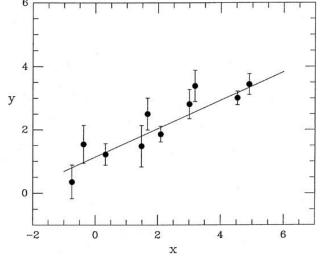
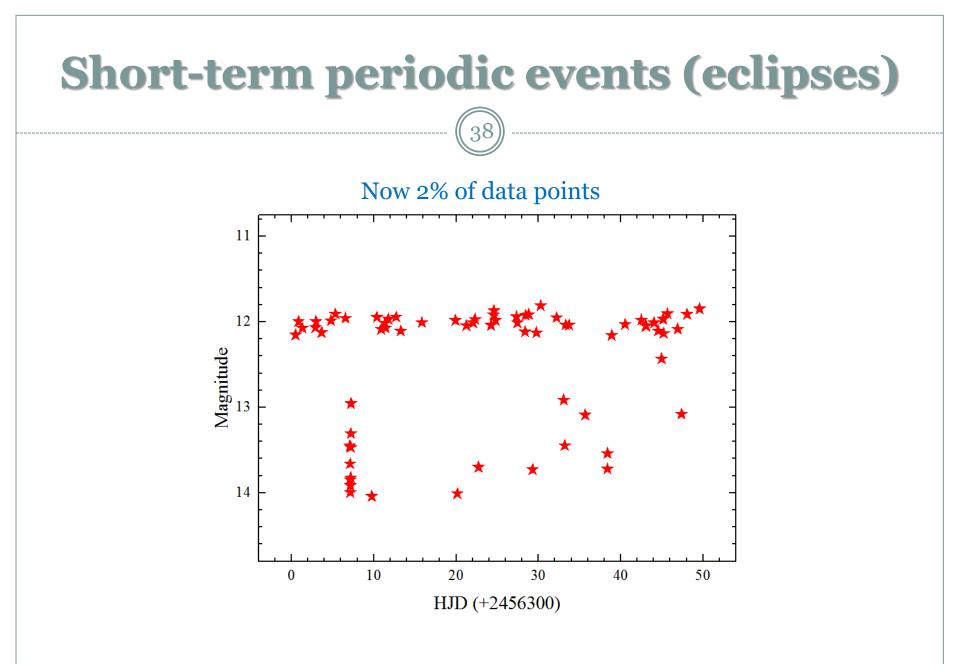


Method of least-squares

- One of the most common tasks in observational astronomy is to derive the "best" numerical relationship between observable quantities, where some or all of the data that you are analyzing contain measuring errors.
- The most widely used and best understood tool is the "method of least-squares."
 - We want to find the straight line of the form y = mx + b that "best" describes our data set, which consists of the N observed data points (x₁, y₁), ..., (x_N, y_N). Data points contain errors: ε_i = mx_i + b y_i
 - The principle of least squares leads to the minimization of

