



# Quantitative Grain Size Estimation on Airless Bodies from the Negative Polarization Branch: The Case of Dawn Mission Targets, **(4) Vesta and (1) Ceres using NHAO NIC**

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1. KASI, Korea; 2. Seoul Nat U, Korea; 3. Seoul Nat U, Astronomy Research Center, Korea; 4. Center for Astronomy, U Hyogo, Japan;  
5. Japan Spaceguard Association, Japan; 6. Nayoro Observatory, Japan; 7. The U of Tokyo, Japan

Bach et al. (2022), StGal, 5, 4  
Bach et al. (2024a), A&A, 684, 80  
Bach et al. (2024b), A&A, 684, 81

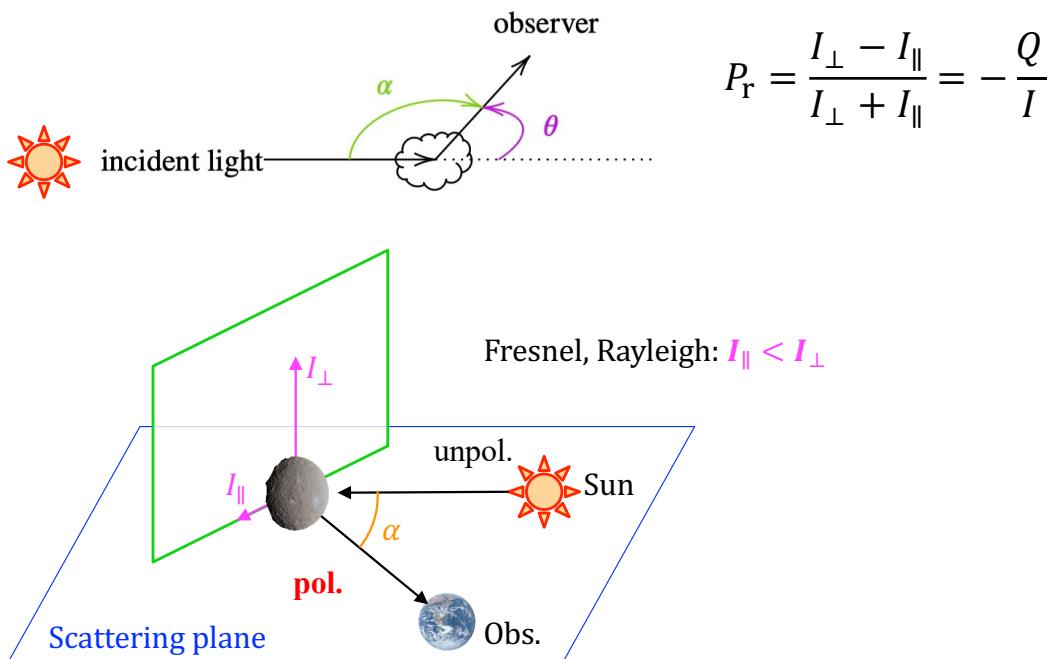
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- Target selection
- Observations & Data reduction (Paper 0: Bach+22, StGal, 5, 4)
- Results (Paper II: Bach+24b, A&A, 684, 81)
- Discussions & Future work

Bach et al. (2022), StGal, 5, 4  
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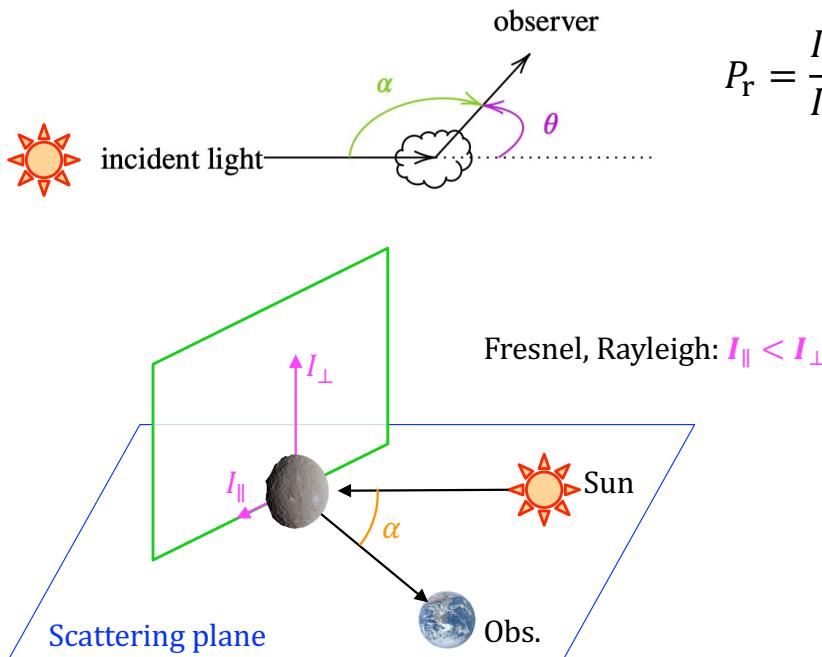
# Intro: Polarimetry in Solar System

- Polarimetric phase curve (PPC)
  - Pol. as phase angle  $P_r = P_r(\alpha)[\%]$
  - Phase angle  $\alpha = 180^\circ - \text{scat. ang.}$

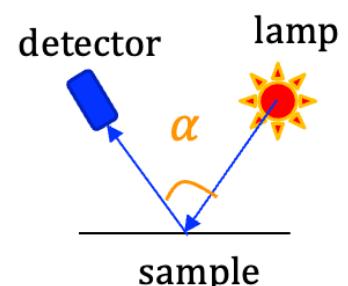
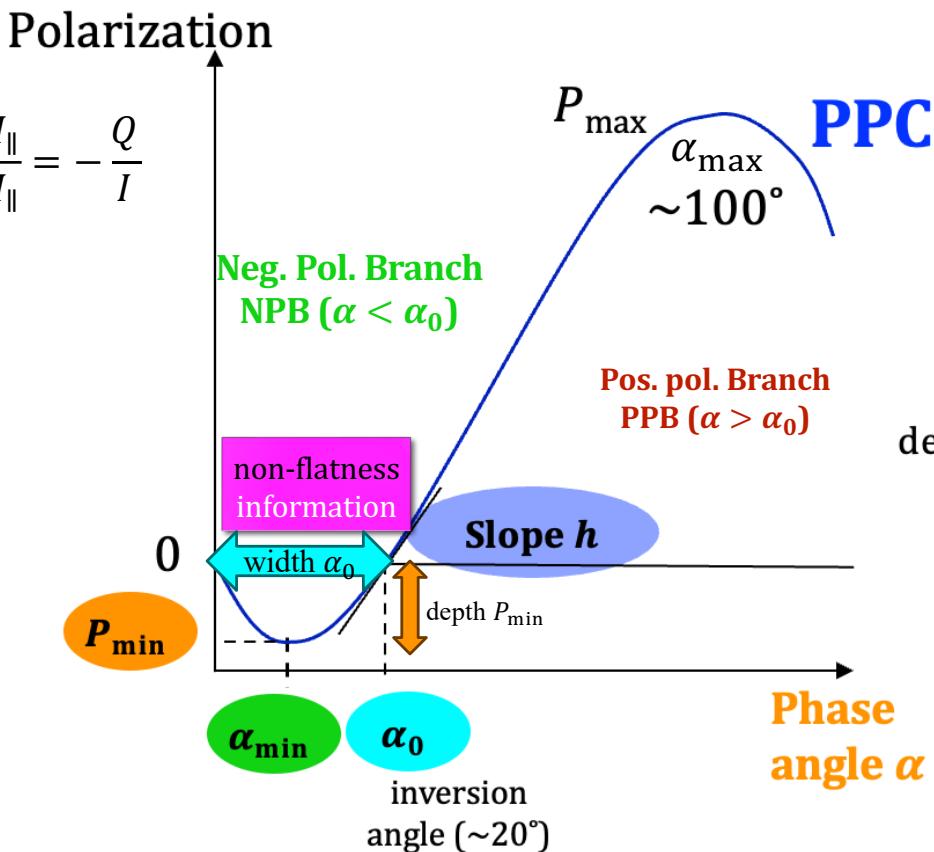


