

PHOTOELECTRIC OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS OF VARIABILITY OF THE β CEPHEI-TYPE STAR KP PERSEI

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RESUMEN

Se presentan observaciones fotoeléctricas de la estrella variable tipo β Cephei, KP Persei, hechas en 1977 y 1978 en los observatorios astronómicos de Zacatecas y de San Pedro Mártir. La fotometría se efectuó en el sistema B (algunas noches en UB o UBV).

Se ha hecho un análisis de frecuencia. Los resultados indican la existencia de tres componentes con los períodos $P_1 = 0^d.201779$, $P_2 = 0^d.198085$, y $P_3 = 0^d.227099$.

ABSTRACT

Photoelectric observations of the β Cephei-type variable, KP Persei, made in 1977 and 1978 in Zacatecas and San Pedro Mártir are presented. The photometry was performed mainly in the B system and some nights also in the UB or UBV .

A frequency analysis of the blue photometry was carried out. Three sine-wave components with periods $P_1 = 0^d.201779$, $P_2 = 0^d.198085$, and $P_3 = 0^d.227099$ were found.

Key words: PHOTOMETRY – STARS-PULSATION – STARS-VARIABLES.

I. INTRODUCTION

KP Persei = HR 1072 = HD 21803 ($V = 6^m.40$, B2 IV) belongs to the group of β Cephei-type variables. Its variations in luminosity were discovered two decades ago by Lynds (1959), who found a period of $0^d.20 = 4^h.48^m$. Spectroscopic observations by Struve and Zebergs (1959) revealed velocity variations with the same period.

Photometric measurements of KP Persei were subsequently made by Magalashvili and Kumsishvili

(1962) and by Rossati (1963, 1967). The latter author considers the star to be a W UMa variable and describes its light variability as having a period of $0^d.4038$. However, since the radial velocity period amounts to about half this value, Rossati's interpretation is open to doubt.

Further observational data on the light variations of KP Persei were provided by Klock (1965) and by Joshi (1966). In 1964 and 1965 the star was investigated by Jerzykiewicz (1971).

