

Stellar occultation method of asteroids size and orbit determination



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Asteroids - groups

NEAs

- Atena
- Apollo
- Amora
- Mars-crosser
- Hungaria

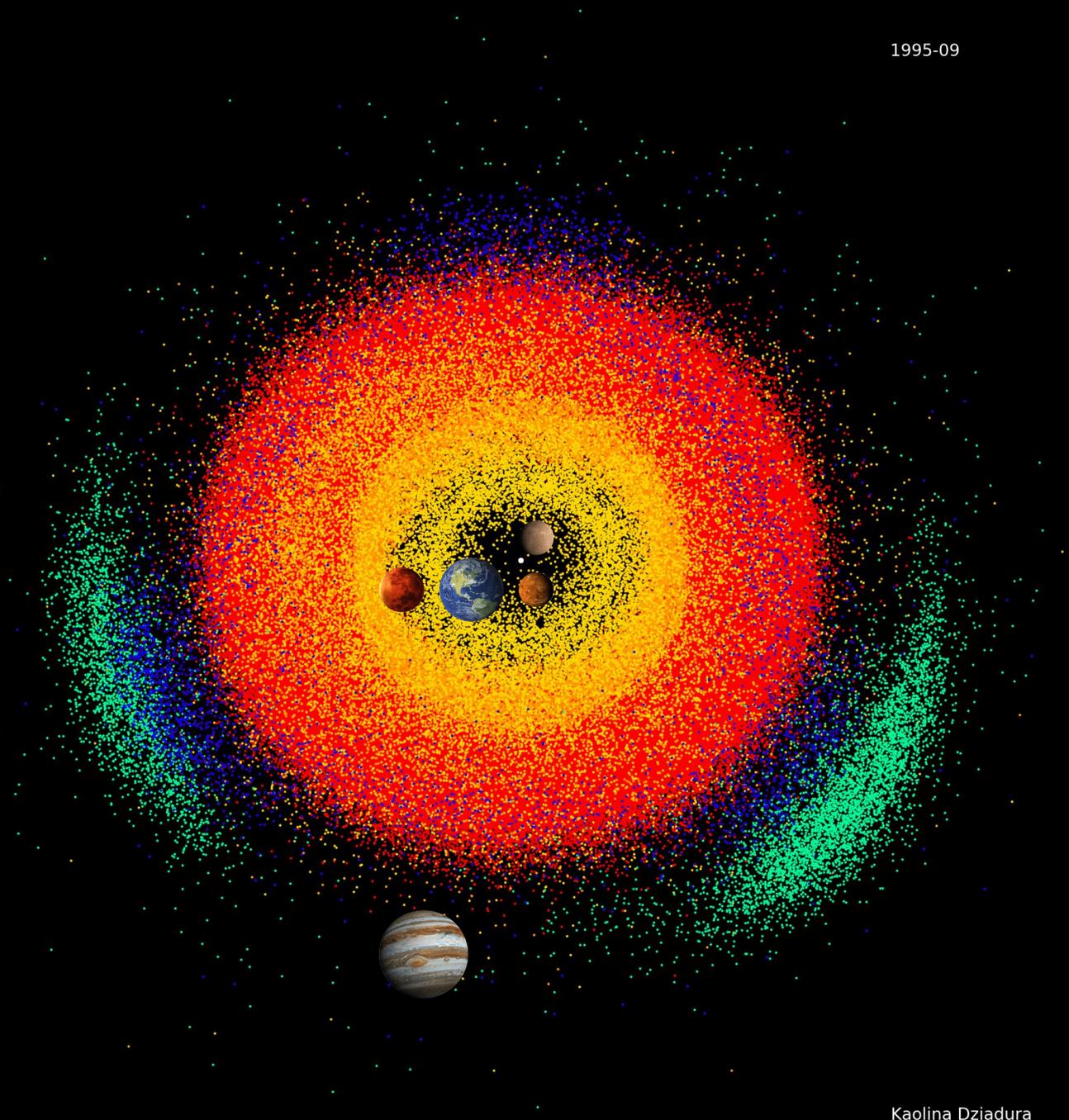
MBA

Hilda

Trojans

Other

- TNO
- Kuiper Belt



1. Spacecrafts



951 Gaspra
18.2 km × 10.5 km × 8.9 km
Galileo, 1991



243 Ida
59.8 × 25.4 × 18.6 km
Galileo, 1993



Dactyl
1.6 × 1.4 × 1.2 km
Galileo, 1994



253 Mathilde
66 × 48 × 46 km
NEAR Shoemaker, 1997



433 Eros
34.4 × 11.2 × 11.2 km
NEAR Shoemaker, 1998



9969 Braille
2.1 km × 1 km × 1 km
Deep Space 1, 1999



5535 Annefrank
6.6 × 5.0 × 3.4 km
Stardust, 2002



25143 Itokawa