# Intro: Polarimetry in Solar System

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$$P_r = \frac{I_{\perp} - I_{\parallel}}{I_{\perp} + I_{\parallel}} = -\frac{Q}{I}$$



# Motivation

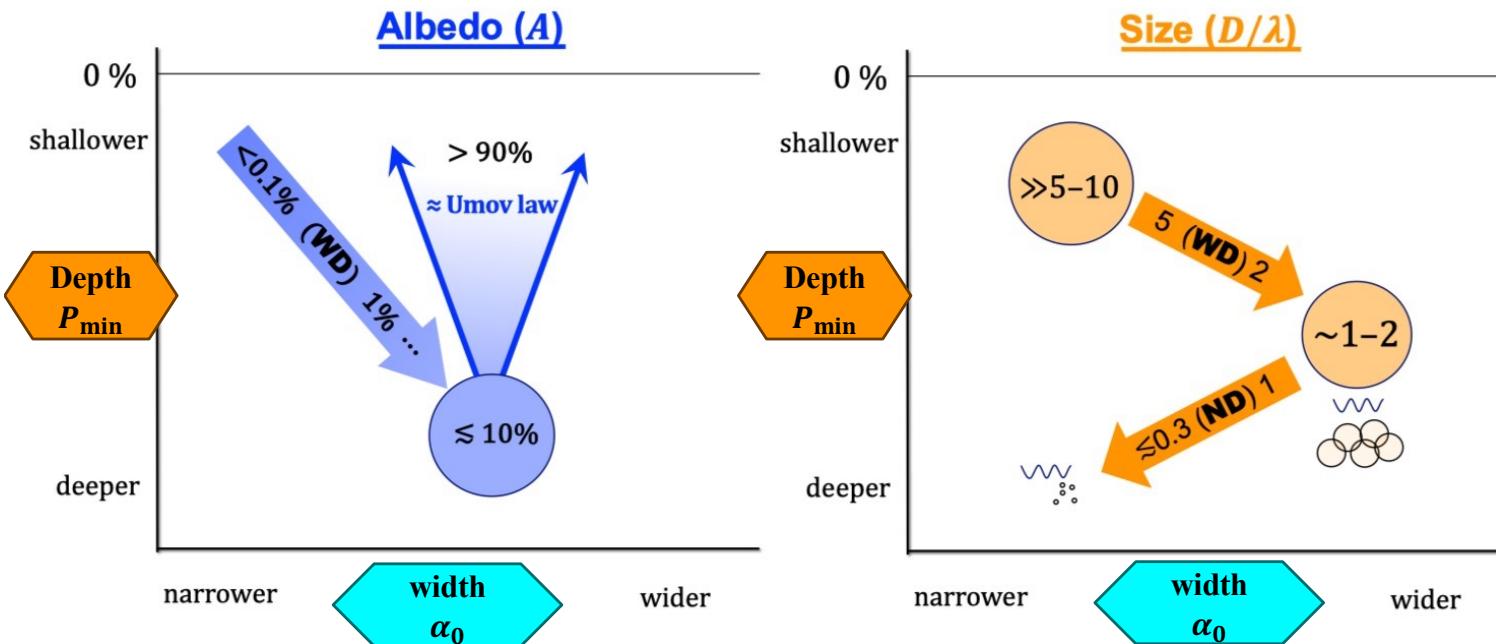
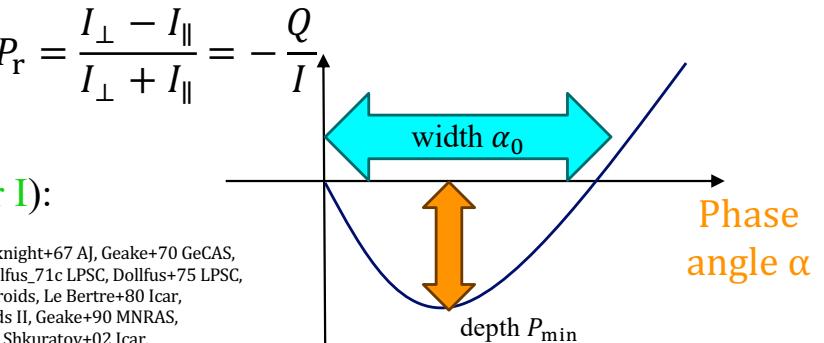
- We found two observables are important (Bach+24, A&A, 684, 80; Paper I):

- Albedo
  - The **Umov law**
- Size parameter ( $D/\lambda$ )

Umw 1905, Physikalische Zeitschrift, 6 (20), 674;  
CeliinoA+ 15, MNRAS, 451, 3473;  
LupishkoD 18, SoSyR, 52, 98

Lyot 29, Dollfus 55, Gehrels+64 AJ, Clark 65 MNRAS, Kenknight+67 AJ, Geake+70 GeCAS,  
Dollfus 71 PSMP, Dollfus+71a A&A, Dollfus+71b A&A, Dollfus\_71c LPSC, Dollfus+75 LPSC,  
Zellner+77a&b LPSC, Dollfus+77 RSTPA, Dollfus+79 Asteroids, Le Bertre+80 Icar,  
Geake+86 MNRAS, Lupishko+89 Icar, Dollfus+89 Asteroids II, Geake+90 MNRAS,  
Shkuratov+92 Icar, Shkuratov+94 E&MP, Volten+01 JGR, Shkuratov+02 Icar,  
Shkuratov+04 JQSRT, Shkuratov+06 JQSRT, Belskaya+05 Icar, Hapke 12 Book,  
Dabrowska+15 Icar, Nelson+18 Icar, Escobar-Cerezo+18 ApJS, Munoz+21 ApJS,  
Frattin+22 MNRAS, Spadaccia+22 A&A, Hadamcik+23 MNRAS, Sultana+23 Icar

