

# Teacher Seminar (Astronomy and Space Science)

2014-07-07

Hong Kong Space Museum

# Schedule

- 14:00 – 15:15 Part 1
- 15:15 – 15:40 Break/ Resource Centre Opens
- 15:40 – 16:50 Part 2
- 16:50 Resource Centre Opens until 17:10

- [http://www.upf.edu/pcstacademy/\\_docs/The\\_95x\\_solution.pdf](http://www.upf.edu/pcstacademy/_docs/The_95x_solution.pdf)

## The 95 Percent Solution

*School is not where most Americans learn most of their science*

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John H. Falk and Lynn D. Dierking

The scientific research and education communities have long had a goal of advancing the public's understanding of science. The vast majority of the rhetoric and research on this issue revolves around the failure of school-aged children in the United States to excel at mathematics and science when compared with children in other countries. Most policy solutions for this problem involve improving classroom practices and escalating the investment in schooling, particularly during the precollege years. The assumption has been that children do most of their learning in school and that the best route to long-term public understanding of science is successful

museums, zoos, aquariums, national parks, community activities such as 4-H and scouting and many other scientifically enriching enterprises. The sheer quantity and importance of this science learning landscape lies in plain sight but mostly out of mind. We believe that nonschool resources—used by learners across their lifetimes from childhood onward—actually account for the vast majority of Americans' science learning. If this premise is correct, then increased investment in free-choice (also known as informal) learning resources might be a very cost-effective way to significantly improve public understanding of science. Taking this view, though, requires dis-

The unquestioned focus was to increase the quantity of qualified science teachers and by doing so, the quality of teaching. This assumption shaped years of research on the public understanding of science, summarized biannually by the National Science Board in their *Science and Engineering Indicators* series. National organizations such as the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the National Academies of Sciences commissioned white papers focusing on the issue, and science-education reform efforts were funded by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Education.

Over the ensuing years, the content

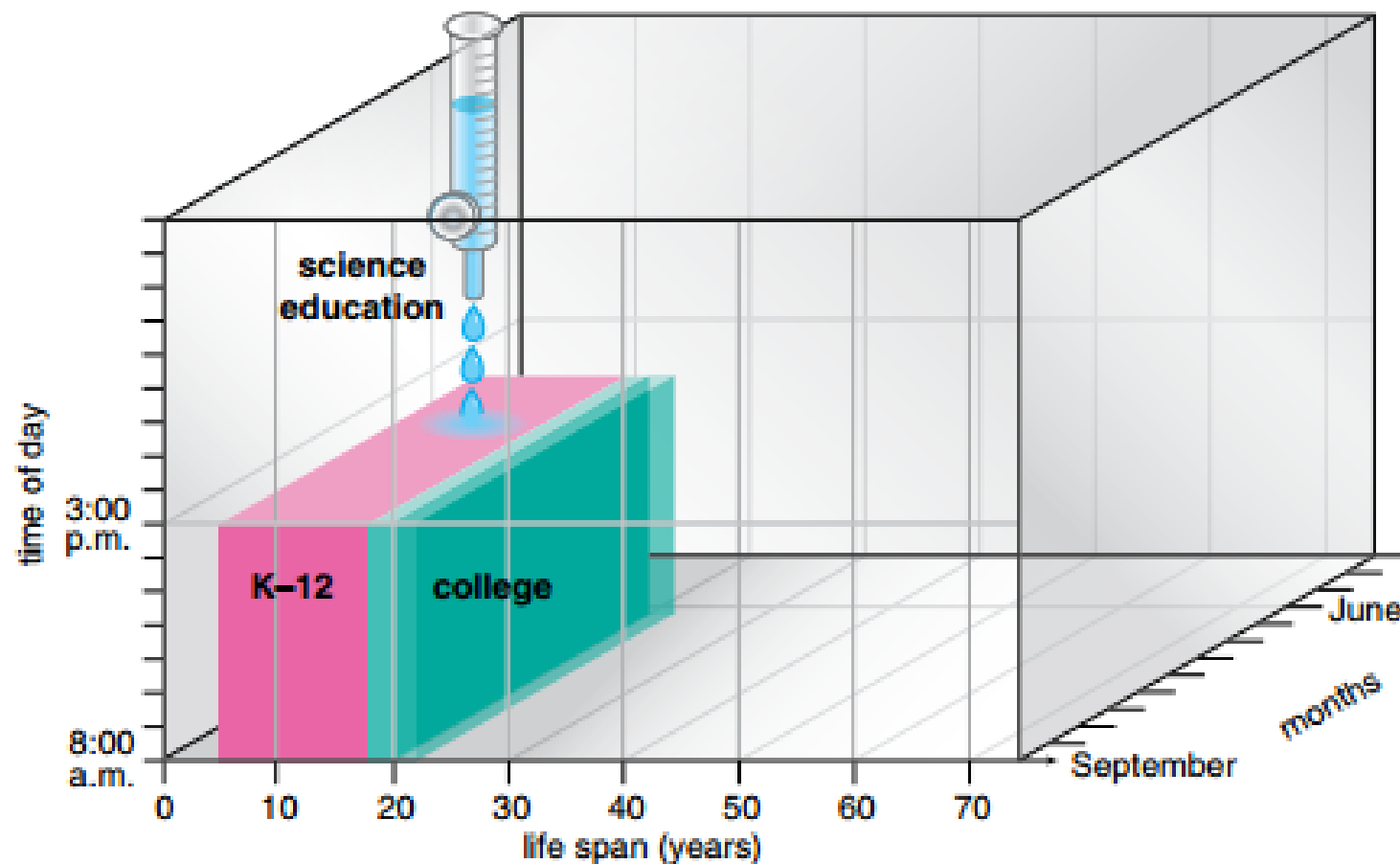
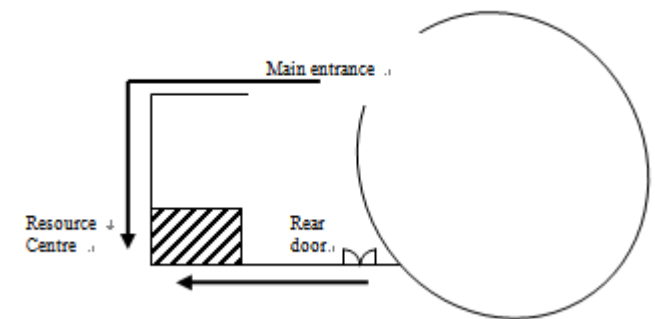


Figure 2. On average, only about 5 percent of an American's lifetime is spent in the classroom, and only a small fraction of that is dedicated to science instruction. Emerging data suggest that the best way to increase the public understanding of science is to reach people during the other 95 percent of their life.