0.535 × 0.294 × 0.209 km
Hayabusa, 2005



2867 Šteins
6.83 × 5.70 × 4.42 km
Rosetta, 2008



21 Lutetia
121 ± 1 × 101 ± 1 × 75 ± 13 km
Rosetta, 2010



4 Vesta
572.6 × 557.2 × 446.4 km
DAWN, 2011



4179 Toutatis
4.26 × 2.03 × 1.70 km
Chang'e 2, 2012



162173 Ryugu
0.865 ± 0.015 km
Hayabusa-2, 2018

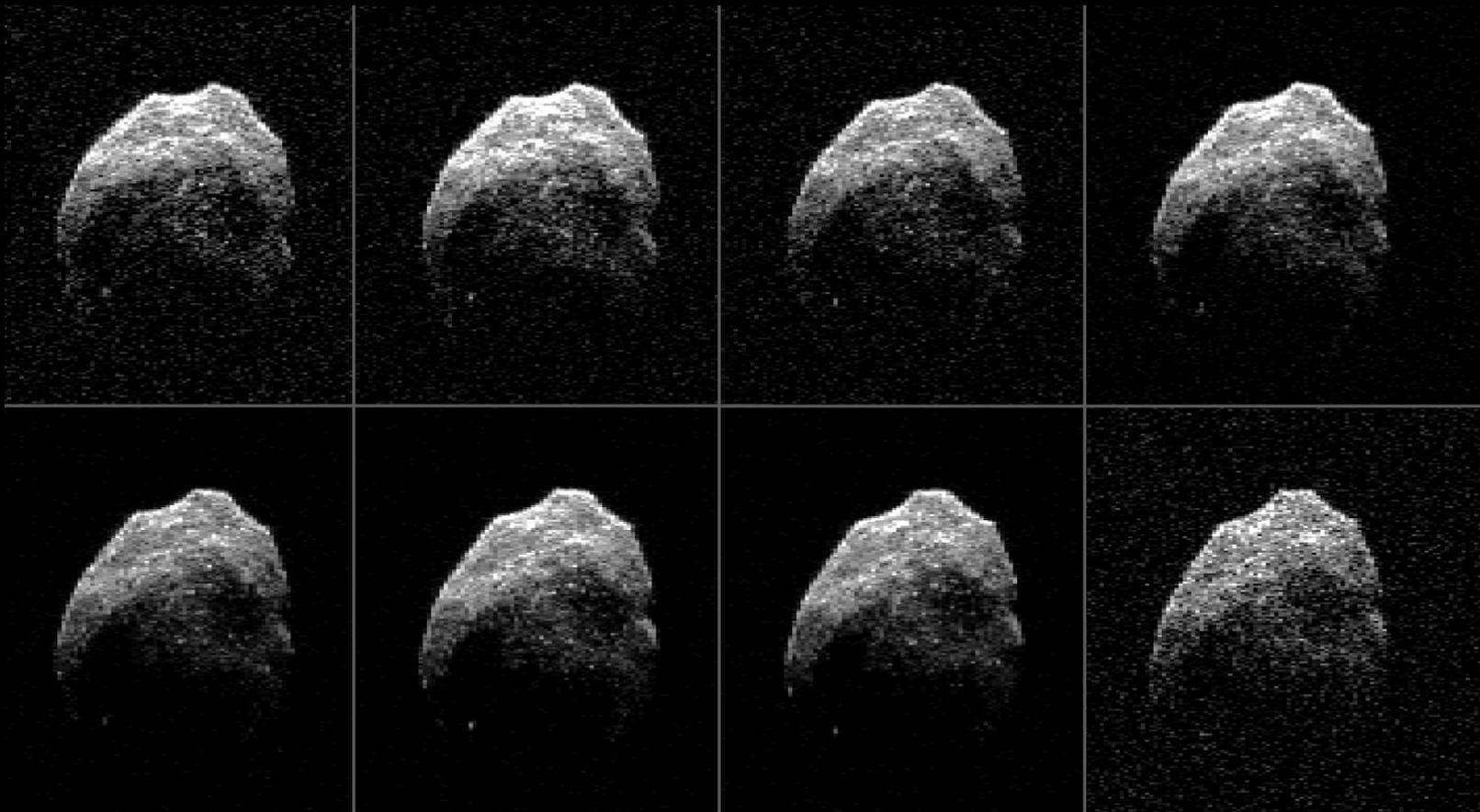


101955 Bennu
0.565 × 0.535 × 0.508 km
OSIRIS-Rex, 2018



486958 2014 MU69 (Ultima Thule)
35 ± 1 × 20 ± 1 × 10 ± 3 km Ultima
22 ± 0.6 × 20 ± 1 × 7 ± 2 km Thule
New Horizons, 2019

2. Radar



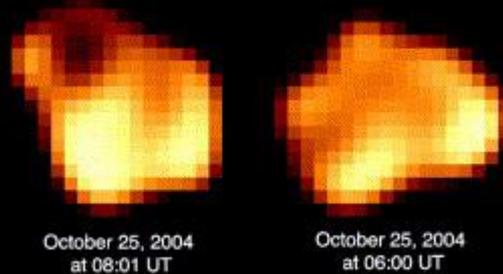
Credit: NASA

Only for relatively big and close objects