And many (20+) more studies that we investigated but not directly used

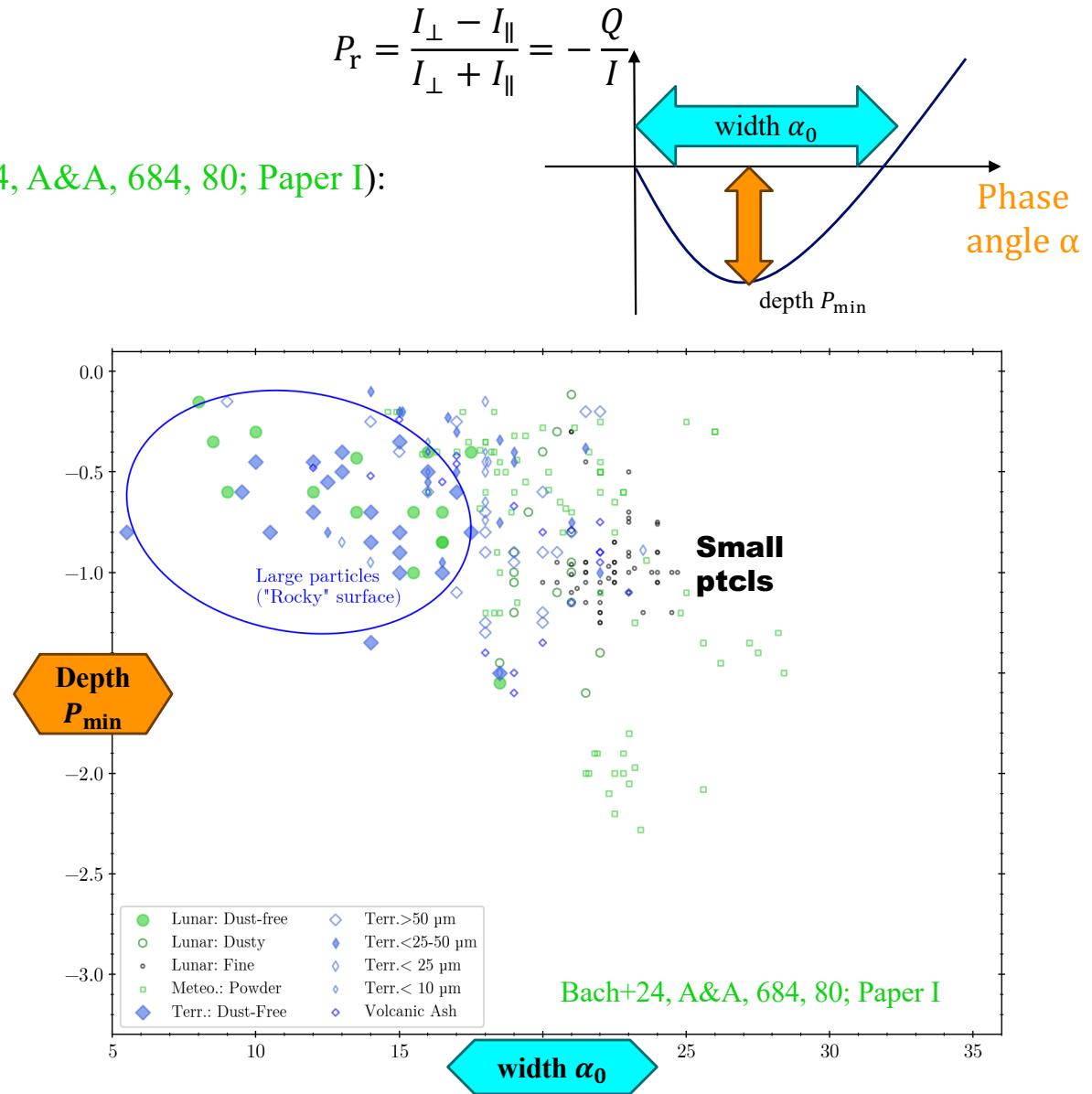
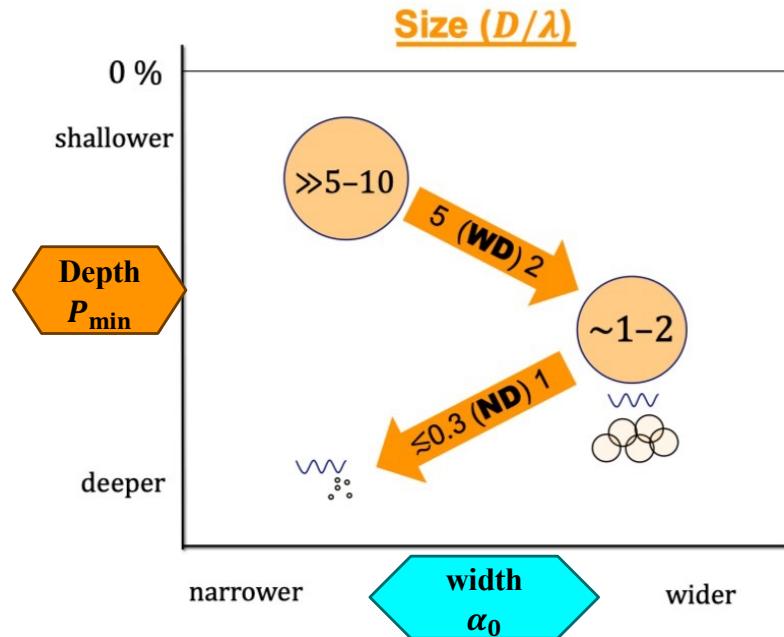


Bach+24, A&A, 684, 80; Paper I

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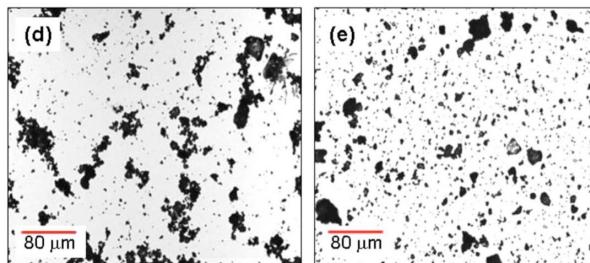
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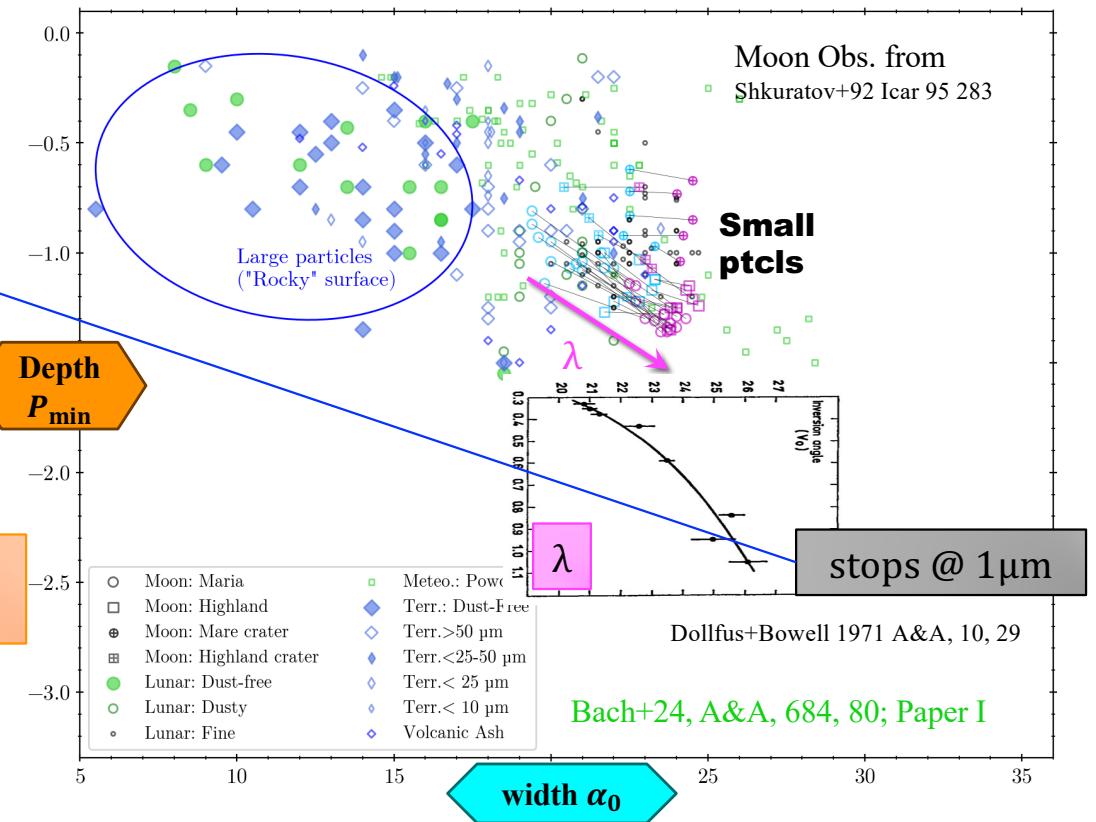
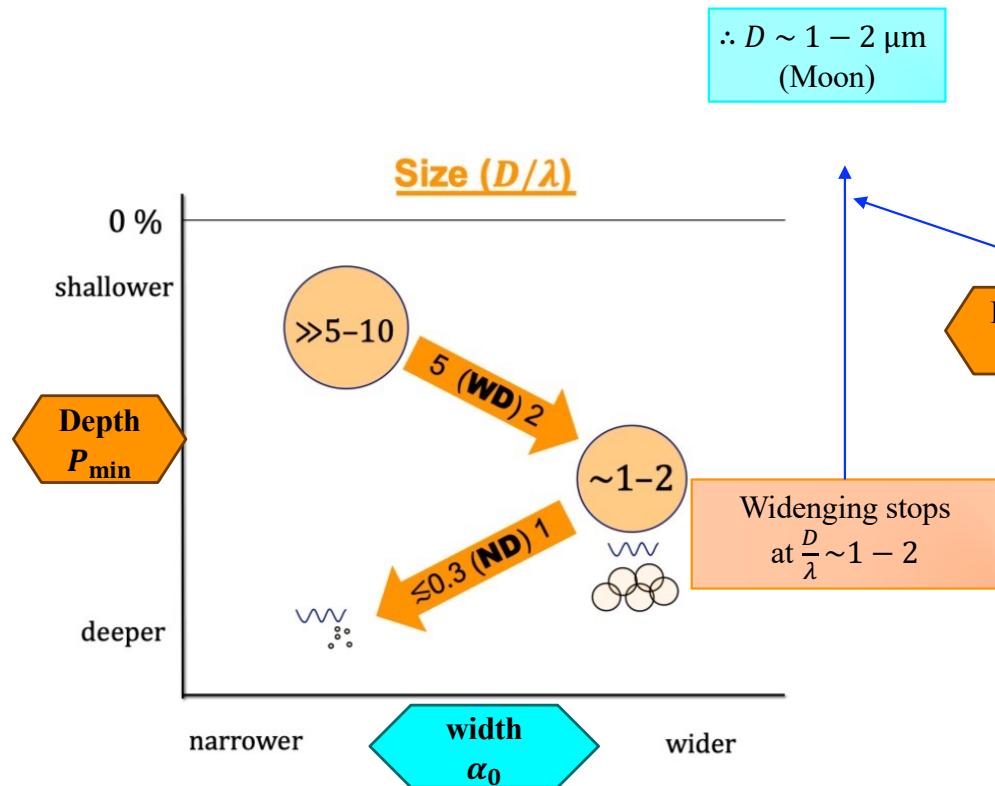
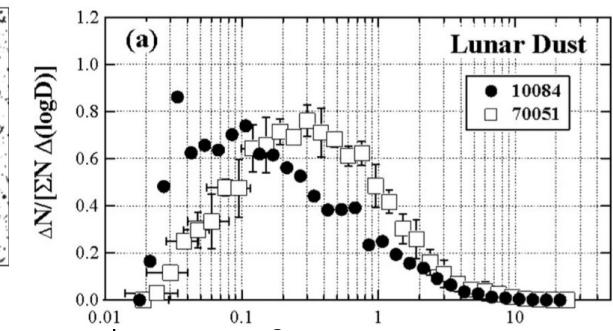
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 CellinoA+ 15, MNRAS, 451, 3473;  
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Park+08 JAE 21 266



