#### Primitive Asteroids: Insight into the Formation and Evolution of the Solar System



Artist's impression of the asteroid belt. Image credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

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# <u>Outline</u>

- Background about asteroid/meteorite science
- Ground-based astronomy of primitive asteroids
- Laboratory studies of primitive meteorites
- Linking primitive asteroid-meteorite science
- NASA's OSIRIS-REx mission to asteroid Bennu
- JAXA's Hayabusa2 mission to asteroid Ryugu

#### Solar Nebula



An artist's conception of the solar nebula, surrounding the violent young sun Credit: Dr. William K. Hartmann, Planetary Science Institute, Tucson, AZ

# <u>Meteorites: a record of nebular &</u> <u>Planetary processes</u>



CM: Carbonaceous Chondrites Mighei-like

**CI: Carbonaceous Chondrites Ivuna-like** 

# **Chondrules**



Image courtesy of G.K. Benedix (NHM) https://physics.ucf.edu/~campins/paris2011/

# **Hydrated Minerals**

- Hydrated minerals: any mineral tha contains structurally bound OH or H<sub>2</sub>O
- 275 different mineral species reported in meteorites
- 78 different hydrated minerals in meteorites



Graph courtesy of G.K. Benedix(NHM) https://physics.ucf.edu/~campins/paris2011/

## **Hydrated Minerals**

Brearley (2006) & Zolensky (2011) https://physics.ucf.edu/~campins/paris2011/

es	CI	CM	CO	CV	CB/CH	CR	Tagish Lake
Phyllosilicat	Serpentines Saponite	Serpentines Chlorite Vermiculite Garnets	Serpentine Chlorite	Serpentines Chlorite Micas Amphiboles Garnets Fayalite Hedenbergite	Serpentine	Serpentine Saponite	Serpentine Saponite
Carbonates	Calcite Dolomite Breunnerite Siderite	Calcite Dolomite Aragonite				Calcite	Calcite Dolomite Breunnerite Siderite Magnesite
Sulfides	Pyrrhotite Pentlandite Cubanite	Pyrrhotite Pentlandite Tochlinite		Pyrrhotite Pentlandite		Pyrrhotite Pentlandite	Pyrrhotite Pentlandite
	Sulfur	Awaruite					
Phosphates	Apatite Merrilite						
Oxides	Magnetite	Magnetite		Magnetite		Magnetite	Magnetite
Hydroxides		Brucite Tochilinite					
Halides		Halite					
	Sulfates???	Sulfates???					NO SULFATES

#### Asteroid Spectroscopy in VNIR



Credit: http://www.pion.cz/en/article/electromagnetic-spectrum

 $Credit: http://www.thewhitegoddess.co.uk/the\_elements/the\_planets/the\_sun.asp$ 



#### **Remote Sensing: Crystal Field Theory**

• Partially Filled d-orbital of Fe<sup>2+</sup>:



 $\Delta_{O}$  is the energy difference between the ground state and the upper state (excited)

#### Mineralogy & Remote Sensing •Early Solar System 1) H<sub>2</sub>O + (Fe metal, sulfide) = Tochilinite 2[(Fe,Mg,Cr,Ni[])S]•1.57-1.85[(Mg,Fe,Ni,Al,Ca)(OH)] 3-µm asymmetric stretch 2) Solution + Silicates = Fe-rich phyllosilicates ✓ Cronstedtite- Fe<sub>2</sub><sup>+2</sup>Fe<sup>+3</sup>(Si, Fe<sup>+3</sup>O<sub>5</sub>)(OH)<sub>4</sub> 0.7-μm charge transfer 3-μm asymmetric stretch 3) Mg-phyllosilicates are last to form ✓ Mg-serpentine(chrysotile/lizardite/antigorite)- Mg<sub>3</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>(OH)<sub>4</sub> 3-µm asymmetric stretch ✓ Saponite- (Ca, Na)<sub>0.3</sub>(Mg, Fe<sup>+2</sup>)<sub>3</sub>(Si, Al)<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub><sup>●</sup> $_{4H_{2}O}$ 3-µm symmetric stretch ✓ Vermiculate- (Mg, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, Al)<sub>3</sub>(Al, Si)<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub> $\bullet$ 4H<sub>2</sub>O 3-μm symmetric stretch 2.2-µm OH-metal

