	2.083	4.20	20.77	−11.11	Pic
1996 01 18.9	3.207	3.197	17.64	19.78	−4.70	Pic
1998 03 25.8	2.681	1.827	13.39	150.54	18.55	Bor40
1998 03 26.8	2.678	1.832	13.69	150.39	18.46	Bor40
1998 03 28.8	2.674	1.842	14.28	150.11	18.29	Bor40
1998 03 29.8	2.671	1.847	14.58	149.97	18.20	Bor40
516 Amherstia						
1995 09 26.0	3.133	2.146	4.03	7.37	11.39	Ost
1995 10 22.9	3.183	2.281	9.01	1.56	11.92	Ost
1995 10 23.9	3.185	2.290	9.03	1.39	11.91	Ost
1996 10 15.1	3.383	2.693	14.05	73.71	16.36	Ost
1996 10 16.1	3.382	2.682	13.88	73.64	16.42	Ost
1996 11 11.8	3.361	2.447	7.72	69.81	17.88	Ost
1223 Neckar						
1995 10 25.1	2.699	2.088	18.93	93.43	1.81	Pic
1996 01 15.9	2.725	1.850	11.24	81.73	2.97	Ost
1996 01 16.8	2.725	1.857	11.57	81.61	2.97	Ost
1996 01 17.7	2.725	1.865	11.88	81.50	2.96	Pic

Observatory Code: ChR - Château Renard; Pic - Pic du Midi; Ost - Ostrowik; Bor25 - Borowiec, 25 cm; Bor40 - Borowiec, 40 cm.

Henrietta on 22 and 23 May 1982 and determined a synodical period of 8.75 hours from the 0.29 mag amplitude lightcurve. This period gave no overlap between the two nights' data, but yielded equally spaced maxima and minima. Subsequent observations were carried out on 13 Oct. 1983 giving a partial lightcurve (about 4 hours) with an amplitude of 0.16 mag.

Zappala et al. (1989) reported their observations from two consecutive nights in March 1987. The lightcurve with an amplitude of 0.15 mag was rather noisy, but according to the authors it fitted both periods of 8.4 and 4.2 hours.

Our observations (see Fig. 1) were performed at three observatories and spanned almost three months. We have obtained a composite lightcurve with a period of

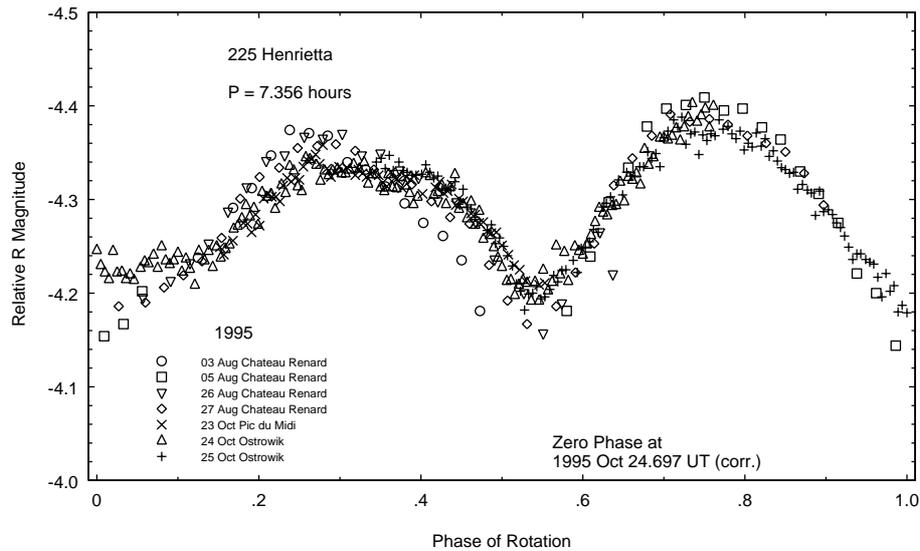


Fig. 1. Lightcurve of 225 Henrietta in 1995

7.356 ± 0.001 hours and an amplitude of 0.22 mag was determined. The notable differences in the levels of extrema from different nights (see Fig. 1) are due to the effects of phase angle changes on the amplitude of brightness (see Zappala et al. 1990 for details).