# Targets

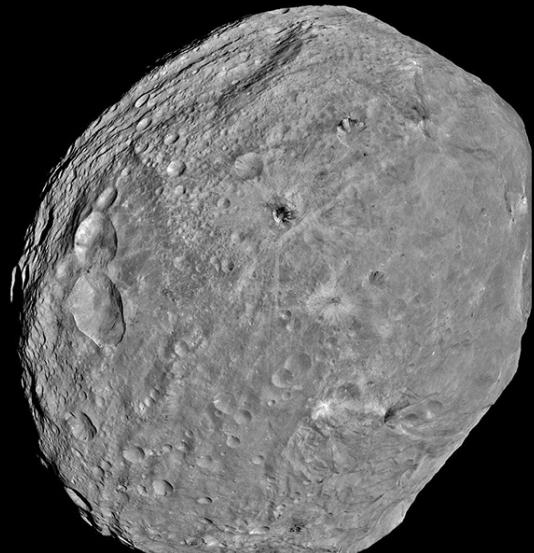
Criteria:

- Brightest
- Most studied
- Likely to contain small ( $\lesssim 20\mu\text{m}$ ) particles



(4) Vesta

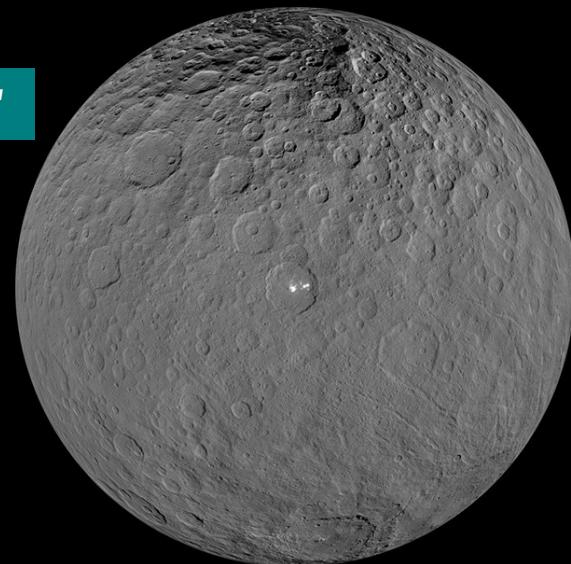
560 × 450 km



"Airless Bodies"

(1) Ceres

960 × 890 km



# Observation

- NHAO NIC, polarimetric-mode
  - J, H, Ks-band simultaneous pol.
- (1) **Ceres**: 5 obs.
  - 2020-06-21, 2020-10-02, 2020-10-18, 2021-09-09, 2021-11-07
- (4) **Vesta**: 6 obs.
  - 2019-10-22, 2019-11-08, 2019-11-21, 2019-12-18, 2020-01-10, 2020-02-13



3+ year of data reduction

→ Published **NICpolpy**

A screenshot of the NICpolpy 0.1.5 GitHub repository page. The header reads "NICpolpy 0.1.5" and includes a "pip install NICpolpy" button. The main content area has sections for "Navigation" (Project description, Release history, Download files, Direct links), "Project description" (NICpolpy, DOI 10.5281/zenodo.7391454, ysbach93@gmail.com), and a note about recent documentation on GitHub. The footer contains a link to the Center for Astronomy at the University of Hyogo.

**SAG: Stars and Galaxies Vol. 5, id. 4, 2022 December 28**  
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**Bach et al. 2022 (StGal)**

**Data Reduction Process and Pipeline for the NIC Polarimetry Mode in Python, NICpolpy**

Yoonsoo P. BACH,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Masateru ISHIGURO,<sup>1,2,\*\*</sup> Jun TAKAHASHI,<sup>3,\*\*\*</sup> and Jooyeon GEEM<sup>1,2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>*Astronomy Program, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Seoul National University, Gwanak-ro 1, Gwanak-gu, Seoul 08826, Republic of Korea*  
<sup>2</sup>*SNU Astronomy Research Center, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Seoul National University, Gwanak-ro 1, Gwanak-gu, Seoul 08826, Republic of Korea*  
<sup>3</sup>*Nishi-Harima Astronomical Observatory, Center for Astronomy, University of Hyogo, 407-2 Nishigaichi, Sayo-cho, Hyogo 679-5313, Japan*  
*\*ysbach93@gmail.com, \*\*ishiguro@snu.ac.kr, \*\*\*takahashi@nhao.jp*

