Small bodies:

Asteroids and meteorites





Comets

Small satellites of planets



Lecture 5

Asteroid Gaspra, 11 x 12 x 19 km

Meteorite Karakol Ordinary chondrite 6 x 6 cm

Comet Halley, 7 x 8 x 16 km

Phobos – satellite of Mars 18 x 22 x 26 km



Asteroids = small planets, orbit around the Sun



Asteroid belt, 2.2 - 3.2 a.u. from the Sun, Orbital period 3 - 7 years.

Trojans – on the orbit of Jupiter 60° arc ahead and behind, orbital period 12 years.

Near-Earth asteroids – approach orbit of Earth or cross it. - dangerous because of possible collisions with Earth

Most of asteroids are in the asteroid belt.

Asteroids, cont.

Number of bodies with D > 1 km in the asteroid belt is estimated to be 1.1 to 1.9 million. As of November 2014, 11,600 near-Earth asteroids are known.

Iotal mass of a	asteroids ~ 5% iv	ΊΙνιοοη	
Largest asteroids:		albedo	
Ceres	D = 1020 km,	5 % -	Dwarf planet
Vesta	550 km	23 %	
Pallas	538 km	8 %	
Hygiea	450 km	4 %	

Number of asteroids larger than 100 km = 237

Major spectral types of asteroids and suggested meteorite analogs

Туре	Е	Albedo	>23 %	Enstatite chondrite
	S		7-23 %	Ordinary chondrite
	Μ		7-20 %	Iron, Iron-stone.
	V		3 - 8 %	Eucrite / basalt
	С		2-7 %	Carbonaceous chondrite

Asteroid Gaspra, type S 9 x 11 x 18 km

Orbit semiaxis 2.2 au Aphelion 2.6 au Perihelion 1.8 au Density 2.7 g/cm³ (estimate) $g = 2 \text{ mm/s}^2$ V escape = 6 m/s Rotation period 4.63 h

The body shape - angular, «fragmental». Weak color variations

Surface features: Craters - impact, Furrows - fractures in asteroid body.

Снимок Galileo

Crater estimated surface age = 20 - 300 million years. Time of collisional destruction at 2.2 au = 200 my – 1 by. *Veverka et al., 1994*

Asteroid Ida, type S 15 x 24 x 54 km

Orbit semiaxis 2.9 au Aphelion 3 au Perihelion 2.7 au Density 2.6 g/cm³ $g = 11 \text{ mm/s}^2$ V escape = 19 m/s Rotation period 7 h

The body shape - angular, «fragmental». Weak color variations

Images Galileo



Surface features: Craters – impact.

Dactyl Satellite of Ida 1.2x1.4x1.6 km

Crater estimated surface age > 1 by.

Orbit semiaxis 2.65 au Aphelion 1.9 au Perihelion1.3 au Density 1.3 g/cm³ => high porosity (50%) g = 2.5 mm/s² V escape = 16 m/s Rotation period 17.4 days

The body shape - angular, «fragmental».

Surface features: Craters – impact.

Numerous large craters.

Why not destroyed by These large impacts?

Asteroid Mathilde, type C 46 x 48 x 66 km



Image NEAR



Crater estimated surface age ~ 4 by. Time of collisional destruction ~4 by. *Wikipedia*

High porosity of Mathilde is, probably, microporosity, but not the «rubble-pile» case.



http://www.popularmechanics.com/science/military/2002/10/tiny_nukes/print.phtml

In the «rubble-pile» case the crater rims would not be co continuous, and the crater shape would not be so close to ideal.

Asteroid Eros, type S 13 x 13 x 33 km

Orbit semiaxis 1.46 au Aphelion 1.78 au Perihelion 1.13 au Density 2.4 g/cm³ $g = 6 \text{ mm/s}^2$ V escape = 10 m/s Rotation period 5.27 h

Images NEAR

Surface features: Craters - impact, Furrows - fractures in asteroid body. **Ridge** of unknown origin.