In the present paper new photometric measurements

TABLE I
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JD.	-Δm	JD.	-Δm	JD.	-Δm	JD.	-Δm	JD.	-Δm	JD.	-Δm	JD.	-Δm		
2443494+		d 7345	0.724	d 7392	0.797	2443514+		d 6438	1.077	d 6938	1.107	d 5701	0.990	2443590+	
d 2868	0.762	7691	0.727	7331	1.010	u 5556	1.053	6465	1.082	6925	1.120	5736	0.941	d 5663	1.036
2882	0.968	7843	0.693	7670	1.025	5564	1.041	6563	1.045	7090	1.104	5854	0.994	5708	1.033
6038	0.966	7982	0.693	7810	1.044	5694	1.063	6590	1.052	7125	1.122	5897	0.963	5738	1.037
6112	0.963	8097	0.687	7962	1.056	5778	1.045	6715	1.029	7250	1.072	5993	0.974	5805	1.032
6208	0.968					5910	1.043	6861	1.019	7382	1.092	6118	0.980	5860	1.028
6332	0.982	2443496+		v 5380	0.775	5991	1.045	6966	1.021	7424	1.094	6146	0.968	5920	1.025
6390	0.977	d 5753	0.992	5698	0.792	6153	1.076	7063	1.090			6290	0.977	5980	1.038
6445	1.016	5932	0.971	5822	0.786	6194	1.063	7097	1.066	d 5917	1.011	6285	0.990	6066	1.022
6549	1.023	6100	0.964	5935	0.796	6326	1.086	7243	1.090	6104	1.042	6396	1.014	6120	1.016
6618	1.022	6247	0.973	6170	0.782	6394	1.101	7285	1.102	6368	1.046	6438	1.020	6167	1.009
6698	1.043	6385	0.984	6295	0.752	6549	1.147			6410	1.037	6593	1.052	6222	0.988
6764	1.046	6593	0.999	6407	0.724	6576	1.142	d 5799	1.070	6514	1.028	6625	1.042	6276	0.992
6830	1.054			6531	0.724	6797	1.172	5810	1.055	6542	1.006	6750	1.054	6326	0.976
6928	1.061	2443504+		6711	0.701	6792	1.183	5944	1.058	6660	1.016	6875	1.053	6440	0.975
7057	1.057			6830	0.694	6910	1.187	6042	1.058	6694	1.039	6927	1.060	6499	0.977
7125	1.059	u 5486	1.086	6941	0.715	6944	1.178	6069	1.040	6833	1.031	7083	1.041	6532	0.963
7215	1.042	5933	1.125	7080	0.710	7174	1.158	6188	1.028	6868	0.988	7118	1.018	6604	0.954
7282	1.026	5683	1.141	7280	0.721	7208	1.147	6215	1.030	7000	0.986	7271	0.985	6667	0.953
7368	1.010	5768	1.128	7316	0.731	7361	1.086	6319	0.994	7153	0.990			6736	0.948
7473	0.982	5802	1.170	7435	0.740	7389	1.072	6347	1.013	7194	1.020	2443540+		6800	0.964
7580	0.987	5933	1.184	7580	0.769			6500	0.998	7240	1.002	d 5951	0.942	6900	0.970
7697	0.977	5975	1.191	7718	0.790	d 5660	0.970	6528	0.945	7325	1.004	6035	0.944	6931	0.985
7740	0.968	6180	1.166	7885	0.812	5626	0.947	6532	0.961			6070	0.945		
7803	0.952	6218	1.154	8004	0.801	5660	0.947	6660	0.947	2443532+		6140	0.954	2443552+	
7890	0.944	6475	1.091	8128	0.793	5861	0.952	6778	0.955	d 5882	0.966	6180	0.954	d 5605	1.019
7965	0.951	6545	1.080			6000	0.945	6813	0.945	5986	0.975	6208	0.963	5667	1.020
8006	0.936	6670	1.052	2443507+		6042	0.945	6846	0.945	6078	0.968	6278	0.963	5737	1.027
8128	0.963	6733	1.045	d 5486	1.117	6243	0.970	6886	0.948	6095	0.971	6326	0.966	5788	1.031
8200	0.973	6920	1.020	5542	1.116	6278	0.996	7160	0.999	6125	0.983	6382	0.967	5840	1.033
8285	0.970	6955	1.030	5702	1.146	6410	1.000	7194	0.976	6180	0.983	6455	0.977	5885	1.025
8368	1.003	7114	1.035	5702	1.146	6491	0.997	7347	1.010	6257	0.986	6514	0.982	5986	1.029
8438	1.007	7285	1.085	6132	1.163	6567	1.038	7375	1.040	6514	0.983	6570	0.987	6066	1.033
8514	1.014	7448	1.085	6201	1.090	6681	1.050			6528	0.998	6632	0.989	6120	1.016
		7483	1.102	6386	1.134	6826	1.062	2443528+		6597	1.003	6680	0.993	6202	1.025
2443495+		7608	1.122	6518	1.088	6861	1.059			6687	0.993	6715	1.000	6290	0.977
d 5701	0.960	7642	1.134	6590	1.094	7042	1.042	u 5815	1.155	6745	0.997	6750	1.001	6326	0.999
5771	0.955	7674	1.136	6704	1.055	7076	1.038	5819	1.160	6819	0.992	6861	1.003	6382	0.966
