Small bodies of the solar system

Lecture by Klaus Jockers, Göttingen, winter term 2004/2005

- Why small bodies? Small bodies are "pristine".
- Brief outline of our present understanding of solar system formation
- Small bodies: meteors and meteorites, asteroids, planetary satellites, comets and Kuiper belt objects
- Selection of topics depends to some extent on my research interest and is not exhaustive.
- Important textbook: Imke de Pater and Jack j. Lissauer: Planetary Sciences, Cambride Univ. Press 2001



Asteroids

Orbits and their evolution Ground-based observations

- Radiometry
- Photometric light curves
- Polarimetry of scattered light
- Radar

 Mass and density determination
 Size distribution and collisional evolution
 Surface composition, relation to meteorites, taxonomy and spatial distribution of taxonomic classes
 Surface structure from remote, disk-integrated observations
 Images of the surface of asteroids with spaceborn cameras
 Origin and evolution of the asteroid belt



Orbital elements

Time of perihelion passage *T*perihelion distance *q*excentricity *e*inclination *i*argument of perihelion ω
node Ω

Osculating elements and their epoch Periodic and secular perturbations



#	Name	Diam. (km)	Tax. Class	a (AU)	e	i (deg)	Ω (deg)	ω (deg)	M (deg)	Period (yr)	Rotatic (hr)
1	Ceres	933	G?	2.769	0.0780	10.61	80.0	71.2	287.3	4.607	9.075
2	Pallas	525		2.770	0.2347	34.81	172.6	309.8	273.8	4.611	7.811
4	Vesta	510	V	2.361	0.0906	7.14	103.4	150.1	43.3	3.629	5.342
10	Hygiea	429	С	3.138	0.1201	3.84	283.0	316.1	33.0	5.656	27.659
511	Davida	337	С	3.174	0.1784	15.94	107.3	339.0	244.5	5.656	5.130
704	Interamnia	333	F	3.064	0.1475	17.30	280.4	92.2	276.8	5.364	8.72
52	Europa	312	С	3.101	0.1002	7.44	128.6	337.0	92.6	5.460	5.631
15	Eunomia	272	S	2.644	0.1849	11.76	292.9	97.5	327.9	4.299	6.083
87	Sylvia	271	PC	3.490	0.0820	10.87	73.1	273.3	248.8	6.519	5.183
3	Juno	267	S	2.668	0.0258	13.00	169.9	246.7	115.4	4.359	7.210
16	Psyche	264	М	2.923	0.1335	3.09	149.9	227.5	318.7	4.999	4.196
31	Euphrosyne	248	С	3.146	0.2290	26.34	30.7	63.1	341.0	5.581	5.53
65	Cybele	240	С	3.437	0.1044	3.55	155.4	109.8	20.1	6.372	4.04
107	Camilla	237	С	3.484	0.0842	9.93	173.5	296.0	139.7	6.503	4.840
624	Hektor	233	D	5.181	0.0246	18.23	342.1	178.0	2.9	11.794	6.92
88	Thisbe	232	С	2.767	0.1638	5.22	276.3	35.3	259.0	4.603	6.042
451	Patientia	230	С	3.062	0.0709	15.24	89.0	343.2	269.4	5.358	9.72
324	Bamberga	228	С	2.681	0.3409	11.14	327.8	43.4	189.6	4.390	29.43
48	Doris	225	С	3.110	0.0693	6.54	183.4	262.8	278.8	5.485	11.89
532	Herculina	225	S	2.771	0.1764	16.36	107.4	75.1	199.4	4.613	9.40



As asteroids with shorter optical periods are better lit and pass closer to Earth, there is a strong observational bias favoring objects plotted toward the left of the plot. Note the prominent gaps in the distribution for orbital periods $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{7}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ that of Jupiter.