The use of radar observations to determine the sizes of asteroids requires the knowledge of the asteroid's rotation speed, its orbit, the inclination of the rotation axis, and the coordinates of the poles. This means that the radar data should be supplemented with relative photometry and glare curves.

2. Adaptive optics

Keck Observations of (9) Metis



Marchis, F., et al. *Icarus* 185.1 (2006): 39-63.

Only for relatively big and close objects

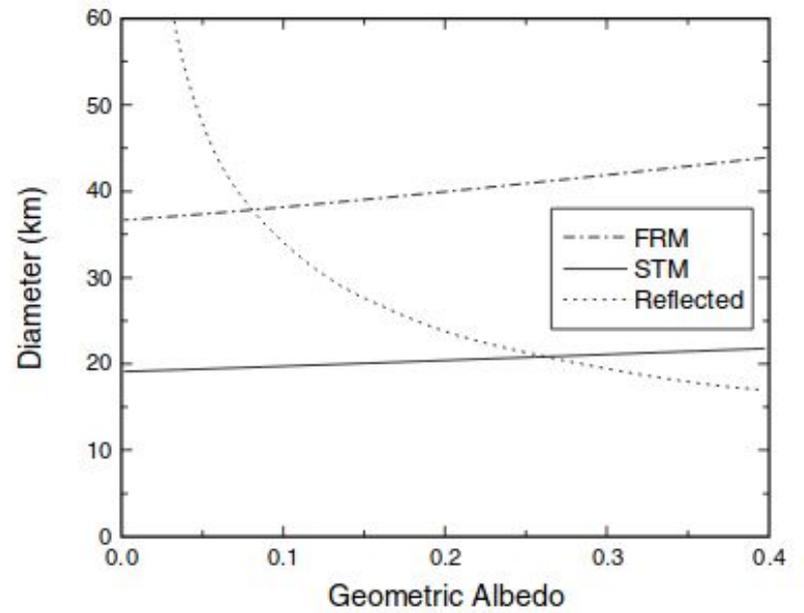
Due to the very high resolution of the obtained images, it is possible to obtain high-quality images of asteroids. Using the information about the angular resolution of the image and the asteroid distance, it is possible to determine the size of the object.