5875	0.943	7802	1.152	6740	1.098	7237	1.008	5958	1.143	6868	0.991	6910	1.006	6426	0.983
5990	0.955	7955	1.184	6913	1.067	7299	0.988	6009	1.162	6930	0.988	6944	1.008	6499	0.977
6083	0.951	8130	1.175	7065	1.052	7479	0.992	6155	1.149	7021	0.978	7000	1.005	6570	0.978
6170	0.953	8132	1.169	7197	1.060	7515	0.982	6190	1.138	7160	0.970	7097	1.003	6604	0.954
6253	0.956	8166	1.159	7222	1.072			6215	1.112	7222	0.972	7167	1.001	6667	0.953
6326	0.957			7375	1.084	2443517+		6257	1.115	7292	0.966	7208	0.995	6736	0.948
6475	0.973	d 5545	0.998	7407	1.089	5503	1.077	6303	1.077	7347	0.963	7257	0.990	6800	0.964
6545	0.983	5640	1.035	7572	1.131	u 5507	1.103	6351	1.069	7424	0.965	7292	0.987	6868	0.982
6695	1.015	5712	1.036	7608	1.131	5535	1.113	6397	1.086	7480	0.970	7347	0.981	6931	0.985
6776	1.023	5844	1.046	7736	1.140	5674	1.077	6432	1.073	7505	0.971	7390	0.978	7000	1.005
6895	1.030	5985	1.060	7857	1.176	5694	1.070	6471	1.058	7567	0.969	7460	0.975	7097	1.003
7007	1.036	6080	1.051	7982	1.170	5875	1.049	6526	1.064	7785	0.971	7528	0.966	7167	1.009
7100	1.017	6122	1.063	8017	1.164	5903	1.051	6545	1.061	7840	0.974	7570	0.962	7240	0.950
7215	1.020	6226	1.000			6042	1.043	6575	1.061	7917	0.961	7640	0.950	7325	1.004
7272	1.008	6246	1.005	d 5590	1.025	6069	1.043	6597	1.072	7980	0.977	7674	0.952	7368	0.948
7455	0.975	6282	0.996	5646	1.041	6239	1.057	6613	1.077	8042	0.977	7743	0.945	7402	1.156
7534	0.998	6322	0.946	6247	1.046	6264	1.073	6614	1.002			7777	0.945	7446	1.174
7608	0.985	6388	0.946	6300	1.046	6403	1.093	6614	1.002	2443533+		7800	1.001	7498	1.191
7730	0.954	6438	1.012	6438	1.012	6438	1.012	6614	1.002	d 5676	0.947	7840	0.968	7542	1.069
7819	0.956	6500	1.009	6591	1.014	6597	1.126	6620	1.035	5676	0.970	7880	0.971	7588	1.038
7896	0.950	6580	1.005	6615	1.006	6625	1.130	6647	1.002	5736	0.941	7920	0.974	7632	1.172
7967	0.954	6622	0.997	6657	1.006	6792	1.163	6614	1.002	5810	0.962	7960	0.968	7674	1.191
8045	0.959	6726	0.972	6808	0.946	6819	1.166	6648	0.997	5919	0.983	8000	0.970	7700	1.005
8125	0.960	6758	1.010	6860	0.955	6952	1.177	6686	0.979	6046	0.985	8040	0.971	7740	1.013
8215	0.946	6758	1.030	7115	0.961	7014	1.174	6698	0.979	6124	1.007	8080	0.978	7780	1.017
8278	0.942	7225	1.042	7149	0.974	7139	1.147	7023	0.960	6180	1.001	8120	0.978	7820	1.021
		7258	1.047	7268	0.999	7167	1.142	7176	0.961	6257	0.986	8160	0.981	7860	1.025
2443496+		7347	1.045	7312	0.986	7319	1.121	7225	0.997	6285	0.985	8200	0.985	7900	1.029
u 5593	1.061	7465	1.074	7347	1.018	7347	1.018			6326	0.986	8240	0.986	7940	1.033
5768	1.043	8038	1.069	7500	1.003	7514	1.096	2443530+		6360	0.987	8280	0.987	7980	1.037
5931	1.047	8230	1.028	7657	1.034	7542	1.076	u 5944	1.121	6390	0.987	8320	0.987	8020	1.041
6100	1.047	8268	1.015	7690	1.021	7688	1.072	5944	1.118	6410	0.970	8360	0.987	8060	1.045
6260	1.063			7706	1.038	7715	1.067	5964	1.113	6432	0.971	8400	0.987	8100	1.049
6427	1.075	2443505+		7748	1.044	8072	1.049	5983	1.107	6454	0.971	8440	0.987	8140	1.053
6576	1.102	u 5470	1.109					5611	0.991	6476	0.971	8480	0.987	8180	1.057
6810	1.141	5622	1.126	2443511+				5737	0.977	6498	0.971	8520	0.987	8220	1.061
6961	1.159	5747	1.145	d 5800	0.955			5792	0.954	6520	0.971	8560	0.987	8260	1.065
7108	1.172	5864	1.167	5915	0.978	5979	0.955	5951	0.953	6542	0.971	8600	0.987	8300	1.069
7282	1.140	5969	1.164	6032	0.991	6111	0.953	5979	0.955	6564	0.971	8640	0.987	8340	1.073
7600	1.080	6080	1.161	6145	1.000	6146	0.964	6032	0.977	6586	0.971	8680	0.987	8380	1.077
7740	1.056	6212	1.128												