# Hong Kong Space Museum

- School programmes
  - School Visit
  - School Show
  - School Culture Day
  - Young Astronaut Training Camp

# Resource Centre







# Nature of Universe

宇宙的本質



前言

謹義

香港大學  
物理系



主辦

康樂文化署  
香港太空館

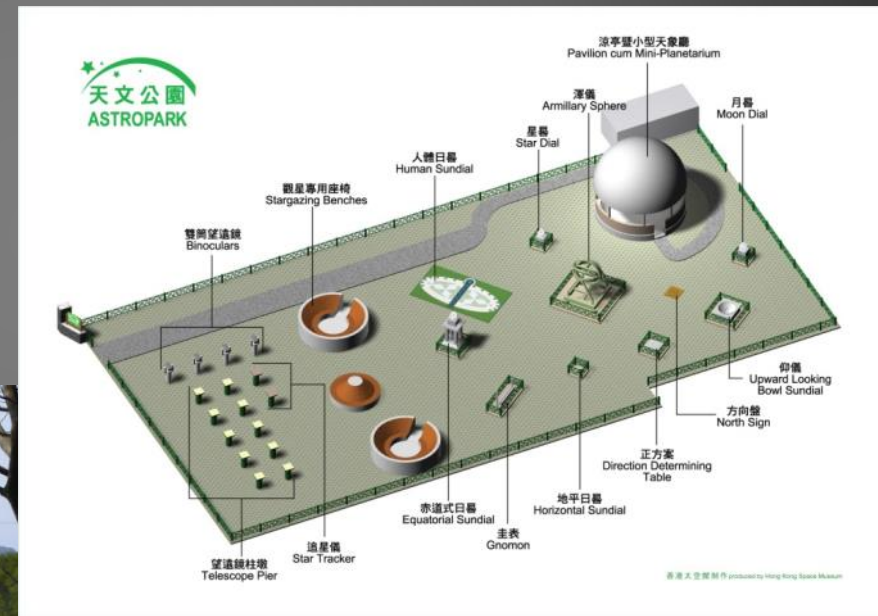


協辦



# Astropark

- Next to Chong Hing Water Sport Centre, Sai Kung
- Established in 2010
- Attendance > 13,000/yr



# iObservatory

- Located in Lady Macle hose Holiday Village, Sai Kung
- Established in 2009
- Remote imaging system under development



# Weather Information for Astronomical Observation

NEAT搜索全攻略 x How to discover new ast x 天文觀測天氣資訊 (試驗) x Hong Kong Space Muse x

www.hko.gov.hk/gts/astronomy/astro\_portal\_uc.html

文)  
公用表格  
聯絡及支援  
公開資料  
招標公告(英文)  
相關網址  
重要告示  
個人版網站  
流動版本  
RSS 資訊頻道  
純文字版本  
列印版本  
上一頁

無障礙網頁守則

最新全天影像一覽  
2014 Jul 6 19:10:00 HKT



North East South West

2014 Jul 6 19:15:02 HKT

North East West South

天文公園

最新星圖

月 出 13:04 月 落 00:13  
水星出 04:32 水星落 17:42  
金星出 03:43 金星落 17:03  
火星出 12:53 火星落 00:31  
木星出 06:48 木星落 20:04  
土星出 14:49 土星落 02:07

明天星體出沒時間  
2014-07-07

天文曙光 (開始)	天文暮光 (結束)
04:19	20:37
日出 05:45	日落 19:11
月出 13:59	月落 00:53
水星出 04:30	水星落 17:41
金星出 03:44	金星落 17:04
火星出 12:51	火星落 00:29
木星出 06:46	木星落 20:01
土星出 14:45	土星落 02:03

香港天文台年曆2014  
香港太空館網上星圖

608.cfg 566.cfg 644.cfg EDBJuly2.ppt

顯示所有下載...




NEAT搜索全攻略 x How to discover new ast x Weather Information for x 香港太空館 Hong Kong S x

https://www.facebook.com/hkspacem

香港太空館 Hong Kong Space Museum Patrick Home Find Friends

You are posting, commenting, and liking as 香港太空館 Hong Kong Space Museum — Change to Patrick Lau

Page Activity 20 Insights Settings Build Audience Help

 **香港太空館 Hong Kong Space Museum**  
Museum · Landmark

Timeline About Photos Reviews More

PEOPLE

★★★★★  
#1 Museum in Kowloon  
6,633 likes  
30,712 visits

Sui Sun Kong, Kelvin Chung and 43 other friends like this or have been here.

Status Photo / Video Offer, Event +

What have you been up to?

24 Scheduled Posts. View posts.  
Next post scheduled for tomorrow at 9:00am

香港太空館 Hong Kong Space Museum  
Posted by Natalie Leung · July 4 · Edited

THIS WEEK

28 Page Likes

2,166 Post Reach

UNREAD

20 Notifications

0 Messages

Recent

2014

2013

2012

2011

Opened

GAMES OF FRIENDS MORE

DRAGON CITY

RECOMMENDED GAMES

BINGO

Casey Kc Lee likes 852 郵報's link.

Eric Ng likes Lai Chi Ming's post in HKAS香港天文學會.

Sai Hang Donald Tsui likes Lawrence W.K. Lee's status.

Gigi Ng likes Lawrence W.K. Lee's status.

Spencer Lam likes Jeff Yung's status.

Chun Cheung Yim

So Chu Wing

Turn on chat to see who's available.

608.cfg 566.cfg 644.cfg EDBJuly2.ppt

顯示所有下載...