3. Photometric and infrared observations

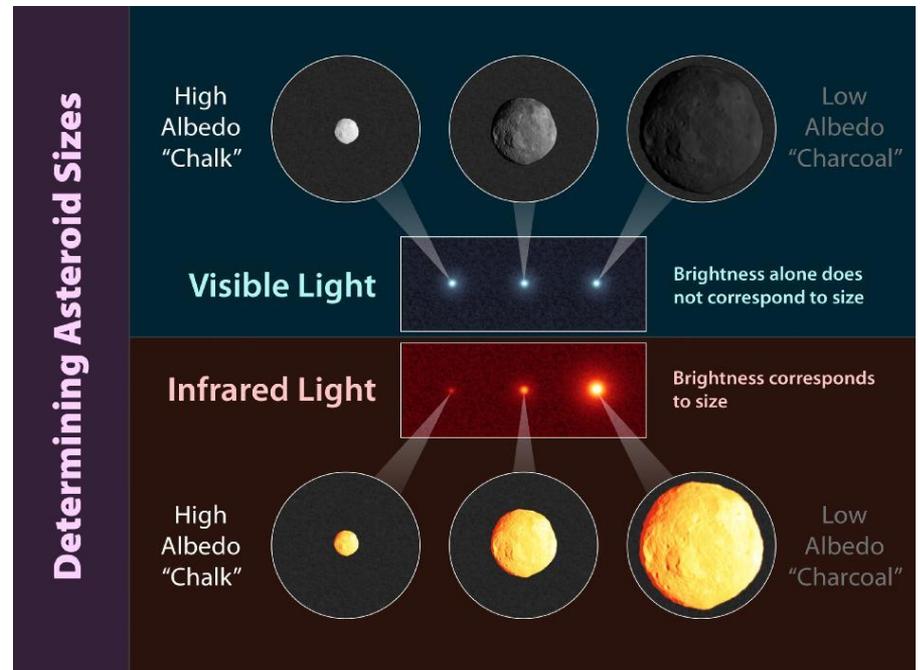
Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE)
Size for over 100 000 objects