The synodical period of 7.356 hours determined by us is shorter than earlier reported values. However, we were not able to obtain any composite lightcurves with the earlier periods. The next step was to check if this shorter period fitted the observations from 1982 and 1987 oppositions. Without any problems we could see that the new period was also sufficient for the lightcurves from the two previous oppositions. So, we can conclude that the synodical period of Henrietta is shorter by about 1 hour than those previously reported.

2.2. 360 Carlova

Photometric observations for this asteroid were performed by Harris & Young (1983) on four consecutive nights in October 1979. These data contained only a few measurements per night but they allowed the authors to obtain a synodical period of 6.21 hours from the 0.37 mag composite lightcurve. Di Martino et al. (1987) observed Carlova on 21 and 22 September 1984 and reported a rotational period of 6.183 hours. The lightcurve with an amplitude of 0.30 mag was quite irregular and asymmetric with the primary maximum very sharp and narrow compared to the secondary one. On 10 January 1986 this asteroid was observed again by Dotto et al. (1995). They also obtained an asymmetric lightcurve with an amplitude of 0.33 mag.

We observed this asteroid on 19 January 1996 but the lightcurve covered only half of the rotational cycle. An amplitude of 0.44 mag was found (Fig. 2). Subsequent data were obtained during three nights in March 1997 (Fig. 3),

and a composite lightcurve with an amplitude of 0.30 mag was obtained. The period of 6.188 ± 0.003 hours which we obtained is consistent with the previously published values. Carlova was also observed on three nights in April–May 1998 (Fig. 4). The lightcurve with an amplitude of 0.49 mag, the largest ever observed for this asteroid, confirmed the period of 6.188 hours.

2.3. 416 Vaticana

Lagerkvist et al. (1987) obtained three short lightcurves (the longest was about 3 hours) in 1985 but no unique rotation period could be derived. The amplitude of the light variation seemed to be larger than 0.19 mag.

There are many observations from the 1989 apparition. Erikson et al. (1991) observed this asteroid on four nights in February while Miles (1990) reported data from eight nights in the period from March – May. A composite lightcurve with an amplitude of 0.4 mag was based on the rotational period of 5.372 hours. Moreover, Miles (1990) determined the phase relation with the parameters: $H = 7.90$ and $G = 0.21$.

Schober et al. (1994) observed Vaticana on four nights in August 1985. The composite lightcurve, with an amplitude of 0.15 mag, confirmed the earlier reported rotational period.

We performed our observations on three nights in October 1995 and January 1996 (Fig. 5). The amplitude was 0.38 mag and the period of 5.372 hours was confirmed. Another lightcurve was obtained during four nights in March 1998. These data confirmed the period of 5.372 hours. The four nights' runs were too short and did not cover the whole rotational cycle (Fig. 6). The lightcurves from March 25 and 29 have been manually