# Coming soon...

- Mobile app
- New school shows



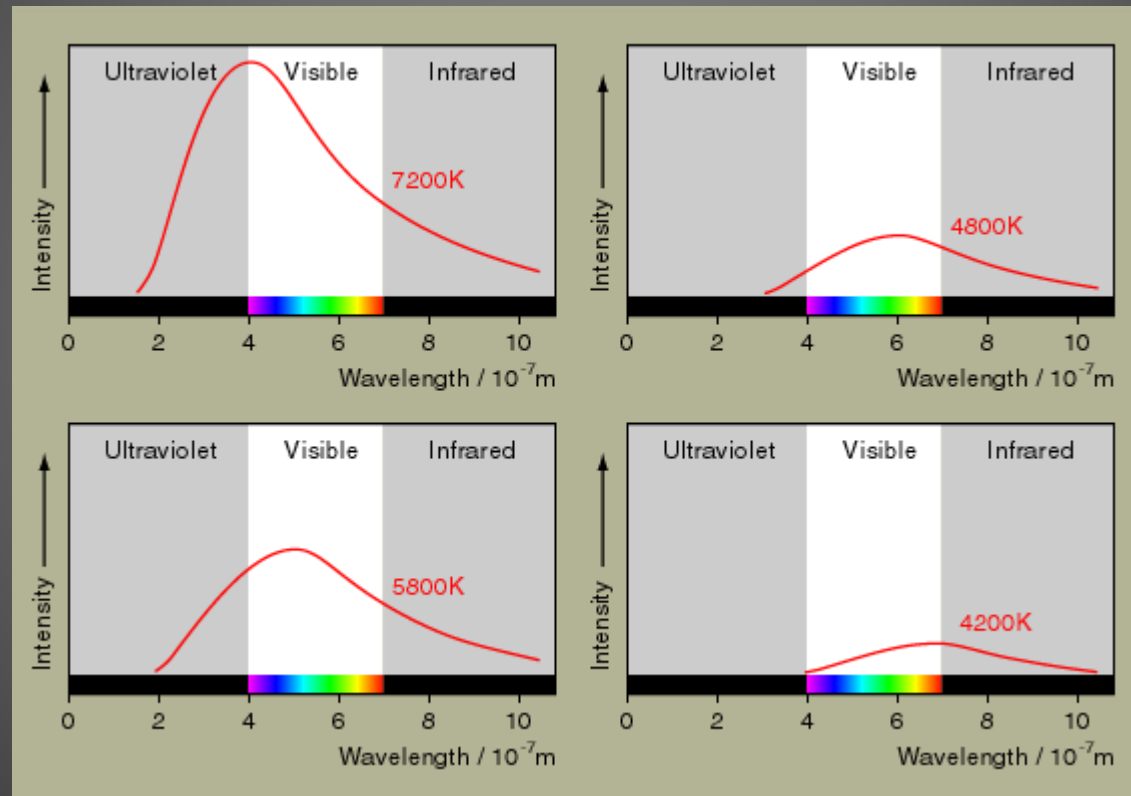
# Activities

- Explorative
- No definitive goal



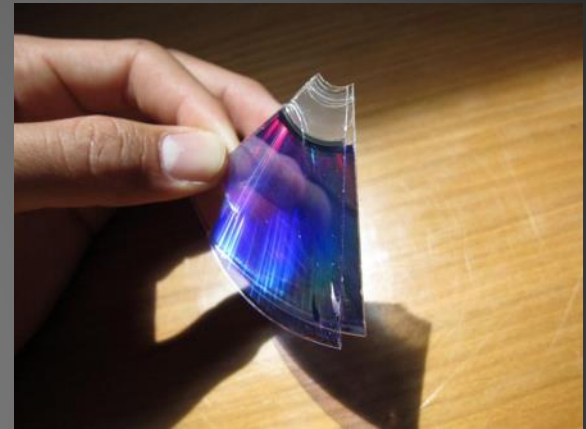
# Stars and the universe

Stellar classification: Stellar Spectrum



# 1. Classroom Spectroscopy

- Personal  
(really saw the spectrum?)
- Hard to calibrate for  
quantitative study