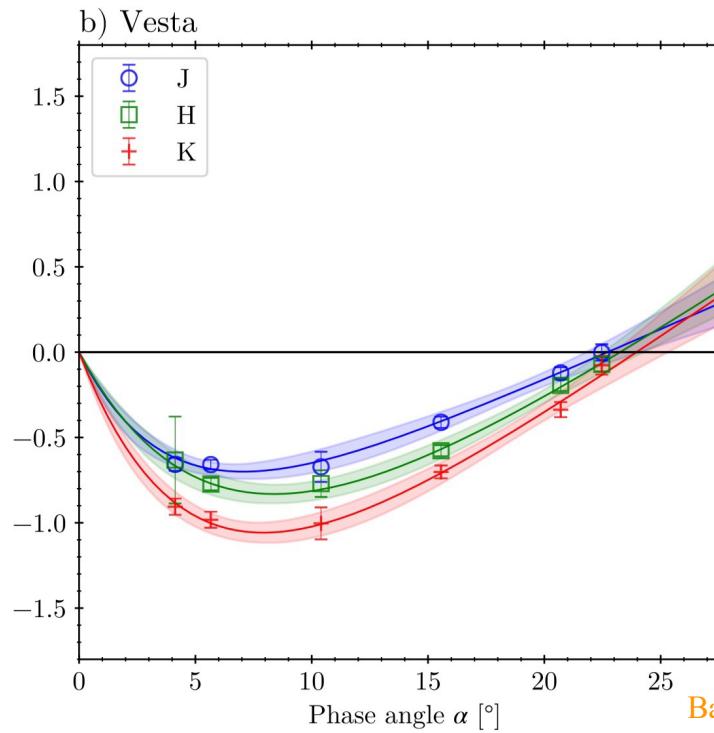
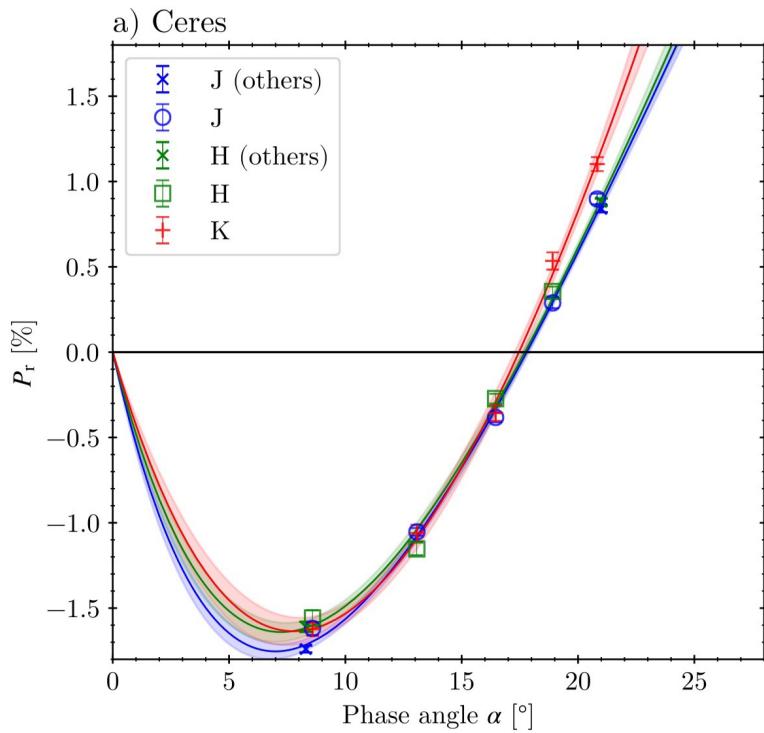
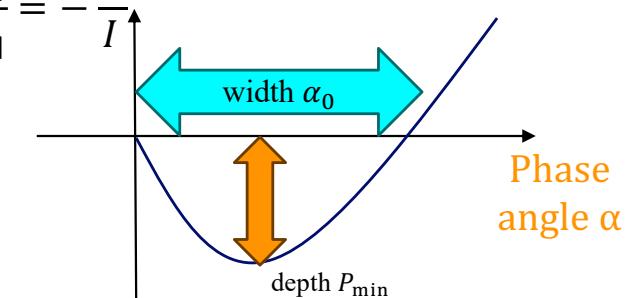
(Received 2022 October 26; accepted 2022 December 13)

# PPC

- **Ceres**: Matches well with Palomar
- **Vesta**: First NIR pol. of V-type

200" (5.1-m) telescope (WIRC+Pol)  
*(Masiero et al. 2022 PSJ)*  
 The first NIR pol. for asteroids (!?)

$$P_r = \frac{I_{\perp} - I_{\parallel}}{I_{\perp} + I_{\parallel}} = -\frac{Q}{I}$$

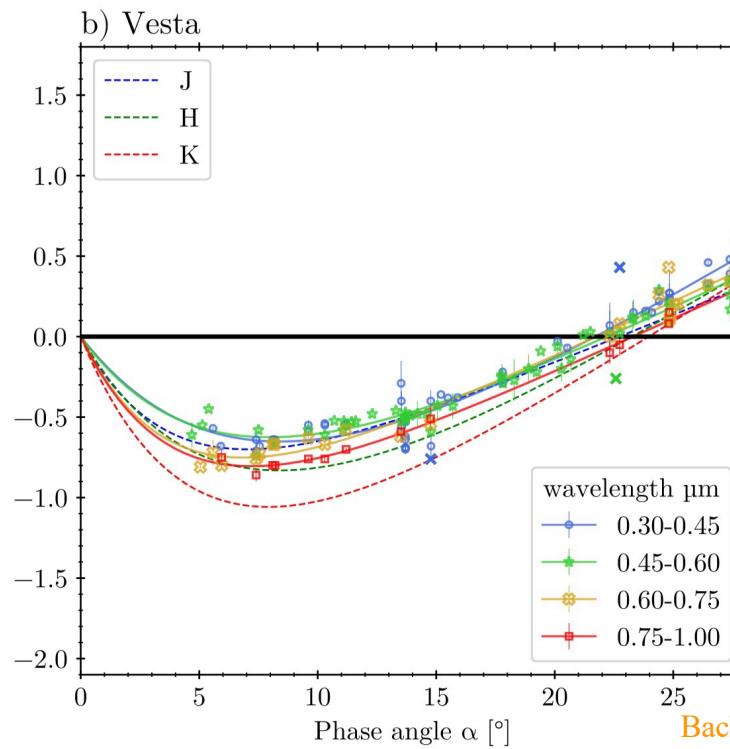
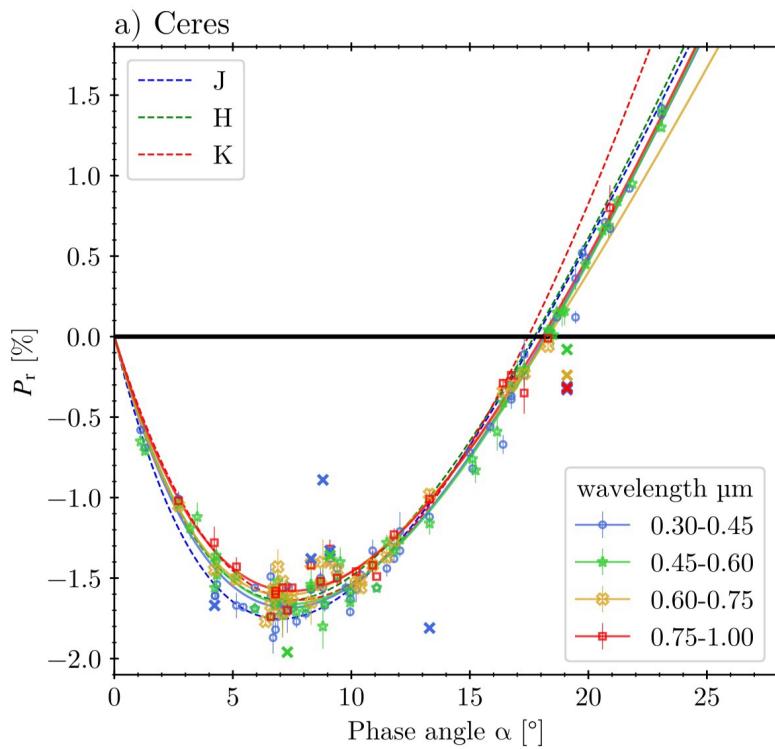
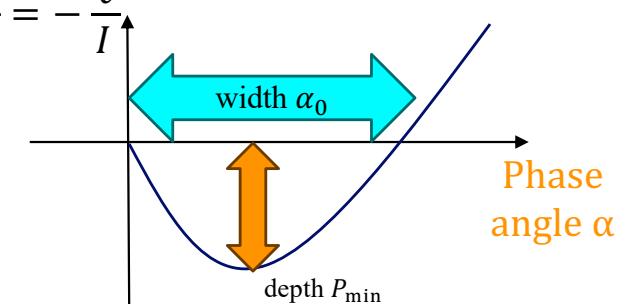