#### **Remote Sensing: Water Vibrations**



FIG. 2. — The fundamental internal vibrational modes of the free  $H_2O$  molecule. The O-H stretching mode of  $OH^-$  is the same as either of the stretching modes shown with one of the hydrogens removed. S.J. Gaffey (1988)

Molecular vibrations also produce spectral features

#### Main Asteroid Belt



Credit: Minor Planet Center

### Asteroid Taxonomies



Tedesco et al. (1989)

# Main Belt Taxonomy (Classification)



#### Open questions :

- The hydration state of these asteroids
- The nature of phyllosilicate mineralogy on the surface of these asteroids

#### **Asteroid-Meteorite Research**



## Research's Goals & Motivation

The goal: is to apply the 3-µm spectral indicators (e.g., band center, band shape, band depth) in CM and CI chondrites to outer Main Belt asteroids (2.5 < a < 4.0 AU)

To better understand

Hydration state of these asteroids Nature of phyllosilicate mineralogy on their surfaces

**Broad** implication

Address the question of the abundance and distribution of  $H_2O$  in the early Solar System and test current theories on the formation and evolution of the giant planets in the early Solar System.

## Asteroid Observations

- Observations: 45 asteroids (2009-present)
  - ✓ NASA Infrared Telescope Facility (IRTF)
  - ✓ 3-m telescope on Mauna Kea, Hawai'i
  - ✓ SpeX: Prism (0.8-2.5- $\mu$ m) and LXD (1.9-4.1- $\mu$ m)
- Data reduction: IRTF Spextool & IDL custom routines
- We are observing 6o additional primitive asteroids in the next three years (IRTF & Gemini North)



#### <u>Asteroid observations: Difficulties &</u> Procedures



Atmosphere not 100% transparent (the OH band at 2.7 µm is not observable from Earth) Thermal Excess(tail)

(for most main-belt low-albedo asteroids the thermal contribution is 1–10% of the total flux at 3.1-3.5  $\mu$ m)

- Observe object and nearby star (~few degrees)
- Subtract nearby (~10 arcsec) sky emission
- Divide object by star (remove transmission & solar spectral shape)
- Average all frames



#### NASA IRTF Spectrometer



Asteroid observations: SpeX is used in the low-resolution mode (R~95) Prism (0.8-2.5-μm) and LXD (1.9-4.1-μm) mode

"Sharp" group: OH-stretching (phyllosilicates)



Takir & Emery(2012)

"Rounded" group: H<sub>2</sub>O ice



"Ceres-like" group: Ammoniated Phyllosilicates



Takir & Emery(2012)

"52 Europa-like" group: phyllosilicates (with interlayer  $H_2O$ )?



Takir & Emery(2012)



## Intriguing Orbital Distribution



Takir & Emery(2012), Takir et al. (2015) + additional asteroids

### Water Detected on largest Metallic Asteroid in Solar System: Psyche



Takir et al. (2016)

Meteorite Petrology, Mineralogy, and Spectroscopy

- Carbonaceous chondrites (powders & thin sections):
- Petrology & geochemistry (UTK)
- NIR reflectance spectroscopy (USGS & APL)
  - ✓ ASD spectrometer(0.35-2.5 µm)
  - ✓ Nicolet (FTIR: 1.3 to 15.5 μm)
  - ✓ Bruker Vertex-70 FTIR
- Raman spectra (Wash U)
- High resolution SEM imaging (USGS)





"CM Group 1": Fe-serpentine (cronstedtite) rich



"CM Group 2": Intermediate b/w Fe & Mg-serpentine Takir et al. (2013)



"CM Group 3": Mg-serpentine-rich

Takir et al. (2013)



#### "CI Ivuna": Mg-serpentine-rich

Takir et al. (2013)



Takir et al. (2013)