are provided and an analysis of the light variability is carried out.

II. OBSERVATIONS

The star was investigated on 25 nights (24 nights between 1977 December 17 and 1978 February 14, and on one night in December 1978). Most of the observations (21 nights) were secured in the astronomical observatory at Cerro de la Virgen in Zacatecas (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas). On four nights the observations were made in the Observatorio Astronómico Nacional in San Pedro Mártir, Baja California Norte (UNAM).

The Zacatecas equipment consisted of a 50-cm telescope, at the Cassegrain focus of which a "Pacific"

digital photometer was attached. An unrefrigerated IP21 photomultiplier tube was used as the light receiving unit. At the Observatorio Astronómico Nacional the observations were made with a 84-cm telescope, equipped with a conventional photometer containing a IP21 tube, refrigerated with dry ice.

The observations were made with standard *UBV* filters. On thirteen nights the measurements were performed with the *B* filter only, on ten nights with *U* and *B*, and on two nights with all three filters.

The atmospheric extinction coefficient was determined on several nights. The values of this coefficient—similar for Zacatecas and San Pedro Mártir—were of the order of 0.5, 0.25, and 0.1 magnitude per air mass in *U*, *B*, and *V*, respectively. An example of the determination of extinction is shown in Figure 1.

Two comparison stars were observed: HD 21448 ($V = 7^m 15$, B3), and HD 21455 = HR 1047 ($V = 6^m 24$, B5 V). On six nights, viz. on JD 2443000 + 496, + 498, + 504, + 505, + 507, and + 862, only the first one was observed. On the remaining 19 nights the observations were made with both comparison stars. There was very good agreement between results obtained on any given night with either one of the comparison stars. Therefore, we concluded that these two objects are constant in light, and that the observational material collected on the six nights when only one comparison star was utilized is of the same quality as the material secured on the remaining nights, when the two comparison stars were used.

We obtained about 1800 magnitude differences "variable minus comparison". All observations were next reduced to the first comparison star, and mean values of two or four successive magnitude differences were taken. Consequently, each of the 807 data points, listed in Table 1 as Δm , represents a mean magnitude difference in the sense "KP Per minus HD 21448". These data are plotted as a function of heliocentric Julian Day in Figure 2.

III. THE LIGHT VARIATIONS

From the inspection of the light-curves one can see that in the ultraviolet the amplitudes are markedly larger than in the blue. There is, however, no distinct difference between the amplitudes in the blue and the visible. On an average, the *U* light ranges are nearly 30% larger than the *B* ranges. The *B/V* amplitude ratio amounts to about 1.05.

The *U*, *B*, and *V* times of light maxima (minima) coincide. On some nights, however, there is evidence for the *U* extremes to occur before the corresponding *B* extremes. Similar slight differences (of the order of

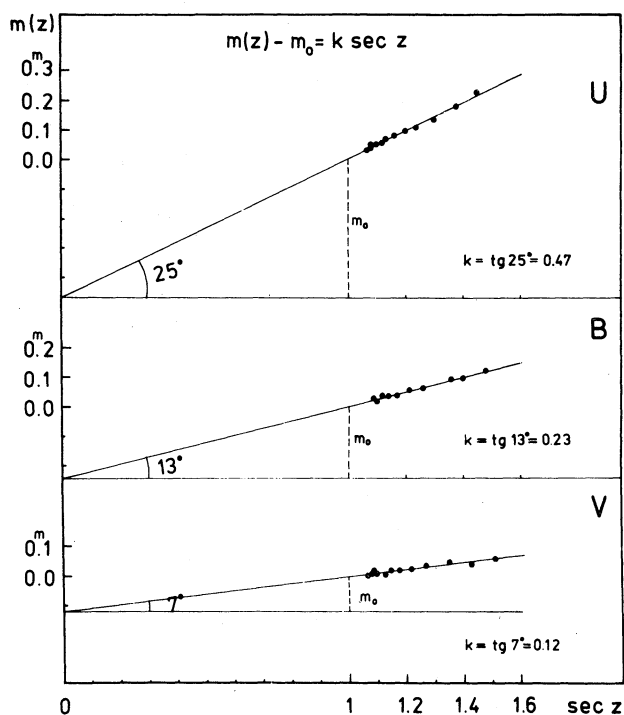


Fig. 1. The determination of the atmospheric extinction coefficient, k , in *U*, *B* and *V* for Zacatecas on 1977 December 28. The Bouguer method was applied. It consists in observing a star at different zenith distances. The current observations of the comparison star were used. The values $m(z)$, plotted as a function of $\sec z$, are magnitudes of the star expressed in relation to their extreme values at culmination (the scale is shifted in order to have $m(0) = 0$). The vertical segments, shown in dashed lines, represent (in this system) the magnitudes outside the atmosphere, m_0 .

