Interrelations between asteroid populations

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Solar-system evolution (short version...)



Population model

$n(a,e,i,H) = \varepsilon(a,e,i,H)N(a,e,i,H)$ $\uparrow \qquad \uparrow \qquad \uparrow$

observed population discovery efficiency (this is what we see) (this is estimated numerically for each survey) true population (this is what we want to know)

KUIPER BELT OBJECTS (KBO)

Gaia will detect very few KBOs – the focus of this talk is on the inner solar system



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Orbit distribution for all known asteroids in the inner solar system



Absolute magnitudes for asteroids in the inner solar system



Predicted orbit distribution for H<18 asteroids in the inner solar system



JOVIAN TROJAN OBJECTS (JTO)

V(1,1,0)

Leading vs trailing cloud



MAIN-BELT OBJECTS (MBO)

Statistical Asteroid Model (SAM)



NEAR-EARTH OBJECTS (NEO)



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Eccentricity

Source-dependent constraints
from orbital dynamics
$$n(a,e,i,H) = \varepsilon(a,e,i,H)N(H)\sum_{i=1}^{N_s} f_i R_i(a,e,i)$$
$$\bigstar$$

NEO detections by CSS 2005-2012

Mt. Lemmon (G96)

Catalina (703)



Narrow & deep

Wide & shallow

Detection probability for CSS



Detection probability for CSS



Initial conditions for residence integrations from known MBOs



Residence-time integrations



Source classification when q=1.3 au



Residence-time distributions



Relative density Relati



2:1J complex

JFC



PRELIMINARY RESULTS USING G96 ONLY

Model calibration

G96 model vs G96 observations





red = predicted, blue = observed



Incremental H distributions per source



NEO source ratios as a function of H





Photometric phasecurves provide a proxy for albedo and surface properties



In the future, we will...

- include G₁₂ (or, G₁ and G₂) slope parameters as a proxy for albedo and surface physical properties,
- use observed H distributions and G₁₂ (and spectra?) in different source regions to constrain NEO model,
- construct MBO model with more reliable extrapolation to smaller sizes by using constraints from NEOs.

WHAT DOES GAIA PROVIDE?

Gaia provides...

- a stable and well-understood all-sky survey,
- superb astrometry for new (and old!) discoveries,
- photometric and spectrometric characterization for a large fraction of the asteroid population,
- that is, orbits, H & G₁₂, spectral classification, asteroid families, *high-quality metadata*, etc.

WHAT IS GAIA-FUN-SSO'S ROLE?

Astrometric follow-up



Gaia does not produce photometry in the direction of opposition – need for photometric follow-up



Summary

- Reliable extrapolations to sizes below the completeness level currently only available for NEOs – simple extrapolation for MBOs and JTOs.
- Simultaneous modeling of the NEO and MBO populations will have a major impact on our understanding of both populations – physical properties for NEOs, smaller sizes for MBOs.
- Gaia offers a survey from a stable and well-understood platform, producing orbits, phase-curve parameters, and spectra.
- Gaia-FUN-SSO is a critical component in ensuring astrometric follow-up for new (NEO) discoveries and could also be critical in ensuring high-accuracy photometric (NEO) follow-up at small phase angles.