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i^2$$

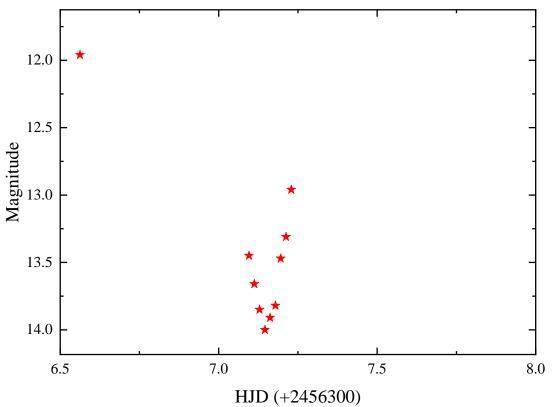


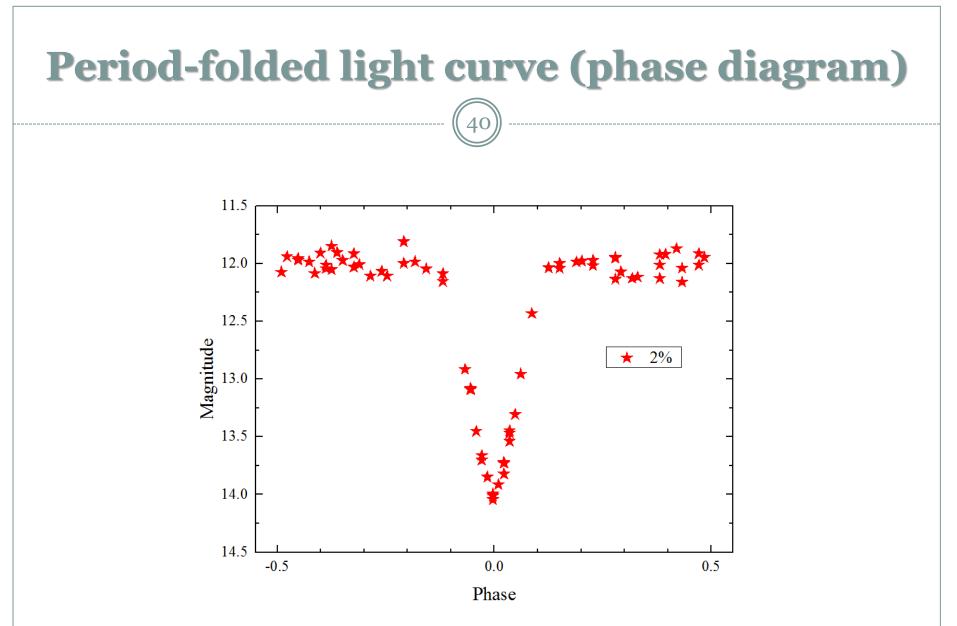


Short-term periodic events (eclipses)

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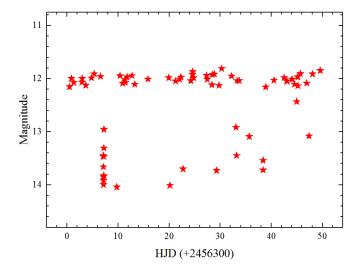
Zoom in to the best covered eclipse





If you know the period and fold with it, the phase diagram looks pretty.

Short-term periodic events (eclipses)



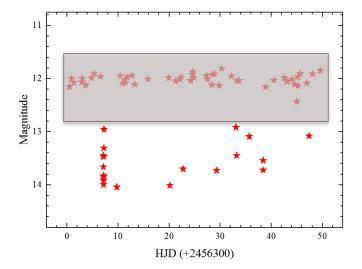
What is the period?

+2456300 +2456300 0.49583 12.15 24.59583 11.87 0.84583 12.00 24.79583 11.98 1.31250 12.07 27.32917 11.94 2.91250 12.07 27.44583 12.01 3.66250 12.13 28.37917 12.12	nitude
0.4958312.1524.5958311.870.8458312.0024.7958311.981.3125012.0727.3291711.942.9125012.0727.4458312.013.6625012.1328.3791712.12	
0.8458312.0024.7958311.981.3125012.0727.3291711.942.9125012.0727.4458312.013.6625012.1328.3791712.12	
4.79583 11.99 28.44583 11.92 5.32917 11.91 28.82917 11.92 6.56250 11.96 29.27917 13.73 7.09583 13.45 29.74583 12.13 7.11250 13.66 30.27917 11.81 7.12917 13.85 32.21250 11.95 7.14583 14.00 33.06250 12.92 7.16250 13.91 33.19583 13.45 7.17917 13.82 33.31250 12.04 7.19583 13.47 35.67917 13.09 7.21250 13.31 38.39583 13.54 9.74583 14.04 38.91250 12.16 10.37917 11.95 40.52917 12.03 10.89583 12.02 43.04583 12.04 12.71250 11.94 44.04583 12.01 13.27917 12.11 44.52917 12.11 15.84583 12.01 44.96250 12.43 19.91250 11.98 45.14583 11.97 20.14583 14.01 45.21250 12.13 21.24583 12.04 45.67917 11.90 22.29583 11.97 46.91250 12.08 22.71250 13.70 47.37917 13.08	

Download from the course web page

Short-term periodic events (eclipses)

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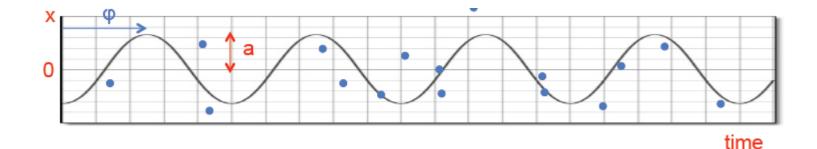
HJD	Magnitude	T[i]-T[i-1]
+2456300		
7.14583 9.74583 20.14583 22.71250 29.27917 33.19583 35.67917 38.37917 47.37917	14.00 14.04 14.01 13.70 13.73 13.45 13.09 13.72 13.08	- 2.600 10.400 2.567 6.567 3.917 2.483 2.700 9.000

What is the period?