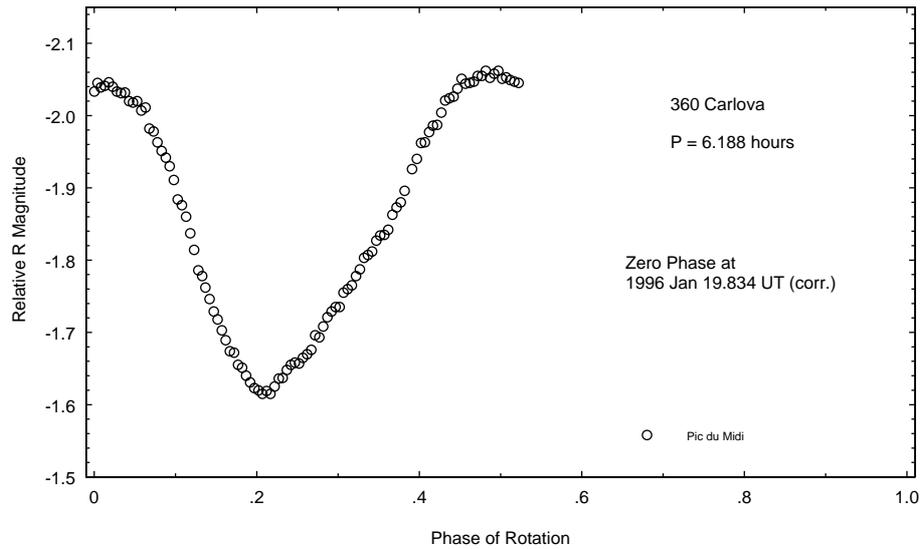


Fig. 2. Lightcurve of 360 Carlova in 1996

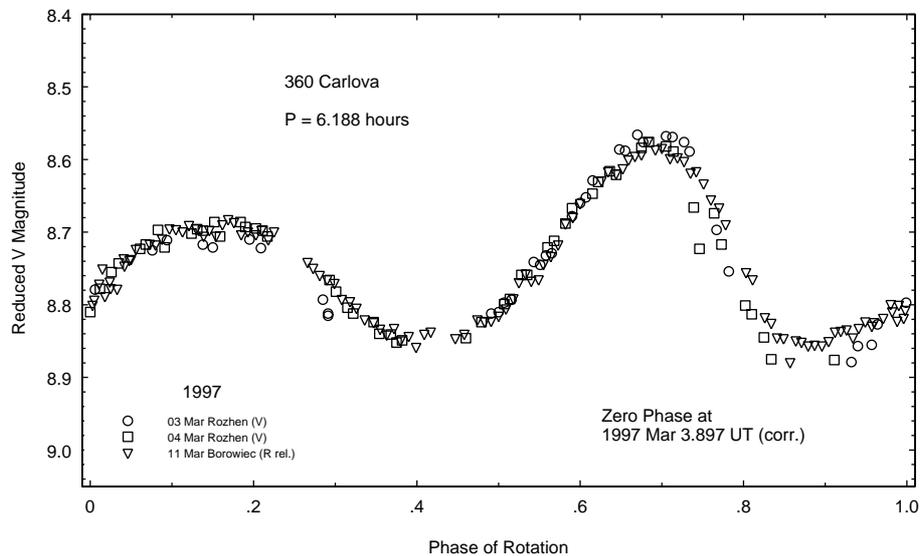


Fig. 3. Lightcurve of 360 Carlova in 1997. The points from 3 Mar are shifted by 0.002 mag in respect to those from 4 Mar

shifted for better display. The amplitude seems to be slightly larger than 0.17 mag.

2.4. 516 Amherstia

Harris & Young (1980) observed this asteroid on 29 October 1978. Fortunately, this data made it possible to obtain an approximate period of 7 ± 1 hours, and showed an amplitude of 0.15 mag. Other observations were performed by Lagerkvist et al. (1987) on three consecutive nights in March 1985. They derived a period of 7.494 hours and an amplitude of 0.48 mag. Amherstia was also observed on 26 January 1989 by Dotto et al. (1992). The lightcurve did not cover the whole rotational cycle but an amplitude of 0.25 mag was visible.

The lightcurves obtained on three nights in September and October 1995 allowed us to obtain a period of 7.484 ± 0.001 hours. The composite lightcurve with an amplitude of 0.41 mag is displayed in Fig. 7. Some discrepancies in the levels of the deeper minimum from different runs are due to differences in the phase angle on different nights. The observations from October – November 1996 confirmed the period of 7.484 hours but the amplitude was smaller – 0.15 mag (Fig. 8).

