

Asteroids as Records of Solar System History

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Asteroids and other small bodies are markers, like tiny beacons, relaying information about the initial temperature and composition conditions of our Solar System revealed by their surface compositions. The Solar System's evolution may also be determined from the scattering record of these bodies. Today we are armed with major advancements from the past decade that have revolutionized the field of asteroids in areas such as discovery, physical characterization, meteorite links, and dynamical models. Based on tens of thousands of measurements from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey, in this talk I present a new compositional map of the asteroid belt that reveals a greater diversity of asteroids as a function of size and distance and discuss these results in the context of Solar System formation and evolution.

Keywords: asteroid, composition, solar sytem