# Recent development

- Real-time
- Can be seen by whole class
- Easy calibration

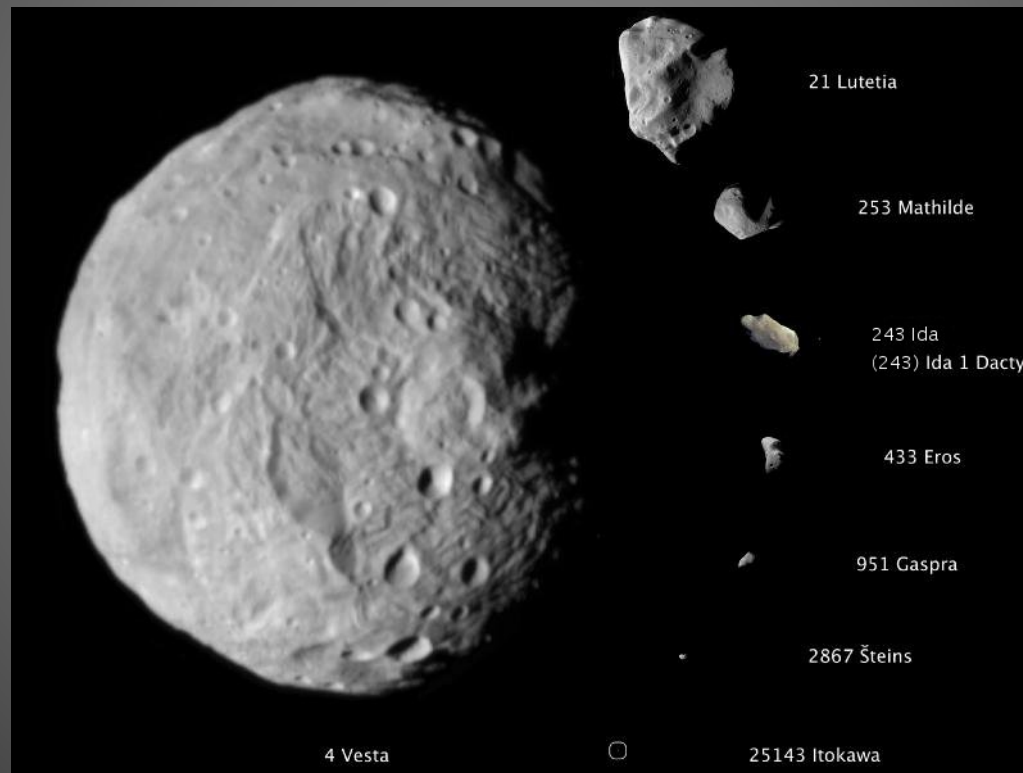


Credit: Physics Lab

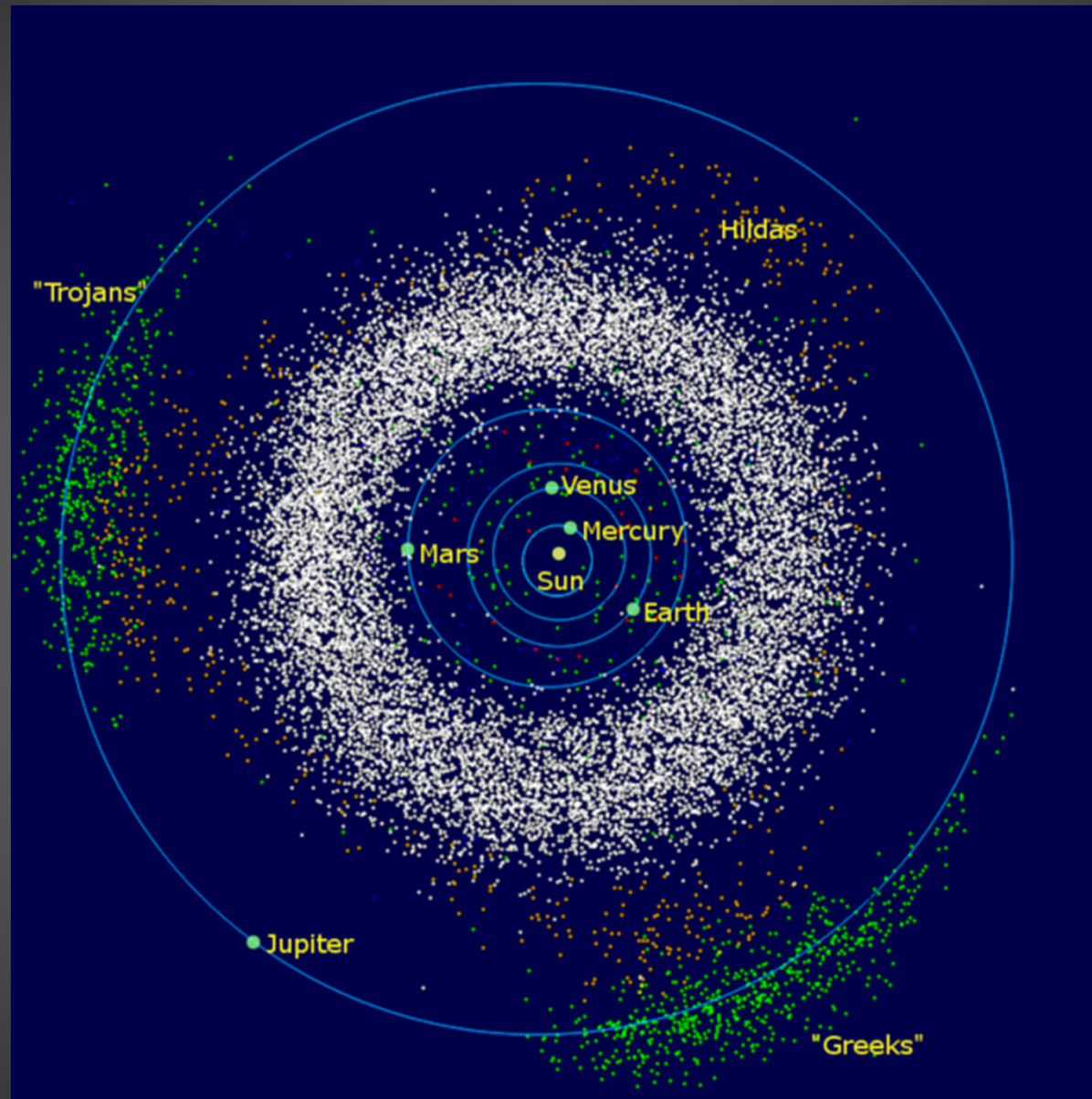


Credit: Physics Lab

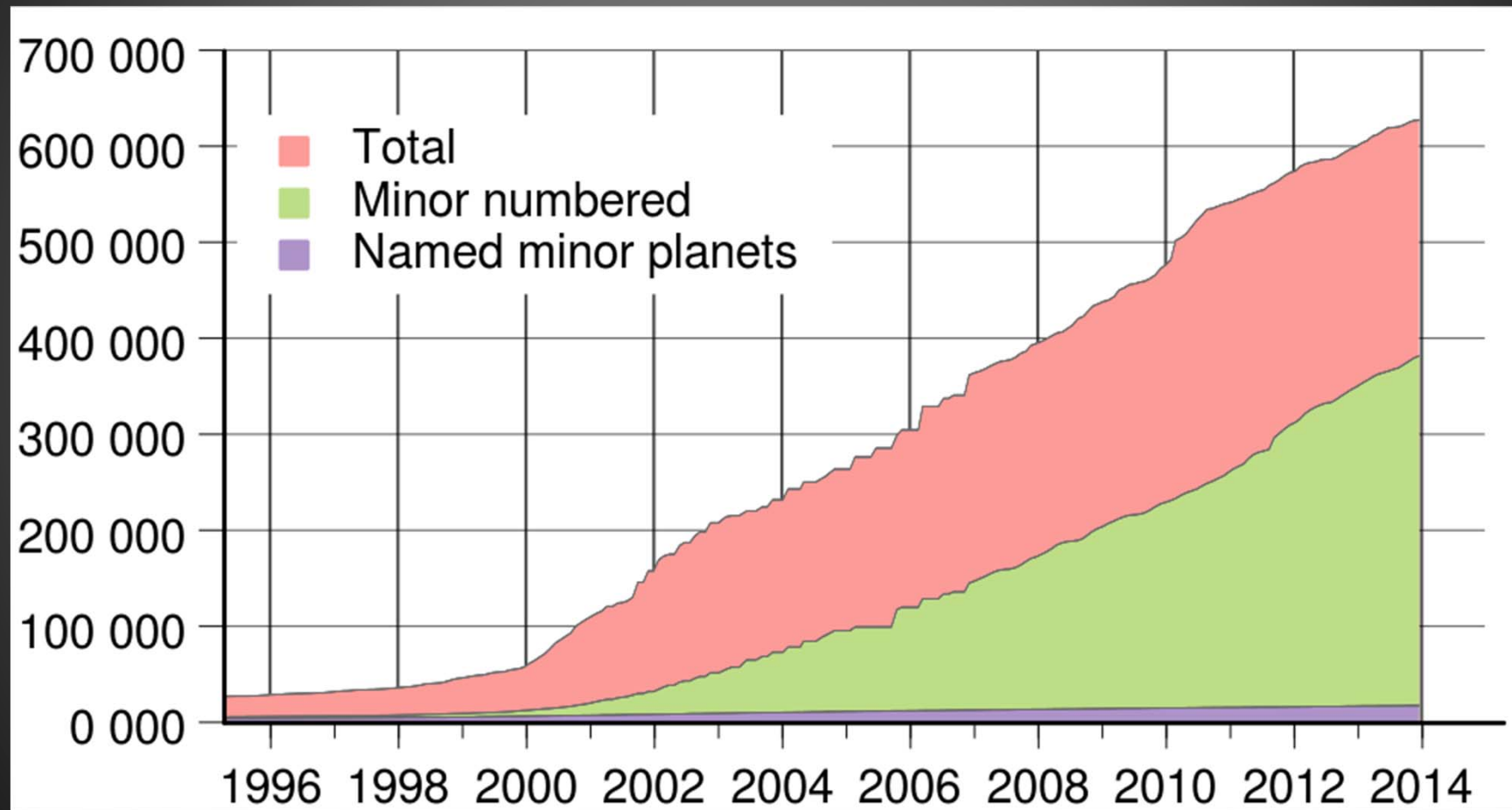
## 2. Estimate the coordinates of asteroid and analyze their orbit using standard astronomical software



Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/JAXA/ESA



Credit: Wikimedia Commons



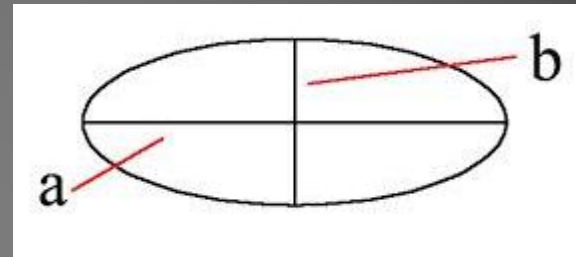
Credit: Wikimedia Commons



# Coordinate → Orbit

- Right ascension and declination

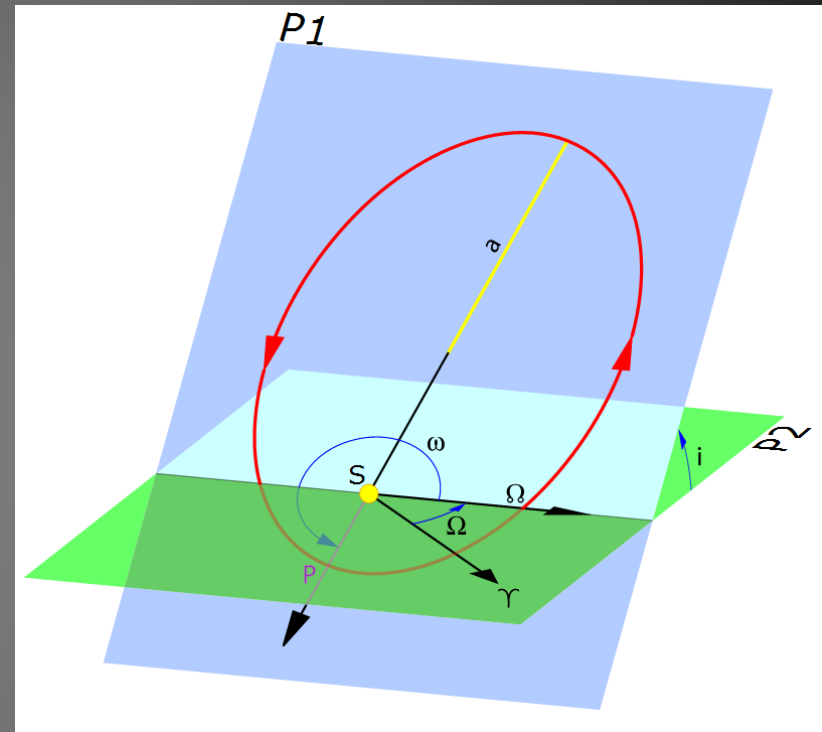
- Ellipse  $\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 = 1$



- But how to express asteroid orbit in space?

# Orbital Elements

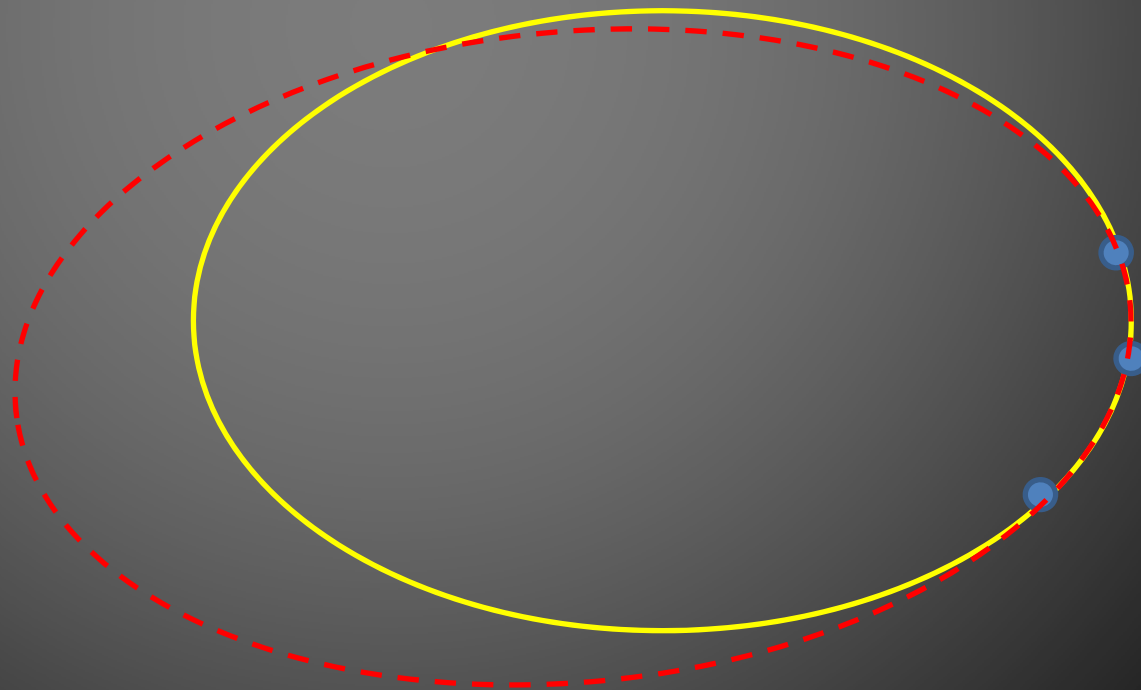
- $a$  (semimajor axis)
- $e$  (eccentricity)
- $i$  (inclination)
- $\Omega$  (longitude of ascending node)
- $\omega$  (argument of perihelion)
- $M$  (mean anomaly at epoch)



Credit: Wikimedia Commons

# Orbit determination

- At least 3 separate observations to obtain an orbit.
- But observation error...