Credit: NASA

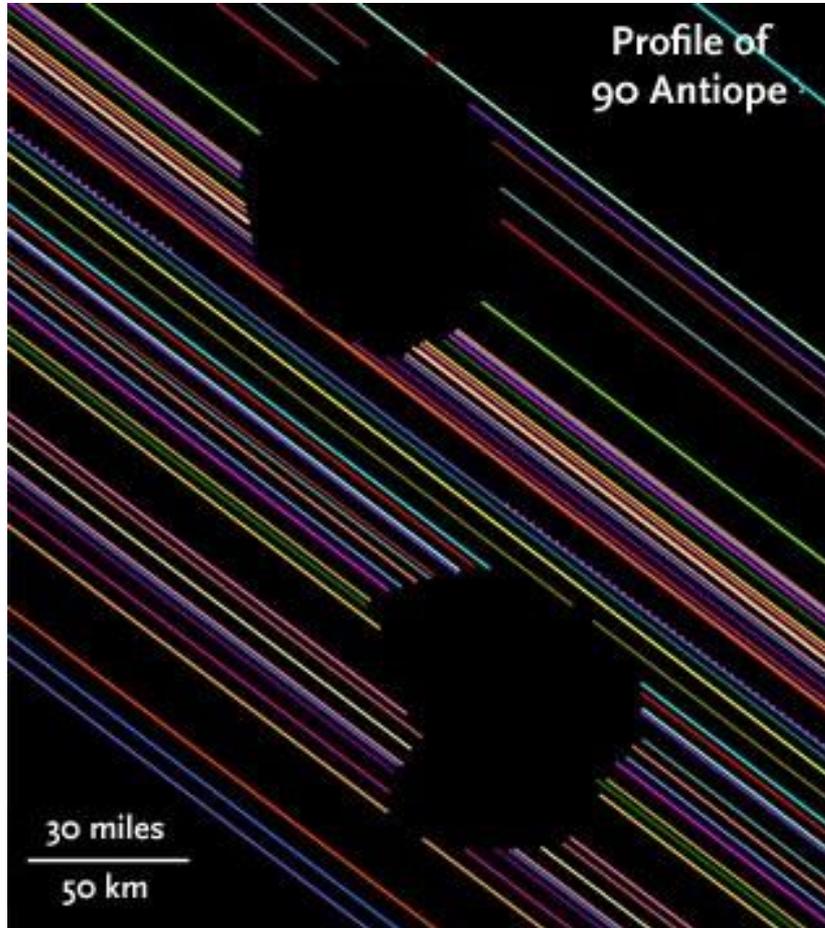


Harris, Alan W., and Johan SV Lagerros, *Asteroids III* 205 (2002).



Credit: NASA

4. Stellar occultations



Credit: <http://www.asteroidoccultation.com>

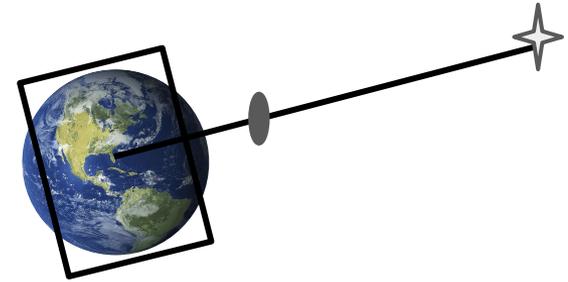
- ❖ determine the size of the asteroid;
- ❖ determine a precise measurement of the relative astrometric position of the star and asteroid at the time of the event;
- ❖ verify the asteroid shape model;
- ❖ verify the size of the asteroid from other scientific methods;
- ❖ verify the duality of asteroids;
- ❖ discover the rings or moons of the celestial body (as in the case of the dwarf planet (136108) Haumea (Ortiz et al., 2017))

How to calculate the size of the asteroids based on:

- ❖ stellar occultation time;
- ❖ observer coordinates?

We define the coordinate system (ζ, η) on the base plane by unit vectors:

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{S}_\zeta &= (-\sin \delta \cos \alpha, -\sin \delta \sin \alpha, \cos \delta), \\ \widehat{S}_\eta &= (\sin \alpha, -\cos \alpha, 0).\end{aligned}$$