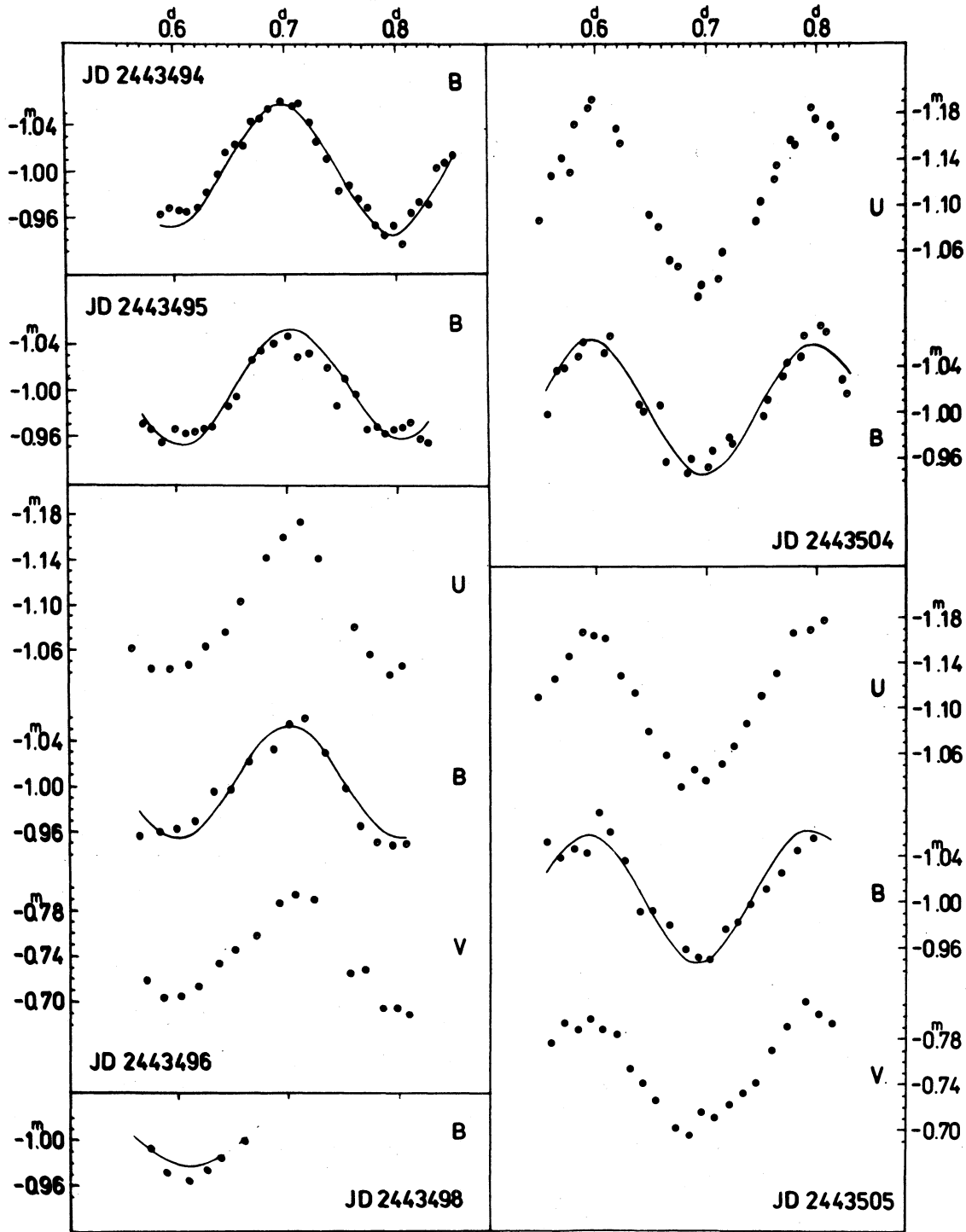


Fig. 2a. The *UVB*, *UB*, and *B* light-curves of KP Persei. Solid lines are segments of the three-component synthetic light-curve, the parameters of which are listed in Table 2. For JD 2443862 the synthetic light-curve was derived as described in the text.