Orbits and their evolution
Main belt between 2.1 and 3.3 AU
Kirkwood gaps coincide with resonance locations relative to Jupiter, which may be unstable or stable (Hildas, Thule)
At inner edge of asteroid belt v ₆ resonance with Saturn's apse rate
~700 asteroids occupy L₄ and L₅ triangular Lagrange points → Trojans (separated into Trojans and Greeks)
Trojans, 4/3 and 3/2 librators and main belt asteroids occupy the only known stable orbits in Solar System
Unstable orbits: Amors (1.017 <q<1.3), (q="" 1.017,<br="" <="" apollos="">a > 1) and Atens (a < 1), all small objects</q<1.3),>
Centaurs: 944 Hidalgo (a=5.8 au), 2060 Chiron (a=13.7 au, may be comet), 1994 TA (a=17.5 au), 5145 Pholus (a=13.7 au), 7066 Nessus (a=24.9 au), chaotic orbits
Kuiper belt objects (see later)

The "outburst" of 2060 Chiron; a graph of the magnitude of Chiron as a function of time, which clearly shows Chiron's dramatic increase in brightness starting in 1987. The data were taken by different groups, as symbolized by the different symbols used. (Lazzaro et al. 1997)





Asteroids, Ground-based Observations

We want to know the physical nature of asteroids.

•Remote sensing of asteroids in the visual and infrared range allows us to determine the size of the asteroids via an albedo determination.

•The albedo can also be determined from polarimetric measurements.

•Besides of this, photometric and polarimetric phase curves contain information on surface texture and regolith properties, but interpretation of these phase curves is still a matter of debate.

•Radar studies of asteroids are very interesting but at present are limited to objects which approach the Earth closely.

Radiation laws related to Planck's law

$$B_{\nu}(T)d\nu = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \frac{1}{e^{h\nu/kT} - 1} d\nu \quad \text{W m}^{-2} \text{ rad}^{-2}$$
or, using

$$B_{\lambda}(T)d\lambda = B_{\nu}(T)d\lambda \cdot c/\lambda^2$$

$$B_{\lambda}(T)d\lambda = \frac{2hc^2}{\lambda^5} \frac{1}{e^{hc/\lambda kT} - 1} d\lambda \quad \text{W m}^{-2} \text{ rad}^{-2}$$

$$\frac{h\nu}{kT} \gg 1 \qquad B_{\nu}(T) \approx \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} e^{-h\nu/kT} d\nu \quad \text{Wien}$$

$$\frac{h\nu}{kT} \ll 1 \qquad B_{\nu}(T) \approx \frac{2\nu^2 kT}{c^2} \quad \text{Rayleigh-Jeans}$$
Wien's displacement law:

$$\frac{c}{\nu_{max}} \cdot T = 5.10 \cdot 10^{-3} \quad [\text{meter K}] \quad \text{or}$$

$$\lambda_{max} \cdot T = 2.90 \cdot 10^{-3} \quad [\text{meter K}]$$
With T = 290 K (room temperature) we get $\lambda_{max} = 10^{-5} \text{ m} = 10 \,\mu\text{m}$.
With T = 5800 K (solar-type star) we get $\lambda_{max} = 0.5 \,\mu\text{m}$.



Figure from Karttunen et al. Fundamental Astronomy, Springer 1987, p. 87

Stefan-Boltzmann law and mean temperature of a solar system body

Isotropic emission by a blackbody:

 $F_
u = \int_S I_
u \; \cos heta \; d \omega \;\;\; I$ intensity [W m $^{-2}$ rad $^{-2}$]

 ω denotes solid angle and θ colatitude. If the body radiates isotropically,

 $F_
u = I_
u \int_S \cos heta \; d\phi \; sin heta \; d heta = \pi I_
u.$

Likewise, for a blackbody

$$F = \pi \int_0^\infty B_
u(T) d
u = \sigma T^4 \quad \text{W m}^{-2}$$

with $\sigma = rac{2\pi^5 k^4}{15c^2 h^3} = 5.67\cdot 10^{-8} \ \text{W m}^{-2} \ \text{T}^{-4}$

A solar system body is irradiated by the Sun:

$$rac{1}{4}(1-A_{VIS})rac{F_{\odot}}{r^2}=(1-A_{IR})\sigma T^4$$

 $F_{\odot} = 1.360 \cdot 10^3 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ is the solar constant at 1 au. r is the heliocentric distance in au. For a black body albedo $A_{VIS} = A_{IR} = 0$. The equation assumes isotropic thermal emission (not quite true!).









Albedos and phase function 2

Definition of albedos (Karttunen et al, Fundamental Astronomy, Springer 1987)

Bolometric albedo A: ratio of the total emergent flux to the total incident flux

Bond albedo $A_{
u}$: ratio of the emergent flux to the incident flux for a fixed frequency

Phase function: $\Phi(\alpha)$: angular dependence of emergent radiation, $\Phi(\alpha=0)=1$.