2.5. 1223 Neckar

This asteroid was observed by Tedesco (1979) on one night in February 1977. The lightcurve with an amplitude of 0.4 mag and two pairs of extrema covered 7.5 hours. It indicated a period of 8.6 ± 0.5 hours. Binzel (1987) observed

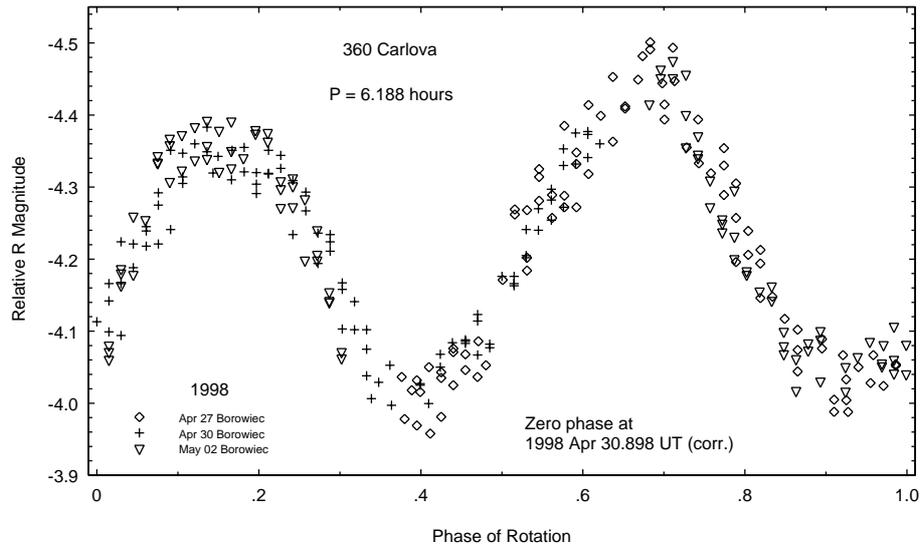


Fig. 4. Lightcurve of 360 Carlova in 1998

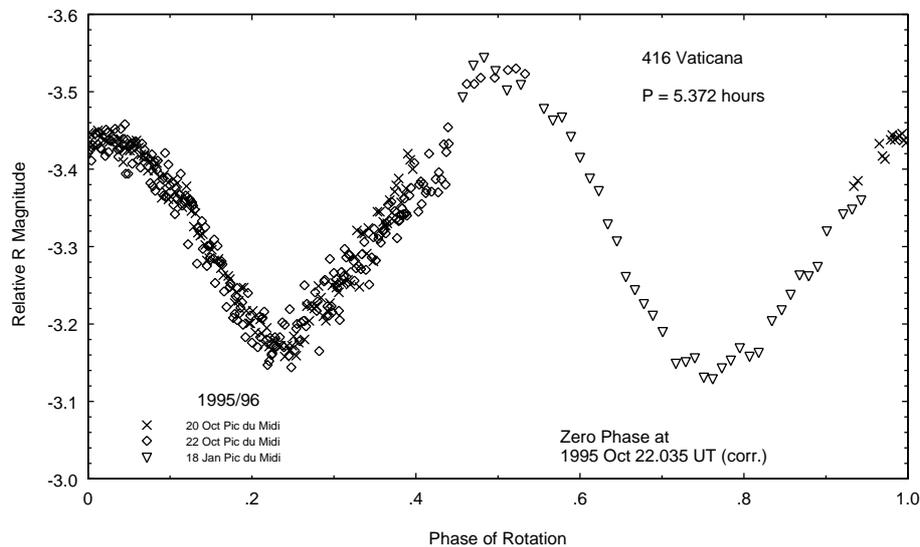


Fig. 5. Lightcurve of 416 Vaticana in 1995–96

Neckar on four consecutive nights in May 1983. The amplitude of 0.14 mag was significantly lower than in 1977, indicating a more polar aspect. The composite lightcurve was constructed with a rotational period of 8.78 ± 0.02 hours. However, that lightcurve displayed three distinct pairs of extrema per rotational cycle.

Slivan & Binzel (1996) observed Neckar on two and three consecutive nights during four apparitions: March 1987, September 1989, November 1990 and May 1993. These data led to a new rotational period of 7.81 ± 0.03 hours, but they did not comment on why the previous values were incorrect. The amplitudes of these lightcurves are in the range of 0.16 – 0.45 mag.

