LONG-TERM VARIABILITY OF QUASI-STELLAR OBJECTS, AND THEIR DISTRIBUTION IN THE HUBBLE DIAGRAM

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Summary

A stochastic model for the energy source of QSO's is used to fit the light curves of 43 objects taken from long-period photometry (minimum duration of observations, 8 years per object). The model fits are encouraging enough to allow us to derive absolute luminosities for individual QSO's and to re-plot the Hubble Diagram with the values thus computed. We find a significantly improved fit to the expected unit slope in the plot of log z against $1/5(m_B - M_B)$, and a best fit value of $q_o = 0.1$ (± 0.4).

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