Phase integral: $q = 2 \cdot \int_0^\pi \Phi(\alpha) \sin lpha \, dlpha.$

Lambertian surface: absolutely white, diffuse surface, which reflects all radiation (i.e. A = 1 or $A_{\nu} = 1$). It has phase function $\Phi(\alpha) = \cos \alpha$ for $0 \le \alpha \le \pi/2$ and $\Phi(\alpha) = 0$ for $\pi/2 \le \alpha \le \pi$.

Geometric albedo p: The geometric albedo is the ratio of the flux densities at phase angle $\alpha = 0$, reflected by a planet and by a Lambertian surface.

 $p=A/(2\int_0^\pi\Phi(lpha)\sinlpha\,dlpha)=A/q.$

For isotropic emission $\Phi(\alpha) \equiv 1$, q = 4 and p = A/4 (note: for a sphere 4 = surface area / cross-section area).

For a Lambertian surface $q=2\int_{0}^{\pi/2}\coslpha\sinlpha dlpha=1$ and p=1.

Albedos and phase function 3

Planetary photometry (Karttunen et al, Fundamental Astronomy, Springer 1987)

Flux from a planet: $F_p = rac{p \, \Phi(lpha) \, F_\odot}{\pi \, \Delta^2 \, r^2} \pi R^2.$

 F_p flux from the planet, p geometric albedo, $\Phi(\alpha)$ phase function, Δ geocentric distance of planet, F_{\odot} solar flux at Earth (solar constant), R planetary radius. All lengths are measured in astronomical units (au).

In terms of stellar magnitudes: $m_p - m_{\odot} = -2.5 \lg \frac{F_p}{F_{\odot}} = -2.5 \lg \frac{p\Phi(\alpha)R^2}{\Delta^2 r^2}$ = $-2.5 \lg pR^2 + 5 \lg r\Delta - 2.5 \lg \Phi(\alpha)$.

We now define the absolute magnitude: $V(1,0)=m_{\odot}+5\lg r\Delta-2.5\lg\Phi(lpha).$

V(1,0) is the magnitude of a body if it is at a distance of 1 au from Earth and Sun at phase angle $\alpha = 0$.

Then the magnitude of a planet can be expressed as $m_p = V(1,0) + 5 \lg r \Delta - 2.5 lg \Phi(\alpha).$

Thermal models of asteroids

$$\pi R^2 (1-A_{VIS}) rac{F_\odot}{r^2} = eta \epsilon \sigma R^2 \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} T^4(heta,\phi) \cos \phi \, d\phi d heta$$

 ϵ is the bolometric emissivity, σ the Boltzmann constant, β is a normalization constant (of order unity related to the angular distribution of thermal emission).

An important consideration is the thermal inertia of the asteroidal surface. For low thermal inertia (like on the moon) one can assume:

 $T=T_{max}\cos^{rac{1}{4}} heta~\cos^{rac{1}{4}}\phi$

Using this formalism one can determine the albedo A_{vis} and from this the diameter of the asteroid. But thermal models of asteroids are also interesting by themselves as they allow to study the asteroid regolith.





(Clark *et al.* 1998). Asteroid magnitude as a function of phase angle for 24 Themis (c), 44 Nysa (d) and 1862 Apollo (e). Note the anomalous increase in intensity near $\Phi = 0^{\circ}$ (Bowell *et al.* 1989). The data are compared to best-fit Hapke models.

Remember: Phase integral	TABLE 9.2 Albedos and Phase Functions for Various Airless Bodies.								
q = 1 for the	Body	$A_{0,v}$	$q_{ph,v}$	A_v	A_b	Ref.			
Lampertian	Moon	0.113	0.611	0.069	0.123	1			
Surface.	Mercury	0.138	0.486	0.067	0.119	1			
	243 Ida	0.21	0.34	0.071	0.081	2			
	Dactyl	0.20	0.32	0.064	0.073	2			
	253 Mathilde	0.047	0.280	0.013		3			
	433 Eros	0.29	0.39	0.11	0.12	4			
	951 Gaspra	0.23	0.47	0.11		5			
	Phobos	0.071	0.300	0.021		6			
	Deimos	0.068	0.390	0.027		7			
	1: Veverka <i>et al.</i> (1999). 4: Dom 6: Simonelli <i>et a</i>	(1988). 2 ingue <i>et al</i> l. (1998).	: Veverka /. (2001). 7: Thomas	<i>et al.</i> (199 5: Helfens 5 <i>et al.</i> (199	96). 3: Cla stein <i>et al</i> . 96).	rk <i>et al.</i> (1994).			