Richardson et al., 2004

Crater estimated surface age = 400 + - 200 my.

The body shape - irregular, «rounded». Weak color variations

Asteroid Eros

Topography above the mass center



Gamma spectra of Eros: ordinary chondrite with deficit of sulphur



Surface features on Eros. Regolith is seen NEAR-Shoemaker images Cheng, Asteroids III, 2003, 351-366

Asteroid Toutatis 1.9 x 2.4 x 4.6 km

Radar images And models of body shape

Ostro et al., 1999



Recently flew by Earth at the distance 0.01 au (4 distances to the Moon)

Near-Earth asteroid Itokawa, 550 x 300 x 200 m, Hayabusa mission, Japan

Release 051101-1 ISAS/JAXA



Asteroid Lutetia

132 × 101 × 76 km

Image of Rosetta, ESA

2010



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/21_Lutetia

NASA mission Dawn

Arrival to Ceres February 2015.

Arrival to Vesta August 2011 Departure – May 2012

> Xenon ion engine

-

Gamma and neutron spectrometer Mapping spectrometer – visual and IR Frame TV camera

Asteroid Vesta 458 x 560 x 578 km

Transition to planet

Dwarf planet Ceres D pol.. = 910 km D eq.. = 974 km

Dawn, NASA

Dawn, NASA

Orbit semiaxis 2.36 au, $\rho = 3.4 \text{ g/cm}^3$ g = 22 cm/c², V escape = 350 m/s Rot. period 5.33 h Albedo 0.42, Spectral type V Source of achondrites?

Orbit semiaxis 2.77 au, $\rho = 2.14 \text{ g/cm}^3$ g = 27 cm/c², V escape = 510 m/s Rot. period 9 h Albedo 0.09, Spectral type c Source of carbonaceous chondrites? Asteroid Vesta: Heavily cratered, Composition achondritic Image taken by Dawn and digital terrain model of the south pole area



Colorized shaded-relief map showing identification of older 375-kilometer-wide impact basin beneath more recent Rheasilvia impact structure



Occator crater, D = 92 kmSalts MgSO₄·6H₂O Asteroid (dwarf planet) Ceres Heavily cratered Composition carbonaceous chondrite



Meteorites - Stones falling from the sky



During the passage through the atmosphere the surface layer Is melted and blown out (ablated).

Because way through atmosphere is short in time, the meteorite interior is not heated

Ordinary chondrite Karakol. Melted crust is seen as well as traces of ablation.

- During the passage through atmosphere hot surface of meteorite and products of its vaporization are light radiating bolide.
- Photographing way of bolide, one can calculate a trajectory of meteorite before it entered the Earth's atmosphere.
- The calculations show that meteorites come from the asteroid belt



A piece of iron meteorite Canyon Diablo whose impact formed crater Meteor. Meteorite collection of RAN.

Iron meteorite Needles. One can see Widmanstetten structure evidence of very slow cooling in The interior of rather large body. Meteorite collection of RAN



Impact crater Meteor (D = 1.2 km), Arizona.



Iron meteorites – fragments of asteroids of M type, which are fragments of iron cores of large asteroids

Iron-stony meteorites





Marjalahti, Russia

Pallasovo zhelezo, Russia Meteorite collection of RAN Also are fragments of iron cores of large asteroids

Stony meteorites: Ordinary chondrite



Chondrites – ordinary and carbonaceous, - formed in protoplanetary nebula ~4.5 b.y. ago. In composition close to ultramafic rocks of Earth.



Carbonaceous chondrite Efremovka. One can see chondrules - solidified drops of melt formed in protoplanetary nebula. Meteorite collection of RAN.

Stony meteorites: Carbonaceous chondrites



Mighei CM

Meteorite collection of RAN.

