

Polarimetry of (155140) 2005 UD: the Dynamical Association with (3200) Phaethon

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An Apollo-type near-Earth asteroid, (155140) 2005 UD, is considered as a possible fragment from (3200) Phaethon, suggesting that Phaethon precursor body might undergo a catastrophic disruption in the past. Here we present our new observational evidence for supporting these two are common origin. We thus conducted a polarimetric observation in 2018 September-October and found that 2005 UD exhibited a polarimetric property significantly different from those of major taxonomic classes of NEAs (i.e., S- and C-type) but similar to that of Phaethon at a wide range of the solar phase angles. Using the polarimetric data, we derived the geometric albedo of ~ 0.1 . In addition, we made a photometric observation at the opposition (the zero phase angle), and determined the mean absolute magnitude of 17.2, the synodic rotational period 5.23 hr, and the effective diameter 1.5 km in combination with the derived geometric albedo. From these evidence, we found that the Phaethon precursor body might have lost more than a few percents of the mass via a disruption if 2005 UD was indeed ejected from the Phaethon precursor.

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