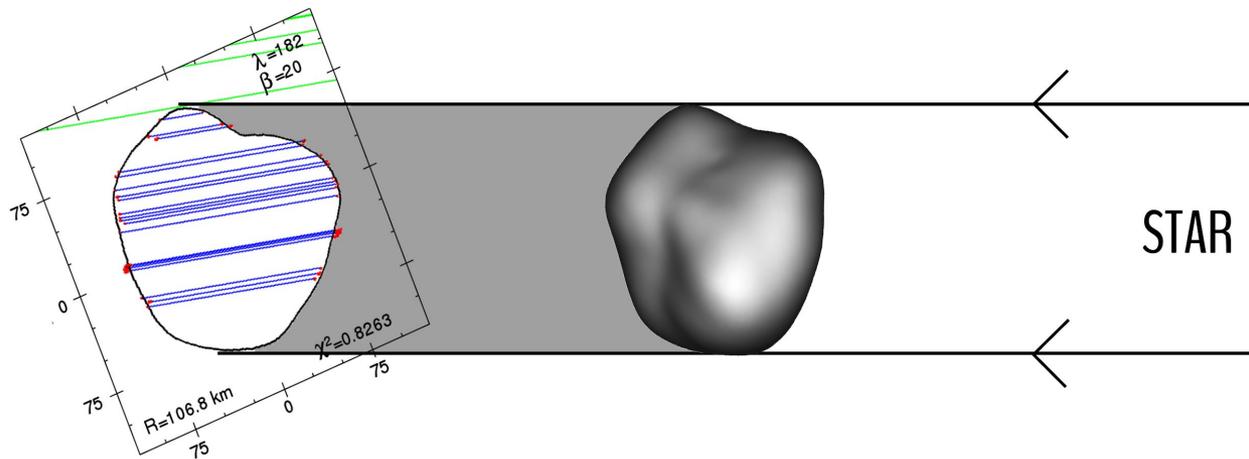


Then we project the observer's geocentric coordinates onto the plane

$$(\zeta, \eta) = [\widehat{S}_\zeta \cdot (\vec{X} + \Delta \vec{v} \Delta t), \widehat{S}_\eta \cdot (\vec{X} + \Delta \vec{v} \Delta t)]$$

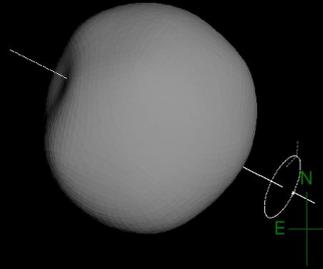
Finally, we scale the model for the best fit

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{[(\zeta_j, \eta_j)_{OCC} - (\zeta_j, \eta_j)_{model}]^2}{\sigma_j^2}$$