(b) The relationship between the slope, h (see panel (a)), and the albedo $A_{0, F=5^{c_1}}$ normalized to the case of a white magnesium oxide surface. (Dollfus *et al.* 1989).

Imke de Pater and Jack j. Lissauer: Planetary Sciences, Cambride Univ. Press 2001





(c) A graph of P_{Lmin} versus ϕ_0 for: left, lunar and terrestrial rocks (region I) and rock powders and lunar fines (region II); right, meteorites and rocks with grain sizes between 30 and 300 µm lie in between these two regions. (Dollfus *et al.* 1989)









Photometric lightcurve of the asteroid 164 Eva. The lightcurve is shown on the left. The curve can be matched by the solid profile on the right; imagine this as a two-dimensional, geometrically scattering asteroid. As this asteroid rotates, it generates a lightcurve similar to that shown on the left. (Magnusson *et al.*, Asteroids II, Binzel et al. eds., U. of Arizona Press, pp.66-97. 1989)

Radar echo spectrum of near-Earth asteroid 1620 Geographos obtained in 1994 at Goldstone at a transmitter frequency of 8510 MHz. The echo power is plotted in standard deviations versus Doppler frequency (in Hz) relative to the estimated freauency of echoes from the asteroid's center-of -mass.





Solid and dotted lines are echoes in the OC and SC polarizations, respectively. These spectra are at rotational phases, φ , which correspond to bandwidth extrema. (Ostro *et al.* 1996, Icarus 121, 44-66)

A cartoon on the geometric relationship between echo power and an asteroid's shape. The upper picture shows the convex hull H of the polar silhouette, or the asteroid shape as viewed from the pole. The middle panel shows a view along the radar line of sight, and the radar echo is shown at the bottom. The plane ψ_0 contains the line of sight and the asteroid's spin vector. The radar echo from any part of the asteroid which intersects ψ_0 has a Doppler frequency v_o. The cross-hatched strip of power in the spectrum corresponds to echoes from the cross-hatched strip on the asteroid. The asteroid's polar silhouette can be estimated from echo spectra which are adequately distributed in rotational phase. (Ostro 1989, see Imke de Pater and Jack j. Lissauer: Planetary Sciences)



Radar "images": a: 4179 Toutatis b: 1620 Geographos c: 4769 Castalia d: 216 Kleopatra

From Ostro et al. 1995, 1996, 2000, Hudson and Ostro 1994, see Imke de Pater and Jack j. Lissauer: Planetary Sciences, Cambride Univ. Press 2001



Radio images of 324 Bamberga at 8510 MHz, obtained with a bistatic radar system where the Goldstone antenna was used to transmit the signal and the VLA to receive and image the radar echo. Radar echoes are shown for 13 September 1991, in the center channel (solid contours), and channels at a Doppler frequency of -381 Hz (dashed contours; redshifted) and +381 Hz (dot-dashed contours; blueshifted). Contour levels are from 3 to 19 standard deviations, where one standard deviation is 5.5 mJy/beam.



Imke de Pater and Jack j. Lissauer: Planetary Sciences, Cambride Univ. Press 2001

More on opposition effect:

Scattering properties of planetary regoliths near opposition:
Y. Shkuratov, G. Videen M.Kreslavsky, I. Belskaya, V. Kaydash, A. Ovcharenko,
V. Omelchenko, N. Opanasenko, E. Zubko, in:
G. Videen, Y. Yatskiv and M. Mishchenko eds.: Photopolarimetry in Remote sensing, NATO Science Series Vol. 161, Kluwer 2004, 191-208

Opposition spot, photographed from airplane over the Arizona desert.



Albedo image (left) and phase ratio image (right) of a portion of Sinus Medii on the moon



Figure 3. (a) An albedo image of a portion of Sinus Medii acquired at near zero phase angle. The brightness opposition surge cannot be distinguished from the albedo variation. (b) A phase-ratio image for the same site makes the surge clearly visible. The center of the surge (zero-phase angle point) is denoted with the black cross.