# Minor Planet Ephemeris Service: Query Results

Below are the results of your request from the Minor Planet Center's Minor Planet Ephemeris Service. Ephemerides are for the geocenter.

## 2006 AS3

[Display all designations for this object](#) / # of variant orbits available = 3

Epoch 2014 May 23.0 TT = JDT 2456800.5 MPC

M 111.97431	(2000.0)	P	Q		
n 0.63704219	Peri. 245.46726	-0.97226698	-0.08217864	T = 2456624.72780 JDT	
a 1.3376955	Node 289.20434	+0.17658686	-0.87180750	q = 0.8966085	
e 0.3297364	Incl. 13.40678	-0.15334277	-0.48290615	Earth MOID = 0.04314 AU	
P 1.55	H 24.7	G 0.15	U 7		

From 40 observations 2006 Jan. 7-10, mean residual 0".51.

## Residuals

20060107 691 0.4+ 0.5-	20060107 143 0.1- 0.5-	20060108 291 0.1+ 0.0
20060107 691 0.2+ 1.1-	20060107 143 0.4- 0.2-	20060108 G96 0.2+ 0.5-
20060107 691 0.1+ 0.7-	20060107 J77 1.2- 0.8-	20060108 291 0.3+ 0.3+
20060107 291 0.1+ 0.6+	20060108 673 0.5+ 1.1+	20060109 291 0.0 0.2+
20060107 291 0.1+ 0.8+	20060108 673 0.2+ 0.6-	20060109 291 0.2+ 0.2-
20060107 291 0.2- 0.8+	20060108 673 0.5- 1.1+	20060109 291 0.0 1.1+
20060107 291 0.1+ 0.8+	20060108 673 0.5+ 0.5-	20060110 291 0.1- 0.1-
20060107 291 (1.0+ 2.5+)	20060108 734 0.2- 0.1+	20060110 291 0.2- 0.4-
20060107 291 0.5+ 0.9+	20060108 734 (1.4- 3.0-)	20060110 291 0.1- 0.4+
20060107 J77 0.3+ 0.8-	20060108 734 0.0 0.6+	20060110 118 0.0 0.2-
20060107 118 0.5- 0.4-	20060108 G96 0.0 0.5-	20060110 118 0.1+ 0.5-
20060107 118 0.0 0.1-	20060108 G96 0.2- 0.3-	20060110 118 0.2- 0.8+
20060107 118 0.2+ 0.1-	20060108 291 0.2+ 0.4+	20060110 118 0.2+ 0.2-
20060107 118 0.3+ 1.7+	20060108 G96 0.1+ 0.3-	20060110 118 0.1+ 0.0

Last observed on 2006 Jan. 10. Perturbed ephemeris below based on elements from *MPO* 98073.

K06A03S	[H=24.7]									
Date	UT	R.A. (J2000)	Decl.	Delta	r	El.	Ph.	V	Sky Motion	Uncertainty info
	h m s								"/min P.A.	3-sig/" P.A.