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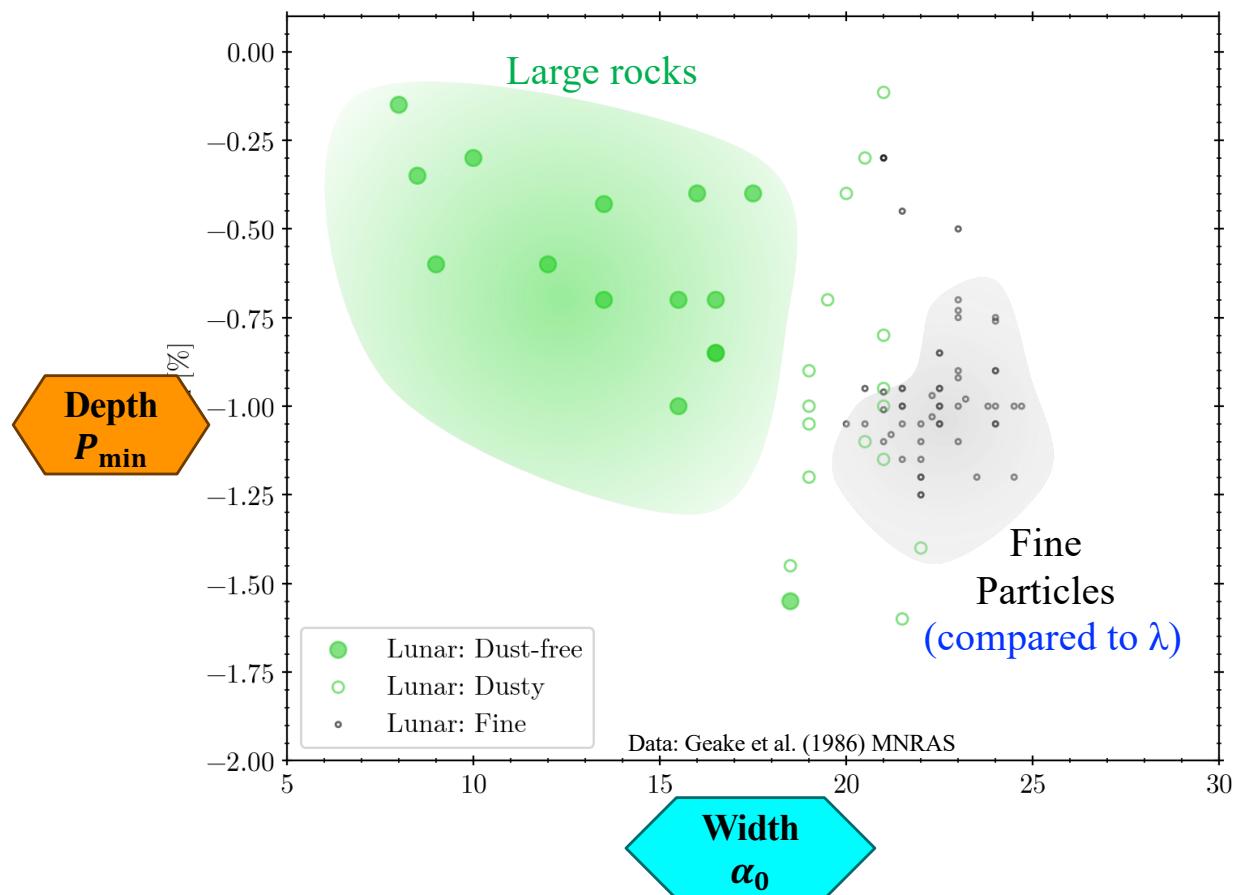
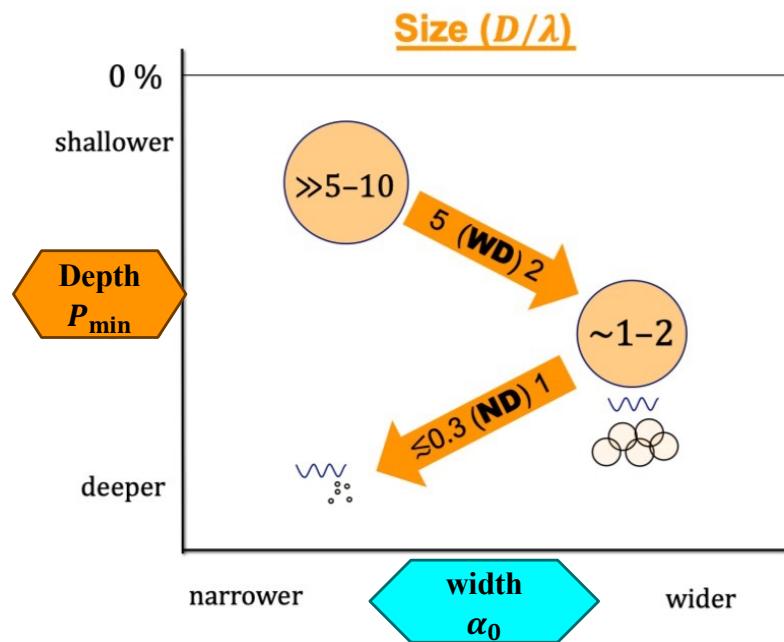
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Bach+24b A&A, 684, 81; Paper II