704 Interamnia
JD=2458651.2353

$\lambda = 58^\circ$
 $\beta = -40^\circ$

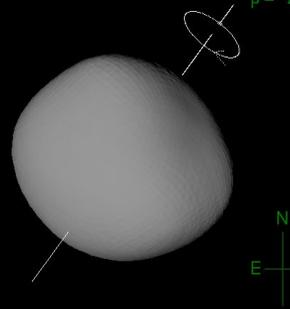


Aspect = 112°

P = 8.712860 h

308 Polyxo
JD=2453325.7708

$\lambda = 115^\circ$
 $\beta = 26^\circ$

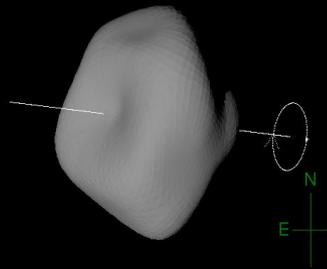


Aspect = 113°

P = 12.029586 h

13 Egeria
JD=2454704.7416

$\lambda = 58^\circ$
 $\beta = -10^\circ$

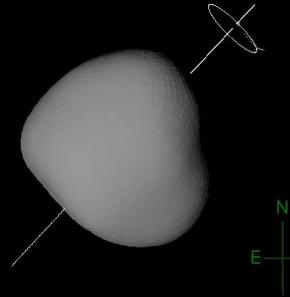


Aspect = 120°

P = 7.045878 h

3 Juno
JD=2450789.8750

$\lambda = 105^\circ$
 $\beta = 22^\circ$

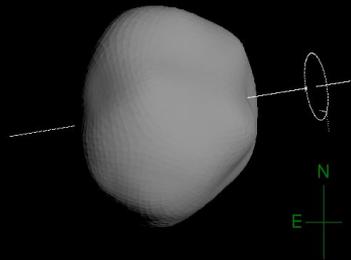


Aspect = 103°

P = 7.209533 h

14 Irene
JD=2456506.6792

$\lambda = 91^\circ$
 $\beta = -14^\circ$

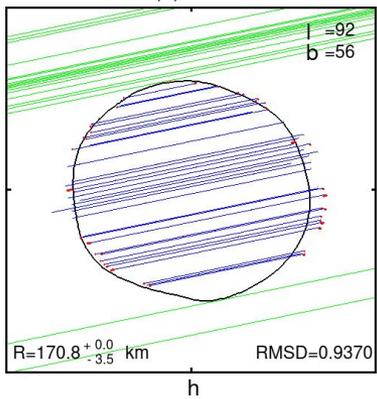


Aspect = 71°

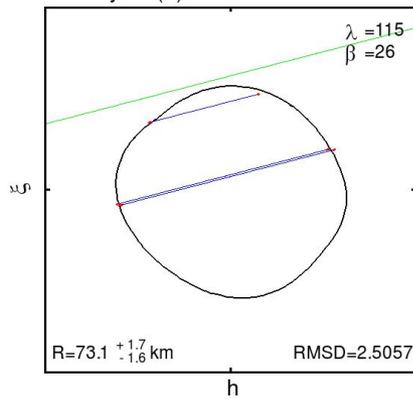
P = 15.029892 h

<http://isam.astro.amu.edu.pl>

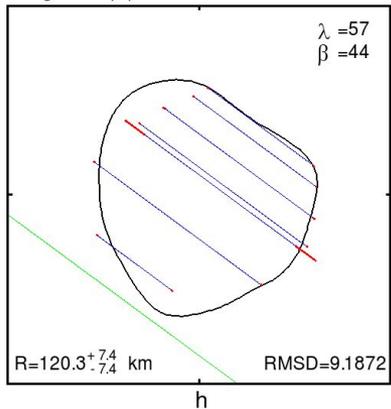
704 Interamnia (1) 2003-03-23



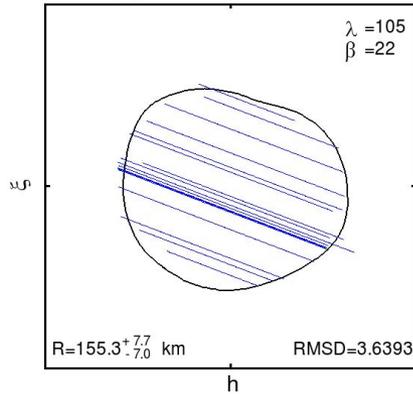
308 Polyxo (1) 2010-06-02



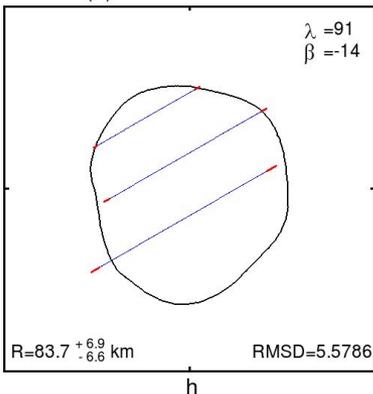
13 Egeria (2) 2008-01-22



3 Juno (1) 1979-12-11



14 Irene (1) 2013-08-02



Podlewska-Gaca, Edyta, et al.
"Physical parameters of selected
Gaia mass asteroids." *Astronomy &
Astrophysics* 638 (2020): A11.

(704) Interamnia

Dane	średnica efektywna [km]	niepewność [km]
Zakrycie 1996-12-17	338	+28 -24
Zakrycie 2009-01-11	302	+3 -6
Zakrycie 2007-09-09	341	+0 -4
Zakrycie 2012-11-12	334	+7 -14
Zakrycie 2003-03-23	321	+0 -7
Obserwacje podczerwone (Masiero i inni, 2011)	306.313	±1.031

(13) Egeria

Dane	średnica efektywna [km]	niepewność [km]
Zakrycie 2008-01-22 (rozw. 1)	219	+18 -16
Zakrycie 2008-01-22 (rozw. 2)	194	+12 -12
Zakrycie 2013-03-26 (rozw. 1)	216	+15 -17
Zakrycie 2013-03-26 (rozw. 2)	294	+7 -6
Obserwacje podczerwone (Nugent i inni, 2015)	202.636	±50.084