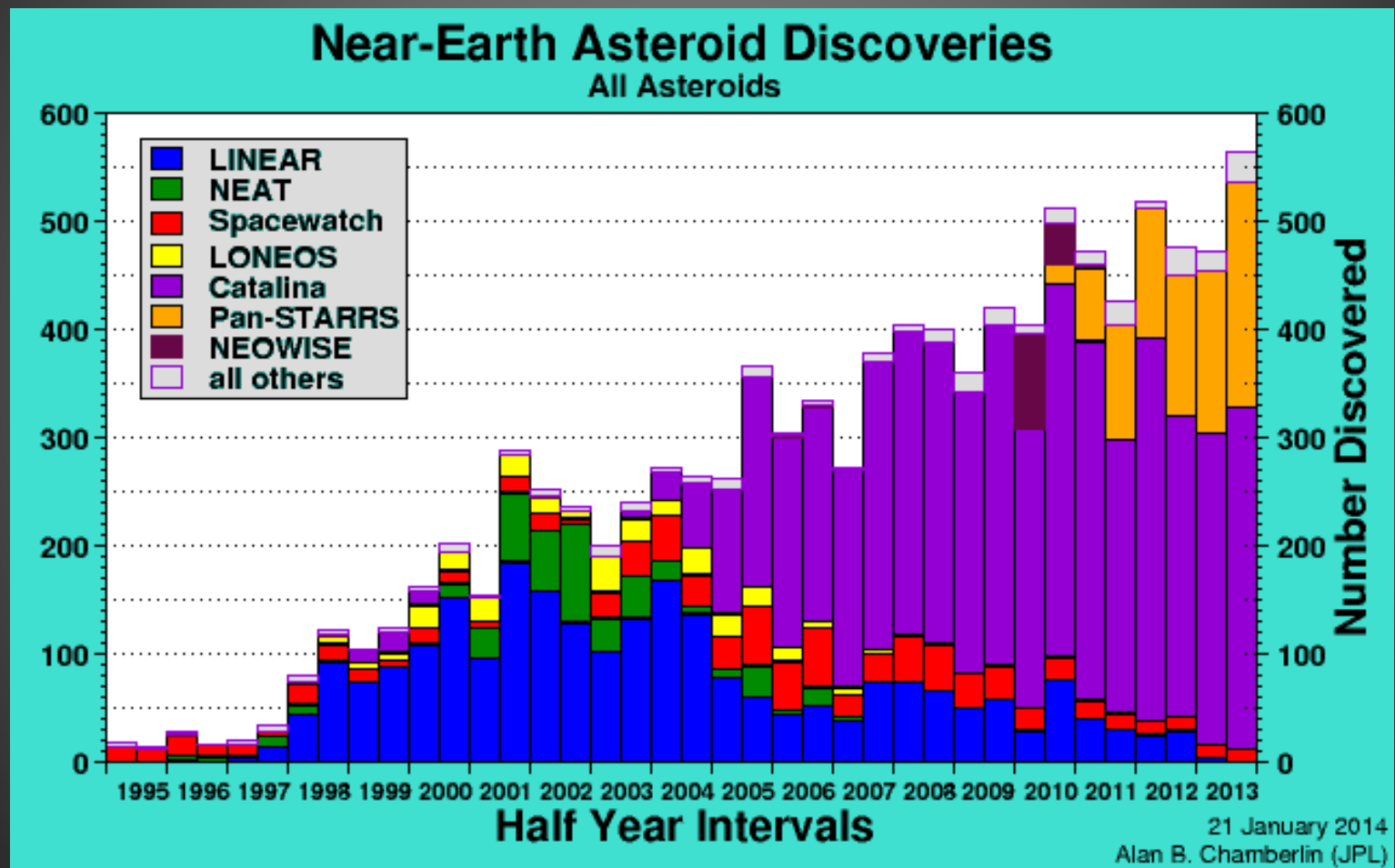
# Scientific importance

- Discovery
- Pre-recovery
- Recovery

# General Workflow

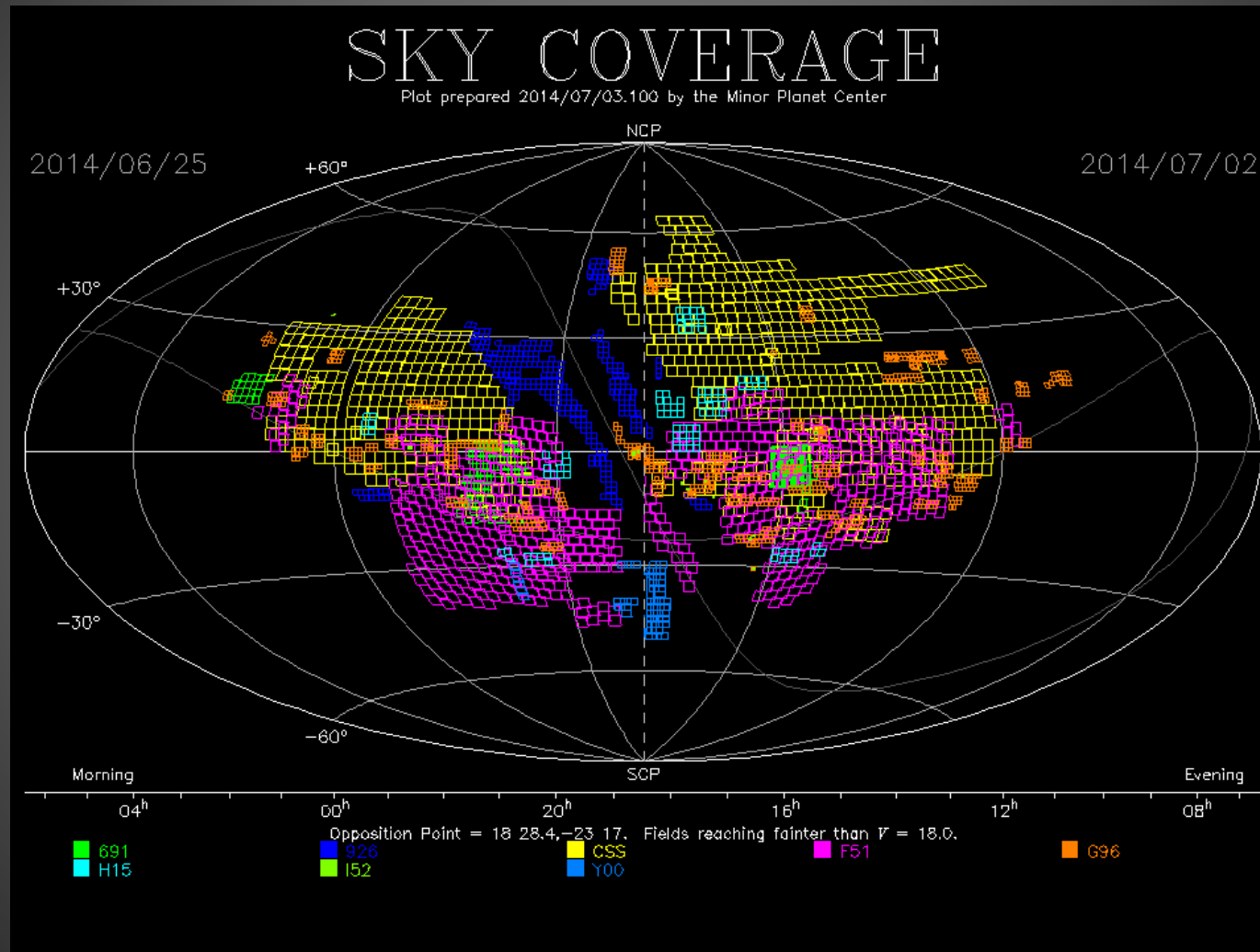
- Take photos of a region of sky at certain intervals
- Look for moving dots
- Check for existing objects
- Extract coordinates if not
- Compute initial orbit
- Find it again few days later and refine orbit
- Report to Minor Planet Center
- Maybe a long lost asteroid or new one





Credit: Jet Propulsion Laboratory

# If you can't beat them...



Credit: Minor Planet Center

# Join them...

Credit: Taiwan Apple Daily



字級： [A-](#) [A](#) [A+](#)