Allende CV3

Achondrites – magmatic rocks from asteroids: Ultramafic, basalts. Age ~ 4.5 b.y. Why some asteroids melted? Radioactive AI ²⁶? Impacts?



Achondrite - Eucrite Chervonyi Kut – a piece of basalt from some asteroid, maybe from Vesta. Meteorite collection of RAN.

Stony meteorites: Achondrites



RKPA80224,0

http://www.solarviews.com/eng/meteor.htm#views

Eucrite

Stony meteorites: Achondrites - SNC meteortes Age 0.2 to 4.5 b.y. Anomalous oxygen isotopy Trapped Martian atmosphere gases => Rocks from Mars





Shergotty

Antarctic shergottite

Martian basalts

Stony meteorites: Achondrites SNC meteortes – Rocks from Mars





Nakhla pyroxene (augite) cumulate

Chassigni olivine (cumulate)

Stony meteorites: Achondtrites Lunar meteorites – Rocks from the Moon



Dhofar-302 Lunar meteorite

Dhofar-029 Lunar meteorite, Melted anorthosite

How collections of meteorites are made: Observed falls

Meteorite Sterlitamak, fall, May 17, 1990

Фото М.И. Петаева

Meteorite Tsarev, Volgograd region, Russia Finding of the unobserved falls, ordinary chondrite





Boris Nikiforov, the finder, 1979

<= Tsarev in museum of RAN

Antarctic meteorites



Collecting meteorites in deserts Meteorite Dhofar 943, Ordinary chondtrite, Oman



Comets

Nucleus – dirty ice, diameter is usually several km.

Coma – dust particles in rarefied gas around core, diameter ~ 100,000 – 1 million km, appear at 3 a.u. from the Sun.

Tail – dust particles and ions, blown by pressure of light and solar wind to direction opposite of the Sun, extension-10-100 million km.

- Dust tail yellow Dust particles, illuminated by the Sun.
- Ionic tail blue ions of (CO⁺), fluorescing due to illumination by the Sun.
- Period rotation around Sun:
 - > 200 years long period comets
 - < 200 years short period comets



Comets come from Kuiper belt and Oort cloud

Orbit of Binary Kuiper Belt Object 1998 WW31 Pluto's orbit Kuiper Belt and outer Solar System planetary orbits Kuiper belt– disk at 35-50 a.u. from the Sun – source of short period Planetary comets. region Sun 10 10² 103 10 AU Inner Oort cloud- spherical envelop Oort cloud at 50,000-200,000 a.u. from Oort cloud the Sun - source of long period comets.

Comet nuclei seen at close distance



Nucleus of comet Halley, 7 x 8 x 16 km Mission Giotto, Keller et al., 1990 Nucleus - mixture of ices and dust ~ 50 : 50 Gases escaping from the nucleus 80 % H_2O CO 10 % CO₂ 3.5 % $(H_2CO)_n$ a few %

Dust = carbonaceous material + silicates (mostly, serpentine-chlorite??)
Borrelly comet nucleus, 3 x 8 km

Mission Deep Space 1, Britt et al., 2004

Jets of gas + dust, escaping from the nucleus



How mesas did form? Slope retreat (with collapse) due to sublimation of ice?

Wild-2 comet nucleus, 3.3 x 5.5 km

Mission Stardust, Brownlee et al., 2004

Jets of gas + dust, escaping from the nucleus



Craters are impact? How crater flat floors did form? Slope retreat (with collapse) due to sublimation of ice?



Nucleus of comet Tempel 1, 6 x 6 km



Impactor (copper) kinetic energy ~ 4.8 T TNT

Mission Deep Impact, A'Hearn et al., 2006







Tempel 1

Wild 2

Tempel 1

Basilevsky & Keller, 2006

Planation on the surface of comet nuclei



Basilevsky & Keller, 2006

Flow on Tempel 1 and potential terrestrial analogs



Basilevsky & Keller, 2006





Pyroclastic flow, St. Helens

Comet 67P Churyumov-Gerasimenko



Short-period (6 years and 7 months).