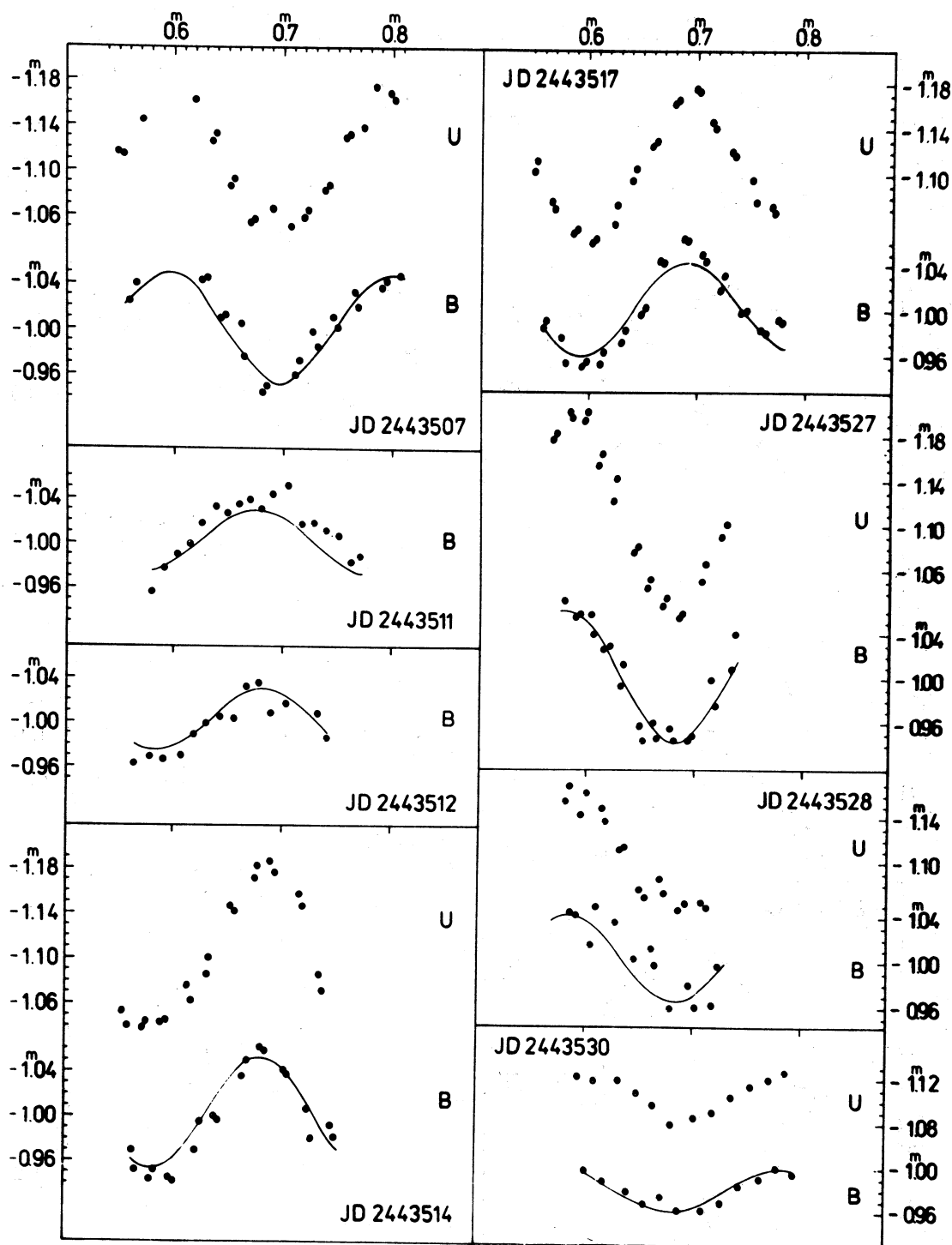


Fig. 2b. Same as Figure 2a.