# <u>Degree of Aqueous Alteration & the</u> <u>3-µm band</u>



#### Asteroid & Meteorite matches



Takir et al. (2015)

# <u>NASA's OSIRIS-REx Mission to a</u> <u>Primitive Asteroid</u>



# **OSIRIS-REx Defined**



#### Origins

- Return and analyze a sample of pristine carbonaceous asteroid regolith
- Spectral Interpretation
  - Provide ground truth for telescopic data of the entire asteroid population
- Resource Identification
  - Map the chemistry and mineralogy of a primitive carbonaceous asteroid
- Security
  - Measure the Yarkovsky effect on a potentially hazardous asteroid
- Regolith Explorer
  - Document the regolith at the sampling site at scales down to the sub-cm

# Asteroid (101955) Bennu

- Formally named 1999 RQ36
- Bennu is an Egyptian mythological bird that was born from the heart of Osiris
- It is associated with the Sun, creation, and renewal
- The name was selected in an international contest run by the Planetary Society



Image credit: http://www.touregypt.net

## Asteroid Bennu is well-characterized



- Images used to construct a geologically detailed threedimensional model and define the rotation state
  - Size = 492-m (±20 m, mean diameter)
  - Shape = spheroidal "spinning top"
  - Rotation state = 4.3 hr period, 180° obliquity
- Radar also probed the near-surface bulk density and structure



# **OSIRIS-REx Instruments**

**SamCam** images the sample site, documents sample acquisition, and images TAGSAM to evaluate sampling success

**MapCam** provides landmark-tracking OpNav, performs filter photometry, maps the surface, and images the sample site

**PolyCam** acquires Bennu from >500K-km range, performs star-field OpNav, and performs high-resolution imaging of the surface



OCAMS

(UA)

**OLA (CSA)** provides ranging data out to 7 km and maps the asteroid shape and surface topography

# **OSIRIS-REx Instruments**



OVIRS (GSFC) maps the reflectance albedo and spectral properties from  $0.4 - 4.3 \ \mu m$ 



OTES (ASU) maps the thermal flux and spectral properties from  $4 - 50 \mu m$ 



Radio Science (CU) reveals the mass, gravity field, internal structure, and surface acceleration distribution



**REXIS (MIT)** is a Student Collaboration Experiment that trains the next generation of scientists and engineers and maps the elemental abundances of the asteroid surface

### **Sample Collection System: TAGSAM**





# Successful Launch of OSIRIS-REx a Few Weeks Ago









Cape Canaveral, FL ULA's Atlas V rocket September 8, 2016 ~7:05 pm EDT Credit: NASA & OSIRIS-REx

## **OSIRIS-REx Timeline**



- Selection: May 25, 2011
- Confirmation: April, 2013
- Spacecraft Assembly: February, 2015
- · Launch: September, 2016
- Bennu Arrival: August, 2018
- Bennu Departure: March, 2021
- Sample Return: September, 2023
- End of Mission: September, 2025

# JAXA's Hayabusa2 Mission to a Primitive Asteroid



# Highlights of Hayabusa2 Mission

Hayabusa2 is the 2nd Japanese sample return mission to small body. JAXA launched Hayabusa2 in 2014, which will explore the C-type asteroid *Ryugu (1999JU3)*, and will return back to the Earth in 2020.

- Round-trip mission
  - High specific impulse ion engine for continuous-thrust trajectory control.
- In-situ science at "Ryugu"
  - 1.5year proximity operation at "Ryugu"
  - Four landers, four remote science instruments.
- Touch down & sample collection
  - Two normal touch down, one pin-point touch down (to the artificial crater) are planned.
- Artificial crater generation
  - Kinetic impact on the asteroid surface to create a 2m-class crater.
  - Sub-surface structure of the asteroid can be acquired.

#### Hayabusa2 Spacecraft (1/2)



#### Hayabusa2 Spacecraft (2/2)



# Robotic Exploration with 12 Deployable "Robots"



#### Hayabusa2 Timeline





#### Solar Nebula



An artist's conception of the solar nebula, surrounding the violent young sun Credit: Dr. William K. Hartmann, Planetary Science Institute, Tucson, AZ