We observed Neckar on four nights in the 1995–96 apparition (see Fig. 9) covering almost three months. Our observations do not confirm the previously determined

periods, as shown above. We have obtained a composite lightcurve with a period of 7.763 ± 0.001 hours. The amplitude of this asymmetric lightcurve, with two maxima at different levels, is 0.18 mag. If we used the period of 7.81 hours determined by Slivan & Binzel (1996) to composite our observations, then the switch of the maxima between October 1995 and January 1996 observations would be visible. That is why the shorter period of 7.763 hours, determined in the present study, is correct.

The observations by Tedesco (1979), carried out in one night, also confirm the shorter period obtained in the present work. Our observations contain a few hundred points while those by Binzel (1987) only 34 measurements (only a few points per night). It was easy for us to make a new composite lightcurve which also confirmed the shorter period. Moreover, the lightcurve

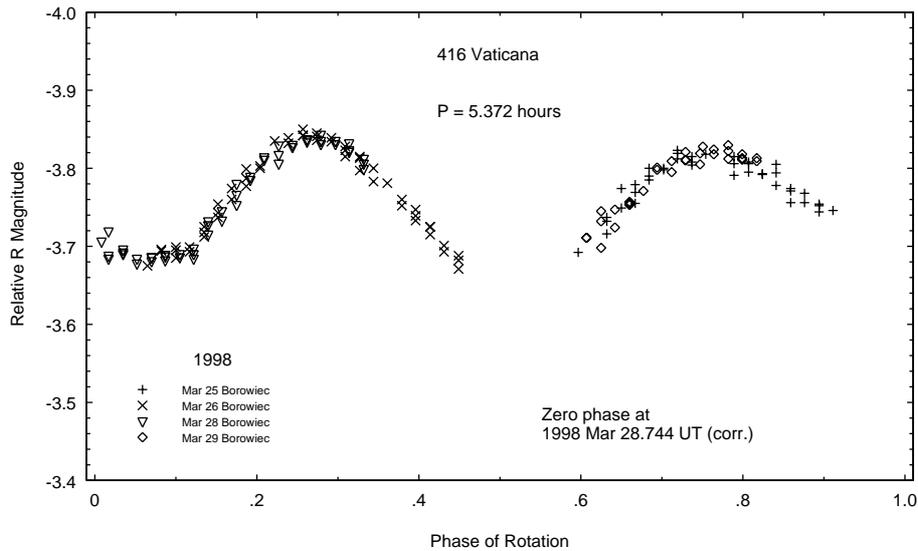


Fig. 6. Lightcurve of 416 Vaticana in 1998. The data from March 25 and 29 are shifted manually for better display