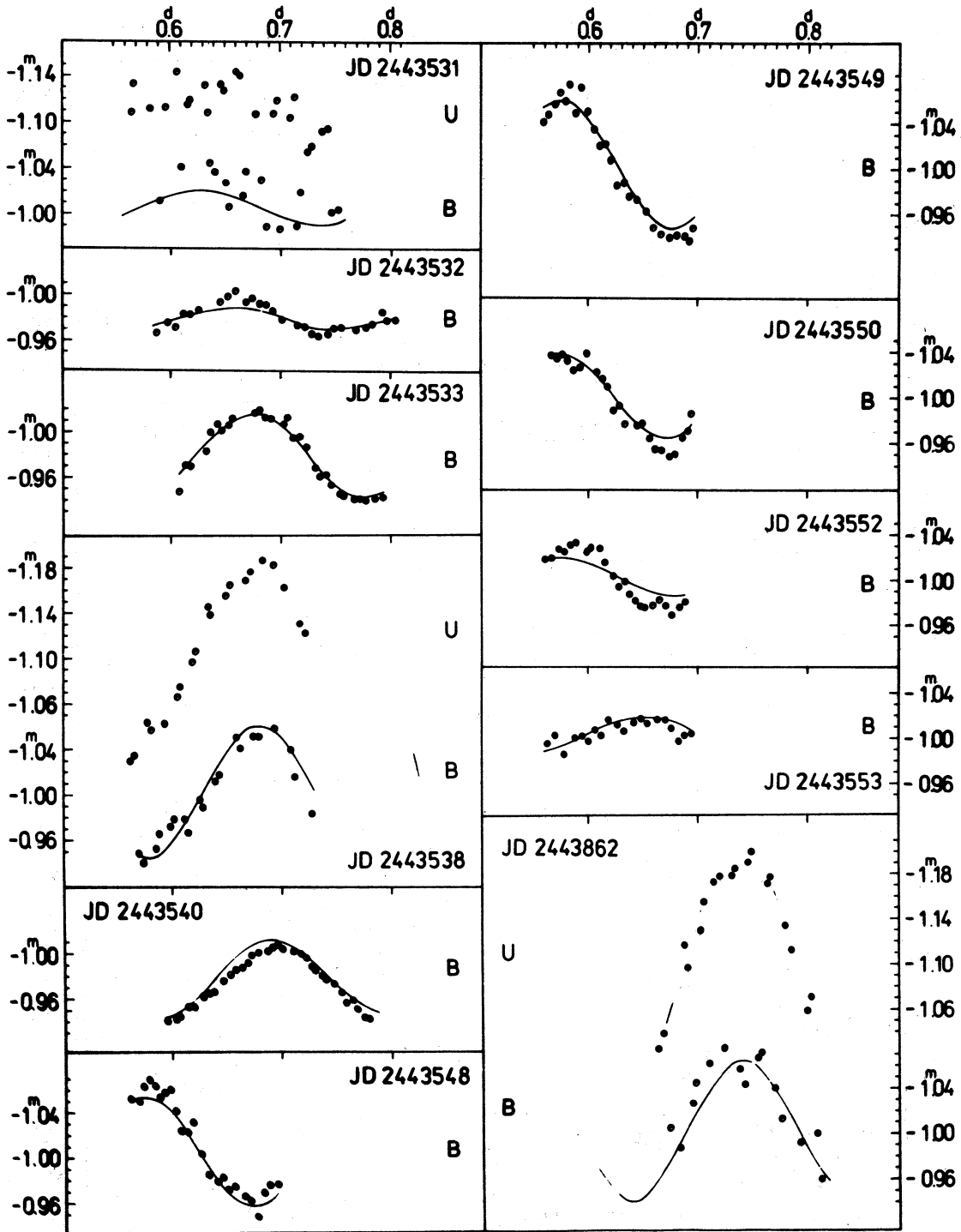


Fig. 2c. Same as Figure 2a.

two minutes) between the U and B maxima have been reported earlier by Jerzykiewicz (1971).

There are considerable changes in the amplitudes of the light variation (notice, e.g., the progressive decrease of the amplitude from JD 2443549 to 2443553). The extreme B light ranges amount to 0.12 and 0.03. In Fig. 3 the light ranges are plotted against the Julian Day. The plot suggests a cyclic variation with a period of 10.83 days. This value agrees with the 10^d85 beat-period found by Jerzykiewicz (1971), and with the 11-day cycle suggested by Klock (1965). Our observations, however, cannot be represented by the 17-day beat-period reported by Joshi (1966).

The primary period in the light variation of KP Persei can be estimated from the observed epochs of maximum light. There is a distinct maximum on JD 2443862.734, and ten well marked maxima, occurring about one year earlier on JD 2443000 + 494.696, + 495.700, + 496.706, + 504.598, + 514.686, + 517.690, + 538.679, + 548.580, + 549.582, and + 552.590. From these data we derive the primary period $P_1 = 0^d201775 \pm 0^d000005$. This value agrees to within one standard deviation with that of $0^d20175 \pm 0^d000003$, as obtained by Jerzykiewicz (1971).

The secondary period cannot be derived unambiguously from P_1 and the above-mentioned beat-period of 10^d83 . We get either $P_2 = 0^d198084$ or $P_2 = 0^d205606$. The question of which of these two possibilities is the case will be answered in the next section.

An inspection of the data reveals that a satisfactory representation of the light variability of KP Persei requires more than two sine-wave components. This can be seen from Figure 3.

If the light variation of the star were due to a simple beat-phenomenon, the light ranges would show strict periodicity, and the scatter in the figure would have to be much less than actually observed. Multi-periodicity is also evident from the sequence of the light-curves in Figure 2 between JD 2443549 and 2443553. On the first three nights the light maxima fall about $n \times 0^d2$ apart (where n is a whole number), as would be expected from the value of P_1 and the fact that the beat-period is rather long. However, on JD 2443553 the epoch of the light maximum deviates by about 0^d07 from this description.

IV. FREQUENCY ANALYSIS

It has been recently found by Jerzykiewicz and Mysior (1980) that at least three sine-wave components are present in the light variation of KP Persei. From a frequency analysis of Jerzykiewicz's 1964 and 1965 blue-colour observations they determined the following values of the primary, secondary, and tertiary periods: $P_1 = 0^d20177$, $P_2 = 0^d19808$, and $P_3 = 0^d22711$. Similar values of the periods were also obtained by these authors from a combination of 1963 and 1964 observations of Klock (1965) and Rossati (1967).

