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« Composition of primordial asteroids: remnants of the planetesimal populations and members of the oldest asteroids families »

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Why study small bodies ?

Small bodies : witnesses of the primordial Solar System formation
 remnant of planetesimal and proto-planets



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- Small bodies : witnesses of the primordial Solar System formation
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- Information about primordial chemical composition from which planets and exoplanetary systems have formed
- Involvement in bringing water and organic matter on Earth



Different kind of small bodies Transneptunian Objects



Comets



Hale-Bopp



Asteroids



Ceres



Bennu





Asteroids



Ceres



Bennu





Asteroids



Ceres



Bennu





Asteroids



Ceres



Bennu





Asteroids

- Exist since the formation of the planets (~ 4.5 Gyr)
- Most of them was planetesimals (D > 100 km)
- Since their formation : several events like collision → modification of properties (diameter, composition, albedo)
- Creation of clusters from fragments of parent body → asteroid families

Asteroids

Member of a family:

- Same composition
- Same spectra
- Same albedo
- Same orbital parameters



Current problems

Methods cannot detect families older than 2 Gyr !!!!

How can we detect nowadays old families & planetesimals?

A new method: V-shape model

- <u>Yarkovsky effect</u> : influence of Sun over time
- Correlations in the plane 1/D vs a :
- → Inside the V : family members
 → Slope of the V : age of the family
- → Outside the V : interloper (probably planetesimal)



Study of planetesimals

Detection

Identify all the family \rightarrow « clean » the Main Belt and keep remnant

Work

Spectroscopy of remnant \rightarrow characterization of surface composition and classification following DeMeo scheme



F. E. DeMeo, R. P. Binzel, S. M. Slivan, and S. J. Bus. Icarus 202 (2009) 160-180



Discovery Chanel Telescope (DCT) Arizona, USA



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Copernico Telescopio Asiago, Italy



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InfraRed Telescope Facility (IRTF) Hawaii, USA



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Telescopio Nazionale Galileo Canaris Island, Spain



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Other telescopes?

Expected Results

 Classification of observed objects : planetesimals or old member of a family?

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Develop and update an asteroid catalog (MP3C)