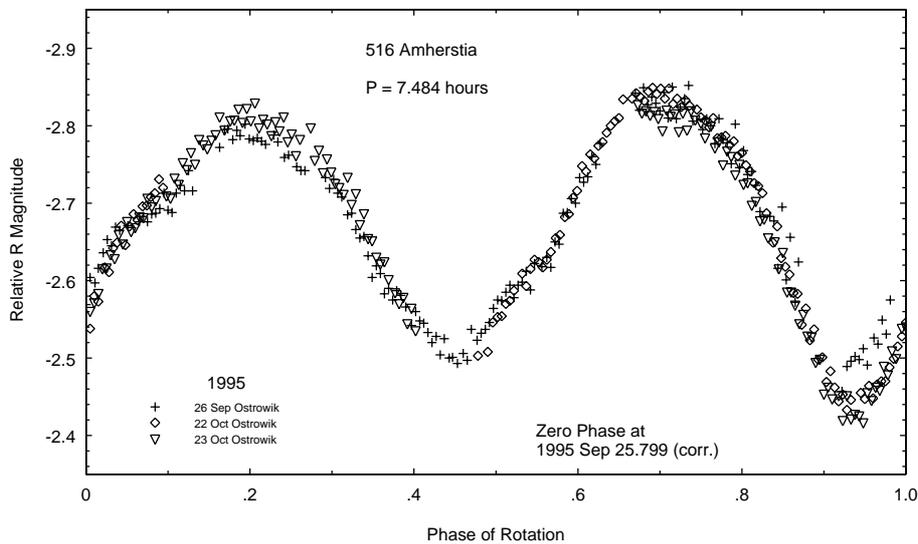


Fig. 7. Lightcurve of 516 Amherstia in 1995

obtained showed two maxima and two minima per rotational period. The lightcurves from Slivan & Binzel (1996) also confirm the period reported in the present paper. So, we can conclude that the synodical period of 7.763 hours is consistent with all available observations from seven oppositions (1977, 1983, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1993, 1995-96).

3. Pole and shape of the observed asteroids

The spin vectors, sidereal periods, and triaxial ellipsoid models for the observed asteroids were determined by the method described by Michałowski (1993). In this method the magnitudes, amplitudes, and epochs of maxima are considered. The results were obtained by building a set of nonlinear equations whose solution was found by least square fitting. The observed amplitudes and

magnitudes of the brightness maxima were reduced to zero phase angle by using the *amplitude-phase* (Zappala et al. 1990) and the *HG*-magnitude system (Bowell et al. 1989), respectively.

As described by Michałowski (1993), the method had two-fold ambiguity in the location of an asteroid pole when the sense of rotation was fixed. This problem was also discussed earlier in a review paper by Magnusson et al. (1989). They stated that by combining the solutions from *amplitude-magnitude* and *epoch* methods, it was sometimes possible to obtain a unique solution even though each individual method had failed to achieve this. However, they did not discuss when such situations were possible.

The method used in the present paper combines these methods (instead of solutions alone) in one process of