The analysis of the present observational material was based on the B magnitude photometry listed in Table 1. It has been restricted to the observational season of 1977/78, spanning an interval of 59 days. The separate night of JD 2443862 was omitted; we also rejected the observations of JD 2443498, 2443528, and 2443531 because of the low quality of the data. Thus the material of 21 nights, comprising 481 data-points, was left for analysis.

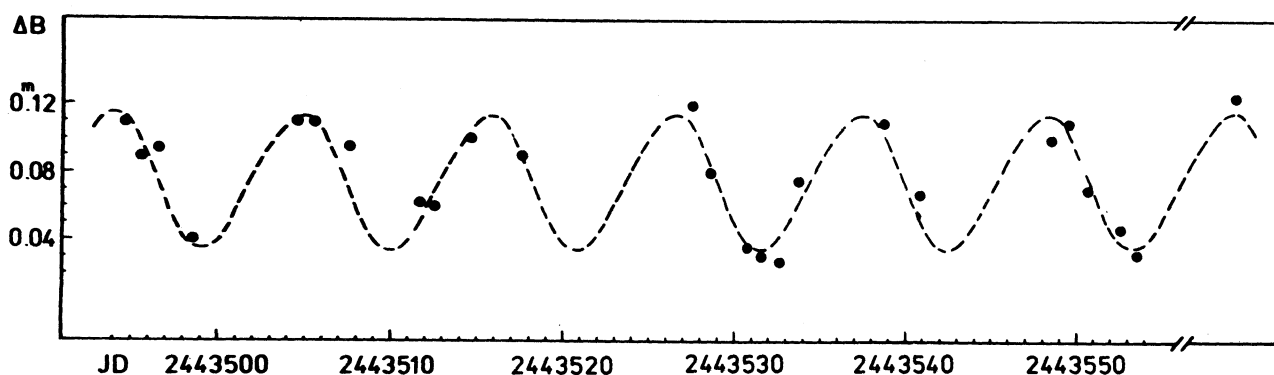


Fig. 3. The B light ranges of KP Persei, plotted as a function of date. The dashed curve corresponds to a period of 10.83 days. The last point represents the observation at JD 2443862, reduced with this period.

TABLE 2

THE PARAMETERS OF THE SYNTHETIC LIGHT-CURVE OF KP PERSEI IN THE BLUE LIGHT

i	f_i (c/d)	P_i	A_i	ϕ_i (rad)
1	4.9559	0 ^d 20178	0 ^m 0323 ± .0007	0.115 ±.023
2	5.0492	0.19805	0 .0235 ± .0007	- 0.102 ±.031
3	4.4043	0.22705	0 .0072 ± .0007	4.34 ±.10
A_0 (Zacatecas)		= - 1 ^m 0029 ± 0 ^m 0005		
A_0 (San Pedro Márti)		= - 0 ^m 9788 ± 0 ^m 0005		
		T = 2443000 ^d 0		
Standard deviation		= 0 ^m .0011		

Our analysis confirmed the above-mentioned results of Jerzykiewicz and Mysior. We obtained the following values for the periods: $P_1 = 0^d20178$, $P_2 = 0^d19805$, $P_3 = 0^d22705$. They agree to within the expected uncertainties with the values we derived in the preceding section by using the epochs of maxima. The secondary period is thus the shorter one of the two values determined from P_1 and the 10^d83 beat-period. The values of P_1 , P_2 , and P_3 were used to fit our B observations by the method of least-squares to the following synthetic light-curve:

$$\Delta m = A_0 + \sum_{i=1}^3 A_i \cos [2\pi f_i(t - T) + \varphi_i],$$

where $f_i = 1/P_i$ are the frequencies, A_i are the amplitudes, and φ_i are the initial phases. The results are listed in Table 2 and compared with observations in Figure 2. The listed periods were obtained from a two-month season of observations. Therefore they are not accurate enough to try to represent the single night of JD 2443862. However, by combining the observations of Rossati (1967), Klock (1965), Jerzykiewicz (1971), and our data we found that the best values of the periods are $P_1 = 0^d2017786$, $P_2 = 0^d1980855$, $P_3 = 0^d2270986$. Using these numbers and the amplitudes and initial phases from Table 2 we computed a synthetic light-curve for the above-mentioned night. It is compared with observations in the last panel of Figure 2. The agreement is satisfactory.

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