# Case of Vesta



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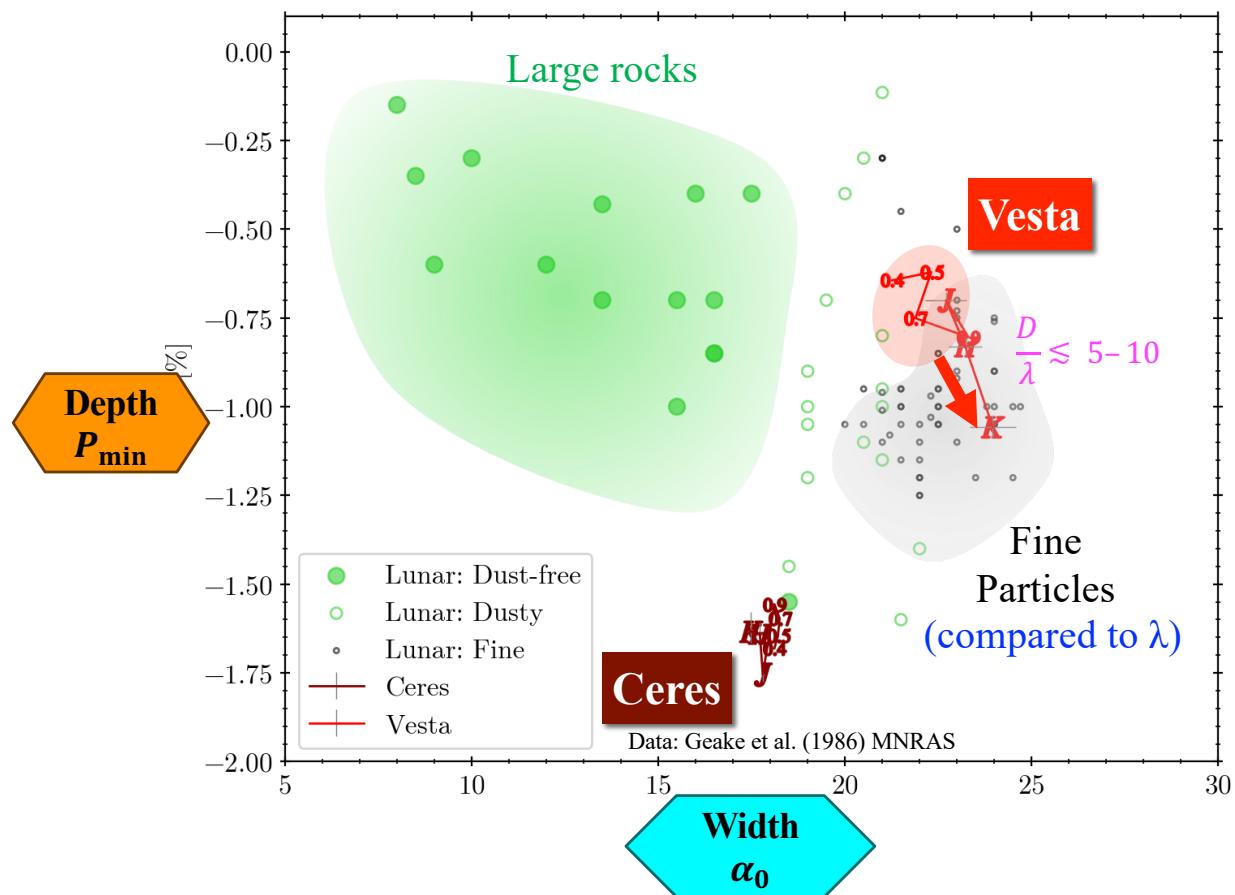
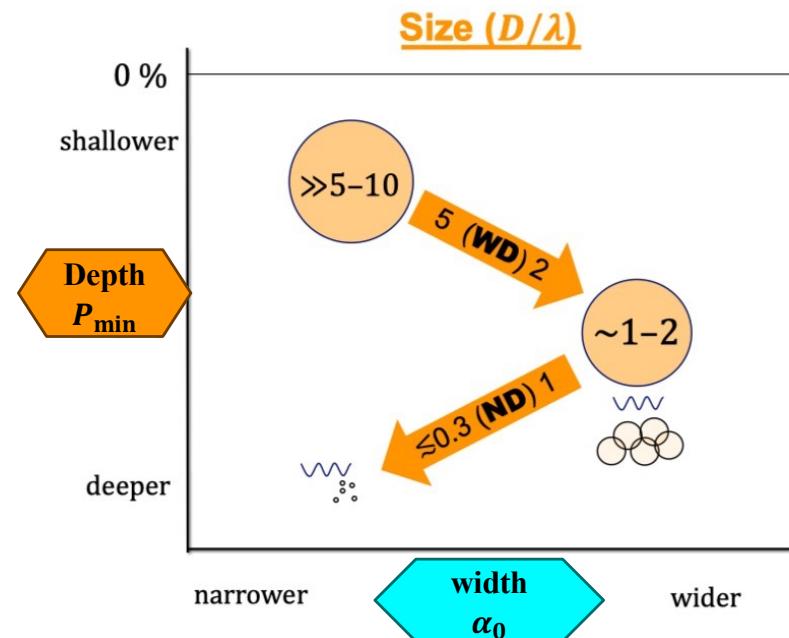
- $P_{\min}$  -  $\alpha_0$  change for **Vesta**

- Particle size:

$$\frac{D}{\lambda} \sim 5 - 10 \quad (\lambda \sim 2\mu\text{m})$$

$$D \sim 10 - 20 \mu\text{m}$$

Bach+24b A&A, 684, 81; Paper II  
First quantitative estimation of D  
from multi- $\lambda$  pol to NIR



Bach+24b A&A, 684, 81; Paper II

Consistent with  
 - Optical pol.: Le Berte & Zellner 1980  
 - Spectra : HiroiT+94, LiJY+11, MartikainenJ+19

# Discussions – Importance

An independent way to measure particle size D

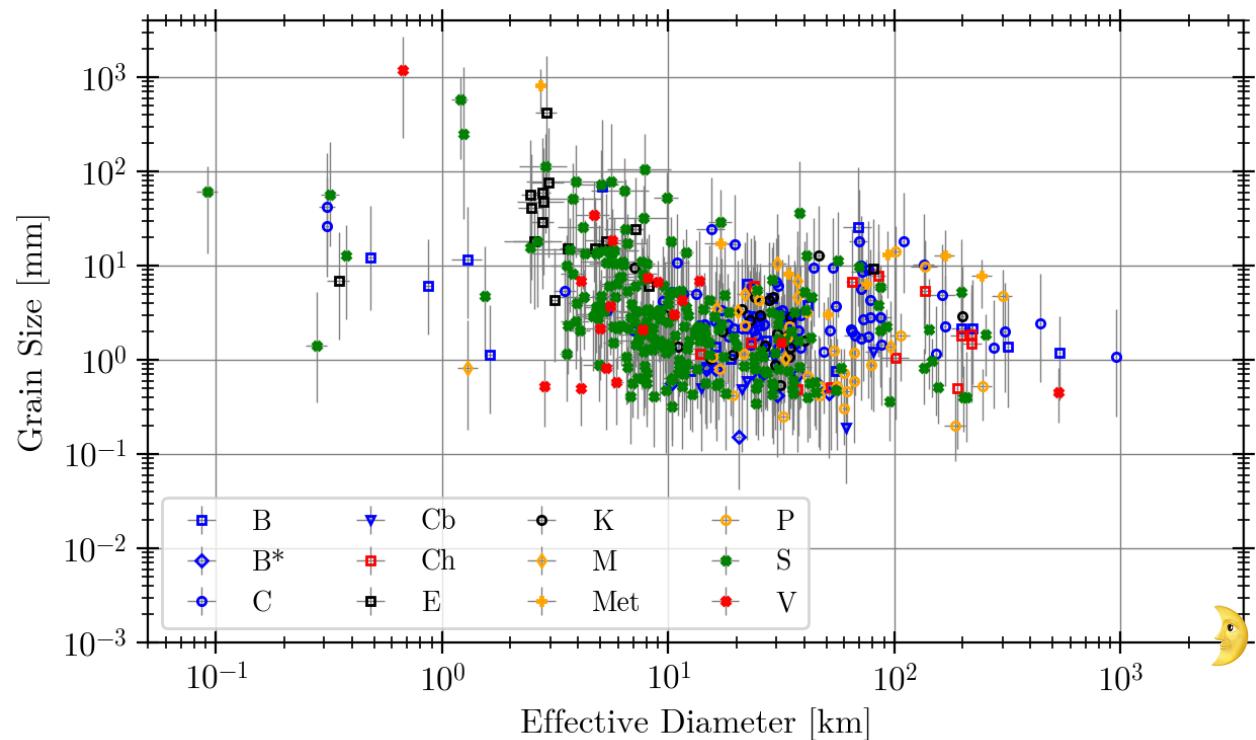
- Compensates thermal modeling based estimations.