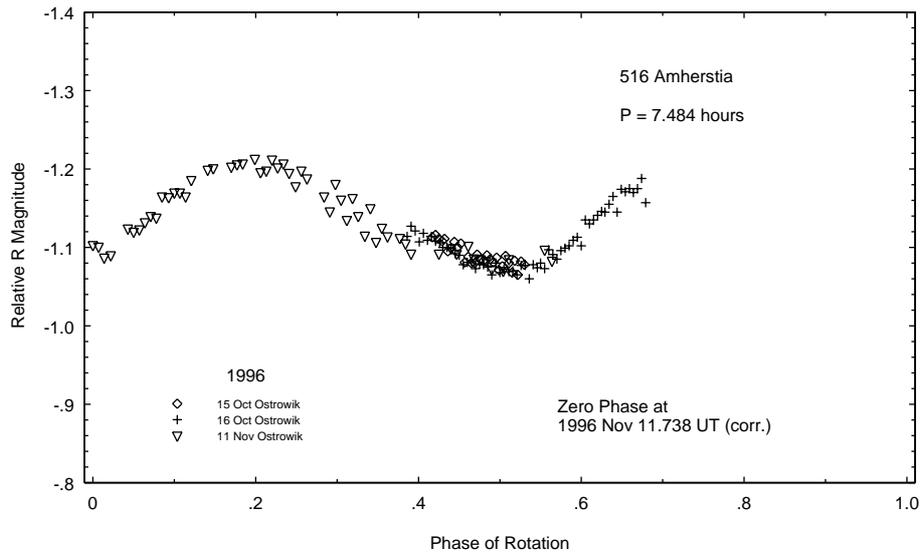


Fig. 8. Lightcurve of 516 Amherstia in 1996

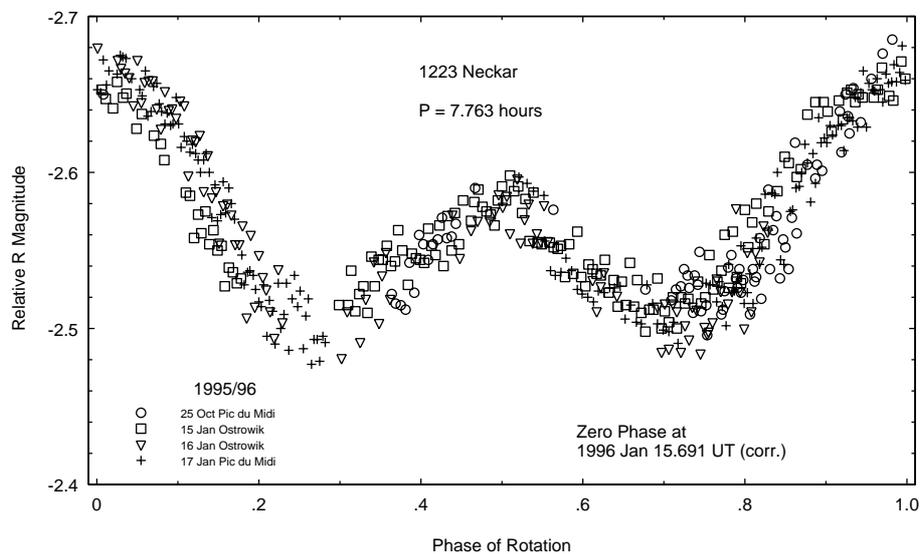


Fig. 9. Lightcurve of 1223 Neckar in 1995–96

Table 2. Asteroid parameters

Asteroid	$D(\text{km})$	$albedo$	Type	$H(90, 0)$	G	m
225 Henrietta	120	0.040	F	8.57	(0.04)	0.031
360 Carlova	116	0.054	C	8.13	(0.04)	(0.010)
416 Vaticana	85	0.169	S	7.84	0.30	0.026
516 Amherstia	73	0.163	M	8.09	(0.21)	0.038
1223 Neckar			S	10.61	(0.23)	0.017

calculation as mentioned above. From the results obtained here (see below) and in other papers (Michałowski 1993, 1996; Michałowski et al. 1995; Kryszczyńska et al. 1996) we can also state that in some cases it is possible to obtain a unique solution for the pole location. This possibility can sometimes occur when an asteroid is observed during a few oppositions and the ecliptic latitudes are within a

wide range of values (usually from about -20° to $+20^\circ$). An example of such an asteroid in the present work is 360 Carlova (see below). We have also noticed that for an asteroid which has always been observed in low ecliptic latitudes (e.g. 1223 Neckar from the present study), we have obtained two solutions for its pole coordinates and the two-fold ambiguity is not broken.

Table 3. Spin and shape models

Sidereal period (days)	Sense of rotation	Pole 1		Pole 2		a/b	b/c	Method	Reference
		λ_p	β_p	λ_p	β_p				
225 Henrietta									
		135° ±4°	13° ±6°			1.23 ±0.03	1.08 ±0.05	EAM	Present work
360 Carlova									
		108°	+51°	337°	+47°	1.57	1.00	EA	Dotto et al. (1995)
0.2578997 ±0.0000001	P	105° ±9°	+47° ±10°			1.42 ±0.02	1.52 ±0.11	EAM	Present work
416 Vaticana									
0.2238486 ±0.0000001	P	132° ±4°	+58° ±3°			1.55 ±0.01	1.20 ±0.02	EAM	Present work
0.2238486 ±0.0000002	P			310° ±7°	+22° ±6°	1.45 ±0.02	1.17 ±0.06	EAM	Present work
516 Amherstia									
		75° 76°	+63° +30°	256°	+55°	1.83 1.53	1.85 1.23	EA EAM	De Angelis (1995) Michałowski (1996)
0.3116334 ±0.0000003	P	75° ±5°	+17° ±3°			1.36 ±0.01	1.82 ±0.04	EAM	Present work
0.3116332 ±0.0000003	R	255° ±5°	-15° ±4°			1.36 ±0.01	1.81 ±0.04	EAM	Present work
1223 Neckar									
0.3232105 ±0.0000004	P	70° ±8°	+45° ±6°	255° ±7°	+42° ±6°	1.47 ±0.04	1.28 ±0.05	EAM	Present work

