

Scattering Phase Function of the Comet 2P/Encke Dust Trail

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We present optical images of the Comet 2P/Encke dust trail observed at phase angles of 0.9-28.9 degree. The observations were performed with wide-field CCD cameras mounted on the Kiso 1.05-m Schmidt telescope and the University of Hawaii 2.24-m telescope between September 9, 2002 and February 21, 2007. Because of the long observation span and the different observing geometry, the column density of dust particles in the trail varies. Correcting the difference of the column density using our dust distribution model (*), we estimated the scattering phase function of mm- to cm-sized dust particles from the surface brightnesses of the dust trail.

*The details of the model will be presented in the Meteor Science session (PS11).