Data from MacLennan & Emery (2022) PSJ

Figure from Bach, Y. P. (2023) PhDT

Methodology - see  
Gundlach & Blum 2012 & 2013

## Thermal modeling



# Discussions – Importance

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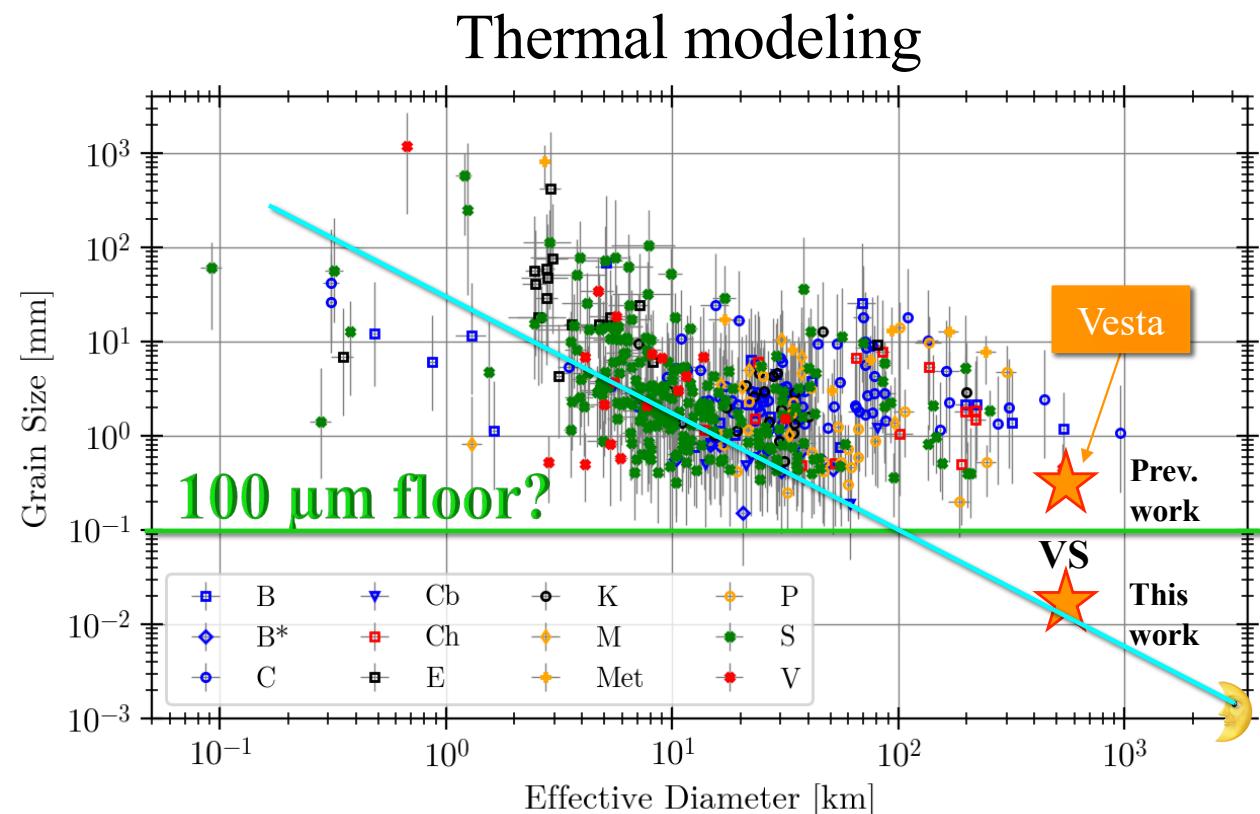
- Compensates thermal modeling based estimations.

- 100 $\mu\text{m}$  floor VS 10-20 $\mu\text{m}$  on Vesta?

- Bug found in M&E22
  - (priv. comm. MacLennan 2023)
- Our result is consistent with their updated results!

- Summary:
  - First application of NIR polarimetry to quantify grain size.
  - Vesta  $D \sim 10 - 20 \mu\text{m}$
  - Ceres: further discussion needed (e.g., h value)
- Future: Disk-resolved NIR pol for Vesta

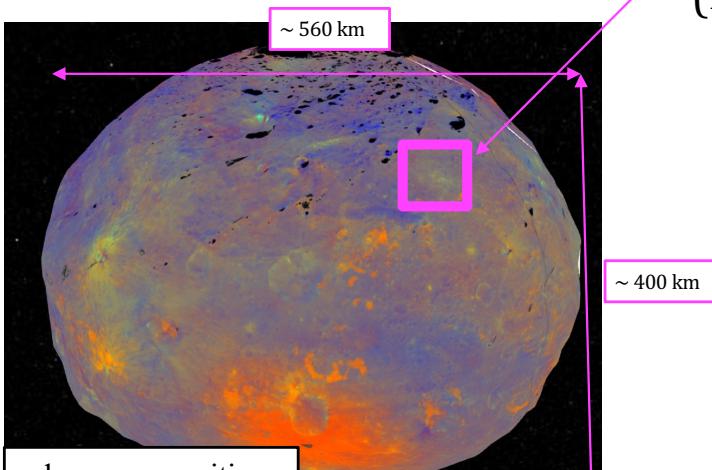
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# Future Works – Vesta

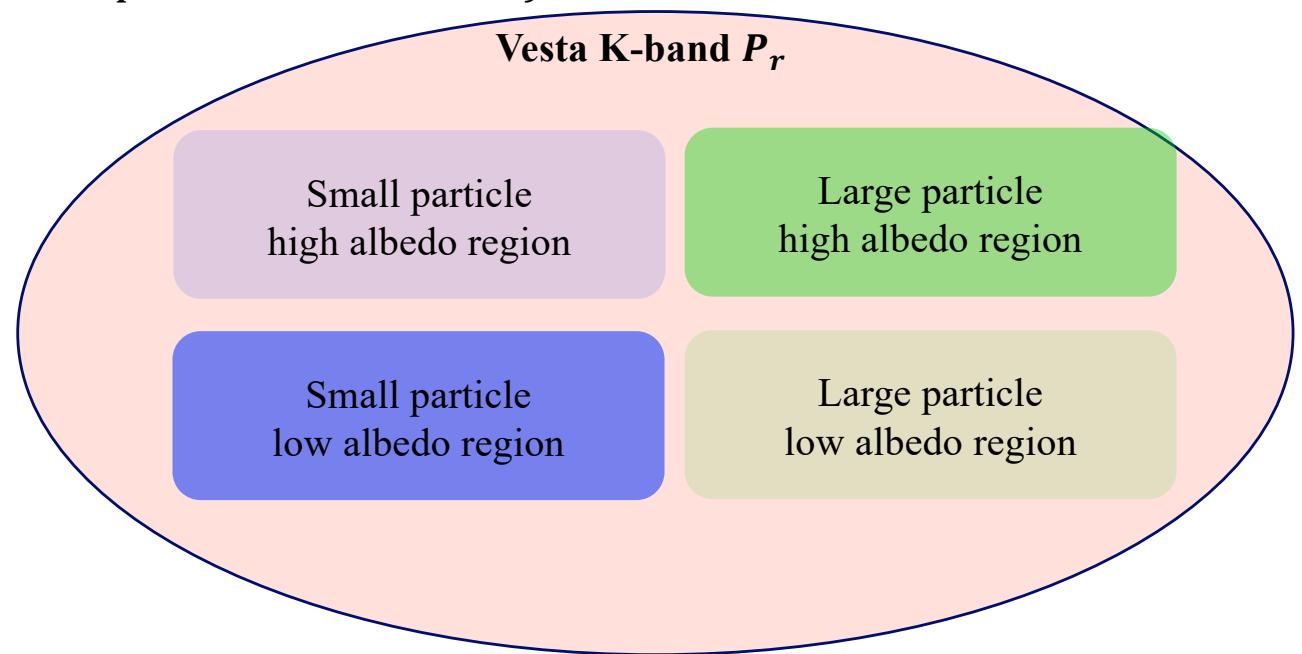
[1] Reddy V. et al. (2012) Science

- Disk-resolved NIR polarimetry
  - Vesta is one of the "most heterogeneous asteroids"[1]
  - Albedo already known (Dawn mission)
  - With Pol. map, we may discuss grain size map (size VS craters, compositions, etc)



<https://trek.nasa.gov/vesta/#>

**Subaru IRCS with AO188 (K-band)**  
(Best expected resol. = 70 km)



2023B proposal rejected  
Planning to submit 2025A