Curve-Fitting Approach

• The simplest periodic data are those consisting of a single cosine (sine) wave:

 $x(t) = a \cos (\omega t - \varphi) = A \cos \omega t + B \sin \omega t$

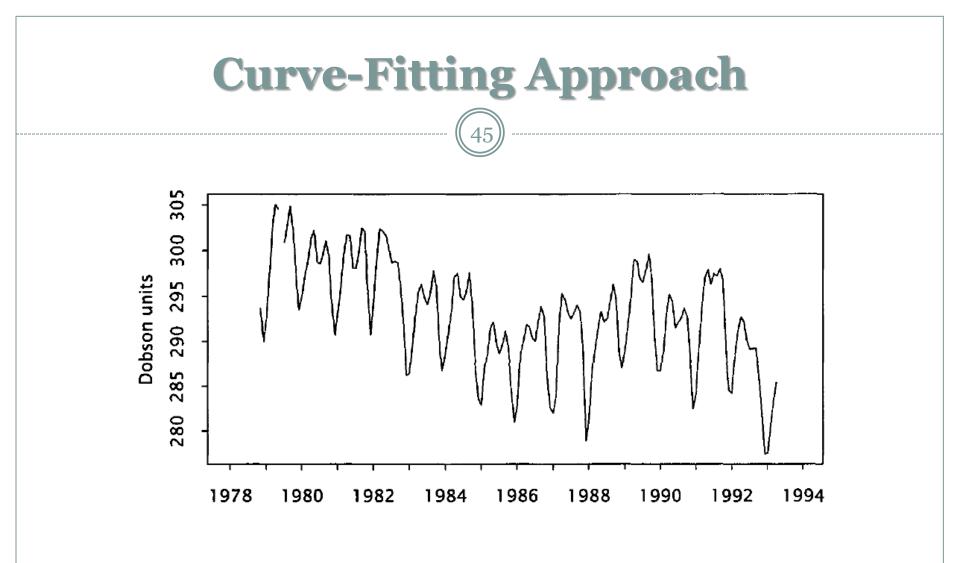




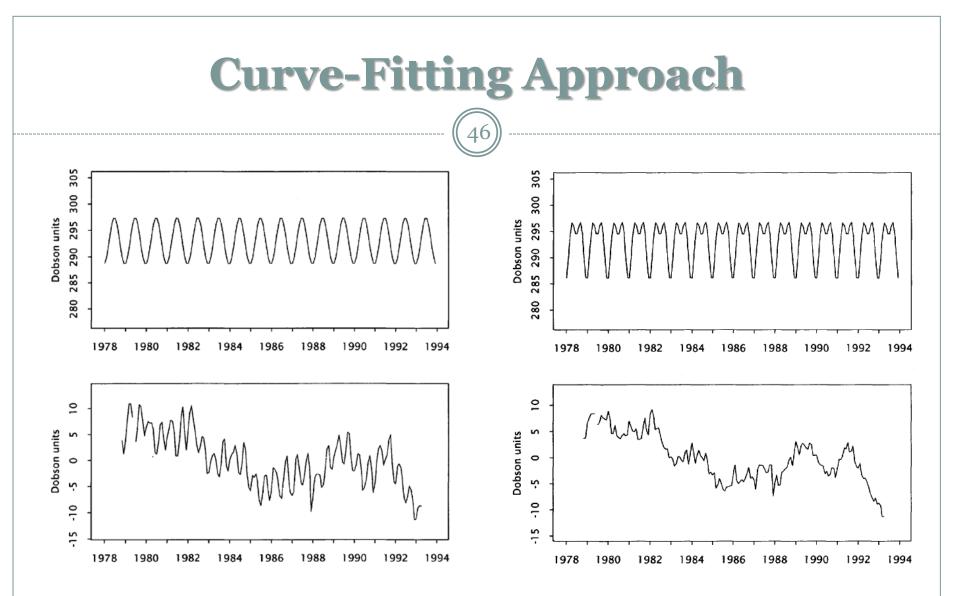
• The basic relation:

$$Frequency = \frac{1}{Period}$$
 or $\nu = \frac{1}{P}$

- If the Period is in seconds, then Frequency will be in Herz [Hz]
- If the Period is in days, then Frequency will be in 1/day [Cycles per day]
- Angular frequency $\omega = 2\pi v$ [radiands per second]



Monthly average total ozone levels, 65° S to 65° N



Fitting one (left) and two (right) sinusoids with **known** periods. If the period is unknown then the fitting is not simple.