In aphelion extends the Jupiter orbit (5.7 au). In perihelion – betw. orbits of Earth and Mars (1.24 a.e.).

Discovered in 1969 K.I. Churyumov and S.I. Gerasimenko.

Two lobes: **Body** 4.1 x 3.3 x 1.8 km and **Head** 2.6 x 2.3 x 1.8 km.

ρ = 470 ± 45 кг/м³, P = 70-80%.

Sierks et al., 2015

Rosetta mission: Orbital module + Phlae lander

Launch: March 2, 2004 Approach to the comet January – May 2014 Wing span 32 m Spacecraft body 2.8 x 2.2 x 2 m





The comet DTM SHAP4s (Preusker et al., 2015)



Spatial resolution 2 м, vertical accuracy – decimeters.

Landing of Philae on the surface of nucleus of comet 67P



On landing did not work harpoons and the press-down gas engine. So the lander jumped up and after two more contactslanded in ~1.5 km from the target place.



Collapse of blocks of consolidated nucleus material from steep scarp in Ash region. Arrow – fracture of separation.

100 м



NavCam image 20141028T020855

Landslide body (thick arrow) in the lower part of the Hathor cliff. Fine arrow shows dowmslope lineaments.



Parts of NavCam images 20141106T202256 и 20141107T081255, rotated clockwise by 24° и 48°, respectively.

Oso, Washington, USA

Barton-on-Sea, Great Britain Луна, кратер Giordano Bruno



Andesite dome, Venus

Canyon Ophyr, Mars

Landslide in crater, Phobos



Fine loose (?) material(1), blocks of consolidated material (2) and semiburied blocks (3) in Hapi are at the foot of Hathor cliff.

Lineaments, oriented downslope (red) and subhorizontal (turquoise) on the Hathor cliff.



Oso, Washington, USA Slope in Oceanus Procellarum Wingate Sandstone, Co.



Layers in Atum region, 67P

Layers in Seth region, 67P Layers in Imhotep region, 67F

Two lobes of the nucleus – result of jointing of two separately formed bodies?



Massironi et al., Nature, 2025, doi:10.1038/nature15511

Blocks with inhomogeneities (inclusions?) of 3-5 m across in Imhotep region.



Arrow shows to block Cheops ~50 m across NavCam image 20141023T182255

Surface of the nucleus in the place of the first contact of Philae, Agilkia area, ROLIS images.



a) Image, taken from the height 38.6 m, white quadrangle shows outlines of image b, taken on the height of 9 м bb). The 5-meter block of consolidated material shows «grainy» character with 0.3-1 m grains. Grains of centimeter(s) size are seen on the surface.



Agglomerate of grains of mm-cm size in the place of final landing of Philae Bibring et al., Science, 349, 2015 Particles caught in 67P coma by the COSIMA instrument at the 10-20 km distance from the nucleus surface.



It is seen that particles of hundreds microns across are composed of particles of tens microns across. Schultz et al., Nature. 2015, doi:10.1038/nature14159.

Estimation of strength of the 67P nucleus mater





Tension fractures and structures like eolian ripples in Anuket area. Lower right is a scheme of rotation of nucleus around Its axis.







Taking into account the scale effect one can conclude that consolidated material of 67P comet has strength close to hat of fresh snow at -10C



It is grainy with observed "grains" from tens of meters to tens of microns



0 м



The surface is covered by black porous material containing organics









Material transportation:

— From below up: by gas of sublimation

> Down: by gravity force

Horizontally: by inertia, acquired at the movement down

By action of gas jets?









D/H = $(5.3\pm0.7)\times10^{-4}$, that coincides with D/H in molecule H₂O of the Oort cloud.