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## 好讚 台高中生發現稀有小行星

2014年06月04日 [f](#) 讚 136 [g+](#) 1



泛星計劃共同主持人陳文屏（前排左二），與發現半人馬小行星的興大附中學生合影。中央大學提供

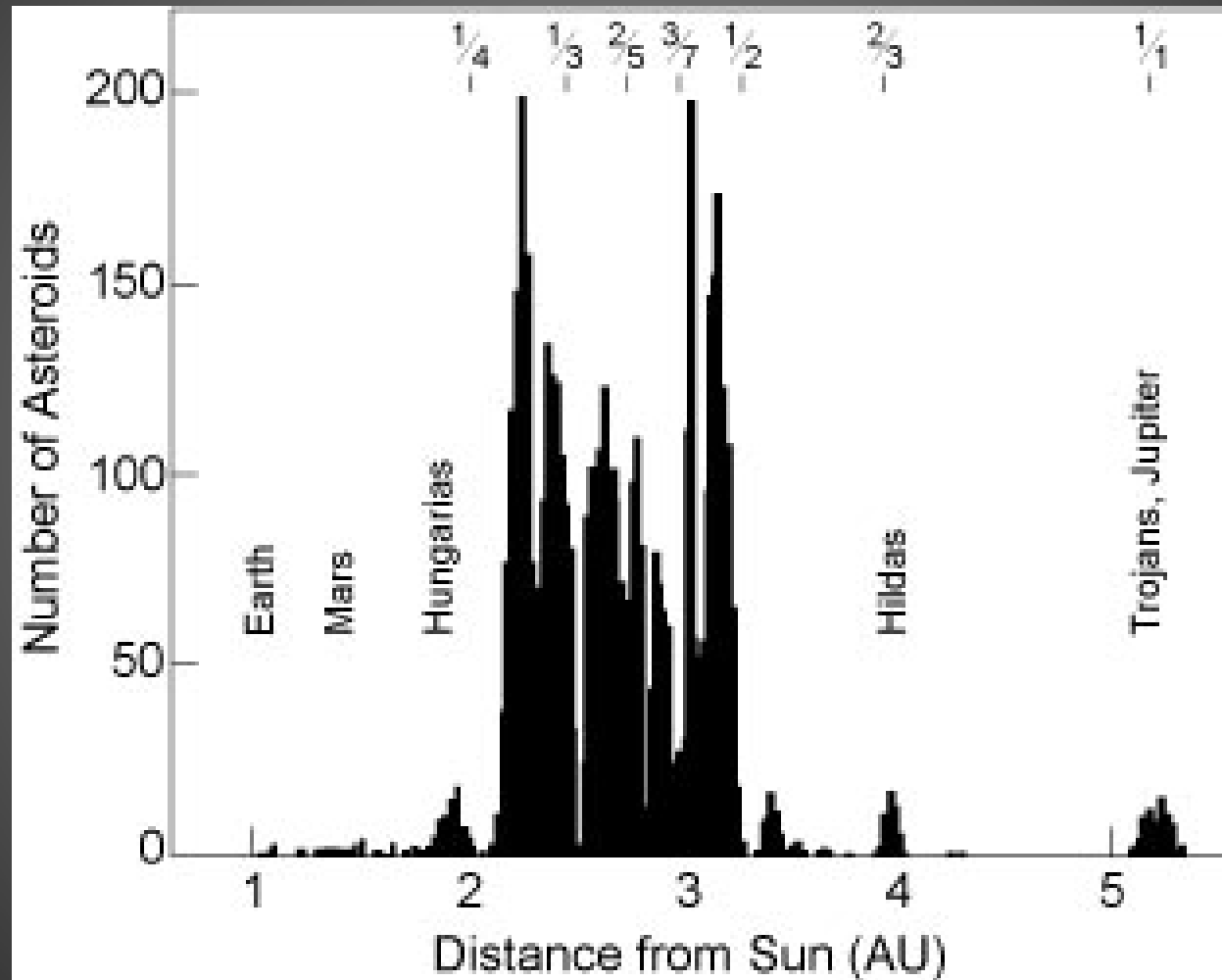
【許敏溶／台北報導】台灣學生好棒。中央大學天文所教授陳文屏帶領台灣高中生，參與全球搜尋小行星活動獲重大成果，北一女中及中興大學附屬中學學生發現兩顆小行星，其中興大附中發現稀有的半人馬小行星，更是史上首次由高中生在古柏帶區域發現的小行星，陳文屏直呼：「非常難得。」

### 7國40校參與搜尋

國際天文搜尋聯盟今年三月十四日到四月十八日，舉行泛星計劃小行星搜尋活動，台灣、美國、德國等七國近四十校學生參與，台灣有北一女中、興大附中、彰化高中、羅東高中、惠文高中五校

# Workflow for classroom

- Get images from sky surveys (e.g. Skymorph)
  - Look for moving dots
  - Check for existing objects
  - Extract coordinates if not
- } (e.g. Astrometrica)
- Compute initial orbit (e.g. Find\_Orb)
  - Find it again few days later and refine orbit(e.g. Skymorph)
  - Report to Minor Planet Center (e.g. Astrometrica)
  - Maybe a long lost asteroid or new one



Credit : Minor Planet Center

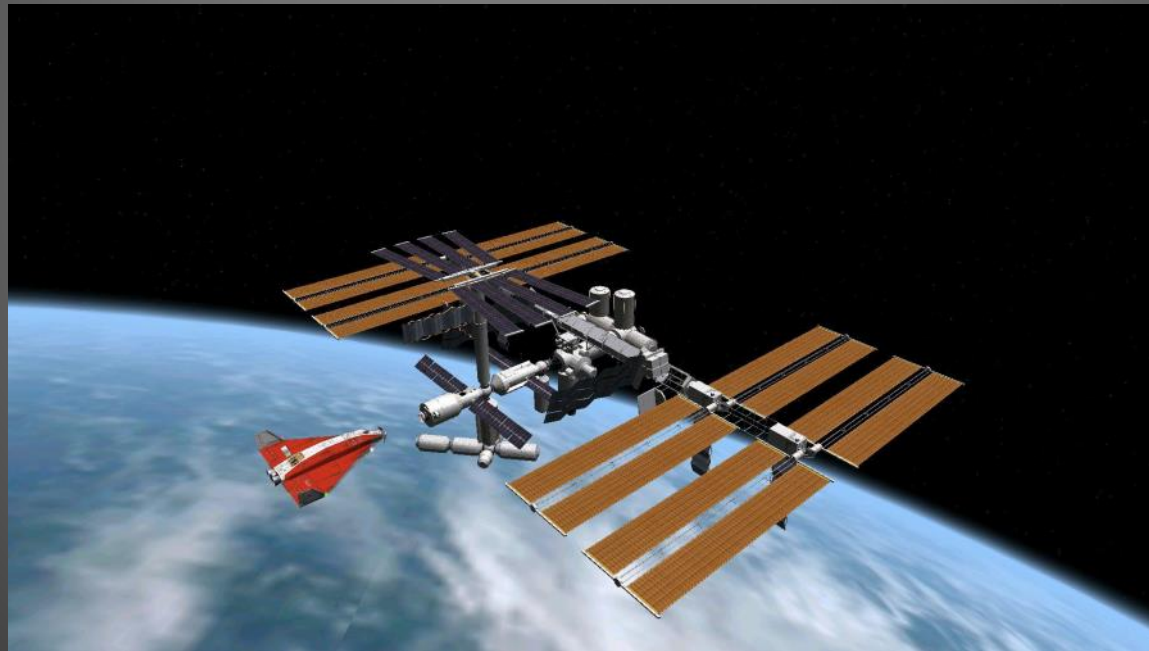
# Good resources

- [http://www.xjltip.com/9\\_neat/neat.htm](http://www.xjltip.com/9_neat/neat.htm)
- <http://www.skaw.sk/enhuntpage.htm>



### 3. Orbital motions under gravity

- Orbiter
  - a free spacecraft simulation tool



Credit: Martin Schweiger

# Merits

- Free!
- Realistic
- Suitable for different levels of users
- Not too CPU intensive
- Customizable

# Use in classroom

- Playback of space missions
- Force analysis
- Maneuvers e.g. docking, orbit changing, etc.



Credit: Martin Schweiger

# Resources

- Go Play In Space

<http://www.orbiter.migman.com/orbiter.php>