The basic parameters of the asteroids are summarized in Table 2. Their *IRAS* diameters (D) and albedos are taken from *The Small Bodies Node of the NASA Planetary Data System* (<http://pdssbn.astro.umd.edu/>), while the taxonomic types are from Tholen (1989). The maximum brightness of the asteroid obtained for aspect 90° and zero solar angle $H(90, 0)$ is shown in the next column. The last two columns display the G and m values obtained during reduction the magnitudes and amplitudes to zero phase angle, respectively. If the existing data were insufficient for such reduction, the average value for a given taxonomic type was taken: from Harris (1989) for G parameter and from Zappala et al. (1990) for m . The assumed values are given in parentheses. This table is not complete as the asteroid 1223 Neckar was not observed by the *IRAS* satellite.

Table 3 contains the spin and shape models for the asteroids studied in the present paper. This table shows the sidereal periods, the senses of rotation (P – prograde, R – retrograde), the ecliptic coordinates (equinox 2000) of the north poles, and the ratios a/b , b/c of triaxial ellipsoid models. The available results obtained by other authors are given for comparison. The methods, used for calculation, are also given (E – Epochs, A – Amplitude,

M – Magnitude). If no previous results are listed in Table 3, it means the results from the present work are the first published ones for a given asteroid.

3.1. 225 Henrietta

No model has been previously reported for this asteroid. We have used the data from four oppositions: 1982, 1983, 1987, and 1995. During these apparitions the ecliptic latitude of Henrietta ranged from -11° to $+29^\circ$. The results are presented in Table 3. The available data are insufficient for obtaining a unique solution for the sidereal period and sense of rotation. New observations are needed to improve the presented preliminary results.

3.2. 360 Carlova

Dotto et al. (1995) used the EA method and data from three oppositions (1979, 1984, 1986) and obtained a model of this asteroid (see Table 3). We were able to calculate the model of Carlova using the lightcurves from six apparitions: 1979, 1984, 1986, 1996, 1997, 1998 (ecliptic latitude from -15° to $+16^\circ$). The results are presented in Table 3.

We determined the sidereal period and the prograde rotation of this asteroid. The coordinates of the north pole are close to the first solution of Dotto et al. (1995) and a/b is a little smaller than that obtained by these authors. The difference in the ratios b/c obtained by Dotto et al. (1995) and in the present study is much greater. Dotto et al. (1995) used only the EA method and the A approach is not so good for b/c determination. The magnitude (M) method is a much better indicator for b/c and such a method has also been used in the present work (see Michałowski 1993 for details).

3.3. 416 Vaticana

There is no previously published model for this asteroid. We have lightcurves from 1985, 1989, 1995–96, and 1998. The unique value of the sidereal period and prograde sense of rotation have been obtained (see Table 3). The ecliptic latitudes of Vaticana during these four apparitions varied from -21° to $+18^\circ$ but the two-fold ambiguity still exists (see table). It is probably due to the small number of observed oppositions and the future observations should help to resolve this ambiguity.

3.4. 516 Amherstia

Using the lightcurves from three oppositions (1978, 1985, 1989), De Angelis (1995) and Michałowski (1996) obtained slightly different parameters, especially for the triaxial ellipsoid model (see Table 3). This problem was analyzed earlier by Michałowski (1996).

The data from five oppositions (1978, 1985, 1989, 1995, 1996) allowed us to determine a model of this asteroid (Table 3). Unfortunately, we have obtained two similar solutions for both prograde and retrograde senses of rotation (the ecliptic coordinates for these solutions indicate two poles of the same axis of rotation). It probably means that Amherstia has a spin vector located in the ecliptic plane. For such asteroids the sense of rotation is undefined.

3.5. 1223 Neckar

For this asteroid, the data obtained during seven apparitions (1977, 1983, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1993, 1995–96) are available. The model is given in Table 3. As the ecliptic latitude of Neckar is always close to zero (from -3° to $+4^\circ$ during previous oppositions), two solutions for the north pole have been obtained. The available lightcurves have allowed us to obtain the unique value for the sidereal

period and the prograde sense of rotation. The results presented here are the first ones published for 1223 Neckar.

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