Earth oceans

Stardust mission to sample comet Wild 2 particles





Stardust sample return, Brownlee et al., 2006









Brownlee et al., Science, 2006

The 8 mm terminal particle T57 (Febo)



High-angular annular dark-field image

Reflected light

- Grain size: Weakly constructed mixtures of nanometerscale grains, with occasional much larger (> 1 μ m) ones.
- Mineralogy: Ferromagnesian silicates, Fe-Ni sulfides, and Fe-Ni metal and accessory phases. Hydrous phases are not found.



Pyroxenes and olivines

CAI particle

Zolensky et al. Science, 2006

Implication 1: The very wide range of olivine and low-Ca pyroxene compositions in comet Wild 2 requires a wide range of formation conditions, probably reflecting very different formation locations in the protoplanetary disk.

Implication 2: The restricted compositional ranges of Fe-Ni sulfides, the wide range for silicates, and the absence of hydrous phases indicate that comet Wild 2 experienced little or no aqueous alteration.

Implication 3: Less abundant Wild 2 materials include a refractory particle, whose presence appears to require radial transport in the early protoplanetary disk.

Smal satellites of planets:





Deimos, 10 x 12 x 16 k A = 0.06, ρ = 1.9 g/cm³ V escape = 6 m/s

Phobos, 18 x 22 x 26 km A = 0.05, ρ = 1.9 g/cm³ V убегания = 10 m/s



Meteorite Kaidun – fragmant of Phobos?

System of fractures around Stikney

Carbonaceous chondrite Kaidun, Meteorite collectio of RAN

Satelites of Mars Crater Stickney, D = 10 km

Jupiter satellites

Small satellites of giant planets



20 km



Phoebe, 50 km

Amalthea, 67 x 75 x 131 km

Saturn satellites Shadow of Saturn's F-ring



Pandora, 60 x 90 x 110 km



Epimetheus, 110 km

Neptune satelites



Hiperion, 226 x 280 x 370 km



Proiteus, 400 km

Larisa, 190 km
Characteristics of small bodies

Shape – irregular,

maybe except the largest asteroids

Atmosphere

- Asteroids and small satellites no atmosphere
- Comets gas of coma on approach to the Sun

Material – primitive (chondrites, carbonaceous chondrites, ice + silicate-oxide dust) Exception – achondrites, asteroid Vesta

Geological processes

- Impact cratering
- Collapses, landslides, creep
- Sublimation of ice of comet nuclei on approach to the Sun
- No volcanism (there was early volcanism on parent bodies of achondrites)
- No endogenic tectonism
- Faults made by impacts

Phobos Sample Return Project L. Zelenyi Snace Research Institute

Phobos Sample Return Project

Goals of the Mission

- Phobos regolith sample return,
- Phobos in situ study and remote sensing,
- Martian environment study
- Mars monitoring

Pecularities of the mission:

- Samples return
- Mars system science:
 - Martian moon (regolith, internal structure, origin, evolution),
 - Martian environment (dust, plasma, fields),
 - Mars (surface and atmosphere global dynamics)

Elements of the spacecraft



the Earth-Mars Interplanetary flight

Lavochkin Assosiation



Approach Phobos and landing



The Mars-Earth interplanetary flight



At the Phobos surface after take off the Return Module

Phobos Sample Return Project

Main characteristics of the spacecraft



Launcher	"Zenit-2"
SC mass budget	
 Jet propulsion system 	11 990 kg
(charged)	9 965 kg
 transfer SC (charged) 	1 290 kg
– returned SC (charged)	248 kg
 – landing module 	11 kg
 Chinese SC+adapter 	287 kg
Mass of the payload	50 kg
Mass of returned samples	0.2 kg

Lavochkin Assosiation

Landing site

Images taken by «Mariner 9», «Phobos2» and «MarsExpress» were used for selection of the landing site





Фрагмент карты Фобоса Простая цилиндрическая проекция

автор проф. П.Томас



Please wait until mid-2020's