(14) Irene

Dane	średnica efektywna [km]	niepewność [km]
Zakrycie 2013-08-02 (rozw. 1)	146	+12 -12
Zakrycie 2013-08-02 (rozw. 2)	145	+92 -18
https://ssd.jpl.nasa.gov	152	brak danych

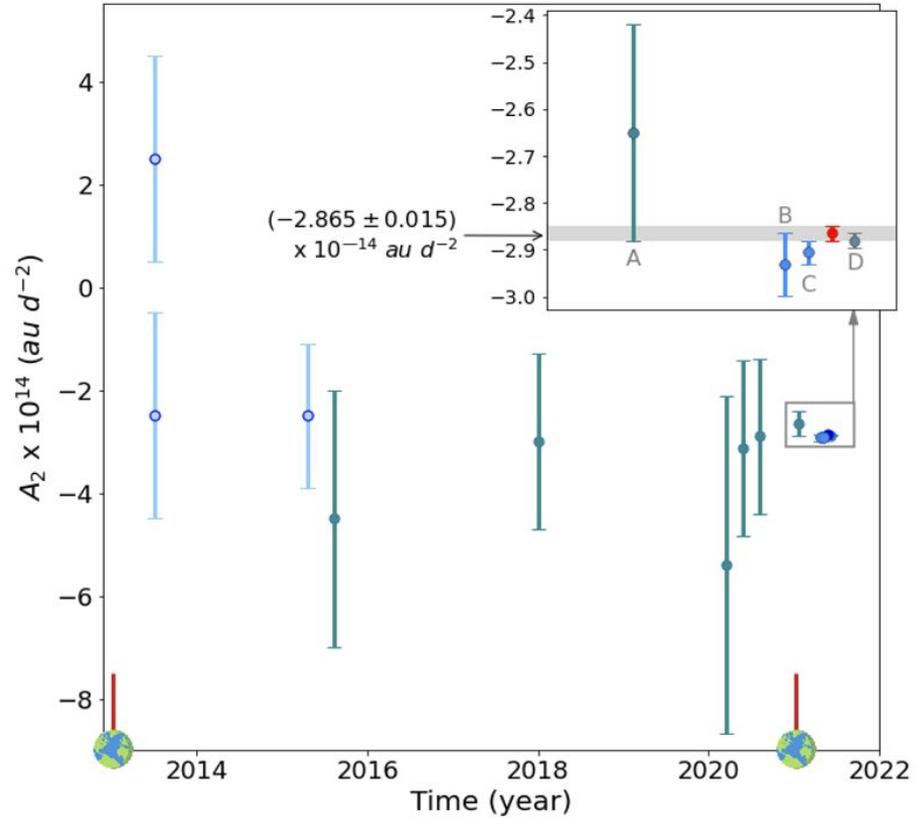
(308) Polyxo

Dane	średnica efektywna [km]	niepewność [km]
Zakrycie 2000-01-10 (rozw. 1)	133.5	+6 -6
Zakrycie 2000-01-10 (rozw. 2)	131	+5 -13
Zakrycie 2004-11-16 (rozw. 1)	125	+11 -9
Zakrycie 2004-11-16 (rozw. 2)	125	+11 -8
Zakrycie 2010-06-02 (rozw. 1)	129	+3 -3
Zakrycie 2010-06-02 (rozw. 2)	128	+4 -4
Obserwacje podczerwone (Masiero i inni, 2011)	128.578	±1.557

(3) Juno

Dane	średnica efektywna [km]	niepewność [km]
Zakrycie 1979-12-11	260	+13 -12
Zakrycie 2000-05-24	236	+20 -17
Zakrycie 2014-11-12	250	+12 -11
Obserwacje podczerwone (Masiero i inni, 2011)	246.596	±10.594

Orbit and Yarkovsky effect determination with use of the stellar occultation data



Summary

- ❖ Programming the method for asteroids size determination
- ❖ Size determination for 5 asteroids: Interamnia, Poluxo, Egeria, Juno, Irene
- ❖ Future work: the Yarkovsky effect determination with use of occ data



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